

TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

HOLY COMMUNION

Christ the King Lutheran Church

Great Falls, VA

August 17, 2025

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

ELW refers to Evangelical Lutheran Worship, the red hymnal in the pew. 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 red binders just outside the sanctuary.

A few notes about worship:

- **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

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christ the King Lutheran Church

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 17, 2025

Red Cross Blood Drive at Christ the King

Thursday, August 21, 1:00-6:00 p.m.

Christ the King is having a Red Cross blood drive in Gysan Fellowship Hall on Thursday, August 21, from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. It will be open to the public as well as to the congregation. We need at least 40 donors to have this blood drive. Click [here](#) to register. **Donors will receive a \$15 e-card of their choice and a free A1C test for diabetes.**

We need volunteers to bring baked goods for the donors and to help set up and clean up. Please click [here](#) for the Signup Genius. For questions, please call Melody Starya Mobley at 571-276-7356.

Volunteers Needed for Honey Harvest Festival

We need volunteers to: 1) set up on Saturday, August 23; 2) serve as helpers and guides at the festival; 3) make and place indoor and outdoor signs; 4) assist with parking; and more.

Click [here](#) to help on Saturday, August 23.

Click [here](#) to help on Sunday, August 24.

Questions? Contact Antonia Siebert at the.sieberts@verizon.net.

Bakers Needed for Booth at Honey Harvest Festival

Calling all bakers! The Honey Harvest Festival King's Bakery booth needs some tasty inventory. Please email Kelley Lund at khlund@hotmail.com if you would like to fire up your oven to stock the booth with cookies, quick breads, bars, or other tasty treats. Many whisks make light work! Not a baker? Come on August 24 to help staff the table or purchase yummy things.

Honey Harvest Festival, Sunday, August 24

Come join us at the festival next Sunday! This free outdoor festival will be 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. and will feature CtK honey, a petting zoo, craft vendors, baked goods, and Rocklands BBQ. The Great Falls Philharmonic concert starts at 5:00 p.m. where you will enjoy Barber's nostalgic Knoxville: Summer of 1915 and Beethoven's electrifying Symphony No. 7 in A major. Click [here](#) to purchase your tickets.

WELCOME!



ELCA

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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 Longest Day: Summer 2025

CtK's Service Committee team ("Bridge Heroes") has raised \$6,185 so far (with a goal of \$7,500) in honor and memory of our loved ones (see the E-Blast for the detailed list). You can add your loved one's names to the stickers for our display all summer. To donate, please go to Karen Magley's link [here](#) or mail a check to her home (11608 Holly Briar Ln, Great Falls, VA 22066) or to Alzheimer's Association NCA, Attention: The Longest Day, 3550 S. Clark St., #203, Arlington, VA 22202). **Donations accepted through August 27.**

Adult Forum Continues with Vicar Joshua in August

Vicar Joshua Wilson will continue to lead the Adult Forum through August. Adult Forum will continue to be at 8:45 a.m. on Sundays, in-person and on Zoom. In August we will continue to explore the Hebrew prophets of old or perhaps branch out to other facets of our faith and texts.

Prayers of Healing Requested

Tammy Finger and her sons as they mourn the death of her husband, JD Finger; **Carolyn Saba** for her sister Linda Christenson; **Lynda and Roger Hammel**; **Sindy Schwab**; **Carol Murphy**; **Karen Magley**; **Bill Hiatt** for his brother Rex who is battling cancer; **Vivienne Wardian**.

Lay Helper Signup Genius for Summer

Please click [here](#) for the Signup Genius for our summer services. Volunteers will be especially helpful for PSK as she becomes more familiar with our worship services.

This Morning's Lay Helpers
10:00 a.m.
Set Up Refreshments – Open
Assistant Minister – Open
Lector – Joni Holeman
Greeters/Ushers – Open
Clean Up Refreshments – Open

AT CtK THIS WEEK August 17 – August 24

Sunday, August 17

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

Tuesday, August 19

7:00 a.m. — Men's Breakfast, la Madeleine
7:30 p.m. — Council Meeting, In-person & Zoom

Wednesday, August 20

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

Thursday, August 21

1:00 p.m. — Red Cross Blood Drive at CtK

Saturday, August 23

7:00 p.m. — AA

Sunday, August 24

8:45 a.m. — Adult Forum, In-person & [Zoom](#)
10:00 a.m. — In-person Worship
([streaming available](#) on Facebook Live)
11:00 a.m. — Honey Harvest Festival
5:00 p.m. — Great Falls Philharmonic Concert
7:00 p.m. — AA

✚✚✚✚

CHRIST THE KING & KING'S KIDS PRESCHOOL STAFF

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

Music Director & Organist: Derek Maseloff
derekmaseloff@gmail.com

Administrator: Karen Utter
admin@gflutheran.org

Bookkeeper: Patti Burger
book.keeper@gflutheran.org

Youth Admin: Karen Anderson
youthadmin@gflutheran.org

Communications Coord: Kim Buckingham
comms@gflutheran.org

KKP & Christian Ed Director: Heidi Toloczko
heidi.toloczko@gflutheran.org



REFLECTIONS ON STEWARDSHIP

Pentecost 10 • Luke 12:49-56

Accepting the call to live as true stewards is going to be tough! We might even discover that members of our own family can't accept such a lifestyle.

GATHERING

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

PRELUDE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ✙ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Merciful God,

C: **you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.**

P: You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of ✙ Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.

C: **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG: ELW 796 How Firm a Foundation

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,
 2 "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed,
 3 "When through fi - 'ry tri - als your path - way shall lie,
 4 "Through - out all their life - time my peo - ple shall prove

is laid for your faith in Christ Je - sus, the Word!
 for I am your God and will still give you aid;
 my grace, all - suf - fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply.
 my sov - 'reign, e - ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love;

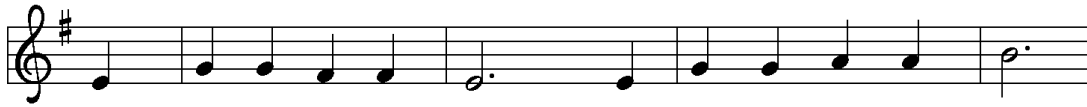
What more can he say than to you he has said
 I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
 The flames shall not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign
 and then, when gray hairs shall their tem - ples a - dorn,

who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?
 up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand."
 your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine."
 like lambs they shall still in my bo - som be borne."

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.



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
 Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
 Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

CANTICLE OF PRAISE: Glory to God



- 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.

O God, judge eternal, you love justice and hate oppression, and you call us to share your zeal for truth.
 Give us courage to take our stand with all victims of bloodshed and greed, and, following your servants
 and prophets, to look to the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and
 Lord.

C: Amen.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHILDREN OF THE CHURCH

FIRST LESSON: Jeremiah 23:23-29

R: A reading from Jeremiah.

Am I a God near by, says the Lord, and not a God far off? ²⁴ Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the Lord. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the Lord. ²⁵ I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, "I have dreamed! I have dreamed!" ²⁶ How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back — those who prophesy lies and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? ²⁷ They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. ²⁸ Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the Lord. ²⁹ Is not my word like fire, says the Lord, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 82

said responsively

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

R: God stands to charge the divine council assembled, giving judgment in the midst of the gods:

C: **² "How long will you judge unjustly, and show favor to the wicked?"**

R: ³ Save the weak and the orphan; defend the humble and needy;

C: **⁴ rescue the weak and the poor; deliver them from the power of the wicked.**

R: ⁵ They do not know, neither do they understand; they wander about in darkness; all the foundations of the earth are shaken.

C: **⁶ Now I say to you, 'You are gods, and all of you children of the Most High;**

R: ⁷ nevertheless, you shall die like mortals, and fall like any prince.' "

C: **⁸ Arise, O God, and rule the earth, for you shall take all nations for your own.**

SECOND LESSON: Hebrews 11:29 – 12:2

R: A reading from Hebrews.

By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. ³⁰ By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. ³¹ By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.

³² And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets, ³³ who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, ³⁴ quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. ³⁵ Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. ³⁶ Others suffered mocking and flogging and even chains and imprisonment. ³⁷ They were stoned to death; they were sawn in two; they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented ³⁸ of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains and in caves and holes in the ground.

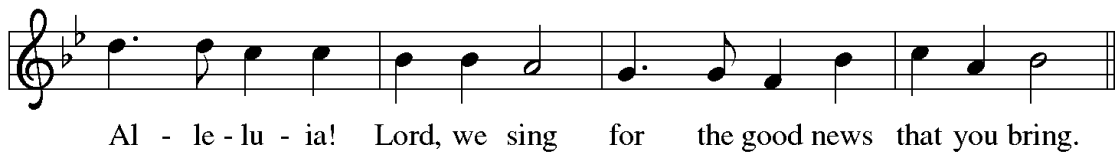
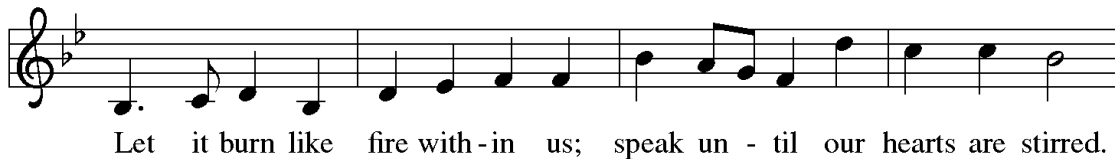
³⁹ Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, ⁴⁰ since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

^{12:1} Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, ² looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia



HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 12:49-56

P: The holy gospel according to Luke.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: [Jesus said:] ⁴⁹ "I have come to cast fire upon the earth, and how I wish it were already ablaze! ⁵⁰ I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what constraint I am under until it is completed! ⁵¹ Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! ⁵² From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; ⁵³ they will be divided:

father against son and son against father,

mother against daughter and daughter against mother,

mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

⁵⁴ He also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, 'It is going to rain,' and so it happens. ⁵⁵ And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, 'There will be scorching heat,' and it happens. ⁵⁶ You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?"

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: ACS 927 Christ Is the Life



1 Christ is the life of all that is, God's pure cre - a - tive
2 Christ is the death of all that is; a broad and beck - 'ning
3 Christ is the death of all that is, a bright, con - sum - ing
4 Christ is the life of all that is, Be - gin - ning and the



Word, whose pow'r be - yond and through all space the
tomb, who wel - comes us from well - worn ways to
fire, whose flames re - quire our pri - or self as
End; cre - a - tive force, most peace - ful death, trans -



worlds to Be - ing stirred. Christ is the life be - yond all
dark - ness of the womb. Christ is the death, the sink - ing
kin - dling for the pyre. Christ is the death of dust - y
form - ing burn - ing brand. Christ is the life, in whose wise



time, cre - a - tion's birth and breath, whose la - bor
down past all de - sire and fear, whose prom - ise
days of un - cre - a - tive strife, for out from
love cre - a - tion lives and dies and thus for -



brings all things to be and brings all things to death.
in the gen - tle dark bids new - ness to ap - pear.
fire we tread up - on the thresh - old of new life.
ev - er - more shall bless the Source, the liv - ing Christ.

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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: Let us pray for the church, the creation, and the whole people of God, for God is near.

A brief silence.

Raise up faithful leaders for your church around the world. Inspire global missionaries with a spirit of accompaniment, as they walk alongside our partners in the gospel in solidarity, interdependence, and mutuality. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

- A: Safeguard rivers and lakes from pollution. Sustain the work of conservationists, policy makers, and advocacy groups seeking to protect fresh water sources. Hear us, O God.
- C: **Your mercy is great.**
- A: Bridge divisions we see across the world. Strengthen cooperative efforts among lawmakers who enact policies that protect our neighbors who are most vulnerable. Hear us, O God.
- C: **Your mercy is great.**
- A: Embrace all who suffer in isolation: for those who are incarcerated or detained, those who are fleeing from unsafe environments, and those who are sick or homebound especially those on our prayer list and those we name in our hearts. Reassure them of your care in all times and places. Hear us, O God.
- C: **Your mercy is great.**
- A: Guide the leaders of this congregation. In these late summer weeks, inspire their planning for a new program year ahead. Kindle in us a spirit of collaboration and support for their work. Hear us, O God.
- C: **Your mercy is great.**
- A: With thanksgiving, we remember the cloud of witnesses who surround us. By the example of their faith, enable us to run with perseverance the race set before us, until that day when we join their unending praise. Hear us, O God.
- C: **Your mercy is great.**
- A: Confident in God's presence and promise, we entrust our prayers to the one who always receives them; through Jesus Christ, our wisdom and companion.
- C: **Amen.**

GREETING OF PEACE

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

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 AND MUSICAL OFFERING

During the offering, plates will be passed along the pews in which to place your offering. Make checks payable to "Christ the King Lutheran Church". Contributions go toward the ministries and programs of Christ the King Lutheran Church.

OFFERING AND REGATHERING SONG: Lamb of God

ELW page 208



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
 2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
 3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
 you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
 e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray.

God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

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 207



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. 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, 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.

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.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray.

O God, we give you thanks that you have set before us this feast, the body and blood of your Son. By your Spirit strengthen us to serve all in need and to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

SENDING

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

BLESSING

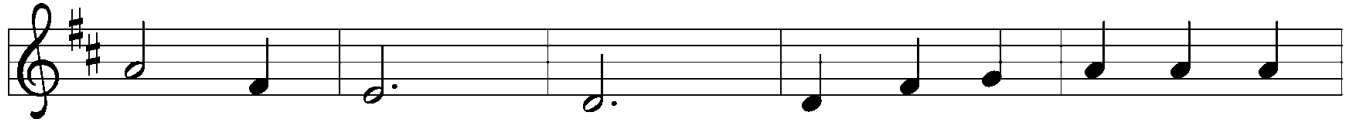
P: Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN: ELW 815 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light



1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to
 2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to
 3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to



fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give
 look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous-ness,
 be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with



light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.
 shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.
 pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain



In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the



day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the



cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE