Elim Lutheran Church

Sunday, August 16, 2026

10:00 AM

Mary, Mother of Our Lord

The Magnificat

RECONCILING IN CHRIST

The Elim Express contains announcements and happenings at Elim. Use this QR Code to the right to read the Elim Express online. Just scan it with the photo app on your phone.

Welcome to Elim Lutheran Church

1) Accessible restrooms and an AED are located by the exit near the parking lot. An all-gender restroom is in the Sanctuary Balcony.

2) Elim belongs to the Sierra Pacific Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA). To learn more, visit https://www.spselca.net/

WELCOME

Pastor: Let us welcome all who are here to worship with us today. Here at Elim:

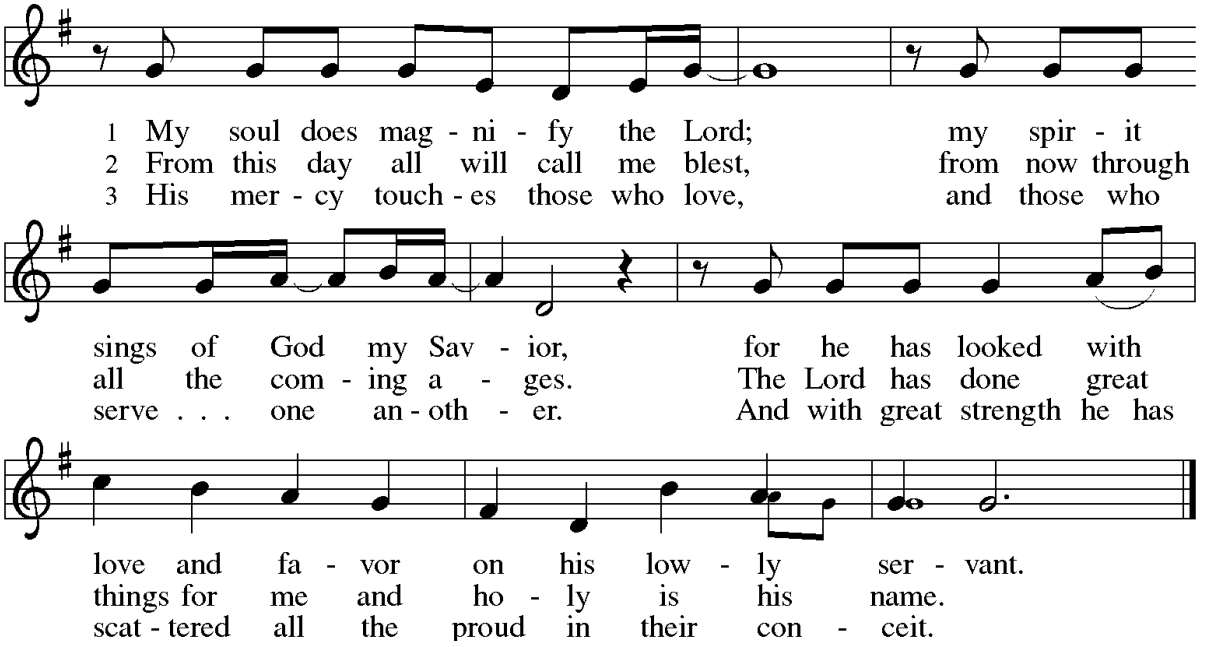
All: You are welcome, you are loved, you belong.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE BELL

Please stand as you are able

OPENING HYMN: MY SOUL DOES MAGNIFY THE LORD ELW 882 VS 1-3



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GREETING

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

All: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Lector: Almighty God,

All: in choosing the virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son,
you made known your gracious regard for the poor,
the lowly, and the despised.
Grant us grace to receive your word in humility,
and so to be made one with your Son,
Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated

READING: ISAIAH 61:7-11

Lector: A reading from the book of Isaiah.

7 Because their shame was double
and dishonor was proclaimed as their lot,
therefore in their land they shall possess a double portion;
everlasting joy shall be theirs.
8 For I, the Lord, love justice,
I hate robbery and wrongdoing;
I will faithfully give them their recompense,
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.
9 Their descendants shall be known among the nations
and their offspring among the peoples;
all who see them shall acknowledge
that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed.
10 I will greatly rejoice in the Lord;
my whole being shall exult in my God,
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation;
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.
11 For as the earth brings forth its shoots
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.

Lector: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 34:1-9 *(Please read responsively)*

Lector: 1 I will bless the Lord at all times;
the praise of God shall ever be in my mouth.

All: 2 **I will glory in the Lord;**
let the lowly hear and rejoice.

Lector: 3 Proclaim with me the greatness of the Lord;
let us exalt God's name together.

All: 4 **I sought the Lord, who answered me**
and delivered me from all my terrors.

Lector: 5 Look upon the Lord and be radiant,
and let not your faces be ashamed.

All: 6 **I called in my affliction, and the Lord heard me**
and saved me from all my troubles.

Lector: 7 The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear the Lord
and delivers them.

All: 8 **Taste and see that the Lord is good;**
happy are they who take refuge in God!

Lector: 9 Fear the Lord, you saints of the Lord,
for those who fear the Lord lack nothing.

READING: GALATIANS 4:4-7

Lector: A reading from the book of Galatians.

4 When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, 5 in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. 6 And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" 7 So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir through God.

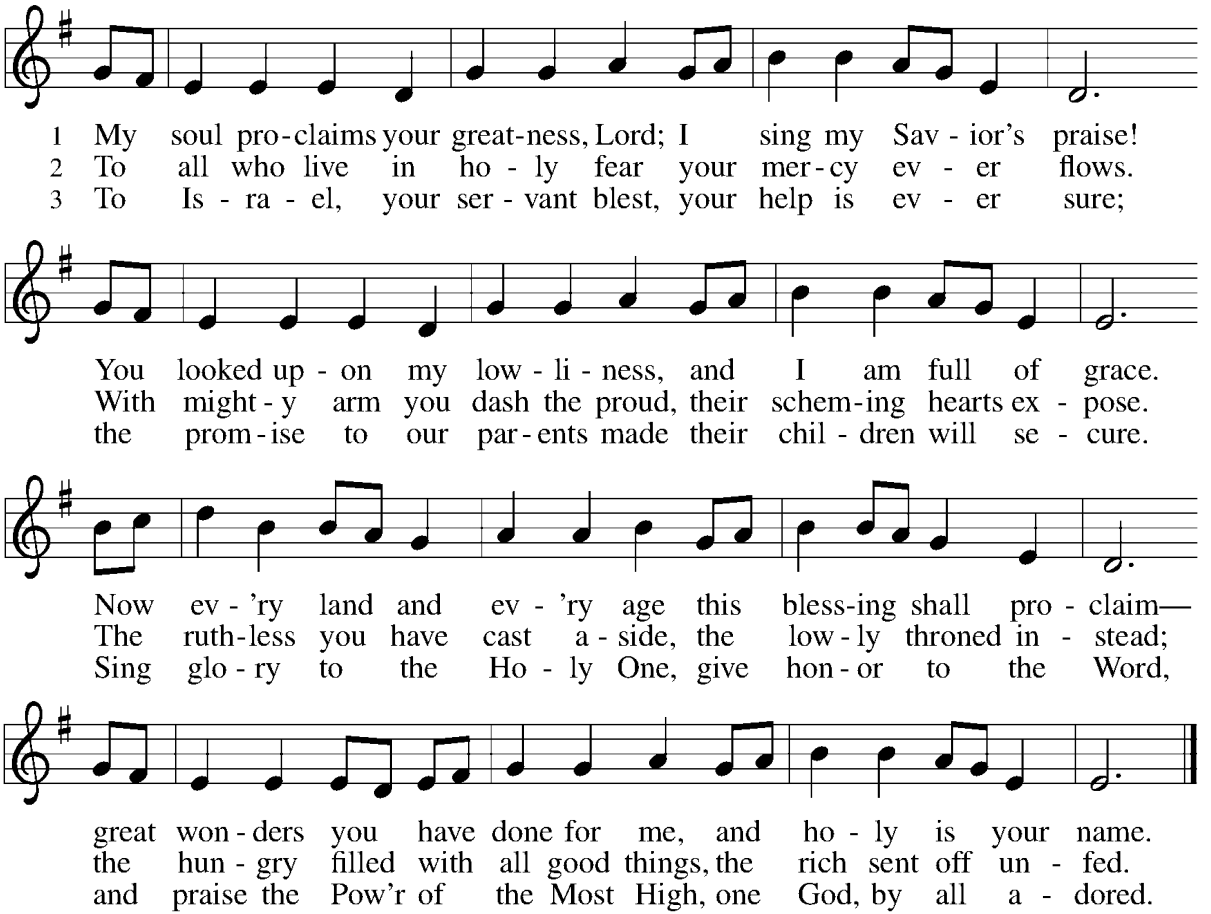
Lector: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able

GOSPEL: LUKE 1:46-55

GOSPEL HYMN: MY SOUL PROCLAIMS YOUR GREATNESS ELW 251



Text: *With One Voice*, 1995, based on the Magnificat
Music: KINGSFOLD, English folk tune
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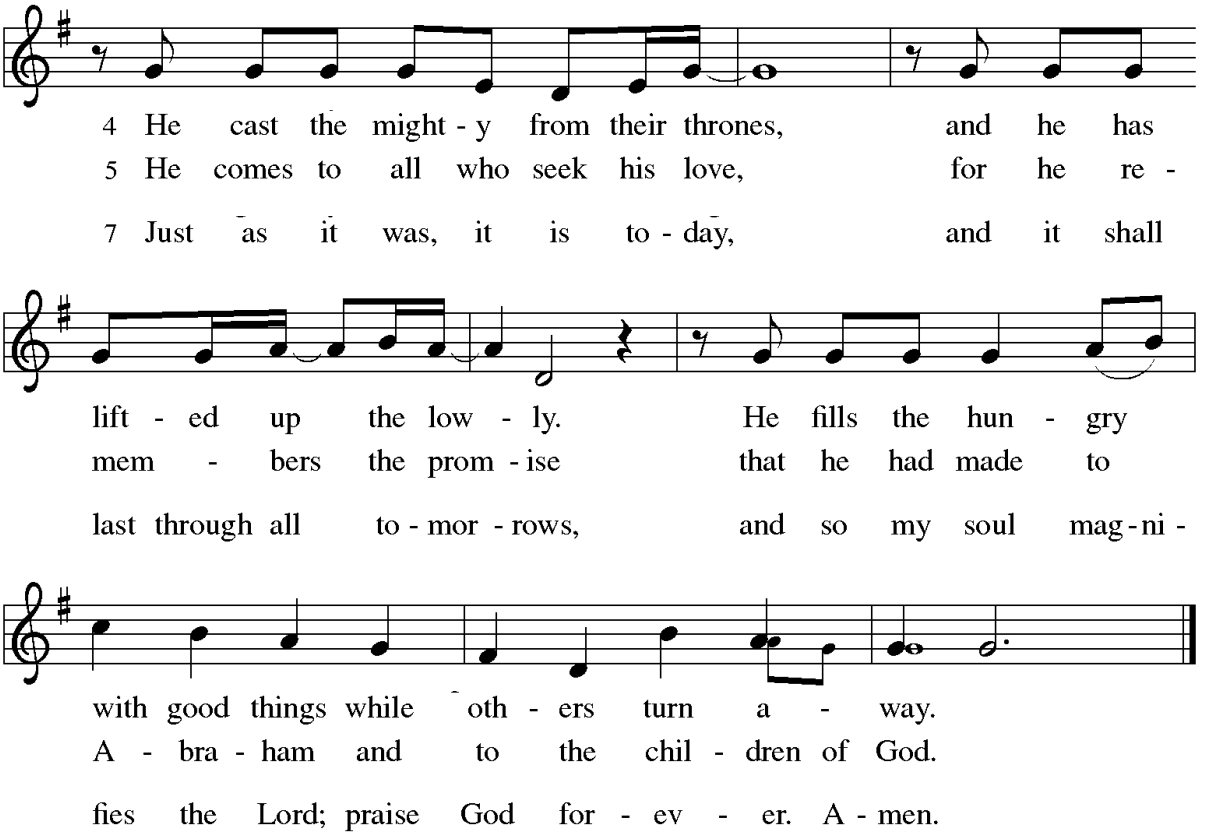
Please be seated

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON: Pastor Kathryn Gulbranson

Please stand as you are able

HYMN OF THE DAY: MY SOUL DOES MAGNIFY THE LORD ELW 882 VS 4.5,7



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Please be seated

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

ALM: United with the great cloud of witnesses throughout the ages, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

ALM: Guide your church in the path of obedience to your word. Strengthen the ministry of all who respond to your call to service in this and every generation. Empower us to bear Christ's presence into the world. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

ALM: Watch over the earth and teach us to live in harmony with all creation. Rebuild environments damaged by disaster or neglect. Nurture and sustain gardens, fields, and orchards. Bring forth abundant harvests in due season. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

ALM: Cultivate peace among nations and turn us away from warfare and violence. Cast down all forms of injustice, and lift up the ways of compassion and peace. Protect those who have left their homes in search of safety for their families. Bring an end to conflict and division especially in the Middle East, Ukraine, and Iran. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

ALM: Look with favor upon those in need. Raise up those who are weak. Fill the hungry with good things. Bless mothers and all who care for children. Comfort the grieving and heal the sick. We especially pray for Dave, Diane, Anita, Debra, Carol, Guadalupe, Noelle, Lou, Brian, Jim, and those we name silently and aloud (brief silence). Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

ALM: Inspire the work of hymnwriters, poets, and musicians. Fill us with hope and a sense of wonder as we ponder the mysteries of your word. Open our hearts to rejoice in you and proclaim your greatness. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

ALM: With thanksgiving, we remember Mary and all those who have gone before us in the faith. Inspire us by their witness and bring us, together with them, into your eternal kingdom to dwell with you forever. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

ALM: O God, bless all those celebrating birthdays, anniversaries and celebrations of all kinds this week. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

The prayers conclude:

Pastor: In the company of your saints we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your eternal mercy and love; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

All: Amen.

OFFERING

SPECIAL MUSIC: *"Immortal Love"*

Performed by the Elim Choir, Conducted by Laila Schoenlein

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Lyrics for Immortal Love

Immortal love, forever full
Forever flowing free
Forever shared and forever whole
A never ebbing sea

Blow, winds of God
Awake and blow the mists of earth away
Shine out, shine out, O Light divine
And show how far we stray

O Love! O life!
Our faith and sight
They presence maketh one
As through transfigured clouds of white
We trace the noonday sun

We faintly hear, We dimly see
In differing phrase we pray
But dim or clear, we own in thee
The Light, The Truth, The Way

OFFERING PRAYER

ALM: Loving God,

All: we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.
Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,
so that all creation can taste your abundance.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.
Amen.

Please stand as you are able

PEACE

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you always.

All: And also with you.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

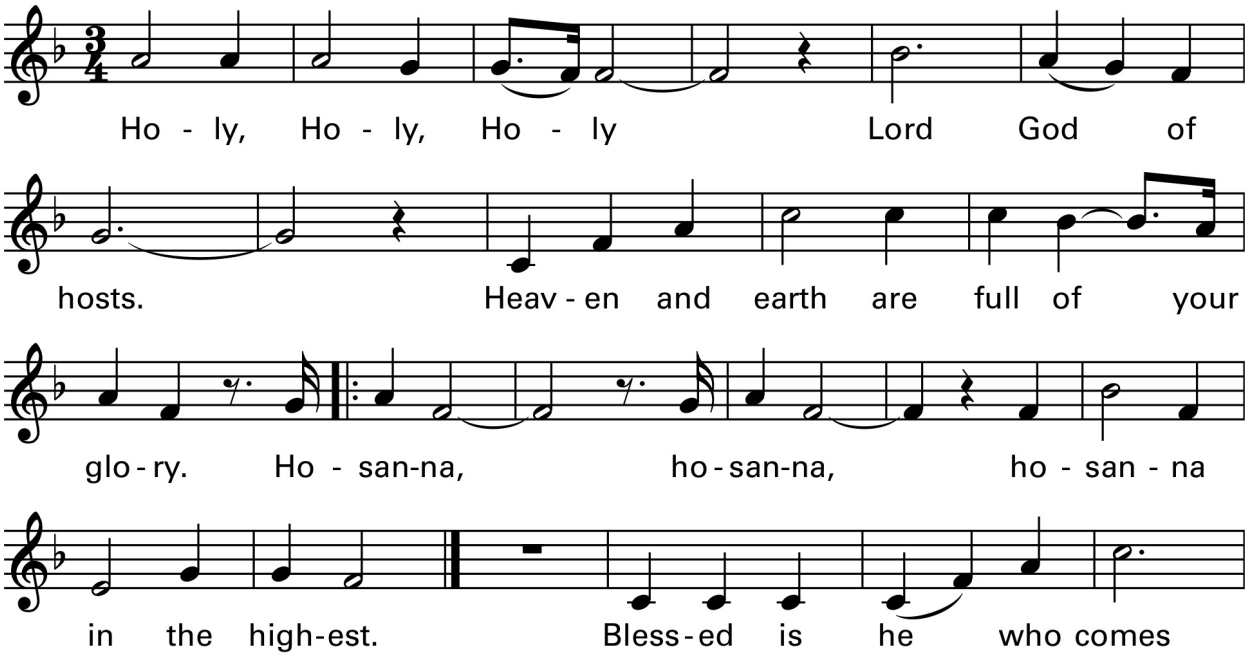
Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

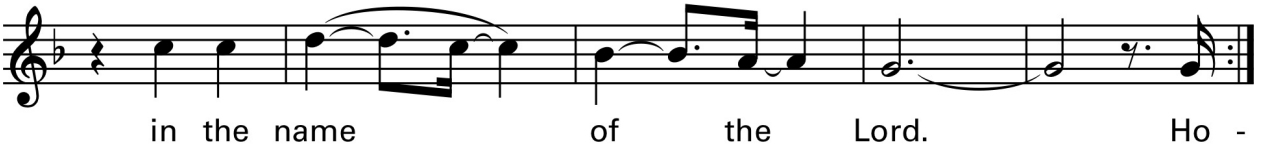
All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

Pastor: 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,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY





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EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Pastor: With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's Passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

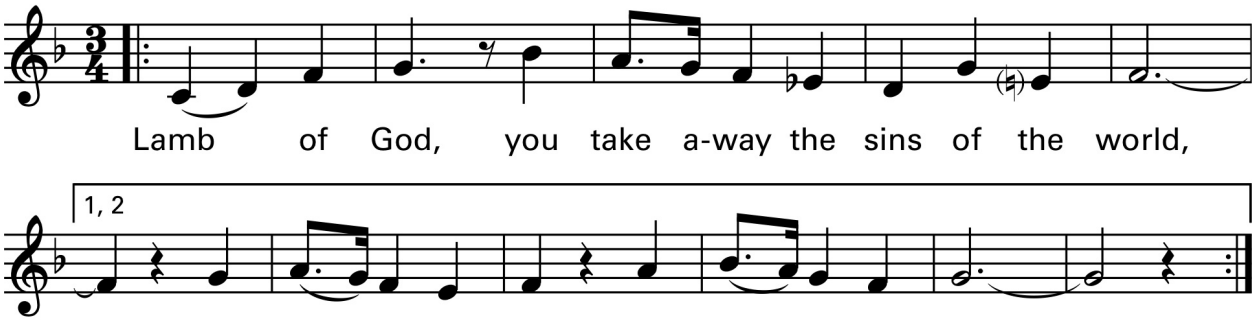
All: Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

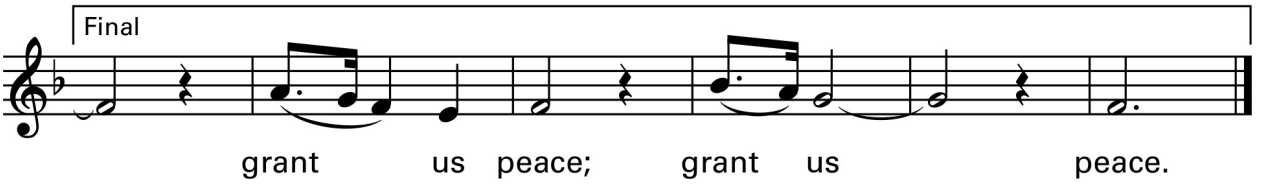
LORD'S PRAYER

All: 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

Please be seated

LAMB OF GOD





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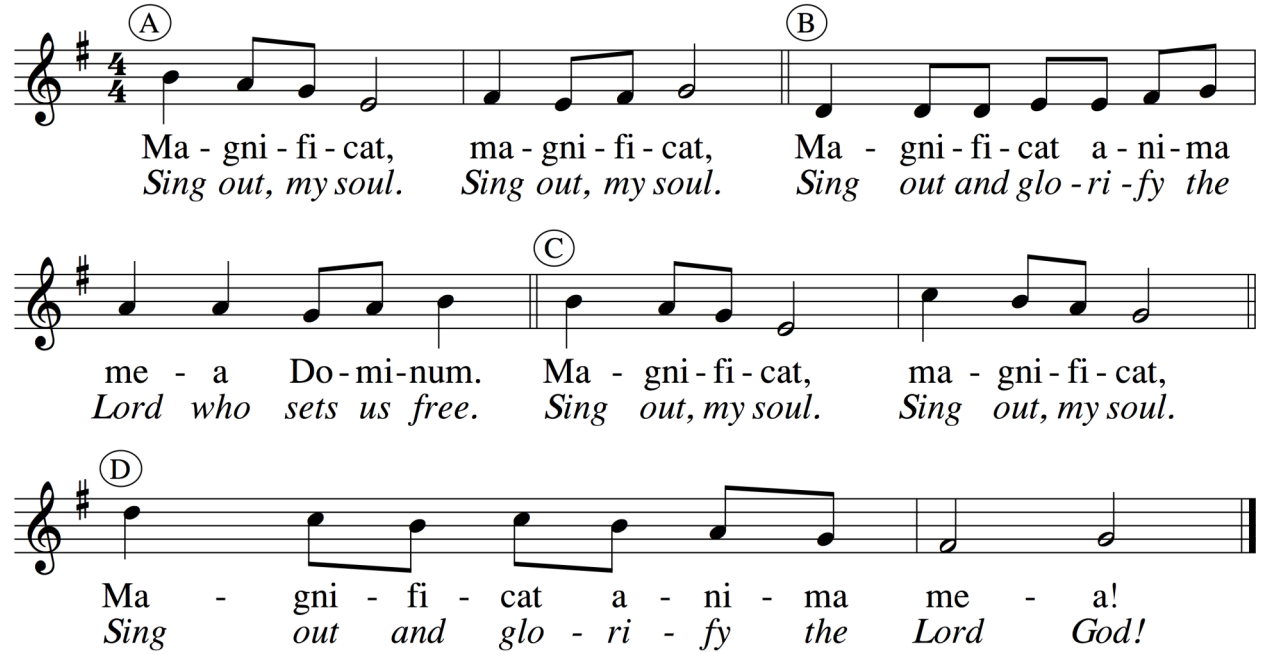
COMMUNION

Jesus welcomes everyone to his table and so we offer to everyone, without exception, to share in Holy Communion. If you would like to receive communion with us today, please come forward and hold out your hands. If you would like a gluten-free wafer, please let the server know. When you receive the bread you may dip it in the wine (darker in color) / juice (lighter in color). If you choose to take the individual cup,. please discard the cup after drinking. If you would like to receive a blessing instead, please place your hand over your heart. If you are a visitor and would feel more comfortable, you are welcome to remain seated.

If you would like to receive communion but cannot come forward, please let an usher know and communion will be brought to you.

COMMUNION HYMN: MAGNIFICAT/SING OUT, MY SOUL GIA 3719



Text: Luke 1:46, *My soul magnifies the Lord*; Taizé Community, 1978
Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994
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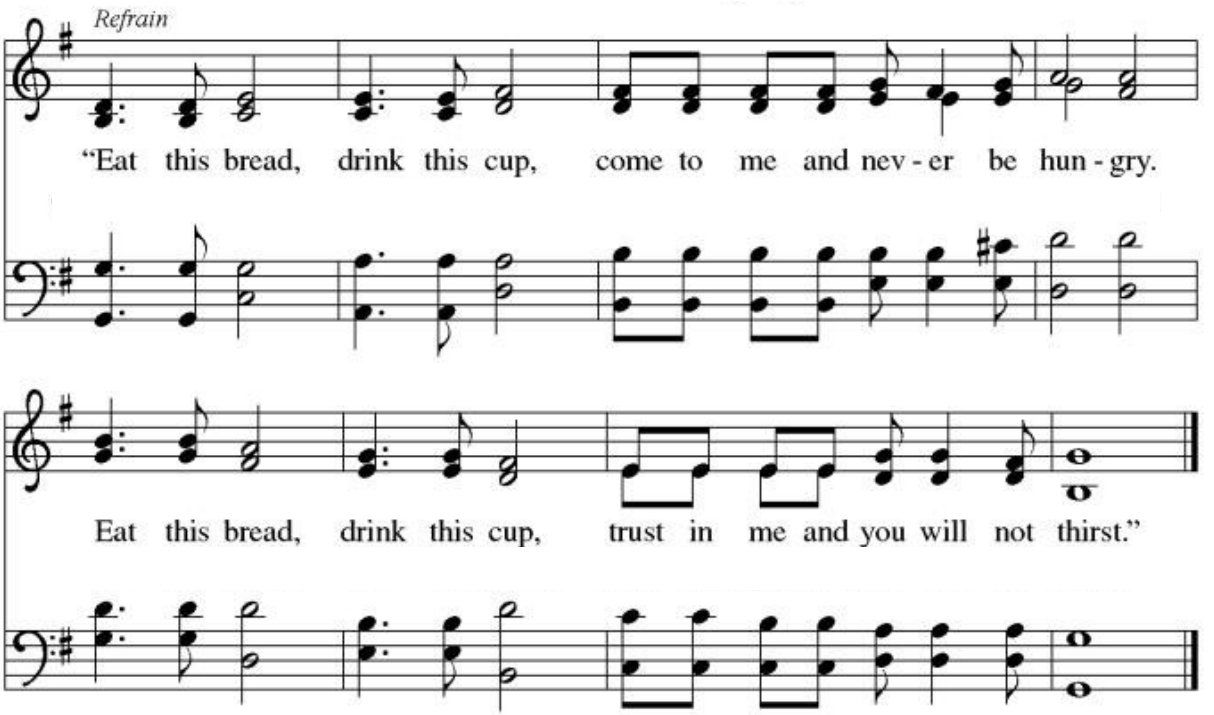
COMMUNION HYMN: EAT THIS BREAD ELW 472



Text: Taizé Community
Music: BERTHIER, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994
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Please stand as you are able

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

ALM: Compassionate God,

All: **through the gifts of bread and wine**
our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love.
Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal,
may share your love freely, as you have shared with us.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever. Amen.

BENEDICTION

Response after blessing: **Amen**

SENDING HYMN: LOVE WILL NEVER FAIL CCLI

Verse 1
Love is patient love is kind
It has no arrogance or pride
It seeks the good of others first
It keeps no record of wrong or hurt
It finds no joy in wickedness
But rejoices in the truth
Through it all it will endure
Love will never fail

Chorus
Love will never never fail
Love will never never fail
Love will never never fail
Love will never fail

Verse 2
Though all prophecy will cease
Though all knowledge it will fade
Oh an end will come to speech
Even death will pass away
We will see You face to face
And Your mercy will prevail
Faith and hope they will remain
Love will never fail

Chorus
Love will never never fail
Love will never never fail
Love will never never fail
Love will never fail

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SENDING

ALM: Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!
All: Thanks be to God.

Next Week:

August 23, 13th Sunday after Pentecost

Intro: In Isaiah the people are advised to look to their spiritual ancestors as the rock from which they were hewn. Jesus declares that the church will be built on the rock of Peter's bold confession of faith. God's word of reconciliation and God's mercy are keys to the church's mission. Paul urges us to not be conformed to this world but to offer our bodies as a living sacrifice, using our individual gifts to build up the body of Christ. From the table we go forth to offer our spiritual worship through word and deed.

Readings: Isaiah 51:1-6 / Psalm 138 / Romans 12:1-8 / Matthew 16:13-20

Elim Worship Team

The Rev. Kathryn Gulbranson, Pastor ····· Presiding Minister
Robin Merrill ····· Assistant Lay Minister
Lauren Haile ····· Music Director
Erin Hetrick-Hohenner ····· Office Manager (Elim Express, Announcements)
Barb Villa ····· Bulletin Production
Richard Maxon ····· Bookkeeper
Paul Haile, Andy Hohenner, Kevin Prime, Maria Svinth ····· Tech Audio/Video

Special thanks to all our volunteers who helped with our worship service

Pastor Kathryn Gulbranson's Email - pastorkathryn@elimpetaluma.org

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