

# Lord of the Valley Lutheran Church

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**Ministers:** All God's People

**Pastor:** Brian Bergum

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## ***Tree of Life***

***Saturday, September 5***

### **Welcome and Announcements**

### **Call to Worship – Order of Confession and Forgiveness**

Leader: We worship as we live, in the Grace of God, the Compassion of Jesus Christ, and the Healing Hope of the Holy Spirit.

**ALL: Amen**

Leader: We have come to praise God, who has done wonderful things among us.

**ALL: In Jesus Christ, God has shown us love, giving light for our darkness, and strength for all our days.**

Leader: We come remembering Christ's life and ministry, and the life we are called to live.

**ALL: We come as people yearning, searching for ways to live out our faith. We come, seeking direction and strength to carry on our journey.**

Leader: Come, you are welcome here. Christ is with us, calling us now to life and love.

**ALL: Let us celebrate life. Let us worship God.**

Leader: In Jesus Christ, the Light of God is made known to the world. As we gather we confess to God and to each other the ways in which we deny and refuse to live by the Light of Christ in our lives.

*(A Time of Silence for Personal Reflection and Confess)*

Leader: O God of Radiant Light and Endless Love,

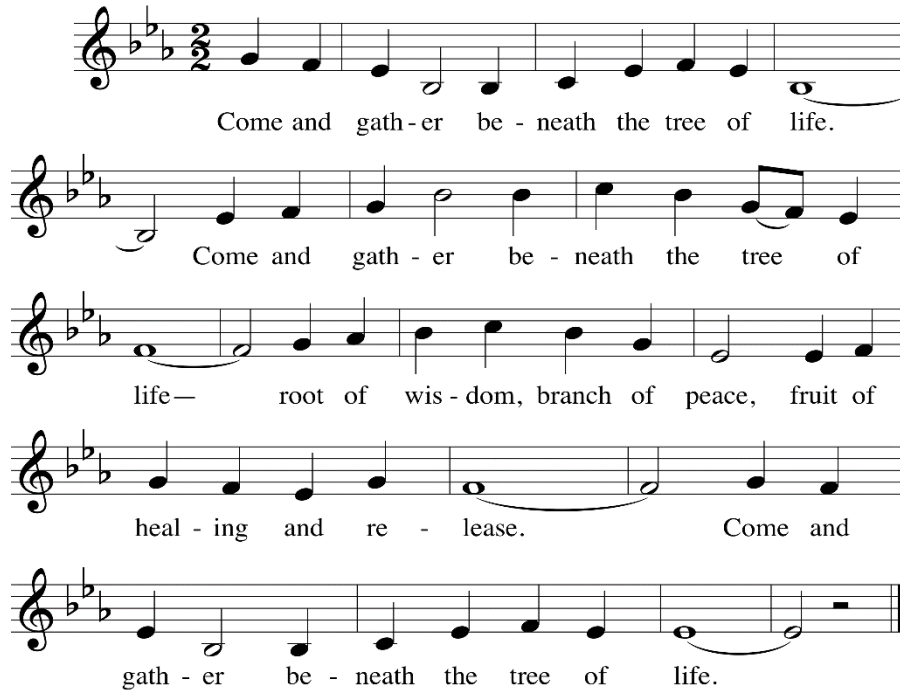
**ALL: We confess to you the truth of our broken lives. We have not trusted your promises or walked in your ways. We have hoarded and squandered the gifts of creation. We have failed to welcome the stranger and the outcast, and make room for those in need. We have neither worked to release the oppressed nor admitted our own captivities. We have failed to let your light shine through us in the world in which we live. Forgive our sin, heal our lives, and set us free, that we might live with your whole creation in joy and hope. Amen**

Leader: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. Upon them, upon us, the light of Christ shines. Fear not! For behold I bring you good news of great joy: God loves you, and in and through this love God forgives you of all your sins. Embrace this day, for God has come to you, to abide in you. Arise! Your Light has come.

**ALL: Amen. Thanks be to God!!!**

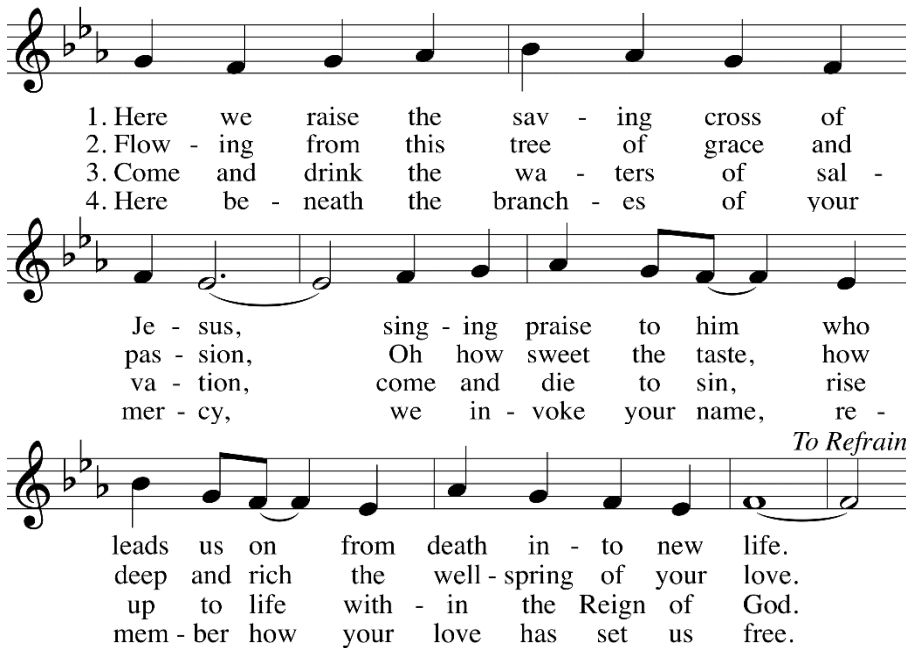
# Gathering Song "Come and Gather Beneath the Tree of Life"

## Refrain



Come and gath - er be - neath the tree of life.  
Come and gath - er be - neath the tree of  
life— root of wis - dom, branch of peace, fruit of  
heal - ing and re - lease. Come and  
gath - er be - neath the tree of life.

## Verses



1. Here we raise the sav - ing cross of  
2. Flow - ing from this tree of grace and  
3. Come and drink the wa - ters of sal -  
4. Here be - neath the branch - es of your  
Je - sus, sing - ing praise to him who  
pas - sion, Oh how sweet the taste, how  
va - tion, come and die to sin, rise  
mer - cy, we in - voke your name, re -  
*To Refrain*  
leads us on from death in - to new life.  
deep and rich the well - spring of your love.  
up to life with - in the Reign of God.  
mem - ber how your love has set us free.

Leader: The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God, and the Communion of the Holy Spirit be with you always.

**ALL: And also with you.**

### Kyrie



☐ In peace, let us pray to the Lord:



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



Lord, have mer - cy, mer - cy on us all. ☐ 1. For the  
☐ 2. For your



reign of God, and for peace through - out the  
peo - ple here who have come to give you



world, for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the  
thanks, for the strength to live your word, let us pray to the



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



☐ Help, save, and de -  
Lord, have mer - cy, mer - cy on us all.

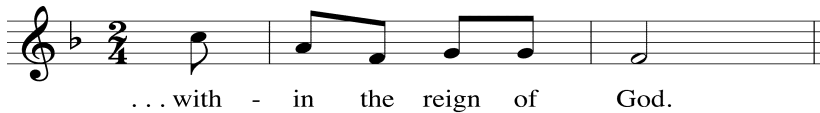


fend us, O God: ☑ A - men.

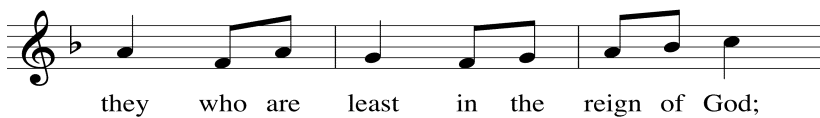
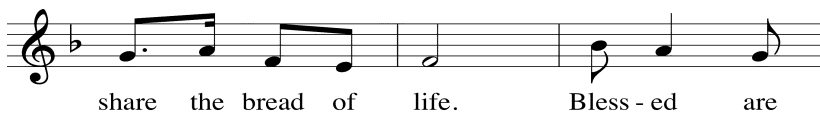
## Song of Praise "Within the Reign of God"

(The congregation sings the verse response and the refrain)

### Verse Response



### Refrain



**Verse:** Come now, the feast is spread; in Jesus' name we break the bread,  
Here shall we all be fed, **WITHIN THE REIGN OF GOD**  
All you who seek God's face are welcome in this holy place;  
Join in the feast of grace, **WITHIN THE REIGN OF GOD**  
(Refrain)

**Verse:** Welcome the weak and poor, the sinner finds an open door,  
None judged, and none ignored **WITHIN THE REIGN OF GOD**  
Here shall the weary rest, the stranger be a welcome guest.  
So shall we all be blest, **WITHIN THE REIGN OF GOD**  
(Refrain)

**Verse:** One earth, one holy band, one family as our God has planned,  
All share the promised land, **WITHIN THE REIGN OF GOD**  
Come now, the feast is spread, in Jesus' name we break the bread;  
Here shall we all be fed, **WITHIN THE REIGN OF GOD**  
(Refrain)

## Prayer of the Day

P) The Lord be with you.

**C) And also with you.**

P) O Lord God,

**C) enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## Scripture Readings

## Sermon

## Affirmation of Faith

**We believe in God, the Creator, who moved upon the face of the deep at the beginning of creation, who created all that is, all that will be, who spoke through the prophets of old.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ, into whom God's Spirit was poured in fullness and power, that the whole creation might be restored, healed and unified; and who promised that the Spirit would come and fill the faithful with power to witness to the mighty love of God.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, who breathes within us the breath of God. We wait on the Spirit today with longing hearts, seeking to be empowered to witness to God's love in Christ, with fresh and courageous actions of love and hope. Amen.**

## Prayers of the People

## Holy Communion

Lord remember us in your love and teach us to pray:

**C) 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**

## Dismissal