



Service of Holy Communion

with the Installation of

The Rev. Dr. Dee Pederson

as

Bishop of the Southwestern Minnesota Synod, ELCA

Saturday, October 9, 2021 – 2:00 p.m.

Granite Falls Lutheran Church

350 9th Avenue

Granite Falls, MN 56241



This celebration of our faith, community, and Lutheran expression lives out God's mission shared by the congregations and all the baptized of the Southwestern Minnesota Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America:

*God places us in cities, farms and towns together
under one prairie sky.*

*The Risen Christ surprises us
with opportunities to plant God's Word in the world.*

*Walking together in confidence,
we cultivate life-giving congregations,
nurture partner ministries, and
cooperate in the life of the ELCA.*

By God's grace, together we have what we need.

The Southwestern Minnesota is one of 65 synods in the ELCA, which are grouped into nine regions. Our Region 3 consists of the nine synods of North Dakota, South Dakota, and Minnesota. We are the third largest synod in terms of number of congregations with 232 congregations and two Synodically Authorized Worshiping Communities. We are the fourth largest synod in terms of baptized members with 102,163. The synod is divided into 10 geographical conferences. There are 366 ministers (including 153 retired ministers) rostered in the Southwestern Minnesota Synod.



Southwestern Minnesota Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

GATHERING

Prelude: "10,000 Reasons" By Matt Redman and Jonas Myrin
"Be Thou My Vision" Setting by Paul Manz

Welcome & Land Acknowledgement

*Call to worship Bishop Emeritus Jon Anderson

Assembly please stand and turn to the ministers in the doorway to the Sanctuary, as you are able.

Young worshipers are invited to be part of the procession. They may be accompanied by an adult, walk to the back doorway, and join in behind the torches.

Love Divine, you have called us
and placed us under prairie skies.
In our diversity you have called us
as your body for this time and place.
For the healing of the world, you have called us
and empower us with your peace and courage.
To new adventures you have called us
to go and plant the seeds of faith.
You call us to worship, here and now!
Thanks be to God!

*Entrance Hymn: "All Are Welcome" – ELW 641

The assembly remains standing and turns as needed to face the cross.

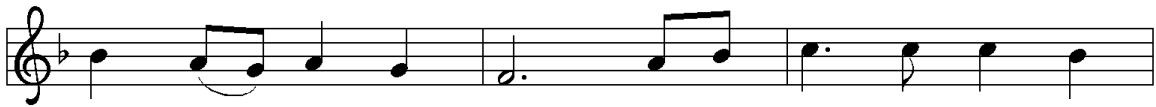
All Are Welcome



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly
2 Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, and words are strong and
3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter, wine and
4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and
5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vi - sions



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how
true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to
wheat: a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground where
stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and
heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed as



hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and
dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as
peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through
live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the
words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of
wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as one we
Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we share in
strang - er bear the im - age of God's face; let us bring an
laugh - ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house pro -



Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
claim the faith of Je - sus:
Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel - come,
end to fear and dan - ger:
claim from floor to raf - ter:



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

*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.

*Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, through your Son Jesus Christ you gave the holy apostles many gifts and commanded them to feed your flock. Inspire all pastors to proclaim your word diligently and your people to receive it willingly, that finally we may receive the crown of eternal glory; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

First Reading: *The word of our God will stand forever* – Isaiah 40:1-11

Word of God, word of life!

Thanks be to God!

Psalm 100: Cantor

All:



"Indeed, How Good is the Lord (Psalm 100). Music: Leon C. Roberts. Refrain © 1999 and tone © 1996, Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

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¹Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all you lands!

²Serve the Lord with gladness;

come into God's presence with a song.

³Know that the Lord is God,

our maker to whom we belong;

we are God's people

and the sheep of God's pasture.

⁴Enter the gates of the Lord with thanksgiving

and the courts with praise;

give thanks and bless God's holy name.

⁵Good indeed is the Lord,
whose steadfast love is everlasting,
whose faithfulness endures from age to age.

Indeed, how good is the Lord, who is faithful from age to age.

Second Reading: *Treasure in clay jars* – 2 Corinthians 4:1-12

Word of God, word of life!

Thanks be to God!

***Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Cantor**

*As the Saint John's Bible is carried into the assembly, please stand and turn to face the place of reading.
Young worshipers may be accompanied by an adult to join the procession.*

All:

John Helgen



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How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger
who announces peace, who announces salvation.

Alleluia.

***Holy Gospel:** *I have sent them into the world* – John 17:6-19

A reading from the Gospel of John, the seventeenth chapter.

Response: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Response following the reading: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

The Alleluia is sung again as the procession returns to the chancel.

Sermon

Rev. Elizabeth Eaton, Presiding Bishop, ELCA

***Hymn of the Day:** "O God Beyond All Praising" – ELW 880

O God beyond All Praising



1 O God be-yond all prais - ing, we wor-ship you to - day
2 The flow'r of earth - ly splen - dor in time must sure - ly die,
3 Then hear, O gra - cious Sav - ior, ac - cept the love we bring,



and sing the love a - maz - ing that songs can-not re - pay;
its frag - ile bloom sur - ren - der to you, the Lord most high;
that we who know your fa - vor may serve you as our King;



for we can on - ly won - der at ev - 'ry gift you send,
but hid - den from all na - ture the e - ter - nal seed is sown—
and wheth - er our to - mor - rows be filled with good or ill,



at bless-ings with - out num - ber and mer - cies with - out end:
though small in mor - tal stat - ure, to heav - en's gar - den grown:
we'll tri - umph through our sor - rows and rise to bless you still:



we lift our hearts be - fore you and wait up - on your word,
for Christ, your gift from heav - en, from death has set us free,
to mar - vel at your beau - ty and glo - ry in your ways,



we hon - or and a - dore you, our great and might - y Lord.
and we through him are giv - en the fi - nal vic - to - ry.
and make a joy - ful du - ty our sac - ri - fice of praise.

Text: Michael Perry, 1942–1996

Music: THAXTED, Gustav Holst, 1874–1934

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The assembly remains standing.



Installation of The Rev. Dr. Dee Pederson as
Bishop of the Southwestern Minnesota Synod – ELCA

*Pr. Dee, Synod Secretary Pr. Ann Zastrow, and Synod Vice-President Ferman Woodberry
come before the presiding minister and the assembly.*

Vice-President Ferman Woodberry:

I present Diane Sue Haugen “Dee” Pederson, who has been elected and called by the church, for installation into the office of bishop of the Southwestern Minnesota Synod ELCA.

The secretary and vice-president move aside, and the assembly is seated.

Address and Questions

The presiding minister addresses Pr. Dee.

A reading from John: Jesus said, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you. Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.” (*John 20:21-23*)

A reading from Matthew: Jesus said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” (*Matthew 28:18-20*)

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles: Take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you guardians, to feed the church of God that he obtained with the blood of his own Son. (*Acts 20:28*)

A reading from Second Timothy: Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved by him, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly explaining the word of truth. (*2 Timothy 2:15*)

And again: Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us. (2 Timothy 1:13-14)

The presiding minister questions Pr. Dee.

To you is being given the care of the pastors, deacons, and congregations of this synod.

I ask you in the presence of God and of this assembly:

will you assume the office of bishop?

Response:

I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you be faithful in your office?

Will you commit yourself to this new trust and responsibility,
in the confidence that it comes from God through the call of the church?

Response:

I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you carry out this ministry in accordance with the holy scriptures
and with the confessions of the Lutheran church,
and in harmony with the constitutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America?

Response:

I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you be diligent in your study of the holy scriptures
and in your use of the means of grace?
Will you love, serve, and pray for God's people,
nourish them with the word and sacraments,
and lead them by your own example in faithful service and holy living?

Response:

I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you give faithful witness in the world,
that God's love may be known in all that you do?

Response:

I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you guide, encourage, and support the ministers and the congregations of the Southwestern Minnesota Synod in their ministries?

Will you be an advocate for the ministries of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, and will you support this church's work with global and ecumenical partners?

Response:

I will, and I ask God to help me.

Almighty God, who has given you the will to do these things, graciously give you the strength and compassion to perform them.

The assembly responds:

Amen.

The assembly stands. The presiding minister addresses the assembly.

People of God, representatives of this synod,
will you receive Dee as a servant of God
and a shepherd in the church of Jesus Christ?

We will, and we ask God to help us.

Will you pray for her
help and honor her for her work's sake,
and in all things strive to live together in the peace and unity of Christ?

We will, and we ask God to help us.

Pr. Dee may kneel.

***Hymn of Invocation:** "Veni Sancte Spiritus – Holy Spirit, Come to Us" – ELW 406

During the hymn, leaders from various church bodies and bishops of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America offer individual prayers.

Veni Sancte Spiritus

Holy Spirit, Come to Us

Ostinato (repeated continuously)

Ve - ni San - cte Spi - ri - tus. Ve - ni San - cte Spi - ri - tus.
Ho - ly Spir - it, come to us. Ho - ly Spir - it, come to us.

Text: Pentecost sequence; Taizé Community

Music: TAIZÉ VENI SANCTE, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994

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Thanksgiving

The presiding minister leads the assembly in giving thanks.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

we give you thanks that by your Holy Spirit you sustain the church.

By the power of the Holy Spirit

you call, gather, enlighten, and sanctify the whole church.

The presiding minister lays both hands on Pr. Dee. Three bishops in historic succession join in the laying on of hands in conformity with the canons of the Council of Nicaea.

A time of silent prayer follows.

Pour out your Spirit upon Dee
to empower and enlighten her ministry as a bishop in your church.
Sustain her as a shepherd
who tends the flock of Christ with love and gentleness,
and oversees the ministries of the church with vision and wisdom.
Uphold her as a faithful steward of your holy word and life-giving sacraments
and a strong sign of reconciliation among all people.
Give courage and fortitude to sustain her in this ministry.
We ask this through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior and Lord,
through whom all glory and power and honor are yours
in your holy church, both now and forever.

Amen.

The presiding minister addresses Pr. Dee.

The office of bishop is now committed to you
in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Addressing the newly installed Bishop Dee, the presiding minister proclaims God's blessing.

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus,
the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant,
make you complete in everything good so that you may do God's will,
working in you that which is pleasing in God's sight;
through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever.

Amen.

***Prayers of Intercession**

Each petition concludes:

Lord, in your mercy...

Hear our prayers

The newly installed Bishop Dee may kneel, as the presiding minister continues.

Remember to rekindle the gift of God that is within you.
For God did not give us a spirit of timidity
but a spirit of power and love and self-control.

Amen.

The assembly may be seated.

Giving of Cross

The presiding minister places a pectoral cross around the newly installed Bishop Dee's neck and says:

Receive this cross and wear it

as a sign of your calling to serve Christ and his people,
and as an emblem of the office to which you have been elected.

Bishop Dee stands and the presiding minister presents her to the people.

The assembly may offer acclamation with applause.

***Sharing of the Peace**

Bishop Dee Pederson

Offering

The offering will be shared among our ministry partners – Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota and Lutheran Disaster Response, ELCA. Gifts may be shared in person, online at www.swmnelca.org – "Give" tab, or by checks mailed to the SW MN Synod, PO Box 499, Redwood Falls, MN 56283 noting "Installation Offering" on the memo line.

Offering Anthem:

"Thy Holy Wings"

Setting by William Miller

It was an honor on August 29, to be able to tell Pastor Bill Miller that his arrangement of this hymn would be sung at this service of installation. Pastor Miller passed away on August 31. This hymn is dedicated to the glory of God and in memory of Bill, who led so many in song. – Bishop Dee Pederson

***Offertory Hymn: "Let Us Go Now to the Banquet" – ELW 523**

The assembly stands as the gifts are brought forward.

Let Us Go Now to the Banquet

Vamos todos al banquete



Va - mos to - dos al ban - que - te, a la
Let us go now to the ban - quet, to the



me - sa de la crea - ción; ca - da cual con su ta - bu -
feast of the u - ni - verse. The ta - ble's set and a place is



re - te tie - ne un pues - to yu - na mi - sión.
wait - ing; come, ev - 'ry - one, with your gifts to share.



1 Hoy me le - van - to muy tem - pra - no; ya me es -
1 I will rise in the ear - ly morn - ing; the com -
2 God in - vites all the poor and hun - gry to the
3 May we build such a place a - mong us where all



pe - ra la co - mu - ni - dad; voy su - bien - do a - le - gre la
mu - ni - ty's wait - ing for me. With a spring in my step I'm
ban - quet of jus - tice and good where the har - vest will not be
peo - ple are e - qual in love. God has called us to work to -



cues - ta, voy en bus - ca de tu a - mis - tad.
walk - ing with my friends and my fam - i - ly.
hoard - ed so that no one will lack for food.
geth - er and to share ev - 'ry - thing we have.

2 Dios invita a todos los pobres a esta mesa común por la fe, donde no hay acaparadores y a nadie le falta el conqué. Estribillo

3 Dios nos manda a hacer de este mundo una mesa donde haya igualdad, trabajando y luchando juntos, compartiendo la propiedad. Estribillo

Text: Guillermo Cuéllar, b. 1955, *Misa popular salvadoreña*; tr. Bret Hesla, b. 1957, and William Dexheimer Pharris, b. 1956
Music: VAMOS TODOS AL BANQUETE, Guillermo Cuéllar, b. 1955
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***Offering Prayer**

God of abundance,
you cause streams to break forth in the desert
and manna to rain from the heavens.
Accept the gifts you have first given us.
Unite them with the offering of our lives
to nourish the world you love so dearly;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

MEAL

***The Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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 the great shepherd of your flock, our Savior Jesus Christ;
who after his resurrection sent forth the apostles
to preach the gospel and teach all nations,
and promised to be with them, even to the end of the age.
And so, with the glorious company of the apostles,
with the choirs of angels and all the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:
“Holy, Holy, Holy – Santo, Santo, Santo” – ACS 1089

Holy, Holy, Holy

Santo, santo, santo



San - to, san - to, san - to, oh Dios del u - ni - ver - so:
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of might and mer - cy,



. . . lle - nos es - tán el cie - lo y la tie - rra de tu glo - ria.
your glo - ry fills all heav - en and earth. . . . You are ho - ly, God.



Ben - di - to el que vie - ne en nom - bre del Se - ñor. . . .
. . . . Bless - ed be the Sav - ior, the one who comes in your name.



Ho - san - na en el cie - lo. San - to e - res, oh Dios.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. You are ho - ly, God.

Text: Traditional; English text, hymnal version
Music: ARGENTINE SANTO, Argentine traditional
English text © 2020 Augsburg Fortress

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Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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 death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever.

Amen.

***Lord's Prayer**

**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.**

Invitation to the Meal

All who hunger and thirst, come.

The table is ready.

Music as we share the Meal

"You Are Holy" – ELW 525

"Precious Lord, Take My Hand" – Solo

"God is Here" – ELW 526

*Prayer after the Meal

Lord of life,

in the gift of your body and blood

you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation.

Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy,

bearing witness to the abundance of your love

in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

*Blessing

People of God,

you are Christ's body,

bringing new life to a suffering world.

The holy Trinity, + one God,

bless you now and forever.

Amen.

*Sending Hymns: *"The Lord Now Sends Us Forth – Enviado soy de dios"* – ELW 538

"Holy God, We Praise Your Name" – ELW 414

Dismissal

Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude: *"Holy God, We Praise Your Name"*

Setting by Paul Manz

The Lord Now Sends Us Forth

Enviado soy de Dios

En - via - do soy de Dios, mi ma - no lis - ta es - tá
The Lord now sends us forth with hands to serve and give,

pa - ra cons - truir con él un mun - do fra - ter - nal.
to make of all the earth a bet - ter place to live.

Los án - ge - les no son en - via - dos a cam - biar
The an - gels are not sent in - to our world of pain

un mun - do de do - lor por un mun - do me - jor;
to do what we were meant to do in Je - sus' name;

me ha to - ca - do a mí ha - cer - lo rea - li - dad.
that falls to you and me and all who are made free.

A - yú - da - me, Se - ñor, a ha - cer tu vo - lun - tad.
Help us, O Lord, we pray, to do your will to - day.

Text: Anonymous, Central America; tr. Gerhard M. Cartford, b. 1923

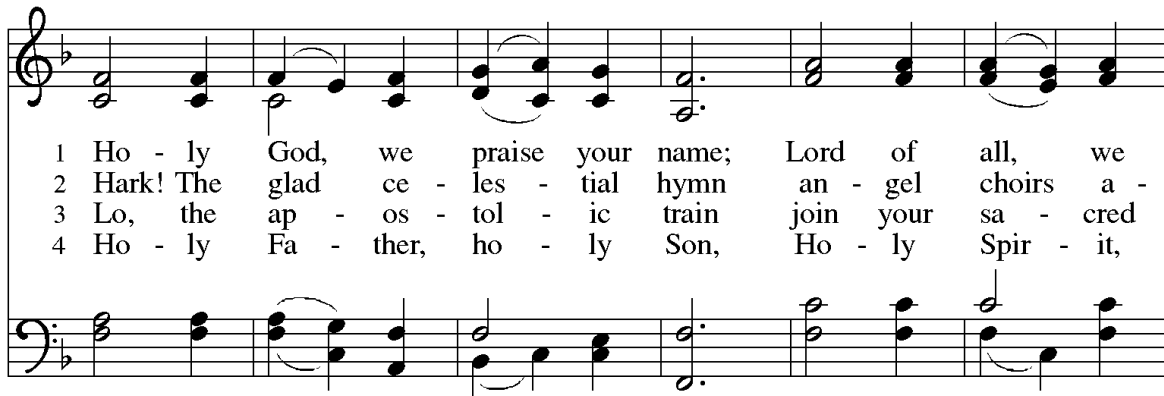
Music: ENVIADO, anonymous, Central America

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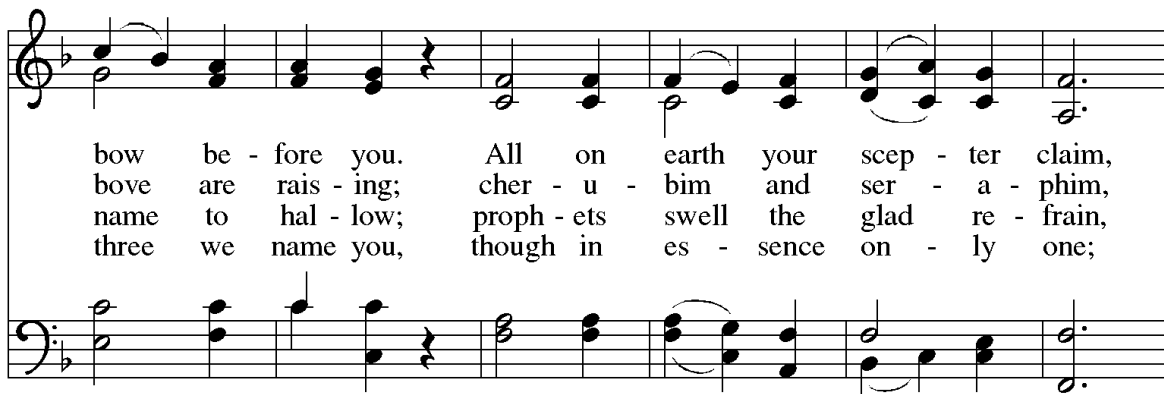
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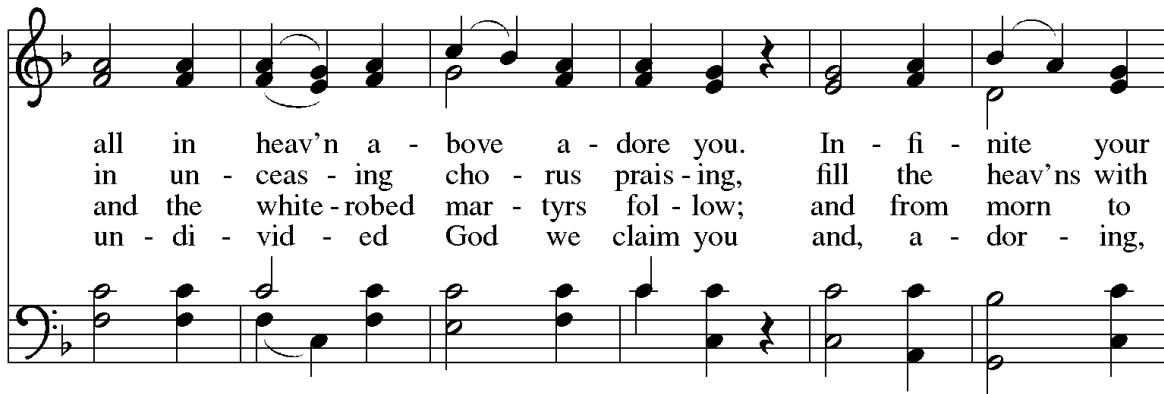
Holy God, We Praise Your Name



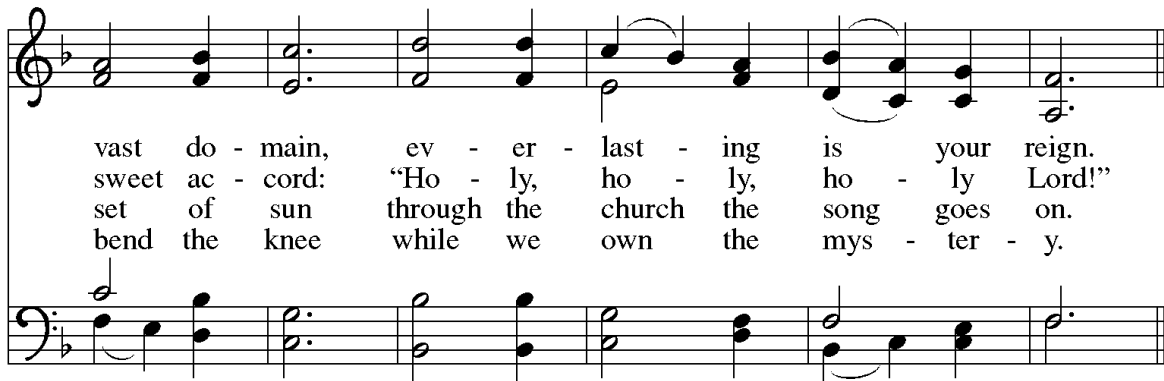
1 Ho - ly God, we praise your name; Lord of all, we
 2 Hark! The glad ce - les - tial hymn an - gel choirs a -
 3 Lo, the ap - os - tol - ic train join your sa - cred
 4 Ho - ly Fa - ther, ho - ly Son, Ho - ly Spir - it,



bow be - fore you. All on earth your scep - ter claim,
 bove are rais - ing; cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim,
 name to hal - low; proph - ets swell the glad re - frain,
 three we name you, though in es - sence on - ly one;



all in heav'n a - bove a - dore you. In - fi - nite your
 in un - ceas - ing cho - rus prais - ing, fill the heav'ns with
 and the white - robed mar - tyrs fol - low; and from morn to
 un - di - vid - ed God we claim you and, a - dor - ing,



vast do - main, ev - er - last - ing is your reign.
 sweet ac - cord: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord!"
 set of sun through the church the song goes on.
 bend the knee while we own the mys - ter - y.

Text: source unknown; tr. Clarence A. Walworth, 1820–1900
 Music: GROSSER GOTT, *Katholisches Gesangbuch*, Vienna, 1774

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Presider and Preacher: Rev. Elizabeth Eaton, Presiding Bishop, ELCA

*ELCA Bishops and The Right Reverend Craig Loya – Episcopal Church in Minnesota,
participating in the laying on of hands.*

Assisting Minister: Deacon Erin Kuehl, First, St. James

Readers: Pr. Andrés Albertsen, and Odalis Elliott-Bastian, Iglesia Paz y Esperanza, Willmar
(English and Spanish)

Vanida Scott and Pr. Peter Keomanivong, Reborn Lao Lutheran, Waite Park (English and Lao)

Music Director: Eric E. Parrish, First, Worthington

Choir Director: Keith Magsam, Bethlehem, St. Cloud

Choir: Members from the Bethlehem Lutheran Choir, St. Cloud

Organist: Kaye Schimnich, Bethlehem, St. Cloud

Pianist: Brenda Handel-Johnson

Band: Dave Eliason, Faith, Spicer (Guitar); Bob Whitney, Faith, Spicer (Bass);
Oscar Bastian, Iglesia Paz y Esperanza, Willmar (Percussion)

Soloist: Ferman Woodberry, Salem, Jackson

Livestream Production Technician: Chris Kiewel, Bethlehem, St. Cloud

Processional Cross: Ethiopian Cross from Bethlehem, St. Cloud

Thank you to the staff and people of Granite Falls Lutheran for their hospitality today.

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Heartfelt thanks to all who have generously given their time, energy, skills, and art for today's worship celebration. This service was planned intentionally to be a living expression of the mission statement of this synod, celebrating our belief that "God has placed us in cities, farms, and towns together under one prairie sky." Those participating are part of congregations in all these corners of this synod. Many are part of the ministries and congregations that raised and formed me as a pastor. For all of the wise lay leaders, mentors, colleagues, children, family members, and members of ELCA churchwide over the years – I am so grateful. For the prayers of those who couldn't be here, and for the voices of the saints who now sing in the heavenly chorus – I am so grateful.

The single candle is lit in memory of my parents – Donald and Shirley, grandparents, and mother-in-law Ruth, who allowed me to live in the joy and love of the Christian community and lived each day in gratitude.

As I begin serving in the privilege and responsibility of this new call, my heart is filled with love and gratitude for each of you. We gather to give glory to the Triune God, who sends us out into God's mission in this beloved world. + Soli deo gloria.

+ **Bishop Dee Pederson**

The Rev. Dr. Dee Pederson

The Rev. Dee (Diane) Pederson, St. Cloud, Minn., was elected June 12 to serve a six-year term as bishop of the Southwestern Minnesota Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). The election took place during an online synod assembly.

The bishop-elect has served as Director for Evangelical Mission (D.E.M.) in the Southwestern Minnesota Synod since 2019. Prior to that, she served as a pastor of Bethlehem Lutheran Church in St. Cloud from 1988 to 2006, and as lead pastor from 2006-2019. Her first call as an ordained pastor was to Faith Lutheran Church in Spicer, Minn., where she served as co-pastor from 1981 to 1988.

Pr. Dee was baptized and confirmed at Christ Lutheran Church, now Messiah Lutheran, in Washburn, Wisconsin, located on the south shore of Lake Superior. Her family lived in the country, where her grandparents had a small dairy farm. She is the oldest of four children.

Pr. Dee earned her Bachelor of Arts degree from Luther College in Decorah, Iowa, in 1975 and her Master of Divinity degree from Luther Theological Seminary (now Luther Seminary) in St. Paul, Minn., in 1981. She earned her Doctor of Ministry degree, focused on congregational mission and leadership, from Luther in 2010. Her thesis was titled, "A Missional Church Community of Many Cultures and Peoples."

In 1999 she was elected to serve a 6-year term on the ELCA Church Council, elected to the Church Council Executive Committee 2003-2005, and completed that work by serving as co-chair of the memorials committee for the 2005 Churchwide Assembly. She served as a Global Mission Volunteer at the International Lutheran Church in Seoul, South Korea, in the summer of 2004. From 2009-2011 she served as chair of the churchwide task force, "Living into the Future Together: Renewing the Ecology of the ELCA." The report of task force made recommendations related to two primary questions, "What is God calling this church to be and do?" and "What changes are in order to respond most faithfully?" Its recommendations were carried forward in many later initiatives.

In the life of the Southwestern Minnesota Synod, Pr. Dee has served on the Consultation Committee, Credentials Committee, and the Long-Range Planning Committee from 2009-2014.

Pr. Dee served on the developing and staff team for the training program that began out of United Lutheran Seminary (Gettysburg), preparing pastors to serve in lead or senior pastor roles. She also served as president of the Sr. Pastors of Larger ELCA Churches, 2010-2011. As a faith leader in the community, Pr. Dee has been engaged in work dedicated to diversity appreciation, interfaith and ecumenical relationships, refugee resettlement, congregation-based organizing, and anti-racism initiatives in the St. Cloud area, all for over two decades.

Pr. Dee states, "I am grateful for the strong leadership Bp. Jon Anderson has given to our synod for the past

18 years, and for the opportunity to serve as D.E.M. on the synod staff with him for nearly 2 years. I am humbled by the responsibility this synod has entrusted to me with the call to serve in the Office of Bishop. I look forward to meeting with and listening to our leaders in person once again this fall.”

In her ministry as D.E.M., Pr. Dee has been able to focus on congregational vitality and planning, generosity, hybrid ministries, innovation, congregational partnerships, racial justice, walking with our two mission developments and strategic ministries, the Growing Young initiative, beginning to develop a coaching network, and updating congregational constitutions. “I am excited about thinking with our leaders and congregations about what it means to live out our synod mission of being planted in cities, farms, and towns together. I am eager for us to imagine how we might live into the ELCA commitment to activate each of us so more people know the way of Jesus and discover community, justice, and love.”

Pr. Dee is married to John, who enjoys wood-working and finishing up his rehab of a 1955 Larson run-about boat. They are parents of two grown children, Anna and Derek, who were both born in South Korea, grew up in Spicer and St. Cloud, and now live in the Twin Cities area. Derek is married to Taylor, and they are parents of 3 beautiful girls: Avery, age 8; Emlynn, age 5; and Iris, age 2. Pr. Dee is a member of Rotary International, earned the 2nd degree Black Belt in the Korean martial art of Tae Kwon Do, enjoys growing orchids, and plays a supporting role in the nurturing of the newest member of the Pederson household, a 3-month-old German Shepherd.



Thank you to our friends at St. John's Abbey and the Hill Monastic Manuscript Library, for the opportunity to have the St. John's Bible, Heritage Edition – Gospels-Acts, for the reading of the Holy Gospel today. The St. John's Bible is a work of art and a work of theology. Back in the 1990s, Donald Jackson imagined how to create a Bible that would capture the beauty and tradition of centuries of liturgy and carry it into the future. And so a team of artists coordinated by Donald Jackson in Wales, and a group of Benedictine monks and scholars in Minnesota, brought together ancient techniques of calligraphy and illumination with an ecumenical Christian approach to the Bible, rooted in Benedictine spirituality. The result is a living document and monumental achievement. We are so grateful for the privilege of having this beautiful Bible here for the celebration today. Please take a closer look! Individuals and church groups can visit and be in awe of this amazing accomplishment by visiting the campus of St. John's Abbey and University in Collegeville, Minn. There you will truly experience the Benedictine commitment: “All shall be welcomed as Christ.”