

## STAFF

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Martha Requard, Director of Music	Carol Erpenstein, Office Administrator
Scott Becker, Sexton	


For emergencies call 443-844-9314

**\*\*\*The Pastors are off on Fridays\*\*\***



### Notice of live streaming:

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

 St. John's Lutheran Church Parkville

 stjohnsparkville

# Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

August 3, 2025



## St. John's Lutheran Church of Parkville

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

(410) 665-1234

[office@stjohnsparkville.org](mailto: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

Today's texts offer instruction and encouragement for all who are occasionally overwhelmed by the "unhappy business" of life. Jesus urges us to take care and be on guard against all kinds of greed. We who have died with Christ in holy baptism have also been raised with him and are encouraged to elevate our thinking, seeking the "things that are above." To that end we seek the sustenance of the Lord's supper and the encouragement of God's word.

*(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

*Largo*

*Handel*

*(Please stand as you are able.)*

## GATHERING

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father,  
and of the ✠ Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

*(Silence is kept for reflection.)*

Merciful God,  
**you free us to love others,  
but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.  
You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,  
but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.  
You surround us with patience, kindness,  
and generosity,  
but we grow weary in doing what is right.  
In your mercy, forgive us.  
Do not give up on us.  
Heal us, break our bonds,  
and show us the path of life.  
Amen.**

You belong to Christ Jesus  
and you are God's children through faith.  
In the cross of ✠ Christ,

## This week's schedule

Today	10:00 am	Live & Online Worship Hot Dog Sunday after worship (Fellowship Hall)
Mon.		
Tues.		
Wed.	9:30 am	Busy Bees (Smith Building)
Thurs.		
Fri.		
Sat.		

## Counting our Blessings

		2025	
Sun.	Attendance: 82	April Offering Income	\$ 31,766
7/27	Offering: \$ 4,090	April Other Income	\$ 3,678
	Homebound: 14	April Total Income	\$ 35,444
		April Expenses	\$ 49,145
		YTD Offering Income	\$132,727
		YTD Other Income	\$ 20,814
		YTD Total Income	\$153,541
		YTD Expenses	\$151,774



## Prayer List

Please remember the following individuals in your prayers.

**For health & healing:** Pat Denk, JoAnn Weiland, Louie Gerber, Joan Kraft, Shirley Kreh, Olusegun Fowode, Marge Jasper, Julie Hastings, Kim Townsley, Mildred Schaffer, Bill Fliegel, Ruth Albrecht, Marion McDonough, Diane Carroll, Richard Souders, Oluseye Fowode, Robert Suznick, Lisa Duerling, Joan Swank, Debbie Miller, Sandy Scott and Vickie Jasinski

**For family & friends:** Bill Sanner, Linda Sanner, Don Garrish, Peggy Denk, Tammy Geelhaar, JR Kidd, Carol Paulshock, Katherine Fliegel, Elaine Perzan, Debbie McWilliam, George Lotterer, Jenny Cavallero, Barb Distefano, Marilyn Baldwin, Wendy Kraft, Fred Smith, Anna Meyer, Patricia Dunn, Jerre Keller, Scott Hendricks, Chuck Taylor, Jane Esterby, Patsy Smith, Marianne Widderich

**For the military and their families:** Christopher McCann, Mason Arnold, Kalib McCann, 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:** Gary Roth, Sr.

**For St. John's Caring Friends:** Patricia Becker, Agatha Biensach-Daniels, Barbara Conrad, Margaret Eubert, June Franz, Betty Glassband, Richard Hoerner, Audrey Lentz, Carl Lotterer, Paul Nolder, Janet Roth, Doris Rye, Kim Townsley, and Emma Volz

### Note regarding the Prayer List

Those on the family & friends prayer list will remain for 6 weeks and then be removed— unless otherwise specified. If at any time you would like to add or remove someone from the list, please contact the church office.

and through the power of the Holy Spirit,  
your sins are forgiven.  
Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.  
**Amen.**

## GATHERING HYMN

*A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!*

*ELW 393*

*(Text: Bede, 673-735; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship; Music: Geistliche Kirchengesange, Koln, 1623; 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

Benevolent God, you are the source, the guide, and the goal of our lives. Teach us to love what is worth loving, to reject what is offensive to you, and to treasure what is precious in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

### WORD

## FIRST READING

**Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23**

*The teacher of wisdom who wrote Ecclesiastes sees that working for mere accumulation of wealth turns life into an empty game, a "vanity of vanities." Nevertheless, he asserts in the next verse, it is good to find enjoyment in one's work because such enjoyment is a gift from God.*

<sup>2</sup> Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher,  
vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

<sup>12</sup> I, the Teacher, was king over Israel in Jerusalem. <sup>13</sup> I applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to humans to be busy with. <sup>14</sup> I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun, and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind.

<sup>2:18</sup> I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to my successor, <sup>19</sup> and who knows whether he will be wise or foolish? Yet he will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. <sup>20</sup> So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labors under the sun, <sup>21</sup> because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. <sup>22</sup> What do mortals get from

all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? <sup>23</sup> For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

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

**Psalm 49:1-12**

- <sup>1</sup> Hear this, all you peoples;  
give ear, all you who dwell in the world,  
<sup>2</sup> **you of high degree and low,  
rich and poor together.**  
<sup>3</sup> My mouth shall speak of wisdom,  
and my heart shall meditate on understanding.  
<sup>4</sup> **I will incline my ear to a proverb  
and set forth my riddle upon the harp.**  
<sup>5</sup> Why should I be afraid in evil days,  
when the wickedness of those at my heels surrounds me,  
<sup>6</sup> **the wickedness of those who put their trust in their own prowess,  
and boast of their great riches?**  
<sup>7</sup> One can never redeem another,  
or give to God the ransom for another's life;  
<sup>8</sup> **for the ransom of a life is so great  
that there would never be enough to pay it,**  
<sup>9</sup> in order to live forever and ever  
and never see the grave.  
<sup>10</sup> **For we see that the wise die also; like the dull and stupid they perish  
and leave their wealth to those who come after them.**  
<sup>11</sup> Their graves shall be their homes forever, their dwelling places from generation to  
generation, though they had named lands after themselves.  
<sup>12</sup> **Even though honored, they cannot live forever;  
they are like the beasts that perish.**

**SECOND READING**

**Colossians 3:1-11**

*Life in Christ includes a radical reorientation of our values. Just as the newly baptized shed their old clothes and put on new garments, so Christians are called to let go of greed and take hold of a life shaped by God's love in Christ.*

<sup>1</sup> So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup> Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth, <sup>3</sup> for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup> When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

<sup>5</sup> Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). <sup>6</sup> On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. <sup>7</sup> These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living

## Announcements & Upcoming Events

**Next Week— Sunday, August 10<sup>th</sup>—Nineth Sunday after Pentecost**

† 9 am—Faith + Fellowship

† 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 celebration of our 54<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary by Bill and Shelley Arnold.

**We are taking altar flower dedications for 2025.** 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. Date available is December 28<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. 

 **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. **We will resume on Sunday, August 10<sup>th</sup>.**

**Request from the Property Committee!** We are in need of some new people to join our committee. If you are interested in joining and helping with some of the much needed projects at St. John's, please contact Bill Fliegel at [wfliegel@yahoo.com](mailto:wfliegel@yahoo.com). 



**Have you been wondering what the colorful little box is outside of the kitchen entrance?** It's a "Little Free Library!" There are books in there that you can take to enjoy. When you are finished with a book, you can return it or not, either way is fine! We are also looking for donations of books for all ages to keep the library stocked. If you have any books you would like to contribute or have any questions, please see Amanda Hartman.

**The Food for Thought Program** is gearing up for the 2025-2026 school year. We will again be supporting children at Carney Elementary. **At this time we are in need of: tuna & chicken salad kits, Chef Boyardee single serving meals, applesauce pouches, poparts and pudding cups.** Don't fee like shopping? Monetary donations are always welcome. 



**Pastor Mathew & Pastor Amy will be on vacation Wednesday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>—Wednesday, August 6<sup>th</sup>. They will return to the office on Thursday, August 7<sup>th</sup>.**

## Commemorations

*When we are baptized, we are baptized into the body of Christ. We understand this body to be the communion of saints, a diverse witness of people across time and space.*

*Throughout its history, the church has sought to lift up Christians who have been unique, exemplary people of faith. It is not that these people are perfect, as we are all both saint and sinner. Our faith in God working in them can be a reminder of God's grace working in all of our lives. "The saints are to be remembered so that we may strengthen our faith when we see how they experienced grace and how they were helped by faith."*

*(Augsburg Confession)*

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## Dominic, founder of the Order of Preachers (Dominicans), died 1221

### Friday, August 8, 2025

Dominic was a Spanish priest who saw the wealth of the clergy as a stumbling block for the church, so he formed a movement, the Order of Preachers (commonly called Dominicans) devoted to itinerant preaching and living in poverty.

From [sundaysandseasons.com](http://sundaysandseasons.com).

Those Serving Today	
Assisting Minister	Megan Czarski
Crucifer	Olivia S.
Acolyte (s)	Landry E.
Lector	Donna McDonough
Communion Assistant	Donna McDonough
Dismissal Assistant	Madilyn A.

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that life. <sup>8</sup> But now you must get rid of all such things: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. <sup>9</sup> Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices <sup>10</sup> and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. <sup>11</sup> In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, enslaved and free, but Christ is all and in all!

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

**Luke 12:13-21**

*In God's reign, the "rich will be sent away empty." Jesus uses a parable to warn against identifying the worth of one's life with the value of one's possessions rather than one's relationship with God.*

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>13</sup> Someone in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." <sup>14</sup> But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?" <sup>15</sup> And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." <sup>16</sup> Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. <sup>17</sup> And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' <sup>18</sup> Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. <sup>19</sup> And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' <sup>20</sup> But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you.

And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' 21 So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

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**

*Faith Begins by Letting Go (See insert)*

*ACS 1004*

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

**MEAL**

**OFFERTORY MUSIC** *Chorale Prelude "Gott der Vater wohn uns bei"* *Telemann*

*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. You may also donate via venmo @stjohnsparkville*



*(Please stand as you are able.)*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Mothering God,  
you gathered us to your table  
and we drank deeply of your grace.  
Send us out by your Spirit  
to love our neighbors as ourselves  
and proclaim your love in Jesus' name.  
**Amen.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**SENDING**

**BLESSING**

The love of God abound in you;  
the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts;  
And the life of the Spirit  
✚ bless you and give you peace.  
**Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN**

*We Know That Christ Is Raised*

*ELW 449*

*(Text: John B. Geyer, b. 1932; Music: Charles V. Stanford, 1852-1924; Text © John B. Geyer)*

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

*Allegretto in C Major*

*Penfield*

**TODAY WE WELCOME** *Pastor Susan Beck as our presider and preacher,  
and thank her for sharing her gifts with us in worship.*

*We welcome Keith Derrickson as our organist today,  
and thank him for sharing his God-given gifts with us in worship.*

**It is always good to have you both here at St. John's!**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

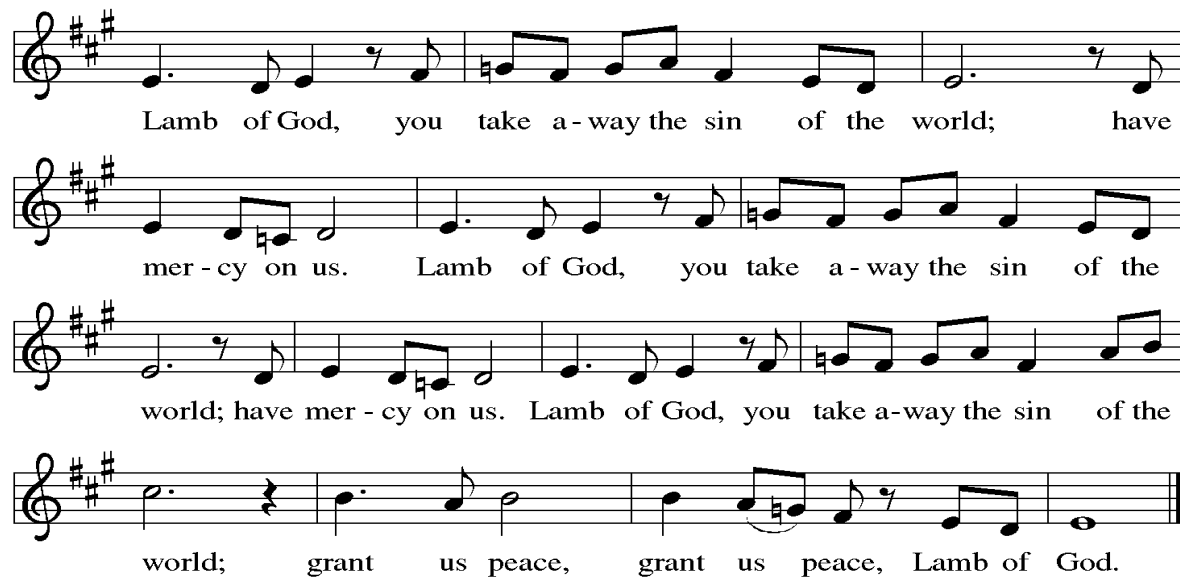
The kingdom of God is set before you.  
Eat and rejoice.

## 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 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 *All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly* **ELW 461**

*(Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993; Music: W. Moore, Columbian Harmony, 1825; ar. Hymnal version; Text © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc.; Arr. © 2003 Augsburg Fortress)*

## *Break Now the Bread of Life* **ELW 515**

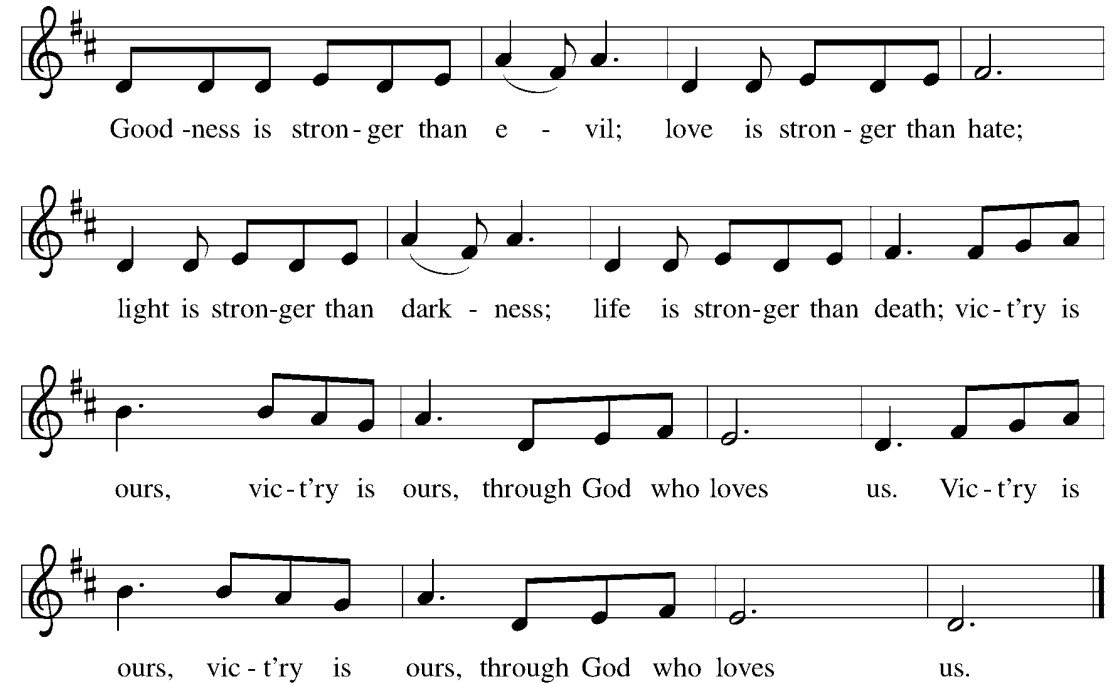
*(Text: Mary A. Lathbury, 1841-1913, alt.; Music: William F. Sherwin, 1826-1888)*

*(The assembly remains seated.)*

## OFFERING HYMN

### *Goodness Is Stronger than Evil*

**ELW 721**



Good-ness is stron-ger than e - vil; love is stron-ger than hate;  
light is stron-ger than dark - ness; life is stron-ger than death; vic-t'ry is  
ours, vic-t'ry is ours, through God who loves us. Vic-t'ry is  
ours, vic-t'ry is ours, through God who loves us.

Text: From *An African Prayer Book*, Desmond Tutu, b. 1931  
Music: GOODNESS IS STRONGER, John L. Bell, b. 1949  
Text © 1995 Desmond Tutu, admin. Random House, Inc. and Lynn C. Franklin Associates, Ltd.  
Music © 1996 Iona Community, admin. GIA Publications, Inc. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com  
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## OFFERING PRAYER

Creator God,  
in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good  
and the harvest is plentiful.  
Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth  
and our labor,  
that we may work for the good of all;  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior.  
**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**

*You Are Holy (See insert)*

*ELW 525*

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God,  
you alone are holy,  
you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise:

beyond the stars;  
beneath the sea;  
within each cell;  
with every breath.

We praise you, O God.

**We praise you, O God.**

Generations bless your faithfulness:

through the water;  
by night and day;  
across the wilderness;  
out of exile;  
into the future.

We bless you, O God.

**We bless you, O God.**

We give you thanks for your dear Son:

at the heart of human life;  
near to those who suffer;  
beside the sinner;  
among the poor;  
with us now.

We thank you, O God.

**We thank you, O God.**

In the night in which he was betrayed...

Remembering his love for us  
on the way,  
at the table,  
and to the end,  
we proclaim the mystery of faith:  
**Christ has died.**  
**Christ is risen.**  
**Christ will come again.**

We pray for the gift of your Spirit:

in our gathering;  
within this meal;  
among your people;  
throughout the world.

Blessing, praise, and thanks  
to you, holy God,  
through Christ Jesus,  
by your Spirit,  
in your church,  
without end.  
**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.)*