

## Worship Volunteers:

**Greeter/Ushers:** Erick Gardner & Doug Walter

**Assisting Minister:** Jay Forth

**Reader:** Christiana Lundholm

**Communion Assistants:** Kate Wulff, Eddy Ameen,  
Trevour Jackson-Carpenter, & Michael Sonnenberg

**Counters:** Jay Forth & Michael Wendt

**Friends of the Feast:** Faith Korbel

**Coffee House:** Chelsey Christensen,

**Live-Broadcasting:** Patrick Callahan

**Staff Lead:** Sarah Johnson

## Luther Place Staff

Rev. Tony Carpenter, **Interim Sabbatical Pastor**

[RevTony@lutherplace.org]

Rev. Karen Brau, **Senior Pastor**

[on sabbatical through November]

Xavier Williamson, **Congregation Administrator**

[operations@lutherplace.org]

Kristen Kane, **New Connections Coach**

[kristen@lutherplace.org]

Bianca Vazquez, **Steinbruck Center Director**

[steinbruckcenterdirector@lutherplace.org]

Sarah Johnson, **Steinbruck Center Learning Coordinator**

[steinbruckcenter@lutherplace.org]

Justin Fitch, **Music Director**

[music@lutherplace.org]

Nancy White, **Office Volunteer**



HOSPITALITY + WORSHIP + SPIRITUAL GROWTH + JUSTICE + COMMUNITY CARE



**18th Sunday after Pentecost**

September 23, 2018

10:30 AM Service of Communion

Rev. Tony Carpenter, Interim Sabbatical Pastor

Rev. Karen Brau, Senior Pastor

**Luther Place Memorial Church**

1226 Vermont Ave, NW Washington, DC 20005 ♦ (202) 667-1377 ♦ [www.lutherplace.org](http://www.lutherplace.org)

## Our Purpose

God's purpose for our congregation is to grow a Christ-centered inclusive community, led by the Spirit, that proclaims the Gospel's transforming love and grace and challenges injustice.

## Our Guiding Principles

1. All of God's creation is sacred.
2. We listen to the Holy Spirit through worship, Scripture, and prayerful reflection.
3. We seek continuous transformation to become radically hospitable.
4. We invite all into the journey with Christ through reconciliation with each other and God.
5. We respond to injustice through loving service and courageous action.
6. We walk together in our celebrations and our struggles.

## Our Vision

Luther Place will be a community that looks and feels like God's kingdom in its beautiful expansiveness, where all are called into relationship with Jesus Christ and one another. In this place we will use our gifts to act in the world and build the beloved community.

**Worship** attracts and gathers a range of people with various services and styles, engaging the community in a depth of traditional practices and creative endeavors.

**Spiritual Growth** is how we are formed as disciples of Jesus Christ, embracing scripture and all opportunities to engage the divine, and nurturing us to contemplate, study, and question our faith.

**Justice** is a public witness to our faith; we will continue our history of openness to what arrives, standing in solidarity and acting with people who are struggling in our community, country, and world.

**Hospitality** is how we—each of us—extend God's kingdom to a dynamic and diverse city, growing our community and engaging all of God's children, from the powerless to the powerful.

**Community Care** is how we sustain a vibrant community, our intentional practice of supporting and nurturing one another in all stages of life, in celebration and sorrow.

**Fall Intercambio, October 9, 6 pm** - Join us for English/Spanish language exchange dinners at Luther Place! All levels welcome. If you're interested in a weekly language partner, we are now matching pairs. RSVP to Catherine Hinshaw [catherine.hinshaw16@gmail.com](mailto:catherine.hinshaw16@gmail.com) for the dinners and/or sign up.

**20s/30s Fall Retreat, October 12-14** - The group will gather for its annual retreat at Rolling Ridge in Harpers Ferry, WV. Led by Pastor Katie Chatelaine-Samsen, the retreat will center on the theme of Words and Actions that Embody Our Faith. Contact Christina Andeweg [andeweg.c@gmail.com](mailto:andeweg.c@gmail.com) or 515-867-1741 to RSVP or with any questions.

## N Street Village SHERO Walk, October 20

Join members and friends of Luther Place for the **SHERO Walk** in support of N Street Village, helping women find their inner SHERO! The Village Community will band together to support the nearly 2,000 women it serves each year for the SHERO Walk. Luther Place members may contact Gary Maring [gary.e.maring@gmail.com](mailto:gary.e.maring@gmail.com) or Dan Corbett [dan@drdcorbett.net](mailto:dan@drdcorbett.net) with any questions. If you haven't already, please consider supporting N Street Villages' 45th Anniversary—find the donation link online.

## SAVE THE DATE: Congregational Retreat, November 3, 9:30 – 2:00 pm

Contact Jackson Droney-[jackson.droney@gmail.com](mailto:jackson.droney@gmail.com)

## Congregational Service Day, November 17, 9:30 am – 2:00 pm

Join us for service opportunities for all ages! We will build the bunk beds for the Steinbruck Center Hostel on the 4th floor and have a variety of other hands-on projects at Luther Place.

## **Dismantling Racism Workshop, September 25, 6 pm**

Our neighbors at New York Avenue Presbyterian Church invite members and friends of Luther Place to participate in this workshop led by Dr. David Campt, author of *The White Ally Toolkit Workbook*.

## **Embrace! Food & Friends Volunteer Opportunity, September 25, 6 pm -**

Members of Luther Place are invited to join the Embrace! Ministry as we prepare meals at Food & Friends. Contact Michael Sonnenberg [michaelsonnenberg4647@gmail.com](mailto:michaelsonnenberg4647@gmail.com) to volunteer.

## **Night Shelter Celebration and Looking Forward, September 30**

During worship we will celebrate the ministry of the Luther Place Night Shelter and its faith formation of this congregation. We will also share about the exciting ways the 4th floor will be used for ministry with the Steinbruck Center.

## **Sacred Commons Gardening, October 6**

All gardeners are invited to weed at any time this fall! Put your collected foliage in the trash cans below street level on the N Street side. There will be no organized gardening in September or November, but mark your calendars for Saturday, October 6, to complete the rain garden. RSVP to Ed Miller by phone at 410-926-7557.

## **You're Invited!! St. Francis Pet Blessing & Festival**

Sunday, October 7th at 2pm Whether you have an animal companion or not, join us as we honor God's creatures! There will be a blessing of pets and a community celebration with music, food, and fun! Word says it we will also have Pet Photos, crafts, and games!! \*If you are interested helping to plan or serve as a leader for this ministry event please contact [Kriten@lutherplace.org](mailto:Kriten@lutherplace.org)

**Parents' Night Out, October 7, 4:30-7:30 pm** - Ms. Barbara and a crew of sitters looking forward to hosting your children as you head out for adult conversations. RSVP to Becky Ballard [beckyball@gmail.com](mailto:beckyball@gmail.com) by September 23. Include the number of adults and the number of children and their ages.

## **Welcome to worship at Luther Place!**

**Are you a guest?** If so, here are some things you might like to know...

**Please fill out a card** to let us know who you are—we'd love to be in touch with you! The cards can be placed in the offering plate when completed. We are blessed by your presence and hope you will join us again.

We'd love to stay connected with you this week. The easiest way to do that is by following us on social media. You're welcome to take out your phones right now and follow us on facebook, Twitter, or Instagram. We also love hearing from you and this is a great way to keep up the conversation.

**Parking** is available **across the street in the Washington Plaza Hotel**. The garage has **two** floors available. Please ask an usher for a parking voucher. Your reimbursement of the cost of \$5 per use will be greatly appreciated. Additionally, we reserve the parking spots in the circle driveway on Vermont Ave. for use by those with mobility issues and their drivers. We encourage the use of public transportation; free bike parking is available inside the Vermont entrance to Luther Place.

**A children's nursery** is available before, during, and after worship. The nursery is located within the chapel by the entrance on N Street. There is a baby changing area in the nursery.

**Children's church bags** are located in the back of the Sanctuary. The activity bags are for kids of all ages; they include crayons, a coloring book, books to read, etc. Please help children use these materials for doodling rather than the gift envelopes and prayer cards.

**Video Recordings of Worship Services** are available on the Luther Place website:

[www.lutherplace.org/sermons](http://www.lutherplace.org/sermons).



**In prayers and songs, the bold print is congregational response.**

**P= pastor; A= assisting minister; C= congregation.**

**Here at Luther Place, we love to sing!** We like to explore a diversity of music, though much of it comes from the **Evangelical Lutheran Worship Hymnal (ELW)**. This hymnal holds service music in the first half and hymns in the second half. The service music can be found with the small page numbers at the bottom of each page. The hymns can be found using the large numbers at the top of each page. We also use hymns from *This Far by Faith Hymnal (TFF)*, the Lutheran African American hymnal.

**References to God** in traditional prayers and hymns may sometimes be gender specific. As we pray and sing together, you are invited to substitute terms that reflect your understanding of the full inclusiveness of the spirit of God. You are also invited to sing hymns or speak parts of the services, such as *The Lord's Prayer*, in your native tongue.

## GATHERING

### Prelude

*We welcome you to worship today! We welcome as guest liturgist the **Rev. Phil Hirsch**, Director of Evangelical Mission for the Metro DC Synod of the ELCA, and as guest preacher the **Rev. Nichele Carter** (more information on page 9). If you are a visitor, please fill out a welcome card at the ends of the pews, and put in offering plate or give to an usher. We use social media here and invite you to check in and tag @LutherPlace and @LutherPlaceDC*

### Confession:

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
full of compassion and mercy,  
abounding in steadfast love.

### C: Amen.

P: Trusting God's promise of forgiveness,  
let us confess our sin against God and one another.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

**C: Eternal God our creator,  
in you we live and move and have our being.  
Look upon us, your children,  
the work of your hands.  
Forgive us all our offenses,  
and cleanse us from proud thoughts and empty desires.  
By your grace draw us near to you,  
our refuge and our strength;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

P: Since we are justified by faith,  
we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.  
God's love has been poured into our hearts  
through the Holy Spirit given to us.  
In the mercy of almighty God,  
Christ died for us while we still were sinners;

**For emergency requiring pastoral care, we offer several options:** Please reach out to Pastor Carpenter by email at [RevTony@lutherplace.org](mailto:RevTony@lutherplace.org); or call Margaret Maring at 301-469-7609. You may also call the church office and speak with Xavier at 202-667-1377.

### Interested in the music ministry?

#### Opportunities include:

Adult Choir – Weekly rehearsal Sundays 9:30-10:30

Handbell Choir – Monthly rehearsals TBD

Children's Music – Sunday School Hour

Instrumental/Vocal Solos

Contact Justin at [music@lutherplace.org](mailto:music@lutherplace.org) for more information.

### Adult Spiritual Formation, September 23, 9:15 am

Two powerful symbols -- the cross and the lynching tree -- are prevalent motifs interwoven in the lives of African Americans. Theologian James Cone notes, "The crucifixion of Jesus by the Romans in Jerusalem and the lynching of blacks by whites in the United States are so amazingly similar that one wonders what blocks the American Christian imagination from seeing the connection." Please join Pr. Tony Carpenter and Gary Maring as they lead a discussion around Cone's book, "The Cross and the Lynching Tree."

**Today! New Connection's Campaign—Listening Campaign at Luther Place**—Join us today in the Chapel after worship to learn more about our New Connections Campaign—The first phase is an Internal Listening where we will have the opportunity to listen deeply to one another, and to God's callings. Our meeting together will give an overview of the campaign and train you to be a listener in the congregation.

**The first Play & Pray of 2018-19 is today from 9:30 to 10:15**, for families with children ages 5 and under.—If you missed it, don't worry, there are opportunities to participate (and host) on these future dates: October 28th, November 18th, December 16th, February 24th, March 24th, April 28th, and May 19th. All gatherings will occur in the Chapel.

**SENDING**

**\*Sending Song: ELW 625 Marching to Zion**

**Blessing**

A: May God, whose power working in us  
can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine,  
grant you the gifts of faith and hope.  
Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**Dismissal**

A: Go in peace. The Spirit sends us forth to serve.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Today, we pray for those in need of healing; Lolly Stuart, Rita Lewis, All elders,  
for those feeling alone, All facing healing from surgery, All coping with mental  
illness, Sound leadership in turbulent times, Families traumatized at the border  
and children separated from their parents.

**Congregational Offering**

<u>August 2018</u>	<u>YTD as of 08/31/18</u>
<b>Budgeted: \$35,000</b>	<b>Budgeted: \$326,000</b>
<b>Actual: \$27,726</b>	<b>Actual: \$307,291</b>

**Pastor Karen Sabbatical, September-November 2018**

Pastor Karen is on sabbatical. Please see website for a blog on Sabbath Care!  
Rev. Dr. Tony and Mrs. Joanne Carpenter will be with us until December 2, 2018,  
covering while Pastor Karen Brau is on sabbatical.

and for his sake, God forgives you all your sins.

**C: Amen.**

**\*Gathering Song: ELW 526 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light**

**Greeting**

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

**C: And also with you.**

**\*Kyrie:**



1, 3	Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.	Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.	
2	Chris - te e - le - i - son.	Chris - te e - le - i - son.	
1, 3	Lord, . . . . . have mer - cy.	Lord, . . . . . have mer - cy.	
2	Christ, . . . . . have mer - cy.	Christ, . . . . . have mer - cy.	



1, 3	Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.	Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.	
2	Chris - te e - le - i - son.	Chris - te e - le - i - son.	
1, 3	Lord, . . . . . have mer - cy.	Lord, . . . . . have mer - cy.	
2	Christ, . . . . . have mer - cy.	Christ, . . . . . have mer - cy.	

Music: Dinah Reindorf, b. c. 1927  
Music © 1987 Dinah Reindorf, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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**\*Prayer of the Day**

P: O God, our teacher and guide, you draw us to yourself and welcome us as  
beloved children. Help us to lay aside all envy and selfish ambition, that we  
may walk in your ways of wisdom and understanding as servants of your  
Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

WORD

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 11:18-20

<sup>18</sup>It was the LORD who made it known to me, and I knew;  
 then you showed me their evil deeds.  
<sup>19</sup>But I was like a gentle lamb  
 led to the slaughter.  
 And I did not know it was against me  
 that they devised schemes, saying,  
 “Let us destroy the tree with its fruit,  
 let us cut him off from the land of the living,  
 so that his name will no longer be remembered!”  
<sup>20</sup>But you, O LORD of hosts, who judge righteously,  
 who try the heart and the mind,  
 let me see your retribution upon them,  
 for to you I have committed my cause.

Reader: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word

C: Thanks be to God!

PSALM

Psalm 54

<sup>1</sup>Save me, O God, by your name;  
 in your might, defend my cause.  
<sup>2</sup>**Hear my prayer, O God;**  
**give ear to the words of my mouth.**  
<sup>3</sup>For strangers have risen up against me,  
 and the ruthless have sought my life,  
 those who have no regard for God.  
<sup>4</sup>**Behold, God is my helper;**  
**it is the Lord who sustains my life.**  
<sup>5</sup>Render evil to those who spy on me;  
 in your faithfulness, destroy them.  
<sup>6</sup>**I will offer you a freewill sacrifice**  
**and praise your name, O LORD, for it is good.**

\*Agnus Dei (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:

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

C: Amen.

Communion Song: ELW 493 Taste and See

\*Table Blessing

P: May we who have fed at Wisdom’s table take her welcome out to where tables are reserved and doors are closed; may the Spirit drive us to break our bread on the altar of the world.

C: Amen.

\*Prayer after Communion

A: May God, whose power working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine, grant you the gifts of faith and hope.

C: Amen.

## Thanksgiving at the Table

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus gathered with his faltering friends for a meal that tasted of freedom.

He took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to them, 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.

We remember that night Jesus spent with his friends, and we feel his presence with us now. We ask God, through the Holy Spirit to bless these gifts we offer and share, making them Christ for us, and making us into Christ's holy body. Together with all the church, we give you thanks: Creator, Redeemer, Spirit of love. Bind us together. Open our hearts.

Grant us peace.

**C: Amen.**

### \*Lord's Prayer

**C: 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.**

### Distribution

*Communion (Eucharist) celebrated at Luther Place is open to all. Ushers will direct you to the correct station. We use two cups; one with wine and the other with juice. You may either dip the bread into the cup (intinction) or eat the bread first and drink from the cup.*

*Gluten-free wafers are available on the altar. Return to your seat using the exterior aisles.*

<sup>7</sup>For you have rescued me from every trouble,  
and my eye looks down on my enemies.

## SECOND READING

**James 3:13--4:3, 7-8a**

<sup>13</sup>Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. <sup>14</sup>But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. <sup>15</sup>Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. <sup>16</sup>For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. <sup>17</sup>But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. <sup>18</sup>And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

<sup>1</sup>Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? <sup>2</sup>You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. <sup>3</sup>You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. <sup>7</sup>Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. <sup>8a</sup>Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

Reader: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word

**C: Thanks be to God!**



**MEAL**

**\*The Great Thanksgiving**

P: The Lord be with you

**C: And also 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.**

P: Lifegiving God. We thank you divine Seamstress, for you never stop creating. From the dawn of time, to our mother's womb, even in the age to come, Your creativity is as endless as eternity.  
Today you are knitting us your people Into a garment of many colors.

Therefore, with Joseph and all of Israel's children, With the confused disciples and the Ethiopian eunuch, With all who have shown us your way, All who have gone before us, And all those we gather with this day, We praise your name.

them? <sup>8</sup>I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

P: The Gospel of the Lord

**C: Praise to you, O Lord!**

**Sermon:** *The Balance of Power*

Rev. Nichele Carter

Rev. Nichele Carter was born and raised in Gary, Indiana and has been preaching the gospel from the age of 16. She is an ordained itinerant Elder in the AME Church. As such, her theology and preaching have been consistently centered in liberation. Her journey has focused intently on both social justice and activism. She received her MDiv from the Anderson University School of Theology and her DMin this December. She is currently enrolled in Howard University's PhD program in the field of Sociology and Anthropology. Nichele currently lives in the DC metro area with her amazing partner Faith and their four children.

Live-tweeting and posting on social media is encouraged!  
Please use #FollowingJesus #RealChurch and don't forget to tag  
@LutherPlace

**\*Hymn of the Day: Aleluya Y'in Oluwa (Alleluia, Praise to the Lord)**

Led by Ashley Carter

Aleluya Y'in Oluwa  
Aleluya Y'in Oluwa  
O seun, o seun, o seun,  
o seun baba  
Aleluya Y'in Oluwa

Alleluia, praise the Lord.  
Alleluia, praise the Lord.  
Praises, high praises, now bring to the Lord.  
Alleluia, praise the Lord

### \*Prayers of the People

A: Freed by God in Christ to live and love and serve, we pray for the church,  
those in need, and all of God's beloved creation.

*A brief silence.*

A: ...Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

### \*Exchange of Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

### Announcements

*All events & announcements may be found in the back of the bulletin.*

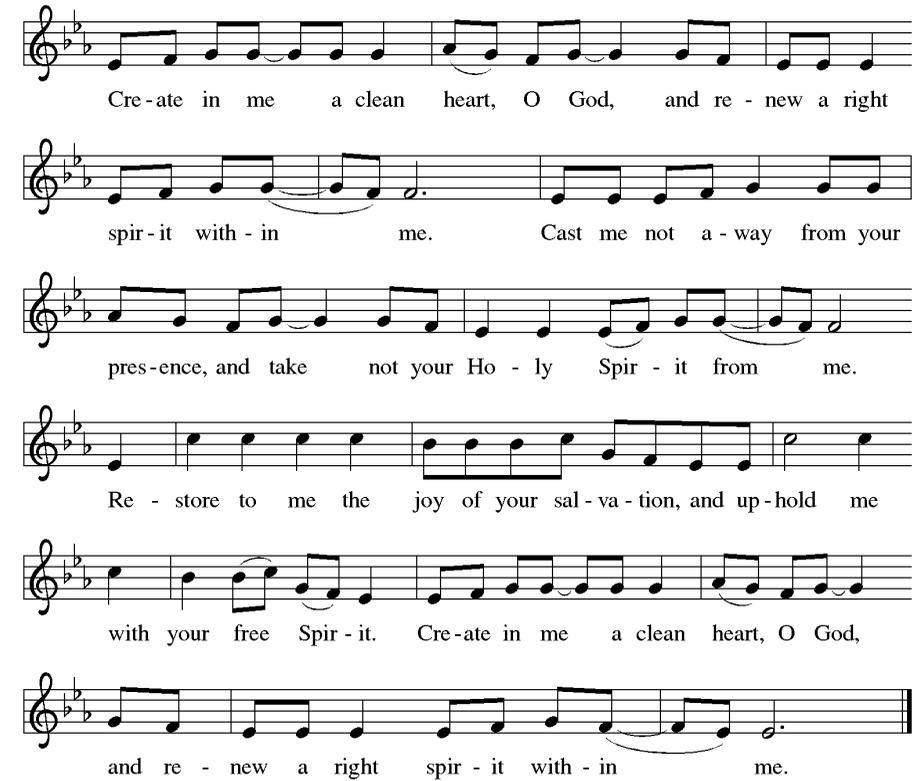
### Offering

*Please feel free to put cash or check in the offering plate. You can also donate through a text donation by texting the dollar amount to +12028166673.*

*Below is the QR code for the giving portal.*



### Offering Song: ELW 185 Create in Me a Clean Heart



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right  
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your  
pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me.  
Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me  
with your free Spir - it. Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God,  
and re - new a right spir - it with - in me.

### \*Offering Prayer

A: Merciful God, you open wide your hand and  
satisfy the need of every living thing.  
You have set this feast before us.  
Open our hands to receive it.  
Open our hearts to embrace it.  
Open our lives to live it.

**C: Amen.**