

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost



August 2, 2026

WELCOME!

If you are a visitor, please sign the guest book in the narthex. If you are seeking a church home, we joyfully invite you to join with us; please speak to me, Pastor Jami Possinger.

Holy Communion is open to all baptized believers who trust that the Lord is present for them in His Supper.

Please silence all cell phones and other electronic devices to fully enter into this time of worship.

Faith Lutheran Church
550 Rt. 940 | PO Box 228
Blakeslee, PA 18610
Office 570-646-0309

Email: faithoffice@faithlutheranblakeslee.org

Website: faithlutheranblakeslee.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Faith-Lutheran-Church-Blakeslee-PA-1721550018126312>

Minister:Rev. Jami Possinger
Lector..... Peggy Rapp
Greeters/Ushers:.....Janice Neagle
Communion Asst./Clean up:John Lyman/Peggy Rapp
Music:.....Molly Finkbiner

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A brief congregational meeting will be held today immediately after worship. The agenda will include an update and a request for additional funds to complete the entire construction of the front deck entrance. Please plan to attend.

Faith Fair: Coming **Saturday, August 8!** Set up will start on Friday, August 7 at 2:30 p.m. Anyone dropping off baked goods, raffle baskets or other items for the fair, please do so between 2:30 p.m. and 5 p.m. We appreciate all the volunteers helping make this possible.

Flowers and Bulletins: donated by Peggy Rapp in honor of her family at Faith.

Altar Service Signup: Volunteers are needed to set-up, bake bread, and clean up after communion. Please email Jan Frantz at Boris_fan@yahoo.com to help.

Bulletin Sponsors and Flower Donations: Sign-up sheets for 2026 are on the table in the foyer entrance of the church. In-house bulletin for \$10 and \$10 towards silk flowers, or you may bring your own fresh flowers. **Please complete the requisition form with your dedication note.**

Faith Fellowship Team: Our mission is encouraging interaction, building relationships, and creating a sense of belonging within the congregation and with the local community. If you're interested in becoming part of the Faith Fellowship Team, please contact Sara Cornell at 570-472-5560 or at saracornell10@gmail.com.

MEETINGS/EVENTS

AA Meetings: Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday at 12 p.m.

American Red Cross Blood Drive: Sept. 16, 2026, 1 p.m.-6 p.m. Please call 800-733-2767 to pre-register.

Applefest: Saturday, Sept. 26, 2026. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Quilt Raffle tickets \$5 each or 5 for \$20.

Bible Study: Sessions on Sundays, 8 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Studying Joshua.

Bible Study: Wednesdays, 11 a.m. to Noon with Pastor Jami.

Choir Rehearsals: resume in September from 8:30 – 9:15 a.m.

Faith Book Club: The next book selection is “Borrowed Babies: The Hidden History of the Practice Baby Programs,” by Dr. Sara Cornell. Discussion will be held after worship service on Sept. 6 at Murphy’s Loft.

Faith Library: Please see one of the “Little Librarians” or Sara Cornell with any donations or questions.

Faithful Community Quilters: Second Monday of the month, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Free Community Lunch: First Tuesday of each month. (Aug. 4) 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Five Loaf House, 133 Firehouse Road, Pocono Pines.

Holy Grounds Coffee Hour: Fellowship will be held after worship on the second Sunday of each month. Volunteers to host are needed—please sign up on the sheet in the back of the church.

Pastor Jami Possinger has weekly office hours. Confidential email: pastor@faithlutheranblakeslee.org or private cell phone: 610-216-9951

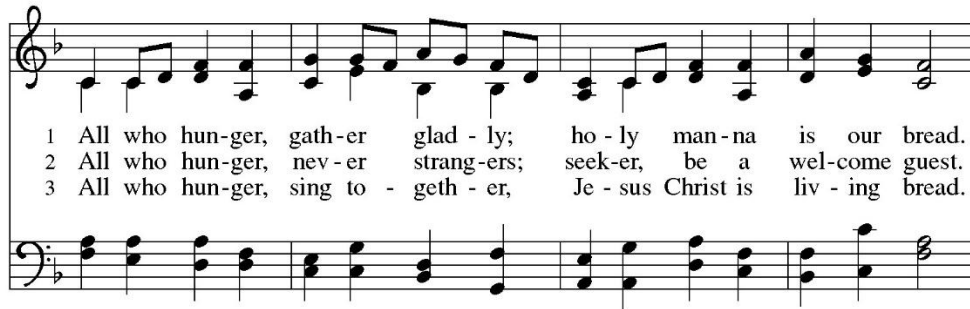
In today's first reading God invites all who are hungry or thirsty to receive food and drink without cost. Jesus feeds the hungry multitude and reveals the abundance of God. At the eucharistic table we remember all who are hungry or poor in our world today. As we share the bread of life, we are sent forth to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry.

PRELUDES: "Panis Angelicus," "Halle, Halle, Hallelujah"

Please rise as you are able.

GATHERING HYMN

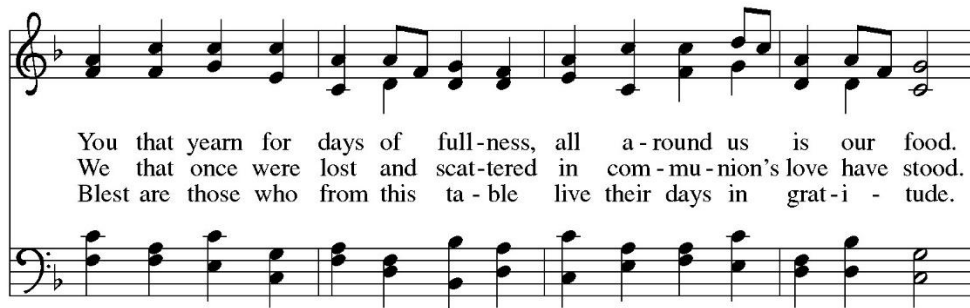
All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly



1 All who hun-ger, gath-er glad - ly; ho - ly man - na is our bread.
 2 All who hun-ger, nev - er strang-ers; seek-er, be a wel-come guest.
 3 All who hun-ger, sing to - geth - er, Je - sus Christ is liv - ing bread.



Come from wil-der - ness and wan - d'ring. Here in truth we will be fed.
 Come from rest-less - ness and roam-ing. Here in joy we keep the feast.
 Come from lone - li - ness and long - ing. Here in peace we have been fed.



You that yearn for days of full-ness, all a - round us is our food.
 We that once were lost and scat-tered in com - mu - nion's love have stood.
 Blest are those who from this ta - ble live their days in grat-i - tude.

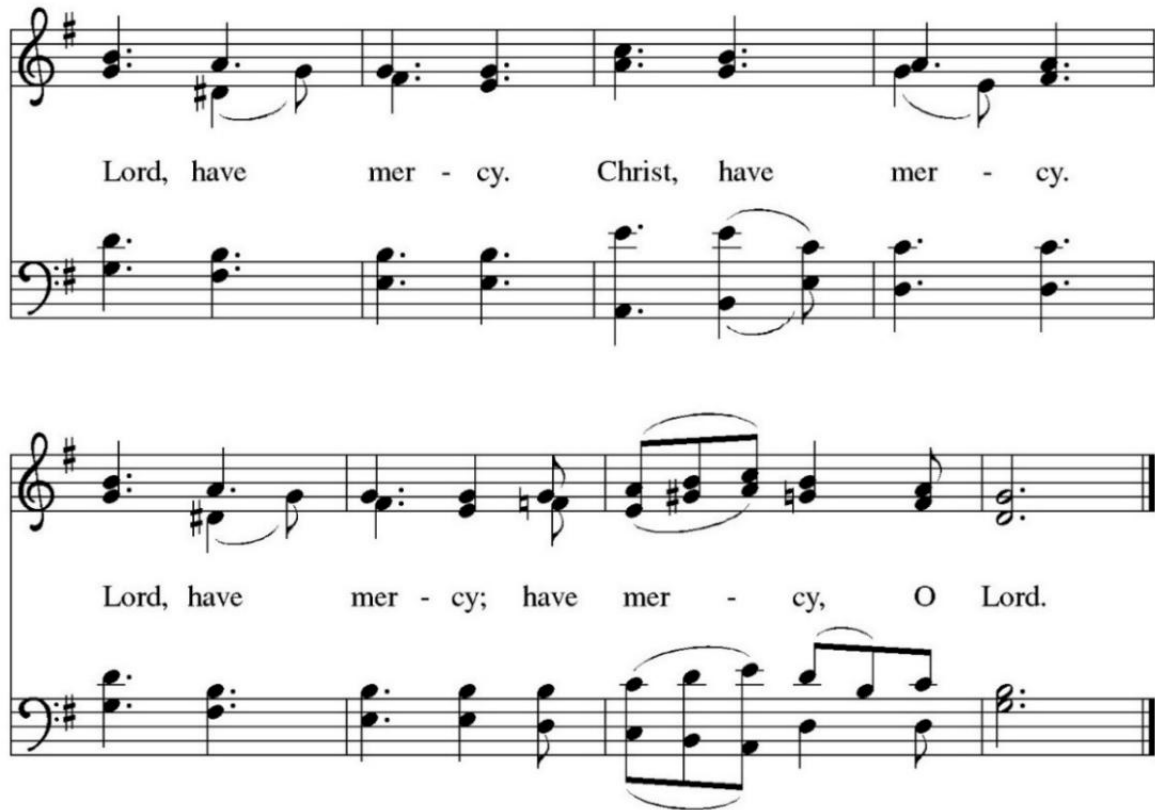


Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.
 Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.
 Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.

GREETING

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

KYRIE



Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy; have mer - cy, O Lord.

The musical score is written for two staves, treble and bass clef, in G major (one sharp). The first system contains the lyrics 'Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.' The second system contains the lyrics 'Lord, have mer - cy; have mer - cy, O Lord.' The melody is simple and hymn-like, with the bass line providing a steady accompaniment.



HYMN OF PRAISE

Now the Feast and Celebration

Refrain



Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion



sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;



praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!

1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



Refrain



freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.

2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and



Refrain



glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.

3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of



Refrain



God; to make all things new.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Glorious God, your generosity floods the world with goodness and you shower creation with abundance. Awaken in us a hunger for food to satisfy both body and heart, that in the miracle of being fed we may be empowered to feed the hungry in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

FIRST READING Isaiah 55:1-5

God invites Israel to a great feast at which both food and drink are free. God also promises to make an everlasting covenant with all peoples, with promises that previously had been limited to Israel. As David was a witness to the nations, these nations shall now acknowledge the ways in which God has glorified Israel.

¹ Hear, everyone who thirsts; come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. ² Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread and your earnings for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. ³ Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. ⁴ See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. ⁵ Now you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21

You open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing. (Ps 145:16)

⁸ The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

⁹ **LORD, you are good to all, and your compassion is over all your works.**

¹⁴ The Lord upholds all those who fall and lifts up those who are bowed down.

¹⁵ **The eyes of all wait upon you, O LORD, and you give them their food in due season.**

¹⁶ You open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing.

¹⁷ **You are righteous in all your ways and loving in all your works.**

¹⁸ You are near to all who call upon you, to all who call upon you faithfully.

¹⁹ **You fulfill the desire of those who fear you; you hear their cry and save them.**

²⁰ You watch over all those who love you, but all the wicked you shall destroy.

²¹ **My mouth shall speak the praise of the LORD; let all flesh bless God's holy name forever and ever.**

SECOND READING: Romans 9:1-5

This begins a new section in Paul's letter in which he will deal with the place of Israel in God's saving plan. He opens by highlighting how Israel's heritage and legacy include being God's children, having God's covenants, being given God's law, participating in worship of God, and receiving divine promises.

¹ I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit—² I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. ³ For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own brothers and sisters, my own flesh and blood. ⁴ They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; ⁵ to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Christ, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Congregation:

Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we

go? You have the words of e - ter - nal

life. Al - le - lu - ia!

Optional Repeat

GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to **Matthew 14:13-21**

Glory to you, O Lord.

After John the Baptist is murdered, Jesus desires a time of solitude. Still, his compassion for others will not allow him to dismiss those who need him, and he is moved to perform one of his greatest miracles.

¹³ Now when Jesus heard [about the beheading of John the Baptist,] he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴ When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. ¹⁵ When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, “This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.” ¹⁶ Jesus said to them, “They need not go away; you give them something to eat.” ¹⁷ They replied, “We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.” ¹⁸ And he said, “Bring them here to me.” ¹⁹ Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and blessed and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds.

²⁰ And all ate and were filled, and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. ²¹ And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.



CHILDREN'S TIME

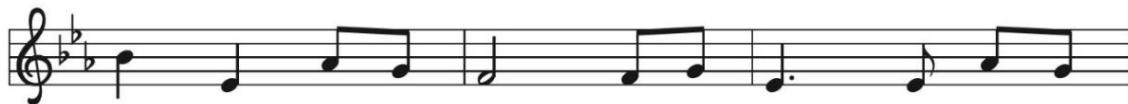
SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken



1 Loaves were bro - ken, words were spo - ken by the
2 Loaves were bro - ken, words were spo - ken in a
3 Loaves are bro - ken, words are spo - ken, as in
4 By the loaves you break and give us, send us



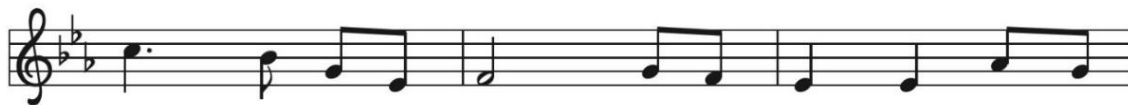
Gal - i - le - an shore. Je - sus, Bread of life from
qui - et room one night. In the bread and wine you
faith we gath - er here. Je - sus speaks a - cross the
in your name to share bread for which the mil - lions



heav - en, was their food for - ev - er - more.
gave them, Christ, you came as Light from Light.
a - ges: "I am with you; do not fear!"
hun - ger, words that tell your love and care.



By your bod - y bro - ken for us, by your



wine of life out - poured, Je - sus, feed a - gain your



peo - ple. Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.

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 OF INTERCESSION

With bold trust in God's unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

For your church in every place, that it satisfies those who hunger for your word. Bless the ministry of readers, translators, Bible study leaders, and writers, that God's word is broken open and shared with all. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For your wondrous creation and all the bounty it provides, that your creatures are fed and nourished. Bless the work of farmers, farmworkers, those who fish, and all whose labor brings your abundance to our tables. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For your children in every nation, that they learn to love justice and live in harmony. As this week we remember the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, keep us mindful of the horrors of war; draw our hearts instead toward your reign of love, hope, and peace. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For all who cry out with great sorrow and unceasing anguish, that they are comforted. Feed all who struggle with food insecurity; have mercy on all who are suffering in body, mind, and spirit. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

PRAYER LIST

Jim H.; Megan; Larissa; Denis H.; William; Richard Z.; Danielle S.; David S.; Michael K.; Gail and Bob C.; Shirley S.; Justin E.; Ed. T.; Dale H.; Tom M.; Wilbur B.; Zion United Brodheadsville

For this congregation, as we bear faithful witness to the abundance and joy of life in you. Bless all your faithful people gathered here, that they may become blessings for this community. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

With thanksgiving for the faithful who now rest in your mercy, that their witness continues to inspire the church. By their example, may we trust your promises in life and in death. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

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

OFFERING MUSIC: “Let Us Break Bread Together,” by Charles Callahan, *played by Molly Finkbiner.*

OFFERTORY SONG

692 **We Are an Offering** [U]

The musical score is written for voice and piano in 4/4 time. It consists of four systems of music. The first system has a treble and bass staff. The treble staff has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The bass staff has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The lyrics are: 'We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our'. The second system has a treble and bass staff. The treble staff has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The bass staff has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The lyrics are: 'lives up to you: we are an offering. Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our'. The third system has a treble and bass staff. The treble staff has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The bass staff has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The lyrics are: 'hands, Lord, use our lives, they are yours: we are an offering.'. The fourth system has a treble and bass staff. The treble staff has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The bass staff has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The lyrics are: 'All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we'.

We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our

lives up to you: we are an offering. Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our

hands, Lord, use our lives, they are yours: we are an offering.

All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we

Chords: Dm⁷, C², B^b, Dm⁷, F, G

give to you, we give to you. We lift our

Chords: C, Dm⁷, C², C, F, C

voic - es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you:

Chords: Dm⁷, C

we are an of-fer-ing, we are an of-fer-ing.

OFFERING PRAYER

Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. **Amen.**

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

Lift up your hearts.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

And also with you.

We lift them to the Lord.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

PREFACE

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 *Great Thanksgiving*

The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The lyrics are: 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and might; heav - en and earth are filled with your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is the one who comes in your name. Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.'

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and

might; heav - en and earth are filled with your

glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is the one who comes in your name. Ho -

san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age. Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

With this bread and cup, we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:



Christ has died. Christ is ris-en. Christ will come, come a - gain.

O God of resurrection and new life:

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast.
Grace our table with your presence.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

Come, Holy Spirit.

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!



LAMB OF GOD

Congregation: *Congregation or Assistant:*

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
 you break the chains of ha - tred and
 you are the way of jus - tice and
 you are the way of mer - cy and

Congregation:

world: have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us,
 fear:
 peace:
 love.

Final Stanza
Congregation or Assistant:

mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you

Congregation:

take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace,
 grant us peace, grant us peace.

Text and Music: Marty Haugen, © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

COMMUNION BLESSING

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



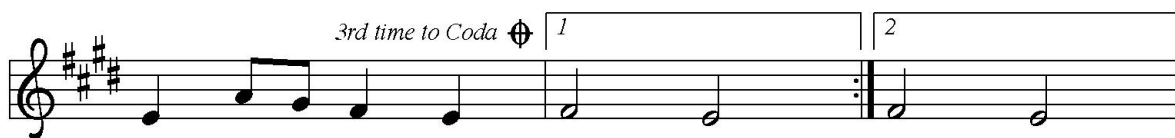
Praise to You, O God of Mercy



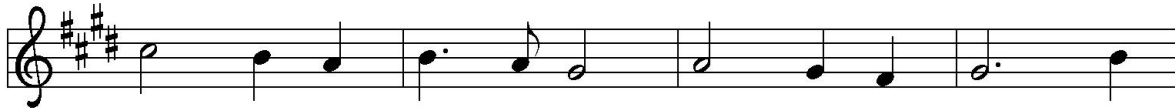
1 Praise to you, O God of mer - cy: thanks be to you for -
 2 From of old you loved and sought us: thanks be to you for -
 3 Praise to you, O God of mer - cy: thanks be to you for -



ev - er! Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly:
 ev - er! Truth and jus - tice you have taught us:
 ev - er! Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly:



thanks be to you for - ev - er!
 thanks be to you for - ev - er!
 thanks be to you for -



Strong is your faith - ful-ness, strong is your love, re -



mem - b'ring your cov - e - nant of life with us.

⊕ Coda



ev - er! Thanks be to you for - ev - er!

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

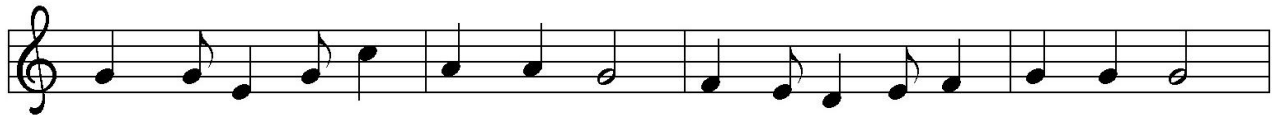
Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever. **Amen.**

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN

WOV 754

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ



1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a shout of joy:
2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at the ta - ble he sets the tone,
3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a world of doubt,



bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im - man - u - el) ev - 'ry - where!



Refrain

Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

DISMISSAL

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news! **Thanks be to God.**



August 2nd, 2026 – Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude:

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Gathering Song:

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Hymn of the Day:

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Communion Music:

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Sending Hymn:

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ (Linstead), Fred Kaan/Doreen Potter. © 1975 Hope Publishing Company. #95156. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-726919. All rights reserved.

Postlude:

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Service Music:

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FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Celebrate
Lectionary 18

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hear & Celebrate

More than enough!

Matthew 14:13-21

Jesus was healing people in a big crowd of more than 5,000. It got late, and everyone was getting hungry! Jesus told the disciples to give the people food, but the disciples said, "We have only five loaves of bread and two fish! It will never be enough!" Jesus took the five loaves and two fish, said a prayer, and gave the food back to the disciples. The disciples gave food to the hungry people. There was enough for everyone, with baskets left over.



Color the baskets. How many were there?

Abundance from Scraps

Jesus is able to feed us abundantly, even with scraps. He meets earthly needs by feeding the crowds and continues now to offer himself as holy meal, freely given to all, no matter their income or rank in society. Advertisers have trained us that what's proclaimed as "free" usually isn't. More often, it's a ploy to get our money for some other, larger, purchase. Today we are invited to trust and receive Jesus' free gift of love without mistrusting that he's got some scheme up his sleeve.

It can be hard to relax and trust God to take care of us and nourish us with the mere scraps we often see around us. We panic and take matters into our own hands instead of trusting. We experience that crushing sense of responsibility, not just to ourselves, but to our children or parents or other loved ones to keep them fed and clothed and healthy. Trusting as the crowd did that day seems completely foreign to those of us living in North America, abundant in resources.

With food freely given, with quantity enough to feed only a few, Jesus makes this miracle, and there are leftovers to clean up. But for most of us, belief comes slowly and warily when we've been burned by experience: How will there be enough for all of us, when we've been the last one at the lunch line, the late arrival at the party, and everything's gone? What if we see people in the crowd we don't want fed and jostle our way to the head of the line to get first choice? Will it be fair? Trusting that our daily bread and even our very lives are in God's hands is hard to do as we grow older and are burdened by responsibility, but God has compassion for every member of the crowd, and we are blessed and invited to be joyful recipients of that generosity.

