



Woman, great is your faith!

-Matthew 15:28

**TWELFTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST
HOLY COMMUNION**

Christ the King Lutheran Church

Great Falls, Virginia

August 16, 2026

10:00 a.m.

ELW refers to Evangelical Lutheran Worship, the red hymnal in the pew. W&P refers to Worship & Praise. ACS refers to All Creation Sings.

A: indicates Assisting Minister; L: indicates Leader; P: indicates Presiding Minister;
C: indicates Congregation.

At places where the ✝ appears, it is customary to make the sign of the cross in remembrance of your baptism.

Should you need to use an enlarged order of service, complete with Bible readings and hymns, you will find several in black binders just outside the sanctuary.

A few notes about worship:

- **We welcome you to worship today!** Please take a few moments to print your information on the pad in the red folder.
- **We are glad to have children in worship.** We also know that children sometimes need to move and express themselves in ways that the service (and the pews) don't accommodate. There is a family break room/nursery available with toys, a rocking chair, changing table, and other items. It is staffed during Sunday School and the worship service, but you are free to use it as needed.
To find the family break room, turn left in the foyer and go past the doors leading to the parking lot. It's the first door on the left down the hall.
- The worship service is streamed live on Facebook. The camera angles are set so that worshipers' faces are never seen on camera (the camera may occasionally pick up the back of the heads of those sitting in the front rows); only those leading worship from the chancel, lectern, piano, and organ are ever shown fully or face-on.

CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH

Church Office: 703-759-6068

Hours: Mon – Wed, 10:00 – 3:00

10550 Georgetown Pike
Great Falls, VA 22066

King's Kids Preschool: 703-759-6935
Website: gflutheran.org



Pastor	The Rev. Sandy Kessinger	Pastor@gflutheran.org
Music Director & Organist	Paul Park	ppark117@gmail.com
Administrator	Karen Utter	admin@gflutheran.org
Bookkeeper	TBD	book.keeper@gflutheran.org
Communications Coordinator	Kim Buckingham	comms@gflutheran.org
Youth Admin	Karen Anderson	youthadmin@gflutheran.org
KKP Director	Katelyn Merchant	kkp@gflutheran.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christ the King Lutheran Church

Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost

August 16, 2026

Attendance Pads in Red Book

Please sign the attendance pad that is found in the red book in each pew. It will help us get to know your name and will give us accurate information on who is attending our services. If you are a visitor, we welcome you. Please sign the red book or there is a special card by the hymnals that you can use so we can keep in touch. Thank you from the members of the Witness Committee.

Honey Harvest Festival

Volunteers Needed Saturday & Sunday

The Fourth Annual Honey Harvest Festival needs you! We need people to help with set up on Saturday, August 29, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm, and with staffing the event on Sunday, August 30, 11:00 am - 5:00 pm. Most tasks are outdoors but some are inside. On Sunday, in addition to staffing the Christ the King booths and managing parking, we also need a volunteer to run a shuttle between the church and the picnic area parking at Turner Farm Park for the vendors and the musicians. Please see the E-Blast for more details.

Click [here](#) to sign up for Saturday August 29.

Click [here](#) to sign up for Sunday August 30.

Questions? Please contact Antonia Siebert (the.sieberts@verizon.net)

Honey Harvest Festival

Bakers Needed

Calling all CtK Bakers! As in years past, the Honey Harvest Festival will again include a baked goods booth featuring the wonderful baking of our very own CtK congregation. This year we are looking to sell a variety of baked goods including cookies, brownies, bars, quick breads, scones, biscotti and homemade granola. As always, many hands make light work, so the more people who sign up to bake the less each person needs to bake.

Please click [here](#) for the SignUp Genius to sign up to bake.

Sign up for as many slots as you would like and Brad Ney will send a follow-up email with instructions regarding packaging and delivery ahead of the festival. If you have any questions or want to learn more, please contact Brad Ney at cornelllaw@yahoo.com.

Honey Harvest Festival Sunday, August 30

CtK is hosting our Fourth Annual Honey Harvest Festival on Sunday, August 30, 11:00 am to 5:00 pm. This family-friendly event will have craft vendors, a petting zoo, baked goods and honey for sale, a Rocklands Barbecue food truck, and outdoor music. At 5:00 pm, please join us for a Great Falls Philharmonic children's concert, "Peter and the Wolf." Click here for concert tickets: www.gfphil.org/upcoming

WELCOME!



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www.instagram.com/gflutheran

Christ the King Lutheran Church is a congregation of the Metro DC Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

MEMBERSHIP

If you would like to know more about Christ the King or are interested in living out your discipleship as a member of this community, please contact the church office at (703)759-6068.

If you would like to be on our email list to receive our weekly newsletter, please contact the church office at (703)759-6068 or visit our website: gflutheran.org.

CALENDAR



The Alzheimer's Association Summer Fundraiser

This summer's fundraiser supported by CtK's Service Team is "Do What You Love to End Alz" (formerly "The Longest Day"). Please fill out a sticker in the name of your family/friends and stick it on the tablecloth in the narthex.

We are also asking for donations to "End Alz". To make an online donation, please click [here](#) for the link to Karen Magley's donation page (preferred donation method). For a cash donation, please give it to Karen including your name, address, phone number, and email address. To use a check, make it out to the Alzheimer's Association and put it in the box on the END ALZ table in the narthex with your name, address, email address, and phone number or mail it to Karen Magley at 11608 Holly Briar Lane, Great Falls, VA.

Counters Needed

Opportunity for Early Service Helpers

Each week after the service, we need two people to count the offering and properly attribute the checks and cash to our faithful donors. If you usually attend the early service, NOW IS YOUR CHANCE TO COUNT, since we only have one service during the summer. Training will be provided. You can either work the computer or count the cash. Any confirmed member is eligible to count, that includes any teens/young adults home from the college for the summer - the only requirement is to be able to keep the contributions confidential. It's about 1/2 hour immediately after the end of each service each Sunday. Contact Brenda Rian at BrendaRian@aol.com for more info or to volunteer.

Prayers for the Congregation

Please pray for comfort and healing for **Caryl Morgan**.

David Whelan asks for prayers for his sister Virginia Peters who is battling a recurring cancer.

For healing: **Lynda & Roger Hammel; Karen Magley; Pat & Carol Murphy; Vivienne Wardian**

Summer Lay Helper Sign Up Genius

Please click [here](#) to sign up to help with our services.

This Morning's Lay Helpers 10:00 a.m.
Asst Minister – Joni Holeman
Lector – Kristine Heine
Greeter/Usher – Open
Refreshments – Open
Counters – Phil Magley/Annette Brady

AT CtK THIS WEEK August 16 – August 23

Sunday, August 16

8:45 a.m. — Adult Forum, In-person & [Zoom](#)

10:00 a.m. — In-person Worship

([streaming available on Facebook Live](#))

7:00 p.m. — AA

Monday, August 17

7:30 p.m. — Council Meeting, In-Person & Zoom

Tuesday, August 18

7:00 a.m. — Men's Breakfast, la Madeleine

Wednesday, August 19

9:30 a.m. — Journey Women's Bible Study, Zoom

Thursday, August 20

7:00 p.m. — AA

Saturday, August 22

7:00 p.m. — AA

Sunday, August 23

8:45 a.m. — Adult Forum, In-person & [Zoom](#)

10:00 a.m. — In-person Worship

([streaming available on Facebook Live](#))

7:00 p.m. — AA

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CHRIST THE KING & KKP STAFF

Interim Pastor: The Rev. Sandy Kessinger
pastor@gflutheran.org

Music Director & Organist: Paul Park
ppark117@gmail.com

Administrator: Karen Utter
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Reflections on Stewardship

Pentecost 12 • Matthew 15:21-28

“Your trust is enormous,” says Jesus to this Canaanite woman. A faithful steward is one who is able to show enormous trust in Jesus. If you were asked about your level of trust in Jesus, just how would you respond?

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God, whose compassion endures forever.

C: **Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Compassionate God,

C: **we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.**

P: Jesus says, “Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.” In the name of God, Father, ✙ Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love.

C: **Amen.**

*Our vision is to be a vibrant community of Jesus' disciples,
empowered by the Holy Spirit to bring God's grace into our world.*

GATHERING HYMN: ELW 650 O In Christ There Is No East or West

1 In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north,
2 In Christ shall true hearts ev-'ry-where their high com-mu-nion find;
3 Join hands, dis-ci-ples of the faith, what-e'er your race may be.
4 In Christ now meet both east and west, in him meet south and north;
but one com-mu-ni-ty of love through-out the whole wide earth.
his ser-vice is the gold-en cord close bind-ing hu-man-kind.
All chil-dren of the liv-ing God are sure-ly kin to me.
all Christ-ly souls are one in him through-out the whole wide earth.

GREETING

P: 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.

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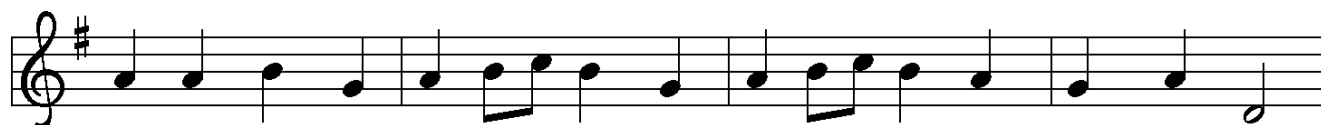
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1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
 2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
 3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
 Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
 Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
 on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
 Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
 Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
 For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORD _____

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

R: A reading from Isaiah.

¹ Thus says the Lord:

Maintain justice, and do what is right, for soon my salvation will come and my deliverance be revealed.

⁶ And the foreigners who join themselves to the Lord, to minister to him, to love the name of the Lord, and to be his servants, all who keep the Sabbath and do not profane it and hold fast my covenant — ⁷ these I will bring to my holy mountain and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar, for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.

⁸ Thus says the Lord God, who gathers the outcasts of Israel: I will gather others to them besides those already gathered.

The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 67

said responsively

*The Reader (R) says the regular text;
the Congregation (C) says the **bold text**.*

R: ¹ May God be merciful to us and bless us; may the light of God's face shine upon us.

C: ² **Let your way be known upon earth, your saving health among all nations.**

R: ³ Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

C: ⁴ **Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations on earth.**

R: ⁵ Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

C: ⁶ **The earth has brought forth its increase; God, our own God, has blessed us.**

R: ⁷ May God give us blessing, and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe.

SECOND LESSON: Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

R: A reading from Romans.

Paul writes: ¹ I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ^{2a} God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

²⁹ For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰ Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹ so also they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they also may now receive mercy. ³² For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav-ing word.



Let it burn like fire with-in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 15:21-28

P: The holy gospel according to St. Matthew.

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

P: Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²² Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." ²³ But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." ²⁴ He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." ²⁵ But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." ²⁶ He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁷ She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." ²⁸ Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed from that moment.

The gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

The Rev. Sandy Kessinger

Silence for meditation may follow the sermon.

HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW 886 Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

1 Oh, for a thou - sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem - er's praise,
2 My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, as - sist me to pro - claim,
3 The name of Je - sus charms our fears and bids our sor - rows cease,
4 He speaks, and lis - t'ning to his voice, new life the dead re - ceive;

the glo - ries of my God and king, the tri - umphs of his grace!
to spread through all the earth a - broad the hon - ors of your name.
sings mu - sic in the sin - ner's ears, brings life and health and peace.
the mourn - ful, bro - ken hearts re - joice, the hum - ble poor be - lieve.

5 Look unto him, your Savior own,
O fallen human race!
Look and be saved through faith alone,
be justified by grace!

6 To God all glory, praise, and love
be now and ever giv'n
by saints below and saints above,
the church in earth and heav'n.

APOSTLES' CREED

said in unison

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.

Please sit or kneel as you are comfortable for our time of prayer.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: With bold trust in God's unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

For believers around the world who stream to your holy mountain, that all be united in faith and harmony in the body of Christ. Let your church on earth be a witness to the beloved community of your heavenly kingdom. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

- A: For your wondrous creation, that it thrives and flourishes as you intend. Raise up wise stewards to defend the natural world against carelessness and destruction. Safeguard endangered species and their habitats. Merciful God,
- C: **receive our prayer.**
- A: For the nations of the world and all in authority, that they heed the cry of the outcast and ensure care for the most vulnerable. Give wisdom to leaders of countries, congregations, and communities, that they lead and serve justly. Merciful God,
- C: **receive our prayer.**
- A: For all who are lonely, grieving, or struggling with chronic pain, that they find comfort, community, and hope. Send relief to all who struggle with illness of any kind, especially those on our prayer list and those we name in our hearts. Merciful God,
- C: **receive our prayer.**
- A: For this congregation, for visitors and those new to this faith community, that all may recognize the presence of Christ in each new face. Draw this community together in love and strengthen it in unwavering faith. Merciful God,
- C: **receive our prayer.**
- A: For the saints before us whose work is done, that their faithful example continues to direct your church. May their witness remind us that your gifts and calling are irrevocable, whether in life or death. Merciful God,
- C: **receive our prayer.**
- A: Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C: **Amen.**

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Please greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace by saying Peace be with you as you shake hands or embrace. Please be seated following the sharing of the peace.

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

To give: use the QR code, go to gflutheran.org/give, or make checks payable to "Christ the King Lutheran Church."

Contributions are tax deductible and go toward the ministries and programs of Christ the King Lutheran Church.

We welcome you to worship today! Please take this time to print your information on the pad in the red folder.



OFFERING AND REGATHERING SONG: ELW 512 Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil

Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.

Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.

When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold,

warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.

Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray.

Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

PREFACE

P: 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:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

ELW page 144

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, 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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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

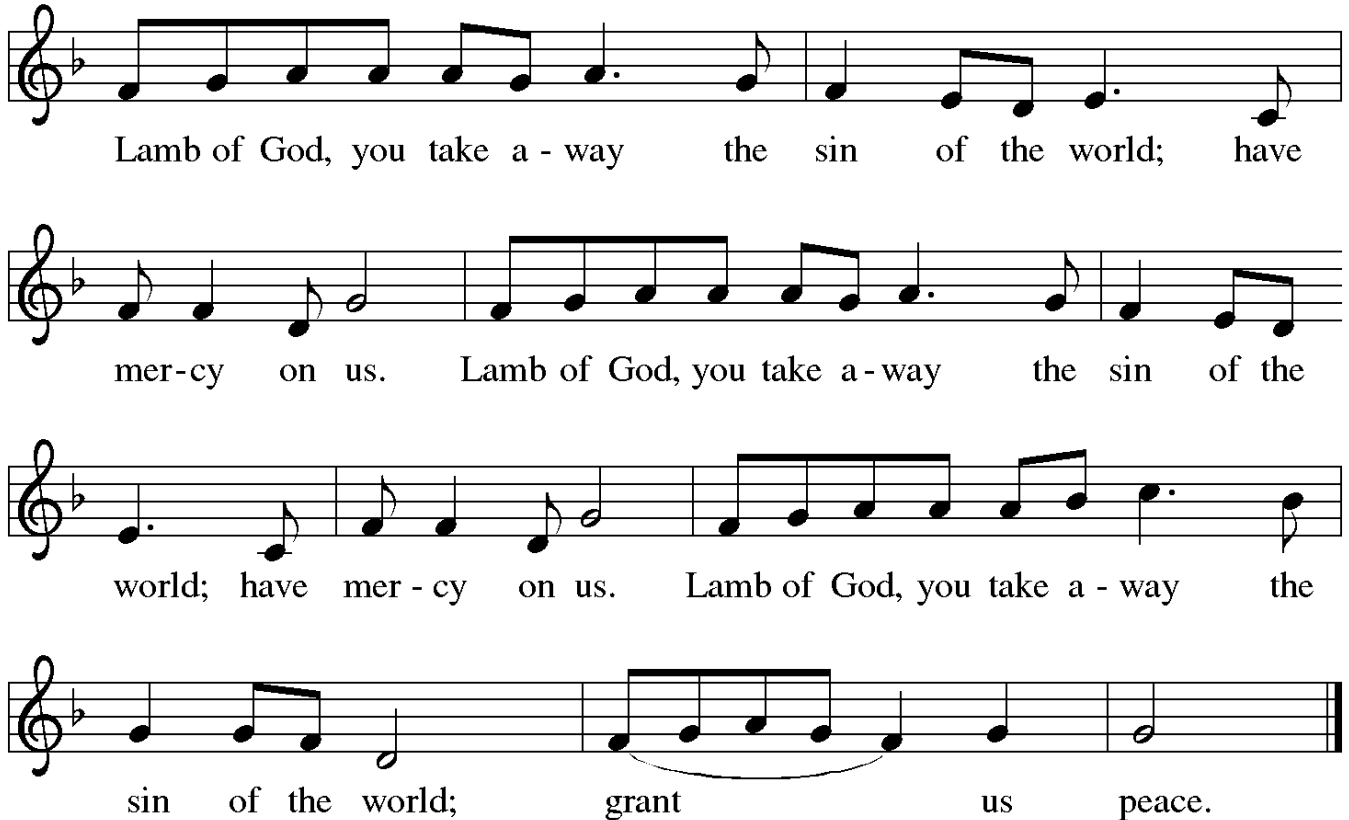
C: **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine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

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Lamb of God

ELW page 146



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.

DISTRIBUTION WITH MUSICAL OFFERING

Instructions for communion distribution will be given at this time. All who seek God and a deeper life in Christ are welcome to participate in Holy Communion. Those who have not received instruction or who wish not to receive communion may come forward for a blessing.

POST-COMMUNION HYMN: ELW 465 As the Grains of Wheat

Refrain



As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were



gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from



all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.



1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst,
2 Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when



Refrain

may we share the pres-ence of your love.
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray.

God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN: ELW 588 There's a Wideness in God's Mercy



1 There's a wide-ness in God's mer - cy, like the wide - ness of the sea;
2 There is wel - come for the sin - ner, and a prom - ised grace made good;
3 For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sures of our mind;
4 'Tis not all we owe to Je - sus; it is some - thing more than all:



there's a kind - ness in God's jus - tice which is more than lib - er - ty.
there is mer - cy with the Sav - ior; there is heal - ing in his blood.
and the heart of the E - ter - nal is most won - der - ful - ly kind.
great - er good be - cause of e - vil, larg - er mer - cy through the fall.



There is no place where earth's sor - rows are more felt than up in heav'n.
There is grace e - nough for thou - sands of new worlds as great as this;
But we make this love too nar - row by false lim - its of our own;
Make our love, O God, more faith - ful; let us take you at your word,



There is no place where earth's fail - ings have such kind - ly judg - ment giv'n.
there is room for fresh cre - a - tions in that up - per home of bliss.
and we mag - ni - fy its strict - ness with a zeal God will not own.
and our lives will be thanks - giv - ing for the good - ness of the Lord.

DISMISSAL

A: Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE