Twenty-fifth Sunday After Pentecost

November 15, 2026 · 9:30 a.m.



ST. ANDREW'S LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)

1100 E Murdock Ave. Oshkosh, WI 54901

Twenty-fifth Sunday After Pentecost

P: Pastor A: Assisting Minister L: Lector **C: Congregation/All**

*** *Invitation to stand***

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

* Confession and Forgiveness

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.

* Gathering Hymn: *Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory* ELW 890



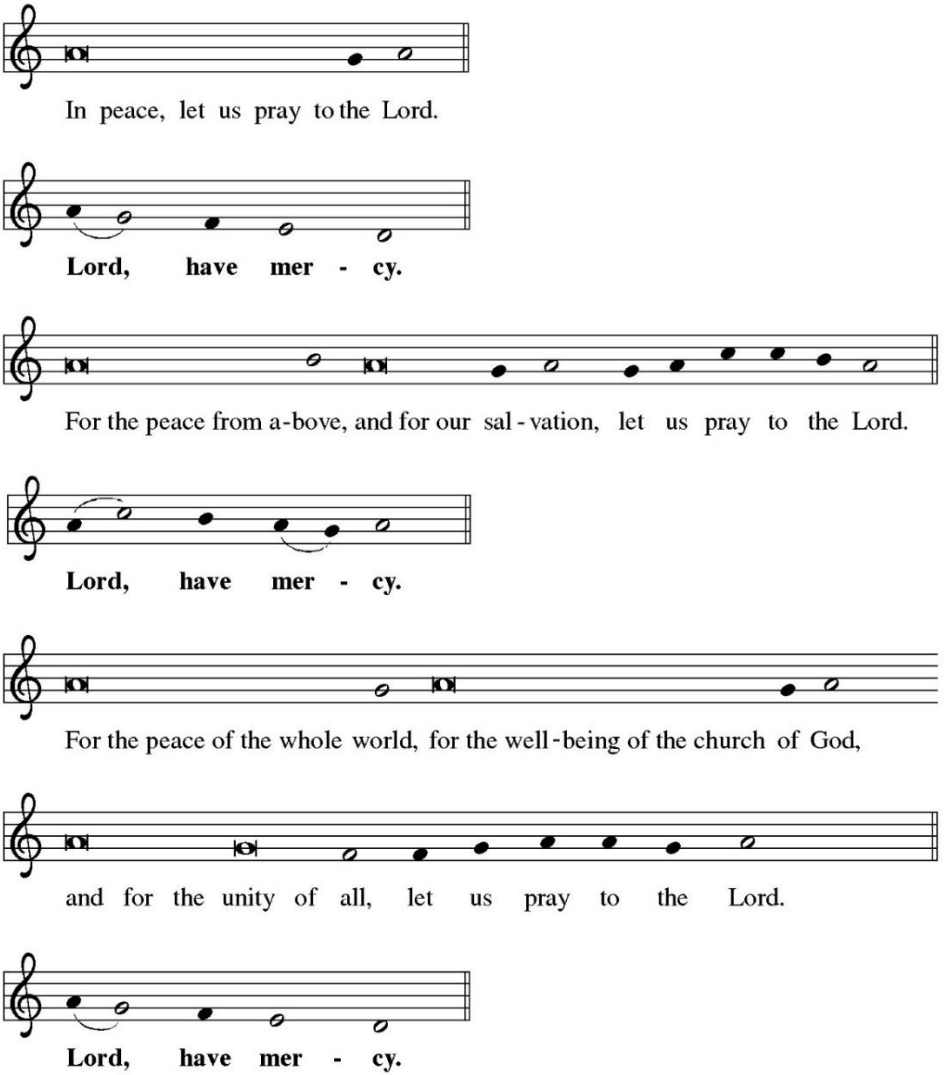
Text: Julia Ward Howe, 1819–1910
Music: BATTLE HYMN, North American, 19th cent

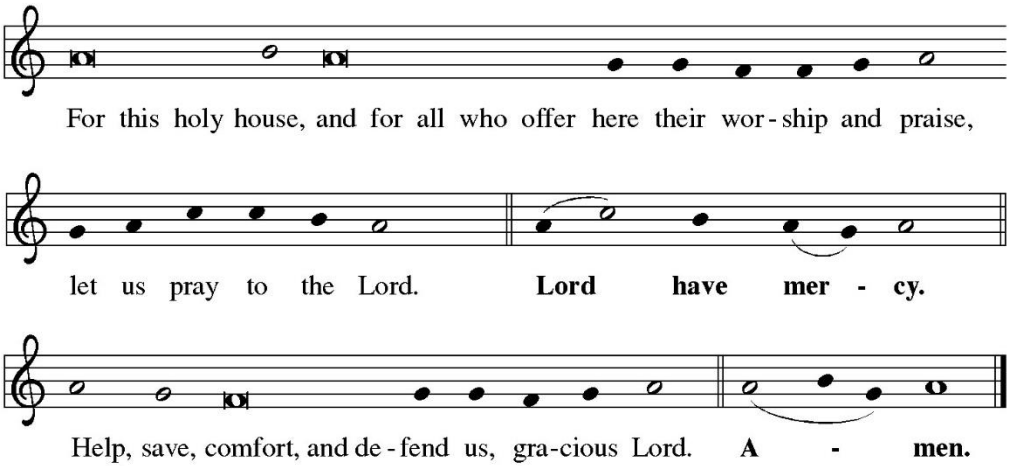
*The Apostolic Greeting

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

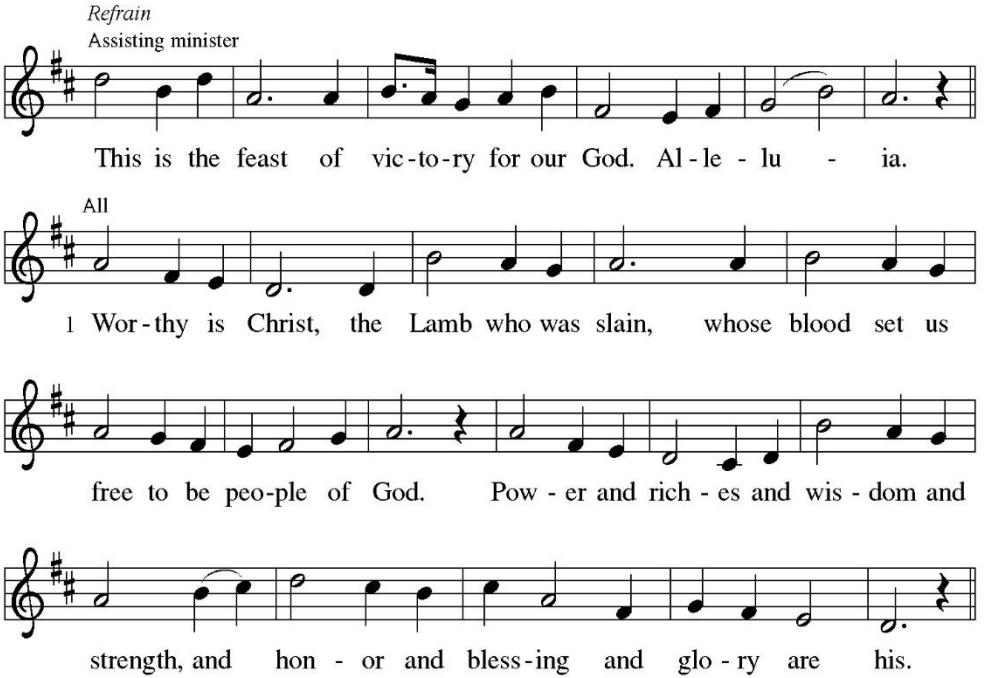
C: And also with you.

* Kyrie





* Hymn of Praise





* Prayer of the Day

A: Let us pray. Righteous God,

C: our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

First Reading: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

Zephaniah (like the prophet Amos in last week's first reading) presents the day of the Lord as one of judgment and wrath. Descriptions of the last day in the New Testament include details taken from Old Testament accounts of the day of the Lord.

L: A reading from the book of Zephaniah.

7 Be silent before the Lord GOD,
for the day of the LORD is at hand!
The LORD has prepared a sacrifice;
he has consecrated his guests.
12 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 he do harm."
13 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.
14 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.
15 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,
16 a day of trumpet blast and battle cry
against the fortified cities
and against the lofty battlements.

17 I will bring such distress upon people
that they shall walk like the blind;
because they have sinned against the LORD,
their blood shall be poured out like dust
and their flesh like dung.
18 Neither their silver nor their gold
will be able to save them
on the day of the LORD's wrath;
in the fire of his passion
the whole earth shall be consumed,
for a full, a terrible end
he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

L: Word of God. Word of life.
C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 90:1-8,12

A: Lord, you have been our refuge
from one generation to another.
**C: Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born,
from age to age you are God.**
A: You turn us back to the dust and say,
"Turn back, O children of earth."
**C: For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past
and like a watch in the night;**
A: you sweep them away like a dream,
they fade away suddenly like the grass:
**C: in the morning it is green and flourishes;
in the evening it is dried up and withered.**
A: For we are consumed by your anger;
we are afraid because of your wrath.
**C: Our iniquities you have set before you,
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.**
A: So teach us to number our days
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

Second Reading: Ist Thessalonians 5:1-11

Though we do not know and cannot calculate the day of Christ's return, we live faithfully in the here and now as we anticipate the day when we will be given eternal salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.

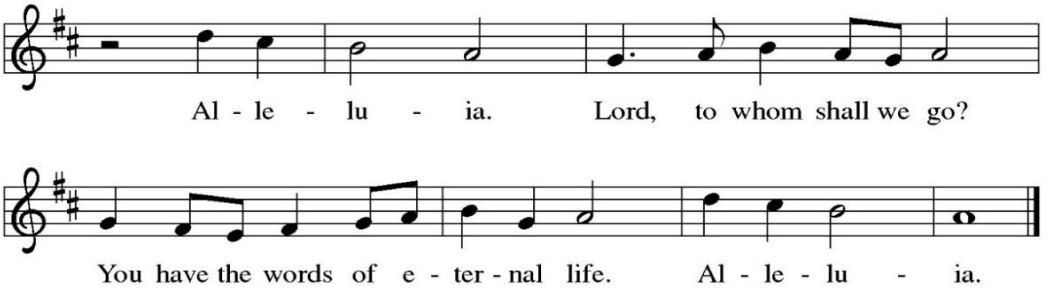
L: A reading from the book of 1st Thessalonians.

[1] Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not
need to have anything written to you. [2] For you yourselves know very well that
the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. [3] 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! [4] But you,
brothers and sisters, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a
thief; [5] for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the
night or of darkness. [6] So, then, let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us
keep awake and be sober, [7] for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who
are drunk get drunk at night. [8] 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. [9] For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation
through our Lord Jesus Christ, [10] who died for us, so that whether we are awake
or asleep we may live with him. [11] Therefore encourage one another and build
up each other, as indeed you are doing.

L: Word of God. Word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

* Gospel Acclamation



* Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30

Jesus tells a parable about his second coming, indicating that it is not sufficient merely to maintain things as they are. Those who await his return should make good use of the gifts that God has provided them.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

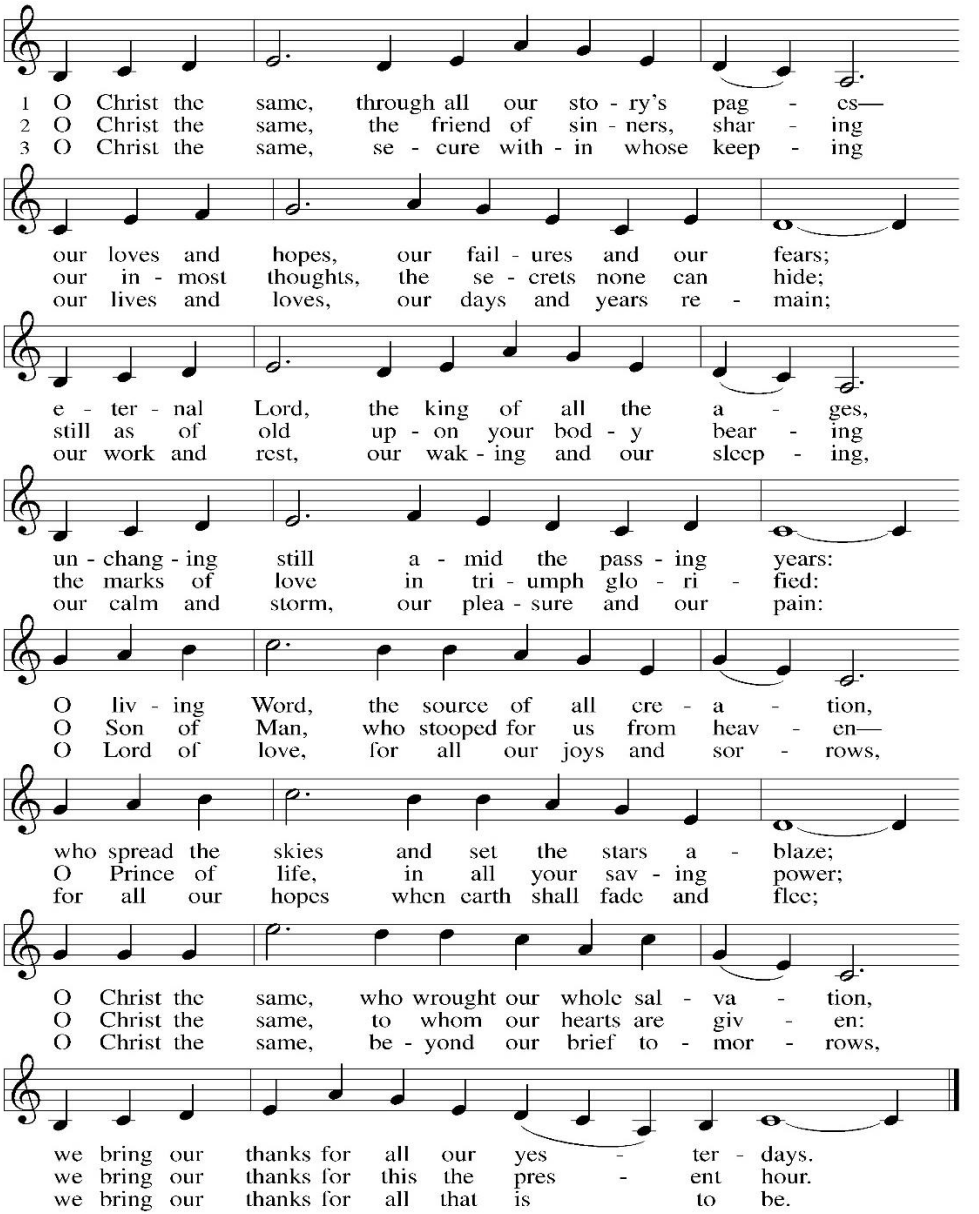
[Jesus said to the disciples:] 14 "For it is as if a man, going on a journey,
summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; 15 to one he gave five
talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then
he went away. At once 16 the one who had received the five talents went off
and traded with them and made five more talents. 17 In the same way, the one
who had the two talents made two more talents. 18 But the one who had
received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his
master's money. 19 After a long time the master of those slaves came and
settled accounts with them. 20 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.' 21 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.' 22 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.' 23 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.' 24 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, 25 so I
was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is
yours.' 26 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? 27 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. 28 So take the talent from him,
and give it to the one with the ten talents.

[29] 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. [30] As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

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

Sermon

* Hymn of the Day: *O, Christ the Same* WOV 778



Text: Timothy Dudley–Smith, b. 1926
Music: LONDONDERRY AIR, Irish tune

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* The Apostles' Creed

A: Together, let us profess our faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

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.

* 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 brief silence.

A: You build up the church as a community of faithful witnesses throughout the generations. Enliven the worship, outreach, and service work of our congregations and ministries with the hope of your good news. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: As the nights grow longer in the northern hemisphere, make us mindful of the earth's need for rest. Provide for fallow fields and hibernating animals; show us how to curb human impact on vulnerable lands and species. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Rescue all nations and peoples from violence, displacement, or famine. Disrupt complacency among national and local leaders. Recommit our communities to transforming the systems that divide and oppress into those that empower and unite. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: In your embrace, we find refuge from all trials and troubles. Care for families who are separated or estranged, accompany all undergoing medical procedures or mental health treatment, and reassure any who are ill or despairing, especially those we now name in our hearts . . . God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Bless all who serve in congregational leadership: council members, nominating committee, worship assistants, volunteers, and ministry site profile team. Encourage healthy stewardship of time, talents, and resources for the mission of the gospel. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: The faithful of every age trust in the hope of your saving grace. In thanksgiving for the ways our ancestors have journeyed before us, we remember all who have entered eternal life in you. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

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

C: Amen.

* Sharing the Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Our Offerings for God's Work

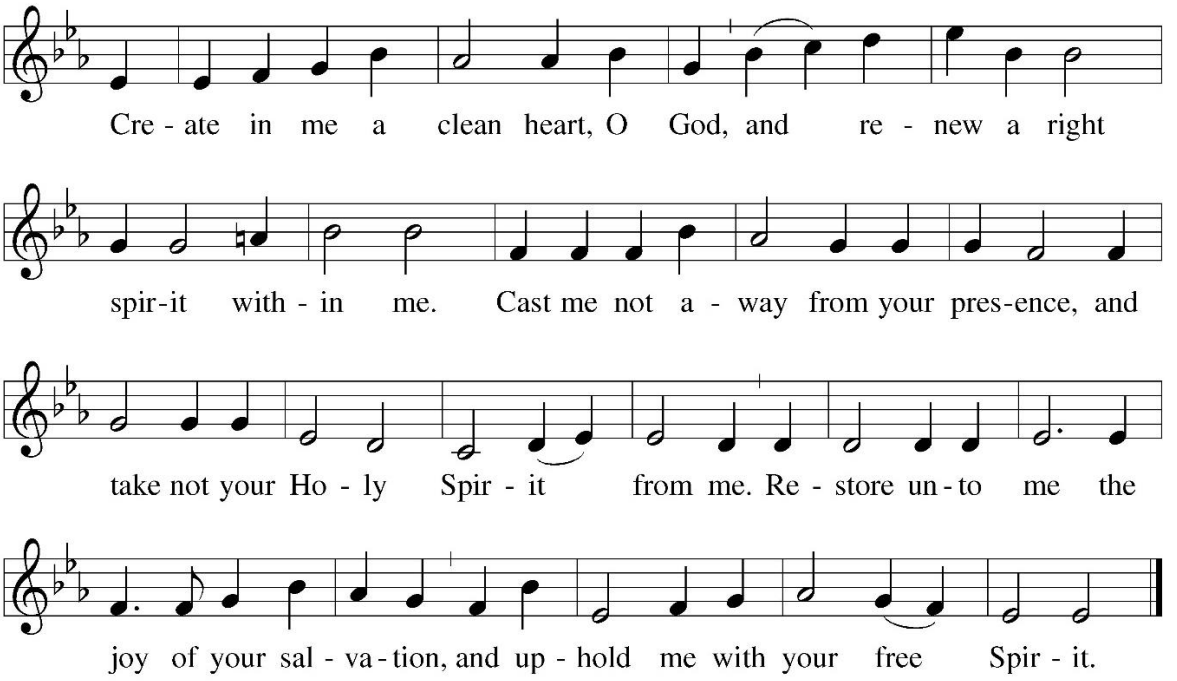
Offerings may be placed in the offering plate at the entrance to the sanctuary, as you enter or leave the church.

"Hold onto Hope" words and music – Tony Payne

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St. Andrew's Choir

* Offertory Hymn: *Create in Me a Clean Heart, O Lord* WOV 732



Text: Psalm 51:10–12
Music: FRANCKE, J.A. Freylinghausen, 1670–1739

* Offertory Prayer

A: 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.

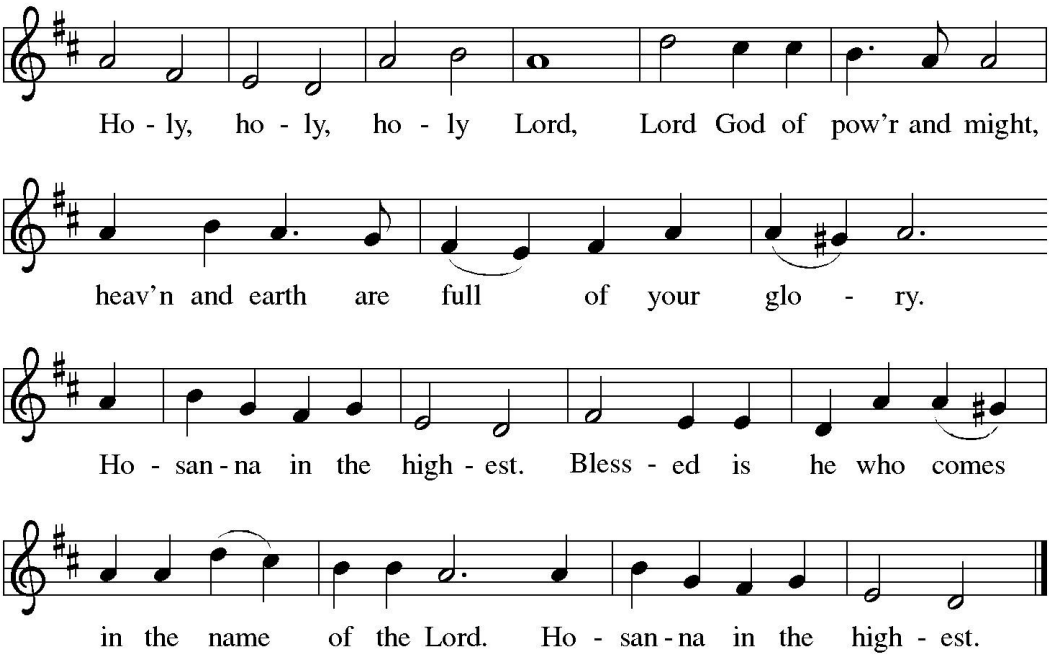
C: Amen.

* The 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

* The Eucharistic Prayer

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



* The Words of Institution

P: 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.

* Lord's Prayer

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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;
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 Communion

P: In bread and cup the reign of Christ is breaking in.
Come, receive what Christ has prepared.

C: Thanks be to God.

✞ ***<u>All are welcome at this table</u>***. *Please follow the direction of the ushers as you make your way forward to the altar rail.*

✞ *You will receive a wafer, then be offered a cup of red wine or white grape juice. Gluten free wafers are also available.*

✞ *If it is either your practice or preference to not receive Communion today, please know that you are still welcome to come forward and receive a blessing.*

✞ *There is space on both sides of the sanctuary if you would desire to light a candle and observe a quiet moment of reflection as you return to your seat.*

✞ *If you need Holy Communion brought to you, please inform one of the ushers.*

Please stand, as you are able.

* The Blessing

P: May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ bless you and keep you in God's grace.
C: Amen.

* Prayer After Communion

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

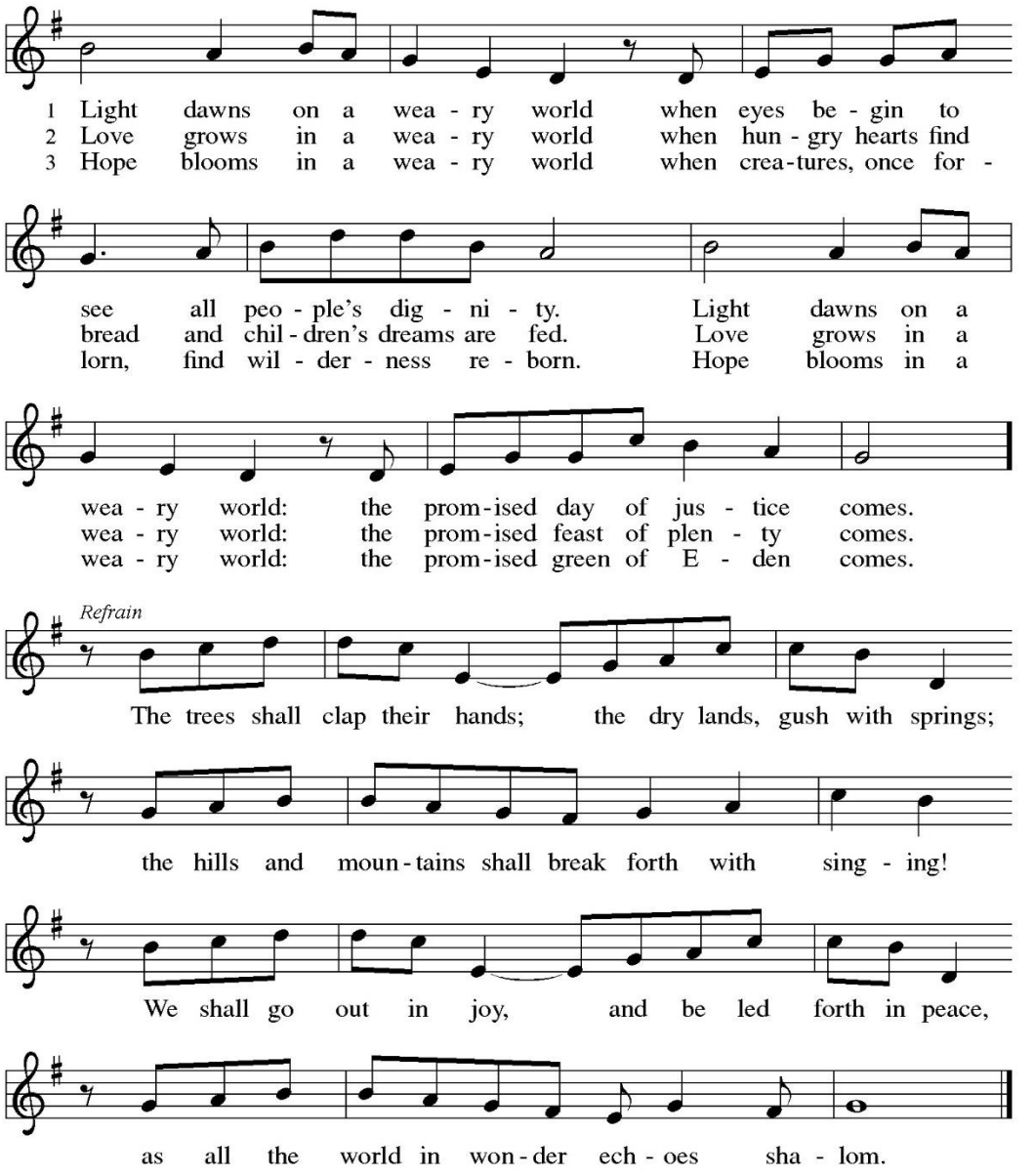
*Prayer for Homebound Communion Visitors

P: Compassionate God, as Jesus called disciples to follow him, bless those who go forth to share your word and sacrament with those at home. May these gifts be signs of our love and prayers, that through the sharing of the body and blood of Christ, all may know your grace and healing revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord.
C: Amen.

* Benediction

P: The holy Trinity, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you with wisdom to welcome the reign of God,
today and always.
C: Amen.

* Sending Hymn: *Light Dawns on a Weary World* ELW 726



Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953
Music: TEMPLE OF PEACE, William P. Rowan, b. 1951
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* Dismissal

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

Postlude

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Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday – 8 am - noon