



# **Holy Eucharist**

*with the*

# **Rite of Installation**

**of the 79th Bishop of the North Carolina Synod  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

*The Rev. Emily K. Hartner*

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**November 15, 2025**

Christ Lutheran Church | Charlotte, North Carolina



**North Carolina Synod**

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

**PRESIDING BISHOP**  
**The Rev. Yehiel Curry**



The Rev. Yehiel Curry is the presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). Elected at the ELCA Churchwide Assembly in Phoenix, Ariz. on July 30, 2025, Presiding Bishop Curry began this role on October 1, 2025.

Previously, he served as bishop of the ELCA Metropolitan Chicago Synod, where he led a synod staff and 160 congregations by providing pastoral care, preaching, teaching, administering sacraments, and overseeing ordinations and installations. He was elected synod bishop in 2019 and reelected in spring 2025. During that time, he chaired the ELCA Conference of Bishops, fostering ecumenical relationships and theological engagement across the Lutheran communion.

Prior to his role as bishop of the Metropolitan Chicago Synod, Presiding Bishop Curry served as the mission developer (2007–2012) and pastor (2013–2019) of Shekinah Chapel Lutheran Church in Riverdale, Ill. He earned a Bachelor of Arts from Lewis University in Romeoville, Ill., and a Master of Divinity from the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago. He and his wife, LaShonda, are the proud parents of three daughters.

**NEW BISHOP**  
**The Rev. Emily K. Hartner**



The Rev. Emily K. Hartner serves as the 79th bishop, and the first female bishop, of the North Carolina Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). Elected at the North Carolina Synod Assembly

in Greensboro, NC, on May 31, 2025, she began her term on August 1, 2025. She is a child of the NC Synod having received much faith formation at her home congregation of Beth Eden Lutheran Church in Newton, NC.

She earned a BS from Davidson College, an MDiv from Yale Divinity School, and an STM from the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia (now United Lutheran Seminary). Prior to her role as bishop, she participated in the ELCA's Young Adults in Global Mission program, working with the unhoused community in Edinburgh, Scotland. She also served two congregations in North Carolina: St. Mark's Lutheran Church and Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, both in Charlotte. She lives in Huntersville with her husband, Ian, and son, Oliver, and enjoys tap dancing in her free time.

# Installation of the Bishop

GATHERING

**PRELUDES**

*God of Grace and God of Glory*

setting, Paul Manz

Mark Johanson, organ

*A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

setting, Arnold Sherman

Handbells Choir

*Largo (from "Xerxes")*

G.F. Handel, arr. Barnes

Brass Ensemble

*A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

setting, Michael D. Costello



All 1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -  
 All 2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -  
 Choir 3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat - 'ning to de -  
 All 4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who



to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and  
 ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom  
 your us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they  
 fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with



wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe  
 God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?  
 can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;  
 weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,



has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might  
 The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,  
 in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;  
 goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,



he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.  
 God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.  
 God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.  
 they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

*The Call*


Vaughan Williams

Ian Hartner, solo

**PROCESSIONAL  
HYMN**


*What Is This Place/  
Making Their Way*

*Dufner, Valerius; Oosterhuis, tr. Smith*




*Choir* 1. What is this place where we are meet - ing?  
*Choir* 2. Mak - ing their way down through the a - ges,  
*High Voices* 3. Words from a - far, stars that are fall - ing,  
*Low Voices* 4. Mak - ing their way all the world o - ver,  
*All* 5. And we ac - cept bread at this ta - ble,  
*All* 6. Mak - ing our way sea - son by sea - son,


The assembly stands and turns to face the cross as it is processed.




On - ly a house, the earth its floor. Walls and a roof  
 sin - ners and saints have heard God's call: wealth - y and poor,  
 sparks that are sown in us like seed: names for our God,  
 Chris - tians as - sem - ble on this day, hear - ing the Word,  
 bro - ken and shared, a liv - ing sign. Here in this world,  
 pil - grims, we jour - ney till life's end, trav - el - ing light,



shel - ter - ing people, win - dows for light, an o - pen door.  
 pow - er - ful, low - ly, Je - sus' dis - ci - ples, one and all.  
 dreams, signs and won - ders sent from the past are all we need.  
 shar - ing the Ban - quet, learn - ing to walk in Je - sus' way.  
 dy - ing and liv - ing, we are each oth - er's bread and wine.  
 shar - ing the rich - es, car - ing for strang - er as for friend,



Yet it be - comes a bod - y that lives  
 Gath - ered for wor - ship, of - fer - ing thanks,  
 We in this place re - mem - ber and speak  
 Mem - bers of Christ, u - nit - ed in love,  
 This is the place where we can re - ceive  
 till in the joy of long - ing ful - filled,



when we are gath - ered here, and know our God is near.  
 the great - est with the least have come to share this feast.  
 a - gain what we have heard: God's free re - deem - ing word.  
 they seek our God to know, and so to - geth - er grow.  
 what we need to in - crease: our jus - tice and God's peace.  
 to - geth - er we will come to our e - ter - nal home.

**GREETING**

*The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.*

led by

The Rev. Yehiel Curry,  
 Presiding Bishop of the ELCA

And also with you.

**KYRIE**

*Cantor: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.*



*All:* Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ have \_\_\_\_\_ mer - cy.

**Cantor:** For the peace from above, and for our salvation,  
let us pray to the Lord.



**All:** Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ have \_\_\_\_\_ mer - cy.

**Cantor:** For the peace of the whole world,  
for the well-being of the Church of God,  
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



**All:** Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ have \_\_\_\_\_ mer - cy.

**Cantor:** For this holy house, and for all who offer here their  
worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.



**All:** Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ have \_\_\_\_\_ mer - cy.

**Cantor:** Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord.



**All:** A - - - men.

**HYMN OF PRAISE**  
*This Is the Feast*



**All:** This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

**Choir: 1.** Worthy is Christ the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.



**All:** This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



High Voices: 2. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His.



All: This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



Low Voices: 3. Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



All: 4. Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er, A - men.



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Choir:

5. For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.



All: This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

led by  
The Rev. Yehiel Curry,  
Presiding Bishop of the ELCA

*Almighty God, through your Son Jesus Christ you gave the holy apostles many gifts and commanded them to feed your flock. Inspire all pastors to proclaim your word diligently and your people to receive it willingly, that finally we may receive the crown of eternal glory; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.*

**Amen.**

## WORD

### FIRST LESSON *Numbers 11:16-17* (NRSV)

(sit)  
read by  
Dr. Caroline Reinke

So the Lord said to Moses, "Gather for me seventy of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tent of meeting and have them take their place there with you. I will come down and speak with you there, and I will take some of the spirit that is on you and put it on them, and they shall bear the burden of the people along with you so that you will not bear it all by yourself."

*The word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

*The choir sings the refrain once and the assembly repeats it.*

**Psalm 121**  
Erickson

Musical notation for Psalm 121, consisting of two staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are: "I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come?"

- Cantor:**
1. I lift up my eyes to the hills;  
from where is my help to come?
  2. My help comes from the Lord,  
the maker of heav'n and earth.
  3. The Lord will not let your foot be moved,  
nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.
  4. Behold, the keeper of Israel  
will neither slumber nor sleep. *All repeat the Refrain*
  5. The Lord watches over you;  
the Lord is your shade at your right hand.
  6. The sun will not strike you by day,  
nor the moon by night.
  7. The Lord will preserve you from all evil  
and will keep your life.
  8. The Lord will watch over your going out and your coming in,  
from this time forth forevermore. *All repeat the Refrain*

**SECOND LESSON**  
**2 Corinthians 5:11-21**  
**(NRSV)**

read by  
Mr. Larry Lippert

Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade people, but we ourselves are well known to God, and I hope that we are also well known to your consciences. We are not commending ourselves to you again but giving you an opportunity to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast in outward appearance and not in the heart. For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves but for the one who for their sake died and was raised.

From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we no longer know him in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; look, new things have come into being! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ: be reconciled to God. For our sake God made the one who knew no sin to be sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

*The word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL**  
**ACCLAMATION**  
(stand)

**Choir:** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Musical notation for the Gospel Acclamation, consisting of one staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are: "All: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia."

Choir: Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.

Two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The melody is simple and repetitive. The lyrics are: *All: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.*

**HOLY GOSPEL**  
**Luke 24:13-35 (NRSV)**

*The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 24th chapter.*  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

read by  
The Rev. Yehiel Curry,  
Presiding Bishop of the ELCA

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see him." Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

*The Gospel of the Lord.*  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**  
(sit)

Presiding Bishop Yehiel Curry

**HYMN OF THE DAY**  
**Day of Arising**

*Palo Cherwien, Schalk;*  
*setting, David Cherwien*  
(stand)

Musical notation for the hymn. The melody is simple and repetitive. The lyrics are: *Choir: Day of a - ris - ing, Christ on the road - way,  
All: When we are walk - ing, doubt - ful and dread - ing,  
Choir: Lo, I am with you, Je - sus has spo - ken.  
All: Christ, our com - pan - ion, hope for the jour - ney,*



un - known com - pan - ion walks with his own.  
 blind - ed by sad - ness, slow - ness of heart,  
 This is Christ's prom - ise, this is Christ's sign:  
 bread of com - pas - sion, o - pen our eyes.



When they in - vite him, as fades the first day,  
 yet Christ walks with us, ev - er a - wait - ing  
 when the church gath - ers, when bread is bro - ken,  
 Grant us your vi - sion, set all hearts burn - ing



and bread is bro - ken, Christ is made known.  
 our in - vi - ta - tion: Stay, do not part.  
 there Christ is with us in bread and wine.  
 that all cre - a - tion with you may rise.

## NICENE CREED

led by

Mr. Cameron McCall

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; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. 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. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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.

## INSTALLATION OF BISHOP

### PRESENTATION

(sit)

led by

Mr. Cameron McCall

*Leader: I present Emily Kuhn Hartner, who has been elected and called by the church, for installation into the office of bishop of the North Carolina Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.*



### ADDRESS AND QUESTIONS

led by:

The Rev. Virginia Aebischer,  
Bishop of the  
South Carolina Synod

The Rev. Dr. Phyllis Milton,  
Bishop of the Virginia Synod

The Rev. Dr. Kevin Strickland,  
Bishop of the  
Southeastern Synod

The Rev. Pedro Suarez,  
Bishop of the  
Florida-Bahamas Synod

*A reading from John: Jesus said, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you. Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." (John 20:21-23)*

*A reading from Matthew: Jesus said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." (Matthew 28:18-20)*

*A reading from the Acts of the Apostles: Take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you guardians, to feed the church of God that he obtained with the blood of his own Son. (Acts 20:28)*

*A reading from Second Timothy: Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved by him, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly explaining the word of truth. (2 Timothy 2:15)*

*And again: Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us. (2 Timothy 1:13-14)*



The Rev. Yehiel Curry,  
Presiding Bishop  
of the ELCA

*Presiding Bishop: To you is being given the care of the pastors, deacons, and congregations of this synod. I ask you in the presence of God and of this assembly: will you assume the office of bishop?*

The Rev. Emily Hartner,  
Bishop of the  
North Carolina Synod

*Response: I will, and I ask God to help me assume the office of bishop of the North Carolina Synod.*

*Presiding Bishop: Will you be faithful in your office? Will you commit yourself to this new trust and responsibility, in the confidence that it comes from God through the call of the church?*

*Response: I will, and I ask God to help me.*

*Presiding Bishop: Will you carry out this ministry in accordance with the holy scriptures and the confessions of the Lutheran church, and in harmony with the constitutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America?*

*Response: I will, and I ask God to help me.*

*Presiding Bishop: Will you be diligent in your study of the holy scriptures and in your use of the means of grace? Will you love, serve, and pray for God's people, nourish them with the word and sacraments, and lead them by your own example in faithful service and holy living?*

*Response: I will, and I ask God to help me.*

*Presiding Bishop: Will you give faithful witness in the world, that God's love may be known in all that you do?*

*Response: I will, and I ask God to help me.*

*Presiding Bishop: Will you guide, encourage, and support the ministers and the congregations of this synod in their ministries? Will you be an advocate for the ministries of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, and will you support this church's work with global and ecumenical partners?*

*Response: I will, and I ask God to help me.*

*Presiding Bishop: Almighty God, who has given you the will to do these things, graciously give you the strength and compassion to perform them.*

**People: Amen.**

The assembly is invited to stand as they are able.

*Presiding Bishop: People of God, representatives of this synod, will you receive Emily as a servant of God and a shepherd in the church of Jesus Christ?*

**People: We will, and we ask God to help us.**

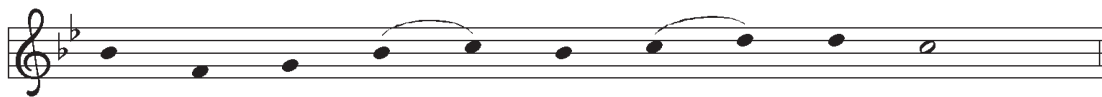
*Presiding Bishop: Will you pray for her, help and honor her for her work's sake, and in all things strive to live together in the peace and the unity of Christ?*

**People: We will, and we ask God to help us.**

**HYMN OF  
INVOCATION**  
*Creator Spirit,  
Heavenly Dove*  
Maurus



1 Cre - a - tor Spir - it, heav'n - ly dove,  
2 To you, the Com - fort - er, we cry;  
3 In you, with grac - es sev - en - fold,



de - scend up - on us from a - bove;  
to you, the gift of God most high,  
we God's al - might - y hand be - hold;



with grac - es man - i - fold re - store  
true fount of life, the fire of love,  
while you with tongues of fire pro - claim

Participating ecumenical guests  
come forward during the hymn.

your crea - tures as they were be - fore.  
the soul's a - noint - ing from a - bove.  
to all the world God's ho - ly name.

7 Praise to your e - ter - nal mer - it,  
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it. A - men.

## THANKSGIVING

*Presiding Bishop: The Lord be with you.*

**People: And also with you.**

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

**People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*Presiding Bishop: Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we give you thanks that by your Holy Spirit you sustain the church. By the power of the Holy Spirit, you call, gather, enlighten, and sanctify the whole church.*

## LAYING ON OF HANDS

Participating are:

The Rev. Yehiel Curry,  
Presiding Bishop of the ELCA

The Rev. Dr. Timothy Smith,  
Bishop Emeritus of the  
North Carolina Synod

The Rt. Rev. Samuel S. Rodman,  
Bishop of the Episcopal  
Diocese of North Carolina

*Presiding Bishop: Pour out your Spirit upon Emily to empower and enlighten her ministry as a bishop in your church. Sustain her as a shepherd who tends the flock of Christ with love and gentleness, and oversees the ministries of the church with vision and wisdom. Uphold her as a faithful steward of your holy word and life-giving sacraments and a strong sign of reconciliation among all people. Give courage and fortitude to sustain her in this ministry. We ask this through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior and Lord, through whom all glory and power and honor are yours in your holy church, both now and forever.*

**People: Amen.**

*Presiding Bishop: The office of bishop is now committed to you in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.*

**People: Amen.**

Participating guests return to their seats.

## BLESSING

Addressing the newly installed bishop, the presiding minister proclaims God's blessing.

*The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, make you complete in everything good so that you may do God's will, working in you that which is pleasing in God's sight; through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever.*

**Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

(kneel/sit)

led by  
Mr. Cameron McCall

*With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation. Holy eternal God, you have given us...*

*Hear us, O God,  
Your mercy is great.*

*Remember to rekindle the gift of God that is within you. For God did not give us a spirit of timidity but a spirit of power and love and self-control.*

**Amen.**

## GIVING OF THE BISHOP'S CROSS

(sit)

led by  
The Rev. Dr. Timothy Smith



**PEACE** *Bishop: The peace of Christ be with you always.*  
 People: And also with you.

MEAL

**MUSICAL OFFERING**



Place cash or checks in Give envelopes, located in pew racks, and drop in offering plate. Gifts will be given to the ELCA's Lutheran Disaster Response. You may also give online via QR Code.

*I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*  
 Tom Trenney  
 Massed Choir

**OFFERTORY**  
*Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful*  
 (stand)

Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
 bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that  
 we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of  
 all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble  
 with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

**PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS**

Oliver Hartner, Max Kuhn, Grace Kuhn

**PRAYER** *Let us pray. Merciful Father,*  
 we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**GREAT THANKSGIVING**

led by  
 The Rev. Emily Hartner,  
 Bishop of the  
 North Carolina Synod

**P** The Lord be with you. **C** And al-so with you.  
**P** Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

**SANCTUS**  
**Holy, Holy, Holy**

*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. 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:*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of Your glo - ry: ho - san - na in the high - est. (interlude)  
Bless - ed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

**EUCCHARISTIC**  
**PRAYER**

*O God most mighty, O God most merciful, O God our rock and our salvation, hear us as we praise, call us to your table, grant us your life. When the earth was a formless void, you formed order and beauty. When Abraham and Sarah were barren, you sent them a child. When the Israelites were enslaved, you led them to freedom. Ruth faced starvation, David fought Goliath, and the psalmists cried out for healing, and full of compassion, you granted the people your life. You entered our sorrows in Jesus our brother. He was born among the poor, he lived under oppression, he wept over the city. With infinite love, he granted the people your 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.*

*Remembering his death, we cry out Amen.*

**Amen.**

*Celebrating his resurrection, we shout Amen.*

**Amen.**

*Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead Amen.*

**Amen.**

*O God, you are Breath: send your Spirit on this meal. O God, you are Bread: feed us with yourself. O God, you are Wine: warm our hearts and make us one. O God, you are Fire: transform us with hope. O God most majestic, O God most motherly, O God our strength and our song, you show us a vision of a tree of life with fruits for all and leaves that heal the nations. Grant us such life of the Father to the Son, the life of the Spirit of our risen Savior, life in you, now and forever.*

**Amen.**

**LORD'S PRAYER**

The assembly is invited to pray in the language or translation of their choice.

**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.**

# HOLY COMMUNION

(sit)

We will receive communion through intinction at several stations throughout the sanctuary. Each intinction has dark wine and light grape juice. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. Those who desire may approach the communion rail to kneel.

## AGNUS DEI Lamb of God

All: Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy on us.

**4**  
(interlude)

Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world,

**4**  
(interlude)

have mer-cy on us. (interlude) Lamb of God, You take a-way the

**2**  
(interlude)

sin of the world, grant us peace. (interlude) A - men.

## COMMUNION HYMN Welcome Table

Spiritual

1 I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel - come ta - ble,  
2 I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk . . . and hon - ey,  
3 I'm a-goin'-a wade'cross Jor - dan's riv - er,

I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel-come ta-ble, some of these days.  
I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk . . . and hon-ey, some of these days.  
I'm a-goin'-a wade'cross Jor - dan's riv - er, some of these days.

I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel - come ta - ble,  
I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk . . . and hon - ey,  
I'm a-goin'-a wade'cross Jor - dan's riv - er,

I'm goin' - a eat at the wel - come ta - ble, some of these days.  
I'm goin' - a feast on milk . . . and hon - ey, some of these days.  
I'm goin' - a wade'cross Jor - dan's riv - er, some of these days.

## COMMUNION ANTHEM

### O God, You Saw My Early Being

Robert, Hobby

Massed Choir; Kristin Olson, oboe

**COMMUNION HYMN**  
*Let Us Go Now  
 to the Banquet*  
 Cuéllar, tr. Hesla, Pharris



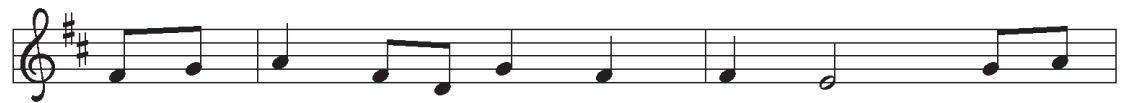
*Refrain / Estribillo*  
 Va - mos to - dos al ban - que - te, a la  
 Let us go now to the ban - quet, to the



me - sa de la crea - ción; ca - da cual con su ta - bu -  
 feast of the u - ni - verse. The ta - ble's set and a place is



re - te tie - ne un pues - to y u - na mi - sión.  
 wait - ing; come, ev - 'ry - one, with your gifts to share.



1 Hoy me le - van - to muy tem - pra - no; ya me es -  
 1 I will rise in the ear - ly morn - ing; the com -  
 2 God in - vites all the poor and hun - gry to the  
 3 May we build such a place a - mong us where all



pe - ra la co - mu - ni - dad; voy su - bien - do a - le - gre la  
 mu - ni - ty's wait - ing for me. With a spring in my step I'm  
 ban - quet of jus - tice and good where the har - vest will not be  
 peo - ple are e - qual in love. God has called us to work to -



*Refrain / Estribillo*  
 cues - ta, voy en bus - ca de tu a - mis - tad.  
 walk - ing with my friends and my fam - i - ly.  
 hoard - ed so that no one will lack for food.  
 geth - er and to share ev - 'ry - thing we have.

2 Dios invita a todos los pobres a esta mesa común por la fe,  
 donde no hay acaparadores y a nadie le falta el conqué. Estribillo  
 3 Dios nos manda a hacer de este mundo una mesa donde haya igualdad,  
 trabajando y luchando juntos, compartiendo la propiedad. Estribillo

**POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.  
 Amen.

(stand)  
 led by  
 Mr. Cameron McCall

Let us pray. Almighty God, you gave your Son both as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the godly life. Enable us to receive him always with thanksgiving, and to conform our lives to his; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SENDING

**BLESSING & BENEDICTION**

The Lord bless you and keep you.  
 The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
 The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.  
 Amen.

led by  
 The Rev. Emily Hartner,  
 Bishop of the  
 North Carolina Synod



**CLOSING HYMN**  
*O God Beyond*  
*All Praising*

*Perry, Holst;*  
*setting, Robert Hobby*

1 O God be-yond all prais - ing, we wor-ship you to - day  
 2 The flow'r of earth - ly splen - dor in time must sure - ly die,  
 3 Then hear, O gra - cious Sav - ior, ac - cept the love we bring,

and sing the love a - maz - ing that songs can-not re - pay;  
 its frag - ile bloom sur - ren - der to you, the Lord most high;  
 that we who know your fa - vor may serve you as our King;

for we can on - ly won - der at ev - 'ry gift you send,  
 but hid - den from all na - ture the e - ter - nal seed is sown-  
 and wheth - er our to - mor - rows be filled with good or ill,

at bless-ings with - out num - ber and mer - cies with - out end:  
 though small in mor - tal stat - ure, to heav-en's gar - den grown:  
 we'll tri - umph through our sor - rows and rise to bless you still:

we lift our hearts be - fore you and wait up - on your word,  
 for Christ, your gift from heav - en, from death has set us free,  
 to mar - vel at your beau - ty and glo - ry in your ways,

we hon - or and a - dore you, our great and might - y Lord.  
 and we through him are giv - en the fi - nal vic - to - ry.  
 and make a joy - ful du - ty our sac - ri - fice of praise.

**DISMISSAL**

*Go in peace. Serve the Lord.*  
**Thanks be to God.**

led by  
 Mr. Cameron McCall

**POSTLUDE**

**Organ Improvisation on "Veni, Creator Spiritus"**  
 Mark Johanson, organ

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## PARTICIPANTS

### Preacher and Presider (before Installation)

The Rev. Yehiel Curry • Presiding Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America • Chicago, IL

### Presider (after Installation)

The Rev. Emily K. Hartner • Bishop of the North Carolina Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America • Salisbury, NC

### Assisting Minister and Liturgist

Mr. Cameron McCall • Vice President, NC Synod • Christ the King Lutheran Church • Cary, NC

### Director of the Liturgy and Host Pastor

The Rev. Dr. Scott Suskovic • Senior Pastor, Christ Lutheran Church • Charlotte, NC

### Verger

Deacon John Weit • Executive for Worship, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America • Chicago, IL

### Presenter of the Bishop's Cross

The Rev. Dr. Timothy M. Smith • Bishop Emeritus, North Carolina Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America • Salisbury, NC

### Readers

Dr. Caroline Reinke • member, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church • Charlotte, NC  
Mr. Larry Lippert • member, St. Mark's Lutheran Church • Charlotte, NC

### Presentation of the Gifts

Oliver Hartner, Max Kuhn, Grace Kuhn • son, nephew, and niece of Bishop Emily

## ELCA REGION 9 BISHOPS PARTICIPATING IN THE INSTALLATION OF THE BISHOP

The Rev. Virginia Aebischer • Bishop of the South Carolina Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America • Columbia, SC

The Rev. Dr. Phyllis Milton • Bishop of the Virginia Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America • Roanoke, VA

The Rev. Dr. Kevin Strickland • Bishop of the Southeastern Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America • Atlanta, GA

The Rev. Pedro Suarez • Bishop of the Florida-Bahamas Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America • Tampa, FL

## THOSE PARTICIPATING

### IN THE LAYING ON OF HANDS BY BISHOPS

The Rev. Yehiel Curry • Presiding Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America • Chicago, IL

The Rev. Dr. Timothy M. Smith • Bishop Emeritus, North Carolina Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

The Rt. Rev. Samuel S. Rodman • Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina

## WE ALSO GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE

### OUR FULL COMMUNION PARTNERS AND ECUMENICAL GUESTS

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United Methodist Church, Western North Carolina Conference • The Rev. Ken Carter, Bishop

### PHOTOGRAPHER

Mr. Todd Godwin • St. John's Lutheran Church • Salisbury, NC

### MUSICIANS & ARTISTS

Mr. Philip Biedenbender • Choir Director & Cantor • Christ Lutheran Church, Charlotte, NC

Mr. Ian Hartner • Tenor • husband of Bishop Emily • Huntersville, NC

Mr. Mark Johanson • Organ & Piano • Christ Lutheran Church, Charlotte, NC

Mr. Andrew Robinson • Handbell Director • Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Hickory, NC

### INSTRUMENTALISTS

Mr. Gianluca Farina, Trumpet

Mr. Jesdelson Vasquez, Trumpet

Ms. Paige Quillen, Horn

Mr. Tom Burge, Trombone

Mr. Scott Hartman, Bass Trombone

Ms. Kristin Olson, Oboe

Mr. Zachary Nelson, Percussion

## THOSE SERVING IN THE DISTRIBUTION

### OF THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

The Rev. Virginia Aebischer • Bishop of the South Carolina Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America • Columbia, SC

The Rev. Annemarie Hartner Cook, sister-in-law of Bishop Emily, Marton, NJ

The Rev. Dr. Jennifer Copeland, Executive Director of the NC Council of Churches • Raleigh, NC

The Rev. Yehiel Curry • Presiding Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America • Chicago, IL

The Rev. Emily K. Hartner • Bishop of the North Carolina Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America • Salisbury, NC

The Rev. Dr. Phyllis Milton • Bishop of the Virginia Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America • Roanoke, VA

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The Rev. Dr. Kevin Strickland • Bishop of the Southeastern Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America • Atlanta, GA

The Rev. Pedro Suarez • Bishop of the Florida-Bahamas Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America • Tampa, FL

The Rev. Dr. Scott Suskovic • Senior Pastor, Christ Lutheran Church • Charlotte, NC

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The Rev. Heather Bachelder • Interim CEO, Agape+Kure Beach Ministries • Fuquay-Varina, NC

Mr. Ted Goins • President & CEO, Lutheran Services Carolinas • Salisbury, NC

Dr. Summer McGee • President, Lenoir-Rhyne University • Hickory, NC

The Rev. Dr. Chad Rimmer • Rector & Dean, Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary, Lenoir-Rhyne University • Hickory, NC

Ms. Lauri SoJournner • CEO, NovusWay • Arden, NC

Ms. Pamela Sarsfield Fox • President/CEO, Twin Lakes • Burlington, NC

The Rev. Joanna Stallings • Director, The Mission Fund • Winston-Salem, NC

Mr. David Whitesides • President, NC Lutheran Men in Mission • Salisbury, NC

Mr. Roger Lyman • President, Home Mission Foundation • Salisbury, NC

Mrs. Terri Brown • President, NC Women of the ELCA • Salisbury, NC

Mrs. Shannon Smith • Archivist, Region 9 Archives, ELCA • Columbia, SC

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### FROM THE TWO ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESES IN NORTH CAROLINA

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The Diocese of Charlotte • The Most Rev. Bishop Michael Martin

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Mr. Craig Cole • Visual Presentations

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Mr. Renato Moresi • Camera Operator

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Mr. Gordon Miller, Mr. B Crigler

### CRUCIFER, ACOLYTES AND TORCH BEARERS

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Ms. Barbara Anderson & Ms. Melanie Bower, Torch Bearers

Ms. Cathey Wigington, Gospel Bearer

Ms. Ellen Stensrud, Banner Bearer

### RECEPTION

Mr. Mike Wallace, Christ Lutheran Church • Charlotte, NC

Ms. Alicia Wallace, Christ Lutheran Church • Charlotte, NC

Ms. Mary Parker, Christ Lutheran Church • Charlotte, NC

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Special thanks to the Massed Choir and Handbell Choir who traveled from throughout the state of North Carolina to participate.

Special thanks to the flower arranging team: Barbara Handschin, Alice McRorie, Phillip Brown, Jack Whitemore, Rebecca Hobbs, Kristy Eddleman.

Christ Lutheran Church is located on the original and ancestral homelands of the Cheraw, Waxhaw, Sugaree, and Catawba peoples, and we acknowledge their presence here since time immemorial. We also wish to recognize and honor all our Indigenous siblings who have called and continue to call this land their home.



The North Carolina Synod is one of 65 synods in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). In ministry since 1803, the synod is made up of 184 congregations, joined in mission to do together what we cannot do alone. God calls us to cultivate and celebrate vital congregations; identify, equip, and nurture whole and healthy leaders; embrace and engage in collaboration; and proclaim the promise of the resurrection with a prophetic voice—all for the sake of the world. [nclutheran.org](http://nclutheran.org)