

# ***7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*** ***July 27, 2025***



## ***St Andrew's & Unity*** ***Lutheran Church***

**San Mateo & South San Francisco, CA**

**[www.unityssf.org](http://www.unityssf.org)**

**[www.standrews.org](http://www.standrews.org)**

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## **GATHERING**

**Prelude**

**Linda Underwood**

**Welcome**

**Pastor John Kuehner**

**P:** We gather together with wonder and challenges, joy and sorrows. doubt and hopes, resolve and frustrations.

**C:** **May the Holy Spirit be in our midst now and always. Amen**



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



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

Text: Rosamond E. Herklots, 1905–1987, alt.

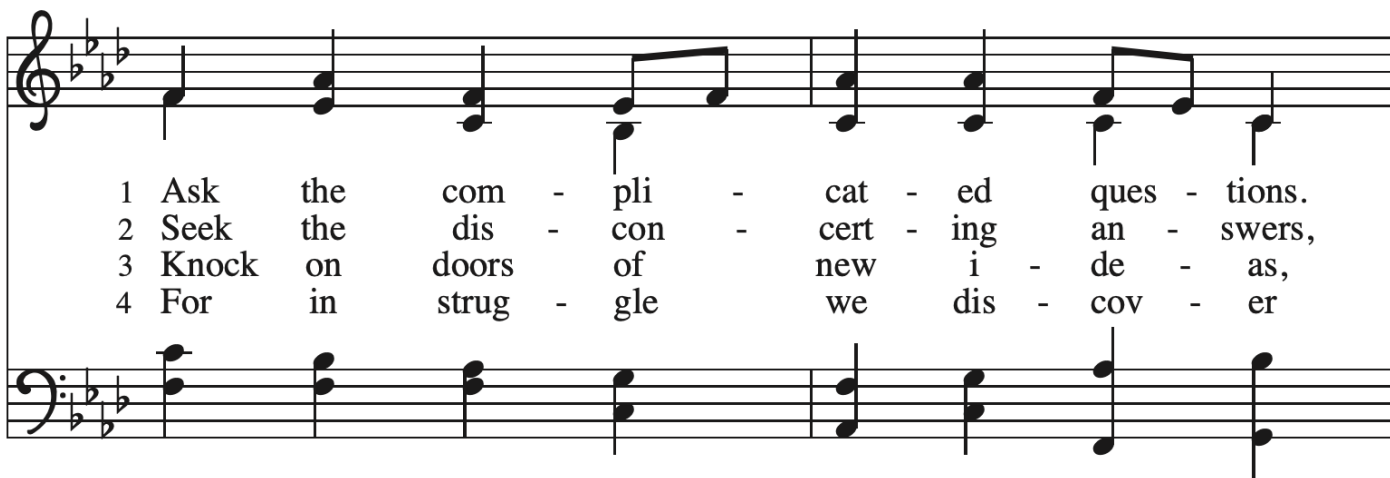
Music: DETROIT, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844

Text © Oxford University Press 1969.

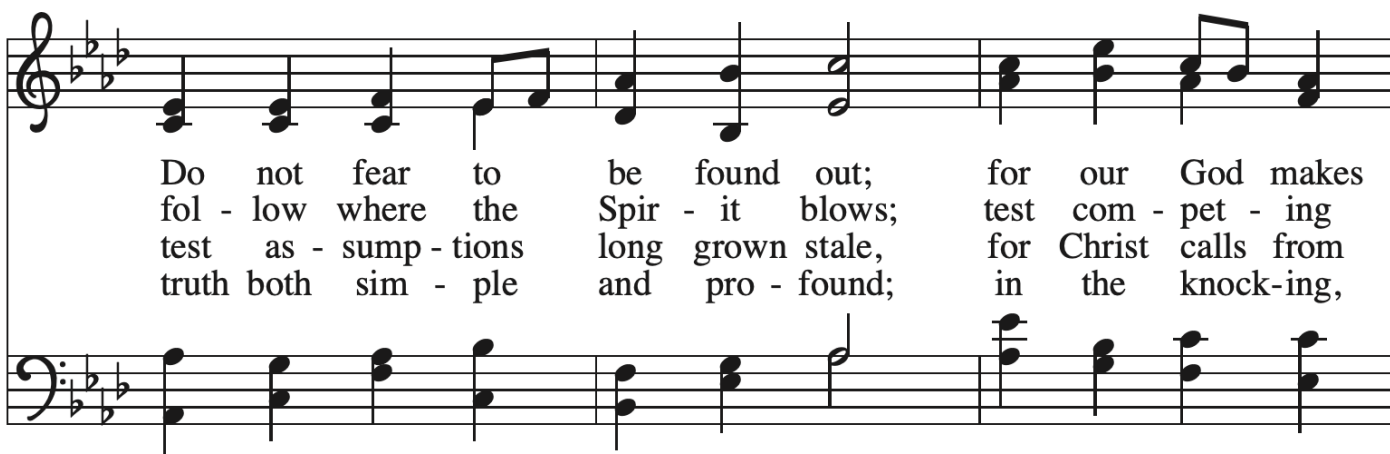
## Apostolic Greeting

**P:** The grace of our savior Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
 and the unity of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

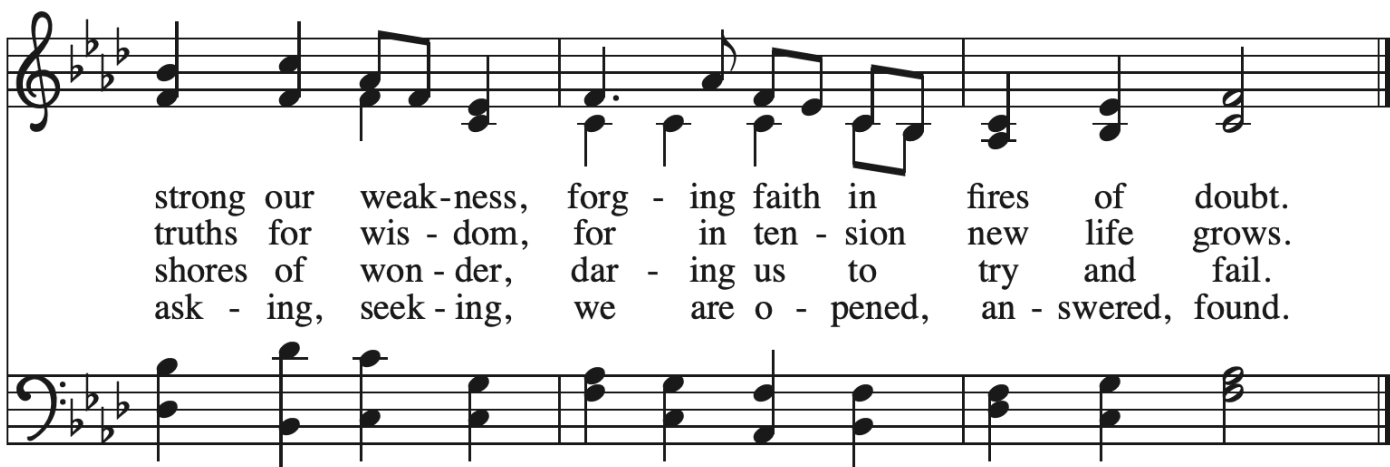
**C:** And also with you.



1 Ask the com - pli - cat - ed ques - tions.  
 2 Seek the dis - con - cert - ing an - swers,  
 3 Knock on doors of new i - de - as,  
 4 For in strug - gle we dis - cov - er



Do not fear to be found out; for our God makes  
 fol - low where the Spir - it blows; test com - pet - ing  
 test as - sump - tions long grown stale, for Christ calls from  
 truth both sim - ple and pro - found; in the knock-ing,



strong our weak-ness, forg - ing faith in fires of doubt.  
 truths for wis - dom, for in ten - sion new life grows.  
 shores of won - der, dar - ing us to try and fail.  
 ask - ing, seek - ing, we are o - pened, an - swered, found.

Text: David Bjorlin, b. 1984

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Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress

## Prayer of the Day

Almighty and ever-living God, you are always more ready to hear than we are to pray. 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 Jesus our Savior.

**Amen**

## WORD

### First Reading: Genesis 18:20-32

*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 my 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 my 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 my 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 my 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."

### Call and Response Reading: Psalm 138

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

**<sup>2</sup> I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of your steadfast love and faithfulness; for you have glorified your name and your word above all things. <sup>3</sup> When I called, you answered me; you increased my strength within me. <sup>4</sup> All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O LORD, when they have heard the words of your mouth. <sup>5</sup> They will sing of the ways of the LORD, that great is the glory of the LORD. <sup>6</sup> The LORD is high, yet cares for the lowly, perceiving the haughty from afar. <sup>7</sup> Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe; you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right hand shall save me. <sup>8</sup> You will make good your purpose for me; O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works of your hands.**

## **Second Reading: Colossians 2:6-15**

*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 walk 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> Watch out that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental principles of the world, 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 the removal of 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.**

# Gospel Acclamation

ELW Setting 8



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

## Gospel Verse

P: The Gospel according to St. Luke C: **Glory to you, O Lord**

## Gospel – Luke 10:38-42

<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> So he said to them, “When you pray, say: Father, may your name be revered as holy. May 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 out of friendship, 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 to 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 asked for a fish, would

give a snake instead of a fish? <sup>12</sup> Or if the child asked for an egg, would 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!”

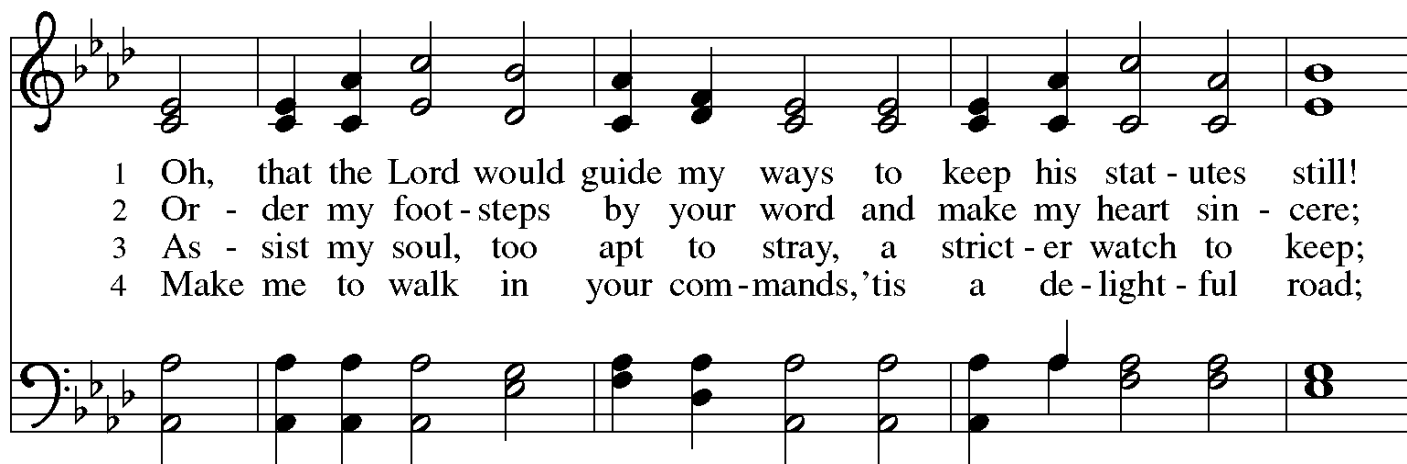
P: This is the Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor John Kuehner

Hymn of the Day *Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways* ELW 772



1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways to keep his stat - utes still!  
2 Or - der my foot - steps by your word and make my heart sin - cere;  
3 As - sist my soul, too apt to stray, a strict - er watch to keep;  
4 Make me to walk in your com - mands, 'tis a de - light - ful road;



Oh, that my God would grant me grace to know and do his will!  
let sin have no do - min - ion, Lord, but keep my con - science clear.  
and should I e'er for - get your way, re - store your wan - d'ring sheep.  
nor let my head or heart or hands of - fend a - gainst my God.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.

Music: EVAN, William H. Havergal, 1793–1870

## 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.**

## Prayers of Intercession

*Response to each petition*

**A:** God in your mercy,      **C:** hear our prayer.

## Offering Time and Reflection

*We believe that we are freed in Christ  
to serve and love our neighbor.*

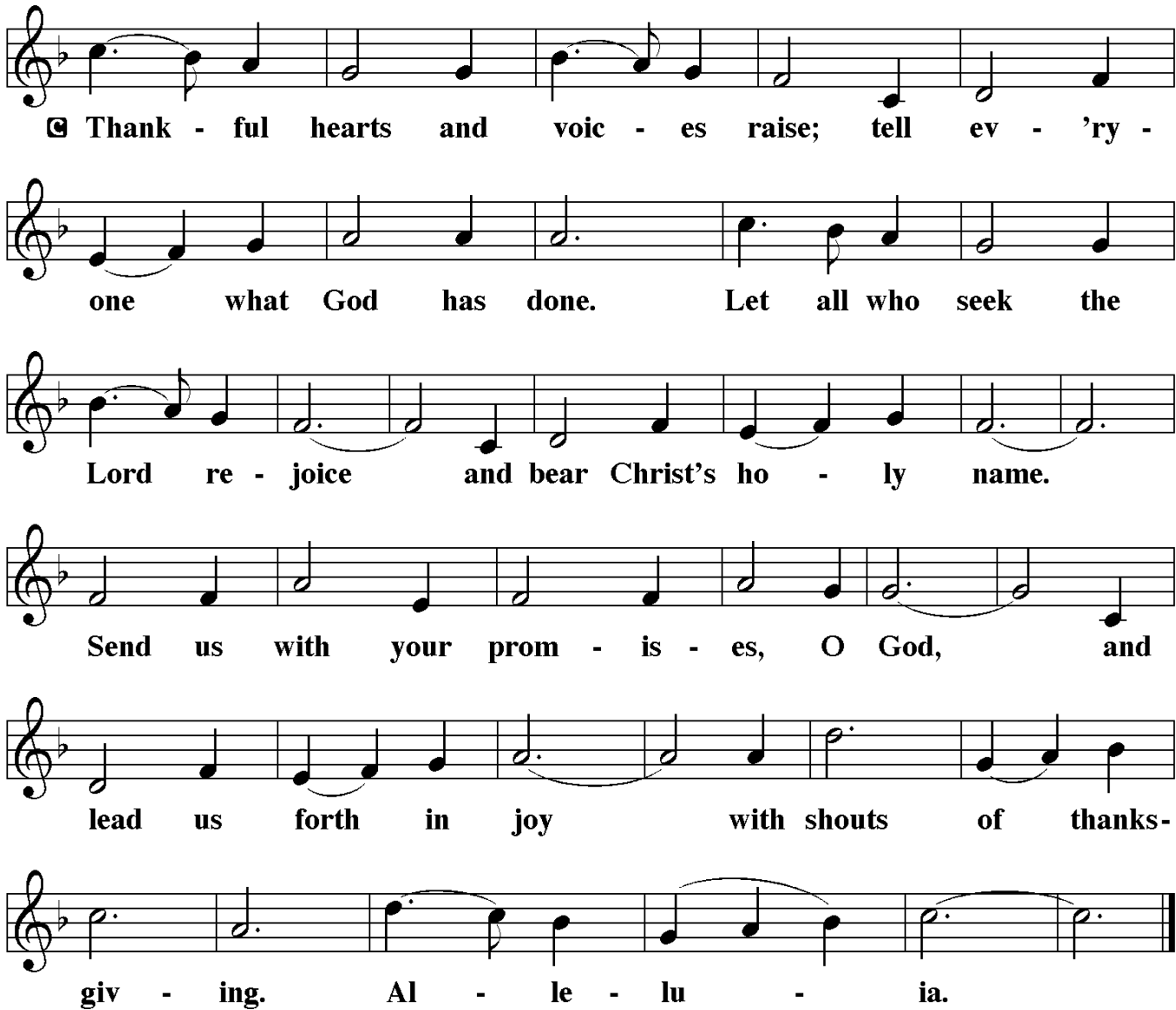
*How do we respond to God's call to serve and love our  
neighbors? We faithfully steward the gifts God has so  
abundantly given to us. It is about how we use all that God  
has entrusted to our care — our time, our talents and our  
treasures — to love God and our neighbors, both inside and  
outside of the church walls and our homes.*



# Offertory Response

*Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise (Young)*

ELW 206



☐ Thank - ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev - 'ry -  
one what God has done. Let all who seek the  
Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.  
Send us with your prom - is - es, O God, and  
lead us forth in joy with shouts of thanks -  
giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia.

## MEAL

### Offertory Prayer

### Holy Communion

P: God be with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: And also with you.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to our God.

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

# Holy, Holy

ELW Setting 8

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

## Words of Institution

### Lord's Prayer

**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.**

# SENDING

## Post Communion Prayer

### Blessing

P: 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.

C: Amen.

### Sending Hymn

*Praise the Lord, Rise up Rejoicing*

*ELW 544*

*(Turn to final page)*

### Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Live by the Spirit

C: Thanks be to God.

### Postlude

Linda Underwood



1 Praise the Lord, rise up re - joic - ing, wor - ship, thanks, de -  
 2 Scat - tered flock, one shep - herd shar - ing, lost and lone - ly,  
 3 Sins for - giv - en, wrongs for - giv - ing, we go forth a -



vo - tion voic - ing: glo - ry be to God on high!  
 one voice hear - ing, ears at - ten - tive to your word;  
 lert and liv - ing in your Spir - it, strong and free.



Christ, your cross and pas - sion shar - ing, by this eu - cha -  
 by your blood new life re - ceiv - ing, in your bod - y,  
 Part - ners in your new cre - a - tion, seek - ing peace in



rist de - clar - ing yours the fi - nal vic - to - ry.  
 firm be - liev - ing, we are yours, and you the Lord.  
 ev - 'ry na - tion, may we faith - ful fol - l'wers be.

Text: Howard C. A. Gaunt, 1902–1983, alt.

Music: ALLES IST AN GOTTES SEGEN, Johann Löhner, 1645–1705, adapt.

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