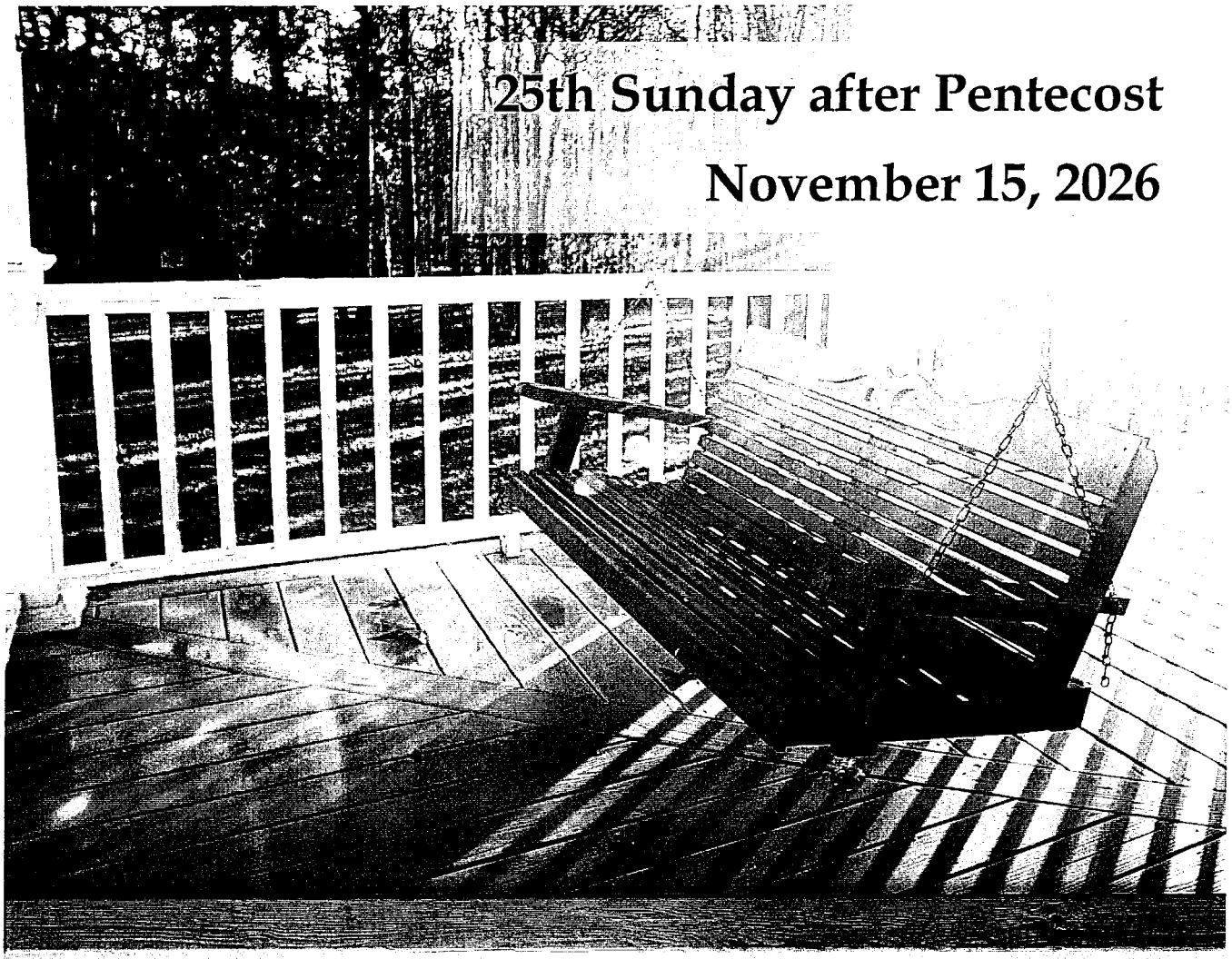
25th Sunday after Pentecost

November 15, 2026



"His master replied,
'Well done, good and faithful servant!
You have been faithful with a few things;
I will put you in charge of many things.
Come and share your master's happiness!'"

Matthew 25:23, NIV

Our readings during November speak of the end times. Zephaniah proclaims that the coming day of the LORD will be filled with wrath and distress. 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—word, water, bread, and wine—eager to welcome the good news of Christ's coming among us.

Welcome in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

Our worship follows a traditional order inspired by scripture and rooted in ancient patterns. The full order for worship (liturgy) is found in this bulletin.
*Please stand as you are able. Spoken congregational responses are in **Bold.**

GATHERING

Worship begins with the organ prelude. It's a time for silent meditation as we turn our hearts and minds to God.

PRELUDE -
Prelude in D ..... Daniel Ficarri

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✞ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Almighty God, we come to you open and willing to be in relationship with you again. You know our hearts and our innermost secrets. We call on you now to make us whole, refresh us, and bless us so that we may do your holy work in the world by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, and through our Savior Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sins in the presence of God and of one another.

God of Grace, have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We humbly repent and we desire your will for our lives. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Restore our relationship with you. Uphold us and strengthen us with your Holy Spirit, so that we may live and serve you through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved through faith. In the name of ✞ Jesus Christ, all of your sins are forgiven. May God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that you may know Jesus' great mercy and love for you. **Amen.**
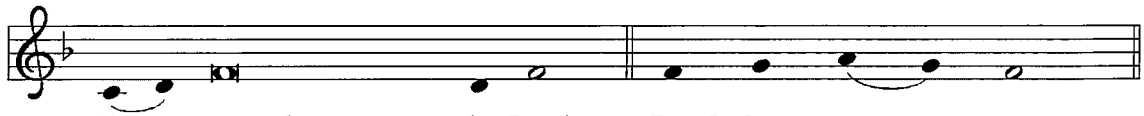
***PROCESSIONAL HYMN -**

Christ, Be Our Light ..... Hymn #715

***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.**
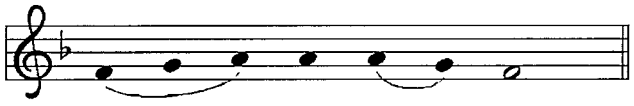
***KYRIE** - *Lord, have mercy* ..... page 138



In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



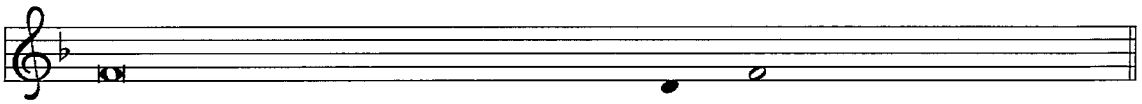
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



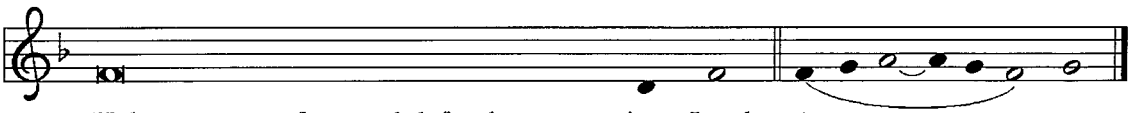
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
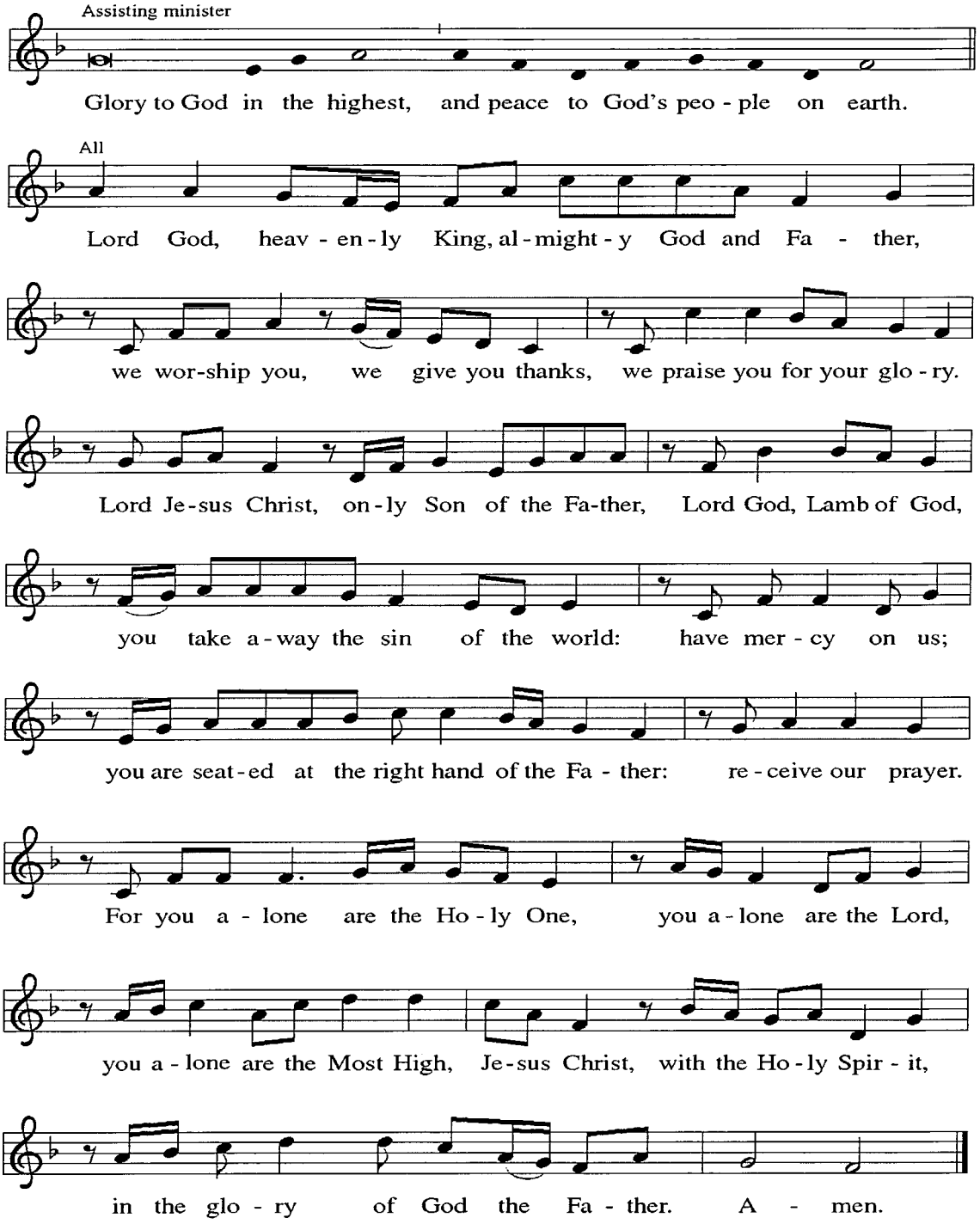


let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **A - men.**

*** HYMN OF PRAISE -** *Glory to God* ..... page 139



***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

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.**

THE WORD OF GOD

First Reading: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

Zephaniah (like the prophet Amos in last week's first reading) presents the day of the LORD as one of judgment and wrath. Descriptions of the last day in the New Testament include details taken from Old Testament accounts of the day of the LORD.

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.

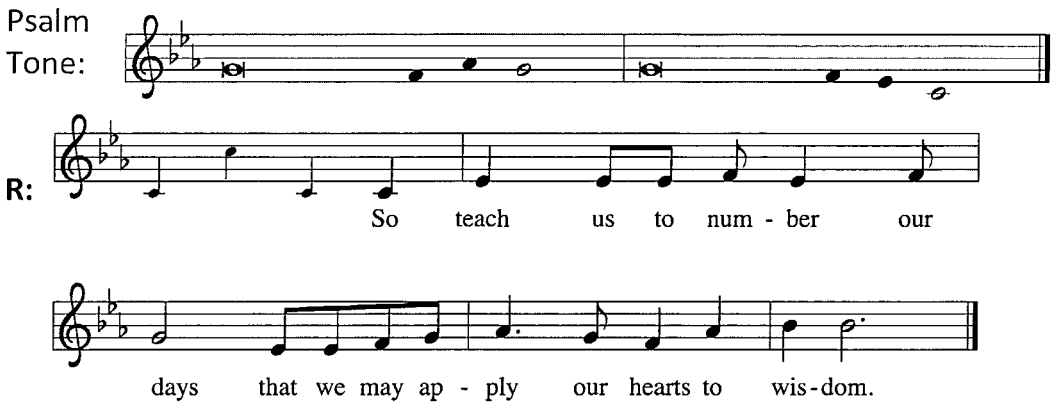
12 At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,
and I will punish the people
who settle like dregs in wine,
those who say in their hearts,
"The LORD will not do good,
nor will he do harm."
13 Their wealth shall be plundered
and their houses laid waste.
Though they build houses,
they shall not inhabit 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.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**



PSALM: 90:1-8 [9-11] 12

[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 child- | ren of earth."
[4] **For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when | it is past and like a watch | in the night; R**
[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. R
[[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 num- | ber our days**
that we may apply our | hearts to wisdom. R

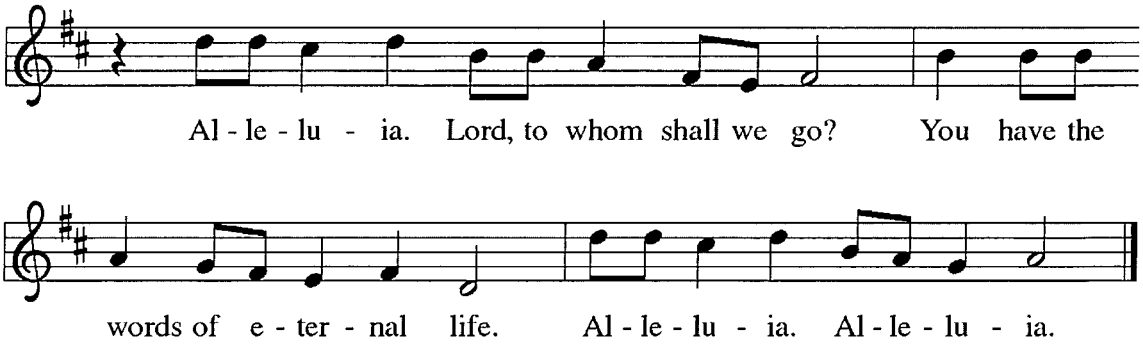
SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

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.

[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. The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PRAISE RINGERS -
God of Our Fathers ..... arr. Brian Childers

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** - ..... Page 142



***GOSPEL -** Matthew 25:14-30
The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 25th chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord. *(spoken)*

Jesus tells a parable about his second coming, indicating that it is not sufficient merely to maintain things as they are. Those who await his return should make good use of the gifts that God has provided them.

[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.' " The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON ..... The Rev. Althea Seidel

***HYMN OF THE DAY -**
As Saints of Old ..... Hymn #695

***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 INTERCESSION

Response: God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.** (After each prayer) **Amen.**
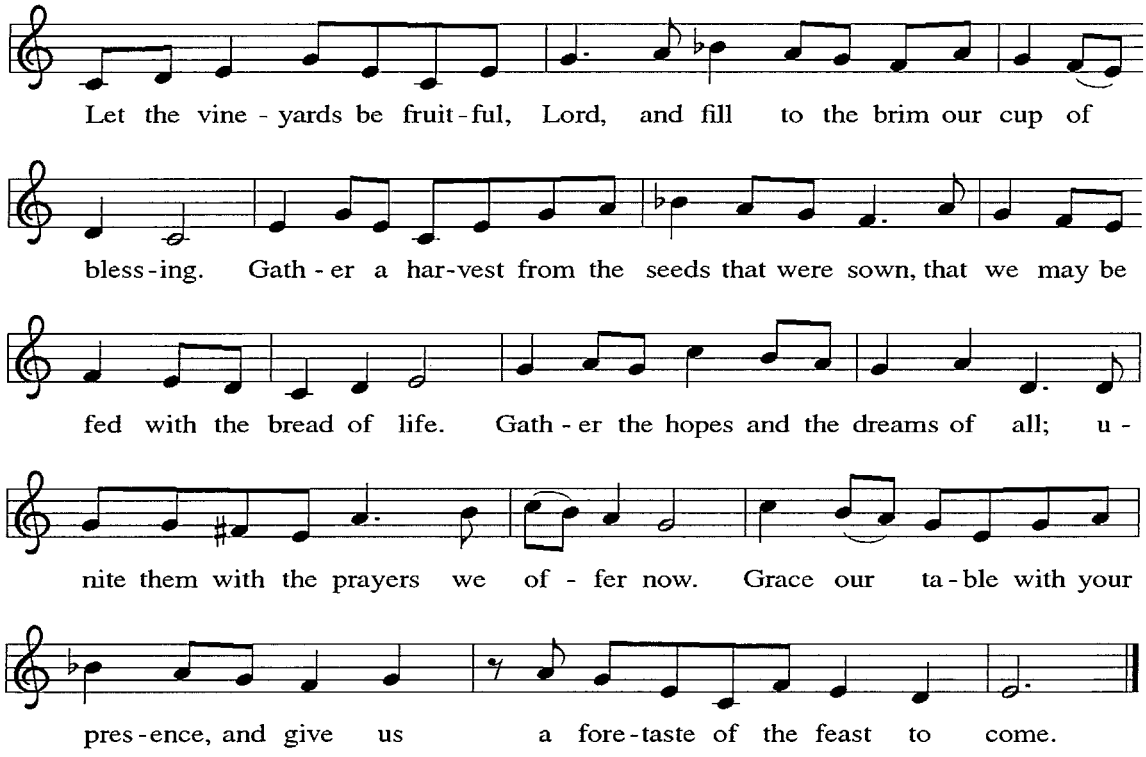
***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

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

OFFERING - *(Offering plates are located in the narthex as you exit the sanctuary.)*

***OFFERTORY HYMN -**

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful ..... Hymn #182



***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Blessed are you, O God, **ruler of heaven and earth. You are our Creator and bless us with all that we have. We are thankful for many things in our lives. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need. Bless our time, our talents, and all the offerings we give back to you for your holy work, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

HOLY COMMUNION

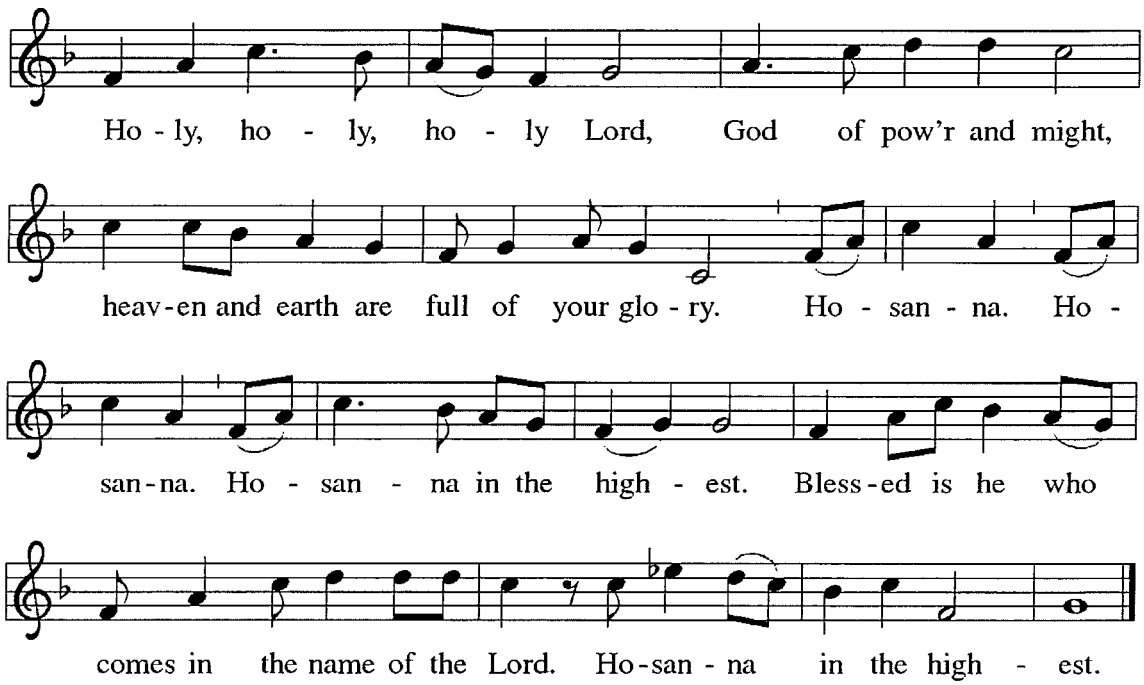
***GREAT THANKSGIVING**

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.**

***PREFACE**

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 overcame death and the grave, and by his resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. So, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

***SANCTUS** - *Holy, holy, holy* ..... Page 144



***THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

***WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

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. For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes again.

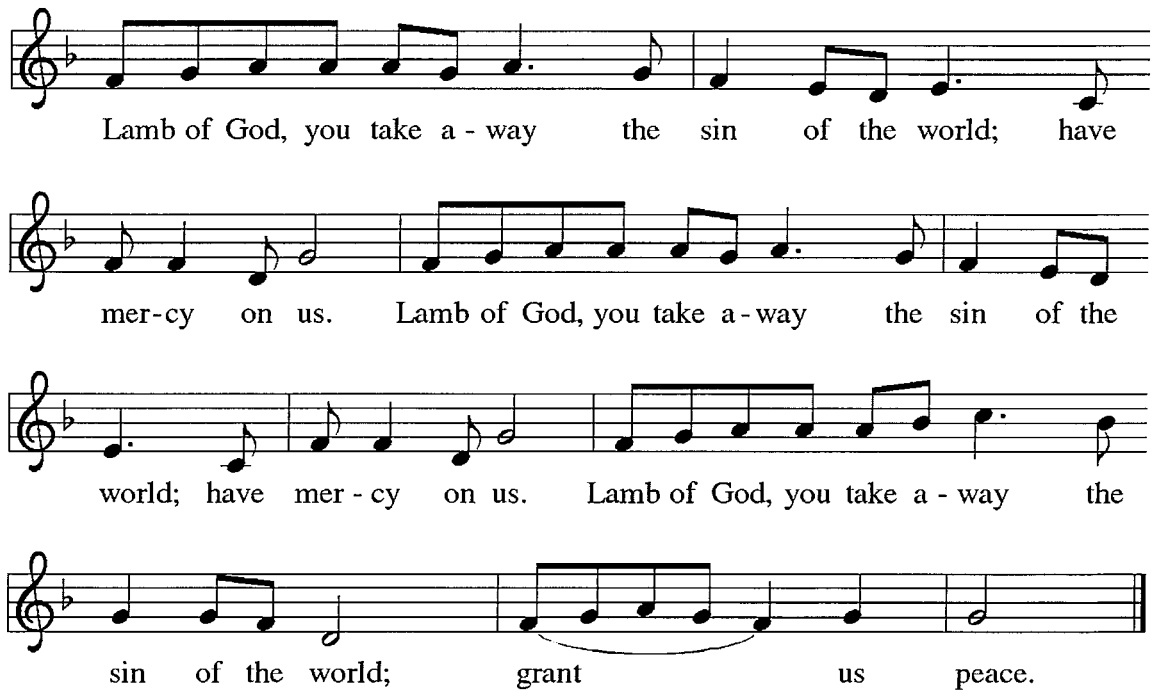
***THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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

Taste and see that the Lord is good. **Amen.**

***AGNUS DEI** - (*Lamb of God*) ..... Page 146



DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

After receiving Communion, please do not hesitate to come forward to the altar for a time of prayer.

***POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and bring you peace. **Amen.**

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Compassionate God, **through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with your love. Strengthen us that we may share your love freely, as you have shared the gift of your grace and love with us. We ask all this in the name of Christ and through the Holy Spirit who refreshes us and guides us now and forever. Amen.**

THE SENDING

***BLESSING**

May God our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer ✞, bless you and hold you close today and always. **Amen.**

***SENDING HYMN** -

O God, Our Help in Ages Past ..... Hymn #632

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace, Christ is with you! Share the good news! **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE -

Exultation ..... Daniel Ficarri

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PARTICIPANTS

The Rev. Althea Seidel

Paul Copenhaver - Minister of Music
Heather Buffington - Bell Choir Director
Barry Thompson - Lector
Dan Shuman - Organist
PJ Copenhaver - Lay Assistant
Camden Snyder - Acolyte
Bonnie and Gina Battistelli & Denise Rhoade - Greeters

****

♿ *Elevator access to upper and lower levels is located at rear entrance of church.*

Remember to silence cell phones & other electronic device

****

A GIFT TO THE BUILDING AND MAINTENANCE FUND HAS BEEN PRESENTED IN LOVING ✞ MEMORY OF:

In memory of Mary Keip, mother and grandma to Mason
by Marybeth Eisenhauer

In memory of Janice Copenhaver by Paul & Barb Copenhaver

THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY:

Sunday, November 15 - Christian Education (all ages) 10:30 a.m.
Monday, November 16 - Praise Ringers 6 p.m.; Cub Scouts 6:30 p.m.; Psalm Ringers 7 p.m.
Tuesday, November 17 - Finance Committee 6 p.m.; Senior Choir 7 p.m.
Wednesday, November 18 - Mentor A Mother 5:30 p.m.; WELCA 6 p.m.; Quittapahilla Audubon Society 7 p.m.
Saturday, November 21 - Fruit Basket Assembly 10 a.m.

PRAYER UPDATE: We have been asked to keep Barb Atwood, Terry Clearwater, Monique Derfler, Deb Dobson, Donna, George & Susie Eckert, Dan, Dan Fox, Fran, Gloria, Moe Gockley, Mike and Nancy Hentz, Patty Hess, Jennifer, Joan, Asher Johnson, Jane Kalbach, Joe Kalbach, Bart Keip, Donna Kullman, Jim & Judi Light, Ann Mark, Robert Moore, Janice Peiffer, Rachel, Robert, Margaret Reese, Pastor Althea, The Family of Betty Schriver, Sam & Marie Smith, Betty Troxell, Rick Warner, and Mary Yeagley.

PRAYER CONCERNS: If you no longer wish to be included in the prayer update list, please let the Church Office know to remove your name.

CLOTHING DONATIONS: Did you know that we open up the Church once a month for a community clothing giveaway to those in need? Donations are accepted year round. ***URGENTLY NEEDED*** **-** gloves, socks, men's clothing, winter jackets, blankets and pillows. Please bring your items and place them in the cart located in the Giving Place. If you would like to help with the distribution or have questions, please contact the Church Office.

GREETERS & LECTORS NEEDED: Arrive on Sunday at 8:30 a.m. and greet anyone who enters the Narthex door. Lectors are also needed. Sign-up sheet is located at the parking lot Welcome Table.

FIELD TRIP WITH THE PASTOR: I think it could be a great day of learning and fun if we get together to go down to Washington, D.C. to see the Museum of the Bible. I hope to organize a bus trip sometime soon or for the early spring. If you would be interested in this day trip, please let me know as soon as possible. The more people who go, the less out of pocket cost it will be for the group. I would like to get a rough count as soon as possible. All are welcome! Friends and relatives are welcome too! Interest sheet in Luther's Place.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST: Support our Cub Pack and get your tickets today for a Pancake Breakfast! The event will take place on Saturday, December 5 from 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. There will be a special visit from Santa. All children in attendance will receive a goodie bag. Bring your camera! Tickets are $10 and include all you can eat pancakes, sausage, and assorted drinks. See Stephanie for tickets.

GREETERS & LECTORS NEEDED: This is a simple way to help out! Arrive on Sunday at 8:30 a.m. and greet anyone who enters the Narthex door. Lectors are also needed. The text is given ahead of time for you to get comfortable. Sign-up sheet is located at the parking lot Welcome Table. Questions? Please contact either Denise Rhoade or Stephanie Kaylor.

SUPPORT Cub Scou

PACK 408

LEBANON'S NEWEST CUB SCOUT PACK IS RAISING MONEY FOR OUR ACTIVITIES THIS YEAR!

PRESENT THIS FLYER TO SUPPORT OUR SCOUTS!



RAISE SOME
DOUGH

25% of sales will benefit
Holy Trinity ELCA

November 19, 2026
4:00 pm to 8:00 pm
1451 Quentin Road
Lebanon, PA

In Cafe Drive-Thru
Pick-Up Delivery

Enter promo code FUND4U at online checkout.

Panera
FUNDRAISING



HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/JOINCUBS408



November

Lutheran Disaster Response

In a flood-prone village in **Bangladesh**, seasonal flooding contaminates drinking water sources. Thanks to a Lutheran disaster preparedness program, the community has access to a rainwater harvesting system that allows residents to collect and store clean water before the floods arrive, which helps them to stay healthy and supports their crops' growth.

In **Venezuela**, two mighty earthquakes struck this June within seconds of each other. They caused horrific devastation. Lutheran responders were able to equip rescue teams with clean water, food, medical supplies and temporary shelters. Your caring gifts are needed to continue to help these families rebuild their lives after such a heart-wrenching loss.

In the **United States**, Tropical Storm Arthur hit the Gulf Coast this summer, dumping more than a foot of rain in some parts of Mississippi. "The storm was very devastating...' says Pastor Edward Dillon, who was instrumental in the recovery efforts within his community, "it displaced a lot of people." Lutherans brought supplies and comforts when it was needed most, but the recovery is far from over. "Long-term recovery is what is needed," says Pastor Dillon.*

These are just three examples of Lutherans responding to disasters with your financial support. Help continue to support the work **of Lutheran Disaster Response** through your November Special Offering.

Special Offering envelopes can be found at either Welcome Table or in the pews (green envelopes.) You can also mark your donation "Lutheran Disaster Response."

*These stories were taken from *ELCA Good Gifts Catalog* and *Lutheran World Relief Emergency Response*

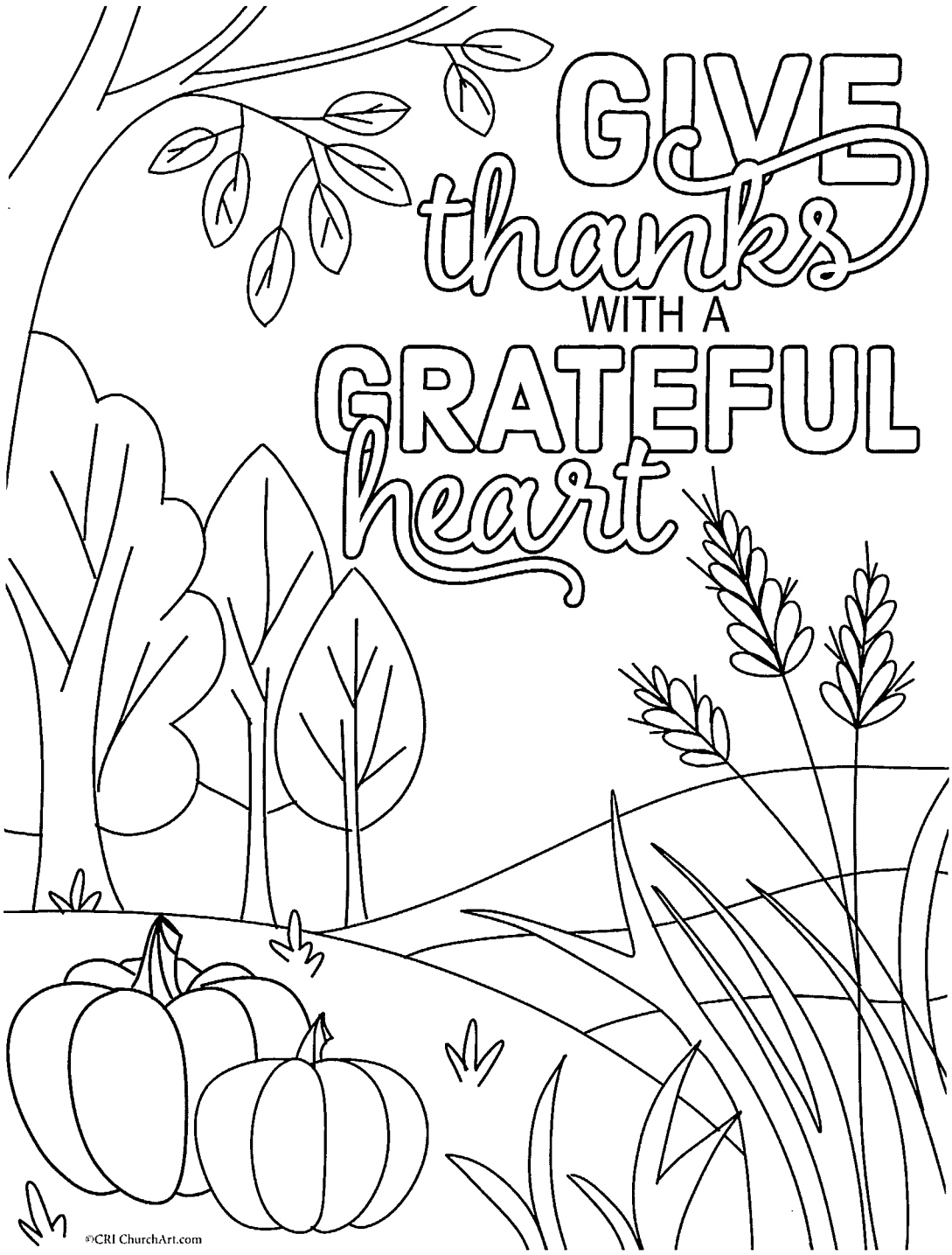
YOUR GIVING MATTERS!

There are many ways that we, as a congregation and as individuals, give back to the Lord. Many of us share our gifts, talents, and money in order to have our many ministries flourish. Your support, in whatever ways it is shared, is always appreciated.

Scan to donate online:

Church Treasurer's Financial Summary - September 2026

	Month of September	Actual Year to Date	Budget Year to Date
Income	$16,475.25	$182,612.37	$242,817.57
Expenses	($15,419.46)	($226,743.06)	($247,830.90)
Net Income	$1,055.79	($44,130.69)	($5,013.33)


GIVE
thanks
WITH A
GRATEFUL
heart
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THANKFUL
FOR...
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Pastor Althea Seidel: pastoralthea3@gmail.com • cell: 484-345-0399
Office Hours by appointment, also available by phone, email, or text message

Stephanie Kaylor: stephanie@trinityleb.org
Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.