

*Welcome to*  
**Luther Memorial Church**  
*of the Erie Lutheran Parish*



23 JULY 2017  
The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

*It is an age-old question: why is there evil in the world? In the parable of the wheat and the weeds Jesus suggests that both grow together until the harvest. With Paul, we long for the day that all creation will be set free from bondage and suffering. Having both weeds and wheat within us, we humbly place our hope in the promises of God, and from the Lord's table we go forth to bear the fruit of justice and mercy.*

# LUTHER MEMORIAL CHURCH

## LUTHER MEMORIAL ACADEMY

225 West Tenth Street • Erie, PA 16501 • 814-454-0106

THE REV. WILLIAM COLEMAN, *Pastor*

THE REV. J. DAVID MUMFORD

*Pastor Emeritus*

WALT GABER

*Cantor*

RON KING

*Pastoral Asst. ~ St. Matthew's/Holy Trinity*

THE REV. RICHARD SCHULTZ

THE REV. ROY WASHILL

THE REV. BRIAN MORAN

*Pastors in Residence*

LINDA GRAFFIUS, RN

*Director of Care & Health Ministries*

JAN MACINNES

*Care Ministry*

BETH KELLER

*Youth and Family Ministry*

SARAH PRYLINSKI

*Youth and Family Ministry*

SUSAN M. BELOTT

*Academy Administrator*



23 JULY 2017

THE SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Holy Communion • Setting II • 10:30

**GATHERING** – “*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*”

**PRELUDE** – “Organ Pieces for the Mass in F Major”

**P. Theodor Grünberger (1756-1820)**

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please stand as you are able.*

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

☐ Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,  
full of compassion and mercy, abounding in steadfast love.

☑ **Amen.**

☐ Trusting God’s promise of forgiveness, let us confess our sin against God and one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.*

☐ Eternal God our creator,

☑ **in you we live and move and have our being.**

**Look upon us, your children, the work of your hands.**

**Forgive us all our offenses,**

**and cleanse us from proud thoughts and empty desires.**

**By your grace draw us near to you, our refuge and our strength;**

**through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

☐ Since we are justified by faith,  
we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.  
God’s love has been poured into our hearts  
through the Holy Spirit.  
In the mercy of almighty God,  
Christ died for us while we still were sinners;  
and for his sake, God ☩ forgives you all your sins.

☑ **Amen.**

*This gentle 16<sup>th</sup> century tune was created for a secular text but by the time of a 1581 publication was associated with a sacred text. The composer of the melody, Johann Steurlein, was a lawyer, poet, and musician, and son of the first Lutheran pastor of Schmalkalden, Germany.*

*The author of today’s text, John S. B. Monsell, was an Irish priest who later served in England. He wrote and published 11 volumes of poetry, among them over 300 hymn texts.*

### ENTRANCE HYMN

LBW 412

## Sing to the Lord of Harvest



1 Sing to the Lord of har - vest, sing songs of love and praise;  
2 God makes the clouds drop fat - ness, the des - erts bloom and spring,  
3 Bring to this sa - cred al - tar the gifts his good-ness gave,



with joy - ful hearts and voic - es your al - le - lu - ias raise.  
the hills leap up in glad - ness, the val - leys laugh and sing.  
the gold - en sheaves of har - vest, the souls Christ died to save.



By him the roll - ing sea - sons in fruit - ful or - der move;  
God fills them with his full - ness, all things with large in - crease;  
Your hearts lay down be - fore him when at his feet you fall,

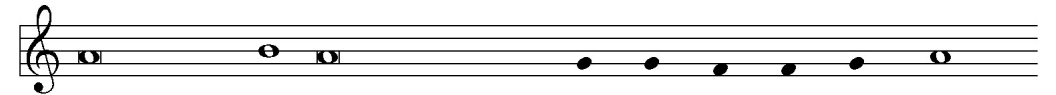


sing to the Lord of har - vest a joy - ous song of love.  
he crowns the year with good - ness, with plen - ty and with peace.  
and with your lives a - dore him who gave his life for all.

Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811–1875, alt.  
Music: WIE LIEBLICH IST DER MAIEN, Johann Steurlein, 1545–1613

**GREETING** 2 Corinthians 13:14

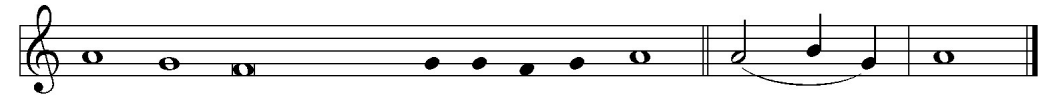
- P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C** And also with you.



**A** For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.

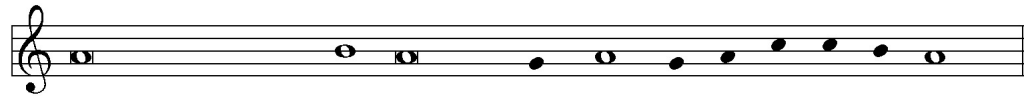


**A** Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord. **C** A - men

**KYRIE** Luke 17:13



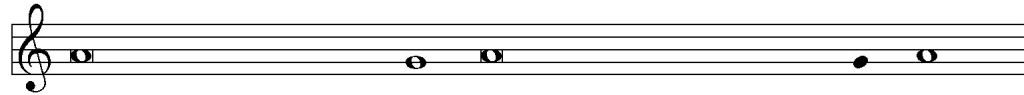
**A** In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



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



**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



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

**PRAYER OF THE DAY** Ruth 2:4



**P** The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

- P** Let us pray,
- C** Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

*Please be seated.*

**CHILDREN'S SERMON**

**WORD** – "God speaks to us in Scripture reading, preaching and song."

**FIRST READING: Isaiah 44:6-8**

<sup>6</sup>Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel,  
and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts:  
I am the first and I am the last;  
besides me there is no god.  
<sup>7</sup>Who is like me? Let them proclaim it,  
let them declare and set it forth before me.  
Who has announced from of old the things to come?  
Let them tell us what is yet to be.



<sup>8</sup>Do not fear, or be afraid;  
have I not told you from of old and declared it?  
You are my witnesses!  
Is there any god besides me?  
There is no other rock; I know not one.

☐ The word of the Lord.

☑ Thanks be to God.

**PSALM: Psalm 86:11-17**

**Refrain:** *(Sung once by the choir, then repeated by the congregation and sung where indicated by R.)*



<sup>11</sup>Teach me your way, O Lord, and I will walk in your truth;  
knit my heart to you that I may fear your name.

<sup>12</sup>I will thank you, O Lord my God, with all my heart,  
and glorify your name forevermore.

<sup>13</sup>For great is your love toward me;  
you have delivered me from the nethermost pit. **R**

<sup>14</sup>The arrogant rise up against me, O God, and a band of violent men seeks my life;  
they have not set you before their eyes.

<sup>15</sup>But you, O Lord, are gracious and full of compassion,  
slow to anger, and full of kindness and truth.

<sup>16</sup>Turn to me and have mercy upon me;  
give your strength to your servant, and save the child of your handmaid.

<sup>17</sup>Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see it and be ashamed;  
because you O Lord, have helped me and comforted me. **R**

**SECOND READING: Romans 8:12-25**

<sup>12</sup>So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—<sup>13</sup>for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. <sup>14</sup>For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. <sup>15</sup>For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” <sup>16</sup>it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, <sup>17</sup>and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

<sup>18</sup>I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. <sup>19</sup>For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; <sup>20</sup>for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope <sup>21</sup>that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. <sup>22</sup>We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; ▶

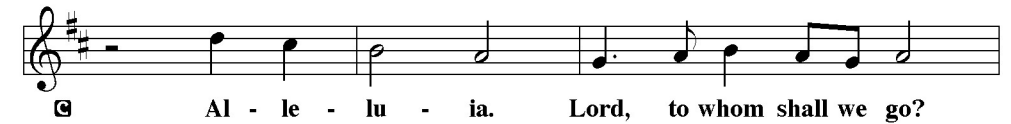
<sup>23</sup>and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. <sup>24</sup>For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? <sup>25</sup>But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

☐ The word of the Lord.

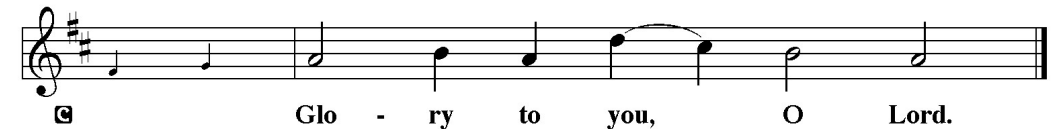
☑ Thanks be to God.

*Please stand as you are able.*

**VERSE**



☐ The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the thirteenth chapter.



**GOSPEL: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43**

<sup>24</sup>[Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; <sup>25</sup>but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. <sup>26</sup>So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. <sup>27</sup>And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’ <sup>28</sup>He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ <sup>29</sup>But he replied, ‘No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. <sup>30</sup>Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’”

<sup>36</sup>Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” <sup>37</sup>He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; <sup>38</sup>the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, <sup>39</sup>and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. <sup>40</sup>Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. <sup>41</sup>The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, <sup>42</sup>and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. <sup>43</sup>Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!” ▶

**P** The Gospel of the Lord

**G** Praise to you, O Christ.

*Please be seated.*

**SERMON**

Pastor Brian Moran

*Please stand as you are able.*

*This text's author moved successfully in the 18th century German world of law and languages. The text was written for a sketch about peasants' thanksgiving celebration of harvest. The tune is the work of a contemporary German composer whose reputation took him to Denmark where he worked for many years.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

**LBW 362**

**We Plow the Fields and Scatter**

1 We plow the fields and scat - ter the good seed on the land,  
 2 He on - ly is the mak - er of all things near and far;  
 3 We thank you, our cre - a - tor, for all things bright and good,

but it is fed and wa - tered by God's al - might - y hand.  
 he paints the way - side flow - er, he lights the eve - ning star.  
 the seed - time and the har - vest, our life, our health, our food.

He sends the snow in win - ter, the warmth to swell the grain,  
 The winds and waves o - bey him; by him the birds are fed.  
 No gifts have we to of - fer for all your love im - parts,

the breez - es and the sun - shine, and soft re - fresh - ing rain.  
 Much more to us, his chil - dren, he gives our dai - ly bread.  
 but what you most would trea - sure—our hum - ble, thank - ful hearts.

*Refrain*

All good gifts a - round us are sent from heav'n a - bove.

Then thank the Lord, oh, thank the Lord for all his love.

Text: Matthias Claudius, 1740–1815; tr. Jane M. Campbell, 1817–1878, alt.  
 Music: WIR PFLÜGEN, Johann A. P. Schulz, 1747–1800

**APOSTLES' CREED**

- I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**
- I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**
- He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.**
- He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.**
- He descended into hell.**
- On the third day he rose again.**
- He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**
- He will come again 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.**

**THE PRAYERS** *1 Timothy 2:1*

- A** Called together in the Spirit's embrace, let us pray for the mending of God's world.  
*A brief silence.*
- A** Enliven your church with love for your world, O God. Give undivided hearts to Christians in all places and especially within our city through the Interchurch Ministry of Erie. Lord, in your mercy,
- G** hear our prayer.
- A** Renew the life of this earth, O God, and let us be ever grateful for the beauty of this season. We pray for eyes to see and ears to hear all the good things you have created. Lord, in your mercy,
- G** hear our prayer.

**A** Move us to share our gifts and talents in a world filled with much need. Inspire us with creativity and the determination to be faithful to the vision you give us. Continue to raise up leaders within this congregation. Lord, in your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**A** Embrace those who suffer, O God. Give peace to all who are near death, hope to those who are depressed, shelter to the homeless, and healing to the sick, especially those we name before you now.... Lord, in your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**A** Embolden our witness to your love, O God. Send us out into the world with courageous hearts, persistence, and holy wisdom. Inspire us to tend to and delight in our children's faith. Lord, in your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

**A** Raise up your saints, O God. Inspire us by the lives of all reformers and renewers of your church (*especially Birgitta of Sweden*). Receive our thanks for the saints among us who have recently died, especially Edith Benson, and those we remember before you now.... Lord, in your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** All these things, and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust into your care through Christ our Lord.

**C** **Amen.**

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** **And also with you.** *Romans 16:16*

*Please be seated.*



**MEAL** – “*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*”

**THE OFFERING IS RECEIVED** *Psalm 116:12*

An Individual Silent Prayer as We Prepare to Make our Offering:  
*So God blessed them, and God said to humankind, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.” Genesis 1:28*

**ANTHEM** – “Blessed Jesus, At Your Word”

**Tobias Clausnitzer (tr. Catherine Winkworth)**  
**Franklin Ashdown**

*Blessed Jesus, at Your Word, we are gathered all to hear you.  
Let our hearts and souls be stirred now to seek and love and fear You,  
By your teachings, sweet and holy, drawn from earth to love You solely.*

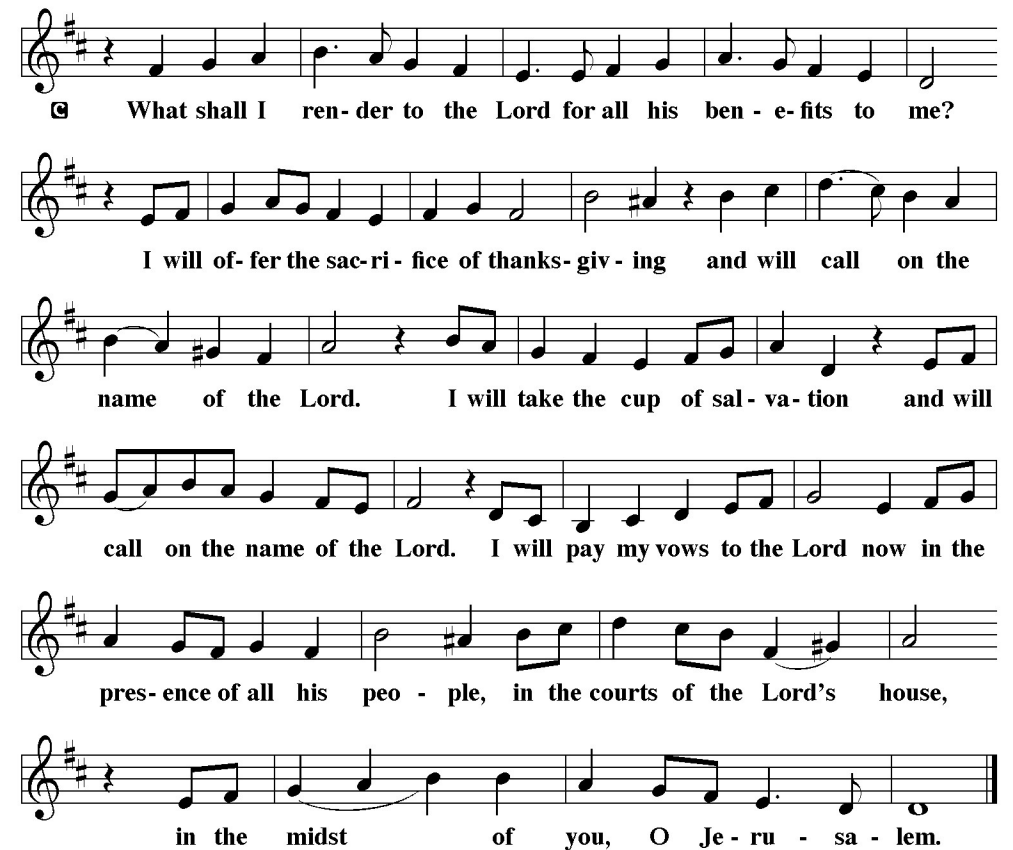
*All our knowledge, sense, and sight lie in deepest darkness shrouded,  
Till Your Spirit breaks our night with the beams of truth unclouded, filling, filling us with truth.  
You alone to God can win us; You must work all good within us.*

*Gracious Savior, good and kind, light of light, from God proceeding,  
Light of Light, glory bright; Open our heart and mind; Help us by Your Spirit's pleading.  
Hear the cry Your Church now raises; hear and bless our prayers and praises.*

*Amen.*

*Please stand as you are able.*

**OFFERTORY**



**C** What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all his ben-e-fits to me?

I will of-fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv-ing and will call on the

name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-va-tion and will

call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the

pres-ence of all his peo-ple, in the courts of the Lord's house,

in the midst of you, O Je-ru-sa-lem.

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

- A** Merciful God,  
you open wide your hand  
and satisfy the need of every living thing.  
You have set this feast before us.  
Open our hands to receive it.  
Open our hearts to embrace it.  
Open our lives to live it.  
We pray this through Christ our Lord.
- G** Amen.


## GREAT THANKSGIVING *Matthew 21:9*



**P** The Lord be with you. **G** And al - so with you.



**P** Lift up your hearts. **G** We lift them to the Lord.



**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.




**G** It is right to give him thanks and praise.


- P** It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and ever living God; 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 the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



**G** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r 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.

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

- P** Holy, living, and loving God,  
we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth.

We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the flood,  
for freeing your people Israel from the bonds of slavery,  
and for sending your Son as our Redeemer.

We give you thanks for Jesus  
who, living among us, healed the sick,  
fed the hungry, and with a love stronger than death,  
gave his life for others.

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 life-giving death and glorious resurrection,  
we await your promised life for all this dying world.

Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup:  
carry us in your arms from death into life,  
that we may live as your chosen ones,  
clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,  
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,  
in your holy Church,  
both now and forever.

- G** Amen. ▶

**C** 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. *Matthew 6:9*



**AGNUS DEI**



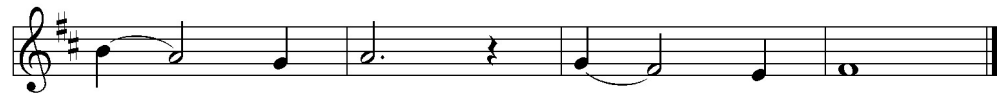
**C** Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;



grant us peace, grant us peace.

**INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

- P** Come, let us eat, for now the feast is offered.  
We receive this meal with hearts of thanksgiving.
- C** Amen.

*The congregation is seated.*

*Today's service is a celebration of Holy Communion. We believe that Jesus Christ is truly present in the gifts of bread and wine, bringing forgiveness of sins and new life to all who receive this sacrament. All baptized Christians who come at our Lord's invitation are welcome at His table of grace.*

*Please come forward by the center aisle. The distribution of the elements is by the method of intinction (dipping). Receive the bread and dip it into the chalice (cup). Wine is in the metal chalice. Grape juice, for those who prefer it, is in the earthenware chalice. Return to your place by the side aisle.*

**COMMUNION** *John 1:29*





Written as a meditation on Lamentations 3:22–23, this text is one of the few hymns among the 1200 poems by this Methodist writer and pastor that has gained much currency. The tune that appears here was composed especially for these words, and the pairing has proved enduring.

HYMN FOR THE DISTRIBUTION

WOV 771

Great Is Thy Faithfulness



1 Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther; there is no  
 2 Sum - mer and win - ter and spring - time and har - vest, sun, moon, and  
 3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth, thine own dear



shad - ow of turn - ing with thee; thou chang - est not, thy com -  
 stars in their cours - es a - bove join with all na - ture in  
 pres - ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to - day and bright



pas - sions, they fail not; as thou hast been, thou for - ev - er wilt be.  
 man - i - fold wit - ness to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.  
 hope for to - mor - row, bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!



*Refrain*  
 Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Morn - ing by



morn - ing new mer - cies I see; all I have need - ed thy



hand hath pro - vid - ed; great is thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me.

Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1866–1960  
 Music: FAITHFULNESS, William M. Runyan, 1870–1957

Please stand as you are able.

BLESSING

- P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- C** Amen.

*This hymn text is the work of an 18<sup>th</sup> century English vicar who described himself as "once infidel and libertine." He went on to a distinguished career in the church and was honored with a Doctor of Divinity degree from Princeton University. The tune is also from the pen of an English clergyman who found time to compose two volumes of piano sonatas and settings for all 150 psalms.*

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

LBW 261

On What Has Now Been Sown



On what has now been sown your bless - ing now be - stow;  
 Oh, grant that each of us, now met be - fore you here,



the pow'r is yours a - lone to make it sprout and grow.  
 may meet to - geth - er thus when you and yours ap - pear,



O Lord, in grace the har - vest raise,  
 and fol - low you to heav'n our home.



and yours a - lone shall be the praise!  
 E'en so, A - men! Lord Je - sus, come!

Text: John Newton, 1725-1807, alt  
 Music: DARWALL'S 148TH, John Darwall, 1731-1789

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

- A** Jesus Christ, host of this meal,  
 you have given us not only this bread and cup,  
 but your very self, that we may feast on your great love.  
 Filled again by these signs of your grace,  
 may we hunger for your reign of justice,  
 may we thirst for your way of peace,  
 for you are Lord forevermore.
- C** Amen.

***SENDING – “God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.”***

**BLESSING** *Numbers 6:24-26*

- P** May God, whose power working in us  
can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine,  
grant you the gifts of faith and hope.  
Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you now and forever.
- G** **Amen.**

**DISMISSAL** *Luke 7:50*

- A** Go in peace. The Spirit sends us forth to serve.
- G** **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE** – Postlude from "Organ Pieces for the Mass in F Major"

**P. Theodor Grünberger**

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