



Come to Believe † Come to Belong
FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SEPTEMBER 1, 2024

PRELUDE

Rob Aaron

“Come to believe, Come to belong, Come to receive, the promise of God”

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

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

Amen

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love You, and worthily magnify Your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Therefore, let us confess our sins in the presence of God and of one another.

(Silence for self-reflection)

Most merciful God,

We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. 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.

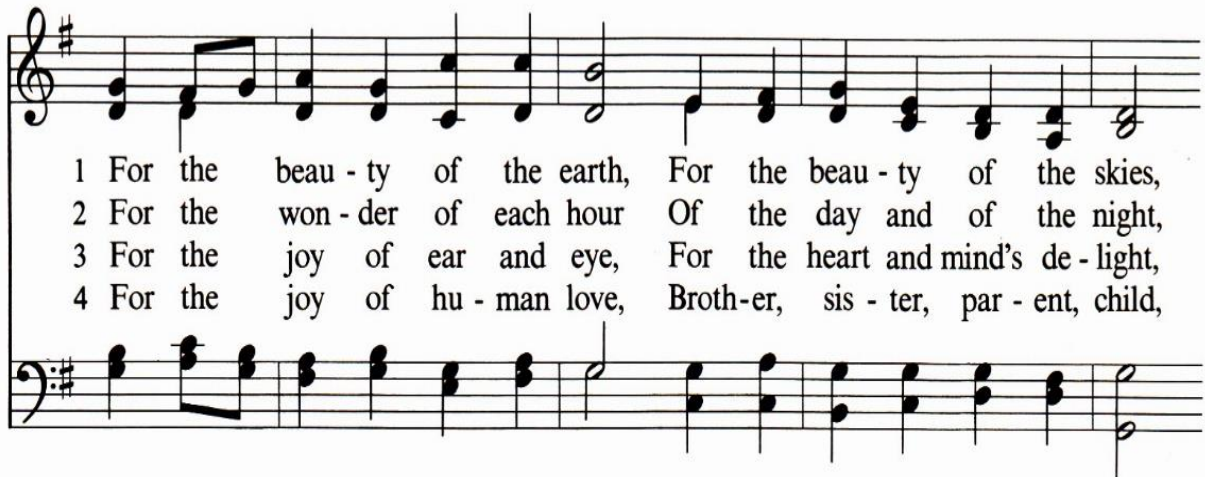
Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore declare unto you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

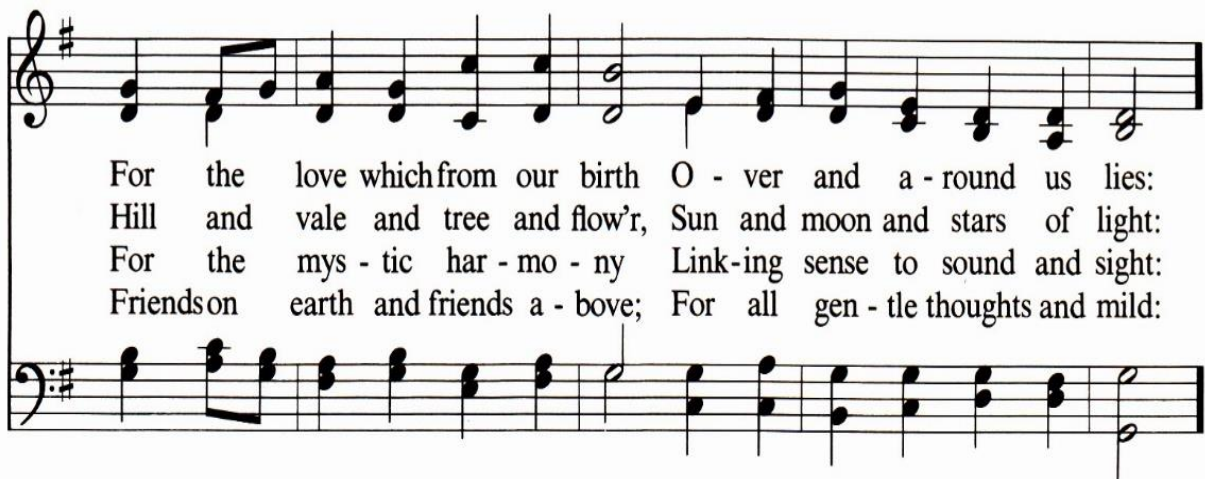
Amen.

GATHERING SONG

"For the Beauty of the Earth"



1 For the beau - ty of the earth, For the beau - ty of the skies,
2 For the won - der of each hour Of the day and of the night,
3 For the joy of ear and eye, For the heart and mind's de - light,
4 For the joy of hu - man love, Broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,



For the love which from our birth O - ver and a - round us lies:
Hill and vale and tree and flow'r, Sun and moon and stars of light:
For the mys - tic har - mo - ny Link - ing sense to sound and sight:
Friends on earth and friends a - bove; For all gen - tle thoughts and mild:



Refrain
Christ, our Lord, to you we raise This our sac - ri - fice of praise.

5 For yourself, best gift divine
To the world so freely giv'n;

Agent of God's grand design,
Peace on earth and joy in heav'n: *Refrain*

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.

KYRIE ELEISON (*Lord, Have Mercy*)

Leader

In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Assembly

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have

For the reign of God, and for

mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

peace through-out the world, for the u-ni-ty of all, let us pray to the

Lord.

For your

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

peo - ple here who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your

word, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer-cy. Christ, have mer-cy. Lord, have

Help, save, and de-fend us, O God.

mer - cy. A - men.

Refrain

Now the feast and cel - e - bra-tion, all of cre - a - tion

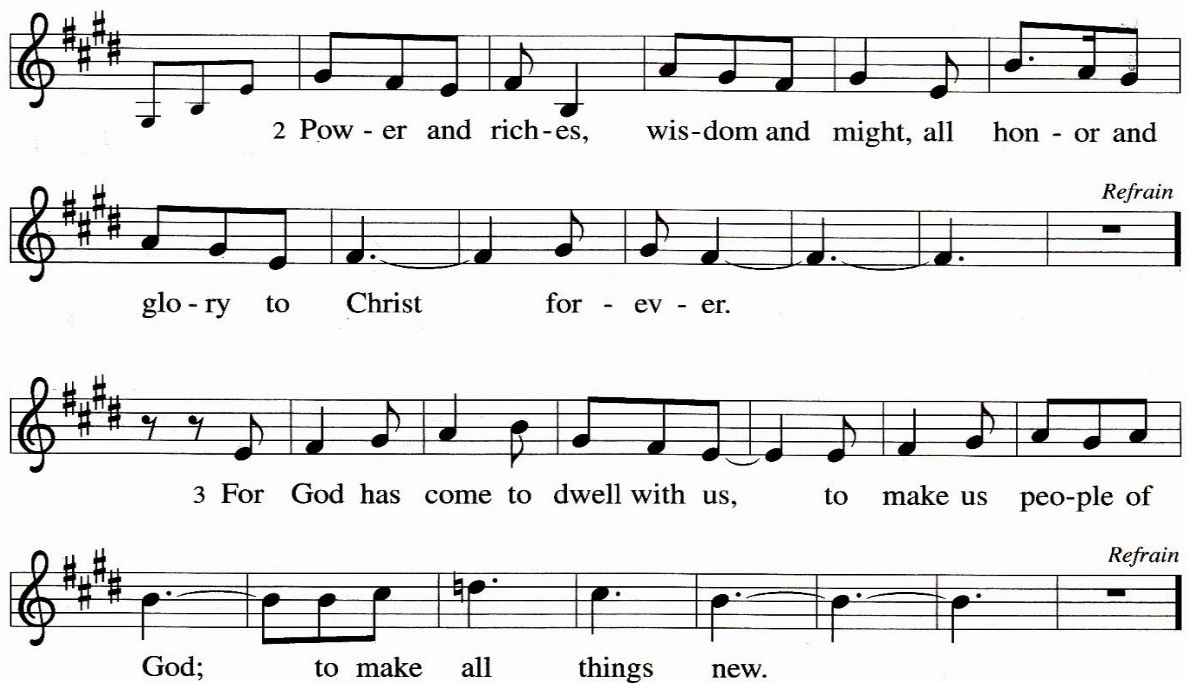
sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;

praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!

1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has

freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.

Refrain



PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray together....O God our strength, without you we are weak and wayward creatures. Protect us from all dangers that attack us from the outside, and cleanse us from all evil that arises from within ourselves, that we may be preserved through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. *Amen.*

CHILDREN'S SERMON

FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

¹ "And now, O Israel, listen to the statutes and the rules that I am teaching you, and do them, that you may live, and go in and take possession of the land that the LORD, the God of your fathers, is giving you. ² You shall not add to the word that I command you, nor take from it, that you may keep the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you.

⁶ Keep them and do them, for that will be your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, 'Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.' ⁷ For what great nation is there that has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is to us, whenever we call upon him? ⁸ And what great nation is there, that has statutes and rules so righteous as all this law that I set before you today?

⁹ “Only take care, and keep your soul diligently, lest you forget the things that your eyes have seen, and lest they depart from your heart all the days of your life. Make them known to your children and your children's children

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 15

¹ O LORD, who shall sojourn in your tent?

Who shall dwell on your holy hill?

² **He who walks blamelessly and does what is right
and speaks truth in his heart;**

³ who does not slander with his tongue

and does no evil to his neighbor,

nor takes up a reproach against his friend;

⁴ in whose eyes a vile person is despised,

but who honors those who fear the LORD;

who swears to his own hurt and does not change;

⁵ who does not put out his money at interest

and does not take a bribe against the innocent.

He who does these things shall never be moved.

SECOND READING

James 1:17-27

¹⁷ Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸ Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

¹⁹ Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰ for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God. ²¹ Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

²² But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. ²³ For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. ²⁴ For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. ²⁵ But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.

²⁶ If anyone thinks he is religious and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his heart, this person's religion is worthless. ²⁷ Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al-le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al-le - lu - ia.
Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.
Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

The holy gospel according to St. Mark, the 7th chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord!

¹ Now when the Pharisees gathered to him, with some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem, ² they saw that some of his disciples ate with hands that were defiled, that is, unwashed. ³ (For the Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they wash their hands properly, holding to the tradition of the elders, ⁴ and when they come from the marketplace, they do not eat unless they wash. And there are many other traditions that they observe, such as the washing of cups and pots and copper vessels and dining couches.) ⁵ And the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?” ⁶ And he said to them, “Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written,

“‘This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me; ⁷ in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.’ ⁸ You leave the commandment of God and hold to the tradition of men.”

¹⁴ And he called the people to him again and said to them, “Hear me, all of you, and understand: ¹⁵ There is nothing outside a person that by going into him can defile him, but the things that come out of a person are what defile him.”

²¹ For from within, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, ²² coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, foolishness. ²³ All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”

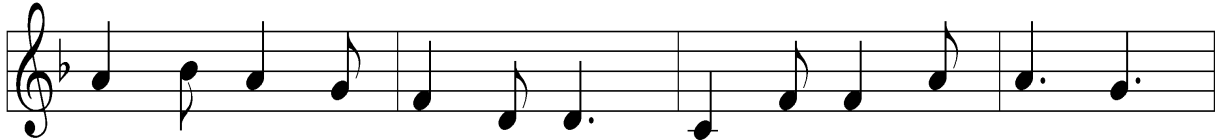
The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ!

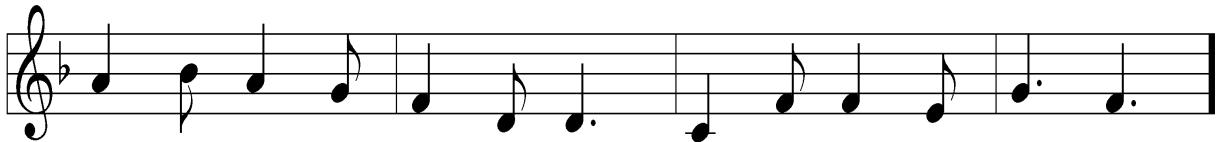
SERMON

Pastor Gary Heltsley

HYMN OF THE DAY “Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross”



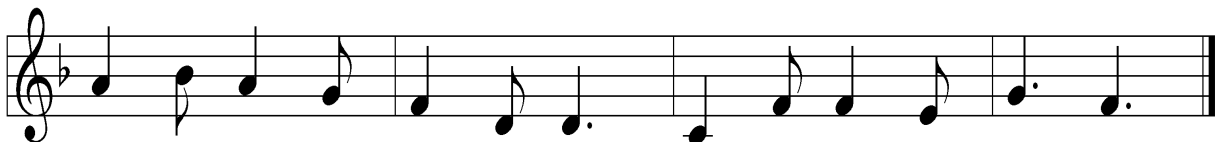
1 Je - sus, keep me near the cross, there's a pre - cious foun - tain;
2 Near the cross, a trem - bling soul, love and mer - cy found me;
3 Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes be - fore me;
4 Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hop - ing, trust - ing ev - er,



free to all, a heal - ing stream flows from Cal - v'ry's moun - tain.
there the bright and Morn - ing Star sheds its beams a - round me.
help me walk from day to day with its shad - ows o'er me.
till I reach the gold - en strand just be - yond the riv - er.



In the cross, in the cross be my glo - ry ev - er;



till my ran - somed soul shall find rest be - yond the riv - er.

APOSTLES' CREED

**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.***

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P) Trusting in the goodness of our heavenly Father through the power of the Holy Spirit, let us pray in Jesus' name for the Church, the world, and one another.

A brief silence

Father, thank you for your commandments, given to protect us from sin and limit its evil effect. Thank you for their goodness and wisdom. Help us to keep them out of love for you and for our neighbor.

Lord, in your mercy, ***hear our prayer.***

Prosper the words and work of this congregation. Through us, let many hear the Gospel, turn to you, and live. Let Jesus' love shine through our words and deeds, and bring light and life to those around us.

Lord, in your mercy, ***hear our prayer.***

As children head back to school, bless them with good teachers who instill the love of learning and respect for one another. Help us to be mentors, tutors, encouragers, and guides, especially for kids who struggle in school. Lead us all by the light of your wisdom and truth.

Lord, in your mercy, ***hear our prayer.***

Shine the light of your countenance upon all who lead the nations. Give them wisdom, humility and integrity, so their people confidently turn to them for justice and may live in safety.

Lord, in your mercy, ***hear our prayer.***

Grant healing, hope, and strength to all who are afflicted by sickness or emotional suffering, especially those we name out loud or silently in our hearts (*allow time for silent and spoken prayers*). Surround them with your holy angels. Give refreshment, cheerfulness, and confidence to all who care for them.

Lord, in your mercy, ***hear our prayer.***

Most gracious Father, thank you for the lives of all the faithful departed who were doers of your Word. In the strength of the Holy Spirit, let us fight the good fight and lay hold of the life, joy, and crown won for us by your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and our Lord.

Lord, in your mercy, ***hear our prayer.***

P) Incline your ear to our prayers, dear Lord; and answer them according to your most gracious and holy will, for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING

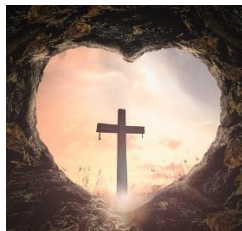
OFFERTORY *Doxology*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. A-men**

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together

**Loving God, we give you thanks for the generous gifts you have first given us.
May that which we offer to you, come joyfully from our hearts and be pleasing
in your sight. Amen.**



DIALOGUE

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 Him thanks and praise.

It is indeed right... and join their unending hymn:

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

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*Sung*)

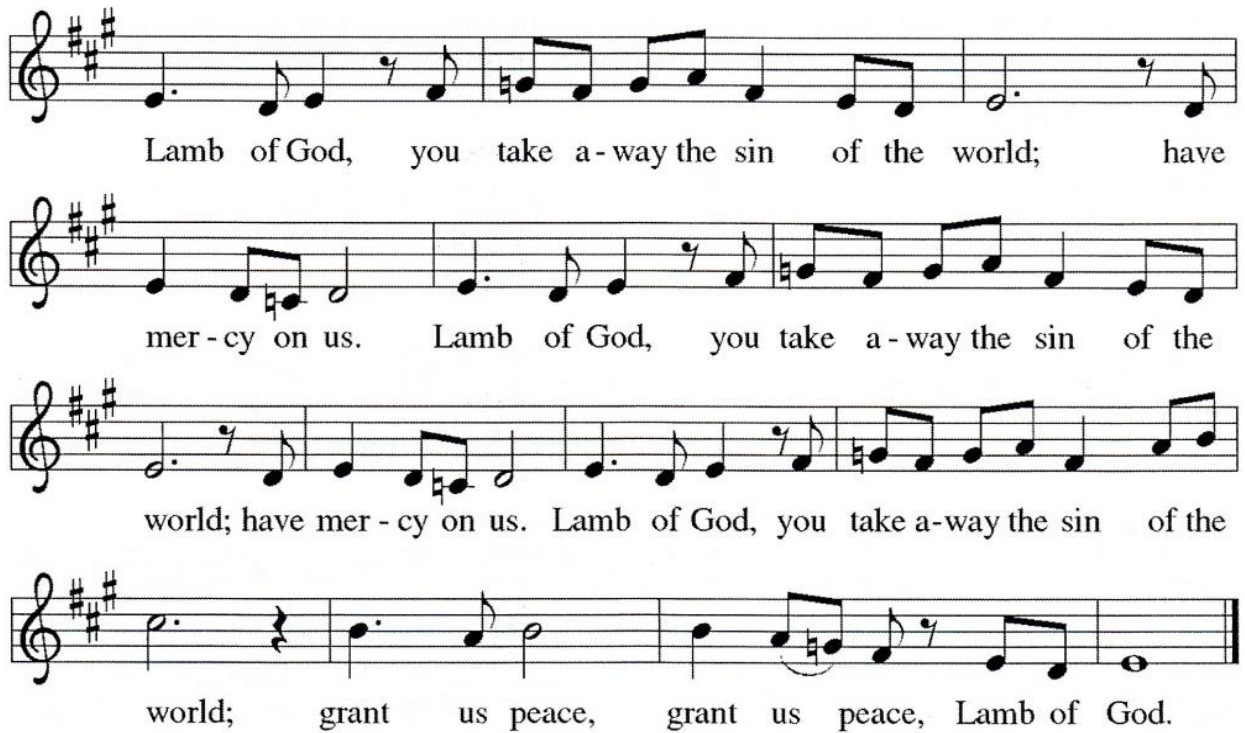
Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name,

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen

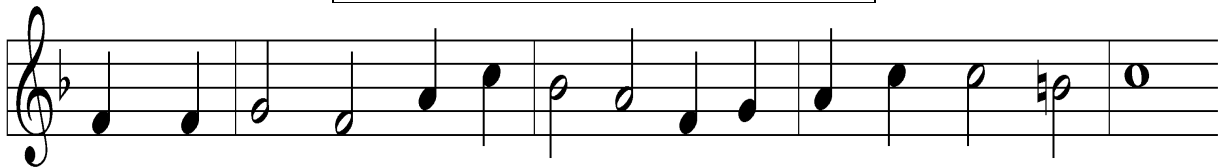
INVITATION TO COMMUNION – We believe and teach that Christ is truly present in the bread and wine/juice, which are his body and blood. All are welcome at the Lord's Table. (*The red liquid is wine; the white liquid is grape juice*).

"Lamb of God"

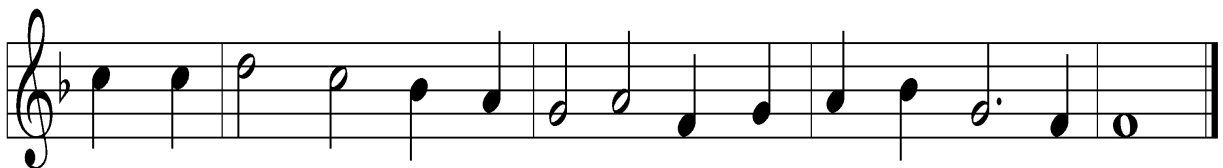


Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

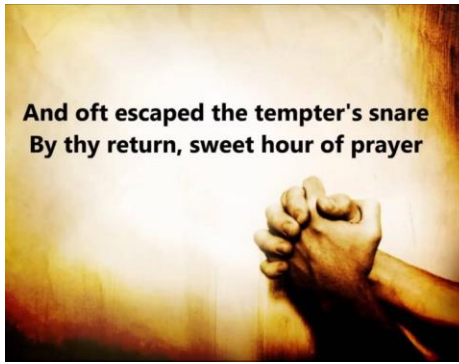
"For the Bread Which You Have Broken"



- 1 For the bread which you have bro-ken, for the wine which you have poured,
- 2 By this prom-ise that you love us, by your gift of peace re-stored,
- 3 With the saints who now a-dore you seat-ed at our Fa-ther's board,
- 4 In your ser-vice, Lord, de-fend us; in our hearts keep watch and ward,



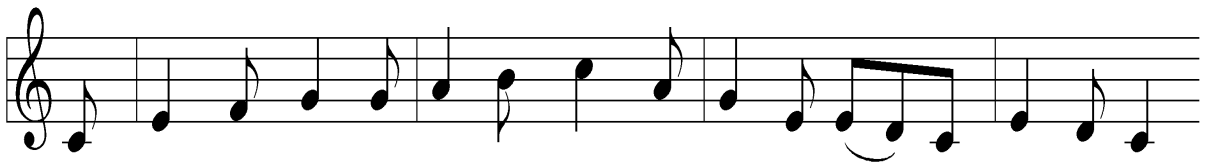
for the words which you have spo-ken, now we give you thanks, O Lord.
by your call to heav'n a-bove us, hal-low all our lives, O Lord.
may the church still wait-ing for you keep love's tie un-bro-ken, Lord.
in the world to which you send us let your king-dom come, O Lord.



"Sweet Hour of Prayer"



- 1 Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer, that calls me from a world of care,
- 2 Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer, thy wings shall my pe - ti - tion bear
- 3 Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer, may I thy con - so - la - tion share,



and bids me at my Fa-ther's throne make all my wants and wish-es known.
to him whose truth and faith-ful - ness en-gage the wait - ing soul to bless;
till from Mount Pis - gah's loft - y height I view my home and take my flight.



In sea - sons of dis - tress and grief my soul has of - ten found re - lief.
and since he bids me seek his face, be - lieve his word and trust his grace,
With joy I'll has - ten to the place where God my Sav - ior shows his face,

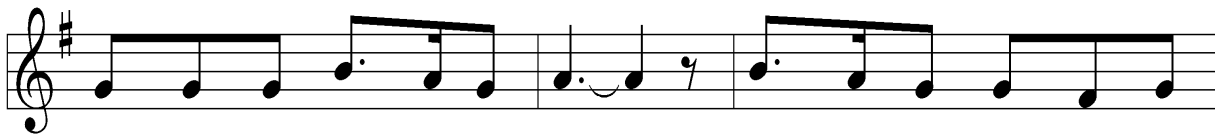


and oft es-caped the tempt-er's snare by thy re-turn, sweet hour of prayer.
I'll cast on him my ev - 'ry care, and wait for thee, sweet hour of prayer.
and glad - ly take my sta - tion there, thy prom-ise gained, sweet hour of prayer.

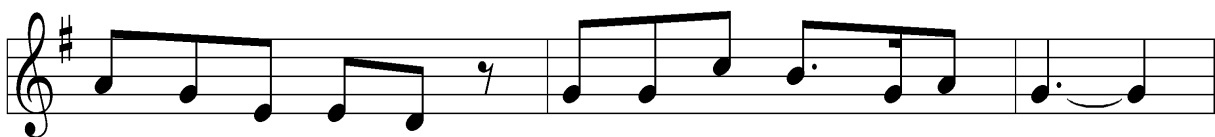
"Softly and Tenderly, Jesus is Calling"



1 Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing,
 2 Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing,
 3 Oh, for the won - der - ful love he has prom - ised,



call - ing for you and for me. See, on the por - tals he's
 plead - ing for you and for me? Why should we lin - ger and
 prom - ised for you and for me! Though we have sinned, he has



wait - ing and watch - ing, watch - ing for you and for me.
 heed not his mer - cies, mer - cies for you and for me?
 mer - cy and par - don, par - don for you and for me.

Refrain



"Come home, come home! You who are wea - ry, come home."



Ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly, Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing, "O sin - ner, come home!"

"Give Thanks"



Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, give thanks to the Ho - ly One,



give thanks be-cause he's giv - en Je - sus Christ, his Son.



Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, give thanks to the Ho - ly One,



give thanks be - cause he's giv - en Je - sus Christ, his Son.



And now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am



rich," be - cause of what the Lord has done for us. And



now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am



Last time

rich," be-cause of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks!

POST COMMUNION BLESSING and PRAYER

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you, and keep you in His grace. *Amen.*

Let us pray together...We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you, and in fervent love toward one another, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

BLESSING

SENDING SONG

"God Be with You Till We Meet Again"



1 God be with you till we meet a - gain; by his
 2 God be with you till we meet a - gain; 'neath his
 3 God be with you till we meet a - gain; when life's
 4 God be with you till we meet a - gain; keep love's



coun-sels guide, up - hold you, with his sheep se - cure - ly
 wings se - cure - ly hide you, dai - ly man - na still pro -
 per - ils thick con - found you, put his arms un - fail - ing
 ban - ner float - ing o'er you, smite death's threat-'ning wave be -



fold you;
 vide you;
 round you;
 fore you;
 God be with you till we meet a - gain.

Refrain



Till we meet, till we meet, till we meet at Je - sus' feet;



till we meet, till we meet, God be with you till we meet a - gain.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, serve the Lord! **Thanks be to God!**

Rob Aaron – piano ~ Pr. Gary Heltsley – presiding

TODAY'S WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Greeters: Marilyn Holt & Janet Wright

Ushers: Jim & Arlene Burton

Reader: John Lorenz

Altar Flowers: Nancy Bauer

Sacristans: Diane Heltsley & Patty Rogers

Communion Assistants: Dixie Carver & Joleen Wheaton

Barista: Michael Wright

Close Up: Council Member

Last Week's Attendance: 117 **Last Week's Offering:** \$3,115.25

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GOOD MORNING AND WELCOME TO NORTH BAY LUTHERAN COMMUNITY CHURCH! We believe that everyone is on a journey with God, and we're honored to have you join us on this journey. Welcome to our church family! If you are a visitor, please feel free to fill out an attendance card located in the slot in front of you and drop it in the offering plate. We also invite you to stay for Fellowship following our service.

Fellowship Time Today – Birthday Cake. September 8th – Meat, Cheese, Cracker and Fruit Platters (please bring a platter of meat, cheese, crackers or fruit to share).

Dementia Support Group will meet on **Wednesday, September 4th** at 10:00 am. For more information, please contact Patty or call the church office.

The Chosen Viewing: Beginning on **Wednesday, September 4th** at 6:00 pm, you are invited to join Pastor Gary to view Season 4 of "*The Chosen*". We will gather in the Fellowship Hall to watch one episode and then have an informal discussion and time to share our thoughts. We will continue meeting each Wednesday at 6:00 pm until we finish Season 4. All are welcome!

"Happy Birthday to Us!" We all love a party, right? For our **September 6th** gathering, the **Women's Ministries** of North Bay will be celebrating our ministry's 3rd birthday. Come join in the fun as we reminisce on all the wonderful monthly events we've enjoyed together this year. Don't miss out on this special birthday party to celebrate one another. Food, fun, fellowship, faith building, and party favors! Join us in the Fellowship Hall at 10:00 am. "*This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.*" Psalm 118:24

Men's Bible Study will meet on **Saturday, September 7th** at 8:00 am as we continue our study of Genesis.

North Mason Food Bank News – You are invited to the Food Bank’s Open House at their new location (24131 NE State Rt. 3, Belfair) on Saturday, September 14th from noon until 3:00 pm. As of August 24th, NBLCC has donated 722 pounds – thank you all for your generosity!

Pastor Gary will be in the office on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9:30 am until noon. **Office Hours** this week are 9:00 am to 1:00 pm – Tuesday through Friday (*Closed Monday, Sept. 2nd for Labor Day*).

Prayer Requests - Please call the church office at 360-275-3390 with your prayer requests or if you seek pastoral care. You may also send an email to the church office at office@northbaylutheran.org.

COMING SOON:

Choir Resumes after our summer break: the NBLCC Choir will resume next **Sunday, September 8th**; practice at 8:45 am. We would love to have your voice in our Choir, so if you are interested, please contact Nancy Martin or call the church office.

Rally Sunday is coming! Next Sunday, September 15th is Rally Sunday. Throughout the service that day, we will hear a *short* presentation from each council member on their ministry area. Learn the many ways you can get involved in the life of our church as we work together to serve the Lord here at North Bay.

Neighborhood Bible Study will begin meeting again on **Tuesday, September 17th** at 12:45 pm. For more information, please contact Sue Nichols or call the church office.

READINGS FOR SEPTEMBER 8, 2024

Isaiah 35:4-7a ~ Psalm 146 ~ James 2:1-17 ~ Mark 7:24-37

*Every
good & perfect gift
is from above. James 1:17*

NORTH BAY LUTHERAN COMMUNITY CHURCH
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