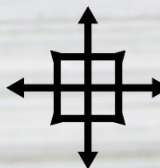




*As each has received a gift, use it  
to serve one another, as good  
stewards of God's varied grace.  
1 Peter 4:10*

# GIFTED TO SERVE



**MUHLENBERG**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

# Gifted to Serve Series ~ JUNE 2, 9 & 16, 2024

## 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 plate, 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

While we do not require masks in the building, wearing a mask for any reason is always welcomed. We encourage mask-wearing by those who have had an exposure to illness, or have recently recovered from illness. We ask anyone who has symptoms of a respiratory virus (including fever, chills, fatigue, cough, runny nose, headache) or other symptoms of illness (such as sore throat, vomiting) to please stay home and join us online for worship. 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.

**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 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).
- Our fully equipped and staffed **nursery** is located at the north end of the Gathering Area (main entrance).

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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

(540) 434-3496  
[www.muhlenberglutheran.org](http://www.muhlenberglutheran.org)

# 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

### PRELUDE

*(We stand)*

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**  
Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

*Silence for reflection.*

Merciful God,

**You unite us as one body in love, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.**

**You lavish us with the riches of your grace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.**

**You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right.**

**In your mercy, forgive us.**

**Heal us, renew us, and show us the path of life. Amen.**

You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith.

In the cross of + Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.

**Amen.**

## GATHERING HYMN

*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.*

*Hymns are located in the red "Evangelical Lutheran Worship" (ELW) hymnal in the pews.*

June 2	<i>Christ, Be Our Light</i>	ELW 715
June 9	<i>Let the Whole Creation Cry</i>	ELW 876
June 16	<i>Gather Us In</i>	ELW 532

## 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.**

## KYRIE

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

Chris - te e - lei - son. Christ, have mer - cy.

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

*(We sit)*

## CHILDREN'S TIME

*Children age 10 and under are invited to come forward at this time. They're welcome to bring their grown-ups with them if it makes them feel more comfortable.*

## 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.

### READINGS

June 2	Ephesians 4:1-16	Pew Bible N.T. page 206
June 9	1 Corinthians 12:12-31	Pew Bible N.T. page 182
June 16	Ephesians 2:1-22	Pew Bible N.T. page 205

The reading concludes: The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM

June 2	Psalm 119:25-32	Pew Bible page 627
June 9	Psalm 145:4-9	Pew Bible page 643
June 16	Psalm 103:8-17	Pew Bible page 613

(We stand)

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

### GOSPEL

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

June 2	Matthew 25:14-30	Pew Bible N.T. page 29
June 9	Mark 6:7-13	Pew Bible N.T. page 41
June 16	Matthew 9:9-13	Pew Bible N.T. page 9

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

(We sit)

## **SERMON**

*Silence for reflection follows.*

*(We stand)*

## **HYMN OF THE DAY**

June 2	<i>God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending</i>	ELW 678
June 9	<i>Soli Deo Gloria</i>	ELW 878
June 16	<i>Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven</i>	ELW 864

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

**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

After each petition:

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

The Lay Assisting 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

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** we sing verses 1 & 3

ELW 870

## We Praise You, O God



1 We praise you, O God, our re - deem - er, cre - a - tor;  
2 We wor - ship you, God of our fa - thers and mo - thers;  
3 With voic - es u - nit - ed our prais - es we of - fer



in grate - ful de - vo - tion our trib - ute we bring.  
through tri - al and tem - pest our guide you have been.  
and glad - ly our songs of thanks - giv - ing we raise.



We lay it be - fore you; we kneel and a - dore you;  
When per - ils o'er - take us, you will not for - sake us,  
With you, Lord, be - side us, your strong arm will guide us.



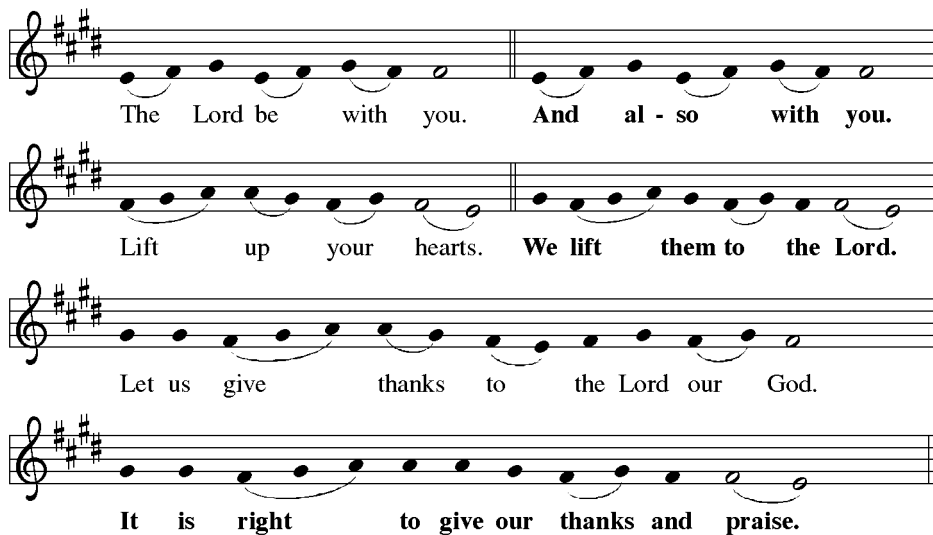
we bless your ho - ly name; glad prais - es we sing.  
and with your help, O Lord, our strug - gles we win.  
To you, our great re - deem - er, for - ev - er be praise!

### OFFERING PRAYER

God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, knowing that in the body of Christ, we are bound together in relationship, offering help and hope to one another. Amen.

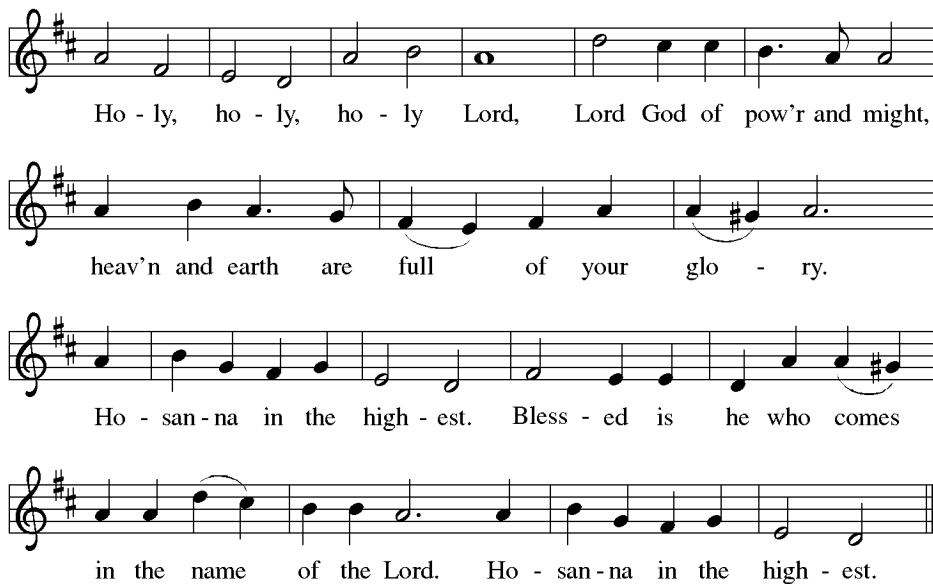


## GREAT THANKSGIVING



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, Lord God of pow'r and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
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 God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise:

beyond the stars;

beneath the sea;

within each cell;

with every breath.

**We praise you, O God.**

Generations bless your faithfulness:

through the water;

by night and day;

across the wilderness;

out of exile;

into the future.

**We bless you, O God.**

We give you thanks for your dear Son:

at the heart of human life;

near to those who suffer;

beside the sinner;

among the poor;

with us now.

**We thank you, O God.**

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 his love for us  
on the way,  
at the table,  
and to the end,  
we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

We pray for the gift of your Spirit:  
in our gathering;  
within this meal;  
among your people;  
throughout the world.

Blessing, praise, and thanks  
to you, holy God,  
through Christ Jesus,  
by your Spirit,  
in your church,  
without end.

**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 gifts of God, for the people of God. Come, eat, and live!

(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 so it can be composted, and return to your seat via the side aisle.

## 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, grant us peace.

June 2 Kingsfold KINGSFOLD/arr. Kathleen Wissinger

Gloria Dei Ringers

June 9 One Bread, One Body

ELW 496

June 16 All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly

ELW 461

(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**

God of abundance, **with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to all the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. 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.*

## **SENDING HYMN**

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

June 2	<i>In Christ Called to Baptize</i>	ELW 575
June 9	<i>Lord, You Give the Great Commission</i>	ELW 579
June 16	<i>In Thee Is Gladness</i>	ELW 867

## **BLESSING**

The love of God abound in you;  
The grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts;  
And the life of the Spirit  
✠ bless you and give you peace. **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**

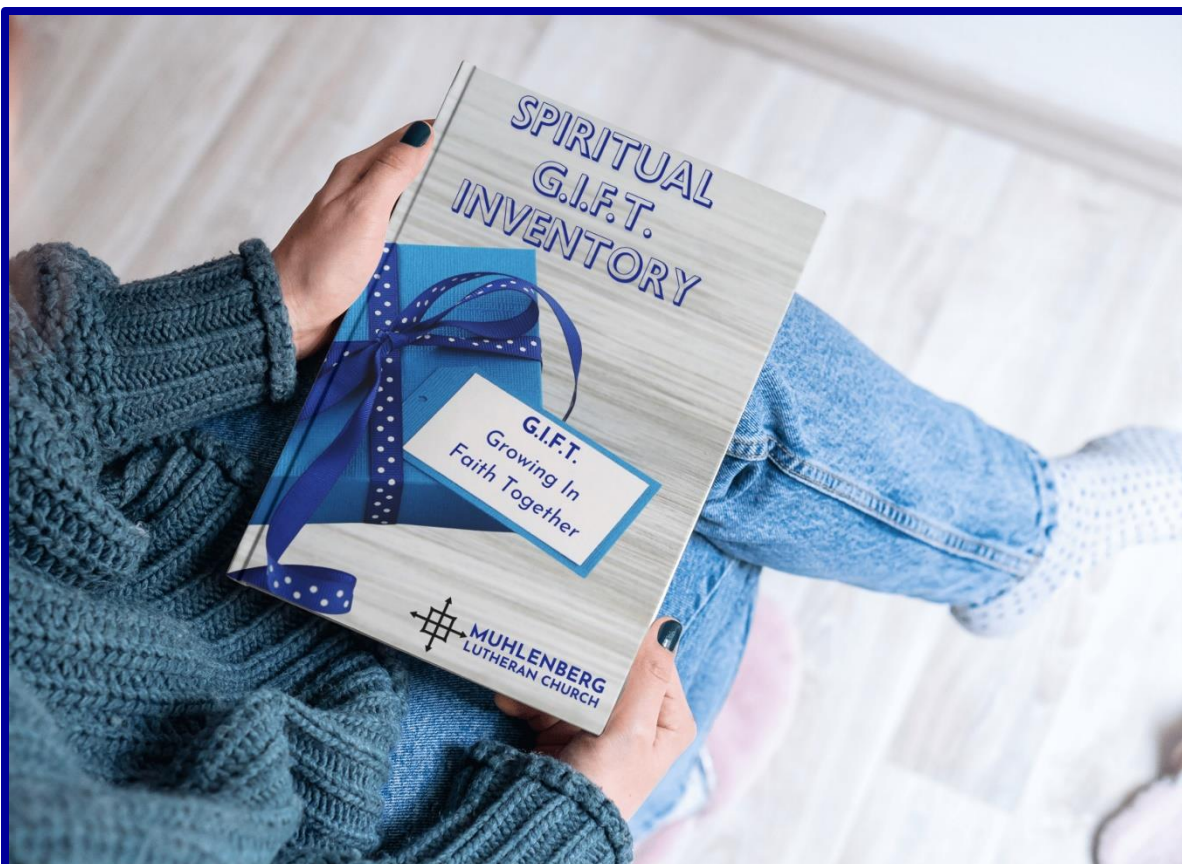
***After worship, Pastor Lauren and Pastor Alex invite you to greet them and each other in the Gathering Area. Please be mindful of others' wishes for physical distancing.***

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Permission to print/podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from One License with license # A-701538, CCLI license # 20104877, Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License: SAS014720, and St James Press, license #15220.

**REMINDERS AS YOU EXIT THE SANCTUARY**

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



Don't forget to complete your Spiritual G.I.F.T. Inventory, as we "[Grow In Faith Together](#)"! And please share your results. Visit the Google Form at this QR Code to quickly and easily submit your results, or simply fill out the paper copy distributed in worship, tear off the back page, and place it in the "GIFT Inventory" box in the Gathering Area.

## SPIRITUAL G.I.F.T. INVENTORY



## 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.