NOVEMBER

22

2026

LAST SUNDAY IN THE CHURCH YEAR

Time to Hope for the Best



Salem Lutheran Church & School - Stillwater, MN

14940 62nd St N | salemlutheran.org | 651-439-7831

WELCOME

Thank you for joining us for worship today. In our services we gather before our almighty God to receive his gifts and to offer him our worship and praise. Through God's powerful Word and sacraments he renews our faith and strengthens us to serve in joy.

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP: Jesus your resurrection gives us a hope that surpasses all other pleasures and gifts of this world. Teach us today to value and express the joy given through the promise of the resurrection so that others may see you through us and join in the family of believers. Amen.

THEME OF THE DAY: We have come to the end of the Church Year, and it's time to talk about the end of the world on judgment day. But that day doesn't scare the believer. The first time Christ came to earth, he did the work to save us from our sin. The next time he comes, he will save us from everything else. Disease, abuse, heartache, even death—all gone. In the end we will exist forever with the Lord Jesus, and now is the beginning of the end. Come quickly Lord Jesus, and usher us into everlasting glory.

SERVING GOD, SERVING US:

Worship Leader: Pastor Jon Enter Organ: Robyn Stoller

Soloist: Carolyn Forster

A WORD ABOUT HOLY COMMUNION: Our church observes the biblical practice of member communion (also called close communion). In Holy Communion we not only receive forgiveness from God, but we also express the unique relationship our members have with each other. If you are not a member of our congregation or a sister WELS/ELS church, we kindly ask that you not take communion today, but speak with a pastor after the service. We would love to share the special unity of the sacrament with you in the future.

Whether this is your first Sunday or your fiftieth, we're glad you're here. ***Scan the code*** *to check in on the Salem app, share a prayer request, and learn more about our church, including what's happening this week and how to get connected.*

Connect Card
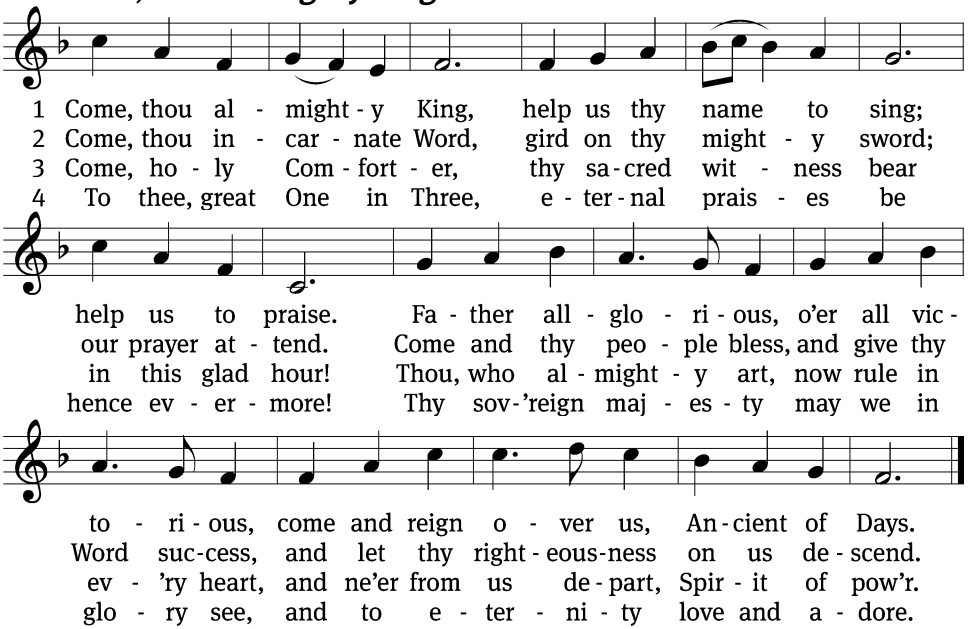
Questions? Ask an usher or anyone nearby. We're happy to help! More information, including accessibility and family resources, is on the back page.

Order of Worship

CW Hymnal, Setting Three

Hymn: Come, Thou Almighty King

CW 921



Please stand.

Minister: In the name of the Father and of the ┼ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Congregation: Amen.

Confession

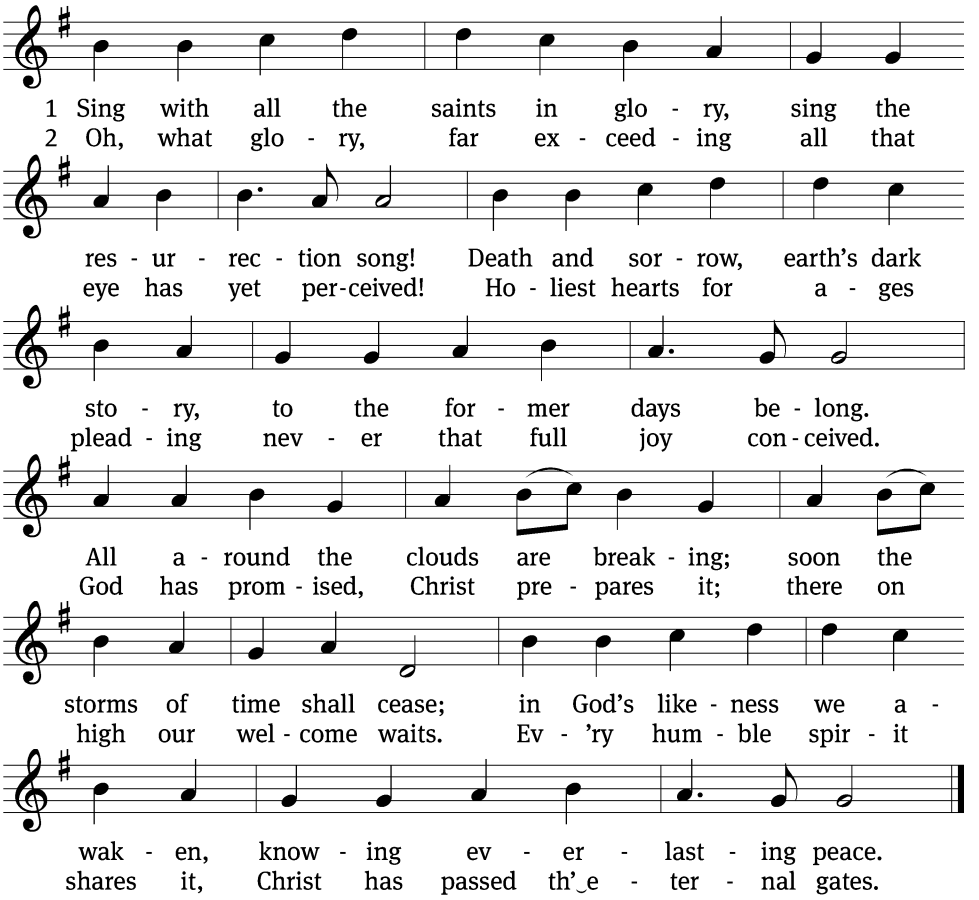
CW 189

M: If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.
C: If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.
M: Let us confess our sins to the Lord.
C: Holy God, gracious Father, I am sinful by nature and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should. I deserve your punishment both now and forever. But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins with his innocent suffering and death. Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

M: Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

(Saturday) Hymn: Sing with All the Saints in Glory CW 881 sts. 1–2



(Sunday) Anthem: Entrust Your Days and Burdens Stephen Johnson

Entrust your days and burdens To God's most loving hand;
He cares for you while ruling the sky, the sea, the land.
For He who guides the tempests along their thund'rous ways
Will find for you a pathway and guide you all your days.

Rely on God your Savior and find your life secure.
Make His work your foundation that your work may endure.
No anxious thought, no worry, no self-tormenting care
Can win your Father's favor; His heart is moved by prayer.

Take heart, have hope, my spirit, and do not be dismayed;
God helps in ev'ry trial and makes you unafraid.
Await His time with patience through darkest hours of night
Until the sun you hoped for delights your eager sight.

Leave all to His direction; His wisdom rules for you
In ways to rouse your wonder at all His love can do.
Soon He, His promise keeping, with wonder-working pow'rs
Will banish from your spirit what gave you troubled hours.

The Word

M: The Lord be with you.
C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.
Eternal God, merciful Father, you have appointed your Son as judge of the living and the dead. Enable us to wait for the day of his return with our eyes fixed on the kingdom prepared for your own from the foundation of the world; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C: Amen.

Be seated.

First Reading Daniel 7:9, 10, 13, 14

The prophet Daniel sees a vision of the last judgment that is filled with fire and thrones and books—and a Savior.

9"As I looked,

"thrones were set in place, and the Ancient of Days took his seat.
His clothing was as white as snow; the hair of his head was white like wool.
His throne was flaming with fire, and its wheels were all ablaze.
10A river of fire was flowing, coming out from before him.

Thousands upon thousands attended him;
ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him.
The court was seated, and the books were opened.

[13]"In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. [14]He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all nations and peoples of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed.

M: The Word of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

(Sunday) Anthem: Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word David von Kampen

Lord, keep us steadfast in your Word; curb those who by deceit or sword
would seek to overthrow your Son and to destroy what he has done.

Lord Jesus Christ, your pow'r make known, for you are Lord of lords alone;
defend your Christendom that we may sing your praise eternally.

O Comforter of priceless worth, send peace and unity on earth;
support us in our final strife and lead us out of death to life.

Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

When Christ comes again, he will raise the dead, and death shall be forever ended.
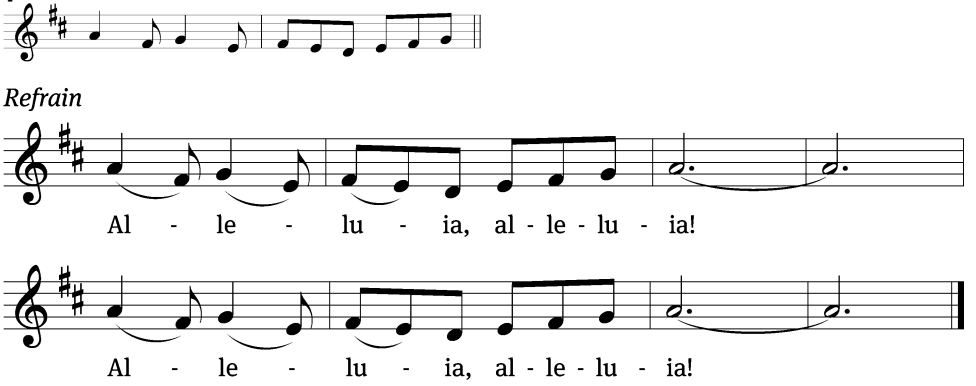
[13]Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope. [14]For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him. [15]According to the Lord's word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. [16]For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. [17]After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. [18]Therefore encourage one another with these words.

M: The Word of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

Revelation 22:13



I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End. ***Refrain***

Gospel

Matthew 25:31-46

Jesus describes the end of days when he will come again in glory.
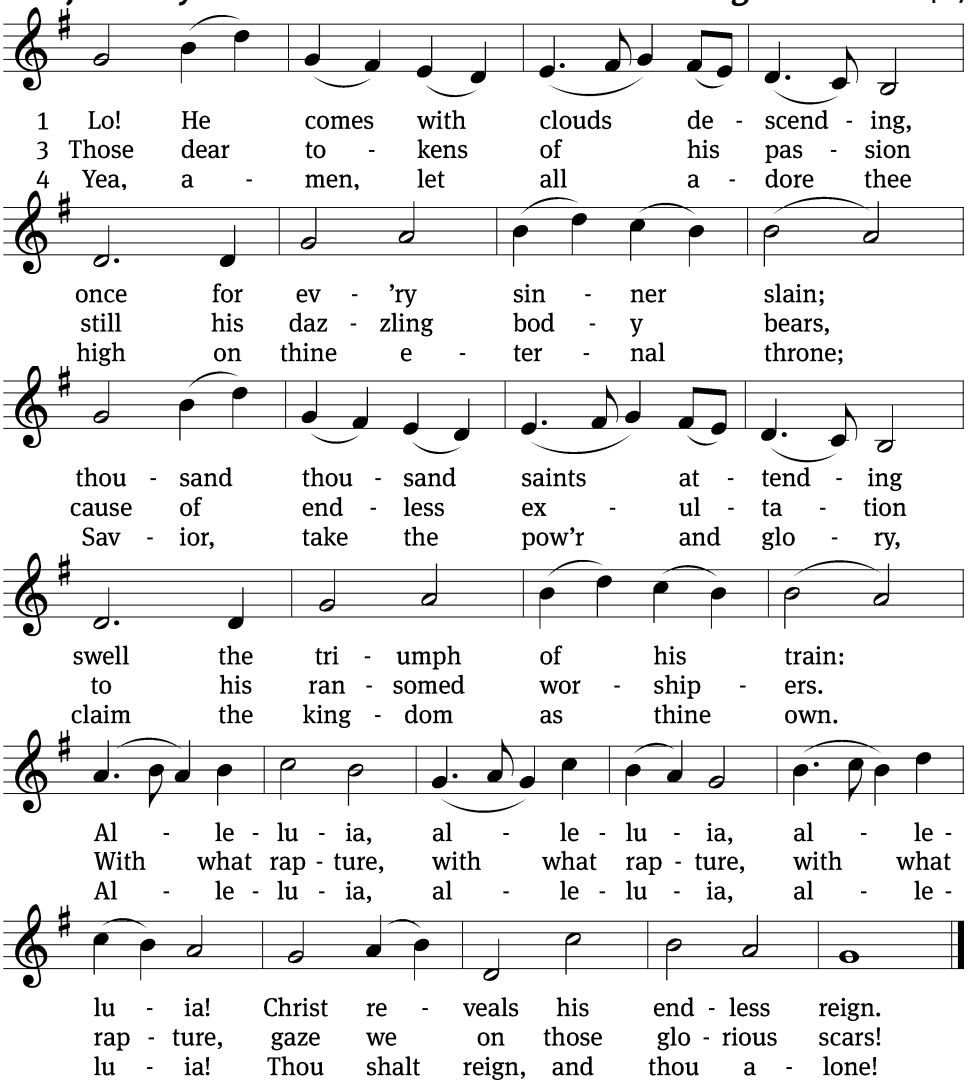
31 "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his
glorious throne. 32 All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people
one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. 33 He will put the sheep on
his right and the goats on his left.
34 "Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take
your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. 35 For I was
hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I
was a stranger and you invited me in, 36 I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you
looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.'
37 "Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or
thirsty and give you something to drink? 38 When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or
needing clothes and clothe you? 39 When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?'
40 "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers
and sisters of mine, you did for me.'
41 "Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal
fire prepared for the devil and his angels. 42 For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I
was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, 43 I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I
needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after
me.'
44 "They also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing
clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?'
45 "He will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did
not do for me.'
46 "Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life."

M: The Gospel of the Lord.
C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day: Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending CW 487 sts. 1, 3–4



Sermon

Please stand after the sermon.

Thanksgiving

Nicene 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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became truly human.
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, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy Christian 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.

Be seated.

Offering

Our members give offerings to support God's work in our church. Offerings can be put in the basket or made online by scanning the QR code on the screen or in the folder. Visitors may give, but aren't expected to.

We ask all attendees to "check in" using the code on the back of the folder or by filing out the paper card in the pew and putting it in the basket on the rear table as you leave. Please share your prayer requests so that we can pray for you.

Give Online

Please stand after the offering.

Prayer of the Church

Lord's Prayer

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

The Sacrament

Our Lord Jesus has given us a holy supper in which we receive his true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins. The meal also bears witness to the unity and fellowship we share with each other. Therefore, we invite to communion all those who share in our confession by virtue of their membership here or in a sister WELS or ELS congregation. We ask visitors to speak to the pastor before communing.
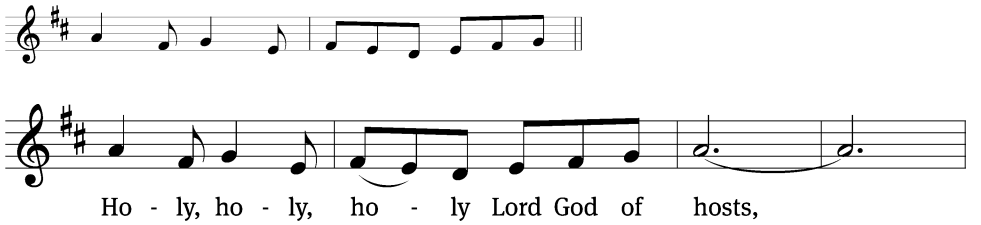
M: The Lord be with you.
C: And also with you.

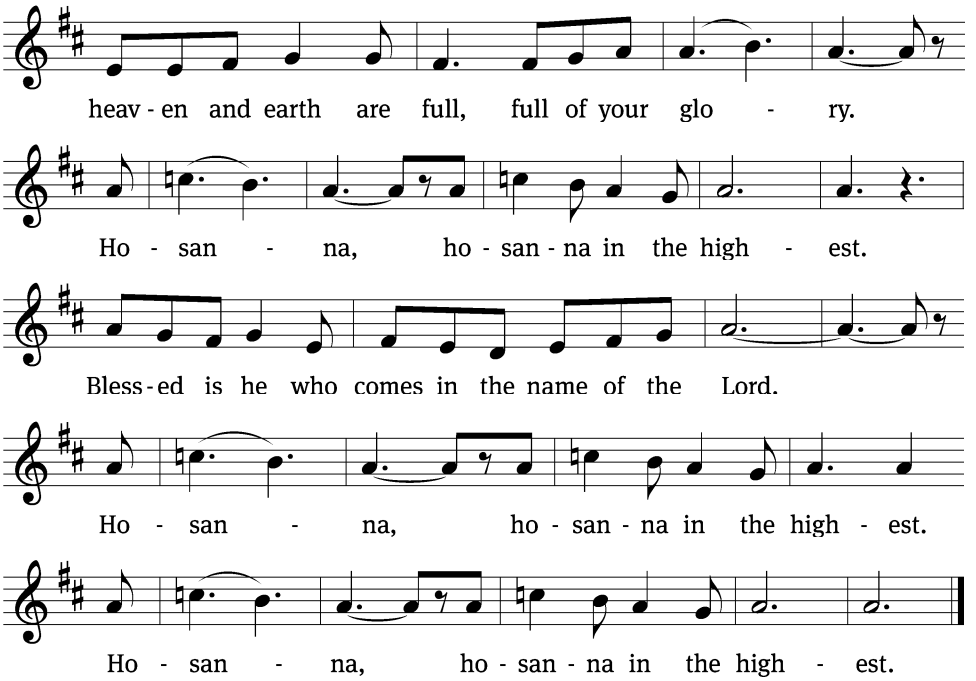
M: Lift up your hearts.
C: We lift them up to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, who preserves his Church to the end of time, when he will come again as king to judge all people and take his own to glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy CW 200





Words of Institution
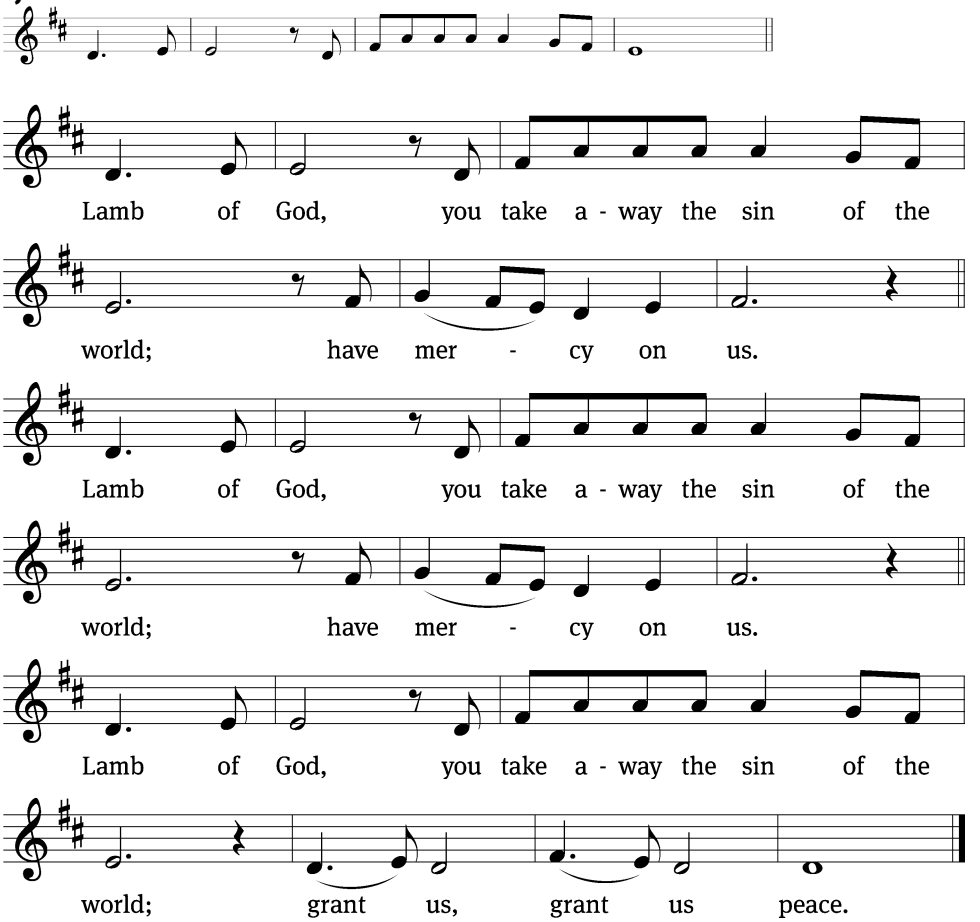
M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my ┼ body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my ┼ blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

Lamb of God CW 202



Be seated

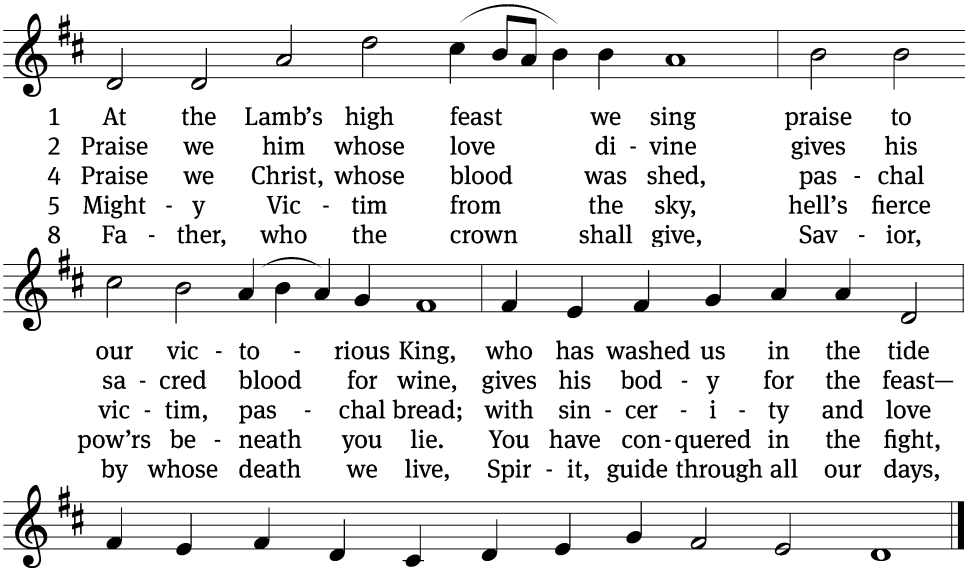
Communion Distribution

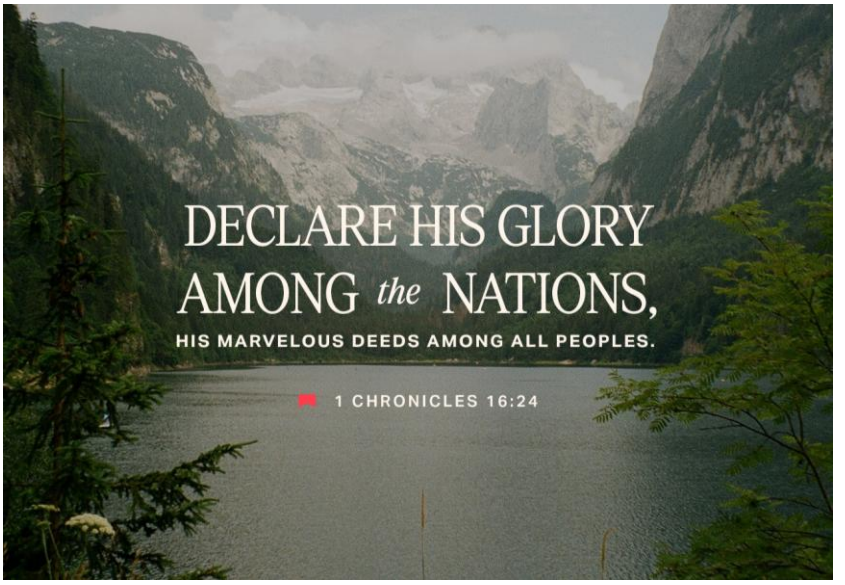
For those who cannot have any alcohol for personal or medical reasons we offer white grape juice. You will find cups of white grape juice in the center of each communion tray. Gluten-free wafers are available by request for those medically unable to tolerate gluten.

Communicants may choose to receive the wine by individual or common cup. If you choose the common cup, please allow the individual tray to pass and then assist the minister by helping to tip the common cup.
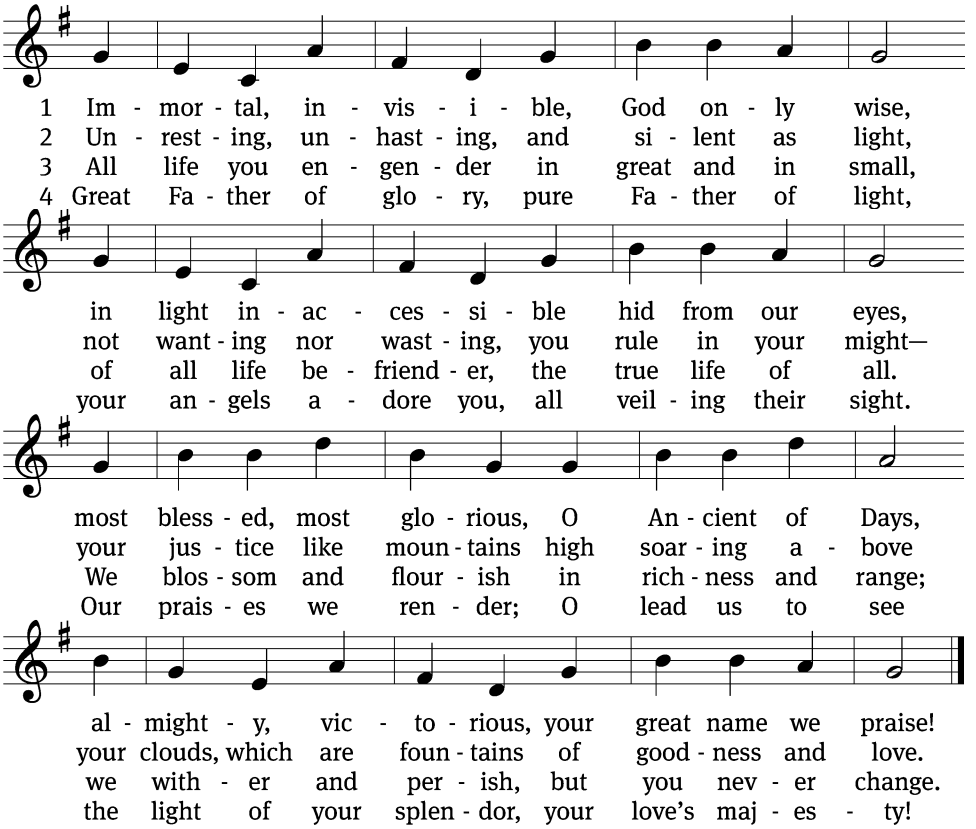
If you have not communed with us before, please see the announcement on the inside cover of this service folder.

Distribution Hymn: At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing CW 675 sts. 1–2, 4–5, 8





Distribution Hymn: Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise CW 614



Please stand after the distribution.

M: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
C: his mercy endures forever.

M: Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
C: we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.
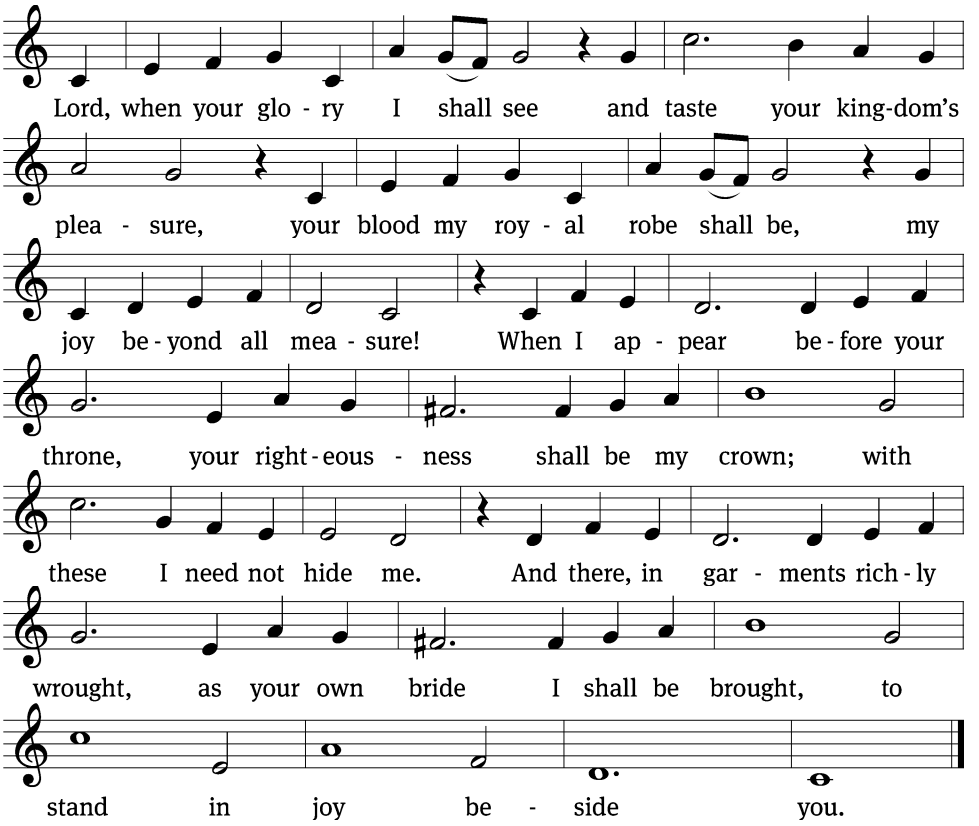
M: O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving-kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C: Amen.

Blessing

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and ✝ give you peace.

C: Amen.

Hymn: Lord, When Your Glory I Shall See CW 884



Silent Prayer and Announcements

Advent Worship Series Preview

Acknowledgments
Setting Three from Christian Worship
Reprinted under OneLicense # 48708 and CCLI # 630266

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

FOR OUR GUESTS

We are glad that you joined us to worship our Savior today. If you have questions about our church or service simply ask an usher or someone near you. We're happy to help!

Please take note of a few helpful things:

- Restrooms with diaper-changing tables are located straight down the hall opposite the sanctuary entrance.
- Our sanctuary is equipped with a "loop" system for hearing assistance. Please set hearing aids to the "T" position or ask an usher for a headset.
- You will find a connection card in your pew. Please share names, contact information, and prayer requests.
- Salem members give an offering to support the work we do for the Lord. Guests are not expected to give anything, but if you wish to make a donation you can place it in a basket as it's passed during the service or give online.
- Our services are streamed live on our YouTube channel. If you would prefer not to be on camera, please sit in the seats located beneath the balcony.

FOR THOSE WITH YOUNG CHILDREN

We love to see families worship together and we welcome children to sing, pray, and grow with us in our services.

We provide a few special worship aids and helps for families:

- Children's bulletins & activity bags are available in the entry, just to the left of the office hallway. Ask an usher if you need help finding them.
- If your child needs a quiet space, you can use the fireside room down the hallway across from the restrooms. The service is streamed live into the room.
- Children of all ages are invited to come to the front of church for the weekly children's message. Parents are welcome too!

Salem Lutheran Church and School

Salem Lutheran Church exists to glorify God by teaching his timeless Truth, that all may grow in grace and faith to share eternity.

WELS Christ's Love, Our Calling.