

Service of Holy Communion and Commissioning of Lay Ministers



Intertwining Hope

**Virginia Synod Assembly
Kerr-Cregger Fieldhouse at Roanoke College
Salem, Virginia
Saturday, June 14, 2025 - 7:30 p.m.**



Thank You to All Worship Leaders

*We give thanks for all the rostered ministers and lay leaders
who are sharing their gifts to lead worship this evening.*

Presiding Minister: The Rev. Joel Antley; Our Saviour, Christiansburg

Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Phyllis Milton; Bishop, Virginia Synod

Assisting Minister and Book Bearer: Liz Leonard; Synod Council Member, St. Philip, Roanoke

Lector and Crucifer: Susanna Carr; President, Lutheran Youth Organization (LYO) Board; First English, Richmond

Torchbearers: Kat Kolodinsky; Vice President, LYO Board; Muhlenberg, Harrisonburg and Caroline Griffin; Sophomore Representative, LYO Board; First, Norfolk

Communion Assistants: Barbara Atkinson; Holy Trinity, Wytheville; Kathleen Kleinbrook; St. Michael, Virginia Beach; Jim Somerville; St. Michael, Virginia Beach; Donna Gum; Grace, Waynesboro; and LYO Board Officers

Commissioning of Lay Ministers: The Rev. Kelly Bayer Derrick; Assistant to the Bishop, Virginia Synod and members of the Lay Ministry Academy Team

Musicians: Richard Barnett and Luci Hughes; St. Luke, Richmond

Worship Planned by: Liz Leonard; Synod Council Member, St. Philip, Roanoke; The Rev. Joel Antley; Our Saviour, Christiansburg; and Vicar Andy Taminger; Southside Partnership

The Saturday Evening Festival Worship offers a blend of newness and familiarity, using popular hymns and common prayers, while expanding our repertoire with new music and original liturgical compositions for parts of the service. This blend symbolizes the intersection of familiarity and innovation in Intertwining Hope, drawing on storytelling and nostalgia, while offering gentle prompts toward trying new and creative things. The Spirit among us and within us exists in this paradox: She abides in the familiar while stirring up something hopeful and new.

GATHERING

Prelude: *Ave Verum* - Worship Team

Confession and Forgiveness

The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✙ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

Gathering Hymn

All Are Welcome

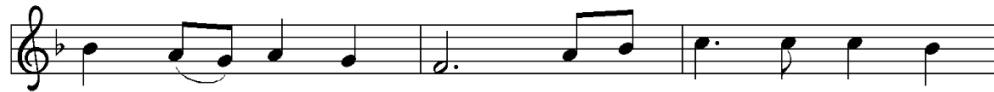
Evangelical Lutheran Worship 641



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly
2 Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, and words are strong and
3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter, wine and
4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and
5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vi - sions



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how
true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to
wheat: a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground where
stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and
heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed as



hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and
dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as
peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through
live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the
words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of
wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as one we
Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we share in
strang-er bear the im - age of God's face; let us bring an
laugh-ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house pro -



Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
claim the faith of Je - sus:
Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel - come,
end to fear and dan - ger:
claim from floor to raf - ter:



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: TWO OAKS, Marty Haugen

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Greeting

The presiding minister greets the assembly.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

The presiding minister prays.

Let us pray.

True Vine, who sustains and redeems your people, nurture us by your Word. May it foster truth and compassion in our hearts to the betterment and health of your vine that is the Church, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

The readings are all read from within the gathered assembly on the assembly floor.

Microphones change for each reading.

First Reading: 1 Samuel 3:1-14

A reading from First Samuel.

Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the Lord under Eli. The word of the Lord was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

² At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room;³ the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the Lord, where the ark of God was.⁴ Then the Lord called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!"⁵ and ran to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. ⁶ The Lord called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." ⁷ Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. ⁸ The Lord called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the Lord was calling the boy. ⁹ Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down, and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

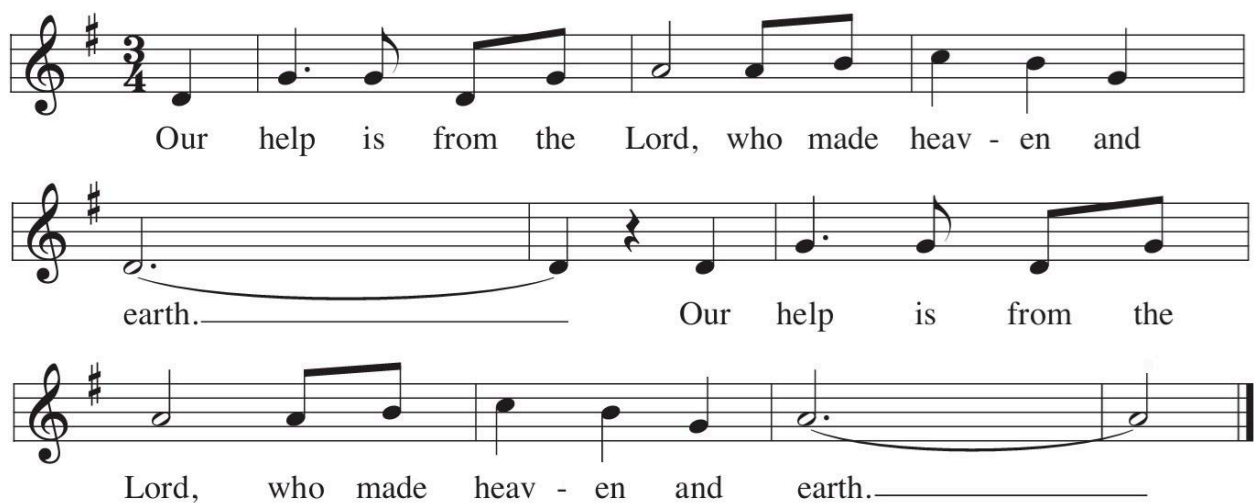
¹⁰ Now the Lord came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."¹¹ Then the Lord said to Samuel, "See, I am about to do

something in Israel that will make both ears of anyone who hears of it tingle. ¹²On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end.¹³ For I have told him that I am about to punish his house forever for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them. ¹⁴Therefore, I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be expiated by sacrifice or offering forever."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 121: Our Help Is From The Lord



1. I lift up my eyes to the mountains: from where shall come my help?
My help shall come from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.
2. He will keep your foot from stumbling. Your guard will never slumber.
No, he sleeps not nor slumbers, Israel's guard.
3. The Lord your guard, the Lord your shade at your right hand.
By day the sun shall not smite you, nor the moon in the night.

Second Reading: Romans 5:1-5

A reading from Romans.

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,² through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God.³ And not only that, but we also boast in our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance,⁴ and endurance produces character, and character produces hope,⁵ and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

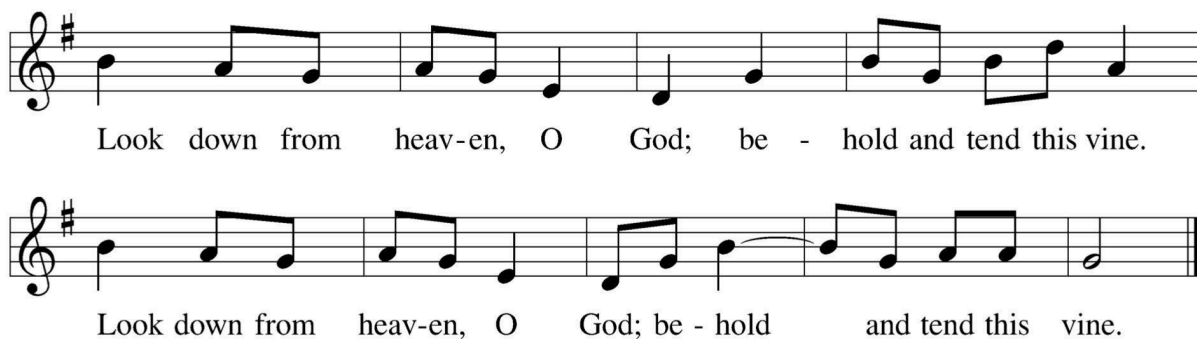
The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation and Processional

Behold and Tend This Vine

The gospel acclamation is repeated during the procession. The procession weaves its way throughout the tables on the floor and concludes with the bishop at the center of the assembly. Here, the gospel is read.



Text: Psalm 80:14
Music: Ray Makeever, b. 1943
Music © 1997 Ray Makeever, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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Gospel: John 15:1-17

All rise in body or spirit for the reading of the gospel.

The Holy Gospel according to Saint John, the fifteenth chapter.

Glory to you O Lord.

[Jesus said]¹⁵ "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. ²He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. ³You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you

unless you abide in me. ⁵ I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶ Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷ If you abide in me and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸ My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples. ⁹ As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰ If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹ I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

¹² "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³ No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵ I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing, but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶ You did not choose me, but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷ I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Gospel Recessional

Behold and Tend this Vine

The gospel recessional continues with the same repeated acclamation from p. 7. The acclamation ends once the processional group has returned to the stage.

Sermon

Bishop Phyllis Milton

Hymn of the Day

God is Here!

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 526



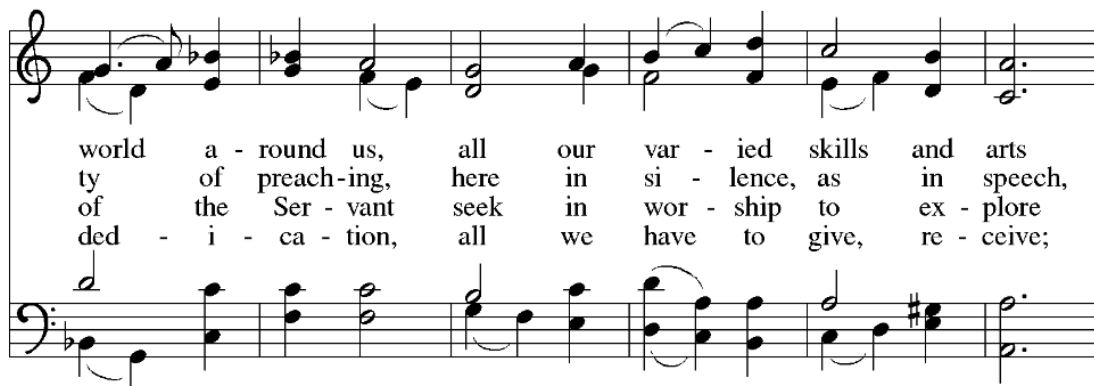
1 God is here! As we your peo - ple meet to of - fer
 2 Here are sym - bols to re - mind us of our life - long
 3 Here our chil - dren find a wel - come in the Shep - herd's
 4 Lord of all, of church and king - dom, in an age of



praise and prayer, may we find in full - er mea - sure
 need of grace; here are ta - ble, font, and pul - pit;
 flock and fold; here as bread and wine are tak - en,
 change and doubt, keep us faith - ful to the gos - pel;



what it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the
 here the cross has cen - tral place. Here in hon - es -
 Christ sus - tains us as of old. Here the ser - vants
 help us work your pur - pose out. Here, in this day's



world a - round us, all our var - ied skills and arts
 ty of preach - ing, here in si - lence, as in speech,
 of the Ser - vant seek in wor - ship to ex - plore
 ded - i - ca - tion, all we have to give, re - ceive;



wait the com - ing of the Spir - it in - to o - pen minds and hearts.
 here, in new - ness and re - new - al, God the Spir - it comes to each.
 what it means in dai - ly liv - ing to be - lieve and to a - dore.
 we, who can - not live with - out you, we a - dore you! We be - lieve!

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000
 Music: ABBOT'S LEIGH, Cyril V. Taylor, 1907–1991
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Commissioning of Virginia Synod Lay Ministers

The commissioning begins with the Thanksgiving for Baptism, affirming each of our baptismal covenants and callings.

Thanksgiving for Baptism

The assembly stands in body or spirit. The presiding minister addresses the whole assembly.

In the name of the True Vine,
and of the First Fruits of the Resurrection ☩,
and the Pruner of our souls.

Amen

Joined to Christ through the waters of baptism,
we who were parched and scorched in sin are now irrigated and transformed.
As blossoms, new shoots, and budding fruits of the true life found in the vine, we give thanks
for the gift of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.

Through water and word we witness your tender care as a gardener in your vineyard. Your
creating love brought new life and hope to Hannah for a son. The inheritors of your promised
land were told of your giving nature that grows and gives hope in the wilderness. You gathered
us in, wandering gentiles, through Peter's vision and your Holy Spirit. You resurrected Lazarus
pruning sin and death from our very being. Your hands justify our paths from the thorns and
weeds and cause us to grow toward your Son in the promise of everlasting life to come.

Shine upon us and grow us into your faithful people through your grace and love O' Lord. We
praise you for the gifts of your tending care. Remind us of the vine we are a part of, ever rooted
and entwined to your true life.

To you, Most Holy Vine, Flourishing Son, Cultivating Spirit, be given all honor and praise forever and ever.

Amen.

Profession of Faith

The leader addresses the assembly, all of whom are making affirmation of their baptism.

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God,
the powers of this world that rebel against God,
and the ways of sin that draw you from God?

I renounce them.

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

Affirmation

The leader continues to address the assembly.

You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

to live among God's faithful people,
to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,
to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

The leader addresses all who are present.

People of God, do you promise to support and pray for one another in your life in Christ?

We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

The assembly is seated.

Presentation

A member of the Lay Ministry Academy Team addresses the assembly and invites Virginia Synod Lay Ministry candidates to come forward and stand before the Bishop.

Members of the Lay Ministry Academy, as well as any Virginia Synod Lay Ministers, who are present are invited to come forward and stand to the side, in support of these Commissioned Lay Ministry candidates.

After prayerful consideration, we certify that these faithful and gifted children of God have been identified, instructed, formed, and equipped for service as Virginia Synod Commissioned Lay Ministers:

The leader speaks the NAMES of Lay Ministry candidates to be commissioned.

The names may also be spoken by Lay Ministry Academy leaders, if present.

Address

The presiding minister continues:

All baptized Christians are called to share
in Christ's ministry of love and service in the world,
to the glory of God and for the sake of the human family and the whole creation.

These candidates for Virginia Synod Commissioned Lay Ministry are our co-workers in the gospel, gifted by God and authorized by the bishop of the Virginia Synod to serve as Commissioned Lay Ministers within the congregations and ministry sites to which they will be appointed.

Readers address the Lay Ministry candidates:

A reading from Philippians: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Jesus Christ. (*Philippians 1.2-6 NRSV*)

A reading from Romans: Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully. (*Romans 12.4-8 NIV*)

A reading from First Peter: Above all, show sincere love to each other, because love brings about the forgiveness of many sins. Open your homes to each other without complaining. And serve each other according to the gift each person has received, as good managers of God's diverse gifts. Whoever speaks should do so as those who speak God's word. Whoever serves should do so from the strength that God furnishes. Do this so that in everything God may be honored through Jesus Christ. To God be honor and power forever and always. Amen. (*1 Peter 4.8-11 CEB*)



Questions

You have been educated, formed, and approved
to serve as Commissioned Lay Ministers in the Virginia Synod.
Before almighty God, to whom you must give account,
and in the presence of this assembly, I ask you all:

Will you assume this ministry,
committing yourselves to this new trust and responsibility,
in the confidence that it comes from God?

All respond together:

I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you be diligent in your study of the holy scriptures
and faithful in your use of the means of grace?

All respond together:

I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you preach and teach in accordance with the holy scriptures,
and with the creeds and confessions of the Lutheran church?

All respond together:

I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you trust in God's care,
seek to grow in love for those you serve,
strive for excellence in your skills,
and adorn the gospel of God with a godly life?

All respond together:

I will and I ask God to help me.

Will you serve in partnership with the ministers of Word and Sacrament
and the ministers of Word and Service in the ELCA?

Will you encourage and support the ministers and the congregations
of the Virginia Synod in their ministries?

All respond together:

I will, and I ask God to help me.

Almighty God, who has given you the will to do these things,
graciously give you the strength and compassion to perform them.

The assembly responds:

Amen.

Blessing

Those making affirmation may kneel. The presiding minister prays for God's blessing.

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit
you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life.

*The blessing is repeated for each person. The minister may lay both hands on the head or
shoulders of the person and say:*


Father in heaven, for Jesus' sake, stir up in NAME the gift of your Holy Spirit;
confirm *her/his/their* faith,
guide *her/his/their* life,
empower *her/his/their* in *her/his/their* serving,
give *her/his/their* patience in suffering,
and bring *her/his/their* to everlasting life.
Amen.

Once each person has received a blessing, the presiding minister continues:

Let us pray.

Almighty God, by the power of the Spirit
you have knit these your servants into the one body of your Son, Jesus Christ.
Look with favor upon them in their commitment to serve in Christ's name.
Give them courage, patience, and vision;
and strengthen us all in our Christian vocation
of witness to the world and of service to others;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

I commission you as Virginia Synod Lay Ministers
in the name of the Father, and of the Son , and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Acclamation

The assembly may offer acclamation with applause.

Worship continues with the prayers of the people.

Prayers of the People

The assisting minister or an additional reader may lead the prayers.

Gathered in the intertwining hope of the Spirit among us, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

God of Calling, you spoke to Samuel at night and still speak to your people. Awaken your church to hear your voice with clarity and courage. Strengthen all ministries that proclaim the gospel of love, affirmation, and acceptance, and bind us together like branches to the True Vine, Jesus.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of Creation, you neither slumber nor sleep as you look upon all you have made. Watch over the earth and its creatures. Restore watersheds, forests, and the balance of your creation. Help us to honor the earth with sustainable practices so that we may repent from our wasteful, polluting, and destructive ways. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of Justice and Peace, stir the hearts of rulers and leaders in our communities and around the world. Where there is hatred, inspire compassion. Where violence reigns, bring peace. Where oppression persists, raise voices for justice. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God our Keeper, lift the eyes of our synod community to the hills from where our help comes. Strengthen the bonds between neighbors, reconcile divisions, and inspire generosity and kindness among all who dwell in our communities. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of Compassion, you pour your love into our hearts and accompany us through times of suffering. Draw near to all who cry out in grief, isolation, illness, pain, or despair, especially the individuals and the people we name before you, either silently or aloud. *(Allow for a brief moment for names to be spoken, either silently or aloud.)* Give your people hope that does not disappoint and a peace that surpasses understanding. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Vine-grower of the church, bless this synod assembly and those gathering across the ELCA, especially the Florida-Bahamas Synod, the Sierra Pacific Synod, the Grand Canyon Synod, the Northern Illinois Synod, the Northwestern Pennsylvania Synod, the South Carolina Synod, the Southwestern Washington Synod, the Upper Susquehanna Synod, and the Western Iowa Synod, who gather this weekend alongside us in assembly and prayer. We also pray for our partner synod, the Southwestern Minnesota Synod, and our companion synod the New Guinea Islands District of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Papua New Guinea. May your Spirit lead all in discernment, dialogue, and bold witness. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of Resurrection Hope, we give thanks for those who have gone before us in faith, for the saints of every time and place, and for those dear to us whom we name aloud or silently in our hearts. *(Allow for a brief moment for names of the saints in our lives to be spoken silently or aloud.)* Keep us united with them in the one true vine until we all abide together in your eternal presence. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

The presiding minister concludes.

Into your hands, abiding God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your love and mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

Peace

The presiding minister addresses the assembly.

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

Offering

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

The offerings from tonight's service will be split between **Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR)** - bringing God's hope, healing and renewal to people whose lives have been disrupted by disasters in the United States and around the world; and the **Virginia Disaster Response Fund** - allowing the Virginia Synod to respond locally to disasters by making gifts which will provide grants and support to congregations and affiliated organizations.



You are invited to give online by scanning the QR Code or by visiting:

<https://secure.myvanco.com/L-YR1Z/campaign/C-13HBY>

You can also place a gift into one of the offering baskets, which are located near the communion stations.

Offertory Anthem

On Holy Ground

Offertory

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 182

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a final cadence on the fifth staff. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables across measures.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923

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Offering Prayer

A representative from the Lutheran Disaster Response Network leads the offering prayer.

Let us Pray.

God of all Creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

The presiding minister begins.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

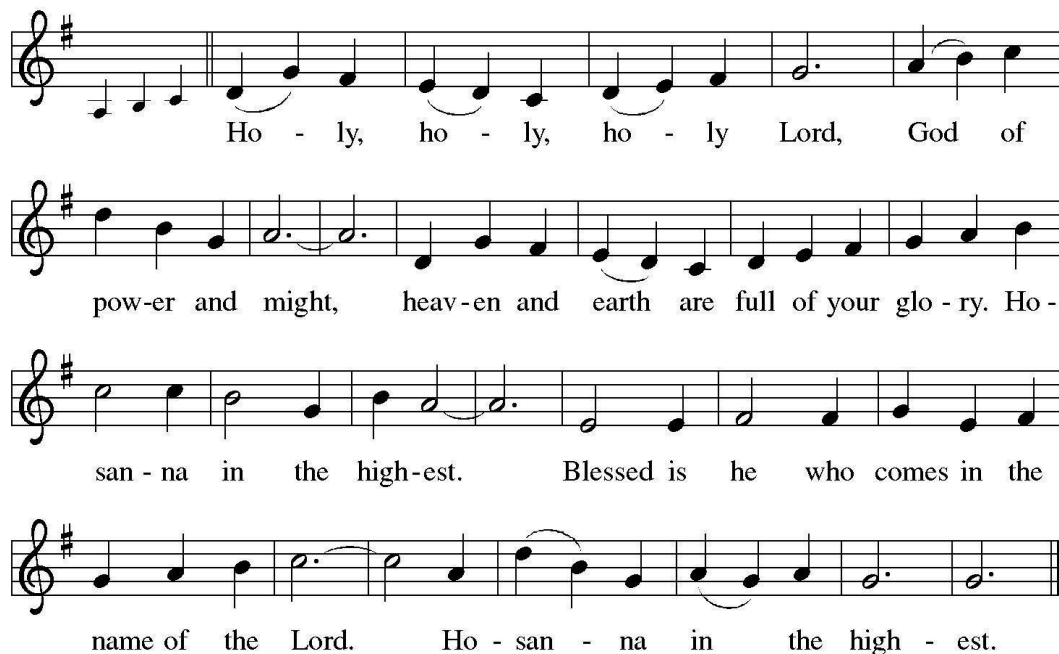
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal: you we praise and glorify, you we worship and adore.

You formed the earth from chaos;
you encircled the globe with air;
you created fire for warmth and light;
you nourish the lands with water.
You molded us in your image,
and with mercy higher than the mountains,
with grace deeper than the seas,
you blessed the Israelites and cherished them as your own.

That also we, estranged and dying,
might be adopted to live in your Spirit,
you called to us through the life and death of Jesus.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Together as the body of Christ,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

With this bread and cup we remember your Son, the first-born of your new creation.
We remember his life lived for others,
and his death and resurrection, which renews the face of the earth.
We await his coming,
when, with the world made perfect through your wisdom,
all our sins and sorrows will be no more.
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, holy and merciful one, holy and compassionate, send upon us and this meal your Holy Spirit, whose breath revives us for life, whose fire rouses us to love.
Enfold in your arms all who share this holy food.
Nurture in us the fruits of the Spirit,
that we may be a living tree, sharing your bounty with all the world.
Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Holy and benevolent God,
receive our praise and petitions,
as Jesus received the cry of the needy,
and fill us with your blessing,
until, needy no longer and bound to you in love, we feast forever in the triumph of the Lamb: through whom all glory and honor is yours, O God, O Living One,
with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church,
now and forever.
Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen**

Invitation to the Table

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

Communion Distribution

All are welcome at God's table of grace. If you do not wish to commune, but would like to come to the table, you are welcome to come forward to receive a blessing.

There are a number of ways to join in communion. You are welcome to participate according to your comfort level:

- *There are five available communion stations. You are invited to proceed to the station closest to you. All stations have the same communion offerings.*
- *The communion bread at all stations is gluten-free.*
- *At each station, wine or grape juice is available in prefilled cups in communion trays. You have the choice of white wine (clear cups) or white grape juice (purple cups). Simply receive a cup from the communion assistant, then place your used cup in the basket.*
- *There are also prepackaged communion cups that contain a wafer and grape juice available on tables near the font. Packaged gluten-free wafers are also available on the tables near the font. If you wish to commune in this way: simply pick up a cup from the tray, a gluten-free wafer if needed, consume the bread and juice, and then place your used cup in the basket.*

As the assembly communes, you are invited to join in song.

Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.



Communion Distribution Hymns

One Bread, One Body - Evangelical Lutheran Worship 496

Refrain



One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all; one cup of



bless-ing which we bless, and we, though man-y



through-out the earth, we are one bod - y in this one Lord.



1 Gen - tile or Jew, ser - vant or free,
2 Man - y the gifts, man - y the works,
3 Grain for the fields, scat-tered and grown,



Refrain

wom - an or man, no more.
one in the Lord of all.
gath - ered to one for all.

Text: John Foley, SJ, b. 1939

Music: ONE BREAD, ONE BODY, John Foley, SJ

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In This Feast of Love - All Creation Sings 962

Täs - sä pöy - däs - sä, täs - sä
 1 In this feast of love, in this
 2 In this bread and wine, in this
 3 Grant us peace, O Lord, grant us

pöy - däs - sä syn - ti - sil - le
 feast of love, Lord, you share your
 bread and wine, you have prom - ised,
 peace, O Lord; fill us with the

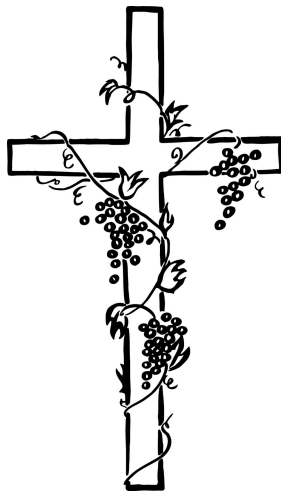
it - se - si an - nat, Ju - ma - lan Ka - rit - sa!
 blood and your bod - y, Je - sus, Lamb of God.
 Lord, to be with us, Lamb . . of God div - ine.
 joy of your Spir - it, ev - er - liv - ing Word.

Text: Jarkko Maukonen; tr. Mark Sedio, b. 1954

Music: TÄSSÄ PÖYDÄSSÄ, Jarkko Maukonen; arr. Mark Sedio

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Taste and See - Evangelical Lutheran Worship 493

Refrain – All

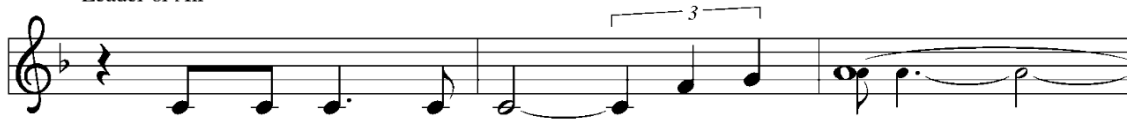


Taste and see, taste and see the good-ness of the Lord. Oh,



taste and see, taste and see the good-ness of the Lord, of the Lord.

Leader or All



1 I will bless the Lord at all times.
2 Glo - ri - fy the Lord with . . me.
3 Wor-ship . . . the Lord, all you peo-ple.



Praise shall al - ways be on my lips;
To - geth - er let us all praise God's name.
You'll want for noth-ing . . . if you ask.



my soul shall glo - ry in the Lord;
I called the Lord, . . who an - swered me;
Taste and see . . . that the Lord is good;

Refrain



for God has been so good to me.
from all my trou - bles I was set free.
in God we need put all our trust.

Text: James E. Moore Jr., b. 1951, based on Ps. 34

Music: TASTE AND SEE, James E. Moore Jr.

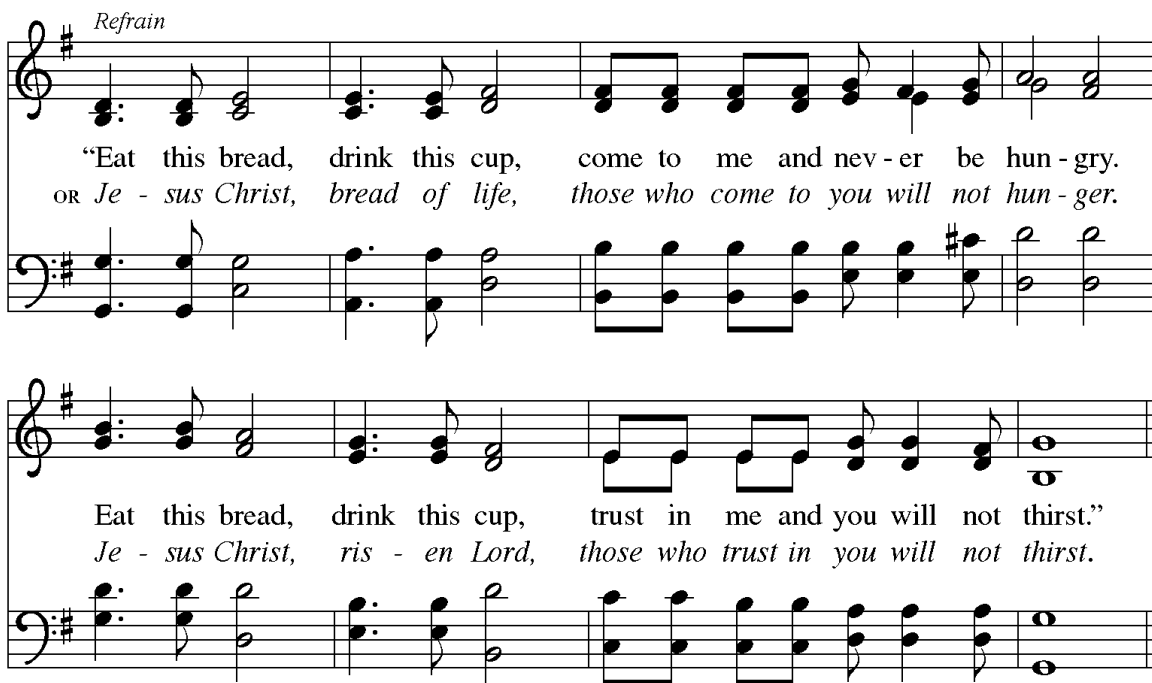
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Eat this Bread - Evangelical Lutheran Worship 472

(Sung until communion concludes)

Refrain



“Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and nev-er be hun-gry.
OR Je - sus Christ, bread of life, those who come to you will not hun-ger.

Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst.”
Je - sus Christ, ris - en Lord, those who trust in you will not thirst.

Text: Taizé Community

Music: BERTHIER, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994

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Prayer after Communion

The assisting minister prays.

Let us Pray.

Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus’ name we pray. **Amen.**

SENDING

Blessing

The presiding minister offers the blessing.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord’s face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

Amen.

Sending Hymn**Abide With Me***Evangelical Lutheran Worship 629*

The musical score for 'Abide With Me' is presented in a standard hymn format. It features a treble and bass staff with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a common time signature (C). The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are written in a five-line format, with each line corresponding to a measure of the melody. The lyrics are as follows:

1 A - bide with me, fast falls the e - ven - tide.
2 Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day;
3 I need thy pres - ence ev - 'ry pass - ing hour;
4 I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;
5 Hold thou thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes,

The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide.
earth's joys grow dim, its glo - ries pass a - way;
what but thy grace can foil the tempt - er's pow'r?
ills have no weight, and tears no bit - ter - ness;
shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;

When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,
change and de - cay in all a - round I see;
Who like thy - self my guide and stay can be?
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy vic - to - ry?
heav'n's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain shad - ows flee;

help of the help - less, oh, a - bide with me.
O thou who chang - est not, a - bide with me.
Through cloud and sun - shine, oh, a - bide with me.
I tri - umph still, if thou a - bide with me!
in life, in death, O Lord, a - bide with me.

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793–1847
Music: EVENTIDE, William H. Monk, 1823–1889

Dismissal

The assisting minister dismisses the assembly.

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude - “Rondeau” - Worship Team

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Prayers of the People written by Vicar Andy Taminger

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