

21st Sunday after Pentecost

October 22, 2023

8:30 & 11:00 am and Livestream



Sundays and Seasons

FAITH . DISCIPLESHIP . COMMUNITY
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

1515 Emmorton Road
Bel Air, Maryland 21014
410-838-8081

The Rev. Alejandro Mejia, Interim Senior Pastor
The Rev. William (Bill) Gohl, Jr., Interim Associate Pastor

In our Lutheran Tradition, liturgy reminds us that we are one in Christ, hence we do it together! Therefore, words in bold and designated by a "C" are the responses from the community.

Enter Reverently. Meditate Quietly. Worship Joyfully. Serve Christ Faithfully.

✦ GATHERING ✦

Prelude

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P *Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who looks upon us in compassion, forgives our sin, and heals our lives.*

C **Amen.**

P *Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.*

Silence is kept for reflection.

P *Have mercy, O God,*

C **against you, you alone, we have sinned. In your compassion, cleanse us from our sin and take away our guilt. Create in us a new heart and give us a steadfast spirit. Do not cast us away, but fill us with your Holy Spirit and restore your joy within us. Amen.**

P *As tender as parent to child, so deep is God's compassion for you. As high as heaven is above earth, so vast is God's love for you. As far as east is from west, so far God removes your sin from you, renewing your life through Jesus Christ. Blessed be God who crowns us with mercy and love.*

C **Blessed be God forever.**



1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small;
4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light;



in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;
in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;
thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;



most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
we blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,
all laud we would ren - der; oh, help us to see



al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise!
thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
and with - er and per - ish, but naught chang - eth thee.
'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!


P *The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.*

C **And also with you.**

Refrain

 This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb


 who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

Refrain

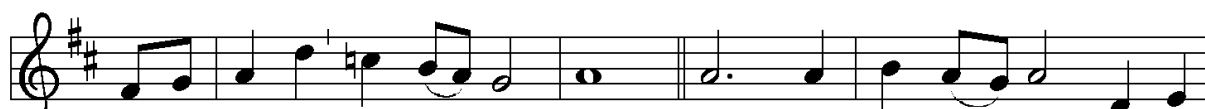
 This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,


 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and

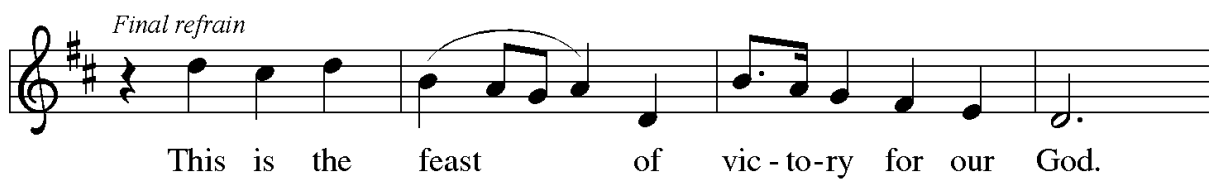
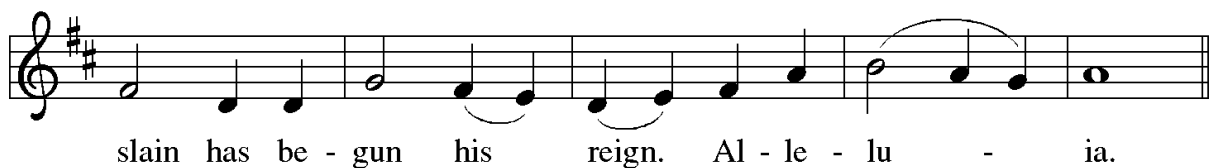

 strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain

 This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,


 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of


 God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,



P *The Lord be with you.*

C **And also with you.**

P *Let us pray. Sovereign God,*

C **raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

✦ THE WORD ✦

First Reading

Isaiah 45:1-7

A *A reading from Isaiah. ¹Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped to subdue nations before him and strip kings of their robes, to open doors before him—and the gates shall not be closed: ²I will go before you and level the mountains, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron, ³I will give you the treasures of darkness and riches hidden in secret places, so that you may know that it is I, the Lord, the God of Israel, who call you by your name. ⁴For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name, I surname you, though you do not know me. ⁵I am the Lord, and there is no other; besides me there is no god. I arm you, though you do not know me, ⁶so that they may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is no one besides me; I am the Lord, and there is no other. ⁷I form light and create darkness, I make weal and create woe; I the Lord do all these things.*

A *The Word of the Lord.*

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Psalm 96:1-9

Read Responsively

A *¹Sing to the Lord a new song;
sing to the Lord, all the earth.*

C **²Sing to the Lord, bless the name of the Lord;
proclaim God's salvation from day to day.**

- A** *³Declare God's glory among the nations
and God's wonders among all peoples.*
- C** **⁴For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised,
more to be feared than all gods.**
- A** *⁵As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols;
but you, O Lord, have made the heavens.*
- C** **⁶Majesty and magnificence are in your presence;
power and splendor are in your sanctuary.**
- A** *⁷Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples,
ascribe to the Lord honor and power.*
- ⁸Ascribe to the Lord the honor due the holy name;*
- C** **bring offerings and enter the courts of the Lord**
- ⁹Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;
tremble before the Lord, all the earth.**

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

- A** *A reading from Paul's letter to the Thessalonians. ¹Paul, Silvanus,
and Timothy,
To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord
Jesus Christ:
Grace to you and peace.*
- ²We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our
prayers, constantly ³remembering before our God and Father your
work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord
Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that
he has chosen you, ⁵because our message of the gospel came to you
not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with
full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to
be among you for your sake. ⁶And you became imitators of us and of
the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy*

inspired by the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

A *The Word of the Lord.*

C **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able.

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

Repeat alleluia

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 22:15-22

P *The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the twenty-second chapter.*

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹⁵Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. ¹⁶So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of

God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?” ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰Then he said to them, “Whose head is this, and whose title?” ²¹They answered, “The emperor’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” ²²When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

P *The Gospel of the Lord.*
C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

Sermon

The Rev. Alejandro Mejía

Please stand as you are able.

1 God of the fer - tile fields, sha - per of
 2 We would be stew - ards true, hold - ing in
 3 As grows the hid - den seed to fruit that
 4 God of the coun - try - side, dear to the

earth that yields our dai - ly bread: forth from your
 trust from you all that you give; help us in
 serves our need, so your reign grows. Let all our
 Christ who died to make us one: we pledge our

boun - teous hand come gifts your love has planned,
 love to share, teach us like you to care
 toil be used, no gift of yours a - busied,
 lives a - new in faith - ful love to you.

that all in ev - 'ry land be clothed and fed.
 for peo - ple ev - 'ry - where, that all may live.
 no hum - ble task re - fused your love be - stows.
 Guide all we say and do. Your will be done.

Text: Georgia Harkness, 1891–1974, alt.

Music: ITALIAN HYMN, Felice de Giardini, 1716–1796

Text © 1955, ren. 1983 The Hymn Society, admin Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved.

A *Let us confess our faith using the words of the Apostle's Creed.*

C **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 into hell. 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.

A *Trusting in the transformative power of God's loving Spirit, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.*

A brief silence.

After each portion of the prayers:

A *God of Grace,*

C **hear our prayer.**

The prayers conclude:

P *Gracious God, into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your unending love and amazing grace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.*

C **Amen.**

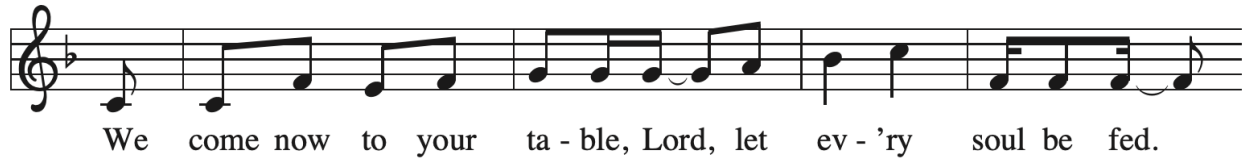
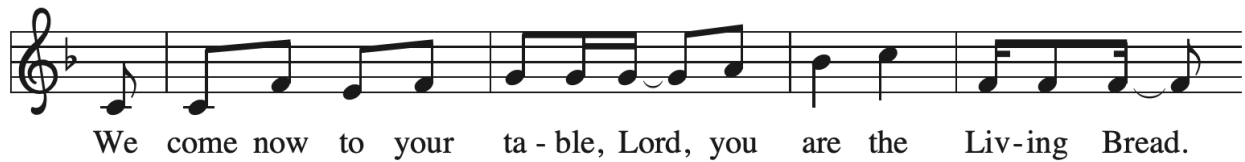
P *The peace of the Lord be with you always.*

C **And also with you.**

After sharing the peace, please be seated.

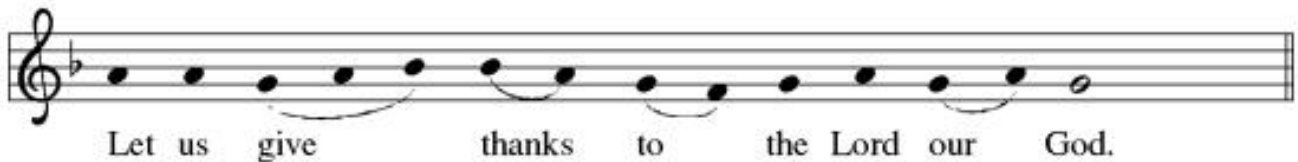
Offering and Offertory

Please stand, as you are able.



A *Let us pray. God of power, God of plenty,*
C **all things belong to you. We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed. Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

✦ THE EUCHARIST ✦



The thanksgiving continues with the preface for the season; the congregation responds:



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.



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!

P *In the night in which he was betrayed...*

Again, after supper...

*Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end,
we proclaim the mystery of faith:*

C **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

P *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.*

C **Amen.**

P *Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior taught us:*

C **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.**

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

C **Thanks be to God.**

Please be seated.

*We welcome to the table all who proclaim with us that Jesus Christ is truly present in the bread and the
wine. (Note: should you prefer, we also offer gluten free wafers and grape juice.
Just let the Pastor or Assistants know.)*

If you require communion to be brought to you in the pew, please alert an usher.

During the distribution of communion, the following is sung:



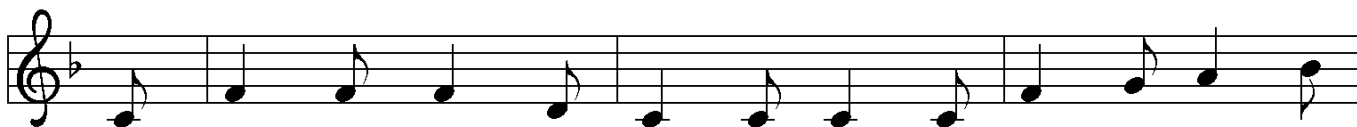
1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
 2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
 3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



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.

I Come with Joy

No. 482



1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and
 2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to find, as all are
 3 As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion
 4 The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but ev - er
 5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that God has



free, the life of Je - sus to re - call in
 fed, the new com - mu - ni - ty of love in
 ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and
 near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known, a -
 done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the



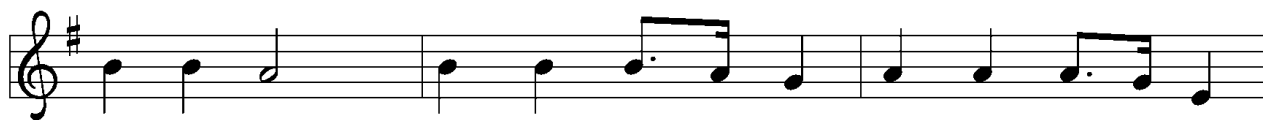
love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.
 Christ's com - mu - nion bread, in Christ's com - mu - nion bread.
 strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.
 live a - mong us here, a - live a - mong us here.
 love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine

No. 774



1 What a fel - low-ship, what a joy di - vine, lean - ing on the ev - er -
2 Oh, how sweet to walk in this pil - grim way, lean - ing on the ev - er -
3 What have I to dread, what have I to fear, lean - ing on the ev - er -



last - ing arms; what a bless - ed - ness, what a peace is mine,
last - ing arms; oh, how bright the path grows from day to day,
last - ing arms? I have bless - ed peace with my Lord so near,



lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

Refrain



Lean - ing, lean - ing, safe and se - cure from all a - larms;



lean - ing, lean - ing, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

After all have communed, please stand, as you are able.

P *The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.*

C **Amen.**

A *Let us pray. Blessed be your name, O God,*
C **for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

✦ **SENDING** ✦

P *May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord's face shines on you with grace and mercy. May the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the name of the Parent, ✠ the Son and the Holy Spirit.*

C **Amen.**

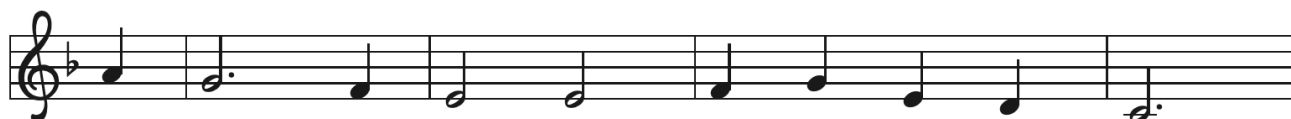
Sending Hymn

Go to the World

ACS No. 991



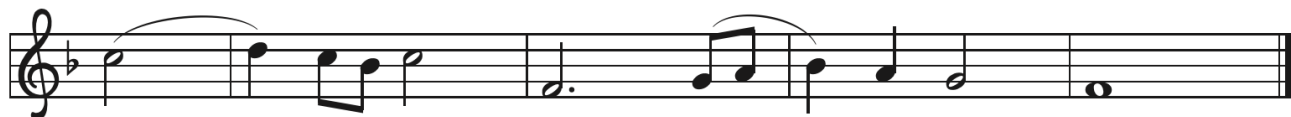
1 Go to the world! Go in - to all the earth.
 2 Go to the world! Go in - to ev - 'ry place.
 3 Go to the world! Go strug - gle, bless, and pray;
 4 "Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,



Go preach the cross where Christ re - news life's worth,
 Go live the word of God's re - deem - ing grace.
 the nights of tears give way to joy - ous day.
 for I am with you till the age shall end,



bap - tiz - ing as the sign of our re - birth.
 Go seek God's pres - ence in each time and space.
 As ser - vant church, you fol - low Christ's own way.
 when all the hosts of glo - ry cry, A - men!"



Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

A *Go in peace. God is at work in you.*

C **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

Postlude

The Flowers are Given to the Glory of God by

*Neal & Lelia Siebold in Thanksgiving on their 65th Wedding Anniversary
and by
Geoff & Janet DeVinney in Honor of the Gift of their 34th Wedding
Anniversary.*

Pray for Those That Need God's Healing

*Ray, Donald, Al, Donna, Lind, Joan, Ed, Marion, Doris, Theresa, Charles,
Elaine, Georgeann, Jean, Lee, Nicholas, Lois, Barbara & Bruce*

Pray for Members of the Military

*Josh, Michael, Nick, Ryan, Matt, Kyle, Christopher,
Andrew, Jason, and Matthew*

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SERVING TODAY

	8:30 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
Greeters		
Assisting Minister	Tina Zimmerman	Janet DeVinney
Communion Assistants	Tricia Horst	
Ushers	Doyle McCracken	Peggy Thomas John Hemlick
Acolytes		
Livestream		Joel Raedeke