

ADVENT

Luther Memorial Church & Academy

15 November 2026

The Second Sunday of Advent: *Pledge Sunday*

10:30am

LUTHER MEMORIAL CHURCH

LUTHER MEMORIAL ACADEMY

225 West Tenth Street • Erie, PA 16501 • 814-454-0106

THE REV. JAY C. MITCHELL, *Pastor*

BRYAN TIMM, F.A.I.O.
Cantor
THE REV. KAREN LUNDWALL,
THE REV. BRIAN MORAN
THE REV. KAREN PARSH,
THE REV. GAIL ZACKRISON
Pastors in Residence

MICHELLE THOM
LMA Principal
JAN MACINNES
Care Ministry
BETH KELLER
SARAH PRYLINSKI
Youth and Family Ministry

WELCOME!

Luther Memorial Church and Academy are located on the original and ancestral homelands of the Haudenosaunee, Mississauga, and Erie people. These lands were ceded by the people of the Six Nations on October 22, 1784 in a treaty ratified by the United States Government in 1785 and never ratified by the people of the Six Nations. We gather in this place indebted to these peoples for their forced generosity. While some peoples were successful in resisting assimilation and genocide, and still live on dwindled homelands now, many were absorbed into other peoples, exiled, or annihilated by the United States government for their land. For those who remain and for the land on which we gather, we give thanks to the Creator and to those who have been custodians of this part of Turtle Island since time immemorial. We also wish to recognize and honor all our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this land their home.

+ Please note that our 10:30 service is livestreamed at: youtube.com/LutherMemorialOnline. While the cameras (behind you) usually only broadcast the first third of the space, faces may be visible at times. We make every effort not to include children in our livestream.

+ Everything you need to follow along in worship is included in this bulletin. You are invited to stand and sit—as you are able—as indicated herein.

- Children's bulletins and crayons are available on the table through the door by the pulpit.

+ An all-gender and accessible **restroom** is available out the door next to the pulpit, up the ramp, and to the right. Follow signs for "Handicap Bathroom." Other restrooms are available down the hallway next to Faith Chapel across from the parlor.

+ You do not need to turn off or disconnect here! However, please be mindful of those worshiping around you and turn your phones and devices to silent. Feel free to take pictures of our beautiful sanctuary or post about the sermon. However, we ask that you ask permission before taking any people pictures.

+ We welcome all to worship and to the Table trusting that it is the Holy Spirit that draws us all together. If you would like information about joining the congregation or receiving the Sacraments of the Church, be sure to talk to Pastor Jay after worship (you can usually find him next to the pulpit after the service).

\+ + +

GATHERING

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

PRELUDE – "Consolation" E. T. Childs

The assembly rises in body or spirit.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

As we wait for Jesus' arrival, Emmanuel, God-with-us, is already here in this time and place. People of God,… we confess our sins together.

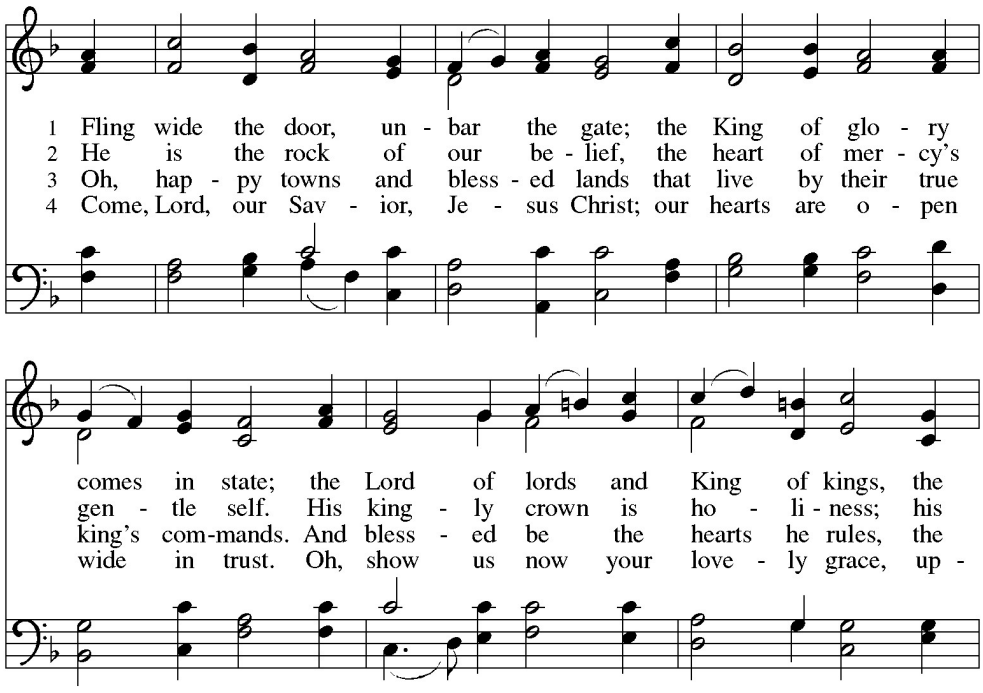
Brief pause
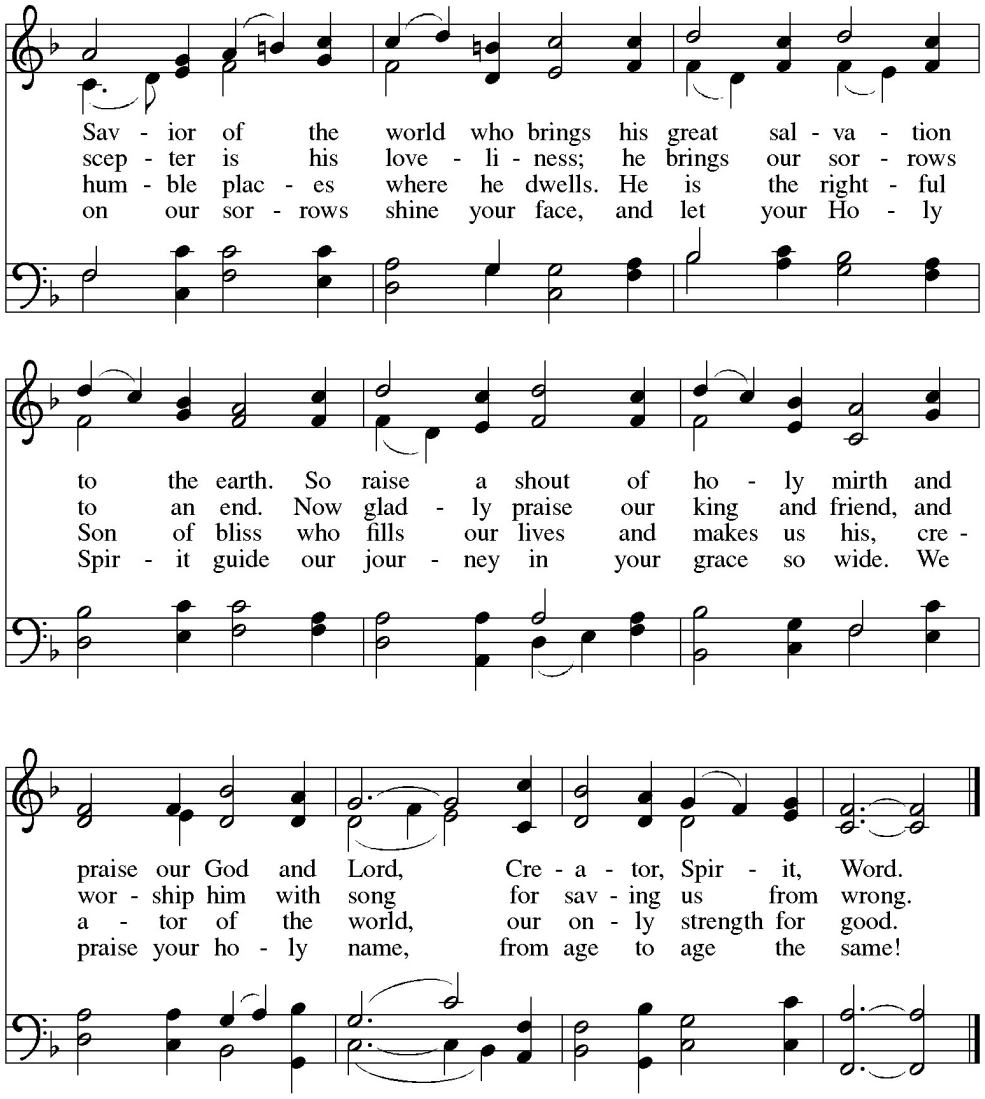
Holy One,
We have not stayed awake.
We have missed you when you appeared
in our neighbors,
in strangers half a world away,
in the suffering planet.
We have wasted the time and the skills that you gave us
and assumed we were powerless to mend
the breaches in our world.
Sometimes, we even gave up on your mercy, justice, and love.
God, is it too late for us?
Speak tenderly to our anxious hearts.
Tear open the heavens
and heal what we have done.
Amen.

People of God, God's judgment is certain and God's forgiveness is lightning fast. Hear this good news: in the name of Jesus Christ, all your sins are forgiven. Forgiveness gives us the courage we need. Wherever we wait for God's time to come, we will witness wonders. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN ELW 259

Fling Wide the Door



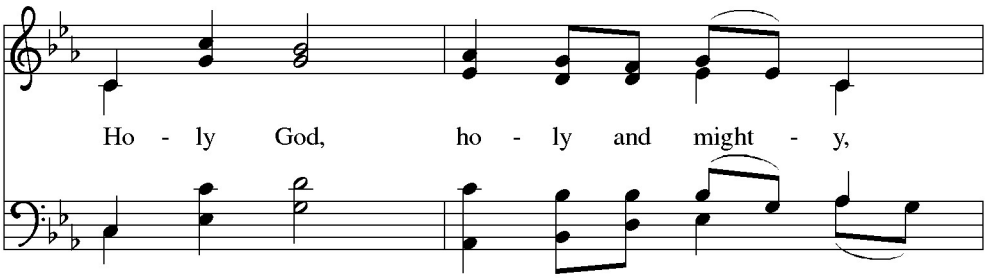


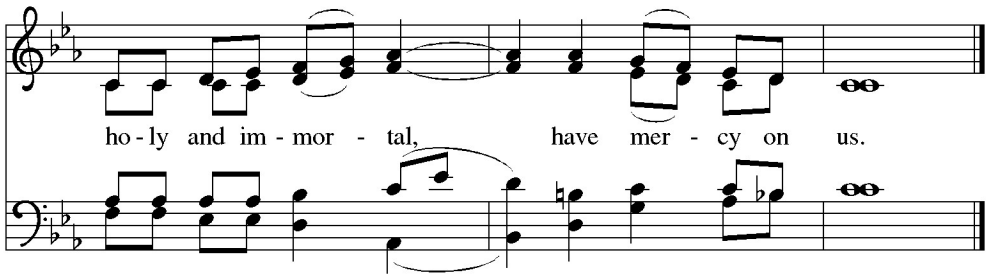
Text: Georg Weissel, 1590–1635; tr. Gracia Grindal, b. 1943
Music: MACHT HOCH DIE TÜR, J. A. Freylinghausen, *Geistreiches Gesangbuch*, 1704; arr. hymnal version
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.
Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

GREETING

Grace to you and peace from the everlasting God, the God who watches over us, the God for whom we wait.
And also with you.

TRISAGION
Sung thrice by all.





PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.
Stir up our talents, Lord God, our merciful master, that we may rightly give of what you have first given us. You own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all your bountiful gifts. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day when our Savior returns, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

The assembly may be seated.

WORD

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

BLESSING OF THE LECTOR

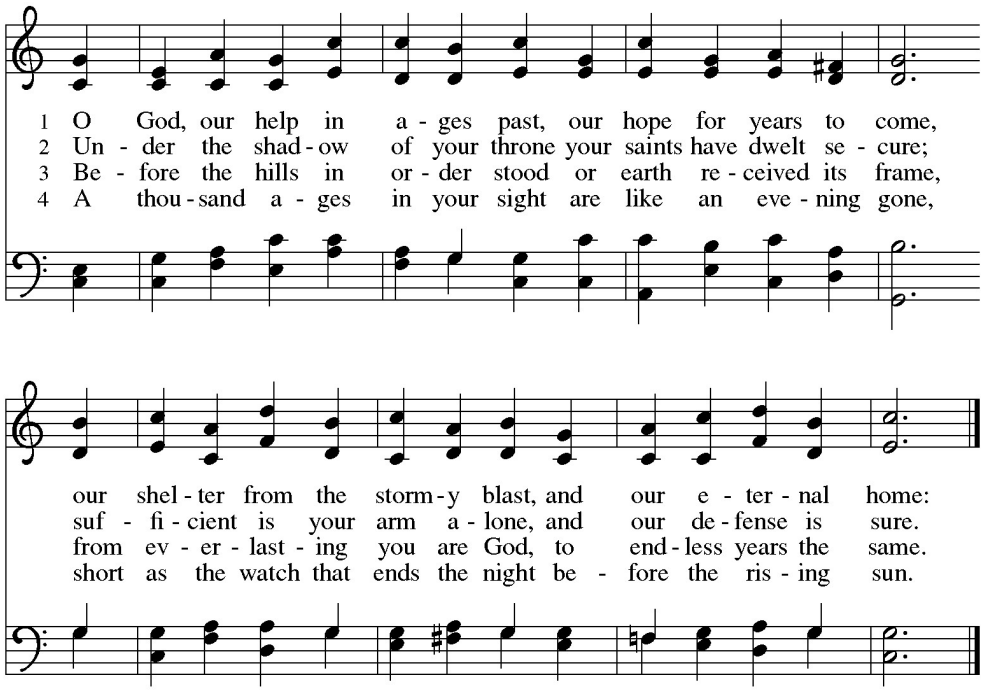
The Spirit and the Church cry out: **Come, Lord Jesus!**
All who await his appearing pray: **Come, Lord Jesus!**
The whole creation pleads: **Come, Lord Jesus!**
Come to us, Lord Jesus,….our strength and our redeemer.
Amen.

FIRST READING: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

Be silent before the Lord God, for the day of the Lord is at hand! The Lord has prepared a sacrifice and has consecrated the guests. At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who settle like dregs in wine, those who say in their hearts, "The Lord will not do good, nor will the Lord do harm." Their wealth shall be plundered and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them. The great day of the Lord is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter; the warrior cries aloud there. That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements. I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like those who are blind; because they have sinned against the Lord, their blood shall be poured out like dust and their flesh like dung. Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the Lord's wrath; in the fire of the Lord's passion the whole earth shall be consumed, for a full, a terrible end the Lord will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

Hear the One for whom we wait. **Come, Word of God.**

PSALMODY: PSALM 90:1-12



5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
bears all our years away;
we fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the op'ning day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
still be our guard while troubles last
and our eternal home!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.
Music: ST. ANNE, William Croft, 1678–1727

SECOND READING: I Thessalonians 5:1-11

Now concerning the times and the seasons, dear family, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So, then, let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober, for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober and put on the breastplate of faith and love and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Hear the One for whom we wait. **Come, Word of God.**

Having heard from the God who is still speaking, and as we await the coming of The Word in our midst in this season, we light our candles of waiting.

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

(Our second candle will be lighted by Zachary & Ron Middaugh.)

"The great day of the Lord is near, near and hastening fast."
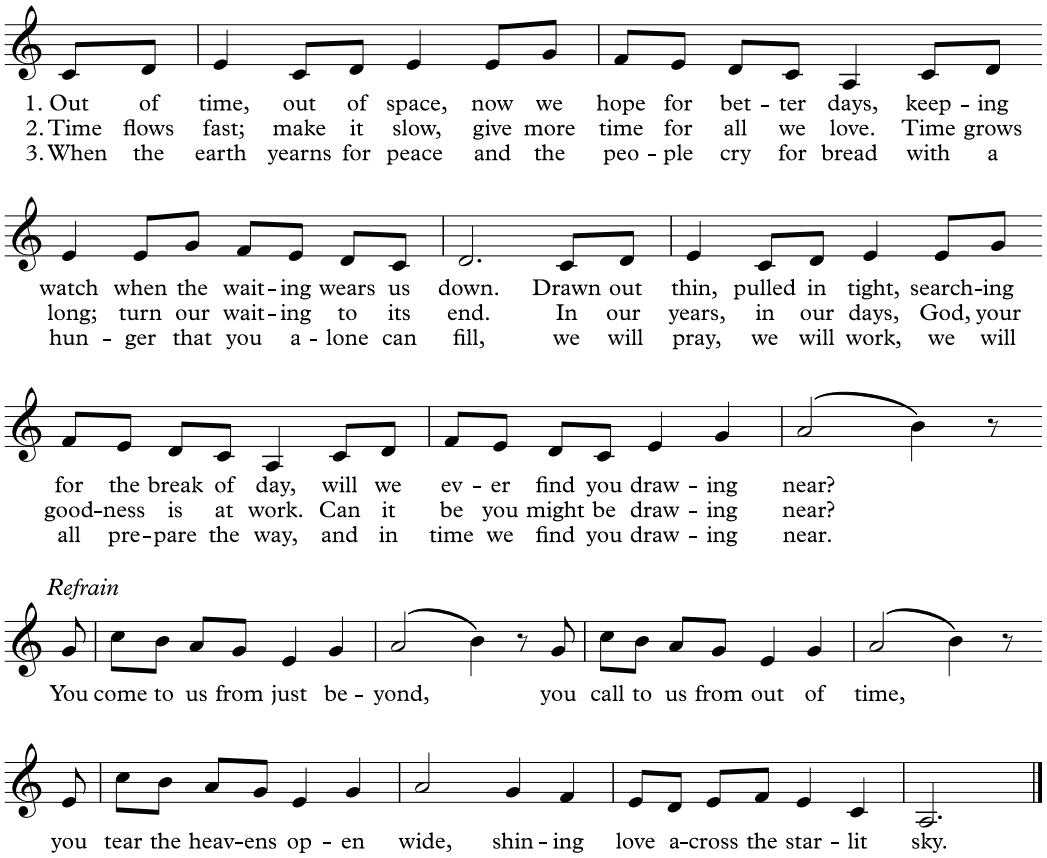
(Zephaniah 1:14)

"Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations."

(Psalm 90:1)

Let us pray. God who is near: Our days rush past us, and we can't hold onto what's most dear. Our days drag on until we long for change. Yet you are everlasting, as faithful to us now as to those who lived thousands of years ago. And you are urgent, bringing sweeping change within a single moment. As we light another candle, remind us of your power unfolding in seconds and in eons.
Amen.

The assembly rises in body or spirit to greet the Gospel.



TEXT: LINNÉA K. CLARK WITH EMILY TRUBEY-WELLER MUSIC: LINNÉA K. CLARK © 2023 BARN GEESE WORSHIP. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

THE GOSPEL: Matthew 25:14-30

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said to the disciples: "For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. At once the one who had received the five talents went off and traded with them and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid the master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will

put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow and gathering where you did not scatter, so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance, but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' "

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**
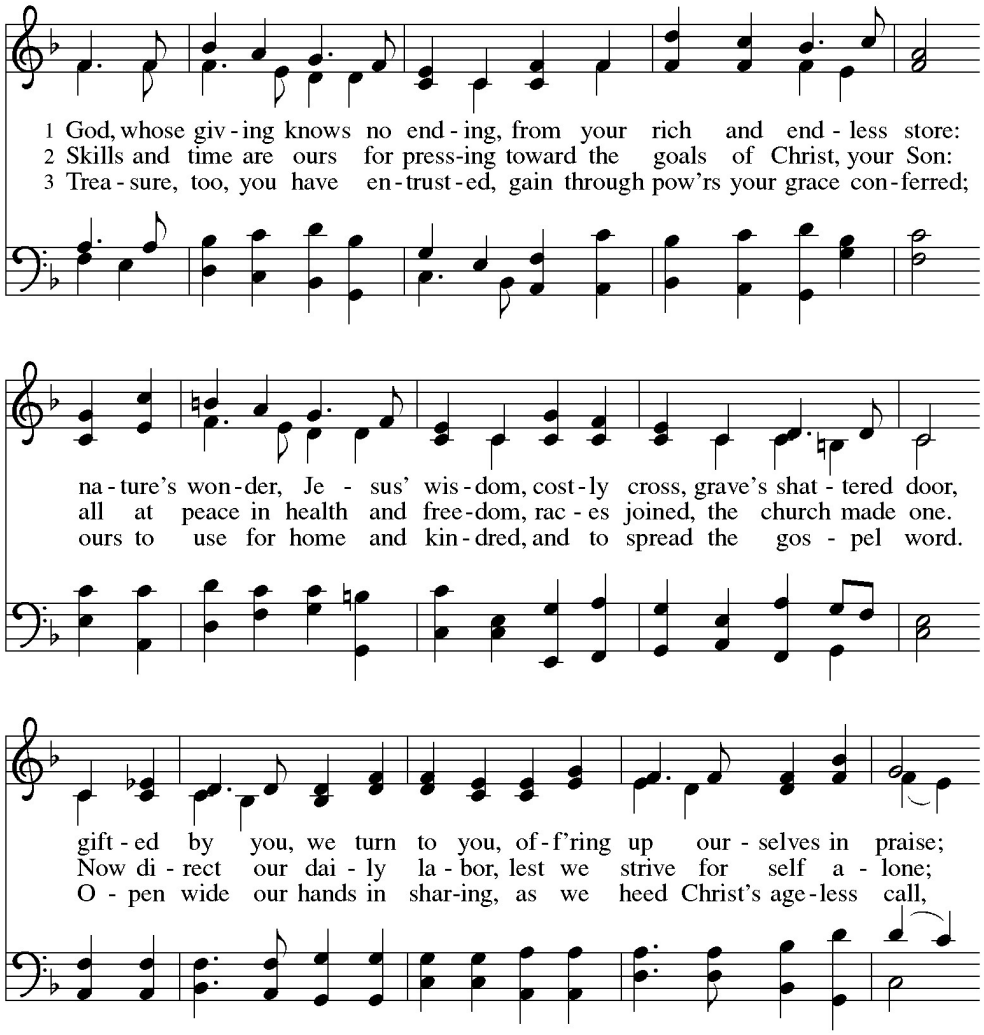
The assembly may be seated at the invitation of the preacher.

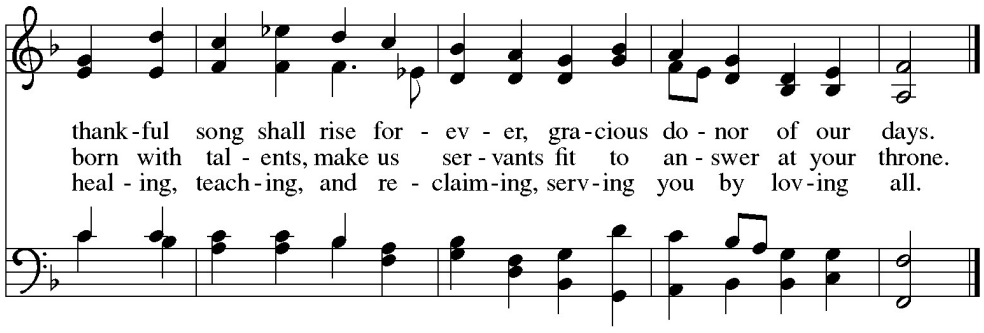
CHILDREN'S MESSAGE & SERMON Pastor Jay

After a brief silence, as the music sounds, the assembly rises in body or spirit to proclaim the word of God in song.

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 678

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending





Text: Robert L. Edwards, 1915–2006
Music: RUSTINGTON, C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848–1918
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THE NICENE-CONSTANTINOPOLITAN CREED

Siblings in Christ, let us confess the faith of the Church:

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 whom 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,
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.

The assembly kneels or sits as is comfortable for the prayers.

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

People of God, we are each other's kin, and we are family with all creation. As we wait and yearn for God, we pray together for our community, for the church around the world, and for every need.

For the nations and their leaders: God, the heavens tremble, the stars fall, and the earth quakes. We pray for places in conflict, especially . . . *[name places experiencing civil wars, international conflict, violence closer to home, or persecution].*
Hurry, God. Hear our prayers. **Tear the heavens and come down.**

For the natural world: God, you garden in the wilderness, even where it seems like nothing can grow. We pray for all creation, especially . . . *[name places in your community and around the world facing pollution, environmental disaster, flooding, fire, storms, or drought; you may also name local waterways, forests, or migration routes].*
Hurry, God. Hear our prayers. **Tear the heavens and come down.**

For healing: God, you create accessible paths through rough terrain, and you love the bodies and minds of your people. We give thanks for diverse abilities and we pray for people in need of healing, especially . . . *[you may insert your congregation's prayer list here, or you may name different groups of people, such as those living with addiction, mental illness, cancer, etc.].*
Hurry, God. Hear our prayers. **Tear the heavens and come down.**

For justice: God, you call us to rebuild ancient ruins, but we need your help to finish the work. Our need for healing is urgent. We pray for your justice and peace, especially . . . *[name situations related to justice, locally or abroad].*
Hurry, God. Hear our prayers. **Tear the heavens and come down.**

God, you are always with us. We gather these prayers together, and we entrust them to your endless love in the name of Jesus.
Amen.

The assembly may rise in body or spirit.

THE PEACE

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

The assembly shares a sign and greeting of peace. Please be mindful of others' comfort with touch. After, the assembly is seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEAL

God feeds us with Jesus Christ.

THE OFFERING IS RECEIVED

An offering is received for the ministry of the church. Our offering at Luther Memorial supports our ministry locally, as well as that of the Northwestern Pennsylvania Synod and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. You may make your checks payable to Luther Memorial Church.

MUSICAL OFFERING – "Come, Labor On" J. Borthwick

Come, labor on. Who dares stand idle on the harvest plain,
while all around us waves the golden grain?
And to each servant does the Master say, "Go work today."

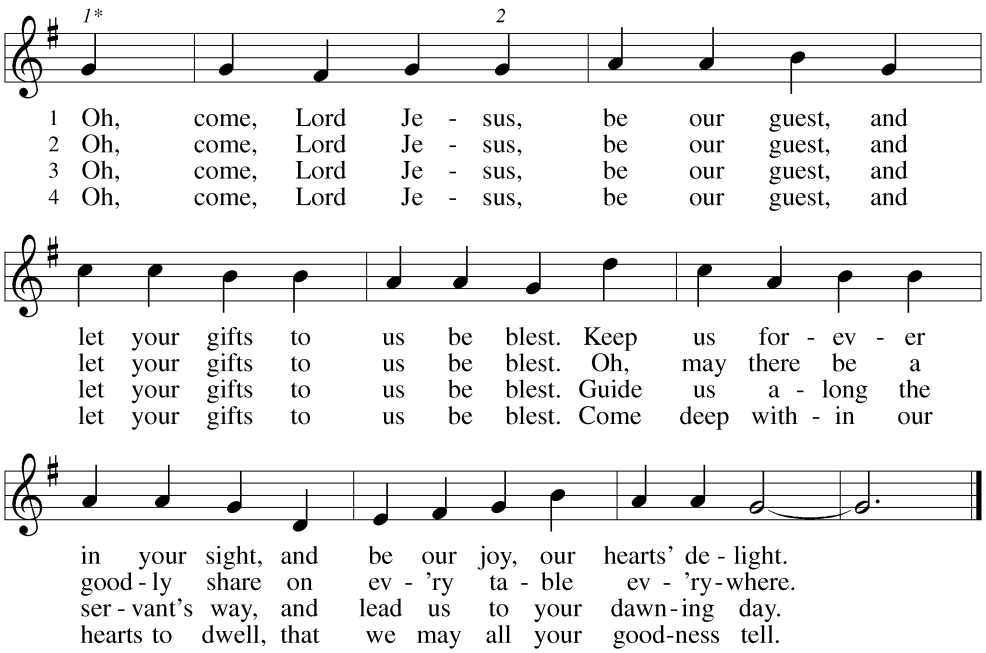
Come, labor on. Claim the high calling angels cannot share--
to young and old the gospel gladness bear:
redeem the time; its hours too swiftly fly. The night draws nigh.

Come, labor on. Away with gloomy doubts and faithless fear!
No arm so weak but may do service here:
by feeble agents may we all fulfill God's righteous will.

Come, labor on. No time for rest, till glows the western sky,
till the long shadows o'er our pathway lie,
and a glad sound comes with the setting sun, "Well done, well done."

The assembly rises in body or spirit as the offering is brought forward.

OFFERTORY HYMN



**may be sung in canon*

Text: traditional table prayer, adapt. Susan Briehl
Music: TALLIS' CANON, Thomas Tallis

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. God of all goodness, generations have turned to you, gathered around your table, and shared your abundant blessings. Number us among them that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance, and give thanks for your rich blessings, we may feast upon your very self and care for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ for whom we wait. **Amen.**

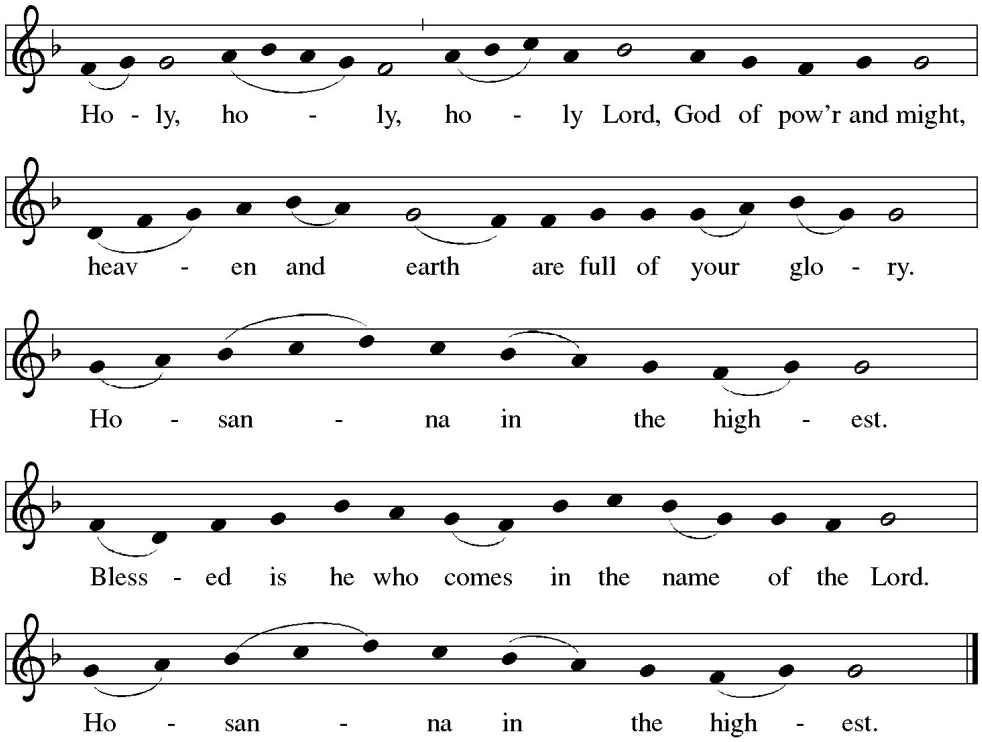
THE EUCHARIST

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.

God our Creator, the abundance of your goodness overflowed into creation—earth, sky, water, plants, animals, and human beings all came to be and you called us good. Down through the generations, your goodness continued to flow: in friendship with humanity, in acts of liberation, in provision for your people. In all of this, you prepared a way. And so, with joyful hearts, we join the angels in their song…



Finally, when the time was right, you entered our human existence in Jesus, who was born humbly, who spent his life with the unlikely and unloved, who healed and taught and preached the good news of your way.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it,
and gave it to the disciples saying,
"Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way after supper,
Jesus 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 in remembrance of me."

Whenever we share this bread and cup, Jesus is here with us, in this moment, in this time and place. Whenever we share this bread and cup, God takes us out of time and joins us with God's people in every time and place. Whenever we share this bread and cup, we proclaim the mystery of faith.

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

Send the Spirit of your presence on us now, O God, so that we too will overflow with goodness. Strengthen us by this meal, so that through us, your presence will flow out in friendship, in acts of liberation, in provision for others. In this, we prepare the way for your arrival again, when you will return to remake all of existence into your kin-dom of perfect mercy, justice, and love.

Amen.

Lord, remember in your sovereignty and teach us to pray:
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 TABLE

Here is the One… The time is now! Taste and see God's goodness!
Amen. We come.

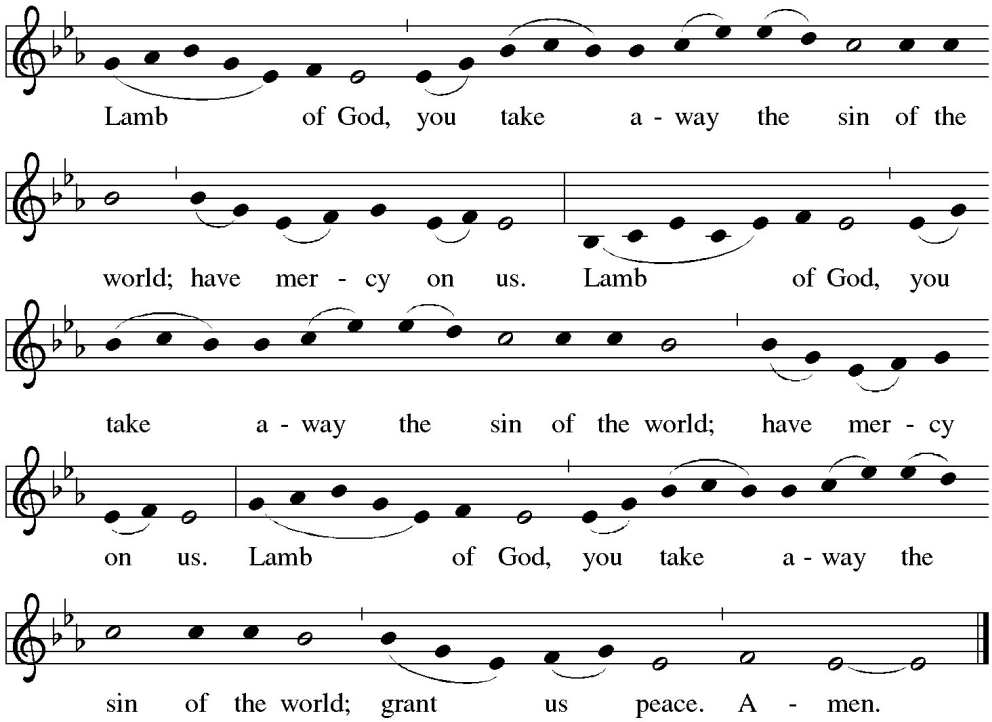
For those communing at home: take, eat, drink: the Body and Blood of Christ for you.

Please be seated.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

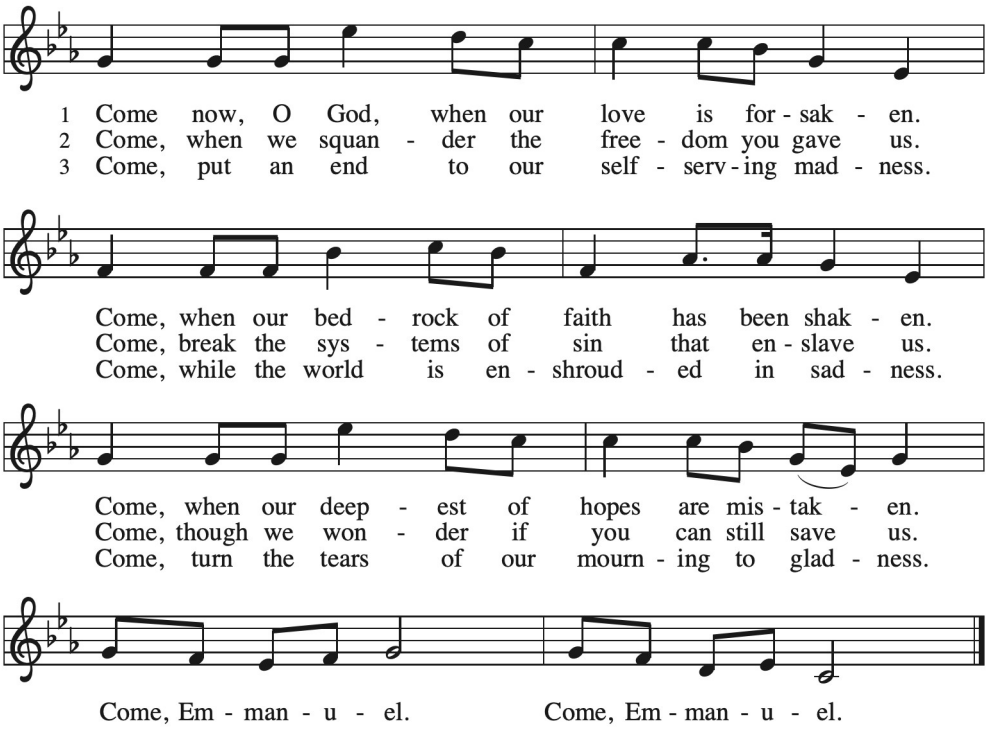
This is Christ's Table and Christ is present whenever we feast together. ***<u>You</u>*** *are welcome to the feast! Please come forward from both sides by the center aisle. Take a small empty cup from the trays at the head of the center aisle. Non-alcoholized grape juice is in pre-filled cups for those who cannot have alcoholized wine. Receive the bread in your open palm. All bread is gluten, wheat, nut, dairy, and soy free; it contains egg. Then hold your cup steady for the assisting minister to fill. As you return by the side aisles, please place your empty cup in the tray. All are invited to the meal. If you would like to participate but not to receive the bread and wine, please cross your arms in front of you for a blessing from the pastor. If you cannot come to the Table, the Table will come to you. Just let a neighbor know to inform the presiding minister.*

SINGING DURING THE DISTRIBUTION



ACS 902

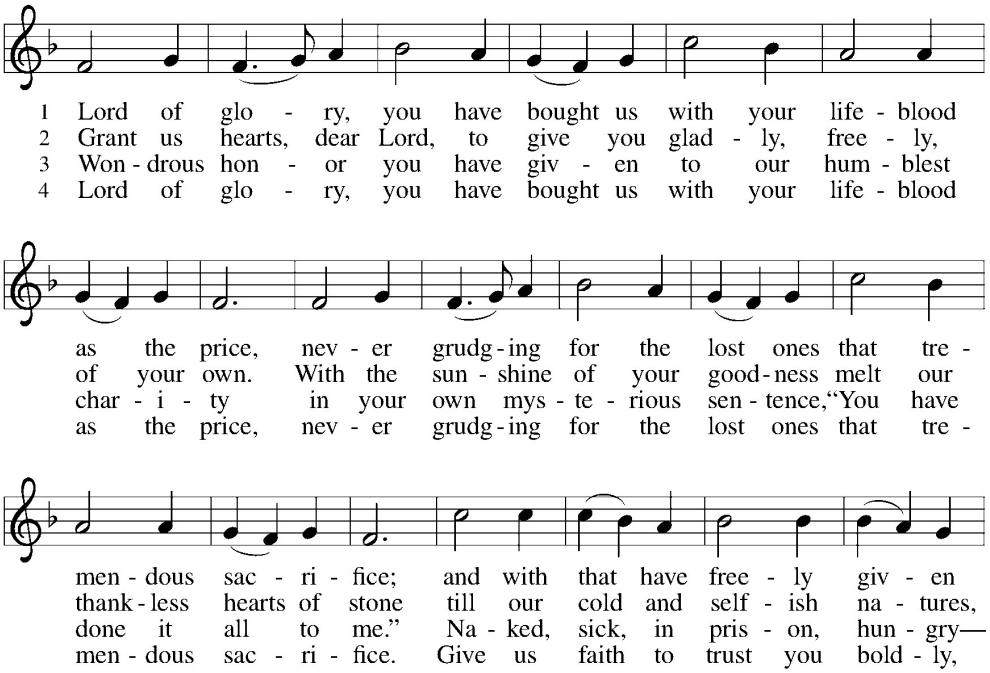
Come, Now, O God

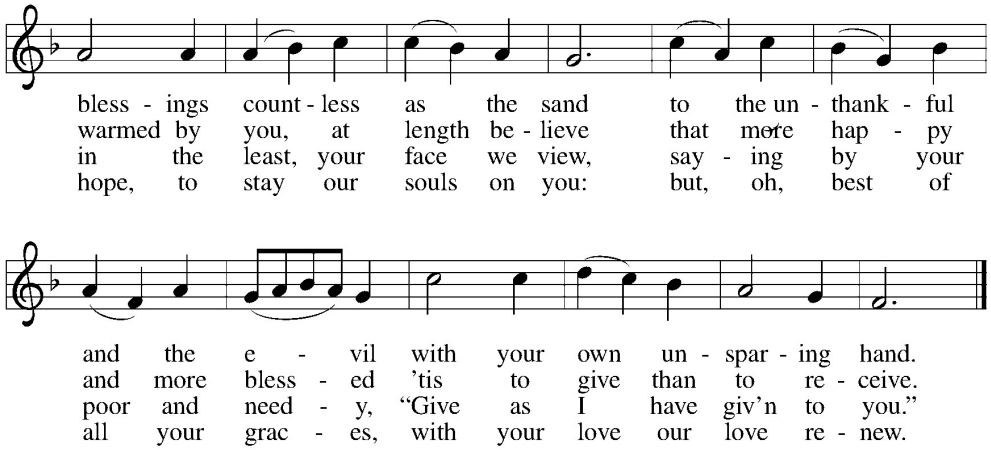


Text: David Bjorlin, b. 1984
Music: LOST IN THE NIGHT, Finnish folk tune
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ELW 707

Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us





Text: Eliza S. Alderson, 1818–1889, alt.
Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887

After all who so desire have received the Sacrament of the Altar, the assembly rises in body or spirit at the invitation of the presiding minister.

TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you, keep you in all goodness and health, and bring you everlasting life.
Amen.

OFFERING OF PLEDGES

Our God is a generous God,
providing manna in the wilderness.
Our God is a steadfast God,
with us even unto the end of the age.
Our God is a God of newness and calling,
inviting us to honor new visions
and embrace new dreams.

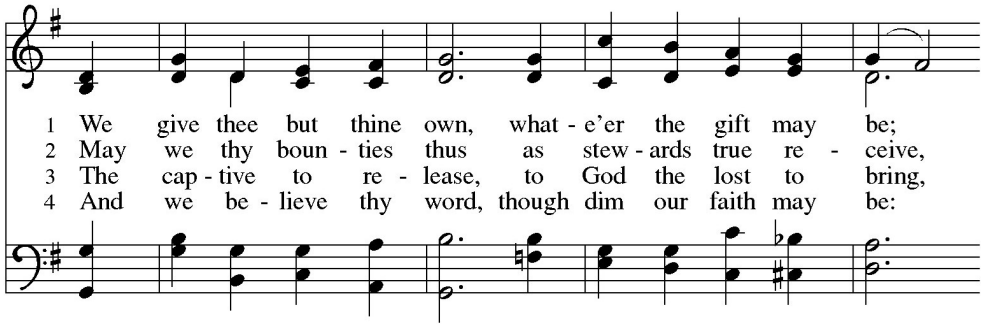
Israel was fed with manna from heaven. Elijah was sustained by bread and meat brought by ravens. The disciples traveled with a common purse, sharing their gifts with one another. Christ invited those gathered at the Feast of the Five Thousand to witness a generosity beyond what they could imagine. The ancient church shared all things in common, believing that the call to communal spiritual growth is also a call to give back to God what God has given us.
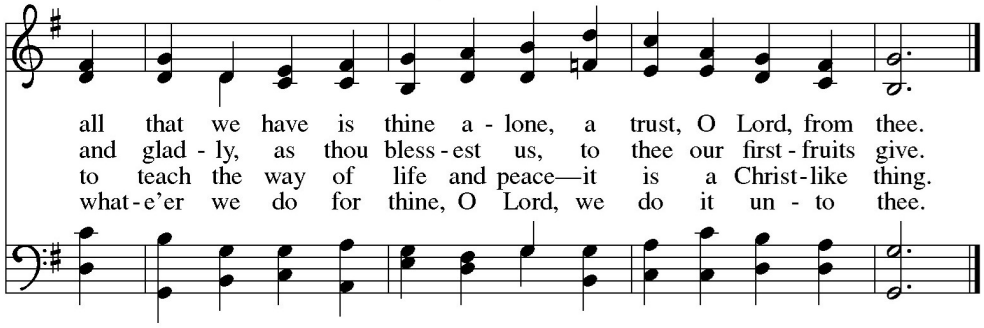
And we ourselves are living into this common life together with our pledges of financial support for God's mission and our ministry in this place.

During the singing of the hymn, all are invited to bring their pledges of financial support for the coming year and place them in the basket at the front of the aisle.

ELW 686

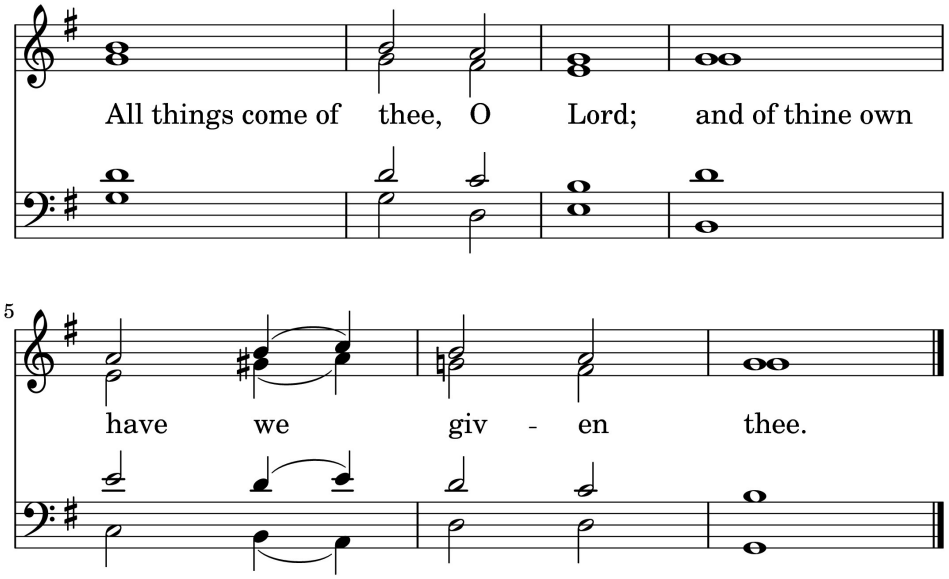
We Give Thee but Thine Own





Text: William W. How, 1823–1897, alt.
Music: HEATH, L. Mason and G. Webb, *Cantica Lauda*, 1850

Let us pray. God of abundance, you bring grain from the earth and fruit from the vine, blessing us with your presence in mysterious ways. As we gift these pledges back to you, we ask that you bless them to your service. May they be outward signs of your inward work in us. May they become seeds that bring forth newness in this upcoming year. May they bear good fruit for the sake of your Son and for the sake of our neighbors. Bless us in our intentions, bless us in our hopes and plans, bless us in our generosity, and bless the world through these offerings to you.
Amen.



SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

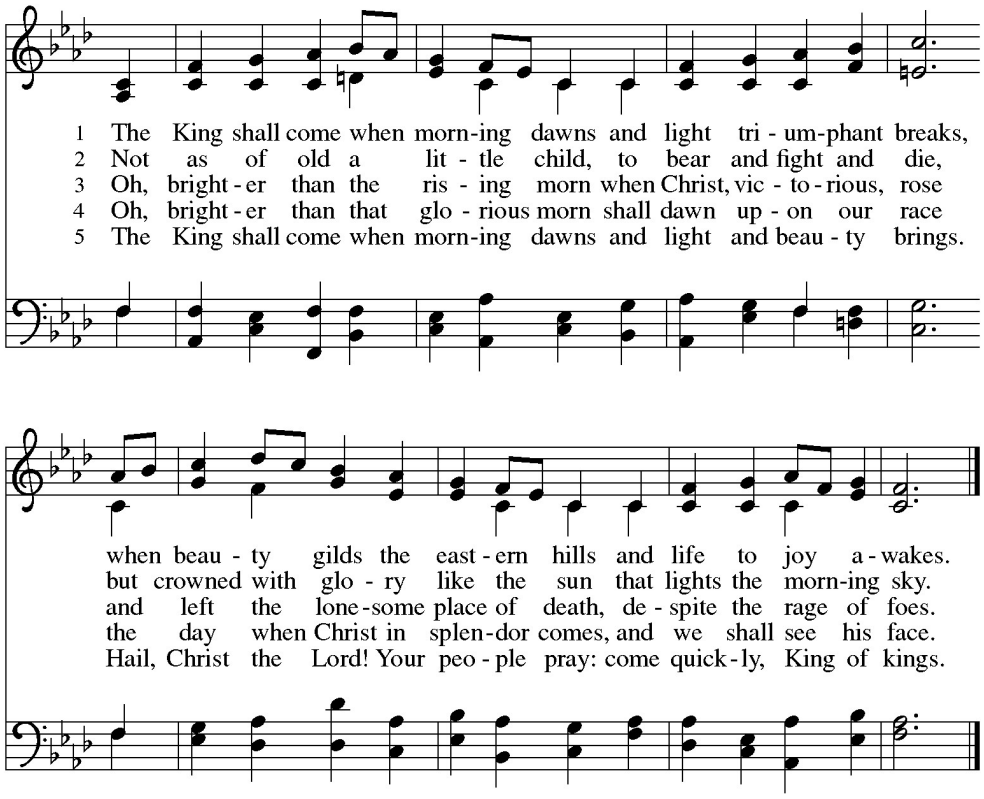
CHARGE & BLESSING

As you leave this place, remember: whether you feel lost in time that races like a waterfall or trapped in time that drips away slowly, God is beside you. Keep alert; trust God; seek peace.

God who made the starlit sky; God who arrives at just the right time; God who sparks hope for the hopeless; God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN ELW 260

The King Shall Come



Text: John Brownlie, 1859-1925
Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davisson, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816; arr. Theodore A. Beck, 1929-2003
Arr. © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Keep awake! The Master Returns!
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE – "Rejoice, Rejoice" M. Sedio

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—— EXPECTED TO LEAD IN WORSHIP TODAY ——

PRESIDING MINISTER – The Rev. Jay C. Mitchell
ASSISTING MINISTER – Pat Bellingham
COMMUNION ASSISTANT – Elaine Kern
LECTOR – Karen Lundwall
USHERS – Sharon Burke, Sue Cappelletty, Jessica Copfer, Betty Pletz
ALTAR GUILD – Sharon Burke
VIDEO STREAMING – Beth Keller

✞ ✞ ✞

Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in honor of Rob Benacci's upcoming special birthday with love from Nancy, Steve and Christy, Cheryl and Evan and his grandchildren; Zack, Summer, Emmett and Lennon.

Pulpit flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of Loretta Deeds 90th birthday on November 14 by Jeanne Gaber and Linda Graffius.

Rose on the altar is in celebration of the birth of Findley Lou Grote on Friday, November 6, 2026. Congratulations to parents, Rylee and Mark Grote; grandparents, Serene and Bradley Klomp; and great-grandparents, Martha and Tom Klomp.

Today's Events

Homemade soup will be available following the 10:30 service this morning. The cost is $10.

St. Lucia will be presented at Luther Memorial on Sunday, December 13 at 4:00pm in our main church with a reception following in fellowship hall. Our first rehearsal is this morning at 11:45 for 3rd grade youth and older. Rehearsals will be held each Sunday through December 6. Rehearsals for children 2nd grade and younger will begin on Sunday, November 22. All rehearsals will be held from 11:45am – 1:00pm. Prior to the St. Lucia program on December 13 a brief rehearsal will be held at 11:45am. Parents are asked to attend the first rehearsal to sign in their child. Please contact Lena Donnelly at 814-403-7825 with any questions.

Worship *Matters!*

The Pledging of Financial Support for the coming year may seem out of place in our keeping of an extended Advent. Isn't that more of a *Thanksgiving* than a *Christmas* thing? And yet, as we look to the One who has come and yet is coming, as we plead, "Come, Lord Jesus," we beseech Jesus to come to us and reign with and among us. We want to be part of God's work through Jesus in the world. We yearn for the Reign of Jesus now. When we commit ourselves to the common life of the Church, we are taking a step of faith toward the fulfillment of all things in Jesus. When we pledge to financially support the ministry here at Luther in the coming year, we lean into the Reign of Jesus in and among us. It is part of our waiting to trust all the more fully in God's work through Jesus for us that we are able to give of ourselves in response to all that God has already done—awaiting all that God still has yet to do.

Altar Flower Update

We continue to seek the most cost effective florist to provide flowers for our worship spaces. At this time, the cost will be $60 for 2 vases (in the brass vases on the altar) OR $35 for 1 vase (for the columbarium or pulpit). If you are already scheduled for flowers and no longer interested in providing them, please let the church office know. Remember that there are other memorialization opportunities available on a given Sunday such as bulletins or communion supplies. Please speak with Pastor Jay or the church office if you are interested in any of these opportunities.

Faith Formation

Faith Formation brochures are available at the Welcome Table.
Class dates are listed for children, youth, confirmation and adults.

Bible After Dark (BAD) meets on the FIRST TUESDAY of each month at 6:30pm at Calamari's Squid Row (1317 State St.) for a time of conversation and fellowship. ***YOU*** are invited to join us on Tuesday, December 1.

Brown Bag Bible (B^3) gathers on Thursdays at 12:00 noon in the Conference Room. You bring a lunch, Pastor Jay brings something to talk about. We will continue our study on the book of Revelation. Our next gathering will be Thursday, November 19.

FAITH5! Join us for our new program called Faith5: Cross+Gen. This program gathers all ages around various topics to share in single "eduworship" opportunity. We will gather in the Parlor at 9:15am on the Second Sunday of each month and share a chance for everyone from our oldest to our youngest members to share and learn and grow and have a fun time growing deeper and broader and higher and further in faith together! It won't be the same without you! Our next Faith5: Cross+Gen gathering will be December 13. See you there!

Opportunities for Fellowship

L.I.A., Lutherans in Action, gather the second Tuesday of each month to help with community and service projects. Bring the family down and lend a hand. If you are not familiar with the BAND App, contact Sarah Prylinski at 814-882-1695 as outings are also posted on the app. We're hoping you can join us.

Come and join us for an escape from reality. Enjoy a relaxing morning with friends at the Magic Fingers Grace Group as you knit your cares away sprinkled with some laughter. We will not meet on November 24. We meet the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month from 10:00am – 12:00 noon. Contact Norma in the church office or Jan MacInnes if you are in need of more yarn or have any questions.

Cantor Bryan will visit the OWLS on Wednesday, November 18 at 11:00am to answer all the questions about the beginning stages of our new organ and how the process will proceed. Lunch will be served following the program; please bring a dish to share. Reservations are due to Jan MacInnes, 814-833-0476, or the church office by Sunday, November 15.

Christmas Preparations

First, we need to prepare to decorate.Any help between services on Sunday, November 22 to bring boxes containing our trees and decorations upstairs is appreciated. **Hanging of the Greens** will be held Sunday, November 29 following each worship service. Please join us to decorate our beautiful church.

Supporting our Youth

Holiday meals will be a snap when you order from a variety of delicious meats from Gahr's Hamloaf. Sausage flavors in links or bulk, country style breakfast sausage, Philly cheesesteak and, of course, hamloaf will make everyone's mouth water. Orders are due Sunday, November 29; pick-up is Sunday, December 20. Payment is due with your order; checks may be made to Luther Memorial Church LYO. Order forms are located at the welcome tables and the church and school offices. Proceeds benefit our youth. Thank you.

Bethany Outreach Center

"A Handful of Thanks" Fundraiser / Raffle: Bethany Outreach Center is selling Raffle tickets from now through November 20. Each ticket is entered into Five (5) drawings to win a valuable Gift Card – one on each of the following 5 days: (11/21 through 11/25), as shown on the face of the tickets:

A Handful of Thanks – 2026

Day 1 (11/21): Thankful for Little Treats - $50 Starbucks
Day 2 (11/22): Thankful for Simple Joys - $50 Cinemark
Day 3 (11/23): Thankful for a Fresh Look - $100 Target
Day 4 (11/24): Thankful for Full Tables - $100 Walmart
Day 5 (11/25): Thankful for Financial Stability - $200 Cash

$5 per Ticket, $20 for 5 tickets

If you win, you will be notified by the Phone # or Email that you provided on the ticket-stub you turned in to our Bethany Outreach volunteer. See Pat Bellingham or Eric Hedlund to purchase your ticket(s).

Items to Note

In case of a pastoral emergency, please contact Pastor Jay either at the church (814-454-0106 x. 227) or, if not, on his personal phone (267-549-9858). If you are unable to reach him and need a response quickly, please contact our church office at 454-0106, ext. 221 during weekday business hours of 8:00am – 4:00pm to speak with Norma. Thank you.

Greeting cards can be found in the information rack located near the parlor area. A large variety of cards that will fit every occasion are available. Youth are offering these cards for $1 each or 6 for $5. Proceeds will benefit our youth.

— PRAYER LIST —

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Our Members:

Betsy Brumagin	Ed Hokaj	Rose-Marie Rose	Lois Smith
Diane Parsons	Brian Hubbard	Karen Zamperini	Dennis Martin
Donna Sedelmyer	Mary Mumford	Paul Meucci	Cathy Beck

Friends and Family:

Hannah Jacob	Gail Lesuer	Sue Rinder	Erin N.
Brian Doresch	Jim Scobel	Ellie	Peggy S.
Kimberly Dunahue	Peter Maker	Shirley	Brynlee
Ted Kemp	Kathy Colvin	Anthony Benacci	Brooks Davis
Jessica Kinzig	Lynn	Kathy Nicewander	Connor & family
Lisa E.	Mary Phipps	Nichole Jones	Linda & Brian
Abigal & Madison Beatty	Linda Wozniak	Abby Lasky	Sue Peshek
Karla Hahn Strieb			

Grief:

Bea Leemhuis family	Susan Agens family

Our Military Service Men & Women:

Matt Anderson	Michael Stickner	Andrew Watson	Alli Brown
Ben Dixon	Mark Collins	Christopher Rose	Justin Gajewski

Readings and Commemoration This Week

November 16 – Psalm 9:1-14; Zechariah 1:7-17; Romans 2:1-11

November 17 – Elizabeth of Hungary, renewer of society, 1231 – Psalm 9:1-14; Zechariah 2:1-5, 5:1-4; I Thessalonians 5:12-18 -- *Born in Hungary, Elizabeth was betrothed to the son of the Landgrave of Thuringia, and at age four was taken to be raised with him at the Wartburg Castle. Ten years later they were married. She was very generous to the poor, and after her husband's death she lived in cruel hardship until her own death at age twenty-four.*

November 18 – Psalm 9:1-14; Job 16:1-21; Matthew 24:45-51

November 19 – Psalm 95:1-7a; I Kings 22:13-23; Revelation 14:1-11

November 20 – Psalm 95:1-7a; I Chronicles 17:1-15; Revelation 22:1-9

November 21 – Psalm 95:1-7a; Isaiah 44:21-28; Matthew 12:46-50

CALENDAR

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16		
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17	9:30am	Pericope
	2:30pm	LMA Play Auditions
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18	11:00am	OWLS
	4:15pm	School Board
	6:00pm	PTL
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19	10:00am	Diabetes Prevention Program
	1:00pm	Grief Group
	3:30pm	Prayer Group
	5:30pm	Handbells
	6:00pm	Girl Scouts
	6:45pm	Adult Choir
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20		
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21	10:00am	Quilting

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2025
THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Worship with us at 8:15am in Faith Chapel or 10:30am in the main church.

Coffee hour, compliments of our Tuesday W/ELCA Circle will be held at 11:30am.

St. Lucia rehearsal will begin at 11:45am.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2026
ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Assisting Minister	8:15am	Ellen Diplacido
	10:30am	Linda Swanson
Communion Assistant *(1 needed)*	10:30am	
Lector *(1 needed)*	10:30am	
Altar Guild	8:15am	Cathie Dugan
	10:30am	MaryDaniels
Greeter	8:15am	Vicky Blasco
	10:30am	
Video Streaming	10:30am	Beth Keller/Sarah Prylinski
Counters	10:30am	Skip MacInnes, Stan Rose
Ushers *(4 needed)*	10:30am	


THE BOSS ENTRUSTED ME WITH ALL THIS MONEY. I BETTER PUT IT TO GOOD USE!
I GOT A BIT LESS BUT I'M GOING TO MAKE THE MOST OF THIS.
YIKES!!! WHAT IF I LOSE THE LITTLE I'VE GOT...