Saints Triumphant

November 8, 2026

GRACE Lutheran Church

Third Last Sunday of End Times

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!

THEME FOR TODAY'S READINGS: Lord, keep us watchful for our triumph! Today the Church hears strains of the distant triumph song and affirms, "Blessed are they who are called to the marriage feast of the Lamb." Jesus wants us to be the waiting Church—the Church that watches for her Savior and cries, "Come, Lord Jesus!" As we journey through these latter days, however, our vigilance slips, and our hearts grow drowsy because the bridegroom seems to be taking so long. So while we wait, the Church prays, "Keep us ever watchful for the coming of your Son that we may sit with him and all your holy ones at the marriage feast in heaven."

MORNING PRAYER: Almighty God and Savior, you have set the final day and hour when we shall be delivered from this world of sin and death. Keep us ever watchful for the coming of your Son that we may sit with him and all your holy ones at the marriage feast in heaven; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.
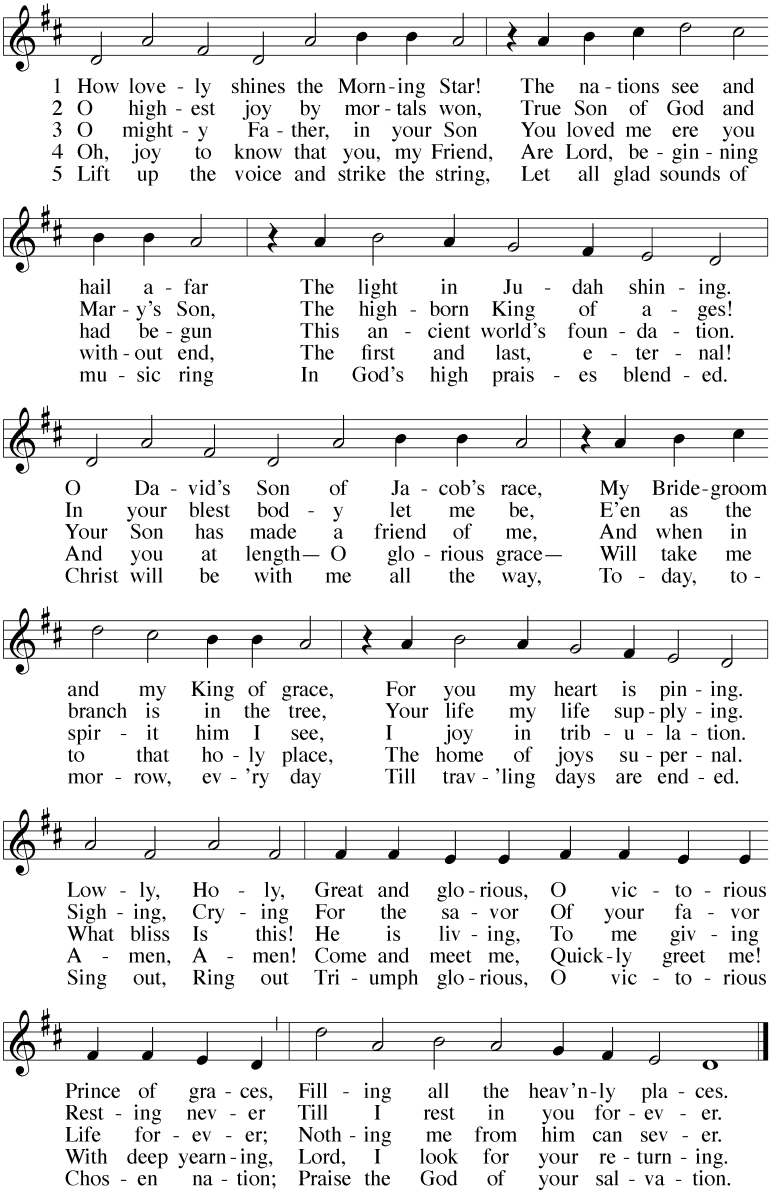
ORDER FOR TODAY'S SERVICE: COMMON WORSHIP WITH COMMUNION– CW, p.15
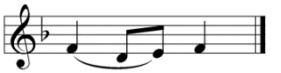




OPENING HYMN: **#79**

HOW LOVELY SHINES THE MORNING STAR *****Please Stand for the Last Verse*****



Text: Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608, abr., adapt,; tr. *The Lutheran Hymnal*, St. Louis, 1941, alt.
Tune: WIE SCHÖN LEUCHTET (887 887 22 44 48) Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608, alt.



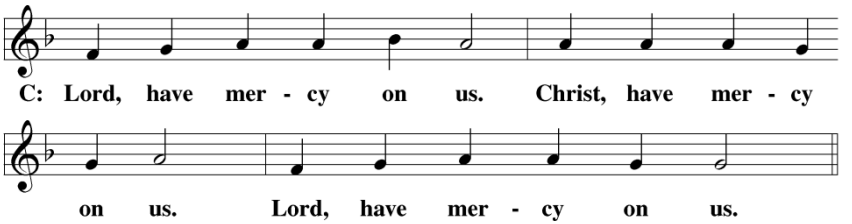
In the name of the Father and of the Son (✝) and of the Holy Spirit.

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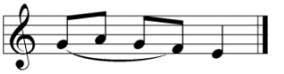
Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

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*
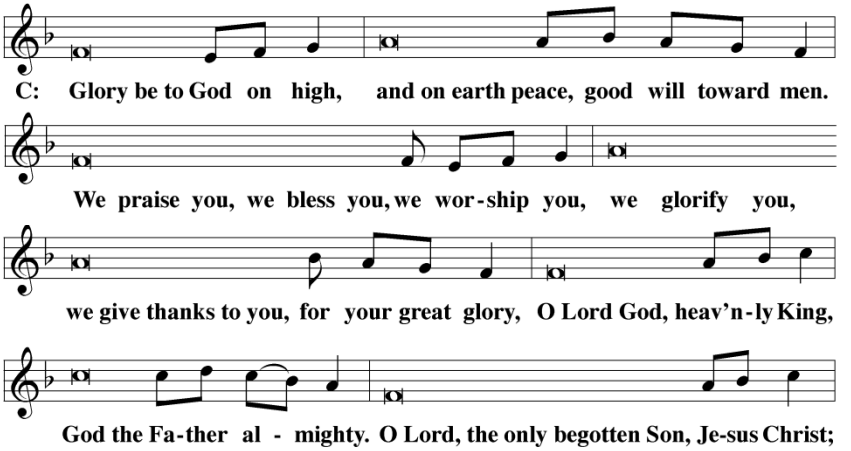


God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (✝) and of the Holy Spirit.
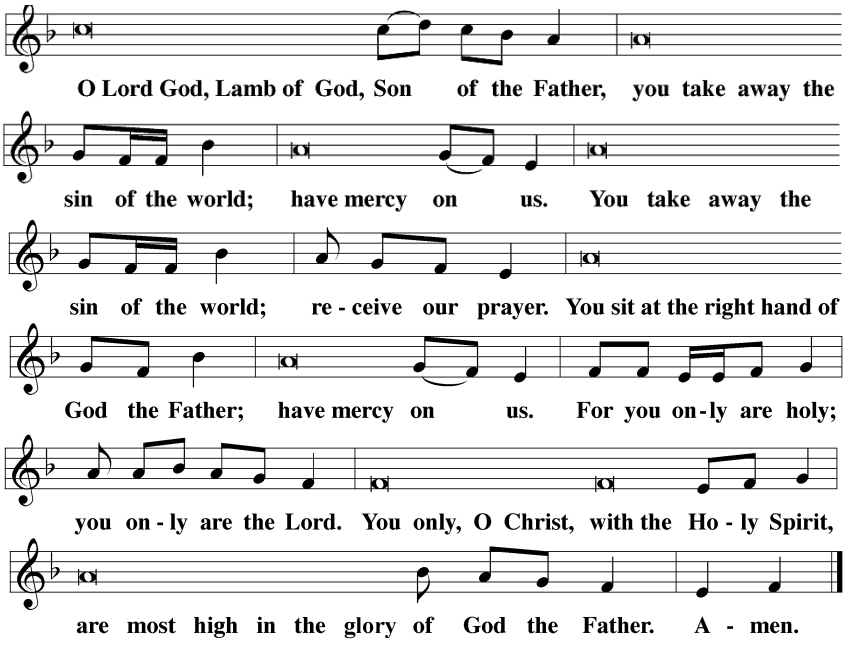


PRAYER AND PRAISE
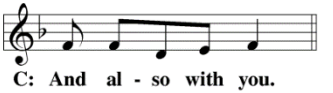
In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

GLORY BE TO GOD *GLORIA IN EXCELSIS*
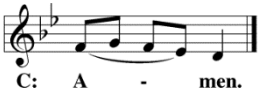




PRAYER OF THE DAY



The Lord be with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God and Savior, you have set the final day and hour when we shall be delivered from this world of sin and death. Keep us ever watchful for the coming of your Son that we may sit with him and all your holy ones at the marriage feast in heaven; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Please Be Seated*
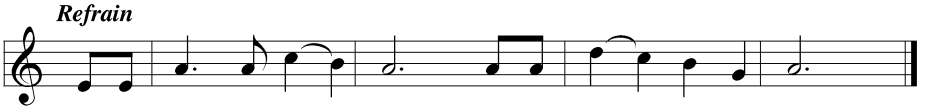
FIRST LESSON: **ISAIAH 52:1 – 6**
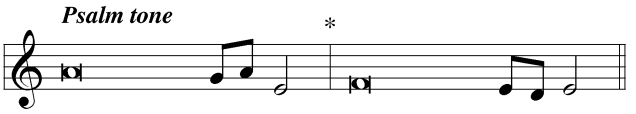
Isaiah prophesies to captive Israel who is sleepwalking through life, because they are lost in the stupor of grief over their afflictions. "Awake!" the prophet cries, and hear God's promise of coming triumph that will give you strength to face your present problems.

Wake, awake! Clothe yourself with strength, O Zion. Put on your beautiful garments, Jerusalem, you holy city, for never again will the uncircumcised and the unclean enter you. Shake off the dust. Get up and take your seat, Jerusalem. Loosen the chains from your neck, you captive daughter of Zion.

Yes, this is what the Lord says. You were sold for nothing, and you will be redeemed without money. Yes, this is what the Lord God says. In the beginning, my people went down to Egypt to stay there for a while. Later Assyria oppressed them without cause.
Now what do I have here? declares the Lord. Indeed, my people have been taken away for nothing. Their rulers howl with mockery, declares the Lord. My name is continually despised all day. Therefore my people will know my name. So on that day they will know that I am the one—the one who is saying, "Here I am!"

PSALM OF THE DAY: **PSALM 84**





Refrain

How lovely is your dwelling place,*
O LORD Almighty!
My soul yearns, even faints,*
for the courts of the LORD.
Blessed are those who dwell in your house;*
they are ever praising you.

Refrain
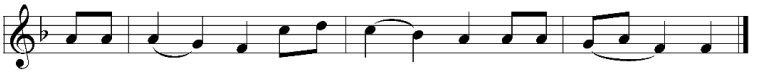
Better is one day in your courts*
than a thousand elsewhere;
I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God*
than dwell in the tents of the wicked.
O LORD Almighty,*
blessed are they who trust in you.

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

VERSE OF THE DAY

Alleluia. They are before the throne of God and serve him day and night in his temple. Alleluia. (Revelation 7:15a)
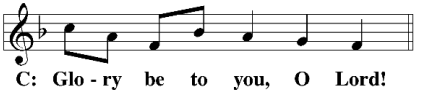


Please Stand

GOSPEL **MATTHEW 25:1 – 13**
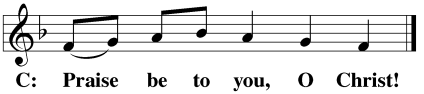
Jesus pictures the time before his return as virgins waiting for a bridegroom and the start of a wedding feast. The parable divides all people (ten virgins) into two groups: foolish and wise. They weren't described that way because of what they did in the parable, but their actions showed what they were.

After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:



"At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were were wise. When the foolish ones took their lamps, they did not take any oil with them; but the wise took oil in their containers with their lamps. While the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and fell asleep. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look, the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' Then all those virgins got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish ones said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil because our lamps are going out.' But the wise answered, 'No, there may not be enough for us and for you. Instead, go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves.' But while they were away buying oil, the bridegroom came. Those who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet, and the door was shut. Later, the other virgins also came and said, 'Lord, Lord, let us in.' But he answered, 'Amen I tell you: I do not know you.' Therefore, keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.

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*

SECOND LESSON **1 THESSALONIANS 4:13 – 18**
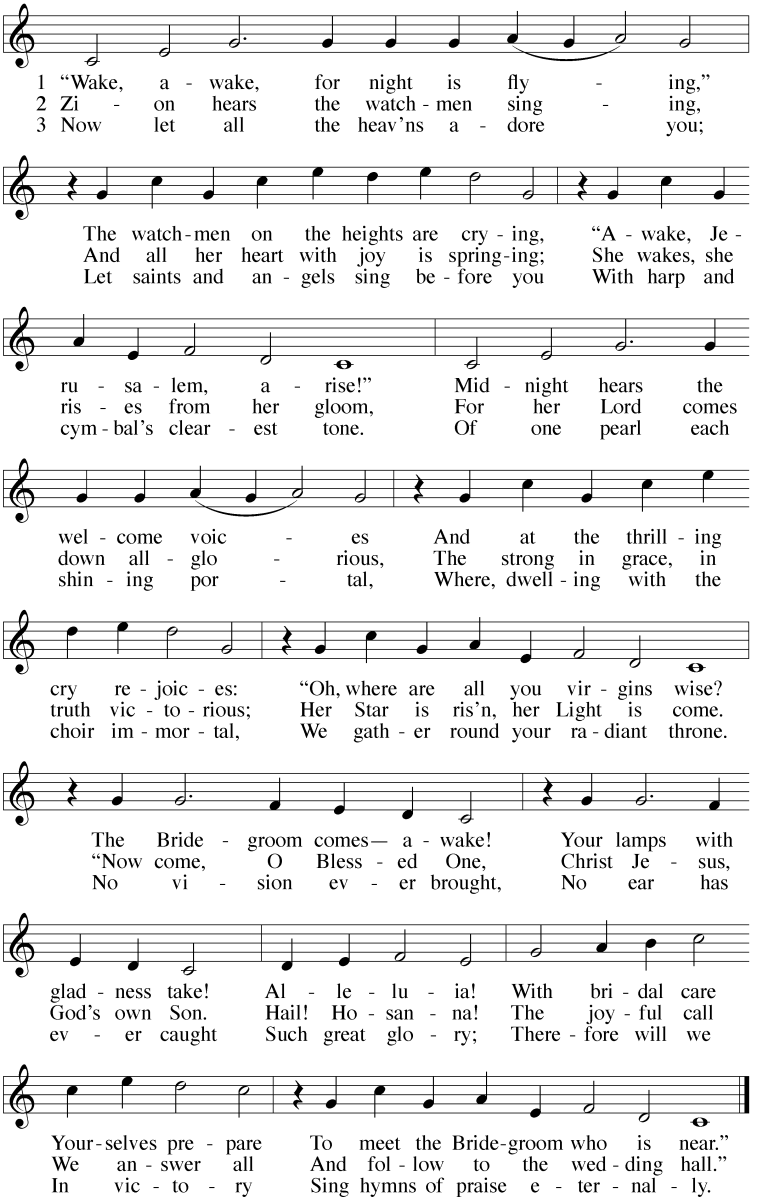
To the new Christians in Thessalonica, Paul explains the certain hope we have to be saints triumphant. His words are so simple, yet so profound! We believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that all who die in Christ will go with him to heavenly triumph. And we will be with the Lord forever.

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who have fallen asleep, so that you do not grieve in the same way as the others, who have no hope. Indeed, if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, then in the same way we also believe that God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep through Jesus.

In fact, we tell you this by the word of the Lord: We who are alive and left until the coming of the Lord will certainly not go on ahead of those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself will come down from heaven with a loud command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet call of God, 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 always be with the Lord. Therefore, encourage one another with these words.

HYMN OF THE DAY: **#206**

WAKE, AWAKE, FOR NIGHT IS FLYING

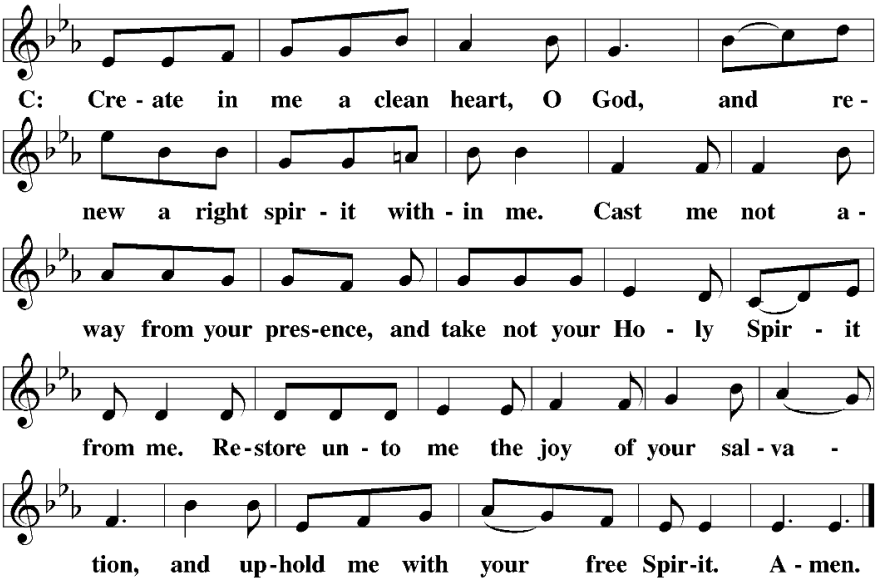


Text: Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Tune: WACHET AUF (898 898 664 448) Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608, alt.

SERMON TEXT: **1 THESSALONIANS 4:13 – 18**

SERMON THEME: **DON'T GRIEVE LIKE THOSE WITHOUT HOPE**

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 OUR NATION

Almighty God, we acknowledge with thanks that all we have and enjoy is a gift from your gracious hand. We come before you today in heartfelt appreciation for our nation and its people.

We thank you for enabling us to worship you in freedom and to serve you without fear.

You have enriched us with the bounties of farm and factory, the beauty of forest and mountain, and the marvels of medicine and science.

For all these blessings, we praise and glorify you.

Look with favor upon our nation, and preserve our cherished liberties. Enable our leaders to govern with wisdom, honesty, courage, and justice. Protect those who serve in the armed forces and those who maintain peace and safety in our communities.

Give us willingness to obey our nation's laws and to work for the common good.

Keep our financial institutions secure and our economy strong. Bless our fields that they may produce abundant harvests. Guard us from calamities of nature and accident, and spare our land from the ravages of disease and epidemic.

Teach us not to worry but to cast all our cares on you.

Strengthen the homes of our nation. By your Spirit, lead husbands and wives to love each other, parents to nurture their children, young adults to assume responsibility, and children to show respect.

Special Prayers and Intercessions

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

Silent prayer.

To you, O Lord, we bring our thanks and our requests.

Hear our prayer for Jesus' sake. Amen.

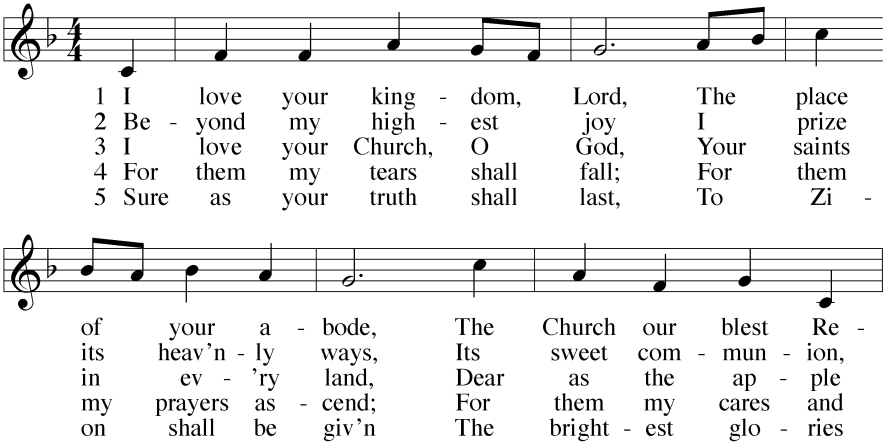
THE LORD'S PRAYER
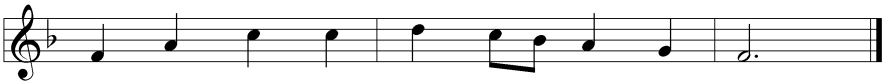
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

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

DISTRIBUTION HYMN **#533**

I LOVE YOUR KINGDOM, LORD
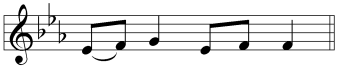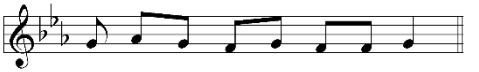




Text: Timothy Dwight, 1752–1817, abr., alt.
Tune: ST. THOMAS (SM) Aaron Williams, 1731–76.

Please Stand
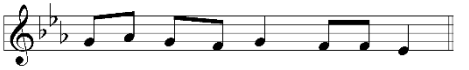
THE SACRAMENT



The Lord be with you.



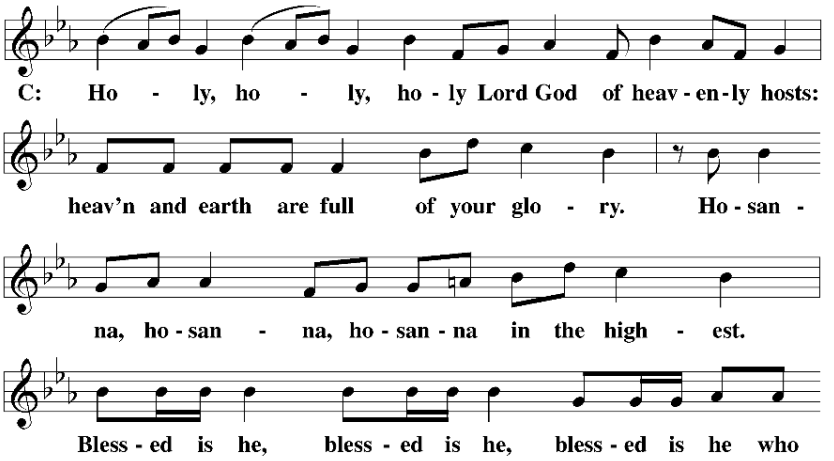
Lift up your hearts.

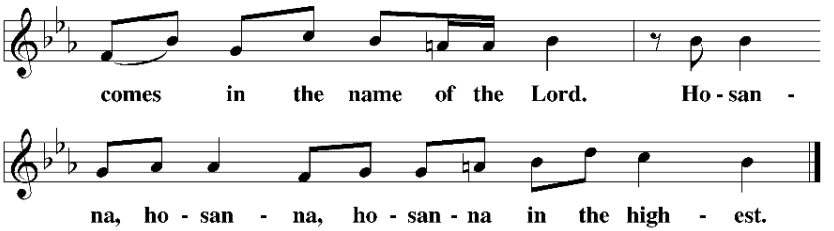


Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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, who preserves His Church to the end of time when He will come again as king to judge all people and take His own to glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts in heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY
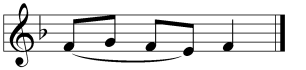




WORDS OF INSTITUTION

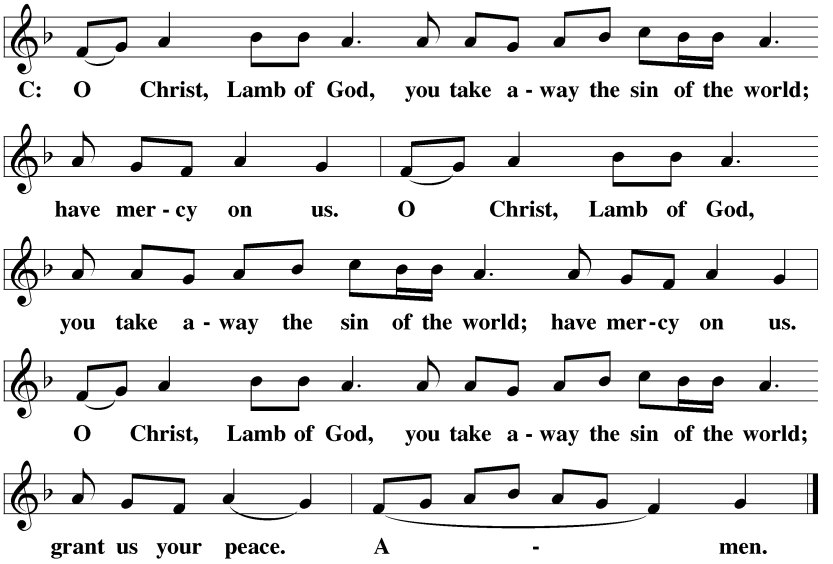
Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my (†) body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

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

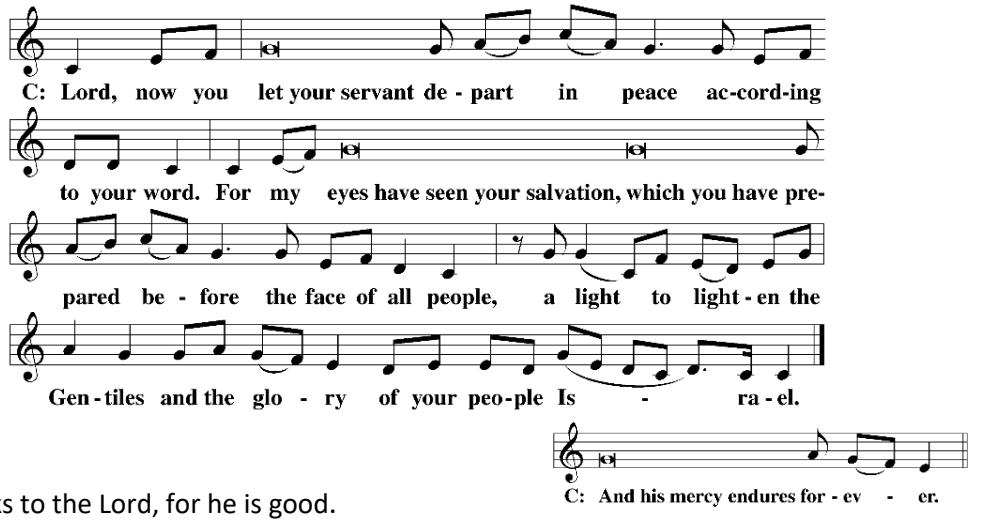
DISTRIBUTION

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
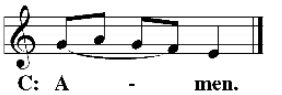
NUNC DIMITTIS



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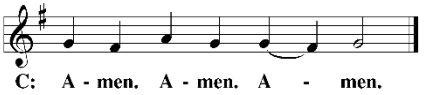
CLOSING PRAYER

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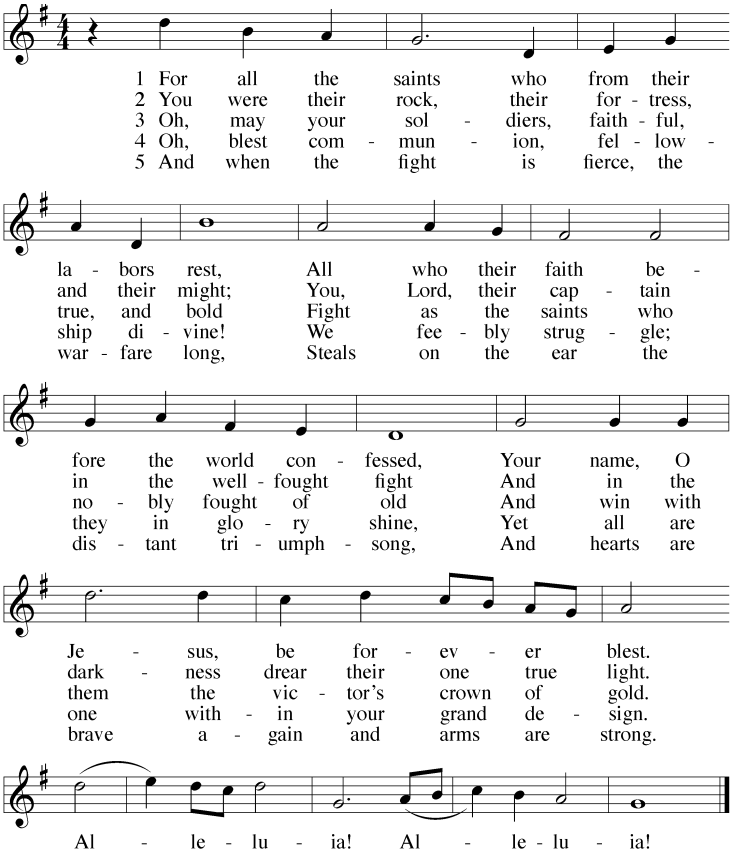
The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord, make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and (✝) give you peace.



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

CLOSING HYMN: **#551**

FOR ALL THE SAINTS **VS. 1 – 4, 7, 8**



6 The golden evening brightens in the west;
Soon, soon, to faithful warriors comes their rest.
Sweet is the calm of paradise the blest.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

7 But then there breaks a yet more glorious day:
The saints triumphant rise in bright array;
The King of glory passes on his way.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

8 From earth's wide bounds to ocean's farthest coast
Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
Singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Text: William W. How, 1823–97. abr., alt.
Tune: SINE NOMINE (10 10 10 with Alleluias) Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958. © Oxford University Press.
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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: David Clarke Isele. © 1979 GIA Publications, Inc., Chicago, IL, www.giamusic.com. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Strategic Planning: We have an opportunity to walk through strategic planning with Pastor Brad Kerkow of the Board for Home Outreach, 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 for you.

Bible Information Class: Our Thursday class still has room, and we meet at 6 p.m. You can also reach us via the Zoom link below. If you would like to attend or invite someone, this is a great opportunity to ask questions about the Bible. Please let Pastor Emmons know so he can send you a study guide.

Veterans Day Parade: We have an opportunity to represent our congregation in Redmond. We will have a float in the parade and would ask our vets to walk alongside it if you are able. 10:00. Staging will be along Dogwood Ave., west of 6th St. Look for Pastor Emmons' red truck. If you can walk in the parade, please dress in red, white, and blue.

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 help us with our outreach.

Midweek Bible Study: Please consider joining our Tuesday evening Bible Study at 6 p.m. We will meet at the Port's home (1923 NW Nickernut Ct, Redmond) for November. We will continue our Isaiah study. You can also join us on Zoom.

Zoom Meeting ID: 850 328 6057 Password: GraceOT

Ammo Can Drive: Please consider donating to the LMSG ammo can. Our ammo can is next to the registration table. This fundraising is LMSG's primary means to fund all their programs.

Thanksgiving Service: We will hold our Thanksgiving potluck and service on November 22; there will be no service on November 25. For the Thanksgiving potluck, we will take an offering for the seminarians' Christmas gift. If you would like to give early, you can place it in the collection plate designated for that gift. Consider taking some postcards to invite your neighbors.

Advent Services: We will hold our Advent services on Wednesday afternoons at 3:30 p.m. We will have cookies and warm drinks following the services. Christmas Eve will also be at 3:30, and Christmas morning will be at 10:30 a.m. This year's Advent theme, reflecting our focus on going out into the community, is: "Your King comes; Go out to meet Him." Flyers and postcards are available in the entryway to share with others or post on a bulletin board.

Christmas Eve: How about a cookie exchange? As you plan to bring your cookies for Christmas Eve, please bring extras to share. You get to 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.

Starlight Parade: We will be participating in the Starlight parade at 5 p.m. on November 28. We need volunteers to walk in the parade and hand out flyers and other goodies.

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