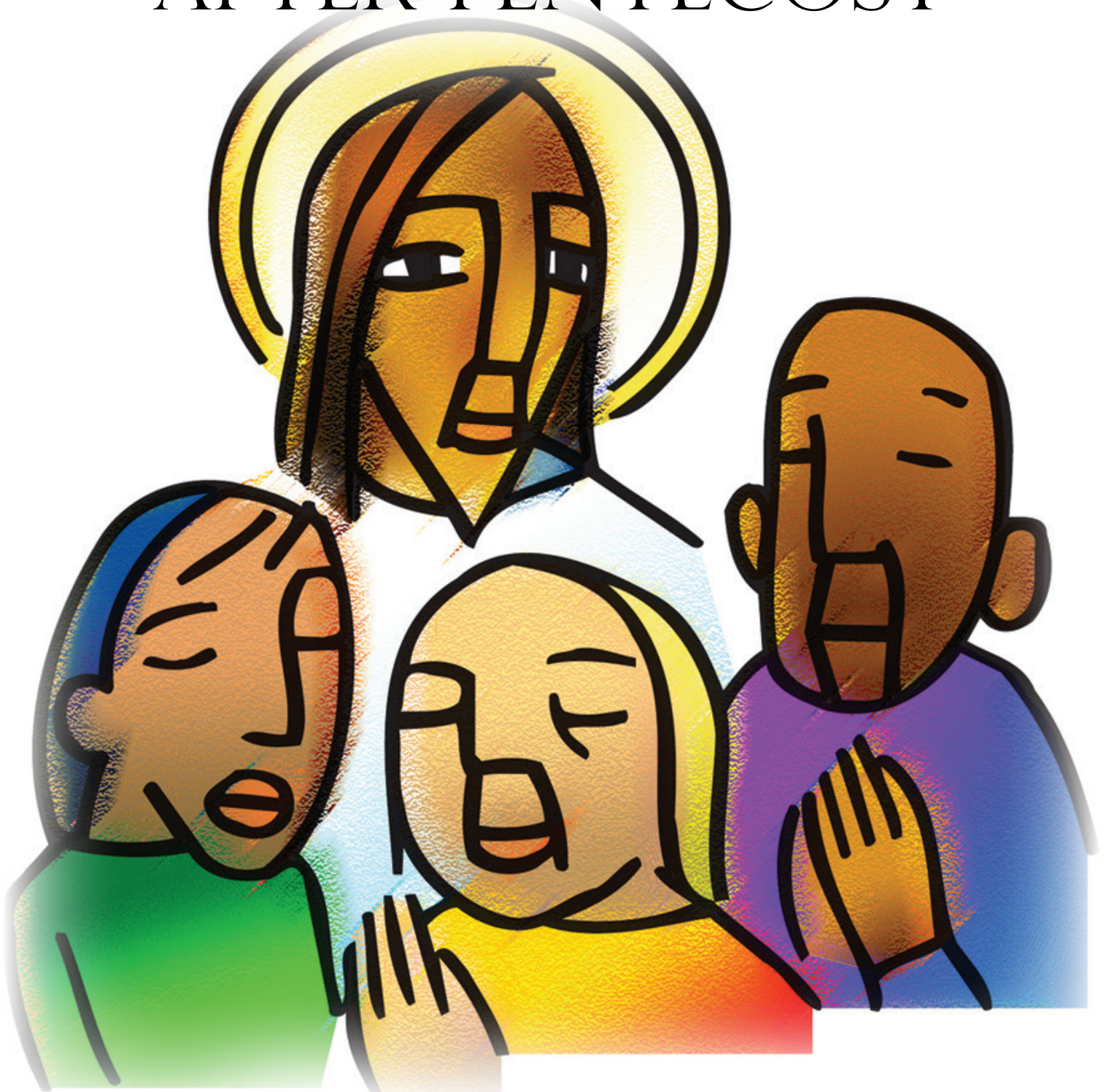


# FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



*September 10, 2023*

*10:00am*

# GATHERING

Prelude

Celtic Hymn

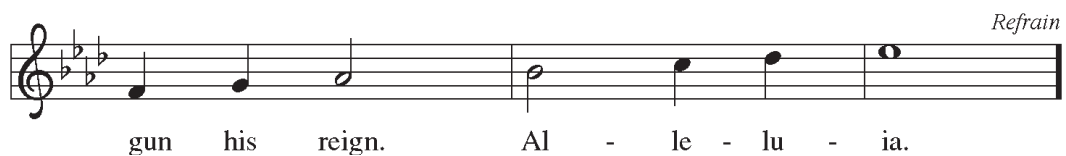
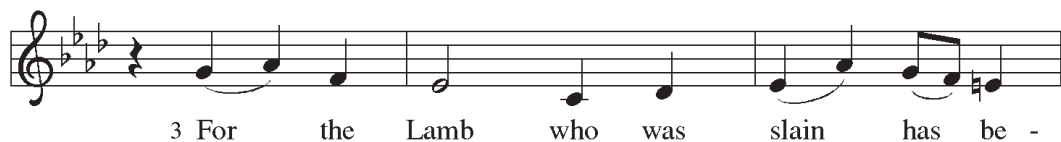
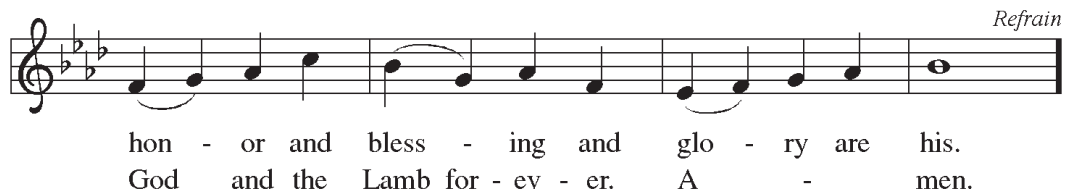
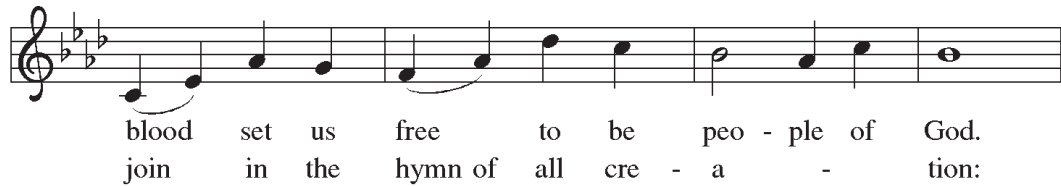
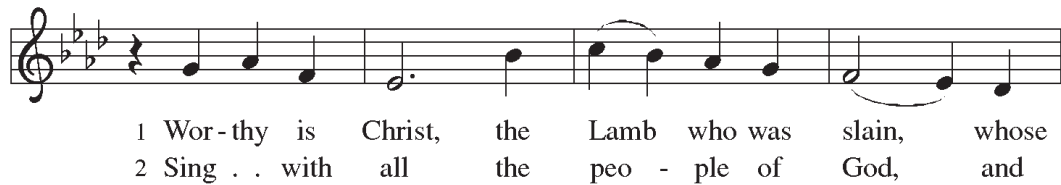
Hans-Andre Stamm

Opening Hymn As We Gather at Your Table

#522

Apostolic Greeting

Hymn of Praise This Is the Feast



## **Prayer of the Day**

O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

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## **WORD**

### **Children's Message**

#### **First Reading: Ezekiel 33:7–11**

<sup>7</sup>So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. <sup>8</sup>If I say to the wicked, “O wicked ones, you shall surely die,” and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. <sup>9</sup>But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

<sup>10</sup>Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: “Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?” <sup>11</sup>Say to them, As I live, says the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God!**

#### **Second Reading: Romans 13:8–14**

<sup>8</sup>Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. <sup>9</sup>The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet”; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, “Love your neighbor as yourself.” <sup>10</sup>Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

<sup>11</sup>Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; <sup>12</sup>the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; <sup>13</sup>let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. <sup>14</sup>Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God!**

## Gospel Acclamation

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*Repeat alleluia*

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

## Gospel: Matthew 18:15–20

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said to the disciples: <sup>15</sup>“If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. <sup>16</sup>But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. <sup>17</sup>If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. <sup>18</sup>Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. <sup>19</sup>Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. <sup>20</sup>For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon** Pastor Phil Ruge-Jones

**Hymn** Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace

#716

**Reception of New Members**

p. 234



## Prayers of the Church

Remembering the caring and generous works of God, we pray for the church, creation, and the needs of our neighbors.

*A brief silence.*

... Merciful God,  
**Receive our prayer.**

Remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer these and the prayers of our heart, trusting in your compassion made known through Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

## Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

---

## MEAL

Offering

Song of Peace

Langlais

Offertory

## We Come Now to Your Table, Lord

We come now to your ta - ble, Lord, you are the Liv - ing Bread.

We come now to your ta - ble, Lord, let ev - 'ry soul be fed.

You are the Liv - ing Bread, let ev - 'ry soul be fed:

and now may ev - 'ry soul be fed with Liv - ing Bread.

Text: Caribbean Conference of Churches Jamaica workshop

Music: LIVING BREAD, St. Vincent traditional, adapt.; arr. Patrick Prescod, 1932–2013

Text and music © Caribbean Conference of Churches

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## Offering Prayer

God of power, God of plenty, all things belong to you. We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed. Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**Amen.**

## Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

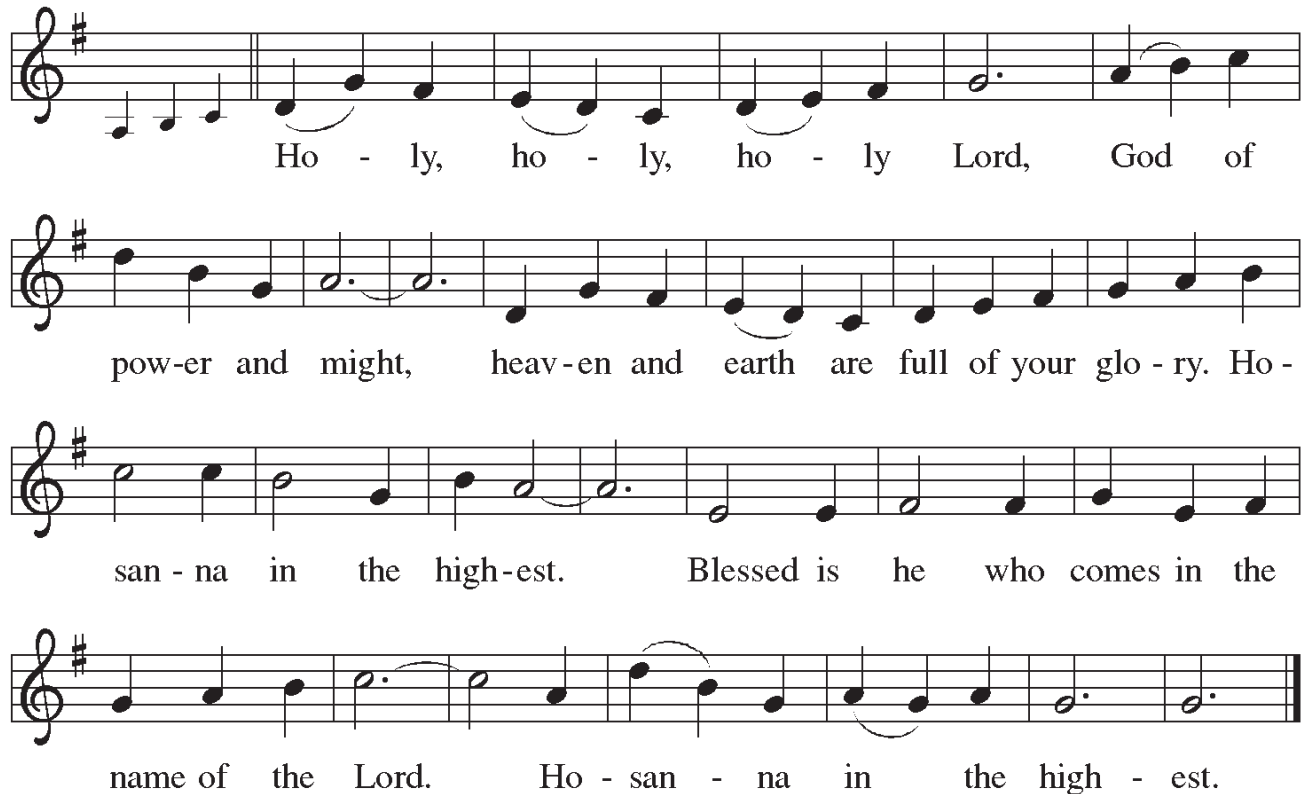
Life up your hearts.

**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:



The musical notation is written on four staves in G major (one sharp). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The first staff begins with a double bar line and a repeat sign. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of". The second staff continues: "pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -". The third staff continues: "san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the". The fourth staff concludes: "name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est." and ends with a double bar line.

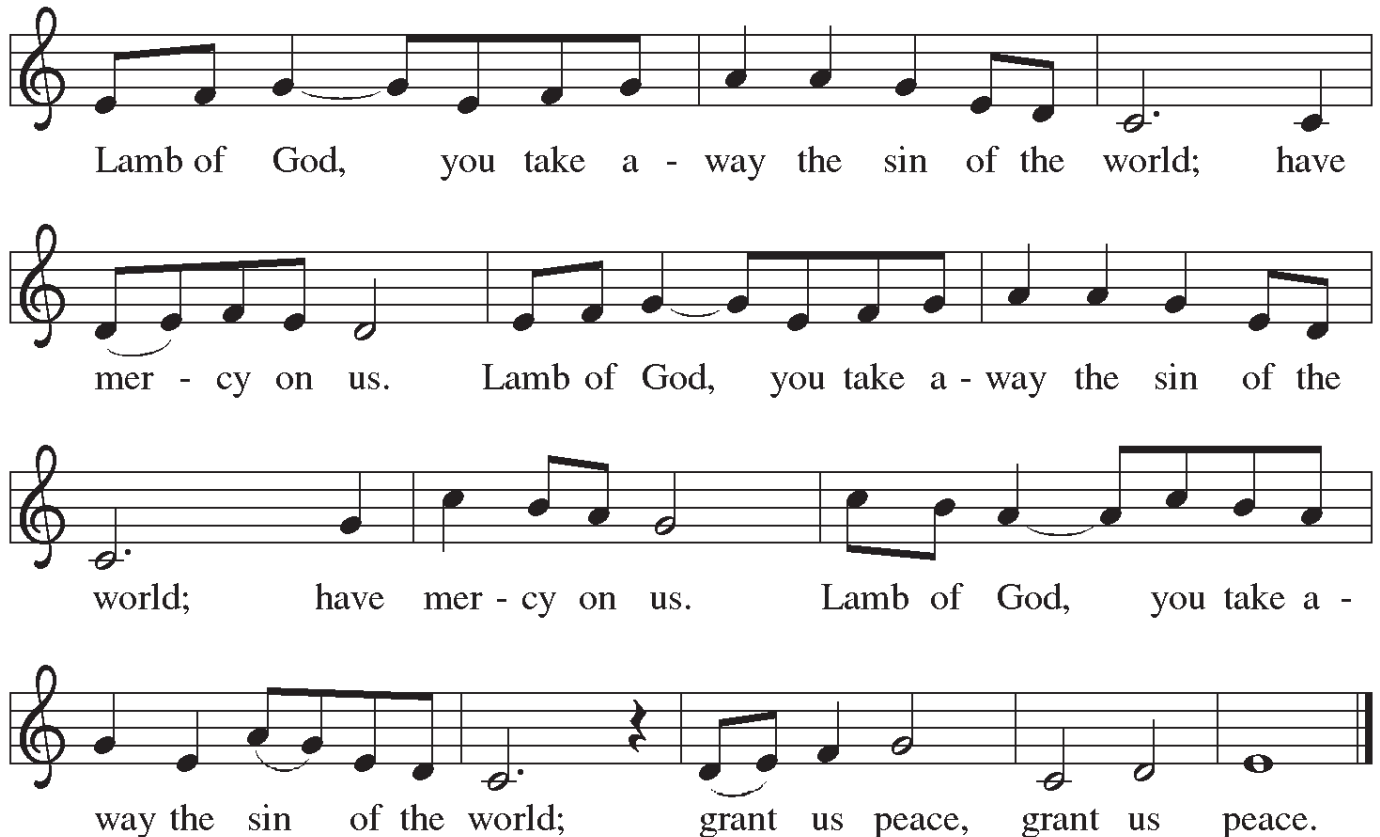
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of  
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the  
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## 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.

## Prayer After Communion

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

## SENDING

### Blessing

The God of glory, † Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

### Hymn

Faith Begins by Letting Go

ACS #1004

### Dismissal

Go in peace. God is at work in you.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Postlude

Joyous Recessional

Matthew Corl

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**Minister:** Pastor Phil Ruge—Jones

**Reader:** Lynne Ziehr

**Assisting Minister:** Bev Page

**Organist:** Elaine Mann



## Weekly Calendar

### SUNDAY (10<sup>th</sup>)

Coffee Hour – 9:30am  
Worship – 10am

### MONDAY

Elizabeth Circle – 10am

### TUESDAY

Stepping On Class – 10pm  
Prayer Group – 11am

### WEDNESDAY

Crafters – 10am  
Text Study – 12pm  
Choir Rehearsal – 7pm

### THURSDAY

Pacibells Rehearsal – 6pm

### SUNDAY (17<sup>th</sup>) (Rally Day)

Coffee Hour – 9:30am  
Worship – 10am

Other groups using the building this week: Jonah, Scouts, ECWiT



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## Rally Day – Let's Launch!

We are looking forward to gathering again for our Fall Rally Day on September 17, 2023! We will worship together in the Church Parlors and enjoy a potluck lunch together immediately after the service. Please bring any dish or side to share, ready to serve; desserts and beverages will be provided. Our Scout partners from Troop 36 and Pack 238 will plan to bring their pneumatic paper rocket launcher again if the weather permits! We are hopeful that the church's new directory will be handed out to members on this day. Join us as we welcome a new season of togetherness in God.

## Elizabeth Circle

Elizabeth Circle will meet on Monday September 11th at 10am in the Lounge. We will use the September Gather magazine for our Bible study.

All women are invited. If you want to join us or have questions, contact Barb Piper ([bpiper2007@yahoo.com](mailto:bpiper2007@yahoo.com) or phone/text 715-529-6900)

## Helping Hands at Beacon House

Thanks to all of the grace members who provided food for the meals on August 10, 11, and 12. We served a variety of food that appeals to adults and children alike – Brats, pizza casseroles, chicken nuggets, lots of side dishes, popsicles, rice crispie bars, homemade cookies and lots of fruit. A listing of the contributing members is posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

Check it out and say THANKS to these Helping Hands.

## Noisy Offering

A Season for Change

Save your coins and let them FALL in the Noisy Offering on September 17. The children of Grace will gather loose change from our pockets and purses during our worship service. (Even though it doesn't make as much noise when dropped into the collection cans, paper money is also greatly appreciated!)

Our special offering will be for Eau Claire Public School's Homeless Children and Youth Fund. Each year, the Eau Claire Area School District serves hundreds of children and youth living in a homeless situation. This program supports various student and family needs, from transportation to winter gear to school supplies.

*This beautiful new mural on the side of Beacon House reminds us that when we work with them, we are building a new future for people God calls us to serve.*



Your generosity will help ensure that students' basic needs are met so they can focus on their educations.

Make some noise and help our children in need!

## Choir Opportunities

This year I would like to start a new form of outreach where we strive to bring some kind of music or artistic stimulation for residents at our Grace Lutheran Foundation Facilities. I spoke with Linda Holzhausen, the Activities Director, and she recommended the following time frames:

- Monday or Friday around 3:15pm
- Tuesday around 5:30–6:30pm



My objective is to come up with a biweekly schedule with groups of two or three (or more) individuals coming together to bring arts to these communities. Participants can be part of one of our choirs or other individuals who have skills to share like improv, crafting, solo or duo music performances, magic acts, or small ensembles. The important element is to help these residents tap into lifetime memories engaging in artistic stimulation (singing along with songs of their youth, doing familiar sensory tasks like decorating or cutting out cookies, painting, chair dancing, etc.) that encourage them to tell stories and use more of their senses.

Nothing has to be “high art”. We can definitely plan a caroling outing as well!

Please give me some feedback if you know of someone who has talents to share. I will create a calendar so people can sign up for the day that works best for them. Linda asked me to send her a monthly update each month four days before the end of the month so she can publish our visits in their monthly calendars to generate a crowd.

Family Choir is also starting up again. Rehearsals will follow Sunday church service on the following dates: Sept 14; Oct 1, 15, 29; Nov 12, 19; Dec 3, 17.

Diana Cataldi, choir director

## Crafters' Corner

The Crafters are gearing up for our Fall/Winter sale. This year profits will be used for Grace Communities patio upkeep and if it comes to be – the Veterans Project.

### Our Needs Right Now!

- Cookie Cutters – Metal with open center
- Elves – Small knee huggers
- Small Gnomes (1” or 2”)

### Needs Before November 4th Sale

- Lefsa Makers & Bakers – time to fill your/our freezers

# RUMMAGE

# SALE



ELCA VECINO A VECINO  
NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR  
MINISTRY



"God's work. Our hands."



SEPTEMBER

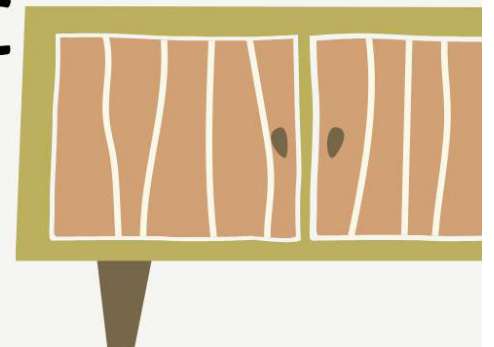
15 10-3 PM

16 10 - 1 PM

**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**

1804 HIGHLAND AVE EAU CLAIRE

**TO FUND SCHOLARSHIPS FOR  
HISPANIC STUDENTS AT  
UWEC AND CVTC**





- Sewers, Knitters, & Crocheters – We can use soup cozies, pot holders, aprons, hats, scarves, mittens, and anything else you can think of.

### Save the Date

The Unique Boutique will be on Saturday, November 4, 2023.

*More information will come in the following weeks.*

## Fall Art Celebration

Artist needed for The Fall Art Celebration Sunday, October 29th from 1 – 4pm

Once again Eau Claire ELCA church choirs, musicians and artists will be celebrating together at Trinity Lutheran. The committee would like to invite visual artists to participate and share their creative gifts with our community.

The following are the areas of visual art we are looking for:

- Paintings (water color, acrylic, oil, pastels)
- Woodcarvings
- Pottery or sculpture
- Rosemaling or folk painting
- Photography
- Jewelry
- Batik/Fiber/Fabric
- Stained Glass

Note: Due to the limited space for display, we cannot accommodate quilt art that is bigger than 3x5. If you are interested please contact Elaine Mann at 715-450-2380 or email [egfmann@gmail.com](mailto:egfmann@gmail.com).

## Church Office Hours

Monday — Thursday : 10AM — 2PM

Phone: 715-832-9713

Email: [info@grace-church.org](mailto:info@grace-church.org)

Rev. Dr. Phil Ruge-Jones: [pastorphil@grace-church.org](mailto:pastorphil@grace-church.org)

Services are live streamed Sundays at 10am on:

- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/gracelutheraneauclaire/>
- Youtube embedded in our website: <https://grace-church.org> go to “Our Ministry.”

*Bulletins can also be found at <https://grace-church.org> under the “Our Ministry.”*

Recordings of worship services are also broadcast on:

- Televised on Sundays 10:30am WQOW Channel 18, Cable 9, 618HD (every other week)
- Radio Service Sunday 8:30am WAYY 790 AM

If you missed one of our services, they are posted at “Grace Lutheran Church ELCA Eau Claire Wisconsin” YouTube page <https://www.youtube.com/channel/Uck3CdLQ1sDO6esaa3zUMKCQ>

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](mailto:info@grace-church.org) or by calling the office at 715-832-9713