

**STAFF**

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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.

# Reformation Sunday

October 29, 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

Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.

*(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** *We Bow Down/Great is the Lord* *Handbell Choir*  
*(Music: Twila Paris, Michael W. Smith, Deborah D. Smith; Arr. Peggy Bettcher; © 1982, 1984, this arr. © 1999 Singspiration Music)*

*(Please stand as you are able.)*

## GATHERING

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be God,  
 the one who forms us,  
 ✝ Jesus who bears the cross,  
 the Spirit who makes our joy complete.  
**Amen.**

Let us bow before God in humility,  
 confessing our sin.

*(Silence is kept for reflection.)*

Steadfast and faithful God,  
**you have revealed the ways of justice,  
 yet we fail to follow you.**  
**We are overwhelmed  
 by the world's violence and suffering.**  
**We are afraid to risk what we have  
 for the sake of others.**  
**For the harm we have caused,  
 known and unknown, forgive us.**  
**For the unjust demands we place on others  
 and your creation, forgive us.**  
**For the ways we turn away  
 from you and our neighbor, forgive us.**

## This week's schedule

Today	9 am Sunday School & Faith and Fellowship 9 am Handbell Choir Rehearsal (Music Room) 10 am Live & Online Worship w/baptism
Mon.	
Tues.	
Wed.	9:30 am Busy Bees (Smith Building) 5:30 pm Community Meal (Fellowship Hall) 7 pm Wednesday Night Worship (Smith Building) 7:30 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)
Thurs.	
Fri.	11 am Bible Study (Smith Building)
Sat.	9 am CPR Training (Fellowship Hall)

## Counting our Blessings

Sunday	Attendance: 112	2023	
10/22	Offering: \$ 5,586	August Offering Income	\$18,031
	Homebound: 17	August Other Income	\$ 741
		August Total Income	\$18,772
		August Expenses	\$25,284
		YTD Offering Income	\$179,427
		YTD Other Income	\$ 33,151
		YTD Total Income	\$212,578
		YTD Expenses	\$253,418



## Prayer List

Please remember the following individuals in your prayers.

**For health & healing:** Robert Suznick, Barbara Mueller, Patricia Denk, Cass Tracey, Lisa Duerling, Len Steg, Joan Kraft, Mike McDonough, Mardi Nickel, Joan Swank, Andy Rother, Rosalie Coffman, Pat Hurley, Debbie Miller, Sandy Scott, and Vickie Jasinski

**For family & friends:** Pastor John Burk, Klaus Thoericht, Tiffany Webb, Mary & Barry McCain, Russell Fitch, Bonnie Franklin, Jamie Kirschner, Lily Newman, Rob Graff, Alice Evans, Trish Pizza, Betsy Shock, Joann Bayer, Norman Bayer, Sue Eid, Genevieve Byrnes, Julie Bramble, Ruth Reimschissel aka Mrs. Claus, Deemer Morrow, 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, Staff Sgt. Brandan Hartmann, Michael Anthony Tucker, and all those in harm's way

**For those grieving family & friends of:** Larry Byers, Norma Hofmann

**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, Janet Roth, Kim Townsley, Cass Tracey and Emma Volz

**Lead us back to you  
and set us on the right path;  
in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior.  
Amen.**

Beloved in Christ,  
God's justice stretches beyond all understanding.  
God's compassion is beyond compare.  
In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.  
In + Christ, you are already and always forgiven.  
**Amen.**

## GATHERING HYMN

*A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

*ELW 504*

*(Text and music: Martin Luther, 1483-1546, tr. Lutheran Book of Worship; Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress)*

## 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, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

*(The assembly is seated.)*

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

### FIRST READING

**Jeremiah 31:31-34**

*The renewed covenant will not be breakable, but like the old covenant it will expect the people to live upright lives. To know the LORD means that one will defend the cause of the poor and needy (Jer. 22:16). The renewed covenant is possible only because the LORD will forgive iniquity and not remember sin. Our hope lies in a God who forgets.*

<sup>31</sup>The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>32</sup>It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—

a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. <sup>33</sup>But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. <sup>34</sup>No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

**PSALM**

**Psalm 46**

- <sup>1</sup>God is our refuge and strength,  
a very present help in trouble.
- <sup>2</sup>**Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,  
and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;**
- <sup>3</sup>though its waters rage and foam,  
and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.
- <sup>4</sup>**There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,  
the holy habitation of the Most High.**
- <sup>5</sup>God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken;  
God shall help it at the break of day.
- <sup>6</sup>**The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake;  
God speaks, and the earth melts away.**
- <sup>7</sup>The LORD of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.
- <sup>8</sup>**Come now, regard the works of the LORD,  
what desolations God has brought upon the earth;**
- <sup>9</sup>behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world;  
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.
- <sup>10</sup>**“Be still, then, and know that I am God;  
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.”**
- <sup>11</sup>The LORD of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

**SECOND READING**

**Romans 3:19-28**

*Paul’s words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and other Reformation leaders. No human beings make themselves right with God through works of the law. We are brought into a right relationship with God through the divine activity centered in Christ’s death. This act is a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.*

<sup>19</sup>Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. <sup>20</sup>For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

Save the date for St. John’s 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Bull and Shrimp Roast on Friday, February 2, 2024 from 6:30 pm—10:30 pm at Columbus Gardens. More information will be coming soon.



**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.

*Daylight Savings is next  
Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup>  
Don’t forget to turn your  
clocks back 1 hour*



<b>Those Serving Today</b>	
Assisting Minister	Robin Dibley
Crucifer	Emily R.
Acolyte (s)	Jack W., Olivia S.
Lector	Ed Ford
Communion Assistant	Ed Ford
Dismissal Assistant	Madilyn A.

St. John's is hosting a CPR & First Aid course on Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup> at 9 am in the Fellowship Hall. The cost is \$40. If you would like to participate, contact the church office by Monday, October 30<sup>th</sup>.



**Quilt Raffle**... We are selling tickets for the beautiful quilt that will be raffled at the Christmas Bazaar. It is a queen size quilt. Tickets are 1 for \$1, 6 for \$5, and 13 for \$10. Tickets may be purchased from the Busy Bees or in the church office.

We are collecting 40 jars/cans of turkey or chicken gravy to help our local food pantry at Christus Victor Lutheran Church with their holiday food distribution. If you would like to participate in this project, please return your donations by Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup>. There is a box for your donation on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor counter, outside of the Sanctuary. We need 9 more jars/cans of gravy.



Join us for our next Community Meal, Wednesday, November 1<sup>st</sup> from 5:30 pm—7 pm. Thank you to everyone who helped make the October Community Meal a success! We need volunteers for our next meal. If you can help, there is a sign up sheet on the third floor bulletin board or you can call the church office. Please come and invite your friends, family and neighbors!



Our next Wednesday Night Worship will take place on November 1<sup>st</sup> after the Community Meal. This is a brief communion service held in the Smith Building with blended music featuring piano and guitar, as well as an interactive reflection. We hope you can join us and invite your friends and neighbors!



**CHRISTMAS BAZAAR** St. John's Annual Christmas Bazaar will be held on Saturday, November 11<sup>th</sup> from 9 am—2 pm. What you can expect: food, crafters, jewelry, bake table, homemade candies & jellies, quilt raffle, white elephant sale, handmade items and more. Hope to see you there! Donations for jewelry and white elephant can be dropped off during office hours or Sunday after church. If you would like to volunteer, there is a sign up board on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor counter, outside of the Sanctuary.

Save the date for Breakfast with Santa... Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup> from 9 am—11 am in the Fellowship Hall. More information coming soon.



**Wreaths across America** ceremony will be held in St. John's Cemetery on Friday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm. If you would like to sponsor a wreath for a veteran, please contact Nancy Ford at 443-835-7038. There are flyers with more information on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor bulletin board. Order must be placed by November 30<sup>th</sup>.

<sup>21</sup>But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, <sup>22</sup>the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, <sup>23</sup>since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; <sup>24</sup>they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, <sup>25</sup>whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; <sup>26</sup>it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

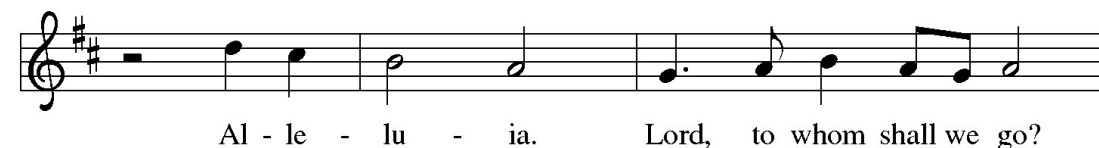
<sup>27</sup>Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. <sup>28</sup>For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

*(Please stand as you are able.)*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



**GOSPEL**

**John 8:31-36**

*Jesus speaks of truth and freedom as spiritual realities known through his word. He reveals the truth that sets people free from sin.*

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>31</sup>Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; <sup>32</sup>and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” <sup>33</sup>They answered him, “We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, ‘You will be made free?’”

<sup>34</sup>Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. <sup>35</sup>The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. <sup>36</sup>So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.”

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

*Listen, God Is Calling*

*ELW 513*

*(Text: Tanzanian traditional; tr. Howard S. Olson, 1922-2010; Music: Tanzanian tune; arr. Austin C. Lovelace, 1919-2010; Text © 1968 Lutheran Theological College, Makumira, Tanzania, admin. Augsburg Fortress; Arr. © 1968 Austin C. Lovelace)*

## SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

*(Delilah Abrams)*

*(See Baptism Bulletin)*

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

*After each petition* God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

**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

*Great is God*

*Adult Choir*

*(Words and music: Berta Poorman and Sonja Poorman; © 2000 Belwin-Mills Publishing Corp.)*

*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

*God of the Fertile Fields*

*ACS 1063 (vv. 1-2)*

*(See insert)*

*(Text: Georgia Harkness, 1891-1974; Music: Felice de Giardini, 1716-1796; Text © 1955 ren. 1983 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Company)*

### OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.  
God of power, God of plenty,  
all things belong to you.

## Announcements & Upcoming Events

### Next Week— Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup>— All Saints/Confirmation Sunday

† 9 am—Sunday School & Faith and Fellowship

† 9 am—Handbell Choir

† 10 am—Worship in-person with baptism

† 11:30 am—Youth Group

**and livestreamed on our YouTube Channel**

Visit [stjohnsparkville.org](http://stjohnsparkville.org)



The beautiful flowers gracing our worship service today are given in honor of Janet and Malcolm Neifeld's wedding anniversary.

We are taking altar flower dedications for 2024. 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. Available dates are January 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, and 28<sup>th</sup>, February 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, and 25<sup>th</sup>, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, and 24<sup>th</sup>, April 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, and 28<sup>th</sup>, May 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, and 19<sup>th</sup>, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, and 30<sup>th</sup>.

**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.



**St. John's Youth Group meets in the Youth Room on the second floor from about 11:30 am-12:30 pm on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of the month.** This group is for middle and high school students. Join us as we have fun, get to know one another, and grow in faith together.

**Faith and Fellowship meets in the Fellowship Hall on the first floor from 9 am—9:45 am each Sunday.** This is an opportunity for adults to gather for light refreshments and to grow in faith.



**The Bible Study group meets on Friday's at 11 am in the Smith Building.** We are studying the book of Matthew. All are welcome!

**The Food for Thought Program is packing 50 weekend bags for 25 students at Carney Elementary. We have an immediate need for tuna/chicken salad kits, individual packs of cookies and snack crackers.** Monetary donations are also accepted and appreciated. Please help if you can!



**St John's Preschool needs glass jars for a project they are working on with the children.** They can be spaghetti or pickle jars or something similar.

**COMMUNION HYMNS***In the Singing***ELW 466**

(Text: Shirley Erena Murray, 1931-2020; Music: Carlton R. Young, b. 1926; Text and music © 1996 Hope Publishing Company)

**The Church of Christ, in Every Age****ELW 729**

(Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000; Music: William Knapp, 1698-1768; Text © 1971 Hope Publishing Company)

*(The assembly remains seated.)*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.  
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.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS****SENDING****BLESSING**

The God of glory,  
✠ Jesus Christ, name above all names,  
and the Spirit who lives in you,  
bless you now and forever.  
**Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN****Rise, Shine, You People!****ELW 665**

(Text: Ronald A. Klug, b. 1939, alt.; Music: Dale Wood, 1934-2003; Text and music © 1974 Augsburg Publishing House)

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. God is at work in you.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE***Tocatta in D Minor**Johann Sebastian Bach*

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.**

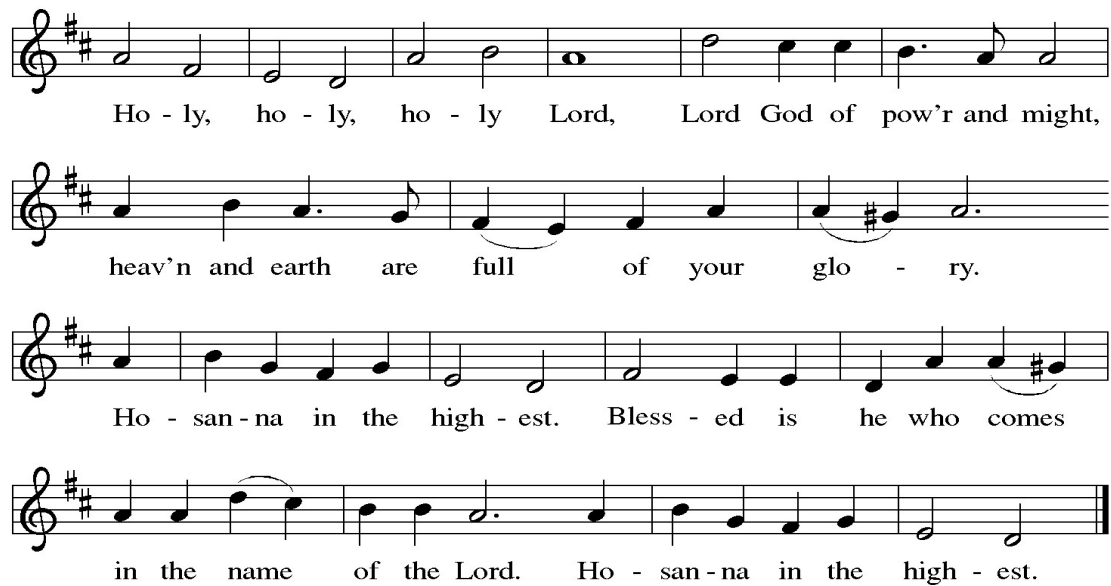
**GREAT THANKSGIVING****DIALOGUE**

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

**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, Lord God of pow'r and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you O God,  
for you made the earth and all that is, and declared it good.  
Blessed are you,  
for in Christ you entered into creation,  
into our humanity, into our vulnerability, into our mortality.  
You stayed with us through conflict, through suffering, through death.  
Blessed are you for raising Jesus from the dead.  
in him promising new life to us all.  
In the night in which he was betrayed...

Come, Lord, Jesus, in this meal,  
and make us alive again.  
By your Spirit,  
bind us to that holy communion of saints in every time and place,  
and make us your body in the world,  
bringing light and healing to all.  
**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

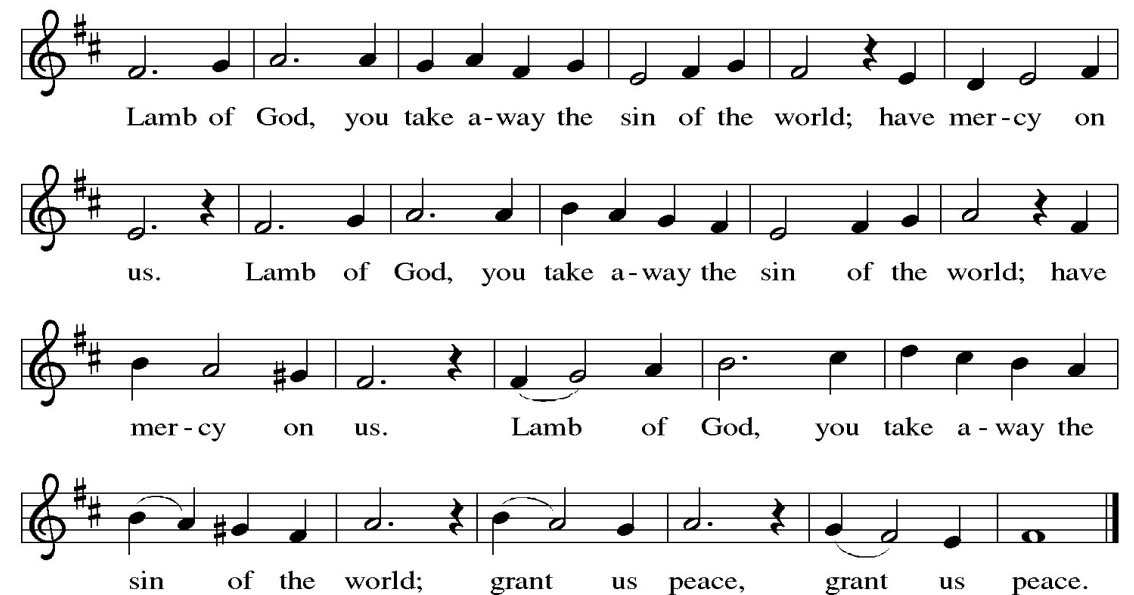
Jesus invites you to this table.  
Come, eat and live.

## 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.