

# 18th Sunday after Pentecost

October 9, 2022

## Covenant and Commandments Exodus 16:1-18

Muhlenberg Lutheran Church



A Wellspring of God's Grace

# The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost ~ October 9, 2022

## 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

Given that the vaccination rate in our Muhlenberg community is high, and that the people of our congregation are committed to being responsible when transmission is happening (by wearing masks after an exposure, and staying home when sick), the Gathering Together Task Force and Council remind all worshippers that as long as COVID infections are widespread in our community masks are **welcomed and encouraged** at Muhlenberg Lutheran Church.

## 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 at 11:00 am.** 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**

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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

**PRELUDE ~ God Is My Strong Salvation** (Tune: WEDLOCK; arr. W. Held, 1984)

(We stand)

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*The congregation turns and faces the baptismal font.*

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence for reflection.*

Most merciful God, **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

By water and the Holy Spirit God gives you a new birth, and through the death and resurrection of ☩ Jesus Christ, God forgives you all your sins. The God of mercy and might strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN ~ Thy Strong Word** we sing verses 1, 3 & 5

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

~see next page~

we sing verses 1, 3 & 5

## Thy Strong Word



1 Thy strong word did cleave the dark - ness; at thy  
2 Lo, on those who dwelt in dark - ness, dark as  
3 Thy strong Word be - speaks us righ - teous; bright with  
4 From the cross thy wis - dom shin - ing break - eth



speak - ing it was done. For cre - at - ed light we  
night and deep as death, broke the light of thy sal -  
thine own ho - li - ness, glo - rious now, we press toward  
forth in con - qu'ring might; from the cross for - ev - er



thank thee, while thine or - dered sea - sons run.  
va - tion, breathed thine own life - breath - ing breath.  
glo - ry, and our lives our hopes con - fess.  
beam - eth all thy bright re - deem - ing light.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise to thee who light dost send!



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!

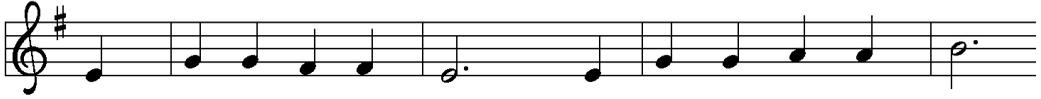
5 Give us lips to sing thy glory,  
tongues thy mercy to proclaim,  
throats that shout the hope that fills us,  
mouths to speak thy holy name.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
May the light which thou dost send  
fill our songs with alleluias,  
alleluias without end!

6 God the Father, light-creator,  
to thee laud and honor be.  
To thee, Light of Light begotten,  
praise be sung eternally.  
Holy Spirit, light-revealer,  
glory, glory be to thee.  
Mortals, angels, now and ever  
praise the holy Trinity!

## 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



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.  
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.  
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

## CANTICLE OF PRAISE



- 1 Come, let us join our cheer - ful songs with an - gels round the throne;
- 2 "Wor - thy the Lamb that died," they cry, "to be ex - alt - ed thus!"
- 3 Je - sus is wor - thy to re - ceive hon - or and pow'r di - vine;
- 4 Let all cre - a - tion join in one to bless the sa - cred name



ten thou - sand thou - sand are their tongues, but all their joys are one.  
"Wor - thy the Lamb," our lips re - ply, "for he was slain for us!"  
and bless - ings, more than we can give, be, Lord, for - ev - er thine.  
of God who sits up - on the throne, and to a - dore the Lamb.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of the commandments, you gave the Israelites laws so that they might live in harmony with one another. Show us how to live in peace, so that all may know of your love. 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 ~ Exodus 19:3-7; 20:1-17

<sup>3</sup>Then Moses went up to God; the LORD called to him from the mountain, saying, "Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the Israelites: <sup>4</sup>You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. <sup>5</sup>Now therefore, if you obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession out of all the peoples. Indeed, the whole earth is mine, <sup>6</sup>but you shall be for me a priestly kingdom and a holy nation. These are the words that you shall speak to the Israelites." <sup>7</sup>So Moses came, summoned the elders of the people, and set before them all these words that the LORD had commanded him.

<sup>1</sup>Then God spoke all these words: <sup>2</sup>I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; <sup>3</sup>you shall have no other gods before me. <sup>4</sup>You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. <sup>5</sup>You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, <sup>6</sup>but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments. <sup>7</sup>You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

<sup>8</sup>Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. <sup>9</sup>Six days you shall labor and do all

your work. <sup>10</sup>But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work — you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. <sup>11</sup>For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

<sup>12</sup>Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

<sup>13</sup>You shall not murder.

<sup>14</sup>You shall not commit adultery.

<sup>15</sup>You shall not steal.

<sup>16</sup>You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

<sup>17</sup>You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

*The reading concludes:*

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

*(We stand)*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

## **GOSPEL ~ Matthew 5:14-19**

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

<sup>14</sup>“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. <sup>15</sup>No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. <sup>16</sup>In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. <sup>17</sup>“Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. <sup>18</sup>For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter will pass from the law until all is accomplished. <sup>19</sup>Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

*After the reading:*

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

*(We sit)*

## **SERMON**

Pastor Alex Zuber

*Silence for reflection follows.*

*(We stand)*

## **HYMN OF THE DAY ~ Word of God, Come Down on Earth**

*~see next page~*

## Word of God, Come Down on Earth



1 Word of God, come down on earth, liv - ing rain from  
2 Word e - ter - nal, throned on high, Word that brought to  
3 Word that speaks God's ten - der love, one with God be -



heav'n de - scend - ing; touch our hearts and bring to birth  
life cre - a - tion, Word that came from heav'n to die,  
yond all tell - ing, Word that sends us from a - bove



faith and hope and love un - end - ing. Word al - might - y,  
cru - ci - fied for our sal - va - tion, sav - ing Word, the  
God the Spir - it, with us dwell - ing, Word of truth, to



we re - vere you; Word made flesh, we long to hear you.  
world re - stor - ing, speak to us, your love out - pour - ing.  
all truth lead us; Word of life, with one bread feed us.

### GIVING OF THE WORD

In baptism, families make promises on behalf of their children:

*to live with them among God's faithful people,  
bring them to the word of God and the holy supper,  
teach them the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments,  
place in their hands the holy scriptures,  
and nurture them in faith and prayer,  
so that your children may learn to trust God,  
proclaim Christ through word and deed,  
care for others and the world God made,  
and work for justice and peace.*

Today, we join these families in keeping those promises, as we share the gift of God's Word with these children and youth. The bibles that we share are filled with stories of hope and promise, conviction and challenge. God continues to speak through this living Word. And these bibles are filled as well with wisdom and prayers, favorite verses and well-wishes of your Muhlenberg community who shares this gift with you in love. We hope and pray that these Bibles will sustain you and guide you as you grow in faith and come to know who God is.

*A Reading from John...*

*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.*

Let us pray...

Illuminating God, as your Word is shared with your children, give them diligence to seek you, wisdom to perceive you, and patience to wait for you. Grant them, O God, a mind to meditate on you; eyes to behold you; ears to listen for your word; a heart to love you; and a life to proclaim you. As they read the Scriptures handed to them now, bless them with your Spirit, so that the Word that is written with ink on paper may also be written in their hearts and minds; through the power of the Spirit of Jesus Christ, your living Word. **Amen.**

*Families are invited to hand the bibles to their children as the congregation responds:*

Receive this Bible.

**Hear God's word with us.**

**Learn and tell its stories.**

**Discover its mysteries.**

**Honor its commandments.**

**Rejoice in its good news.**

**May God's life-giving word inspire you and make you wise.**

**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

8:30 *Spirit Song* (J. Wimber)

11:00 *The Prayer of St. Patrick* (music: M. Schweizer)

Celebration Singers  
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 ~ The Word of God Is Source and Seed** we sing verse 1

~see next page~

we sing verse 1

## The Word of God Is Source and Seed



1 The Word of God is source and seed; it comes to  
2 The Word of God is breath and life; it comes to  
3 The Word of God is flesh and grace, who comes to



die and sprout and grow. So make your dark earth  
heal and wake and save. So let the Spir - it  
sing, to laugh and cry. So dare to be as



wel - come warm; root deep the grain God bent to sow.  
touch and mend and rouse your dry bones from their grave.  
Je - sus was, who came to live and love and die.

*Refrain*



Gau - de - a - mus Do - mi - no, gau - de - a - mus Do - mi - no,  
In the Lord let us re - jice, in the Lord let us re - jice,



gau - de - a - mus Do mi - no!  
in the Lord let us re - jice!

### OFFERING PRAYER

God of power, God of plenty, all things belong to you. We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed. Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

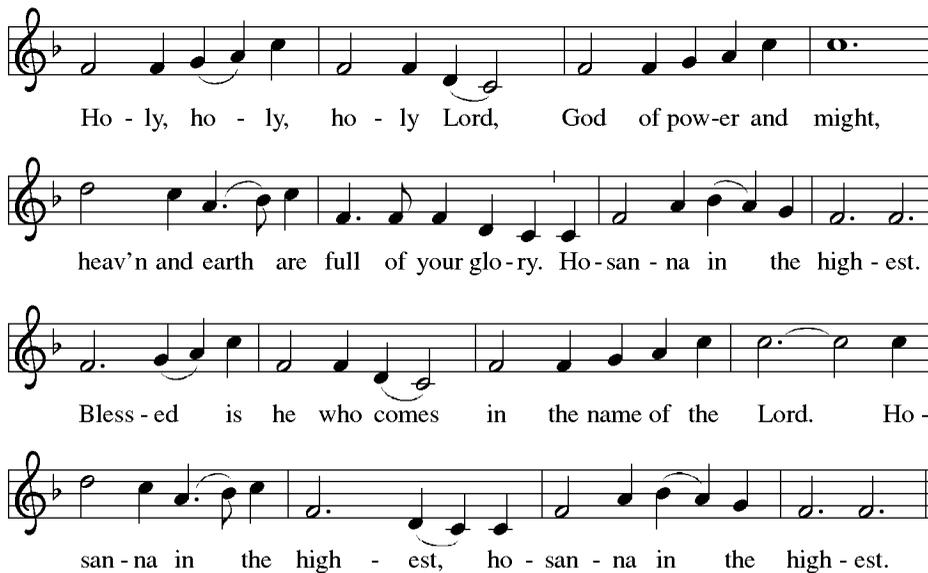
## GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also 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-er 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Holy God, mighty and merciful, your people praise you, saying: Your mercy endures forever.

**Your mercy endures forever.**

By your promise you bound yourself to earth and all its creatures, granting them life and calling them to flourish, setting the sign of your bow in the clouds, the colors of your love and faithfulness. Your mercy endures forever.

**Your mercy endures forever.**

By your promise you bound yourself to your people of old, blessing them with family outnumbering the stars and calling them to be a blessing to others, showing them steadfast love in every generation and calling them to be a light to the nations. Your mercy endures forever.

**Your mercy endures forever.**

By your promise you joined us to Jesus, your Beloved, grafting us into your living Vine, and calling us to bear the fruit of your self-giving love.

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.

With this bread and cup we remember his life laid down and lifted up as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

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

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and these gifts of bread and wine. Bless us to be a blessing. Make us a sign of your promises. Send us to tend and cherish the earth and to serve the world with mercy and love.

With all the saints in light, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, through Christ Jesus, in your Spirit, 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**

Jesus invites you to this table. Come, eat and live.

*(We sit)*

## COMMUNION

### Processional Communion

All are welcome to come to the Lord's Table! After the invitation to communion, the ushers will direct each row to come forward to receive the prepackaged communion kit. 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 the minister says, "The body and blood of Christ, given and shed for you," you may take the elements and say: "Amen." Then return to your seat and consume the elements. If you need gluten-free and/or non-alcoholic juice communion elements, they are located on a small table at the front. Take one and present it to the pastor for blessing. Please dispose of your communion packaging in the trash can by the doors on your way out.

## MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION

### Lamb of God



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

(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**

**Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus' name we pray. 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 ~ Glorious Things of You Are Spoken**

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

*~see next page~*

# Glorious Things of You Are Spoken



1 Glo - rious things of you are spo - ken, Zi - on, cit - y  
2 See, the streams of liv - ing wa - ters, spring - ing from e -  
3 Round each hab - i - ta - tion hov - 'ring, see the cloud and  
4 Sav - ior, since of Zi - on's cit - y I through grace a



of our God! He whose word can - not be bro - ken  
ter - nal love, well sup - ply your sons and daugh - ters,  
fire ap - pear for a glo - ry and a cov - 'ring,  
mem - ber am, let the world de - ride or pit - y,



formed you for his own a - bode. On the Rock of A - ges  
and all fear of want re - move. Who can faint, while such a  
show - ing that the Lord is near. Thus de - riv - ing from their  
I will glo - ry in your name. Fad - ing are the world's vain



found - ed, what can shake your sure re - pose? With sal -  
riv - er ev - er will their thirst as - suage? Grace which,  
ban - ner light by night and shade by day, safe they  
plea - sures, all their boast - ed pomp and show; sol - id



va - tion's walls sur - round - ed, you may smile at all your foes.  
like the Lord, the giv - er, nev - er fails from age to age.  
feed up - on the man - na which God gives them on their way.  
joys and last - ing trea - sures none but Zi - on's chil - dren know.

## **BLESSING**

God, who gives life to all things and frees us from despair, bless you with truth and peace. And may the holy Trinity, † one God, guide you always in faith, hope, and love. **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 ~ *Toccatà in C Major* (J. Pachelbel, 1653-1706)**

***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 Alex Zuber

**PRESIDING MINISTER** ~ Pastor Lauren Eanes

**CRUCIFERS**            **8:30** ~ Gus Alvarez  
                                 **11:00** ~ Brandon Stees

**LAY ASSISTING**    **8:30** ~ Tassie Pippert  
**MINISTERS**        **11:00** ~ Meg Wightman

**LECTORS**            **8:30** ~ Mark Briehl  
                                 **11:00** ~ Cynthia Page

**USHERS**             **8:30** ~ Melissa, Henry, and Bill Perritt  
                                 **11:00** ~ Pam Bergey, Jeff Williams

**SOUND**              **8:30** ~ Tom Pippert  
**TECHS**               **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 place your communion packaging in the trash can 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.