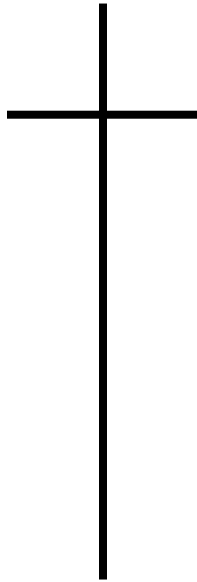


Memorial Service of Holy Communion

for

Peter David Armstrong

February 17, 2006 – November 12, 2025



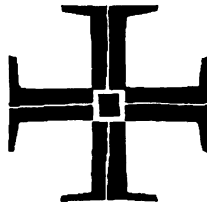
December 20, 2025 ■ 11:00 a.m.
Saturday in the Third Week of Advent

Grace Lutheran Church ■ River Forest, Illinois

✠ GATHERING ✠

FOR AS MUCH as Peter departed this life in the Christian faith, we his brothers and sisters in Christ are gathered to worship, express our mutual grief, and seek comfort in the hope of the resurrection. We gather to worship the Lord of Life, who keeps us in fellowship with the saints of every time and place, particularly as God gathers us together in Holy Communion.

IN THE LORD'S SUPPER the crucified and risen Christ is present, giving his true body and blood as food and drink. We welcome all baptized Christians to the table where Christ himself is host. For those who find it difficult to walk forward for the distribution, please contact an usher so that Holy Communion may be brought to you.



PRELUDE

We stand.

ENTRANCE RITE

- P** Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the source of all mercy and the God of all consolation.
He comforts us in all our sorrows so that we can comfort others
in their sorrows with the consolation we ourselves have received from God.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**
- P** When we were baptized in Christ Jesus, we were baptized into his death.
We were buried therefore with him by Baptism into death,
so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father,
we too might live a new life.
For if we have been united with him in a death like his,
we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.

We face the cross in procession as we sing.

ENTRANCE HYMN: Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

(green) **LBW #315**

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of
2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to
3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us
4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and

heav'n, to earth come down! Fix in us thy
ev - 'ry trou - bled breast; let us all in
all thy life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re -
spot - less let us be; let us see thy

hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy faith - ful mer - cies crown.
thee in - her - it; let us find thy prom - ised rest.
turn, and nev - er, nev - er - more thy tem - ples leave.
great sal - va - tion per - fect - ly re - stored in thee!

Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion, pure, un -
Take a - way the love of sin - ning; Al - pha
Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing, serve thee
Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, till in

bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
 and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
 as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
 heav'n we take our place, till we cast our

thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.
 its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788
 Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887

APOSTOLIC GREETING & PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

G **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

O God of grace and glory,

we remember before you today our brother, Peter.

We thank you for giving him to us to know and to love
 as a companion in our pilgrimage on earth.

In your boundless compassion, console us who mourn.

Give us your aid, so we may see in death the gate to eternal life,

that we may continue our course on earth in confidence until, by your call,

we are reunited with those who have gone before us;

through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

G **Amen.**

We sit.

REMEMBRANCES

✠ WORD ✠

FIRST READING: Psalm 34:11–18

- ¹¹Come, O children, listen to me;
I will teach you the fear of the LORD.
- ¹²Which of you desires life,
and covets many days to enjoy good?
- ¹³Keep your tongue from evil,
and your lips from speaking deceit.
- ¹⁴Depart from evil, and do good;
seek peace, and pursue it.
- ¹⁵The eyes of the LORD are on the righteous,
and his ears are open to their cry.
- ¹⁶The face of the LORD is against evildoers,
to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth.
- ¹⁷When the righteous cry for help, the LORD hears,
and rescues them from all their troubles.
- ¹⁸The LORD is near to the broken-hearted,
and saves the crushed in spirit.

℣ The Word of the Lord.

✠ Thanks be to God.



ANTIPHON: Long before I knew you, you reached down and touched me,
 loving me before I was born;
 Elohim Jehovah, Creator God, my Father,
 praise and blessed be your holy name.

- Choir** If I climb up to heaven, | you are there;*
 if I make the grave my bed, you | are there also.
- C** **If I take the wings | of the morning***
and dwell in the uttermost parts | of the sea,
- Choir** even there your | hand will lead me*
 and your right hand | hold me fast.
- C** **If I say, “Surely the darkness will | cover me,***
and the light around me | turn to night,”
- Choir** darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright | as the day;*
 darkness and light to you are | both alike.
- C** **For you yourself created my | inmost parts,***
you knit me together in my | mother’s womb.
- Choir** I will thank you because I am mar- | velously made;*
 your works are wonderful, and I | know it well.
- C** **My body was not hid- | den from you,***
while I was being made in secret and woven in the depths | of the earth.
- Choir** Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb;
 all of them were written | in your book;*
 they were fashioned day by day, when as yet there was | none of them.
- C** **How deep I find your | thoughts, O God!***
How great is the | sum of them!
- Choir** If I were to count them, they would be more in number | than the sand;*
 to count them all, my life span would need to | be like yours.
- C** **Oh, that you would slay the wick- | ed, O God!***
You that thirst for blood, de- | part from me.

SECOND READING: Romans 8:18–39

[St. Paul writes:] ¹⁸I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; ²⁰for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²²We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; ²³and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

²⁶Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. ²⁷And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

²⁸We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. ³⁰And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

³¹What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³²He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? ³³Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. ³⁵Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁶As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

L The Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

We stand.

GOSPEL VERSE: Revelation 7:15

Robert Hobby

Alleluia. They are before the throne of God, worshiping day and night within the temple, and the one who sits upon the throne will shelter them. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL: John 14:1–6, 27

☐ The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourteenth chapter.

☑ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] ¹“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ²In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to the place where I am going.” ⁵Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

²⁷“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.”

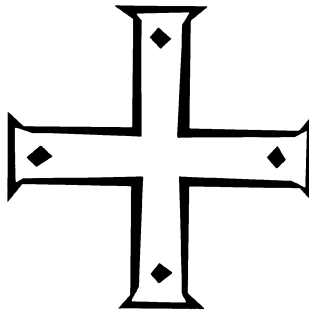
☐ The Gospel of the Lord.

☑ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

We sit.

SERMON

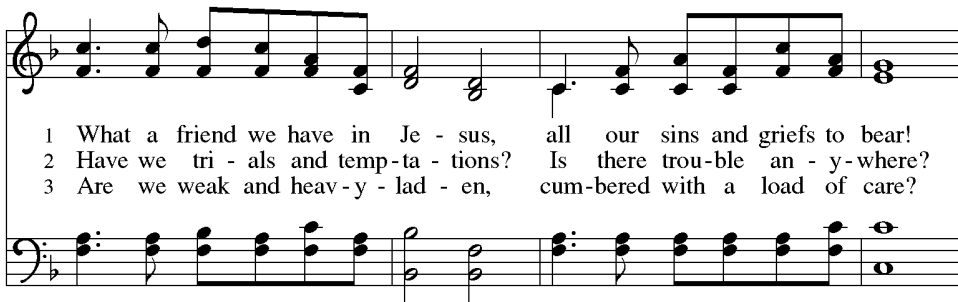
Pastor David R. Lyle



We stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY: What a Friend We Have in Jesus

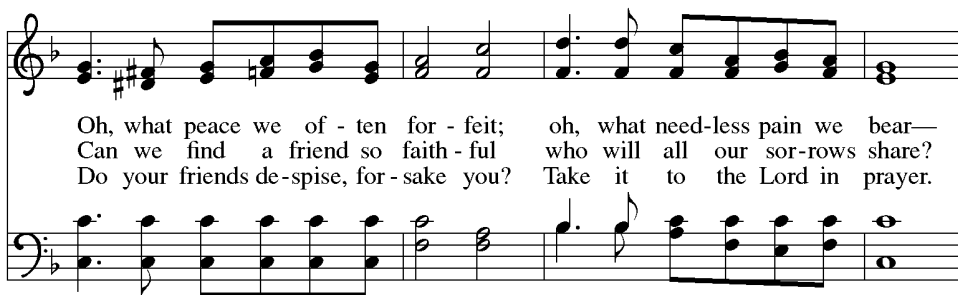
(green) LBW #439



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.

APOSTLES' CREED

P Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith:

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again 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 THE CHURCH

A Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have knit your chosen people together in one communion, in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Give to your whole Church in heaven and on earth your light and your peace. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection may die to sin and rise to newness of life and that through the grave and gate of death we may pass with him to our joyful resurrection. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A Grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage, and who walk as yet by faith, that your Holy Spirit may lead us in holiness and righteousness all our days. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A Grant to your faithful people pardon and peace, that we may be cleansed from all our sins and serve you with a quiet mind. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A Grant to all who mourn a sure confidence in your loving care,
that, casting all their sorrow on you, they may know the consolation of your love.
Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A Give courage and faith to those who are bereaved,
that they may have strength to meet the days ahead in the comfort of a holy and certain hope,
and in the joyful expectation of eternal life with those they love.
Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A Help us, we pray, in the midst of things we cannot understand,
to believe and trust in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
and the resurrection to life everlasting.
Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A Grant us grace to entrust Peter to your never-failing love which sustained him in this life.
Receive him into the arms of your mercy,
and remember him according to the favor you bear for your people.
Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P God of all grace, you sent your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ,
to bring life and immortality to light.
We give you thanks because by his death Jesus destroyed the power of death
and by his resurrection has opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.
Make us certain that because he lives we shall live also,
and that neither death nor life, nor things present nor things to come
shall be able to separate us from your love which is in Christ Jesus our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

✠ MEAL ✠

PEACE OF CHRIST

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C **And also with you.**

We greet one another in the name of the Lord and remain standing for the Offertory.

The gifts are presented.

OFFERTORY VERSE: Revelation 19:7–8

Richard Hillert

Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory:
for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his Bride has made herself ready.
Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory:
it was granted her to be clothed with fine linen bright and pure
for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

- A** Let us pray. Merciful Father,
C **we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—
our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love.
Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING



P The Lord be with you. **C** **And al - so with you.**



P Lift up your hearts. **C** **We lift them to the Lord.**

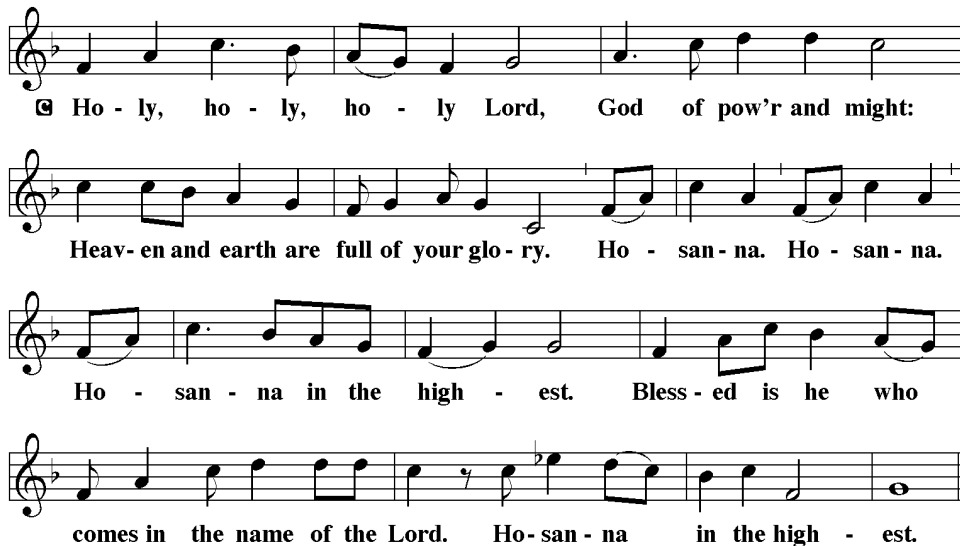


P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

- Ⓟ It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who brought to light the living hope of a blessed resurrection, that, in our grief, we may rejoice in full assurance of our change into the likeness of his glory. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
 Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.
 Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

- Ⓟ You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God;
 you are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.
 You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,
 that whoever believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.
 Having come into the world, he fulfilled for us your holy will
 and accomplished our salvation.
 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, therefore, his salutary command,
his life-giving Passion and death,
his glorious resurrection and ascension, and his promise to come again,
we give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty,
not as we ought, but as we are able;

and we implore you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving,
and, with your Word and Holy Spirit, to bless us, your servants,
and these your own gifts of bread and wine;
that we and all who share in the body and blood of your Son
may be filled with heavenly peace and joy,
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be sanctified in soul and body,
and have our portion with all your saints.

All honor and glory are yours, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**C 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.**

P The gifts of God for the people of God.

C Thanks be to God.

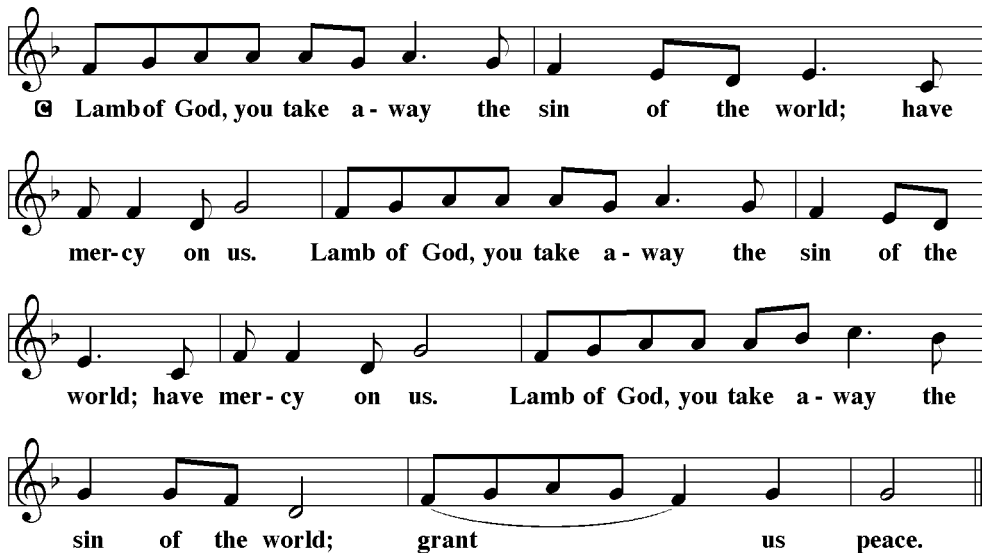
P Come, for all is now ready.

We sit.



We sit.

AGNUS DEI



♩ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

COMMUNION

Our Lord Jesus Christ welcomes you to this meal of the baptized. The crucified and risen Christ is present in the Lord's Supper, giving us his true body and blood as food and drink.

We receive communion at the head of the center aisle, receiving the consecrated host and then drinking directly from the chalice or dipping the host into the wine (intinction).

Those with a gluten allergy may ask the communion minister for a gluten-free host.



ANTHEM: In the Bleak Midwinter

Gustav V. Holst, arr. by Edward Eicker

In the bleak midwinter,
Frosty wind made moan;
Earth stood hard as iron,
Water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow,
Snow on snow,
In the bleak midwinter
Long ago.

Enough for him, whom cherubim,
Worship night and day,
A breastful of milk
And a mangerful of hay;
Enough for him, whom angels
Fall down before,
The ox and ass and camel
Which adore.

Our God, heaven cannot hold him,
Nor earth sustain,
Heaven and earth shall flee away
When he comes to reign:
In the bleak midwinter
A stable place sufficed
The Lord God Almighty—
Jesus Christ.

What can I give him,
Poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd
I would bring a lamb;
If I were a Wise Man
I would do my part,
Yet what can I give him,
Give my heart.

Christina G. Rossetti, 1830–1894

DISTRIBUTION HYMN: Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound



1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to



now am found; was blind, but now I see.
grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt., sts. 1–4; anonymous, st. 5
Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

DISTRIBUTION HYMN: Eat This Bread



Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and nev-er be hun - gry.

The first system of musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff in G major. The treble staff contains the melody with lyrics underneath. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are: "Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and nev-er be hun - gry."

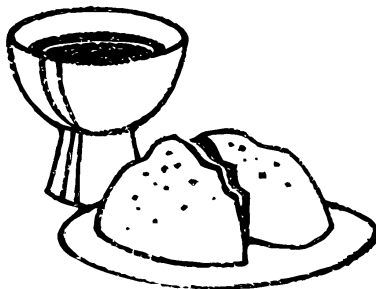


Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst.

The second system of musical notation continues the melody and accompaniment. The treble staff contains the melody with lyrics underneath. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are: "Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst."

Text: John 6; adapt. Robert Batastini, b. 1942, and the Taizé Community
Music: BERTHIER, Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994

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DISTRIBUTION HYMN: Go, My Children, with My Blessing

Setting by Carl F. Schalk



- 1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.
- Choir 2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
- 3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.
- 4 "I the Lord will bless and keep you, and give you peace.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
 Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
 Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.
 I the Lord will smile up - on you, and give you peace.



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.
 Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.
 Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here his ten - der com - fort stilled you.
 I the Lord will be your Fa - ther, Sav - ior, Com - fort - er and Broth - er.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own."
 Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."
 Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free."
 Go, my chil - dren, I will keep you, and give you peace."

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919

Music: AR HYDY NOS, Welsh

Text © 1983 Jaroslav J. Vajda

We stand.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

- P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
C Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

- A** Let us pray.
Almighty God, we thank you that in your great love
you have given us a foretaste of your heavenly banquet.
Grant that this sacrament may be to us a comfort in affliction
and a pledge of our inheritance of life eternal,
where there is no death, neither sorrow nor crying,
but the fullness of joy with all your saints;
through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
C Amen.

✠ SENDING ✠

COMMENDATION

- P** Let us commend Peter to the mercy of God, our maker and redeemer.
Silence is kept.
P Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant, Peter.
Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold,
a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming.
Receive him into the arms of your mercy,
into the blessed rest of everlasting peace,
and into the glorious company of the saints in light.
C Amen.

BENEDICTION

- P** Almighty God: Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
C Amen.

DISMISSAL

- P** Let us go forth in peace.
C In the name of Christ. Amen.

SENDING HYMN: How Great Thou Art

*We all sing stanzas 1 and 3;
the choir sings stanza 4 before it is repeated and sung by all.*



1 O Lord my God, when I in awe - some won - der con - sid - er
3 But when I think that God, his Son not spar - ing, sent him to
Choir/ 4 When Christ shall come, with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion, and take me



all the works thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the might - y
die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross my bur - den glad - ly
home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum - ble ad - o -



thun - der, thy pow'r through - out the u - ni - verse dis - played;
bear - ing he bled and died to take a - way my sin;
ra - tion and there pro - claim, "My God, how great thou art!"

Refrain



Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to thee, how great thou



art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to



thee, how great thou art! How great thou art!

Text: Carl G. Boberg, 1859–1940; tr. and adapt. Stuart K. Hine, 1899–1989
Music: O STORE GUD, Swedish folk tune; adapt. Stuart K. Hine
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Following the service all are invited to a luncheon in the Gym.

LEADING WORSHIP TODAY

Presiding Minister

The Rev. Troy E. Medlin

Preaching Minister

The Rev. David R. Lyle

Deacon

Dan Lehmann

Assisting Minister

Rebecca Dahlstrom

Crucifer

Matthew Huffman

Lectors

Owen Augustine, Owen Huffman

Paul Nelson, Ben Schmollinger

Gift Bearers

Julie Modrich, Beth Reynolds

Pall/Urn Bearers

Neal, Esther, and Sammy Armstrong

Remembrances

Neal, Esther, and Sammy Armstrong

Ushers

Jo-Ellyn Dorsey Swanson, Mike Gillespie, Eliza Grahmke

Tom Swanson, Lance Wilkening, Stephanie Wilkening

Altar Guild

Laura Becker, Roberta Gillespie

Livestream

Liz Hanson, Michael Starrick

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PETER DAVID ARMSTRONG



Peter David Armstrong, 19, of Oak Park, Illinois, died on November 12, 2025, in Fayetteville, North Carolina. He was born on February 17, 2006, in Chicago, Illinois, the beloved son of Neal and Esther Armstrong and beloved brother of Rachel (“Sammy”). Peter grew up in Oak Park, Illinois, where he attended elementary and middle school at Grace Lutheran School in River Forest and attended high school at Oak Park and River Forest High School. After graduation Peter went on to attend Methodist University in Fayetteville, where he was enrolled in the PGA Golf Management Program.

Peter had a passion for all things sports and he was a die-hard Chicago Cubs fan. His love for sports began at a very young age on Oak Park’s soccer and baseball fields where he made many lifelong friendships. He was also passionate about participating in basketball, volleyball, cross-country and track at Grace Lutheran. But it wasn’t until the Covid pandemic that Peter discovered his ultimate sports passion, the game of golf. Peter was a quick study and turned his love of golf into a very successful high school career with the OPRF golf team during his junior and senior year. This led him to pursuing a career in golf at Methodist University’s golf management program.

Peter’s most special memories were probably the ones made close to home, on the 800 block of Wesley in Oak Park. Block parties, summertime Friday night gatherings, Easter egg hunts, Nerf gun battles, and unspoken shenanigans with his sister and friends filled his years. He and his block buddies were often outside playing whiffle ball, shooting hoops, throwing the football, jumping on trampolines, or just chilling out on a front porch or in a backyard. These friendships started at birth and filled his life with so much joy.

Something perhaps less well known is that Peter inherited his father and grandfather’s affinity for collecting. As a young boy, Peter started collecting Star Wars and Marvel “figgers,” Mighty Beans, Pokémon cards, Bakugan, Sillybandz, and, of all things, jellybeans. Over the years he continued collecting mini statue souvenirs on family travels. He had an impressive rubber ducky collection, numerous decks of unique playing cards, hundreds of Funko POP figures, more golf hats than anyone could wear and what was shaping up to be an extensive collection of golf putters. His collections were more than objects to him – they were symbols of special places and cherished memories.

Peter had a strong faith in Christ and was active in his church community at Grace Lutheran Church. Peter served at church in various ways over the years and was always willing and happy to participate in service projects, especially making lunches for the unhoused, filling meal packs at Feed My Starving Children, caring for young children in the church nursery and participating in worship services on Youth Sundays. Peter was known by all who loved him to be empathetic, sensitive, fun-loving, intensely competitive, goofy, reserved, respectful, humble, and kind.

He is survived by his parents, Neal and Esther (Schuette) Armstrong, sister Rachel (“Sammy”), his grandmother Sandra Schuette and grandfather Paul Armstrong, numerous aunts, uncles, and cousins, the family dog, Bruno, and his beloved corgi, Tobe. He was preceded in death by his grandmother Kay Armstrong and grandfather the Reverend Ronald Schuette.

In memory of Peter and because of his deep affection for his experience at Grace School, the family has established a scholarship fund in his name to support future Grace Lutheran School families. Those wishing to make a donation are asked to send a check payable to Grace Lutheran Church and School with “Peter D. Armstrong Scholarship Fund” in the memo line. Donations may also be made online at GraceRiverForest.org. Click on the Donate button, then choose the Peter D. Armstrong Scholarship Fund.

✠ *Rest eternal grant him, O Lord;* ✠
and let light perpetual shine upon him.