

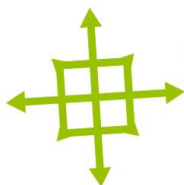
# 4th Sunday of Easter

April 30, 2023

"Set Apart for Newness of Life"

Acts 13:1-3, 14:8-18

*Walking in  
Newness of Life*



**MUHLENBERG**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

# Fourth Sunday of Easter~ APRIL 30, 2023

## WELCOME

We welcome you in the name of Christ. **We love welcoming guests/visitors** and encourage you to complete one of the blue cards in the pew rack and place it in the offering basket, or **scan this QR Code** with your smart phone to complete the visitor card digitally. We have a gift for you at our Welcome Desk – please stop by after worship. You are invited to join in all parts of worship. Everything you need is printed in this worship booklet. All who desire to receive Holy Communion are welcome at the table. If you do not wish to receive, you are still welcome to come forward for a blessing! For instructions on how to receive the bread and wine, see the Communion section later in this booklet. Portions of worship in bold print are to be spoken by the whole congregation. We stand for portions of our worship service. **Please feel free to remain seated, if you prefer.**



## HEALTH AND SAFETY

We are grateful that the prevalence of COVID in our community has decreased, and we do not require masks in the building. However, we continue to follow the current CDC guidance and we request that anyone who experiences symptoms of COVID-19, regardless of vaccination status, stay home, self-isolate and get tested. Please wear a well-fitted mask if you have a known exposure to COVID in the past 10 days. Wearing a mask for any reason is always welcomed. Thank you for doing all you can to help care for one another by reducing the spread of germs in our community!

## OUR WORSHIP

Our worship is rooted in the ancient pattern of the church – gathering, word, meal, sending. The shape of this liturgy and much of the actual words/prayers come directly from scripture. Though we make seasonal shifts, the constancy of our worship reflects God’s constant love and promises through forgiveness, scripture, and the sacraments of baptism and communion. Following this liturgical pattern, as well as the Narrative Lectionary (a four-year cycle of scripture readings in biblical order), we are connected through our worship with Christians around the world and throughout time. *For details, see “About Our Worship” on the last page.*

**Worship will be live-streamed this morning.** Digital ministry is an essential part of our community with the Wellstream service at 11:00 am allowing those at home to worship alongside our gathered community for a service of Holy Communion. The cameras will be primarily focused on our worship leaders and offer some wide-angle views of the sanctuary. If you have questions or concerns about appearing on camera, contact Pastor Alex or Communication Minister Christian Perritt ([perritt@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:perritt@muhlenberglutheran.org)).

## OTHER NOTES

- **Amplification devices** for the hearing impaired are available from ushers or at the Welcome Desk.
- A **restroom** is located at the north end of the Gathering Area (additional restrooms downstairs).

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**MUHLENBERG LUTHERAN CHURCH: A WELLSPRING OF GOD’S GRACE**

**Open ✝ Authentic ✝ Relational ✝ Serving**

**Pastor Lauren Eanes**

**Pastor Alex Zuber**

281 E. Market Street  
Harrisonburg, VA 22801

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# WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION

## GATHERING

*We come from our homes, our labor, our struggles, and our joys – which we share in fellowship as a Christian community. We are gathered together as God’s people to worship. In this first part of our worship, we share together honestly – our sins in confession, our joy in forgiveness.*

### WELCOME

### STEWARDSHIP MISSION MOMENT

### PRELUDE ~ *Lift Up Your Heads* (arr. R. B. Farlee, 2015)

*(We stand and face the font)*

### THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

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

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, by whose hand we are given new birth, by whose speaking we are given new life. **Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are welcomed, restored, and supported as citizens of the new creation. Just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so too are we forgiven of our sins that we might walk in newness of life. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and mighty, you are the river of life, you are the everlasting wellspring. In mercy and might you have freed us from death and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead. In baptismal waters our old life is washed away, and in them we are born anew.

*Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister continues.*

Glory to you for oceans and lakes, for rivers and streams. Honor to you for waters that wash us clean, quench our thirst, and nurture both crops and creatures. Praise to you for the life-giving water of baptism, the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation.

**Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you.  
Empower our witness to your resurrection.  
Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.**

Satisfy the world's need through this living water. Where drought dries the earth, bring refreshment. Where despair prevails, grant hope. Where chaos reigns, bring peace. We ask this through Christ, who with you and the Spirit reigns forever. **Amen.**

## PROCESSIONAL HYMN

ELW 662

*The congregation turns to face the cross as the procession approaches the altar, reminding us that Christ leads us into the presence and love of God.*

### Christ Is the King!



1 Christ is the king! O friends, re-joice; broth-ers and sis-ters,  
2 Oh, mag-ni-fy the Lord, and raise an-thems of joy and  
3 O Chris-tian wom-en, Chris-tian men, all the world o-ver,  
4 Let Love's all-rec-on-cil-ing might your scat-tered com-pa-  
5 So shall the church at last be one; so shall God's will on



with one voice let the world know he is your choice.  
ho-ly praise for Christ's brave saints of an-cient days.  
seek a-gain the Way dis-ci-ples fol-lowed then.  
nies u-nite in ser-vice to the God of light.  
earth be done, new lamps be lit, new tasks be-gun.



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

## GREETING

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

# HYMN OF PRAISE

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb



who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich-es, wis - dom, and



strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of



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



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

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,  
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was  
 slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

*Final refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.  
 Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of all, you opened your gates wide to receive all your children into the heavenly kingdom. Help us to be vehicles of promise and proclamation for all who will listen, so that every soul might live in your grace. We pray these things in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

(We sit)

**CHILDREN'S TIME** Children are invited forward for a brief message with the pastor.

## WORD

*The first half of our liturgy focuses on the Word of God through the reading of scripture and preaching. The pattern of reading, singing, reading, singing is an ancient one, which comes from Christianity's roots in Jewish synagogue worship.*

### FIRST READING ~ Acts 13:1-3, 14:8-18

<sup>1</sup>Now in the church at Antioch there were prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen a member of the court of Herod the ruler, and Saul. <sup>2</sup>While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." <sup>3</sup>Then after fasting and praying they laid their hands on them and sent them off.

<sup>8</sup>In Lystra there was a man sitting who could not use his feet and had never walked, for he had been crippled from birth. <sup>9</sup>He listened to Paul as he was speaking. And Paul, looking at him intently and seeing that he had faith to be healed, <sup>10</sup>said in a loud voice, "Stand upright on your feet." And the man sprang up and began to walk. <sup>11</sup>When the crowds saw what Paul had done, they shouted in the Lycaonian language, "The gods have come down to us in human form!" <sup>12</sup>Barnabas they called Zeus, and Paul they called Hermes, because he was the chief speaker. <sup>13</sup>The priest of Zeus, whose temple was just outside the city, brought oxen and garlands to the gates; he and the crowds wanted to offer sacrifice. <sup>14</sup>When the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard of it, they tore their clothes and rushed out into the crowd, shouting, <sup>15</sup>Friends, why are you doing this? We are mortals just like you, and we bring you good news, that you should turn from these worthless things to the living God, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and all that is in them. <sup>16</sup>In past generations he allowed all the nations to follow their own ways; <sup>17</sup>yet he has not left himself without a witness in doing good — giving you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons, and filling you with food and your hearts with joy." <sup>18</sup>Even with these words, they scarcely restrained the crowds from offering sacrifice to them.

*The reading concludes:*

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

(We stand)

### GOSPEL PROCESSION

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

### GOSPEL ~ Matthew 10:40-42

The Holy Gospel according to ... **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>40</sup>Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. <sup>41</sup>Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; <sup>42</sup>and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple — truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.”

*After the reading:*

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

### GOSPEL PROCESSION *(see above)*

(We sit)

### SERMON

Pastor Lauren Eanes

*Silence for reflection follows.*

(We stand)

### HYMN OF THE DAY ~ *When the Poor Ones (or Cuando el Pobre)*

ELW 725

*~see next page~*



# When the Poor Ones

## *Cuando el pobre*



1 *Cuan-do el po-bre na-da tie-ne ya ún re-par-te,*  
 1 When the poor ones, who have noth-ing, still are giv-ing;  
 2 When com-pas-sion gives the suf-f'ring con-so-la-tion;  
 3 When our spir-its, like a chal-ice, brim with glad-ness;  
 4 When the good-ness poured from heav-en fills our dwell-ings;



*cuan-do al-guien pa-sa sed ya-gua nos da,*  
 when the thirst-y pass the cup, wa-ter to share;  
 when ex-pect-ing brings to birth hope that was lost;  
 when our voic-es, full and clear, sing out the truth;  
 when the na-tions work to change war in-to peace;



*cuan-do el dé-bil a su her-ma-no for-ta-le-ce:*  
 when the wound-ed of-fer oth-ers strength and heal-ing;  
 when we choose love, not the ha-tred all a-round us:  
 when our long-ings, free from en-vy, seek the hum-ble;  
 when the strang-er is ac-cept-ed as our neigh-bor:

### *Refrain / Estribillo*



*Va Dios mis-mo en nues-tro mis-mo ca-mi-nar;*  
 We see God, here by our side, walk-ing our way;



*va Dios mis-mo en nues-tro mis-mo ca-mi-nar.*  
 we see God, here by our side, walk-ing our way.

2 *Cuando alguno sufre y logra su consuelo,* 3 *Cuando crece la alegría y nos inunda,*  
*cuando espera y no se cansa de esperar,* *cuando dicen nuestros labios la verdad,*  
*cuando amamos, aunque el odio nos rodee:* *cuando amamos el sentir de los sencillos:*  
 Estribillo Estribillo

4 *Cuando abunda el bien y llena los hogares,*  
*cuando alguien donde hay guerra pone paz,*  
*cuando "hermano" le llamamos al extraño:*  
 Estribillo

## NICENE CREED

Let us confess our faith:

**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.**

**With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.**

**He 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

After each petition:

. . . Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

The presiding minister concludes the prayers:

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

*Have a prayer concern to share? Forms are available in the back cover of each hymnal.*

## PEACE

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

The congregation may greet one another with a gesture of peace, using these or similar words:

**“Peace be with you.”**

(We sit)

## MEAL

*In the second half of our liturgy, we gather around the table, following Jesus' invitation. Here in this meal we encounter the risen Lord who gives himself for the forgiveness of sins and strengthening the Body of Christ.*

## OFFERING

8:30 *I will sing, I will sing* (M. Dyer)

Celebration Singers

11:00 *Signs and Wonders* (Text: S. P. Cherwien; Music: Trente quatre psaumes de David, Geneva, 1551)

Sanctuary Choir

*An offering is gathered at this time to support the mission of the church and care for those in need. Our offerings are a humble and grateful response to the gifts that God has first given us. You can place a gift in the offering plate as the ushers come around, or give online by scanning the QR Code and visiting our online giving portal.*

MAKE YOUR OFFERING DIGITALLY  
BY SCANNING HERE




MUHLENBERG  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

(We stand)

## OFFERING SONG

ELW 186

### Create in Me a Clean Heart *Offering Song*

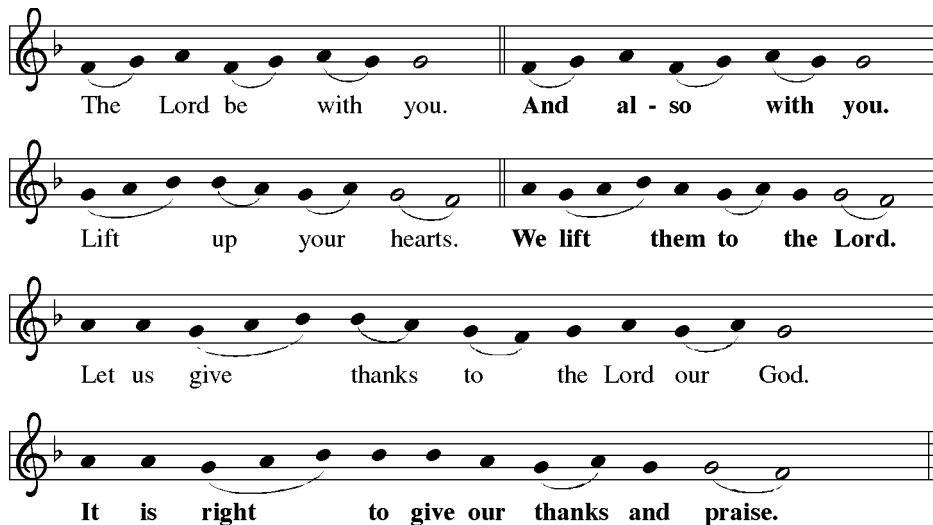


Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right  
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take  
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of  
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

## OFFERING PRAYER

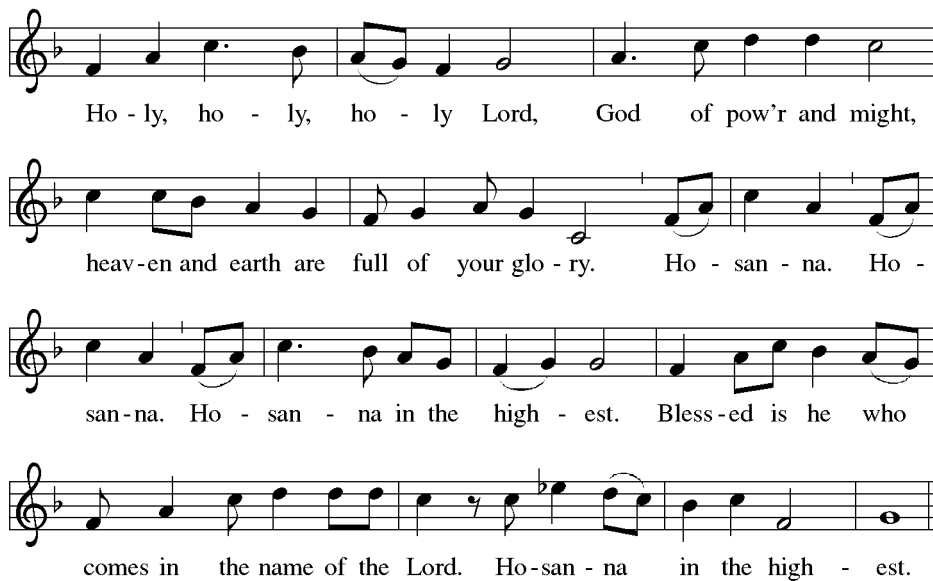
Generous God, in this meal you offer your very self. We give thanks for these gifts of the earth. In the breaking of this bread reveal to us the Risen One. In the pouring of this wine pour us out in service to the world; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. 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.

## **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

Holy, living, and loving God,  
we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth.

We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the flood,  
for freeing your people Israel from the bonds of slavery,  
and for sending your Son to be our Redeemer.

We give you thanks for Jesus  
who, living among us,  
healed the sick,  
fed the hungry,  
and with a love stronger than death,  
gave his life for others.

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 life-giving death and glorious resurrection,  
we await your promised life for all this dying world.

Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup:  
carry us in your arms from death to life,  
that we may live as your chosen ones,  
clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,  
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,  
in your holy Church,  
both now and forever.

**Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**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

The risen Christ invites us to this table.  
Come, eat and be satisfied.

(We sit)

## COMMUNION

*All are welcome at the Lord's Table! After the invitation to communion, the ushers will direct each row to come forward. If, for any reason, you prefer not to receive communion, you are welcome to come forward to receive a blessing. If you are unable to come forward, signal an usher or raise your hand, and an assisting minister will bring the elements to you.*

*As you come forward, pick up a small cup from the table at the front and then receive the bread (wafer) from the minister. Gluten-free wafers are located on the table. If you require gluten-free, please take one and present it to the pastor for blessing.*

*Next, proceed to one of the two communion assistants. The first chalice has wine, and the second chalice has grape juice.*

*As the ministers give the bread and cup to you, they say these words:*

*"The body of Christ, given for you . . . The blood of Christ, shed for you."*

*You may say: "Amen."*

*After consuming the wine/juice, please put your cup on the tray along the side wall, and return to your seat via the side aisle. **If you don't wish to remove your mask up front**, you may choose to bring the elements back to your pew to eat/drink there.*

## MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION

### *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.

Laudate Dominum, from *Vespers Solennes* (W. A. Mozart; arr. E. McLean & J. Nicholas)

Piano Solo

(We stand)

## BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Gracious God, **in you we live and move and have our being. With your word and this meal of grace, you have nourished our life together. Strengthen us to show your love and serve the world in Jesus' name. Amen.**



## SENDING

*Our worship does not end, but continues in the world. In our daily lives we are called to be ministers of God's love and mercy as we live and serve by the power of the risen Christ.*

### RECESSIONAL HYMN

ELW 678

*The congregation turns & faces the cross reminding us that we follow Christ into the world & our daily lives.*

## God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending



- 1 God, whose giv - ing knows no end - ing, from your rich and end - less store:
- 2 Skills and time are ours for press - ing toward the goals of Christ, your Son:
- 3 Trea - sure, too, you have en - trust - ed, gain through pow'rs your grace con - ferred;



na - ture's won - der, Je - sus' wis - dom, cost - ly cross, grave's shat - tered door,  
all at peace in health and free - dom, rac - es joined, the church made one.  
ours to use for home and kin - dred, and to spread the gos - pel word.



gift - ed by you, we turn to you, of - f'ring up our - selves in praise;  
Now di - rect our dai - ly la - bor, lest we strive for self a - lone;  
O - pen wide our hands in shar - ing, as we heed Christ's age - less call,



thank - ful song shall rise for - ev - er, gra - cious do - nor of our days.  
born with tal - ents, make us ser - vants fit to an - swer at your throne.  
heal - ing, teach - ing, and re - claim - ing, serv - ing you by lov - ing all.

## **BLESSING OF LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY GRADUATES**

### **BLESSING**

The God of all, who raised † Jesus from the dead, bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit to walk in newness of life. **Amen.**

### **DISMISSAL**

We have been renewed at the Wellspring of God's grace! Now, go in peace to live out Christ's love!

**We go to be: Open † Authentic † Relational † Serving**  
**Thanks be to God!**

**POSTLUDE ~ *All My Hope on God Is Founded*** (arr. R. B. Farlee, 2015)

***After worship, Pastor Lauren and Pastor Alex invite you to greet them and each other in the Gathering Area. Please be mindful of others' wishes for physical distancing.***

## PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICES

**PREACHING MINISTER** ~ Pastor Lauren Eanes

**PRESIDING MINISTER** ~ Pastor Alex Zuber

**CRUCIFERS**        **8:30** ~ Bill Whitmire  
                         **11:00** ~ Sue Koch

**TORCH BEARERS**        **8:30** ~ Roger Kagey, Jim Doyle  
                         **11:00** ~ Cheryl Hoak, Brendan Miller

**COMMUNION ASSISTANTS**        **8:30** ~ Bill & Crystl Whitmire, Jim Doyle, Kathy Thompson  
                         **11:00** ~ Sue Koch, Judy Wilfong, Mark Warner, Cheryl Hoak

**LECTORS**                **8:30** ~ Susan Lawrence  
                         **11:00** ~ Mark Warner

**USHERS**                **8:30** ~ David & Susan Lawrence  
                         **11:00** ~ Jeff Williams, John Mulder

**LAY ASSISTING MINISTERS**        **8:30** ~ Mary Elizabeth Skinner  
                         **11:00** ~ Philip Quoqui

**SOUND TECHS**                **8:30** ~ Bill Wightman  
                         **11:00** ~ Todd Hedinger

**MUSICIANS** Elizabeth Williams, Music Minister  
                         Linlin Uta, Music Ministry Accompanist  
                         Celebration Singers (8:30); Sanctuary Choir (11:00)

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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### REMINDERS AS YOU EXIT THE SANCTUARY

- Please leave this worship booklet in the basket at the sanctuary entrance for the next service (or recycling).
- We encourage you to take *The Chimes* home with you.

## ABOUT OUR WORSHIP...

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:** + All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins, but no one should feel compelled. Both our confession of sin and God's promise of mercy are rooted in our baptism. We come before God recalling our brokenness, but even more God's great grace.

**GATHERING HYMN:** We sing as the Spirit gathers us for worship and this hymn sets the tone for the day.

**KYRIE:** The Kyrie is an ancient piece of service liturgy that may date back to the second century. Kyrie Eleison is Greek for "Lord have mercy" and is in reference to both New and Old Testament scriptures which use the same words and pattern.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY:** The Prayer of the Day collects the themes from today's scripture readings.

**READINGS AND PSALM:** Liturgy, from the Greek, means "the work of the people." Our worship is designed so we all take part. We are far more than just spectators. The scripture readings follow a three-year cycle, called a lectionary. We are connected with other Christians all over the world, in many denominations, reading the same texts. The Psalms were the original Hymns in Holy Scripture, used by God's people for personal and corporate devotion. They continue to be prayed, sung and read by God's people all over the world as a rich and honest expression of faith. We stand during the gospel because we believe our Lord is present with us in the reading.

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** This hymn complements the day's scripture readings and sermon.

**NICENE & APOSTLES' CREEDS:** The creeds (statements of faith) date back to the 4<sup>th</sup> century and contain the basics of what Christians around the world hold to be true. The use of the non-capitalized word "catholic" means simply worldwide or universal.

**PRAYERS:** We pray as a community. The assisting minister leads this time to gather the prayers of all, and at his/ her invitation you may add others aloud or silently in your heart.

**PEACE:** Much more than a pleasant greeting — we do this to proclaim God's promise of peace to one another.

**OFFERING:** Our offerings are collected and dedicated to our Lord's service. They support the ministries of Christ's church in this congregation, the Virginia Synod, ELCA, and our global mission partners.

**OFFERING SONG:** This song becomes our prayer as our gifts are collected and dedicated to our Lord's service.

**GREAT THANKSGIVING & HOLY, HOLY, HOLY:** The Great Thanksgiving is an ancient part of the worship that proclaims our thanks for the gifts of God in the meal. The "Holy, Holy, Holy" echoes the heavenly chorus in Isaiah 6:3 and the crowds of Mark 11:9 as Jesus enters Jerusalem. This reminds us that we are in the presence of a God identified both by holiness and humility. Some will make the sign of the cross at the announcement of God's presence: "Blessed is He..."

**EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER:** Eucharist is the Greek word for thanks. These are the words and actions, the commands and promises of Jesus at the last supper with his disciples as recorded in scripture: 1Cor. 11:23-26, Matt. 26:26-29, Luke 22:15-20.

**THE LORD'S PRAYER:** Jesus taught his disciples this prayer. In this prayer, all our needs and concerns are addressed. See ELW page 1163 for Martin Luther's explanation of this prayer in the small catechism.

**COMMUNION:** The "last supper" was a meal that Jesus shared with his disciples before his crucifixion. He invited them to share this meal in the future to remember him and he promised to be present in a mysterious, but very real sense. All who desire to participate are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Feel free to remain seated if you prefer.

**RECESSIONAL HYMN:** We gather once more in song as our worship concludes, and we prepare to take this good news into the world.

**BLESSING:** In this blessing we are reminded we bear God's name as we depart to live out our baptism, serving our neighbor and spreading the gospel. It reaffirms our mission and reminds us that if we are to be a Wellspring of Grace, we need to be renewed first through Water, Word, and Meal—the means of grace God has given to us.