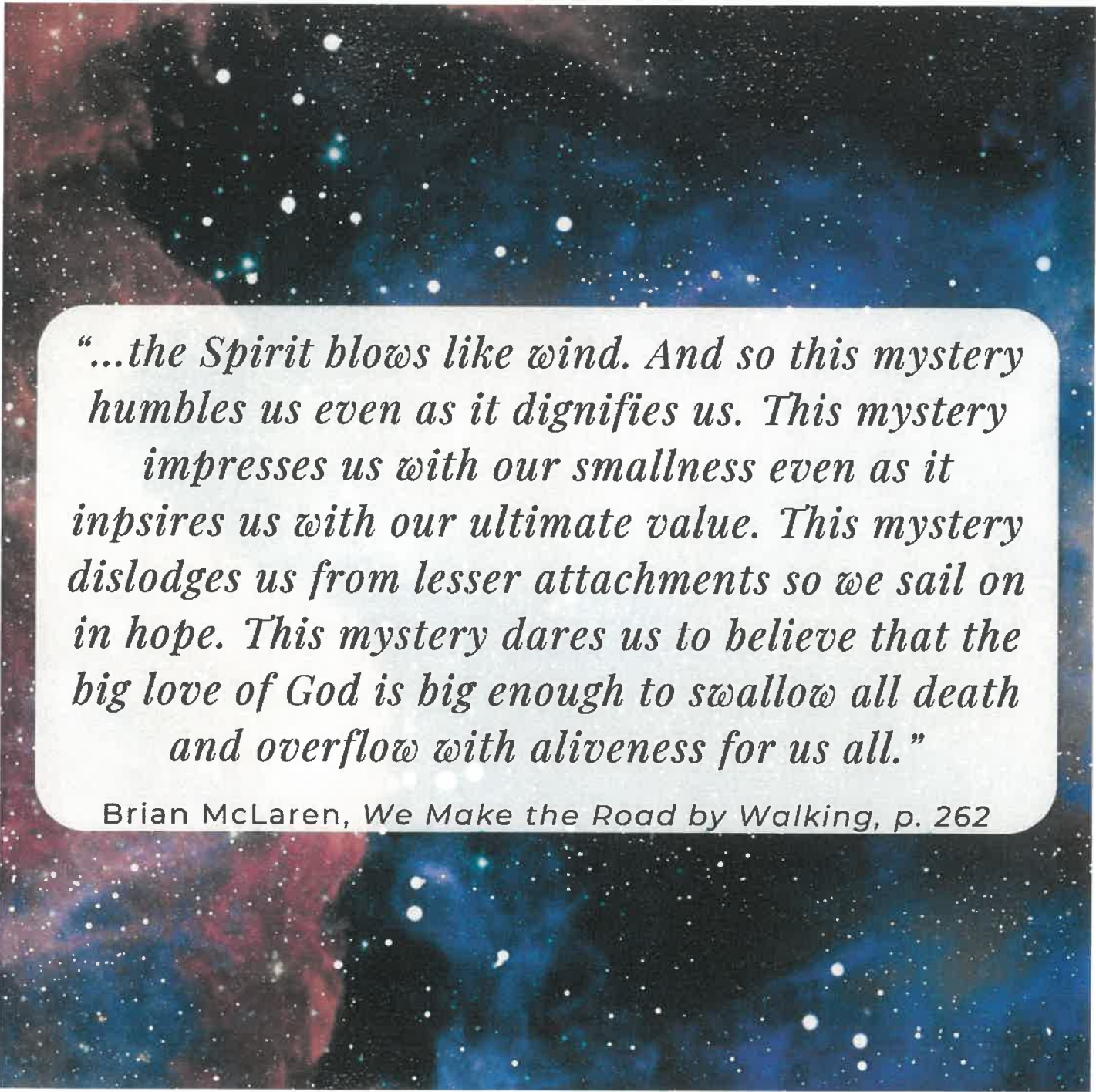


Valley of Peace Lutheran Church

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

August 31, 2025



"...the Spirit blows like wind. And so this mystery humbles us even as it dignifies us. This mystery impresses us with our smallness even as it inspires us with our ultimate value. This mystery dislodges us from lesser attachments so we sail on in hope. This mystery dares us to believe that the big love of God is big enough to swallow all death and overflow with aliveness for us all."

Brian McLaren, *We Make the Road by Walking*, p. 262



WELCOME to Valley of Peace.
We are glad you are here.

We give thanks to God for all people and want all people to feel comfortable participating in worship. If you need any assistance please let our Ushers know. We are happy to offer hearing assistance devices, move chairs to make worship feel more accessible for you, and offer any other support that would be meaningful for you in this space.

All ages are welcome to worship at Valley of Peace and we give thanks for the voices of our littlest ones. If you feel that your little one is wiggly, you are welcome to go with them to stretch their legs in the narthex where there is a small area with books and toys and you can hear the worship service. There are also bags available for you to put toys and books in and bring them into the sanctuary space.

And again, welcome to worship this day. This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Interested in becoming a Member? Let Pastor Ashley know by September 29, 2025

Our next New Member Class is: Sunday, October 5, 2025 after worship.

SENSORY ACTIVITIES AND SPACES AT VOP

Sensory integration is the process by which individuals receive information through our senses, (Vision, Hearing, Smell, Taste, Touch, Vestibular/Movement, and Proprioception/Body Position), organize this information, and use it to participate in activities.

Each person reacts to sensory information differently. People of all ages can have sensory issues that make it more difficult to participate depending on the environment. Sensory issues are very complex because a person's sensory system could be a mixture of over reactive, under reactive, or actively engaged.

After assessing need, Emilie Moravec has been working with a few community members to make our space more welcoming for those with sensory needs. The following items are now available at the Welcome Center for individuals with sensory needs:

- Ear defender headphones
- Earplugs
- Sunglasses
- Weighted lap pads
- Battery powered fans
- Fidget blanket

Please speak with an usher or volunteer at the Welcome Center to find these items. Additional fidget supplies are available near the "busy bag" tree in the narthex outside of the sanctuary. These sensory tools are intended to promote regulation, improve focus, increase participation, and make our space more accessible and welcoming to children, teens, and adults with sensory processing needs.

If you are in need of change of environment while at Valley of Peace, the following areas are available:

- **Narthex** - provides space for movement right outside of the sanctuary. The worship service can still be seen and heard.
- **Fireside Room** - Near the top of the staircase, on the same level as the sanctuary. This space provides comfortable seating where the worship service can still be heard.
- **Youth Room** - The Youth room is located on the lowest level of the church and will contain a "quiet corner" with soft lighting and no worship sounds.

Sources: Mailloux Z & Smith Roley S. Sensory Integration Development and Early Signs of Difficulties. July 2013

Valley of Peace Lutheran Church
August 31, 2025
9:30 a.m.

Welcome to Worship.

Just a few things to note as you prepare to worship.

*You are invited to participate in worship by reading the **BOLD** print.*

When you see +, please stand in body or in spirit.

*ELW is the red hymnal and ACS is the purple hymnal,
both located in the bottom of the pew in front of you.*

If you need any assistance please ask an Usher. They are happy to help.

GATHERING MUSIC *All Things Bright and Beautiful* 17th Century English Melody

WORDS OF WELCOME

PRELUDE

+OPENING HYMN Red ELW 742 *What a Friend We Have in Jesus*

+CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

When we don't know how or what to pray, the Spirit knows.
When all we can muster are sighs and groans, the Spirit knows those also.
When we feel that we aren't even worthy to approach God,
the Spirit goes before us and with us and God welcomes us with arms open.
Let us confess our sins. *Observe a time of silence for reflection.*

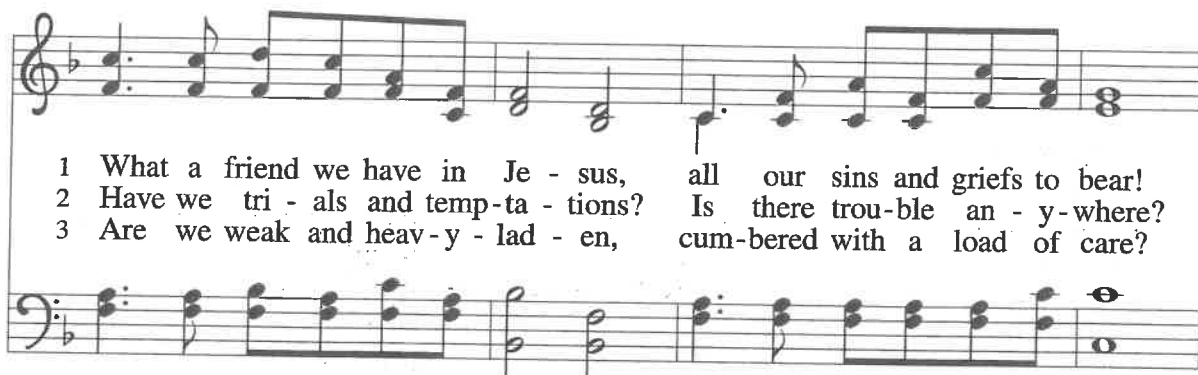
Merciful God, you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us and show us the path of life.

You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of + Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven and you are made new. **Amen.**

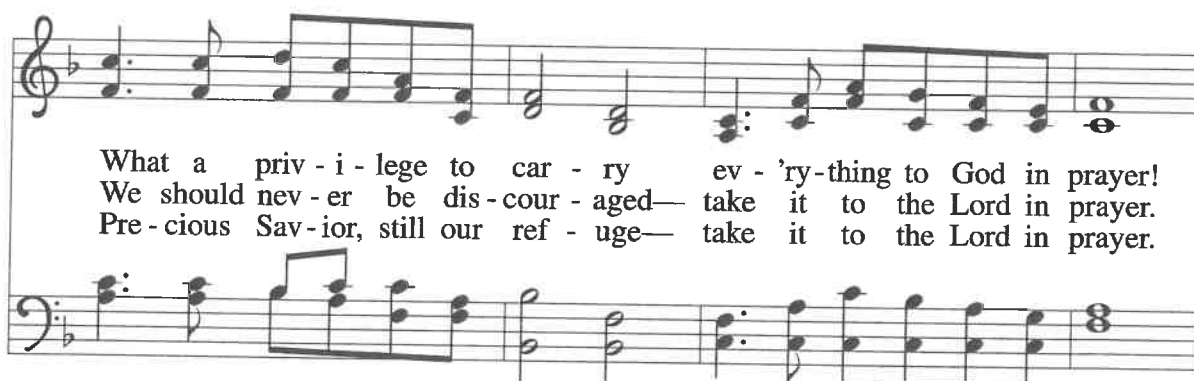
+SUNG RESPONSE Purple ACS 1015 *As a Mother Comforts Her Child*
music on page 4.

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

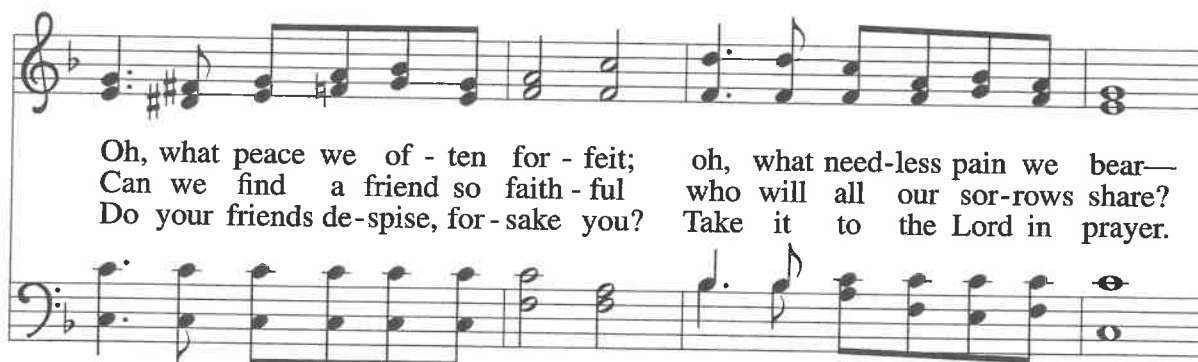
742



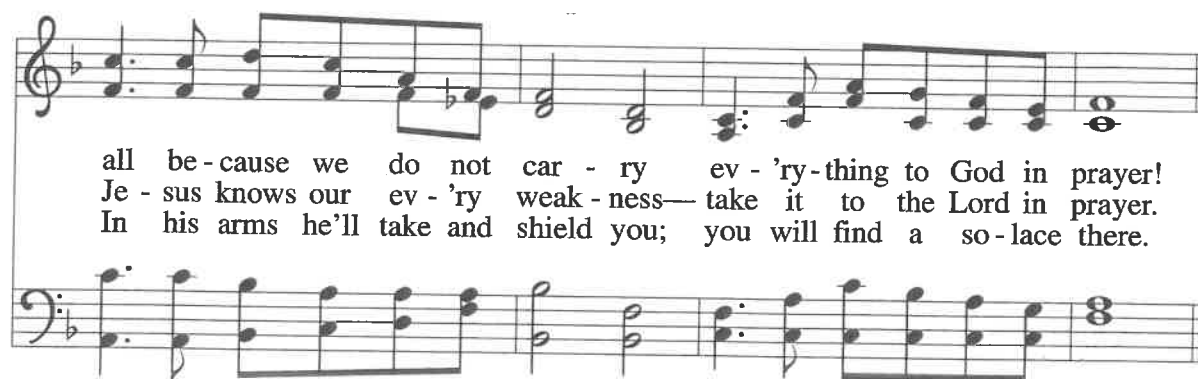
1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
 2 Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions? Is there trou - ble an - y - where?
 3 Are we weak and heav - y - lad - en, cum - bered with a load of care?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer!
 We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged— take it to the Lord in prayer.
 Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge— take it to the Lord in prayer.



Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit; oh, what need - less pain we bear—
 Can we find a friend so faith - ful who will all our sor - rows share?
 Do your friends de - spise, for - sake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer.



all be - cause we do not car - ry ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer!
 Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak - ness— take it to the Lord in prayer.
 In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a so - lace there.



As a moth-er com-forts her child, so God will com - fort you.



As a hen gath-ers her brood, so Christ will gath - er you.



As a wise one coun-sels her friend, so the Spir-it will coun-sel you.



The Trin - i - ty of love will be with you.

+PASSING THE PEACE

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the peace of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Share the Spirit of Peace with one another.

+SHARING OF THE PEACE

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Almighty God, your love never fails, and you can turn the shadow of death into daybreak. Help us to receive your word with open hearts, so that, confident in your promises, we may have hope and be lifted out of sorrow and into the joy and peace of your presence; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

FAITH MOMENT

Spirit of the Living God

101

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall fresh on me,

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall fresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall fresh on me.

SCRIPTURE READING.....Romans 8:31-39

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

+HYMN OF THE DAY PURPLE ACS 1033 *Nothing Can Trouble*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Response— Spirit, intercede for us, **hear our prayer.**

OFFERTORY & MUSIC *Come, Thou Font of Every Blessing* Arr. by Phillip Keveren

Electronic Giving



+OFFERTORY PRAYER

Holy God, **we dedicate our time and treasure to you for the good of your whole creation, which even now you are still enacting. We pray that you will multiply these humble gifts toward a future of greater justice, flourishing, and joy. Amen.**

+HOLY COMMUNION

God be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to God.**

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

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.

+LORD'S PRAYER

With hope, we join our voices with the voices of countless generations, languages, and communities as we pray the words Jesus taught us.

**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**

Nothing Can Trouble

Nada te turbe

HOPE, ASSURANCE

1033

Am Dm⁷ G CM⁷

Na - da te tur - be, na - da te_es - pan - te.
Noth - ing can trou - ble, noth - ing can fright - en.

F Bdim/D Esus E Am Dm⁷

Quien a Dios tie - ne na - da le fal - ta. Na - da te tur - be,
Those who seek God shall nev - er go want - ing. Noth - ing can trou - ble,

G CM⁷ F Bdim/D E Am

na - da te_es - pan - te. So - lo Dios bas - ta.
noth - ing can fright - en. God a - lone fills us.



+COMMUNION INVITATION

At Pentecost, the Holy Spirit flung the invitation far and wide to participate fully in the body of Christ. Following her example, we set this Table as a place without limits, entrance requirements, or any type of finitude. The invitation already has your name on it. Come, all who wish to take part in the joyful feast.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION & HYMNS

Red ELW 517 *Lord, Keep Us Steadfast*

All are welcome to receive communion at Valley of Peace. We serve communion every Sunday by intinction. After the pastor speaks the words of distribution to online worshippers, the ushers will then invite worshippers physically present to receive communion.

If you are receiving communion by intinction, there will be bread and gluten-free wafers available. As you come forward to receive communion, a communion server will serve you your preference. Please take the bread or wafer and dip it into your preference of either wine or juice. The first chalice will contain red wine and the second chalice will contain white grape juice.

If you prefer to not receive communion by intinction there are pre-packaged communion kits with a gluten-free wafer and grape juice. You may pick this up on your way to communion.

*If you prefer not to receive communion at all,
please come forward with your hands across your chest and you will receive a blessing.
If you are unable to come forward, please let an usher know and communion will be brought to you.*

+COMMUNION BLESSING

+PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we received your grace.
Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

+BLESSING

+SENDING HYMN RED ELW 660 *Lift High the Cross*

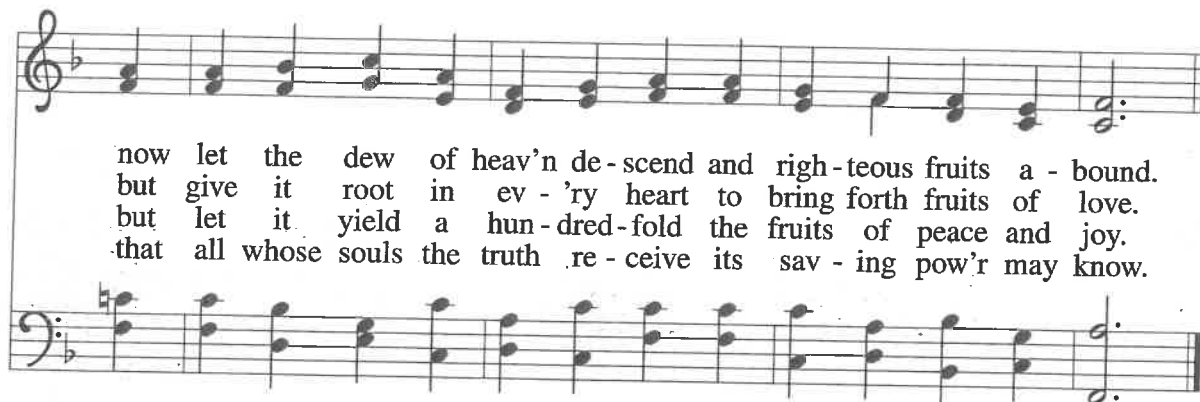
+DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

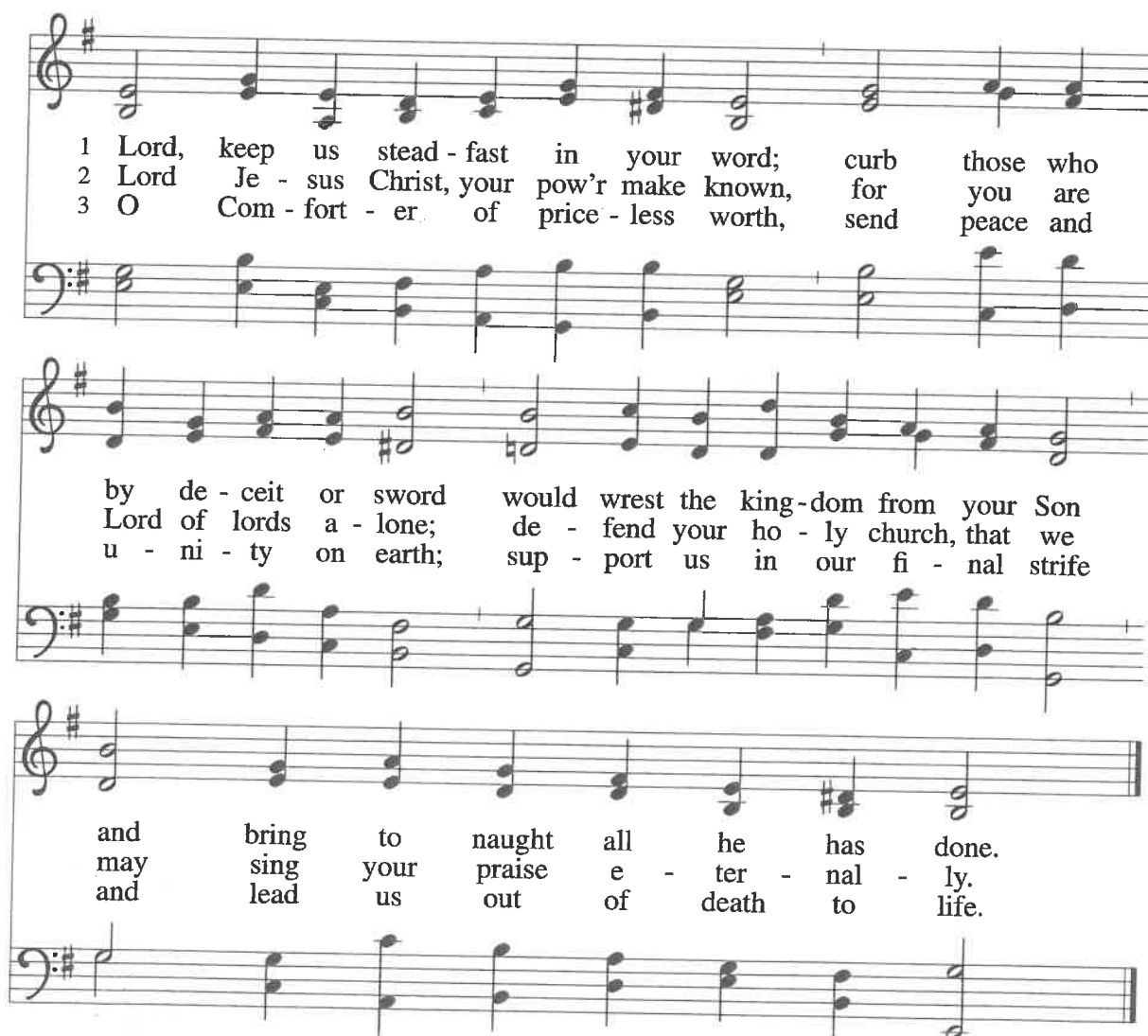
Postlude in C Major

by P. Zipoli



now let the dew of heav'n de-scend and righ-teous fruits a-bound.
 but give it root in ev-'ry heart to bring forth fruits of love.
 but let it yield a hun-dred-fold the fruits of peace and joy.
 that all whose souls the truth re-ceive its sav-ing pow'r may know.

Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word 517



1 Lord, keep us stead-fast in your word; curb those who
 2 Lord Je-sus Christ, your pow'r make known, for you are
 3 O Com-fort-er of price-less worth, send peace and

by de-ceit or sword would wrest the king-dom from your Son
 Lord of lords a-lone; de-fend your ho-ly church, that we
 u-ni-ty on earth; sup-port us in our fi-nal strife

and bring to naught all he has done.
 may sing your praise e-ter-nal-ly.
 and lead us out of death to life.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt.
 Music: J. Klug, *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543

ERHALT UNS, HERR
 LM

Lift High the Cross

660

Refrain

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim till

all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.

1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our cap - tain trod,
 2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied
 3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
 4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

Refrain

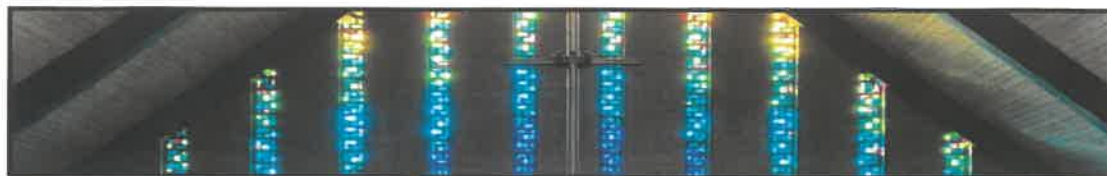
our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
 bear on their brows the seal of him who died.
 as thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to thee.
 praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827-1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874-1956

Music: Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875-1947

Text and music © 1974 Hope Publishing Company

CRUCIFER
10 10 10 10



In Worship Today

Presider/Preacher.....	Pastor Ashley Osborn
Pianist/Organist.....	Beth Brandt
Opener/Closer.....	Pat McGraw/Jim Jasper
Greeter.....	Erik Daniels
Welcome Center.....	Julia Madison
Ushers.....	Judy Greeninger, Casey Balint, Alex Balint, Dee Kenall
Faith Moment.....	Pastor Ashley
Reader.....	Kari Roll
Worship Assistant.....	Kari Roll
Communion Servers.....	Paul & Barb Mikelson, Carolyn Rask, Dee Kendall
Coffee Cart.....	Margaret Wallace
Tech.....	Matt Dellwo
Altar Care.....	Linda Franz

The Altar Flowers are given by Leslie and Dave Gilyard in memory of Leslie's brother, William Hurst Miller (Sandy) who passed away in 1943 at the age of 2 months.

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In Worship on Sunday, September 7, at 10:15 a.m.

Presider/Preacher.....	Pastor Ashley Osborn
Pianist/Organist.....	Beth Brandt
Special Music.....	One and Done Choir
Opener/Closer.....	Jon & Ruth Larson
Greeter.....	Diane Hinderlie
Welcome Center.....	Sally Daniels Herron
Ushers.....	Pam Syverson and Wes Syverson, Ken and Lynn Schneider
Faith Moment.....	Pace Warfield
Reader.....	Andy Dybvig
Worship Assistant.....	Sara Blood
Communion Servers.....	Ruth & Jon Larson
Coffee Cart.....	Rally Sunday Festivities outside
Tech.....	Melissa Dellwo
Altar Care.....	Pat Hepner

**For more information and a calendar of activities visit
www.valleyofpeace.org**

Valley of Peace Staff

Pastor

Ashley Osborn
(she/her/hers)

aosborn@valleyofpeace.org

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(she/her/hers)

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Director of Children, Youth and Family &

Pace Warfield

(they/them/theirs)

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Reconciling In Christ Statement

We recognize that each person is a unique creation of God and, by grace, is called a child of God, without exception and regardless of gender, race, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical or mental ability, age, station in life, or political affiliation.



