The Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Holy Trinity
Cocoa and Granada Avenues
Hershey, Pennsylvania 17033
(717) 533-2467

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, November 8, 2026

Today the prophet Amos calls for justice to roll down like waters. Paul urges us to encourage one another with the promised coming of the Lord. Jesus tells the parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids. Surrounded by the faithful of every time and place, we celebrate Christ's coming in our midst in the word of life and the feast of victory—the marriage feast of the Lamb.

GATHERING — *The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

Music welcomes us, draws us into an attitude of prayer and praise, and sets a tone for worship that God is present. Let us prepare for Worship!

GATHERING PRELUDE:
Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness ..... J.S. Bach, BWV 654

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The congregation stands.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

✢*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism.*

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✢ one God, our dwelling place for all generations, whose compassion never slumbers.
All: Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Holy God,
All: 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.
All: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN: *My Lord, What a Morning* ..... **ELW 438**

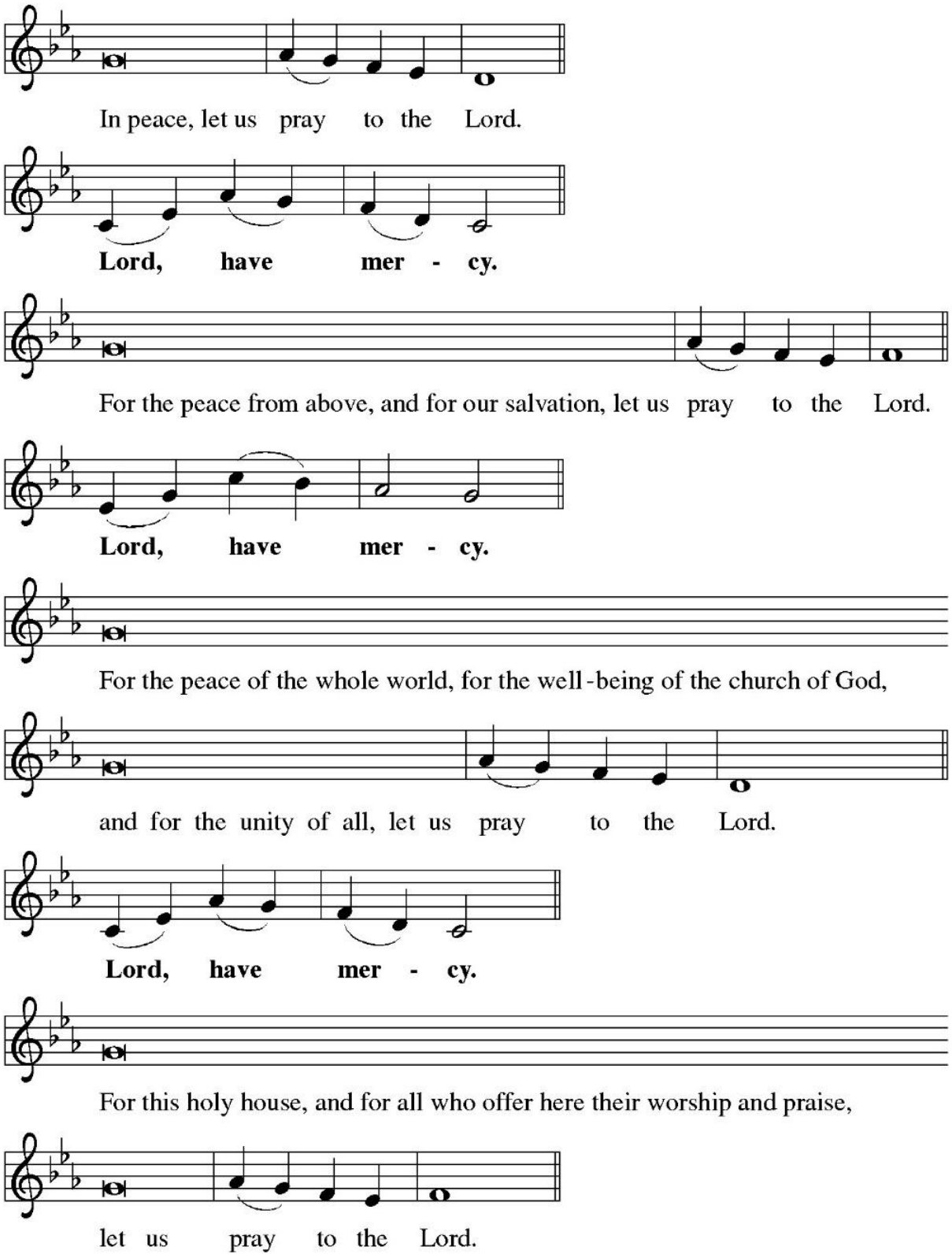


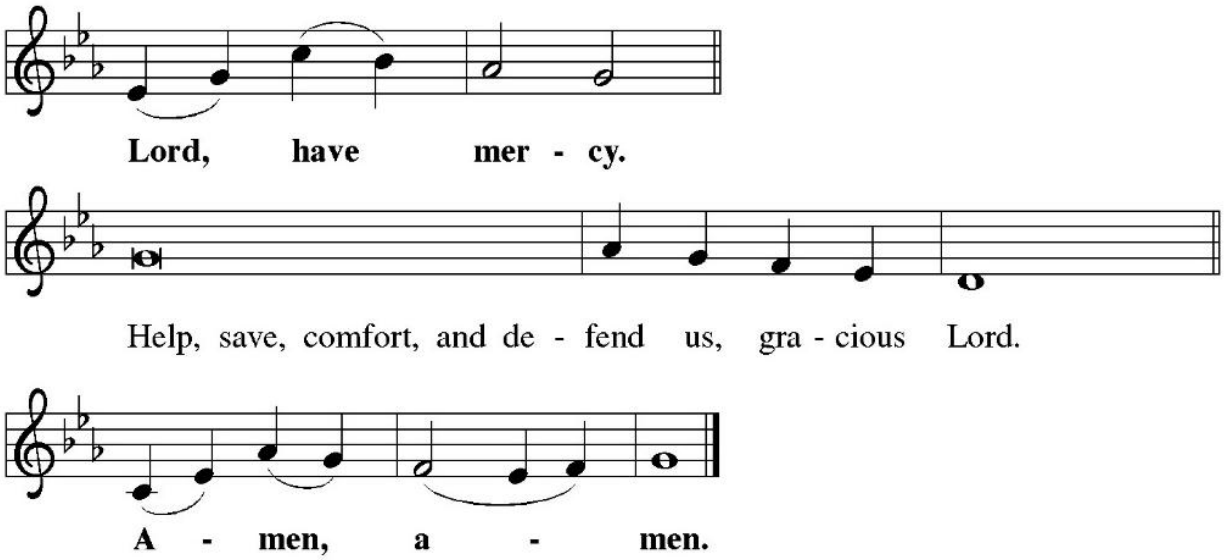
GREETING

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

All: And also with you.

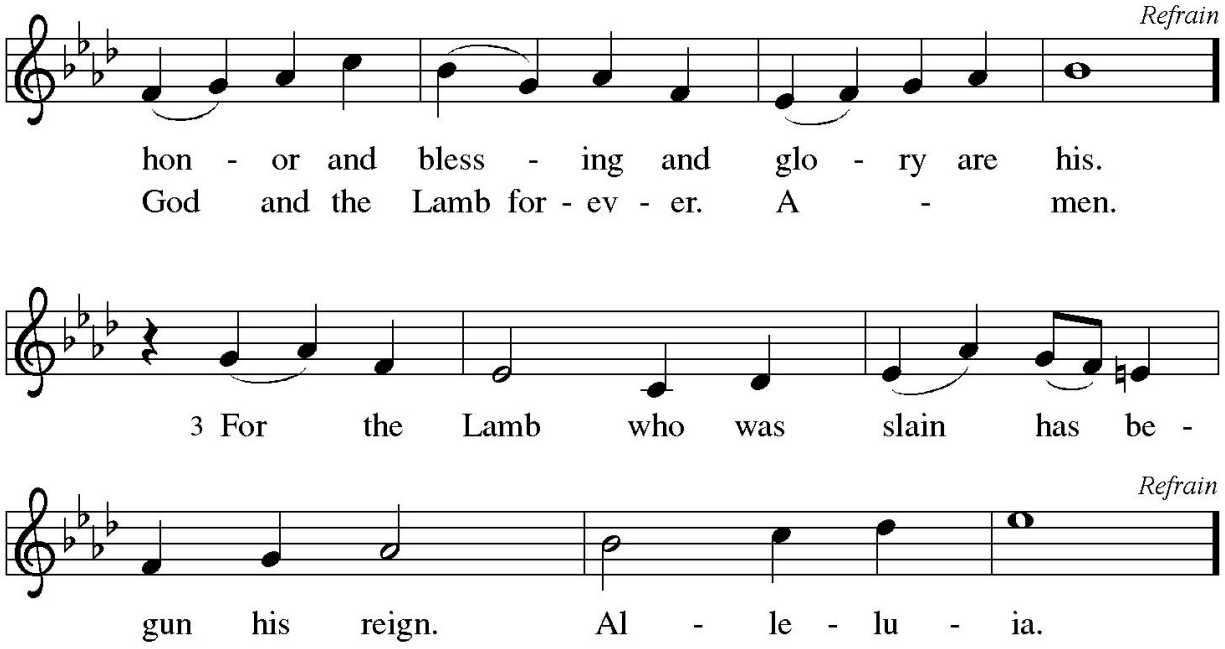
KYRIE





HYMN OF PRAISE: *This is the Feast*





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.

All: Amen.

The congregation sits.

WORD ***God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.***

FIRST READING: Amos 5:18-24

In the days of Amos, people thought that the day of the LORD would be a time of great victory, but Amos announced that it would be a day of darkness, not light. He said liturgy is no substitute for obedience. The LORD demands justice and righteousness in the community.

18 Woe to you who desire the day of the LORD!
Why do you want the day of the LORD?
It is darkness, not light,
19 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.
20 Is not the day of the LORD darkness, not light,
and gloom with no brightness in it?

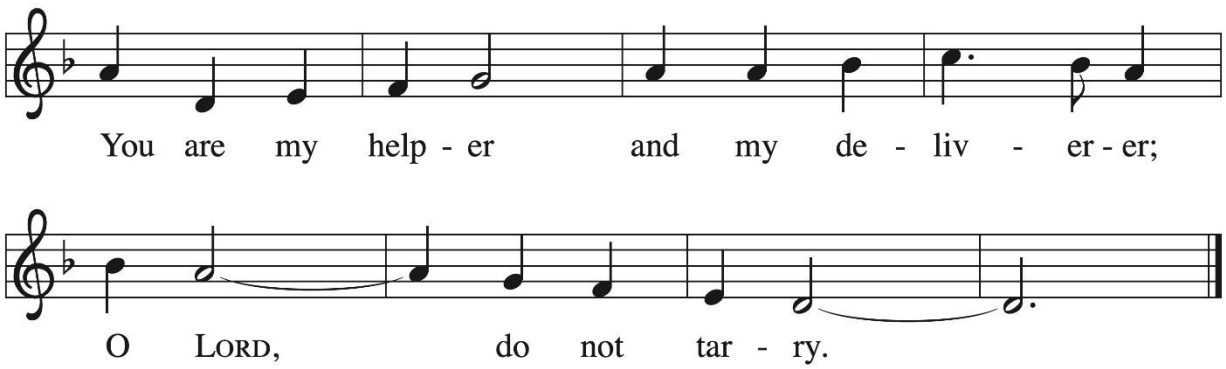
21 I hate, I despise your festivals,
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.
22 Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,
I will not accept them,
and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals
I will not look upon.

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

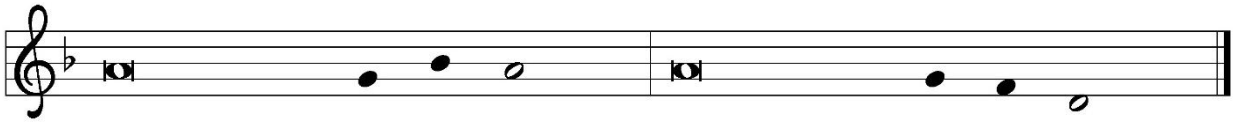
L: Word of God, word of life.
All: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 70 (*Congregation sings the refrain and the **bold** verses.)*

Refrain:



Verse:



[1] Be pleased, O God, to de- | liver me;
O LORD, make | haste to help me.
[2] **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. R
[3] Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat | over me
turn back because | of their shame.
[4] **Let all who seek you rejoice and be | glad in you;**
let those who love your salvation say forever, "Great | is the LORD!"
[5] 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. **R**

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Some of the Thessalonians are worried that dead Christians will be excluded from the resurrection to eternal life when Christ comes again. Paul reassures them with the word of hope that all Christians, living or dead, will be raised into everlasting life with Christ.

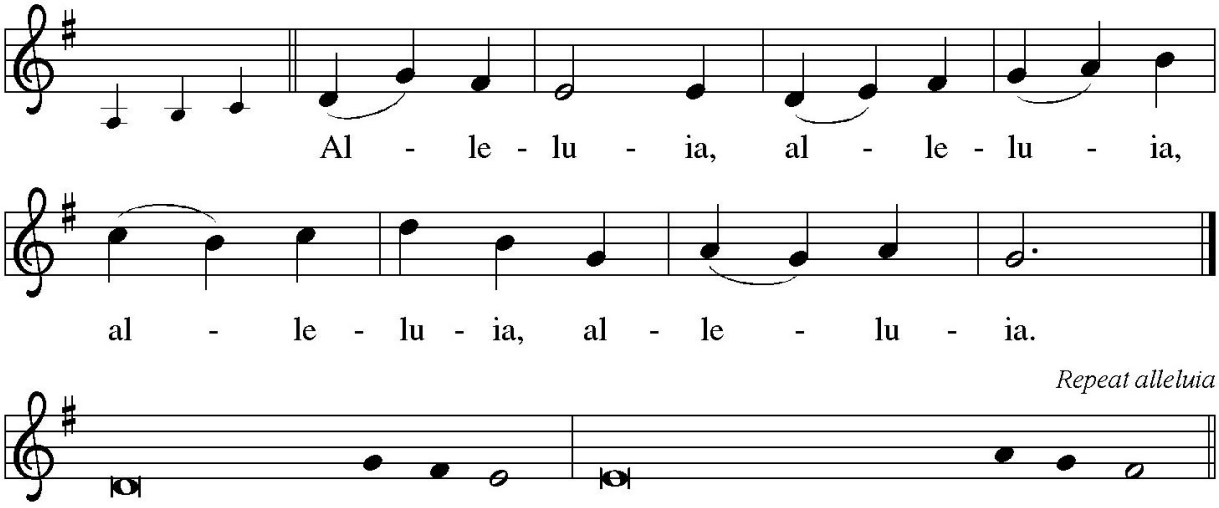
[13] We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. [14] For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. [15] For this we declare 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. [16] For the Lord himself, 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. [17] 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. [18] Therefore encourage one another with these words.

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

The congregation stands.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *Alleluia*

Refrain:



Keep awake | and be ready,* for you do not know on what day your | Lord is coming.

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.
All: Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Matthew 25:1-13

Jesus tells a parable about his own second coming, emphasizing the need for readiness at all times.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] [1] "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten young women took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. [2] Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. [3] When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, [4] but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. [5] As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. [6] But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' [7] Then all those young women got up and trimmed their lamps. [8] The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' [9] 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.' [10] 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. [11] Later the other young women came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' [12] But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' [13] Keep awake, therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.
All: Praise to you, O Christ.

The congregation sits.

SERMON

Silence is kept for reflection.

The congregation stands.

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying*..... **ELW 436**





Text: Philipp Nicolai, 1556-1608; tr. composite
Music: WACHET AUF, Philipp Nicolai
Text © 1999 Augsburg Fortress.

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 truly 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 with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic 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.

The congregation sits.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: God, in Your mercy.
All: Hear our prayer.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The presiding minister and the congregation greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.
All: And also with you.

MEAL ***God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.***

Thank you for your generous support of our ministry at Holy Trinity. While we are now passing offering plates during the service, you may still place your offering in the offering plates located at the entrance to the sanctuary or in the narthex. Or, you may make your offering online by scanning the QR code..

OFFERTORY HYMN: *As Saints of Old*..... **ELW 695**
(Join in singing from the red ELW hymnal in the pew.)

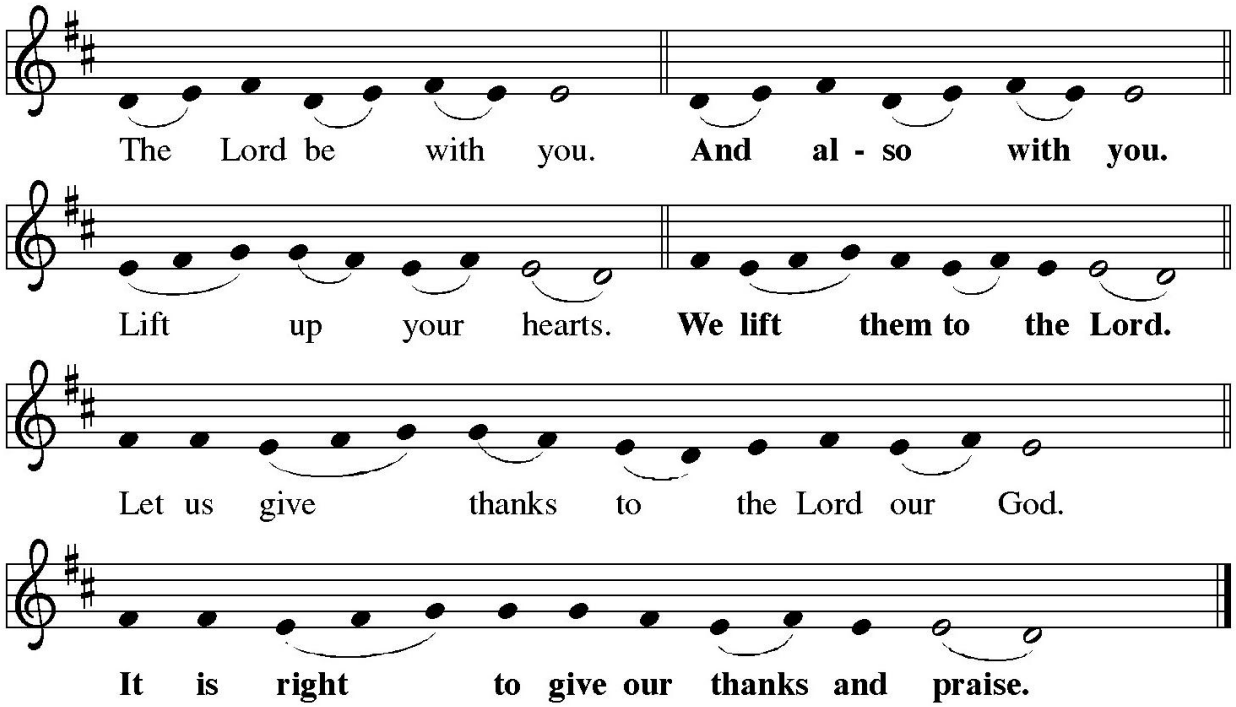
The congregation stands.

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.

All: Amen.

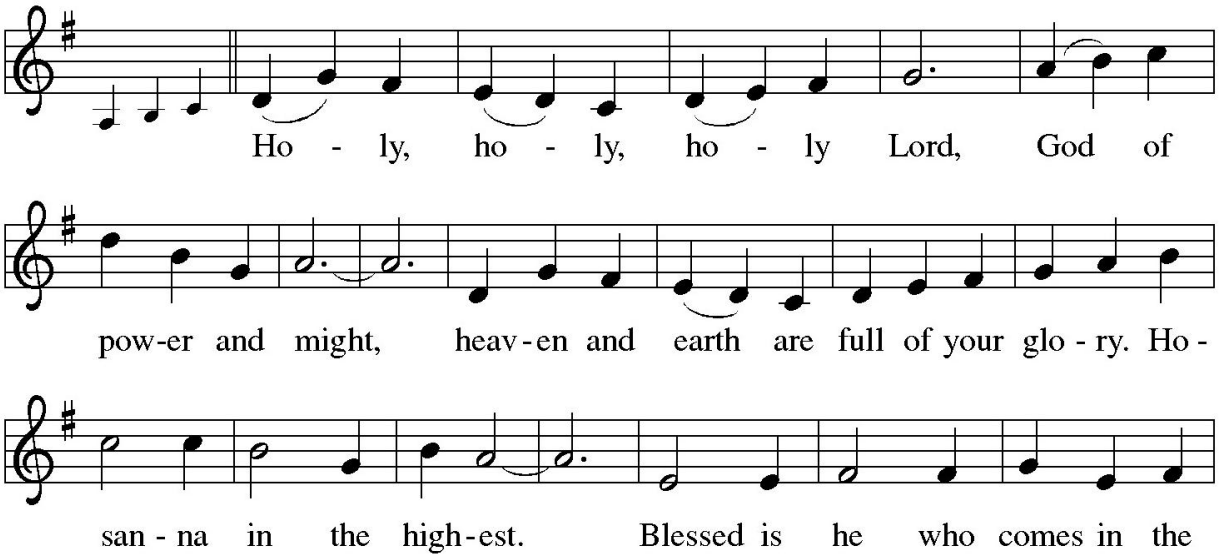
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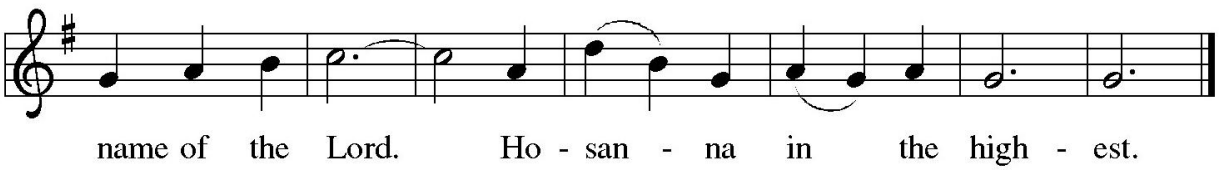


PREFACE

P: ….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:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY





EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God. The universe declares your praise: beyond the stars; beneath the sea; within each cell; with every breath.

All: We praise you, O God.

P: Generations bless your faithfulness: through the water; by night and day; across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future.

All: We bless you, O God.

P: We give you thanks for your dear Son: at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer; beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now.

All: We thank you, O God.

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread…Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world. Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end.

All: Amen.

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.

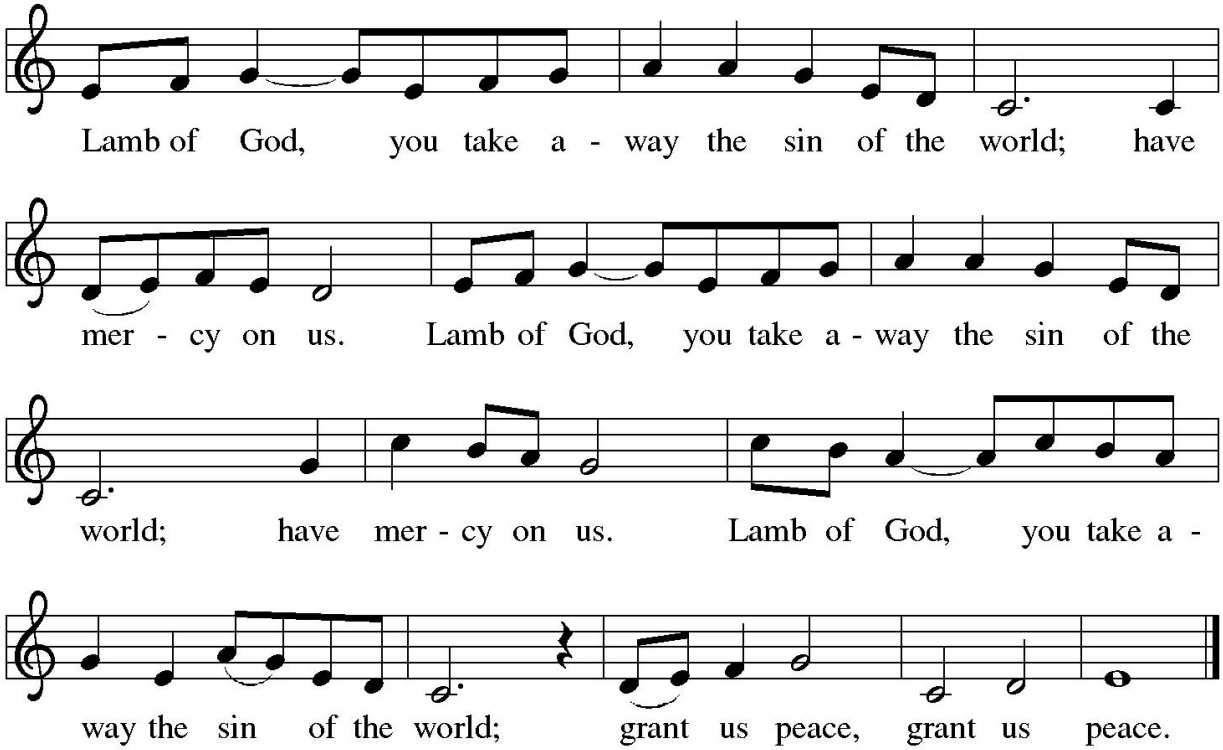
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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

All: Thanks be to God.

The congregation sits.

LAMB OF GOD



COMMUNION MUSIC: *Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness* ..... **ELW 488**
(Join in singing from the red ELW hymnal in the pew.)

The congregation stands.

COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
All: 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.
All: Amen.

SENDING ***God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.***

BLESSING

P: The holy Trinity, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you with wisdom to welcome the reign of God, today and always.
All: Amen

SENDING HYMN: *Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers* ..... **ELW 244**



DISMISSAL

A: Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.
All: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: *God of Grace* ..... Paul Manz

SERVING TODAY

Presiding Minister: ..... Rev. Susan E. Scott
Guest Organist: ..... Emily Koons
Assisting Minister: ..... John Smith
Reader: ..... Danielle Mariano
Altar Guild: ..... Darlene Weaver
Communion Set-up: ..... Lynn Budgeon
Communion Assistants: ..... Mark Mariano and JoEllen Myers
Communion Presenters: ..... Julia Hair and Jane Ebersole
Acolytes: ..... Sydney Keeler and Alex Herster
Livestream Team: ..... Kirk Sponaugle, Jordan Paul, and Adam Gardner

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH TODAY

Bereaved: The Family of Herb Huebner

Prayer Concerns: Joe Brittain (friend of the Dunham's), Sharon Ellis (friend of the Dunham's), Linda Goldhart (relative of the Bishops), Christine Hall, Ann Jonell (friend of the Dunham's), Matthew Kulbacki, Larry Layman, Brian Lutz, Carol Miller, Jessica Noeske (Derek Dunham's cousin), Edward Sellard, Josh Snyder (nephew of Linda Lubold), Kathy Spitler (cousin of Marilyn Layman) and Vicki Sponaugle.

DAILY PRAYERS

Michael Fox, Virginia Frank, Dean Huebner, Sharon Murray, Bob Warden (friend of Mary Ann Kelly), Vwawa Congregation of the Konde Diocese in Tanzania and all our **Homebound members:** Shirley Espenshade, Bill Fosnacht, Evadne Kopp, John and Ruth Knol, Carol Longenecker, Dennis Lubold, Chip Murray, Tookie (Delores) Peterson, Joyce Schroeder, Kay Smith, Susanne Wiest and Nila Wiley.

Members of Armed Forces and their families: Evan Briggs, Marshal Fox, Michael Kristian, Riley Litman, and Tory Young.

We invite you to pray for all on our prayer list. Please contact the office by email at htluth@comcast.net or leave a message on the office phone (717-533-2467) if you have any changes to the prayer list.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you for joining us for worship today in-person and through livestreaming.

All are welcome to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. We invite all people, as well as young children who are not yet receiving the Sacrament to come forward and receive a blessing. At Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, the Sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated in accordance with the Holy Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions. Thus, we believe that the Body and Blood of Christ are truly present in the bread and wine. At his table Christ grants us forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation. *May your hearts be opened, and your lives made new by God's gracious love.* Please give your completed communion card to the usher during communion.

Holy Communion distribution today: The usher will guide you down the center aisle. Prepackaged Communion elements with grape juice are available on the small table. If you prefer regular wine or non-alcoholic wine, take a cup from the silver tray. Proceed to the Pastor to receive a wafer (ask the Pastor if you need a gluten free wafer option) or have the prepackaged elements blessed. Proceed to the rail where there will be an assistant with regular wine and an assistant with non-alcoholic wine. Stand or kneel as you are able and remain at the rail for as long as you desire.

Consecrated Communion Elements are available for "Live Stream" worship at home. Please contact the church office at 717-533-2467 or by email at: htluth@comcast.net to arrange to pick up elements or have them delivered to your home.

Children are always welcome in the worship space but if they need a break, the church nursery is available for parents and children during worship. A large screen monitor streams a live feed of the worship service each Sunday. The nursery is located on the sanctuary level, in the classroom wing.

Office Hours The office will be open this week Monday thru Thursday, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m**.** To contact the church: Phone Number: 717-533-2467, Email Address: htluth@comcast.net. Holy Trinity website: htluth.org. **In case of emergency** Pastor Susan may be reached through the church office, on her cell phone at 717-497-1013 or via her email address at: sscott@htluth.org.

Sunday School meets every Sunday from 9:00am-9:45am as follows: Children's Sunday School for children pre-k thru 6th grade will meet in the Sunday School room (connected to the Fellowship Hall). An informational flyer with more details and registration forms are available in the church narthex. Affirmation of Baptism for Grades 7-8 will meet in the youth room and High School Bible Study for grades 9-12 will meet in room #1. Adult Discussion will meet in room #16.

Our prayers and the comfort of the Christian faith are extended to the family of **Herbert Huebner** who entered into eternal rest on Monday, November 2nd. Please remember the Huebner Family in your prayers. A celebration of life service will be held at Holy Trinity on **Monday, November 16 at 11:00 AM.** The family will receive friends at the Church **beginning at 10:00 AM.**

You are Welcome Here!

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church welcomes and affirms everyone seeking God's love and grace, regardless of faith background, age, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, ability, size, class, immigration, or relationship status. We explicitly stand against hate and discrimination, as our Church community strives to continually grow and learn within the Body of Christ according to Christ's teachings. We are committed to creating and maintaining a welcoming and safe environment for all people.