

May 16-17, 2026  
Seventh Sunday in Easter

5p/9a Worship Service



**First Lutheran**  
discover more : **together**

# God Is Here!



1 God is here! As we your peo - ple meet to of - fer  
2 Here are sym - bols to re - mind us of our life - long  
3 Here our chil - dren find a wel - come in the Shep - herd's  
4 Lord of all, of church and king - dom, in an age of



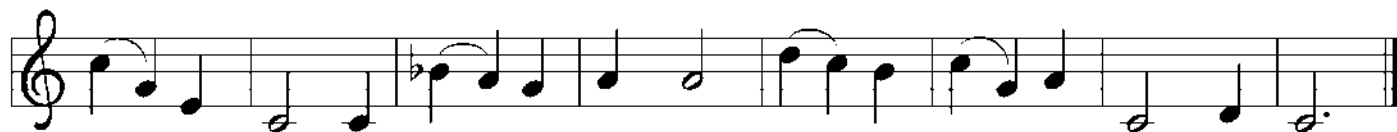
praise and prayer, may we find in full - cr mea - sure  
need of grace; here are ta - ble, font, and pul - pit;  
flock and fold; here as bread and wine are tak - en,  
change and doubt, keep us faith - ful to the gos - pel;



what it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the  
here the cross has cen - tral place. Here in hon - es -  
Christ sus - tains us as of old. Here the ser - vants  
help us work your pur - pose out. Here, in this day's



world a - round us, all our var - ied skills and arts  
ty of preach - ing, here in si - lence, as in speech,  
of the Ser - vant seek in wor - ship to ex - plore  
ded - i - ca - tion, all we have to give, re - ceive;



wait the com - ing of the Spir - it in - to o - pen minds and hearts.  
here, in new - ness and re - new - al, God the Spir - it comes to each.  
what it means in dai - ly liv - ing to be - lieve and to a - dore.  
we, who can - not live with - out you, we a - dore you! We be - lieve!

**Prelude:** Partita on "Hail Thee, Festival Day" - Arr. Charles Callahan

**Welcome**

*Stand*

**Thanksgiving for Baptism**

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**All: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

**P:** Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!

**All: Amen.**

P: Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism. (*brief silence*) Merciful God, you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come. You lead us beside still waters. We thank you for the waters of creation: morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves. We thank you for the waters that nourish us.

Blessed are you.

**All: You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

P: Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our journeys.

We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection.

We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow. Blessed are you.

**All: You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

P: Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows. Break down barriers that divide us. Fill us with the breath of peace. Blessed are you.

**All: You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

P: Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever.

**All: Amen.**

**Opening Hymn:** *ELW* #526 (st. 1,2,3)

"God is Here!"

**Greeting**

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

**All: And also with you.**

"This is The Feast" ... pg. 140 → →

*Refrain*  
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,  
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb  
who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

*Refrain*  
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,  
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and  
strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*  
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,  
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of  
God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,  
glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Refrain*  
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,  
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was  
slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

*Final refrain*  
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## **Prayer of the Day**

**P:** Let us pray. (*brief silence*)

O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**All: Amen.**

## **(9a) Children's Message**

*Sit*

### **Intro to the Reading:**

**L:** Prayer has a way revealing our deepest thoughts and desires. Jesus prays for his followers, and in his prayer we learn his deepest thoughts and desires for our protection and unity. Peter talks about how God will strengthen us in a time of temptation and need. A reading from 1 Peter, chapter 4.

### **First Reading:** 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11 *NRSVue*

**L:** <sup>12</sup> Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. <sup>13</sup> But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. <sup>14</sup> If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

<sup>5:6</sup> Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. <sup>7</sup> Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. <sup>8</sup> Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. <sup>9</sup> Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. <sup>10</sup> And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. <sup>11</sup> To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

**L:** The word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God.**



## Gospel Acclamation pg. 142

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.

P: The Gospel according St. John, the seventeenth chapter...

**All: Glory to you, O Lord.**

### The Gospel: John 17:1-11 *NRSVue*

P: <sup>1</sup> After Jesus had spoken these words [to his disciples,] he looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, <sup>2</sup> since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. <sup>3</sup> And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. <sup>4</sup> I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. <sup>5</sup> So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

<sup>6</sup> “I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word.

<sup>7</sup> Now they know that everything you have given me is from you, <sup>8</sup> for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you, and they have believed that you sent me. <sup>9</sup> I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. <sup>10</sup> All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I have been glorified in them. <sup>11</sup> And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord

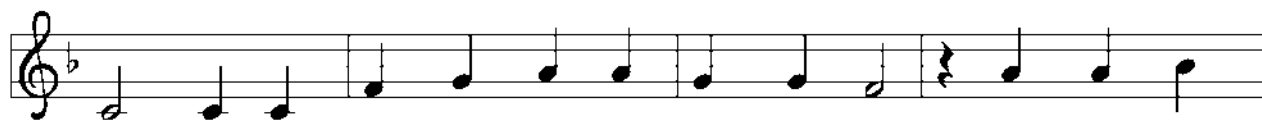
**All: Praise to you**

**Sermon ... Pr. Steve Knudson**

*Stand*

*Continued →*

## Lord, Who the Night You Were Betrayed



1 Lord, who the night you were be - trayed did pray that all your  
 2 For all your church on earth, we in - ter - cede; Lord, make our  
 3 And hear our prayer for wan-d'rers from your fold; re - store them,  
 4 So, Lord, at length when sac - ra - ments shall cease, may we be



church might be for - ev - er one: help us at  
 sad di - vi - sions soon to cease; draw us all  
 too, Good Shep - herd of the sheep, back to the  
 one with all your church a - hove— one with your



ev - 'ry eu - cha - rist to say with will - ing heart and  
 clos - er, each to each, we plead, by draw - ing all to  
 faith your saints con - fessed of old, and to the church still  
 saints in one un - bro - ken peace, one with your saints in



soul, "Your will be done." Oh, may we all one bread, one  
 you, O Prince of peace; thus may we all one bread, one  
 pledged that faith to keep. Soon may we all one bread, one  
 one un - bound - ed love; more bless - ed still, in peace and



bod - y be, through this blest sac - ra - ment of u - ni - ty.  
 bod - y be, through this blest sac - ra - ment of u - ni - ty.  
 bod - y be, through this blest sac - ra - ment of u - ni - ty.  
 love to be one with the Trin - i - ty in u - ni - ty.

**Hymn of the Day: ELW #463 (st. 1,2,4)**  
"Lord, Who the Night You were Betrayed"

***Lector: Go to the Ambo for the Prayers***

**The Apostles' Creed...Page 105**

**All: 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.**

**Blessing of the Graduates → →**



**Passing of the Peace:**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**All: And also with you**

P: Let us turn to one another, offering a sign of Christ's peace.

**Offering of Gratitude:**

*(Sit) P: You may be seated.*

We give God our thanks and praise in response to God's mercy and abundance.

We invite you to place your gratitude card along with any offering you have in the plate at this time or make an offering electronically.

Would the ushers please come forward.

*Lector—Go to Ambo before Prayer; remain up front for communion.*

**(9) Special Music:** Fugue in C Major – Buxtehude/Arr. Wolgast  
Handbell Ensemble

**(9) Offertory Hymn:** *ELW* #367 "Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds" (st. 4)

**All: Adoring praises now we bring and with the heav'nly blessed sing:**

**"Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!" Be to the Father, and our Lord,  
to Spirit blest, most holy God, all the glory, never ending!**

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Offertory Prayer:**

L: *(5p) Please Stand and*

*(9a) Let us pray.*

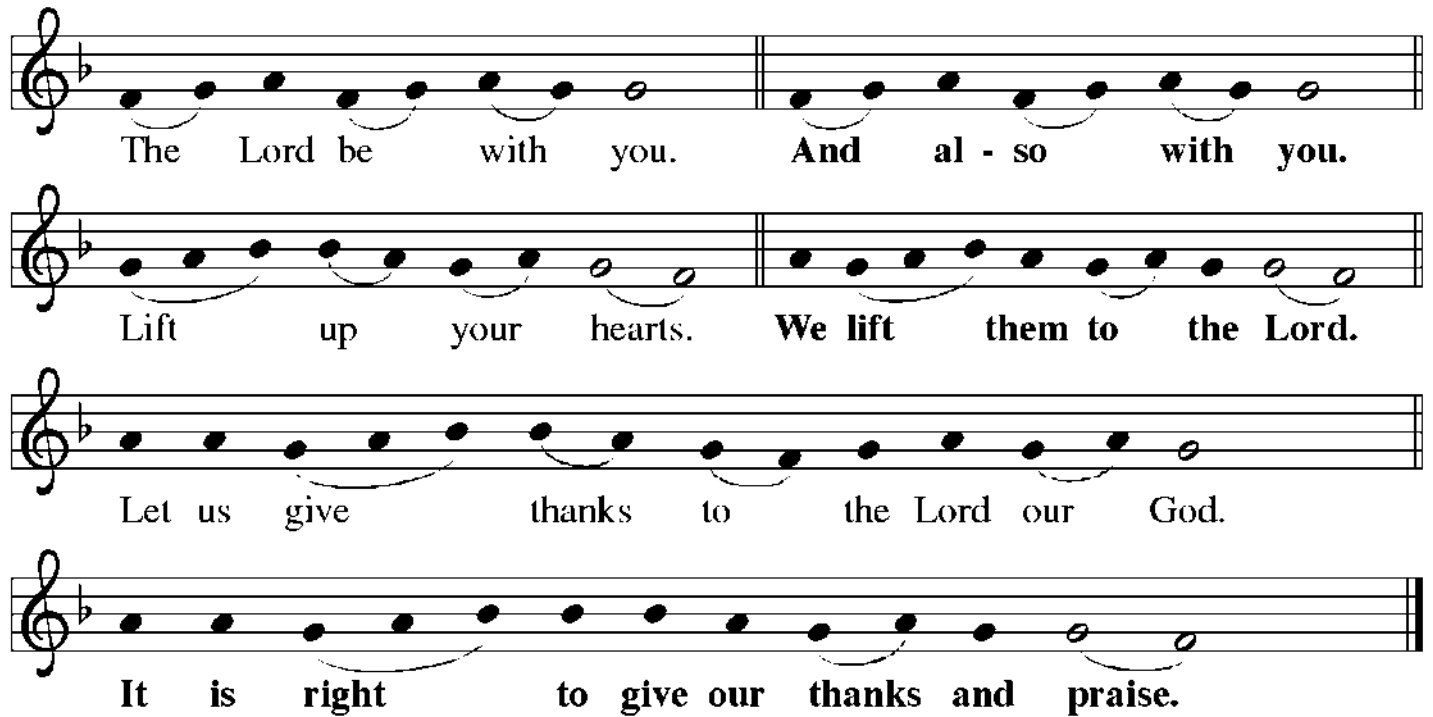
Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory.

You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus,

**All: Amen.**



The Great Thanksgiving: ... page 144



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

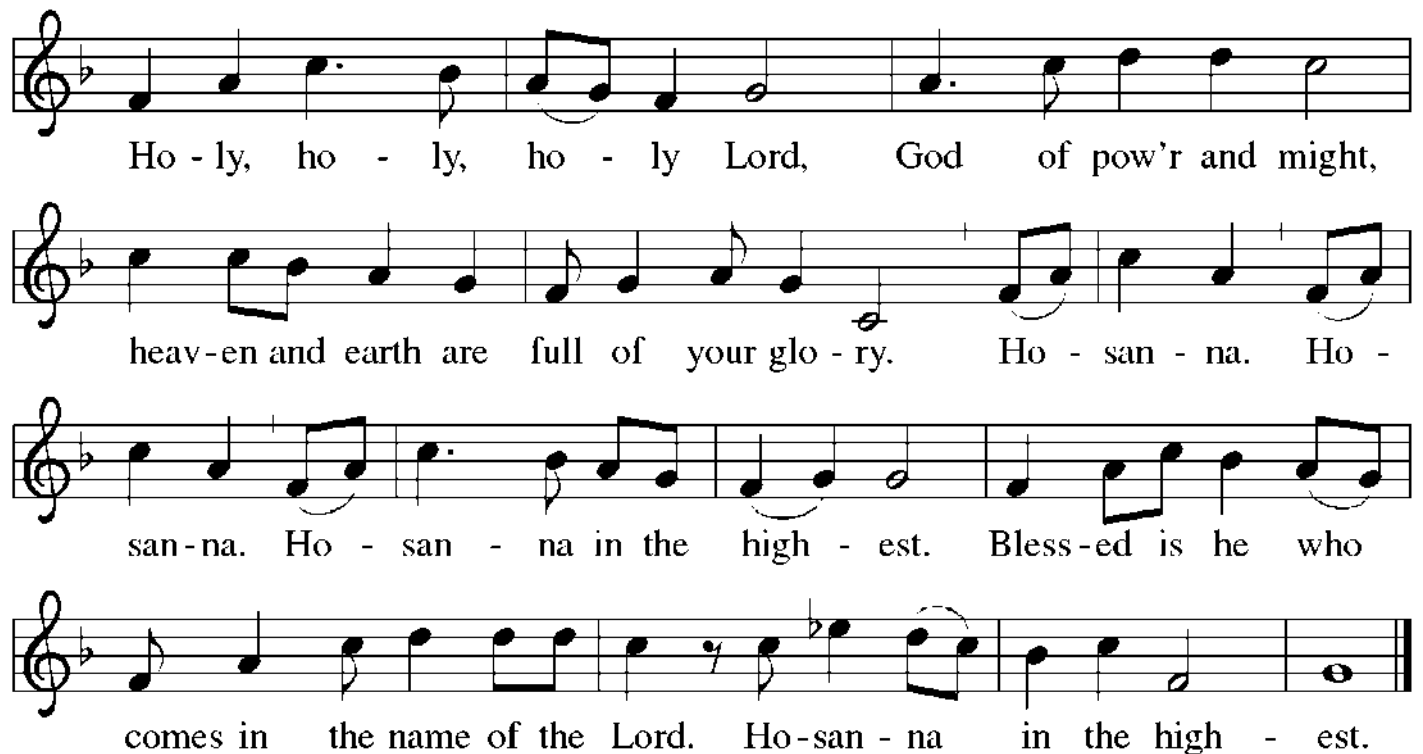
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

**Easter Preface:**

P: 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, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Sanctus:** "Holy, Holy, Holy"... page 144



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,

heav-en and earth are 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 in the high - est.

## Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether



1 Draw us in the Spir-it's teth - er, for when hum - bly  
2 As dis - ci - ples used to gath - er in the name of  
3 All our meals and all our liv - ing make as sac - ra -



in your name two or three are met to - geth - er,  
Christ to sup, then with thanks to God the giv - er  
ments of you, that by car - ing, help - ing, giv - ing,



you are in the midst of them. Al - le - lu - ia!  
break the bread and bless the cup, Al - le - lu - ia!  
we may be dis - ci - ples true. Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia! Touch we now your gar - ment's hem.  
Al - le - lu - ia! so now bind our friend - ship up.  
Al - le - lu - ia! We will serve with faith a - new.

Text: Percy Dearmer. 1867–1936, alt.

Music: UNION SEMINARY, Harold Friedell, 1905–1958

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## Words of Institution

P: 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.

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**All: 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.**

P: You may be seated. Please follow the direction of the ushers to come forward. There is gluten free bread and juice available upon request. The table is set and all are welcome. (optional) Taste and see that the Lord is good.

## Distribution of Holy Communion

### The Lamb of God ... page 146

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.

**Communion Hymn: ELW #470 "Draw us in the Spirit's Tether"**

# I Come with Joy



1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and  
2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to find, as all are  
3 As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion  
4 The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but ev - er  
5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that God has



free, the life of Je - sus to re - call in  
fed, the new com - mu - ni - ty of love in  
ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and  
near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known, a -  
done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the



love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.  
Christ's com - mu - nion bread, in Christ's com - mu - nion bread.  
strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.  
live a - mong us here, a - live a - mong us here.  
love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: DOVE OF PEACE. W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

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*Lector—go to the ambo as Pastor covers communion elements.*

*Stand*

**The Communion Blessing**

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you,  
and keep you in his grace.

**All: Amen.**

**Post-Communion Prayer**

L: Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus,

**All: Amen.**

*(Sit)*

**- Sending -**

**Benediction:**

P: Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**All: Amen.**

**Closing Hymn: ELW #482**

“I Come with Joy”

**Dismissal:**

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude: "This Joyful Eastertide" - Arr. Alan Bullard**

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**Special Thanks to our Worship Leaders & Musicians:**

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**Presiding:** Pr. Steve Knudson

**Tech Team:**

**Communications Director:** Will Mittelsteadt

**Slide Deck:** Megan Roling

**CG & Stream Operator:** Jacob Bartels

**Technical Director:** Audrey Montgomery Gardes

**Audio Engineer:** Avery Karkosh