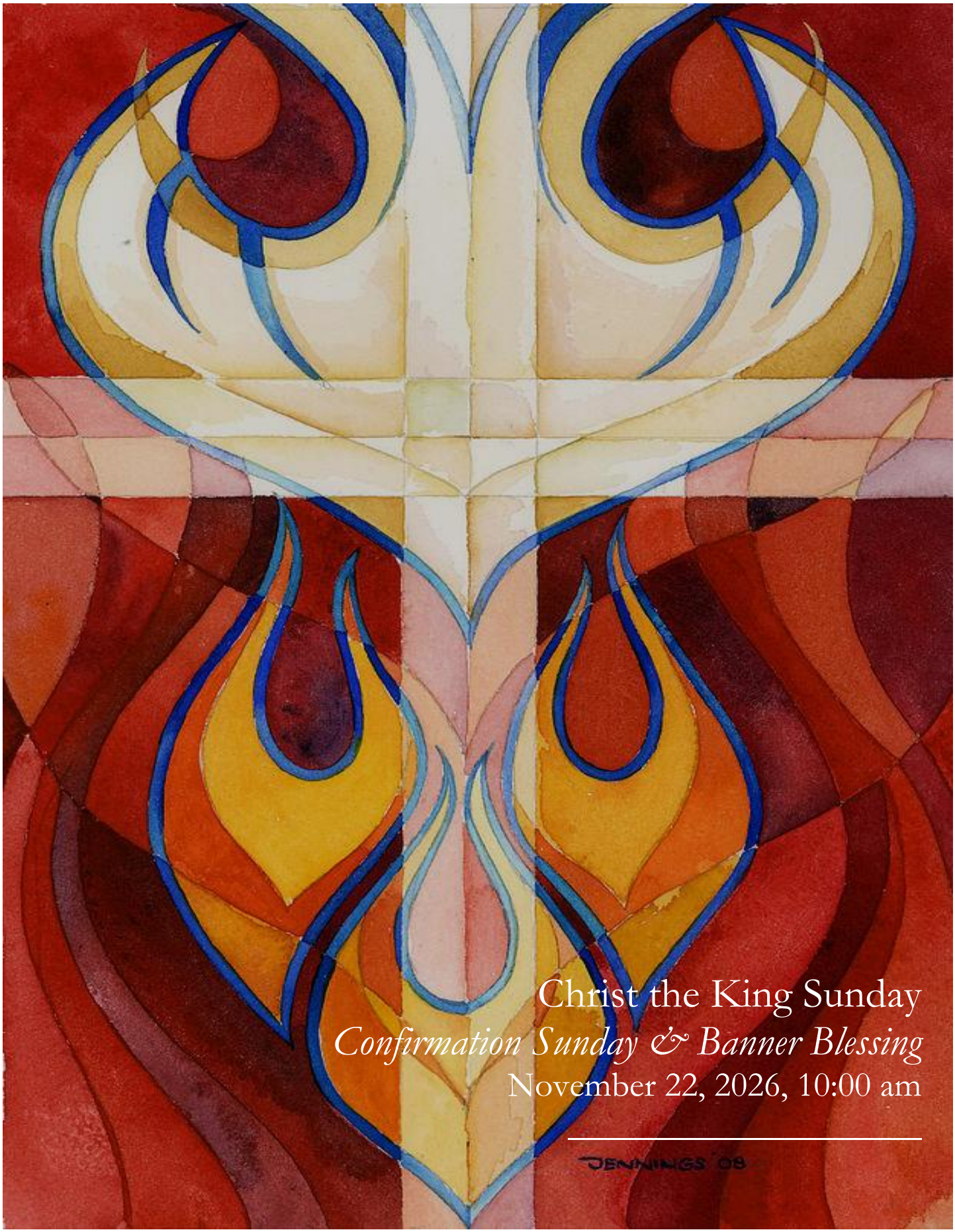


Christ the King Sunday

Confirmation Sunday & Banner Blessing

November 22, 2026, 10:00 am

St. John's Lutheran Church *Salisbury, North Carolina*

WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S!

We are glad God has brought you here!

"*Comfort and Joy*" – Advent Devotionals—Available now in our literature racks and at the church office. Be sure to get yours today!

Hanging of the Greens - Today from 2-5 pm in the Sanctuary and Nov. 29 in the Faith Center, immediately following the 927 service. We are inviting the congregation to participate in the "Hanging of the Greens." This event helps us begin decorating our church campus for Advent. Participants may want to bring work gloves to help fluff the tree! Evening help needed from 11/30-12/3. Contact Marian Schouweiler at mlhough17@gmail.com for details.

St. John's Church Office Closed – The office will be closed on **Nov. 26 & 27** for the Thanksgiving Holiday! A pastor will be on call for emergencies. Simply call the church office and enter ext. 2990 or select Option 9.

Thanksgiving Day Worship – Online only—Nov. 26 at 9 am. We welcome you to join our annual Thanksgiving Day of Worship as it is presented online—a great way to begin your Day of Thanksgiving. Enjoy 30 minutes of song, prayer and inspiration. You may view this service on Thanksgiving morning by visiting our website, FaceBook or YouTube.

The Salisbury Symphony will present "*G.F. Handel's The Messiah*" – St. John's (Sanctuary) on Sun., Nov. 29 at 3 pm. Please visit the Salisbury Symphony's website below for more information and to purchase your ticket(s). https://salisburysymphony.org/shows/messiah/

Advent Music and Meditation – Dec. 3, 10 and 17 at 12:15 pm in the St. John's Chapel. Dec. 3 will feature Stones Throw, **Dec. 10** will feature Lawrence Quinnett, and **Dec. 17** will feature Mark Tysinger.

Men's Ministry at Work (Leaf Raking) – Dec. 5 – 8:30 am volunteer breakfast provided in the Pit. Our Men's Ministry group are ready and willing to serve you. RSVP with QR code on the back of this service guide to Volunteer or if you would like to have your yard leaves raked.

Kingdom Kids Presentation - *"The ABCs of Christmas"* – **Wed., Dec. 9 at 6:15 pm in Ritchie Hall.** We invite the congregation to celebrate the season with us as our Wednesday evening Kingdom Kids present this year's Christmas play.

Poinsettias – Order deadline is Fri., Dec. 11. Be a part of a beautiful tradition at St. John's as we decorate our worship spaces for the Advent and Christmas seasons. Poinsettia purchases or donations to the general decorating fund can be made on our website, via QR code on the back page of this service guide, or complete a paper form located in our literature racks.

Men's Chorus Christmas Concert – *"A 'Bury Home Companion: Christmas Edition;* **Dec. 13 at 4 pm in the Sanctuary,** with Guest Singers and Musicians, Instrumentalists, Handbells, and Narration. Directed by Jason Harwood, and Accompanied by Janie Rollins, Thom Hinson, and Spence Robertson. A freewill offering will be collected for Rowan Helping Ministries.

Altar Flowers – Given to the Glory of God and in honor of our children and grandchildren.
Happy Thanksgiving to the entire St. John's congregation family, by Franco and Brenda Goodman.

Annual Meeting | December 6, 10:15 in the Faith Center

Members are encouraged to join us for a vote on the 2027 Budget
and elect **five** new Council Members

Council Nominees: Elizabeth Derrick, Cheryl Gunter, Ann Hatchett, Kristin May, Penny Moss, Gary Rhodes, Kathy Roberson, Gary Taylor, David Wilson and Gray Wilson

Youth Nominees: Mary Masters Goodman and William Charest

Benevolent Fund Trustee Nominee: Cindy Fink

GATHERING

Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

The congregation is invited to respond where words are in **Bold.**
Hymns are found by number in the red worship books located in each pew.

PRELUDE **'Grazioso'** **Brian Childers**
The Joyful Ringers

We rise and face the cross.
CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. **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).*

Most merciful God,
we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. 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 Hail the Power of Jesus Name'** **ELW 634**

CHILDRENS SONG **'Let Praise Be the First Word'** **by Mark Patterson**
Children's Choir

GREETING AND PRAYER

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.

Be seated.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

There will be no **Kingdom Kids** *today.*
Children will remain in the sanctuary.

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM *We reaffirm our baptism and celebrate the Rite of Confirmation*



Confirmation Sunday. In the Lutheran tradition, those baptized as infants confirm their faith through the rite of Confirmation. In so doing, these young people make their faith their own by professing the Creed and taking vows of baptismal responsibility. Confirmation Sunday at St. John's is the culmination of three years of middle school ministry. From grades 6-8, students meet weekly to explore scripture and theology; we also take service-learning retreats and summer trips to reinforce our learnings. This autumn, these 4 "confirmands," have prepared statements of faith, answering the question, "Why is Jesus central in my life?" We will receive these statements of faith as our sermon today.

Confirmands: Katie-Ann Dangerfield, Abigael Lauren Kozlowski, Carson Marino, Clara Misner

PRESENTATION AND PRAYER

The confirmands are presented by
Brad Trick, President of our Congregation Council.

We pray: Merciful God, we thank You for these sisters and brothers, whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called them to yourself, enlightened them with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished them in the community of faith. Uphold your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom You have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ. **Amen.**

INTRODUCTION TO THE CONFIRMANDS

READING **Ephesians 1:15-23**

A reading from Ephesians, the 1st chapter.

15 I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this
reason 16 I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers, 17 that the God
of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as
you come to know him, 18 so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may perceive what
is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the
saints, 19 and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to
the working of his great power. 20 God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from
the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, 21 far above all rule and authority
and power and dominion and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the
age to come. 22 And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things
for the church, 23 which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

STATEMENTS OF FAITH

Statement of Faith: *Katie-Ann Dangerfield*
Confirmation Verse: 1 John 3:18

Little children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth.

Statement of Faith: *Abigael Lauren Kozlowski*
Confirmation Verse: 1 Peter 5:7

Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you.

Statement of Faith: *Carson Randall Marino*
Confirmation Verse: Luke 1:37

For nothing will be impossible with God.

Statement of Faith: *Clara Lee Misner*
Confirmation Verse: Psalm 46:10

Be still and know that I am God.
I am exalted among the nations; I am exalted in the earth.

We rise.
HYMN **'Here I Am, Lord'** **ELW 574**

Be seated.

THE PROFESSION OF FAITH

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

Do you renounce the devil, 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.*

We rise.

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.

Be seated.

THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT

As we affirm our faith, we return the promises of our baptism. Confirmation Mentors David Roof and Nicole Demmel pour the water for our corporate thanksgiving.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray, we give you thanks, O God…
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

AFFIRMATION IN THE PRESENCE OF THE ASSEMBLY

The confirmands gather around the water of baptism as the presiding minister invites them to accept the responsibilities made on their behalf when they were baptized.

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? *Each confirmand responds: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.*

The minister addresses the congregation:
People of God, do you promise to support these sisters and brothers and pray for them in their life in Christ? **We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

BLESSING

Confirmands and parents gather at the altar for the laying on of hands and a blessing.

We 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. Stir up in *Katie-Ann, Abigael, Carson, and Clara* the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. **Amen.**

THE CHARGE

Confirmands light their baptismal candles and are charged once again with bearing the light of Christ.

Let your light so shine before others
that they may see your good works
and glorify your Father in heaven.

WELCOME

Those making public affirmation stand and face the congregation.

Let us rejoice with these sisters and brothers in Christ.
We rejoice with you in the life of baptism.
Together we will give thanks and praise to God
and proclaim the good news to all the world.

SPECIAL MUSIC **'King of Kings'** **9:27 Band**
First Look Choir

PRAYERS AND PEACE

Each petition concludes with the following:
God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Share the 'peace' of Christ with one another.
The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

Be seated.

OFFERING AND ANTHEM **'Christus Paradox'**
Alfred Fedak

You, Lord, are both Lamb and Shepherd.
You, Lord, are both prince and slave.
You, peacemaker and swordbringer
Of the way you took and gave.
You the everlasting instant;
You, whom we both scorn and crave.

Clothed in light upon the mountain,
Stripped of might upon the cross,
Shining in eternal glory,
Beggar'd by a soldier's toss,
You, the everlasting instant;
You, who are both gift and cost.

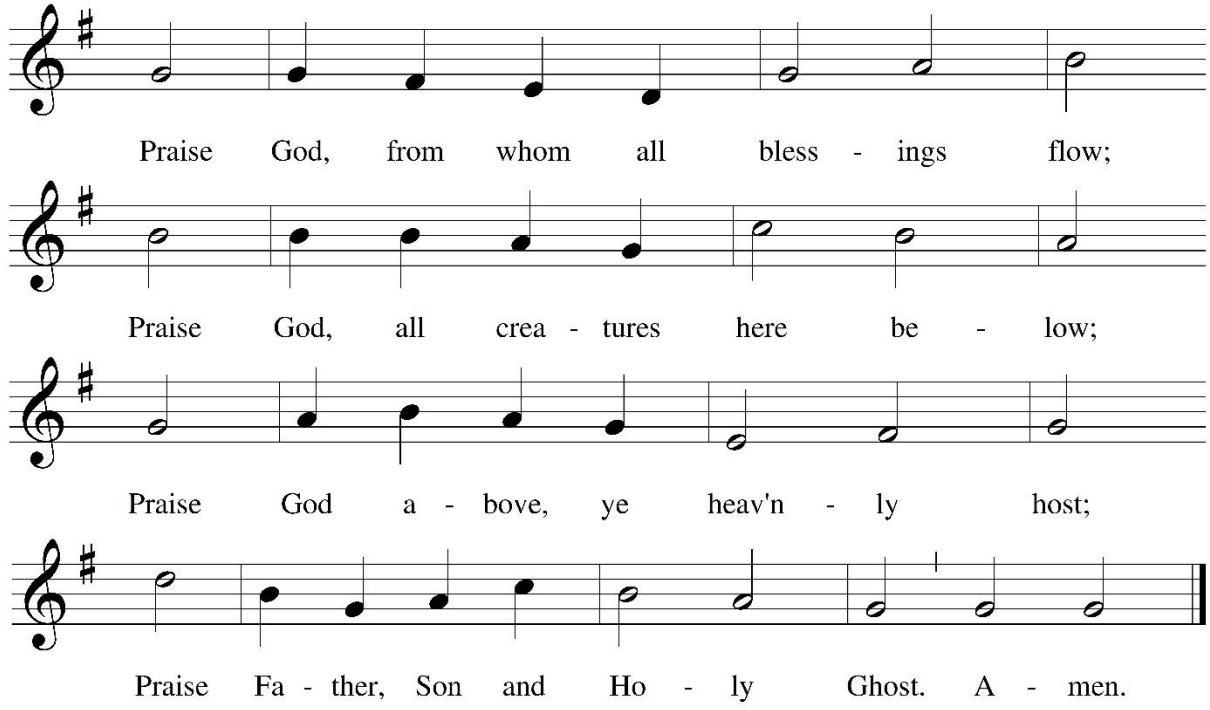
You, who walk each day beside us,
Sit in power at God's side.
You, who preach a way that's narrow,
Have a love that reaches wide.
You, the everlasting instant;
You, who are our pilgrim guide.

Worthy is our earthly Jesus!
Worthy is our cosmic Christ!
Worthy your defeat and vict'ry.
Worthy still your peace and strife.
You, the everlasting instant;
You, who are our death and life.

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.
You, who are our death and our life.

We rise.

RESPONSE AND PRAYER



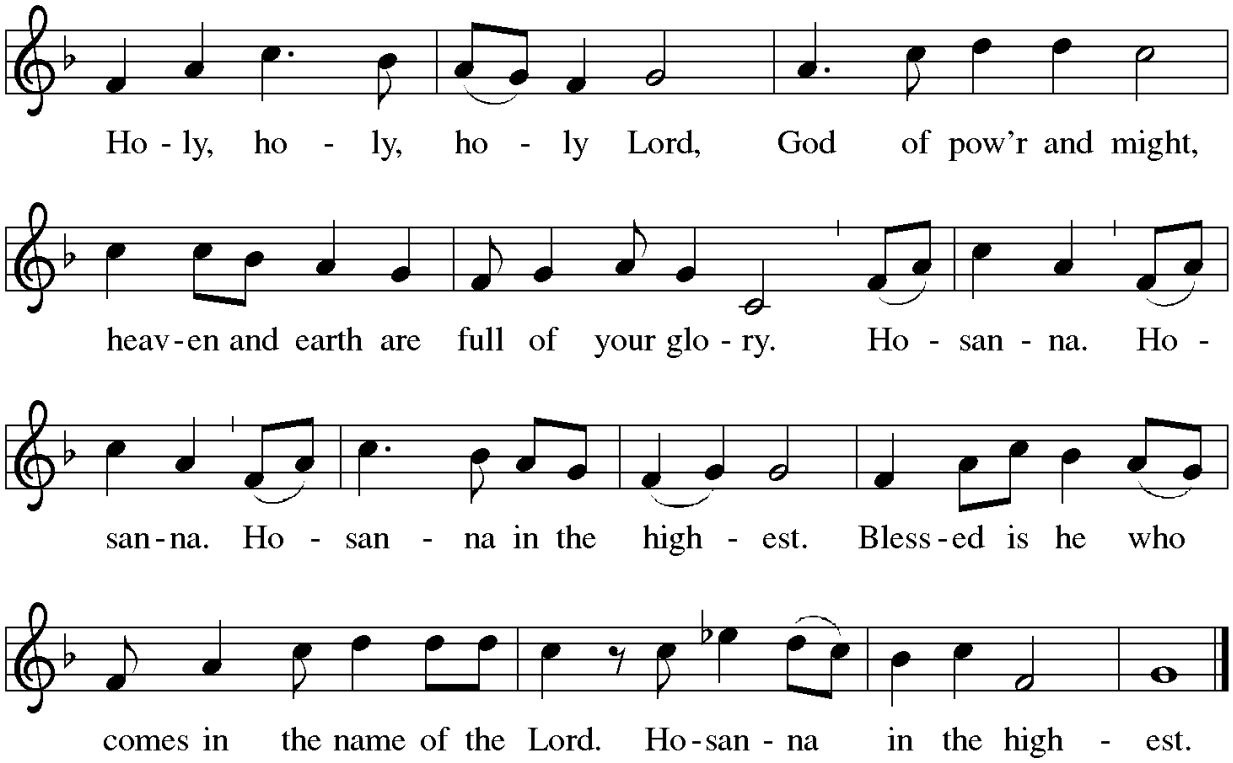
We pray: Eternal God, our time, talents, and treasures are gifts from you. Receive what we offer, and all that you entrust to us, until hungry no more, all the world is fed, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 AND HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Holy Father, almighty and eternal God. For with the oil of gladness you have anointed Christ the Lord, your only Son, to be our great high priest and king of all creation. As priest, he offered himself once for all upon the cross and redeemed the human race by this perfect sacrifice of peace. As king he claims dominion over all your creatures, that he may bring before your infinite majesty a kingdom of truth and life, a kingdom of justice, love and peace. And so with angels and archangels and all the heavenly host, we proclaim your glory and join their unending hymn of praise:



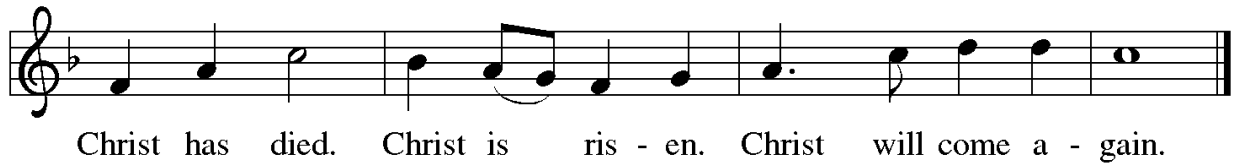
THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

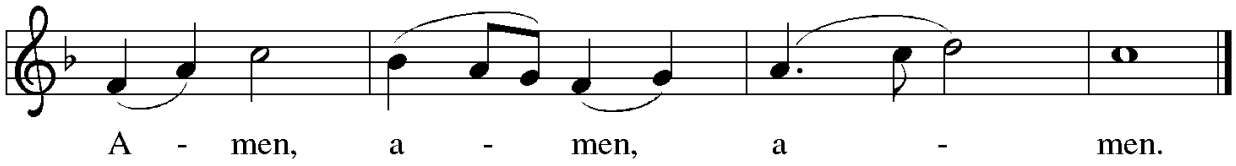
In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory as we proclaim the mystery of faith:



Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.



THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we 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 COMMUNION

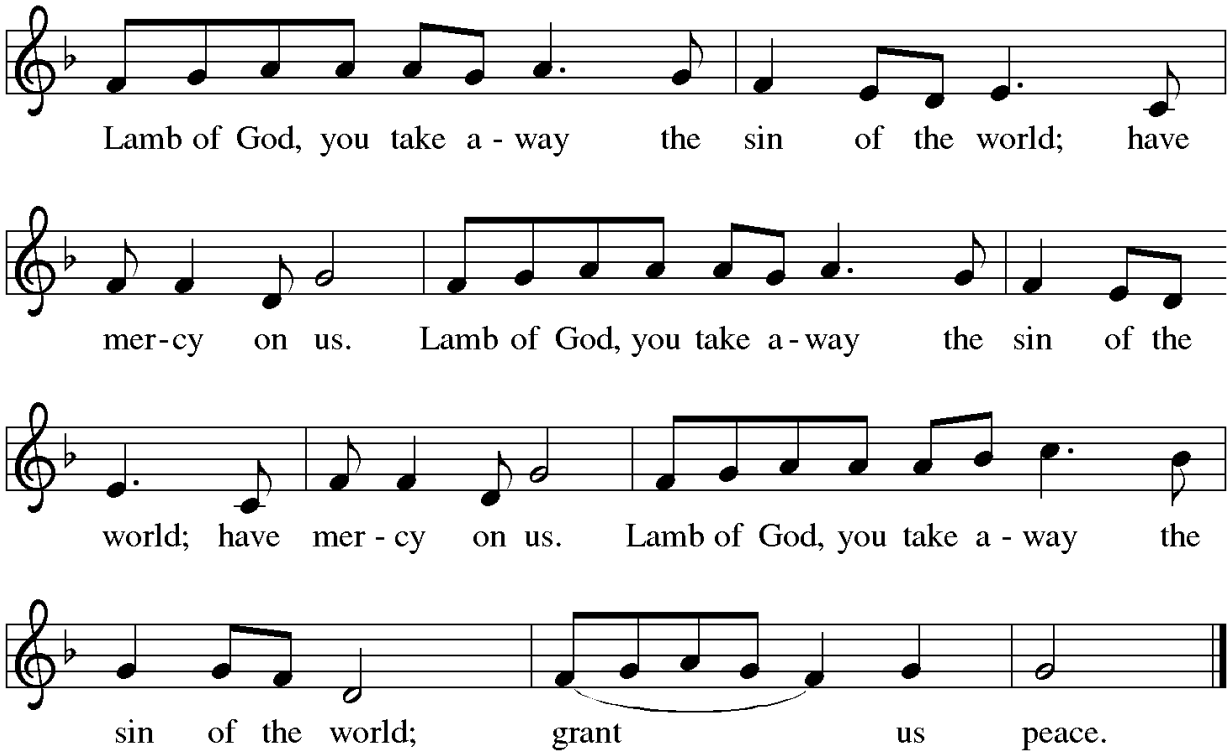
Come, Christ invites you to this table.
Thanks be to God.

Be seated.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Communion in the nave. Please follow the usher's guidance. In the nave, communion is by intinction, dipping bread (gluten free by request) into wine (or grape juice). Those not receiving Communion are invited forward to receive a blessing (crossing your arms across your chest as a sign to the pastor). If you need Communion brought to you, please signal the servers when they come down from the chancel.

COMMUNION HYMN



COMMUNION SONG **'Little Prelude in E major' by J. S. Bach** **Noah Trick**

COMMUNION HYMN **'Beautiful Savior'** **ELW 838**

We rise.

COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace. **Amen.**

We pray: Holy God, we have received your never-ending mercy in this meal. You continuously seek the lost, bind the injured, and feed your people abundantly. Now send us out, awake to your presence, now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING

Forgiven and nourished, we are now sent into the world to share God's love.

BANNER BLESSING

Today we give thanks to God and we seek God's blessing
as we set apart paraments and banners to the glory of God.

BLESSING

The holy Trinity, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you with wisdom to welcome the reign of God,
today and always. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN **'Crown Him with Many Crowns'** **ELW 855**

DISMISSAL AND POSTLUDE

Go in peace. Encourage one another.
Thanks be to God.

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Reader……..Andi Eudy
Preacher…..……..……...……...……..Pastor James Demmel
Presider……...Pastor Dan Joyner Miller

ORDER OF ST. JOHN'S

Acolytes…..……..……..……Anson Ward and Charlotte Misner
Crucifer……...…..……Eli Kozlowski
Banner Bearer…….……Gabriel Shafer
Banner Processional…….Landen Ryerson, William Charest, Noah Young,
Ashton Williams, Mary Masters Goodman

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