

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH



Rev. George Fields, Pastor

Sr. Sara Fields, Deaconess

Divine Service Each Week with Holy Communion: **10:30 a.m.**

Sunday School for all ages: **9:00 a.m.**

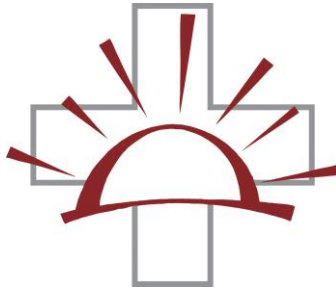
4423 I-55 North, Jackson, MS 39206-6102 – (601) 366-2055

www.ChristLutheranJacksonMS.org

THE TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

+ November 19, 2023 +

“The Great Day of the Lord Is Near”



We welcome our members and guests to Christ Lutheran today,
and pray God’s richest blessings upon you during this time of worship!

*All members and our guests are asked to complete the
worship attendance pads which can be found on each pew.
Guests are also asked to sign the guest register found in the Narthex.
We are so glad to have you worshipping with us today!*

*LARGE PRINT worship folders are available
at the usher stand at the back of the nave.*

WELCOME:

“The master had three servants. After they believed and became his servants, they were given a task to do. They received money from their master. One of them traded with it and gained. The second one gained, but not as much. And the third, out of fear and being insufficiently faithful *went away and hid* his master’s money. From his defensiveness it appears that he feared the master. He was in awe of the master even as the other had *‘zeal for God but not according to knowledge.’* Diffidently, he ‘hid’ his talent in the ground. Such are those who neither exert themselves nor question what has been said nor extend themselves to benefit souls.”

—Origen, *Commentary on Matthew* (Discourse 66)

THE LORD'S SUPPER

In preparation for reception of the Lord's Supper (*Holy Communion*), it is important that we review and understand what the Bible teaches regarding this sacrament:

The Bible teaches that Jesus gives us His very body and blood along with bread and wine in Holy Communion¹, and that these are means by which He forgives our sins², and strengthens us for daily living, and draws us into closer fellowship with Him and other believers. The Bible also teaches us to examine ourselves prior to receiving the meal³. For those receiving Holy Communion, examine yourself with these questions:

Do I believe that I am a sinner and I am sorry for my sins?

Do I believe that Jesus Christ is God's Son and my personal Savior?

Do I believe that Christ's true body and blood are present in this holy meal for my forgiveness?

Do I truly intend with the help of God to correct my sinful life?

According to Christ's Word in the Holy Scriptures, and in confession with the true Christian faith, at Christ Lutheran we observe the practice of closed communion. We believe that all who commune must confess the same holy faith, as Holy Scripture teaches. Since one's church affiliation indicates an individual's confession of faith, we ask that only those who have been instructed in the above teaching **and** are confirmed members of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod commune. If you have not been instructed in this teaching on Holy Communion, are in doubt, or hold a different confession of faith⁴, you are still welcome to come forward and cross your arms to indicate that you would like a blessing.

¹Matthew 26:26-29; Mark 14:22-25; Luke 22:14-20, 1 Corinthians 11:23

²Matthew 26:28; 1 John 1:7; 1 Peter 1:18-19

³1 Corinthians 11:28-32

⁴1 Corinthians 10:17; 1 Corinthians 11:26

DIVINE SERVICE III

PRESERVICE MUSIC

The congregation may use this time to pray and meditate.

OPENING HYMN

The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns

#348

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

PSALM: DOMINE, REFUGIUM

Psalm 90:1-12; Ant. Psalm 90:17



Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us, and establish the work of our hands | upon us;

yes, establish the work | of our hands!

**Lord, you have been our | dwelling place*
in all gener- | ations.**

Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth | and the world,*

from everlasting to everlasting | you are God.

You return | man to dust*

and say, "Return, O chil- | dren of man!"

For a thousand years in your sight are but as yesterday when | it is past,*

or as a watch | in the night.

You sweep them away as | with a flood;*

they are like a dream, like grass that is renewed in the | morning:

in the morning it flourishes and | is renewed;*

in the evening it fades and | withers.

For we are brought to an end by your | anger;*

by your wrath we | are dismayed.

You have set our iniquities be- | fore you,*

our secret sins in the light of your | presence.

For all our days pass away un- | der your wrath;*

we bring our years to an end | like a sigh.

The years of our life are seventy, or even by reason of strength | eighty;*

yet their span is but toil and trouble; they are soon gone, and we | fly away.

Who considers the power of your | anger,*

and your wrath according to the | fear of you?

So teach us to number | our days*

that we may get a heart of | wisdom.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us, and establish the work of our hands |
upon us;
yes, establish the work | of our hands!

KYRIE

Mark 10:47

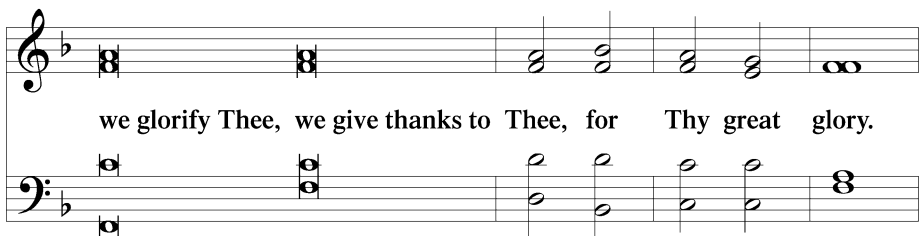
The congregation is invited to sing in parts:

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

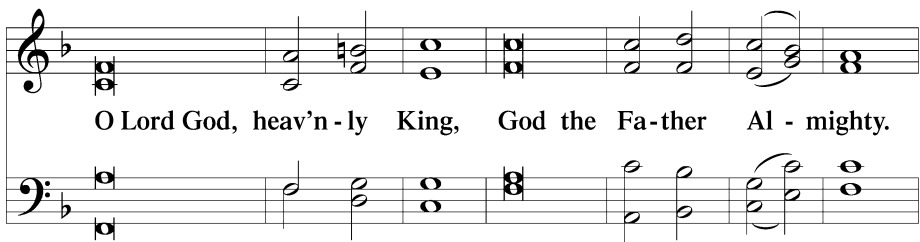
GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Luke 2:14; John 1:29

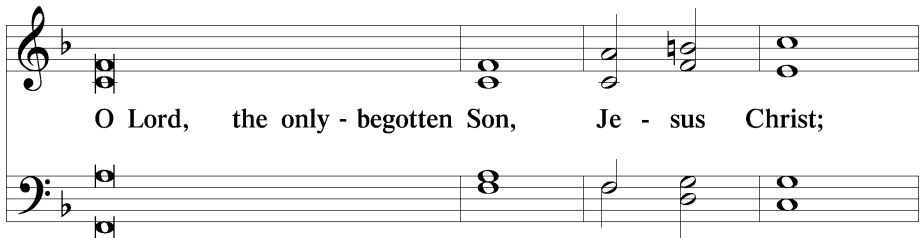
Glory be to God on high: and on earth peace, good - will toward
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,



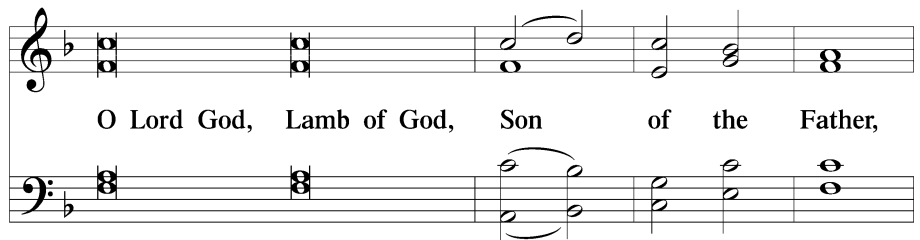
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.



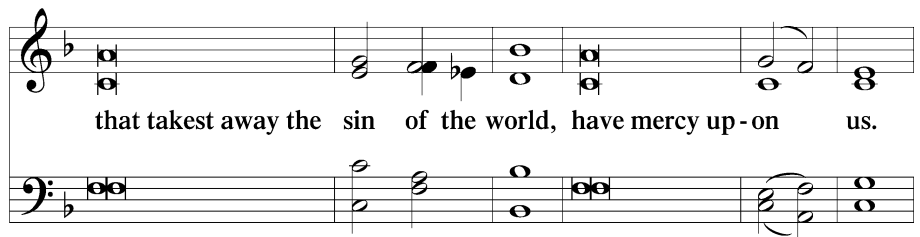
O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al-mighty.



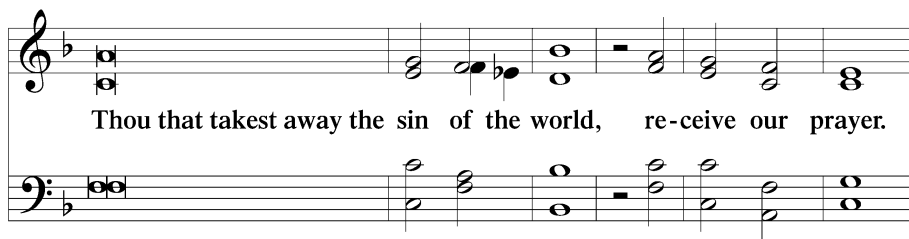
O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;



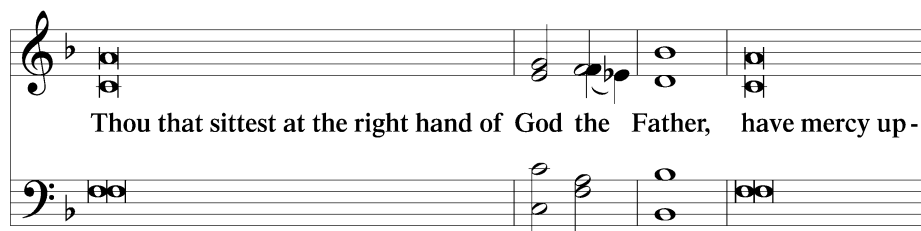
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,



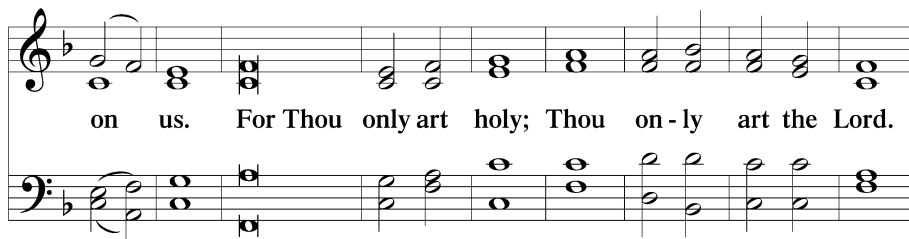
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.



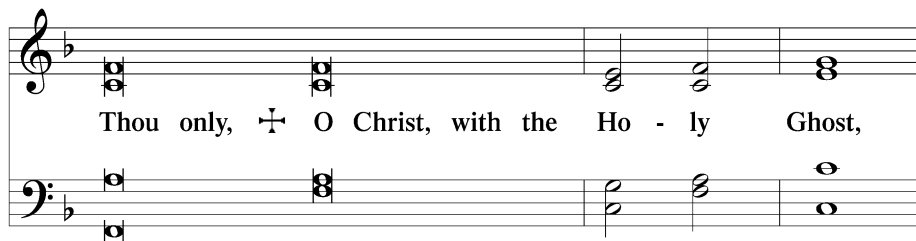
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.



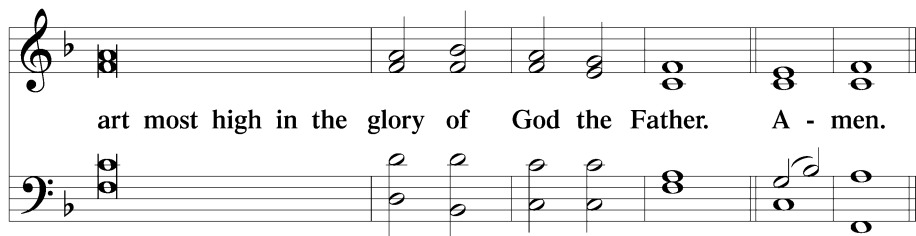
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-



on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on-ly art the Lord.

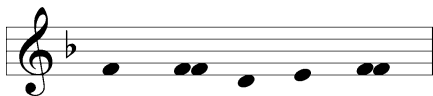


Thou only, † O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,



art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



P Let us pray.

P Almighty and ever-living God, You have given exceedingly great and precious promises to those who trust in You. Dispel from us the works of darkness and grant us to live in the light of Your Son, Jesus Christ, that our faith may never be found wanting; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Please be seated

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Zephaniah 1:7-16

Be silent before the Lord GOD!

For the day of the LORD is near;
the LORD has prepared a sacrifice
and consecrated his guests.

And on the day of the LORD's sacrifice—
“I will punish the officials and the king's
sons

and all who array themselves in foreign
attire.

On that day I will punish

everyone who leaps over the threshold,
and those who fill their master's house
with violence and fraud.

“On that day,” declares the LORD,
“a cry will be heard from the Fish Gate,
a wail from the Second Quarter,
a loud crash from the hills.

Wail, O inhabitants of the Mortar!

For all the traders are no more;
all who weigh out silver are cut off.

At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,
 and I will punish the men
 who are complacent,
 those who say in their hearts,
 ‘The LORD will not do good,
 nor will he do ill.’
 Their goods 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 mighty man cries aloud there.
 A day of wrath is that day,
 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.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL

Revelation 7:14b, Psalm 84:5



These are the ones coming out of the great tribu- | lation.*

They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood | of the Lamb.

Blessèd are those whose strength is | in you,*

in whose heart are the highways to | Zion.

EPISTLE READING

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. While people are saying, “There is peace and security,” then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has not

destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand

ALLELUIA




C Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 25:14-30

P The Holy ✠ Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.



C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

“For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master’s money. Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, ‘Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.’ And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, ‘Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.’ He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ But his master answered him, ‘You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where

I have not sowed and gather where I scattered no seed? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



G Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Please be seated

OFFICE HYMN

Jesus, Priceless Treasure

#743

SERMON

Should He Not Come in Wrath?

Please stand

NICENE CREED

C **I believe in one God,** (Rom 10:10; Deut 6:4)
 the Father Almighty, (Mt 6:9; Ex 6:3)
 maker of heaven and earth (Gen 1:1; Jn 1:1)
 and of all things visible and invisible. (Col 1:16)
And in one Lord Jesus Christ, (Rom 10:9)
 the only-begotten Son of God, (Jn 3:16; Mt 16:16)
 begotten of His Father before all worlds, (Jn 1:2)
 God of God, Light of Light, (Jn 17:22; Jn 8:12; Jn 1:1)
 very God of very God, (Col 2:9) begotten, not made, (Jn 1:2)
 being of one substance with the Father, (Jn 10:30)
 by whom all things were made; (Heb 1:2; Jn 1:3)
 who for us men and for our salvation (1 Tim 2:4; Rom 3:23)
 came down from heaven (Jn 6:41; Lk 15:20)
 and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary (Lk 1:34-35)
 and was made man; (Jn 1:14)
 and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. (Mk 15:25; Jn 19:16-18)
 He suffered and was buried. (Jn 19:1-3; Lk 23:53)
 And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures (1 Cor 15:4; Lk 24:6)
 and ascended into heaven (Acts 1:9)
 and sits at the right hand of the Father. (Acts 7:55)
 And He will come again with glory (Mt 26:64)
 to judge both the living and the dead, (Acts 10:42; Mt 3:12)
 whose kingdom will have no end. (2 Pt 1:11)
And I believe in the Holy Spirit, (Jn 14:26; Gen 1:2; Acts 2:38)
 the Lord and giver of life, (Gen 1:2; Jn 3:6)
 who proceeds from the Father and the Son, (Jn 15:26)
 who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, (Mt 3:16-17)
 who spoke by the prophets. (Eze 11:5)
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, (1 Pt 2:5; Eph 2:19-22)
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, (Eph 4:5)
and I look for the resurrection of the dead (1 Cor 15:35-49; 1 Thess 4:13-18)
and the life \dagger of the world to come. (Mk 10:29-30; Mt 10:40-42)
Amen. (Ps 106:48)

Us men means all people.
Christian: the ancient text reads “catholic,” meaning the whole Church as it confesses the wholeness of Christian doctrine.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

After each petition of the prayer:

Pastor: Let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

For comfort, health, and recovery: **Nathan Brown, Hunter Burkhalter, Marie Ferderer & Tahlia, MariLynn Fuhrer, Gary Henderson, Kim Hill, Marsha Hobbs, Carmen Hunn, Todd Jardee, Robert Kelly, Anita Martin, Casey Paton, Nathan Richards, Doris Roberts, Gary Stoeckmann, Donny Thomas, Leslie Thomas;**

For those who mourn: the family and friends of **Max McGuire;**

For those who are ill or distressed: **Stan Acey, Jenalee Adams, Layne Bagley, Shirley Bagley, W.L. Bagley, Sarah Bowman, Mimi Bradley, Deloris Brent, Martha Brown, Nathan Brown, Hunter Burkhalter, Tina Burke, Wayne Burke, Bobby Carroll, James E. Cookston, Joan Cowards, Belinda Cowards-Gonzales, Robert (Andy) Evers, Randy Fowler, Parker Haines, Dan Hansen, Paul Hansen, Tim Hansen, Valerie Henderson, Sharon Holleman, Beth Jarratt, Joslyn Jones, Steve Kennedy, John Koster, Katelyn Lawing, Paul McCullough, Jerry McIntyre, Edlia Miller, Elaine Monaghan, Don Ochs, Mildred Odom, Deborah-Annette Ried, Jon Sandberg, Noah Schultz, Jonnie Pearl Smiley, Bob Smith, Sherri Smith, Deborah Springer, Leonard Watson, Dana Weaver, Cynthia Widlitze, Carol Wright, Jimmy Wright, Marshall Wright, Barbara Zeigler;**

For college and graduate students: **Sara Fields, Will Nelson;**

For military servants and their families: **Gabriel Escude, James (Glen) Hansford, Holden Hathcock, William Nelson, Steven Tatum, John Weidner Jr.;**

For foreign missionaries: **especially Rev. Vance & Linda Becker;**

This week's prayer family: **Merina Hansen** and her loved ones.

Please be seated

OFFERING

Please stand

OFFERTORY

Psalm 51:10-12

The congregation is invited to sing in parts:

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them up un - to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.



C It is meet and right so to do.

P It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,



† bless-ed is He, bless - ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

P *Our Father who 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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us;
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver † us from evil.*



C For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the



glo - ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the

world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Please be seated

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

All who are members in good standing of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod and have introduced themselves to the pastor are welcome to partake of the Holy Communion at Christ Lutheran. If you have not spoken to the pastor, but would like to receive the Lord's blessing, you may still come to the rail and kneel, crossing one arm over the other in the shape of an 'X'. This symbolizes that one is marked by the cross and Triune name of Almighty God.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness

#636

Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending

#336

Please stand following distribution of communion

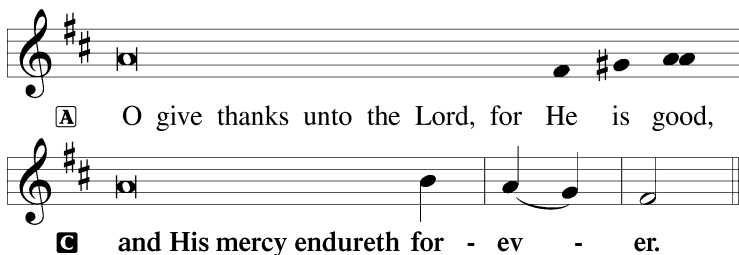
NUNC DIMITTIS

Luke 2:29-32



Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -
cord-ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, world without end. A - men.

THANKSGIVING



A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

A We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

SALUTATION AND BENEDICAMUS



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



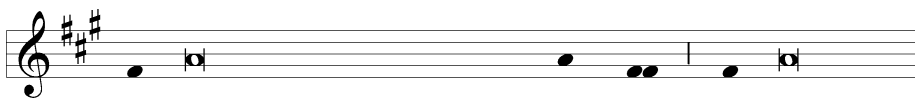
A Bless we the Lord.



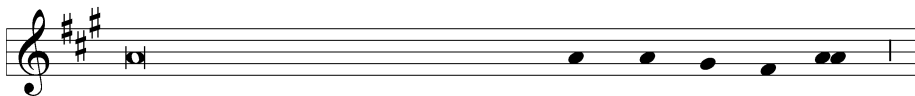
C Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

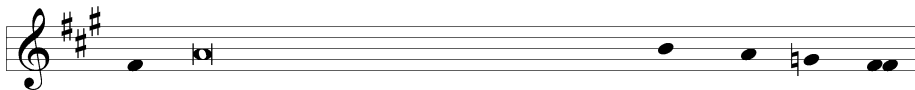
Numbers 6:24–26



P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and † give you peace.



C A-men, a-men, a - men.

CLOSING HYMN

Be Still, My Soul

#752

Acknowledgments

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Today's Worship Servants:

Celebrant: Rev. George Fields

Acolyte: William Hansford

Interpreter: Denee Smith

Altar Guild: Sabrina Goodlett

Elder: Keith Martin

Organist: Sr. Sara Fields

Cantor: James Hansford

Altar Flowers: This morning's altar flowers are given for the glory of God by the Fields in celebration of Seraphine's baptismal anniversary.

Voters Meeting: Mark your calendar for **Sunday, December 5**, as we will meet to approve the 2024 Work Plan. The meeting will follow the Divine Service.

Advent is coming...! While turkey and cranberry sauce dominate our thoughts this week, a new church year is swiftly approaching! Advent begins on Sunday, December 3rd, complete with its midweek suppers and vespers, Communion Christmas, Decoration Day, and more. Stay tuned for all the details as we welcome the new [church] year!

Christmas Choir: The festival season of the Church year is almost here – and we know what that means: Christmas is coming! Come sing with us as we prepare for Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols; Christmas choir rehearsals begin at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday evenings until Christmas. Ask Sister Sara for more details!

CLC Christmas Recital: Calling all musicians! It is time to start practicing up, because the Christ Lutheran Christmas Recital is coming on **Saturday, January 6**. If you are interested in participating, email Sister Sara at sistersara@christlutheranjaxsonms.org. All ages and levels are welcome!

Readings for next Sunday, November 26th, the Last Sunday of the Church Year:
Introit Ps. 39:4-8, 12; Psalm 95:1-7; Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24; 1 Corinthians 15:20-28; Matthew 25:31-46.

This week at Christ Lutheran Church: November 20 – November 26

Thursday

Thanksgiving Day

Sunday

9:00 a.m. Sunday School for All Ages

10:30 a.m. Divine Service – The Last Sunday of the Church Year



Issues, Etc.™

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