



*“...You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself.”*

*~Luke 10:27*

**St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – July 13, 2025**

420 Beaver St., PO Box 411

Mars, PA 16046-0411

[www.stjohnchurchmars.org](http://www.stjohnchurchmars.org)

Phone: 724-625-1830

email: [office@stjohnchurchmars.org](mailto:office@stjohnchurchmars.org)

Rev. Katie McNeal, Presiding Minister

Maizy Fisher, Director of Music Ministries

*We are delighted to have you worship with us this morning!  
Know that you are welcome here just as you are.*

*If you are looking for a church to call home, why not consider making this one your own? If this is your first time worshipping at St. John, please fill out the visitor information card stapled to your bulletin.*

*Everything you need to follow worship can be found in this bulletin. As you are comfortable, please rise when there is an \* and join in the congregational responses, noted in **bold**. All songs are marked with numbers. The red book in the pew has all the songs. Look for the large number in the upper corner of the page to find the correct song.*

*During the time of **Peace**, you are invited to turn to those around you and offer a word of peace. We suggest a handshake and saying, "Peace be with you." You are also welcomed to offer another gesture of peace (wave, fist-bump, smile, etc.). Hand sanitizer is available in each pew.*

*At the time of **Offering**, you are invited to share a gift. Envelopes are available in the pews if you prefer. Online gifts may be made using the QR code below:*



*You may also offer updates to our ongoing prayer list using the yellow cards in the pews and placing them in the offering plates. **Visitor information cards** and member attendance cards (attached to the front of the bulletin) may also be placed in the offering plates.*

*As Lutherans, we believe Christ is truly present in the elements of the Lord's Supper. At the time of **Holy Communion**, all baptized individuals are welcome to come forward via the center aisle, receive the elements, and return via the side aisles. We begin at the front of the right side, commune all on the right side, then we will invite the left side forward. When you come forward, you may receive the bread from the pastor (gluten free wafers are available), then pre-filled cups with wine or grape juice from the assisting minister. You may consume the elements after receiving them then place the empty cup in the tray held by the acolyte. Those who do not receive Holy Communion are welcome to come forward for a blessing.*

*If you need a **restroom**, restrooms are located on the bottom floor at the far side of the building from the elevator. Restrooms may be accessed either via the stairs in the rear of the sanctuary, the stairs by the Greeting Area, or the elevator.*

*A **playroom** is available downstairs for children who need a break from the worship service.*

*This room is by the elevator on the lower level. An adult must remain with the child.*

*Children are also welcome to utilize the books and puzzles available in the Greeting Area on the top level by the elevator.*

*As you prepare for worship, you are invited to fill out the blue prayer request forms located in each pew. The cards will be collected during our hymn of the day, and prayers will be offered during the prayers of intercession.*

## **SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION**


### **PRELUDE**

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*As we prepare our hearts and minds for worship, you are invited to offer a prayer for God to lead, guide, nourish, and use you in worship this morning. You can use these or other words:*

***“Lord, I come to honor you in worship today. I ask that all the things of this week that can crowd you out of my heart be set aside by the power of your Holy Spirit. Open my heart and mind to meet you and receive you today. Amen.”***

**\*GATHERING HYMN** *Create in Me a Clean Heart (ELW 186) sing 3 times*



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right  
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take  
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of  
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

### **\*GREETING**

This is a place of worship, a place of Christian community,  
and “a house of prayer for all peoples.” (Isaiah 56:7).

May 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.**

## \*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Turning to God, who forgives all our sin and whose mercy endures forever, let us pray:  
God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Merciful God,  
**you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.**  
**You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,**  
**but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.**  
**You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity,**  
**but we grow weary in doing what is right.**  
**In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us.**  
**Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.**

Know this: You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's child through faith.  
In the cross of ✠ Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, our sins are forgiven.  
Clothed with Christ, we are a new creation.

**We accept God's forgiveness, and we take our place in God's purpose. Amen!**

## \*CANTICLE OF PRAISE *Glory to God*



¡Glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ria en las al - tu - ras a Dios!  
Glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ry to God . . on high!



¡Glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ria en las al - tu - ras a Dios!  
Glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ry to God . . on high!



Y en la tie - rra paz pa-ra\_a-que-llos que\_a-ma\_el Se - ñor.  
And on earth . . . peace to God's peo-ple. Glo - ry to God.



Y en la tie - rra paz pa-ra\_a-que-llos que\_a-ma\_el Se - ñor.  
And on earth . . . peace to God's peo-ple. Glo - ry to God.

## **\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

**O Lord God, your mercy delights us, and the world longs for your loving care. Hear the cries of everyone in need, and turn our hearts to love our neighbors with the love of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

## **WORD**

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

### **FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 30:9-14**

A reading from Deuteronomy.

<sup>9</sup> The LORD your God will make you abundantly prosperous in all your undertakings, in the fruit of your body, in the fruit of your livestock, and in the fruit of your soil. For the LORD will again take delight in prospering you, just as he delighted in prospering your ancestors, <sup>10</sup> when you obey the LORD your God by observing his commandments and decrees that are written in this book of the law, because you turn to the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

<sup>11</sup> Surely, this commandment that I am commanding you today is not too hard for you, nor is it too far away. <sup>12</sup> It is not in heaven, that you should say, “Who will go up to heaven for us, and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?” <sup>13</sup> Neither is it beyond the sea, that you should say, “Who will cross to the other side of the sea for us, and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?” <sup>14</sup> No, the word is very near to you; it is in your mouth and in your heart for you to observe.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM: Psalm 25:1-10

*The psalm is chanted. The refrain is sung once through by all who wish. Then the tone by which the verses are chanted is first played by the music director, who will sing the lightly printed verses. The congregation will chant the verses printed in bold following the same chanted tone as the music director. The vertical line indicates the change in tone. The refrain is sung again by all as indicated with “R”.*



Show me your ways, O LORD, and teach me your paths.

<sup>1</sup>To | you, O LORD,  
I lift | up my soul.

<sup>2</sup>**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be | put to shame,  
nor let my enemies triumph | over me.**

<sup>3</sup>Let none who look to you be | put to shame;  
rather let those be put to shame | who are treacherous.

<sup>4</sup>**Show me your | ways, O LORD,  
and teach | me your paths. R**

<sup>5</sup>Lead me in your | truth and teach me,  
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all | the day long.

<sup>6</sup>**Remember, O LORD, your compas- | sion and love,  
for they are from | everlasting.**

<sup>7</sup>Remember not the sins of my youth and | my transgressions;  
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your good- | ness, O LORD.

<sup>8</sup>**You are gracious and up- | right, O LORD;  
therefore you teach sinners | in your way.**

<sup>9</sup>You lead the low- | ly in justice  
and teach the low- | ly your way.

<sup>10</sup>**All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast | love and faithfulness  
to those who keep your covenant and your | testimonies. R**

## **SECOND READING: Colossians 1:1-14**

A reading from Colossians.

<sup>1</sup> Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,

<sup>2</sup> To the saints and faithful brothers and sisters in Christ in Colossae:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father.

<sup>3</sup> In our prayers for you we always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>4</sup> for we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, <sup>5</sup> because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. You have heard of this hope before in the word of the truth, the gospel <sup>6</sup> that has come to you. Just as it is bearing fruit and growing in the whole world, so it has been bearing fruit among yourselves from the day you heard it and truly comprehended the grace of God. <sup>7</sup> This you learned from Epaphras, our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf, <sup>8</sup> and he has made known to us your love in the Spirit.

<sup>9</sup> For this reason, since the day we heard it, we have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, <sup>10</sup> so that you may lead lives worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God. <sup>11</sup> May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully <sup>12</sup> giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. <sup>13</sup> He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, <sup>14</sup> in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*¡A - le - lu - ya,      a - le - lu - ya,      a - le - lu - ya!*  
*Al - le - lu - ia,      al - le - lu - ia,      al - le - lu - ia!*

*¡A - le - lu - ya,      a - le - lu - ya,      a - le - lu - ya!*  
*Al - le - lu - ia,      al - le - lu - ia,      al - le - lu - ia!*

*¡A - le - lu - ya,      a - le - lu - ya,*  
*Al - le - lu - ia,      al - le - lu - ia,*

*a - le - lu - ya!      ¡A - le - lu - ya!*  
*al - le - lu - ia!      Al - le - lu - ia!*

## \*GOSPEL READING: Luke 10:25-37

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>25</sup> Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. “Teacher,” he said, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?” <sup>26</sup> He said to him, “What is written in the law? What do you read there?” <sup>27</sup> He answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself.” <sup>28</sup> And he said to him, “You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live.”

<sup>29</sup> But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?” <sup>30</sup> Jesus replied, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. <sup>31</sup> Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. <sup>32</sup> So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. <sup>33</sup> But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. <sup>34</sup> He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. <sup>35</sup> The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, ‘Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.’ <sup>36</sup> Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?” <sup>37</sup> He said, “The one who showed him mercy.” Jesus said to him, “Go and do likewise.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

### SERMON

#### **\*HYMN OF THE DAY *Will You Let Me Be Your Servant* (ELW 659)**

*(Blue prayer cards are collected)*



1 Will you let me be your ser - vant, let me be as  
2 We are pil - grims on a jour - ney, we are trav - 'lers  
3 I will hold the Christ - light for you in the night - time  
4 I will weep when you are weep - ing; when you laugh I'll  
5 Will you let me be your ser - vant, let me be as



Christ to you? Pray that I may have the grace to  
on the road; we are here to help each oth - er  
of your fear; I will hold my hand out to you,  
laugh with you. I will share your joy and sor - row  
Christ to you? Pray that I may have the grace to



let you be my ser - vant, too.  
walk the mile and bear the load.  
speak the peace you long to hear.  
till we've seen this jour - ney through.  
let you be my ser - vant, too.

#### **\*APOSTLES' CREED**

Let us confess our faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed

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

**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.**

**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**

## **\*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

In solidarity with all creation, we join our voice to the voice of the whole church and pray for the needs of the world.

Saving God, awaken your church to your truth as it follows your path of love. Encourage pastors, deacons, teachers, and seminarians, and lead them as they seek to learn your ways. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Prosper the harvests of fruit-bearing bushes, trees, and plants. Uphold farmers and farm workers as they labor through summer days, and bring relief to lands that are parched with heat. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Instill in leaders of the world a strong love for their neighbors. Compel them to govern with equity and to give aid and protection to people who are vulnerable, especially strangers, migrants, and asylum seekers. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Draw near to people in need of help, comfort, and healing especially Bob, Geneva, Cherry, Winnie, Henry, Harry, Sally, Katie, Debi, Anne, Karen, Nan, Beverly, those on our prayer list, all whom we remember aloud or in our hearts and all who suffer in any way. Provide protection and aid to children who are unsafe and undernourished while on summer break. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Go with all who travel, and protect them from harm. Put in their paths people who offer aid. We pray especially for the safety of first responders. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We give you thanks for all who have gone before us and have made your love known. Help us to follow their witness as we await our share in the inheritance of the saints. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Holy three, holy one, you hear our prayers, spoken and unspoken. We do not come to honor you alone. Thank you for those with whom we worship today – both here and in eternity. We especially remember before you now those whose joys and concerns we carry with us in our worship (*blue prayer cards are read*). Receive our prayers and answer us, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

## **\*PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

Let us share Christ's peace with one another.

*You are invited to turn to those around you and offer a word of peace as we prepare to receive God's grace in communion. We suggest a handshake and saying, "Peace be with you." You are also welcome to offer another gesture of peace (wave, fist-bump, smile, etc.). Hand sanitizer is available in each pew.*

## MEAL

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ*

### COLLECTION OF THE OFFERING

*You are invited to support the ministries of this congregation through gifts and prayers at this time. Ongoing prayer requests, connection cards, communion records, and financial gifts are collected in the plates as we remember that we offer all of ourselves to God. Envelopes are available in the pews if you prefer.*

### OFFERTORY HYMN *Commonwealth Is God's Commandment* (ACS 1036)

*Rise on verse 3*



- 1 Com-mon-wealth is God's com-mand-ment; com-mon goods are meant to share.  
2 Shar-ing lav-ish gifts and bless-ings, love that not one mite with-holds,  
3 Gen-ders, rac-es, tribes, and na-tions, hear the Ho-ly One who calls,



Ta-bles set and doors wide o-pen wel-come an-gels un-a-ware.  
stretch out arms to friends and stran-gers: God has sheep of man-y folds.  
bid-ding all to work to-geth-er, bridg-ing lives and breach-ing walls.



Plead for the peace of all cre-a-tion. Pray for a place where grace is found.



Shan-ti, pax, sha-lom, mas-la-ha: com-mon good is ho-ly ground.

### **\*OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things.

Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts:

ourselves, our time, and our possessions.

Use us, and what we have gathered,

in feeding the world with your love,

through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

### **\*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.**

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:

San - to, san - to, san - to, es el Se - ñor,  
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord . . . God,

Dios del u - ni - ver - so; san - to, es el Se - ñor.  
God of might and pow - er; ho - ly is the Lord.

San - to, san - to, san - to, san - to, es el Se - ñor,  
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord . . . God,

Dios del u - ni - ver - so; san - to, es el Se - ñor.  
God of might and pow - er; ho - ly is the Lord.

Ho - san - na en el cie - lo, ho - san - na en la  
Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na here on

tie - rra. Ben - di - to el que vie - ne en el  
earth. . . . . Blest is he who comes in the

nom - bre del Se - ñor. Ho - san - na en el  
name . . . of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the

cie - lo, ho - san - na en la tie - rra. Ben -  
high - est, ho - san - na here on earth. . . . .

di - to el que vie - ne en el nom - bre del Se - ñor.  
Blest is he who comes in the name . . . of the Lord.

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.

Holy God, we remember your Son,  
    his life with the humble, his death among the wretched, his resurrection for us all:  
Your wisdom our guide, your justice our strength, your grace our path to rebirth.

Holy God, we beg for your Spirit:  
    Enliven this bread, awaken this body, pour us out for each other.  
    Transfigure our minds, ignite your church, nourish the life of the earth.  
    Make us, while many, united,  
        make us, though broken, whole,  
        make us, despite death, alive.

You, Holy God, Holy One, Holy Three! Praise now, praise tomorrow, praise forever.  
**Amen!**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray:  
**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 to the table of grace; receive the gift of new life. You are invited. God's love is for you!  
**Thanks be to God!**

*Through this meal, we know forgiveness, life, and salvation as the blessings of God's sacramental grace. In response to Jesus' invitation, all baptized individuals are welcome to come forward and experience the real presence of Christ in the bread and wine. Those who do not receive the bread and wine are invited to come forward for a blessing.*

*Grape juice and gluten free wafers are available upon request. Communion may also be brought back to the pews for those who are unable to come forward.*

## COMMUNION SONG *Lamb of God*

Cor - de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;  
O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .

ten pie-dad de no - so-tros, have . . mer-cy up - on us, ten pie-dad de no - so-tros. have . . mer-cy up - on us.

Cor-de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;  
O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .

ten pie-dad de no - so-tros, have . . mer-cy up - on us, ten pie-dad de no - so-tros. have . . mer-cy up - on us.

Cor-de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;  
O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .

da - nos tu paz, grant us your peace, da - nos tu paz. grant us your peace.

# COMMUNION HYMN *O God of Mercy, God of Light* (ELW 714)



1 O God of mer - cy, God of light, in love and  
 2 You sent your Son to die for all, that our lost  
 3 Teach us the les - son Je - sus taught: to feel for  
 4 For all are kin - dred, far and wide, since Je - sus



mer - cy in - fi - nite, teach us, as ev - er  
 world might hear your call; oh, hear us lest we  
 those his blood has bought, that ev - 'ry deed and  
 Christ for all has died; grant us the will, and



in your sight, to live our lives in you.  
 stray and fall! We rest our hope in you.  
 word and thought may work a work for you.  
 grace pro - vide, to love them all in you.

5 In sickness, sorrow, want, or care,  
 may we each other's burdens share;  
 may we, where help is needed, there  
 give help as though to you.

6 And may your Holy Spirit move  
 all those who live to live in love,  
 till you receive in heav'n above  
 all those who live in you.

## COMMUNION HYMN *The Lord Now Sends Us Forth* (ELW 538)



En - via - do soy de Dios, mi ma - no lis - ta es - tá  
The Lord now sends us forth with hands to serve and give,  
pa - ra cons - truir con él un mun - do fra - ter - nal.  
to make of all the earth a bet - ter place to live.  
Los án - ge - les no son en - via - dos a cam - biar  
The an - gels are not sent in - to our world of pain  
un mun - do de do - lor por un mun - do me - jor;  
to do what we were meant to do in Je - sus' name;  
me ha to - ca - do a mí ha - cer lo rea - li - dad.  
that falls to you and me and all who are made free.  
A - yú - da - me, Se - ñor, a ha - cer tu vo - lun - tad.  
Help us, O Lord, we pray, to do your will to - day.

### **\*POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

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

### **\*POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

Let us pray. We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **SENDING**

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

### **\*BLESSING**

The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit ☩ bless you and give you peace. **Amen.**

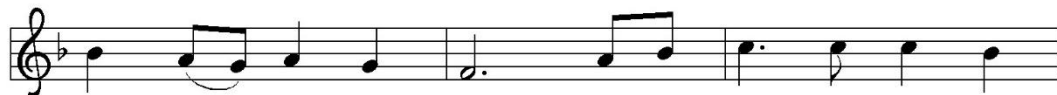
**\*SENDING SONG *All Are Welcome* (ELW 641)**



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.

**\*SENDING PRAYER**

Holy One, we thank you for all that you have given us. We thank you for the relationships with which you have blessed us, the guidance you have given us in your word, and the support, healing, and love you have fed us with at your table. Take away our sin and carry us into the week with the new beginning we have in your promised forgiveness. Lead us this week to be your hands, your feet, and your voice in the world. **Amen.**

**\*DISMISSAL**

[Jesus said,] “Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation.”

*Mark 16:15*

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

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The flowers on the altar today were supplied by Sherry and Bob Davidson in Celebration of their son Ryan’s birthday.

## Assisting in worship today:

**Assisting Minister: David D**

**Offering: Ava N and Ella N**

**Attendance from last week: 70 +3 zoom**

**Acolyte: Lydia M**

**Greeters: Cora Steigerwalt**

## Notes for the day's texts:

Why didn't Jesus tell the lawyer whom we are to love? Why concentrate instead on how we are to love? It seems to me that it would be so much easier if I only knew who it is I have been called to love. It would better if I could know the names of those for whom I bear such awesome responsibility, but I don't. We don't. We are called by Jesus to an expansive love, to a love without limit that is potentially there for all. No one is eliminated in advance. . . . We are to love not only the disenfranchised and alienated, the marginalized and oppressed, those needy strangers whom we read about on the front page or pass by in the subway station, but our friends, our relatives, and all those at the center of our political, social, and economic power structures. If we love like the Samaritan loved, we will be compassionate and generous to each person upon whom we stumble.

—*Barbara Finan* [Barbara Finan, in *Homilies for the Christian People*, 499.]

As we consider the ways that we can continue to and improve in our ability to offer hospitality and be a neighbor to friends and strangers as a CAKE (Christ-like Acceptance and Kindness for Everyone) congregation, consider the following questions:

- In what ways does our congregation currently practice hospitality to strangers during and after worship? How can we do a better job?
- 'To embrace all people with God's love and grace is not an aspect of the gospel – it *is* the gospel.' How does this statement confirm or contradict your understanding of the gospel (good news) of what God has done in Jesus Christ?
- How could our congregation guide new members through a process that begins with a sense of belonging, then accompanies them to believing and then behaving as members of the body of Christ?
- Where do you see personal benefits in 'practicing God's welcome'? How is it both a gift and a challenge?

## Today's Music

*Create in Me a Clean Heart.* Music: Richard W. Hillert, 1923-2010. Public Domain / Augsburg Fortress.

*Will You Let Me Be Your Servant* Text: Richard Gillard, b. 1953, Music: Richard Gillard; arr. Betty Pulkingham, b. 1928. Capitol CMG Publishing).

*Commonwealth is God's Commandment.* Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953, Music: W. Walker, Southern Harmony, 1835. GIA Publications, Inc. *O God of Mercy, God of Light.* Text: Godfrey Thring, 1823-1903, alt., Music: Joseph Barnby, 1838-1896; arr. hymnal version. Public Domain /Augsburg Fortress.

*The Lord Now Sends Us Forth.* Text: Anonymous, Central America; tr. Gerhard M. Cartford, b. 1923, Music: Anonymous, Central America. Public Domain / Augsburg Fortress.

*All Are Welcome.* Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950, Music: Marty Haugen. GIA Publications, Inc.

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