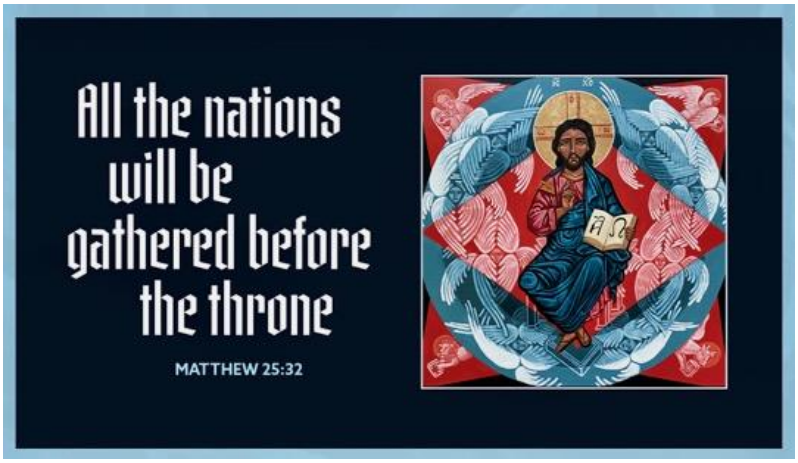


Christ the King – November 22, 2026
10 a.m. Worship at Zion's Lutheran Church

Welcome Friends and Guests: On this final Sunday of the church year our gospel is Jesus' great story of judgment. In the end, the faithful are those who served Christ by ministering to those who are poor, hungry, naked, sick, or estranged. In the first reading God is the shepherd who seeks the lost, weak, and injured and feeds them with justice. We gather this day to celebrate the reign of Christ and his victory over death, yet we await the consummation of all things yet to come. Acknowledging Christ as our merciful ruler, we go forth that his reign may be known in our loving words and deeds.

Serving this Sunday:

Worship – Pastor Lisa Rygiel, Steve Hanson & John Strecker-Baseler
Musicians – Connie Pallone & Charlotte Strecker-Baseler
Ushers – Mark Lara & John Rygiel
Communion – Crystal Hulet & Jo Moss

ReconcilingWorks
LUTHERANS FOR FULL PARTICIPATION

Worship & Music: In boundless diversity, we all are made in God's image! If you are visiting or new to our faith family, please sign our guest book and feel free to come back and worship each Sunday at 10 a.m.

We use both the cranberry Lutheran Book of Worship and the purple *All Creation Sings* hymnals as indicated in the bulletin.

Communion: We celebrate open communion. This is Christ's table, all are welcome. You may come forward for the sacraments or cross your arms across your chest for a blessing. Our bread is gluten free and both wine and white grape juice (center of tray) are available.

Other: Restrooms are in the Fellowship Hall; our ushers can direct you.

Fellowship: Please join us after worship today in the Fellowship Hall for coffee and conversations.

~Gathering~

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Gathering of Prayers & Call to Worship

Family of God, on this Christ the King Sunday, we celebrate and remember Christ, who reigns over all creation with love and grace, forming us as a family bound by God.

We come to worship Christ, who cares for the least of these and calls us to do the same.

We gather to recount the ways we encounter Christ in our midst — in our neighbor who checks in when we're sick, in our unhoused friends who gather for a meal, in our friends who have been wounded in body and spirit.

We come to worship Christ, who cares for the least of these and reminds us to do the same.

We join our voices with Christians throughout the world and throughout time to give thanks and to seek guidance as we grow in love of God, neighbor, self, and creation.

We come to worship Christ, who cares for the least of these and inspires us to do the same.

Come, you blessed by God, with open hearts, open arms, and open doors to welcome and embrace all of our neighbors, because when we love our neighbors, we love Christ among us.

We come to worship Christ, who cares for the least of these and empowers us to do the same. Thanks be to God! Amen.

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation. **Amen.**

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ, our living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

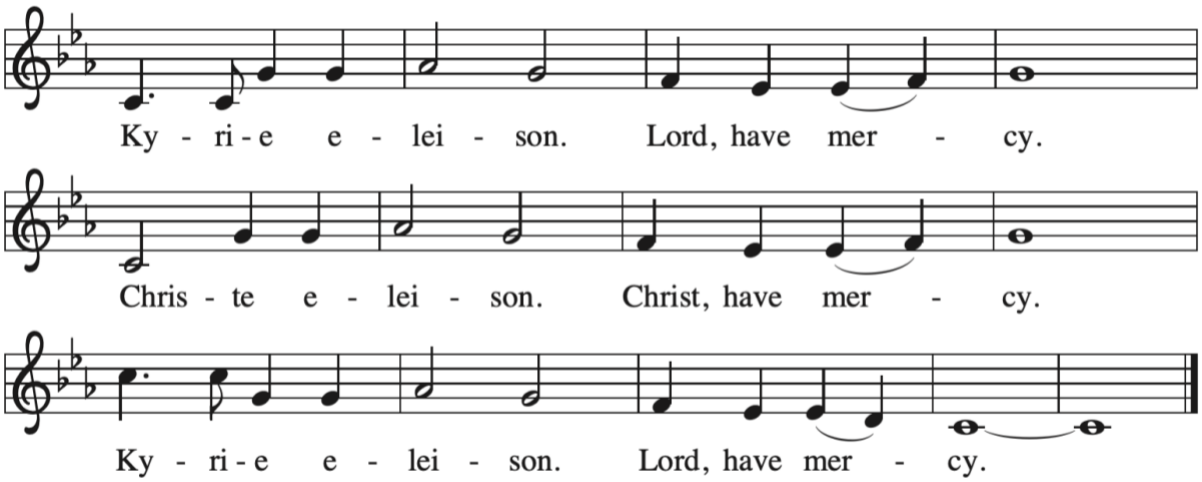
Gathering Hymn: #634 (cranberry hymnal) All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!

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.

Kyrie



Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

O God of power and might…, your Son shows us the way of service, and in him we inherit the riches of your grace. Give us the wisdom to know what is right and the strength to serve the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

~Word~

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

11 Thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep and will sort them out. 12 As shepherds sort out
their flocks when they are among scattered sheep, so I will sort out my sheep. I will rescue them from all
the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. 13 I will bring them out
from the peoples and gather them from the countries and bring them into their own land, and I will feed
them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land.

14 I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they
shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. 15 I
myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God.

16 I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strays, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the
weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

20 Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean
sheep. 21 Because you pushed with flank and shoulder and butted at all the weak animals with your horns
until you scattered them far and wide, 22 I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged, and I will
judge between sheep and sheep.

23 I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them; he shall feed them
and be their shepherd. 24 And I the Lord will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among
them; I the Lord have spoken.

God's Word invites us into life. **Thanks be to God!**

Responsive Reading: Psalm 95:1-7a

1 Come, let us sing to the Lord; let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.
2 **Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving**
and raise a loud shout to the Lord with psalms.

3 For you, Lord, are a great God, and a great ruler above all gods.
4 **In your hand are the caverns of the earth;**
the heights of the hills are also yours.

5 The sea is yours, for you made it, and your hands have molded the dry land.
6 **Come, let us worship and bow down,**
let us kneel before the Lord our maker.

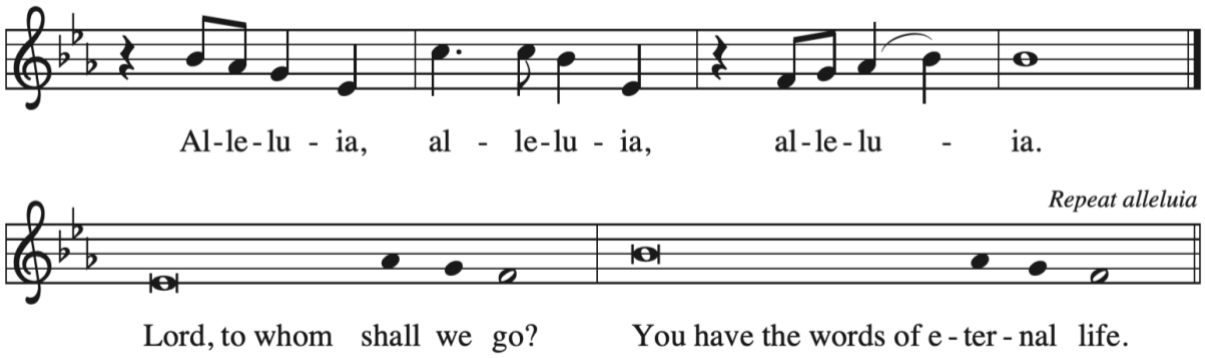
7a For the Lord is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand.

Second Reading: Ephesians 1:15-23

15 I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason 16 I do
not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers, 17 that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, 18 so that,
with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may perceive what is the hope to which he has called you,
what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, 19 and what is the immeasurable greatness
of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. 20 God put this power to work
in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, 21 far
above all rule and authority and power and dominion and above every name that is named, not only in this
age but also in the age to come. 22 And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over
all things for the church, 23 which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

God's Word invites us into life. **Thanks be to God!**

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46

The holy gospel according to Matthew chapter 25. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] 31 "When the Son of Man comes in his glory and all the angels with him, then
he will sit on the throne of his glory. 32 All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate
people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, 33 and he will put the sheep at
his right hand and the goats at the left. 34 Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you who
are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world, 35 for I
was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and
you welcomed me, 36 I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in
prison and you visited me.' 37 Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you
hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink? 38 And when was it that we saw you
a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? 39 And when was it that we saw you sick or
in prison and visited you?' 40 And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the
least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.' 41 Then he will say to those at his left hand,
'You who are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels, 42 for I
was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, 43 I was a stranger
and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not
visit me.' 44 Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or
naked or sick or in prison and did not take care of you?' 45 Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as
you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' 46 And these will go away into eternal
punishment but the righteous into eternal life."

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

Sermon: Pastor Lisa Rygiel

Hymn of the Day: #434 (cranberry hymnal) Jesus Shall Reign

The Apostles Creed

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 People

Prepare your people for your reign to come among us. Where the church is wary, make us bold; where we are complacent, stir us to action; where we are anxious, assure us of your never-ending care.
God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

All the heights, depths, and expanses of the earth belong to you. Deliver every corner of your creation from disaster. Restore lands ravaged by floods, fires, drought, or contamination.
God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Gather all the nations at your side and teach all of us the ways of your kingdom of wholeness and abundant life. Empower judges, juries, and legal advocates to create and uphold pathways toward transformative justice.
God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Bind the wounds of all your people. Give courage to all experiencing uncertainty, guide those facing difficult decisions, and lift the spirits of any who are in need. Today we lift prays for those we name in our hearts and those we speak aloud…
God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Accompany communities struggling with conflict. Help us to listen deeply to one another, that we might know one another more fully and release any hurt or anger. Create ways of healing and reconciliation among us.
God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Fill us with the spirit of wisdom and perseverance that you grant to all the saints, and bring us, at the last, into the hope of your promised new day.
God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

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

Today we lift prays for those we name in our hearts and those we speak aloud:

Peace

The grace-filled peace of Christ be with you always!
And also with you!

~Meal~

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offering

An offering is gathered for missions of the church.
You can give by check or cash (mail to 510 Pine Street), or online at:
https://www.zionsluth.org/give

Offertory: #689 (cranberry hymnal) Praise and Thanksgiving v. 4
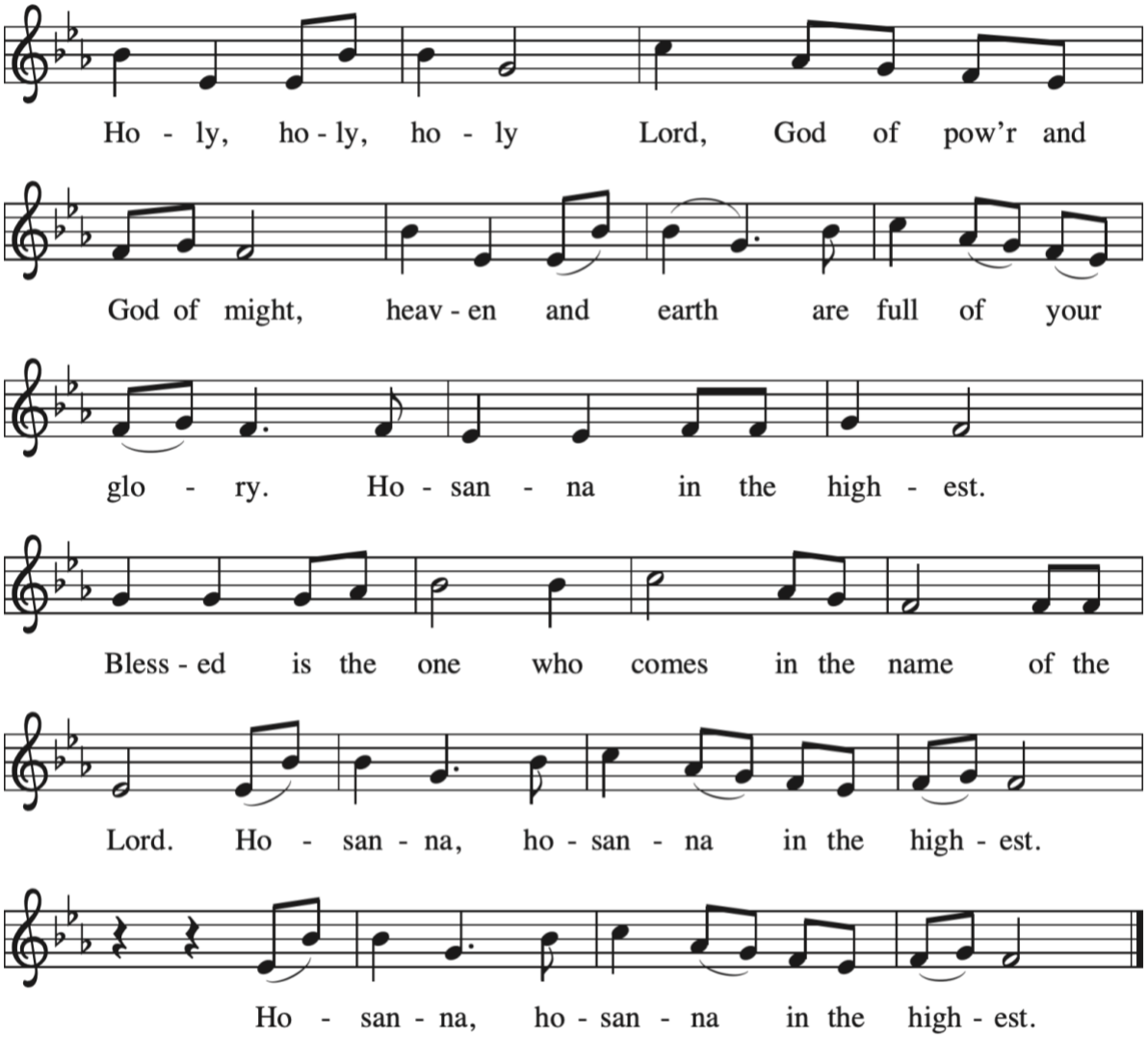
Offering Prayer

God of goodness and growth…through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song.
Amen.

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

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.**
It is indeed right, our duty and our joy…we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy



Thanksgiving at the Table

O God triune, how majestic is your name in all the earth. Over the eons your merciful might evolved our home, a fragile tree of life. Here by your wisdom are both life and death, growth and decay, the nest and the hunt, sunshine and storm, darkness and light. Sustained by these wonders, we creatures of dust join in the ancient song:
The earth is full of your glory.
The earth is full of your glory.

O God triune, you took on our flesh in Jesus our healer. In Christ you bring life from death; we remember his cross, we laud his resurrection. Broken like bread, he enlivens our body. Outpoured like wine, he fills the earth with goodness. Receiving this mystery, we mortals sing our song:
The earth is full of your glory.
The earth is full of your glory.

We praise you for the heart of Jesus…Gathered around this table, we your children unite in this song:
The earth is full of your glory. **The earth is full of your glory.**

O God triune, you create the worlds, you uphold the living, you embrace the dead. Send forth your Spirit and renew the face of the earth. Strengthen us for our journey with this meal, the body and blood of Christ. Give us a future that trusts in you and cares for your earth. Empowered by your promises, we rise from our deaths to praise you again:
The earth is full of your glory. **The earth is full of your glory.**

Amen, and Amen. **Amen, and Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

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

God's love is wide. God's table is big. No one is excluded.
The gifts of creation for God's beloved creatures. Come and share.
Our bread is gluten free & both wine and white grape juice are available.
God comes to us in worship and song. God also comes to us in silence and stillness.
Please use the time before and after you commune for silent contemplation.

Communion Song: Lamb of God

Communion Hymn: #492 (cranberry hymnal) Eat This Bread, Drink This Cup
Communion Hymn: #496 (cranberry hymnal) One Bread, One Body
Communion Song: Thank the Lord & Sing His Praise

Communion Prayer

We thank you, O God, that you have strengthened our hearts through this feast of life and salvation. Shine the light of Christ on our path, that we may do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you, now and forever. Amen.

~Sending~

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Announcements & Special Blessings

Benediction

May God bless you with open heart, open arms, and open doors to welcome the neighbor — known and unknown — with compassion and care, that in serving one another, we might build the kingdom of God among us here and now, one act of love at a time. And may the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, keep your hearts and your minds in ☩ Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn: #264 (cranberry hymnal) Prepare the Royal Highway

Dismissal

Go in peace, Christ is with you. **Thanks be to God.**

~Announcements~

- **Fellowship:** Join us after worship Sunday for our coffee and conversation in the Fellowship Hall. Today we also will assemble hygiene kits during Fellowship." Your help is much appreciated.
- **New Church Year:** Next Sunday we begin a new church year, beginning with Advent as we look forward with hope to celebrate the birth of Christ.
- **Zion's Book Club:** Our Adult Study continues at 10:30 a.m. each Tuesday in the Fellowship Hall. Our next study is on Tuesday, Dec. 8 in the Fellowship Hall as we continue our discussion of the book, "What if Jesus was Serious about Prayer".
- **We're Getting Ready for Thanksgiving:** We are getting close to Thanksgiving Day, and our teams are busy preparing, as we anticipate again this year serving almost 1,000. We need help throughout the coming week with preparations, please let Norine Hazen or the person listed below know. We have plenty of gravy but still need other side dishes including sweet potatoes (Cheryl Leef), potatoes (Sandy Cole), Cranberries (Lisa Rygiel), green beans (Mike McNeil), and Pies (Norine Hazen). If you can help on Thanksgiving Day with serving, delivery, set up, or clean up, please let Norine or Jo Moss know.
- **Pie Day:** At 1 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 25, we will be slicing pies, rolls, and cranberry cups. Food items and packaging will be provided; all we need is your help. If you have questions, please talk to Norine Hazen.
- **Singing at the Legacy:** The residents of The Legacy were delighted by our last sing along and have asked us to come and sing with them again. We have been scheduled for Nov. 22 at 1 p.m. Come along and sing with us!
- **Santa Gift Tree for Seniors:** First National Bank, Trinidad, again is sponsoring the senior citizen Letters to Santa Gift Tree. Requests of up to $25 may include utility bills, food, small gifts, or personal items. For many people, this is the only gift they will receive this season. For many years, Zion's has supported this program and will do so again. We will have 12 to 15 gift letters available at worship on Sunday, Nov. 29. If you would like to help with this project, please let Jo Moss know.
- **We're Here for You:** For pastoral care, Pr. Lisa has office hours from 9-10:30 a.m. on Tuesdays and by appointment. Call Zion's at 719-846-7785 or send an email to zionsluth@gmail.com.

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Thanksgiving at the Table: Adapted from *Pray, Praise, and Give Thanks: A Collection of Litanies, Laments, and Thanksgivings at Font and Table* by Gail Ramshaw, copyright © 2017 Augsburg Fortress.

Call to Worship (adapted) & Benediction: Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, August 2026, and published at: https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/worship-planning/it-will-be-like-this/week-2-twenty-fifth-sunday-after-pentecost-year-a/week-2-twenty-fifth-sunday-after-pentecost-year-a-it-will-be-like-this-liturgical-resources.