

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.



St. John's Lutheran Church Parkville



stjohnsparkvill1

Third Sunday in Lent

March 3, 2024



St. John's Lutheran Church of Parkville
www.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

The third covenant in this year's Lenten readings is the central one of Israel's history: the gift of the law to those God freed from slavery. The commandments begin with the statement that because God alone has freed us from the powers that oppressed us, we are to let nothing else claim first place in our lives. When Jesus throws the merchants out of the temple, he is defending the worship of God alone and rejecting the ways commerce and profit-making can become our gods. The Ten Commandments are essential to our baptismal call: centered first in God's liberating love, we strive to live out justice and mercy in our communities and 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 *Holy God, Holy and Gracious* *Robert Buckley Farlee*
 (© 2001 Robert Buckley Farlee, admin. Augsburg Fortress)

(Please stand as you are able.)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
 who writes the law on our hearts,
 who draws all people together through Jesus.
Amen.

Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin
 in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God,
**we confess that we are caught in snares of sin
 and cannot break free.**
**We hoard resources while our neighbors
 are hungry and cold.**
We speak in ways that silence others.
We are silent when we should speak up.
We keep score in our hearts.
We let hurts grow into hatred.
**For all these things and for sins only you know,
 forgive us, Lord.**
Amen.

Here is a flood of grace:
 Out of love for the whole world,
 God draws near to us,

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 Youth Group (Youth Room)
Mon.	
Tues.	
Wed.	9:30 am Busy Bees (Smith Building) 5:30pm Community Meal/Soup & Salad (Fellowship Hall) 7 pm Holden Prayer Service 7:30 pm Adult Choir (Music Room)
Thurs.	
Fri.	11 am Bible Study (Smith Building) Council Retreat (Mar-lu-Ridge Retreat Center)
Sat.	Council Retreat (Mar-lu-Ridge Retreat Center) Seekers for grades 3-5 (Mar-lu-Ridge Retreat Center)

Counting our Blessings			
Wed.	Attendance: 49	2023	
2/21	Offering: \$447	December Offering Income	\$31,972
		December Other Income	\$ 2,421
		December Total Income	\$34,393
Sun.	Attendance: 117	December Expenses	\$34,660
2/25	Offering: \$5,098	YTD Offering Income	\$283,985
	Homebound: 16	YTD Other Income	\$ 40,567
		YTD Total Income	\$324,552
		YTD Expenses	\$386,155



Prayer List

Please remember the following individuals in your prayers.

For health & healing: Vernon Reid, Dennis Buckless, Lisa Muhlbach, Doris Rye, Richard Souders, Oluseye Fowode, Robert Suznick, Barbara Mueller, Lisa Duerling, Joan Kraft, Mike McDonough, Joan Swank, Rosalie Coffman, Pat Hurley, Debbie Miller, Sandy Scott, and Vickie Jasinski

For family & friends: Pierce Newman, Coralee Myrtle, William Bold, Sr., Fran Eliopoulos, Eleni Bowden, Laney Stowell, Mary Margaret Wroten, Butch Kahl, Pearl Johnson, Nancy, Donna Joseph, Harriet Miller, Maeve Webster, Shannon McLaughlin, John Bryan, Joe Federline, Pastor John Burk, Tiffany Webb, Mary & Barry McCain, Russell Fitch, Bonnie Franklin, Jamie Kirschner, Lily Newman, Rob Graff, Alice Evans, Trish Pizza, Betsy Shock, Julie Bramble, Ruth Reimschissel aka Mrs. Claus, 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: Bett Murphy, Leonard Steg

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, and Emma Volz



**Next Sunday, March 10th
is Daylight savings time.
Don't forget to move your clocks
forward one hour.**

breaks every snare of sin,
washes away our wrongs,
and restores the promise of life through + Jesus Christ.
Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

Built on a Rock

ELW 652 (vv. 1-2)

(Text: Nicolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783-1872; tr. Carl Doving, 1867-1937, adapt.; Music: Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812-1887; Text © 1958 Service Book and Hymnal, 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

Holy God, through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and teach us the wisdom that comes only 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.)

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT

CHILDREN'S SERMON

WORD

FIRST READING

Exodus 20:1-17

After escaping from slavery, the Israelites come to Mount Sinai, where God teaches them how to live in community. The Ten Commandments proclaim that God alone is worthy of worship. Flowing from God, the life of the community flourishes when based on honesty, trust, fidelity, and respect for life, family, and property.

¹God spoke all these words:

²I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³you shall have no other gods before me.

⁴You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, ⁶but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

⁸Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor and do all your work. ¹⁰But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. ¹¹For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

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

¹³You shall not murder.

¹⁴You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵You shall not steal.

¹⁶You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

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

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM *(Read responsively; congregation reads bold verses)*

Psalm 19

¹The heavens declare the glory of God,
and the sky proclaims its maker's handiwork.

²**One day tells its tale to another,
and one night imparts knowledge to another.**

³Although they have no words or language,
and their voices are not heard,

⁴**their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends of the world,
where God has pitched a tent for the sun.**

⁵It comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

⁶**It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of
it again; nothing is hidden from its burning heat.**

⁷The teaching of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul;
the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.

⁸**The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart;
the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.**

⁹The fear of the LORD is clean and endures forever;
the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

¹⁰**More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold,
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.**

all in a safe and inclusive community. Our 2024 Theme is "Created To Be!" Registration is open. For more information visit mar-lu-ridge.org/summer-camp/ or call 800.238.9974.

A huge "Thank You" to all who participated in our Annual Bull & Shrimp Roast. We shared food and fellowship with one another and a great time was had by all. We are happy to report that this event raised \$4,600.16 for the Youth Ministry and Church Building Fund.



Help Needed for Music Camp... If you know any high school or college student who enjoys and has experience with theater, music, art, arts and crafts, and love working with children, PLEASE contact Martha at mrequard1@gmail.com. Our assistants will be working with the campers to help them create their program.

Dates & times are as follows:

Music Campette-July 29-31; 9 am-noon; for students who have completed K-grade 2
Musical Camp-August 12-16; 9 am-2 pm; for students who have completed grades 3-8

Wednesday Worship during Lent

** *March 6th, 13th, and 20th **

6 pm – Soup & Salad (Fellowship Hall)

***March 6th – Community Meal begins at 5:30 pm**

7 pm Holden Evening Prayer Service w/ Reflections

(Please note: Adult Choir practice will begin after the prayer service.)

Palm/Passion Sunday Worship, March 24th

10 am Live & Online Worship

Maundy Thursday, March 28th

12 noon & 7 pm Maundy Thursday Service with Holy Communion

The Stripping of the Altar will follow the 7 pm service only.

Good Friday, March 29th

12 noon Procession & Ecumenical Stations of the Cross

(Please note: The Ecumenical Procession begins at St. Ursula Catholic Church.)

7 pm Good Friday Service with Cantata

Easter Sunday, March 31st

10 am Service of Holy Communion

Live & Online Worship

Announcements & Upcoming Event

Next Week— Sunday, March 10th—Fourth Sunday in Lent

† 9 am— Sunday School and Faith & Fellowship

† 9 am—Handbell Choir

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

† 11:30 am—Executive Meeting

Visit stjohnsparkville.org



The beautiful flowers gracing our worship service today are given in honor of Malcolm Neifeld's 90th birthday by Janet Neifeld.

We are taking altar flower dedications for 2024. The cost is \$50. Contact Rachel Hills at rm_hills@yahoo.com if you would like to sponsor the flowers. Available dates are March 10th, April 7th, May 12th, June 2nd, 23rd, and 30th, July 14th, 21st, and 28th, August 4th, 11th, 18th, and 25th, September 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, and 29th.

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 first Sunday of the month, from about 11:15 am—12:30 pm. This group is for middle and high school students. Join us as we have fun, get to know one another and grow in faith. See you there!

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.



Join us for our next Community Meal on Wednesday, March 6th beginning at 5:30 pm. Please come and invite your friends, family and neighbors! A special thanks to all of the volunteers who helped with the February meal.

St. John's Annual Easter Egg Hunt is coming up on Saturday, March 23rd from 10 am-12 pm. Join us for an event full of fun activities and Easter celebrations! The egg hunt begins at 11 am and is for ages 2-5th grade. Bring your own basket or bag.



Mar-Lu-Ridge Camp in Jefferson, MD invites you to join us this summer! Family Campers and youth ages 6-17 are welcome. We never turn anyone away for financial reasons, so please ask about our Campership fund if needed. Come experience small-group camping, swimming, hiking, sleep-outs, new friends, and exciting activities that challenge you to grow in confidence and in faith -

¹¹By them also is your servant enlightened,
and in keeping them there is great reward.

¹²**Who can detect one's own offenses?
Cleanse me from my secret faults.**

¹³Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me; then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.

¹⁴**Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.**

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

The word of the cross is pure foolishness and nonsense to the world because it claims that God is mostly revealed in weakness, humiliation, and death. But through such divine foolishness and weakness, God is working to save us. The center of Paul's preaching is Christ crucified.

¹⁸The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

(Please stand as you are able.)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

GOSPEL

John 2:13-22

Jesus attacks the commercialization of religion by driving merchants out of the temple. When challenged, he responds mysteriously, with the first prediction of his own death and resurrection. In the midst of a seemingly stable religious center, Jesus suggests that the center itself has changed.

The Holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." ¹⁸The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" ¹⁹Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." ²⁰The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" ²¹But he was speaking of the temple of his body. ²²After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

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

Holy God, Holy and Glorious

ELW 637

(Text: Susan R. Briehl, b. 1952; Music: Robert Buckley Farlee, b. 1950; Text © 2002 GIA Publications, Inc.; Music © 2001 Robert Buckley Farlee, admin. Augsburg Fortress)

APOSTLES' CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

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.

SENDING

BLESSING

Beloved,
we are God's own people,
holy, washed, renewed.
God bless you and keep you,
shower you with mercy,
fill you with courage,
and ✠ give you peace.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN

God of Grace and God of Glory

ELW 705

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

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share your bread.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Grave

William Walond

(© 1985 Harold Flammer Music)

Those Serving Today	
Assisting Minister	Linda Wiley
Crucifer	Emily R.
Acolyte (s)	Devon W.
Lector	Andy Rother
Communion Assistant	Andy Rother
Dismissal Assistant	Emma E.

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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



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



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

COMMUNION HYMN *How Great Thou Art* **ELW 856**
(Text: Carl G. Boberg, 1859-1940; tr. and adapt. Stuart K. Hine, 1899-1989; Music: Swedish folk tune, adapt. Stuart K. Hine; Text and music © 1953, ren. 1981 S.K. Hine, assigned to Manna Music, Inc.)

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross **ELW 803**
(Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, Music: Lowell Mason, 1792-1872)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Generous God,
at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace.
As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread,
now make us one loaf to feed the world;
in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life.
Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 God's peace. Afterwards, the assembly is seated.)

MEAL

OFFERTORY MUSIC *See the Love of God* *Adult Choir*
Words and music: Patrick Houlihan; © 2000 Studio P/R)

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 *Change My Heart, O God* **ELW 801**
Change my heart, O God; make it ever true.
Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.

You are the potter; I am the clay. Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

Change my heart, O God; make it ever true.
Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.

(Text and music: Eddie Espinosa; Test and music © 1982 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing, admin. Music Services)

OFFERING PRAYER

Jesus, you are the bread of life
and the host of this meal.
Bless these gifts that we have gathered
that all people may know your goodness.
Feed us not only with this holy food
but with hunger for justice and peace.
We pray this in your name.
Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

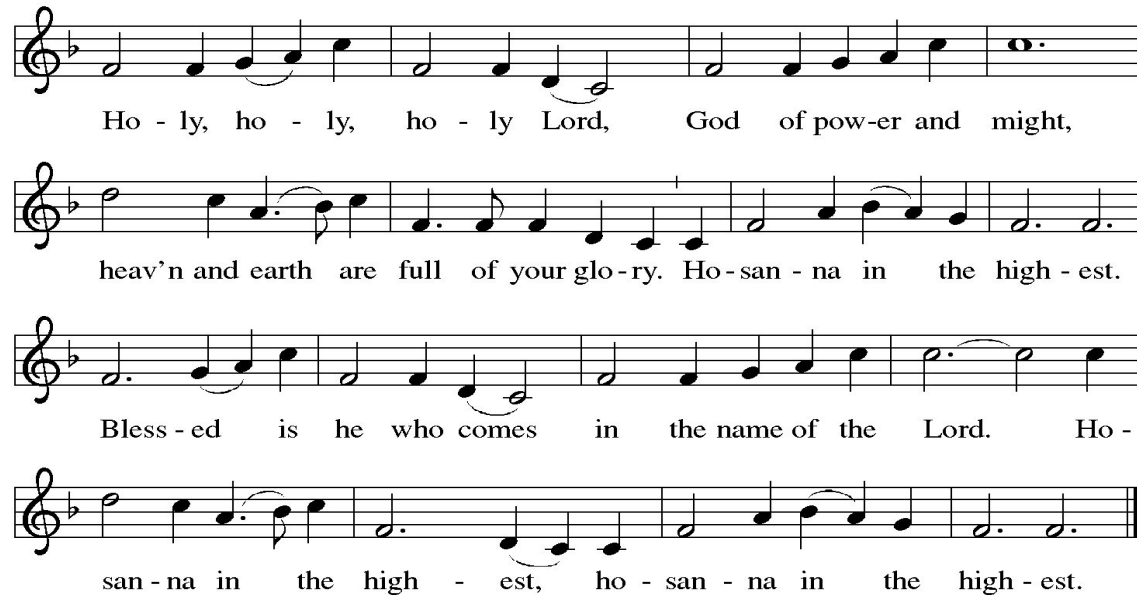
DIALOGUE

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.
You call your people to cleanse their hearts
and prepare with joy for the Easter feast,
that, renewed in the gift of baptism,
we may come to the fullness of your grace.
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-er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you, God of the universe.
You made everything that is, and you sustain every living thing.

You taught us to tend and care for your earth.
When we turned away from our task of sharing,
you made for yourself a people, rescued them from slavery,
nourished them with manna in the wilderness,
and taught them to rely daily on your mercy.

You entered human life in Jesus,
who ate with sinners,
who fed the thousands with a few loaves,
and who called us back to the way of sharing our bread and your mercy.

In the night in which he was betrayed...

With this meal we remember Jesus giving himself to us.
Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

As we share this bread and cup, O God, fill us up.
Pour your Spirit on us so that we may be the body of Christ,
food for your hungry world and signs of your love.
With the earth and all its creatures,
with all who have gone before us,
we give you praise, feeding God, 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

Bread for the journey.
A feast for hungry hearts. Come!