

First Sunday of Advent

Worship &
Communion
November 29, 2026

Welcome! Whoever you are, whatever road brought you here—welcome to Faith Lutheran. We gather each Sunday in this sanctuary to receive God's grace freely given, to pray for one another, and to be nourished at Christ's table before we go out to love and serve our neighbors and the world. Thank you for worshiping with us today. Let us know how we can walk alongside you and help you feel at home.

In this season of Advent we are using **Setting Six** of the ELW. It begins on pg. 165. Congregation responses appear in **bold** throughout the bulletin and hymnal.

Prayer cards are available at the end of the row. You can fill one out and hand it to our usher during the Hymn of the Day (follows the Sermon).

Children's Bulletins are available in the narthex (entrance area), providing activities on today's scripture readings. Please enjoy.

God is present in **Holy Communion** and welcomes all who are hungry. You are welcome to the table. Non-communing children and adults may come forward for a blessing. Let an usher know if you would like communion at your seat.

Our **Candle Lighting station** is available during worship if you are moved to light a candle as a part of your prayer for someone or something, or in the thanksgiving or sorrows of your heart—especially during communion time as we sing and pray.

In Our Worship on the first Sunday of Advent: Stir up your power, and come! The psalmist's plea in Psalm 80:2 has become familiar to us in the Advent prayers. Isaiah wants God to rip the heavens open. Both cry out for an apparently distant, angry God to show up, to save, to restore. When we hear Jesus describing the coming of the Son of Man with stars falling from heaven, it can sound dire and horrible, not like anything we would ever hope for. But when we really look at the suffering of people God loves, we can share the hope that God would tear open the heavens and come.

Serving Today ***Greeter:*** Linda Z ***Usher:*** Tom Landis ***Reader:*** Matthew Rhiley ***Asst Minister:*** Erica Wilfrid ***Cantor:*** Wes Gray ***Altar Guild*****:** OReillys ***Musicians:*** Juliana Carmona, Heinz Denoyo, Olivia Knock ***Tech*****:** Alex Kjorvestad ***Counters*****:** Alissa Sykes & Linda Zimmerman ***Coffee Hour:*** Zimmerman's ***Pastor:*** Shaun O'Reilly

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-GATHERING-

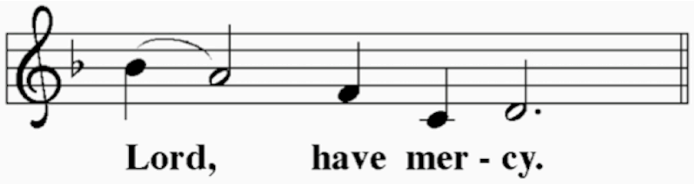
The bell is rung and calls all to a time of silence in preparation for worship.
Prayers for this time are found on pg. 72 in the front of the hymnal.

PRELUDE *"A Change is Gonna Come"* by Sam Cooke

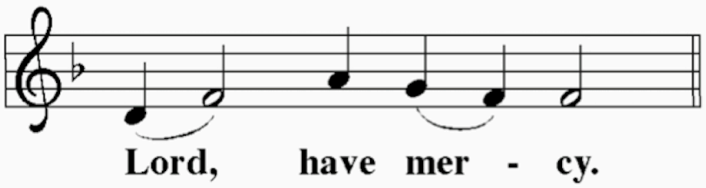
Please Stand

KYRIE

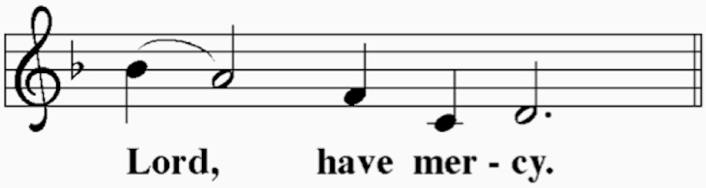
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



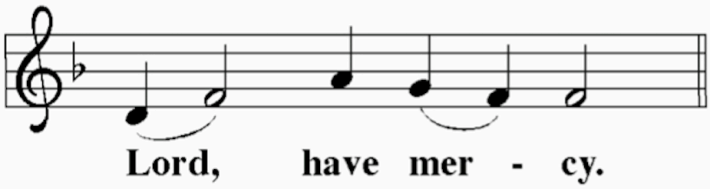
For the peace from above, and for
our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



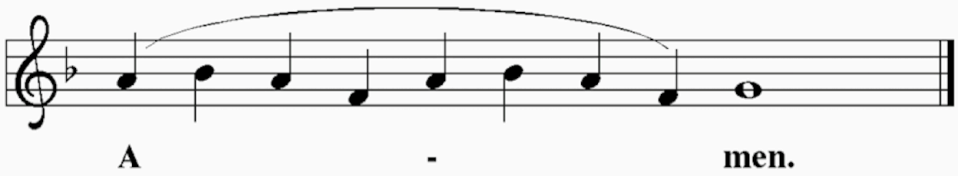
For the peace of the whole world,
for the well-being of the church of God,
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



For this holy house, and for all
who offer here their worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord.



Help, save, comfort and
defend us gracious Lord.



THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Christ comes to bring us light. **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

The light of God's glory be with you always. **And also with you.**

Beloved in Christ, we enter these days of joyful expectation of the Advent of Christ our Lord. We gather together with living water at this font of promise to hear the good news of the coming reign of God established in Immanuel, God with us.

In the ancient and universal words of the litany we ask God to renew in us that heavenly vision which is the goal of all our strivings and the consummation of God's loving purposes for us and for the whole of God's creation.

In penitence, we repent of all that frustrates God's redemptive purposes and seek God's forgiveness.

In faith, we respond to the design of God's great love and commit ourselves to its work of justice and freedom and its promise of peace.

In confidence, we look for the coming of Christ, and as we prepare for that day to dawn upon us, humbly commend ourselves, our city, this nation, and Christ's church to God's gracious keeping. **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

GATHERING HYMN ***Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn*** **ELW #242**

Awake! Awake, and greet the new morn,
for angels herald its dawning.
Sing out your joy, for soon he is born,
behold! the Child of our longing.
Come as a baby weak and poor,
to bring all hearts together,
he opens wide the heav'nly door
and lives now inside us forever.

2 **To us, to all in sorrow and fear,**
Emmanuel comes a-singing,
his humble song is quiet and near,
yet fills the earth with its ringing;
music to heal the broken soul
and hymns of lovingkindness,
the thunder of his anthems roll
to shatter all hatred and blindness.

3 **In darkest night his coming shall be,**
when all the world is despairing,
as morning light so quiet and free,
so warm and gentle and caring.
Then shall the mute break forth in song,
the lame shall leap in wonder,
the weak be raised above the strong,
and weapons be broken asunder.

4 **Rejoice, rejoice,**
take heart in the night,
though dark the winter and cheerless,
the rising sun shall crown you with light,
be strong and loving and fearless.
Love be our song and love our prayer
and love our endless story;
may God fill ev'ry day we share
and bring us at last into glory.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

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.**

ADVENT PRAYER We praise you, O God, for this evergreen crown marking our days of preparation for the advent of Christ. As each week we light the candles on this wreath, rouse us from sleep, that we may be ready to greet our Lord when he comes with all the saints and angels. **Illumine us with your grace, and prepare our hearts to welcome Christ with joy, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near. Amen.**

Please be seated.

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

We wait, we hope ***<u>What happens when God Comes Close</u>*** *by Tara Ward*
We yearn, prepare
For who or how or what or where
Maybe the changing of the tide
Maybe the turning of someone's eye
Maybe the falling of the snow
Only heaven knows… what happens when God comes close



We wait, we hope
We yearn, prepare
For who or how or what or where
Maybe the healing of a heart
Maybe reunion of a drift apart
Maybe a child's coming home
Only heaven know… what happens when God comes close

We wait, we hope
We yearn, prepare
For who or how or what or where
Maybe the song of the place to belong
Maybe some faith, just a touch of grace
Maybe love, it's rarely what we think of

Only heaven knows… what happens when God comes close
Only heaven knows… what happens when God comes close

-WORD-

FIRST READING: Isaiah 64:1-9

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—
as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil—
to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!
When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down; the mountains quaked at your presence.
From ages past no one has heard,
no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you,
who works for those who wait for him.

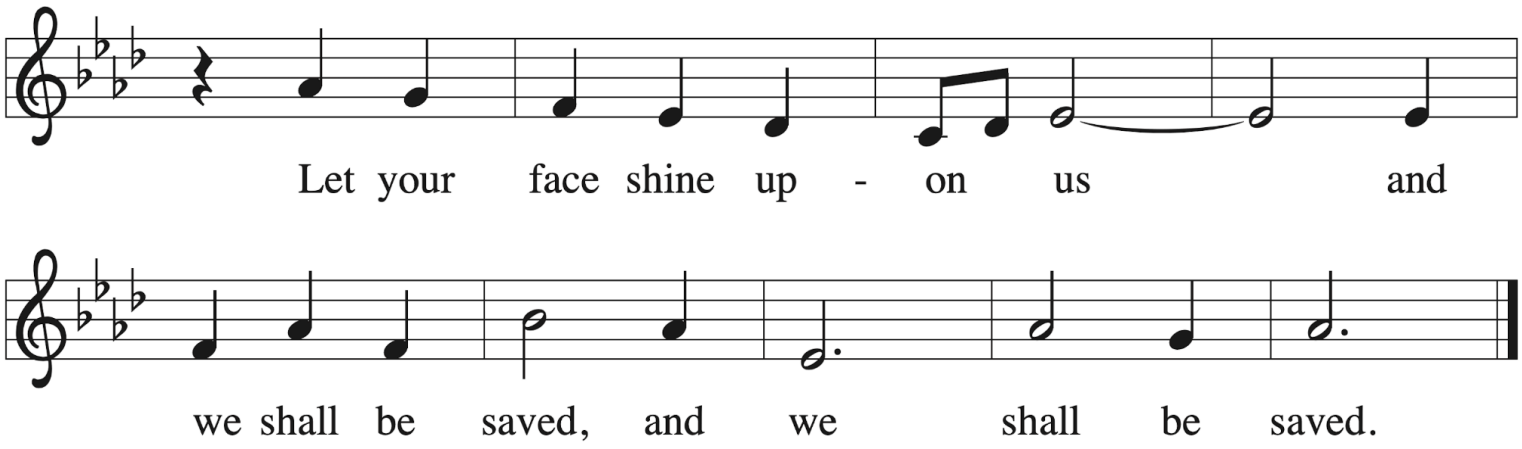
You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways.
But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed.
We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.
We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.



There is no one who calls on your name or attempts to take hold of you, for you have hidden your face from us and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.
Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay,
and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand.
Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord,
and do not remember iniquity forever.
Now consider, we are all your people.

Word of God, word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALMODY: Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
Refrain



Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph | like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned up- | on the cherubim.
In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, | and Manasseh,
stir up your strength and | come to help us.

Restore | us, O God; let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved.
O Lord | God of hosts,
how long will your anger fume when your | people pray? *Refrain*

You have fed them with the | bread of tears;
you have given them bowls of | tears to drink.
You have made us the derision | of our neighbors,
and our enemies laugh | us to scorn.

Restore us, O | God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved.
Let your hand be upon the one at | your right hand,
the one you have made so strong | for yourself. *Refrain*

And so will we never turn a- | way from you;
give us life, that we may call up- | on your name.
Restore us, O LORD | God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved. *Refrain*

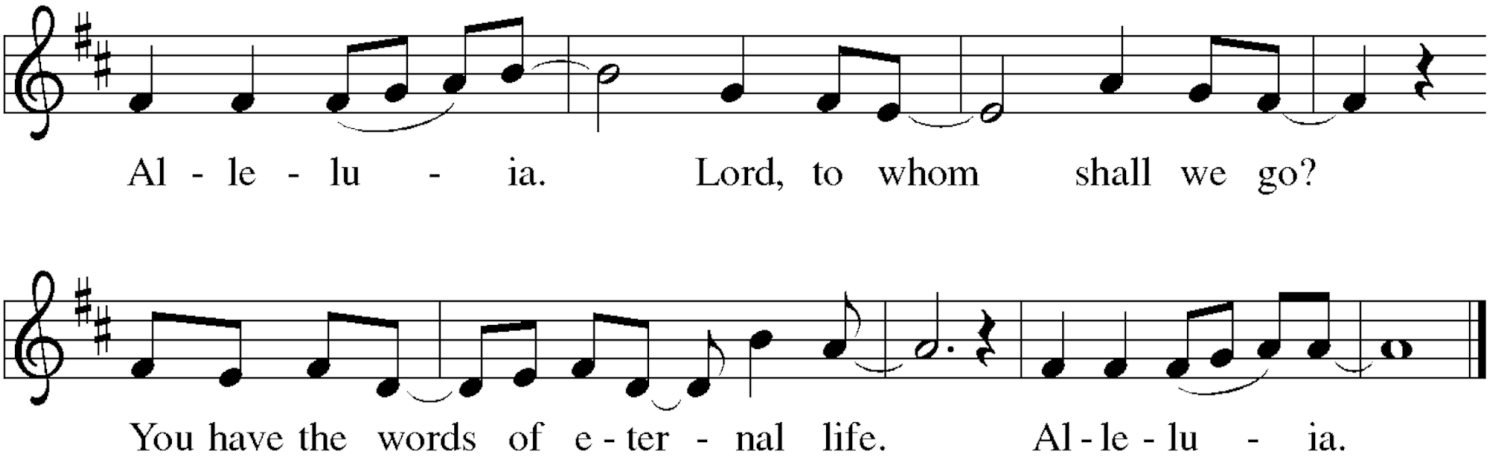
SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—so that you are not lacking in any gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, by whom you were called into the partnership of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Word of God, word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *please stand as you are able*



The Holy Gospel according to Mark the thirteenth chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 13:24-37

[Jesus said:] "In those days, after that suffering,
the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light,
and the stars will be falling from heaven,
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.
"Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels and gather the elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

"From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert, for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake, for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening or at midnight or at cockcrow or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

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

SERMON ***What has Been and Will Be*** **Pastor Shaun O'Reilly**

HYMN OF THE DAY ***O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*** **ELW #257, vs.1, 4, 6, 7**

1 O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.

Refrain
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.

4 **O come, O Branch of Jesse, free**
your own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell your people save, and give them vict'ry o'er the grave. ***Refrain***

6 **O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer; O Sun of justice, now draw near.**
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadow put to flight.
Refrain

7 **O come, O King of nations, come,**
O Cornerstone that binds in one:
refresh the hearts that long for you;
restore the broken, make us new. ***Refrain***

RESPONSE OF FAITH **Apostle's 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 Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

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

- MEAL -

ANNOUNCEMENTS & ACTIVITIES

OFFERING ***"Forever Grateful!"*** *- FLC Choir, Written by our own Louis Ling!*

We are faithful community together, and so we give together.
You can also scan the QR code or give on our website.

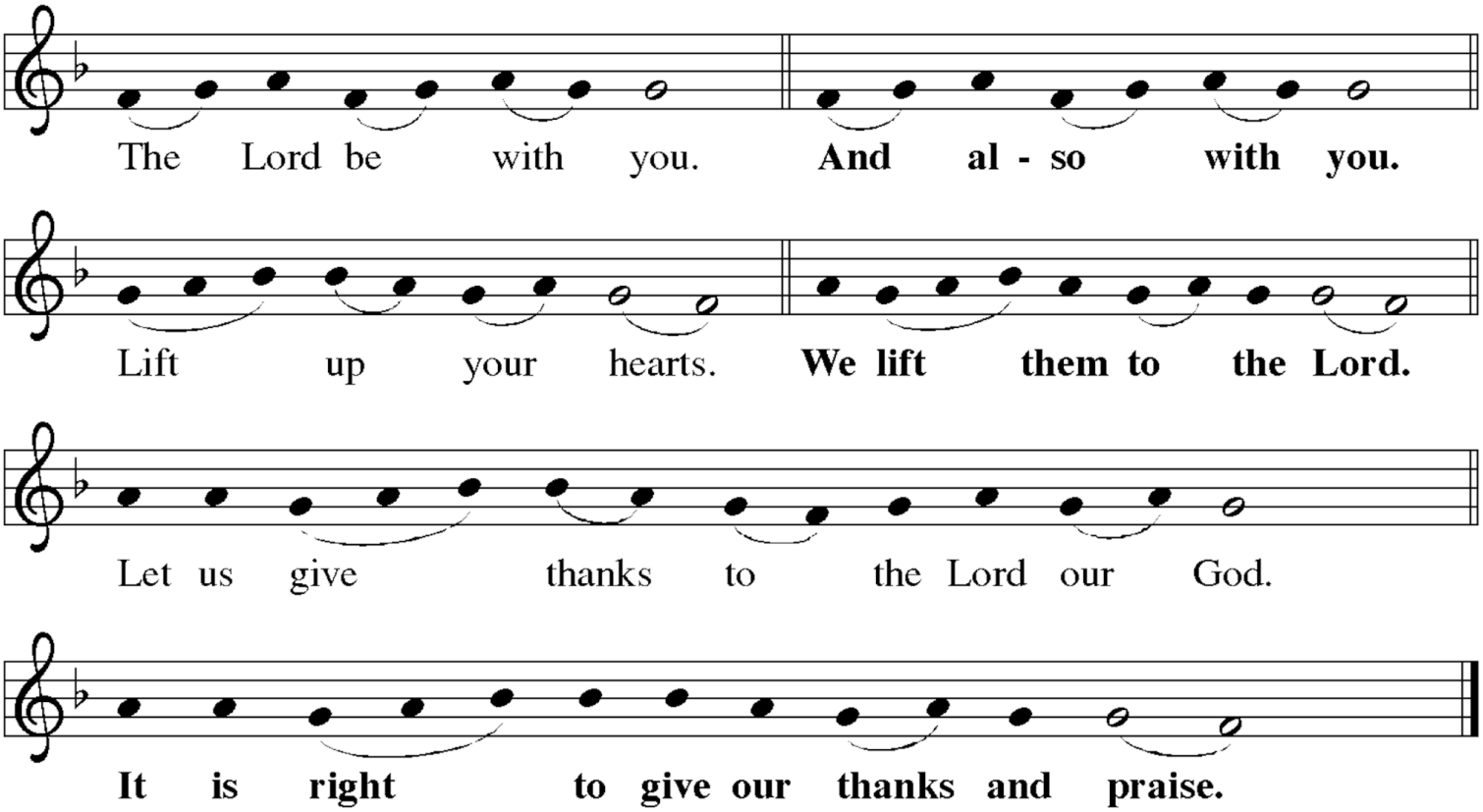
PRESENTATION HYMN ***Create in Me a Clean Heart*** **ELW #185**

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.
Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

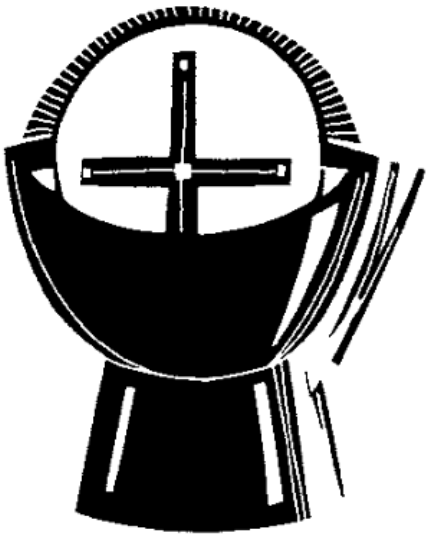
OFFERING PRAYER

A: Holy God, gracious and merciful,
you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



PREFACE

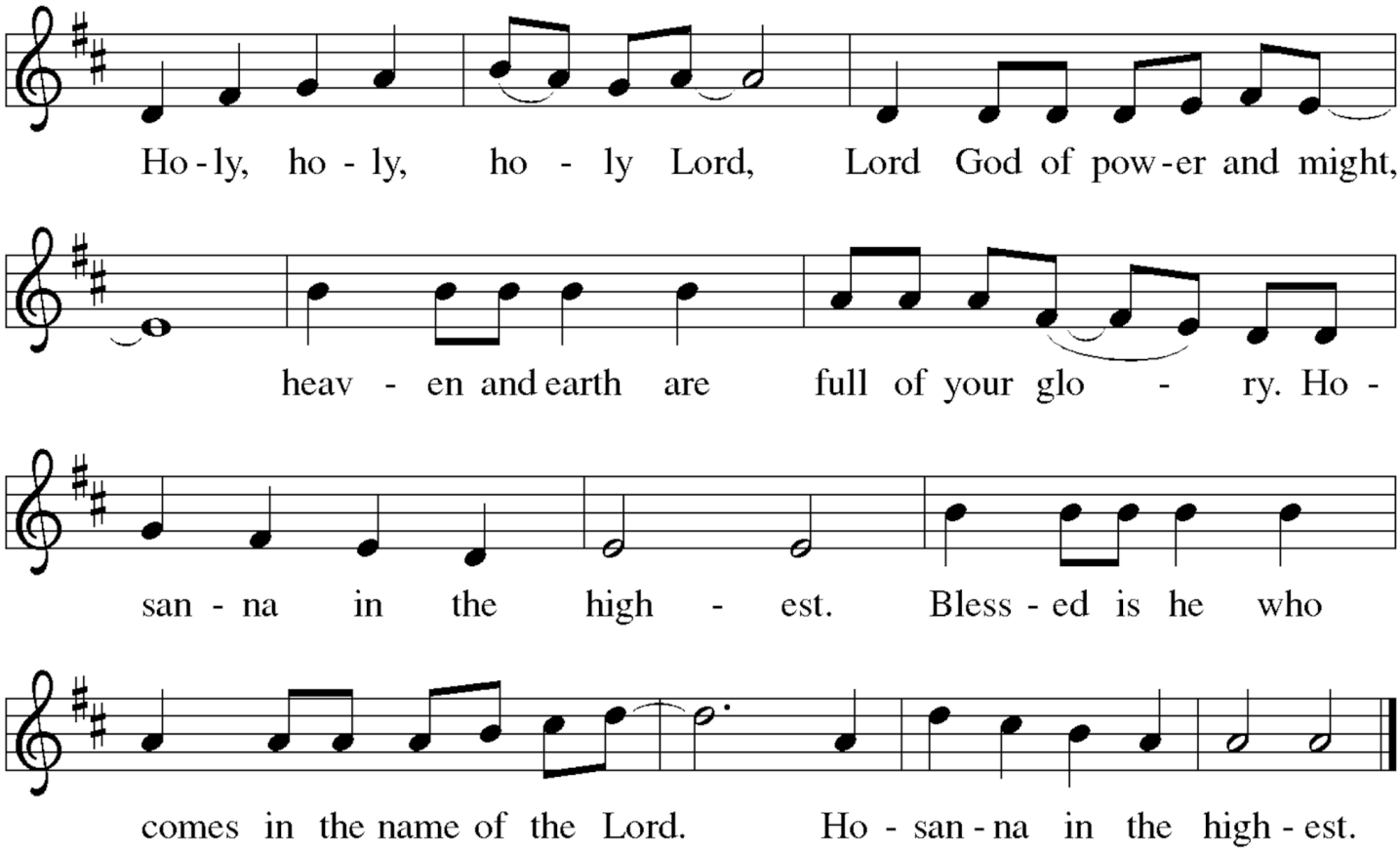


It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should
at all times and in all places give thanks and praise
to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You comforted your people with the promise
of the Redeemer, through whom you will also
make all things new in the day when he comes
to judge the world in righteousness.

And 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



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

COMMUNION & HYMNS

AGNUS DEI ELW pg 174

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Communion Hymn ***My Lord, What a Morning*** **ELW #438**

Refrain ***My Lord, what a morning; my Lord, what a morning;***
oh, my Lord, what a morning, when the stars begin to fall

You will hear the trumpet sound,
to wake the nations underground,
looking to my God's right hand,
when the stars begin to fall. ***Refrain***

2 **You will hear the sinner cry,**
to wake the nations underground,
looking to my God's right hand,
when the stars begin to fall. ***Refrain***

3 **You will hear the Christian shout,**
to wake the nations underground,
looking to my God's right hand,
when the stars begin to fall. ***Refrain***

Communion Hymn ***Around You, O Lord Jesus*** **ELW #468**



Around you, O Lord Jesus,
your own you gather still
to share the feast you give us
with grace our lives to fill.
You say to us so lovingly,
"Take, eat! This is my body!
Take, drink! This is my blood!"

We hear your invitation,
and heed, O Lord, your call;
your word of consolation
is spoken here to all.
It draws us to your loving heart;
it brings to us your blessing,
which never will depart.

We are your own forever;
until our final breath
we will be true and never
in joy, in grief, in death
depart from you, for you are still
among your people dwelling,
as you have said you will.

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772-1847

Communion Hymn ***While We are Waiting, Come*** arr. Don Cason

1 ***While we are waiting, come***
While we are waiting, come
Jesus our Lord, Emmanuel,
While we are waiting, come

2 ***With pow'r and glory, come***
With pow'r and glory, come
Jesus our Lord, Emmanuel,
While we are waiting, come

3 ***Come, Savoir, quickly come***
Come, Savoir, quickly come
Jesus our Lord, Emmanuel,
While we are waiting, come



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- SENDING -

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN ***People, Look East*** **ELW #248**

1 **People, look east. The time is near**
of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able,
trim the hearth and set the table.
People, look east, and sing today—
Love, the Guest, is on the way.

2 **Furrows, be glad.**
Though earth is bare,
one more seed is planted there.
Give up your strength
the seed to nourish,
that in course the flow'r may flourish.
People, look east, and sing today—
Love, the Rose, is on the way.

3 **Stars, keep the watch.**
When night is dim,
one more light the bowl shall brim,
shining beyond the frosty weather,
bright as sun and moon together.
People, look east, and sing today—
Love, the Star, is on the way.

4 **Angels announce**
with shouts of mirth
him who brings new life to earth.
Set ev'ry peak and valley humming
with the word, the Lord is coming.
People, look east, and sing today—
Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Text: Eleanor E. Farjeon, 1881-1965

DISMISSAL Go in peace. Remember the poor. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Art Used in this Bulletin: Martin Erspamer, OSB, Art for Year B, 2026

We are Grateful for the Flowers in our Worship Space:
Given today by the O'Reillys in memory of Joann Purdy, mother and great-grandmother.



Our Giving and Tithes:
Monthly church budget for 2026 is: **$17,169.17**
Recent giving for the month of **October 2026** was **$14,799.**

In Our Prayers

To add a prayer request, please contact the church office or email your request to prayers@faithlutheranreno.org

We pray for comfort and peace to **Connie Anderson,** on hospice

With Diane Yarborough, for her mother, Virginia, having memory problems and being evaluated on Dec. 3rd.

for presence and healing to **Carolyn Cramer,** healing after hip replacement Monday, Nov. 16th. Thanks be to God for health thus far.

for continued healing to **Ruedi Sommer** after a stomach surgery, home and recovering.

For healing strength to **Cole Powell**, continued wellness for **Katie Weldon, Pat Porter, Sharon Scagliotti, and Charley Watts.**
with **Davyann Schalnat,** for healing & strength after her hip replacement on 10/26.

with **Theresa Wolken** for friend, **Dawn**, dealing with bladder cancer, and friend, **Gail**, hospitalized with meningitis.

with **Cheri Daur,** for healing and strength.

Comments from the Cloud of Witnesses

"Some people see the future Day of Judgment, whether by bomb or Bible, as a disastrous time. For them, that Day will be a time of weeping, wailing and gnashing of teeth. For most of us the Day of Judgment, the End of Time, the Second Coming of Christ, whatever you want to call it, is something without any real meaning. We don't look forward to it with dread, because we don't look forward to it at all. Yet Advent calls us to hope for the coming of Christ. This positive hope comes from knowing that we already belong to Christ and already live in communion with him and each other. Through grace we are made ready meet Christ, both in our daily lives and at the Day of Judgment. Advent reminds us to take time to watch, to make space for that waiting which is so important to our spiritual journey, and to look to tomorrow in positive hope, living expectantly for the coming of the Christ."

[Linda L. Grenz, in Homilies for the Christian People, ed. Gail Ramshaw (New York: Pueblo Publishing Company, 1989), 181.]

December Worship Schedule 2026					
Task	**6th**	**13th**	**20th**	**24th**	**27th**
				Christmas Eve	
Greeter	**Jean C**	**Alissa S**	**Debbie H**		**Erica W**
Reader	**Davyann S**	**Amanda O**	**Matthew R**		**Wes G**
***Asst. Minister**	**Judi H**	**Sam S**	**Todd M**		
***Cantor**	**Juliana C**	**Wes G**	**Todd M**		
Usher	**Sam S**	**Debbie H**	**Amanda O**		**Eileen W**
***Altar Guild**	**Eileen W Kathy W**	**Sharon S Diane Y**	**O'Reillys**		**Annette W**
Tech Support	**Alex K**	**Eric W**	**Alex K**	**Eric W?**	**Eric W**
Musicians	**Juliana C Heinz D Olivia K**	**Juliana C Heinz D Olivia K**	**Juliana C Heinz D Olivia K**		**Juliana C Heinz D Olivia K**
***Counters**					
Coffee after Worship					

Advent Activities at Faith

-Each family, take an Advent Devotional home with you today!
"Come and Behold Him" - Inspiration from Henri Nouwen

- This Advent, the season of waiting and watching is best done together. Join us each Wednesday for soup and fellowship at 5:30 pm, followed by Advent Vespers at 6:00 pm. In the quiet of evening prayer, we'll light candles, sing, and pray, welcoming the evening and making room for God this season. Everyone is welcome at the table. Families, friends, and neighbors are welcome too, and there's always enough soup.



(Sign up to bring a soup in the Narthex!)



-Order Forms for Christmas Poinsettias are out now. Your purchase adorns the space for Christmas and you take the plant home Sun, Dec 27th. Place a form in the offering or on Credence Table (Black) near main doors. $15 each.

- Adult Forum and **Kids' Place meet today!** The Adult Forum considers **the lectionary themes of Advent and what devotion looks like while the world "waits."**

-Next Sunday– Adult Forum: PRAYERS FOR OLD FOLKS - All of Faith's old folks are invited after worship on **Dec. 6 and 13, 11am – 12 pm,** to gather to learn and explore two prayers that speak to some of the significant experiences of older people.
Grab a flyer in the Narthex (They are blue!)

- Cookie Palooza - Next Sunday Dec. 6th - It's like a cookie exchange where we invite you to be a batch or a dozen of your favorite cookies – especially holiday cookies, And then during coffee hour we share in the bounty and maybe even take a few favorites home. Bring those cookies next week! We will be ***"Greening the Church after it all, at 12pm!"***

- Save the Date: **Faith Christmas Concert** (with our musicians and members!) **Saturday Dec 12 at 2:00pm** with the theme of "Christmas Memories." Friends and Family welcome!