# Called to Serve Lutheran Lobby Day Worship Service

May 27, 2025 | 6:00 p.m.\*\*

\*\*Please note that this service is livestreamed and you may be recorded on video\*\*

#### GATHERING

**PRELUDES** 

#### Golden Gates (2010)

P. DECKER

"Commissioned by the American Guild of Organists, San Francisco Chapter, for the 2011 Region IX Convention, the work explores the melting pot and bridging of cultures in the city of San Francisco. Featuring a Chinese flute melody and a Hispanic hymn, the melodies are followed later with flashes of tango and flamenco rhythms."

> Rhosymedre ("Lovely") (from 3 Preludes Founded on Welsh Hymn Tunes) R. VAUGHAN WILLIAMS

RINGING OF THE BELLS

WELCOME Pastor Jon Haug

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

#### Amor Dei Vivi In Mundo

R. ENRIGHT

As music begins, please turn and face the Processional Cross.

\*INVITATION TO WORSHIP

O God, you are our God—we rise early to seek you.

In a land where too many thirst for justice,

Our souls thirst for you,

our bodies ache for your presence in this weary world.

We have seen your power in sacred places and glimpsed your glory in community.

Your steadfast love is better than life itself;

with open hearts and lifted hands, we praise your name.

You satisfy us with hope like a feast,

and even in the long night of waiting, we remember your faithfulness.

In the shelter of your wings, we find courage you are our help in every season.

<sup>\*</sup> You are invited to stand.

Though lies are loud and harm is near, you hold fast to the truth and call us to speak it boldly.

You uphold those who follow after justice, and strengthen all who work for the good of your people.

All together:

Let us worship the Living God—who quenches our thirst, sustain our witness, and leads us from sanctuary into the public square. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

## When I Return (Homeward Bound)

J. Althous & M. Keen

In the quiet misty morning when the moon has gone to bed,
When the sparrows stop their singing and the sky is clear and red.
When the summer's ceased its gleaming, when the corn is past its prime.
When adventure's lost its meaning, I'll be homeward bound in time.
Bind me not to the pasture: chain me not to the plow.
Set me free to find my calling and I'll return to you somehow.

If you find it's me you're missing, if you're hoping I'll return;
To your thoughts I'll soon be list'ning, in the road I'll stop and turn.
Then the wind will set me racing as my journey nears its end,
And the path I'll be retracing when I'm homeward bound again.
Bind me not to the pasture: chain me not to the plow.
Set me free to find my calling and I'll return to you somehow.

In the quiet misty morning when the moon has gone to bed, When the sparrows stop their singing, I'll be homeward bound, again.

\*PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Assisting Minister Gary Ely-Grisham

After each petition: Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

#### Where Justice Rolls Down

R. CARLSON

Refrain sung once by Cantors. Thereafter, entire song sung by all.



#### \*Greeting

The grace of Jesus Christ our Savior, the reconciling love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.





\*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O God of holy encounters and boundary-breaking grace,

You send your Spirit to cross borders and raise questions that lead to liberation. Draw us into the waters of baptism again and again, that we may die to exclusion and rise to joy alongside those the world tries to keep out. Open our hearts to hear your good news in unexpected places and voices, and teach us to rejoice in the widening circle of your love. In the name of Jesus Christ, who meets us on the road and calls us into new life. Amen.

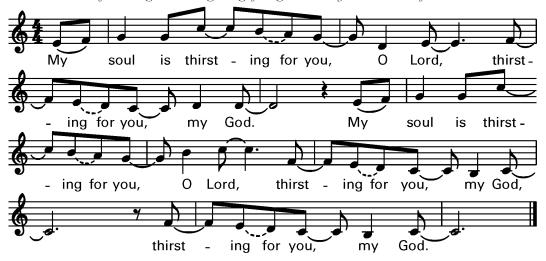
#### WORD

PSALM 63

#### My Soul Is Thirsting

S. Angrisano

Refrain sung twice at beginning of song. 1st time by cantors, thereafter all.



Verses O God, you are my God, and I will always praise you.

In the shadow of your wings I cling to you and you hold me high. Refrain

Through the day you walk with me; all the night your love surrounds me.

To the glory of your name I lift my hands, I sing you praise. Refrain

I will never be afraid, for I will not be abandoned.

Even when the road grows long and weary your love will rescue me. *Refrain* 

LESSON Acts 8:26-40

Led by the Spirit, Philip encounters an Ethiopian official who is returning to his African home after having been to Jerusalem to worship. Philip uses their encounter to proclaim the gospel to him. Upon coming to faith in Jesus, he is baptized by Philip.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

\*GOSPEL PROLOGUE

Holy one, soften our hearts and slow our racing minds to truly hear your living Word.

Before the reading: The Holy Gospel according to John.

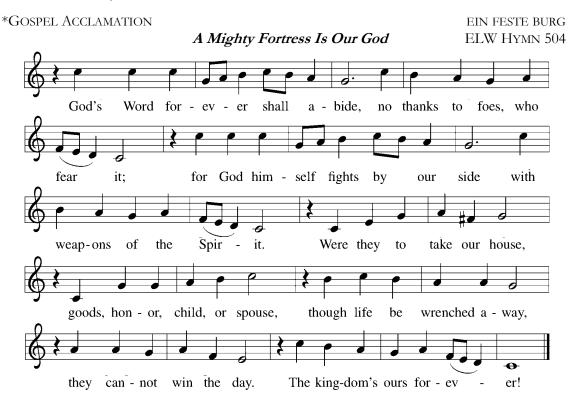
Glory to you, O Lord.

\*GOSPEL READING

John 15:18-27

After the reading: The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.



Rev. Dr. Yvette Flunder

#### SERMON

#### SERMON RESPONSE

Let the words of my mouth

and the meditation of our hearts be acceptable to you, O Lord, our rock and our redeemer. Amen.

#### AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism as we come before God to make public affirmation of baptism into Christ.

Let us pray. Merciful God, we thank you that you have made us your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called us to yourself, enlightened us with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished us in the community of faith. Uphold us and all your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ.

#### Amen.

#### \*Profession of Faith

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

I renounce them.

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

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.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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.

#### \*AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

to live among God's faithful people,

to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,

to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,

to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,

and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

If so, please respond, "I do, and I ask God to help and guide me."

I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

People of God, do you promise to support and pray for one another in your life in Christ? We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life. Stir up in your people the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence both now and forever.

Amen.

#### **MEAL**

#### **OFFERTORY**

As we come together living out our faith in unity we trust in our God's loving care to provide for all we need. Let us respond generously to God's abiding love with our tithes and offerings. You are invited to scan the QR codes located in the pews in front of you and leave an online offering or you can leave any tithe, offering or connection cards in the collection plates as they are passed around or any located near the exits.

#### OFFERTORY MUSIC

#### Offertory

J. N. BECK

With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high?

Shall I come before Him with burnt offerings, shall I come before Him with yearling calves?

Will the Lord be pleased with thousand of rams, with ten thousand rivers of oil?

Shall I give my firstborn for my transgressions, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?

He has shown you, O man; He has shown you what is good.

And what does the Lord require of you but to do justice and to love kindness,

and to walk humbly, walk humbly with your God?

#### \*Offertory Prayer

Let us pray. Risen One,

you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world. Amen.

#### \*Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

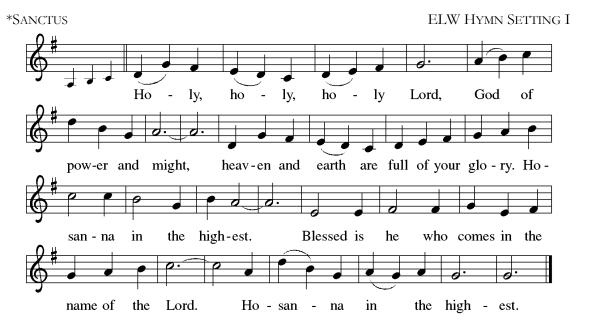
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

#### \*Preface

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, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



#### \*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God. The universe declares your praise: beyond the stars; beneath the sea; within each cell; with every breath.

#### We praise you, O God.

Generations bless your faithfulness: through the water; by night and day; across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future.

#### We bless you, O God.

We give you thanks for your dear Son: at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer; beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now.

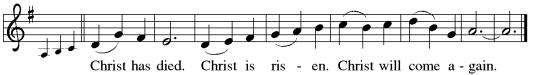
#### We thank you, O God.

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.

Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith.

ELW HYMN SETTING I



We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; through the world. Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end.

ELW HYMN SETTING I



#### \*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.

#### \*PEACE

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives.

Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid."

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

#### DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

All are welcome here at God's table. We believe Christ is truly present in the bread and wine through the faith of those who gather. Jesus invites you to this meal that imparts God's free gift of grace.

We share the meal by intinction; as you approach the center you will be handed a wafer that you may dip into the wine or juice. Grape juice is in the smaller compartment, and gluten free wafers are available upon request.

If you do not wish to commune, you may come forward for a blessing.

Indicate this by crossing your arms over your chest.





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#### POST-COMMUNION MEDITATION

NEGRO SPIRITUAL

John's Gone Down on de Island\*

H. T. Burleigh

I look away yonder, what do I see? John's gone down on de Island in de mornin;'

A band of angels after me, John's gone down on de Isalnd in de mornin'.

In de mornin,' in de morning,' John's gone down on de Island in de morning.'

I haven't been to Heav'n but I've been told, John's gone down on de Isalnd in de mornin;' De streets are pearl an' de gates are gold, John's gone down on de Island in de mornin.' In de mornin,' in de morning,' John's gone down on de Island in de morning.'

\*Rev. 1 - The revelation from Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show his servants what must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John, who testifies to everything he saw—that is, the word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ. Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear it and take to heart what is written in it, because the time is near.

#### \*SACRAMENTAL BLESSING

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

Amen.

#### \*POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. Living One,

in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world. Amen.

#### **SENDING**

\*BENEDICTION



#### \*DISMISSAL

Go in peace, serve the Lord, and live God's love in the world.

#### **POSTLUDE**

Jubilee (1959)

L. SOWERBY



Lutheran Social Services of Northern California (LSS) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting stability and honoring the dignity of individuals and families by providing supportive housing services that lead to self-sufficiency. Serving over 4,000 people annually across seven Northern California counties—including Sacramento, San Francisco, Contra Costa, and San Joaquin—LSS offers a range of programs such as transitional and permanent supportive housing, youth employment initiatives, and financial management services. Founded in 1968, LSS operates on a nonsectarian basis, welcoming individuals of all backgrounds, and is part of a national network of Lutheran social ministry organizations.



### SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Lutheran Social Services of Southern California (LSSSC) is a nonprofit, faith-based organization dedicated to embracing, equipping, and empowering vulnerable individuals, families, and communities toward self-sufficiency. Established in 1946, LSSSC operates over 70 programs across nearly 20 locations in Southern California, offering services such as emergency assistance, housing support, mental health care, senior services, and workforce development.

Guided by values of compassion, advocacy, and innovation, LSSSC strives to create a community where the vulnerable are safer and stronger, the dependent become self-sustaining, the isolated find community, and the weary are given hope.

### **SERVING IN WORSHIP**

**Welcome** Pastor Jon Haug

Presider/Liturgist Rev. Melanie Mullen

**Preacher** Rev. Dr. Yvette Flunder,

Sr. Pastor City of Refuge United Church of Christ in Oakland and Presiding Bishop of the Fellowship of Affirming Ministries

**Assisting Minister** Gary Ely-Grisham

LectorRegina BanksOrganDr. Ryan EnrightPianoSteven JohnsonSoloistLorenzo Ramsey

Cantors Joel Barkel, Heather Mercer

Guitar Scot SorensonDrum Dean Chance

Choirs of St. John's

Altar Guild Eliseo Paniagua

**Eucharistic Servers** Dixie Hansen, John Halpert Casey Dunsworth, Edie Lott

**Ushers** David Gist, Sylvia Mueller

Audio TechnicianJohn BologniVisual TechniciansEliseo Paniagua