St. Paul Lutheran Church

Twenty Fifth Sunday after Pentecost ~ Sunday, November 15, 2026

GATHERING

Prelude "God is For Us" Praise Band

Words and music by Michael Farren, James Ferguson, Tiarne Tranter, Jesse Reeves, Jonny Robinson, James Tealy and Rich Thompson Reprinted & streamed with permission: CCLI License # 1124556

Welcome and Announcements

Children's Sermon

Please rise in body or spirit

Confession and Forgiveness Screen

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, our dwelling place for all generations, whose compassion never slumbers.

C: Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.
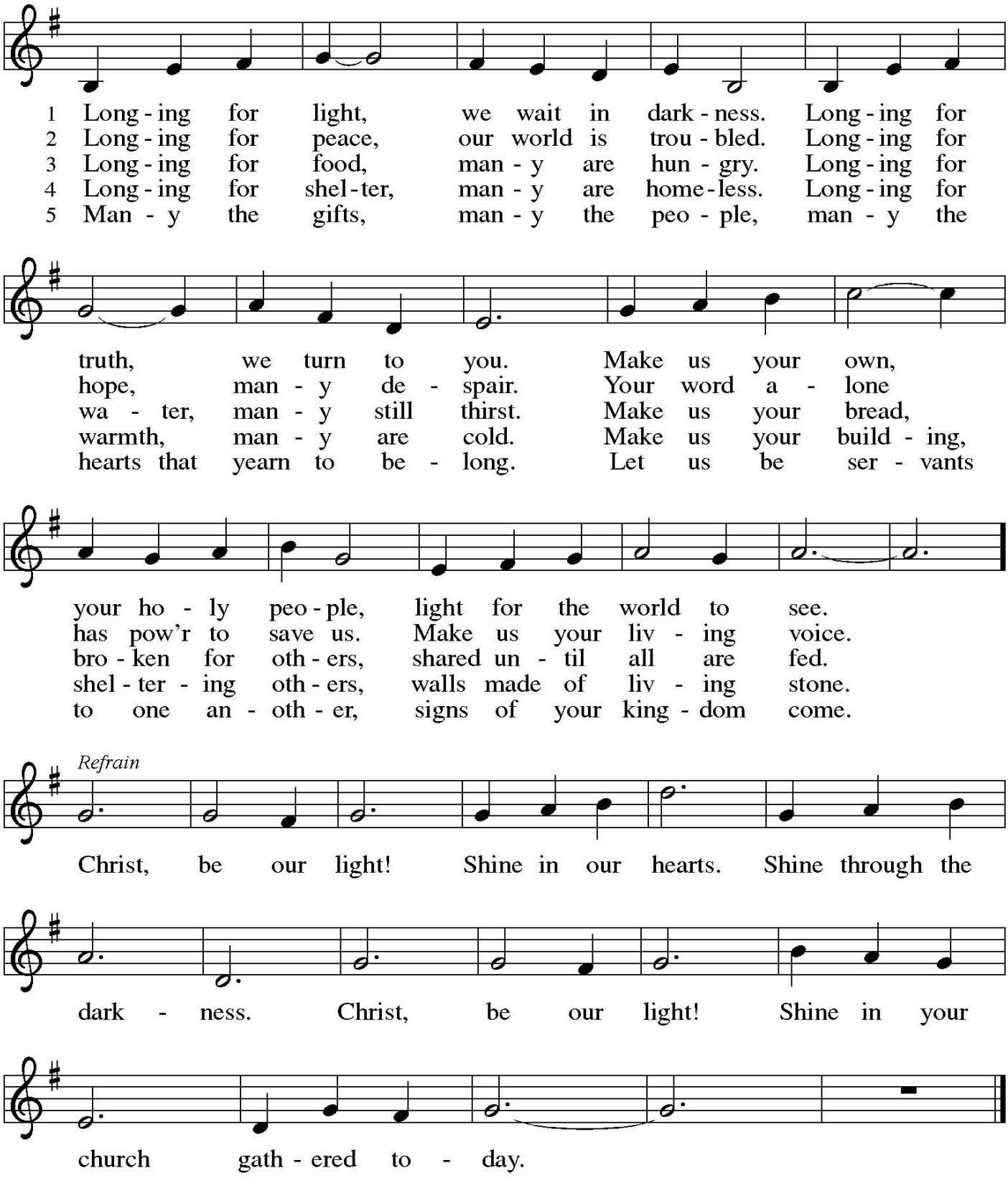
P: Holy God,

C: 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.

P: Inherit the riches of God's grace. ☩ Jesus, the good shepherd, feeds you with his mercy. You are forgiven. Blessed are you.

C: Amen.

Gathering Song: "Christ, Be Our Light" Screen or ELW #715 vs. 1 & 5
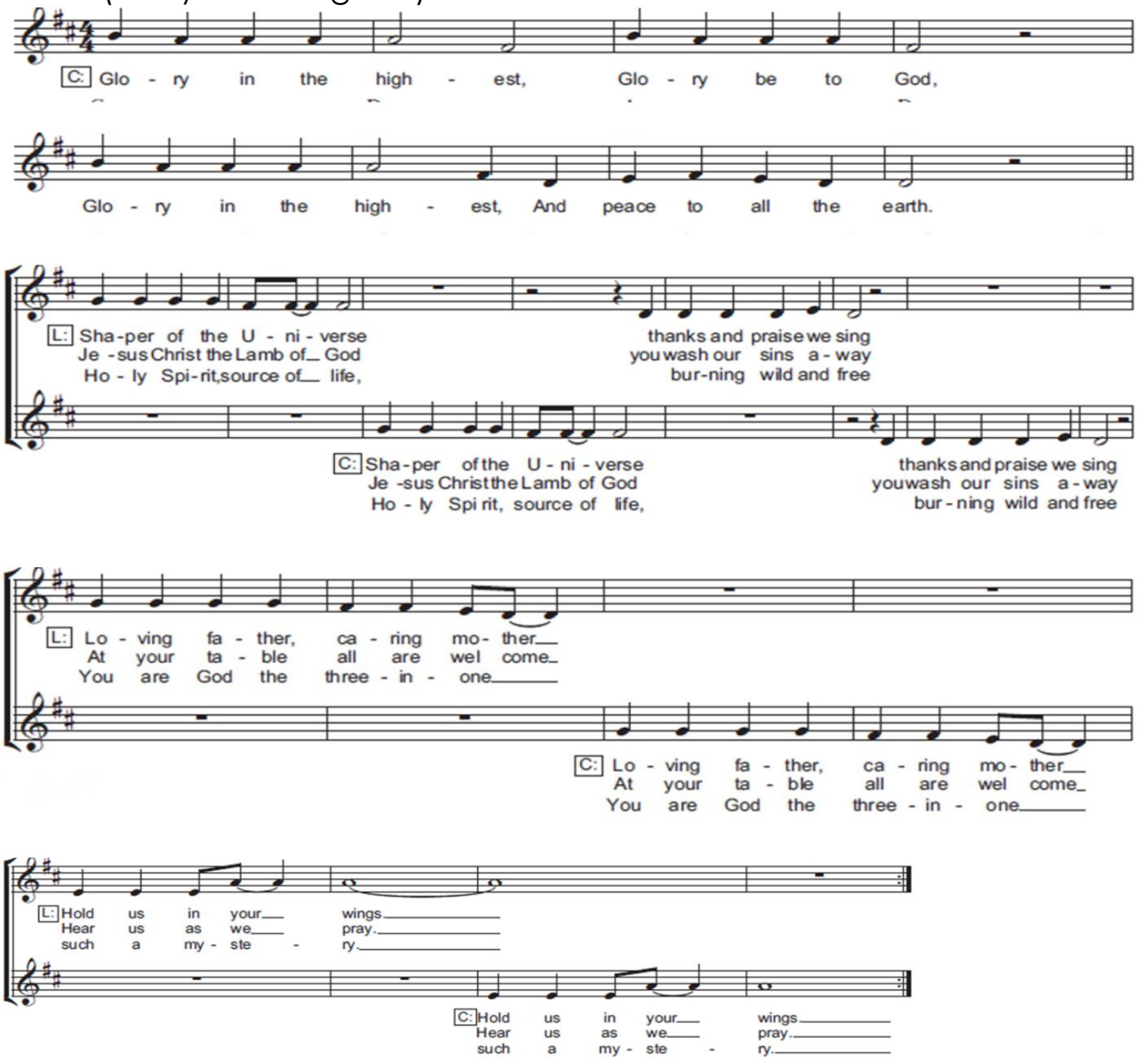


Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957
Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell
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Greeting

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.

Gloria (Glory in the Highest): Screen



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Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray. Righteous God,

C: 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.

The congregation is invited to be seated.

WORD

First Reading – Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18 Screen

A: A reading from the book of Zephaniah.

A: 7 Be 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.
12 At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,
and I will punish the people
who settle like dregs in wine,
those who say in their hearts,
"The Lord will not do good,
nor will he do harm."
13 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.
14 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.
15 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,
16 a day of trumpet blast and battle cry
against the fortified cities
and against the lofty battlements.

17 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.
18 Neither 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.

A: Word of God, Word of life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Psalm – Psalm 90:1-8 &12 Screen

A: We will read the Psalm responsively by whole verse.

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

C: Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born,
from age to age you are God.

A: You turn us back to the dust and say,
"Turn back, O children of earth."

C: For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past
and like a watch in the night;

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

C: in the morning it is green and flourishes;
in the evening it is dried up and withered.

A: For we are consumed by your anger;
we are afraid because of your wrath.

C: Our iniquities you have set before you,
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.

A: So teach us to number our days
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

Second Reading – 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 Screen
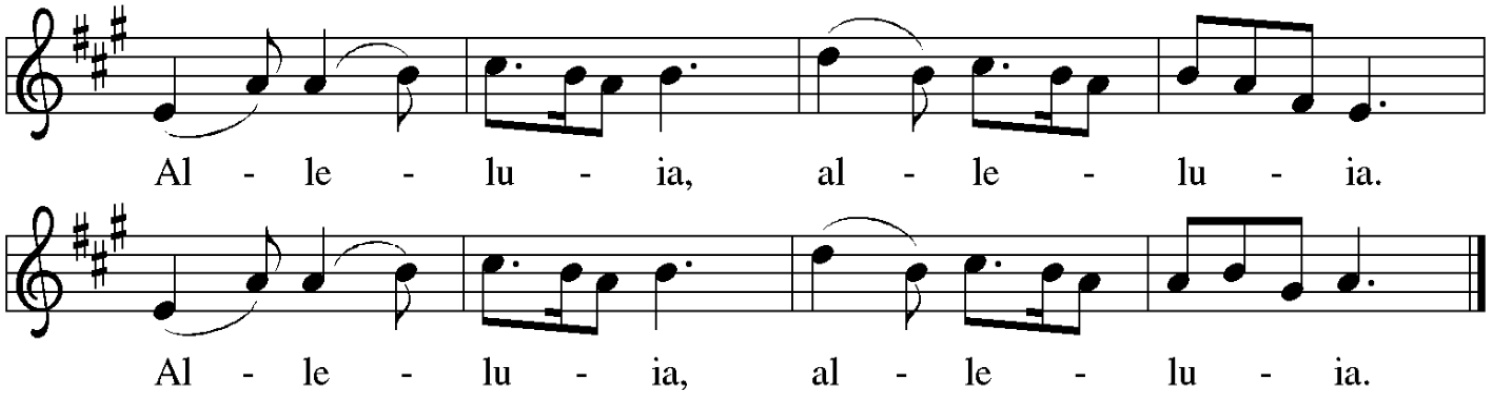
A: A reading from the book of 1 Thessalonians.

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

A: Word of God, Word of life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Please rise in body or spirit.

Gospel Acclamation Screen



Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker

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Gospel – Matthew 25:14-30 Screen

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 25th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

P: [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; 15 to one he gave five
talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then
he went away. At once 16 the one who had received the five talents went off
and traded with them and made five more talents. 17 In the same way, the one
who had the two talents made two more talents. 18 But the one who had
received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his
master's money. 19 After a long time the master of those slaves came and
settled accounts with them. 20 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.' 21 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.'
22 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.' 23 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.' 24 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, 25 so I was afraid, and I
went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' 26 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? 27 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. 28 So take the talent from him, and
give it to the one with the ten talents. 29 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. 30 As for this worthless slave, throw him
into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' "
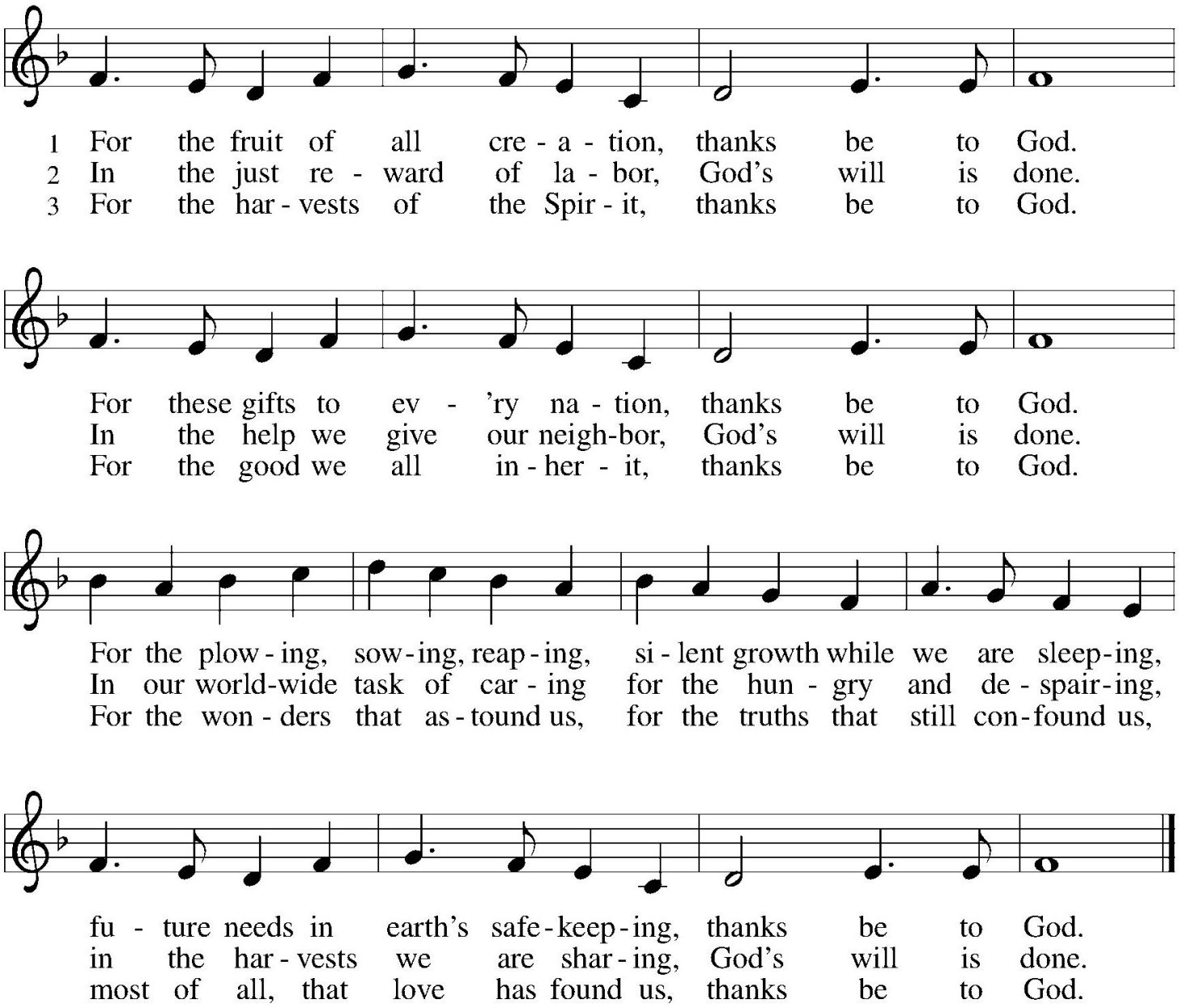
P: The Gospel of our Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

The congregation is invited to be seated

Sermon

Please rise in body or spirit.

Song of the Day: "For the Fruit of All Creation" Screen or ELW #679



Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000
Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional
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Apostles' Creed Screen or ELW pg. 105

P: Together let us confess our faith in God using the words of the Apostles' creed:

C: 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 Screen

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

A brief silence.

A: You build up the church as a community of faithful witnesses throughout the generations. Enliven the worship, outreach, and service work of our congregations and ministries with the hope of your good news. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Loving God, send your Holy Spirit to guide the ministry we share with Immanuel. Inspire us towards unity, friendship, and service in Your Holy name. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: As the nights grow longer in the northern hemisphere, make us mindful of the earth's need for rest. Provide for fallow fields and hibernating animals; show us how to curb human impact on vulnerable lands and species. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Rescue all nations and peoples from violence, displacement, or famine. Disrupt complacency among national and local leaders. Recommit our communities to transforming the systems that divide and oppress into those that empower and unite. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: In your embrace, we find refuge from all trials and troubles. Care for families who are separated or estranged, accompany all undergoing medical

procedures or mental health treatment, and reassure any who are ill or despairing especially *DeAnna Wilson, Eva Cowley, Deb Liebzeit, Judy Hallquist, Joyce Snyder, Jim Marshall, Angel & Brent, Ron Reglin, Aiden, Brenda Nailor, Larry Moats, and those we name aloud or in our hearts...brief silence…* God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Bless all who serve in congregational leadership: council members, finance committees, volunteer coordinators, and property teams. Encourage healthy stewardship of time, talents, and resources for the mission of the gospel. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: The faithful of every age trust in the hope of your saving grace. In thanksgiving for the ways our ancestors have journeyed before us, we remember all who have entered eternal life in you. God, 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.

Prayer requests can be submitted to the church office by phone or email.

Peace P: The peace of Christ be with you all. **C: And, also with you!**

Please share a sign of Christ's peace however you feel comfortable.

The congregation is invited to be seated.

MEAL
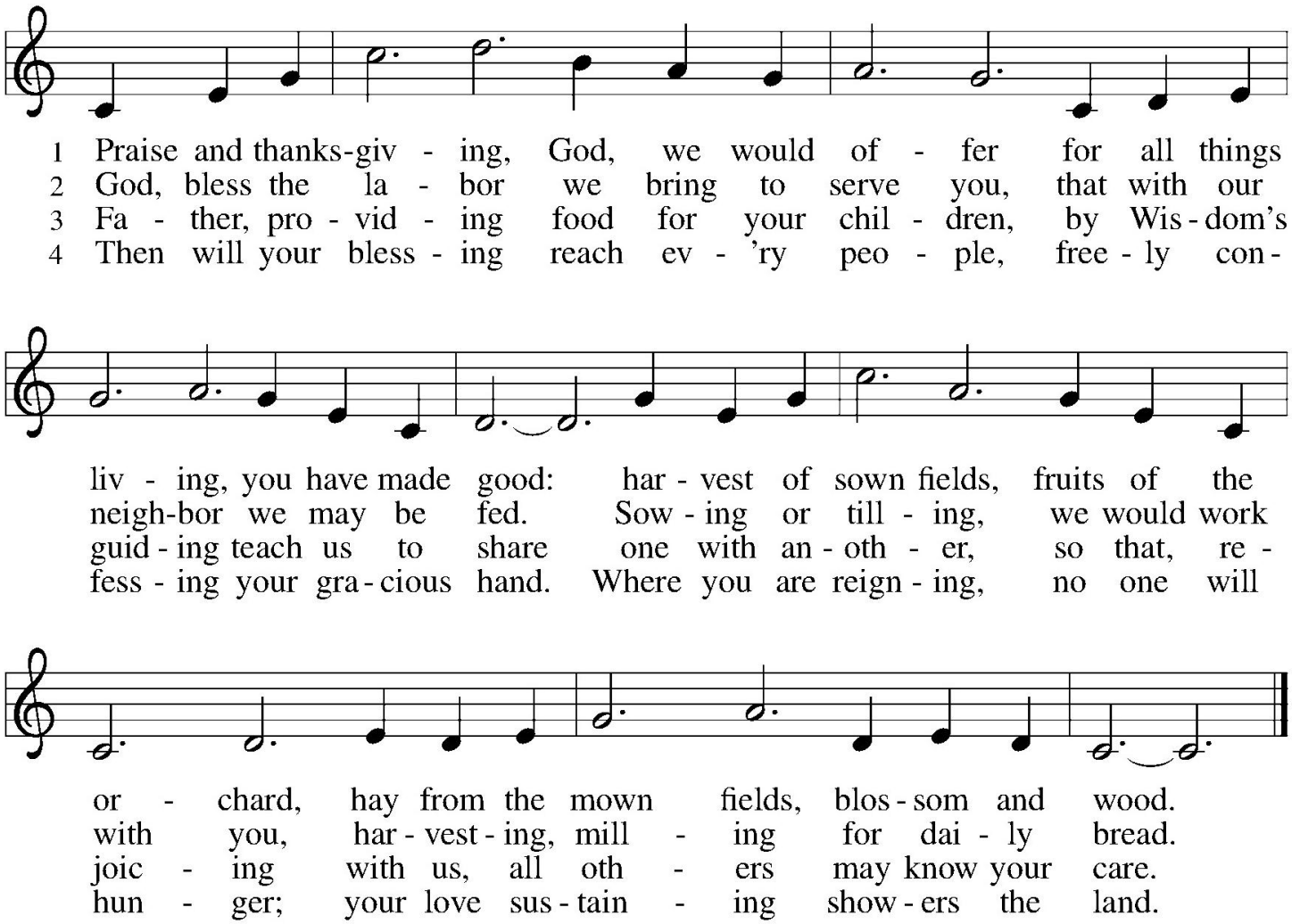
Offering

General and special offerings may be placed in the plates by the doors as we enter or depart. In addition to the offering that supports the ministry of St. Paul, the children of St. Paul receive a weekly Children's Offering.

Their offering for November will support LSSI Hope Chest for the Dixon Group Home.

We thank the children and youth for their help collecting the children's offering!

Offering Song: "Praise and Thanksgiving" Screen or ELW #689



Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984, alt.
Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune
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please rise in body or spirit.

Offering Prayer Screen

A: Let us pray. Eternal God,

C: 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.

Holy Communion

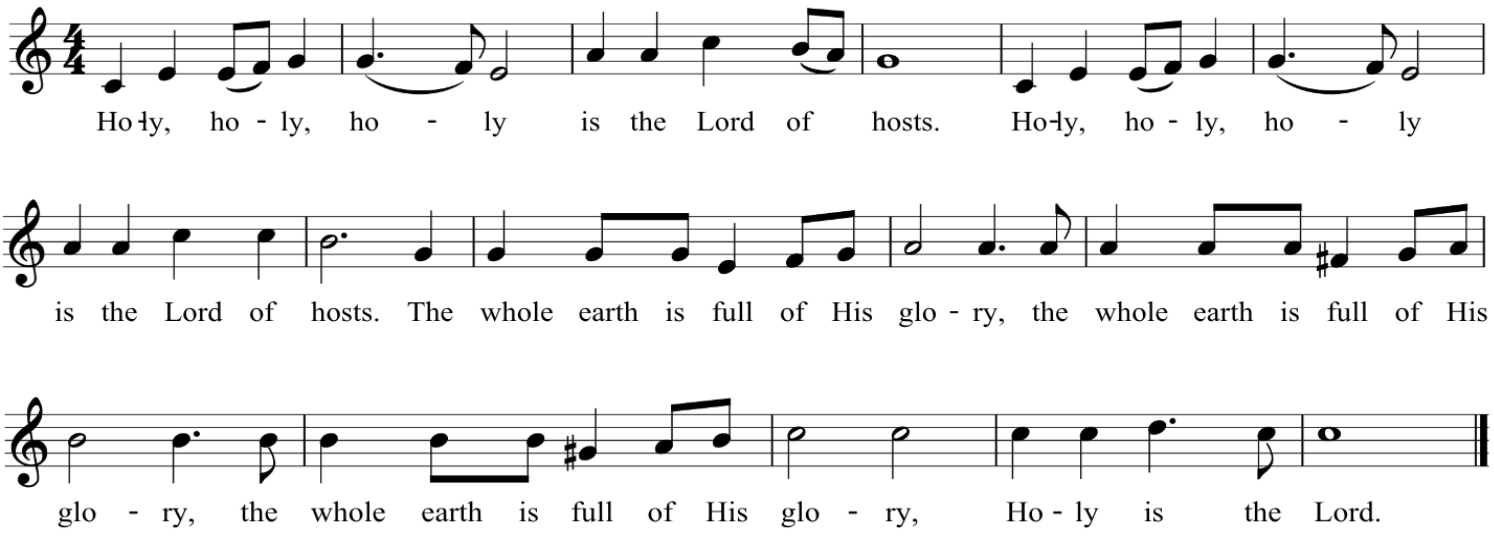
P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

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 God thanks and praise.

P: 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 in their unending hymn:



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Words of Institution

P: 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, Jesus 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."

The Lord's Prayer Screen

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:
C: 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

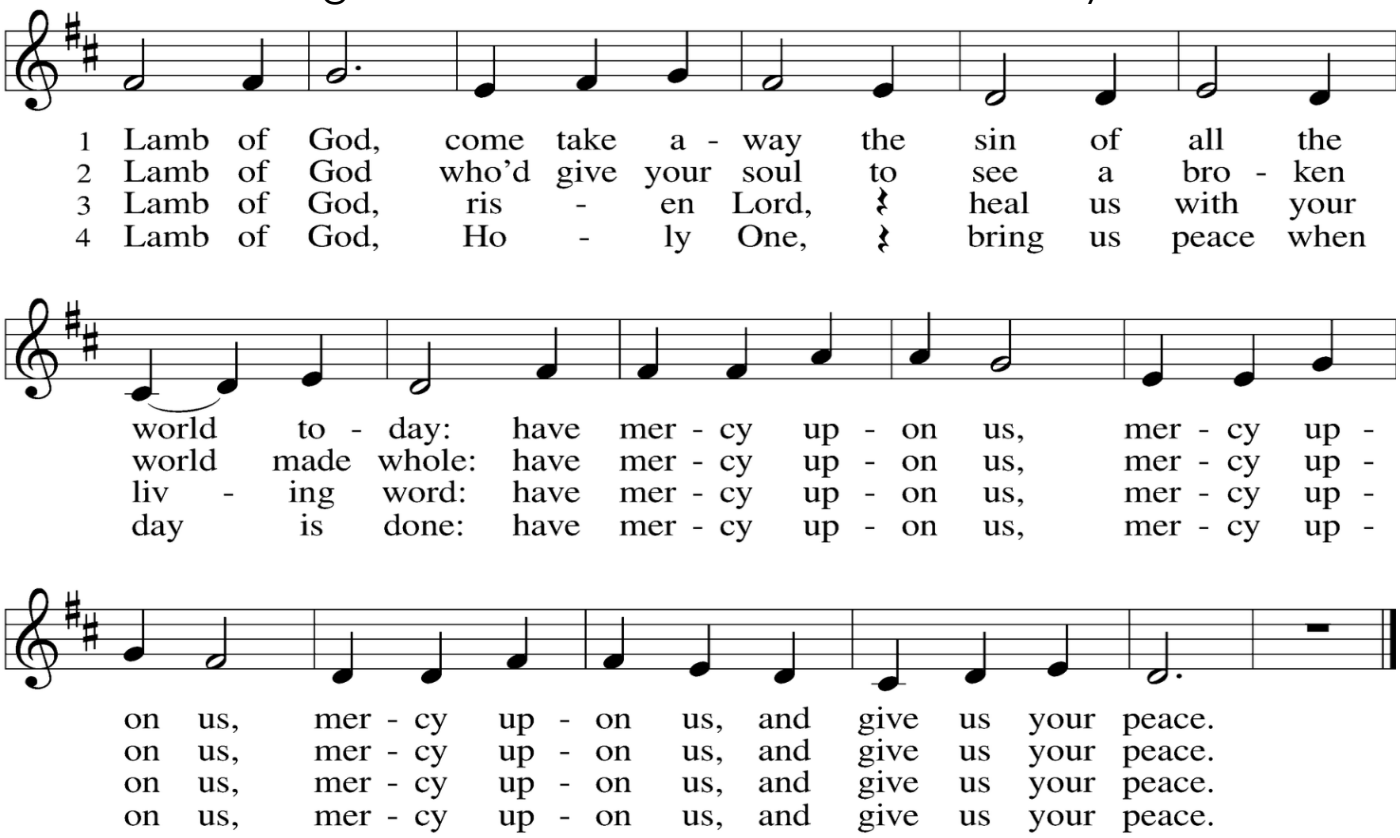
P: In bread and cup the reign of Christ is breaking in.
Come, receive what Christ has prepared.

The congregation is invited to be seated.

Distribution of Holy Communion

*When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say "The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you." Each person may respond, "**amen".***
St. Paul Lutheran Church and the ELCA practice "open table" communion. This is Christ's table; Jesus is our host. Everyone is invited and welcome to receive Holy Communion!

Communion Songs: "Lamb of God, Come Take Away" Screen



Text: Ray Makeever, b. 1943
Music: Ray Makeever
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"Psalm 90 (Satisfy Us With Your Love)" Screen

Verse 1:
You have been our dwelling place
Oh everlasting God
Before You formed the mountain tops
You were before it all
And soon our lives turn back to dust

Chorus 1:
When the sun comes up satisfy us
Before the day has passed us by
Before our hearts forget
All Your goodness
Satisfy us with Your love

Verse 2:
The wrath of God poured out for sin
On Jesus crucified
Consider Him our hiding place
Our shelter is alive
Because He lived and died for us

Chorus 1:
When the sun comes up satisfy us
Before the day has passed us by
Before our hearts forget
All Your goodness
Satisfy us with Your love

Chorus 2:
When the sun comes up satisfy us
Before the day has passed us by
Before our hearts give up
Spirit fill us, satisfy us with Your love

Final Chorus:
When the sun comes up satisfy us
Before the day has passed us by
Before our hearts forget
All Your goodness
Satisfy us with Your love

Satisfy us with Your love
Satisfy us with Your love

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Please rise in body or spirit

Post Communion Blessing

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

Prayer after Communion Screen

A: Let us pray. Holy God,

C: 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

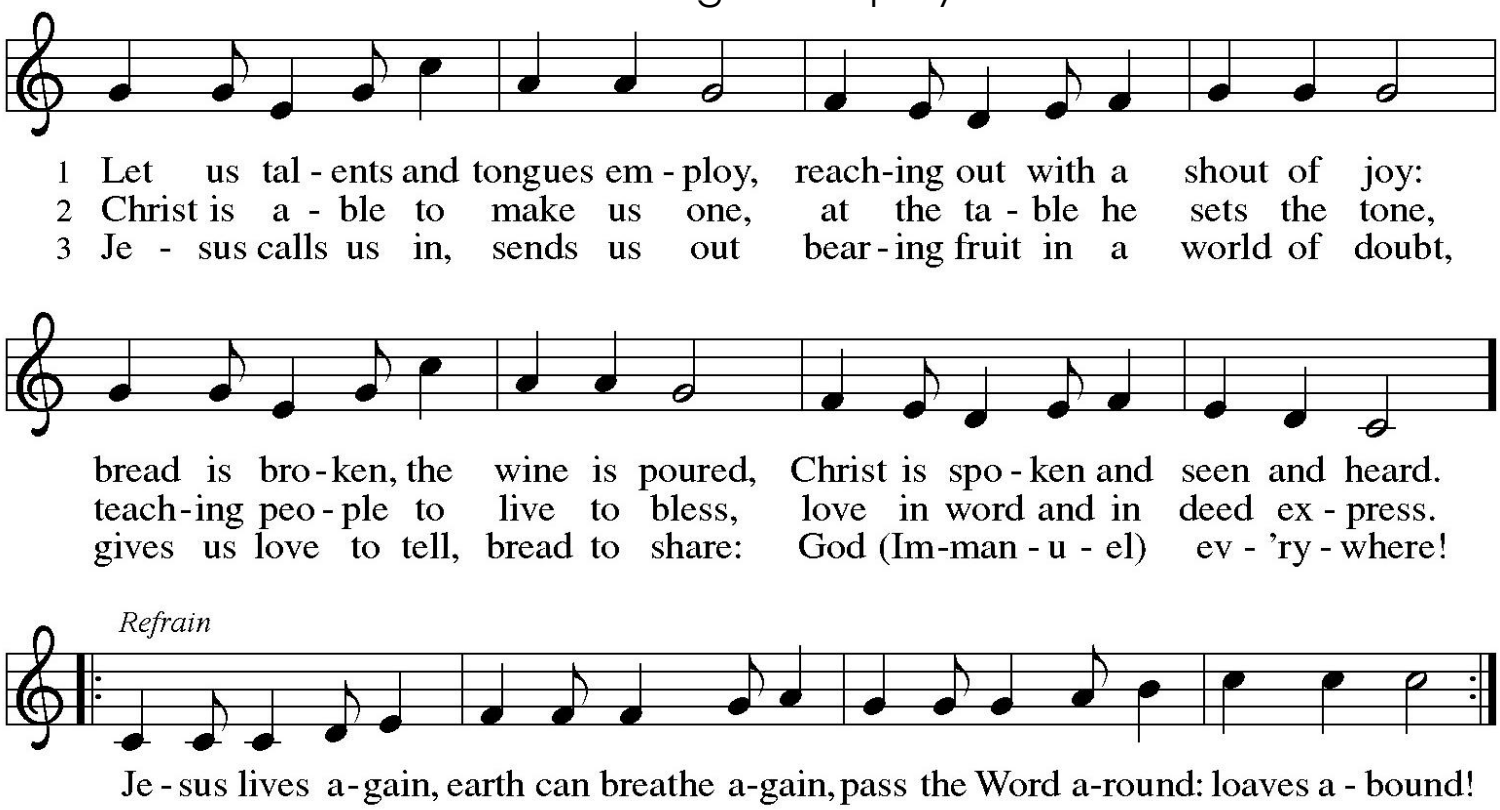
Blessing

P: The holy Trinity, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you with wisdom to welcome the reign of God, today and always.

C: Amen.

Sending Song:

"Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ" Screen or ELW #674



Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929
Music: LINSTEAD, Jamaican folk tune; adapt. Doreen Potter, 1925–1980
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Dismissal A: Go in peace. Encourage one another. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Postlude Praise Band

Leading Worship

Presider: Pastor Anthony **Preacher:** Pastor Riley

Musicians: Gerad VonHolten & the Praise Band **Worship Assistant:** Glen Hughes

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St. Paul Announcements

Church Office contact information ~ email: office@stpauldixon.org phone: 815-288-2757
Church Office Hours: Monday through Thursday 8:30 am – 1:30 pm
Pastor Anthony Windau (414) 364-9504 pastoragwindau@gmail.com
Pastor Riley Reed-Windau (406) 240-2145 pastorreedwindau@gmail.com

This week's altar flowers are given by Marian Myers to the Glory of God.

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, 11/15:	Sunday School / Youth Group 9:30 am – 10:30 am
	Worship Service 10:45 am Praise Band worship assistant: Glen Hughes
	Joint Confirmation class 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm at Immanuel
Monday, 11/16:	Prayer Team 10:30 am
	Church Council 5:30 pm
Tuesday, 11/17:	Joint Staff Meeting 8:00 am at St. Paul
	Line Dancing 9:00 am
	Epistle Items due to the Church Office
Wednesday, 11/18:	Heriatge Square 10:30 am
	Finance Committee meeting 2:30 pm
Thursday, 11/19:	Chair Yoga 11:00 am
Saturday, 11/21:	Fall Clean Up Day 9:00 am
	Worship 5:30 pm at Immanuel
Sunday, 11/22:	Thanksgiving Pie 9:00 am
	Sunday School / Youth Group 9:30 am – 10:30 am
	Worship Service 10:45 am worship assistant: Joyce Craney

Today's worship is livestreamed on Facebook and archived on YouTube. If ever you miss a service, you can join us online!

CROSS-GENERATIONAL ADVENT CRAFT MAKING FLEECE TIE BLANKETS

Sunday, November 29! Join us for a special Advent craft in the fellowship hall! **ALL ages welcome!** Beginning at 9:30am students, parents, adults, **all generations** are invited to make a fleece tie blanket to keep or to donate to a local organization. If you have fleece material you would like to donate, we need 1, 1.5, and 2 yard pieces by November 22. This event is sponsord by a Thrivent action team.



THANKS BE TO GOD!

LSSI GIVING TREE is in the Gathering Area. Your gift must be given by MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16th.

New Book Study…The new book is an Advent Devotional titled "All Creation Waits" by Gayle Boss. ign-up sheet are in the Gathering Area.

On Sunday, November 22 we will have pies in the Fellowship Hall at 9:00 am before the service.

Goodfellows has asked for donations of games & puzzles. Please have donations to St. Paul by Saturday, December 5.

INTERESTED IN DOUBLING YOUR GIFT TO ST. PAUL… DETAILS IN THE GATHERING AREA

The Church Office will close at noon on Wednesday,November 25 and will be closed Thursday,November 26. Happy Thanksgiving!

Poinsettia Order Forms are available in the Gathering Area

Church Workday Saturday November 21 9 am