ST JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

learning to embody love

FALL 2023

10:30 am—Holy Eucharist

WELCOME TO ALL WHO WORSHIP HERE

We gather together to give thanks for the grace which is ours in Jesus Christ.
In the name of Christ, welcome.
Children are welcomed in our worship services at St. John's.

SEASON OF CREATION

We are in "Ordinary Time," the season between Pentecost and the church's new year in Advent.
From September 1 through October 4 (and, at St. John's, through October 21),
Christians around the world are celebrating a "Season of Creation,"
an annual month-long period when Christian communities pray and act to protect creation.
Please add your prayers, action and love on behalf of God's good creation during this season.

Sacredness • Belonging • Nourishment
Creativity • Transformation

THE GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE

PRELUDE

Please stand in body or spirit.

GATHERING HYMN

LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION adapted from worship used at Lyndale United Church of Christ in Minneapolis, Minnesota

Presider Come, O Holy Spirit.
People **Come, open us to the wonder of diversity found in creation, in each culture, in each face, in every form of life.**
Presider Come fill us with generosity to share with all the goods and beauty of the earth**.**
People **Come heal the divisions that keep us from recognizing Christ in all people of all genders and ages.**
Presider Come bring us understanding, wisdom, and the courage we need to embrace change and stay on the journey.
People **Come, O Holy Spirit, show us the way.**

Please be seated.

THE LESSON

Following the reading:

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand in body or spirit.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

THE GOSPEL

Gospeler The Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to …
People **Glory to you, O Christ.**

Following the Gospel:

Gospeler This is the Gospel of Christ.
People **Praise to you, O Christ.**

THE SERMON *sitting*

A period of silence is kept..

Please stand in body or spirit.

The Affirmation of Faith

People **We believe in a loving God,**
whose Word sustains our lives and the work of our hands in the world.
We believe in God's flesh among us,
sowing the seeds of life's renewal.
We believe in the Holy Spirit,
binding us as one before God renewing our strength with her own. Amen.

We pray for our partner congregation in Haiti, St. Philippe & St. Jacques, and all medical professionals/nurses, doctors & EMTs. We pray for our earth. The Episcopal Church in Minnesota is committed to praying for and acting to heal our earth. We encourage you to use the following prayer at home, and to allow it to shape your own learning and action to heal our earth:

O God, you are the source of all creation that sustains our life together. By caring for creation, we accept our first vocation, reflecting your tender love and returning our love to you. Climate change and earth's degradation show that we crave and hoard what we do not need, deepening injustice and causing suffering for our most vulnerable neighbors and imperiling ourselves and one another. Yet you have baptized us into brilliant resurrection hope. Through that hope, teach us to love and persevere, and give us the courage to act, so that our bountiful earth can continue, and we can know your beloved community. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Deacon Let us now offer our hearts to God in prayer.

The Shruti Box will play a drone and the leader will offer each petition.
In the silence between each petition, please offer your prayers aloud or in your heart.

Leader We pray for our enemies.

<Silence>

Leader We pray for the sick and the lonely.

<Silence>

Leader We pray for those who have died.

<Silence>

Leader We pray for forgiveness.

<Silence>

Leader We pray for the world.

<Silence>

Leader We pray for love.

<Silence>

Leader We pray for peace.

<Silence>

The Presider adds a concluding Collect.

The Confession

Deacon Let us confess our sins against God, our neighbors and ourselves.
People **O God, we confess that the sins of injustice distort your divine plan for all life.**
Deacon You created us in divine likeness, diverse and beautiful; in every person, every race is your image. But too often we fail to recognize your image in all:
People **Forgive us.**
Deacon You created us in divine freedom for wholeness and justice for all. But too often we fail to embody your love and peace for all people.
People **Forgive us.**
Deacon You created us for divine abundance, to tend and share: but too often we fail to co-create the Beloved Community that gives all access to your abundant life.
People **Forgive us.**
Presider Receive the good news: in God's gift of grace we are forgiven and set free to live as God intends, for the common good of all.
People **Amen. Thanks be to God.**

The Peace

Presider The peace of Christ be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

Please greet those around you.

Please be seated.

Announcements

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

Offertory Music

The offering of money is our way of showing thanks to God and supporting the ministry of our church. Thank you for your generous financial offerings toward the mission of St. John's, as well as your time, compassion, and your uniqueness as a human being. We prefer financial donations to be made online through this QR code. If needed, you can also use the offering plate or mail a check to the church office.
If you are a guest, please know that we consider your presence with us gift enough.

Please stand in body or spirit.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

adapted from liturgy used at St. Anne's Episcopal Church in Sunfish Lake, Minnesota

Presider God be with you
People **And also with you**

Presider Lift up your hearts
People **We lift them to God.**

Presider Blessed are you, O God, for you bring forth the fruits of the earth and the waters of life to sustain us each day in body, soul, and spirit.

People **In days of old you gave to your servants Abraham and Sarah bread to strengthen their family on their journey, and wine to make them glad.**

Presider You called Moses and his people out of bondage and refreshed them with food and water in the wilderness.

People **You gave to Mary, Joseph, and Jesus food and drink to share.**

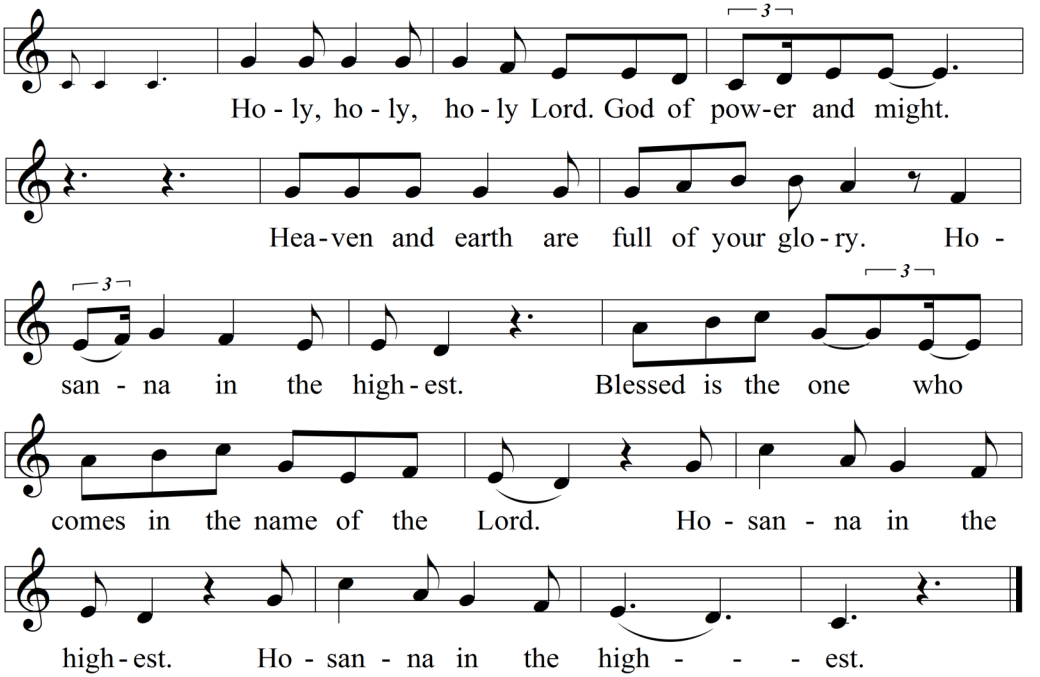
Presider In every age and every place you have nourished and sustained all who have looked to you for life.

People **Now here at your table, you offer to us bread and wine for the journey to nourish us as companions on the way.**

Presider With those who have gone before us, and with our brothers and sisters and siblings beside us, we join in the song of your unending greatness:

SANCTUS

Holy, holy, holy



Music: Wendy Smith (b. 1965), Chad Smith (b. 1960). © 2015 Chad Smith. Reprinted with permission.

Presider We now remember a timeless story: Among friends, gathered around a table, Jesus took bread, blessed it, broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "This is my body which was given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." And then he took the cup of wine and gave it to his friends, saying, "This cup is the new relationship with God. Take this and share it. I shall drink wine with you next in the coming kingdom of God."

People **Following Jesus' example, we take this bread and this wine and celebrate God's goodness.**

Presider Loving God, be present with us now as we do here what Jesus did in an upstairs room. Breathe your Spirit upon this bread and this wine, that they may be heaven's food and drink for us, renewing, sustaining, and making us whole. Breathe your Spirit upon us, that we may be your body on earth, loving and caring for the world.

People **The bread of life is given for the life of the world. Whoever eats it will never hunger. The water of life flows from the center of heaven. Whoever drinks it will never thirst.**

The Lord's Prayer

The Prayer of Jesus paraphrase used at Lyndale United Church of Christ

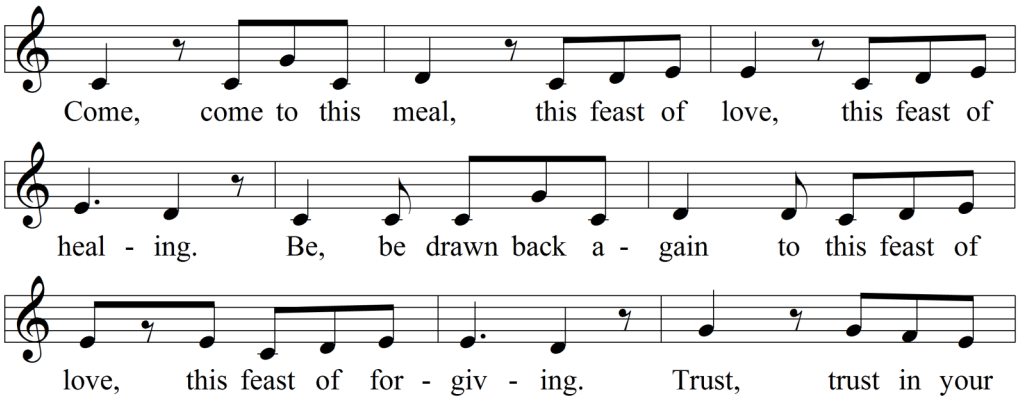
Presider In the Spirit of Christ we now pray:

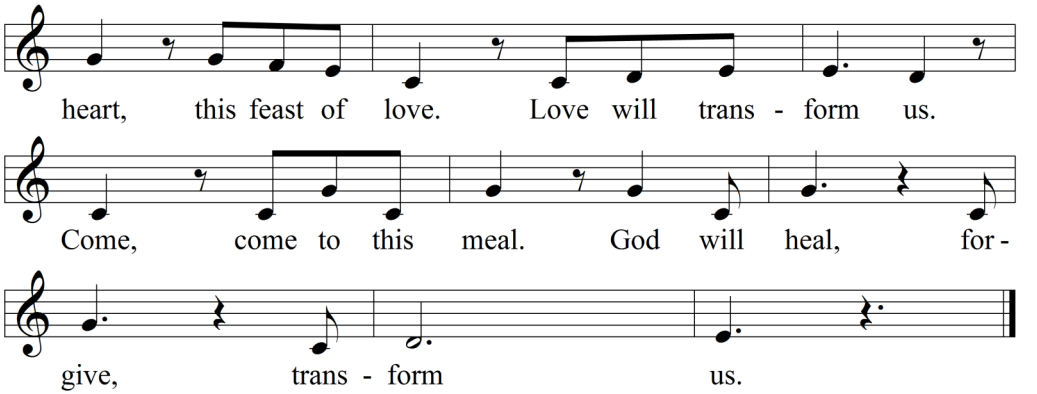
People
Heavenly Mother, Father God,
Holy and blessed is your true name.
We pray for your reign of peace to come,
We pray that your good will be done,
Let heaven and earth become one.
Give us this day the bread we need,
Give it to those who have none.
Let forgiveness flow like a river between us, from each one to each one.
Lead us to holy innocence beyond the evil of our days—
Come swiftly, God our Parent, come.
For yours is the power and the glory and the mercy.
Forever your name is All in One. Amen.

The Breaking of Bread

Fraction Anthem

Feast of Love





Text and Music: *Feast of Love,* Wendy Smith (b. 1965); © 2019 Wendy Smith. Reprinted with permission.

The Invitation to Communion

Presider The gifts of God for the people of God; holy food for holy people.
People **May we who share these gifts be found in Christ and Christ in us.**

Please be seated.
All are invited to receive Holy Communion. The bread will be placed in your open palm.
You may eat it and then sip from the chalice, or you may dip the bread into the wine when it is offered.
Gluten-free communion wafers are available for those with food allergies.
Please tell the person offering you the bread that you require the wafer.

Communion Music

Please stand in body or spirit.

The Post Communion Prayer

People **In deep gratitude for this moment, this meal, and for these people, we give ourselves to you, most holy God. Take us out into the world to live as changed people because we have shared the Living Bread and cannot remain the same. Ask much of us, expect much from us, encourage many through us. Amen.**

Blessing

Presider We are now sent forth as the body of Christ.
People **Sent forth as Jesus, to love and forgive.**

Presider When we hold onto offenses, the burden is ours.
People **When we forgive, all are set free.**

Presider Breathe out all judgment.
People **Breathe in God's grace.**

Presider Breathe deeply, and go in peace. And the blessing of God, Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit, be within and among you forever.

SENDING HYMN

DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE

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ST. JOHN'S MISSION STATEMENT

We celebrate the gift of Christian community and welcome all, without distinction, to share the joy and pain of life's passages. We commit ourselves to personal and spiritual maturity, both traditional and innovative worship, the healthy nurturing of children, and reaching out beyond the Church, seeking Christ in all persons.

ST JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH • 4201 Sheridan Ave South, Minneapolis, MN 55410
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MINISTERS	All the Members of St. John's
RECTOR	The Reverend Lisa Wiens Heinsohn
PRIEST ASSOCIATES	The Reverend Dr. Heidi Joos
	The Reverend John Bellaimey
DEACON	The Reverend Rex McKee
MINISTER FOR SUSTAINABLE MISSION	The Venerable Rena Turnham
DIACONAL INTERN	Colleen Connolly Swope
SENIOR WARDEN	Laura Meister
JUNIOR WARDEN	Doug Mensing
MINISTER OF CHILDREN, YOUTH, & FAMILIES	Heather Miller
MINISTER OF MUSIC	Chad Smith
CHILDREN'S CHOIR DIRECTOR	Wendy Smith
COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR	Sophie Callahan
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSOCIATE	Angie Goetzke
BOOKKEEPER	Hillary Clayburgh
SPECIAL BULLETINS	Jenny Lindberg
BUILDING CARETAKER	John McKee