



Gethsemane Lutheran Church

11560 SE Market St, Portland, OR 97216

glcportland.org | (503) 256-1835

<https://www.facebook.com/gethsemaneportland>

Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost - Wildfire Recognition Sunday September 12, 2021

“For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.” - Mark 8:35

GATHERING

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to worship! Our worship service is broadcast live on Zoom and Facebook.

PRELUDE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, ☩ one God, whose teaching is life, whose presence is sure, and whose love is endless. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.

God our comforter:

It is so easy for us to lose sight of you. Trapped by fear, we close our hearts to your presence. We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity. We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression. Free us from our sin, gracious God. Listen when we call out to you for help. Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves. Amen.

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. By the gift of grace in ☩ Christ Jesus, 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, *The Church's One Foundation* (ELW 654)

1 The church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
 2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
 3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der this world sees her op - pressed,
 4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion and tu - mult of her war,
 5 Yet she on earth has u - nion with God, the Three in One,

she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word.
 her char - ter of sal - va - tion one Lord, one faith, one birth:
 by schisms . . rent a - sund - er, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,
 she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more;
 and mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won.

From heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
 one ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
 yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up: "How long?"
 till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest,
 Oh, bless - ed heav'n - ly cho - rus! Lord, save us by your grace,

with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
 and to one hope she press - es with ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
 and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
 and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.
 that we, like saints be - fore us, may see you face to face.

GREETING

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.

KYRIE



A Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **G** Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:



A Chri - ste e - le - i - son: **G** Christ, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy:



A Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **G** Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:

HYMN OF PRAISE



G Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



I Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we



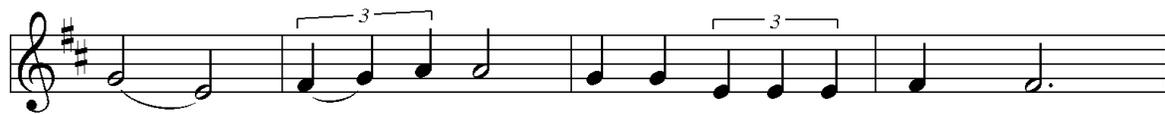
wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



G Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



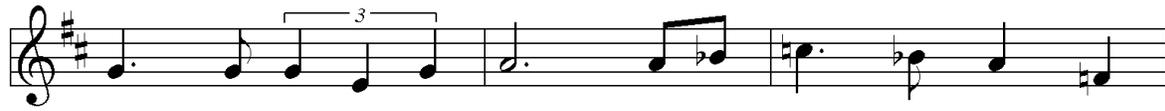
glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



II Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the



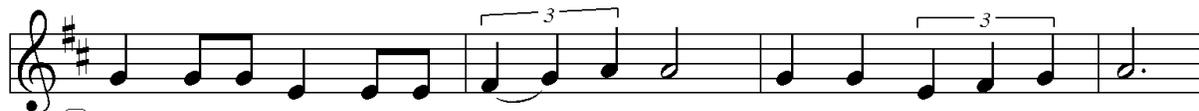
right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



III Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



I For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,

II



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly



Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther, A - men.



III Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Holy God, through suffering and rejection you bring forth our salvation, and by the glory of the cross you transform our lives. We praise you for the beauty, diversity and interconnectedness of all life in the universe and on our Earth. But we mourn the ways in which our earthly home has been destroyed by our selfishness or inaction. On this **Wildfire Recognition Sunday**, we hold before you all that has been lost – precious lives of people, animals, trees and valuable vegetation. We know you will never abandon your creation and that through your grace, we will be given all that we need now and always. Grant that for the sake of the gospel we may turn from the lure of evil, take up our cross, and follow your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S BLESSING

Welcome families! Mark your calendars for an outdoor worship blessing of our students on Sept. 26.

WORD

FIRST READING: Isaiah 50:4-9a

⁴The Lord God has given me
the tongue of a teacher,
that I may know how to sustain
the weary with a word.

Morning by morning he wakens—
wakens my ear
to listen as those who are taught.

⁵The Lord God has opened my ear,
and I was not rebellious,
I did not turn backward.

⁶I gave my back to those who struck me,
and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;
I did not hide my face
from insult and spitting.

⁷The Lord God helps me;
therefore I have not been disgraced;
therefore I have set my face like flint,

and I know that I shall not be put to shame;
8he who vindicates me is near.
Who will contend with me?
Let us stand up together.
Who are my adversaries?
Let them confront me.
9aIt is the Lord God who helps me;
who will declare me guilty?

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 116:1-9

1I love the Lord, because he has heard the voice of my | supplication,
because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I | called upon him.
2**The cords of death entangled me; the grip of the grave took | hold of me;**
I came to | grief and sorrow.
3Then I called upon the name | of the Lord:
“O Lord, I pray you, | save my life.”
4**Gracious is the | Lord and righteous;**
our God is full | of compassion.
5The Lord watches o- | ver the innocent;
I was brought very low, | and he helped me.
6**Turn again to your rest, | O my soul.**
for the Lord has treat- | ed you well.
7For you have rescued my | life from death,
my eyes from tears, and my | feet from stumbling.
8**I will walk in the presence | of the Lord**
in the land | of the living.

SECOND READING: James 3:1-12

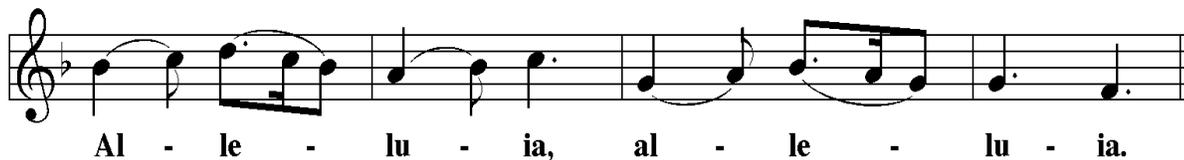
1Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. 2For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. 3If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. 4Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. 5So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! 6And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. 7For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, 8but no one can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison. 9With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. 10From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. 11Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? 12Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Mark 8:27-38

The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the eighth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁷Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?” ²⁸And they answered him, “John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.” ²⁹He asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Messiah.” ³⁰And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

³¹Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

³⁴He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY, *There is a Balm in Gilead* (WOV 737)

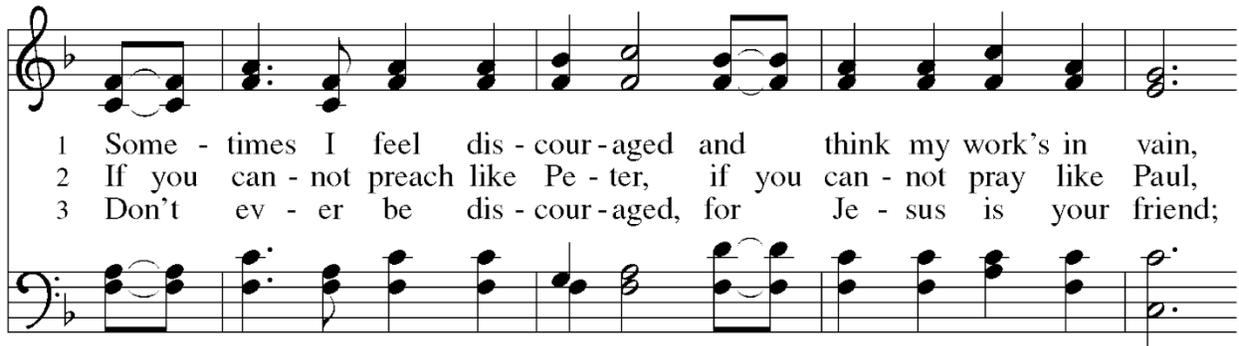
Refrain



There is a balm in Gil-e-ad to make the wound-ed whole;



there is a balm in Gil-e-ad to heal the sin-sick soul.



1 Some - times I feel dis - cour - aged and think my work's in vain,
2 If you can - not preach like Pe - ter, if you can - not pray like Paul,
3 Don't ev - er be dis - cour - aged, for Je - sus is your friend;

Refrain



but then the Ho - ly Spir - it re - vives my soul a - gain.
you can tell the love of Je - sus and say, "He died for all."
and if you lack for knowl - edge, he'll ne'er re - fuse to lend.

Text: African American spiritual
Music: BALM IN GILEAD, African American spiritual

CREED

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

THE PRAYERS

Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

Revealing God, you have made yourself known through bread and wine, water and word. Continue to nurture your church, that it is a place where your presence is experienced and shared. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Gracious God, we remember today those who fight fires to protect our homes and our livelihoods; those who stand by to respond in times of disaster and chaos; first responders, medical professionals, police and fire chiefs, deputies and volunteers. Thank you for their care and expertise and keep them safe and out of harm's way. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Compassionate God, we remember today those who have lost their homes, their hope, their livelihoods, and their communities to fire. And we name before either silently or with our voice those from whom our hearts grieve. (Pause) Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Healing God, as we move from loss to renewal, grief to hope and pain to promise, walk with us in grace, mercy and compassion. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Liberating God, you announce release to the captives and freedom to the oppressed. Break chains of discrimination and injustice. Amplify voices that go unheard and inspire us to advocate for the those who are overlooked. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Forming God, you gather this community together. Shape our communal life, that in our prayer, praise, and worship, we honor you and encourage one another. Keep our disagreements civil and increase our joy in working together. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Redeeming God, you accompany your people through every stage of life. Heal those who are ill, comfort those who mourn, and renew and sustain all those we remember now in heart and with voice... We give you thanks for the saints who now rest in your embrace. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Please greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace. Those joining us via livestream have the option of joining a breakout room. Breakout rooms are NOT recorded or broadcast on Facebook.

OFFERING

Thank you for your generous gifts to sustain the mission and ministry of Gethsemane Lutheran Church. You may give online at www.glcportland.org/give or with Venmo.

OFFERTORY



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



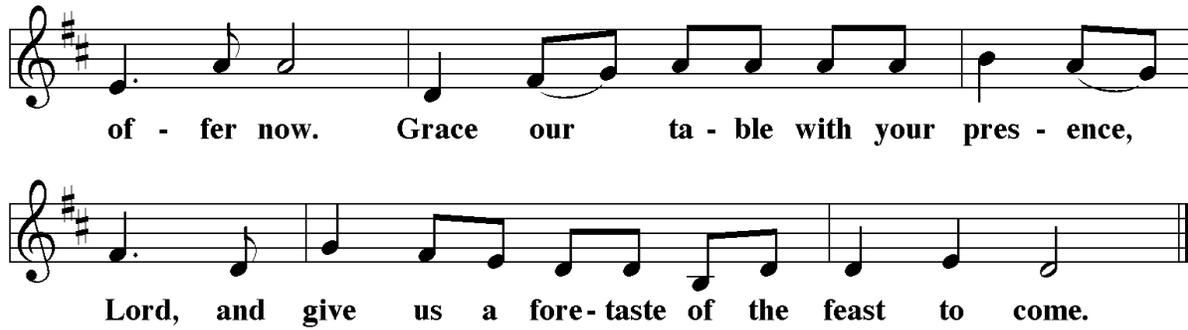
bles - sing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were



sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.



Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we



of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,
 Lord, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray.

Blessed are you,

O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

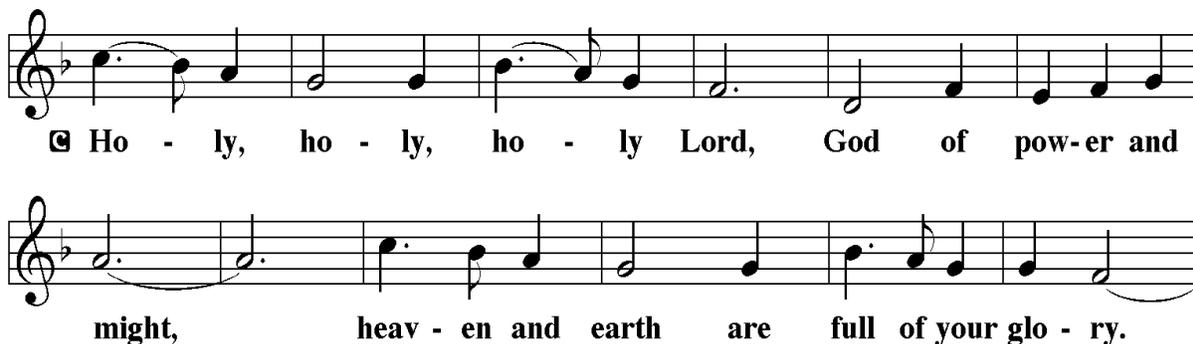
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



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. Bless - ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
 high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

All are welcome to celebrate communion as part of our worship this morning! If you are joining us via livestream, any bread and wine, water or juice may be used. Please hold up the bread and the cup as Pastor Elizabeth says these words:

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.
 Pour out your Holy Spirit,
 that by this Holy Communion we may know
 the unity we share with all your people
 in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
 Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

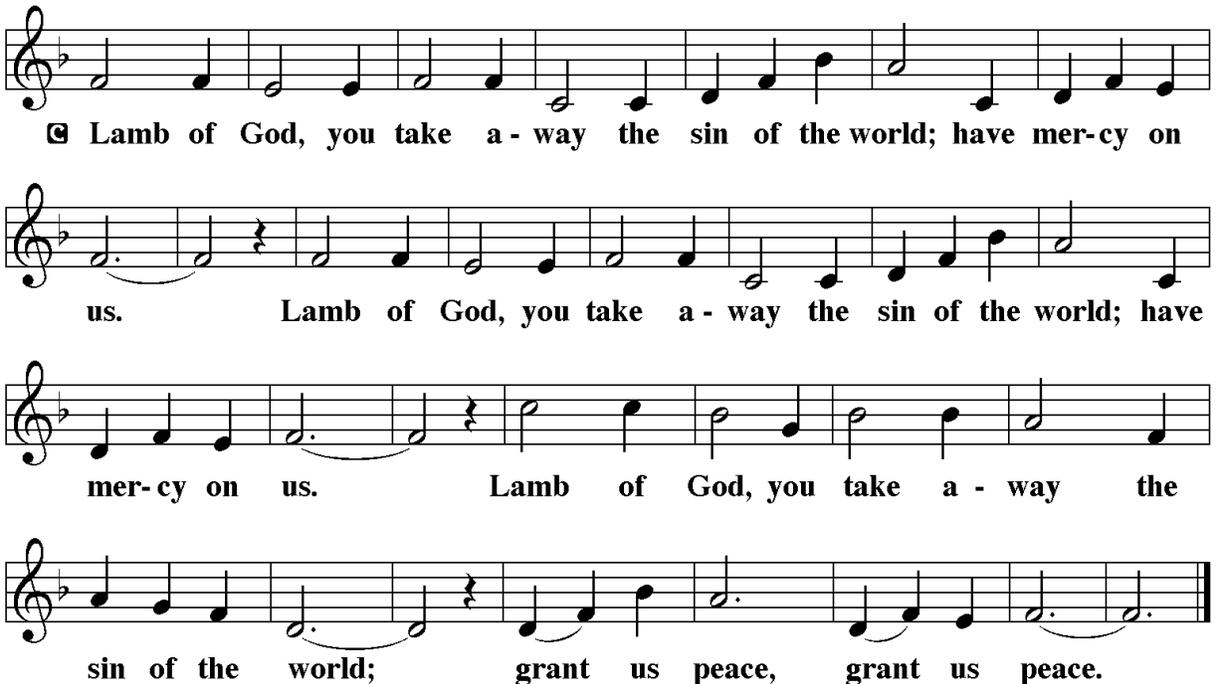
Amen

LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

You are invited to join in virtual communion as led by Pr. Elizabeth.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

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

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE



☩ Thank - ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev - 'ry -
one what God has done. Let all who seek the
Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.
Send us with your prom - is - es, O God, and
lead us forth in joy with shouts of thanks -
giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you provide the true bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that we who have received the Sacrament of his body and blood may abide in him and he in us, that we may be filled with the power of his endless life, now and forever.

Amen

SENDING

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 SONG, *Lift High the Cross* (ELW 660)

Refrain

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim till

all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.

1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our cap - tain trod,
 2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied
 3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
 4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

Refrain

our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
 bear on their brows the seal of him who died.
 as praise thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to thee.
 praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956
 Music: CRUCIFER, Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947
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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you!

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE



ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **GLC Hymn Survey 2021:** What music makes your heart sing? What hymns encourage and renew your faith? Please visit this form link to tell us your favorite hymn(s), and Pr. Elizabeth will work to include them in our worship services: <https://forms.gle/nfnqR71h78pmBCPn6> If you can't remember the name, here are some links to look up hymns online:
 - <https://hymnary.org/hymnal/ELW2006> (ELW)
 - <https://hymnary.org/hymnal/WOV> (WOV)
 - <https://hymnary.org/hymnal/TFBF1999> (TFF)
 - <https://hymnary.org/hymnal/LBoW1978> (LBW)
- **Youth Firefighter Collection items needed:** Prayers, bar soap, cotton boot socks, toothbrushes, pillows/sleeping bags, protein bars/high-calorie snacks, monetary donations.
- Mark your calendars for a **blessing of our students on September 26** (new date).
- Thank you to all who participated in the “Connecting Conversations” small groups led by our **Transition Team**. The team meets regularly and will be keep you updated on their progress. Question for the team? Contact Sharon Magnuson or Deb Postelwait.



venmo

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