



**Welcome to**  
**St. John the Divine Episcopal Church**  
**17740 Peak Avenue, Morgan Hill, CA 95037**



**September 26, 2021**  
**The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**Holy Eucharist**

*St. John the Divine Episcopal Church in Morgan Hill is a welcoming, inclusive community, sharing the Love of God with one another through prayer, worship, fellowship, and pastoral care, and through our outreach ministries in the South Valley communities and the Diocese of El Camino Real.*

# WORD OF GOD

## Opening Hymn:

### It's Me, It's Me, It's Me, O Lord

Wonder, Love and Praise #797

traditional Negro spiritual

$\text{♩} = 66$

It's me, it's me, O Lord, stand-in' in the need of prayer;—

It's me, it's me, O Lord, stand-in' in the need of prayer.---

Not my broth - er, not my sis - ter, but it's me, O Lord,--  
Not the preach - er, not the dea - con, but it's me, O Lord,--  
Not my fath - er, not my moth - er, but it's me, O Lord,--  
Not the stran - ger, not my neigh - bor, but it's me, O Lord,--

stand - in' in the need of prayer,-- not my broth - er, not my sis - ter,  
stand - in' in the need of prayer,-- not the preach - er, not the dea - con,  
stand - in' in the need of prayer,-- not my fath - er, not my moth - er,  
stand - in' in the need of prayer,-- not the stran - ger, not my neigh - bor,

D.C.

but it's me, O Lord,-- stand - in' in the need of prayer.---  
but it's me, O Lord,-- stand - in' in the need of prayer.---  
but it's me, O Lord,-- stand - in' in the need of prayer.---  
but it's me, O Lord,-- stand - in' in the need of prayer.---

## Opening Acclamation

**Celebrant:** Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**People:** And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

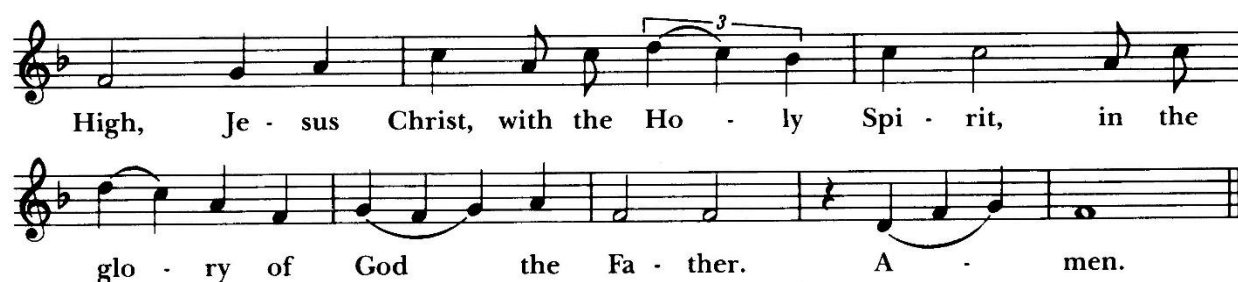
## Collect for Purity

### All

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen

### Gloria

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and  
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly  
King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we  
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus  
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you  
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy  
on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -  
ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,  
you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most



## *Collect of the Day*

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

God of welcome, your people are called to be distinct not by width of separation but depth of hospitality and peace within our lives: root out our resentment and free us to welcome all who work for life and liberation, whatever path they tread; through Jesus Christ, the companion of many ways. **Amen.**

## *The Lessons*

### *First Reading*

*Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22*

The king and Haman went in to feast with Queen Esther. On the second day, as they were drinking wine, the king again said to Esther, "What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled." Then Queen Esther answered, "If I have won your favor, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me-- that is my petition-- and the lives of my people-- that is my request. For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as slaves, men and women, I would have held my peace; but no enemy can compensate for this damage to the king." Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, "Who is he, and where is he, who has presumed to do this?" Esther said, "A foe and enemy, this wicked Haman!" Then Haman was terrified before the king and the queen.

Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs in attendance on the king, said, "Look, the very gallows that Haman has prepared for Mordecai, whose word saved the king, stands at Haman's house, fifty cubits high." And the king said, "Hang him on that." So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the anger of the king abated.

Mordecai recorded these things, and sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, both near and far, enjoining them that they should

keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar and also the fifteenth day of the same month, year by year, as the days on which the Jews gained relief from their enemies, and as the month that had been turned for them from sorrow into gladness and from mourning into a holiday; that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, days for sending gifts of food to one another and presents to the poor.

The Word of the Lord.

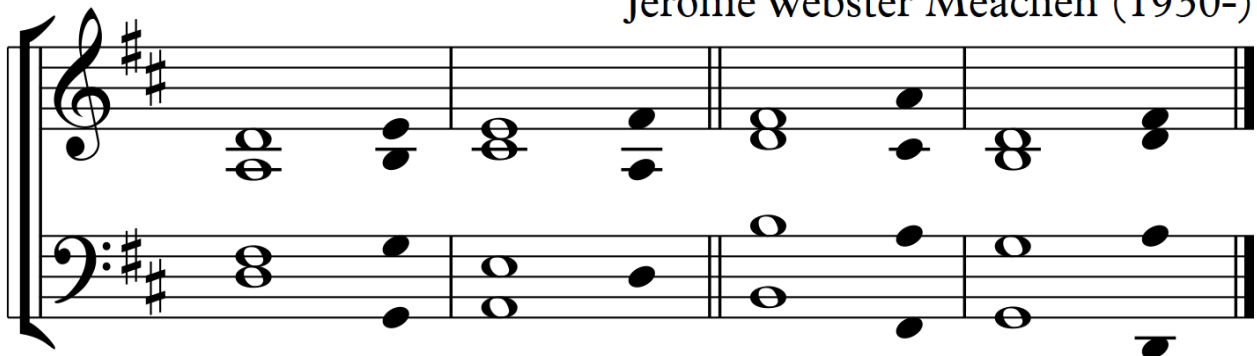
**All: Thanks be to God.**

*Psalm:*

*Psalm 124*

S415

Jerome Webster Meachen (1930-)



- <sup>1</sup> If the Lord had not been on our / side, \*  
let Israel now / say;
- <sup>2</sup> If the Lord had not been on our / side, \*  
when enemies rose up a / gainst us;
- <sup>3</sup> Then would they have swallowed us up a /live \*  
in their fierce anger / toward us;
- <sup>4</sup> Then would the waters have over / whelmed us \*  
and the torrent gone / over us;
- <sup>5</sup> Then would the raging / waters \*  
have gone right / over us.
- <sup>6</sup> Blessed be the / Lord! \*  
he has not given us over to be a prey for their / teeth.
- <sup>7</sup> We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the / fowler; \*  
the snare is broken, and we have es / caped.
- <sup>8</sup> Our help is in the Name of the / Lord, \*  
the maker of heaven and / earth.

## Second Reading

James 5:13-20

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

The Word of the Lord.

**All:**           **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand*

## Gospel Gradual:

### Bless the Good Where E'er it Grows

Michael Hudson, 2004

Songs for the Cycle, p.110

AUS DE TIEFE RUFTE ICH  
Martin Herbst (1654-1681)

*♩ = 52*

The musical score is written for a choir or congregation, featuring a treble and bass staff. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The tempo is marked as 52 beats per minute. The lyrics are arranged in three lines, with the first line having three verses. The second line has two verses. The third line has two verses. The lyrics are: 1. Bless the good where e'er it grows, bless what - ev - er gard - 'ner sows. 2. Bless the truth where e'er it blooms, in God's house are num - 'rous rooms. 3. Bless the fair where - e'er it shines, ev - ery star and atom that signs. seed to turn the bare ground green through an Earth where all may glean. Let a thou - sand col - ors grace sill and ta - ble, urn and vase. God a - bove us, ice and fire, God with - in us, heart's de - sire.

## ***Gospel Reading***

***Mark 9:38-50***

***Celebrant:*** The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

***All:*** **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

John said to Jesus, “Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.” But Jesus said, “Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

“If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

“For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

***Celebrant:*** The Gospel of the Lord.

***All:*** **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## ***Sermon***

***The Rev. Dcn. Robin Poppoff***



## *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:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man  
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.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He 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 People***

**Leader:** Let us pray for the Church and for the world. God of love, we pray for your church: For Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Lucinda, our Bishop; Karen, our Rector; and for all lay and ordained ministers; and for all who seek you in the community of the faithful. In the diocesan cycle of prayer we pray for all who work for ministries focusing on immigration rights and racial justice.

God of love,

**People:** **Hear our prayers for the church.**

*Silence — Add your prayers, silently or in your hearts*

**Leader:** God of freedom, we pray for our nation, and all the nations of the world: For peace and unity across barriers of language, color, and creed; for elected and appointed leaders, that they would serve the common good. Inspire all people with courage to speak out against hatred, to actively resist evil. Unite the human family in bonds of love.

God of freedom,

**People:** **Hear our prayers for the world.**

*Silence — Add your prayers, silently or in your hearts*

**Leader:** God of justice, we pray for the earth, your creation entrusted to our care: For the animals and birds, the mountains and oceans, and all parts of your creation that have no voice of their own. Stir up in us a thirst for justice that protects the earth and all its resources, that we may leave to our children's children the legacy of beauty and abundance that you have given us.

God of justice,

**People:** **Hear our prayers for the earth.**

*Silence — Add your prayers, silently or in your hearts*

**Leader:** God of peace, we pray for this community: For our local leaders; for our schools and markets; for our neighborhoods and workplaces. Kindle in every heart a desire for equality, respect, and opportunity for all. Give us courage to strive for justice and peace among all people, beginning here at home.

God of peace,

**People:** **Hear our prayers for this community.**

*Silence — Add your prayers, silently or in your hearts*

*Leader:* God of mercy, we pray for all in any kind of need or trouble: For those whose lives are closely linked with ours, and those connected to us as part of the human family. For refugees and prisoners; for the sick and suffering, the lonely and despairing; for those facing violence; for all held down by prejudice or injustice. Awaken in us compassion and humility of spirit, as we seek and serve Christ in all persons.

God of mercy,

*People:* **Hear our prayers for all who are in need.**

*Silence* — *Add your prayers, silently or in your hearts*

*Leader:* God of grace, we pray for those who have died: For the faithful in every generation who have worked for justice; for prophets who called us to racial reconciliation; for martyrs who died because of hatred; and for all the communion of saints. Make us faithful to your call to proclaim your Good News, by word and example, and bring us at last into the glorious company of the saints in light.

God of grace,

*People:* **Hear our prayers for those who have died.**

*Silence* — *Add your prayers, silently or in your hearts*

*Presider:* Hear our prayers, Holy God. Breathe your Spirit over us and all the earth, that barriers would crumble and divisions cease. Make us more fully your co-healers of the broken world. Unite us with all people in bonds of love, that the whole earth and all its peoples may be at peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## ***Confession of Sin***

*Celebrant:* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*(There will be a moment of silence)*

*People:* **Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. *Amen***

## ***Absolution***

*Celebrant:* Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

## ***The Peace***

*Celebrant:* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

*Exchange peace.*

## Offertory:

### Sing a New Song

Based on Psalm 98

Renew! # 21

Words and Music  
by Daniel L. Schutte

Sing a new song un - to the Lord; let your song be sung from moun - tains high.

Sing a new song un - to the Lord, sing-ing "Al - le - lu - ia." \_\_\_\_\_

1. Yah - weh's peo - ple dance for joy; O come be - fore the Lord. \_\_\_\_\_ And play for  
2. Rise, O chil - dren, from your sleep; your Sa - vior now has come. \_\_\_\_\_ He has  
3. Glad my soul for I have seen the glo - ry of the Lord. \_\_\_\_\_ The trum - pet

him on glad tam - bou-rines, and let your trum - pet sound. \_\_\_\_\_  
turned your sor - row to joy, and filled your soul with song. \_\_\_\_\_  
sounds; the dead shall be raised, I know my Sa - vior lives. \_\_\_\_\_

### Doxology (Old 100th)

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise him, all crea-tures here be - low;

praise him a-bove, ye heaven-ly host; praise Fa-ther, Son and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

# THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant:* Lift up your hearts.

*People:* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Celebrant:* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People:* **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*Celebrant*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For you are the source of light and life; you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

## Holy, Holy, Holy Lord *Sanctus*

S130

Setting from *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Peter Schubert, arr. Richard Proulx

The musical score is written for a vocal soloist and piano accompaniment. It is in 3/4 time and the key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The score consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano line (bass clef). The lyrics are: 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -'. The piano accompaniment features chords and moving lines that support the vocal melody. The vocal line includes some melisma (long notes) at the end of phrases.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,\_\_\_\_

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,\_\_\_\_

hea - ven and earth are full,\_\_\_\_ full\_\_\_\_ of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. 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.

*The Celebrant continues*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world.

In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

*Celebrant and People*

**We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;**

*The Celebrant continues*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all;  
presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with St. Stephen and St. John and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

*People and Celebrant*

**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,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

## *The Breaking of the Bread*

*Celebrant:* Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

*People:* **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

*Celebrant:* The Gifts of God for the People of God.

## *Communion Hymn:*

### Sweet Hour of Prayer

William Walford (1772-1850), alt.

The New Century Hymnal, #505

SWEET HOUR

William B. Bradbury (1816-1868)

$\text{♩} = 50$

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It features a treble and bass staff for the piano accompaniment and a single staff for the voice. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor), and the time signature is 6/8. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 50. The score is divided into four systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are written below the vocal line.

1. Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer, that calls me from a world of care,  
2. Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer, the joys I feel, the bliss I share  
3. Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer, thy wings shall my pe - ti - tion bear

and bids me at my Ma - ker's throne make all my wants and wish - es known:  
of those whose an - xious spi - rit's burn with strong de - sires for your re - turn!  
to One whose truth and faith - ful - ness en - gage the wait - ing soul to bless.

in sea - sons of dis - tress and grief my soul has oft - en found re - lief,  
With them I has - ten to the place where I would know my Sav - ior's face,  
And since I'm bid to see God's face, be - lieve God's word, and trust God's grace,

and oft es - caped the temp - ter's snare by your re - turn, sweet hour of prayer.  
and glad - ly take my sta - tion there, and wait for you, sweet hour of prayer.  
I'll cast a - way my ev - ery care, and wait for you, sweet hour of prayer.



## ***Post Communion Prayer***

*Please stand*

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

**Eternal God, heavenly Father,  
you have graciously accepted us as living members  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,  
and you have fed us with spiritual food  
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.  
Send us now into the world in peace,  
and grant us strength and courage  
to love and serve you  
with gladness and singleness of heart;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## ***The Blessing***

### ***Announcements***

### ***Birthday and Anniversary Blessings***

**Birthday Blessing:** Watch over your birthday *children*, O Lord; as *their* days increase; bless and guide *them* wherever *they* may be. Strengthen *them* when *they* stand; comfort *them* when discouraged or sorrowful; raise *them* up if *they* fall; and in *their* hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of *their* lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Anniversary Blessing:** O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his church: Send therefore your blessing upon these your servants, that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Mission Song:

### He's Got the Whole World in His Hands

Moderately

Christian Children's Songbook, p. 90

Traditional Spiritual

He's got the whole world in His hands, He's got the whole wide world  
in His hands, He's got the whole world  
in His hands, He's got the whole world in His hands. He's got the  
lit - tle ti - ny ba-by in His hands, He's got the lit - tle ti - ny ba-by in His hands, He's got the  
boys\_ and the girls boys\_ and the girls  
moms and the dads moms and the dads  
cats\_ and the dogs cats\_ and the dogs

1. lit - tle ti - ny ba-by in His hands, He's got the whole world in His hands. He's got the hands.  
boys\_ and the girls  
moms and the dads  
cats\_ and the dogs

2. He's got the hands.

Repeat first verse at end.

## The Dismissal

**Celebrant:** Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

**People:** Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

**Birthdays** last week and this week:

Lily Fiorito, Evelyn Kiepen, Jane Devine, Sue Cyr, Doris Matthews, Trisha Gillotte, Pamela Drayton, Natalie Portera, Ramona Hague, Alexandra Hertzner

**Anniversaries** last week and this week:

Greg & Mia Parish, Denise Valdez & Luis Cardenas, Tom & Virginia Scott

**Parish announcements:**

- Worship next Sunday, October 3rd, will be indoors at St. Stephen's and live streamed at 10:00am. The link will be sent out in the Friday newsletter and posted on our website.
- Community Solutions always needs diapers and wipes.
- We are also collecting full sized toiletries and cleaning supplies. Please drop off your donations at the church.

***Reminder:*** *Next week's service is at 10:00am at St. Stephen's indoors. (There is plenty of room for parishioners from both churches to attend the in-person services.)*

*All are welcome!*