



Reconciling in Christ Sunday

Eucharist

Sunday, June 21, 2026, 10:30 a.m.

CENTRAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Exploring the promise of God for all

You are welcome. No exceptions.

Central Lutheran Church experiences God's expansive love and strives to share it abundantly. We affirm all people without regard to age, race, biological sex, housing status, ethnicity, sexual orientation, immigration, refugee or migration status, gender identity or expression, socioeconomic status, and physical or mental health or ability. All are a part of God's family, created in God's image.

We strive to practice radical hospitality with all people and work toward racial equity. Everyone is invited to immerse themselves in the life of this community of faith as we explore the promise of God for all.

Worship



Bold print indicates responses spoken by all.



Congregational hymns are found printed in this bulletin or in the red hymnal, Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW).



You are encouraged to listen to your body and stand or remain seated at any point in the service.



Masks are welcome, but not required.



Children are welcome and celebrated in worship. Each Sunday there are Children's Bags at each of the ushers' tables at the entrances to the sanctuary. Inside each bag is a worship activity and snack. Many families sit near the children's tables next to the baptismal font, but you are welcome to sit anywhere in the sanctuary that is comfortable to you.



All are welcome to receive communion at Central. At the ushers' invitation, you will proceed toward the altar where there are regular and gluten-free wafers served with wine or grape juice. Your server will offer bread and wine for all, including children. If you prefer to receive a blessing rather than communion, please let your server know.



Offering can be made online using the QR code in the bulletin or left in the offering plates just outside the sanctuary doors.

MEMBERS OF:

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America | www.elca.org

Align Minneapolis | www.alignmpls.org

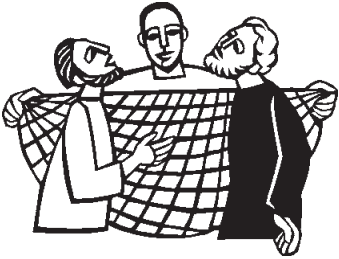
ReconcilingWorks | www.reconcilingworks.org

MNIPL Climate Justice Congregation | www.mnipl.org



Welcome to Worship

*As you arrive for worship,
you are invited to prepare
your hearts and minds while
listening to the prelude before
the service begins today.*



*The Holy Spirit gathers
us in unity on this first
day of the week.*

Minneapolis Choir Collective

*As we celebrate Reconciling
in Christ Sunday and our
commitment to welcoming and
affirming our LGBTQIA2S+
siblings, we are excited to have
an octet Minneapolis Choir
Collective join us for worship.
Minneapolis Choir Collective
is a semi-professional
choral ensemble that
foregrounds contemporary
works by composers from
underrepresented backgrounds.
As a project-based ensemble,
their size varies depending on
the project. They foster deep
engagement with audiences
through benefit concerts
for organizations, and
collaborate with early-career
composers, conductors, and
singers to accelerate their
careers through rehearsal and
performance opportunities.
The ensemble is an inclusive
LGBTQIA2S+ community
with 92% of singers in 2025
identifying as queer. Please
welcome Cassie Howard, Klo
Garoute, Arielle Ward, Miriam
Kyzer, Louis Blackmore, Alex
Rack, Benjamin Caswell, and
Eric Meyer.*

PRELUDE

Variations on “Endless Song”

James Melby

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

“I Shall Pass through This World”

Margaret Bonds

*I shall pass through this world but once,
Therefore, any good that I can do or any kindness that I can show, to any
human being, let me do it now;
Let me not defer or neglect it,
For I shall not pass this way again.*

-Etienne de Grellet

(At the sound of the bell, please stand and face the font.)

Gathering

OPENING SENTENCES

We begin as we live, in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

We are made in the image of a steadfast, loving God.

We are made to experience God’s expansive life and joy.

We are members of God’s family, created for lives of diversity and wonder.

We are members of God’s family, who strive to practice radical hospitality and welcome all, no exceptions.

We are gathered by God’s Spirit, enlightened and blessed by God’s abundance.

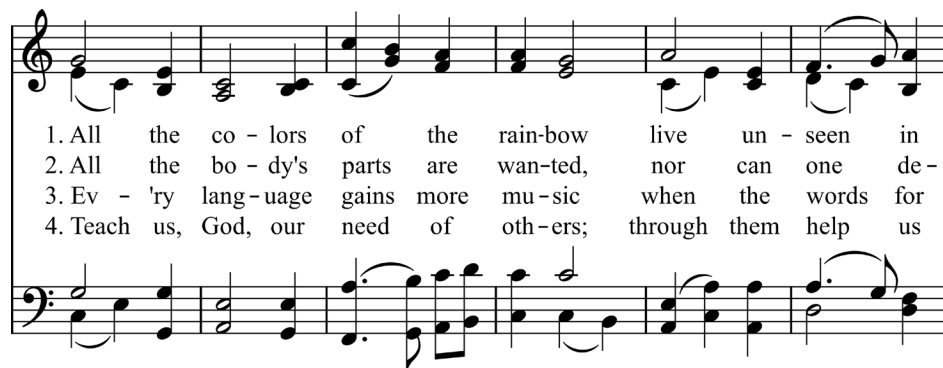
We are gathered by God’s Spirit for life together and empowered to explore the promise of God’s love for all.

Hymn: All the Colors of the Rainbow

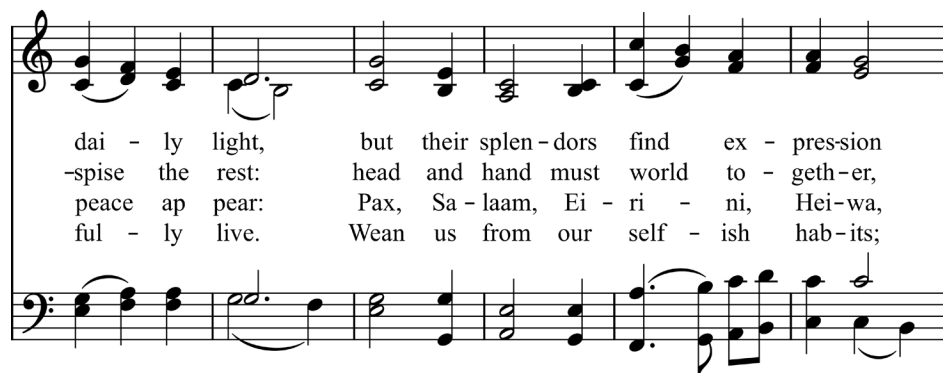
This hymn text, by Carl P. Daw, Jr., is found in the collection "Songs for the Holy Other," published by the Hymn Society. See the closing hymn for more information about that collection.

GATHERING HYMN

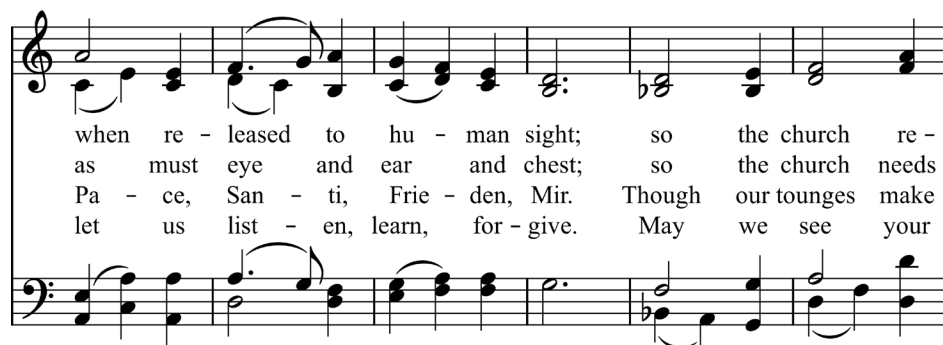
"All the Colors of the Rainbow"



1. All the co - lours of the rain-bow live un - seen in
 2. All the bo - dy's parts are wan-ted, nor can one de -
 3. Ev - 'ry lang - uage gains more mu - sic when the words for
 4. Teach us, God, our need of oth - ers; through them help us



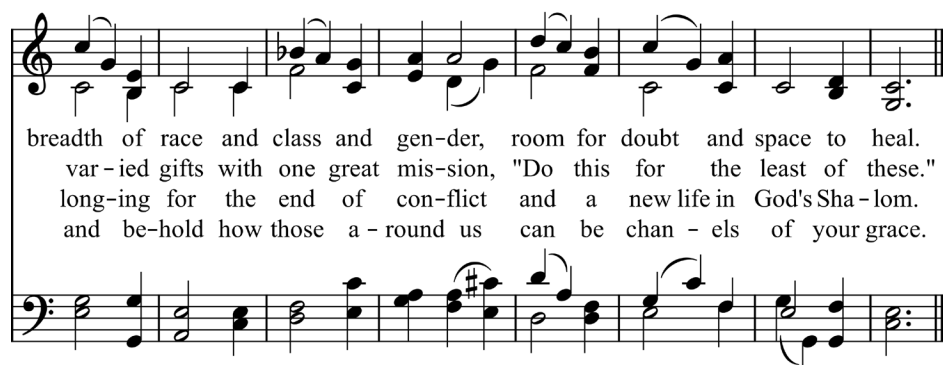
dai - ly light, but their splen - dors find ex - pres-sion
 -spise the rest: head and hand must world to - geth - er,
 peace ap pear: Pax, Sa - laam, Ei - ri - ni, Hei-wa,
 ful - ly live. Wean us from our self - ish hab - its;



when re - leased to hu - man sight; so the church re -
 as must eye and ear and chest; so the church needs
 Pa - ce, San - ti, Frie - den, Mir. Though our tounge's make
 let us list - en, learn, for - give. May we see your



-veals most beau - ty where di - ver - si - ty is real:
 all its mem - bers for a range of min - i - stries:
 sounds that va - ry all be - speak a com - mon home:
 longed - for im - age in each hu - man heart and face,



breadth of race and class and gen - der, room for doubt and space to heal.
 var - ied gifts with one great mis - sion, "Do this for the least of these."
 long - ing for the end of con - flict and a new life in God's Sha - lom.
 and be - hold how those a - round us can be chan - els of your grace.

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE



1 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
2 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
3 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;

yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth.
yours the ho - san - nas, the dy - ing, re - birth.
yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.

Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame;
Ours the re - joic - ing for na - ture re - claimed;
Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;

ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.

Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;

yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

We turn our hearts to God.

Loving God, you gather us as your beloved people. Open our ears that we may hear your call. Open our hands that we may give them to your service. Open our hearts that we may love all whom you create. Strengthen us by your Spirit that we may serve your world in the grace of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

(Please be seated)



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

Word

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 20:7-13

⁷ O Lord, you have enticed me,
and I was enticed;
you have overpowered me,
and you have prevailed.
I have become a laughingstock all day long;
everyone mocks me.
⁸ For whenever I speak, I must cry out;
I must shout, "Violence and destruction!"
For the word of the Lord has become for me
a reproach and derision all day long.
⁹ If I say, "I will not mention him
or speak any more in his name,"
then within me there is something like a burning fire
shut up in my bones;
I am weary with holding it in,
and I cannot.
¹⁰ For I hear many whispering:
"Terror is all around!
Denounce him! Let us denounce him!"
All my close friends
are watching for me to stumble.
"Perhaps he can be enticed,
and we can prevail against him
and take our revenge on him."
¹¹ But the Lord is with me like a terrifying warrior;
therefore my persecutors will stumble,
and they will not prevail.
They will be greatly shamed,
for they will not succeed.
Their eternal dishonor
will never be forgotten.
¹² O Lord of hosts, you test the righteous;
you see the heart and the mind;
let me see your retribution upon them,
for to you I have committed my cause.
¹³ Sing to the Lord;
praise the Lord!
For he has delivered the life of the needy
from the hands of evildoers.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

(Please stand)

GOSPEL HYMN

*“Guide My Feet”
Stanzas 1, 3, and 4

Leader All

1 Guide my feet
2 Hold my hand
3 Stand by me
4 I'm your child
5 Search my heart

while I run this race.

Yes, my Lord!

Guide my feet
Hold my hand
Stand by me
I'm your child
Search my heart

while I run this race.

Yes, my Lord!

Guide my feet
Hold my hand
Stand by me
I'm your child
Search my heart

while I run this race,

for I don't want to run this race in vain.

Text: African American spiritual
Music: GUIDE MY FEET, African American spiritual; arr. *This Far by Faith*

Arr. © 1999 Augsburg Fortress

***African American Spiritual**

Many African American spirituals and hymns were never credited to their creators or were claimed by other individuals. On weekends when Central uses music or music texts created by people who were kept in chattel slavery, a donation will be made to a Historical Black College and University (HBCU) as a reparation to their descendants. For 2026, Central will be sending donations to Texas Southern University in Houston, Texas.



GOSPEL

Matthew 10:24-39

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the twelve:] ²⁴ “A disciple is not above the teacher nor a servant above the master; ²⁵ it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher and the servant like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

²⁶ “So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered and nothing secret that will not become known. ²⁷ What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. ²⁸ Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather, fear the one who can destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹ Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. ³⁰ And even the hairs of your head are all counted. ³¹ So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

³² “Everyone, therefore, who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven, ³³ but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

³⁴ “Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace but a sword.

³⁵ For I have come to set a man against his father,
and a daughter against her mother,
and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law,

³⁶ and one’s foes will be members of one’s own household.

³⁷ “Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me, ³⁸ and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹ Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

(Please be seated)

SERMON

(Please stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Sing a New World Into Being”

1. Sing a new world in-to be-ing. Sound a bold and hope-ful theme.
2. Sing a new world in-to be-ing where each gen-der class and race
3. Sing a new world in-to be-ing where the home-less find a home.
4. Sing a new world in-to be-ing. Join the an-cient proph-ets' cry

Find a tune for si-lent yearn-ings. Lend your voice and dare to dream:
brings its rain-bow gifts and col-ors to God's lim-it-less em-brace;
Where no child-ren ev-er hun-ger but are filled with God's sha-lom;
for a time of health and plen-ty where all tears have been wiped dry;

dream a church where all who wor-ship find their lives and loves be-long.
where the lines that once di-vid-ed form in- stead the ties that bind.
where all peo-ple work for jus-tice, where all hate and ven-geance cease.
where com-pas-sion flows like wa-ters, pour-ing balm for all who grieve.

Sing a new world in-to be-ing. Sing as Christ in-spires your song!
Sing a new world in-to be-ing: risk trans-form-ing heart and mind!
Sing a new world in-to be-ing: raise the har-mo-nies of peace.
Sing a new world in-to be-ing: live the prom-ise you be-lieve!

Hymn: Sing a New World into Being

This hymn text, by Mary Louise Bringle, is found in the collection “Songs for the Holy Other,” published by the Hymn Society. The preface to the volume states: “In our society and in our churches, we continue to build walls marking ‘out’ and ‘in’.... Songs for the Holy Other aims to provide congregations working to dismantle these walls with a toolbox of hymns by and for those who identify as members of the LGBTQIA2S+ community and their allies. For many members of the LGBTQIA2S+ community, assimilation is not an option; we continue to be othered for our identities, relationship-styles, dis/abilities, race, economic status, and more. The title, Songs for the Holy Other, is a self-conscious claiming of otherness as holy and beloved of God. We who have been labeled as ‘wholly other’ are claiming our holiness, and reclaiming our otherness as a prophetic witness to the church.”

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953
Music: J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813

NETTLETON
8787D



Scan to make a
financial offering.

Anthem: A Boy and a Boy

From the composer: In early 2019, my friend and poet Matthew Stepanic set out alongside fellow poet Jason Purcell with the ambitious plan to open Glass Bookshop, a queer-focused bookstore & community space in Edmonton. As part of their fundraising campaign, I was able to commission a brand-new poem from Matthew—I asked him to write something unapologetically queer and romantic, taking inspiration from “A Boy and a Girl”, the poem by Octavio Paz famously set by Eric Whitacre. This setting of a boy & a boy was commissioned by Pro Coro Canada and Michael Zaugg in 2022. Matthew’s poem adapts the fresh imagery of the original to weave a new narrative of queer summer love becoming something more. My music is lush and direct, focusing on the beauty and emotional depth of this brief poem, and I hope that it will resonate deeply with audiences and singers alike.

This score is dedicated to Matthew, with deepest respect and admiration, for his openness and generosity in our collaborations—I’m thankful to have now set 12 of his poems to music, and I hope to continue amplifying his beautiful queer artistry in the years to come.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Gathered together by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for the church and the needs of the world.

Each petition concludes:

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Trusting you receive all our prayers, we commend our spoken and unspoken prayers to you, O God, through Jesus our Savior. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

(Please be seated)

MUSICAL OFFERING

“A Boy and a Boy”

Stuart Beatch

*Stretched out on the ground: a boy & a boy.
The wind in the wheat; the wheat
in his teeth. He whistles Schumann
while the other sees his smooth image
in every cloud. His face a welcome
token in the blue sky. They savour
oranges & citrus kisses—
but only for the summer.*

*Stretched out across a theatre: a man & a man.
The past in his teeth; his tongue
in a memory. A symphony performs Schumann
while one recalls the shape of that face
like smoke in the sky. They savour
limes & gin kisses—both remembering
the taste of that summer.*

*Stretched out underground: two men.
The story in their bones; their bodies
in the dirt. He chose Schumann for the funeral
& looked for a signal in the sky. An unsmoothed face
in a cloud. Now, they savour silence,
give kisses to the earth under
a single engraved name.*

-Matthew Stepanic



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

Meal

(Please stand)

PRESENTATION HYMN "As Saints of Old"

Hymn 695
Stanzas 2 and 3

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

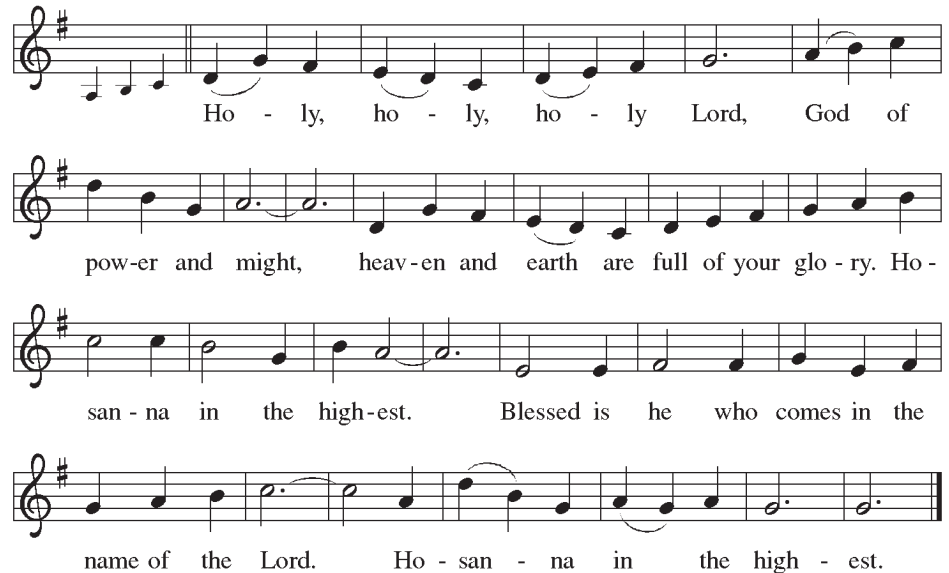
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right...and join in their unending hymn:



Blessed are you, O God of the universe...

...Praise to you, blessed and holy Trinity, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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

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.

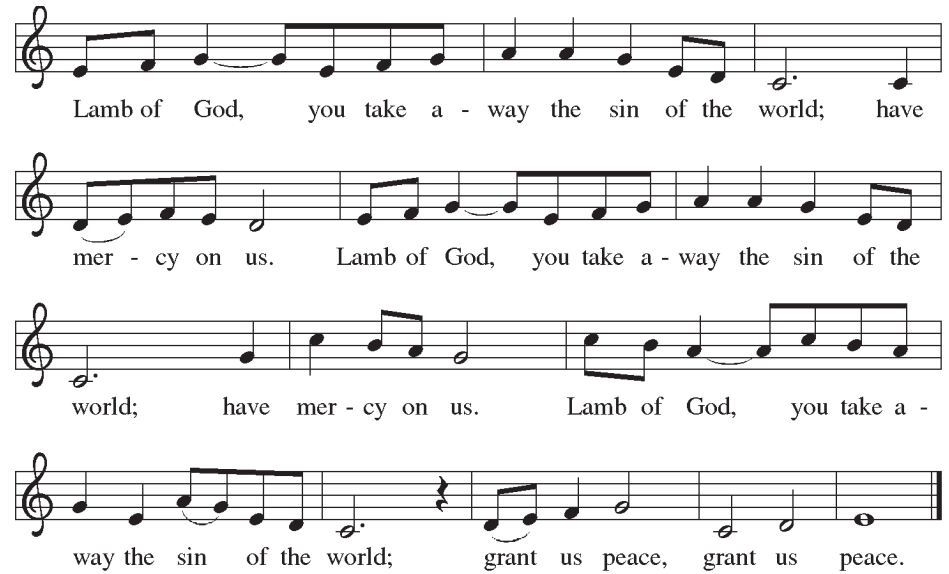
(Please be seated)

All are invited to receive these
gifts of God.

Children are welcome to
come forward and receive
communion or a blessing.

COMMUNION

"Lamb of God"



"Freedom Spell"

Carlisle Evans Peck

*If I could free you from all that you carry
If I could loosen the mortar of every brick laid around you
Dissolve every bar, every wretched cage
Oh believe me, I would, I would*

*Burning bright as stars,
More than bodies can contain.
We are made of something
No one can begin to name
Free in flesh and scars,
What makes me a part from you?
Loos'd of anything someone else believe was true.
What becomes of spirit then?*

*Catching stone by stone lay them down, a circle in the sand
(This is all that we think we are holding
When the tide comes in all will wash away
What then is left?)*

*If I could free me from all that I carry
If I could fold back the layers of violence within me
If I could cast off this shroud, stand naked in the salt sea air
Oh maybe I should*

*Turn your eyes to the sky
Glitter on the atmosphere
See your face reflected
In every twinkling faced near*

*We are magic through and through
We are broken we are whole
Oh the glory of who we are
There it lies beyond control
What becomes a body then?*

*We shine bright as the stars
Bright as ocean's turquoise gleam.*

*We are made to soar
On the wings of memory
Skin and Heart may break,
Spirit ever endures
Everlasting love
It remains when we depart
What becomes of living then?*

-Carlisle Evans Peck

“Build a Longer Table”



1 Build a long - er ta - ble, not a high - er wall,
2 Build a saf - er ref - uge, not a larg - er jail;
3 Build a broad - er door - way, not a long - er fence.
4 When we lived as ex - iles, ref - u - gees a - broad,



feed - ing those who hun - ger, mak - ing room for all.
where the weak find shel - ter, mer - cy will not fail.
Love pro - tects all peo - ple, spar - ing no ex - pense.
Christ be - came our door - way to the reign of God.



Feast - ing to - geth - er, strang - er turns to friend,
For an - y place where jus - tice is de - nied,
When we em - brace com - pas - sion more than fear,
So must our ta - bles wel - come those who roam.



Christ breaks walls to piec - es; false di - vi - sions end.
Christ will breach the jail wall, free - ing all in - side.
Christ tears down our fenc - es: all are wel - come here.
None can be ex - clud - ed; all must find a home.

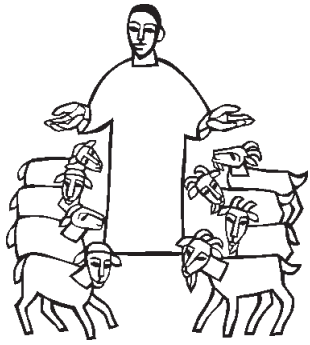
Text: David Bjorlin, b. 1984
Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol
Text © 2018 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

(Please stand)

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

We thank you, O God, that you have strengthened our hearts through this feast of life and salvation. Shine the light of Christ on our path, that we may do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you, now and forever. **Amen.**



*God blesses us and sends
us for shared mission in
our shared world.*

Sending

BENEDICTION

The peace of God,
which surpasses all understanding,
keep your hearts and your minds
in ☩ Christ Jesus.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

“Lift Every Voice and Sing”

Hymn 841

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“Sine Nomine”

John Weaver

Serving Today

Pastor Melissa Pohlman	<i>preacher</i>
Pastor Stephanie Friesen	<i>presider</i>
Tom Edelen	<i>assisting</i>
Ben Longman	<i>reading</i>
Michael Acuña Dee	<i>crucifer</i>
Minneapolis Choir Collective	<i>ensemble</i>
Melanie Ohnstad	<i>organist</i>
Bill Berg	<i>video/sound</i>
Rainbow Circle	<i>hosts</i>

Thanks to:

Sacristans, Usher, and Hospitality Ministry Teams.

Chancel flowers this week are given by Central Lutheran Church in celebration of Reconciling in Christ Weekend.

If you wish to donate flowers, please contact Judy Korogi at 612-788-1288 or receptionist@centralmpls.org.

Portions of the liturgy are from SundaysandSeasons.com

© 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress liturgies license #26515.

Hymns reproduced under OneLicense A-704051.

Gathering Hymn: Text: Carl P. Daw, Jr., b 1944 | Music: Cyril V. Taylor, 1907-1991

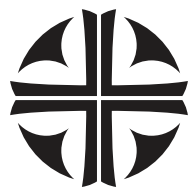
Text © 2016 Hope Publishing Company | Music © 1942, ren. 1970 Hope Publishing Company

Hymn of Praise: Music: J. Berk Carlson, 1937-2017. Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, b. 1953

Prayer of the Day: Resources for RIC Weekend, reconcilingworks.org

Hymn of the Day: Text © GIA Publications, Inc.

Reprinted under One License A-704051



Central Lutheran
MINNEAPOLIS

An Everyday Church for Everyone

Central Lutheran
333 South 12th Street
Minneapolis, MN 55404

(612) 870-4416 | info@centralmpls.org