

St. Luke's Episcopal Church
Chester, Vermont
The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
August 9, 2026



Prelude Selected and played by Karlaine Livingston

After the prelude, the bell is rung ten times to summon the people of Chester to join us for the Eucharist on this Fourth Sunday after Pentecost. Then we observe a moment of silence before the opening hymn.

Entrance Hymn 388 *The Hymnal* 1982

1 O wor - ship the King, all glo - rious a - bove!
 2 O tell of his might! O sing of his grace!
 3 The earth, with its store of won - ders un - told,
 4 Thy boun - ti - ful care, what tongue can re - cite?
 5 Frail chil - dren of dust, and fee - ble as frail,

1 O grate - ful - ly sing his power and his love!
 2 Whose robe is the light, whose can - o - py space.
 3 Al - might - y, thy power hath found - ed of old,
 4 It breathes in the air; it shines in the light;
 5 in thee do we trust, nor find thee to fail;

1 Our shield and de - fend - er, the An - cient of Days,
 2 His char - iots of wrath the deep thun - der - clouds form,
 3 hath stab - lished it fast by a change - less de - cree,
 4 it streams from the hills, it de - scends to the plain,
 5 thy mer - cies, how ten - der! how firm to the end!

1 pa - vil - ioned in splen - dor, and gird - ed with praise.
 2 and dark is his path on the wings of the storm.
 3 and round it hath cast, like a man - tle, the sea.
 4 and sweet - ly dis - tills in the dew and the rain.
 5 Our Ma - ker, De - fend - er, Re - deem - er, and Friend!

Presider Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People Glory to God for ever and ever.

Presider Let us pray.

Presider and people

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Song of Praise S-280 The Hymnal 1982 Service Music



1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and



peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly



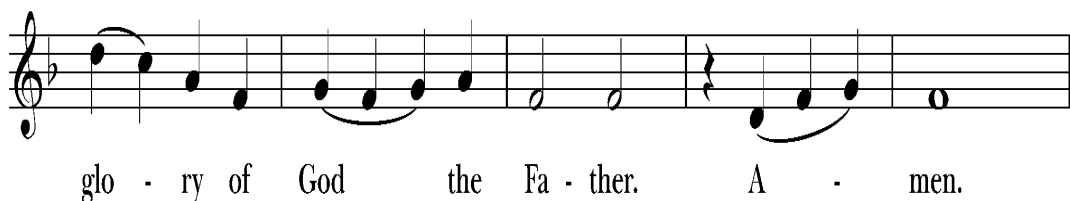
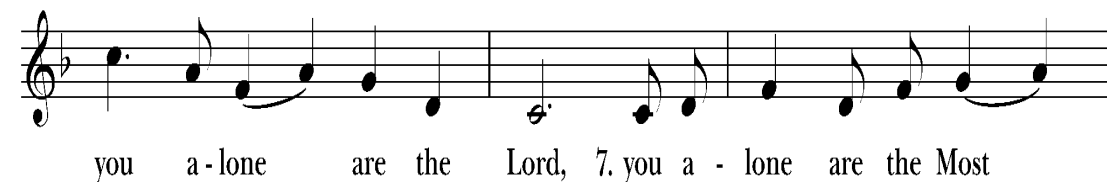
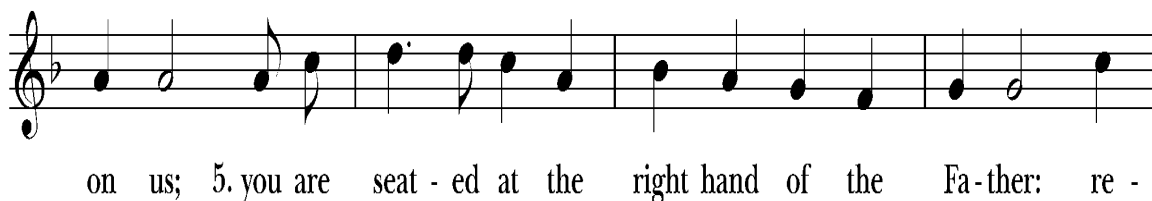
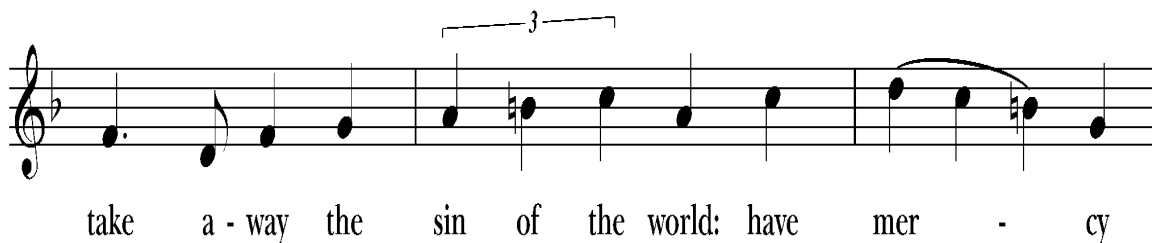
King, al - mighty God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we



give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus



Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you



Presider God be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Let us pray.

Collect for the Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Presider and people

Through the storms of life, O God, you are with your people in the person of Jesus your Son. Calm our fears and strengthen our faith that we may never doubt his presence among us but proclaim that he is your Son, risen from the dead, living for ever and ever. Amen. (Revised Common Lectionary Prayers)

The First Reading – Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28

Reader A reading from Genesis,

¹Jacob settled in the land where his father had lived as an alien, the land of Canaan. ²This is the story of the family of Jacob.

Joseph, being seventeen years old, was shepherding the flock with his brothers; he was a helper to the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's wives; and Joseph brought a bad report of them to their father. ³Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his children, because he was the son of his old age; and he had made him a long robe with sleeves. ⁴But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably to him.

¹²Now his brothers went to pasture their father's flock near Shechem. ¹³And Israel said to Joseph, "Are not your brothers pasturing the flock at Shechem? Come, I will send you to them." He answered, "Here I am." ¹⁴So he said to him, "Go now, see if it is well with your brothers and with the flock; and bring word back to me." So he sent him from the valley of Hebron.

He came to Shechem, ¹⁵and a man found him wandering in the fields; the man asked him, "What are you seeking?" ¹⁶"I am seeking my brothers," he said; "tell me, please, where they are pasturing the flock." ¹⁷The man said, "They have gone away, for I heard them say, 'Let us go to Dothan.'" So Joseph went after his brothers, and found them at Dothan. ¹⁸They saw him from a distance, and before he came near to them, they conspired to kill him. ¹⁹They said to one another, "Here comes this dreamer. ²⁰Come now, let us kill him and throw him into one of the pits; then we shall say that a wild animal has devoured him, and we shall see what will become of his dreams." ²¹But when Reuben heard it, he delivered him out of their hands, saying, "Let us not take his life." ²²Reuben said to them, "Shed no blood; throw him into this pit here in the wilderness, but lay no hand on him"—that he might rescue him out of their hand and restore him to his father. ²³So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe, the long robe with sleeves that he wore; ²⁴and they took him and threw him into a pit. The pit was empty; there was no water in it.

²⁵Then they sat down to eat; and looking up they saw a caravan of

Ishmaelites coming from Gilead, with their camels carrying gum, balm, and resin, on their way to carry it down to Egypt. ²⁶Then Judah said to his brothers, "What profit is it if we kill our brother and conceal his blood? ²⁷Come, let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and not lay our hands on him, for he is our brother, our own flesh." And his brothers agreed. ²⁸When some Midianite traders passed by, they drew Joseph up, lifting him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver. And they took Joseph to Egypt.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God.

1. We give you thanks, O God, and call upon your Name; * we make known your deeds among the peoples.
2. We sing to you; we sing your praise * and speak of all your marvelous works.
3. We glory in your holy Name; * let the hearts of those who seek you rejoice.

4 We search for you and your strength; * we continue to seek your face.

We remember the marvels you have done, * the wonders and the judgments of your mouth,

5. We, the offspring of Abraham, your servant, * we, the children of Jacob, the chosen ones.

6. You are our God indeed; * your judgments prevail in all the world.

16. Then you called for a famine in the land * and destroyed the supply of bread.

17. You sent a man before them, * Joseph, who was sold as a slave.

18. They bruised his feet in fetters; * his neck they put in an iron collar.

19. Until his prediction came to pass, * your word, O Most High, tested him. 20 The king sent and released him; * the ruler of the peoples set him free.

21. He set him as a master over his household, * as a ruler over all his possessions,

22 To instruct his princes according to his will * and to teach his elders wisdom.

45b and observe your laws. Alleluia!

Second Reading – Romans 10:5 -15

Reader A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans.

5 Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that "the person who does these things will live by them." 6 But the righteousness that comes from faith says, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down) 7 "or 'Who will descend into the abyss?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). 8 But what does it say?

"The word is near you,
on your lips and in your heart"
(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); 9 because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. 11 The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." 12 For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. 13 For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

14 But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? 15 And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn 666 The Hymnal 1982

1 Out of the depths I call, to God I send my cry; Lord,
 2 My soul with pa - tience waits for thee, the liv - ing Lord, my
 3 My long - ing eyes look out for thy en - liv - ening ray, more
 4 Let Is - rael trust in God; no bounds his mer - cy knows; the

hear my sup - pli - cat - ing voice and gra - cious - ly re - ply.
 hopes are on thy prom - ise built, thy nev - er - fail - ing word.
 du - ly than the morn - ing watch to spy the dawn - ing day.
 plen - teous source and spring from whence re - demp - tion ev - er flows.

The Holy Gospel – Matthew 14:22-33

Reader The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People Glory to you, O Christ.

²²[Jesus] made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds.²³And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. ²⁵And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. ²⁶But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. ²⁷But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

²⁸Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." ²⁹He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. ³⁰But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out,

"Lord, save me!" ³¹Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" ³²When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

^{12.}

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, O Christ.

Nicene Creed Presider and people

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People

As Peter cried out from the waves, let us cry to the Lord our God, who hears our voice from the heart of the flood.

Intercessor

For this holy gathering, for our parish clergy, for *Shannon*, our bishop and *Sean*, our Presiding Bishop, and for the people of God in every place.

Christ, have mercy.

For *Donald*, our President, *Philip*. our Governor, *for all elected to office in our state and its communities*, for all nations and their leaders, and for mercy, justice, and peace in the world.

Christ, have mercy.

For farmers and a good harvest, for sailors and all who work at sea, for travelers and those on vacation, for students and faculty returning to classes, and for safety from violent storms.

Christ, have mercy.

For all those in danger and need: the sick and the dying, the poor and the oppressed, prisoners and their families, victims of terror, and those who commit violence.

Christ, have mercy.

For those who rest in Christ and for all the dead.

Christ, have mercy.

For our town and every community, and for our families, companions, and all we love.

Christ, have mercy.

Lifting our voices with all creation, with the blessed Virgin Mary and all the saints, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ.

To you, Creator God.

Leader

I invite any additional prayers of intercession or thanksgiving at this time.

Silence

Presider

Lord of wind and water, hear the prayers we offer this day for all battered by the waves of this world and bring them in safety to your harbor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

From riteplanning.com.

Copyright © 2026 Church Publishing Inc. All rights reserved.

Presider Let us confess our sins to God. *Silence may be kept.*

Minister and People God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of

the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

Absolution

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

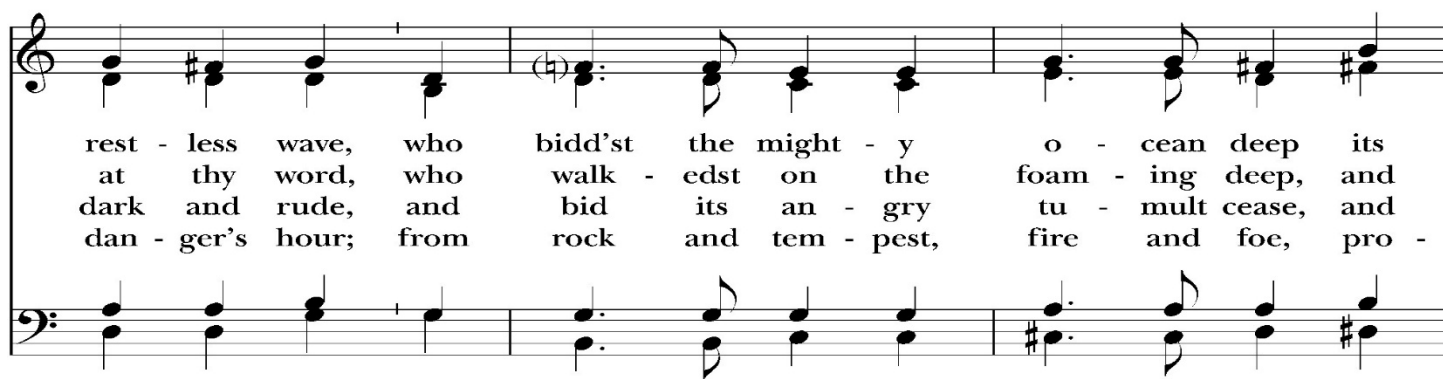
The Peace *Presider* The peace of Christ be always with you.
People And also with you.

Offertory Sentence

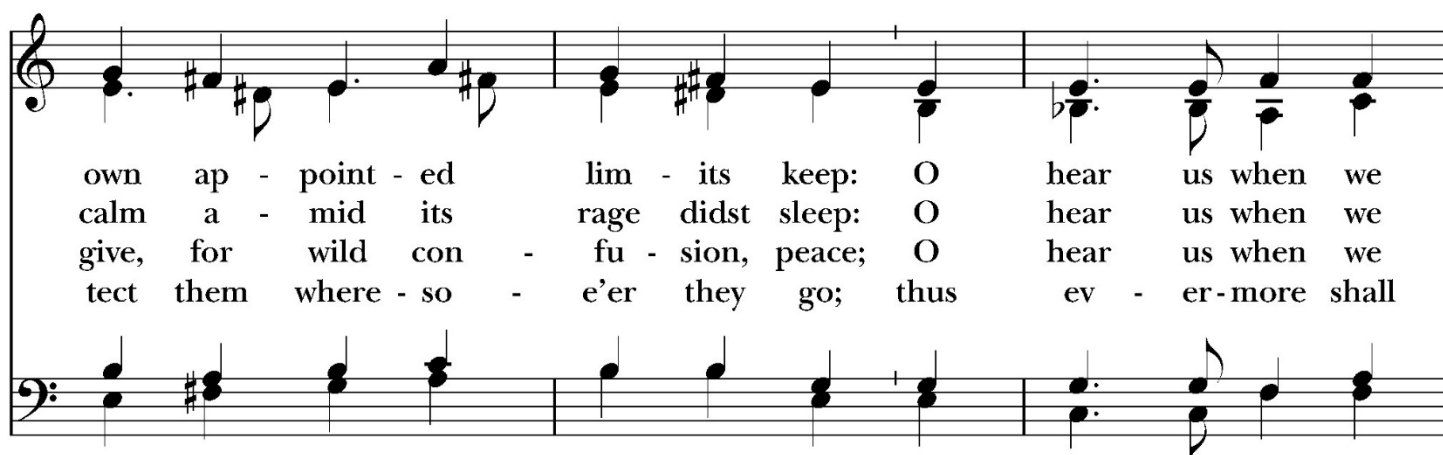
"The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart
because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."(Romans)

Offertory Hymn 608 *The Hymnal 1982*

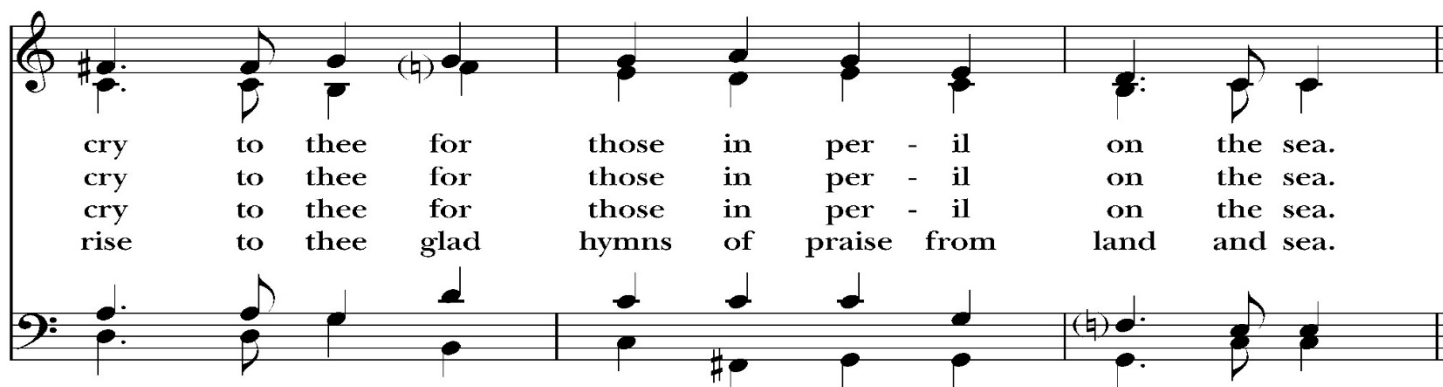
1 E - ter - nal Fa - ther, strong to save, whose arm hath bound the
2 O Christ, whose voice the wa - ters heard and hushed their ra - ging
3 Most Ho - ly Spi - rit, who didst brood up - on the cha - os
4 O Trin - i - ty of love and power, thy chil - dren shield in



rest - less wave, who bidd'st the might - y o - cean deep its
 at thy word, who walk - edst on the foam - ing deep, and
 dark and rude, and bid its an - gry tu - mult cease, and
 dan - ger's hour; from rock and tem - pest, fire and foe, pro -



own ap - point - ed lim - its keep: O hear us when we
 calm a - mid its rage didst sleep: O hear us when we
 give, for wild con - fu - sion, peace; O hear us when we
 tect them where - so - e'er they go; thus ev - er-more shall



cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.
 cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.
 cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.
 rise to thee glad hymns of praise from land and sea.

Offertory Presentation Hymn 380 Verse 3 "Doxology"

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
 Praise God all creatures here below
 Praise God above ye heavenly host
 Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Eucharistic Prayer *The- people remain standing.*

Presider The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Presider All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things.

You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind. Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; through Jesus Christ our Lord; for you are the source of light and life; you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. And so as the stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

Presider and people S125 *The Hymnal 1982*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The people stand, sit, or kneel as is comfortable.

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise.

Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering. Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you,

and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said:

"Drink this, all of you:
this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood,
poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, remembering all that was done for us:
the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension,
longing for Christ's coming in glory,
and presenting to you these gifts
your earth has formed and human hands have made,
we acclaim you, O Christ:

Presider and people

Dying, you destroyed our death.

Rising, you restored our life.

Christ Jesus, come in glory!

Send your Holy Spirit upon us
and upon these gifts of bread and wine
that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ.

Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power,
may be a people of hope, justice and love.
Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of
time gather us with blessed Luke, the patron of this congregation, Jim
Sullivan, who is about to be buried, and all your people into the joy of our
true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ,
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
we worship you our God and Creator

in voices of unending praise.

Blessed are you now and for ever. AMEN.

And now, As our Savior Christ Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Presider and people

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, for ever and ever.

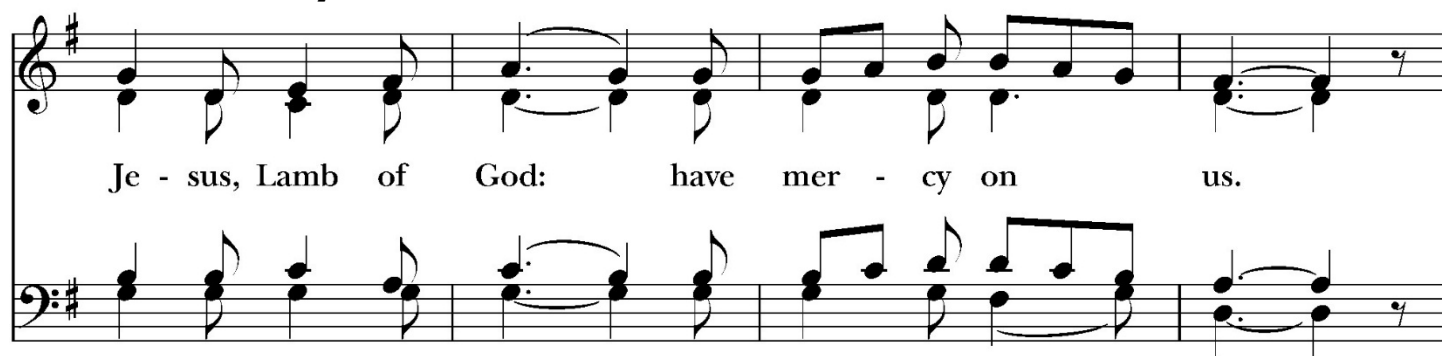
Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Presider Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

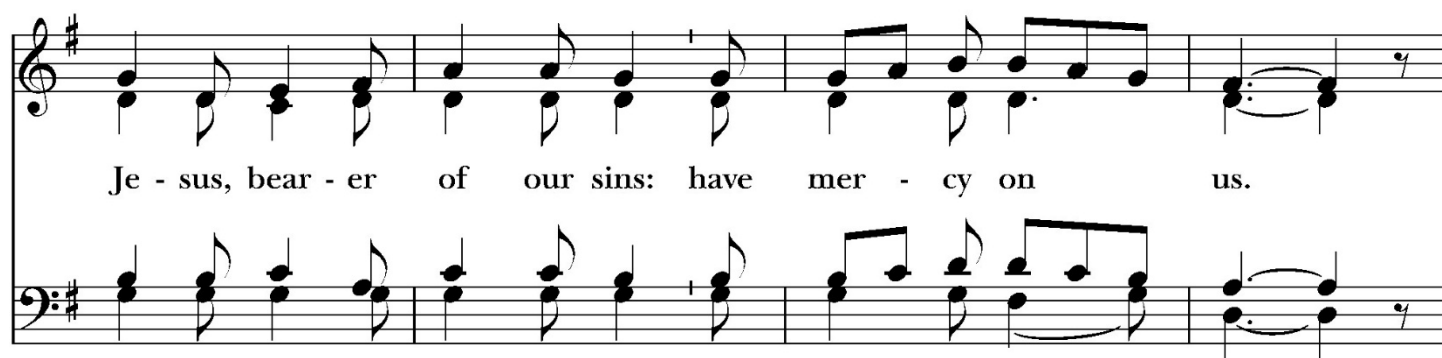
People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

S 164 The Hymnal 1982



Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

The first system of musical notation is for the hymn 'The Lamb of God'. It consists of a treble and bass staff in G major (one sharp). The melody is in the treble staff, and the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the notes.



Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

The second system of musical notation continues the hymn. It also consists of a treble and bass staff in G major. The melody continues in the treble staff, and the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:

give us your peace, give us your peace.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The first system of music is for the vocal part, with the lyrics 'Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:'. The second system of music is for the piano accompaniment, with the lyrics 'give us your peace, give us your peace.'.

Presider The Holy Gifts of God for the Holy People of God.

This is the table, not of the Church but of Jesus Christ. It is made ready for those who love God and who want to love God more. So come, you who have much faith and you who have little, you who have been here often and you who have not been for a long time or ever before, you who have tried to follow and you who have failed. It is Christ who invites you to be known and fed here. All are welcome to receive communion.

Communion Hymn 800 *Wonder, Love, and Praise*

1. Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me
 2. When my way grows drear, pre - cious Lord, lin - ger
 3. When the dark - ness ap - pears and the night draws

stand, I am tired, I am weak, I am worn; _____
 near, when my life is al - most gone; _____
 near, and the day is past and gone; _____

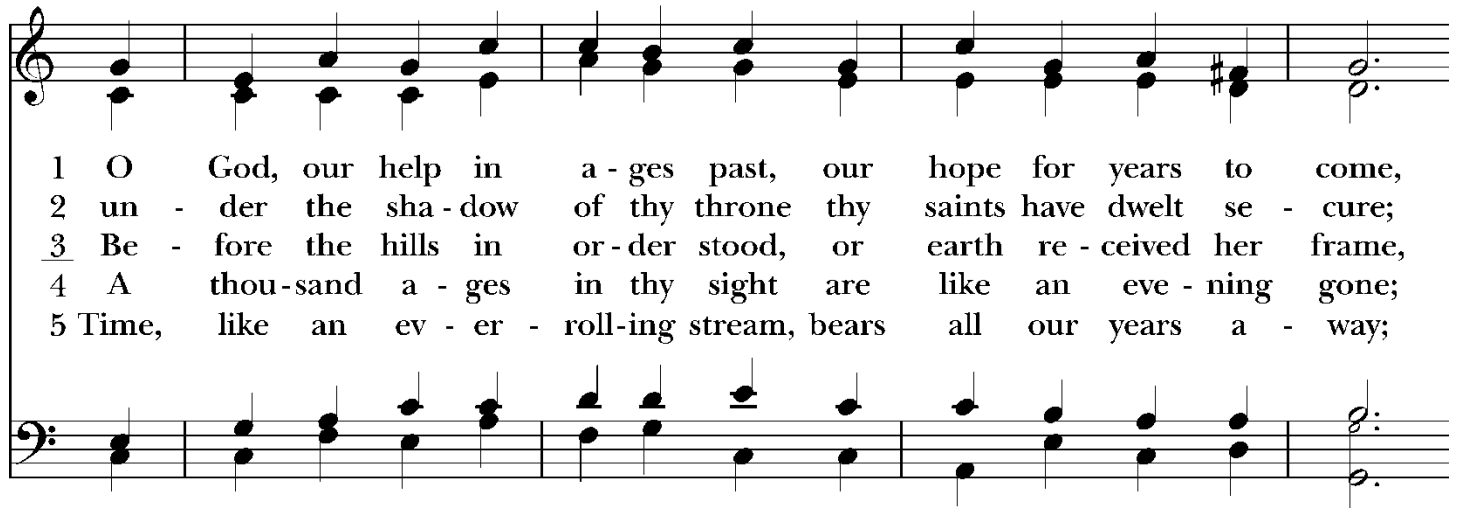
— through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the
 — hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand, lest I
 — at the riv - er I stand, guide my feet, hold my

light, take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me on. _____
 fall, take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me on. _____
 hand, take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me on. _____

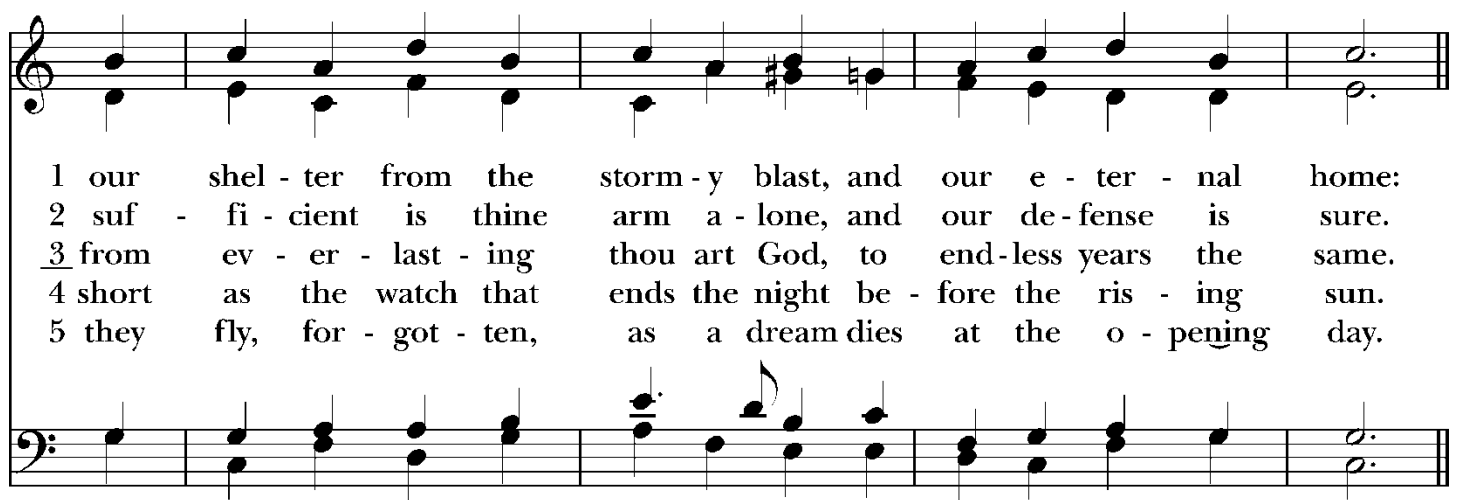
Post Communion Prayer *Presider and people*

Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Closing Hymn 680 *The Hymnal 1982*



1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,
 2 un - der the sha - dow of thy throne thy saints have dwelt se - cure;
 3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood, or earth re - ceived her frame,
 4 A thou-sand a - ges in thy sight are like an eve - ning gone;
 5 Time, like an ev - er - roll-ing stream, bears all our years a - way;



1 our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:
 2 suf - fi - cient is thine arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
 3 from ev - er - last - ing thou art God, to end-less years the same.
 4 short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.
 5 they fly, for - got - ten, as a dream dies at the o - pening day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,
 our hope for years to come,

be thou our guide while life shall last,
 and our eternal home.

Closing Blessing

May the blessing of the God of Abraham and Sarah, and of Jesus Christ born of our sister Mary, and of the Holy Spirit, who broods over the world as a mother over her children, be upon you and remain with you always. Amen.

Postlude Selected and played by Karlaine Livingston

Announcements

Dismissal

Presider Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia. Alleluia.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

PLEASE!! Take this service leaflet with you. Read the scriptures again. Learn a hymn or two. Use the prayers of the people all this coming week. Blessings! To prepare for the next Sunday, the twelfth Sunday after Pentecost, slowly read next Sunday's scriptures. Jot down questions and thoughts you may have. Genesis 45:1-15; Psalm 133; Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32; Matthew 15:10-28.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Wednesdays in August we hopefully will gather for evening prayer at 5:30 P.M.

We hope various volunteers will lead the prayer time together.

**August 16 The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost. Holy Eucharist 10-11:15 AM
 The Rev. Susan Kershaw Presiding**

**August 23 The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost 10-11:15 AM
 The Rev. Susan Kershaw Presiding**

**August 30 The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost 10-11:15 AM
 Rev. Dr. Bruce MacDuffie Presiding**

OTHER EVENTS

July 30 Croquet and/or Badminton 6:00-7:30

August 6 Memory Café. Willard Hall, 11AM-1PM

September 3 Memory Café 11AM-1PM