TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
10th Sunday after Pentecost
August 2nd, 2026

Why celebrate? We believe that the Gospel is built upon a foundation of diversity. We believe that the Creator gifted us a universe infused with beautiful diversity. We believe the Blessed Community is strongest and most faithful to Jesus when we invite everyone to the table. Throughout his ministry among the peoples of Roman Palestine and in his teaching, Jesus was always reaching for those on the margins of society and religious institutions, pulling them back into the center of the life of the community. Because it is rooted in the teachings and ministry of Jesus, the work of full inclusion is something that God's beloved children can celebrate. No hiding in the shadows for us! Let us dance in the light of God's love, singing songs of liberation, justice, and inclusion.

PRELUDE Ronnie Cung

WELCOME

***GATHERING/LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Created out of nothing,

We come here to be reminded of who we are.

Created for goodness,

We come with open hearts to be filled with everlasting love.

Created as a beloved child of God,

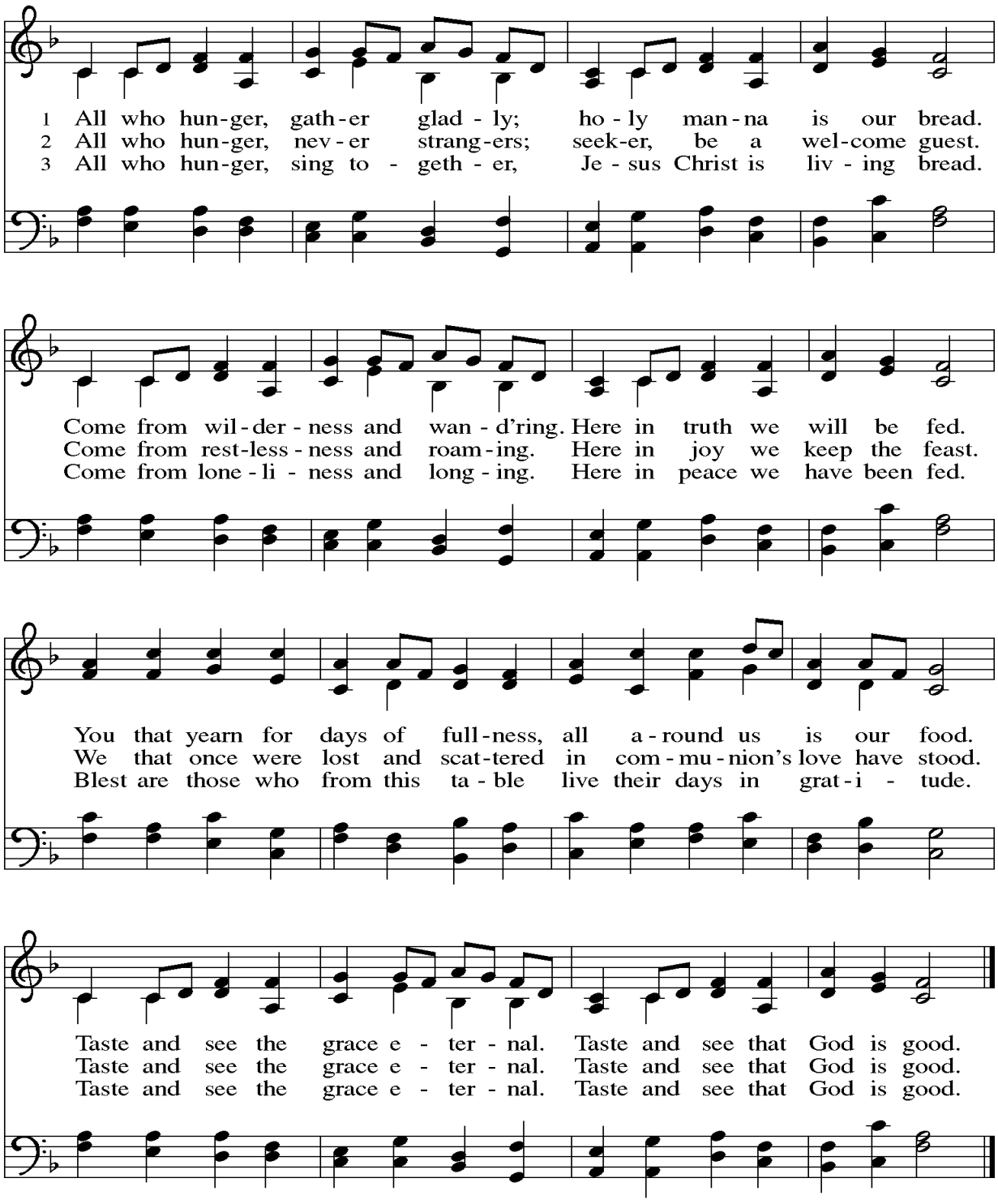
We come in celebration of the diversity of the body of Christ.

Created with a heart for celebrating the rich diversity of creation, we come trusting in the one who creates, redeems, and sustains us as we acknowledge and honor the peoples upon whose ancestral homelands we gather, as well as all our Indigenous siblings who continue to care for this place - this land - and call it their home, the Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi.

As we live into the diversity that God has created, may we be bold to tell the whole story, for in knowing the truth of who we have been, we come to know more fully who we are called to be. Amen.

***GATHERING HYMN** **v1,2,3** **ELW 461**

All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly



Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993
Music: HOLY MANNA, W. Moore, *Columbian Harmony*, 1825; arr. hymnal version
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***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.**

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**
Let us pray.

God of Beauty, you gather your beloved children into your care, each one a unique image of you. You claim us as your own and call us to follow in the ways of mercy, justice, and joy. Strengthen our changing hearts and minds to continue the work of your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

First Reading: Isaiah 9:1-4

Nonetheless, those who were in distress won't be exhausted. At an earlier time, God cursed the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but later God glorified the way of the sea, the far side of the Jordan, and the Galilee of the nations.

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light. On those living in a pitch-dark land, light has dawned. You have made the nation great; you have increased its joy.
They rejoiced before you as with joy at the harvest, as those who divide plunder rejoice.
As on the day of Midian, you've shattered the yoke that burdened them, the staff on their shoulders, and the rod of their oppressor.

Word of God, word of freedom.

Praise be to God

Psalm: Psalm 27:1,4-9
The Lord is my light and my salvation.

Should I fear anyone?

The Lord is a fortress protecting my life.

Should I be frightened of anything? I
have asked one thing from the Lord—
it's all I seek:

to live in the Lord's house all the days of my life,
seeing your beauty

and constantly adoring your temple. Because you will shelter me in your own dwelling during troubling times; you will hide me in a secret place in your own tent; you will set me up high, safe on a rock.

Now my head is higher than the enemies surrounding me, and I will offer sacrifices in God's tent— sacrifices with shouts of joy!

I will sing and praise the Lord.

Lord, listen to my voice when I cry out— have mercy on me and answer me! Come, my heart says, seek God's face.

Lord, I do seek your face! Please don't hide it from me!

Don't push your servant aside angrily— you have been my help! God who saves me, don't neglect me!

Don't leave me all alone!

Second Reading: 1 John 3:1-2

A Reading from 1st John.

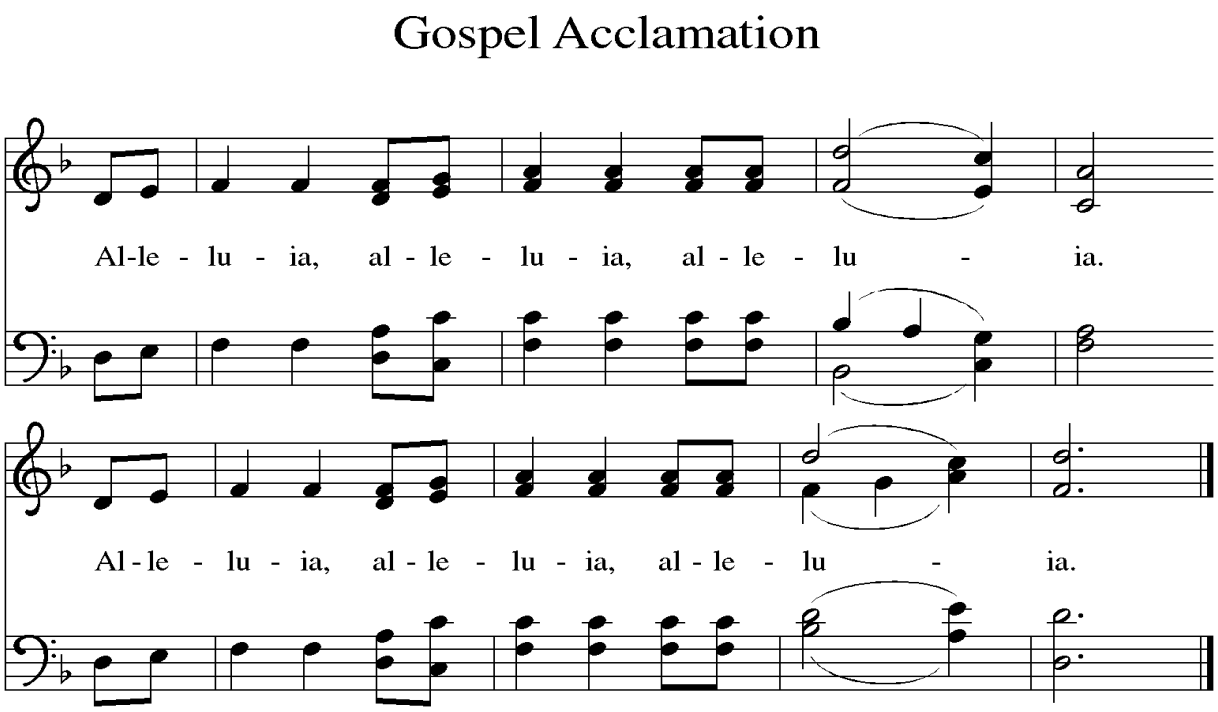
See what kind of love the Creator has given to us in that we should be called God's children, and that is what we are! Because the world did not recognize God, it does not recognize us. Dear friends, now we are God's children, and it hasn't yet appeared what we will be. We know that when God appears we will be like God because we'll see God as God is.

Word of God, word of freedom.

Praise be to God.

The congregation rises to greet the gospel.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



Verses may be sung by a leader. Then the alleluia is repeated.

Music: "Alleluia 7," Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994, and the Taizé Community
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* Gospel: Matthew 4: 2-23

The Word made flesh dwells among us.

Full of grace and truth.

[1] Now when Jesus heard that John was arrested, he went to Galilee. He left Nazareth and settled in Capernaum, which lies alongside the sea in the area of Zebulun and Naphtali. This fulfilled what Isaiah the prophet said:

Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali, alongside the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles, the people who lived in the dark have seen a great light,
and a light has come upon those who lived in the region and in the shadow of death.
From that time Jesus began to announce, “Change your hearts and lives! Here comes the kingdom of heaven!”

As Jesus walked alongside the Galilee Sea, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew, throwing fishing nets into the sea, because they were fishermen. “Come, follow me,” he said, “and I’ll show you how to fish for people.” Right away, they left their nets and followed him. Continuing on, he saw another set of brothers, James the son of Zebedee and his brother John. They were in a boat with Zebedee, their father, repairing their nets. Jesus called them and immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

Jesus traveled throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues. He announced the good news of the kingdom and healed every disease and sickness among the people.

This is the Good News of Jesus Christ

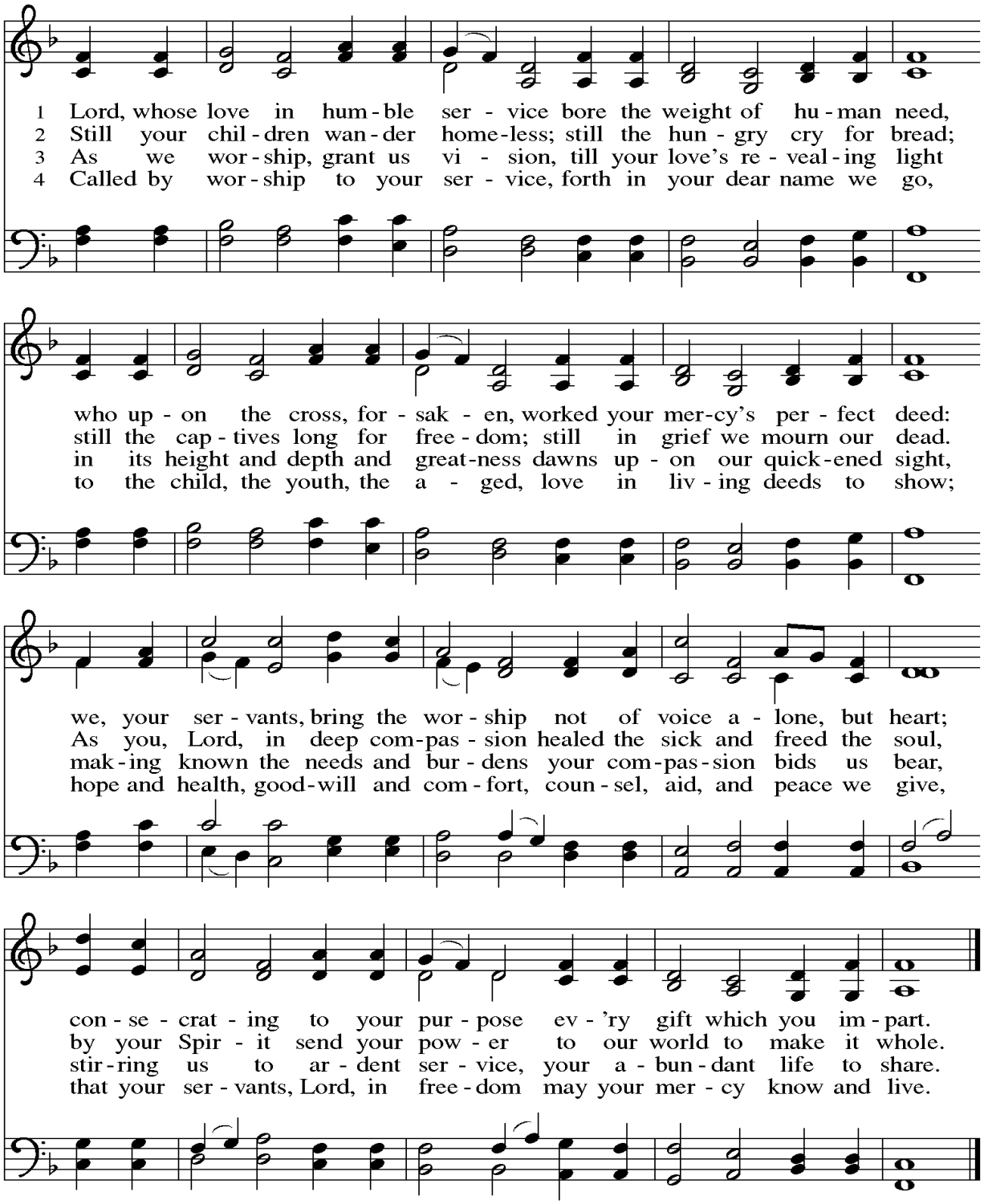
Praise to you, Word of life!

CHILDREN’S SERMON

SERMON

***HYMN OF THE DAY** **V 1,2,4** **ELW 712**

Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service



Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984
Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844; arr. *Selected Hymns*, 1985
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*STATEMENT OF FAITH

Let us join together in proclaiming our faith**:**

We believe in you, O God, who spoke all life into being, author of heaven and earth, architect of time, quilter of the cosmos. You shape our bodies from the dust of the ground, and by your breath we are given life.

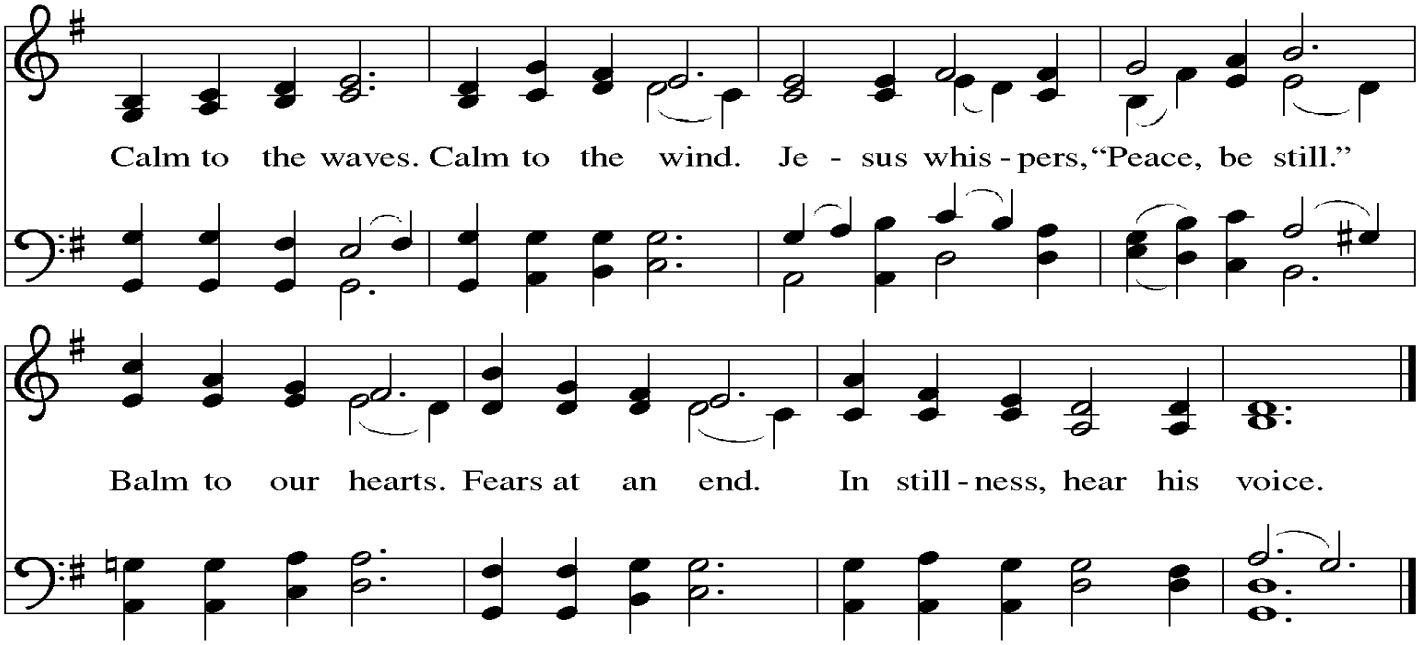
We believe in you, O God, who became incarnate in Christ Jesus, the Word made flesh, truly divine and truly human. You lived among us to reveal your justice, died among us to break the bonds of sin and death, and were raised among us to bring abundant life.

We believe in you, O God, who transforms us by the Holy Spirit, draws us into community, moves us to action, and inspires us to hope against hope. You breathe new life into a fallen world and equip us to proclaim the good news of resurrecting love. All thanks and praise to you, O God, our beginning and our end. Amen.

PRAYER REQUESTS

PRAYER REFRAIN **ELW 794**

Calm to the Waves



Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953
Music: CALM SEAS, Thomas Pavlechko, b. 1962
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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The following responses will be used after each petition: ***Send wholeness to our ____.***

Trusting in God's extraordinary love, let us come near to the Creator in prayer.

A brief silence.

We pray for our pastors, deacons, bishops, and church leaders, that they may guide us well as we become a loving, welcoming, and resilient community in Jesus Christ. We give thanks for Reconciling Works and all of our Reconciling in Christ ministry partners. We pray that the whole church may someday become a blessed community where all our LGBTQIA+ siblings are celebrated. Spirit, intercede for us, **send wholeness to our church.**

We pray for the sustainability of our planet. Guide us to care for creation, be mindful of how much we throw away, reduce how much carbon dioxide our lifestyles add to the air we breathe, and remember how much our choices impact the lives of people in poor and marginalized communities. Spirit, intercede for us, **send wholeness to our Earth.**

We pray for our siblings all around the world. We pray that leaders everywhere recognize and respond to the suffering of the poor, marginalized, and persecuted. We pray that governments enact laws that protect and defend the poor, marginalized, and persecuted. We pray that your hand of justice intercedes for us. Spirit, intercede for us, **send wholeness to the nations.**

We pray for people who have chaos swirling around and within them. We pray for those that have been told they are less than, wrong, or an outcast for who they are. We pray that all of us find true peace, joy, and wholeness in you. We pray for people who are victims of violence because of queerphobia [*or homophobia, transphobia, biphobia*], racism, sexism, and ableism. We pray for your mercy, love, and healing to care for them. Spirit, intercede for us, **send wholeness to your children.**

We pray that our congregation and its ministries uplift and care for all living things in our world. We pray that we work towards justice and peace in our own family and community. Spirit, intercede for us, **send wholeness to us.**

We pray for LGBTQIA+ saints, all our siblings who have gone before us in the fight for justice, freedom, and peace, even when church and society ignored them and many of your LGBTQIA+ children forgot them. Help us remember and honor the memory of the people who have boldly stood as themselves, showing the substance you created even when the world told them to hide.

Spirit, intercede for us,

Send wholeness to this community of *LGBTQIA*+ people and allies.

PASTORAL PRAYER
Receive the prayers of your children, merciful God, and hold us forever in your steadfast love; through Jesus Christ, our holy wisdom. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PEACE
The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

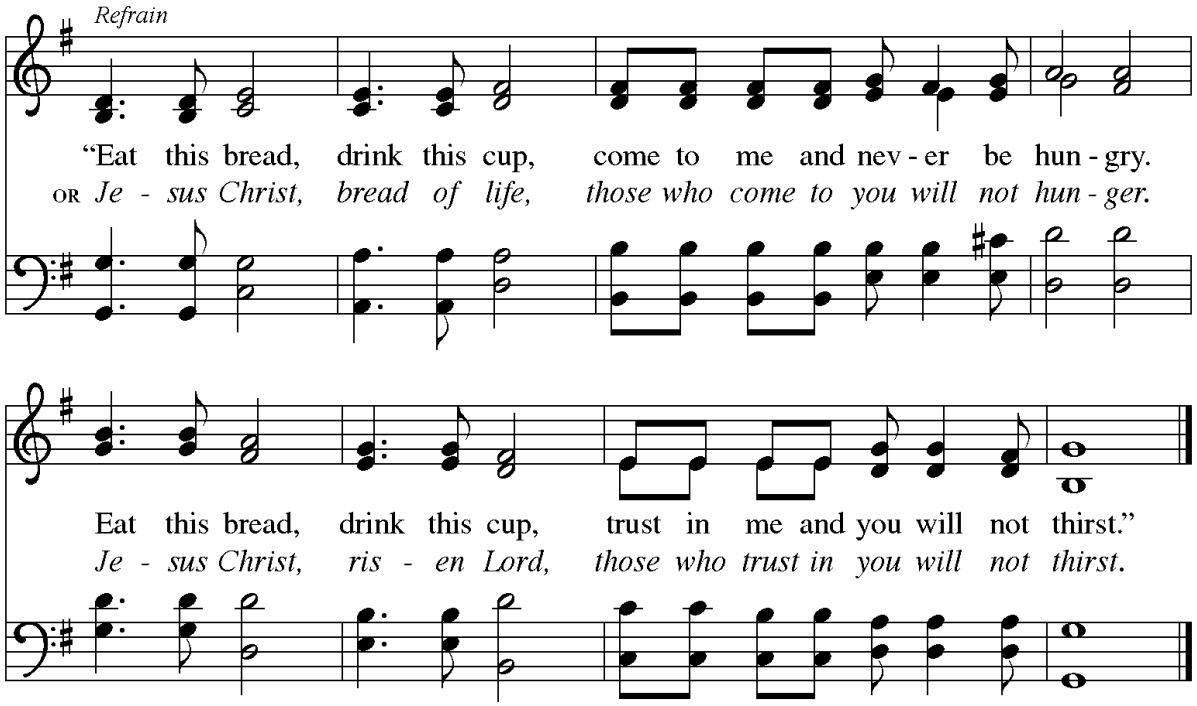
You are invited to share your offering as you enter the sanctuary. An offering plate is located in the center aisle near the back the sanctuary.

Offering Performance: Pachelbel Canon by Johann Pachelbel arranged by Daniel Dorff. Piano, Ronnie Cung; Trumpet, Tish Gancer

***OFFERTORY** **ELW 472**

Eat This Bread

Jesus Christ, Bread of Life



Text: Taizé Community
Music: BERTHIER, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994
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***OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray.

O God, from nothing you created not only us as your beloved children but everything we would need to have an abundant life. As we bring our varied gifts to you, strengthen us as we celebrate the diversity you have blessed us with. Fill us with what we need and help us to recognize that there is more than enough for all as we work to bring your love to the ends of the earth. **Amen.**

*** THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

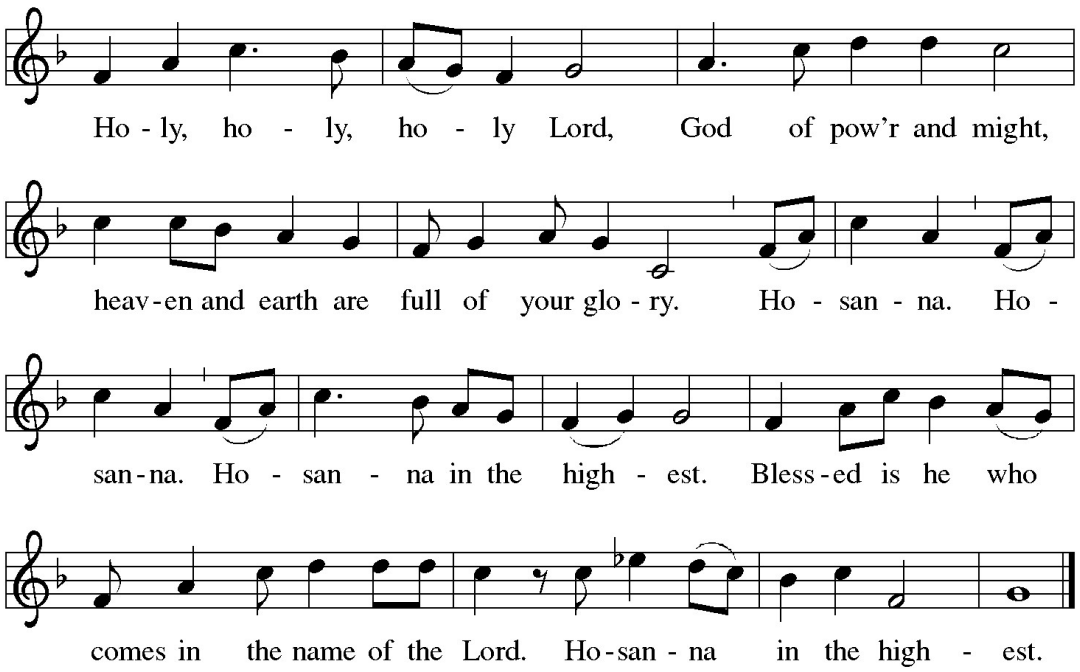
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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, 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.
Amen.

***LORD'S PRAYER**
Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray...
Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the Kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

***INVITATION TO COMMUNION**
Heaven has come near.
Come, share in the feast!

***COMMUNION**
This is God's table. All are welcome. Please take a small cup as you come forward and find a space around the altar rail. Non-alcoholic grape juice is in the prefilled glasses and there is gluten-free bread available. If you do not wish to commune, you are still invited forward for a blessing. If it is easier to remain in your seat for communion, please let the usher know and we will bring communion to you.

***TABLE BLESSING**
May the body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

***POST COMMUNION PRAYER**
Let us pray.

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

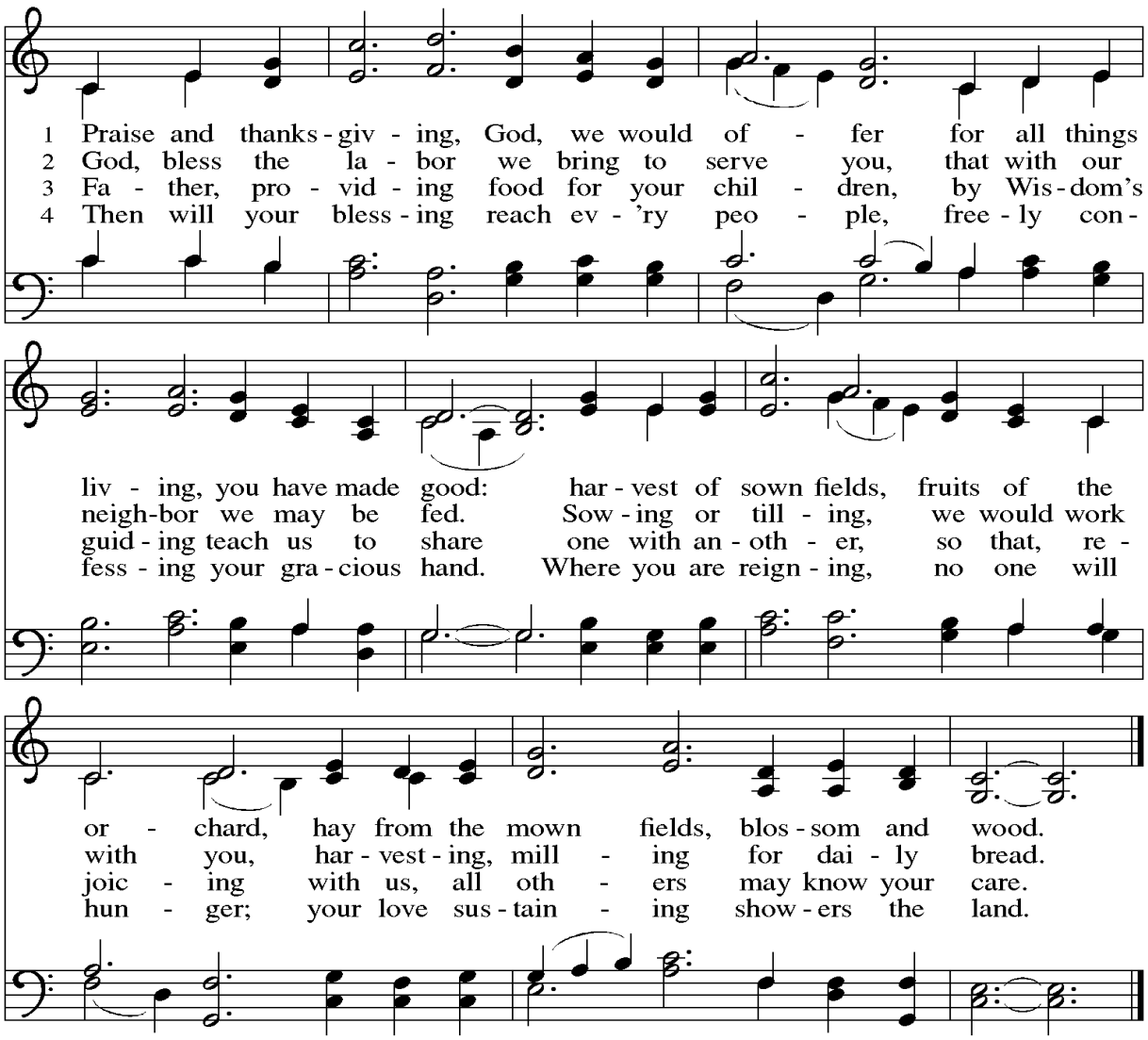
***BLESSING**

As we leave this space may God's face shine upon us, God's love sustain us, and God's peace inspire us and grant us peace. May God – Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer - fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may live in hope of a blessed community where humanity's diversity is celebrated.

Amen.

***SENDING HYMN** **v1,2,4** **ELW 689**

Praise and Thanksgiving



Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984, alt.
Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune; arr. hymnal version
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DISMISSAL

Go in peace to seek justice for all people. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE ELW 525 "You are Holy"

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TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
2055 E. Columbia Avenue
Battle Creek, MI 49014
269-963-5356
tlcbattlecreek.org

Welcome! We believe God created all of humanity in God's image. Since every person is made in the image of God, every person is part of God's family. Whatever your gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, race, income, mental or physical ability, age, religious background, nationality, or political ideology, you are welcome here. Diversity of skills, gifts, talents, opinions, and experiences are strengthened in the body of Christ. "For all of you are one in Christ Jesus" (Galatians 3:28b).

As we worship, you're invited to light a candle at the cross on the left wall at any time music is playing or we are singing. This is a way of praying with our bodies and the elements – as we light a flame, we lift up our concerns, gratitude, or whatever else we carry in our hearts.

The Council has a goal of better advertising Trinity and all the things going on in our congregation. One way to reach this goal is to increase our presence on Facebook by having more folks see our posts. If you are on Facebook and you have not already followed Trinity, please do so and then "Like", "Comment" and "Share" our weekly service and any other happenings. THANKS!!

Contact Info: For emergency pastoral care contact:
Pr. Ed Ruble, St. Peter Lutheran Church
Cell: 269-569-4721
Email: pastor@saintpeterbc.org

Our thanks to all those who give of their time, talent, and prayers for our church and God's work in the world.

Assisting in worship today:

Preaching: Reverend Erick Johnson
Assisting Minister: Heidi Peterson
Sound Board: S. Wheeler
Streaming: John Kolodizieizyck
Music Director: Ronnie Cung
Trumpet: Tish Gancer

THIS WEEK AT TRINITY

August 2 – August 9, 2026

TODAY: 11:00 am Worship, Coffee Hour
MONDAY: 10:30 Yoga
TUESDAY: 10:30 Yoga; 2–4, Freeze Pop Tuesday
WEDNESDAY: 12 AA
THURSDAY:
FRIDAY: 10:30 Yoga
SATURDAY:
NEXT SUNDAY: 11:00 am, Worship, Coffee Hour

Readings for next Sunday: 1 Kings 19: 9 – 18; Psalm 85: 8 – 13; Romans 10: 5 – 15; Matthew 14: 22 – 33

PRAYER REQUESTS Prayer requests are gathered from the spoken prayer requests during worship and can also be added by calling or emailing to office@tlcbattlecreek.org. Prayer requests will stay on the list for three weeks and can be renewed:

July 26: Tresa: Art, Angela; **Janelle:** Gary & Andi Talent, Rod & Carla Tungate, Sam & Courtney Summers, herself

July 19: Tresa: Art's family as they travel for reunion.

July 12: Janelle: Amber, Ginesa; **Connie:** Penny; **Doug M:** Carla; **Eileen:** Melissa, Jennifer, David, Wayne, Gwen

July 5: Janelle: Linda Stacey, Ginesa, Aubrey; **Eileen:** James Henry, Doug and all the helpers at Trinity, Jennifer, Melissa; **Tresa:** Thanks for Art

The Franklin Food Pantry desperately needs to have its shelves restocked. The items needed are: Canned goods, soups, fruits, vegetables; also, cereal, juice, boxed milk, toilet paper and soap. Cash donations are also appreciated. Please drop off any donations at church placing them in the wagon in the narthex. Thanks!!