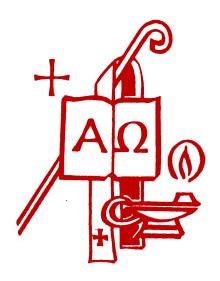
# RITE OF ORDINATION

# New Jersey Synod Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

# MINISTER OF WORD AND SERVICE GEORGE "NED" PERWO

# MINISTER OF WORD AND SACRAMENT SCOTT WILLIAM RUSH



St. Paul Lutheran Church East Windsor, New Jersey Saturday, April 20, 2024 1:30 P.M.

# **GATHERING**

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Prelude Joyce Irwin

O God Beyond All Praising (Thaxted)

arr. Lynn L. Petersen

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

[ Silence all cell phones, thank you. Congregation responses are in **bold-faced type**. ]



#### THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

[The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.]

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

#### Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

[Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.]

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning you created us in your image and placed us in a well-watered garden. In the desert, you promised pools of water for the parched, and you gave us water from the rock. When we did not know the way, you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters. At the cross, you washed us from Jesus' wounded side, and on this day, you shower us again with the water of life.

We praise you for your salvation through water, for the water in this font, and for all water everywhere, especially for the Delaware, Raritan, and Manasquan Rivers, and the Atlantic Ocean. Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love. Satisfy all who thirst, and give us the life only you can give.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ, our living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.** 

## GATHERING HYMN Soli Deo Gloria



Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
Music: SOLI DEO GLORIA, Marty Haugen
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## APOSTOLIC 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

Let us pray.

O God, through the ages you have called from among your people those who will carry out the ministries of deacon and pastor. Let your blessing rest now on all who answer that call. Grant that Ned and Scott, now to be ordained, may carry out these ministries faithfully in the power of your Spirit. Give them understanding of the gospel, sincerity of purpose, diligence in ministry, and the beauty of life in Christ, that many people will be served and your name be glorified; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.** 

[Congregation please be seated.]

# **Word**

God speaks to us in scripture, reading, preaching and song.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 42:5-9

<sup>5</sup>Thus says God, the LORD, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it: <sup>6</sup>I am the LORD, I have called you in righteousness, I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, <sup>7</sup>to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. 8I am the LORD, that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols. <sup>9</sup>See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God



Text and music: Daniel Schutte

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# **SECOND READING**

2 Corinthians 5:17-20

<sup>17</sup>So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! <sup>18</sup>All this is from God, who reconciled us to God's self through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; <sup>19</sup>that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to God's self, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. <sup>20</sup>So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making an appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

# **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** *Celtic Alleluia* [Congregation please stand.]



Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker
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HOLY GOSPEL John 21:1-14

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the Twenty-first Chapter. Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. <sup>2</sup>Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. <sup>3</sup>Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

<sup>4</sup>Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. <sup>5</sup>Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." <sup>6</sup>He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. <sup>7</sup>That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. <sup>8</sup>But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

<sup>9</sup>When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. <sup>10</sup>Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." <sup>11</sup>So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. <sup>12</sup>Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. <sup>13</sup>Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. <sup>14</sup>This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.** 

[Congregation please be seated.]

**SERMON** 

The Rev. Dr. Christa Compton

Silence for Reflection



Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788 Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887

### NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,\* who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

\*Or, "who proceeds from the Father." The phrase "and the Son" is a later addition to the creed.

[Congregation please be seated.]

#### **PRESENTATION**

[Candidate for ordination to the ministry of word and service is presented to the presiding minister and to the assembly.]

I present for ordination to the ministry of word and service George (Ned) Perwo, who has been prepared, examined, and approved for this ministry and who has been called by the church to this ministry through Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Manasquan. **Thanks be to God.** 

[Candidate for ordination to the ministry of word and sacrament is presented to the presiding minister and to the assembly.]

I present for ordination to the ministry of word and sacrament Scott William Rush, who has been prepared, examined, and approved for this ministry and who has been called by the church to this ministry through Emanuel Lutheran Church, New Brunswick. **Thanks be to God.** 

# THE RITE OF ORDINATION

# **ADDRESS AND QUESTIONS**

[The presiding minister addresses the candidates.]

All baptized Christians are called to share in Christ's ministry of love and service in the world, to the glory of God and for the sake of the human family and the whole creation.

[The presiding minister addresses the candidate for ordination to the ministry of word and service.]

Ned, you have been called as a minister of word and service to give leadership in the church's mission to proclaim the gospel through word and deed. You are now to be entrusted with the ministry of word and service in the one holy catholic church by the laying on of hands and by prayer.

A reading from Luke: Jesus said, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." (Luke 4:18-19)

A reading from First Corinthians: There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. (1 Corinthians 12:4-7)

A reading from Second Corinthians: The love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them. From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! (2 Corinthians 5:14-17)

[The presiding minister addresses the candidate for ordination to the ministry of word and sacrament.]

Scott, according to apostolic usage you are now to be entrusted with the office of word and sacrament in the one holy catholic church by the laying on of hands and by prayer.

A reading from John: Jesus said to his disciples, "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 to his disciples, "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 First Corinthians: I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

(1 Corinthians 11:23-26)

[The presiding minister addresses questions to the candidate for ordination to the ministry of word and service.]

Ned, before almighty God, to whom you must give account, and in the presence of this assembly, I ask: Will you accept this ministry, believing that the church's call is God's call to the ministry of word and service? I will, and I ask God to help me.

[The presiding minister addresses questions to the candidates for ordination to the ministry of word and sacrament.]

Scott, before almighty God, to whom you must give account, and in the presence of this assembly, I ask: Will you assume this office, believing that the church's call is God's call to the ministry of word and sacrament? I will, and I ask God to help me.

[The presiding minister addresses questions to the candidates for ordination.]

The church in which you are to be ordained confesses that the holy scriptures are the word of God and are the norm of its faith and life. We accept, teach, and confess the Apostles', the Nicene, and the Athanasian Creeds. We also acknowledge the Lutheran confessions as true witnesses and faithful expositions of the holy scriptures. Will you therefore carry out your ministry in accordance with the holy scriptures and these creeds and confessions? I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you be diligent in your study of the holy scriptures and faithful in your use of the means of grace? Will you pray for God's people, encourage and support them as they worship and grow in faith, and lead them by your own example in faithful service and holy living? I will, and I ask God to help me.

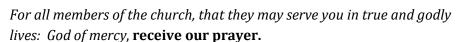
Will you give faithful witness in the world through word and deed, that God's love may be known in all that you do? I will, and I ask God to help me.

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

# **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION** [Congregation please stand.]

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

For the holy catholic church, that, filled with your love, it may hunger for truth and thirst after righteousness: God of mercy, receive our prayer.





For Ned, called to the ministry of word and service in the church, and Scott, called to the ministry of word and sacrament in the church, that, sustained by your Holy Spirit, they may carry out this ministry with joy and a spirit of bold trust, serve your people and the world in need, build up your church, and glorify your name: God of mercy, receive our prayer.

For all ministers of word and sacrament; for all ministers of word and service; for Elizabeth and Tracie, our bishops; that, together with all those responsible for the care and nurture of your people, they may support one another in serving Christ: God of mercy, receive our prayer.

For the peace of the church, that our divisions may be overcome, so that, united in Christ, we may serve the world and bear witness to the good news: God of mercy, receive our prayer.

For the mission of the church, that in faithful witness it may proclaim the gospel and in humble love serve all in need: God of mercy, receive our prayer.

For the nations of the world and their leaders, that they may work for justice and promote the dignity and freedom of every person: God of mercy, receive our prayer.

For the whole creation, that everything you have made may fulfill your purpose and that we may exercise care for your diverse gifts: God of mercy, **receive our prayer**.

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, the lonely, the forgotten, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger; that they may be relieved and protected: God of mercy, receive our prayer.

[Other intercessions may be included.]

For the glorious company of all the saints, those who have died in faith and those who live in certain hope, we praise you. That their witness may give us courage until the day of Jesus Christ: God of mercy, receive our prayer.

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.** 

# **HYMN OF INVOCATION** Creator Spirit, Heavenly Dove



Text: Rhabanus Maurus, 776–856; tr. composite Music: KOMM, GOTT SCHÖPFER, J. Klug, Geistliche Lieder, 1543

### **THANKSGIVING**

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.

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, we bless you for your infinite love in Christ our Lord, in whom we have redemption and forgiveness of sins according to the riches of his grace. We thank you that by his death your Son overcame death, and that, raised by your mighty power, he gives us new life. We praise you that, having ascended into heaven, Christ pours out his gifts abundantly on the church, making some apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors, some deacons, and teachers, to equip your people for their work of ministry for building up the body of Christ.

[The presiding minister lays both hands on the head of the candidate for the ministry of word and service.]

Eternal God, through your Son, Jesus Christ, pour out your Holy Spirit upon Ned and fill him with the gifts of grace for the ministry of word and service. Send your power and blessing, that he may carry out this ministry with faithfulness and perseverance. Let your servant's life and teaching so reflect your grace that many may come to know you and love you through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** 

[The presiding minister lays both hands on the head of each candidate for the ministry of word and sacrament.]

Eternal God, through your Son, Jesus Christ, pour out your Holy Spirit upon Scott and fill him with the gifts of grace for the ministry of word and sacrament. Bless your servant's proclamation of your word and administration of your sacraments, so that your church may be gathered for praise and strengthened for service. Make him a faithful pastor, patient teacher, and wise counselor. Grant that in all things Scott may serve without reproach, that your people may be renewed and your name be glorified in the church; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** 

[Congregation please be seated.]

## GIVING OF A STOLE

[The candidates may remain kneeling. A stole is placed over each candidate's shoulders as the presiding minister says:]

Receive this stole as a sign of your work, and live in obedience to the Lord Jesus, serving his people and remembering his promise: "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." (Matthew 11:28-30)

#### CHARGE

[The candidates stand.]

Hear the words of the apostles: Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you were called. (1 Timothy 6:11-12)

And again: Think of us in this way, as servants of Christ and stewards of God's mysteries. Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy. (1 Corinthians 4:1-2)

And again: Rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of hands. Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard, 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. Be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. (2 Timothy 1:6, 13-14; 2:1)



And again: Tend the flock of God that is in your charge, not under compulsion but willingly, not for sordid gain but eagerly. Do not lord it over those in your charge, but be examples to the flock. And when the chief shepherd appears, you will win the crown of glory that never fades away. (1 Peter 5:2-4)

[The presiding minister continues.]

Ned and Scott, care for God's people, bear their burdens, and do not betray their confidence. So discipline yourselves in life and teaching that you preserve the truth, giving no occasion for false security or illusory hope. Witness faithfully in word and deed to all people. Give and receive comfort as you serve within the church. And be of good courage, for God has called you, and your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

### **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**.

[Congregation please stand.]

## **ACCLAMATION BY THE ASSEMBLY**

Will you, assembled as the people of God and speaking for the whole church, receive Ned as minister of word and service, and Scott as a minister of word and sacrament, sent by God to serve all people in Christ's name? Will you regard them as servants of Christ? We will, and we ask God to help us.

Will you pray for them, help and honor them for their 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.

[The presiding minister presents the newly ordained minister of word and service to the assembly.]

Let it be acclaimed that George (Ned) Perwo is a called and ordained minister of word and service in the church of Christ. Ned has Christ's authority to witness to the gospel and to serve with boldness as together we bear God's creative and redeeming love to all the world. **Amen. Thanks be to God.** 

[The presiding minister presents the newly ordained minister of word and sacrament to the assembly.]

Let it be acclaimed that Scott William Rush is a called and ordained minister of word and sacrament in the church of Christ. Scott has Christ's authority to preach the word of God and administer the sacraments, serving God's people as together we bear God's creative and redeeming love to all the world. **Amen. Thanks** be to God.

[After all the newly ordained ministers have been presented, the assembly may offer acclamation with applause.]

# **MEAL**

#### SHARING OF PEACE

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

[The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.]

#### **OFFERING**



The Offering is now received as the Lord's table is prepared for the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Today's collection will be used to support the work of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land in their peacemaking efforts.

#### **CHOIR ANTHEM**

For Everyone Born
Brian Mann/Shirley Erena Murray arr. Tom Trenney

Holy Trinity Choir, Manasquan Directed by Diane Caruso

[Congregation please stand.]

#### OFFERING PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.** 

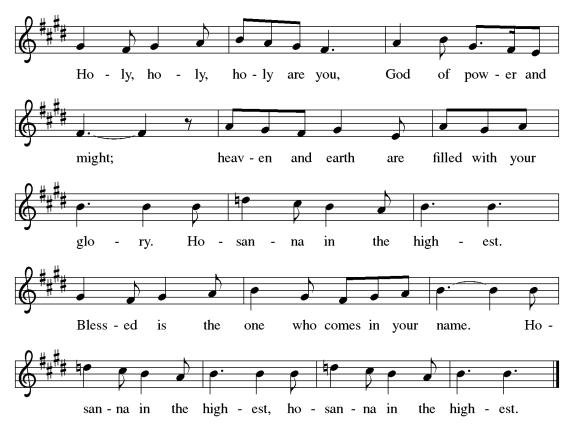
#### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 Ned and Scott, and 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:



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Music: Now the Feast and Celebration, Marty Haugen, b. 1950
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You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

## Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever. **Amen, amen.** 

#### LORD'S PRAYER

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 me of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen

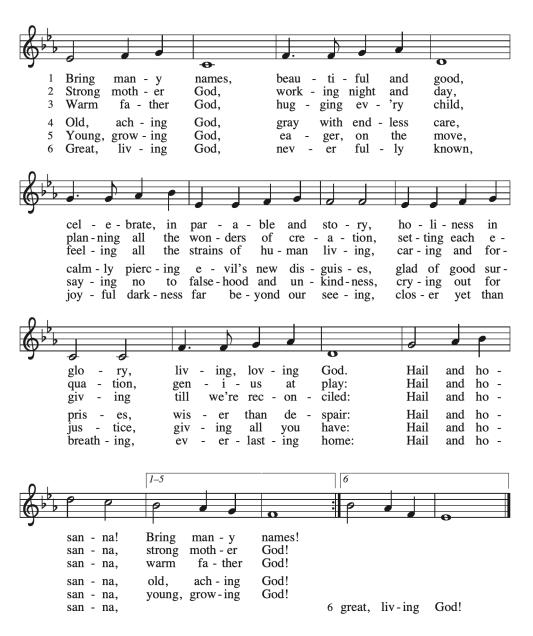
The gifts of God for the people of God. Come and receive.

#### **DISTRIBUTION**

[Congregation may be seated. We invite all baptized Christians to this meal. Please receive the bread and grape juice by intinction, dipping the wafer into the cup of consecrated grape juice. Gluten-free wafers are available. Communing with one element is also acceptable. Children and adults who do not yet receive Holy Communion are invited to come forward for a blessing. Please follow the direction of the ushers to come to the table. If you choose to receive a blessing instead of communion, please indicate that to the person with the wafers. If you need communion brought to you, let an usher know.]



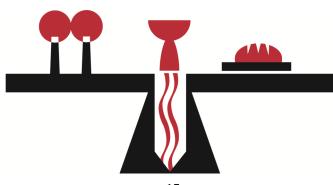
# **COMMUNION HYMN** Bring Many Names



Text: Brian Wren, b. 1936

Music: WESTCHASE, Carlton R. Young, b. 1926
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# **COMMUNION HYMN** Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken



Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1923–2007 Music: JOYOUS LIGHT, Marty Haugen, b. 1950 Text © 2006 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved. Music © 1987 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

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# PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We thank you, almighty and gracious God, that you have fed us with heavenly food, the body and blood of your Son, uniting us through him in the communion of the Holy Spirit. As you have again raised up among us faithful servants for the ministry of word and service and the ministry of word and sacrament, grant that we, with Ned and Scott, may joyfully serve you all our days and finally rejoice in your glory; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

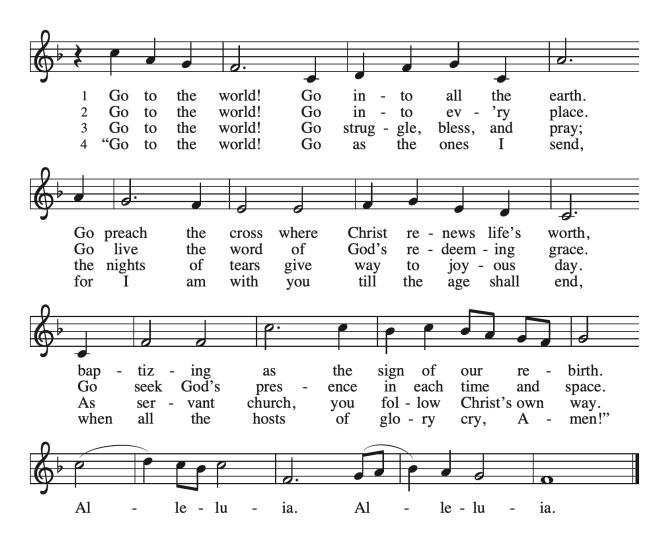
#### **BLESSING**

Alleluia! Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope + bless you now and always. **Amen.** 

# **SENDING HYMN**

#### Go to the World



Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993

Music: SINE NOMINE, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958 Text © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

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## **DISMISSAL**

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

**POSTLUDE** 

Joyce Irwin

Psalm 19: The Heavens Are Telling

Benedetto Marcello

#### **PARTICIPANTS**

Presiding Minister The Rev. Tracie L. Bartholomew, Bishop of the Synod

**Preacher** The Rev. Dr. Christa Compton, Pastor, Gloria Dei, Chatham

Chair, NJ Synod Candidacy Committee

Host Pastor The Rev. B. Daniel Whitener, Jr., Interim Pastor, St. Paul, East Windsor

Assisting Ministers

Arundel T. Clarke, Vice President of the Synod
The Rev. Blake Scalet, Secretary of the Synod

Musicians Joyce Irwin, Music Director, Good Shepherd, Somerville

Holy Trinity Choir, Manasquan

Lectors Susan Mitchell, Emanuel, New Brunswick

Odin Wilson, Holy Trinity, Manasquan

**Usher** Donna Kovarik

Altar Care Alyce Doehner and Melanie MacDonald

Livestream and Technical Team Nick Scarpa

**Reception Coordination** Christian Fellowship Committee



#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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#### **GEORGE "NED" PERWO**

**SPONSOR:** The Rev. Mary V. Farnham, Holy Trinity, Manasquan

**LAY PARTICIPANT:** Brendan Healy, Spouse of Ordinand

Ned Perwo is your sibling in Christ. He was born in South Jersey to George & Janet Perwo where they lived in a little-known town in Atlantic County called "Scullville". During his early childhood he attended Honeybrook Bible Fellowship with his mother and Trinity United Methodist Church in Marmora with his grandmother, Helen Parker. After the passing of his parents, Ned and his grandmother moved to Forked River, NJ to live next to his aunt, Helen Brewster, and extended family. While in Forked River, he attended and graduated from the Lacey Township school system, attended Forked River UMC, Ocean County Baptist Church, and finally the Christian Bible Church of South Toms River.

Ned attended The College of New Jersey, formerly Trenton State College, where he earned a B.M. in Music Education with foci in piano, voice, trombone, and choral conducting. While in college he was the organist at Central Baptist Church in Ewing and discovered the ELCA and all things Lutheran while attending Saturday night worship at Abiding Presence Lutheran Church in Ewing. He taught in the NJ public school system for several years before focusing on full-time music ministry in 2004. In 2004 Ned met his future husband, Brendan Healy, and they were married in the fall of 2019 after a very long engagement. In 2009 Ned began studies at Trinity Lutheran Seminary and completed a Master of Arts in Church Music in 2014 with a focus in organ and choral conducting.

After several years away, Ned felt the call to return to the ELCA and pursue ordination as a Minister of Word and Service. He left his Director of Music position at Newark UMC in Newark Delaware and returned to Holy Trinity, Manasquan, where he had served from 2007-2012. He completed additional theological training at United Lutheran Seminary, CPE at Christiana Care in Wilmington, and internship at Holy Trinity, Manasquan. Ned has been called to Holy Trinity, Manasquan as Deacon and will continue to lead the music and youth & family ministries in addition to being a member of the technology team and Reconciling in Christ team.

Ned gives thanks for the countless friends, family, clergy, and congregations that have helped to shape his spiritual journey over the years. He is especially thankful for his wonderful tenor husband, Brendan, who has supported him along this long path. Also, thank you Holy Spirit for all the "swift kicks" through open windows over the years.



#### **SCOTT WILLIAM RUSH**

**SPONSOR:** The Rev. Sara E. Lilja

Assistant to the Bishop

Interim Pastor, Holy Communion, Berlin

**LAY PARTICIPANT:** Norma Osswald, Aunt of Ordinand

Scott Rush grew up in Brooklyn, NY. His family moved to Long Island while he was in high school, and his three brothers and their families still live there. Scott's parents are recently deceased. He currently lives in Burlington with his husband, Michael, and their black lab, Montra.

Scott describes his call story as a persistent whisper. He first heard the call to ministry while an undergraduate at Colgate University. He was advised against pursuing ministry at the time and went on to a career in chemistry and manufacturing. It was the third call to ministry that he finally heeded, deciding to join the ranks of second career pastors. He entered United Lutheran Seminary in January 2020, attending full-time while also serving as the Executive Director for Family Promise of Burlington County, a nonprofit serving families experiencing housing insecurity. Scott completed his pastoral internship at Holy Communion Lutheran Church in Berlin, NJ. Despite having to balance seminary and a full-time job, Scott managed to graduate with Academic Honors in May 2023, with Excellence in Praxis.

Scott gives thanks for God's consistent presence in his life and for the love and support of family, both biological and chosen, while undertaking this shift to service that many still struggle to understand. He is grateful for the faithful people who helped to form him, including his mother Katheen Rush, his godparents Frank & Sonny Earle, and his dear relatives Herman & Norma Osswald. Scott is thankful for the clergy who have provided guidance throughout his life, including Walter Brunn, Marie Lindhorst, Paul Milholland, and especially his friends and mentors, Brett Ballenger and Sara Lilja. Scott is especially grateful to the congregation of Holy Communion for their consistent love and support during internship and for helping to prepare him for pastoral ministry.

Scott is extremely excited about the opportunity to serve at Emanuel, as it combines his love for serving a congregation with his love for serving the community at large. He sums up his theology as "God is love" and sees his role as sharing God's love with others. It's his belief that loving others and including them as part of the community is how we co-create God's Kin-dom and bring about the change that is so desperately needed in the world.



#### **NEW JERSEY SYNOD, ELCA**

#### **CORE VALUES**

Core values are guiding principles that are essential and enduring. Core values guide all aspects of an organization: policy, program, and operations. Core values express what the organization stands for and how it will conduct itself.

#### **FAITHFULNESS**

Rooted and nurtured in relationship with God through Word and Sacrament, we follow Jesus for the sake of the world. Daily prayerful *discernment* and striving for *excellence* in discipleship move us forward into God's future.

#### RESPECT

This is about *justice*: justice for each child of God, honor especially for the least, and respect in all relationships so that they are life-giving, grace-filled, safe, and create peace, as the Creator intended.

#### **DIVERSITY**

All of God's children together express the wonder and majesty of creation. Life in *community*, fully and richly *inclusive* and marked by unfailing *hospitality*, is a sign of God's Kingdom.

## **GENEROSITY**

To live is to give. Giving beyond expectation or reason can reflect the *grace* and *compassion* of the One in whose image we are made.

#### **CHANGE**

The Gospel is about *transformation*, stirred by the power of life over death. *Hope*-filled people can change; hopeless people cannot.

#### INTERDEPENDENCE

Synod literally means to walk together. Our journey together is experienced as *accompaniment*, committed to *collaboration*, marked by *multiplication*, and blessed with *synergy* as we engage in God's mission.