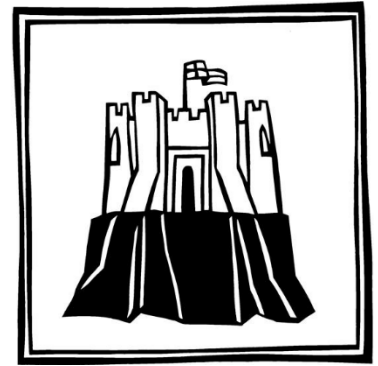


# *Reformation Sunday*

**October 26, 2025**

10:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary



*We ask that all present sign our Friendship Sheet. After you add your name to the sheet, please pass it toward the center aisle. Then return it to the outside aisle so that you become familiar with our family in Christ. These sheets help our pastor and congregation with our ministry. If you are looking for a church home, we invite you to join us here at St. Matthew to worship and serve Christ together!*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE**                    *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*                    *Roger C. Wilson, Arranger*

## **\*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*P:* In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

*P:* Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may 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 if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God,

**C: we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

*P:* In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

**\*OPENING HYMN**

*Thy Strong Word*

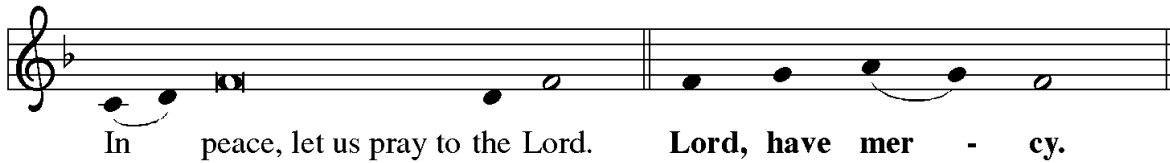
*ELW # 511*

**\*GREETING**

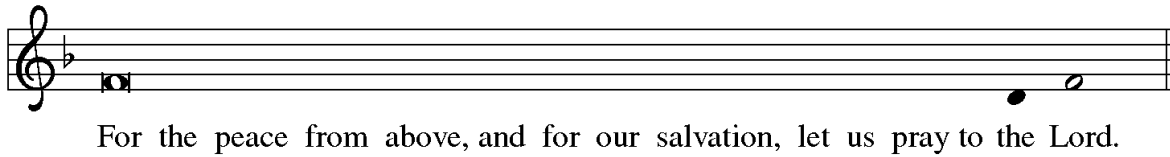
*P:* The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C: And also with you.**

**\*KYRIE**

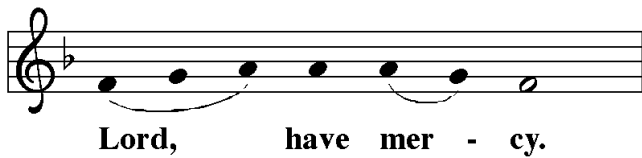
S138



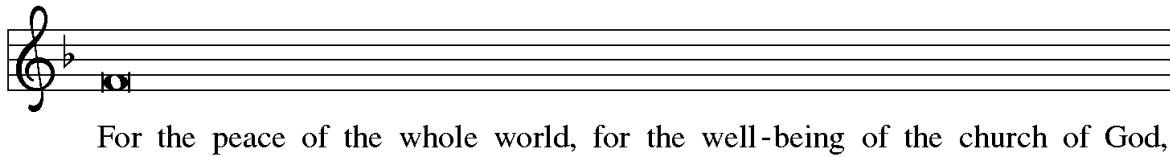
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



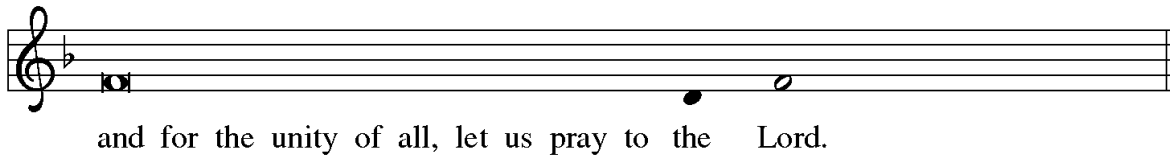
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



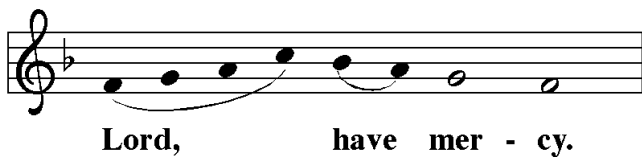
Lord, have mer - cy.



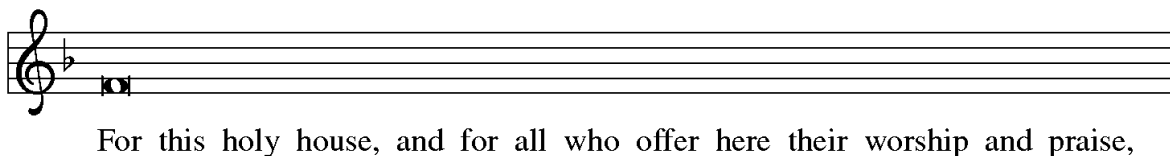
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



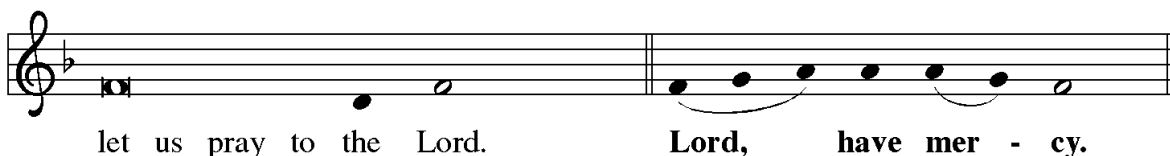
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



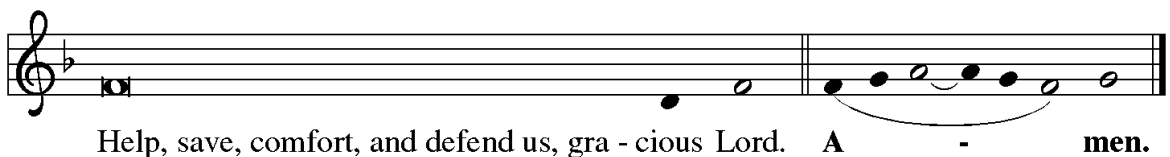
Lord, have mer - cy.



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



let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

Assisting minister

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All

Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,

we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,

you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;

you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,

you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,

in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

## **\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

*P: Let us pray ...* Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C: Amen.**

## **FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:31-34**

<sup>31</sup> The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>32</sup> It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. <sup>33</sup> But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. <sup>34</sup> No longer shall they teach one another or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord, for I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more.

*L:* The word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

## **PSALM 46 (read responsively)**

<sup>1</sup> God is our refuge and strength,  
a very present help in trouble.

<sup>2</sup> **Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,  
and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;**

<sup>3</sup> though its waters rage and foam,  
and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

<sup>4</sup> **There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,  
the holy habitation of the Most High.**

<sup>5</sup> God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken;  
God shall help it at the break of day.

<sup>6</sup> **The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake;  
God speaks, and the earth melts away.**

<sup>7</sup> The Lord of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

<sup>8</sup> **Come now, regard the works of the Lord,  
what desolations God has brought upon the earth;**

<sup>9</sup> behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world;  
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.

<sup>10</sup> **“Be still, then, and know that I am God;  
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.”**

<sup>11</sup> The Lord of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

## SECOND READING: Romans 3:19-28

<sup>19</sup> Now we know that, whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world may be held accountable to God. <sup>20</sup> For no human will be justified before him by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

<sup>21</sup> But now, apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed and is attested by the Law and the Prophets, <sup>22</sup> the righteousness of God through the faith of Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, <sup>23</sup> since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; <sup>24</sup> they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, <sup>25</sup> whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; <sup>26</sup> it was to demonstrate at the present time his own righteousness, so that he is righteous and he justifies the one who has the faith of Jesus.

<sup>27</sup> Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. Through what kind of law? That of works? No, rather through the law of faith. <sup>28</sup> For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

*L:* The word of the Lord. *C:* **Thanks be to God.**

## \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*S142a*

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

**\*Gospel:** John 8:31-36

The holy gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>31</sup> Jesus said to the Judeans who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, <sup>32</sup> and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” <sup>33</sup> They answered him, “We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, ‘You will be made free’?”

<sup>34</sup> Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. <sup>35</sup> The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. <sup>36</sup> So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.”

*P:* The Gospel of the Lord. **C:** Praise to you, O Christ.

**HOMILY**

*Pastor Traci*

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY** *Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word*

*ELW # 517*

**\*APOSTLES’ CREED**

*P:* Let us confess our faith through the words of the Apostles’ Creed.

**C:** I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.\* On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.  
Amen.**

**\*PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

*A:* Renewed in God’s everlasting grace, let us pray for the church, the world, and all creation.

*A:* Free your church, O God, with grace, mercy, and love to be transformed by your word. Direct your church to be united in word and deed so that all creation knows the uniting and transforming power of the gospel. God of grace, **C: receive our prayer.**

*A:* Renew creation, O God, so that all living creatures thrive together. Guide those who work to restore and renew creation. Preserve and care for endangered species throughout the world. God of grace, **C: receive our prayer.**

*A:* Bring peace among the nations, O God, so violence and terror are not the norm on your earth. Inspire leaders of communities to work for peace and justice. Unite our politicians with a common mission and purpose. God of grace, **C: receive our prayer.**

*A:* Heal all who suffer, O God, and bring them peace. Draw near to people who are incarcerated. Give hope to people experiencing housing or employment insecurity, oppression, or discrimination. Heal those who are ill. Be our stronghold at all times. God of grace, **C: receive our prayer.**

*A:* Forgive us our sins, O God, and grant us your grace. Move us to understanding and reconciliation between people of other faiths and other Christian traditions in our community. Mend hurt feelings and heal wounds we have caused one another. God of grace, **C: receive our prayer.**

*A:* We give you thanks, O God, for the life and witness of all your saints. Give us hope in your son's victory through the cross. God of grace, **C: receive our prayer.**

*P:* We offer our prayers, O God, trusting in your everlasting grace and mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **C: Amen.**

### **\*THE PEACE**

*P:* The peace of the LORD be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

*Please share the peace with those around you using a greeting that is comfortable for both you and them.*

### **\*OFFERTORY PRAYER**

*An offering plate is located near the entrance to the nave;  
we offer thanks for the abundance God has first shown us:*

*A: Let us pray ...* Lord of the harvest, we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **C: Amen.**

### **\*GREAT THANKSGIVING**

ELW # S144a

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics: "The Lord be with you. And also with you." The second staff contains the melody for the second line of lyrics: "Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord." The notes are simple, using quarter and eighth notes with stems, and are accompanied by a simple bass line.

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.

**\*PROPER PREFACE**

*P:* 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:

**\*SANCTUS**

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord

ELW # S144b

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

**\*EUCHARISTIC PRAYER & WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

*P:* Holy God, our Bread of life, our Table, and our Food, you created a world in which all might be satisfied by your abundance.

You dined with Abraham and Sarah, promising them life, and fed your people Israel with manna from heaven.

You sent your Son to eat with sinners and to become food for the world.

In the night in which he was betrayed, 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.

Remembering, therefore, his life given for us and his rising from the grave, we await his coming again to share with us the everlasting feast.

By your Spirit nurture and sustain us with this meal: strengthen us to serve all in hunger and want, and by this bread and cup make of us the body of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever. **C: Amen.**

**\*LORD'S PRAYER**

*P:* Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

**\*THE AGNUS DEI**

*Lamb of God*

ELW # S146

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

**\*INVITATION**

*P:* Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. Come to this meal of mercy.

**C: Thanks be to God**

**COMMUNION HYMN**

*Now We Join in Celebration*

ELW # 462

**\*BLESSING**

*P:* May the body and blood of our LORD Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **C: Amen.**

**\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

*A: Let us pray...* O God, through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need. We ask this in Jesus' name. **C: Amen.**

**\*BENEDICTION**

*P:* The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free, ✠ bless you now and forever. **C: Amen.**

**\*SENDING SONG**

*A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

*ELW # 504*

**\*DISMISSAL**

*P:* Go in peace. Do not lose heart. **C: Thanks be to God.**

**\*POSTLUDE**

*I Will Praise Thee*

*Benton Price, Composer*

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Also, please be advised that our parking lot has surveillance cameras and that our worship service is video recorded and/or live-streamed on social media.

**Today's Altar Flowers** are placed to the Glory of God in memory of our parents Janet and Charlie Kreider given by Ed Kreider and family.

**Serving God and Us**

Our Ministers - the People of St. Matthew

Our Pastor – Rev. Traci Marriott

Our Organists – Mary Nelson, DeAnna Cree

Our Missionary Family – Robin Abrol, On Eagle's Wings

Our Administrative Assistant – Jen Ripka

Our Assistant Administrative Assistant – Laura Orczeck

Our Sexton – Phil Claar

Our Acolytes – Ben Decker, Gavin Kuster, Norah Kuster

Our Assisting Minister – Steve Oswalt

Our Lector – Elaine Smith

Our Usher – Jeff Garner

Our Altar Guild – Jackie Lightner, Tina Harclerode

Our Audio/Video Tech – Camden Kuster

Our Offering Counters – Jim Barley, Beth Garner

**Fourth Quarter Ventures in Faith to “United Lutheran Seminaries”**

**Prayers are needed for our homebound:** Mary Jane Allision, Fred Brandenburg, Linda Claar, Mary Creps, Gerry Girolami, Betty Helsel, Allen Heltzel, Ann Irvin, Ruth Johnson, Audrey & Dan Kensinger, Jean Stonerook, Pat & Robert Winston.

*So we can give special attention to those with pressing needs, names were removed at the end of the month. Please let the office know if a name should be added to the prayer list for an extended period of time.*

**Prayer Concerns:** Baby Campbell, Greta Buchart, Doug Bush, Terry Creek, Julie Dick, Joe Fagnani, Mary Farabaugh, Marilyn Horton, Jamie, Rachel Kensinger, Naomi (Noni) Lehman, Kristen Malloy, Janice Orzech, John Russell, Dan Sinal, Brandon Smith, Joshua Sollenberger, Kaleb Sollenberger, Jim Stewart, and for our **Missionaries: Robin Abrol, On Eagle's Wings.**

**Away at School:** Max Baker, Christopher Bush, Olivia Day, Jay Hoenstine, Jeff Hoenstine, Camden Kuster, Lacey Ripka.

**Those Serving in our Armed Forces:** Bradley Buchart, Melody Estep.

### **This Week at St. Matthew:**

#### **814-793-2413: Office Hours**

Pastor Traci – Tues. – 2:00-5:00 p.m.

Jen – Mon – Thurs. 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

#### **This Week Events**

**Today –** *Reformation Sunday*  
Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Window Room  
NO Catechism  
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.  
Halloween Party 6:00-7:00 p.m. Lutheran Home, Hollidaysburg

**Monday –** *Messenger Deadline*  
Social Ministry Meeting. 6:30 p.m., Zoom

**Tuesday –** Knotty Ladies 12:30-3:00 p.m., Quilting Room  
Talk-O Tuesday, 6:00 p.m., La Fiesta, Airport

**Thursday –** Trick or Treat 6:00-8:00 p.m., St. Matthew

**Friday –** Synod Assembly

**Sunday –** *All Saints Sunday*  
Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Window Room  
NO Catechism  
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.



## Community Thanksgiving Meal Desserts

Social Ministry Committee will be coordinating the desserts from St. Matthew for the annual Community Thanksgiving Meal on November 10, 2025, at the Martinsburg Church of God. A sign-up list is posted on the bulletin board. We have been asked to provide desserts for 80.



## Martinsburg Food Pantry



Volunteers from Mt. Pleasant Church will be assisting the regular helpers with food distribution on Thursdays, November 6 and November 20 from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m.

Several churches are providing Thanksgiving dinners for food pantry families who would like to prepare turkey dinners themselves. Much appreciated!

**Food Items most needed for November:** Pasta Sauce, Spaghetti, Soup, Peanut Butter & Jelly.

*Thank you for your donations for the Ministerium Food Drive!*  
*Linda Smith*

## Talk-O Tuesday



Fellowship, Food, & Faith Conversation  
Tuesday, October 28th at 6PM  
La Fiesta at the Airport  
RSVP to the office by Noon

Join Pastor Traci & Otto at St. Matthew for

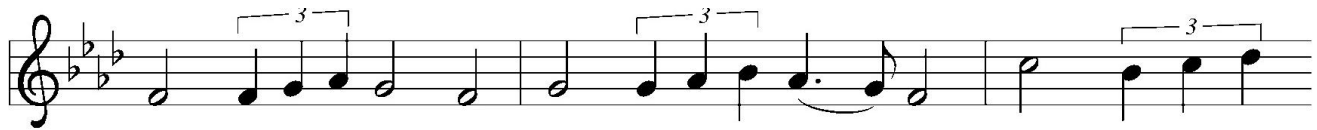
## TRICK OR TREAT

No Trick or Treaters in your neighborhood?  
No problem! Dozens of ghosts & goblins  
trick or treat at church every year.



6-8PM  
Thursday  
October 30

Throw on a costume &  
join us to give out candy.  
Shopping for Trick or Treat?  
Grab an extra bag for St. Matthew.  
(Please drop off by Wednesday the 29th)



1 Thy strong word did cleave the dark - ness; at thy  
 2 Lo, on those who dwelt in dark - ness, dark as  
 3 Thy strong Word be - speaks us righ - teous; bright with  
 4 From the cross thy wis - dom shin - ing break - eth



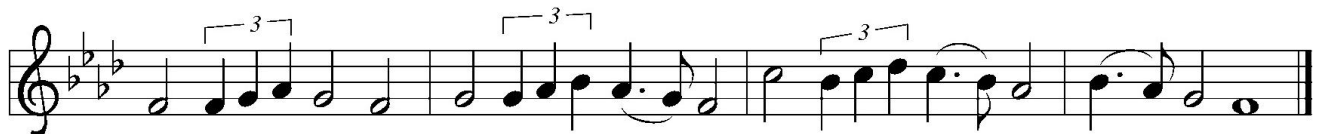
speak - ing it was done. For cre - at - ed light we  
 night and deep as death, broke the light of thy sal -  
 thine own ho - li - ness, glo - rious now, we press toward  
 forth in con - qu'ring might; from the cross for - ev - er



thank thee, while thine or - dered sea - sons run.  
 va - tion, breathed thine own life - breath - ing breath.  
 glo - ry, and our lives our hopes con - fess.  
 beam - eth all thy bright re - deem - ing light.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise to thee who light dost send!



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!

5 Give us lips to sing thy glory,  
 tongues thy mercy to proclaim,  
 throats that shout the hope that fills us,  
 mouths to speak thy holy name.  
 Alleluia! Alleluia!  
 May the light which thou dost send  
 fill our songs with alleluias,  
 alleluias without end!

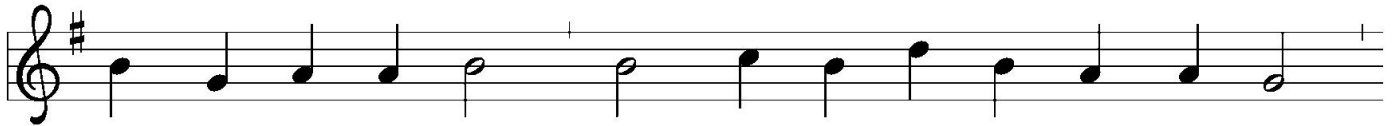
6 God the Father, light-creator,  
 to thee laud and honor be.  
 To thee, Light of Light begotten,  
 praise be sung eternally.  
 Holy Spirit, light-revealer,  
 glory, glory be to thee.  
 Mortals, angels, now and ever  
 praise the holy Trinity!

\*HYMN OF THE DAY *Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word*

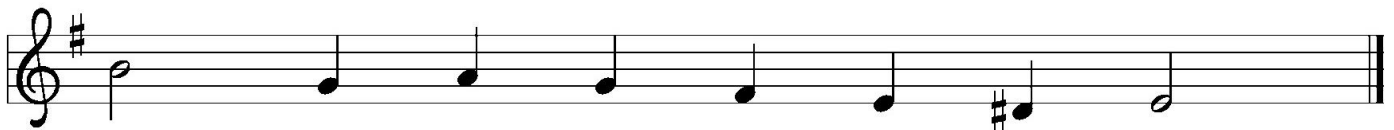
ELW # 517



1 Lord, keep us stead - fast in your word; curb those who  
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, your pow'r make known, for you are  
3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, send peace and



by de - ceit or sword would wrest the king - dom from your Son  
Lord of lords a - lone; de - fend your ho - ly church, that we  
u - ni - ty on earth; sup - port us in our fi - nal strife



and bring to naught all he has done.  
may sing your praise e - ter - nal - ly.  
and lead us out of death to life.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.  
Music: ERHALT UNS, HERR, J. Klug, *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543

## COMMUNION HYMN

*Now We Join in Celebration*

ELW # 462



- 1 Now we join in cel - e - bra - tion at our Sav - ior's in - vi - ta - tion,  
 2 Lord, as round this feast we gath - er, fill our hearts with ho - ly rap - ture!  
 3 Lord, we share in this com - mu - nion as one fam - 'ly of God's chil - dren,



dressed no more in spir - it som - ber, clothed in - stead in joy and won - der;  
 For this bread and cup of bless - ing are for us the sure pos - sess - ing  
 rec - on - ciled through you, our broth - er, one in you with God our Fa - ther.



for the Lord of all ex - is - tence, put - ting off di - vine tran - scen - dence,  
 of your lov - ing deed on Cal - v'ry, of your liv - ing self, our vic - t'ry,  
 Give us grace to live for oth - ers, serv - ing all, both friends and strang - ers,



stoops a - gain in love to meet us, with his ver - y life to feed us.  
 pledge of your un - fail - ing pres - ence, fore - taste here of heav' - n - ly glad - ness.  
 seek - ing jus - tice, love, and mer - cy till you come in fi - nal glo - ry.

Text: Joel W. Lundeen, 1918–1990

Music: SCHMÜCKE DICH, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

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1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -  
 2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -  
 3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat - 'ning to de -  
 4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who



to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and  
 ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom  
 your us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they  
 fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with



wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe  
 God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?  
 can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;  
 weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,



has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might  
 The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,  
 in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;  
 goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,



he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.  
 God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.  
 God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.  
 they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!