The End Will Come

November 29, 2026

GRACE Lutheran Church

First Sunday in Advent

Welcome, guests! We're delighted you could join us. If you have questions or need more information about our church, any member of Grace will be happy to help. This folder contains all the details about our services, with congregational responses indicated by indentation and bold text. Please take a moment to fill out the guest register at the church entrance; only the pastor and elders will use it. Restrooms are to the left as you exit the sanctuary. May the Lord bless this service as Christ comes to you!

ADVENT SEASON - Brings a close to "End times" and starts a new church year. With Advent, we change the colors to purple to represent royalty, hope, and anticipation of our King who comes through the manger. Jesus came to accomplish our redemption. He comes today through the means of grace to distribute that redemption. He will come again on the last day in our resurrection.

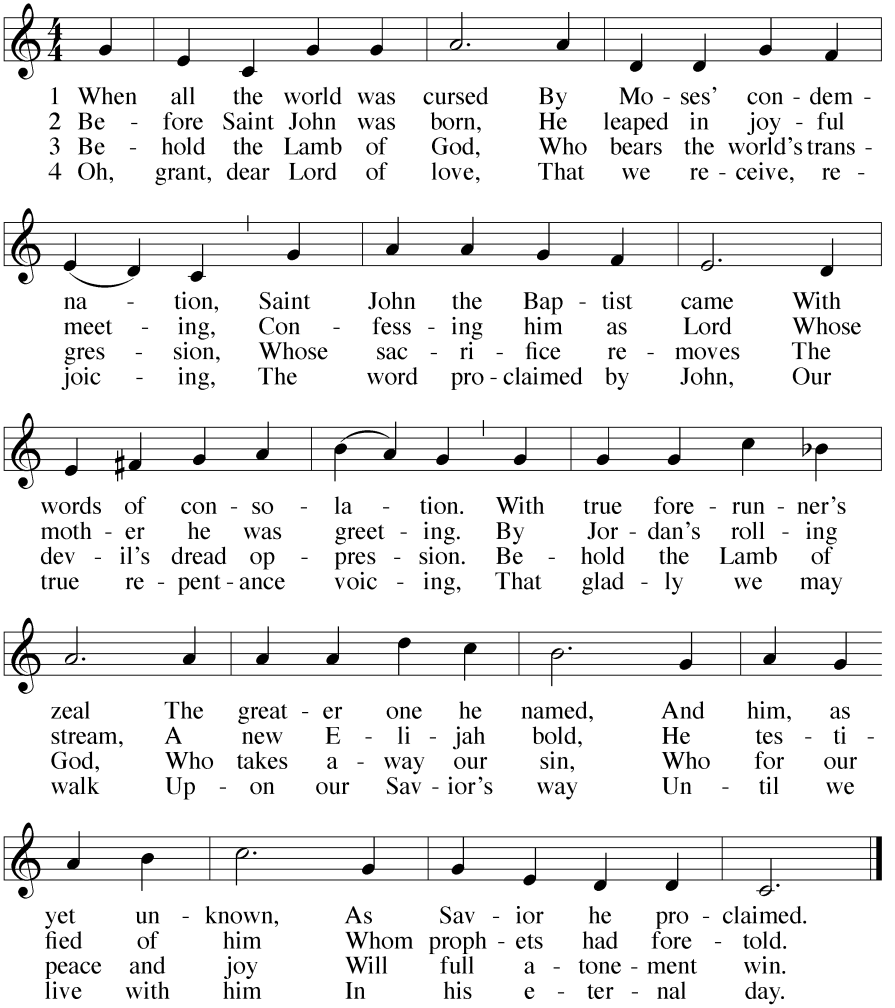
The wreath is circular, symbolizing eternal life. Each of the four candles represents a thousand years from the promise to the fulfillment of the prophecy. The first candle, the "Prophecy Candle," is lit to honor the prophets who foretold Christ's coming. The second candle, the "Bethlehem Candle," symbolizes Christ's love coming to the manger. The third candle, the "Shepherds Candle," is pink and reminds us of the shepherds' joy. The fourth candle, the "Angels Candle," embodies the peace of the angels' message. The center candle is the "Christ Candle." As the central candle, it depicts the centrality of Christ in our lives and the purity he brought into the world. We remember Isaiah's words, "Though our sins are like scarlet, they will be as white as snow."

ORDER FOR TODAY'S SERVICE: COMMON WORSHIP WITH COMMUNION – CW, Pg. 15

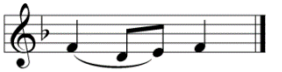
Advent / Christmas: This Advent and Christmas season, we focus on the promise of the King who was to come for our salvation. Our ever-loving Father promised us His gift of His Only Begotten Son, who would redeem us. Advent is the season of preparation as we ready ourselves for Christmas; we prepare our hearts and homes to see Him, for He has come to you.

OPENING HYMN: **#20**

WHEN ALL THE WORLD WAS CURSED *****Please Stand for the Last Verse*****



Text: Johann G. Olearius, 1635–1711, abr.; tr. Paul E. Kretzmann, 1883–1965, alt.
Tune: WAS FRAG ICH NACH DER WELT (67 67 66 66) Ahasverus Fritsch, 1629–1701, alt.



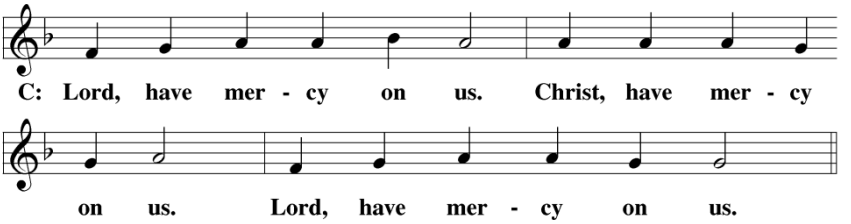
In the name of the Father and of the Son (✝) and of the Holy Spirit.

CONFESSION OF SINS

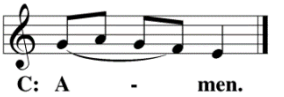
Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this, I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

LORD, HAVE MERCY *KYRIE*



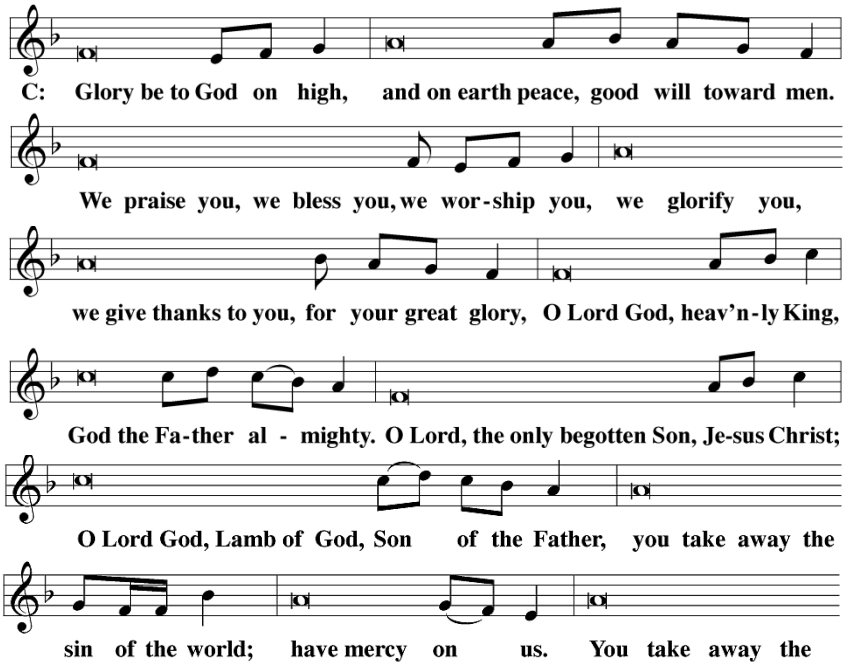
God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (✝) and of the Holy Spirit.

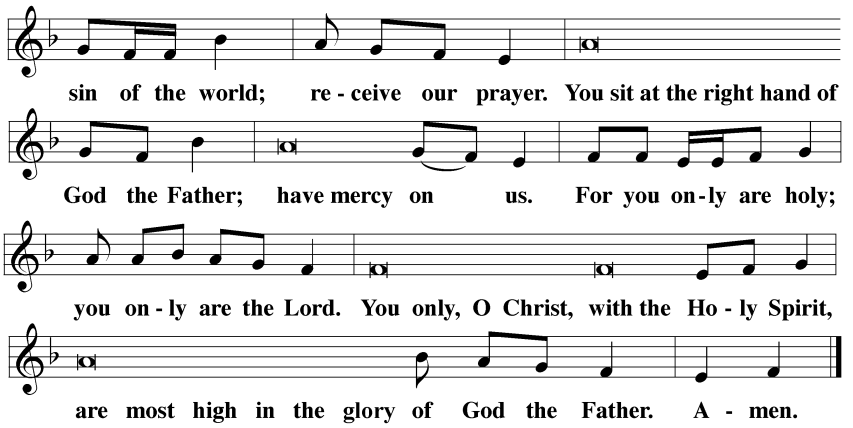


PRAYER AND PRAISE

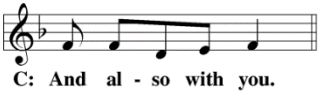
In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

GLORY BE TO GOD *GLORIA IN EXCELSIS*





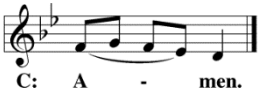
PRAYER OF THE DAY



The Lord be with you.

Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Protect us by your strength and save us from the threatening dangers of our sins; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Please Be Seated*

FIRST LESSON: **ISAIAH 63:16B, 17;64:1 – 8**

Throughout history, God has promised to come in grace to rescue those who are ready and in judgment on those who could not be bothered with Him. In the Old Testament, He came in mighty acts to rescue the Church, always on the brink of perishing among those who did not watch or prepare, and among those who grew tired of waiting and turned away from Him to live in their favorite sins.

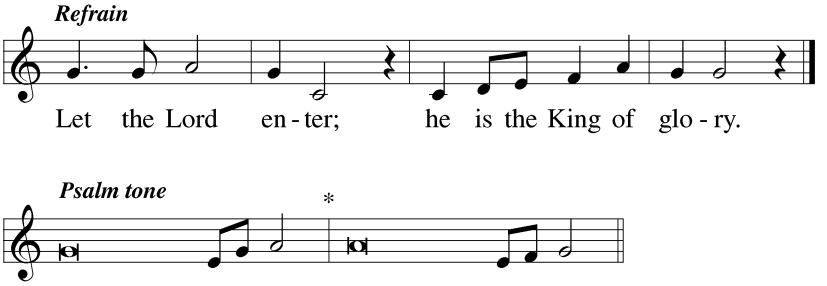
You, the Lord, are our Father. Our Redeemer from everlasting is your name. Why do you cause us to wander from your ways, Lord? Why do you harden our heart so that we do not fear you? Return for the sake of your servants, the tribes that are your heritage.

Oh, that you would rip open the heavens and come down. Mountains then would quake because of your presence. As fire ignites stubble and as fire makes water boil, make your name known to your adversaries. Then nations would quake in your presence. You did amazing things that we did not expect. You came down. Mountains quaked because of your presence. From ancient times no one has heard. No ear has understood. No eye has seen any god except you, who goes into action for the one who waits for him. You meet anyone who joyfully practices

righteousness, who remembers you by walking in your ways! But you were angry because we sinned. We have remained in our sins for a long time.

Can we still be saved? All of us have become like something unclean, and all our righteous acts are like a filthy cloth. All of us have withered like a leaf, and our guilt carries us away like the wind. There is no one who calls on your name, who rouses himself to take hold of you. So you hid your face from us. You made us melt by the power of our guilt. But now, Lord, you are our father. We are the clay, and you are our potter. All of us are the work of your hand.

PSALM OF THE DAY: **PSALM 24**



Refrain

The earth is the LORD'S, and everything in it,*
the world, and all who live in it;
for he founded it upon the seas*
and established it upon the waters.
Who may ascend the hill of the LORD?*
Who may stand in his holy place?
He who has clean hands and a pure heart,*
he will receive blessing from God his Savior.

Refrain

Lift up your heads, O you gates; be lifted up, you ancient doors,*
that the King of glory may come in.
Who is this King of glory?*
The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle.
Lift up your heads, O you gates; lift them up, you ancient doors,*
that the King of glory may come in.
Who is he, this King of glory?*
The LORD Almighty—he is the King of glory.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Refrain

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING ***ADVENT 1***

We light one Advent candle, remembering Jesus, who is coming again. He will come to gather His people from everywhere, both the living and the dead.

We remember Jesus, who will come at the end of time. None of us know what day that will be.

We hear his call to watch.

We light one Advent candle as a sign of our watchfulness and waiting.

Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest.

Through Your Word and Spirit, may our souls be blessed.

We Light One Candle*

SECOND LESSON **1 CORINTHIANS 1:3 – 9**

Since Jesus is most surely coming, how shall we watch and how shall we prepare, so that His coming to us will be in grace and not in judgment? He has not left us on our own when it comes to the tools necessary to prepare for His coming.

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ!

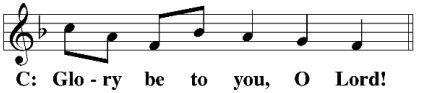
I always thank my God for you because of the grace of God given to you in Christ Jesus. You were enriched in him in every way, in all your speaking and all your knowledge, because the testimony about Christ was established in you. As a result, you do not lack any gift as you eagerly wait for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also keep you strong until the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, who called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Please Stand*

GOSPEL **MARK 13:32 – 37**

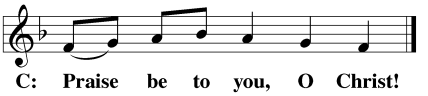
Those who are busy doing their own thing, serving self, looking only for the cute and entertaining things that have become such a part of the world's Christmas culture, will not be ready for either his coming in grace or his coming in judgment. Make no mistake about it: He comes! He comes in grace! He comes in judgment!

After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:



"No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Watch! Be alert and pray, because you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going away on a journey. When he left his home, he put his servants in charge and assigned what each one was to do. He also commanded the doorkeeper to keep watch. Therefore keep watch, because you do not know when the owner of the house is coming: whether in the evening, or at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or early in the morning. If he comes suddenly, do not let him find you sleeping. What I say to you, I say to everyone: Keep watch!"

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:



NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

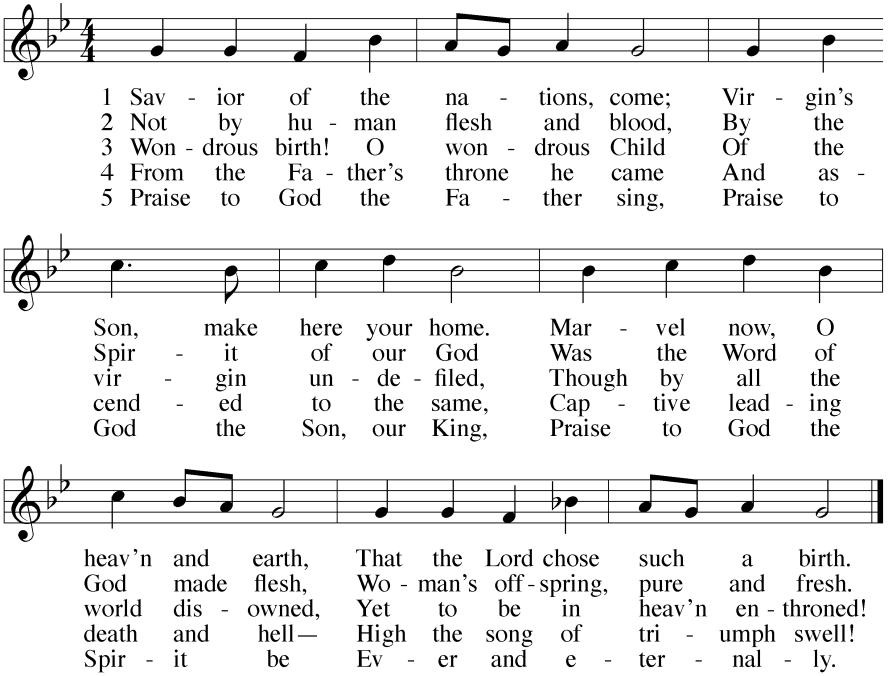
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake, he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day, he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*****Please Be Seated*****

HYMN OF THE DAY: **#2**

SAVIOR OF THE NATIONS, COME

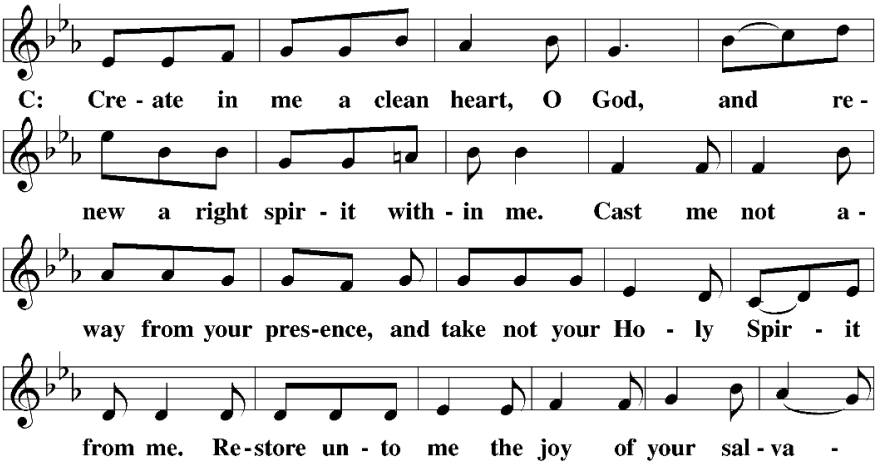


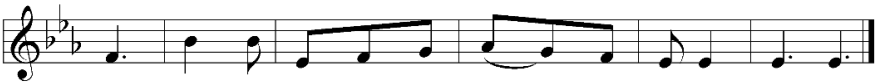
Text: Ambrose, 340–97, abr.; German version, Martin Luther, 1483–1546, abr.; tr. William M. Reynolds, 1812–76, alt.
Tune: NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND (77 77) *Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn*, Wittenberg, 1524.

SERMON TEXT: **MARK 13:32 – 37**

SERMON THEME: **WHY WE NEED OUR KING**

CREATE IN ME





Please Be Seated*

OFFERING – Paul tells us in 2 Corinthians 9: 7: "Each one should give as he has determined in his heart, not reluctantly or under pressure, for God loves a cheerful giver." This service is our gift to our guests; should you feel obliged to give, we thank you for your generosity.

PRAYER FOR ADVENT

Eternal Father, throughout the centuries you repeated and affirmed your promise to send the offspring of the woman to crush the serpent's head. Through your prophets of old, you continually directed the eyes of your people to the advent of their Savior.

We praise you, O Lord, for keeping your promise and sending your Son to destroy the works of the devil.

As we prepare to celebrate the birth of our King, use your mighty Word to shatter our pride and to rouse us from spiritual slumber and apathy.

Move us to take to heart the words of John: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near."

You sent your Son to redeem us from sin. Let this good news be our joy and strength. Use it to cheer the lonely, encourage the fearful, and give hope to the despairing. In these days before Christmas, spare us from the stress of deadlines and the frenzy of commercialism.

Fill our lives with the message of your peace and the music of your grace.

Direct our eyes not only to the manger but also to the skies, where we will see your Son coming again, not as a lowly child but as the Lord of lords.

Lift up our hearts in joyful anticipation of that day.

Special Prayers and Intercessions

Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

Come quickly, Lord Jesus, in your grace, in your power, and in your glory.

Come, Lord Jesus! Amen.

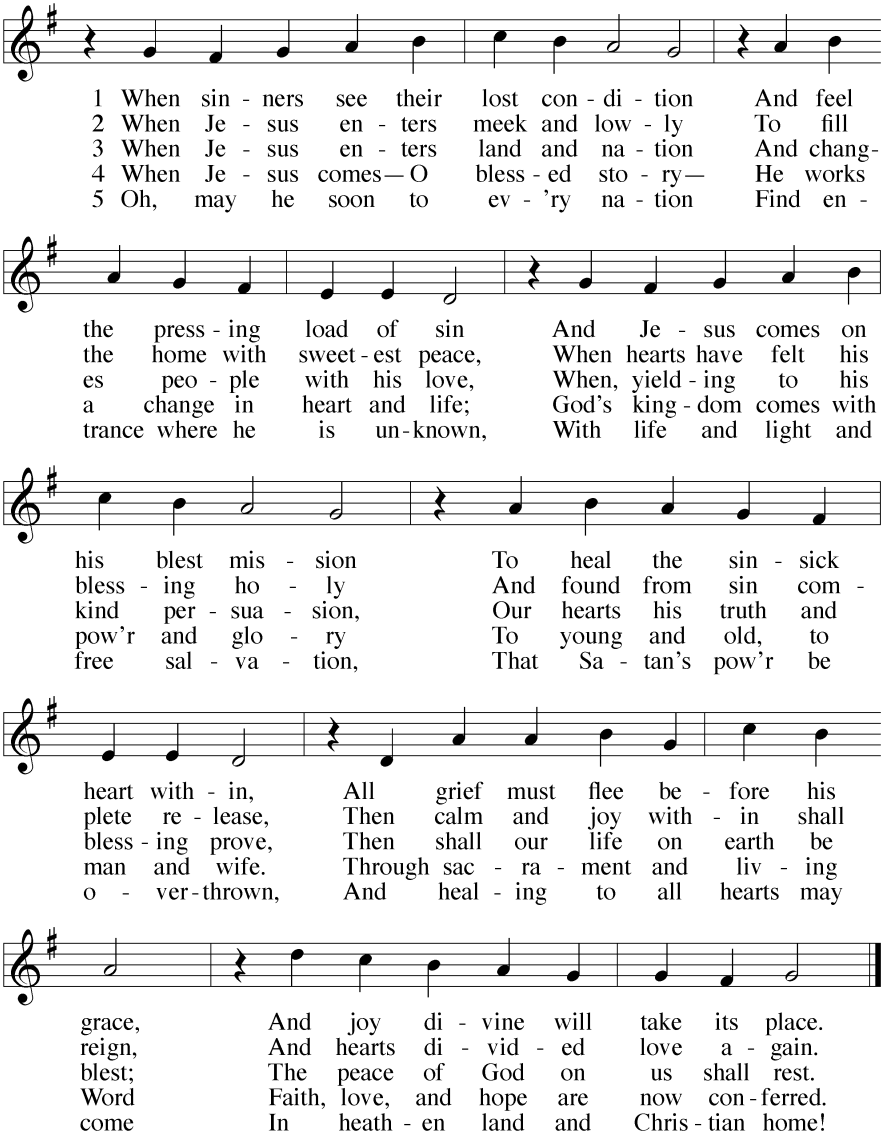
THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

Please Be Seated*

DISTRIBUTION HYMN **#32**

WHEN SINNERS SEE THEIR LOST CONDITION

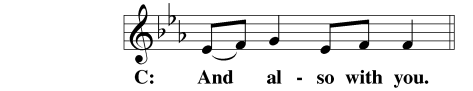


Text: Magnus B. Landstad, 1802–80, abr.; tr. Oluf H. Smeby, 1851–1929, alt.
Tune: WER WEISS, WIE NAHE (98 98 88) Christian Möck, 1737–1818.

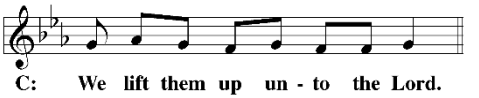
Please Stand

THE SACRAMENT

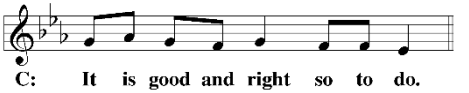
The Lord be with you.



Lift up your hearts.

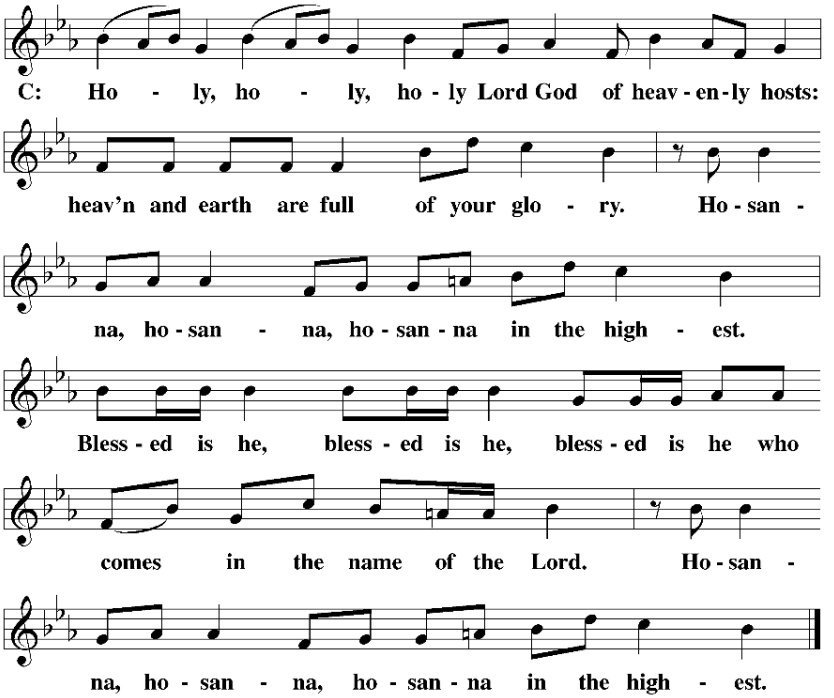


Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared when he called people to repentance and pointed to Jesus as the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and the hosts in heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

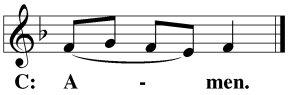
HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

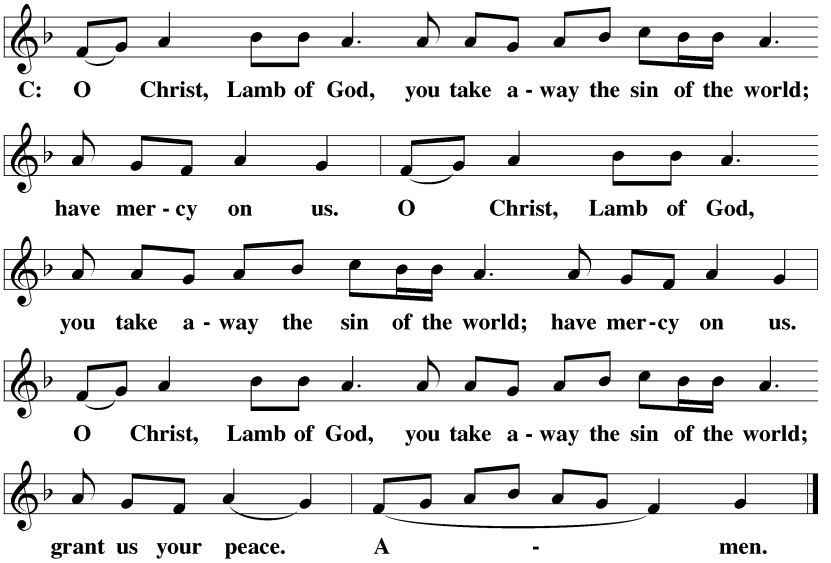
Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my (†) body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my (†) blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."



The peace of the Lord be with you always.

CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD *AGNUS DEI*



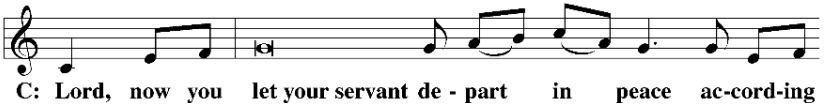
Please Be Seated

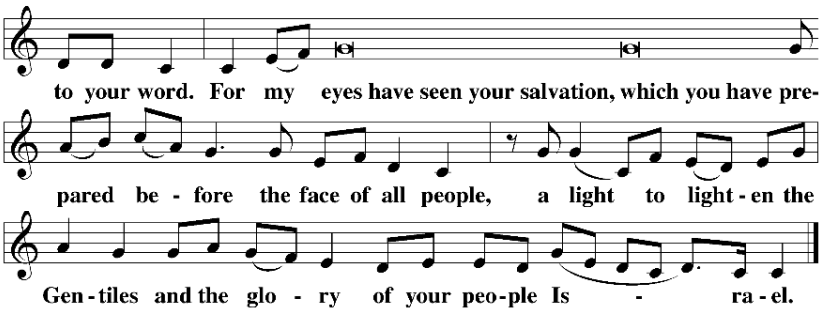
DISTRIBUTION

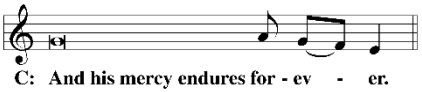
DISTRIBUTION – Please come forward at the direction of our usher. We do practice close communion according to Paul's guidance in 1 Corinthians 11:27: "For if anyone eats and drinks in an unworthy manner because he does not recognize the Lord's body, he eats and drinks judgment upon himself." Therefore, if you are not a member of the ELS or WELS, please talk to Pastor Emmons before communing. Thank you for respecting our practices.

Please Stand

SONG OF SIMEON *NUNC DIMITTIS*



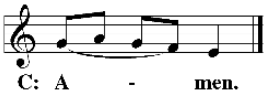




O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

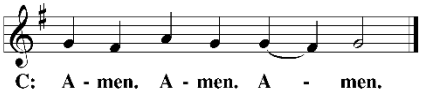
CLOSING PRAYER

O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving kindness, you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BLESSING

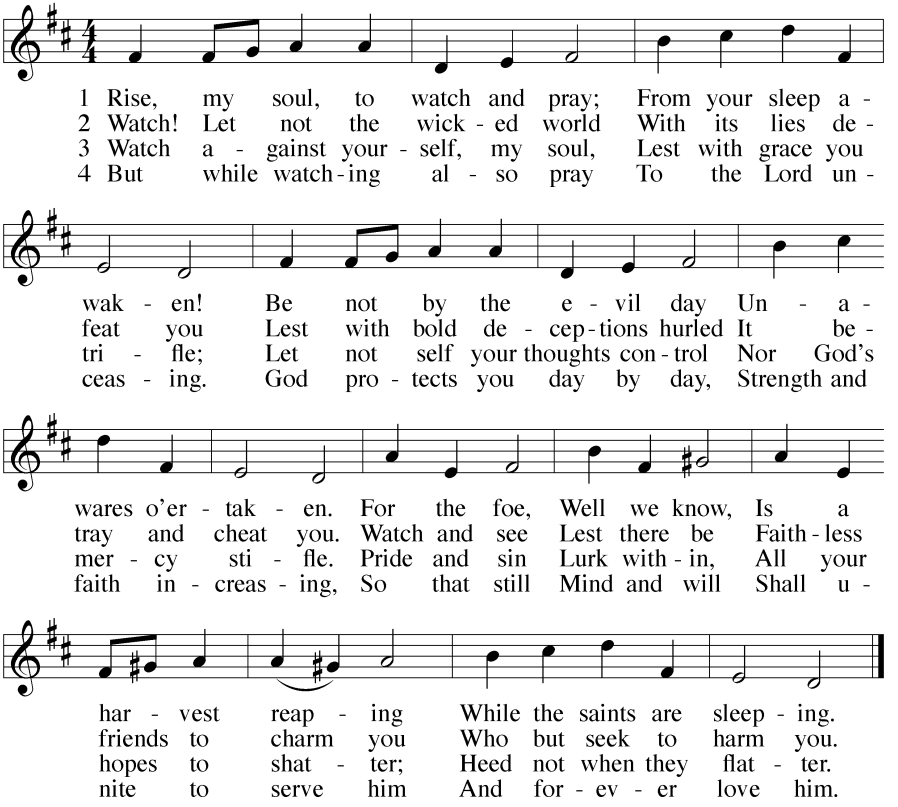
The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord, make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and (†) give you peace.



Please Be Seated

CLOSING HYMN: **#472**

RISE, MY SOUL, TO WATCH AND PRAY



Text: Johann B. Freystein, 1671–1718, abr.; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Tune: STRAF MICH NICHT (76 76 33 66) *Hundert . . . geistlicher Arien*, Dresden, 1694, alt.

WHAT WE BELIEVE:

- Every word of the Bible is inspired, inerrant, and the sole source of absolute truth.
- The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit form the triune God, the only true God.
- All humans are born dead in sin and deserve eternal condemnation.
- Jesus Christ is the true God; he was conceived in Mary's womb by the Holy Spirit, assuming His human nature to His divine nature.
- Only through His perfect work of redemption, His perfect life and innocent death, are all sins forgiven for all people, and credit is given for His perfect life.
- Only those whom the Holy Spirit, through Word and Baptism, blesses with faith in Jesus' redemptive work receive its benefits.
- The day is drawing near when Jesus will return, when all believers will be with Him in heaven, all unbelievers will be condemned to eternal torment, and this present world will be destroyed.

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Refrain Tune: Richard Proulx. © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc., Chicago, IL, www.giamusic.com. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Lectionary listings from Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal © 1993 Northwestern Publishing House. All rights reserved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Strategic Planning: We have an opportunity to walk through strategic planning with Pastor Brad Kerkow of the Board for Home Outreach on November 19 and 20. We will meet at Pastor Emmons' home (4927 SW Yew Pl, Redmond) at 6:00 p.m. All members are invited. If you cannot drive during those hours, you can join us via the Zoom link below. Contact Pastor Emmons to set up Zoom.

Cookies and Caroling: Please join us at 2 p.m. on December 12, at the Gunther home: 62902 Eagle Rd, Bend.

Sunday Morning Bible Study: Please consider attending our Sunday morning adult Bible Study as we study Paul's letter to the church at Colossae. After our study of Colossians, we will read and discuss "Connected to Christ," a book that will support our outreach.

Midweek Bible Study: We have an opportunity to start planning your New Year's resolution. Please add this to your calendar to join us on Tuesday, January 5, 2027, at 6 p.m. You can also join us from the comfort of your home via Zoom.

Zoom Meeting ID: 850 328 6057 Password: GraceOT

Thanksgiving Service: Thank you to all who joined us for our Thanksgiving potluck. Through the seminarian collection, we sent over $500 to each seminarian. We rejoice in your love for the ministry and in your support of our seminarians and their families.

Advent Services: As we prepare for our Advent services, please consider inviting someone you know to hear of the greatest gift we have received: God's Son as our Savior. Please take some of the postcards in the entryway to hand to your friends. Our midweek services will begin on December 2 at **3:30 p.m.**

Christmas Eve: How about a cookie exchange? As you plan to bring your cookies for Christmas Eve, please bring extras to share. You will go home with a variety of cookies. If you are not planning to attend but would still like to share cookies, please talk to Penny Port.

Christmas Services: Our Christmas Eve service will be at 3:30 p.m. as we look to our coming King and prepare to meet Him. Our service will be focused on Luther's hymn: "From Heaven Above to Earth I Come." Pastor Emmons needs your help with planning the Christmas morning service. This service will be a song service. Please find the hymn selection insert in the bulletin and fill out your favorite Christmas hymn. Please fill it out and put it in the collection plate, text it to him, or email it to him.

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