

OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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PENTECOST 3 (September 10-November 26, 2023)



Where is Christianity headed? Where are we headed? The prophets of old cried out "Listen!" and the human community gave ear to the voices that might lead them into a more vibrant faith. Today, we continue to listen. We give an ear to scholars, preachers, artists, each other, and communities that have continued in the prophetic tradition as they strive to construct a meaningful faith for our time. Welcome, as together we build on many voices to create a vibrant expression of faith.

WORSHIP ARTS

Each week of this season, you will be guided into a moment of reflection with a prompt that helps reflect on the theme of the day. Those reflections will be integrated into a display that will hold your perspectives and insights throughout the season. As you return from communion, make use of the art tables to share your reflections on the prompt and attach it to one of the banners around the room.

PRELUDE

see insert

WELCOME

TOLLING OF THE BELL *as the bell tolls, please rise as you are able*

OPENING DIALOG *congregation responses **in bold***

We are a community

Embraced by the wonder of God's love.

We are a community forever seeking the light of Christ.

The light that shines in every time, every place, and every life.

Together we foster connections and experiences that bring meaning to life.

Together, we aspire to live with loving hearts, open minds, and hands extended to all.

We are a community

Bathed in God's love for all of creation.

OPENING SONG

see insert

Congregation is seated

PROPHETIC WORDS TO GUIDE US

after the reading:

Ancient wisdom from long ago; may their words inspire us to seek wisdom for our time.

A wisdom to help us break new ground and seek new horizons.

Together we sing to welcome some good news.

Hallelujah



Hal-le, hal-le-lu - jah. Hal-le, hal-le-lu - jah. Hal - le-lu-jah, hal - le-lu-jah,



hal - le-lu-jah. Hal - le-lu-jah, hal - le-lu-jah, hal - le-lu-jah!

Text: Traditional

Music: SYRIAN HALLELUJAH, Syrian traditional

READING

after the reading:

Words of wisdom.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

As you listen to the music, you are invited to take a few deep breaths and reflect on the prompt provided on the screen, or simply allow yourself a moment to explore what is stirring for you on this day.

A CALL TO FIND VOICE (Based on the Identity Statement of OSLC)

Together we hold a place where each can find voice as they long to reflect the Christ for our time.

We hold a place where the path and teachings of Jesus lead us into an experience of the sacred,

Together we strive to honor our varied perspectives and paths as we explore the fullest expression of our evolving faith.

We work to express our spiritual lives through the ways we behave toward each other and all of creation.

We gather committed to life-long learning, expanded compassion, and selfless love as we seek justice in our time.

Here we live as a reflection of Christ for our time.

A TIME OF PRAYER

after each prayer,

Pastor: Listen to your people...

All sing:

Óyenos, Señor

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The first staff contains the melody for the first two phrases: 'Ó - ye - nos, Se - ñor,' and 'ó - ye - nos, Se - ñor.' The second staff contains the melody for the next two phrases: 'Lis - ten to your peo - ple.' and 'Ó - ye - nos, Se - ñor.' The notes are simple quarter and eighth notes, with some phrases ending in a whole note.

Text: Bob Hurd, b. 1950, alt.

Music: ÓYENOS, Bob Hurd

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THE PEACE

May the peace of the Christ, which stirs in each soul, be with you all.

And also with you.

SPECIAL MUSIC

see insert

CELEBRATION OF OUR COMMON LIFE

When Jesus sat at table and broke bread with people from all levels of society, he demonstrated that God's embrace knows no bounds.

All are welcome, all invited to share in God's vision for humanity.

In the sharing of bread and wine, we joyfully receive again the gift of life itself. For as grains of wheat once scattered in the fields have come together to become bread, so we bring our diverse hopes, needs, and joys to become one with the community we share.

This is the Bread of Life!

As grapes are harvested to fill a common cup, so we gather as one with all who long to unite with God's vision for our world.

This is the Cup of Promise!

Holy One, bless this community and the meal we share, so that we may be nourished at this table of grace. We pray.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Spoken September 10th-October 8th

Call/response October 15th-November 26th

INVITATION TO THE MEAL

DISTRIBUTION/WORSHIP ARTS

You are invited to come forward at the direction of the ushers and stand with the others as communion is distributed up front, or let an usher know if you prefer to be served in the pew and the communion assistants will serve you prior to the post communion prayer. Our wafers are gluten-free and you have the choice of wine (red) or grape juice (white). Guided by the prompt on the screen, use the materials on the art tables to share your insights and hang your art on one of the banners along the side walls.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS *please join in singing*

see insert

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

...through bread and wine, we are bound to this community of love.

Thankful for this sacred moment, we embody a grace-filled vision of the human community. Amen.

CLOSING SONG

see insert

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE (***based on Isaiah 55:12; sung first by the choir, then by all***)

You shall go out with joy and be led forth in peace,
The mountains and the hills will break forth in singing,
There'll be shouts of joy, and all the trees of the field
Will clap, will clap their hands.
And all the trees of the field will clap their hands (clap, clap)
The trees of the field will clap their hands (clap, clap)
The trees of the field will clap their hands (clap, clap)
As we go out with joy (clap, clap).

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The Trees of the Field. Words and music © 1975 Lillenas Publishing Company (admin. The Copyright Company). Used by permission, OneLicense A-706446.

WHO WE ARE

We are a community grounded in the life and teachings of Jesus.

- We embrace an open approach to every spiritual journey.
- We ask questions together and value every voice.
- We strive for justice through service to the world.

We seek to be transformed by the path we walk together.

WE ARE A RECONCILING IN CHRIST CONGREGATION

We are a community embraced by the mystery of God's love for all creation.

We look for the Christ shining in every race, every child and family shape, every sexual orientation and gender identity, every physical and mental ability, every economic status, and every faith perspective. Within this dynamic community, we foster meaningful connections and experiences as we live into faith and face the issues of our time.

Together, we strive to live with loving hearts, open minds, and hands extended to all.

"... for all of you are one in Christ." – Gal. 3:2

**PLEASE RETURN THIS BOOKLET AFTER THE SERVICE SO IT MAY BE USED AGAIN
FEEL FREE TO TAKE HOME YOUR WORSHIP INSERT**
