

St. James Lutheran Church

1741 S State Street
Greenfield Indiana 46140

Our congregation's mission statement is to bring people to Christ,
encouraging relationships with Him and others.



May 14, 2023
Sixth Sunday of Easter

Mediation: On this Mother's Day Sunday, we come together to honor and celebrate the blessings of motherhood. In Psalm 66:8-20, we are reminded of God's power and might and the strength that comes from our faith.

Motherhood takes on many forms and expressions. While some may have the joy of raising their own children, others may offer love, care, and support to those around them, nurturing and guiding with grace and tenderness.

We recognize that Mother's Day can be a difficult time for those who have experienced loss, challenges in starting or growing their families, or whose motherhood journey has taken different paths. We extend our compassion and understanding to all, knowing that every story is unique and worthy of respect and sensitivity.

As we meditate on this passage, we are reminded that God tests and refines us, bringing us through trials and hardships to a place of abundance. We honor the mothers who have passed on, expressing our gratitude for their legacies of love and wisdom that continue to shape our lives.

Let us also remember to extend a loving hand to those who may find Mother's Day difficult, acknowledging their pain and offering our support and understanding.

As we conclude, let us offer a prayer of gratitude for all mothers, for the women among us, and for the unique nurturing qualities that God has given them. May God's love and blessings surround them, and may they continue to be a source of strength and inspiration to us all.

May God's love and grace be with us on this Mother's Day and always. Amen.

Today's Altar Flowers are given for the Glory of God



1741 S. State Street
Greenfield, IN 46140
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Welcome to St. James Lutheran Church

The mission statement of our congregation is:

To bring people to Christ, encouraging relationships with Him and others.

*Rev. Dr. Richard Blue, Jr. Pastor
Rev. Benjamin Black Sr. Vicar
Dan Petry, Music Director
Angela Rodgers, Asst Music Director*

TO ALL GUESTS...

- **THANKS** for joining us for worship today. We hope your experience will be one of being touched by God and of being enriched through our experience of fellowship. **Please fill out the Connection Card found in your bulletin and place in the offering plate.** And please come again!!
- **PARTICIPATE**
 - The worship service is printed in the bulletin and can also be viewed on the video screen for your convenience. Bulletins are emailed to all members each week.
 - **Please turn off all cell phones and electronic devices during the worship service.**
 - The service is streamed live and available online afterward on YouTube. Links can be found on the [St. James website \(www.stjamesnalc.org\)](http://www.stjamesnalc.org) and [Facebook page](#).
- **COMMUNE** — All baptized Christians who believe that Jesus Christ is present with his body and blood in the bread and wine are invited to receive Holy Communion at the Lord's Table. The ushers will direct those receiving the sacrament down the center aisle to the altar rail. **If you require gluten free host, please let the servers know.**
- **NEED ASSISTANCE?**
 - **Hearing devices** are available for those who have trouble hearing through the loudspeaker system.
 - Hand sanitizer is available on the tables in the Narthex and in the pews.

Please feel free to ask an Usher for assistance, they will be happy to help you.

Welcome to our service of worship!

We are happy to have you worship with us, whether you are looking for a church home, are a new Christian, or are just curious about Christianity. We want your time with us to be as warm and friendly as possible, so we've made a list of words and phrases you might hear during our service. We hope that this list of terms will help you feel more comfortable with our service and get to know its different parts.

We know that some of these words may be new or unfamiliar to you, but please know that our goal is to create a place where everyone can connect with God in a meaningful way. Getting the idea that faith is a personal journey that looks different for everyone.

So, whether you're here out of curiosity, looking for answers to life's questions, or exploring your own faith, we want you to feel welcome, accepted, and encouraged. We believe that everyone can receive God's love and grace, no matter where they are on their spiritual journey.

Please don't be afraid to talk to any of our friendly ushers, greeters, or members during the service if you have any questions or need more information. We're here to help you!

We're glad you're here, and we hope this glossary will help you feel more at home as we worship together as a group of Christians in the Lutheran Tradition. May God's love and presence be with you during and after this service.

Glossary of Terms Used in Worship

Invocation: We start our worship service by calling out to God and asking Him to be with us, just like we would do with a close friend. (Psalm 95:1-2)

Confession and Absolution: In this solemn moment, we recognize that we are human and admit that we have flaws, make mistakes, and sin. With broken hearts, we openly tell God about our mistakes, flaws, and sins, knowing that we need His forgiveness. As Lutherans, we believe in the power of God's grace, which is freely given to everyone who wants it.

As God's representative, the pastor then says the comforting words of absolution, which tell us that God loves and forgives us no matter what. We are reminded that we can start over with a clean slate and that God's love and mercy are never-ending. (1 John 1:9, Psalm 103:8-12)

This sacred moment of the Office of the Keys is a reminder of God's grace and the gift of reconciliation given to the Church through pastors. It lets us approach God with honesty and humility and receive His forgiveness as we continue our worship service with new hearts and minds.

Kyrie: We ask God for mercy and help from the bottom of our hearts, knowing that we all need help and grace in our lives and that God is always ready to listen and help. (Luke 18:13)

Hymn of the Day/Praise: We lift our voices in song to thank and admire God for His goodness and faithfulness, just like we would thank someone who has been nice to us. (Psalm 100:1-2)

Word of God and Message: We listen carefully to readings from the Bible, which is a collection of sacred text/books that give us guidance, wisdom, and hope for our lives. The pastor then gives a practical message that helps us see how these teachings can be useful and meaningful in our everyday lives, just like getting good advice from a caring friend. (2 Timothy 3:16–17 and Romans 10:17)

Creed: Together, we say or sing a statement of our faith that affirms our belief in a God who loves us, Jesus Christ who forgives us and saves us, and the Holy Spirit who guides and empowers us in a way that speaks to our hearts and values. (John 3:16, Matt. 28:19)

Offertory: During this time, we give money to help God do his work through the church. We do this because we are part of a community that cares about each other and wants to make a positive difference in the world for the Good News, just like when we give to a cause or organization that fits with our values. (2 Cor. 9:7)

Sanctus: “Holy, Holy, Holy.” We sing a hymn or chant that praises God's holiness, recognizing His greatness and majesty as we get ready for Communion, in a way that makes us feel awe and wonder, like when we are taken in by the beauty of nature or a work of art. (Isaiah 6:3, Rev. 4:8)

Words of Jesus: Words of Our Lord: We hear the sacred words of Jesus from the Last Supper, where He initiated the Lord's Supper or Holy Communion. He asked us to remember His selfless sacrifice and receive His true body and blood for the forgiveness of our sins. As Lutherans, we believe that in this act, Jesus is really present in the bread and wine, and that by having faith, we can share in His grace that gives us life. During this part of our worship service, we can think about how much our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, loves us and how His sacrifice still changes our lives. (1 Corinthians 11:23–26, Luke 22:19–20)

Agnus Dei: We sing a hymn or chant that shows Jesus as the Lamb of God who takes away our sins. As we take Communion, we acknowledge His sacrifice and grace in a way that reminds us of His kindness and compassion. (John 1:29 and Revelation 5:12)

We share the bread and wine, which represent the body and blood of Jesus. This is a physical way for us to receive His forgiveness and grace, and for our spirits to be fed, just like when we eat a meal. We approach this act with respect and gratitude because we know how important Jesus' sacrifice was and how close we are to Him. (1 Corinthians 10:16 and John 6:54)

Nunc Dimittis: We hear or sing the words of Simeon from the Gospel of Luke. Simeon thanked God for letting him see the salvation that Jesus brought. We acknowledge that we have also received God's salvation through faith in Jesus Christ and that we can leave in peace, knowing that God is taking care of us. (Luke 2:29–32)

Benediction: We get a final blessing from the pastor, who prays for God's grace, peace, and presence to be with us as we go back to our daily lives. It's like getting a warm goodbye and best wishes from a caring friend. (Numbers 6:24–26)

† We Lift Our Hearts in Worship †

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please Stand

GATHERING

Confession and Forgiveness

Pastor: Almighty God,
To whom all hearts are open,
All desires known,
And from whom 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 Jesus Christ our lord.
AMEN.

Pastor: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and one another.

**Congregation: Most merciful God,
We confess
That we are captive 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.**

FORGIVENESS OF SIN

Pastor: In the mercy of almighty God,
Jesus Christ was given to die for us,
And for his sake

God forgives us all our sins.

As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Jesus Christ,

And by His authority,

I therefore declare to you

The entire forgiveness of all your sins,

In the name of the Father,

And of the Son,

And of the Holy Spirit.

ALL: Amen

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heav'n, to
 2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - 'ry
 3 Come, Al - mighty - y, to de - liv - er; let us, all thy
 4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and spot - less

earth come down! Fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy
 trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us
 life re - ceive; sad - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
 let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -

faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,
 find thy prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;
 more thy tern - ples leave. There we would be at - ways bless - ing,
 ly re - stored in thee! Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry.

pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
 Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
 serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
 till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our

thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart,
 its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love,
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise!

GREETING

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

Congregation: And also with you.

Kyrie



- 1 Come, let us join our cheer-ful songs with an-gels round the throne;
- 2 "Wor - thy the Lamb that died," they cry, "to be ex - alt - ed thus!"
- 3 Je - sus is wor - thy to re-ceive hon - or and pow'r di - vine;
- 4 Let all cre - a - tion join in one to bless the sa - cred name



ten thou-sand thou-sand are their tongues, but all their joys are one.
"Wor - thy the Lamb," our lips re - ply, "for he was slain for us!"
and bless-ings, more than we can give, be, Lord, for - ev - er thine.
of God who sits up - on the throne, and to a - dore the Lamb.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Assisting Minister: Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated

† **We Hear God's Word** †

FIRST READING

Acts 17: 22-31 (page 953 in pew Bible)

²² Paul then stood up in the meeting of the Areopagus and said: "People of Athens! I see that in every way you are very religious. ²³ For as I walked around and looked

carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: TO AN UNKNOWN GOD. So you are ignorant of the very thing you worship—and this is what I am going to proclaim to you.

²⁴ “The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by human hands. ²⁵ And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything. Rather, he himself gives everyone life and breath and everything else. ²⁶ From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands. ²⁷ God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us. ²⁸ ‘For in him we live and move and have our being.’^[a] As some of your own poets have said, ‘We are his offspring.’^[b]

²⁹ “Therefore since we are God’s offspring, we should not think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone—an image made by human design and skill. ³⁰ In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent. ³¹ For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to everyone by raising him from the dead.”

Pastor: The Word of God for the people of God

Congregation: Thanks be to God

Please stand for the reading of the Gospel

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION


Alleluia

Gospel Acclamation

S205a



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

THE HOLY GOSPEL John 14:15-21 (page 927 in Pew Bible)

Jesus Promises the Holy Spirit

¹⁵ “If you love me, keep my commands. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever— ¹⁷ the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be^[a] in you. ¹⁸ I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. ¹⁹ Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. ²⁰ On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. ²¹ Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me. The one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love them and show myself to them.”

Please be seated

MESSAGE FOR OUR YOUNGER DISCIPLES

John Browder

Please Stand

PENTECOST, HOLY SPIRIT

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Loving Spirit



- 1 Lov - ing Spir - it, lov - ing Spir - it, you have cho - sen me to be—
- 2 Like a moth - er you en - fold me, hold my life with - in your own,
- 3 Like a fa - ther you pro - tect me, teach me the dis - cern - ing eye,
- 4 Friend and lov - er, in your close - ness I am known and held and blessed:
- 5 Lov - ing Spir - it, lov - ing Spir - it, you have cho - sen me to be—



you have drawn me to your won - der, you have set your sign on me.
 feed me with your ver - y bod - y, form me of your flesh and bone.
 hoist me up up - on your shoul - der, let me see the world from high.
 in your prom - ise is my com - fort, in your pres - ence I may rest.
 you have drawn me to your won - der, you have set your sign on me.



Text: Shirley Erns Murray, b. 1931
 Music: W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; arr. hymnal version
 Text © 1987 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Company
 Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress

BESTORATION
 8787

Please be seated

MESSAGE FOR OUR OLDER DISCIPLES

Rev. Dr. Richard Blue

Please Stand

† We Respond to God's Word †

THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Apostles Creed

Vicar: With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**Congregation: 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

**Assisting Minister: With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus,
Let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.**

Response of the Congregation: Hear Our Prayers

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

Please be seated

THE OFFERING

Now we join Christians all over the world in worshiping God through our giving of our financial resources. If you are a guest, please do not feel obligated to participate in the offering. Instead, we hope that we are able to give something to you. We welcome you to give only as your heart desires. For members and friends, the vision and ministry of St James depends on your giving. We thank you in advance for your

generosity. This time of offering is a significant act of worship, and we now offer our offerings and tithes.



If you prefer digital giving, please scan this QR code to be directed to our online giving platform.

OFFERTORY MUSIC- Jesus Loves Me, Special Music- Dan Petry on Guitar

Please stand

THE OFFERING RESPONSE

Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him all creatures here below.
Praise Him above ye heavenly host.
Praise Father Son and Holy Ghost.**

THE OFFERING PRAYER

Assisting Minister: Dear God, we bring these offerings before You today with hearts full of gratitude and thanksgiving. We recognize that all we have comes from You and we give back to You a portion of what You have given us. We ask that You would bless these offerings and use them to further Your kingdom on earth. May they be used to bring hope, healing, and love to those who are in need. We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Amen.

Remain Standing

GREAT THANKSGIVING

† We Celebrate the Lord's Supper †

Here our Lord gives to us His own Body and Blood for the forgiveness of all our sins

Pastor: The Lord be with you

Congregation: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

Congregation: We lift them to the Lord.

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

Congregation: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

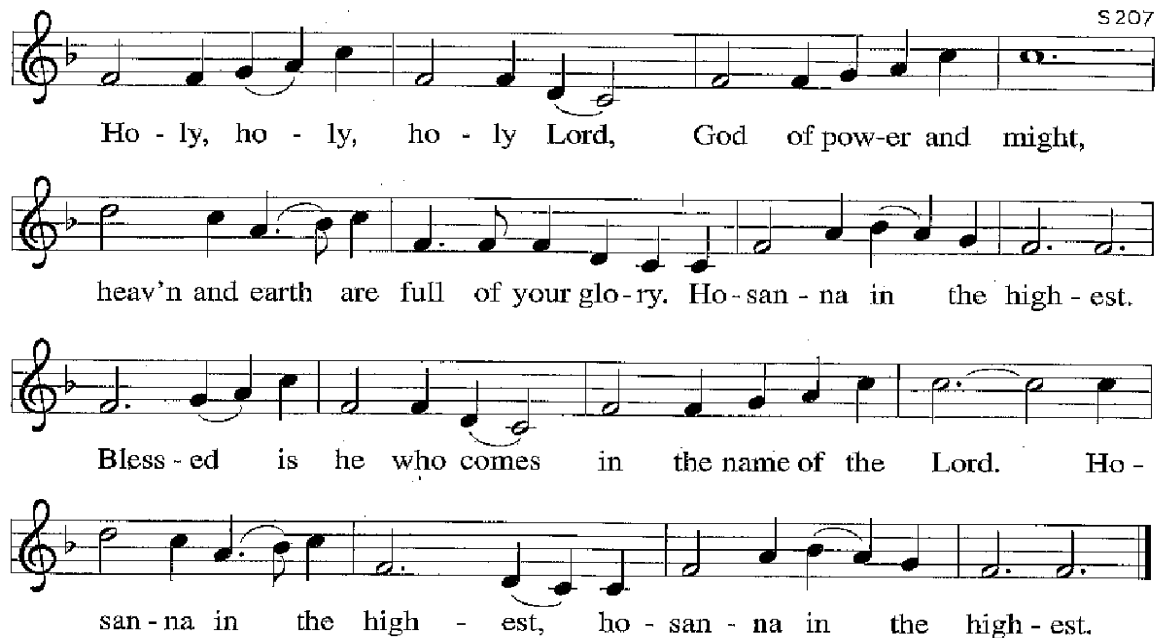
Pastor: Loving God, in this sacred moment, we gather before You, drawn together by Your boundless love that surrounds us. As we take part in this special Eucharistic feast, we reflect on the words You shared in John 14:15-21. In those words, You promised to send us the Advocate, the Holy Spirit. Your promise echoes through time, assuring us that You are always with us, guiding, comforting, and empowering us.

Just like Jesus assured His disciples of the Holy Spirit's coming, we embrace that promise today, knowing that the Advocate is here for us always. The Holy Spirit walks alongside us, offering guidance, comfort, and strength in our journey of faith.

And so, with all the angels and saints, we proclaim Your glory, as with one voice we sing:

SANCTUS

S 207



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

WORDS OF JESUS

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, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The Lord's Prayer

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 forever. Amen.

INVITATION

Vicar: In the sacrament of Holy Communion, we gather to partake in the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. As we receive the bread and the cup, we are united with Christ and with one another in a profound mystery of faith. Through this sacred meal, we are nourished, forgiven, and renewed by the grace of God. Let us approach the table with reverence and gratitude, embracing the transformative power of Christ's presence among us.

As you come forward to receive the sacrament, we ask that you come with open hearts, ready to receive the grace and love of our Lord. May this holy meal strengthen and nourish you for the journey ahead, and may you be renewed in your faith and love for our Lord Jesus Christ.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Please be seated

COMMUNION

LAMB OF GOD (sung)

Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world, Have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world, Have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world, Grant us Peace.

Please be seated

THE DISTRIBUTION

252 O Soul, Are You Weary and Troubled?

Look unto Me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth. Isa. 45:22

Helen H. Lemmel, 1922

LEMMELE 9398 Ref.
Helen H. Lemmel, 1922

1. O soul, are you wea - ry and troub - led? No light in the
 2. Through death in - to life ev - er - last - ing He passed, and we
 3. His word shall not fail you - He prom - ised; Be - lieve Him and

dark-ness you see? There's light for a look at the Sav - ior,
 fol - low Him there; O - ver us sin no more hath do - min - ion -
 all will be well: Then go to a world that is dy - ing,

Refrain

And life more a - bun - dant and free!
 For more than con - qu'ors we see! Turn your eyes up - on Je -
 His per - fect sal - va - tion to tell!

sus, Look full in His won - der - ful face; And the things of

earth will grow strange - ly dim In the light of His glo - ry and grace.

Please stand

THE BLESSING AFTER THE MEAL

Pastor: Loving God, we give you thanks for this holy meal that we have shared. As we leave this sacred space, may the bread and the cup we have received strengthen us for the journey ahead. May we go forth filled with your grace, sharing your love and compassion with all whom we encounter.

Congregation: Amen.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you now and always. As Jesus promised in John 14:15-21, the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, dwells within us, guiding us in truth and comforting us in times of need. May you be filled with the empowering presence of the Holy Spirit, experiencing the boundless love and abiding presence of our Triune God. Go forth in faith, living as a testament to God's love, sharing His grace with the world. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Congregation: Amen!

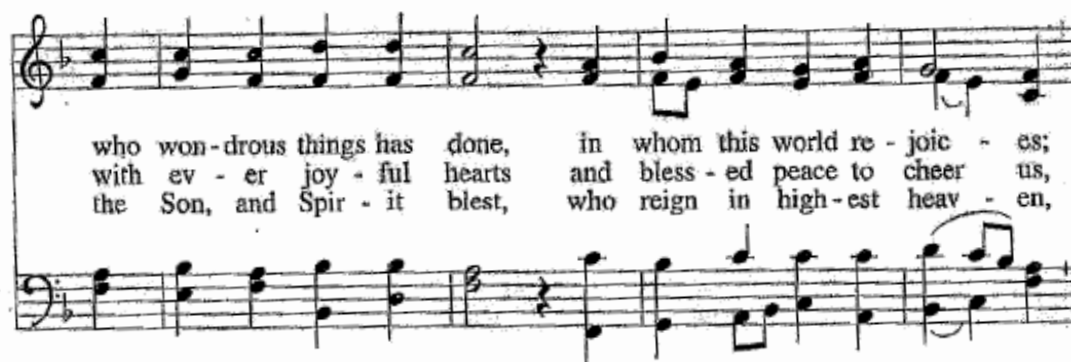
† We Depart in Peace †

NOW I Thank We All Our God

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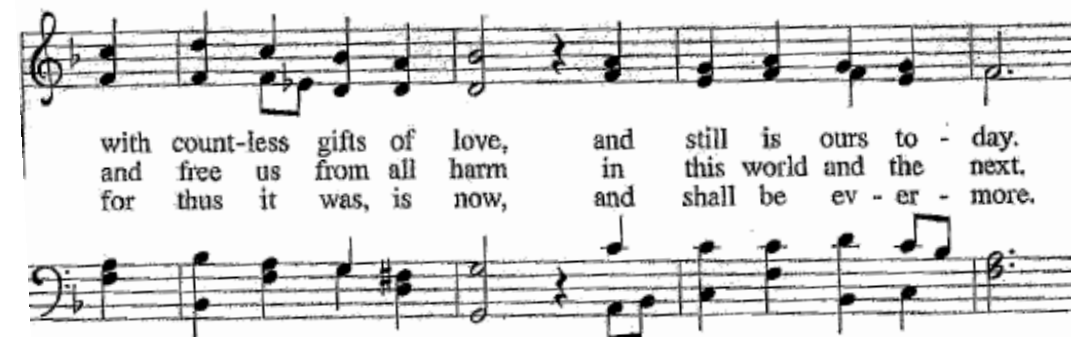
1 Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voic - es,
 2 Oh, may this boun-teous God through all our life be near us,
 3 All praise and thanks to God the Fa-ther now be giv-en,



who won-drous things has done, in whom this world re-joic-es;
 with ev-er joy-ful hearts and bless-ed peace to cheer us,
 the Son, and Spir-it blest, who reign in high-est heav-en,



who, from our moth-ers' arms, has blest us on our way
 and keep us all in grace, and guide us when per-plexed,
 the one e-ter-nal God, whom earth and heav'n a-dore;



with count-less gifts of love, and still is ours to-day.
 and free us from all harm in this world and the next.
 for thus it was, is now, and shall be ev-er-more.

Dismissal:

Pastor and Vicar: Go in peace and Share the Good News!

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

Worship Volunteer Schedule	Sunday 5/14/23	Sunday 5/21/23
Assisting Minister	Joan Shaw	Christian Gries
Lector	June Gries	Christian Gries
Ushers	Sheila Bryan John Browder	Tracy Guffey Neal Guffey
Greeters	June Gries Ron Westerfeld	John Shaw Joan Shaw
Altar Guild	Diana Clements-Scott	Diana Clements-Scott
Communion Assistant	June Gries	Karen Bell
Acolyte	Benjamin Black	Ricky Lee Blue
Sound Technician	Dan Ivers	Ronald Kissell
Slide Technician	Neal Guffey	Neal Guffey/ Michael Espinal
Live Stream Technician		
Bread Baker	Karen Bell	Jane Hale
Women's Bible Study Snacks	Kenya Ostermeier 5/15/21	Diana Clements-Scott 5/22/23
Slide Creators	Richard Bell	John Browder
Children's Sermon	John Browder	Allison LaFlower
Counters (Monday)	Maggie Bode Cindy Gregory	Christian Gries Phil Miller