Holy Communion

with the

Installation of the Presiding Bishop

of the

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



Central Lutheran Church Minneapolis, Minnesota

> Saturday, October 4, 2025 Two o'clock p.m.

GATHERING

In	dir ist Freude, BWV 615		J. S. Bach
Go	od Is Seen		Alice Parker
M	ajesty and Glory		Thomas Fettke
Ca	anzon Cornetto	. Sa	amuel Scheidt, arr. Verne Reynolds
Jes	rus Loves Me!		arr. Jennaya Robison
1	Jesus loves me! this I know, for the Bible tells me so; little ones to him belong		Jesus loves me! he who died heaven's gates to open wide;

Refrain Yes, Jesus loves me, yes, Jesus loves me, yes, Jesus loves me, the Bible tells me so.

they are weak, but he is strong.

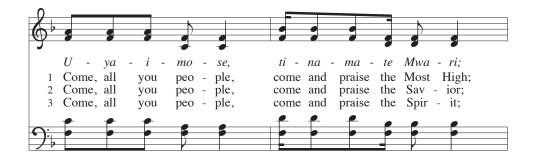
- let his little child come in. Refrain
- Jesus loves me! he will stay close beside me all the way; when at last I come to die, he will take me home on high. Refrain-All

Pouring of Libations

The pouring of libations may be offered by pouring fresh water into a living plant of appropriate size. After each pouring the gathered people say 'Ashe' (Ahshay) or Amen.

Come, All You People / Uyaimose Evangelical Lutheran Worship #819 This Far by Faith #138

Procession of the Church Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America









Gathering Song

Praise, Praise, Praise the Lord!

Evangelical Lutheran Worship #875 This Far by Faith #278

The assembly stands to sing.





Land Acknowledgment

Welcome of the Presiding Bishop-Elect

The presiding minister addresses the assembly. People of God,
I greet you in the name of Christ.
Grace and peace be with you.
And also with you.

Dear friends, we have come together from many places to mark a new season of ministry in the life of this church as we install our next presiding bishop.

Let us enter this celebration confident that, through the Holy Spirit, Christ is present with us now, as we pray that this servant may fulfill God's purpose in his life and in his ministry among the whole people of God.

Let us go to welcome our presiding bishop-elect.

The assembly joins in singing the gathering song.

Gathering Song

Al - though we

may

us

By grace

E - quip

are

our

for

In Christ Called to Baptize Evangelical Lutheran Worship #575 In Christ called to bap - tize, we wit - ness grace Christ called ta - ble 2 In to ban - quet, one we share, 3 In Christ called wit - ness, by grace we will preach to U - nite noint us, Ó Spir - it of love, us, a gath - er and a peo - ple from each land and race. ha - ven of wel - come, a cir - cle of care. the life - giv - ing gos - pel; God's love we will teach. are with in us, round us, bove. deep, flow wa - ters, Christ's death, ing we share in



we

give

with

share in

proof to

gifts you

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be -

bread.

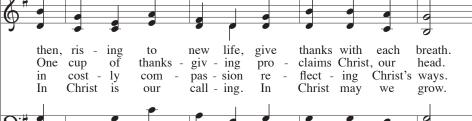
praise

stow.

man - y,

liv - ing

ser - vice





Representatives of the Metropolitan Chicago Synod introduce the presiding bishop-elect.

Dear friends in Christ, we bring before you the Reverend Yehiel Curry, who has served among us faithfully as our bishop, chief pastor, and brother in Christ.

With steadfast leadership through anxious and uncertain times, Yehiel has shepherded grace among the people of the Metropolitan Chicago Synod.

Grounded in mission, he gave us the charge to "Go, therefore," and invited us to smile, embracing the joy of God's calling and trusting that our labor in the Lord is not in vain.

With gratitude for his ministry with us, we send him forth to serve as the presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

The presiding minister leads the assembly in welcoming the presiding bishop-elect.

Yehiel, bishop in the church of God, we have looked forward to your coming with great joy. In the name of Christ, we greet you.

In the name of Christ, we greet you.

With all my heart, I thank you for your welcome. I hope to serve among you in Christ's name and in the joy of the Spirit. May the peace of God be upon this house and upon this assembly.

Yehiel, in your baptism you were clothed with Christ, and you are now called by God through the voice of the church to enter upon the ministry of presiding bishop.

We remember with joy our common calling through baptism to serve Christ, and we celebrate God's call to you, our brother.

My siblings in Christ, as we begin this new season of ministry, may our celebration recall us to the unity that is given in baptism and nurtured at the Lord's table. May we rejoice in the many gifts enriching the life of our church and be strengthened to proclaim the good news of Christ in the world. **Amen.**

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.

Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and mighty, you are the river of life, you are the everlasting wellspring, you are the fire of rebirth.

Glory to you for oceans and lakes, for rivers and streams. Honor to you for cloud and rain, for dew and snow. Your waters are below us, around us, above us: our life is born in you.

You are the fountain of resurrection.

Praise to you for your saving waters:
Noah and the animals survive the flood,
Hagar discovers your well.
The Israelites escape through the sea,
and they drink from your gushing rock.
Naaman washes his leprosy away,
and the Samaritan woman will never be thirsty again.

At this font, holy God, we pray:
Praise to you for the water of baptism
and for your Word that saves us in this water.
Breathe your Spirit into all who are gathered here and into all creation.
Illumine our days. Enliven our bones. Dry our tears.
Wash away the sin within us, and drown the evil around us.

Satisfy all our thirst with your living water, Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

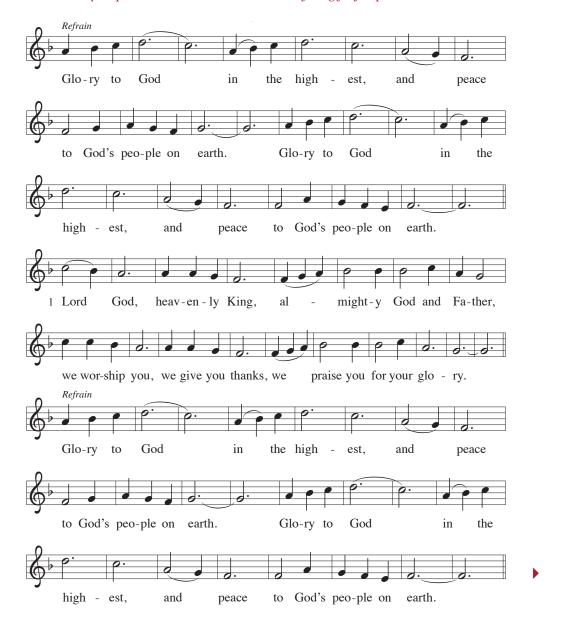


Canticle of Praise

Glory to God

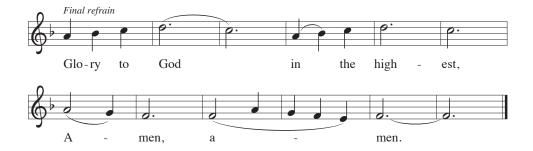
Evangelical Lutheran Worship Setting Six This Far by Faith Setting Two

The assembly is sprinkled with water as a reminder of the gift of baptism.









Greeting and 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.**

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.

The assembly is seated.

WORD

First Reading

1 Kings 17:8-16

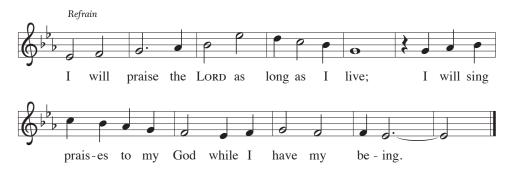
Then the word of the LORD came to 'Elijah,' saying, "Go now to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and live there, for I have commanded a widow there to feed you." So he set out and went to Zarephath. When he came to the gate of the town, a widow was there gathering sticks; he called to her and said, "Bring me a little water in a vessel, so that I may drink." As she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, "Bring me a morsel of bread in your hand." But she said, "As the LORD your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of meal in a jar and a little oil in a jug; I am now gathering a couple of sticks so that I may go home and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it and die." Elijah said to her, "Do not be afraid; go and do as you have said, but first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterward make something for yourself and your son. For thus says the LORD the God of Israel: The jar of meal will not be emptied and the jug of oil will not fail until the day that the LORD sends rain on the earth." She went and did as Elijah said, so that she as well as he and her household ate for many days. The jar of meal was not emptied, neither did the jug of oil fail, according to the word of the LORD that he spoke by Elijah.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 146

Cantor, then all:



Hallelujah!
Praise the LORD, O my soul!
I will praise the LORD as long as I live;
I will sing praises to my God while I have my being. Refrain—All

Put not your trust in rulers, in mortals in whom there is no help.
When they breathe their last, they return to earth, and in that day their thoughts perish. Refrain—All

Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help, whose hope is in the LORD their God; who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; who keeps promises forever; who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger. The LORD sets the captive free. The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous. The LORD cares for the stranger; the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked. The LORD shall reign forever, your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah! Refrain-All

Second Reading

Romans 10:13-17

For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" But not all have obeyed the good news, for Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed our message?" So faith comes from what is heard, and what is heard comes through the word of Christ.

Word of God, word of life.

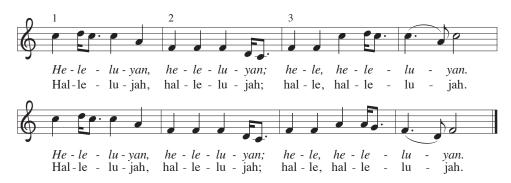
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Hallelujah / Heleluyan

Evangelical Lutheran Worship #171

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.



Gospel Luke 4:16-30

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

When 'Jesus' came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:



"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to set free those who are oppressed,
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, "Is this not Joseph's son?" He said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Doctor, cure yourself!' And you will say, 'Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum." And he said, "Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in his hometown. But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months and there was a severe famine over all the land, yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. There were also many with a skin disease in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian." When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

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

The assembly repeats the gospel acclamation.

Sermon

The assembly is seated. Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

After the time of silence, the assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.

Hymn of the Day

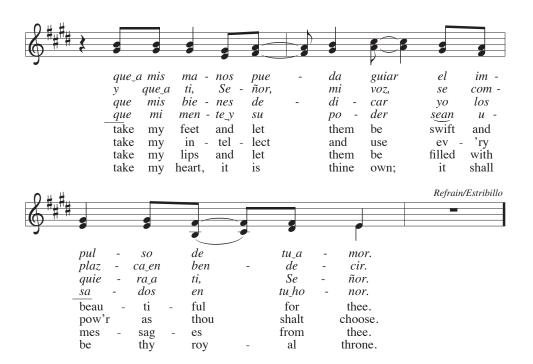
Take My Life, That I May Be Toma, oh Dios, mi voluntad

Evangelical Lutheran Worship #583 Libro de Liturgia y Cántico #570

The musical leaders sing the first refrain and first stanza. All sing the remaining refrains and stanzas.







Nicene Creed

In recognition of the 1700th anniversary of the Council of Nicaea, today we use an ecumenical version of the Nicene Creed without the filioque clause ("and the Son") in reference to the Holy Spirit.

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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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

Presentation

The secretary of the church presents the presiding bishop-elect.

I present Yehiel Curry, who has been elected and called by the church, for installation into the office of presiding bishop.

The assembly is seated.

Address and Questions

The presiding bishop-elect is addressed with words of scripture.

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 presiding minister questions the presiding bishop-elect.

To you is being given the care of the bishops, pastors, and deacons; the synods, congregations, and other communities of this church. I ask you in the presence of God and of this assembly: Will you assume the office of presiding bishop?

I will, and I ask God to help me.

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?

I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you carry out this ministry in accordance with the holy scriptures and with the confessions of the Lutheran church, and in harmony with the constitutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America? I will, and I ask God to help me.

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? I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you give faithful witness in the world, that God's love may be known in all that you do? I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you guide, encourage, and support the ministers and the congregations of this church 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? I will, and I ask God to help me.

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

Amen.

The assembly stands.

The presiding minister addresses the assembly.

People of God, representatives of this church, will you receive Yehiel as a servant of God and a shepherd in the church of Jesus Christ? We will, and we ask God to help us.

Will you pray for him, help and honor him for his work's sake, and in all things strive to live together in the peace and unity of Christ? We will, and we ask God to help us.

The presiding bishop-elect kneels.

Hymns

During the hymns, leaders from various church bodies lay hands on the presiding bishopelect, a sign of the church's unity. As the Bishop of the Metropolitan Chicago Synod, Bishop Curry was installed as a bishop in historic succession in 2019. In this installation, the laying on of hands embodies the whole church's prayer for the Holy Spirit to guide and sustain this new season of ministry.

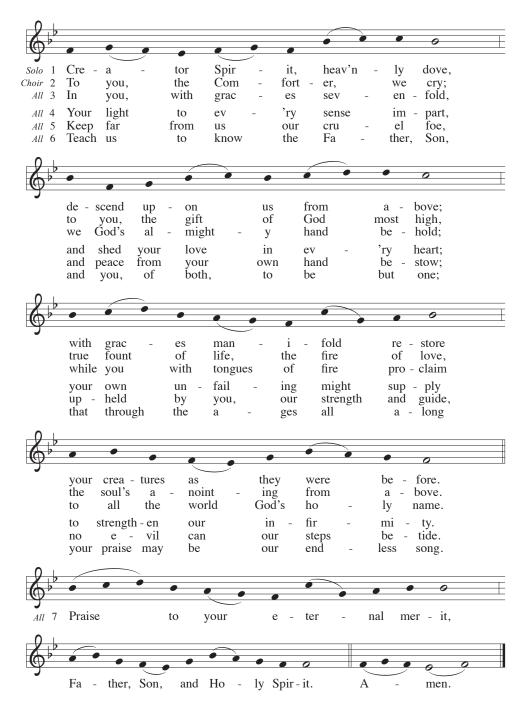
The hymns are sung in alternation at the direction of the musical leaders.





Creator Spirit, Heavenly Dove

Evangelical Lutheran Worship #577



Following the hymns there is a time of silent prayer.



Thanksgiving

The presiding minister leads the assembly in giving thanks.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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

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. Strengthen and sustain your bishop Yehiel, that with patience and understanding he may follow Jesus Christ in this new ministry as presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Pour out your grace, that he may love and care for your people and teach the faith; grant that together they may follow Jesus, offering to you their gifts and talents; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The presiding minister continues.

The office of presiding bishop is now committed to you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Blessing

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

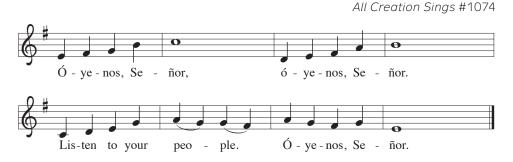
The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, make you complete in everything good so that you may do God's will, working in you that which is pleasing in God's sight; through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory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

Prayers of Intercession

Trusting the good news of God revealed in Jesus Christ, let us pray for the needs of the world.

The prayers reflect the wideness of God's mercy for the whole world—
for the church;
for the creation;
for the nations of the world;
for the needs of the world;
for people in need;
for the saints who have gone before us.

Each portion of the prayers concludes with these words spoken in various languages. Receive our prayer, Gracious God, as we sing.



The prayers conclude:

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

The presiding minister addresses the newly installed presiding bishop.

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 a Cross

Receive this cross and wear it as a sign of your calling to serve Christ and his people, and as an emblem of the office to which you have been elected.

The newly installed presiding bishop stands and the presiding minister presents him to the people. The assembly may offer acclamation with applause.

The musicians offer an acclamation in song.

Perfect Praise

Brenda Joyce Moore

Peace

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

La paz de Cristo

The peace of Christ
sea siempre con ustedes.

Y también contigo.

The peace of Christ
be with you always.

And also with you.

After sharing Christ's peace, the assembly is seated.

MEAL

Offering

Your offering benefits leadership programs of the ELCA churchwide organization, helping new leaders to discern their calls, supporting rostered and lay ministers as they lead and serve, and developing new forms of leadership that match the changing needs of the church. This offering includes support for the Horizon Apprenticeship Program, the Network of ELCA Colleges and Universities, ELCA seminaries, the Sankofa Theological Center for African Studies of the ELCA, the TEEM program, and working groups that are exploring the church's future needs for lay and rostered leadership.



Offerings may be made in cash; by check (payable to the ELCA); electronically, using the QR code; or at **ELCA.org/offering**.

The musicians make an offering of music.

Praise the Lord Florence Price

Setting the Table

Welcome Table

All Creation Sings #969 This Far by Faith #263





Offering Prayer

Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation.

Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to give thanks.

The Lord be with you. **And also 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.

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 the great shepherd of your flock, our Savior Jesus Christ; who after his resurrection sent forth the apostles to preach the gospel and teach all nations, and promised to be with them, even to the end of the age. And so, with the glorious company of the apostles, with the choirs of angels and all the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Blessed are you, O God, creator of heaven and earth. You rescued your covenant people, led them on all their journeys, and taught them by the prophets. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal 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.

As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit in this meal, and make us one in this community of faith and with your people throughout the world.

Glory and praise to you, O God, Author of life, Word made flesh, Power of the Most High, now and forever. Amen. Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

Communion

After the bread is broken and all are invited to communion, the assembly is seated.

At the direction of an usher, please move to a communion station. All bread is gluten-free. An option of white grape juice is available at each station.

As you approach a communion station, receive and consume the bread. You may drink red wine from the common chalice, receive a pre-filled cup with white grape juice, or receive an empty cup to be filled with wine at the pouring chalice.

Be assured that Christ is fully present by receiving only the bread or the wine/grape juice. Those who are unable to come to a communion station may alert an usher and the sacrament will be brought to them.

The small cups used today will be professionally recycled.

Assembly songs and selections by the musicians are offered as time allows.

Lamb of God Evangelical Lutheran Worship Setting Seven Cordero de Dios Libro de Liturgia y Cántico #240 Cor - de ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do; you.. take a-way the sin of the world; ... Lamb of . . God, ten pie-dad de no-so-tros, ten pie-dad de no - so-tros. have . . mer-cy up - on us, have . . mer - cy up - on us. Cor-de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del *mun-do;* O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . . ten pie-dad de no - so-tros, ten pie-dad de no - so-tros. have . . mer-cy up - on us, have . . mer - cy up - on us. Cor-de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do; of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .

da - nos

grant us

tu

your

paz.

peace.

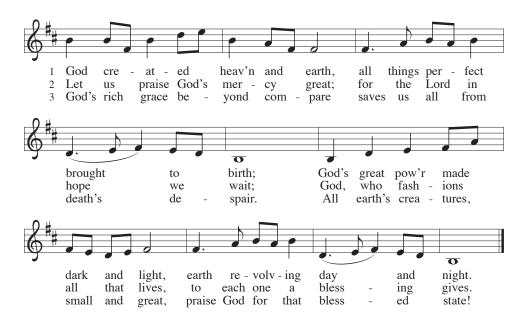
da-nos tu paz,

grant us your peace,

When We Love Elaine Hagenberg

God Created Heaven and Earth

Evangelical Lutheran Worship #738



Way Maker

Osinachi Kalu Okoro Egbu

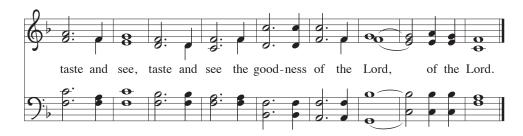
The assembly is invited to join in singing the chorus.

(You are) Way Maker, Miracle Worker, Promise Keeper, Light in the darkness, my God that is who you are.

Taste and See

Evangelical Lutheran Worship #493 This Far by Faith #126





- 1 I will bless the Lord at all times. Praise shall always be on my lips; my soul shall glory in the Lord; for God has been so good to me. *Refrain*—All
- 3 Worship the Lord, all you people. You'll want for nothing if you ask. Taste and see that the Lord is good; in God we need put all our trust. *Refrain*—All
- Glorify the Lord with me.
 Together let us all praise God's name.
 I called the Lord, who answered me;
 from all my troubles I was set free. Refrain—All

What a Fellowship

arr. Robert Carwithen

Prayer after Communion

O God, our life, our strength, our food, we give you thanks for sustaining us with the body and blood of your Son.

By your Holy Spirit, enliven us to be his body in the world, that more and more we will give you praise and serve your earth and its many peoples, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.



SENDING

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

Amen.

Sending Hymn

Go to the World

All Creation Sings #991





Dismissal

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

Postlude Chorale Fantasia on Komm, Heiliger Geist, BWV 651 J. S. Bach

Please remain at your place until the procession has passed.

Everyone is invited to a reception in the Great Room and outside, weather permitting.



The Rev. Yehiel Curry is the presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). Elected at the ELCA Churchwide Assembly in Phoenix, Arizona, 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, Illinois. He earned a Bachelor of Arts from Lewis University in Romeoville, Illinois, 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.

About Pouring of Libations

Libation is a practice primarily used to accompany a call to worship or gathering prayer. The gesture of libation involves the pouring of a liquid such as water or a fermented drink into the earth or a container of soil. The leader pours from a pitcher or glass during a brief silence that follows each petition or response.

The Bible makes use of the image of pouring or libation in a number of places. These references help to supply meaning to the Christian use of this symbolic act. St. Paul says to the Philippians, "But even if I am being poured out as a libation over the sacrifice and the offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with all of you" (Phil. 2:17) and again in the letter to Timothy, "I am already being poured out as a libation. . . . I have finished the race, I have kept the faith" (2 Tim. 4:6-7). Thus, the image of libation is a metaphor for the dedication of one's self in service for God's sake. The image of pouring is also used as an image for the outpouring of the gifts of the Spirit (Acts 2:33, 10:45).

Communities of faith might consider the use of the libation gesture as a symbolic action of thanksgiving for the creation of humankind from the dust of this earthly home, and thanksgiving for those who have gone before, the mothers and fathers in faith whose mortal remains rest in the earth until the day of resurrection. The gesture may also be a sign of dedication to be poured out for the sake of the world in the same way Christ "poured out himself to death" (Isa. 53:12), even as the church is empowered by the Holy Spirit who has been "poured out on us richly" (Titus 3:6).

About the Nicene Creed

2025 marks the 1700th anniversary of the first ecumenical council of Nicaea. This commemoration is an opportunity to reflect on the importance of this church's ecumenical self-understanding and vocation. Recent developments in Lutheran-Orthodox relations present the possibility of continuing the journey toward reconciliation between Eastern and Western Christianity after nearly a millennium of church division over the addition of the filioque clause ("and the Son") to the Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed. The Joint International Commission on Theological Dialogue between the Lutheran World Federation and the Orthodox Church's 2024 Common Statement on the Filioque is an important ecumenical breakthrough, concluding that the filioque is no longer church-dividing and inviting further dialogue and renewed theological reflection on the Trinity and the role of the Holy Spirit.

The 2025 ELCA Churchwide Assembly voted to receive the Common Statement on the Filioque. In faithful response to this invitation, today we will profess the Nicene Creed without the filioque clause.

The worship service and installation are taking place in a public space where photography and videography are occurring. By attending this event, you consent to your likeness, voice, and image being captured for potential use in promotional, archival, or educational purposes by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and its programs, ministries, and media affiliations. We aim to be respectful and considerate in how content is captured and shared.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Welcome of the Presiding Bishop-Elect adapted from liturgical texts prepared by the ELCA's Episcopal and Presbyterian full communion partners as well as the Consultation on Common Texts.

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Holy Communion

with the

Installation of the Presiding Bishop

of the

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



Participants and Acknowledgments

Saturday, October 4, 2025 Two o'clock p.m.

PARTICIPANTS

Presiding Minister (prior to the rite of installation)

The Rev. Elizabeth Eaton Fourth Presiding Bishop Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Presiding Minister (after the rite of installation)

The Rev. Yehiel Curry Fifth Presiding Bishop Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Preacher

The Rev. Dr. Kevin Vandiver Senior Pastor Lutheran Church of the Reformation, Washington, D.C.

Assisting Minister

Deborah Nyquist Church Council Member Alaska Synod

Director of the Liturgy

Deacon John Weit



Readers

Thaoke Her LaShonda Hicks-Curry Christopher Vergara Emma Witt

Pouring of Libations

The Rev. Lucille "CeCee" Mills Secretary-elect Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Participants in the Welcome of the Presiding Bishop-elect

Representing the Metropolitan Chicago Synod

Andry Gunthoti The Rev. Troy Medlin Stacy Vargas Shirley Wilson-Sigler

Presenter of the Presiding Bishop-elect

Deacon Sue Rothmeyer Secretary Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Participants in the Rite of Installation

The Rev. Dr. Patricia Davenport Former Bishop Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod

The Rev. William Gohl, Jr. Bishop Delaware-Maryland Synod



The Rev. Regina Hassanally Bishop Southwestern Minnesota Synod

The Rev. Deborah Hutterer Bishop Grand Canyon Synod

The Rev. Leila Ortiz Former Bishop Metropolitan Washington D.C. Synod

The Rev. Dr. Kevin Strickland Bishop Southeastern Synod

Ecumenical and Global Representatives participating in the Rite of Installation

Isabella Reimann Gnas Vice President, Latin America and the Caribbean The Lutheran World Federation

Danielle Hickman Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Minister United Church of Christ

The Rev. Dr. Larry Kochendorfer National Bishop Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

The Rev. Dr. Betsy Miller Ecumenical Officer Moravian Church Northern Province

The Rev. Dr. Panti Filibus Musa Archbishop Lutheran Church of Christ in Nigeria The Rev. Jihyun Oh Stated Clerk Presbyterian Church USA

The Rev. Dr. Lanette Plambeck Bishop, Dakotas-Minnesota Episcopal Area United Methodist Church

The Most Rev. Sean Rowe Presiding Bishop The Episcopal Church

The Rev. Erich Rutten Chair, Commission for Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs, Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

The Rev. Canon Dr. Scott Sharman Animator for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations The Anglican Church of Canada

The Rev. Henrik Stubkjær President The Lutheran World Federation

The Rev. Paul Tché President, Christian Unity and Interfaith Ministry Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

The Rev. Dr. Olav Fykse Tveit Presiding Bishop The Church of Norway

We rejoice to also have present with us several Lutheran World Federation companion synod bishops and partners as well as local and national ecumenical guests.



Additional Communion Ministers

Representing various ministries of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America in its three expressions — congregations, synods, and the churchwide organization.

The Rev. Jesse Brown Jr The Rev. Dr. M. Wyvetta Bullock The Rev. Dr. R. Guy Erwin

Lori Fedyk
Sheena Foster
Desta Goehner
Terry Henderson
Jennifer Hockenbery
The Rev. Deborah Hutterer

Christopher Johnson

The Rev. Dr. Bimen Limbong The Rev. Alejandro Mejia The Rev. Peter Muschinske

Imran Siddiqui

Dr. Susan Rundell Singer

Aubrey Thonvold Jennifer Trom

Intercessors

The Rev. JoAnn Conroy
The Rev. Danielle Dokman
Gladson Ishaya
Ryan LaHurd
Deacon Sue Rothmeyer
The Rev. Rama Yanti

Presenters of the Gifts

Ashirah Curry Shekinah Curry Shemiah Curry

Participants in Processions and Thanksgiving for Baptism

Albert Arndt Gladson Ishaya Felecia Boone Sharon Josephson

Brother Doug Dockter The Rev. Joyce Ngandango

The Rev. Danielle Dokman Robbie Spofford

Tracy Gayer Deacon Andrew Stoebig, LDA

Micah Hassanally Rachel Wyffels
Jude Hassanally The Rev. Rama Yanti

American Sign Language Interpreters

Wendy DeVore

Jack Hendricks

Elizabeth Hermodson-Olsen

Spanish Interpreters

Ana Beblen Sarah Nicols

Musicians

From St. Olaf College

Organist Brass Ensemble

James Bobb Martin Hodel, trumpet
Ian DiMundo, trumpet
Kyan Carlson, horn

Alex McGohan Leo Barks, trombone
AJ Veninga Sage Kiritschenko, tuba



Combined voices of the Metropolitan Chicago Synod and the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago Music Ministry

Pianist, Organist, and

Music Director Drummer

Dr. Keith Hampton Voshon Spelker

Electric Bass Erik Yates

Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago Music Ministry

Soprano Tenor

Gail James Joseph Smith
The Rev. Dr. Vickie Johnson Brandon Ward

Maretta Smith

Bass

Alto Warnell Berry Jodette Adams Christopher Joyner

Teniya Mackey Sara Trumm

Voices of the Metropolitan Chicago Synod

Tom Anderson William Kurk

The Rev. Lawrence Clark
Kevin Copeland
The Rev. Sunitha Mortha
Yvette NewberryWhite

Vera Jones

Members and Alumni of the National Lutheran Choir

Artistic Director

Dr. Jennaya Robison

Soprano 1

Rachel Finnes Rebecca Hanly Mycah Lerum Sue Mencel Mary Nyhus Naomi Staruch

Anna Streeper Nora Weigle

Soprano 2

Allison Ackmann Leah Bergman Katherine Castille Sara Langworthy Christina Myers Meredith Samuelson Lisa Schlotterback Rebekah Schulz

Gina Stutzman Toso Kate Tripoli Maddy Young

Alto 1

Marta Edman Jodi Gustafson Zanny Johnson Hope Kelsey Rochelle Milbrath Katie Roehm

Maddie Smoot Lacy Williams

Alto 2

Christy Emanuelson Courtney Green Amy Hoff Emily Lauer Brenna Reiland Janet Satern

Emily Skoblik-Diallo Abs Trewin

Tenor 1

Erik Carlson Aaron Holmgren William Mills Bill Pederson

Dain Swanson Jake Vidervol

Tenor 2

DaQuevion Burke Zach Busch Joseph Crippen Erik Gerhardt Brad Kolstad Christopher Lange-Pearson Peter Moberg Ethan Williams

Baritone

Mike Fandel Willy Leafblad Danny Roth Will Heller Matt Olson Nate Schindler

Eli Pollock Jacob Kunkel

Bass 2

Kenton Hunt Kai Oelschlager Riley Unzicker David Johnson Tom von Fischer Mark Schneider

Dave Michel **Jack Slavik** Ethan Nueva Shane Wilson

Installation Worship Staff

The Rev. Kyle Severson Deacon Jennifer Baker-Trinity The Rev. Suzanne Burke The Rev. Michelle Sevig

The Rev. Christina Garrett Klein Clarance Smith BethAnn Lynch Deacon John Weit

Installation Committee

Dana Adams Brett Nelson Candice Hill Buchbinder Kristen Opalinski Aaron Cooper Jodi Slattery Paulina Dasse Joseph Schmidt

Deacon Mary Ann Schwabe Lori Fedyk

The Rev. Keith Fry Deacon John Weit

Kathryn Lohre

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