Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
November 8, 2026



We hope you feel welcome here.
St. Thomas Lutheran Church is a Christ-centered community that lives, shares, and celebrates God's grace with all people!

As disciples of Christ who value the faith, gifts, and ministry of all God's people, and who seek justice, racial equity, and reconciliation, we welcome all God's children to an inclusive community. This welcome is extended without exception and regardless of sex, race, national origin, educational background, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, physical and mental ability, age, or economic condition.

We hope you can participate fully in worship.
Today's worship service is printed in this bulletin; the hymns are found in the back third of the red *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (ELW) or purple *All Creation Sings* (ACS) found under the seat in front of you. Places to stand are marked with * and to respond are indicated with bold type. Please sit, stand, and move as you need to be comfortable. Use a blue chair with arms or move orange chairs to accommodate mobility needs. Assisted hearing devices and large-print worship aids are available on the Worship Aids column in the narthex.

Our youngest worshipers may appreciate the Prayer Pond in the worship space or listening to the service from our unstaffed nursery. Activity bags and children's bulletins are available on the Worship Aids column in the narthex.

We hope you know Holy Communion is for you.
At communion, everyone is welcome. This includes doubters, young children, and folks who have yearned for this feast. Come forward at the direction of an usher and receive hand-torn bread or gluten-free wafers and pink wine or red grape juice. If you have mobility limitations, please take the closest available place at the altar, or ask an usher for Communion to be brought to you at your seat.

We hope you know our welcome extends beyond our building.
Gifts placed in the offering plate during the worship service contribute to this mission. Today's 8:30 a.m. service is livestreamed. By attending this service, you are giving permission to be in the video we produce.

We hope you know we pray for you.
We would love to pray for the concerns of your heart during this service. Prayer request slips are located on the table near the main doors.

+ GATHERING +

PRELUDE

WELCOME & 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.

*ENTRANCE HYMN

Let Streams of Living Justice ELW#710



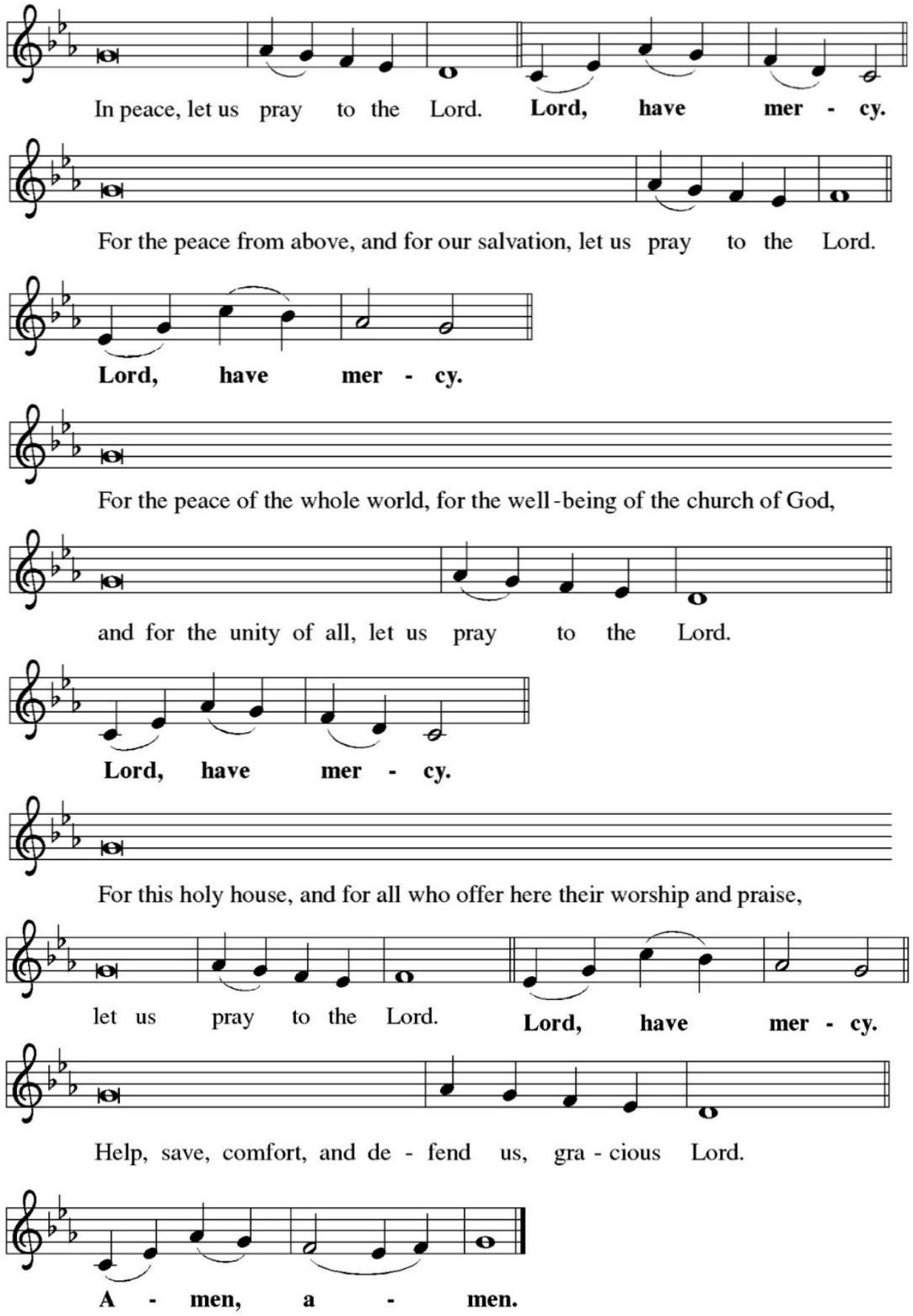
Text: William Whitla, b. 1934
Music: THAXTED, Gustav Holst, 1874–1934
Text © 1989 William Whitla.

*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


In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mer - cy.
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mer - cy.
For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.
Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.
A - men, a - men.

*HYMN OF PRAISE



*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. O God of justice 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.

C: Amen.

+WORD+

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Debbie Witt

FIRST READING Amos 5:18-24

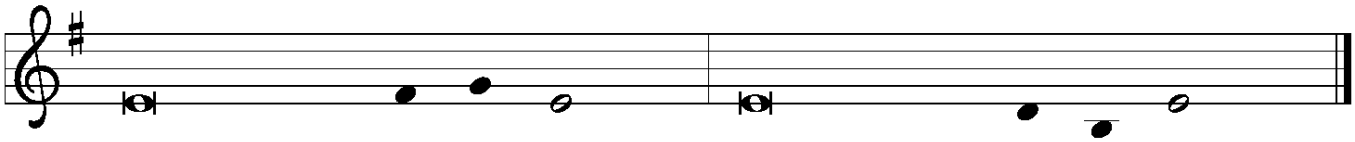
Woe to you who desire the day of the Lord!
Why do you want the day of the Lord?
It is darkness, not light,
as if someone fled from a lion
and was met by a bear
or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall
and was bitten by a snake.
Is not the day of the Lord darkness, not light,
and gloom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

I hate, I despise your festivals,
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.

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.
Take away from me the noise of your songs;
I will not listen to the melody of your harps.
But let justice roll down like water
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

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

PSALM 70



Be pleased, O God, to de- | liver me;
O Lord, make | haste to help me.
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.

Let those who say to me “Aha!” and gloat | over me
turn back because | of their shame.
Let all who seek you rejoice and be | glad in you;
let those who love your salvation say forever, “Great | is the Lord!”
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.

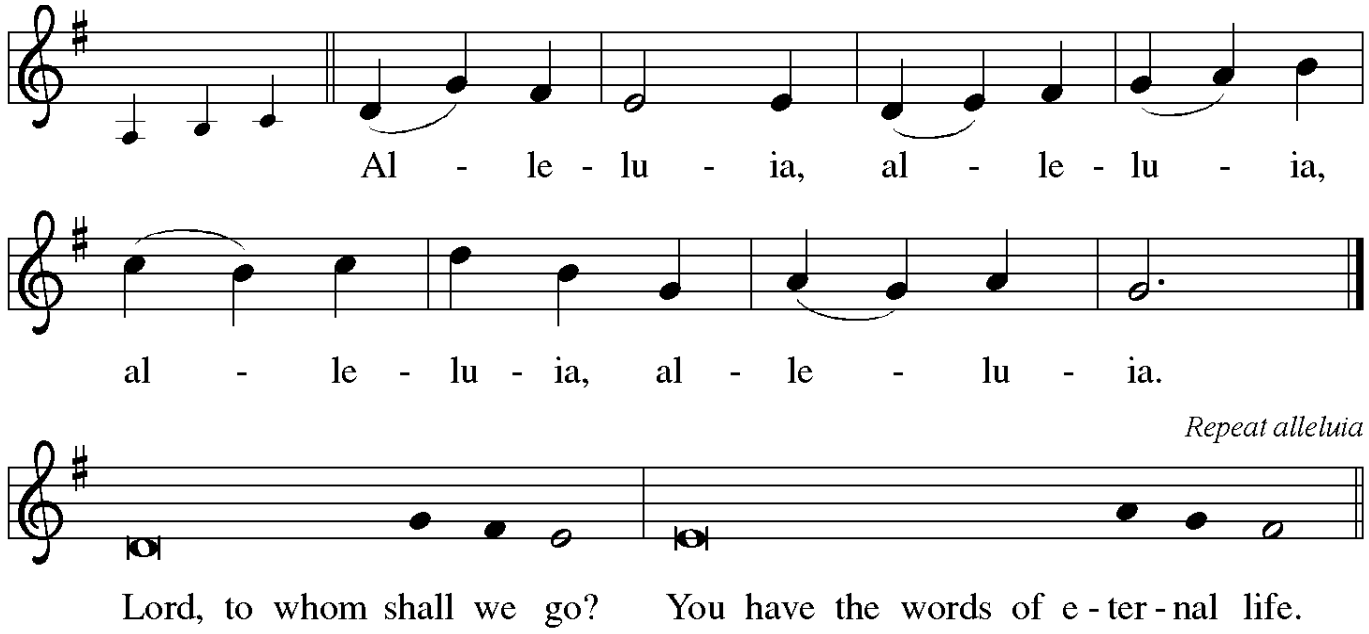
SECOND READING 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

We do not want you to be uninformed, my kin, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. 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. For that very Lord, 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. 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. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

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

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



*HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 25:1-13

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.
C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten young women took their lamps and went to meet the

bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those young women got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' 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.' 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. Later the other young women came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake, therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

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

SERMON Pr. Adrianne Meier



Honoring the Composers of
African American Spirituals
royalties paid to Sphinx Organization

*HYMN OF THE DAY
Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning ACS#949



*APOSTLES' CREED

A: With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**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 THE CHURCH

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: For our neighbors celebrating Diwali, that the lights You send to Your people never go out; God, in your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.

A: For the shortening days and lengthening nights, that through them You teach us to honor the need for stillness and darkness; God, in your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.

A: For those who wish to hasten Your coming, though they know neither the day nor the hour, that You grant them patience and love of Your creation; God, in your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.

A: For students at Indiana University, and all colleges and universities, that You strengthen their hearts and minds in the pursuit of the truth; God, in your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.

A: For professors, lecturers, and staff at Indiana University, and all colleges and universities, that through them You teach Your people to love the truth; God, in your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.

A: For our neighbors preparing to face long months of sleeping outside in the winter cold, that You shelter them in your warmth; God of mercy,
C: hear our prayer.

A: For the staff and volunteers of the Bloomington Severe Winter Emergency Shelter, that in them and through them You light a fire to warm Your people; God, in your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.

A: For our neighbor churches that give shelter in the winter, that You bless their free gift of that which You have freely given them, God, in your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.

A: For those burdened by sickness and pain—especially Kathleen, Drew, Del, Kristin, Helen, Bob, Leslie, Dallis, Doug, Yvonne, Kent, and Mark—that You lift their burdens and heal their bodies and minds; 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 Christ, your beloved.
C: Amen.

*SHARING OF THE PEACE
P: The peace of Christ be with you always.
C: And also with you.
Share the peace with a wave, a bow, or maybe an elbow, checking in with your neighbor for whatever feels safe and conveys the spirit of peace and reconciliation this ritual intends.

OFFERING

*Please sign and pass the **Together In Community pads**. Make note of the names of your neighbors so you can introduce yourself after the service.*

*An offering is collected as a grateful response for all of God's gifts. Gifts support St. Thomas's mission of living, sharing, and celebrating God's grace with all people. A portion of our offerings support Lutheran Campus Ministries at IU/Rose House and many local, national, and international ministry partners. **You may place gifts in the offering plate as it reaches you or give on our website, stlconline.org (the QR code above on the right will direct you).***



Use the QR code on the left to add your volunteer hours to our 5000-hour challenge.

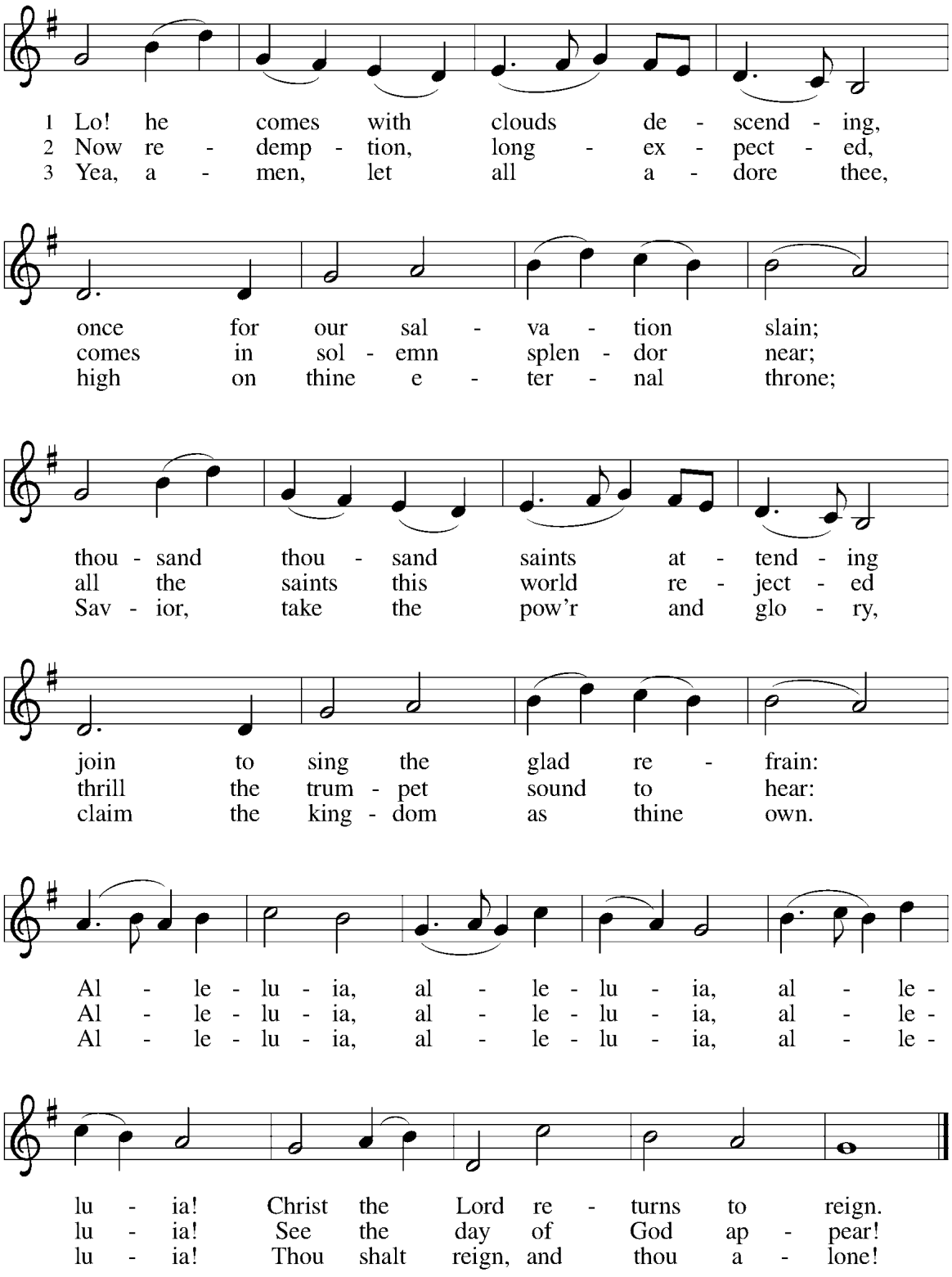
8:30 a.m. only
ORGAN OFFERTORY — Matthew Benkert

11 a.m. only
CHORAL ANTHEM
I Call to the Lord — Felix Mendelssohn

*OFFERTORY HYMN

Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending ELW#435

verse 1 only



Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.
Music: HELMSLEY, Thomas Olivers, 1725–1799

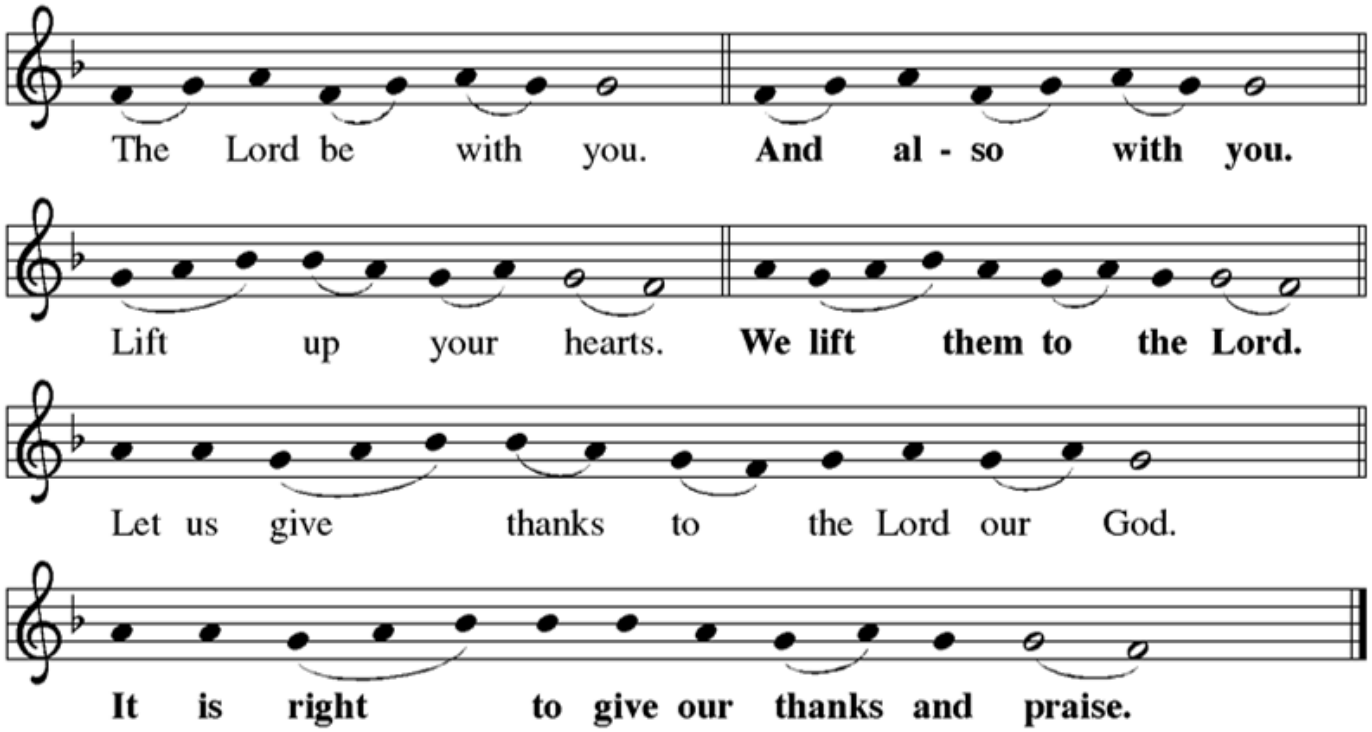
*OFFERTORY PRAYER

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.

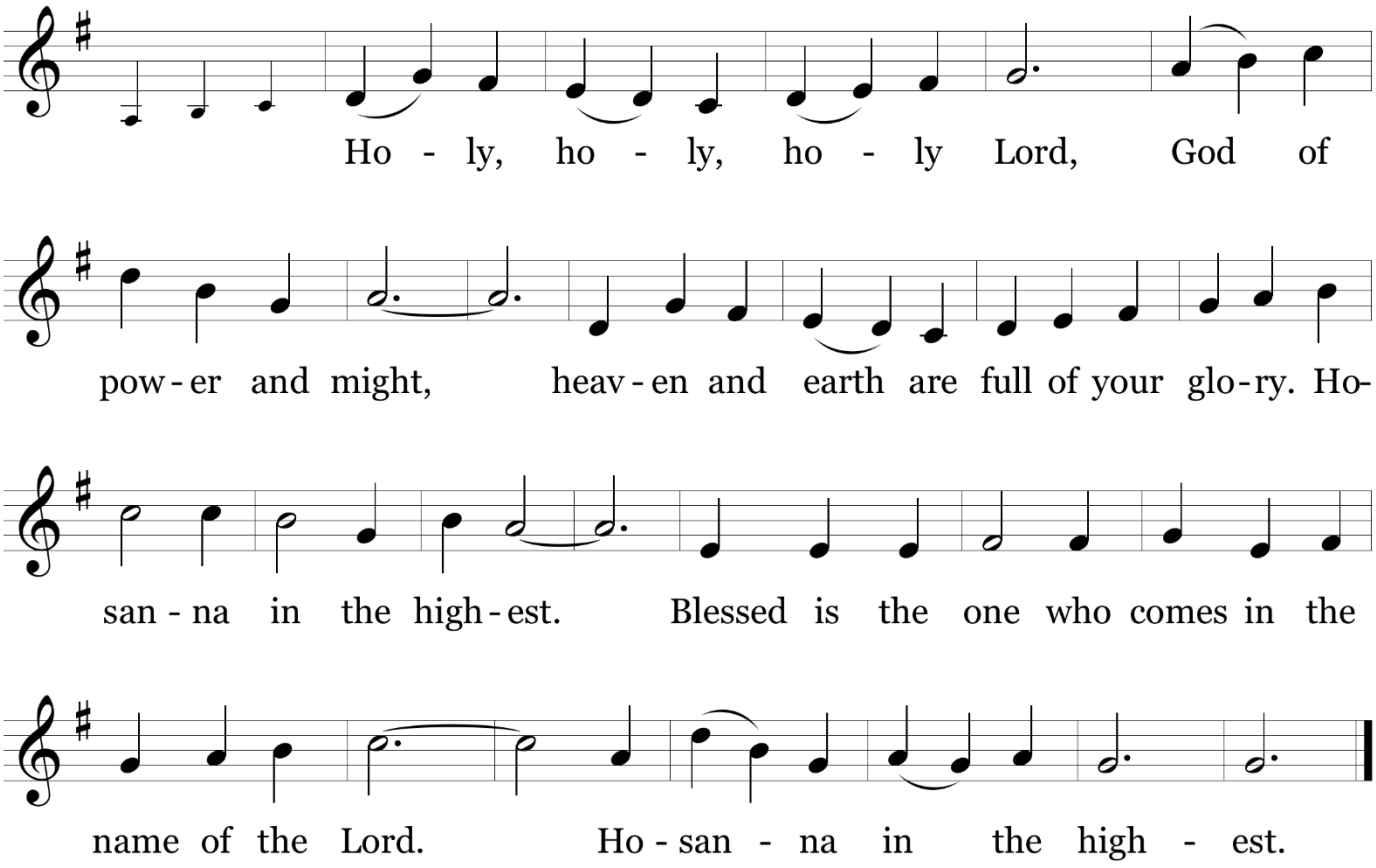
C: Amen.

+ MEAL +

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



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:



*EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth. From age to age your creation sings your praises. You feed even the birds of the air, and you clothe the fields with lilies. You gave your blessing to Abraham and his descendants, and you spoke with Moses, Elijah, and David. Blessed are you, Lord our God:

C: Blessed are you, Lord our God.

P: You fulfilled your covenant with us in Jesus. He is Emmanuel, your beloved Son, the star that guides us to wisdom, the treasure hidden in a field. He is the landowner who overpays the workers, the judge who separates good from evil. Blessed are you, Lord our God:

C: Blessed are you, Lord our God.

P: For us he lived, for us he died, for us he rose to eternal life. Then and now he invites us to your banquet. On the night in which he was betrayed, he 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.

P: 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: We hear his call, we repent our ways, and we enter with joy into the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you, Lord our God:
C: Blessed are you, Lord our God.

P: Send your Holy Spirit here on your gathered disciples. Make of this meal the body and blood of forgiveness. Heal us and grant us your righteousness, that we may love you and serve our neighbors. Blessed are you, Lord our God:
C: Blessed are you, Lord our God.

P: Blessed are you, Lord our God, our Father in heaven, the Rock on which we build, the Dove alighting on us all. We worship you and sing our praises, today and to the end of the age. Amen.
C: Amen.

*LORD'S PRAYER

Speak this prayer in your preferred language. The pastor will continue when all versions are complete. Bengali is provided on the next page.

C: 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.

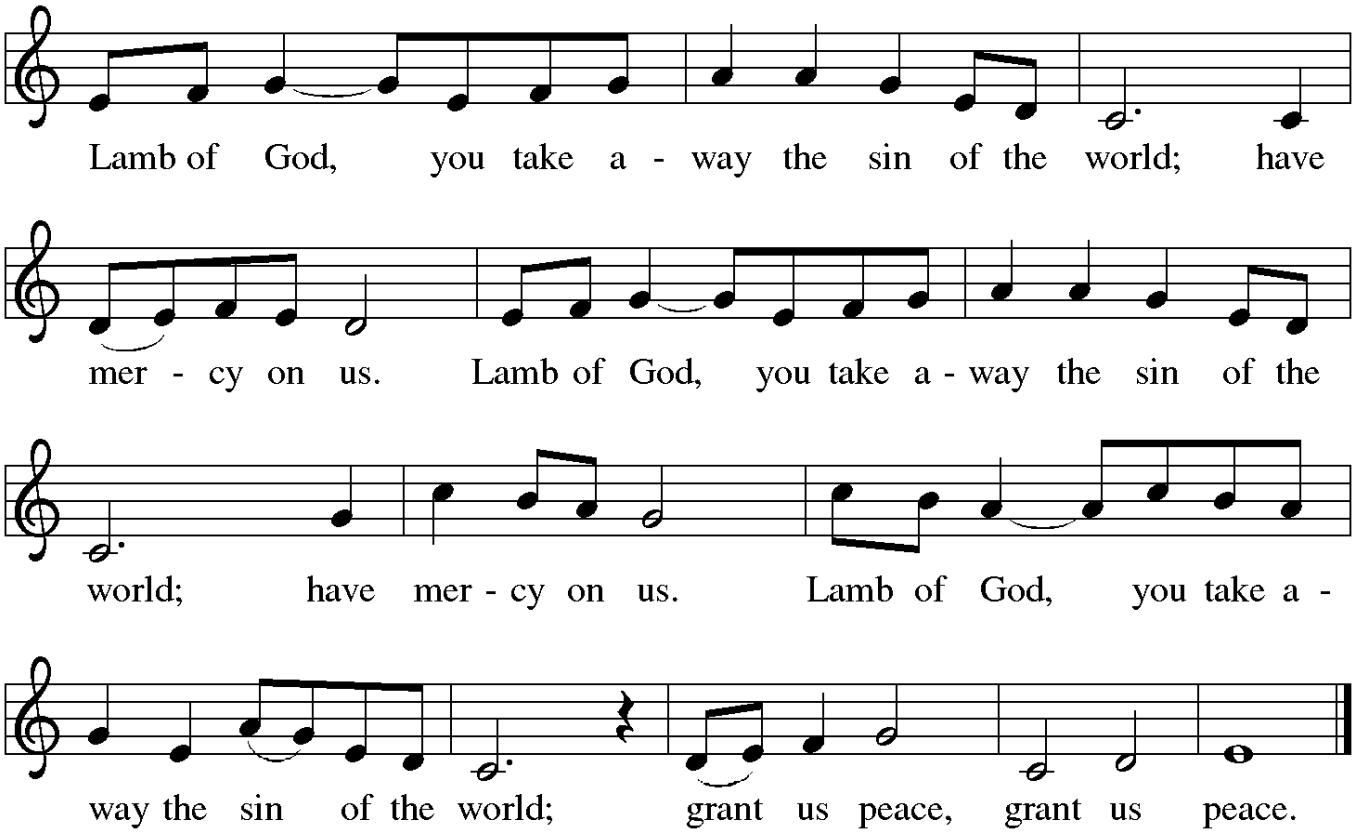
হে আমাদের স্বর্গস্থ পিতা,
তোমার নাম পূজিত হউক,
তোমার রাজ্য আসুক,
তোমার ইচ্ছা যেমন স্বর্গে,
তেমনি পৃথিবীতেও পূর্ণ হউক,
আমাদের দৈনিক অন্ন আজ আমাদিগকে দাও,
আর আমরা যেমন অপরাধীকে ক্ষমা করি তেমনি তুমিও
আমাদের অপরাধ ক্ষমা কর,
আর আমাদিগকে প্রলোভনে পড়তে দিও না,
কিন্তু মন্দের হাত থেকে উদ্ধার করো।
[রাজ্য, পরাক্রম ও মহিমা যুগে যুগে তোমার। আমেন।]

*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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

We believe that God is our host and that all people are welcome to this feast of grace, community, and forgiveness. Come forward at the direction of an usher, and receive bread or gluten-free wafer and wine in a common chalice or pink wine and red grape juice in individual cups. If you wish to receive a blessing, cross your arms over your chest.

AGNUS DEI


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.

COMMUNION HYMNS

Oh, Happy Day When We Shall Stand ELW#441



Text: Wilhelm A. Wexels, 1797–1866; tr. composite
Music: LOBT GOTT, IHR CHRISTEN, Nikolaus Herman, 1480–1561
Text st. 1 © 1958 *Service Book and Hymnal*, admin. Augsburg Fortress; text sts. 2–4 © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Blessed Assurance ELW#638



Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915
Music: ASSURANCE, Phoebe P. Knapp, 1830–1908

*EUCHARISTIC BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen 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.

+ SENDING +

*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

When Peace Like a River ELW#785



Text: Horatio G. Spafford, 1828–1888
Music: VILLE DU HAVRE, Philip P. Bliss, 1838–1876

*DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Encourage one another.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

We depart in peace to continue our worship
in lives of witness to Christ's love
in work, play, service, and care for creation.

***

The Liturgy is reprinted from Evangelical Lutheran Worship, setting 1, copyright © 2006 by permission of Augsburg Fortress, license #SBT005707. Hymns reprinted by permission listed within and under OneLicense #A-724450.

Today's readings are selected from the Revised Common Lectionary. The texts for the scripture readings are from the *New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition*, emendations are provided by the pastoral staff of St. Thomas in consultation with emendations provided for Augsburg Fortress by Gordon Lathrop and Gail Ramshaw.

The eucharistic prayer is reprinted from *Pray, Praise, and Give Thanks: A Collection of Litanies, Laments, and Thanksgivings at Font and Table* by Gail Ramshaw, copyright © 2017 Augsburg Fortress.

At A Glance: This Week at St. Thomas

Sunday November 8

8:30 a.m. Worship/Livestream Worship
9:30 a.m. LuMin Lunch Cart
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
9:45 a.m. Adult Forum
11 a.m. Worship
12 p.m. LuMin Lunch Cart
2:30 p.m. Bach Cantata Project

Monday November 9

10:15 a.m. Worship at Redbud Hills
1 p.m. Pastor's Bible Study

Tuesday November 10

7 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting

Wednesday November 11

Office Closing Early

Thursday November 12

7 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal

Friday November 13

1:15 p.m. Friday Musicale
6:30 p.m. Every Odd Month Event: Game Night

Saturday November 14

10 a.m. Property Committee Work Day
10 a.m. St. Thomas Piecemakers

Sunday November 15

8:30 a.m. Worship/Livestream Worship
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
9:45 a.m. Adult Forum
11 a.m. Worship
12:15 p.m. Annual Budget Meeting

Announcements

The Annual Budget Meeting

The Annual Budget Meeting of St. Thomas Lutheran Church will be **Sunday, November 15, 2026, following the 11 a.m. service (the meeting will begin around 12:15 p.m.).** A budget packet will be emailed to members the week of November 1; paper copies will be available in the office.

Thanksgiving Collection for Pantry 279

We are collecting instant mashed potatoes and packets of turkey or chicken gravy mix for the Pantry 279 Thanksgiving baskets. Help us collect items to fill 2500 holiday meal boxes for families in Monroe and surrounding counties. We will be collecting through **Sunday, November 15.** Stay tuned in November for opportunities to help assemble or deliver the boxes the week before Thanksgiving.

Every Odd Month: Game Night
Bring a snack or drink to share and a fun spirit for game night on **Friday, November 13, 6:30 p.m. in Community Hall.** If you have a board or card game you'd like to play with others, bring that, too!

Advent Devotions
St. Paul writes, "Rejoice always!" But how do we make joy an ongoing reality in our lives? This Advent we'll explore joy: joy that tells the truth, joy that holds on to hope, joy that is a discipline, joy that trusts God in all things. Help our congregation explore joy by providing a brief devotion (200-300 words) about joy: a joyful memory, a practice, a longing for joy in your life. We're not looking for something fancy or heavily researched—just a simple reflections or stories from our members' and friends' walk with Christ. **Please sign up on the Welcome Desk or let the Church office know November 4 if you plan to write a devotion and submit them by November 15.**

Seeking Coffee Volunteers
Our small crew of coffee volunteers needs you! Several of our dedicated volunteers are on medical leave or facing coffee crew retirement: please volunteer to help make and clean up coffee. Sign up at the Welcome Desk.

Seeking a Caroling Coordinator
Caroling to our members who are homebound or who living in a facility is a meaningful holiday tradition at St. Thomas. This year, we are seeking a volunteer coordinator to set the date and coordinate the route(s) for caroling. If you are interested in helping keep this tradition alive, please contact Pr. Adrianne.

Card Ministry Seeking Donations
The Card Ministry is looking for **blank** cards to send to members. If any of you have some that you are willing to donate, leave them in the church office in the basket on the Parish Administrator's desk.

Prayers for those with health and safety concerns

Kathleen Boggess, Drew Carman, Del Newkirk, Kristin Vann, Helen Kane, Bob Osborn, Leslie Main, Dallis Fox-Nagal, Doug Bauder, Yvonne Leber, Kent Unger, and Mark Wilkes.

Contact the church office for inclusion in this list of concerns and to be included in the Sunday prayers.

A separate, confidential prayer chain is also available. Contact **Susan Colston** at skcolston@aol.com to join the prayer chain or make a request for prayer.

The altar flowers are given
by the Altar Guild
in honor of Charlene Braun
with thanksgiving for making
the entry garden beautiful.

Today's Worship Leaders
Altar Care: Ute Coyne, Haley Hatton,
Jennifer Garl
Bread & Wine: Carol Seaman
Prayer Writer: Ian Bensberg
Flowers: Gail Seegert
Coffee Crew: Stephanie Abel, Vicki Polansky
A/V Tech: Andrew Rhoda

8:30 a.m. Service
Assisting Minister: Kari Esarey
Lectors: Carol Seaman, Letty Newkirk
Ushers: Susan Kinzer, Spencer Anspach
Communion Stewards: David Ellies, Barb Unger
Greeter: Lynn & Ute Coyne
Council Coordinator: Greg Valenta

11 a.m. Service
Assisting Minister: Ben Wegner
Lectors: Mike Witt, Debbie Witt
Acolyte: Lucy Meier
Ushers: Scott & Audra Miller
Communion Steward: Sharon Fawbush
Greeters: Tim & Jennifer Garl
Council Coordinator: Mike Witt

ST. THOMAS EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

3800 East Third Street
Bloomington, Indiana 47401
Office Hours 9 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.
Phone: (812) 332-5252
stlconline.org

Partners in ministry with
Lutheran Church of the Living Waters
Cherokee, North Carolina

Linked with
Sister Parish
Iglesia Santo Domingo de Guzman, Chichipate
Parish of San Pedro, El Estor, Izabal, Guatemala

In covenant with
Lutheran Campus Ministry at Indiana University
Rev. Amanda Ghaffarian,
Campus Pastor
lutheran@iu.edu
Phone: (812) 333-2474
lcmiu.org

Rev. Adrianne Meier
Senior Pastor
pastor@stlconline.org

Erica Whichello
Parish Administrator
parishadmin@stlconline.org

Matthew Benkert
Director of Music and Organist
directorofmusic@stlconline.org

Ben Wegner
Adult Choir Director
choir@stlconline.org

Melissa de Graaf
Children's Choir Director

St. Thomas Lutheran Church and LCM-IU are Reconciling in Christ Ministries

We are a Christ-centered community that lives, shares and celebrates God's grace with all people!