

# Welcome to Christ Episcopal Church

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

*Sunday, September 10, 2023*

Holy Eucharist, Rite II



## Binghamton's First Church

***Explore your faith, connect in community, serve others***

*Know that whoever you are, wherever you find yourself on your journey of faith, there is a place for you here.*

*The Vestry Greeter and Ushers are available to orient you to the building and assist you; please let them know what you need.*

*We invite everyone to join us for coffee and fellowship in the Great Hall following the service.*

*Receiving communion is an act of deep reverence and joy; we ask that pets not be brought to the altar rail at communion. Please let the usher know that you would like to receive communion, and it will be brought to you at your seat.*

# GATHERING

Welcome

Voluntary

*Please stand, as you are able, for the Opening Hymn*

Opening Hymn 174

At the Lamb's high feast we sing

Salzburg

The Opening Acclamation

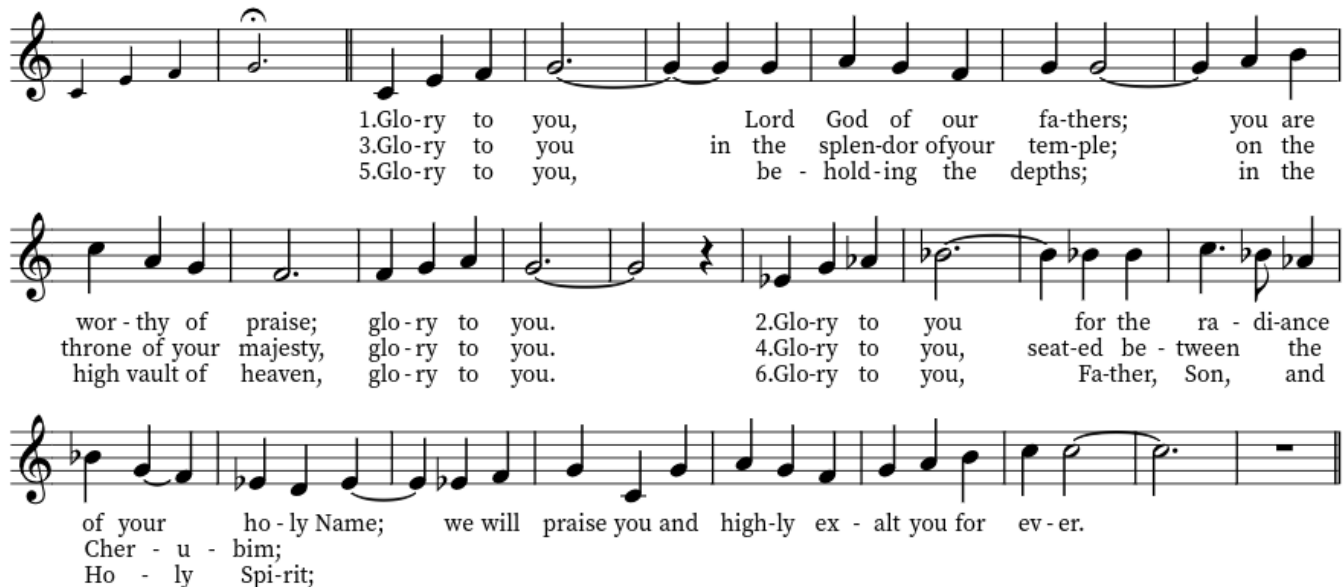
*Celebrant* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People* And blessed be God's kingdom now and for ever. Amen.

*Celebrant* Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Canticle 13: A Song of Praise

5236



1.Glo-ry to you, Lord God of our fa-thers; you are  
3.Glo-ry to you in the splen-dor of your tem-ple; on the  
5.Glo-ry to you, be - hold-ing the depths; in the

wor - thy of praise; glo-ry to you. 2.Glo-ry to you for the ra - di-ance  
throne of your majesty, glo-ry to you. 4.Glo-ry to you, seat-ed be - tween the  
high vault of heaven, glo-ry to you. 6.Glo-ry to you, Fa-ther, Son, and

of your ho - ly Name; we will praise you and high-ly ex - alt you for ev - er.  
Cher - u - bim;  
Ho - ly Spi-rit;

The Collect of the Day

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

*The congregation may be seated.*

# THE WORD OF GOD

## A Reading from the Book of Exodus

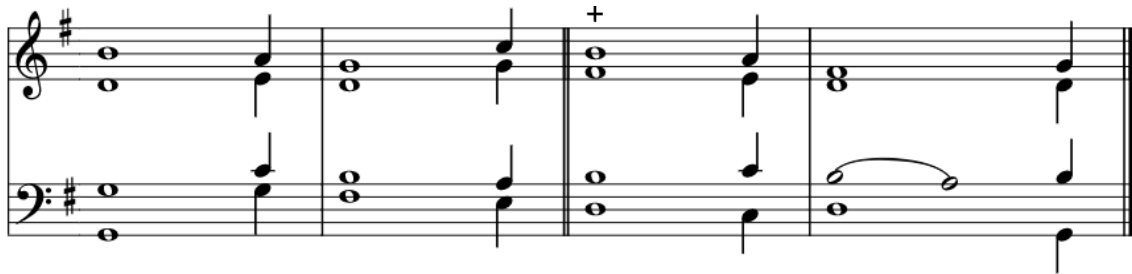
The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the Lord. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the Lord. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt. This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the Lord; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

*Exodus 1:8-2:10*

*Reader*            The Word of the Lord.  
*People*            Thanks be to God.

## Psalm 149

Robert Knox Kennedy

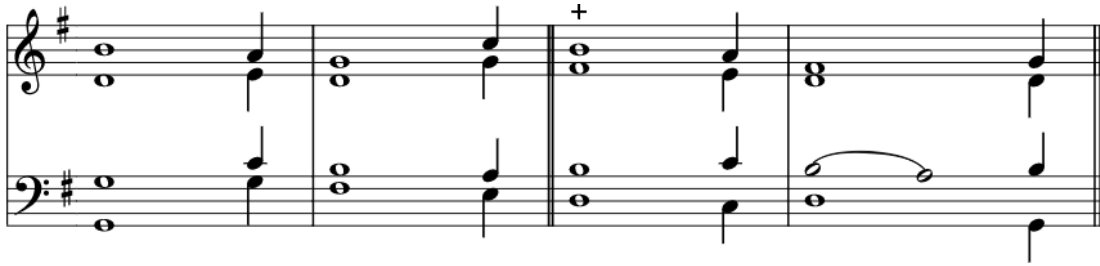


1 Hallelujah!

Sing to the LORD a new **song**; \*  
sing his praise in the congregation of the **faithful**.

2 Let Israel rejoice in his **Maker**; \*  
let the children of Zion be joyful in their **King**.

3 Let them praise his Name in the **dance**; \*  
let them sing praise to him with timbrel and **harp**.



4 For the LORD takes pleasure in his **people** \*  
and adorns the poor with **victory**.

5 Let the faithful rejoice in **triumph**; \*  
let them be joyful on their **beds**.

6 Let the praises of God be in their **throat** \*  
and a two-edged sword in their **hand**;

7 To wreak vengeance on the **nations** \*  
and punishment on the **peoples**;

8 To bind their kings in **chains** \*  
and their nobles with links of **iron**;

+9 To inflict on them the judgment **decreed**; \*  
this is glory for all his faithful people.  
**Hallelujah!**

### A Reading from the Letter to the Romans

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 neighbor as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbor; 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 armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

*Romans 13:8-14*

*Reader            The Word of the Lord.*  
*People            Thanks be to God.*

Sequence Hymn 674

Forgive our sins as we forgive

*Detroit*

## The Gospel

*Deacon* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

*People* Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "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."

*Matthew 18:15-20*

*Priest* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* Praise to you, Lord Christ.

## The Sermon

### The 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: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. 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. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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.

### The Prayers of the People

*NZPB*

*The congregation responds with the emboldened words following each petition.*

*Leader* In peace, let us pray to God saying, "**God, hear our prayer.**"

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the holy Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to God.

**God, hear our prayer.**

For Michael, our Presiding Bishop; DeDe, our bishop; for the clergy of Christ Church, Mother Katrina, Father Jim, and Deacon Kay; and for all clergy and people, let us pray to God.

**God, hear our prayer.**

For the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to God.

**God, hear our prayer.**

For the city of Binghamton, and for every city and community, let us pray to God.

**God, hear our prayer.**

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to God.

**God, hear our prayer.**

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to God.

**God, hear our prayer.**

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and refugees, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to God.

**God, hear our prayer.**

For deliverance from all affliction, strife, and poverty, let us pray to God.

**God, hear our prayer.**

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, especially Bob and Jan Sturdevant, and for all the departed, let us pray to God.

**God, hear our prayer.**

In union with all the saints we commit ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ our God.

**God, hear our prayer.**

You are welcome at this time to offer your own prayers either silently or aloud.

*Celebrant*

God of mercy, you have given us grace to pray with one heart and one voice; and have promised to hear the prayers of two or three who gather in your name; fulfill now, we pray, the prayers and longings of your people as may be best for us and for your kingdom. Grant us in this world to know your truth, and in the world to come to see your glory. *Amen.*

## **The Confession**

*The Deacon or Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins to God.

God of all mercy,  
we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives.  
We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves,  
and in the world you have created.  
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,  
the evil we have done,  
and the evil done on our behalf.  
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ,  
that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

## Absolution

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

## The Peace

*Celebrant*        The peace of Christ be always with you.  
*People*            And also with you.

## HOLY COMMUNION

*All baptized Christians are invited to receive communion; those not receiving communion are invited to come forward for a blessing. If you need a gluten-free wafer, please let the clergy know. If you need to receive communion seated in the pew, due to mobility or dog, please let the ushers know.*

## Offertory

Simple Gifts

*Mark Schweitzer*  
*(1956-2019)*

'Tis a gift to be simple, 'tis a gift to be free 'Tis a gift to come down where we ought to be  
And when we find ourselves in a place just right 'Twill be in the valley of love and delight.  
'Tis a gift to be loving, 'tis a gift to be kind, 'tis a gift to leave our bitterness behind,  
And when we find ourselves in a place just right 'Twill be in the valley of love and delight.  
When true simplicity is gained to bow and to bend, we shan't be ashamed to turn,  
turn, will be our delight, 'till by turning, turning, we come round right.  
'Tis a gift to be thankful, 'tis a gift to forgive, 'Tis a gift to find out how we ought to live,  
And when we find ourselves in a place just right 'Twill be in the valley of love and delight.

## Presentation Hymn 305

Come, risen Lord, and deign to be our guest

*Rosedale*

## The Great Thanksgiving

### Eucharistic Prayer B

*Leader*        The Lord be with you.  
*People*        **And also with you.**  
*Leader*        Lift up your hearts.  
*People*        **We lift them to the Lord.**  
*Leader*        Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
*People*        **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

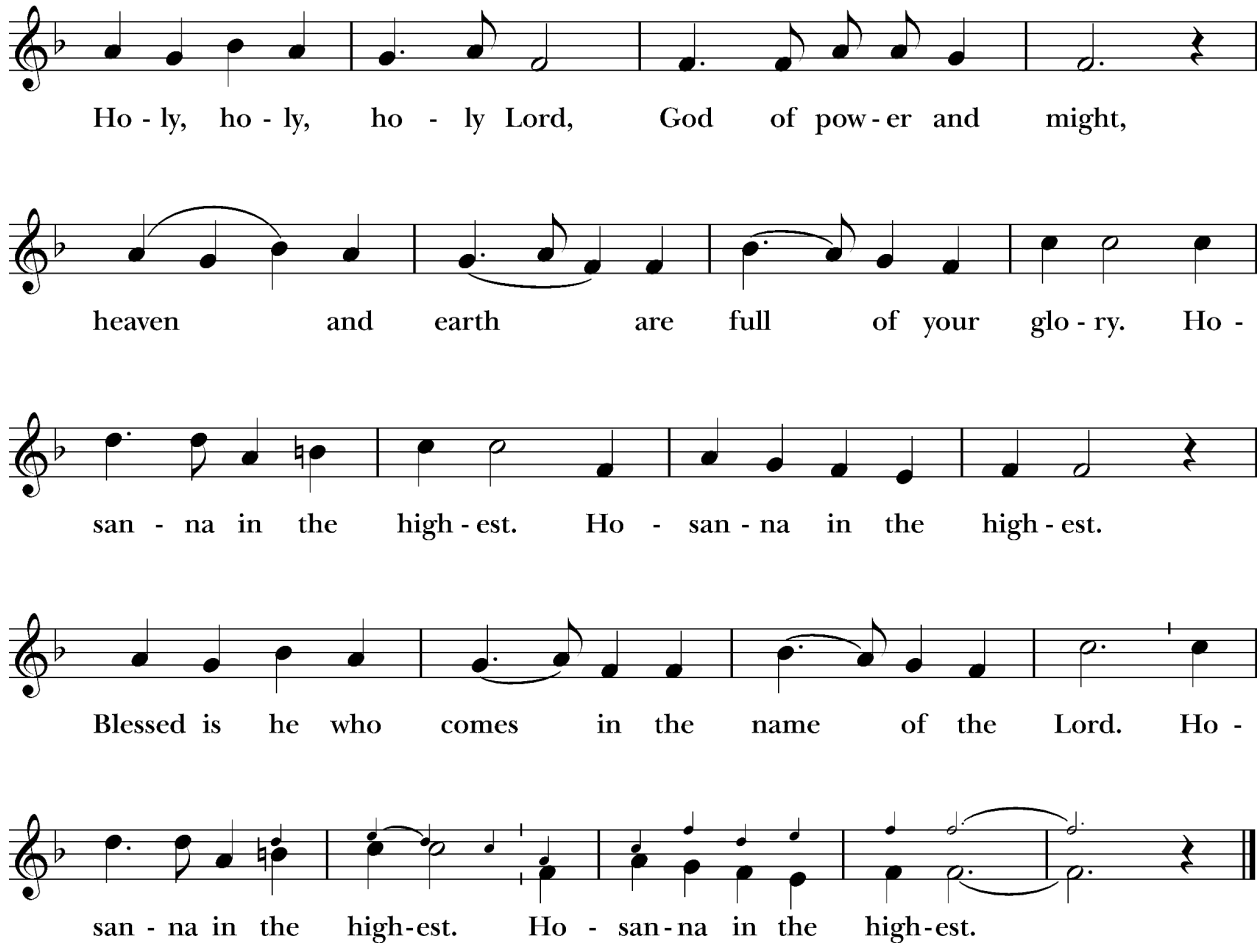
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every-where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For by water and the Holy Spirit you have made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth your glory in all the world.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

# Sanctus

S125

*Celebrant and People*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: From *A Community Mass*; Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright © 1971, 1977 GIA Publications, Inc.

*Then the Celebrant continues*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,



*Celebrant and People*

We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;

*The Celebrant continues*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. AMEN.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

### **The Lord's Prayer**

*Celebrant and People*

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

### **The Breaking of the Bread**

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread*

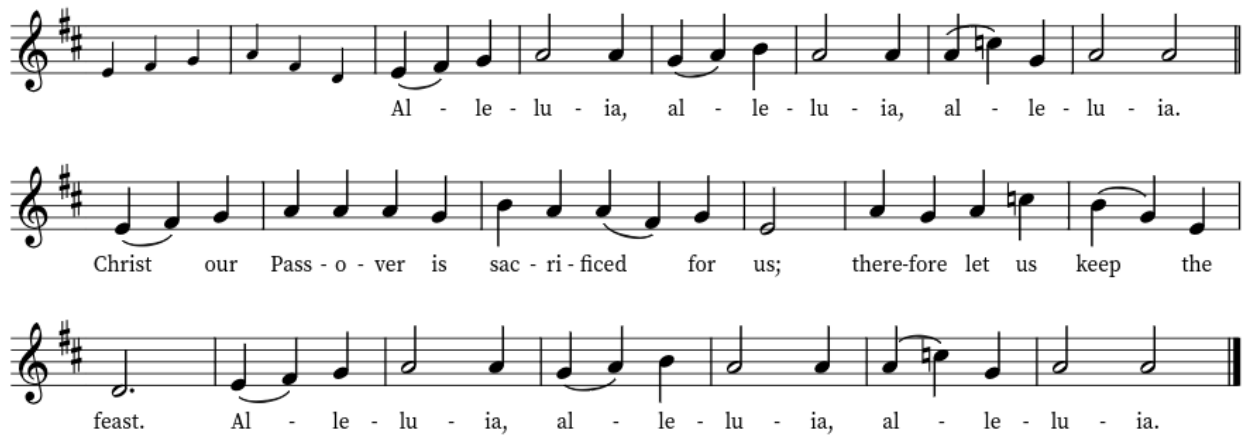
*A period of silence is kept. Then may be sung or said*

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

*People* Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

*The Celebrant says the following Invitation*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
 Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us; there-fore let us keep the  
 feast. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

**Communion Anthem**

Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love

*Ghana folk song*

Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love, show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you. Kneels at the feet of his friends, silently washes their feet, Master who acts like a slave to them. Neighbors are rich folk and poor, neighbors are black and white, neighbors are nearby and far away. These are the ones we should serve, these are the ones we should love; all these are neighbors to us and you. Kneel at the feet of our friends, silently washing their feet, this is the way we should live with you.

**Post Communion Prayer**

*The congregation stands*

*Celebrant* Let us pray,

*Celebrant and People*

God of abundance,  
 you have fed us  
 with the bread of life and cup of salvation;  
 you have united us  
 with Christ and one another;  
 and you have made us one  
 with all your people in heaven and on earth.  
 Now send us forth  
 in the power of your Spirit,  
 that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world  
 and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

**The Blessing**

**Sending Forth**

**Processional Hymn 376**

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee

*Hymn to Joy*

**Dismissal**

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*Altar Flowers are given to the honor and glory of God by John and Linda Feldman in loving memory of Linda's parents, Bob and Jan Sturdevant.*