November 8, 2026
Hope Lutheran Church
6201 Coventry Way
Clinton, MD 20735

The Reverend Philip C. Hirsch – Bishop
The Reverend Eric Faret - Pastor
Jane Snyder – Minister of Music



Welcome to Hope Lutheran Church

Hope Lutheran Church
Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
6201 Coventry Way Clinton, MD 20735
(301) 868-2678
www.hopeclinton.org
Our Mission: ***To Be God's Loving Presence in a Hurting World***

The Reverend Eric B. Faret, Pastor (631-704-8063) pastoreric@hopeclinton.org
Pastor Eric's Office Hours - Wednesday & Friday - 10:00am-4:00pm

Church Office Hours
Monday, Wednesday & Friday: 10:30am-2:30pm or by appointment
Veronica Taylor, Administrative Assistant
Office: 301-868-2678 - office@hopeclinton.org

A Warm Welcome to Hope Lutheran Church
We hope that your worship experience this morning is spiritually enriching and meaningful.

- Children are always welcome at worship.
- We practice eucharistic hospitality. All are welcome to Holy Communion.
- **Are you here for the first time?** Our congregation is a member of the Metropolitan D.C. Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. If you are looking for a church home, we welcome your inquiry.
- **Restrooms** are located down the hall to the right.
- **Cellphones** create a distraction during worship. We ask that you check now to make sure it is in airplane mode.
- **Our team of ushers** are available throughout the service to assist.
- **Gluten-free hosts:** The baked bread distributed during Holy Communion is gluten-free, nut-free, **but full of Jesus**!

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY, PLEASE EXIT THROUGH THE SIDE EGRESS.

Worship Plan for Sunday, November 8, 2026
24th Sunday after Pentecost
ELW Holy Communion Setting Four

INTRODUCTION
Waiting can wear us down, especially when we do not know how long the night will last. In today's Gospel, Jesus calls his followers to be ready for his coming. We gather to nourish our faith, renew our hope, and turn our attention toward God. May this time together prepare us to greet Christ with joy and to live faithfully as we wait.

CALL TO WORSHIP
In the waiting and the uncertainty,
We turn toward the light of Christ.

When our strength fades, and our hope grows dim,
God's Word renews us; God's Spirit sustains us.

Christ calls us to watch and be ready.
Open our hearts to your coming, Lord Jesus.

Come, let us worship with expectant hearts.
Keep the flame of faith alive among us. Amen.

GATHERING
The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS
The assembly stands.
Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, our dwelling place for all generations,
whose compassion never slumbers.
Amen.

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

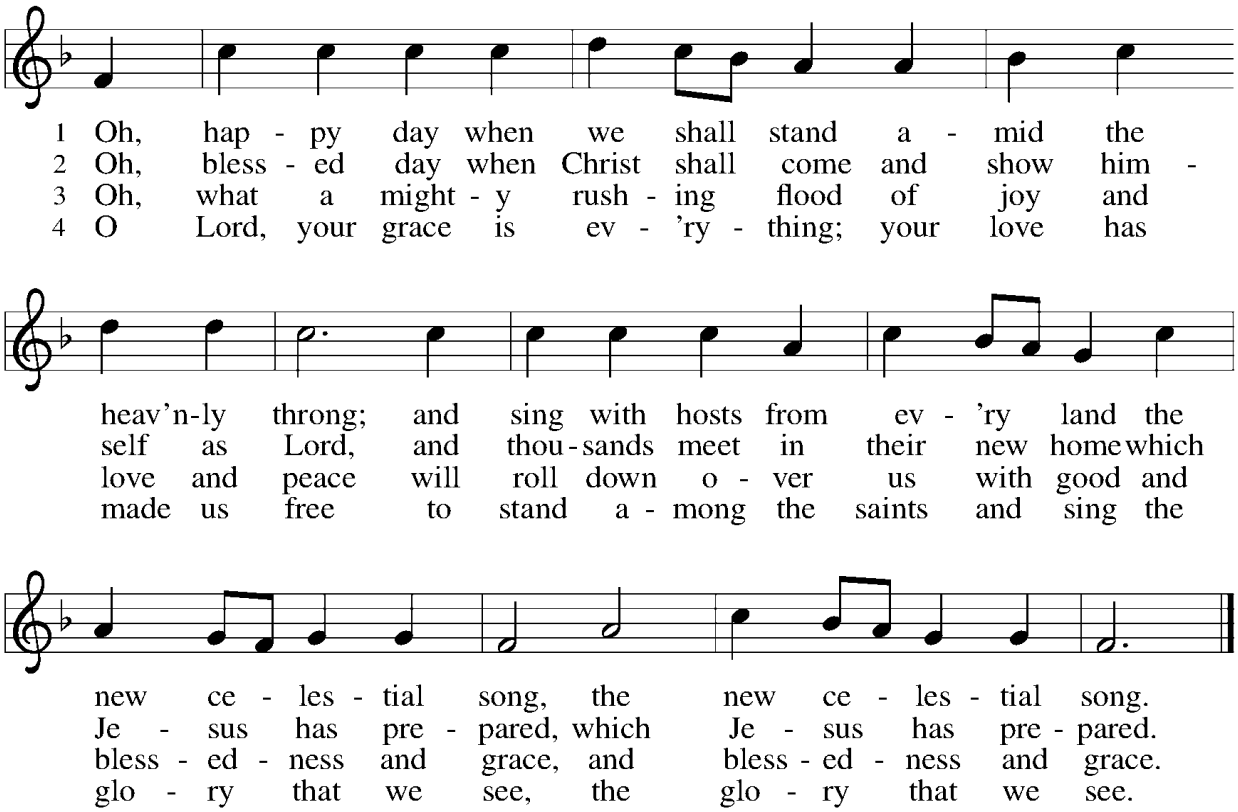
Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God,
we confess that we have trusted in our preparation instead of your invitation. We prioritize our piety over care for your beloved. We trust the voice of our shame and fear, which keeps us from entering fully into relationship with you and others. We are not awake to the coming of your reign. Rouse us and rescue us, that we may enter into your joy. Amen.

Inherit the riches of God's grace. ☩ Jesus, the good shepherd, feeds you with his mercy.
You are forgiven. Blessed are you.
Amen.

GATHERING SONG – "*Oh, Happy Day When We Shall Stand*" (ELW 441)

Oh, Happy Day When We Shall Stand



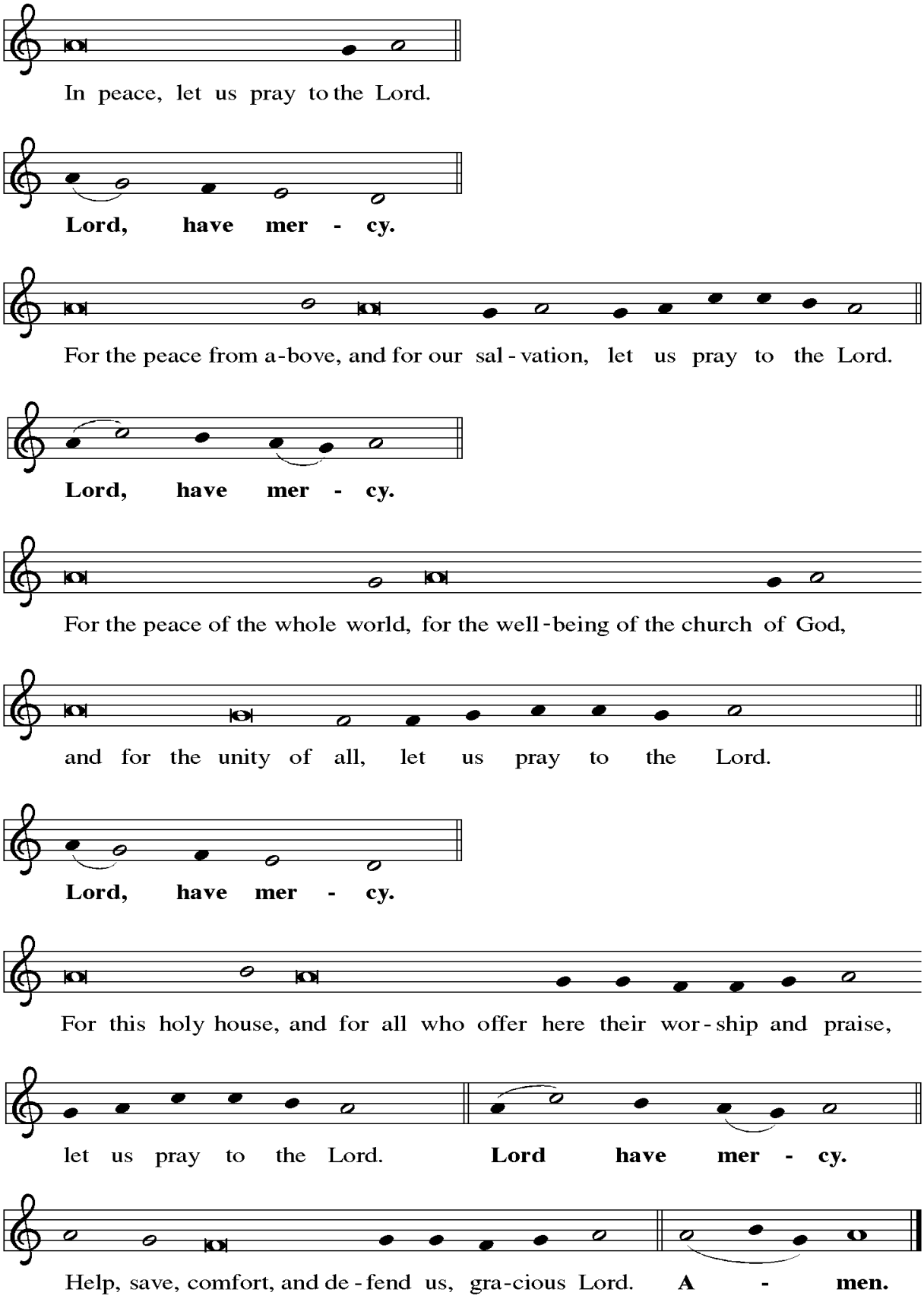
Text: Wilhelm A. Wexels, 1797–1866; tr. composite
Music: LOBT GOTT, IHR CHRISTEN, Nikolaus Herman, 1480–1561
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GREETING

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 p. 147)



CANTICLE OF PRAISE (ELW p. 148)



PRAYER OF THE DAY
Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

O God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

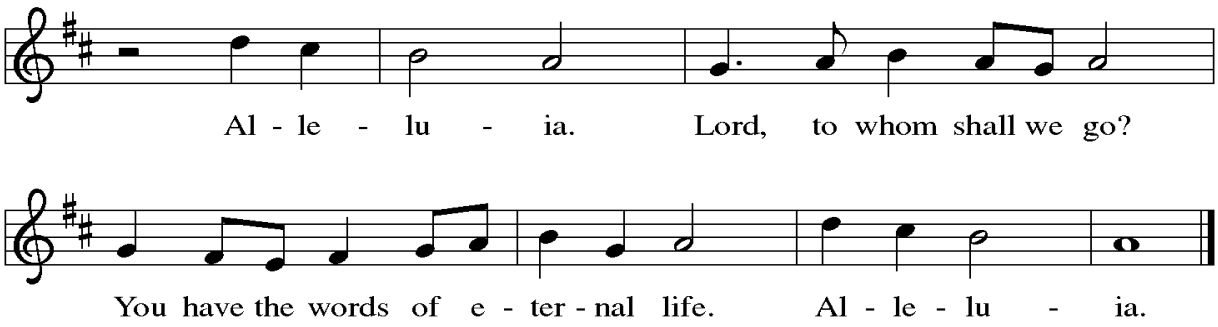
WORD
God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Amos 5:18-24
A reading from Amos.
18 Woe to you who desire the day of the LORD! Why do you want the day of the LORD? It is darkness, not
light, 19 as if someone fled from a lion and was met by a bear or went into the house and rested a hand
against the wall and was bitten by a snake. 20 Is not the day of the LORD darkness, not light, and gloom with
no brightness in it?
21 I hate, I despise your festivals, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies. 22 Even though you
offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them, and the offerings of well-being of
your fatted animals I will not look upon. 23 Take away from me the noise of your songs; I will not listen to the
melody of your harps. 24 But let justice roll down like water and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.
The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 70
1 Be pleased, O God, to deliver me; O LORD, make haste to help me.
2 **Let those who seek my life be put to shame and confounded; let those who take pleasure in my misfortune draw back and be disgraced.**
3 Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat over me turn back because of their shame.
4 **Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; let those who love your salvation say forever, "Great is the LORD!"**
5 But as for me, I am poor and needy; come to me quickly, O God. You are my helper and my deliverer; O
LORD, do not tarry.

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
A reading from 1 Thessalonians.
13 We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may
not grieve as others do who have no hope. 14 For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so,
through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. 15 For this we declare to you by the word of the
Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who
have died. 16 For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of
God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, 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 be
with the Lord forever. 18 Therefore encourage one another with these words.
Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 151)
The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.



GOSPEL: Matthew 25:1-13
The holy gospel according to Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] 1 "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten young women took their
lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. 2 Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. 3 When the foolish
took their lamps, they took no oil with them, 4 but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. 5 As the
bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept.

6 But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' 7 Then all
those young women got up and trimmed their lamps. 8 The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your
oil, for our lamps are going out.' 9 But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you
had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' 10 And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom
came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet, and the door was shut. 11 Later
the other young women came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' 12 But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not
know you.' 13 Keep awake, therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."
The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

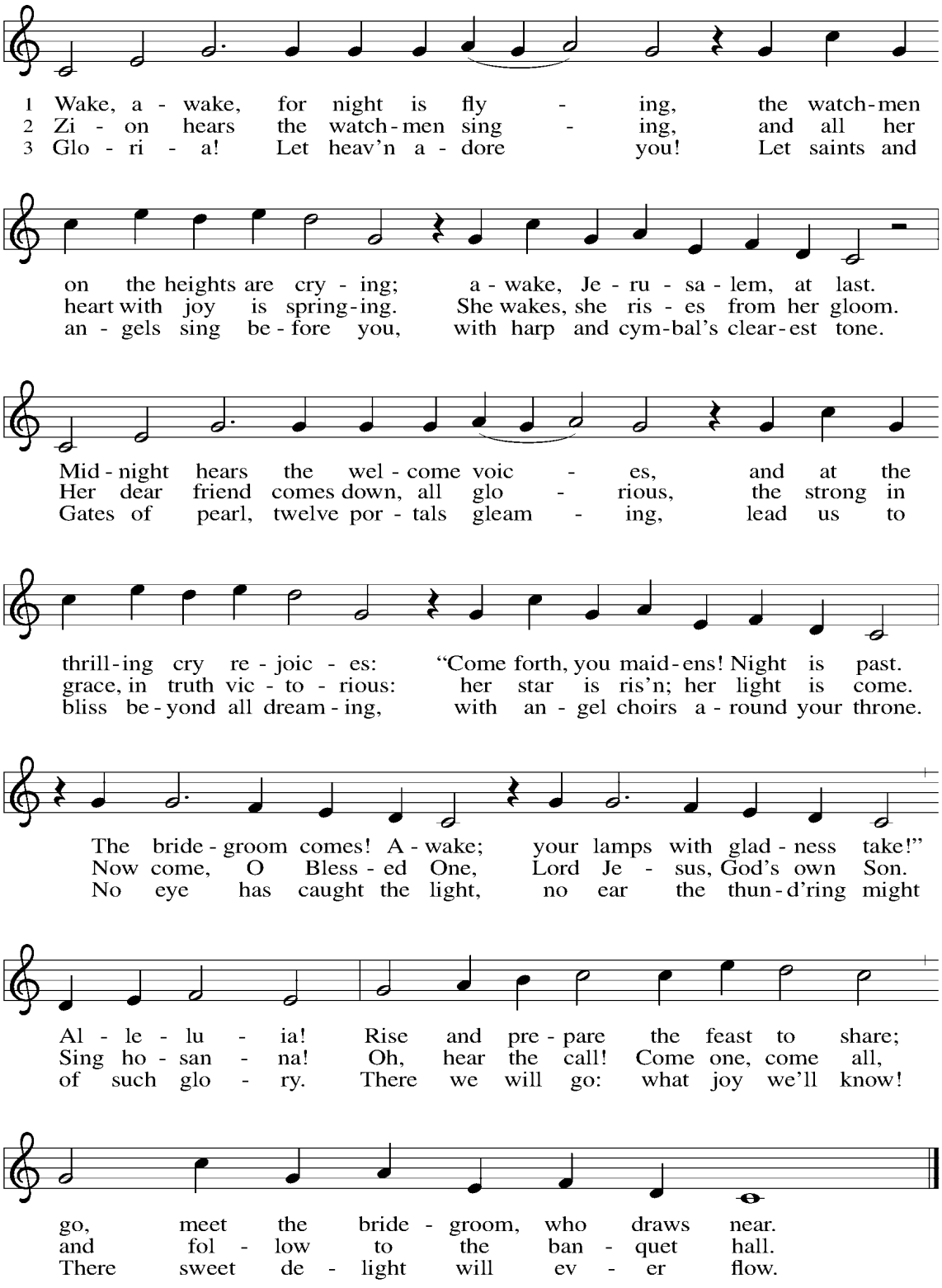
SERMON

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

HYMN OF THE DAY – *"Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying"* (ELW 436)

The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.

Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying



Text: Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608; tr. composite
Music: WACHET AUF, Philipp Nicolai
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APOSTLES' CREED (Assistant Minister)
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.

PRAYER SONG – *"Here, O Lord, Your Servants Gather: Sekai no tomo to te o tsunagi*" (ELW 530)
verse 2 only

Here, O Lord, Your Servants Gather

Sekai no tomo to te o tsunagi **530**



Text: Tokuo Yamaguchi, 1900–1995; tr. Everett M. Stowe
Music: Japanese Gagaku mode; Isao Koizumi, 1907–1992
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Music © 1958 Isao Koizumi

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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

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

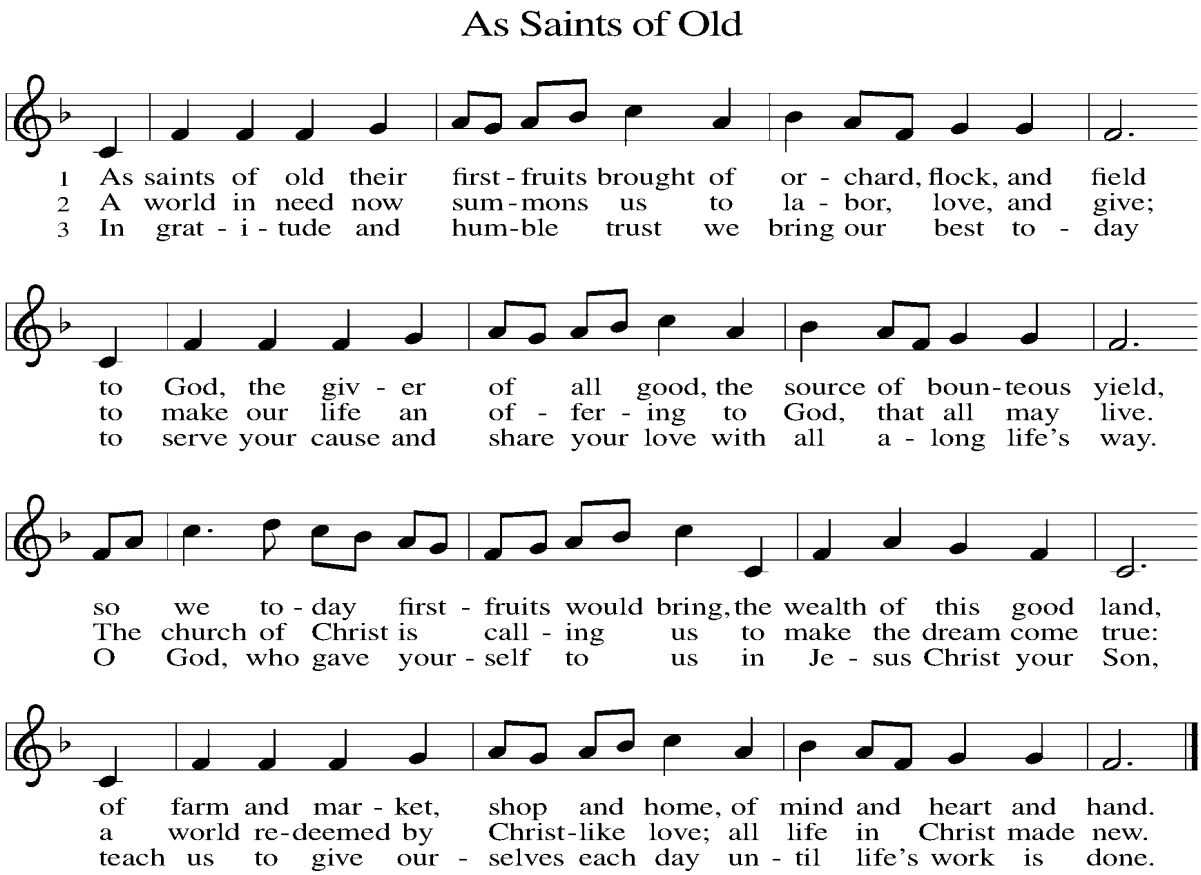
PEACE

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

The assembly is seated.

MEAL
God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING SONG – *"As Saints of Old* "(ELW 695) verse 2 only



Text: Frank von Christierson, 1900–1996, alt.
Music: FOREST GREEN, English folk tune
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OFFERING PRAYER (Assistant Minister)
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

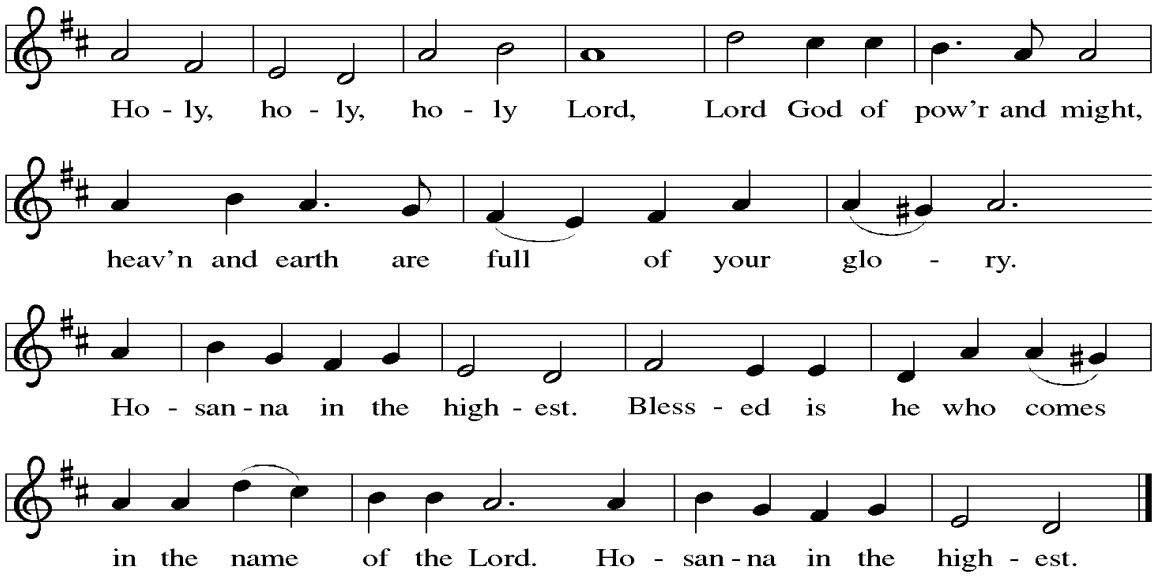
DIALOGUE
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

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 (ELW p. 153)



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE
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 (Led by Brother Dan Williams)

Our Father, which art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

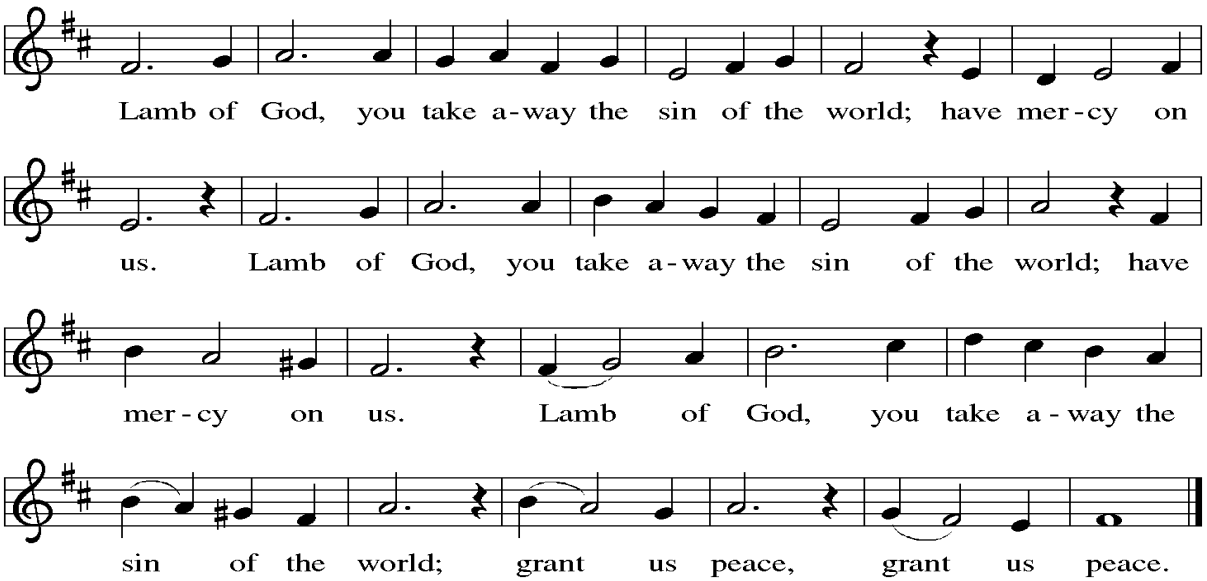
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever. Amen.

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

The assembly may be seated.

SONG - "Lamb of God" (ELW p. 154)

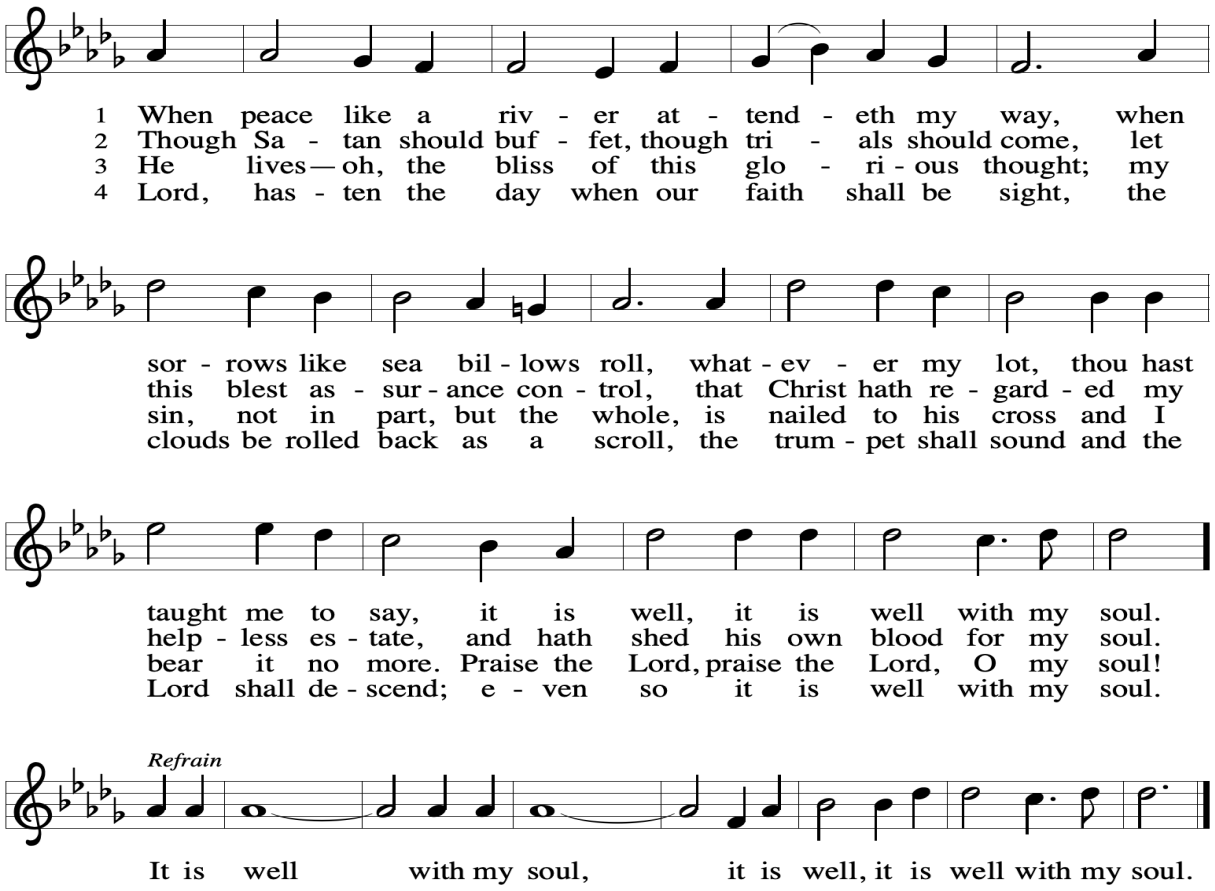


COMMUNION
The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.
Amen.

POST COMMUNION BLESSING
May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us, now and forever.
Amen.

COMMUNION SONG – "When Peace Like a River" (ELW 785)

When Peace, like a River
It Is Well with My Soul



Text: Horatio G. Spafford, 1828-1888
Music: VILLE DU HAVRE, Philip P. Bliss, 1838-1876

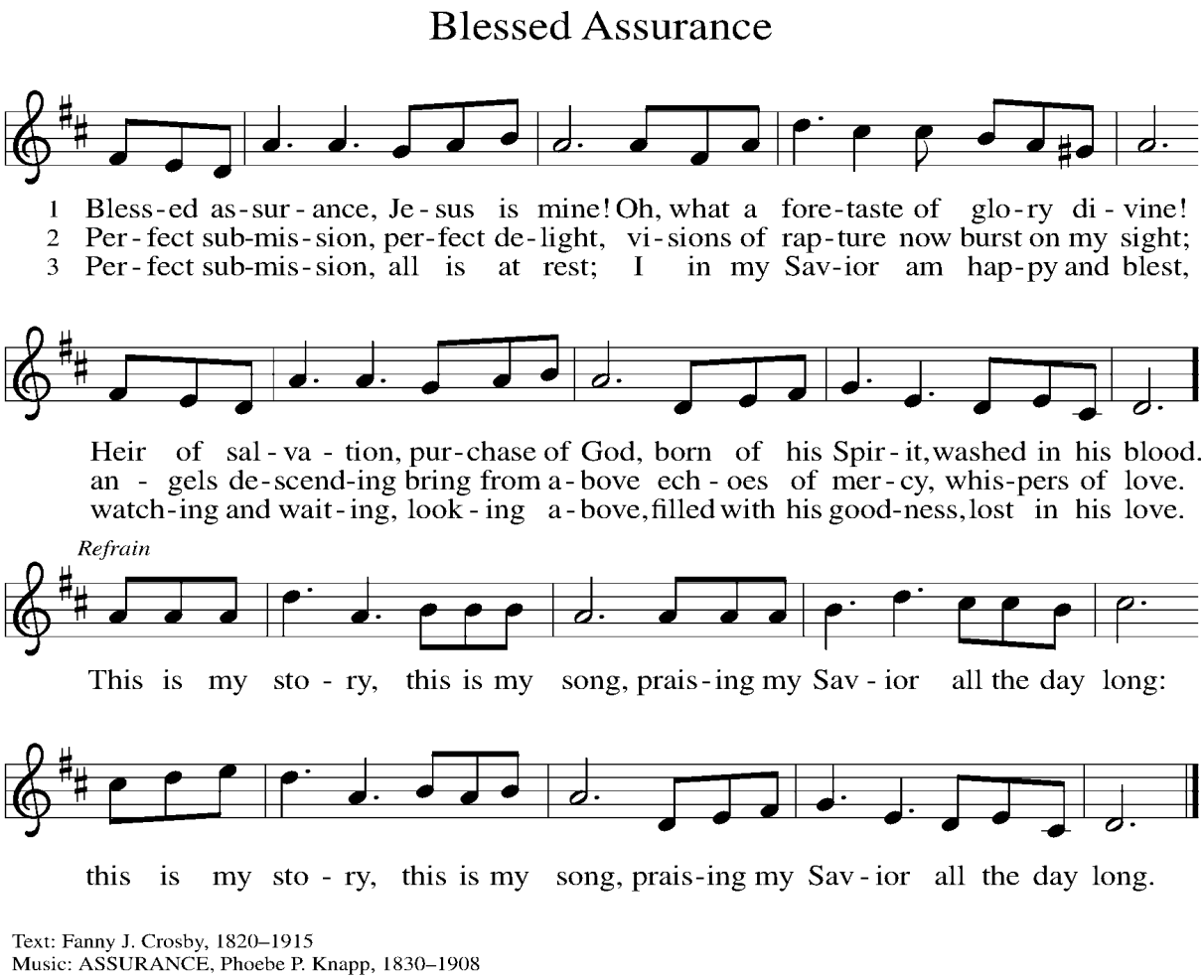
PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (Assistant Minister)
Let us pray.
We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

SENDING
God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BIRTHDAYS/WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES/BAPTISM ANNIVERSARIES
None

BLESSING
Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING SONG – *"Blessed Assurance"* (ELW 638)



Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915
Music: ASSURANCE, Phoebe P. Knapp, 1830–1908

SENDING (Assistant Minister)
Go in peace. Christ is with you.
Thanks be to God.

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COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT

Christmas Bazaar – Hosted by Christ Episcopal Church, Saturday, December 5th, 9:00am-4:00pm., 8710 Old Branch Avenue, Clinton, MD. If you would like to secure a table space (table not included), contact Lucille Belgrave at (240) 326-3637. The cost for each space is $40.00.

CHURCH ANNNOUNCEMENTS

Mission Project Meeting today at 12noon.

A Taste of Thanksgiving - Join us after service for a Potluck meal. All are welcome.

Christmas Shoe Box Project – Please bring your donated items in by Sunday, November 22nd. Cash donations are also accepted. The boxes will be assembled on Sunday, November 29th.

Advent Cookie Fellowship – Advent begins November 29th. Every Sunday during Advent, we will be serving cookies and other finger desserts after worship service. Please sign up to bring a plate of cookies or a finger dessert.

Annual Coat Drive with North Clinton Citizen's Association. We will be collecting coats for both girls and boys, sizes 5-20. Coats must be new or gently used and clean. Monetary donations are also welcomed. The coat drive will be held at Hope, Saturday, December 5th, from 9:00am - 12:00pm.

Bible Study - Join us on Fridays at 11:00am. Great interactive discussions and fellowship.

GriefShare Support Group – It's not too late to join. If you or someone you know are in need of support, join us on Wednesdays, from 2:00-4:00pm.

Neighborhood Walking Group – Join the community walking group Tuesday mornings at 8:15am. The group will meet in Hope's parking lot.

Calling all Temple Servers - Opportunities are available to serve on Sundays. A signup sheet is posted in the Narthex.

For financial donations to Hope Lutheran Church, you are welcome to use our QR code.