



**Sunday, Nov. 5, 2023**

**Communion Sunday**

**Minister:** Rev. Karen Ptolemy-Stam

**Music Director:** Victoria Warwick

**Readers:** Debbie Just, Peggy Wallace

**Singers:** St. Paul's Choir

**Tech Team:** Glenn Erwin, Gabriella and Rick Dell, Bruce Wilcox

**WELCOME /CALL TO THE GATHERED/ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND**

**OPENING HYMN: VU# 315 "Holy Holy Holy"**

1. Holy, holy, holy! Lord God almighty!  
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee;  
holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty.  
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!
2. Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,  
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;  
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,  
which wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.
3. Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee;  
though the eye made blind by sin thy glory may not see;  
only thou art holy, there is none beside thee,  
perfect in power, in love and purity.
4. Holy, holy, holy! Lord God almighty!  
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea;  
holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty,  
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

**OPENING PRAYER:** read by Debbie Just

**LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE:**

**SUNG RESPONSE:** MV#82 "Bathe Me in Your Light O God"

Bathe me in your light, O God of All, Creator;  
let it shine upon my soul with healing and with grace.  
Be to me a beacon bright through shadows of life's wounding,  
showing me the way to live in faith, in your embrace.

**THEME CONVERSATION**

**COMMUNION HYMN: VU# 471 "Eat This Bread and Never Hunger"**

**Refrain:**

**Eat this bread and never hunger, drink this cup and never thirst;**

**Christ invites us to the table where the last become the first.**

1. Asking for a cup of water, Jesus touched forbidden ground;  
and the woman with a question told the world what she had found.

**Refrain:**

2. Walking down a desert highway, Jesus healed a man born blind;  
soon the man became a witness to the truth we seek and find.

**Refrain:**

3. Weeping for his friend at graveside, Jesus felt the pain of death;  
yet he knew God's power to waken: living water, living breath.

## SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS VU# 932 (sung)

**Holy, holy, holy are you,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth  
are filled with your glory,  
Hosanna in the Highest!  
Blessed is the one**

**who comes in your name.  
Hosanna in the highest,  
Hosanna in the highest.**

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION MV#207 2x  
**Christ has died. Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again.**

SHARING THE BREAD AND WINE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**Holy one, may the bread and the wine continue always to remind us that you welcome all to the table. May they also remind us that you call us to live our faith in radical ways of hospitality, grace and compassion. Amen**

(Children leave for Discovery Kids)

**SCRIPTURE READINGS:** Ecclesiastes 3:1-8, John 11:25-26, John 12:23b-26, Matthew 11:28, Romans 14:7-9 read by Peggy Wallace

**SERMON:**

**GIVING OF OUR GIFTS AND OFFERTORY ANTHEM:** "Taste His Goodness"

**SUNG RESPONSE:** MV# 150 (v 3) "Loving God"

Loving God: be our voice, be our prayer. Reaching out, joining hands as we share, we seek your guidance through friendship and care. Loving God, be our prayer.

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/LORD'S PRAYER** read by Debbie Just

**CLOSING HYMN: MV# 145 "Draw the Circle Wide"**

**Refrain:**

**Draw the circle wide. Draw it wider still.**

**Let this be our song, no one stands alone, standing side by side, draw the circle wide.**

1. God the still-point of the circle, 'round whom all creation turns;  
nothing lost, but held forever, in God's gracious arms. **Refrain:**

2. Let our hearts touch far horizons, so encompass great and small;  
let our loving know no borders, faithful to God's call. **Refrain:**

3. Let the dreams we dream be larger, than we've ever dreamed before;  
let the dream of Christ be in us, open every door. **Refrain:**

**COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION**

**SUNG BENEDICTION: VU# 974 "Amen"**

Amen, Amen, Hallelujah, Amen. (3x)

**POSTLUDE:** Please wait for the choir to recess before leaving the sanctuary.