

KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A CITY-WIDE CHURCH WITH A WORLD-WIDE MINISTRY

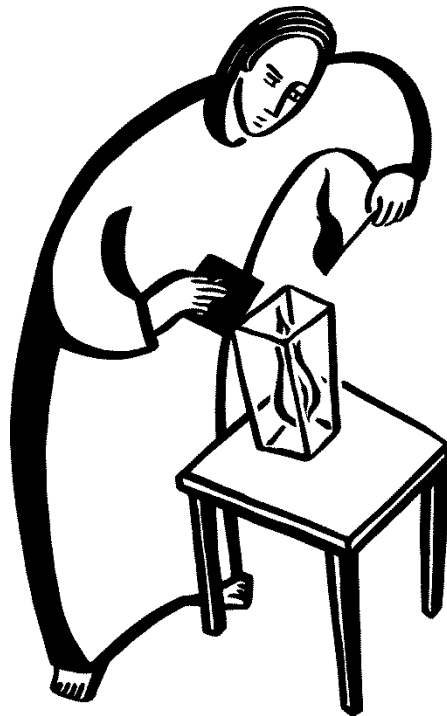
Dean W. Bard, Interim Senior Pastor
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August 7, 2016

9:00 & 11:00 AM

TWELTH SUNDAY of PENTECOST



Jesus says, "It is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." It is God's promise from the beginning—to Abraham, to the early church, and to the "little flock" of which we are a part today in assembly. Faith, God's baptismal gift, trusts the promises of God. Have no fear.

PRELUDE

GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(stand)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

☞ Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, abounding in steadfast love toward us, healing the sick and raising the dead, showering us with every good gift.

☞ **Amen.**

☞ Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

☞ Just and gracious God,

☞ ***we come to you for healing and life. Our sins hurt others and diminish us; we confess them to you. Our lives bear the scars of sin; we bring these also to you. Show us your mercy, O God. Bind up our wounds, forgive us our sins, and free us to love, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.***

☞ The apostle Paul assures us: “When we were dead in our trespasses, God made us alive together with Christ, nailing the record of our sins to the cross.” Jesus says to you, ☩ “Your sins are forgiven.” Be at peace, and tell everyone how much God has done for you.

☞ **Amen.**

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

ELW 733

GREETING

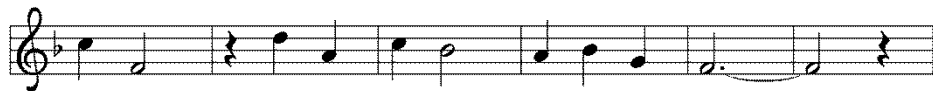
☞ The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God, and the Communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all!

☞ ***And also with you.***

HYMN OF PRAISE



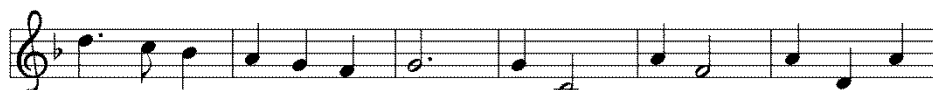
This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -



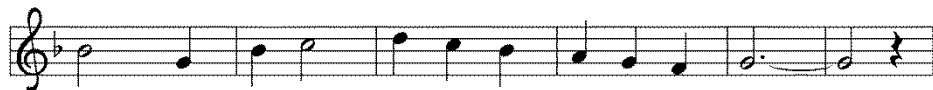
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



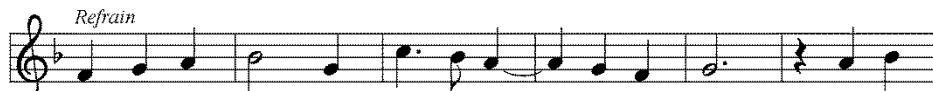
1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



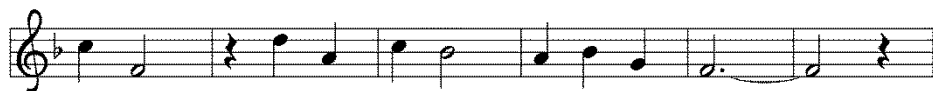
free to be peo - ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and



strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



2 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.

Final refrain

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- ☐ Almighty God,
- ☑ ***you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.***

WORD

(sit)

FIRST READING

Genesis 15:1-6

God promises childless and aging Abram that a child of his own will be his heir and that his descendants will number as many as the stars. Abram trusts God's promise, and through this faith he is considered righteous.

After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great."² But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?"³ And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir."⁴ But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir."⁵ He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be."⁶ And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

☐ The word of the Lord.

☑ ***Thanks be to God.***

PSALM 33:12-22 (*read responsively*)

¹²Happy is the nation whose God is the LORD!

Happy the people chosen to be God's heritage!

¹³***The LORD looks down from heaven,
and sees all humankind.***

¹⁴God sits firmly enthroned and watches
all who dwell on the earth.

¹⁵***God fashions all their hearts
and observes all their deeds.***

¹⁶A king is not saved by the size of the army,
nor are warriors rescued by their great strength.

¹⁷***The horse gives vain hope for victory;
despite its great strength it cannot save.***

¹⁸Truly, your eye is upon those who fear you, O LORD,
upon those who wait for your steadfast love,

¹⁹***to deliver their lives from death,
and to keep them alive in time of famine.***

²⁰Our innermost being waits for you, O LORD,
our helper and our shield.

²¹***Surely, our heart rejoices in you,
for in your holy name we put our trust.***

²²Let your lovingkindness, O LORD, be upon us,
even as we place our hope in you.

SECOND READING

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

Abraham and Sarah exemplify the vision of faith that people of God enact in every age. Their hope and trust in God's promise allowed them to face an unknown future and to receive the promise of God.

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.² Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval.³ By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

⁸By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going.⁹ By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise.¹⁰ For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God.¹¹ By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered him faithful who had promised.

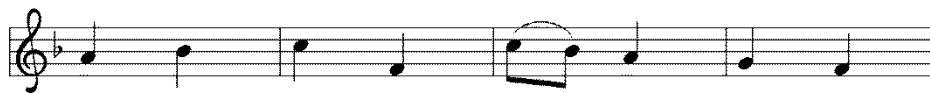
¹²Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, “as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.”¹³ All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth,¹⁴ for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland.¹⁵ If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return.¹⁶ But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

A The word of the Lord.

G *Thanks be to God.*

(stand)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

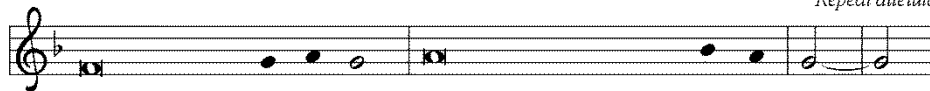


Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Repeat alleluia



Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

☐ The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

☑ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL

Luke 12:32-40

Jesus encourages disciples to invest their hearts and live fully into God's reign. Instead of facing life with fear, those who know God's generosity are always ready to receive from God and to give to others.

Jesus said:]³²“Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom.³³ Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailling treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys.³⁴ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.³⁵“Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit;³⁶ be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks.³⁷ Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them.³⁸ If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.³⁹“But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into.⁴⁰ You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

☐ The Gospel of our Lord

☑ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

(sit)

CHILDREN’S BLESSING (9:00 AM)

Children (aged 3 years through 5th grade) are invited to come forward for a blessing. Then, they may either follow the teacher upstairs for an extended children’s sermon (joining us again later in time for Communion) or they may return to their seat and use the Spark Bible and/or activity bags during the regular sermon.

SERMON

Pastor Bard

(stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY

Blessed Assurance

ELW 638

APOSTLES' CREED (9:00)

☩ ***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.***

HOLY BAPTISM (11:00)

Isabelle Kathleen Miranda Carreto

(see page 227)

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Response: ☩ Lord, in your mercy,
☩ ***hear our prayer.***

(In our prayers today, during a time of silence, pray for those listed below and for others according to their needs)

Thanksgiving: For the baptism of Isabelle Kathleen Miranda Carreto, daughter of Silvestre & Abbi;
For the marriage of Andrew Reiner & Brooke Weihs

Illness: Vera Bang, Kaye Bock, Evelyn Christensen, Edward White

Sympathy: *To the friends and family of ; step father of Sunshine Fonda*

Other Prayers: ***Those serving in the military*** – Amy Dyer, Michael McNeill, Scott Meyer, Daniel Milstead, Sheldon Skovgaard, Michael Vutov and Joel Woosley

Other Prayers: ***Those serving in mission*** – Rev. Chandran Paul Martin, India; Rev. John Lunn, Tanzania; Rev. Justin Eller, Bolivia; Lindsay Mack, Mexico; Our sister congregation, the American Church in Berlin

THE PEACE IS SHARED

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

MEAL

(sit)

THE OFFERING IS RECEIVED

We glorify God in our giving. Our offering is an act of worship that makes the ministries of this church possible. We encourage everyone to give. If you are visiting with us today, please do not feel obligated to participate in this portion of worship. If you would like, use the QR code scanner on your smart phone to give online or use the giving kiosk in the Fellowship Hall.



THE TABLE IS PREPARED

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Jesus, Lover of my Soul

Charles Wesley, Words
Joseph M. Martin, Music
Paul Rath, Soloist

(stand)

OFFERTORY HYMN

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

- P** *Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711

OFFERING PRAYER

- P** God of mercy and grace,
C *the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord. Amen.*

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in a single system. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The notes are mostly quarter and eighth notes, often beamed together. The lyrics are printed below each staff, with some words bolded for emphasis: "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.", and "It is right to give our thanks and praise." The final staff ends with a double bar line.

SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heav - en 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in a single system. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is more complex than in the first section, featuring eighth and sixteenth notes, often beamed together. The lyrics are printed below each staff: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,", "heav - en 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 -", and "san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est." The final staff ends with a double bar line.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

THE 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

☒ Christ invites you to a place of honor at this banquet. Welcome to the feast.

(sit)

HYMNS DURING COMMUNION

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.

*On Eagle's Wings
Holy Spirit, Truth Divine*

ELW 787
ELW 398

(stand)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P O God,

G *as a mother comforts her child, so you comfort your people, carrying us in your arms and satisfying us with this food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Send us now as your disciples, announcing peace and proclaiming that the reign of God has come near; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.*

SENDING

DISMISSAL OF EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

BLESSING

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

G *Amen.*

HYMN

What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine

ELW 774

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Proclaim the good news.

G *Thanks be to God.*

POSTLUDE

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