Twenty Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

November 8th, 2026

Service Music: ELW, Setting 8 (ELW, page 184)
Year A, Lectionary 32 (ELW, page 51)



Today the writer of Proverbs points us to value wisdom. Wisdom is to be chief among all of our pursuits. Jesus tells the parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids. How might we be wise in our time and in our place? 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.

WELCOME!

Guests, we are glad you have joined us today! If you would like to receive contact from the pastor or welcoming committee following this worship service, please fill out a card from the pew slot and put it in the offering plate.

Children's Church takes place during our worship service. The children are dismissed after *Blessing the Children* and brought back to their families after the *Prayers of Intercession*.

GATHERING

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

WELCOME TO WORSHIP – 8:55 a.m.

PRELUDE

The assembly stands at the invitation of the presiding minister.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, our dwelling place for all generations, whose compassion never slumbers. **C: Amen.**

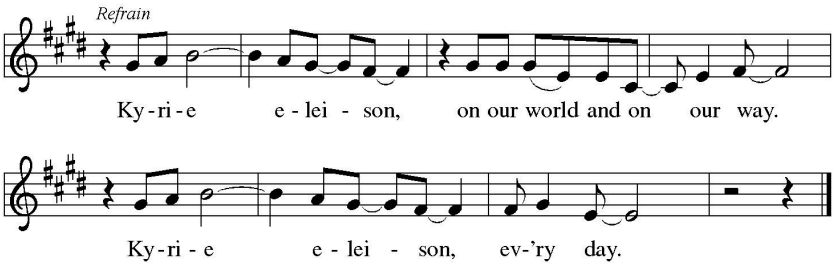
P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Holy God,
C: we confess that we have trusted in our preparation instead of your invitation. We prioritize our piety over care for your beloved. We trust the voice of our shame and fear, which keeps us from entering fully into relationship with you and others. We are not awake to the coming of your reign. Rouse us and rescue us, that we may enter into your joy. Amen.

P: Inherit the riches of God's grace. ☩ Jesus, the good shepherd, feeds you with his mercy. You are forgiven. Blessed are you. **C: Amen.**
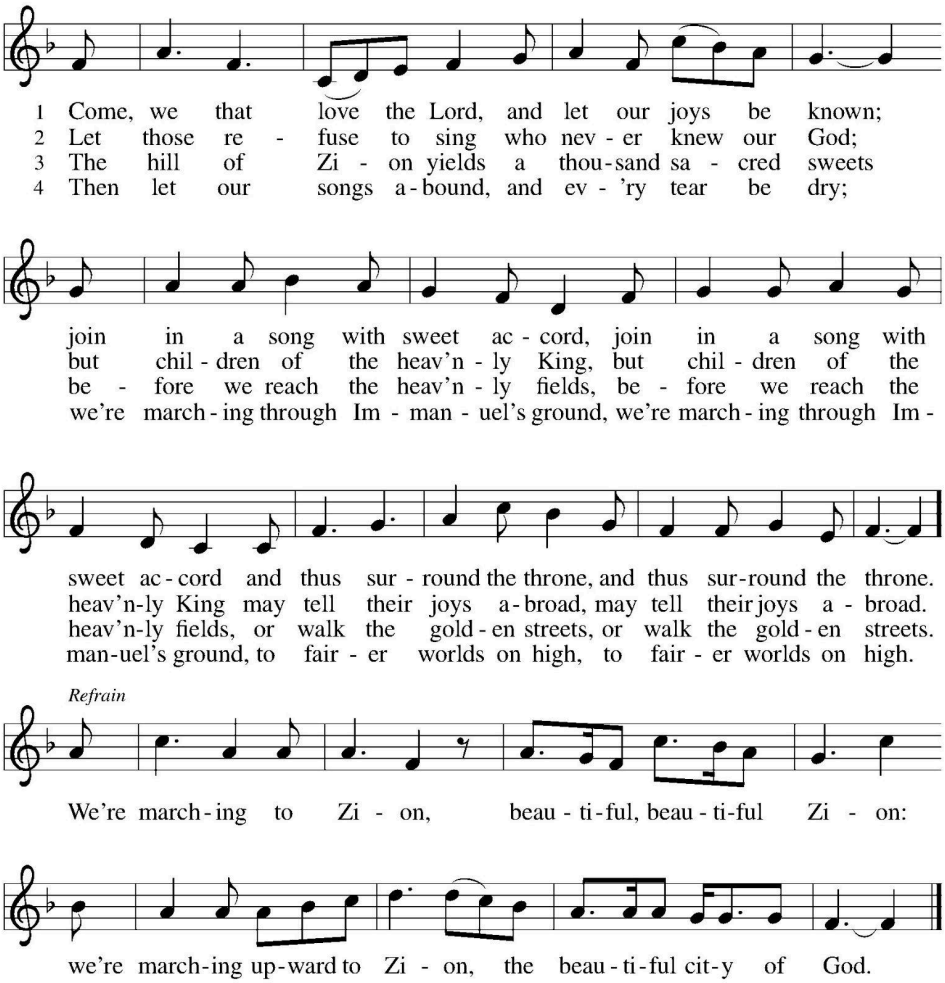
KYRIE



GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C: And also with you.**

GATHERING HYMN: ELW 625 Come We that Love the Lord



PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

C: O God of wisdom and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The assembly is seated.

BLESSING THE CHILDREN

This Little Light of Mine

WORD

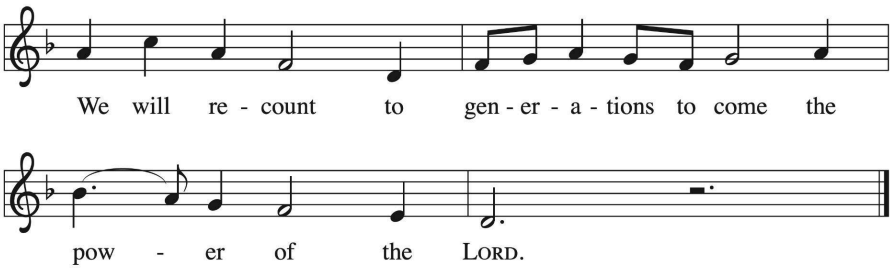
God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Proverbs 4:7-13

7 The beginning of wisdom is this: get wisdom,
and whatever else you get, get insight.
8 Prize her highly, and she will exalt you;
she will honor you if you embrace her.
9 She will place on your head a fair garland;
she will bestow on you a beautiful crown."
10 Hear, my child, and accept my words,
that the years of your life may be many.
11 I have taught you the way of wisdom;
I have led you in the paths of uprightness.
12 When you walk, your step will not be hampered,
and if you run, you will not stumble.
13 Keep hold of instruction; do not let go;
guard her, for she is your life.

A: Word of God, word of life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

PSALMODY: Psalm 78:1-7 *(read responsively)*



[1] Hear my teaching, O my people;
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
[2] **I will open my mouth in a parable;**
I will declare the mysteries of ancient times—
[3] that which we have heard and known, and what our forebears have told us, we will not hide from their children. **[R]**
[4] **We will recount to generations to come the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the LORD,**
and the wonderful works God has done. [R]
[5] The LORD gave a decree in Jacob and established a law in Israel,
commanding our ancestors to teach it to their children;
[6] **that the generations to come might know, and the children yet unborn; that they in their turn might tell it to their children;**
[7] so that they might put their trust in God, and not forget the deeds of God, but keep God's commandments. **[R]**

SECOND READING: Wisdom of Solomon 6:12-20

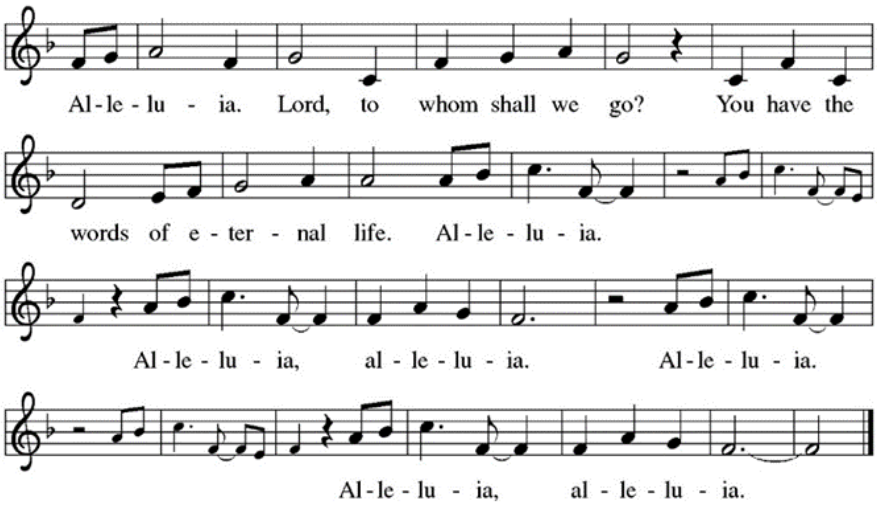
[12]Wisdom is radiant and unfading,
and she is easily discerned by those who love her,
and is found by those who seek her.
[13]She hastens to make herself known to those who desire her.
[14]One who rises early to seek her will have no difficulty,
for she will be found sitting at the gate.
[15]To fix one's thought on her is perfect understanding,

and one who is vigilant on her account will soon be free from care,
16because she goes about seeking those worthy of her,
and she graciously appears to them in their paths,
and meets them in every thought.
17The beginning of wisdom is the most sincere desire for instruction,
and concern for instruction is love of her,
18and love of her is the keeping of her laws,
and giving heed to her laws is assurance of immortality,
19and immortality brings one near to God;
20so the desire for wisdom leads to a kingdom.

A: Word of God, word of life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

The assembly rises in body or spirit to welcome the gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL

P: The holy gospel according to **St. Matthew 25:1-13**

C: 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."

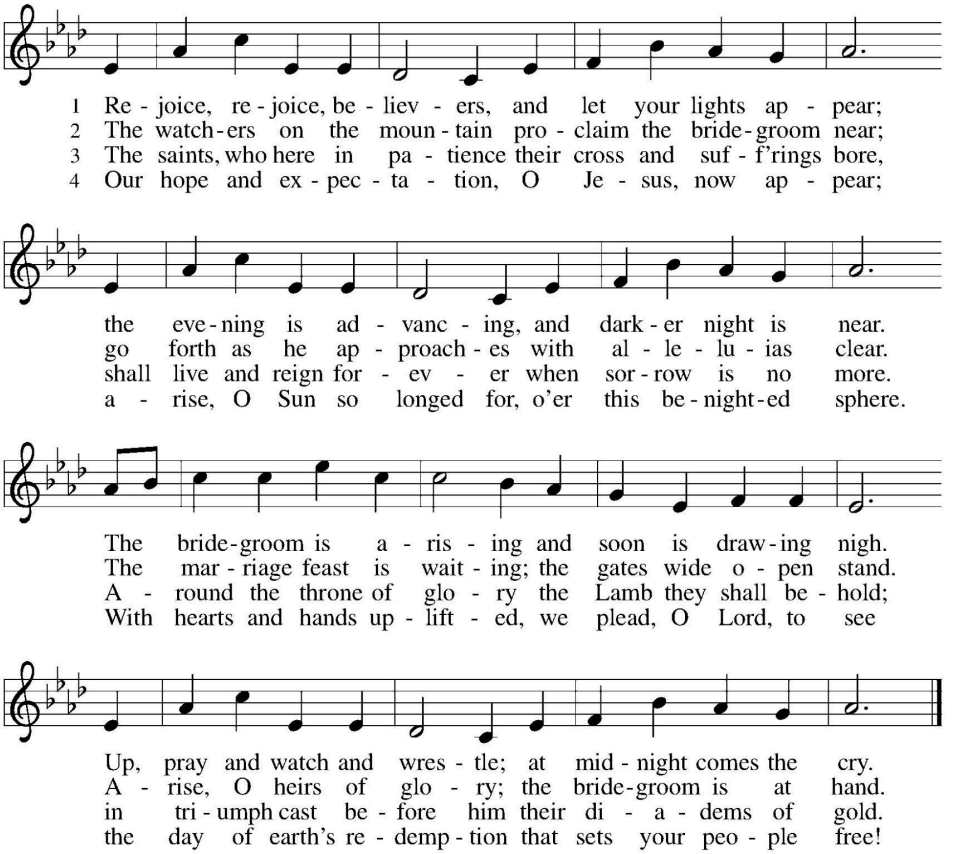
P: The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

The assembly is seated.

SERMON

The assembly rises in body or spirit to sing the Hymn of the Day.

HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW 244 *Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers*



APOSTLES' CREED

A: In prayer and devotion, we confess our faith with the whole church.

C: 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.

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.
C: And also with you.

Share the peace of Christ with one another by shaking hands or with a word or sign of Christ's peace.

The assembly is seated.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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

A: You illumine the church with the hope of your new day. Prepare our hearts and minds for the inbreaking of your kingdom, that we might awaken to your transforming love at work all around us.
God, in your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

A: You create and sustain the earth's natural rhythms so that all life might thrive. Show us the wisdom and wonder of nature's balance; make us careful stewards of our common home.
God, in your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

A: You make wisdom known to all your people in all places and among all nations. Encourage all who protect vulnerable communities and help rebuild in the aftermath of conflict. Uphold veterans and those who care for them. Keep safe those whose duty it is to protect others, especially, **Anthony, Chris, Eli, Nathan, and Tyler.**
God, in your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

A: You hasten to heal our wounds and make whole what is broken. Comfort individuals facing a difficult diagnosis, receiving palliative care, or facing uncertain treatment options in our congregation*.
We also pray for friends of our congregation, especially **Amanda, Annette & Rick, Brenda, Carol, Darryl, Donna, Drew, Elliot, Emmett, Hattie, Heather, Jack, Jane, Jason, John, John, Karen, Larry, Mark, Pat, Phil, Stacy, Steve, and Wally.**
God, in your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

A: You give rest to weary hearts and bodies. As the days grow shorter in the north, help us to move more slowly and intentionally through our days, honoring the need for quiet and stillness.
God, in your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

A: You welcome those who have come before us in faith into the joys of heaven, especially **Martin and Søren,** whom we commemorate** this week. Sustain us by your grace and guide us into the promise of everlasting life. God, in your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

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

*See page 23 for members of our congregation.
**See page 21 for commemorations.

MEAL
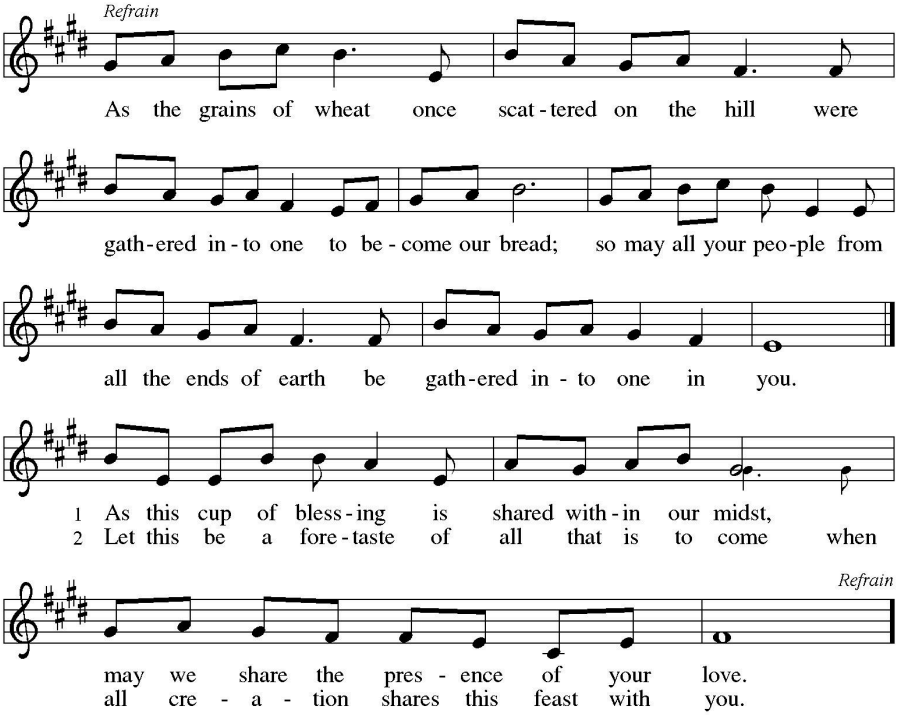
God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

Your offering may be placed in the plate as it is passed. We thank all who support God's ministry here and in the world.

Stand as the offering is presented at the rail.

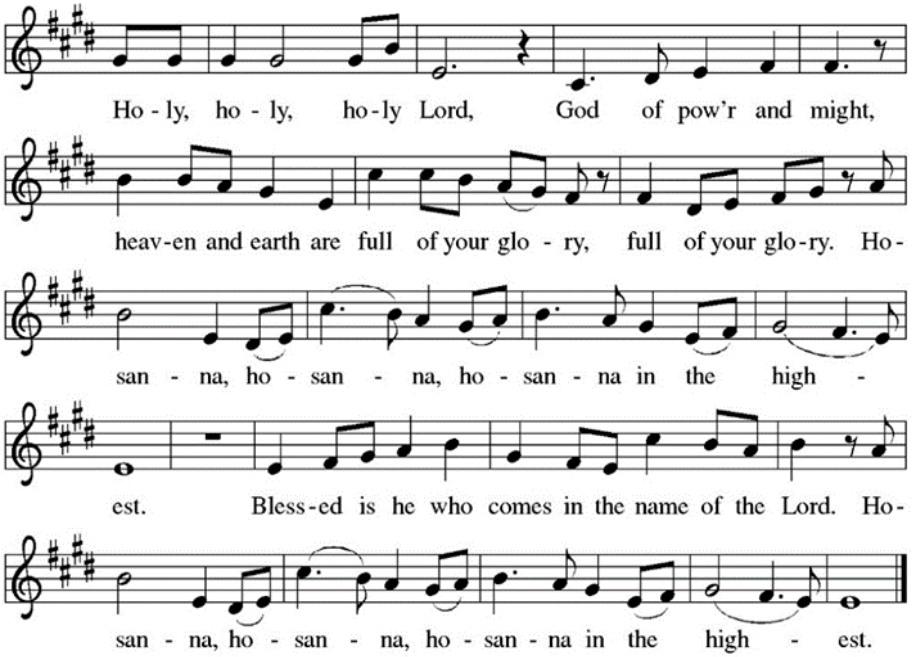
PRESENTATION OF GIFTS: ELW 465 As the Grains of Wheat



GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**
P: Lift up your hearts. **C: We lift them to the Lord.**
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: 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:



P: O God most mighty, O God most merciful, O God our rock and our salvation, hear us as we praise, call us to your table, grant us your life.

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.

P: Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection, we await the day when Jesus shall return to free all the earth from the bonds of slavery and death. Come, Lord Jesus! And let the church say, Amen. **C: Amen.**

P: Send your Holy Spirit, our advocate, to fill the hearts of all who share this bread and cup with courage and wisdom to pursue love and justice in all the world. Come, Spirit of freedom! And let the church say, Amen. **C: Amen.**

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

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

C: 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. Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. 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.

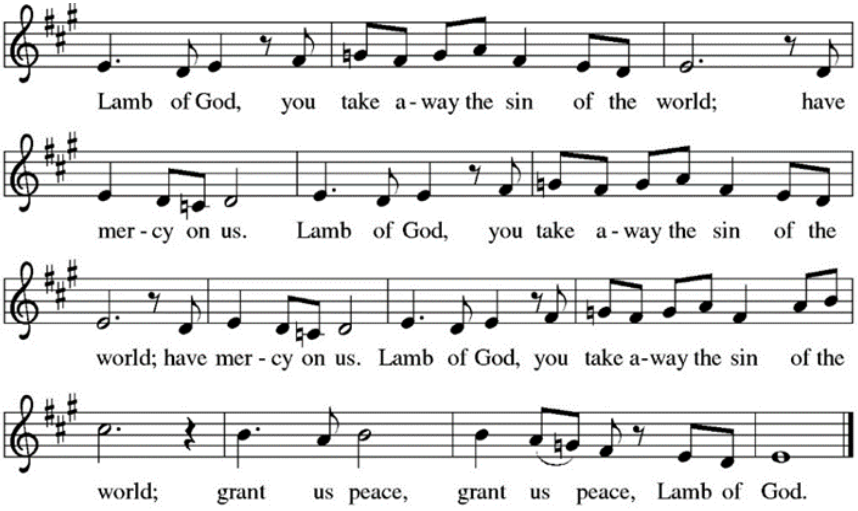
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: In bread and cup the reign of Christ is breaking in.
Come, receive what Christ has prepared. **C: Thanks be to God.**
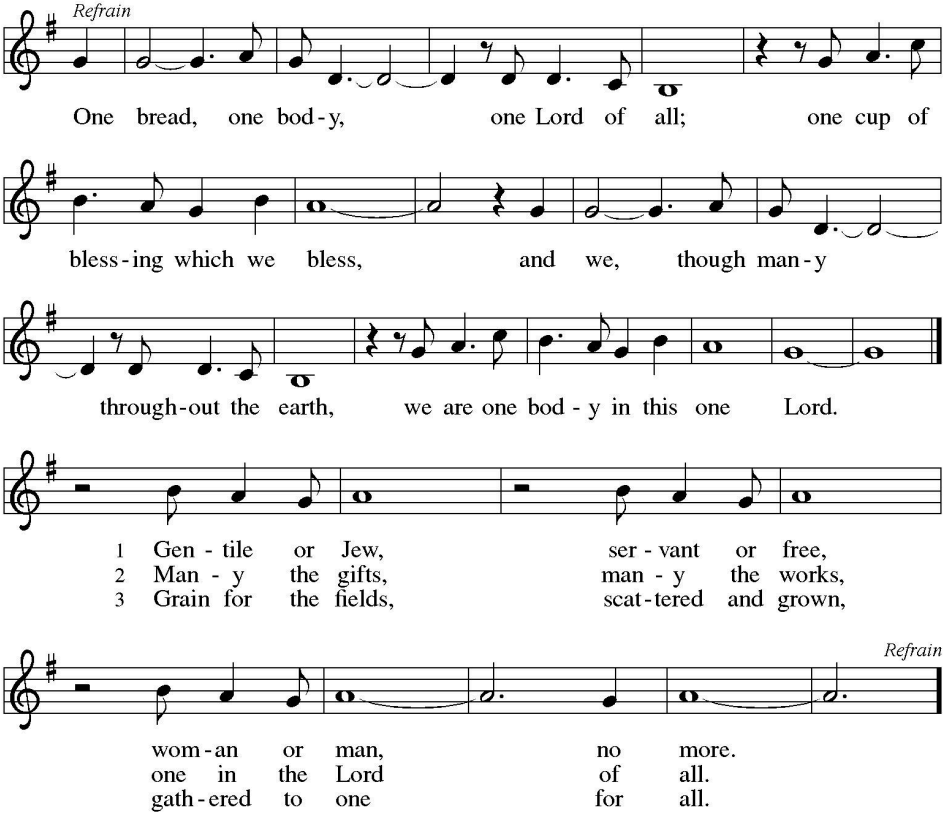
The assembly is seated.

Come, for Christ invites you. Communion today will be distributed at the altar rail (please stand or kneel, as you are comfortable), the ushers will direct you forward to receive the bread (which is gluten-free) and cup either wine (red) or grape juice (white).

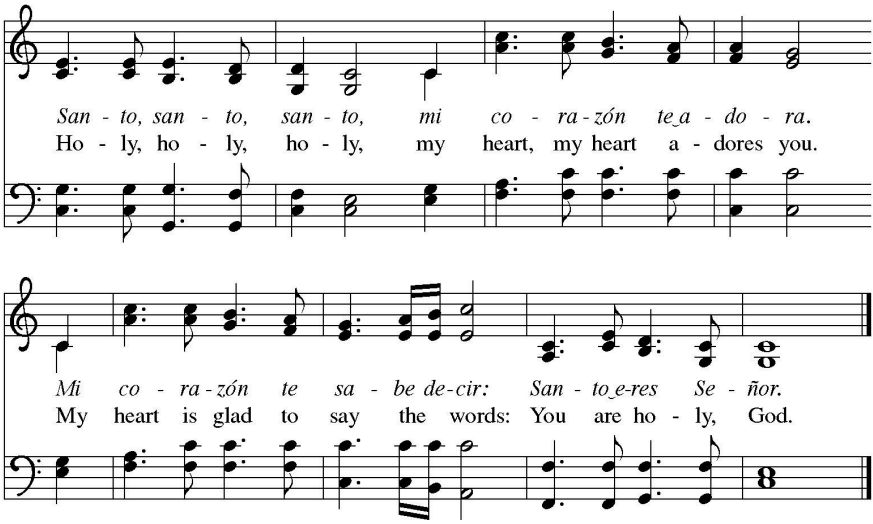
Lamb of God


Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

COMMUNION HYMN: ELW 496 *One Bread, One Body*



<u>COMMUNION HYMN</u>: ELW 473 *Holy, Holy, Holy (sing 3 times)*



The assembly rises in body or spirit at the invitation of the presiding minister.

<u>COMMUNION BLESSING</u>

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in eternal life. **C: Amen.**

<u>PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION</u>

A: 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. Now send us out, awake to your presence, now and forever.
C: Amen

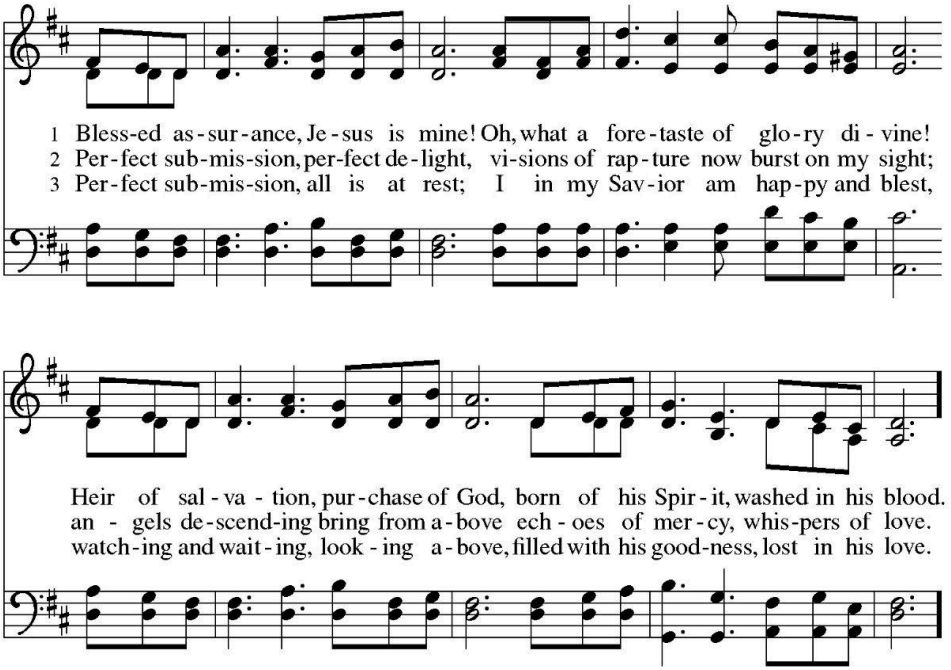
SENDING

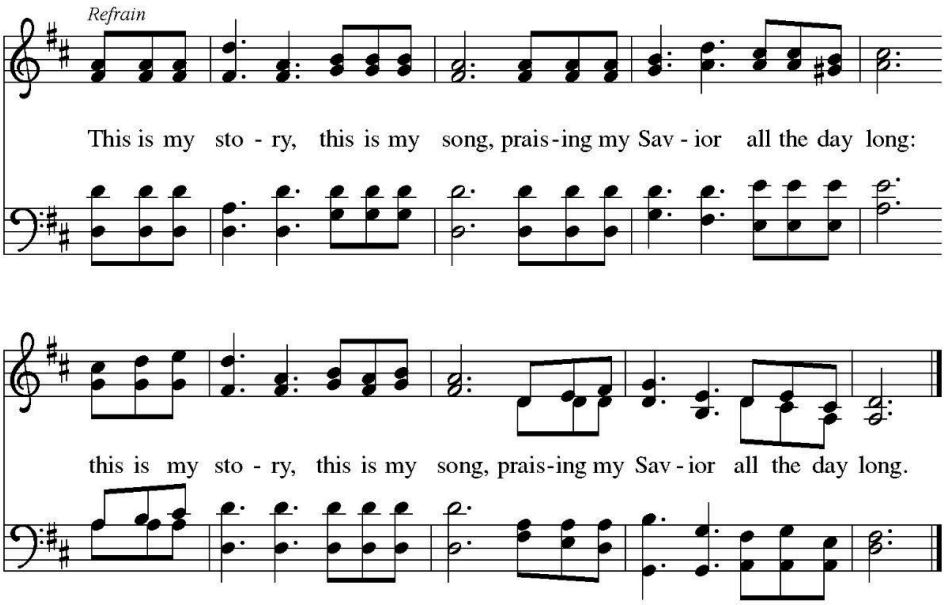
God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

SENDING BLESSING:

P: 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. **C: Amen.**

SENDING HYMN: ELW 638 *Blessed Assurance*





P: Go in peace. Encourage one another!
C: Thanks be to God!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today! Coffee and Conversation - Following the Sunday morning service, we will hold Coffee & Conversation in the Lower Level. Conversation is facilitated by Vicar Bryce. This is a time to process with others what is going on in the world, what is going on in our hearts, and how we might respond faithfully as people of Christian faith. No sign-up needed. All are welcome to come.

11/24 6:00 p.m. Pie Fest & Thanksgiving Service! Sign-up sheet and additional information located in the Connections Corner of the Narthex.

11/28 9:00-11:00 a.m. Women's Retreat: Preparing for Advent - Sign-Up sheet in the Narthex. Contact Kim Hewlett by text or email at (856) 296-1023; kimhewlett18@gmail.com for questions or more info!

12/12 Annual Nativity: A Star in Bethlehem - There is a pink binder in the Narthex to sign up to volunteer for our annual Nativity. We are also looking for some cardboard boxes to use for decorations - if you have any, please drop them off to the church office!

Advent Readers: The Advent Readings Sign-Up sheet is in the Narthex. There are 3 Sundays left to sign up if you'd like to be a Reader!

Christmas Poinsettias - Poinsettias are available to order today through Sunday, November 29th! See insert for more details.

Attendance last week:
Saturday: No Service Sunday: 58 YouTube: 4 Total: 62

Year to Date Financial Summary:
Contributions: $140,525.78 Spending: $137,150.40 Balance: $3,375.38

Birthdays this week: There are no birthdays this week.

Anniversaries this week: 11/14 Jim & Terry Martens

Flowers this week: The flowers today are given by Shirley Richlen in honor of Veterans Day.

We livestream our services on YouTube each week to help us worship together and stay connected even when we are not at full health or out of town!

YouTube Link:
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzjnqGF4g_QWtn_I2SqpL5Q

COMMEMORATIONS:
Martin, Bishop of Tours, died 397
Wednesday, November 11, 2026
Martin's pagan father enlisted him in the Roman army. Approached by a beggar, Martin cut his cloak in half and gave part to the man, whom he later understood as representing Christ. He asked to leave the army, but was jailed instead. After his release, he became a preacher, and later a bishop.

Søren Aabye Kierkegaard, teacher, died 1855
Wednesday, November 11, 2026
Kierkegaard was a Danish theologian whose writings also gave rise to the modern philosophy of existentialism. He frequently attacked the complacency of the state church of his day, as well as its desire to be accepted by polite society rather than be a stumbling block.

Worship Assistants

November 8	**9:00 AM Worship**
Presider	Vicar Bryce Hewlett, SAM
Assisting Minister	Judie Brooks
Reader	Todd Harper
Acolyte	Eli Pessein
Music Minister	Steve Abel
Ushers	Melissa Forari & Anna Forari
Altar Guild	Ellen Hogbin & Audrey Lovell

November 15	**9:00 AM Worship**
Presider	Vicar Bryce Hewlett, SAM
Assisting Minister	Pat Larson
Reader	Amanda Southwell
Acolyte	Edi Southwell
Music Minister	Steve Abel
Ushers	Jerry & Yvonne Nichols
Altar Guild	Ellen Hogbin & Audrey Lovell

November 22	**9:00 AM Worship (*Christ the King)***
Presider	Vicar Bryce Hewlett, SAM
Assisting Minister	Shirley Richlen
Reader	Judie Brooks
Acolyte	Jude Hewlett
Organist	Linda Gross
Ushers	Fritz Voss & Judy Larson
Altar Guild	Pat Larson

Prayers for Healing and Support

Congregational Members

Ed Arp, **Bev** Chappen, **Sandy** Henry,
Frieda Houldsworth, **Jeryl** Krumbholz,
LaVonne Mienke, **Shirley** Niewald, **Kaylee** Pessein

Family and Friends

Amanda (friend of Melissa), **Annette & Rick** (Steve & Sue Miller & Pat Sorenson's sister & brother-in-law), **Brenda** (Friend of Janene Anderson), **Carol** (friend of Joleen Bakken), **Darryl** (friend of Deb Crooks), **Donna** (Ed Arp's sister), **Drew** (Pat Larson's friend), **Elliot** (Gary and Eunice Grell's great grandson), **Emmett** (friend of Diana Worley), **Hattie** (Frieda's sister), **Heather** (Jason Forari's Sister-in-Law), **Jack** (family of Martens/Schmidts), **Jane** (friend of Deb Crooks), **Jason** (Sherry Germanio's son), **Jim** (Pat Larson's nephew), **John** (Pat Larson's brother), **John** (Frieda's nephew), **Karen** (Shirley's Aunt), **Larry** (family of Doug Larson), **Mark** (friend of Jason Forari), **Pat** (Judy Larson's Sister-in-Law), **Phil** (Steve Miller and Pat Sorensen's brother), **Stacy** (Fritz' son's cousin), **Steve** (friend of Sue Miller), **Wally** (Frieda's nephew)

Those Whose Duty it is to Protect Others

Anthony Karasek (Judy Larson's great nephew)
LCDR Chris Tribble USN (Erik & Joleen Bakken's friend).
CPT Eli Smith (Jerry and Myrna Mattly's grandson)
Nathan Pearson USAF (Jenna & Kane Schmidt's friend)
Tyler McLaughlin, First Responder (Family of Pat Larson)

November 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
9AM Worship 10AM Coffee & Convo.		4PM Property Mtg.	10AM 4th Quarter Study 4:30PM Confirmation 6-8PM Food Pantry *Veterans Day*	9-11AM Food Pantry 9:30AM Finance Mtg. 11AM Service at BHCC		8AM Men's Prayer Breakfast 5PM Worship
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
9AM Worship 10AM Council Mtg.		1PM Sarah Circle	6-8PM Food Pantry 6PM Choir Practice	9-11AM Food Pantry 11AM Service at BHCC 11:30AM GANG		No 5PM worship due to Christ the King
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
9AM Worship 11AM Dixon service *Christ the King Sunday*		6PM Pie Fest 7PM Thanksgiving Service *No Quilting*	6-8PM Food Pantry	Food Pantry Closed *Office Closed Thanksgiving*		9-11AM Women's Retreat 5PM Worship
29	30	12/1	12/2	12/3	12/4	12/5
9AM Worship			6-8PM Food Pantry 6PM Choir Practice	9-11AM Food Pantry 11AM Service at BHCC		5PM Worship