**October 8th, 2023 Day of Thanksgiving – Email/At Home Missal**

**The ZOOM link for today’s service, which opens at 9.30 am on October 8th, 2023, can be found here:**

**Sunday Worship October 8th, 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**

**+1 204 272 7920 Canada  
+1 438 809 7799 Canada**

**+1 587 328 1099 Canada**

**+1 647 374 4685 Canada  
+1 647 558 0588 Canada**

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

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

……………………………………….

**IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 8th-14th 2023:**

**Here is the YouTube link for the service from last Sunday, October 1st, 2023:** [**https://youtu.be/hhFEz6aO3CU**](https://youtu.be/hhFEz6aO3CU)

**…………………………………….**

**Coming Events** *(save these dates)*

**Oct. 10 Bible Study at 3:00 pm in the Art Room**

Book Study: Our Home and Treaty Land at 7:15 pm in the parlour

Oct. 19 Trillium United Church Women Fall Luncheon 11:30 am – 1:00 pm

**Oct. 21 St. Peter’s and the Cambridge Symphony Orchestra 7:00 pm**

Nov. 4 Menno Singers ‘Now I lay me down to Peace,’ First United Church (Waterloo) at 7:30pm.

Nov. 5 Worship followed by fellowship time *(remember a loved one who has passed away since Nov. 5, 2022, please sign*

*their name on the list on the table in the narthex. You are also invited to bring*

*a photo of them to be placed in a special display.)*

Nov. 18 Christmas Bazaar

**Dec. 8 Charles Dickens’ A Christmas Carol**

**Dec. 17 Pulled Pork Lunch & Silent Auction following Worship**

***bold print indicates that the events are being held here at St. Peter’s***

**The Life of St. Peter’s for the week of October 8th – 14th, 2023**

Monday

Tuesday 3:00 pm Bible Study *(Art Room)*

7:00 pm Scouts - R.F.F. *(Scout Room, Art Room, Fellowship Hall)*

7:15 pm Book Study *(Parlour)*

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday 9:00 am Windjammers Rehearsal *(Sanctuary)*

**1:30 pm Choir Practice** *(Sanctuary)*

Sunday **10:00 pm Worship Service** - A passage **fromRuth 1:1-17 [4:13-17]** Ruth is a foreigner who finds

belonging among God’s people. “Where you go I will go, your people

will be my people, your God will be my God.”

*(R.F.F. – Request for Facilities)*

**PASTORAL VISITS:** 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 know

Pastor Laura, she would love to meet with you.

**…………………………………..**

Help us support the **Cambridge Food Bank** by bringing a canned good or non-perishable item to church with you. We have a collection basket in the narthex, and every donation helps enable the food bank to ensure that no one in our community goes hungry. We appreciate and thank you for your help in filling the basket as there is a very real and urgent need.

**…………………………………..**

**Book Study**: **Our Home and Treaty Land** **During the month of October** - “Tuesday October 10 & 17 at 7:15, and Wednesday October 25 at 7:00” the church. Pastor Laura will be leading a group study for the book “Our Home and Treaty Land: Walking Our Creation Story” by Ray Aldred and Matthew Anderson.

**…………………………………..**

**St. Peter’s and the Cambridge Symphony Orchestra:** St. Peter’s, is pleased to host two concerts by the Cambridge Symphony Orchestra during their 2023/2024 season! The first concert will be held: **Saturday October 21, 2023 7:00 PM Cambridge.** Symphony Orchestra Masterworks I with Ken Gee, Piano. For more information and to purchase tickets, please go to:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/masterworks-i-with-ken-gee-tickets-677132079277?aff=oddtdtcreator>

**…………………………………..**

**Menno Singers** and artistic director Brandon Leis present ‘Now I lay me down to Peace,’ at First United Church (16 William St, Waterloo) on Saturday, November 4 at 7:30pm. The concert features the Faure Requiem, the Thompson Peaceable Kingdom and 3 Nocturnes by Elder. $25 Adults. $5 Children/Students. Tickets available on-line or at the door (cash or credit) [www.mennosingers.com](http://www.mennosingers.com)

**…………………………………..**

**Weekly Bible Study**: Join us for **Bible Study** on Tuesdays - the next study will be held on October 10th

at 3:00 pm with Pastor Laura Sauder. Everyone is Welcome!

**……………………………………**

**Presiding Pastor: Rev. Laura Sauder**

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

**Assisting Minister: Kim Strassburger**

**Reader: Austin Dykstra**

**Welcome remarks & Land Acknowledgement**

**Call to Worship**:

***Congregational Response****:* ***We praise you for your glory.***

P: Let us awaken our hearts to the presence of God, saying,

P: God before us, behind us, above us, upholding us…

P: God with us, among us, beside us, befriending us…

P: God within us, flowing through us, animating, harmonizing…

*Source: Brian D. McLaren, We Make the Road by Walking. Jericho Books: NY, 2014. Appendix I.*

**Gathering Hymn: ACS # 1063 ‘God of the Fertile Fields’**

1 God of the fertile fields,

shaper of earth that yields our daily bread:

forth from your bounteous hand

come gifts your love has planned,

that all in ev'ry land

be clothed and fed.

2 We would be stewards true,

holding in trust from you all that you give;

help us in love to share,

teach us like you to care

for people ev'rywhere,

that all may live.

3 As grows the hidden seed

to fruit that serves our need, so your reign grows.

Let all our toil be used,

no gift of yours abused,

no humble task refused

your love bestows.

4 God of the countryside,

dear to the Christ who died to make us one:

we pledge our lives anew

in faithful love to you.

Guide all we say and do.

Your will be done.

*(Title: God of the Fertile Fields; Text: Georgia Harkness, 1891–1974, alt.; Text © 1955, ren. 1983 The Hymn Society, admin Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.* *# 41179*; *Music: Felice de Giardini, 1716-1796; 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 gave commandments to your people as a gift. Teach us to be obedient to your word and to care for each other as we do your will. Amen.

*(by Kimberly Leetch - source: http://www. narrativelectionary.org)*

**Acclamation: ELW # 682 ‘To God Our Thanks We Give’**

To God our thanks we give,

to God our thanks we give,

to God our thanks we give,

our thanks to God we give.

*(Title: To God Our Thanks We Give; Text & Music: Botswanan traditional, as taught by Daisy Nshakazongwe; tr. I-Loh, b. 1936;*

**Reader**:

A passage from **Deuteronomy 5:1-21; 6:4-9**. 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)**

Moses called out to all Israel, saying to them: “Israel! Listen to the regulations and the case laws that I’m recounting in your hearing right now. Learn them and carefully do them. The Lord our God made a covenant with us at Mount Horeb. The Lord didn’t make this covenant with our ancestors but with us—all of us who are here and alive right now. The Lord spoke with you face-to-face on the mountain from the very fire itself. At that time, I was standing between the Lord and you, declaring to you the Lord’s word, because you were terrified of the fire and didn’t go up on the mountain.”

The Lord said:

I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

You must have no other gods before me. Do not make an idol for yourself—no form whatsoever—of anything in the sky above or on the earth below or in the waters under the earth. Do not bow down to them or worship them because I, the Lord your God, am a passionate God. I punish children for their parents’ sins—even to the third and fourth generations of those who hate me. But I am loyal and gracious to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

Do not use the Lord your God’s name as if it were of no significance; the Lord won’t forgive anyone who uses his name that way.

Keep the Sabbath day and treat it as holy, exactly as the Lord your God commanded: Six days you may work and do all your tasks, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. Don’t do any work on it—not you, your sons or daughters, your male or female servants, your oxen or donkeys or any of your animals, or the immigrant who is living among you—so that your male and female servants can rest just like you. Remember that you were a slave in Egypt, but the Lord your God brought you out of there with a strong hand and an outstretched arm. That’s why the Lord your God commands you to keep the Sabbath day.

Honor your father and your mother, exactly as the Lord your God requires, so that your life will be long and so that things will go well for you on the fertile land that the Lord your God is giving you.

Do not kill.

Do not commit adultery.

Do not steal.

Do not testify falsely against your neighbor.

Do not desire and try to take your neighbor’s wife.

Do not crave your neighbor’s house, field, male or female servant, ox, donkey, or anything else that belongs to your neighbor.

Israel, listen! Our God is the Lord! Only the Lord!

Love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your being, and all your strength. These words that I am commanding you today must always be on your minds. Recite them to your children. Talk about them when you are sitting around your house and when you are out and about, when you are lying down and when you are getting up. Tie them on your hand as a sign. They should be on your forehead as a symbol. Write them on your house’s doorframes and on your city’s gates. (CEB)

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

**Engaging with the Story**

**Deuteronomy 5:1-21; 6:4-9**

A lot has happened since Moses encountered God in that burning bush, which we heard about last week. In obedience to God’s call, Moses returned to Egypt. After much negotiation, and ten plagues, Pharaoh finally relents and lets the Israelites go. In a dramatic showdown at the Red Sea, God parts the waters so the Israelites could pass to safety in the Sinai wilderness.

For forty years the people wander in the wilderness. They learn to trust in God who faithfully provides quail and manna for them to eat, and water to drink. Even so, they complain. A lot. God gives them the Ten Commandments and a bunch of rules to live by (which is pretty much the entire book of Leviticus). And finally, after forty years, God decides that the people are ready to enter the Promised Land.

Which is where our reading for today fits in. These excerpts from Deuteronomy are actually a recalling of when God gave the commandments on Mount Sinai (or Mount Horeb as it’s called in Deuteronomy). In fact, this entire book is a collection of sermons that Moses gave before the people enter the Promised Land, recalling events that are recorded in the book of Exodus.

And this is because Moses himself will not be entering the Promised Land with the people. In fact, from that first generation that entered the wilderness, only Caleb and Joshua would get that opportunity. This is why it’s so important for Moses that these new generations, the ones who were born in the wilderness, remember who they are.

Remember who you are. This is a fitting theme to reflect upon on this weekend of Thanksgiving. This time that for so many of us, is wrapped up in traditions and memories.

For many of us, especially those who are part of the middle or older generations in our families, Thanksgiving often evokes for us memories of all the Thanksgivings past. And especially of those dear to us, who are no longer here. These holidays have a way of bringing the past into our present, which can be both beautiful and painful.

For the younger among us, who maybe haven’t celebrated as many Thanksgivings, this is a time for learning about family traditions. A time to ask questions about why we do the things we do.

We don’t want to end up like that newlywed, who when asked by their spouse why they cut the ends of the ham before roasting it, can only answer “because that’s the way grandma always did it.” Only to find out, when they go ask grandma, she only did that because it’s the only way the ham would fit in her roasting pan!

Not all traditions need to be carried on, but there are some that ought not be let go of. Some that carry significant meaning across generations. And we can count the Ten Commandments among those. These laws matter not only because God says so, but because they offer guidance for how to live well as free people.

As they sit at the edge of the promised land, Moses wants the younger generations to understand that these aren’t just some out of date rules God gave to their parents and grandparents. God, who brought them out of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, made this covenant with them too!

The life ahead for this next generation will be far different than it was for their parents and grandparents. They are about to inhabit a land of prosperity – a land flowing with milk and honey.

They will not be slaves again, but that doesn’t mean there won’t yet be things that might enslave them. Things like greed or bitterness or pride or selfishness or jealousy. The Ten Commandments are a gift to help guard against anything that might threaten to enslave them.

We could easily have an entire sermon series on the Ten Commandments. We don’t have time today to go into the details, so in a nutshell, these commandments help the people remember who they are. They are a people who have been liberated by God. And because of this gift, they are called to live in loving and life-giving community with one another.

I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

These words, which come at the start of the Commandments, invite us to each recall the times in our lives when God has saved **us**.

Times when God has seen us through impossible situations.

Times when God has brought us through the wilderness to a new beginning.

And from that remembering, to orient our lives in ways that honours God, which also includes honouring our neighbours.

As Christians I think that sometimes we can feel a bit of tension with the Ten Commandments. Some of this likely stems from the apostle Paul’s criticism of the law. As he writes in his letter to the Ephesians, we are saved by grace through faith, and not by our own works (Eph 2:8). Some of this stems perhaps from personal experiences with overly legalistic interpretations of the Ten Commandments.

But Jesus himself tells us that he came not to abolish the law, but to fulfill it (Matt 5:17). And when Jesus is asked by one of the religious leaders: which commandment is the greatest? Jesus has this to say:

“The most important one is this: ‘Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’ The second is this: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no commandment greater than these.”

We seek to obey God’s Commandments, not because this will save us, but because this is how God calls saved people to live. We are liberated people who are called to live in loving and life-giving community with one another.

And in our humanness, we will always need some guardrails to do this well. The Ten Commandments, and Jesus’ Two Commandments, provide guidance that helps to guard against any of the forces that would threaten to enslave us: greed, selfishness, fear, pride, jealousy.

In the midst of a world that vies for our attention and our devotion, these rules to live by remind us of God’s desire for us to care about one another’s wellbeing, both strangers and friends.

On this Thanksgiving weekend, as we take time to remember all for which we are grateful, as we remember the people and traditions that have made a difference in our lives, may our recalling inspire us to keep on living in ways that bring more blessing into this hurting world. AMEN.

**Hymn of the Day: ELW # 791 ‘We Sing to You, O God’**

1. We sing to you, O God,

the Rock who gave us birth,

let our rejoicing sing

your name in all the earth.

To you, O God, let songs be raised,

in joyful hymns, our feast of praise.

2. We wandered far from home

out in a desert land,

you shielded with your love

our fearful pilgrim band.

You kept us safe within your arms

and sheltered us against the storm.

3. You bear us through the world,

an eagle to its young;

you rise up on your wings

and bear us toward the sun.

We ride the vaults of light and air

and trust in your unfailing care.

4. O God, eternal God,

we hide within your wings,

the everlasting arms

to whom our praises ring.

Your word is true, your way is just,

You are the God in whom we trust.

*(Title:**We Sing to You, O God; Text: Gracia Grindal, b. 1943; Text © 1993 Selah Publishing Co., Inc. www.selahpub.com. All rights reserved.   
Music: © 1924 John Ireland, admin. The John Ireland Trust; Outside USA: Music © 1924 John Ireland, admin. The John Ireland Trust. All rights reserved.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.

A brief silence.

Creator of the earth, the bounty of creation reveals your abundant love. Provide safety and shelter for all wildlife. Save us from the waste of natural resources. We raise grateful hearts for the earth, our home. Hear us, O God. **C:** **Your mercy is great.**

God of all nations, make all tribes and lands places where justice and inclusion is realized and celebrated. Protect any who are vulnerable and feed all who hunger. We raise grateful hearts for civil rights and just leaders. Hear us, O God. **C:** **Your mercy is great.**

Healing God, you see us and are moved with compassion. Attend to those who are sick or dying, surround with love all who are lonely and despairing, and comfort those in need especially those on our prayer list: those on our prayer list: Bill, Don, Tammy, Alice, Don, Lynn, Helen, Sharon, Donald, Shirley, Clara, Carol, Jeff, Aaron, Mackenzie, Rhett, Linda, Jan, Ken, Robin, Lee, Maria, Deborah, Fred, Anne; and those we name aloud or in the silence of our hearts….. We raise grateful hearts for your lovingkindness. Hear us, O God. **C:** **Your mercy is great.**

God of the welcome table, you gather people to be shaped by your word. We pray for ministries that notice and respond to human needs: The Cambridge Food Bank, The Bridges, The Argus Residence for Young People, Haven House, Langs, House of Friendship, among many others. We raise grateful hearts for these organizations. Hear us, O God. **C:** **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for our siblings in Christ. For the people of St Luke’s Anglican Church and their pastor Craig Love. For the people of St Peter’s Lutheran Church, Kitchener and their pastor Mark Ehlebracht. Bless them in their ministry and unite us in our mission to serve your world. Hear us, O God. **C:** **Your mercy is great.**

We give thanks and pray for Scouts, TOPS, Immanuel City Church, Windjammers, the Cambridge Symphony Orchestra, and others who rent space here at St Peter’s. We are grateful for the many ways this building can support and be enjoyed by our wider community. 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:**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

**Offering**

P: All that we have is a gift from you. On this weekend of Thanksgiving, we joyfully offer these gifts of food for love of our neighbours. May they be pleasing in your sight.

At this time, I invite those in the building to bring forward your offerings.

**Offering Hymn: ACS # 1042 ‘May This Church Be like a Tree’**

1 May this church be like a tree,

behind your house, there in your garden,

meeting-place for joy, and feast,

and simple prayer beneath its branches.

With its roots in earth so fertile,

and its arms raised high to heaven,

may this church bear fruits of justice,

acts of loving and compassion.

**Refrain**

**Tree ever growing by living water,**

**running eternal, flowing from God.**

**Tree ever growing by living water,**

**running eternal, flowing from God.**

2 May this church be like a tree

there in the street or in the plaza,

for the birds a nesting-branch,

for passersby a welcome shelter.

May it stand as if it's watching,

near my house, just round the corner,

waiting for this weary pilgrim

with its arms wide to embrace me. **Refrain**

3 May this church be like a tree,

O God, that thrives where you have planted;

may it stand to show the way,

your way of loving and self-giving,

off'ring shade, and fruit for sharing,

giving up its wood for burning.

May this living church that names you

be a tree of life eternal. **Refrain**

*(Title: May This Church Be like a Tree; Text: Text: Pablo D. Sosa, 1933–2020; tr. Andrew Donaldson, b. 1951; English text © 2013 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved. Used by permission #13856; Music: Pablo D. Sosa; Music © 2011 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved. Used by permission #13856; Reprinted and Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-727610. All rights reserved.)*

**Offering Prayer:**

A: God of power, God of plenty,

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. **Amen.\***

**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…’ *(Sundays)***

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;

who on this day overcame death and the grave,

and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

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 # 486 ‘God Extends an Invitation’**

**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.\***

*(From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2023 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.)*

**ELW # 486 ‘God Extends an Invitation’**

God extends an invitation

to the table of creation,

where there's wine and light and bread.

Here we gather in thanksgiving

and we offer all our living.

Here the feast of life is spread;

here the feast of life is spread.

*(Title: God Extends an Invitation; Text & Music: Miria T. Kolling; Spanish and English tr. Gerhard M. Cartford, b. 1923; Spanish and English text © 1998 Augsburg Fortress.; All rights reserved, Used by permission. # 13856; 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: Blessed be your name, O God,

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.\*

**Blessing:**

Oh God, may we receive your blessing,

through sharing your blessings beyond borders.

May we receive your gifts,

from those who carry nothing.

May we recognize you,

in people we do not know

and may we all find a safe home and peace in you

who had no place to lay your head.\*

The God of all grace + bless us now and forever.

Amen

*\*Source: Claudio Carvalhaes, “Liturgies from Below.” Page 47.*

**Sending Hymn: ACS # 985 ‘Let Us Enter In’**

1 Let us enter in to the song of thanksgiving and freedom.

Let us enter in to the long line of people in need.

Let us enter in to the strong mind that God is still living.

Healing, forgiving—Let us enter in.

2 Let us enter in to the place where our God has preceded.

Let us enter in to the face of the fear and the pain.

Let us enter in to the grace of the love when it's needed.

Death is defeated! Let us enter in.

3 Let us enter in to the heart of a world that is broken.

Let us enter in to the start of a hope we can share.

Let us enter in to the part where we call one another

sister and brother. Let us enter in.

*(Title: Let Us Enter In; Text & Music: Ray Makeever, b. 1943; Text & Music © 1983 Ray Makeever, admin. Augsburg Fortress; All rights reserved. Used by permission # 11030; Music: John B. Dykes, 1823-1846; Public Domain; Reprinted and Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-727610. All rights reserved.)*

**Dismissal:**

P: We are a community /

Of learners and seekers /

Alive in God’s story of creation.

A: Let us go forth in joy and peace to love and serve God and our neighbours.

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

*\*From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2023 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License # 42368. New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.*