Reformation Lutheran Church

3670 Perkiomen Avenue
Reading, PA 19606
www.reformationlutheran.org
Office (610) 779-0534
Pastor Stoddard (610) 334-1285

All Saints Sunday **November 1st, 2026**
A Service of Word and Sacrament **9:30 AM**



All Saints celebrates the baptized people of God, living and dead, who are the body of Christ. As November heralds the dying of the landscape in many northern regions, the readings and liturgy call us to remember all who have died in Christ and whose baptism is complete. At the Lord's table we gather with the faithful of every time and place, trusting that the promises of God will be fulfilled and that all tears will be wiped away in the new Jerusalem.

Welcome to Reformation!

Presiding Minister:	The Rev. Dr. Gregory Stoddard
Director of Music:	Dr. Heidi Rochlin
Ushers	Bob Rutherford and Melkanie Karasek
Reader	Rich Hawk
Assisting Minister	Judy Plica
Acolyte	to be determined
Altar Guild	Cynthia Smoker-Johnston and Elisha & Steve Barnett
Flowers	Russ & Harriet Clauser-in memory of our parents and sister, Jeanette Aulenbach
Live streaming	Tom Sahaida, Stu Johnston, Jared Preston, Andy Dobroskey
Special Musicians	Al Rochlin, Paul Bridenstein, Reuben Rochlin – trumpet; John Loos, Josy Conklin - trombone

WELCOME

PRELUDE

The assembly stands.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

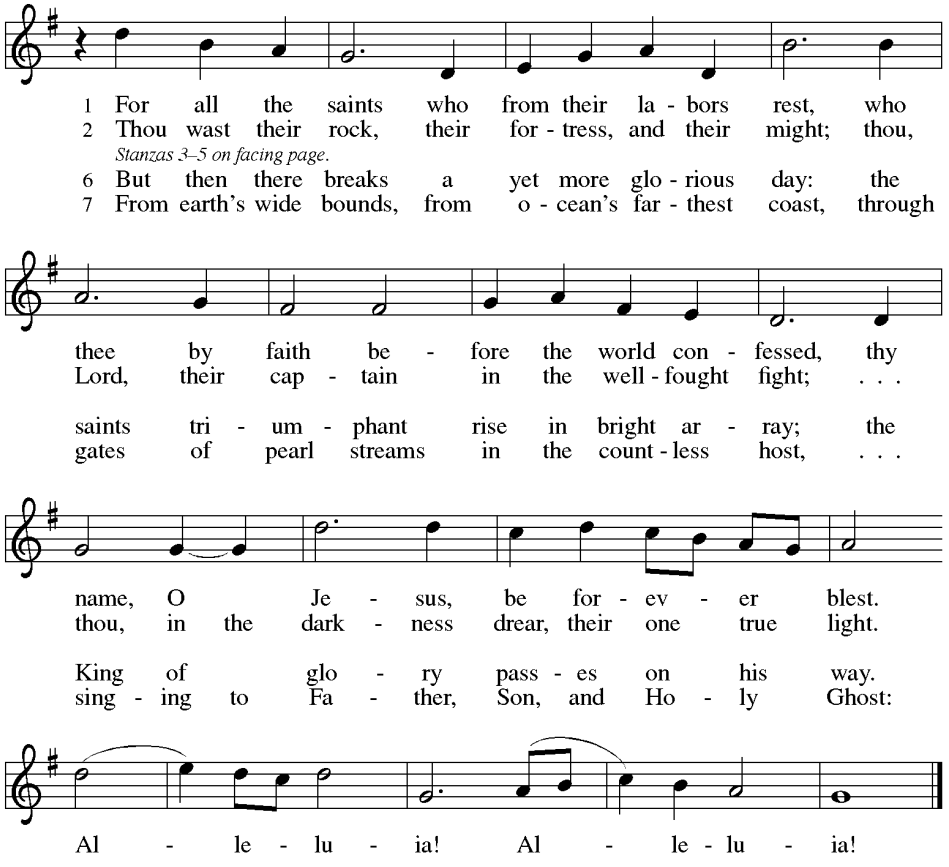
Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

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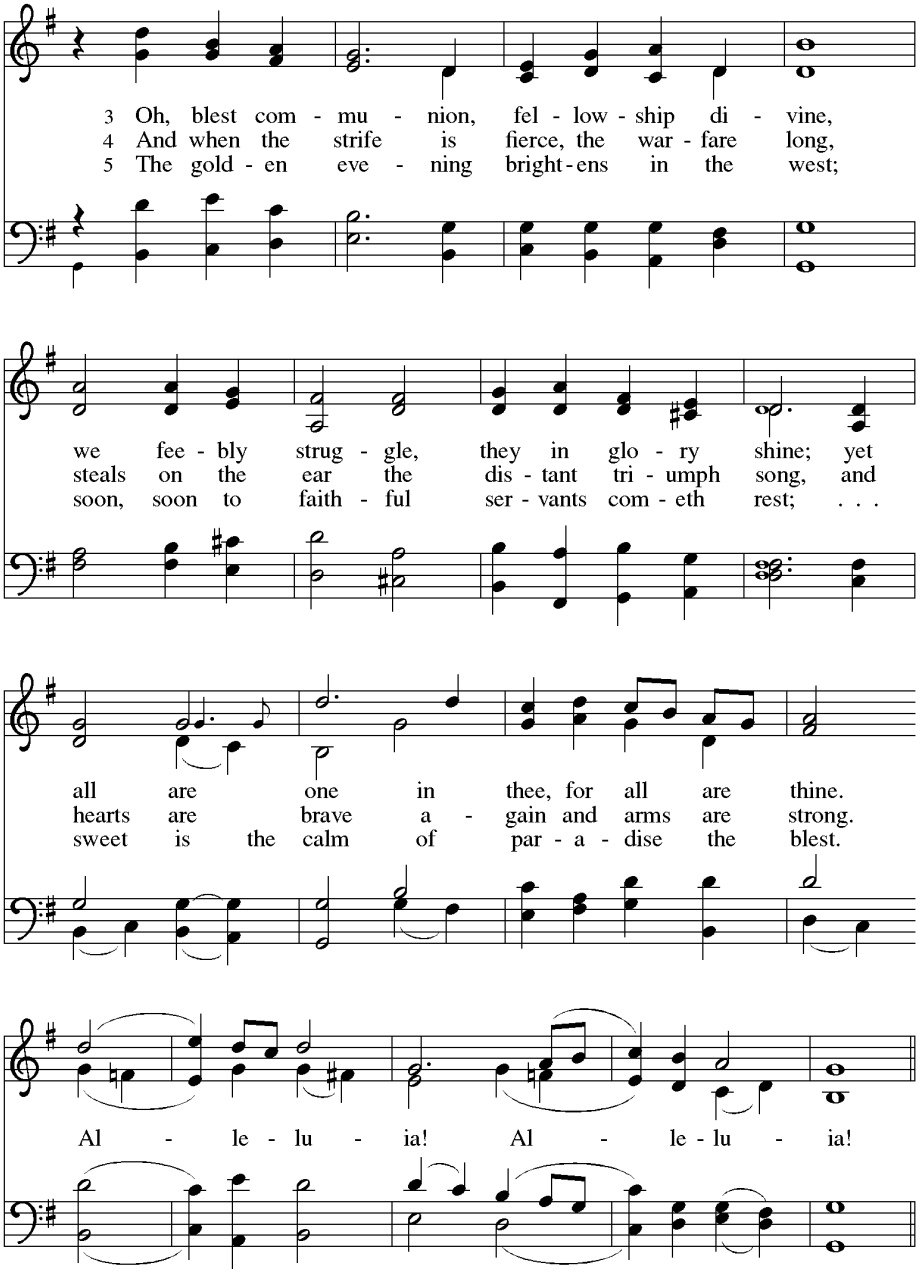
Inherit the riches of God's grace. ☩ Jesus, the good shepherd, feeds you with his mercy. You are forgiven. Blessed are you.
Amen.

GATHERING HYMN: **ELW 422 verses 1-4**

For All the Saints
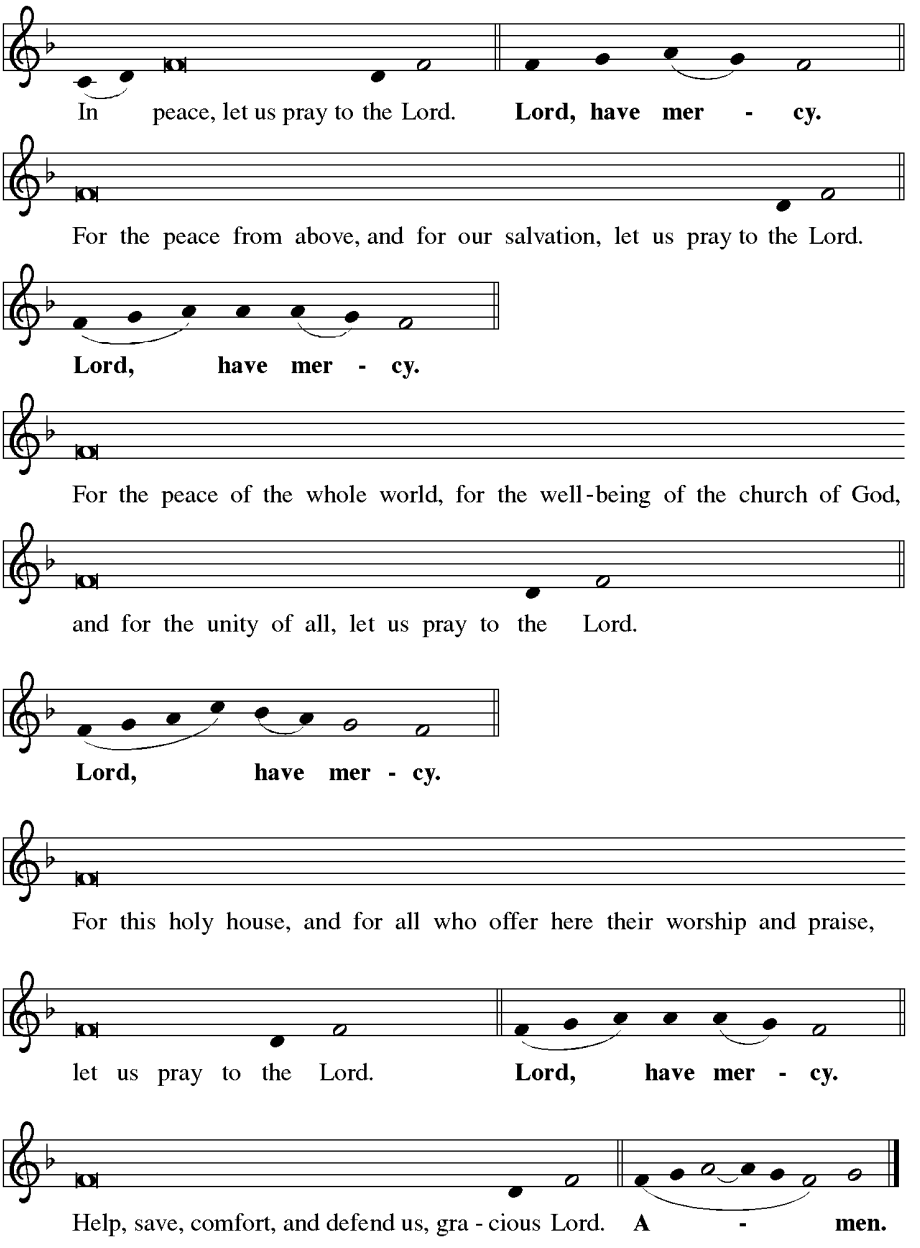


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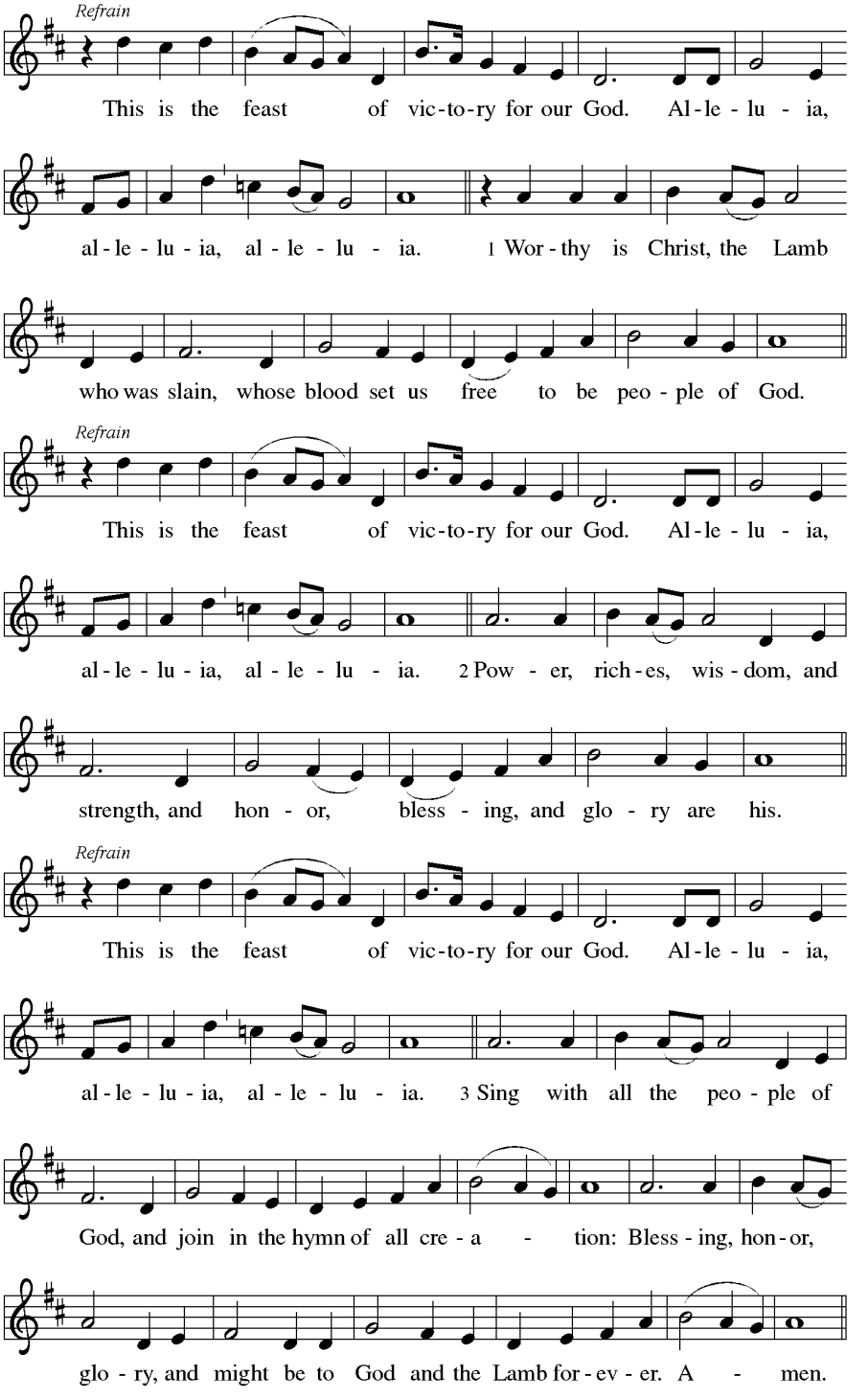


The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

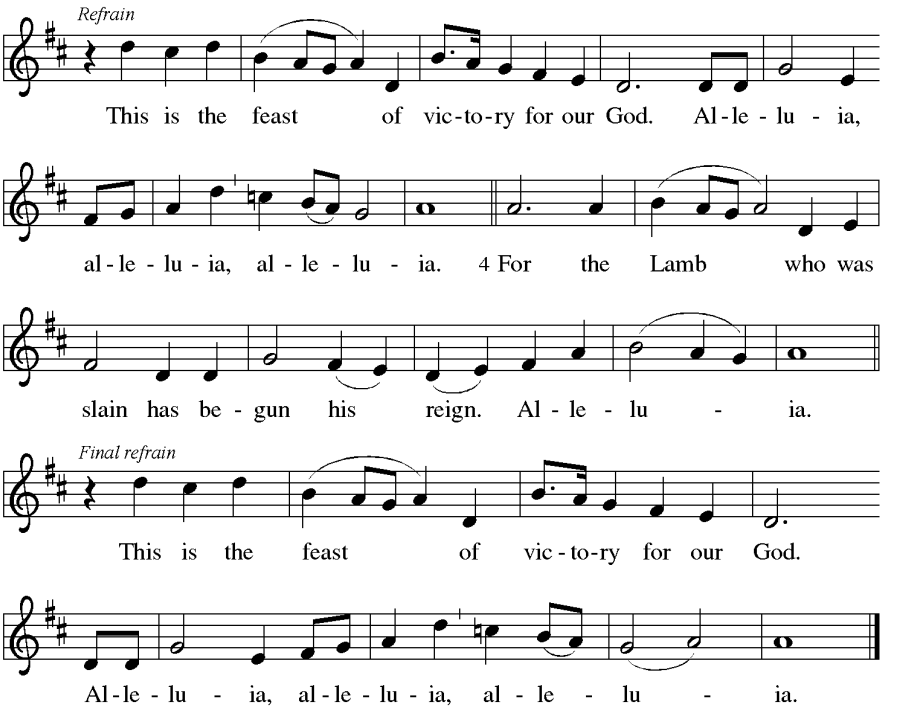
And also with you.

KYRIE:


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.

THIS IS THE FEAST





PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray,

Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The assembly may be seated.

FIRST READING – REVELATION 7:9-17

9 After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could
count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages,
standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with
palm branches in their hands. 10 They cried out in a loud voice, saying,
"Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the
Lamb!"
11 And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and

the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, [12] singing,

"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honor
and power and might
be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

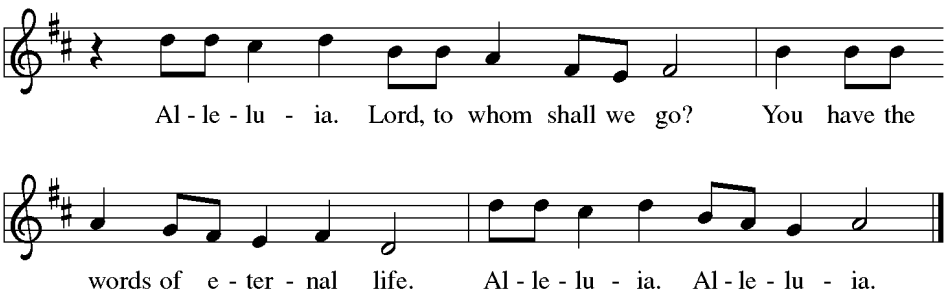
[13] Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" [14] I said to him, "Sir, you are the one who knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

[15] For this reason they are before the throne of God
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.
[16] They will hunger no more and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat,
[17] for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

SECOND READING – 1 JOHN 3:1-3

[1] See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God, and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. [2] Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. [3] And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

The assembly stands.



GOSPEL – MATTHEW 5:1-12

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

1 When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat
down, his disciples came to him. 2 And he began to speak and taught
them, saying:
3 "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
4 "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
5 "Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.
6 "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for
they will be filled.
7 "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.
8 "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
9 "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of
God.
10 "Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of
righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
11 "Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and
utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. 12 Rejoice and
be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they
persecuted the prophets who were before you."

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.
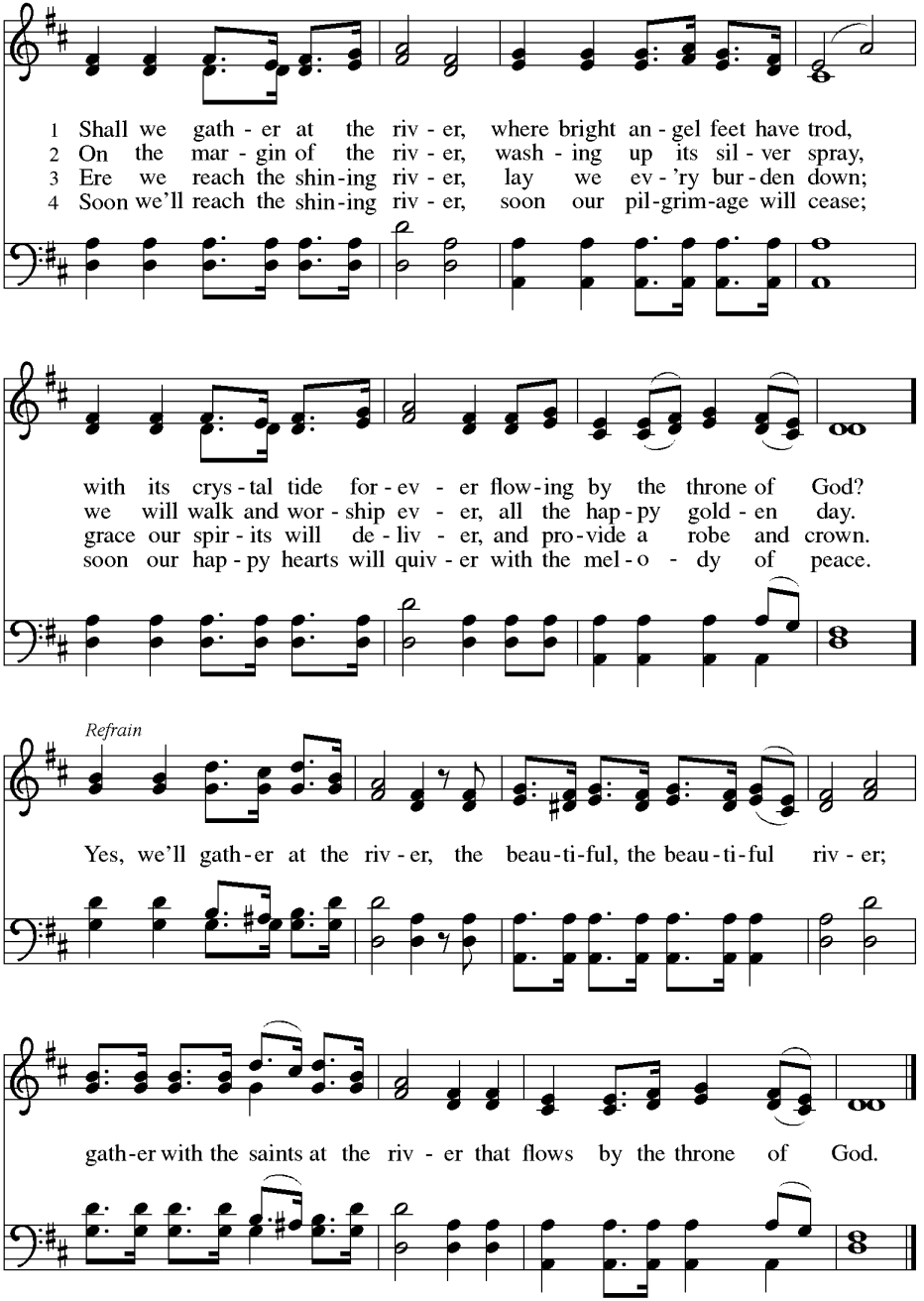
The assembly may be seated.

SERMON

The assembly stands.

HYMN OF THE DAY: **ELW 423**

Shall We Gather at the River



APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
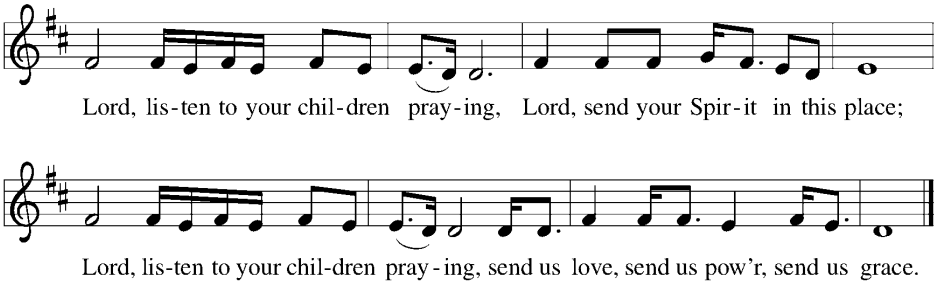
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of 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.

ALL SAINTS' TIME OF REMEMBRANCE

Join us in remembering all those who have entered the church triumphant in the past year. Anyone who would like to light a candle for a loved one when their name is read, please come forward.

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying



PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Assisting Minister: United with the great cloud of witnesses, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.

Each petition of the prayers concludes with these words:
God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

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

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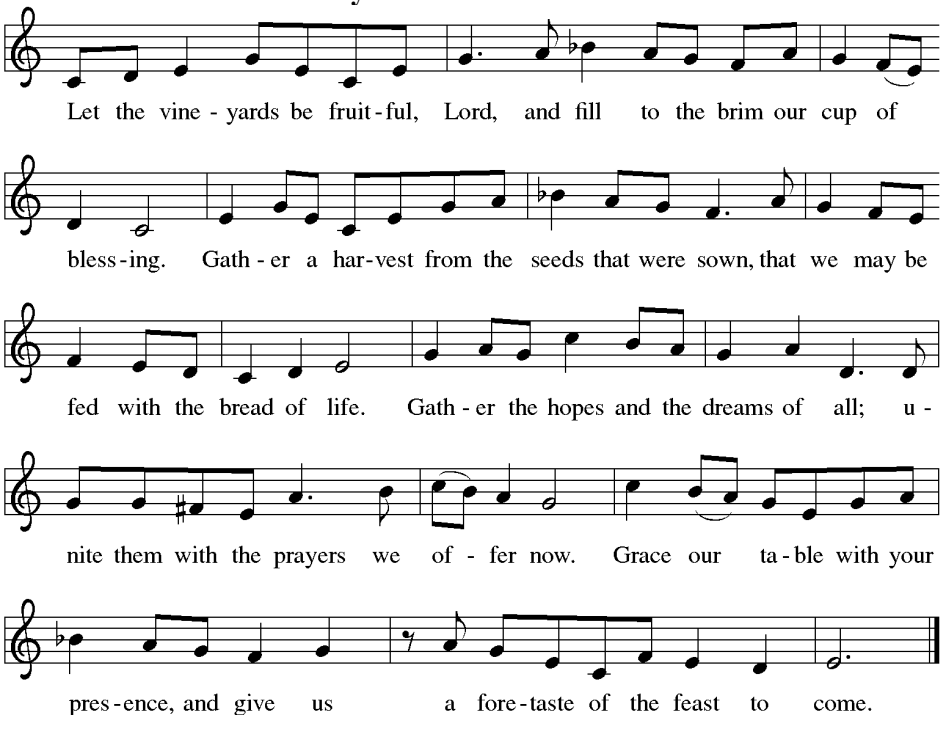
The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

The assembly may be seated.

OFFERING & ANTHEM
A Celebration of Faith, *by Lierbergen*

The assembly stands.

OFFERTORY: Let the Vineyard be Fruitful Lord ELW 182

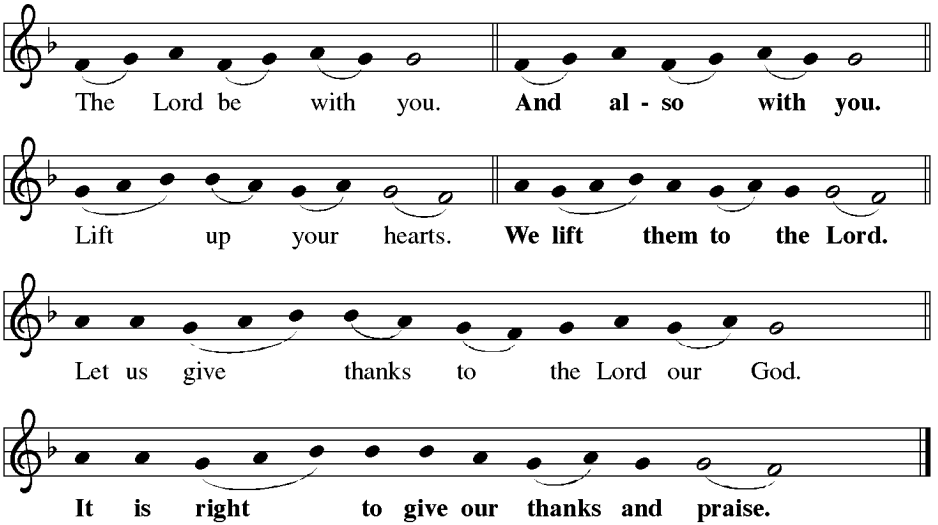


OFFERING PRAYER

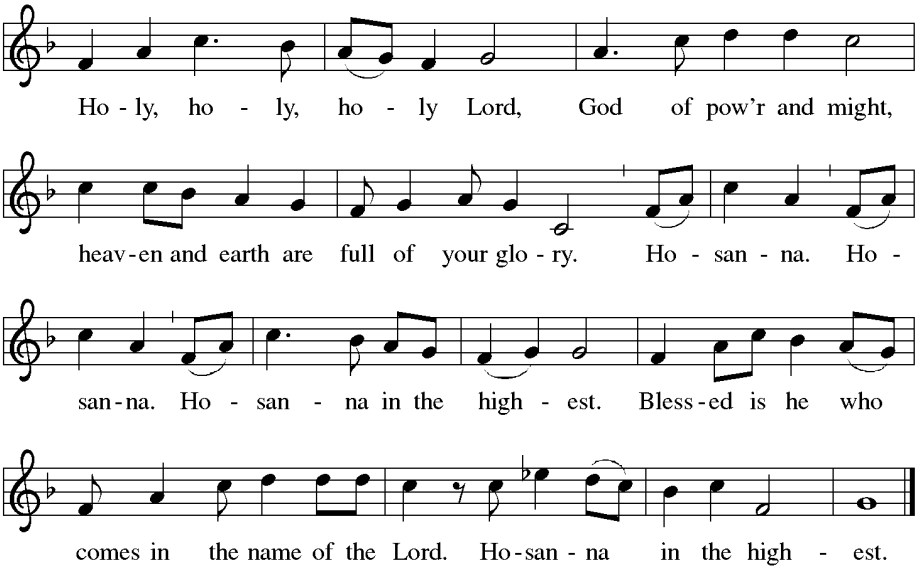
Let us pray:

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.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



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.
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:



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.

LORD'S PRAYER

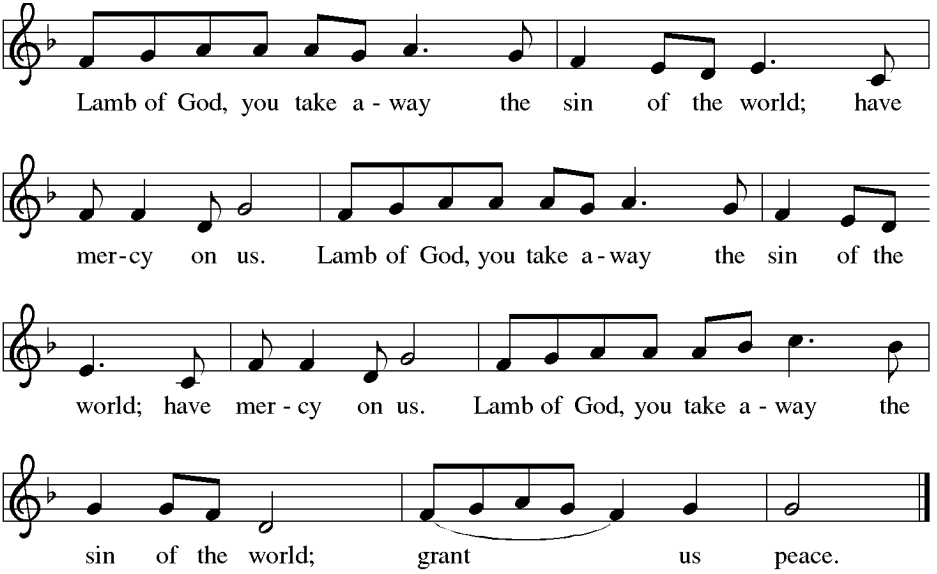
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;

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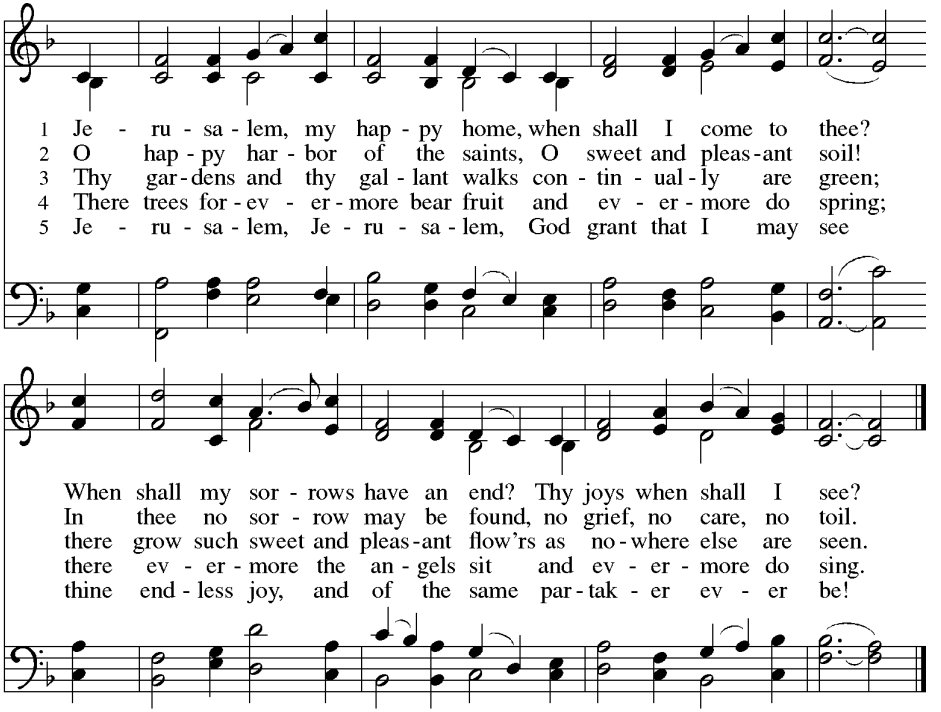
In bread and cup the reign of Christ is breaking in.
Come, receive what Christ has prepared.

Please note that, to be accessible to all, our communion bread is gluten-free, nut-free and lactose-free; both wine (served at the rail) and grape juice (in the trays) are available. When returning your used cups to the trays along the walls, please do not stack the cups. All are welcome to commune.



COMMUNION HYMNS
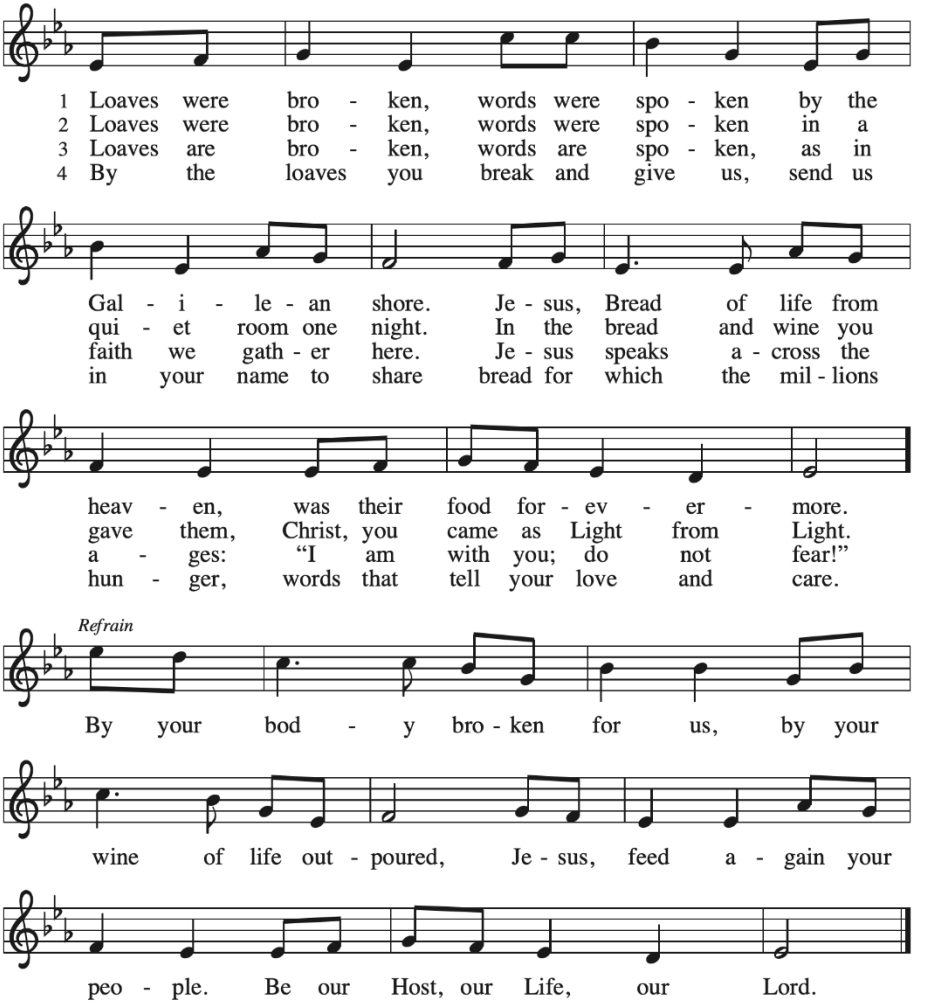
Jerusalem, My Happy Home — ELW 628



Lord, I Lift Your Name on High — ELW 857

Music can be found in the Red Hymnal

Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken **ACS 966**



The assembly stands.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

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.

BLESSING

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

SENDING HYMN: **ELW 422 verses 5-7**

For All the Saints

See the beginning of the bulletin for the music

The assembly may be seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Go in peace. Encourage one another.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

ALL SAINTS REMEMBRANCE

Jim Bird
Mark Crouthamel
Nancy Edinger
Valerie Entner
Brian Hayes
Roger Hillibush
Lisa Kreider
Ernie Scardecchio
Bob Scharadin
Ann Shilling
Stephen Silverman
Colleen Snyder
Constance Whalen

PRAYER LIST

Added – Russ Clauser, Karen Montag

Reformation Family: Carol Baer, Steve Barnett, Ruth Blatt, Tom Brizek, Millie Castillo, Russ Clauser, Bob Galbraith, Dana Humbert, Maddie Kemp, Nancy Kern, Rod and Patti Kline, Tina Little, Cheryl Manella, Karen Montag, Jocelyn Quaintance, Pat Schonour, Scott, Linda Sell,, Elinor Snyder, Jack Swartz, Erica Sweigert, Herb Zettlemoyer, and the family of Roger Hillibush

Friends of Reformation: Thomas Allmon, Linda Barnett, Sandy Bender, Don Bickel, Andy Bishop, Claire Boarder, Karen Borsak, Michele Boucher, Mary Bowen, Susan Broome, Zena Burkert, Lucille Canta, Cathy, Barbara Connor, Carl and Laura, Patricia Derr. Bernadette Dieumegard, John and Jess DiGuardi, Wilgus Elliott, Judi and Carl Esterly, Ethan, Susan Flicker, Francis, Greg Geesaman, Robert Granko, Anthony Gross, Brian Gruber, Gino Hinnershitz John Howard, Deacon Kalbach, Kayden, Allison Kunkel, Batya Leidner, Scott Leone, Dana Little, Maryann and Elwood Long, Alyson, Sophie, and Avery Maas, Kathy McCoy, Mike Mirenda, Tom Mulvey, Andrew Nosti, Amy Papilla, Wyatt Plica, Chris Plue, Molly Regan, Avery Reinert, Keith and Peg Ruch, Garrett Schanfelder, Karolyn Schrufer, Kim Sharp, Linda Smith, Charles Sperling, Herm Spitzer, Jacob Stoner, Taylor Tenuta, and Grace Vetter

We pray for our Call Committee as they listen and discern during this season of transition.

Next Week's Worship Leaders:

November 8th

Ushers	Dale and Carole Miller
Reader	Teri Stoddard
Assisting Minister	Pam Schneeberger
Acolyte	to be determined

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday School – Our next Sunday School for our Youngest Learners will be held on Sunday, November 29th in conjunction with our Advent Workshop. There will be activities for all ages! More details to follow!

Church Cookbook - If you would like to submit a recipe for the new church online cookbook, please place a copy of your recipe in the green folder on the table in the narthex or email a picture of it to: katherine.kerchner@gmail.com. Thank you for your participation!

Dinner Out - Our next Dinner Out is Thursday, November 12th, at Vincenzo's Ristorante, 1333 Old Swede Road, Douglassville, at 6 PM. **Please note - It is very important that all reservations be either called in or e-mailed to the office (mail@reformationlutheran.org) no later than Tuesday, November 10th. This avoids any issues that could arise with the restaurant. Thank you!

Fall Clothing Drive for the Clothing Bank - For the fall season, we are collecting the following items:
- Children: Long pants and long-sleeved shirts
- Adults: Jeans, sweatpants, yoga pants, t-shirts, sweaters, sweatshirts, jackets, coats, and shoes

Donations can be placed in the box near the back door vestibule.

Advent Devotional – The sign-up sheet is hanging in the narthex to write for our Advent Devotional. Writings are due by November 8th to Elisha Barnett at scrapgirl.elisha@gmail.com.

11th Annual Toy Give for Children of the Exeter Area Food Pantry on December 11, 2026

Each year the number of children and families served grows larger. Your generosity has made it possible for us to continue to provide gifts for hundreds of children in our community each year. Please consider purchasing a toy or toys for the children.

- Infant to 13 years old:

  Toys, games, puzzles, dolls, cars, trucks, building sets, art supplies, Barbies, Legos, etc.
- Teenagers:

Make-up sets, nail care sets, shaving sets, cologne sets, perfume sets, hand cream and body wash sets, adult art sets (fine tip markers, graphic pencils, colored pens). Teenagers will also receive a gift card to a local store from our generous partner: "Hack Away at Hunger"

Donations of hats, socks, gloves and scarves for all ages as well as gently used and new books are also appreciated.
Drop your gifts in the toy donation box at Reformation.

Additional information [monetary contributions, Amazon Wish List] on the toy drive can be found on a flier in the narthex. Be sure to pick one up. If you have any questions please contact:

Doris Jaeger: 610-780-9825; bdj43077@msn.com
Schwarzwald Lutheran Church Office: 610-779-3480

Please bring all donations no later than December 4th.

Thanksgiving Basket Project - We will again be preparing Thanksgiving baskets for needy families in the Exeter School District. Starting Sunday, October 25, there will be leaves on the bulletin board near the kitchen with items needed for the baskets attached on them. Choose as many items that you would like to donate. Bring the items in and place them in the boxes on the floor underneath the bulletin board. All items must be brought in by Sunday, Nov. 15. One of the items that we provide with the baskets is a turkey. We are asking if anyone in the congregation who might be receiving a free turkey from work (or anywhere else) or you get a coupon for a turkey that you consider donating it to the Thanksgiving basket project. If you do want to donate a turkey, contact Terry Trumbauer (610-582-5950 or terryt@dejazzd.com). The final way you can help is with the delivery of the baskets. If you have a van or a SUV and are available for about 2 hours on Monday, Nov. 23 and would like to help me deliver the baskets to the Exeter Administration building, you can call or e-mail me about the details with making the deliveries. Thank you!

October 20, 2026: Congregational Council Meeting - Key Highlights

Council Updates & New Ministries

- **Sexton Opening:** The Council is still looking for candidates for the Sexton position.
- **Ringgold Band:** The **Ringgold Band** will be presenting a Christmas concert at Reformation on December 6, 2026: Time: 2pm to 4pm. Be sure to join us!!!
- **Mutual Ministry Committee:** We are still looking for members for the reactivated Mutual Ministry Committee. Its task is to serve as a liaison, to staff, helping support their work and resolve any difficulties arising in the work environment. Individuals who possess the requisite discretion and confidentiality are asked to contact Steve Barnett. This is an important committee designed to serve the employee and the Church.
- The **Reformation 2027 Budget** is moving forward. If your committee has not turned in its 2027 budget request to Larry Varone, please do so as soon as possible.

Nominating Committee: This short article is designed to invite and briefly inform. Contained in the Listening Team final report, someone asked about church committees and processes. Today we timely spotlight the Nominating Committee.

Basis - Church Constitution - Chapter 13 C13.02. A Nominating Committee of three (3) voting members of this congregation, two [2] of whom, if possible, shall be outgoing members of the Congregation council……Members of the Nominating Committee are not eligible for consecutive reelection.

Discussion:

Each year, approximately 1-4 members of the current church council complete their elected three [3] year term. On a yearly basis, a nominating committee is formed to seek out members of the congregation, willing and able, to serve on the church council.

The council occupies a critical position within the church. It oversees the ministry, finances, property, and general administration of the church. Church council members, through their faithful stewardship of their time and talents are part of the leadership team of the church, comprised of the Pastor and Congregational Council.

Action-Response

If you are approached by a Nominating Committee member, please strongly consider the importance of their task, respond and consider the following:

a. Understand they are approaching you because they believe you have the talents necessary to fill an important job [young or adult];

b. They know it will require time, but, also know no one council member is "on an island". Assistance and advice is quickly and easily available; and

c. Remember, the church is a living entity which needs leadership, motivation, understanding and patience.

Summary

As has often been stated in previous bulletins and newsletters:

"You are the Church"

Become part of the leadership team and help us be the church God wants us to be. True leadership comes from trusting in God

Bible Verse: **Proverbs 11:14** "Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety."

Prayer: "Lord, grant me the wisdom to lead with justice and the compassion to serve those who look to me for guidance