

# Faith Lutheran Church

Faithfully Growing, Welcoming, and Caring through Christ

Sixth Sunday of Easter  
Sunday, May 21, 2017



**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

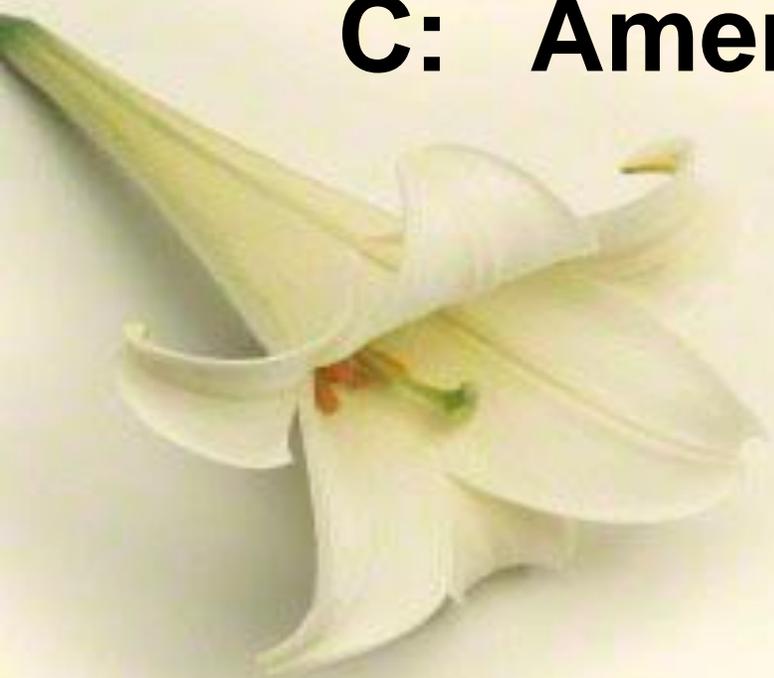


# **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**



**P:** Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
who forgives all our sin, whose mercy  
endures forever.

**C: Amen.**





**P:** Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known, and from whom 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 Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

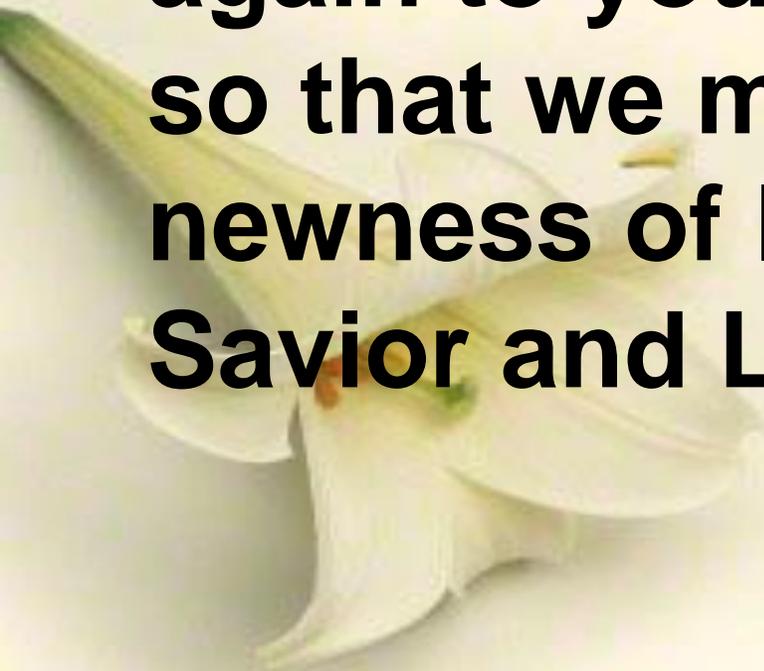
P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. *(A brief silence.)*

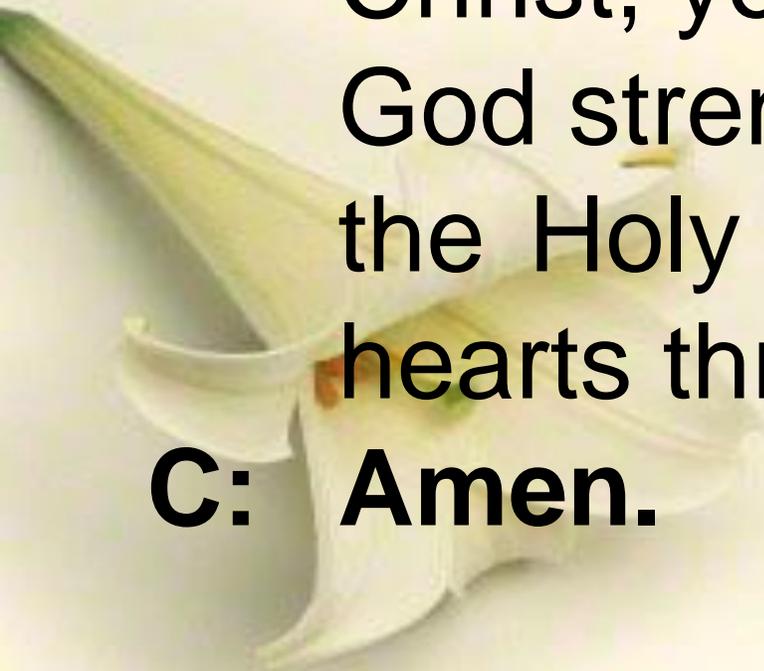
Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent.**



**In your compassion forgive us our sins,  
known and unknown, things we have done  
and things we have failed to do. Turn us  
again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit,  
so that we may live and serve you in  
newness of life through Jesus Christ, our  
Savior and Lord. Amen.**

A white lily flower is visible in the bottom left corner of the image, partially overlapping the text. The flower is in bloom, with several petals visible, and its stem and leaves are also partially seen. The background is a light, neutral color.



**P:** God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

**C: Amen.**

**OPENING HYMN** *“A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!”*

**A hymn of glory let us sing!**

**New hymns throughout the world shall ring:**

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Christ, by a road before untrod,  
ascends unto the throne of God.**

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**The holy apostolic band  
upon the Mount of Olives stand,  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
and with his faithful foll'wers see  
their Lord ascend in majesty.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**



**To whom the shining angels cry,  
"Why stand and gaze upon the sky?"**

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**"This is the Savior!" thus they say,  
"this is his glorious triumph day!"**

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**



**"You see him now, ascending high  
up to the portals of the sky."**

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**"Hereafter Jesus you shall see  
returning in great majesty."**

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**



**O risen Christ, ascended Lord,  
all praise to you let earth accord:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**You are, while endless ages run,  
with Father and with Spirit one.**

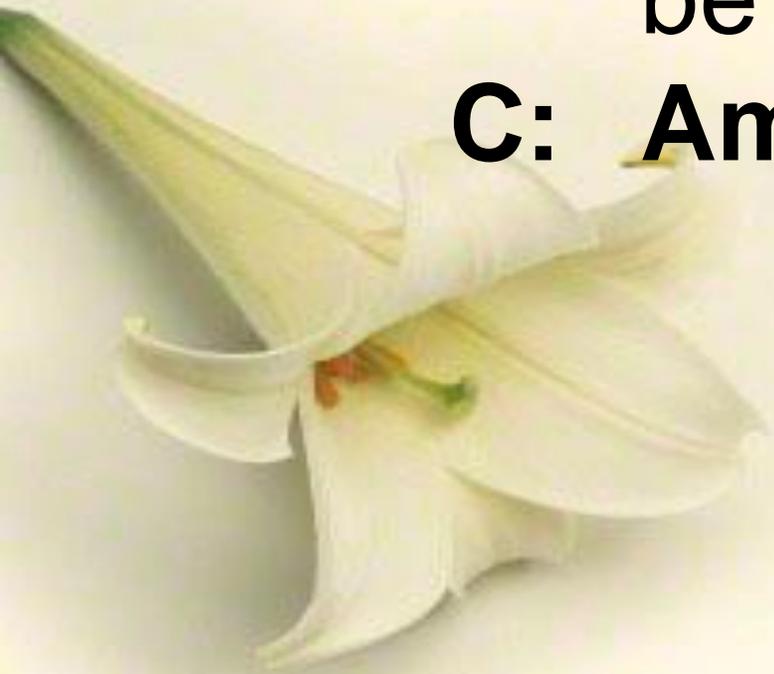
**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**



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

**C: Amen**



# **INTRODUCTION**

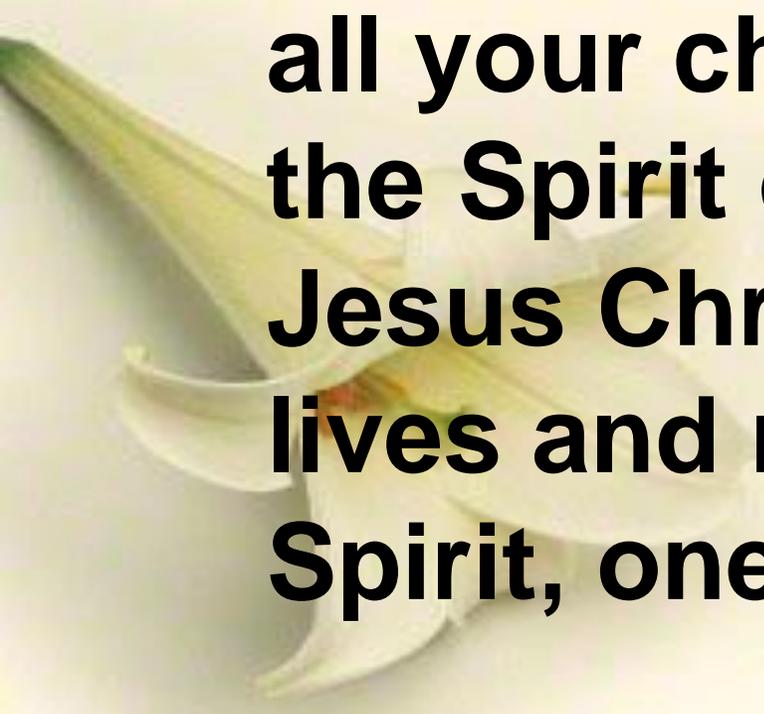
**P:** Jesus does not leave his followers orphaned. Through the Holy Spirit Jesus comes to abide with his disciples of every generation. As Pentecost draws near, we are reminded that the risen Christ dwells in us as the Spirit of truth. We receive this Spirit in baptism and pray that in our gathering around the Lord's table the Spirit will transform us to be the body of the risen Christ in the world.

**C:** Amen.

# PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. *(A brief silence.)*

**C: Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**



# CHILDREN'S CHURCH

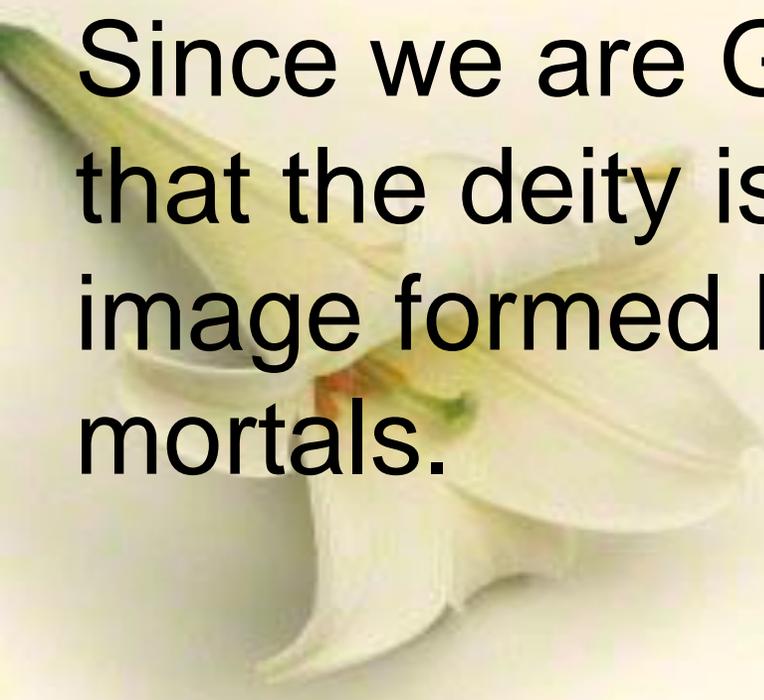


## **FIRST READING: Acts 17:22-31**

The first reading is from Acts, the 17<sup>th</sup> chapter.

Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you.

The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live,

A white lily flower is visible in the bottom left corner of the image, partially overlapping the text. The flower is in bloom, with several petals visible, and its stem and green leaves are also partially seen. The background is a light, neutral color.

so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him - though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we too are his offspring.' Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals.

While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

R: Word of God, word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

# **A RESPONSIVE READING from Psalm 66**

**R:** Bless our God, you peoples; let the sound of praise be heard.

**C:** **Our God has kept us among the living and has not allowed our feet to slip.**



R: For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us just as silver is tried.

**C: You brought us into the net; you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.**



R: You let people ride over our heads;  
we went through fire and water, but you  
brought us out into a place of refreshment.

**C: I will enter your house with burnt  
offerings and will pay you my vows -**



R: those that I promised with my lips and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.

**C: I will offer you burnt offerings of fatlings with the smoke of rams; I will give you oxen and goats.**



R: Come and listen, all you who believe,  
and I will tell you what God has done for me.

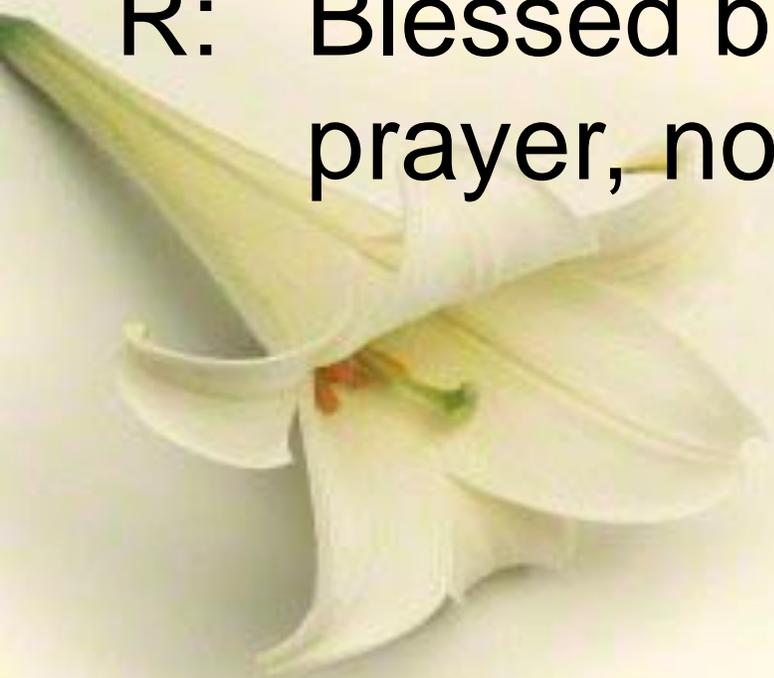
**C: I called out to God with my mouth, and  
praised the Lord with my tongue.**



R: If I had cherished evil in my heart, the Lord would not have heard me;

**C: but in truth God has heard me and has attended to the sound of my prayer.**

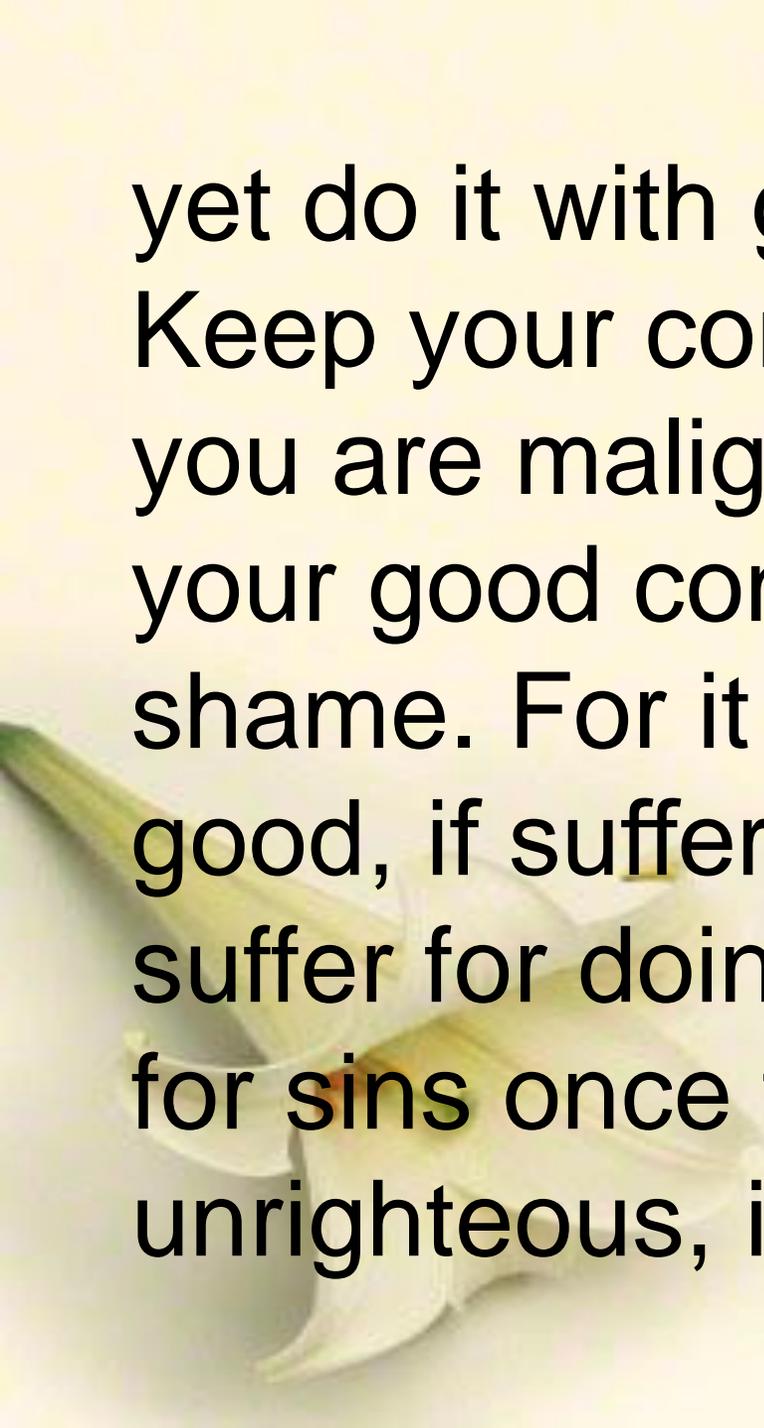
R: Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, nor withheld unfailing love from me.



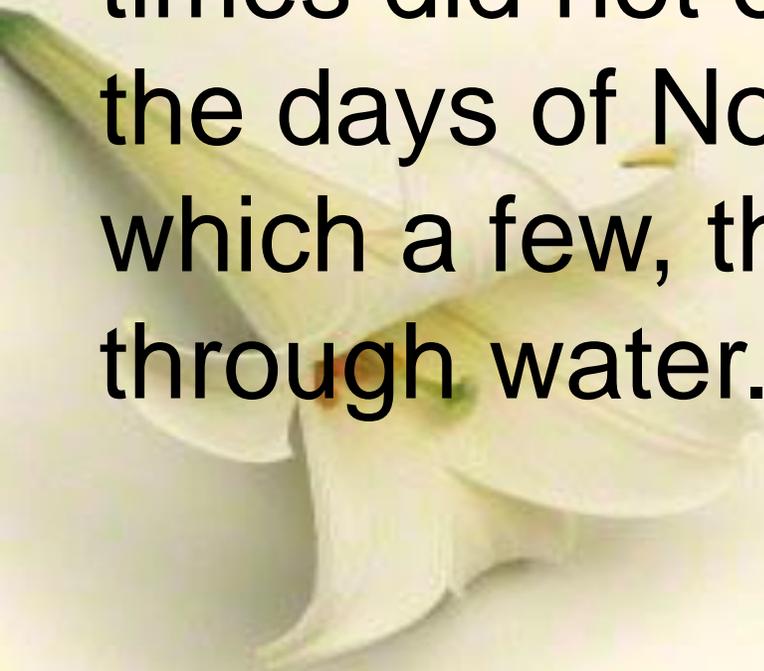
## **SECOND READING: 1 Peter 3:13-22**

The second reading is from 1<sup>st</sup> Peter, the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter.

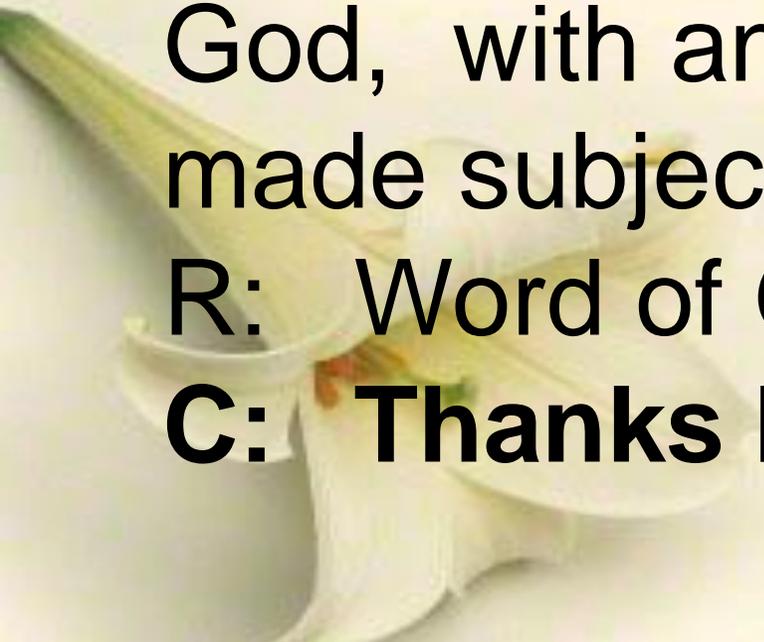
Who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you;



yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God.



He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water.

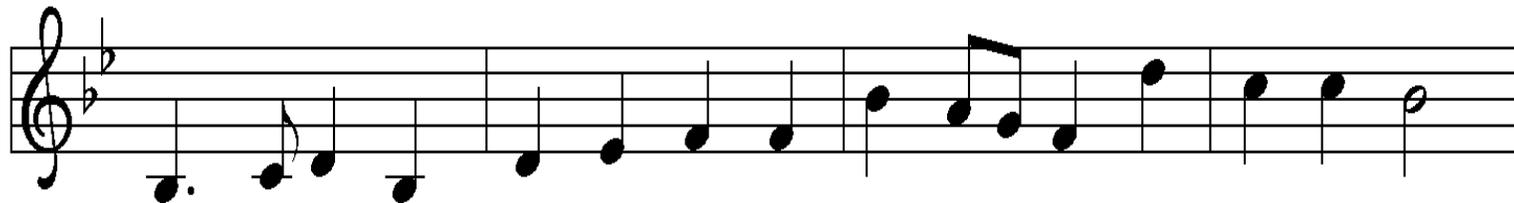


And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you - not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

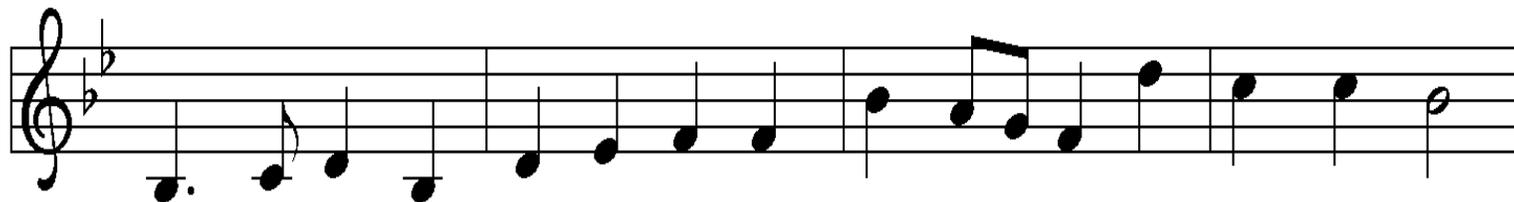
R: Word of God, word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

# ALLELUIA



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

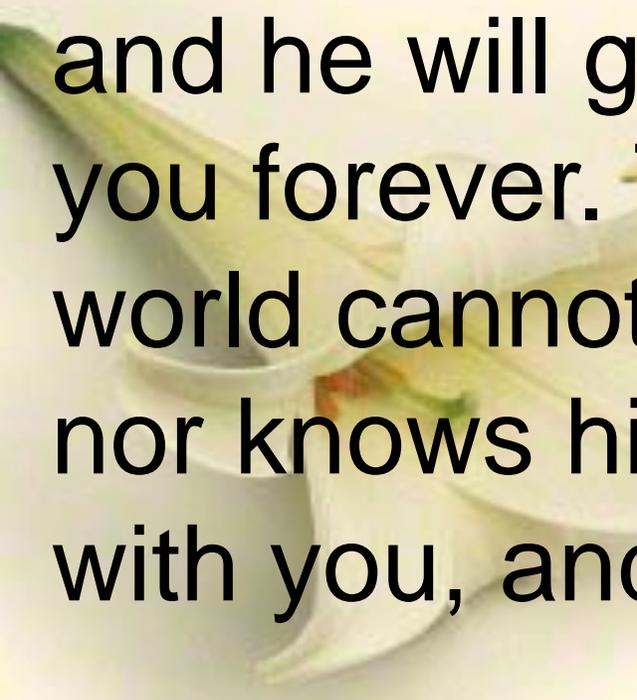


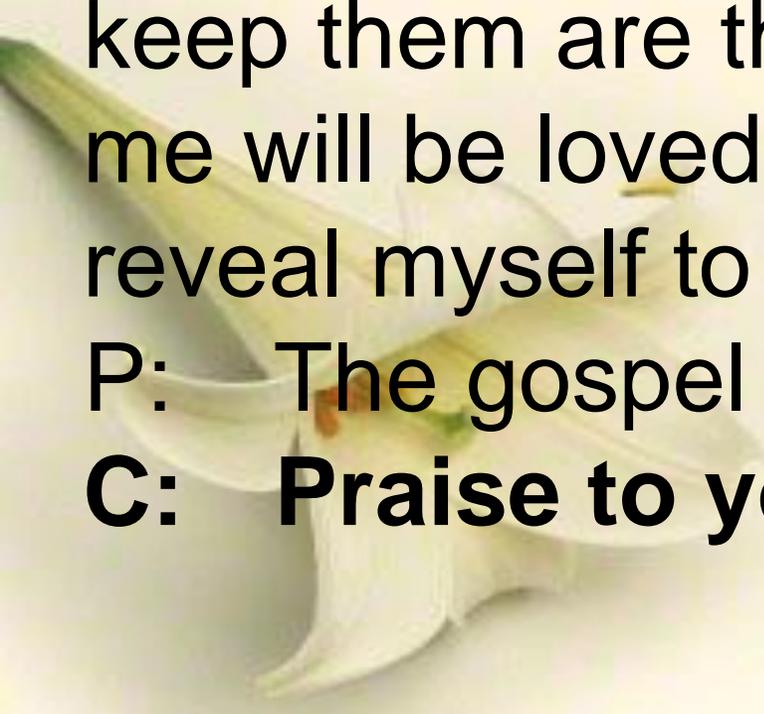
## **GOSPEL: John 14:15-21**

**P:** The holy gospel according to John, the 14<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**C:** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said to the disciples: “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.





“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

# *Sermon*

*“Thank God for the Advocate!”*



# **HYMN OF THE DAY** *“Spirit of Gentleness”*

## ***Refrain***

***Spirit, Spirit of gentleness,  
blow through the wilderness calling and free;  
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness,  
stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.***



**You moved on the waters, you called to the deep,  
then you coaxed up the mountains from the valleys of sleep;  
and over the eons you called to each thing:  
"Awake from your slumbers and rise on your wings."**



## ***Refrain***

***Spirit, Spirit of gentleness,  
blow through the wilderness calling and free;  
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness,  
stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.***



**You swept through the desert, you stung with  
the sand,  
and you goaded your people with a law and a  
land;  
and when they were blinded with idols and lies,  
then you spoke through your prophets to open  
their eyes.**



## ***Refrain***

***Spirit, Spirit of gentleness,  
blow through the wilderness calling and free;  
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness,  
stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.***



## ***Refrain***

***Spirit, Spirit of gentleness,  
blow through the wilderness calling and free;  
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness,  
stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.***



**You sang in a stable, you cried from a hill,  
then you whispered in silence when the  
whole world was still;  
and down in the city you called once again,  
when you blew through your people on the  
rush of the wind.**



## ***Refrain***

***Spirit, Spirit of gentleness,  
blow through the wilderness calling and free;  
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness,  
stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.***



**You call from tomorrow, you break ancient schemes.**

**From the bondage of sorrow all the captives dream dreams;**

**our women see visions, our men clear their eyes.**

**With bold new decisions your people arise.**



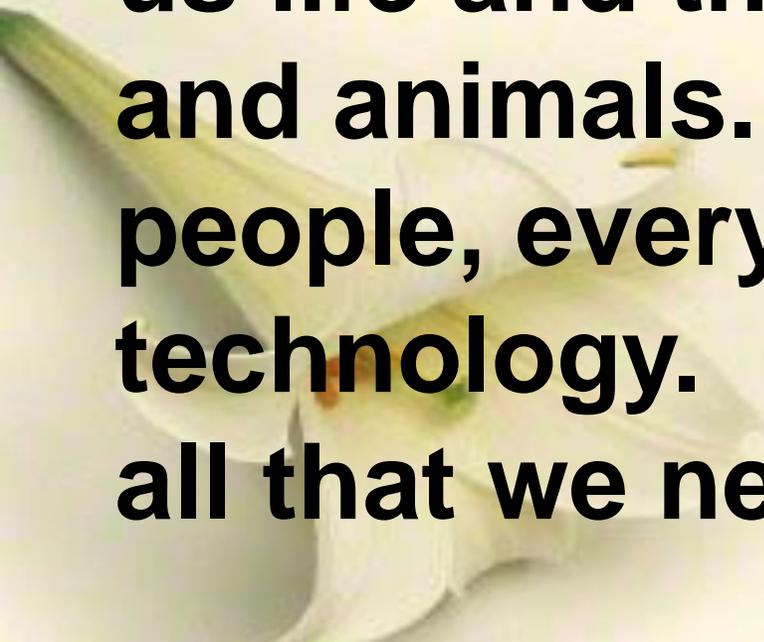
## ***Refrain***

***Spirit, Spirit of gentleness,  
blow through the wilderness calling and free;  
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness,  
stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.***

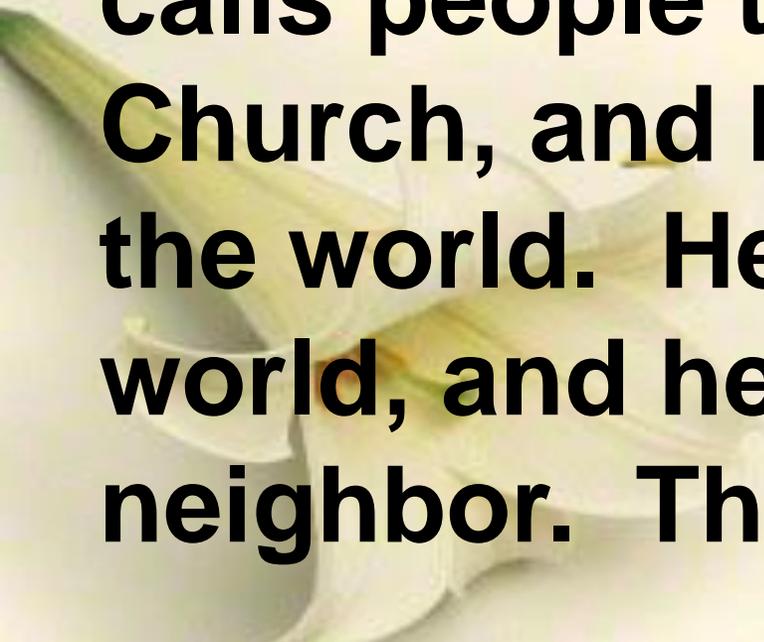


## **Youth Confirmation Creed**

**We believe in God the Father, who is the Creator of heaven and earth. God loved his creation and said it was good. God has given us life and things to support our life, like plants and animals. God is still creating through people, every time there is new life and more technology. God provides for us by giving us all that we need for daily life.**



**We believe in Jesus Christ, who is the Savior of the world. He healed many people because he cared about them. He taught many stories and parables to his followers to increase their faith. He died on the cross to save us from our sins. He rose from the dead, and after he rose he commanded us to make new disciples all over the world. Because he loves us, he offers all who believe eternal life. He promises to be with us till the end of the age.**

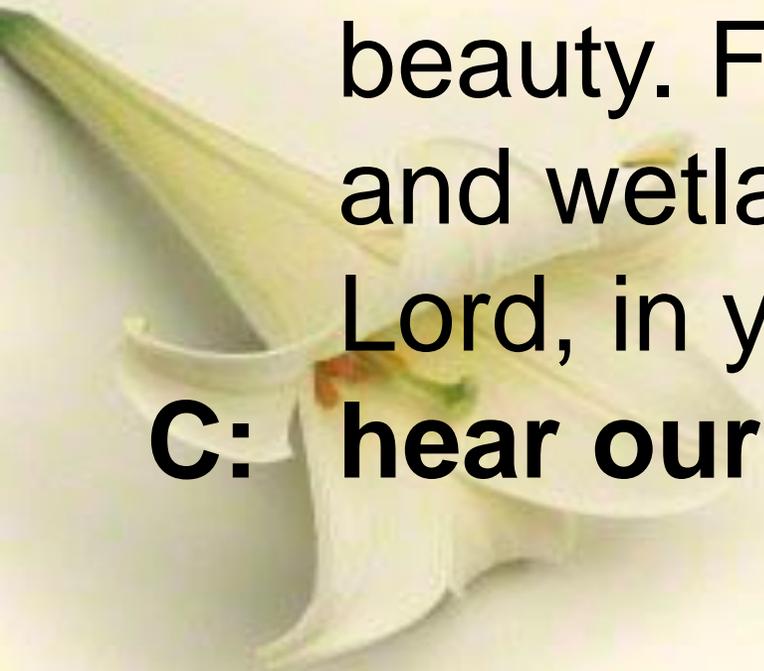


**We believe in the Holy Spirit, who is the giver of our faith. He gives us spiritual gifts like love, joy, and kindness. He forgives our sins and helps us to live holy lives. The Holy Spirit calls people to become part of the Christian Church, and helps the church to grow around the world. He calls us to serve others in the world, and helps us live in peace with our neighbor. This is most certainly true. AMEN!**

# PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

**P:** Rejoicing in the risen life of Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need. *(A brief silence.)* We pray for the church. Draw your whole church together as one. Bring an end to division. Send your Spirit into your people and rouse us to greater love and mission. Lord, in your mercy,

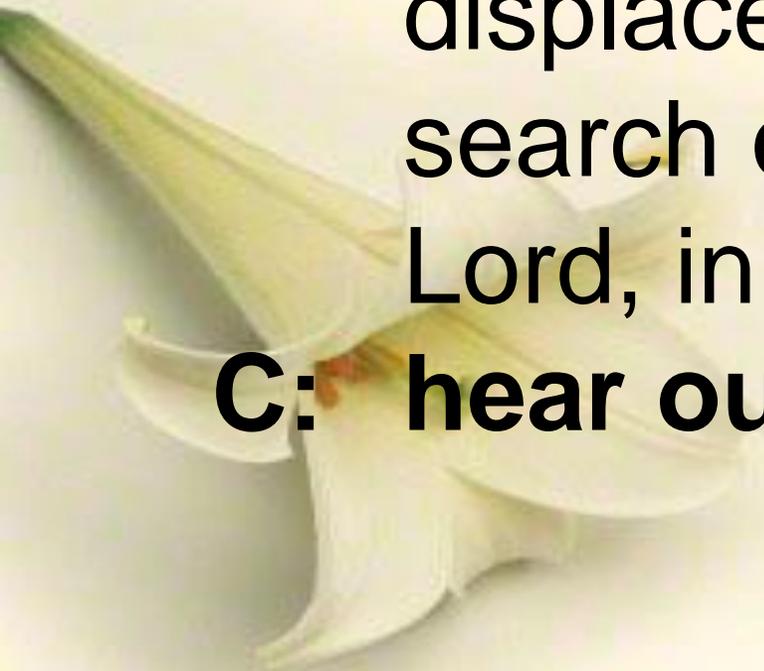
**C:** **hear our prayer.**



P: For the earth. For scientists, photographers, and explorers. For scholars, poets, musicians, artists, and all who lead us to greater knowledge and appreciation of beauty. For lakes and rivers, watersheds and wetlands, ponds and oceans.

Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**



P: For the nations. Give wisdom to those who govern. Strengthen all who work for peace. Protect those who have been displaced or have left their homes in search of safety and freedom.

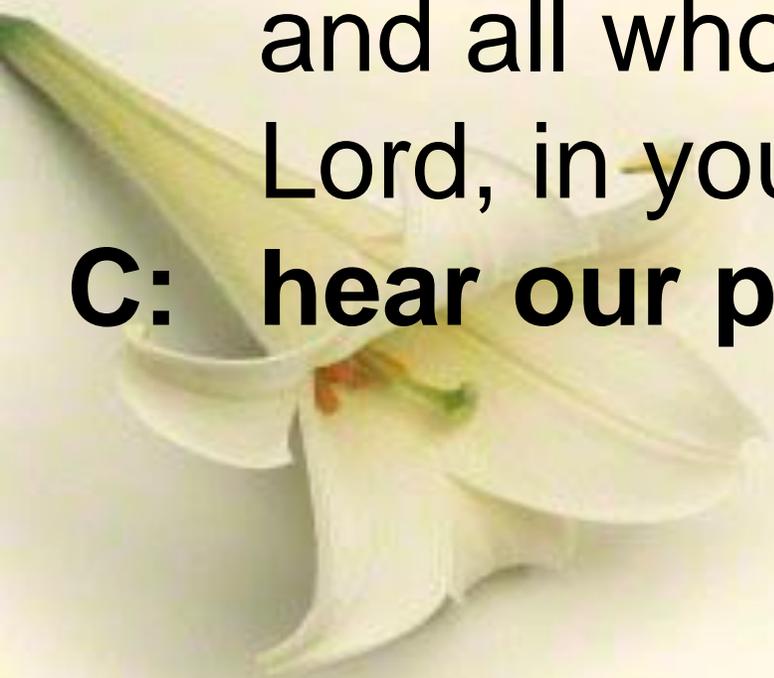
Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: For those in need. For those who suffer abuse or neglect. For those who suffer post-traumatic stress. For those who struggle with addiction. For those who grieve and all who are ill (*especially*).

Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**



P: For this assembly. Bless those preparing for baptism and affirmation of baptism. Strengthen our ministries of evangelism, outreach, and pastoral care. Deepen our faith and knowledge of you.

Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**



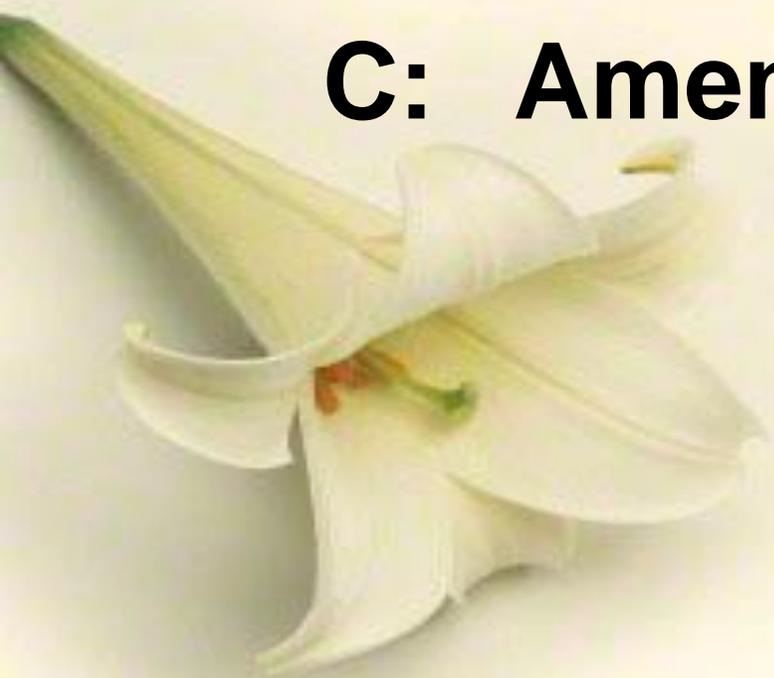
P: With thanksgiving, we remember those who have died. Inspire us by their witness to your love. Bring us into your eternal presence to live with you forever. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**



**P:** Joining our voices with your faithful ones in every time and place, we offer our prayers in the name of the Risen One, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**



# **SHARING THE PEACE**

**P:** The Peace of Christ be with you.

**C.** And also with you.

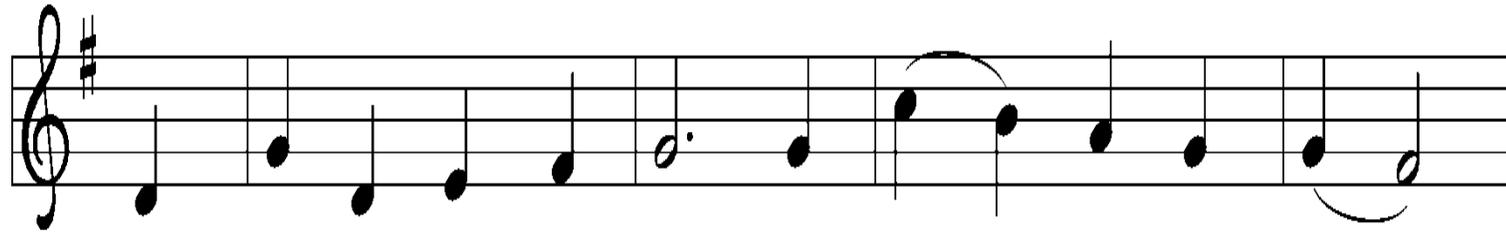


**~VIDEO DURING THE OFFERING ~**

***“Just Be Held”***  
***by Casting Crowns***



# Offertory Response



1 We give thee but thine own, what - e'er the gift may be;  
2 May we thy boun - ties thus as stew - ards true re - ceive,



all that we have is thine a - lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.  
and glad - ly, as thou bless - est us, to thee our first - fruits give.



# OFFERING PRAYER

**P:** Let us pray. O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

**C: we give you thanks and praise.**

# DIALOGUE

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 and praise to the  
Lord our God.

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



# **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**



# **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

# *COMMUNION*



# **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**P:** Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection, you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of heaven to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to Jesus' resurrection that we may show your glory to all the world; through the same Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

**C: Amen.**

# **BLESSING**

**P:** The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**



# **CLOSING HYMN**

***“Go, My Children, with My Blessing”***

**"Go, my children, with my blessing,  
never alone.**

**Waking, sleeping, I am with you,  
you are my own.**

**In my love's baptismal river**

**I have made you mine forever.**

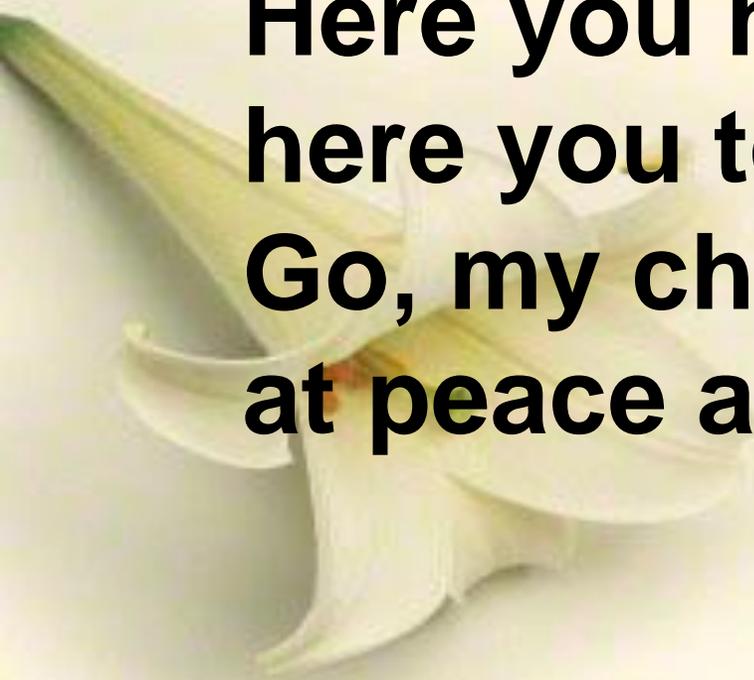
**Go, my children, with my blessing,  
you are my own."**

**"Go, my children, sins forgiven,  
at peace and pure.**

**Here you learned how much I love you,  
what I can cure.**

**Here you heard my dear Son's story,  
here you touched him, saw his glory.**

**Go, my children, sins forgiven,  
at peace and pure."**



**"Go, my children, fed and nourished,  
closer to me.**

**Grow in love and love by serving,  
joyful and free.**

**Here my Spirit's power filled you,  
here my tender comfort stilled you.**

**Go, my children, fed and nourished,  
joyful and free."**



# **DISMISSAL**

**P:** Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*Please join us in the  
Fellowship Hall  
for refreshments*









