LORD of LOVE
Lutheran Church

Last Sunday of the Church Year



The Best is Yet to Come!

Welcome! We are so happy you have come to worship today! Someone has described worship as "a joyful dialogue with God." God speaks to us in his Word, and we speak to him in praise and prayer. May God richly bless you through this "joyful dialogue" today!

Restrooms – The restrooms are located straight ahead as you enter the building. You will also find restrooms in the lower level gathering space at the end of the classrooms on the right side before the exit doors.

Parent's Room – The sound of children in the house of the Lord is music to our ears! However there is also a parent room to the right just before you enter the sanctuary if your little one needs a moment. It is accessed as you exit the sanctuary, on the left, next to the seats reserved for families with small children.

Assistance Getting Around – There is a walker and a wheelchair available in the fellowship hall. Anyone who needs them is welcome to use them. Please speak to an usher if you need help accessing them.

Offering Message – An offering will be gathered in the service today. These offerings support the Gospel ministry of Lord of Love locally, and the global mission of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. Visitors need not feel obligated to give but may if you wish.

Holy Communion is celebrated today. Mindful of the Scriptural teaching concerning church fellowship, we practice close (or closed) communion. Communicant members of this congregation, or another congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (or the Evangelical Lutheran Synod), are welcome to commune this morning. Guests are asked to speak with our pastor, before the service, if they wish to commune.

Explanation of the theme of the day: Consider the Christian man whose body aches from both cancer and chemo. Or the Christian woman whose back is arched by time and whose fingers are twisted by arthritis. They may pray for death, hoping for something better. But their hope is not a prayerful wish. It is an expectation of the end of sorrow and pain and the beginning of a perfect eternity with Jesus.

We have come to the end of the Church Year. It is time to talk about the end of the world on judgment day. That day does not scare the believer. The first time Christ came, he saved us from our sin and the accusations of the devil. The second time he comes, he will save us from everything else. It will be the best! Disease, abuse, heartache, even death—all gone. We will exist forever with the Lord Jesus. For the Christian, the best is truly yet to come!

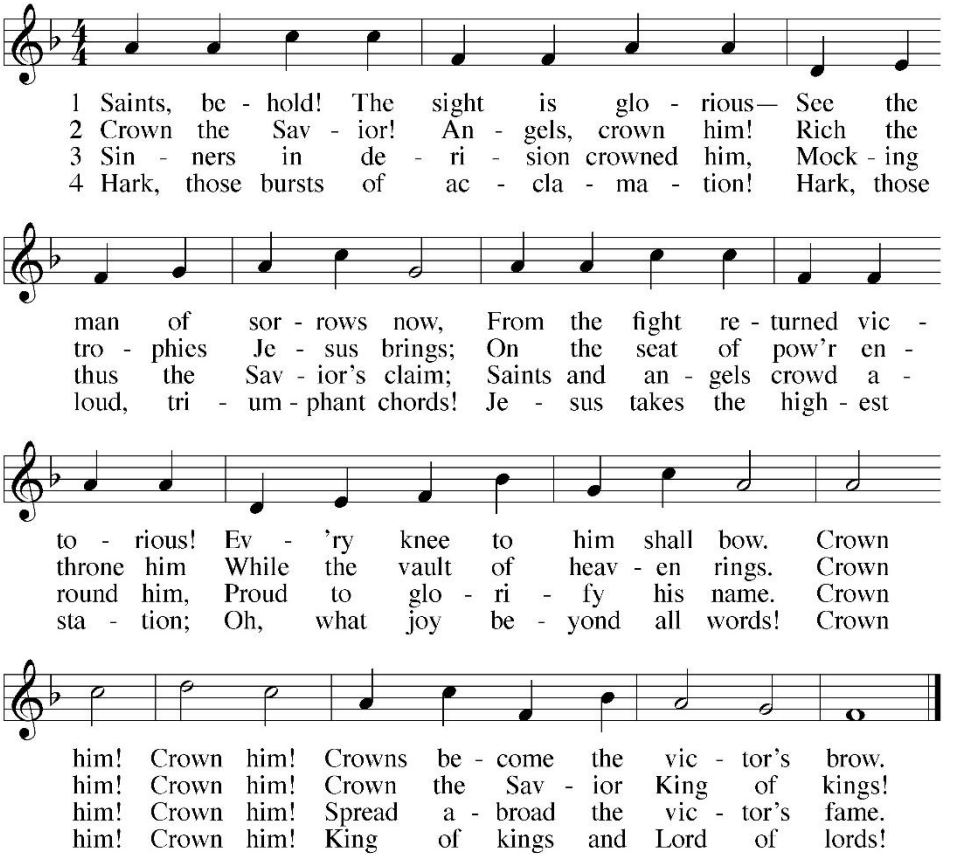
Lord of Love Lutheran Church

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November 22, 2026

SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

OPENING HYMN (CW 216) **Saints, Behold! The Sight is Glorious**



Text: Thomas Kelly, 1769–1855, alt.
Tune: CORONAE (87 87 47) William H. Monk, 1823–89.

STAND

M: The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: And also with you.



CONFESSION OF SINS

M: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.
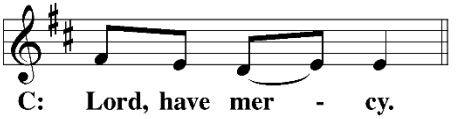
M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.
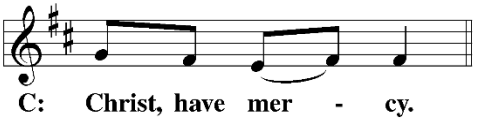
PRAYER AND PRAISE

LORD, HAVE MERCY *Kyrie*
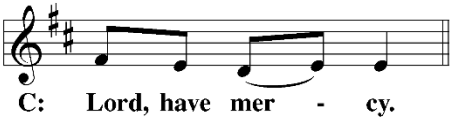
M: For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.
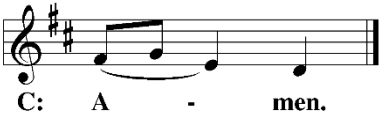


M: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.
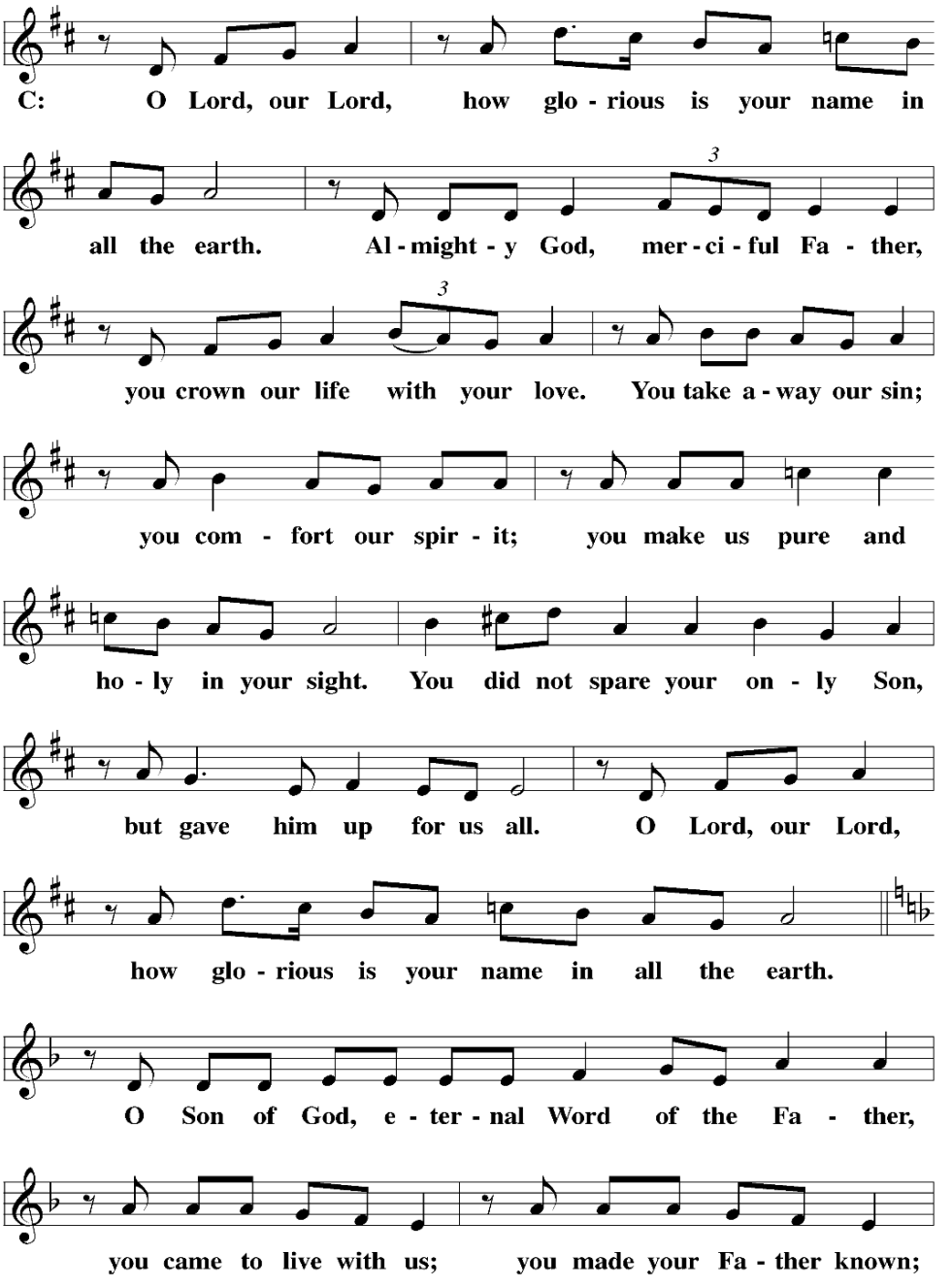


M: For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.

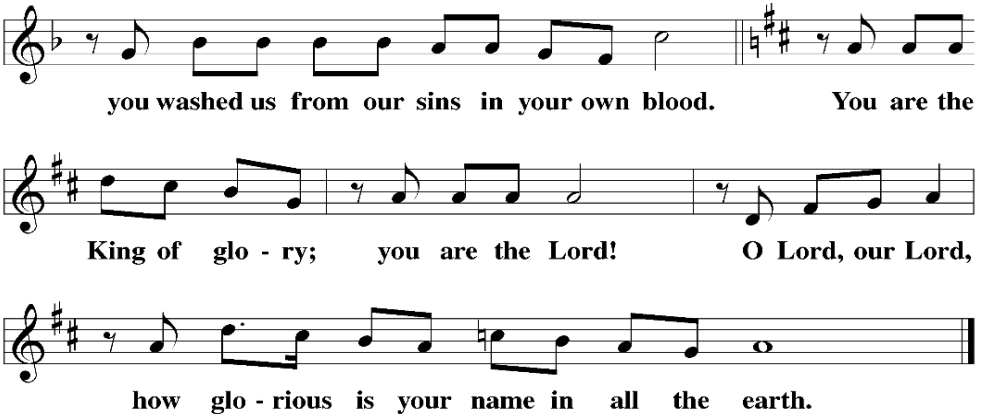


M: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:



M: The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.





PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Eternal God, merciful Father, you have appointed your Son as judge of the living and the dead. Enable us to wait for the day of his return with our eyes fixed on the kingdom prepared for your own from the foundation of the world; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14

9 I continued to watch until thrones were set up, and the Ancient of Days was seated. His clothing was white as snow, and the hair on his head was like pure wool. His throne was flames of fire. Its wheels were blazing fire. 10 A river of fire flowed out from his presence. Thousands upon thousands served him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him. The court was seated, and books were opened…13 I kept watching the night visions, and there, in the clouds of heaven, I saw one like a son of man coming. He came to the Ancient of Days, and he was brought before him. 14 To him was given dominion, honor, and a kingdom. All peoples, nations, and languages will worship him. His dominion is an eternal dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will not be destroyed.

ANTHEM (Sunday School Children & Adult Choir) Give Me Oil in My Lamp

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

M: Alleluia. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End. Alleluia.

GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 25:31-46

31 "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on
his glorious throne. 32 All the nations will be gathered in his presence, and he will
separate them one from another, as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. 33 He
will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left. 34 Then the King will say to those
on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for
you from the foundation of the world. 35 For I was hungry and you gave me food to eat. I
was thirsty and you gave me something to drink. I was a stranger and you welcomed me.
36 I was lacking clothes and you clothed me. I was sick and you took care of me. I was in
prison and you visited me.'
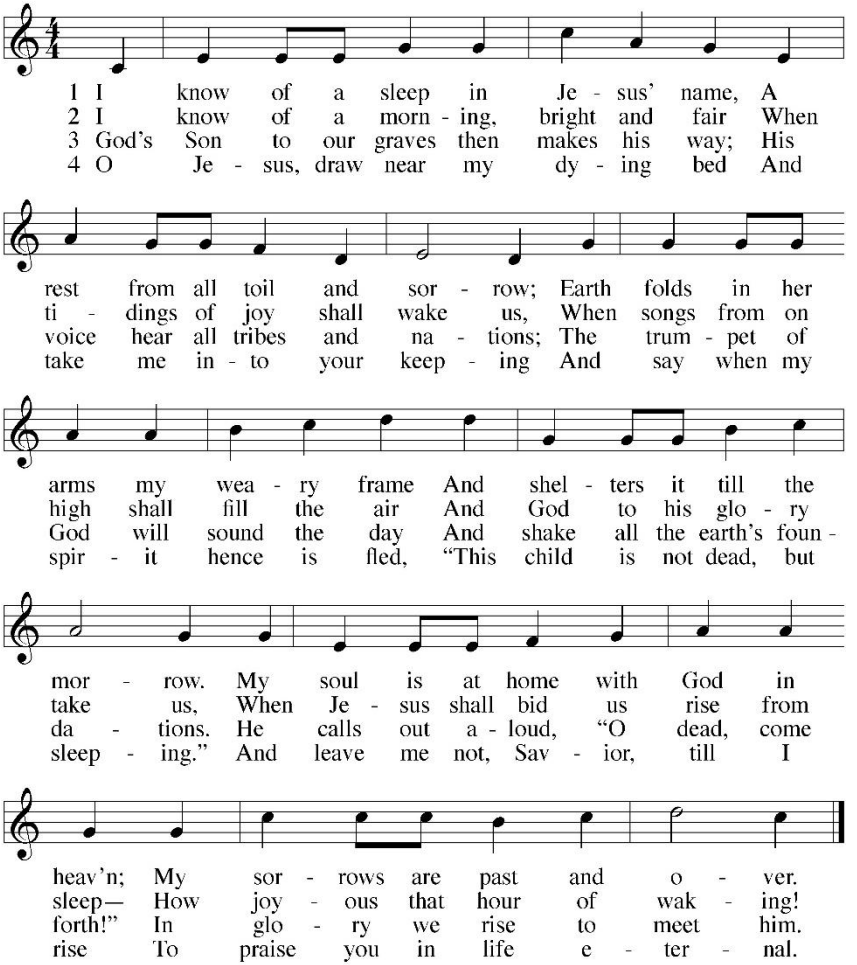
37 "Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you,
or thirsty and give you a drink? 38 When did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or
lacking clothes and clothe you? 39 When did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?'
40 "The King will answer them, 'Amen I tell you: Just as you did it for one of the least of
these brothers of mine, you did it for me.'

41 "Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the
eternal fire, which is prepared for the Devil and his angels. 42 For I was hungry and you
did not give me food to eat. I was thirsty and you did not give me anything to drink. 43 I
was a stranger and you did not welcome me, lacking clothes and you did not clothe me,
sick and in prison and you did not take care of me.'

44 "Then they will also answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a
stranger or lacking clothes or sick or in prison and did not serve you?'

45 "At that time he will answer them, 'Amen I tell you: Just as you did not do it for one of
the least of these, you did not do it for me.' 46 And they will go away to eternal
punishment, but the righteous to eternal life."

HYMN (CW 211) **I Know of a Sleep in Jesus' Name**



Text: Magnus B. Landstad, 1802–80, abr.; tr. *The Lutheran Hymnary*, Decorah, 1913, alt.
Tune: DEN SIGNEDE DAG (98 98 98) Christoph E. F. Weyse, 1774–1842.

SERMON 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

13 We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who have fallen asleep, so that you do not grieve in the same way as the others, who have no hope. 14 Indeed, if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, then in the same way we also believe that God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep through Jesus.

15 In fact, we tell you this by the word of the Lord: We who are alive and left until the coming of the Lord will certainly not go on ahead of those who have fallen asleep. 16 For the Lord himself will come down from heaven with a loud command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them, to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will always be with the Lord. 18 Therefore, encourage one another with these words.

Grief…with Hope

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.
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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
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. Amen.

GATHERING OF THANK OFFERING

During the gathering of the offering, please sign the Friendship Register.

To give electronically: VANCO

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Eternal and gracious Father, today we end another year of grace. Once again the Holy Spirit has nourished and strengthened our faith as we reviewed the words and works of Jesus this past year.
Work in us every day to believe your Word and apply it in our lives.

We are aware that we live in dangerous times. Give us wisdom to discern teachings that subtly deny the Scriptures. Provide courage to stand against the attacks of godless opponents. Strengthen our resolve to confess the truth and then to speak the truth in love.
Work in us every day to be watchful and cautious as we live in our world.

Help us take to heart that our Lord Jesus is coming again. Since the day of his return is unknown to us, lead us to note the signs that signal the end of time. Spare us from fear as trouble and woe increase, and fill us with hope as we long for that great day.
Work in us every day to be ready for the moment of his coming.

Fill us with concern for family members and friends who are not taking seriously their need for Jesus and his forgiveness. Provide opportunities to reach out to them. Make us generous with our offerings so that others can go in our place to proclaim the good news.
Work in us every day to witness to Christ and his love for sinners.

If you call us to glory before the final day comes, carry our souls to heaven where we will await the resurrection of our bodies. Comfort those who may grieve over losing us and point them to the day when they will join us at the marriage feast of the Lamb.
Work in us every day so that we are ready whenever you call us home.
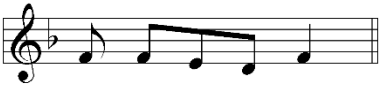
Fill us with hope and joy as we await your Son's return. Cause us to enjoy your earthly blessings in light of your eternal glories and to realize that heaven is really our home. Lead us to long for the splendor of Paradise.
Work in us every day as we listen for the sound of the final trumpet. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER
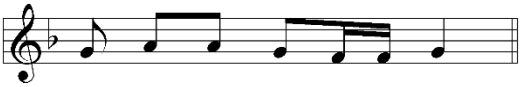
C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT
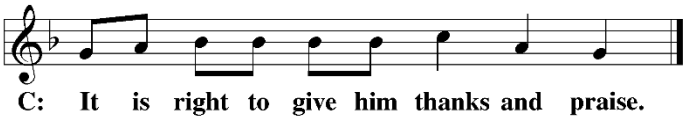
M: The Lord be with you.



M: Lift up your hearts.
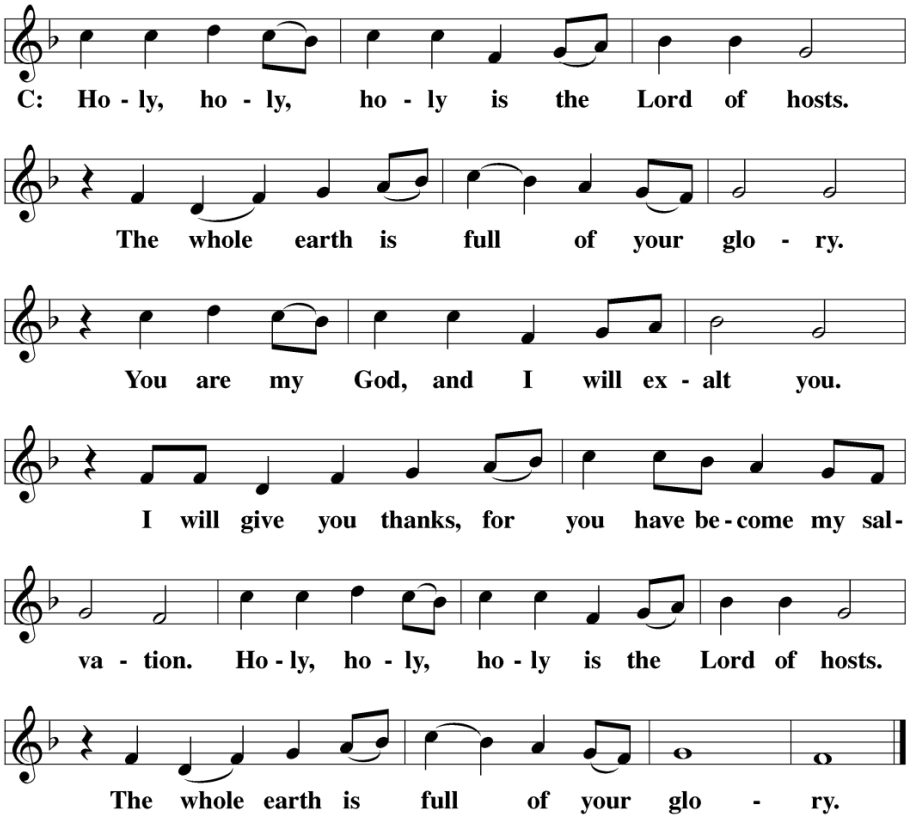


M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He protects and preserves his Church in every age and gives us confidence to lift up our heads and watch for Jesus with joy.

Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY
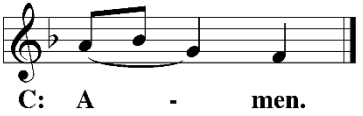


WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

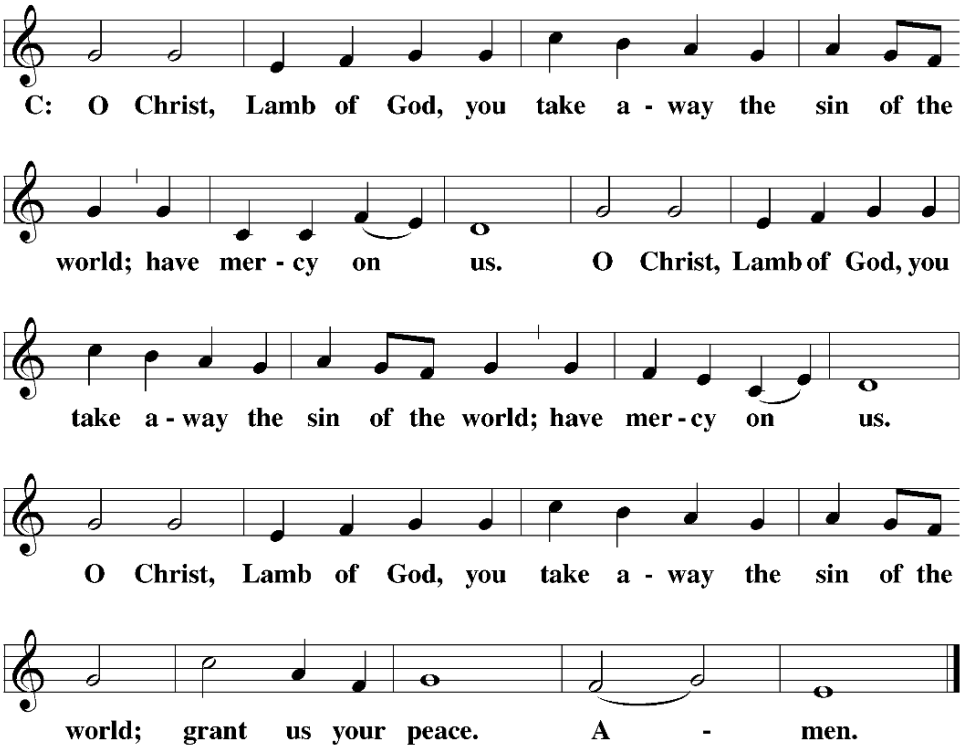
Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.



O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD
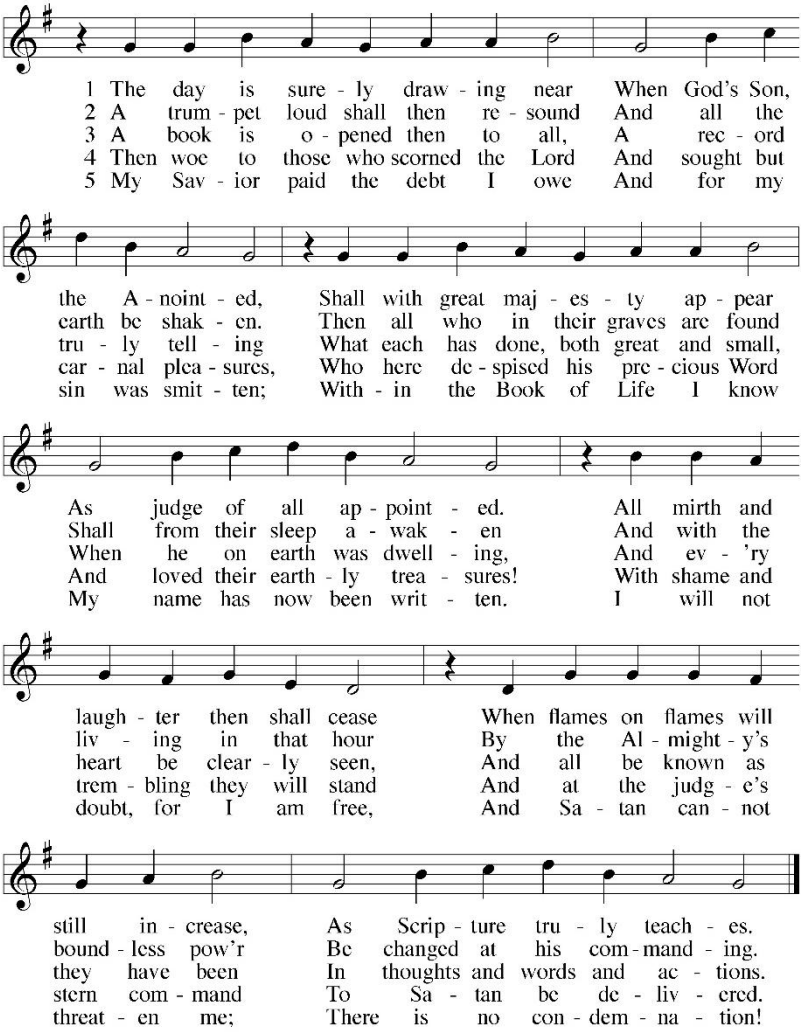
Agnus Dei



BE SEATED



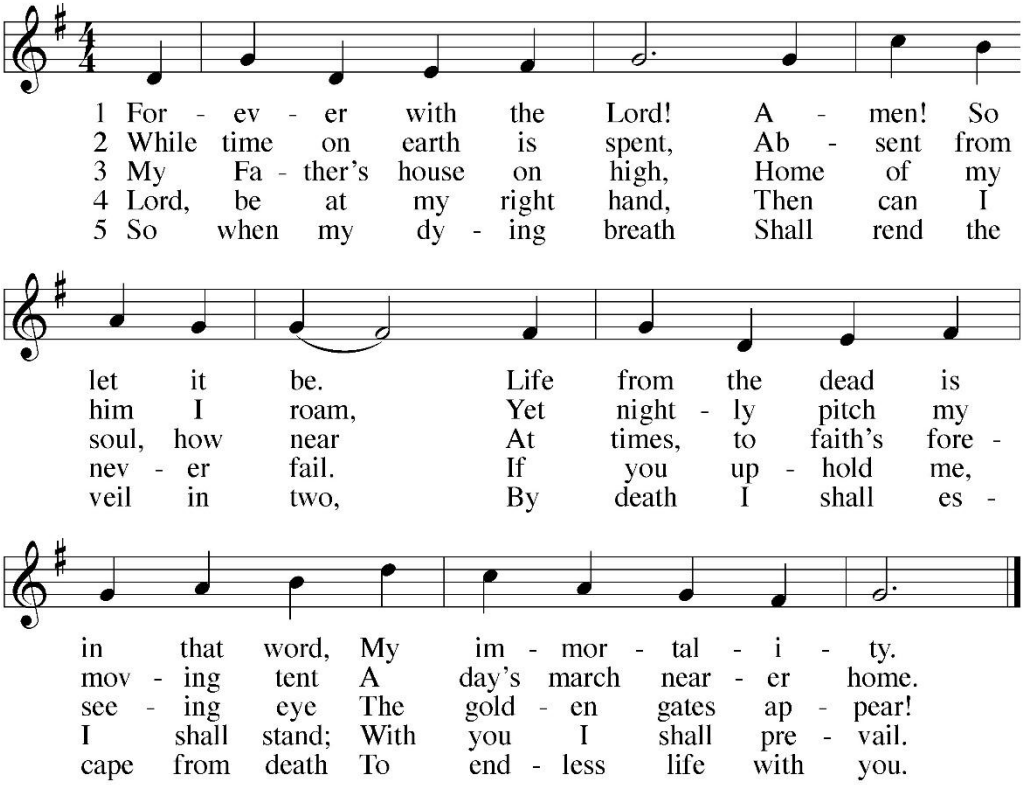
DISTRIBUTION HYMN (CW 207) **The Day is Surely Drawing Near**



6 O Jesus Christ, do not delay,
But hasten our salvation;
We often tremble on our way
In fear and tribulation.
Your saints are waiting patiently;
Come soon, Redeemer; make us free
From ev'ry evil. Amen.

Text: Bartholomäus Ringwaldt, 1532–99, abr.; tr. Philip A. Peter, 1832–1919, alt.
Tune: ES IST GEWISSLICH (87 87 887) Klug, *Geistliche Lieder auffs new gebessert*, Wittenberg, 1535.

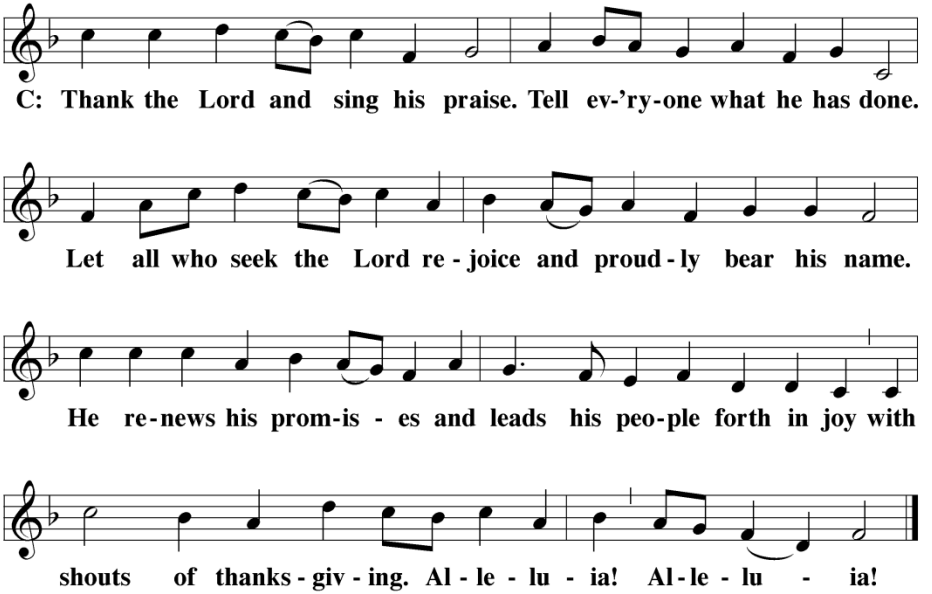
DISTRIBUTION HYMN (CW 213) **Forever with the Lord**
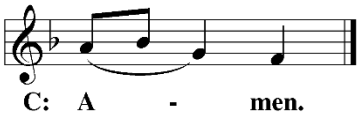


6 I'll know as I am known;
How shall I love that word
And oft repeat before the throne,
"Forever with the Lord!"

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, abr., alt.
Tune: SCHUMANN (SM) *Cantica Laudis*, Boston, 1850.
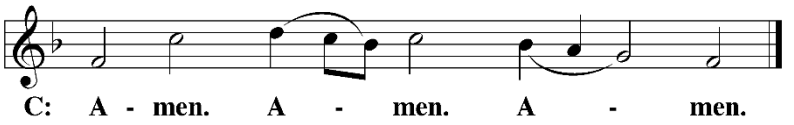
THANK THE LORD
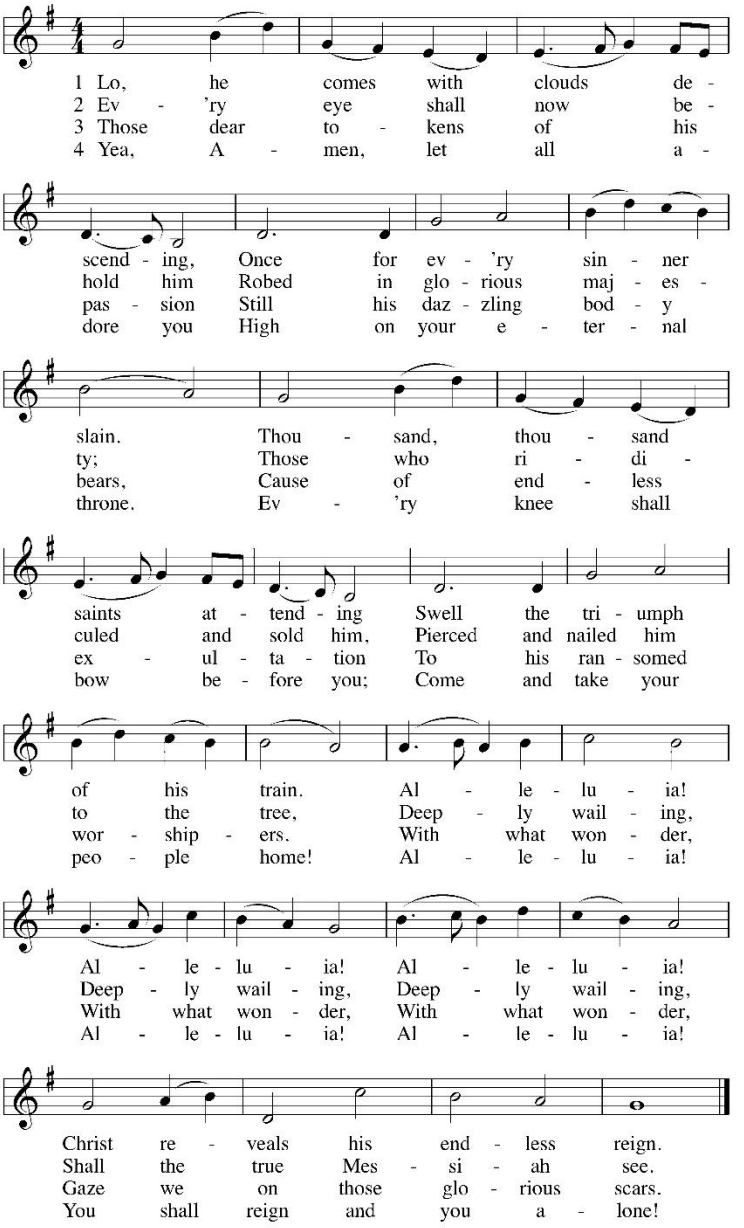


M: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



M: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.



CLOSING HYMN (CWS 704) **Lo, He Comes With Couds Descending**



This glorious Advent hymn by Charles Wesley is set to its traditional English tune, HELMSLEY.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.
Tune: HELMSLEY (87 87 12 7) Thomas Olivers, 1725–1799

LORD of LOVE
Lutheran Church

Personal Prayers for Worship

Before Communion:
Lord, I am not worthy to be a guest at your holy table. But you are the friend of sinners, and you will not cast me out. This bread is your body, which bore my sins upon the tree. This wine is your blood, which purifies me from all guilt. At your invitation, I come rejoicing. Receive me, my Savior.

After Communion:
Thank you, Lord Jesus Christ, for nourishing me in this sacrament with your body and blood. You have given me forgiveness, life, and salvation. Let me always remain in you as a branch remains in the vine. Send me out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory.

O living Bread from heaven, how richly you have fed your guest! The gifts you now have given have filled my heart with joy and rest. Lord, grant me that thus strengthened with heavenly food, while here my course on earth is lengthened, I serve with holy fear. And when you call my spirit to leave this world below, I enter through your merit where joys unmingled flow.

Gluten Free communion wafers: Gluten free communion wafers are available each Sunday during the Lord's Supper. They are placed on the baptismal font at the start of communion. If you would prefer this wafer, please pick it up as you approach the altar.

In Our Prayers: Roger LaGrange, Mary Mundt, John Schueman, and Bonnie Gotzion who are experiencing difficulties.

A special prayer for all our men & women who are serving in the Armed Forces. Among them are Carter Chavez (grandson of John & Sherry Hill), and Shannon Garrett.

Weekly Bible Studies

Sunday 9:15 am: The Life of Peter, *sanctuary*
Tuesday 9:00 am: ESTHER, A Drama of Divine Deliverance, *lower level*
Wednesday 6:30 pm: Adult Bible Study | Daniel, *lower level*
Friday 6:00 am: Breakfast 6:00, Bible study 6:45 | **The Book of Proverbs,** *DeForest Family Restaurant (505 W. North Street, DeForest)*

Sunday November 22: Last Sunday of the Church Year
Worship Service 8:00 & 10:30 am

- Pastor: Joel Jenswold
- Organist: Jennifer Boll
- Councilman/Elder: 8:00: Henry Nitz, 10:30: Shane Strong
- Ushers 8:00: Paul and Cindy Crary
- Ushers 10:30: The Heath Family
- Counters: Kim Bauer and Wayne Kaalberg
- Altar Guild: Bonnie Punzel and Reagan Oughton
- A/V & Recording: Devin Anderson
- Refreshments: Cindy Crary and Kristin Vomhof

Sunday November 29: First Sunday of Advent
Worship Service 8:00 & 10:30 am

- Pastor: Joel Jenswold
- Organist: Sharon Freund
- Councilman/Elder: 8:00: Mike Wilson, 10:30: Dave Olson
- Ushers 8:00: Gene Freund and Bob Degnan
- Ushers 10:30: Dave and Ben Olson
- Counters: Sharon Kalscheuer and Donna Cotter
- Altar Guild: Bonnie Punzel and Reagan Oughton
- A/V & Recording: Julie Doyle
- Refreshments: Sue Jenswold

Happy Anniversary: We wish God's blessings to John and Nancy Barden (11/22), and Pam and Roger Timm(11/27) as they celebrate their anniversaries this week.

Happy Birthday: We wish God's blessings to Sherry Hill (11/22), Alex Nelson (11/23), and Elena Turnbull (11/25), as they celebrate their birthdays this week.

COMING UP AT LORD OF LOVE

November 25: Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service | 6 :30 p.m.
November 28: Christmas Decorating | 9:00 a.m.
December 6: Advent by Candlelight | 3:00 p.m. Zion Leeds
December 13: Children's Christmas Program | 10:30 a.m.
December 13: Christmas at the Seminary 2026 | 3:00 & 7:00 p.m. WLS, Mequon

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2027 Offering Envelopes Available
Please be sure to pick up your 2027 Offering Envelopes located on the glass cabinet in the Narthex. If you do not plan to pick your envelopes up, please notify the Office at (608) 846-9036 or lolchurchoffice@gamail.com.

Help Us Decorate for Christmas! |Saturday November 28, 2026, 9:00 am
As we prepare to celebrate the birth of our Savior, we invite you to join us on Saturday, November 28th at 9:00 a.m. to help decorate our church for the Christmas season!
With your help, we can make our church a beautiful and welcoming place to celebrate this blessed season. All are welcome, treats will be provided.

Advent by Candlelight | December 6, 2026, 3:00 p.m. Zion Leeds
All ladies from Lord of Love are invited to Advent by Candlelight at Zion Leeds on Sunday, December 6th from 3-4pm. This year's theme is "Questions of Christmas". Ladies are welcome to invite family, friends, or neighbors to celebrate the Advent season and prepare their hearts to receive the Christ Child through word and song. Please sign up in the Narthex so we can let Zion-Leeds know how many to expect.

Christmas Poinsettia Donations
The altar guild is seeking poinsettia (or monetary) donations to beautify our Altar during the Christmas season. If you would like to donate a poinsettia, simply purchase a poinsettia and bring it to church. The plants can be brought to church anytime during the month until December 23 and may be taken home after our Christmas Day worship. The altar guild will arrange and maintain the poinsettias. For monetary donations, please use the small white labeled envelopes found on the back counter.

Christmas at the Seminary 2026 | December 13, 2026, 3:00 & 7:00 p.m.
Join the Seminary Chorus for Christmas at the Seminary, a service of lessons and carols, at 3:00pm and 7:00pm on Sunday, December 13, 2026. The annual Christmas concert includes traditional and modern anthems for choir, hymns, and carols for the audience. This concert will be held in the auditorium. Open seating is available on a first-come, first-seated basis. A free will offering will be collected. The seminary is located at 11831 N. Seminary Drive in Mequon, WI



Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service

November 25, 2026

6:30 pm

(No Thanksgiving Day Worship Service)

LORD of LOVE
Lutheran Church

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Office Assistant: Kristin Vomhof, Office hours Tuesday – Friday: 9:00 am – 2:00 pm
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod - ***Christ's Love, Our Calling***.

"I rejoiced with those who said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the LORD.'" Psalm 122:1



Our 8:00 am service will be recorded including the Service of the Sacrament. Individuals taking communion will not be visible in the recording.