Luther Memorial Lutheran Church
13047 Greenwood Ave N, Seattle, WA 98133
Worship for Sunday, 15 November 2026
+ 25th Sunday after Pentecost, Year A

Actively Sharing Christ's Love in Community

Prelude *Rondion* *Antonio Diabelli*

Confession and Forgiveness *Please Stand*

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.

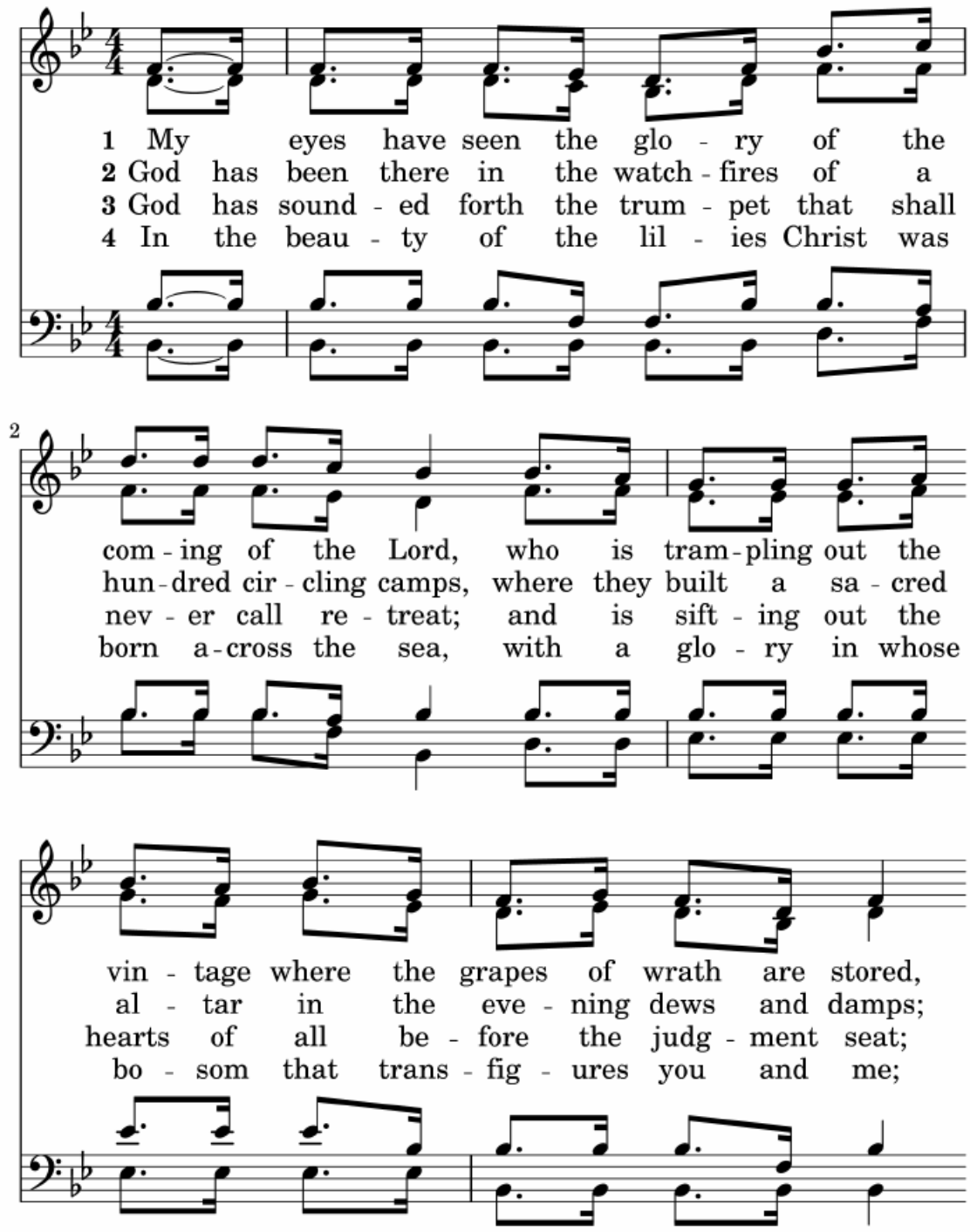
Silence is kept for reflection.

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

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.
Amen. *You may be seated.*

Gathering Hymn NCH #610 *My Eyes Have Seen the Glory*





Text: Julia W. Howe, 1861, alt. Music: BATTLE HYMN, American melody, 19th century.

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.

Prayer of the Day

Present God, we worship you and honor your name. Open our hearts with thanksgiving, awe, and possibility. Inscribe your word on our hearts and ignite a fire within our souls guided by your will. As we gather as a community, may our faith be renewed, our trust strengthened, and our courage increased.
Be glorified in our midst, O God. Amen.

Welcome and Announcements

First Reading Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

Be silent before the Lord God!
  For the day of the Lord is at hand;
the Lord has prepared a sacrifice
  and has consecrated those who are called.

At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,
  and I will punish the people
who rest complacently on their dregs,
  those who say in their hearts,
“The Lord will not do good,
  nor will the Lord do harm.”
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.

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

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

Word of God, Word of Life.
C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 90:1-8, 12 ***Please Read Responsively***

Lord, you have been our refuge
from one generation to another.
Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born, from age to age you are God.
You turn us back to the dust and say,

"Turn back, O children of earth."
For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past and like a watch in the night;
you sweep them away like a dream,
they fade away suddenly like the grass:
in the morning it is green and flourishes;
in the evening it is dried up and withered.
For we are consumed by your anger;
we are afraid because of your wrath.
Our iniquities you have set before you,
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.
So teach us to number our days
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

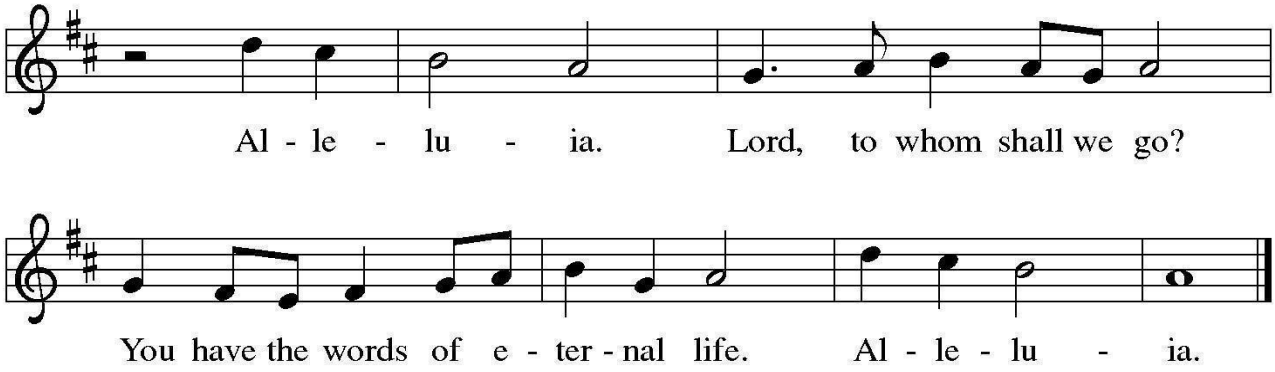
Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. 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! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. 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. For God has destined us not for wrath but for

obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Word of God, Word of Life.
C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation *Please Stand*



Gospel Matthew 25:14-30

P: The holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 25th Chapter

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] "For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents

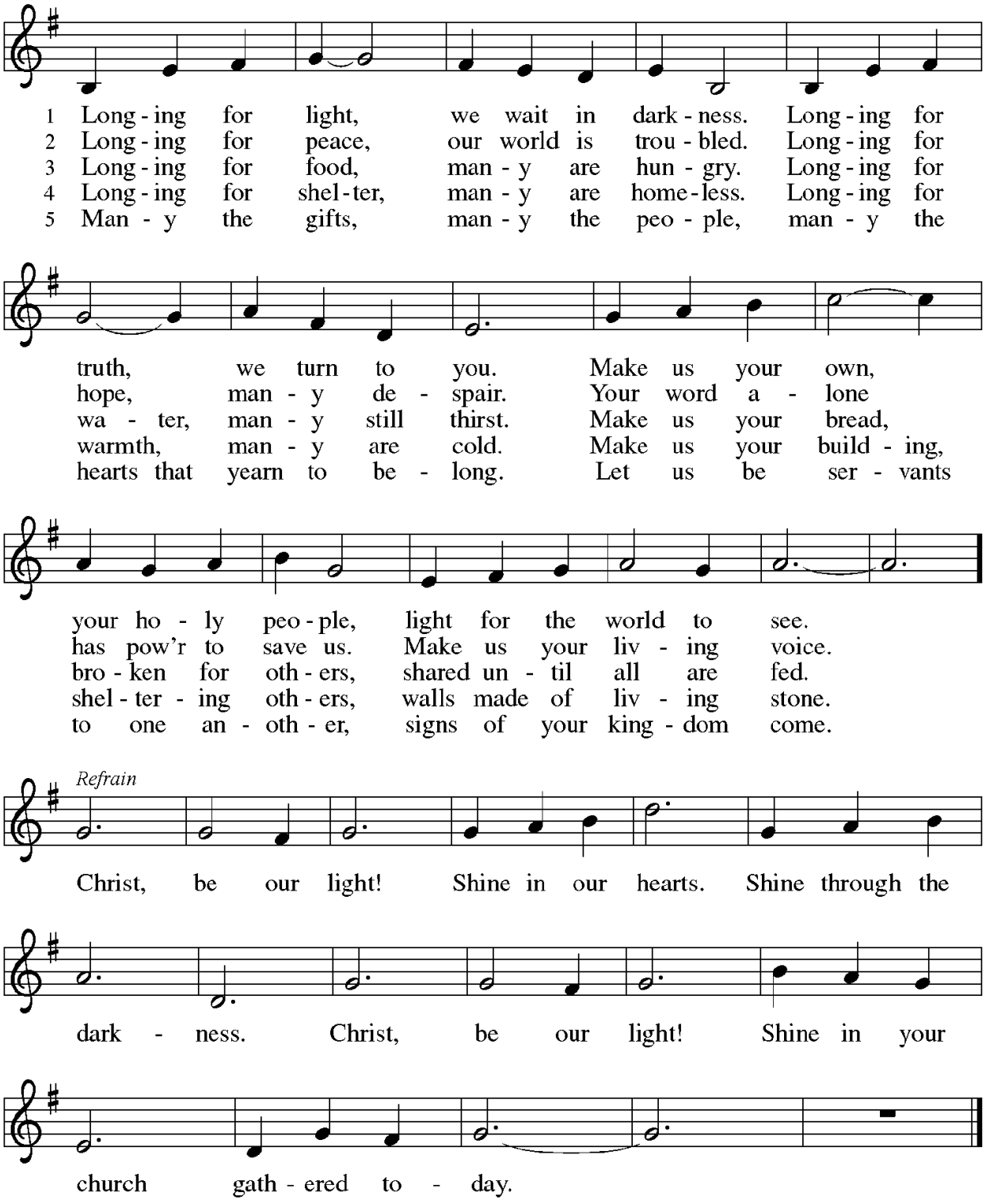
made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' 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.' 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.' 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.' 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 seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' 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? 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. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. 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. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ

Sermon

Hymn of the Day #715 — *Christ, Be Our Light*



Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957
Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell
Text and music © 1993 Bernadette Farrell.Published by OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213.
All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Prayer Stations

Instead of our usual Prayers of Intercession, today you are invited to bring your prayers before God however feels most comfortable for you, whether that is praying in your seat, walking around, lighting a candle at the cross, drawing, painting a rock, writing on a wooden block and adding it to our prayer stack, or writing your prayer on dissolvable paper and then placing it in the water. No matter how we bring our prayers to God, we trust that God hears them and welcomes our diversity of prayerful expression.

Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

From your place in the congregation, feel free to share a sign of peace with other members of the assembly.

Offering

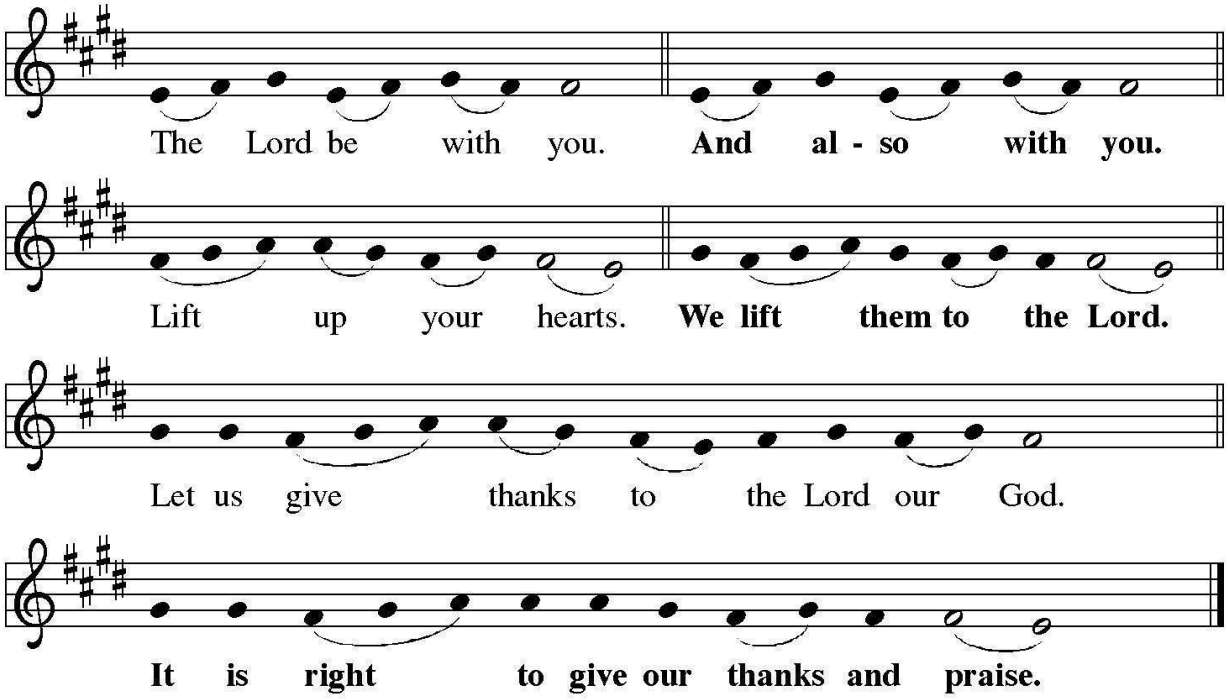
Offertory *Now Thank We, All, Our God* LMLC Bell Choir

Offertory Prayer *Please stand*

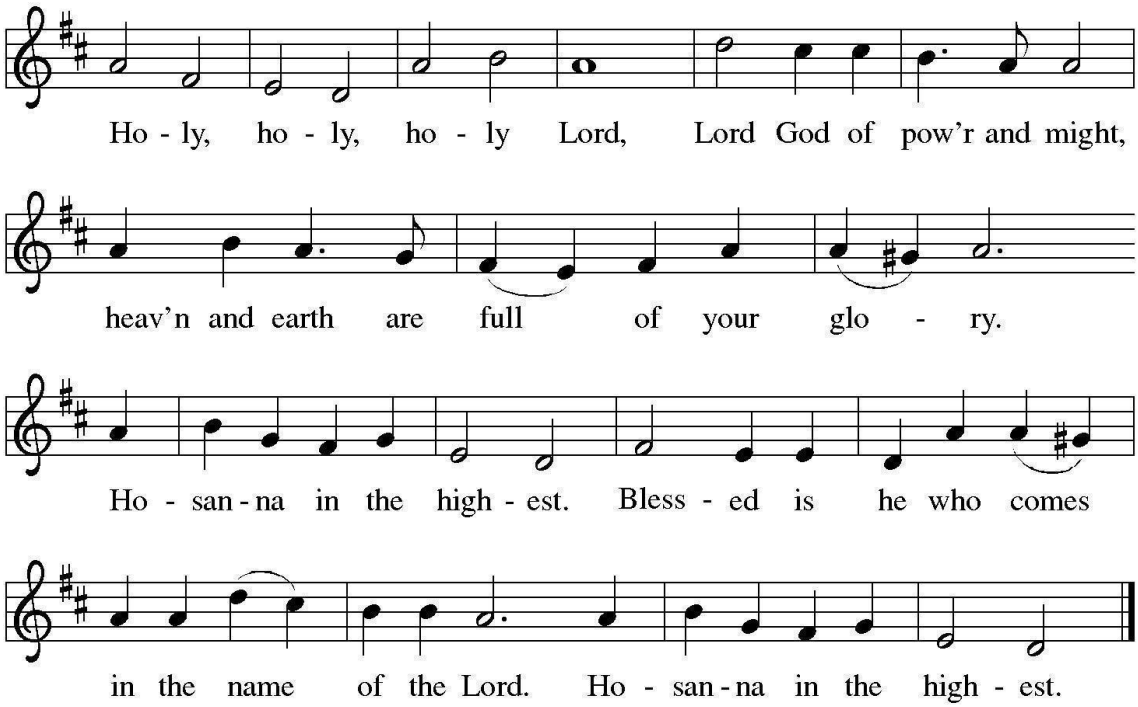
P: God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Great Thanksgiving



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,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
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:



Eucharistic Liturgy

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever.
Amen.

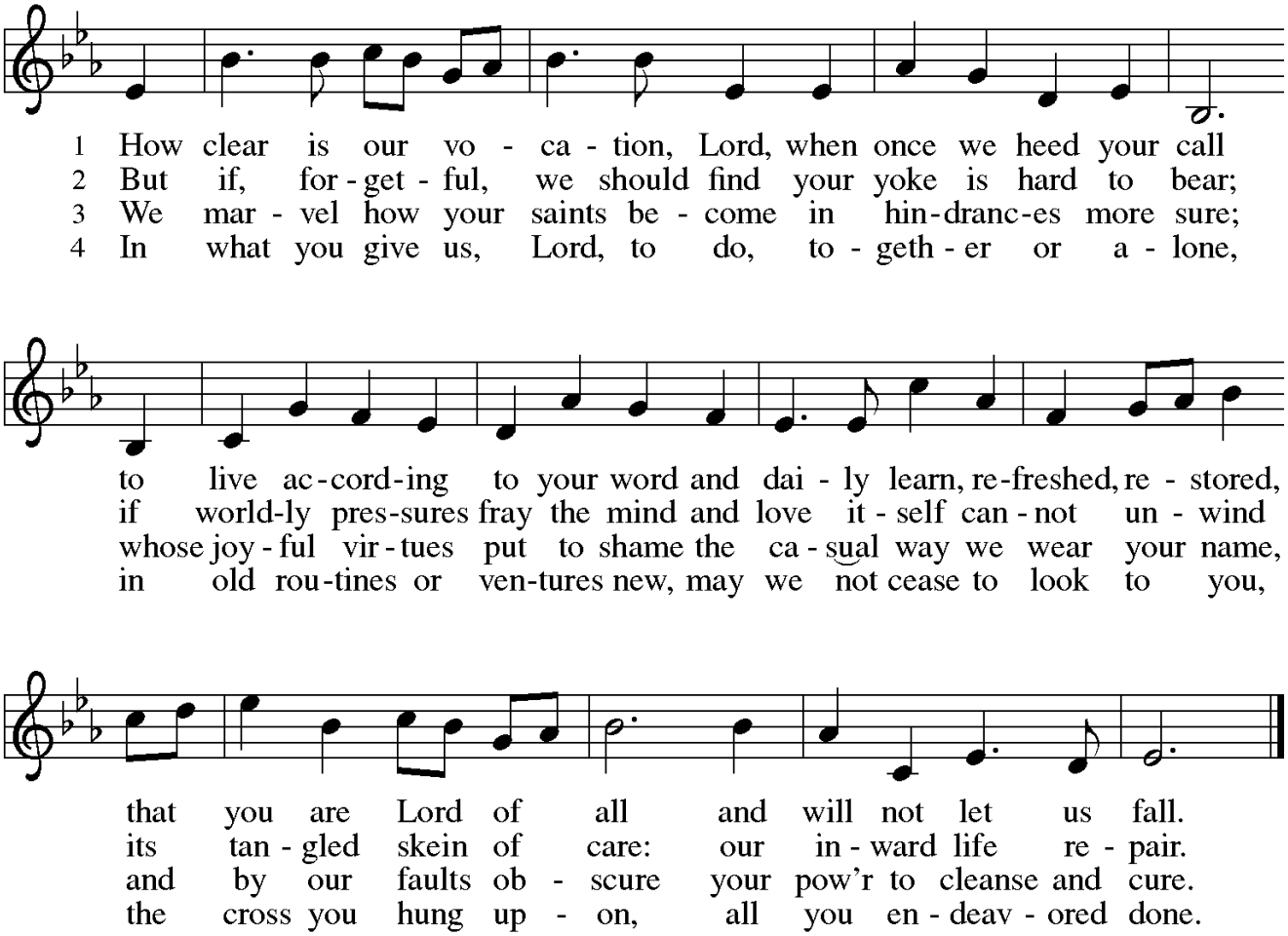
Lord's Prayer

C: 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.

Distribution of Holy Communion *You may be seated*

Please proceed up the center aisle to pick up a piece of bread from the Presiding minister and a glass of either wine or grape juice from the assisting minister. There will be a basket off to the side where you can dispose of your used cup. The communion bread is all gluten free, but does contain honey. All are welcome to receive from Christ's table.
You may also come forward with your arms crossed to receive a blessing.

Communion Hymn #580 *How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord*



Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000
Music: REPTON, C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848–1918
Text © 1982 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Communion Hymn #614 ***There Is a Balm in Gilead***



Text: African American spiritual
Music: BALM IN GILEAD, African American spiritual

Post-communion Prayer

P: Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart, and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Now send us forth to be your people in the world, and to proclaim your truth this day and evermore, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
C: Amen.

Blessing

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.
Amen.

Sending Hymn #574 ***Here I Am, Lord***



Text: Daniel L. Schutte, b. 1946
Music: HERE I AM, LORD, Daniel L. Schutte
Text and music © 1981 OCP Publications, Inc., 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Postlude *Hungarian Dance No. 5* *Johannes Brahms*

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Encourage one another.

C: Thanks be to God.

Today's Worship Leaders:

Pastor Sara Funkhouser	Preacher/Presider
Chrissie Goldstein & the LMLC Bell Choir	Musicians
Julie Moe	Communion Assistant
Carolyn Boswell & Gordon Trombley	Ushers
Julie Moe (1st & psalm) & Chris Foss (2nd)	Lectors
Chris Foss	Altar Care

Next Week's Readings

First Reading: *Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24*

Psalm: *Psalm 95:1-7a*

Second Reading: *Ephesians 1:15-23*

Gospel: *Matthew 25:31-46*

Announcements:

Grief Group: Our grief group will be moving to regularly scheduled times on Wednesday mornings, with our next grief group gathering being on Wednesday, November 18th, at 11:00 A.M. at church.

Advent Soup Lunches: We are making a change to our midweek services during Advent, recognizing that it is more challenging for folks to make an evening service with how quickly it becomes dark in the evenings. So, instead of having a Midweek soup supper with a Vespers service, we are going to have a Wednesday soup lunch at 12:00 P.M. This time will include a Bible Study and/or reflection, plus lunch. They will begin on Wednesday, December 2nd!

Advent Evening Gathering: Since we know that changing the time of the Soup Suppers means that not everyone will be able to attend because of work

or other daytime activities, we want to gather feedback about shaping an evening gathering, as well, if there is interest. Please take 2 minutes to fill out this survey, to help Pastor Sara discern how to shape our Advent activity schedule!
https://forms.gle/37ErjYozc4ofnguS6

Book Club: Our next book club meeting will be on Friday, December 11th at 1:00 P.M. on Zoom; we will be reading and discussing the book Whistler by Ann Patchett for anyone that would like to join us! Regardless of how much (or little) of the book you are able to read before then, all are welcome!

Hart's Concert: Sunday, November 29, 3:00 PM — Chamber Music at Luther Memorial. Join us for an hour of chamber music by the young Beethoven, performed by Justine Foy (cello), Robin Houston (clarinet), and Hartwig Eichberg (piano). Selections from Trio Op. 38, Cello Sonata Op. 5/2, and the 'Gassenhauer' Trio Op. 11. One hour, no intermission. A free-will donation for the Food Bank will be received.

Broadview-Thomson Giving Tree: Greetings from Broadview-Thomson School and PTA! Last winter, you generously supported our Giving Tree program and helped us provide holiday gifts to an incredible 438 children! We were absolutely blown away by the generosity and support of our community. The Giving Tree is one of our favorite traditions, and it simply wouldn't be possible without people like you. Thank you again for helping make the holidays a little brighter for so many of our families. We hope you experienced some of the joy and magic that we felt on our end!

If you're able and interested in participating again this year, we would be so grateful. You can request tags from our Giving Tree here: https://tinyurl.com/56aavdsh. Just let us know if you have a preference for the tags you'd like to take (for example, two siblings under 13, one girl 10 years old, or any three tags), and we'll do our best to accommodate. Gifts can be dropped off at the school office by Monday, December 7th.

Lutheran World Relief Donation: On November 1st, we did a Blessing for the Lutheran World Relief kits that we were sending out. The final totals came to:

5 Quilts
12 School kits
14 Personal Care Kits
12 Baby Care kits.

Thank you to all of our volunteers; Christine, Diane, Donna, Lollie, Laurie, and Vicki, who put together the kits and quilts!

Journeying Together: In an effort to give us more time to engage with one another, our Lutheran tradition, and Scripture, we are going to start a new activity twice-monthly after worship. Whether you are interested in becoming a member, you're a long-time member, or you're just interested in learning more, all are welcome to join! We will meet again on November 22nd.

We will determine the pattern of the meetings together, but it will include the following components: a brief lesson on a theological topic, Bible Study, small group discussion, and time to gather around a meal together.

November Food Pantry Theme: Holiday Meals
As we head into November and December, we are thinking of holiday foods we might stock in the Free Little Pantry. We are thankful for anything you donate but here are some suggestions:

- Canned chicken or turkey
- Boxed potatoes
- Stuffing mixes
- Gravy (canned or dry mixes)
- Canned cranberries

- Canned pumpkin pie mix
- Olives
- Cake mixes
- Cookie mixes
- Baking chips (chocolate etc.)
- Small bags of flour or sugar
- Baking oil
- Baking soda or powder
- Salt

Thank you so much for your generosity!

Upcoming Events

15 NOV, SUN	9:30 – 10:15am	**Choir Rehearsal**	Sanctuary
	10:30 – 11:30am	**In-Person & Live Stream Worship**	Sanctuary
	3 – 5pm	**Skandia Society Rehearsal**	Celebration Hall
	6:30 – 7:30pm	**NA Pink Progress Club**	Celebration Hall
16 NOV, MON	6:45 – 7:45pm	**NA - Afterparty Group**	Celebration Hall
17 NOV, TUE	1 – 3pm	**Quilting Group - Elaine**	Celebration Hall
	7 – 8pm	**Church Council Meeting**	Zoom
18 NOV, WED	9:30 – 11am	**Seekers Bible Study**	Library
19 NOV, THU	6 – 9:30pm	**Sound Harmony**	Sanctuary
20 NOV, FRI	12 – 1pm	**Pause for Prayer**	Zoom

Copyrights and permissions:
Portions of this service are taken from Evangelical Lutheran Worship/Sundays and Seasons, © 2006, and UCC Worship Ways.
Used by permission under license #SAS013955
The hymn, *Christ, Be Our Light*, is © by OCP (Oregon Catholic Press)
The hymn, *How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord*, is © by Hope Publishing Company
The hymn, *Here I Am, Lord*, is © by OCP (Oregon Catholic Press)
All used by permission under OneLicense.net #A-71913