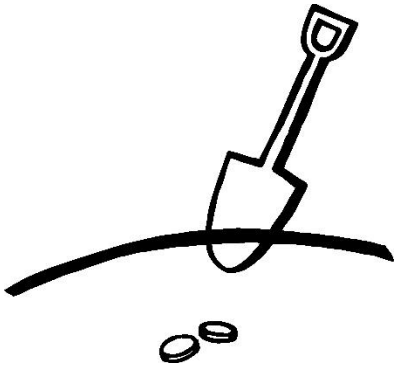
Hollywood Lutheran Church

25th Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, November 15, 2026



INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

Our readings during November speak of the end times. Zephaniah proclaims that the coming day of the LORD will be filled with wrath and distress. Paul says it will come like a thief in the night and urges us to be awake and sober. Jesus tells the parable of the talents, calling us to use our gifts, while we still have time, for the greater and common good. In a world filled with violence and despair, we gather around signs of hope—word, water, bread, and wine—eager to welcome the good news of Christ's coming among us.

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: Rev. Toni Castañeda Carrera
Assistant Minister: Ted Goulet
Lector: Phyllis Lundine
Organist: Michael Anderson
Cantor: Phyllis Lundine

Plants and Flowers are given to the glory of God.

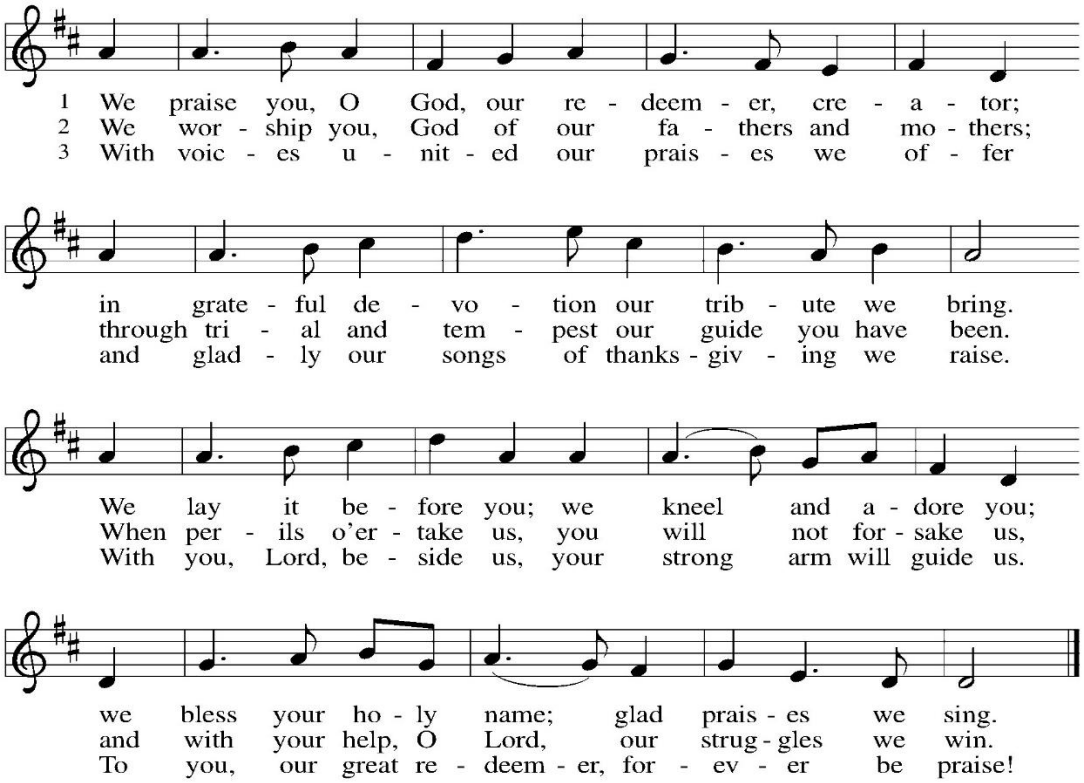
PRELUDE Michael Anderson

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.
Righteous God, 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.**

GATHERING SONG *We Praise You, O God* (ELW 870)



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

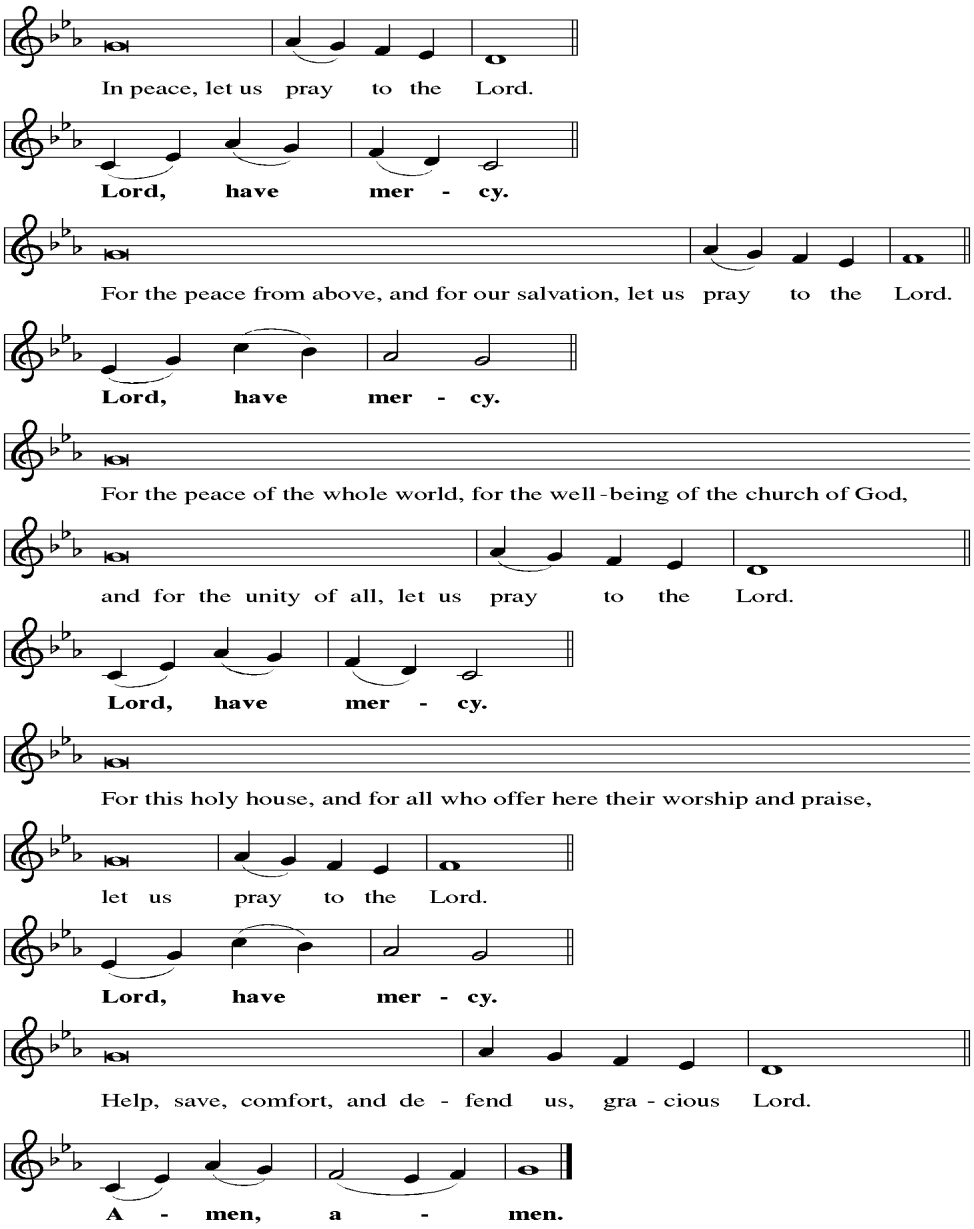
In the name of the Father,
and of the ☩ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

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.

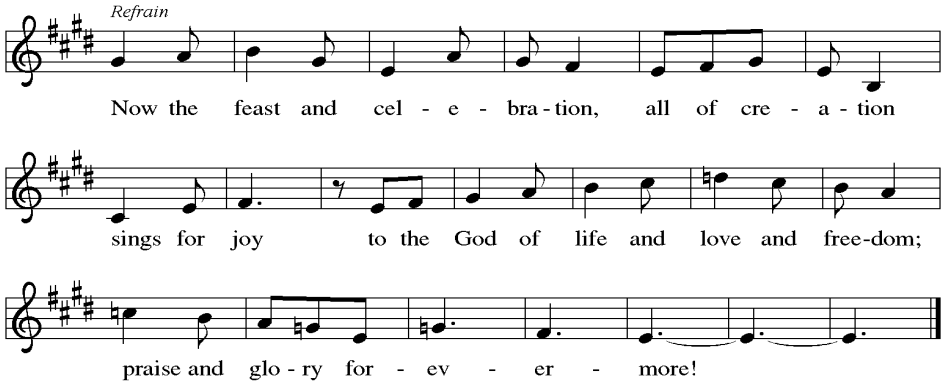
In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the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

<u>FIRST READING</u>: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

A reading from Zephaniah.

Zephaniah (like the prophet Amos in last week's first reading) presents the day of the LORD as one of judgment and wrath. Descriptions of the last day in the New Testament include details taken from Old Testament accounts of the day of the LORD.

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.

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."
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.

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.
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, a day of trumpet blast and battle cry
against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.

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.
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.

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

<u>PSALM</u>: Psalm 90:1-8 [9-11] 12

*Refrain (**R**)*: So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to another.
Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born,
from age to age you are God.
You turn us back to the dust and say, "Turn back, O children of earth."
For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past
and like a watch in the night; *R*
you sweep them away like a dream, they fade away suddenly like the grass:
in the morning it is green and flourishes;
in the evening it is dried up and withered.
For we are consumed by your anger;
we are afraid because of your wrath.
Our iniquities you have set before you,
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.
So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts to wisdom. ***R***

<u>SECOND READING</u>: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

A reading from 1 Thessalonians.

Though we do not know and cannot calculate the day of Christ's return, we live faithfully in the here and now as we anticipate the day when we will be given eternal salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.

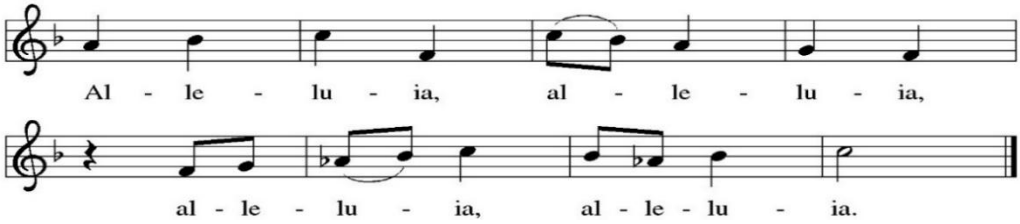
Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So, then, let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober, for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. 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. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

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

<u>GOSPEL ACCLAMATION</u>



<u>GOSPEL</u>: Matthew 25:14-30

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus tells a parable about his second coming, indicating that it is not sufficient merely to maintain things as they are. Those who await his return should make good use of the gifts that God has provided them.

Jesus said to the disciples "For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. At once the one who had received the five talents went off and traded with them and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. 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.' 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.' 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.' 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.' 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, so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' 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? 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. So take the talent

from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. 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. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' "

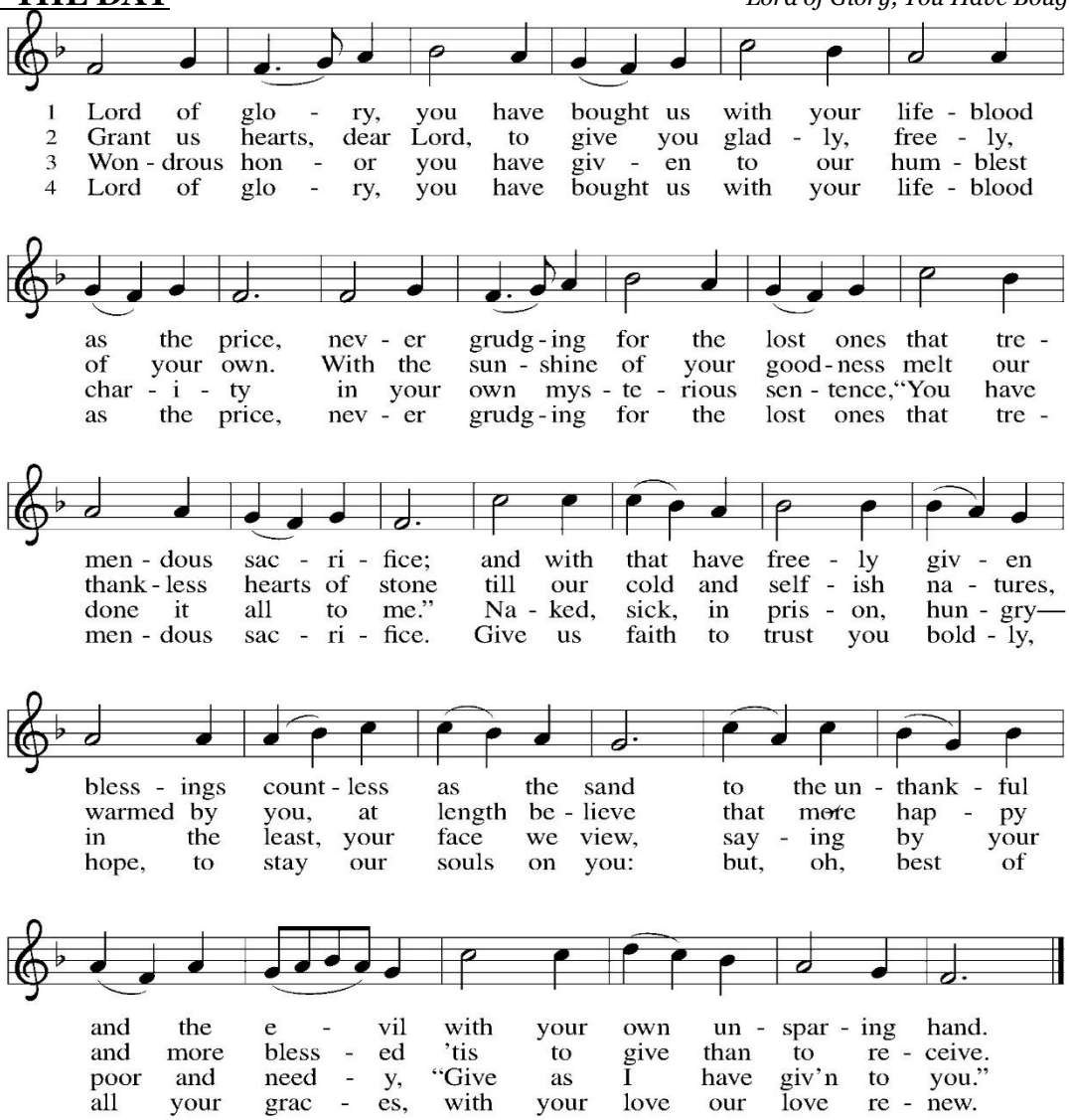
The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

The congregation is invited to be seated.

SERMON Rev. Toni Castañeda Carrera

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

HYMN OF THE DAY *Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us (ELW 707)*



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

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

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, **hear our prayer.**
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, **hear our prayer.**
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, **hear our prayer.**
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.
God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
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, **hear our prayer.**
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, **hear our prayer.**

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

Into your steadfast love, faithful God, we entrust all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus, your beloved. **Amen.**

PEACE

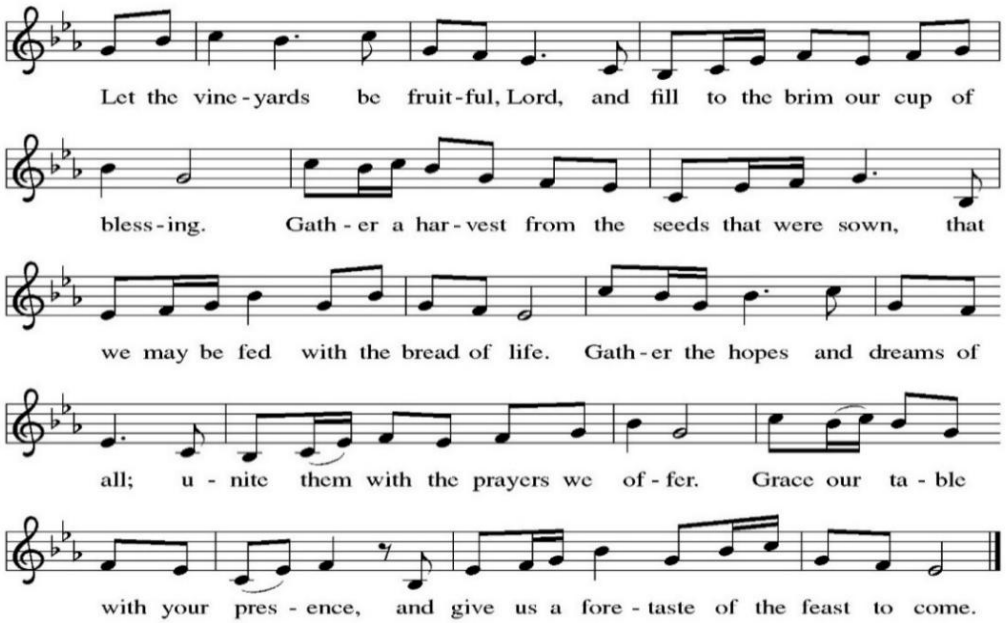
The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

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.

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

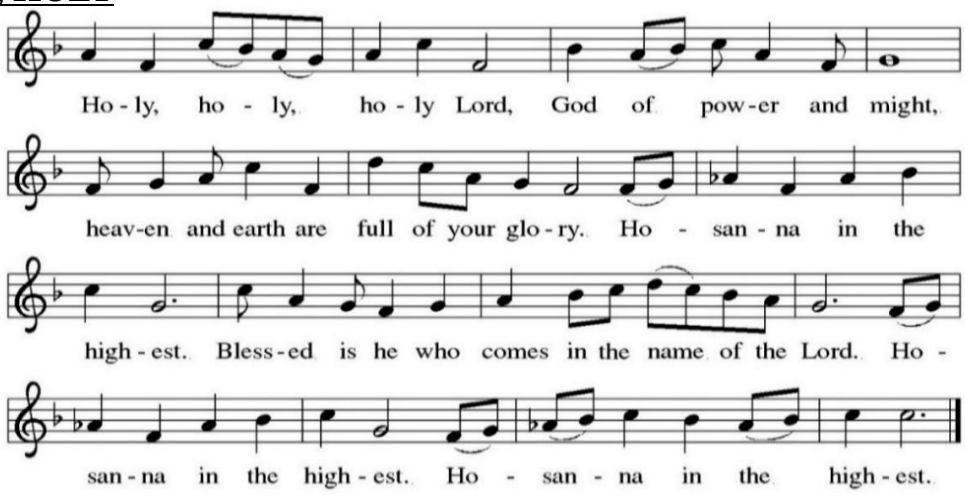
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

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;
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 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."

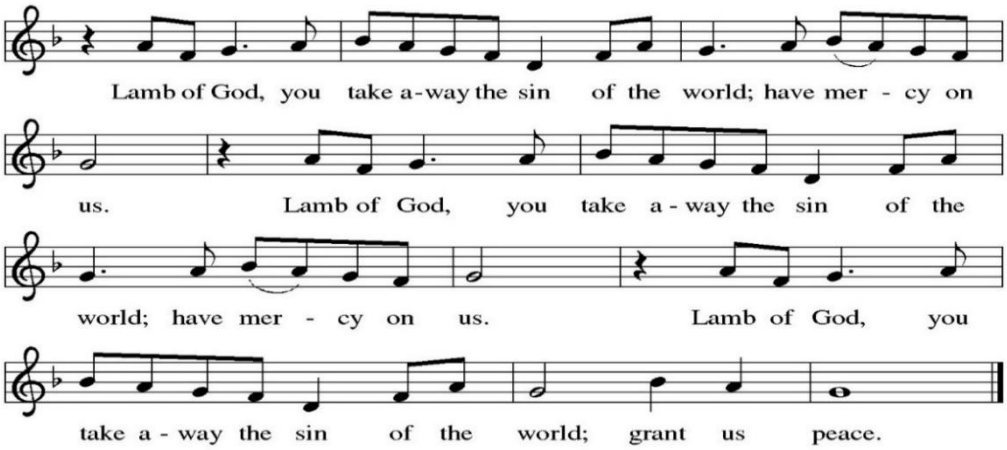
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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.

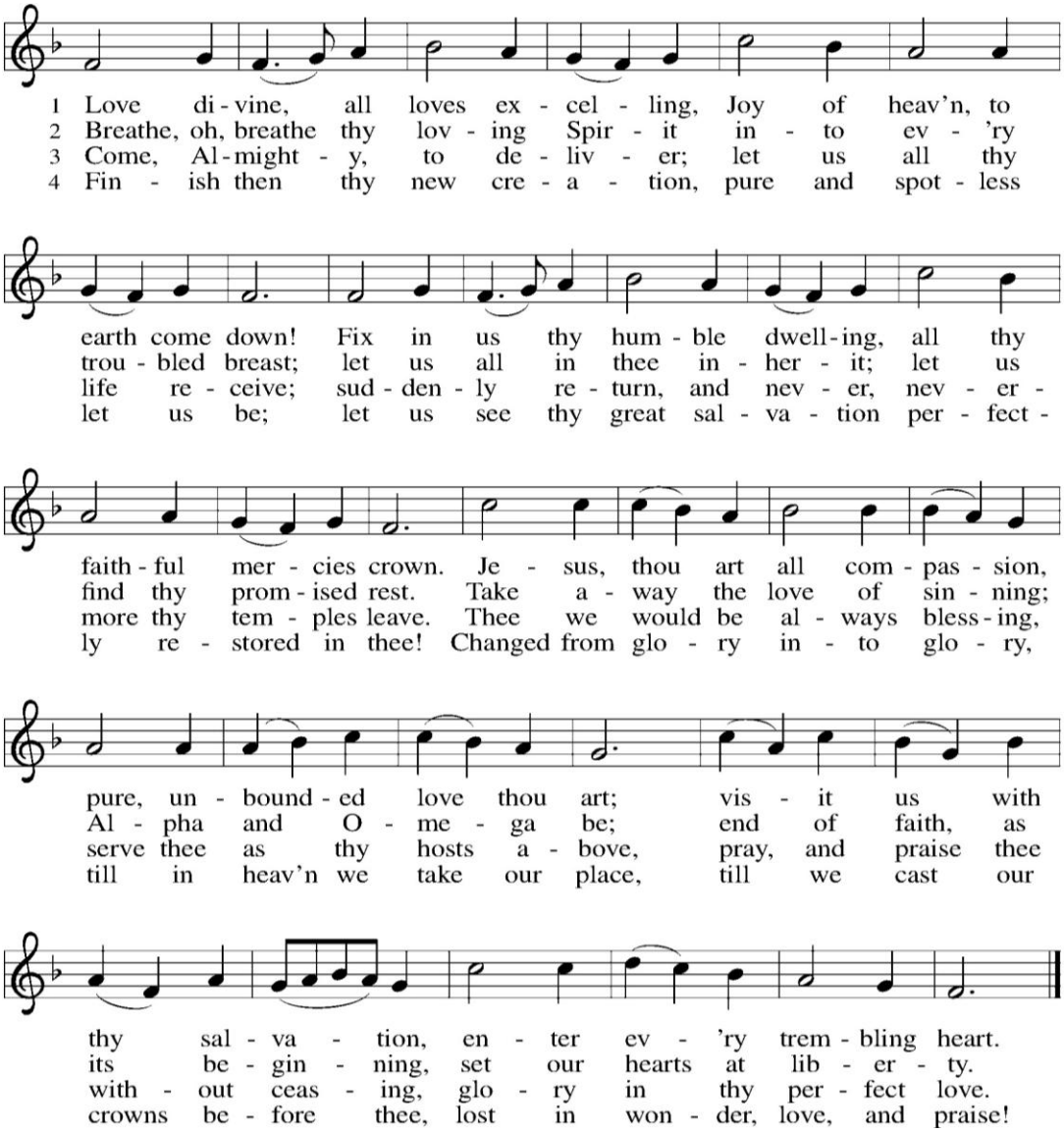
PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.
Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart, and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Now send us forth to be your people in the world, and to proclaim your truth this day and evermore, 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 *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling (ELW 631)*



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

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

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

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

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

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

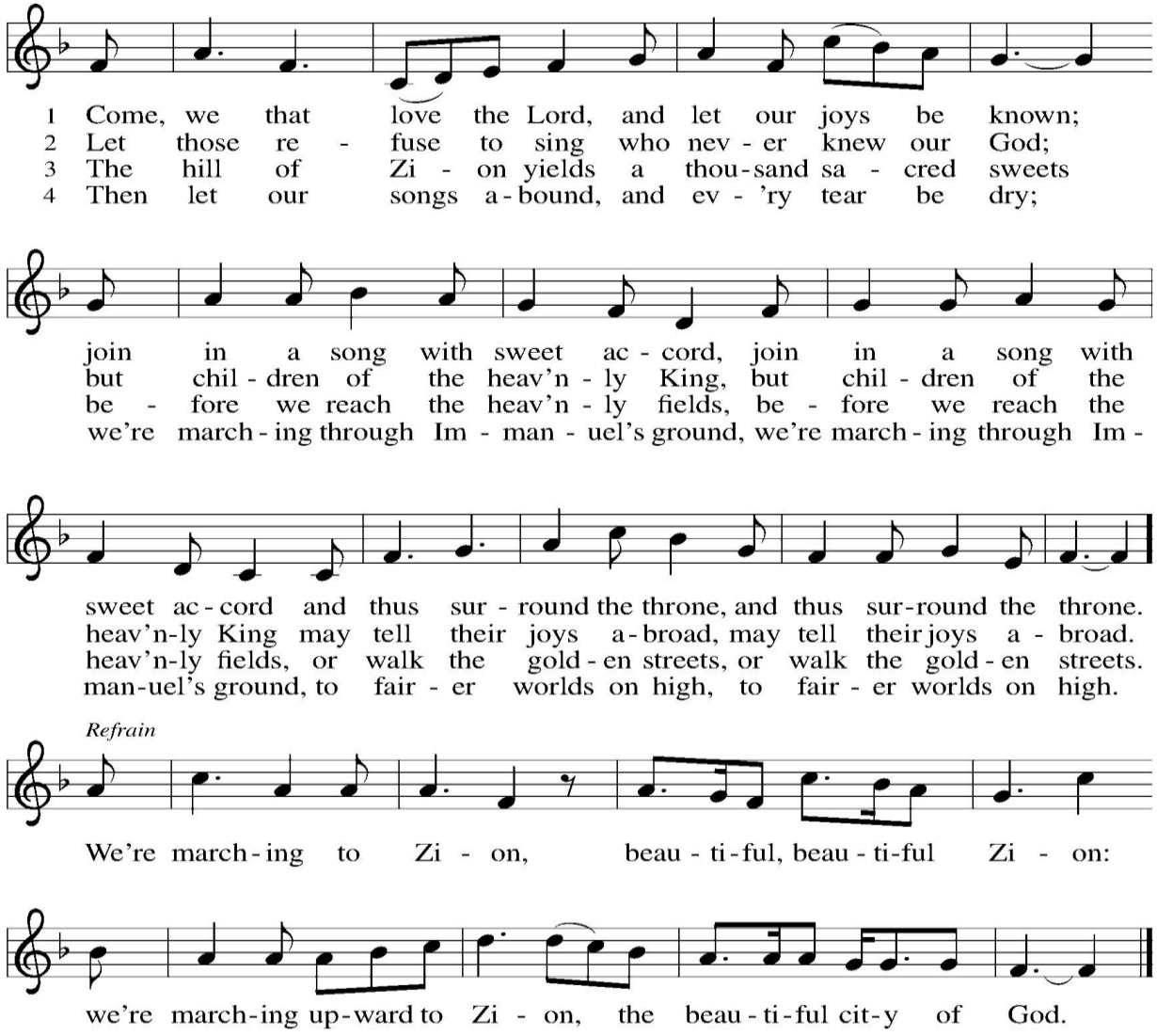
If you would like to add, update, or remove a name, please contact the church office at hlchurch.office@gmail.com or (323) 667-1212.
Names are generally kept on the list for one month, unless otherwise requested.

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


1 Come, we that love the Lord, and let our joys be known;
2 Let those re - fuse to sing who nev - er knew our God;
3 The hill of Zi - on yields a thou-sand sa - cred sweets
4 Then let our songs a-bound, and ev - 'ry tear be dry;
join in a song with sweet ac - cord, join in a song with
but chil - dren of the heav'n - ly King, but chil - dren of the
be - fore we reach the heav'n - ly fields, be - fore we reach the
we're march - ing through Im - man - uel's ground, we're march - ing through Im -
sweet ac - cord and thus sur - round the throne, and thus sur-round the throne.
heav'n-ly King may tell their joys a-broad, may tell their joys a - broad.
heav'n-ly fields, or walk the gold - en streets, or walk the gold - en streets.
man-uel's ground, to fair - er worlds on high, to fair - er worlds on high.
Refrain
We're march - ing to Zi - on, beau - ti-ful, beau - ti-ful Zi - on:
we're march-ing up-ward to Zi - on, the beau - ti-ful cit-y of God.