24th Sunday after Pentecost

5:30pm Saturday, November 7, 2026
8:00am & 10:30am Sunday, November 8, 2026

The 10:30am Sunday worship service is video recorded.



ST. JOHN'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Welcome to Worship!

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.

Denotes to please stand as you are able.
Please silence your cellphones.

PRELUDE (5:30 & 10:30) *Chorale Prelude on "Wake, Awake"* J. S. Bach

(8:00) *Prelude on 'Wachet Auf'* J. G. Walther

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

***GATHERING HYMN #436** *Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying*

***CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who forgives all our sin, and whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Gracious God,

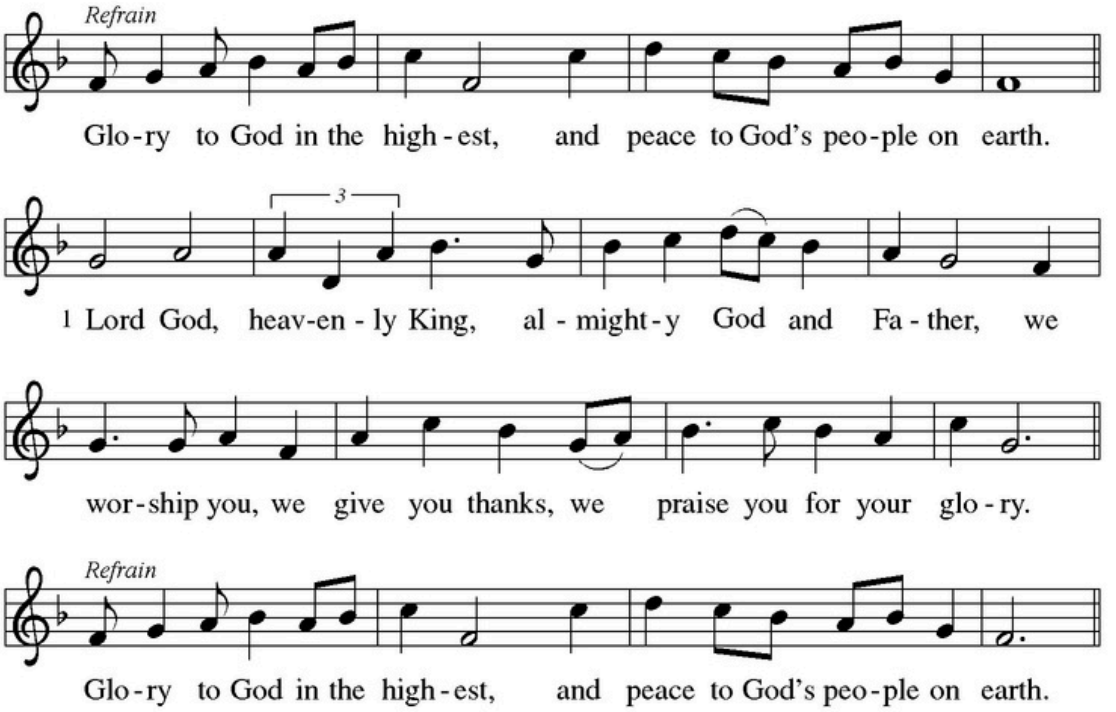
C: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your
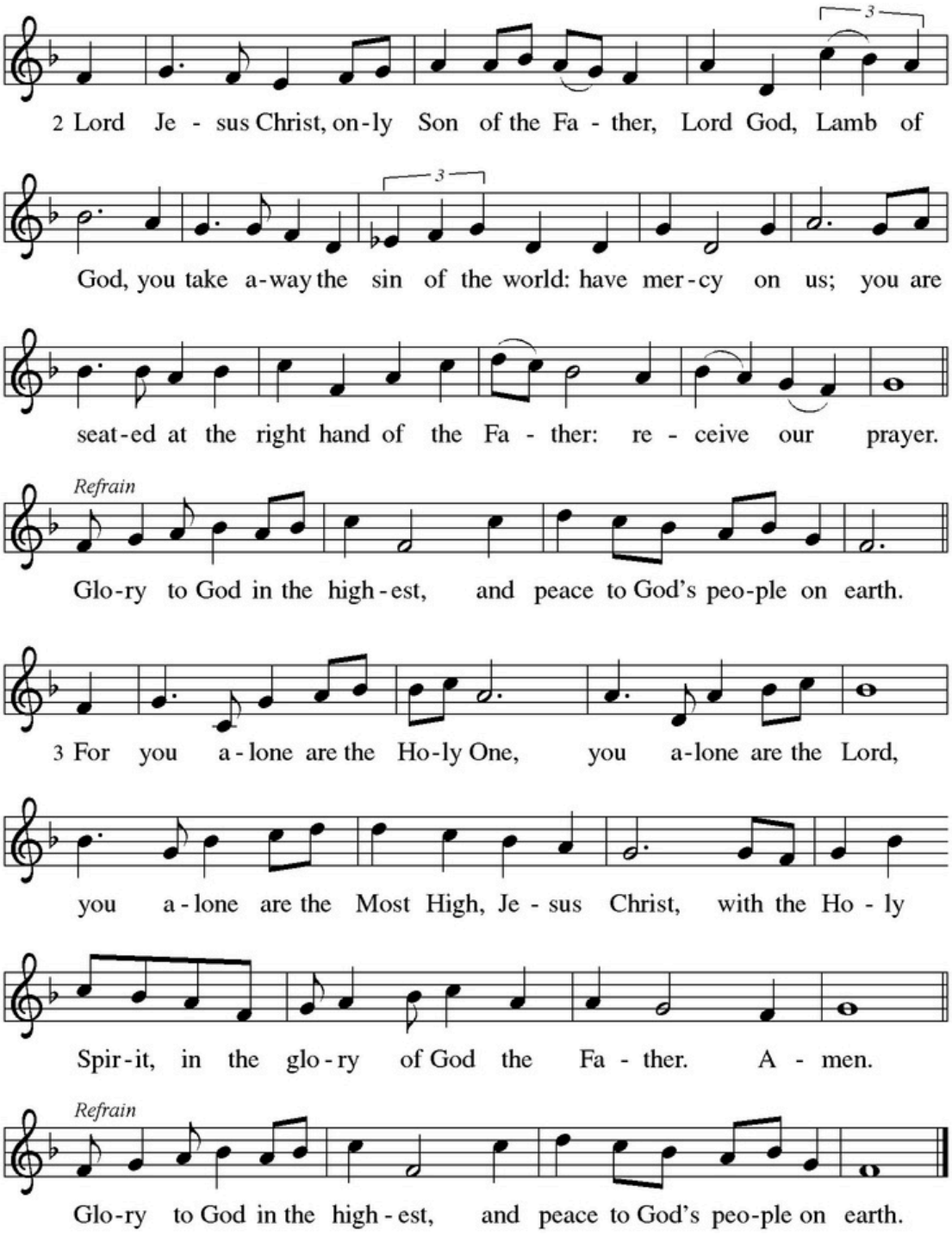
compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.
C: Amen.

***APOSTOLIC 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.

***GLORY TO GOD**




2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of
God, you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us; you are
seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.
Refrain
Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.
3 For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly
Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.
Refrain
Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**
P: 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.
C: Amen.

FIRST LESSON: 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: The Word of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.
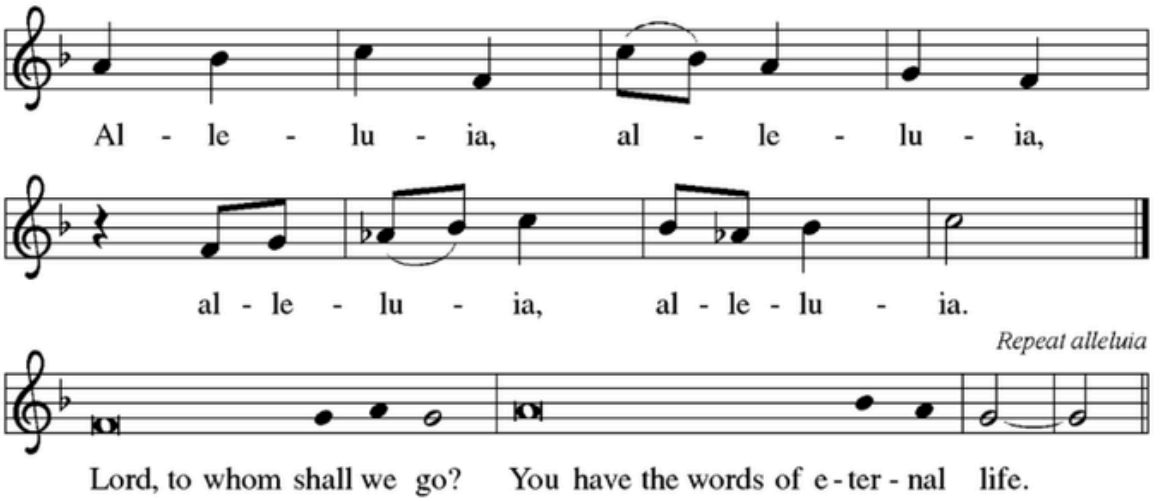
SECOND LESSON: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

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

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



***HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 25:1-13**

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

P: The holy gospel according to St. Matthew, the 25th chapter.
C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[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.
C: Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

SERMON Reverend Jim Jablonski

***APOSTLES' 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.

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

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

P: You illumine the church with the hope of your new day. Prepare our hearts and minds for the inbreaking of your kingdom, that we might awaken to your transforming love at work all around us. Guide us as we encourage one another; building one another up in love for the sake of the world. Lord in your mercy,
C: Hear our prayer.

P: You create and sustain the earth's natural rhythms so that all life might thrive. Show us the wisdom and wonder of nature's balance; make us careful stewards of our common home. Lord in your mercy,
C: Hear our prayer.

P: You make justice roll down in all places and among all nations. Encourage all who protect vulnerable communities and help rebuild in the aftermath of conflict. Uphold veterans and those who care for them. Lord in your mercy,
C: Hear our prayer.

P: You hasten to heal our wounds and make whole what is broken. Comfort individuals facing difficult diagnosis, receiving palliative care, or facing uncertain treatment options. *(We pray especially for . . .)* Lord in your mercy,
C: Hear our prayer.

P: You welcome those who have come before us in faith into the joys of heaven. Sustain us by your grace and guide us into the promise of everlasting life. Lord in your mercy,
C: Hear our prayer.

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

***PEACE**
P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C: And also with you.
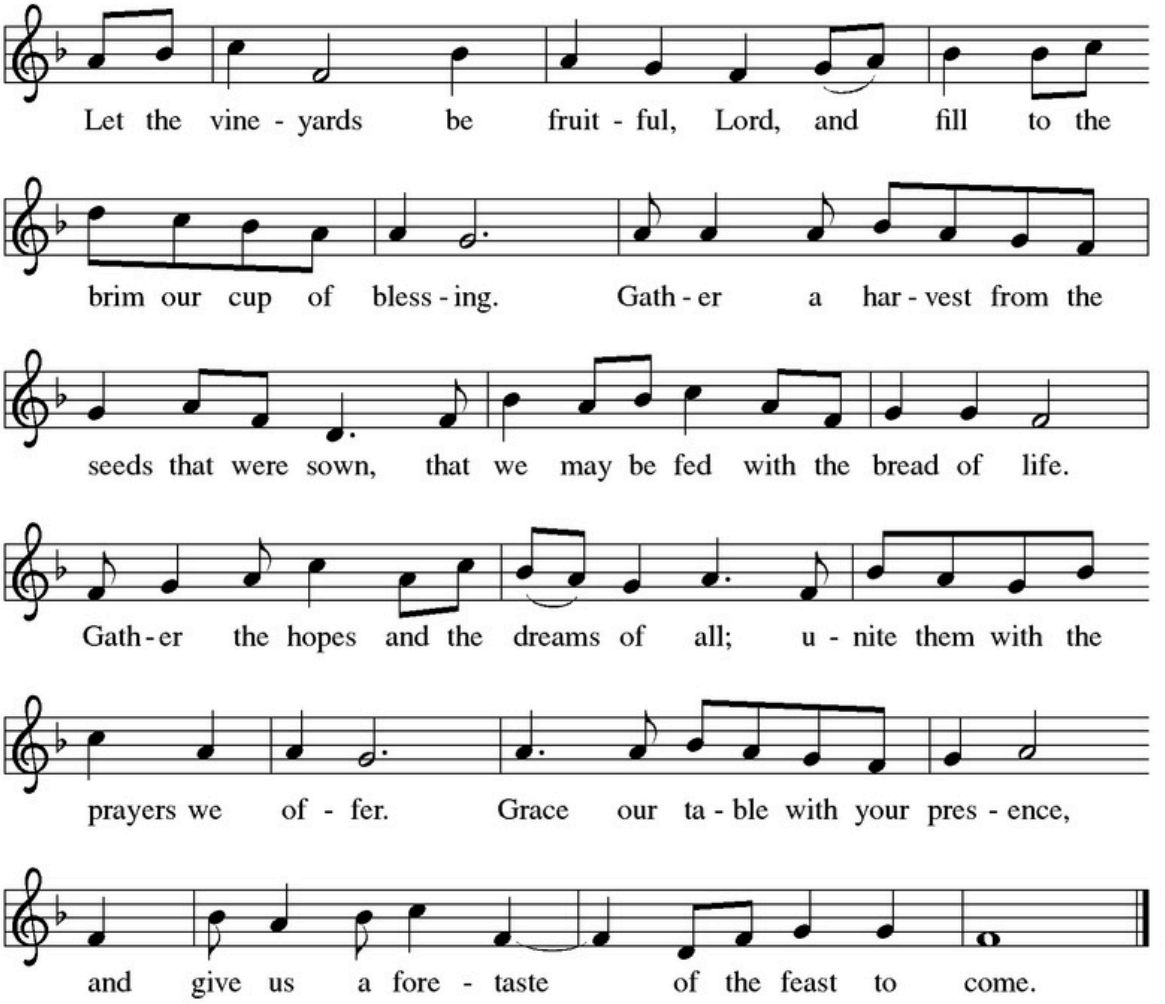
OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING (5:30) *The Power of Your Love* Bullock/arr. Larson
Alana Miller, soprano & Jaime Taylor, alto

(8:00) *Little By Little* Anon.
Singers and Congregation

(10:30) *Keep Your Lamps!* V. Johnson
Chancel Choir

***OFFERTORY**



***OFFERING PRAYER**

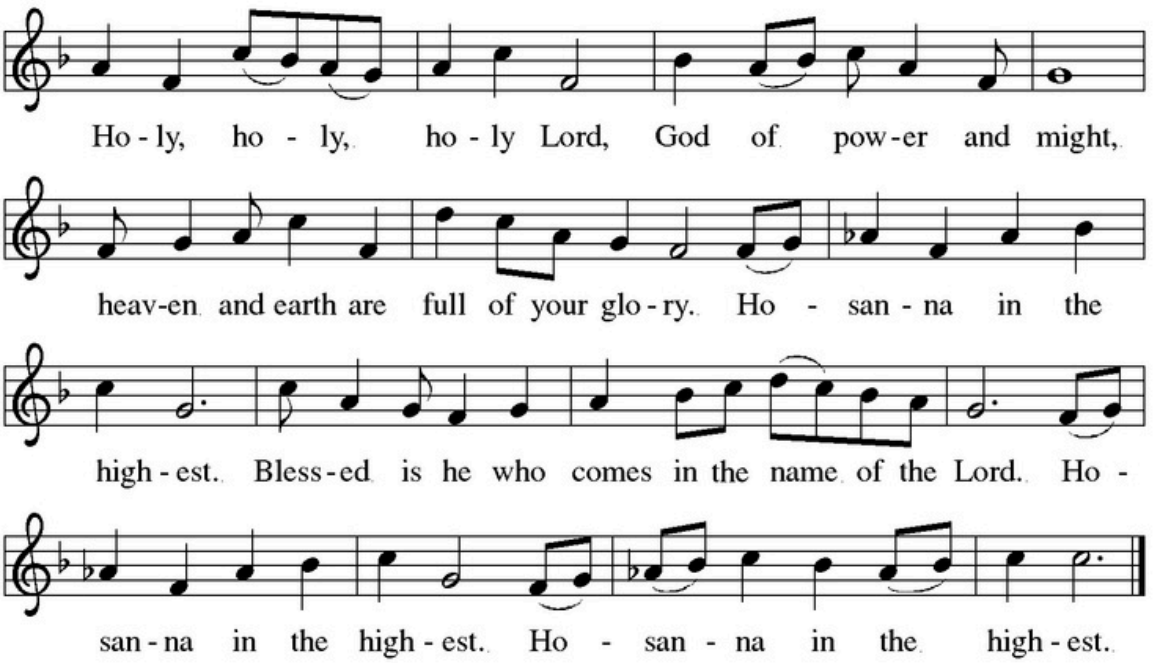
P: Eternal God, our time, talents, and treasures are gifts from you. Receive what we offer, and all that you entrust to us, until hungry no more, all the world is fed, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

P: The Lord be with you.
C: And also with you.
P: Lift up your hearts.
C: We lift them to the Lord.
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



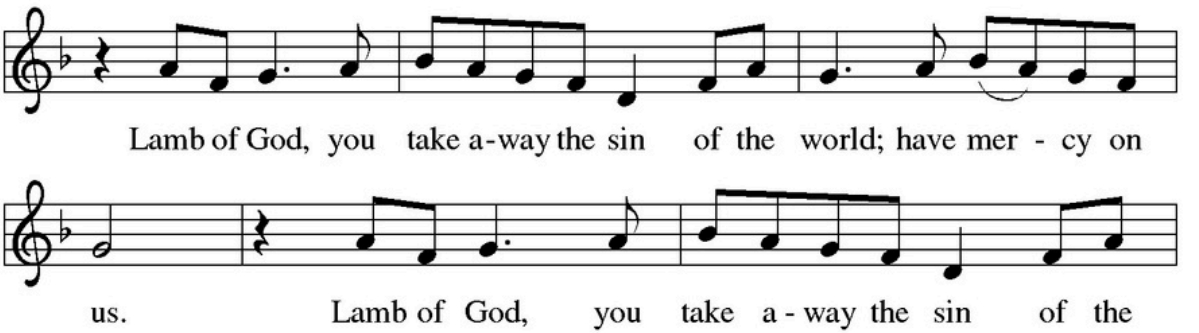
***EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**
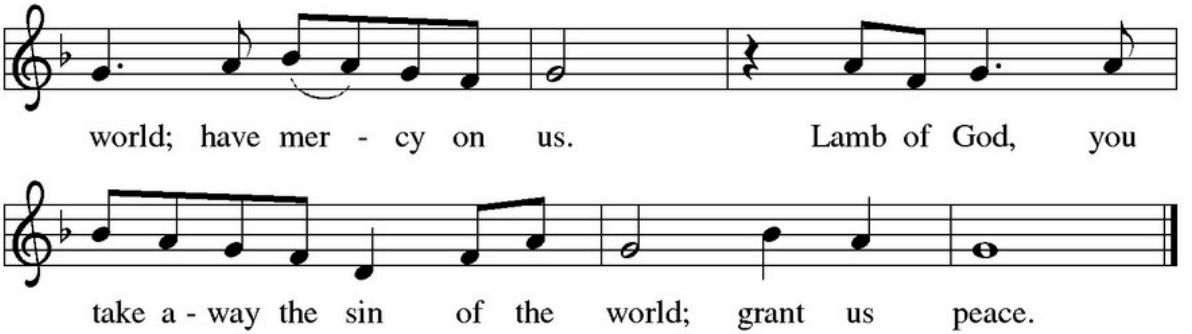
***THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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**

LAMB OF GOD





RECEIVING THE LORD'S SUPPER (***see page 15 for instructions***)

COMMUNION HYMNS

#826 *Thine the Amen*

#439 *Soon and Very Soon*

***POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

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

C: Amen.

***POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

P: 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.

C: Amen.

***BENEDICTION**

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.
C: Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN #625** *Come, We That Love the Lord*

***DISMISSAL**

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE (5:30 & 10:30) *Recessional on "Wake, Awake"* W. Wold

(8:00) *Postlude in Ancient Style* G. Blake

The Altar Flowers are presented to the glory of God in loving memory of their parents, Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Shook and Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Vierzbicki, by Wayne and Judy Vierzbicki.

The Bulletins are presented to the glory of God in loving memory of their sister, Cheryl Schaadt, and brother, Karl (Skip) Kipp, Jr., by Karlene Kipp.

The Sunday Morning CD Ministry is presented to the glory of God, in honor of all who are currently serving or have served in our nation's Armed Forces, and in grateful remembrance of those who made the ultimate sacrifice, by The Harding Family.

Worship Leaders

Reverend Jim Jablonski

Co-Pastors

Pastor Jennifer Hall

Pastor Scott Hall

SATURDAY

Organist: Rev. Janice Butz
Greeter: Eileen Hilbert
Lector: Patti Mahaney
Council Rep: Karen Furler

SUNDAY (8:00am)

Organist: Deacon Patrice Kidd
Greeter: Sue Roth
Lector: Cooper Johnson
Council Rep: Crystal Koch

SUNDAY (10:30am)

Organist: Rev. Janice Butz
Greeter: Janis Bajan
Lector: Schyler Schneck
Council Reps: Mark Milano, Karlene Kipp

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION INSTRUCTIONS:

The usher will dismiss your row, and you will come forward to receive the bread and Christ's promise from the pastor. The communion assistant will hand you a prefilled cup with wine and proclaim Christ's promise. There is a basket for your empty cup as you return to your seats. If you prefer grape juice, please take a prefilled cup of **white grape juice** from the tray on the small table as you come forward.

For those who desire **gluten-free elements,** please take the wafer and the cup from the tray on the small table as you come forward. If you are coming forward for a blessing, please cross your arms over your chest. If you find it difficult to come forward during the distribution for any reason, please indicate to an usher your desire to partake. The servers will come to your pew.

All are welcome at the Lord's Table!

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24th Sunday after Pentecost

Trusting in God, Trusting with God

Human beings are relational creatures. We are created to be in relationship with one another and with God. No one, no matter how independent or disconnected they may feel they are, functions completely outside the context of relationships. From the moment we are born we are thrust into relationship with people around us—the people who delivered us, the people who will be taking care of us in a hospital nursery, our family, and God. When we enter this world we do so forming relationships right from the start.

Relationships, healthy relationships, require a lot of work and care to continue. In particular, relationships require trust to grow and become mature. Relationships rooted in trust can bring out the best in us. Relationships rooted in anything else can bring out the worst.

Today's readings give us the chance to consider the trust required in the relationship between God and God's people. Moreover, we are invited to give thought to the consequences of replacing trust with something else: hubris stemming from trust in one's identity or work (in Amos), or hubris stemming from trust in others to sustain us rather than God (in Matthew). Paul reminds us that our relationship with God is cause for joy even in the midst of sorrow, since we believe (trust) God's promise of eternal life through the living Lord Jesus.