

**REFORMATION LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**Serving Absecon - Galloway Township**  
**Rev. Heidi Link – Pastor**  
**Brian Conover - Music Director**

**Sunday, June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024**  
**THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST / 9:00 AM**

**\* OPENING SONG**

**Praise to the Lord, the Almighty**



1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre - a - tion!  
2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won - drous - ly reign - ing  
3 Praise to the Lord, who will pros - per your work and de - fend you;



O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and sal - va - tion!  
and, as on wings of an ea - gle, up - lift - ing, sus - tain - ing.  
sure - ly his good - ness and mer - cy shall dai - ly at - tend you.



Let all who hear now to his tem - ple draw near,  
Have you not seen all that is need - ful has been  
Pon - der a - new what the Al - might - y can do



join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!  
sent by his gra - cious or - dain - ing?  
if with his love he be - friend you.

Text: Joachim Neander, 1650–1680; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.  
Music: LOBE DEN HERREN, *Ernewerten Gesangbuch*, Part II, Stralsund, 1665

**\* - Congregation Stands (If for any reason you are unable to stand during the service, please remain seated.)**

**\* GREETING & PRAYER OF THE DAY**

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.**

Let us pray: Almighty and merciful God, we implore you to hear the prayers of your people. Be our strong defense against all harm and danger, that we may live and grow in faith and hope, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

**\* CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy. **Amen.**

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God, our provider,

**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.**

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. **Amen.**

**FIRST READING: Lamentations 3:22-33** (*for text of reading, see back of bulletin*)

**RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 30**

<sup>1</sup>I will exalt you, O LORD, because you have lifted me up  
and have not let my enemies triumph over me.

<sup>2</sup>**O LORD my God, I cried out to you,  
and you restored me to health.**

<sup>3</sup>You brought me up, O LORD, from the dead;  
you restored my life as I was going down to the grave.

<sup>4</sup>**Sing praise to the LORD, all you faithful;  
give thanks in holy remembrance.**

<sup>5</sup>God's wrath is short; God's favor lasts a lifetime.  
Weeping spends the night, but joy comes in the morning.

<sup>6</sup>**While I felt secure, I said,  
"I shall never be disturbed.**

<sup>7</sup>You, LORD, with your favor, made me as strong as the mountains."  
Then you hid your face, and I was filled with fear.

<sup>8</sup>**I cried to you, O LORD;  
I pleaded with my Lord, saying,**

<sup>9</sup>"What profit is there in my blood, if I go down to the pit?  
Will the dust praise you or declare your faithfulness?"

<sup>10</sup>**Hear, O LORD, and have mercy upon me;  
O LORD, be my helper.”**

<sup>11</sup>You have turned my wailing into dancing;  
you have put off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy.

<sup>12</sup>**Therefore my heart sings to you without ceasing;  
O LORD my God, I will give you thanks forever.**

**SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 8:7-15** (for text of reading, see back of bulletin)

**\* SONG OF PRAISE**

## I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me



1 I'm so glad I'm so glad  
2 Sa - tan had me bound, Je - sus lift - ed me. Sa - tan had me bound,  
3 When I was in trou - ble, When I was in trou - ble,



Je - sus lift - ed me. I'm so glad  
Sa - tan had me bound, Je - sus lift - ed me,  
When I was in trou - ble,



sing - ing glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! Je - sus lift - ed me.

Text: African American spiritual  
Music: JESUS LIFTED ME, African American spiritual

**\* THE WORD OF GOD: Mark 5:21-43**

A reading from the Gospel of St. Mark:  
(for text of reading, see back of bulletin)

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

# CONGREGATIONAL SONG

## Great Is Thy Faithfulness



1 Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther; there is no  
2 Sum - mer and win - ter and spring - time and har - vest, sun, moon, and  
3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth, thine own dear



shad - ow of turn - ing with thee; thou chang - est not, thy com -  
stars in their cours - es a - bove join with all na - ture in  
pres - ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to - day and bright



pas - sions they fail not; as thou hast been, thou for - ev - er wilt be.  
man - i - fold wit - ness to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.  
hope for to - mor - row, bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

### *Refrain*



Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Morn - ing by



morn - ing new mer - cies I see; all I have need - ed thy



hand hath pro - vid - ed; great is thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me.

Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1866–1960

Music: FAITHFULNESS, William M. Runyan, 1870–1957

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**\* APOSTLE'S CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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**

**\* PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

We come before the triune God to pray for our communities, ourselves, and our world.  
*A brief silence.*

Equip your faithful people to approach this world with a sense of wonder. Make your church a safe place to explore big questions, troubling doubts, and honest laments.

Humble our hearts to repent of the ways that communities of faith have inflicted pain or trauma. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

You spoke creation into order from the chaos of the swirling deep. May your name be praised by rivers and seas, wetlands and waterfalls. Secure clean water for all people and protect water sources from contamination or exploitation. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Amid whirlwinds of division, violence, and conflict, remind us again that you are as steadfast as the foundations of the earth. Rejuvenate peacemakers, advocates, and community organizers when they feel weary in their work (*especially*). Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Deliver your people from their distress, O God. We lift before you all who are sick or struggling (*especially*). Grant consolation and peace to all who live with chronic, terminal, or persistent illness. In times of affliction or hardship, sustain us in faith.

Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Enfold all travelers with your protection. Bless the comings and goings of this assembly as we travel for leisure or for work. Let all journeys be met with hospitality on the way, and let community members return to us with celebration. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Now is the acceptable time; now is the day of salvation for all the redeemed of the Lord. Joined together with the great cloud of witnesses, we give thanks for your steadfast love and your wonderful works. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Receive our prayers, O God, and come quickly to our aid, through the power of the Spirit and the love of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

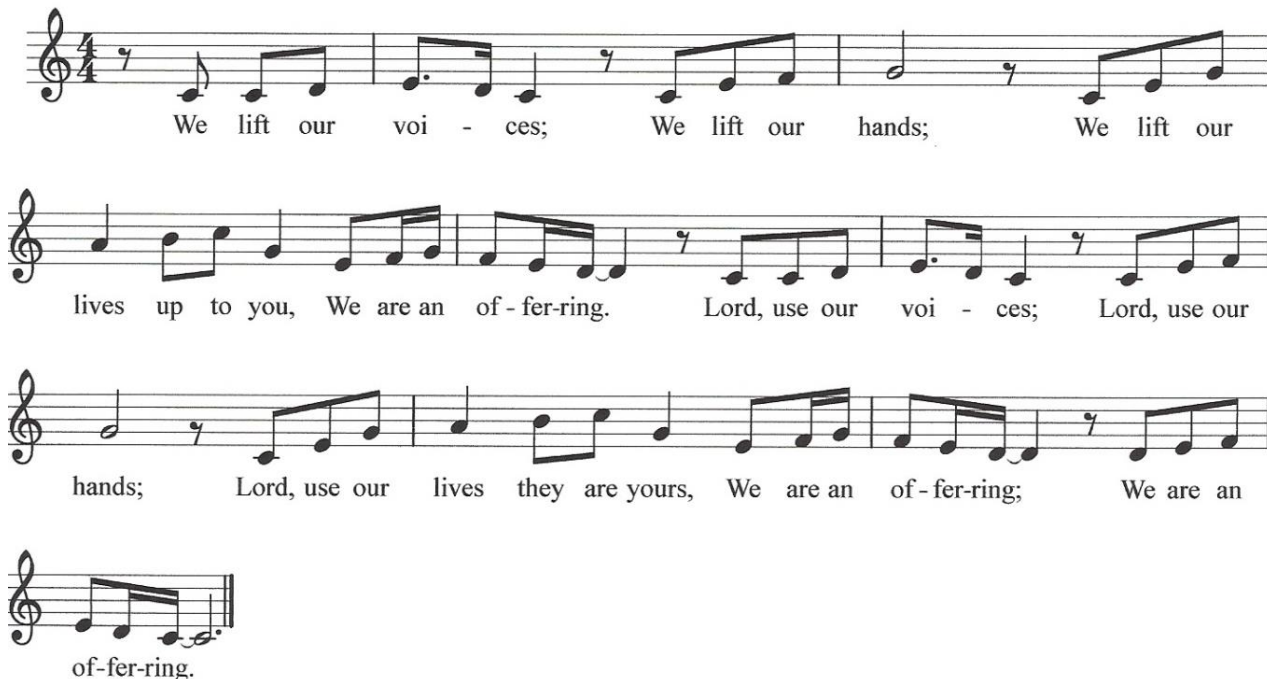
**\* SHARING OF THE PEACE**

The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**OFFERING / SPECIAL MUSIC**

**\* OFFERING SONG**



We lift our voi - ces; We lift our hands; We lift our  
lives up to you, We are an of - fer-ring. Lord, use our voi - ces; Lord, use our  
hands; Lord, use our lives they are yours, We are an of - fer-ring; We are an  
of-fer-ring.

**\* OFFERING PRAYER**

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. **Amen.**

**\* WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**\* THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**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**

**\* INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

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

**We come.**

## DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

*(BAPTIZED CHRISTIANS who believe that the risen Christ is present in the Eucharist to forgive sin and renew life are invited to either come to the altar area for communion as directed or share at your pew. If you come forward, you will receive the elements. If you choose to receive at your seat, please remain there, kneel as you are able, and receive the elements using the communion packets available from the ushers. If there are other special needs, please speak to an usher.)*

### \* POST COMMUNION BLESSING

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

### \* POST COMMUNION HYMN

## Go, My Children, with My Blessing

3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour-ished, clos - er to me.  
Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.  
Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here his ten - der com-fort stilled you.  
Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour-ished, joy - ful and free."

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919  
Music: AR HYDY NOS, Welsh

Text © 1983 Jaroslav J. Vajda

### \* PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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. **Amen.**

### \* BLESSING

And now a blessing: The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, ✠ be upon you now and forever. **Amen.**

**\* CELEBRATIONS!!!**

**\* CLOSING SONG**

**Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing**



- 1 Oh, for a thou-sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem-er's praise,
- 2 My gra-cious Mas-ter and my God, as-sist me to pro-claim,
- 3 The name of Je-sus charms our fears and bids our sor-rows cease,
- 4 He speaks, and lis-t'ning to his voice, new life the dead re-ceive;



the glo-ries of my God and king, the tri-umphs of his grace!  
to spread through all the earth a-broad the hon-ors of your name.  
sings mu-sic in the sin-ner's ears, brings life and health and peace.  
the mourn-ful, bro-ken hearts re-joice, the hum-ble poor be-lieve.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.

Music: AZMON, Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

**\* SENDING**

Alleluia! Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

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