The 25th Sunday After Pentecost
November 15, 2026

10:30 a.m. Worship



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

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, our dwelling place for all generations, whose compassion never slumbers. ***C:*** **Amen.**

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

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

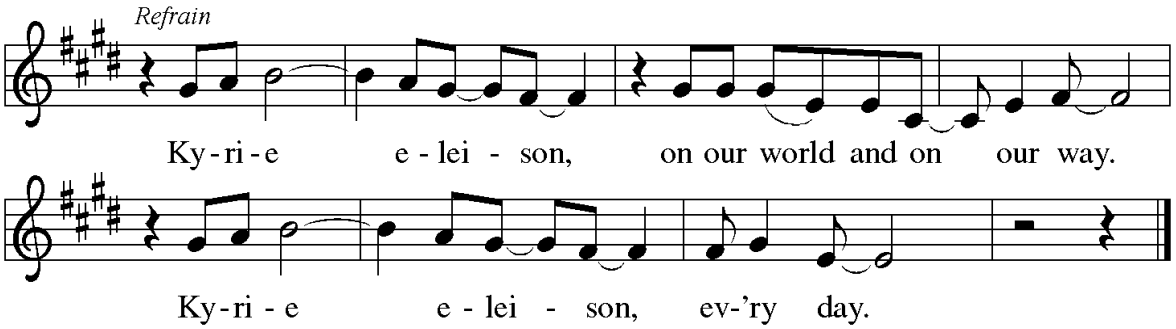
P: Inherit the riches of God's grace. ☩ Jesus, the good shepherd, feeds you with his mercy. You are forgiven. Blessed are you. ***C:*** **Amen.**

***OPENING HYMN** *Oh, Happy Day When We Shall Stand* *ELW #441*

***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** *S184*



For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all; for this holy house, for all who worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. **R**

That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor; that we may live out truth and justice and grace, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. **R**

For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family; for life and for love, for our work and our play, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. **R**

For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives in the water and the Word; that you nourish our souls with your body and blood, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. **R**

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Let us pray ...Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. ***C:*** **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

7 Be silent before the Lord God,
for the day of the Lord is at hand!
The Lord has prepared a sacrifice;
he has consecrated his guests.

12 At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,
and I will punish the people
who settle like dregs in wine,
those who say in their hearts,
"The Lord will not do good,
nor will he do harm."

13 Their wealth 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.

14 The great day of the Lord is near,
near and hastening fast;
the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter;
the warrior cries aloud there.
15 That day will be a day of wrath,
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,
16 a day of trumpet blast and battle cry
against the fortified cities
and against the lofty battlements.

17 I will bring such distress upon people
that they shall walk like the blind;
because they have sinned against the Lord,
their blood shall be poured out like dust
and their flesh like dung.
18 Neither their silver nor their gold
will be able to save them
on the day of the Lord's wrath;
in the fire of his passion
the whole earth shall be consumed,
for a full, a terrible end
he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

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

PSALM 90:1-8 [9-11] 12 (*read responsively*)
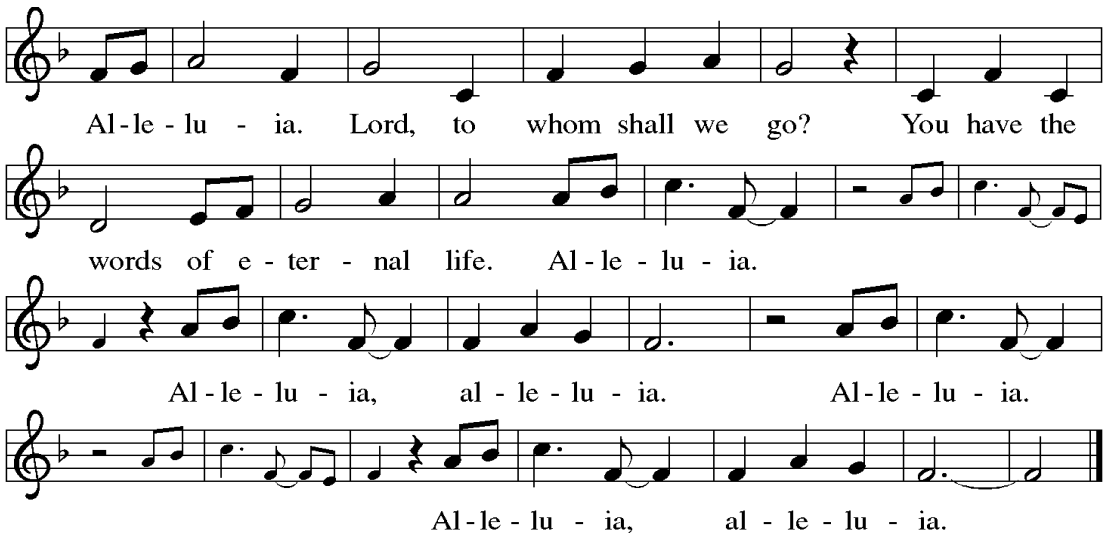
[1] Lord, you have been our refuge
from one generation to another.
[2] **Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born,**
from age to age you are God.
[3] You turn us back to the dust and say,
"Turn back, O children of earth."
[4] **For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past**
and like a watch in the night;
[5] you sweep them away like a dream,
they fade away suddenly like the grass:
[6] **in the morning it is green and flourishes;**
in the evening it is dried up and withered.
[7] For we are consumed by your anger;
we are afraid because of your wrath.
[8] **Our iniquities you have set before you,**
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.
[[9] When you are angry, all our days are gone;
we bring our years to an end like a sigh.
[10] **The span of our life is seventy years, perhaps in strength even eighty;**
yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow, for they pass away quickly
and we are gone.
[11] Who regards the power of your wrath?
Who rightly fears your indignation?]
[12] **So teach us to number our days**
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

1 Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to
have anything written to you. 2 For you yourselves know very well that the day
of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. 3 When they say, "There is peace
and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come
upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! 4 But you, brothers and
sisters, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; 5 for you are
all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of
darkness. 6 So, then, let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and
be sober, 7 for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk
at night. 8 But since we belong to the day, let us be sober and put on the
breastplate of faith and love and for a helmet the hope of salvation. 9 For God has
destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus
Christ, 10 who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live
with him. 11 Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed
you are doing.

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

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



***Gospel:** Matthew 25:14-30
The holy gospel according to Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] 14 "For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned
his slaves and entrusted his property to them; 15 to one he gave five talents, to
another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away.
At once 16 the one who had received the five talents went off and traded with
them and made five more talents. 17 In the same way, the one who had the two
talents made two more talents. 18 But the one who had received the one talent
went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. 19 After a long
time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. 20 Then the
one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents,
saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more
talents.' 21 His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you
have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things;
enter into the joy of your master.' 22 And the one with the two talents also came
forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made
two more talents.' 23 His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy
slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of
many things; enter into the joy of your master.' 24 Then the one who had received
the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh
man, reaping where you did not sow and gathering where you did not scatter,
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 replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew,
did you, that I reap where I did not sow and gather where I did not scatter?
27 Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return
I would have received what was my own with interest. 28 So take the talent from
him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. 29 For to all those who have, more
will be given, and they will have an abundance, but from those who have
nothing, even what they have will be taken away. 30 As for this worthless slave,
throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of
teeth.' "

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

HOMILY *Pastor Traci*

***HYMN OF THE DAY** *Lord of Light* *ELW #688*

***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: United with the great cloud of witnesses, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A: You build up the church as a community of faithful witnesses throughout the generations. Enliven the worship, outreach, and service work of our congregations and ministries with the hope of your good news. God, in your mercy, ***C:* hear our prayer.**

A: As the nights grow longer in the northern hemisphere, make us mindful of the earth's need for rest. Provide for fallow fields and hibernating animals; show us how to curb human impact on vulnerable lands and species. God, in your mercy, ***C:* hear our prayer.**

A: Rescue all nations and peoples from violence, displacement, or famine. Disrupt complacency among national and local leaders. Recommit our communities to transforming the systems that divide and oppress into those that empower and unite. God, in your mercy, ***C:* hear our prayer.**

A: In your embrace, we find refuge from all trials and troubles. Care for families who are separated or estranged, accompany all undergoing medical procedures or mental health treatment, and reassure any who are ill or despairing. God, in your mercy, ***C:* hear our prayer.**

A: Bless all who serve in congregational leadership: council members, finance committees, volunteer coordinators, and property teams. Encourage healthy stewardship of time, talents, and resources for the mission of the gospel. God, in your mercy, ***C:* hear our prayer.**

A: The faithful of every age trust in the hope of your saving grace. In thanksgiving for the ways our ancestors have journeyed before us, we remember all who have entered eternal life in you. God, in your mercy, ***C:* hear our prayer.**

P: Into your steadfast love, faithful God, we entrust all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus, your beloved. ***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 ...*Eternal God, our time, talents, and treasures are gifts from you. Receive what we offer, and all that you entrust to us, until hungry no more, all the world is fed, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. ***C:*** **Amen.**

***GREAT THANKSGIVING**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **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.

***EUCHARISTIC PRAYER & WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

P: Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal: surrounded by evil and bordered by death we appeal to you, our Sovereign, our Wisdom, and our Judge.

We praise you for Christ, who proclaimed your reign of peace and promised an end to injustice and harm.

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, the sacrifice of his life and death and the victory of his resurrection, we await with all the saints his loving redemption of our suffering world.

Send your Spirit on these gifts of bread and wine and on all who share in the body and blood of your Son: teach us your mercy and justice, and make all things new in Christ.

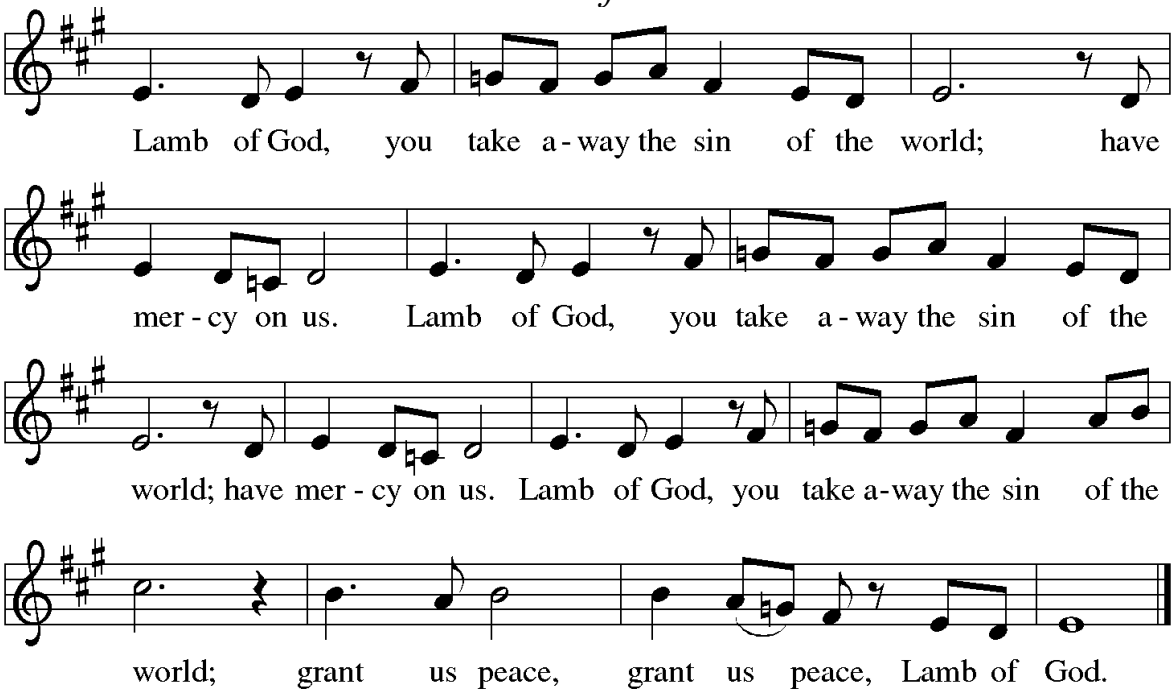
Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever. ***C:*** **Amen.**

***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 # S191



***INVITATION**

P: In bread and cup the reign of Christ is breaking in. Come, receive what Christ has prepared. ***C:*** **Thanks be to God.**

COMMUNION HYMN *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ* *ELW* # 674

***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…*Holy God, we have received your never-ending mercy in this meal. You continuously seek the lost, bind the injured, and feed your people abundantly. Now send us out, awake to your presence, now and forever. ***C:*** **Amen.**

***BENEDICTION**

P: The holy Trinity, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you with wisdom to welcome the reign of God, today and always. ***C:*** **Amen.**

***SENDING SONG** *Soon and Very Soon* *ELW # 439*

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Encourage one another. **C: Thanks be to God.**

***POSTLUDE**

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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 and in memory of George Gilbert from Martie Gilbert.

Serving God and Us

Our Ministers - the People of St. Matthew
Our Pastor – Rev. Traci Marriott
Our Organist – Mary Nelson
Our Pianists – Ben Decker, Sheila Bumbarger
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 Acolyte – Lily Lightner
Our Assisting Minister – Lottie Ebersole
Our Lector – Jane Fagans
Our Usher – Jeff Garner
Our Altar Guild – Laura Orczeck, Elaine Buchart
Our Audio/Video Tech – Camden Kuster
Our Offering Counters – Jim Barley, Beth Garner

Fourth Quarter Ventures in Faith to "United Lutheran Seminaries"

This Week at St. Matthew: 814-793-2413
Office Hours:

Pastor Traci – Wed. 4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.

Jen – Limited office hours this week. Please contact Jen on her cell for immediate office concerns or to schedule an appointment, otherwise please email or leave a voicemail as she will be checking messages regularly.

This Week Events:

Today –	*25th Sunday after Pentecost*
	9:30 a.m. Sunday School, Window Room
	10:30 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary
	Fellowship Hall in Use
Tuesday –	Talk-O Tuesday 6:00 p.m., La Fiesta, Airport
Wednesday –	Bible Study 6:30-7:30 p.m., Window Room/Zoom
Thursday –	Food Pantry 9:00-11:00 a.m., Allegheny St.
Saturday –	Fellowship Hall in Use
Sunday –	*Christ the King*
	9:30 a.m. Sunday School, Window Room
	10:30 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary
	Pie Practice following worship in Fellowship Hall

Prayers are needed for our homebound: Mary Jane Allision, Fred Brandenburg, Linda Claar, Mary Creps, Betty Helsel, Ruth Johnson, Dan Kensinger, Ruth Marshall.

Prayer Concerns: Ben, Greta Buchart, Doug Bush, Bill Davis, Julie Dick, Mary Farabaugh, Marilyn Horton, Dwight and Bethany Kensinger and their newborn son, Rachel Kensinger, Kristen Malloy, Pat Mellot, John Murphy, Ellie Post, Dan Ross, John Russell, Dan Sinal, Margie Smith, Joshua Sollenberger, Kaleb Sollenberger, Bill Stahl, Dr. Darwin Stapleton, Peggy Steinfurth, Jim Stewart, Jennifer Winston, and for our **Missionaries: Robin Abrol, On Eagle's Wings.**

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

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

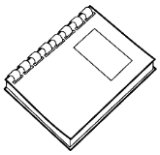


Congregational Meeting



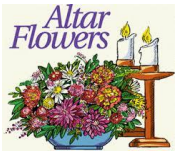
This year's Annual Congregational Meeting will be held at the end of the 10:30 a.m. worship service on Sunday, December 6th. Copies of the 2027 Proposed Congregational Budget, 2027 recommendations for Ventures In Faith and Special Envelopes, and Giving Report will be available at the usher station or the church office starting on Sunday November 22nd. The congregation will be asked to approve these proposals for 2027 at the 2026 Annual Congregational Meeting. If you have questions about the budget in advance of the meeting, please contact Finance Committee Chair Jim Barley.

2026 Parish Directory / 2025 Annual Report



Copies of the 2026 Parish Directory / 2025 Annual Report are now available at the Usher Station. There is a copy of the Parish Directory at the Usher Station with a red pen attached to mark any needed corrections/updates that you find. Thank you for your assistance in keeping the Directory current. If you need a copy of the Parish Directory/Annual Report mailed or delivered to you, please contact the church office.

Altar Flowers



The 2027 Altar Flower chart is posted on the Narthex bulletin board. Altar Flowers are a perfect way to remember loved ones or to honor loved ones. Please sign up now for the Sunday you wish to place flowers on the Altar. Cost is $40.00 with checks made payable to St. Matthew Flower Fund. Questions regarding Altar Flowers can be directed to either Elaine Smith or Mary Nelson.

Martinsburg Food Pantry



Volunteers from Mt. Pleasant Church will be assisting the regular helpers with food distributions on Thursdays, November 5 and November 19 from 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.



Thanksgiving dinners are being provided by several churches in the community for those food pantry families that want to prepare turkey dinners for themselves. Much appreciated!

Food items most needed for November:

Cereal, Macaroni, Pasta Sauce, Soup, and Rice Sides.

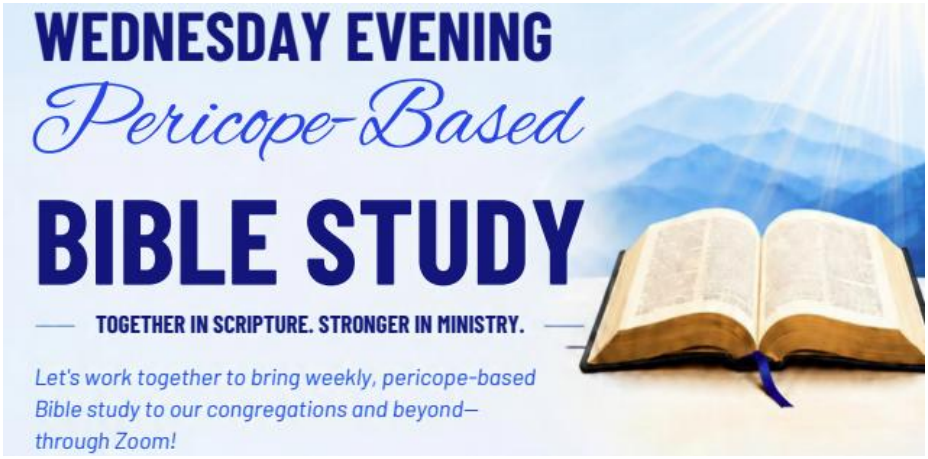
Thank you, members, for your donations for the food pantry!

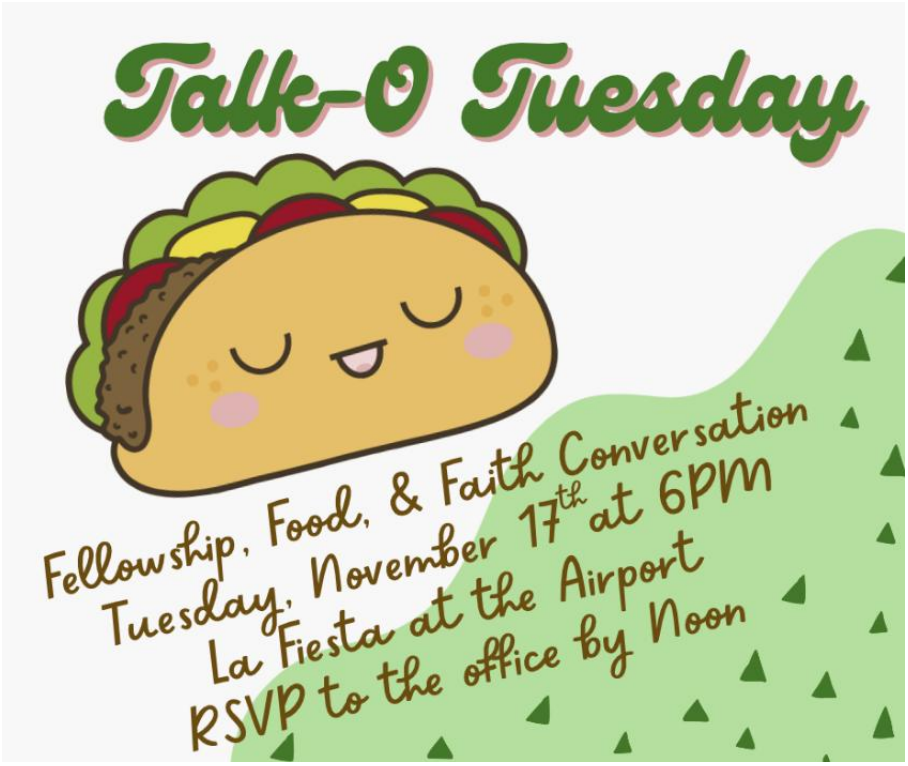
Linda Smith

New Bible Study Opportunity

Thanks to the work of the Go Tell It In The Mountains team, a new Bible Study opportunity will be available weekly beginning in October.

We will meet together in the Window Room and video conference with leaders and other participants from Allegheny, Upper Susquehanna, and North West Pennsylvania Synods. You can also access the study by Zoom from your home. These lectionary studies will cover the upcoming Sunday's gospel and other readings as time permits, from 6:30PM to 7:30PM on Wednesdays.






Join us
After Worship
on November 22nd
for
PIE
PRACTICE
2026
Trying out a new recipe for Thanksgiving?
Test your practice pie here first.
Not a baker?
Bring your appetite &
sense of adventure.
Light Lunch & Drinks Also Provided


Journey to Bethlehem
This year the Journey comes to you in a newly staged,
accessible performance of the story of Christmas
Sunday, December 20th
Anyone interested in participating in this year's
Journey to Bethlehem, which will be adapted for
seated performances in the sanctuary,
please contact Jane Fagans or Pastor Traci

Allegheny Synod

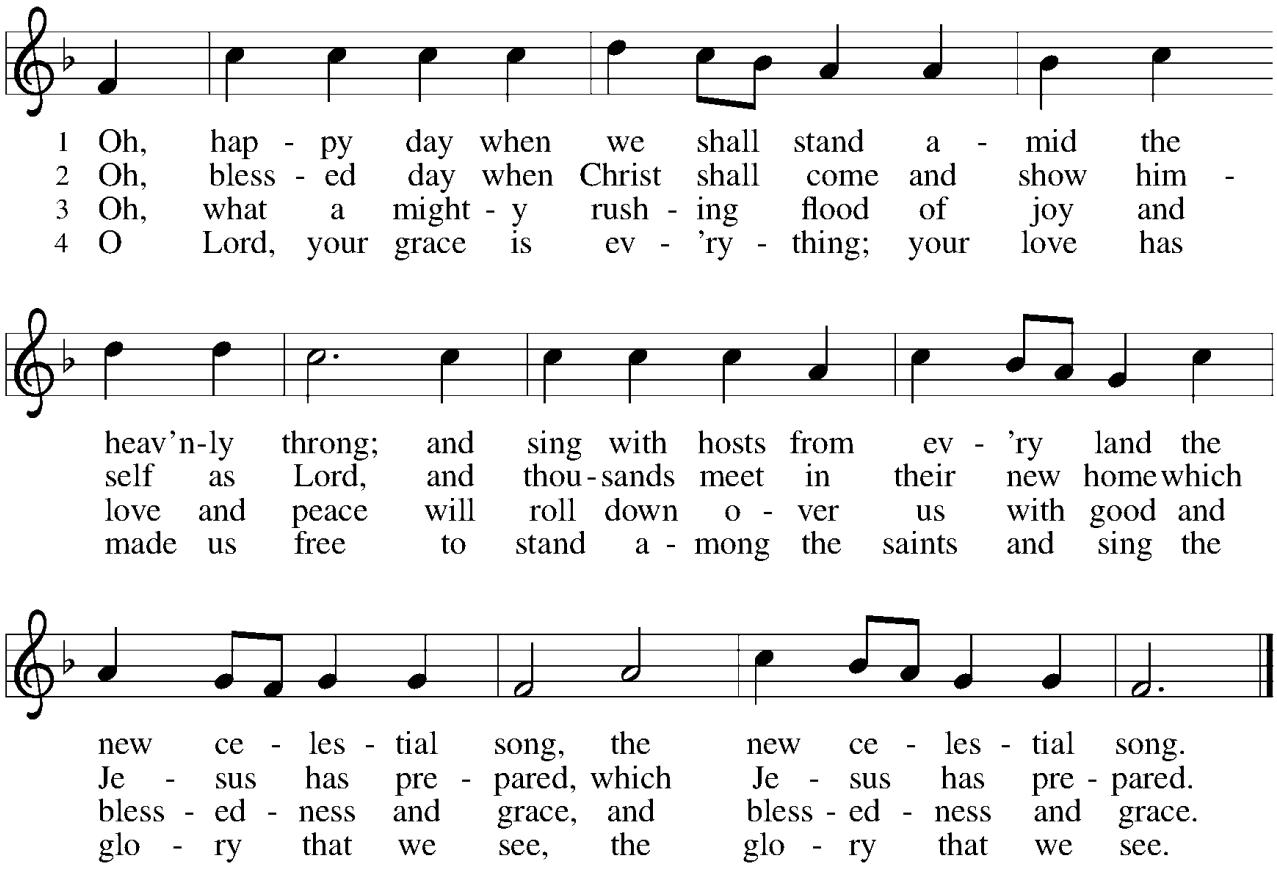
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

How has God gifted YOU with skills & passion for our shared ministry? We want to know!

Please complete the Allegheny Synod's Life Together Survey to help Bishop Kevin and his staff connect members of our synod with each other and the committees and teams working to spread God's love & light in the world. Access the survey with this QR code or on the Synod website. Contact your church office or the synod office for a paper copy.
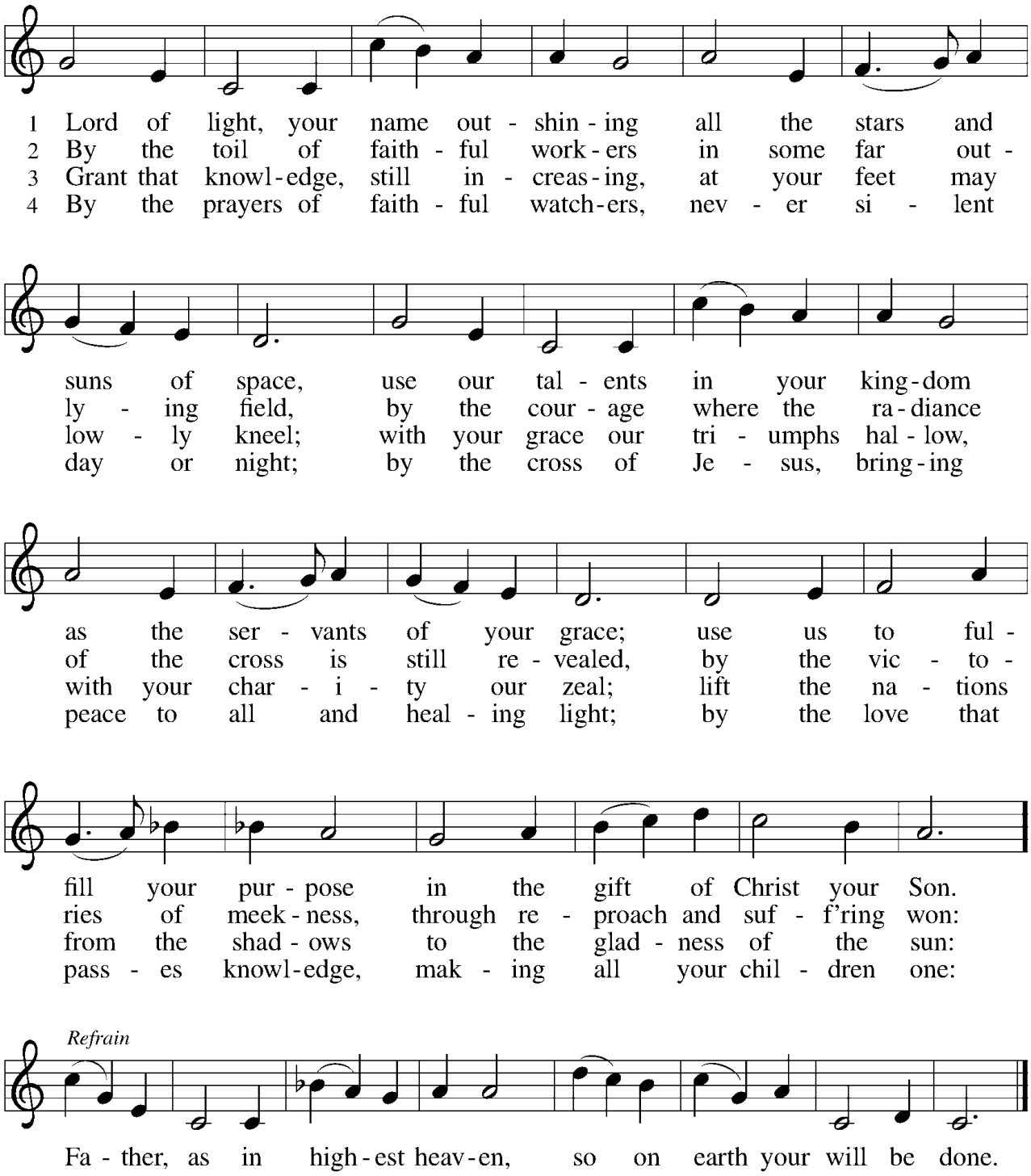
Scan me with your phone camera!

***OPENING HYMN** *Oh, Happy Day When We Shall Stand* *ELW #441*



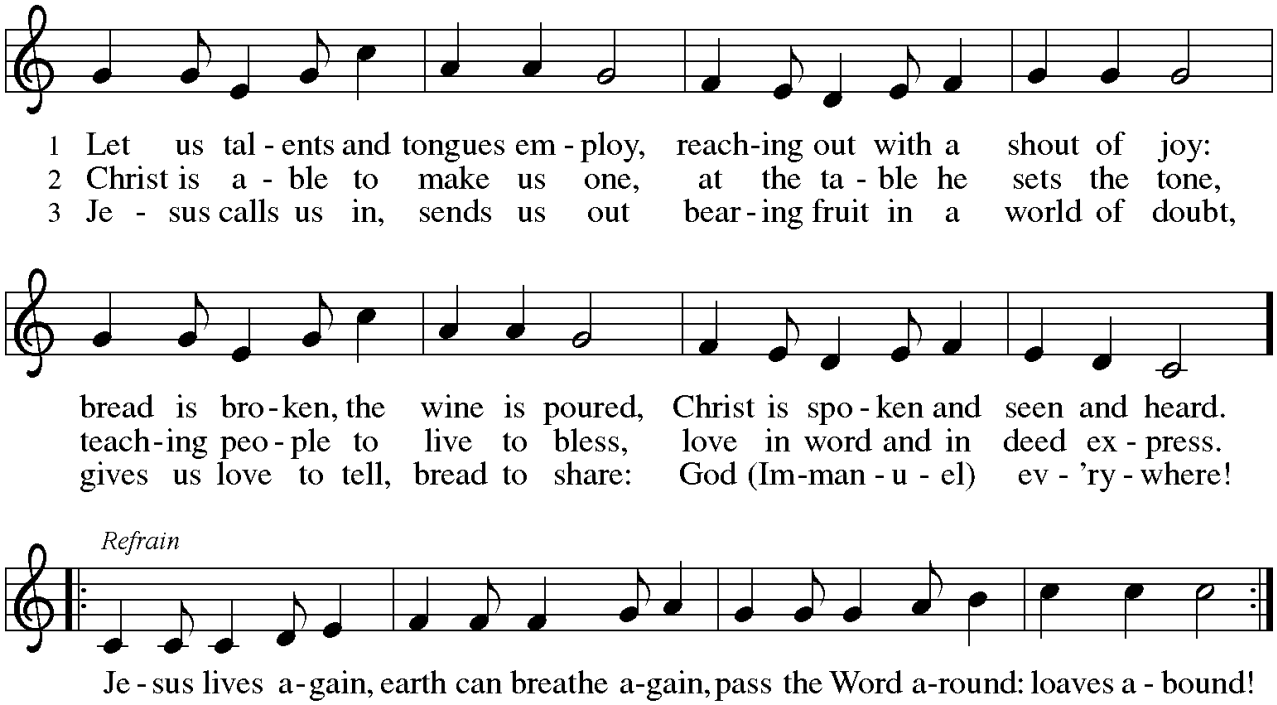
Text: Wilhelm A. Wexels, 1797–1866; tr. composite
Music: LOBT GOTT, IHR CHRISTEN, Nikolaus Herman, 1480–1561
Text © 1958, 1978 Augsburg Fortress

***HYMN OF THE DAY** *Lord of Light* *ELW #688*



Text: Howell E. Lewis, 1860–1953, alt.
Music: ABBOT'S LEIGH, Cyril V. Taylor, 1907–1991
Text © Union of Welsh Independents
Music © 1942, ren. 1970 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

COMMUNION HYMN *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ* *ELW* # 674



Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929
Music: LINSTEAD, Jamaican folk tune; adapt. Doreen Potter, 1925–1980
Text and music © 1975 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.
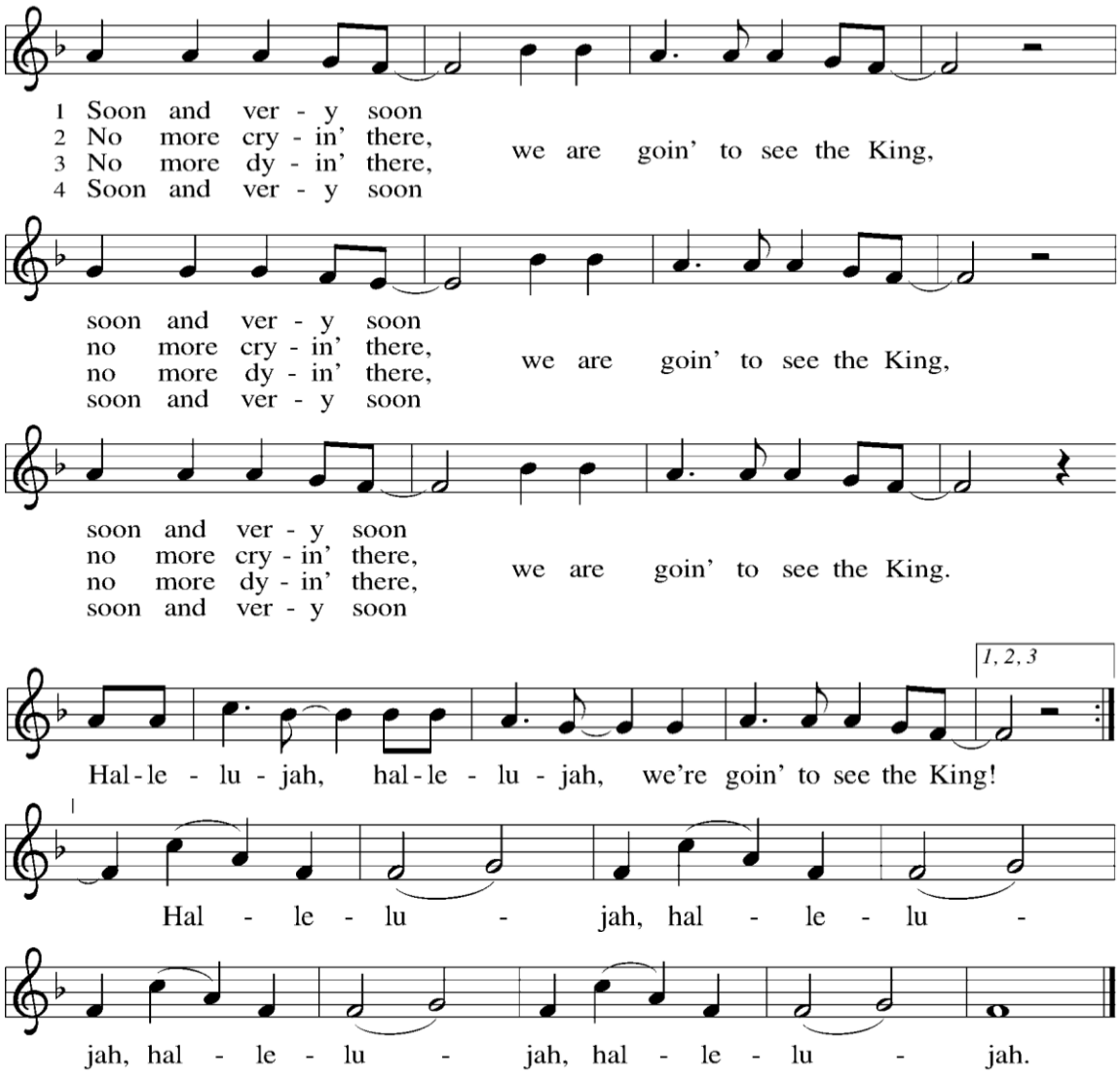
***SENDING SONG** *Soon and Very Soon* *ELW # 439*

