Twenty Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

November 15, 2026

WELCOME & LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Out of respect and in the spirit of truth, we acknowledge that we gather in community on land which is Treaty 7 territory and the traditional territory of the Blackfoot people of the Canadian Plains. We honour the Blackfoot people past, present and future, and the Metis Nation of Alberta, Region III. May our actions and choices demonstrate open hearts, kindness, and compassion towards all who call this place home.

COMMUNITY LIFE

Our **Annual Celebration Dinner** is set for **Saturday, November 21**! We gather at **4:00 pm for a program** of "Thanks in Action: Gratitude and Kindness" and will then enjoy a **Catered Supper at 5:00 pm**. Everyone is welcome! Please sign up in the Place of Welcome. Rides are available.

Our community support project this year is "Christmas Hope". We will be collection donations that will be dispersed to local charities to help families at Christmas time. You can donate at our Celebration Dinner or by designating "Christmas Hope" in your offerings. Deadline is Sunday, December 6th.

Lunch & Hymn Sing – Wednesday, Nov 18th at 12:30 pm, everyone is welcome.

INTRODUCTION

Our readings during November speak of the end times. Paul says it will come like a thief in the night and urges us to be awake and sober. Jesus tells the parable of the talents, calling us to use our gifts, while we still have time, for the greater and common good. In a world filled with violence and despair, we gather around signs of hope, eager to welcome the good news of Christ's coming among us.

We take a moment to center our hearts and minds for worship.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth. **Amen.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves
and the truth is not in us.
Let us confess our sin to God,
who is faithful and just,
and who has promised to forgive our sin
and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
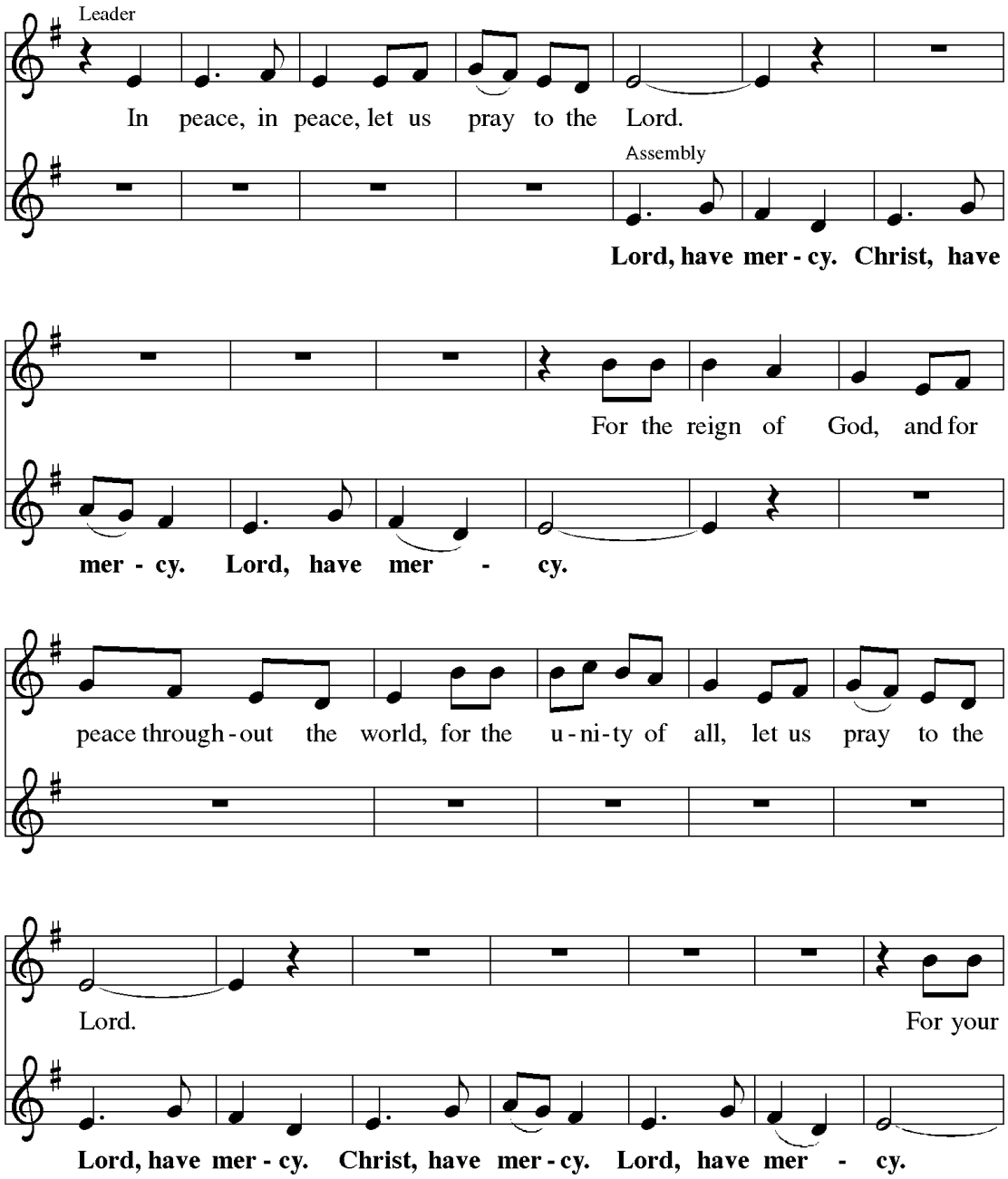
Silence for reflection
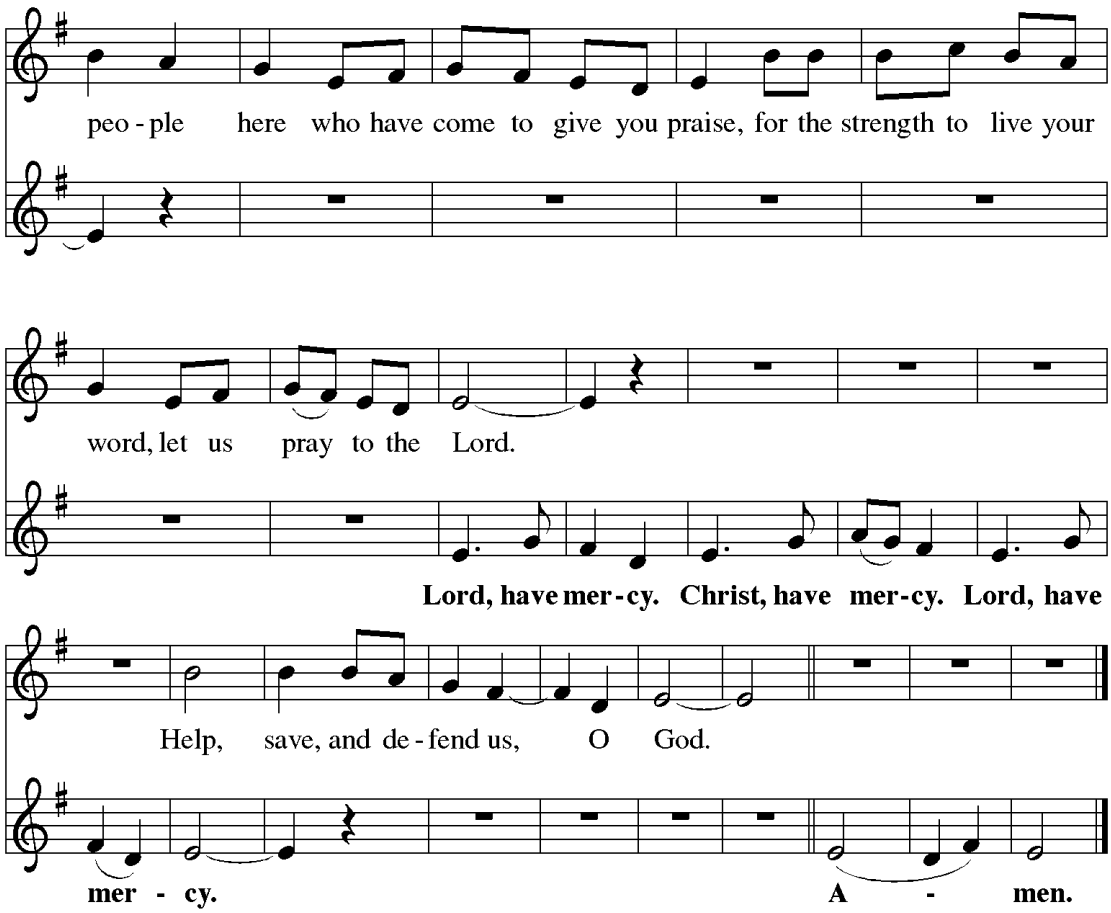
Most merciful God,
have mercy on us.

We confess to you that 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 trusted you with our whole heart;
we have not loved one another in deed and in truth.
In your compassion, forgive our sin
and so uphold us by your Spirit
that we may live and serve you in newness of life
through Jesus Christ our light and our truth. Amen.

With joy, I proclaim to you that Almighty God, rich in mercy, abundant in love,
forgives all our sin and grants us newness of life in Jesus Christ.
Thanks be to God!

KYRIE *"Now the Feast"* ELW 157
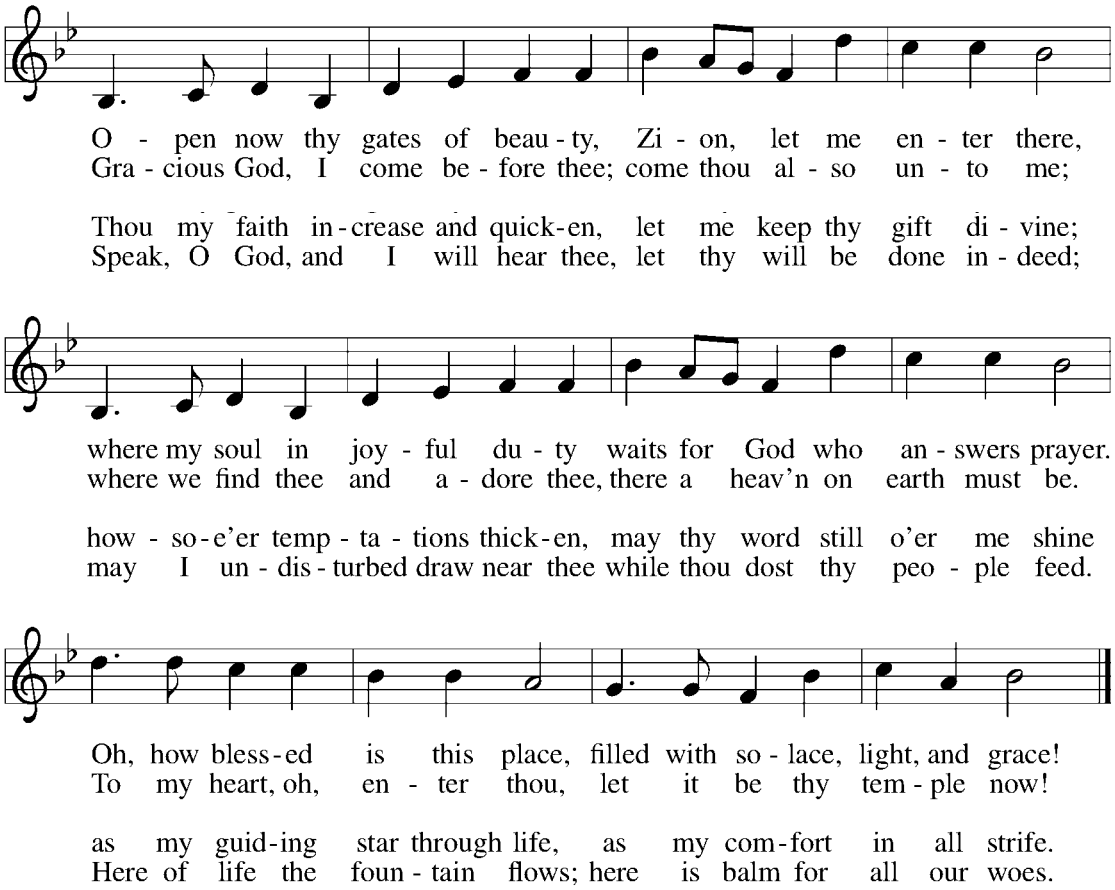




GREETING

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.

GATHERING SONG: "Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty" – v 1, 2, 4 & 5



GREETING & PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

It is our delight to 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. **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

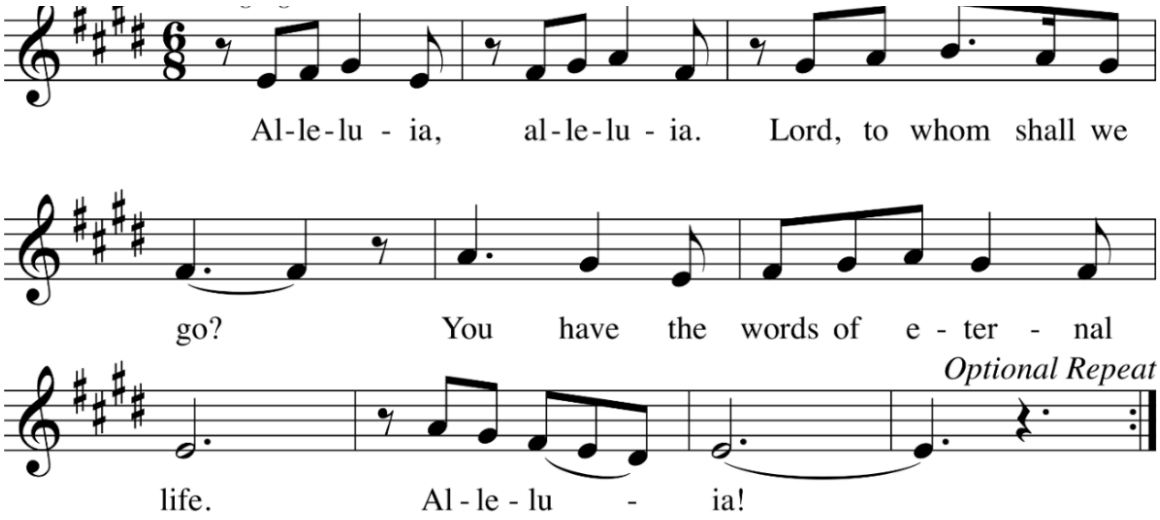
Though we do not know and cannot calculate the day of Christ's return, we live faithfully in the here and now as we anticipate the day when we will be given eternal salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Thessalonians.

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. 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! But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So, then, let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober, for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. 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. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: "Alleluia, Alleluia" NTF



GOSPEL: Matthew 25:14-30

The holy gospel according to Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.
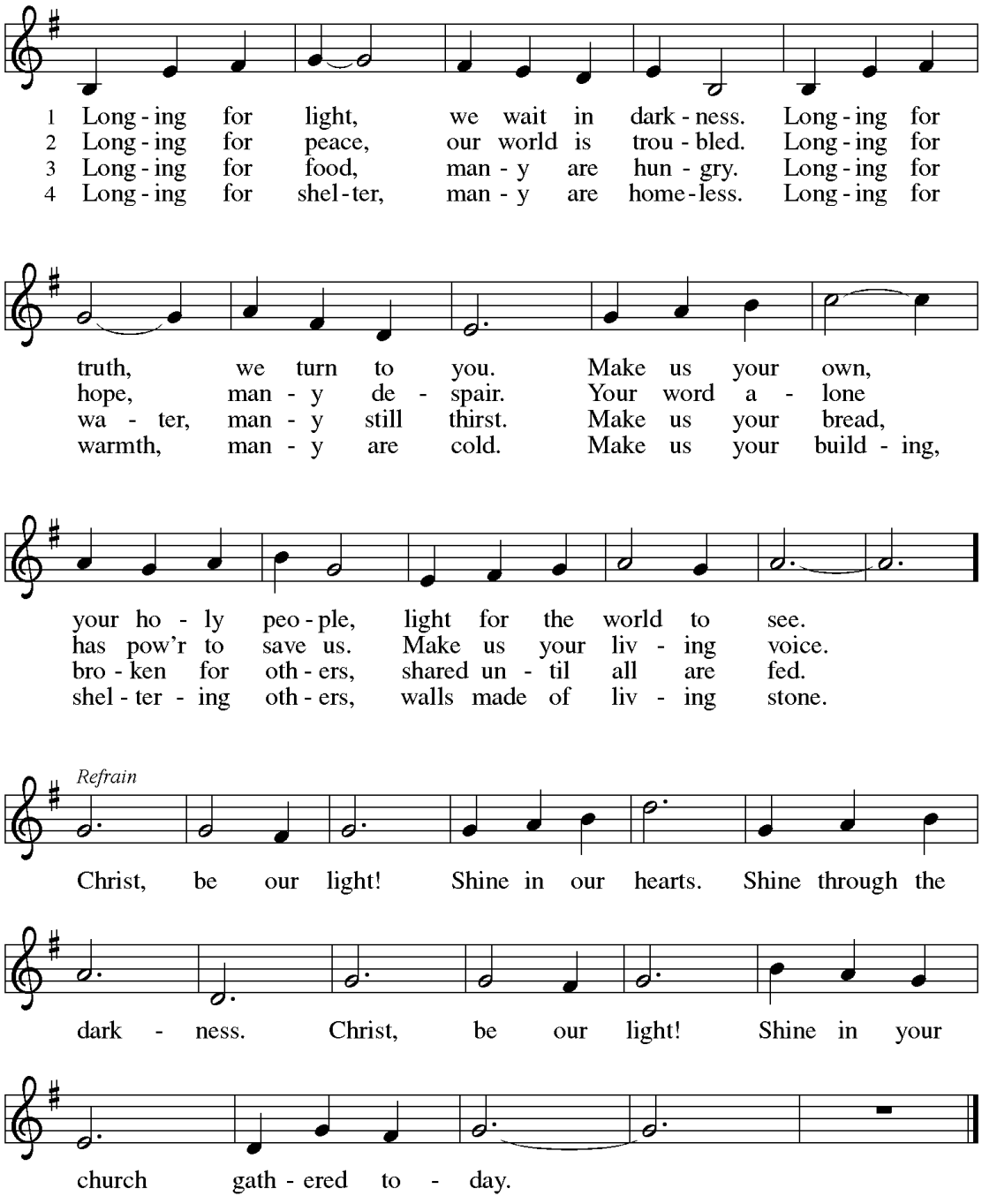
[Jesus said to the disciples:] "For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. At once the one who had received the five talents went off and traded with them and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. 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.' 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.' 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.' 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.' 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, so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' 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?
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. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. 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. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' "

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Today's sermon has been prepared and shared by Pastor Peter Lisinski from Epiphany Evangelical Lutheran Church in the Eastern Synod.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY "Christ, Be Our Light" ELW 715 – v 1-4



APOSTLES' CREED

We join God's people throughout the world in affirming our faith:

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.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Merciful God, **everything in heaven and earth belongs to you. We joyfully release what you have entrusted to us. May these gifts be signs of our whole lives returned to you, dedicated to the healing and unity of all creation, through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Holy God, you build up your 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. Let your Spirit rest upon pastors, diaconal and lay leaders that they may proclaim the gospel. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Creating God, continue to provide for fallow fields and hibernating animals. Show us how to curb human impact on vulnerable lands and species. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Gracious od, 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. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Compassionate God, 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 especially Don and Carol, Arne, Kate, Janet D, Dave, Austin, Patrick, Lois, Linda H, Carol, Murray, Shirley J., Jody, Mo, Sidonia, Jim N., Clayton P, Marlene and Darcy, Clayton and Margaret, Sheila, Ray, Nancy, Alan T, Cherylee, and those we name silently now . . . [silence]. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Gracious God, we ask your blessing on all who serve in congregational leadership, especially those who serve on Church Council. Watch over Brad, Afra and Nikolas Gom and Herman and Enid Gom, as well as Pastor Joel, Vanesa and Hans and hold them in your care. Encourage us to use our time, talents and resources wisely for the mission of the gospel. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Comforting God, we pray for all those who are grieving loss today. Comfort them and be their source of strength now and in the days ahead. 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. Lord, 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.
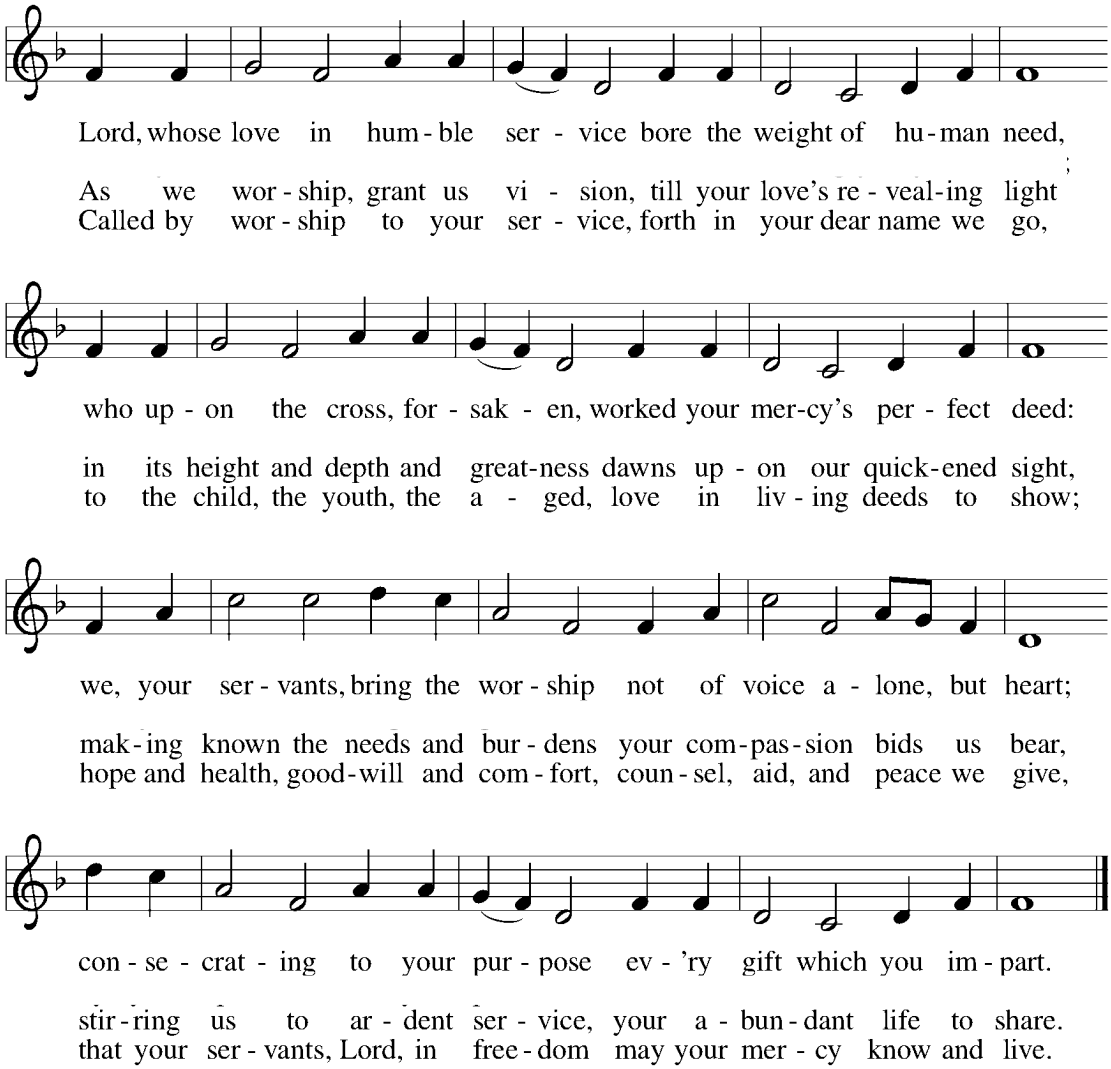
Uniting our prayers with the whole company of heaven, we pray

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.

BLESSING

May God bless us and keep us.
May God's face shine on us and be gracious to us.
May God look on us with favour and ✢ give us peace. Amen.

SENDING SONG "Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service" ELW 712 v 1, 3, 4



SENDING

Led on by saints before us, go in peace to serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God. We will!

COPYRIGHT PERMISSION

1. **"Kyrie" "Alleluia, Alleluia"** Words & Music by Marty Haugen © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc. Reproduced under OneLicense.net #A-712444.
2. **"Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty"** Public Domain
3. **"Christ Be Our Light"** Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957, Music: Christ, Be Our Light, Bernadette Farrell, Text & Music © 1993 Bernadette Farrell, Published by OCP Publications. Reproduced under OneLicense.net #A-712444.
4. **"Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service"** Text: albert F. Bayly, 1901-1984; Music: The Sacred Harp, Philadelphia, 1844; arr. Selected Hymns, 1985. Text © Oxford University Press; Arr. © 1985 Augsburg Fortress. Reproduced under OneLicense.net #A-712444.
5. **Liturgy** from sundaysandseasons.com © 2023 Augsburg Fortress License # SAS104021. All rights reserved.

Permission to podcast / stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE, License #A-712444, and CCLI License #547407. All rights reserved.