



Epiphany Lutheran Church
 2375 GA Hwy 20 SE, Conyers, GA 30013
 (770) 483-6222
 www.conyersedc.org

November 12, 2023 – 10:00 AM *24th Sunday after Pentecost*

WELCOME VISITORS! We welcome all who believe in Jesus Christ to the Lord’s Supper as we partake in the breaking of the bread and the sharing of the cup. For those who would prefer, grape juice is available in the center ring of each serving tray. If you do not wish to receive communion you are invited to come forward for a blessing. God’s forgiveness and love is for everyone.

We are honored that you are with us today and we ask everyone to please sign the *Friendship Register* in each pew. Visitors are asked to also complete a *Visitors Card* from the pew rack and place it in the offering plate. Again, Welcome!

***Invites the congregation to stand.**

HOLY COMMUNION – *Setting 4*

Prelude: *”Praise to the Lord, the King of Creation”*

Welcome and Announcements

***Confession and Forgiveness**

[P] Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved.

[C] **Amen.**

Silence is kept for reflection.

[P] Holy One,

[C] we confess that we are not awake for you. We are not faithful in using your gifts. We forget the least of our siblings. We do not see your beautiful image in one another. We are infected by sin that divides your beloved community. Open our hearts to your coming, open our eyes to see you in our neighbor, open our hands to serve your creation. Amen.

[P] Beloved, we are God’s children, and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us. Through ✚ Jesus you are forgiven, by Jesus you are welcome, in Jesus you are called to rejoice! Let us live in the promises prepared for us from the foundation of the world.

[C] **Amen.**

***Gathering Hymn:** *“My Lord, What a Morning”* ELW #438
As the hymn begins, the congregation turns toward the entrance to face the processional cross.

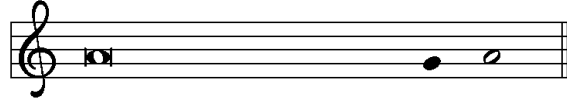
***Greeting**

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

[C] **And also with you.**

***The Kyrie**

ELW, Page 147



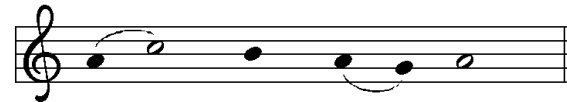
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



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.



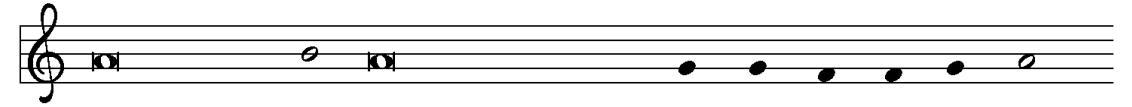
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



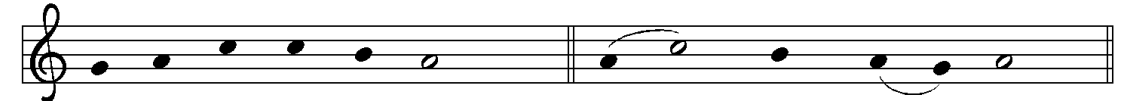
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



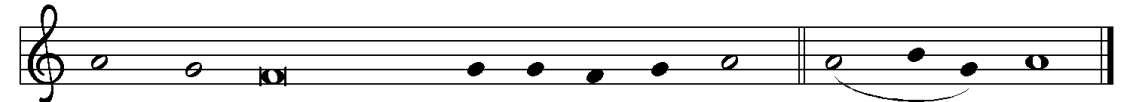
Lord, have mer - cy.



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.

***Hymn of Praise**

ELW Page 149

Refrain
Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

***The Prayer of the Day**

[P] The Lord be with you.

[C] **And also with you.**

[P] Let us pray...

[C] **Amen**

Insert

Children's Message

Pastor David Armstrong-Reiner

Children's Church (*Children are invited to the Fellowship Hall for further worship/education.*)

The First Lesson: Amos 5:18-24

Insert

[L] The Word of the Lord.

[C] **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: 70; refrain, Ps. 70:5

Insert

(*Congregation sings verses in **bold** print only.*)

The Second Lesson: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Insert

[L] The Word of the Lord.

[C] **Thanks be to God.**

***Gospel Acclamation:**

ELW, Page 151



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

***The Gospel:** [P] The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 25th chapter.

[C] **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Matthew 25:1-13

Insert

[P] The Gospel of the Lord.

[C] **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Pastor David Armstrong-Reiner

***Hymn of the Day:** “Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying”

ELW #436

***The Apostle’s Creed**

ELW, Page 105

**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 Prayers**

Insert

After each portion of the prayers:

[A] Hear us, O God.

[C] Your mercy is great.

The Offering

Choral Offertory: “The Lord is a Mighty God”

Felix Mendelssohn

***The Offertory Hymn**

“Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful”

ELW #182

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
 bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
 fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -
 nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
 pres - ence, and give us 8 a fore - taste of the feast to come.

***Offering Prayer**

[A] Let us pray together.

[C] **God of all goodness, generations have turned to you, gathered around your table, and shared your abundant blessings. Number us among them that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance, and give thanks for your rich blessings, we may feast upon your very self and care for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant. Amen.**

***The Great Thanksgiving**

ELW, Page 152

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

[P] It is indeed right, our duty and our joy... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
 Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
 in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

[P] 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.

[C] 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.

The Communion (Please follow the instructions of the ushers in coming to receive communion.)

"Lamb of God"

ELW, Page 154

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

Communion Hymn: *“Blessed Assurance”* ELW #638
 “When Peace like a River” ELW #785

***Post-Communion Blessing**

***Post-Communion Prayer**

[A] Lord Jesus, in this simple meal you have set a banquet. Sustain us on the journey, strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children, and give us glad and generous hearts as we meet you on the way.

[C] Amen.

***Benediction (Blessing)**

[P] God bless us with discomfort at easy answers, half-truths, and superficial relationships, so that we may live deep within our hearts.

God bless us with anger at injustice, oppression, and exploitation of people, so that we may work for justice, freedom and peace.

God bless us with tears to shed for those who suffer from pain, rejection, starvation and war, so that we may reach out our hands to comfort them and turn their pain into joy.

And God bless us with enough foolishness to believe that we can make a difference in this world, so that we can do what others claim cannot be done.

The God of all grace ✝ bless you now and forever.

[C] Amen.

***Recessional Hymn: “Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning”** ACS #949

As the cross is carried out during the singing of the hymn, the congregation turns to face the cross.



1 Keep your lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your
 2 Dark - er mid - night lies be - fore us, dark - er
 3 Lo, the morn - ing soon is break - ing, lo, the
 4 Keep your lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your



lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your lamps
 mid - night lies be - fore us, dark - er mid - night
 morn - ing soon is break - ing, lo, the morn - ing
 lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your lamps



trimmed and burn - ing, for this work's al - most done.
 lies be - fore us, for this work's al - most done.
 soon is break - ing, for this work's al - most done.
 trimmed and burn - ing, for this work's al - most done.



Refrain
 Chil-dren, don't grow wea - ry; chil-dren, don't grow wea - ry;



chil-dren, don't grow wea - ry, for this work's al - most done.

***Dismissal**

[All] Follow Christ, Live Faithfully, Serve All. Thanks be to God.

Postlude:

“Trumpet Voluntary”

John Stanley

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