



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

319 South 5th Street, Albion, Nebraska 68620

www.zionalbion.org + office @zionalbion.org + 402-395-2043

Office Hours: Mon-Thurs: 9am-4pm; Fri: Office Closed

July 20, 2025 ✚ SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Perhaps the church, at its best, is “all ears.” God urges the faithful, again and again, to “listen up!” — to heed the word that gives life. So it was with Abraham and Sarah, Mary and Martha, and the early church at Colossae. So it is today as we join the assembly to hear the word of God, the word of life.

✚ GATHERING ✚

Prelude

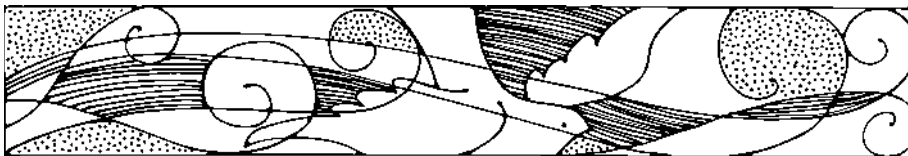
(The prelude is a call to silent, personal preparation for worship.)

Welcome

Welcome to Zion Lutheran Church in Albion! We offer a warm welcome to all who are worshipping in person or by way of Vyve Cable Channel 21 and 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.

July 



Sixth Sunday After Pentecost

Confession & Forgiveness

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

“As I live,” says the Lord, “I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways, and live.”

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

Today we are invited to put aside all distractions,
and to give attention to the Word of God

(Let us take a moment of silence for reflection and confession.)

Most merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned against you —

in our thinking, in our speaking, and in our doing.

**We have doubted your promises, disbelieved your testimonies,
turned from your mercies, fallen away.**

For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.

**Forgive us our sins and call us by your Holy Spirit
to the new life you ordained for us,
to the glory of your holy name.**

Jesus Christ was given to die for us,

for in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily.

In him we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord,
continue to live your lives in him,

rooted and built up in him and established in the faith,
just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

Amen.

Gathering Hymn

Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak

#676



1 Lord, speak to us, that we may speak in
 2 Oh, lead us, Lord, that we may lead the
 3 Oh, teach us, Lord, that we may teach the
 4 Oh, fill us with your full - ness, Lord, un -



liv - ing ech - oes of your tone; as you have sought, so
 wan-d'ring and the wa - v'ring feet; oh, feed us, Lord, that
 pre - cious truths which you im - part; and wing our words, that
 til our ver - y hearts o'er - flow in kin - dling thought and



let us seek your stray - ing chil - dren, lost and lone.
 we may feed your hun - g'ring ones with man - na sweet.
 they may reach the hid - den depths of man - y a heart.
 glow - ing word, your love to tell, your praise to show.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879, alt.

Music: Robert Schumann, 1810-1856

Public Domain

Opening Litany

Today we enter into your house, O Lord.

May our time with you be blessed.

Clear our minds of everything that might distract us from you, O Lord.

May our time with you bring us comfort and peace.

Open our hearts to the message of your Word, O Lord.

May our time with you be enriching and fulfilling.

Share with us your plans for our future, O Lord.

May our time with you be filled with confidence and hope.

Declare to us what being your disciple is really all about, O Lord.

May our time with you bring meaning and direction to our lives.

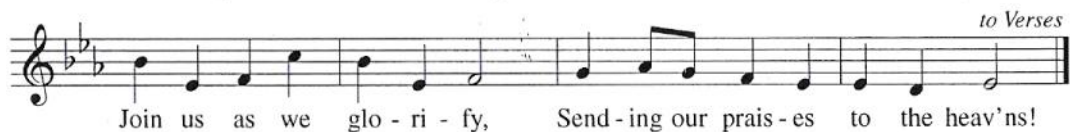
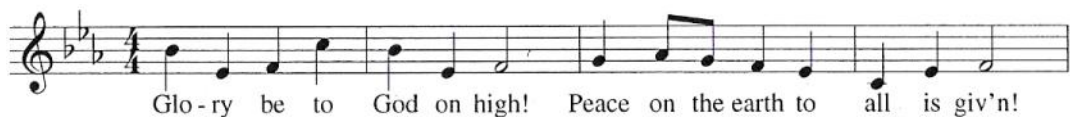
Embrace us with your kindness and compassion, O Lord.
May our time with you be graced by your forgiveness and love.
Amen.

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.

Hymn of Praise

Family of God



Prayer of the Day

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

Eternal God,

you draw near to us in Christ, and you make yourself our guest.

Amid the cares of our lives, make us attentive to your presence,

that we may treasure your word above all else,

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

✝ WORD ✝

First Reading

Genesis 18:1-10a

The LORD visits Abraham and Sarah to tell them that the long-awaited promise of the birth of a child will be fulfilled for them in their old age.

A reading from Genesis.

¹The LORD appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. ²He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. ³He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. ⁴Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. ⁵Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on — since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said." ⁶And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, "Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes." ⁷Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. ⁸Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate. ⁹They said to him, "Where is your wife Sarah?" And he said, "There, in the tent." ¹⁰Then one said, "I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son."

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 15

Let us read Psalm 15 responsively.

¹LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle?

Who may abide upon your holy hill?

**²Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right,
who speak the truth from their heart;**

³they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends;
they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor.

**⁴In their sight the wicked are rejected,
but they honor those who fear the Lord.**

**They have sworn upon their health
and do not take back their word.**

⁵They do not give their money in hope of gain,
nor do they take bribes against the innocent.

Those who do these things shall never be overthrown.

Second Reading

Colossians 1:15-28

This letter offers a mystical teaching, that the great mystery of God is “Christ in you.” Because Christ is present in the church, Christians share in his life, suffering, and glory.

A reading from Colossians.

¹⁵[Christ Jesus] is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; ¹⁶for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers — all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

²¹And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, ²²he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him — ²³provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a servant of this gospel.

²⁴I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church. ²⁵I became its servant according to God's commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, ²⁶the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to his saints. ²⁷To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. ²⁸It is he

whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ.
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia Verse

Family of God



Holy Gospel

Luke 10:38-42

During his visit to the home of Mary and Martha, Jesus reminds Martha that her concern for her many tasks distracts from the one thing that precedes all else: abiding in the presence of God.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 10th Chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁸Now as [Jesus and his disciples] went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. ³⁹She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. ⁴⁰But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me." ⁴¹But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; ⁴²there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."
The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Children's Time Sermon

Hymn of the Day

Give Me Jesus

#770

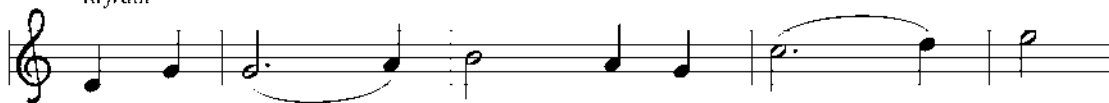


1 In the morn-ing when I rise, in the morn-ing when I rise,
2 Dark . . . mid-night was my cry, dark . . . mid-night was my cry,
3 Just a - bout the break of day, just a - bout the break of day,
4 Oh, . . . when I come to die, oh, . . . when I come to die,
5 And . . . when I want to sing, and . . . when I want to sing,



in the morn-ing when I rise, give me Je - sus.
dark . . . mid - night was my cry, give me Je - sus.
just a - bout the break of day, give me Je - sus.
oh, . . . when I come to die, give me Je - sus.
and . . . when I want to sing, give me Je - sus.

Refrain



Give me Je - sus, give me Je - sus.



You may have all the rest, give me Je - sus.

Text: African American spiritual
Music: African American spiritual; arr. hymnal version
Public Domain

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, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He 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,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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.**

Prayer of Intercession

- P In solidarity with all creation, we join our voice
to the voice of the whole church and pray for the needs of the world.
A brief silence.
- A Inspire your church, like Sarah and Mary,
to listen with eager longing for your words of life.
Equip biblical interpreters and teachers with faithful discernment,
that your word may be more fully known.
God of grace, **hear our prayer.**
- P Every creature under heaven has been promised the hope of the gospel.
From that promise, generate in humankind
an eagerness to protect and care for creation.
Bring healing to the earth with your words of life.
God of grace, **hear our prayer.**
- A Peel away the distractions, worries, and fears
of all who govern the nations of the world.
May your word of love and life dispel all other voices.
Provide gracious hospitality in places where hostile forces hold sway.
God of grace, **hear our prayer.**
- P Speak your word of comfort to any who suffer pain, illness, grief,
depression, or despair, *especially...*

Bring honor to any who experience slander and evil intent
or are discredited by others.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

A Enliven and uphold all siblings in Christ
who strive to provide hospitality and safe spaces
where everyone, without exception,
can receive and be transformed by your word of life.
God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

P Here other intercessions may be offered either aloud or in silence...
God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

A For Abraham, Sarah, Hagar, Mary, Martha,
and all the saints who attended to your word, we give thanks.
Open our ears to your voice until that day
when we realize the promise of the gospel with all creation.
God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

P Trusting in your lovingkindness, we place our prayer and hope in you,
in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Peace

The Peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

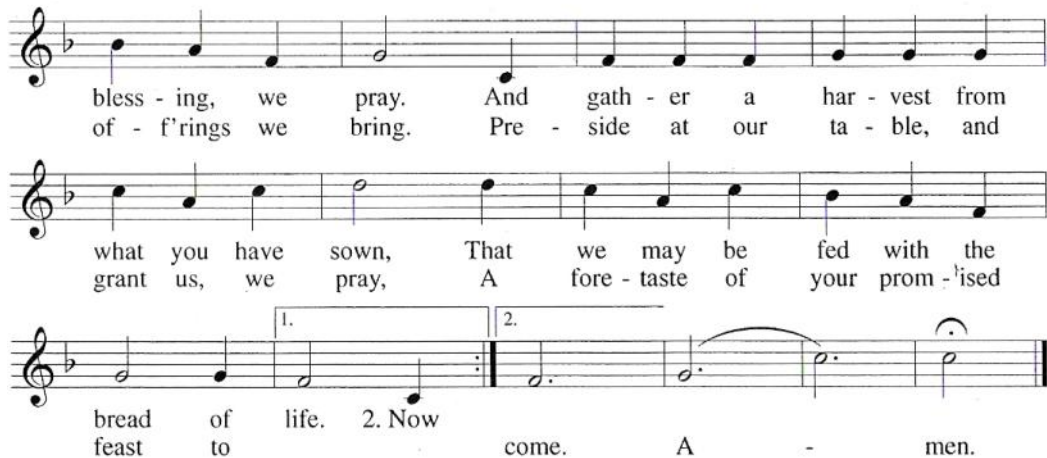
✠ OFFERING ✠

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



✠ 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

Resounding praise belongs to you, Alpha and Omega,
 for yours is the beginning and ending of all things.

Through your Word you created the visible and the invisible,
 and in him all things hold together.

By shaping a people bound in love,
 you fashioned a covenant that would never end.

In the fullness of time your Word became flesh;
 you sent among us the firstborn of all creation,
 pleased to dwell in human form.

Through him you have reconciled all things in heaven and earth,
 making peace through the blood of his cross.

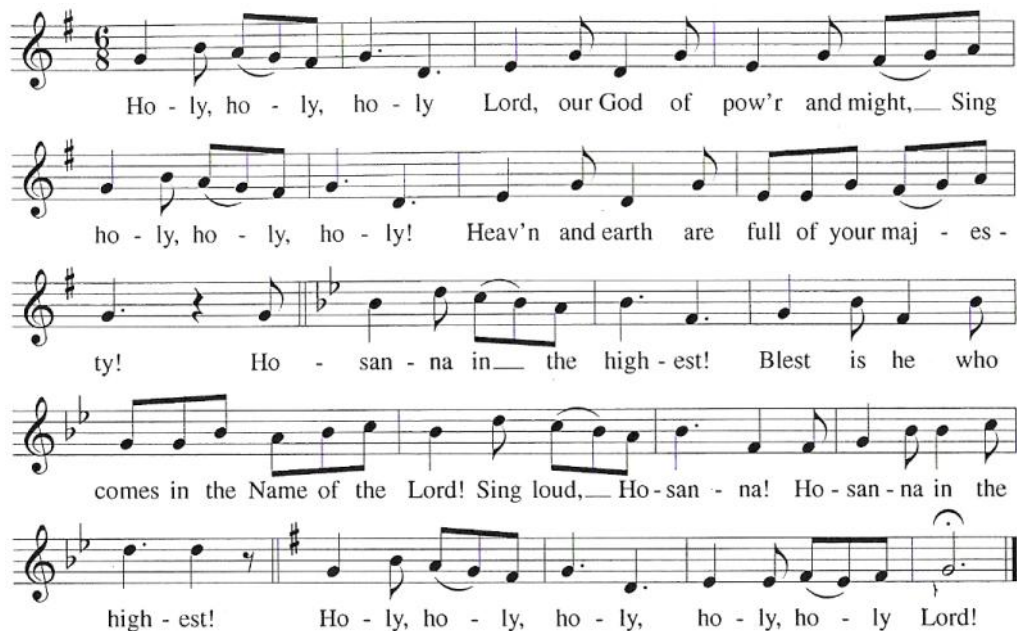
Before every beginning and beyond every ending
 you call us to be your disciples and destine us to be your saints.

And so we give you thanks in the company of angels and archangels
as we join the everlasting hymn.

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

God our companion,

as you drew Mary of Bethany to your Son's feet, hungry for his word,
so bring us to this table, hungry for Jesus.

As your church remembers Christ's saving passion,
come upon your church in the power of your Holy Spirit
to dwell with us in the fullness of your presence,
and feed us till we want no more.

Sanctify this bread and cup

that they may be for us the body and blood of your Son;
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.

God of Mary and Martha,
your resurrected Son has the words of eternal life.
Give your church grace like Mary to linger where Jesus is.
Grant us patience to abide among those
who look to you in trust and hope,
and to stand with any who have no one to stay by their side.
Where your children hunger and thirst for companionship,
bring them new friends in Christ.
Where they suffer from famine, be their bread of life.
Open your heaven,
that the one who has reconciled all things in his death and resurrection
may present us holy and blameless before you,
and your Word made flesh may welcome us
to the banquet of the riches of your glory,
in the power of your Spirit, Holy Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

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.**

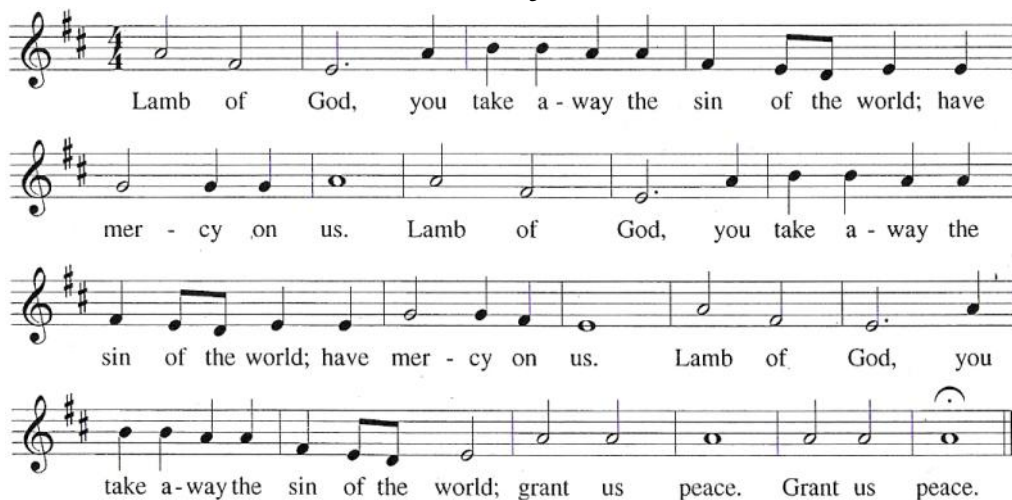
**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God

Family of God



Distribution

If you are joining us from home or are taking communion from your seat:

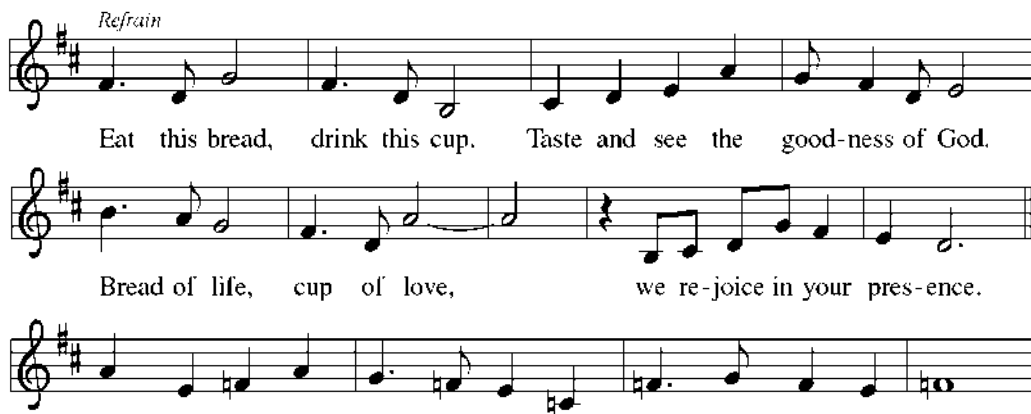
The Body of Christ given for you.

The Blood of Christ shed for you.

Distribution Hymn

Eat This Bread, Drink This Cup

#492



- 1 I will bless the Lord at all times, praise with heart and voice;
- 2 Look up - on the Lord, be ra - diant, nev - er turn a - way.
- 3 An - gels fold their wings a - round us, guard through good and ill.
- 4 Saints of God, bow down and wor - ship, bless the ho - ly name.



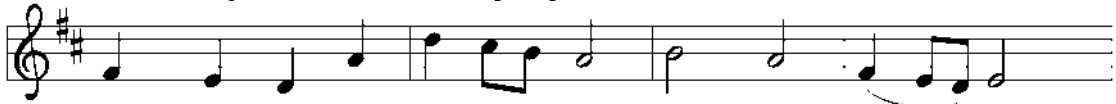
in my God I glo - ry for - ev - er; lis - ten and re - joice!
 God will save in ev - 'ry af - flic - tion, hear us when we pray.
 Those who seek the Lord will lack noth - ing; taste, and have your fill.
 Rise to tell God's great - ness for - ev - er, won - drous deeds pro - claim!

Text: Jeremy Young, b. 1948, refrain; *With One Voice*, stanzas, based on Ps. 34
 Text © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.
 Music: Jeremy Young
 Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-711706

Distribution Hymn

Bread of Life, Our Host and Meal

#464



1 Bread of life, our host and meal, Je - sus, feed us.
 2 Bread now break and wine now pour, Je - sus, feed us.
 3 Grant for - give - ness in the feast— Je - sus, feed us—
 4 Thank you for this gift we share. Je - sus, feed us.



Christ, by faith, to see and feel, feed us with your love.
 Make us one, our hope re - store; feed us with your love.
 for the great - est and the least; feed us with your love.
 Save God's chil - dren ev - 'ry - where; feed us with your love.

Text: Ray Makeever, b. 1943; Rusty Edwards, b. 1955
 © 1996 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL
 Reprinted with permission under One License #A-711706

Table Blessing

The Body and Blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ
 make you strong to do His will, and keep you in His grace. **Amen.**



Post-Communion Prayer

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

Life-giving God,

**through this meal you have bandaged our wounds
and fed us with your mercy.**

**Now send us forth to live for others, both friend and stranger,
that all may come to know your love.**

This we pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

✠ SENDING ✠

Announcements

Benediction

The God of peace, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit,
continue to bless you, comfort you,
and guide you in your journey of faith. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

How Small Our Span of Life

#636



- 1 How small our span of life, O God, our years from birth till death:
- 2 And yet our speck of life is spanned by your in - fin - i - ty;
- 3 O Christ, you left e - ter - ni - ty to plunge in time's swift stream,
- 4 We thank you, God, for kind-ling faith that lights our tran - sient years,



a sin - gle beat with - in the heart, the catch-ing of a breath,
our tick of time on earth is caught in your e - ter - ni - ty.
to share the short-ness of our span, our mor - tal lives re - deem.
il - lu - min - ing our pil-grim-age through mists of doubt and fears;



a drop with-in the o - cean's deep, a grain up - on the shore,
While suns and stars spin end - less - ly through depths of cos - mic space,
You filled your cross-closed years with love; you loved us to the end
for hope that sees a life be - yond the swift - ly pass-ing days;



a flash of light be - fore we sleep to see the sun no more.
while ae - ons roll and ag - es pass, you hold us in your grace.
and touch us with your ris - en life that ours may time trans - cend.
for love, both hu - man and di - vine, that lifts our hearts to praise.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., b. 1923 © 1993 GIA Publications, Inc.
Reprinted with permission under One License #A-711706
Music: English traditional. Public Domain

Dismissal

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

Go In Peace

Word Scramble Answers:
Women, Sisters, Welcomed, Martha, Village
Mary listened to Jesus

All music & liturgies are from Sundays and Seasons.com Copyright 2005 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SB159191. Scripture quotations (except psalms) from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989 Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Confession & opening litany reprinted with permission from Creative Communications for the Parish, CWR program. Family of God liturgy Text & Music: Peter S. Klemp, b. 1967 © 2003 Used with permission.

Mary and Martha Word Scramble

Unscramble each of the clue words. Take the letters that appear in the circle boxes and unscramble them to find the answer to the last phrase.

N E M W O

--	--	--	--	--

R S E S T I S

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

M O C L D E W E

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

H A M A R T

--	--	--	--	--	--

G L I V E A L

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Mary

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

to Jesus.

At the Home of Mary and Martha

"Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, but only one thing is needed. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her." Luke 10:41-42 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Luke 10:38-42 (NIV).



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

VILLAGE
SISTER
WOMAN
DISCIPLES

THING
PREPARATION
UPSET
WORRIED

MARTHA
WORK
JESUS
MADE

FEET
NEEDED
TAKEN
MARY

HELP
BETTER
NEEDED
CHOSEN

At the Feet of Jesus

"Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, but few things are needed—or indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her." Luke 10:41-42 (NIV)

Each number represents a letter of the alphabet. Substitute the correct letter for the numbers to reveal the coded words.



A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

- 21-16-19-5-20 _____
- 19-9-19-20-5-18 _____
- 23-15-18-18-9-5-4 _____
- 3-8-15-19-5-14 _____
- 22-9-12-12-1-7-5 _____
- 23-15-13-1-14 _____
- 23-15-18-11 _____
- 2-5-20-20-5-18 _____

BETTER
WOMAN

SISTER
CHOSEN

WORRIED
UPSET

VILLAGE
WORK