

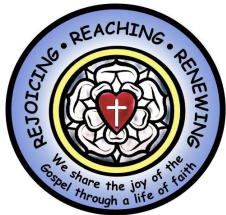
Crumbs from the Table

Then Jesus answered, "Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted." Matthew 15:28 (NIV)
 Based on Matthew 15:21-28 (NIV)



O D N F V L Q K R N G E O L A
 Z S T F E K M E R C Y R A Z U
 V Q F A I P J D P Y D N E T Q
 U C R H E L P O Z O P T N A S
 G S U D O G S Q C R Y I N G T
 I B H Q T Q S W H E A L E D Y
 C I Q G A O Z H L F A L L R S
 D W L Q B C Q M E O L F J F U
 C K J I L J R E D E S D M A F
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 T B Z E O E H E M Y M K C T E
 J N H N L M Z H S B M O W H R
 J S M J Q T A A R U S R N F I
 A P B Z K O L N N W S H F K N
 X I T D A U G H T E R Z T D G

HEALED	DAUGHTER	SHEEP	FALL	MERCY
GREAT	CRYING	DOGS	LOST	JESUS
DEMON	HELP	TABLE	ISRAEL	WOMAN
EAT	FAITH	CRUMBS	SUFFERING	KNELT



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
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August 16, 2026 + Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

In Isaiah we hear that God’s house shall be a house of prayer for all people and that God will gather the outcasts of Israel. The Canaanite woman in today’s gospel is a Gentile, an outsider, who is unflinching in her request that Jesus heal her daughter. As Jesus commends her bold faith, how might our church extend its mission to those on the margins of society? In our gathering around word and meal we receive strength to be signs of comfort, healing, and justice for those in need.

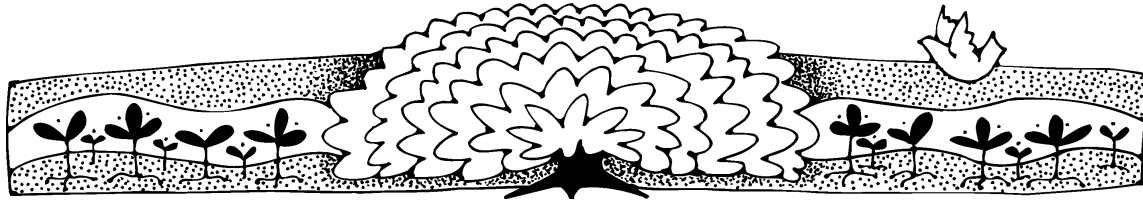
+ GATHERING +

Prelude
(The prelude is a call to silent, personal preparation for worship.)

Welcome
 Welcome to Zion Lutheran Church in Albion! We offer a warm welcome to all who are worshipping in person or by way of Facebook Live. We hope that you encounter a word of God’s grace and love in this worship service.

Holy Communion will be celebrated today. At the table of our Lord Jesus Christ, God nourishes faith, forgives sin, and calls us to be witnesses to the Gospel. All who are baptized and believe in the real presence of Christ are welcome to share in the Lord’s meal. Holy Communion will be distributed in person or by pre-packaged elements. If you are uncomfortable coming forward, please pick up the communion elements as you enter worship. We will partake of the sacrament as directed by the pastor within the worship service. If you have any questions or concerns, please speak with an usher. Gluten Free wafers are available on request.

GOD LOVES



The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Confession and Forgiveness

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

When we claim to be without sin,
we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**But if we would confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just,
will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Today we are urged to be persistent in prayer, constant in faith,
aware that some have disobeyed and fallen away.

(Silence for meditation and self-examination.)

Most merciful God,
**we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves.
We have isolated ourselves from others of your children;
we have despised and neglected those who displease us.
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.**

Almighty God hears and answers prayer.

His gifts and calling are irrevocable.

In his mercy, he has given his Son to die for us
and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins.

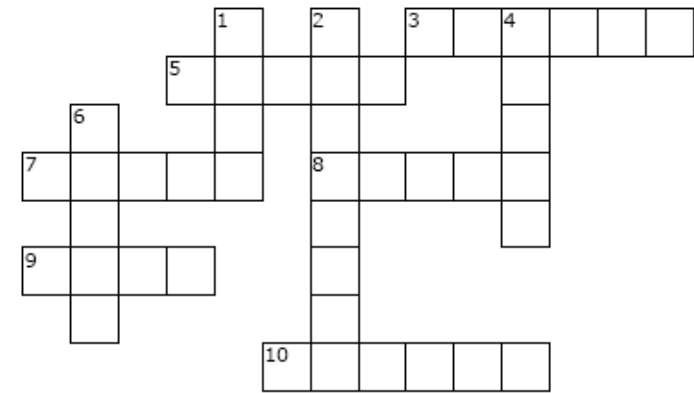
As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ,
and by his authority, I therefore declare to you
the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father,
and of the ✙ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Crumbs from the Table

Then Jesus answered, "Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted." Matthew 15:28 (NIV)

Based on Matthew 15:21-28 (NIV)



ACROSS

3. To experience physical or mental pain
5. An adult female human being
7. The Son of God
8. An very large amount of something
9. Unable to be found
10. Small pieces of bread or cake

DOWN

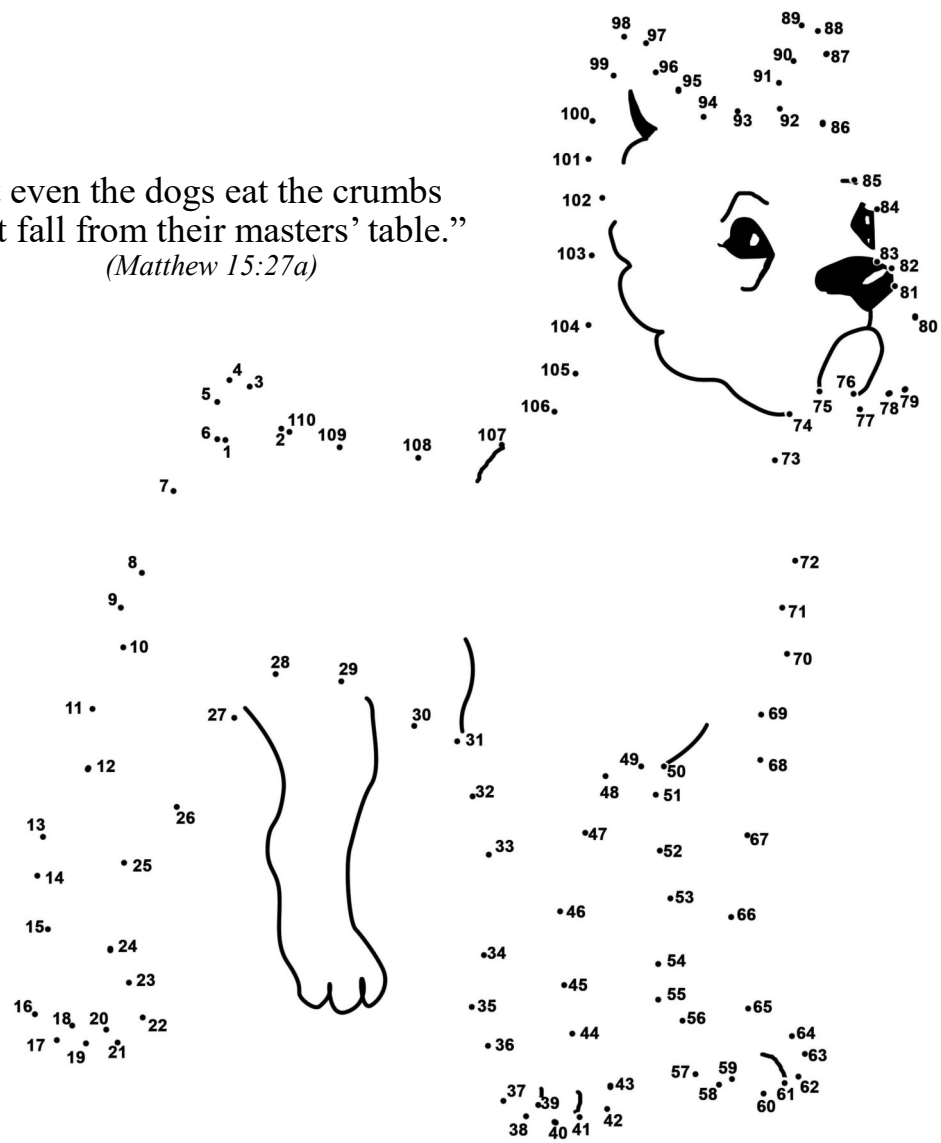
1. Animals with four legs, commonly kept as pets, and sometimes used to guard things
2. A female child in relation to her parents
4. To have trust or confidence in something or someone
6. An evil spirit

JESUS	DAUGHTER	SUFFER	CRUMBS	DEMON
WOMAN	GREAT	FAITH	DOGS	LOST

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Yet even the dogs eat the crumbs
that fall from their masters' table."
(Matthew 15:27a)



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Opening Hymn

All Are Welcome

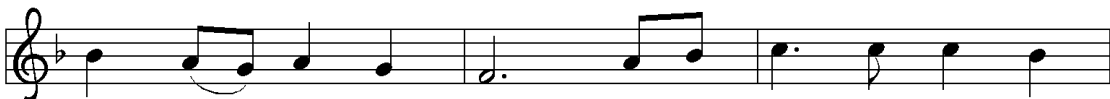
#641



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly
2 Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, and words are strong and
3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter, wine and
4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and
5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vi - sions



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how
true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to
wheat: a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground where
stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and
heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed as



hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and
dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as
peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through
live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the
words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of
wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as one we
Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we share in
strang-er bear the im - age of God's face; let us bring an
laugh-ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house pro -



Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
claim the faith of Je - sus:
Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel - come,
end to fear and dan - ger:
claim from floor to raf - ter:

Hymn continues on the next page.



Text & Music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950 © 1982 GIA Publications Inc., Chicago, IL 60638.
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Opening Litany

In his life, Christ befriended the outcast and welcomed the sinner.

Welcome us, O Lord, into your fold and claim us as your very own.

In his life, Christ answered the prayers of those
who trusted in him and came to him in earnest.

**Answer our earnest prayers, O Lord,
according to your good and gracious will.**

In his life, Christ sought out the people
who had strayed away from the path of righteousness.

**Seek us out, O Lord, and find in us
a willingness to repent and follow your commands.**

In his life, Christ healed the sick and brought the dead back to life.

**Restore us, O Lord, with your life-giving Spirit
so we may work together with other believers in the kingdom of God.**

In his life, Christ promised salvation
to every person of every race and nation, male or female, slave or free.

**Inspire us, O Lord, to become Christlike,
speaking words of forgiveness, love, and care
to those the world has left behind.**

Apostolic 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.

welcome

**We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever. Amen.**

✠ SENDING ✠

Announcements

Benediction

God all mighty, God most merciful,
bless us, keep us, and grant us peace.

In the name of the Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

#759



- 1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
- 2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,
- 3 While life's dark maze I tread and griefs a - round me spread,
- 4 When ends life's tran - sient dream, when death's cold, sul - len stream



Sav - ior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, oh, may my
be thou my guide; bid dark-ness turn to day, wipe sor-row's
shall o'er me roll; blest Sav - ior, then, in love fear and dis -



guilt a - way, oh, let me from this day be whol - ly thine!
love to thee pure, warm, and change-less be, a liv - ing fire!
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.
trust re-move; oh, bear me safe a - bove, a ran - somed soul!

Text: Ray Palmer, 1808-1887
Music: Lowell Mason, 1792-1872
Public Domain

Distribution Hymn *Healer of Our Every Ill* #612

Refrain

Heal - er of our ev - 'ry ill, light of each to - mor - row,

give us peace be - yond our fear, and hope be - yond our sor - row.

1 You who know our fears and sad - ness, grace us with your
2 In the pain and joy be - hold - ing how your grace is
3 Give us strength to love each oth - er, ev - 'ry sis - ter,
4 You who know each thought and feel - ing, teach us all your

Refrain

peace and glad - ness; Spir - it of all com - fort, fill our hearts.
still un - fold - ing, give us all your vi - sion, God of love.
ev - 'ry broth - er; Spir - it of all kind - ness, be our guide.
way of heal - ing; Spir - it of com - pas - sion, fill each heart.

Text & Music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
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Table Blessing

May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ,
strengthen you and preserve you unto eternal life. **Amen.**

Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray... *(A brief silence is kept.)*
Compassionate God,
through the gifts of bread and wine
our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love.
Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal,
may share your love freely, as you have shared with us.

Hymn of Praise *Father, I Adore You* *W&P #37*

1 Fa - ther,
2 Je - sus, I a - dore you, lay my life be -
3 Spir - it,

fore you; how I love you.

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Prayer of the Day

Let us pray... *(A brief silence is kept.)*
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. Amen.

✠ **WORD** ✠

First Reading

Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

The prophet calls upon Israel to do justice in view of God's imminent intervention to save. Righteousness and obedience define who belongs to the Israelite community — not race, nationality, or any other category.

A reading from Isaiah.

¹Thus says the LORD:
Maintain justice, and do what is right,
for soon my salvation will come, and my deliverance be revealed.
⁶And 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 — ⁷these 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.
⁸Thus 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. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 67

Let us read Psalm 67 responsively.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Second Reading

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

God has not rejected Israel. Rather, the call and gifts of God are irrevocable so that, while all have been disobedient, God has mercy upon all.

A reading from Romans.

[Paul writes:] ¹I 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.
²⁹For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰Just as you were
 once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their
 disobedience, ³¹so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the

Distribution Hymn Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service #712



1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser-vice bore the weight of hu-man need,
 2 Still your chil-dren wan-der home-less; still the hun-gry cry for bread;
 3 As we wor-ship, grant us vi-sion, till your love's re-veal-ing light
 4 Called by wor-ship to your ser-vice, forth in your dear name we go,



who up-on the cross, for-sak-en, worked your mer-cy's per-fect deed:
 still the cap-tives long for free-dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
 in its height and depth and great-ness dawns up-on our quick-ened sight,
 to the child, the youth, the a-ged, love in liv-ing deeds to show;



we, your ser-vants, bring the wor-ship not of voice a-lone, but heart;
 As you, Lord, in deep com-pas-sion healed the sick and freed the soul,
 mak-ing known the needs and bur-dens your com-pas-sion bids us bear,
 hope and health, good-will and com-fort, coun-sel, aid, and peace we give,



con-se-crat-ing to your pur-pose ev-'ry gift which you im-part.
 by your Spir-it send your pow-er to our world to make it whole.
 stir-ring us to ar-dent ser-vice, your a-bun-dant life to share.
 that your ser-vants, Lord, in free-dom may your mer-cy know and live.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901-1984 © 1961 Oxford University Press.
 Music: *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844, arr. © 1985 Augsburg Fortress
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Lord's Prayer

Let us pray together as Jesus taught us...

**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.**

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God

Family of God

Musical notation for Agnus Dei. The melody is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: 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.

Distribution

If you are joining us from home or are taking communion from your seat:
The body of Christ, given for you. Amen.
The blood of Christ, shed for you. Amen.



mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. ³²For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia Verse

Family of God

Musical notation for the Alleluia Verse. The melody is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! The Lord our God be blessed! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Your Word brings righ-teous-ness. With all your works, we praise you! Ex-alt your Name for-ev-er! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Sing al-le-lu-ia!

Holy Gospel

Matthew 15:10-28

Jesus teaches his disciples that true purity is a matter of the heart rather than outward religious observances. Almost immediately, this teaching is tested when a woman considered to be a religious outsider approaches him for help.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 15th chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁰[Jesus] called the crowd to him and said to them, “Listen and understand: ¹¹it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles.” ¹²Then the disciples approached and said to him, “Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?” ¹³He answered, “Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. ¹⁴Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit.” ¹⁵But Peter said to him, “Explain this parable to us.” ¹⁶Then he said, “Are you also still without understanding? ¹⁷Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth

enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? ¹⁸But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. ¹⁹For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. ²⁰These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile.”

²¹Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²²Just 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.” ²³But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, “Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.” ²⁴He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” ²⁵But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” ²⁶He answered, “It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” ²⁷She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” ²⁸Then Jesus answered her, “Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” And her daughter was healed instantly.

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

Children’s Time
Sermon

Hymn of the Day *In Christ There Is No East or West* #650



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.

Send your Holy Spirit upon us now,
that we may become people who take in the holiness of your mercy,
and give out the abundance of your grace.
Sanctify this bread and this wine, that they may become for us
the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord;
who, at supper with his disciples, took bread, gave you thanks;
broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying:
*“Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.”*

After supper Jesus took the cup.
Again, he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying,
*“Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”*

Great is the mystery of faith.
Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Forgiving God, you sent Joseph to Egypt,
through the conspiracy of his brothers,
to redeem your people from the curse of famine.
You sent your Son Jesus to the cross,
through the corruption of our human will,
to liberate us from sin and death.
Raise up among us children of hope,
of courage, of truth, and of vision,
who embody your will to turn our evil into your good.
Transform the lives of all who live under famine today;
visit any who are excluded by envy or prejudice or fear;
and lift the hearts of those who are weighed down
under burdens too great to bear.
Gather at your resurrection banquet
your whole church, living and departed,
that all creation may feast with eyes and ears and touch and tongue
on the effervescence of your glory,
ever one God, Father + Son, and Holy Spirit, forever. **Amen.**

In Jesus you take your children's food and give it to all creation,
 even we who lurk in the shadows,
 hoping for the crumbs of your eternal glory.
 You have lifted us from the floor to your table,
 and from a place beyond redemption to the joy of your heart.
 And so, we gladly thank you,
 with angels and archangels, and all the company of heaven,
 singing the hymn of your unending praise.

Sanctus *Holy, Holy, Holy* *Family of God*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, our God of pow'r and might, Sing
 ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Heav'n and earth are full of your maj - es -
 ty! Ho - san - na in the high - est! Blest is he who
 comes in the Name of the Lord! Sing loud, Ho - san - na! Ho - san - na in the
 high - est! Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord!

Eucharistic Prayer & Words of Institution

Cleansing God, in Christ you come among us in infectious purity,
 and heal us from the inside out.
 You give us eternal food that, in you,
 we may never be hungry again.

Text: John Oxenham, 1852-1941, alt.
 Music: African American spiritual; adapt. Harry T. Burleigh, 1866-1949
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Apostles' Creed

Living together in trust and hope, let us confess our faith...

**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 into hell.
 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 the People

P 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.

A 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, **receive our prayer.**

P 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, **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, **receive our prayer.**

P 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...*
Merciful God, **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, **receive our prayer.**

P Here other intercessions may be offered either aloud or in silence.
Merciful God, **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, **receive our prayer.**

P 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.
Amen.

Peace

The Peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.



✠ OFFERING ✠

Offering Response

Family of God

1. Your vine - yards, O Lord, may they
(2.) gath - er the hopes and the
bear fruit for you. Please fill our cup full of your
dreams of all here; U - nite them in pray'r with these
bless - ing, we pray. And gath - er a har - vest from
of - f'ring we bring. Pre - side at our ta - ble, and
what you have sown, That we may be fed with the
grant us, we pray, A fore - taste of your prom - ised
bread feast of life. 2. Now come. A - men.

✠ MEAL ✠

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also 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.



Proper Preface

Thanks and praise be to you, Lord God of mercy and grace,
for you entered into covenant trust with your chosen people,
and bestowed on them boundless gifts and an irrevocable calling.