**November 19th, 2023 Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost – Email/At Home Missal**

**The ZOOM link for today’s service, which opens at 9.30 am on November 19th, 2023, can be found here:**

**Sunday Worship November 19th, 2023 09:30 am ZOOM room opens; service begins at 10:00 am.**

**Join Zoom Meeting click here:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83858523329?pwd=UUpVdCtkTDB0MWhTVkhjSmxvWjFnUT09>**

**Meeting ID: 838 5852 3329 Passcode: 629887**

**You don’t have to have a computer or internet to connect to any of our church Zoom services; you can also just call in on one of these numbers (long distance charges may apply): (All Canadian numbers). You can also access the ZOOM from your telephone by using the “One tap mobile” option:**

**+12042727920,,83858523329#,,,,\*629887# Canada**

**+14388097799,,83858523329#,,,,\*629887# Canada**

**Dial by your location:**

**+1 778 907 2071 Canada**

**+1 780 666 0144 Canada**

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**Meeting ID: 838 5852 3329 Passcode: 629887**

**Find your local number:** [**https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kz0pHIt5i**](https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kz0pHIt5i)

……………………………………….

**Coming Events** *(save these dates)* ***bold print - events being held here at St. Peter’s***

1. **Nov. 22** **Bible Study at 10:30 am**
2. **Nov. 29 Grandmother’s Tea at 12:00 pm** *(contact Sherri Wilker 519-572-3440 for details)*
3. Dec. 2 Addison Women’s Choir, Cambridge Male Chorus at 7:30 pm *(see bulletin board)*
4. Dec. 3 Addison Women’s Choir, Cambridge Male Chorus at 3:00 pm pm *(see bulletin board)*
5. Dec. 8 Charles Dickens’ A Christmas Carol at 7:30 pm
6. Dec. 10 Menno Singers, Mennonite Mass Choir Handel’s Messiah *(Centre in the Square)*
7. **Dec. 14 Holden Evening Prayer Service for the (Almost) Longest Night 7:00 pm**
8. **Dec. 17 Pulled Pork Lunch & Silent Auction following Worship**
9. **……………………………………….  
   The Life of St. Peter’s for the week of November 19 - November 25, 2023**
10. Monday 6:00 pm TOPS - R.F.F. *(Art Room)*
11. Tuesday 7:00 pm Scouts - R.F.F. *(Scout Room, Art Room, Fellowship Hall)*
12. Wednesday **10:30 am Bible Study** *(Art Room)*
13. Thursday
14. Friday
15. Saturday **1:30 pm Choir Practice** *(Sanctuary)*
16. Sunday **10:00 pm Worship Service** – A passage **from 2 Kings 22:1-10**
17. **[11-20]; 23:1-3** Josiah’s recovery of Scripture, reform and renewal.
18. **……………………………………….  
    Pastoral Visit:** Pastor Laura is available for visits by appointment by calling the church office, 519-653-4721. Whether you have a particular pastoral concern or would just like some one-to-one time to get to know Pastor Laura, she would love to meet with you.
19. **……………………………………….  
    Prayer List:** Bill, Don, Alice, Don, Lynn, Helen, Sharon, Donald, Shirley, Clara, Carol, Jeff, Aaron, Mackenzie, Rhett, Linda, Jan, Ken, Lee, Maria, Deborah, Fred, Anne.
20. **……………………………………….  
    We need you to help feed our neighbourhood!** The freedom Centre has joined with Cambridge Community Table to offer a meal to our community twice a month on Tuesday night. We need volunteers: Food Preparation, set up, take down, meet and Greet. Every hour you can give once or twice a month. Call for information 519-591-6518 or email [rosemary@freedomcentre.ca](mailto:rosemary@freedomcentre.ca).
21. **……………………………………….**
22. **Gaza Humanitarian Emergency** – CLWR and the Humanitarian Coalition are responding to the humanitarian emergency unfolding in Gaza. Please join us in prayer and consider making a gift to provide critical life-saving aid to those affected. To find out more or to donate, please visit clwr.org/gaza or call 1-800-661-2597 (Mon - Fri 8:30am -4:00pm CST).
23. **……………………………………….  
    Bless this Night – Vespers ’23:** Evening Prayer Honouring God's Holy Darkness with interfaith & cross-cultural Storytellers for adults & children. Sundays at 5:30 pm at Martin Luther University College. **Nov. 19**: 2:00 pm Print Making Workshop, 4:00 pm potluck, 5:30 pm vespers. Kids are invited to wear pajamas.
24. **……………………………………….  
    November 28 at 12 pm – Grandmother’s Tea -** *contact Sherri Wilker 519-572-3440 for details.*
25. **……………………………………….  
    Weekly Bible Study**: This will take place on Wednesdays at 10:30 am in the Art Room. Everyone is welcome!
26. **……………………………………….  
    Friday, December 8 at 7:30 pm - Charles Dickens’ A Christmas Carol.** $15.00 per Ticket. Please bring a donation for the Cambridge Food Bank. Readers include: Regional Chair, Hon. Karen Redman, WRPS Chief of Police, Mark Crowell, SPLC Member, Eugenia Schatz, ELCIC Eastern Synod Bishop, Michael Pryse, CSO Chair, Dr. Michael Lawrie. Music: Bradley Moggach and Greg Stroh.
27. **……………………………………….  
    Sunday, December 10, 2023,** 3:00pm. Menno Singers and Mennonite Mass Choir present Handel’s Messiah  with artistic director Brandon Leis, a 230 voice choir, soloists Bethany Hörst (soprano), Jennifer Enns Modolo (mezzo soprano), Owen McCausland (tenor) and Nathan Keoughan (baritone) along with orchestra members of the former KW Symphony. Tickets are on sale now at the Centre in the Square Box Office. [www.centreinthesquare.com](http://www.centreinthesquare.com)
28. **……………………………………….  
    Thursday, December 14 at 7:00 pm** - Holden Evening Prayer Service for the (Almost) Longest Night. It’s a time that brings to mind persons, events, and relationships that have been a part of our lives in the past but have now changed or gone. It’s a time that can feel extra lonely because our feelings of loss or grief don’t match up with the joy and festivities of the season. On this (almost) longest night we invite you to join us for a time of meditative worship that gives space for remembering, sharing our hurts and longings with God, and preparing our hearts to welcome Christ. There will be a time of fellowship to follow. **……………………………………….  
    Sunday December 17, 2023** - Pulled Pork Lunch & Silent Auction following Worship – see attached information sheet!
29. **……………………………………….**Give **Gifts from the Heart** this Christmas! Canadian Lutheran World Relief's new Gifts from the Heart catalogue has something to inspire and delight anyone on your list this year. It’s full of meaningful, tangible gifts that will touch your loved ones and share God’s love with the world! Copies are available through the church, by emailing [clwr@clwr.org](mailto:clwr@clwr.org) or you can shop online at [clwr.org/GFTH](file:///D:\Documents\Services,%20Sermons%20&%20Website%20Material\clwr.org\GFTH)
30. **……………………………………….  
    Season of Giving:** This holiday season the Cambridge Food Bank expects more than 2,000 households will contact them for holiday food and family support.  Their hope is that with community support, families in need can share. One of their donation options is to purchase grocery store gifts cards in increments of $25.  We hope that our St. Peter's family will help by purchasing gift cards and placing them on the offering plate until December 17th. Let's help make sure no one goes hungry this holiday season!
31. The Ministry of Vision and Mission.to

**……………………………………….  
Presiding Pastor: Rev. Laura Sauder**

**Organist/Director of Music: Bradley Moggach**

**Assisting Minister: Barb Burden**

**Reader: John Leonard**

**Land Acknowledgement:**

A: With good and grateful hearts we acknowledge that the land upon which we live, work, play, and worship, is the same land upon which the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, and the Attawandaron (or Neutral) peoples first lived, worked, played, and prayed to Creator. Calling the earth upon which they stood, Mother Earth, they cared for the earth as they would care for their mother. Let us take an example from our Indigenous forbears and neighbours, and show gratitude to our Mother Earth. May we be ever mindful of what she has provided for us, even to the next seven generations.

**Welcome remarks**

**Gathering Rite for Advent:**

P: Each week as we approach the Advent

of our Saviour Jesus Christ,

we acknowledge what God’s people

have always known:

***C: Even when God is active in this world,***

***hope is a work in progress.***

P: There are so many people and places and times

still awaiting God’s goodness.

And yet we trust, O God, that through your love,

***C: a familiar light can banish the fear of the other;***

P: Through your love,

***C: the warmth of good cheer***

***can extinguish cold-hearted injustice.***

P: Through your love,

***C: the song of faith***

***can rekindle hope for the hopeless.***

***Candle is lit***

**ELW # 723‘Canticle of the Turning’ *(Chorus)***

***Chorus***

***My heart shall sing of the day you bring.***

***Let the fires of your justice burn.***

***Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,***

***and the world is about to turn.***

*(Title: Canticle of the Turning; Text: Rory Cooney, b. 1952, based on the Magnificat; Text © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission. # 00762; Music: Irish Traditional; arr. © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission. # 00762*

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P: May this candle be a sign

that God’s goodness still burns brightly

even when it seems fragile, temporary,

easily extinguished.

When we yet wonder:

How long must this world wait

to see God’s glory?

Know this truth:

You are God’s people,

Called to serve this world

and to let your light shine.

Let the fire of justice burn in your heart,

for the dead still cry

for the flicker of new life we carry.

*(Source: Adapted from “My Heart Shall Sing” Advent Candle-lighting by Barn Geese Worship, licensed under CC BY-NC 4.0. )*

**Gathering Hymn: ELW # 272 ‘Lo, How a Rose E-er Blooming’**

1 Lo, how a rose e'er blooming

from tender stem hath sprung!

Of Jesse's lineage coming

as seers of old have sung,

it came, a flow'r so bright,

amid the cold of winter,

when half-spent was the night.

2 Isaiah had foretold it,

the rose I have in mind;

with Mary we behold it,

the virgin mother kind.

To show God's love aright,

she bore to us a Savior,

when half-spent was the night.

3 This flow'r, whose fragrance tender

with sweetness fills the air,

dispels with glorious splendor

the darkness everywhere.

True man, yet very God,

from sin and death he saves us

and lightens ev'ry load.

4 O Savior, child of Mary,

who felt our human woe;

O Savior, king of glory,

who dost our weakness know:

bring us at length, we pray,

to the bright courts of heaven

and into endless day.

*(Title: Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming; Text:**German carol, 15th cent.; tr. Theodore Baker, 1851-1934, sts. 1-2; Harriet R. Krauth, 1845-1925, st. 3; John C. Mattes, 1876-1948, st. 4; Public Domain; Music: Rowland H. Prichard, 1811-1887; Public Domain; Reprinted and Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-727610. All rights reserved.)*

**Greeting**:

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

***C: And also with you.***

**Theme Time**

**Prayer of the Day:**

Loving Lord, you search your people for evidence of goodness, the way fruit is sought in a vineyard. When we go astray, guide us in your ways and never let us go. Amen.

*(Source: Adapted from* [*http://www.narrativelectionary.org*](http://www.narrativelectionary.org) *by Kimberly Leetch )*

**Acclamation: ‘Listen’**

Listen, Listen

Be open, O my heart.

*(Title: Listen; Text & Music: Bret Hesla, Tune © 2004 Bret Helsa, admin. Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Used by permission. # 97231; Reprinted and Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-727610. All rights reserved.)*

**Reader**:

A passage from **Isaiah 5:1-7; 11:1-5.** May we be equipped by these words to walk in love for God, ourselves, our neighbours, all people, and all God’s creation. **(Brief pause)**

Let me sing for my loved one  
    a love song for his vineyard.  
My loved one had a vineyard on a fertile hillside.  
He dug it,  
    cleared away its stones,  
    planted it with excellent vines,  
    built a tower inside it,  
    and dug out a wine vat in it.  
He expected it to grow good grapes—  
    but it grew rotten grapes.  
So now, you who live in Jerusalem, you people of Judah,  
    judge between me and my vineyard:  
What more was there to do for my vineyard  
    that I haven’t done for it?  
When I expected it to grow good grapes,  
    why did it grow rotten grapes?  
Now let me tell you what I’m doing to my vineyard.  
I’m removing its hedge,  
    so it will be destroyed.  
I’m breaking down its walls,  
    so it will be trampled.  
I’ll turn it into a ruin;  
    it won’t be pruned or hoed,  
    and thorns and thistles will grow up.  
I will command the clouds not to rain on it.  
The vineyard of the Lord of heavenly forces is the house of Israel,  
    and the people of Judah are the plantings in which God delighted.  
God expected justice, but there was bloodshed;  
    righteousness, but there was a cry of distress!

A shoot will grow up from the stump of Jesse;  
    a branch will sprout from his roots.  
The Lord’s spirit will rest upon him,  
    a spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
    a spirit of planning and strength,  
    a spirit of knowledge and fear of the Lord.  
He will delight in fearing the Lord.  
He won’t judge by appearances,  
    nor decide by hearsay.  
He will judge the needy with righteousness,  
    and decide with equity for those who suffer in the land.  
He will strike the violent with the rod of his mouth;  
    by the breath of his lips he will kill the wicked.  
Righteousness will be the belt around his hips,  
    and faithfulness the belt around his waist. (CEB)

The Living God is with us. **C: And with all creation! Thanks be to God.**

**Engaging with the Story**

**Isaiah 5:1-7; 11:1-5**

Once there was a vineyard, so Isaiah’s story goes, that was lovingly planted and tended by its’ owner. This vineyard was a true labour of love. It was built and nurtured with much intention, and lots of sweat and tears. Stones were cleared away. Walls and a tower were built for protection. In expectation of an abundant harvest, with dreams of excellent wine, a winepress is dug out.

But somehow, despite all the effort to create the conditions for a spectacularly fruitful vineyard, it yields nothing but rotten grapes. The abundant harvest, the prosperity the owner had expected and hoped for, does not come to be. And so, the owner razes the vineyard to the ground. Walls are torn down, the vines are trampled, and where once there was hope and potential for life, all that’s left is a trampled field littered with dead grapevines.

Of course, as Isaiah makes clear, this parable isn’t about a vineyard at all. This story is about the people of Israel and Judah. People whom God has loved and nurtured and saved many times over. People who, in spite of God’s faithfulness, have turned away and rejected God’s love. People who have chosen to live for themselves instead of sharing a harvest of love and justice with each other and their neighbours.

Like Hosea before him, Isaiah wrestles with this tension between God’s love for the people and God’s anger. Where Hosea was quick to proclaim that God’s compassion overwhelms God’s anger, Isaiah tells us, “not so fast.” It would seem, that for Isaiah, there are times when God’s patience does run out. When enough is enough. And this is one of those moments.

God is not going to step in and save the people. At the end of God’s patience, the people are left to face the truth of how they have strayed from God’s path and to deal with the consequences of their own actions.

This is a difficult parable, for when we hear it for what it is, we see ourselves in those rotten grapes. Isaiah’s vineyard song asks us to face the truth that we don’t always bear the fruit of justice and righteousness that God desires of us – the fruit that God has nurtured within us.

This is a truth that is painful to face, and yet it’s a truth that we know in the deepest part of our selves. As it was in Isaiah’s time, justice and righteousness are far too often the exception than the rule in our communities and our world too.

We don’t need to look far to find injustice. Just read the news. Or drive past the tent cities that are popping up everywhere. Many days it feels like we’re standing in a parched field of mowed down vines, nothing around us but stumps. When it seems like all we see around is desolation, it’s easy to lose hope. We’re left wondering when will God step in? Will God step in?

Isaiah’s parable of the vineyard does not have a happy ending, but thankfully our lectionary pairs this story with another one of Isaiah’s visions. It turns out he’s not all doom and gloom!

While God may leave us to deal with the consequences of our actions, Isaiah promises us that the end of God’s patience is not the end of God’s love for us. God is yet at work (sometimes behind the scene – at least from our vantage point) planting seeds of hope in our world and in our lives. We may be surrounded by stumps, but we are promised that a shoot shall come from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from its roots.

Jesse is the father of King David – the great king who once ruled over all the people of Israel. Isaiah tells the people that even now, when the kingdom is divided and destroyed; when it’s nothing but the stumps of a clear-cut forest as far as you can see and nobody from David’s family sits on a throne; a time will come when life sprouts up again from the ruins.

A shoot out of a stump is not a mighty image. It is small and fragile and tenuous. But that’s how our God works. God brings hope into our world in small and fragile and tenuous ways – a shoot out of a stump; a tiny baby born in the backwater town of Bethlehem.

Hope is like that. Hope often shows up in the unexpected places; the unexpected people. And so hope is something to be on the lookout for because it can be easy to miss.

When we find ourselves feeling overwhelmed, or despairing at the state of the world or our lives; when we’re feeling short on hope, it’s good to remember these words from author Clarissa Pinkola Estes. She writes, “Ours is not the task of fixing the entire world all at once, but of stretching out to mend the part of the world that is within our reach. Any small, calm thing that one soul can do to help another soul, to assist some portion of this poor suffering world, will help immensely. It is not given to us to know which acts or by whom, will cause the critical mass to tip toward an enduring good.”1

In this extended Advent season, this season of preparing the way of the Lord, each small act of kindness and justice matters. Each time we choose good. Each time we do the right thing, we witness to the hope we have in Christ who poured out his life for the sake of this world. We witness to the hope that as desolate and difficult things may sometimes seem, our God does not ever abandon us completely.

These glimmers of hope may be small, fragile, and tenuous, but we know the great things God can do with a little sprout – a shoot from a stump, for this is the promise of Advent.

AMEN

1 “You Were Made For This” by Clarissa Pinkola Estes. Accessed November 18, 2023: <https://www.awakin.org/v2/read/view.php?tid=548>

Hymn of the Day: ACS # 1056 ‘God Bless to Us Our Bread’

God bless to us our bread,

and give bread to all those who are hungry,

and hunger for justice to those who are fed.

God bless to us our bread.

*(Title:**God Bless to Us Our Bread; Text: Argentine traditional, collected by Federico Pagura, 1923–2016; tr. John L. Bell, b. 1949; Spanish text © 2002 World Council of Churches. All rights reserved; English text © WGRG, Iona Community, admin. GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved. # 34826; Music: Argentine melody, collected by Frederico Paguara; arr. John L. Bell; arr. © WGRG, Iona Community, admin. GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved. # 34826; Reprinted and Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-727610. All rights reserved.)*

**Prayers of Intercession:**

A:Let us turn our hearts to God, our breath and life, as we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Gracious God, even when we produce rotten grapes, you are ever faithful to us. Turn your church from fear and self-serving ways, that we use our talents to glorify you and serve our neighbor. Hear us, O God. **C:** **Your mercy is great.**

You have been our dwelling place from one generation to another. Sustain the life of the planet; protect farmlands and harvests. Direct all people in wise stewardship of all the earth’s resources. Hear us, O God.

**C:** **Your mercy is great.**

You call us to honesty and integrity. Instill these values in the hearts of all nations and their leaders. Free any who are oppressed, expose all corruption, and bring redemption to victims of injustice. Hear us, O God. **C:** **Your mercy is great.**

You teach us to count our days that we may gain a wise heart. Where there is sickness or sorrow, bring healing, and where there is loneliness, reveal your love in community. We remember before you (especially Linda, Tammy, the beloved children on our prayer list, and all those we name before you now aloud or silently in our hearts… ). Hear us, O God. **C:** **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for the faith formation of our community. Shape us by your love and show us how to encourage one another. Hear us, O God. **C:** **Your mercy is great.**

You raise up leaders to teach and guide us. We pray for our pastor, Laura. May she know your grace and wisdom. Hear us, O God. **C:** **Your mercy is great.**

You bind us together into one great family. We pray for our siblings in Christ: for the people of Trillium United Church and their pastors Mark Rutledge, Heather Margerison and Sally White; for the people of St Luke’s Lutheran Church, Kitchener and their pastor Heike Toeller. Hear us, O God. **C:** **Your mercy is great.**

We offer our spoken prayers and those held in our hearts trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.\***

**Share the peace of Christ:**

Angels said it to startled shepherds,

Jesus said it to frightened followers,

And now these words which come from heaven

are shared to make us whole and make us one.

Peace be with you.

**C: And also with you.** \*\*\*\*

*(A Wee Worship Book – Liturgy for Holy Communion A #30810; Type: Words; First Line: Call to worship – Gather us in; Language: English (pages 80-92); Contributors: Iona community; Text: © 1999, WGRG, Iona community, GIA Publications, Inc; exclusive North American agent. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted and Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-727610. All rights reserved.)*

**Offering**

**Offering Hymn: ELW # 695 ‘As Saints of Old’ (verses 2 & 3)**

2 A world in need now summons us

to labor, love, and give;

to make our life an offering

to God, that all may live.

The church of Christ is calling us

to make the dream come true:

a world redeemed by Christ-like love;

all life in Christ made new.

3 In gratitude and humble trust

we bring our best today

to serve your cause and share your love

with all along life's way.

O God, who gave yourself to us

in Jesus Christ your Son,

teach us to give ourselves each day

until life's work is done.

*(Title: As Saints of Old; Text: Frank von Christierson, 1900-1996, alt.Text © 1961, ren. 1989 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Music: English folk tune; Ralph Vaughan, 1872-1958****;*** *Outside USA: Arrangement from*The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted and Streamed with permission under CCLI, License # 11098609. All rights reserved.)*

**Offering Prayer:**

A: God our provider,

by your merciful hand

abundance springs up from the earth.

Receive and bless these gifts of your own bounty.

Let them be a sign of your steadfast love

and faithfulness for all people,

through Jesus Christ our Savior.

**Amen.\***

You are invited to prepare your table with bread and wine, or crackers and juice, whatever is available to you, so that you may participate in the meal.

**Meal: Click here for the communion liturgy from worship on YouTube:**

[**https://youtu.be/ViXmTzRsfU4**](https://youtu.be/ViXmTzRsfU4)

**Great Thanksgiving: ACS Setting 12: ‘Dialogue…’ (page 36) (spoken)**

The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **C: We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **C: It is right to give our thanks and praise**

**ELW Setting 8: ‘Preface…’ *(Advent)***

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,

through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer,

through whom you will also make all things new

in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,

with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**ELW Setting 8: ‘Holy, Holy, Holy…’ *(page 190 )***

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,**

**God of pow’r and might,**

**heaven and earth are full of your glory, full of your glory.**

**Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**\*

**Thanksgiving at the Table:**

On the night before he showed us the full extent of his love,

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.

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

**The Lord’s Prayer:**

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done,

on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those

who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial

and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours,

now and forever. Amen.

**Invitation to Communion:**

This is Christ’s table. All are welcome here to receive God’s abundant gifts of love, mercy, grace, and forgiveness.

I invite those at home, and those in the building communing by fellowship cup, to take your bread or cracker as we say together, “The body of Christ, given for us.”

And, as we take our cup we say, “The blood of Christ, shed for us.”

**Communion Music: ELW Setting 8 - Lamb of God *(page 187)***

**ELW # 838 ‘Beautiful Savior’**

**ELW Setting 8 - Lamb of God *(page 187)***

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;**

**have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;**

**have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;**

**grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.\***

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**ELW # 838 ‘Beautiful Savior’**

1 Beautiful Savior,

King of creation,

Son of God and Son of Man!

Truly I'd love thee,

truly I'd serve thee,

light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

2 Fair are the meadows,

fair are the woodlands,

robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;

Jesus is fairer,

Jesus is purer,

he makes our sorrowing spirit sing.

3 Fair is the sunshine,

fair is the moonlight,

bright the sparkling stars on high;

Jesus shines brighter,

Jesus shines purer

than all the angels in the sky.

4 Beautiful Savior,

Lord of the nations,

Son of God and Son of Man!

Glory and honor,

praise, adoration,

now and forevermore be thine!

*(Title: Beautiful Savior; Text: Gesangbuch, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823-1904; Public Domain; Music: Selesian folk tune, 19th cent.; Public Domain; Reprinted and Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-727610. All rights reserved.)*

P: May the body and blood of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ strengthen you, and keep you, in his grace.

***C: Amen.***

**Prayer after Communion:**

A: Lord Jesus,

in this simple meal you have set a banquet.

Sustain us on the journey,

strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children,

and give us glad and generous hearts

as we meet you on the way.

Amen.\*

**Blessing:**

As we watch and wait for God’s truth and justice to break into our world,

our hearts shall sing of God’s goodness,

and of the promise of hope and peace to come.

The God of peace bless you,

the love of Christ sustain you in hope,

and the anointing of the Spirit ☩ remain upon you,

in every ending and every new beginning.

Amen.

**Sending Hymn: ELW # 246 ‘Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding!’**

1 Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding!

"Christ is near," we hear it say.

"Cast away the works of darkness,

all you children of the day!"

2 Wakened by the solemn warning,

from earth's bondage let us rise;

Christ, our sun, all sloth dispelling,

shines upon the morning skies.

3 See the Lamb, so long expected,

come with pardon down from heav'n.

Let us haste, with tears of sorrow,

one and all, to be forgiv'n;

4 So, when next he comes in glory

and the world is wrapped in fear,

he will shield us with his mercy

and with words of love draw near.

5 Honor, glory, might, and blessing

to the Father and the Son

with the everlasting Spirit

while unending ages run!

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**Dismissal:**

A: Beloved of God,

go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

***C: Thanks be to God.***\*

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