

# 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost



## Word and Sacrament

*“Not Just Going to Church, but BEING the Church”*

**Saint Bartholomew Lutheran Church**

September 6, 2026 11:00AM



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

## **Welcome to Worship!**

### **Welcome to Worship!**

This morning, we celebrate **15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**. The lyrics to the hymns are in the hymnals in the pews. We extend special greetings to all our guests who are with us today. Your presence, along with our members and friends, is truly valued. Know that all of God's people are always welcome here at St. Bartholomew.

### **Holy Communion**

Saint Bart's celebrates the real presence of Jesus through the bread and wine. We invite all to come and share. At the time of communion, you will come up to the altar and receive communion. Pastor will come to you if you choose to remain in the pew.

### **Praying People**

Everyone is invited to offer their prayer concerns during the Prayers of the Church.

### **15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

Conflict is a part of relationships and life in community. Jesus' words in today's gospel are often used in situations having to do with church discipline. The prophet Ezekiel tells of warning the wicked to turn from their ways, and Paul reminds us that love is the fulfilling of the law. We gather in the name of Christ, assured that he is present among us with gifts of peace and reconciliation.

## Announcements

### **Guest Preacher Jonathan Wilson Hartgrove!**

**Jonathan Wilson-Hartgrove** is an American Protestant Christian writer and preacher associated with New Monasticism.<sup>[1]</sup> Immediately before the 2003 invasion of Iraq, he and his wife, Leah, were members of a Christian peacemaking team that traveled to Iraq to communicate their message to Iraqis that not all American Christians were in favor of the coming Iraq War.<sup>[2]</sup> Wilson-Hartgrove wrote about this experience in his book *To Baghdad and Beyond: How I Got Born Again in Babylon*.<sup>[3]</sup> Also in 2003, he became one of the co-founders of Rutba House, a Christian intentional community in Durham, North Carolina's Walltown Neighborhood.<sup>[4]</sup> In 2006, he founded the School for Conversion, a popular education center committed to "making surprising friendships possible." He taught workshops there alongside his mentor and freedom teacher, Ann Atwater until she died in 2016. Wilson-Hartgrove has also worked with the Rev. William J. Barber, II to promote public faith for the common good through Moral Mondays, the Poor People's Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival,<sup>[5]</sup> and the Center for Public Theology and Public Policy at Yale Divinity School.

**Spanish Service-** Wednesday September 9<sup>th</sup> 6pm

**Enid's Pantry** will be open Saturday, September 12<sup>th</sup> at 10am.

**Spanish Service Saturday**, September 12<sup>th</sup> at 9am.

**Bingo Night-** Friday September 18<sup>th</sup> 6pm

**Bible Study-** resumes in September

**Blessing of the Animals** – October 4th

We can use any food or monetary donations to help our community in need.

Are there any other announcements?

## Bell/Prelude

### Welcome and Announcements

## Confession & Forgiveness

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth.

C **Amen.**

P Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P Compassionate God,

C **We confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

P Hear this good news: We have peace with God through ✠ Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

C **Amen.**

## Gathering Hymn: ELW 731

### Earth and All Stars!

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of six systems of music with lyrics. The first system has five lines of lyrics. The second and fourth systems have five lines of lyrics. The third and fifth systems have four lines of lyrics. The sixth system is the refrain, which has two lines of lyrics. The music features a melody line with various note values, including quarter, eighth, and half notes, and rests. There are also some dynamic markings like 'Loud'.

1 Earth and all stars! Loud rush - ing plan - ets!  
2 Trum - pet and pipes! Loud clash - ing cym - bals!  
3 En - gines and steel! Loud pound - ing ham - mers!  
4 Class - rooms and labs! Loud boil - ing test tubes!  
5 Knowl - edge and truth! Loud sound - ing wis - dom!

Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Sing to the Lord a new song!

Hail, wind, and rain! Loud blow - ing snow - storm!  
Harp, lute, and lyre! Loud hum - ming cel - los!  
Lime - stone and beams! Loud build - ing work - ers!  
Ath - lete and band! Loud cheer - ing peo - ple!  
Daugh - ter and son! Loud pray - ing mem - bers!

Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Sing to the Lord a new song!

*Refrain*  
God has done mar - vel - ous things.

I too sing prais - es with a new song!

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926  
Music: EARTH AND ALL STARS, David N. Johnson, 1922–1987  
Text and music © 1968 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress.  
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## APOSTOLIC 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

# Kyrie

Leader or All



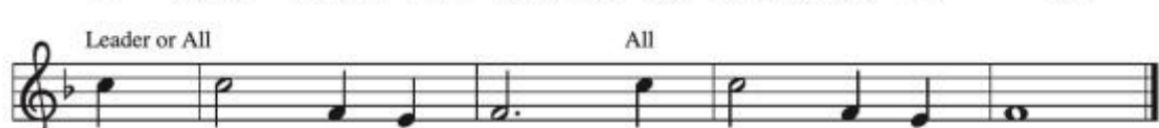
Se - ñor, ten pie - dad de no-so - tros. Cris - to, ten pie - dad.  
O Lord, have . . . mer-cy up-on us. Christ, have mer - cy.

All



Se - ñor, ten pie - dad de no-so - tros. Cris - to, ten pie - dad.  
O Lord, have . . . mer-cy up-on us. Christ, have mer - cy.

Leader or All



Se - ñor, ten pie - dad. Se - ñor, ten pie - dad.  
Have mer - cy, O Lord. Have mer - cy, O Lord.

## CANTICLE OF PRAISE / CÁNTICO DE ALABANZA



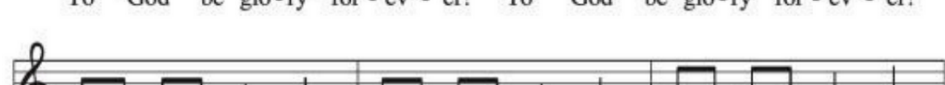
1 ¡Glo-ria a Dios, glo-ria a Dios, glo-ria en los cie - los!  
1 Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry in the high - est!



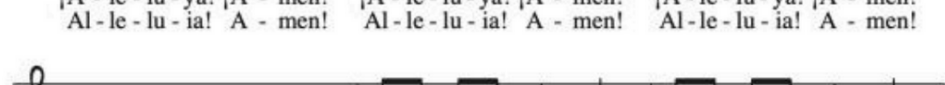
¡Glo-ria a Dios, glo-ria a Dios, glo-ria en los cie - los!  
Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry in the high - est!



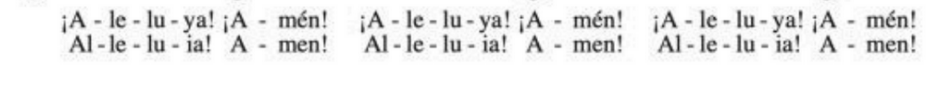
¡A Dios la glo-ria por siem-pre! ¡A Dios la glo-ria por siem-pre!  
To God be glo-ry for - ev - er! To God be glo-ry for - ev - er!



¡A - le - lu - ya! ¡A - mén! ¡A - le - lu - ya! ¡A - mén! ¡A - le - lu - ya! ¡A - mén!  
Al - le - lu - ia! A - men! Al - le - lu - ia! A - men! Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!



¡A - le - lu - ya! ¡A - mén! ¡A - le - lu - ya! ¡A - mén! ¡A - le - lu - ya! ¡A - mén!  
Al - le - lu - ia! A - men! Al - le - lu - ia! A - men! Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!



¡A - le - lu - ya! ¡A - mén! ¡A - le - lu - ya! ¡A - mén!  
Al - le - lu - ia! A - men! Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

*Prayer of the Day*

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C** **Amen**

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## **WORD**

**A** I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth (Psalm 34:1). Lord, bless the reading of your word. Make it come alive in our midst.

**C** Amen.

### **First Reading: Ezekiel 33:7-11**

So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. <sup>8</sup> If I say to the wicked, “O wicked ones, you shall surely die,” and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. <sup>9</sup> But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel: Thus you have said: “Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?” <sup>11</sup> Say to them: As I live, says the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?

**A** Word of God, word of life.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## **Responsive Reading: Psalm 119:33-40**

- A Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes, and I shall keep it to the end.
- C **Give me understanding, and I shall keep your teaching; I shall keep it with all my heart.**
- A Lead me in the path of your commandments, for that is my desire.
- C **Incline my heart to your decrees and not to unjust gain.**
- A Turn my eyes from beholding falsehood; give me life in your way.
- C **Fulfill your promise to your servant, which is for those who fear you.**
- A Turn away the reproach that I dread, because your judgements are good.
- C **Behold, I long for your commandments; by your righteousness enliven me.**

## **Second Reading: Romans 13:8-14**

Owe no one anything, except to love one another, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; you shall not murder; you shall not steal; you shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law. Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us walk decently as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

- A Word of God, word of life.     C **Thanks be to God**

## Gospel Acclamation



**P** The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 18<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

**Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>15</sup> “If your brother or sister sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If you are listened to, you have regained that one. <sup>16</sup> But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. <sup>17</sup> If that person refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church, and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a gentile and a tax collector. <sup>18</sup> Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. <sup>19</sup> Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. <sup>20</sup> For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

**P** The Gospel of the Lord

**C** **Praise to you O Christ**

**SERMON**

## Hymn of the Day: ELW 639

### When We Are Living *Pues si vivimos*



*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.

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: SOMOS DEL SEÑOR, Spanish traditional

Spanish text, sts. 2-3 © 1983 Abingdon Press and tr. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House, admin. The Copyright Company

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## PEACE

**P** The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C** And also with you.

## **APOSTLE'S CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.\***

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again 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

Each petition ends:

A Hear us, O God,

C **Your mercy is great**

Reminded of God's gracious and abundant love, we offer our prayers, confident that God hears us.

*A brief silence.*

Proclaiming God, empower your church throughout the world to announce the words you give us. Open us to receive your word in unexpected ways. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Forming God, renew the cycles of your creation that provide for the needs of all. Protect grasslands, marshes, swamps, and all places of transition. Heal our community crying out after the mass shooting that claimed the lives of two people, and also the family that suffered a tragic loss in a house fire. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Governing God, turn all who create, enforce, or interpret legislation away from selfish gain and toward your promise of good for all, especially the good of all who labor. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Attending God, wake us up to any around us who are in need. Restore broken relationships, failing health, frayed emotions, and the hurts we carry with us. *We pray especially for Robert & Mary Ellen, Debbie, Mark, Benny, Kaiden, Shirley, Nick, Bob, Justin, Billy, Rosemary, and Rich* Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Gathering God, resolve conflicts in this community through your righteousness and grace. Reconcile us to each other, making your good news known even through our imperfections. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for our partner churches: Abiding Presence and Prince of Peace; we pray for our Bishop Christa Compton. We also pray for the concerns of this congregation: those who travel, those absent from worship, those celebrating birthdays especially Zelinne Rivera and Chris Rivera; and for those celebrating anniversaries; also for the people of God in this place and for other needs in our community. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

At this time, you may offer up prayers for loved ones, thanksgivings to God, or any other intercessions silently or aloud... *(Pause )* Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Loving God, all who die in faith have life with you. We give you thanks for the nearness of your salvation for all who have gone before us. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

(PASTOR) Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask, and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

**Amen.**

## THE OFFERING

Online offering: <https://www.stbartlutheran.net/donate>

## OFFERING PRAYER

P God of creation,  
you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly.  
All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we  
have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service  
to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always.

C **Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

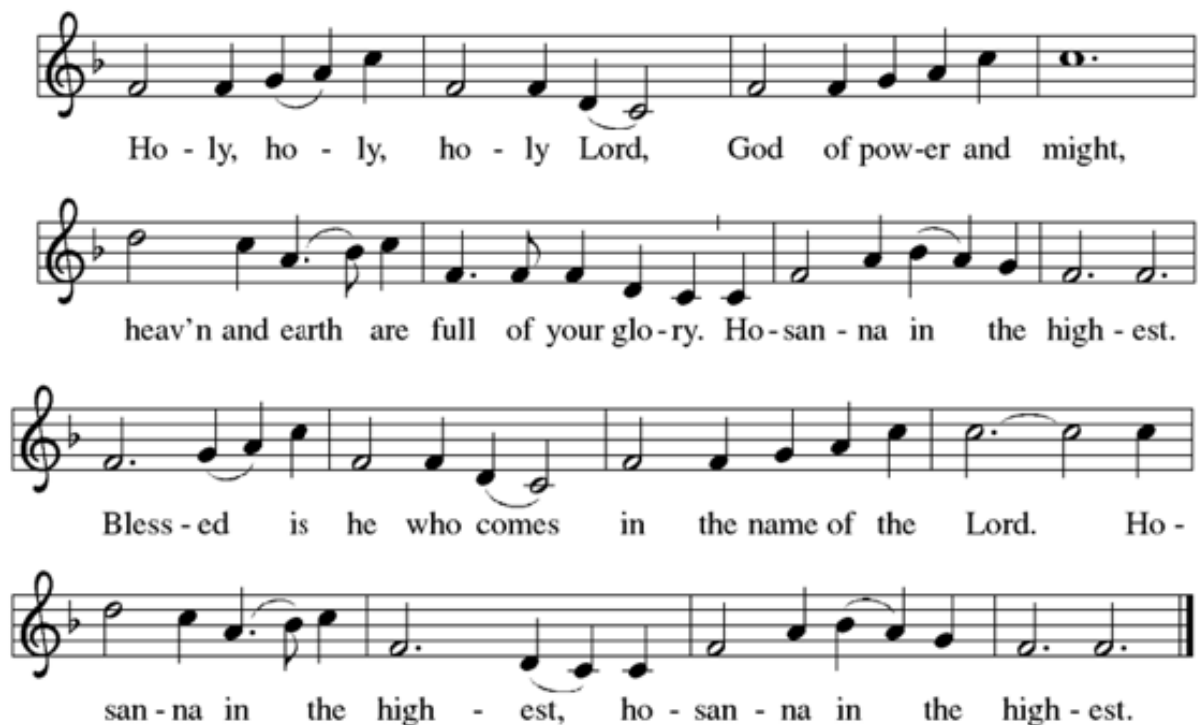
C. **We lift them to the Lord.**

P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

C. **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

## *PREFACE*

P It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
holy Father, almighty and eternal God.  
From sunrise to sunset this day is holy,  
for Christ has risen from the tomb and scattered the  
darkness of death with light that will not fade.  
This day the risen Lord walks with your gathered people,  
unfolds for us your word, and makes himself known in the  
breaking of the bread.  
And though the night will overtake this day  
you summon us to live in endless light,  
the never-ceasing sabbath of the Lord.  
And so with choirs of angels, with all the heavenly host,  
we proclaim your glory and join their unending song of  
praise:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P Blessed are you, O God, creator of heaven and earth.  
You rescued your covenant people, led them on all their  
journeys, and taught them by the prophets. You so loved  
the world that you gave your only Son, so that  
everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have  
eternal life.

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.

As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup,  
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit in this meal, and make us one in this  
community of faith and with your people throughout the world.

Glory and praise to you, O God, Author of life, Word made  
flesh, Power of the Most High, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

## Lord's Prayer

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

**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 kingdom, the power, and the glory, now and  
forever. Amen.**

## Invitation

P Christ invites you to this table.  
All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

## Distribution

## Blessing

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ  
strengthen you and keep you in his grace  
C **Amen.**

### Post Communion Blessing

**P** Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life.  
By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.

**C Amen**

### **+Sending+**

#### **Benediction**

**P** The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind, in the body of Christ Jesus.

**C Amen.**

**P** The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances through the interceding of the Spirit.

**C Amen.**

**P** The God of grace ☩ bless you now and forever.

**C Amen.**

**Sending Hymn ELW # 836**

## 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!

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852–1922

Music: HYMN TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827, adapt.

Dismissal.

A Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

C **Thanks be to God.**

*Postlude*