



ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 9, 2026

Elijah finds the presence of God not in earthquake, wind, or fire, but in the sound of sheer silence. When the disciples face a great storm on the sea, they cry out with fear. Jesus of Nazareth says: "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." Amid the storms of life, we gather to seek the calm presence of the Christ that soothes our fears. In comforting words of scripture and in the refreshing bread and cup of the Eucharist, God grants us peace and sends us forth to be a sign of God's presence to others.

Prelude

Variations on *O God, Our Help in Ages Past*

arr. Christa Rakich
(b. 1952)

ENTRANCE RITE

Hymn

O God, Our Help in Ages Past



1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,
2 Un - der the shad - ow of your throne your saints have dwelt se - cure;
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood or earth re - ceived its frame,
4 A thou - sand a - ges in your sight are like an eve - ning gone,



our shel - ter from the storm-y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:
suf - fi - cient is your arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
from ev - er - last - ing you are God, to end - less years the same.
short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
soon bears us all away;
we fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the op'ning day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
still be our guard while troubles last
and our eternal home!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.
Music: ST. ANNE, William Croft, 1678–1727

Apostolic Greeting

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

C: **And also with you.**

Kyrie



A In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.

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

C Lord, have mer - cy.

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

and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.

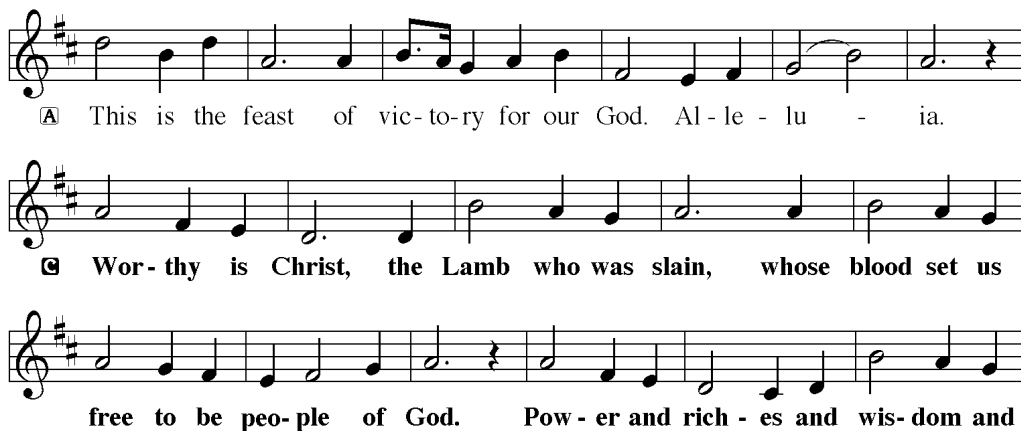
C Lord, have mer - cy.

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

let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.

A Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord. **C** A - men

Hymn of Praise



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

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

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

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

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

Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the

hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and

might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

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.

Salutation and Prayer of the Day

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

P: Let us pray.

ALL: O God our defender, storms rage around and within us and cause us to be afraid. Rescue your people from despair, deliver your sons and daughters from fear, and preserve us in the faith of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Reception of New Members

First Lesson - 1 Kings 19:9–18

*On Mount Horeb, where God had appeared to Moses with typical signs of God's presence — earthquake, wind, and fire — Elijah now experienced God in "sheer silence."
God assured Elijah that he is not the only faithful believer. Seven thousand Israelites are still loyal.
God instructed Elijah to anoint two men as kings and to anoint Elisha as his own successor.*

⁹At Horeb, the mount of God, Elijah came to a cave, and spent the night there. Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" ¹⁰He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the

Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away." ¹¹He said, "Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by." Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake; ¹²and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. ¹³When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" ¹⁴He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away." ¹⁵Then the LORD said to him, "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. ¹⁶Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place. ¹⁷Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill; and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill. ¹⁸Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him."

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 85:8-13

(sung in unison)

The psalm celebrates God's deliverance and justice.

**I will listen to what the LORD¹ God is saying,*
for he is speaking peace to his faithful people
and to those who turn their¹ hearts to him.
⁹Truly, his salvation is very near to¹ those who fear him,*
that his glory may dwell¹ in our land.
¹⁰Mercy and truth have¹ met together;*
righteousness and peace have¹ kissed each other.
¹¹Truth shall spring up¹ from the earth,*
and righteousness shall look¹ down from heaven.
¹²The LORD will indeed¹ grant prosperity,*
and our land will¹ yield its increase.
¹³Righteousness shall¹ go before him,*
and peace shall be a pathway¹ for his feet.**

Second Lesson - Romans 10:5-15

A right relationship with God is not something we achieve by heroic efforts. It is a gift received in the proclamation whose content is Jesus the Christ. This proclaimed word creates our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Hence, Christian proclamation is an indispensable component of God's saving actions.

⁵Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that "the person who does these things will live by them." ⁶But the righteousness that comes from faith says, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷or 'Who will descend into the abyss?' (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸But what does it say? "The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. ¹¹The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." ¹²For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

¹⁴But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? ¹⁵And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

L: The word of the Lord.

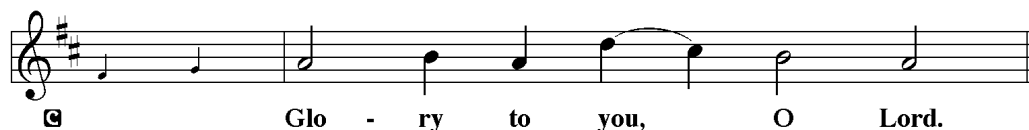
C: Thanks be to God.

Alleluia Verse



Holy Gospel - Matthew 14:22-33

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fourteenth chapter.

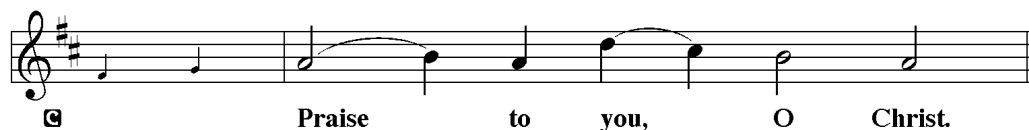


The gospel according to Matthew typically portrays Jesus of Nazareth's disciples as people of "little faith" who fail despite their best intentions. In this story, the gospel writer shows how Jesus comes to the disciples when they are in trouble and sustains them in their time of fear and doubt.

²²Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, while he dismissed the crowds. ²³And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. ²⁵And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. ²⁶But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. ²⁷But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

²⁸Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." ²⁹He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. ³⁰But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" ³¹Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" ³²When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.



Sermon

silence for reflection

Pastor Roberts

Eternal Father, Strong to Save



1 E - ter - nal Fa - ther, strong to save, whose arm has bound the
2 O Sav - ior, whose al - might - y word the winds and waves sub -
3 O Ho - ly Spir - it, who didst brood up - on the cha - os
4 O Trin - i - ty of love and pow'r, all trav - 'lers guard in



rest - less wave, who bade the might - y o - cean deep its
mis - sive heard, who walked up - on the foam - ing deep, and
dark and rude, and bid its an - gry tu - mult cease, and
dan - ger's hour from rock and tem - pest, fire and foe, pro -



own ap - point - ed lim - its keep: oh, hear us when we
calm a - mid the storm didst sleep: oh, hear us when we
give, for wild con - fu - sion, peace: oh, hear us when we
tect them where - so - e'er they go; thus ev - er - more shall



cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.
cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.
cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.
rise to thee glad hymns and praise from land and sea.

Text: William Whiting, 1825–1878, alt.
Music: MELITA, John B. Dykes, 1823–1876

Apostles' Creed

P: Using the words of our ancestors in the faith as expressed in the Apostles' Creed, we proclaim the triune God whom we love:

C: **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

The Prayers

- A: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.
- A: God of grace and faith, your faithfulness is never-ending, and your righteousness becomes ours through Christ Jesus. Send the Church to proclaim the gospel both near and far, in church buildings and on street corners, in person and through digital means. Hear us, O God.
- C: Your mercy is great.**
- A: God of sky and sea, the plants, animals, mountains, and plains proclaim your glory. Prosper the work of ecologists as they teach us new ways to care for the environment. Help us bring relief to areas recovering from natural disasters. Hear us, O God.
- C: Your mercy is great.**
- A: God of peace and justice, you call us to live as your beloved community throughout the world. Instill in local, regional, national, and global political and civic leaders a desire to work for the well-being of all people. Hear us, O God.
- C: Your mercy is great.**
- A: God of care and compassion, you bring assurance when we are afraid. Bring calm to any who are anxious or fearful. Bless the work of therapists, nurses, and other health care providers. Help us soothe those who are sick and comfort those who grieve. Hear us, O God.
- C: Your mercy is great.**
- A: God of wonder, you accompany us in both joys and sorrows. We pray for children and teachers preparing for a new school year. Make your presence known in our work and play, in lively conversation and in quiet rest. Hear us, O God.
- C: Your mercy is great.**
- A: God of new life, you send people to renew both Church and society. We give you thanks for their lives of faithful service as examples of following your call. Hear us, O God.
- C: Your mercy is great.**
- P: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
- ALL: Amen**

LITURGY OF THE MEAL

The Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

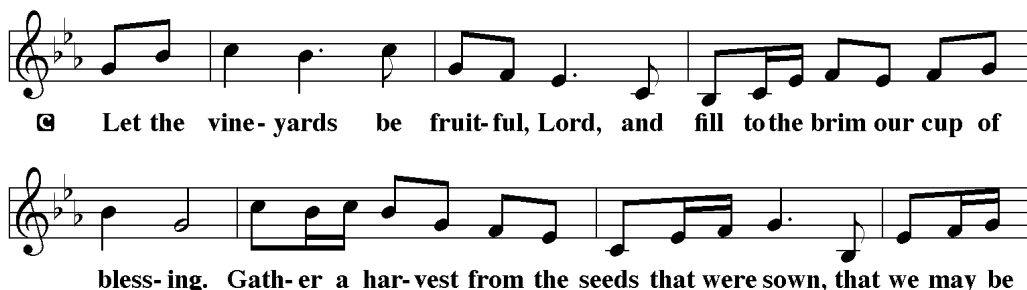
Offering

Organ Offertory

It Is Well

arr. Craig Phillips
(b. 1961)

Offertory



Let the vine- yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless- ing. Gath- er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be

fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u -

nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your

pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Offertory Prayer

A: Let us pray. Merciful Father,

C: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us - ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Great Thanksgiving

P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

P Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.

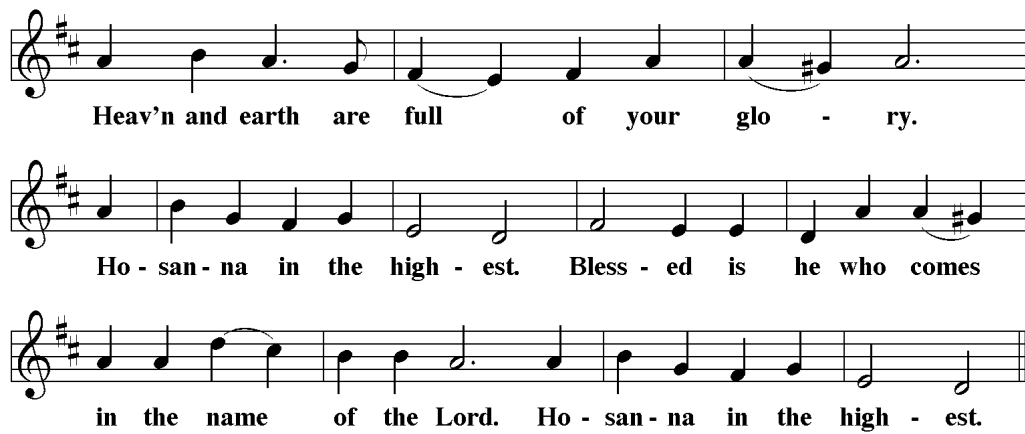
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; 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 the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus

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

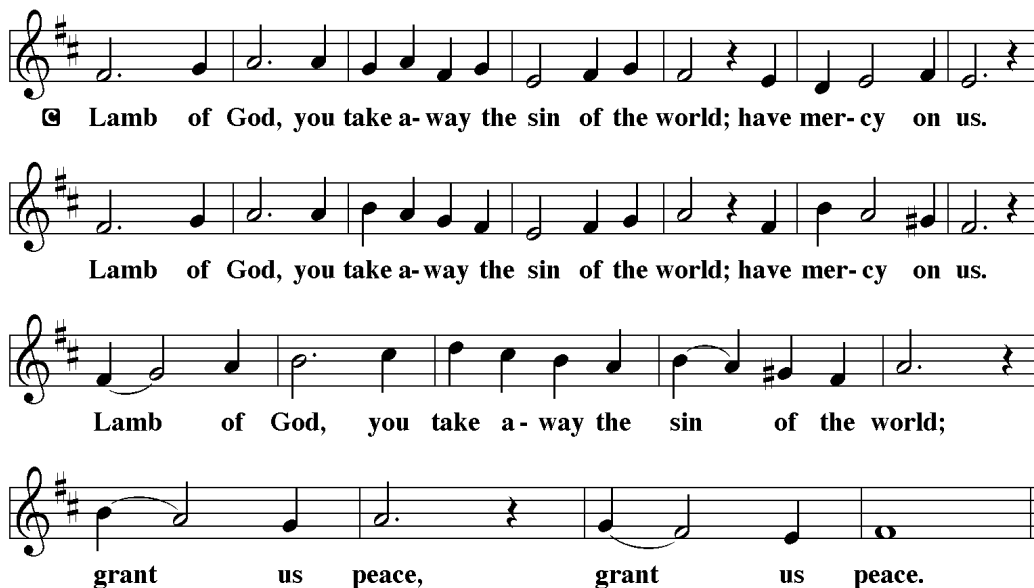


Eucharistic Prayer

Lord's Prayer

**C: 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**

Communion with our Risen Lord



Hymn

When Peace, like a River



1 When peace, like a riv - er, at - tend - eth my way; when
2 Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, let
3 He lives— oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought; my
4 And Lord, haste the day when our faith shall be sight, the



sor - rows, like sea bil - lows, roll; what - ev - er my lot, thou hast
this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, that Christ hath re - gard - ed my
sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to his cross and I
clouds be rolled back as a scroll, the trum - pet shall sound and the



taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.
help - less es - tate, and hath shed his own blood for my soul.
bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O, my soul!
Lord shall de - scend; e - ven so it is well with my soul.



It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.

Text: Horatio G. Spafford, 1828–1888
Music: VILLE DU HAVRE, Philip P. Bliss, 1838–1876

Post-Communion Blessing

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

C: **Amen**

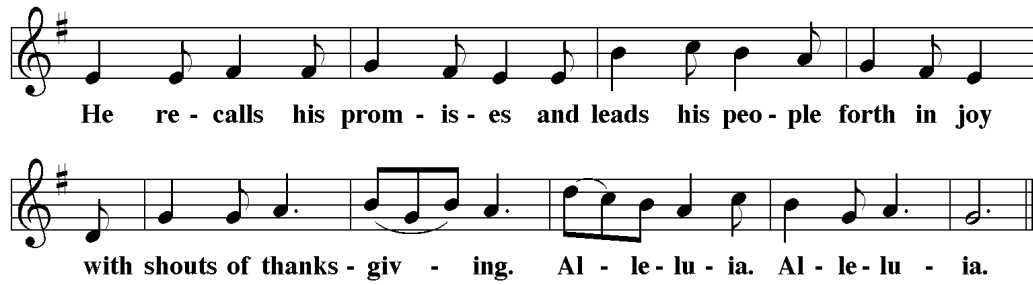
Post-Communion Canticle



☞ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev- 'ry- one what he has done.



Let ev- 'ry- one who seeks the Lord re - joice and proud- ly bear his name.



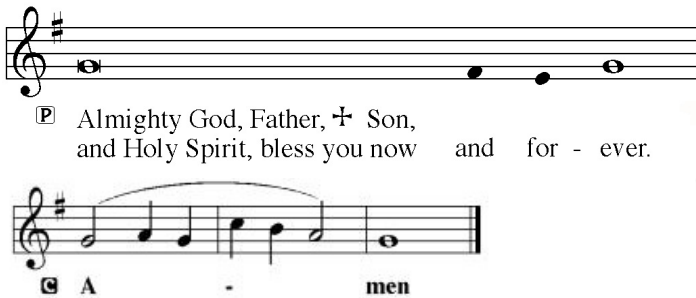
Post-Communion Prayer

A: Let us pray.

Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

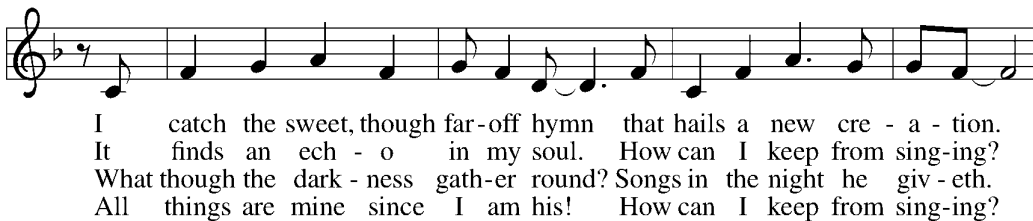
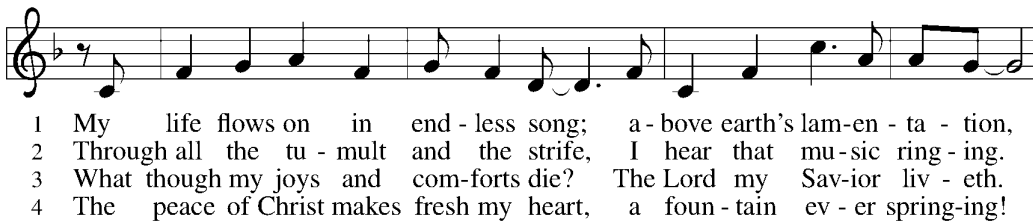
C: Amen

Benediction



Hymn

My Life Flows On in Endless Song



Refrain



Dismissal

A: Our service now begins. Go in peace. The Spirit sends us forth to serve.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

A Stately Processional

Eric Delamarter
(1880-1953)



The altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Carrie Wisman
in honor of Mae Derrick's birthday.

The candles are given to the glory of God by Carrie Wisman in honor of Mae Derrick
and their years of friendship.

We welcome the following new members into our fellowship today:

- **Mary** and **Phil Jones** are received by transfer from Bedford Lutheran Church, Bedford, Virginia;
- **Heather** and **Kevin Sollers** and their children **Matthew**, **Kaitlyn**, and **Michael** are received by Affirmation of Faith;
- **Kate** and **Chuck Wall** are received by Affirmation of Faith; and,
- **Patty** and **Chris Webb** are received by Affirmation of Faith.

THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY

Sunday, August 9	8:30 a.m.	Service of Holy Communion and Home Communion
	10:30 a.m.	Service of Holy Communion with Livestream via YouTube and Home Communion
	11:45 a.m.	Church Council
Monday, August 10	9:00 a.m.	Strength and Balance Exercise Class
	9:30 a.m.	Chair Yoga Class
Wednesday, August 12	12:10 p.m.	Service of Holy Communion
Thursday, August 13	9:00 a.m.	Parish Nurse in office (until 10:00 a.m.)
	11:00 a.m.	Sermon Discussion Group
Friday, August 14	9:00 a.m.	Strength and Balance Exercise Class
	9:30 a.m.	Chair Yoga Class
Saturday, August 15	1:00 p.m.	<i>Braumeister</i> Workshop (at the Fedeler home)
Sunday, August 16	8:30 a.m.	Service of Holy Communion and Home Communion
	10:30 a.m.	Service of Holy Communion with Livestream via YouTube
	5:00 p.m.	Senior Youth Splash Night (grades nine - twelve)

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Our Mission: "To care actively in the name of Jesus Christ."

**Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
1000 Langhorne Road
Lynchburg, Virginia 24503**

Ministers: The People of Holy Trinity

President: Deb Serio
Organist-Choirmaster: J. William Greene
Parish Administrator: Ellie Quillen
Parish Nurse: Gail Midkiff

Pastor: Dennis S. Roberts
Director of Youth and Campus Ministries:
Susan H. Williams
Sextons: Linda Woody and Patricia Wiggington