

Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

November 8, 2026 - 9:30 a.m.

Grace Lutheran Church

313 S. Prospect Avenue, Champaign, IL 61820

(217) 356-6232 • office@glccu.org

www.glccu.org • Pastor: Chris Repp

Welcome to Grace!

At Grace Lutheran Church, we strive to be a community of acceptance, reconciliation and hope. Following in the way of Jesus, we welcome all people regardless of race, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, gender identity, or age. God's acceptance of all compels us to stand against racism, sexism and all forms of hate and prejudice. We welcome your questions, your gifts, and your being.

Connecting People to God, One Another, and the World

We believe that God is at work in this worship service, through Word and Sacrament, to create and sustain faith in God's promises of love, forgiveness, and reconciliation in Jesus Christ, and to bless us to be blessings. We use a rich, traditional pattern of worship that dates to the early days of Christianity. We recognize that it comes with a learning curve, but we're convinced that it's worth the effort. Don't feel like you have to get everything the first time. This way of worshipping may also include postures like standing and kneeling that may not be possible or comfortable for everyone. Please know that you are welcome to do what works for you.

KEY TO THE ORDER OF SERVICE:

Regular type: spoken by a leader
Bold type: spoken by the people
Regular Italics: sung/chanted by a leader
Bold Italics: sung/chanted by the people
Small Italics: liturgical directions and information
✠ the sign of the cross may be made
ELW: Evangelical Lutheran Worship (Red Hymnal)
ACS: All Creation Sings (Purple Hymnal)
♪ Favorite Hymn request

HELPFUL INFORMATION FOR VISITORS:

- Restrooms are down the hall to the left of the entrance, opposite the elevator.
- Hand sanitizer is available on the sanctuary windowsills.
- Large print bulletins are available
- Please sign our guest book at the entrance.

As We Gather:

Today the prophet Amos calls for justice to roll down like waters. Paul urges us to encourage one another with the promised coming of the Lord. Jesus tells the parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids. Surrounded by the faithful of every time and place, we celebrate Christ's coming in our midst in the word of life and the feast of victory—the marriage feast of the Lamb.

Gathering

Prelude

Grace Lutheran Bell Choir

Song of Joy

by Arnold Sherman

Welcome

The assembly stands.

Confession and Forgiveness

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

In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and one another.

The assembly kneels or is seated.
Silence is kept for reflection.

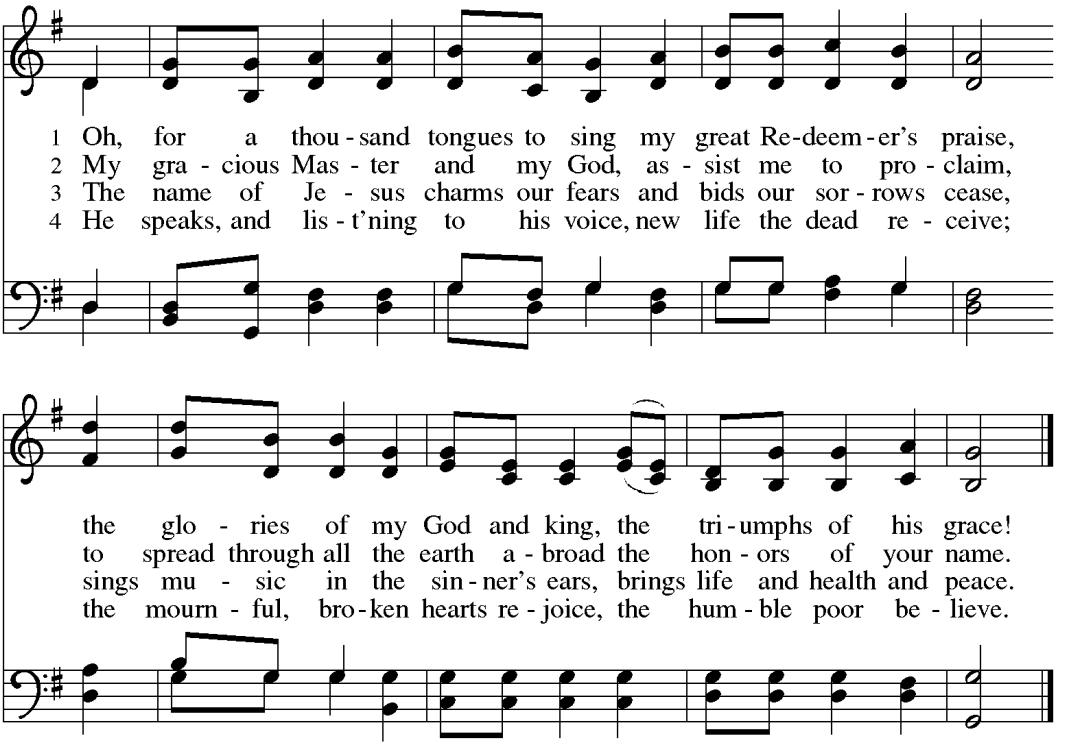
Most merciful God, we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

The assembly stands.

Gathering Hymn

Oh, For a Thousand Tongues to Sing ELW 886
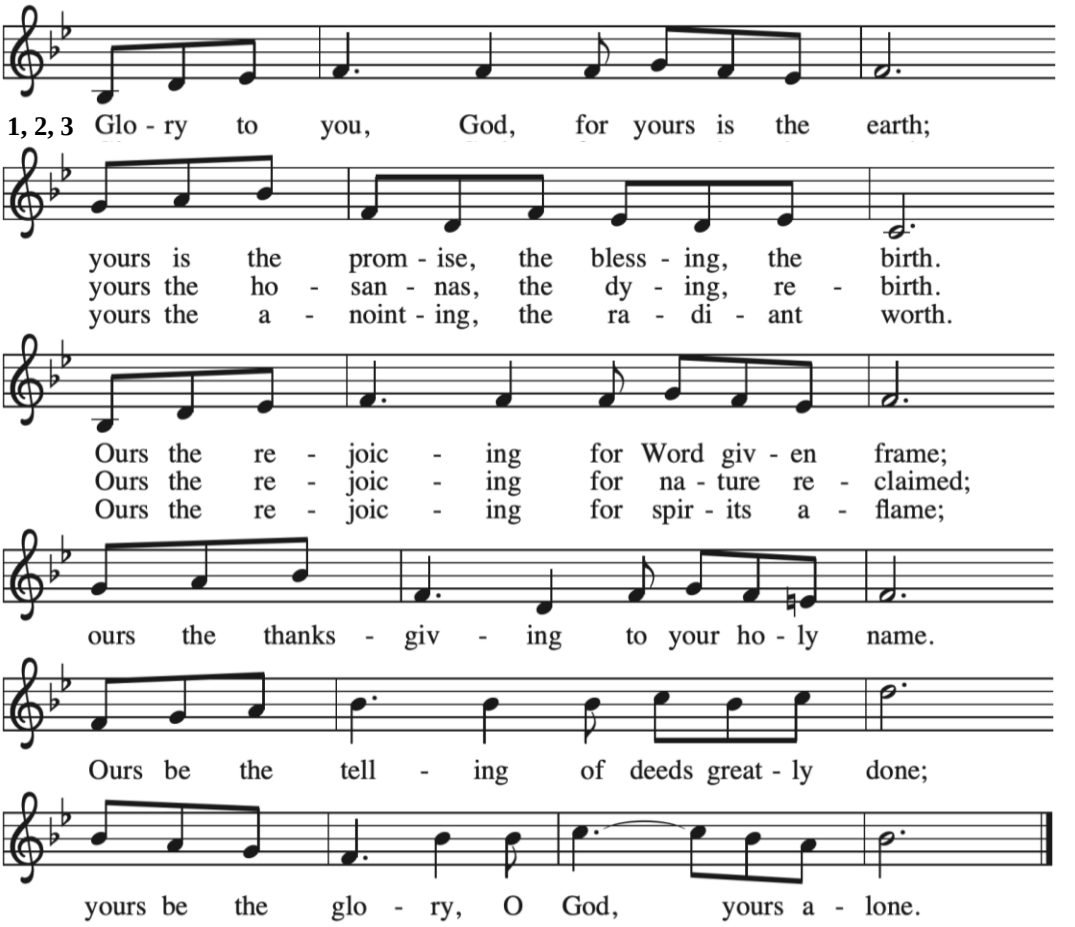


5 Look unto him, your Savior own,
O fallen human race!
Look and be saved through faith alone,
be justified by grace!

6 To God all glory, praise, and love
be now and ever giv'n
by saints below and saints above,
the church in earth and heav'n.

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.

Canticle of Praise



Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

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.

The assembly is seated.

Word

Children's Sermon — Pastor Chris Repp

Temple Talk — Dave Brown

First Reading — Amos 5:18-24

In the days of Amos, people thought that the day of the LORD would be a time of great victory, but Amos announced that it would be a day of darkness, not light. He said liturgy is no substitute for obedience. The LORD demands justice and righteousness in the community.

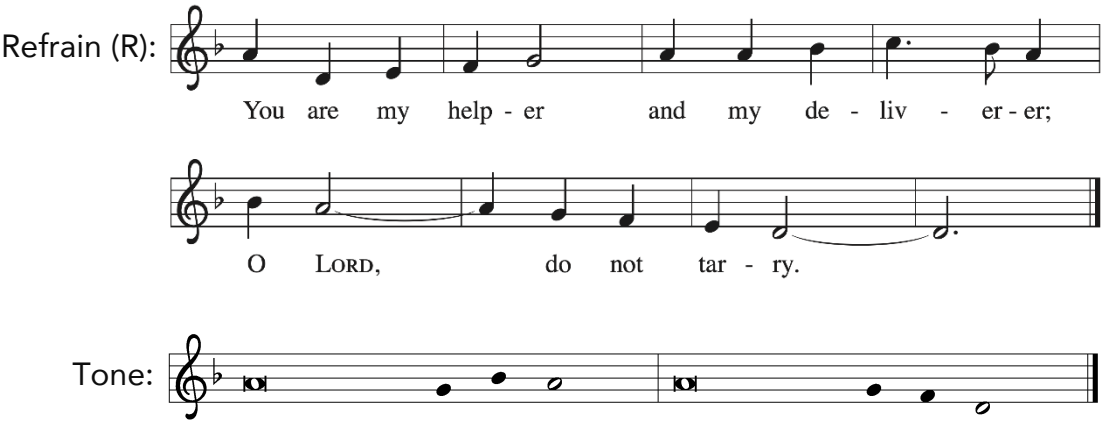
18 Woe to you who desire the day of the LORD!
Why do you want the day of the LORD?
It is darkness, not light,
19 as if someone fled from a lion
and was met by a bear
or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall
and was bitten by a snake.
20 Is not the day of the LORD darkness, not light,
and gloom with no brightness in it?

21 I hate, I despise your festivals,
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.
22 Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,
I will not accept them,
and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals
I will not look upon.
23 Take away from me the noise of your songs;
I will not listen to the melody of your harps.
24 But let justice roll down like water
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.

Psalmody

Psalm 70



[1] *Be pleased, O God, to de-* | *liver me;*
O LORD*, make* | *haste to help me.*
[2] ***Let those who seek my life be put to shame*** | ***and confounded;***
let those who take pleasure in my misfortune draw back and | ***be disgraced. R***
[3] *Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat* | *over me*
turn back because | *of their shame.*
[4] ***Let all who seek you rejoice and be*** | ***glad in you;***
let those who love your salvation say forever, "Great | ***is the* LORD*!"***
[5] *But as for me, I am poor and needy; come to me quick-* | *ly, O God.*
You are my helper and my deliverer; O LORD*,* | *do not tarry.* ***R***

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Some of the Thessalonians are worried that dead Christians will be excluded from the resurrection to eternal life when Christ comes again. Paul reassures them with the word of hope that all Christians, living or dead, will be raised into everlasting life with Christ.

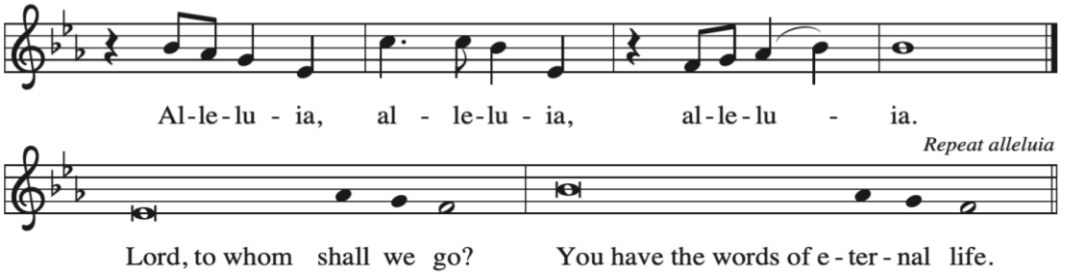
[13] We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. [14] For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. [15] For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. [16] For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the

sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first.
17 Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them
to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will be with the Lord forever. 18 Therefore
encourage one another with these words.

Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.

The assembly stands.

Gospel Acclimation



Gospel Matthew 25:1-13

Jesus tells a parable about his own second coming, emphasizing the need for readiness at all times.

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

[Jesus said to the disciples:] 1 "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten young
women took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. 2 Five of them were foolish,
and five were wise. 3 When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, 4 but
the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. 5 As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them
became drowsy and slept. 6 But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the
bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' 7 Then all those young women got up and trimmed
their lamps. 8 The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are
going out.' 9 But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you
had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' 10 And while they went to buy

it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet, and the door was shut. [11] Later the other young women came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ [12] But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I do not know you.’ [13] Keep awake, therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

Sermon
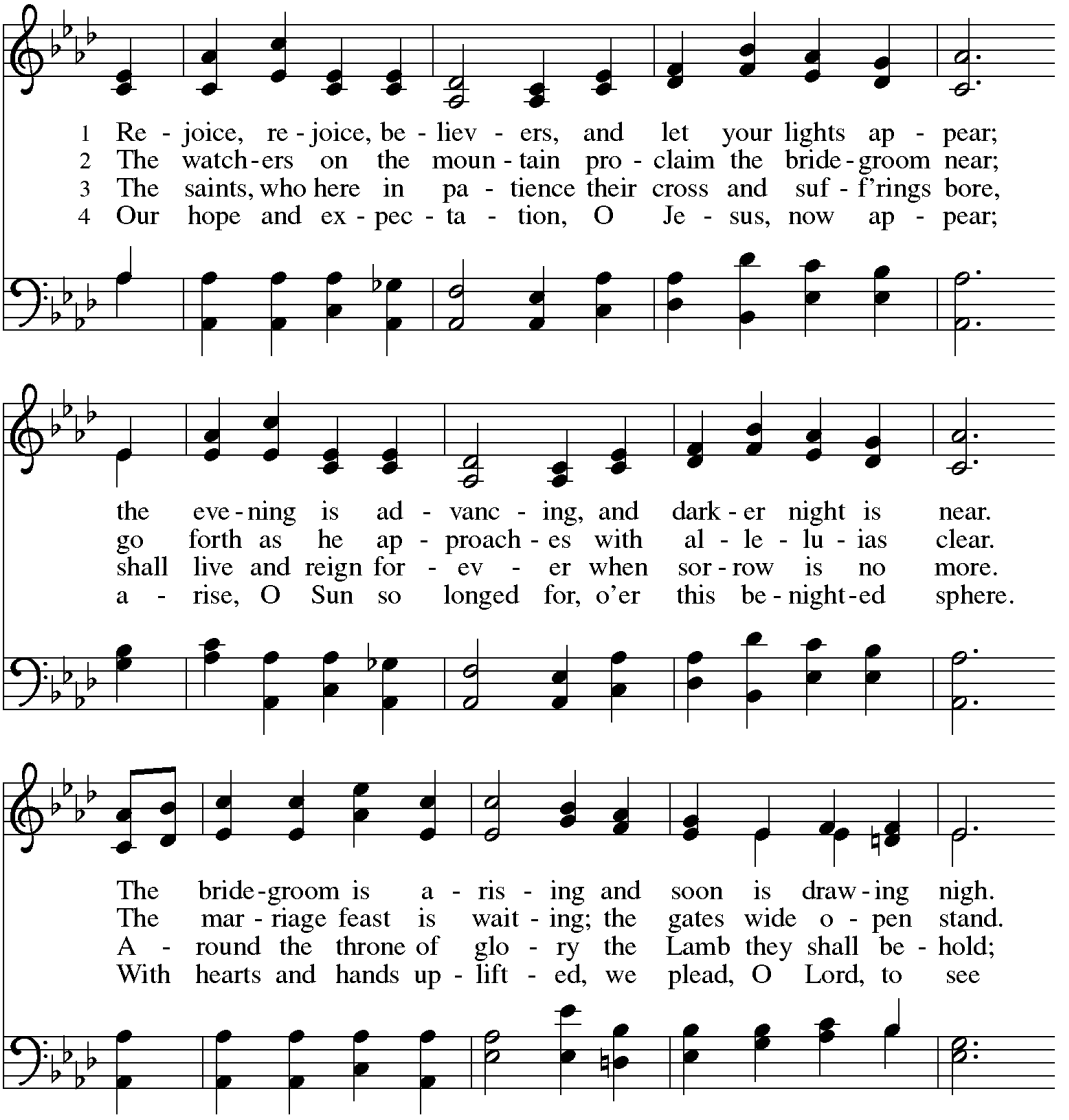
Pastor Chris Repp
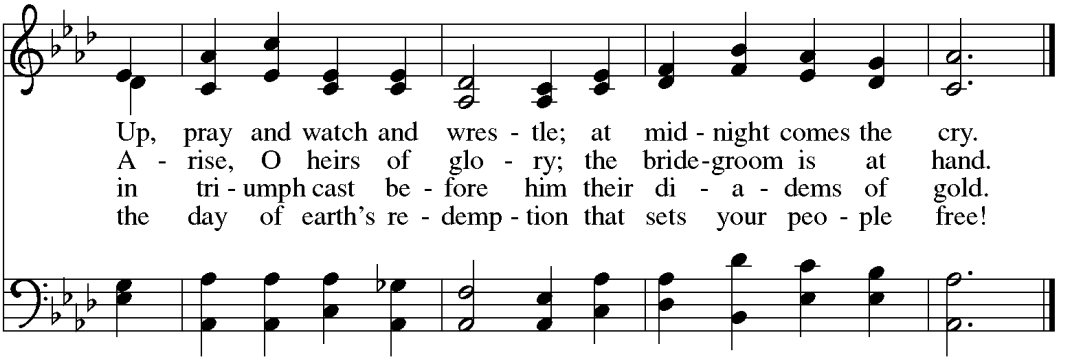
The assembly stands.



Hymn of the Day

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers ELW 244





Apostles' Creed

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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.

Prayers of Intercession

United with the great cloud of witnesses, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.

The assembly kneels or is seated. Each petition concludes:

God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

Into your steadfast love, faithful God, we entrust all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus, your beloved.
Amen.

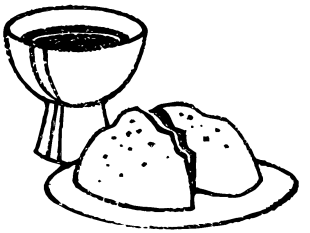
The assembly stands.

Peace

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

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

After the Peace, the assembly is seated.



Meal

Offering

Please place your offering in the donation box on the table in the main aisle as you leave. You may also give online at http://glccu.org/donate *or scan the QR code with your photos app to connect to the donation page on the GLC website.*

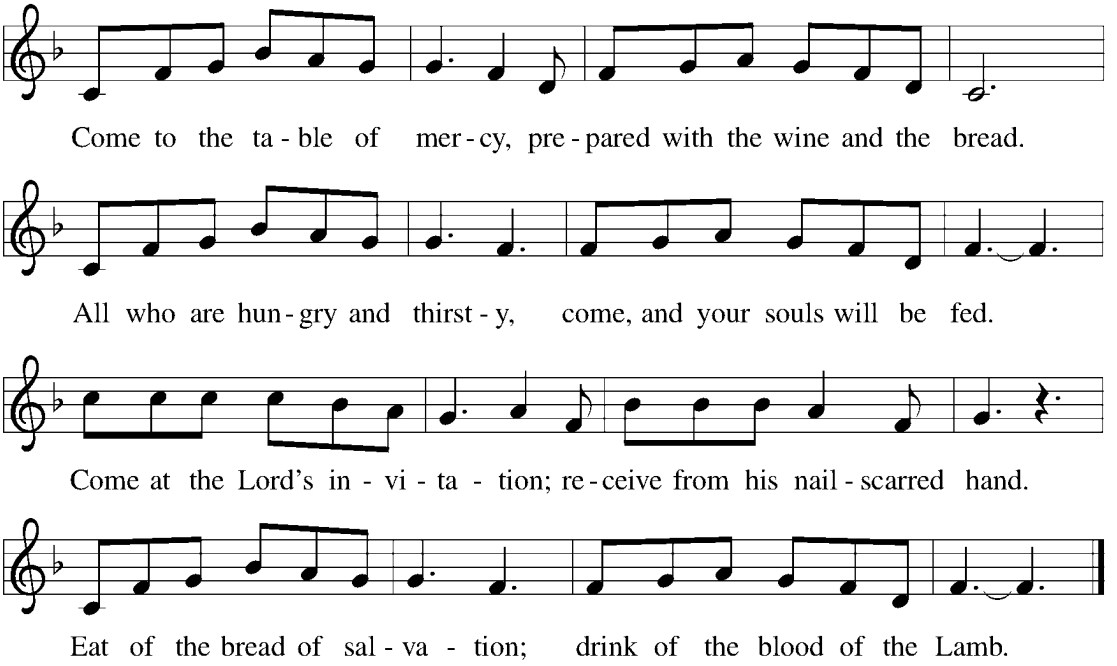
Offertory

Grace Lutheran Bell Choir
by Matthew Compton

Boundless Joy

The assembly stands.

Offering Verse

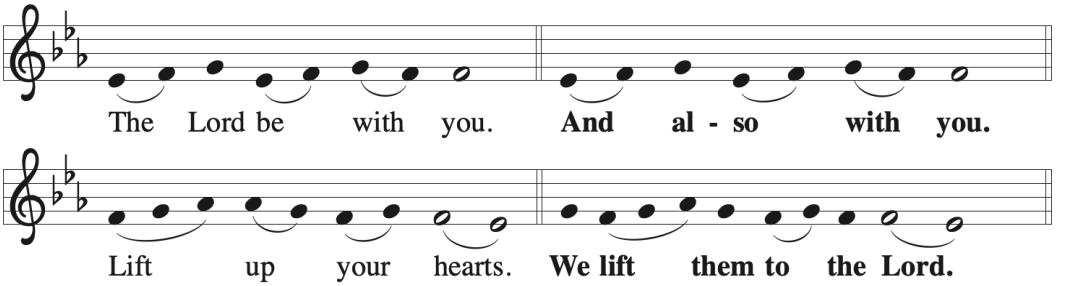


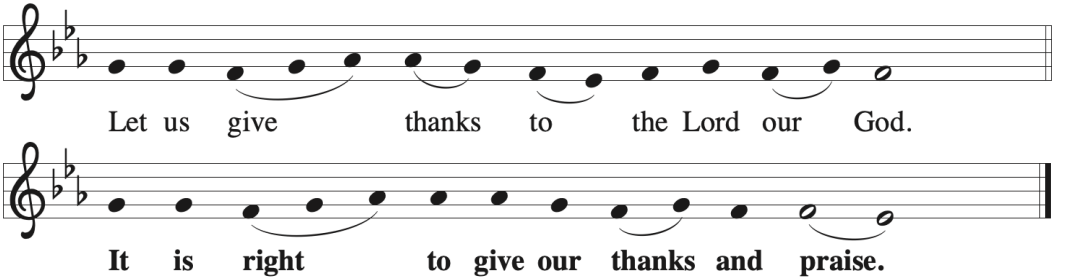
Offering Prayer

Let us pray.
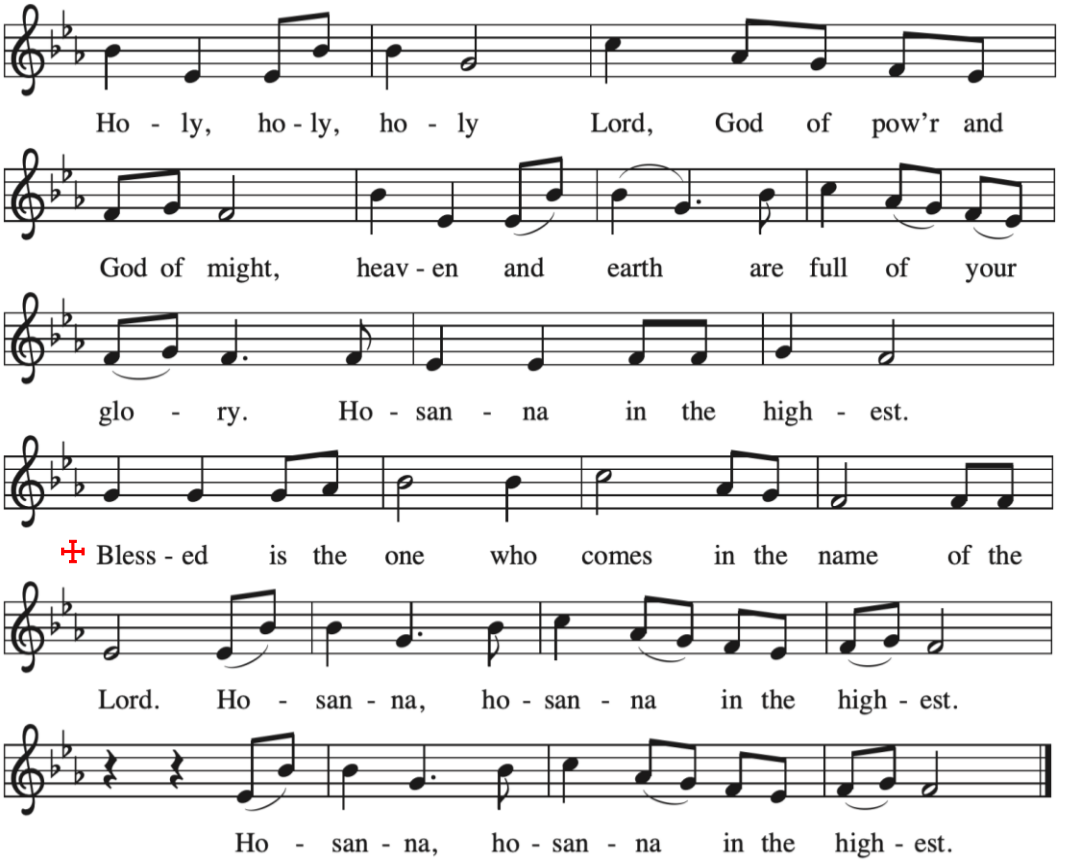
Eternal God, our time, talents, and treasures are gifts from you. Receive what we offer, and all that you entrust to us, until hungry no more, all the world is fed, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Great Thanksgiving





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 our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Thanksgiving at the Table

Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise:
beyond the stars; beneath the sea; within each cell; with every breath.
We praise you, O God.

Generations bless your faithfulness:
through the water; by night and day; across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future.
We bless you, O God.

We give you thanks for your dear Son:
at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer; beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now.
We thank you, O God.

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.

Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world.

Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end.
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

The gifts of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

The assembly is seated.

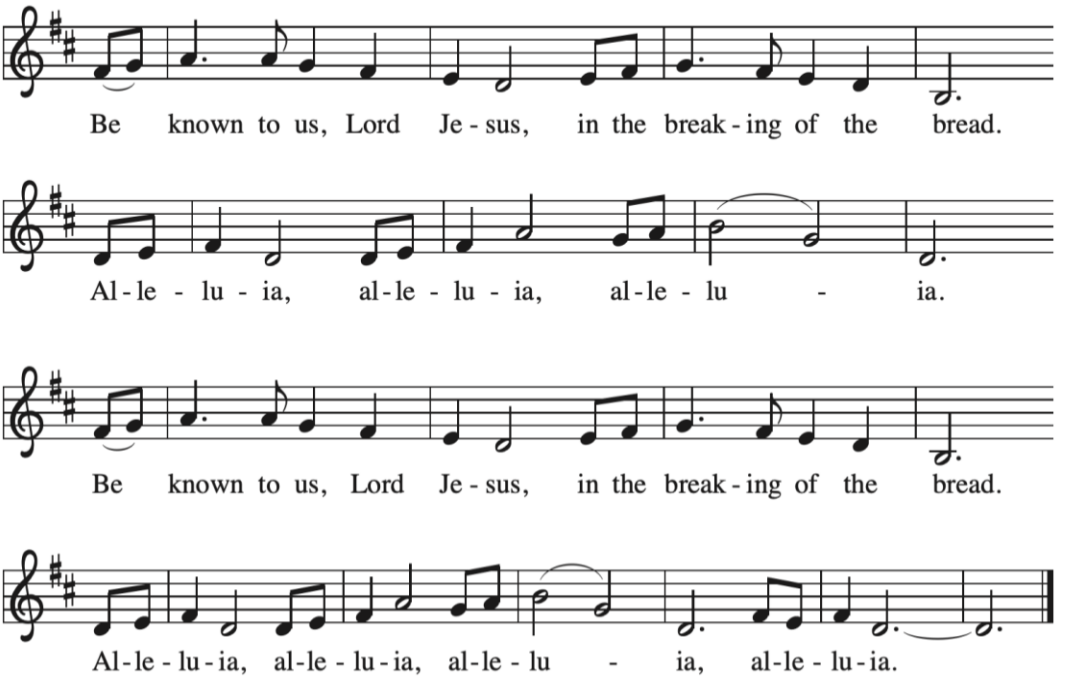


Communion

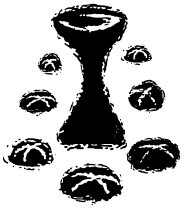
We believe that Christ is truly present for us in the bread and wine of Holy Communion, forming us into his body for the sake of the world. We welcome to the Lord's table all baptized Christians. Those who are not baptized we invite to explore with us the Christian faith and consider baptism. Those who do not commune are invited to come forward to receive a blessing. Please hold this bulletin in your hands as a sign that you would like a blessing.

To receive communion, please join the line in the center aisle and proceed to the pastor. (Note: gluten-free wafers are available. Just ask the pastor.) After receiving the bread, proceed to your left or right to receive the wine, taking a pre-filled glass from the tray. (Grape juice is also available.) Place your used glass in the basket provided near the stairs on the side you leave.

Be Known to Us
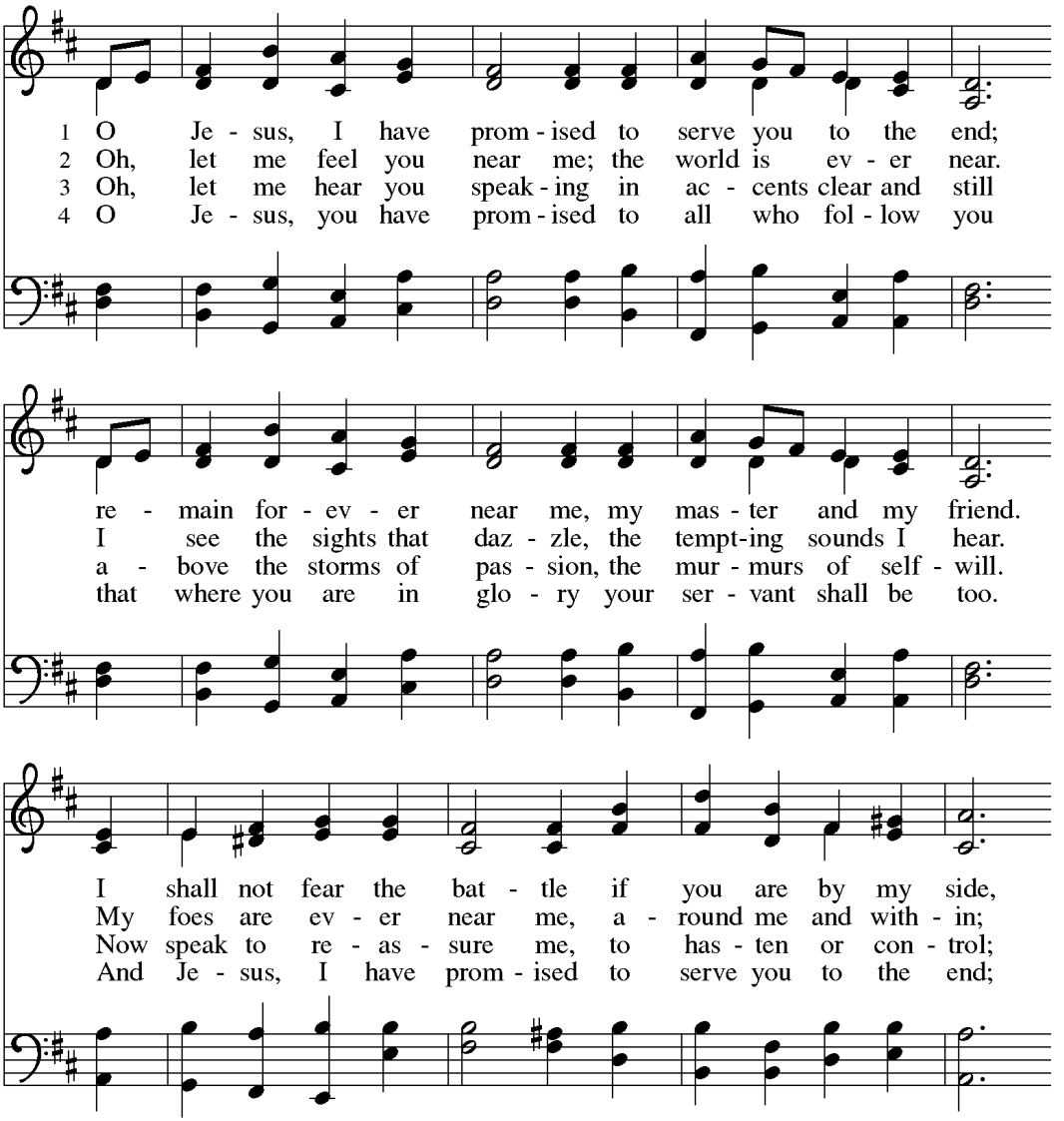


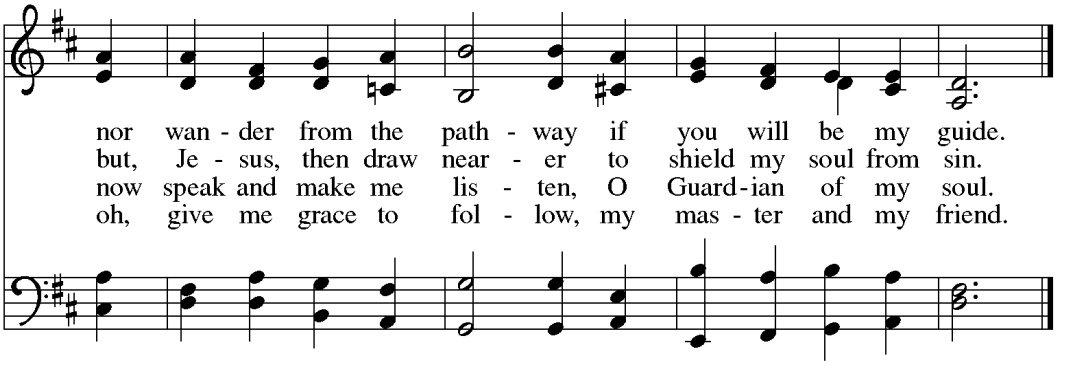




Communion Hymns

O Jesus, I Have Promised ELW 810





The assembly stands.

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

Prayer After Communion

Let us pray. Holy God, we have received your never-ending mercy in this meal. You continuously seek the lost, bind the injured, and feed your people abundantly. Send us out, awake to your presence, now and forever.
Amen.

Sending

(Sending Of Communion)
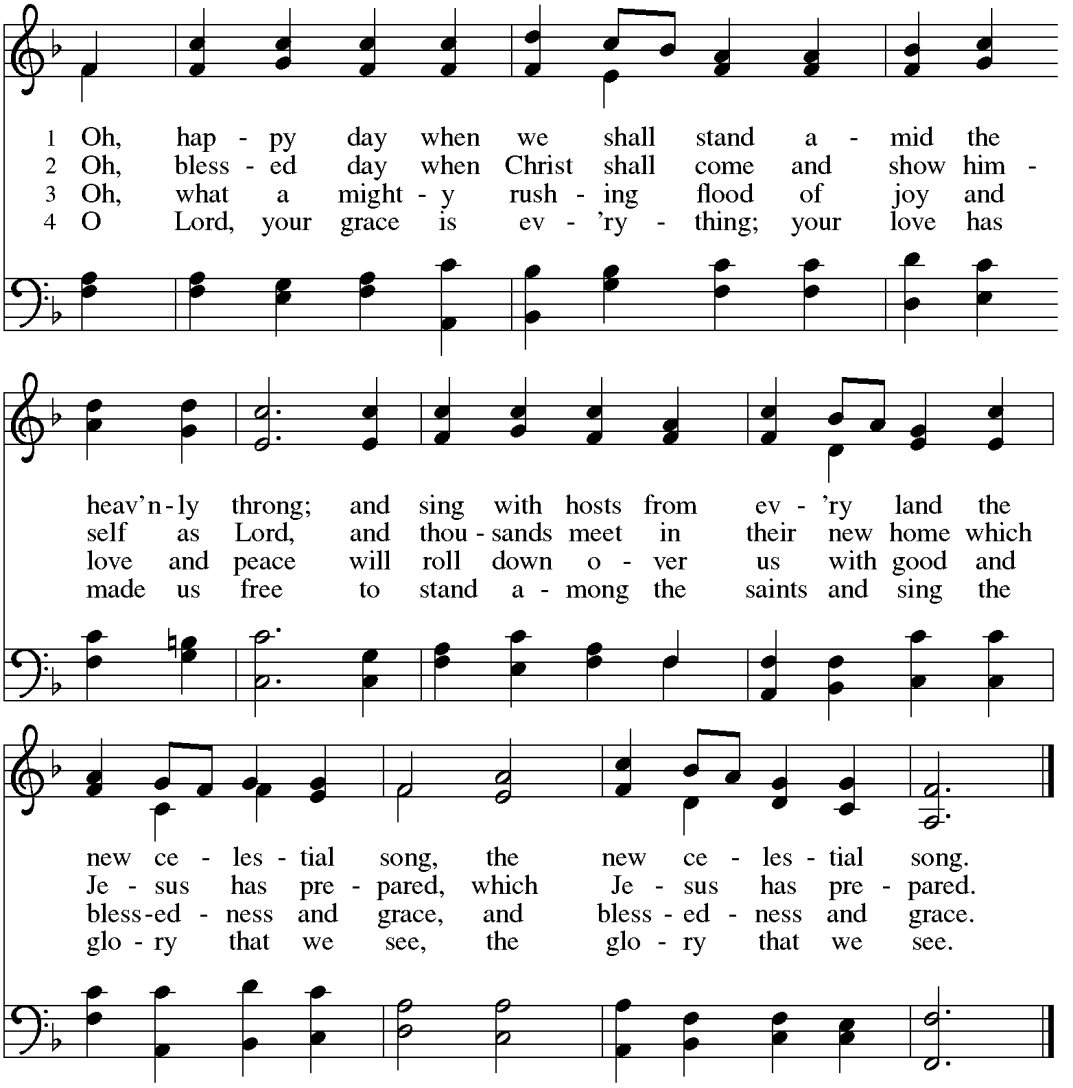
A prayer may be said for the sending of communion to those who are absent.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.
Amen.

Sending Hymn

Oh, Happy Day When We Shall Stand ELW 441



Announcements

Dismissal

Go in peace. Encourage one another.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Now Thank We All Our God [ELW 840] — Chester Alwes
- Toccata Prelude — *(November 5, 1947 - Happy Birthday!)*
- Free Harmonization

Worship Support

The ministry of the church is carried out by all of its people, and Christian worship is a communal activity of the whole assembly. We give thanks to the following for their worship leadership and support today.

Presiding Minister:	**Pastor Chris Repp**	Livestream:	**Jim Anderson**
Assisting Minister:	**Dennis Archer**	Sound Technician:	**Kevin Vail**
Reader:	**Cindy Grigorescu**	Organist:	**Mike Keeley**
Deacon:	**Art Traugott**	Music Director:	**Kyle Schrage**
Greeters:	**Joe Meyer & Erika Bilger & Family**	Office Assistant:	**Karen Maher**
Ushers:	**Bev Kieffer and Mary Jo Erickson**	Coffee Hour:	**Art & Shirley Traugott**

Chancel flowers are given by **Nancy & Rodney Marshall**
In honor of our upcoming 20th anniversary

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