

**Opening Hymn 304 “I come with joy to meet my Lord”**

*Land of Rest*

1 I come with joy to meet my Lord, forgiven, loved, and free,  
in awe and wonder to recall his life laid down for me.

2 I come with Christians far and near to find, as all are fed,  
the new community of love in Christ’s communion bread.

3 As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each proud division ends.  
That love that made us makes us one, and strangers now are friends.

4 And thus with joy we meet our Lord. His presence, always near,  
is in such friendship better known: we see, and praise him here.

5 Together met, together bound, we’ll go our different ways,  
and as his people in the world, we’ll live and speak his praise.

**Offertory Hymn 610 “Lord, whose love through humble service”**

*Blaenhafren*

1 Lord, whose love through humble service bore the weight of human need,  
who upon the cross, forsaken, offered mercy’s perfect deed,  
we, your servants, bring the worship not of voice alone, but heart,  
consecrating to your purpose every gift that you impart.

2 Still your children wander homeless; still the hungry cry for bread;  
still the captives long for freedom; still in grief we mourn our dead.  
As, O Lord, your deep compassion healed the sick and freed the soul,  
use the love your Spirit kindles still to save and make us whole.

3 As we worship, grant us vision, till your love’s revealing light,  
in its height and depth and greatness, dawns upon our quickened sight,  
making known the needs and burdens your compassion bids us bear,  
stirring us to tireless striving, your abundant life to share.

4 Called by worship to your service, forth in your dear name we go,  
to the child, the youth, the aged love in living deeds to show;  
hope and health, good will and comfort, counsel, aid, and peace we give,  
that your servants, Lord, in freedom may your mercy know and live.

**Communion Hymn LEVAS 62 “In Christ There Is No East or West”**

*McKee*

1 In Christ there is no East or West, In him no South or North;  
But one great fellowship of love Through-out the whole wide earth.

2 In Him shall true hearts everywhere Their high communion find;  
His service is the golden cord Close-binding humankind.

3 Join hands, disciples of the faith, whate'er your race may be!  
Who serves my Father as a son Is surely kin to me.

4 In Christ now meet both East and West, In him meet South and North.  
All Christly souls are joined as one Through out the whole wide earth.

**Recessional Hymn 432 “O praise ye the Lord! Praise him in the height”**

*Laudate Dominum*

1 O praise ye the Lord! Praise him in the height;  
rejoice in his word, ye angels of light;  
ye heavens, adore him by whom ye were made,  
and worship before him, in brightness arrayed.

2 O praise ye the Lord! Praise him upon earth,  
in tuneful accord, all ye of new birth;  
praise him who hath brought you his grace from above,  
praise him who hath taught you to sing of his love.

3 O praise ye the Lord! All things that give sound;  
each jubilant chord re-echo around;  
loud organs, his glory forth tell in deep tone,  
and sweet harp, the story of what he hath done.

4 O praise ye the Lord! Thanksgiving and song  
to him be outpoured all ages along!  
For love in creation, for heaven restored,  
for grace of salvation, O praise ye the Lord!

## **The Collect**

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

## **The First Lesson: Acts 11:1-18**

Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

## **Psalm 148 *Laudate Dominum***

1 Hallelujah! Praise the Lord from the heavens; \* praise him in the heights.

2 Praise him, all you angels of his; \* praise him, all his host.

3 Praise him, sun and moon; \* praise him, all you shining stars.

4 Praise him, heaven of heavens, \* and you waters above the heavens.

5 Let them praise the Name of the Lord; \* for he commanded, and they were created.

6 He made them stand fast for ever and ever; \* he gave them a law which shall not pass away.

7 Praise the Lord from the earth, \* you sea-monsters and all deeps;

8 Fire and hail, snow and fog, \* tempestuous wind, doing his will;

9 Mountains and all hills, \* fruit trees and all cedars;

10 Wild beasts and all cattle, \* creeping things and winged birds;

11 Kings of the earth and all peoples, \* princes and all rulers of the world;

12 Young men and maidens, \* old and young together.

13 Let them praise the Name of the Lord, \*  
for his Name only is exalted, his splendor is over earth and heaven.

14 He has raised up strength for his people and praise for all his loyal servants, \*  
the children of Israel, a people who are near him. Hallelujah!

## **The Second Lesson: Revelation 21:1-6**

I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life."

## **The Gospel: John 13:31-35**

At the last supper, when Judas had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."