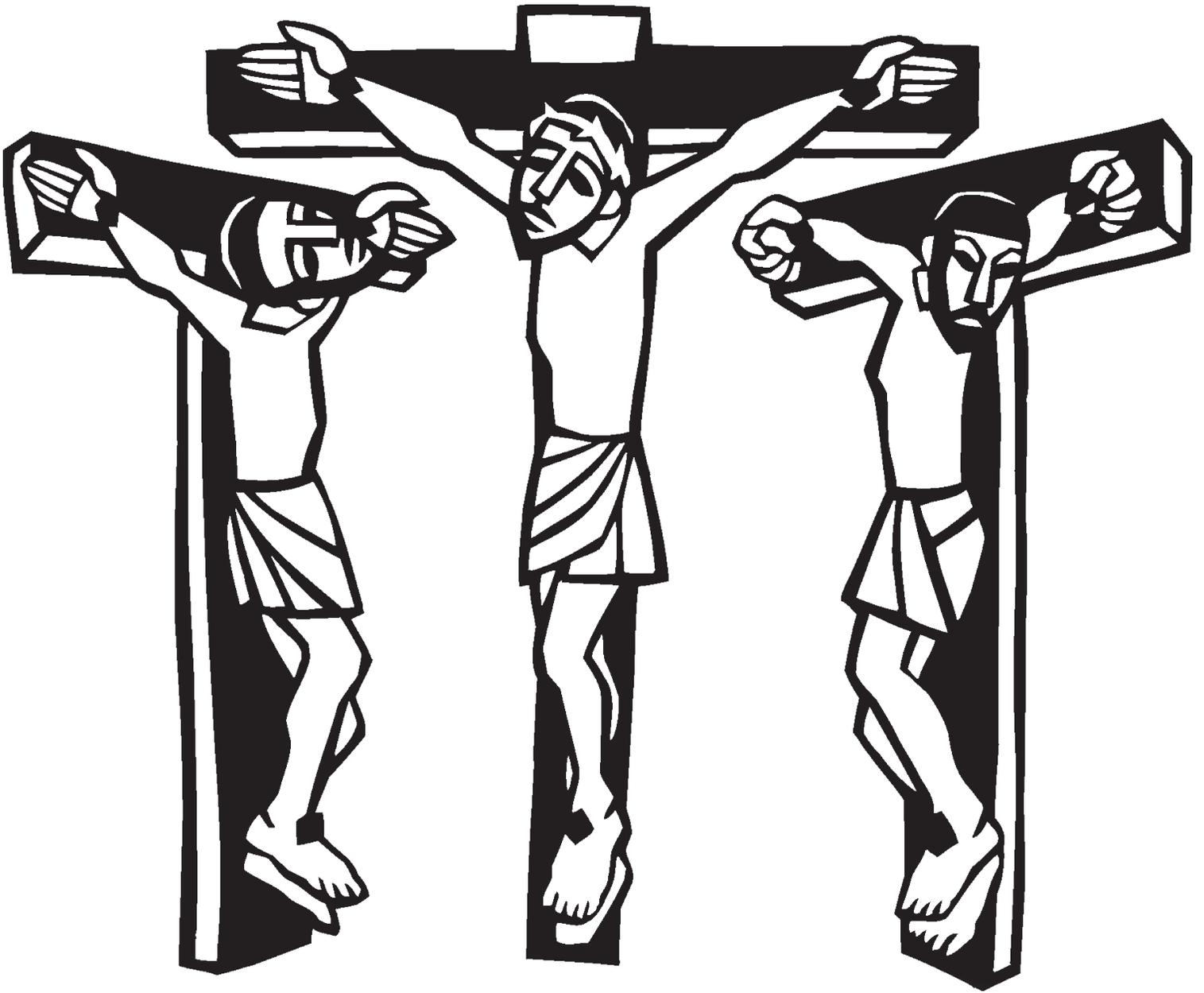


REIGN OF CHRIST



November 20, 2022

10:00am

GATHERING

Prelude

Now Thank We All Our God
(Pacibells)

Douglas E Wagner

Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who redeems us in Christ Jesus,
whose steadfast love endures forever.

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 have sinned against you
and our neighbors.**

**We have ignored voices
that call for your justice.**

**We have neglected actions
that witness to your righteousness.**

**We have spoken and acted
in ways that disrupt your beloved community.**

**We truly repent of things we have done
and left undone.**

For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.

**Restore our troubled spirits,
so that we may live in newness,
follow the way of the Spirit,
and build up the body of Christ.**

Amen.

Rejoice and be glad!

God hears the prayers of all who cry out,
and restores us to life through the death
and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Therefore, I declare to you the forgiveness of all your sins,
in the name of the Father,
and of the † Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Hymn

Crown Him with Many Crowns

#855

Apostolic 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.

Hymn of Praise

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be-gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be

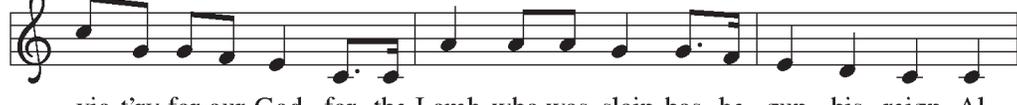


peo-ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and

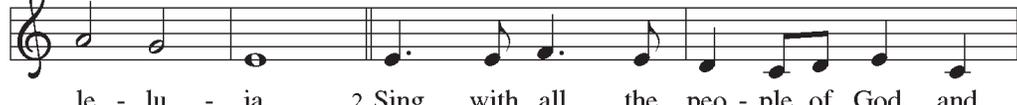
Refrain



hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. This is the feast of



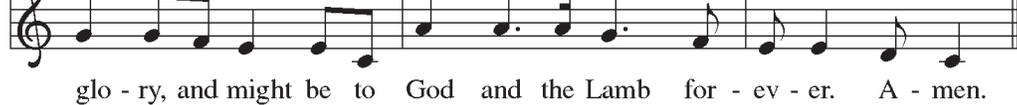
vic-t'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be-gun his reign. Al -



le - lu - ia. 2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and



join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,

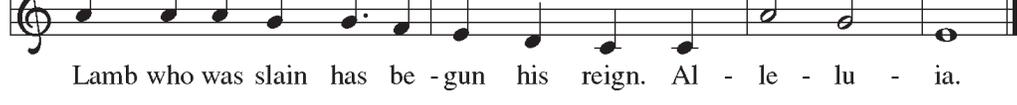


glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be-gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Prayer of the Day

O God, our true life, to serve you is freedom, and to know you is unending joy. We worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for your great glory. Abide with us, reign in us, and make this world into a fit habitation for your divine majesty, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

Children's Time

First Reading: Jeremiah 23:1–6

¹Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the Lord. ²Therefore thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the Lord. ³Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. ⁴I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the Lord.

⁵The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!

Second Reading: Colossians 1:11–20

¹¹May 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 ¹²giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

¹⁵He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; ¹⁶for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!

Rejoice, the Lord is king! Your Lord and king adore;
Mortals give thanks and sing, and triumph evermore;
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice;
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

He sits at God's right hand till all His foes submit,
And bow to His command, and fall beneath His feet:
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice;
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

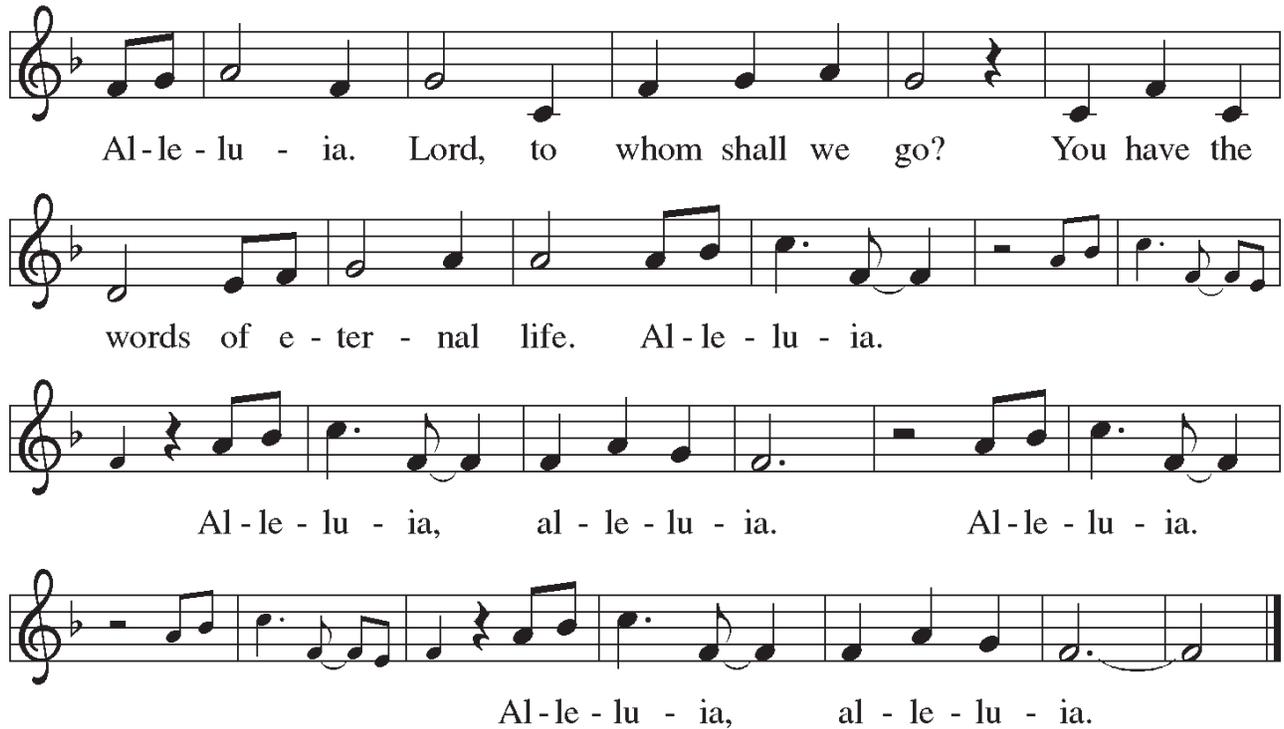
Jesus, the Savior, reigns, the God of truth and love;
When He had purged our stains, He took His seat above;
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice;
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

He all His foes shall quell, shall all our sins destroy,
And every bosom swell with pure seraphic joy;
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice,
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

His kingdom cannot fail, He rules o'er earth and Heav'n,
The keys of death and hell are to our Jesus giv'n;
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice;
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Rejoice in glorious hope! Jesus the Judge shall come,
And take His servants up to their eternal home.
We soon shall hear th'archangel's voice;
The trump of God shall sound, rejoice!

Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

**The Gospel for today is from Luke the 23rd chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.**

³³When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁴Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing. ³⁵And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" ³⁶The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, ³⁷and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" ³⁸There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

³⁹One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" ⁴⁰But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?" ⁴¹And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." ⁴²Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." ⁴³He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

The gospel of the Lord.

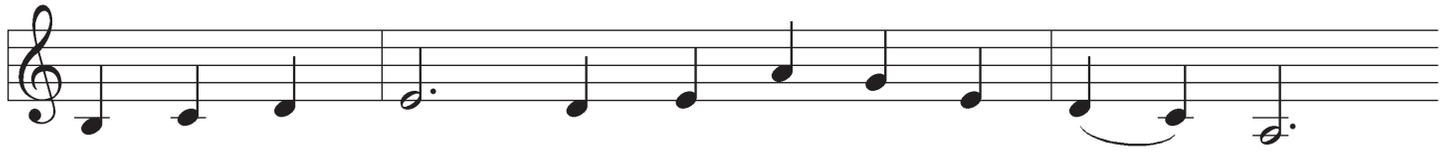
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Phil Ruge-Jones

Hymn

O Christ the Same



1 O Christ the same, through all our sto - ry's pag - es—
2 O Christ the same, the friend of sin - ners, shar - ing
3 O Christ the same, se - cure with - in whose keep - ing



our loves and hopes, our fail - ures and our fears;
our in - most thoughts, the se - crets none can hide;
our lives and loves, our days and years re - main;



e - ter - nal Lord, the king of all the a - ges,
still as of old up - on your bod - y bear - ing
our work and rest, our wak - ing and our sleep - ing,



un - chang - ing still a - mid the pass - ing years:
the marks of love in tri - umph glo - ri - fied:
our calm and storm, our plea - sure and our pain:



O liv - ing Word, the source of all cre - a - tion,
O Son of Man, who stooped for us from heav - en—
O Lord of love, for all our joys and sor - rows,

who spread the skies and set the stars a - blaze;
 O Prince of life, in all your sav - ing power;
 for all our hopes when earth shall fade and flee;

O Christ the same, who wrought our whole sal - va - tion,
 O Christ the same, to whom our hearts are giv - en:
 O Christ the same, be - yond our brief to - mor - rows,

we bring our thanks for all our yes - ter - days.
 we bring our thanks for this the pres - ent hour.
 we bring our thanks for all that is to be.

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, b. 1926

Music: LONDONDERRY AIR, Irish tune

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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 the Church

United with your saints across time and place, we pray for our shared world.

A brief silence.

... Lord, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

Accept these prayers, gracious God, and those known only to you; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

MEAL

Offering

Lift High the Cross

Charles Callahan

Offering Prayer

Blessed are you, Maker of all things.

As you have entrusted us with all that you have created, now gather our gifts, nourish us with this sacrament, and send us to those who hunger and thirst, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior.

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, ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



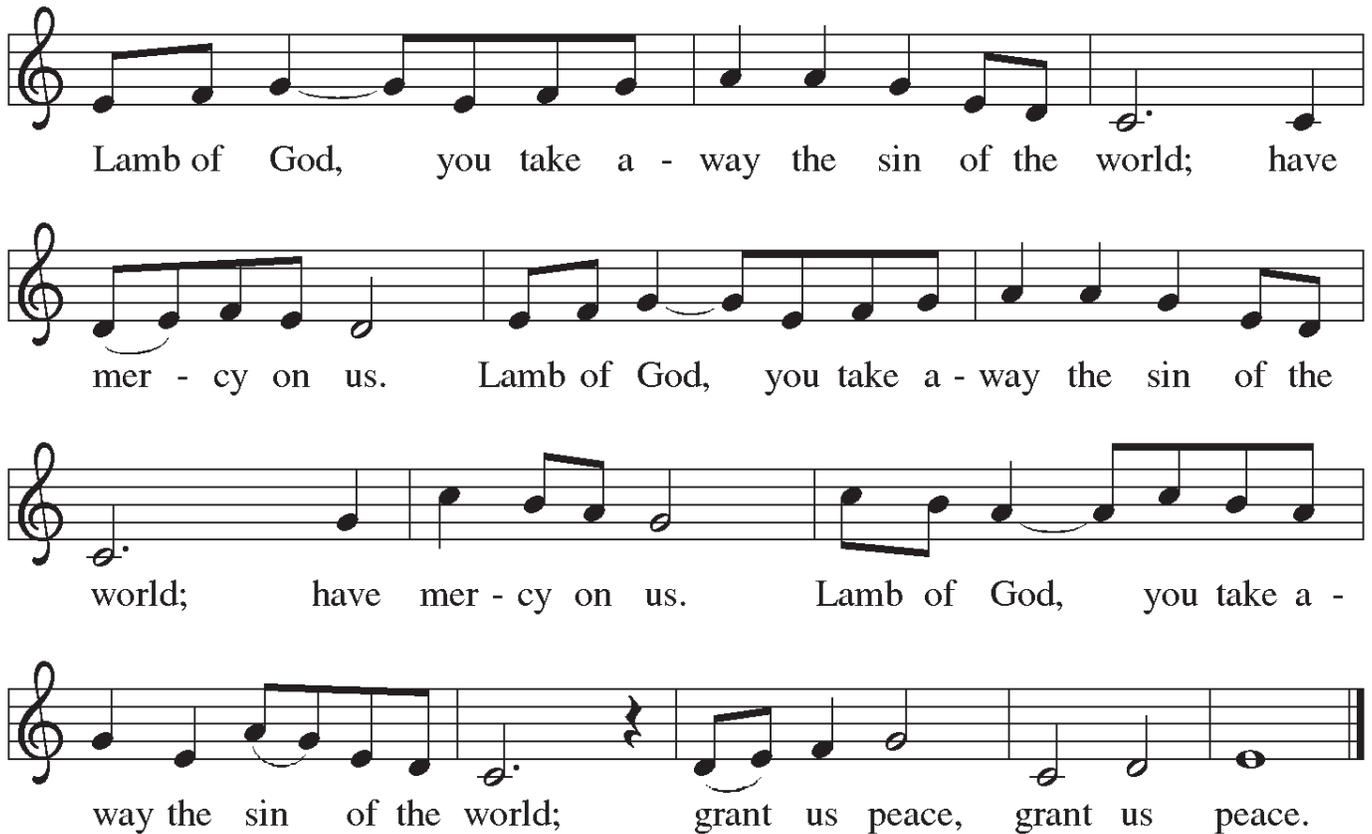
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho-
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Eucharistic Prayer

Lord's Prayer

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.

Communion



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.

Pacibells

Kyrie

Kathy Moglebust

Prayer after Communion

We give you thanks, most gracious God,
that you have fed us with the bread of heaven and given us a foretaste of Paradise. Enliven us to be your
body in the world and to serve those who are in need; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

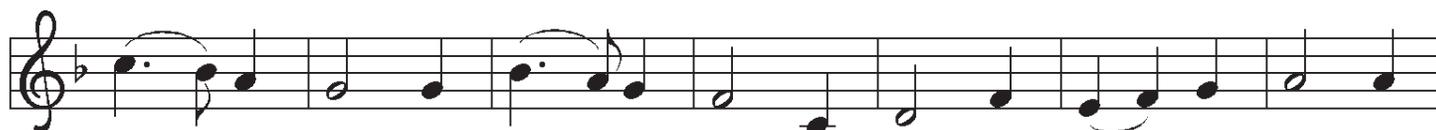
Blessing

The God of peace,
who creates all things and calls them good,
who makes us alive in Jesus,
and who breathes on us the Spirit of hope,
† bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Hymn

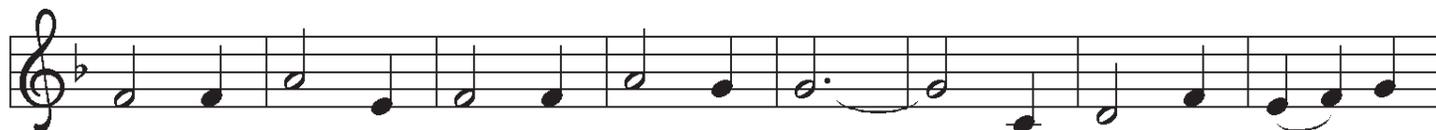
Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise



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.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: *Bread of Life*, Jeremy Young, b. 1948

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Dismissal

Go in peace. Be a blessing in the world.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Praise the Name of Jesus

arr. Mark Hayes

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Minister: Rev. Phil Ruge-Jones

Assisting Minister: Paul Lokken

Reader: Arthur Grothe

Organist: Elaine Mann

Choir Director: Diana Cataldi

Pacibells Director: Karen Lionberger



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Thanksgiving

Next week is Thanksgiving; yes it is already here. Due to the holiday, the church office will be closed all day Thursday, November 24 and it will close early at 12 noon on Wednesday November 23.

For anyone looking for fellowship on Thanksgiving, Spirit, Trinity, and St. John's Lutheran churches will all be holding services at 6pm.



Warming House

Wonderful, easy opportunity for community engagement

On December 2 the city of Eau Claire has a huge (50 entries) parade to bring in the holiday season. It passes right by the church and pre-Covid we served as the warming house for over 400 people to pass through. What a chance for the community to see who we are!

We could use volunteers to coordinate with the Scouts who help put on this event:

- MUSICIANS to sing or play Christmas music that evening.
- Someone to make coffee
- Some people willing to face paint kids with simple designs
- Some people to put together a photo booth.
- Some people to help people find out where to go (and where to NOT go) throughout the evening

Please talk to Pastor Phil as we seek to be good neighbors!

News from Pastor Phil

Many of you know that my son was recently married and has enjoyed a fine year as a fiddler in a touring country/american band. So that I don't feel the need to say it in a sermon (smile) I wanted you to know that his band leader, Zach Bryan, was just nominated for a Grammy in the category of Country Solo Performance for his song Something in the Orange.

Here is a video of them playing it in concert: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ljbRee885mU>. My son Lucas is the fiddler on the right side of the screen who opens the song.

They will also be headliners at Summerfest in Milwaukee in July. You can see on the video that the audience sings along like a Lutheran congregation. Lucas will be joining the rest of the family to offer a song on Christmas morning at Grace.

Sunday School

Sunday school will be held on the first and third Sunday of the month through the end of the year. That will be:

- November 20
- December 4
- December 18

Sunday school will take place during the service right after the Children's Sermon.

Blessing Box

Please help us replenish our Blessing Box

Our Blessing Box, located at the front entrance of Grace Church, provides non perishable food as well as hygiene items to our neighbors in need. Our Blessing Box is getting low! Since this is an ongoing need, the Mission Outreach Ministry will keep a basket for nonperishable and personal hygiene items in the Narthex for collection. We will not be collecting canned goods or liquid items during the winter since they may freeze and explode.

Suggested items:

- Cereal
- Packaged Soup
- Tuna Pouches
- Granola Bars
- Crackers
- Packaged Noodles
- Packaged Potatoes
- Peanut Butter
- Soap
- Toothpaste
- Scarves
- Gloves
- Hats
- Hand Warmers
- Socks



You are always welcome to put your items directly in the Blessing Box at any time. Thank you!



Meet Our Members

Profile of Ember Ewings

Dr. Ember Ewings, along with her then-husband Ganesh Ram, joined Grace in 2010, shortly after moving to Eau Claire for Ember's new job on the Marshfield Clinic medical staff. At the time daughter Anneliese, now 12, was a baby, and Ember had decided to leave a fellowship in pediatric facial reconstruction in Memphis, Tenn., and move closer to her roots in western Wisconsin.

"I realized that I wanted more variety in my practice. If I were to pursue a specialty within my field, I would need to work in a Children's Hospital and those are all in big metropolitan areas. I didn't want to publish, live in a big city and be famous" she said. "Eau Claire is a nice size town, low-risk, with a good amount of culture."

Eau Claire is also close to Bloomer where Ember grew up surrounded by family. “After you have a child, I think your priorities change and you think more about the importance of family.”

Ember describes her first impression of Grace as “a little piece of home.” The stained glass windows, organ music and hymns, and traditional Lutheran liturgy reminded her of her home church, St. John’s in Bloomer, where she was baptized and confirmed.

“If my church has those things, it makes me feel grounded,” she said. “I hope someday my girls will feel the same.”

Ember and her two brothers grew up on a dairy farm 10 miles north of Bloomer. Her mom was a nurse and her dad had a dairy herd until the 1988 drought when he sold the cows and acquired a beef herd. “It’s a Century Farm, so besides our nuclear family we grew up with lots of extended family nearby,” she said. “Growing up surrounded by Ewings grounded me and is still very important to me.”

As a child, Ember liked science and art. In high school, she decided to go the biology route, and she set her sights on becoming a family practice doctor. Her dream was to come back to Bloomer and practice general medicine.

Ember graduated in pre-med biology from Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter, Minn., in 2000, and went on to medical school at the University of Wisconsin. She discovered she liked the surgical rotations, eventually deciding to pursue a career in some area of surgery. After a five-year surgical residency in St. Louis, she settled on plastic surgery, which she prefers to call reconstructive surgery.

“Here’s where (my interest in) art comes in,” she explained. “Like art, reconstructive surgery involves both function and form. There’s the procedural part of surgery as well as solving complicated reconstructive problems”

After 10 years with Marshfield Clinic and a divorce in 2018, Ember decided to go into private practice. In 2021, she bought Plastic Surgery Clinic of Eau Claire. The clinic is close to her home in the woods on Eau Claire’s southwest side where she lives with Anneliese, now 12, and six-year-old Quinnlen, three dogs, and three cats. She boards a horse nearby, the result of a long ago wish of Annie’s to learn to ride.

During the pandemic, Ember home-schooled her girls. Always up for a challenge, she also experimented with several do-it-yourself projects that went awry, including attempts to build a swimming pool (it collapsed), create a garden (too shady), and make wine from the grapes on her backyard arbor (it tasted terrible). “I want my kids to learn not to be afraid to try something, even if you fail. It’s good for kids to know that adults can fail too.”

Ember was glad to come back to church for Sunday worship. Even though she and the girls worshipped online during the months of quarantine, she missed having a separate place where she could let go of all the distractions of daily life and just be still. “I need a sacred space where I can center myself and be open to the Spirit,” she said. “Maybe my kids don’t know it now, but when they’re older and remember how they felt in church, I hope they’ll realize how important that is.”

On Sundays you can usually find Ember, Annie and Quinn on the far left side near the rear of the sanctuary. The girls attend Sunday school, sing with the Family Choir, and Annie just started Confirmation.

Ember values the many older members she has gotten to know at Grace. “I feel so much respect for the older people in our church. They have so much wisdom to share,” she said. “I think instead of asking people why they don’t come to church, we should ask them why they do come.”

Advent Decorations

Visual Ministry will be decorating the Sanctuary for advent on December 10 starting at 9:30am. Everyone is welcome to attend and help decorate for the holiday season.

Altar Flowers

Altar Flowers for this Sunday (Nov 20) were provided by John & Nancy Schaaf in memory of their son, Mark Schaaf. Thank You.

Altar flower sign-up cards are available again. Pick one up in the entryway off of the Oxford Ave Parking Lot. Please choose a card for the date you would like, fill it out, and place it in the offering plate or bring it to the church office. If you choose a florist other than 4 Seasons, you will be responsible for bringing the flowers the morning of the service.

We are also trying out a new program. If you are giving electronically through Vanco, there is now an option to purchase altar flowers through Vanco's website or their mobile app. Please order at least a week in advance to give us time to process your request.

If you have ordered altar flowers through 4 Seasons and have taken them home, please return the vase to Andrew in the office so we can bring them back to 4 Seasons to be used again.

Church Office Hours

Monday — Thursday : 10AM — 2PM

Phone: 715-832-9713

Email: info@grace-church.org

Rev. Dr. Phil Ruge-Jones: pastorphil@grace-church.org

If you missed one of our services, you can find them on the "Grace Lutheran Church ELCA Eau Claire Wisconsin" YouTube page. If you would like to follow along with a bulletin they can be found on our website (<https://grace-church.org/>) under the "Our Ministry" section.

Services are also broadcast on the following platforms:

Televised Service

Sunday 10:30am WQOW Channel 18, Cable 9, 618HD (every other week)

Thursday 1:30pm Cable Channel 993 (ChipVal CTV Pub Ed)

Radio Service

Sunday 8:30am WAYY 790 AM

Do you have information for the bulletin and Grace at a Glance? Deadline is Thursday by 12:00 p.m. by emailing Andrew at info@grace-church.org or by calling the office at 715-832-9713