

# Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 27, 2023

Virtual Bulletin with Holy Communion, Feast & Celebration

Hill Avenue Grace Lutheran Church

Rev. Zachary W. Johnson, Pastor

Donna Menzies, Assistant to the Pastor, Visitation & Spiritual Care

Douglas Shabe, Director of Music

Hannah Lee, Organist

Kate Radford, Soprano

David Russell, Assistant Minister

Sue Rose, Lector

Irene Amon, Guest Preacher

## Order of the Liturgy

Prelude

“In Christ Alone”

arr. Carol Tornquist

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**



Hill Ave Grace  
Lutheran Church

## OPENING HYMN

## The Church's One Foundation

ELW 654

1 The church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;  
 2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,  
 3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der this world sees her op - pressed,  
 4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion and tu - mult of her war,  
 5 Yet she on earth has u - nion with God, the Three in One,

she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word.  
 her char - ter of sal - va - tion one Lord, one faith, one birth:  
 by schisms . . rent a - sund - er, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,  
 she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more;  
 and mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won.

From heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;  
 one ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,  
 yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up: "How long?"  
 till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest,  
 Oh, bless - ed heav'n - ly cho - rus! Lord, save us by your grace,

with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.  
 and to one hope she press - es with ev - 'ry grace en - dued.  
 and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.  
 and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.  
 that we, like saints be - fore us, may see you face to face.

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839–1900  
 Music: AURELIA, Samuel S. Wesley, 1810–1876

## GREETING

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

**And also with you.**

**KYRIE**  
(Lord Have Mercy)

*Assistant:* In peace, in peace,

**Refrain**

*Assistant:*

*Congregation:*

Let us pray to the Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have  
mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy. *to Verses*

*Assistant:* For the Reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all . . . (to Refrain)

*Assistant:* For your people here, who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your Word . . . (to Refrain)

*Assistant:*  
Help, save and de - fend us, O  
*Congregation:*  
God. A - men.

**HYMN OF PRAISE**

*Refrain*  
Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion  
sings for joy to the God of life and love and free - dom;  
praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!  
1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has  
freed and u - nit - ed us to be one great peo - ple of God. *Refrain*  
2 Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and might, all hon - or and  
glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er. *Refrain*

3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of  
 God; to make all things new. *Refrain*

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

### FIRST READING: Isaiah 51:1-6

<sup>1</sup>Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness, you that seek the LORD.

Look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug.

<sup>2</sup>Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore you;

for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many.

<sup>3</sup>For the LORD will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places, and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the LORD; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song.

<sup>4</sup>Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation;

for a teaching will go out from me, and my justice for a light to the peoples.

<sup>5</sup>I will bring near my deliverance swiftly, my salvation has gone out and my arms will rule the peoples; the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope.

<sup>6</sup>Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath;

for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and those who live on it will die like gnats;

but my salvation will be forever, and my deliverance will never be ended.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 138** *The congregation responds with the bold verses.*

<sup>1</sup>I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with <sup>1</sup> my whole heart; before the gods I will <sup>1</sup> sing your praise.

<sup>2</sup>**I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of your steadfast <sup>1</sup> love and faithfulness;**

**for you have glorified your name and your word a- <sup>1</sup>bove all things.**

<sup>3</sup>When I called, you <sup>1</sup> answered me; you increased my <sup>1</sup> strength within me.

<sup>4</sup>**All the rulers of the earth will praise <sup>1</sup> you, O LORD, when they have heard the words <sup>1</sup> of your mouth.**

<sup>5</sup>They will sing of the ways <sup>1</sup> of the LORD, that great is the glory <sup>1</sup> of the LORD.

<sup>6</sup>The LORD is high, yet cares <sup>1</sup> for the lowly, perceiving the haughty <sup>1</sup> from afar.

<sup>7</sup>Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you <sup>1</sup> keep me safe; you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right <sup>1</sup> hand shall save me.

<sup>8</sup>You will make good your pur- <sup>1</sup> pose for me;

O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works <sup>1</sup> of your hands.

## SECOND READING: Romans 12:1-8

<sup>1</sup>I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. <sup>2</sup>Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

<sup>3</sup>For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. <sup>4</sup>For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, <sup>5</sup>so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. <sup>6</sup>We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; <sup>7</sup>ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; <sup>8</sup>the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Congregation:*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, Lord to whom shall we  
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal  
life: Al - le - lu - ia!

## GOSPEL: Matthew 16:13-20

<sup>13</sup>Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” <sup>14</sup>And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” <sup>15</sup>He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” <sup>16</sup>Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.”

<sup>17</sup>And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. <sup>18</sup>And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. <sup>19</sup>I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and

whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.”<sup>20</sup> Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

The Gospel of our Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

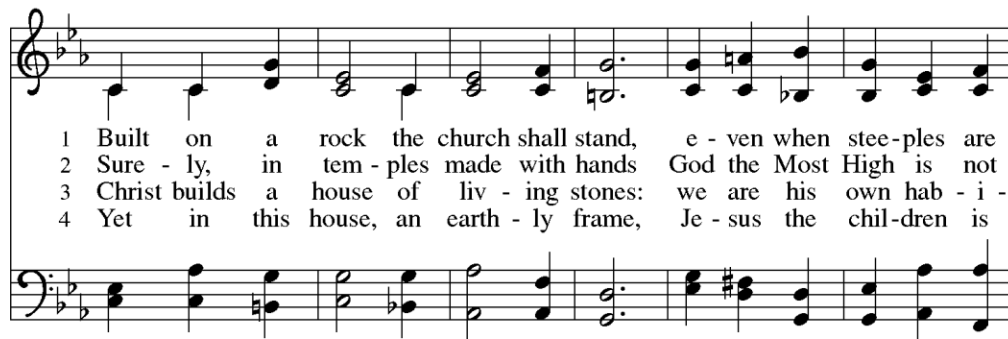
**SERMON**

Guest Preacher Irene Amon

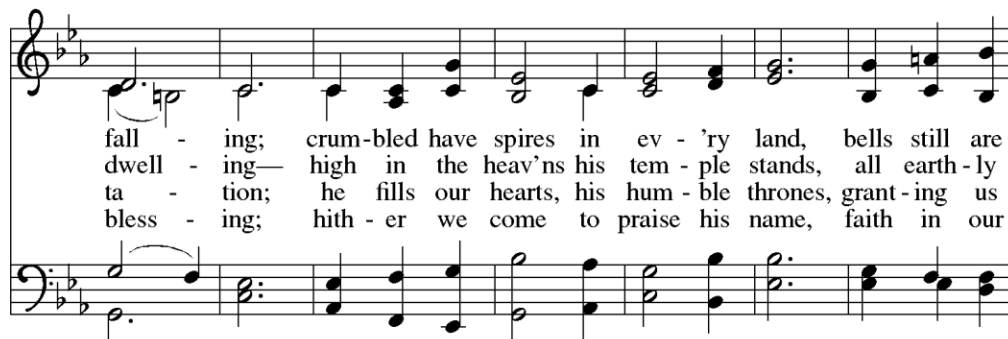
**HYMN OF THE DAY**

**Built on a Rock**

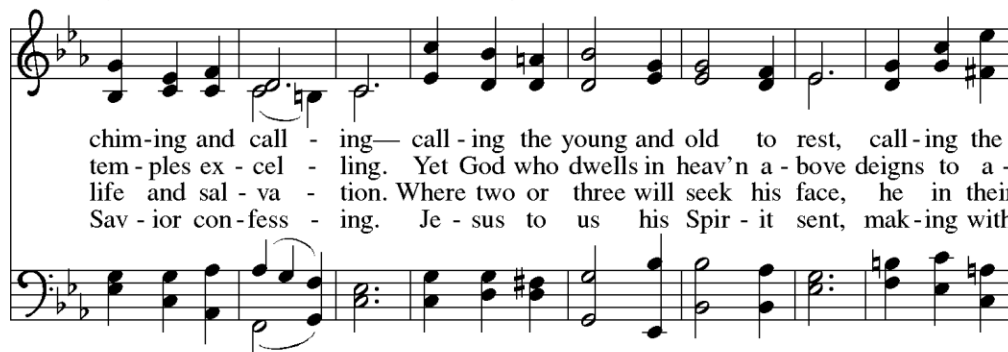
**ELW 652**



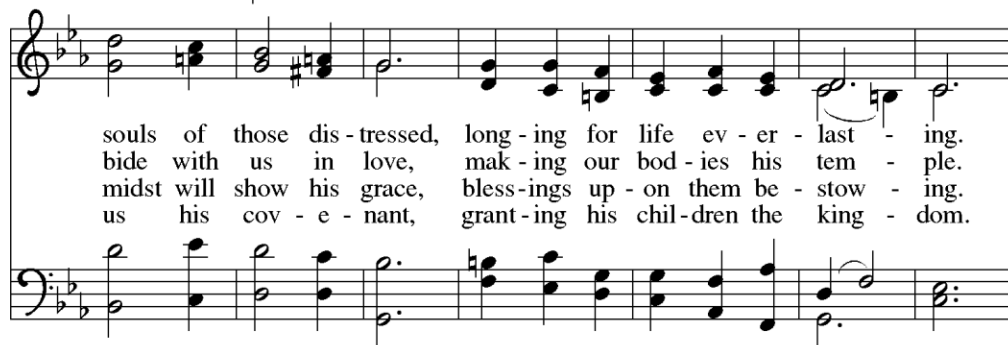
1 Built on a rock the church shall stand, e - ven when stee - ples are  
2 Sure - ly, in tem - ples made with hands God the Most High is not  
3 Christ builds a house of liv - ing stones: we are his own hab - i -  
4 Yet in this house, an earth - ly frame, Je - sus the chil - dren is



fall - ing; crum - bled have spires in ev - 'ry land, bells still are  
dwell - ing— high in the heav'ns his tem - ple stands, all earth - ly  
ta - tion; he fills our hearts, his hum - ble thrones, grant - ing us  
bless - ing; hith - er we come to praise his name, faith in our



chim - ing and call - ing— call - ing the young and old to rest, call - ing the  
tem - ples ex - cel - ling. Yet God who dwells in heav'n a - bove deigns to a -  
life and sal - va - tion. Where two or three will seek his face, he in their  
Sav - ior con - fess - ing. Je - sus to us his Spir - it sent, mak - ing with



souls of those dis - tressed, long - ing for life ev - er - last - ing.  
bide with us in love, mak - ing our bod - ies his tem - ple.  
midst will show his grace, bless - ings up - on them be - stow - ing.  
us his cov - e - nant, grant - ing his chil - dren the king - dom.

Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. Carl Doving, 1867–1937, adapt.  
Music: KIRKEN DEN ER ET GAMMELT HUS, Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812–1887  
Text © 1958 *Service Book and Hymnal*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

## 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;  
 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

Each petition ends with "Lord, in your mercy." The assembly responds with "receive our prayer."

**SHARING OF THE PEACE** - *The presiding and the assembly share a virtual sign of peace.*  
 The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

## OFFERING

## OFFERTORY

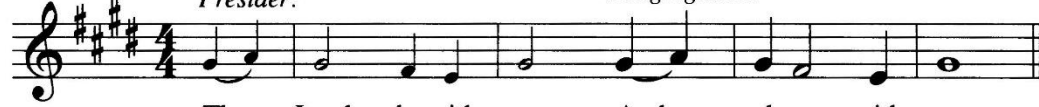
**OFFERING PRAYER** - *All speak the prayer together.*

God of field and forest, sea and sky, you are the giver of all good things. Sustain us with these gifts of your creation, and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## GREAT


## THANKSGIVING

*Presider:* *Congregation:*




The Lord be with you. And al- so with you.

*Presider:* *Congregation:*




Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

*Presider:* *Congregation:*



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is



right to give God thanks and praise.

It is indeed right...we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

*Congregation:*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and  
 might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your  
 glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est!  
 Bless - ed is the One who comes in your name. Ho -  
 san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

You are indeed holy....Remembering his command to love one another, his life and death, his resurrection and his ascension, we pray for his coming again, even as we cry:

*Presider:* Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

*Congregation:*

A - men. Come, Lord Je - sus.  
 A - men. Come, Lord Je - sus.

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit that all of your promises may come to us and your whole creation...

*Presider:* Amen. Come, Holy Spirit. Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

*Congregation:*

A - men. Come, Ho - ly Spir - it.  
 A - men. Come, Ho - ly Spir - it.



Make us bold, O merciful God, to address you as our Father even as we pray...

## LORD'S PRAYER

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.

## LAMB OF GOD



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, grant us peace.

## COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

*All are invited into a time of reflection before they receive communion. During this time, you may prepare your hearts to receive the sacrament. Once ready, you may commune yourself and those around you with the bread and wine/grape juice. A representative from each household may say the following—bread: “The body of Christ given for you.” Wine/grape juice: “The blood of Christ shed for you.”*

## POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep in his grace, now and forever. Amen.

## POST COMMUNION CANTICLE



1. Praise to you, O God of mer - cy:  
2. From of old you loved and sought us:



Thanks be to you for ev - er! Rais - ing high the  
Thanks be to you for ev - er! Truth and jus - tice

weak and low - ly: Thanks be to you for ev - er!  
 you have taught us: Thanks be to you for ev - er!

Strong is your faith - ful-ness, strong is your  
 love, re - mem - b'ring your cov-e-nant of  
 life with us. 3. Praise to you, O  
 God of mer - cy: Thanks be to you for ev - er!

Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly: Thanks be to you for  
 ev - er! Thanks be to you for ev - er!

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION - All speak the prayer together.**

**We thank you, generous God, for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table. Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world, through the one who is our dearest treasure, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

**Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN

## Savior, Again to Your Dear Name

ELW 534

1 Sav - ior, a - gain to your dear name we raise  
 2 Grant us your peace up - on our home - ward way;  
 3 Grant us your peace, Lord, through the com - ing night;  
 4 Grant us your peace through - out our earth - ly life,

with one ac - cord our part - ing hymn of praise;  
 with you be - gan, with you shall end the day;  
 for us trans - form its dark - ness in - to light.  
 our balm in sor - row, and our stay in strife;

once more we bless you ere our wor - ship cease,  
 guard all the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,  
 Keep us from harm and dan - ger till the dawn;  
 then, when your voice shall bid our con - flict cease,

then, low - ly bend - ing, wait your word of peace.  
 that in this house have called up - on your name.  
 your eve - ning pres - ence prom - ise to your own.  
 call us, O Lord, to your e - ter - nal peace.

Text: John Ellerton, 1826–1893, alt.  
 Music: ELLERS, Edward J. Hopkins, 1818–1901; arr. Arthur S. Sullivan, 1842–1900

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## Postlude

*“To God Be the Glory”*

arr. Mark Hayes

*Altar flowers are given by Joan Tanchek to the Glory of God and the beautification of the sanctuary.*

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Calendar This Week		
Every Sunday	10:00 AM	Virtual & In-Person Worship Service
Tues 8/29/23	5:00 PM	Spending Evenings Together in the quad
Wed 8/30/23	10:00 AM	Bible Study in the Chapel
Wed 8/30/23	7:00 PM	Bible Study via Zoom
Sat 9/2/23	9:30 AM	Food Shelf Open

### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**Pastor Zach has updated his office hours to Tues, Wed & Thurs, 10:30 am - 1:30 pm.** Stop by, make an appointment, give a call, get in touch and say Hi!

**Dedicate Altar Flowers.** There are still a few slots available for the upcoming months to sponsor the Altar Flowers. Cost is \$70 for the twin arrangements or \$35 for a single. Add your name to the sign-up sheet in the Narthex, or contact the office have your name added!

We are planning our **next Spending Evenings Together event for Tuesday, August 29th.** We hope you will join us and bring your friends! Please let Pastor know if you plan to attend so we can plan for the food accordingly. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share!

**Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup> is the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of God's Work Our Hands day,** and we have some great plans in store as we observe this event. We are doing a joint project with Trinity Lutheran, Pasadena and Christ the Shepherd Lutheran, Altadena, where we will be creating care kits for PCC students in need. We will also be worshipping together with all 3 churches gathering in the gymnasium, followed by a potluck lunch and the service project. Worship will start at 10 am in the gym. Please mark your calendars and watch for the sign-up for the potluck lunch. Bring your friends to participate in the wonderful GWOH festivities!

**Rally Day is scheduled for Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup>,** which is when the choir resumes and we'll have our annual BBQ here after service. We hope to have a luau and also raise money for the ELCA relief after the Maui wildfires. Come enjoy some Hawaiian music, wear your flip flops and Hawaiian shirts, and join in the festivities. Contact David if you'd like to help plan!

**Join us this Sunday at 10 AM for our Virtual Worship via Zoom!**  
**Check in a few minutes early and hear the prelude! You may also join us on Facebook Live.**  
**We look forward to seeing your faces and worshipping together!**

### Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/95007590439?pwd=M2NmMUZCZzhMOUY0SG8xeHpzcU5RUT09>

Meeting ID: 950 0759 0439

Passcode: worship

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,95007590439#,,,,\*4584517# US (San Jose)

+13462487799,,95007590439#,,,,\*4584517# US (Houston)

**Dial by your location**

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

**Meeting ID: 950 0759 0439**

**Passcode: 4584517**

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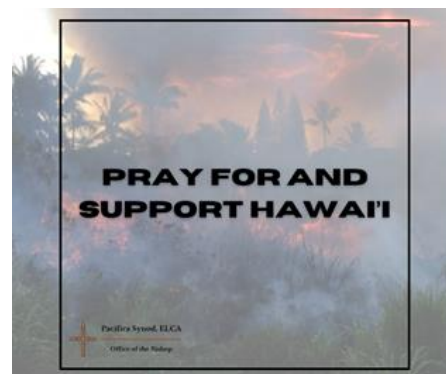


We are back to joining at the altar for communion. We will be going up the center aisle and returning down the side aisles. If you are not comfortable with that, pick up a communion set at the table in the narthex and then proceed into the sanctuary. There will be 3 options for communion: bread and wine, bread and juice, and gluten-free bread and wine. Only take one set for yourself. Wait for communion instructions before opening the packet.

The service will still be available on Zoom and Facebook Live for those who prefer to remain at home. If you have questions, please let our church office know. We look forward to actually seeing you at church this Sunday!



**Southwest California Synod**  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
 God's work. Our hands.



## Update on Maui - We Want to Help, But How

**As we continue to hear more news of the devastation caused by the wildfires in Maui, many people have been asking for more ways to support. Please read the message below from Rev J.P. Sabbithi (Regional Assistant to the Bishop - [Pacifica Synod](#)) for ways to help.**

I lift up my eyes to the hills—from where will my help come?  
 My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth. (Psalm 121:1-2)

As we lift up our eyes unto to hills, we also stretch out our hands across the oceans for help. God has inspired all of you to do “something” to help the wounded. People of Maui will be grateful for your help. Here are the ways that you could help.

**Donation in Cash:** For now, the island of Maui is inundated with donation in kind. However, people need money to buy day to day things. When you give monetary donations, you are also helping the local economy. For example, they might need a gift cards for purchasing gasoline for their cars. So if you know a trusted organization or church or temple on Maui you could send them there. Beware of scammers.

The other need is paying for therapy and counseling which are not covered by all insurance companies. For example, organizations like [Pacific Health Ministry](#) will coordinate with the interfaith coalition to provide spiritual care & counseling. You could choose to support any of these similar organizations. Or [donate to the Pacifica Synod](#). 100% of the funds will be used to support Hawai'i.

*Hear the cries of your people God! Hear the cries of orphaned children and the cries of bereaved families. Be with those still searching for their loved ones. Be compassionate to those who are engaged in the recovery of your creation lying in the ashes. May you grant them needed physical, emotional and spiritual strength to do this sacred work. In Christ name we pray. Amen.*

Thank you for your compassion. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Your servant in Christ,  
 JP Sabbithi

Regional Assistant to the Bishop – Pacifica Synod  
[jpsabbithi@pacificasynod.org](mailto:jpsabbithi@pacificasynod.org)