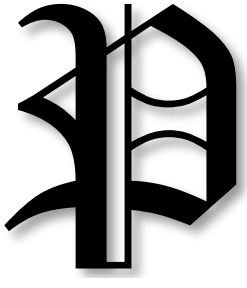
Trinitytide

November 15, 2026 • Sunday, 10:00 A.M.

Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Trinity





reparing our hearts for Holy Mass:

As we prepare to celebrate the Holy Mass, let us come before the Lord with hearts full of faith and trust, remembering that Christ is the fulfillment of God's promise of salvation and healing. As He healed the suffering woman and raised the young girl from death, so He continues to reach into our lives, freeing us from fear, strengthening us in our trials, and leading us from darkness into the light of His kingdom. Let us approach the altar with confidence in His mercy, open to His healing grace and ready to receive the new life He offers us in the Holy Eucharist.

Let us pray.
Almighty and merciful Father, you are our refuge in times of fear and our hope in times of suffering. Through your Son, Jesus Christ, you have conquered sin and death and brought us into the light of salvation. Strengthen our faith, heal our hearts, and renew our hope, that we may walk in your grace and live as faithful witnesses of your love; Through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Divine Service – Setting Three

"Our churches are falsely accused of abolishing the Mass. The Mass is held among us and celebrated with the highest reverence. Nearly all the usual ceremonies are also preserved" (Augsburg Confession. Article XXIV. The Mass. 1-2a).
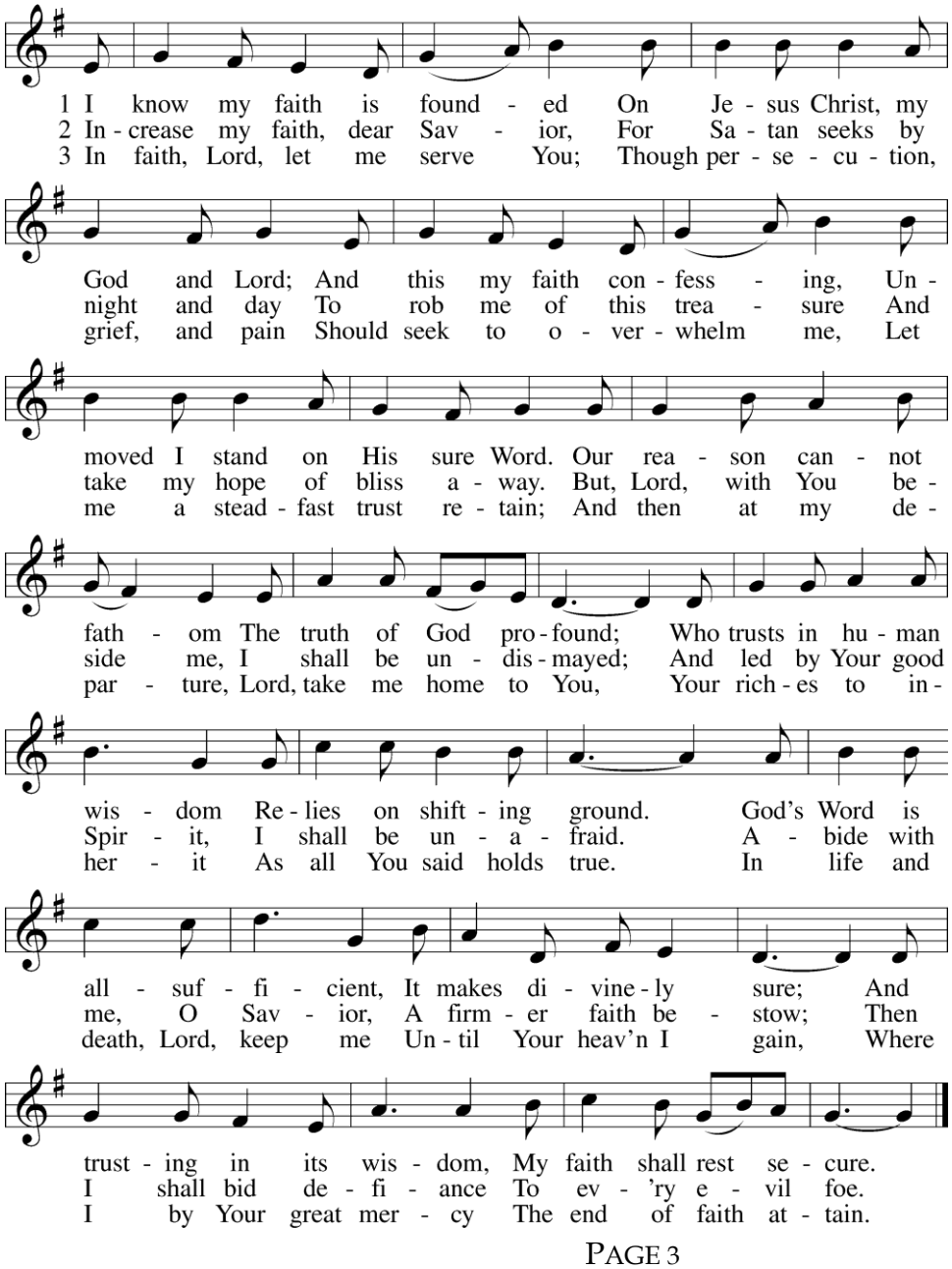
Prelude

Herzlich Lieb (Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart, LSB 708) Setting by Kenneth T. Kosche

When the bell tolls, please stand and face the processional cross.

Processional Hymn

Lutheran Service Book 587 **"I Know My Faith Is Founded"**



CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

The sign of the cross ✢ may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the ✢ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.** *Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]*

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. *[Hebrews 10:22]*

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.** *Psalm 124:8*

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.** *Psalm 32:5*

Kneeling or sitting forward

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

EXAMINING OUR HEARTS BEFORE CONFESSION:

LORD JESUS, AS THE LAWS OF PURITY TAUGHT YOUR PEOPLE TO RECOGNIZE WHAT MADE THEM UNCLEAN AND SEPARATED THEM FROM YOUR HOLY PRESENCE, HELP ME EXAMINE THE WAYS MY SINS HAVE MADE MY OWN HEART UNCLEAN. HAVE I ALLOWED SINFUL THOUGHTS, WORDS, ACTIONS, OR DESIRES TO TAKE HOLD OF ME? HAVE I TREATED WHAT IS HOLY WITH DISRESPECT, NEGLECTED PRAYER, OR ALLOWED WORLDLY THINGS TO DRAW ME AWAY FROM GOD? HAVE I RECOGNIZED THE SERIOUSNESS OF MY SINS, OR HAVE I GROWN COMFORTABLE WITH THEM? LORD, I KNOW THAT I CANNOT CLEANSE MYSELF THROUGH MY OWN EFFORTS, BUT I NEED YOUR MERCY AND FORGIVENESS TO RESTORE ME. WASH AWAY MY SINS, PURIFY MY HEART, AND MAKE ME WORTHY TO APPROACH THE FATHER ONCE MORE WITH HUMILITY, REPENTANCE, AND FAITH. AMEN.

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✢ Son and of the Holy Spirit. *[John 20:19-23]*
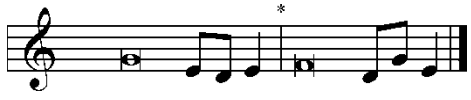
C **Amen.**

Standing

SERVICE OF THE WORD

INTROIT

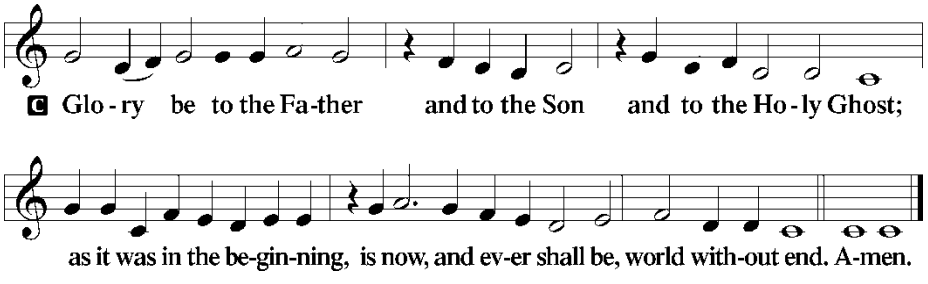
Psalm 95:7ab, 1; antiphon: Psalm 95:6



L Oh, come let us worship and | bow down:*
Let us kneel before the LORD our | Maker.

L For He is our God; and we are the people of His | pasture,*
And the sheep | of His hand.

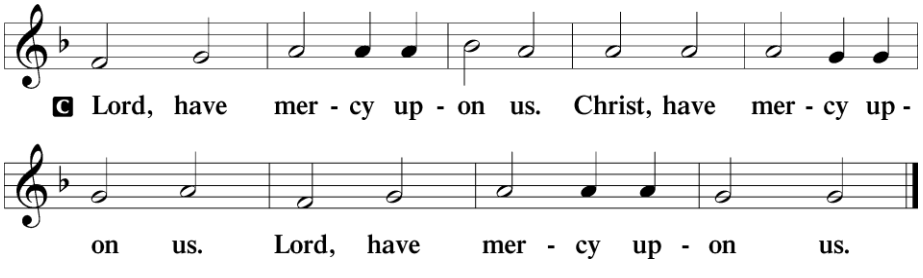
C **O come, let us sing un- | to the LORD:***
Let us make a joyful noise to the Rock of our sal- | vation.



L Oh, come let us worship and | bow down:*
Let us kneel before the LORD our | Maker.
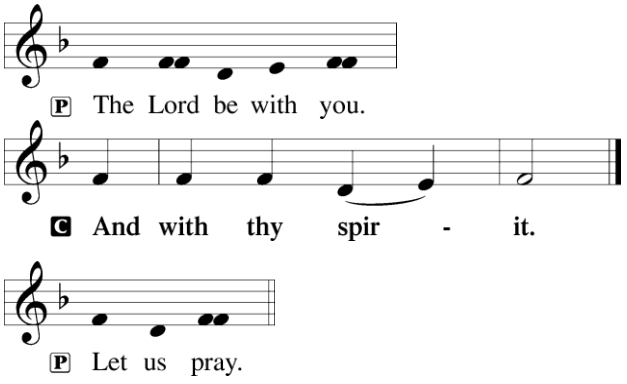
KYRIE ~ *Lord, Have Mercy*

Mark 10:47
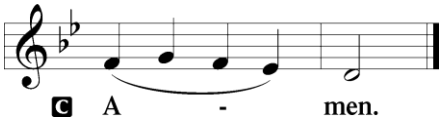


Salutation and Collect of the Day

2 Timothy 4:22



P Almighty and everlasting God, show Thy mercy unto Thy humble servants, that we who despair of our own merits may know not Thy judgment, but Thy pardon; through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with Thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.



Sitting

Prophecy **Isaiah 51:9-16**

A The Prophecy is written in the book of Isaiah, the fifty-first chapter.

A In those days, the prophet Isaiah spoke, saying:

"Awake, awake, put on strength,
O arm of the Lord!
Awake as in the ancient days,
In the generations of old.
Are You not the arm that cut Rahab apart,
And wounded the serpent?

"Are You not the One who dried up the sea,
The waters of the great deep;
That made the depths of the sea a road
For the redeemed to cross over?
So the ransomed of the Lord shall return,
And come to Zion with singing,
With everlasting joy on their heads.
They shall obtain joy and gladness;
Sorrow and sighing shall flee away.
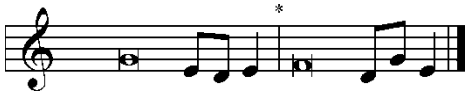
A "I, even I, am He who comforts you.
Who are you that you should be afraid
Of a man who will die,
And of the son of a man who will be made like grass?
And you forget the Lord your Maker,
Who stretched out the heavens
And laid the foundations of the earth;
You have feared continually every day
Because of the fury of the oppressor,
When he has prepared to destroy.
And where is the fury of the oppressor?
The captive exile hastens, that he may be loosed,
That he should not die in the pit,
And that his bread should not fail.
But I am the Lord your God,
Who divided the sea whose waves roared—
The Lord of hosts is His name.
And I have put My words in your mouth;
I have covered you with the shadow of My hand,
That I may plant the heavens,
Lay the foundations of the earth,
And say to Zion, 'You are My people.'"

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL

Psalm 86:2b, 6a



L O Thou my God, save Thy servant that trusteth | in Thee.*

C **Give ear, O LORD, un- | to my prayer.**

EPISTLE **Colossians 1:9b-14**

A The Epistle is written in the letter of St. Paul to the Colossians, the first chapter.

A Brethren: For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy; giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.
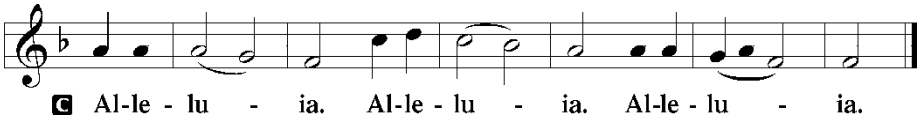
A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**
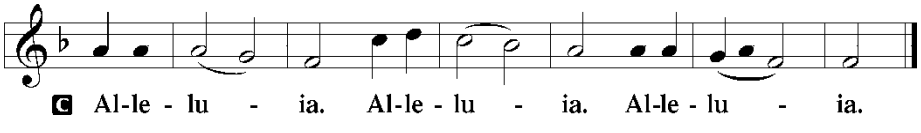
Standing

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

Psalm 138:1
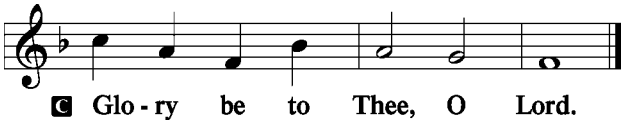


L Praise the LORD, O my soul. While I live will I praise the LORD: I will sing praises unto my God while I have any being.



HOLY GOSPEL **Matthew 9:18-26**

P The continuation of the holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the ninth chapter.

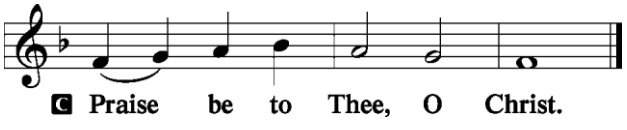


P At that time: While Jesus spoke these things to them, behold, a ruler came and worshiped Him, saying, "My daughter has just died, but come and lay Your hand on her and she will live." So Jesus arose and followed him, and so did His disciples.

And suddenly, a woman who had a flow of blood for twelve years came from behind and touched the hem of His garment. For she said to herself, "If only I may touch His garment, I shall be made well." But Jesus turned around, and when He saw her He said, "Be of good cheer, daughter; your faith has made you well." And the woman was made well from that hour.

When Jesus came into the ruler's house, and saw the flute players and the noisy crowd wailing, He said to them, "Make room, for the girl is not dead, but sleeping." And they ridiculed Him. But when the crowd was put outside, He went in and took her by the hand, and the girl arose. And the report of this went out into all that land.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Nicene Creed

C **I believe in one God,** *Exodus 20:3; Deuteronomy 6:4; Ephesians 4:6*
the Father Almighty, *Psalm 89:26; Matthew 6:9; Romans 1:20*
maker of heaven and earth *Genesis 1:1; Nehemiah 9:6; John 1:1*
and of all things visible and invisible. *2 Corinthians 4:18; Colossians 1:16*
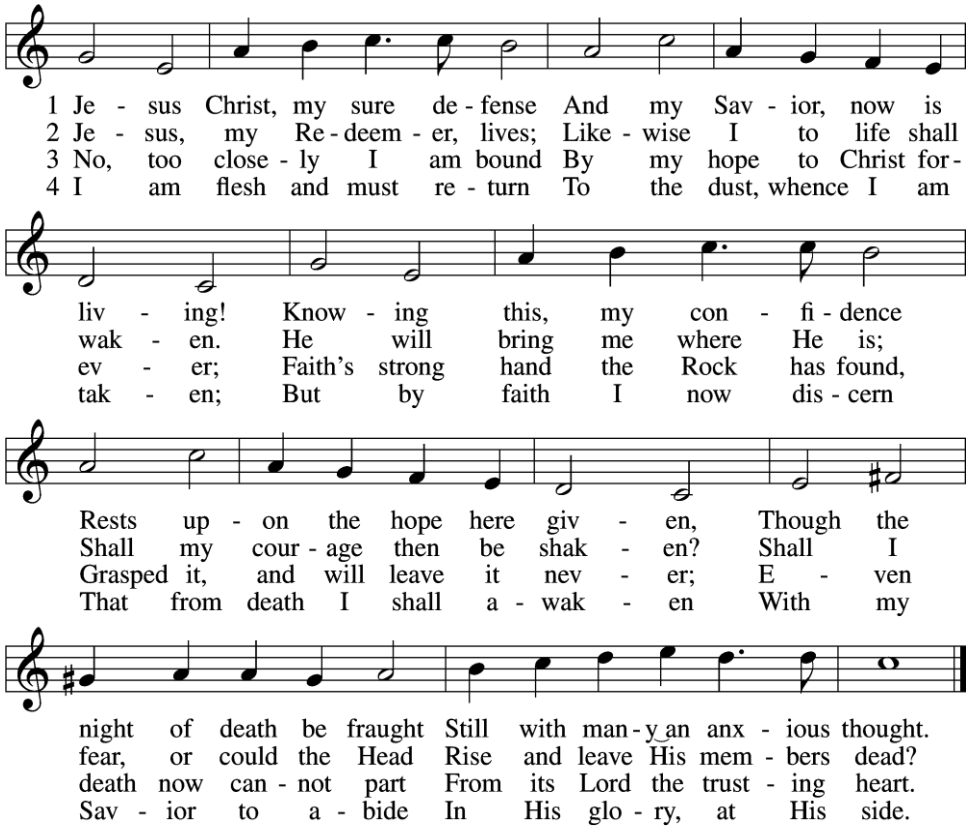
And in one Lord Jesus Christ, *1 Corinthians 8:6; Ephesians 4:5; 1 Timothy 2:5*
the only-begotten Son of God, *John 1:14; 3:16, 18; Acts 13:33; 1 John 4:9*
begotten of His Father before all worlds, *John 1:18; 17:24; Ephesians 1:4; Colossians 1:17; 1 Peter 1:20*
God of God, Light of Light, *John 1:4-9; 8:12; 12:46; Hebrews 1:3; Revelation 21:23*
very God of very God, *Philippians 2:6; Colossians 1:19; 2:9; 1 John 5:20*
begotten, not made, *John 1:2*
being of one substance with the Father, *John 10:30; 17:22*
by Whom all things were made; *John 1:3; Colossians 1:16; Hebrews 1:2*
Who for us men and for our salvation *John 14:6; Acts 4:12; 1 Timothy 2:4*
came down from heaven *John 3:13; 6:41; Luke 15:20; Ephesians 4:10*
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary *Matthew 1:18; Luke 1:34-35*
and was made man; *John 1:14; Galatians 4:4*
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. *Matthew 27:35; Mark 15:25; Luke 23:33; John 19:18*
He suffered and was buried. *Acts 1:13; 3:18; Matthew 14:12; Mark 15:46; Luke 23:53; John 19:42*
And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures *Luke 24:46; Acts 10:40; 1 Corinthians 15:4*
and ascended into heaven *Luke 24:51; John 20:17; Acts 1:2, 9, 11, 22; Ephesians 4:8*
and sits at the right hand of the Father. *Mark 16:19; Acts 2:33; 5:31; 7:55-56; Romans 8:34; Ephesians 1:20; Colossians 3:1*
And He will come again with glory *Matthew 26:64; John 14:3; Acts 1:11; 1 Thessalonians 4:16; Revelation 1:7*
to judge both the living and the dead, *Acts 10:42; 17:31; 2 Corinthians 5:10; 2 Timothy 4:1; 1 Peter 4:5; Revelation 20:12*
Whose kingdom will have no end. *Luke 1:33; 2 Peter 1:11; Hebrews 1:8; Revelation 11:15*

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, *John 14:26; 16:13; Acts 2:4*
the Lord and giver of life, *Genesis 1:2; John 3:5-6; 15:26-27; Romans 8:2*
Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, *John 14:26; 16:7; Acts 1:8; 2:33; Romans 5:5*
Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, *Matt. 3:16-17; 28:19; 2 Cor. 13:14*
Who spoke by the prophets. *Luke 1:67; Acts 28:25; Ephesians 3:5; 2 Peter 1:21*
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, *Ephesians 2:19-22; 1 Peter 2:5: Revelation 21:14*
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, *Acts 2:38; Romans 6:3-4; 1 Corinthians 12:13; Ephesians 4:5*
and I look for the resurrection of the dead *John 5:29; 6:39, 40, 44, 54; 11:25-26; 1 Corinthians 6:14; 15:20-22*
and the life ☩ of the world to come. *Mark 10:29-30; Luke 18:30; John 5:24; 6:33; Galatians 6:8; 1 Timothy 4:8; 1 John 5:11*
Amen. *Psalm 106:48; 2 Corinthians 1:20*

Sitting

Hymn of the Day

Lutheran Service Book 741 **"Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense"**



5 Glorified, I shall anew
With this flesh then be enshrouded;
In this body I shall view
God, my Lord, with eyes unclouded;
In this flesh I then shall see
Jesus Christ eternally.

6 Then take comfort and rejoice,
For His members Christ will cherish.
Fear not, they will hear His voice;
Dying, they will never perish;
For the very grave is stirred
When the trumpet's blast is heard.

7 Laugh to scorn the gloomy grave
And at death no longer tremble;
He, the Lord, who came to save
Will at last His own assemble.
They will go their Lord to meet,
Treading death beneath their feet.

8 O, then, draw away your hearts
From all pleasures base and hollow;
Strive to share what He imparts
While you here His footsteps follow.
As you now still wait to rise,
Fix your hearts beyond the skies!

Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

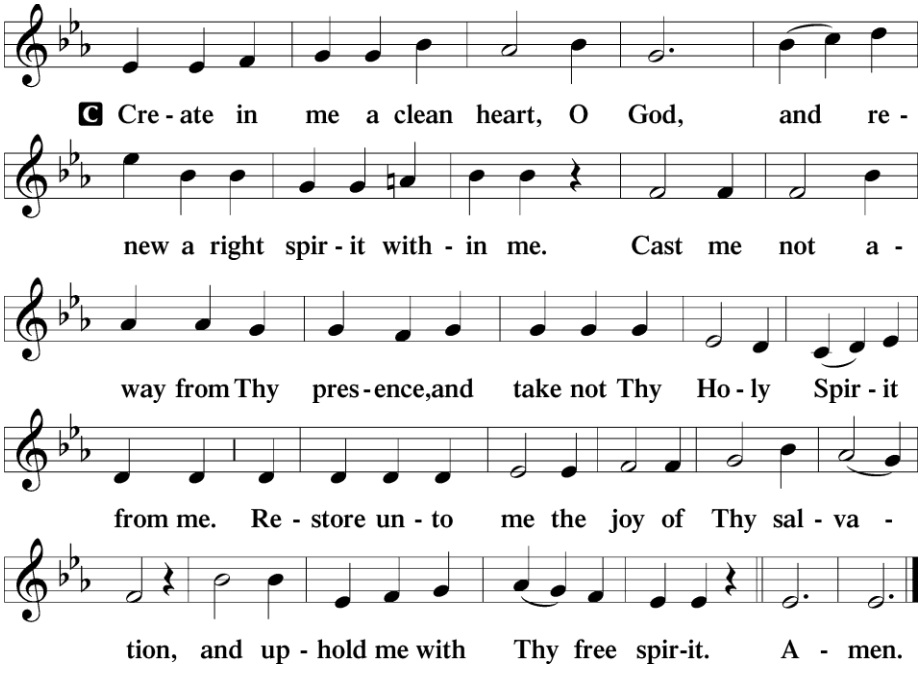
Taking God's Word to Heart:

Isaiah 51:9-16 proclaims God's power to deliver His people, promising comfort, salvation, and freedom from fear. Colossians 1:9b-14 reminds us that through Christ we are strengthened by God's power, rescued from darkness, and brought into the kingdom of His beloved Son. and Matthew 9:18-26 reveals Jesus fulfilling these promises through His healing of the woman suffering from a hemorrhage and His raising of a young girl from the dead. Together, these readings show that Jesus is the fulfillment of God's saving promise: He has authority over suffering, sickness, sin, and even death. Through His compassion, healing, death, and resurrection, Christ brings the salvation and freedom Isaiah foretold. Today, these passages call us to approach Jesus with faith and trust, even in our deepest struggles, knowing that His power is greater than our fears and suffering. They remind us to live with gratitude, patience, and hope, allowing God to strengthen us and help us walk faithfully in the new life we have received through Christ.

Standing

Offertory

Psalm 51:10–12



Sitting

Offering

Jesus, Meine Zuversicht (Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense, LSB 741) Setting by Kenneth T. Kosche

Standing

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

P Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Brief silence

P Awake, O Lord, and heal the wounds of Your people. Strengthen those You have redeemed, that they may lead worthy and fruitful lives in Your kingdom. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Lord of the churches, You promise to tend Your congregations like lampstands around Your altar. Illumine them by Your Holy Spirit to show forth Your Gospel in the present darkness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Heavenly Father, by Your Word and promise You have made us Your people. Give to Your Church faithful pastors who preach the whole counsel of Your Word. Bless Matthew, our Synod president; Jeffrey, our bishop; Aaron, our circuit visitor; and all who serve in the Office of the Holy Ministry, that they may proclaim the saving Gospel with boldness and joy. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Lord God, You give us the gift of each other. Renew our fellowship as the Body of Christ. Grant all things beneficial for husbands and wives, the single, those who desire marriage, and the lonely who yearn to know the comfort of friends and family. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P King of kings, raise up godly and humble rulers in our land. Teach Your people to honor them while reserving all fear for Your Christ, who has made us and accomplished our redemption. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Father in heaven, remember in kindness all who cry out to You in affliction [especially _____]. Grant that they would rejoice in Your faithfulness and await deliverance from their suffering with patience. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Gracious God, grant us such trust in Your divine Word that we would acknowledge Your Son's true body and blood in His Supper and receive them in a worthy manner. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Gracious Lord, we know that neither life nor death can separate us from Your love in Christ Jesus, our Lord. We thank You for all who have fallen asleep in the hope of the resurrection, and we ask You to grant us also our inheritance with the saints in light. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us, Father, for the sake of Him who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever.

C **Amen.**

Sharing of the Peace

Matthew 5:22-24; Ephesians 4:1-3
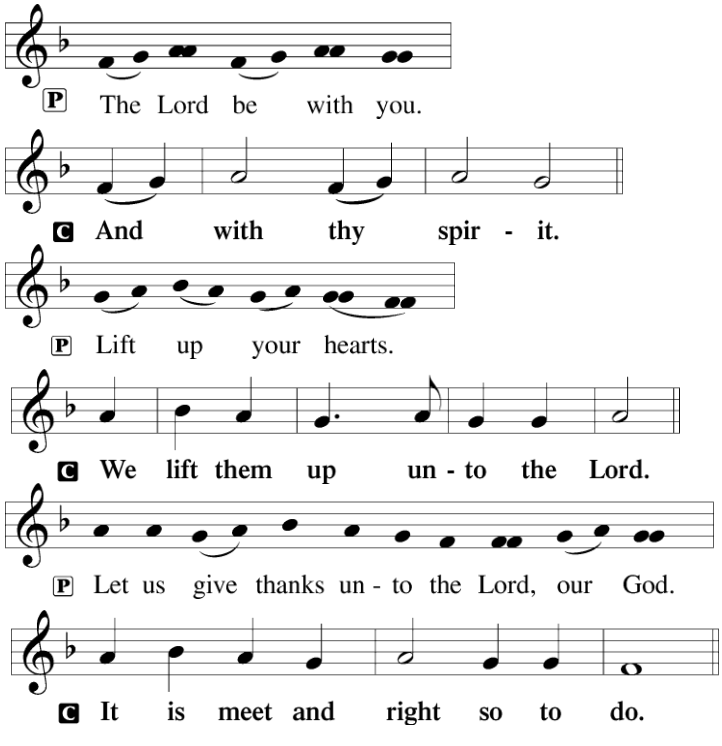
Following the prayers, please greet one another in the name of the Lord by saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of forgiveness and reconciliation in preparation for worthy reception of the Holy Supper.

Please remain standing.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Preface

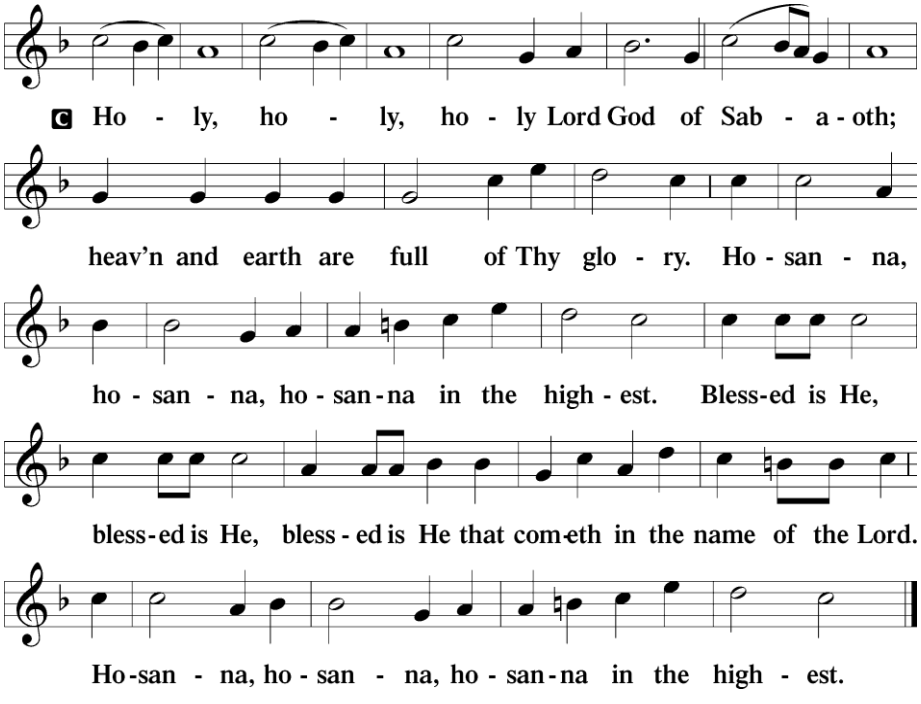
2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]



P It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, out of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Risen from the dead, He has freed us from eternal death and given us life everlasting. Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS ~ *Holy, Holy, Holy*
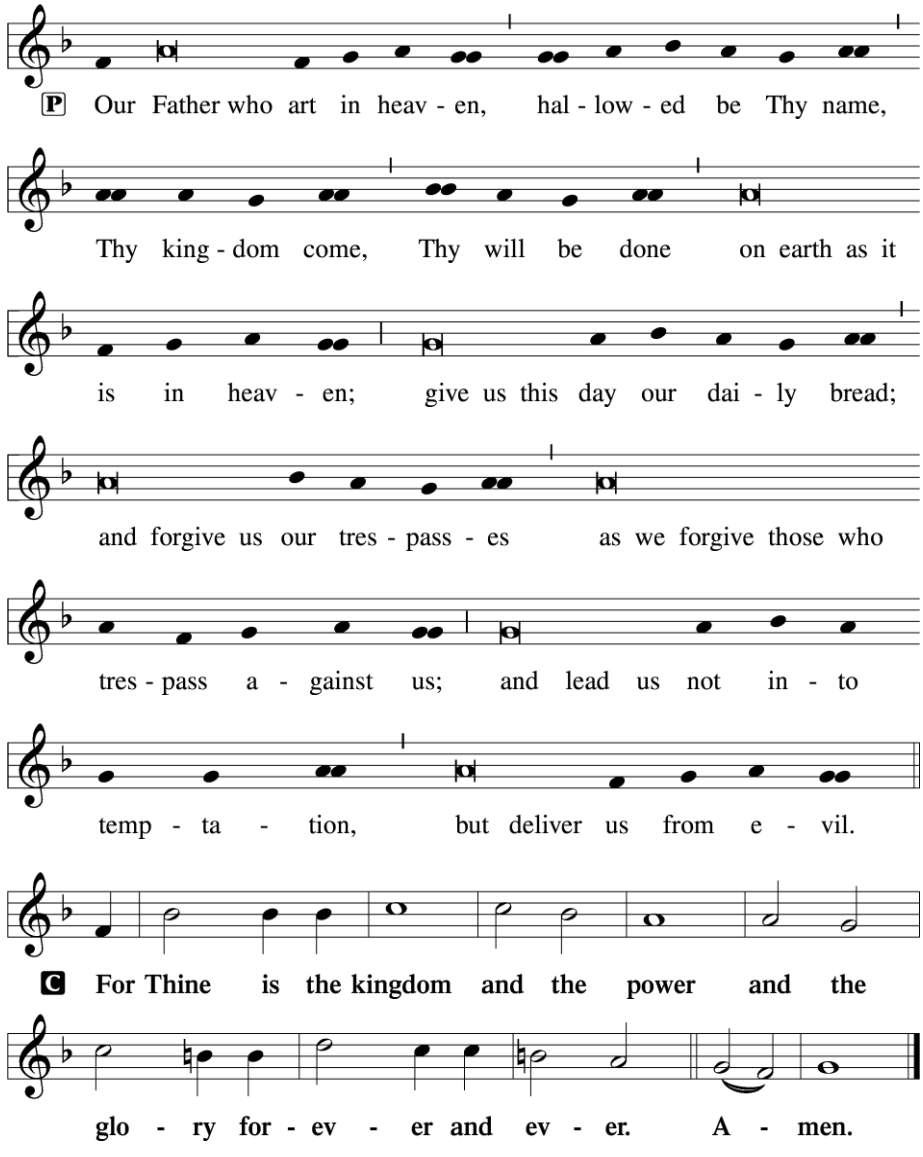
Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



Kneeling or sitting forward
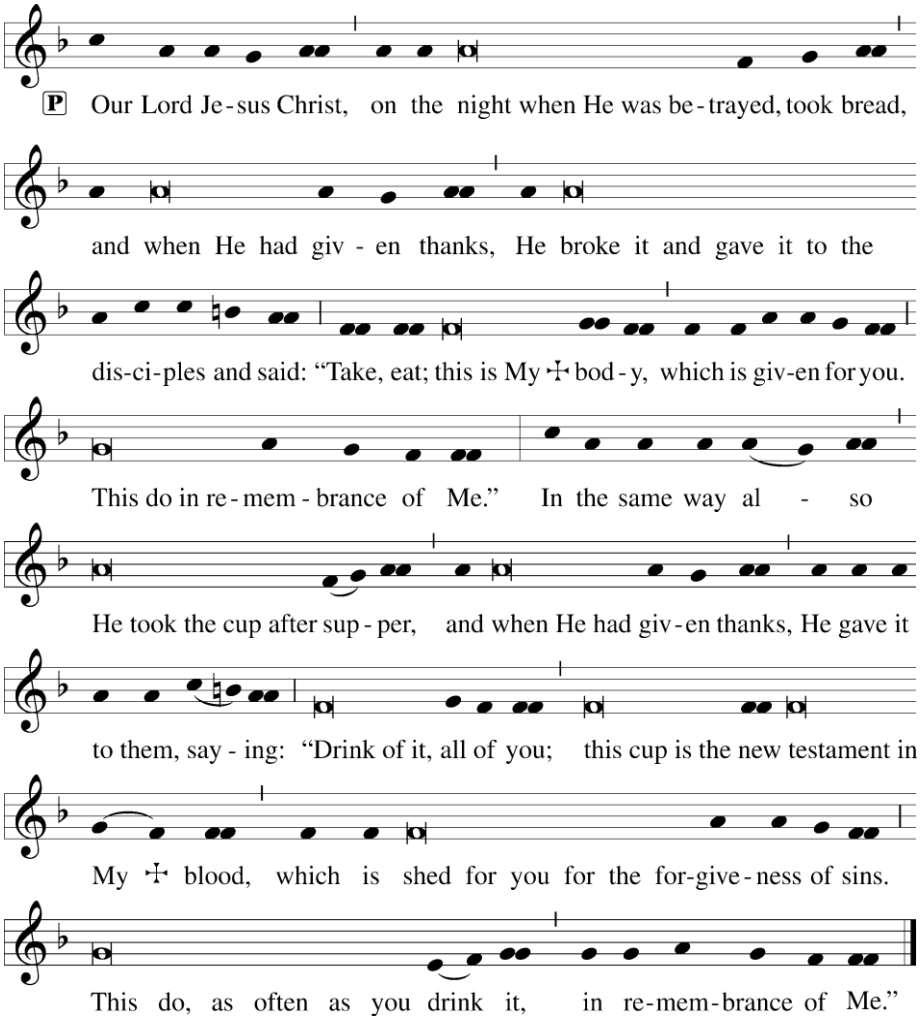
LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13



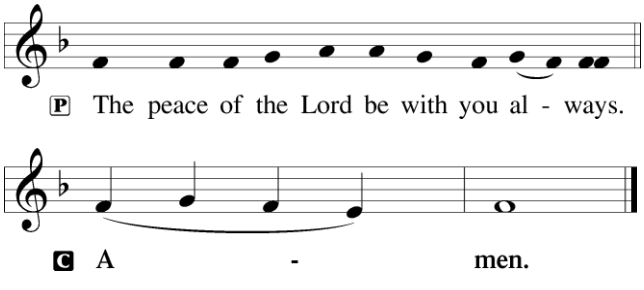
THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Matthew 26; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25



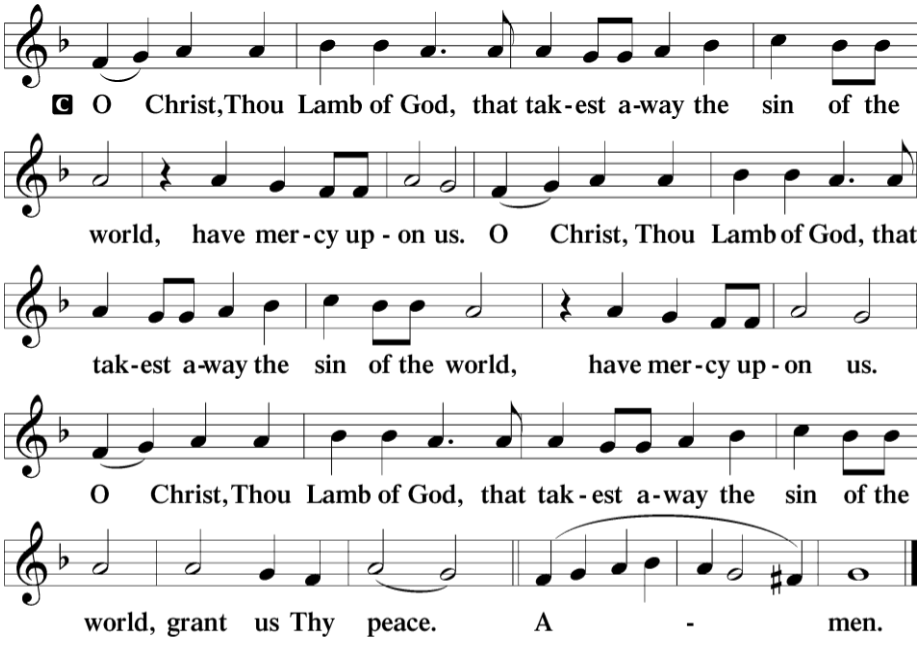
PAX DOMINI ~ *The Peace of the Lord*

John 20:19



AGNUS DEI ~ *Lamb of God*

John 1:29



Sitting
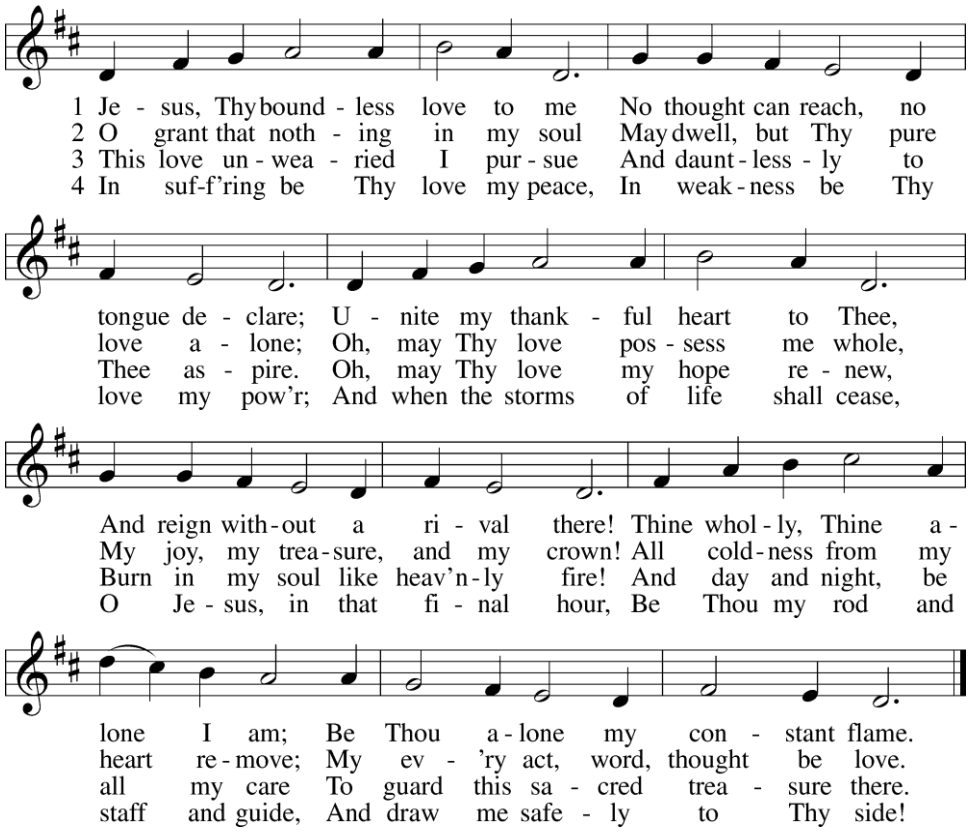
All guests and visitors in attendance for the first time, who have not yet announced their intention to receive Holy Communion, are asked to please refrain until having spoken to Pastor Miller or an elder beforehand. We invite anyone to come forward with arms crossed over chest in the shape of an "X" to receive a pastoral blessing.
This is in accordance with Lutheran practice: "No one is admitted to the Sacrament without first being examined" (Augsburg Confession XXIV:6-7).

PREPARING OUR HEARTS TO RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION:

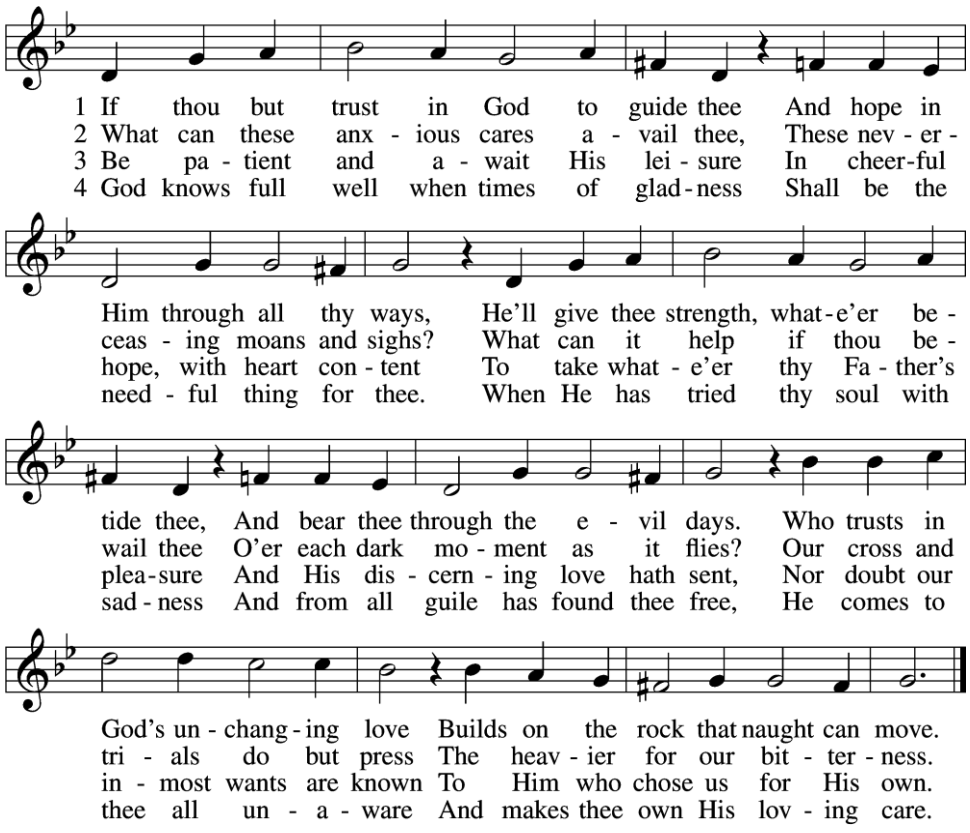
LET US PRAY.
LORD JESUS CHRIST, YOU ARE OUR HEALING, OUR SALVATION, AND OUR LIFE. AS YOU RESTORED THE SUFFERING WOMAN AND RAISED THE YOUNG GIRL TO LIFE, TOUCH OUR HEARTS WITH YOUR SAVING GRACE. STRENGTHEN OUR FAITH, FREE US FROM ALL FEAR, AND MAKE US WORTHY TO RECEIVE YOU WITH HUMBLE AND TRUSTING HEARTS IN THIS HOLY COMMUNION; FOR YOU LIVE AND REIGN WITH THE FATHER AND THE HOLY SPIRIT, ONE GOD, NOW AND FOREVER. AMEN.

MUSIC DURING THE DISTRIBUTION

Lutheran Service Book 683 **"Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me"**



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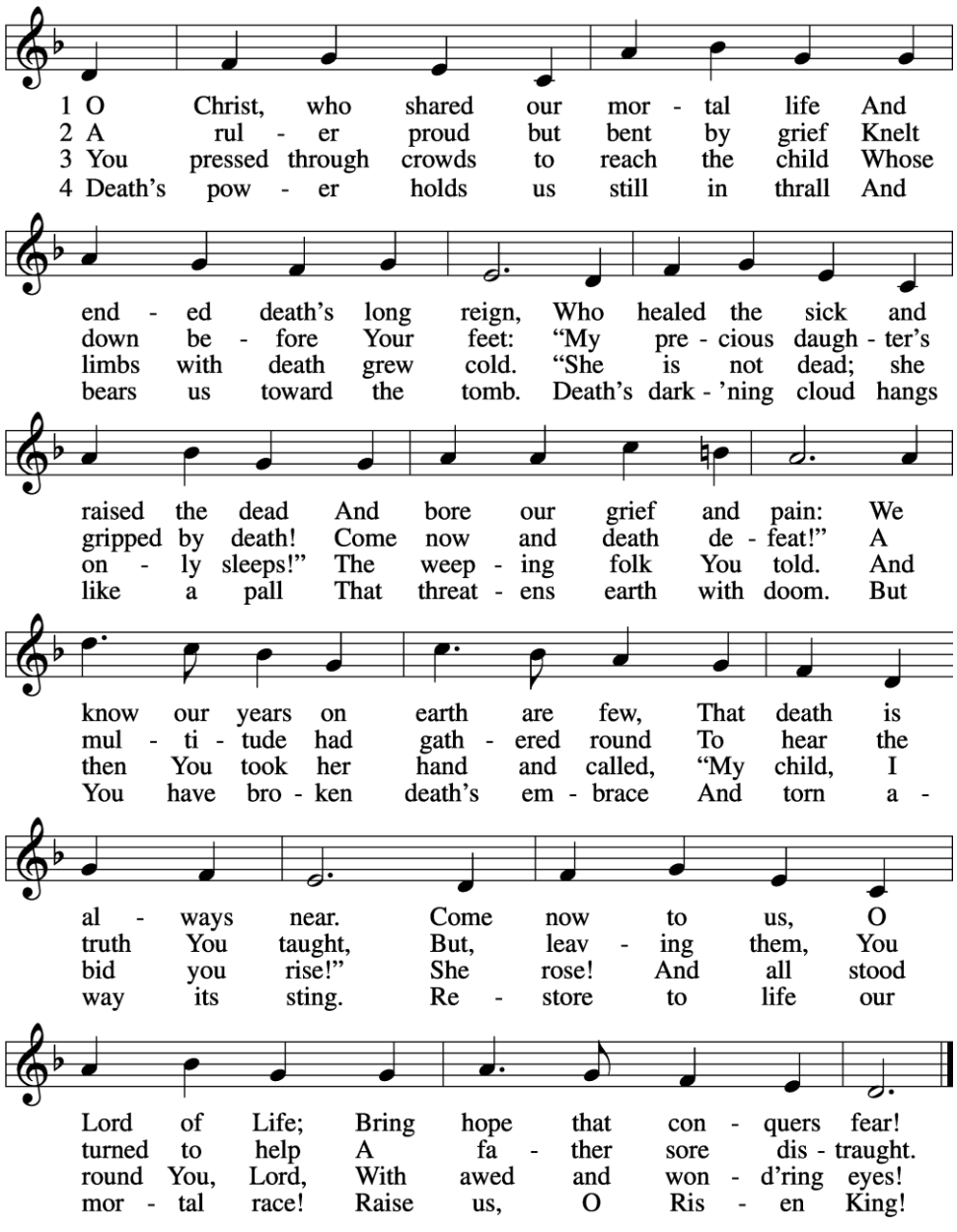


5 Nor think amid the fiery trial
That God hath cast thee off unheard,
That he whose hopes meet no denial
Must surely be of God preferred.
Time passes and much change doth bring
And sets a bound to ev'rything.

6 All are alike before the Highest;
'Tis easy for our God, we know,
To raise thee up, though low thou liest,
To make the rich man poor and low.
True wonders still by Him are wrought
Who setteth up and brings to naught.

7 Sing, pray, and keep His ways unswerving,
Perform thy duties faithfully,
And trust His Word; though undeserving,
Thou yet shalt find it true for thee.
God never yet forsook in need
The soul that trusted Him indeed.

Text and tune: Public domain



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Returning thanks after Receiving Holy Communion:
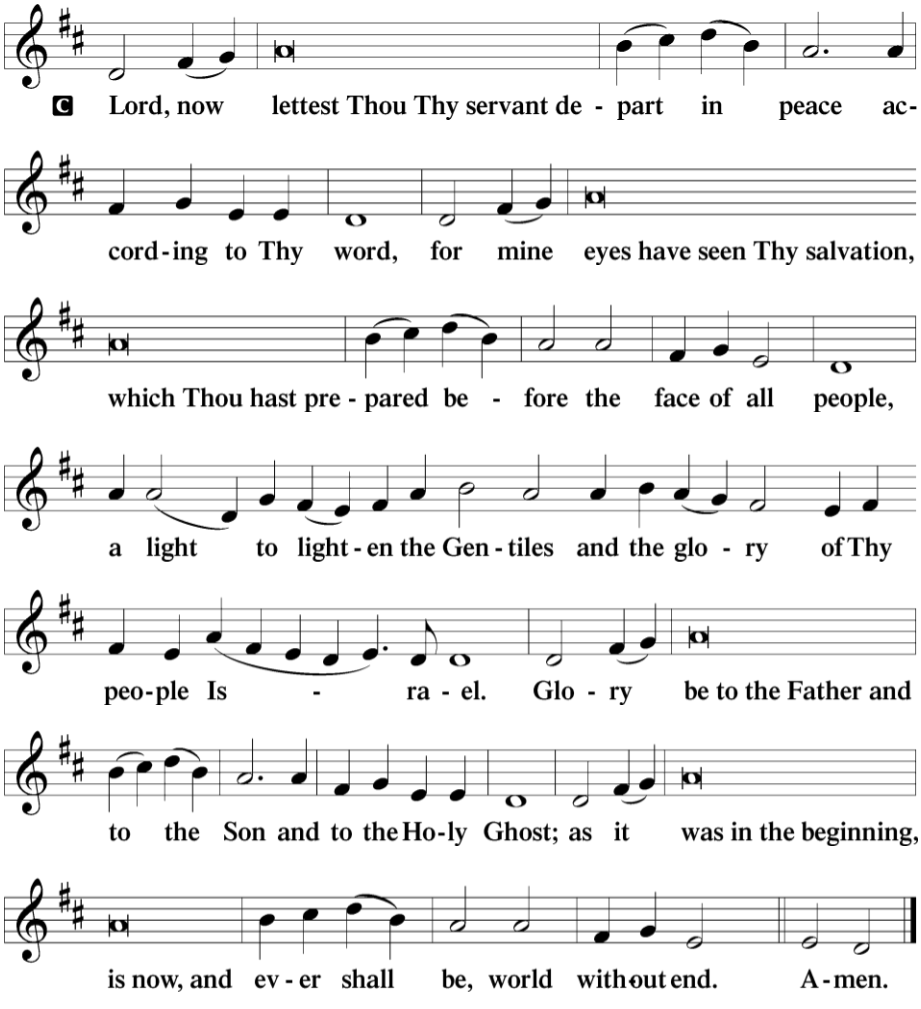
Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, we thank you for nourishing us with your holy Body and Blood and filling us with the life of your kingdom. May the grace of this Holy Communion strengthen us in faith, heal our weaknesses, deliver us from darkness, and renew our hope in your victory over sin and death. Help us to carry your love and healing presence to all those we encounter; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Standing

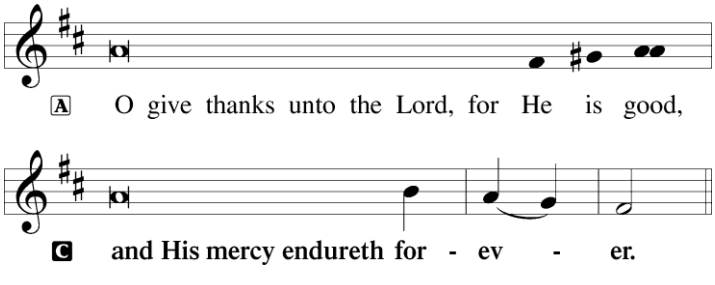
NUNC DIMITTIS ~ *Song of Simeon*

Luke 2:29-32
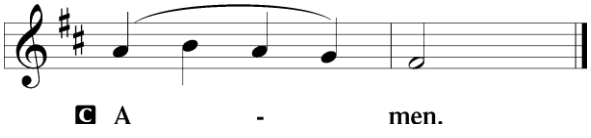


THANKSGIVING

Psalm 107:1



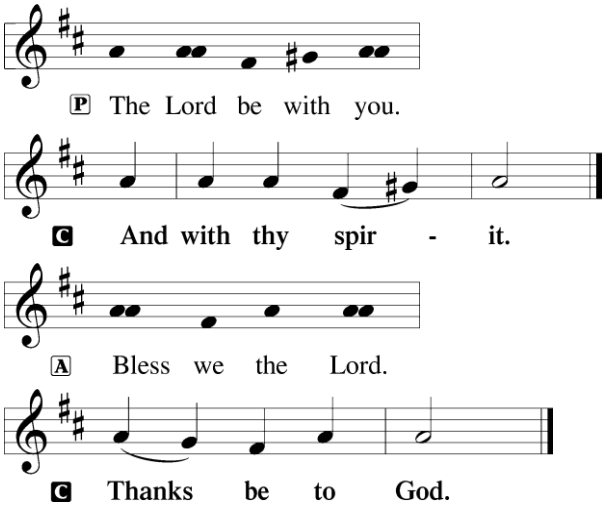
Post-Communion Collect

℗ Let us pray.
We beseech Thee, almighty God, that we may obtain the effect of that salvation: whose pledge we have received through these Mysteries; through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with Thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.



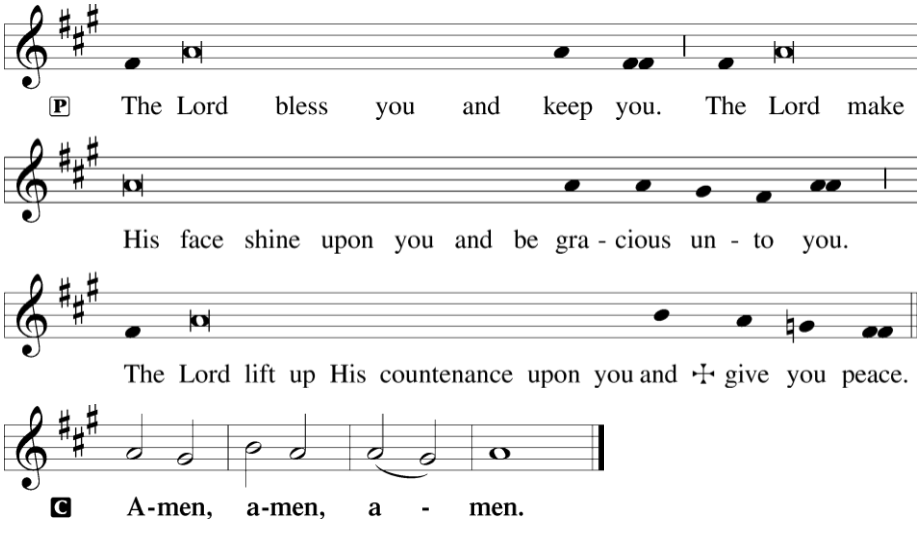
Salutation and Benedicamus

2 Timothy 4:22, Psalm 103:1
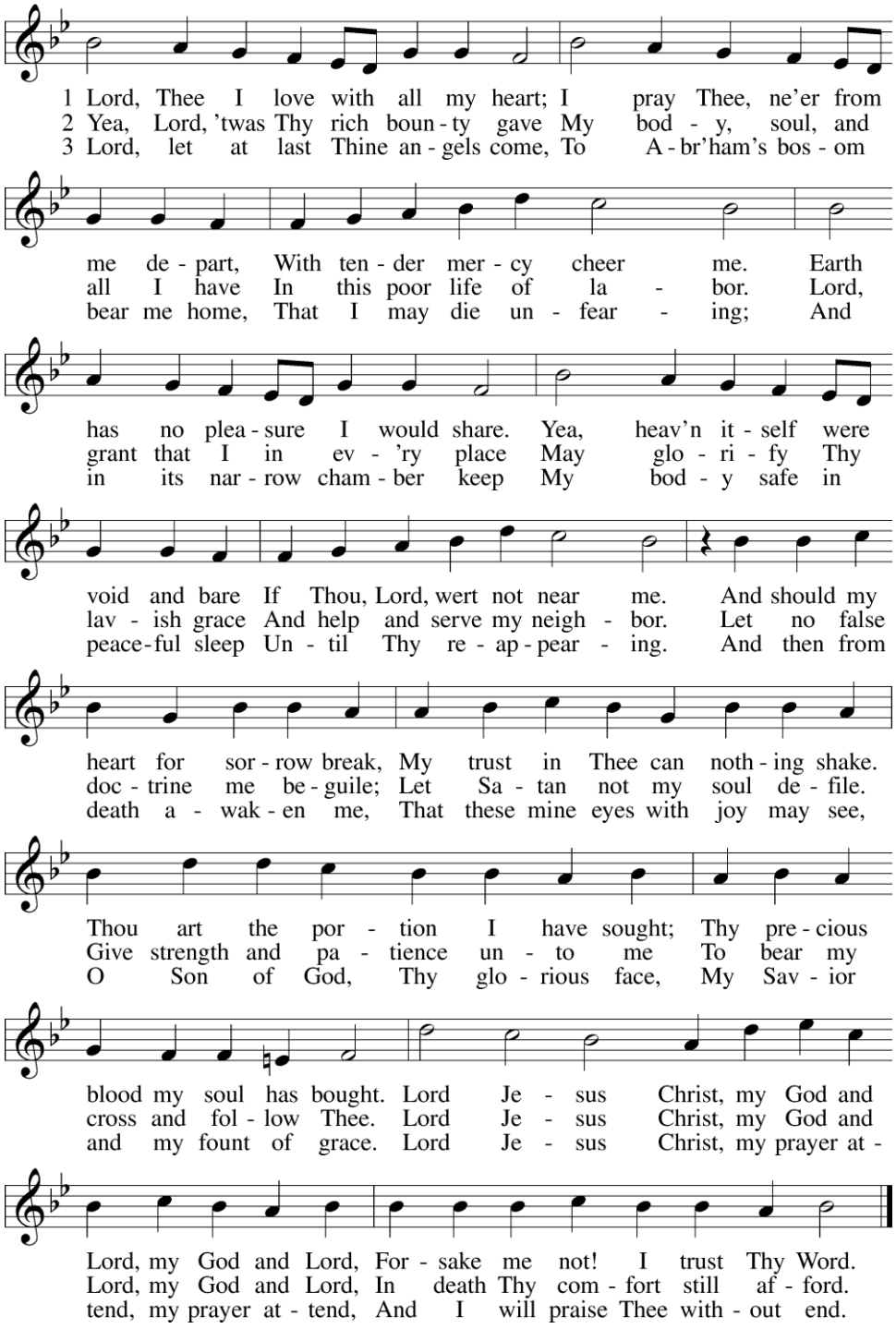


Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26



Recessional Hymn

Lutheran Service Book 708 **"Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart"**



Text and tune: Public domain

Postlude

Herzlich Lieb (Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart, LSB 708) Setting by Phil Lehenbauer

Serving In Our Worship

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Presiding Minister
The Rev. David V. Miller, *Pastor*

Altar Assistant(s)
J.P. Morr, *Elder*
Maddie Abi, *Acolyte*
Jude Miller, *Gospel Bearer*

Organist
Abby Warnke, *Director of Music*

Cantor
Adrian Popescu

Musician(s)
Will Davis, trumpet
Patty Harmon, trumpet/French horn

Altar Guild
Whitney Worthington

Usher(s)
Grayson Beckman/Malcolm Abrahaman
(Ryan Licht)

Fellowship Host(s)
The May family

Serving Next Week

LAST SUNDAY OF THE CHURCH YEAR

Presiding Minister
The Rev. David V. Miller, *Pastor*

Altar Assistant(s)
J.P. Morr, *Elder*
Maddie Abi, *Acolyte*
Jude Miller, *Gospel Bearer*

Organist
Abby Warnke, *Director of Music*

Cantor
Adrian Popescu

Musician(s)
Will Davis, trumpet
Patty Harmon, trumpet/French horn

Altar Guild
Jeni Miller/Eden Miller

Usher(s)
Grayson Beckman/Malcolm Abrahaman
(Ryan Licht)

Fellowship Host(s)
The Grayson Beckman family

This Week's Calendar

Sunday 11/15	**Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Trinity** Nursery available Children's Sunday School Adult Bible Study: *"Who Do You Say That I Am?"* Holy Mass Fellowship Hour Adult Choir Practice Church Board Meeting	 8:30 – 11:30 AM 9:00 – 9:45 AM 9:00 – 9:45 AM 10:00 AM Following Holy Mass Following Fellowship Hour Following Fellowship Hour
Monday 11/16	 Open Arms LCDC Church Office	 7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Tuesday 11/17	 Open Arms LCDC Church Office	 7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Wednesday 11/18	 Open Arms LCDC Church Office Open Arms LCDC Chapel	 7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM 10:15 AM
Thursday 11/19	 Open Arms LCDC Church Office	 7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Friday 11/20	 Open Arms LCDC Church Office	 7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Saturday 11/21	 Open Arms LCDC Church Office	 Closed Closed
Sunday 11/22	**Last Sunday of the Church Year (Pledge Sunday)** Nursery available Children's Sunday School Adult Bible Study: *"Who Do You Say That I Am?"* Holy Mass Fellowship Hour Adult Choir Practice	 8:30 – 11:30 AM 9:00 – 9:45 AM 9:00 – 9:45 AM 10:00 AM Following Holy Mass Following Fellowship Hour

Loving the Lord

Jesus said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the first and great commandment" (Matthew 22:37-38).

✢ **Adult Bible Study: "Who Do You Say That I Am?" The Early Christological Controversies**

Sundays at 9:00 A.M.
Church fellowship hall

Join us for an exploration of one of the most important questions of the Christian faith: Who is Jesus Christ? Together, we will examine the major Christological controversies that shaped the early Church, including Docetism, Arianism, Nestorianism, and others, considering how Christians throughout the first centuries wrestled with the mystery of Christ's full divinity and full humanity. This study will help us develop a fuller understanding of the person of Jesus Christ—and why what we believe about who He is matters profoundly for our faith, worship, and salvation. Come join us as we explore the history, Scripture, and theology behind these enduring questions.

✢ **Pledge Sunday: Offering to God Our Time, Talent, & Treasure**

Sunday, November 22 during Holy Mass
Church sanctuary

Pledge Sunday is an opportunity to prayerfully consider how we may offer our time, talents, and treasure in service to God and His Church. All that we have is a gift from His gracious hand, and our generosity is not a burden to bear but a blessing through which we grow in faith, express our gratitude, and participate in the work of the Gospel. As we give freely and joyfully, we are reminded that God does not need our gifts, but graciously invites us to share in His work for the good of our neighbor and the building up of His Church. In the coming weeks, you will receive a letter with a pledge card and accompanying materials to help you prayerfully consider your commitment for the year ahead.

✢ **Holy Mass: The Eve of Thanksgiving Day**

Wednesday, November 25 at 7:00 P.M.
Church sanctuary

As our nation prepares to celebrate Thanksgiving and remember the blessings surrounding its founding, the Church gathers to offer thanks and praise to Almighty God, the Giver of every good gift. Join us for a Divine Service on the eve of Thanksgiving as we give thanks for His abundant benefits, His gracious provision for our daily needs, and above all, the gift of salvation through Jesus Christ our Lord. In grateful faith, we acknowledge that every blessing comes from His merciful hand and give Him the glory due His holy name.

✢ **CANCELLED: NO ADULT BIBLE STUDY OR SUNDAY SCHOOL NOVEMBER 29.**

✢ **Advent Midweek Mass: Truth, Goodness, & Beauty**

Wednesdays in Advent, December 2, 9, & 16 at 7:00 P.M.
Church sanctuary

Join us for three midweek Masses on Wednesdays during the Advent season as we prepare our hearts for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. This year's theme explores the three transcendentals—Truth, Goodness, and Beauty—and what they reveal to us about the mystery of the Incarnation and the coming of Christ. Through Holy Scripture, prayer, and the Church's liturgy, we will reflect on how Christ embodies perfect Truth, reveals the fullness of divine Goodness, and manifests the Beauty of God's saving love, preparing us to receive Him with faith and joy.

✢ **Adult Bible Study: Sacrifice Fulfilled: *The Old Testament Sacrificial System and Jesus Christ***

Sundays at 9:00 A.M., beginning December 6.
Church fellowship hall

Join us for a study of the distinctive offerings and sacrifices prescribed in the Old Testament and how each prophetically pointed forward to the person and saving work of Jesus Christ. As we explore the meaning and purpose of these offerings, we will see how they anticipated Christ's once-for-all self-offering for the forgiveness of sins and the reconciliation of humanity to God. In Him, the New Testament reveals not only the fulfillment of the Law but also the culmination of all that the Law's sacrificial system foreshadowed, as every sacrifice finds its ultimate meaning and completion in Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

✢ Christmas Schedule

Christmas Eve Mass (with Carols by Candlelight): Thursday, December 24 at 7:00 P.M.
Christmas Day Mass: Friday, December 25 at 10:00 A.M.
St. John, Apostle and Evangelist: Sunday, December 27 at 10:00 A.M.

✢ Sermons on YouTube

https://www.youtube.com/@lcaatlanta/videos

Did you miss a Sunday service, want to revisit a sermon that especially spoke to you, or share God's Word with a friend or family member? Our weekly sermons are available on YouTube for your convenience. We encourage all members to subscribe to our YouTube channel and check back regularly for new sermon recordings. Whether you watch immediately after Sunday worship or revisit sermons throughout the week, we pray these messages continue to strengthen your faith and keep you rooted in God's Word.

✢ Private Confession and Absolution

Available by appointment

Have you considered making use of Private Confession and Absolution? Pastor Miller is available by appointment to hear confession and proclaim Christ's forgiveness personally and individually. While many Lutherans are familiar with corporate confession during the Divine Service, private confession has always been a treasured part of our Lutheran heritage. In his Small Catechism, Martin Luther encourages Christians to make use of confession and receive the comfort of absolution from their pastor. This gift is not something to fear or avoid—it is simply part of living the Christian life of repentance as a Lutheran. If you would like to schedule a time for Private Confession and Absolution, please contact Pastor Miller.

Loving our Neighbor

"And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'" (Matthew 22:39).

✢ Advent Party

Sunday, December 6 after Holy Mass
Church sanctuary

Join us for our Advent Party! Congregational members are invited to stay after to help decorate for Christmas and prepare the sanctuary for the Open Arms Christmas Program the following Friday. We invite everyone to bring a snack or drink to share as we enjoy some fellowship and festive fun together. Thank you in advance for your time, helping hands, and generosity as we prepare to celebrate the season!

☩ Open Arms Christmas Program: Ascension Hospitality Table

Deadline for donations: Friday, December 11 before noon.

Every year, Open Arms holds a festive Christmas program. And every year, Ascension holds a hospitality table at the reception afterward. Please consider donating cookies, brownies, cupcakes, or some other yummy treat to serve the families of Open Arms. Not only is it a way to say thank you to them for supporting our congregation's mission, but it's also a special way to love our neighbor and pass out invitations to our Christmas services. All donations may be brought to the church office. God reward your generosity!

☩ Angel Tree

Deadline for donations: Sunday, December 13.

Ascension has adopted a few children in need this Christmas. Jason Schoellen has selflessly taken it upon himself to do the shopping for these children. If you would like to participate in making Christmas special for these two boys and two girls (ages 9-12), please consider donating toward our Angel Tree fund. Please either write "Angel Tree" on the memo line of your personal check, or please mark the cash envelope with the same. That way, it's sure to get to the right place. Please contact Jason Schoellen for more details (information in the church directory).

☩ Women's Group: Favorite Things Holiday Party

Sunday, December 13 at noon
The home of Annie May (please see congregational directory for address)

Ladies of the congregation, you're invited to join us for a special holiday gathering filled with fellowship, food, and festive fun! Let's celebrate the season together with a joyful morning of laughter, friendship, and sharing God's goodness. For the Favorite Things Gift Exchange: please bring one wrapped gift valued at $15–$20 to share in our holiday swap. Choose something you love and would enjoy introducing to someone else! It could be a favorite book, seasoning, makeup item, household cleaner, holiday treat, or anything you simply love. Don't have a gift idea? No worries! We would still love for you to join us for brunch and fellowship. Your presence is the best gift! Please RSVP to Annie May (contact information in congregational directory) by December 9 so we can plan our brunch menu. We can't wait to gather, laugh, share our favorite things, and celebrate the joy and goodness of God this holiday season. We hope you'll join us!

Lifting Holy Hands

"I desire therefore that the men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting" (1 Timothy 2:8).

Celebrations

Birthdays:

- None this week

Baptismal Anniversaries:

- Maddie Beckman, 11/16

Confirmation Anniversaries:

- None this week

Membership Anniversaries:

- Maddie Beckman, 11/16

Wedding Anniversaries:

- None this week

Recent Requests

For comfort, health, and recovery:

- The Rev. James Clark
- Robin Dempsey (mother-in-law of Matthew Licht)
- Michael Kaiser (father of Jeni Miller)
- Shirley Kaiser (stepmother of Jeni Miller)
- Betty Licht
- Linda Meissner (aunt of Jeni Miller)
- Rick Miller (uncle of Jeni Miller)
- Jason Schoellen

Special Requests

- All expectant mothers and their unborn children, especially Margaret Beckman, Katie Licht, and Mandy Kranzlein; for health and safety.
- Jill Drachenberg, for a fair wage and meaningful employment.

Ongoing Requests

For family and friends of the congregation:

- David Abee (brother of Nancy Grossberg)
- Val Aguilar (friend of Emily Horst, who's deployed with the U. S. Air Force)
- Marion & Robbie Griffin
- Doug Hawkins (friend of Lauren Morr)
- Ruth Henry
- Bob Husby (father of Whitney Worthington)
- Dee Keiger (sister of Eileen Buehl)
- Charles Schnell (former member), for his pastoral formation.
- Mike Warnke (father of Abby Warnke)

For the leaders of Church and state:

- Director Barbara Collins-Hopkins & Open Arms Board
- English District Bishop Jeffrey G. Miskus & all district officials
- LCMS President Matthew Harrison & all synodical officials
- Pastor David Miller & Church Board of Lutheran Church of the Ascension
- President Donald Trump & all U.S. government officials



THE LUTHERAN
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