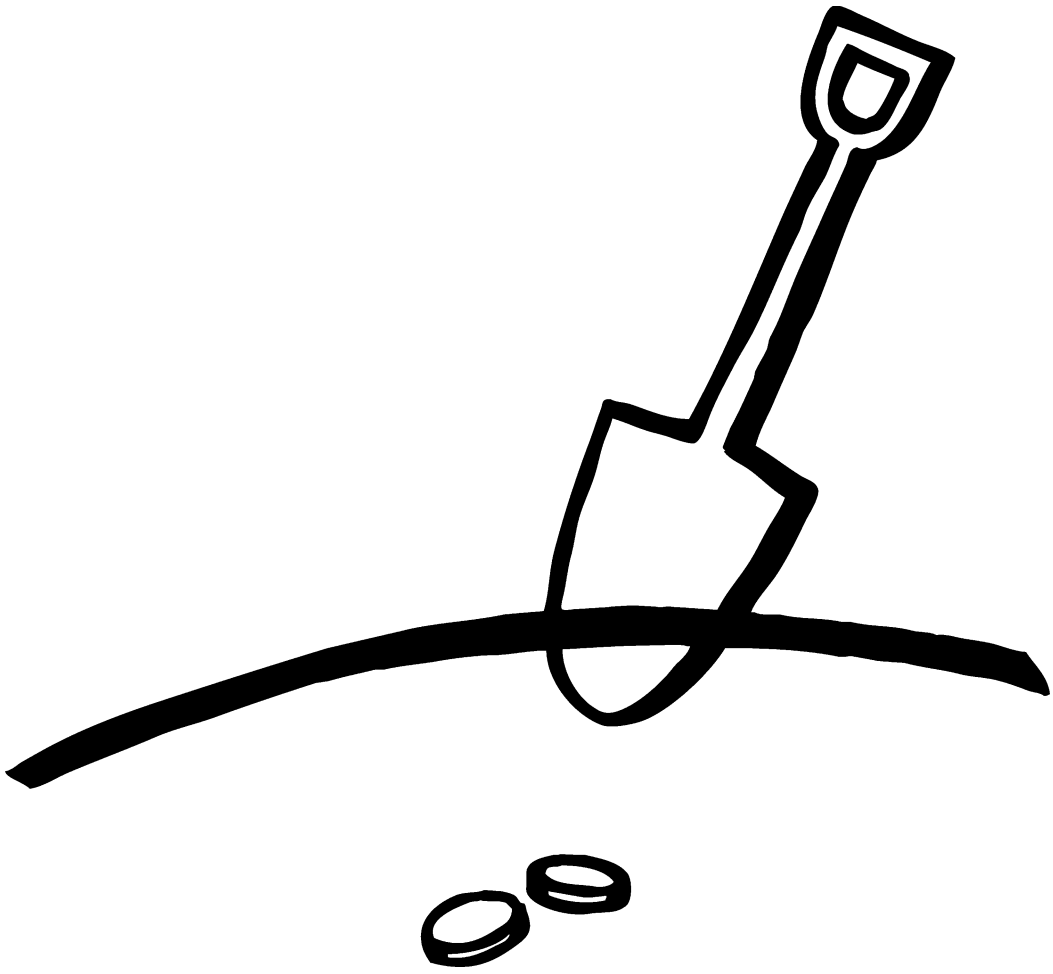
Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
November 15, 2026



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

On Jordan's Stormy Bank I Stand ELW#437



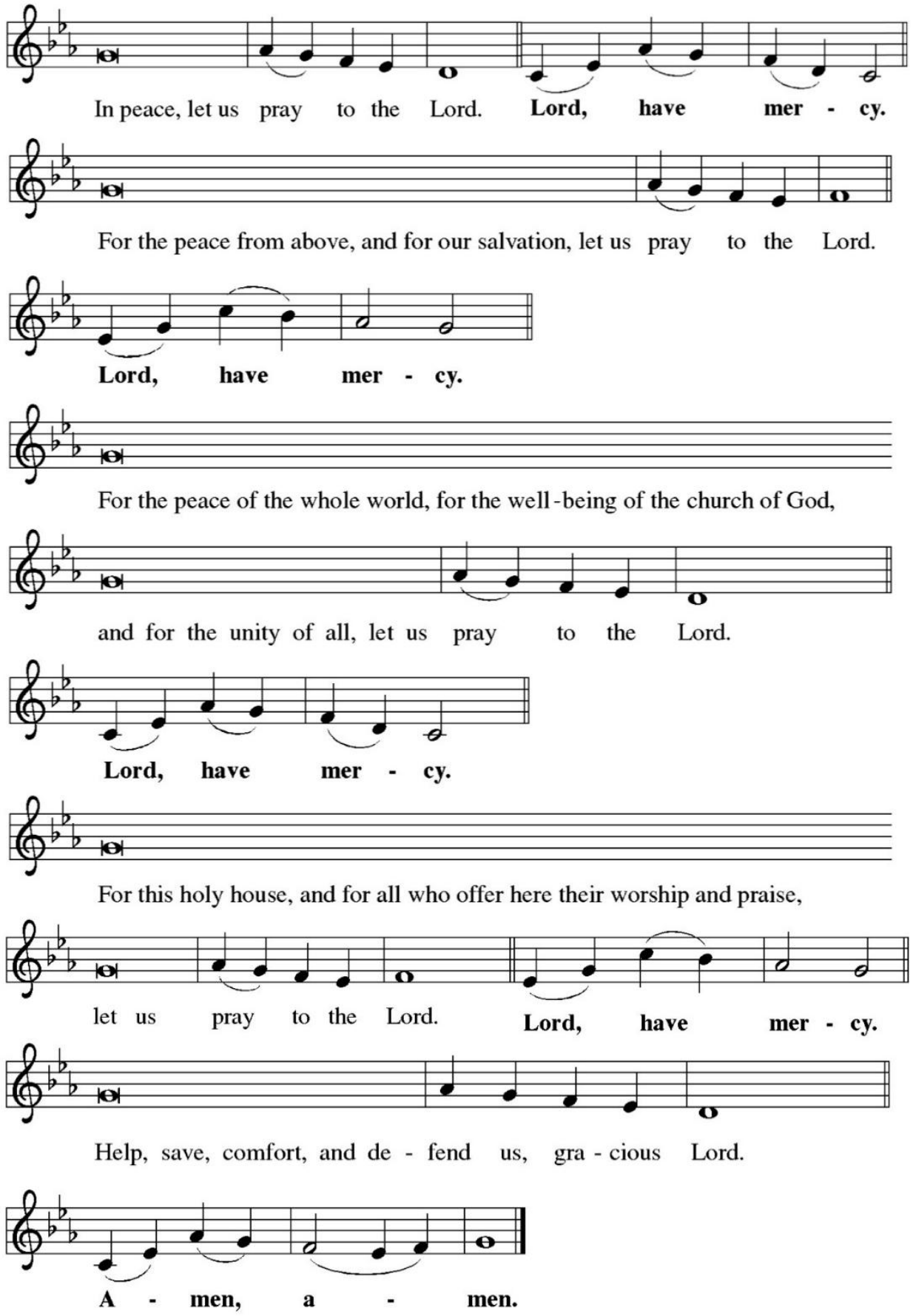
Text: Samuel Stennett, 1727–1795
Music: PROMISED LAND, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; adapt. Rigdon M. McIntosh, 1836–1899

*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. Righteous God, 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.

C: Amen.

+WORD+

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Gerhard Glomm

FIRST READING Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

Be silent before the Lord God,
for the day of the Lord is at hand!
The Lord has prepared a sacrifice
and has consecrated the guests.

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 the Lord do harm."

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.

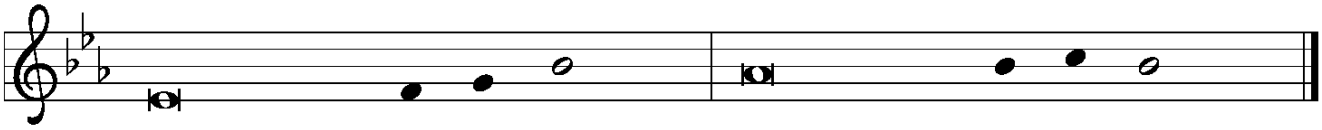
The great day of the Lord is near,
near and hastening fast;
the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter;
the warrior cries aloud there.
That day will be a day of wrath,
a day of distress and anguish,
a day of ruin and devastation,
a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and thick darkness,
a day of trumpet blast and battle cry
against the fortified cities
and against the lofty battlements.

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.

Neither their silver nor their gold
will be able to save them
on the day of the Lord's wrath;
in the fire of the Lord's passion
the whole earth shall be consumed,
for a full, a terrible end
the Lord will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

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

PSALM 90:1-12



Lord, you have | been our refuge
from one generation | to another.
Before the mountains were brought forth,
or the land and the | earth were born,
from age to age | you are God.
You turn us back to the | dust and say,
"Turn back, O child- | ren of earth."
For a thousand years in your sight are
like yesterday when | it is past
and like a watch | in the night;

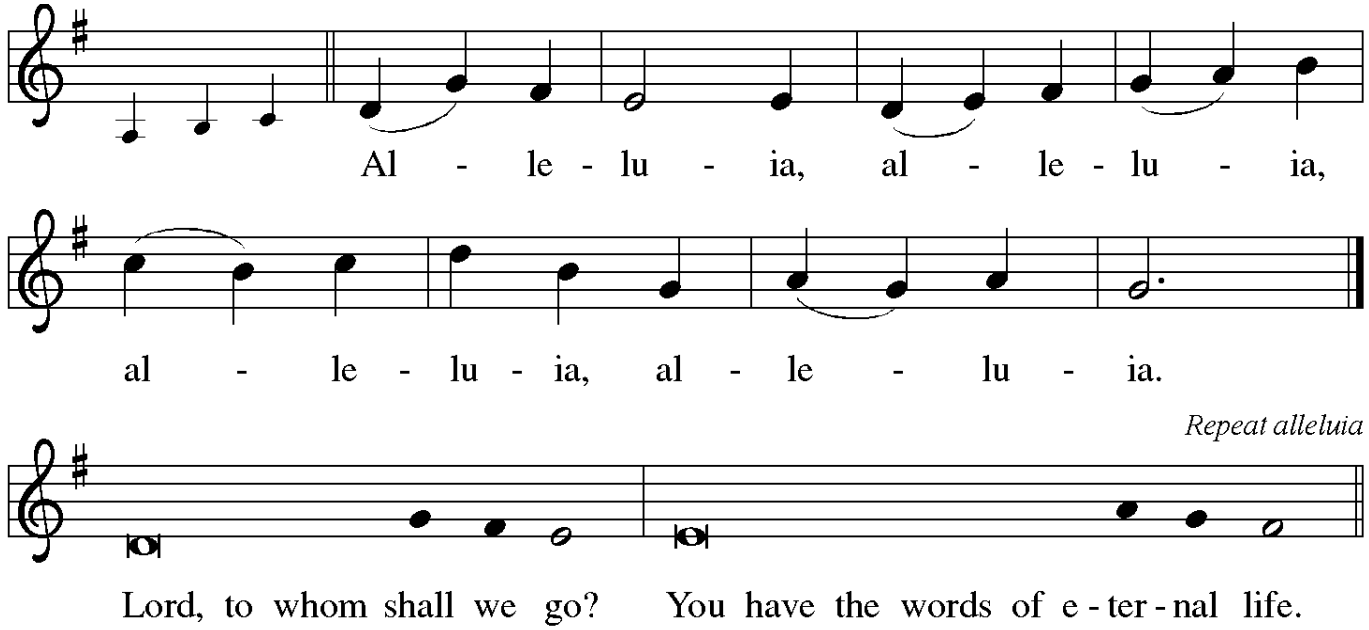
you sweep them away | like a dream,
they fade away suddenly | like the grass:
in the morning it is | green and flourishes;
in the evening it is dried | up and withered.
For we are consumed | by your anger;
we are afraid because | of your wrath.
Our iniquities you have | set before you,
and our secret sins in the light | of your countenance.
When you are angry, all our | days are gone;
we bring our years to an end | like a sigh.
The span of our life is seventy years,
perhaps in strength | even eighty;
yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow, for they pass away quickly and | we are gone.
Who regards the power | of your wrath?
Who rightly fears your | indignation?
So teach us to num- | ber our days
that we may apply our | hearts to wisdom.

SECOND READING 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Now concerning the times and the seasons, dear family, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. 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! But you, my siblings, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So, then, let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober, for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. 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. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with Christ. 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



*HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 25:14-30

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

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] "For it is as if a person, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. At once the one who had received the five talents went off and traded with them and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a

hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. 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.' 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.' 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.' 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.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh person, reaping where you did not sow and gathering where you did not scatter, so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' 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? 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. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. 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. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' "

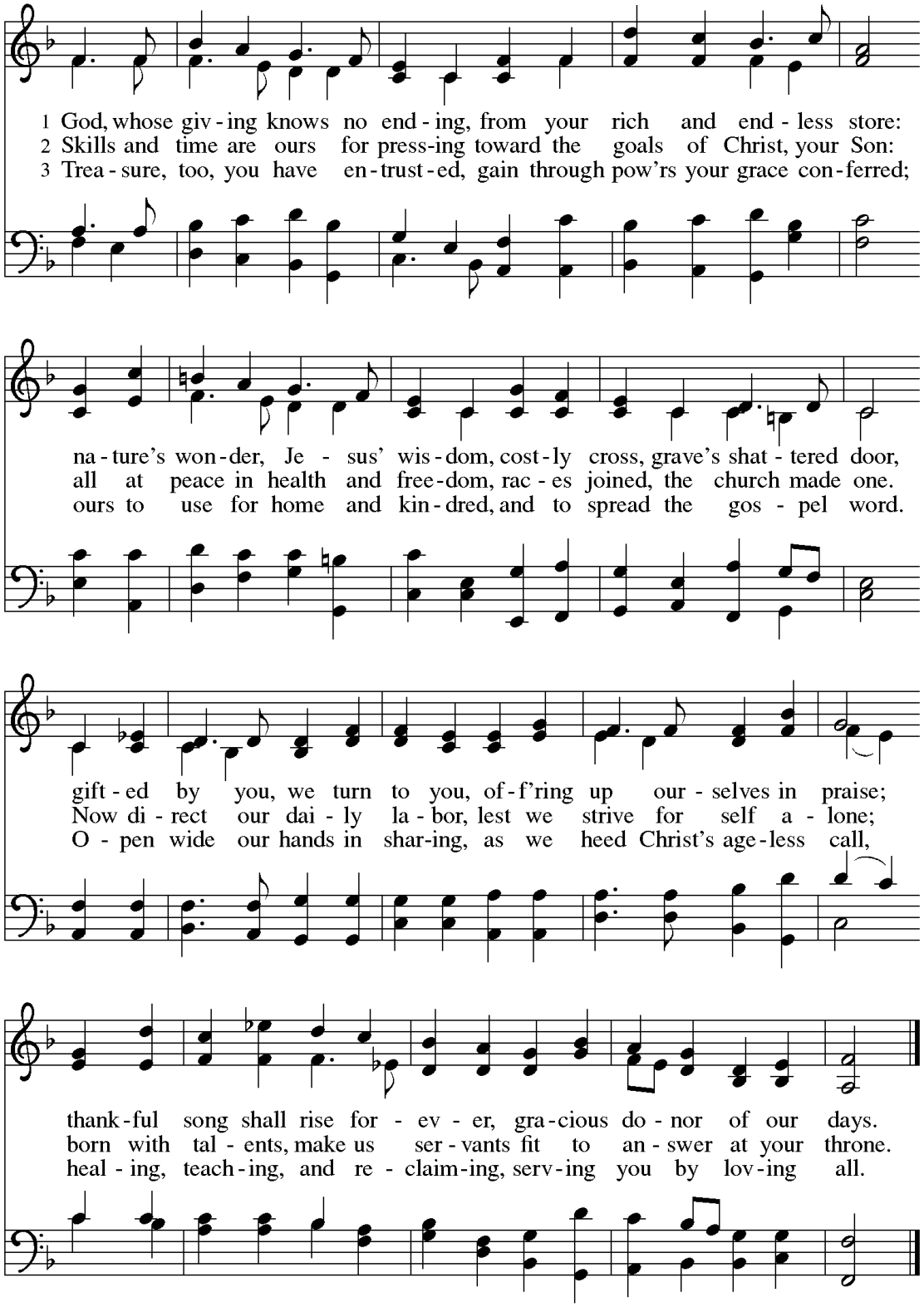
P: The Gospel of Our Lord!
C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON Pr. Adrianne Meier

*HYMN OF THE DAY

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

ELW#678



Text: Robert L. Edwards, 1915–2006
Music: RUSTINGTON, C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848–1918
Text © 1961, ren. 1989 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

*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: You build up the church as a community of faithful witnesses throughout the generations. Enliven our congregation with the gift of your grace and the hope of your good news. Strengthen us to do your work in the world. God, in your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.

A: As the nights grow longer, 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: Be with all who strive to care for your people around the world—those threatened with violence and war, those who are displaced from homes and countries, those who suffer from famine. May we go out into the world with good courage, speaking your truth to complacency, to hatred, to division and injustice. Recommit us to transforming the systems of this world 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 Kathleen, Drew, Del, Kristin, Helen, Bob, Leslie, Dallis, Doug, Yvonne, Kent, and Mark. God, in your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.

A: Bless all who serve in congregational leadership: our pastor and church staff, council members, committee members, teachers, and all volunteers. As we prepare to approve a congregational budget for the year to come, we give special thanks for the work of our Finance Committee. Encourage healthy stewardship of our time, talents, and resources for the mission of the gospel. God, in your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.

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

*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.

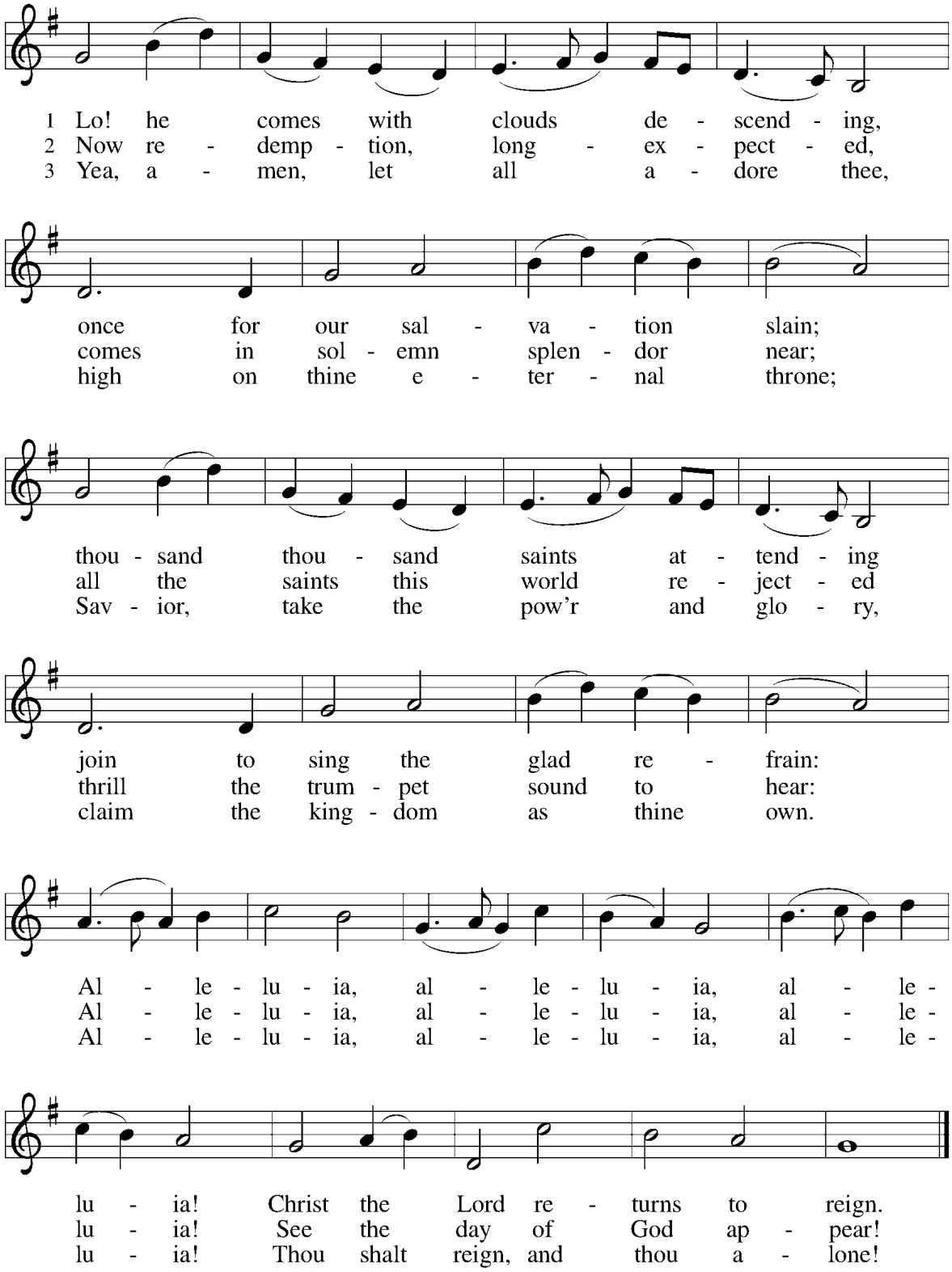
8:30 a.m. only
CHORAL ANTHEM
Turn Thy face from my sins Arthur Sullivan

11 a.m. only
ORGAN OFFERTORY Matthew Benkert

*OFFERTORY HYMN

Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending ELW#435

verse 2 only



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

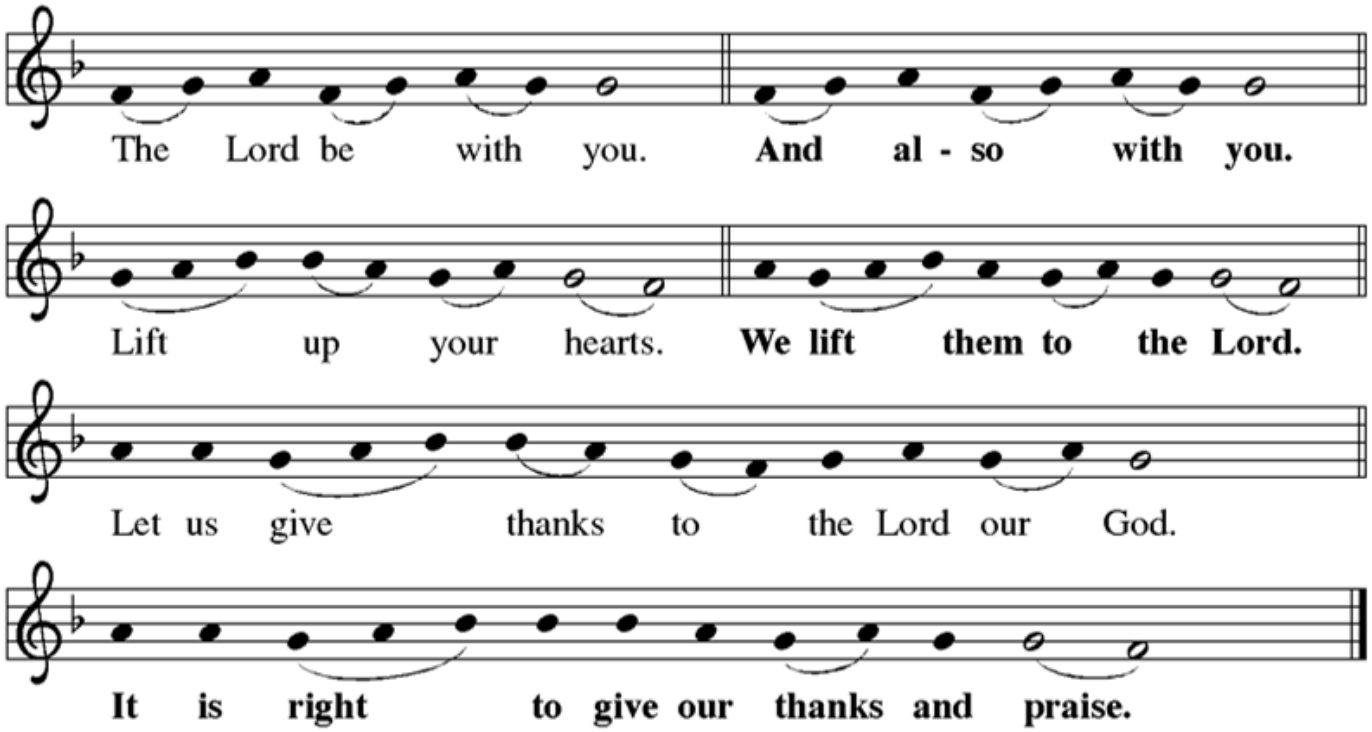
*OFFERTORY PRAYER

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.

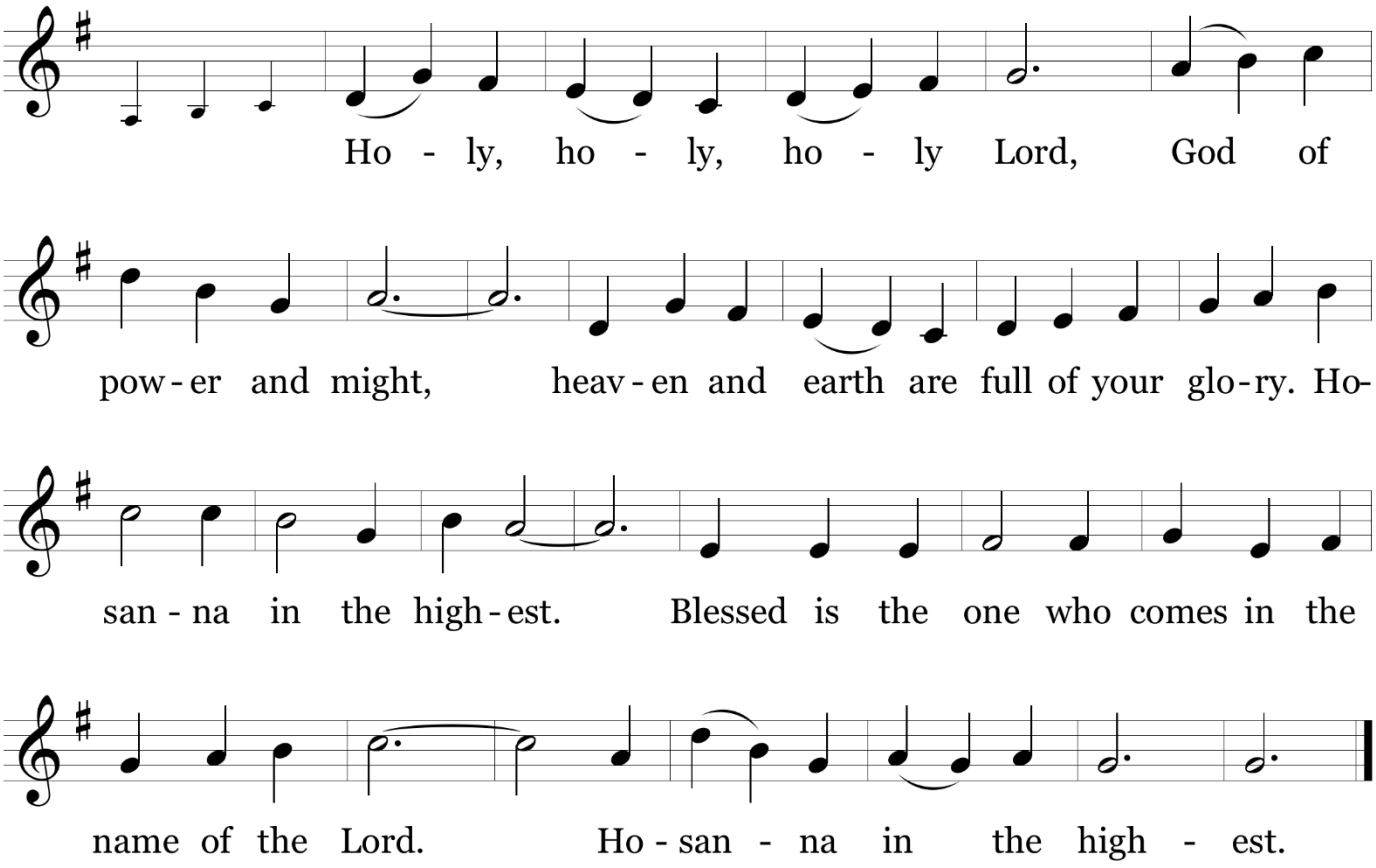
C: Amen.

+ 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. Mvskoke, the language of the Muscogee Creek Nation, 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.

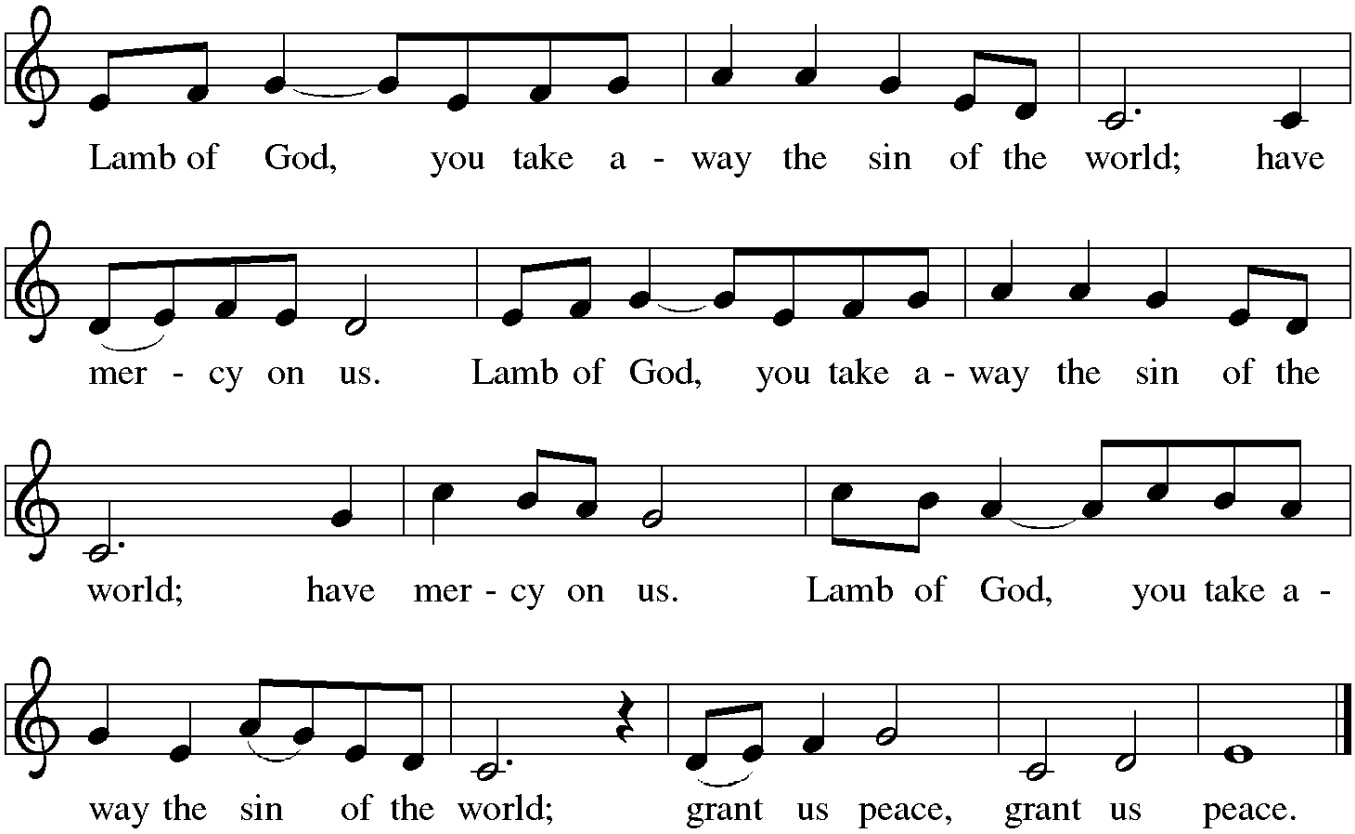
Pu’rke hvlwe liketskat,
ce hocefkvt vcakekvs.
Cem ohmekketvt vlvkekvs.
Mimv hvlwe nake kometske
momat etvpomet yvmv
ekvnvn oh momekvs.
Nettv vrahkv tvkliken
mucv-nettvn pu’mvs.
Momet pum ahuervn es pum
wikvs, vhuericeyat es em
wikakeyat, etvpomen.
Nake pu naorkepuece taye
eskerretv ‘sep oh ahyetskvs;
momis holwakat a sepu’ssicvs.
Ohmekketvt, yekcetvt, momen
rakketvt cenake emunkvt omekv.
Emen.

*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

Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us ELW#707



Text: Eliza S. Alderson, 1818–1889, alt.
Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887

As Saints of Old

ELW#695



Text: Frank von Christierson, 1900–1996, alt.
Music: FOREST GREEN, English folk tune; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958
Text © 1961, ren. 1989 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188.
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*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 +

8:30 only
FAREWELL AND GODSPEED FOR CASEY MAIN AND MARCUS HERSHBERGER

*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

Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory ELW#890



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

*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.

***

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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 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

Monday November 16

9:45 a.m. Worship at Bell Trace
1 p.m. Pastor's Bible Study

Thursday November 19

7 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal

Friday November 20

Office Closed

2 p.m. 60+ Group Event: Lilly Library

Sunday November 22

8:30 a.m. Worship/Livestream Worship
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
9:45 a.m. Adult Forum
11 a.m. Worship

Annual Budget Meeting today

The Annual Budget Meeting of St. Thomas Lutheran Church is today following the 11 a.m. service (the meeting will begin around 12:15 p.m.).

Limited Office Hours
Erica will be out of the office **Monday, November 16 to Friday, November 20.** Office hours will be limited during this time.

Advent is Coming
This Sunday is that last green Sunday of the year, and Advent begins in two weeks on Sunday, November 29. Join us on that day for an Advent Mini-Retreat full of ideas to spark the imagination for this season of anticipation. Advent Soup Suppers will begin on Wednesday, December 2 at 6 p.m. and continue throughout the season. Midweek services are the same evening at 7 p.m. (but you don't have to eat soup to go to worship, nor do you have to stay for worship if you came for soup). Each week will feature Holden Evening Prayer with the final week, December 23, holding a special emphasis on grief during the holidays.

Today's Worship Leaders
Altar Care: Charlene Braun, Gail Seegert
Bread & Wine: Robin Hershberger
Flowers: Carol Seaman
Coffee Crew: Spencer Anspach, Susan Kinzer
Prayer Writer: Dawn Bakken
A/V Tech: Johnathan Frank

8:30 a.m. Service
Assisting Minister: Ashley Ahlbrand
Lectors: Nancy Mathews, Debbie Selk
Ushers: Frank & Mary Lou Nierzwicki
Communion Stewards: David Ellies,
Carol Seaman
Greeter: Dan & Linda McNabb
Council Coordinator: Ashley Ahlbrand

11 a.m. Service
Assisting Minister: Gerhard Glomm
Lectors: Jennifer Garl, Sharon Fawbush
Ushers: Brock DeMark and
Savannah Hadley-DeMark
Communion Steward: Dean Arnold,
Dante Fawbush
Greeters: Gail Seegert, Shirley Mingee
Council Coordinator: Randy Arnold

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 Stephanie Abel
in memory of Julie and Eric
and by the Finance Committee
in honor of Sharon Fawbush's
faithful service as treasurer.

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

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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
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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!