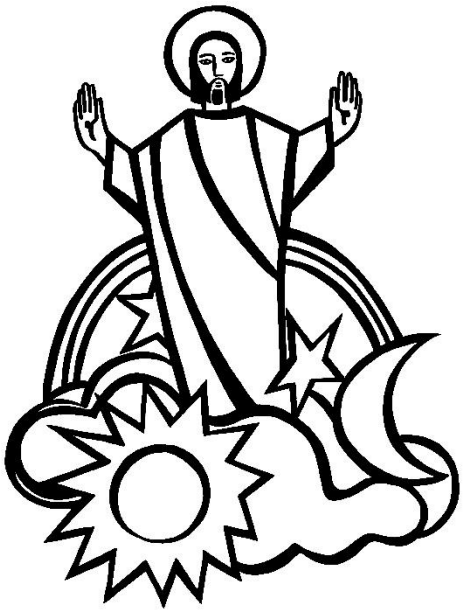
# Hollywood Lutheran Church

First Sunday of Advent
Sunday, November 29, 2026



**INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY**

Stir up your power, and come! The psalmist's plea in Psalm 80:2 has become familiar to us in the Advent prayers. Isaiah wants God to rip the heavens open. Both cry out for an apparently distant, angry God to show up, to save, to restore. When we hear Jesus describing the coming of the Son of Man with stars falling from heaven, it can sound dire and horrible, not like anything we would ever hope for. But when we really look at the suffering of people God loves, we can share the hope that God would tear open the heavens and come.



# Welcome To Worship

**Empowered by the Holy Spirit, our mission is to offer God's Word of Love, Grace, Mercy, and Justice to our homes, congregation, city, and all creation.**

**Welcome**—we're glad you're here. Take a breath, settle in, and participate at your own pace; let the congregation and bulletin guide you. Join us after the service for refreshments—we'd love to meet you. If you're not feeling well, please consider wearing a mask so we can keep one another safe.

**Visitors** are invited to complete the attendance card in the pew and share any prayer requests or concerns. Sing as you're able—just praise, no need to be perfect. Children are a joyful part of worship; their sounds are welcome, and crayons and coloring sheets are available in the narthex. We celebrate Holy Communion today—all are welcome, with wine, grape juice, and gluten-free bread available.

The rainbow candelabra on the altar serves as a reminder of this community's inclusive and intentional welcome to the LGBTQ+ community.

The Paschal candle at the entrance to the sanctuary symbolizes the welcoming light of Jesus Christ and has traditionally been a sign of Christ as the Light of the World.

*Join us after the service for refreshments in Hoick Hall. We look forward to meeting you.*

## In Today's Liturgy

**Minister**: Ted Goulet, Lay Leader
**Assistant Minister**:
**Lector**: Tom Scott
**Organist**: Michael Anderson
**Cantor**: Phyllis Lundine

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Plants and Flowers are given to the glory of God.

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**PRELUDE** Michael Anderson

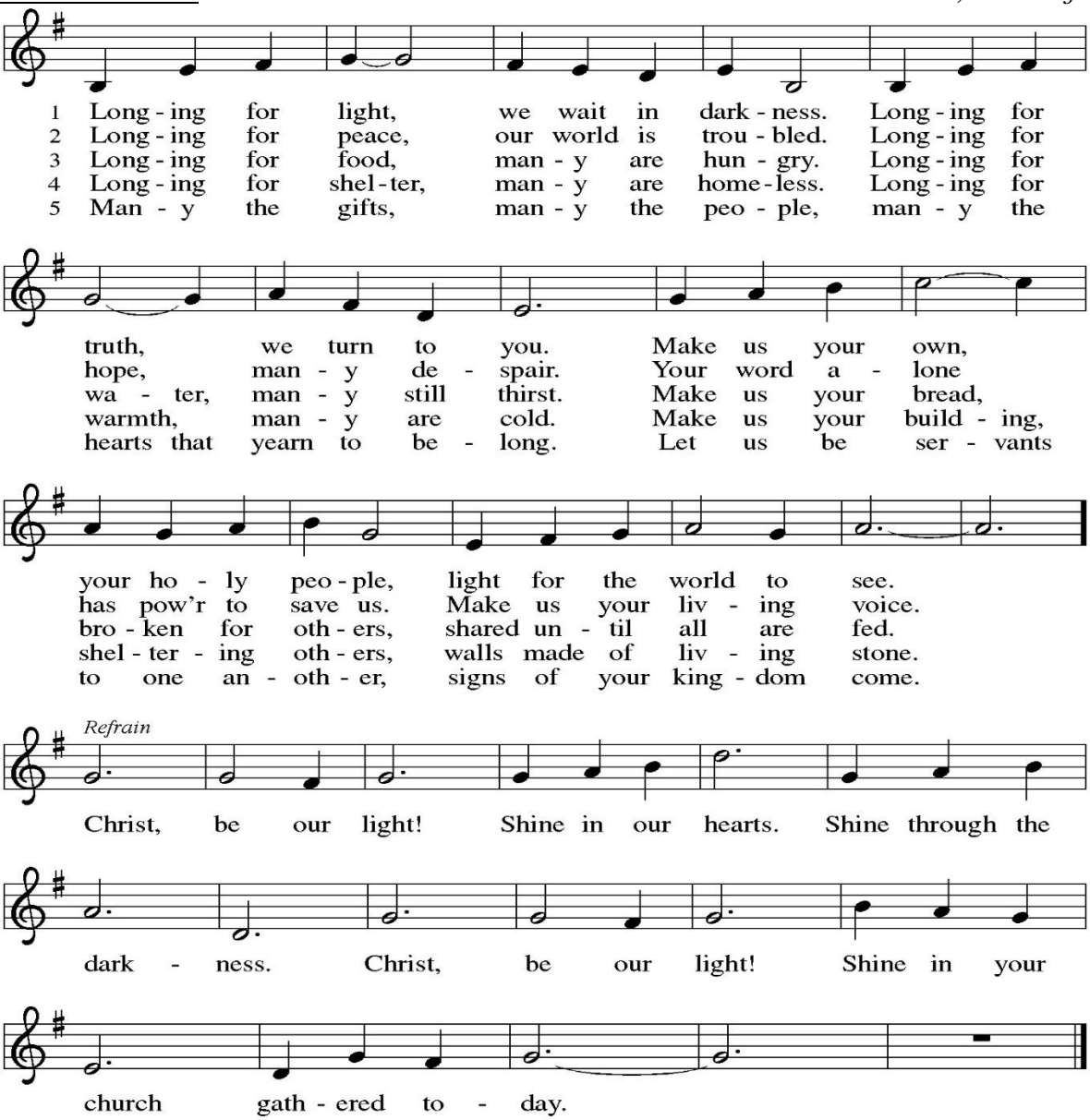
*The congregation is invited to stand as they can or feel comfortable.*

**Welcome, This Morning Worship Service Begins With**
The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**
Let us pray.
Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## GATHERING SONG

*Christ, Be Our Light* (ELW 715)




## 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.**

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father,
and of the ✠ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
**Amen.**

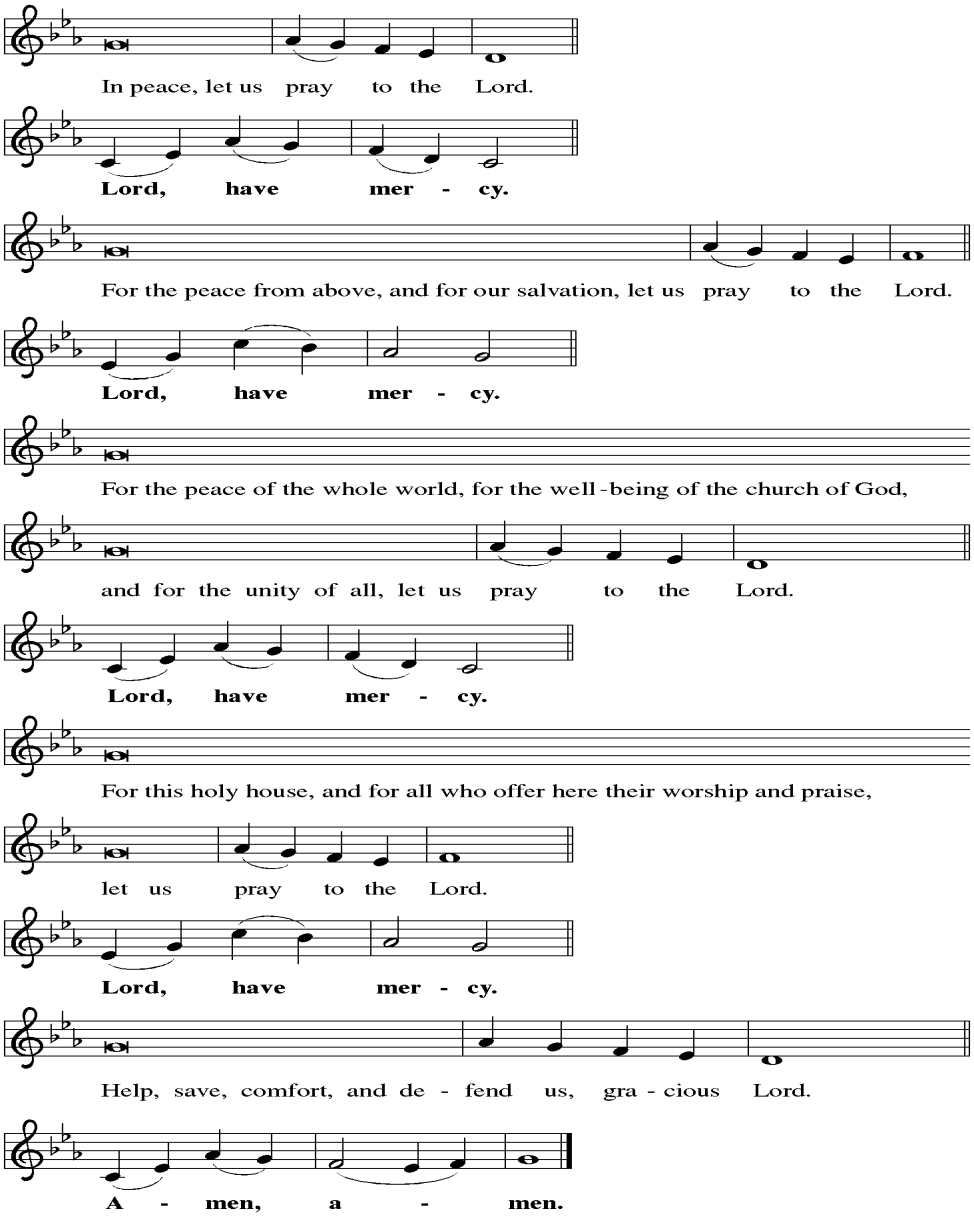
God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

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

**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

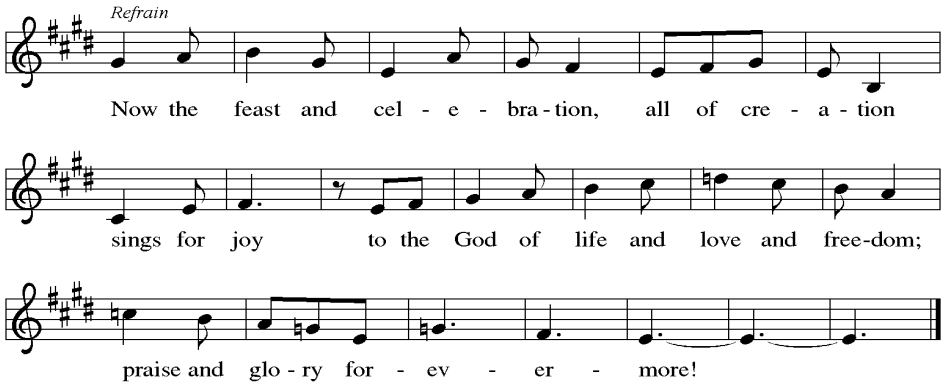
In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

**KYRIE**



## CANTICLE OF PRAISE

*Now the Feast and Celebration* (ELW 167)




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

*The congregation is invited to be seated.*

## FIRST READING: Isaiah 64:1-9

A reading from Isaiah.

*This lament comes from a people who have had their hopes shattered. The visions of a rebuilt Jerusalem and a renewed people of God, spoken of in Isaiah 40–55, have not been realized. Instead, the people experience ruin, conflict, and famine. This lament calls God to account—to be the God who has brought deliverance in the past.*

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!
When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down; the mountains quaked at your presence.
From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him.
You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways.
But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed.
We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.
We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
There is no one who calls on your name or attempts to take hold of you,
for you have hidden your face from us and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.
Yet, O LORD, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand.
Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember iniquity forever.
Now consider, we are all your people.

Word of God, word of life.
**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM: Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

*Refrain* ***(R)***: Let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
**In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh,**
**stir up your strength and come to help us.**
Restore us, O God;
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.
**O LORD God of hosts, how long will your anger fume when your people pray?** ***R***

You have fed them with the bread of tears;
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
**You have made us the derision of our neighbors,**
**and our enemies laugh us to scorn.**
Restore us, O God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.
**Let your hand be upon the one at your right hand,**
**the one you have made so strong for yourself.** ***R***
And so will we never turn away from you;
give us life, that we may call upon your name.
**Restore us, O LORD God of hosts;**
**let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.** ***R***

**SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9**
A reading from 1 Corinthians.
*As the Christians in Corinth await the advent of Jesus, Paul reminds them how the Lord has already enriched them through spiritual gifts and will continue to strengthen them until the coming day of the Lord.*

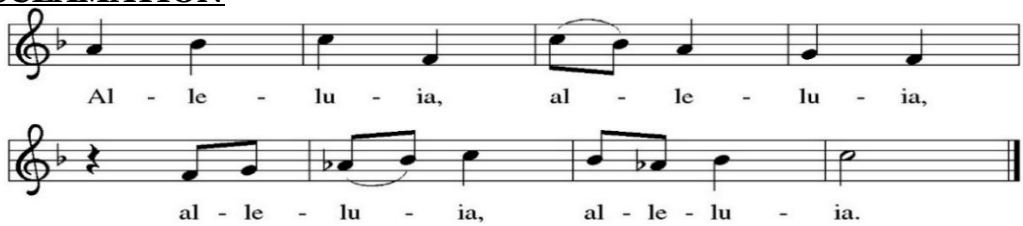
Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you so that you are not lacking in any gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, by whom you were called into the partnership of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Word of God, word of life.
**Thanks be to God.**

*You are invited to stand, as you are able or as you feel comfortable.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**




**GOSPEL: Mark 13:24-37**
The holy gospel according to Mark.
**Glory to you, O Lord.**
*Jesus encourages his followers to look forward to the day when he returns in power and glory to end all suffering.*

Jesus said: "In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven,
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.
"Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels and gather the elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

"From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert, for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a

journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake, for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening or at midnight or at cockcrow or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

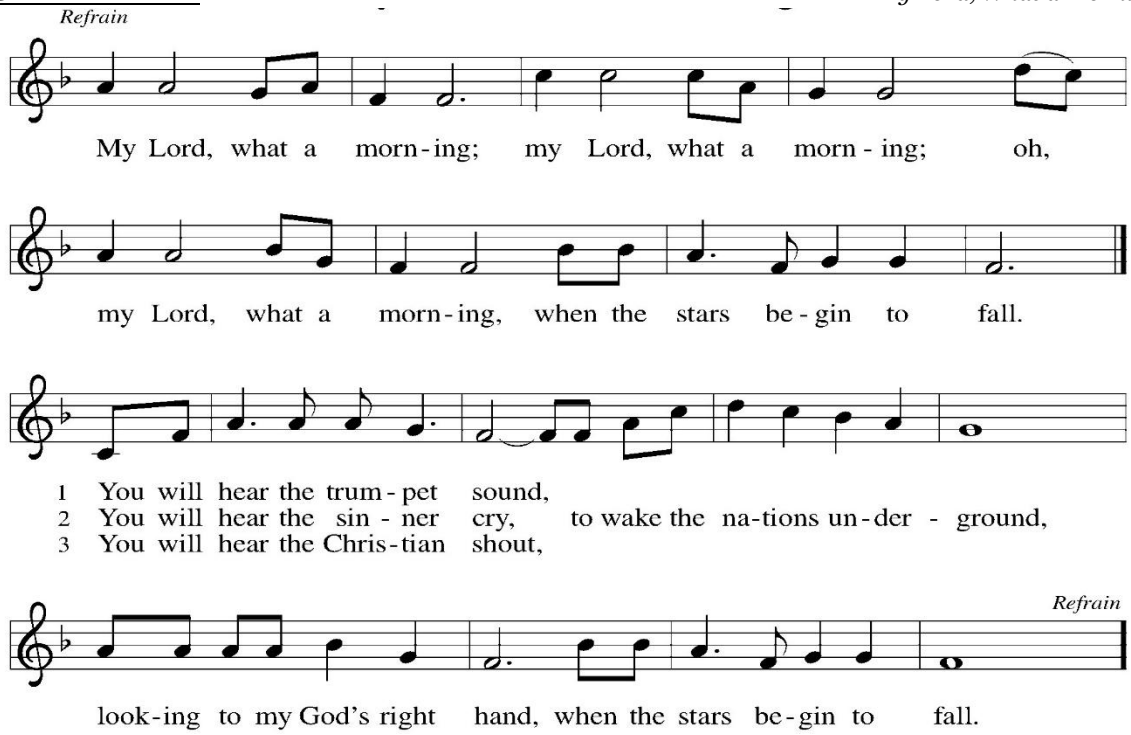
The gospel of the Lord.
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The congregation is invited to be seated.*

**SERMON** Ted Goulet, Lay Leader

*You are invited to stand, as you are able or as you feel comfortable.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY** *My Lord, What a Morning* (ELW 438)




**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.**

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

In hope and expectation, we bring to God our prayers for the church, the world, and all in need.

Strengthen your church in this season of anticipation. Nourish all people who gather around word and water, bread and cup. Reassure any whose faith feels dry that you are always near.
God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**
Come and restore the earth. Give rest to weary lands and renewed life to species at risk. Make us wise stewards of the places we call home.
God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Bring peace among all nations and communities. Embolden leaders to seek creative and sustainable resolutions to war and conflict. Show us new possibilities in places where peace has been elusive.
God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**
Sustain all who are heavy with weariness, grief, illness, or worry. Comfort families who are estranged from one another and any who are separated from loved ones.
God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**
Inspire liturgists, preachers, musicians, and all who lead our worship and prayer. May we be prepared as we await Christ's coming this Advent season.
God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**
You embrace all the saints from the far reaches of the earth. We remember with care all who have died and now abide in their eternal home.
God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

For what else shall we pray for today? *We invite prayers from the congregation to be shared.*

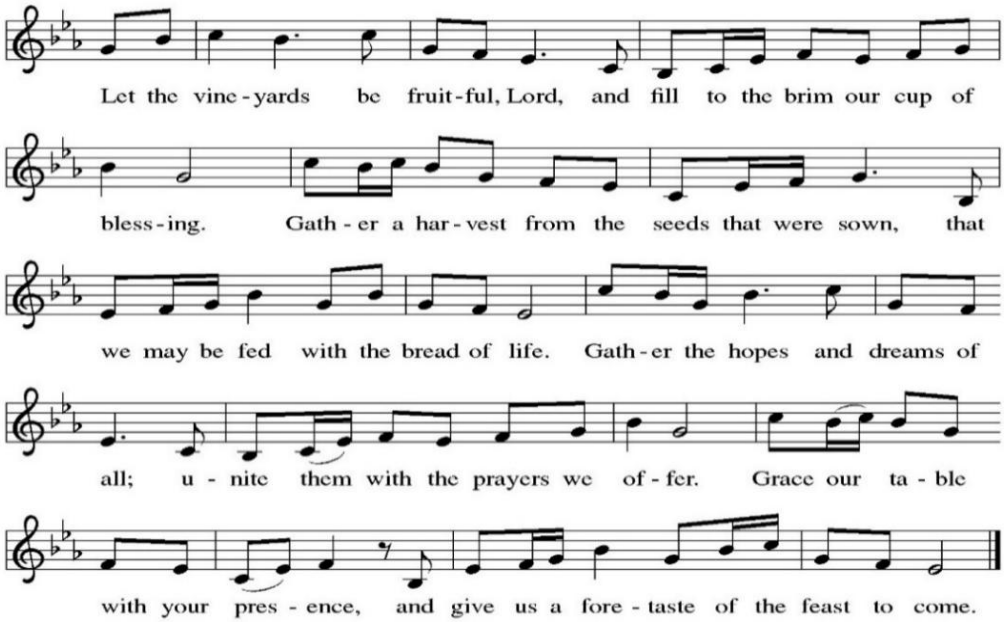
We entrust these and the prayers of our hearts to you, most holy God, in the name of Christ Jesus our Savior. **Amen.**

**PEACE**
The peace of Christ be with you always.
**And also with you.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** *The congregation is invited to be seated.*

*The usher will now pass the offering plate.*
Special Music by Michael Anderson

**OFFERING** *Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful*




**OFFERING PRAYER**
Let us pray.

**God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**GREAT THANKSGIVING**

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

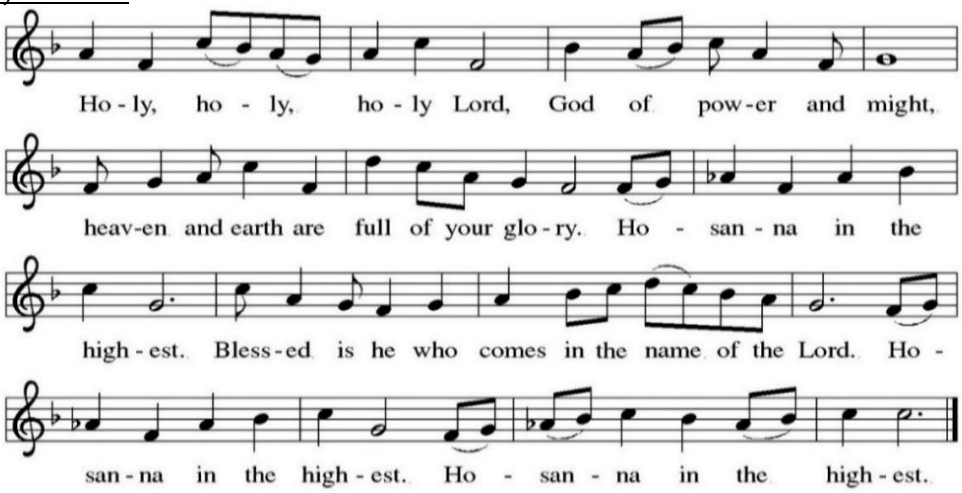
Lift up your hearts.
**We lift them to the Lord.**

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

**PREFACE**

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.
You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer,
through whom you will also make all things new
in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**




**THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

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, he 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.

**LORD'S PRAYER**
Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

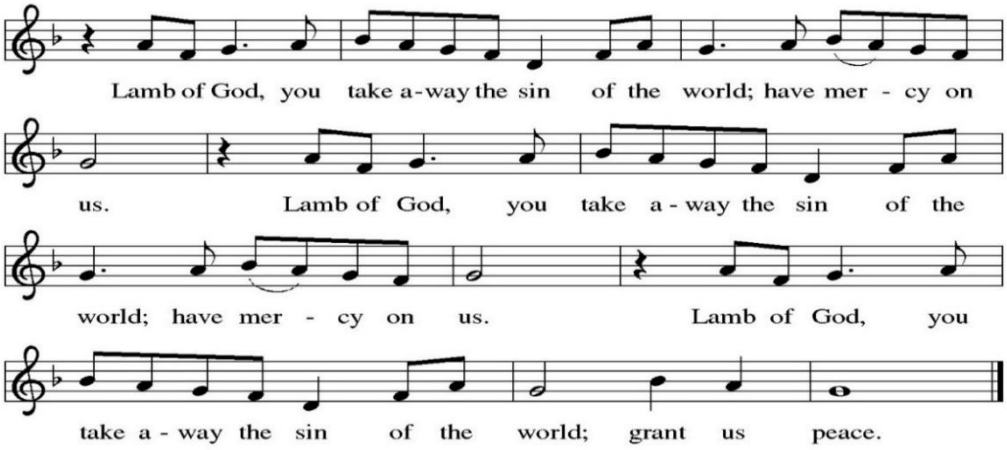
**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,**
**your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**
**Give us today our daily bread.**
**Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.**
**Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.**
**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,**
**now and forever. Amen**

"Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are they who are called to His table."

**INVITATION TO COMMUNION**
Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

**COMMUNION**
The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
Amen.

**COMMUNION SONG**



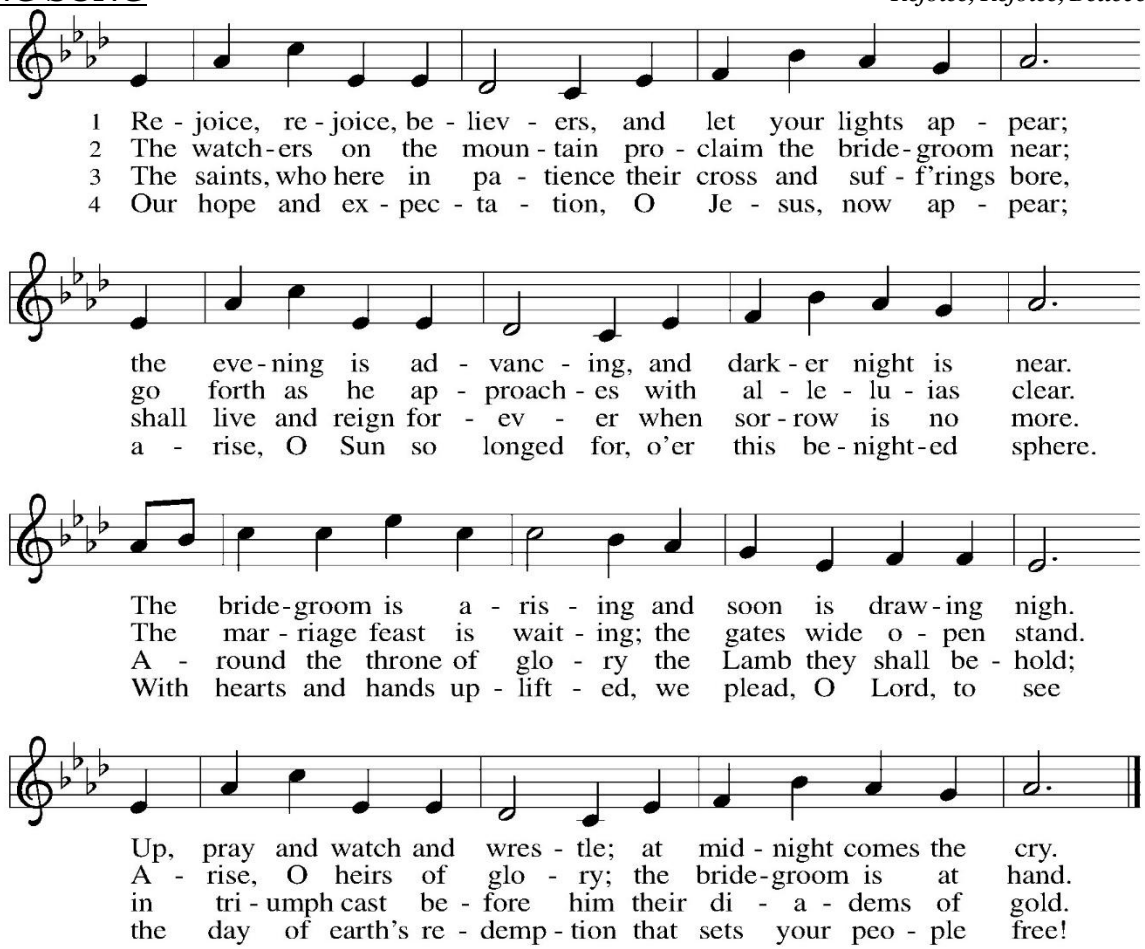

*You are invited to stand, as you are able or as you feel comfortable.*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**
Let us pray.
God for whom we wait, in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

**BLESSING & SENDING FORTH**
The God of steadfastness and encouragement
grant you to live in harmony with one another,
in accordance with Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,
so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.
**Amen.**
The God of all grace ✝ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

**SENDING SONG** *Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers* (ELW 244)




**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Please offer your prayers throughout the week for the following individuals:

**Special Prayer:**
God of peace, we humbly pray for your mercy. Guide the leaders of all nations with wisdom and compassion, that they may choose peace over conflict. Hold close families who are separated, comfort those who are afraid, and protect all who are caught in violence and uncertainty. Provide for their daily needs and keep them safe. Remind us that we are one human family, and fill every heart with hope, courage, and the assurance that no one is alone.

**Healing:**
Tanya, John Curley, Lorene Yaros, Irene Yaros, Charlette Johnson, Lee Nelson, Vallery Steward, Bill Richards, David Conrad, Scott Aries, Amara Olivera, Jeffrey Forbar, Roy Mariano

**Healing & the Strength in the Fight Against Cancer:**
Gerry Hockins, Anna Harris, Ashlyn, Jennifer Yates, Jaha Blackwell, Debra Lande

**Wholeness and well-being:**
Bill Richards, Marie Sorensen, Adelina, Deborah An Monahan, Thomas Richardson

**Hope & strength:**
Dingman, Bette Alburtis & family.
For all military people who are deployed or serving.

**Trust in God's mercy:**
Dolores Anderson, Kat Nelson, Tamara Olivera & Alonzo Perez De Arre, Zakaria, Karin Garcia, Arvik Rostamians

**In Loving Memory, candles are lit in remembrance of:**
Jack Williams, Barbara Taylor, Eric Dingman
Remembering all who have passed this year.

If you would like to add, update, or remove a name, please contact the church office at hlchurch.office@gmail.com or (323) 667-1212.
Names are generally kept on the list for one month, unless otherwise requested.



# HOLLYWOOD LUTHERAN CHURCH
## 105th Year

We are a welcoming congregation of the Southwest California Synod Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, committed to serving our community with faith, compassion, and hospitality.

**Contact Us:** Email: hlchurch.office@gmail.com
Phone: (323) 667-1212 Website: www.hollywoodlutheranchurch.net

**HLC Schedule:**
Worship Service — Every Sunday @ 10:00 AM
Food Pantry Delivery — Mondays 8:00 AM
Food Pantry Distribution — Wednesdays from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM

# Just a Closer Walk with Thee

