

STAFF

Rev. Mathew Berger, Pastor mathew.berger@stjohnsparkville.org	Rev. Amy Berger, Pastor amy.berger@stjohnsparkville.org
Martha Requard, Director of Music	Carol Erpenstein, Office Administrator




Scott Becker, Sexton

For emergencies call 443-844-9314

The Pastors are off on Fridays



Notice of live streaming:
 Today's worship service is being live streamed to YouTube with video coverage of leaders and worshippers.

 stjohnsparkville
  St. John's Lutheran Church Parkville
  stjohnsparkvill

Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 7, 2023



St. John's Lutheran Church of Parkville

stjohnsparkville.org

(410) 665-1234

office@stjohnsparkville.org

Text SJPARKVILLE to 22828 to join our email list.

Welcome to St. John's—we are glad you're here! Whether you have worshiped with us many times, or this is your first time, there is a place for you here. Your presence among us is a gift.

Introduction to the Day

As we continue to celebrate the fifty days of Easter, today's gospel includes Jesus' promise that he goes to prepare a place for his followers in his Father's house. Our baptism commissions us to share Jesus' mission in the world. As 1 Peter reminds us, we are a holy people, called to proclaim the one who called us out of darkness into light. In words and deeds we bear witness to the risen Christ—our way, our truth, our life.

(Please take a moment to silence all electronics. Thank you!)

(Hymns are taken from Evangelical Lutheran Worship, the red book in the pew rack.)

WELCOME

PRELUDE

In Moments Like These

violinist: Yoon-Mee Chong

(Music: David Graham, Arr.: SOMA; © 1980)

(Please stand as you are able.)

GATHERING

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

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.

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)

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.

This week's schedule

Today	9 am Handbell Choir (Music Room)
	9 am Sunday School & Faith & Fellowship
	10 am Live & Online Worship
	11:30 am Assisting Minister/Lector Training (Sanctuary)
	11:30 am Confirmation Class
Mon.	
Tues.	7 pm Exec. Meeting (Music Room)
	7 pm Men-in-Mission (Youth Room)
	7 pm Trinity Circle (Smith Building)
Wed.	9:30 am Busy Bees (Smith Building)
	7:30 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal
Thurs.	9 am Synod Conference Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
Fri.	11 am Bible Study (Smith Building)
Sat.	9 am Property Meeting (Smith Building)
	9:30 am First Aid Training (Fellowship Hall)

Counting our Blessings

Sunday	Attendance: 92	2023	
4/30	Offering: \$3,123	February Offering Income	\$18,755
	Homebound: 17	February Other Income	\$ 8,124
		February Total Income	\$26,879
		February Expenses	\$28,213
		YTD Offering Income	\$39,755
		YTD Other Income	\$14,209
		YTD Total Income	\$53,964
		YTD Expenses	\$62,704



Prayer List

Please remember the following individuals in your prayers.

For health & healing: Joan Swank, Andy Rother, Rosalie Coffman, Pat Hurley, Phil Ermer, Ruth Skarda, Mardi Nickel, Bett Murphy, Debbie Miller, Sandy Scott, Tony Jasinski, and Vickie Jasinski

For family & friends: Gary Jones, Karen Alban, Bruce Cohen, Kathy Barnes, Vic Giordani, Helen Bender, Anna Meyers, Rae Eberwine, Deemer Morrow, Lee Hall, Robin, Alice Ensor, Jeanne Edmunds, Mike Haven, Gail Gangi, Jen Schoenfliess, Doug Adams, Kristin Weger, Joan Murphy, Tim Dunn, Donna Bobloch and Yung-Mee Rhee

For the military and their families: Kalib McCann, Mason Ledbetter, Leroy Keller, Seaman E-3 Carson Anthony Bowser, Corporal Justin Ferro, Sgt. Stephen Peck, Staff Sgt. Brandan Hartmann, Michael Anthony Tucker, Chaplain A. J. Striffler and all those in harm's way

For those grieving family & friends of: Thomas McDonough, Bill Spink, Nancy Natkin

For St. John's Caring Friends: Patricia Becker, Agatha Biensach-Daniels, Gladys Downs, Margaret Eubert, June Franz, Betty Glassband, Richard Hoerner, Audrey Lentz, John Lotterer, Paul Nolder, Patrick O'Connell, Arthur Pulket, Mary Ann Reek, Janet Roth, Kim Townsley, Cass Tracey and Emma Volz

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.

GATHERING HYMN *Hallelujah! Jesus Lives!* **ELW 380 (vv. 1-3)**
(Text: Carl B. Garve, 1763-1841; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813-1897, alt.; Music: Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812-1887)

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 *(Bulletin Page 13)*

CANTICLE OF PRAISE *Now the Feast and Celebration ELW 167 (Bulletin Page 14)*
(Text and music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950; Text and music © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc.)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.
Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

(The assembly is seated.)

CHILDREN'S SERMON

WORD

FIRST READING

Acts 7:55-60

Stephen was one of the seven men chosen by the apostles to serve tables so that the apostles could be free to serve the word (Acts 6:1-6). Stephen does more than distribute food, however. For his preaching of God's word, he becomes the first martyr of the faith.

⁵⁵Filled with the Holy Spirit, [Stephen] gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶"Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" ⁵⁷But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." ⁶⁰Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM *(Read responsively; congregation reads bold verses.)* Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

¹In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame;
deliver me in your righteousness.

²**Incline your ear to me;
make haste to deliver me.**

³Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold;
for the sake of your name, lead me and guide me.

⁴**Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me,
for you are my tower of strength.**

⁵Into your hands I commend my spirit,
for you have redeemed me, O LORD, God of truth.

¹⁵**My times are in your hand;
rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.**

¹⁶Let your face shine upon your servant;
save me in your steadfast love."

SECOND READING

1 Peter 2:2-10

Christ is the cornerstone of God's saving work and the foundation of our lives. We are God's chosen, holy people who continuously celebrate and declare the mercy of God we experience through Jesus Christ.

²Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation—³if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and ⁵like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a

St. John's night at the Aberdeen Ironbirds game is Friday, June 16th at 7 pm. Tickets are \$12 and there will be fireworks after the game. For tickets contact David Evans at 410-802-2268 or ravenfan79@yahoo.com or see him before or after worship.



Registration is now open for our 2023 Vacation Bible School on July 10th - 14th from 9 am-12:30 pm. Registration forms are available on the bulletin board, in the weekly email and on the website. **As always, we will need many volunteers.** If you have any questions, please contact Debbie Haacke at haackefamily@comcast.net.



Join us for our upcoming Community Meals. The dates are: June 7th, July 5th, & August 2nd. The meal runs from 5:30 pm - 7 pm. Please come and invite your friends, family and neighbors!

Faith + Fellowship Sunday Mornings in the 1st floor Fellowship Hall from 9:00am-9:45am. We have finished up one topic and are moving on to a new one. The new topic is **Bible Study of Upcoming Scripture Readings.** We will read and share about one of the upcoming readings which will be used in worship. In April and May this will include 1st Peter and in June we will move into Romans. Join us as we share with one another and deepen our faith together. We'd love to have you with us! Upcoming scripture texts: 1st Peter 2: 19-25, 1 Peter 2: 2-10



TRAINING **Assisting Ministers and Lectors, a training will be held today after worship in the Sanctuary.** This training is for all people who currently serve in these roles **and** anyone who may be interested in serving as an assisting minister or lector. If you are interested in serving in this way speak with one of the pastors or just show up to the training. Thank you!

We will holding a First Aid and CPR/AED Class through the Red Cross on Saturday, May 13th from 9:30 am-2:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. The cost is \$115.20. If you are interested in participating, contact Robin Dibley at 410-668-5856 or call the church office. **Register by May 9th. If we don't have at least 8 participants, we will not be able to hold this class.**



CONGREGATIONAL Meeting **A Congregational Meeting will be held immediately following the Youth-Led worship on Sunday, May 21st in the sanctuary.** This meeting will be a celebration of the ways God has been at work through the ministries of St. John's over the past year. Additionally, our Treasurer, Chris Hills, is up for re-election, so we will be voting on the Treasurer position as well. We hope you will join us!

St. John's Preschool is having their Spring Fundraiser. Place your order online with BloomBox and your flowers will be delivered to your home. **The sale runs from April 17-May 8.** Flyers are located on the bulletin board and in the weekly email.



2023! **Let us know if someone in your family is graduating...** We will recognize them and offer a blessing on Sunday, June 11th.

holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶For it stands in scripture:

“See, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious;
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

⁷To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected
has become the very head of the corner,”

⁸and

“A stone that makes them stumble,
and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

⁹But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

¹⁰Once you were not a people,
but now you are God's people;
once you had not received mercy,
but now you have received mercy.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

(Please stand as you are able.)

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.
Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.
Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

GOSPEL

John 14:1-14

On the night that he is to be arrested, Jesus shares final words with his disciples. As the one through whom God is known, he promises to go before them and act on their behalf.

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ²In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to the place where I am going.” ⁵Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

⁸Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” ⁹Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ¹⁰Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. ¹²Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

(The assembly is seated.)

SERMON

(Please stand as you are able.)

HYMN OF THE DAY

Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life

ELW 816

(Text: George Herbert, 1593-1632; Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958; Music © Stainer & Bell Ltd.)

NICENE CREED

With the whole church, 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.**

Announcements & Upcoming Events

Next Week— Sunday, May 14th—Sixth Sunday of Easter

† 9 am—**Sunday School and Faith & Fellowship**

10 am—**Worship in-person and livestreamed on our YouTube Channel**

Visit stjohnsparkville.org



The beautiful flowers gracing our worship service today are given in memory of my mother, Lee Krieger’s birthday by Laurie Krieger.

We are taking altar flower dedications for 2023. Dates available are: July 2nd, 16th and 30th, August 27th, September 3rd, 10th and 17th, October 1st, 8th and 15th, November 5th, December 3rd, 10th and 31st. The cost is \$50. Contact Rachel Hills at rm_hills@yahoo.com if you would like to sponsor the flowers.

Nursery Care for infants through age 2 is available during the Sunday School hour while parents are attending Faith and Fellowship. During worship, care is available for infants through kindergarten.



Food for Thought Program is in great need of: **Chef Boyardee single serving meals, tuna & chicken salad kits, cookies, snack crackers, pudding cups and cereal bars.** We are packing two bags of food for the weekend for 25 children each week, therefore our supply is depleted quickly. Please help if you can!

Victor’s Vittles, the food pantry at Christus Victor Lutheran Church is in great need of items for their food pantry. Items needed are: canned fruit, cereal & oatmeal, jelly, peanut butter, pasta sauce, spaghetti noodles, Raman noodles, mac & cheese, beef stew, pancake mix, syrup, instant potatoes, and canned spaghetti.



BIBLE Bible Study....A Bible Study on the Gospel of Matthew meets weekly on Fridays at 11 am in the Smith Building. If you have questions or would like to Study learn more, contact Ardi Scarborough or speak with one of the Pastors.

Searching for Multilingual Readers for Pentecost! On Pentecost Sunday (May 28th), we will break up the Acts 2 reading about the coming of the Holy Spirit and invite people to read it in various languages. Do you speak a language other than English? Would you like to take part in this special Pentecost reading? If so, please reach out to the Pastors!



Now the Feast and Celebration

Refrain



Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion



sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;



praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!

1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



Refrain
freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.

2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and



Refrain
glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.

3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of



Refrain
God; to make all things new.

Text and music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
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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 OF THE CHURCH

After each petition Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

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

(We offer each other a sign of Christ's peace. Afterwards, the assembly is seated.)

MEAL

OFFERTORY MUSIC *Christ Beside Me* *Adult Choir*
(Text: adapted from St. Patrick's Breastplate; Music: Tom Fettke; Music © 2004 Alfred Publishing Co., Inc.)

Thank you for your generous support of St. John's. During this time an offering is gathered for the mission and ministry of the Church as together we experience and share God's abundant grace and love.

Many in our congregation give online. You can set up one-time or recurring donations on our website stjohnsparkville.org. Checks and cash may be placed in the offering plate or mailed to the church. You may also donate via venmo @stjohnsparkville



(Please stand as you are able.)

OFFERING HYMN

We Are an Offering

ELW 692

*We lift our voices, we lift our hands,
we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering.
Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands,
Lord, use our lives, they are yours: we are an offering.
All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be,
we give to you, we give to you.
We lift our voices, we lift our hands,
we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering, we are an offering.*

(Text and music: Dwight Liles, b. 1957; Text and music © 1984 Word Music, LLC)

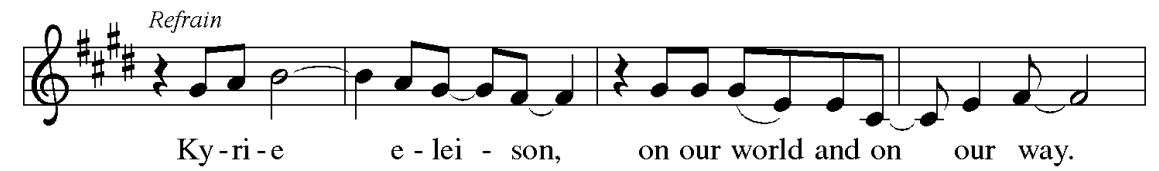
OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.
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

DIALOGUE

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.



- 1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
- 2 That we may live out your im-passioned re-sponse to the
- 3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for
- 4 For your Spir-it to guide; that you cen-ter our lives in the



u-ni-ty of all; for
hun-gry and the poor; that
friends and fam-i-ly; for
wa-ter and the word; that you



this ho-ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
we may live out truth and jus-tice and grace,
life and for love, for our work and our play,
nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod-y and blood,



Strengthen us to show your love
and serve the world in Jesus' name.
Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING

BLESSING

The God of all, who raised ✝ Jesus from the dead,
bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit
to live in the new creation.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN *The Church's One Foundation* *ELW 654 (vv. 1, 4, 5)*
(Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839-1900; Music: Samuel S. Wesley, 1810-1876)

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *Praise Him With Trumpets!* *Richard Blake*
(© 2004 Lorenz Publishing Co.)

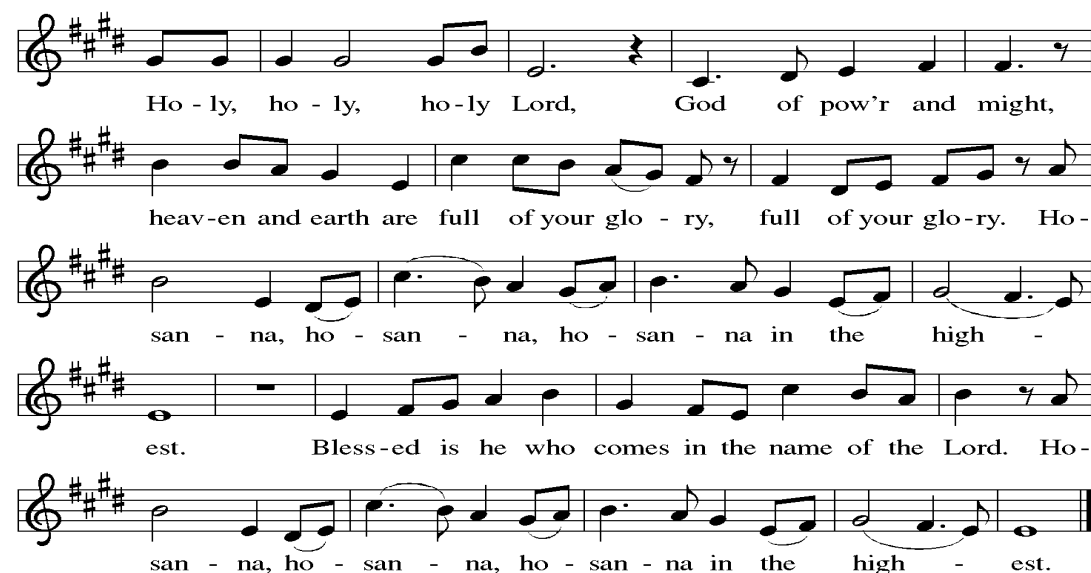
Those Serving Today	
Assisting Minister	Tony Jasinski
Crucifer	Gabby G.
Acolyte (s)	Landry E., Simon B.
Lector	Susan Handley
Communion Assistant	Susan Handley
Dismissal Assistant	Madilyn A.

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PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ,
the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;
who in dying has destroyed death,
and in rising has brought us to eternal life.
And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection,
with earth and sea and all their creatures,
and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, 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, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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...
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.

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

(Sung call-and-echo)

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come thy will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our sins
as we forgive; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

(The assembly is seated.)

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come and know Christ,
broken and poured out for you.

COMMUNION

All are welcome at Christ's table. Bread is received in the hands. Gluten-free wafers are available-if you need one, please ask the pastor. To receive the wine, take an empty cup and the communion assistant will fill it with a sip of wine. The cups that are already filled contain grape juice. After drinking, place the used cup in the basket on your way back to your seat.

*If you are not communing you are welcome to come forward for a blessing,
crossing your arms over your chest.*

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, Lamb of God.

COMMUNION HYMN

By Your Hand You Feed Your People

ELW 469

(Text: Susan Briehl, B. 1952; Music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950; Text and music © 2002 GIA Publications, Inc.)

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.
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.