

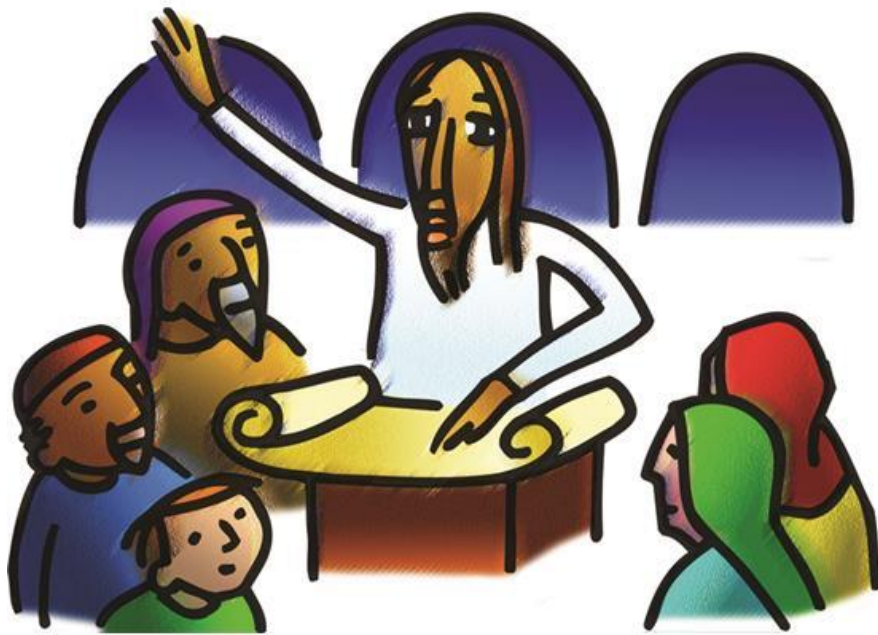


Faith Lutheran Church

**We warmly greet members
and visitors in Jesus' name!**

August 22, 2021 9:00 A.M.

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost



In today's gospel many people take offense at Jesus' invitation to eat his flesh and drink his blood; even many of Jesus' disciples peel off. This is the backdrop in John's gospel for Peter's confession of faith. "To whom can we go?" asks Peter, in words we sometimes sing just before the gospel is read. "You have the words of eternal life." In order to take such a stand, as Peter and Joshua did, Paul tells us to arm ourselves with the word of God. We pray in the Spirit that we might be bold ambassadors of the gospel.

Welcome to worship at Faith Lutheran Church!

Gathered faithfully to love and serve God and all others.

All the baptized are invited to the celebration of Holy Communion, trusting that Christ is present in this Sacrament for the forgiveness of our sin and the strengthening of our faith.

Thank You for Serving Today:

Presiding Minister: Rev. Larry Wright
Proclamation Minister: Rev. Dr. Robert Mursch
Lectors: Nancy Wilborn (1st reading), Scott Rice (2nd reading),
Ausma Mursch (Prayers of Intercession)
Cantor: Kyle Wiskow
Greeting & Ushering Ministry: Thomas & Amanda Bright, Eloise Dettmer,
Grace Kaarre, Judy Millard, Scott Rice, and Joan
Searles
Videography Ministry: Andrea & Sergio Gamboa, Casey Taylor, & Nancy
Taylor
Music Director: Dr. Joseph Holt
Organist: Dr. James Walton
Altar Guild: Carole Inkrott, Judy Millard, Janet Phillips and Steve
& Peggy Ragan

Congregation Council President: Ann Greenwood
Council Members: Eloise Dettmer (Vice President), Sandra Brinker
(Secretary), Amanda Bright, Grace Kaarre, Gail
Lidinsky, Joan Searles, and Nancy Taylor

Staff

Operations Manager: Tami Page
Preschool Director: Amanda Grados
Sexton: Jason Page

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Patty McKee in memory of Don McKee.

Faith has a hearing loop for hearing aids which have the T-Coil enabled. Please request a hearing aid device from an usher.

The following are noted throughout the service:

P: Presiding Minister

L: Lector

C: Congregation

NOTE: This service is being live-streamed. While we try to avoid filming congregants, it may happen at times. During communion, the right side of the sanctuary will be filmed. Those who do not wish to appear in the video may choose to sit on the left side of the sanctuary.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING OF FAITH EARLY LEARNING CENTER STAFF



This morning, as we begin a new school year, we celebrate those who teach, administer the work of teaching, and support the work of teaching at our amazing Faith Early Learning Center. Our school has touched the lives of over five hundred children and families in our community, in the seven years it has been in existence.

We would like to introduce the members of the FELC staff and Board. Amanda Grados, Preschool Director, will introduce the members of her staff and Candi Messerschmidt, Board Chair, will introduce members of the Board.

Those called to this important role of making a difference in the lives of young children need our loyal support, prayers, and God's blessings.

FELC Staff:

Amanda Grados, Director
Angelina Battle
Larisa Belonozhko
Lisa Brown
Katie Catanzano
Santa Cirule
Susan Grados, Office Staff
Mey Rose Haus-Reyes
Minh La
Kavita Mishra
Monica Palmer
Amber Queen
Ayu Susanto
Nina Wisehart
Rusmini Zorn

FELC Board:

Candice Messerschmidt,
Chairperson
Michael Schell, Vice-Chairperson
Karen Koblenz, Treasurer
Kay Deming, Secretary
Alicia Piro-Bousman
Ausma Mursch
Pr. Robert Mursch, Pastor Liaison
Scott Rice
Nancy Wilborn
Amanda Bright, Council Liaison

*Better than a thousand days of diligent study
is one day with a great teacher.*

PRELUDE *His Eye is on the Sparrow*

Civilla D. Martin, arr. Mark Patterson

WE STAND

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.

C: Amen.

P: Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: God, our provider,

C: help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.

P: Beloved people of God:

in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished.

By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough.

Through Jesus, ✙ the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy:

you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

C: Amen.

WE SIT

OPENING HYMN

Children of the Heavenly Father
Verses 1, 2, & 4

ELW 781



Children of the Heavenly Father

Truggare kan ingen vara



Tryg - ga - re kan ing - en va - ra än Guds lil - la bar - na - ska - ra,
1 Chil - dren of the heav'n-ly Fa - ther safe - ly in his bo - som gath - er;
2 God his own doth tend and nour-ish, in his ho - ly courts they flour - ish.
3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er from the Lord his chil - dren sev - er;
4 Though he giv - eth or he tak - eth, God his chil-dren ne'er for - sak - eth;



stjär - nan ej på him - la - fäs - tet, få - geln ej i kän - da näs - tet.
nest - ling bird nor star in heav - en such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.
From all e - vil things he spares them, in his might - y arms he bears them.
un - to them his grace he show - eth, and their sor - rows all he know - eth.
his the lov - ing pur - pose sole - ly to pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903; tr. Ernst W. Olson, 1870–1958

Music: TRYGGARE KAN INGEN VARA, Swedish folk tune

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WE STAND

GREETING

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.

Kyrie

Liturgist and then congregation

0 Lord, have mercy. 0 Lord, have mercy.

0 Lord, have mercy, have mercy Lord, have mercy Lord on us.

0 Christ, have mercy. 0 Christ, have mercy.

0 Christ, have mercy, have mercy Lord, have mercy Lord on us.

0 Lord, have mercy. 0 Lord, have mercy.

0 Lord, have mercy, have mercy Lord, have mercy Lord on us.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE - Congregation & Cantor (next page)

Refrain
Assisting minister



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

All



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo - ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



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

Refrain



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



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

Holy God, your word feeds your people with life that is eternal. Direct our choices and preserve us in your truth, that, renouncing what is false and evil, we may live in you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

WE SIT

FIRST READING: Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

L: A reading from Joshua.

¹Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. ^{2a}And Joshua said to all the people, ¹⁴"Now therefore revere the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. ¹⁵Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD."

¹⁶Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods; ¹⁷for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; ¹⁸and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God."

Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 34:15-22

Refrain

**C: ¹⁵The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous,
and God's ears are open to their cry.**

**¹⁶The face of the LORD is against those who do evil,
to erase the remembrance of them from the earth.**

**¹⁷The righteous cry, and the LORD hears them
and delivers them from all their troubles.**

**¹⁸The LORD is near to the brokenhearted
and saves those whose spirits are crushed.**

Refrain

**C: ¹⁹Many are the troubles of the righteous,
but the LORD delivers them from every one.
²⁰God will keep safe all their bones;
not one of them shall be broken.
²¹Evil will bring death to the wicked
and those who hate the righteous will be punished.
²²O LORD, you redeem the life of your servants,
and those who put their trust in you will not be punished.**

Refrain

SECOND READING: Ephesians 6:10-20

L: A reading from Ephesians.

¹⁰Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. ¹¹Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. ¹²For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. ¹³Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. ¹⁴Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. ¹⁵As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. ¹⁶With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. ¹⁸Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. ¹⁹Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

WE STAND

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: John 6:56-69

P: The holy gospel according to John.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: [Jesus said,] ⁵⁶“Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. ⁵⁷Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. ⁵⁸This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever.” ⁵⁹He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

⁶⁰When many of his disciples heard it, they said, “This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?” ⁶¹But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, “Does this offend you? ⁶²Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? ⁶³It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. ⁶⁴But among you there are some who do not believe.” For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. ⁶⁵And he said, “For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father.”

⁶⁶Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. ⁶⁷So Jesus asked the twelve, “Do you also wish to go away?” ⁶⁸Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. ⁶⁹We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.”

The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

WE SIT

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Robert Mursch



- 1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!
- 2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;
- 3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blest,



Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God, born of his Spir-it, washed in his blood.
an-gels de-scend-ing bring from a-bove ech-oes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love.
watch-ing and wait-ing, look-ing a-bove, filled with his good-ness, lost in his love.

Refrain

This is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long:



this is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long.

APOSTLES' 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 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.

WE SIT

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Prayers are given by the Lector. At the words, "Lord, in your mercy," please respond, **hear our prayer.**

P: Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

WE STAND

PEACE *(feel free to greet your neighbor with a word of peace)*

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Offering plates are placed at the entrance to the sanctuary. Online giving is also available at www.faithlutheransrq.com. We sincerely appreciate your generosity in support of Faith Lutheran's ministries.

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray.

C: Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

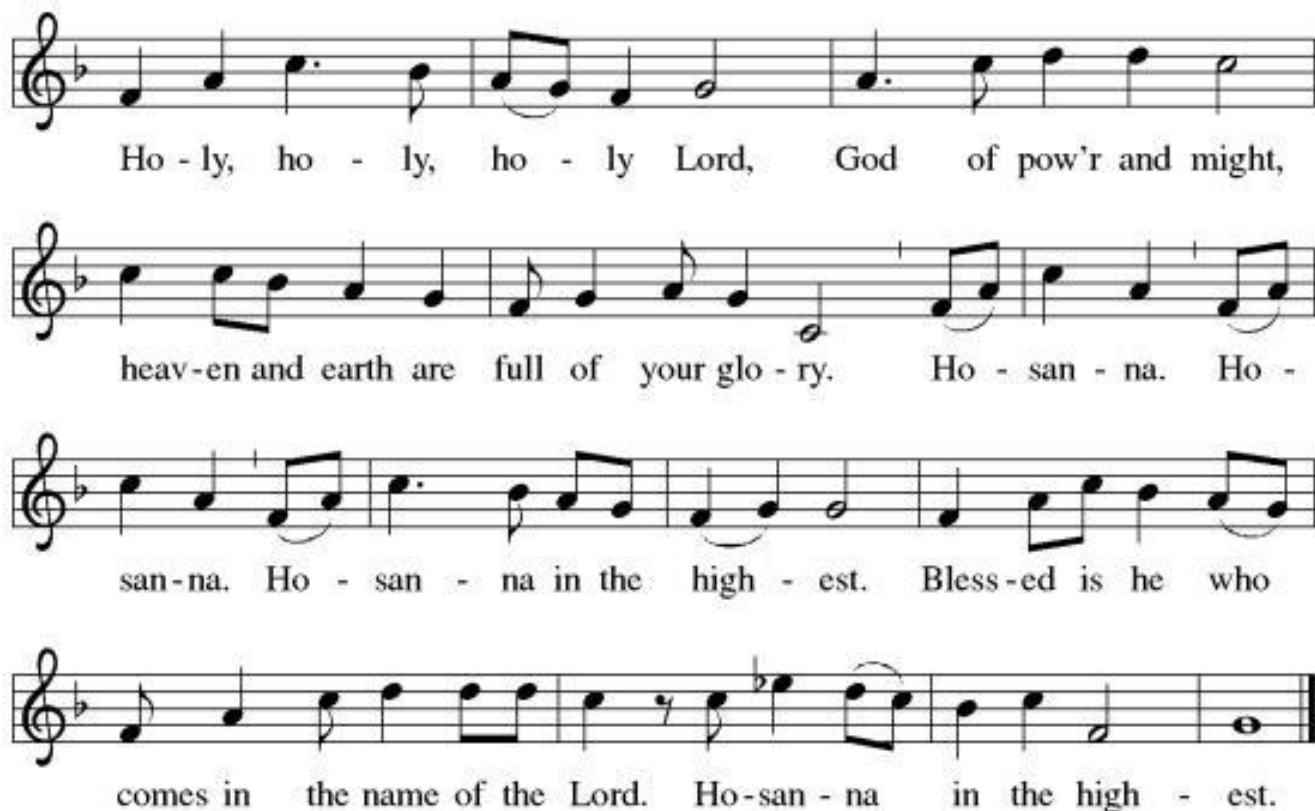
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

P: 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:



The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san-na. 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 - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. 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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign. You have filled all creation with light and life; heaven and earth are full of your glory.

We praise you for the grace shown to your people in every age: the promise to Israel, the rescue from Egypt, the gift of the promised land, the words of the prophets; and, at this end of all the ages, the gift of your Son, who proclaimed the good news in word and deed and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

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

P: Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us. And, believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast.

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P: Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, that we who share in Christ's body and blood may live to the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

C: Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

P: Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!

COMMUNION ANTHEM *At the Table of the Lord*

Jay Althouse
Kyle Wiskow, Soloist

*At this time ushers will invite you to come forward for your communion cup.
Please return to your pew, where we will commune together, with the words,
"the body of Christ given for you. The blood of Christ shed for you."*

COMMUNION

P: The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Let us pray.

C: Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray. Amen.

BLESSING

P: The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, ✝ be upon you now and forever.

C: Amen.

SENDING SONG

Go, My Children, with My Blessing
Verses 1 & 3

ELW 543

Go, My Children, with My Blessing



1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.
2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.
Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.
Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com - fort stilled you.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own."
Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."
Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free."

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Prelude in B-flat Major, Op. 23 #2

Sergei Rachmaninoff

We kindly ask you to remain seated until the usher signals your row.



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