Welcome to worship at New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran Church Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost October 15, 2023



In Isaiah we are given a vision of the great feast to come, when God will wipe away death forever. In Jesus' parable about a great banquet, those invited do not come, so the invitation is extended to others. In our liturgy God spreads a table before us. Even amid anxiety and hardship we rejoice in the peace of God which surpasses all understanding. With great joy we feast at the table of the Lord, and we go forth to share the wonderful invitation with others hungering and thirsting for the abundant life of God.

The Rev. Scott Staub, pastor Patricia Nyce, director of music ministry Lindsey Waltermyer, Grace band leader

We love our neighbors with healing and feeding them!

All worship can be viewed online at newhanoverlutheran.org facebook.com/NewHanoverLutheranChurch and on YouTube.

May your worship experience strengthen you with God's love and grace.

Prelude

Welcome

Please rise as you are able.

Gathering Hymn Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart! ELW #873

Call to Worship

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

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.

Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Centering Song

Hallelujah

Grace Band

Your love is amazing, steady and unchanging. Your love is a mountain, firm beneath my feet. Your love is a mystery, how you gently lift me. When I am surrounded, Your love carries me.

Chorus:

Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, Your love makes me sing. Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, Your love makes me sing.

Your love is surprising, I can feel it rising, All the joy that's growing deep inside of me. Every time I see You all Your goodness shines through, I can feel this God song rising up in me.

Chorus 3x

"Hallelujah" Words and music by Brenton Brown and Brian Doerksen. © 2000 Vineyard Songs (UK/Eire). All rights reserved. Reprinted with permission under CCLI License #2329082.

Please be seated.
Children's Message

Pastor Scott

First Reading Isaiah 25:1-9

A reading from the book of Isaiah

¹O LORD, you are my God;

I will exalt you, I will praise your name;

for you have done wonderful things,

plans formed of old, faithful and sure.

²For you have made the city a heap, the fortified city a ruin;

the palace of aliens is a city no more,

it will never be rebuilt.

³Therefore strong peoples will glorify you; cities of ruthless nations will fear you.

⁴For you have been a refuge to the poor, a refuge to the needy in their distress, a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat. When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm,

5the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place,
you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds;
the song of the ruthless was stilled.

⁶On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.

⁷And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; ⁸he will swallow up death forever.

Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,

for the LORD has spoken.

⁹It will be said on that day,

Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.

This is the LORD for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

Here ends the reading.

Please rise as you are able.

Gospel Acclamation

Sue Lowry, cantor



Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e-ter-nal life.

Gospel Matthew 22:1-14
The holy gospel according to Matthew
Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: ²"The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. ³He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. ⁴Again he sent other slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.' ⁵But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. ⁷The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. 8Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' ¹⁰Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

¹¹"But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, ¹² and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?' And he was speechless. ¹³Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' ¹⁴For many are called, but few are chosen."

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

Please be seated.

Message Pastor Scott

Please rise as you are able.

Song of the Day Your Grace Is Enough Grace Band

Great is Your faithfulness, O God You wrestle with the sinner's restless heart You lead us by still waters into mercy And nothing can keep us apart

Pre-Chorus:

(So) remember Your people Remember Your children Remember Your promise, O God

Chorus:

Your grace is enough Your grace is enough Your grace is enough for me

Verse 2:

Great is Your love and justice, God of Jacob You use the weak to lead the strong You lead us in the song of Your salvation And all Your people sing along

Pre-Chorus

Chorus 2x

Pre-Chorus

Chorus

Ending:

Yeah, Your grace is enough
Heaven reaches out to us
Your grace is enough for me
God I sing Your grace is enough
I'm covered in Your love
Your grace is enough for me, for me

Apostles' Creed
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:

[&]quot;Your Grace Is Enough" Words and music by Matt Maher. © 2003 Thankyou Music; spiritandsong.com. All rights reserved. Reprinted with permission under CCLI License #2329082.

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.

Prayers of Intercession God of grace, hear our prayer.

Lord's Prayer
Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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.

Our Father, who art in heaven,

Please be seated.
Offertory

Choir Anthem Arise, Shine, for Your Light Has Come

Announcements

[&]quot;Arise, Shine, for Your Light Has Come" by Allen Pote. © 1989 by Coronet Press. All rights reserved. Streamed with permission under ASCAP.

Please rise as you are able.

Sending Hymn Sent Forth by God's Blessing

ELW #547

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Go get'em!!!

Postlude Marche aux Flambeaux William Stickles

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Announcements

Help avoid conflicts. Since activities at the church are back to normal, check with staff before scheduling an event to be held at the church. Also, appointments are requested for staff members.

A Capital Funds Campaign is underway. Help NHELC raise \$74,000 for the HVAC and AVEL systems. Specially marked envelopes are available on the desk in the welcome center for your contribution. For more information, contact the church office at 610-326-1335.

Today

The bulletin is sponsored to the glory of God and in honor of their grandson Myles' sixth birthday by Doug and Bette Senne.

Last week's bulletin was sponsored to the glory of God and in memory of all her dearly loved prior pets and in honor of her present cat Ellie Mae by Nancy Wolfe.

The flowers are sponsored to the glory of God and memory of Bill and Lila Steltz by the Tracey family.

The Word in Season devotion booklet is sponsored to the glory of God and in memory of their daughter Lisa by Pastor Scott and Marsha Staub.

Serving Today Head Usher: George Trowbridge; Ushers: Bill Allen and Ron Fegley; Lector: Susan Swartz; Children's Sermon: Pastor Scott and Acolyte: Alexa Moser

Serving Next Sunday Head Usher: Barbara Repa; Ushers: Georgann Geiser and Rick Hausch; Lector: Faye Weidner; Children's Sermon: Donna Kehs and Acolyte: Rae Bechtel

Altar Guild Serving this Month Nancy Gross, Sue Care and Brenda Hunsberger

Due to several recent problems, the Property Committee requests worshippers to refrain from bringing drinks, other than water, into the sanctuary.

Adult Study Forum – The Phoenix Affirmation will meet this morning following the worship service in room 33. Discussion will be on Affirmation 4.

Calendar

Worship Service – Today, 9:00 AM, sanctuary and online
Food Drop Off – Today, 9:00 – 10:00 AM, kitchen
Food Delivery Pickup – Today, 10:00 AM, portico
JAM – Today, 10:15 AM, room 21
Praise Band Rehearsal – Today, 11:15 AM, sanctuary
Kids' Choir Rehearsal – Today, 11:20 – 11:50 AM, room 15
Rejoicing Spirits – Today, 2:30 PM, room 1, welcome center and sanctuary

Waive of Light Service -Today, 6:30 PM

AARP – Monday, 11:00 AM, room 1
Prayer Ministry – Monday, 1:15 PM, sanctuary
Cub Scouts – Monday, 6:30 – 8:30 PM, rooms 1, 14, 21-23, 27, 31, 33

Boy Scouts – Tuesday, 6:30 PM, room 1

Food Drop Off – Wednesday, 1:00 – 2:00 PM, kitchen **Food Delivery Pickup** –Wednesday, 1:30 PM, portico **Loaves & Fishes Dinner** – Wednesday, 5:45 PM, rooms 1, 11 **Addiction 12 Step** – Wednesday, 6:00 – 7:00 PM, room 32 **First Communion Workshop** – Wednesday, 6:30 – 7:30 PM, room 30

Chancel Choir Rehearsal – Wednesday, 6:30 – 7:45 PM, room 15

Cub Scout Committee – Wednesday, 7:00 – 9:00 PM, room 33

100 Days to Brave Challenge – Thursday, 10:00 – 11:30 AM, room 29

Bell Choir Rehearsal – Thursday, 6:15 – 7:30 PM, room 15 **Council** – Thursday, 7:00 PM, room 33

Scout District Roundtable – Thursday, 7:30 – 9:00 PM, room 1

Worship Service – Next Sunday, 9:00 AM sanctuary and online Food Drop Off – Next Sunday, 9:00 – 10:00 AM, kitchen Food Delivery Pickup – Next Sunday, 10:00 AM, portico JAM – Next Sunday, 10:15 AM, room 21
Praise Band Rehearsal – Next Sunday, 11:15 AM, sanctuary

Praise Band Rehearsal – Next Sunday, 11:15 AM, sanctuary **Kids' Choir Rehearsal** – Next Sunday, 11:20 – 11:50 AM, room 15

Pumpkin Frolic – Next Sunday, 2:00 – 4:00 PM, room 1

Rejoicing Spirits worship service This ministry supports people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, providing a meaningful worship experience for people of <u>all</u> abilities. All are welcome. For more information, contact Donna Kehs or Stacey Rothermel.

A Wave of Light service will be held this evening at 6:30 PM for the National Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day. This service will be held outdoors (weather permitting). If you know someone who has been touched by such a loss, invite the person to join us. Watch for further details in the bulletin and on Facebook. Contact Nikki Young with any questions.

Loaves & Fishes Dinner is this Wednesday at 5:45 PM. Take a break planning dinner and join your church family for the monthly Loaves & Fishes mid-week dinner in fellowship hall.

Upcoming Events

Pumpkin Frolic - Sign up by tomorrow, October 16! The

annual Pumpkin Frolic will be held next Sunday from 2:00 – 4:00 PM in fellowship hall. Come join the fun of pumpkin related activities including pumpkin decorating, fall crafts, scavenger hunt, games and snacks. Participants will be painting pumpkins, not carving them for safety purposes. Pumpkins and paint will be provided. This is a Thrivent Action team service project. There is no charge for this event; however, please bring nonperishable food for Preston's Pantry at Boyertown Multi-Service. Signup on the designated sheet on the welcome center desk or at https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4EAFAC2CAAF4C16-pumpkin1.

The Cemetery Committee will meet on Monday, October 23rd, at 7:00 PM in room 30.

The Zion Choral fall schedule is set. On Sunday, October 22nd, Trinity EC Church in Boyertown will host the singers in concert at 3:00 PM. For additional concerts, check out their schedule online at www.zionchoral.com and follow them on Facebook @ZionChoral. Also, the concert schedule is posted on the bulletin board in the Sunday School wing.

Hot Roast Beef Dinner, Saturday, November 11th, 4:00 – 7:00 PM The Swamp Picnic Hot Roast Beef Dinner is back for its second year. Enjoy a delicious meal of hot roast beef with gravy on white bread, homemade potato filling, green beans, pepper cabbage, applesauce, dessert and a drink. You can eat in or get your meal to go. The cost for a meal is: Adult, \$16; Senior, \$14; 6 to 10 years old, \$8 and children 5 and younger eat free. You MUST make a reservation for your meal(s) by noon on Sunday, November 6th. Reserve your meal(s) online at http://www.newhanoverlutheran.org, fill out an order slip at church or call the church office at 610-326-1335.

FRECON FARMS Pie Fundraiser Pack & Troop 367 are offering the Frecon Farms Thanksgiving Pie Fundraiser. Pies may be purchased at \$18/each: Pumpkin, Apple Lidded top, Apple Crumb top and Tart Cherry and \$20/each: Bourbon Pecan Apple, Rum Pecan, Apple Cherry. Also, you can donate a pie to Multi-Service (\$18) for their Thanksgiving dinner bags.

Scouts will earn \$4/pie which may be used for summer camp, dues, camping trips and other Scouting activities. A sign up sheet is on the desk in the welcome center or go online at https://tinyurl.com/367pies23. Orders are due by Sunday, November 5th, if using the sign up sheet or Tuesday, November 7th, if signing up online. Checks are made payable to NHELC-Troop 367. Pies may be picked up Sara Dawson's home at 2872 Marietta Way, Gilbertsville, on Tuesday, November 21st, from 4:00 – 7:00 PM. Any questions, contact Sara Dawson at saraedawson@yahoo.com or 610-585-3491.

You Can Help

Calling all bakers! Consider making and donating a cake or pie for the Hot Roast Beef Dinner. Our bakers provided an amazing selection of delicious baked goods for the Great Swamp Picnic and we would love to offer a yummy selection at this dinner. Donation drop off times will be announced. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Dreaming of being a TV producer/director? Sign up with Amy to learn how you can produce and direct our weekly worship service. The sessions will be scheduled for two hours at a time so you can learn and practice using the equipment. There are two spots or one family spot available per training session. Upcoming sessions include: Thursday, October 19th, 10 – noon; Sunday, October 22nd, 10 – noon, Wednesday, November 15th, 1 – 3 PM, Sunday, November 26th, 10 – noon, and Tuesday, November 28th, 6 – 8 PM. Additional dates and times will be available. **All Dates are subject to change. Check for a signup Genius at www.newhanoverlutheran.org.**

Volunteers are needed to help during the church service: Ushers, Lectors, Children's Sermons, Acolytes and Communion Assistants. Contact Faye Weidner at omiweidner@gmail.com or 484-929-5958 if you can help.

NEEDED: Gently used children's books for ages Newborn to 3rd Grade. "Mother Goose: Read to Me" is a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting very early literacy with infants and their

parents. Experienced volunteers distribute free, age-appropriate books to infants, birth to 18 months, and demonstrate to parents effective ways of talking and reading to babies to help build vocabulary skills. The gently used books are given to the older siblings of the newborn children. Unfortunately, we cannot distribute religious related books. Thank you for your help! Drop off your donations in the box in the Welcome Center. Any questions, contact Marcia Tonkin, "Mother Goose: Read to Me" volunteer at tonkin.3028@comcast.net or 610-220-6018.

Food Ministry

More than 160,000 meals have been delivered! NHELC's Loaves & Fishes Food Ministry is changing lives. And, you can be a part of the team. 1) You can donate food. Drop off your donation on Wednesdays between 1 – 2 PM and Sundays between 9 – 10 AM. Items most needed include: hamburger, chicken (thighs and breast meat), pasta (ziti, elbows, bowties), cheese (mozzarella, cheddar, parmesan), potatoes, fresh fruit (apples, oranges, bananas) and eggs. 2) Donate money through Thrivent Gift Cards. Place monetary donations in the offering plate or mail to the church. 3) Deliver meals. Sign up at https://www.newhanoverlutheran.org/loaves-fishes-food-ministry/.

Pastor Scott and congregation,

I want to thank you for visiting my mother Joan in the hospital when she was ill with COVID. It was comforting and I really appreciated it. It was also a huge blessing for her to receive the delivered meals. She isn't up to cooking much and makes it so much easier for her. With love, Susan Grebe

Spiritual Renewal

Need a prayer lifted up? The **NHELC Prayer Chain Ministry** is here for you. All information remains confidential. To request a prayer, contact Pastor Scott at psstaub@gmail.com or call the church office 610-326-1335 to leave him a voice mail. Your prayers will be delivered!

Prayer Warriors Wanted You are invited to join the warriors on Mondays at 1:15 PM in the sanctuary. Participants join in a brief

devotion and then pray together. They give thanks and then lift up in prayers neighbors both near and far. See Donna Kehs or Marsha Staub if you have any questions.

Reconciling in Christ

Reconciling in Christ (RIC) is a program of Reconciling Works, an independent Lutheran organization that works collaboratively with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). The purpose of the RIC Program is to ensure the welcome, inclusion, celebration, and advocacy for people of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions; work for racial equity and commit to anti-racist work and support the national program. The RIC program is not a certification or a designation of the ELCA. It is a voluntary program that congregations can choose to participate in. Congregations that participate in the RIC program are listed on the Reconciling Works website and are provided with resources to help them become more welcoming and inclusive communities.

100 Days to Brave Challenge

October 15 – A Case for Contrasting Jess Connolly

There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work. -1 Corinthians 12:4-6

A quick glance at my friends often leads me to worship God, because – God is so creative. It doesn't take much, I don't have to look too deep to see how vastly different they are – even just on the outside. The tones of their skin, the colors of their eyes, their different shapes and sizes. The way they laugh differently or style their hair. I'm a friend girl, and I see God so wildly at work in them – in the way God made them so distinctly and vastly contrasting.

It's interesting how we group together the words: compare and contrast, which are almost very similar in meaning but have taken on connotations and flavors of their own. When I think of comparison – there is a slight question of worth: we compare things to decide which has more value or is intrinsically better. And when I think of contrasting: I am only pointing out the distinct differences – not necessarily looking for similarities.

As a lover of God and a student of God's ways, I'm feeling a tug towards contrasting these days. While I think it's beautiful and bold to search for attributes I have in common with another human, I sense the spirit of God calling me to stand on the solid ground of one similarity alone: God made us and God loves us.

If you don't like look like me – God made us and God loves us both. That's irrefutable. If we disagree about politics – God made us and God loves us both. We have that in common. If our perspectives are different, I know this is still our starting point – God made us and God loves us both.

When we're girded by the knowledge of grace and the truth that we're both created and loved by God, I'm so much safer to spend my time worshipping God through contrast and forgetting comparison altogether.

I can look at our differences and see God's hand at work in your life, letting myself be in awe of God with every new facet I see. Suddenly, the contrasting leads me to an increased awe of how big and good my Father is – to make people so wildly different, for God's glory and the good of our world.

What's more: the practice of grateful and worshipful contrasting edges out any temptation or propensity for comparison – the dangerous practice of seeing our differences and assigning varied worth to who we are based on how we're different.

What if we ditched comparison for intentional contrasting – as a practice to worship God and how God has made these children God loves so much? What if we made ourselves students of how

people are different from one another, as an intentional practice to see the power and creativity of our very good Father?

This I know we have in common: God made us and God loves us both the same, way more than we could ever earn or deserve. But I'll make it my goal to contrast us now – never to separate us, always to unite our hearts in awe and worship of a God who would make us so intentionally different, on purpose, for our good and God's glory.

Want to join me this month? t your tables, but also as you move through the day? Let's allow contrasting to replace comparison, with the hope that it leads us into further worship of a Father who made us distinctly different because He's that big, that good, and that creative.

Question 1

Where is an area of life you find yourself struggling with comparison, and what would it look like to replace that with grateful appreciation of how God has made us vastly different?

Question 2

Where are you impressed by the creativity of God right now?

Question 3

What do you think is the root cause of comparison for you?

Question 4

How does celebrating the creativity of God and the differences of others free you up to live the vibrant life God's given you?

Prayer Requests

Long-term: Sarah Bowman, Keeley Staples, Logan Conley, Tina

Farrell, Carol Buchholtz Yost

Shut-in: Penny Frymoyer

Military: Shawn Dietz, Michael McHugh, Kevin Dugan, Jason Bernhard, Craig Geiser, Patrick Mathias, Steven Kane, William Zearfoss, Will Wilson V, Milton Jack Repa, Megan Fricker, Kyle

Woods

Peace for violence in our area and nationally

Toni Rath Katy Mahon-Miller Matt Hall Luann Hanley Carol Estes William Trotter Kathy Kane Maxwell Girard Pat Frver Betty Lou Shadle Jean Renninger Pr. Kork Moyer Julia Hauck Tony Mancini Raul Castro Amy LeVan Jeffrey Kunsch Wilma Lahr Jim Price Melissa Bernadette Phillips Mary Lou Doug Weaver Joan Wagner Robert Ganovsky **Dorothy Bingaman Emily Ocelus** Eric & Wendy Hess Sue Care Deb Matthews Anne Eshleman Daniel Johnson Marceline Chris Fatzinger Hank Droneberg Pena family Kim Frain Jen Perez Frank D. Pam Helfrich Barb & Tom Faust Andy Van Dyke Holli Muffler Janet Pam Abbott Mary Van Dyke Pr. Jennifer Phelps Louise Karns Denny Smith Jessica Trout Verdi Smith Mabel Gaugler Sandy Wesner Helen Foulke Carla Hausmann Joan Price Rodney Snell Betty Seroski Ralph Borneman Ruth Clemmer Lucille Powell Virginia Specht Bill Lowry Tom Fleagle Mary Alice Mack Jeffrey Weems Joan Scheffey Arnold Amundsen

New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran Church

2941 Lutheran Road Gilbertsville, PA 19525

Office Hours: Mon. – Fri., 9 AM - 2 PM Call 610-326-1335 for an appointment

Contact Information
Pastor, The Rev. Scott Staub
psstaub@gmail.com

Director of Children, Family & Youth Ministry, Nikki Young nikki.young@newhanoverlutheran.org

Church Office Manager, Susan Gutshall susan.gutshall@newhanoverlutheran.org

Director of Music Ministry, Patricia Nyce patricia.nyce@newhanoverlutheran.org

Food Ministry Director, Chris Fatzinger Cfatzinger@chris-cooks.com

Grace Band Director, Lindsey Waltermyer goldielw@gmail.com

Handbell Choir Director, Barbara Eisenhart eisenbarb@aol.com

Peer Support Recovery Ministry Team

peersupport@newhanoverlutheran.org
Sexton, Jen Boyer

jcboyer0408@gmail.com

Bookkeeper, Maria Boyer

mariaboyer@comcast.net

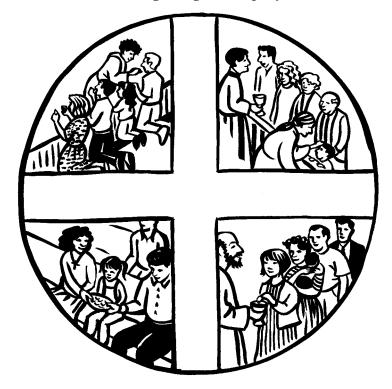
Cemetery

Bill Bauer, rwbauer7@gmail.com Norm Hunsberger, nhunsberger29@gmail.com



A fabulous feast

Holy Communion is a feast for all of us—friends and strangers. We share bread, wine, and blessings together at the table (altar), sing songs, and pray.



People celebrate Holy Communion many ways. Circle the picture closest to the way your congregation shares this fabulous feast!



Thank you, God, for inviting us to your fabulous feast. Amen.

This week

Make bread together and invite friends to share it with you.



dather

Welcome to worship! You are at a party for God's family! Look around at the decorations. What colors do you see? Are there candles? Is there going to be food? What are you going to do at this party? Now think about a party you have attended. What were the decorations like? What did you eat? What did you do? Imagine you are hosting a party for all of God's family.

Create and decorate an invitation to the most exciting party you can dream up!

Please Come to: God's Family Party	
When: Where:	
Food: Fun:	



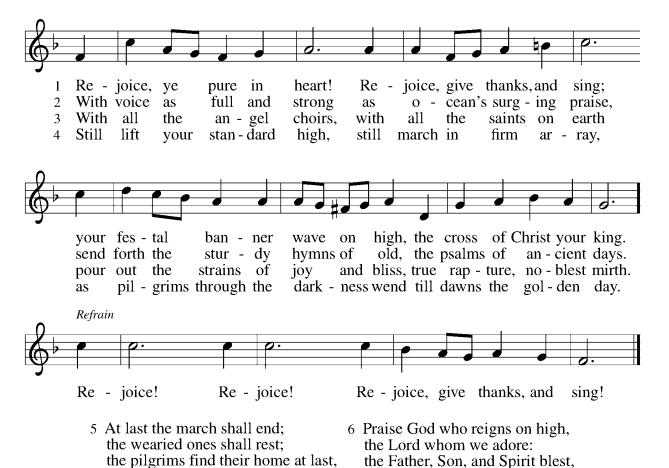
The fabulous feast

Matthew 22:1-14 Today's gospel is about a huge wedding feast. The king invited everyone—even strangers! God is like the king in this story. Each of us is invited to be a wedding guest. Will you go to the party?

Draw yourself at this fabulous feast.

Find 3 people who don't feel welcome to join the party and are hiding. How might you help them? How can you tell God is at this party?

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!



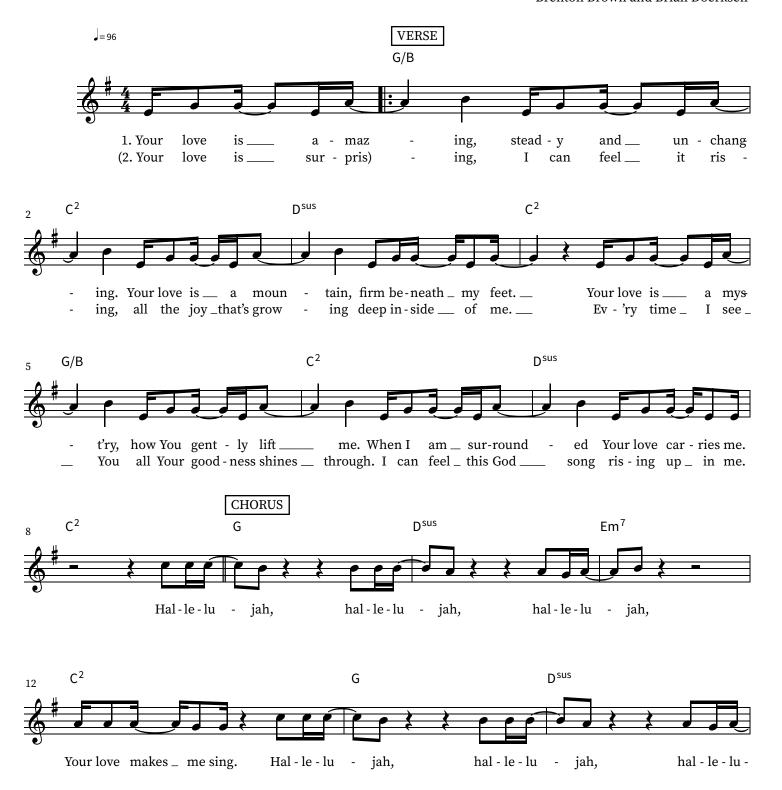
"Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!" Text: Edward H. Plumptre, 1821-1891, alt. Music: MARION, Arthur H. Messiter, 1834-1916. Text and music are in public domain.

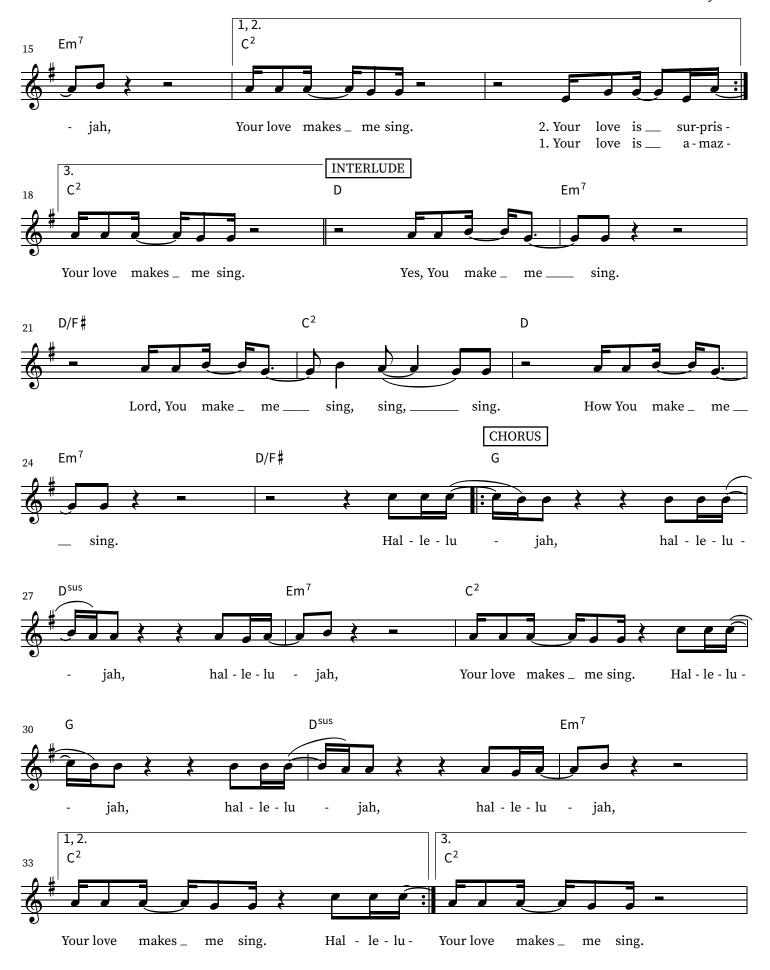
one God forevermore. Refrain

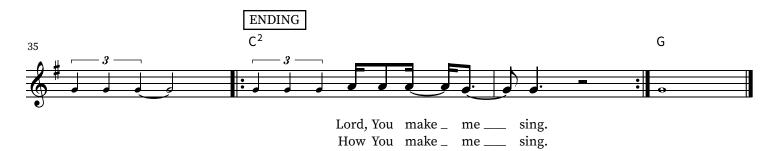
Jerusalem the blest. Refrain

Hallelujah

Words and Music by Brenton Brown and Brian Doerksen





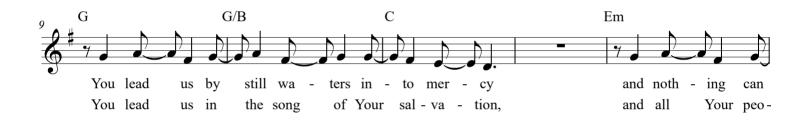


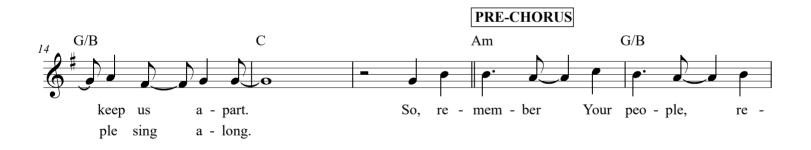
Your Grace Is Enough

Words and Music by Matt Maher

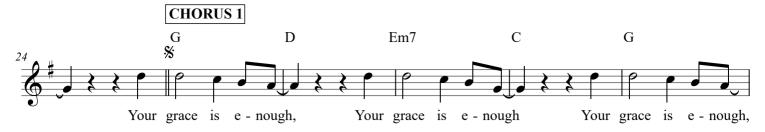






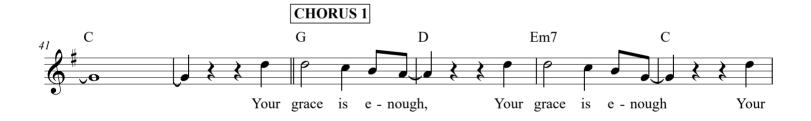


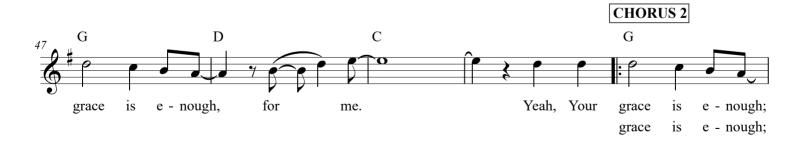


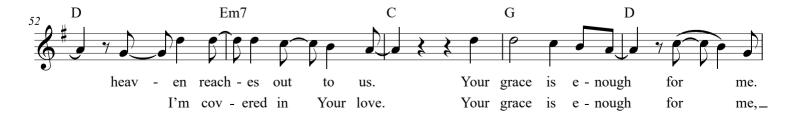


















Sent Forth by God's Blessing



"Sent Forth by God's Blessing" Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916-1997, alt. Music: THE ASH GROVE, Welsh folk tune. Arrangement by Augsburg Fortress. Text © 1964 World Library Publications. All rights reserved. Reprinted and streamed with permission under One License #A-701229.