

The Seed of Joy

Second Sunday in Lent



Expectant Joy

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
Pastor Kristin Rice

February 25, 2024, 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



Introduction

In *The Seed of Joy*, Barn Geese Worship writers explore how joy is planted, tended, nurtured, and nourished by God and God's people through the Lenten Revised Common Lectionary for Year B. Lenten Sundays begin with "Persistent Joy," which endures challenging times and flourishes against all odds in oppressive circumstances. Next, we turn to "Expectant Joy," which surprises us with its early arrival and calls our focus to the horizon. "Liberating Joy follows," turning over tables, breaking what binds us, and leaving freedom in its wake. "Transformative Joy" encounters the paradoxical beauty of God's salvation when God turns the source of harm into the source of joy. "Vocational Joy" explores the uniquely life-giving experience when a job, hobby, or passion becomes a vocation that follows God's call faithfully. Holy Week arrives with "Joy Everywhere and Nowhere," dancing in the streets with palms but seemingly fleeing the scene of the crucifixion. Finally, Easter erupts in "Glorious Joy," wild, unrestrained, and all the more beautiful for having outlined the contours of the Lenten season.

The Gathering

Prelude Music

As the Sun with Longer Journey (setting by David Cherwien, 1996 Augsburg Fortress)
Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness (setting by Joel Raney, 2006 Hope Publishing)

Stand

Call to Worship

PR People of God,
we gather for worship to practice joy:
not because our lives are perfect,
but because joy is resilient,
God's gift for every season
and the wellspring at the heart of our faith.

PR When our sins feel heavy,
C **we practice joy.**

PR When floods rise and fall,
C **we practice joy.**

PR When hope surprises us,
C **we practice joy.**

PR When God sets people free,
C **we practice joy.**

PR When Jesus heals us,
C **we practice joy.**

PR When we are called,
C **we practice joy.**

PR When we endure,
C **we practice joy.**

PR We practice joy together,
C **and God is with us.**

Confession and Forgiveness

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

PR People of God,
the Merciful One already knows everything we confess.
By naming our sins and hearing words of forgiveness,
we are drawn deeper into relationship with God and one another.
Let's bring before God what we have done wrong
and what we've failed to do,
trusting that we will receive the joy of being forgiven.

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

PR God of abundant goodness,
C **we have hurt those we love,
those far from us,
ourselves,
and your creation
by what we do and by what we neglect.
We cling to disappointments, judgments, and failures
and refuse to enjoy what you give.
We are too content when injustice, violence, and hardship
plague our neighbors.
We ignore the gift of your presence
in times both tragic and triumphant.
Forgive us for what we have done
and for what we have failed to do.
Pour out on us the joy of your presence
and heal what we have harmed.**

PR Friends, receive these joyful words:
You are entirely and completely forgiven for all of your sins.
You are entirely and completely welcomed as God's beloved child.
You are released to live out God's love
in a world that needs such joy.
C **Amen.**

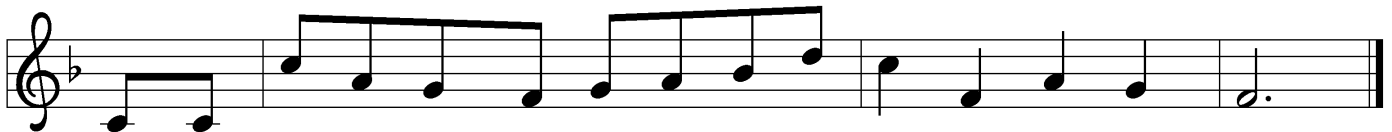
Gathering Hymn: ELW (red), hymn 329: *As the Sun with Longer Journey*



1 As the sun with long - er jour - ney melts the win - ter's snow and ice,
2 Through the days of wait - ing, watch - ing, in the des - ert of our sin,
3 Praise be giv - en to the mak - er of the sea - sons' year - ly round:



with its slow - ly grow - ing ra - diance warms the seed be - neath the earth,
search - ing on the far ho - ri - zon for a sign of cloud or wind,
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it—Source, Sus - tain - er, Lord of life,



may the sun of Christ's up - ris - ing gent - ly bring our hearts to life.
we a - wait the heal - ing wa - ters of our Sav - ior's vic - to - ry.
as the ev - er turn - ing a - ges roll to their e - ter - nal rest.

Text: John Patrick Earls, OSB, b. 1935

Music: NAGEL, Carl F. Schalk, b. 1929

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Music © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

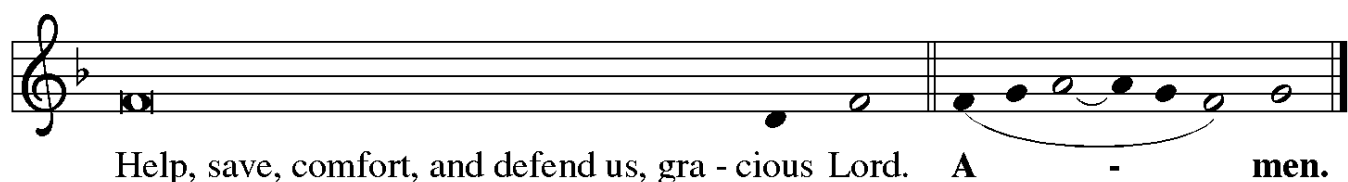
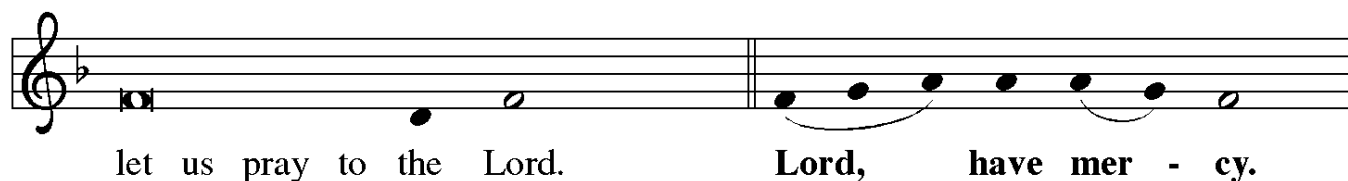
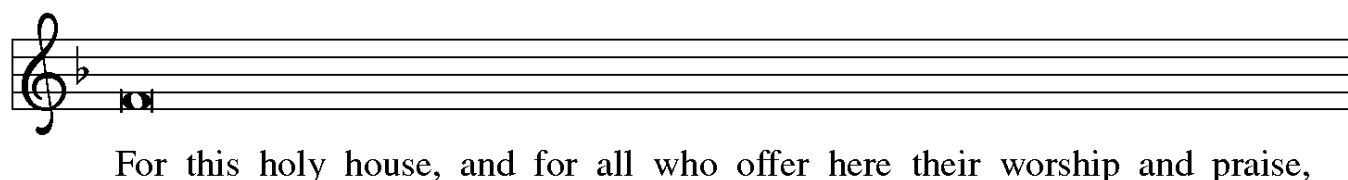
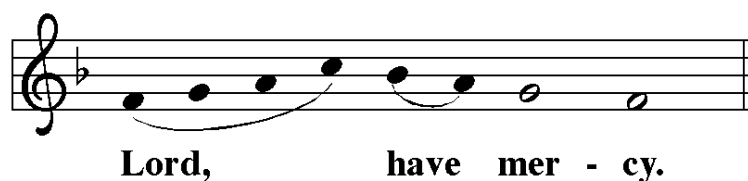
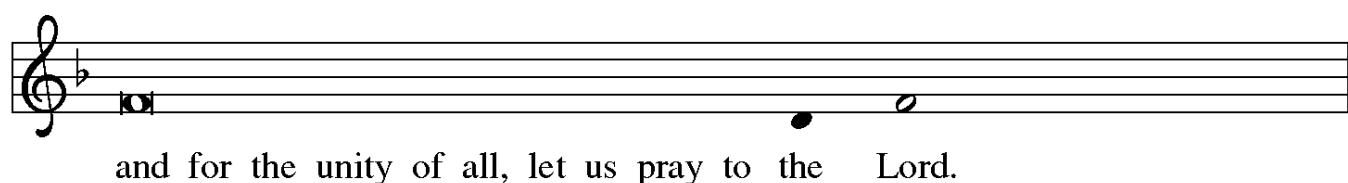
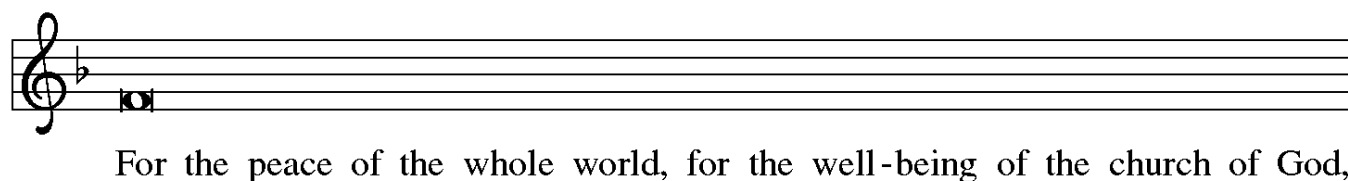
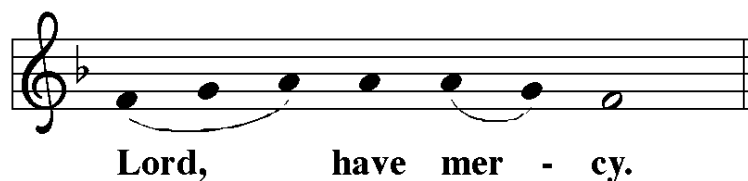
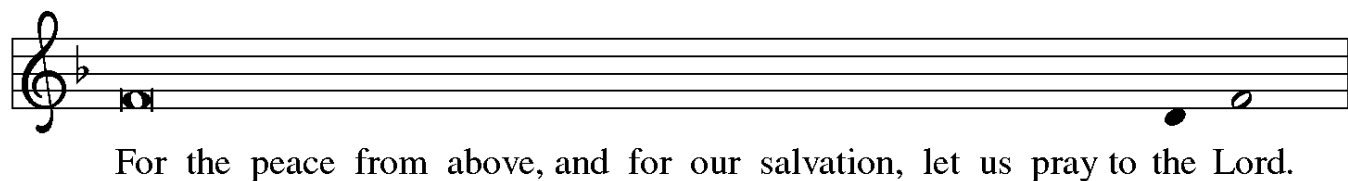
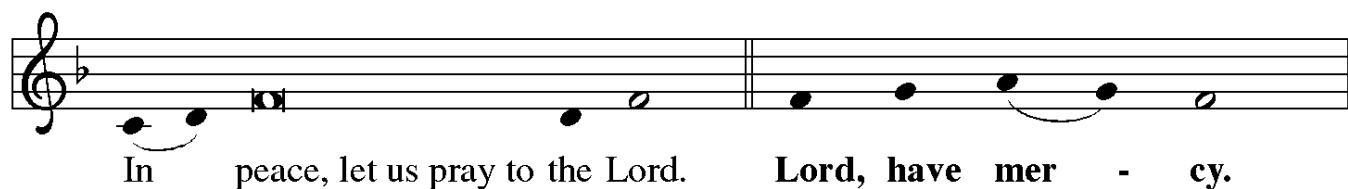
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Greeting

PR 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.**

Kyrie



Prayer of the Day

PR Timeless God, you promise a joy-filled future against all reason. Reach us with that expectant joy, even here and now. As we follow Jesus to the cross through an unsettled present, help us rejoice that we will rejoice.

C Amen.

Sit

The Word

L A reading from the book of Genesis.

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

¹When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, “I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. ²And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous.” ³Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, ⁴“As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁵No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁶I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. ⁷I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.”

¹⁵God said to Abraham, “As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. ¹⁶I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.”

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm 22:23-31 (Read responsively by whole verse)

²³You who fear the LORD, give praise! All you of Jacob’s line, give glory.
Stand in awe of the LORD, all you offspring of Israel.

²⁴**For the LORD does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither is the LORD’s face hidden from them;
but when they cry out, the LORD hears them.**

²⁵From you comes my praise in the great assembly;
I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

²⁶**The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts live forever!**

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;
all the families of nations shall bow before God.

²⁸**For dominion belongs to the LORD,
who rules over the nations.**

²⁹Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship;
all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the LORD.

³⁰**Their descendants shall serve the LORD,
whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.**

³¹They shall proclaim God’s deliverance to a people yet unborn,
saying to them, “The LORD has acted!”

L A reading from the book of Romans.

Romans 4:13-25

¹³The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

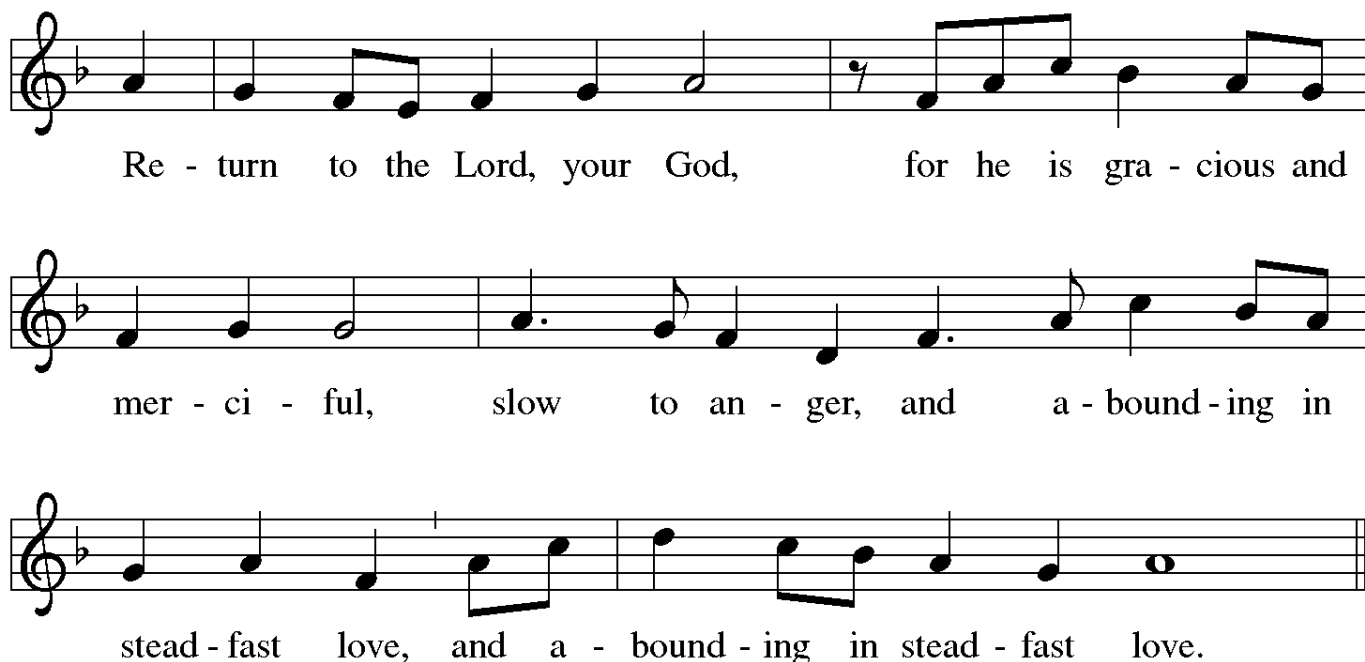
¹⁶For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, ¹⁷as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. ¹⁸Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become “the father of many nations,” according to what was said, “So numerous shall your descendants be.” ¹⁹He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah’s womb. ²⁰No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²²Therefore his faith “was reckoned to him as righteousness.” ²³Now the words, “it was reckoned to him,” were written not for his sake alone, ²⁴but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, ²⁵who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and

mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in

stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

PR The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the eighth chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Mark 8:31-38

³¹[Jesus] began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

³⁴He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

PR The Gospel of our Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Children’s Sermon

Sermon

Pastor Randy Schroeder

Stand

Hymn of the Day, ACS, hymn 924: *As the Winter Days Grow Longer*

1 As the win - ter days grow long - er, draw - ing short the hours of night;
2 As the vines burst in - to blos - som, fra - grant in the morn - ing air,
3 As we jour - ney through this sea - son, pil - grims through a thirst - y land,

as our ea - ger ex - pec - ta - tion waits for Eas - ter's dawn - ing light —
lift - ing spir - its with their sweet - ness, lur - ing hearts to thank - ful prayer —
quench us with your liv - ing pres - ence; guide us with your lov - ing hand.

yearn - ing peo - ple, here we gath - er, turn - ing watch - ful eyes to you:
Lent - en peo - ple, here we gath - er, seek - ing lives re - fresh - ed from sin.
Wan - d'ring peo - ple, here we gath - er, called to rest a - long our way.

God who bless - es earth with spring - time, shine with - in our world a - new!
God who bless - es earth with spring - time, bloom with - in our hearts a - gain!
God who bless - es earth with spring - time, grant us sab - bath joy this day!

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line and a bass line. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system. The score ends with a double bar line.

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953

Music: SUO GÂN, Welsh melody; arr. hymnal version

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PK Nicene Creed

**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 and the Son,*
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

- A** God of mercy and grace, you are present. You are within each person here and you are among us as your gathered people. Trusting in your presence, your promises, and your joy, even when we cannot perceive them, we bring to you our gratitude for all you have done, and the burdens that weigh on our hearts.
- A** We pray for creation.
Thank you for its beauty and bounty and for the ways it reminds us of your presence. Guide the work of those who advocate for the wellness of your wondrous creation, and help us to better tend and keep it. We pray for all habitats, creatures, and all peoples harmed by natural disasters like those experiencing continued flooding and mudslides in California.
- C** God of unending joy,
answer us.

- A We pray for the nations and their leaders.
Thank you for cooperation among world leaders and for the ways people work together for the wellbeing of everyone. We pray for places that know violence, famine, and economic hardship... especially Palestine and Israel, Syria, Myanmar, Russia, Ukraine, and the Sudan. We also pray for safe and just resolutions to protests in India, South Korea, and Poland. Pour out your spirit of wisdom on all who govern, that they will care for the most vulnerable and work for the good of those they vowed to serve.
- God of unending joy,
C **answer us.**
- A We pray for peace throughout the earth.
Thank you for the gift of peace. We pray that you send peace with power into our world, our neighborhoods, our hearts, and our homes. Stop cycles of domestic abuse. Give peace to every nation. We pray for all victims of gun violence; especially in Burnsville, MN; Tooele, UT; Allentown, PA; Overland Park, KS; Colorado Springs, CO; and Hollywood, FL. Help us bring an end to gun violence.
- God of unending joy,
C **answer us.**
- A We pray for those who are vulnerable.
Thank you for giving us gifts to share with others. Bring justice to anyone who has been used or abused. Feed those who are hungry for food or for companionship. House those who need shelter. Protect those who live in fear. We lift up to you the For the memory of Nex Benedict, and for all who face bullying and violence. Work through our hands and hearts to provide for them.
- God of unending joy,
C **answer us.**
- A We pray for the church.
Thank you for the goodness we know when we gather as your people, for the gifts of community, shared ministry, and the chance to pray for and with one another. We thank you for the work of the church around the world, such as the 50 years of ministry accomplished by the ELCA World Hunger, and for the ways in which the church is at work close to home through supporting PLM. Renew us in the promises of baptism and draw us into closer relationships with other people of faith.
- God of unending joy,
C **answer us.**
- A We pray for healing and wholeness.
We turn to you for healing. Send compassionate helpers to any who suffer or those who are ill, especially Lynn, Lawrence, Nathan and Haley, Jeanette, Sheila, Suzanne, Jean, and Megan. Guide us to befriend those who are lonely, bring hope to any in despair, and console the bereaved. We thank you for gifts of healing and recovery.
- God of unending joy,
C **answer us.**

PK God of abundant life, you bring a quiet, constant joy to our most trying times. Remind us of your goodness in grief and your presence in pain.
C **Amen.**

Peace

PK The peace of Christ be with you always.
C **And also with you.**

The Meal

As we prepare to receive Holy Communion, please read the following:

For today's distribution of Holy Communion, after the Invitation to the Table, the presiding pastor will invite the worship assistants (lector, assisting minister, usher) to commune behind the altar. The presiding pastor will then commune those worshipping online and those in the sanctuary who wish to commune in their pews. Then the presiding pastor will commune those who wish to come up to the altar while the Lamb of God is played.

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 the "Your Offering Made Easy" tab, this could be your opportunity. (Ted Heise is available to answer any questions about the Vanco Online giving option. His email address is **theise@panix.com**)



Stand

Offering Prayer

A God of mercy and grace,
you give us so much:
our days, our loved ones,
our passions and talents,
the food we eat, the homes we know,
a place to worship.

God, you pour out an abundance of goodness.
Receive the gifts we offer back to you today.
Bless them and bless us,
that we will give generously,
love boldly, and share widely,
our offering reflecting your joyful gift.

C **Amen.**

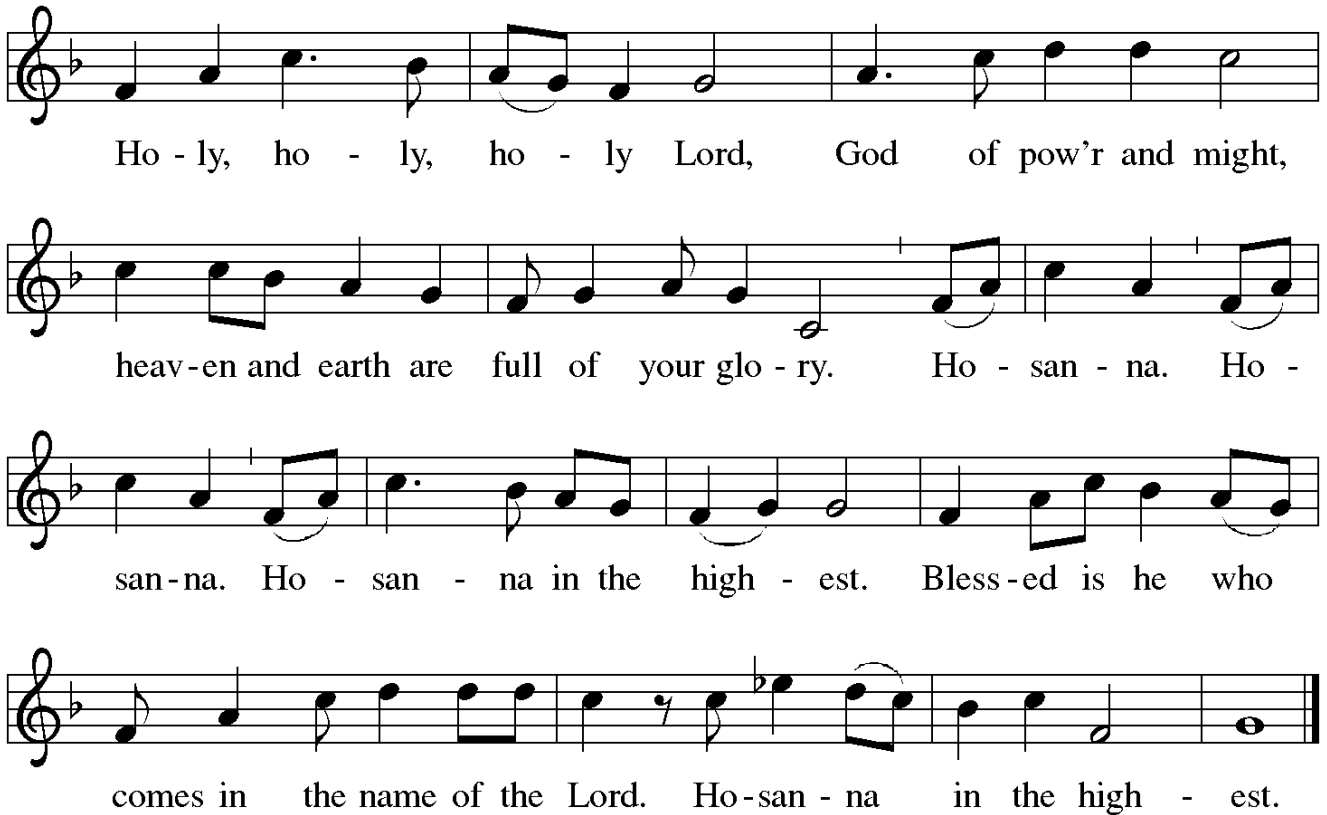
The Great Thanksgiving

PK God is with you.
C **And also with you.**

PK Rejoice with full hearts.
C **We offer them to God.**

PK Let us give thanks to our God.
C **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

PK God, there is no time, no place
where you are not present,
and there is no time, no place
where we should not practice the joy of praising you:
even here, even now, in our ordinary lives.
As we give thanks, we join the choir
of our ancestors and our heirs
and all God's angels
as they time their breath to the rhythm of joy
and sing of heaven despite the world.



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are 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 in the high - est.

PK God, our ancestors knew the long road toward joy.
Noah saw your rainbow after a devastating flood.
Sarah and Abraham found hope for their future
in a covenant promise.

Moses cradled your law in his arms
and the Israelites found wilderness life
where they should have died.
The prophets read your faithfulness
traced indelibly on their hearts.
Your love sent us Jesus
and his persistent, irrational joy:
dripping with the Jordan's baptismal flood,
teaching in the crowd's beating heart,
tossing the tables of empire and profit,
falling like a seed into warm dark soil
as he offered his life for us all.

On the last night of his life, as evening fell,
Jesus sat down to dinner with his friends.
He took the bread, gave thanks, broke it,
and passed it around the table for everyone to eat, saying,
 This is my body, given for you.
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

When the meal had ended, the shadows closing in,
Jesus took the cup, blessed it,
and invited everyone 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.

In the heart of fear and pain,
God plants the seed of our joy:

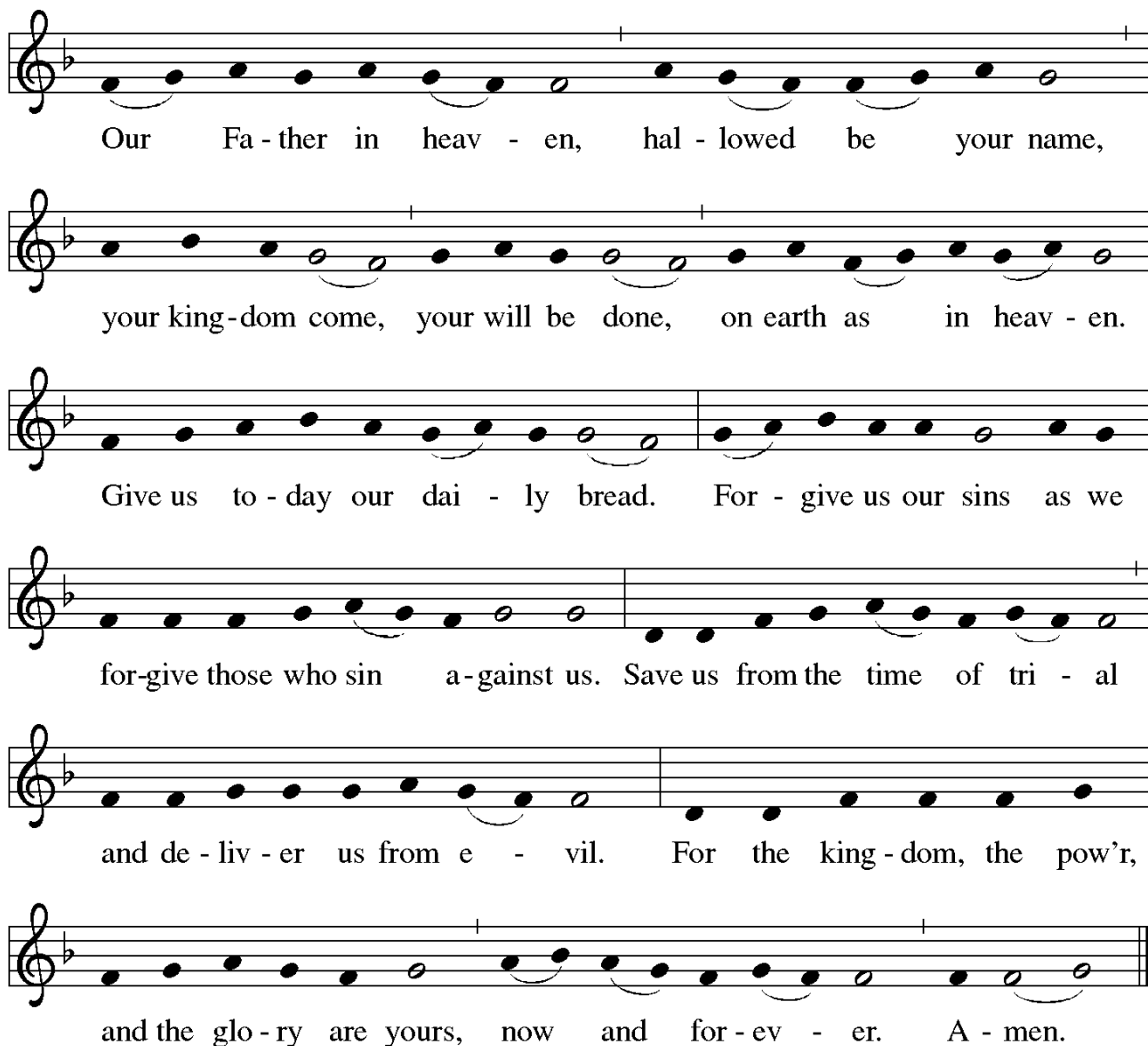
C **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

PK Send your Spirit upon this bread and cup,
Christ's body and blood,
the food that gives us the strength to persist
until joy appears.
Send your Spirit upon us
and fortify us to be your body, too,
a wellspring of hope for a world in need.

All glory, power, and honor are yours,
God of brilliant resurrection and quiet joy,
today and every day.

C **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer



Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,
your king-dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.
Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we
for-give those who sin a-gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al
and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow'r,
and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

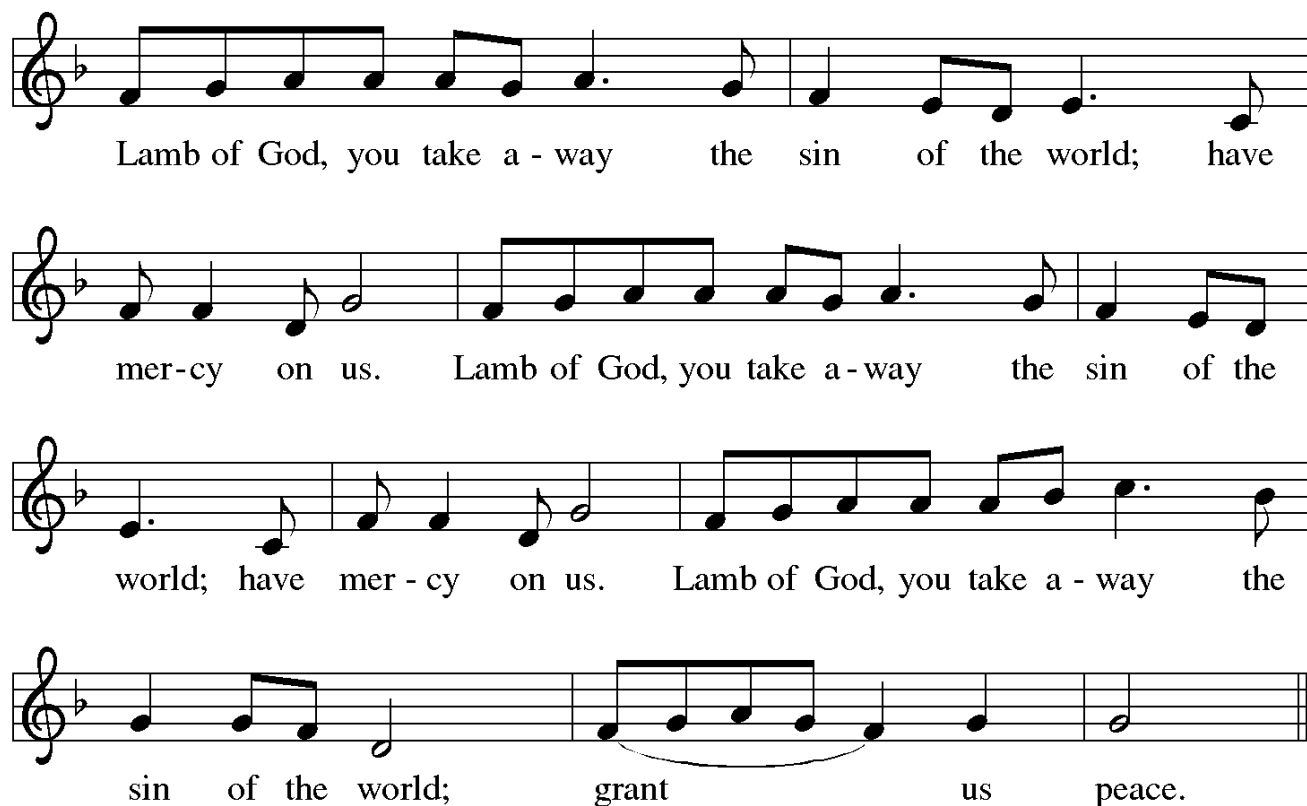
Invitation to Communion

PK We are here because Jesus has called us – strangers and friends, believers and doubters, the certain and the curious. It is always a mixed company that Jesus gathers and invites to this table where, in bread and wine, we are met with God's love, and through Jesus' resurrection, we are joined to each other, different as diverse as we may be. So come, not because you understand, but because you are understood. Come, not because of how you feel, but because God has food for you. Come, not because you deserve a place, but because Jesus invites you, just as you are.

Distribution

There are gluten-free wafers and grape juice. Please indicate your need to the server.

Lamb of God



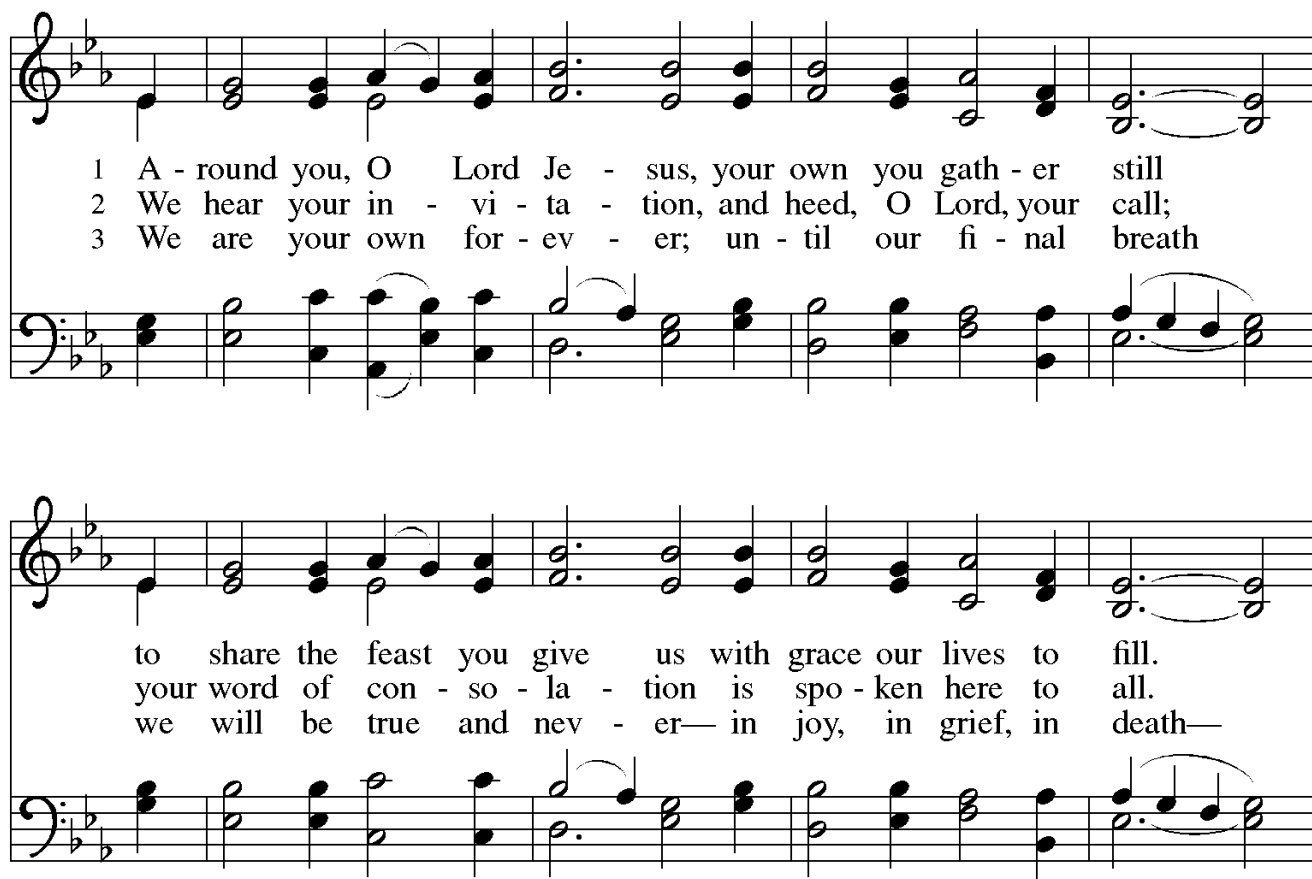
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have

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.

Communion Hymn: ELW (red), hymn 468: *Around You, O Lord Jesus*



1 A - round you, O Lord Je - sus, your own you gath - er still
 2 We hear your in - vi - ta - tion, and heed, O Lord, your call;
 3 We are your own for - ev - er; un - til our fi - nal breath

to share the feast you give us with grace our lives to fill.
 your word of con - so - la - tion is spo - ken here to all.
 we will be true and nev - er— in joy, in grief, in death—

You say to us so lov - ing - ly, "Take, eat! This is my
It draws us to your lov - ing heart; it brings to us your
de - part from you, for you are still a - mong your peo - ple

bod - y! Take, drink! This is my blood!"
bless - ing, which nev - er will de - part.
dwell - ing, as you have said you will.

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847; tr. composite
Music: O JESU, ÅN DE DINA, H. Thomissön, *Den danske Psalmebog*, 1569
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Stand

PK 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 Generous God,
at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace.
As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread,
now make us one loaf to feed the world;
in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life.

C Amen.

The Sending

An Invitation

Sending Hymn: ELW (red), Hymn 866: *We Are Marching in the Light of God*



Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos', si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha -
We are march - ing in the light of God, we are march - ing in the



nyen' kwen - khos'. Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos',
light of God. We are march - ing in the light of God,



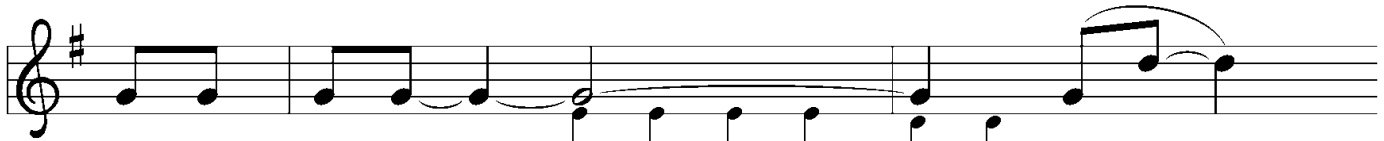
si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of God.



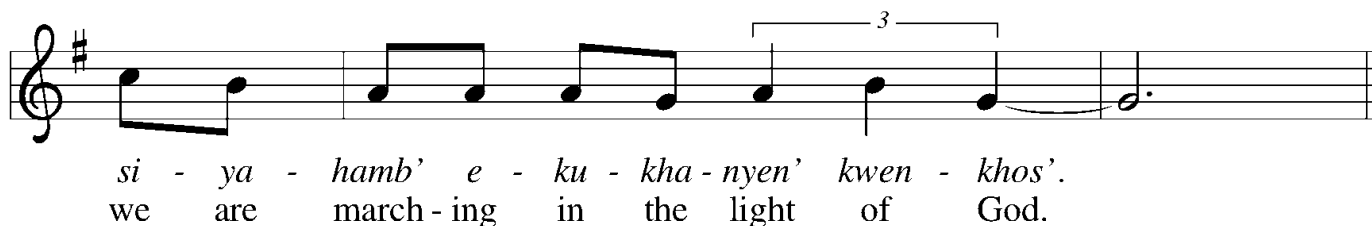
Si - ya - ham - ba (ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba) oo
We are march - ing (march - ing, we are march - ing) oo



si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of God.



Si - ya - ham - ba (ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba) oo
We are march - ing (march - ing, we are march - ing) oo



Additional stanzas ad lib.:

We are dancing ...

We are praying ...

We are singing ...

Text: South African traditional; tr. Freedom Is Coming, 1984

Music: SIYAHAMBA, South African traditional

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Blessing

PK Go with blessing. The One who wove joy throughout the whole cosmos weaves joy within your own heart. The One who experienced all our human joys and sorrows travels right beside you. The One who whispers joy to our hearts is present within you. You are blessed in the name of God, Holy Three in One.

C **Amen.**

Dismissal

A Practice joy. As you leave this place, go with the joy that looks forward with hope.

C **Thanks be to God.**

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Cover Photo/Text: The Seed of Joy: Eucharistic Prayer © 2023 Barn Geese Worship. Used by permission. [Adapted by Pastor Randy Schroeder.]

Worship Assistants Today: Julie Huetteman, Sara Behnke, Krista Gearhart (Musicians), Kathy Heise (Cantor), Kathy Grogan (Assisting Minister), Clara Gearhart (Lector), Calvin Gearhart (Usher), Mike Williams (A-V Specialist), Ted Heise (Assistant to Mr. Williams)

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

Pastor Kristin is available for campus ministry-related care and support. Please contact her at: 262-758-1235 or by email: pastor@plm.org

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

Our sanctuary is served by a hearing loop. Wearers of hearing aids should turn their aids to the setting marked T, or T-coil, or Telephone.

Kid's Worship Bags and Family Room: The kids' worship bags have been updated with new items that help children follow along with the worship service, storybook Bibles and fun activities to do. For little ones there are quiet toys, books, and activities in the family in the back of the church for the children to play with during the service. Please feel free to let your children explore.

Dates OSLC is Closed in 2024:

April 1: The Monday after Easter

May 27: Memorial Day

July 4: Fourth of July

September 2: Labor Day

November 28 and 29: Thanksgiving

December 24 and 25: Christmas

December 31 and January 1 (2025): New Years

Hosts Invited for Fellowship Hour

We all love to gather after church for coffee and fellowship! We are looking for volunteers to make coffee for the fellowship hour. If you would like to bring a snack that would be much appreciated but not necessary. Please click on the link or scan the QR code to sign up to be host for a Sunday or sign. There is a hard copy sign up in the fellowship hall if you prefer paper. There are two slots per Sunday. If you are willing to host by yourself, please put your name in both slots. [Hosting Fellowship Coffee Hour sign up](#)



Nursery is Available

OSLC has a nursery for children infants through 5 years old, in our lower level staffed with a paid nursery attendant. Crystal is a Purdue Student majoring in Elementary Education and has completed the Red Cross' Adult, Child and Infant First Aid and CPR course. Crystal is there to welcome your child(ren) during our 9:00 am service, Faith Formation hour and our 11:30 am service. For more information or questions contact Missy Schroeder at missy@osluth.org or at 260-402-4477.

Sunday School

Sunday School is from 10:20 am to 11:05 am. We have classes for children ages 2-5 in the Nursery with Crystal. Elementary school age class for children in grades K-5th and confirmation class for children grades 6th -8th. Everyone is invited to the Fellowship Hall for coffee hour beginning around 10:00 am and the teachers will gather the students at 10:20 to take them to their classrooms. If you have any questions or would like more information, contact Missy Schroeder at missy@osluth.org or at 260-402-4477.

Confirmation

All Students in the 6th grade or above are invited to attend Confirmation Classes. Confirmation Class will meet on Sunday mornings at 10:20 am until 11:05 am, in the Jr. & Sr. Class room upstairs. Pastor Randy will lead the Confirmation and hopes you will join him.

Adult Forum

Adult Forum begins in the Fellowship Hall at 10:20 am in person and on zoom. We conclude at 11:05 am. We welcome ideas for topics and guest speakers. Please contact Missy Schroeder at missy@osluth.org or Mark Hermodson at hermodson@comcast.net if you have any suggestions.

February Schedule:

February 25: Natasha Uhl and her daughter-in-law, Olesia Vasylenko, will speak about their experiences and the war in Ukraine. Natasha's son, Olesia's husband, was killed last March in the war. He was a college professor turned soldier.

Centering Prayer Group

Join us every Monday morning for Centering Prayer online via zoom from 9:00 – 9:30 am. The zoom link will be sent out on Fridays with the worship zoom link.

Luncheon Lectio Divina- Praying with Scripture

Join us every Wednesday at noon via zoom for Lectio Divina. The zoom link will be sent on Fridays with the worship zoom link.

Midweek Lenten Worship Services and Soup Supper

Wednesday, February 21st at 7:00 pm will be our first midweek Lenten Holden Evening Prayer worship service. This service will be held in person and online via zoom. If you would like to join us for fellowship and soup, come at 6:00 pm down to the fellowship hall. Our midweek Lenten Soup Suppers and Worship services will be held every Wednesday beginning February 21st through March 20th. This is a wonderful opportunity for fellowship, community, and worship during lent. We are looking for people willing to bring soup, bread, and desserts for the soup supper. Please click on the link to sign up ([Soup Supper Sign Up](#)) or you can sign up on the sheet in the Narthex located near the office. If you have any questions, please contact Missy Schroeder at missy@osluth.org or at 260-402-4477.

Women, Wine (or whatever your preferred beverage) & Feminine Spirituality
Sunday, March 10th from 2:00-4:00 pm at Wildcat Creek Winery. (You do not need to be 21 to go to the winery and they sell soft drinks along with wine.) We will be discussing the Book [Fierce Women of the Bible and Their Stories of Violence, Mercy, Bravery, Wisdom, Sex and Salvation](#) by Alice Connor. (You can click on the link to purchase the book from Amazon.) On March 10th we will cover the introduction and the first chapter on Tamar. Space is limited at the winery, please contact Missy at missy@osluth.org or 260-402-4477 to let me know if you are planning to attend.

Join us Easter Sunday for Breakfast and an Easter Egg Hunt!

Breakfast begins at 9:30 am and our Easter Egg hunt begins at 9:40 am. If you plan to attend, please put your name and the number of people in your party attending on the sign-up sheet outside the office so we can plan accordingly. If you will not be here in person until Easter, you can sign up online by clicking this link [Easter Breakfast Sign Up](#). If you have any questions please let Missy know at missy@osluth.org or at 260-402-4477 We look forward to celebrating Easter with you!

Easter Candy Donations for our Easter Egg Hunt

We need your help filling treat bags for Easter Egg hunters on Easter Morning! The Faith Formation team is hosting an Easter Egg hunt after the 8:30 am service on Easter Morning. Please bring in your bags of candy and place them in the basket in front of the office. We appreciate your help!

Fun, Food & Games

You are invited to join us for Fun, Food & Games on **Saturday March 16th from 4:00 pm-7:00 pm** in the Fellowship Hall at OSLC. Bring your favorite game to play and snack to share. OSLC will provide pizza and drinks. Please sign up by clicking the link [OSLC Fun, Food & Games](#) or you can sign up in the Narthex on the sign up sheet. If you have any questions please let Missy know at missy@osluth.org or at 260-402-4477.



**Wednesday
Dinners
6-7:30pm @ PLM**

Sponsor a meal by
providing food or
funding. College
students **love** food.

use code to sign up
or
call 765-743-2398
for more
information



How, then, do we get behind Jesus? How do we practice this expectant joy? In this Lenten season, we might begin by embracing joy even when there's no good reason to feel it; by trusting God's promise even when the world thinks it's a foolish thing to do; by hoping against hope that everything God has offered to us is on its way, and may even be arriving now, in us, around us, and through us.

Questions for reflection

- Which of God's promises do you find yourself reflecting on most often when you need a wellspring of joy? Consider promises in liturgy as well as scripture: baptismal promises, funeral proclamations, the eschatological hope of communion, etc. How do those promises give you joy now, even if you haven't yet seen them fulfilled?
- How does expectant joy show up in your faith community's life? Which of God's promises are celebrated even if they haven't been fulfilled yet, like through a feeding ministry, a Queer-affirming ministry, or an anti-racist ministry?
- Marginalized and oppressed communities are often intimately familiar with ambiguous joy: some voices articulate powerful invitations to rejoice in the present moment in anticipation of a future joy.^[1] What communities in your neighborhood are inviting yours to accompany them in holding expectant joy and working toward that joy's fulfillment?

^[1] For particular examples, consider Martin Luther King, Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" and "I Have Been to the Mountaintop" speeches, Amanda Gorman's poem "The Hill We Climb," and Oscar Romero's final homily.

Barn Geese Worship, Rev. Victoria Larson, *The Seed of Joy Basics*, page 14-15

About Our Nave

Against the north wall is the Tree of Life, designed by the late liturgical designer Charles Pohlmann and constructed in 1996 by then-OSLC member Ted Marshall. The processional cross was given to OSLC in memory of Jennie Dana. Many of our paraments were designed and hand-woven by OSLC member Bea Stromberg. The west wall is lined with seven wood carvings depicting the life of Christ commissioned from the late Nigerian carver Lamidi Fakeye. At the center of the nave stands a marble baptismal font, a gift from members of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. The prints of paintings on the east wall are by nationally known liturgical artist He Qi. The center piece is given by the Church Council in honor of Sam Rasmy for his long-time service as Financial Secretary of OSLC. The Last Supper, by Guatemalan artist Angelina Quic Ixtamer, was purchased by the 2014 Guatemala Mission Team. The OSLC logo was redesigned in 2022 with elements reflecting the unique architecture of the sanctuary, the 2019 addition of the south stained-glass window, our affiliation with the ELCA, and the eternal presence of our Lord and Saviour.

References to the Tree of Life are found in both the Old and New Testaments. It has both literal and symbolic meaning for Christians: it is the literal tree of life in Genesis, and in Revelation it represents everlasting life granted to those who display fruits of the spirit and of righteousness aligned with God's principles.

Our Saviour's Vision, Mission, and Values (October 4, 2018)

Vision	<i>God calls us to be a community of discipleship for all, making Christ's love real in our daily lives.</i>
Mission	<i>Grow in faith and Christian calling Love and serve God and neighbor Proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ</i>
Values	<i>Centered in liturgical worship Outreach to campus and partnership with Purdue Lutheran Ministry Education and mentoring for all ages Responsible stewardship of resources Care, compassion and service in the local and global community</i>