



**August 4, 2024**

**11th Sunday after Pentecost  
Service of Holy Communion**

Apparently not satisfied by Jesus' feeding of thousands, some who were there press him for a sign of his power; perhaps it is daily manna they want. As always in John's gospel when people want a sign, Jesus offers himself. He is the bread come from heaven to give life to the world. He calls us to come to him and believe in him, and through that relationship to know the one who sent him.

## **+GATHERING+**

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as people of God.  
(\*indicates all are invited to stand as able)*

### **WELCOME**

### **PRELUDE**

#### **\* Confession and Forgiveness**

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
the God of manna,  
the God of miracles,  
the God of mercy.

**Amen.**

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance,  
let us confess our sin.  
*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God, our provider,  
**help us.**

**It is hard to believe there is enough to share.  
We question your ways when they differ from the ways  
of the world in which we live.  
We turn to our own understanding  
rather than trusting in you.  
We take offense at your teachings and your ways.  
Turn us again to you.  
Where else can we turn?  
Share with us the words of eternal life**

**and feed us for life in the world.**

**Amen.**

Beloved people of God:

in Jesus, the manna from heaven,  
you are fed and nourished.

By Jesus, the worker of miracles,  
there is always more than enough.

Through Jesus, † the bread of life,  
you are shown God's mercy:

you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

**Amen.**

**\*GATHERING HYMN All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly ELW 461**

- 1 All who hunger gather gladly;  
holy manna is our bread.  
Come from wilderness and wand'ring.  
Here in truth we will be fed.  
You that yearn for days of fullness,  
all around us is our food.  
Taste and see the grace eternal.  
Taste and see that God is good.
- 2 All who hunger, never strangers;  
seeker, be a welcome guest.  
Come from restlessness and roaming.  
Here in joy we keep the feast.  
We that once were lost and scattered  
in communion's love have stood.  
Taste and see the grace eternal.  
Taste and see that God is good.
- 3 All who hunger, sing together,

Jesus Christ is living bread.  
 Come from loneliness and longing.  
 Here in peace we have been fed.  
 Blest are those who from this table  
 live their days in gratitude.  
 Taste and see the grace eternal.  
 Taste and see that God is good.

### **\*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.**

Let us pray.

O God, eternal goodness, immeasurable love, you place your gifts before us; we eat and are satisfied. Fill us and this world in all its need with the life that comes only from you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen**

### **+WORD+**

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

### **FIRST READING**

### **Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15**

*A food crisis becomes a faith crisis for the Israelites in the wilderness. The hungry people forget God's saving work in the exodus, and they wish for the food they had in Egypt. Nevertheless, God miraculously meets their needs, with manna for bread and quail for meat.*

A reading from Exodus.

<sup>2</sup>The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. <sup>3</sup>The Israelites said to them, “If only we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.”

<sup>4</sup>Then the LORD said to Moses, “I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not.”

<sup>9</sup>Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, ‘Draw near to the LORD, for he has heard your complaining.’ ” <sup>10</sup>And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud. <sup>11</sup>The LORD spoke to Moses and said, <sup>12</sup>“I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.’ ”

<sup>13</sup>In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. <sup>14</sup>When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. <sup>15</sup>When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat.”

The word of the Lord.      **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM      Psalm 78:23-29 (Read responsively by verse)**

<sup>23</sup>So God commanded the clouds above  
and opened the doors of heaven,

<sup>24</sup>**raining down manna upon them to eat  
and giving them grain from heaven.**

<sup>25</sup>So mortals ate the bread of angels;  
God provided for them food enough.

**<sup>26</sup> The LORD caused the east wind to blow in the heavens  
and powerfully led out the south wind,**

<sup>27</sup> raining down flesh upon them like dust  
and flying birds like the sand of the seas,

**<sup>28</sup> letting them fall in the midst of the camp  
and round about the dwellings.**

<sup>29</sup> So the people ate and were well filled,  
for God gave them what they craved.

## **SECOND READING      Ephesians 4:1-16**

*Christians share fundamental unity and diversity. Our unity consists in the one body, one Spirit, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God. Our diversity is expressed in various forms of ministry whose goal is equipping the saints and building up Christ's one body.*

A reading from Ephesians.

<sup>1</sup> I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, <sup>2</sup>with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, <sup>3</sup>making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. <sup>4</sup>There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, <sup>5</sup>one Lord, one faith, one baptism, <sup>6</sup>one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

<sup>7</sup> But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. <sup>8</sup>Therefore it is said,

“When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive;  
he gave gifts to his people.”

<sup>9</sup> (When it says, “He ascended,” what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? <sup>10</sup>He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.) <sup>11</sup> The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, <sup>12</sup>to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, <sup>13</sup>until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of

God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. <sup>14</sup> We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. <sup>15</sup> But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, <sup>16</sup> from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**ELW 175**

*We all sing*

Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

One does not live by bread alone,\* but by every word that comes from the mouth of God. *Repeat Alleluia.*

**\*GOSPEL                      John 6:24-35**

*Many of the five thousand people Jesus fed in the wilderness continued to follow him throughout the countryside. Jesus challenges them to consider the real nature of their quest.*

The holy gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>24</sup> When the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were [beside the sea,] they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus.

<sup>25</sup> When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?" <sup>26</sup> Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. <sup>27</sup> Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal." <sup>28</sup> Then they said to him, "What must we do to perform the works of God?" <sup>29</sup> Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent." <sup>30</sup> So they said to him, "What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing?" <sup>31</sup> Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.' " <sup>32</sup> Then Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. <sup>33</sup> For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." <sup>34</sup> They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always."

<sup>35</sup> Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**



**\*HYMN OF THE DAY Bread of Life from Heaven ELW 474**

*Refrain*

Bread of life from heaven,  
 your blood and body given,  
 we eat this bread and drink this cup  
 until you come again.

- 1 Break now the bread of Christ's sacrifice;  
 giving thanks, hungry ones, gather round.  
 Eat, all of you, and be satisfied;  
 in Christ's presence the loaves will abound. *Refrain*
- 2 Seek not the food that will pass away;  
 set your hearts on the food that endures.  
 Come, learn the true and the living way,  
 that the fullness of life may be yours. *Refrain*
- 3 Love as the one who, in love for you,  
 gave himself for the life of the world.  
 Come to the one who is food for you,  
 that your hunger and thirst be no more. *Refrain*
- 4 Dwell in the one who now dwells in you;  
 make your home in the lifegiving Word.  
 Know only Christ, Holy One of God,  
 and believe in the truth you have heard. *Refrain*
- 5 Drink of this cup and declare his death;  
 eat this bread and believe Easter morn;  
 trust his return and, with ev'ry breath,  
 praise the one in whom you are reborn. *Refrain*

## \* APOSTLES' CREED

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.

## \*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

**A** Calling on the spirit of Wisdom to guide our hearts and our minds, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

**A** O Wise One, your wisdom has been present in this world since its beginning. Pour out your wisdom into the hearts of the whole church, especially the newly baptized, lay leaders, deacons, pastors, and bishops. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

**A** Holy God of all creation, you are the source of all life. Where the sun blazes hard and strong, bring a gentle breeze. In the places experiencing the cold of winter, bring your warmth.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

**A** Compassionate God, help government leaders of this world unite for peace and justice. Humble all who hold authority, that power is directed toward a more just society.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

**A** God of healing, you open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing. We remember any who are sick or suffering, especially Freda, Sandy, Lori, Nancy, Charlie, Susan, Patricia, Rusty, Nancy, Jean, Terry, Lee, Denise, Larry, Patti, Bob, Joan, Ann, Pamela, Bill, Marge, Donna, Marge, Callum, Paul, Charles, Steven, Tracey, Johanna, Carole, John, Todd, Anna, Roy, and those we name before you, on our lips or in the silence of our hearts.

(Pause for silence)

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

**A** Bread of life from heaven, you feed us. Fill all who hunger with needed nutrition and open our hearts to eliminate hunger in this world. May we see a day when all are fed.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

**A** O Wisdom of truth, help us to understand your will for the church. Be with congregations experiencing transition, redevelopment, and the exciting yet frightening path of newness. May your wisdom be found at every step. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

**A** Guide and nurture the people and friends of Grace, Zion and St. Andrew Churches — the future Faith Lutheran Church — as we continue charting and discovering pathways of joining together in proclaiming your Good News and building a servant community of healing, hope and new life. Open our hearts and minds to visions of your church for a new day.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

**A** Redeeming God, we give you thanks for the lives and witness of your saints now departed. Bring your beloved into eternal glory, opening wide the gates to the heavenly banquet.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

**A** We lift up these prayers to you, gracious God. Receive them into your holy keeping.

**Amen.**

### **\*SHARE THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

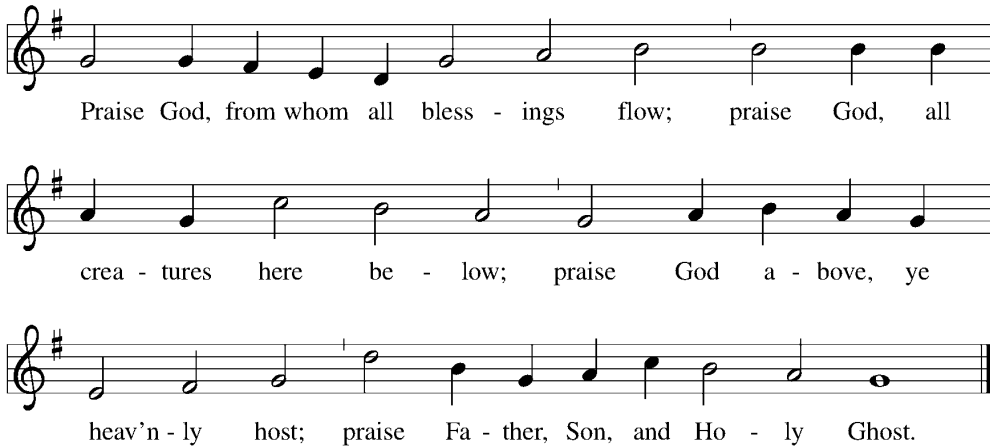
### **+MEAL+**

*God feeds us in the presence of Jesus Christ.*

**OFFERING** *An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.*

**\*OFFERTORY HYMN Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow**  
**ELW 885**

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise God, all  
 crea - tures here be - low; praise God a - bove, ye  
 heav' n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711, alt.  
 Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510–1561

**\*OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray:

Jesus, Bread of life,  
 you have set this table with your very self,  
 and called us to the feast of plenty.  
 Gather what has been sown among us,  
 and strengthen us in this meal.  
 Make us to be what we receive here,  
 your body for the life of the world.

**Amen.**

## **\*GREAT THANKSGIVING**

### **DIALOGUE**

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.**

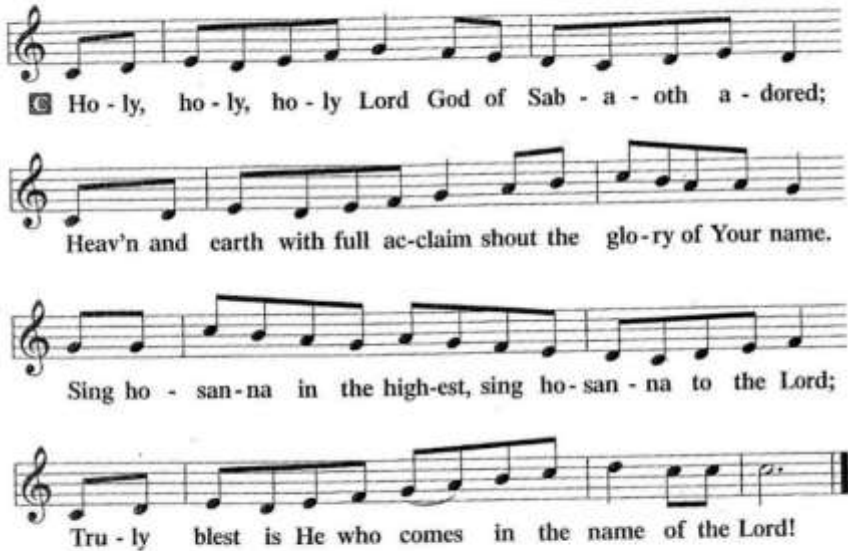
### **PREFACE**

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;  
who on this day overcame death and the grave,  
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.  
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, HOLY, HOLY

SANCTUS ~ *Holy, Holy, Holy*

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;  
 Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.  
 Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;  
 Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

*Sabbath* (SAH-bay-oth) is Hebrew for "heavenly hosts."  
*Hosanna* is a Hebrew word of praise meaning "save us now."

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

Holy God,  
 you alone are holy,  
 you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise:  
 beyond the stars;  
 beneath the sea;  
 within each cell;  
 with every breath.

**We praise you, O God.**

Generations bless your faithfulness:

through the water;  
by night and day;  
across the wilderness;  
out of exile;  
into the future.

**We bless you, O God.**

We give you thanks for your dear Son:  
at the heart of human life;  
near to those who suffer;  
beside the sinner;  
among the poor;  
with us now.

**We thank you, O God.**

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 his love for us  
on the way,



at the table,  
and to the end,  
we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

We pray for the gift of your Spirit:  
in our gathering;  
within this meal;  
among your people;  
throughout the world.

Blessing, praise, and thanks  
to you, holy God,  
through Christ Jesus,  
by your Spirit,  
in your church,  
without end.

**Amen.**

### **\*LORD'S PRAYER**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

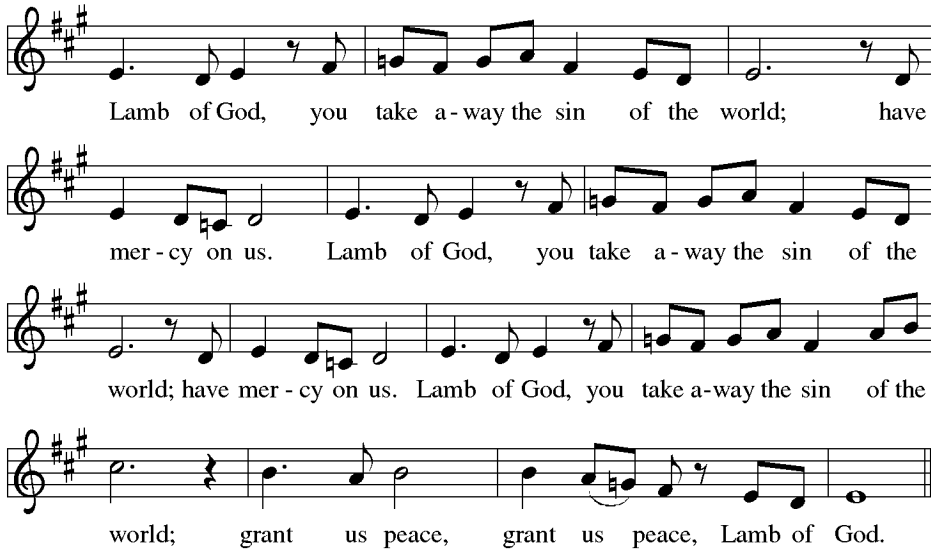
### **\*INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

*You are invited to come forward down the center aisle to the altar railing receive the Meal today. Please fill in along the railing from the pulpit to lectern sides. You may either stand or kneel to receive the Meal. The Meal will be served continuously. After you have received the Meal and after a quiet prayer of thanksgiving you may return to your seats via the side aisles. Gluten free wafers are available as an alternative. Please ask. White grape juice, in the center ring of each serving tray, is available as an alternative to the wine. Praise God for the life giving presence of the crucified-risen Christ in the bread and wine of this holy meal!*

Christ has set the table with more than enough for all.  
Come! The feast is ready!

### **COMMUNION**

## COMMUNION HYMN *Lamb of God* ELW p. 191



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, Lamb of God.

(Please remain seated)

### **BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION**

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

**Amen**

### **POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

Let us pray:

Jesus, Bread of life,

we have received from your table  
more than we could ever ask.

As you have nourished us in this meal,

now strengthen us to love the world with your own life.

In your name we pray.

**Amen.**

**+SENDING+**

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

**ANNOUNCEMENTS****\*BLESSING**

The blessing of God,  
who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,  
‡ be upon you now and forever.

**Amen.**

**\*SENDING HYMN O Living Bread from Heaven ELW 542**

- 1 O living Bread from heaven,  
how well you feed your guest!  
The gifts that you have given  
have filled my heart with rest.  
O wondrous food of blessing!  
O cup that heals our woes!  
My heart, this gift possessing,  
in thankful song o'er flows.
- 2 My Savior, you have led me  
within your holiest place,  
and here yourself have fed me  
with treasures of your grace;  
for you have freely given  
what earth could never buy,  
the bread of life from heaven,  
that now I shall not die.
- 3 You gave me all I wanted;  
this food can death destroy.

And you have freely granted  
 the cup of endless joy.  
 My Lord, I do not merit  
 the favor you have shown;  
 and all my soul and spirit  
 bow down before your throne.

- 4 Oh, grant me then, well-strengthened  
 with heav'nly food, while here  
 my course on earth is lengthened,  
 to serve you, free from fear;  
 and bring me home to praise you  
 where none can peace destroy,  
 where I will ever raise you  
 glad songs in endless joy.

### **\*DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad. You are the body of Christ!  
**Thanks be to God.**

### **POSTLUDE**

#### **WORSHIP LEADERS for Sunday, August 4, 2024**

**Presiding Minister:** Pastor Les Swenson

**Musician:** Gwynne Hopko, Deacon, Minister of Music

**Assistant Minister:** Terry Gustafson

**Lector:** Matt Girard

**Tech Team:** Abigail Griffin, Ken Griffin, Connor Pratt

**Ushers:** John Fitzgerald, Roy Tessman

**Altar Guild:** Arlene Creswell, A.J. Trudell

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### **THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR**

#### **Wednesday, August 7, 2024**

6:30 p.m. Summer Bells

#### **Thursday, August 8, 2024**

7:00 p.m. AA (Fellowship Hall)

7:00 p.m. Al Anon (Youth Room)

#### **Sunday, August 11, 2024;** 12th Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion (Sanctuary, You Tube, Facebook)

10:30 a.m. Coffee Hour

ST. ANDREW LUTHERAN CHURCH, BRISTOL, CT

1125 Stafford Ave., Bristol, CT

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The Rev. Les Swenson, Transition Pastor, phone: 860.857.9362

Gwynne Hopko, Deacon, Minister of Music

Nicole Gergler, Church Administrator