
THANKSGIVING
DAY SERVICE
Thursday, November 26, 2026
10:00 a.m.
St. John's Lutheran Church & School
505 S. Park Road • LaGrange, IL 60525
Give thanks to the LORD,
for he is good;
his love endures forever.
Psalm 107:1

Welcome! Today we celebrate the Lord's Supper



For baptized Christians (Matthew 28:19) who have been instructed in the faith (Galatians 6:6), The Lord's Supper is our participation in the body and blood of Jesus Christ (1 Corinthians 10:16), as the one body of Christ (1 Corinthians 10:17), to receive forgiveness of sin (Matthew 26:28) and to proclaim the Lord's death until He comes (1 Corinthians 11:26).

So that those who partake of the Lord's Supper do so in a worthy manner (1 Corinthians 11:27) and not to their harm (1 Corinthians 11:29), let us each examine ourselves (1 Corinthians 11:28):

- Do you believe that you are a sinner? That you have sinned in thought, word and deed?
- Are you sorry for your sin?
- Do you trust that Jesus Christ gives forgiveness of sin through His Supper?
- Do you believe that the body and blood of Jesus are present in, with and under the bread and wine?
- Do you seek to lead godly lives by the power of the Holy Spirit?

Please speak to a pastor or usher if you have questions. Gluten-free wafers are provided upon request. Non-alcoholic grape juice is provided in the center of each communion tray. Those who are not communing may come forward for a blessing from the pastor.

As We Gather



Happy Thanksgiving! You are in the right place. Like the leper who returned to Jesus to offer Him thanks, you are a guest of the God of all things, who in love provides for all your needs. As you reflect on the abundant blessings you have received from the Lord this year, do not forget the gift of faith. You know a Savior in Jesus Christ! You have hope and salvation! You are an heir of heaven! You have a treasure more valuable than the wealth of the whole world. Rejoice that the Master has had mercy on you and that your faith has made you well.

PRELUDE

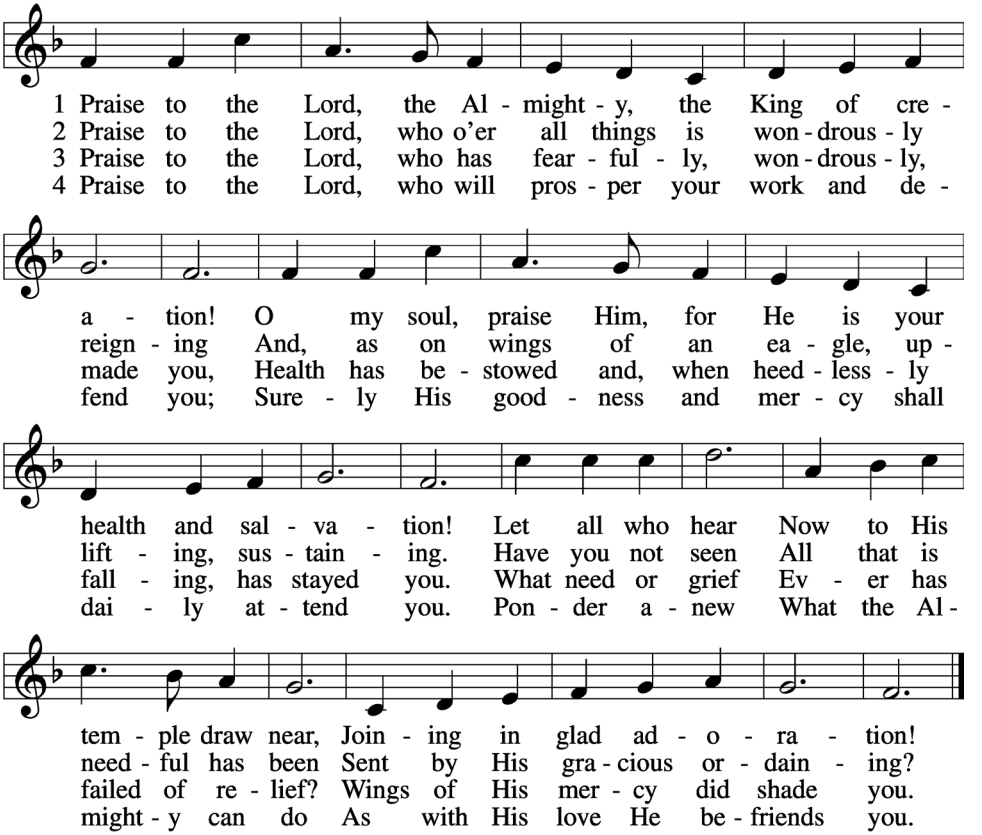
INTRADA
Keith Kolander (b.1955)

TOLLING OF THE BELL & WELCOME
Please stand

INVOCATION HYMN

790 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Choir on vs. 3



CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

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

C **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES

Psalm 100

P Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!

C **Serve the Lord with gladness**

P Come into His presence with singing!

C **Know that the LORD, He is God!**

P It is He who made us, and we are His;
C **we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture.**
P Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and His courts with praise!
C **Give thanks to Him; bless His name!**
P For the LORD is good; His steadfast love endures forever,
C **and His faithfulness to all generations.**

Please kneel
Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P O Lord, we confess:
C **Your steadfast love endures forever. You are the source of all good things. Yet, for our thankless hearts, that is often not good enough. We do not recognize Your blessings or return Your generosity with gratitude. Our stubborn, sinful nature hoards and refuses to share the overflow we have been given. Forgive us, O Lord, and stir us to thankfulness for Your gifts in this life, for the sake of Your Son, Jesus, through whom we have gifts for the life to come. Amen.**

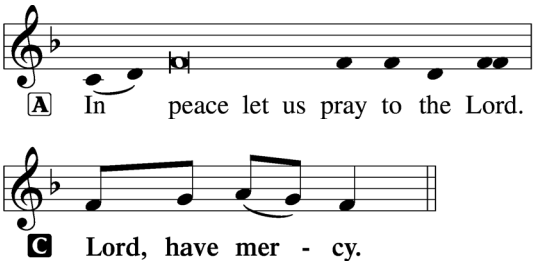
P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of my Lord, Jesus Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive You all Your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

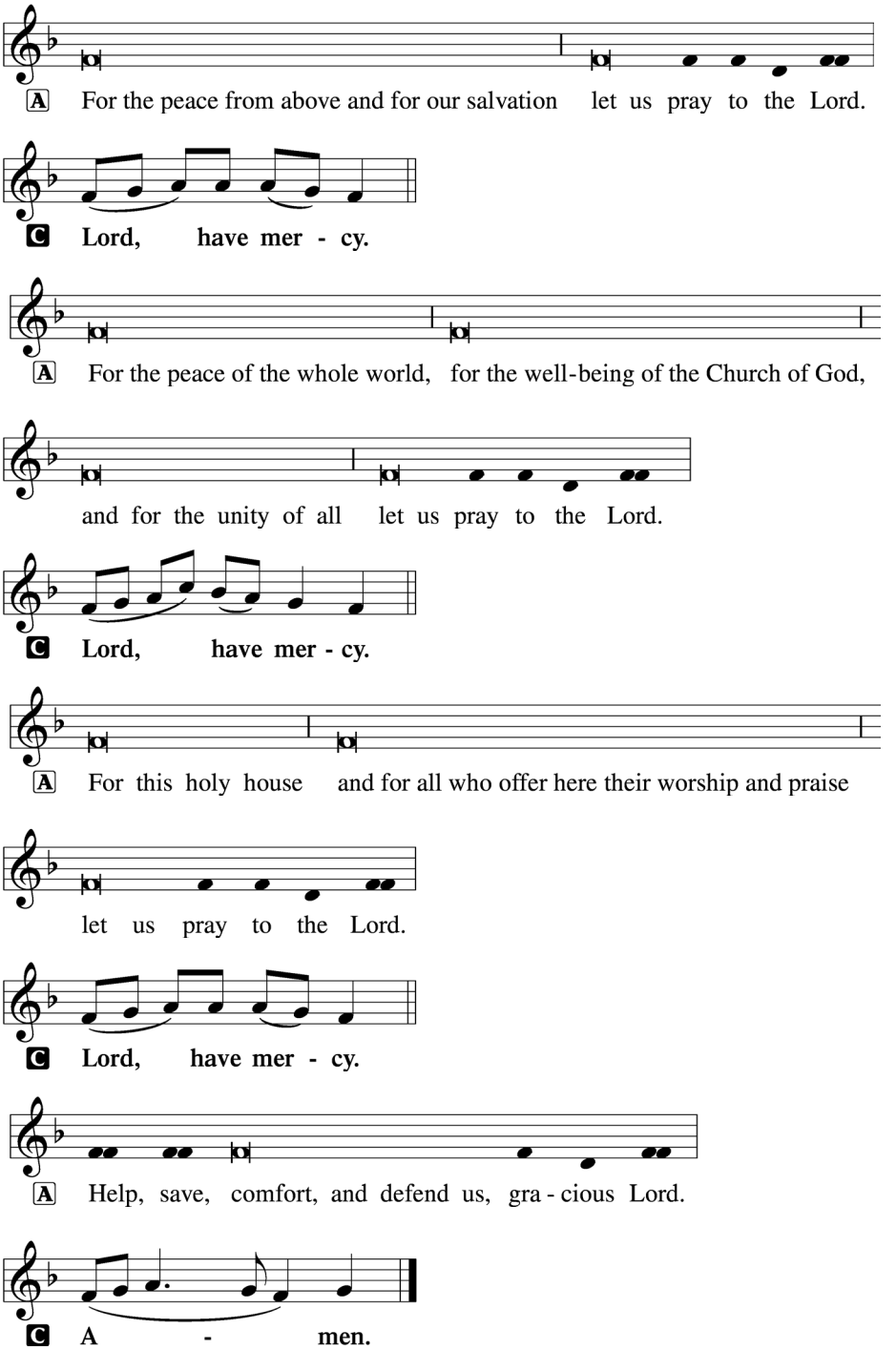
Please stand

SERVICE OF THE WORD

KYRIE

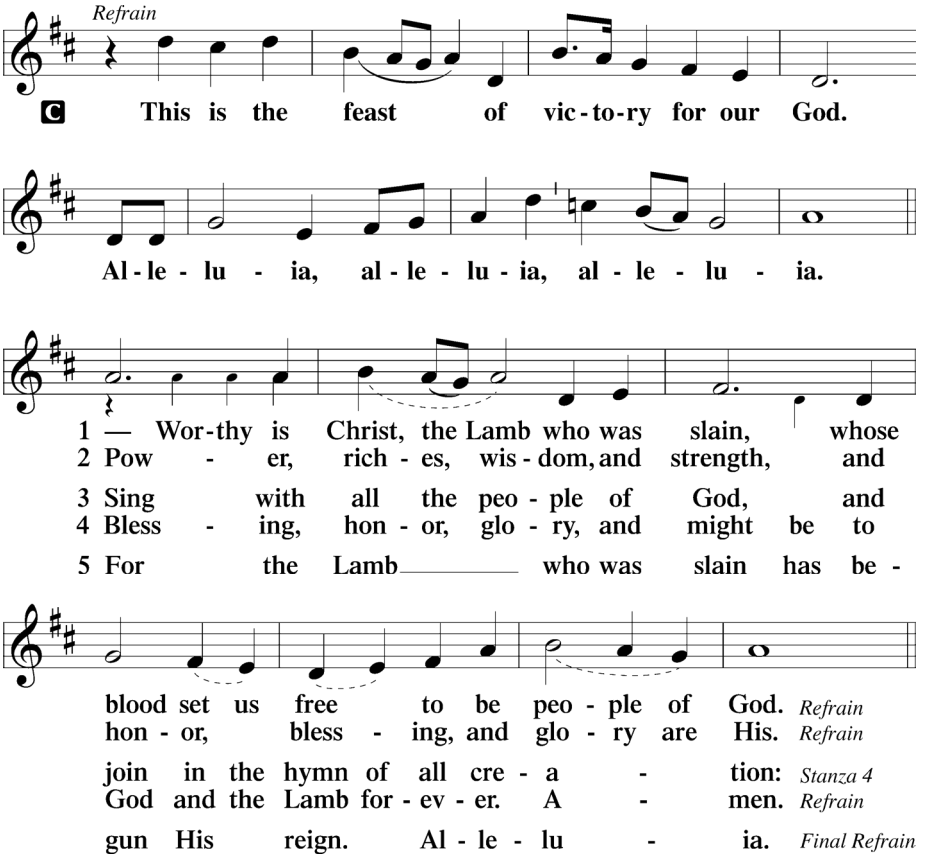
Mark 10:47




A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
C Lord, have mer - cy.
A 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.
C Lord, have mer - cy.
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise
let us pray to the Lord.
C Lord, have mer - cy.
A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.
C A - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE | This Is the Feast

Revelation 5:12–13; 19:5–9



SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, Your mercies are new every morning and You graciously provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may acknowledge Your goodness, give thanks for Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience all our days; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Please sit

FIRST READING *Deuteronomy 8:1–10*

A The Old Testament Reading is from Deuteronomy, chapter 8.

"The whole commandment that I command you today you shall be careful to do, that you may live and multiply, and go in and possess the land that the LORD swore to give to your fathers. And you shall remember the whole way that the LORD your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, that he might humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep his commandments or not. And he humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD. Your clothing did not wear out on you and your foot did not swell these forty years. Know then in your heart that, as a man disciplines his son, the LORD your God disciplines you. So you shall keep the commandments of the LORD your God by walking in his ways and by fearing him. For the LORD your God is bringing you into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and springs, flowing out in the valleys and hills, a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey, a land in which you will eat bread without scarcity, in which you will lack nothing, a land whose stones are iron, and out of whose hills you can dig copper. And you shall eat and be full, and you shall bless the LORD your God for the good land he has given you."

A This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM *Psalm 67*

A May God be gracious to us and bless us
and make his face to shine upon us,
that your way may be known on earth,
your saving power among all nations.
C **Let the peoples praise you,**
O God; let all the peoples praise you!
A Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide the nations upon earth.

C **Let the peoples praise you, O God;**
let all the peoples praise you!

A The earth has yielded its increase;
God, our God, shall bless us.

C **God shall bless us; let all the ends of the earth fear him!**

THE EPISTLE

Philippians 4:6–20

A The Epistle is from Philippians, chapter 4.

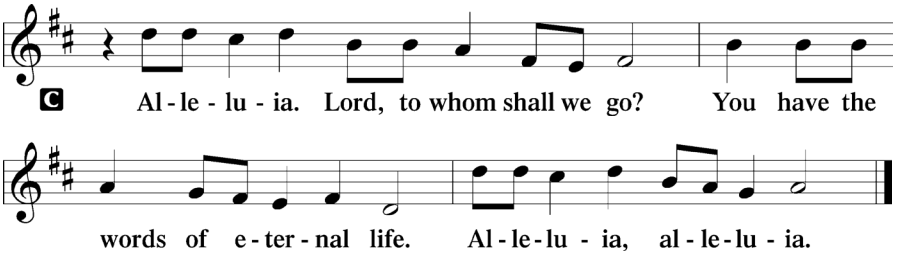
6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with
thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. 7 And the peace of God, which
surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.
8 Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever
is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there
is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. 9 What you have learned and
received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will
be with you.
10 I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at length you have revived your concern for
me. You were indeed concerned for me, but you had no opportunity. 11 Not that I am
speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content.
12 I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every
circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and
need. 13 I can do all things through him who strengthens me.
14 Yet it was kind of you to share my trouble. 15 And you Philippians yourselves know
that in the beginning of the gospel, when I left Macedonia, no church entered into
partnership with me in giving and receiving, except you only. 16 Even in Thessalonica
you sent me help for my needs once and again. 17 Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the
fruit that increases to your credit. 18 I have received full payment, and more. I am well
supplied, having received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent, a fragrant offering, a
sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God. 19 And my God will supply every need of yours
according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. 20 To our God and Father be glory forever
and ever. Amen.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand

ALLELUIA *John 6:68*



HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 17:11–19*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the seventeenth chapter.
C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

On the way to Jerusalem [Jesus] was passing along between Samaria and Galilee. 12And as he entered a village, he was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance 13and lifted up their voices, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us." 14When he saw them he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went they were cleansed. 15Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; 16and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. 17Then Jesus answered, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? 18Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" 19And he said to him, "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

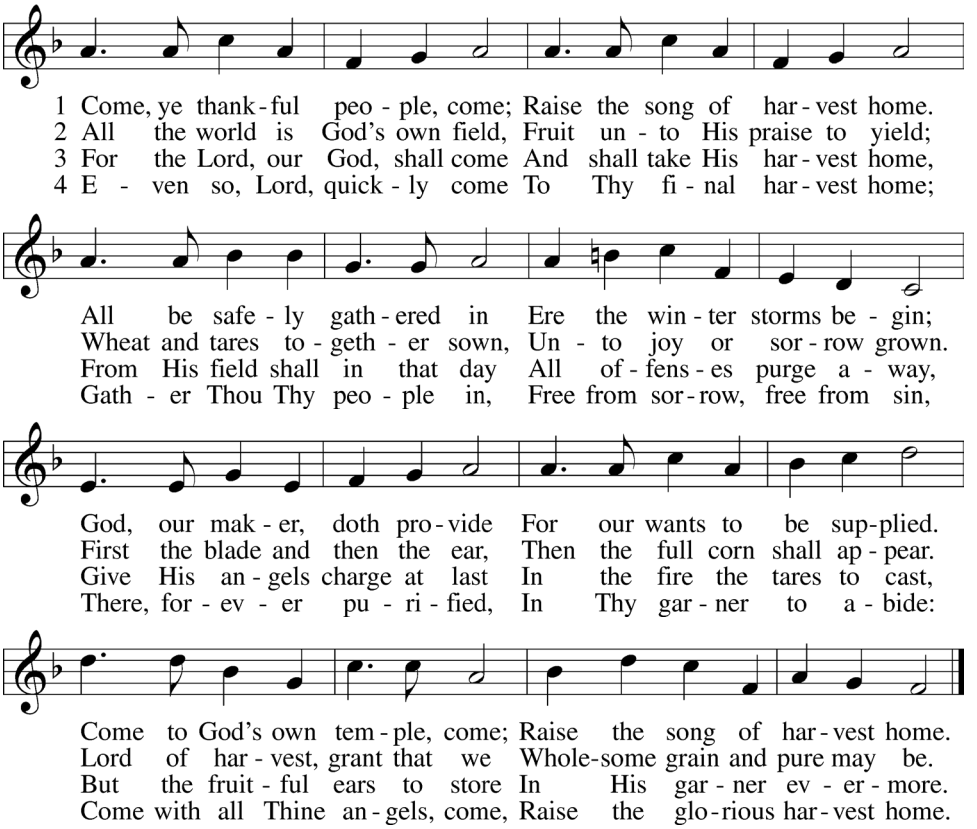
Please sit

CHILDREN'S SERMON

The children are invited to gather in front of the Altar.



SERMON HYMN 892 Come, Ye Thankful People, Come



SERMON **"The Hand of the Giver"**
Pastor Mark Stapleton

Please stand

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

P We affirm our faith in God the Father, our Creator and Caretaker.

C **He made us! We are His!**

P He gives us all good things to support our life.

C **I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them.**

P He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have.

C **He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life. He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil.**

P All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me.

C **For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him. This is most certainly true.**

P We affirm our faith in Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of the Father, our Savior and King!

C **He redeemed us! We are His!**

P He gives to us the most gracious gifts of all: the forgiveness of sins and life everlasting!

C **I believe in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

P We affirm our faith in the Holy Spirit, our Comforter and Advocate!

C **He claimed us! We are His!**

P He blesses us through the Word, Holy Baptism, and the Lord's Supper!

C **I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

P O triune God, You alone are worthy of all thanks and praise at this time and forevermore!

C **Amen!**

Please kneel

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.
Lord, on this day we thank You for Your bountiful gifts to all of us. We remember Your many acts of kindness to Your people through all ages. We bless You for the orderly progression of the seasons and thank You for the bountiful harvest of the fruits of the earth. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P We thank You for the world in which we live and pray for the community of nations. Continue to give us all things needful and grant that we be good stewards of the earth. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P We thank You for the faithful labor of people living out their vocations for our welfare. Today we ask a special blessing on the military forces of our nation, those stationed both at home and abroad, whose efforts serve to defend our nation in challenging times and who guarantee our safety in times of peace. And we remember those whose labor brings food to our tables in this and in every season. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P We thank You that Your care embraces all people as we remember those with special concerns and needs including the ill, hospitalized, and those shut-in, [*including . . .*], those who sorrow, the unemployed, and underemployed. Help us to find purpose and blessing in assisting those who need the care and compassion that we can offer them. Lord, in Your mercy,

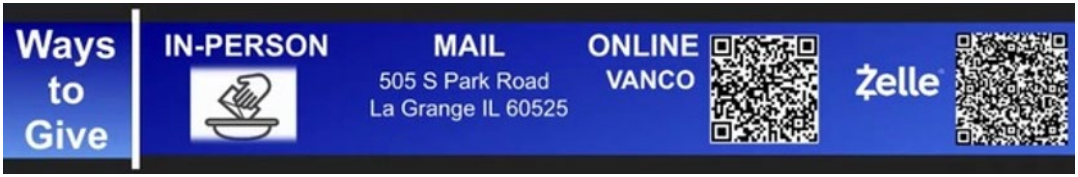
C **hear our prayer.**

P Merciful God, in our thankful remembrance we recall those no longer among us on earth, who now rejoice in the glorious light of Your heavenly kingdom. Grant that we be inspired by their faithful witness as we look forward to that time when we rejoice together at Your heavenly throne, giving You eternal thanks and praise. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer. Amen.**

Please sit

OFFERING



ANTHEM

FOR THE BEAUTY OF THE EARTH

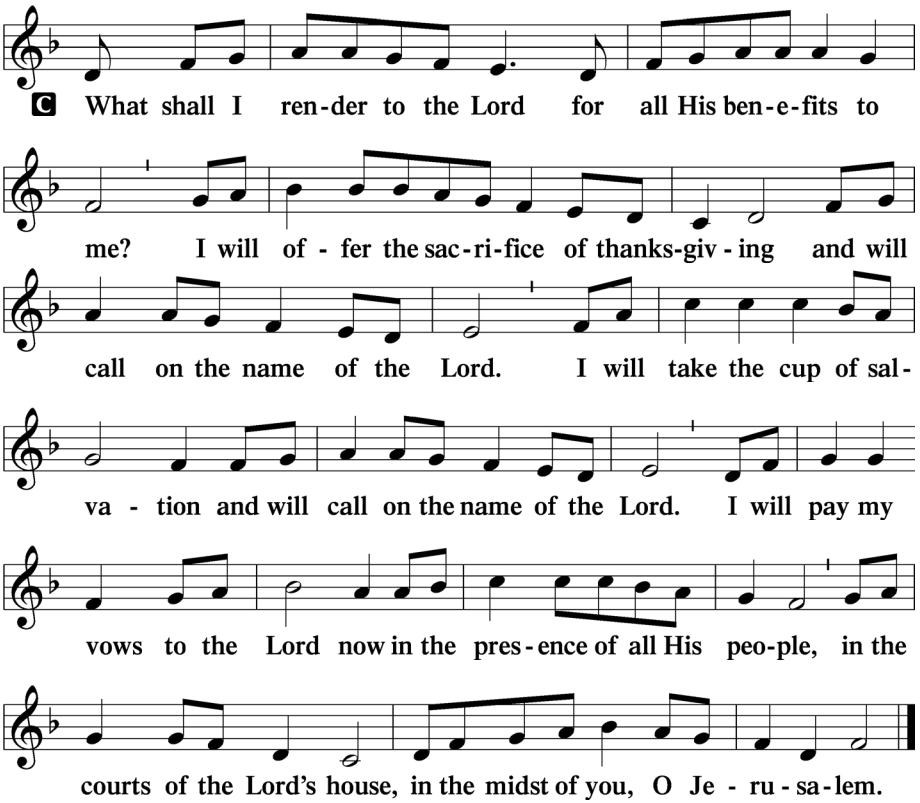
John Rutter (b.1945)

For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies, for the love which from our birth, over and around us lies. Lord of all, to thee we raise this our joyful hymn of praise.

Please stand

OFFERTORY

Psalm 116:12–13, 17–19



SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

2 Timothy 4:22; Colossians 3:1; Psalm 136

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

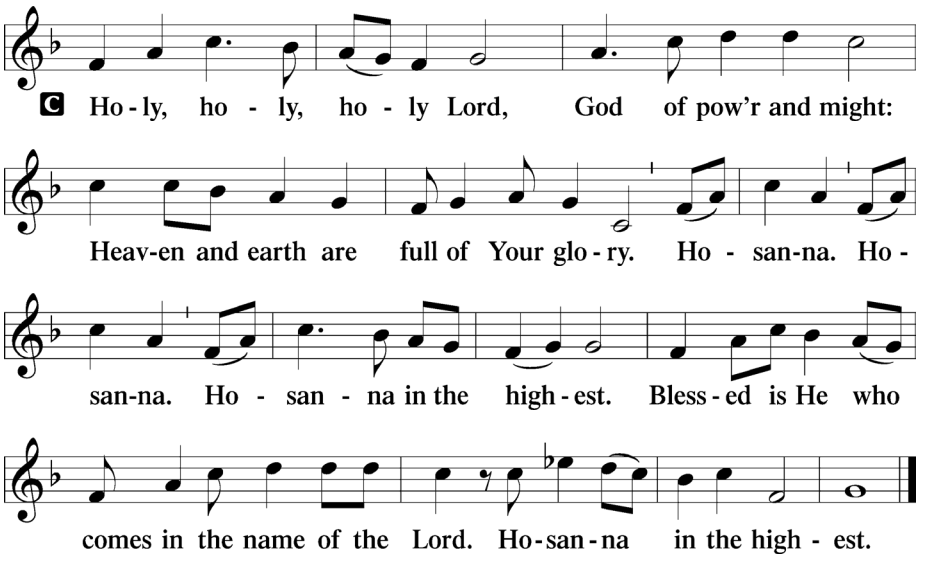
P Lift up your hearts.
C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, for the blessings You bestow in time and in eternity, chiefly in the giving of Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, who entered our world to help, heal, and ultimately redeem a fallen creation. In His compassion, He heeds the cries of the hurting, and in obedience to Your will, He offers Himself as a ransom for many. Along with those called to share one Spirit, one faith, and one confession, with angels and with archangels and saints whose pilgrimage has led them home to You, we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

P 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."

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

PAX DOMINI

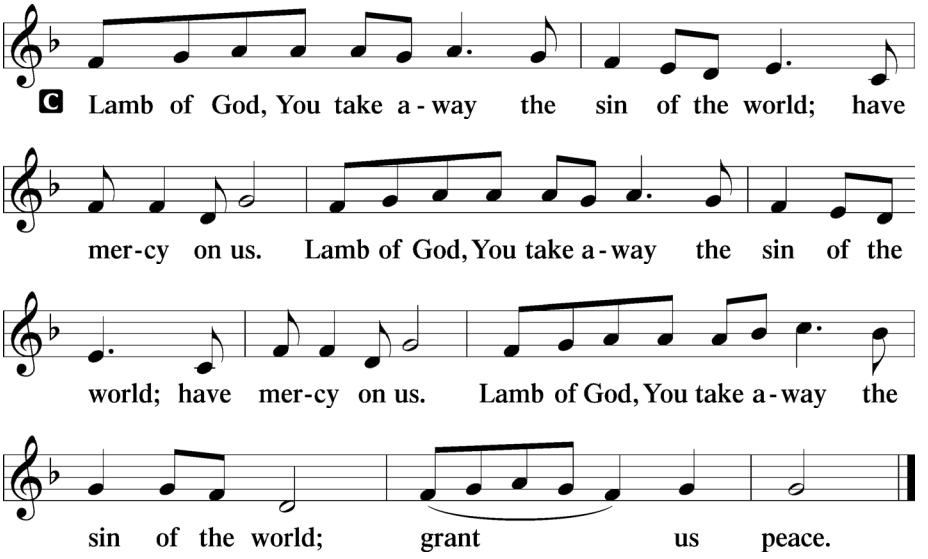
P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **Amen.**

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).

AGNUS DEI

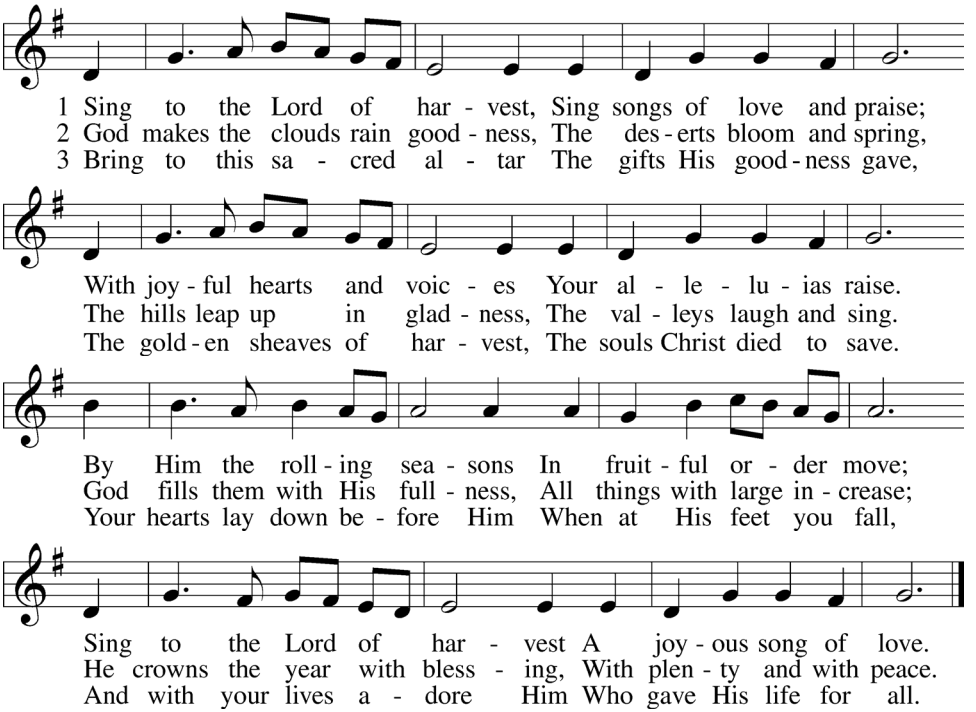
John 1:29

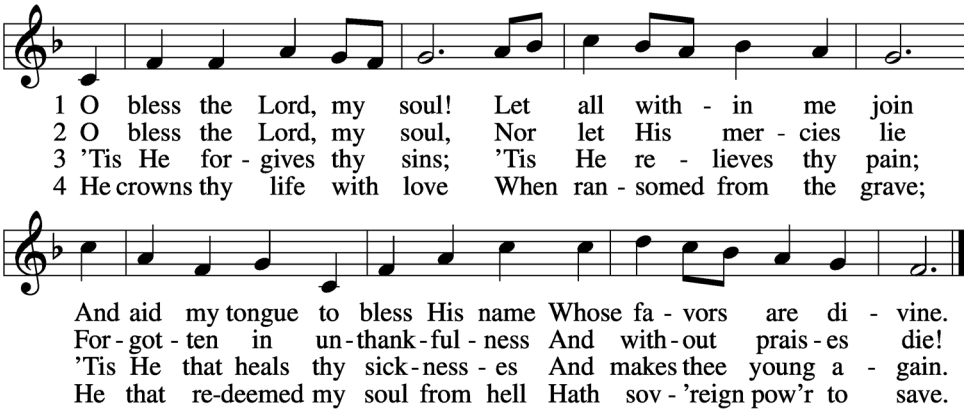


Please sit

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

893 Sing to the Lord of Harvest





Please stand

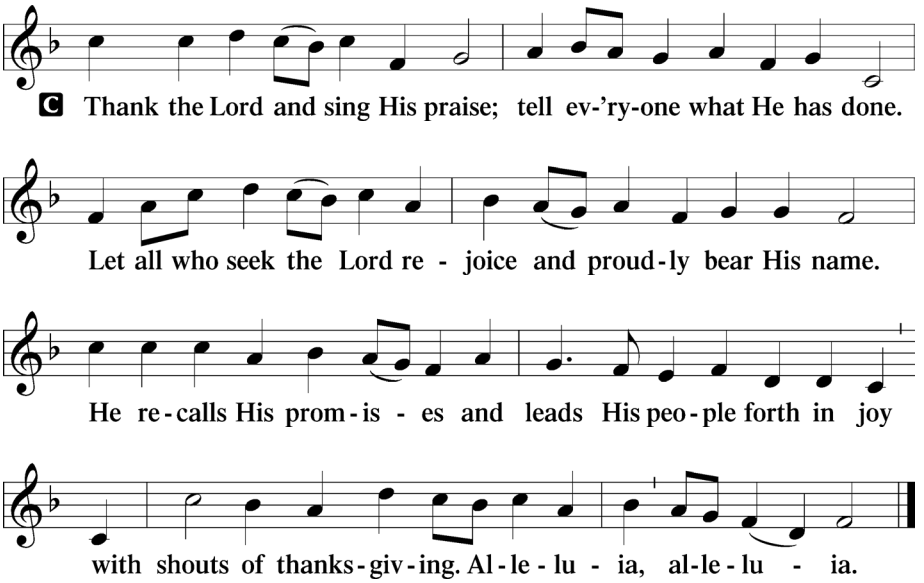
THE DISMISSAL

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✢ in peace.

C **Amen.**

CANTICLE

Psalm 105:1–3, 42–43; 1 Chronicles 16:8–10



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.**

BENEDICTION

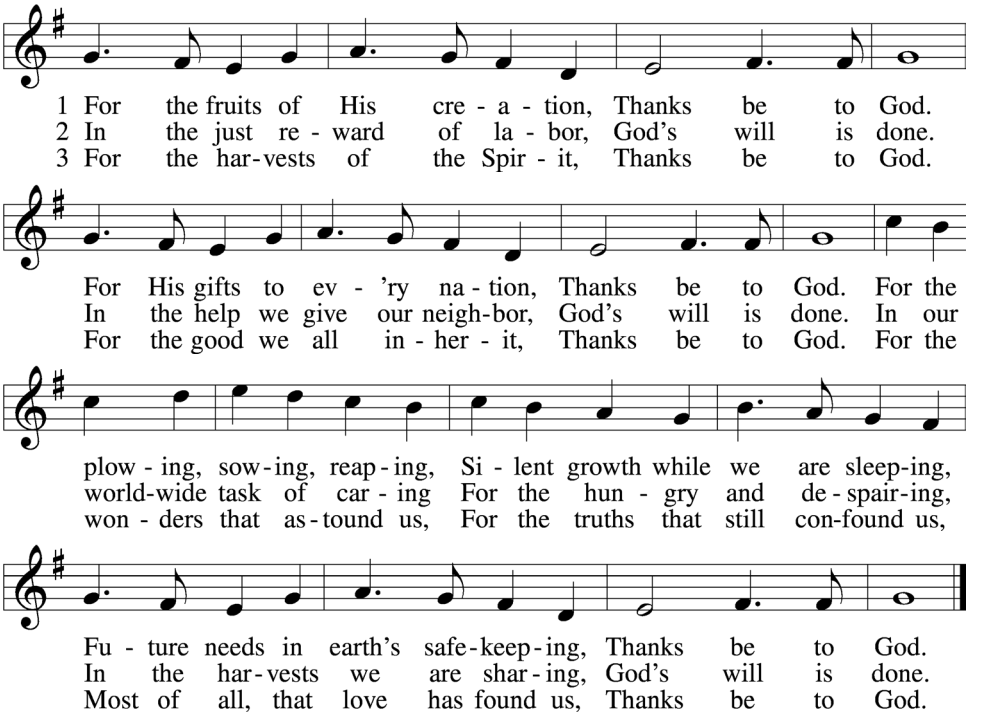
Numbers 6:24–26

℗ 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.**

CLOSING HYMN

894 For the Fruits of His Creation



Please sit

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

TRUMPET TUNE AND MARCH

Jeremiah Clarke (1673-1707)

✠

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Rev. Mark Stapleton, Homilist & Liturgist
Dr. Marc Brunelle, Director of Music/Organist
The Cantata Choir of St. John's
Benjamin Siff, Trumpet
Dana Shinneman, Piano
Kristen Stapleton, Lector
Holly & Sophie Hemminger, Acolyte

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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ST. JOHN'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH
MUSIC MINISTRY

SAVE THE DATE

A Festival of NINE LESSONS and CAROLS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20
AT 4:00 PM

THE CANTATA CHOIR

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
505 S. Park Road, LaGrange, Illinois, 60525