

# Lord of the Valley Lutheran Church

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**Ministers:** All God's People

**Pastor:** Brian Bergum

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## LOTV Worship with Holy Communion

Sunday, August 13, 2023 Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

### Announcements

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

Leader: We worship as we live, in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

**ALL: Amen**

Leader: Come let us worship God, the Source of love and life, who creates us and all things.

**All: Come let us worship God, who came to us in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh, the Risen One, who is Immanuel, God with us now and always.**

Leader: Come let us worship God, whose Spirit dwells in our lives and in our world, the Spirit calls, gathers, renews, and sends us out into the world to be witnesses to the love of God.

**All: To the One true God, Father-Son-and Holy Spirit, be praise in all times and in all places.**

Leader: As we gather to worship God we let go of our fears that keeps us from loving, we put down our masks that hide our true selves. We turn to God seeking forgiveness in our own life and the courage to offer forgiveness to each other.

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

Leader: Most merciful God,

**All: We confess that we are in bondage 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**

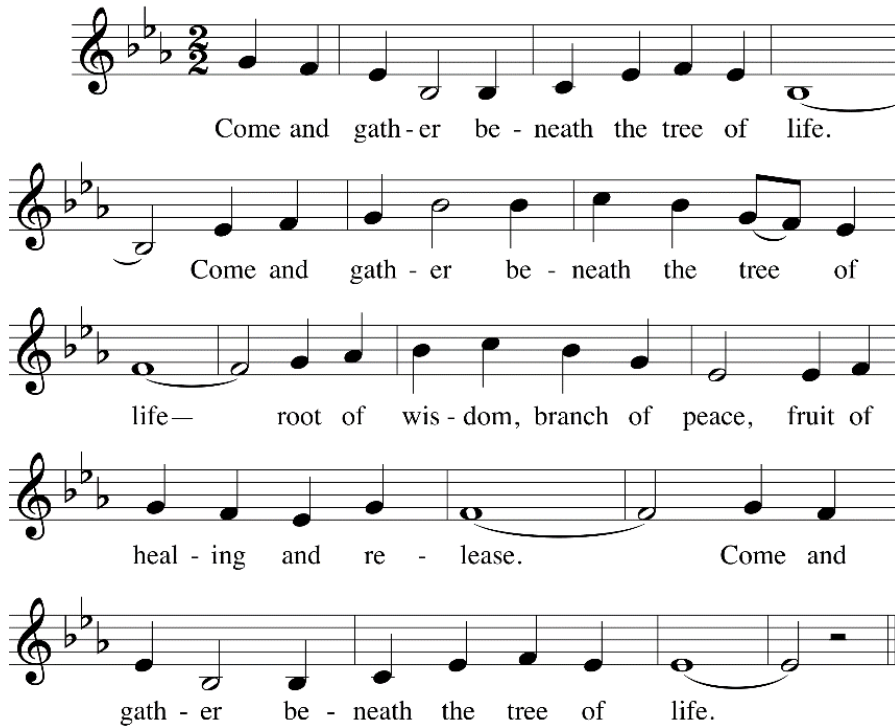
Leader: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake God forgives you all your sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ he gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit.

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

# Tree of Life

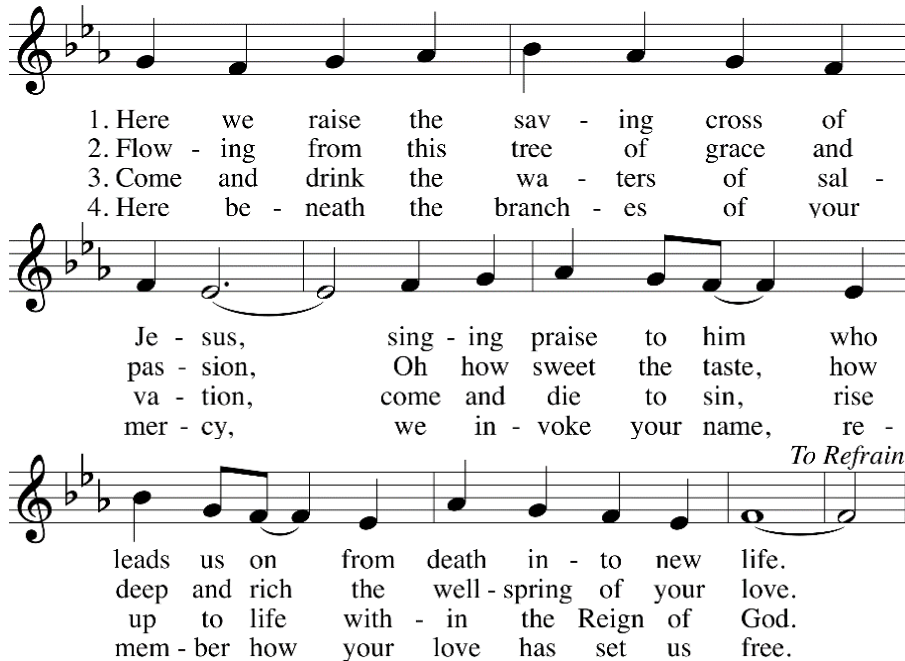
## Gathering Song "Come and Gather Beneath the Tree of Life"

### 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



**A** In peace, let us pray to the Lord:



**C** Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy, mer - cy on us all. **A** 1. For the  
**A** 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: **C** Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.



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

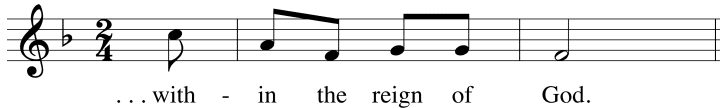


fend us, O God: **C** A - men.

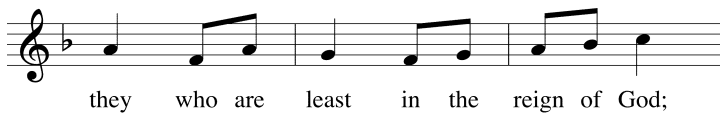
## Song of Praise "Within the Reign of God"

(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

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray,

**All: O God our defender, storms rage around and within us and cause us to be afraid.  
Rescue your people from despair, deliver your sons and daughters from fear, and preserve  
us in the faith of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## Bible Readings

### 1 Kings 19: 9-18

At [Horeb, the mount of God,] [Elijah] came to a cave, and spent the night there.

Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, 'What are you doing here, Elijah?' He answered, 'I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.'

He said, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by.' Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, 'What are you doing here, Elijah?' He answered, 'I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.' Then the LORD said to him, 'Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place. Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill; and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill. Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him.'

### Romans 10: 5-15

Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that 'the person who does these things will live by them.' But the righteousness that comes from faith says, 'Do not say in your heart, "Who will ascend into heaven?" ' (that is, to bring Christ down) 'or "Who will descend into the abyss?" ' (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say?

'The word is near you,

on your lips and in your heart'

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. The scripture says, 'No one who believes in him will be put to shame.' For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For, 'Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, 'How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!'

## Gospel Acclamation

Al - le - lu - ia,

Al - le - lu - ia, Lord, to whom shall we go? For

you have the words, you have the words, the words of e -

ter - nal life, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia.

## Gospel Reading

### Matthew 14: 22-33

[Jesus] made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning he came walking towards them on the lake. But when the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified, saying, 'It is a ghost!' And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, 'Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.'

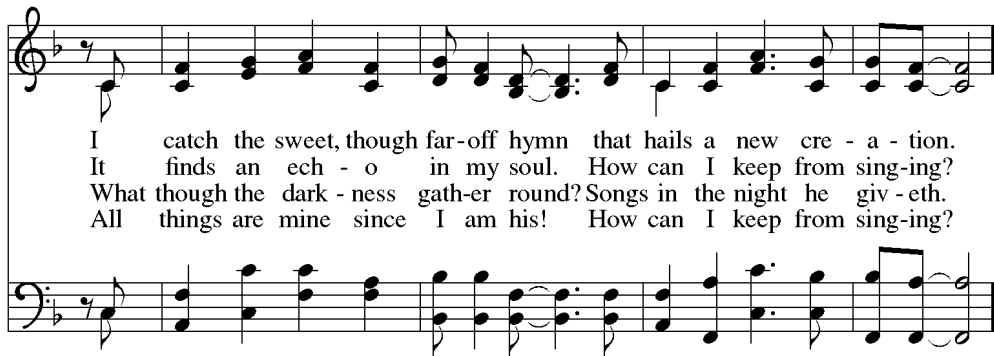
Peter answered him, 'Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.' He said, 'Come.' So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came towards Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, 'Lord, save me!' Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, 'You of little faith, why did you doubt?' When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshipped him, saying, 'Truly you are the Son of God.'

## Sermon

## Sermon Hymn "My Life Flows On in Endless Song"

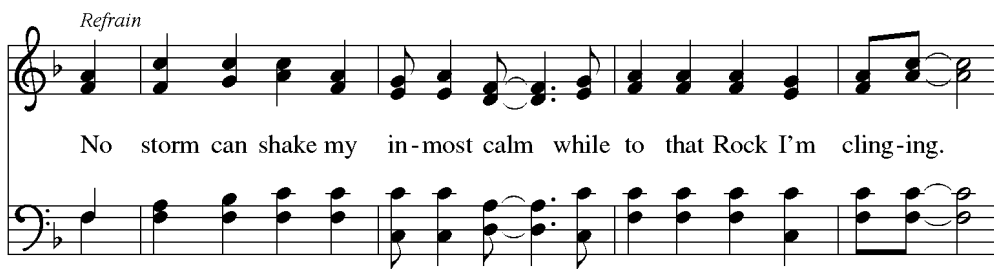


1 My life flows on in end - less song; a - bove earth's lam-en - ta - tion,  
2 Through all the tu - mult and the strife, I hear that mu - sic ring - ing.  
3 What though my joys and com-forts die? The Lord my Sav-ior liv - eth.  
4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun-tain ev - er spring-ing!



I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new cre - a - tion.  
It finds an ech - o in my soul. How can I keep from sing-ing?  
What though the dark - ness gath-er round? Songs in the night he giv - eth.  
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from sing-ing?

*Refrain*



No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm cling-ing.



Since Christ is Lord of heav-en and earth, how can I keep from sing-ing?

## Affirmation of Faith "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 the People

Leader: Hear us O God.

**All: Your mercy is great.**

## Offering / Offertory Prayer

Leader: Let us pray. Merciful God,

**ALL: Everything in heaven and earth belongs to you. We joyfully release what you have entrusted to us. May these gifts be signs of our whole lives returned to you, dedicated to the healing and unity of all creation, through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## The Great Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## Eucharistic Prayer and Words of Institution

Leader: Blessed are you, Holy God, the First and Last, life's Beginning and its End. You called us to live as your people and promised to be our God. When time and again we failed to trust your promise and refused to walk in your ways, you sent your Word made flesh, the root and offspring of David, to dwell among us and draw us back to you.

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 to 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.

Send now your Holy Spirit upon this bread and wine and all who gather at your table. By your Spirit strengthen and enliven us that we might serve all in hunger and want; and make of us the body of your Son, through whom all glory and honor is yours, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, now and forever.

Leader: Lord, remember us in your love and teach us to pray.

**ALL: 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.**



## **Distribution of Communion**

*We invite all who come in faith to the Lord's Table as we celebrate Holy Communion in our worship today. For those who prefer, grape juice and gluten free wafers are available, let the server know as you approach. Those not communing are welcome to come forward for a blessing.*

Leader: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you always in his grace.

**ALL: Amen**

Leader: Life-giving God, in this meal you have bound us to yourself, at this table we have received the very presence of Jesus Christ. Send us now to be what we have received, that all creation might know your love and sing your praise now and always.

**ALL: Amen**

## **Benediction / Sending**

Leader: Go in Peace. Serve the Lord.

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

(With the noted exception, the *Tree of Life* liturgy is written by Marty Haugen. GIA publishing. Copied with permission under license #4395. "*Within the Reign of God*" by Marty Haugen, GIA Publishing.)