The 14th Sunday after Pentecost August 25, 2024

9:30 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

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

- C: Amen.
- P: Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.
- P: God, our provider,
- *C:* 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.
- P: 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.
- C: Amen.

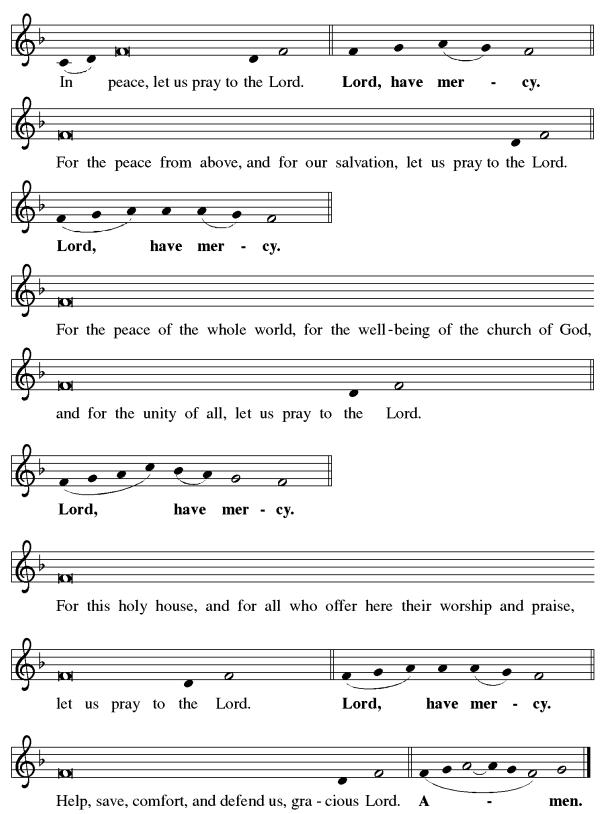
***OPENING HYMN**

S138

*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**







***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Let us pray ... Holy God, your word feeds your people with life that is eternal. Direct our choices and preserve us in your truth, that, renouncing what is false and evil, we may live in you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.C: Amen.

FIRST READING: 1 Kings 8:[1, 6, 10-11] 22-30, 41-43

¹Solomon assembled the elders of Israel and all the heads of the tribes, the leaders of the ancestral houses of the Israelites, before King Solomon in Jerusalem, to bring up the ark of the covenant of the Lord out of the city of David, which is Zion. ⁶Then the priests brought the ark of the covenant of the Lord to its place, in the inner sanctuary of the house, in the most holy place, underneath the wings of the cherubim. ¹⁰And when the priests came out of the holy place, a cloud filled the house of the Lord, ¹¹so that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud; for the glory of the Lord filled the house of the Lord.] ²²Then Solomon stood before the altar of the Lord in the presence of all the assembly of Israel, and spread out his hands to heaven.²³He said, "O Lord, God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth beneath, keeping covenant and steadfast love for your servants who walk before you with all their heart, ²⁴the covenant that you kept for your servant my father David as you declared to him; you promised with your mouth and have this day fulfilled with your hand. ²⁵Therefore, O Lord, God of Israel, keep for your servant my father David that which you promised him, saying, 'There shall never fail you a successor before me to sit on the throne of Israel, if only your children look to their way, to walk before me as you have walked before me.' ²⁶Therefore, O God of Israel, let your word be confirmed, which you promised to your servant my father David.

²⁷"But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Even heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain you, much less this house that I have built! ²⁸Regard your servant's prayer and his plea, O Lord my God, heeding the cry and the prayer that your servant prays to you today; ²⁹that your eyes may be open night and day toward this house, the place of which you said, 'My name shall be there,' that you may heed the prayer that your servant prays toward this place. ³⁰Hear the plea of your servant and of your people Israel when they pray toward this place; O hear in heaven your dwelling place; heed and forgive.

⁴¹"Likewise when a foreigner, who is not of your people Israel, comes from a distant land because of your name ⁴²—for they shall hear of your great name, your mighty hand, and your outstretched arm—when a foreigner comes and prays toward this house, ⁴³then hear in heaven your dwelling place, and do according to all that the foreigner calls to you, so that all the peoples of the earth may know your name and fear you, as do your people Israel, and so that they may know that your name has been invoked on this house that I have built."

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

PSALM 84 (read responsively)

¹How dear to me is your dwelling,

O Lord of hosts!

²My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.

³Even the sparrow has found a home, and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young,

by the side of your altars, O Lord of hosts, my king and my God.

⁴Happy are they who dwell in your house!

They will always be praising you.

⁵Happy are the people whose strength is in you, whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.

⁶Those who go through the balsam valley will find it a place of springs, for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.

⁷They will climb from height to height,

and the God of gods will be seen in Zion.

⁸Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; give ear, O God of Jacob.

⁹Behold our defender, O God;

and look upon the face of your anointed.

¹⁰For one day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather stand at the threshold of the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.

¹¹For the Lord God is both sun and shield, bestowing grace and glory; no good thing will the Lord withhold from those who walk with integrity.

¹²O Lord of hosts,

happy are they who put their trust in you!

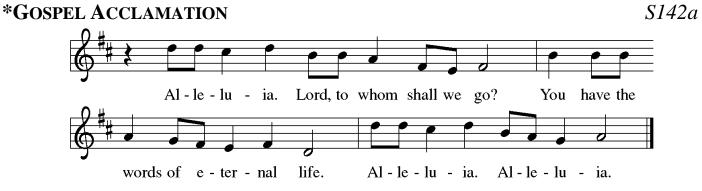
SECOND READING: Ephesians 6:10-20

¹⁰Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. ¹¹Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. ¹²For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. ¹³Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. ¹⁴Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. ¹⁵As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. ¹⁶With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench

all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

¹⁸Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. ¹⁹Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

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



*Gospel: John 6:56-69

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said,] ⁵⁶"Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. ⁵⁷Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. ⁵⁸This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever." ⁵⁹He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

⁶⁰When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?" ⁶¹But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, "Does this offend you? ⁶²Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? ⁶³It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. ⁶⁴But among you there are some who do not believe." For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. ⁶⁵And he said, "For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father."

⁶⁶Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. ⁶⁷So Jesus asked the twelve, "Do you also wish to go away?" ⁶⁸Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. ⁶⁹We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God."

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

HOMILY

***HYMN OF THE DAY**

Bread of Life from Heaven

*APOSTLES' CREED

- *P*: Let us confess our faith through the words of the Apostles' Creed.
- C: 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.

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

***PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

- 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: Holy God, you have the words of eternal life. Lead the church to put its trust in Jesus, the living Word. Direct preachers, teachers, writers, and all the baptized in faithful speech and bold witness. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**
- A: Creator God, we and all creation are sustained by your Word. We pray for all who remind us of our interconnectedness with all living things. Prosper the work of conservation organizations, ELCA advocacy, and local climate justice advocates. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**
- A: God of wisdom, as our nation navigates another election cycle, guide our leaders to act justly for the sake of the world. Bring about fruitful conversation among your people and bring about change where you see fit. Sustain all who serve on juries in their deliberations. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**
- *A:* God of restoration, bring healing and wholeness to all who cry to you. Where pain is sharp, bring a sense of comfort and relief. Where grief runs deep, bring your tender mercy. Care for those on our hearts. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**
- A: God of new life, protect students and teachers for a new school year. Bring an end to school shootings and cycles of violence. Move us to do all that is necessary to ensure a safe future for our children. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**
- A: God of every generation, we remember with thanksgiving all who have completed their baptismal journeys. Strengthen us in our baptismal callings to serve you faithfully until our journey's end. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

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

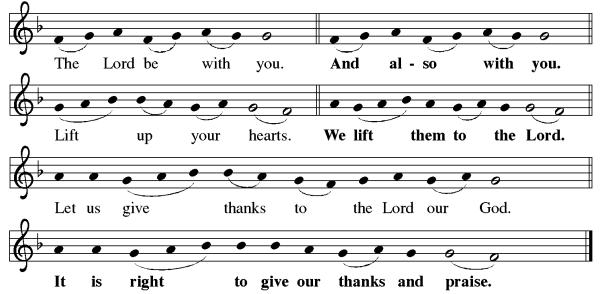
***Offertory Prayer**

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 ... 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. C: Amen.

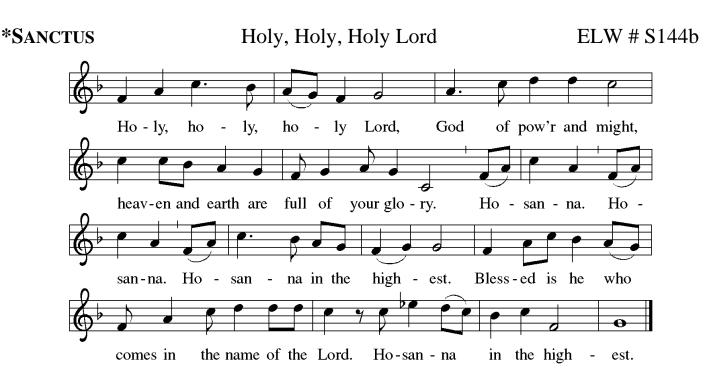
*GREAT THANKSGIVING

ELW # S144a



*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, 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:



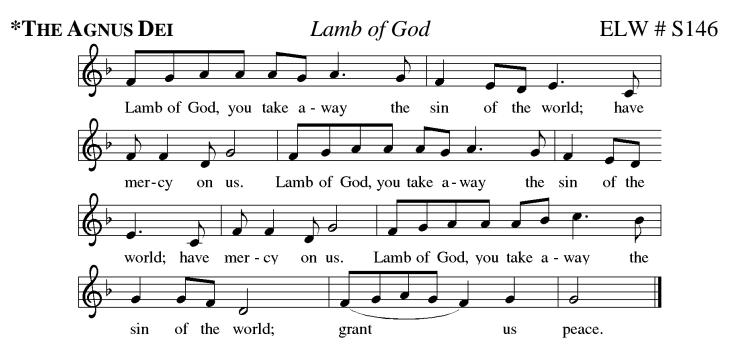
*EUCHARISTIC PRAYER & WORDS OF INSTITUTION

- *P*:You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.
- 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.

- Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.
- To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever. *C:* Amen.

*LORD'S PRAYER

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



*INVITATION

P: Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!

COMMUNION HYMN

I Received the Living God

ELW # 477

*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... 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. C: Amen.

*BENEDICTION

P: The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, + be upon you now and forever. *C*: Amen.

*SENDING SONG

Earth and All Stars!

ELW # 731

*DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. You are the body of Christ. C: Thanks be to God.

*POSTLUDE

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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 – Jane Fagans Our Lector – Jane Hoenstine Our Usher – Randy McGraw Our Altar Guild – Elaine Buchart, Janet Stewart Our Audio/Video Tech – Camden Kuster Our Offering Counters – Jim Barley, Beth Garner Third Quarter Ventures in Faith to "OEW and Missionaries" This Week at St. Matthew:

814-793-2413: Office Hours

Pastor Traci – Wed. 1:00-4:00 p.m. Jen – Mon. Fri.: 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

This Week Events

Today –	14 th Sunday After Pentecost
	Worship Service 9:30 a.m. in Sanctuary
	Backpack Blessing during worship
Monday –	Social Ministry Committee Meeting 6:30 p.m., Zoom
Tuesday –	Knotty Ladies 12:30-3:00 p.m., Quilting Room
Sunday –	15 th Sunday After Pentecost
	Worship Service 9:30 a.m. in Sanctuary

Prayers are needed for our homebound: Mary Jane Allision, Vivian Beach, Fred Brandenberg, Linda Claar, Mary Creps, Gerry Girolami, Betty Helsel, Ruth Johnson, Audrey & Dan Kensinger.

Prayer Concerns: Dawn Alexy, Amy & Family, Avery, Jim Barley, Virginia Barnes, Randy Barrett, Kaye Burket, Tana Byler, Caleb, Warren Campbell, Diane Cappel, Phillip Claar, Dave Clayton, Greg Comer, Terry Creek, Brian Fleck, Ron Focht, Jim Fritz, Joe Harteis, Rodger Hoover & Family, Marilyn Horton, Michelle Iwanski, Baby James, Ruth Johnson, Darren Kreutzer, Darlene Krisco, Linda Lehman, Bill Lively, Kristen Malloy, Karrie McCall & Family, Betty McDowell, Rick McIntyre, Aunt Mica, Carl Miner, Charles Minnick & Family, Pat Mountain & Family, Nathan, Deb Peters, John Russell, Paul Ruth, Karyl Sawinski, Mary Scott, Jane Metz Short, Denny Smith (Shelly Hill), Dorothy Stahl, Jean Stonerook, Cindy Thomas, Steve Torres, Tiffany Townsend, Drew Wenzel, Susan Werner, Jean White, Joel Widmann, Pete Williams, Jody Zelanko, and for our **Missionaries: Robin Abrol, On Eagle's Wings.**

Away at School: Christopher Bush, Olivia Day, Jeff Hoenstine.
Those Serving in our Armed Forces: Bradley Buchart, Melody Estep, Colin Guyer, Nathan Smith (Germany).

Devotionals



"Christ in Our Home" devotional booklets are available at the Usher's Station in the Narthex. Please sign your name if you take one because we are trying to get an accurate count of how many we need to be ordering. If you are unable to attend worship in person and want one mailed to you, please call the office.



The 2024 Altar Flower chart is posted on the Narthex bulletin board. Altar Flowers are a perfect way to remember loved ones or to honor loved ones. The following date is available: 10/27. Please sign up now for the Sunday you wish to place flowers on the Altar. Price -\$40.00. If you would like a Sunday(s) you can also call the church

office at 814-793-2413.

Martinsburg Food Pantry



Volunteers from the Memorial Church of the Brethren will be helping to distribute food on Thursdays, September 5 and September 19 from 9:00 until 11:00 am, along with the regular helpers.



If anyone harvests more vegetables or fruit than can be used, we will welcome it on the dates the pantry is open.

Items most needed for September: Cereal, Ravioli, Vegetable Soup, Crackers, Rice Sides, Peanut Butter

> Many thanks for all your donations, Linda Smith

Supplies for Food Pantry (K-5)



When you are shopping, the Food Pantry is providing school supplies again for the school children in August.

These following items are needed, and you can place them in the school box in the narthex:

Crayola Crayons (24 colors) 12 pack of #2 pencils & large erasers Crayola washable markers (10 colors) Crayola colored pencils (24 color set) Highlighters (yellow, pink & green) Elmer's large glue sticks (.77 oz.) 8½x11 spiral notebooks (3 hole punched) Elmer's washable school glue (4 oz bottle)

Martinsburg Booster Association presents



WEDNESDAY,

OCTOBER 23, 2024





\$170 per person

Taken from his people, Daniel is exiled far from home in the powerful kingdom of Babylon. Now this faithful servant must navigate his new life inside a palace filled with golden statues and shifting empires. As royal pressures mount, Daniel is faced with a dangerous choice. Will his trust in the one true God remain steadfast

through every test of faith?

From the fiery furnace to the infamous den of lions, DANIEL is a spectacular theatrical experience for the whole family.

PRICE INCLUDES:

- Roundtrip Motorcoach Transportation
 - via Raystown Transit
- Reserved Main Floor Seating at 11:00am show
- Dinner stop made on return—Hoss's in Carlisle (on own)

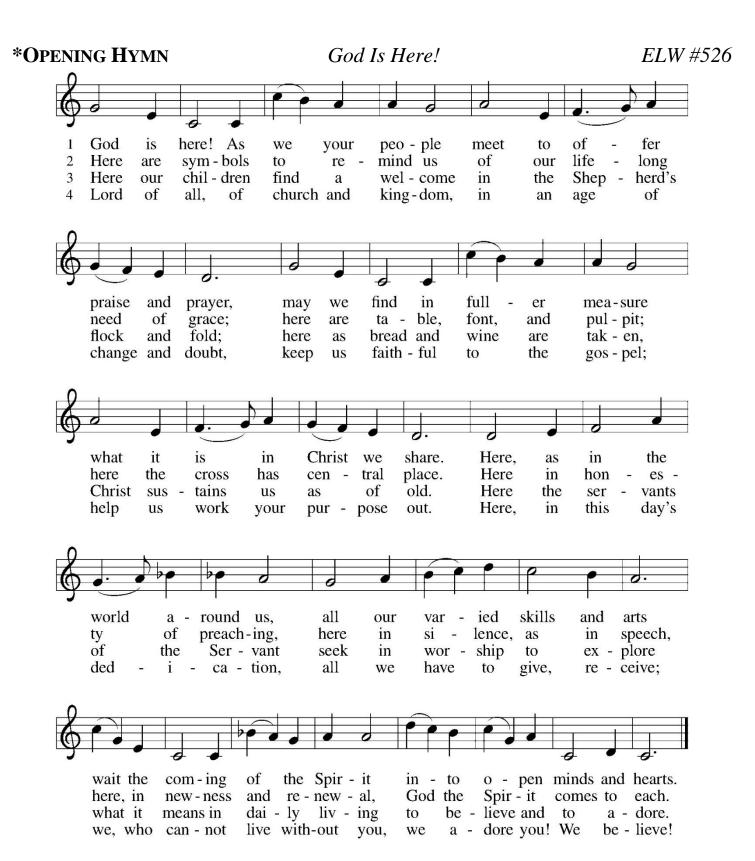
DEPART: 7:00 AM from Morrison Cove Park

DEADLINE for RESERVATIONS and FINAL PAYMENT: September 13, 2024

PAYMENT: Check payable to Duane Bordell or CASH

For Reservations and Information:

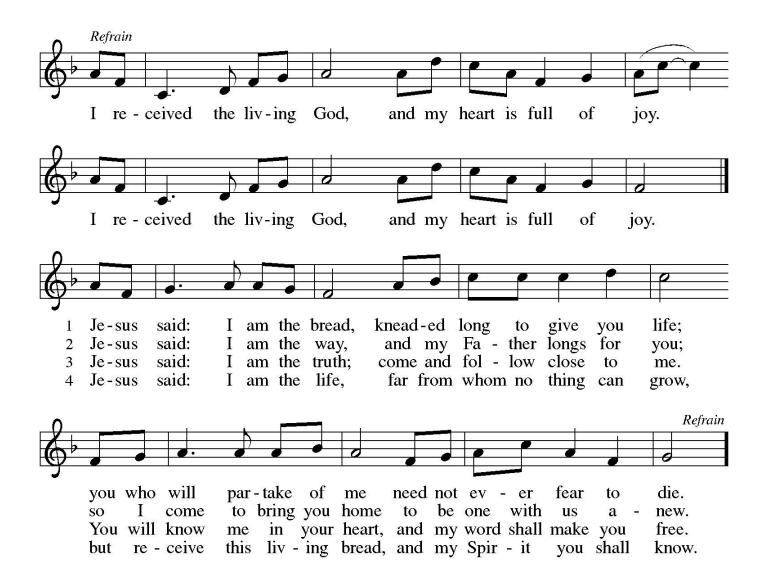
Contact Duane Bordell, Raystown Transit Service at 814-944-2585 1117 Logan Blvd, Altoona, PA 16602





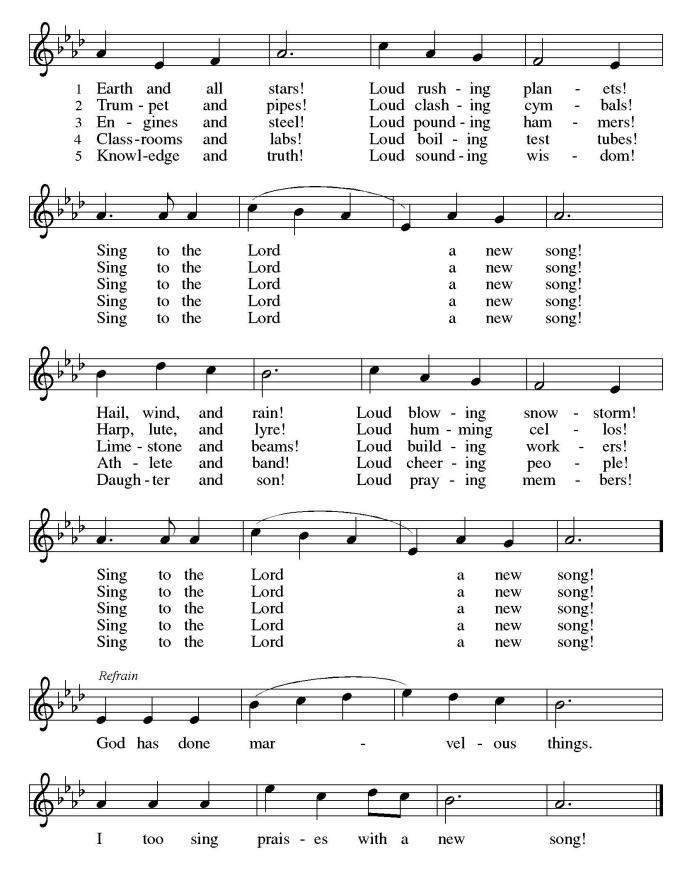
Text: Susan R. Briehl, b. 1952

Music: ARGENTINE SANTO, BREAK NOW THE BREAD; Argentine traditional, refrain; Marty Haugen, b. 1950, stanzas Text and music © 2001 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com 800.442.3358 All rights reserved. Used by permission.



Text: Anonymous Music: LIVING GOD, Anonymous Earth and All Stars!

ELW # 731



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.