# The Sixth Sunday of Easter May 25, 2025

10:30 a.m. Worship

We ask that all present sign our Friendship Sheet. After you add your name to the sheet, please pass it toward the center aisle. Then return it to the outside aisle so that you become familiar with our family in Christ. These sheets help our pastor and congregation with our ministry. If you are looking for a church home, we invite



you to join us here at St. Matthew to worship and serve Christ together!

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

PRELUDE Prayer for Peace James Southbridge, Composer

## \*THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen. C: Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

P: In the name of + the One who was, who is, and who is to come. C: Amen.

P: Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism. Holy God, we give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that make a people your own, that restore to wholeness, and empower us to be witnesses in your name. Baptized into you, O Living One, C: make us one as you are one.

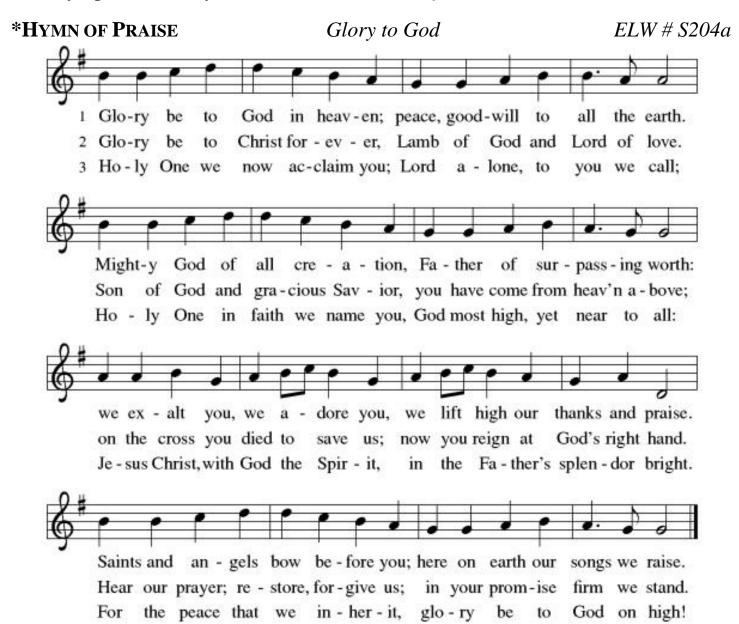
*P*: We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that strengthen believers and give new life to beloved servants of your church; waters that extend your boundless love and cross barriers of our own making. Baptized into you, O Living One, *C*: make us one as you are one.

P: We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that open the hearts of believers and give a voice in the night to those in captivity; waters that set your people on a new path, rejoicing in the Spirit's power. Baptized into you, O Living One, C: make us one as you are one.

*P*: Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One, that our every day is shaped by these waters that give us our very lives in you. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One. *C*: **Amen.** 

#### \*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.



## \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray ... Bountiful God, you gather your people into your realm, and you promise us food from your tree of life. Nourish us with your word, that empowered by your Spirit we may love one another and the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. C: Amen.

#### FIRST READING: Acts 16:9-15

<sup>9</sup> During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." <sup>10</sup> When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

<sup>11</sup> We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, <sup>12</sup> and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. <sup>13</sup> On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. <sup>14</sup> A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. <sup>15</sup> When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

L: The word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

## PSALM 67 (read responsively)

- <sup>1</sup> May God be merciful to us and bless us; may the light of God's face shine upon us.
- <sup>2</sup> Let your way be known upon earth, your saving health among all nations.
- <sup>3</sup> Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.
- <sup>4</sup> Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations on earth.
- <sup>5</sup> Let the peoples praise you, O God;
- let all the peoples praise you.
- <sup>6</sup> The earth has brought forth its increase; God, our own God, has blessed us.
- <sup>7</sup> May God give us blessing, and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe.

## SECOND READING: Revelation 21:10, 22—22:5

<sup>10</sup> And in the spirit [one of the angels] carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God.

<sup>22</sup> I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. <sup>23</sup> And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. <sup>24</sup> The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. <sup>25</sup> Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. <sup>26</sup> People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. <sup>27</sup> But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

<sup>22:1</sup> Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb <sup>2</sup> through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. <sup>3</sup> Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; <sup>4</sup> they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. <sup>5</sup> And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

L: The word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

## \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW # S 205a



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav-ing word.



Let it burn like fire with -in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

## \*Gospel: John 14:23-29

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>23</sup> Jesus answered [Judas (not Iscariot),] "Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. <sup>24</sup> Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me.

<sup>25</sup> "I have said these things to you while I am still with you. <sup>26</sup> But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. <sup>27</sup> Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. <sup>28</sup> You heard me say to you, 'I am going away, and I am coming to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. <sup>29</sup> And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe."

P: The Gospel of the Lord. C: Praise to you, O Christ.

HOMILY Pastor Traci

\*HYMN OF THE DAY

When Peace, like a River *It Is Well with My Soul* 

ELW # 785

#### \*NICENE CREED

P: Let us confess our faith through the words of the Nicene Creed.

C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,\* who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

#### \*PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

- A: God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.
- A: Unite your people with communities of faith throughout the world. Further cooperation between people of different faith traditions and bless our non-Christian neighbors, that we learn and grow in deeper relationship. Hear us, O God. C: Your mercy is great.
- A: Bless the earth with fresh water, clean air, and rich soil. Nurture growing crops and encourage communities developing sustainable farming practices. Help us to live in balance and harmony with your good creation. Hear us, O God. C: Your mercy is great.
- A: Reconcile nations and communities suffering from violence and conflict. Protect refugees, asylum-seekers, and all who flee their homes seeking safety and security. Make all nations safe for both migrants and residents. Hear us, O God. C: Your mercy is great.
- A: Sustain all who are in need, especially individuals and families struggling with trauma or addiction. Support caregivers, especially nurses, doctors, counselors, and social workers. Come alongside all who are ill or struggling. Hear us, O God. C: Your mercy is great.
- A: This Memorial Day weekend, we remember all who have died in military service. Soothe loved ones who mourn, and strengthen support systems for veterans and their families. Bring peace among nations, that war and conflict around the world might cease. Hear us, O God C: Your mercy is great.
- A: We give you thanks for all your saints raised to new life in Christ. Gather us, with them, into the peace only you can give. Hear us, O God. C: Your mercy is great.
- P: We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. C: Amen.

### \*THE PEACE

P: The peace of the LORD be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Please share the peace with those around you using a greeting that is comfortable for both you and them.

#### \*Offertory Prayer

An offering plate is located near the entrance to the nave; we offer thanks for the abundance God has first shown us:

A: Let us pray... Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world.

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.

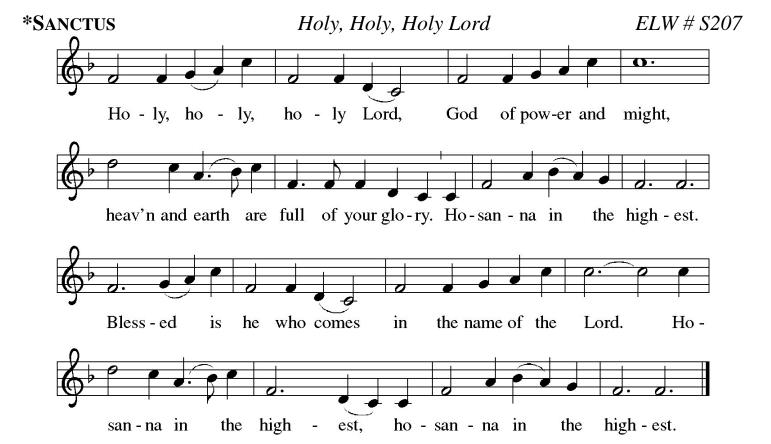
*P:* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

#### \*PROPER PREFACE

P: 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, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



### \*EUCHARISTIC PRAYER & WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*P:* Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign.

You have filled all creation with light and life; heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Through Abraham you promised to bless all nations.

You rescued Israel, your chosen people.

Through the prophets you renewed your promise; and, at this end of all the ages, you sent your Son, who in words and deeds proclaimed your kingdom and was obedient to your will, even to giving his 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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

## C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: Therefore, gracious Father, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us.And, believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast.

## C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

*P*: Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, the spirit of our Lord and of his resurrection, that we who receive the Lord's body and blood may live to the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

## C: Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

- *P*: Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all.
- C: Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. Amen.

#### \*LORD'S PRAYER

- P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:
- 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



#### \*INVITATION

P: Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life. C: Thanks be to God.

**COMMUNION HYMN** 

Now We Join in Celebration

ELW # 462

#### \*BLESSING

P: May the body and blood of our LORD Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. C: Amen.

#### \*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray... Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world. C: Amen.

#### \*BENEDICTION

P: The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come, Sovereign, + Savior, and Spirit, light your way with resurrection dawn, now and always. C: Amen.

\*SENDING SONG

Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!

ELW # 377

#### \*DISMISSAL

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen! C: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P: Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

\*Postlude Ye Nations, Praise the Lord Walter O'Donnell, Composer

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Also, please be advised that our parking lot has surveillance cameras and that our worship service is video recorded and/or live-streamed on social media.

**Today's Altar Flowers** are placed to the Glory of God by the people of St. Matthew.

**Prayers are needed for our homebound:** Mary Jane Allision, Fred Brandenburg, Linda Claar, Mary Creps, Gerry Girolami, Betty Helsel, Allen Heltzel, Ann & Larry Irvin, Ruth Johnson, Audrey & Dan Kensinger, Jean Stonerook, Pat & Robert Winston.

So we can give special attention to those with pressing needs, names were removed at the end of the month. Please let the office know if a name should be added to the prayer list for an extended period of time.

**Prayer Concerns:** Greta Buchart, Doug Bush, Dr. Ramon Burket, Terry Creek, Marilyn Horton, Audrey & Dan Kensinger, Kristen Malloy, John Russell, Dan Sinal, Pat Winston and for our **Missionaries: Robin Abrol, On Eagle's Wings.** 

**Away at School:** Max Baker, Christopher Bush, Olivia Day, Jeff Hoenstine, Lacey Ripka.

**Those Serving in our Armed Forces:** Bradley Buchart, Melody Estep, Colin Guyer, Nathan Smith (Germany).

## **Serving God and Us**

Our Ministers - the People of St. Matthew

Our Pastor – Rev. Traci Marriott

Our Organists – Mary Nelson, DeAnna Cree

Our Missionary Family – Robin Abrol, On Eagle's Wings

Our Administrative Assistant – Jen Ripka

Our Assistant Administrative Assistant – Laura Orczeck

Our Sexton - Phil Claar

Our Assisting Minister – Steve Oswalt

Our Lector – Linda Smith

Our Acolyte – Jay Hoenstine

Our Usher – Ed Kreider

Our Altar Guild – Jackie Lightner, Janet Stewart

Our Audio/Video Tech - Camden Kuster

Our Offering Counters – Jim Barley, Beth Garner

Second Quarter Ventures in Faith to "Youth & Camping"

#### This Week at St. Matthew:

## 814-793-2413: Office Hours

Pastor Traci – Wed. 12:00-3:00 p.m. Jen – Tues. – Fri. 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

#### **This Week Events**

**Today** – 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

Monday – Memorial Day office closed

Tuesday – Knotty Ladies12:30-3:00 p.m., Quilting Room

Talk-O Tuesday 6:00 p.m., La Fiesta, Airport

Wednesday – Employee Meeting 10:00 a.m., Fellowship Hall

Thursday – Ascension of Our Lord Sunday – 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

Worship Service 9:30 a.m.

Graduates' Sunday Reception After Worship

# Graduates' Sunday June 1<sup>st</sup> at 9:30



Celebrating
Jay Hoenstine & Camden Kuster

Reception After Worship

## Our Senior Neighbors Are Invited To A Young at Heart Luncheon



Tuesday, July 15, 2025, at 12:00 PM

Held at St. Matthew Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall

115 East Penn Street

Martinsburg, PA

Please RSVP to the Church Office

(814-793-2413) by July 7<sup>th</sup>

## **Martinsburg Food Pantry**

The Food Pantry will be open for food distribution on Thursdays, June 5 and June 19 from 9:00 to 11:00a.m.

Those helping will be 3 or 4 people from St. John's UCC besides the regular volunteers to distribute food.

**Following are the most needed items for June:** Juice, Cereal, Pasta or Rice Sides, Scalloped Potatoes, Hamburger Helper.

Many thanks for the Food items, Paper products and Monetary gifts!

Linda K. Smith



## Sign up for the print magazine

We heard you—and listened. We have found a way to bring back the magazine's print publication in a quarterly fashion. Each issue (spring, summer, winter and fall) will feature the stories you know and love, along with updates on the church and your ELCA community.

You can sign up today on the sign-up sheet on the Narthex bulletin board or call the church office to let us know you would like to subscribe to the magazine.

The first expected issue to be mailed is Summer 2025. We will keep you updated.





#### Weekend Themes

- Self-care
- Food & Health
- · Arts & Media
- Environment
- Music & Dance
- · Spiritual Life

COST: 120 + housing

sequanota.com/tendfest

Register today



Come to Tend to share in intentional time of faith discussions, good music, art, worship, ecology, and fellowship.

This event will have an open schedule allowing participants the freedom to pick what is right for them. It will include options for multiple workshops, open recreation & hiking, food and time to refresh yourself and the family.



## You're invited to a Life Line Screening event!

Where: St Matthew Lutheran Church 115 E Penn St Martinsburg, PA 16662

When: Tuesday, June 24, 2025

June is Men's Health Month



Life Line Screening is the nation's leader in **Stroke and Cardiovascular Disease**Risk Screenings.

## Trusted by over 10 million customers.

Screenings are simple and painless. Get peace of mind or early detection.

Who should attend: Anyone over the age of 40

## Special Pricing for \$159

- Carotid Artery Disease Screening Peripheral Artery Disease Screening
  - Atrial Fibrillation Screening
     Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening
    - Plus a FREE Hypertension Screening

## 4 ways to book your appointment...

Scan here:



Call 888-814-0466 and use promo code: HSCA001

LLSA.SOCIAL/HSCA

Text the word "circle" to 216-279-1607

These tests cannot detect all risk factors for all conditions, such as and including the presence of coronary artery disease.

Those with abnormal results should discuss possible next steps with their family healthcare provider and ensure they understand the risk and benefits of any additional testing or procedures.



## THIRD CENTURY FUND (ENDOWMENT FUND)

The Third Century Fund continued to have good earnings in 2024 and as a result has \$6,334.60 for distribution in 2025. You or your committee may request funding in writing by contacting Laura Orczeck, chairperson, or committee members: Allen Kuster, Barb Wilt, Beth Garner, or Pastor Traci.

Deadline to submit a request is TODAY, Sunday, May 25, 2025. Funds will be distributed in June of 2025.

The following is from the by-laws of the Third Century Fund and outline the guidelines for fund requests.

#### **PURPOSE**

The St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church Mission Endowment Fund is established to encourage responsible Christian stewardship and to promote the mission of the congregation. In response to God's love and mercy, the Endowment Fund seeks to enhance and expand the mission outreach objectives of St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church. Members and friends of St. Matthew congregation are encouraged to practice responsible Christian Stewardship by making contributions to the Endowment Fund. There are a variety of ways such gifts can be made such as cash, securities, bequests through wills or living trusts, life insurance policies, charitable gift annuities and life estates. The Endowment Fund provides financial support for the church in a manner that is separate from the expenditures normally funded by the annual operating budget of the congregation.

#### **USE OF THE FUND**

All contributions to the St. Matthew Lutheran Church Endowment Fund will be undesignated and added to the principal balance of the fund. The Endowment fund principal balance will be retained and only the dividend income will be used for annual disbursements. Consideration for awarding fund requests will be given using the following guidelines:

- 1. Youth of all ages scholarship support of congregational members and their children; for youth events, for church camps or similar Christian programs, and education.
- 2. Christian outreach ministries and missions of St. Matthew Lutheran Church, its members, and the ELCA.
- 3. Worship and Music support for the worship of St. Matthew.
- 4. Capital Projects major renovations or building projects of St. Matthew.



Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!



- 1 The strife is o'er, the bat tle done; now is the vic tor's
- 2 The pow'rs of death have done their worst; Je sus their le gions
- 3 The three sad days have quick ly sped, Christ ris es glo rious
- 4 Christ closed the yawn ing gates of hell; the bars from heav'n's high
- 5 Lord, by the stripes which wound-ed you, from death's sting free your



tri - umph won! Now be the song of praise be - gun. has dis-persed. Let shouts of ho - ly joy out - burst. from the dead. All glo - ry to our ris - en head! por - tals fell. Let hymns of praise his tri - umph tell. ser - vants too, that we may live and sing to you.

Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia!

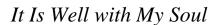
Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia!

Al-le - lu - ia!



Text: Symphonia Sirenum, Köln, 1695; tr. Francis Pott, 1832-1909

Music: VICTORY, Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina, 1525-1594; arr. William H. Monk, 1823-1889





- riv er at tend eth my When peace like a 1 way, when
- Though Sa tan should buf fet, though tri als should come, let
- lives—oh, the He bliss of this glo ri - ous thought; my
- Lord, has - ten the day when our faith shall be sight, the



sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll, what - ev - er my lot, thou hast this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, that Christ hath re - gard - ed my part, but the whole, is nailed to his cross and I not in clouds be rolled back as scroll, the trum - pet shall sound and the a



taught me to is well, it is well with my say, it soul. help - less es - tate, and hath shed his own blood for my soul. it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! Lord shall de - scend; e - ven it is well with my SO soul.



Text: Horatio G. Spafford, 1828-1888

Music: VILLE DU HAVRE, Philip P. Bliss, 1838-1876

#### **COMMUNION HYMN**

#### Now We Join in Celebration

ELW # 462



- 1 Now we join in cel e bra tion at our Sav ior's in vi ta tion,
- 2 Lord, as round this feast we gath er, fill our hearts with ho ly rap ture!
- 3 Lord, we share in this com-mu-nion as one fam-'ly of God's chil-dren,



dressed no more in spir-it som-ber, clothed in-stead in joy and won - der; For this bread and cup of bless-ing are for us the sure pos-sess - ing rec - on-ciled through you, our broth-er, one in you with God our Fa - ther.



for the Lord of all ex - is - tence, put - ting off di - vine tran - scen - dence, of your lov - ing deed on Cal - v'ry, of your liv - ing self, our vic - t'ry, Give us grace to live for oth - ers, serv - ing all, both friends and strang - ers,



stoops a - gain in love to meet us, with his ver - y life to feed us. pledge of your un - fail-ing pres-ence, fore-taste here of heav'n-ly glad - ness. seek - ing jus-tice, love, and mer - cy till you come in fi - nal glo - ry.

Text: Joel W. Lundeen, 1918-1990

Music: SCHMÜCKE DICH, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662 Text © Joel W. Lundeen, admin. Augsburg Fortress



Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926 Music: David N. Johnson, 1922–1987 Text © 1995 Augsburg Fortress. Music © 1969 Contemporary Worship 1, admin. Augsburg Fortress.