**October 1st, 2023 The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost – Email/At Home Missal**

**The ZOOM link for today’s service, which opens at 9.30 am on October 1st, 2023, can be found here:**

**Sunday Worship October 1st, 2023 09:30 am ZOOM room opens; service begins at 10:00 am.**

**Join Zoom Meeting click here:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83858523329?pwd=UUpVdCtkTDB0MWhTVkhjSmxvWjFnUT09>**

**Meeting ID: 838 5852 3329 Passcode: 629887**

**You don’t have to have a computer or internet to connect to any of our church Zoom services; you can also just call in on one of these numbers (long distance charges may apply): (All Canadian numbers). You can also access the ZOOM from your telephone by using the “One tap mobile” option:**

**+12042727920,,83858523329#,,,,\*629887# Canada**

**+14388097799,,83858523329#,,,,\*629887# Canada**

**Dial by your location:**

**+1 778 907 2071 Canada**

**+1 780 666 0144 Canada**

**+1 204 272 7920 Canada
+1 438 809 7799 Canada**

**+1 587 328 1099 Canada**

**+1 647 374 4685 Canada
+1 647 558 0588 Canada**

**Meeting ID: 838 5852 3329 Passcode: 629887**

**Find your local number:** [**https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kz0pHIt5i**](https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kz0pHIt5i)

**……………………………………….**

**IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 1st, 2023:**

**Here is the YouTube link for the service from last Sunday, September 24th, 2023:** [**https://youtu.be/dXK7FCVHub8**](https://youtu.be/dXK7FCVHub8)

**………………………………….**

**Coming Events** *(save these dates)*

**Oct. 3 Weekly Bible Study**

 **Book Study: Our Home and Treaty Land**

Personal Care Clinic *(9 – Noon appointment only)* – Trillium United Church

Oct. 6 Climate Emergency Vigil – Waterloo Square at 8:00 pm

Oct. 8 Thanksgiving Worship & Food Drive *(You are invited bring an item which is or represents something for which you are*

 *thankful for. It could be a photo of a family or a favourite place, a treasured item*

 *of clothing, a trinket or knick-knack, a book or gift you received)*

Oct. 19 Trillium United Church Women Fall Luncheon 11:30 am – 1:00 pm

**Oct. 21 St. Peter’s and the Cambridge Symphony Orchestra 7:00 pm**

Nov. 4 Worship followed by fellowship time *(remember a loved one who has passed away since Nov. 5, 2022, please sign*

 *their name on the list on the table in the narthex. You are also invited to bring*

 *a photo of them to be placed in a special display.)*

Nov. 5 All Saints Sunday followed by fellowship time

Nov. 18 Christmas Bazaar

**Dec. 8 Charles Dickens’ A Christmas Carol**

**Dec. 17 Pulled Pork Lunch & Silent Auction following Worship**

 ***bold print indicates that the events are being held here at St. Peter’s***

**The Life of St. Peter’s for the week of Oct 1st to Oct. 8th, 2023**

Monday 6:00 pm TOPS - R.F.F. *(Art Room)*

 7:15 pm Church Council Meeting *(Scout Room)*

Tuesday 3:00 pm Bible Study *(Art Room)*

 7:00 pm Scouts - R.F.F. *(Scout Room, Art Room, Fellowship Hall)*

 7:15 pm Book Study *(Parlour)*

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday 9:00 am Windjammers Rehearsal *(Sanctuary)*

 **1:30 pm Choir Practice** *(Sanctuary)*

Sunday **10:00 pm Worship Service** - A passage **fromExodus 1:8-14 [1:15—2:10]; 3:1-15*.*** *(Israel is in slavery*

 *and calls for help God calls Moses to bring release).*

 *(R.F.F. – Request for Facilities)*

**Pastoral Visits:** Pastor Laura is available for visits by appointment by calling the church office, 519-653-

4721. Whether you have a particular pastoral concern or would just like some one-to-one time to get know

Pastor Laura, she would love to meet with you.

**……………………………..**

Help us support the **Cambridge Food Bank** by bringing a canned good or non-perishable item to church with you. We have a collection basket in the narthex, and every donation helps enable the food bank to ensure that no one in our community goes hungry. We appreciate and thank you for your help in filling the basket as there is a very real and urgent need.

**……………………………..**

**Book Study**: **Our Home and Treaty Land** **During the month of October** - “Tuesday October 3, 10 & 17 at 7:15, and Wednesday October 25 at 7:00” the church. Pastor Laura will be leading a group study for the book “Our Home and Treaty Land: Walking Our Creation Story” by Ray Aldred and Matthew Anderson. A limited number of copies are available for purchase from the church office ($10/each). To express your interest, please sign up on the sheet in the narthex. To purchase a copy of the book please contact the church office at 519-653-4721.

**……………………………..**

**St. Peter’s and the Cambridge Symphony Orchestra:** St. Peter’s, is pleased to host two concerts by the Cambridge Symphony Orchestra during their 2023/2024 season! The first concert will be held: **Saturday October 21, 2023 7:00 PM Cambridge.** Symphony Orchestra Masterworks I with Ken Gee, Piano

**……………………………..**

**Start your Thanksgiving Shopping at St. Peter's:**

**ESTA Premium Truffles** $9.00 / Fifteen (15) assorted Truffles

**Pine Hill Wildflower Honey** $9.00 / 500 gram or $17.00 / 1000 gram;

**Snyder Heritage Farms** Organic Maple Syrup $23.00 / 1 Litre Mason Jar

Please contact Alex Black or St. Peter's office 519-653-4721 to place an order.

**……………………………..**

**Grand Opening Social Event**: Thursday, November 16, 6:30-8:30 PM, St. Mark’s Place (825 King Street West, Kitchener). Parking onsite is limited, however there is paid parking available in the surrounding neighbourhood. The evening will include hors d’oeuvres, conversation and a program at 7:00 pm. Tours of model suites will also be available that evening. While the event is free, we ask that you **RSVP by November 8** so we can anticipate attendance.

**Bible Study**: Join us for **Bible Study** on Tuesdays, beginning October 3rd, 2023 at 3:00 pm with Pastor Laura Sauder. St. Peter’s Lutheran Church *(ring the buzzer at the backdoor).* Everyone is Welcome!

**……………………………..**

**All Saints Sunday – November 5th, 2023** – a time when we remember those who have gone before us. Your loved one need not have been a congregational member to be included in our remembrances. A candle will be lit in their memory during the regular worship service. You are also invited and encouraged to bring or send a photo of a loved one to be placed in a special display. The photo can be of anyone, whether they died last year or longer ago. These precious souls remain in our hearts. Please sign their name on the list, or call the church office at 519-653-4721.

**……………………………..**

**Presiding Pastor: Rev. Laura Sauder**

**Organist & Director of Music: Bradley Moggach**

**Assisting Minister: Kim Strassburger**

**Reader: Helga Morrison**

**Welcome remarks & Land Acknowledgement**

**Call to Worship:**

***Congregational Response: We praise you for your glory***

P: Let us awaken our hearts to the presence of God, saying,

P: God before us, behind us, above us, upholding us…

P: God with us, among us, beside us, befriending us…

P: God within us, flowing through us, animating, harmonizing…

*Source: Brian D. McLaren, We Make the Road by Walking. Jericho Books: NY, 2014. Appendix I.*

**Gathering Hymn: ELW # 524 ‘What Is This Place’**

1 What is this place where we are meeting?

 Only a house, the earth its floor.

 Walls and a roof sheltering people,

 windows for light, an open door.

 Yet it becomes a body that lives

 when we are gathered here,

 and know our God is near.

2 Words from afar, stars that are falling,

 sparks that are sown in us like seed:

 names for our God, dreams, signs, and wonders

 sent from the past are all we need.

 We in this place remember and speak

 again what we have heard:

 God's free redeeming word.

3 And we accept bread at this table,

 broken and shared, a living sign.

 Here in this world, dying and living,

 we are each other's bread and wine.

 This is the place where we can receive

 what we need to increase:

 our justice and God's peace.

*(Title: What Is This Place; Text: Huub Oosterhuis, b. 1933; tr. David Smith, b. 1933; Text © 1984 TEAM Publications, admin. OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Music: A. Valerius, Nederlandrsch Gedenckclanck, 1626; arr. Adrian Engels, b. 1906; arr. © 1984 TEAM Publications, admin. OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved. Used by permission.Reprinted and Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-727610. All rights reserved.)*

**Greeting**:

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

**Prayer of Gratitude**

**Theme Time**

**Prayer of the Day**:

God of deliverance, you called Moses to be your hands, feet, and voice in a troubled world. Teach us how to work, walk, and speak your word in a troubled world. **Amen.**

 *(by Kimberly Leetch - source: http://www. narrativelectionary.org)*

**Acclamation: ACS # 973 ‘The Word Who Sang the Light into Creation’**

1 The Word who sang the light into creation,

 who spoke to all through prophet voices bold

 the warning cry, the promise of salvation,

 shines ever as of old.

2 The Word is like the bush forever burning;

 the Word pours down like showers on the land;

 the Word is like the sun, our faces warming:

 God's power till the end.

3 The Word came down to earth when all was ready,

 made our time, made our space a dwelling place.

 The Word who sheltered near the heart of Mary

 brings us to birth in grace.

4 The Word of God is not an empty shadow,

 but flesh and blood, like us, in us to live,

 to laugh and weep with us in joy and sorrow,

 to know us, yet forgive.

5 O Word, you are the "Yes" of all God's promise:

 "Amen!" we shout; in you our faith is sure.

 Oh, lead us to the light of God's own presence,

 to life forevermore.

*(Title:**The Word Who Sang the Light into Creation; Text: Alberto Taulé, 1932–2007; tr. Martin A. Seltz, b. 1951; © 1982, 2000 Alberto Taulé. Published by OCP, 5536 N. Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Music:**Alberto Taulé, 1932–2007; © 1982, 2000 Alberto Taulé. Published by OCP, 5536 N. Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved. Used by permission. # 97384; Reprinted and Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-727610. All rights reserved.)*

**Reader**:

A passage from **Exodus 3:1-15**. May we be equipped by these words to walk in love for God, ourselves, our neighbours, all people, and all God’s creation. **(Brief pause)**

Moses was taking care of the flock for his father-in-law Jethro, Midian’s priest. He led his flock out to the edge of the desert, and he came to God’s mountain called Horeb. The Lord’s messenger appeared to him in a flame of fire in the middle of a bush. Moses saw that the bush was in flames, but it didn’t burn up. Then Moses said to himself, Let me check out this amazing sight and find out why the bush isn’t burning up.

When the Lord saw that he was coming to look, God called to him out of the bush, “Moses, Moses!”

Moses said, “I’m here.”

Then the Lord said, “Don’t come any closer! Take off your sandals, because you are standing on holy ground.” He continued, “I am the God of your father, Abraham’s God, Isaac’s God, and Jacob’s God.” Moses hid his face because he was afraid to look at God.

Then the Lord said, “I’ve clearly seen my people oppressed in Egypt. I’ve heard their cry of injustice because of their slave masters. I know about their pain. I’ve come down to rescue them from the Egyptians in order to take them out of that land and bring them to a good and broad land, a land that’s full of milk and honey, a place where the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites all live. Now the Israelites’ cries of injustice have reached me. I’ve seen just how much the Egyptians have oppressed them. So get going. I’m sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt.”

But Moses said to God, “Who am I to go to Pharaoh and to bring the Israelites out of Egypt?”

God said, “I’ll be with you. And this will show you that I’m the one who sent you. After you bring the people out of Egypt, you will come back here and worship God on this mountain.”

But Moses said to God, “If I now come to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,’ they are going to ask me, ‘What’s this God’s name?’ What am I supposed to say to them?”

God said to Moses, “I Am Who I Am. So say to the Israelites, ‘I Am has sent me to you.’” God continued, “Say to the Israelites, ‘The Lord, the God of your ancestors, Abraham’s God, Isaac’s God, and Jacob’s God, has sent me to you.’ This is my name forever; this is how all generations will remember me. (CEB)

The Living God is with us. **C: And with all creation! Thanks be to God.**

**Engaging with the Story**

**Exodus 3:1-15**

It’s been some 500 years since God first made that promise to Abraham and Sarah that their descendants would number the stars, and that promise has now come true. Their descendants, who now live in Egypt after traveling there in Jacob’s day to seek relief from a famine, are now so strong in numbers that the Pharaoh is afraid of them. And out of this fear, he’s decided that he’d better try controlling them. So he enslaves them. But the more the people are oppressed, the more they grow in number. Which causes Pharoah to take even more drastic measures. He commands the midwives to kill any baby boys that are born. And when that doesn’t work (because the midwives subversively refuse to participate in this plan), the Pharaoh orders all the baby boys to be thrown into the river. This is the world that Moses is born into. A world of fear, danger, oppression, and injustice.

The only thing Moses’ mother can think to do is to put her precious child in a basket in the river. A dangerous option, but this act of faith saves Moses’ life. The Pharaoh’s daughter, of all people, happens upon his basket and decides to raise him as her own – all the while knowing that he is one of the babies her father wants gone.

A Hebrew living in Pharaoh’s palace, Moses walks in both worlds. While he enjoys the privileges of living with the Pharoah and his family, he is always Hebrew at heart. Which is why, when out for a walk one day, he can’t stand by when he sees an Egyptian beating a Hebrew. After taking a quick look around to make sure no one else is there, he kills the Egyptian and hides his body in the sand. Even though there were no witnesses, Moses fears for his life, and so he runs away to Midian. He gets married and settles into a quiet life as a shepherd. Far away from the problems he left behind in Egypt.

Moses’ origin story is a reminder to us that none of us get to choose the circumstances we’re born into. Certainly, if it were up to us, we’d have some suggestions and requests for God. Because we know just how inequitable the world is. No one chooses to be in a place of disadvantage. Like Moses, we also inherit a history that we didn’t write, but that impacts our present reality in countless ways. Like the history and ongoing impacts of colonization here in Canada.

Our church, The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, is a historically immigrant church. Our congregations were established by immigrants from Germany, Eastern Europe, and the Nordic countries who settled in this land. ‘Settlers’ is a word that can be challenging for us. In the book “Our Home and Treaty Land,” Pastor Matthew Anderson writes, “Some Canadians don’t like [that] term. But it’s accurate. A useful definition of a settler is someone whose uninvited arrival means the assimilation or removal of those first living in that place. Migrants come to an existing political system and try to fit in; settler colonists are part of creating and maintaining a new state.”1 All of us, unless we are indigenous, are settlers on this land.

It's hard and painful work to confront the legacy of colonialism in this country, AND the ways it continues to perpetuate inequality and injustice today. Because this isn’t just something that happened in the past. It continues today in the ways that indigenous communities don’t have the same access to education or clean water. It continues in the way that indigenous communities don’t have title and ownership of so much of their traditional territory, and the wealth that goes along with owning that land. It continues in the inter-generational trauma brought on by the dehumanization of indigenous peoples through the residential schools and the Indian Act and the countless other ways we tried to erase and silence indigenous culture and language.

As settlers, we have the privilege of ignoring these things, if we so choose. But as Christians, God calls us to notice, to pay attention, and respond. Not unlike the way God reached out to Moses in the wilderness of Midian.

Moses was just minding his own business, tending to his sheep, when a fire catches his eye. A burning bush would have been enough of something to take note of. But Moses notices that this particular fire is unusual. It’s not burning up the bush. So he decides to take a closer look. A split second decision that turns his life upside down.

Because of course this is no ordinary fire. This is God – I AM WHO I AM – with a message for Moses. God has heard the Israelites’ cries for liberation and freedom, and God is ready to do something about it. Or rather, God is ready to have Moses do something about it. Moses, who would most certainly rather go almost anywhere than back to the land from which he fled as a fugitive. But God promises to be with him, and help him along the way.

As we reflect on this story in light of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, may we hear an invitation to (like Moses) practice the art of noticing and responding. To pay attention to the burning bushes calling our country toward justice – like the residential school survivors who’ve fought courageously and tirelessly for recognition and reparation.

We want to seek to have what Brian McLaren calls “Moses Eyes.” To be on the lookout for people who are being oppressed or mistreated.2 But in this instance, we are not the ones to do the liberating or the leading. Within indigenous communities, wise, strong, and courageous leaders have been raised up to bring healing, to regain language and culture, and to call for reparations. Our place, as settlers, is to listen, learn, and then respond by coming alongside of indigenous communities in their work for justice, reparations, and equal treatment. To help build a country where every child really does matter.

Because if one thing is clear from this burning bush moment in the Midian wilderness, injustice and inequality and dehumanization are not part of God’s vision for our world. I AM WHO I AM desires liberation and freedom for every one of us, and without equality, there is no true freedom for any of us.

Please pray with me,

Faithful God,

We remember the many, many Indigenous children who did not return from residential school. Grant comfort in the midst of grief and trauma. Renew our commitment to the journey of truth-telling, mourning, and responsibility, and guide us in the ways of healing and love. AMEN3

*1 Our Home and Treaty Land, page 16.*

*2 Brian McLaren. We Make the Road By Walking, 40.*

*3 Source for prayer: https://elcic.ca/2023/09/28/september-30-is-national-day-for-truth-and-reconciliation*

**Hymn of the Day: ACS # 948 ‘Womb of Life and Source of Being’ (tune from ELW # 631)**

1 Womb of life and source of being,

 home of ev'ry restless heart,

 in your arms the worlds awakened;

 you have loved us from the start.

 We, your children, gather round you,

 at the table you prepare.

 Sharing stories, tears, and laughter,

 we are nurtured by your care.

2 Word in flesh, our brother Jesus,

 born to bring us second birth,

 you have come to stand beside us,

 knowing weakness, knowing earth.

 Priest who shares our human struggles,

 Life of life and Death of death,

 risen Christ, come stand among us,

 send the Spirit by your breath.

3 Brooding Spirit, move among us;

 be our partner, be our friend.

 When our mem'ry fails, remind us

 whose we are, what we intend.

 Labor with us; aid the birthing

 of the new world yet to be,

 free of servant, lord, and master,

 free for love and unity.

4 Mother, Brother, holy Partner;

 Father, Spirit, Only Son:

 we would praise your name forever,

 One-in-Three and Three-in-One.

 We would share your life, your passion,

 share your word of world made new,

 ever singing, ever praising,

 one with all, and one with you.

 *(Title:**Womb of Life and Source of Being; Text: Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947; Text © 1992 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Music: Rowland H. Prichard, 1811-1887. Public Domain; Reprinted and Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-727610. All rights reserved.)*

**Prayers of Intercession:**

A:Remembering the caring and generous works of God, we pray for the church, creation, and the needs of our neighbors.

A brief silence.

We put our trust in you as we pray for the church. Give us and our leaders the gifts of wisdom and discernment. Be with us in bold truth and faithful witness. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

Lead us in your truth as we pray for creation. Empower us to look to the interests of others as we make choices that impact the environment. Summon us to be advocates for healthy waterways, habitats, and air. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

Lead us in justice as we pray for truth and reconciliation to take root and grow in this land. We pray for all survivors of residential schools and their families. Grow in our hearts a commitment to work for freedom, equality, and justice for and with the indigenous peoples and communities who call Turtle Island home. May we learn from their leadership, witness and wisdom. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

Trusting your goodness, we pray for all caregivers and people who are sick or suffering in any way especially those on our prayer list Bill, Don, Tammy, Alice, Don, Lynn, Helen, Sharon, Donald, Shirley, Clara, Carol, Jeff, Aaron, Mackenzie, Rhett, Linda, Jan, Ken, Robin, Lee, Maria, Deborah, Fred, Anne; and those we name aloud or in the silence of our hearts….. Give them encouragement and consolation in your presence. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

Teach us your paths as we pray for this congregation. Be at work in us and unite us in your love as we labor together for the sake of the gospel, discerning together what new thing you are calling us to. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

We pray for our siblings in Christ. For the people of King St. Baptist Church and their pastor Dorin Seicaru. For the people of St Paul’s Lutheran Church in Cambridge and their pastor Stephen Weber. Bless them in their ministry and unite us in our mission to serve your world. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

We pray and give thanks for all those who have hosted coffee hour this year, including today. The time to gather for conversation and community means so much, and it’s always better with refreshments. Bless those who are able and do take on this task. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

Remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer these and the prayers of our heart, trusting in your compassion made known through Jesus Christ.

**Amen.\***

**Share the peace of Christ:**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

**Offering**

**Offering Hymn: ELW # 692 ‘We Are an Offering’**

**Chorus 1**

We lift our voices

We lift our hands

We lift our lives up to You

We are an offering

Lord use our voices

Lord use our hands

Lord use our lives they are Yours

We are an offering

**Bridge**

All that we have

All that we are

All that we hope to be

We give to You

We give to You

**Chorus 2**

We lift our voices

We lift our hands

We lift our lives up to You

We are an offering

We are an offering

*(Title: We Are an Offering; Text & Music: Dwight Liles, b. 1957; © 1984 Word Music, LLC. All rights reserved. Used By Permission. # 16220*

*Reprinted and Streamed with permission under CCLI, License # 11098609. All rights reserved.)*

**Offering Prayer:**

A: God of power, God of plenty,

all things belong to you.

We bring your gifts to the table,

that all might be fed.

Form us into the body of your Beloved,

Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**Amen.\***

**Meal: Click here for the communion liturgy from worship on YouTube:**

[**https://youtu.be/ViXmTzRsfU4**](https://youtu.be/ViXmTzRsfU4)

**Great Thanksgiving: ACS Setting 12: ‘Dialogue…’ (page 36) (spoken)**

The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **C: We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **C: It is right to give our thanks and praise**

**ELW Setting 8: ‘Preface…’ *(Sundays)***

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:

**ELW Setting 8: ‘Holy, Holy, Holy…’ *(page 190 )***

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,**

**God of pow’r and might,**

**heaven and earth are full of your glory, full of your glory.**

**Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**\*

**Thanksgiving at the Table:**

On the night before he showed us the full extent of his love,

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.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**The Lord’s Prayer:**

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:**

This is Christ’s table. All are welcome here to receive God’s abundant gifts of love, mercy, grace, and forgiveness.

I invite those at home, and those in the building communing by fellowship cup, to take your bread or cracker as we say together, “The body of Christ, given for us.”

And, as we take our cup we say, “The blood of Christ, shed for us.”

**Communion Music: ELW Setting 8 - Lamb of God *(page 187)***

**ELW # 818 ‘O Master, Let Me Walk with You’**

**ELW Setting 8 - Lamb of God *(page 187)***

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;**

**have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;**

**have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;**

**grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.\***

*(From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2023 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.)*

**ELW # 818 ‘O Master, Let Me Walk with You’**

1 O Master, let me walk with you

 in lowly paths of service true;

 tell me your secret; help me bear

 the strain of toil, the fret of care.

2 Help me the slow of heart to move

 by some clear, winning word of love;

 teach me the wayward feet to stay,

 and guide them in the homeward way.

3 Teach me your patience; share with me

 a closer, dearer company,

 in work that keeps faith sweet and strong,

 in trust that triumphs over wrong,

4 In hope that sends a shining ray

 far down the future's broad'ning way,

 in peace that only you can give;

 with you, O Master, let me live.

*(Title: O Master, Let Me Walk with You; Text: Text: Washington Gladden, 1836-1918, alt.; Public Domain; Music: H. Percy Smith, 1825-1898; Public Domain; Reprinted and Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-727610. All rights reserved.)*

P: May the body and blood of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ strengthen you, and keep you, in his grace.

***C: Amen.***

**Prayer after Communion:**

A: Blessed be your name, O God,

for we have feasted on your Word,

Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts.

Strengthened by this food,

send us to gather the world to your banquet,

where none are left out and all are satisfied.

In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.\*

**Blessing:**

Oh God, may we receive your blessing,

through sharing your blessings beyond borders.

May we receive your gifts,

from those who carry nothing.

May we recognize you,

in people we do not know

and may we all find a safe home and peace in you

who had no place to lay your head.\*

The God of all grace + bless us now and forever.

Amen

*\*Source: Claudio Carvalhaes, “Liturgies from Below.” Page 47.*

**Sending Hymn: ACS # 985 ‘Let Us Enter In’**

1 Let us enter in to the song of thanksgiving and freedom.

 Let us enter in to the long line of people in need.

 Let us enter in to the strong mind that God is still living.

 Healing, forgiving—Let us enter in.

2 Let us enter in to the place where our God has preceded.

 Let us enter in to the face of the fear and the pain.

 Let us enter in to the grace of the love when it's needed.

 Death is defeated! Let us enter in.

3 Let us enter in to the heart of a world that is broken.

 Let us enter in to the start of a hope we can share.

 Let us enter in to the part where we call one another

 sister and brother. Let us enter in.

 *(Title: Let Us Enter In; Text & Music: Ray Makeever, b. 1943; Text & Music © 1983 Ray Makeever, admin. Augsburg Fortress; All rights reserved. Used by permission # 11030; Music: John B. Dykes, 1823-1846; Public Domain; Reprinted and Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-727610. All rights reserved.)*

**Dismissal:**

P: We are a community /

Of learners and seekers /

Alive in God’s story of creation.

A: Let us go forth in joy and peace to love and serve God and our neighbours.

***C: Thanks be to God.\****

*\*From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2023 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License # 42368. 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.*