

James tells us to stop showing favoritism in the assembly, treating the rich visitor with more honor than the poor one. Jesus himself seems to show partiality in his first response to the Syrophenician woman in today's gospel. Was he testing her faith in saying Gentiles don't deserve the goods meant for God's children? Or was he speaking out of his human worldview, but transcended those limits when she took him by surprise with her reply? Either way, the story tells us that God shows no partiality. Everyone who brings a need to Jesus is received with equal honor as a child and heir.

Our Saviour Lutheran Church
300 West Fowler Ave., West Lafayette
743-2931 www.osluth.org
Pastor Randy Schroeder

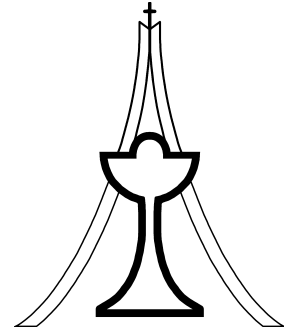
Purdue Lutheran Ministry
330 West Fowler Ave., West Lafayette
743-2398 www.plm.org

September 5, 2021, 9:00 A.M.

All are welcome here
All people of faith, All people of doubt
All people of any origin, race, ability, sexual orientation or gender expression
All people who seek a compassionate community

All are welcome here
Welcome to worship, Welcome to pray
Welcome to learn, Welcome to give thanks
Welcome to serve God and neighbors

All are welcome here
All are redeemed by a gracious God



Invitation to Holy Communion (livestream) with Our Saviour Lutheran Church

(Please read before worship begins)

This is an invitation and not an expectation. As a called and ordained pastor of the ELCA, my responsibilities are to share the Word and Sacraments, so they are available to you, the Body of Christ. If you wish to participate; you are welcomed and loved. If you believe Holy Communion should take place only in church or only in the live presence of a person ordained in Word and Sacrament, you are welcomed and loved even if you are not participating in livestream Communion. If you are visiting today, not knowing what to do, know through God you are welcomed and loved. This decision is personal and spiritual and only you can make it. I feel called to give you the option.

I cannot say what Communion is any better than Luther, so I'll let him say it. In the Small Catechism Luther writes the following, and more in The Sacrament of the Altar.

What is the Sacrament of the Altar?

It is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, under the bread and wine, for us Christians to eat and to drink, instituted by Christ Himself.

What is the benefit of this eating and drinking?

This is shown by the words: "Given and shed for you for the remission of sins." In the Sacrament, forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation are given to us through these words. For where there is forgiveness of sins, there is also life and salvation.

How can bodily eating and drinking do such great things?

It is not the eating and drinking that do these things, but these words: "Given and shed for you for the remission of sins." These words are, along with the bodily eating and drinking, the main thing in the Sacrament. Anyone who believes these words has what they say: that is, the forgiveness of sins.

- As we travel this wilderness of COVID-19, it is right and proper for us to participate in the Eucharist as we are gathered as the church in person, as well as live streaming. Holy Communion takes place in the assembly of the Body of Christ.
- Live Stream Communion is new territory for us as we navigate our new context. After reading Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions, after much prayer and discernment, I believe this technology should be used in such manners to share God's grace, love, forgiveness and acceptance.

- As we assemble in person or live stream, when confessions are heard and forgiven, as the Word is proclaimed, it is proper for Communion to take place as we are then sent out as the Body of Christ for the world. I ask you to only commune as the live Word is spoken and not commune to the recording of this service.
- Please use bread and wine or a gluten free option and grape juice. Please prepare a plate and cup prior to service to have and share. If you have one and not the other, know that God is fully present in both elements and only one is necessary.
- God is the One working through the spoken Word in the mystery of communion. We don't fully know how, rather we know Jesus said, "Take, eat; this is My body," ... "Take this and drink of it, all of you. This cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the remission of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." God is the source of love infused into us through the Spirit as we partake of the Eucharist. We don't understand it fully; we fully believe Christ is there fulfilling His promises of forgiveness, life and salvation.

Remember: All Are Welcome – Hospitality fills God's Table – Everywhere!

Pastor Randy

The Gathering

Prelude Music

Light dawns on a weary world, Setting by Roberta Rowland-Raybold

All people that on earth do dwell, Setting by Lynette Maynard

Call to Worship (inspired by Isaiah 35: 1-10~ posted on the **Ministry Matters** website. <http://www.ministrymatters.com/>)

- P Today there is good news for us to behold!
- C Those who feared that they were worth little to God have found blessing in God's sight.**
- P For in the mercy and love of God, the blind shall see, the lame shall walk without pain,
those who could not hear shall be blessed with hearing, and there shall be peace.
- C God's mercy and love is poured out for our parched souls.**
- P Behold! The Lord's compassion is with God's people.
- C Believe in the power of God in all things. Amen.**

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

- P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
whose teaching is life,
whose presence is sure,
and whose love is endless.
- C Amen.**

- P Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.
Silence is kept for reflection.

P God our comforter:
 C like lost sheep, we have gone astray.
 We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity.
 We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression.
 We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed.
 Free us from our sin, gracious God.
 Listen when we call out to you for help.
 Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves.
 Amen.

P All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.
 By the gift of grace in + Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous.
 Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins.
 C Amen.

Greeting

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
 the love of God,
 and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
 C And also with you.

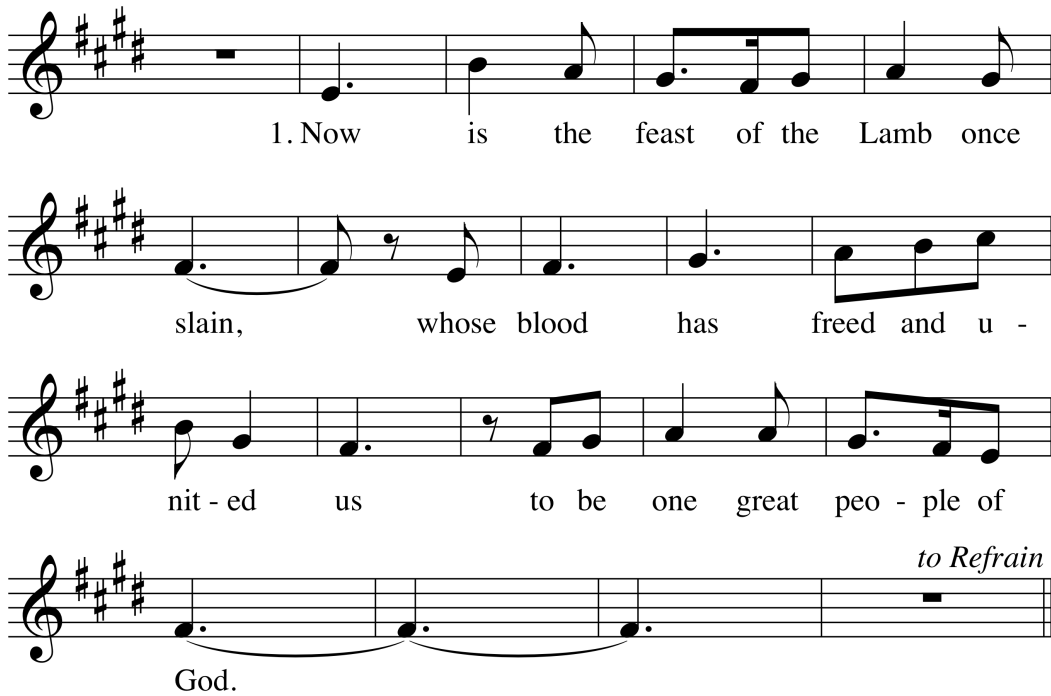
Hymn of Praise

Refrain

Congregation:

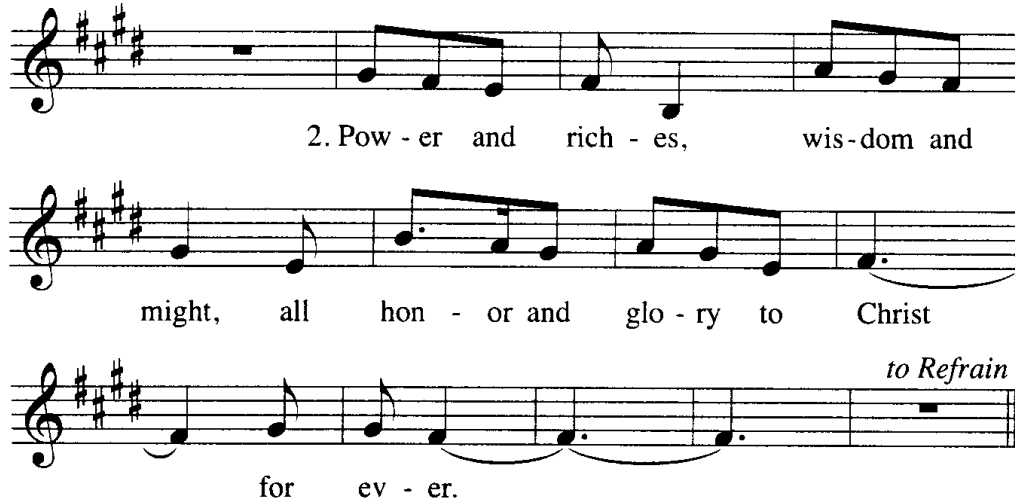
Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion,
 all of cre - a - tion sings for joy
 to the God of life and love and
 free-dom: praise and glo - ry for ev -
 er - more!

Verse 1



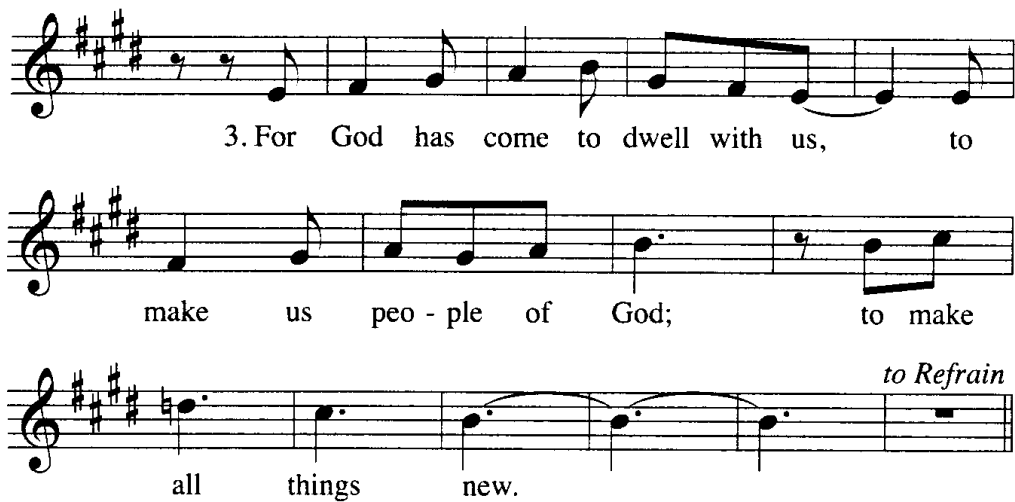
1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once
slain, whose blood has freed and u -
nit - ed us to be one great peo - ple of
God. *to Refrain*

Verse 2



2. Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and
might, all hon - or and glo - ry to Christ
for ev - er. *to Refrain*

Verse 3



3. For God has come to dwell with us, to
make us peo - ple of God; to make
all things new. *to Refrain*

Prayer of the Day

- P Gracious God, throughout the ages you transform sickness into health and death into life.
Open us to the power of your presence, and make us a people ready to proclaim your promises to the whole world, through Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord.
- C **Amen.**

The Word

- L A reading from the book of Isaiah.

Isaiah 35:4-7a

These verses are a word of hope to the exiles in Babylon. Isaiah 34 portrays God's vengeance on Edom, Israel's age-old enemy, which makes the path from Babylon to Zion safe for the exiles' return. The desert itself will flow with water to give drink to the returning exiles

- ⁴Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
"Be strong, do not fear!
Here is your God.
He will come with vengeance,
with terrible recompense.
He will come and save you."
- ⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
⁶then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;
^{7a}the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water.

- L The word of the Lord.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 146

- Praise the LORD!
Praise the LORD, O my soul!
- ²I will praise the LORD as long as I live;
I will sing praises to my God all my life long.
- ³Do not put your trust in princes,
in mortals, in whom there is no help.
- ⁴When their breath departs, they return to the earth;
on that very day their plans perish.
- ⁵Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the LORD their God,
- ⁶who made heaven and earth,
the sea, and all that is in them;
who keeps faith forever;
- ⁷who executes justice for the oppressed;
who gives food to the hungry.

The LORD sets the prisoners free;
⁸ the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.
 The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;
 the LORD loves the righteous.
⁹ The LORD watches over the strangers;
 he upholds the orphan and the widow,
 but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.
¹⁰ The LORD will reign forever,
 your God, O Zion, for all generations.
 Praise the LORD!

L A reading from James.

James 2:1-17

Faithful Christians do not show partiality to the rich and powerful of the world, especially at the expense of the poor and weak. Likewise, faith does not pay mere lip service to God's will. Instead, a living Christian faith expresses itself in acts of compassion and mercy for those in need.

¹My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? ²For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, ³and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," ⁴have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? ⁵Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? ⁶But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? ⁷Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

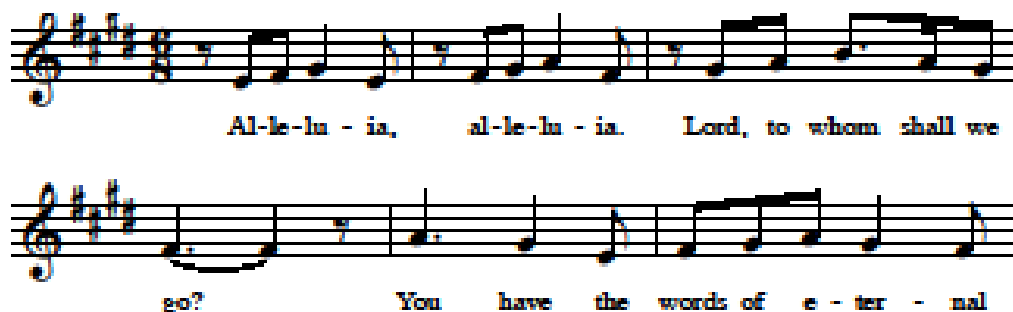
⁸You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ⁹But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. ¹⁰For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. [¹¹For the one who said, "You shall not commit adultery," also said, "You shall not murder." Now if you do not commit adultery but if you murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. ¹²So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. ¹³For judgment will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.]

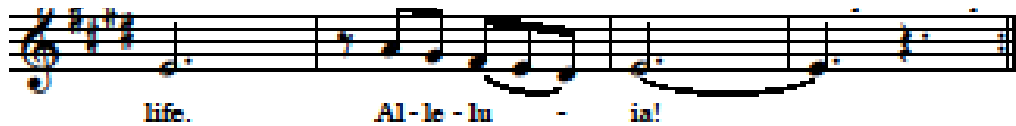
¹⁴What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? ¹⁵If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, ¹⁶and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? ¹⁷So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation





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P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the seventh chapter.
C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Mark 7:24-37

In Mark's gospel, encounters with women usually signify turning points in Jesus' ministry. Here, a conversation with a Syrophenician woman marks the beginning of his mission to the Gentiles.

²⁴[Jesus] set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice,²⁵ but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. ²⁶Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. ²⁷He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁸But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." ²⁹Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." ³⁰So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

³¹Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. ³²They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. ³³He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. ³⁴Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." ³⁵And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

P The Gospel of our Lord.
C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Pastor Randy Schroeder

Hymn of the Day: ELW (red), hymn 726, verses 1 and 3: *Light Dawns on a Weary World*



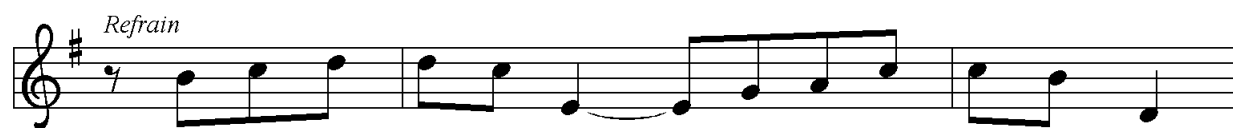
1 Light dawns on a wea - ry world when eyes be - gin to
 2 Love grows in a wea - ry world when hun - gry hearts find
 3 Hope blooms in a wea - ry world when crea-tures, once for -



see all peo - ple's dig - ni - ty. Light dawns on a
 bread and chil - dren's dreams are fed. Love grows in a
 lorn, find wil - der - ness re - born. Hope blooms in a



wea - ry world: the prom-ised day of jus - tice comes.
 wea - ry world: the prom-ised feast of plen - ty comes.
 wea - ry world: the prom-ised green of E - den comes.



Refrain

The trees shall clap their hands; the dry lands, gush with springs;



the hills and moun-tains shall break forth with sing - ing!



We shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace,



as all the world in won - der ech - oes sha - lom.

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953

Music: TEMPLE OF PEACE, William P. Rowan, b. 1951

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Apostles' Creed

C 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

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

A brief silence.

A Holy One, you bring your people together in worship. Enliven your church. Guide all evangelists, preachers, prophets, and missionaries who seek to share your love through word and deed. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A You provide water for thirsty ground and sunshine to feed hungry plants. Bless all who advocate for healthy forests, unpolluted air, and clean waterways. Inspire all people to show care for the world you have made. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A You show no partiality. Increase justice in all nations. Encourage leaders and governments to work with one another for the good of our common world. Unite us in seeking the health, safety, and dignity of all. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A You accompany those who are most in need. We pray for all who are sick, especially Candy, Jason, Fil, Shirley & Eric, Rosalie, Jeff, Denise, Pr. Judy, Barb, Donna, Helmut & Carol, Kim, Victoria, Jennifer, Jeanette, Suzanne, Mike, Kari & Terry, Philip, Shelby, Cheryl, Jim, and friends and family of John and Tamzin. Shelter all fleeing violence or persecution, protect any who are in danger, and sustain them through uncertain and unstable times. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A You support the work of your disciples. Continue to nurture the leadership and ministries of this congregation. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A You embrace all who have died in the faith and brought them into your glorious presence. We thank you for their example and rejoice in their lives. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

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

C Amen.

Peace

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

The Meal

This is an invitation and not an expectation. As a called and ordained pastor of the ELCA, my responsibilities are to share the Word and Sacraments, so they are available to you, the Body of Christ. If you wish to participate; you are welcomed and loved. If you believe Holy Communion should take place only in church or only in the live presence of a person ordained in Word and Sacrament, you are welcomed and loved even if you are not participating in virtual Communion. This decision is personal and spiritual and only you can make it. I feel called to give you the option.

- Please have your wine and bread ready for the Meal. It would be best to use grape juice or wine and a small portion of bread or gluten free option for the Eucharist.
- Please participate by lifting the bread and the wine as the pastor lifts the bread and wine.
- If everyone in the family is healthy please take the time to commune each other; presenting the bread first and saying, "the Body of Christ given for you" and then the wine/juice saying, "the Blood of Christ shed for you." If you're not feeling well, please commune yourself as you are able.
- The elements (bread and juice or wine) should be consumed in their entirety or returned to the earth as once they are consecrated they are the Body and Blood of Christ. Please do not throw Jesus in the trash or down the drain.

Offering: Please feel free to send your regular tithe in the mail, drop it off to the church office or if you have not checked out our website and "Your Offering Made Easy" tab, this could be your opportunity. (John Mills is available to answer any questions about the Vanco Online giving option if you wish to contact him. His email address is john_r_mills@icloud.com)



Offertory: ELW (red), hymn 583, verse 1: *Take My Life, That I May Be*

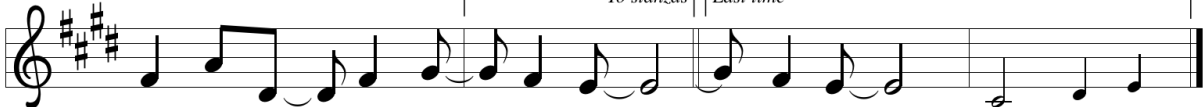
Refrain/Estribillo



To - ma, oh Dios, mi vo - lun - tad, y haz - la tu - ya, na -
Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord,



da más; to - ma, sí, mi co - ra - zón
to thee; take my mo - ments and my days;



y tu tro - no en él ten - drás. ten - drás.
let them flow in cease - less praise. less praise.

To stanzas *Last time*



1 *Que mi vi - da_en - te - ra_es - té*
1 Take my hands and let them move
2 Take my sil - ver and my gold,
3 Take my voice and let me sing
4 Take my will and make it thine;



con - sa - gra - da_a ti, Se - ñor;
at the im - pulse of thy love;
not a mite would I with - hold;
al - ways, on - ly for my King;
it shall be no lon - ger mine;



que_a mis ma - nos pue - da guiar el im -
take my feet and let them be swift and
take my in - tel - lect and use ev - 'ry
take my lips and let them be filled with
take my heart, it is thine own; it shall



pul - so de tu_a - mor.
beau - ti - ful for thee.
pow'r as thou shalt choose.
mes - sag - es from thee.
be thy roy - al throne.

Refrain/Estribillo

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879, adapt.; Spanish text: Vincent Mendoza, 1875–1955
Music: TOMA MI VOLUNTAD, William Dexheimer Pharris, b. 1956
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Offering Prayer

- A God of abundance,
you cause streams to break forth in the desert
and manna to rain from the heavens.
Accept the gifts you have first given us.
Unite them with the offering of our lives
to nourish the world you love so dearly;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

P The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.
C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P 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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and

might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your

glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est!

Bless - ed is the One who comes in your name. Ho -

san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

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P Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor.
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.
Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

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

Invitation to Communion

P So come to this table, which now extends into our homes, you who have faith and you who would like to have faith; you who have been here often and you who have not been for a long time; you who have tried to follow Jesus and you who have failed; come. It is Christ who invites us to meet him here.

Lamb of God



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
you break the chains of ha - tred and
you are the way of jus - tice and
you are the way of mer - cy and



world: have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us,
fear:
peace:
love.

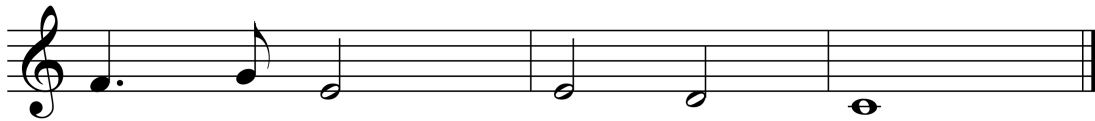
Final Stanza



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you



take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace,



grant us peace, grant us peace.

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- P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen,
keep and unite us, now and for ever.
C **Amen.**

Prayer after Communion

- A Lord of life,
in the gift of your body and blood
you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation.
Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy,
bearing witness to the abundance of your love
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
C **Amen.**

The Sending

Sending Hymn: ELW (red), hymn 843: *Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness*



- 1 Praise the One who breaks the dark-ness with a lib - er - at - ing light;
- 2 Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren with a strong yet gen - tle word;
- 3 Praise the one true love in - car - nate: Christ, who suf - fered in our place;



praise the One who frees the pris - 'ners, turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight.
praise the One who drove out de - mons with a pierc - ing, two - edged sword.
Je - sus died and rose for man - y that we may know God by grace.



Praise the One who preached the gos - pel, heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease,
Praise the One who brings cool wa - ter to the des - ert's burn - ing sand;
Let us sing for joy and glad - ness, see - ing what our God has done.



calm - ing storms and feed - ing thou - sands with the ver - y bread of peace.
from this well comes liv - ing wa - ter quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.
Praise the one re - deem - ing glo - ry; praise the One who makes us one.

Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955

Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813

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Blessing (~ Copyright © 2003 Nathan Nettleton www.laughingbird.net)

- P** Go now, and invest your lives in the works of faith.
Make a name for yourselves for generosity and compassion.
Fulfill God's holy law by putting love into action as eagerly for others as you would for yourselves.
And may God be your defender and provider;
May Christ Jesus dispel all that disturbs or disables you;
and may the Holy Spirit make you rich in faith
and loving and merciful in action.
- C** Amen!

Dismissal

- A** Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.
C Thanks be to God.

Please stick around; the Zoom meeting will continue with a virtual “Coffee Hour.”

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Pastor Randy is available for pastoral care. Please contact him at: 260-402-4476 or by email: randy@osluth.org

You may contact Intern Candice via this email: interncandice@gmail.com

The next Pints with a Pastor will be announced at a later date. Be alert for an announcement from Pastor Randy.

Wednesday Zoom with Kiddos meets every Wednesday at 4:30 P.M.

We need your help to build School Kits. These are the items required for each kit: (Note: we're good with pencils!)

- **70-sheet notebooks** of wide- or college-ruled paper, approximately 8" x 10 ½"; no loose leaf paper
- **30-centimeter ruler**, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other
- **pencil sharpener**
- **pair of blunt scissors** (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)
- **black or blue ballpoint pens** (no gel ink); secure together with a rubber band
- **box of 16 or 24 crayons**
- **2 ½" eraser**

You may also make a monetary donation to cover the cost of shipping and the cost of the bags. (Just designate your offering for "School Kits.") Look for the box in the narthex for dropping off supplies.

We also collect toiletries (travel size) to donate to the homeless shelter. The basket for your donations is in the narthex. (Look beneath the buffet.)

Hunger Hike 2021 is back in Riehle Plaza!

And it's happening soon!

Last year's virtual Hunger Hike was an incredible success, raising more than \$120,000 for Lafayette Urban Ministry, Food Finders Food Bank, and the Haiti Mission at St. Thomas Aquinas. But even as the US economy begins to recover from the effects of the pandemic, millions of people are still out of work, facing eviction, and struggling to put food on the table.

- **September 12 to September 19** is Challenge Week. Set a personal challenge and share it with your supporters: walk 100 steps, bike 100 miles, fast for 2 days, go without meat for a week, or take the SNAP Challenge and try to feed your family on the average SNAP benefit of \$30 a person for the week. The possibilities are endless.

- **Sunday, September 19 at 1:00pm** join us in Riehle Plaza for our annual celebration and 3k walk.

It's easy to sign up

Go to **hungerhike.org** OR Text **HHIKE** to **71777**

After you Sign Up, you'll get an email from Mobile Cause. **Keep that email!** At the bottom of it is a link that will let you edit your fundraising page. You'll need that every time you want to go make an edit to either your personal page or your team page.

Josh Prokopy

Hunger Hike Coordinator

hungerhike.org | 765.423.2691

info@hungerhike.org



The OSLC team for the Hunger Hike has a fundraising page. Here's the link: <https://app.mobilecause.com/vf/HHIKE/team/OurSaviourLutheranChurch>

News from the Indiana Kentucky Via de Cristo Secretariat...

What is a VDC Weekend? Frankly, every person has an experience that tends to be unique to them.

Via de Cristo **IS**:

Thought-provoking talks to give you a chance for self-reflection on your personal faith journey.

Lots of singing. (no pressure; just hum along if you prefer!)

Great food. And lots of it!

Prayer and Worship.

Time set aside for laughter.

An opportunity to develop new Christian friendships that will last for years.

A laid-back weekend dedicated to you so you can “escape” - relax, reflect, and rejuvenate.

Did I mention the food?

Via de Cristo **is NOT**:

About any particular denomination. It’s an ecumenical, Christian experience. You’ll be joined by people of many Christian denominations.

It is NOT a place to debate controversial issues, whether religious, political, or social.

It is not a place where you will be told what to believe. This is a retreat, a place for you to get quiet time to reflect on your own faith journey.

You will NOT be placed on the spot to sing, lead prayers, or anything else. Participate in the manner you want, when you want.

Concerned about the cost or other obstacles? Don’t be. First off, the cost of your registration has **already been pre-paid**. Travel is no obstacle, either. Someone will arrange to take you to the camp on Thursday and bring you home on Sunday night. Special food needs? No problem; we can, and do, accommodate special dietary needs.

Intrigued? We have weekends for just men and others that are just for women. We also have “coed” weekends. Upcoming weekends include:

Coed #29	September 30 – October 3	Epworth Forest, North Webster, IN
Men’s Weekend #82	November 4 – 7	Camp Lakeview, Seymour, IN
Women’s Weekend #83	November 11-14	Camp Lakeview, Seymour, IN

Check out the INKY VDC website at www.inkyvdc.org for more information. Still have questions? Send an email to Outreach@VdC.org. Alternatively, ask anyone you know who has gone through a weekend.

Perhaps you’ve felt that your faith needs a “jump-start”, or perhaps you’ve felt that you simply needed time “away from it all” to reflect on Christ in your life. This is the opportunity to do just that. I encourage you to leave your cell phone and watch at home – you don’t need them! It’s a chance to leave the “world” behind and all its stresses for a few days. That alone is a blessing supreme.

Yours in Christ,

Michael Montgomery, Outreach Chair, INKY VDC Secretariat

Outreach@vdc.org, 502-836-0311