

***Welcome, visitors! Welcome members and friends of St. Matthew Ev. Lutheran Church.  
Thank you for joining us in church and on our online service today.***

***HOLY COMMUNION*** is celebrated in our service this morning. +Guests who are baptized Christians, who acknowledge and confess their sinfulness, who confess Jesus Christ as their Savior from sin, and who believe that He is really present in Holy Communion to bring us His forgiveness and life, are welcome to the Lord's Table.

**7<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
**HOLY COMMUNION SETTING 1** pg. 98

**July 27, 2025**

Prelude - "Our Father, God, In Heaven Above" – Samuel Scheldt, Dietrich Buxtehude

**WELCOME**

(Please rise)

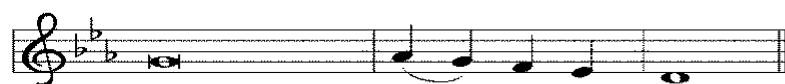
**GATHERING HYMN – ELW 533 OPEN NOW THY GATES OF BEAUTY**  
**(Bells)**

**GREETING**

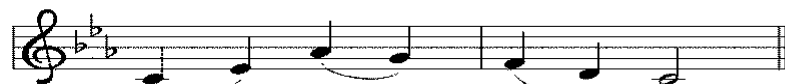
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Cong – And also with you.

### Kyrie



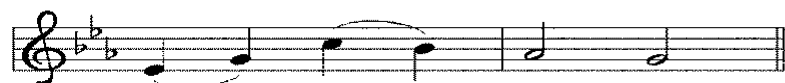
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



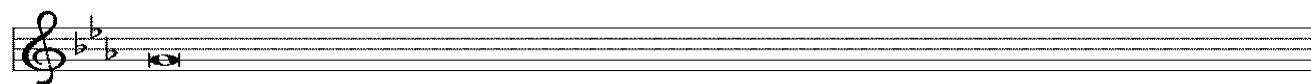
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

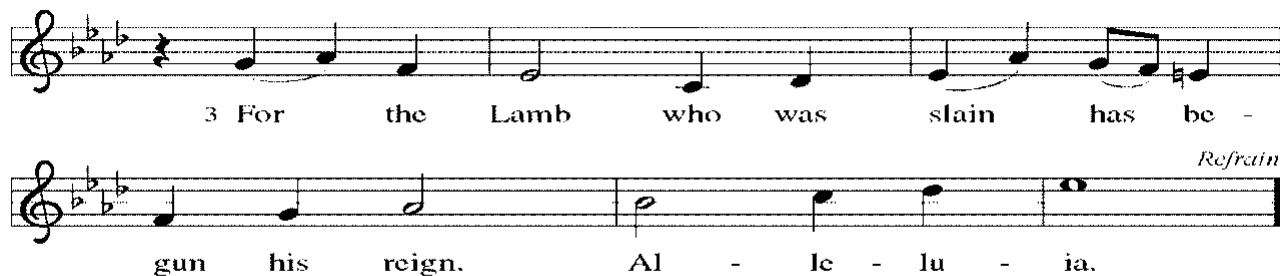
For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,  
 let us pray to the Lord.  
 Lord, have mer - cy.  
 Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.  
 A - men, a - men.

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## HYMN OF PRAISE – pg. 101 THIS IS THE FEAST

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose  
 2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and  
 blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.  
 join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:  
 Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and  
 Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to  
*Refrain*  
 hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.  
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



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## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty and ever-living God, you are always more ready to hear than we are to pray, and you gladly give more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us your abundant mercy. Forgive us those things that weigh on our conscience, and give us those good things that come only through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Cong – Amen.**

**(Please be seated)**

## FIRST READING: Genesis 18:20-32

**Bill Wise, Elder**

*In today's reading, Abraham undertakes the role of a mediator between God and sinful humanity. Appealing to God's justice, Abraham boldly asks for mercy for the city of Sodom for the sake of the few righteous people there, including Abraham's nephew, Lot.*

<sup>20</sup>Then the LORD said, "How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin!" <sup>21</sup>I must go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me; and if not, I will know." <sup>22</sup>So the men turned from there, and went toward Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the LORD. <sup>23</sup>Then Abraham came near and said, "Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked?" <sup>24</sup>Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it? <sup>25</sup>Far be it from you to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?" <sup>26</sup>And the LORD said, "If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will forgive the whole place for their sake." <sup>27</sup>Abraham answered, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the LORD, I who am but dust and ashes." <sup>28</sup>Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?" And he said, "I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there." <sup>29</sup>Again he spoke to him, "Suppose forty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of forty I will not do it." <sup>30</sup>Then he said, "Oh do not let the LORD be angry if I speak. Suppose thirty are found there." He answered, "I will not do it, if I find thirty there." <sup>31</sup>He said, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the LORD. Suppose twenty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it." <sup>32</sup>Then he said, "Oh do not let the LORD be angry if I speak just once more. Suppose ten are found there." He answered, "For the sake of ten I will not destroy it."

Leader – The Word of the Lord.

**Cong – Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM: Psalm 138

*Your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works of your hands. (Ps. 138:8)*

(The Psalm will be sung alternatively, beginning with Cantor)

<sup>1</sup>I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with <sup>1</sup> my whole heart;  
before the gods I will <sup>1</sup> sing your praise.

<sup>2</sup>**I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name,  
because of your steadfast <sup>1</sup> love and faithfulness;  
for you have glorified your name  
and your word a- <sup>1</sup> bove all things.**

<sup>3</sup>When I called, you <sup>1</sup> answered me;  
you increased my <sup>1</sup> strength within me.

<sup>4</sup>**All the rulers of the earth will praise <sup>1</sup> you, O LORD,  
when they have heard the words <sup>1</sup> of your mouth.**

<sup>5</sup>They will sing of the ways <sup>1</sup> of the LORD,  
that great is the glory <sup>1</sup> of the LORD.

<sup>6</sup>**The LORD is high, yet cares <sup>1</sup> for the lowly,  
perceiving the haughty <sup>1</sup> from afar.**

<sup>7</sup>Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you <sup>1</sup> keep me safe;  
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies;  
your right <sup>1</sup> hand shall save me.

<sup>8</sup>**You will make good your pur- <sup>1</sup> pose for me;  
O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever;  
do not abandon the works <sup>1</sup> of your hands.**

**SECOND READING: Colossians 2:6-15 [16-19]**

**Bill Wise, Elder**

*The writer of this letter warns the congregation in Colossae about "the empty lure" of philosophies and traditions that compromise faith. Through the gift of faith, the church is mystically connected with Christ in his death and resurrection which is enacted in baptism.*

<sup>6</sup>As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, <sup>7</sup>rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

<sup>8</sup>See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. <sup>9</sup>For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, <sup>10</sup>and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. <sup>11</sup>In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by putting off the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; <sup>12</sup>when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. <sup>13</sup>And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, <sup>14</sup>erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. <sup>15</sup>He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it. [<sup>16</sup>Therefore do not let anyone condemn you in matters of food and drink or of observing festivals, new moons, or sabbaths. <sup>17</sup>These are only a shadow of what is to come, but the substance belongs to Christ. <sup>18</sup>Do not let anyone disqualify you, insisting on self-abasement and worship of angels, dwelling on visions, puffed up without cause by a human way of thinking, <sup>19</sup>and not holding fast to the head, from whom the whole body, nourished and held together by its ligaments and sinews, grows with a growth that is from God.]

Leader – The Word of the Lord.

**Cong – Thanks be to God.**

**(Please rise)**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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Pastor – The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 11<sup>th</sup> chapter.

Cong – Glory to you, O Lord.

### GOSPEL: Luke 11:1-13

Pastor Kelly Reagan

*In teaching his disciples this prayer, Jesus also reminds them to focus on God's coming reign, God's mercy, and the strengthening of the community. Jesus encourages his disciples to childlike trust and persistence in prayer.*

<sup>1</sup>[Jesus] was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." <sup>2</sup>He said to them, "When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. <sup>3</sup>Give us each day our daily bread. <sup>4</sup>And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial." <sup>5</sup>And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; <sup>6</sup>for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.' <sup>7</sup>And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.' <sup>8</sup>I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs. <sup>9</sup>So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. <sup>10</sup>For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. <sup>11</sup>Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? <sup>12</sup>Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? <sup>13</sup>If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

Pastor – The Gospel of the Lord.

Cong – Praise to you, O Christ.

(Please be seated)

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON – “Shaped by Prayer: Trusting Our Loving Father”

(Please rise)

HYMN OF THE DAY – ELW 746 OUR FATHER, GOD IN HEAVEN ABOVE

## 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

Pastor – God of grace,

Cong – Hear our prayer.

Trusting in your lovingkindness, we place our prayer and hope in you, in the name of Jesus Christ.

Cong – Amen.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Cong – And also with you.

## PEACE

(Please be seated)

## OFFERING

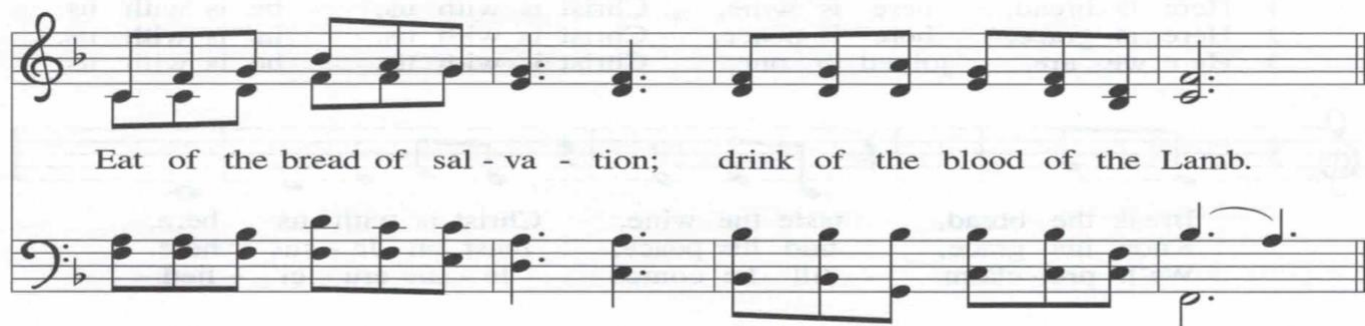
(Please rise)

## OFFERTORY – (ELW 481) COME TO THE TABLE

Come to the ta - ble of mer - cy, pre - pared with the wine and the bread.

All who are hun - gry and thirst - y, come, and your souls will be fed.

Come at the Lord's in - vi - ta - tion; re - ceive from his nail - scarred hand.



Text: Claire Cloninger, b. 1942  
 Music: Martin J. Nystrom, b. 1956

Text and music © 1991 Integrity's Hosanna! Music; Juniper Landing Music, admin. Word Music; and Word Music

COME TO THE TABLE  
 88878787

## OFFERING PRAYER

Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**Cong – Amen.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

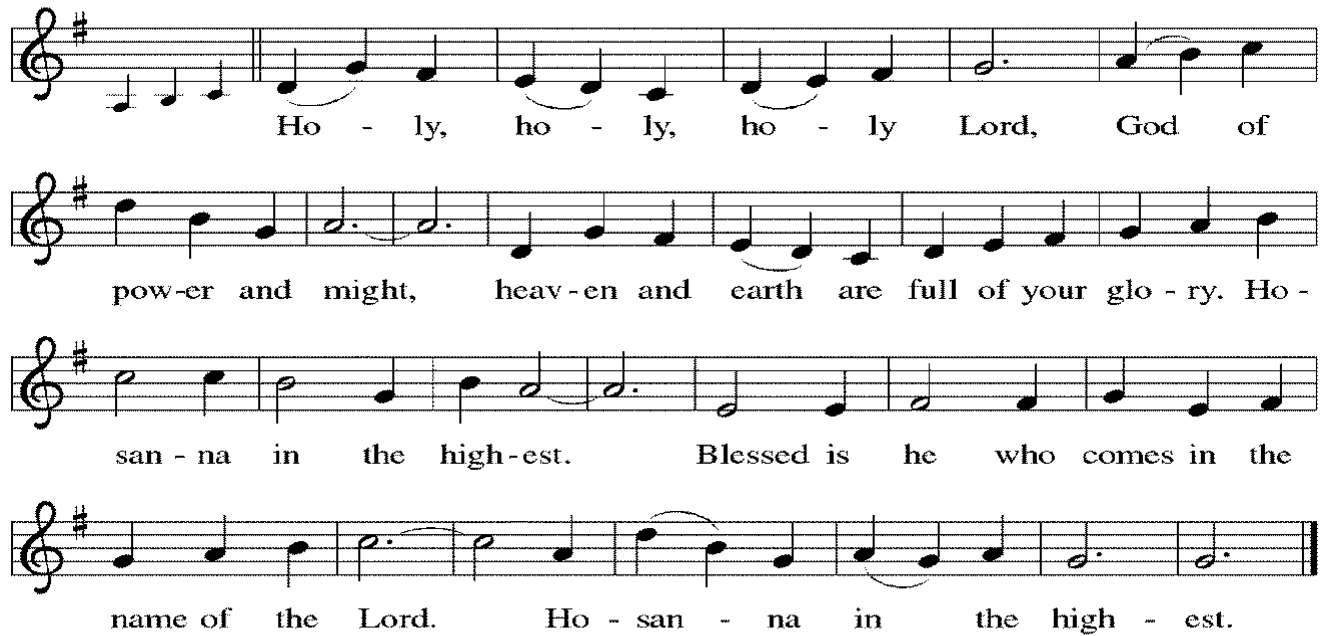
### Preface Dialogue



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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:

# Holy, Holy, Holy



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## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING V (ELW pg. 65)

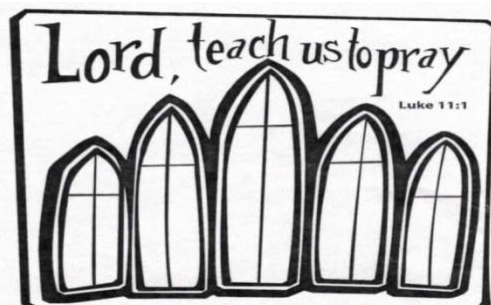
Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all. In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus 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 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. Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all glory and honor, now and forever.

**Cong – Amen.**

## 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.**

**(Please be seated)**





## Lamb of God



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## COMMUNION HYMN – ELW 742 WHAT A FRIEND WE HAVE IN JESUS

(Please rise)

## POST-COMMUNION HYMN – pg. 113 NOW, LORD



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## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name.

**Cong - Amen.**

## SENDING OF COMMUNION

Compassionate God, as Jesus called disciples to follow him, bless those who go forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are homebound. May these gifts be signs of our love and prayers, that through the sharing of the body and blood of Christ, all may know your grace and healing revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Cong - Amen.**

## BLESSING

The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit + bless you and give you peace.

**Cong - Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN – ELW 544 PRAISE THE LORD, RISE UP REJOICING

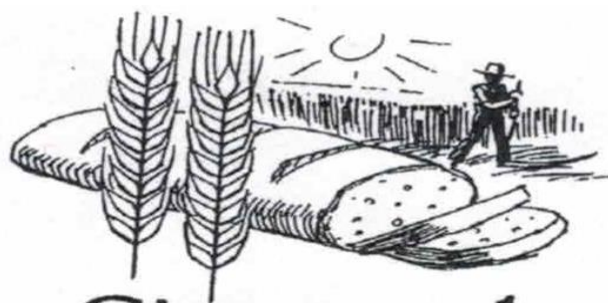
**(Please be seated)**

**Postlude** – “Praise The Lord, Rise Up Rejoicing”- Ernst Pepping

Pastor –Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

**Cong - Thanks be to God.**

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**Give us each  
day our daily  
bread. Luke 11:3**

**MEASURE OF LOVE – July 20, 2025**

**Attendance – 56**

**Total Deposit - \$1900.00**

### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

#### **SUNDAY**

Choir – 9:00 a.m.

Holy Communion Setting 1 – 9:30 a.m.

#### **MONDAY**

#### **TUESDAY**

#### **WEDNESDAY**

### **July 27, 2025**

#### **THURSDAY**

Al-Anon – 10:30 a.m.

#### **FRIDAY**

AA – 8:00 p.m.

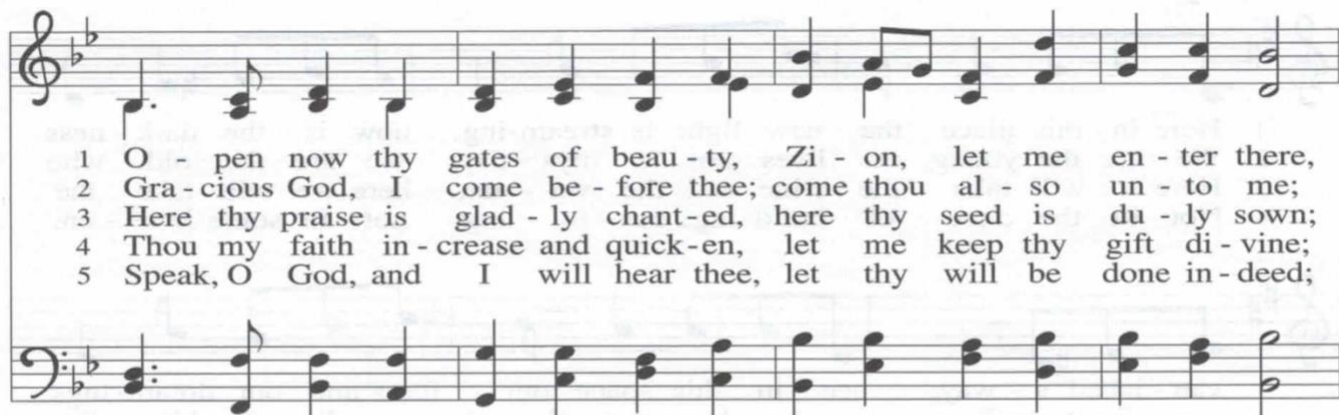
#### **SATURDAY**

#### **SUNDAY – August 3, 2025**

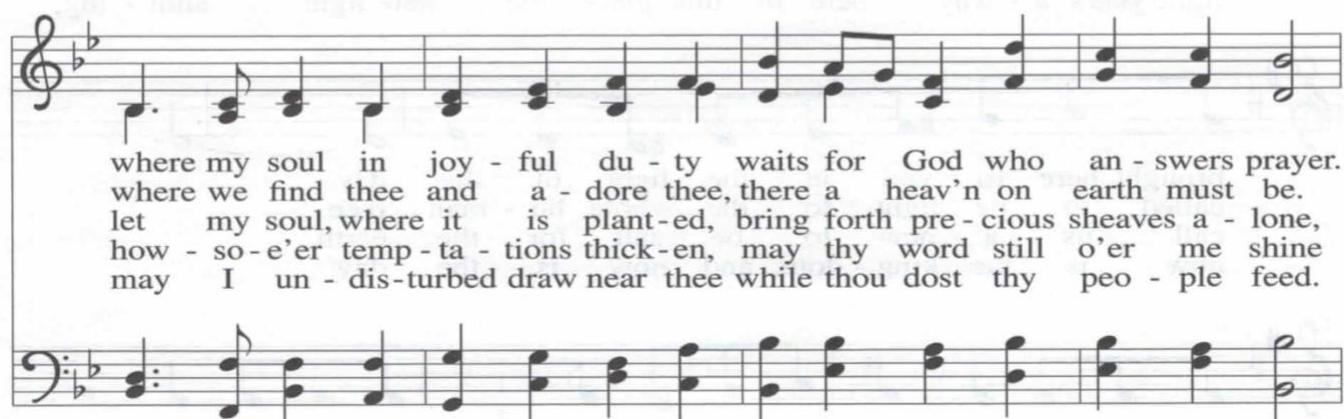
Choir – 9:00 a.m.

ELW Service of Word/Prayer Setting 1 – 9:30 a.m.

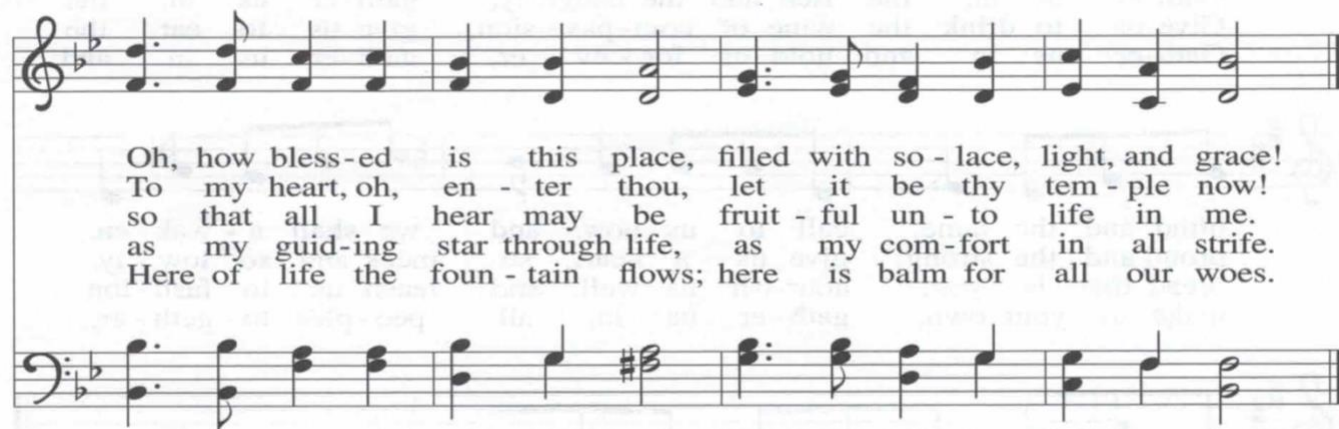
## Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty



1 O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty, Zi - on, let me en - ter there,  
 2 Gra - cious God, I come be - fore thee; come thou al - so un - to me;  
 3 Here thy praise is glad - ly chant - ed, here thy seed is du - ly sown;  
 4 Thou my faith in - crease and quick - en, let me keep thy gift di - vine;  
 5 Speak, O God, and I will hear thee, let thy will be done in - deed;



where my soul in joy - ful du - ty waits for God who an - swers prayer.  
 where we find thee and a - dore thee, there a heav'n on earth must be.  
 let my soul, where it is plant - ed, bring forth pre - cious sheaves a - lone,  
 how - so - e'er temp - ta - tions thick - en, may thy word still o'er me shine  
 may I un - dis - turbed draw near thee while thou dost thy peo - ple feed.



Oh, how bless - ed is this place, filled with so - lace, light, and grace!  
 To my heart, oh, en - ter thou, let it be thy tem - ple now!  
 so that all I hear may be fruit - ful un - to life in me.  
 as my guid - ing star through life, as my com - fort in all strife.  
 Here of life the foun - tain flows; here is balm for all our woes.

## Our Father, God in Heaven Above

1 Our Fa - ther, God in heav'n a - bove, we pray, u - nit - ed  
 2 Give us to - day our dai - ly bread; let ev - 'ry - one be  
 3 In time of tri - al, res - cue us. Let your word give suc -  
 4 A - men. Yes, yes, it shall be so! Build up our faith and

in your love: Your name be hal - lowed. Help us, Lord,  
 clothed and fed. For - give our sins, as we for - give  
 cess to us when, on our left and on our right,  
 make it grow; be - set by doubt, help us be - lieve

in faith - ful - ness to keep your word. Your king - dom come; your  
 when oth - ers hurt us as we live. Help us to dwell in  
 temp - ta - tions chal - lenge us to fight. De - liv - er us from  
 what here we ask we shall re - ceive. So, by your prom - ise,

will be done on earth as there be - fore your throne.  
 har - mo - ny and serve each oth - er will - ing - ly.  
 e - vil's pow'r and com - fort us in life's last hour.  
 in your name, with loud A - men your Yes we claim!

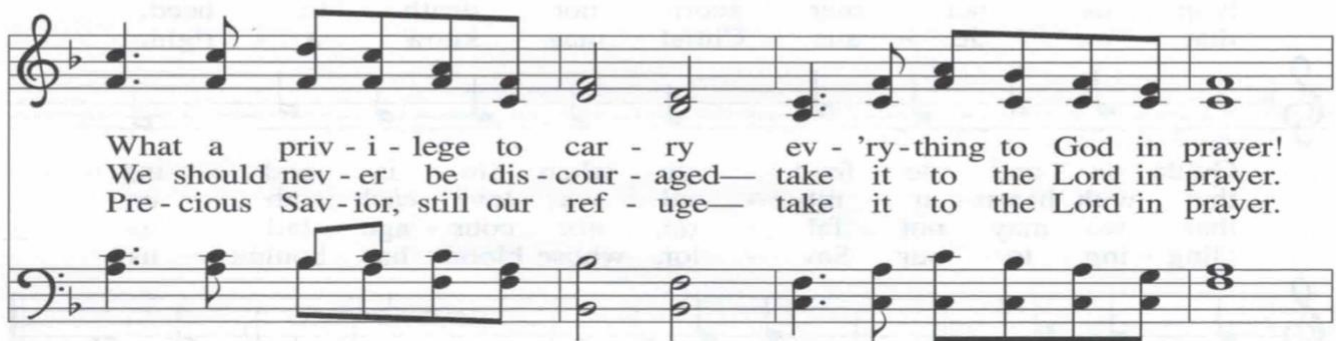


# What a Friend We Have in Jesus

742



1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!  
 2 Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions? Is there trou - ble an - y - where?  
 3 Are we weak and heav - y - lad - en, cum - bered with a load of care?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer!  
 We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged— take it to the Lord in prayer.  
 Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge— take it to the Lord in prayer.



Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit; oh, what need - less pain we bear—  
 Can we find a friend so faith - ful who will all our sor - rows share?  
 Do your friends de - spise, for - sake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer.



all be - cause we do not car - ry ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer!  
 Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak - ness— take it to the Lord in prayer.  
 In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a so - lace there.

