

STAFF




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\*\*\**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

# Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 6, 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 Solomon prays for wisdom, we seek to more deeply know the treasures of faith. In today's gospel Jesus offers everyday images that reveal to us the reign of God: a tree that becomes a sheltering home, yeast that penetrates and expands, a treasured pearl, a net that gains a great catch. Even as we seek the riches of God's reign, the great surprise is that God's grace finds us first!

*(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

*When Morning Gilds the Skies*

*Dale Wood*

(© 2001 The Sacred Press)

*(Please stand as you are able.)*

### GATHERING

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
who greets us in this and every season,  
whose word never fails,  
whose promise is sure.

**Amen.**

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

Merciful God,

**we confess that we have sinned.**

**We have hurt our community.**

**We have squandered your blessings.**

**We have hoarded your bounty.**

**In the name of Jesus,**

**forgive us and grant us your mercy.**

*(Silence is kept for reflection.)*

Righteous God,

**we confess that we have sinned.**

**We have failed to be honest.**

**We have lacked the courage to speak.**

**We have spoken falsely.**

**In the name of Jesus,**

**forgive us and grant us your mercy.**

### This week's schedule

Today	10 am	Live & Online Worship
Mon.		
Tues.	7:30 pm	Executive Meeting (Music Room)
Wed.	9:30 am	Busy Bees (Smith Building)
Thurs.		
Fri.		
Sat.		

### Counting our Blessings

Sunday	Attendance: 93	2023	
7/30	Offering: \$6,354	June Offering Income	\$18,282
	Homebound: 19	June Other Income	\$ 1,293
		June Total Income	\$19,575
		June Expenses	\$34,851
		YTD Offering Income	\$134,709
		YTD Other Income	\$ 29,430
		YTD Total Income	\$164,139
		YTD Expenses	\$195,898

*(Silence is kept for reflection.)*



## Prayer List

Please remember the following individuals in your prayers.

**For health & healing:** Mary Gude, Joan Kraft, Mike McDonough, Bonnie Spellman, Ardi Scarborough, Mardi Nickel, Diane Carroll, Joan Swank, Andy Rother, Rosalie Coffman, Pat Hurley, Phil Ermer, Bett Murphy, Debbie Miller, Sandy Scott, Tony Jasinski, and Vickie Jasinski

**For family & friends:** Betsy Shock, Joann Bayer, Norman Bayer, Sue Eid, Genevieve Byrnes, Julie Bramble, Phil Gasior & family, Ruth Reimschissel aka Mrs. Claus, Darlene & Odin Saby, Holly Hartman, Colette, Larry Harmel, Michael Ellisson, Lonnie Rash, Gary Jones, Karen Alban, Bruce Cohen, Kathy Barnes, Vic Giordani, Helen Bender, Anna Meyers, Deemer Morrow, Lee Hall, Robin, Alice Ensor, Jeanne Edmunds, Mike Haven, Gail Gangi, Kristin Weger, 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:** Gladys Downs

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

God is a cup of cold water when we thirst.  
God offers boundless grace when we fail.  
Claim the gift of God's mercy:  
you are freed and forgiven  
in the name of ✝ Jesus Christ.  
**Amen.**

## GATHERING HYMN

*Gather Us In*

*ELW 532 (vv. 1-3)*

*(Text and music: Graham Kendrick, b. 1950; Text and music © 1989 Make Way Music, admin. Music Services in the Western Hemisphere)*

## 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.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

*(The assembly is seated.)*

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

### FIRST READING

**1 Kings 3:5-12**

*Because Solomon did not ask for long life, riches, or the defeat of his enemies, God gave him what he asked for: wisdom to govern the people well.*

<sup>5</sup>At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask what I should give you." <sup>6</sup>And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. <sup>7</sup>And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. <sup>8</sup>And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. <sup>9</sup>Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?"

<sup>10</sup>It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. <sup>11</sup>God said to him, “Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, <sup>12</sup>I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you.”

Word of God, word of life.

**PSALM**

<sup>129</sup>Your decrees are wonderful;  
therefore I obey them with all my heart.  
<sup>130</sup>**When your word is opened it gives light;  
it gives understanding to the simple.**  
<sup>131</sup>I open my mouth and pant  
because I long for your commandments.  
<sup>132</sup>**Turn to me and be gracious to me,  
as you always do to those who love your name.**  
<sup>133</sup>Order my footsteps in your word;  
let no iniquity have dominion over me.  
<sup>134</sup>**Rescue me from those who oppress me,  
and I will keep your commandments.**  
<sup>135</sup>Let your face shine upon your servant  
and teach me your statutes.  
<sup>136</sup>**My eyes shed streams of tears,  
because people do not keep your teaching.**

**SECOND READING**

**Romans 8:26-39**

*These words celebrate the depth of God’s actions for us. Through Christ’s death for us and the activity of the Spirit praying for us, we are fused to God’s love poured out in Jesus Christ. Nothing, not even death itself, is able to separate us from such incredible divine love.*

<sup>26</sup>The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. <sup>27</sup>And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

<sup>28</sup>We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. <sup>29</sup>For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. <sup>30</sup>And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

<sup>31</sup>What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? <sup>32</sup>He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? <sup>33</sup>Who will bring any charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalms 119:129-136**



**We will be having a New Members Lunch** for all prospective new/returning members on Saturday, September 16<sup>th</sup> from 12 noon—2 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Lunch will be provided! This will be a time to build relationships, learn more about the ministry of St. John’s and ask questions together. Then on Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, we will formally welcome new members into the St. John’s family during the 10 am worship service. **Please RSVP by September 1<sup>st</sup> to the church office at 410-665-1234 or office@stjohnsparkville.org if you will be joining us for the new member’s lunch.**

**Victor’s Vittles, the food pantry at Christus Victor Lutheran Church is in 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



**The Primary Music Camp took place August 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>** with the help of Mindy McGhin, Michelle Alkire, and Martha Requard. The eight campers had a wonderful time singing, moving, making and playing instruments, as well as reading notation and playing Boomwhackers. After a picnic, they presented a wonderful concert for their families. Special thanks to Mindy McGhin for providing a Thrivent grant to cover the cost of the experience.

**Out of the office...**

- Pastor Mathew & Pastor Amy will be away August 1<sup>st</sup>—August 8<sup>th</sup> and August 22<sup>nd</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>. In case of an emergency, please contact the church office during office hours. Evenings and weekends, please call the emergency number at 443-844-9314.
- Carol, the office administrator, will be out of the office August 21<sup>st</sup>—25<sup>th</sup>. There will be volunteers in the office. The office hours will be 10 am–2 pm during this time.

<b>Those Serving Today</b>	
Assisting Minister	Amanda Hartman
Crucifer	Emily R
Acolyte (s)	Landry E.
Lector	Milt Dutcher
Communion Assistant	Milt Dutcher
Dismissal Assistant	Jack W.

## Announcements & Upcoming Events

**Next Week— Sunday, August 13<sup>th</sup>— Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost**  
 † 10 am—Worship in-person and livestreamed on our YouTube Channel  
 Visit [stjohnsparkville.org](http://stjohnsparkville.org)



The beautiful flowers gracing our worship service today are given in memory of my parents, Henry and Grace Birkmaier by Karen Ermer.

We are taking altar flower dedications for 2023. Dates available are: August 27<sup>th</sup>, September 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>, October 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>, November 5<sup>th</sup>, and December 31<sup>st</sup>. The cost is \$50. Contact Rachel Hills at [rm\\_hills@yahoo.com](mailto: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.



**Thanks to everyone who made our August Community Meal a success.** We couldn't have had these meals without the many volunteers who gave their time to feed our community.

**The Friday Bible Study will take July and August off**, but will resume again on Friday, September 8<sup>th</sup>.



**Faith & Fellowship** will be taking a break for the month of August. We will resume our meetings on September 17<sup>th</sup>. See you then!

**Save the Date for our Sunday School Kickoff** on Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup> at 9 am in the Fellowship Hall. We will have songs, prayers, food and a craft! Everyone of all ages is welcome to join in the fun! Registration forms are available in the church office, in the weekly email and on the third floor bulletin board.



**St. John's will be participating in the Parkville-Carney Fair on Saturday, September 9<sup>th</sup> from 10 am—3 pm in St. Ursula Church parking lot.** Come out and do some shopping and get some free stuff. Don't forget to stop by the St. John's table and say hi.

**The Busy Bees need flannel sheets** as a component for the quilts they make for the homeless. If you have any used but clean flannel sheets that you would like to donate we would really appreciate it.



<sup>34</sup>Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. <sup>35</sup>Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? <sup>36</sup>As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

<sup>37</sup>No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. <sup>38</sup>For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, <sup>39</sup>nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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

**Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52**

*Throughout Matthew's gospel, Jesus and his disciples proclaim the good news that "the kingdom of heaven is near!" Here, Jesus offers several brief parables that explore the implications of this announcement for people's lives.*

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>31</sup>[Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; <sup>32</sup>it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."



<sup>33</sup>He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

<sup>44</sup>“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

<sup>45</sup>“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; <sup>46</sup>on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

<sup>47</sup>“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; <sup>48</sup>when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. <sup>49</sup>So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous <sup>50</sup>and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

<sup>51</sup>“Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” <sup>52</sup>And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

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

*Be Thou My Vision*

*ELW 793*

*(Text: Irish, 8<sup>th</sup> cent.; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, alt.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880-1931; Music: Irish traditional)*

## 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 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.)*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## SENDING

## BLESSING

God, the Source of glory,

God, the Word of life,

God, the Spirit of truth

✚ bless you all, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN

*Every Time I Feel the Spirit*

*ACS 942*

### Refrain

Ev'ry time I feel the spirit moving in my heart, I will pray.

Ev'ry time I feel the spirit moving in my heart, I will pray.

Upon the mountain my Lord spoke,  
out of his mouth came fire and smoke. **Refrain**

All around me looked so fine,  
asked my Lord if all was mine. **Refrain**

Jordan river, chilly and cold,  
chills the body but not the soul. **Refrain**

*(Text and music: African American spiritual; arr. Melva W. Costen, b. 1933; Arr. © 1990 Melva W. Costen, admin. Augsburg Fortress)*

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the harvest.

**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

*Voluntary on "Engelberg"*

*Lloyd Larson*

*(© 2018 Lorenz Publishing Co.)*

**TODAY WE WELCOME Pastor Paul Collinson-Streng, as our presider and preacher,  
and thank him for sharing his gifts with us in worship.  
It is good to have you here at St. John's!**

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## 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 HYMNS

*God of Grace and God of Glory*

*ELW 705*

*(Text: Harry E. Fosdick, 1878-1969; Music: John Hughes, 1873-1932)*

*(The assembly remains seated.)*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.  
We thank you, generous God,  
for the refreshment we have received  
at your banquet table.  
Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world,  
through the one who is our dearest treasure,  
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**Amen.**

## MEAL

## OFFERTORY MUSIC

*Thank You, Lord*

*Benton Price*

*(© 1976 Lorenz Publishing Co.)*

*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](http://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

*For the Wholeness of the Earth*

*ACS 1067*

1 We lift this prayer for the whole-ness of the earth. We lift this  
2 We turn our lives to the whole-ness of the earth. We turn our  
3 Give thanks to God for the whole-ness of the earth. Give thanks to  
prayer for the whole-ness of the earth. We lift this prayer for the  
lives to the whole-ness of the earth. We turn our lives to the  
God for the whole-ness of the earth. Give thanks to God for the  
whole-ness of the earth. Can you feel it ris - ing in you?  
whole-ness of the earth. Can you feel it spin-ning in you?  
whole-ness of the earth. Can you feel it ris - ing in you?

Text: Bret Hesla, b. 1957

Music: WHOLENESS OF THE EARTH, Bret Hesla

Text and music © 2017 Bret Hesla, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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*(Text and music: Bret Hesla, b. 1957; Text and music © 2017 Bret Helsa, admin. Augsburg Fortress)*

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.  
God of field and forest, sea and sky,  
you are the giver of all good things.  
Sustain us with these gifts of your creation,  
and multiply your graciousness in us,

that the world may be fed with your love,  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

### DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

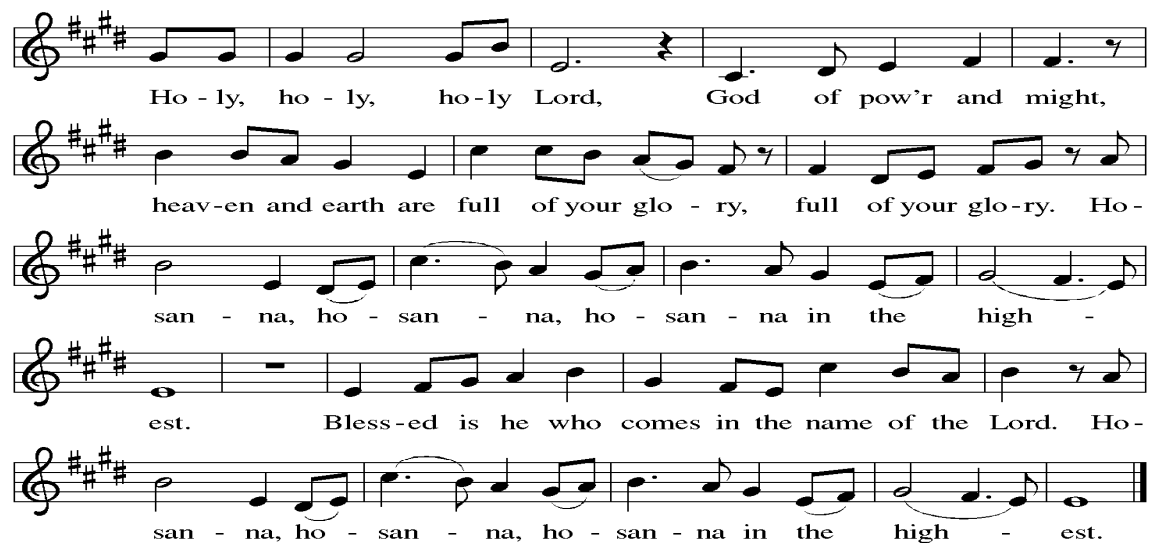
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

### 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,  
through our Savior Jesus Christ;  
who on this day overcame death and the grave,  
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.  
And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
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.

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

**Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us; 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

All people are called to Christ's table.  
Come, eat what is good.