



St. Peter's Episcopal Church

22 N. Union St., Smyrna, Delaware

*A Faith Community Offering Hospitality, Hope and Healing
A Church Worth Finding*

Bulletin for Sunday, October 11, 2026

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Blessing of the Animals

Rite II- Prayer C- 9:00 am



Thank you for joining us for Worship!

Liturgy and Music through rite planning License SB157752, expires 4/30/2027

Podcasting and Music through One License A-736373, expires 8/26/2027

Images through Church Online Subscription, Account # 74074931

Church Office (302) 653-9691 – Hours: Mon & Fri Closed, Tues - Thurs - 9:00AM – 1:00PM

Email: Office: stpeters.smyrna@verizon.net Rector: smyrnarector@gmail.com

www.stpeters-smyrna.church

Sunday, October 11, 2026

WORSHIP SERVERS:

Celebrant: Reverend Sarah Nelson

Musician: Ms. Bonnie W. Forgacs, Music Minister

Lay Server	9:00AM
Reader	Pat Womelsdorf
Chalicer	Tom Schultz
Ushers	Paul & Paula Buckley

PRAYERS FOR THIS WEEK

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Anglican Church of Burundi

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: Postulants and Candidates for Holy Orders, The Stevenson School of Ministry, and the members of the Commission on Ministry

Parish Cycle of Prayer: Bill & Bettielou Wagner and Harold Warnett

Birthdays: Monica Holmes

Aumbry Candle

To the Glory of God and in Memory of Betty Schultz

By: The Decker Family

Altar Flowers

Given to the Glory of God and in Memory of my mother, Alice I. Taylor,
and grandmother: Theresa Williams-Filmore Bines.

By: Terri Anderson

Vestry

2026 Officers

Shirley Biddle, Sr. Warden

Wayne Burris, Jr. Warden

Temple Carter, Treasurer

Lisa Embert, Secretary

Members:

2023-2025

Harold Warnett

Dawn Adams

Wayne Burris

2024-2026

Patty Murray

Shirley Biddle

Michael Richards

2025-2027

Larry Decker

Ray DePhillis

Dawn Arnold

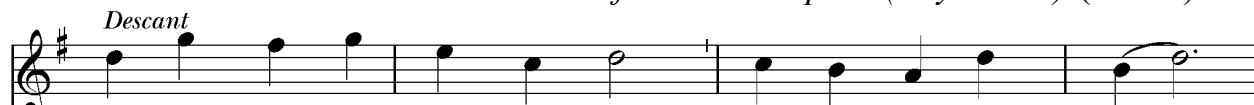
THE HOLY EUCHARIST: Rite Two

THE WORD OF GOD

PRELUDE: *Sweet Hour of Prayer*, Charles Callahan , ASCAP

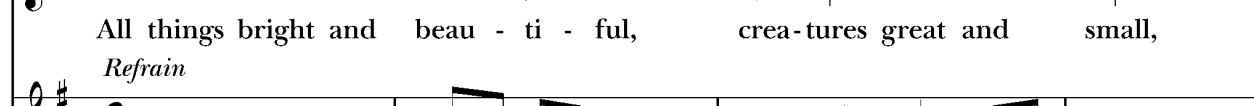
PROCESSIONAL HYMN: *Each little flower that opens (Royal Oak)* (H 405)

Descant



All things bright and beau - ti - ful, crea-tures great and small,

Refrain



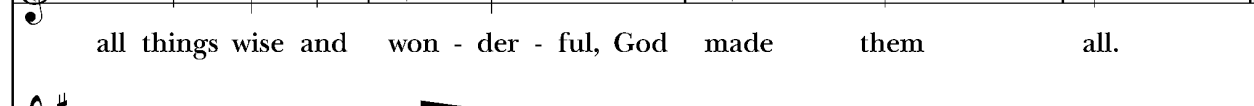
All things bright and beau - ti - ful, all crea-tures great and small,



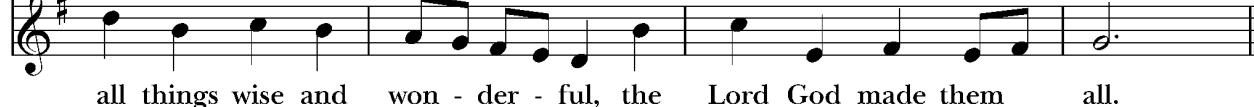
all things wise and won - der - ful, God made them all.



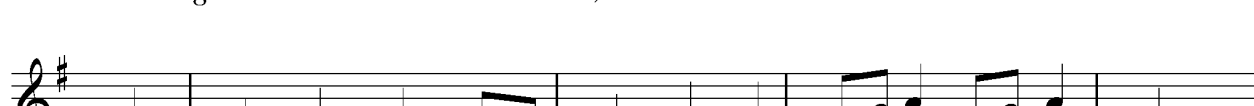
all things wise and won - der - ful, the Lord God made them all.



1 Each lit - tle flower that o - pens, each lit - tle bird that sings,
2 The pur - ple - head - ed moun-tain, the riv - er run - ning by,
3 The cold wind in the win - ter, the pleas - ant sum - mer sun,
4 He gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell



Repeat Refrain



he made their glow-ing col - ors, he made their ti - ny wings.
the sun - set, and the morn - ing that bright-ens up the sky,
the ripe fruits in the gar - den, he made them ev - ery one.
how great is God Al - might - y, who has made all things well.

Words: Cicil Frances Alexander (1818-1895) Music: *Royal Oak*, melody from *The Dancing Master*, 1686; adapt. Martin Fallas Shaw (1875-1958); desc. Richard Proulx (b. 1937)

OPENING ACCLAMATION

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Celebrant and people say:

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Most high, omnipotent, good Lord: Grant your people grace to renounce gladly the vanities of this world; that, following the way of blessed Francis, we may for love of you delight in your whole creation with perfect joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE LESSONS

FIRST READING: Job 39:1-18

The people sit.

A Reading from the Book of Job

¹"Do you know when the mountain goats give birth? Do you observe the calving of the deer? ²Can you number the months that they fulfill, and do you know the time when they give birth, ³when they crouch to give birth to their offspring, and are delivered of their young? ⁴Their young ones become strong, they grow up in the open; they go forth, and do not return to them. ⁵"Who has let the wild ass go free? Who has loosed the bonds of the swift ass, ⁶to which I have given the steppe for its home, the salt land for its dwelling place? ⁷It scorns the tumult of the city; it does

not hear the shouts of the driver. ⁸It ranges the mountains as its pasture, and it searches after every green thing. ⁹"Is the wild ox willing to serve you? Will it spend the night at your crib? ¹⁰Can you tie it in the furrow with ropes, or will it harrow the valleys after you? ¹¹Will you depend on it because its strength is great, and will you hand over your labor to it? ¹²Do you have faith in it that it will return, and bring your grain to your threshing floor? ¹³"The ostrich's wings flap wildly, though its pinions lack plumage. ¹⁴For it leaves its eggs to the earth, and lets them be warmed on the ground, ¹⁵forgetting that a foot may crush them, and that a wild animal may trample them. ¹⁶It deals cruelly with its young, as if they were not its own; though its labor should be in vain, yet it has no fear; ¹⁷because God has made it forget wisdom, and given it no share in understanding. ¹⁸When it spreads its plumes aloft, it laughs at the horse and its rider.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 121

Remain seated.

¹I lift up my eyes to the hills — from where will my help come?

²My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.

³He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.

⁴He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

⁵The LORD is your keeper; the LORD is your shade at your right hand.

⁶The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.

⁷The LORD will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.

⁸The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forevermore.

SECOND READING: Acts 4:32-35, 5:1-11

The people sit.

A Reading from the Book of Acts

³²Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. ³³With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the

resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. ³⁴There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. ³⁵They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

¹But a man named Ananias, with the consent of his wife Sapphira, sold a piece of property; ²with his wife's knowledge, he kept back some of the proceeds, and brought only a part and laid it at the apostles' feet. ³Ananias, Peter asked, "why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and to keep back part of the proceeds of the land? ⁴While it remained unsold, did it not remain your own? And after it was sold, were not the proceeds at your disposal? How is it that you have contrived this deed in your heart? You did not lie to us but to God!" ⁵Now when Ananias heard these words, he fell down and died. And great fear seized all who heard of it. ⁶The young men came and wrapped up his body, then carried him out and buried him. ⁷After an interval of about three hours his wife came in, not knowing what had happened. ⁸Peter said to her, "Tell me whether you and your husband sold the land for such and such a price." And she said, "Yes, that was the price." ⁹Then Peter said to her, "How is it that you have agreed together to put the Spirit of the Lord to the test? Look, the feet of those who have buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out." ¹⁰Immediately she fell down at his feet and died. When the young men came in they found her dead, so they carried her out and buried her beside her husband. ¹¹And great fear seized the whole church and all who heard of these things.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**



SEQUENCE HYMN: *The King of love my shepherd is (St. Columba)* (H 645)
Sing verses 1 and 2



1 The King of love my shep-herd is, whose good-ness
 2 Where streams of liv-ing wa-ter flow, my ran-somed
 * ~~3 Per~~ - verse and fool-ish oft I strayed, but yet in
 * ~~4 In~~ death's dark vale I fear no ill with thee, dear
 5 Thou spread'st a ta-ble in my sight; thy unc-tion
 6 And so through all the length of days thy good-ness

1 fail-eth nev-er; I noth-ing lack if
 2 soul he lead-eth, and where the ver-dant
~~3 love~~ he sought me, and on his shoul-der
~~4 Lord,~~ be-side me; thy rod and staff my
~~5 grace~~ be-stow-eth; and oh, what trans-port
~~6 fail~~-eth nev-er: Good Shep-herd, may I

1 I am his, and he is mine for ev-er.
 2 pas-tures grow, with food ce-les-tial feed-eth.
~~3 gent~~-ly laid, and home, re-joic-ing, brought me.
~~4 com~~-fort still, thy cross be-fore to guide me.
~~5 of~~ de-light from thy pure chal-ice flow-eth!
~~6 sing~~ thy praise with-in thy house for ev-er.

Words: Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877); para. of Psalm 23. Music: *St. Columba*, Irish melody.

GOSPEL: Luke 12:13-21

All stand.

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

¹³Someone in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." ¹⁴But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?" ¹⁵And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." ¹⁶Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. ¹⁷And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?'"

¹⁸Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' ²⁰But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' ²¹So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

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

THE SERMON

THE NICENE CREED

All stand.

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

All remain standing.

Father, we pray for your holy catholic Church;

That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest;

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

The People may add their own petitions.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Minister and People

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

PRAYER OF SAINT FRANCIS

Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy.

Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Amen.

BLESSING OF ANIMALS

Those who brought an animal—live, picture or stuffed—please come down to the front steps with your animal to be blessed.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, author and giver of every gift, animals are among the ways you provide help for our needs and labors. We pray through the intercession of Saint Francis that you will grant us the things we need for a decent human life. Grant your blessing upon these creatures, which share with us your love and your glorious creation. We ask this through Jesus Crist our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**



THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

CHOIR ANTHEM: *Christ the Center*, music Andrew Bruhn, text Herbert F. Brokering

OFFERTORY PRESENTATION HYMN (10:30AM) FROM ALL THAT DWELL BELOW THE SKIES (OLD 100TH) VERSE 3

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The People remain standing.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.
Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space,
galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.
By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with
memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned
against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.
Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed
your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a
woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.
By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets,
apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to
you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

SANCTUS: S 130 *Holy, holy, holy (Schubert/Proulx)*

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of six systems of music. The key signature has two flats (B-flat major). The time signature is not explicitly shown but is 4/4. The vocal line is in the treble clef, and the piano accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are full, full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes".

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and

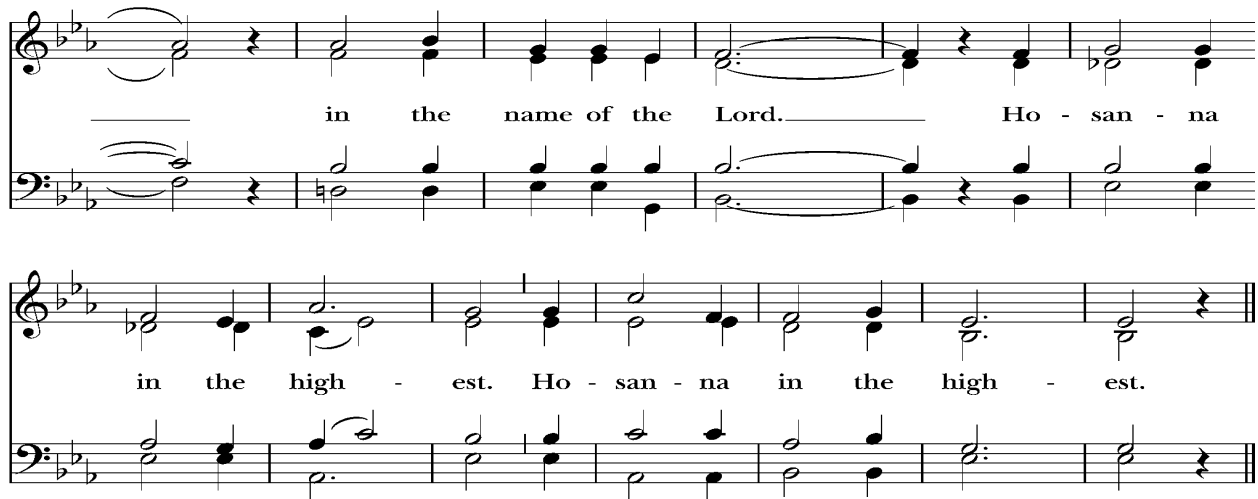
might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are

full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -

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

in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



Setting: From *deutsche Messe*, Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b.1937).

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

Lord God of our Fathers; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Celebrant

**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.

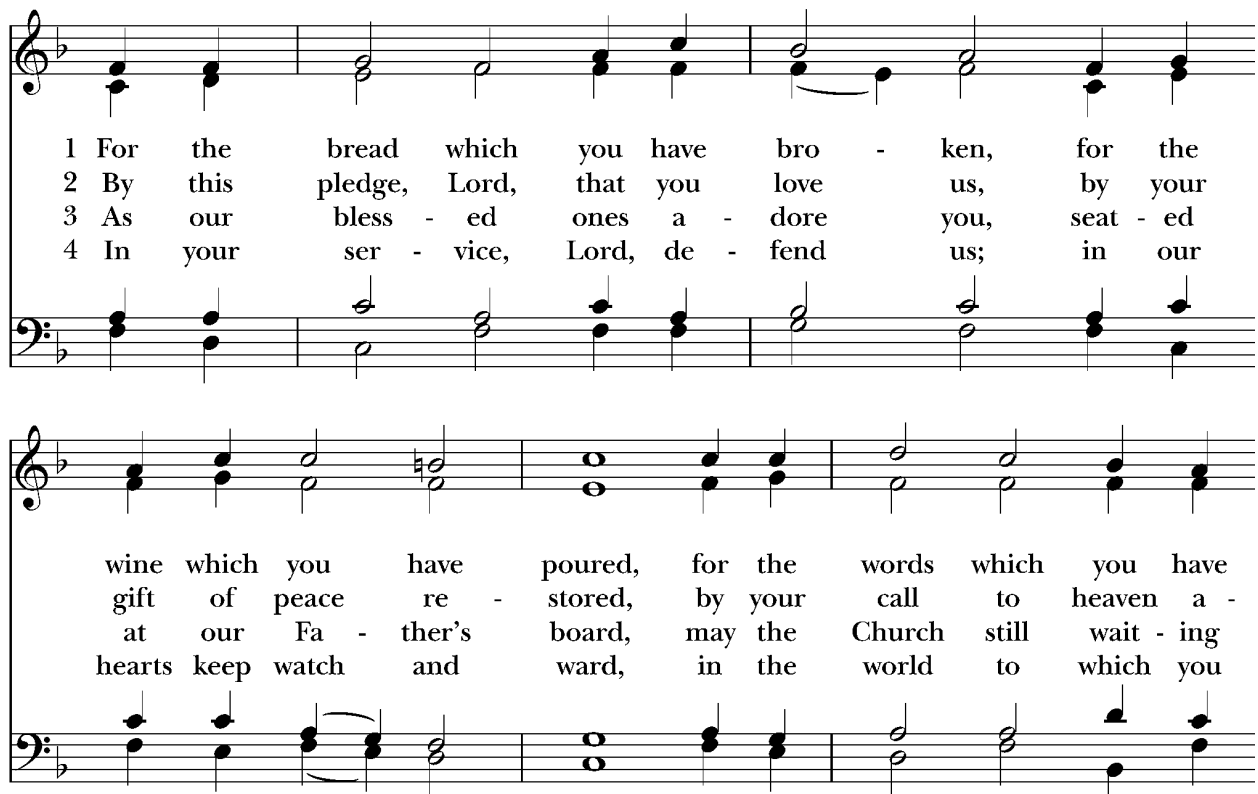
THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

COMMUNION HYMN: *For the bread which you have broken (Omni die)* (H 341)



1 For the bread which you have bro - ken, for the
2 By this pledge, Lord, that you love us, by your
3 As our bless - ed ones a - dore you, seat - ed
4 In your ser - vice, Lord, de - fend us; in our

wine which you have poured, for the words which you have
gift of peace re - stored, by your call to heaven a -
at our Fa - ther's board, may the Church still wait - ing
hearts keep watch and ward, in the world to which you

spo - ken, now we give you thanks, O Lord.
 bove us, hal - low all our lives, O Lord.
 for you keep love's tie un - bro - ken, Lord.
 send us let your king - dom come, O Lord.

Words: Louis Benson (1855-1930), alt. Music: *Omni die*, melody from *Cross Catolisch Gesangbuch*. 1631; harm. William Smith Rockstro (1823-1895).

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

BLESSING

RECESSIONAL HYMN: *Rejoice, ye pure in heart (Marion)* (H 556)

Sing verses 1, 2, 3 and 7

1 Re - joice, ye pure in heart! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing! Your
 2 With all the an - gel choirs, with all the saints of earth, pour
 3 Your clear ho - san - nas raise, and al - le - lu - ias loud; while
 4 ~~Yes,~~ on through life's long path, still chant - ing as ye go, from
 5 ~~Still~~ lift your stand - ard high, still march in firm ar - ray, as

1 glo - rious ban - ner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King.
 2 out the strains of joy and bliss, true rap - ture, no - blest mirth.
 3 an - swering ech - oes up - ward float, like wreaths of in - cense cloud.
 4 youth to age, by night and day, in glad - ness and in woe.
 5 war - riors through the dark - ness toil, till dawns the gold - en day.

Refrain

Re - jice, re - jice, re - jice, give thanks, and sing.
 re - jice, re - jice,

*6 At last the march shall end;
 the wearied ones shall rest;
 the pilgrims find their Father's house,
 Jerusalem the blest.

Refrain

*7 Then on, ye pure in heart!
 Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!
 Your glorious banner wave on high
 the cross of Christ your King.

Refrain

Words: Edward Hayes Plumptre (1821-1891). Music: Marion, Arthur Henry Messiter (1834-1916).

DISMISSAL

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE: *Voluntary*, William Boyce [1710-1779]