

# LORDSTOWN LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Sunday, October 15, 2023*  
*20th Sunday after Pentecost*



5615 Palmyra Rd SW Lordstown, OH 44481

330-399-7227

lordstownlutheran@yahoo.com

www.lordstownlutheran.org

**Worship Bulletin  
Sunday, October 15, 2023  
Lordstown Lutheran Church**

Rev. Dougherty—Pastor  
Mrs. Margaret Thomas— Organist  
Mrs. Lois Dorazio—Choir Director  
Mrs. Elenor Gill - Lectors

*We welcome you to worship with us this morning and we're glad you are here. May God bless our time together and may you feel renewed and refreshed as we celebrate God's unconditional love for the world. Thank you for joining us today and we hope you will return again soon.*

*Children's Sunday School meets on the 2nd & 4th Sundays during worship, and Children's Service project on the 5th Sunday during the School year. As a courtesy the congregation does not stand during worship unless instructed to do so.*

## **Today's Worship Theme**

In Isaiah we are given a vision of the great feast to come, when God will wipe away death forever. In Jesus' parable about a great banquet, those invited do not come, so the invitation is extended to others. In our liturgy God spreads a table before us. Even amid anxiety and hardship we rejoice in the peace of God which surpasses all understanding. With great joy we feast at the table of the Lord, and we go forth to share the wonderful invitation with others hungering and thirsting for the abundant life of God.

## **Entering Into God's Presence**

**WELCOME**

**PRELUDE - A Quiet Time for Reflection**

# Confession and Forgiveness

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

**L:** Blessed be God, the one who forms us, † Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

**P: Amen**

**L:** Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**L:** Steadfast and faithful God,

**P: you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you.**

**We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering. We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others.**

**For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us.**

**For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us.**

**For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us.**

**Lead us back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior.**

**Amen.**

**L:** Beloved in Christ, God's justice stretches beyond all understanding. God's compassion is beyond compare. In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us. In † Christ, you are already and always forgiven.

**P: Amen**

# GATHERING HYMN Sing REFRAIN, VS 3, REFRAIN

## Now the Feast and Celebration

167



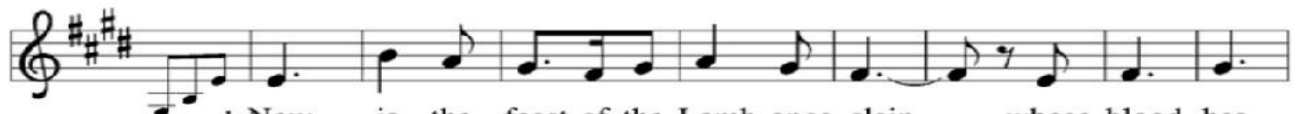
Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion



sings for joy to the God of life and love and free - dom;



praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!



1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



freed and u - nit - ed us to be one great peo - ple of God.



2 Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and might, all hon - or and



glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.



3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo - ple of



God; to make all things new.

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

L: The love of God poured into our hearts, the saving grace of Jesus Christ, and the abundant life of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**ALL: And also with you.**

L: Let us pray together.

**ALL: Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**AMEN**

## ***Special Music***

### **God's Word for Us Today**

#### **First Reading: Isaiah 25:1-9 LECTOR**

*After a hymn of praise acknowledging God as a shelter for the poor, the prophet portrays a wonderful victory banquet at which death—which in ancient Canaan was depicted as a monster swallowing up everyone—will be swallowed up forever. The prophet urges celebration of this victory of salvation.*

1O Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you, I will praise your name; for you have done wonderful things, plans formed of old, faithful and sure.

2For you have made the city a heap, the fortified city a ruin; the palace of aliens is a city no more, it will never be rebuilt.

3Therefore strong peoples will glorify you; cities of ruthless nations will fear you.

4For you have been a refuge to the poor, a refuge to the needy in their distress, a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat.

When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm,

5the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place, you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds; the song of the ruthless was stilled.

6On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.

7And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations;

8he will swallow up death forever. Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken.

9It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

The Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

## **Psalm: Psalm 23**

## **LECTOR**

*You prepare a table before me, and my cup is running over. (Ps. 23:5)*

1The Lord is my shepherd;  
I shall not be in want.

**2The Lord makes me lie down in green pastures  
and leads me beside still waters.**

3You restore my soul, O Lord,  
and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

**4Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear  
no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

5You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

**6Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

## **Second Reading: Philippians 4:1-9 LECTOR**

*Though writing from prison and facing an uncertain future, Paul calls on the Philippians to rejoice and give thanks to God no matter what the circumstance. God's peace is with us and binds together our hearts and minds in Jesus Christ, especially when things around us do not seem peaceful.*

1My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

2I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. 3Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

4Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. 5Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. 6Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. 7And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

8Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. 9Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

The Word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God**

## **Gospel: Matthew 22:1-14**

*Jesus tells a parable indicating that the blessings of God's kingdom are available to all, but the invitation is not to be taken lightly.*

The Holy Gospel According to St. Mathew

### **Glory to you, O Lord**

1Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: 2“The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. 3He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. 4Again he sent other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.’ 5But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, 6while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. 7The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. 8Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. 9Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.’ 10Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

11“But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, 12and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless. 13Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ 14For many are called, but few are chosen.”

### **Praise to you O Christ**

**Sermon**

**Rev. Dougherty**

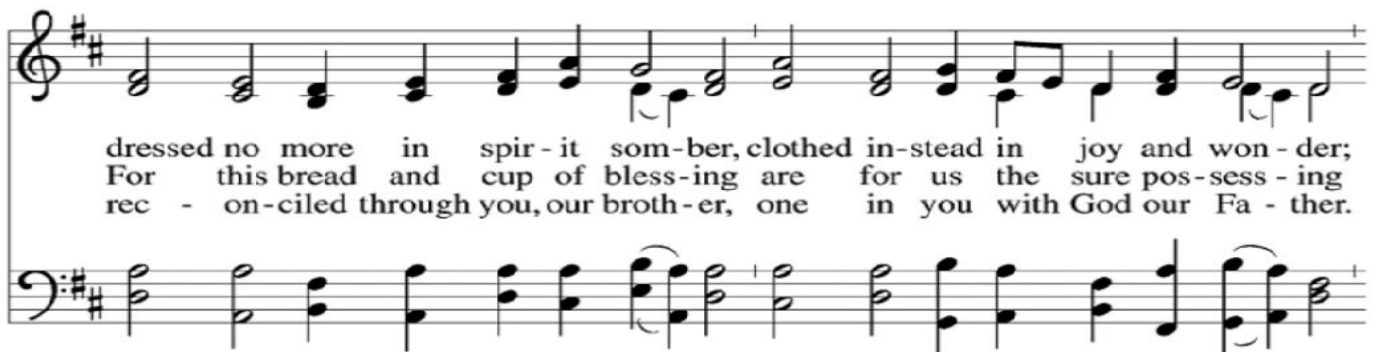
# HYMN OF THE DAY ALL VS

## Now We Join in Celebration

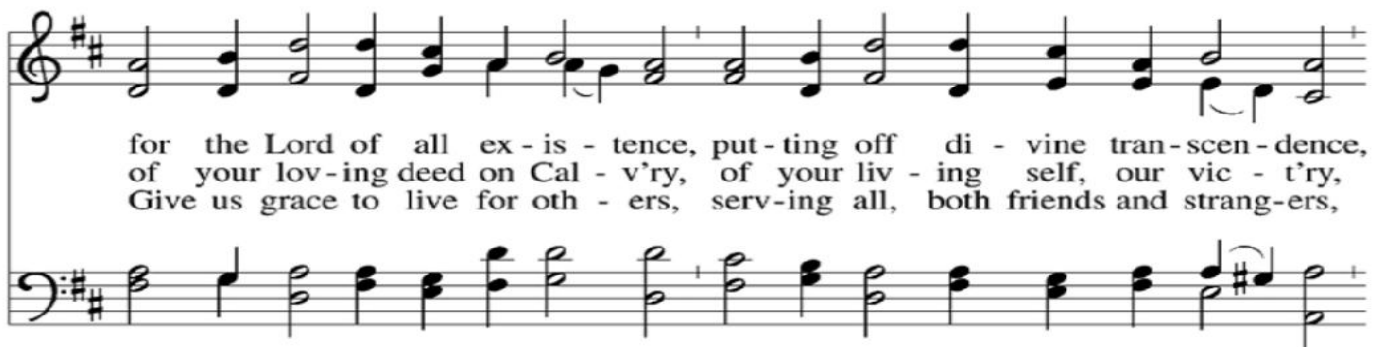
462



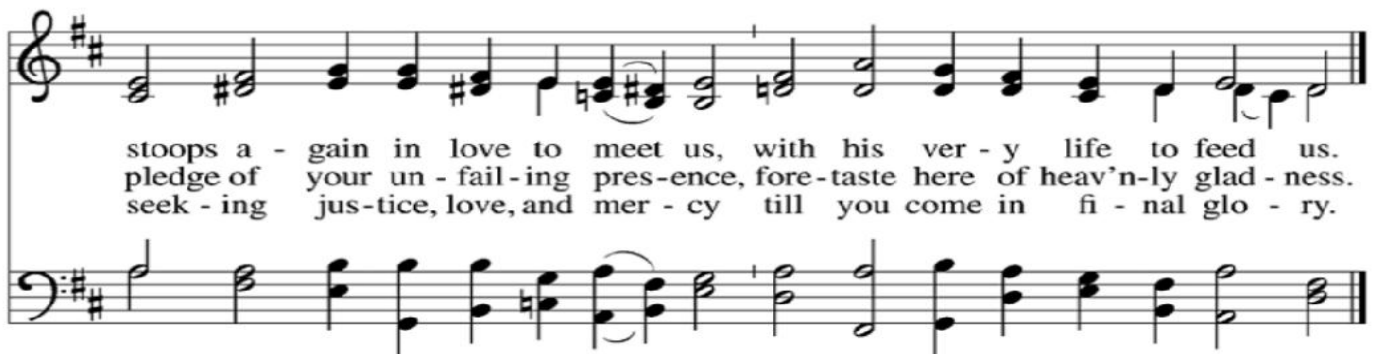
1 Now we join in cel - e - bra - tion at our Sav - ior's in - vi - ta - tion,  
2 Lord, as round this feast we gath - er, fill our hearts with ho - ly rap - ture!  
3 Lord, we share in this com - mu - nion as one fam - 'ly of God's chil - dren,



dressed no more in spir - it som - ber, clothed in - stead in joy and won - der;  
For this bread and cup of bless - ing are for us the sure pos - sess - ing  
rec - on - ciled through you, our broth - er, one in you with God our Fa - ther.



for the Lord of all ex - is - tence, put - ting off di - vine tran - scen - dence,  
of your lov - ing deed on Cal - v'ry, of your liv - ing self, our vic - t'ry,  
Give us grace to live for oth - ers, serv - ing all, both friends and strang - ers,



stoops a - gain in love to meet us, with his ver - y life to feed us.  
pledge of your un - fail - ing pres - ence, fore - taste here of heav'n - ly glad - ness.  
seek - ing jus - tice, love, and mer - cy till you come in fi - nal glo - ry.



# **Together We Say What We Believe**

## **APOSTLES CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen**



# We Offer Our Prayers and Thanksgiving

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

At the end of each intercessory prayer the Pastor says:  
"Merciful God," and the people respond  
"receive our prayer."

## THE 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**

## OFFERING SONG

### *God is so Good*

God is so good, God is so good,  
God is so good, He's so good to me!  
We give Him thanks, We give Him thanks,  
We give Him thanks, He's so good to me!

## OFFERING PRAYER

God of power, God of plenty,  
all things belong to you.  
We bring your gifts to the table,  
that all might be fed.  
Form us into the body of your Beloved,  
Jesus Christ, our Savior.  
**AMEN**



*Offering Plates are Located by the doors to the Sanctuary or  
You may mail your financial gifts to the church.*

*Attn: Pat Hogan*

*5615 Palmyra Rd SW, Lordstown 44481*

## Going Forth to Serve

## BLESSING

L: The God of glory, † Jesus Christ, name above all names,  
and the Spirit who lives in you,  
bless you now and forever.

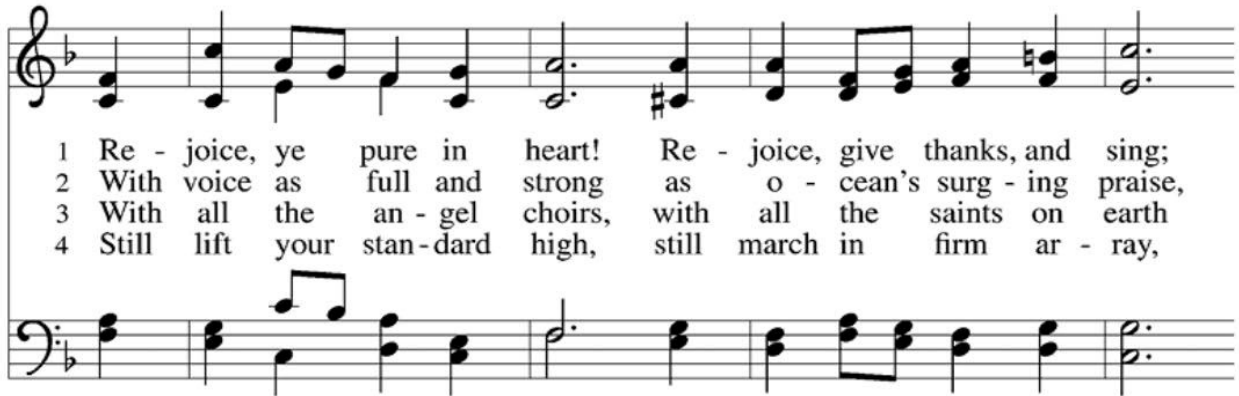
**AMEN**

# SENDING HYMN

# VS 1, 2, 3, & 4

873

## Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!



1 Re - joice, ye pure in heart! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing;  
2 With voice as full and strong as o - cean's surg - ing praise,  
3 With all the an - gel choirs, with all the saints on earth  
4 Still lift your stan - dard high, still march in firm ar - ray,



your fes - tal ban - ner wave on high, the cross of Christ your king.  
send forth the stur - dy hymns of old, the psalms of an - cient days.  
pour out the strains of joy and bliss, true rap - ture, no - blest mirth.  
as pil - grims through the dark - ness wend till dawns the gol - den day.

*Refrain*



Re - joice! Re - joice! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing!

Re - joice! Re - joice!

## DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. God is at work in you.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE



## Altar Flowers

### Donated by an Anonymous Donor

To provide altar flowers for worship, please sign up on the poster in the church lobby. \$25 for one vase \$50 for two.



## PRAYER LIST & PASTORAL CONCERNS

Please keep our loved ones in your prayers this week

**Immediate & Ongoing Health Concerns:** Lucas Paxson, Ron Hill, Phyllis Housel, Jean Housel, Ted Paxson, Leo Divencenzo, Tiffany Fellows, Destiny Givens, Anna Strickland, JoAnn Leepard, Joe Harrison, Molly and Family, Mary Sabol, Mark Molnar, Laura Paxson, Rachael Ann, Ilona Rupnik

**Compassion Child:** Marc Yvans.

**Active Duty Military:** Julian Krusely, Jason Layfield, Kiana Gates

**Scout Troop 20 and its leaders**

**Our Monthly Mission Outreach and The Children of Lordstown Elementary School**

**World Peace:** Especially for those living in the region of Ukraine and Russia.

PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE AT 330 399-7227 OR  
EMAIL US AT LTOWNLUTHERAN@YAHOO.COM TO NOTIFY US OF FRIENDS OR  
RELATIVES WHO NEED TO BE ADDED OR REMOVED FROM THE PRAYER LIST.

**NEXT SUNDAY, Sunday, October 22, 2023**  
**21th Sunday after Pentecost**

**First Reading: Isaiah 45:1-7**

**Psalm: Psalm 96:1-9 [10-13]**

**Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10**

**Gospel: Matthew 22:15-22**