

November 8, 2026

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
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Northumberland, PA 17857

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WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
Silence is kept for reflection.

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.

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

GATHERING HYMN
Come We That Love the Lord ELW 625

GREETING

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

HYMN OF PRAISE





PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

FIRST READING **Amos 5:18-24**

In the days of Amos, people thought that the day of the LORD would be a time of great victory, but Amos announced that it would be a day of darkness, not light. He said liturgy is no substitute for obedience. The LORD demands justice and righteousness in the community.

18 Woe to you who desire the day of the Lord!
Why do you want the day of the Lord?
It is darkness, not light,
19 as if someone fled from a lion
and was met by a bear
or went into the house
and rested a hand against the wall
and was bitten by a snake.
20 Is not the day of the Lord darkness, not light,
and gloom with no brightness in it?
21 I hate, I despise your festivals,
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.
22 Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,
I will not accept them,
and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals I will not look upon.
23 Take away from me the noise of your songs;
I will not listen to the melody of your harps.
24 But let justice roll down like water
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

Word of God.
Word of Life.

PSALM 70 read responsively

REFRAIN ***You are my helper and my deliverer; O Lord, do not tarry. (Ps. 70:5)***

1 Be pleased, O God, to deliver me; O Lord, make | haste to help me.
2 Let those who seek my life be put to shame | and confounded;

let those who take pleasure in my misfortune draw back and | be disgraced. R

3 Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat | over me turn back because | of their shame.

4 Let all who seek you rejoice and be | glad in you; let those who love your salvation say forever, "Great | is the Lord!"

5 But as for me, I am poor and needy; come to me quicky, O God. You are my helper and my deliverer; O Lord, | do not tarry. **R**

SECOND READING 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Some of the Thessalonians are worried that dead Christians will be excluded from the resurrection to eternal life when Christ comes again. Paul reassures them with the word of hope that all Christians, living or dead, will be raised into everlasting life with Christ.

13 We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. 14 For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. 15 For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. 16 For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will be with the Lord forever. 18 Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Word of God.
Word of Life.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL **Matthew 25:1-13**

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.
Glory to you O Lord.

Jesus tells a parable about his own second coming, emphasizing the need for readiness at all times.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] [1] "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten young women took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. [2] Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. [3] When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, [4] but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. [5] As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. [6] But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' [7] Then all those young women got up and trimmed their lamps. [8] The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' [9] But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' [10] And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet, and the door was shut. [11] Later the other young women came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' [12] But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' [13] Keep awake, therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you O Christ.

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY Rejoice, Rejoice Believers ELW 244

Holy Baptism & Affirmation

Luca Alexander Noaker
Born: July 26, 2024

Ashely Marie Noaker

God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.

Ashley Marie Noaker, you have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism: to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

Response: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

Sponsor: I present Luca Alexander Noaker for baptism.

Ashley, called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have your child baptized into Christ?
Response: I do.

As you bring your child to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities: to live with him among God's faithful people, bring him to the word of God and the holy supper, teach him the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, place in his hands the holy scriptures, and nurture him in faith and prayer, so that your child may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help your child grow in the Christian faith and life?
Response: I do.

Sponsor, do you promise to nurture Lucca in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help him live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?
Response: I do.

People of God, do you promise to support Luca and Ashley and pray for them in their new life in Christ?
Response: **We do.**

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God, the powers of this world that rebel against God, and the ways of sin that draw you from God?
Response: I renounce them.

Do you believe in God the Father?
I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

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.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?
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.

Thanksgiving at the Font

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you. Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.
Amen.

Luca Alexander Noaker, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

You belong to Christ, in whom you have been baptized. Alleluia.

Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughter and son new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

Sustain Ashely and Luca with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. **Amen.**

Luca Alexander Noaker, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.
Amen.

Jesus said, I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will have the light of life.

We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

BAPTISM HYMN Borning Cry ELW 732

THE PRAYERS

United with the great cloud of witnesses, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.
A brief silence.

You illumine the church with the hope of your new day. Prepare our hearts and minds for the inbreaking of your kingdom, that we might awaken to your transforming love at work all around us. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

You create and sustain the earth's natural rhythms so that all life might thrive. Show us the wisdom and wonder of nature's balance; make us careful stewards of our common home. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You make justice roll down in all places and among all nations. Encourage all who protect vulnerable communities and help rebuild in the aftermath of conflict. Uphold veterans and those who care for them. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You hasten to heal our wounds and make whole what is broken. Comfort individuals facing a difficult diagnosis, receiving palliative care, or facing uncertain treatment options. (*We pray especially for . . .*) God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You give rest to weary hearts and bodies. As the days grow shorter in the north, help us to move more slowly and intentionally through our days, honoring the need for quiet and stillness. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You welcome those who have come before us in faith into the joys of heaven. Sustain us by your grace and guide us into the promise of everlasting life. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Into your steadfast love, faithful God, we entrust all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus, your beloved.
Amen.

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

You may share a sign of peace with your neighbor

EVERY VOICE CHOIR Have Thine Own Way

OFFERING

Thank you for your continued support with your offering. Offering may be placed in the offering plate on the table in the rear of the sanctuary, by mail or our on-line giving.



OFFERTORY PRAYER

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.
Amen.

DIALOGUE

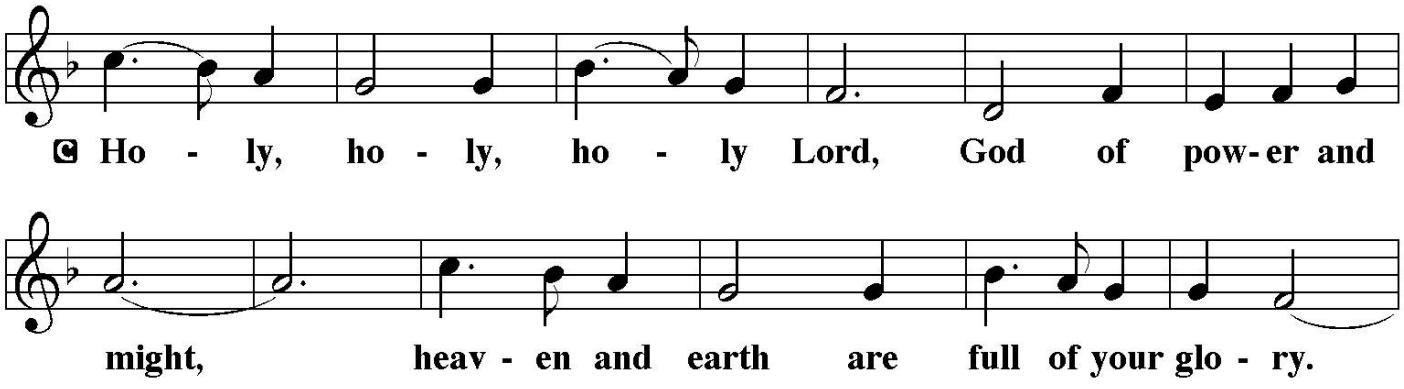
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

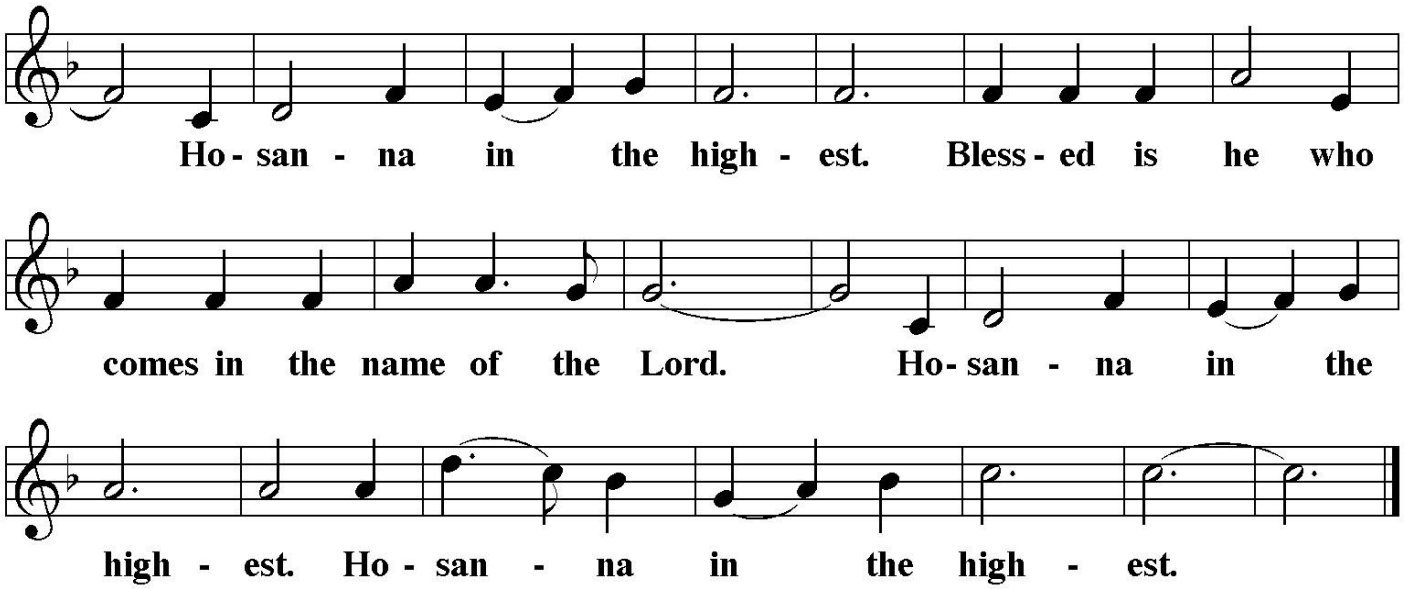
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; 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 the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:





EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God of the universe.
Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.
Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.
Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.
Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness
to the land of milk and honey.
Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.
Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.
Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.
Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.
Come, Holy Spirit.

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever. **Amen.**

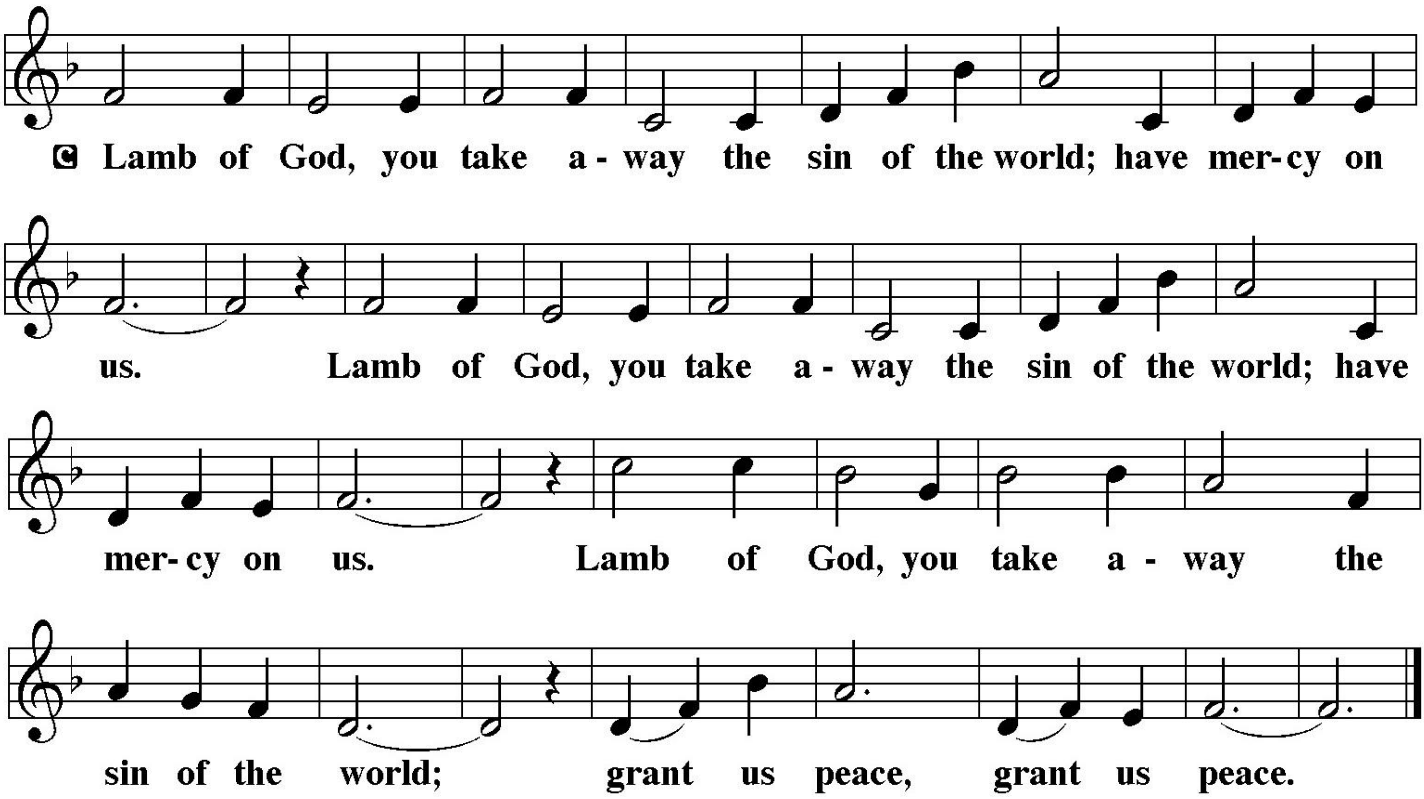
LORD'S PRAYER

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

In bread and cup the reign of Christ is breaking in. Come, receive what Christ has prepared.

COMMUNION HYMN



COMMUNION

The assembly may be seated. Communion will be served at the altar rail. Wine or grape juice is available.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

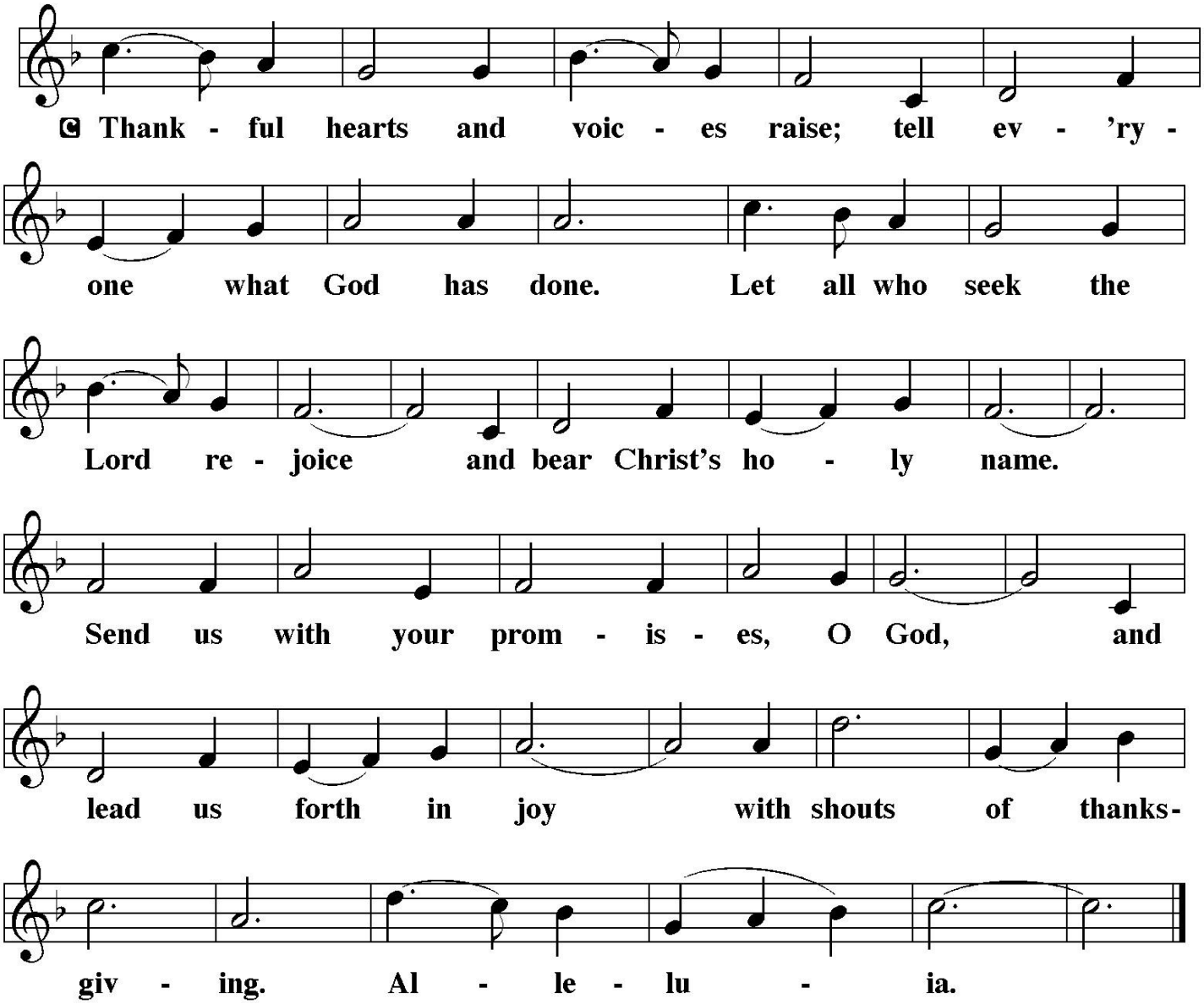
Holy God, we have received your never-ending mercy in this meal. You continuously seek the lost, bind the injured, and feed your people abundantly. Now send us out, awake to your presence, now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING OF COMMUNION

Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set

forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are *sick or homebound.* In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

POST CANTICLE HYMN



BLESSING

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

SENDING SONG **Blessed Assurance** **ELW 638**

DISMISSAL

We go now to be a light in our community, **to make Christ known to all through nourishing, serving, and faith. Thanks be to God.**

Pastor
Rev. Karla S. Leiby

Director of Music
William Jacavage

Greeter
Robin Heintzelman

Lector
Mike Erdley

Acolyte
Barb Moyer

Communion Assistant
Tom Propst

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are presented in memory of Nellie Hare whose birthday will be remembered on November 11th.

The annual Congregation Meeting will be held on Sunday, November 15. Purpose of the meeting will be vote on the proposed 2027 budget, election of any council members, and to review changes to our constitution.

Copies of the budget are available on the table in the rear of the sanctuary for you to look over prior to the meeting.

Poinsettia order forms for Christmas Eve are located on the table in the rear of the sanctuary. ***Money and orders are due by November 15th.*** Poinsettias may be picked up after the Christmas Eve Service.

Items for Harvest Home are being collected through November 18th. Canned food, non-perishable items, personal and cleaning items may be dropped off in the rear of the sanctuary on Sunday mornings or the church office. Items will be divided among the Mitten Tree Families.

Kate's Kupboard will be helping children get ready for the upcoming cold, winter months. At the November 21st Kate's Kupboard, hats, scarves, gloves and socks will be available for the children. **Children must be present to select the items that they need.** Gloves will also be available for the adults.

This month's Special Pink Envelope is designated for the PA Veterans of Northumberland County. The Quiet Cash/Noisy Coin is being collected for ELCA World Hunger.

Coming up in November:

Sunday, November 15 – Veterans Observance, Annual Meeting
Sunday, November 22 – Harvest Home
Sunday, November 29 – 1st Sunday in Advent

Mark your calendars – Annual Christmas Bazaar

- Friday, December 4, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
- Saturday, December 5, 9 a.m.- 1 p.m.

PRAYERS: Mary Siemsen; Natalie Frits; Cheryl Glavis; Gwyn Montgomery; Jane Ramer; Betty Yerg; Jim Herbert; Helen Peters; Connie Freitsch; Marty Rafter

HOMEBOUND and CONTINUED PRAYERS: PRAYERS: Chris Eisely; Kaye Wolfe; Barb Eisley; Jason Gulden; Helen Snyder; June Diehl; Nevin Brungard; Nancy Hendricks; Bill Wagner; David Bartholomew; Marti Row

Come, We That Love the Lord

We're Marching to Zion



Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers



Borning Cry



Text: John C. Ylvisaker, b. 1937
Music: WATERLIFE, John C. Ylvisaker
Text and music © 1985 John Ylvisaker.

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Blessed Assurance

