



2023 Synod Assembly Worship Booklet



Northern Illinois Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Synod Assembly Bulletin

Friday, June 16, 2023 <i>The Body of Christ Gathers</i>.....	2
Friday, June 16, 2023 <i>Be the Body Festival Worship</i>.....	9
Saturday, June 17, 2023 <i>A Ritual of Longing and Hope</i>.....	27
Saturday, June 17, 2023 <i>Living into the Called Life</i>.....	36

As we gather as the body of Christ, these worship services were cultivated with this question in mind, what idea from worship might you want to try in your own congregation in the future?

These services are designed to be taken back to your congregations and used with your gathered community. We give thanks for the Rev. Dr. Charlene Rachuy-Cox for her work with the opening words and other worship texts. We are excited to highlight, Rev. David Efflandt's work in *Heal Us and We Will Be Healed*.

Thank you to those who helped plan these thoughtful services and for those who helped them come to life.

Thank you to Dr. Aaron Knodle from Bethany Lutheran Church in Crystal Lake for serving as our musician throughout Synod Assembly.

Friday, June 16, 2023 The Body of Christ Gathers

Opening of the Assembly

People of God:

The world is about to turn –

Can you imagine it?

Can you sense it?

Can you see it?

Can you perceive it?

Can you feel it?

The world is about to turn –

turn from upside down

to right side up,

from hatred

to love;

from judgment

to mercy;

from indifference

to compassion;

from suffering

to song;

from despair

to hope;

from subjugation

to liberation;

from death

to resurrection.

The world is about to turn.

The prophets foretold it,

Mary sang it,

Jesus embodied it

The church proclaims it,

And we are called to be a part of it –

The world is about to turn.

Can you imagine it?

Can you sense it?

Can you see it?

Can you perceive it?

Can you feel it?

The world is about to turn.

We come to this assembly
from the complexities
of our personal lives –
lives marked by joy and sorrow,
sickness and health,
birth and death,
endings and new beginnings,
opportunities and obstacles,
fatigue and fortitude,
trauma and triumph,
brokenness and wholeness;

We come to this assembly
from the complexities
of our individual families –
given and chosen,
large and small,
healthy and harmful,
life-giving,
life-draining,
life-rejecting,
and life-sustaining.

We come to this assembly
from the complexities
of our separate congregations –
thriving and struggling,
traditional and innovative,

concerned and courageous,
Gospel-centered,
Sacramental,
Called,
Nourished,
and Sent.

We come to this assembly
from the complexities
of our unique neighborhoods –
places of home and hospitality,
challenge and need,
relationships and isolation,
decency and duplicity,
safety and risk.

We come to this assembly
from the complexities
of our particular communities –
communities of welcome and
rejection,
trust and fear,
systems,
services,
and social connections –
or not.

We come to this assembly
from the complexities
of our complicated country,
a country marked by
bane and beauty,
oppression and freedom,
vitality and violence,
immeasurable pain and unlimited
possibility.

We come to this assembly
from the complexities
of our vast,
beautiful,

baffling,
challenging,
and ever-changing world –
a world that God
so loves,
a world that by grace-incarnate,
Word-embodied,
Love-enfleshed
is about to turn.

What joy!
What hope!
What promise!
That declaration brings –
The world is about to turn.

And we –
the baptized people of God –
marked with the cross of Christ,
and sealed by the Holy Spirit –
are called to be a part
of this holy turning --
Can you imagine it?
Can you sense it?
Can you see it?
Can you perceive it?
Can you feel it?
We are called to
Be the Body
in this particular
season of the human story,
in this precise
time and place –

Be the Body that
listens for that still small voice
of the Divine
to speak louder than the chaos
that splits rocks
and ruptures the earth,
and burns like fire –

that still small voice that speaks
with grace,
mercy,
and love,
peace,
promise,
and hope.

Be the Body that
lives into our called life
by valuing each and every person
as God's own beloved,
and dares to declare,
"do not be afraid,"
when the waters rise
and threaten to overwhelm
and scorching flames
threaten to consume.

Be the Body that
lives into our called life
with open hearts,
open arms,
and open hands –
saying,
"Come and see."
by our being
and by our doing,
in our words,
and in our deeds –
"Come and see Jesus."

Be the Body that
lives into our called life,
going where the Spirit leads,
walking with all whom the Spirit
puts in our path,
embracing the questions,
welcoming the wonderment,
telling the story,
sharing the

good news of Jesus
that God has revealed
to us to be true,
and pouring forth
grace and upon grace.

Beloved
of the Northern Illinois Synod
of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in
America –
We are called to
Be the Body,
and so, we have come
to this Assembly
to be reminded
again and anew
who and whose we are –
beloved children of God.

We have come to this Assembly
to do the hard,
hope-filled,
and holy work
of this Synod,
for the world is about to turn.

We have come to this Assembly
to be fed and nourished
for the labor that is before us,
the labor of the vineyard of God,
the labor of the reign of God that is at
hand,
now,
today,
in this moment –
for the world is about to turn.

We have come to this Assembly
to be informed and inspired,
renewed and re-energized,

challenged and changed and re-
charged
to be who we are called to be,
and to do what we are called to do,
for the world is about to turn.

And so, together we will
be present;
We will be with one another.
We will behold who we are,
and we will become what we shall be

We will Be the Body
in prayer and deliberation,
in listening and laughing,
in voicing and voting,
in singing and serving,
in learning,
and offering,
in work,
and worship,
and feasting --
feasting on
on Word and bread and wine.

And being so fed,
we will lean into the
grace and grit
of our vocation
to Be the Body,
to live into the called life –
today,

For beloved in Christ,
The world is about to turn.
Thanks be to God!

Can I get an AMEN?
AMEN!

GATHERING HYMN: (ELW #723) *Canticle of the Turning*

The assembly is invited to rise in body or in spirit.



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.



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.

Bishop Fidler: As in one body we have many members,
Assembly: **so we, who are many, are one body in Christ.**

Bishop Fidler: Where two or three are gathered in my name, says the Lord,
Assembly: **I am there among them.**

Bishop Fidler: Live a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called,
with all humility and gentleness, making every effort to
maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.
Assembly: **Let us pursue what makes for justice and peace, and for
mutual upbuilding.**

Bishop Fidler: The Lord be with you.

Assembly: **And also with you.**

Bishop Fidler: Let us pray.

O God, you open the hearts of your faithful people by sending
into us your Holy Spirit. Direct us by the light of that Spirit,
that we may have a right judgment in all things and rejoice at
all times in your peace, through Jesus Christ, your Son and our
Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one
God, now and forever.

Assembly: **Amen.**

Friday, June 16, 2023: The Body of Christ Gathers

Bishop Fidler: I declare this assembly to be in session in the name of the
Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Assembly: **Amen.**

The assembly is invited to be seated.

Friday, June 16, 2023
Be the Body
Festival Worship

PRELUDE

THE BODY OF CHRIST GATHERS

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
by whose hand we are given new birth,
by whose speaking we are given new life.

Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are welcomed, restored, and supported
as citizens of the new creation.

Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Holy God,
holy and merciful,
holy and mighty,
you are the river of life,
you are the everlasting wellspring.
In mercy and might you have freed us from death
and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead.
In baptismal waters our old life is washed away,
and in them we are born anew.

Glory to you for oceans and lakes,
for rivers and streams.
Honor to you for waters that wash us clean,
quench our thirst, and nurture both crops and creatures.
Praise to you for the life-giving water of baptism,
the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation.

Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you.
Empower our witness to your resurrection.
Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.

Satisfy the world's need through this living water.
Where drought dries the earth, bring refreshment.
Where despair prevails, grant hope.
Where chaos reigns, bring peace.
We ask this through Christ,
who with you and the Spirit reigns forever.
Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

In Christ Called to Baptize



1 In Christ called to bap - tize, we wit - ness to grace
2 In Christ called to ban - quet, one ta - ble we share,
3 In Christ called to wit - ness, by grace we will preach
4 U - nite us, a - noint us, O Spir - it of love,



and gath - er a peo - ple from each land and race.
a ha - ven of wel - come, a cir - cle of care.
the life - giv - ing gos - pel; God's love we will teach.
for you are with - in us, a - round us, a - bove.



In deep, flow - ing wa - ters, we share in Christ's death,
Al - though we are man - y, we share in one bread.
By grace may our liv - ing give proof to our praise
E - quip us for ser - vice with gifts you be - stow.



then, ris - ing to new life, give thanks with each breath.
One cup of thanks - giv - ing pro - claims Christ, our head.
in cost - ly com - pas - sion re - flect - ing Christ's ways.
In Christ is our call - ing. In Christ may we grow.

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

God of compassion, you have opened the way for us and brought us to yourself. Pour your love into our hearts, that, overflowing with joy, we may freely share your blessings and faithfully be the body in your Son, Jesus Christ, Our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

THE BODY OF CHRIST RECEIVES THE WORD

FIRST READING

1 Samuel 3:1-10

A reading from 1 Samuel the 3rd chapter.

Listen for the word of the Lord.

Our hearts are open.

¹Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the Lord under Eli. The word of the Lord was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

²At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; ³the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the Lord, where the ark of God was. ⁴Then the Lord called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" ⁵and ran to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down.

⁶The Lord called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." ⁷Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. ⁸The Lord called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the Lord was calling the boy.

⁹Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place. ¹⁰Now the Lord came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

The word of the Lord,


Thanks be to God.

PSALM 23

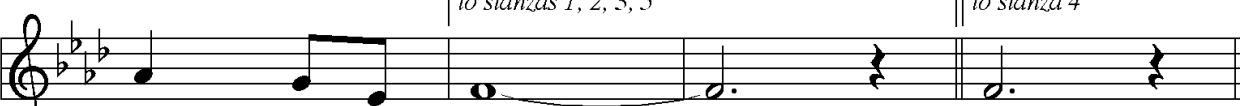
Shepherd Me, O God

Choir leads with the verses, Assembly joins in the refrain.

Refrain
All




Shep-herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be - yond my fears, from



death in - to life. life.

Leader or All



1 God is my shep-herd, so noth - ing shall I want, I
2 Gent - ly you raise me and heal my wea - ry soul, you
3 Though I should wan - der the val - ley of death, I



rest in the mead - ows of faith - ful - ness and love, I
lead me by path - ways of righ - teous - ness and truth, my
fear no e - vil, for you are at my side, your

Refrain



walk by the qui - et wa - ters of peace.
spir - it shall sing the mu - sic of your name.
rod and your staff, my com - fort and my hope.

Leader or All





4 You have set me a ban-quet of love in the face of



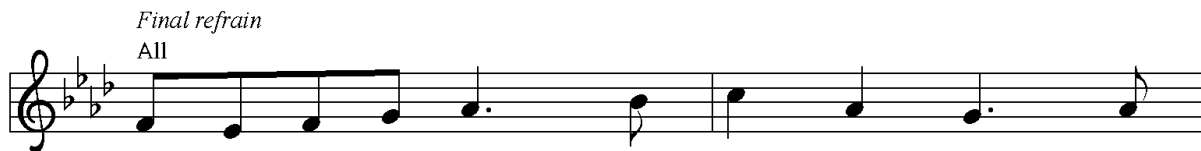
ha-tred, crown-ing me with love be-yond my pow'r to hold.



5 Sure-ly your kind-ness and mer-cy fol-low me all the days of my life;



I will dwell in the house of my God for-ev - er - more.



Shep-herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be -



yond my fears, from death in - to life.

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 12:4-14

A reading from first Corinthians the 12th chapter.

Listen for the word of the Lord.

Our hearts are open.

⁴Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; ⁶and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. ⁷To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the

discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

¹²For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body — Jews or Greeks, slaves or free — and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. ¹⁴Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many.

The word of the Lord,
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

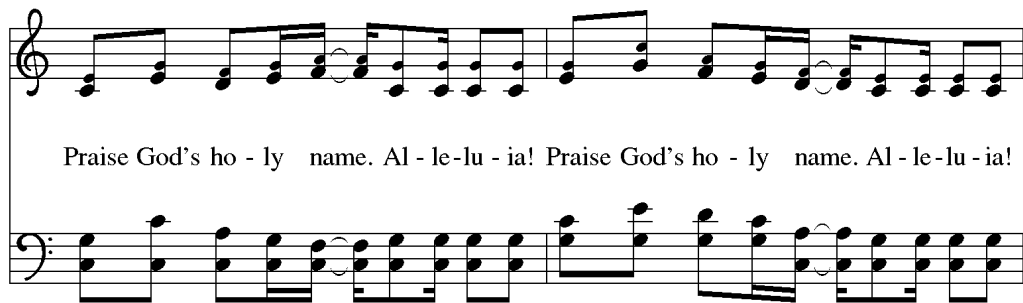
Praise, Praise, Praise the Lord!



Praise, praise, praise the Lord! Praise God's ho - ly name. Al - le - lu - ia!



Praise, praise, praise the Lord! Praise God's ho - ly name. Al - le - lu - ia!



Praise God's ho - ly name. Al - le - lu - ia! Praise God's ho - ly name. Al - le - lu - ia!



GOSPEL

Luke 24:13-35

The holy gospel according to Luke, the 24th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³Now 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.

SERMON

BISHOP STACIE FIDLAR

HYMN OF THE DAY

Faith Begins By Letting Go



1 Faith be - gins by let - ting go, giv - ing up what had seemed sure,
2 Faith en - dures by hold - ing on, keep - ing mem-'ry's roots a - live
3 Faith ma - tures by reach - ing out, stretch - ing minds, en - larg - ing hearts,



tak - ing risks and press - ing on, though the way feels less se - cure:
so that hope may bear its fruit; prom - ise - fed, our souls will thrive,
shar - ing strug - gles, liv - ing prayer, bind - ing up the bro - ken parts;



pil - grim - age both right and odd, trust - ing all our life to God.
not through mer - it we pos - sess but by God's great faith - ful - ness.
till we find the com - mon - place ripe with wit - ness to God's grace.

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.**

The assembly is invited to be seated

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

For the Prayers of Intercession, we invite you to be in a posture of listening, meditation, and prayer. There will be spaces within our petitions for you to lift up your own prayers. You are invited to speak those prayers aloud, or in silence.

Trusting in God's abundant mercy, let us be the body and offer our prayers for a world in need.

Holy God, though this world depends on your grace, it is governed and tended by humans. So, we pray for those who walk the corridor of power, whose judgments we value or fear.

Names may be spoken aloud or in your hearts.

May they always consider those they represent and resist the temptation to abuse the trust placed in them.

Lord receive our prayer,
Lord graciously receive our prayer.

Friday, June 16, 2023: Be the Body Festival Worship

We pray for those who hold key positions in the world of finance, business, and industry, whose decisions may profit some or impoverish many.

Names may be spoken aloud or in your hearts.

May they always value people higher than profit; may they never impose burdens on the poor which they would not carry themselves.

Lord receive our prayer,
Lord graciously receive our prayer.

We pray for those in the caring professions, who look after and listen to kind, cruel, and challenging people, and for those who make decisions regarding the nation's health and welfare.

Names may be spoken aloud or in your hearts.

May they always sense the sanctity of life and every person's uniqueness; may they help and heal.

Lord receive our prayer,
Lord graciously receive our prayer.

And let us remember those whom we are responsible and to whom we are accountable in what we do today.

Names may be spoken aloud or in your hearts.

May we show to them the thoughtfulness, acceptance, and kindness of Jesus.

Lord receive our prayer,
Lord graciously receive our prayer.

Lord, hear our prayers, and if today we might be the means by which you answer the prayers of others, then may you find us willing to fulfill your purpose in the name of Christ, in whose name we pray.

Amen.

The assembly is invited to rise in body or spirit.

PEACE

Let us be the body and share Christ's peace with each other through a nod, a smile, a sign of peace, or a handshake.

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

THE BODY OF CHRIST SHARES THE MEAL

OFFERING

OFFERING RESPONSE

Take My Life, that I May Be

Refrain/Estribillo



To - ma, oh Dios, mi vo - lun - tad, y haz - la tu - ya, na -
Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord,
da más; to - ma, sí, mi co - ra - zón
to thee; take my mo - ments and my days;
y tu tro - no en él ten - drás. ten - drás.
let them flow in cease - less praise. less praise.

1 Que mi vi - da en - te - ra es - té
1 Take my hands and let them move
2 Take my sil - ver and my gold,
3 Take my voice and let me sing
4 Take my will and make it thine;

con - sa - gra - da a ti, Se - ñor;
at the im - pulse of thy love;
not a mite would I with - hold;
al - ways, on - ly for my King;
it shall be no lon - ger mine;

OFFERING PRAYER

God, you are the giver of all good things.
Sustain us with these gifts of your creation,
and multiply your graciousness in us,

that the world may be fed with your love,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

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, for you made us,
And before us, you made the world we inhabit,
And before the world, you made the eternal home
In which, through Christ, we have a place.

For his life which informs our living
for his compassion which changes our hearts,
for his clear speaking
which contradicts our harmless generalities,
for his disturbing presence, his innocent suffering,
his fearless dying, his rising to life breathing forgiveness,
we praise you and worship him.

Here too our gratitude rises for the promise of the Holy Spirit,
who even yet, even now, confronts us with your claims
and attracts us to your goodness.

Therefore we gladly join our voices
To the song of the Church on earth and in heaven:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Du är he - lig, du är hel. Du är all - tid myck-et mer
You are ho - ly, you are whole. You are al - ways ev - er more



än vi nån - sin kan för - stå, du är nä - ra än - då.
than we ev - er un - der - stand. You are al - ways at hand.



Väl - sig - nad va - re du som kom - mer hit just nu,
Bless - ed are you com - ing near. Bless - ed are you com - ing here



väl - sig - na - de vår jord, blir till bröd på vår jord.
to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised from dead.



Du är he - lig, du är hel - het,
You are ho - ly, you are whole - ness,



du är när - het he - la kos - mos lo - var dig!
you are pres - ent. Let the cos - mos praise you, Lord!



Ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na,
Sing ho - san - na in the high - est!



ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na vår Gud.
Sing ho - san - na! Sing ho - san - na to our God!

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 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.

Remembering, therefore, his death and 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 are this heavenly food,
The body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom with you
And the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.
Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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

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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come and know Christ, broken and poured out for you. All are welcome at Christ's table. No exceptions.

The assembly is invited to be seated.

The ushers will invite you up, where you will receive gluten-free bread and choose either wine or grape juice.

COMMUNION MUSIC

For Everyone Born

Choir leads verses, Assembly joins in the refrain.

Verse 1: For everyone born, a place at the table,
for everyone born, clean water and bread,
a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing,
for everyone born, a star overhead,

Refrain: And God will delight when we are creators
of justice and joy, compassion and peace:
yes, God will delight when we are creators
of justice, justice and joy!

Verse 2: For woman and man, a place at the table,
revising the roles, deciding the share,
with wisdom and grace, dividing the power,
for woman and man, a system that's fair,

Refrain: And God will delight when we are creators
of justice and joy, compassion and peace:
yes, God will delight when we are creators
of justice, justice and joy!

Verse 3: For young and for old, a place at the table,
a voice to be heard, a part in the song,
the hands of a child in hands that are wrinkled,
for young and for old, the right to belong,

Refrain: And God will delight when we are creators
of justice and joy, compassion and peace:
yes, God will delight when we are creators
of justice, justice and joy!

Verse 4: For just and unjust, a place at the table,
abuser, abused, with need to forgive,
in anger, in hurt, a mindset of mercy,
for just and unjust, a new way to live,

Refrain: And God will delight when we are creators
of justice and joy, compassion and peace:
yes, God will delight when we are creators
of justice, justice and joy!

Verse 5: For everyone born, a place at the table,
to live without fear, and simply to be,
to work, to speak out, to witness and worship,
for everyone born, the right to be free,

Refrain: And God will delight when we are creators
of justice and joy, compassion and peace:
yes, God will delight when we are creators
of justice, justice and joy!

COMMUNION MUSIC

Day of Arising



1 Day of a - ris - ing, Christ on the road - way,
2 When we are walk - ing, doubt - ful and dread - ing,
3 Lo, I am with you, Je - sus has spo - ken.
4 Christ, our com - pan - ion, hope for the jour - ney,



un - known com - pan - ion walks with his own.
blind - ed by sad - ness, slow - ness of heart,
This is Christ's prom - ise, this is Christ's sign:
bread of com - pas - sion, o - pen our eyes.



When they in - vite him, as fades the first day,
yet Christ walks with us, ev - er a - wait - ing
when the church gath - ers, when bread is bro - ken,
Grant us your vi - sion, set all hearts burn - ing



and bread is bro - ken, Christ is made known.
our in - vi - ta - tion: Stay, do not part.
there Christ is with us in bread and wine.
that all cre - a - tion with you may rise.

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Gracious God, in you we live and move and have our being.

With your word and this meal of grace, you have nourished our life together.

Strengthen us to Be the Body and serve the world in Jesus' name.

Amen.

THE BODY OF CHRIST IS SENT OUT

BLESSING

The God of all,
who raised † Jesus from the dead,
bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit
to live in the new creation.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee



1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
2 All thy works with joy sur - round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,
3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - 'ry mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
chant - ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.
teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Be the Body!
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Saturday, June 17, 2023 A Ritual of Longing and Hope

PRELUDE

OPENING RESPONSES

All you works of God, all you mighty heavens;
All you angels of light, all you saints in glory:
Worship and praise your maker.

All you heavenly bodies, sun and moon and stars;
All you earthly weathers – wind and rain and thunder:
Worship and praise your maker.

Fire and searing heat, ice and deadly cold;
light and deepest dark, endless nights and days:
Worship and praise your maker.

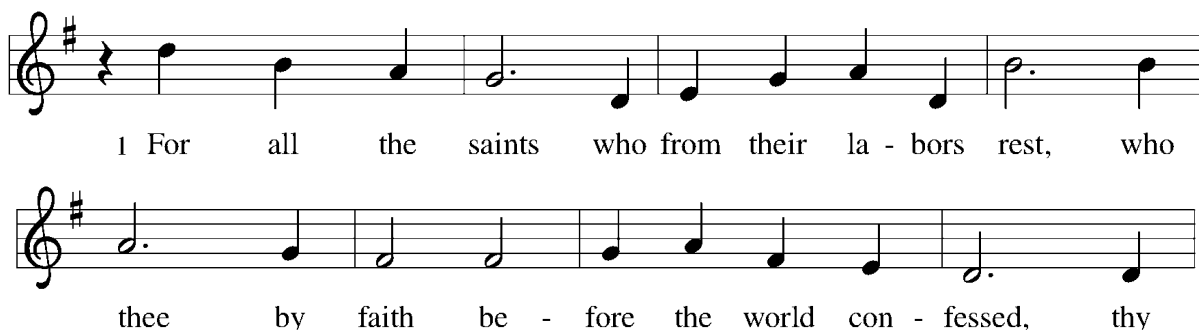
Mountains and high hills, forests and tall trees;
Countless flowers and plants, waterfalls and streams:
Worship and praise your maker.

Whales beneath the seas, birds throughout the skies;
All that leaps or crawls, creatures wild and tame:
Worship and praise your maker.

People young and old, all God's children alike;
All who do heaven's will, all who love the Lord:
Worship and praise your maker.

GATHERING HYMN

For All the Saints



The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the hymn, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are printed below the notes.

1 For all the saints who from their la - bors rest, who
thee by faith be - fore the world con - fessed, thy



name, O Je - sus, be for - ev - er blest.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



3 Oh, blest com - mu - nion, fel - low - ship di - vine, we fee - bly strug - gle,



they in glo - ry shine; yet all are one in thee, for all are



thine. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



7 From earth's wide bounds, from o - cean's far - thest coast, through



gates of pearl streams in the count - less host, . .



sing - ing to Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost:



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

PRAYER

Let us pray.
Eternal God,
you do not need our praise.
the world itself tells of your glory...
sunrise and birdsong,
the ruggedness of landscape,
the randomness of rain,
beauty for the eye,
nourishment for the body,
music for the soul
...these all speak of your goodness
these honor your name.

You do not need our praise.

Other places can do it better
with finer music or fewer words,
with centuries of tradition
or buildings of rare beauty.
Other people can do it better,
where two or three are gathered
who live in poverty or under threat,
and who, despite all that oppresses them,
rejoice to be called your own.

What can we add
by way of magnificence or testimony
when these are more eloquent?
You do not need our praise,
but we need to praise you.
It is the yearning, the restlessness,
which you have planted in us.
It is our desire for a true home
and unconditional acceptance
that brings us here.

All the rumors that we have heard about you are true:
you love,
you forgive,
you transform.

And you know us...
oh, how you know us!
You perceive what in us needs to be loved,
what in us needs to be forgiven,
and what in us needs to be changed.

We need no more words,
just penitence.

Lord, have mercy on us.
Lord, have mercy on us.
Christ, have mercy on us.
Christ, have mercy on us.
Lord, have mercy on us.
Lord, have mercy on us.

These are the words of Jesus.
They are strong and true, so believe them:
“I have come that you may have life in all its fullness.”
“Go in peace; your sins are forgiven.”
“Come, each one, and follow me.”

Now, God,
Help us to live as a forgiven people –
visibly different,
Gloriously free –
for Jesus’ sake.
Amen.

PSALM 65

You are God, our deliverer,
in whom all put their trust:
**All who live on the Earth;
all beyond the horizon.**

By great skill and untold strength,
you fixed the mountains in place.
**You calm the raging seas
and quiet warring nations.**

People throughout the world
stand in awe of your skill.

**Lands to east and west
Gratefully sing your praise.**

You care for the life of the world,
forever tending the ground.

**Thus you prepare its produce,
the crops that feed its people.**

You water and level the earth,
blessing its seasonal growth.

**You crown the year with your goodness;
The Earth exhibits your bounty.**

The open pastures are lush,
the hills are wreathed with joy.

**The meadows are clothed with sheep,
the valleys burst into song.**

READING

Jeremiah 17:14-17

Listen for the One
whose thoughts are not our thoughts,
whose ways are not our ways.

A reading from Jeremiah, the 17th chapter.

¹⁴Heal me, O LORD, and I shall be healed;
save me, and I shall be saved;
for you are my praise.

¹⁵See how they say to me,
"Where is the word of the LORD?
Let it come!"

¹⁶But I have not run away from being a shepherd in your service,
nor have I desired the fatal day.

You know what came from my lips;
it was before your face.

¹⁷Do not become a terror to me;
you are my refuge in the day of disaster;

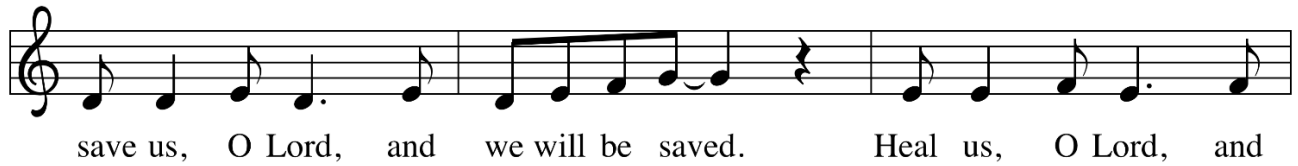
Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

VOCARE PRACTICE

PRAYERS FOR OTHERS

The assembly begins by singing the refrain and is invited to join in the refrain after each petition.



Let us pray.

For the healing of bodies we pray:
for a holy healing
that deals with both pain and its causes;
for healing
that leads to a new love for the body,
a new care for the body;
and also, where mortal life wearies for the end,
for the healing of death. (*Sing Refrain*)

For the healing of minds we pray:
for a holy healing
that deals with memories as well as madness,
abuse as well as anxiety,
depression as well as dementia,
stigma as well as the suffering of a tortured mind;
and also,
where people have been hurt by religion,
for the healing of faith. (*Sing Refrain*)

For the healing of relationships we pray:
for a holy healing

Saturday, June 17, 2023: A Ritual of Longing and Hope

that will not make things nice,
but will make things possible;
for the mending of love
that has been fractured;
for the cherishing of those
whose true identity has been deemed aberrant;
and for holding, in their brokenness,
those for whom love has been undermined by deceit. (*Sing Refrain*)

For the healing of our world we pray:
for a holy healing,
for the tearing down of cruel barriers
and the building of bridges for peace;
for the ending of needless exploitation
and the growth of reverence for our planet;
for replacing what the wealthy want
with an abundance of what the world needs. (*Sing Refrain*)

So we pray,
so we trust,
so we will do
in Jesus' name.
Amen.

The assembly is invited to rise in body or spirit.

Hymn

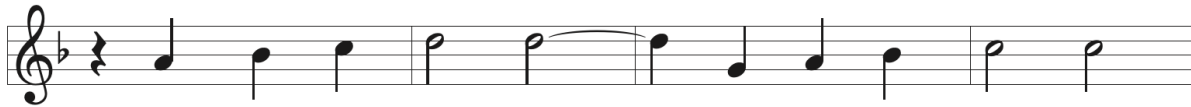
When We Are Living



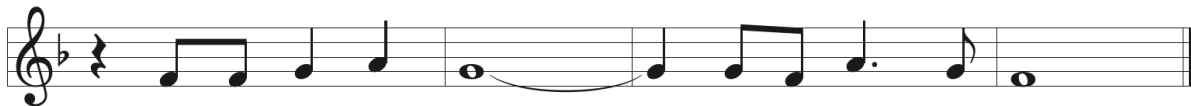
Pues si vi - vi - mos, pa - ra él vi - vi - mos,
1 When we are liv - ing, it is in Christ Je - sus,
2 'Mid times of sor - row and in times of pain,
3 A - cross this wide world, we shall al - ways find



y si mo - ri - mos pa - ra él mo - ri - mos.
and when we're dy - ing, it is in the Lord. . . .
when sens - ing beau - ty or in love's em - brace, . . .
those who are cry - ing with no peace of mind; . . .



Sea que vi - va - mos o que mu - ra - mos,
Both in our liv - ing and in our dy - ing,
wheth - er we suf - fer, or sing re - joic - ing,
and when we help them, or when we feed them,



so - mos del Se - ñor, so - mos del Se - ñor.
we be - long to God, we be - long to God.
we be - long to God, we be - long to God.
we be - long to God, we be - long to God.

2 En la tristeza y en el dolor,
en la belleza y en el amor,
sea que suframos o que gocemos,
somos del Señor, somos del Señor.

3 En este mundo por doquier habrá
gente que lloray sin consolar.
Sea que ayudemos o alimentemos,
somos del Señor, somos del Señor.

CLOSING RESPONSES

Beloved of the Northern Illinois Synod, we are called to Be the Body. And so, we have come to this Assembly to be reminded again and anew whose we are--beloved children of God.

We have come to this Assembly to do the hard, hope-filled and holy work of this Synod.

Saturday, June 17, 2023: A Ritual of Longing and Hope

We have come to this Assembly to be informed and inspired, renewed and re-energized, challenged and changed and re-charged to be who we are called to be, and to do what we are called to do.

Together we will be present, we will be with one another, we will become who we are, and what we shall be.

Together, guided by the Spirit of God in this place, we will lean into the grace and grit of our vocation to Be the Body, to live into the called life-- For beloved in Christ, we belong to God.

Thanks be to God! Amen!

The Lord,
who formed the heavens and the Earth,
who sustains all creation
who promised forgiveness;
✠ bless you and keep you, now and forever.

Amen.

The assembly may be seated.

Saturday, June 17, 2023

Living into the Called Life

BREATHING TOGETHER

Bishop Fidler: As we prepare for our closing worship, I invite you to take deep breath together, breathing in through your nose, slowly out through your mouth. We begin with our breath, thanking our bodies for bringing us here, for guiding us in community, for this presence in the body of Christ.

Dear ones gathered here today: we give thanks for the unique stories and talents you bring to our congregations. The church is a living organism, and your commitment adds value and energy to who we are as the Body of Christ.

Assembly: **We are the Body of Christ, and we are in this together for the sake of the world. We leave here, choosing curiosity over certainty, striving to honor each other's faith expressions and life experiences with respect and love.**

Bishop Fidler: Baptized people of God – marked with the cross of Christ, and sealed by the Holy Spirit – you are beloved, and your presence here has been a gift! You are called to be the Body of Christ to a world that needs a witness of God's mercy and abundance--

Assembly: **We will lean into the grace and grit of our vocation to Be the Body, to live into the called life, today and always.**

Bishop Fidler: Thanks be to God! Amen!

The assembly is invited to rise in body or spirit.

Opening Hymn

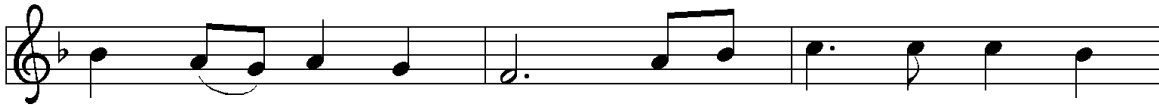
All Are Welcome



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly
2 Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, and words are strong and
3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter, wine and
4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and
5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vi - sions



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how
true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to
wheat: a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground where
stone to heal and strength-en, serve and teach, and
heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed as



hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and
dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as
peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through
live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the
words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of
wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as one we
Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we share in
strang-er bear the im - age of God's face; let us bring an
laugh-ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house pro -



Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
claim the faith of Je - sus:
Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel - come,
end to fear and dan - ger:
claim from floor to raf - ter:



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

The assembly may be seated.

INSTALLATION OF ASSISTANTS TO THE BISHOPS

PRESENTATION

Bishop Fidler: On behalf of the Northern Illinois Synod and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, it is my duty and joy to install our siblings in Christ as Assistants to the Bishop.

The Rev. Jennifer Beamsley

The Rev. Josh Ebener

The Rev. Julie Monnard

The Rev. Mack Patrick

Secretary Cantrell: After prayerful discernment and thorough consideration on behalf of the Northern Illinois Synod, we have extended a call to *Jennifer, Josh, Julie, and Mack* and present them for installation today.

ADDRESS AND QUESTIONS

Bishop Fidler: In the presence of this assembly will you commit yourself to this new trust and responsibility, in the confidence that it comes from God through the call of the church?

Assistants to the Bishops: *I will, and I ask for God's help.*

Bishop Fidler: Will you bear witness to God's love in the world, help this synod build trust, seek justice, and share love with the wider community?

Assistants to the Bishops: *I will, and I ask for God's help.*

Bishop Fidler: Will you set an example of healthy leadership, keep the Sabbath, practice boundaries, care for relationships, and seek the resources and support you need to maintain a wholistic well-being?

Assistants to the Bishops: *I will, and I ask for God's help.*

Bishop Fidler: Will you discern and do what is right, even when it disrupts our status quo, and especially when it asks something difficult of us for the sake of our neighbors?

Assistants to the Bishops: *I will, and I ask for God's help.*

Bishop Fidler: People of God will you receive *Jennifer, Josh, Julie, and Mack* as Assistants to the Bishop, called as leaders in this synod, as siblings in Christ, fellow human beings who will love you and, occasionally, fail you?

Assembly: **We will.**

Bishop Fidler : Will you pray for, support, and honor their leadership for the sake of the ministry we share, and bear witness to our unity in Christ?

Assembly: **We will.**

Bishop Fidler: The office of Assistant to the Bishop is entrusted to you.

Let us pray: Empowering God, you share creative power with your people, inviting our participation and leadership so that the kingdom of heaven is revealed in human activity. Bless *Jennifer, Josh, Julie, and Mack* with wisdom and compassion as Assistants to the Bishop of the Northern Illinois Synod. Entrust good and holy things to their care and equip them to lead with faithfulness and courage we know in Jesus Christ.

Assembly: **Amen.**

AFFIRMATION OF ROSTERED MINISTERS

Bishop Fidler: Will the rostered ministers please rise in body or spirit.

Dear Ones, there is holy tension in this call to be set apart but not above, making promises that strain your faith and get bent by the fullness of people you are ordained to love uniquely. They are looking for Jesus, and instead they get you, an ordinary person with sacred, restless nerve that manifests a thousand different ways over time.

Pastors, just remember that you are not called to make them happy or to save the church, but to preach the good news and administer the sacraments.

Deacons, you are ordained for action that embodies God's love on the margins and moves people toward purpose and love that do not require a crucifix, font, or altar.

All ministers are called to show people how God lived in a body, wrapping a towel at your waist, stooping down to fill a basin with water, and washing and drying your neighbor's feet with such care, they are certain they've seen Jesus.

Lives are moved by the real presence of Jesus who is still here, who cares more about changing the church than saving it.

AFFIRMATION OF CHURCH WORKERS AND VOLUNTEERS

Bishop Fidler: Will everyone else please rise in body or spirit.

All who work and volunteer for the church: It is not only what you do, but how you connect and love that can transform a role or task into a gift from God.

Body of Christ, Receive this blessing:

God bless your showing up and the details of your doing.

God bless your willingness to fail and learn from the process.

God bless your humility and humor in the heart of what you do best.

God bless your duty and joy for this community and impact.

God bless your candor about what really matters to you.

God bless your flexibility about the details and outcome alike.

God bless your observation about who else might be invited to help.

God bless your stepping back so another can participate more fully.

God bless your openness to a process of becoming together.

For these are the gifts of God. And so are you.

May the God who has called you in baptism and given you the will to do these things, graciously give you the strength and compassion to perform them.

Assembly: **Amen.**

Bishop Fidler: Let us pray. Gathering God, you knit your people together in the body of Christ and form congregations to do your good work. As we are sent out of this Assembly, be present in our feasting and praying and our worship and service, so that we reflect your abundance and desire for the church on earth today and always.

Assembly: **Amen.**

Bishop Fidler: I declare this assembly closed, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Assembly: **Amen**

CLOSING HYMN

To Be Your Presence



1 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion here, to show com -
2 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion bold, to feed the
3 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion blest, to speak for
4 We are your heart, O Christ, your hands and voice, to serve your



pas - sion's face and lis - t'ning ear, to be your heart of mer - cy
poor and shel - ter home - less cold, to be your hands of jus - tice,
all the bro - ken and op - pressed, to be your voice of hope, your
peo - ple is our call and choice, and in this mis - sion we, the



ev - er near,
right up - hold, al - le - lu - ia!
love ex - pressed,
church, re - joice,

DISMISSAL

Bishop Fidler: Go in peace. Be the Body!
Assembly: **Thanks be to God**

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ACS = All Creation Sings: Evangelical Lutheran Worship Supplement

The Body of Christ Gathers

Canticle of the Turning, ELW 723: Text: Rory Cooney, b. 1952 © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Music: Irish traditional, public domain.

Festival Worship

In Christ Called to Baptize, ELW 575: Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947 © 1995 Pilgrim Press. All rights reserved. Music: Welsh traditional; arr. John Robers, 1807-1876, alt, public domain.

Shepherd Me, O God, ELW 780: Text: Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950, based on Psalm 23. Music: Marty Haugen. Text and music © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Praise, Praise, Praise the Lord!, ELW 875: Text: Cameroon traditional, collected by Elaine Hanson. Music: Cameroon processional; arr. Ralph M. Johnson. Text and music © 1994 earthsongs. Used by permission.

Faith Begins by Letting Go, ACS 1004: Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944 Text © 1996 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Music: J. G. Werner, Chorabuch, 1815, public domain.

Take My Life, That I May Be, ELW 583: Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879, adapt.; Spanish text: Vicente Mendoza, 1875–1955, public domain. Music: William Dexheimer Pharris, b. 1956; arr. Mark Sedio, b. 1954. Music © 1999 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

You Are Holy, ELW 525: Text: Per Harling, b. 1948. Music: Per Harling. Text and music © 1990 Ton Vis Produktion AB, administered by Augsburg Fortress in North America, South America, and Central America, including the Caribbean. Used by permission.

For Everyone Born: Text: Shirly Erena Murray, b. 1931. Text ©1998 Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved. Music: Brian Mann, b. 1979. Music © 2006 Brian Mann (admin General Board of Global Ministries, GBGMusik). Used by permission.

Day of Arising, ELW 374: Susan Palo Cherwien, 1953-2021. Text © 1996 Susan Palo Cherwien, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Music: Carl F. Schalk, 1929-2021. Music © 1999 Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission.

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee, ELW 836: Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852-1933, public domain. Music: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770-1827, adapt., public domain.

Organ Music:

Prelude: *Prelude, Fugue, and Chaconne* | Dietrich Buxtehude

Offertory: *Priere à Notre Dame* | Leon Boëllmann

Postlude: *Toccata on "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"* | arr. Michael Burkhardt

A Litany of Longing and Hope

For All the Saints, ELW 422: Text: William W. How, 1823–1897, public domain. Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958, public domain.

Heal Us and We Will Be Healed: Text: Jeremiah 17:14-17. Music: David Efflandt. Text and music © 2018 David Efflandt, admin. Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

When We Are Living, ELW 639: Text: st. 1, based on Romans 14:8; tr. Elise S. Eslinger, b. 1942; st. 2-3, Roberto Escamilla, b. 1931; tr. George Lockwood, b. 1946. Music: Spanish traditional. Spanish text, stanzas 2-4 © 1983 Abingdon Press, admin. Music Services, Brentwood, TN; tr. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House, admin. Music Services. All rights reserved. OneLicense # A-737160.

Organ Music:

Adagio | Roger Nyquist

Living into the Called Life

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