Celebration Lutheran Church

Pastor: Sarah Toney Pianist: Annie Chalmers

25th Sunday after Pentecost Worship: 10:00am November 15, 2026

We Gather to Encounter God

Prelude Music

Welcome and Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, our dwelling place for all generations, whose compassion never slumbers.

C: Amen.

L: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

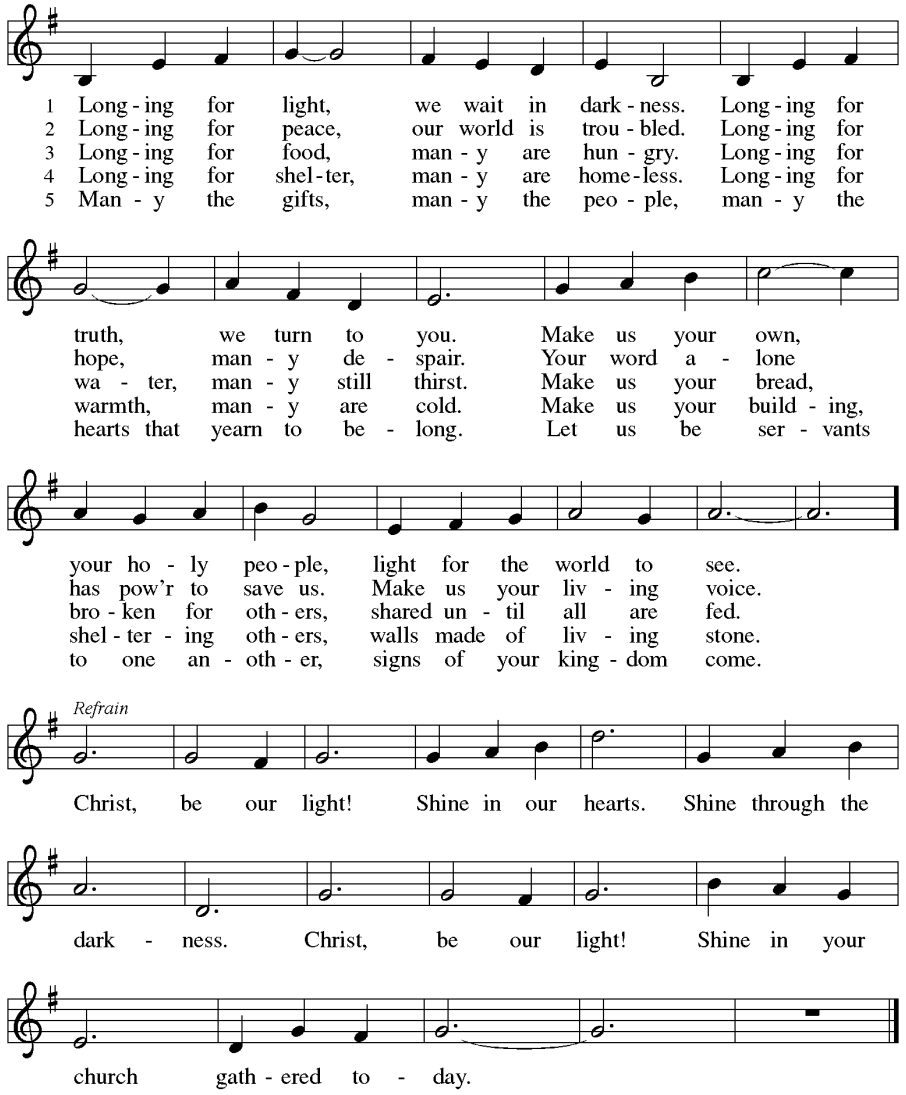
L: Holy God,

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.

L: Despite the waywardness of our ways, God's ways are true and merciful. We are the inheritors and receivers of God's grace in which we can rest, trust, and rely. ☩ Jesus, the good shepherd, provides unending mercy and you are forgiven. Blessed are you and all of us.

C: Amen.

Gathering Hymn: Christ Be Our Light ELW # 715

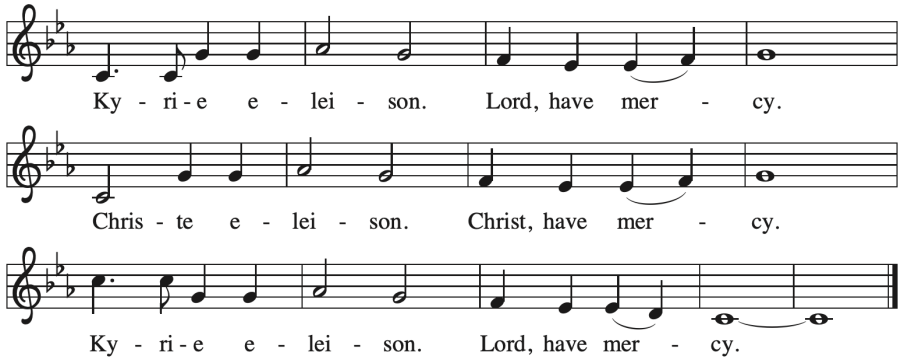


Greeting
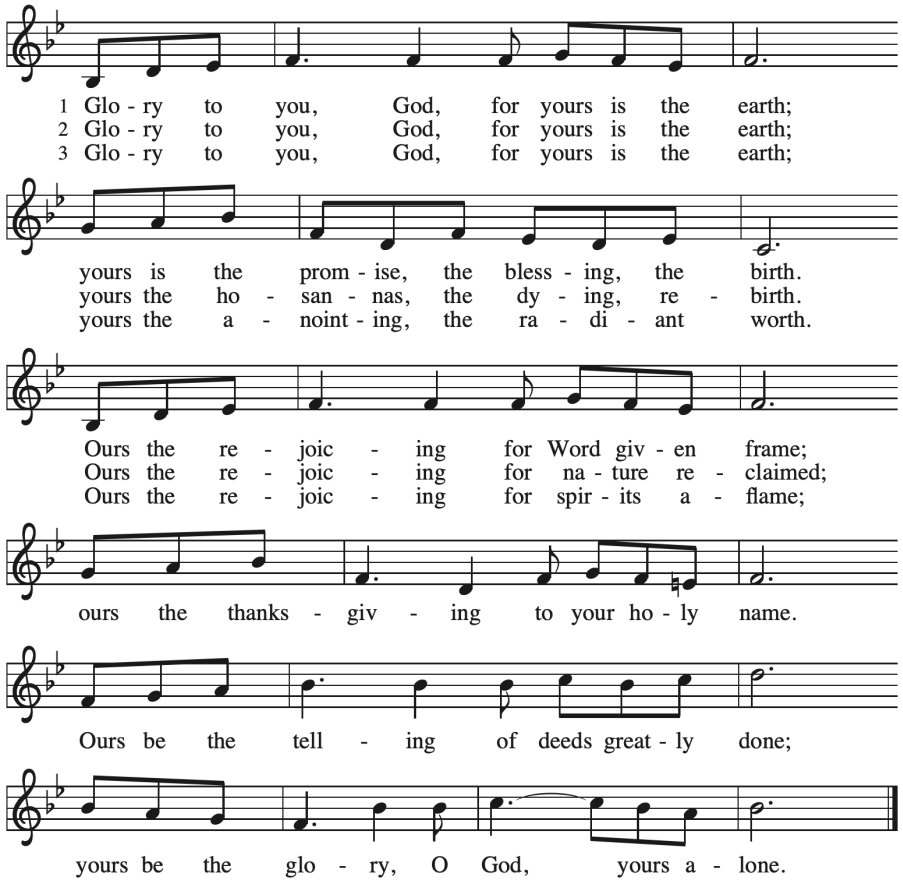
L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

We Pray in Song: **Kyrie** **ACS Page 31**



Hymn of Praise **ACS Page 31**



Prayer of the Day

L: Righteous God, our merciful master,

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

We Hear God's Word

First Reading: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-13

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

12 At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,
and I will punish the people
who settle like dregs in wine,
those who say in their hearts,
"The Lord will not do good,
nor will he do harm."
13 Their wealth shall be plundered
and their houses laid waste.
Though they build houses,
they shall not inhabit them;
though they plant vineyards,
they shall not drink wine from them.

Psalm 90:1-8

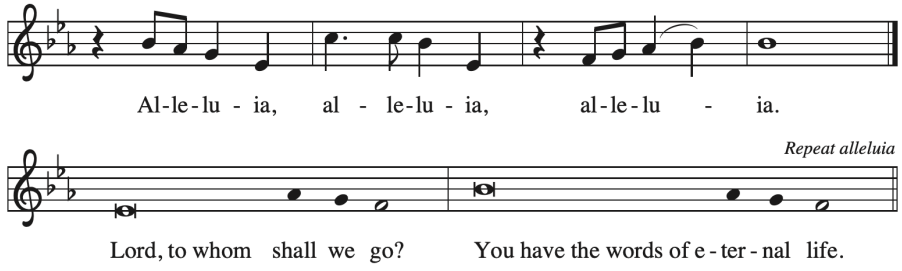
1 Lord, you have been our refuge
from one generation to another.
2 **Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born,**
from age to age you are God.
3 You turn us back to the dust and say,
"Turn back, O children of earth."

[4] **For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past**
and like a watch in the night; R
[5] you sweep them away like a dream,
they fade away suddenly like the grass:
[6] **in the morning it is green and flourishes;**
in the evening it is dried up and withered.
[7] For we are consumed by your anger;
we are afraid because of your wrath.
[8] **Our iniquities you have set before you,**
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance. R

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

[1] Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. [2] For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. [3] When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! [4] But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; [5] for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. [6] So, then, let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober, [7] for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. [8] But since we belong to the day, let us be sober and put on the breastplate of faith and love and for a helmet the hope of salvation. [9] For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, [10] who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. [11] Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia ACS Page 33



Holy Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30

L: The holy gospel according to St. Matthew in the 25th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord

[Jesus said to the disciples:] [14] "For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; [15] to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. At once [16] the one who had received the five talents went off and traded with them and made five more talents. [17] In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. [18] But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. [19] After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. [20] Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' [21] His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' [22] And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' [23] His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' [24] Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow and gathering where you did not scatter, [25] so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.'

[26] But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did
you, that I reap where I did not sow and gather where I did not scatter?
[27] Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on
my return I would have received what was my own with interest. [28] So
take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents.
[29] For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an
abundance, but from those who have nothing, even what they have
will be taken away. [30] As for this worthless slave, throw him into the
outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ ”
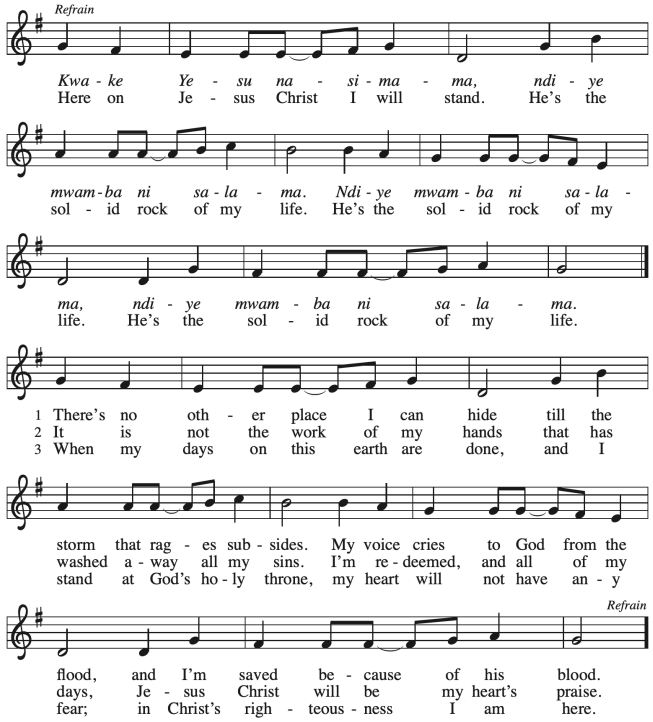
L: The gospel of our Lord.
C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

We Respond to God’s Word

Hymn of the Day: Here on Jesus ACS # 1024

Ushers Gather Prayer Requests



Prayers of Intercession

United with the great cloud of witnesses, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

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

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

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

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). God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bless all who serve in congregational leadership: council members, finance committees, volunteer coordinators, and property teams (other specific leaders or groups may be named). Encourage healthy stewardship of time, talents, and resources for the mission of the gospel. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

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

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

Amen.

L: God, in your mercy,
C: … hear our prayer.
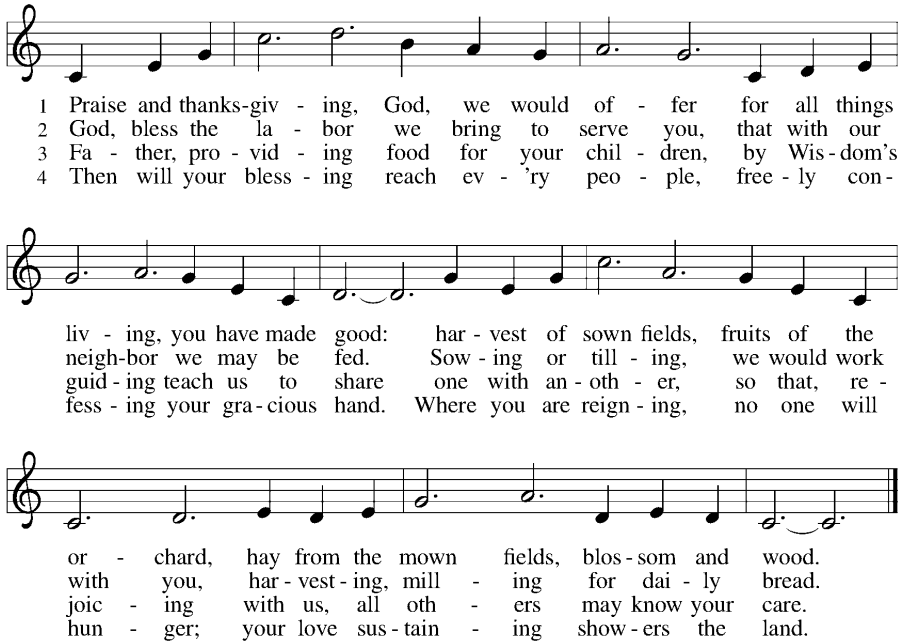
Greeting of Peace

L: The peace of the Lord be with you.

C: And also with you

We Offer Our Gifts

Offertory Hymn: Praise and Thanksgiving ELW # 689



Prayer of Thanksgiving

L: Eternal God,

C: … 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. Amen.

We Share Christ's Meal

The Great Thanksgiving

L: The Lord be with you **C: And also with you**

L: Lift up your hearts **C: We lift them to the Lord**

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Communion Prayers and The Story of Our Lord's Supper

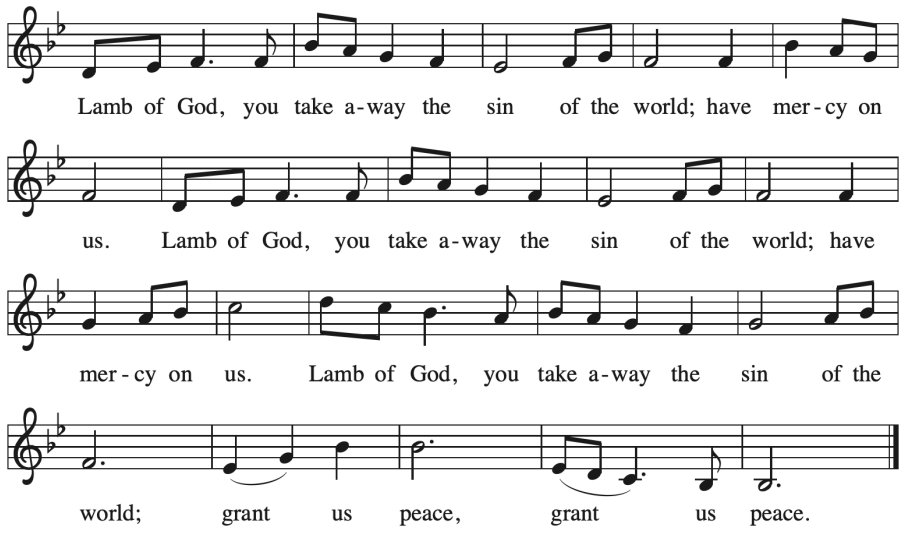
The Lord's Prayer

L: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

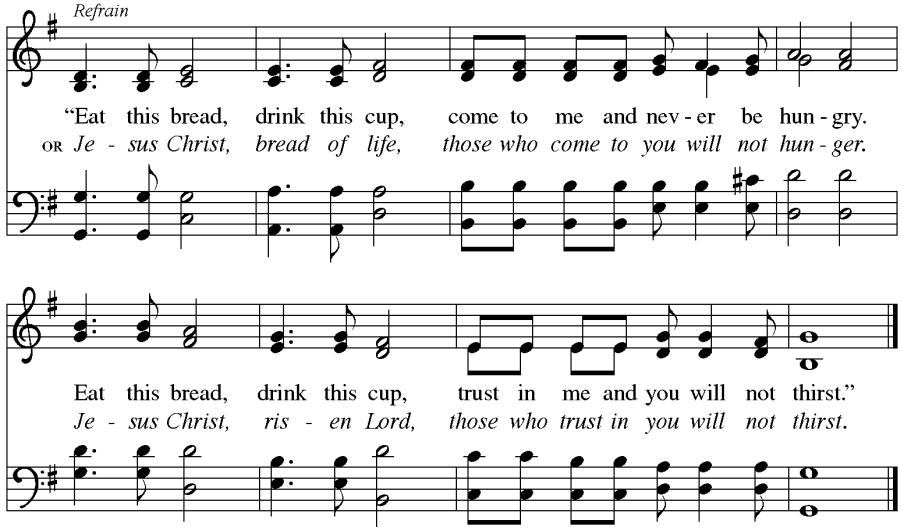
C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is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

Distribution of our Lord's Supper

Communion Hymns: Lamb of God ACS Page 40

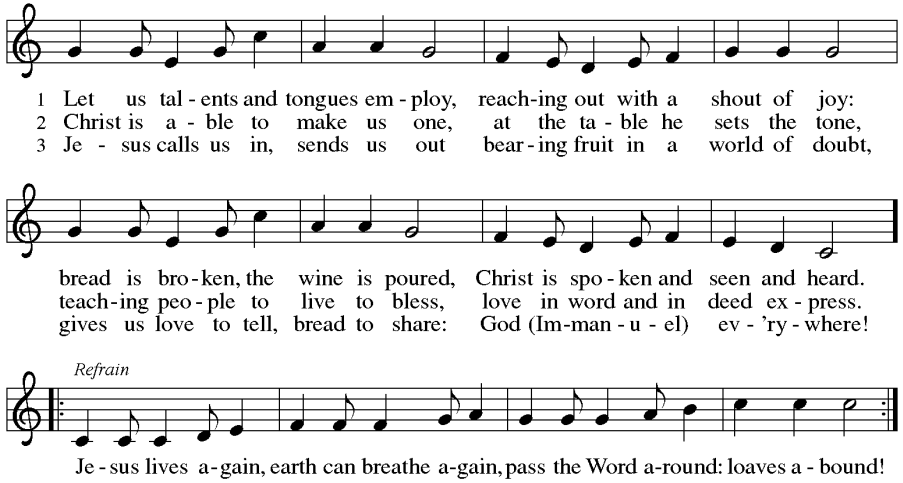


Eat This Bread **ELW # 472**



Post-Communion Prayer & Blessing

Sending Hymn: Let Us Talents And Tongues Employ ELW # 674



Dismissal

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

We go to love as Jesus loves us!

All rights reserved. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE #A-727265