

Emanuel's Lutheran Church

St. John Lutheran Church

First Presbyterian Church

Joining Together in Christ Jesus

Sunday, September 20, 2020 – Online Worship Service

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (ELW p. 94)

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

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God, **we confess that we are captive 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 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.**

GATHERING SONG

"O God of Mercy, God of Light"

(ELW 714)



1 O God of mer - cy, God of light, in love and
2 You sent your Son to die for all, that our lost
3 Teach us the les - son Je - sus taught: to feel for
4 For all are kin - dred, far and wide, since Je - sus



mer - cy in - fi - nite, teach us, as ev - er
world might hear your call; oh, hear us lest we
those his blood has bought, that ev - 'ry deed and
Christ for all has died; grant us the will, and



in your sight, to live our lives in you.
stray and fall! We rest our hope in you.
word and thought may work a work for you.
grace provide, to love them all in you.

5 In sickness, sorrow, want, or care,
may we each other's burdens share;
may we, where help is needed, there
give help as though to you.

6 And may your Holy Spirit move
all those who live to live in love,
till you receive in heav'n above
all those who live in you.

Text: Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, alt.
Music: JUST AS I AM, Joseph Barnby, 1838–1896

GREETING (ELW p. 138)

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 (ELW p. 138)



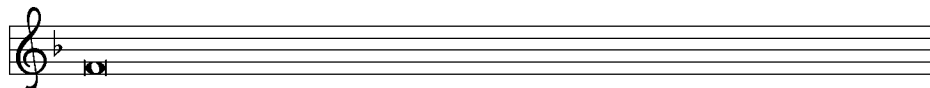
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



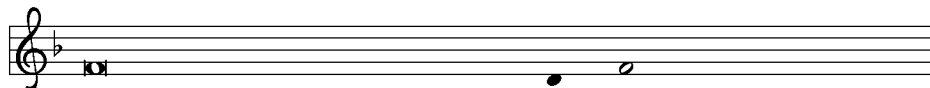
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



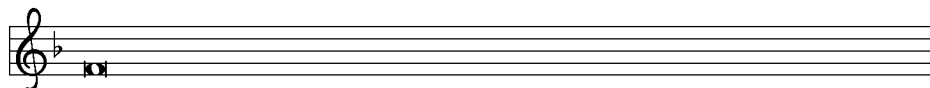
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



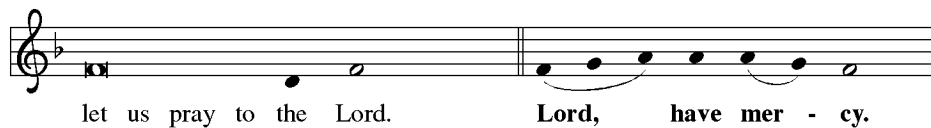
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

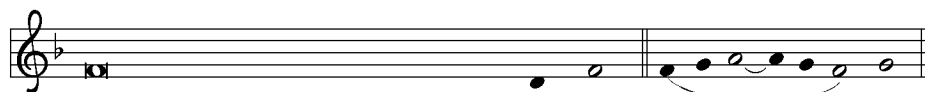


For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

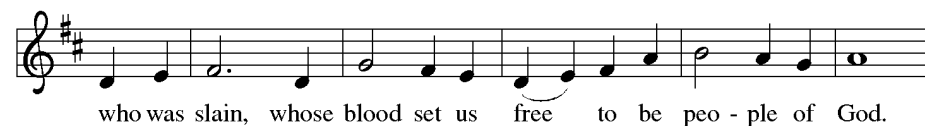
CANTICLE OF PRAISE (ELW p. 140)



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb



who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich-es, wis - dom, and



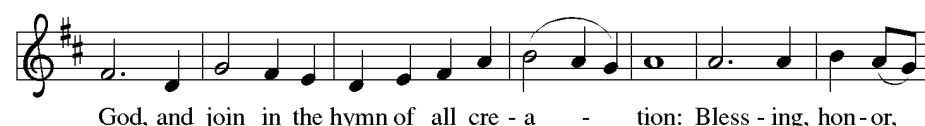
strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of



God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,

glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was

slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY (ELW p. 142)

Let us pray.

Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Jonah 3:10--4:11

A reading from Jonah.

¹⁰When God saw what [the people of Ninevah] did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it. ^{4:1}But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. ²He prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. ³And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." ⁴And the LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" ⁵Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city. ⁶The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. ⁷But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered.

⁸When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live." ⁹But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." ¹⁰Then the LORD said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. ¹¹And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

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

PSALM: Psalm 145:1-8

Refrain:



- ¹I will exalt you, my | God and king,
and bless your name forev- | er and ever.
- ²**Every day | will I bless you
and praise your name forev- | er and ever.**
- ³Great is the LORD and greatly | to be praised!
There is no end | to your greatness.
- ⁴**One generation shall praise your works | to another
and shall de- | clare your power. R**
- ⁵I will speak of the glorious splendor | of your majesty
and all your | marvelous works.
- ⁶**They shall tell of the might of your | wondrous acts,
and I will re- | count your greatness.**
- ⁷They shall publish the remembrance of | your great goodness;
they shall sing joyfully | of your righteousness.
- ⁸**The LORD is gracious and full | of compassion,
slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love. R**

SECOND READING: Philippians 1:21-30

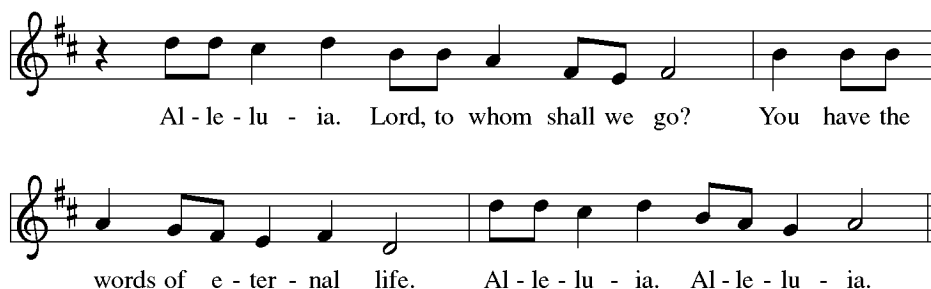
A reading from Philippians.

²¹For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. ²²If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. ²³I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; ²⁴but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. ²⁵Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, ²⁶so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again. ²⁷Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. ²⁹For he has graciously granted you the privilege

not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well—³⁰since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 142)



GOSPEL: Matthew 20:1-16

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹"The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ²After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. ³When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; ⁴and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. ⁵When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. ⁶And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' ⁷They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' ⁸When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' ⁹When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. ¹⁰Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. ¹¹And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹²saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' ¹³But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? ¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' ¹⁶So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Pastor Paul Theiss

HYMN OF THE DAY

"O God of Every Nation"

(ELW 713)





re - deem your whole cre - a - tion with your al - might - y hand;
from trust in bombs that show - er de - struc - tion through the night,
from fear of rat - tling sa - ber, from dread of war's in - crease;
when ha - tred and di - vi - sion give way to love and peace,



where hate and fear di - vide us and bit - ter threats are hurled,
from pride of race and sta - tion and blind - ness to your way,
when hope and cour - age fal - ter, Lord, let your voice be heard;
till dawns the morn - ing glo - rious when truth and love shall reign,



in love and mer - cy guide us and heal our strife - torn world.
de - liv - er ev - 'ry na - tion, e - ter - nal God, we pray.
with faith that none can al - ter, your ser - vants un - der - gird.
and Christ shall rule vic - to - rious o'er all the world's do - main.

Text: William W. Reid Jr., b. 1923

Music: LLANGLOFFAN. Welsh tune. 19th cent.

CREED (ELW p. 105)

Let us confess the faith of the church, using the words of the Apostles' Creed.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (ELW p. 143)

Drawn together in the compassion of God, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

Response to each petition:

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

All these things and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your mercy; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE (ELW p.143)

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

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING INFORMATION

Mailing Address: St. John Lutheran Church, P.O. Box 68 Marion, TX 78124

For those registered for onrealm.org, e-giving can be made at www.onrealm.org/stjohnmarion

Mailing Address: Emanuel's Lutheran Church, 206 N. Travis Street Seguin, TX 78155

For online giving: <https://tinyurl.com/emanuelsgiving>

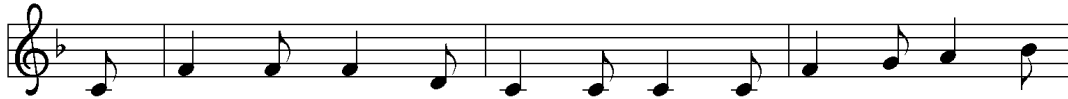
Mailing Address: First Presbyterian Church, 1121 E. Walnut St., Seguin, TX 78155

For online giving: <https://tinyurl.com/firstpresseguin>

OFFERING HYMN

"I Come With Joy"

(ELW 482)



1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and
2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to find, as all are
3 As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion
4 The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but ev - er
5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that God has



free, the life of Je - sus to re - call in
fed, the new com - mu - ni - ty of love in
ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and
near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known, a -
done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the



love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.
Christ's com - mu - nion bread, in Christ's com - mu - nion bread.
strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.
live a - mong us here, a - live a - mong us here.
love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: DOVE OF PEACE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

OFFERING PRAYER (ELW p. 144)

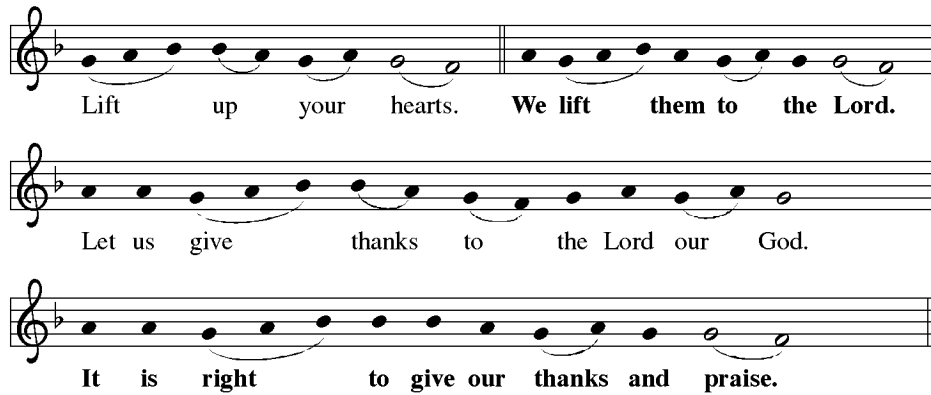
Let us pray.

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

Amen.

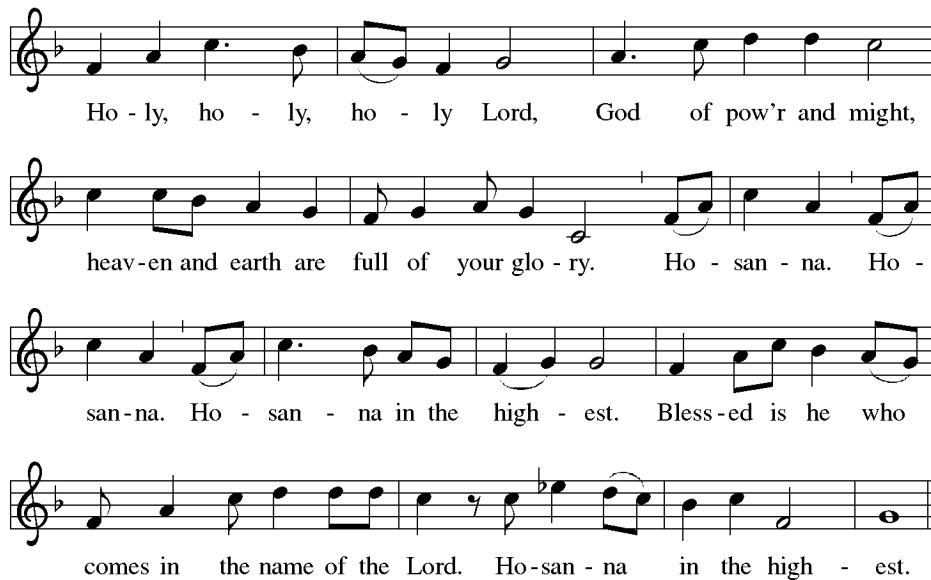
GREAT THANKSGIVING (ELW p. 144)





PREFACE (ELW p. 144)

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 144)



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE (ELW p. 145)

LORD'S PRAYER (ELW p. 145)

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray 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.

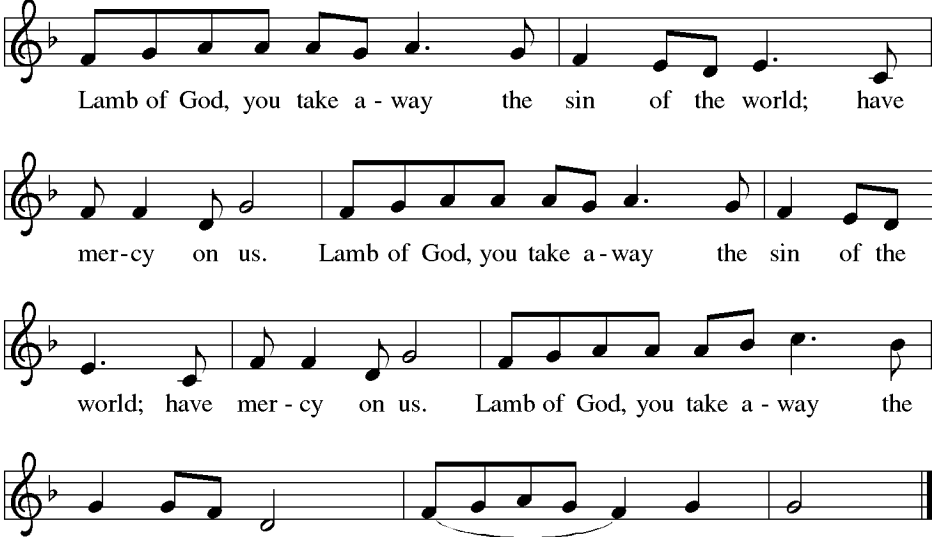
INVITATION TO COMMUNION (ELW p. 146)

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

COMMUNION (ELW p. 146) *When giving the bread and sharing the cup, you may use say:*

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen.**

COMMUNION SONG (ELW p. 146)




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.

SONG AFTER COMMUNION

"O Lord, Now Let Your Servant"

(ELW 313)



1 O Lord, now let your ser - vant de - part in heav'n-ly peace,
2 Then grant that I may fol - low your gleam, O glo - rious Light,
for I have seen the glo - ry of your re - deem - ing grace:
till earth-ly shad - ows scat - ter, and faith is changed to sight;
a light to lead the na - tions un - to your ho - ly hill,
till rap-tured saints shall gath - er up - on that shin-ing shore,
the glo - ry of your peo - ple, your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
where Christ, the bless-ed day - star, shall light them ev - er - more.

Text: Ernest E. Ryden, 1886–1981, alt., based on the Nunc dimittis
Music: KUORTANE, Finnish folk tune

TABLE BLESSING

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (ELW p. 146)

Let us pray. 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.

SENDING

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

BLESSING (ELW p. 146)

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.
Amen.

SENDING SONG

"I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me"

(ELW 860)

1 I'm so glad I'm so glad
2 Sa - tan had me bound, Je - sus lift-ed me. Sa - tan had me bound,
3 When I was in trou - ble, When I was in trou - ble,
Je - sus lift-ed me. I'm so glad
Sa - tan had me bound, Je - sus lift-ed me,
When I was in trou - ble,
sing-ing glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! Je - sus lift - ed me.

Text: African American spiritual
Music: JESUS LIFTED ME, African American spiritual

DISMISSAL (ELW p. 146)

Go in peace. Share the good news.
Thanks be to God.

Emanuel's Lutheran Church Announcements

SUNDAY WORSHIP is still online and on the radio at 10:30 a.m.

WORSHIP ON THE LAWN is **Sunday, September 27 at 8:00 a.m.**

As we inch towards safely returning to in-person worship our first trial run will be on Sunday, September 27 at 8:00 a.m. on the church lawn at the corner of Travis and Mountain Streets. Services on this date will also be online and on the radio at our regular 10:30 a.m. worship time.

Items to bring to *Worship on the Lawn*:

- Mask for safety of others
- Chair or blanket to sit on
- Umbrella, hat, and/or sunglasses
- Something to drink
- Rejoicing heart and voice

Please Remember:

- 6-feet of distance between all parties
- We will want to hug, but please wave from a distance instead
- "Sharing of the Peace" will be done by waving or offering a distanced sign of peace
- Communion will be practiced from our seats with prepackaged elements
- Offering may be dropped off upon arrival or departure in designated baskets

We look forward to additional *Worship on the Lawn* services on **October 25** and **November 29**. Please share your comments and concerns as we learn to do church in new ways together.

SMALL GROUPS are beginning to resume on campus. Gatherings are limited to fewer than 15 people and social distancing practices are required. Masks are to be worn at all times on the church campus. Let us know if you are interested in starting a new small group at Emanuel's!

- **HERITAGE BIBLE CLASS** on **Sundays at 9:15 a.m.** in the third floor Family Life Center. If you feel comfortable, abiding by the guidelines established by the Council, feel free to join the group for a trial run. Someone will be stationed at the Mountain Street entrance from 9 to 9:15 to make sure you will be able to get in. Might want to bring your own cup of coffee!
- **FAITH CIRCLE** will meet on **Tuesday, September 15 at 7pm** in the Family Life Center on the 3rd Floor. Contact Cathy at 830-660-8187.
- **LWR QUICK QUILTERS** are meeting again in their spacious 1st Floor room on **Monday and Tuesday mornings**. Call Elin at 303-5440 if you are interested in joining this group.
- **PROPERTY STEWARDS** are always looking for extra hands for their **Tuesday morning** facility maintenance tasks. Garry can answer most questions at 830-534-3290.
- **GARDEN OF EATIN'** every **Tuesday from 9-11**. In September we are cleaning up and thinking about fall planting. The garden is open to the community at all times, but Wayne will be there on Tuesdays to answer questions and get you started.

EMANUEL'S PRAYER TREE: "Leaf" a Prayer. Prayers are now sprinkled around Emanuel's Prayer Garden. Use the tags provided there for your prayers or bring your own. Tie the tags to the rail around the garden. Spend quiet time reading and praying for others if you wish. Not getting out so much? You can call us with your prayer at 830-379-5046 and we will add your petition for you.

CHRISTIAN CUPBOARD is taking donations. Oatmeal, canned soup, empty egg cartons (esp. 18 count), and personal care products are needed now.

CHRIST IN OUR HOME Daily devotional books are now available for Oct., Nov., & Dec. 2020. Pick up outside the Mountain Street Door.