

Emanuel's Lutheran Church

St. John Lutheran Church

First Presbyterian Church

Joining Together in Christ Jesus

Sunday, August 2, 2020 – Online Worship Service

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (ELW p. 94)

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.
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.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Gracious God,
have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
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

"Lord, Whose love in Humble Service"

(ELW 712)



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



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



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



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

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984

Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844

GREETING (ELW p. 98)

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.**

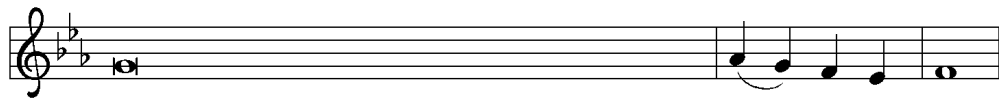
KYRIE (ELW p. 98)



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



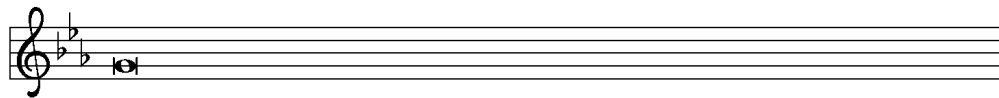
Lord, have mer - cy.



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



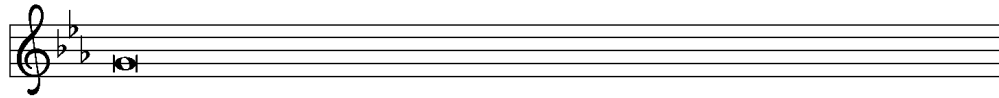
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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 de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE (ELW p. 101)



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



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



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:

Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to

Refrain
hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -

Refrain
gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY (ELW p. 102)

Let us pray. Glorious God, your generosity waters the world with goodness, and you cover creation with abundance. Awaken in us a hunger for the food that satisfies both body and spirit, and with this food fill all the starving world; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Isaiah 55:1-5

A reading from Isaiah.

¹Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. ²Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. ³Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. ⁴See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. ⁵See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you. Word of God, word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21

⁸The LORD is gracious and full | of compassion, slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love.

⁹**LORD, you are | good to all, and your compassion is over | all your works. R**

¹⁴The Lord upholds all | those who fall and lifts up those who | are bowed down.

¹⁵**The eyes of all wait upon | you, O LORD, and you give them their food | in due season.**

¹⁶You open | wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every | living thing.

¹⁷**You are righteous in | all your ways and loving in | all your works. R**

¹⁸You are near to all who | call upon you, to all who call up- | on you faithfully.

¹⁹**You fulfill the desire of | those who fear you; you hear their | cry and save them.**

²⁰You watch over all | those who love you, but all the wicked you | shall destroy.

²¹**My mouth shall speak the praise | of the LORD; let all flesh bless God's holy name
forev- | er and ever. R**

SECOND READING: Romans 9:1-5

A reading from Romans.

¹I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit—

²I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. ³For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own people, my kindred according to the flesh. ⁴They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; ⁵to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Messiah, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.
Word of God, word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 102)

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

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

Repeat alleluia

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

GOSPEL: Matthew 14:13-21

The holy gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹³Now when Jesus heard [about the beheading of John the Baptist], he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. ¹⁵When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves." ¹⁶Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." ¹⁷They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish." ¹⁸And he said, "Bring them here to me." ¹⁹Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. ²⁰And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. ²¹And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

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

SERMON

Pastor Marcus Bigott

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ"

(ELW 674)



1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a shout of joy:
2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at the ta - ble he sets the tone,
3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a world of doubt,



bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im - man - u - el) ev - 'ry - where!

Refrain



Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929

Music: LINSTEAD, Jamaican folk tune; adapt. Doreen Potter, 1925–1980

Text and music © 1975 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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. 105)

Confident of your care and helped by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Response to each petition:

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

In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from your love, we offer these prayers to you; through Jesus 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

"All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly"

(ELW 461)



1 All who hun-ger, gath-er glad-ly; ho-ly man-na is our bread.
2 All who hun-ger, nev-er strang-ers; seek-er, be a wel-come guest.
3 All who hun-ger, sing to - geth - er, Je - sus Christ is liv - ing bread.



Come from wil-der - ness and wan - d'ring. Here in truth we will be fed.
Come from rest-less - ness and roam - ing. Here in joy we keep the feast.
Come from lone - li - ness and long - ing. Here in peace we have been fed.



You that yearn for days of full-ness, all a-round us is our food.
We that once were lost and scat-tered in com-mu-nion's love have stood.
Blest are those who from this ta - ble live their days in grat-i - tude.



Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.
Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.
Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993

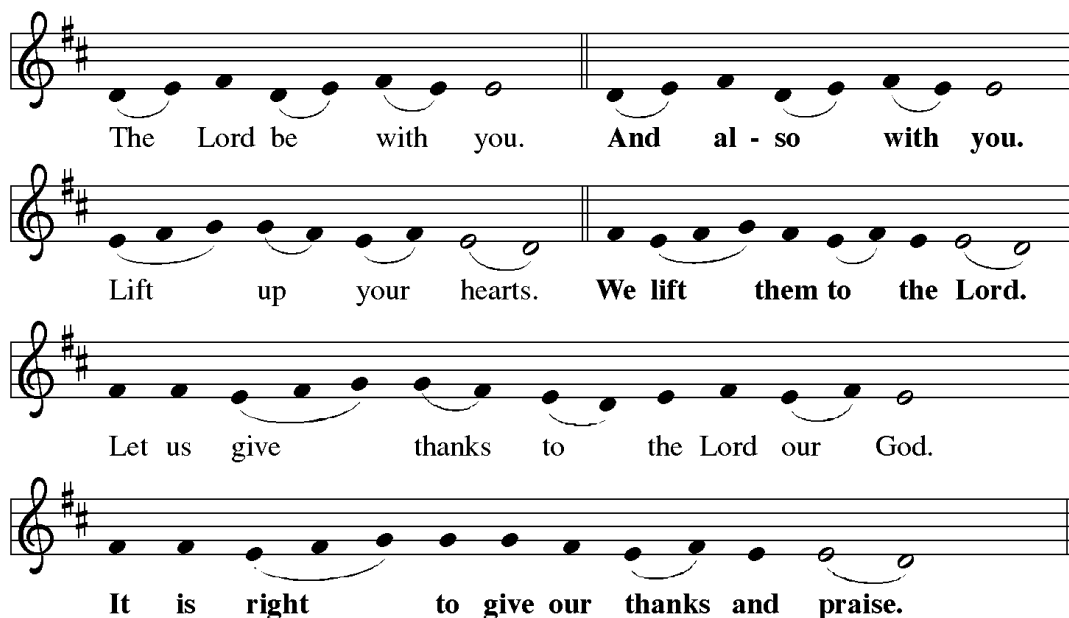
Music: HOLY MANNA, W. Moore, *Columbian Harmony*, 1825

OFFERING PRAYER (ELW p. 106)

God of goodness and growth, all creation is yours, and your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens. Water and word, wine and bread: these are signs of your abundant grace. Nourish us through these gifts, that we might proclaim your steadfast love in our communities and in the world, through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING (ELW p. 107)



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

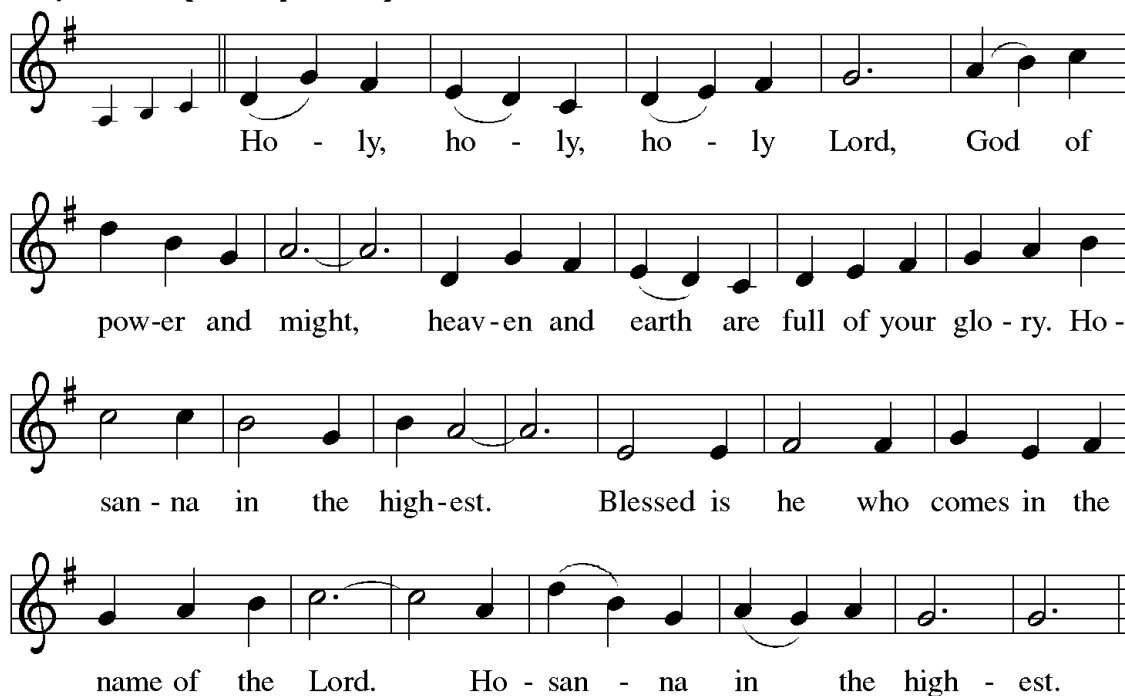
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE (ELW p. 108)

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 108)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of

pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the

name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE (ELW p. 108)

LORD'S PRAYER (ELW p. 112)

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

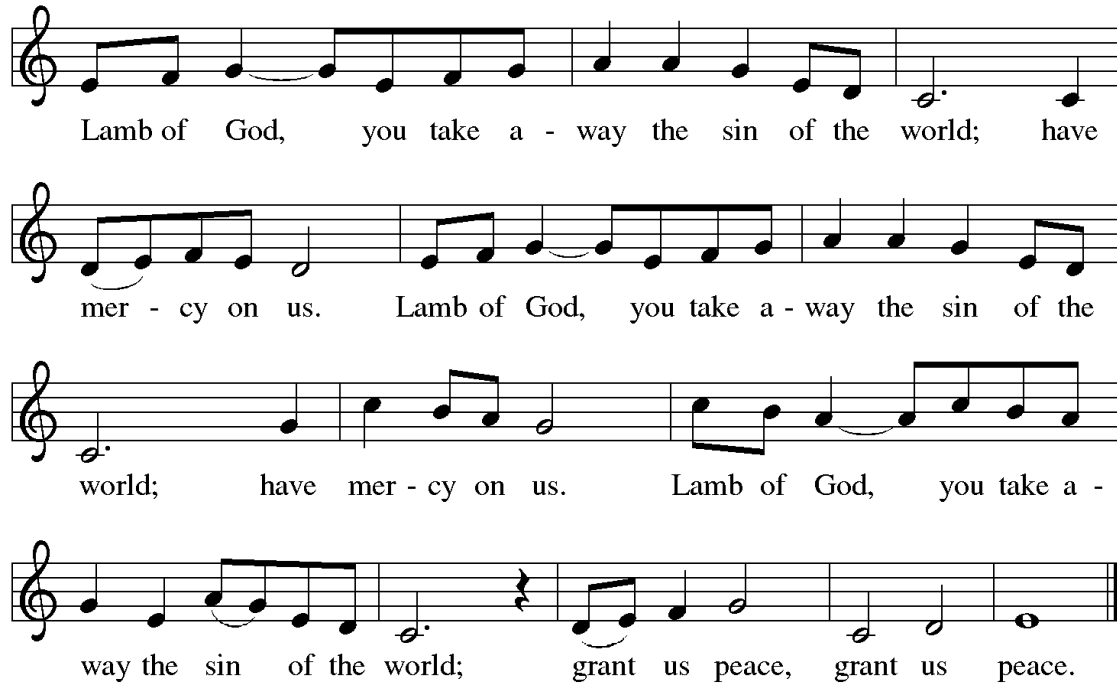
trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION (ELW p. 112)

Taste and see that the Lord is good. All are welcome at Christ's table.

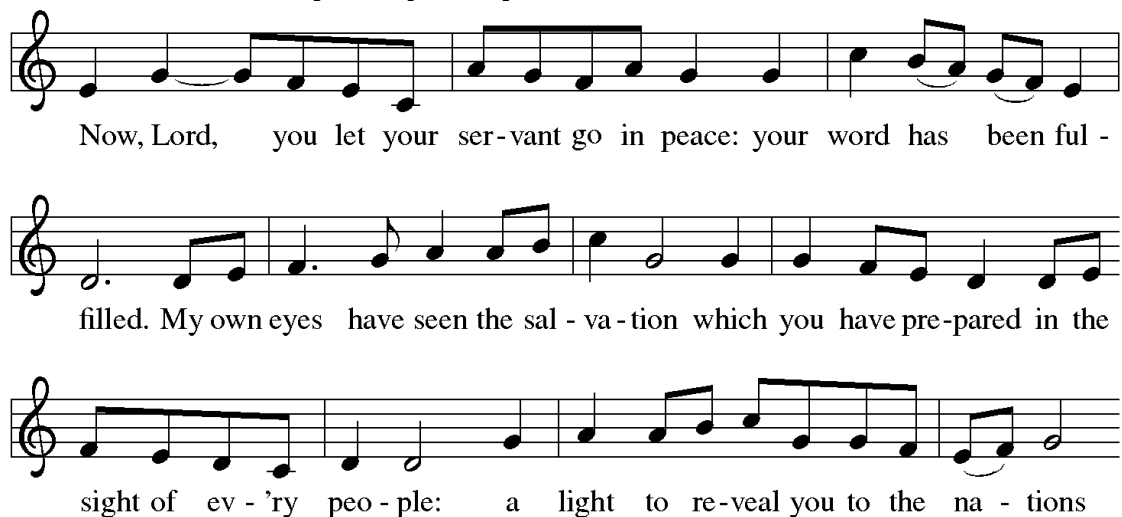
COMMUNION (ELW p. 112) *When giving the bread and sharing the cup, you may use say:*
The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen.**

COMMUNION SONG (ELW p. 112)



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.

SONG AFTER COMMUNION (ELW p.113)



Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been ful -
filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre-pared in the
sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: a light to re-veal you to the na - tions

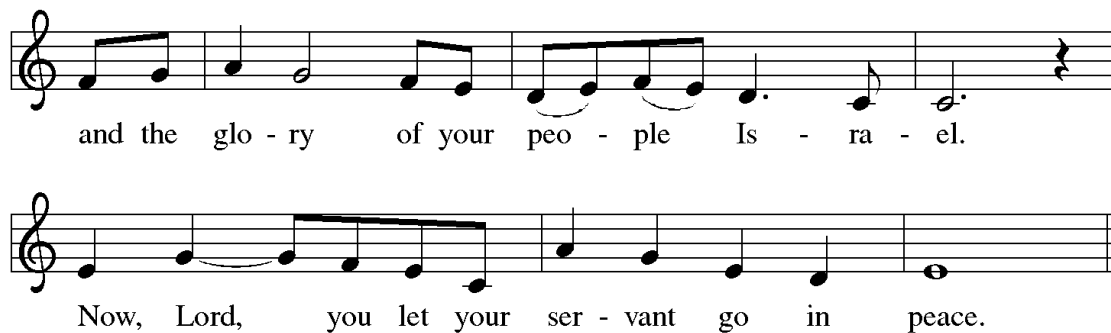


TABLE BLESSING

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (ELW p. 114)

God of the welcome table, in this meal we have feasted on your goodness and have been united by your presence among us. Empower us to go forth sustained by these gifts so that we may share your neighborly love with all, through Jesus Christ, the giver of abundant life. **Amen.**

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

BLESSING (ELW p. 146)

Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. God, the creator, ✠ Jesus, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit, the comforter, bless you and keep you in eternal love. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG "Praise the One who Breaks the Darkness" (ELW 843)



- 1 Praise the One who breaks the dark-ness with a lib - er - at - ing light;
- 2 Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren with a strong yet gen - tle word;
- 3 Praise the one true love in - car - nate: Christ, who suf - fered in our place;



praise the One who frees the pris - 'ners, turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight.
praise the One who drove out de - mons with a pierc - ing, two - edged sword.
Je - sus died and rose for man - y that we may know God by grace.



Praise the One who preached the gos - pel, heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease,
Praise the One who brings cool wa - ter to the des - ert's burn - ing sand;
Let us sing for joy and glad - ness, see - ing what our God has done.



calm - ing storms and feed - ing thou - sands with the ver - y bread of peace.
from this well comes liv - ing wa - ter quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.
Praise the one re - deem - ing glo - ry; praise the One who makes us one.

Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955

Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813

Text © 1987 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

DISMISSAL (ELW p. 146)

Go in peace. Christ is with you. **Thanks be to God.**

Evangelical Lutheran Worship Setting 1 with Holy Communion. From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2020 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SB139662 and [OneLicense.net](https://www.onelicense.net) License #A-727673. Scripture quotations are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright ©1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM EMANUEL'S

Despite Covid-19, **TIS' THE SEASON OF BACK-TO-SCHOOL SALES!** This year the Thrivent Action Team has broadened the scope to also include not only supplies for children abroad, but also some supplies for Emanuel's Day School and Seguin ISD students. As you shop – however that may be – please include some of these items to share with students whose families, experiencing economic difficulties, may not have everything they need.

70-page spiral notebooks (greatest need) pink erasers ball point pens crayons
Blunt children's scissors pencil sharpeners unsharpened pencils
rulers with both metric and US measurement boxes of facial tissue

How will supplies be collected? Hopefully, you can put your purchases in a safe and memorable spot so that, when Emanuel's office hours and in-sanctuary worship are normalized, you can bring the supplies along with you to church. School supply receptacles are now placed at the Mountain Street door.

If you want to participate, but don't want to shop, a monetary donation can be well-spent during these back-to-school sales. For instance, ten dollars buys 40 spiral notebooks or 480 pencils. A check, with a school supply notation, can be donated to Emanuel's.

EMANUEL'S PRAYER TREE: "Leaf" a Prayer. Prayers are now sprinkled around Emanuel's Prayer Garden, protected by the sprawling branches of the ancient, and historic, Ranger Oak. Tags provided. Tie to the rail around the garden. Spend quiet time reading and praying for others. You can also mail-in your Prayer Tree prayer.

CARE CARDS this week are for our **EMANUEL'S DAY SCHOOL TEACHERS** as they prepare for a new school year. Send your encouraging notes to the church and we will forward them in a big bundle. Emanuel's Lutheran Church, ATTN: ELDS TEACHERS, 206 N. Travis St., Seguin, TX 78155.

OFFICE STAFF continues to work remotely. Staff may be in the office as needed or by appointment Mondays through Thursdays from 8-5. Everyone is still accessible by email and phone messages are checked daily. Don't forget to wear a mask on the church campus.

Resilience and Gratitude

By Pastor Darwin

To help us navigate these challenging times Emanuel's Lutheran Church offers an opportunity to reflect on what this means for us as individuals and as a faith community. This is the second of a 3-part series from Pastor Darwin Huartson, emphasizing how we can best take care of ourselves and each other during these challenging COVID-19 days.

I am grateful for technology that allows us to stay connected especially these days that we are confined at home. I want to start my conversation with you today by telling you a little about myself. I was number four out of five children, grew up on a farm in Northern Minnesota near the Canadian border. Before leaving for school every morning we all had chores to do including milking cows, feeding turkeys, and hauling hay bales.

A defining memory of those formative years was my father's farm accident. He suffered major trauma to his head, when he was run over by a tractor resulting in the loss of sight on one eye, and ability to hear only on one ear. After a long recovery and being dependent on neighbors and friends, he was able to return to work full time on the farm. His resiliency was revealed in many ways including finding himself as an avid hunter back in the deer blind. When he was asked "how can you hunt with only one eye." He would grin and say, it's easier for me to focus now, "I don't have to close the other eye."

As I think back to that experience, I see how his humor revealed his ability to surrender to his losses. My father's world changed drastically, however, he was able to adapt and adjust. He acknowledged his losses and kept moving forward. As human beings. as part of our DNA, we have an inherent drive to recover and move forward. As Lutheran Christians our faith helps us be resilient. Our understanding of baptism teaches us that since we are united to Christ in his death and resurrection, we are also raised with him in new life.

I know that many of you have similar stories of when and where your faith gave you the ability to cope in the midst of things you didn't comprehend or understand. That new life (our faith) gives courage and resilience to adapt and adjust to life circumstances, whatever they may be.

And being resilient doesn't mean we have to grit and bear life's difficulties by ourselves. Actually just the opposite—as members of the body of Christ ... we are called to give and receive support to each other. Our COVID mission statement, *No Gathering at the Church, but the Church Still Gathers* captures what it means to be a resilient.

Covid-19 creates feelings of stress, anxiety, and sadness. During these challenging times we need to take care of each other and that starts with taking care of ourselves How do we do that? Here are some things to consider.

- Pay attention to your feelings
- Name your losses, large or small
- Allow yourself to feel sadness and cry
- Allow yourself to process your feelings ... talk it out, walk it out ... write it out ... LET IT OUT
- Stay connected with others ... physical distancing doesn't mean social distancing
- Reach out ... ask for help but also reach out and support others
- Consider keeping a journal

Recently my sister was discharged from the hospital after an emergency surgery. When she returned home she started writing down 2-3 things a day that she was grateful for. Some days it was big things, other days it was simple things being grateful for a cup of coffee and or a telephone call from her granddaughter. After keeping this journal for several weeks, she soon realized that it was helping her feel less anxious and more centered. She also re-discovered was that her faith, family, and friends were ever so important.

So, here is my gratitude challenge. Create a journal or simply write down on a piece of paper each day, two or three things (big and small) that you are grateful. See what happens ... my hunch and hope is that you too find strength and insight for your journey.