November 15, 2026

Twenty-fifth Sunday
After Pentecost

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Summerville, SC
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.org

+

Divine Service:

8:00, 9:30 & 11:00am
Sundays

Adult Bible Study &
Sunday School:
9:30 am

+

Pastor:
Richard Willsea

Deaconess:
Karen Suter

Organist:
Patty Barnes

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

November 15, 2026

✢ PREPARATION ✢

Today we will observe The Lord's Supper...*The Lord's Supper is celebrated at Grace Lutheran Church in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us, that they may show forth his death until he comes. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked you first to speak with the pastor, an elder or an usher. (For further study, see Matthew 5:23f; 10:32f; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; I Cor. 11:17-34). Wine is used in the individual and common cup. It may also be received by intinction. A gluten free wafer is available upon request.*

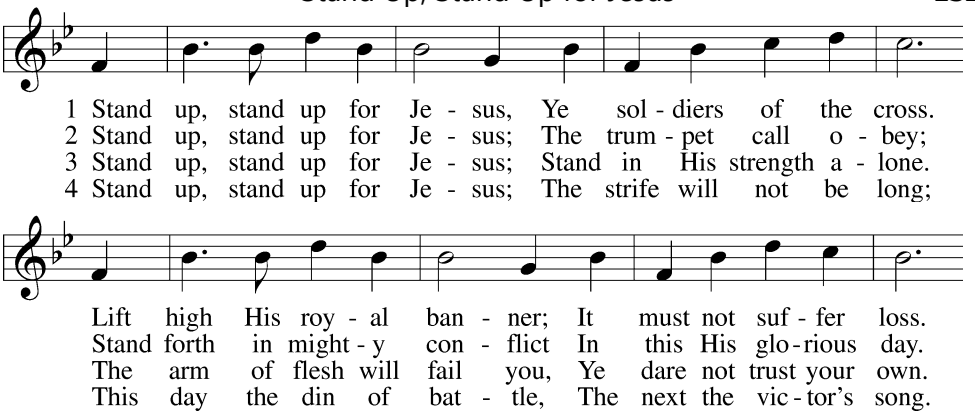
PRELUDE "Be Strong in the Lord" arr. R. Williamson

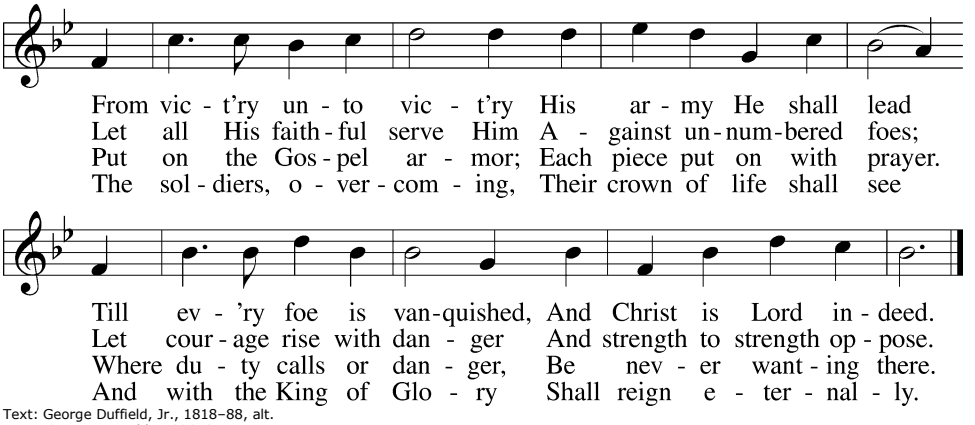
"Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus" arr. D. Paxton

WELCOME

Stand

HYMN "Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus" ***LSB 660***





Text: George Duffield, Jr., 1818–88, alt.
Tune: George J. Webb, 1803–87
Text and tune: Public domain

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His

authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

☩ SERVICE OF THE WORD ☩

INTROIT

A Hear my prayer, O LORD; give ear to my pleas for mercy!

C **In Your faithfulness answer me, in Your righteousness!**

A Enter not into judgment with Your servant,

C **for no one living is righteous before You.**

A I remember the days of old; I meditate on all that You have done;

C **I ponder the work of Your hands.**

A I stretch out my hands to You;

C **my soul thirsts for You like a parched land.**

A Teach me to do Your will, for You are my God!

C **Let Your good Spirit lead me on level ground!**

A For Your name's sake, O LORD, preserve my life!
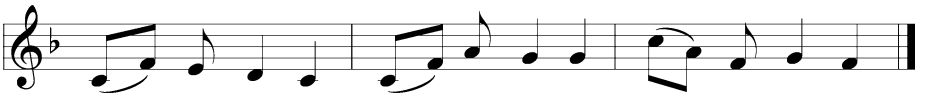
C **In Your righteousness bring my soul out of trouble!**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

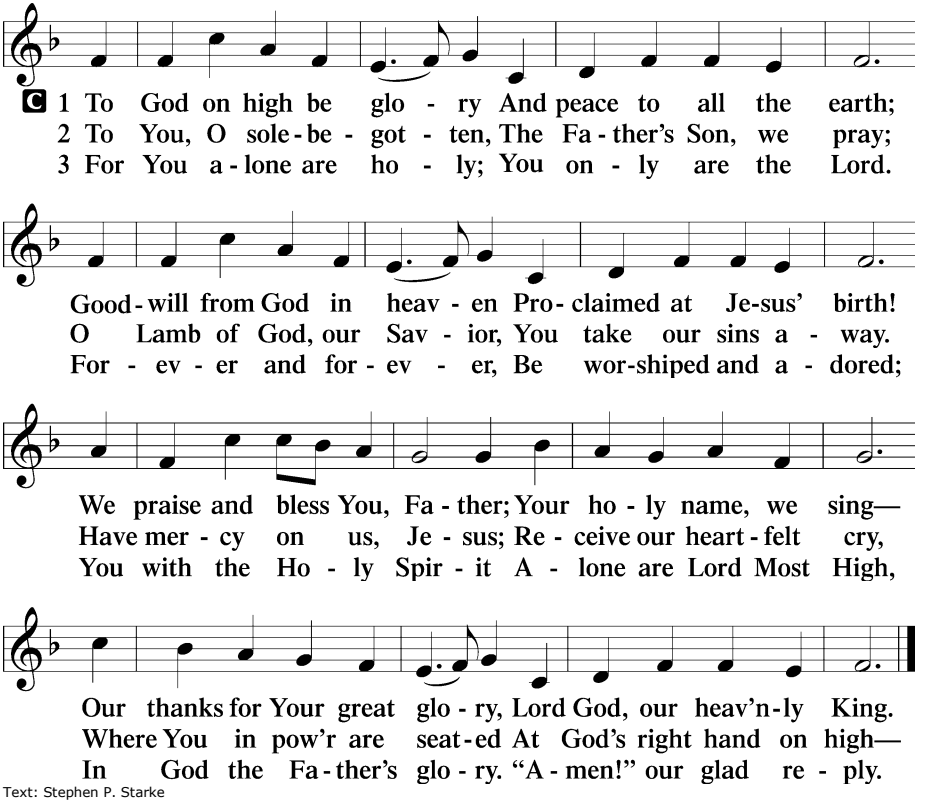
A Hear my prayer, O LORD; give ear to my pleas for mercy!

C **In Your faithfulness answer me, in Your righteousness!**

KYRIE



GLORIA IN EXCELSIS



Text: Stephen P. Starke

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living God, You have given exceedingly great and precious promises to those who trust in You. Dispel from us the works of darkness and grant us to live in the light of Your Son, Jesus Christ, that our faith may never be found wanting; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sit

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Zephaniah 1:7-16*

The Word is read…

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL *Rev 7:14b: Ps 84:5*

A These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

C **Blessèd are those whose strength is in You, in whose heart are the highways to Zion.**

THE EPISTLE READING *1 Thessalonians 5:1-11*

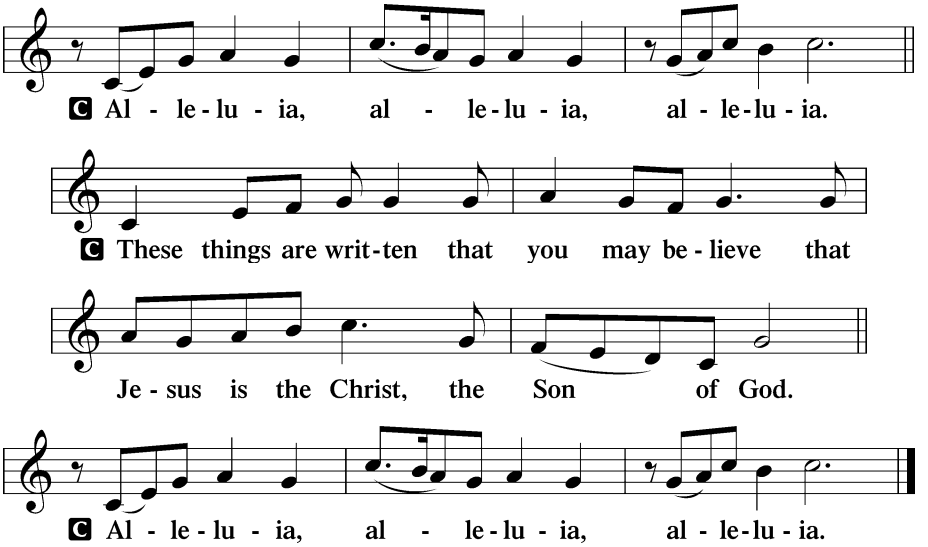
The Word is read…

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

ALLELUIA AND VERSE



HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 25:14-30

℗ The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the Twenty-Fifth chapter.

℃ **Glory to You, O Lord.**

The Word is read …

℗ This is the Gospel of the Lord.

℃ **Praise to You, O Christ.**

NICENE CREED (if no new members received)

℃ **I believe in one God,**
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.
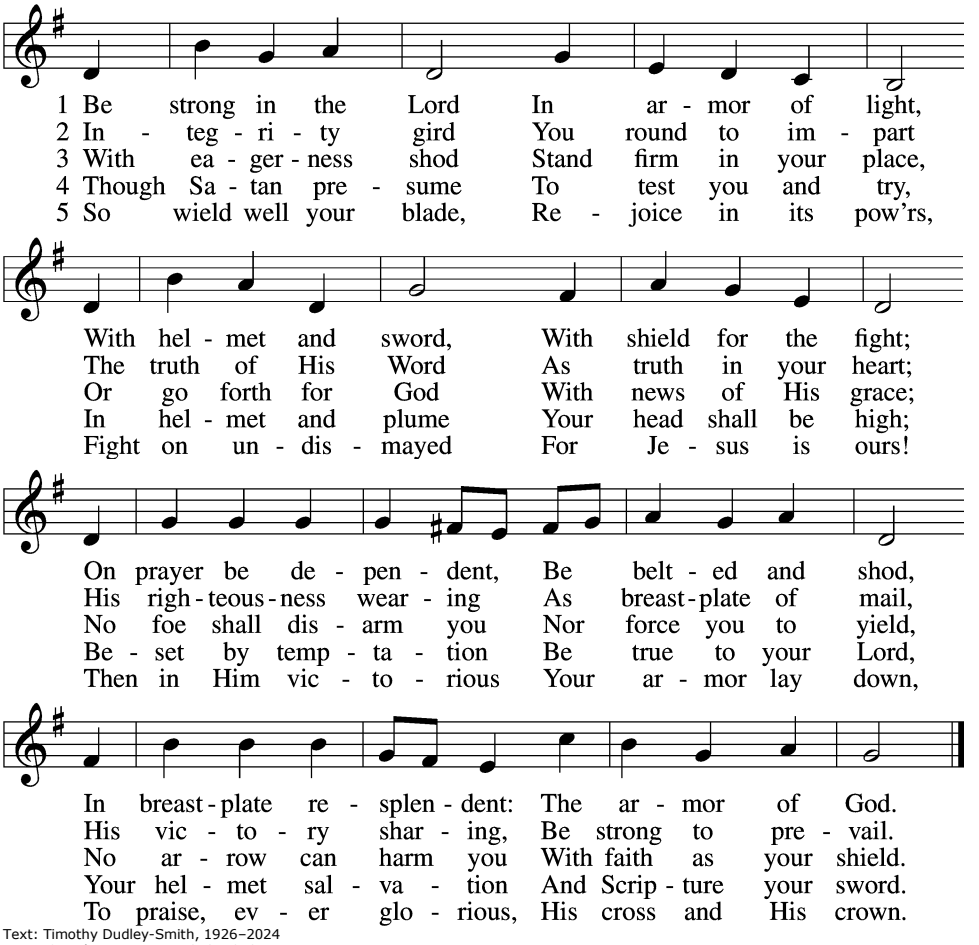
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ☩ of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

HYMN "Be Strong in the Lord" ***LSB 665***



Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, 1926–2024
Tune: C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848–1918
Text: © 1984 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004811
Tune: Public domain

SERMON

RECEPTION OF MEMBERS BY TRANSFER OR PROFESSION OF FAITH

Dale & Therese Boulware
Bryan & Rachel Harris
Gene & Gwen Ott
Michael & Delaney Grimenstein
Keith & Karen Poerschke

P Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles: "Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven." Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?
R *Yes, I do.*

A Do you renounce the devil and all his works and all his ways?
R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, in Jesus Christ, His only Son our Lord, and in the Holy Spirit?
R *Yes, I believe in God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.*

A Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God and the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from them and confessed in the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?
R *I do.*

A Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?
R *I do, by the grace of God.*

A Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?
R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

A Do you desire to become a member of this congregation?

R *I do.*

P Will you support the work our gracious Lord has given this congregation with your prayers and the gifts God has given you?

R *I will, with the help of God.*

P Upon this your confession of faith, I acknowledge publicly that you are *[a member/members]* of the Evangelical Lutheran Church and of this congregation. Receive the Lord's Supper and participate with us in all the blessings of salvation that our Lord has given to His Church, in the name of the Father and of the ✢ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Stand

P Let us pray.
Lord God, heavenly Father, we thank and praise You for Your great goodness in bringing these Your sons and daughters to the knowledge of Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, and enabling them both with the heart to believe and with the mouth to confess His saving name. Grant that by Your Word and Spirit they may continue steadfast in the one true faith in the fellowship of this congregation as together we await the day when all who have fought the good fight of faith shall receive the crown of righteousness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

The pastor may extend the right hand of fellowship, greeting each by name. The rite concludes with the following blessing:

P The grace of our ✢ Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

C **Amen.**

The new members return to their places.
Stand

Prayer of the Church

℗ Almighty and eternal God, worthy to be held in reverence by all people everywhere, we give You humble and sincere thanks for the innumerable blessings that You have bestowed on us without any merit or worthiness on our part.

We praise You especially for preserving for us Your saving Word and the holy Sacraments. Grant and preserve to Your holy Church throughout the world purity of doctrine, and provide faithful pastors to preach Your Word with power. Help all who hear the Word rightly to understand and truly to believe it. Send laborers into Your harvest, and open the door of faith to those who do not know You. In mercy, bring to repentance the enemies of Your Church, and grant them amendment of life. Protect and defend Your Church in all tribulation and danger. Strengthen us and all fellow Christians to set our hope fully on the grace revealed in Christ, and help us to fight the good fight of faith that in the end we may receive the salvation of our souls.

Bestow Your grace on all nations of the earth. Bless especially our country, its inhabitants, and all who are in authority. Let Your glory dwell in our land that mercy and truth, righteousness and peace may abound in all places. We commend to You the care of our schools so that our children may grow in useful knowledge and Christian virtue and thus bring forth wholesome fruits of life.

Graciously defend us from all calamity by fire and water, from war and pestilence, from scarcity and famine, and from every other evil. Protect and prosper all who labor in their rightful callings, and let all useful arts flourish among us. Be the God and Father of the lonely and the forsaken, the helper of the sick and needy, the comforter of the distressed and those who sorrow.

Accept, we implore You, our bodies and souls, our hearts and minds, our talents and powers, together with the offerings we bring before You as our humble service.

Grant Your Holy Spirit to those who come to the Lord's Table this day that they may receive the body and blood of Jesus Christ in sincere repentance and firm faith and to their abundant blessing.

As we are strangers and pilgrims on earth, help us by true faith and a godly

life to prepare for the world to come, doing the work You have given us to do while it is day, before the night comes when no one can work. And when our last hour comes, support us by Your power, and receive us into Your heavenly kingdom; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Following the prayers, the people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22–24; Eph. 4:1–3).

PAX DOMINI

℗ The peace of the Lord be with you always.

℃ **Amen.**

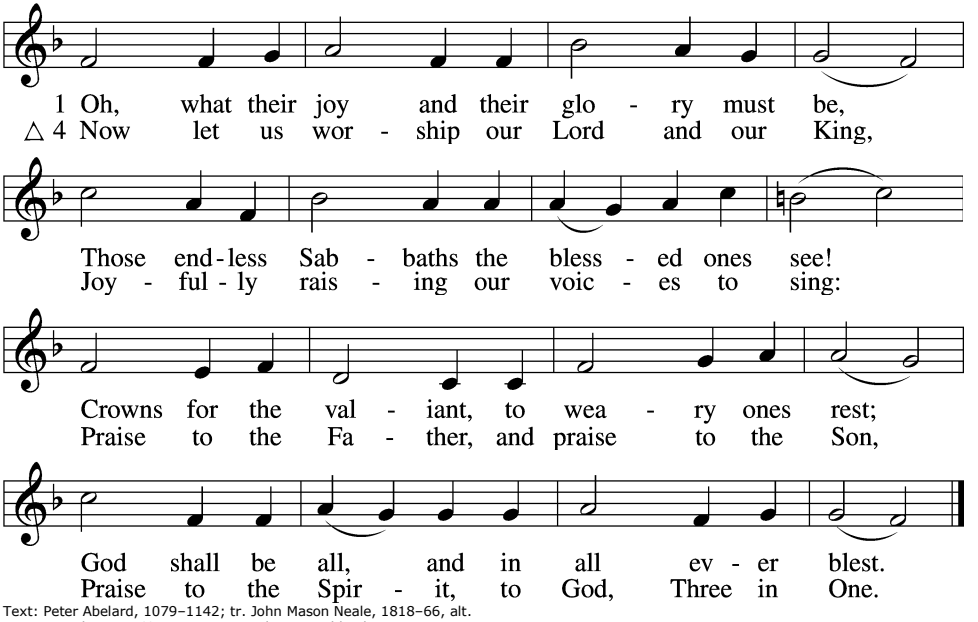
Sit

OFFERING

VOLUNTARY "With Grace and Mercy Clad" arr. T. Bliss

Stand

OFFERTORY *sts. 1, 4*



Text: Peter Abelard, 1079–1142; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt.
Tune: Antiphoner, 1681, Paris Text and tune: Public domain

BLESSING OF THE SHOEBOXES

Stand

✢ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✢

PREFACE

℗ The Lord be with you.
℃ And also with you.

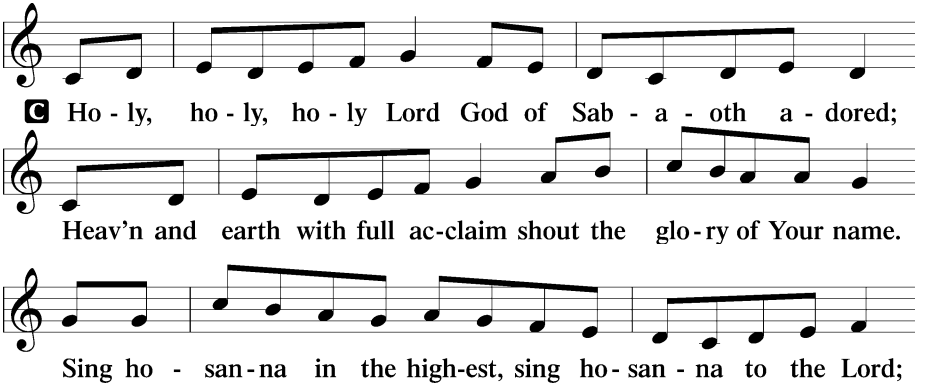
℗ Lift up your hearts.
℃ We lift them to the Lord.
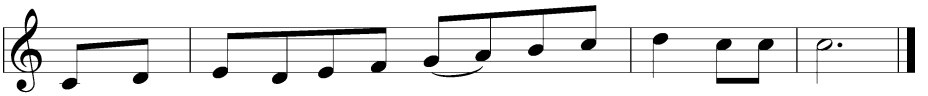
℗ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
℃ It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

℗ It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS *LSB 208*





Text: Stephen P. Starke

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

LORD'S PRAYER

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

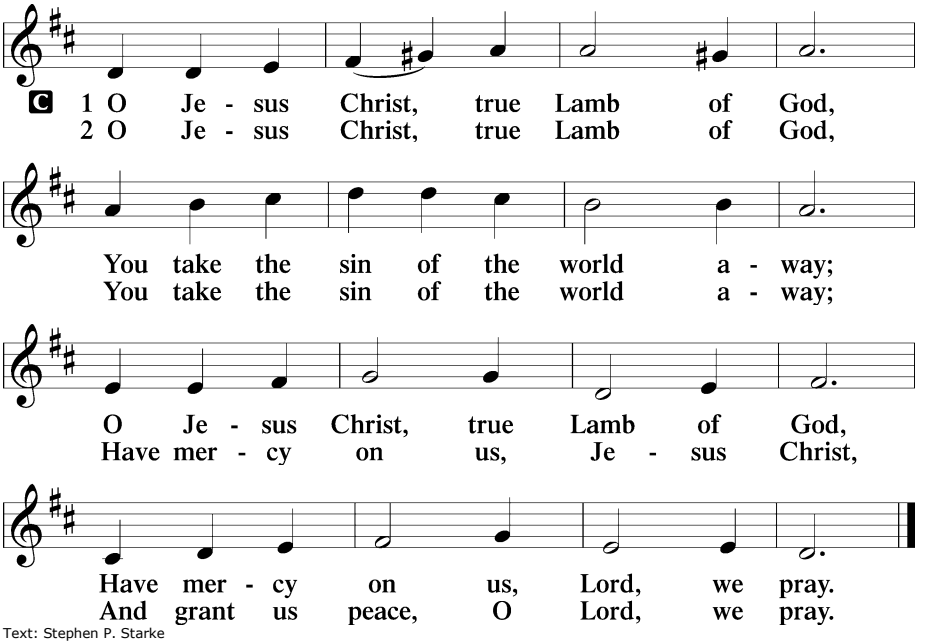
forever and ever. Amen

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

℗ Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✢ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✢ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

AGNUS DEI *LSB 210*
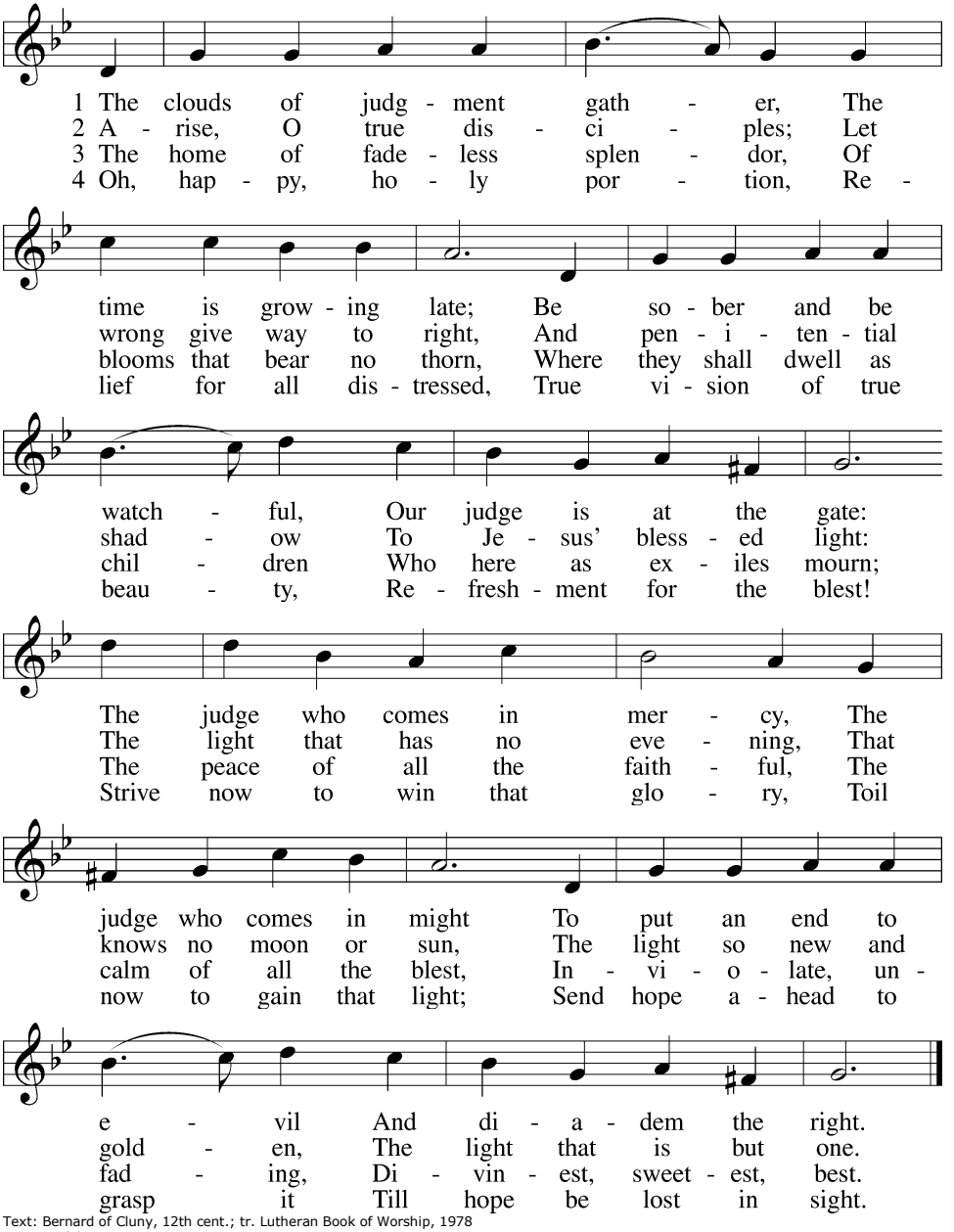


Text: Stephen P. Starke

Sit

DISTRIBUTION

HYMN "The Clouds of Judgment Gather" ***LSB 513***
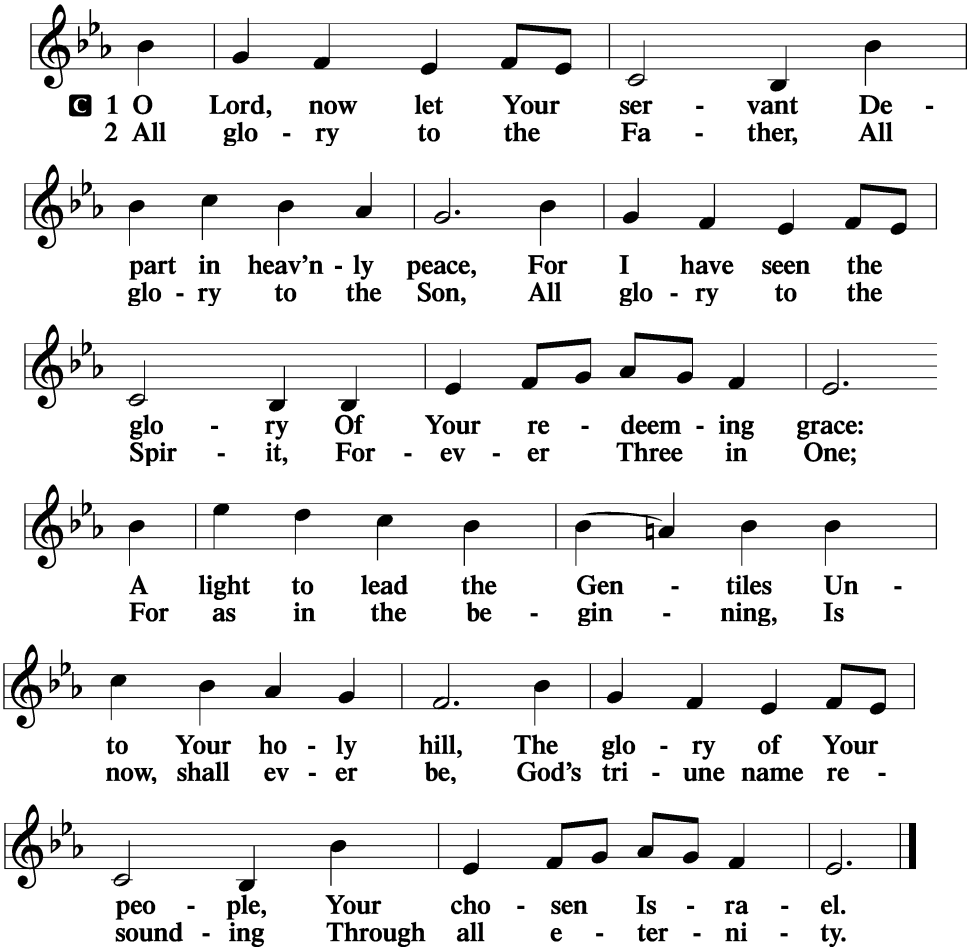


Text: Bernard of Cluny, 12th cent.; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978
Tune: Welsh
Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004811
Tune: Public domain

VOLUNTARY "The Clouds of Judgement Gather" setting: J. Blersch

Stand

NUNC DIMITTIS *LSB 211*



POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

℗ Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICAMUS & BENEDICTION *LSB 212*

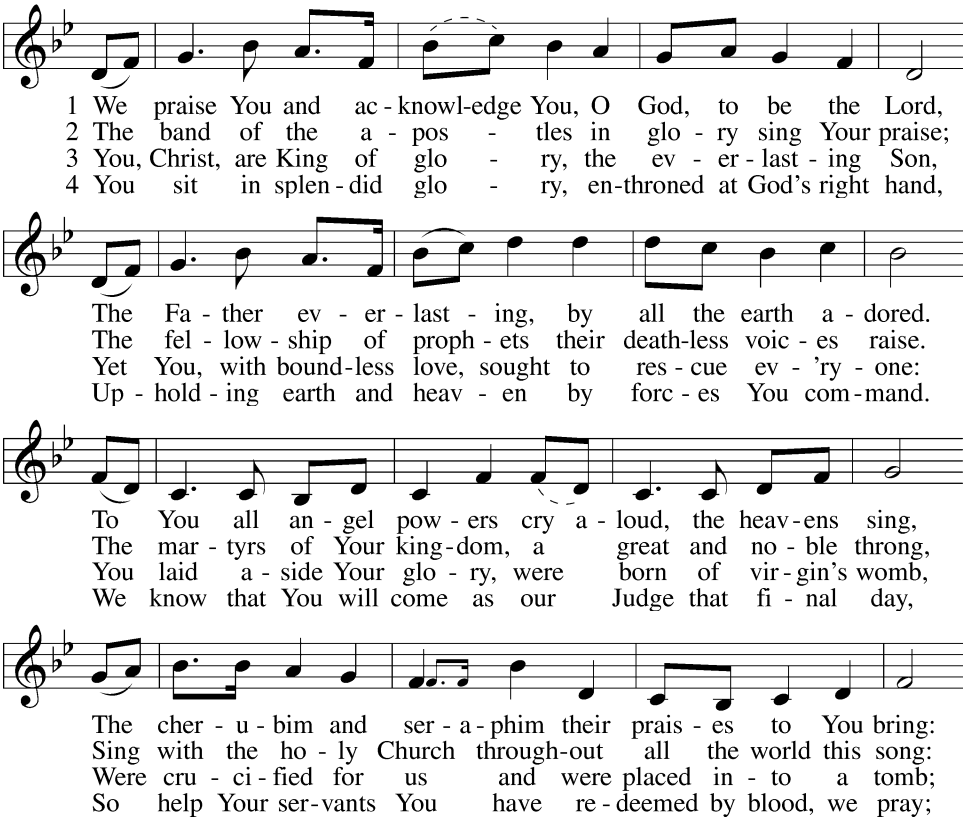
P Let us bless the Lord.
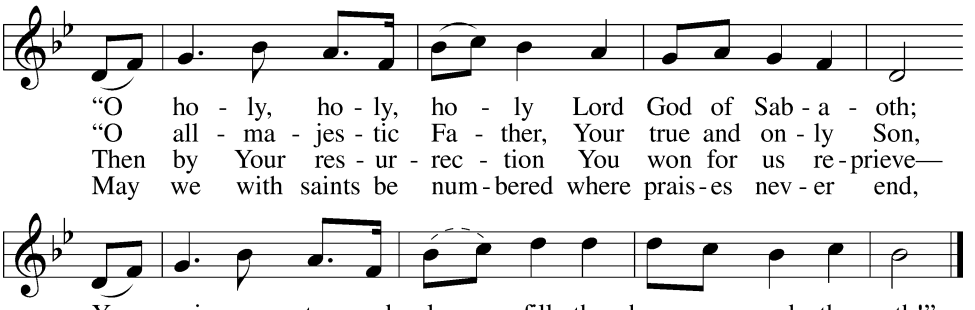
C Thanks be to God.

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✢ give you peace.

C Amen.

HYMN "We Praise You and Acknowledge You, O God" ***LSB 941***





Text: Stephen P. Starke, 1955
Tune: Gustav Holst, 1874–1934, alt.
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Tune: Public domain

Sit

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE "We Praise and Acknowledge You, O God " setting: P. Weber

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book
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(c. 2018 Lorenz Publishing Co.) Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus, arr. D. Paxton; tune: Webb, G. Webb
(c. 2006 Lorenz Publishing Co.)With Grace and Mercy Clad, arr. T. Bliss; J. Haydn (c. 1998 Lorenz Publishing Co.) The Clouds of Judgement Gather"- setting: J. Blersch; tune: LLangloffan, Welsh tune (c. 2014 Concordia Publishing House)
We Praise and Acknowledge You, O God,setting: P. Weber; tune: Thaxted G. Holst (c. 2017 Concordia Publishing House)