



I  See **JESUS**

Were not our hearts
burning
within us?

LUKE 24:32

SOUTH CAROLINA SYNOD ASSEMBLY

JUNE 8TH-10TH, 2023

Welcome to worship! We're glad that you are here! Restrooms are in the reception room.
Devices for the hearing impaired are located on designated pews. For assistance, please see an usher.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

+GATHERING+

*Words to be spoken or sung by the assembly are indicated in **bold** type.
The assembly stands, as able.*

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, ✝ One God,
the fountain of living water,
the rock who gave us birth,
our light and our salvation.

Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of Baptism,
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.
Let us give thanks for the gift of Baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters
and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.
Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.
At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.
By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons,
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.
Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise
Through ✝ Jesus Christ our Lord
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.
Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you,"
or similar words.*

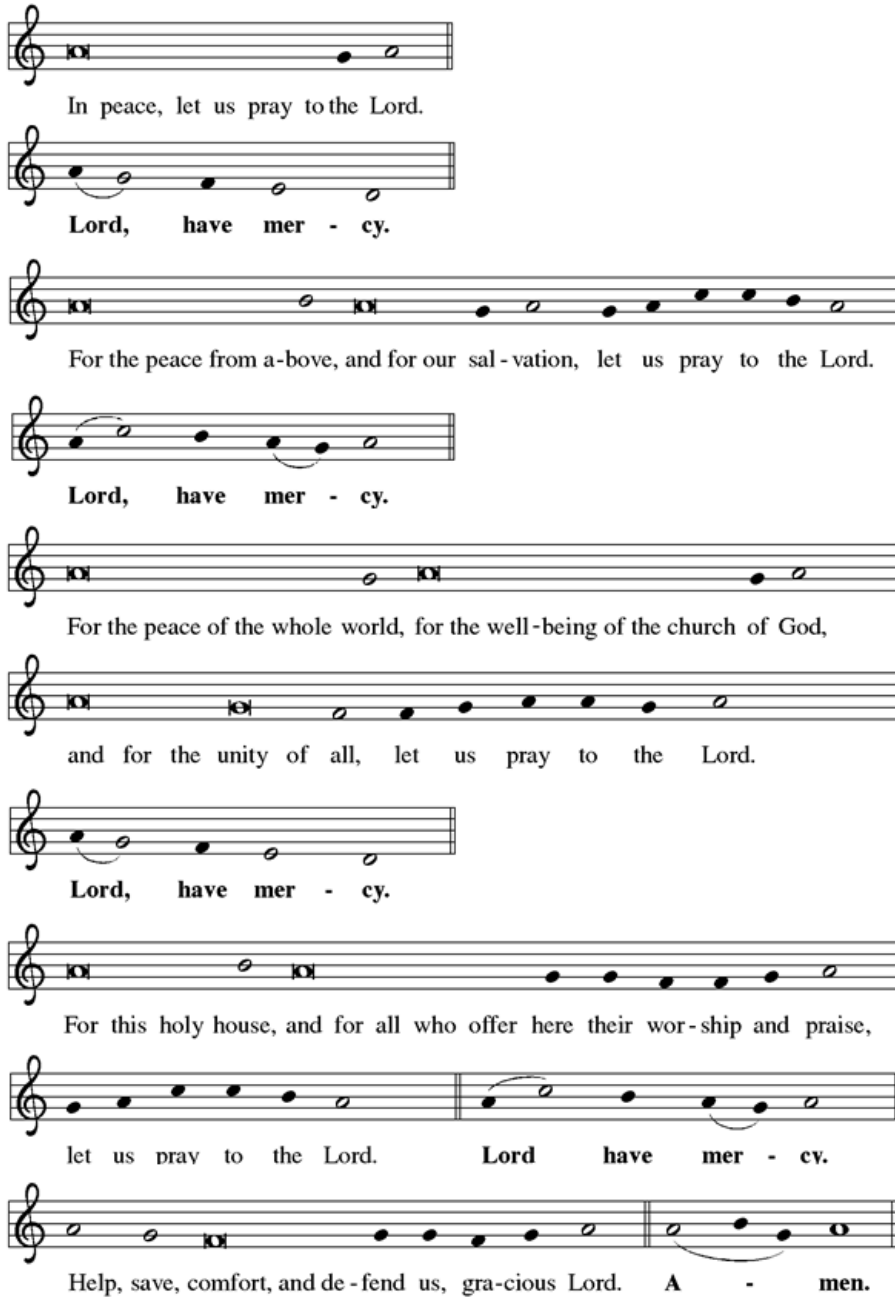
GATHERING HYMN:

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty **ELW 858**

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.

KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,

and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

O God, you are the source of life and the ground of our being. By the power of your Spirit bring healing to this wounded world, and raise us to the new life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**
The assembly is seated.

FIRST READING

EXODUS 3:1-6

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. ²There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. ³Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." ⁴When the LORD saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." ⁵Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." ⁶He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 116

I love the LORD, because he has heard
my voice and my supplications.

**Because he inclined his ear to me,
therefore I will call on him as long as I live.**

The snares of death encompassed me;
the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me;
I suffered distress and anguish.

Then I called on the name of the LORD:

"O LORD, I pray, save my life!"

What shall I return to the LORD
for all his bounty to me?

**I will lift up the cup of salvation
and call on the name of the LORD,**

I will pay my vows to the LORD
in the presence of all his people.

**Precious in the sight of the LORD
is the death of his faithful ones.**

O LORD, I am your servant;
I am your servant, the child of your serving girl.
You have loosed my bonds.

**I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice
and call on the name of the LORD.**

I will pay my vows to the LORD
in the presence of all his people,

**in the courts of the house of the LORD,
in your midst, O Jerusalem.**

Praise the LORD!

SECOND READING

1 John 3: 1-3

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. ³And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL PROCESSION*I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light***ELW 815 (vss. 1 AND 2)**

The assembly stands facing the processional cross to welcome the Gospel.

GOSPEL**LUKE 24:13-35**

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" ¹⁹He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. ²²Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. ²⁴Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him." ²⁵Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! ²⁶Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" ²⁷Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures. ²⁸As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. ²⁹But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. ³²They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" ³³That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" ³⁵Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread. The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Gospel Procession*I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light***ELW 815 (vs. 3)**

The assembly is seated.

SERMON

The Rev. Virginia S. Aebischer, Bishop of the South Carolina Synod, ELCA

The assembly stands, as able.

HYMN OF THE DAY*Let Us Go Down to the Banquet***ELW 523**

APOSTLES' CREED

With the whole church, 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.**

Intercessory Prayers

Each petition will end with the phrase, "Lord, in your mercy,"
The assembly will respond, "...hear our prayer."

The assembly is seated.

+MEAL+

OFFERING

This year, the offering received during the 2023 South Carolina Synod Assembly will be designated for the Lifeline Fund. The Lifeline Fund helps address the economic challenges facing our rostered ministers from student loans taken out to pay for their seminary education. Since 2020, through the Lifeline Fund, with matching grants from the Lilly Foundation, we have paid \$164,989 to education lenders to eliminate the education debt of nine rostered ministers and a significant portion of debt for two other rostered ministers. In fact, the cumulative reduction in educational debt for our pastors and deacons provided by Lifeline grants is over 85 years of education debt payments eliminated!
Your generosity furthers this mission. It is tangible grace and love, sent directly to lenders, to pay down education debt.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

My Eternal King

arr. Jane Marshall
Combined Lutheran Choirs

OFFERING HYMN

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below, Alleluia, Alleluia!
Praise God above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

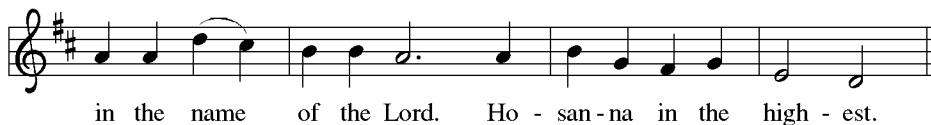
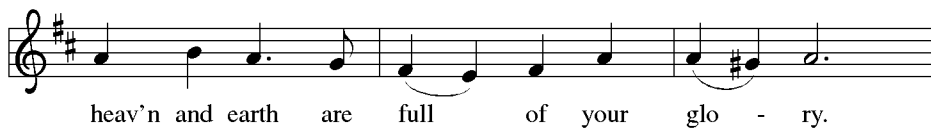
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

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:



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION

All baptized worshipers are invited to join in the celebration of the Eucharist.

We will commune at four stations. Ushers will dismiss by row and direct you to the correct station. You will receive the bread and then may dip it into the wine. Grape juice, for those unable to receive wine, and gluten-free wafers are available upon request.

Adults and children who do not wish to receive the sacrament may fold their arms across their chest to receive a blessing.

COMMUNION HYMNS

<i>Give Me Jesus</i>	ELW 770
<i>Great God Your Love Has Called Us</i>	ELW 358
<i>Let Us Break Bread Together</i>	ELW 471
<i>United at the Table</i>	ELW 498

After all have returned to their places, the assembly stands or kneel.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

O God, our life, our strength, our food, we give you thanks for sustaining us with the body and blood of your Son. By your Holy Spirit, enliven us to be his body in the world, that more and more we will give you praise and serve your earth and its many peoples, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

<i>A Mighty Fortress Is Our God</i>	ELW 505
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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Now Thank We All Our God

arr. J. S. Bach/Virgil Fox

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