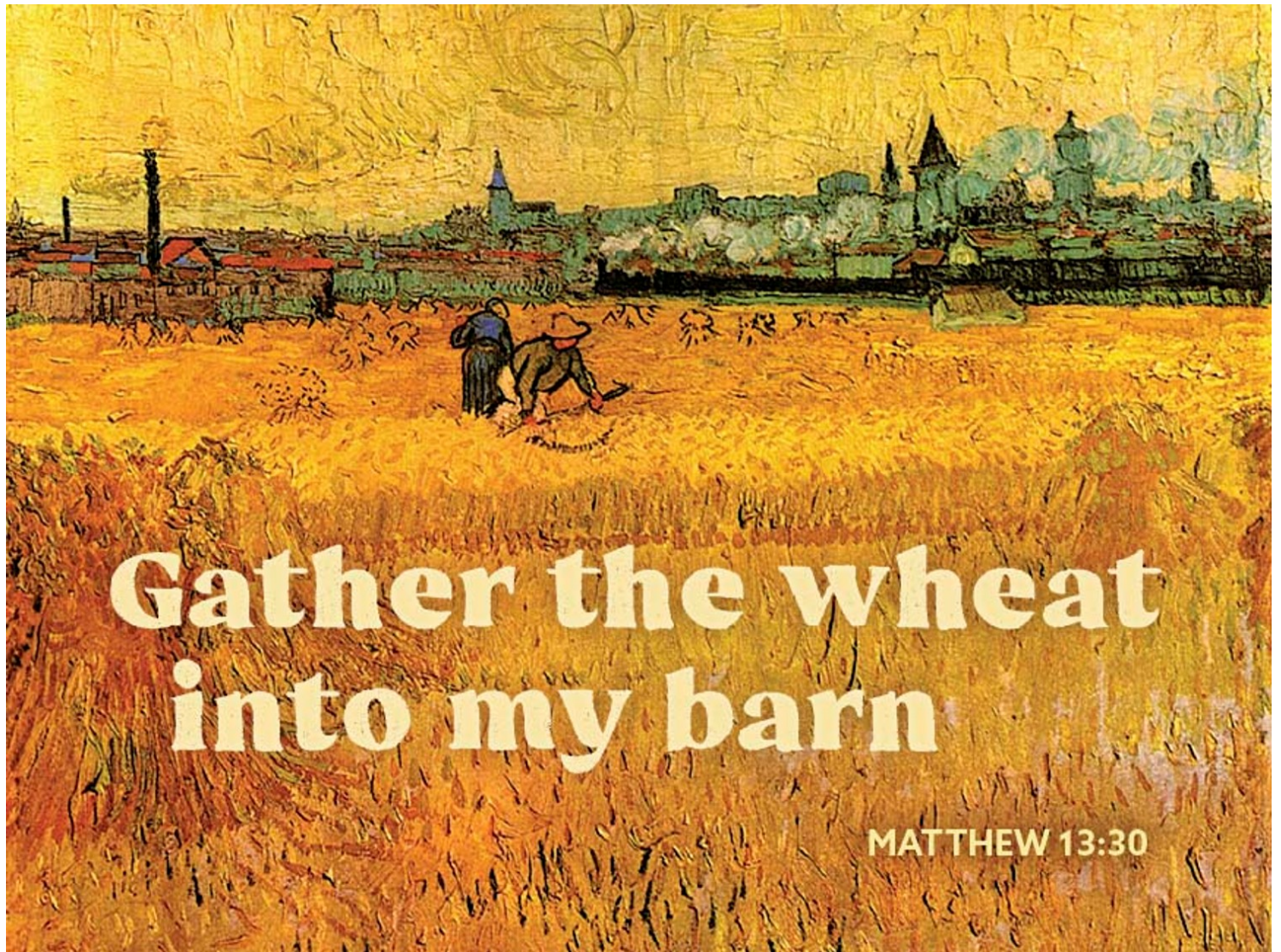




**Gather the wheat
into my barn**

MATTHEW 13:30

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

331 Weldon Street

Latrobe, PA 15650

724-537-4450 www.trinitylatrobe.com

Pastor Jess Felici & Pastor Jason Felici

Pastor Emeritus Jeffrey Schock

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

July 18 & 19, 2026

Welcome to Worship!

Pastors:

Rev. Jess Felici
Rev. Jason Felici

Phone: 724-537-4450
E-mail: office@trinitylatrobe.com

The *worship bulletin* is intended to help guide us through our worship. Sections in **bold** print are for congregation response. Throughout the bulletin you will note two symbols that denote when the congregation is invited to stand (▲) or be seated (▼) as your body allows. *Large print copies* of our worship service and *wireless sound enhancers* are available.

We believe our risen Lord Jesus is truly present in the bread and wine of *Holy Communion* and we extend our Lord's invitation to all who are baptized to share in this meal.

Non-communing children and adults are welcome to come forward for a blessing. Please contact an usher if you need *communed in the pew*.



Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

July 18 & 19, 2026

Saturday 5:30pm, Sunday 8:15am (Broadcast, 98.7FM, 107.5FM, 1480AM, 910AM;
Livestream @www.trinitylatrobe.com), Sunday 10:45am

Service of Holy Communion

(ELW Setting 4)

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.

*The prelude is a signal to end our conversation and
prepare our hearts and minds for worship.*

Prelude and Silent Prayer

Welcome and Announcements

(at the end of the bell peal, please stand as your body allows)

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

▲ Confession and Forgiveness

(All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.)

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, source of hope in every nation, rest for the weary, glory and peace to the ends of the earth. **Amen.**

Let us bring every burden to God.

(please kneel or sit as your body allows, silence is kept for reflection)

God of all mercy, we have sinned against you, our neighbors, and your creation. Within ourselves and our communities, our desire to do what is good is at war with the evil that dwells in us. We lament the evil that holds us captive. We repent of the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Rescue us, forgive us, and restore us for lives of compassion and courage through our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

People of God: All-merciful, Almighty God forgive you all your sins through the grace of ✝ Jesus Christ, and by the Spirit's power strengthen you in doing what is good. **Amen.**

▲ Gathering Hymn

“Praise and Thanksgiving”

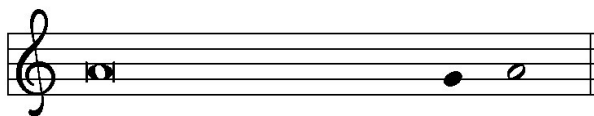
ELW #689

▲ Greeting

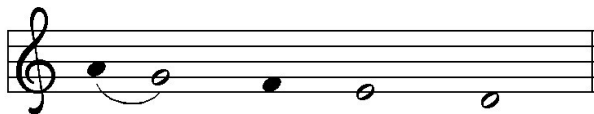
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

▲ Kyrie



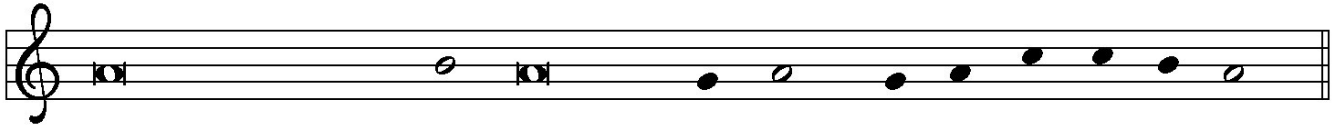
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

(continued)

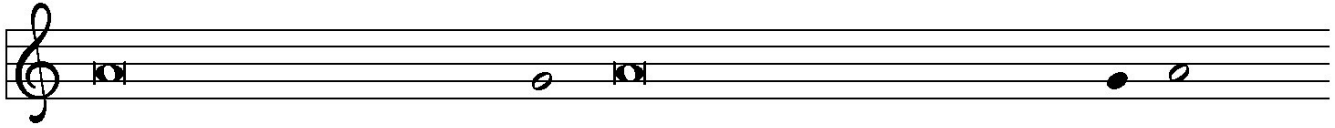
▲ Kyrie



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



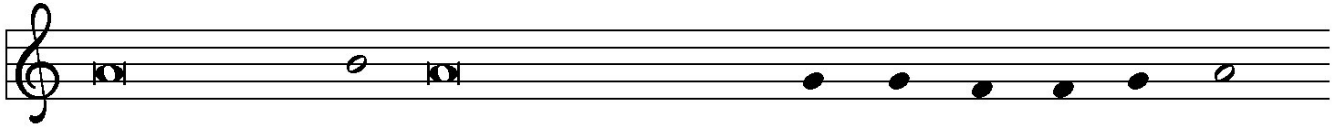
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



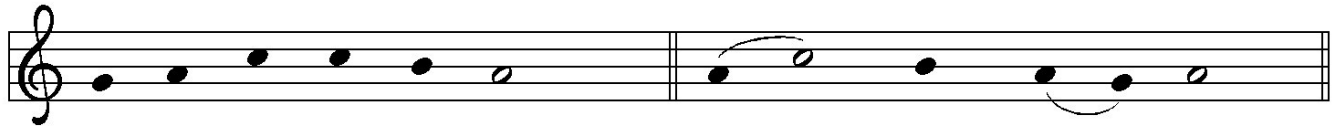
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

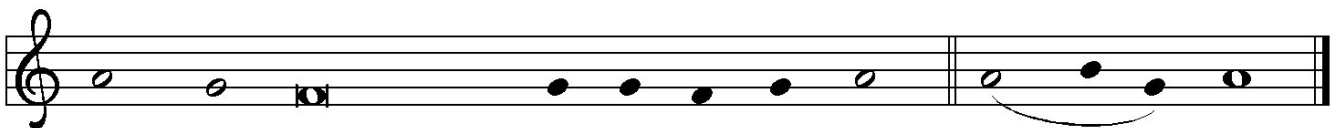


For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord.

A - men.

▲ Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. 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.**

Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

▼ Children's Message

Congregational Prompt—What is a challenge you think families face today?

▼ First Reading: Isaiah 44:6-8

This section of Isaiah is addressed to the Israelites who were taken into exile in Babylon, when Jerusalem was sacked, the temple destroyed, the king executed. Beyond hope, and despite the Israelites' continued faithlessness, God is bringing them back home, proving the divine faithfulness before the nations of the world.

⁶ 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. ⁷ 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. ⁸ 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 86:11-17 (Spoken Responsively; Leader/Assembly)

This psalm is the song of those who have witnessed and been saved by the faithfulness of God.

- ¹¹ Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk in your truth;
give me an undivided heart to revere your name.
- ¹² **I will thank you, O Lord my God, with all my heart,
and glorify your name forevermore.**
- ¹³ For great is your love toward me;
you have delivered me from the pit of death.
- ¹⁴ **The arrogant rise up against me, O God, and a band of violent
people seeks my life; they have not set you before their eyes.**
- ¹⁵ But you, O Lord, are gracious and full of compassion,
slow to anger, and full of kindness and truth.
- ¹⁶ **Turn to me and have mercy on me;
give your strength to your servant, and save the child of your handmaid.**
- ¹⁷ Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see it and
be put to shame; because you, LORD, have helped me and comforted me.

▼ Second Reading: Romans 8:12-25

Until mid-September, we'll be reading most of the book of Romans straight through. In his complicated argument, Paul notes that, try as we might, we cannot fulfill the law's demands, but that by God's grace in Jesus, we are not simply reconciled to God, but freed from the law. But "it is for freedom that we have been set free."

¹² So then, brothers and sisters, we are obligated, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—¹³ 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. ¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!"

¹⁶ it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God,

¹⁷ and if children, then heirs: heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if we in fact suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. ¹⁸ I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹ For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God, ²⁰ for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be set free from its enslavement to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²² We know that the whole creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labor, ²³ 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. ²⁴ For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees? ²⁵ 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.**

▲ Gospel Acclamation



▲ Gospel: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

This chapter, from which we'll read for the next several weeks, is made up of several parables. In this week's reading, Jesus tells the crowd the story, but explains it only to the disciples. As usual, while the images are drawn from familiar, daily life, the stories themselves show how strange the Kingdom of God is.

(continued)

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 13th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²⁴ [Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field,²⁵ but while everybody was asleep an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went away.²⁶ So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well.²⁷ 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?’²⁸ He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’²⁹ But he replied, ‘No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them.³⁰ 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.’ ”³⁶ 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.”³⁷ He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man;³⁸ the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one,³⁹ and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels.⁴⁰ Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age.⁴¹ The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers,⁴² and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.⁴³ Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!”

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

▼ **Sermon**

Pastor Jason Felici

▲ **Hymn of the Day**

“For the Fruit of All Creation”

ELW #679

▲ **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 the People (*please kneel or sit as your body allows*)

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

▲ The Peace

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

(share God's peace with each other as you feel comfortable and then be seated)

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

▼ Gathering of Gifts

As we move to the time in our worship where we offer our gifts to God's church, a portion of your offering supports Lutheran Advocacy and Ministry in PA. LAMPa, a ministry of the ELCA leads non-partisan advocacy to Pennsylvania public officials on range of interconnected issues, but particularly in addressing hunger and its root causes, striving to create a just world where all are fed.



If you prefer, scan the QR code to give online. You may then place a giving card from the pew in the offering plate as it passes by.

▲ Offertory

"We Are an Offering"

ELW #692

The musical score is written on five staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is composed of eighth and quarter notes, with a triplet of eighth notes in the final measure. The lyrics 'We lift our voic-es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an' are written below the staff. The second staff continues the melody with similar note values and rests, with lyrics 'of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voic - es, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our'. The third staff features a triplet of eighth notes in the first measure, followed by a quarter rest, and then continues with eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics are 'lives, they are yours: we are an of-fer-ing. All that we have, all that we are,'. The fourth staff continues with eighth and quarter notes, with lyrics 'all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.'. The fifth staff concludes the phrase with 'We lift our voic-es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you:'. The music is written in a simple, accessible style suitable for congregational singing.

We lift our voic-es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an
of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voic - es, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our
lives, they are yours: we are an of-fer-ing. All that we have, all that we are,
all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.
We lift our voic-es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you:

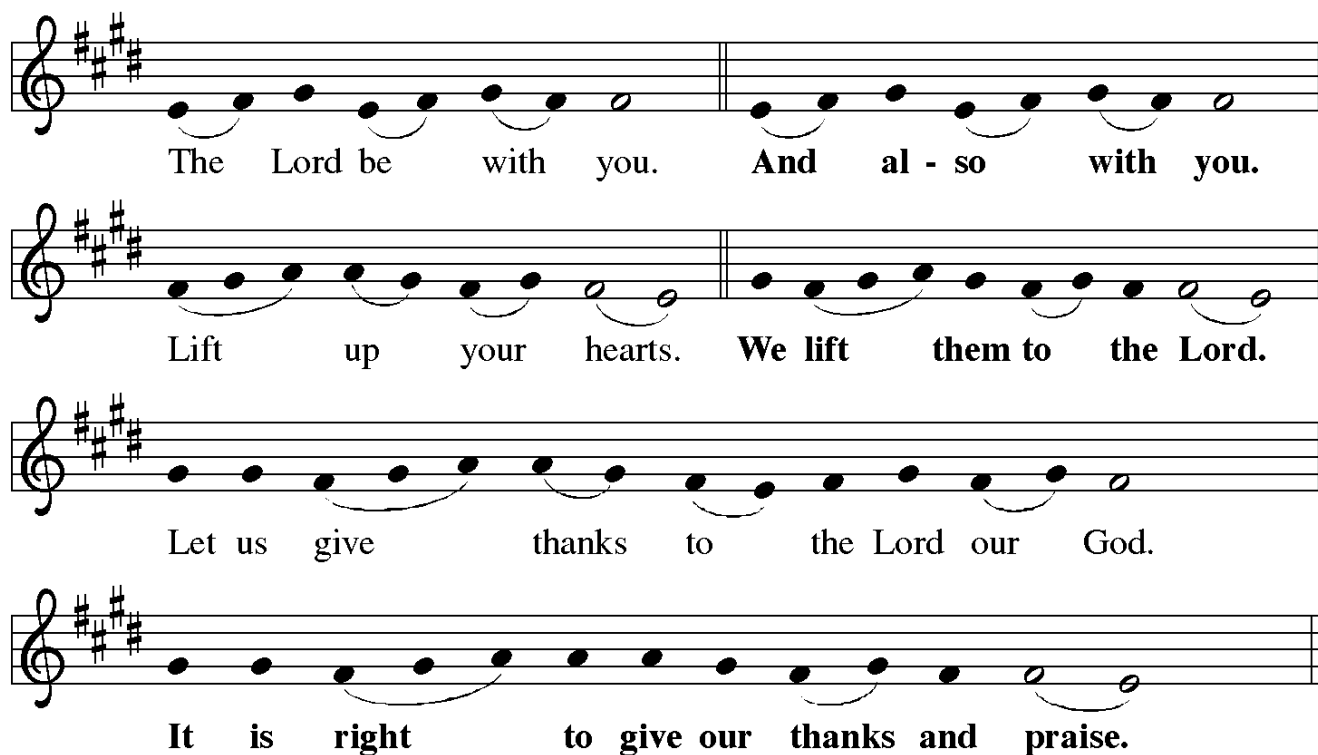
(continued)



▲ Offering Prayer

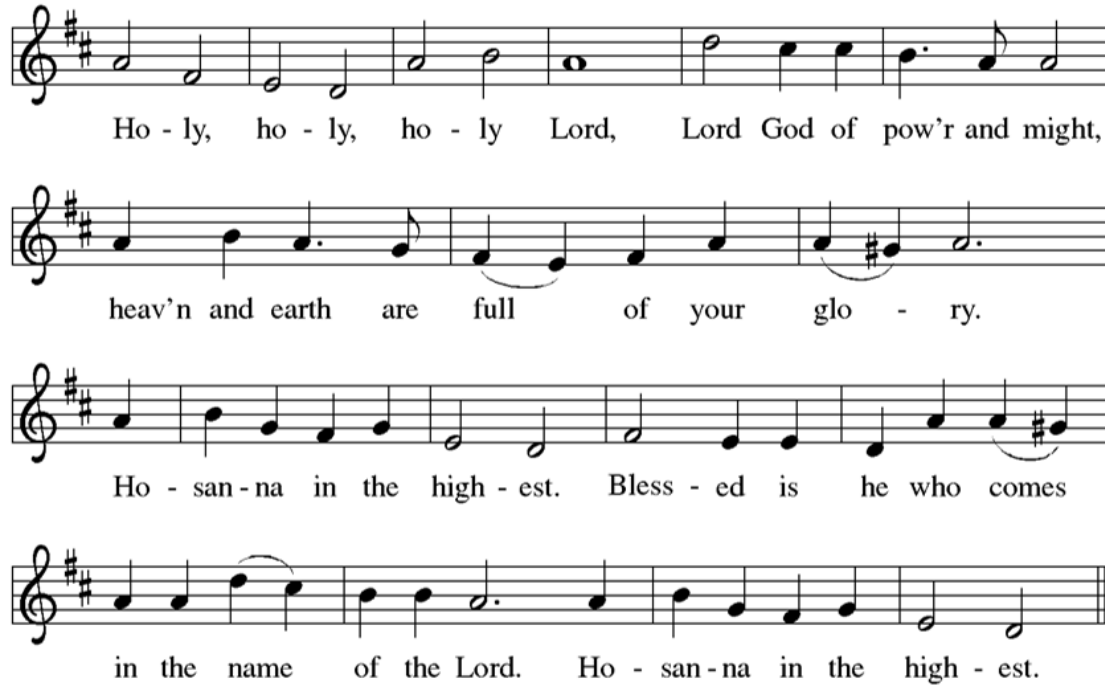
Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God, for waves of grain and harvesters, fruitful vines and winepresses, for our labor and our rest, for the gifts of your hand in this land. Transform us and what we offer into the banquet of your compassion, serving your love without limits through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

▲ Great Thanksgiving



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



▲ Thanksgiving at the Table

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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 death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

▲ Lord's Prayer

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

**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

Citizens of the commonwealth of heaven: Taste and know that God is good to all.

▲ Lamb of God

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.

▼ Distribution of Communion

*To receive communion, please come down the center aisle, take a cup from the tray and gather at the altar rail. Receive the bread into your hand. Wine will be poured into your cup. **The communion wine is gluten free. Gluten free wafers are available upon request.** For those unable to receive wine, communion cups with water are available. Leave the altar rail, place your cup on the tray and return to your pew via the side aisles. If you desire to receive communion in the pew, please alert an usher. Non-communing children and adults are welcome to come forward for a blessing.*

▲ Table Blessing

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

▲ Prayer after Communion

Let us pray. We thank you, God of heaven and earth, **that you fill our deepest need with the very gift of Jesus Christ, broken and poured out for us. Pour us out into a broken world. Channel our common life toward the common good, following the way that our Savior leads us now and forever. Amen.**

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

▲ Blessing

The Author of life, the Word of salvation, the Breath of new birth, ☩ one God, bless you and equip you for living and serving, today and every day. **Amen.**

▲ Sending Hymn “Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast” **ELW #516**

▲ Dismissal

Go in peace. Seek liberty and justice for all. **Thanks be to God.**

THE BROADCAST THIS WEEKEND is dedicated to the Glory of God in memory of deceased family members, given by John & Diane Sproull.

THE FLOWERS THIS WEEKEND are dedicated to the Glory of God and in memory of my son, Jeffrey Kunkle’s 67th birthday, given by mom, Nancy Belash.

Serving this Weekend

Preaching:	Sunday:	Pastor Jason Felici	Presiding:	Pastor Jess Felici
Organist:		Christina Andrae		
Lectors:	Saturday 5:30pm:	Linda McDowell		
	Sunday 8:15am:	Dave Gebhart		
	Sunday 10:45am:	Karen Clair		
Liturgical Deacons:	Saturday 5:30pm:	Curt Colaianne		
	Sunday 8:15am:	Kim Henry, Sandy Kisick		
	Sunday 10:45am:	Karen Clair, Allie G.		
Ushers:	Saturday 5:30pm:	Tom & Beth Dlugos, Jay Elder, John Elder		
	Sunday 8:15am:	Herb Harris, Sandy Kisick, Mark Jones		
	Sunday 10:45am:	Matt & Kelly Clever, Eli C., Tim Potter		
Acolytes:	Saturday 5:30 pm:	Kelly Stanko		
	Sunday 8:15am:			
	Sunday 10:45am:			
Tellers:	Sunday 8:15am:	Sandy Kisick, Candace Bungard, Sherry Palmer		
	Sunday 10:45am:	Linda McDowell, Christina Andrae, Mike Macey, Darlene Schultz		

Acolytes Serving Next Weekend July 25 & 26

Saturday 5:30pm: Kelly Stanko
Sunday 8:15am:
Sunday 10:45am:

Liturgy reprinted from “Evangelical Lutheran Worship”, copyright 2006 Augsburg Fortress, used by permission of license #SBT004670 and One License A-709549; Prayers are from “Sundays & Seasons”, copyright 2023 Augsburg Fortress. Introductions to the readings are written by The Rev. Mark Oldenburg, Ph.D., Steck-Miller Professor Emeritus of the Art of Worship, United Lutheran Seminary.