OUR SAVIOUR'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday Worship

25th Sunday after Pentecost
November 15, 2026



WELCOME

Your presence builds up the body of Christ. We welcome and affirm God's diversity, including all ethnicities, cultures, races, sexual orientations, gender identities and expressions, abilities, ages, and life experiences. You are invited to full participation in our congregation because of who you are. We lament and confess how the Christian Church has withheld Christ's love by misusing the power of institution. We commit to advocating for God's justice and mercy for all of creation, including humans. We commit to anti-racism and other ways of ending systems that cause harm. Christ is our peace and breaks down the walls that divide us. Our communion table is Christ's table. You and all people are welcome without exception.

Welcome Newcomers
We hope you are comfortable here. The right-side margin contains details about the service and readings to help you connect more fully with worship. You can find more details for newcomers on the back page of the bulletin. We are glad you are here - you are welcome in this space because of who you are.

Being Lutheran
As Lutherans, we see, hear, teach, and follow Jesus for the sake of our neighbor. Neighbor means anyone other than us, including creation. We see God in vulnerability - God meets us at the cross. In our deepest pain, God is present. Baptized into Christ, we live a new life - claimed and named forever as God's beloved. In the bread and wine of communion, we receive and share Christ with all of creation. This is because of who God is, not because of what we do (or don't do). We receive God's grace through faith - in Scripture, the living word of God, and the sacraments of baptism and communion, which transform our lives so that we love and serve God, our neighbor and all of creation. A transformed life is one centered in Christ by the Spirit, following and trusting in God alone; freed to love, liberate, and serve.

OVERVIEW OF TODAY'S SCRIPTURE:
The readings for this 25th Sunday after Pentecost explore how past and future intend to impact the present. Zephaniah's "day of the Lord" overturns false securities. Wisdom in the psalm comes by trusting God within the limits of human life. Paul urges us to encourage one another as we live in Christ's hope. Jesus tells a parable about faithfully using what God entrusts to us.

An asterisk indicates the congregation should stand in body and/or spirit. Congregation's speaking and singing parts are in bold font.

As we prepare for worship, take time to look around, to settle in, to receive the Holy Spirit's presence.

GATHER

PRELUDE *People Get Ready* *Chancel Choir*

WELCOME

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

As we confess, rise and face the baptsimal font in the back.

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

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God
and of one another.
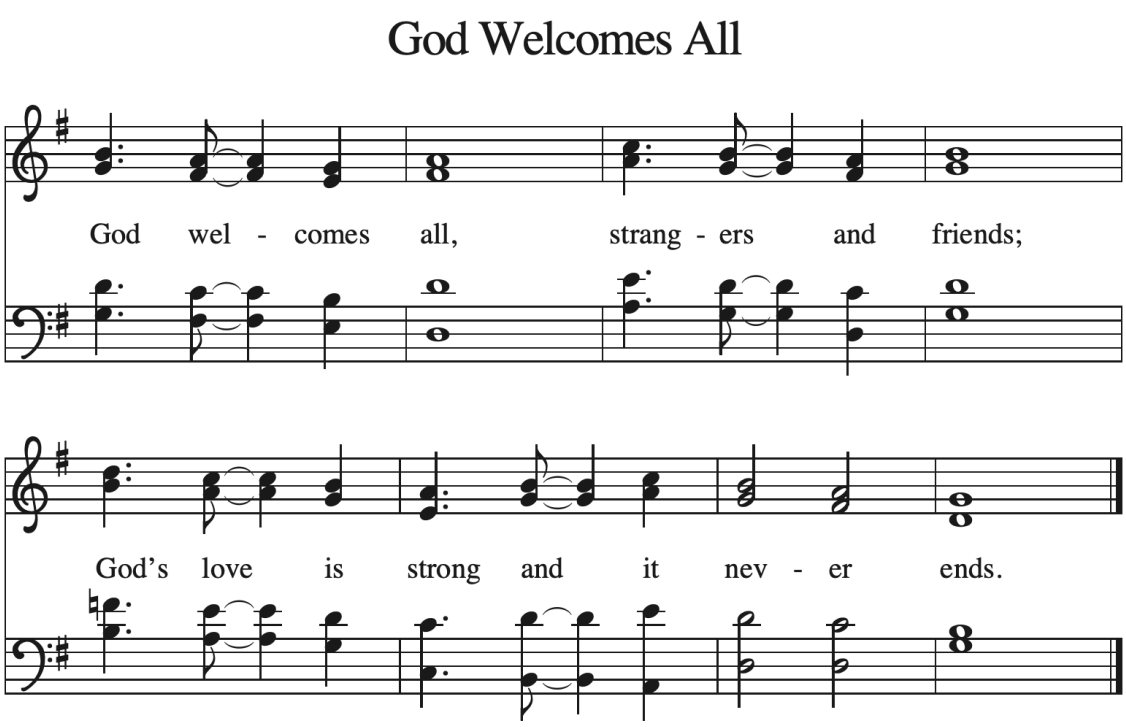
Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God,
we confess that we have trusted in our preparation
instead of your invitation.
We prioritize our devoutness 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.

Inherit the riches of God's grace.
☩ Jesus, the good shepherd, feeds you with mercy.
You are forgiven.
Blessed are you.
Amen.

***GATHERING HYMN** ACS #978 God Welcomes All

Turn in the direction of the cross as it passes by.



Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949
Music: AMEN THEMBA, South African traditional; transc. and arr. John L. Bell.
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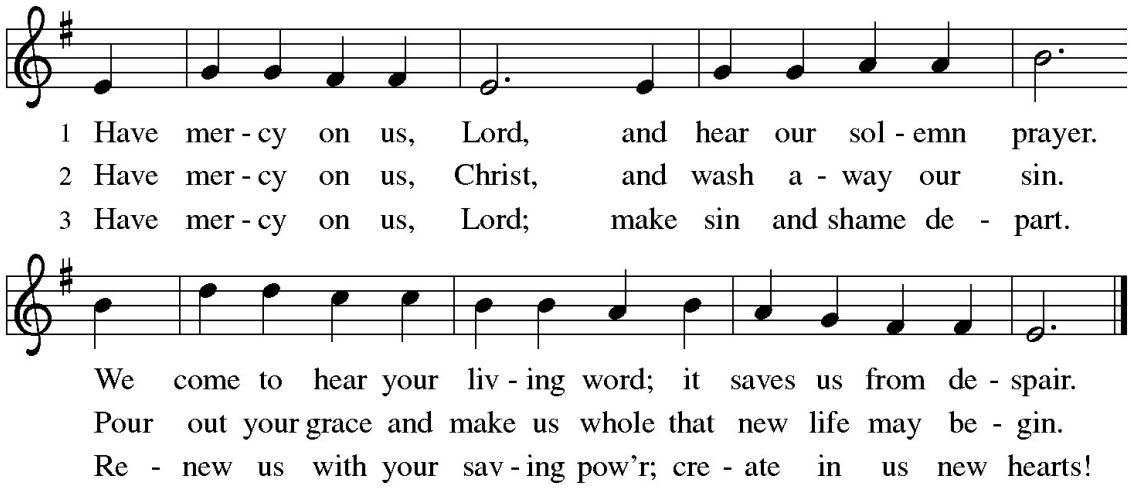
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***GREETING**

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

And also with you.

***KYRIE**



***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

WORD

FIRST READING Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

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.

14 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.
15 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,
16 a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities
and against the lofty battlements.

17 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.
18 Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the
Lord's wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed,
for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

Zephaniah, like Amos, provided Israel with a phrase that lingers even now in the Church's anticipation of God's reign. "The day of the Lord." In the prophets, the coming day of the Lord promises a reversal of practices that oppose the qualities which God's reign seeks in present living. Is that coming day then heard as judgment or hope? The prophets would insist, both.

PSALM 90:1-12 (Pulpit Side - Regular; **Piano Side - Bold**)

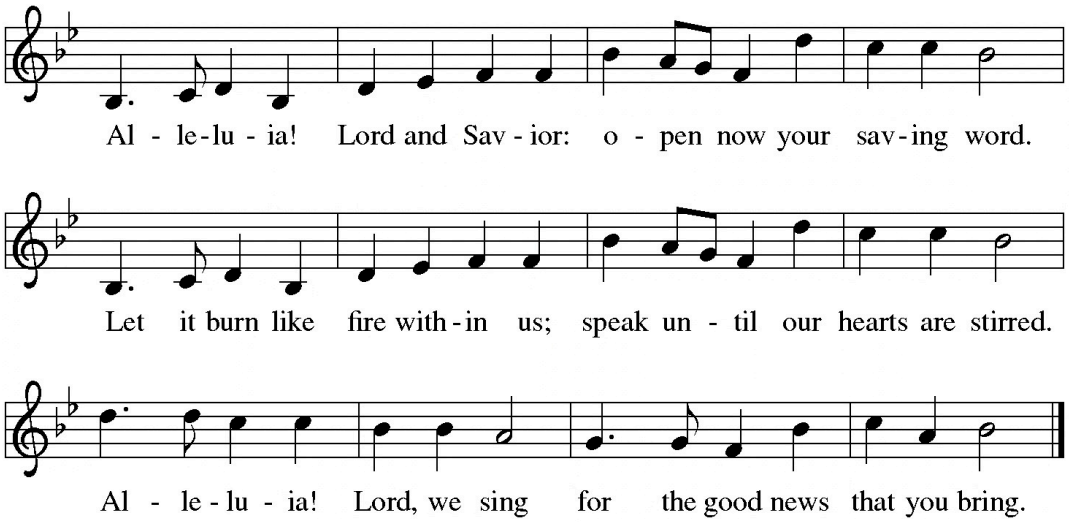
1 Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to another.
**2 Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth
were born, from age to age you are God.**
3 You turn us back to the dust and say, "Turn back, O children of earth."
**4 For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past
and like a watch in the night;**
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.**
9 When you are angry, all our days are gone; we bring our years to an end like a
sigh.
**10 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.**
11 Who regards the power of your wrath? Who rightly fears your indignation?
12 So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

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.

Paul wrote earlier of the imminent expectation of Christ's return. But here, that expectation is seen in a different light. Paul does not urge the church to obsessive speculation about the "times or seasons" of that return. Rather, Paul urges practices grounding hope to this current day. We are to build up and encourage one another in this present moment.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



***GOSPEL**

Listen deeply as the gospel lesson is being read

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.
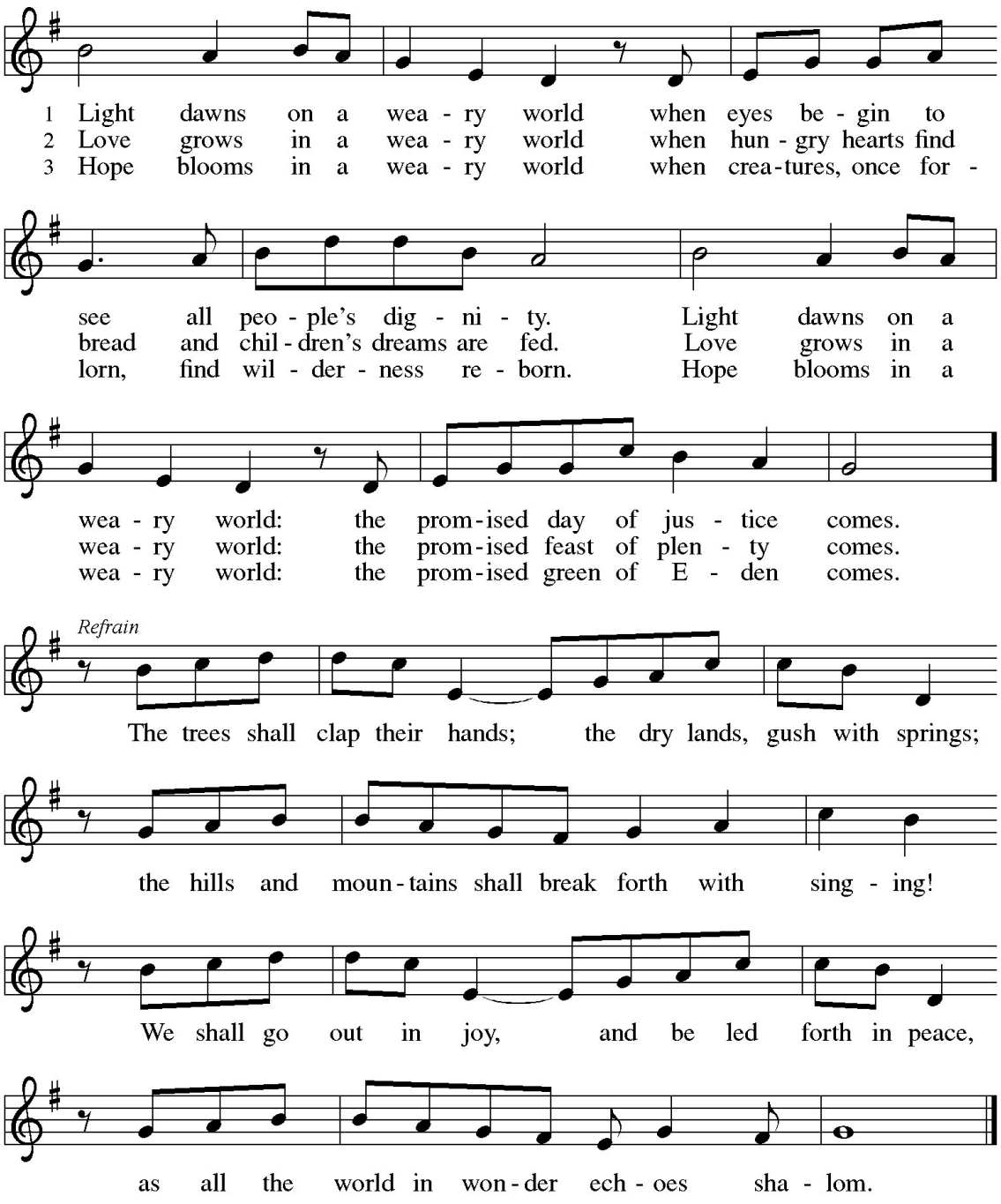
GOSPEL Matthew 25:14-30

[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.' "

The gospel of Jesus Christ. **Praise to you, O Christ**

SERMON

Light Dawns on a Weary World



Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953
Music: TEMPLE OF PEACE, William P. Rowan, b. 1951
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***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world.

A brief silence.

…God in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

***EXCHANGE OF PEACE**

OFFERING
Amazing Grace arr by Daniel Kellerman Chancel Choir

During the Chancel Choir's anthem, please prayerfully reflect on your contributions of time, money, and energy in the coming year. If you haven't yet filled out your Statement of Intent, you can use this time to do so. If you have an offering for today, you can leave it in the offering plate near the Baptismal Font as you leave today.

SHARING OUR GIFTS - COMMITMENT SUNDAY
Following the anthem, you are invited to place your Statement of Intent in the offering basket. You may also return your Statement of Intent to the church office during the week or fill out one online (www.lutherantucson.org/statement-of-intent).

***OFFERING PRAYER**
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.
Amen.

MEAL

Online Offering
We have partnered with the ELCA and Tithely to offer secure online giving. Scan the image below using your smart phone to make your offering. Or, contact the church office to set up regular online giving.

***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**
God be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
you have brought us this far along the way.

**In times of bitterness you did not abandon us,
but guided us into the path of love and light.
In every age you sent prophets
to make known your loving will for all humanity.
The cry of the poor has become your own cry;
our hunger and thirst for justice is your own desire.
In the fullness of time, you sent your chosen servant
to preach good news to the afflicted,
to break bread with the outcast and despised,
and to ransom those in bondage to prejudice and sin.**

Offering prayer and communion liturgy is from "This Far By Faith," a Lutheran hymnal released in 1999 that was a collaborative project between the ELCA and the Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod to enrich worship by incorporating gifts of African American songs, words, and traditions.

In the night in which he was betrayed…

…For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

…Come, Lord Jesus! And let the church say, Amen. **Amen!**

…Come, Spirit of freedom! And let the church say, Amen. **Amen!**

…Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Trusting in the mercy and compassion of God who is with us as Parent and Creator, we pray as Jesus taught,
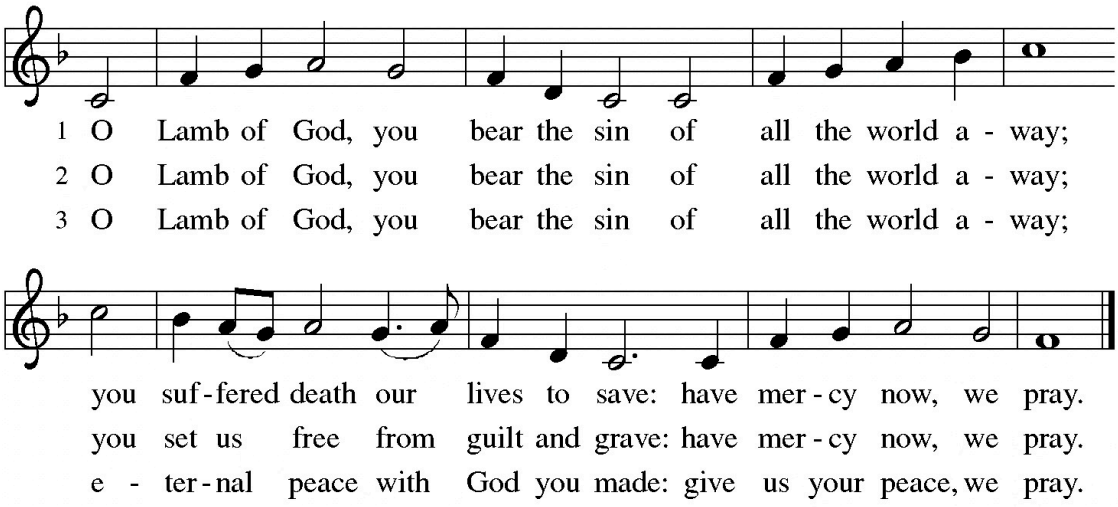
**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

You are welcome to pray using other versions, words, or languages that may be more familiar to you. Jesus taught this form of prayer to the disciples to encourage sincere and meaningful conversation with God.

This is Christ's table. You and all are welcome here, without exception. Please follow the ushers' direction, filling in the communion rail starting on the right side. You may stand or kneel. If you prefer a blessing, cross your hands over your heart. Gluten free wafers are available. The wine is red; the grape juice is clear. Please let an usher know if you would like communion brought to your pew.

COMMUNION
Christ invites you to this table.
All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

COMMUNION HYMNS



ELW #715 Christ Be Our Light
ELW #688 Lord of Light

POST COMMUNION BLESSING
Live in forgiveness. Claim your wholeness. Dwell in peace. Amen.

SENDING PRAYER

SENDING ANNOUNCEMENTS

***BLESSING**
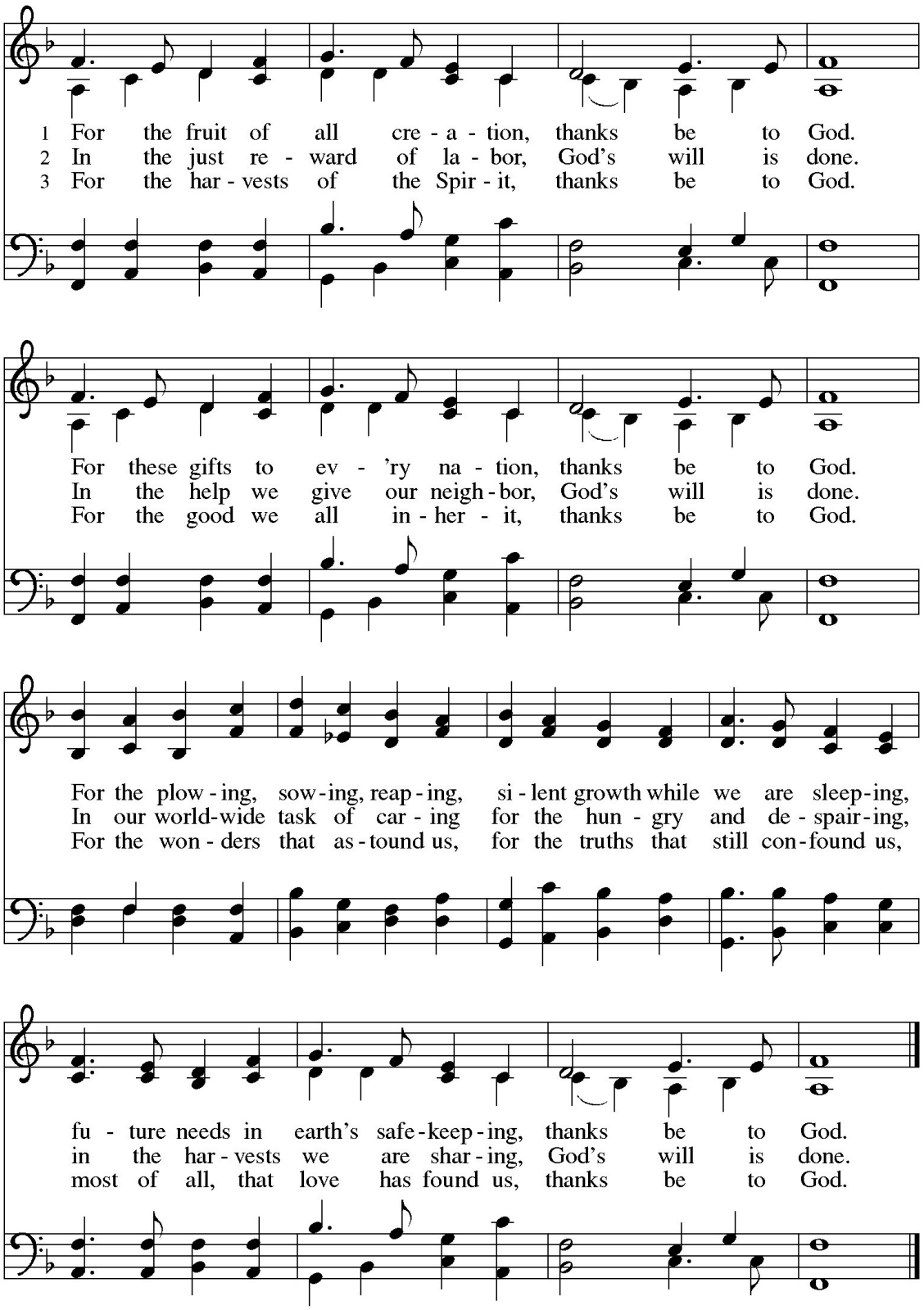
The Post Communion Blessing is from Rev. Phyllis Zillhart, former pastor at St. Francis Lutheran Church in San Francisco, an early leader in welcome for LGBTQ+ people in the Lutheran church.



Flowers today are in honor of
Shelly Adrian and Erich Saphir's 28th Wedding Anniversary.

***SENDING HYMN** ELW #679 For the Fruit of All Creation

For the Fruit of All Creation



Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000
Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958
Text © 1970 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.
Outside USA: Arr. from *The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906.

***DISMISSAL**
Go in peace. Encourage one another.
Thanks be to God!

SEND

Turn to follow the cross as it passes and leads us to love and service in the world.

Prayer Requests: Bob Jones; Family and Friends of John Petrick; Diane Siefkes; Alan Bales; Paul Stum; Pam Hardman; Chris Doak; Alecia Chrin; Justin Schneider; Gerry Meyer; Corky Ronstadt; Mary Neff; Lydia Slipp; and all at home and in care facilities.

Our Extended Community: Andrew Rosten (son of Erna Rosten); Sandra (Joy Bulawa's mother); Friends and Family of Kathy Greggory upon the death of her husband Gary (friends of Ann and Bill DeVinney); Liz (friend of Mary Wildner-Bassett); Sarah (great niece of Donna Lounsbury); Becky (Daughter of Mary Wildner-Bassett); Josh, Mary Ann (friends of Chris and Theda Doak); Megan (niece of Chris and Theda Doak); Jennifer, Sally, and Ashley, Gwen, and Tyler on the passing of their daughter Elora (friends of Kathy DeVinney); Grant and Shirley (brother and sister-in- law of Theda Doak); Daniel (neighbor's son of Gloria Schmidt); Will (nephew of Chris and Theda Doak); Leaticia, Azogan, Sidibe, and Zinsou,(friends of Rachel Starner); Mary Etta (friend of Suzanne Hesh); Rita, Linda(friends of John and Judy Indermark); Nancy (friend of Cindy Bales); Marcus ahd his care team (friend of Suzanne Hesh).

Names will generally remain on the list for three weeks, unless requested for renewal. Please contact the church office for corrections, updates, and additions.

Coffee Hour Today - Pie & "Just Imagine" Conversation

The Generosity Team is serving up pumpkin pie during coffee hour today as a way of saying thank you for the many contributions of time, money, and energy from the community this past year. This time also nourishes us for the year ahead. You can also add to the "Five Year Timeline" and the "Just Imagine - Bold Dreams" sheets that we started last Sunday.

THOSE SERVING THIS SUNDAY 11/15/2026

Presiding Minister	Rev. Amalia Vagts
Assisting Minister	John Indermark
Communion Assistants	Deacon Wendi Van Beek, Olga Ryan
Acolyte	Olga Ryan
Keyboard	Dawn Hartley
Cantor	Dr. Aysen Millioğullari
Music	Chancel Choir
Usher	Jennifer Strand, Hildi Williams
Greeter	Judy Indermark
Cross Bearer	Olga Ryan
Coffee Host	Sharon Reinbott
Treats	Generosity Team
Tech Team	Pflibsen/Bustamante
Scripture Background	John Indermark

THOSE SERVING NEXT SUNDAY 11/22/2026

Presiding Minister	Rev. John Indermark
Assisting Minister	Bill DeVinney
Communion Assistants	Deacon Wendi Van Beek, Mo Krieg
Acolyte	Mo Krieg
Keyboard	Dawn Hartley
Cantor	Dr. Aysen Millioğullari
Music	Chancel Choir
Usher	Mary and Asher Havenhill
Greeter	Fred and Donna Hudson
Cross Bearer	Dawn Wyatt
Coffee Host	Melissa Wyatt
Treats	Adrian/Saphir Family
Tech Team	Pflibsen/Bustamante
Scripture Background	John Indermark

Newcomers + We're glad you're here. Please fill out the green slip in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate. You're welcome to share in Holy Communion.

Families + we have a small play area (pray-ground) up front. The joyful sounds and movements of children in worship are the welcome sounds of children growing in faith. Parents, thank you for doing the hard work of worshipping with children. This congregation is here to support you.

Hearing Assistance + headphones are available to assist in hearing the service. Please contact an usher to get set up with one.

Nametags + Nametags help us get to know and remember each other. Please let the ushers know if you need one made for you.

Expansive Language + As Lutherans, we teach that "God calls all creation into being and gives people language as a way of responding to God and forming community" (Principles for Worship, Principle L-1). In worship at Our Saviour's, we seek to use expansive language for God and people, sometimes changing or offering alternatives to the printed text.

Liturgy + Our sung liturgy is from Setting 10, ELW

Online Offering

We have partnered with the ELCA and Tithely to offer secure online giving. Scan the image below using your smart phone to make your offering. Or, contact the church office to set up regular online giving.

Our Saviour's Council

Patty Sirls - President	Shelly Adrian
Meg Hughes - Vice President	Eric Howard
Jennifer Strand - Secretary	Joanna Keyl
Sheila Bustamante - Treasurer	Rachel Starner

Email: OSLC@lutherantucson.org

Sign up for our Monday eNews here

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Website: lutherantucson.org
E-Mail: oslc@lutherantucson.org

Sunday Worship
9:00 - Sanctuary
Coffee following

Office Hours
Monday - Thursday
8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Ministry Team

Rev. Amalia Vagts (ex 1004)

Michele Ruttinger
Parish Administrator

Dr. Aysen Millioğullari
Music Director

Dawn Hartley
Collaborative Musician

Paula Miller
Minister of Community Engagement

David Zezulka
Facilities Director

Lutheran Campus Ministry
Pastor Jenn Luong
Director
www.lcmuofa.org
520-771-9742 (LCM Office)

Deacon Wendi Van Beek
Deacon of Community Engagement

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