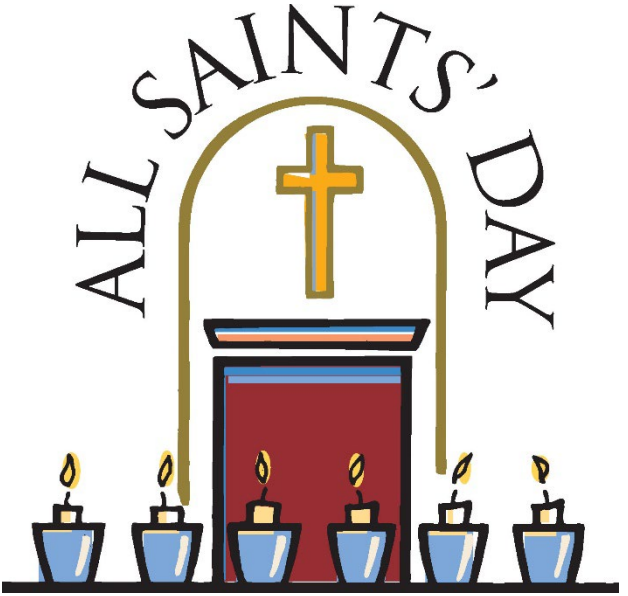
Messiah Lutheran Church

GATHER, EMPOWER, SERVE



✢ Holy Communion ✢

All Saints Day

November 1, 2026



ALL SAINTS DAY

All Saints celebrates the baptized people of God, living and dead, who are the body of Christ. As November heralds the dying of the landscape in many northern regions, the readings and liturgy call us to remember all who have died in Christ and whose baptism is complete. At the Lord's table we gather with the faithful of every time and place, trusting that the promises of God will be fulfilled and that all tears will be wiped away in the new Jerusalem.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Stand

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

C: **Amen.**

P: Let us pray…

Dear Father in Heaven—to whom all hearts are open and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, that we might perfectly love you and worthily magnify your Holy Name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the Truth is not in us. But we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Therefore, let confess all our sins to God, so that we may hear his forgiveness and know his mercy…

Kneel

Silence is kept for meditation…

P: Almighty God, merciful Father:

C: **I have sinned against you in thought, in word, and in deed;**
By what I have done and what I have left undone.
I have not loved you with my whole heart, mind, and strength.
I have not loved my neighbor as myself.
For the sake of your beloved Son, who suffered upon the cross for me, have mercy upon me and forgive me all my sin!

P: Almighty God, our Father in Heaven, has given his Son to die for us, and for his sake forgives us all our sin. As a Called and Ordained minister of the Church of Jesus Christ, and by his authority, I declare to you the forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

Stand

The Congregation turns to follow the processional cross.

GATHERING HYMN ***For All the Saints – St. 1, 4-8***



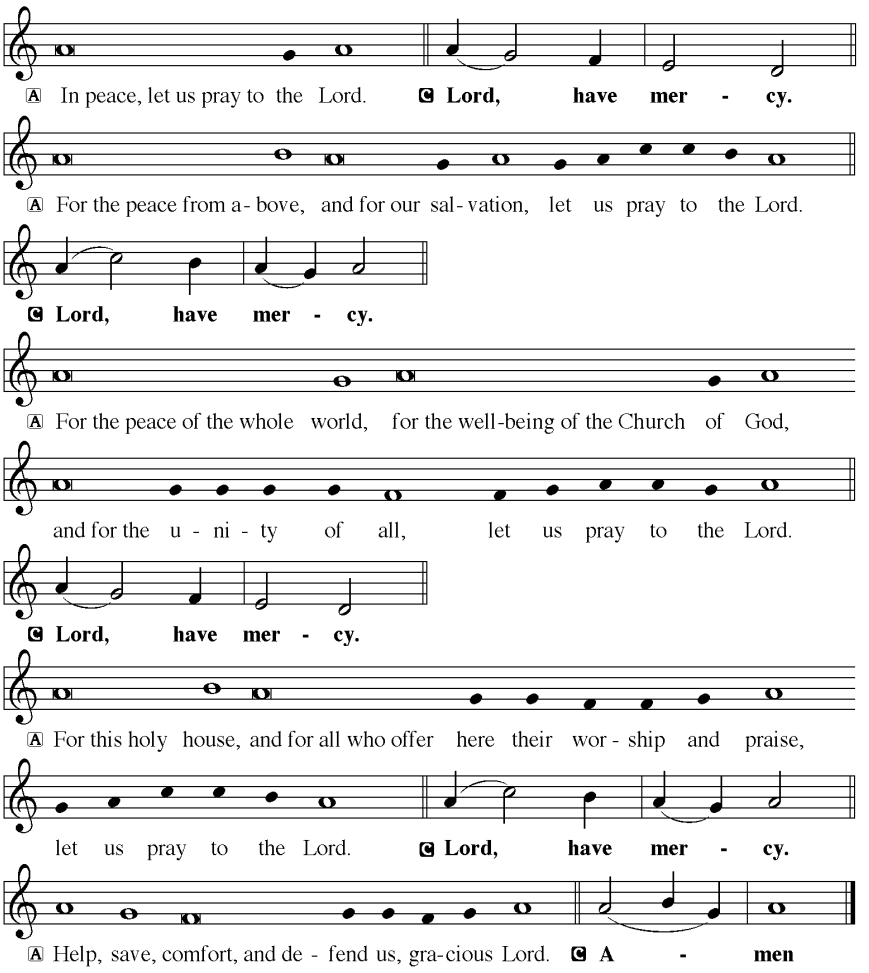


APOSTOLIC GREETING

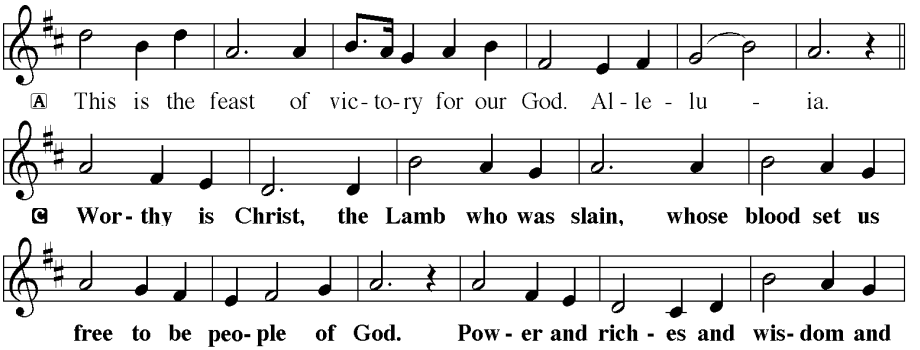
P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

KYRIE



HYMN OF PRAISE





PRAYER OF THE DAY



℗: Let us pray.
Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

℄: **Amen.**

Sit

WORD

FIRST READING: Revelation 7:9-17

The book of Revelation is written to seven churches in western Asia Minor during a time of great oppression. Today's reading is a response to the question asked in 6:17: "Who is able to stand?" The writer gives the faithful the assurance of God's protection and a vision of victory.

A: A Reading from Revelation:

9 I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count,
from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages,
standing before the throne and before the Lamb,
robed in white, with palm branches in their hands.
10 They cried out in a loud voice, saying,
"Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

11 And all the angels stood around the throne
and around the elders and the four living creatures,
and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, 12 singing,
"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honor and power and might
be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

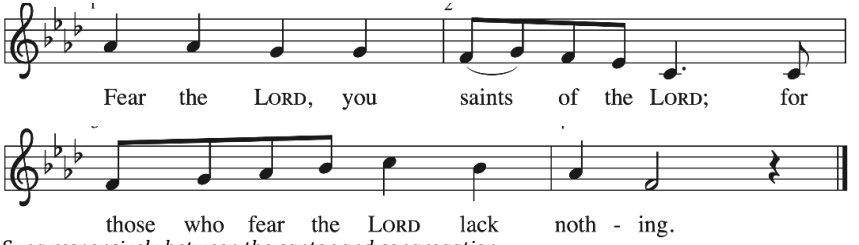
13 Then one of the elders addressed me, saying,
"Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?"
14 I said to him, "Sir, you are the one who knows."
Then he said to me,
"These are they who have come out of the great ordeal;
they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the
Lamb. 15 For this reason they are before the throne of God
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.
16 They will hunger no more and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat,
17 for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

A: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 34:1-10, 22

Sung by the cantor and repeated by the congregation.



Sung responsively between the cantor and congregation.



[1]I will bless the LORD | at all times;
his praise shall ever be | in my mouth.
[2]**I will glory | in the LORD;**
let the humble hear | and rejoice.
[3]Proclaim with me the greatness | of the LORD;
let us exalt his | name together.
[4]**I sought the LORD, and he | answered me**
and delivered me out of | all my terror.
[5]Look upon him | and be radiant,
and let not your faces | be ashamed.
[6]**I called in my affliction, and | the LORD heard me**
and saved me from | all my troubles.
[7]The angel of the LORD encompasses | those who fear him,
and he will de- | liver them.
[8]**Taste and see that the | LORD is good;**
happy are they who | trust in him!
[9]Fear the LORD, you that | are his saints,
for those who fear | him lack nothing.
[10]**The young lions lack and | suffer hunger,**
but those who seek the LORD lack nothing | that is good.

[22]The LORD ransoms the life | of his servants,
and none will be punished who | trust in him. **R.**

SECOND READING: 1 John 3:1-3

A saint is one who has been set apart by God for God's purposes. God, out of divine love, set us apart to be the children of God. Our holy hope is that we shall see God as God really is.

A: A Reading from First John:

1 See what love the Father has given us,
that we should be called children of God,
and that is what we are.
The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.
2 Beloved, we are God's children now;
what we will be has not yet been revealed.
What we do know is this:
when he is revealed, we will be like him,
for we will see him as he is.
3 And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

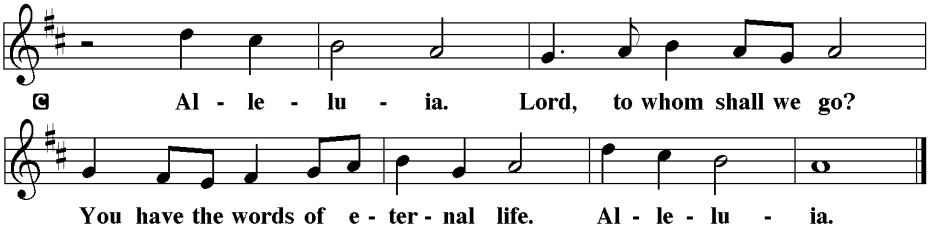
A The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

The Gospel is carried into the midst of the people as a reminder that Christ is present among us. Please face the processional cross.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



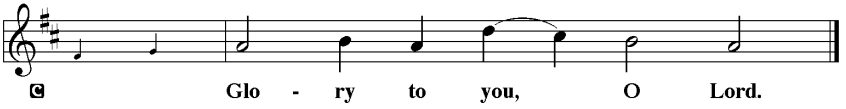
CANTOR: They are before the | throne of God, and the one who is seated on the throne will | shelter them.

C: **Repeat the Alleluias.**

GOSPEL: Matthew 5:1-12

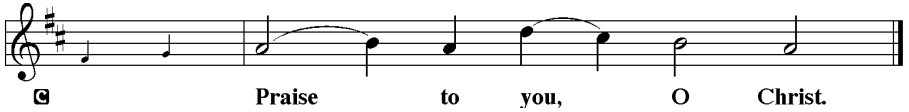
In the Beatitudes, Jesus provides a unique description of those who are blessed with God's favor. His teaching is surprising and shocking to those who seek wealth, fame, and control over others.

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



1 When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain,
and after he sat down, his disciples came to him.
2 Then he began to speak and taught them, saying:
3 "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
4 "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
5 "Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.
6 "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be filled.
7 "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.
8 "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
9 "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.
10 "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness sake,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
11 "Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you
and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.
12 Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven,
for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.



Sit

SERMON.....**Pastor Kliner**

Stand

HYMN OF THE DAY ***Oh, What Their Joy***



Text: Peter Abelard, 1079–1142; tr. John M. Neale, 1818–1866, alt.
Music: O QUANTA QUALIA, *Antiphoner,* Paris, 1681

NINCENE CREED

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A brief silence is held after the introduction.

P: Let us pray for the Church, the world, and all people according to their need…

After each petition:

P: Lord, in your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

The prayers conclude:

P: All these things, most merciful God, we commend into your hands, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen!**

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

The pastor and congregation greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Peace be with you. R: Peace be with you

Sit

MEAL

OFFERING

The Offering is received as the Lord's table is prepared.

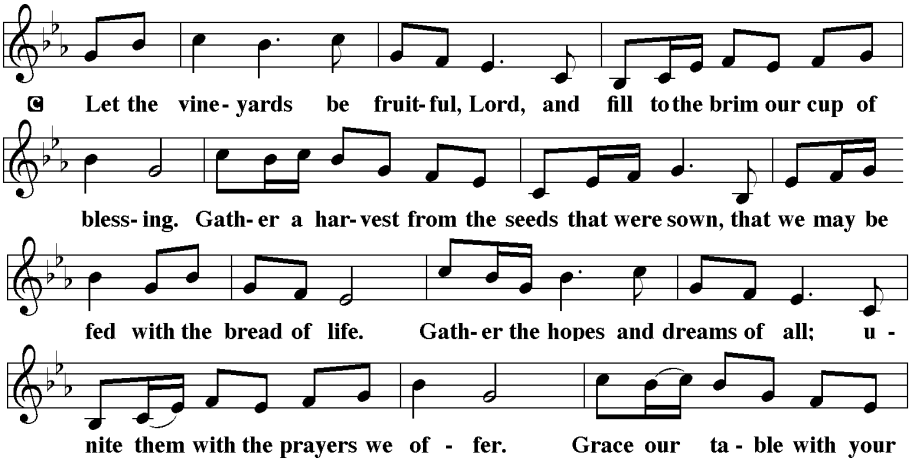
Anthem

Let Saints on Earth**.....Austin Lovelace**

Stand

OFFERTORY HYMN

As the gifts are presented, the Offertory is sung



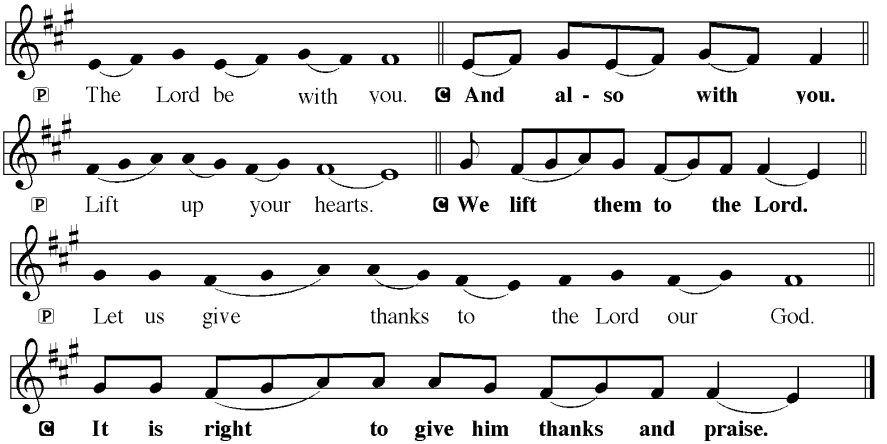


OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray… Merciful Father,

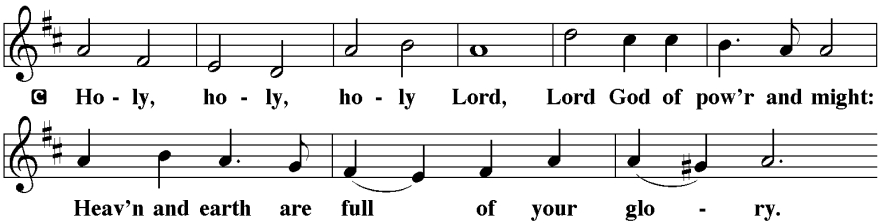
C: We offer you with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—ourselves, our time, and our possessions—signs of your gracious Love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself to us, + Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

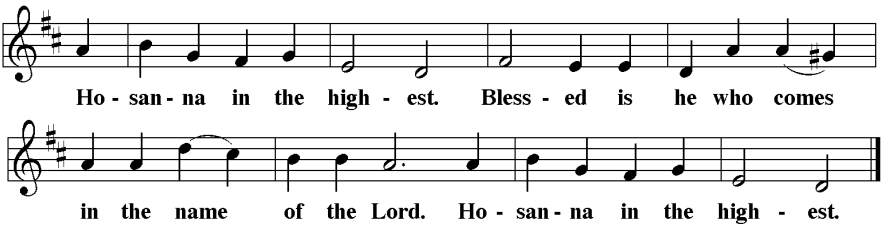
GREAT THANKSGIVING



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. By the witness of the Saints you show us the hope of our calling, and strengthen us to run the race set before us, that we may delight in your mercy, and rejoice with them in glory. And so with all the saints, with the choirs of angels and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:





EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Heavenly Father: endless is your mercy, and eternal is your reign. You have filled all creation with light and life; heaven and earth are full of your glory!

Through Abraham you promised to bless all nations. You rescued Israel, your chosen people. Through the Prophets, you renewed your promise; and at this, the end of the ages, you sent your only begotten Son, who in words and deeds proclaimed your Kingdom and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life upon the Cross.

Send your Holy Spirit upon these the gifts of your Church, that they may be for us the very Body ☩and Blood ☩ of our Lord Jesus Christ. Let us who receive our Lord's Body and Blood live to the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your Saints in Light.

C **Amen! Come Holy Spirit!**

P: For, in the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying:
TAKE AND EAT.
THIS IS MY BODY WHICH IS GIVEN UP FOR YOU.
DO THIS IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME.

After supper He took the cup. Again, he gave thanks and praise to you and gave it them to drink saying:
DRINK OF THIS, ALL OF YOU:
THIS CUP IS MY BLOOD OF THE NEW AND EVERLASTING COVENANT.
IT WILL BE POURED OUT FOR YOU AND FOR MANY FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF SIN.
DO THIS IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink of this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes again in his glory!

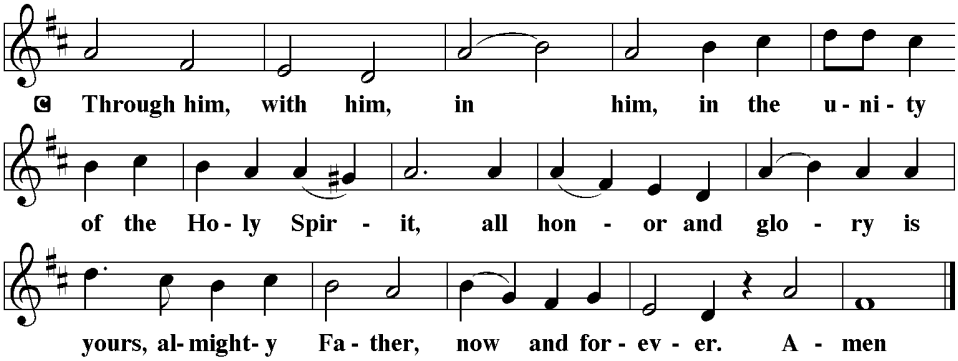
C **Christ has died! Christ is risen! Christ will come again!**

P: And so, Father Most Holy, calling to mind the death your Son endured for our salvation, his glorious Resurrection and his ascension into heaven, we pray: Look with favor on your Church, and see him whose death has

reconciled us to yourself. Grant that we who are nourished by our Lord's body and blood, may be filled with his Holy Spirit, and become one body, one spirit in Christ Jesus, and believing the witnesses of his Resurrection, be sustained in the Faith and Hope of our Lord's coming in power and glory to share with us the great and promised Feast.

C **Amen! Come, Lord Jesus!**

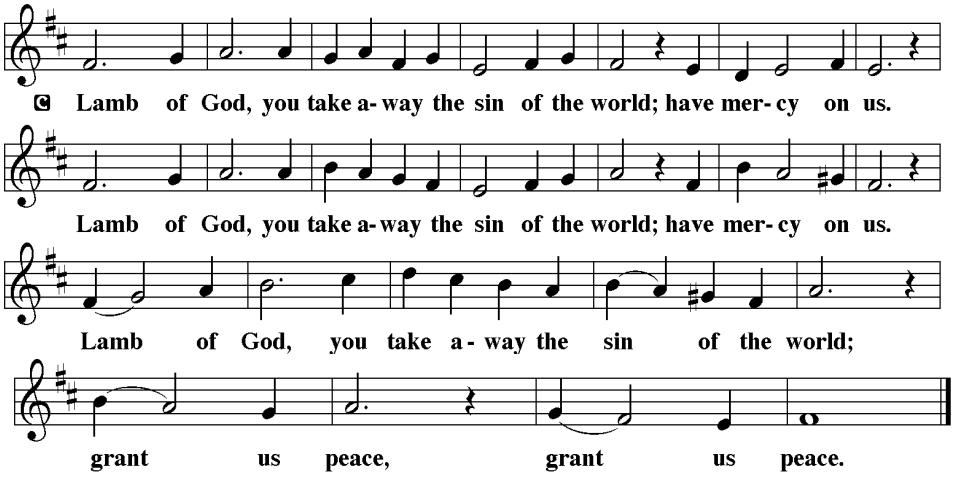
P: Join now our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the prayers of the Faithful throughout the ages—the Patriarchs and Prophets, the Holy Apostles and Martyrs, and all your Saints in Light who lived and died in Faith. Strengthen in faith and love your pilgrim Church here on earth—together with our Bishops, Pastors, Deacons and the entire people your son has won for you through his Passion, Death, and Resurrection. Welcome into your Kingdom all our departed brothers and sisters, and all who have left this world in your friendship. Unite all these prayers with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest, Jesus Christ, until he comes as Victorious Lord of all…



LORD'S PRAYER

P: Let us pray with confidence in the words that our Lord Jesus Christ has given us…

C: **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.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen



INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The Pastor lifts the Bread and Chalice and says:

P: Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!

C: **Thanks be to God!**

P: The Holy Things for the Holy people:

C: **One is Holy, one is Lord, Jesus Christ, to the glory of God!**

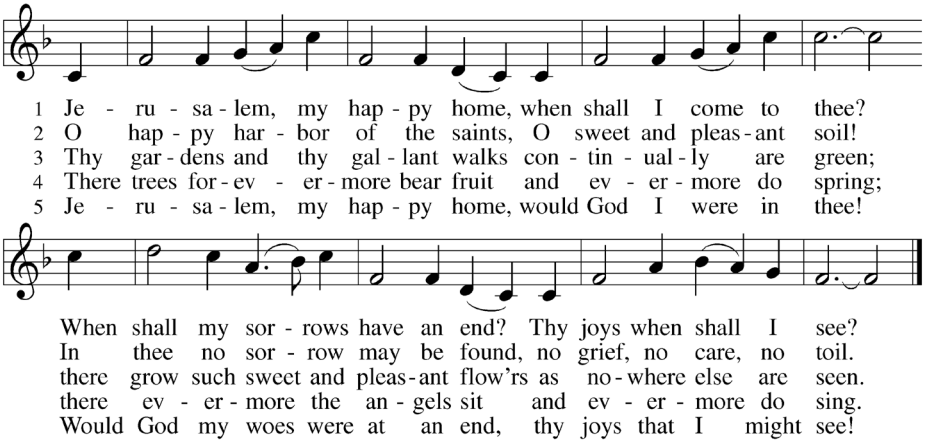
Sit

COMMUNION

All baptized believers are invited to this holy meal. Those not communing are invited for a blessing. Please follow the instructions of the ushers to gather at the altar table. As the ministers give the bread and wine, they say these words to each communicant:

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.
The communicant may say: **Amen**

COMMUNION HYMN *Jerusalem, My Happy Home*



Text: F.B.P., 16th cent.
Music: LAND OF REST, North American melody

Stand

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

C: **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A: Let us pray

Let us pray… Father in Heaven, you provide the true Bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that we who have received the Sacrament of his Body and Blood, may abide in him, and he in us, so that we might abound in Faith, Hope, and Love; to the glory of your name.

C: **Amen.**

SENDING

BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you and gracious unto you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. And may almighty God—the Father, ☩ The Son, and The Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

The congregation turns to face the processional cross.

SENDING HYMN ***Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart***



5 At last the march shall end;
the wearied ones shall rest;
the pilgrims find their home at last,
Jerusalem the blest. *Refrain*

6 Praise God who reigns on high,
the Lord whom we adore:
the Father, Son, and Spirit blest,
one God forevermore. *Refrain*

Text: Edward H. Plumptre, 1821–1891, alt.
Music: MARION, Arthur H. Messiter, 1834–1916

DISMISSAL

A: Go in Peace. Serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

SERVICE ASSISTANTS

Ushers: Fred Harbaugh, Jean Nolan, Diana Rooker, Susan Christ
Lay Assistant: Dave Bausinger; **Comm. Assist.:** Sherri Holtzman
Acolyte/Crucifer: Doriann Morris; **Torchbearers:** Malory Klemick, Alivia Klemick; **Bannerbearer:** Dylan Sherman; **Altar Guild:** Sue Shoemaker, Yvonne Kaiser**; Greeters/Presenters:** Jody Fullmer, Carl Gee
Cantor: Mike Yoder; **Flower Delivery:** Susan Bryan

IN BLESSED MEMORY

The Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Cletus Gephart, born July, 30, 1935 and died November 4, 2024, with love from Ed and Merlene Young.

The Basket of Flowers is given to the glory of God and in honor of Brenda and Marlin Cromley's wedding anniversary on November 5th.

The Basket of Flowers is given to the glory of God and in honor of David and Emily Bausinger's 48th wedding anniversary.

The Carnations are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Sandra H. Nolan, Jane Keyte Landon, Howard Elmer Wilt, Jr., Donald Hammond, and Martha Louise Kropp.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to Messiah Church! It is our joy to have you worship with us. If you are visiting, please make yourself known and leave your name & information to a congregation member. We hope to see you again.

Official Notice is hereby given of the **Annual Congregation Meeting** to be held on **Sunday, November 15th.** This meeting will be held immediately after worship. Please plan on attending.

Bible Study is Wednesday's at 6:30 pm. All are welcome.

WELCA members will be packing cookie tins and other goodies on November 17. We need names and addresses of Messiah's college students and military personnel. Please give this information to the Church Office as soon as possible. Closer to the time we'll also solicit cookies and other packable foods from the congregation and hope you will contribute generously. Thanks!

The Advent Kids in Mission will be held on December 5th and as always, we'll need some help. If you are able to help please let me know. More information will follow. Thank you for your support. Kathryn Pratt 570-244-6964

White Gifts Tags preparation for the Angel Tree will begin in a few days.

Tag Requests: We often receive requests from individuals who wish to take all of the tags for one child, or sometimes for two or more children in the same family. If you would like to "adopt" a child by taking all of his/her tags, ***please contact one of our coordinators no later than Wednesday, November 11.*** This will make it easier for us to set the tags aside before they are put on the tree. To reserve tags ahead of time, **contact Kathy Wither (570) 651-2802 or Jeanette Green (570) 916-7500** ***talk or text.***

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH
Rev. Gerald Kliner, STS, Senior Pastor
JARED GIST, ORGANIST
324 South Howard Street | South Williamsport, PA 17702
(570) 326-9171 | www.messiahsouth.org

Comfort the Afflicted

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a German Lutheran theologian who was executed by the Nazi regime, wrote, "We are not to simply bandage the wounds of victims beneath the wheels of injustice, we are to drive a spoke into the wheel itself" (*Letters and Papers from Prison*, Fortress, 2015). Driving a spoke into the wheels of injustice—this is challenging and risky work. Sometimes we walk in justice and humility, and other times we harm our neighbors and surrounding communities. Lord, have mercy on us. And yet God still sends faithful prophets and teachers to encourage us and spur us to good works in Jesus' name.

In contemporary culture, humility is a countercultural value. Many of us love to be honored, lauded, and exalted by others. But in a strange turn of events, Jesus reminds us that those who are exalted will be humbled and those who are humbled will be exalted. Indeed, our God of justice and might will lift up all who are being ground under the wheels of injustice.

Each community of faith is situated in a specific context chosen by God. In these contexts, whether inner city, suburb, or rural area, we are called to stand with people who are poor, downtrodden, and marginalized; to bandage wounds; and to work against injustice. May the words and deeds of our faith communities and the larger church fulfill our baptismal vows to bring greater justice and peace to all the earth!

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