TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



November 8, 2026 – 10:00am

Land Acknowledgment
We recognize that we gather on the ancestral lands of the Ojibwe, Ho Chunk, and Dakota. We acknowledge their leaders, past, present, and emerging.

Gathering

Prelude Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying *J. S. Bachr*

Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness
Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth.
Amen.

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

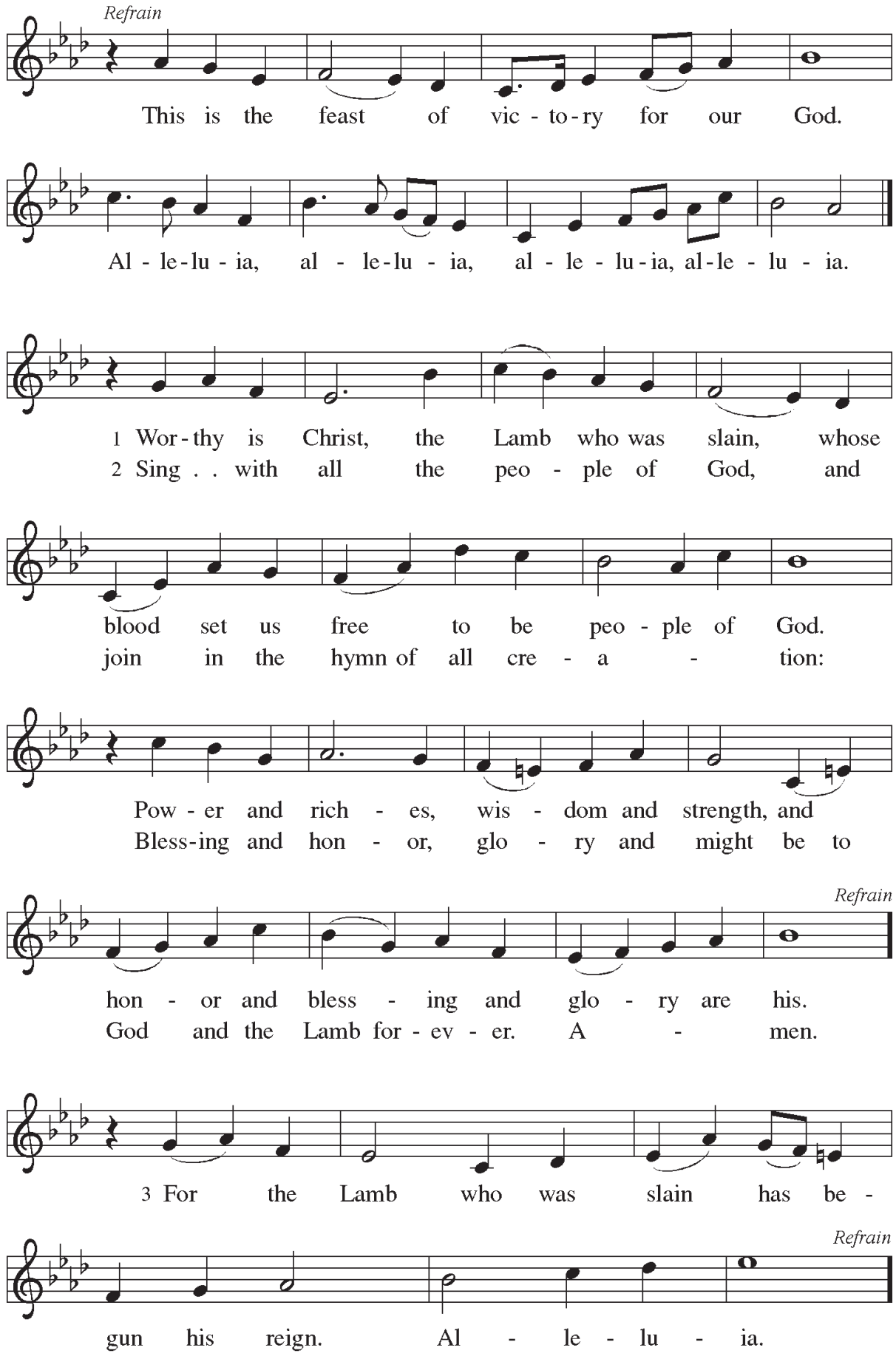
Compassionate God,
we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Hear this good news: We have peace with God through † Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace.
Amen.

Opening Hymn Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying *#436*

Apostolic Greeting
The grace 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



Prayer of the Day
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.
Amen

Word

Children's Message

The First Reading is from Amos, chapter 5.
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.

Word of God, Word of Life.
Thanks be to God!

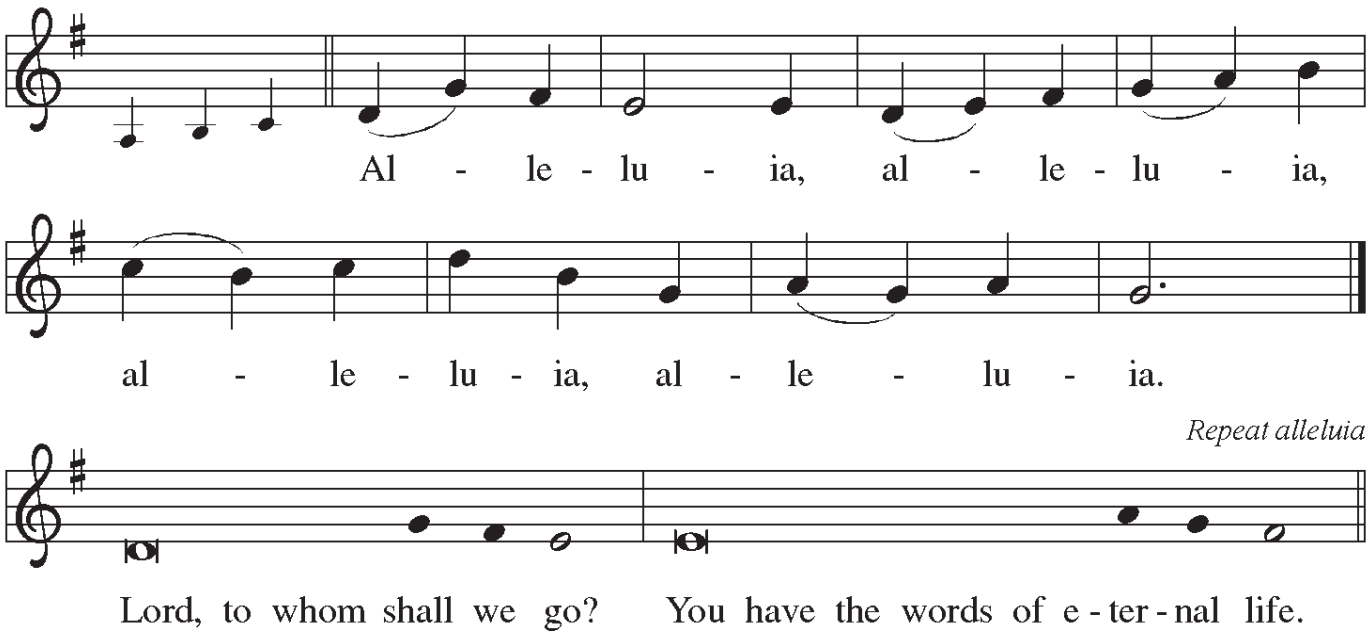
The Second Reading is from 1 Thessalonians , Chapter 4.
13 We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope.
14 For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with 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.

Word of God, Word of Life.
Thanks be to God!

Anthem Keep Your Lamps *André Thomas*

Gospel Acclamation



The Holy Gospel for today is from Matthew, Chapter 25.
Glory to you, O Lord.

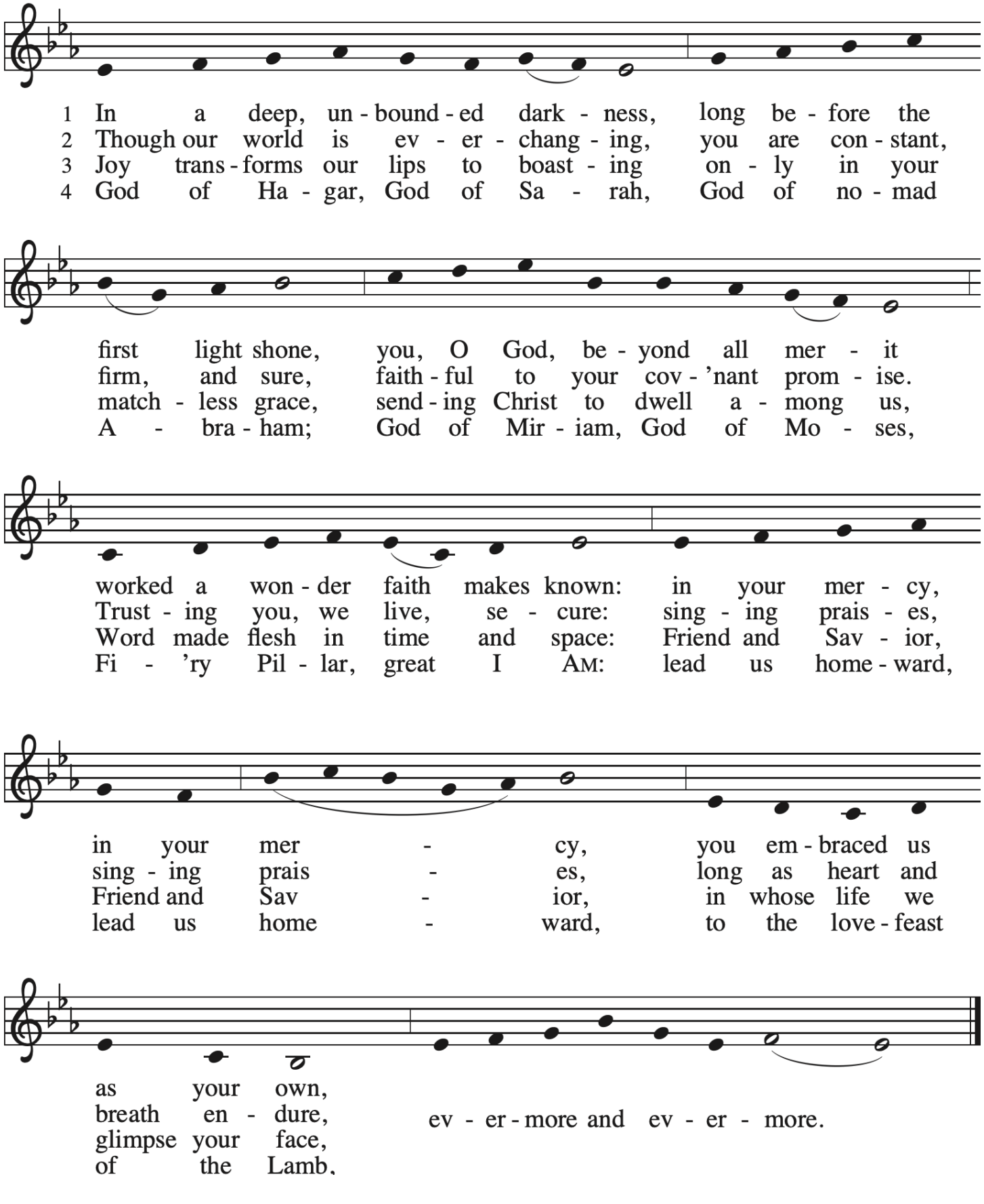
Jesus said to the disciples: 1 "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this.
Ten young women took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. 2 Five of
them were foolish, and five were wise. 3 When the foolish took their lamps, they
took no oil with them, 4 but the wise took flasks of oil with their 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."

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon Pastor Phil Ruge-Jones

Hymn of the Day

In a Deep, Unbounded Darkness



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 the Church

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

A brief silence.

. . . 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.

Peace

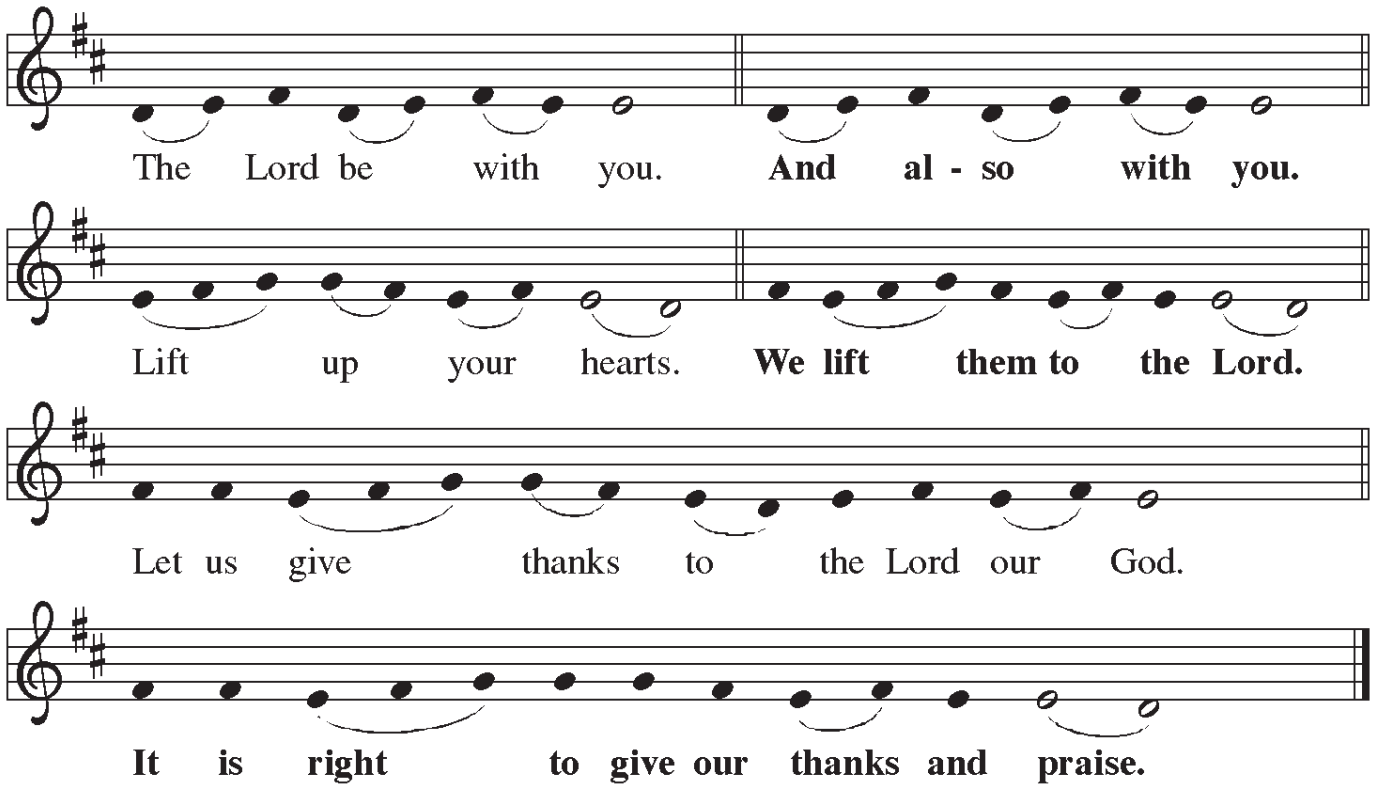
Meal

Offering Oh, Happy Day When We Shall Stand *Buxtehude*

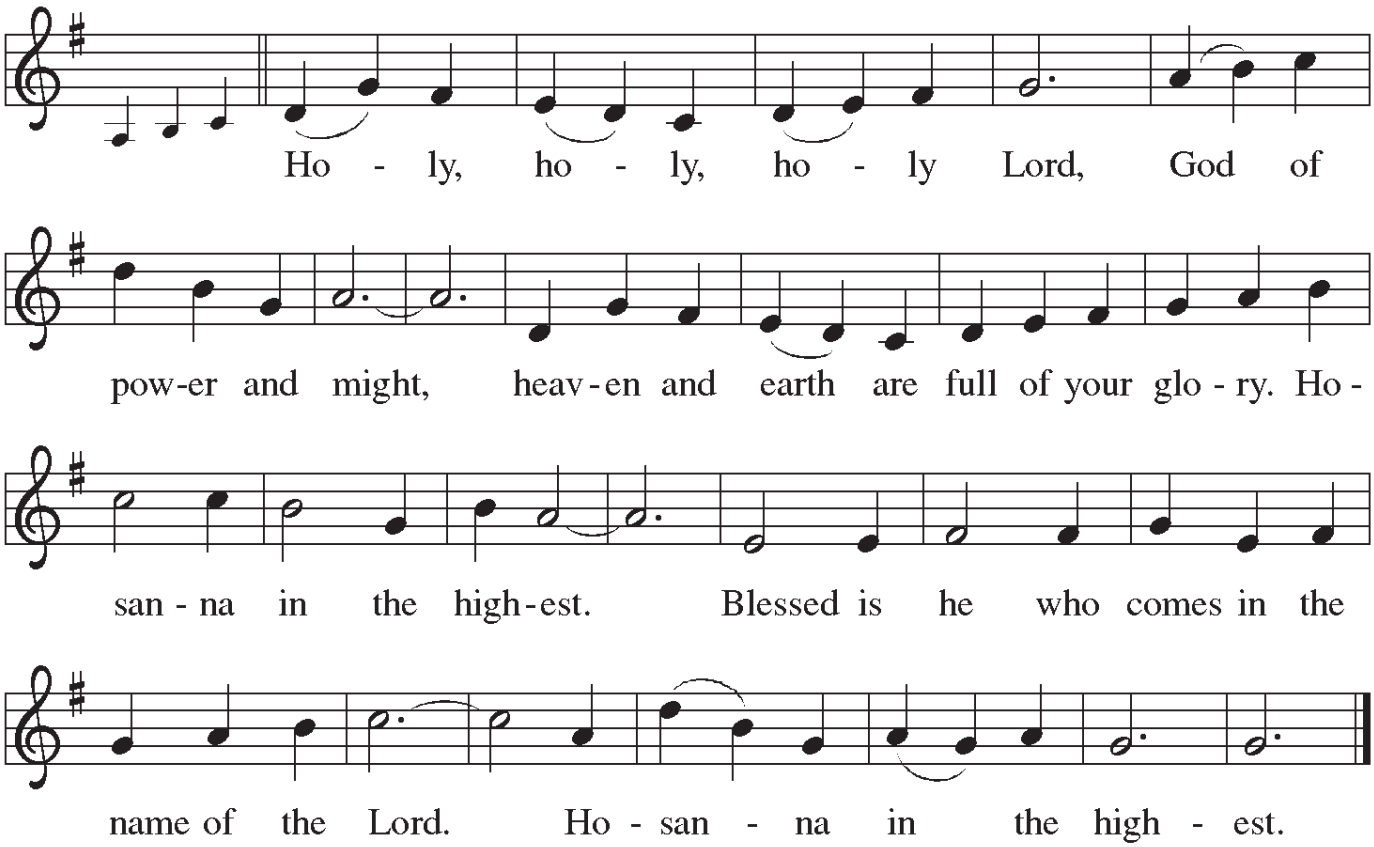
Offering Prayer

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.

Great Thanksgiving



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



Eucharistic Prayer

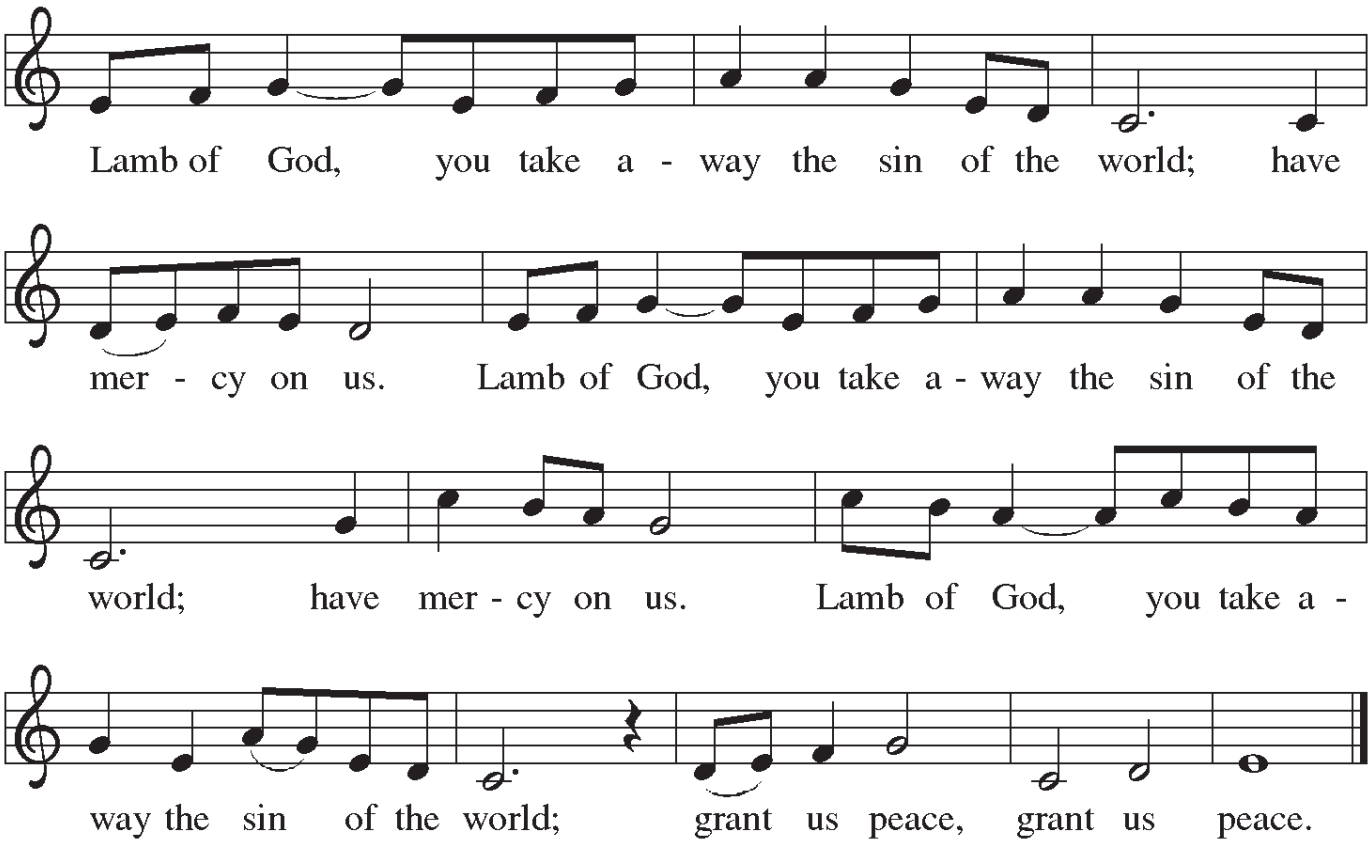
Words of Institution

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.

Communion

Our communion bread is gluten free and the communion cups with clear liquid have grape juice instead of wine.



Prayer After Communion
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.

Sending

Blessing

Sending Hymn Blessed Assurance *#638*

Dismissal
Go out in joy. Encourage one another.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying *Paul Manz*

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Minister: Pastor Phil Ruge-Jones
Assisting Minister: Pete Lokken
Reader: Anita Reid
Organist: Elaine Mann
Choir Director: Dr. Ryan Rogers
Pacibells Director: Karen Lionberger
Congas: Andew Reid

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

2026-11-8

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Weekly Calendar

Sunday (8th)
Coffee Hour – 9:30am
Worship – 10am

Monday
Elizabeth Circle – 10am
Scouts – 6pm

Tuesday
US Marine Corps founded at Tun Tavern – 1775
Prayer Group – 11am
ADRC – Strong Bodies – 1pm

Wednesday
Veterans Day
Crafters – 9am
Text Study – 12noon
AA meeting – 7pm
Choir Rehearsal – 7pm

Thursday
ADRC – Strong Bodies – 1pm
Pacibells Rehearsal – 6pm

Sunday (15th)
The Continental Congress adopts the Articles of Confederation – 1777
Coffee Hour – 9:30am
Worship – 10am

Other groups using the building this week: Brighter than Sunshine, ECWiT, Theater Guild, Randall Park Neighborhood Association, Alcoholics Anonymous

Elizabeth Circle

Elizabeth Circle will meet at 10 AM on Monday, November 9, 2026, in the Lounge at Grace. It is a morning filled with fun, fellowship, food and our Bible Study. We invite all women to join. No prep is needed, as we read, study and discuss together this month's bible study from the Gather magazine.

Fall Cleanup

We will be doing a fall cleanup of the church grounds on November 14 starting at 9am. Any and all are welcome to come and help out.

Grace Pacers Hiatus

After a successful and fun season of walking and talking, the weather has convinced the Grace Pacers to take a break until Spring.

This Summer we walked 1–2 miles every Tuesday followed by fellowship and treats at church. We got to know each other better and formed some new friendships as well. Please join us next year. Watch for announcements about when we'll start up again.

Photographs after Worship

One of our beloved college students, Kayla Boe, is a gifted photographer. After hearing a month of stewardship messages, she is offering the service of taking photos before and after the service on November 22. Need a Christmas card photo or a family keepsake? A headshot? Come dressed and ready either before or after the service.

Stewardship Reminder

If you've forgotten your Pledge Forms or Time and Talent sheets more are available in the back of the Narthex. Please return them to the office by November 15. Thank you.

Spiritual Care

Grace Lutheran Communities is offering an accompaniment opportunity.

The Spiritual Care department provides spiritual, emotional and social support residents and family members within Grace Lutheran Communities. Volunteers are a crucial part of our program, so we are looking for individuals who might be interested in visiting with residents on a regular basis: weekly, bi–weekly or monthly.

Spiritual care volunteers are assigned to individuals after an assessment of needs/interests by the department. Some examples of volunteer support include: life review, discussion about faith/support systems, activities/cards/games, walks, devotionals/readings, prayer, emotional and social support.

Volunteers are supported individually and as a group with quarterly lunch meetings (food provided), ongoing education, and regular check–ins with the director.

If you have any questions or are interested in signing up to be a spiritual care volunteer, please contact Jordan.

Jordan Berg, Director of Spiritual Care
(715) 598–7815
Jordan.berg@graceluthfound.com



Sunday, November 22
2:00pm, pre-concert talk
2:30pm, concert
at Grace Lutheran Church

Tickets available at the door
Adults: $30, Under 21: Free



Come and join your church family and listen to classical music performed in our sanctuary.

ECCO Concert

Join other Grace members as we gather to listen to the Eau Claire Chamber Orchestra on November 22, 2026 2:00pm pre–concert talk, 2:30pm concert at Grace Lutheran Church.

Sounds from the Theatre

ECCO presents overtures that started in the theatre and only later were exported to concert halls.

- Overture to A Midsummer Night's Dream, Felix Mendelssohn
- Concerto for Bassoon, Nino Rota featuring soloist Alex Widstrand
- Overture to Coriolan, Op. 62, Ludwig van Beethoven
- Symphony No. 26 in D minor "Lamentatione", Franz Joseph Haydn
- Overture to The Silken Ladder, Giachino Rossini

Tickets at the door. Adult: $30, Under 21: Free.



JOYS OF CHRISTMAS Sponsor

Grace Lutheran Communities is pleased to offer employees of our owned and managed programs the opportunity to participate in our “Joys of Christmas” program.

This program is designed to support families in need by providing Christmas gifts for their children ages 0–18 years old. If you wish to sponsor a child or family, please complete the information below, and you will be matched with a child or family in need. Sponsors should anticipate spending approximately $50 per child sponsored.

If you prefer to support the program financially, monetary donations may be dropped off or mailed to the address below by **Sunday, December 6th**: Grace Lutheran Communities Corporate Office 256 N. Willson Drive Altoona, WI 54720

The gift requests for your assigned child(ren) will be sent to you via email by **Wednesday, November 25th**.

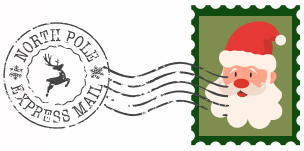
All gifts will need to be dropped off at our Corporate Office by **Wednesday, December 9th** to allow for time for gift distribution. Thank you for helping bring joy to families in our communities this Christmas season!

Name:

Email:

Telephone:

How Many Children Would You Like To Sponsor:



SCAN ME

For more information, please contact Stephanie Faherty at: stephanie.faherty@graceluthfound.com



Please submit your completed form by
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2026
if you chose to be a Sponsor.
Thank you!



THE CHIPPEWA VALLEY CONCERT BAND

PRESENTS

A VETERAN'S DAY CONCERT



SUNDAY, NOV. 8 AT 2PM
DELONG MIDDLE SCHOOL
2000 VINE ST., EAU CLAIRE, WI

FREE ADMISSION, DONATIONS GRATEFULLY ACCEPTED

Featuring:

John Williams' Star Spangled Banner,
Chester, Benny Goodman: King of Swing,
and more!

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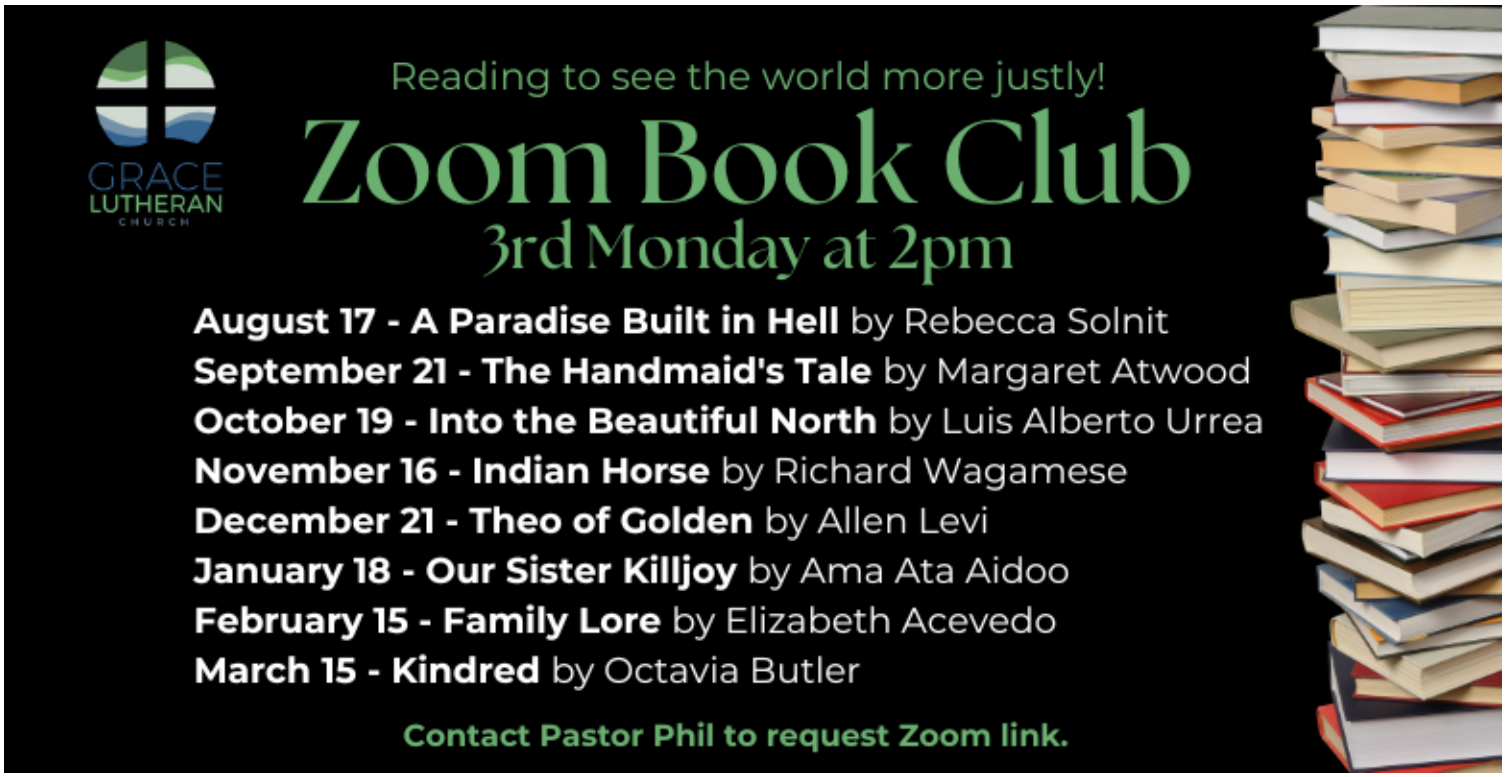

Beacon House Cleaning Supplies

Beacon House is looking to increase its cleaning supplies: Bleach, Lysol, multiple surface cleaners, window cleaner, dish and laundry soap. Pick something up at your next trip to the store and drop it off in box in the Narthex of the church or in the office between now and Thanksgiving. Thank you.

Lutheran Cemetery Donation

There are envelopes in the Narthex if you would like to donate to the maintenance of the Lutheran Church Cemetery on Omaha Street. Please make any checks out Grace Lutheran Church and put "Lutheran Church Cemetery" in the memo line so we can get the donation to the right place. Thank You.



Church Office Hours

Monday — Thursday : 10AM — 2PM
Phone: 715–832–9713
PO Box 965, Eau Claire, WI 54702
202 W Grand Ave, Eau Claire, WI 54703
Email: info@grace–church.org
Rev. Dr. Phil Ruge–Jones: pastorphil@grace–church.org

Services are live streamed Sundays at 10am on:

- Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/gracelutheraneauclaire/
- Youtube embedded in our website: https://grace–church.org/our–ministry Bulletins may also be found on the same page.

Recordings of worship services are broadcast Sundays 10:30am on WQOW Channel 18, Cable 9, 618HD (every other week)

Past services are posted at "Grace Lutheran Church ELCA Eau Claire Wisconsin" YouTube page — http://grace–church.org/our–ministry

Do you have information for the bulletin and Grace at a Glance? Deadline is Wednesday by 2:00 p.m. by emailing Andrew at info@grace–church.org or by calling the office at 715–832–9713