

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.

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

July 16, 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.



stjohnsparkville



St. John's Lutheran Church Parkville



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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

God’s word is like the rain that waters the earth and brings forth vegetation. It is also like the sower who scatters seed indiscriminately. Our lives are like seeds sown in the earth. Even from what appears to be little, dormant, or dead, God promises a harvest. At the Lord’s table we are fed with the bread of life, that we may bear fruit in the world.

*(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 *The Image of Our God in you/Together* *Yoon-Mee Chong, violinist*
 (Chung-Kwan Park/Rodger Strader/Arr. Sun Ahn; © Chung-Kwan Park)

(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.

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

This week's schedule	
Today	9 am Faith & Fellowship (Fellowship Hall) 10 am Live & Online Worship
Mon.	
Tues.	
Wed.	9:30 am Busy Bees (Smith Building)
Thurs.	
Fri.	
Sat.	<i>Newsletter Articles Due</i>

Counting our Blessings			
Sunday	Attendance: 108	2023	
7/9	Offering: \$5,230	April Offering Income	\$28,719
	Homebound: 19	April Other Income	\$ 2,614
		March Total Income	\$31,333
		March Expenses	\$33,887
		YTD Offering Income	\$92,875
		YTD Other Income	\$19,344
		YTD Total Income	\$112,219
		YTD Expenses	\$131,130



Prayer List

Please remember the following individuals in your prayers.

For health & healing: 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: 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, Rae Eberwine, Deemer Morrow, Lee Hall, Robin, Alice Ensor, Jeanne Edmunds, Mike Haven, Gail Gangi, Doug Adams, 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: Betty Jane Schaefer

For St. John's Caring Friends: Patricia Becker, Agatha Biensach-Daniels, Barbara Conrad, Betty Creutzer, Gladys Downs, 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 *Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty* **ELW 533 (vv. 1-3)**
(Text: Benjamin Schmolck, 1672-1737; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt.; Music: Joachim Neander, 1650-1680)

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.
Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

(The assembly is seated.)

CHILDREN'S SERMON

FIRST READING

Isaiah 55:10-13

God's word to Israel's exiles is as sure and effective as never-failing precipitation. Their return to the Holy Land in a new exodus is cheered on by singing mountains and by trees that clap their hands.

¹⁰For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven,
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
¹¹so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.
¹²For you shall go out in joy,
and be led back in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you

shall burst into song,
 and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.
¹³Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
 instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;
 and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial,
 for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 65:9-13

⁹**You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous;**
 the river of God is full of water.
 You prepare the grain, for so you provide for the earth.
¹⁰**You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges;**
with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.
¹¹You crown the year with your goodness,
 and your paths overflow with plenty.
¹²**May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing,**
and the hills be clothed with joy.
¹³May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak themselves with
 grain; let them shout for joy and sing.

SECOND READING

Romans 8:1-11

There is no condemnation for those who live in Christ. God sent Christ to accomplish what the law weakened by human selfishness was unable to do: condemn sin and free us from its death-dealing ways. The Spirit now empowers proper actions and values in our lives and gives us the promise of resurrected life.

¹There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ²For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. ³For God has done what the law, weakened by selfishness, could not do. God condemned sin in the body by sending his own Son to deal with sin in the same body as humans, who are controlled by sin. ⁴He did this so that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to selfishness but according to the Spirit.

⁵For those who live according to selfishness set their minds on selfish things, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶To set the mind on selfishness is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷For this reason the mind that is set on selfishness is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, ⁸and those who are self-centered cannot please God.

⁹But you are not self-centered; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

St. John's will be participating in the Parkville-Carney Fair on Saturday, September 9th from 10 am—3 pm. If you are able to volunteer that day, there is a sign up sheet on the third floor bulletin board.



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

Help Needed... We are looking for someone who can help keep our pews clean and straightened for worship. This task can be done at whatever frequency you would like. This would include straightening of hymnals and bibles, straightening bookmarks and replacing where needed, replacing pencils where needed, straightening and/or replacing pew cards where needed and removing trash that is left behind. Please contact the church office if you can help.



Those Serving Today	
Assisting Minister	Donna McDonough
Crucifer	Brody E.
Acolyte (s)	Landry E.
Lector	JoAnn Weiland
Communion Assistant	JoAnn Weiland
Dismissal Assistant	Madilyn A.

Announcements & Upcoming Events

Next Week— Sunday, July 23rd— Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

† 9 am—**Faith and 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 Dexter Lewis Horton by his mother, Robin Williams, and family.

We are taking altar flower dedications for 2023. Dates available are: August 27th, September 10th and 17th, October 8th and 15th, November 5th, December 3rd 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.



BIBLE Study The Friday Bible Study will take July and August off, but will resume again on Friday, September 8th.

Faith + Fellowship Sunday Mornings in the Fellowship Hall from 9 am-9:45 am. We will read and study one of the upcoming readings which will be used in worship. Join us as we share with one another and deepen our faith together.



Summer Music Camp We are taking registrations for our Summer Music Campette. This camp is July 24th—26th from 9 am—12 noon. It is for students who have completed Kindergarten—Grade 2. Registration forms are available on the third floor bulletin board, in the weekly email and on our website.

New Members Lunch We will be having a New Members Lunch for all prospective new/returning members on Saturday, September 16th 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 17th, we will formally welcome new members into the St. John's family during the 10 am worship service. **Please RSVP by September 1st to the church office at 410-665-1234 or office@stjohnsparkville.org if you will be joining us for the new member's lunch.**



Community Dinner Join us for our next Community Meal on Wednesday, August 2nd. Thank you to everyone who helped make the July Community Meal a success! If you would like to sign up to volunteer, see the form on the bulletin board. Please come and invite your friends, family and neighbors!



¹¹If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

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 13:1-9, 18-23

In Matthew's gospel, both Jesus and his disciples "sow the seed" of God's word by proclaiming the good news that "the kingdom of heaven is near." Now, in a memorable parable, Jesus explains why this good news produces different results in those who hear.

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ²Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹Let anyone with ears listen!"

¹⁸"Hear then the parable of the sower. ¹⁹When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. ²⁰As for what was sown on rocky ground,

this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; ²¹yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. ²²As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²³But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

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 *For the Fruit of All Creation* *ELW 679*

(Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000; Music: Welsh traditional; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958; Text © 1970 Hope Publishing Company; Arr. © Oxford University Press)

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.)

MEAL

OFFERTORY MUSIC *Nothing Left to Say*

(Words and Music: Joseph H. Martin and David Angerman; © 1989, 2002, 2009 Malcolm Music and GlorySound; Arr. © 2017 Malcolm Music and GlorySound)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING

VBS PRESENTATION

BLESSING

God, the Source of glory,
God, the Word of life,
God, the Spirit of truth

✝ bless you all, now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING SONG

Feed My Sheep

VBS Music

*Share the message you have heard
Bringing hope all around the world
Tell everyone to taste and see
If you love me then you'll feed my sheep*

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the message you have heard.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

The Ash Grove

Dale Wood

(© 2001 The Sacred Music Press)

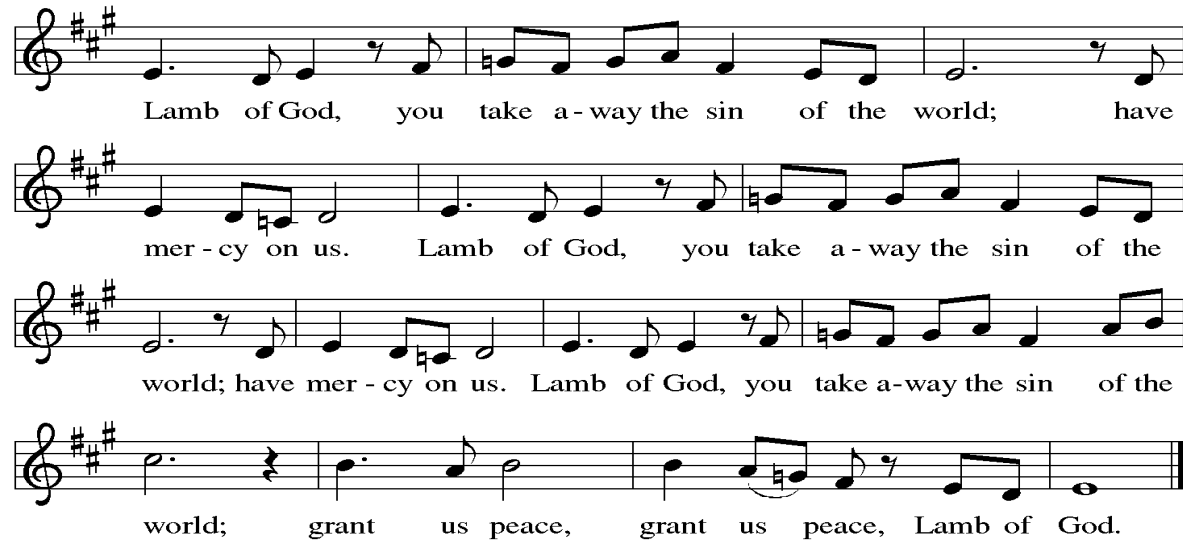
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COMMUNION

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 HYMN

Build Us Up, Lord

ELW 670

(Text and music: Mark Glaeser, b. 1956, and Donna Hanna, b. 1952; Text and music © 2003 Augsburg Fortress)

(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.

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

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.

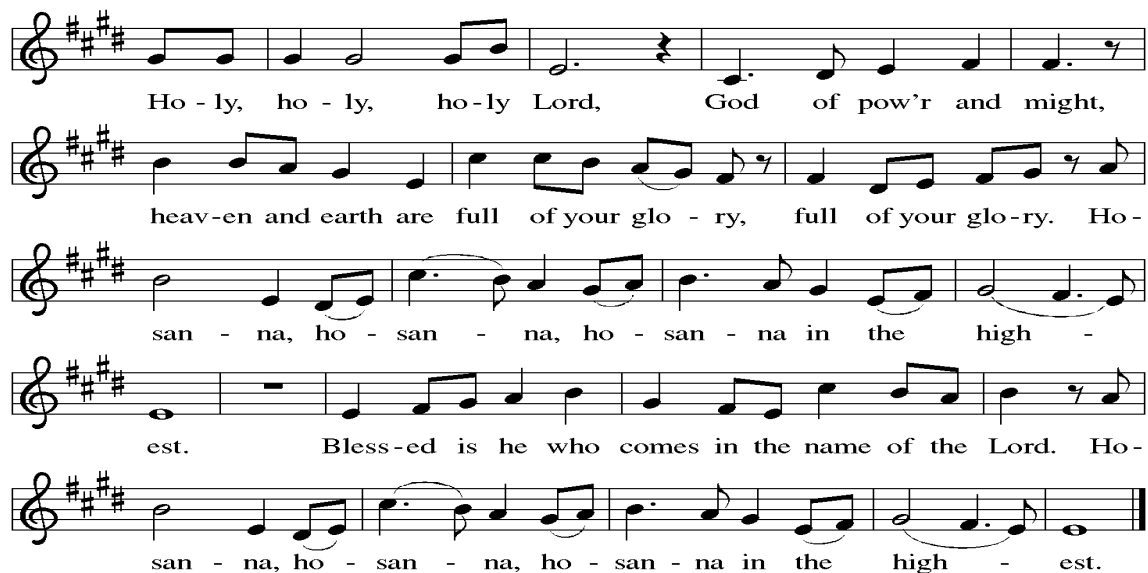
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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.