

May 15, 2022
Fifth Sunday of Easter
Peace Lutheran Church of Plymouth
Paul's Sermon at Athens

GATHER

PRELUDE

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

Arr. Paul Tate

INTRODUCTION OF THE YARA FAMILY

Mike Onan

ANNOUNCEMENTS

+CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

ONE: In the name of the Father,
and of the ☩ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

MANY: AMEN

ONE: Let us pray. God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

MANY: AMEN

ONE: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

silence for reflection

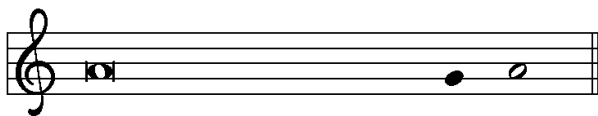
ONE: Most merciful God,

MANY: we confess that we are captive 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

ONE: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

MANY: AMEN

+KYRIE

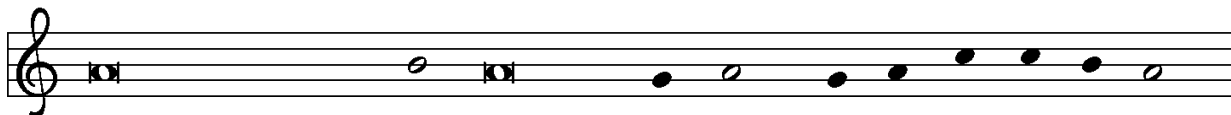


ONE: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



MANY: Lord, have mer - cy.

ONE:



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



MANY: Lord, have mer - cy.



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

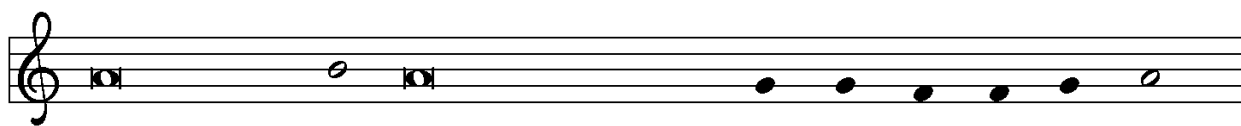


and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

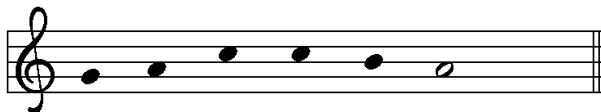


MANY: Lord, have mer - cy.

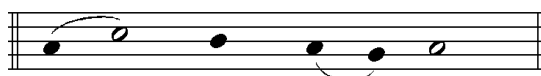
ONE:



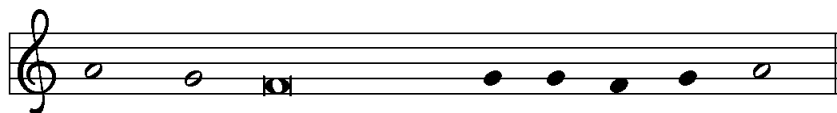
For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



MANY: Lord have mer - cy.



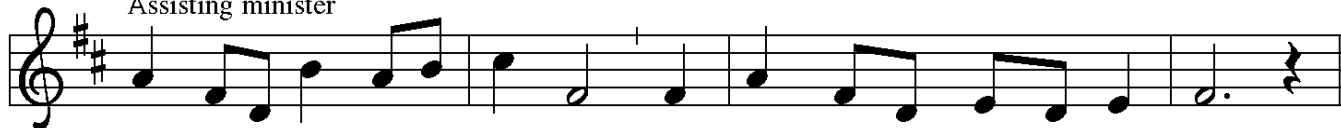
ONE: Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord.



MANY: A - men.

GLORY TO GOD

Assisting minister





Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

+Prayer of the Day

ONE: O God of the Unknown,

MANY: Your mysteries are astounding. Give us knowledge where you see fit, and let us sit comfortably with that which we can never understand. Amen.

WORD

SCRIPTURE

Acts 17:16-31

¹⁶ While Paul was waiting for them in Athens, he was deeply distressed to see that the city was full of idols. ¹⁷ So he argued in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons and also in the marketplace^[a] every day with those who happened to be there. ¹⁸ Also some Epicurean and Stoic philosophers debated with him. Some said, “What does this pretentious babbler want to say?” Others said, “He seems to be a proclaimer of foreign divinities.” (This was because he was telling the good news about Jesus and the resurrection.) ¹⁹ So they took him and brought him to the Areopagus and asked him, “May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting?” ²⁰ It sounds rather strange to us, so we would like to know what it means.” ²¹ Now all the Athenians and the foreigners living there would spend their time in nothing but telling or hearing something new.

²² Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. ²³ For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴ The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵ nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶ From one ancestor^[b] he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷ so that they would search for God^[c] and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸ For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said,

‘For we, too, are his offspring.’

²⁹ “Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰ While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹ because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

ONE: Holy wisdom, holy word.

MANY: Thanks be to God.

MUSIC

Speak, O Lord

Getty & Townend Arr. Ferguson

SERMON

Rev. Paul Lutter

+APOSTLES' CREED

ONE: With the whole church, let us confess our faith in the Triune God.

MANY: **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 Christ rose again;
 he ascended into heaven,
 he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
 and 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**

+PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

ONE: With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

Silence

ONE: O Lord, caught in the world's sway, there are many things that feel out of our control and uncertain. We carry grief around our necks that cause our heads to hang low. We don't know what to do with it all, O gracious God. But we give you thanks because we know you have all things in your hands – including us. Anchor us to the power and promise of love, that lifts and attends us these days. Lord in your mercy,

MANY: hear our prayer.

ONE: In Romans, your servant Paul writes, "suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us." By your Spirit's power, gather us around the warmth of your love. Give us courage to rejoice, for you are with us. Lord in your mercy,

MANY: hear our prayer.

ONE: Set our hearts ablaze in the hope given to us because of Jesus Christ's death and resurrection for us. Turn our eyes to you, and tune our ears to the sound of your voice. We thank you that even before we can remember, you speak, guide, listen, forgive, and empower your people through the waters of baptism. Lord in your mercy,

MANY: hear our prayer.

ONE: We pray for all the people of Peace Lutheran Church. Meet us as we are – but don't leave us where we are. Stir your imagination among us, that we meet each thing we face with hope and resilience. Bless us in this time of transition. Wake us to the hope you have given us in Christ, that we may know your healing and love again, and once more. We pray, God, for those who are in need of your care today, both silently and aloud.... Lord, in your mercy,

MANY: hear our prayer.

ONE: Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

MANY: AMEN

+SHARING OF CHRIST'S PEACE

ONE: The peace of Christ be with you all.

MANY: And also with you.

ONE: Let us share a sign of God's peace with one another.

MEAL

OFFERING

With a Joyful Spirit

Paul A McKlveen

+OFFERTORY PRAYER

ELW p. 64

ONE: God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Savior.

MANY: AMEN

+THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

ONE: The Lord be with you.

MANY: And also with you.

ONE: Lift up your hearts.

MANY: We lift them to the Lord.

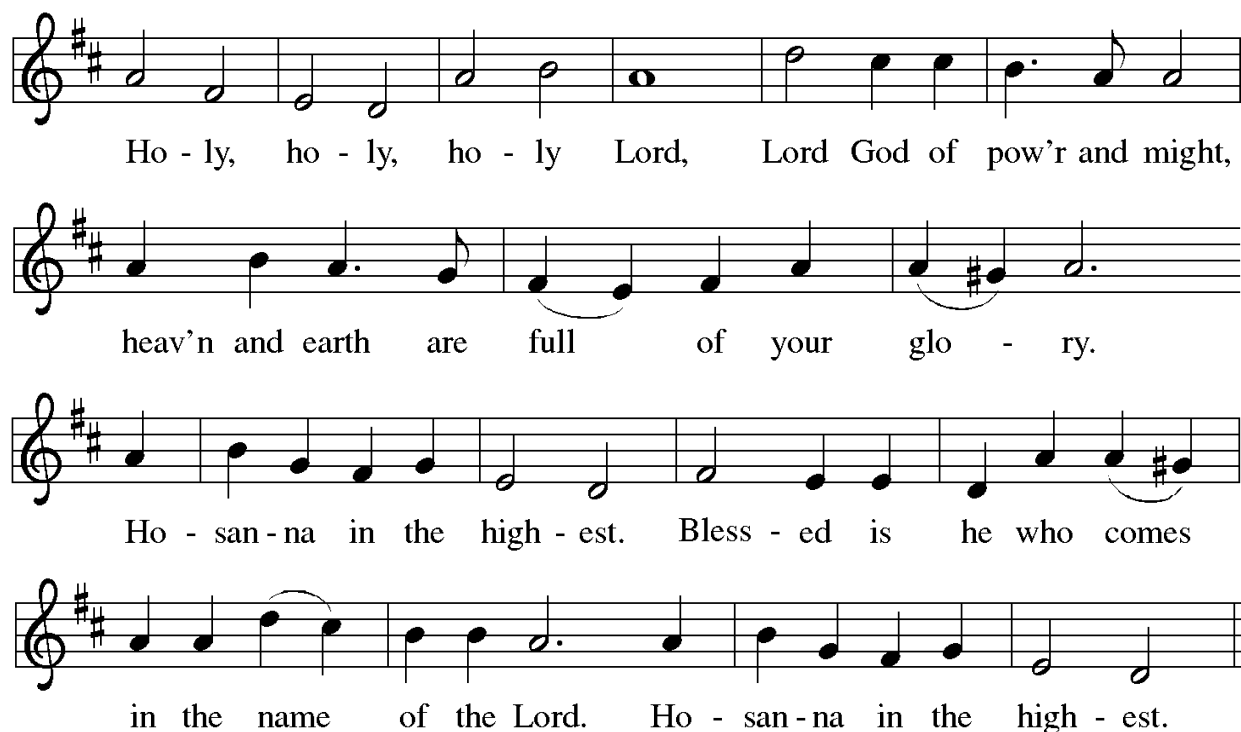
ONE: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

MANY: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

+PREFACE

ONE: 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.
You call your people to cleanse their hearts
and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,
that, renewed in the gift of baptism,
we may come to the fullness of your grace.
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:

+HOLY COMMUNION



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.

+WORDS OF INSTITUTION

+PRAYER JESUS TAUGHT US

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

MANY: 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,

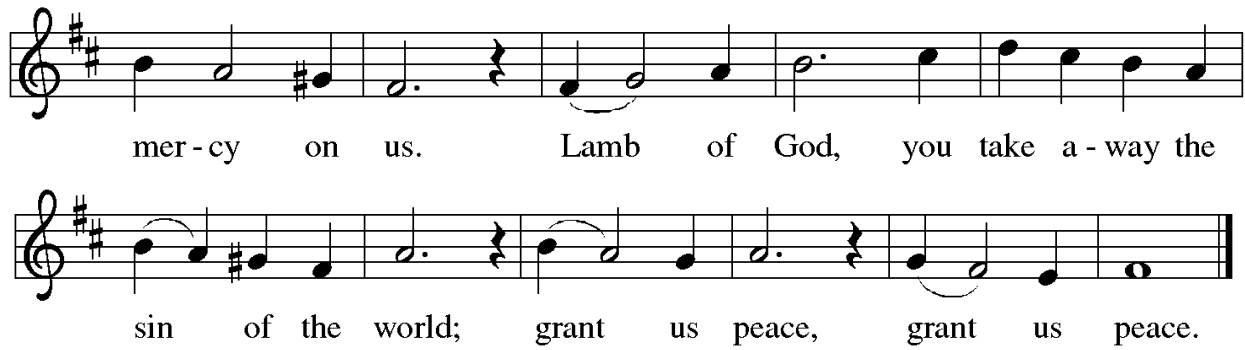
now and forever. AMEN

WELCOME TO THE TABLE

LAMB OF GOD



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



MUSIC

Brighter Than the Sun

John Helgen

COMMUNION BLESSING

SEND

+SENDING HYMN

My Hope is Built on Nothing Less

ELW 597

+BENEDICTION

ONE: Let us pray together the Prayer of Good Courage.

MANY: O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN

+DISMISSAL

ONE: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

MANY: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Rock-a My Soul

Arr. Valerie Stephenson

Acknowledgements:

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ELW Setting 4

Kyrie, Glory to God, Holy, Lamb of God

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Serving today:

Preacher

Rev. Paul Lutter

Organist & Pianist

Anne Phillips

Musicians

Adult Choir and Adult Bell Choir

Lector

Bob Samuelson

Usher

Dave Swanson

Counters

Terry Geffre and Jean Swanson

Zoom & Livestream Coordinators

Roger Birnbaum, Steve Johnson, Stefanie Fiser Kleven,
Peter Leppa, Scott Rusten, Bob Samuelson & Jason Tofteland



ANNOUNCEMENTS

WEEK OF MAY 15, 2022

TODAY

9am worship with Holy Communion

Families are encouraged to have their children in worship, but the nursery is available if needed. It will be open but not staffed; please plan to supervise your own children inside.

A very special welcome to our guests today, The Yara family. The Yara's came to the U.S. from Afghanistan last year and have settled in Bloomington, MN. The Peace Circle of Welcome team has been providing assistance to the family during their resettlement since last December. Please stay after worship for a reception in their honor.

TODAY after worship, please join CYF for some fun with an intergenerational activity.

The Big Rewind -

Old Testament Bible Trivia Game!

Plan to stay and join the fun!

WOMEN OF SONG CONCERTS

Light of a Clear Blue Morning

Saturday, May 14, 7 p.m.

7150 Rolling Acres Road

Victoria, MN 55331

Sunday, May 15, 2:30 p.m.

Annunciation Church

509 W. 54th St.

Minneapolis, MN 55419

Peace member Videll Pfeifer is a member of this choir.

JOURNEY TOGETHER

On Sunday, May 22, we begin **Journey Together** following worship. The event on May 22 is a kick-off event and is intergenerational. The themes we will explore over the year will include the Bible, Spirit, Disciples, Church, World, and then a Send-Off. Each of these themes will be broken down into two sessions. After the kickoff, each session will be a dinner event.

Here are the dates for **Journey Together** for this summer:

- **Sunday, May 22** after worship: Kick-Off
- **Wednesday, June 29**, 6 pm: The Bible = 66 books
- **Wednesday, July 27**, 6 pm: God's Word is for Everyone
- **Wednesday, August 31**, 6 pm: Five-a-Day to Grow God's Way

Following the kickoff, events will continue the last Wednesday of the month through the 2022-2023 year. Volunteers are needed to help in various ways: food planning, event leaders, musicians, supply organization, setup, and clean up. There are plans for an electronic sign-up for those interested in a chance to help with this fantastic event.