



**TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
**OCTOBER 11, 2026 • 9:00 AM**

**Today's Worship Leaders**

Rev. Ruthie Mhanga

Andrew Parr, *Director of Worship and Music*

Marlys Siverson, *Lector*

Ted Madison, *Cantor*



**GUSTAVUS ADOLPHUS LUTHERAN CHURCH**

AN ELCA CONGREGATION THAT SEEKS TO BE A GATEWAY OF FAITH FOR  
OUR COMMUNITY.

# GATHERING

PRELUDE

*Look Who Gathers at Christ's Table*

WELCOME

*The assembly is invited to rise in body and/or spirit.*

GATHERING HYMN

**As We Gather at Your Table**

ELW 522

1 As we gath-er at your ta - ble, as we lis - ten to your word,  
2 Turn our wor-ship in - to wit-ness in the sac - ra - ment of life;  
3 Gra - cious Spir - it, help us sum-mon oth-er guests to share that feast

help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.  
send us forth to love and serve you, bring-ing peace where there is strife.  
where tri - um-ph-ant Love will wel-come those who had been last and least.

Nour-ish us with sa - cred sto - ry till we claim it as our own;  
Give us, Christ, your great com-pas-sion to for - give as you for - gave;  
There no more will en - vy blind us nor will pride our peace de - stroy,

teach us through this ho - ly ban-quet how to make Love's vic - t'ry known.  
may we still be - hold your im-age in the world you died to save.  
as we join with saints and an-gels to re - peat the sound-ing joy.

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

**L:** Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth.

**C: Amen.**

**L:** Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.  
*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**L:** Compassionate God,

**C:** we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.

**L:** Hear this good news: We have peace with God through † Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

**C: Amen.**

## KYRIE

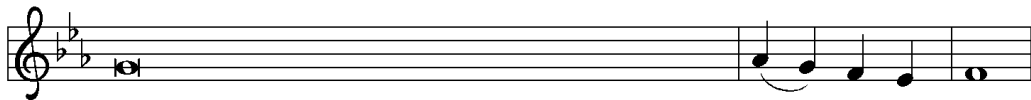
ELW, p. 98



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



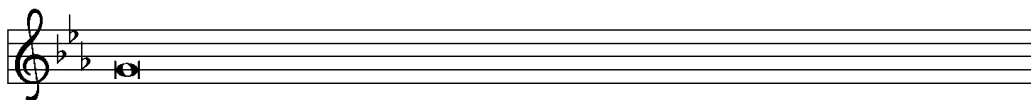
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



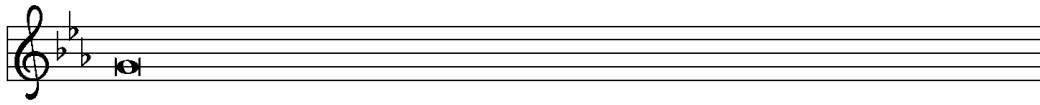
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



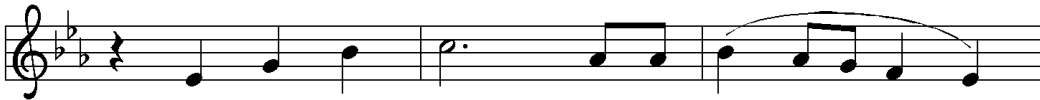
Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

## CANTICLE OF PRAISE

ELW, p. 99



Glo - ry to God in the high -



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



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and



Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we



praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus



Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



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

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

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

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

lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most High,

Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of

God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Glo - ry to God in the high -

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

## GREETING

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

**C:** And also with you.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**L:** We pray. Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C:** Amen.

*The assembly is seated.*

## FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 25:1-9

*After a hymn of praise acknowledging God as a shelter for the poor, the prophet portrays a wonderful victory banquet at which death—which in ancient Canaan was depicted as a monster swallowing up everyone—will be swallowed up forever. The prophet urges celebration of this victory of salvation.*

O Lord, you are my God;

I will exalt you; I will praise your name,  
for you have done wonderful things,  
plans formed of old, faithful and sure.

For you have made the city a heap,  
the fortified city a ruin;  
the palace of foreigners is a city no more;  
it will never be rebuilt.

Therefore strong peoples will glorify you;  
cities of ruthless nations will fear you.

For you have been a refuge to the poor,  
a refuge to the needy in their distress,  
a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat.

When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm,  
the noise of foreigners like heat in a dry place,  
you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds;  
the song of the ruthless was stilled.

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples  
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,  
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.

And he will destroy on this mountain  
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,  
the covering that is spread over all nations;  
he will swallow up death forever.

Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces,  
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,  
for the Lord has spoken.

It will be said on that day,  
“See, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.  
This is the Lord for whom we have waited;  
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.”

**L:** Word of God, word of life.

**C:** Thanks be to God.

*The congregation joins in reading the Psalm at the bold text.*

The Lord is my shepherd;  
I shall not be in want.

**The Lord makes me lie down in green pastures  
and leads me beside still waters.**

You restore my soul, O Lord,  
and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;  
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

*The assembly is invited to rise in body and/or spirit.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW, p. 102

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,  
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
*Repeat alleluia*

This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in God's sal - vation.

## GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 22:1-14

*Jesus tells a parable indicating that the blessings of God's kingdom are available to all, but the invitation is not to be taken lightly.*

**L:** A reading from the Gospel of Saint Matthew, the twenty-second chapter.

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

Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.' But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them.

The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.’ Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad, so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

“But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ For many are called, but few are chosen.”

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

*The assembly is seated.*

SERMON

Rev. Ruthie Mhanga

HYMN OF THE DAY

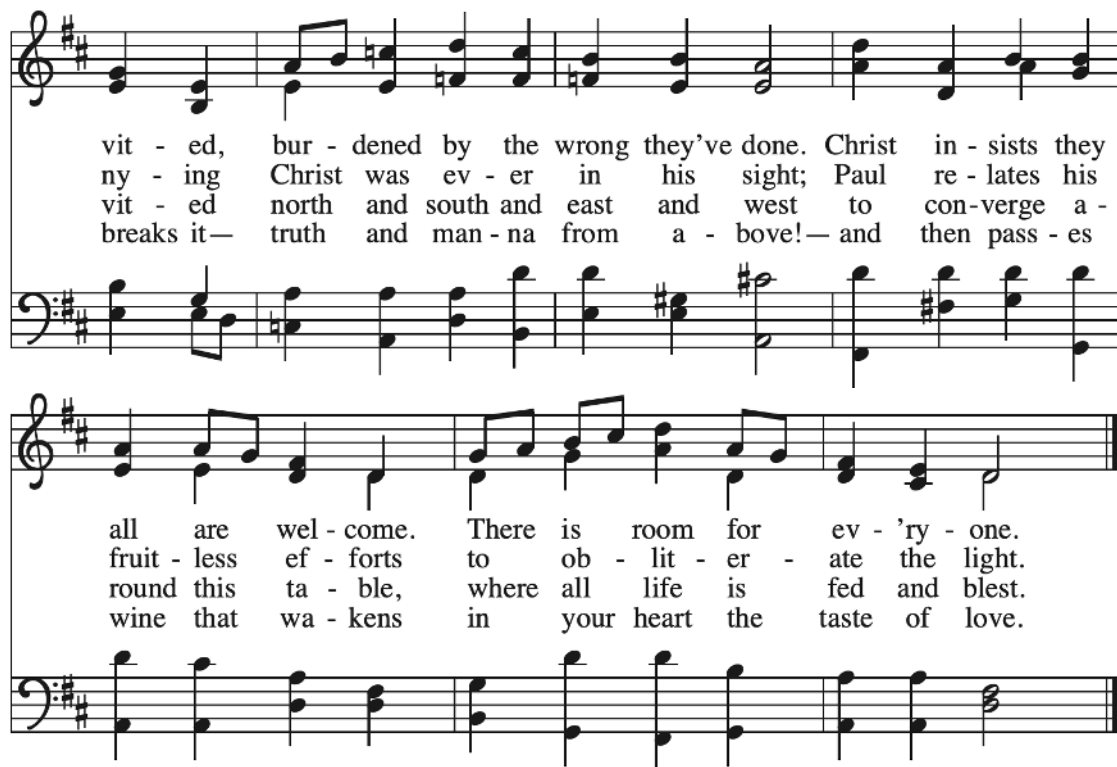
Look Who Gathers at Christ's Table

ACS 977

1 Look who gath - ers at Christ's ta - ble! Hear the sto - ries  
 2 Clouds of light sur - round the ta - ble; an - cient fol - low -  
 3 Their sad sto - ries are re - peat - ed in a thou - sand  
 4 Bring your joy and bring your sad - ness, and pre - pare to

that they bring. Some are weep - ing; some are laugh - ing;  
 ers ap - pear, saints con - fess - ing how they wres - tled  
 dif - f'rent ways, but they share one thing in com - mon:  
 be sur - prised by the host whose hands are wound - ed,

some have songs they want to sing. Oth - ers ask why they're in -  
 with their guilt, their doubt and fear. Pe - ter tells of his de -  
 they all end in thanks and praise for the host who has in -  
 who will o - pen wide your eyes when he bless - es bread and



vit - ed, bur - dened by the wrong they've done. Christ in - sists they  
ny - ing Christ was ev - er in his sight; Paul re - lates his  
vit - ed north and south and east and west to con - verge a -  
breaks it— truth and man - na from a - bove!— and then pass - es

all are wel - come. There is room for ev - 'ry - one.  
fruit - less ef - forts to ob - lit - er - ate the light.  
round this ta - ble, where all life is fed and blest.  
wine that wa - kens in your heart the taste of love.

*The assembly is invited to rise in body and/or spirit.*

## THE APOSTLES' CREED

**C:** I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

**L:** Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world.

*A brief silence. Each petition ends with:*

**L:** Hear us, O God.

**C:** Your mercy is great.

**L:** Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C:** Amen.

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

**L:** The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C:** And also with you.

*Greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace. You may say "Peace be with you" or similar words.*

*The assembly is seated.*

# MEAL

## OFFERING

*This month's special concern giving supports our ongoing partnership with Shobi's Table.  
Thank you for your support!*

## OFFERTORY ANTHEM

### The Lord Is My Shepherd

John Rutter

*Gustavus Adolphus Chancel Choir*

*The Lord is my shepherd; therefore can I lack nothing.*

*He shall feed me in a green pasture; and lead me forth beside the waters of comfort.*

*He shall convert my soul; and bring me forth in the paths of righteousness, for his Nam's sake.*

*Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff comfort me.*

*Thou shalt prepare a table before me against them that trouble me; thou has anointed my head with oil, and my cup shall be full.*

*But thy loving-kindness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.*

## OFFERTORY RESPONSE

### Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

ELW 885

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below;

praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

## OFFERING PRAYER

**L:** We pray. God of creation, you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always.

**C:** Amen.

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

L: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...and join their unending hymn:

ELW, p. 108

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of

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

san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the

name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

**C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

L: Christ invites you to this table. All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

*The assembly is seated.*

## COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

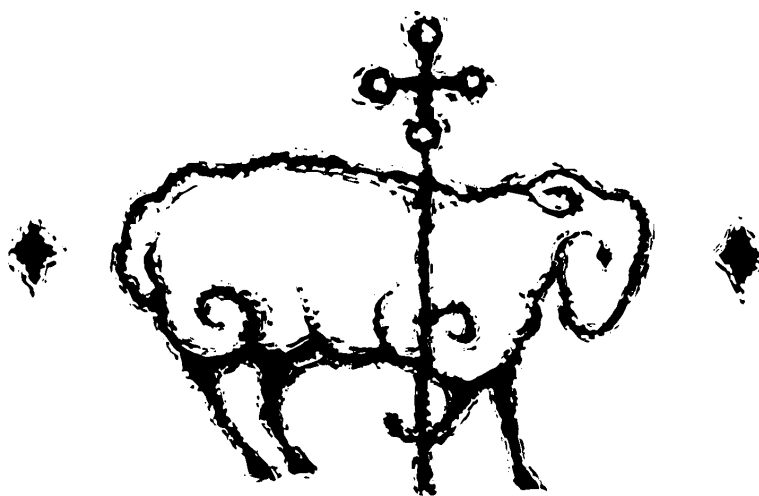
*All are welcome to join in this meal of God's mercy for all people. The ushers will direct you to a station. If going forward is difficult for you, please remain seated and a pastor will come to you.*

## COMMUNION HYMN

### Lamb of God

ELW, p. 112

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -  
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.





1 Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread,  
 2 Come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured,  
 3 In Je - sus' pres - ence now we meet and rest,  
 4 Rise, then, to spread a - broad God's might - y word,



come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.  
 come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured.  
 in Je - sus' pres - ence now we meet and rest.  
 rise, then, to spread a - broad God's might - y word.



Our Lord's bod - y let us take to - geth - er,  
 Je - sus' blood poured let us drink to - geth - er,  
 In the pres - ence of our Lord we gath - er,  
 Je - sus ris - en will bring in the king - dom,



our Lord's bod - y let us take to - geth - er.  
 Je - sus' blood poured let us drink to - geth - er.  
 in the pres - ence of our Lord we gath - er.  
 Je - sus ris - en will bring in the king - dom.

## BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**L:** We pray. Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.

**C:** Amen.

# SENDING

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## BIRTHDAY BLESSING

*The assembly is invited to rise in body and/or spirit.*

## A PRAYER OF GOOD COURAGE

Andrew Parr

Voice

Oh, God, you have called on your serv-vants, un - to

vent-ures of which we can-not see the end, by paths un - trod-den, by per-ils un-

known. Give us faith to go out with good cour - age, not know - ing where we

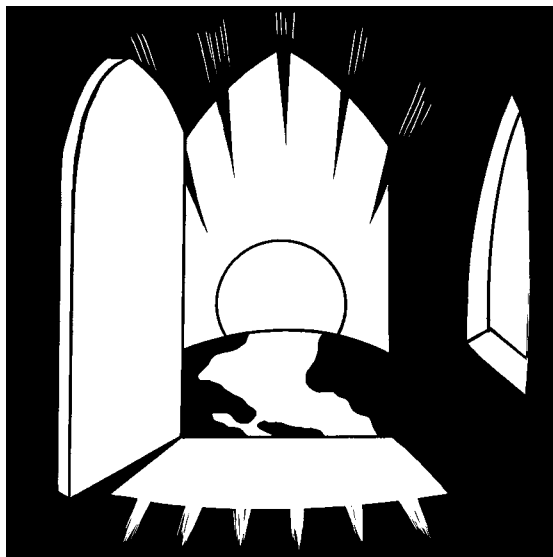
go but on - ly that your hand is lead-ing us, your love, sup-port-ing us, through

Jes - us Christ, our Lord. A - men. A - men.

## BENEDICTION

**L:** God of glory, ✠ Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever.

**C:** Amen.





1 Come, share the Spir - it, God has called us to ven - tures  
 2 Come, drown your sins be - neath the wa - ters where life flows  
 3 Come, God in - vites us to the ban - quet that ev - 'ry  
 4 Come, let us tell the gos - pel sto - ry, how God has



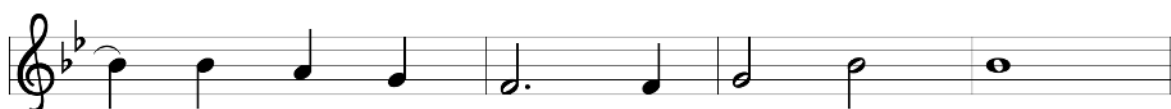
in the life of faith, to bring good tid - ings to the  
 from the gran - ite rock, the stone from which our Lord has  
 peo - ple soon will share, with shouts of joy and loud thanks -  
 giv - en us new birth and rais - es us to live for



need - y, to tell of vic - t'ry o - ver death.  
 ris - en, our cor - ner - stone and build - ing block.  
 giv - ing be - fore God's throne we will ap - pear.  
 oth - ers, to speak good news through - out the earth.



Christ speaks and all of life is new;  
 Christ speaks and rais - es from the dead  
 Christ speaks and bids us sit and dine;  
 Christ speaks and life is come a - gain.



God's word is pure and it is true.  
 all those who hear the liv - ing Word.  
 his bod - y, bread, his blood, the wine.  
 Good news, good news for ev - 'ry - one!

## DISMISSAL

L: Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

C: Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE

*Postlude Allegro*

L. Bottazzo



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