

# 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, September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Sixteenth 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!**

# Now the Feast and Celebration

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

**All: And also with you.**

## Kyrie

Leader: (sung) In peace, in peace,

*Assistant:*                      *Congregation:*

Let us pray to the Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have

*to Verses*

mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy.

The musical notation is written on two staves in G major (one sharp) and 2/4 time. The first staff is for the Assistant and the second for the Congregation. The lyrics are: "Let us pray to the Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy." The second staff ends with "to Verses".

Leader: For the reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all let us pray to the ... **(Refrain)**

Leader: For your people here, who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your Word, let us pray to the ... **(Refrain)**

*Assistant:*

Help, save and de - fend us, O

*Congregation:*

God. A - men.

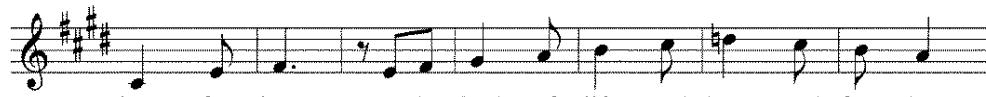
The musical notation is written on two staves in G major (one sharp). The first staff is for the Assistant and the second for the Congregation. The lyrics are: "Help, save and de - fend us, O God. A - men." The second staff ends with a double bar line.

## Song of Praise

## "Now the Feast and Celebration"



Now the feast and cel - e - bra-tion, all of cre - a - tion

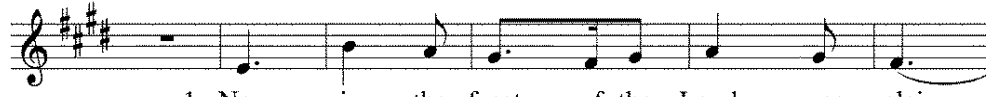


sings for joy, to the God of life and love and free-dom;

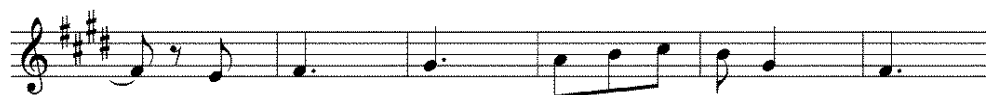


praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!

### Verse 1



1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain,



whose blood has freed and u - nit-ed us



to be one great peo - ple of God.

### Verse 2



2. Pow-er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and



glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.

### Verse 3



3. For God has come to dwell with us, to make us



peo-ple of God; to make all things new.

## Prayer of the Day

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**Congregation: And also with you.**

Leader: O Lord God,

**All: merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## Scripture Readings

After each reading –

Reader: The Word of God for the People of God.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### Genesis 50: 15-21

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, 'What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?' So they approached Joseph, saying, 'Your father gave this instruction before he died, "Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you." Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father.' Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, 'We are here as your slaves.' But Joseph said to them, 'Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones.' In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

### Romans 14: 1-12

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarrelling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgement on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgement on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honour of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honour of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honour of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgement on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgement seat of God. For it is written,

'As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,

and every tongue shall give praise to God.'

So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

## Gospel Verse

*Congregation:*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we  
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal  
life. Al - le - lu - ia!

*Optional Repeat*

## Gospel Reading

After reading –

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

**Congregation: Thanks be to God.**

### Matthew 18: 21-35

Peter came and said to him, 'Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?' Jesus said to him, 'Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

'For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything." And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow-slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, "Pay what you owe." Then his fellow-slave fell down and pleaded with him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you." But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he should pay the debt. When his fellow-slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, "You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow-slave, as I had mercy on you?" And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he should pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.'

### Sermon

### Song

*"Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive"*



- 1 "For - give our sins as we for - give," you taught us, Lord, to pray;
- 2 How can your par - don reach and bless the un - for - giv - ing heart
- 3 In blaz - ing light your cross re - veals the truth we dim - ly knew:
- 4 Lord, cleanse the depths with - in our souls and bid re - sent - ment cease;



but you a - lone can grant us grace to live the words we say.  
that broods on wrongs and will not let old bit - ter - ness de - part?  
how tri - fling oth - ers' debts to us; how great our debt to you!  
then, by your mer - cy rec - on - ciled, our lives will spread your peace.

## Affirmation of Faith "Nicene Creed"

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## Prayers of the People

Leader: Merciful God,

**ALL: receive our prayer.**

## Offering

## Offering Response "As The Grains of Wheat"

*Congregation:*

As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were  
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread;  
so may all your peo-ple from all the ends of earth be  
gath-ered in - to one in you.

The musical notation is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff ends with a fermata over the word 'were'. The second staff ends with a fermata over the word 'bread;'. The third staff ends with a fermata over the word 'be'. The fourth staff ends with a fermata over the word 'you.'

## Verses

1. As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst  
2. Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when

*to Refrain*

may we share the pres-ence of your love.  
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

The musical notation is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two staves of music. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff ends with a fermata over the word 'when'. The second staff ends with a fermata over the word 'you.'

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 God thanks and praise.**

Leader: It is our duty and delight ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**All: Holy, holy, holy are you, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are filled with your glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the One who comes in your name. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest!**

## **Words of Institution**

Leader: On the night of his betrayal 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. 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.

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.**

*Congregation:*      *Congregation or Assistant:*

Lamb of God,      you take a - way the sin of      the  
you break the chains of ha - tred      and  
you are the way of jus - tice      and  
you are the way of mer - cy      and

*Congregation:*

world:                    have mer - cy on us,      mer - cy on us,  
fear:  
peace:  
love.

**Final Stanza**

*Congregation or Assistant:*

mer - cy      on      us.      Lamb of God,      you

*Congregation:*

take a - way the sins of      the world:      grant us peace,

grant us peace,      grant us peace.

**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.*

**After Communion Blessing and Prayer**

Leader: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace now and in all of your days.

**ALL: Amen**

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

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



# Sending Song: "Praise to You, O God of Mercy"

*Congregation:*



1. Praise to you, O God of mer - cy:  
2. From of old you loved and sought us:



Thanks be to you for ev - er! Rais - ing high the  
Thanks be to you for ev - er! Truth and jus - tice



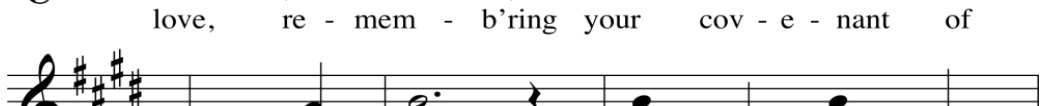
weak and low - ly: Thanks be to you for ev - er!  
you have taught us: Thanks be to you for ev - er!



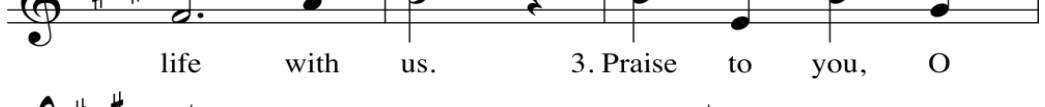
Strong is your faith - ful - ness, strong is your



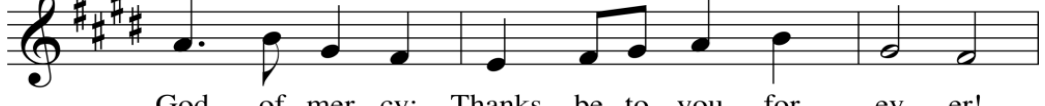
love, re - mem - b'ring your cov - e - nant of



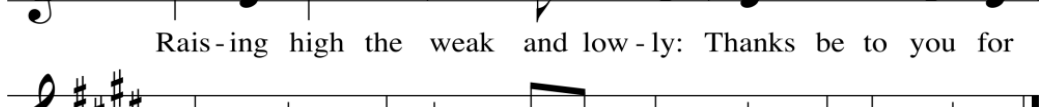
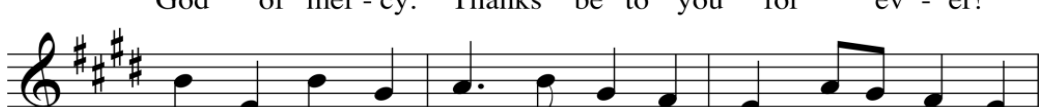
life with us. 3. Praise to you, O



God of mer - cy: Thanks be to you for ev - er!



Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly: Thanks be to you for



ev - er! Thanks be to you for ev - er!

Return to Verse 2

## Benediction and Sending

Leader: Go in Peace, Serve the Lord.

**All: THANKS BE TO GOD!!**