



**Christ  
Lutheran**  
CHURCH

2610 Campbell Street  
Valparaiso, Indiana 46385  
(219) 462-6660 • [clcvalpo.org](http://clcvalpo.org)



November 16, 2025

## **We welcome you to Christ Lutheran Church! We are a community of people sharing God's love through Christ and growing together in faith.**

We celebrate all the ways we are made in the image of God, seeking to see God in everyone. We honor and respect each person's age, ethnicity, family composition, gender identity, gender expression, life history, mental well-being, physical ability, relationship status, sexual orientation, skin color, and socioeconomic standing. Together, we strive to love and serve our neighbor and all creation, including working toward racial and social justice. We would love to walk with you on this creative adventure\* of faith, grace, and love.

*\* The first sermon ever preached at Christ Lutheran was titled "A Call to Creative Adventure."*

### **ABOUT WORSHIP**

We gather to worship weekly to hear and remember our shared hope: the life, death, and resurrection of Christ makes all things new, even us.

You will find everything that happens in worship printed in this bulletin, with hymns found in the red hymnals ("ELW") in the seats in front of you.

If you have a prayer request, note it on a yellow card from the seatback holder and pass it to an usher; the other side is for any information you would like about Christ Lutheran. Please feel welcome to remain seated as necessary during the service.

### **CHILDREN ARE ALWAYS WELCOME IN CHURCH!**

God's people come in all shapes and sizes – it is a gift to the whole community when the smallest of us are present! Sitting with parents and learning to treasure times of worship is the foundation for helping build a growing faith in a child's life. There's some noise and movement that we expect from little ones - feel free to make use of the **activity bags, doodle pads, bookshelf in the overflow area and cry room at the back of the sanctuary** as needed. Whatever sacrifice of energy and effort you make to include your children in worship is multiplied as the good news of God's love takes root in their lives!

### **WHEN NURSERY CARE IS NEEDED DURING WORSHIP**

A fully equipped and staffed Nursery is available for both infants and toddlers during all services. The Nursery is located west of our gathering area in **Room 110**.

### **RESTROOMS**

Men's and women's restrooms off the Gathering Area and Church Hall have changing tables, as does the all-gender restroom near the nursery. A second all-gender restroom is through the Vestry off the East hallway, past the Welcome Center.

### **HOLY COMMUNION**

**Holy Communion** is the family meal of God's people, to which we come at Jesus' invitation. The body and blood of Christ, in the bread and wine, are his real presence with us and offer the gift of forgiveness because of his death and resurrection. Drawn together and strengthened by this meal, we are given a taste of the fullness of God's coming kingdom, and are equipped to be the hands and feet of God's love in the world. All baptized Christians are always welcome at the Lord's table.

Our services are on video, and occasional photographs are taken for our website and e-mail news. If you have concerns, please speak to a church staff member.

*Hearing assistance devices are available to those who need help with listening to the service and are located at the entrance to the sanctuary, or please see an Usher for assistance.*

**A Reminder: Please turn off all cell phones during worship services.**

*The end is near. There is no doubt about it. The warnings are dire. The tone of today's texts is ominous. But the baptized know how to live in the meantime. The baptized are strengthened for the living of these days in word and sacrament. The baptized rally around the invitation of the apostle: "Do not be weary in doing what is right."*

## GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God*

### PRELUDE

*Prelude modal*

Langlais

### WELCOME

*If you are joining us for the first time, welcome! We'd love to meet you, or if there's anything you'd like to know about the ministry of Christ Lutheran Church, please consider [filling out a Connection Card online](#) (you can point your phone at the graphic to the right) or using a yellow Connection Card in the pew holders.*



***Prayer requests*** can be posted to the live chat or use a yellow Prayer Request (on the backside of the Connection Card) and give them to an usher.

*If you are worshipping with us via livestream, consider **preparing your space for Communion**: light a candle (if appropriate and safe), and have a plate with bread/cracker/tortilla and a cup for wine or grape juice (or an empty cup as a sign Jesus is sufficient in one or both elements).*

### GATHERING HYMN ELW #657

### *Rise, O Sun of Righteousness*

1 Rise, O Sun of right - teous - ness; with your  
 2 Rouse our hearts from slum - ber deep; may your  
 3 Gath - er in your scat - tered flock; give us  
 4 Burst the bars of stub - born pride; make the  
 5 Hon - or, praise, and glo - ry be to the

might cre - a - tion bless. Shine up - on your church to - day,  
 word with - in us leap. Give us voic - es to pro - claim  
 wa - ter from the rock. Bless the u - ni - ty we share  
 heav'n - ly path - way wide. Raise us up from sin and death  
 ho - ly Trin - i - ty! May your gra - cious will be done:

show - ing all your gen - tle way. Have mer - cy, Lord.  
 prais - es to your ho - ly name. Have mer - cy, Lord.  
 in our shep - herd's lov - ing care. Have mer - cy, Lord.  
 with your Spir - it's liv - ing breath. Have mer - cy, Lord.  
 make us one, as you are one. Have mer - cy, Lord.

## 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.**

*Children: This is the day that the Lord has made.*

**Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

## THANKSGIVING FOR LIGHT FOR ADVENT *(Advent Wreath is lit)*

3 Leader

We give you thanks, O

God, for it is you who called forth light, and you

led your peo - ple Is - ra - el with won - ders and with signs.

Assembly

Lead us in this sea - son's wait - ing with won - ders speak - ing

hope and signs of Je - sus' in - car - na - tion;

Leader

for your mer - cy is our light and your com - pas - sion is our guide,

Assembly

and with cre - a - tion we glo - ri - fy you through the Son and

in the Spir - it now and ev - er - more.

A - men.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

*A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

God, who is faithful  
when all the foundations crumble:  
in the time of crisis,  
as holy places fall  
and nations stumble,  
give us the conviction  
to bear witness to love,  
whatever the cost;  
through Jesus Christ, the Word and Wisdom of God.  
**Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

## WORD

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.*

## SPECIAL MUSIC:

*Morning Song*

Diabelli

## CHILDREN'S TIME

*Children are invited forward for a time together.*

### ACS #974 *Listen to the Word That God Has Spoken*



Lis-ten to the word that God has spo-ken; lis-ten to the One who is



close at hand; lis - ten to the voice that be - gan cre - a - tion;



lis - ten e - ven if you don't un - der - stand.

## READING: Isaiah 65:17-25

*Addressing the exiles who had returned to Jerusalem from Babylon, the prophet proclaims a vision of a future time of peace and prosperity. Though the returned exiles are experiencing hard times, God is about to do a new thing.*

- <sup>17</sup> For I am about to create new heavens  
and a new earth;  
the former things shall not be remembered  
or come to mind.
- <sup>18</sup> But be glad and rejoice forever  
in what I am creating,  
for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy  
and its people as a delight.
- <sup>19</sup> I will rejoice in Jerusalem  
and delight in my people;  
no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it  
or the cry of distress.
- <sup>20</sup> No more shall there be in it  
an infant who lives but a few days  
or an old person who does not live out a lifetime,  
for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth,  
and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed.
- <sup>21</sup> They shall build houses and inhabit them;  
they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.
- <sup>22</sup> They shall not build and another inhabit;  
they shall not plant and another eat,  
for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be,  
and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands.
- <sup>23</sup> They shall not labor in vain  
or bear children for calamity,  
for they shall be offspring blessed by the LORD—  
and their descendants as well.
- <sup>24</sup> Before they call I will answer,  
while they are yet speaking I will hear.
- <sup>25</sup> The wolf and the lamb shall feed together;  
the lion shall eat straw like the ox,  
but the serpent—its food shall be dust!
- They shall not hurt or destroy  
on all my holy mountain,  
says the LORD.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*The congregation is invited to sing the psalm refrain when indicated (R). Verses will be chanted alternately by the leader and the people.*

In righ-teous-ness will the LORD judge the world.

The first staff of music is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It contains two measures. The first measure has a whole note chord consisting of B-flat (first line), D-flat (second line), and F (third space). The second measure has a whole note chord consisting of B-flat (first line), D (second line), and F (third space).

<sup>9</sup>The LORD will judge the world with righteousness  
and the peoples with equity. **R**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*The assembly stands to welcome the Gospel.*



## HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 21:5-19

*As history moves toward God's fulfillment there will be frightening signs and events. Before the end, believers will draw strength from their relationship to God and will be given the words they need to testify and to endure without fear.*

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>5</sup> When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, [Jesus] said, <sup>6</sup> “As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down.”

<sup>7</sup> They asked him, “Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?” <sup>8</sup> And he said, “Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, ‘I am he!’ and, ‘The time is near!’ Do not go after them.

<sup>9</sup> “When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately.” <sup>10</sup> Then he said to them, “Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; <sup>11</sup> there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

<sup>12</sup> “But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. <sup>13</sup> This will give you an opportunity to testify. <sup>14</sup> So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance; <sup>15</sup> for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. <sup>16</sup> You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. <sup>17</sup> You will be hated by all because of my name. <sup>18</sup> But not a hair of your head will perish. <sup>19</sup> By your endurance you will gain your souls.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**



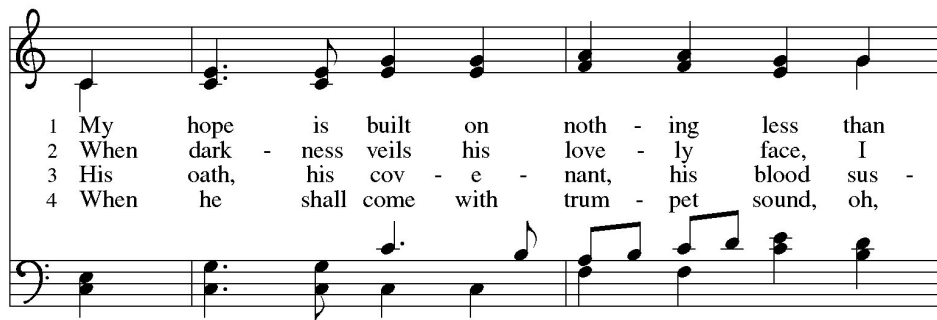
## SERMON

*The assembly is seated. Time for reflection follows the sermon.*

## HYMN OF THE DAY ELW #597

## *My Hope is Built on Nothing Less*

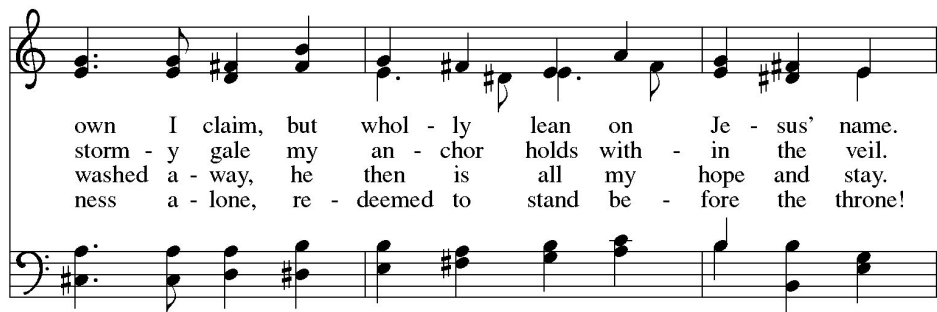
*The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.*



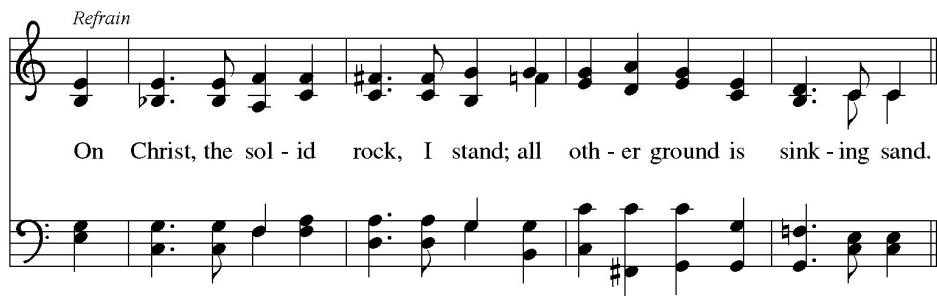
1 My hope is built on noth - ing less than  
2 When dark - ness veils his love - ly face, I  
3 His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood sus -  
4 When he shall come with trum - pet sound, oh,



Je - sus' blood and righ - teous - ness; no mer - it of my  
rest on his un - chang - ing grace; in ev - 'ry high and  
tain me in the rag - ing flood; when all sup - ports are  
may I then in him be found, clothed in his righ - teous -



own I claim, but whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.  
storm - y gale my an - chor holds with - in the veil.  
washed a - way, he then is all my hope and stay.  
ness a - lone, re - deemed to stand be - fore the throne!



*Refrain*  
On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

## 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.

*\*Or, "he descended into hell," another translation of this text in widespread use.*

## PRAYERS

*Our prayers draw on the Ecumenical Prayer Cycle and the Church's calendar of Commemorations. Further information is found each week at the end of the bulletin.*

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

*A brief silence.*

God of creation, defend the leaders of your church as they proclaim the gospel using discernment, wisdom, and brave testimony. Keep all the baptized on righteous paths in response to Christ's call. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of roaring seas, in a world of earthquake, famine, and plague, use your mighty power to nurture the land and all that lives upon it. Restore peoples and places experiencing natural disasters, especially the hurricane in Jamaica and typhoon in the Philippines. Strengthen organizations who provide aid to any in crisis. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of victory, among quests for power, guide those in government, courts, law enforcement agencies, and the military. Turn them from war and violence to actions of care that build up the common good. Bless the lands, peoples, and churches of New Zealand and Australia. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of healing, where injustice and exploitation result in populations that are marginalized or underserved, accompany those abandoned by friends, hurt by family, and harmed by violence or oppression. Care for all who are ill, anxious, or in pain of any kind. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of new songs, in a congregation of faithful believers, energize us for compassionate service and delight us through worship and inspired prayer. Encourage your people in building equitable community where all are valued. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

God of every generation, we remember the saints with steadfast love and faithfulness, especially Elizabeth of Hungary. Confident in Christ's victory over death, may we be inspired by the example of the faithful who have gone before us. 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.**

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*We invite those worshipping by livestream to share a sign of peace in the live chat, and for those in person we turn to offer them our greeting of peace before sharing a sign of peace with one another: **Peace be with you!***

## MEAL

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ*

## OFFERING

*This congregation serves our neighbors, community, and the world through the participation and support of its members and guests. Because offerings are never just about us, this month we are sharing a portion of your gifts with Daybreak Shelter (including Men's Resale Shop)*

*[daybreakshelter.org](http://daybreakshelter.org) and Gabriel's Horn (in conjunction with Family Promise of P.C.) [www.gabrielshelter.org](http://www.gabrielshelter.org)*

*If you wish to give electronically, use the QR code, browse to our secure on-line portal at [clcvalpo.org/give](http://clcvalpo.org/give) or use [our CLC app](#) (download at [clcvalpo.org/app](http://clcvalpo.org/app)).*



**OFFERTORY (8:00 am)**

*A la Venue de Noel*

Balbastre

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM (10:30 am):** *Praise the Lord*  
(from 'Judas Maccabeus')

Handel

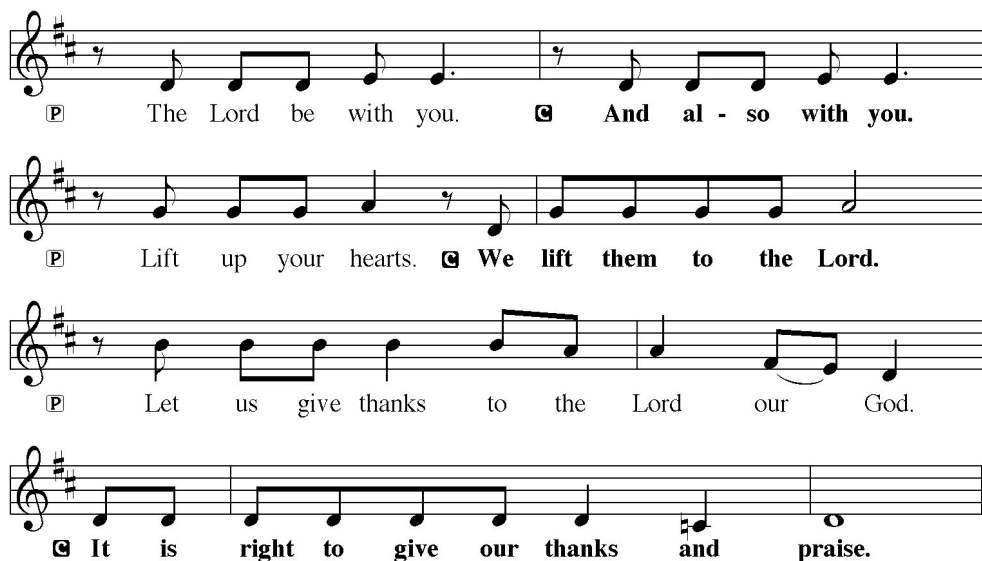
*Praise the Lord. Let songs of joy break forth. Sing alleluia, praise His name forevermore. Shout, sing and dance, come dance and celebrate. Let all within us praise His name.*

**PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS**

*The assembly stands as the gifts are brought forward.*

Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, 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, we may be fed with the bread of life.  
Gath-er the hopes and the dreams of all; u-nite them with the  
prayers we of-fer now. Grace our ta-ble with your pres-ence,  
and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

# GREAT THANKSGIVING



**P** The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so 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.

*The pastor continues the prayer then all join in singing:*

## SANCTUS

*(An ancient practice invites us to make the sign of the cross in honor of Jesus at the words "Blessed is he.")*



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

Lord God of pow'r and might, heav-en and earth are

full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed, bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the

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

## TABLE PRAYER

### LORD'S PRAYER

*Children: The Spirit makes us one. We pray as Jesus taught us:*

**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.**

### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Here is life. God is with us.  
Come, receive what God has promised.  
**Thanks be to God!**

### DISTRIBUTION


*The assembly is seated. The pastor invites those worshipping via **livestream** to commune:*


The body of Christ, given for you.  
**Amen (receive the bread)**


The blood of Christ, shed for you.  
**Amen (receive the cup)**


**In-person distribution:** When indicated by the ushers, come up the right-hand ramp to approach the altar rail. When finished you may leave individually without being dismissed. WINE is lighter-colored and GRAPE JUICE is dark; wine is received either by Common Cup or from individual cups in the trays. USED GLASSES are placed in the basket located near the ramp. GLUTEN-FREE BREAD IS AVAILABLE, please indicate to the server that you require this.


## LAMB OF GOD

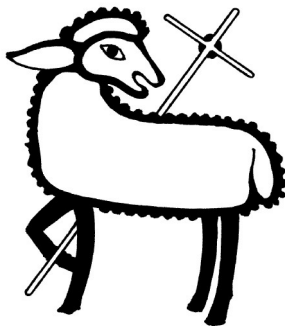
  
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;

  
have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us, have mer - cy.

  
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;

  
have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us, have mer - cy.

  
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace.



## COMMUNION MUSIC

### ELW #241 *O Lord, How Shall I Meet You*

1 O Lord, how shall I meet you, how wel - come you a - right?  
2 I lay in fet - ters, groan - ing; you came to set me free.  
3 Love caused your in - car - na - tion; love brought you down to me.  
4 Re - joice, then, you sad - heart - ed, who sit in deep - est gloom,

Your peo - ple long to greet you, my hope, my heart's de - light!  
I stood, my shame be - moan - ing; you came to hon - or me.  
Your thirst for my sal - va - tion pro - cured my lib - er - ty.  
who mourn your joys de - part - ed and trem - ble at your doom.

Oh, kin - dle, Lord most ho - ly, your lamp with - in my breast  
A glo - rious crown you give me, a trea - sure safe on high  
Oh, love be - yond all tell - ing, that led you to em - brace  
All hail the Lord's ap - pear - ing! O glo - rious Sun, now come,

to do in spir - it low - ly all that may please you best.  
that will not fail or leave me as earth - ly rich - es fly.  
in love, all love ex - cel - ling, our lost and fall - en race.  
send forth your beams so cheer - ing and guide us safe - ly home.



# ELW #723 *Canticle of the Turning*



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the  
 2 Though I am small, my . . . God, my all, you . . .  
 3 From the halls of pow'r to the for - tress tow'r, not a  
 4 Though the na - tions rage from . . . age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the  
 work great . . . things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the  
 stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your  
 mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.  
 depths of the past to the end of the age to be.  
 jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant . . . from his throne.  
 liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my  
 Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to  
 The hun - gry poor shall . . . weep no more, for the  
 This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my  
 those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the  
 food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry  
 prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?  
 strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
 mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
 crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.



*Refrain*  
 My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn.



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

*After all have returned to their places, the assembly stands as the minister continues.*

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.  
**Amen.**

## POST COMMUNION CANTICLE



Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace:  
your word has been ful - filled. My own eyes have  
seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre - pared in the sight of all  
peo - ple: a light to re - veal you to the  
na - tions and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.  
Glo - ry to the Fa - ther and to the Son, glo - ry to the  
Ho - ly Spir - it, as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and  
will be for - ev - er. A - men, a - men, a - men.

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

God our host,  
at this table you have fed us with joy and gladness.  
Send us forth, eager to share the feast,  
welcome the stranger,  
and bear good fruit in the name of Jesus.  
**Amen.**

## **SENDING**

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world*

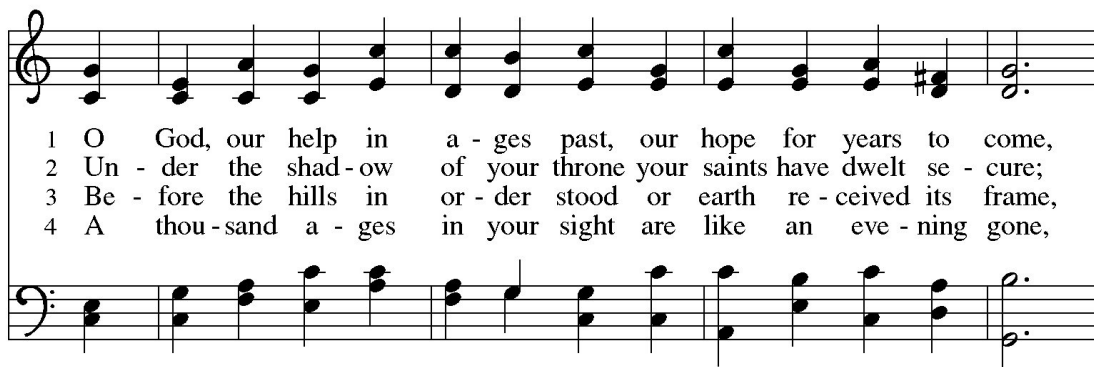
## **INVITATIONS**

*The assembly is seated as brief invitations are shared, especially those related to the assembly's participation in God's mission in the world.*

## **BLESSING**

May God who comes among us,  
Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit,  
grant you patience in waiting, peace in the darkness,  
and good news to share today and always.  
**Amen.**

SENDING HYMN ELW #632 *O God, Our Help in Ages Past*



1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,  
 2 Un - der the shad - ow of your throne your saints have dwelt se - cure;  
 3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood or earth re - ceived its frame,  
 4 A thou - sand a - ges in your sight are like an eve - ning gone,



our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:  
 suf - fi - cient is your arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.  
 from ev - er - last - ing you are God, to end - less years the same.  
 short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,  
 bears all our years away;  
 we fly forgotten, as a dream  
 dies at the op'ning day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,  
 our hope for years to come,  
 still be our guard while troubles last  
 and our eternal home!

*Children join the pastors to send us in mission.*

## DISMISSAL

*Children: Go in peace. Keep awake.*

**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

*Herr Christ, der Einge Gottes-Sohn  
(Lord Christ, the Only Son of God)*

J.S. Bach

*As worship concludes we move to the Gathering Place, where we are invited to greet one another and share in fellowship.*



## **Worship Leaders**

	<u>8:00 a.m.</u>	<u>10:30 a.m.</u>
Acolyte		Caleb Burnside
Lector	Bill and Lucas Lieske	Jeri Simms
Prayer Assistant	Darla Hernandez	Denise Maragos
Communion Assistants	Kathy Sutherland Grace Basich	Gabby Soleim Violet Furuness
Ushers	Vickie Copeland Gregg Copeland	Jon, Christine, Maya, & Jay Bull
Sound/Light	Sam Venstrom	Tony Reinhold
Video/Livestream	_____	
Pastors	Rev. Timothy Knauff, Jr. Rev. Erica Gibson-Even	
Director of Music Ministries	Brian Bartusch	
Cantor	Lisa Jennings	
Worship Participants	Reid Venstrom, pianist Sanctuary Choir	
Communion Baker	Marilyn McGawn	



## **Ecumenical Prayer Cycle**

This week we pray for the churches and people of **Aotearoa New Zealand, Australia**

We are **thankful** for:

- the beauty of the land and waters of Aotearoa New Zealand and Australia, and the special relationship that people enjoy with the natural environment
- the identities and cultural practices that indigenous peoples long have maintained, and for their increasing political voice
- how the people have welcomed new immigrants
- how churches have witnessed and worked together ecumenically, especially amid challenges of apathy in highly secularized societies.

We **pray** for:

- churches to have the imagination, skills and energy to build bridges of understanding in increasingly multireligious and multicultural contexts
- those who work tirelessly on issues of justice for the poor, the marginalized and the dispossessed, especially indigenous peoples
- those seeking refuge and a new life in these countries, and those supporting and providing for them
- careful preservation of the fragile land, sea, and resources.

### **COMMEMORATIONS** **Week of November 16, 2025**

**November 17**

**Elizabeth of Hungary, renewer of society, died 1231**

This Hungarian princess lived her entire life in east-central Germany, and is often called Elizabeth of Thuringia. Married to a duke, she gave large sums of money, including her dowry, for relief of the poor and sick. She founded hospitals, cared for orphans, and used the royal food supplies to feed the hungry. Though she had the support of her husband, her generosity and charity did not earn her friends within the royal court. At the death of her husband, she was driven out. She joined a Franciscan order and continued her charitable work, though she suffered abuse at the hands of her confessor and spiritual guide. Her lifetime of charity is particularly remarkable when one remembers that she died at the age of twenty-four. She founded two hospitals, and many more are named for her.

## Honoring Creators of Justice

This week's gospel reading is a part of an apocalyptic speech Jesus gives in the temple. Jesus' talk of war can be alarming to our ears. We want to hear him speak about peace and love and mercy. However, there is much in this world that is scary and violent. Jesus would not be doing his pastoral due diligence if he did not talk about these things. Jesus reminds us that, yes, things are going to get bad. But he calls us to cling to our faith and respond to God's charge that we love and serve our neighbor. And by this, he assures us, we bring about the kingdom.

November 11 is honored as Veterans Day in the United States and Remembrance Day in Canada. Originally it was called Armistice Day to commemorate the ending of World War I and the signing of a ceasefire. It signaled the end of the violence.

An "armistice" is an agreement to stop fighting, to bring about peace. But as Martin Luther King Jr. famously observed, "Peace is not the absence of conflict but the presence of justice." Jesus tells us that violence will happen, but our calling as baptized Christians is to live in the promise of his grace and to go out into the world to be creators of justice and peace.

This week, as we honor and remember those who have served and experienced the violence Jesus speaks of, we must heed Jesus' pastoral words of hope: "Do not be afraid." In the midst of chaos and fear, Jesus gives us his strength and the wisdom to follow him. Blessed are all who work toward armistice in service of peace and justice.

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