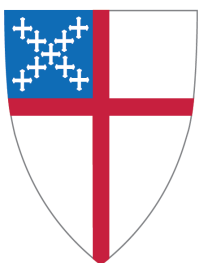




22nd Sunday after Pentecost

November 9, 2025



A Reconciling in Christ Congregation



Bethany
Lutheran Church

The Rev. Kim Rossi, Pastor
(585-993-0322 – Pastor's cell)
6 Leo Moss Drive, Olean, NY 14760
716-372-1914

e-mail address: bethany1706@gmail.com

Praise!

Share!

Serve!

Welcome to Bethany!

Bethany recognizes that each of us is a unique creation made in the image of God. We celebrate and give thanks for the many diverse gifts that God has bestowed on us. We proclaim ourselves to be an open and affirming congregation to all of God's people; welcoming into our midst persons of every race, culture, age, gender identity, sexual orientation, ability, and economic status. We believe that our openness will allow us to grow in our faith through Christ's teaching to love one another as God loves us.

You may place your gifts and offerings in the offering plate as you enter the sanctuary. We will not be passing the plate. Thank you and God Bless

Ring of the Bells

Announcements:

Prelude: Prelude on "Duke Street"

E. Mead

We Gather as God's People

(Please stand as you are able)

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

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

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

Faithful God,

you have shown us the ways of your heart, yet we stray from your paths.

We are stuck in sinful systems of oppression and do not embrace the freedom of your faithful promises.

We ignore our neighbors.

We exploit the earth.

We reject your abundance, trusting our impulses instead of your steadfast love.

Repair our relationships, restore what we have broken, renew our hearts, and bring us to new life.

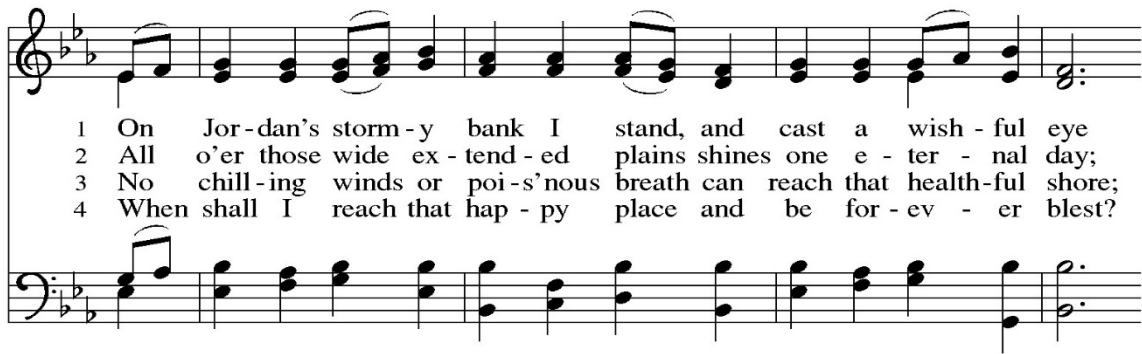
Amen.

Hear the good news:

God the Faithful One loves you, ✙ in Christ Jesus your sins are forgiven, and by the power of the Holy Spirit you are set free.

Amen.

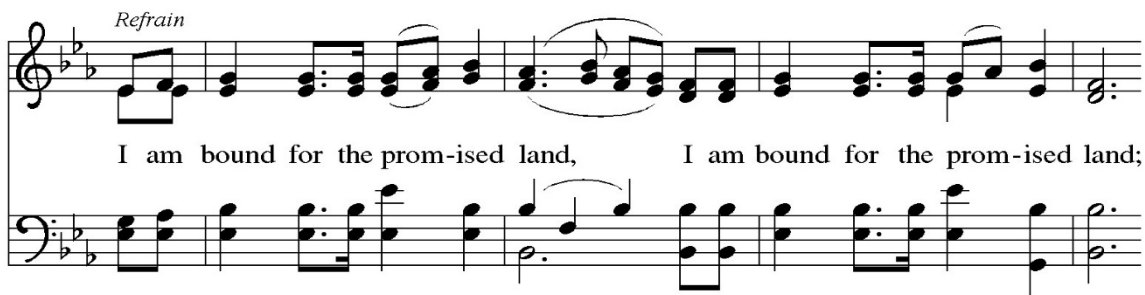
On Jordan's Stormy Bank I Stand



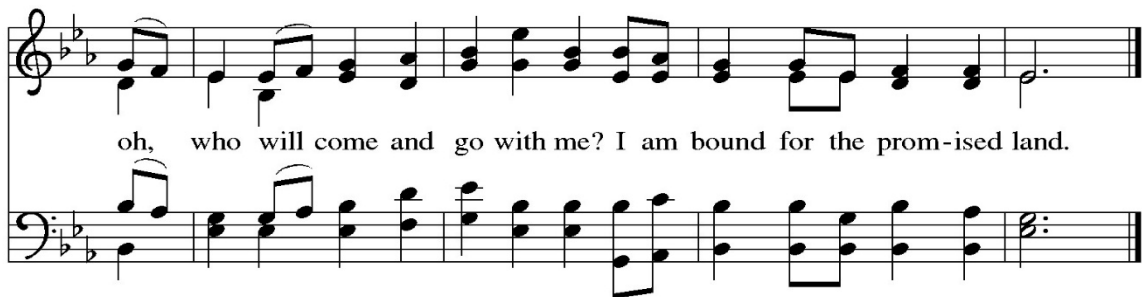
1 On Jor-dan's storm-y bank I stand, and cast a wish-ful eye
2 All o'er those wide ex-tend-ed plains shines one e-ter-nal day;
3 No chill-ing winds or poi-s'nous breath can reach that health-ful shore;
4 When shall I reach that hap-py place and be for-ev-er blest?



to Ca-naan's fair and hap-py land, where my pos-ses-sions lie.
there God the Son for-ev-er reigns and scat-ters night a-way.
sick-ness and sor-row, pain and death, are felt and feared no more.
When shall I see my Sav-ior's face and in God's bos-om rest?



Refrain
I am bound for the prom-ised land, I am bound for the prom-ised land;



oh, who will come and go with me? I am bound for the prom-ised land.

Text: Samuel Stennett, 1727–1795

Music: PROMISED LAND, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; adapt. Rigdon M. McIntosh, 1836–1899

Greeting

P: 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.**

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray

O God, our eternal redeemer, by the presence of your Spirit you renew and direct our hearts. Keep always in our mind the end of all things and the day of judgment. Inspire us for a holy life here, and bring us to the joy of the resurrection, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

(Please be seated)

We Hear God's Word for Us

First Lesson: Job 19:23-27a

Job suffers the loss of children, wealth, and health. Accused by his companions of wrongdoing, he knows himself to be innocent. Here, in the midst of his suffering, Job clings to the radical hope that his vindicator, his redeemer, lives; and that one day he himself will see God.

- ²³ “O that my words were written down!
O that they were inscribed in a book!
²⁴ O that with an iron pen and with lead
they were engraved on a rock forever!
²⁵ For I know that my vindicator lives
and that in the end he will stand upon the earth;
²⁶ and after my skin has been destroyed,
then in my flesh I shall see God,
^{27a} whom I shall see on my side,
and my eyes shall behold, and not another.”

The Word of the Lord **C: Thanks be to God**

Psalm 17:1-9 (SPOKEN responsively. Organ side starts, **piano side is in bold**)

- ¹ Hear a just cause, O LORD; give heed to my cry;
listen to my prayer, which does not come from lying lips.
² **Let my vindication come forth from your presence;**
let your eyes be fixed on justice.
³ Examine my heart, visit me by night,
melt me down; you will find no impurity in me.
⁴ **I have not regarded what others do;**
at the word of your lips I have avoided the ways of the violent.
⁵ My footsteps hold fast to your well-worn path;
and my feet do not slip.
⁶ **I call upon you, O God, for you will answer me;**
incline your ear to me and hear my words.
⁷ Show me your marvelous lovingkindness,
O Savior of those who take refuge at your right hand from those who rise against them.
⁸ **Keep me as the apple of your eye;**
hide me under the shadow of your wings,
⁹ from the wicked who assault me,
from my deadly enemies I who surround me.

Second Lesson: 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17

This portion of the letter provides encouragement for the church at Thessalonica during a time of confusion and opposition, as some allowed their concern over Jesus' imminent return to divert them from the central teachings of the gospel.

¹ As to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him, we beg you, brothers and sisters, ² not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as though from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord is already here. ³ Let no one deceive you in any way, for that day will not come unless the rebellion comes first and the lawless one is revealed, the one destined for destruction. ⁴ He opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, declaring himself to be God. ⁵ Do you not remember that I told you these things when I was still with you?

¹³ But we must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the first fruits for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and through belief in the truth. ¹⁴ For this purpose he called you through our gospel, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. ¹⁵ So then, brothers and sisters, stand firm and hold fast to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by word of mouth or by our letter.

¹⁶ Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and through grace gave us eternal comfort and good hope, ¹⁷ comfort your hearts and strengthen them in every good work and word.

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

(Please stand as you are able)

Gospel Acclamation:

ELW 174



The Gospel according to Luke 20:27-38

C: Glory to you O Lord

Some Sadducees, who do not believe in the resurrection of the dead, try to trap Jesus. They formulate the convoluted case of a serial widow who marries a succession of seven brothers. Jesus responds by teaching about God to whom all are alive and in whom all relationships are fulfilled.

²⁷ Some Sadducees, those who say there is no resurrection, came to [Jesus] ²⁸ and asked him a question: "Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man's brother dies leaving a wife but no children, the man shall marry the widow and raise up children for his brother. ²⁹ Now there were seven brothers; the first married a woman and died childless; ³⁰ then the second ³¹ and the third married her, and so in the same way all seven died childless. ³² Finally the woman also died. ³³ In the resurrection, therefore, whose wife will the woman be? For the seven had married her."

³⁴ Jesus said to them, "Those who belong to this age marry and are given in marriage, ³⁵ but those who are considered worthy of a place in that age and in the

resurrection from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage. ³⁶ Indeed, they cannot die anymore, because they are like angels and are children of God, being children of the resurrection. ³⁷ And the fact that the dead are raised Moses himself showed, in the story about the bush, where he speaks of the Lord as the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. ³⁸ Now he is God not of the dead but of the living, for to him all of them are alive.”

The Gospel of Our Lord

C: Praise to you O Christ

(Please be seated)

****Reflection****

(Please stand as you are able)

Apostle's Creed

**I believe in God, the Father
almighty, creator of heaven and
earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only
Son, our Lord, who was conceived
by the Holy Spirit, born of the
virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius
Pilate, was crucified, died, and was
buried; he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;**

**he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of
the Father, and he will come to
judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Come Bring Your Burdens (ACS 1009)

(Sung twice)

Come, Bring Your Burdens

Wo - za nom - thwa - lo wa - kho;
Come, bring your bur - dens to God; come, bring your

thwa - lo wa - kho;
bur - dens to God; come, bring your bur - dens to God, for

ye - s'a - ka - so - za - thi hayi.
Je - sus will nev - er say no.

Text: South African; English text Barbara Clark, Mairi Munro, and Martine Stemerick

Music: WOZA NOMTHWALO WAKHO, South African melody; arr. Welile Sigabi

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(Please be seated)

Prayers of Intercession

Gathered with one voice, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

God our Redeemer, bless your church universal and its leaders. Set all hearts on you from generation to generation in anticipation of Christ's return. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of life, we give thanks for the fruits and grains of harvest, for rivers and streams, for all that is made of rock and iron. Renew the earth's natural resources and the lands from which they come. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of justice, we give thanks for the service of our veterans and pray for those needing support for wounds of any kind. Strengthen those charged with the governance and protection of vulnerable populations. Bring an end to war throughout the world. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God who leads us to belief and truth, we give thanks that you are always and already here. Nurture and support those who are unsteady in mind, unsafe in spirit, or unwell in body *especially* those from **St. Stephen's** Gail Olson, Dick Mulaski, Ethan Johnson, Steven, Colt Matz, Dave and Donna Briggs, Christopher Rossi, Rev. Max Meyers, Pat Piccirillo, Martha Edwards, Kathy and Jim, Priscilla and Nelson Griffith, Caroline Wolfe, Denise, Kim Miller, Helen Stritof, Kienen Duggan and David Styles **and those from Bethany**: Adam, Joanne Hitchcock, Kay Backhus, Kristen Clemens Keenan, Nancy Rebeyro, Nick, Ron Aaron, Steve, Louise Koenig, Barb Franklin, Marcia Wray, Andy Carlson, Jim Carlson, Gerry Zimmerman, Merrill and Muriel Frable, Robert Keenan, Dorothy Porter, Sylvia Subject, Barb Metz, Gail Cross, Elise Ehlers, Heather Miller, Tim Johnson, Jamie Molyneaux, Karl Zimmerman, Fran Wilson and others either silently or aloud..Comfort those who suffer from trauma and exposure to traumatic events. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God who gathers us together, we give thanks for our pastors and deacons, teachers and musicians, administrators, and building caretakers. May they find joy in leadership as we grow in faith together. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of the saints, we give thanks for all who have died in faith. Uplift us as we honor their memory and await your coming in glory. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We offer these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your grace and unyielding love; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

(Please stand as you are able)

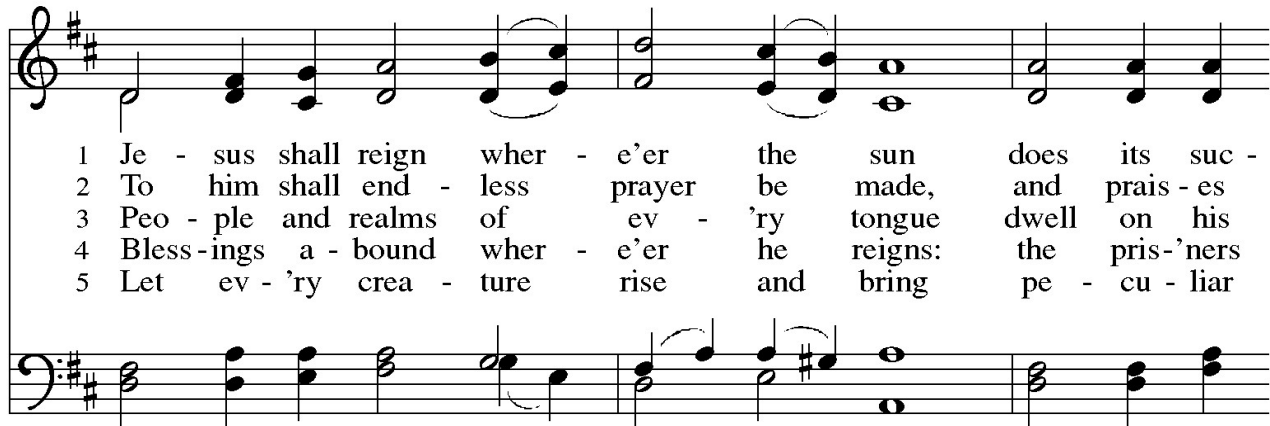
The Sharing Of the Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

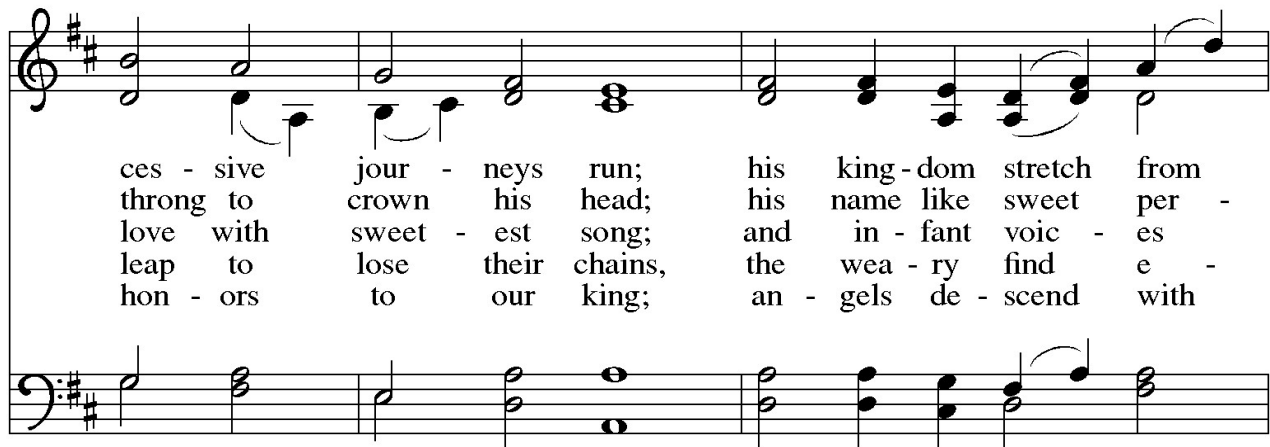
C: And also with you.

P: Please greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

Jesus Shall Reign



1 Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun does its suc -
 2 To him shall end - less prayer be made, and prais - es
 3 Peo - ple and realms of ev - 'ry tongue dwell on his
 4 Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er he reigns: the pris - 'ners
 5 Let ev - 'ry crea - ture rise and bring pe - cu - liar



ces - sive jour - neys run; his king - dom stretch from
 throng to crown his head; his name like sweet per -
 love with sweet - est song; and in - fant voic - es
 leap to lose their chains, the wea - ry find e -
 hon - ors to our king; an - gels de - scend with



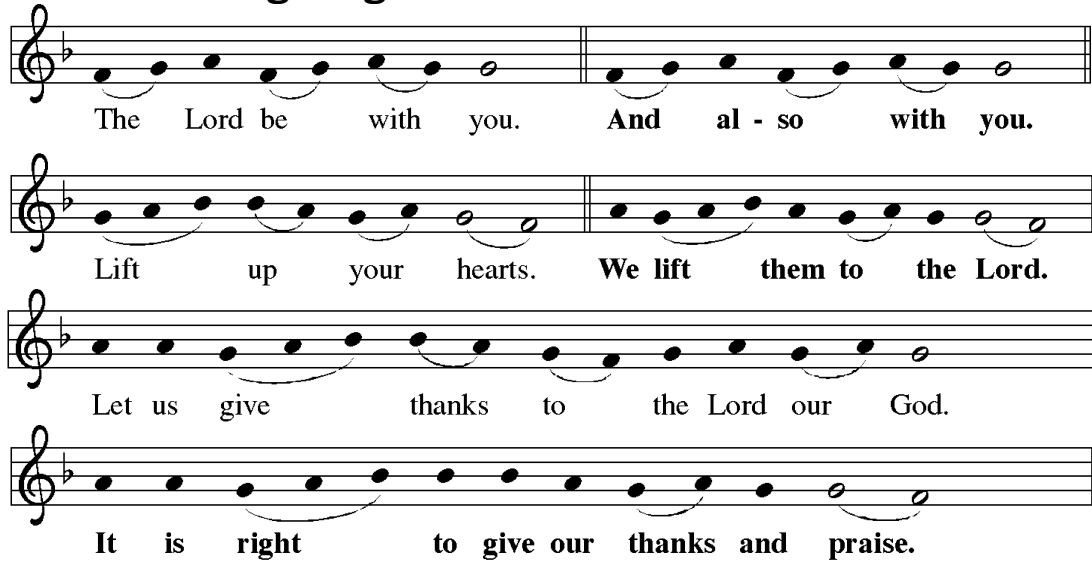
shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.
 fume shall rise with ev - 'ry morn - ing sac - ri - fice.
 shall pro - claim their ear - ly bless - ings on his name.
 ter - nal rest, and all who suf - fer want are blest.
 songs a - gain, and earth re - peat the loud a - men.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.
 Music: DUKE STREET, attr. John Hatton, d. 1793

We Share the Holy Meal at God's Table

Great Thanksgiving

s161



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

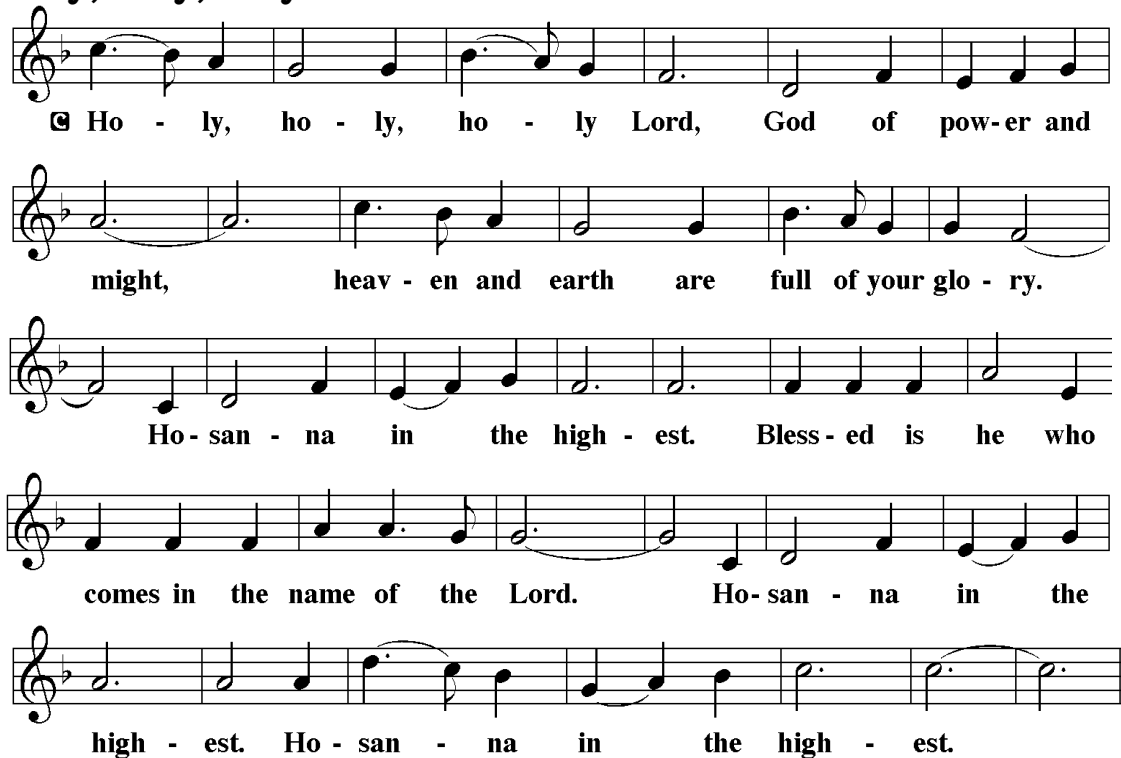
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and

might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.

Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the

high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Table Prayer

P: We give you thanks, Father, through Jesus Christ, your beloved Son, whom you sent in this end of the ages to save and redeem us and to proclaim to us your will. He is your Word, inseparable from you. Through him you created all things, and in him you take delight. He is your Word, sent from heaven to a virgin's womb. He there took on our nature and our lot and was shown forth as your Son, born of the Holy Spirit and of the virgin Mary. It is he, our Lord Jesus, who fulfilled all your will and won for you a holy people; he stretched out his hands in suffering in order to free from suffering those who trust you. It is he who, handed over to a death he freely accepted, in order to destroy death, to break the bonds of the evil one, to crush hell underfoot, to give light to the righteous, to establish his covenant, and to show forth the resurrection, taking bread and giving thanks to you, said: Take and eat; this is my body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. In the same way he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This is my blood poured out for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's Passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

Remembering, then, his death and resurrection, we lift this bread and cup before you, giving you thanks that you have made us worthy to stand before you and to serve you as your priestly people. And we ask you: Send your Spirit upon these gifts of your Church; gather into one all who share this bread and wine; fill us with your Holy Spirit to establish our faith in truth, that we may praise and glorify you through your Son Jesus Christ. Through him all glory and honor are yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church both now and forever.

Amen

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom as we pray . . .

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

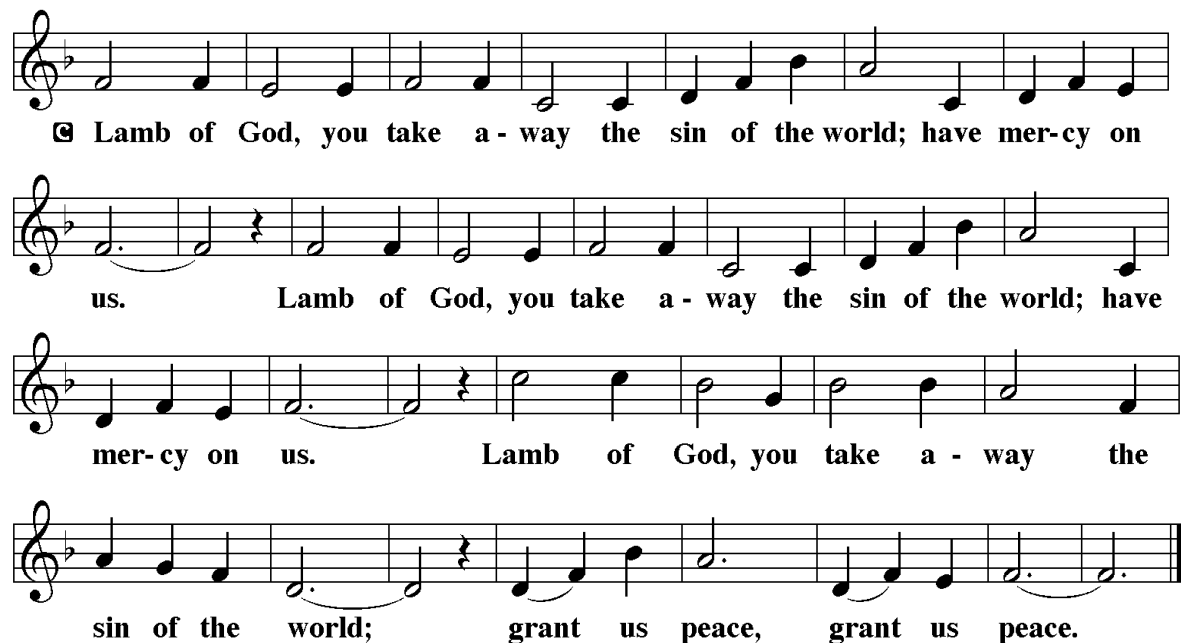
P: There is a place for you at the table of God
Come, receive the food that does not perish, a taste of life eternal.
(Please be seated)

****As you come to the altar, please form a single line...individual cups are to the right, common cup is to the left and if intinction is preferred you may use either side...****

Invitation to Communion

(Christ is our host and Our Communion Table is open to anyone who wishes to partake of the Lord's Supper. As Lutheran Christians we believe Christ to be really present in the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins.)

Communion: "Lamb of God"



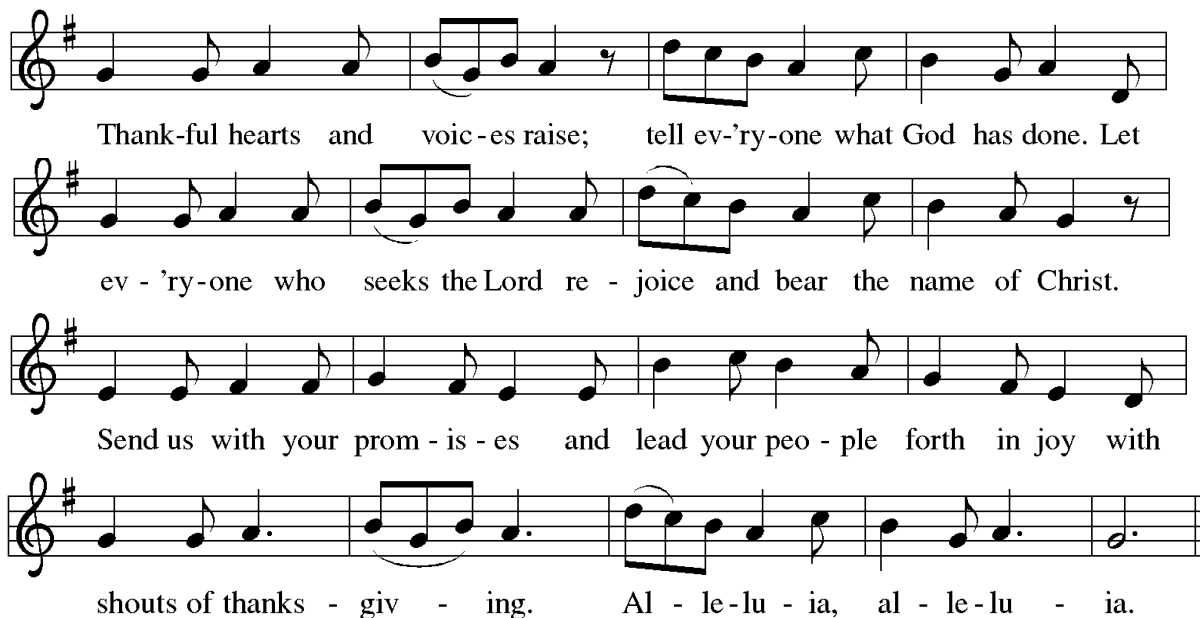
☐ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Communion Music: .Various settings of "Duke Street"
(Please stand as you are able)

Post Communion Prayer

P: God of field and flower, wheat and grape, you have nourished us with the bread of heaven that gives life to the world.
Strengthened by the body and blood of your Son, send us out to gather your good gifts for all who hunger and thirst, and embolden us to love and serve in Christ's name.
Amen.

Post Communion Canticle: Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise” ELW 207



Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let
ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - joice and bear the name of Christ.
Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with
shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia.

We Are Sent to Share the Good News

Blessing:

The love of God the Sovereign strengthen you,
God the Son save you,
and God the Holy Spirit anoint you for the work ahead.
The holy Trinity bless you ✝ and grant you a faithful and courageous heart
now and forever.

Amen.

In Thee Is Gladness



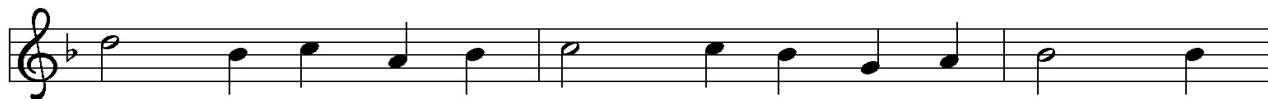
1 In thee is glad - ness a - mid all sad - ness, Je - sus, sun - shine of my
2 Je - sus is ours! . . We fear no pow - ers, not of earth or sin or



heart. By thee are giv - en the gifts of heav - en, thou the
death. He sees and bless - es in worst dis - tress - es; he can



true re - deem - er art. Our souls thou wak - est; our bonds thou
change them with a breath. Where-fore the sto - ry tell of his



break - est. Who trusts thee sure - ly has built se - cure - ly
glo - ry with heart and voic - es; all heav'n re - joic - es



and stands for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia! Our hearts are
in him for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia! We shout for



pin - ing to see thy shin - ing, dy - ing or liv - ing,
glad - ness, tri - umph o'er sad - ness, love him and praise him



to thee are cleav - ing; naught can us sev - er: Al - le - lu - ia!
and still shall raise him glad hymns for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Johann Lindemann, 1549–1631; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
Music: IN DIR IST FREUDE, Giovanni Giacomo Gastoldi, 1556–1622

Dismissal:

Go in peace. Share the Harvest.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude: Jesus Shall Reign

arr. D. Schack

Today's Worship Servants

Worship Leader Pastor Kim Rossi

Ministers: the people of Bethany

Organist: Muriel Frable

Lay Lector: Chris Brainard

Counter: Chris Brainard

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This week in our parish

Today 11/9	11:00 Worship Service – 5:30 AA Meeting
Tue 11/11	5:30 AA Meeting
Wed 11/12	12:00 – Book Study 5:30 AA Meeting
Thu 11/13	5:30 TOPS
Fri 11/14	8:30 – 2:00 Pet food packing & pantry
Sun 11/16	11:00 Worship Service

Things Happening

Christmas Party /– "bring a dish to pass" party! *Try out that "new" recipe you have!!*

Dec. 2, 2025 6:00 p.m.– St. Stephens (Details to follow!)

Plans are underway for a joint Christmas Party for both Churches on Tuesday, December 2nd. at 6:00 pm at St. Stephens. This will be a "bring a dish to pass" party!

This will be an opportunity to come together to celebrate. I hope that most of you will come to this party for this one last opportunity to be together with me. ALSO, we hope to have some baskets for you to check out, to bid on, and with all proceeds to go to help support the Food Pantry.

We are also asking for people to bring some canned or non-perishable foods to put under the Christmas Tree in the entryway for the Food Pantry.

With the loss of some funding, we would like to help support the Food Pantry so they can continue to provide Christmas Dinners for those who do not have the resources to do so for themselves this year. We hope that you will consider coming for the party and to support our relationship as Churches and to support the Food Pantry.

Cookie Drive ---This is the time of year to start bringing in cookies to hand out to the families coming to the Food pantry. You can bring them in now & they will be frozen & thawed for use, starting the weekend after Thanksgiving. Please make sure your cookies are cooled before you bring them in so they don't stick together for transport. Bring them to Bethany Lutheran Church any Sunday. Thank You!

Ladies lunch – November 20th *(Any restaurant suggestions??)*

There is still time to sign-up to be "Thanksgiving HELP"...

SMILES: God bless those with a sense of humor!

The Knot Prayer

Dear God,

Please untie the knots that are in my mind, my heart and my life. Remove the have nots, can nots and the do nots. Erase the will nots, may nots, might nots that find a home in my heart. Release me from the could nots, would nots and should nots that obstruct my life. And most of all, dear God, I ask that you remove from my mind, my heart, and my life all of the “am nots” that I have allowed to hold me back. Especially the thought that I am not good enough.. Amen

Honor the friendships that allow you to pick up from where you last left off, regardless of how long it's been since you connected. The friendships that survive hiatuses, silences and space, those are the connections that never die.

Teachers should wear body cameras like police so parents can see how their children act...

I am so old that when I was a kid we actually had to win to get a trophy.

Marriage isn't about a beautiful wedding, fancy homes, cute kids, nice cars and white picket fences. Marriage is hospital stays, working long hours, fighting through struggles, setting up life insurance, paying bills, keeping the faith & staying together through it all.....

Forget dancing like no one is watching. Dance like a toddler. They don't even care if there's music!

Marriage – An endless sleepover with your favorite weirdo.....

Remember as you slide down the great banister of life, there are gonna be people who are splinters in your butt. Pick 'em out and Slide On!!

I don't know how my story will end. But nowhere will it ever say “She gave up!”

I don't know who needs to hear this but witches won't eat your children. We don't like spoiled food.....

The greatest thing you ever learn is just to love and be loved in return.
