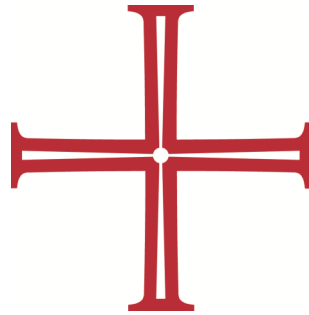


A SERVICE OF
Holy Communion
WITH
Rite of Ordination
FOR
Kristen Lee Arends



September 6, 2025

4:00pm

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
4007 Main Street, Eggertsville, NY

GATHER

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

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Stephen C. Biegner

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Bishop Lee M. Miller II

The assembly stands.

Bishop: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
who creates, saves, and sends us
with love that lives forever.

Congregation: Amen.



B: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we give thanks for the Great Exchange, the mercy and forgiveness that wrap our true selves in sacred belonging and purpose.

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

B: For a word at the dawn of creation, which spoke water and life into being.

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

B: For the great flood that revealed nature's power and God's commitment to life after death.

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

B: For the river that carried Moses safely, building a bridge between mothers and nations.

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

B: For the rock split open in the desert, spilling water for those thirsting for freedom.

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

B: For the One who turned water to wine and met a woman at the well with living water.

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

B: For the gift of holy baptism, which declares there are no more godforsaken places, and nothing can separate us from the love of God in Jesus. For Christ is Risen!

C: Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

B: God of life, we rejoice with the waters that cover creation; for Lake Erie, the Niagara River, Lake Ontario and the powerful Niagara Falls. Our songs of praise echo their dancing tides and streams. Pour out your Holy Spirit on this community and all of creation. Cleanse our fears. Drown our divisions. Give us mercy and grace to drink so that our whole lives are signs of death defeated and thirst quenched thanks to the risen Jesus, the Son of God.

C: Amen.

Processional Hymn—WOV #650

We Are Marching in the Light of God

WOV #650



Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos', si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha -
We are march - ing in the light of God, we are march - ing in the



nyen' kwen - khos'. Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos',
light of God. We are march - ing in the light of God,



si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of God.



Si - ya - ham - ba (ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba) oo
We are march - ing (march - ing, we are march - ing) oo



si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of God.



Si - ya - ham - ba (ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba) oo
We are march - ing (march - ing, we are march - ing) oo



si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of God.

Additional stanzas ad lib.:

We are dancing ...

We are praying ...

We are singing ...

Text: South African traditional; tr. Freedom Is Coming, 1984

Music: SIYAHAMBA, South African traditional

Tr. © 1984 Utryck, admin. Walton Music Corp.

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Greeting

B: 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.

Hymn of Praise

Assisting minister



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

All



Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.



For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

Prayer of the Day

B: Almighty and merciful God, you built your Church on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, and you instituted the office of the holy ministry so that the apostolic and prophetic Word might be heard throughout the ages. Grant that Kristen, now to be ordained, may exercise her ministry faithfully in the power of your Spirit; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

WORD

First Reading

Isaiah 43:1-3a, 16-19

Samantha Silsby & Liam Silsby

But now thus says the Lord,
he who created you, O Jacob,
he who formed you, O Israel:
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name; you are mine.
²When you pass through the waters, I will be with you,
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,
and the flame shall not consume you.
³For I am the Lord your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.
¹⁶Thus says the Lord,
who makes a way in the sea,
a path in the mighty waters,
¹⁷who brings out chariot and horse,
army and warrior;
they lie down; they cannot rise;
they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:
¹⁸Do not remember the former things
or consider the things of old.
¹⁹I am about to do a new thing;
now it springs forth; do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert.

R: This is the word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**



Psalm 146

Oliver Magin
read responsively

Hallelujah!

Praise the LORD, O my soul!

² I will praise the LORD as long as I live;

I will sing praises to my God all my life long.

³ Do not put your trust in princes,

in mortals, in whom there is no help.

⁴ When their breath departs, they return to the earth;

on that very day their plans perish.

⁵ Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob,

whose hope is in the LORD their God,

⁶ who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them;

who keeps faith forever;

⁷ who executes justice for the oppressed;

who gives food to the hungry.

The LORD sets the prisoners free;

⁸ **the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.**

The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;

the LORD loves the righteous.

⁹ The LORD watches over the strangers;

he upholds the orphan and the widow, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

¹⁰ The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations.

Hallelujah!

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 4:1-7
Rev. Jim Arends

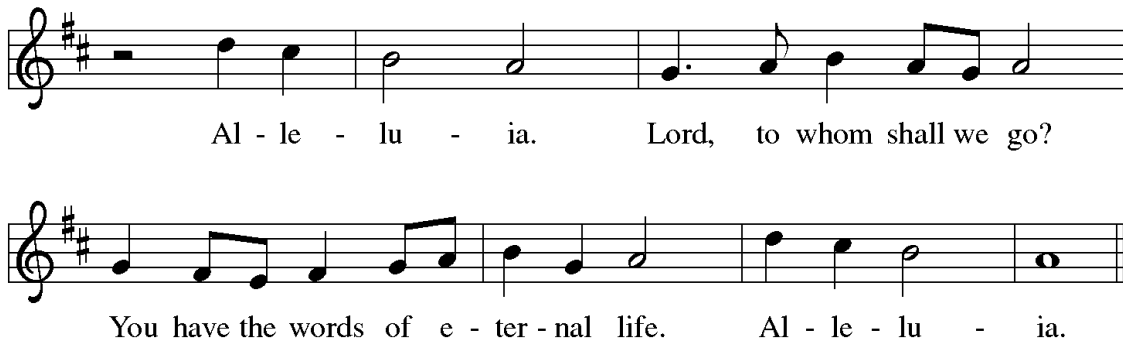
¹Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. ²We have renounced the shameful, underhanded ways; we refuse to practice cunning or to falsify God's word, but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God. ³And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing clearly the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus's sake. ⁶For it is the God who said, "Light will shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ. ⁷But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us.

R: This is the word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

The assembly stands.

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel

John 1:43-51
Rev. Becky Goche

P: The holy gospel according to John, the first chapter,

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

⁴³The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." ⁴⁴Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. ⁴⁵Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the Law and also the Prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." ⁴⁶Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." ⁴⁷When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" ⁴⁸Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." ⁴⁹Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" ⁵⁰Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." ⁵¹And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

P: This is the gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ

Sermon

Rev. Becky Goche



Will You Come and Follow Me

The Summons

1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call
 2 "Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call
 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call
 4 "Will you love the you you hide if I but call
 5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call

your name? Will you go where you don't
 your name? Will you care for cruel and
 your name? Will you set the pris - 'ners
 your name? Will you quell the fear in -
 my name. Let me turn and fol - low

know and nev - er be the same?
 kind and nev - er be the same?
 free and nev - er be the same?
 side and nev - er be the same?
 you and nev - er be the same.

Will you let my love be shown, will you let my
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as
 Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and

name be known, will you let my life be
 tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer
 this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I
 world a - round, through my sight and touch and
 foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and

grown in you and you in me?"
 pray'r in you and you in me?"
 mean in you and you in me?"
 sound in you and you in me?"
 grow in you and you in me.

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949

Music: KELVINGROVE, Scottish traditional

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CREED

Barb Walter—Internship Committee Chair

A: Let us say together what we believe, using the words of the Apostles' Creed:

**C: 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.**

THE RITE OF ORDINATION

Bishop's Address Bishop Lee M. Miller II

Presentation

The assembly stands. The ordinand is presented to the bishop and the assembly.

Adam, Annabelle, and Weston Arends:

We present for ordination to the ministry of word and sacrament Kristen Lee Arends, who has been prepared, examined, and approved for this ministry and who has been called by the church to this ministry through St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church.

C: Thanks be to God.

The presenters move aside, and the assembly is seated.

Address

The Bishop addresses the ordinand.

B: All baptized Christians are called to share in Christ's ministry of love and service in the world, to the glory of God and for the sake of the human family and the whole creation. According to apostolic usage you are now to be entrusted with the office of word and sacrament in the one holy catholic church by the laying on of hands and by prayer.

Jesus said, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you. Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." (John 20:21-23)

Again Jesus said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." (Matthew 28:18-20)

The Apostle Paul writes: I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. (1 Corinthians 11:23-26)

Questions

The Bishop questions the ordinand.

Bishop: Before almighty God, to whom you must give account, and in the presence of this assembly, I ask: Will you assume this office, believing that the church's call is God's call to the ministry of word and sacrament?

Ordinand: I will, and I ask God to help me.

B: The church in which you are to be ordained confesses that the holy scriptures are the word of God and are the norm of its faith and life. We accept, teach, and confess the Apostles', the Nicene, and the Athanasian Creeds. We also acknowledge the Lutheran confessions as true witnesses and faithful expositions of the holy scriptures. Will you therefore preach and teach in accordance with the holy scriptures and these creeds and confessions?

O: I will, and I ask God to help me.

B: Will you be diligent in your study of the holy scriptures and faithful in your use of the means of grace? Will you pray for God's people, nourish them with the word and sacraments, and lead them by your own example in faithful service and holy living?

O: I will, and I ask God to help me.

B: Will you give faithful witness in the world, that God's love may be known in all that you do?

O: I will, and I ask God to help me.

B: Almighty God, who has given you the will to do these things, graciously give you the strength and compassion to perform them.

C: Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

Barb Walter & Ella Winkler

The assembly stands.

A: With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation. For the holy catholic church, that, filled with your love, it may hunger for truth and thirst after righteousness: God of mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: For all members of the church, that they may serve you in true and godly lives:
God of mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: For Kristen, called to the ministry of word and sacrament in the church, that, sustained by your Holy Spirit, she may carry out this ministry with joy and a spirit of bold trust, serve your people, build up your church, and glorify your name: God of mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: For all ministers of word and sacrament; for all ministers of word and service; for Bishop Lee, Bishop Felix, and Bishop-elect Curry; that together with all those responsible for the care and nurture of your people, they may support one another in serving Christ:
God of mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: For the mission of the church, that in faithful witness it may proclaim the gospel and in humble love serve all in need: God of mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: For the nations of the world and their leaders, that they may work for justice and promote the dignity and freedom of every person: God of mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: For the whole creation, that everything you have made may fulfill your purpose and that we may exercise care for your diverse gifts: God of mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, the lonely, the forgotten, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger; that they may be relieved and protected:
God of mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: For the glorious company of all the saints, those who have died in faith and those who live in certain hope, we praise you. That their witness may give us courage until the day of Jesus Christ: God of mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.


C: Amen.

Hymn of Invocation

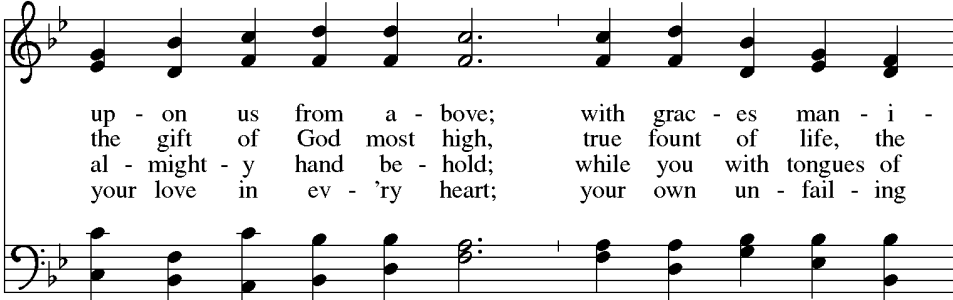
The Bishop and ordinand have a time of silent prayer.

Creator Spirit, Heavenly Dove

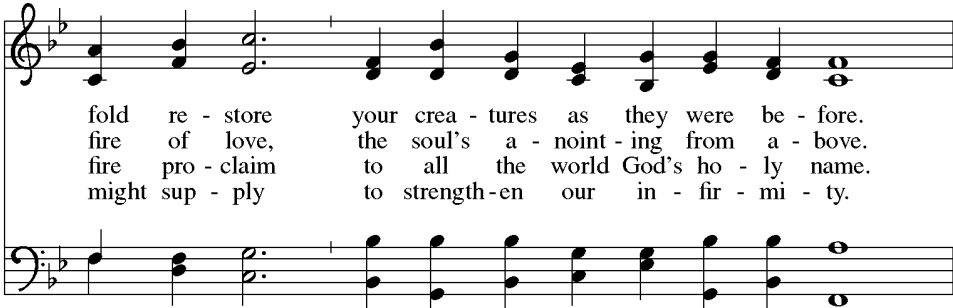
ELW #578



1 Cre - a - tor Spir - it, heav'n - ly dove, de - scend
2 To you, the Com - fort - er, we cry; to you,
3 In you, with grac - es sev - en - fold, we God's
4 Your light to ev - 'ry sense im - part, and shed



up - on us from a - bove; with grac - es man - i -
the gift of God most high; true fount of life, the
al - might - y hand be - hold; while you with tongues of
your love in ev - 'ry heart; your own un - fail - ing



fold re - store your crea - tures as they were be - fore.
fire of love, the soul's a - noint - ing from a - bove.
fire pro - claim to all the world God's ho - ly name.
might sup - ply to strength - en our in - fir - mi - ty.

5 Keep far from us our cruel foe,
and peace from your own hand bestow;
upheld by you, our strength and guide,
no evil can our steps betide.

6 Teach us to know the Father, Son,
and you, of both, to be but one;
that through the ages all along
your praise may be our endless song.

Thanksgiving

B: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

B: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

B: Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, we bless you for your infinite love in Christ our Lord, in whom we have redemption and forgiveness of sins according to the riches of his grace. We thank you that by his death your Son overcame death, and that, raised by your mighty power, he gives us new life. We praise you that, having ascended into heaven, Christ pours out his gifts abundantly on the church, making some apostles, some prophets, some pastors and teachers, to equip your people for their work of ministry for building up the body of Christ.

Laying on of Hands

The ordinand kneels. The Bishop lays both hands on the head of the ordinand. Other clergy and laity may impose their right hands.

B: Eternal God, through your Son, Jesus Christ, pour out your Holy Spirit upon Kristen and fill her with the gifts of grace for the ministry of word and sacrament.

Bless her proclamation of your word and administration of your sacraments, so that your church may be gathered for praise and strengthened for service. Make her a faithful pastor, patient teacher, and wise counselor. Grant that in all things she may serve without reproach, that your people may be renewed and your name be glorified in the church; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

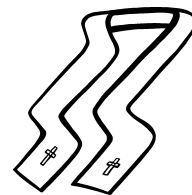
C: Amen.

The assembly is seated.

Giving of a Stole

Rev. Steve Biegner

The ordinand remains kneeling and a stole is placed over her shoulders.



Pastor Steve:

Receive this stole as a sign of your work, and live in obedience to the Lord Jesus, serving his people and remembering his promise: "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." (Matthew 11:28-30)

Charge

Rev. Steve Biegner:

Hear the words of the apostles: Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you were called. (1 Timothy 6:11-12)

Rev. Adam Arends:

And again: Take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you guardians, to feed the church of God that he obtained with the blood of his own Son. (Acts 20:28)

Rev. Becky Goche:

And again: Tend the flock of God that is in your charge, not under compulsion but willingly, not for sordid gain but eagerly. Do not lord it over those in your charge, but be examples to the flock. And when the chief shepherd appears, you will win the crown of glory that never fades away. (1 Peter 5:2-4)

Bishop Lee M. Miller II:

And again: Think of us in this way, as servants of Christ and stewards of God's mysteries. Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy. (1 Corinthians 4:1-2)

B: Kristen, care for God's people, bear their burdens, and do not betray their confidence. So discipline yourself in life and teaching that you preserve the truth, giving no occasion for false security or illusory hope. Witness faithfully in word and deed to all people. Give and receive comfort as you serve within the church. And be of good courage, for God has called you, and your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

Blessing

B: The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, make you complete in everything good so that you may do God's will, working in you that which is pleasing in God's sight; through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever.

C: Amen.



Acclamation by the Assembly

The assembly stands.

B: Will you, assembled as the people of God and speaking for the whole church, receive Kristen as a messenger of Jesus Christ, sent by God to serve all people with the gospel of hope and salvation? Will you regard her as a servant of Christ?

C: We will, and we ask God to help us.

B: Will you pray for her, help and honor her for her work's sake, and in all things strive to live together in the peace and unity of Christ?

C: We will, and we ask God to help us.

B: Let it be acclaimed that Kristen Lee Arends is a called and ordained minister in the church of Christ. She has Christ's authority to preach the word of God and administer the sacraments, serving God's people as together we bear God's creative and redeeming love to all the world.

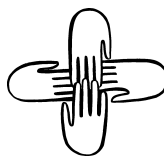
C: Amen. Thanks be to God.

The assembly may offer acclamation with applause.

Peace

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.



Share a sign of Christ's peace with one another.

MEAL

The assembly is seated.

Offering

*Offering in envelopes or online will support the ministry of St. Paul's.
Loose offerings will support the Bishop's Discretionary Fund.*

Special Music

"In Christ Alone"



The assembly stands.

Offertory Prayer

P: Let us pray together,

C: Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor. Through this meal we share, transform us to be the body of Christ, and help our lives reflect your generosity; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Dialogue and Preface

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

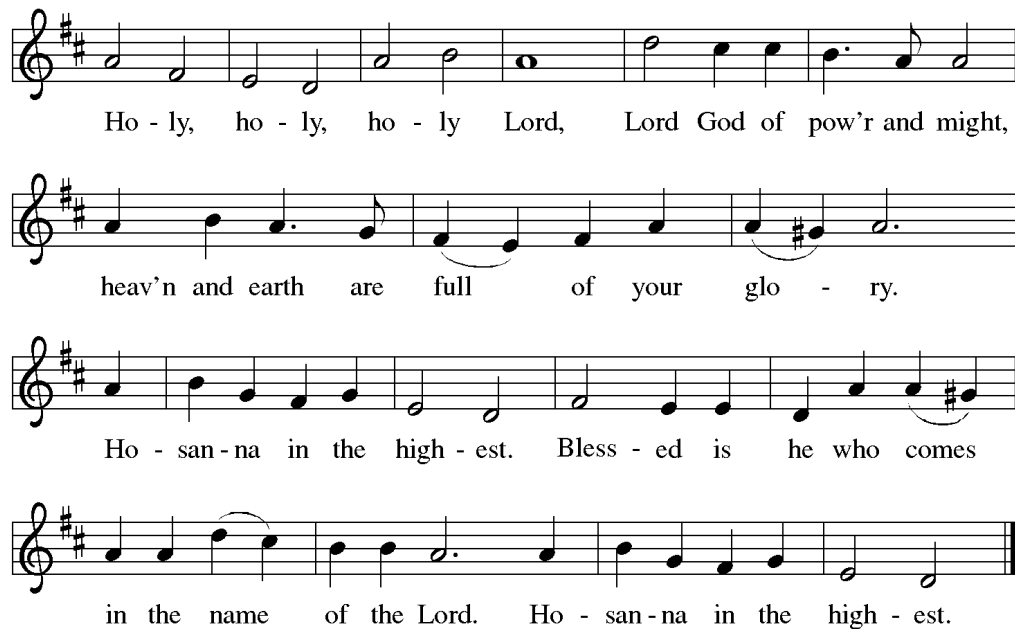
P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right and proper 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 sing their unending hymn:



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

Thanksgiving at the Table & Words of Institution

P: 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 handed over, 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 glory and honor, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

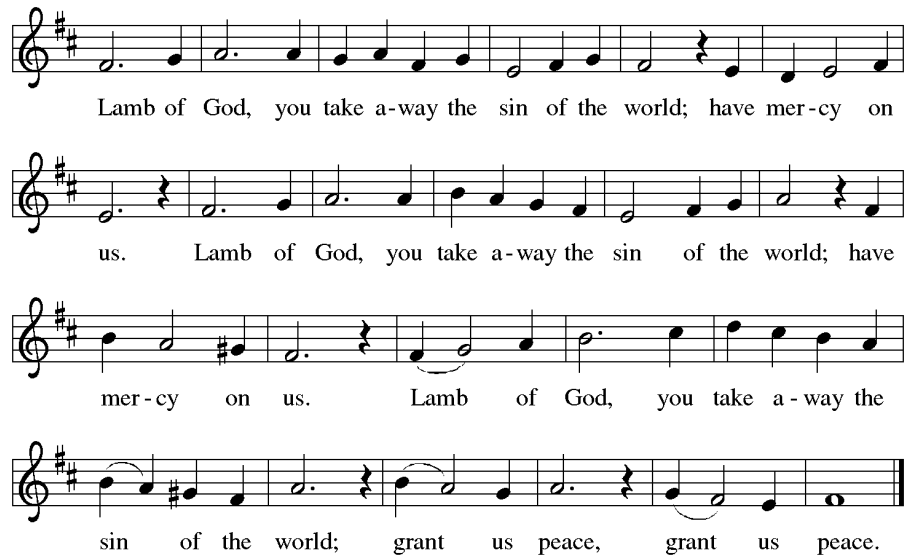
Lord's Prayer

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

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**

Invitation to Communion

P: Jesus has always been one to invite.
He said, "Drop your nets and follow me."
He said, "Let the little children come."
He said, "Stand up from your mat, you are healed."
Jesus has always been one to invite, and that has not changed.
So friends, you are invited to this Table. Each and every one of us—with our doubts, our fears, our scars, our joy, our dreams, our hopes, our questions—we are invited to God's table.
And here we will be met. Here we will be fed. Here we are given a taste of an expansive life that is full to the brim with love, overflowing with joy. So come.
Not because you must, but because you can.
Come. You are invited. This Table is for you.



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.

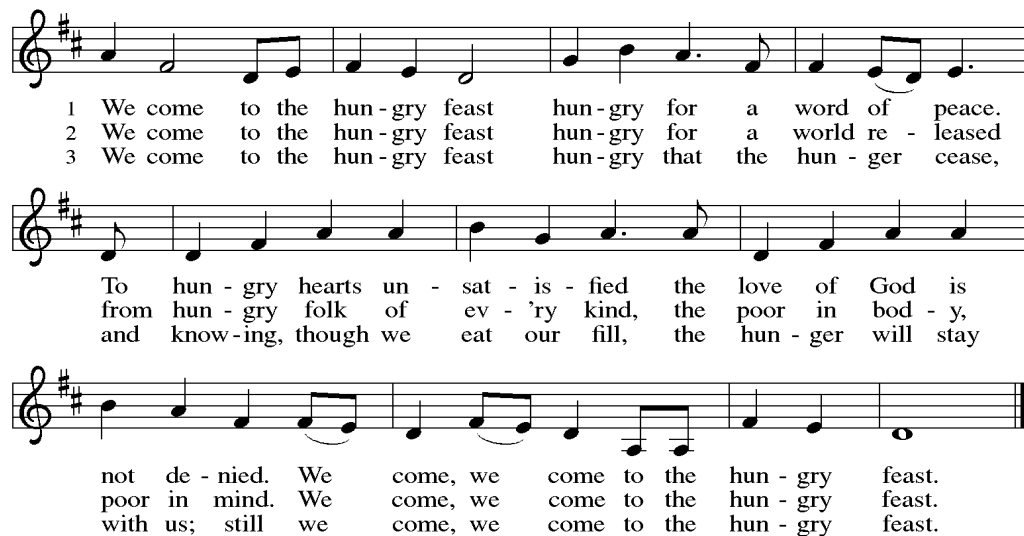
Communion

All our welcome to commune here at Christ's table. At the direction of the ushers, come forward. You will receive bread and then dip it into the chalice. Wine is darker in color and grape juice is lighter in color. Gluten-free options are available. If you are unable to come forward, please let the usher know and communion will be brought to you in your seat.

Distribution Hymns

We Come to the Hungry Feast

ELW #479



1 We come to the hun-gry feast hun-gry for a word of peace.
2 We come to the hun-gry feast hun-gry for a world re-leased
3 We come to the hun-gry feast hun-gry that the hun-ger cease,
To hun-gry hearts un-sat-is-fied the love of God is
from hun-gry folk of ev-'ry kind, the poor in bod-y,
and know-ing, though we eat our fill, the hun-ger will stay
not de-nied. We come, we come to the hun-gry feast.
poor in mind. We come, we come to the hun-gry feast.
with us; still we come, we come to the hun-gry feast.

Gather Us In

ELW #532



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness
2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who
3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the
4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
yearn for your face; we have been sung through-out all of his - t'ry,
bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,
light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.
called to be light to the whole hu - man race.
call us a - new to be salt for the earth.
now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath-er us in, the
Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty, gath-er us in, the
Give us to drink the wine of com-pas - sion, give us to eat the
Gath-er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,
bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion
make us your own; gath - er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.
lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
fire . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: GATHER US IN, Marty Haugen

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Canticle of the Turning

ELW #723



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the
2 Though I am small, my . . . God, my all, you . . .
3 From the halls of pow'r to the for - tress tow'r, not a
4 Though the na - tions rage from . . age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the
work great . . things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the
stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your
mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant . . . from his throne.
liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to
The hun - gry poor shall . . weep no more, for the
This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my
those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the
food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry
prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.
mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.
crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.



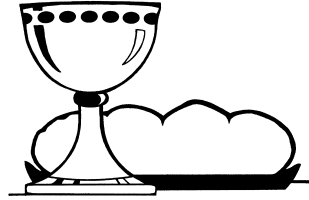
Refrain
My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn.



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

Text: Rory Cooney, b. 1952, based on the Magnificat
Music: STAR OF COUNTY DOWN, Irish traditional
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Assembly Stands

Communion Blessing

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

C: **Amen.**

Prayer After Communion

P: God of mercy and grace, 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.

C: **Amen.**

Benediction

P: As you leave this place, may you be awestruck by the beauty of this world. May you laugh, and may it be contagious. May you overflow with love for those around you. May you be focused on hope and quick to point out joy. And in all of your living, and breathing, and being, may you find yourself full to the brim with God's Holy Spirit, and may it change your life. In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

Sending Hymn—ELW #835

Sing verses 1,2,4,& 6

All Creatures, Worship God Most High!



- 1 All crea-tures, wor-ship God most high! Sound ev - 'ry voice in earth and
- 2 Sing, broth - er wind; with clouds and rain you grow the gifts of fruit and
- 3 Sing, broth - er fire, so mirth - ful, strong; drive far the shad-ows, join the
- 4 All who for love of God for - give, all who in pain or sor - row



sky: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Sing, broth - er sun, in splen-dor
grain: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Dear sis - ter wa - ter, use - ful,
throng: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Dear moth - er earth, so rich in
grieve: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Christ bears your bur-dens and your



bright; sing, sis - ter moon and stars of night:
clear, make mu - sic for your Lord to hear: Al-le - lu - ia, al-le -
care, praise God in col - ors bright and rare:
fears; still make your song a - mid the tears:



lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia!

5 And you, most gentle sister death,
waiting to hush our final breath:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Since Christ our light has pierced your gloom,
fair is the night that leads us home.
Alleluia.

6 O sisters, brothers, take your part,
and worship God with humble heart:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
All creatures, bless the Father, Son,
and Holy Spirit, Three in One:
Alleluia.

Text: Francis of Assisi, 1182–1226; tr. composite
Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1623
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Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Immediately following the service, please join Kristen upstairs in the Parish Hall for a reception prepared by the Daily Bread Food Truck chefs.

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Presiding Minister | Bishop Lee M. Miller II, Upstate New York Synod |
| Preacher | Reverend Becky Goche, English Lutheran Church, La Crosse, WI |
| Musicians | Adam Schmidt—organ, piano, and vocals Ella Winkler—percussion |

THANK YOU

I am so blessed to have many people who have supported me on my path to ordained ministry. Friends, family, and colleagues, you have encouraged, you have listened, you have commiserated. Thank you for your presence in my life, and in the life of my family.

Thanks especially:

- To the people of St. Paul's, council members and my internship committee: Barb, Karin, Wendy, & Ed who filled out so many forms and planned a wonderful reception along with the DBFT.
- To my many supervisors and mentors through the candidacy process: Becky my Christian Public Leader mentor and supervisor at English Lutheran, Deb my CPE supervisor at Greenfields, and Darcy my internship supervisor. Your wisdom and practical advice have been invaluable.
- To the La Crosse Area Synod Candidacy Team, Bishop Felix, Bishop Lee, and leaders in the Upstate New York Synod. Thank you for your flexibility and support to make this work across two synods.
- To every teenager who ever trusted me enough to show up at an event. You didn't have to let me be a part of your life—but because you did, my life has been changed. For good. And I am so blessed to continue to have so many of you still a part of my life today.
- To Steve. For being my partner in ministry for more years than either of us want to count. For seeing gifts in me that I wasn't able to recognize yet all those years ago. For walking with me through all the highs and lows of life and ministry. But most of all, thank you for your friendship.
- To my family and friends who have cheered me on, been patient with me, and never stopped telling me how proud they are of the work I'm doing. Particularly Adam, Anna, and Wes. What a few years it's been! Thank you for your constant care, patience, and love.

Thanks be to God for all of you!

A note on song choice— I sang “We Are Marching” almost every day of my last two years of high school. My chorus class would sing the Zulu words in four part harmony until we'd break out into English “Oh freedom, freedom is coming oh yes I know”. Even though we sang in Zulu I knew this was a song about God and in those five minutes, even on hard days, God broke through reminding me to sing, to dance, to pray, and to march. Everything else are just some of KK's favs.

Thanksgiving for Baptism written by Meta Herrick Carlson and can be found in her book *Speak It Plain: Words for Worship and Life Together*. Invitation to Communion and Benediction written by Sarah R. Speed and can be found in the Lenten resource “Full to the Brim” by *Sanctified Art*.



+ St. Paul's Mission +

To empower others with the Good News of Jesus Christ.

***We do that by: Seeking Connections, Enriching Faith, Nourishing Lives,
and Demonstrating Love in God's Name.***

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Christian Education Coordinator: June Piette

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Digital Ministry: Andrew Gruszka

Facilities Manager: Jeff Stein

Church Office Staff

Cody Almeter and Adrienne Leary

E-mail: office@stpaulseggertsville.com

Telephone: (716) 835-0407

Website: www.stpaulseggertsville.com