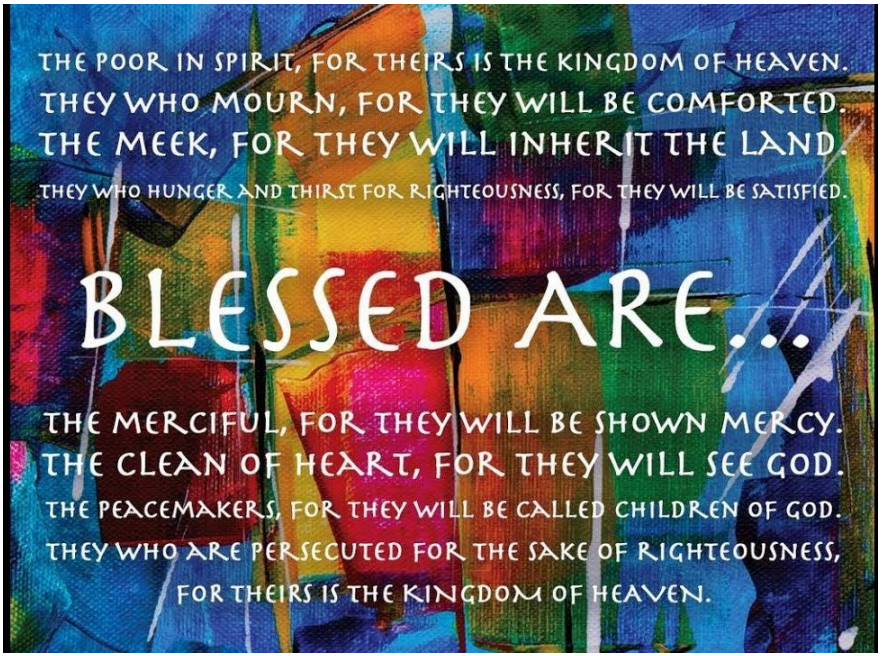


All Saints Sunday

Sunday, November 1, 2026

9:00 am

Here are a few notes to make you feel more at home as we praise the God of new life!

Bulletins are available to be picked up at the back of the sanctuary. We encourage you to participate throughout worship by speaking the **bold** print and singing along with the hymns. An asterisk * indicates when you are invited to stand, as you are comfortable.

All are welcome to come forward for communion. The ushers will guide you. Juice and gluten-free wafers are available; please let your server know if you need either of these.

We are going to pass the plate starting this Sunday.

A children's table is located at the back of the sanctuary, where you'll find some books and activities to help children feel more at home in worship.

Serving in Worship Today

Presiding Minister	The Rev. Andrea McDonough
Organist	Gerry Mass
Assisting Minister	Bert Zahn
Lector	Marie Zahn
Offering Bearer	Maggie Hernandez
Parish Administrator	Jen Lasher-Dobush
Custodian	Vanessa Petrakos

All Saints Sunday
November 1, 2026

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

*Thanksgiving Over The Water

The Lord be with you. And also with you.
We give you thanks, source and sustainer of life, for the gift of water. This is the water your Spirit stirred at the dawn of creation, separating the soil from the sea, and calling forth a humanity fashioned to bear your image. **Glory to you, for ever and ever.**

This is the water through which you delivered twelve tribes enslaved to the powers of empire and oppression. You made a covenant with them in the wilderness beyond the Red Sea and led them through the Jordan into a land of promise, uniting them as one people, chosen to display your liberating power for all held in captivity. **Glory to you, for ever and ever.**

This is the water in which Jesus, Redeemer of the world, was baptized and named as your beloved child. This is the water that takes its course from the wounded side of Christ crucified, the living water that bursts tomb-sealing rock, giving rise to the new creation, and birthing from every tongue and nation a people consecrated to you. **Glory to you, for ever and ever.**

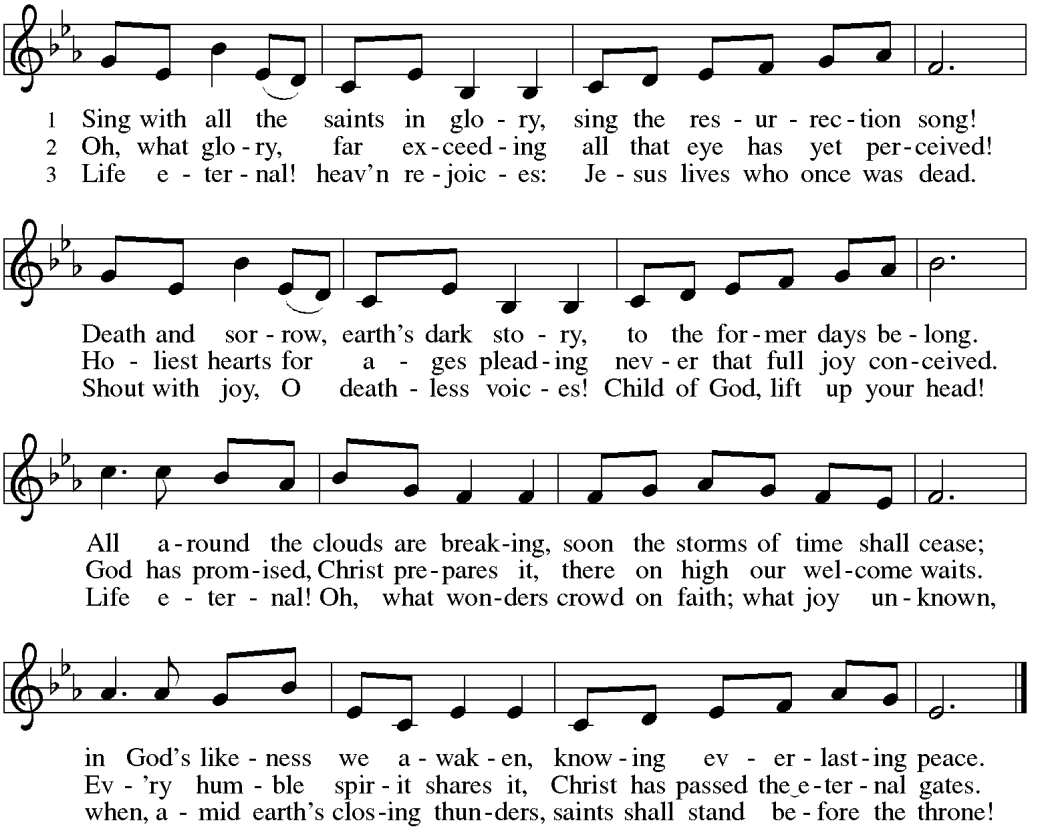
This is the water of life that springs forth in that city where you dwell

with a multitude beyond number, united in the One whom they worship to the end of time and for ever. **Glory to you, for ever and ever.**

Gathered at this font, and surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, we ask you to stir the waters once again by the movement of your Holy Spirit. From these waters, raise up a people hungry for justice and peace, one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, a sign of your promise for all creation, until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at the promised and eternal banquet. We pray in communion with all the saints on earth and heaven, with the martyrs and the faithful of all ages, and in the name of the Lamb who was slain, but now reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, above all rule and authority, power and dominion, for ever and ever. **Glory to you, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! **Amen!**

*Gathering Hymn: Sing With All the Saints in Glory
ELW # 426

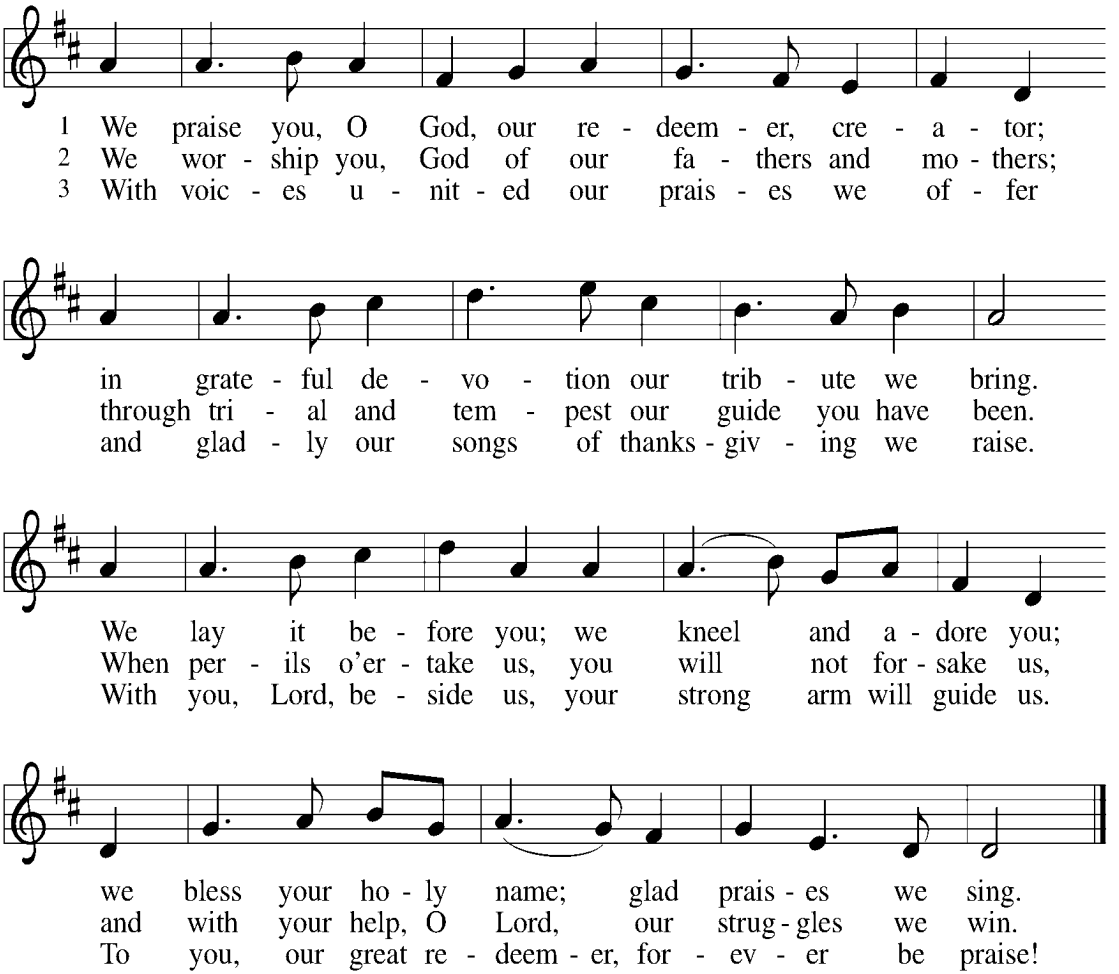


Text: William J. Irons, 1812–1883, alt.
Music: MISSISSIPPI, William Bradley Roberts, b. 1947
Music © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

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***Greeting:** The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

*Hymn of Praise: We Praise You O God ELW # 870



Text: Julia C. Cory, 1882–1963
Music: KREMSER, A. Valerius, *Nederlandtsch Gedenckclanck*, 1626

*Prayer of the Day

In life and in death you bless us, O God.
When trouble overwhelms us, you save us.
When sorrow overtakes us, you comfort us.
When death overcomes us, you overcome death
and raise us to new life.
You promise us joy everlasting
and, even now, give us glad hope
and glimpses of your realm, which is to come
when Christ makes all things new.
For calling us your children
and bestowing upon us such great love,
we give you thanks, in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

Children's Moment

First Reading: Revelation 7:9-19

9 After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could
count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages,
standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with
palm branches in their hands. 10 They cried out in a loud voice, saying,
"Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to
the Lamb!"
11 And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders
and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the
throne and worshiped God, 12 singing,
"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honor
and power and might
be to our God forever and ever! Amen."
13 Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these,

robed in white, and where have they come from?” [14] I said to him, “Sir, you are the one who knows.” Then he said to me, “These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

[15] For this reason they are before the throne of God
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.
[16] They will hunger no more and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat,
[17] for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 34:1-10, 22

[1] I will bless the LORD | at all times;
the praise of God shall ever be | in my mouth.
[2] **I will glory | in the LORD;**
let the lowly hear | and rejoice.
[3] Proclaim with me the greatness | of the LORD;
let us exalt God’s | name together.
[4] **I sought the LORD, who | answered me**
and delivered me from | all my terrors.
[5] Look upon the LORD | and be radiant,
and let not your faces | be ashamed.
[6] **I called in my affliction, and | the LORD heard me**
and saved me from | all my troubles.
[7] The angel of the LORD encamps around those who | fear the LORD

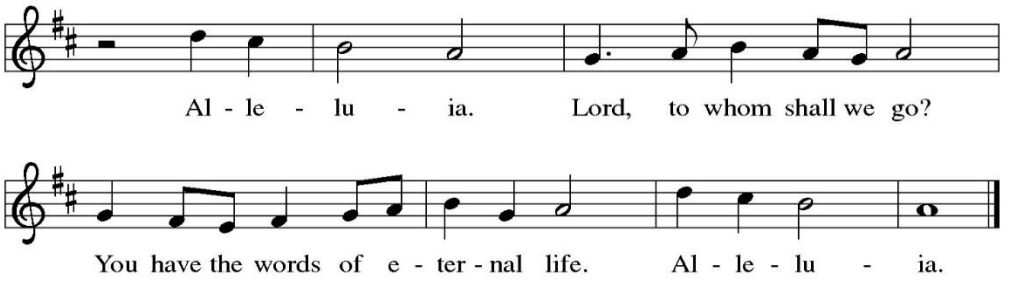
and de- | livers them.
[8] **Taste and see that the | LORD is good;**
happy are they who take ref- | uge in God!
[9] Fear the LORD, you saints | of the LORD,
for those who fear the | LORD lack nothing.
[10] **The lions are in want and | suffer hunger,**
but those who seek the LORD lack nothing | that is good.
[22] O LORD, you redeem the life | of your servants,
and those who put their trust in you will | not be punished.

Second Reading: 1 John 3:1-3

[1] See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God, and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. [2] Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. [3] And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*Gospel Acclamation



*Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12

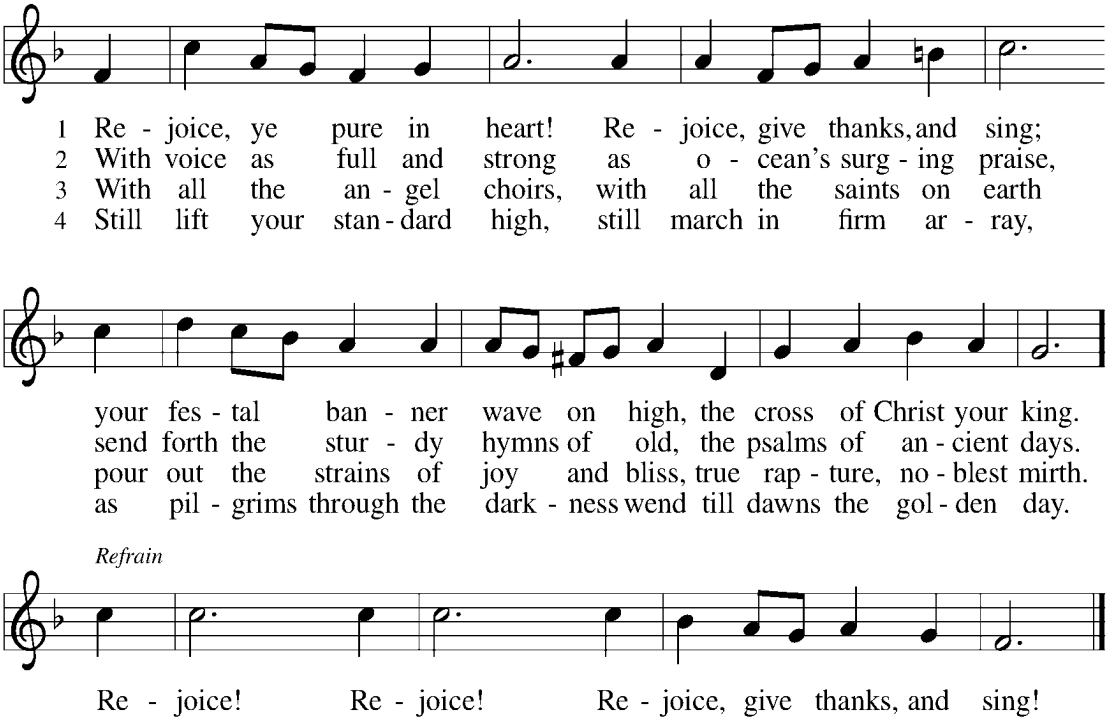
The holy gospel according to Matthew, the 12th chapter. **Glory to you O Lord.**

1 When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he
sat down, his disciples came to him. 2 And he began to speak and
taught them, saying:
3 "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
4 "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
5 "Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.
6 "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for
they will be filled.
7 "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.
8 "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
9 "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of
God.
10 "Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of
righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
11 "Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and
utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. 12 Rejoice and
be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they
persecuted the prophets who were before you."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

*Hymn of the Day: Rejoice Ye Pure in Heart ELW # 873



Prayers of the People

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

Fill your church with mercy and humility as we proclaim the gospel in our worship and witness in the world. Renew and inspire all who preach and teach among us. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Restore all lands suffering from ecological degradation. Protect soils and waterways. Point us toward innovative ways of living in harmony

and joy with creation. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
Unite the nations in their actions toward justice and peace. Raise up leaders who listen deeply for the needs of their communities, and surround the election process with wisdom and discernment. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bring comfort and care to all who are in need, especially all who mourn this day. Sustain any who are weary, experiencing loneliness, or struggling with chronic illness. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Nurture programs and communities that support elders and those who are homebound. Bless caregivers, nurses, chaplains, social workers, and hospice staff. Guide this congregation's ministry with seniors and their families. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

With grateful hearts we remember all who have died and now rest from their labors. Today we remember especially those who died this past year: Olive Evanofski, Tom Story, Frank Rueter & James Gradert. Fill us with songs of praise until we too are gathered at your side. 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.**

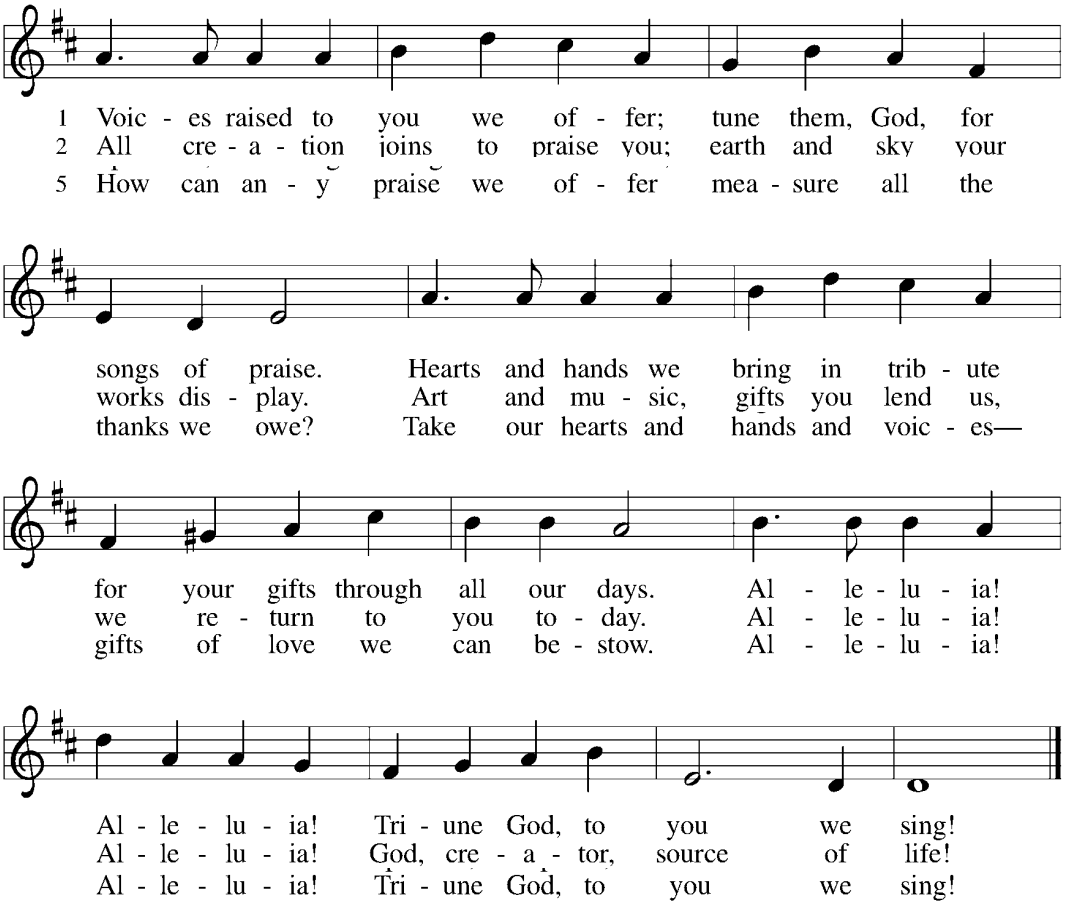
*Sharing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always**. And also with you**

Offering

*The gift bearer will be bringing the offering plate to you in your pews***.**

*Offertory Hymn: Voices Raised to You ELW # 845



*Offertory Prayer

Gracious God, in this life you lead us, comfort us, guide us,
and redeem us in countless ways.
In death you usher us to even greater blessing,
bringing us through the great ordeal,
and welcoming us to your table of goodness and plenty.
These gifts we bring are but a token of our thanks,
seeds to be planted for the growing of your kingdom,
in which we have sure and certain hope.
In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

All Saints Sunday – Candles of Remembrance

As we gather at Christ's table we remember that we are joined in communion with all the saints, those living and those who have gone before us. Before receiving communion, you are invited to light a candle in memory of those you love, or in thanksgiving for a life that has blessed your own. Light the beeswax taper from the central candle and place it upright in the sand, then receive communion

*Great Thanksgiving

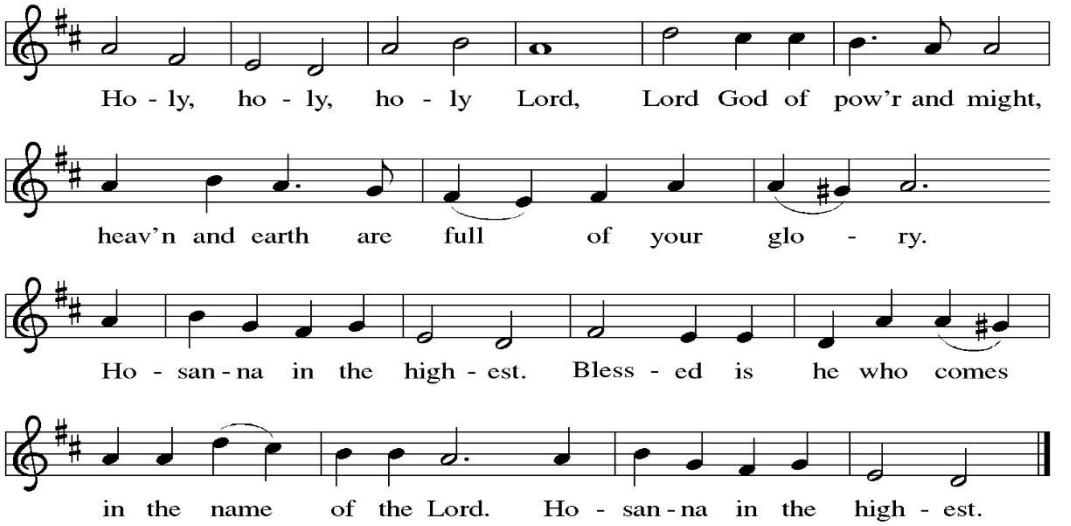
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

All thanks and praise be to you,
most holy God, giver of all life.
You made us for companionship and shaped us for love;
you gave us your good earth and taught us to care;
you established your law that we might learn justice
and give you honor with our lives.
We forgot how to love;
we ceased to give care
and failed to abide by your life-giving law.
You sent us prophets to call us back to you and,
when that was not enough,
you came—
Word-made-flesh, your very being—
and overwhelmed us with love.
And so we sing with all the saints on earth
and all the angels in heaven:

Sanctus



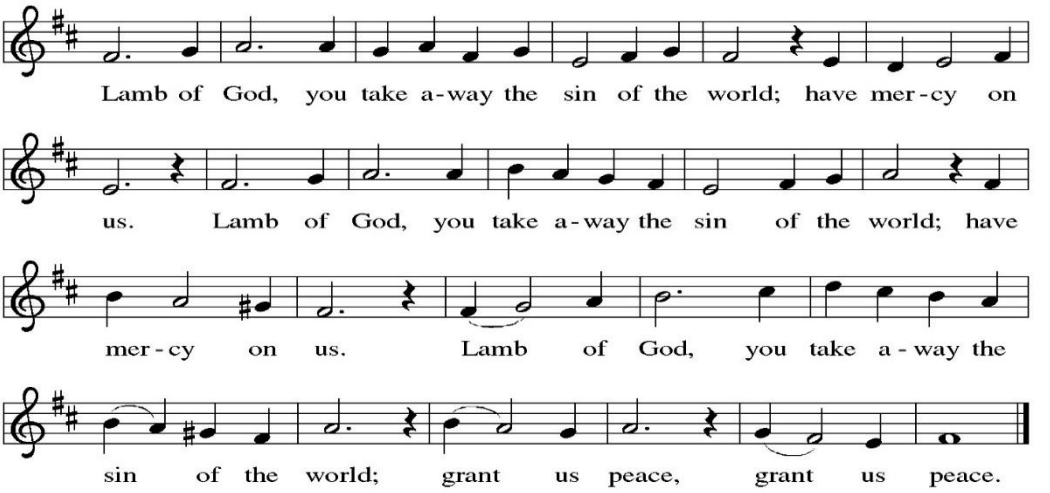
*Eucharistic Prayer

*The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

Communion Hymn



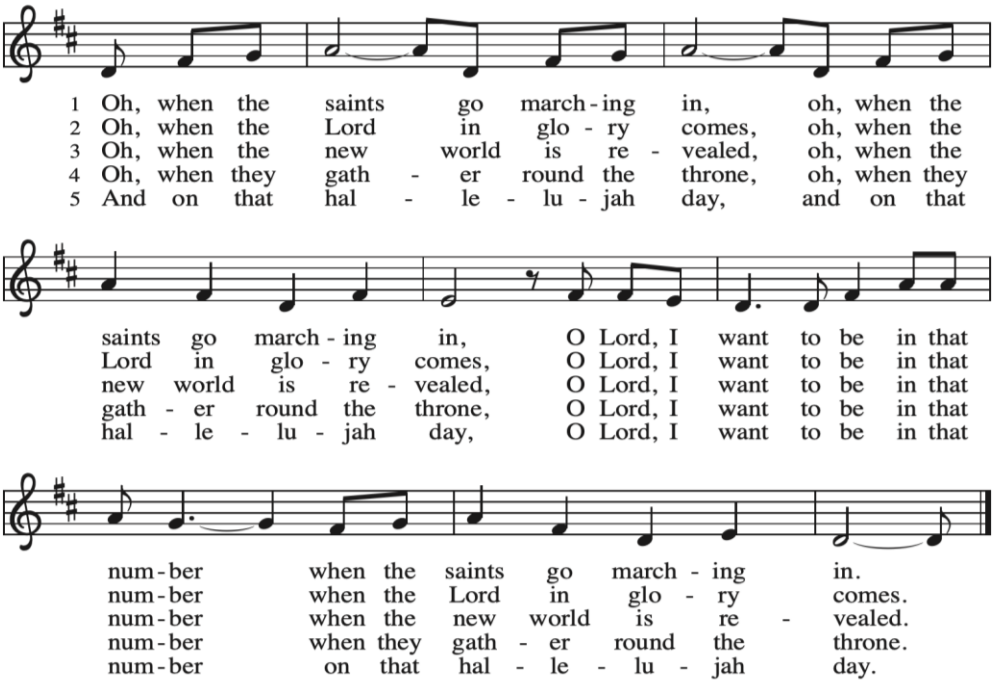
*Post Communion Prayer

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. **Amen.**

*Blessing

May the God of hope keep you until Christ comes to take us all home. Triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you today and into eternity. **Amen.**

*Sending Hymn: When the Saints Go Marching In ACS # 950



*Dismissal

Go in peace, carrying the love and faith of your ancestors into the world and the future. **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude

Praying Together

... for those who are homebound, ill, hospitalized or recuperating: Gayle Agg, Nora Beach, Vince Besesdnjak, Joan Clarke, Chuck Dickey, Bill Flick, Dan Fleming, Barbara Fossa, Alan Fugo and family, Donna Franz, Risa Gabor, Barb Gaglione, Michelle Garnett, Rosa Garnett, Jane Gradert, Marge (Shriver) Katarzynski, Dorrie Kearns, Dylan King, Karen Kipfsthul, Elaine Knerem, Nel Lanese, Jennifer Lewane, Phyllis Nemeth, Patti Novak, Dick Ptak, Madeline Ptak, Ginny Robinson, Steve Senderak, Mary Jane Sesek, Clarence Smith, Claude, Starks, Arlene Stoltz, Barb Toth, Verl Williamson, Maud Wright, Charlotte Zaranka, Wilma Dancy, , Nancy Helmick, Robert Lambrecht, Laura Mele, Judy Morgan, Kris Sandor, Lois Williams, Eugene Winfrey, the Copeland/Lane Family.

Last Week

General Fund receipts for week ending 10/25/2026: $ 2169.00

Parish Calendar: 11/1/2026

Sunday	9:00 am Sunday Eucharist
Monday	6:00-8:00 pm AA Meeting in Hall
Tuesday	6:00-8:00 pm Women's AA Meeting Hall
Wednesday	6:00-8:00 pm AA Meeting in Hall
Thursday	
Friday	6:30-8:30pm GOD AA Meeting in Hall
Saturday	9:00am-12:00pm Art for Soul in Hall NCMBC
	11:00am-12:00pm NCMBC Bible Study in Hall
	3:00 –5:00pm AA Meeting in Hall
	6:00-8:00pm CA Meeting in Hall
Sunday	9:00 am Sunday Eucharist

Office Hours
Monday Office Closed
Tuesday 10:00-3:00pm
Wesnesday 10:00-3:00pm
Thursday 10:00-3:00pm
Friday 10:00-12:00pm
Saturday Office Closed
Sunday 8:00 10:30 am

216-662-0370
Martin@covenantmaplehts.org
revandreamcdonough@gmail.com

CALLED TO BE SAINTS

Olive Evanofski December 24, 1923-Novermber 4, 2025

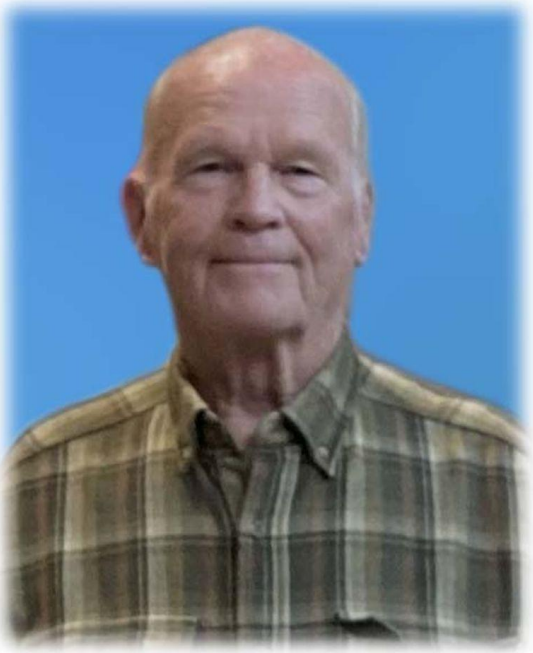


Born **December 24, 1923**, in England. Olive was a beloved member of her community in Twinsburg, formerly of Maple Heights She was the wife of the late Edmund Eric Evanofski, mother of Sherry Evanofski and the late Dan Evanofski, and mother of Christine Housiaux. She was also the grandmother of Aaron Housiaux, "Gramdma to the Housiaux Stewards," and the sister of Audrey

Friends and neighbors remembered her as bright, cheerful, and easy to communicate with, a "legend on Thomas Street" who lived a long and fulfilling life She was cherished by family, friends, and the community for her warmth and kindness.

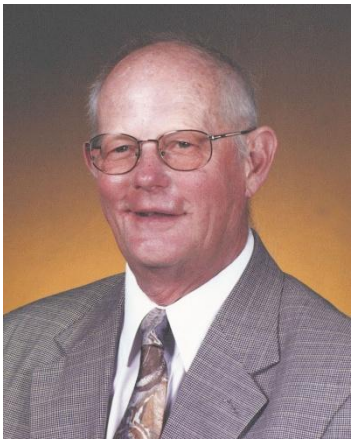
Frank Reuter September 6, 1942- October 6th 2026

Tom Story February 26, 1939- February 26, 2026



February 26, 1939 in Cleveland, OH. Dearest son of the late George and Elva Story (nee Reinker); Thomas attended John Adams High School, Case Institute of Technology, and finally Tri-State University, where he earned his B.S. in Mechanical Engineering. He participated in baseball and wrestling in his youth. He participated in fishing, and hunting with his sons, and enjoyed the many adventures they had, particularly their annual fishing trip to Canada with his best friend Al Herrmann. He also enjoyed attending many sporting events in the Houston area with his daughter, particularly the Houston Astros. He was very active at this church, Memorial Lutheran in Katy, Texas for many years. There he was an usher, building/maintenance trustee, and active in the Bell Choir. He also loved gardening and working in his yard. He was a Mechanical Engineer who started his career at General Motors (Euclid and Terex Divisions), AEC (Alpine Equipment Corp, Chief Engineer), and Steward & Stevenson (Chief Engineer). His work related to designing heavy excavating equipment, underground mining equipment, tunneling, oil platforms, railcar movers and other specialized equipment, and finally, military vehicles. Thomas was loved by all who knew him, especially his family. He was a kind hearted person who treated everyone with respect and represented the best in mankind who was steadfast in his love of family, friends, and above all, God.

James Gradert April 4, 1932- September 28, 2026



For someone who could talk a lot, he sure did a lot of listening. My Grandpap, knew every friend and could distinguish between the three best friends of mine named Ashley. He remembered every long day I had at work. I told him about every new milestone with the kids. He always asked how Pat was doing. He listened and listened and listened. He loved the simple things in life: a sunny day, hanging out with family, and free food on Veterans Day. He had a way of making everyone he interacted with feel special. The kind of person who never met a stranger.. He was humble and happy. For several years after college, I called him every Monday, we talked about everything and nothing at the same time. We also discovered that Jeopardy! and Wheel of Fortune aired at opposite times in Ohio and North Carolina. So every Monday at 7:30 we would trade answers to Final Jeopardy! and the final puzzle on Wheel of Fortune. He was loyal and loving, and I can only dream and pray that I'll have the opportunity to spend 70 years married to my best friend and husband, Pat, like he did to my Grandma. I always loved my grandparents, but after having children, I realized just how special they are. It's like ice cream for dinner—all love, no rules, because they know just how fleeting childhood is as a parent. I'm so grateful my Grandpap got to see me become a parent. I'm sad I didn't get to see Grandpap more recently, but I feel grateful that my last memories of him are of his lively spirit and of him and Grandma FaceTiming my kids, with their foreheads filling the screen, for Blakely's birthday. Grandpap, thank you for the humble man you were, the charismatic crooked smile you always wore, and for raising the son who became the best dad on the planet. Thank you for the love you always shared with me. I can still feel your big hugs. I'm glad I had you in my life for as long as I did, but I'll be honest: I really thought you'd make it to 100. I love you and miss you. **Katie Wurtz**