

Third Sunday of Easter May 4, 2025 8:00 AM St. Paul's Lutheran Church Henrik Sonntag, Pastor 120 N. Easton Road Glenside, PA 215-884-3005

GATHERING

THE PRELUDE Paen (A Song of Praise and Triumph) Please stand as you are able.

Craig Phillips

EASTER GREETING Christ is risen. **He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. *The assembly kneels or stands. Silence is kept for reflection.*

Most merciful God, we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all you sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen. OR**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

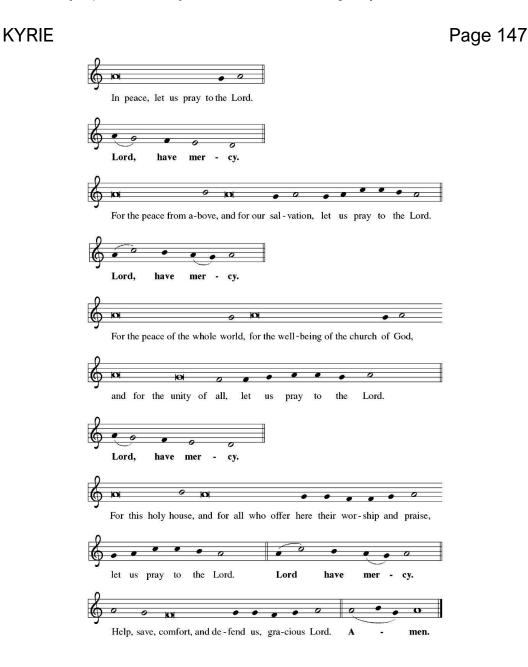
OPENING HYMN No. 729 The Church of Christ, in Every Age Wareham The Church of Christ, in Every Age set The church of Christ, in 'ry age by ev be 1 world, 2 Α cross the a the street, vic tims -cross the -3 Then let the ser - vant church a rise, car ing a lone, whose blood 4 For he a was shed. can cure the 5 We mis - sion full have but to serve in 0 no 0 change, but Spir it led. must claim and test its of in jus tice cry for shel ter and for -church that longs to be a part ner in Christ's fe blood, ver in our and teach us how to with be dience to our Lord; to care for all, her - i - tage and keep ris ing from the dead. on bread to eat, and nev - er live be - fore they die. sac - ri - fice. and clothed in Christ's hu - man - i - ty. share our bread and feed the starv - ing mul - ti - tude. out re - serve, and spread his lib er at ing word.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000 Music: WAREHAM, William Knapp, 1698–1768 Text © 1971 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

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.**



HYMN OF PRAISE



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Eternal and all-merciful God, with all the angels and all the saints we laud your majesty and might. By the resurrection of your Son, show yourself to us and inspire us to follow Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE WORD _

THE FIRST READING

¹ Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ² and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³ Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴ He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" ⁵ He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶ But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do."

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM

The psalm is read responsively.

- ¹I will exalt you, O LORD, because you have lift- ¹ ed me up and have not let my enemies triumph ¹ over me.
 - ²O LORD my God, I cried ¹ out to you, and you restored ¹ me to health.
 - ³You brought me up, O LORD, ¹ from the dead; you restored my life as I was going down ¹ to the grave.
 - ⁴ Sing praise to the LORD, ¹ all you faithful; give thanks in ho- ¹ ly remembrance. R

⁵God's wrath is short; God's favor ¹ lasts a lifetime. Weeping spends the night, but joy comes ¹ in the morning.

Acts 9:1-6

Psalm 30

⁶While I felt se- ¹ cure, I said, "I shall never ¹ be disturbed.

⁷You, LORD, with your favor, made me as strong ¹ as the mountains." Then you hid your face, and I was ¹ filled with fear.

⁸I cried to ¹ you, O LORD;

I pleaded with ¹ my Lord, saying,

⁹ "What profit is there in my blood, if I go down ¹ to the pit? Will the dust praise you or de-¹ clare your faithfulness?

¹⁰ Hear, O LORD, and have mer- ¹ cy upon me; O LORD, ¹ be my helper." R

¹¹You have turned my wailing ¹ into dancing; you have put off my sackcloth and clothed ¹ me with joy.

¹² Therefore my heart sings to you | without ceasing; O LORD my God, I will give you | thanks forever. R

THE SECOND READING

Revelation 5:11-14

¹¹Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, ¹² singing with full voice,

"Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered

to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might

and honor and glory and blessing!"

¹³Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing,

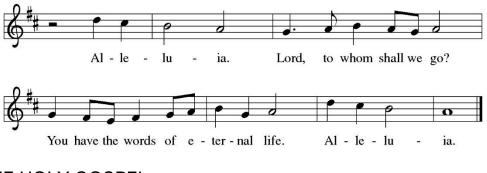
"To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!"

 $^{\mbox{\tiny 14}}$ And the four living creatures said, "Amen!" And the elders fell down and worshiped.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 21:1-19

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the Twenty-first Chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹After [he appeared to his followers in Jerusalem,] Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. ²Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. ³Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

⁴ Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. ⁵ Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." ⁶ He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. ⁷ That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. ⁸ But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

⁹When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. ¹⁰Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." ¹¹So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. ¹²Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. ¹³Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. ¹⁴This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

¹⁵ When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." ¹⁶ A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." ¹⁷ He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. ¹⁸ Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go." ¹⁹ (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, "Follow me."

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

Please be seated.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

Pastor Henrik Sonntag

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY No. 661 I Love to Tell the Story

Hankey

I Love to Tell the Story



Text: Katherine Hankey, 1834–1911 Music: HANKEY, William E. Fischer, 1849–1936

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.

THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Please kneel or sit for the prayers: This week's response is: Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Your love sustains the church and its ministries. By that love, equip youth directors, Sunday school teachers, and all who guide formation in the church to nurture vibrant, living faith among your people. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Your abundance is made known throughout creation. Preserve oceans and rivers, lakes and estuaries so that all creatures living in them might flourish. Make us wise stewards of our local watersheds. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**. Your wisdom guides all who strive for justice and peace. Strengthen the work of grassroots organizers, especially among communities on the frontlines of justice work. Amplify the voices of those most in need, that their leadership guides the way forward. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Your compassion surrounds all who are in need. We pray for all people experiencing poverty and food insecurity, and for all struggling with debt and economic uncertainty. Reassure all who experience hopelessness or need your tender care especially Larry Miller and Alicia Simpson. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

You invite all people to your table of grace. Make this a community of radical hospitality where all feel loved and celebrated. Show us how to better welcome visitors and bless the ministries of hospitality in this place (*specific ministries may be named*). Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

We praise you for the witness of your saints of all times and places. May their lives of faith guide us in our own journeys with you, today and every day. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. **Amen.**

Please stand as you are able

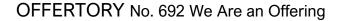
THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.** All greet each other with Christ's gesture of peace saying "Peace be with you." Please be seated

MEAL

OFFERING Organ selection

Please stand as you are able.



Offering



THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

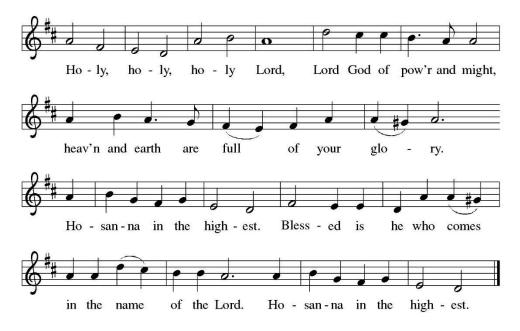
Concludes with ... Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Page 152

THE SANCTUS

Page 153



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

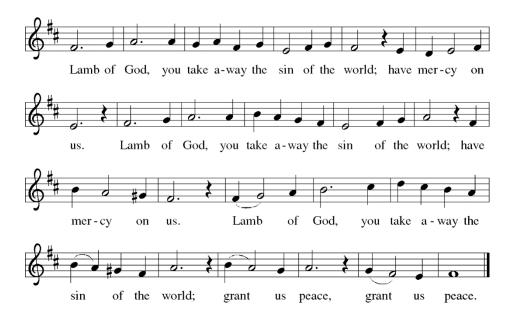
THE LORD'S PRAYER

Page 154

Please be seated.

THE COMMUNION

"Lamb of God"



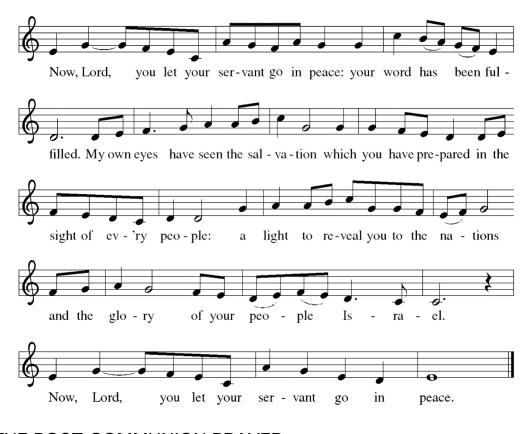
Please stand as you are able.

THE COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

THE POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

Now Lord, You Let Your Servant Go in Peace



THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER Concludes with **Amen**.

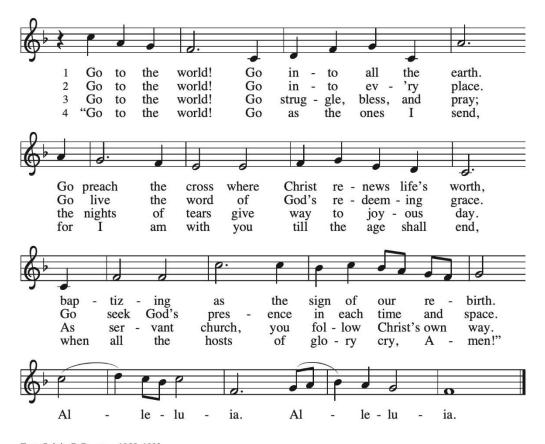
SENDING

THE BLESSING

THE SENDING HYMN No. 991 Go to the World! Page 155

Sine nomine

Go to the World!



Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993 Music: SINE NOMINE, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958 Text © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved. Music © Oxford University Press. All rights reserved.

Duplication in any form prohibited without securing permission from copyright administrator or reporting usage under valid license.

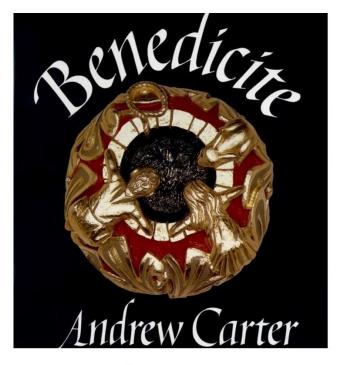
Please be seated for the announcements.

PARISH NOTICES AND JOYS

Sending: Go in peace. Serve the Lord. Thanks be to God.

THE POSTLUDE Fanfare

William Mathias



SUNDAY MAY 5, 2025 AT 10:30 PRESENTED BY THE CHANCEL AND CHILDREN'S CHOIRS

Third Sunday of Easter May 4, 2025

10:30 AM St. Paul's Lutheran Church Henrik Sonntag, Pastor 120 N. Easton Road Glenside, PA 215-884-3005

GATHERING

THE PRELUDE Paen (A Song of Praise and Triumph)

Craig Phillips

Please stand as you are able.

EASTER GREETING Christ is risen. **He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. *The assembly kneels or stands. Silence is kept for reflection.*

Most merciful God, we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all you sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen. OR**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

OPENING HYMN No. 835 All Creatures, Worship God Most High! Lasst Uns Erfreuen Verses 1, 2, 3 & 6

All Creatures, Worship God Most High!



Text: Francis of Assisi, 1182–1226; tr. composite Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, Geistliche Kirchengesänge, Köln, 1623 Text © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

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.**



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Eternal and all-merciful God, with all the angels and all the saints we laud your majesty and might. By the resurrection of your Son, show yourself to us and inspire us to follow Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Special Music Sunday with the presentation of Benedicite by Andrew Carter

Composer Andrew Carter's work is inspired by the new Benedicite carvings at York Minster and commissioned by the British Federation of Youth Choir. *Benedicite* was first performed in Queen's Hall, Edinburgh, conducted by Philip Ledger in 1989.

BENEDICITE is simply the Latin title for 'All the world, praise the Lord.' The English Prayer Book takes thirty-three verses to say so; so, I chose a few of the old verses and added a sprinkling of new ones to make the following eleven movements:

No. 1 – O all ye works of the Lord, praise ye the Lord

A dance of joy to the rhythm of trumpets and drums.

No. 2 – Green Things

In a lilting five-four time, the old verse is amplified to include familiar plant forms like 'herbs and heathers.'

No. 3 – Sun and Moon

An attempt to capture in sound the sense of silence and eternity, not to say human insignificance, that we feel when looking up into the heavens on a starry night.

No. 4 – Badgers and Hedgehogs

In the first of three sections for the younger singers, some of the animals that Noah forgot to mention have a rumbustious time.

No. 5 – Ice and Snow

Whilst we sleep, nimble Jack Frost darts round the village with his icicle brush. We shiver in winter's special beauty.

No. 6 – Whales and Water

...is a drop in the ocean. Our voices and instruments can only hint at the vast unknown. But in the middle, I have transcribed into the strings the plaintive song of the majestic whale, recently captured on tape by the British Antarctic Survey.

No. 7 – Butterflies and Moths

The youngsters remind us and themselves that life is fragile and transient, wafted away on the breeze. So, we enjoy and give thanks for a myriad of colorful moments.

No. 8 – Thunder and Lightning

Over a short repeating bass line, a storm threatens, and the frightening elemental powers give way to the calm water of ...

No. 9 – Spirits and Souls

In a brief reference to earlier music, we think of all those absolutely smashing people of our own generation who are good to know, and of those of earlier times whose lives can serve as a model. Not least of course ...

No. 10 – Grannies and Grandads

No. 11 – O let the earth bless the Lord

The world has come full circle, and the final hymn of praise recalls the opening fanfares.

HYMN OF THE DAY

No. 1064 Earth Is Full of Wit and Wisdom

Holy Manna

Earth Is Full of Wit and Wisdom



Text: Adam M. L. Tice, b. 1979 Music: HOLY MANNA, W. Moore, *Columbian Harmony*, 1825; arr. hymnal version Text © 2009 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved. Arr. © 2003 Augsburg Fortress

Duplication in any form prohibited without securing permission from copyright administrator or reporting usage under valid license.

Page 105

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.

THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Please kneel or sit for the prayers: This week's response is: Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need. *A brief silence.*

Your love sustains the church and its ministries. By that love, equip youth directors, Sunday school teachers, and all who guide formation in the church to nurture vibrant, living faith among your people. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Your abundance is made known throughout creation. Preserve oceans and rivers, lakes and estuaries so that all creatures living in them might flourish. Make us wise stewards of our local watersheds. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**. Your wisdom guides all who strive for justice and peace. Strengthen the work of grassroots organizers, especially among communities on the frontlines of justice work. Amplify the voices of those most in need, that their leadership guides the way forward. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Your compassion surrounds all who are in need. We pray for all people experiencing poverty and food insecurity, and for all struggling with debt and economic uncertainty. Reassure all who experience hopelessness or need your tender care especially Larry Miller and Alicia Simpson. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

You invite all people to your table of grace. Make this a community of radical hospitality where all feel loved and celebrated. Show us how to better welcome visitors and bless the ministries of hospitality in this place. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

We praise you for the witness of your saints of all times and places especially Monica, mother of Saint Augustine. May their lives of faith guide us in our own journeys with you, today and every day. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. **Amen.**

Please stand as you are able

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.** All greet each other with Christ's gesture of peace saying "Peace be with you." Please be seated OFFERING Canzone Lilla

Ajibola Rivers

Ajibola Rivers, cello

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERTORY No. 692 We Are an Offering

Offering

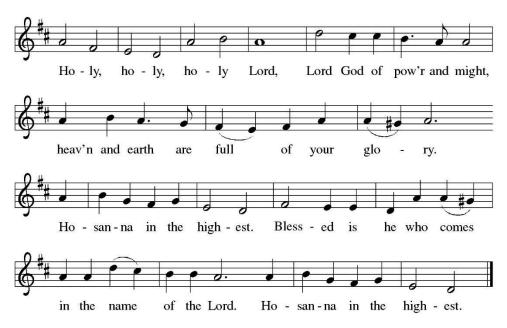


THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Page 152

THE SANCTUS

Page 153



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

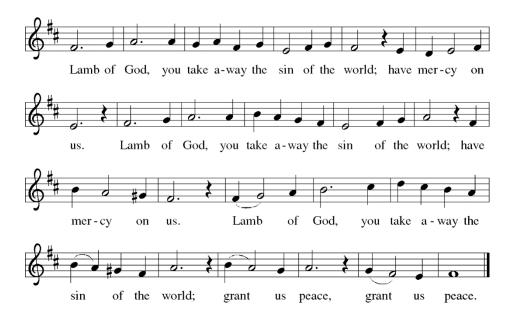
THE LORD'S PRAYER

Please be seated.

Page 154

THE COMMUNION

"Lamb of God"



Please stand as you are able.

THE COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

THE POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

Now Lord, You Let Your Servant Go in Peace



THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER Concludes with **Amen**.

SENDING

THE BLESSING

THE SENDING HYMN No. 879 For the Beauty of the Earth Page 155

Dix

For the Beauty of the Earth



Text: Folliott S. Pierpoint, 1835–1917, alt. Music: DIX, Conrad Kocher, 1786–1872

Please be seated for the announcements.

PARISH NOTICES AND JOYS

Sending: Go in peace. Serve the Lord. Thanks be to God.

THE POSTLUDE

Fanfare

SINGERS: Sopranos

Betsy Berglund Susan Duffy AnnaLisa Mariani Pam McDowell Violet Moyer Julie Sullivan Caroline VanPelt

Altos

Cyndee Folk Pat Lackman Celia O'Leary Laurie Pellicore Starr Shiffer Misty Wagner

Tenors

Paul Anderson Geoff Bolinski Michael Harrington Larry Hoenig

Basses

Peter Gkonos Steve Sheehan Benjamin Sonntag Eric Shiffer Harry VanPelt William Mathias

Children's Choir

Zion Bond **Emerson Corsey** Maku DuPree-Ekpaji Noah DuPree-Ekpaji Adam Erat Emma Erat **Dominick Garcia** Julie Garcia Lucy Garcia Griz Gerlach Camryn Guckavan Aubrey Moseng Leah O'Neal Emma Plugfelder Claire Picado Gabriel Picado Franklin Wang

Instrumentalists

Colleen Hood – bassoon Rob Skoniczin – trumpet 1 Mike Franchetti – trumpet 2 Alberta Douglas – violin 1 Nina Vieru Zubaidi – violin 2 Kyran Littlejohn, Jr. – viola Ajibola Rivers – cello Bill Wozniak – percussion Mary Elizabeth Campbell - organ