

# Tenth Sunday after Pentecost August 2, 2026

Welcome!

We delight in have guests and are glad that you have joined us today.

## First Lutheran Church

6 Eddy Street  
Waltham, MA 02453-7753  
781-893-6563

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

Follow us on Facebook at  
First Lutheran Church - Waltham, MA

The Rev. Thomas E. Maehl,  
Pastor [tmaehl@rcn.com](mailto:tmaehl@rcn.com)

Ms. Cynthia Niiler,  
Director of Music  
and Parish Secretary  
[firstlutheranwalthamoffice@gmail.com](mailto:firstlutheranwalthamoffice@gmail.com)

Vicar Trevor Boe, Intern  
[firstlutheranwalthamvicar@gmail.com](mailto:firstlutheranwalthamvicar@gmail.com)

### Today's Worship Leaders

#### Pastor

Tom Maehl

#### Musician

Sandy Hebert

#### Assistant Minister

Ann Sjodin

#### Acolyte

#### Lector

Brad Nederhoff

#### Ushers

Steve Latter

??

#### A/V

Steve Hoff

#### Altar Care

Ann Sjodin

## Prelude

## Welcome and Announcements

### GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

*The congregation is invited to stand*

## Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God,  
the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.  
**Amen.**

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

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God, our provider,  
**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.**

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.  
**Amen.**

## Gathering Hymn: "O Jesus, Joy of Living Hearts"

1 O Je - sus, joy of lov - ing hearts, the fount of  
2 We taste you, ev - er - liv - ing bread, and long to  
3 For you our rest - less spir - its yearn, wher - e'er our  
4 O Je - sus, ev - er with us stay! Make all our

life, the light of all: from ev - 'ry bliss that earth im -  
feast up - on you still; we drink of you, the foun - tain -  
chang - ing lot is cast; glad, when your smile on us you  
mo - ments fair and bright! Oh, chase the night of sin a -

parts we turn, un - filled, to hear your call.  
head; our thirst - ing souls from you we fill.  
turn, blest, when by faith from we hold you fast.  
way! Shed o'er the world your ho - ly light.

### 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.**

## Kyrie



**A** Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **C** Lord, have mer - cy.  
*Lord, . . . . have mer - cy:*



**A** Chri - ste e - le - i - son: **C** Christ, have mer - cy.  
*Christ, . . . . have mer - cy:*



**A** Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **C** Lord, have mer - cy.  
*Lord, . . . . have mer - cy:*

## Hymn of Praise



**C** Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



**I** Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we



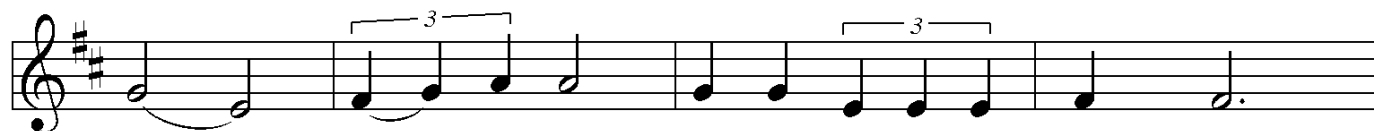
wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



**C** Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



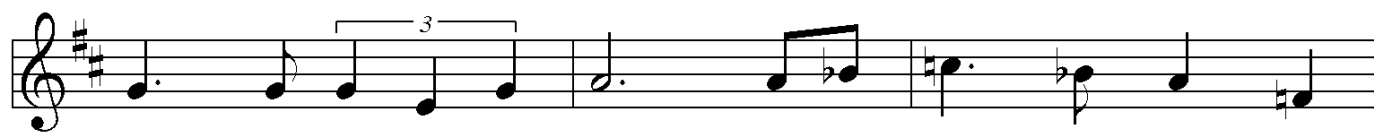
glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



II Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the



right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



III Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

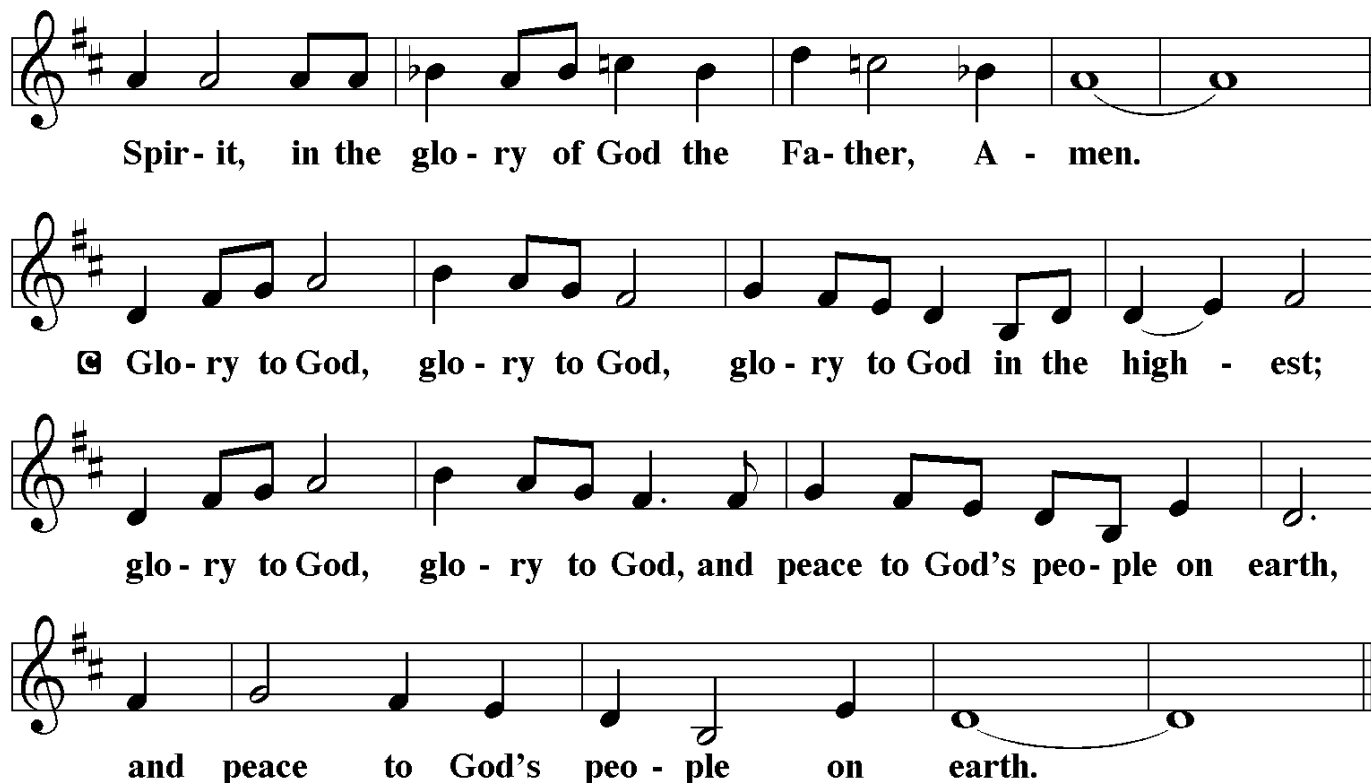


I For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,

II



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly



### The Prayer of the Day

Glorious God, your generosity waters the world with goodness, and you cover creation with abundance. Awaken in us a hunger for the food that satisfies both body and spirit, and with this food fill all the starving world; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

### HEARING GOD'S WORD

*The congregation is seated*

#### First Reading: Isaiah 55:1-5

Hear, everyone who thirsts;  
 come to the waters;  
 and you who have no money,  
 come, buy and eat!  
 Come, buy wine and milk  
 without money and without price.  
 Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread  
 and your earnings for that which does not satisfy?  
 Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,  
 and delight yourselves in rich food.  
 Incline your ear, and come to me;  
 listen, so that you may live.  
 I will make with you an everlasting covenant,  
 my steadfast, sure love for David.

See, I made him a witness to the peoples,  
a leader and commander for the peoples.  
Now you shall call nations that you do not know,  
and nations that do not know you shall run to you,  
because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel,  
for he has glorified you.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm:** Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21

The Lord is gracious and full of compassion,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

**Lord, you are good to all,  
and your compassion is over all your works.**

The Lord upholds all those who fall  
and lifts up those who are bowed down.

**The eyes of all wait upon you, O Lord,  
and you give them their food in due season.**

You open wide your hand  
and satisfy the desire of every living thing.

**You are righteous in all your ways  
and loving in all your works.**

You are near to all who call upon you,  
to all who call upon you faithfully.

**You fulfill the desire of those who fear you;  
you hear their cry and save them.**

You watch over all those who love you,  
but all the wicked you shall destroy.

**My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord;  
let all flesh bless God's holy name forever and ever.**

**Second Reading:** Romans 9:1-5

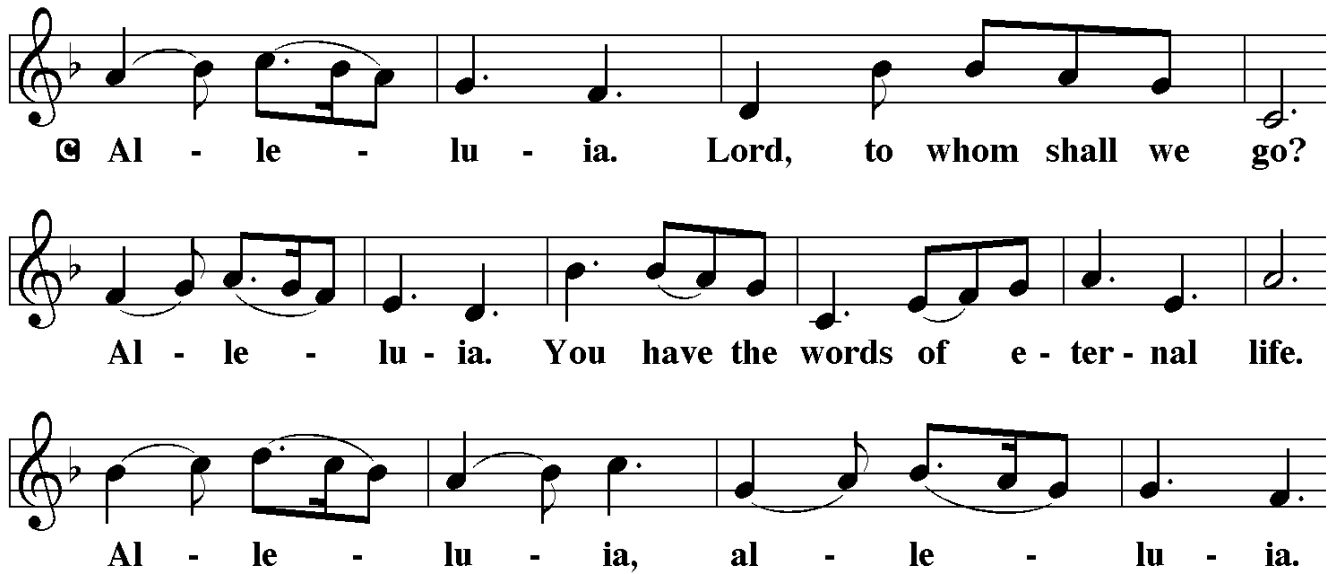
I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit—I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own brothers and sisters, my own flesh and blood. They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Christ, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The congregation is invited to stand*

## Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

Al - le - lu - ia. You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

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

## Gospel: Matthew 14:13-21

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

### Glory to you, O Lord

Now when Jesus heard [about the beheading of John the Baptist,] he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves." Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish." And he said, "Bring them here to me." Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and blessed and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all ate and were filled, and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The congregation is seated*

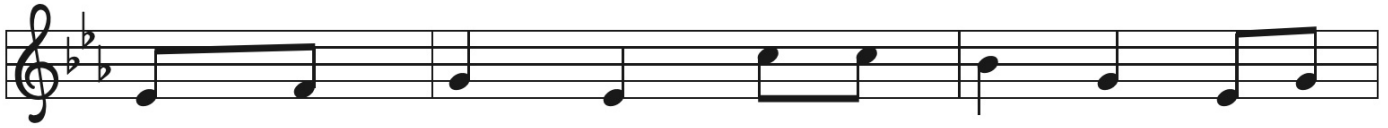
## Children's Sermon

### Sermon

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

*The congregation is invited to stand*

**Hymn of the Day:** "Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken"



1 Loaves were bro - ken, words were spo - ken by the  
2 Loaves were bro - ken, words were spo - ken in a  
3 Loaves are bro - ken, words are spo - ken, as in  
4 By the loaves you break and give us, send us



Gal - i - le - an shore. Je - sus, Bread of life from  
qui - et room one night. In the bread and wine you  
faith we gath - er here. Je - sus speaks a - cross the  
in your name to share bread for which the mil - lions

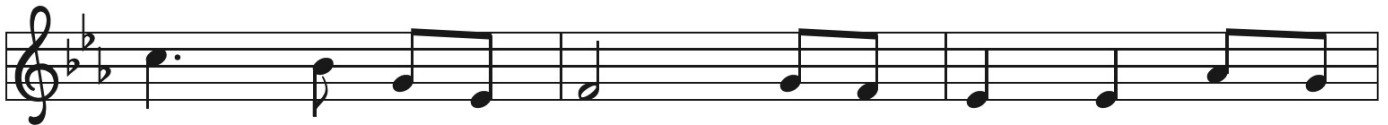


heav - en, was their food for - ev - er - more.  
gave them, Christ, you came as Light from Light.  
a - ges: "I am with you; do not fear!"  
hun - ger, words that tell your love and care.

### *Refrain*



By your bod - y bro - ken for us, by your



wine of life out - poured, Je - sus, feed a - gain your



peo - ple. Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.

## Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

## Prayers of Intercession:

*Response:* God of grace,  
hear our prayer.

## The Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
And also with you.

*The congregation is seated*

## Offering is Gathered

## Musical Offering



### Another way to collect the offering.

Our church provides both spiritual, physical and emotional nourishment for all who attend in person and online. We invite you to consider donating to support the mission of our church, as we work to support programs in the church, in the community, and for the online community.

To make your offering through credit card, scan the code above.

## Prayer List

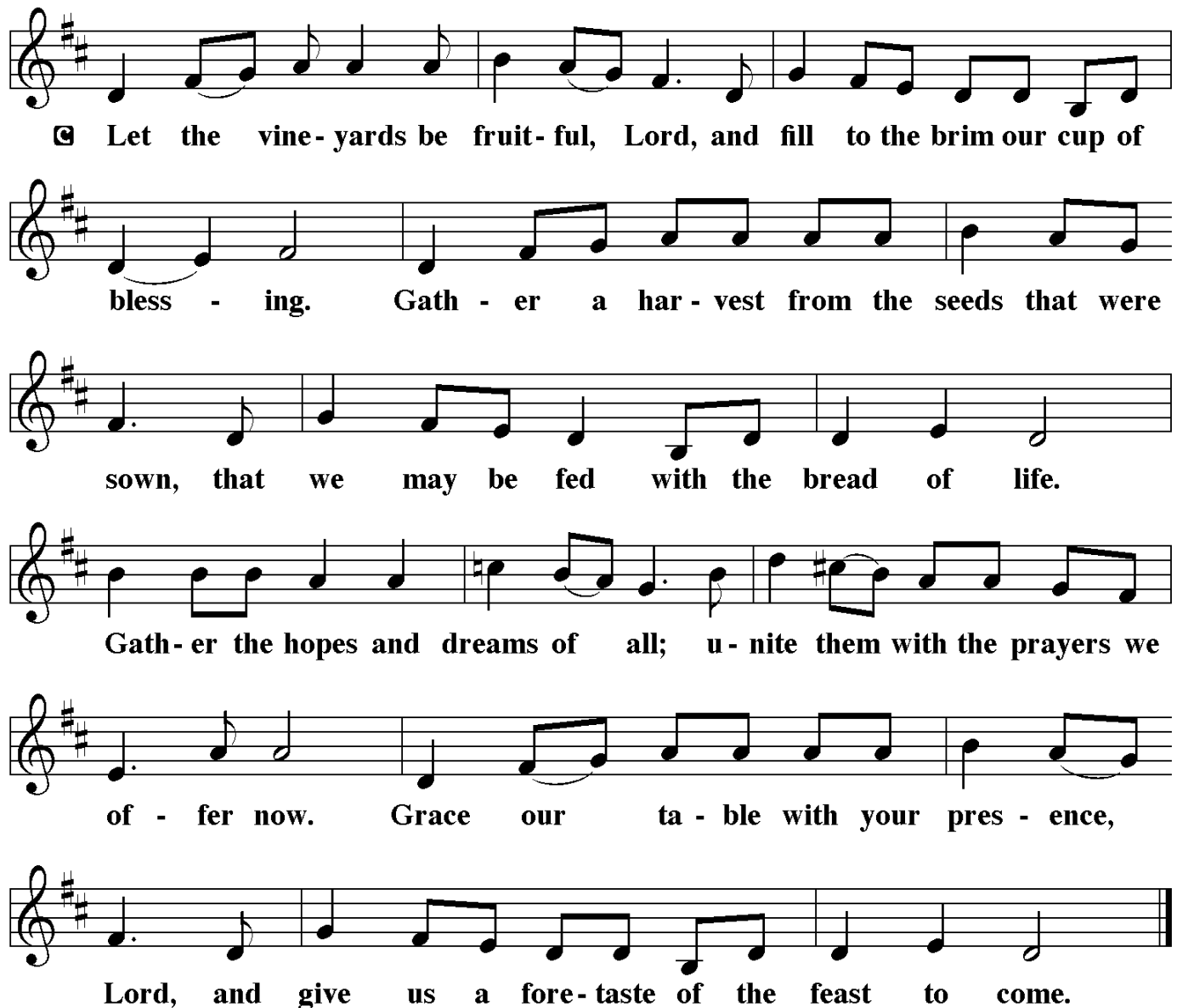
**Members of our First Lutheran Community:** Glow, Bethany, and Roland Adams; Joyce Anderson; Jen Biter; Ardeith Froeberg; June Jahrling; Erika Jerram; Lovequist/Shread family; Kathryn McCowan; Don & Britta McNemar; Kerry Meaney; Cynthia Niiler; Joan Niiler, Stacey Reed; Karson Sprague; Flavio Vallejos; Valarie Waters.

**Friends and Family:** Clinton Braganza; Rhona Chen; Emily Dallman; Evan DaRos; Sheila Dumbrowik; Wendy Fournier; Lisa Fugger; Jay Higham; Josh Kalisa; Sylvia & Chris Lee-Thompson; Nathan Maehl; Pappas family; Roland Pesch; Rachel and sons; Lynn Reihart; Bill Sanderson; Brian Schmitz; Roger & Margie Schroeder; JoAnn Shade; Fay Sieving; Betsy Smith; Wilson Viertel; Chip Weinkauff; Jim Wroe; Marlys Yu.

**For our partners:** Santuario Luterano, the Spanish speaking Lutheran congregation in Waltham. For other organizations we actively support: the Waltham Family School, the Waltham Community Day Center, Chaplains on the Way, WATCH, Camp Calumet, and ELCA World Hunger.

*The congregation is invited to stand*

## Congregational Offertory



**Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were  
sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.  
Gath - er the hopes and dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we  
of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,  
Lord, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.**

## Offering Prayer

Loving God,  
we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.  
Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,  
so that all creation can taste your abundance.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus,  
through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.  
**Amen.**

## About Communion

We believe that Jesus Christ is present in the bread and wine we share and therefore he is the host of the meal. In his name, we welcome all who desire to commune.

- An usher will direct you to come forward, and you may either kneel or stand at the altar rail.
- *Bread*: The pastor will place bread in your hands, which you may then consume. We have gluten free bread available; indicate to the pastor/vicar if that is your preference.
- *Wine/Juice*: the assistant will then offer a tray of individual glasses (juice in the center ring). The acolyte will follow with a tray for empty glasses. Also, you may skip the wine altogether trusting that Christ is fully present in the bread.
- Children and adults who do not yet commune are welcome to come to the altar for a blessing.
- If walking is difficult for you, please inform an usher, then stay in your pew and the pastor will come to you.

## SHARING THE LORD'S SUPPER

*The congregation is invited to stand*

### The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy ...

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

### Holy, Holy, Holy

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and  
might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
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.

## Eucharistic Prayer

### Lord's Prayer

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 gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

*The congregation is seated*

### Lamb of God



☐ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

## Distribution of Communion

### Communion Hymns:

"Break Now the Bread of Life"

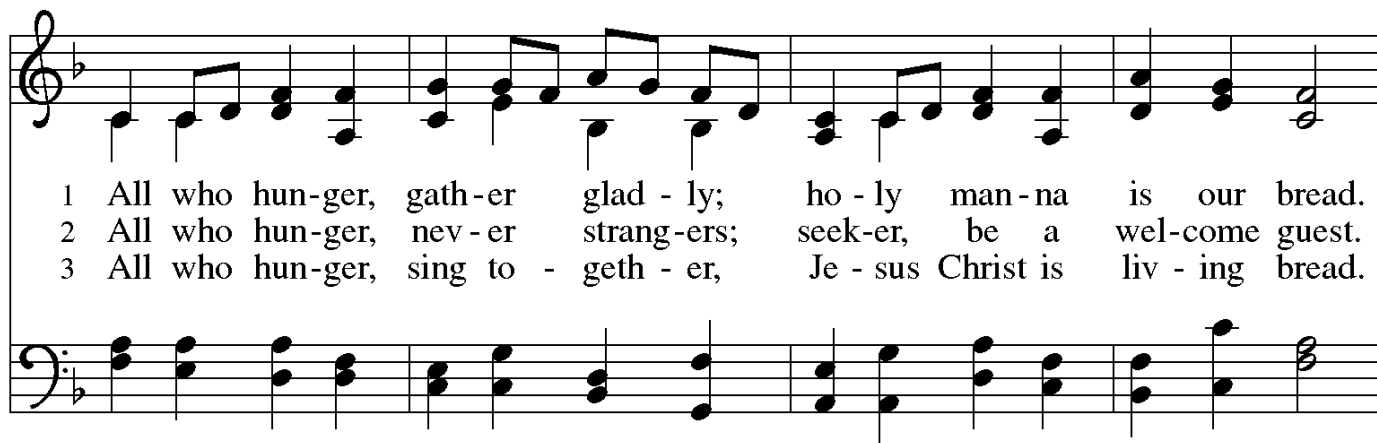
The musical score is written for a three-part setting (Soprano, Alto, and Tenor/Bass) in the key of D major (two sharps) and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system.

1 Break now the bread of life, dear Lord, to me, as once you  
2 Bless your own word of truth, dear Lord, to me, as when you  
3 You are the bread of life, dear Lord, to me, your ho - ly

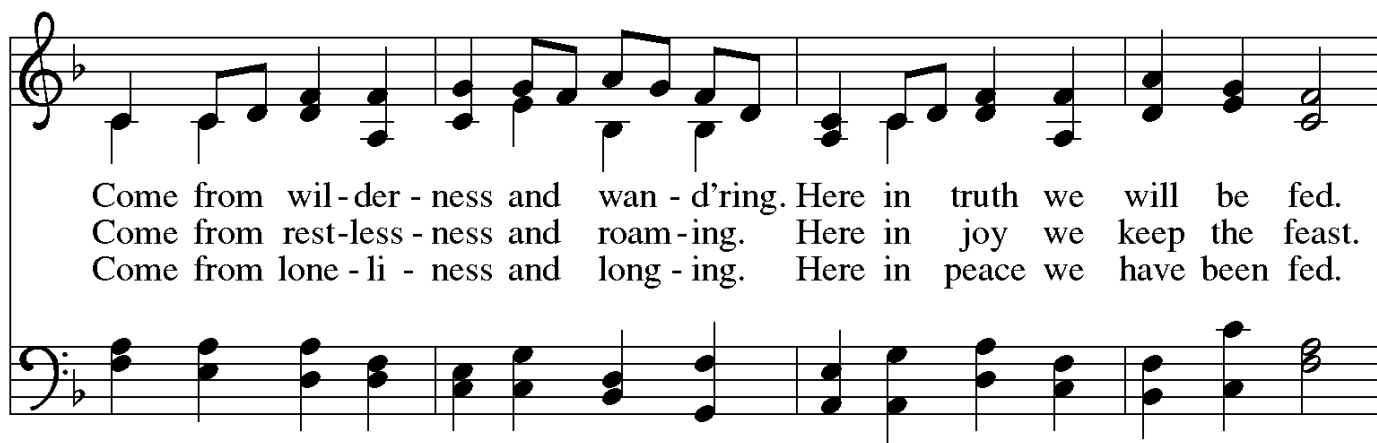
broke the loaves be - side the sea. Be - yond the sa - cred page  
blessed the bread by Gal - i - lee. Then shall all bond-age cease,  
word the truth that res - cues me. Give me to eat and live

I seek you, Lord; my spir - it waits for you, O liv - ing Word.  
all fet - ters fall; and I shall find my peace, my All - in - All!  
with you a - bove; teach me to love your truth, for you are love.

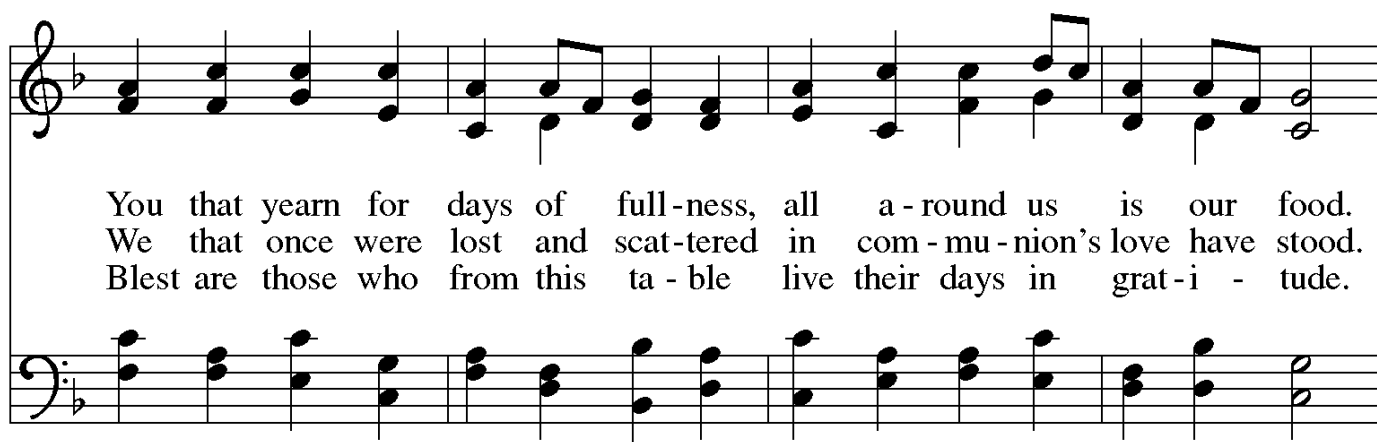
"All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly"



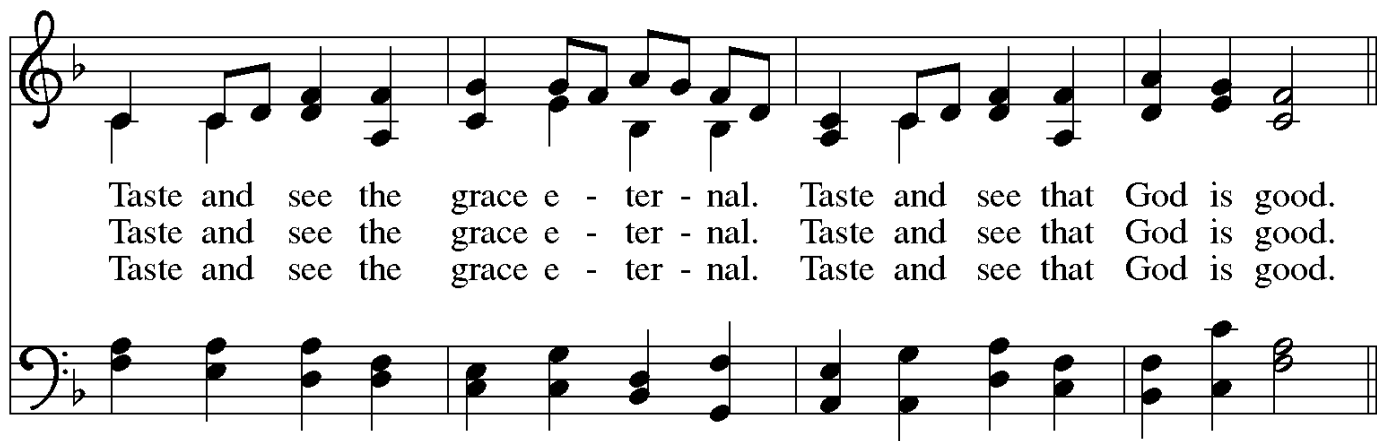
1 All who hun-ger, gath-er glad - ly; ho - ly man - na is our bread.  
2 All who hun-ger, nev - er strang-ers; seek-er, be a wel-come guest.  
3 All who hun-ger, sing to - geth - er, Je - sus Christ is liv - ing bread.



Come from wil-der - ness and wan - d'ring. Here in truth we will be fed.  
Come from rest-less - ness and roam-ing. Here in joy we keep the feast.  
Come from lone - li - ness and long - ing. Here in peace we have been fed.



You that yearn for days of full-ness, all a - round us is our food.  
We that once were lost and scat-tered in com - mu - nion's love have stood.  
Blest are those who from this ta - ble live their days in grat-i - tude.



Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.  
Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.  
Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.

*The congregation is invited to stand*

### **Post-Communion Prayer**

Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine  
our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love.  
Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal,  
may share your love freely, as you have shared with us.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus,  
through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.  
**Amen.**

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"O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts"

Text: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091-1153; tr. Ray Palmer, 1808-1887. alt.

Music: W. Gardiner, *Sacred Melodies*, 1815

"Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken"

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1923-2007 © 2006 GIA Publications, Inc.

Music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950 © 1987 GIA Publications, Inc.

"Break Now the Bread of Life"

Text: Mary A. Lathbury, 1841-1913, alt.

Music: William G. Sherwin, 1826-1888

"All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly"

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993 © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc.

Music: W. Moore, *Columbian Harmony*, 1925; arr. hymnal version © 2003 Augsburg Fortress

"Praise and Thanksgiving"

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901-1984, alt. © Oxford University Press

Music: Gaelic tune; arr. hymnal version © 2006 Augsburg Fortress

## SENDING

### Benediction

#### Sending Hymn: "Praise and Thanksgiving"

1 Praise and thanks - giv - ing, God, we would of - fer for all things  
2 God, bless the la - bor we bring to serve you, that with our  
3 Fa - ther, pro - vid - ing food for your chil - dren, by Wis - dom's  
4 Then will your bless - ing reach ev - 'ry peo - ple, free - ly con -

liv - ing, you have made good: har - vest of sown fields, fruits of the  
neigh - bor we may be fed. Sow - ing or till - ing, we would work  
guid - ing teach us to share one with an - oth - er, so that, re -  
fess - ing your gra - cious hand. Where you are reign - ing, no one will

or - chard, hay from the mown fields, blos - som and wood.  
with you, har - vest - ing, mill - ing for dai - ly bread.  
joic - ing with us, all oth - ers may know your care.  
hun - ger; your love sus - tain - ing show - ers the land.

### Dismissal

Go in peace. Christ is with you.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### Postlude

## Announcements

**This morning please welcome** Ms. Sandy Hebert who is leading our music while Cynthia is on vacation.

**Can you help take care of our Blessing Box?** We could use help checking the sidewalk box—refilling it with items from the Pearson Room and occasionally emptying out some items. You can find a sign up in our This Week email. Thank you!

**WFCF Farm shares—Pick up help *still needed!*** We are now picking up fresh produce from Waltham Fields Community Farm! And we still need folks to sign up to take part in our produce pick up days at the Mobile Outreach Market between 4:30 and 6:00 pm on Tuesdays at First Parish in Waltham. Sign up with the link in our "This Week" email.

**Church Gardens Watering Help Needed:** Cynthia will be away August 17-21, and 28-30 and needs your help caring for the church garden while she is gone. Watering takes about an hour. Sign up using the link in the "This Week" email.

**Lawn Care help needed:** Can you help mow the church lawn this summer? Sign up in the Pearson Room. We provide the lawn mower and gas, and someone from the Property Team would be happy to show you what is needed. All help is welcome—just once—or repeatedly through the summer!

**Coffee Hosts Needed!** Can you help foster community by hosting coffee? Sign up in the Pearson Room or by using the link in the This Week email. First time hosting? We're happy to provide instruction.







### **First Lutheran's Welcome Statement**

Walking together in God's love, we rejoice in the diversity of God's wonderfully made children. We celebrate lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, asexual, and non-binary people and all members of our human family regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, race, ethnicity, age, marital status, physical and mental ability, faith history, economic status, education, family configuration, or immigration status. We renounce the sin of racism and all forms of discrimination. We welcome all to join us in worship, leadership, participation in rites and sacraments of the church, and fellowship on our journey of nurturing faith, doing justice, and serving all.