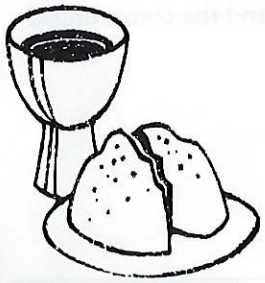


Holy Communion

ELCA Advocacy Convening Opening Worship
St. Matthew Lutheran Church
Washington D.C., Monday, April 29, 2019

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

The assembly gathers, entering into a time of prayer and reflection

Prelude Lord, I Want to Be a Christian, spiritual, arr. John Carter

Gathering Song What Is This Place, ELW #524

Greeting and Prayer of the Day

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you.
And also with you.

After the prayer, the assembly responds: **Amen.**

Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

Reading

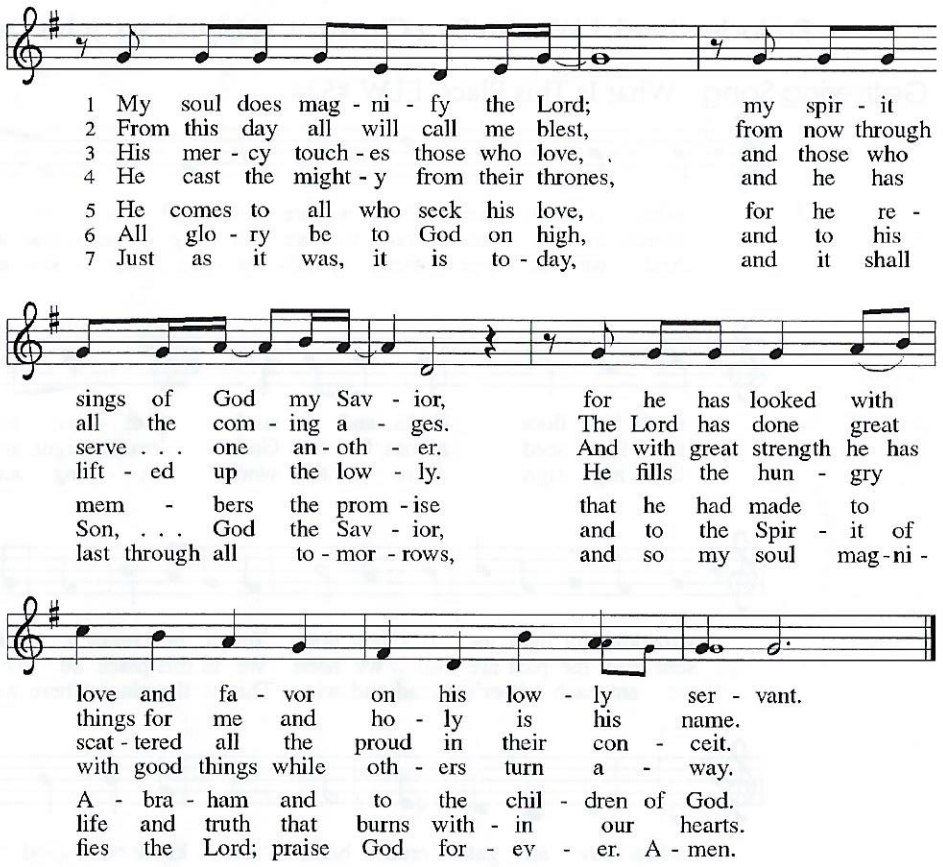
Isaiah 11:6-9

As the reading concludes, the assembly responds: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

My Soul Does Magnify the Lord

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel and sings:



Gospel Matthew 8:18-27
The gospel is announced: **Glory to you, O Lord.**
The gospel is proclaimed, concluding: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon *The assembly is seated.*
Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

Litany of Repentance

Creator and Redeemer,
As we approach you in prayer,
Make us walk in beauty and balance.
Make us open our hearts and minds.
Make us speak the truth.
We pray first for your Community, the Church,
The Body of Christ.
We pray for all our relatives in the circle of life
Throughout all Creation;
For those chosen to be our leaders;
In peace, we pray to you, Holy Spirit:

An excerpt from the Repudiation of the Doctrine of Discovery from the Churchwide Assembly in 2016. "To repudiate explicitly and clearly the European-derived doctrine of discovery as an example of the "improper mixing of the power of the church and the power of the sword", and to acknowledge and repent from this church's complicity in the evils of colonialism in the Americas, which continue to harm tribal governments and individual tribal members.

Christians have often focused on what separated us from Native people rather than looking for what united us. Our failures to find a uniting front resulted in the deaths of hundreds of thousands of Native people and the forced assimilation of people. We deeply regret the decisions that resulted in these atrocities. Following the 2016 Resolution we affirm that our congregations and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America will eliminate the doctrine of discovery from our contemporary rhetoric and programs, electing to practice accompaniment with native peoples instead of a missionary endeavor to them, allowing these partnerships to mutually enrich indigenous communities and the ministries of the ELCA.

We confess and lament the cultural genocide perpetuated on native peoples and the ongoing racism, ignorance, and intolerance that plagues our communities of faith and the public square. We confess and lament our confiscation of lands from the original inhabitants.

We confess and lament our failure to take seriously the hate groups that challenge Indian sovereignty and we lament the epidemic of missing native women and girls. We lament our failure to incorporate native priorities and perspectives in our church and commit to being bold doers of justice.

Let us pray.
O God of mercy, we lament that even good actions of reform and renewal had unintended negative consequences.

. . . be one in the truth of the gospel.
Teach us and show us the way.

. . . Forgive us, Lord.
Teach us and show us the way.

. . . through the Holy Spirit, ever-new beginnings.
Teach us and show us the way.

. . . for a faithful and common witness in our time.
Teach us and show us the way.

The assembly is invited to voice their own prayers.

. . . and for unspoken prayers.
Teach us and show us the way.

As the prayer concludes, the assembly responds: **Amen.**

Peace

After sharing the Christ's peace, the assembly is seated to sing.

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offering and Setting the Table

Touch the Earth Lightly

An offering is received for Lutheran Disaster Relief

Text: Shirley Erena Murray, b. 1931
Music: TENDERNESS, Colin Gibson, b. 1933

The assembly stands for the Great Thanksgiving.

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.

. . . The earth is full of your glory. **The earth is full of your glory.**

. . . Amen and Amen. **Amen and Amen.**

The thanksgiving concludes with the Lord's Prayer.
Pray in the language or translation of your heart.

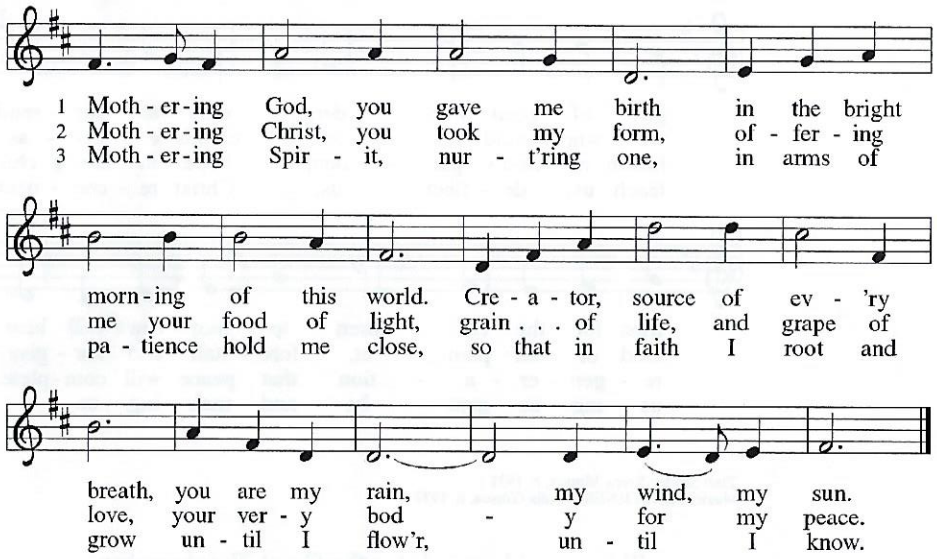
Communion

The bread is broken and all are invited to communion.
The assembly is seated, coming to communion at the direction of the ministers. Receive the gluten free wafer, then either intinct (dip) or drink from the chalice. The first chalice is ine; the second, grape juice

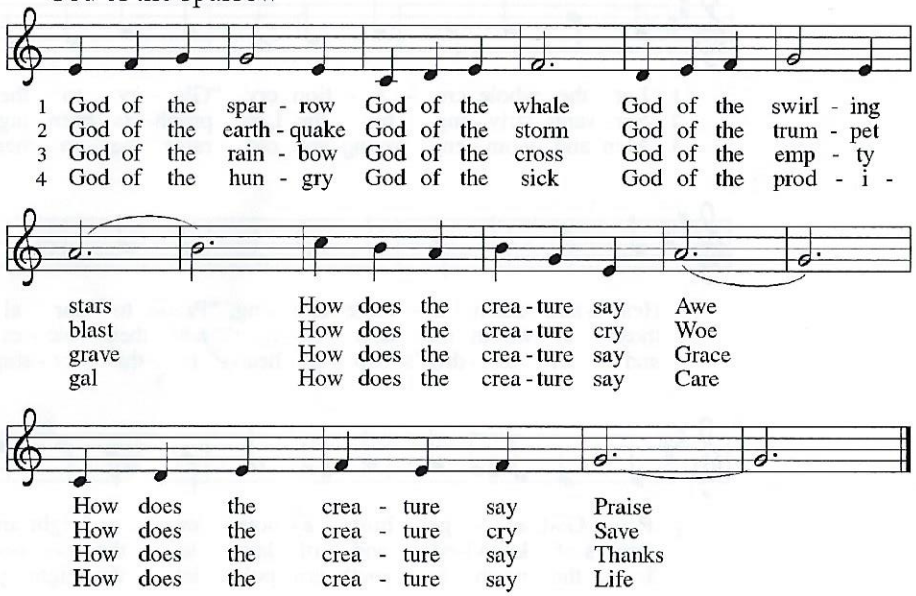
As the prayer after communion concludes, the assembly responds: **Amen.**

The following may be sung, as time allows

Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth



God of the Sparrow



5 God of the neighbor
God of the foe
God of the pruning hook
How does the creature say Love
How does the creature say Peace

6 God of the ages
God near at hand
God of the loving heart
How do your children say Joy
How do your children say Home

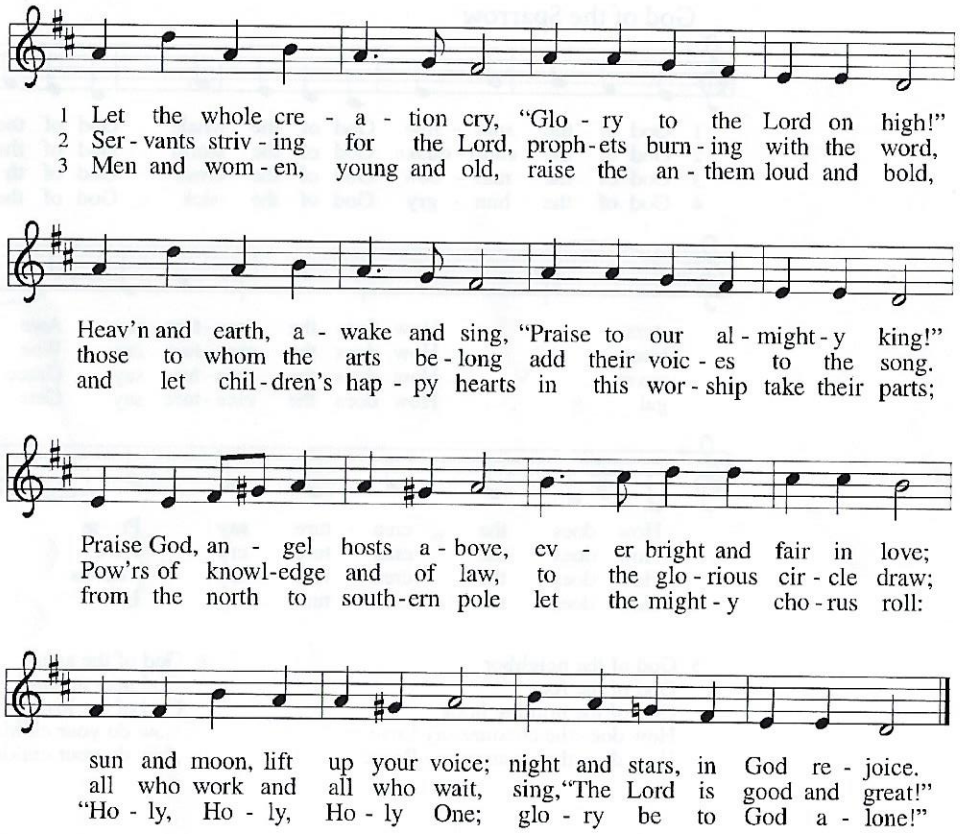
The assisting minister leads a prayer after communion.
The assembly responds: **Amen.**

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Blessing *The assembly responds:* **Amen.**

Sending Song Let the Whole Creation Cry



Dismissal *The assembly is sent out into the world for mission.*

The assembly responds: **Thanks be to God.**

Prelude Swing Low, Sweet Chariot, spiritual, arr. John Carter

Special thanks to Pr. Katherine Chatelaine-Samsen and the people of St. Matthew Lutheran Church for their hospitality.

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Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.