

23rd Sunday after Pentecost

November 16, 2025; 9 a.m.



St John's
Lutheran Church

(An usher rings the church bell at 8:55 a.m.)

Welcome and Announcements

(Mark will make announcement about today's communion traffic pattern; those wishing to receive at the altar will stop at credence table for cup, then walk up side steps into the chancel)

Prelude

(Acolytes light the candles)

The Solid Rock arr. Anna Laura Page
JuBellation Handbell Choir

Confession and Forgiveness

(All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.)

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God
and of one another.
(Silence is kept for reflection.)

Faithful God,
**you have shown us the ways of your heart,
yet we stray from your paths.
We are stuck in sinful systems of oppression
and do not embrace the freedom
of your faithful promises.
We ignore our neighbors.
We exploit the earth.
We reject your abundance,
trusting our impulses instead of your steadfast love.**

**Repair our relationships,
restore what we have broken,
renew our hearts,
and bring us to new life.
Amen.**

Hear the good news:
God the Faithful One loves you,
✠ in Christ Jesus your sins are forgiven,
and by the power of the Holy Spirit you are set free.
Amen.

Gathering Hymn *(please stand)*

ELW #241; *O Lord How Shall I Meet You* vs. 1, 3, 4

- 1 O Lord, how shall I meet you,
 how welcome you aright?
 Your people long to greet you,
 my hope, my heart's delight!
 Oh, kindle, Lord most holy,
 your lamp within my breast
 to do in spirit lowly
 all that may please you best.

- 3 Love caused your incarnation;
 love brought you down to me.
 Your thirst for my salvation
 procured my liberty.
 Oh, love beyond all telling,
 that led you to embrace
 in love, all love excelling,
 our lost and fallen race.

- 4 Rejoice, then, you sad-hearted,
 who sit in deepest gloom,
 who mourn your joys departed
 and tremble at your doom.
 All hail the Lord's appearing!

O glorious Sun, now come,
send forth your beams so cheering
and guide us safely home.

Apostolic 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.

Kyrie

ELW Setting 1, p.98

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

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.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.

A - men, a - men.

Canticle of Praise

ELW Setting 1, p.101 This is the Feast; vs. 1, 3

Refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and



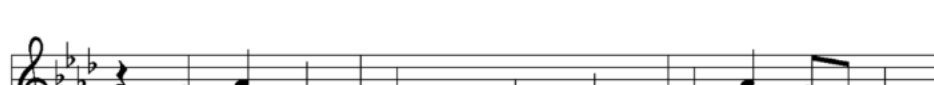
blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to



Refrain
hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



Refrain
gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. O God, **the protector of all who trust in you, without you nothing is strong, nothing is holy. Embrace us with your mercy, that with you as our ruler and guide, we may live through what is temporary without losing what is eternal, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Reading: Malachi 4:1-2a *(please sit)*

¹ See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the Lord of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. ^{2a} But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Reading: 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

⁶ Now we command you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from every brother or sister living irresponsibly and not according to the tradition that they received from us. ⁷ For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not irresponsible when we were with you, ⁸ and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it, but with toil and labor we worked night and day so that we might not burden any of you. ⁹ This was not because we do not have that right but in order to give you an example to imitate. ¹⁰ For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: anyone unwilling to work should not eat. ¹¹ For we hear that some of you are living irresponsibly, mere busybodies, not doing any work. ¹² Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

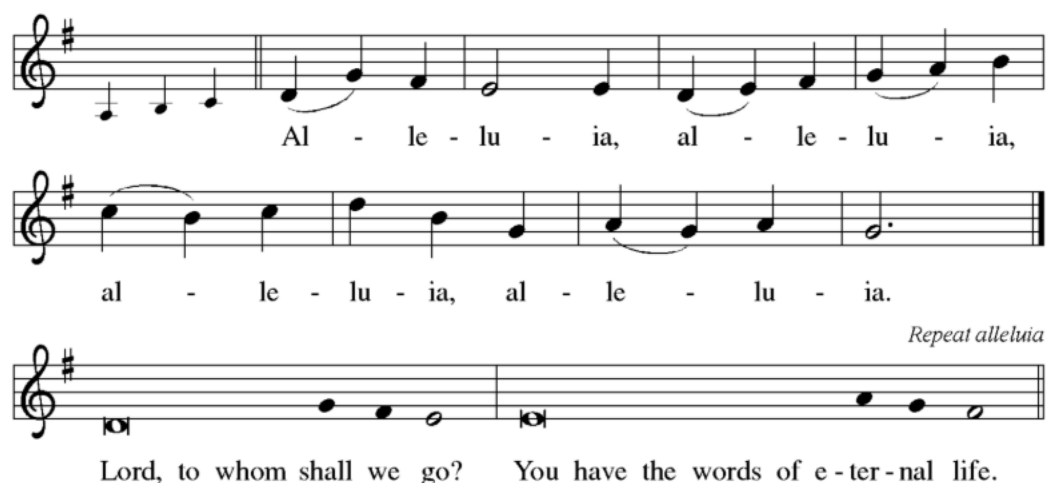
Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Children's Time

Gospel Acclamation *(please stand)*

ELW Setting 1; p. 102



Gospel: Luke 21:5-19

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 21st Chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

⁵ When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, [Jesus] said, ⁶ “As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down.”

⁷ They asked him, “Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?” ⁸ And he said, “Beware that you are not led astray, for many will come in my name and say, ‘I am he!’ and, ‘The time is near!’ Do not go after them.

⁹ “When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified, for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately.” ¹⁰ Then he said to them, “Nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom; ¹¹ there will be great earthquakes and in various places famines and plagues, and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

¹² “But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. ¹³ This will give you an opportunity to testify. ¹⁴ So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance, ¹⁵ for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. ¹⁶ You will be betrayed even by parents and siblings, by relatives and friends, and they will put some of you

to death. ¹⁷ You will be hated by all because of my name. ¹⁸ But not a hair of your head will perish. ¹⁹ By your endurance you will gain your souls.”

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

Sermon *(please sit)*

“Keep Calm and Carry On” Pastor Christine Emerson

Hymn of the Day *(please stand)*

ELW #597; *My Hope is Built on Nothing Less* vs. 1, 2, 4

- 1 My hope is built on nothing less
 than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
 no merit of my own I claim,
 but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Refrain

On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand.

- 2 When darkness veils his lovely face,
 I rest on his unchanging grace;
 in ev'ry high and stormy gale
 my anchor holds within the veil. *Refrain*

- 4 When he shall come with trumpet sound,
 oh, may I then in him be found,
 clothed in his righteousness alone,
 redeemed to stand before the throne! *Refrain*

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 the People

Petition: God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

The Peace

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

Offering

(Ushers take up the collection)

God Our Maker, Give us Peace by Dorothy Christopherson
St. John's Choir & JuBellation

Offertory *(please stand)*

(Ushers bring collection forward for acolytes to receive)

ELW #185; *Create In Me*

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and uphold me with your free Spirit.
Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.

Offertory Prayer

Let us pray. God of healing and hope,
you bless those who are hungry,
promising to fill them with good things.
Fulfill that promise through us and these your gifts.
Nourish us with the abundance of your feast
and unite us into the blessed body of Jesus Christ our Savior,
now and forever.
Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

ELW Setting 1; p.107

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

This musical score is for a four-part setting in G major (one sharp). It consists of four staves, each with a treble clef. The melody is simple and hymn-like, using mostly quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes. The first staff has a repeat sign at the end. The second staff also has a repeat sign. The third and fourth staves end with double bar lines.

Proper Preface

Holy, Holy, Holy

ELW Setting 1; p.108

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

This musical score is for a four-part setting in G major (one sharp). It consists of four staves, each with a treble clef. The melody is more complex than the previous section, featuring some eighth and sixteenth notes. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes. The first staff has a repeat sign at the beginning. The second staff has a repeat sign. The third and fourth staves end with double bar lines.

Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

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.

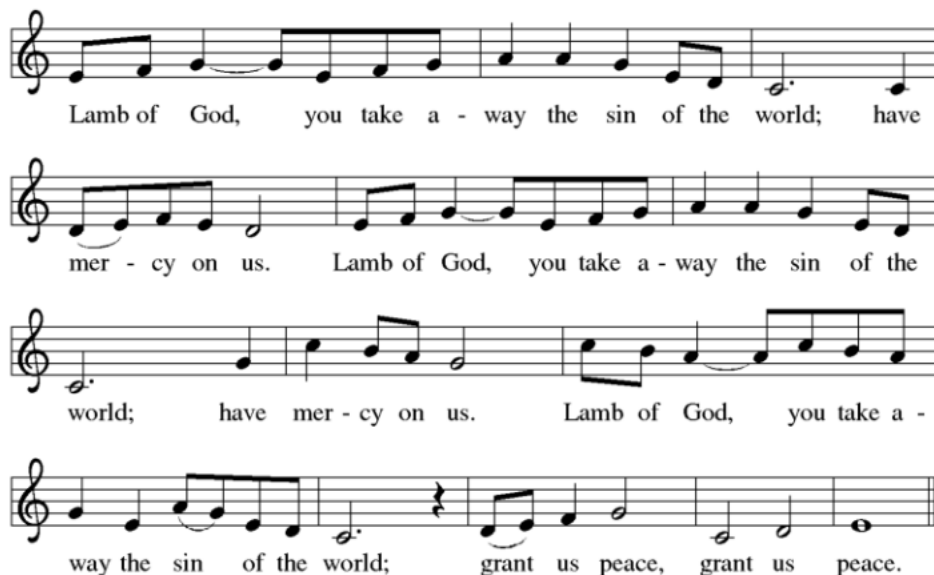
Invitation to the Table

(Acolytes prepare for communion distribution; ushers come forward to invite assembly by pew. Greeters will guide those wishing to receive at the altar: stop at credence table for a cup, then walk up side steps into the chancel)

There is a place for you at the table of God.
Come, receive the food that does not perish,
a taste of life eternal.

Lamb of God

ELW Setting 1; p.112



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Communion Hymn

ELW #785; *When Peace Like a River*

- 1 When peace like a river attendeth my way,
when sorrows like sea billows roll,
whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say,
it is well, it is well with my soul.

Refrain

It is well (it is well)
with my soul, (with my soul,)
it is well, it is well with my soul.

- 2 Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
let this blest assurance control,
that Christ has regarded my helpless estate,
and has shed his own blood for my soul. *Refrain*
- 3 He lives--oh, the bliss of this glorious thought;
my sin, not in part, but the whole,
is nailed to his cross and I bear it no more.
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! *Refrain*
- 4 Lord, hasten the day when our faith shall be sight,
the clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
the trumpet shall sound and the Lord shall descend;
even so it is well with my soul. *Refrain*

Post-Communion Blessing & Prayer *(please stand)*

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

Let us pray. God of field and flower, **wheat and grape,**
you have nourished us with the bread of heaven
that gives life to the world. Strengthened by the body and blood of your
Son, send us out to gather your good gifts for all who hunger and thirst,
and embolden us to love and serve in Christ's name.
Amen.

Benediction

The love of God the Sovereign strengthen you,
God the Son save you,
and God the Holy Spirit anoint you for the work ahead.

The holy Trinity bless you ✚
and grant you a faithful and courageous heart
now and forever.

Amen.

Sending Hymn

(Acolytes extinguish the candles)

ELW #723; *Canticle of the Turning* vs. 1-3

- 1 My soul cries out with a joyful shout
that the God of my heart is great,
and my spirit sings of the wondrous things
that you bring to the ones who wait.
You fixed your sight on your servant's plight,
and my weakness you did not spurn,
so from east to west shall my name be blest.
Could the world be about to turn?

Refrain

My heart shall sing of the day you bring.
Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,
and the world is about to turn.

- 2 Though I am small, my God, my all,
you work great things in me,
and your mercy will last from the depths of the past
to the end of the age to be.
Your very name puts the proud to shame,
and to those who would for you yearn,
you will show your might, put the strong to flight,
for the world is about to turn. *Refrain*

- 3 From the halls of pow'r to the fortress tow'r,
not a stone will be left on stone.
Let the king beware for your justice tears
ev'ry tyrant from his throne.
The hungry poor shall weep no more,
for the food they can never earn;
there are tables spread, ev'ry mouth be fed,
for the world is about to turn. *Refrain*

Sending

Go in peace. Share the harvest.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Linda Ranney

Altar Flowers

In memory of my sister, Patricia Holstein by Cheryl Mattison

Serving at Worship Today

Presider	Pastor Christine Emerson
Assistant	Ruth Lundblad
Lector	Brandi Fuchs
Acolytes	Owen Dekan, Xavier Olson
Ushers	Doug Hayes, Mike Torud
Greeters	Gary Kersten, Julie Kersten
Communion Servers	Kathy Freitag, Julie Kersten, Eric Nielsen, Mark Sontag
Media & Streaming	Lydia Elko
Screen Operator	Lois Mai
Musicians	Linda Ranney, piano/organ; Mark Lundin, Director of Music; St. John's Choir; JuBellation Handbell Choir

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