





As a community following Christ, we LOVE with an open heart GROW with a curious mind and SHARE with a generous spirit.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Please turn off all cell phones.

If you are visiting with us today, we extend to you a particular welcome and invite your questions and comments.

Our entire worship service is printed in this worship folder for your convenience.

Hearing assistance devices are available in the Narthex.

Child care is available for children ages 5 years and under in the Child Care Area, across from the Life Together Hall.

In the order of service, the words that are spoken by a leader are in regular type.

Words spoken by the assembly are in boldface type.

SEASON OF GENEROSITY

CREATION

Sunday, October 22, 2023 • 8:15 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stand.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

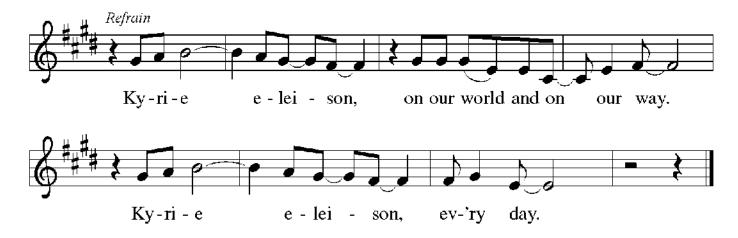
Creator God, as we are made in Your image, we give You thanks for the seed of creativity You planted within each person.

We praise the clean lines of the sculpture, the complexity of the concerto, the beauty of the poet's words.

Kneel or stand.

KYRIE

Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Holy Communion, Setting Eight



Grant us, we pray,

the capacity to appreciate creativity where we don't always notice it:

the perfectly clean and useful lines of a row of coat hangers, say, or the complexity of a computer that crashes (some days) but most days does not, or the beauty in a text message carrying everyday news.

Forgive, us we pray, for those times we have squandered with aimless disregard our capacity to create, and for those times we have used our creativity as a force for destruction rather than reparation.

The "Kyrie" refrain on the facing page is sung again.

Help us truly to live in appreciative awe of the creativity that you have planted within.

Give us the patience and courage to nourish that creativity, and the strength and persistence to express it.

In Your name we pray,

Amen.

Stand.

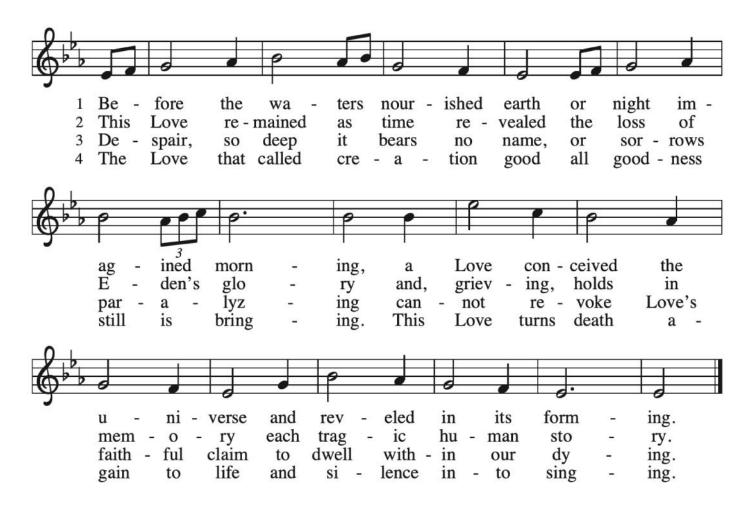
GREETING

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 • "BEFORE THE WATERS NOURISHED THE EARTH"

All Creation Sings 1049



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

At our beginning, God created us unique and irreplaceable, loved and wanted by God, known and treasured by God even before God created us.

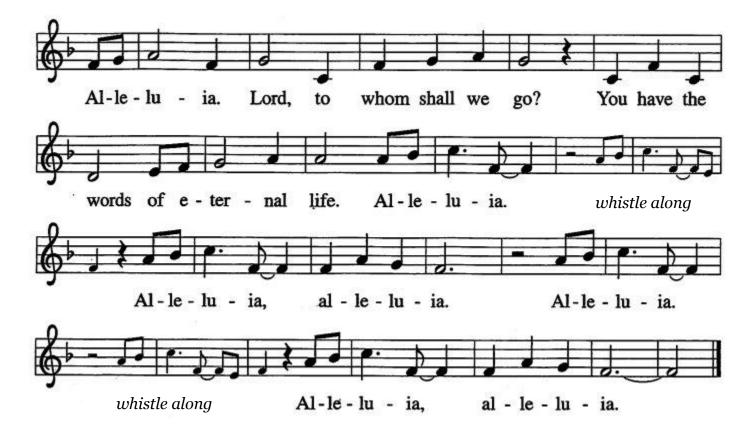
Lord God, Monarch of Creation, open our eyes to see your presence, our souls to sense your presence, and our hearts to love your presence, ever here in your creation, and ever beyond it in eternity.

Amen.

SEASON OF GENEROSITY SPEAKER

ACCLAMATION OF SCRIPTURE • "ALLELUIA"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship • Holy Communion, Setting Eight



READING

A reading from the book of Genesis.

Genesis 1:1-2:4a

1 ¹In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, ²the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters.

³Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

⁶And God said, "Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." ⁷So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. ⁸God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

⁹And God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. ¹⁰God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. ¹¹Then God said, "Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it." And it was so. ¹²The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. ¹³And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

¹⁴And God said, "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, ¹⁵and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth." And it was so. ¹⁶God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. ¹⁷God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, ¹⁸to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

²⁰And God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky." ²¹So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. ²²God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." ²³And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

²⁴And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind." And it was so. ²⁵God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

²⁶Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth." ²⁷So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. ²⁸God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living that moves upon the earth."

²⁹God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. ³⁰And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so.

³¹God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

2 ¹Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. ²And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. ³So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

⁴These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S SERMON + SERMON

Pastor Briana Merkle.

Stand.

HYMN OF PRAISE • "BEAUTIFUL THINGS"

All Creation Sings 925



CREED

Together, let us confess our faith.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Trusting in the transformative power of God's loving Spirit, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

At the conclusion of each petition:

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

Gracious God, into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your unending love and amazing grace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

Sit.

OFFERING

God made it all, and then said: "Now you do this, too." So we make our little worlds where we can.

God filled the world with grace and said, "Now you do this, too." So we add our little portions of love and mercy where we can.

God emptied Godself in love and said, "Now you do this, too." So we pour out as much love as we dare, for our neighbors as ourselves.

God said, "I created you in my image! Make sure everything you do Looks. Like. Me."

And so we give generously, not only because of the world's needs but because we are called to be generous, to be graceful, to be in the image of God.

The offering will now be given and received.

OFFERTORY

"The Word Became Flesh" MVLC Sanctuary Choir with Joan Kohler, flute.

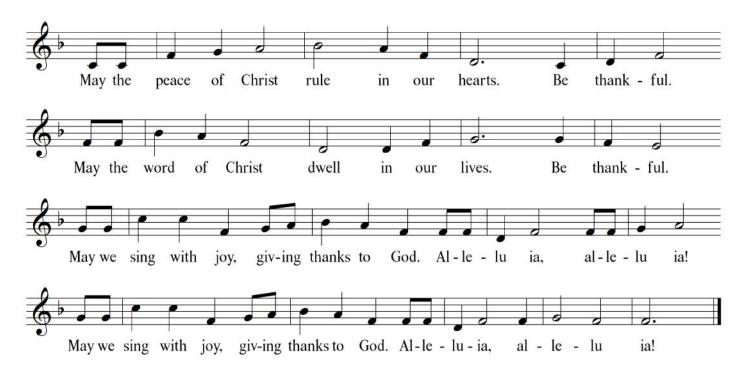
Stand.

You can participate in the Offering electronically by scanning the QR code and filling out the online form.



OFFERTORY RESPONSE • "BE THANKFUL"

Lutheran Summer Music 2023



PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Come, God, come! You hovered over the waters at the beginning, poised to make something new. Do the same now!

Hover over this unformed offering—all the coins and bills and checks and automatic withdraws—and give it form!

Hover over our gifts and make them into a home fit for everyone who needs it, with safety and healing and food and warmth and mercy and life and grace upon grace for all.

It's in Jesus' name we pray,

Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

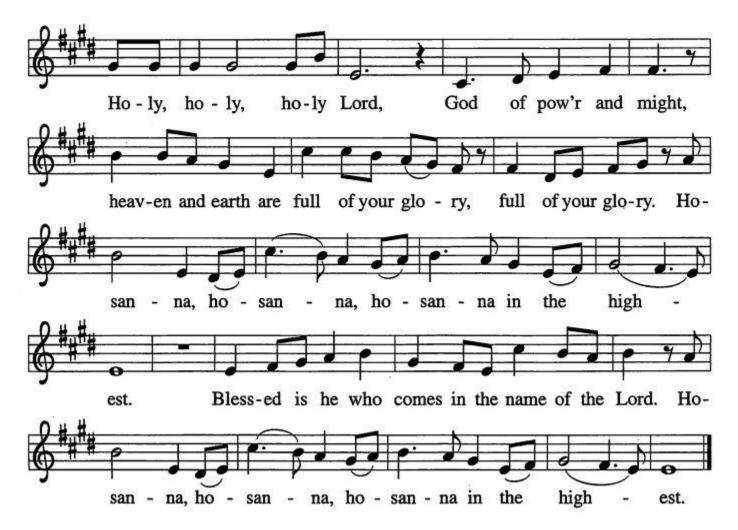
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS • "HOLY, HOLY, HOLY"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship • Holy Communion, Setting Eight



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

- Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
- Give us today our daily bread.
- Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
- Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
- For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

COMMUNION

Jesus invites you to this table. Come, eat and live.

Sit.

DISTRIBUTION

At Mountain View Lutheran Church we practice an open communion table, which means that everyone is welcome to receive the body and blood of Jesus Christ. (You don't have to be a member of MVLC.)

If you need an alcohol-free element or a gluten-free element, then please let your server know.

If you are unable to come forward for communion, then please let an usher know and you will be served where you are seated.

This is the table, not of the Church, but of Jesus Christ. It is made ready for those who are loved by God, whether you feel loved or not.

It is for those who desire to grow in love with God.

So come, you who have much faith and you who have little.

You who have been here often

and you who have not been for a long time or ever before.

Come, you who have tried to follow and you who live with a sense of failure in your following.

and you who live with a sense of familie in your follow

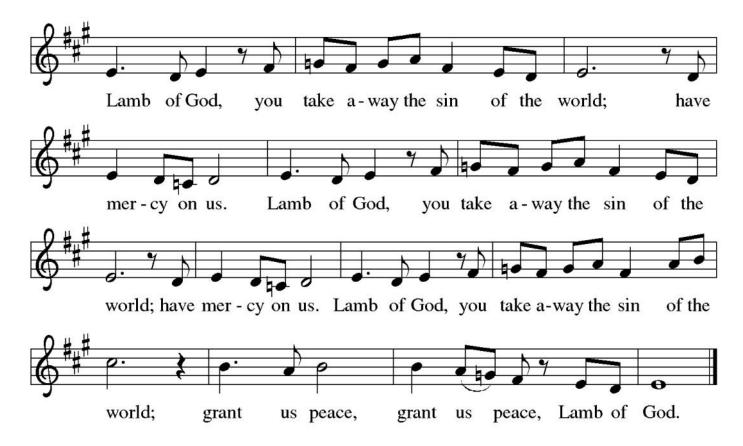
Come, not because the Church invites you;

it is Christ who invites you to be known and fed and loved here.

Please come. Receive the gifts of God for all the people of God.

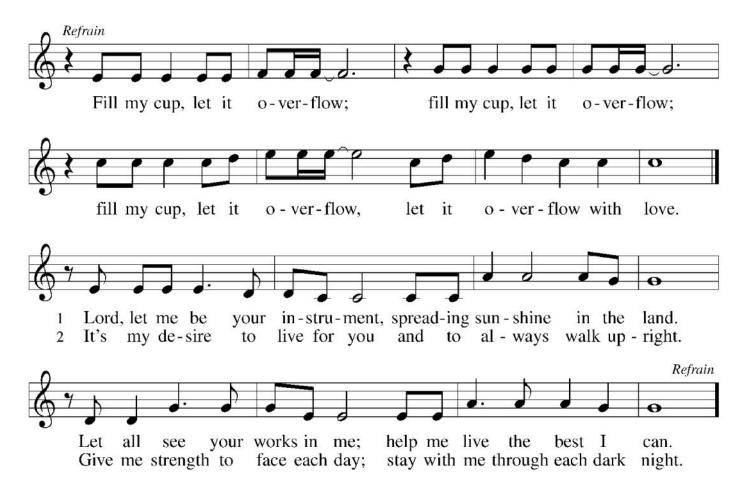
LAMB OF GOD • "LAMB OF GOD"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship • Holy Communion, Setting Eight



COMMUNION HYMN • "FILL MY CUP, LET IT OVERFLOW"

This Far by Faith 127



COMMUNION HYMN • "BREAD OF LIFE FROM HEAVEN"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 474



COMMUNION HYMN • "ALL WHO HUNGER, GATHER GLADLY"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 461



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Blessed be your name, O God,

for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts.

Strengthened by this food, send us as a community following Christ, to LOVE with an open heart, GROW with a curious mind, and SHARE with a generous spirit.

In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

DEACON SENDING

Gracious God,

you took the form of a servant, offering yourself as food, comfort, and strength to a sick and hurting world.

Anoint with a servant heart those who take your word and sacrament to our siblings in their homes and in hospitals.

Grant grace, mercy, healing, and hope to those who feast on your body and blood and receive your words of new life.

May we all recognize that we have a place and a home in the body of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Amen.

BLESSING

From chaos to creation, from struggle to joy, from death to life, from strangers to friends: may God the Homemaker, Jesus the Guest, and the Holy Spirit, the opener of doors, be with you now as you go out into creation, putting grace into action.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN • "PRAISE YE THE LORD"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 872



SENDING

Go in peace. God is at work in you. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Flowers on the altar today are given to the glory of God by Genie Lennon in celebration of her daughter Erin.

WORSHIP NOTES

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- Images on the front cover were created by the children of MVLC during worship in the Children's Space on 10/15/2023. They represent "God Sees Me," based upon Ruth 1:1-17, and how their friends might see them.
- Top row: Mackenzie, Athrun, Emi. Second row: Gretchen, Joanna. Third row: Beau, Kenzo, Nate. Bottom row: Natalie, Penelope.

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Worship leaders include:

Both services

- PREACHER: Pastor Briana Merkle.
- PRESIDER: Pastor Briana Merkle.
- ASSISTING MINISTER: Serena Fink.
- DIRECTOR of MUSIC MINISTRIES: Brenna Sage.
- VIDEOGRAPHER: David Burch.
- ALTAR GUILD: Kathy Harris, Janice Harrison, Cindy Jones, Karen Lonn.

8:15 a.m.

- USHERS: Fred Albert (head usher), Joe Anderson, Michelle Schweikl.
- GREETER: Gloria Ratcliffe.
- LECTOR: Eileen Newton.
- ACOLYTE: Penelope Neptun, Gretchen Schaefer.
- COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: Gloria Ratcliffe, Sandi Swanson.
- SOUND: Gene Quandt.
- SEASON of GENEROSITY SPEAKERS: Jeanne Hoseth, Paul Hoseth.

10:45 a.m.

- USHERS: Logan Cantrell, Mark Cantrell (head usher), Julie Kibler, Mark Kibler.
- GREETERS: Ellen Leapaldt.
- LECTOR: John Dahle.
- ACOLYTES: Brian Gravum, Olivia Williamson.
- COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: Terry Jensen, Ellen Leapaldt.
- SOUND: Beth Ann Johnson.
- SEASON of GENEROSITY SPEAKER: Angela Machumu.

MOUNTAIN VIEW LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Community Dinners

