

Francis of Assisi, Renewer of the Church

Sunday, October 1, 2023

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
215 N. Warren St.
Orwigsburg, PA
570-366-2316

www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org

GATHERING

PRELUDE

“All Creatures of Our God and King”

L. Larson

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

We gather in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

If we say we have no sins, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.
Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake God forgives you all your sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ he gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

GATHERING HYMN “All Creatures of Our God and King”

[See back of bulletin]

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.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, by whose gift Saint Francis was conformed to Christ in poverty and humility, grant that, by walking in Francis' footsteps, we may follow your Son, and, through joyful charity, come to be united with you. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

WORD

A READING FROM GENESIS

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.

(Genesis 1:20-25)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 148:1-13 (Read responsively)

Hallelujah! Praise the LORD from the heavens;
praise him in the heights.

**Praise him, all you angels of his;
praise him, all his host.**

Praise him, sun and moon;
praise him, all you shining stars.

**Praise him, heaven of heavens,
and you waters above the heavens.**

Let them praise the name of the LORD;
for he commanded, and they were created.

**He made them stand fast forever and ever;
he gave them a law which shall not pass away.**

Praise the LORD from the earth,
you sea monsters and all deeps;
**fire and hail, snow and fog,
tempestuous wind, doing his will;**
mountains and all hills,
fruit trees and all cedars;
**wild beasts and all cattle,
creeping things and winged birds;**
kings of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all rulers of the world;
**young men and maidens,
old and young together.**

Let them praise the name of the LORD,
for his name only is exalted, his splendor is over earth and heaven.

A READING FROM GALATIANS

¹⁴May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. ¹⁵For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything; but a new creation is everything! ¹⁶As for those who will follow this rule—peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God. ¹⁷From now on, let no one make trouble for me; for I carry the marks of Jesus branded on my body. ¹⁸May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers and sisters. Amen.

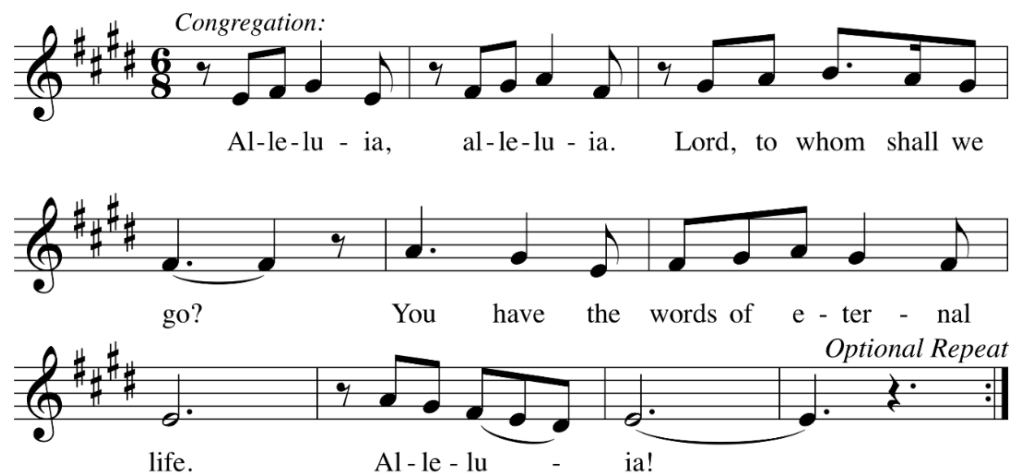
(Galatians 6:14-18)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Congregation:



Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal
life. Al - le - lu - ia!

Optional Repeat

GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said,] ²⁵“Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? ²⁶Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? ²⁸And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. ³⁰But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? ³¹Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear?’ ³²For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. ³³But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

(Matthew 6:25-33)

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY “All Things Bright and Beautiful”

[See back of bulletin]

THE NICENE CREED (In Unison)

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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Remembering the caring and generous works of God, we pray for the church, creation, and the needs of our neighbors.

A brief silence.

Holy God, you call us to work for peace and justice in your world. Refresh the church with your life, that we may bear fruit through work and service. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Thank you for the abundant harvest of the earth. May we be inspired by your servants who cared deeply for your creation, especially Francis of Assisi, whom we commemorate today. Help us to regard all your creation as our brothers and sisters and bless our pets whom we hold dear. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Curb the impulses of greed and pride that lead us to take advantage of others. Grant that world leaders seek the fruits of the kingdom for the good and welfare of all people. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Sustain all who suffer with the promise of new life. Assured of your presence, heal our pain and suffering, and equip us to embrace all bodies aching for wholeness of mind, body, and soul. We especially pray for everyone on our prayer list and the people of Ukraine. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Thank you for the saints who teach us to live faithfully in your world, especially Francis of Assisi. May our chorus join theirs until our labor is complete. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

(The Pastor concludes): Remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer these and the prayers of our heart, trusting in your compassion made known through Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Together, let us now pray the prayer attributed to St. Francis:

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let me sow love;

Where there is injury, pardon;

Where there is doubt, faith;

Where there is despair, hope;

Where there is darkness, light;

And where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master,

grant that I 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.

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY (8:00 AM) “This is My Father’s World”

L. Larson

ANTHEM (10:30 AM)

*“Canticle of Creation”

M. Burrows

OFFERTORY HYMN

“As Grains of Wheat”

Refrain

As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from
all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Blessed are you,

O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

MEAL

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

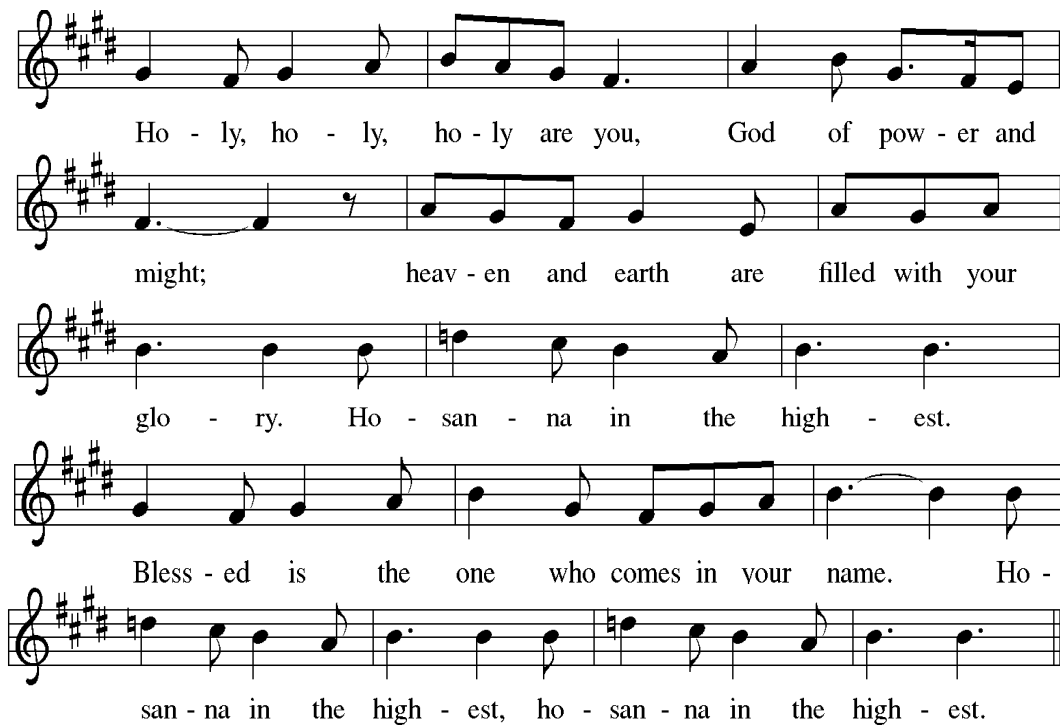
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and
might; heav - en and earth are filled with your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is the one who comes in your name. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth.

In mercy for our fallen world, you gave your only Son,
that all those who believe in him should not perish,
but have eternal life.

We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us
through Jesus Christ.

Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts,
that we may receive our Lord with a living faith
as he comes to us in his holy supper.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (In Unison)

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.

INSTRUCTIONS

All who are baptized and seek forgiveness of their sins and the promise of eternal life in Jesus Christ are welcome to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion by intinction. Communicants may dip a wafer of bread (the Body of Christ) into a chalice of wine (the Blood of Christ) before consuming it. After you have received the Sacrament, you may choose to briefly stand at the chancel rail before returning to your seat.

If you or your child would like to receive a blessing rather than the Sacrament, please come forward and say, "A blessing," or cross your arms over your chest.

Those who are unable to come forward should indicate that they wish to receive the Sacrament and they will receive it as they sit in their pew.

AGNUS DEI

1. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer-cy on us, mer-cy on us, mer-cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world:
grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN “Make Me a Channel of Your Peace”

[See back of bulletin]

TABLE BLESSING

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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

SENDING

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

“Let All Things Now Living”

[See back of bulletin]

THE DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

“Festival Postlude”

P. Fey

Our Liturgy and Music are used by permission through Augsburg Fortress License #20611.

Altar flowers are presented in honor of our 48th Anniversary by Jeff & Cindy Ritschel

Chancel flowers are presented in memory of my mother, Margaret Piacine, by daughter, Danielle Richards.

Bulletins are presented in memory of All Pets who have passed over the Rainbow Bridge by Tina & Scott Butler.

*"Canticle of Creation" was presented loving memory of our parents, David Betz and Diane Carroll, and our grandparents, Bertha and Ellsworth Betz and William and Jean Keich, by Jennifer and Lindsay Betz. (2017)

Francis of Assisi was born into the family of a wealthy merchant. He gave up his inheritance to serve poor people and had a spirit of gratitude for all of God's creation. His life is commemorated on the day of his death, October 4, 1226.

Sunday, October 1	8:00 AM	Worship with Holy Communion
	9:15 AM	Adult Forum
	10:30 AM	Worship with Holy Communion
	4:00 PM	Blessing of the Animals at Albright's Woods
Monday, October 2	6:30 PM	Worship & Music
Tuesday, October 3	6:30 PM	Evangelism
Wednesday, October 4	6:00 PM	Bell Choir
	7:00 PM	Chancel Choir
Friday, October 6	10:00 AM	STiC Walk in Landingville
Saturday, October 7	9 AM–2 PM	Service Ministry Annual Bazaar
	5:30 PM	Worship with Holy Communion
Sunday, October 8	8:00 AM	Worship with Holy Communion
	9:15 AM	Adult Forum and Teen Sunday School
	10:30 AM	Worship with Holy Communion
		Youth Sunday School

SERVING THIS SUNDAY (10/1/23)

8:00 AM

GREETER: Kay Weidensaul; LECTOR: Kay Weidensaul

COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Kay Weidensaul

10:30 AM

GREETER: Greg Sklar; USHER: Jeff Ritschel; LECTOR: Leslie Guldin

COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Evan Davis

ALTAR GUILD: Joanne Emerich and Gwen Wehr

COUNTERS: Gwen Wehr, Tom Wehr, and Glenda Bright

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY (10/8/23)

8:00 AM

GREETER: Krista Harding; LECTOR: Connie Teter

COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Connie Teter

10:30 AM

GREETER: Bill Smoot; USHER: Joyce O'Rourke; LECTOR: Becky Smoot

COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Bill Smoot

ALTAR GUILD: Barbara Lafko and Amy Dewald

COUNTERS: Rosalie Wingle, Diane, Brobst, and Marlene Eidam

SERVICE MINISTRY BAZAAR

Our Service Ministry will host its Annual Bazaar on Saturday, October 7, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in Reidler Hall. The event will feature lots of good food, a large Chinese auction of gift baskets, many local vendors and craft dealers showing and selling their wares, a variety of homemade candies and pies for purchase, and an opportunity to visit with your friends and neighbors. Proceeds from this event will benefit those in need in our community. Come, enjoy, and help us help those in need!

ST. FRANCIS SUNDAY/BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

In connection with our commemoration of St. Francis of Assisi, we will hold our annual "Blessing of the Animals" service at Albright's Woods Pavilion on TODAY at 4:00 p.m.

All friendly leashed (or housed) animals, who slither, crawl, hop, walk, swim, or fly, are welcome to participate in this outdoor event. Let us give thanks to God for every living thing!

As part of this event, donations will be accepted for Hillside SPCA, Ruth Steinert Memorial SPCA & Red Creek Wildlife Center.

Red Creek requested donations include:

Everyday needs: Bleach (any brand), Dawn dishwashing detergent, Simple Green Cleaner, Large and Kitchen size trash bags, vinegar type window cleaner, paper towels, unscented facial tissues

General needs: gallon size Ziploc bags, batteries (AAA, AA C, D) heavy duty extension cords, heating pads, 2-quart pitchers, light bulbs (40W-100 W, and 4' fluorescent bulbs.)

SPCA donation suggestions include:

Canned/dry dog & cat food , dog & cat treats, cat litter, cleaning supplies, old blankets, towels, sheets, newspapers, new or used collars & leashes, food bowls

SHARE YOUR INFORMATION WITH US!

The Evangelism Committee would like to continue sending cards to lift the spirits of those members who cannot join us for worship, college students, and military personnel. Please call Connie Teter (at 570-366-0255) or contact any member of the Evangelism Committee with new names and addresses as well as any changes of address.

“SECOND SUNDAY” SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our next Second Sunday School class will take place next Sunday, October 8th! Children ages 1-10 are welcome to come upstairs during the 10:30 AM service for Bible stories, fun, fellowship, and a snack.

Students ages 11 to 18 are invited to join me between the services (9:15 - 10:15 a.m.) for a teen Sunday School group.

Please contact Sarah Eger with questions or to volunteer. (570) 394-3522 (cell) swoodring86@hotmail.com.

LOOKING FOR A CHURCH HOME?

Please worship with us again. Take a copy of our monthly newsletter. Check out our webpage. Visit us on Facebook. Watch our weekly video on YouTube. And get to know us better! We are a Lutheran congregation with a rich tradition, but we are not old-fashioned. Everyone is invited to worship and work together here -- to the glory of God!

Reverend Michael T. Petresky	570-366-2316 - Ext 11	pastormike@stpauls-orwigsburg.org
Justin McClure, Organist/Choir Director	570-573-4076	justin@stpauls-orwigsburg.org
Amy Dewald, Office Support Staff	570-366-2316	office@stpauls-orwigsburg.org
Carl Heintzelman, Sexton	484-408-5152	
Karen Travor, Treasurer	570-366-8757	karen@stpauls-orwigsburg.org
Wayne Lutsey, Financial Secretary	570-617-9617	cwlutsey@gmail.com
Jessica Swick, Social Media Manager	936-648-6809	jessica@stpauls-orwigsburg.org

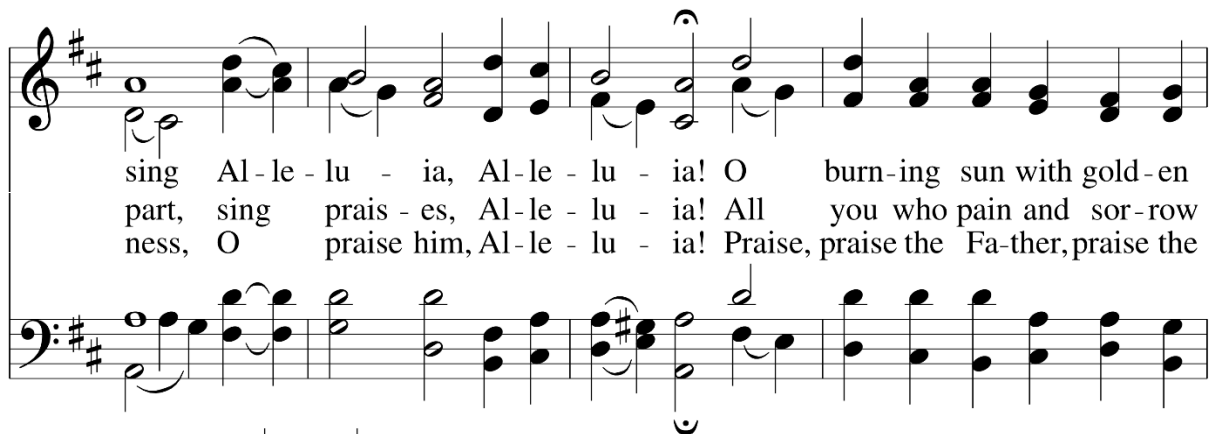
HARVEST HOME

Harvest Home is an annual event which allows our congregation to help the many families who rely on our Food Pantry. This year “Harvest Home” will be held next weekend, October 7 & 8. Please begin bringing your non-perishable food items to church as soon as possible. We will use food item donations to set up our display in the chancel and then donate them to our local food pantry. A large box will be placed in the narthex for donations. Thank you for your generosity!

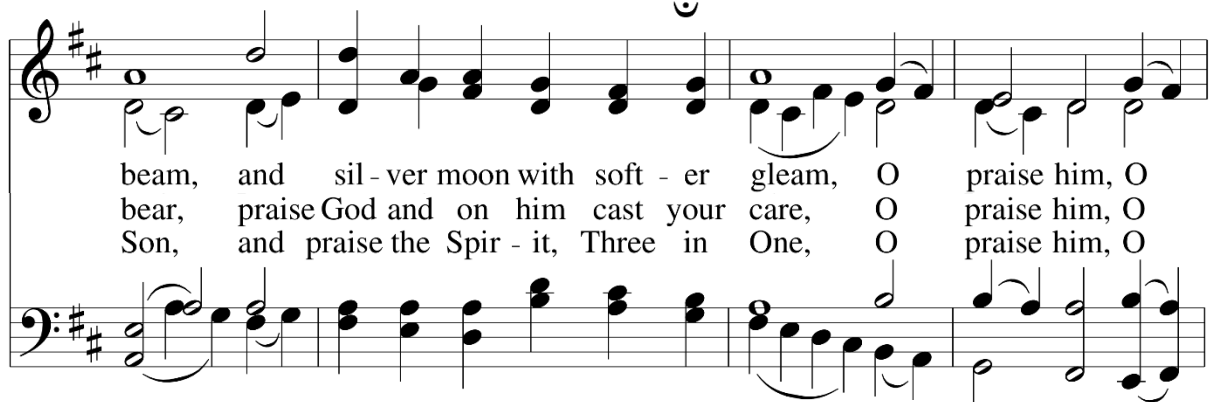
GATHERING HYMN “All Creatures of Our God and King”



1 All crea-tures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us
4 All you who are of ten-der heart, for - giv - ing oth - ers, take your
5 Let all things their Cre - a - tor bless, and wor-ship him in hum-ble-



sing Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! O burn-ing sun with gold-en
part, sing prais - es, Al - le - lu - ia! All you who pain and sor-row
ness, O praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! Praise, praise the Fa-ther, praise the



beam, and sil-ver moon with soft - er gleam, O praise him, O
bear, praise God and on him cast your care, O praise him, O
Son, and praise the Spir - it, Three in One, O praise him, O



praise him, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!

HYMN OF THE DAY “All Things Bright and Beautiful”

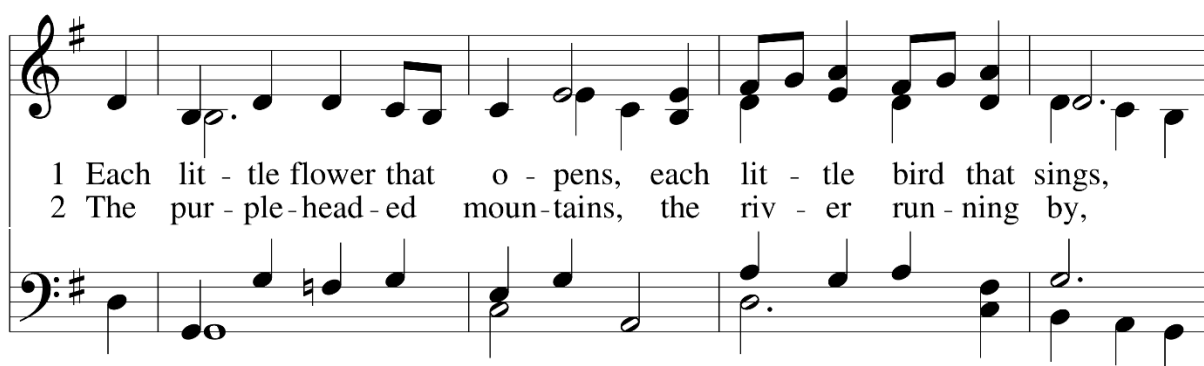
Refrain (Unison)



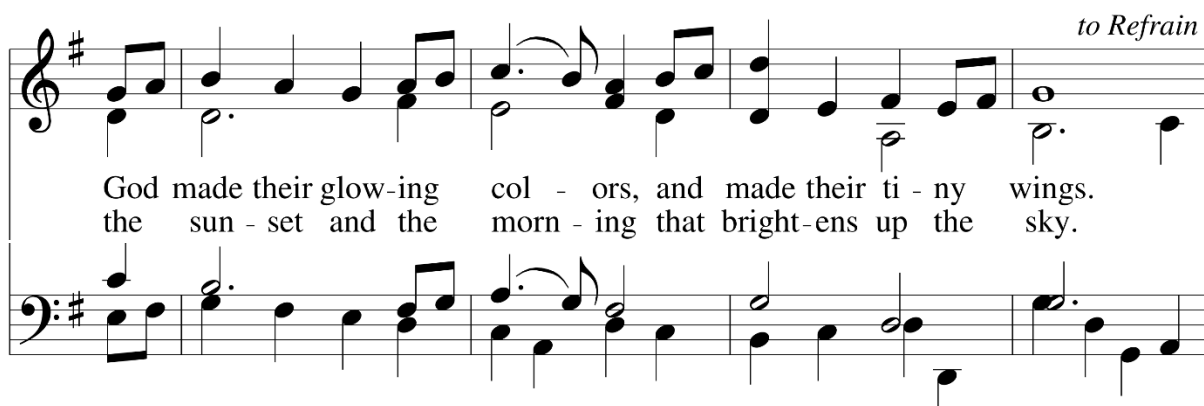
All things bright and beau-ti - ful, all crea-tures great and small,



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-tains, the riv - er run - ning by,



God made their glow-ing col - ors, and made their ti - ny wings.
the sun - set and the morn - ing that bright-ens up the sky.

to Refrain

COMMUNION HYMN “Make Me a Channel of Your Peace”



1 Make me a chan - nel of your peace.
 2 Make me a chan - nel of your peace.
 4 Make me a chan - nel of your peace.



Where there is ha - tred, let me bring your love;
 Where there's de - spair in life, let me bring hope;
 It is in par - don - ing that we are par - doned,

Last time to coda ☼



where there is in - ju - ry, your par - don, Lord;
 where there is dark - ness, on - ly light;
 in giv - ing of our - selves that we re -

1



and where there's doubt, true faith in you.
 and where there's sad - ness, ev - er joy.



3 O Mas - ter, grant that I may nev - er seek so



much to be con - soled as to con - sole, to be



un - der - stood as to un - der - stand, to be

D.C. (stanza 4) al coda



loved as to love with all my soul.



ceive, and in dy - ing that we're born to e - ter - nal life.

SENDING HYMN

“Let All Things Now Living”



1 Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks - giv - ing to
2 God rules all the forc - es: the stars in their cours-es and



God the cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise,
sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine;



who fash - ioned and made us, pro - tect - ed and stayed us, who
the hills and the moun - tains, the riv - ers and foun - tains, the



still guides us on to the end of our days.
deeps of the o - cean pro - claim God di - vine.



God's ban - ners are o'er us, God's light goes be -
We too should be voic - ing our love and re -



fore us, a pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the night,
joic - ing; with glad ad - o - ra - tion a song let us raise



till shad - ows have van - ished and dark - ness is ban - ished, as
till all things now liv - ing u - nite in thanks - giv - ing: “To



for - ward we trav - el from light in - to light.
God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise!”