

Lord of the Valley Lutheran Church

PO Box 843 Granby, CO 80446

(970)887-9252

Ministers: All God's People

Pastor: Brian Bergum

LOTV Worship with Holy Communion

Sunday, September 10th, 2023 Fifteenth 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

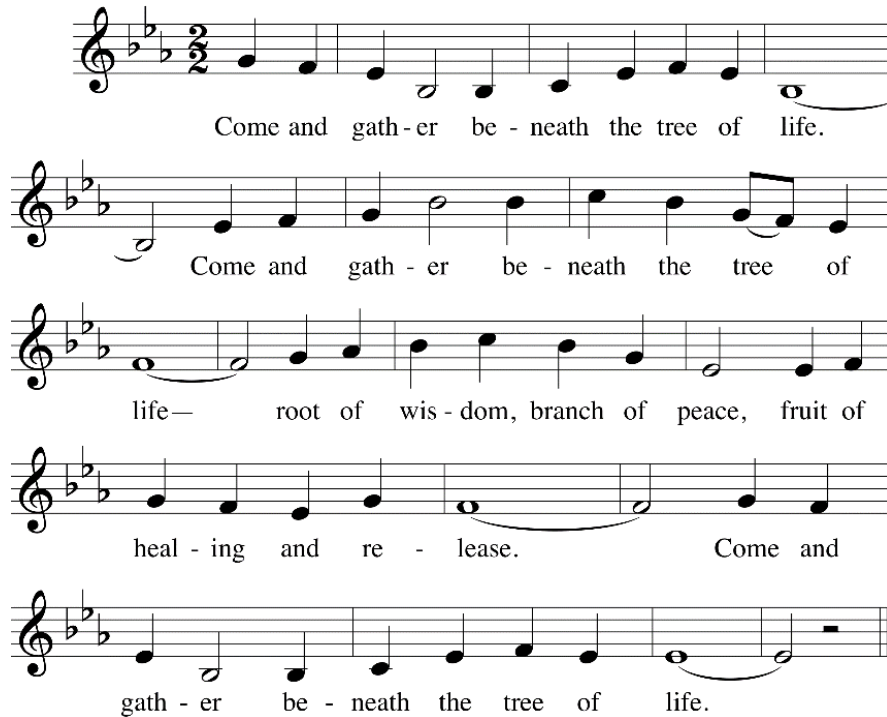
Leader: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake God forgives you all your sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ he gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen. Thanks be to God!

Tree of Life

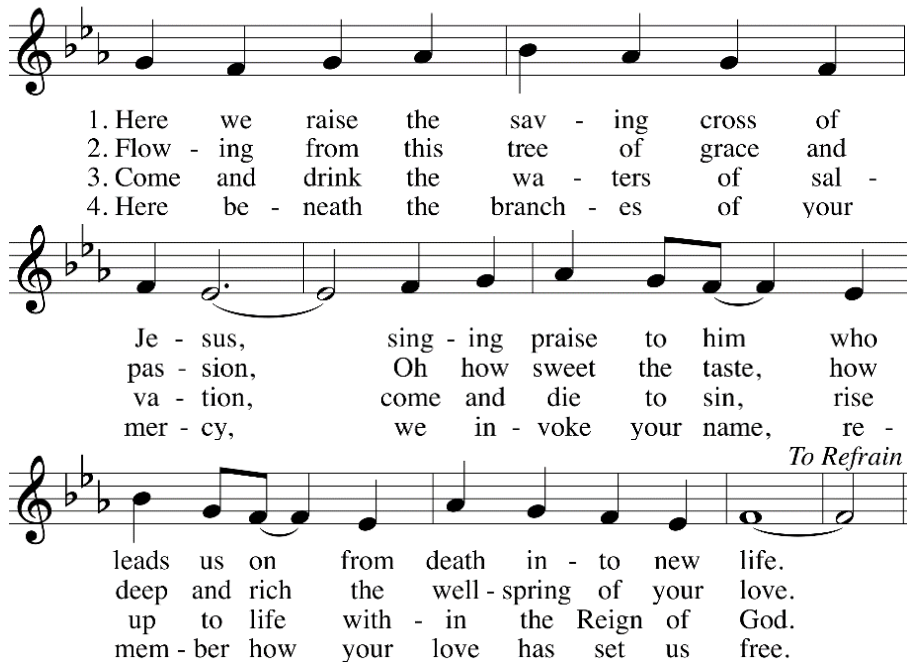
Gathering Song "Come and Gather Beneath the Tree of Life"

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

A Help, save, and de -

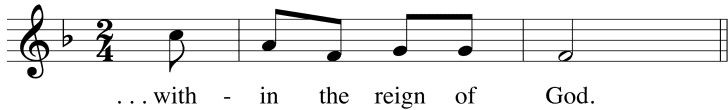
Lord, have mer - cy, mer - cy on us all.

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

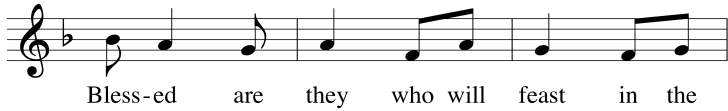
Song of Praise "Within the Reign of God"

(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 Lord God, 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.

Bible Readings

Ezekiel 33: 7-11

So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. If I say to the wicked, 'O wicked ones, you shall surely die', and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: 'Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?' Say to them, As I live, says the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?

Romans 13: 8-14

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, 'You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet'; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' Love does no wrong to a neighbour; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law. Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light; let us live honourably as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

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 18: 15-20

[Jesus said to the disciples:] 'If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax-collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.'

Sermon

Sermon Hymn "Thy Holy Wings"

1 Thy ho - ly wings, O Sav - ior, spread gent - ly o - ver me,
2 Oh, let me nes - tle near thee, with - in thy down - y breast
3 Oh, wash me in the wa - ters of No - ah's cleans - ing flood.

and let me rest se - cure - ly through good and ill in thee.
where I will find sweet com - fort and peace with - in thy nest.
Give me a will - ing spir - it, a heart both clean and good.

Oh, be my strength and por - tion, my rock and hid - ing place,
Oh, close thy wings a - round me and keep me safe - ly there,
Oh, take in - to thy keep - ing thy chil - dren great and small,

and let my ev - 'ry mo - ment be lived with - in thy grace.
for I am but a new - born and need thy ten - der care.
and while we sweet - ly slum - ber, en - fold us one and all.

Baptismal Verse (Sung before and after the Baptisms.) "Make This Child Yours"

Presentation

Candidates for baptism, sponsors, and parents gather with the ministers at the font. The assembly may be seated.

The presiding minister may address the assembly in these or similar words.

In baptism our gracious heavenly Father frees us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; by water and the Holy Spirit we are reborn children of God and made members of the church, the body of Christ. Living with Christ and in the communion of saints, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God.

The presiding minister addresses parents or others who bring for baptism children who are not able to answer for themselves.

Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have *Illizah* baptized into Christ?

Response: **We do.**

As you bring *Illizah* to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

to live with *him* among God's faithful people,
bring *him* to the word of God and the holy supper,
teach *him* the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments,
place in *his* hands the holy scripture,
and nurture *him* in faith and prayer,
so that *Illizah* may learn to trust God,
proclaim Christ through word and deed,
care for others and the world God made,
and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help *Illizah* grow in the Christian faith and life?

Response: **I do.**

The presiding minister addresses sponsors.

Sponsors, do you promise to nurture *Illizah* in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help *him* live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

Response: **I do.**

The presiding minister addresses the assembly.

People of God, do you promise to support *Illizah* and pray for *his* new life in Christ?

Response: **We do.**

The assembly stands.

Profession of Faith

The presiding minister addresses candidates for baptism as well as the parents and sponsors of young children. The assembly may join in the responses.

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

Response: **I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

Response: **I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

Response: **I renounce them.**

The presiding minister addresses the candidates and the assembly.

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

Thanksgiving at the Font

The presiding minister leads the following or another form of thanksgiving.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

The assembly may be seated.

Baptism

The presiding minister baptizes each candidate. The candidate is immersed into the water, or water is poured on the candidate's head, as the presiding minister says:

Illizah Eugene Nova Miller, I baptize you in the name of the Father,

and of the Son,

And of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The presiding minister continues:

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

Laying both hands on the head of each of the newly baptized, the minister prays for each:

Sustain Illizah with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

Amen.

The presiding minister marks the sign of the cross on the forehead of each of the baptized. As the sign of the cross is made, the minister says:

Illizah Eugene Nova Miller, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

Amen.

Welcome

A lighted candle may be given to each of the newly baptized (to a sponsor of a young child) as a representative of the congregation says:

*Let your light so shine before others
that they may see your good works
and glorify your Father in heaven.*

The ministers and the baptismal group face the assembly. A representative of the congregation leads the assembly in the welcome.

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

Those who have gathered at the font may return to their places.

Offering

Offering Response "Come, Let us Bring"



1. Come, let us bring the warm and fra - grant bread.
2. Come, let us bring the sweet a - bun - dant wine.
3. Praise be to you who set all peo - ple free.



Come, let us bring the warm and fra - grant bread.
Come, let us bring the sweet a - bun - dant wine.
Praise be to you who set all peo - ple free.



Bro - ken here so all God's peo - ple might be fed.
In this cup we taste the joy of grace di - vine.
Blest are they who share the feast of ju - bi - lee.



Bro - ken here so all God's peo - ple might be fed.
In this cup we taste the joy of grace di - vine.
Blest are they who share the feast of ju - bi - lee.

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.

Leader: It is indeed right and good...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

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, ho - san-na, ho - san-na in the
high - est. Bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san-na, ho - san-na, ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

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.

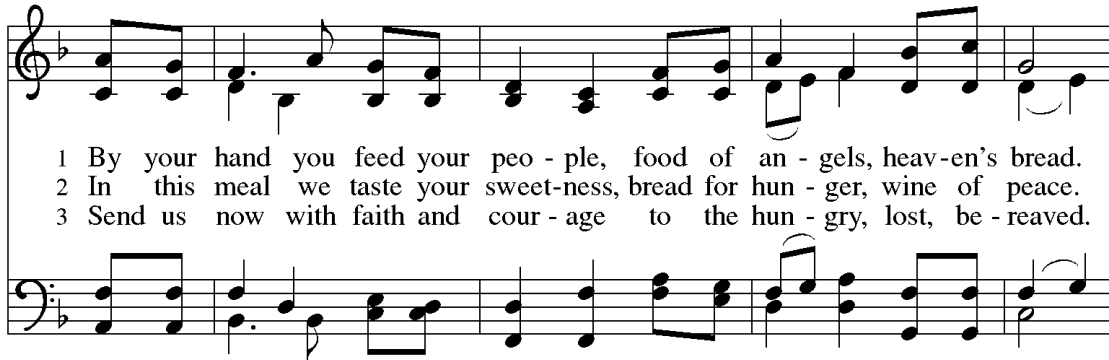
Leader: Lord, remember us in your love and teach us to pray.

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.

Song during Communion "By Your Hand You Feed Your People"

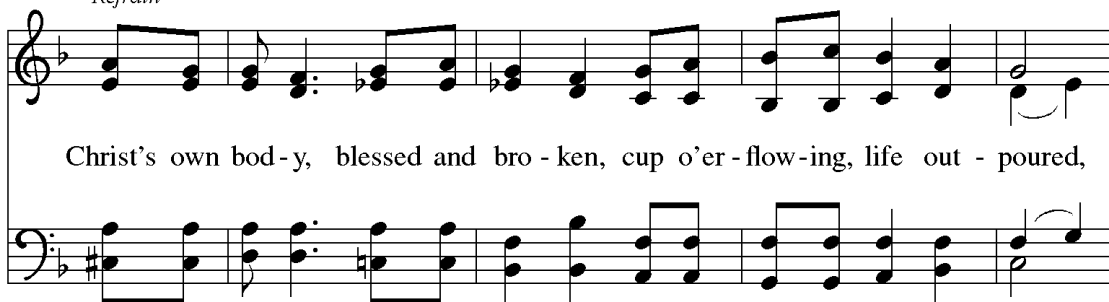


1 By your hand you feed your peo - ple, food of an - gels, heav-en's bread.
2 In this meal we taste your sweet-ness, bread for hun - ger, wine of peace.
3 Send us now with faith and cour - age to the hun - gry, lost, be - reaved.

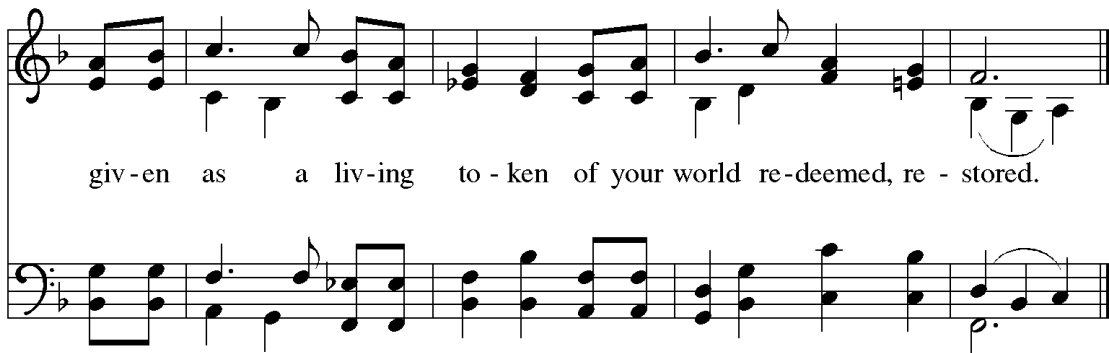


For these gifts we did not la - bor, by your grace have we been fed:
Ho - ly word and ho - ly wis - dom sat - is - fy our deep - est needs.
In our liv - ing and our dy - ing, we be - come what we re - ceive:

Refrain



Christ's own bod - y, blessed and bro - ken, cup o'er - flow - ing, life out - poured,



giv - en as a liv - ing to - ken of your world re - deemed, re - stored.

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.)