

**HOLY COMMUNION:** *Setting Four, July 26, 2020*

**8th Sunday after Pentecost - *modified***

**GATHERING**

**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.**

**CHILDREN'S TIME**

Song:

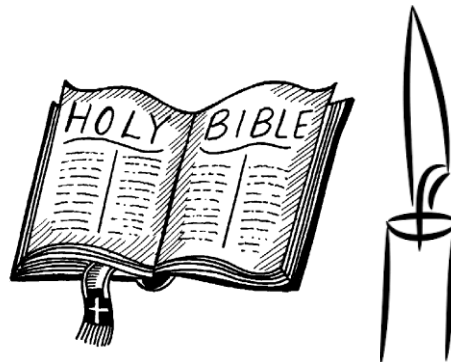
**“This Little Light of Mine”**

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.  
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.  
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.  
Let it shine, Let it shine, Let it shine!

Hide it under a bushel – NO! I'm gonna let it shine.  
Hide it under a bushel – NO! I'm gonna let it shine.  
Hide it under a bushel – NO! I'm gonna let it shine.  
Let it shine, Let it shine, Let it shine!

Won't let Satan 'blow' it out, I'm gonna let it shine.  
Won't let Satan 'blow' it out, I'm gonna let it shine.  
Won't let Satan 'blow' it out, I'm gonna let it shine.  
Let it shine, Let it shine, Let it shine!

All around the neighborhood, I'm gonna let it shine.  
All around the neighborhood, I'm gonna let it shine.  
All around the neighborhood, I'm gonna let it shine.  
Let it shine, Let it shine, Let it shine!



## **CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS** - *responsive*

A As we journey by faith in our world, let us acknowledge our sins and failures before God.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

A For our indifference toward His presence in our midst,

**C We confess to you, Lord.**

A For our desire to control the time and seasons of our own destinies,

**C We confess to you, Lord.**

For our injustices toward others – those we know and those we don't know,

**C We confess to you, Lord.**

A For lack of concern for those who will come after us,

**C We confess to you, Lord.**

A In the mercy of Almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all of our sins. To those of us who believe in Jesus Christ, he gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on us the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen.**

## **GATHERING HYMN**

### **What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine**

What a fellowship, what a joy divine,

Leaning on the everlasting arms;

What a blessedness, what a peace is mine,

Leaning on the everlasting arms.

Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms;

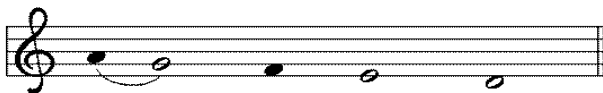
Leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.

**KYRIE** (*following*)

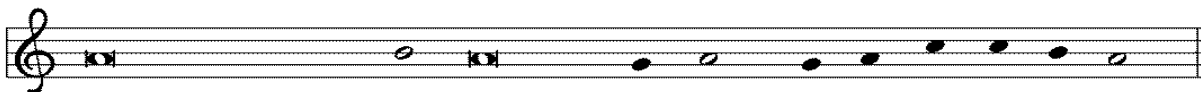
# Kyrie



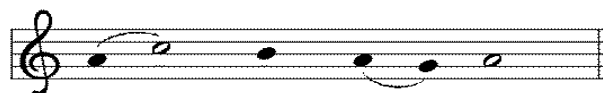
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



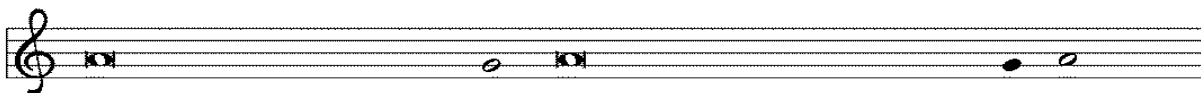
Lord, have mer - cy.



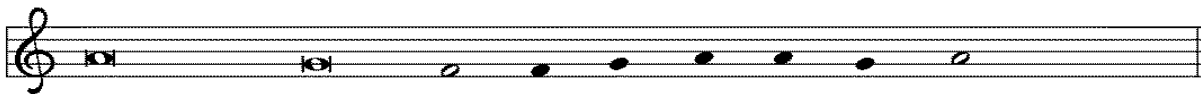
For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



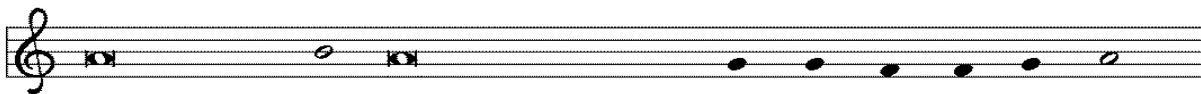
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



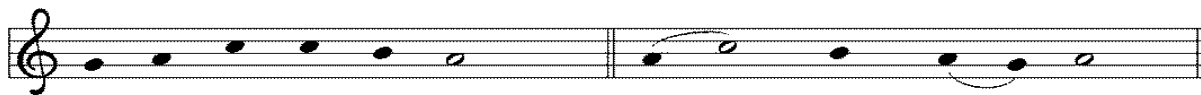
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



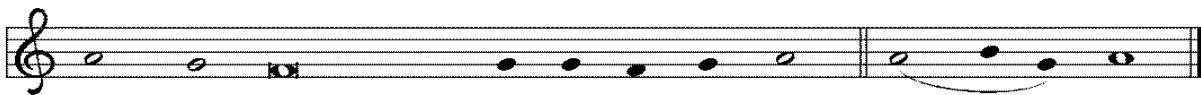
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

**(Assisting Minister)**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

**GOD'S WORD**

**HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52**

**The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.**

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Throughout Matthew's gospel, Jesus and his disciples proclaim the good news that "the kingdom of heaven is near!" Here, Jesus offers several brief parables that explore the implications of this announcement for people's lives.*

<sup>31</sup>[Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field;<sup>32</sup>it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

<sup>33</sup>He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

<sup>44</sup>"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

<sup>45</sup>"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; <sup>46</sup>on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

<sup>47</sup>"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; <sup>48</sup>when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. <sup>49</sup>So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous <sup>50</sup>and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

<sup>51</sup>"Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." <sup>52</sup>And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

*The reading is concluded: The Gospel of the Lord.*  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **SERMON**

### **APOSTLES' CREED**

With the whole church, let us 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.**

*(Assisting Minister)*

### **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION for July 26, 2020**

Faithful God, you are the Great Physician in all of our lives. Come to our aid now, in the midst of the global spread of the corona virus, healing all who are sick with this virus. Give courage and strength to all of us through this time. Lord in Your Mercy...**Hear Our Prayer.**

Faithful God, lead our President and Congress towards reconciliation and mutual collaboration for the good of our country's future as 'one nation under God'. Lord in Your Mercy... **Hear Our Prayer.**

Faithful God, continue to equip our church council, our church committees and the whole congregation in carrying out the ministries of Your Church. Lord in Your Mercy... **Hear Our Prayer.**

Faithful God, we pray for the sick, the homebound, those grieving loved ones who have died, those listed in our church bulletin prayer list and those we lift up this morning, either silently or out loud... Lord in Your Mercy...  
**Hear Our Prayer.**

Faithful God, hear the prayers of your people today and always. **Amen!**

## **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## **MEAL**

***(Assisting Minister)***

### **OFFERING PRAYER**

God of goodness and growth,  
all creation is yours,  
and your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.  
Water and word, wine and bread:  
these are signs of your abundant grace.  
Nourish us through these gifts,  
that we might proclaim your steadfast love  
in our communities and in the world,  
through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song.  
**Amen.**

### **GREAT THANKSGIVING** *(responsive)*

A God of our ancestors, friend in our midst,  
your children come before you.  
Here is food! Here is drink!  
These things are yours before they are ours.  
Now we are making a feast, but it is a thanksgiving:  
God, we are thanking you.  
With our ancestors in faith and all the hosts in heaven,  
O God, we thank you and rejoice.  
This food - we shall eat it in your honor!  
This drink - we shall drink it in your honor!

A We thank you for giving us life.

**C We thank you!**

A We thank you for giving us freedom.

**C We thank you!**

A We thank you for bringing us peace.

**C We thank you!**

A We thank you for the one who bore our sins upon the cross.

**C We thank you!**

A We thank you for the one who brought us over from death to life.

**C We thank you!**

A Father, send the Spirit of life, The Spirit of power and fruitfulness.

With the Spirit's breath, speak your word into these things.

Give us who eat and drink the living body and the lifeblood of Jesus,  
life and power and fruitfulness of heart and body.

Give us true communion with your Son.

P On the night of his suffering,  
he gave thanks for the bread that he held in his hands.

This bread he shared among his followers, saying:

'All of you, take this, eat this;

it is my body, handed over for you.

Do this and remember me.'

**C The body of Christ! Amen.**

P Then he shared drink with them, saying:

'All of you, take this, drink this; it is my blood, the blood of the  
new covenant that begins now and lasts forever.

This blood is poured out for you and for all people so that sins  
may be taken away. Do this and remember me.'

**C The blood of Christ! Amen.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

**PRAYER BEFORE HOLY COMMUNION**

These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

Come, for all is prepared.

**Amen.**

**COMMUNION**

**TABLE BLESSING**

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

**Amen.**

*(Assisting Minister)*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

God of the welcome table,

in this meal we have feasted on your goodness

and have been united by your presence among us.

Empower us to go forth sustained by these gifts

so that we may share your neighborly love with all,

through Jesus Christ, the giver of abundant life.

**Amen.**

**SENDING**

**BLESSING**

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

**Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN**

***Shine, Jesus, Shine***

***REFRAIN***

Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father's glory;

Blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire.

Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy;

Send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!



1. Lord, the light of your love is shining,  
In the midst of the darkness, shining;  
Jesus, light of the world, Shine upon us,  
Set us free by the truth you now bring us.  
Shine on me, shine on me;

***REFRAIN***

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. The Spirit sends us forth to serve.

**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**