

HOLY COMMUNION

Thursday

August 11 Clare, Abbess of San Damiano

Commemorations illuminate various aspects of the church's life and mission through the lives of women and men who have followed Christ in succeeding generations.



— Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Altar Edition

- 1193 born to a noble family in Assisi, Italy
- 1212 established a women's Franciscan community now called the Poor Clares
- 1252 composed a rule for her order
- 1253 died in Assisi

Clare of Assisi, inspired by the preaching of Francis, ran away from home, cut off her hair as a sign that she refused any marriage contracted by her noble family, replaced her upper-class attire with a sackcloth robe, and established an order of women religious dedicated to contemplative prayer, radical poverty, manual labor, and extreme austerity. Such asceticism was not universally admired in a society with newly capitalist ideals. She exemplifies the many Christian women throughout history who rejected their parents' wishes in their service to God. In art she is sometimes shown with a monstrance and its consecrated host. The story is told that holding it forth, she protected her convent from attack by foreign soldiers.

Prize the counsel of our venerable Minister General beyond the advice of the others, and cherish it as dearer to you than any gift. If anyone would tell you something else or suggest something which would hinder your perfection or seem contrary to your divine vocation, even though you must respect him, do not follow his counsel. But as a poor virgin, embrace the poor Christ. Look upon him who became contemptible for you, and follow him, making yourself contemptible in the world for him. Your Spouse, though more beautiful than the children of men, became, for your salvation, the lowest of men, despised, struck, scourged untold times throughout his whole body, and then died amid the sufferings of the Cross. Gaze upon him, consider him, contemplate him, as you desire to imitate him.

— Clare

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The list (of commemorations) in Evangelical Lutheran Worship is not intended to be comprehensive. Although those named are considered worthy of commemoration, it is hoped that those named will also suggest others to be remembered and emulated, opening up consideration of the contributions of many people in varied situations.

— Keeping Time: The Church's Year (Using *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, volume 3)

HOLY COMMUNION

Gathering

Gathering Song

For Freedom Christ Has Set Us Free

The assembly stands to sing.



"For free - dom, Christ has set us free!" What joy is ours to claim!
We're clothed in_ Christ and we be-long; now no_ one waits out - side.
Now, Spir - it - filled, may we be led from ways that would de - stroy.



No more en - slaved, hu - man - i - ty finds life_ in Je - sus' name.
In him we find our com - mon song; old ways no more di - vide.
May we, your peo - ple, turn in - stead to lives of love and joy.



We try, Lord, to be just - i - fied through all the works we do.
"It is no long - er I who live, but Christ who lives in me."
May we find peace that makes us whole and pa - tience ev - ery - where.



Yet you a - dopt us, say - ing, "Child, it's Christ who makes you new."
He died for us, new life to give and new_ i - den - ti - ty.
God, give us kind-ness, self - con - trol, and hearts and hands that share.

Greeting & Prayer of the Day

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.

Almighty and all-merciful God,
for freedom you have set us free
from every power that would enslave us.

Create in us the heart of a servant
and bind us to our neighbors
with the love of your Son,
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

The assembly is seated to hear the word of God.

Word

Reading

Galatians 5:1, 13-14

For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery. For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.



Al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia.

Al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia, al-le-lu-ia.

Gospel

Luke 10:29-37

The gospel is introduced:

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The gospel is proclaimed, concluding:

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

The assembly is seated.

Choral Response

Sinner, Please Don't Let This Harvest Pass
arranged by Harold Montague

Prayers of Intercession

The assembly stands.

Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Meal

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

After sharing Christ's peace, the assembly is seated.

Offering

Today's offering has been designated to support childcare outreach ministries at Gethsemane Lutheran Church in Chalmette, Louisiana. Offerings may be made in cash, by check (payable to the ELCA) or with a credit card by visiting the registration desk or ELCA.org/offering.

As the gifts are received, the assembly sings: We Will Walk with God.



We will walk___ with God, my broth - ers; we will walk___ with God.
Si - zo - ham - ba na - ye, wo wo wo, si - zo - ham - ba na - ye.



We will walk___ with God, my sis - ters; we will walk___ with God.
Si - zo - ham - ba na - ye, wo wo wo, si - zo - ham - ba na - ye.



We will go re - joic - ing___ till the king - dom has come.
Ngom-hla wen - ja - bu - la,___ si - zo - ham - ba na - ye.



We will go re - joic - ing___ till the king - dom has come.
Ngom-hla wen - ja - bu - la,___ si - zo - ham - ba na - ye.

Setting the Table

We Are an Offering

The assembly stands to sing as the communion ministers gather around the table.

The musical score is written on six staves of music. It begins with a treble clef and a 7/8 time signature. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes, with some triplets indicated by a '3' above the notes. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes. The lyrics are: "We lift our voic-es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voic-es, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our lives, they are yours: we are an of-fer-ing. All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you. We lift our voic-es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an of-fer-ing, we are an of-fer-ing." The score ends with a double bar line.

We lift our voic-es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an
of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voic-es, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our
lives, they are yours: we are an of-fer-ing. All that we have, all that we are,
all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.
We lift our voic-es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you:
we are an of-fer-ing, we are an of-fer-ing.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

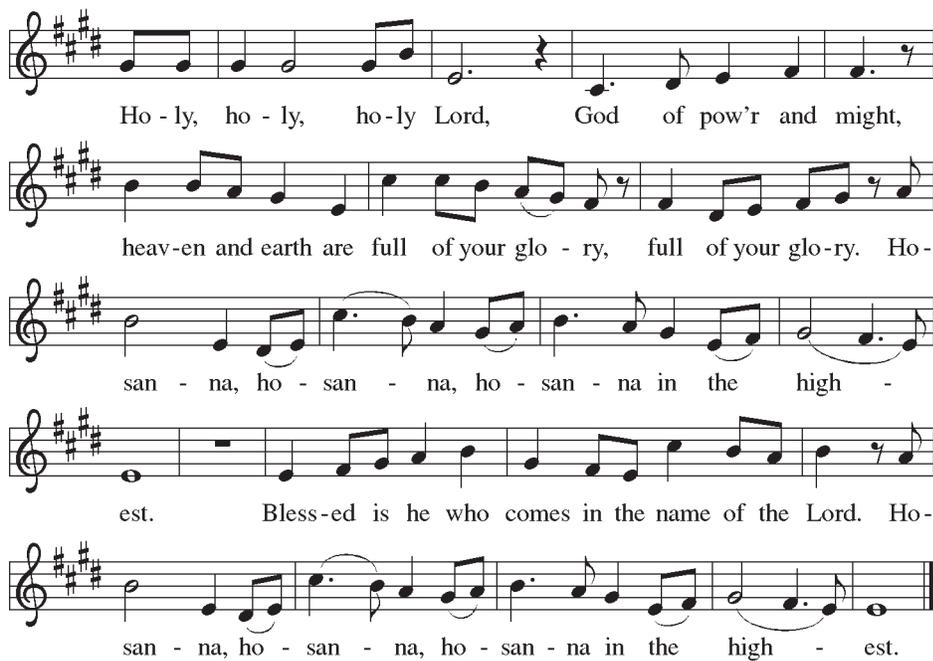
Lift up your hearts.

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 ... join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -
 san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
 est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord ... now and forever.

Amen.

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

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.

Communion

All who thirst, all who hunger,
 come and be filled with the goodness of God.

*After the bread is broken and all are invited to communion, the assembly is seated.
 Come to communion at the station in front of you, exiting your row to the left.*

*Be assured that Christ is fully present by receiving only the bread or the wine.
 For pressing reasons of health, wheat-free wafers or dealcoholized wine is available.
 Simply let the minister know if you require these elements.*

During communion, the assembly sings, as time allows:

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, Lamb of God.

Give Me Jesus, arranged by L.L. Fleming

When Twilight Comes

The first stanza is sung by a soloist in Tagalog.

Then the assembly sings all stanzas in English.

1 When twi-light comes and the sun sets, moth-er hen pre-pares for
2 One day the Rab-bi, Lord Je-sus, called the twelve to share his
3 So gath-er round once a-gain, friends, touched by fad-ing glow of
night's rest. As her brood shel-ters un-der her wings, she
last meal. As the hen tends her young, so for them he
sun's gold, and re-count all our frail hu-man hopes: the
gives the love of God to her nest. Oh! what joy to
spent him-self to seek and to heal. Oh! what joy to
dreams of young and sto-ries of old. Oh! what joy to
feel her warm heart-beat and be near her all night long;
be with Christ Je-sus, hear his voice, oh! sheer de-light,
pray close to-geth-er, kneel-ing as one fam-i-ly,
so the young can find re-pose, then re-new to-mor-row's song.
and re-ceive his ser-vant care: all be-fore the com-ing night.
by a moth-er's love em-braced in the bless-ed Trin-i-ty.

Cuando el pobre – When the Poor Ones

The assembly sings all in either language.

1 Cuan-do el po - bre na - da tie - ne y aún re - par - te,
1 When the poor ones, who have noth - ing, still are giv - ing;

cuan - do al - guien pa - sa sed y a - gua nos da,
when the thirst - y pass the cup, wa - ter to share;

cuan-do el dé - bil a su her - ma - no for - ta - le - ce,
when the wound - ed of - fer oth - ers strength and heal - ing:

Estribillo

va Dios mis - mo en nues - tro mis - mo ca - mi - nar;
we see God, here by our side, walk - ing our way;

va Dios mis - mo en nues - tro mis - mo ca - mi - nar.
we see God, here by our side, walk - ing our way.

- 2 Cuando alguno sufre y logra su consuelo,
cuando espera y no se cansa de esperar,
cuando amamos, aunque el odio nos rodee, *Estribillo*
 - 3 Cuando crece la alegría y nos inunda,
cuando dicen nuestros labios la verdad,
cuando amamos el sentir de los sencillos, *Estribillo*
 - 4 Cuando abunda el bien y llena los hogares,
cuando alguien donde hay guerra pone paz,
cuando “hermano” le llamamos al extraño, *Estribillo*
- 2 *When compassion gives the suff’ring consolation;
when expecting brings to birth hope that was lost;
when a strong love drowns the hatred that surrounds us: Refrain*
 - 3 *When our spirits, like a chalice, brim with gladness;
when our voices, full and clear, sing out the truth;
when our longings, free from envy, seek the humble: Refrain*
 - 4 *When the goodness poured from heaven fills our dwellings;
when the nations work to change war into peace;
when the stranger is accepted as our neighbor: Refrain*

After all have communed, the assembly stands for prayer.

Song

What Does the Lord Require

The assembly sings, turning toward the baptismal font.

1.
What does the Lord re - quire of you?

2.
Jus - tice, kind - ness,

3.
To seek jus - tice and love kind - ness

What does the Lord re - quire of you?
walk hum - bly with your God.

and walk hum - bly with your God.

Sending

Blessing for Service and Dismissal

Friends in Christ, we seek God's blessing as we leave this place for an afternoon of service and learning.

Let us pray.

The assembly is invited to open and extend their hands for prayer.

Blessed are you, O Lord our God.

You are the Good Samaritan who binds up our wounds,
and you empower us to be loving neighbors to all people.

Renew in us the commitment to use our gifts in the service of others.

Let ours be your hands to care for those in need,
and may our learning increase in us the Spirit of your mercy.

Make us signs of your love to all,
through Jesus Christ, the source of our loving, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

May the blessing of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
keep you in grace now and forever.

Amen.

Go in peace. Do your work in eagerness with joy.

Thanks be to God.

Song

Walk Together Children
arranged by William Henry Smith

The assembly is invited to go on their way to an afternoon of service and learning.

| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Presiding Minister | Tuhina V. Rasche |
| Preacher | Bishop George E. Battle, Jr. |
| Assisting Minister | Nora L. E. Frost |
| Reader | Christine K. Mwanyika |
| Processional Participants | Bishops of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church Members of this Assembly Representatives from the Lay Rosters Members of this Assembly |
| Communion Ministers | Regional Coordinators Assistants to Synodical Bishops |
| Communion Assistants | Participants in the Grace Gathering Volunteers to this Assembly |
| Ushers | Clayton Faulkner |
| Art Curator | Heritage (Clarence Jones, director) |
| Musicians | Assembly Music Leaders |

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The Good Samaritan - He Qi
Source: HeQiArt.com. Used by permission.
Date: © 2014 All rights reserved.
Medium: Oil on canvas

Black on Maroon - Mark Rothko
Source: Tate, London. © Kate Rothko Prizel and Christopher Rothko/DACS 2016. Fair use for a nonprofit religious purpose.
Date: 1958
Medium: Oil paint, acrylic paint, glue tempera and pigment on canvas

The Immigrants - Maxwell Taylor
Source: © Maxwell Taylor. Fair use for a nonprofit religious purpose.
Date: c. 2010
Medium: Wood cut

Freed
& RENEWED
in **Christ**
500 YEARS OF GOD'S
GRACE IN ACTION

2016 Churchwide Assembly

August 8-13, 2016 • New Orleans, La.



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

