**September 3rd, 2023 The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost – Email/At Home Missal**

**ZOOM INFORMATION FOR SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 3, 2023-FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**The ZOOM link for today’s service, which opens at 9.30 am on September 3, 2023, can be found here:**

**Sunday Worship September 3, 2023 09:30 am ZOOM room opens; service begins at 10:00 am.**

**Join Zoom Meeting click here:**[**https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85929098103?pwd=QlJFNUV1Slg3MHhOeGVEalJMdXMvZz09**](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85929098103?pwd=QlJFNUV1Slg3MHhOeGVEalJMdXMvZz09)

**Meeting ID: 859 2909 8103 Passcode: 171662**

**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:**

**+17789072071,,85929098103#,,,,\*171662# Canada,**

**+17806660144,,85929098103#,,,,\*171662# 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: 859 2909 8103 Passcode: 171662**

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

**…………………………………..**

**IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 3rd, 2023:**

**Here is the YouTube link for the service from last Sunday, August 27th, 2023:** [**https://youtu.be/pQe2bJccjkE**](https://youtu.be/pQe2bJccjkE)

**……………………….**

1. **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 to know Pastor Laura, she would love to meet with you.
2. **…………………………….**

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.

1. **…………………………….**

**Summer Services - Historic Ellis Pioneer Chapel**

6705 Ellis Road, Puslinch Township

**September 24, 2023 at 2:30 p.m.**

Concert of Barbershop and Gospel music

by Bakers Dozen, Guelph

Refreshments and fellowship in the garden to follow each of the services

**…………………………………..**

**Climate Emergency Vigil**
**Friday's 8 pm -9 pm, Waterloo Square
September 1 through December 15, 2023**

in the lead-up to the international United Nations climate conference

happening this year in Dubai (UN COP28).

**……………………………..**

**Concert here at St. Peter’s Lutheran Church**

**Saturday October 21, 2023**

**Cambridge Symphony Orchestra**

**7:00 PM**

**Save the Date!**

**…………………………………….**

**50th Anniversary
Celebration Organ Series
Saturday September 23, 2023**

**7:00 PM
featuring Martin Jongsma**

**Save the Date!**

**………………………………**

**AN EASTERN SYNOD TWO RIVERS and GRAND RIVER MINISTRY AREA GATHERING
Thinking Forward – Saturday, September 16, 2023
ST. MATTHEWS LUTHERAN CHURCH, 54 BENTON STREET, KITCHENER**

**Checking In 9:30 am – 10:00 am Gather and Refreshments**

**10:00 am – 12:00 noon Conversation**

**An invitation to all Active Rostered, Congregational Lay Leaders and Members of Churches in the Grand River and Two Rivers Ministry Areas in the Waterloo and Wellington Regions**

**Part 2 - Let’s continue the conversation from May to think about possible pathways forward and discern the Spirit’s calling into God’s future.**

**QUESTIONS?
Rev. David Malina –** **dmalinachurch@gmail.com**

**Rev. Heike Toeller –** **pastor.heike@gmail.com**

**……………………………………….**

**Start your Thanksgiving Shopping at St. Peter's**

**ESTA Premium Truffles**

**$9.00 / Fifteen (15) assorted Truffles**

**Pine Hill Wildflower Honey**

**$9.00 / 500 gram or $17.00 / 1000 gram**

**Snyder Heritage Farms**

**Organic Maple Syrup**

**$23.00 / 1 Litre Mason Jar**

**Please contact Alex Black or St. Peter's office 519-653-4721 to place an order.**

**………………………………..**

**September 30, 2023 is Orange Shirt Day**

**This day honours the lost children and survivors of residential schools, their families and communities.**

**You are invited to wear orange on Sunday, October 1, 2023 as we commemorate this day.**

**……………………………….**

**Weekly Bible Study – Pastor Laura is hoping to start up the third week of September on a new day and time. To that end, please see, and complete the sign-up sheet in the narthex, including the times that works for you. Pastor Laura will go with the time that works for the majority.**

**……………………………….**

**The bulletin today and the flowers on the altar are being sponsored by Frank and Sally Andrade in loving memory of Sally’s parents Gloria and Carl Duneman.  Gloria passed away 1 year ago on September 7th, 2022, and Carl 40 years ago on September 7th, 1983.**

**……………………………………..**

**Presiding Pastor: Rev. Laura Sauder**

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

**Assisting Minister: Emily Reidl**

**Reader: Barbara Berg**

**Land Acknowledgement:**

Here at St. Peter's in Cambridge, we acknowledge that we are on the ancestral lands of the Attawandaron, or Neutrals, the Anishinaabe, and the Haudenosaunee Peoples. Before the arrival of European settlers, these First Peoples had agreements between them represented by wampum belts from which they understood how to use the resources sustainably. One of these wampum belts is called the ‘Dish With One Spoon’ Belt. This wampum agreement represents the abundant land and water in what is now known as the Great Lakes Region with a dish, or bowl. Each tribe was to use the one spoon to remove only those resources they needed to live sustainably and then pass the dish onto others so that the abundance was shared. We are grateful for this example of using our abundance sustainably so that our resources are never depleted but shared equally for the benefit of all and continuing to the next seven generations.

**Welcome remarks**

**Call to Worship:**

P: For the beauty of the summer day,

***C: And the comfort of friends nearby;***

P: For the invitation to love and be loved,

***C: For God who extends that call;***

P: For time set apart to nourish the soul,

***C: For time to go out into the world armed with love:***

P: For all these things we give thanks.

***C: Let us worship God.***

*Source: “Written by Beth Merrill Neel on her blog, ‘Hold Fast to What Is Good’.  Used with permission.* [*https://holdfasttowhatisgood.com/liturgy/call-to-worship/*](https://holdfasttowhatisgood.com/liturgy/call-to-worship/) *”*

**Gathering Hymn:  ACS # 1044 ‘Not for Tongues of Heaven’s Angels’**

1 Not for tongues of heaven's angels,

 not for wisdom to discern,

 not for faith that masters mountains,

 for this better gift we yearn:

 may love be ours, O Lord.

2 Love is humble, love is gentle,

 love is tender, true, and kind;

 love is gracious, ever patient,

 generous of heart and mind:

 may love be ours, O Lord.

3 Never jealous, never selfish,

 love will not rejoice in wrong;

 never boastful nor resentful,

 love believes and suffers long:

 may love be ours, O Lord.

4 In the day this world is fading,

 faith and hope will play their part;

 but when Christ is seen in glory

 love shall reign in ev'ry heart:

 may love be ours, O Lord.

*(Title:* *Not for Tongues of Heaven's Angels; Text:* *Timothy Dudley-Smith, b. 1926; Text © 1984, 1985 Hope Publishing Company; For use solely with the SongSelect®*[*Terms of Use*](https://songselect.ccli.com/about/termsofuse)*.* *All rights reserved. Used by permission. Music: Peter Cutts, b. 1937; Music© 1969 Hope Publishing Company; For use solely with the SongSelect®*[*Terms of Use*](https://songselect.ccli.com/about/termsofuse)*.* *All rights reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted and Streamed with permission under CCLI, License # 11098609. All rights reserved.)*

**Invitation to Confession:**

The act of confessing our sin is not simply a recitation of our faults and wrongs, but also an opportunity to receive God’s mercy and share in that abundant grace. Confident in God’s love for us, let us offer our prayers, first in silence.

*silent prayer*

**Unison Prayer of Confession:**P: Gracious and loving God,

***C: open our hearts so that we can admit to you***

***the fullness of our lives –***

***that which is beautiful and good,***

***and that which is hurtful and hateful.***

***We confess that we do not follow Jesus in all that we do.
We love with condition.
We judge and condemn.
We cast the first stone,***

***and keep the logs in our own eyes.
We do not turn to You as the source of our healing.***

***Forgive us, we pray,***

***and empower us to be imitators of Christ***

***in love and service. Amen.***

**Assurance of Forgiveness:**

P: Friends in Christ, know this:

the mercy of God is from everlasting to everlasting,

and I remind you of this surpassing grace –

in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven +

***C: Alleluia! Amen.***

*Source:**“Written by Beth Merrill Neel on her blog, ‘Hold Fast to What Is Good’.  Used with permission.* [*https://holdfasttowhatisgood.com/liturgy/prayer-of-confession/*](https://holdfasttowhatisgood.com/liturgy/prayer-of-confession/)

**Greeting**:

The Lord be with you.

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

**Prayer of the Day***:*

O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.\***

**Intro to the Psalm *(Pastor Laura)***

**Psalm 26:1-8**

Psalm 26 begins with a bold claim – the psalmist is so assured of their integrity that they call on God to judge them; certain that God will find no fault or moral failing.

It’s a little hard to know what to do with this psalm that seems to proclaim self-righteousness. Can we ever really be so assured of our moral uprightness?

What I appreciate though about this psalm is that it gets us thinking about integrity – which is something that will come into play in our other readings today. What does integrity look like in practice for followers of Jesus? What are the consequences of integrity in a world where power structures are challenged and threatened by integrity – something that is foreshadowed in our gospel reading for today.

Although we may not be as flawless in our pursuit of integrity as this psalmist, these words are a reminder that seeking to live with integrity matters to God – to always be seeking to love others as steadfastly as God loves us. Let us listen to the word…

**The First Reading: Psalm 26:1-8**

Give judgment for me, O Lord, for I have lived with integrity;

I have trusted in the Lord and have not faltered.

Test me, O Lord, and try me;

examine my heart and my mind.

For your steadfast love is before my eyes;

I have walked faithfully with you.

I have not sat with the worthless,

nor do I consort with the deceitful.

I have hated the company of evildoers;

I will not sit down with the wicked.

I will wash my hands in innocence, O Lord,

that I may go in procession round your altar,

singing aloud a song of thanksgiving

and recounting all your wonderful deeds.

Lord, I love the house in which you dwell

and the place where your glory abides. \*

Word of God, Word of Life*.* ***C: Thanks be to God.\****

**Lesson Introduction *(Pastor Laura)***

**Romans 12:9-21**

In these verses from Paul’s letter to the Romans we get to hear some of Paul’s vision of what integrity looks like for followers of Christ. Following in Jesus’ way isn’t easy, and yet aligning our behaviours with our beliefs matters to God, and makes a difference to our neighbours. Let us listen to the word…

**The Second Reading: Romans 12:9-21**

Love should be shown without pretending. Hate evil, and hold on to what is good. Love each other like the members of your family. Be the best at showing honor to each other. Don’t hesitate to be enthusiastic—be on fire in the Spirit as you serve the Lord! Be happy in your hope, stand your ground when you’re in trouble, and devote yourselves to prayer. Contribute to the needs of God’s people, and welcome strangers into your home. Bless people who harass you—bless and don’t curse them. Be happy with those who are happy, and cry with those who are crying. Consider everyone as equal, and don’t think that you’re better than anyone else. Instead, associate with people who have no status. Don’t think that you’re so smart. Don’t pay back anyone for their evil actions with evil actions, but show respect for what everyone else believes is good.

If possible, to the best of your ability, live at peace with all people. Don’t try to get revenge for yourselves, my dear friends, but leave room for God’s wrath. It is written, *Revenge belongs to me; I will pay it back, says the Lord*. Instead, *If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him a drink. By doing this, you will pile burning coals of fire upon his head*. Don’t be defeated by evil, but defeat evil with good.  *(CEB)*

Word of God, Word of Life*.* ***C: Thanks be to God.\****

**Gospel Acclamation: ELW Setting Eight *(page 188)***

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia.\*

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

**The Holy Gospel according to Matthew 16:21-28**

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

From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he had to go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders, chief priests, and legal experts, and that he had to be killed and raised on the third day. Then Peter took hold of Jesus and, scolding him, began to correct him: “God forbid, Lord! This won’t happen to you.” But he turned to Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan. You are a stone that could make me stumble, for you are not thinking God’s thoughts but human thoughts.”

Then Jesus said to his disciples, “All who want to come after me must say no to themselves, take up their cross, and follow me. All who want to save their lives will lose them. But all who lose their lives because of me will find them. Why would people gain the whole world but lose their lives? What will people give in exchange for their lives? For the Human One is about to come with the majesty of his Father with his angels. And then he will repay each one for what that person has done. I assure you that some standing here won’t die before they see the Human One coming in his kingdom.” *(CEB)*

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

1. **Sermon**

**Matthew 16:21-28**

**Rev. Peter Wall, Assistant to the Bishop, Worship**

O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world.

Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

No matter how old I get, or how far removed from “back to school” (and believe me, I am very far removed from “back to school”), Labour Day weekend always marks for me an end and a beginning—here in Ontario, where I live, and, I think, throughout our whole country, the first weekend on September marks a “hinge,” even, to use contemporary imagery, a “pivot.”

Even though we all may say, somewhat wistfully to each other, that September can be such a beautiful month and even though we know that, sometimes, some of our best “summer” weather takes place in September and October, Labour Day inevitably marks, for most of us, the end of summer and the beginning of fall. A new school year debuts for our children and grandchildren. Nervousness, excitement, a little fear, some optimism surround those in our families and circles of friends who are about to “plunge.” Even some of our older friends may be going to or returning to “higher” education. For some, September may mean a new job or a new position. For us all, it means a—in lots of cases—welcomed return to “routine”—to a more regular rhythm, a greater degree of predictability. Of course, it also presages the ineluctable change of seasons—cooler evenings, the promise (or threat, depending….) of fall and winter making their way towards us.

In the midst of that pivot, as in all times of change, it provides us with an opportunity to reflect, to think, to plan, to look both backwards and forward.

Looking forward is an important part of our lives—always.

Looking back is also important and, sometimes, sobering. This has been an extremely difficult and painful summer for our country—the crushing reality (as if we needed reminding) that the climate crisis is real and urgent and is not just coming—it is, as we have known for so long—HERE!I We have been overwhelmed by news of fires and floods, of destructive winds and weather systems which we cannot begin to understand or accept. We have watched our friends and neighbours having to leave their homes and communities and we are suffused with helplessness in the face of all of this, with deep admiration for those who work on the front lines, and with earnest prayer for all those who have lost homes, livelihoods, and In so many cases, their lives.

In the midst of despair, there is always, for those of us who follow Jesus, the hope of the Gospel—the good news that sustains and strengthens us, even when we sometimes think that we are beyond being strengthened or sustained.

In today’s Gospel reading, as we continue to walk through Matthew’s telling of the story, we are reminded of the humility that comes with faith, of the denial of self-service, of the strength of obedience and of the joy of, indeed, taking up our cross and following Jesus to glory.

Jesus is with his friends, particularly with Peter, who has gone through his conversation about who Jesus is, Jesus reminding them that he is to go to Jerusalem; to suffer and to die; Jesus tells them that, unless they take up their cross and deny themselves, they cannot be one of his disciples. Jesus says the same thing to us.

So, what does it mean in 2023 in a sophisticated and blessed place like Canada. It does not mean that we can simply presume that, because of our discipleship, everything will suddenly be wonderful!

It does not mean that we can simply turn our collected backs on the climate crisis, on the scourge of homelessness, on the shame of widespread poverty and inequality, on the crushing reality of children who will go back to school hungry and ill housed. It does not mean that we can cover ourselves in the glory of our faith and ignore our political and social responsibilities as citizens and as Christians.

It does mean, I think, that as disciples of Jesus, we are people who live with unquenchable hope and not as people of despair.

It does mean that, as people of hope, we are reminded about the power of our humility to be agents of change.

It does mean, I believe, that the ways we live and “have our being” as parents and friends, as co-workers, as partners and spouses are always cast in the light of making a difference.

There is always a better way—saying no to despair and yes to hope and promise. There are always important ways in which we can work together, socially and politically, for positive change in our communities and our nation. The discipleship to which we are called compels us to be more welcoming, more accepting, more open to the wondrous breadth of God’s kingdom.

Because of what God has done for us, we know that we carry the promise of good news and of hope to a world which can seem, at times, to be careening out of control. The strength of our faith and our determination can and does make a difference!

As we pivot from summer into fall, we can reposition ourselves into difference makers—not because we know that we are going suddenly to make everything right, but because we know what a difference we have made and can make!

Our prayer needs to be that, together, we can be the church, can be effective disciples, and can spread the Good News of Christ!

May it be so …for you, for me, and for our Church. Thanks be to God! Amen. Alleluia

**Hymn of the Day: ACS # 973 ‘The Word Who Sang the Light into Creation’**

1 The Word who sang the light into creation,

 who spoke to all through prophet voices bold

 the warning cry, the promise of salvation,

 shines ever as of old.

2 The Word is like the bush forever burning;

 the Word pours down like showers on the land;

 the Word is like the sun, our faces warming:

 God's power till the end.

3 The Word came down to earth when all was ready,

 made our time, made our space a dwelling place.

 The Word who sheltered near the heart of Mary

 brings us to birth in grace.

4 The Word of God is not an empty shadow,

 but flesh and blood, like us, in us to live,

 to laugh and weep with us in joy and sorrow,

 *to know us, yet forgive.*

5 O Word, you are the "Yes" of all God's promise:

 "Amen!" we shout; in you our faith is sure.

 Oh, lead us to the light of God's own presence,

 to life forevermore.

*(Title:**The Word Who Sang the Light into Creation; Text: Alberto Taulé, 1932–2007; tr. Martin A. Seltz, b. 1951; © 1982, 2000 Alberto Taulé. Published by OCP, 5536 N. Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Music:**Alberto Taulé, 1932–2007; © 1982, 2000 Alberto Taulé. Published by OCP, 5536 N. Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted and Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-727610. All rights reserved.)*

**Affirmation of Faith:**

P: We believe in God;

***C: Who is older than eternity***

***and younger than our next breath;***

***who is beyond describing***

***yet knows us all by name;***

***who inspires faith***

***yet cannot be contained by religion.***

P: We believe in Jesus Christ,

flesh of our flesh, bone of our bone;

***C: He came in the body***

***to give worth to every human life.***

***He touched the untouchable,***

***loved the unlovable,***

***forgave the unforgivable***

***and endured slander,***

***persecution and death***

***in order that through suffering love***

***God’s kingdom might come on earth.***

***He rose from the grave as living proof***

***that what is laid down in faith***

***will be raised in glory.***

***He ascended to heaven***

***that he might be present***

***at all times***

***to all people.***

P: We believe in the Holy Spirit,

***C: Who leads us into truth and freedom,***

***who gives good gifts***

***to all God’s children,***

***who inspires research, enables prayer,***

***and wills***

***that human economics and politics***

***should prioritise justice,***

***care for the earth***

***and the healing of the nations.***

P: We celebrate the potential of the Church,

***C: The life in our bodies,***

***the yearning in our souls,***

***the promise of good things in store***

***for those who love the Lord.***

*Source: (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.)*

**Prayers of Intercession:**

A:Remembering the caring and generous works of God, we pray for the church, creation, and the needs of our neighbors.

A brief silence.

God of life, your words are the joy at the heart of your church. Draw the seeker to you, place messages of hope and healing in the mouths of your witnesses, and open your children to your truth when we stumble. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

God of steadfast love, renew the earth by your Spirit, that lands and oceans reveal the beauty of your creation. Challenge us to live humbly and peaceably as part of your world. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

God of patience, lead those who govern to hold fast to what is good. Guide them to show honor to the people in their care. Overcome evil in all nations and grant peace to peoples and places mired in conflict. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

God of life, remember all who are suffering, lonely, and in pain. We pray especially for: Bill, Don, Tammy, Alice, Don, Lynn, Bryan, Helen, Sharon, Donald, Creena, 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. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

God of deliverance, liberate your people being insulted, persecuted, or in the grasp of the ruthless. Give endurance to workers who persevere on this Labor Day and insure fair wages and safe working environments. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

God of justice, equip this congregation to boldly follow you in uncertain times and to remain faithful in prayer when facing challenges. Show us how best to love and care for one another and our communities. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

God of community, we pray for our siblings in Christ. For the people of St Clement’s Catholic Parish and their pastor Father Bradley Markus and Deacon John Fioretti. For Bishop Susan and the staff of the ELCIC national office. Bless them in their ministry and unite us in our mission to serve your world. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

We give thanks and pray for those who serve on our Ministry of Radical Hospitality. Embrace them with your love and renew them by your Spirit, as they lead us in creating a welcoming community where all people, regardless of age, income level, sexual orientation, race or culture, feel cared for and experience the radical grace and hospitality of God. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

Remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer these and the prayers of our heart, trusting in your compassion made known through Jesus Christ. **Amen.\***

**Share the peace of Christ:**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

**Offering**

**Offering Hymn: ELW # 879 ‘For the Beauty of the Earth’**

1 For the beauty of the earth,

 for the beauty of the skies,

 for the love which from our birth

 over and around us lies:

**Refrain**

 **Christ, our God, to thee we raise**

 **this our sacrifice of praise.**

2 For the wonder of each hour

 of the day and of the night,

 hill and vale and tree and flow'r,

 sun and moon and stars of light: **Refrain**

3 For the joy of ear and eye,

 for the heart and mind's delight,

 for the mystic harmony

 linking sense to sound and sight: **Refrain**

4 For the joy of human love,

 brother, sister, parent, child,

 friends on earth and friends above;

 for all gentle thoughts and mild: **Refrain**

5 For each perfect gift of thine,

 peace on earth and joy in heav'n;

 for thyself, best gift divine,

 to our world so freely giv'n: **Refrain**

*(Title: For the Beauty of the Earth; Text:**Text: Folliott S. Pierpoint, 1835-1917, alt.; Public Domain; Music: Conrad Kocher, 1786-1872; Public Domain; 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**

**Thanksgiving at the Table:**

On the night before he died,

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 Hymn # 466 ‘In the Singing’**

1 In the singing, in the silence,

 in the hands expectant, open,

 in the blessing, in the breaking,

 in your presence at this table,

***Refrain***

 ***Jesus Christ, Jesus Christ,***

 ***be the wine of grace;***

 ***Jesus, Christ, Jesus Christ,***

 ***be the bread of peace.***

2 In the question, in the answer,

 in the moment of acceptance,

 in the heart's cry, in the healing,

 in the circle of your people, ***Refrain***

*(Title: In the Singing; Text: Shirley Erena Murray, b. 1931; Text © 1996 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Music: Carlton R. Young, b. 1926; © 1996 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission. 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:**

The God of glory,

☩ Jesus Christ, name above all names,

and the Spirit who lives in you,

bless you now and forever.

Amen\*

**Sending Hymn: ACS # 1000 ‘God’s Work, Our Hands’**

1 God's work, our hands: working together,

 building a future, repairing the world,

 raising up homes, planting new gardens,

 feeding the hungry and shelt'ring the cold.

 Bless, God, our hands as we work in your name,

 sharing the good news of your gospel.

2 God's work, our feet: trav'ling together,

 following Jesus to places unknown,

 walking as friends, marching for freedom,

 running the race with God's future the goal.

 Bless, God, our feet as we follow your way,

 sharing the good news of your gospel.

3 God's work, our voice: singing together,

 praising, proclaiming to all who will hear,

 praying for peace, shouting for justice,

 claiming God's love for the lost and the least.

 Bless, God, our voice as we speak in your name,

 sharing the good news of your gospel.

4 God is at work in and around us:

 seedlings are sprouting and bread's on the rise!

 Washed and set free, humbled and honored,

 gifted by grace, we respond in God's love.

 Bless, God, our lives as we answer your call,

 sharing the good news of your gospel.

*(Title: God's Work, Our Hands; Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954; Text © 2019 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, admin. Augsburg Fortress; All rights reserved, Used by permission. Music:* David N. Johnson, 1922-1987; *© 1968 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress; All rights reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted and Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-727610. All rights reserved.)*

**Dismissal:**

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

***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.*