



"Well done,
good and
faithful servant...
Enter into the
joy of your
Master."

Matthew 25:21

November 19, 2023

Reprinted from Evangelical Lutheran Worship © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.
All rights reserved. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress License #14040-ELW
Portions from *Sundays & Seasons 2023*

Setting Four

Our readings during November speak of the end times. Zephaniah proclaims that the coming day of the Lord will be filled with wrath and distress. Paul says it will come like a thief in the night and urges us to be awake and sober. Jesus tells the parable of the talents, calling us to use our gifts, while we still have time, for the greater and common good. In a world filled with violence and despair, we gather around signs of hope—word, water, bread, and wine—eager to welcome the good news of Christ's coming among us.

Joys & Concerns

Prelude

Now We Pray Unto Thee — Dietrich Buxtehude (~1637 - 1707)

Buxtehude was a Danish organist and composer who in 1668 assumed the position of organist and composer of Marienkirche in Lübeck. He was by that time famous throughout all of Germany. In 1705, when Buxtehude was towards the end of his career a young budding composer of about age 20, J. S. Bach, walked 250 miles by foot from Arnstadt to Lübeck to hear the master play. Bach spent about 3 months in Arnstadt.

Confession and Forgiveness

P. Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin,
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

Gathering Hymn

For the Beauty of the Earth

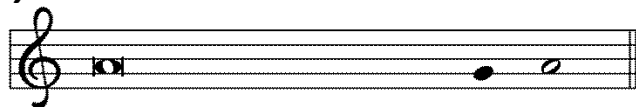
ELW 879

P. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

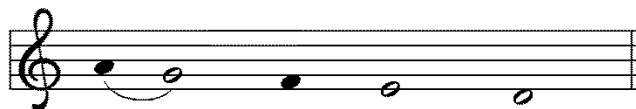
C. And also with you.

Kyrie

(Bold – Congregation)



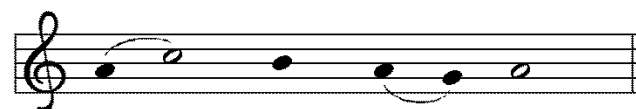
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



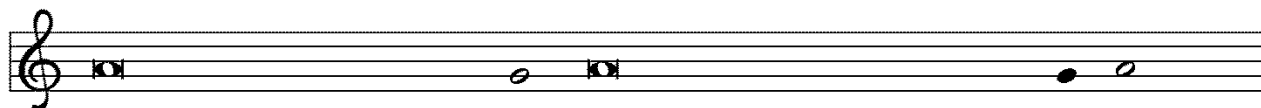
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



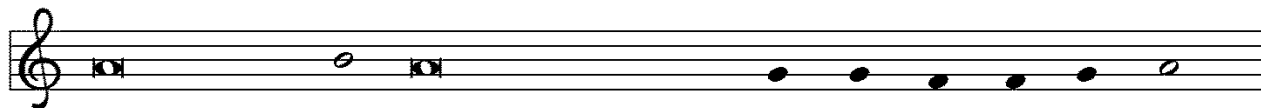
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



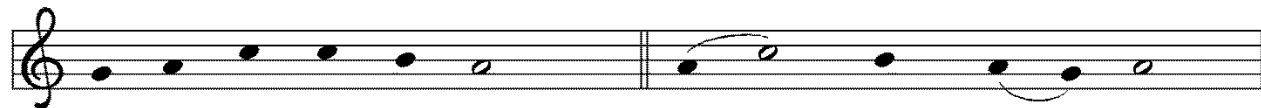
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

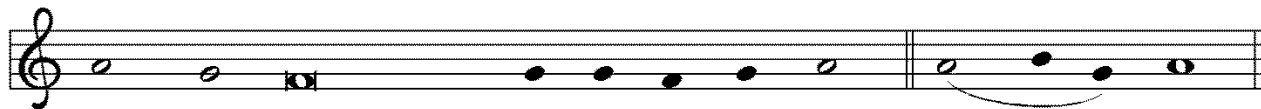


For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. **A - men.**

This is the Feast

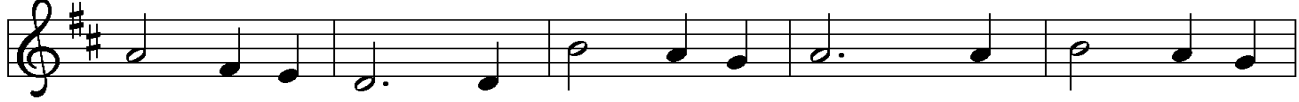
Refrain

Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor- thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Prayer of the Day

Prayer of the Day

A. Let us pray.



C. Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

First Reading

Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

Zephaniah (like the prophet Amos in last week's first reading) presents the day of the Lord as one of judgment and wrath. Descriptions of the last day in the New Testament include details taken from Old Testament accounts of the day of the Lord.

⁷Be silent before the Lord God! For the day of the Lord is at hand; the Lord has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests.

¹²At 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 he do harm." ¹³Their 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.

¹⁴The 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. ¹⁵That 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, ¹⁶a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.

¹⁷I 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. ¹⁸Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the Lord's wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed; for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

L. Word of God, word of life.

C. Thanks be to God.



Psalm 90: 1-12

spoken responsively
(**Bold – Congregation**)

¹Lord, you have ¹ been our refuge
from one generation ¹ to another.

²**Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the ¹ earth were born,
from age to age ¹ you are God.**

³You turn us back to the ¹ dust and say,
“Turn back, O child- ¹ ren of earth.”

⁴**For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when ¹ it is past
and like a watch ¹ in the night;**

⁵you sweep them away ¹ like a dream,
they fade away suddenly ¹ like the grass:

⁶**in the morning it is ¹ green and flourishes;
in the evening it is dried ¹ up and withered.**

⁷For we are consumed ¹ by your anger;
we are afraid because ¹ of your wrath.

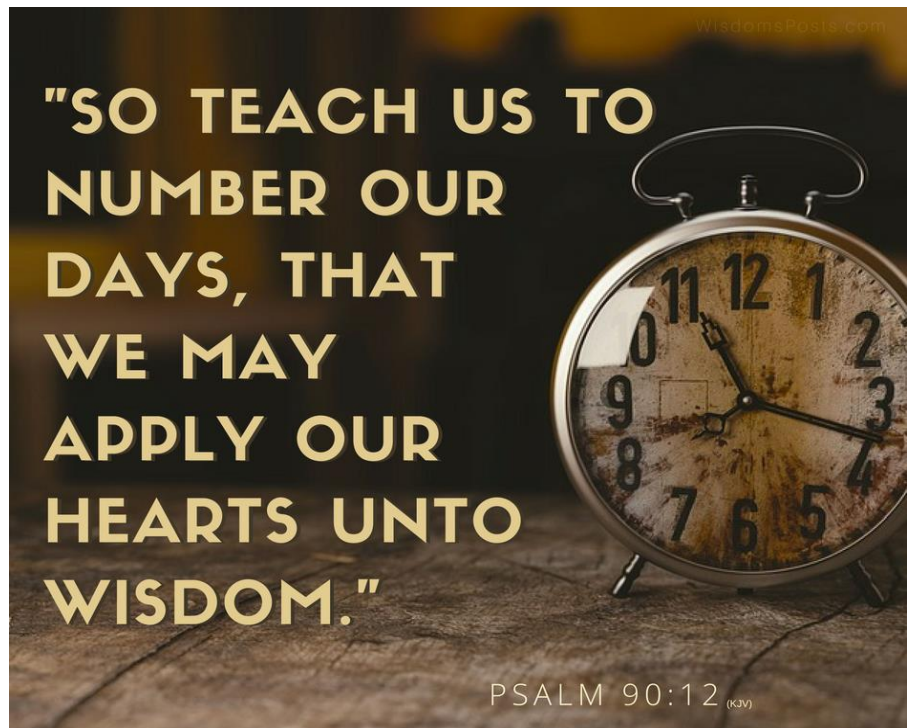
⁸**Our iniquities you have ¹ set before you,
and our secret sins in the light ¹ of your countenance.**

⁹When you are angry, all our ¹ days are gone;
we bring our years to an end ¹ like a sigh.

¹⁰**The span of our life is seventy years, perhaps in strength ¹ even eighty;
yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow, for they pass away quickly and ¹ we are gone.**

¹¹Who regards the power ¹ of your wrath?
Who rightly fears your ¹ indignation?

¹²**So teach us to num- ¹ ber our days
that we may apply our ¹ hearts to wisdom.**





1 Thessalonians 5:11

*Therefore encourage
one another and build
each other up...*

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Though we do not know and cannot calculate the day of Christ's return, we live faithfully in the here and now as we anticipate the day when we will be given eternal salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.

¹Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. ²For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³When 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! ⁴But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; ⁵for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. ⁶So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; ⁷for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. ⁸But 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. ⁹For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. ¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

L. Word of God, word of life.

C. Thanks be to God.



Gospel Acclamation



P. The holy gospel according to Saint Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.

C. Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30

Jesus tells a parable about his second coming, indicating that it is not sufficient merely to maintain things as they are. Those who await his return should make good use of the gifts that God has provided them.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁴“For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; ¹⁵to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. ¹⁷In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. ¹⁸But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. ¹⁹After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰Then 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.’ ²¹His 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.’ ²²And 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.’ ²³His 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.’ ²⁴Then 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; ²⁵so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ ²⁶But 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? ²⁷Then you ought to have invested my money

with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. ²⁹For 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. ³⁰As 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.

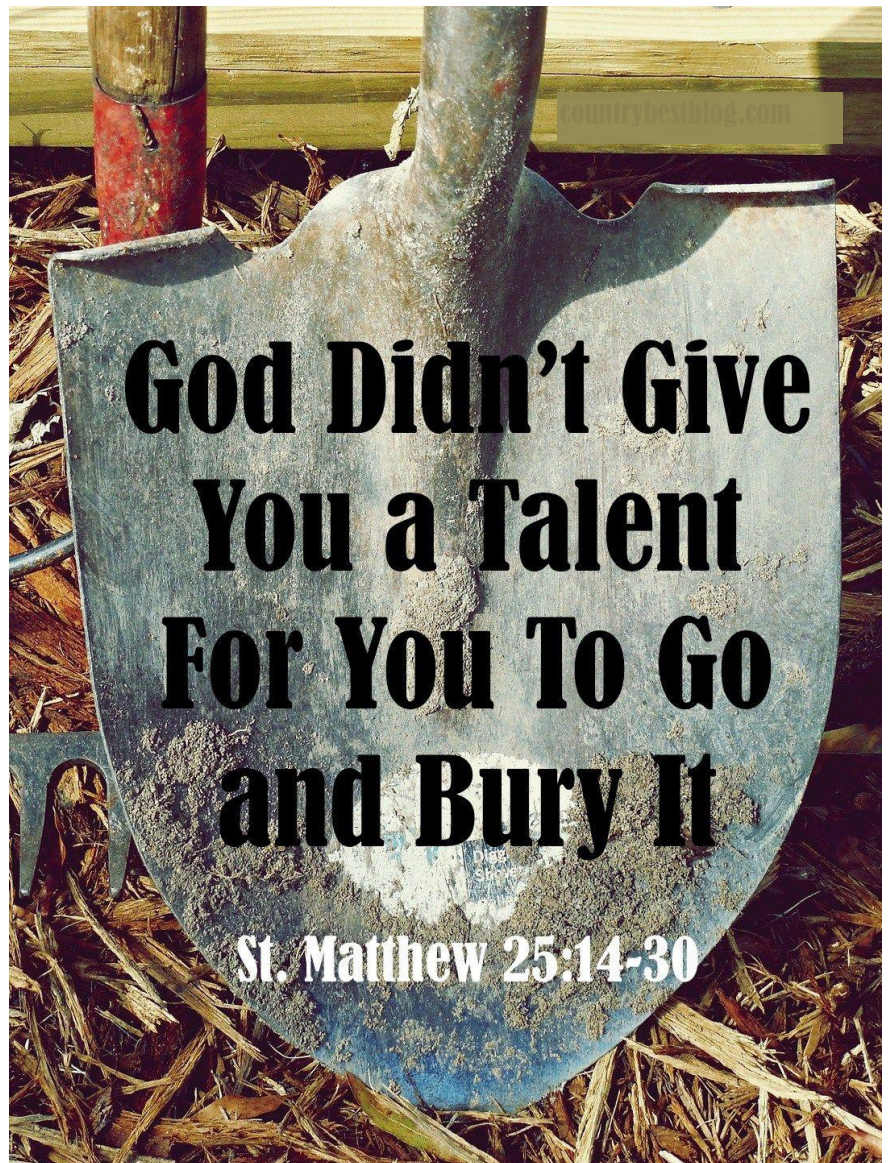
Sermon

John Petry, Interim Pastor

Hymn of the Day

Beautiful Savior

ELW 838

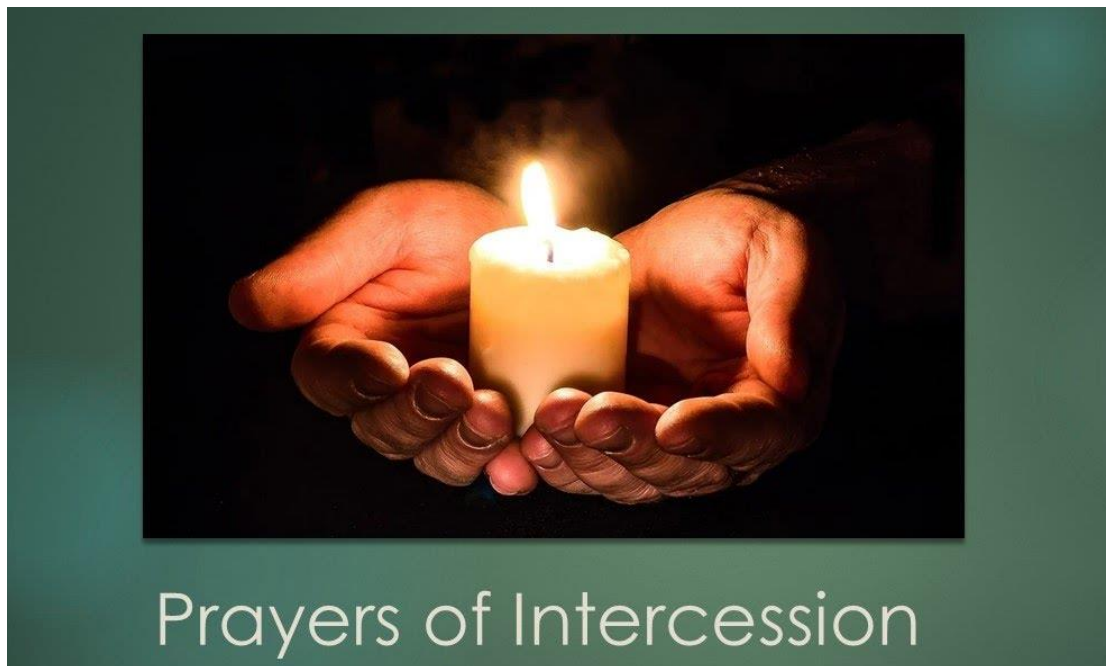


The Apostles' Creed

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,
and born of the Virgin Mary,
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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 – Let Us Pray:

- A.** Let us turn our hearts to God, our breath and life, as we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Gracious God, you give talents and gifts to all your people, and you equip the church to serve. Turn us from fear and self-serving ways, that we use our talents to glorify you and encourage our neighbor. Hear us, O God.

- C. Your mercy is great.**

- A.** You have been our dwelling place from one generation to another. Sustain the life of the planet; protect farmlands and harvests. Direct all people in wise stewardship of all the earth's resources. Hear us, O God.

- C. Your mercy is great.**

Other prayers

- P.** We offer our spoken prayers and those held in our hearts trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

- C. Amen.**

The Peace

- P.** Jesus said: Peace I leave with you;
my peace I give to you.
Do not let your hearts be troubled.
May His peace be with you always.

- C. And also with you.**



The Offering



Anthem

Come To The Water Of Life

Choir

Let the Vineyards...

Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of
all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble
with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

Offertory Prayer

- A. God of all goodness, generations have turned to you, gathered around your table, and shared your abundant blessings. Number us among them that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance, and give thanks for your rich blessings, we may feast upon your very self and care for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant.
- C. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

(Bold – Congregation)

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.

Detailed description: This block contains four staves of music in G major (one sharp). The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are written below the notes. The second staff continues the melody. The third staff continues the melody. The fourth staff continues the melody. The lyrics are written below the notes.

P. It is indeed.....

The Sanctus

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might.

heav'n 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.

Detailed description: This block contains four staves of music in G major (one sharp). The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are written below the notes. The second staff continues the melody. The third staff continues the melody. The fourth staff continues the melody. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Eucharistic 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

P. There is a place for you at the banquet. Come and feast at Jesus' table.

Everyone is invited, no exceptions.

C. Amen.

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 Hymns

There Is a Balm in Gilead

ELW 614

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

ELW 742



Post Communion Blessing

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

C. Amen

Post Communion Canticle

Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise

ELW 204



Thank-ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.



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.

Post Communion Prayer

A. Lord Jesus, in this simple meal you have set a banquet. Sustain us on the journey, strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children, and give us glad and generous hearts as we meet you on the way.

C. Amen.

Blessing

P. May the God of all creation, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved, who strengthens us for service, give you reason to rejoice and be glad!

The blessing of God, Sovereign, † Savior, and Spirit, be with you today and always.

C. Amen.

Sending Hymn

God Be with You Till We Meet Again

ELW 536

Dismissal

A. Beloved of God, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C. Thanks be to God.

Postlude



Servers for Sunday, November 12th

Assisting Minister..... Shannon Thomsen
Reader Sharyl Eggert
Altar Guild Sharyl Eggert
Greeters/Counters Tess Andrews/Sylvia Lambert
Guest Musician Dr. Abe Cáceres

Sign-up sheets for the various worship assistant slots are on the board in the hallway. Please consider spending time giving glory to God by filling one of these positions on a Sunday.



Flowers this week are
provided by Carolyn Watkins
To the Glory of God!

Candles for November
are provided by Ginny King
in memory of Dennis' Birthday.



Honor a loved one by making a donation for the candles in the sanctuary for the month or the flowers that beautify the church each Sunday. Sign-up sheet is on the board in the hallway.



*Pray for your
Call Committee*

Family of Susan Cocchloia

Family of Peg Stamp

Family of Ellis (Tony) Guedel

Shirley Lewis, friend of Laura's – final stages of ALS

Hannah Kestner Bockover – improving, but still a long road of recovery ahead

Mike & Tina Kestner, Hannah's parents and previous member of LOL

Sylvia Lambert's grandson, Ian – deployment to Republic of Niger, West Africa

Forrest Smith – recovering from ablation

Rita's co-worker, Elizabeth Alexander – colon cancer

Tess Andrews' brother, David Van Benschoten

Wendy Casey's mom, Barbara – under hospice care

Sheila Dorey – recovering from angioplasty

Clyde Bogle's sister-in-law, Wanda - cancer

Mr. Smith, neighbor of Carolyn Watkins

Father of Julya Mirro - (Gale's friend)

Linda Hash's brother, Charles Barlow

Linda Hash's sister-in-law, Beth Hash Lennon

Pam Klawiter's co-worker, Carolyn Harbertson – breast cancer

Rebecca Swanson's sister in PA – Post Polio Syndrome

Rebecca Swanson's nephew – Dr. David Shaefer

Diana Havenstein

Rob Havenstein

Donna Hanna

Andrew Avakian – MS

Nick & Sharon Vietri

Mary Ann Jackson Dayshaun

Jonathan McCoy Jim Powers

The Han's Family

