

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 25, 2025



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

Visions abound in the readings for the sixth Sunday of Easter. Paul has a vision about what to do. John has a vision of what will be. Jesus provides visions of peace that surpasses human understanding and power beyond human imagination.

(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

(© 2012 Lorenz Publishing Co.)

Offertory on "Land of Rest"

Lani Smith

(Please stand as you are able.)

GATHERING

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

In the name of ✝ the One
who was, who is, and who is to come.

Amen.

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection,
and called to live the baptized life,
let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Holy God,
we give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
waters that make a people your own,
that restore to wholeness,
and empower us to be witnesses in your name.
Baptized into you, O Living One,
make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
waters that strengthen believers
and give new life to beloved servants of your church;
waters that extend your boundless love
and cross barriers of our own making.
Baptized into you, O Living One,
make us one as you are one.
We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,

STAFF

Rev. Mathew Berger, Pastor mathew.berger@stjohnsparkville.org 913-634-7131	Rev. Amy Berger, Pastor amy.berger@stjohnsparkville.org 443-286-5511
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

waters that open the hearts of believers
 and give a voice in the night to those in captivity;
 waters that set your people on a new path,
 rejoicing in the Spirit's power.
 Baptized into you, O Living One,
make us one as you are one.

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One,
 that our every day is shaped by these waters
 that give us our very lives in you.
 We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.
Amen.

GATHERING HYMN *Now All the Vault of Heaven Resound* **ELW 367**
(Text: Paul Z. Strodach, 1876-1947, alt.; Music: Geistliche Kirchengesange, Koln, 1623; 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

Bountiful God, you gather your people into your realm, and you promise us food from your tree of life. Nourish us with your word, that empowered by your Spirit we may love one another and the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

WORD

FIRST READING

Acts 16:9-15

A vision compels Paul to move his ministry into Greece. There he meets Lydia, an important person in the business community, whose heart has been opened by God to receive the gospel. Her conversion and baptism provide the impetus for the founding of the church at Philippi.

⁹ During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us."¹⁰ When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

This week's schedule

Today	9:00 am Sunday School & Faith + Fellowship (Fellowship Hall) 10:00 am Live & Online Worship
Mon.	Memorial Day (office closed)
Tues.	
Wed.	9:30 am Busy Bees (Smith Building)
Thurs.	
Fri.	Synod Assembly (Grace Lutheran, Westminster, MD) 11:00 am Bible Study (Smith Building)
Sat.	Synod Assembly (Grace Lutheran, Westminster, MD)

Counting our Blessings

Sun. 5/18	Attendance: 138	2025	
	Offering: \$6,307	February Offering Income	\$ 27,891
	Homebound:14	February Other Income	\$ 4,348
		February Total Income	\$ 32,239
		February Expenses	\$ 31,597
		YTD Offering Income	\$ 69,560
		YTD Other Income	\$ 12,449
		YTD Total Income	\$ 82,009
		YTD Expenses	\$ 77,092

¹¹ We therefore set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, ¹² and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. ¹³ On the Sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer, and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. ¹⁴ A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. ¹⁵ When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, “If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home.” And she prevailed upon us.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

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

Psalm 67

¹ May God be merciful to us and bless us;
may the light of God’s face shine upon us.

² **Let your way be known upon earth,
your saving health among all nations.**

³ Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

⁴ **Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations on earth.**

⁵ Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

⁶ **The earth has brought forth its increase;
God, our own God, has blessed us.**

⁷ May God give us blessing,
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe.

SECOND READING

Revelation 21:10, 22—22:5

John’s vision of a new Jerusalem coming out of heaven provides continuity with God’s past actions. Yet in this new city, God’s presence replaces the temple, and the glory of God and the Lamb supplants sun and moon.

¹⁰ And in the spirit [one of the angels] carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God.

²² I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. ²³ And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. ²⁴ The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. ²⁵ Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. ²⁶ People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. ²⁷ But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb’s book of life. ^{22:}



Prayer List

Please remember the following individuals in your prayers.

For health & healing: Joan Kraft, Betty Ehm, Shirley Kreh, Mary Gude, Olusegun Fowode, Marge Jasper, John McLaughlin, Julie Hastings, Kim Townsley, Mildred Schaffer, Bill Fliegel, Ruth Albrecht, Marion McDonough, Diane Carroll, Richard Souders, Oluseye Fowode, Robert Suznick, Lisa Duerling, Joan Swank, Pat Hurley, Debbie Miller, Sandy Scott and Vickie Jasinski

For family & friends: Marilyn Baldwin, Bob White, Wendy Kraft, Michael Elligson, Fred Smith, Anna Meyer, Rev. William Swisher, Patricia Dunn, Jerre Keller, Hank Truslow, Scott Hendricks, Ed, Chuck Taylor, Jane Esterby, Patsy Smith, Marianne Widderich, Peggy Lee Vanhouten, Hanna Greenberg, Charlotte Leach, Henry Davis, Bill Beck, Lynn Federline, Danielle Wilkinson, Dr. Vincent Wroblewski

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: David Rogers, Sr., Rev. William Swisher

For St. John’s Caring Friends: Patricia Becker, Agatha Biensach-Daniels, Barbara Conrad, Margaret Eubert, June Franz, Betty Glassband, Richard Hoerner, Patricia Hurley, Audrey Lentz, 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.



Our next Wednesday Night Worship will take place this Wednesday, June 4th after the Community Meal at 6:45 pm. This is a brief communion service held in the Smith Building with blended music featuring piano and/or guitar, as well as an interactive reflection. We hope you can join us and invite your friends and neighbors! **There will be no Wednesday Night Worship in July and August. We will resume in September.**

Join us for St. John's night at the Ironbirds game on Friday, June 20th at 7:05 pm. Tickets are \$13. There will be fireworks following the game. See David Evans or email him at ravenfan79@yahoo.com for tickets. The last day to purchase tickets is Sunday, June 8th.



Registration is open for our 2025 Vacation Bible School. VBS will take place July 14th—18th from 9:00 am– 12:30 pm. Forms are located on the 3rd floor bulletin board, in the newsletter, on our facebook page, and in the weekly email. We are in need of volunteers. If you can help, please contact Debbie Haacke at haackefamily@comcast.net or call her at 410-661-8970.

Registration is open for our 2025 Music Camps. Primary Music Campette is July 28th-30th from 9:00 am —12:00 pm for students who have completed K through grade 2. Summer Musical Camp is August 11th –15th from 9:00 am —2:00 pm for students who have completed grades 3 through 8. Registration forms are on the third floor bulletin board, in the weekly email and on our website.



We are in need of a few more people who would be willing to serve as kitchen managers for our monthly community meals and other events. This involves a free, one-day training in-person or online to receive a food license from the county. If interested, please be in touch with Robin Dibley!



Those Serving Today	
Assisting Minister	Amanda Hartman
Crucifer	James W.
Acolyte (s)	Jay C., Paige M.
Lector	Amanda W.
Communion Assistant	Amanda W.
Dismissal Assistant	Madilyn A.

¹ Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb ² through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month, and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. ³ Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; ⁴ they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. ⁵ And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

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

John 14:23-29

As Jesus talks of returning to the Father, he promises to send the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, who will teach Jesus' followers and remind them of all that Jesus taught. Even more, those in whom God makes a home will experience a peace that overcomes fear.

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²³ Jesus answered [Judas (not Iscariot)], “Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. ²⁴ Whoever does not love me does not keep my words, and the word that you hear is not mine but is from the Father who sent me.

²⁵ “I have said these things to you while I am still with you. ²⁶ But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I have said to you. ²⁷ Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you

as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. ²⁸ You heard me say to you, ‘I am going away, and I am coming to you.’ If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. ²⁹ And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur you may believe.”

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

O Spirit of Life

ELW 405

(Text: Johann Niedling, 1602-1668; tr. John C. Mattes, 1876-1948, alt.; Music: Geistliche Kirchengesanger, Koln, 1623; arr. Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685-1750)

NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

Announcements & Upcoming Events

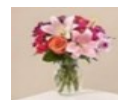
Next Week— Sunday, June 1st—Ascension of Our Lord

† 9 am—**Sunday School and Faith + 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 deceased members of the Busy Bees.

We are taking altar flower dedications for 2025. The cost is \$50. Contact Rachel Hills at rm_hills@yahoo.com if you would like to sponsor the flowers. Dates available are June 22nd and 29th, August 31st, September 7th and 28th, October 19th, November 30th, December 7th, 14th, 21st, and 28th.

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 is taking the summer off and will resume in the fall.

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.



BIBLE Study Join us for our Friday morning Bible Study at 11:00 am in the Smith Building. We are studying the Gospel of John. All are welcome!

The Food for Thought Program is packing 40 weekend bags each week for 20 students experiencing food insecurity at Carney Elementary. **At this time we are in need of: tuna & chicken salad kits.** Offering money helps support this effort too!



Attention all High School and College Graduates! Contact the church office with your name, school you are graduating from, school you will be attending in the fall and your major/degree. We will offer a blessing and a small gift later this summer and you will be recognized in the weekly email and our newsletter. Email this information to the church office at office@stjohnsparkville.org by the end of May.

Join us for our next Community Meal on Wednesday, June 4th beginning at 5:30 pm. Please come and invite your friends, family and neighbors! We need donations and volunteers. There is a sign up sheet on the third floor bulletin board. **There will be no Community Meals in July and August. We will resume in September.**



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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**John Calvin, renewer of the church, died 1564
Tuesday, May 27, 2025**

Gifted both as a systematic theologian and as an interpreter of scriptures, Calvin embraced the Reformation, and as a preacher in Geneva, Switzerland, brought a theocratic government to it. He is regarded as the father of the Reformed churches.

**Jiri Tranovský, hymnwriter, died 1637
Thursday, May 29, 2025**

Tranovský is considered to be the father of Slovak hymnody as well as an important reformer of the Slavic church. He translated the Augsburg Confession (the basis of Lutheran teachings) and published a collection of Slovak hymns.

**Visit of Mary to Elizabeth
Saturday, May 31, 2025**

This festival marks the occasion when Mary, pregnant with Jesus, visited her cousin Elizabeth who was herself pregnant with John. Elizabeth pronounced Mary "blessed among women," and Mary responded with the song called the Magnificat.
From sundaysandseasons.com.

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. 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 God’s peace. Afterwards, the assembly is seated.)

MEAL


OFFERTORY MUSIC *Higher Ground* *Lani Smith*
(© 2012 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. Checks and cash may be placed in the offering plate. You may also donate via venmo @stjohnsparkville



(Please stand as you are able.)

 **The church office will be closed on Monday, May 26th in observance of Memorial Day**

OFFERING HYMN

Come to the Table

ELW 481



Come to the ta - ble of mer - cy, pre - pared with the wine and the bread.



All who are hun - gry and thirst - y, come, and your souls will be fed.



Come at the Lord's in - vi - ta - tion; re - ceive from his nail - scarred hand.



Eat of the bread of sal - va - tion; drink of the blood of the Lamb.

Text: Claire Cloninger, b. 1942
 Music: COME TO THE TABLE, Martin J. Nystrom, b. 1956
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OFFERING PRAYER

Risen One,
 you have gathered us around your table of grace
 along with these gifts we bring.
 Come among us again,
 breathe your life into us,
 and enliven us with this meal,
 that we may live as your risen body in the world.
Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

You Are Holy

Du är helig



*1**
 Du är he - lig, du är hel. Du är all - tid myck - et mer
 You are ho - ly, you are whole. You are al - ways ev - er more



än vi nån - sin kan för - stå, du är nä - ra än - då.
 than we ev - er un - der - stand. You are al - ways at hand.



Väl - sig - nad va - re du som kom - mer hit just nu,
 Bless - ed are you com - ing near. Bless - ed are you com - ing here



väl - sig - na - de vår jord, blir till bröd på vår jord.
 to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised from dead.



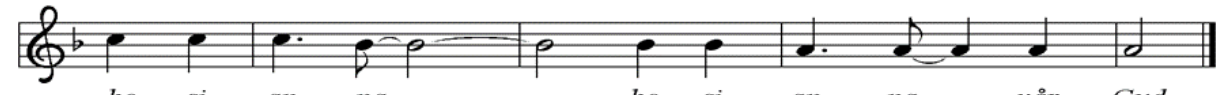
2
 Du är he - lig, du är hel - het,
 You are ho - ly, you are whole - ness,



du är när - het he - la kos - mos lo - var dig!
 you are pres - ent. Let the cos - mos praise you, Lord!



Ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na,
 Sing ho - san - na in the high - est!



ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na vår Gud.
 Sing ho - san - na! Sing ho - san - na to our God!

* May be sung in canon.

Text: Per Harling, b. 1945
 Music: DU ÄR HELIG, Per Harling
 Text and music © 1990 Tön Vis Produktion AB, admin. Augsburg Fortress in North America,
 South America, and Central America, including the Caribbean.

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SENDING

BLESSING

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

The triune God,
who was, who is, and who is to come,
Sovereign, ✝ Savior, and Spirit,
light your way with resurrection dawn,
now and always.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

ELW 815

(Text and music: Katherine Thomerson, b. 1934; Text and music© 1970, 1975 Celebration)

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

Postlude on “Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones”

Matthew McConnell

(© 2017 Lorenz Publishing Co.)

TODAY WE WELCOME Pastor Kelsey Green, as our presider and preacher, and thank her for sharing her gifts with us in worship. It is always good to have you here at St. John's!

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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,
for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ,
the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;
who in dying has destroyed death,
and in rising has brought us to eternal life.
And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection,
with earth and sea and all their creatures,
and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

You Are Holy (See page 13)

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 chosen people 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,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,

shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

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.

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.)

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.

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.*

Be known to us, Lord

ACS pg.40



Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

COMMUNION HYMNS

Come, Ye Disconsolate

ELW 607

(Text: Thomas Moore, 1779-1852, sts. 1-2; Thomas Hastings, 1784-1872, st. 3; Music: Samuel Webbe, St., 1740-1816)

Jerusalem, My Happy Home

ELW 628

(Text: F. B. P., 16th cent.; Music: North American traditional; arr. hymnal version; Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress)

(The assembly remains seated.)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Living One,
in this feast you have made yourself known to us.
Send us now to tell of your wonders,
sing of your glory,
and proclaim your risen life
to a wounded and weary world.
Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS