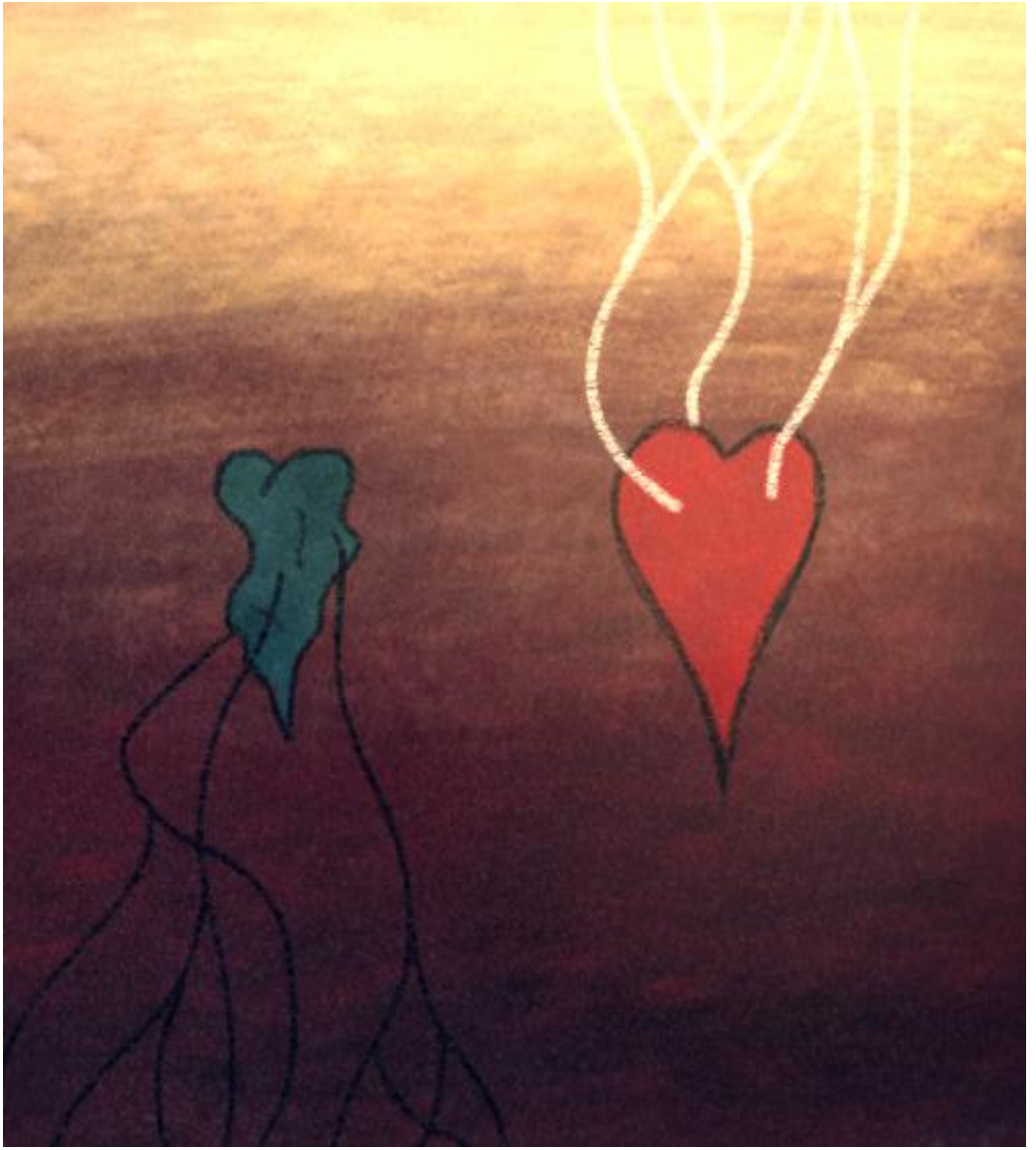
Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church



Artwork courtesy of fullofeyes.com

A Christian family who cares for you!

Welcome to historic Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

2901 N. Highland Ave., Tampa, FL. 33602
www.ZionLutheranTampa.com
813-228-8272 to leave message or for emergency call:
Rev. Kenneth Redmann, Pastor 941-457-7576 (cell)
revredmann@gmail.com

The Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost
November 15, 2026

In Christian Love: A Statement on the Lord's Supper

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church believes, teaches, and confesses that in the Sacrament of the Altar—also known as the Lord's Supper, the Eucharist, and Communion—we receive the true body and true blood of Christ given to us under the bread and the wine for the forgiveness of our sins and for the strengthening of our union with Him and with one another. The Lord Jesus Christ invites sinners to His table, sinners who repent of their sins and trust His promises. Christ Himself makes sinners worthy of receiving His good gifts in this Sacrament.

In Christian love, we are compelled to share that Scripture does warn us that it is possible to receive this Sacrament unworthily! So, what does this mean for us? It all comes down to our Lord's own Words when He instituted the Sacrament: "**Take, eat; this is My body**," and, "**This cup is the new covenant in My blood**" (Matthew 26:26; 1 Corinthians 11:25). The Apostle Paul says that "**anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself**" (see 1 Corinthians 11:27–32). This is especially true when we ignore, redefine, or disbelieve the words of Jesus, which we, as one body, confess to be true.

Therefore, we ask, please, that those who are not yet instructed, who are in doubt, or who hold to a confession different from that of this congregation and of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod first speak with the Pastor.

Even if you discern not to receive the Sacrament, we invite you to approach the altar rail and receive a blessing! Everyone who comes to our Church is a blessing to us, and we wish to bless you in return. Please simply cross your arms over your chest to receive the blessing from the Lord. Thank you, in Christian love.

The Preparation of our hearts and minds:

God's Gift of Forgiveness Engenders Our Forgiveness of Others

The Day of the Lord is *"near and hastening fast,"* and it will be *"a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation"* (Zeph. 1:14, 15). The Lord will search out and punish *"the men who are complacent"* concerning His Word, *"who fill their master's house with violence and fraud"* (Zeph. 1:9, 12). Then all their works and efforts will be for nothing: *"Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them"* (Zeph. 1:13). But those who fear, love and trust in the Lord are *"good and faithful"* stewards of His property (Matt. 25:21). They live by faith in His free gift of forgiveness, and they multiply His goods in the loving forgiveness of their neighbor, and *"the master of those servants"* settles His accounts with them by the gracious reckoning of His Gospel (Matt. 25:19). Likewise, *"God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ"* (1 Thess. 5:9). Therefore, let us also *"put on the breastplate of faith and love"* in our dealings with one another (1 Thess. 5:8).

The Preparation and Sharing the Peace

Please Stand

Hymn We're Together Again (*located on the front inside cover of: This Far By Faith hymnal*)

Sharing the Peace

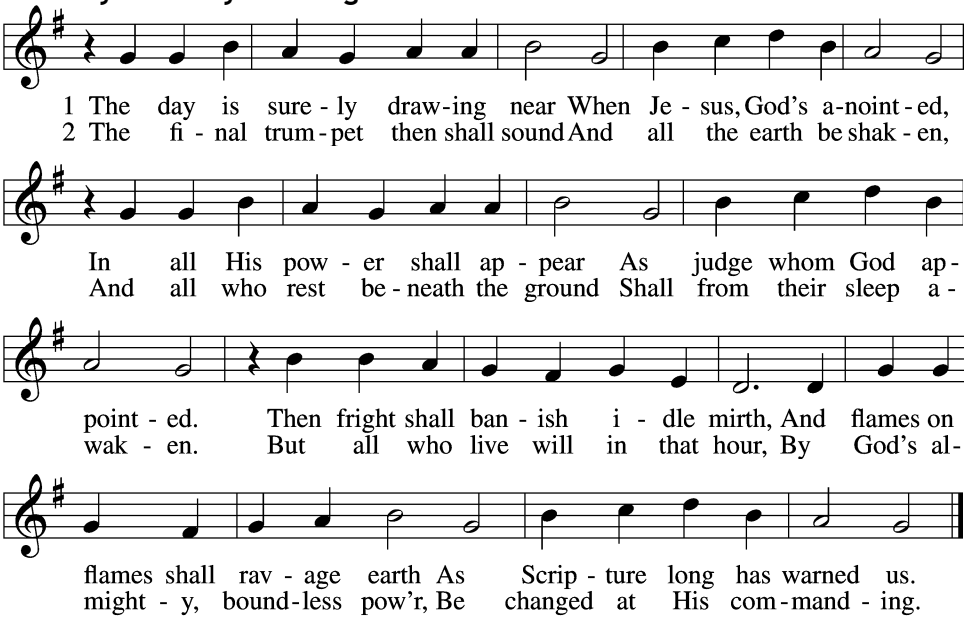
We joyfully greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22-24; Eph 4:1-3).

Be Seated

(Order of Worship is taken from Lutheran Service Book, Divine Service, Setting 3, pg 184)

Confession and Absolution

508 The Day Is Surely Drawing Near *sts. 1–2*



Text: Bartholomäus Ringwaldt, 1532–99; tr. Philip A. Peter, 1832–1919, alt.
Tune: Geistliche Lieder auffs new gebessert, 1535, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug
Text and tune: Public domain

Please Stand

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.**

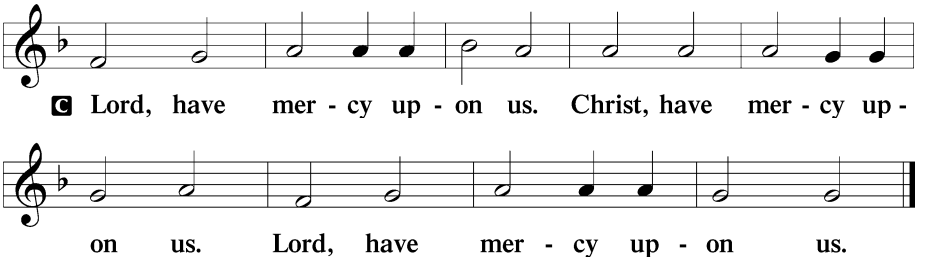
P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Service of the Word

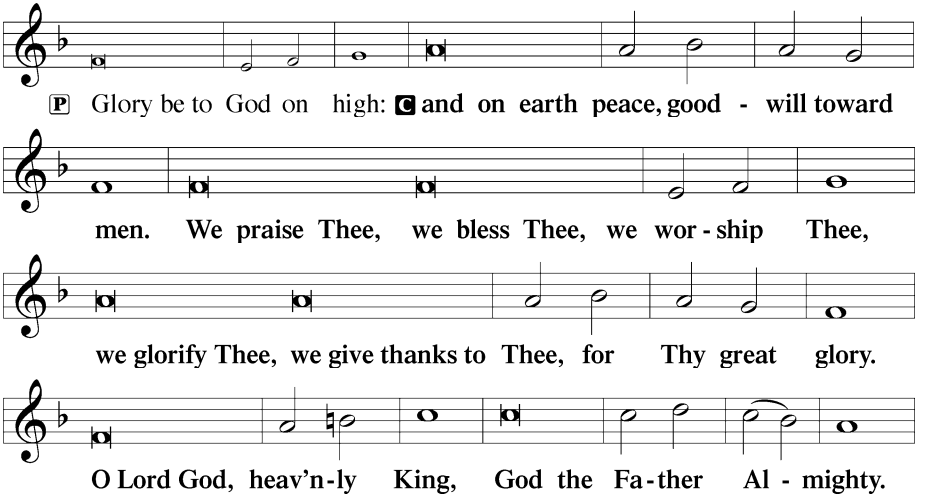
Kyrie

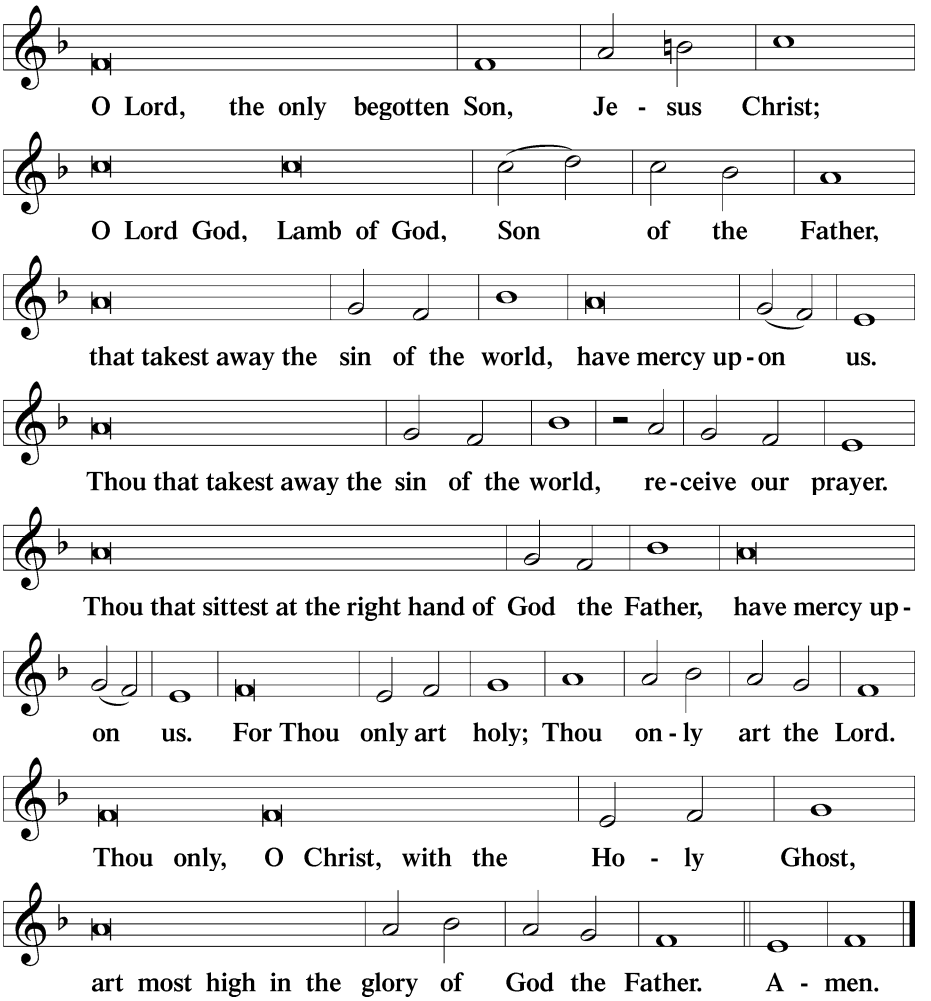
Mark 10:47



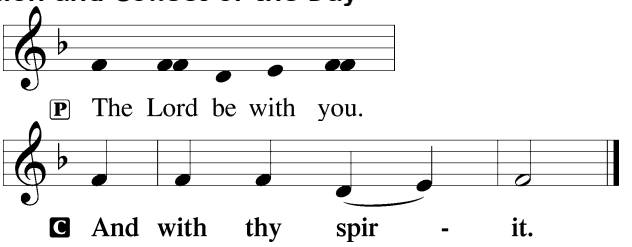
Gloria in Excelsis

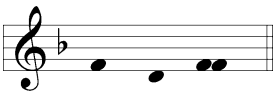
Luke 2:14; John 1:29





Salutation and Collect of the Day





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.



Be Seated

Old Testament Reading

Zephaniah 1:7–16

7 Be silent before the Lord GOD!
For the day of the LORD is near;
the LORD has prepared a sacrifice
and consecrated his guests.
8 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.
9 On that day I will punish
everyone who leaps over the threshold,
and those who fill their master's house
with violence and fraud.
10 "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.
11 Wail, O inhabitants of the Mortar!
For all the traders are no more;
all who weigh out silver are cut off.
12 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.'
13 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."
14The 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.
15A 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,
16a 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.**

Psalm

Psalm 90:1–12

1Lord, you have been our | dwelling place*
in all gener- | ations.
2Before the mountains were brought forth,
or ever you had formed the earth | and the world,*
from everlasting to everlasting | you are God.

3You return | man to dust*
and say, "Return, O chil- | dren of man!"
4For a thousand years in your sight
are but as yesterday when | it is past,*
or as a watch | in the night.

5You sweep them away as | with a flood;*
they are like a dream,
like grass that is renewed in the | morning:
6in the morning it flourishes and | is renewed;*
in the evening it fades and | withers.

7For we are brought to an end by your | anger;*
by your wrath we | are dismayed.
8You have set our iniquities be- | fore you,*
our secret sins in the light of your | presence.

[9]For all our days pass away un- | der your wrath;*
we bring our years to an end | like a sigh.
[10]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.
[11]Who considers the power of your | anger,*
and your wrath according to the | fear of you?

[12]So teach us to number | our days*
that we may get a heart of | wisdom.

Epistle

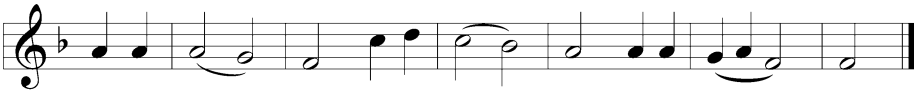
1 Thessalonians 5:1–11

[1]Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. [2]For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. [3]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. [4]But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. [5]For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. [6]So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. [7]For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. [8]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. [9]For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, [10]who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. [11]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

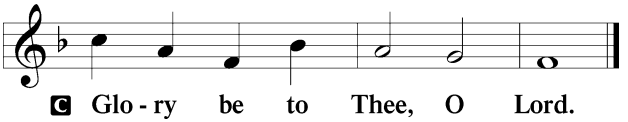
Alleluia



Holy Gospel

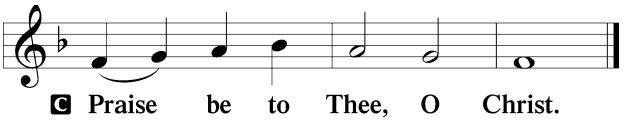
Matthew 25:14–30

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



[14][Jesus said:] “For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and
entrusted to them his property. [15]To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to
each according to his ability. Then he went away. [16]He who had received the five talents went
at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. [17]So also he who had the two
talents made two talents more. [18]But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the
ground and hid his master’s money. [19]Now after a long time the master of those servants came
and settled accounts with them. [20]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.’ [21]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.’ [22]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.’ [23]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.’ [24]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,
[25]so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’
[26]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? [27]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. [28]So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. [29]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. [30]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.



Nicene Creed

C **I believe in one God,**
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,

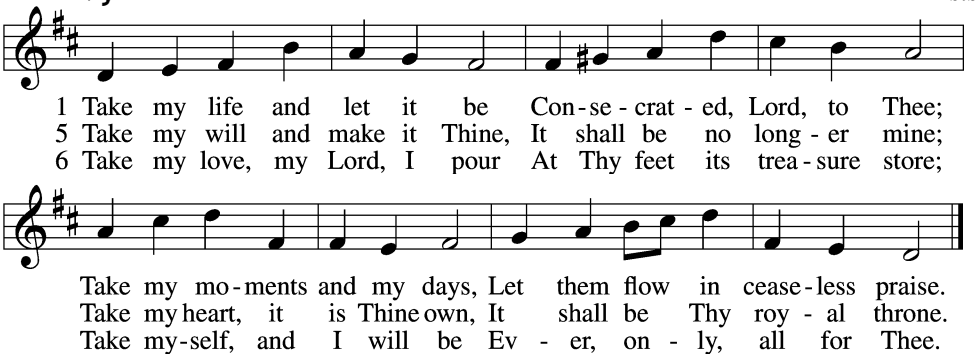
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ☩ of the world to come. Amen.

Be Seated. We invite the children to come forward for the Children's message.

783 Take My Life and Let It Be

sts. 1, 5–6



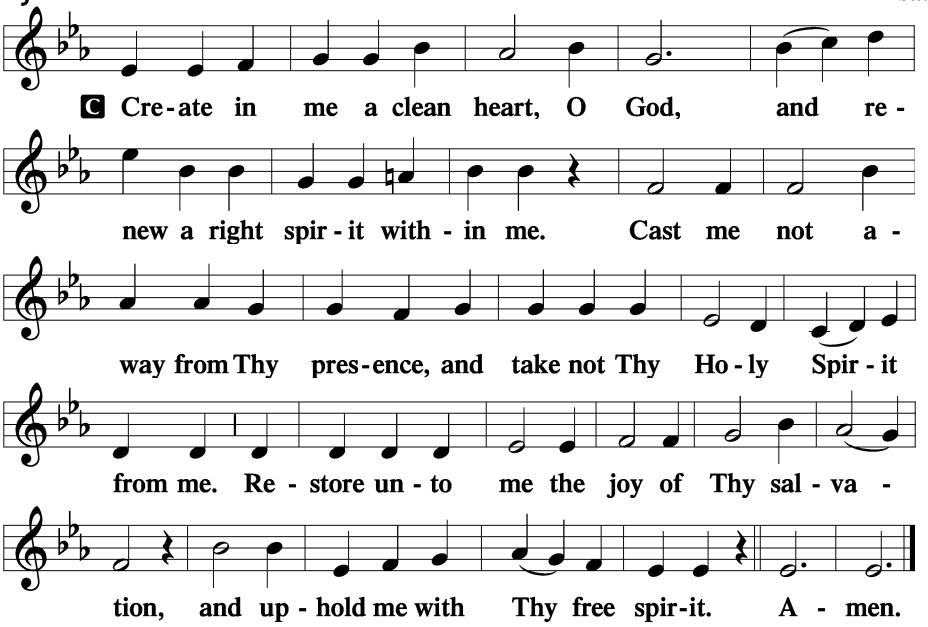
Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–79
Tune: William H. Havergal, 1793–1870
Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon The Servant Who Thought He Knew His Master Rev. Kenneth Redmann

Please Stand

Offertory

Psalm 51:10–12



Offering

When you come forward for Holy Communion OR to receive a blessing, please place your tithes and gifts in the Offering plate at the front of the left pew.

Prayer of the Church

L: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

L: Heavenly Father, grant all Your baptized people to live holy lives in this age, looking forward with eagerness to Your Son's joyous return and seeking only to be found in Him on that glorious day. Lord, in Your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.

L: Gracious Lord, though we do not know the day or hour of Your Son's appearing, grant that we would always be prepared by sending us faithful pastors and teachers who will boldly proclaim Your Word of Law and Gospel to us, that we may be constantly encouraged and built up in the faith. Lord, in Your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.

L: Father in heaven, You have made us children of the light and of the day. Bless our homes, especially Leona and all parents as they teach their children Your ways, that Your people may walk as those armored in faith, love and salvation. Lord, in Your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.

L: King of kings, preserve all in authority from violence and fraud, corruption and cowardice. Endow them with courage, integrity and wisdom to preserve peace and govern according to Your will. Lord, in Your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.

L: Almighty God, give ear to our pleas on behalf of the afflicted *[including _____]*. For Your name's sake, preserve their life and grant them healing according to Your will. In Your righteousness, strengthen their faith through all trials and bring their souls out of trouble. Lord, in Your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.

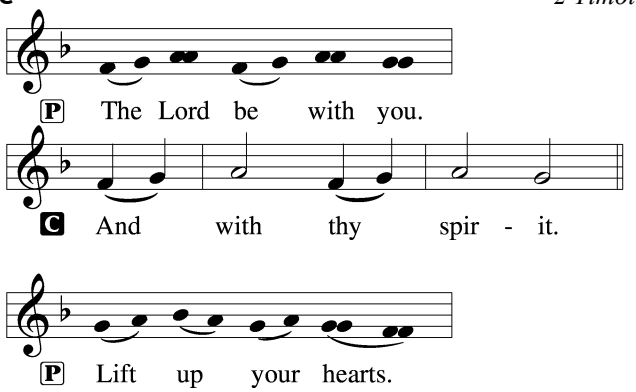
L: Loving Father, until Your Son returns in glory, He gives us His body and blood to sustain us. Grant that all who receive this gift today may receive it in faith, trusting that it is given for the forgiveness of their sins and life everlasting. Lord, in Your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.

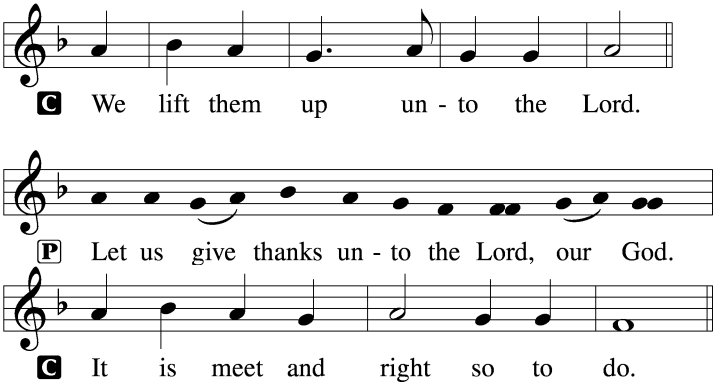
Graciously receive our prayers, deliver and preserve us, for to You alone we give all glory, honor and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
ALL: Amen.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

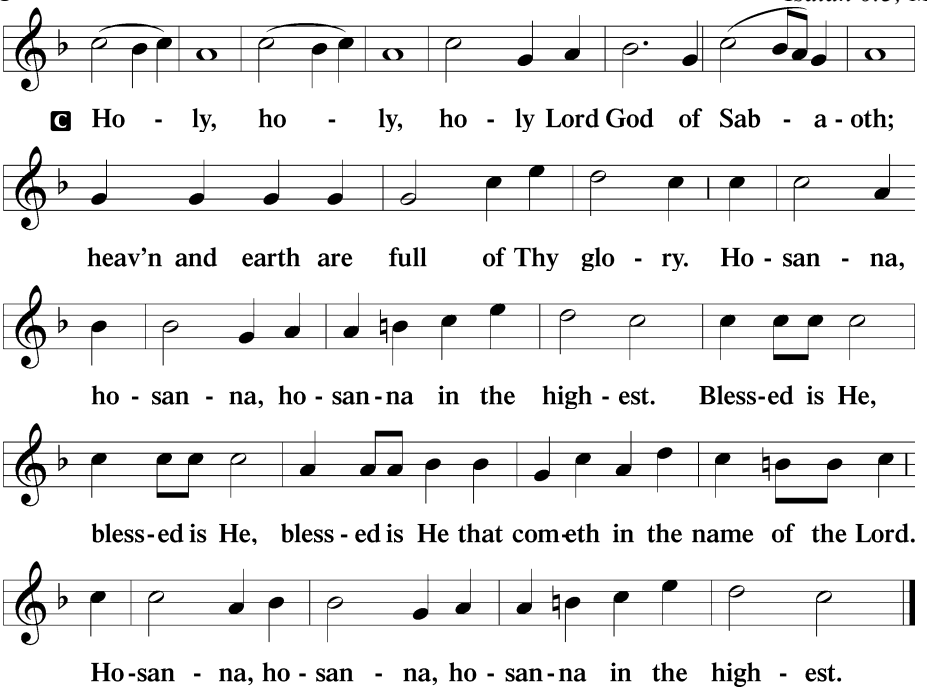
2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]





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. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

Sanctus *Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9*



Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9–13

℗ Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

℃ **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.

The Words of Our Lord

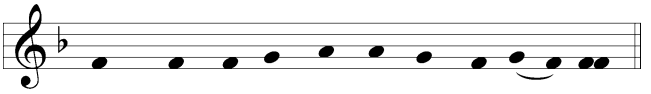
Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

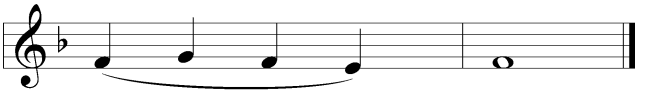
℗ Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✢ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✢ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

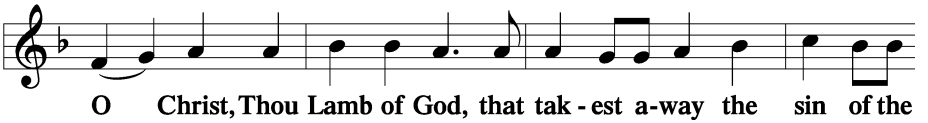
John 20:19

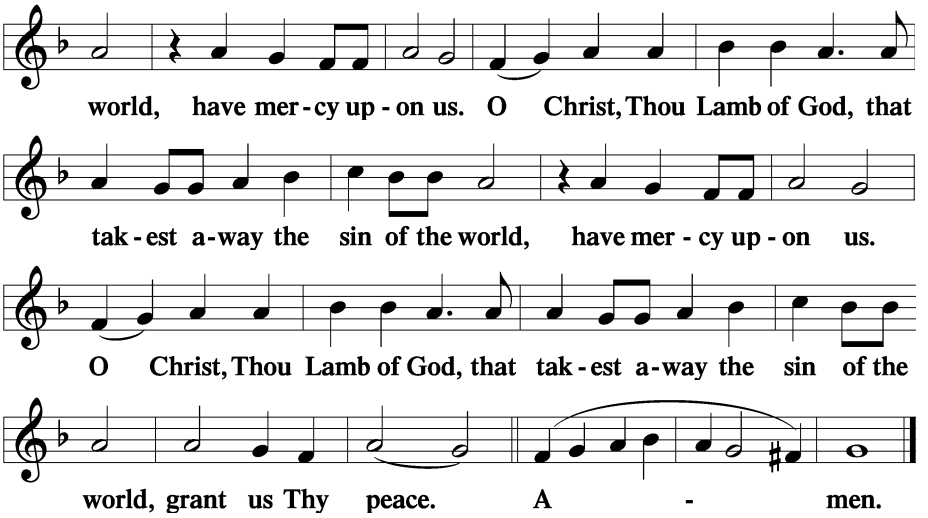




Agnus Dei

John 1:29

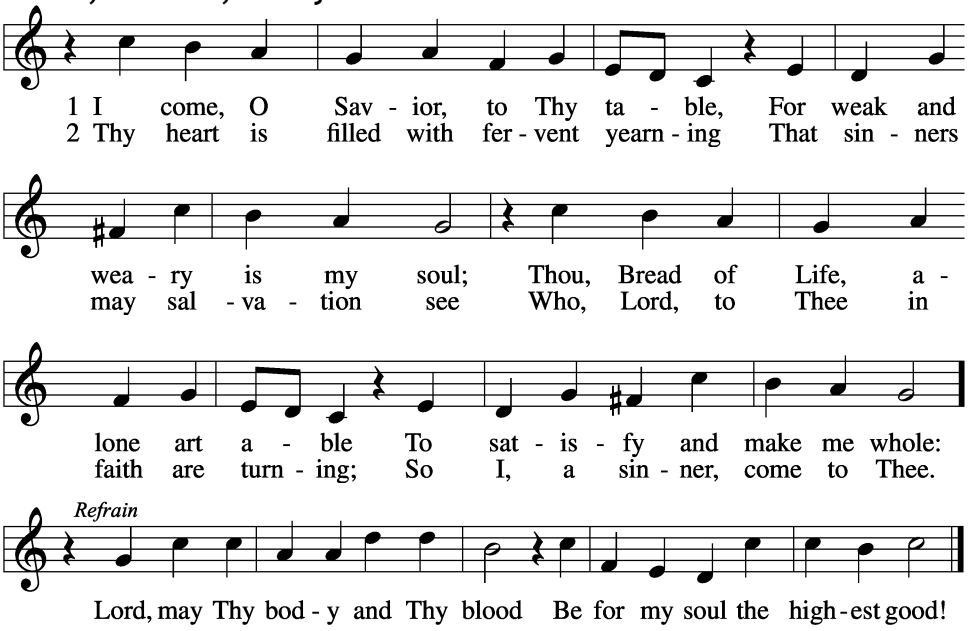




Be Seated

618 I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table

sts. 1, ref, 2



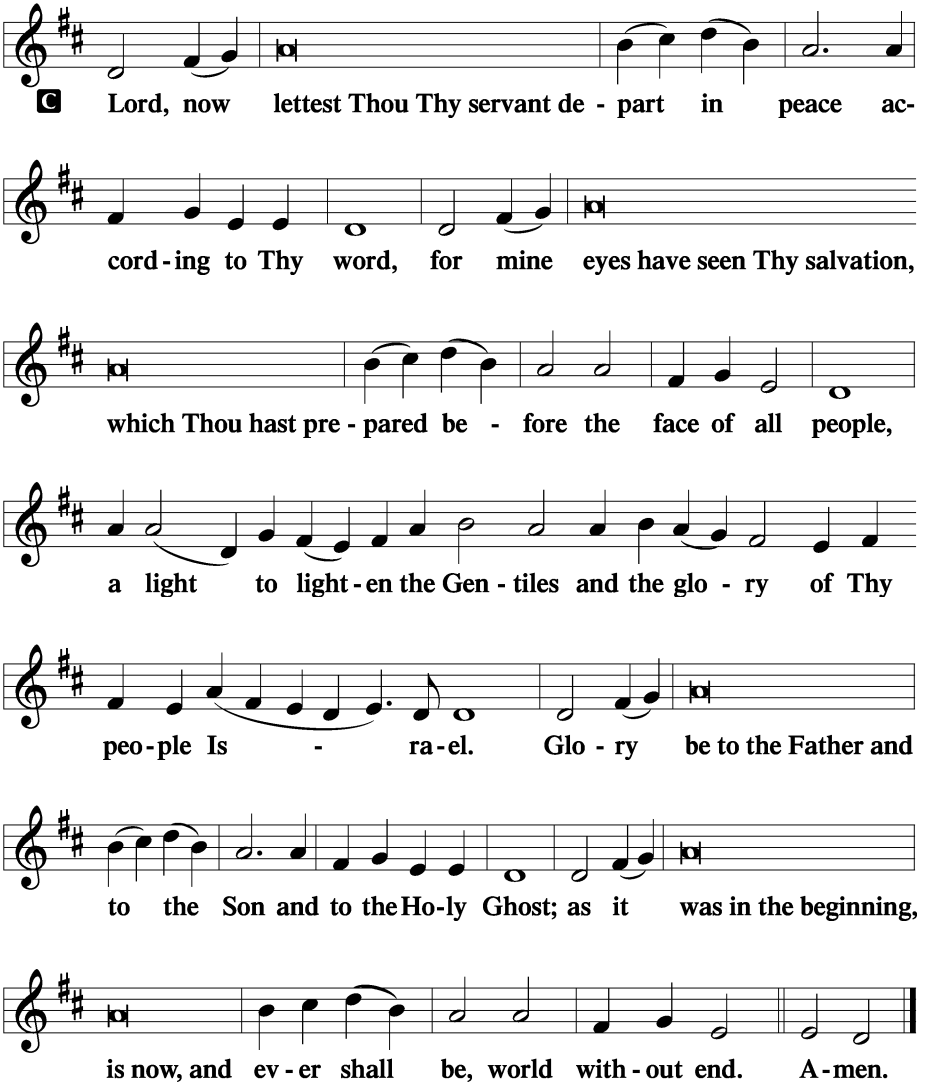
Text: Friedrich Christian Heyder, 1677–1754; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, abr.
Tune: Emskirchner Choral-Buch, 1756, Leipzig
Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000932
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Distribution

Please Stand

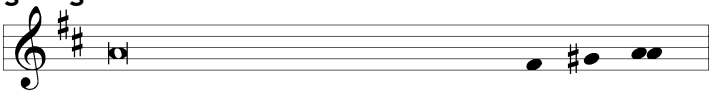
Nunc Dimittis

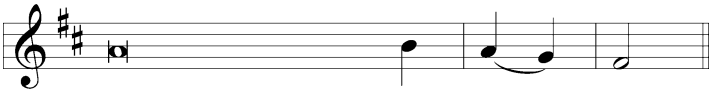
Luke 2:29–32



Thanksgiving

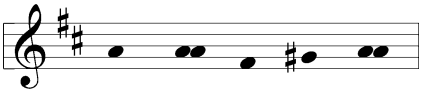
Psalm 107:1

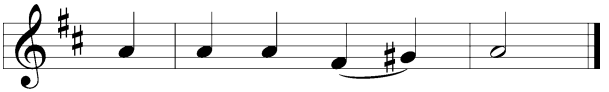




A Let us pray.
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and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

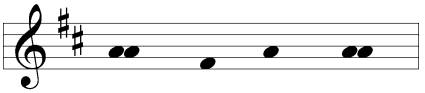
C **Amen.**

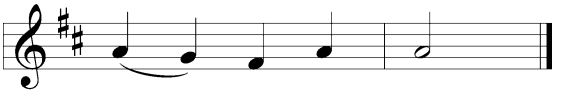




Benedicamus

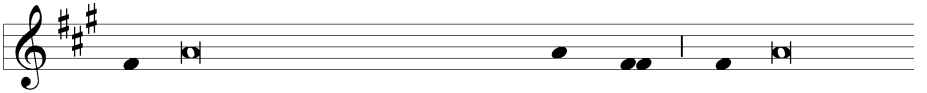
Psalm 103:1

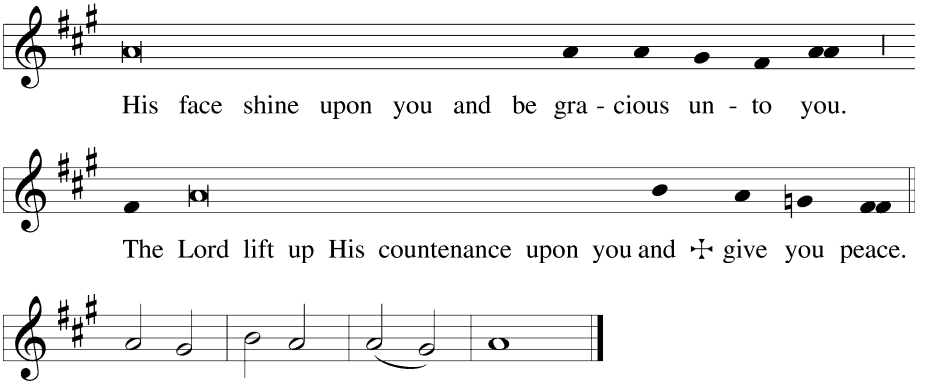




Benediction

Numbers 6:24–26

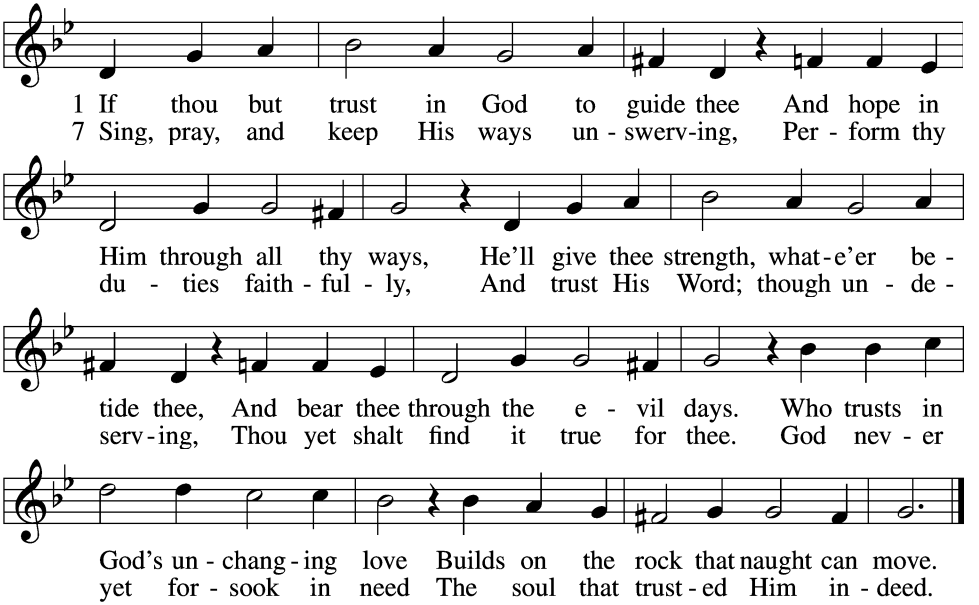




Be Seated

750 If Thou But Trust in God to Guide Thee

sts. 1, 7



Text: tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text and tune: Georg Neumark, 1621–81
Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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The Promise of our Lord:
[20] Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, (or imagine) according to the power that worketh in us, [21] Unto him *be* glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen (Eph 3:20-21 KJV).

Thank you!

We are so blessed to have you worship with us!

SERVANTS of THE LORD for TODAY:

Organist/Cantor:	Linda Redmann	Tambourine:	Paula Lewis
Altar Guild:	Sheryl Herold	Greeter/Usher:	Don Campbell
Counter:	Sarah Brown	Asst. Counter:	Paula Lewis
Communion Asst.:	James Halfacer	Liturgist:	James Halfacer

Lutherans for Life

November 15 – Pentecost 25 – The end of the Church year reminds us that there is an urgency to sharing the Gospel and God's Word about life. Naturally, when Christ returns, we want Him to find us as "good and faithful servants" (Matthew 25:21), using the talents and resources He's given us to glorify Him and love and serve every one of our neighbors. And, because the Lord "has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation" (1 Thessalonians 5:9), we share God's Word with eager anticipation that every life God has created may escape the day of wrath (Zephaniah 1:15) and live eternally with Him.

CALENDAR of MINISTRY EVENTS:

Nov	Sun	15	8:00am Divine Service with Holy Communion 9:15am Bible Study "Body Building" (See I Cor 12:12ff) and Devotional study 10:00am We adjourn to serve and love our neighbors
	Mon	16	2:00-6:30pm Office hours*** 7:00pm Bible Study, "Matthew" verse by verse with James Halfacer
	Wed	18	2-6:30pm Office hours***
	Thur	19	9:00-12:00noon, Tampa Pastor's Winkel at Immanuel, Brandon

***Please call or text Pastor to let you in the building

UPCOMING MINISTRY EVENTS:

Nov	Sun	22	9:15am Annual Voters Meeting, Agenda items include adopting the Budget for 2027, the LCMS proposed amendment, Special election for Keith Knecht to fill the Elder position, Alan Acree to serve as president, and James Halfacer as Elder-at-large
	Mon	23	2:00-6:30pm Office hours*** 7:00pm Bible Study, "Matthew" verse by verse with James Halfacer
	Wed	25	2-6:30pm Office hours***
	Thur	26	Thanksgiving Day NOTE: Please spend time with your family! No services on Thanksgiving Day.
	Sat	28	10:00am Christmas decorating in the church

***Please call or text Pastor to let you in the building

MORE UPCOMING MINISTRY EVENTS:

Nov	Sun	29	First Sunday in Advent
Dec	Wed	2	7:00pm First Evening Advent Service **Baptism & Adult Confirmation for Michele Stanton AND Adult Confirmation for Kevin Stromberg
	Thur	24	Christmas Eve day (time TBD)
	Fri	25	Christmas Day (time TBD)

We're Together Again

What a great song to prepare our hearts for worship!

We're together again…
23 Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. **24** And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, **25** not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all
the more as you see the Day drawing near (Heb 10.23-25).

Praising the Lord…
18 Let this be recorded for a generation to come,
so that a people yet to be created may praise the Lord (Psalm 102.18).

in one accord…
12 For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body,
though many, are one body, so it is with Christ (I Cor 12.12).

Something good is gonna happen…
28 Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest (Matt 11.28).

Something good is in store…
16 The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the blood of Christ? The
bread that we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ? (I Cor 10.16).

A Brief History of Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

Founding & Early History

In 1888, the Lutheran community which would become Zion began as one of six Mission stations served by a single Pastor. In 1889 the first Missionary Pastor to serve Central Florida was called. Under this Missionary Pastor, the first regular Worship Services began in Tampa, attended by 20 adults and 5 children. Services were conducted in the afternoon in a room of the local Methodist Church. Moving several times from rented church rooms to a vacant store, Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church was chartered on August 26th, 1893, with a constitution signed by her five male members. Zion celebrated their first infant baptism on October 28th, 1894.

Zion's First Home

On November 18th, 1894, Zion celebrated the dedication of their first home on Marion & Tyler Avenues, a modest, unpainted building constructed from surplus materials. A Christian Day School opening a week later, with 2 pupils. By 1896, school enrollment had increased to 22. Now having a home of their own, Zion began offering evening Services in English, with the first English Confirmation in 1902. English Sunday Morning Services began in 1904, alternating with German every other Sunday.

Zion's Present Home

In 1922, Zion began working toward a new, larger home, dedicating the present building on October 25th, 1925. In 1929, Zion suffered a severe blow when they were forced to re-acquire $18,000 in debt from the default by the buyer of their former location. It would be 1944, supported by contributions from WWII GI's, before that debt was paid.
During WWII, Zion conducted Services at the nearby German POW Camp, even bringing POW's into Zion with special permission for Communion Service and Sunday meals.
Zion's present location was finally completed in 1944. The Ascension Window at the rear is a Memorial to all of Zion's former Pastors.

Zion's Legacy & Future

Zion is the "Mother Church" of seven LCMS Congregations in the Greater Tampa Bay area and has always been filled with a spirit of service and evangelism, both within her four walls and to the outside community.
Zion is no stranger to struggle and real adversity. The people of Zion have, with God's help,

engaged and overcome real trial in every generation. Zion has proclaimed the Word truly and administered the Sacraments rightly – to every soul within her reach.
During wartime, Depression, civil unrest, countless hurricanes and a pandemic, Zion has always had a passion for true Doctrine, about our common salvation, and contended for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints.
We, the Faithful Remnant of Zion, are blessed to be the legacy of those faithful souls who persevered and prospered through every trial and hardship and who have now entered their deserved and joyful rest in the loving arms of their Savior. It is our privilege to carry on in their name the Great Commission, to go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that the Lord has commanded. For He is with us always, to the end of the age.

