

Come & See



Go & Tell



Synod Gathering Worship
MAY 28-30, 2026



North Carolina Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Floral Honorarium: The flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of Bishop Emily's first year as bishop of the NC Synod ELCA, by the synod staff.

Cover Art: In honor of the *And God Says It Is Good* project this year, our Synod Gathering planning committee invited children from around this synod to submit art for this event. Our featured artists this year are: Caroline Ballantine, 9, Good Shepherd, Raleigh; Drew Ballantine, 11, Good Shepherd, Raleigh; Clara Haithcox, 11, St. John's, Taylorsville; Isabela Haithcox, 12, St. John's, Taylorsville; Mikka Yoos, 7, St. Mark's, Asheville; Desmond Yoos, 5, St. Mark's, Asheville; Ada Canniff-Kesecker, 8, Prince of Peace, Greensboro; Nora Canniff-Kesecker, 11, Prince of Peace, Greensboro; and Vincenzo La Fata, 10, Morning Star, Matthews.

PRELUDE

We rise.

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
whose compassion endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

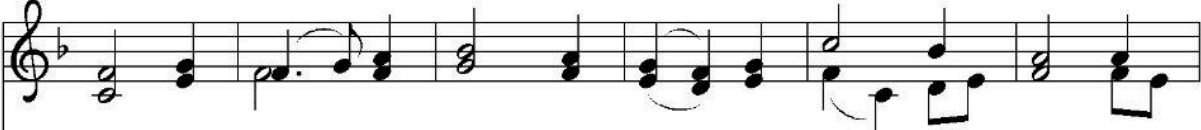
Compassionate God,
we confess to you all our sins.
Our burden is heavy,
and we cannot free ourselves.
In your mercy, call us back to you.
Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.
Restore us to dwell in your peace.
In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

Jesus says, "Come to me,
all you who are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest."


In the name of God,
Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.

Rest in God's love.


Amen.




1 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; his the scep - ter,
 2 Al - le - lu - ia! Not as or - phans are we left in
 3 Al - le - lu - ia! Bread of heav - en, here on earth our
 4 Al - le - lu - ia! King e - ter - nal, Lord om - nip - o -
 5 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; his the scep - ter,



his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the tri - umph, his the
 sor - row now; Al - le - lu - ia! he is near us; faith be -
 food, our stay; Al - le - lu - ia! here the sin - ful flee to
 tent we own; Al - le - lu - ia! born of Mar - y, earth your
 his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the tri - umph, his the



vic - to - ry a - lone. Hark! The songs of peace - ful
 lieves, nor ques - tions how. Though the cloud from sight re -
 you from day to day. In - ter - ces - sor, friend of
 foot - stool, heav'n your throne. As with - in the veil you
 vic - to - ry a - lone. Hark! The songs of peace - ful



Zi - on thun - der like a might - y flood: "Je - sus
 ceived him when the for - ty days were o'er, shall our
 sin - ners, earth's re - deem - er, hear our plea where the
 en - tered, robed in flesh, our great high priest, here on
 Zi - on thun - der like a might - y flood: "Je - sus

out of ev - 'ry na - tion has re - deemed us by his blood."
 hearts for - get his prom - ise: "I am with you ev - er - more?"
 songs of all the sin - less sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.
 earth both priest and vic - tim in the eu - cha - ris - tic feast.
 out of ev - 'ry na - tion has re - deemed us by his blood."

APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

THIS IS THE FEAST

ELW 4

Refrain
 Assisting minister

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

All

1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us
 free to be peo - ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and
 strength, and hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and 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, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

We pray: Sending God, you have gathered us and opened our eyes to your presence. Send us now to go and tell, carrying your good news into the world. By your Spirit, guide your Church and this synod with courage, unity, and hope, that what we have seen and heard may take root in our lives and draw others to come and see your grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Be seated.***READING****2 Corinthians 13:11-13**

A reading from 2nd Corinthians, the 13th chapter.

Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Be restored; listen to my appeal; agree with one another; live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

*We rise.***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL**Matthew 28:16-20**

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshiped him, but they doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "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."

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

Be seated.

SERMON

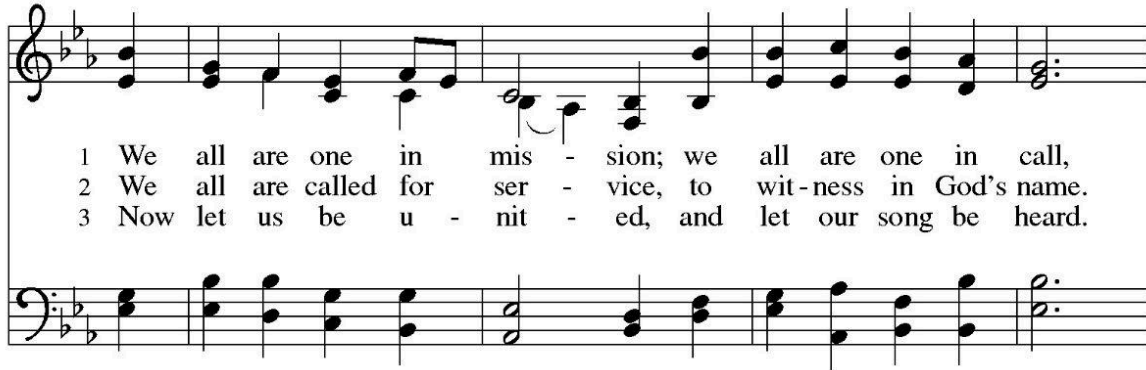
Bishop Emily K. Hartner

We rise.

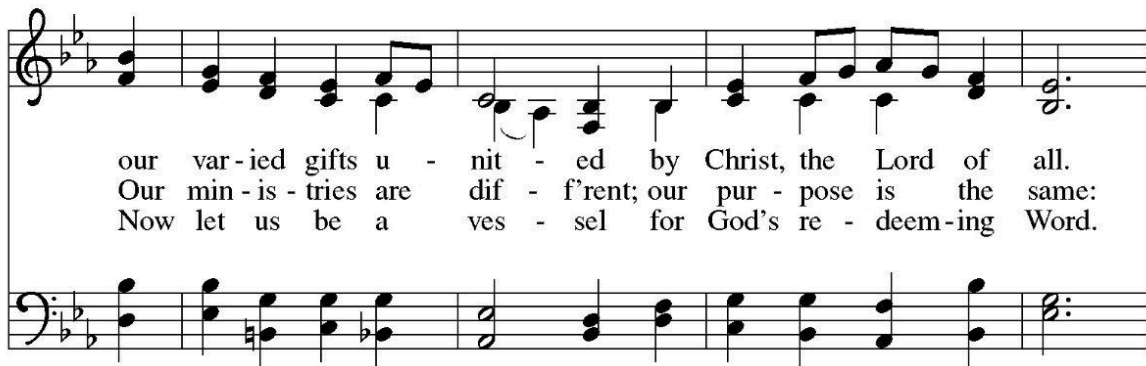
HYMN OF THE DAY

'We All Are One in Mission'


ELW 576



1 We all are one in mis - sion; we all are one in call,
2 We all are called for ser - vice, to wit - ness in God's name.
3 Now let us be u - nit - ed, and let our song be heard.



our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.
Our min - is - tries are dif - f'rent; our pur - pose is the same:
Now let us be a ves - sel for God's re - deem - ing Word.



A sin - gle great com - mis - sion com - pels us from a - bove
to touch the lives of oth - ers with God's sur - pris - ing grace,
We all are one in mis - sion; we all are one in call,



to plan and work to - geth - er that all may know Christ's love.
so ev - 'ry folk and na - tion may feel God's warm em - brace.
our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.

COMMISSIONING OF LAY PREACHERS

PRESENTATION

Cheryl Wall, Glen Crow, Glenn P. Deal, Jr., Kristin Teague, Phillip Whitley

ADDRESS & QUESTION

Will you assume this ministry in the confidence that it comes from God? Will you be diligent in your study of the Holy Scriptures and faithful in prayer? Will you trust in God's care, seek to grow in love for those you serve, strive for excellence in your skills, and adorn the gospel of God with a godly life?

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

The congregation will be invited to stand.

People of God, will you receive these lay preachers into this ministry as those sent to serve in the church of Jesus Christ? Will you pray for them, help and honor them for their work's sake, and strive to live together in the peace and unity of Christ in all things? **We will, and we ask God to help us.**

APOSTLES' CREED

With the whole church, we confess our faith:

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.

COMMISSIONING & ACCLAMATION

The congregation will be invited to applaud.

PRAYERS & PEACE

Each petition concludes with:
Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

Be seated.

OFFERING

Our offering is for our Youth Gathering Goal Fund, raising funds for NC Synod Youth to attend the 2027 Gathering in Minneapolis.

**ANTHEM****'Gracious Spirit, Dwell With Me'****K. Lee Scott**

*Gracious Spirit, dwell with me, I would gracious be;
Help me now thy grace to see, I would be like thee;
And, with words that help and heal, thy life would mine reveal;
And, with actions bold and meek, For Christ, my Savior, speak.*

*Truthful Spirit, dwell with me, I would truthful be;
Help me now thy truth to see, I would be like thee;
And with wisdom to kind and clear, thy life in mine appear;
And, with actions brotherly, Speak Christ's sincerity.*

*Holy Spirit, dwell with me, I would holy be;
Show they mercy tenderly, Make me more like thee;
Separate from sin, I would And cherish all things good,
And whatever I can be Give him who gave me thee.*

*Mighty Spirit, dwell with me, I would mighty be;
Help me now thy pow'r to see, I would be like thee;
'Gainst all weapons hell can wield by thou my strength and shield'
Let thy word my weapon be, Lord, Thine the victory.*

Gracious Spirit, dwell with me, I would be like thee!

We rise.

OFFERING PRAYER

We pray: Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The musical score consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. Each staff contains a line of lyrics. The first staff has a double bar line after the first measure. The second staff has a double bar line after the second measure. The third and fourth staves end with a final double bar line.

PREFACE & HOLY

ELW 4

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. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The musical score consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. Each staff contains a line of lyrics. The first staff has a double bar line after the second measure. The second staff has a double bar line after the second measure. The third and fourth staves end with a final double bar line.

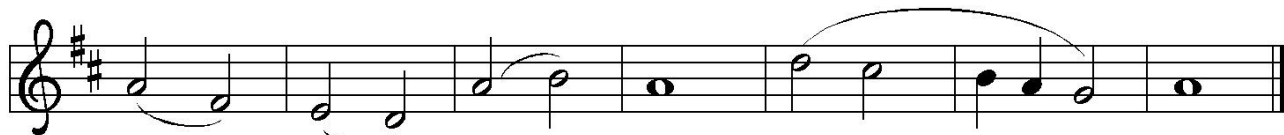
With hearts full of memories and hopes,
 we break this bread and share this cup,
 remembering the death and resurrection of Christ,
 and his promise to be with us always
 as we proclaim the mystery of faith:



Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

Come, Holy Spirit.
Come, Holy Spirit.

Praise to you, Author of creation.
 Praise to you, O Beloved One.
 Praise to you, O Giver of all good things.
 Praise to you, blessed and holy Trinity,
 one God, now and forever.



A - men, a - men, a - men.

COMMUNION INVITATION & INSTRUCTION

Heaven has come near.
 Come, share in the feast!
Thanks be to God.

Be seated. Please follow the usher's guidance. In the nave, communion is by intinction, dipping bread (gluten-free by request) into wine (or grape juice). Those not receiving communion are invited forward to receive a blessing (crossing your arms across your chest as a sign to the pastor). If you need communion brought to you, please signal a server.

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
 us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
 mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
 sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION SONG

'Jesus, Feed Us'

arr. Brian Wentzel

*Bread of life, our host and meal, Jesus, feed us.
 Christ, by faith, to see and feel, feed us with your love.*

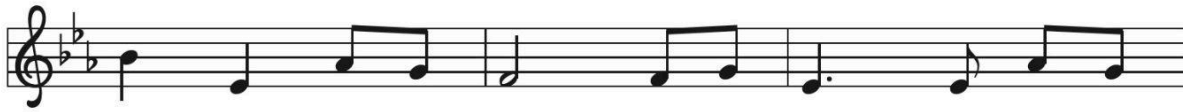
*Bread now break and wine now pour, Jesus, feed us.
 Make us one, our hope restore; feed us with your love.*

*Grant forgiveness in the feast - Jesus, feed us -
 For the greatest and the least; feed us with your love.*

*Thank you for this gift we share. Jesus, feed us.
 Save God's children everywhere; feed us with your love.*



1 Loaves were bro - ken, words were spo - ken by the
 2 Loaves were bro - ken, words were spo - ken in a
 3 Loaves are bro - ken, words are spo - ken, as in
 4 By the loaves you break and give us, send us



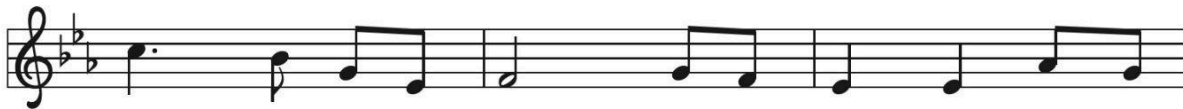
Gal - i - le - an shore. Je - sus, Bread of life from
 qui - et room one night. In the bread and wine you
 faith we gath - er here. Je - sus speaks a - cross the
 in your name to share bread for which the mil - lions



heav - en, was their food for - ev - er - more.
 gave them, Christ, you came as Light from Light.
 a - ges: "I am with you; do not fear!"
 hun - ger, words that tell your love and care.



By your bod - y bro - ken for us, by your



wine of life out - poured, Je - sus, feed a - gain your



peo - ple. Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.

We rise.

COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace. **Amen.**

We pray: Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever. **Amen.**

BLESSING

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ☩ one God,
bless, heal, and hold you today and always.
Amen.

SENDING SONG

'Go to the World'

ACS 991



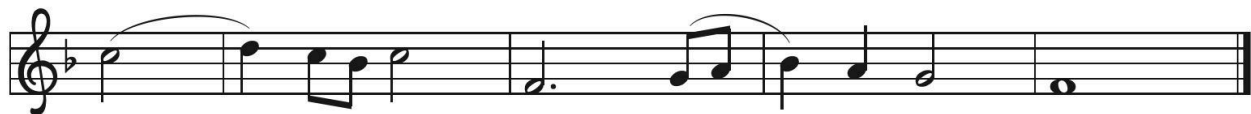
1 Go to the world! Go in - to all the earth.
2 Go to the world! Go in - to ev - 'ry place.
3 Go to the world! Go strug - gle, bless, and pray;
4 "Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,



Go preach the cross where Christ re - news life's worth,
Go live the word of God's re - deem - ing grace.
the nights of tears give way to joy - ous day.
for I am with you till the age shall end,



bap - tiz - ing as the sign of our re - birth.
Go seek God's pres - ence in each time and space.
As ser - vant church, you fol - low Christ's own way.
when all the hosts of glo - ry cry, A - men!"



Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

DISMISSAL & POSTLUDE

People of God! Go, Tell the good news!
We will! Thanks be to God.