Reformation Lutheran Church

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

Christ the King Sunday **November 22nd, 2026**
A Service of Word and Sacrament **9:30 AM**



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.

Welcome to Reformation!

Presiding Minister:	The Rev. Dr. Gregory Stoddard
Director of Music:	Dr. Heidi Rochlin

Ushers	Charley and Jen Weaver
Reader	Alan Blackburn
Assisting Minister	Teri Stoddard
Acolyte	Kevin Blackburn
Altar Guild	Cynthia Smoker-Johnston – Steve & Elisha Barnett
Flowers	Cindy & Dave Shirey-in honor of Dain & Jillian Shirey's anniversary Rick & Jeanne Gochnauer-in honor of our 40th anniversary
Live streaming	Tom Sahaida, Stu Johnston, Jared Preston, Andy Dobroskey

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.**

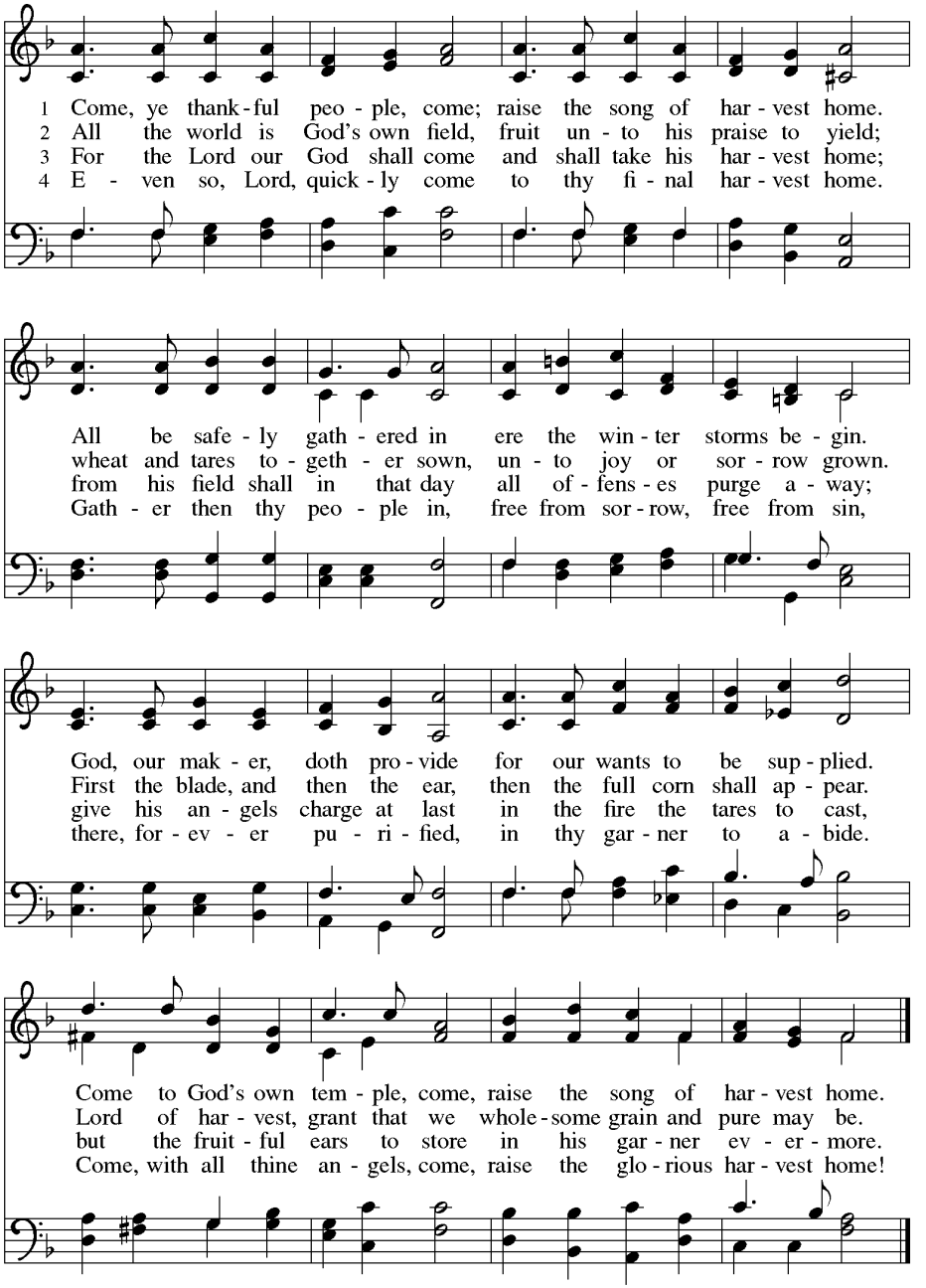
Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

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 693**

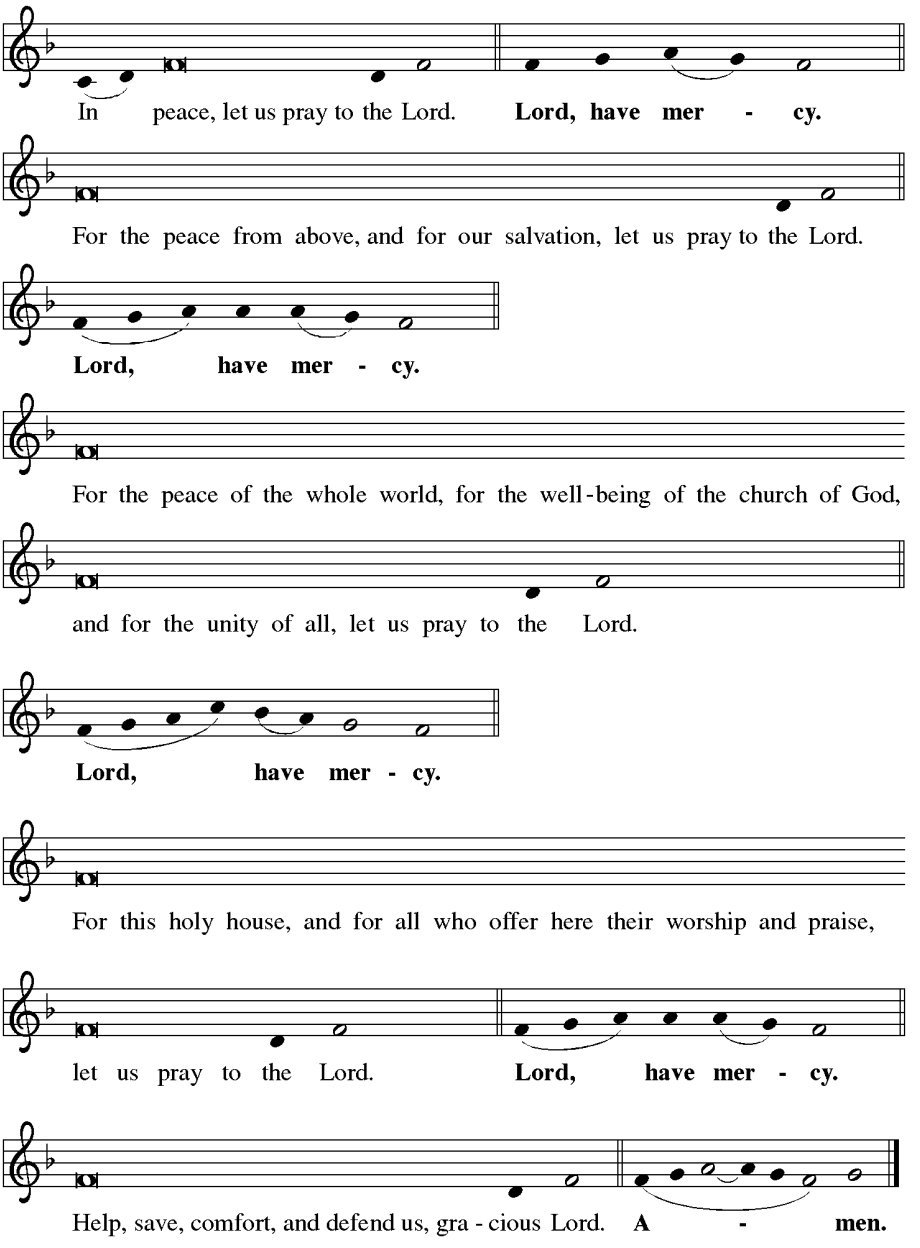
Come, Ye Thankful People, Come



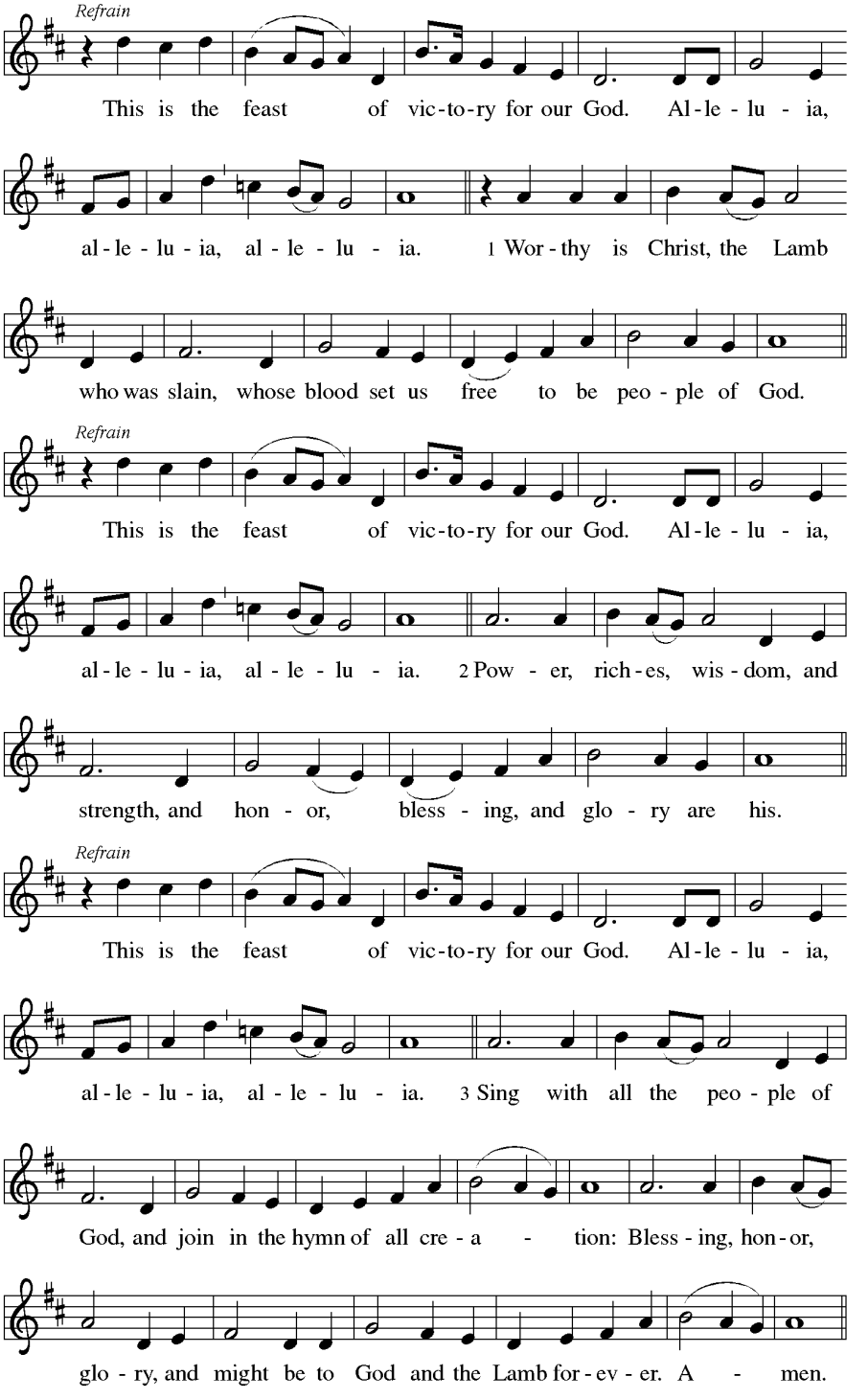
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

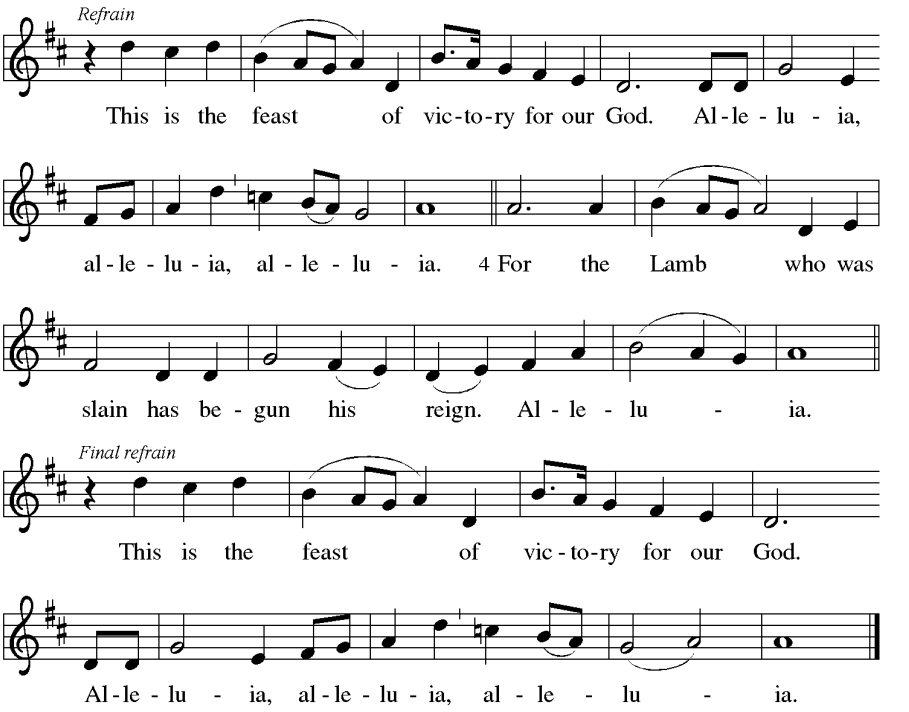
And also with you.

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,

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.

The assembly may be seated.

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.

PSALM 95:1-7A **(**This will be read in unison.)

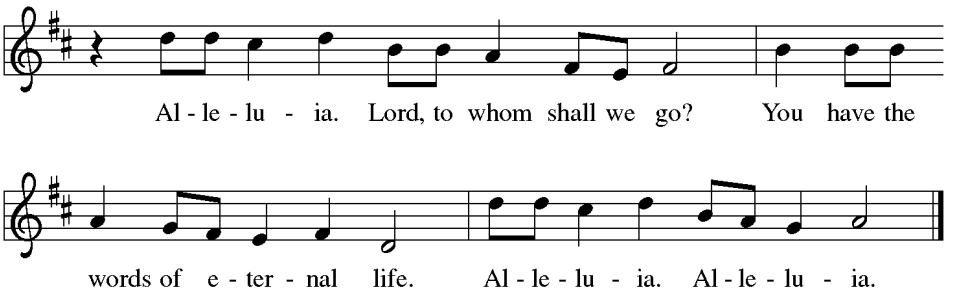
[1] Come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.
[2] Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to the Lord with psalms.
[3] For you, Lord, are a great God,
and a great ruler above all gods.
[4] In your hand are the caverns of the earth;
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.

The assembly stands.



GOSPEL – MATTHEW 25:31-46

The holy gospel according to Matthew.
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.

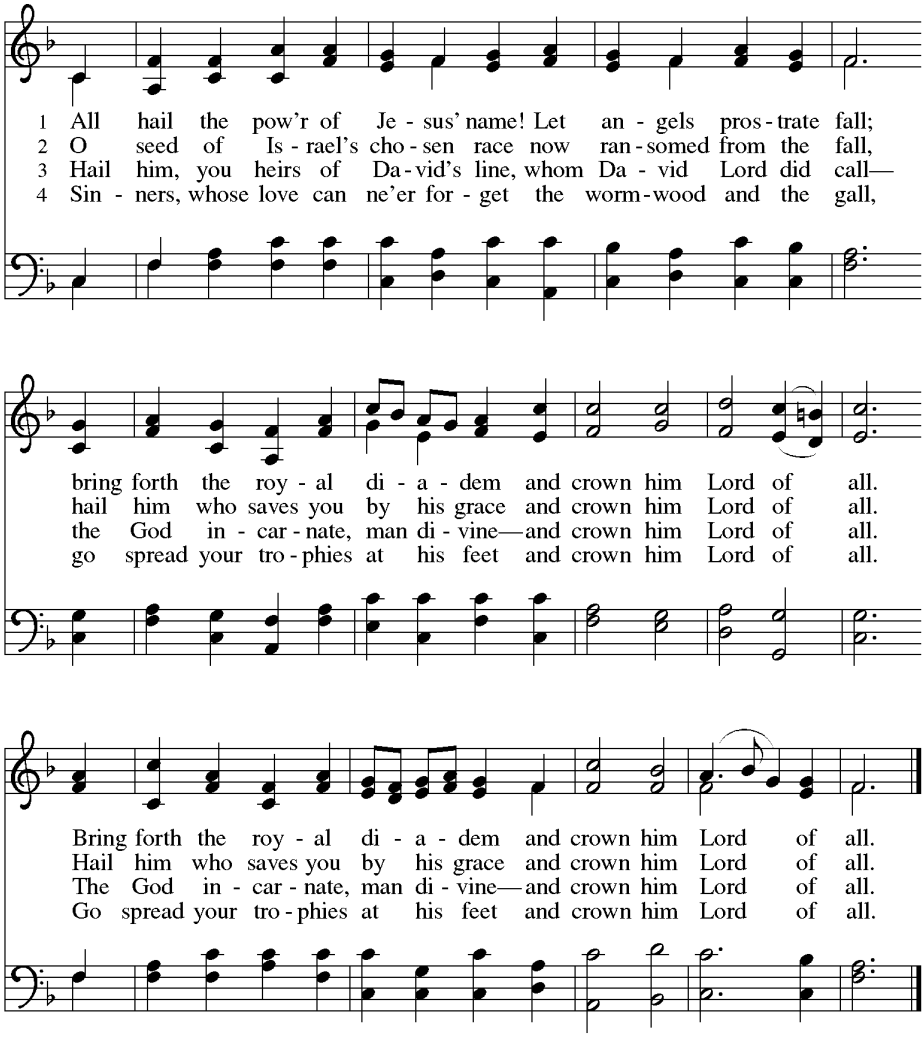
The assembly may be seated.

SERMON

The assembly stands.

HYMN OF THE DAY: **ELW 634**

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!



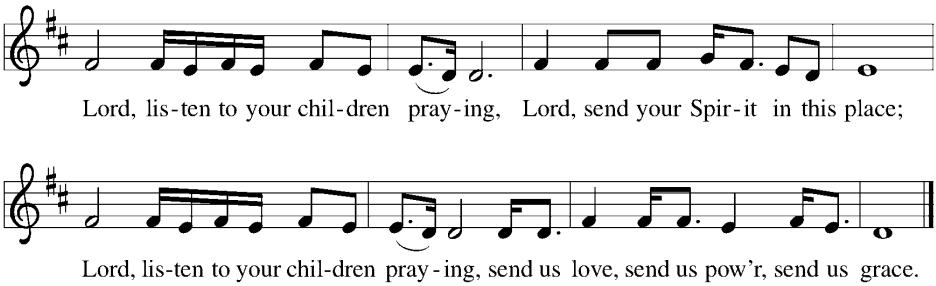
5 Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe
on this terrestrial ball
to him all majesty ascribe
and crown him Lord of all.

6 Oh, that with yonder sacred throng
we at his feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song
and crown him Lord of all.

HOLY BAPTISM **ELW pg 227**

We celebrate in the baptism of Cole James Opdyke.
Parents: Michael and Paige Opdyke
Sponsors: Ethan Aigeldinger and Megan Shanaman

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.

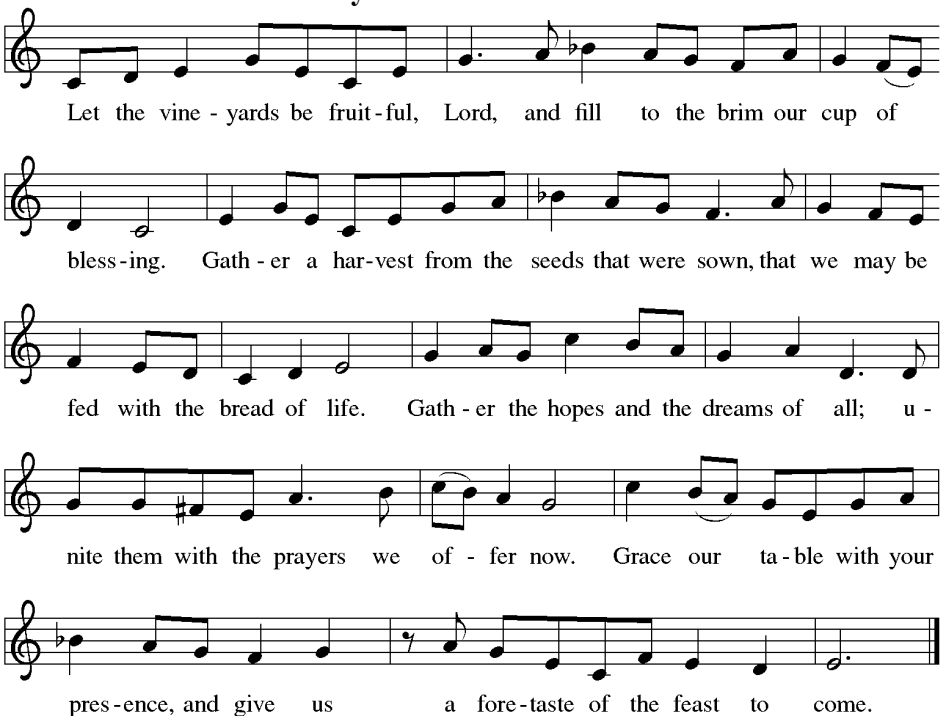
The assembly may be seated.

OFFERING & ANTHEM

God is All you Need, by Mary McDonald

The assembly stands.

OFFERTORY: Let the Vineyard be Fruitful Lord ELW 182

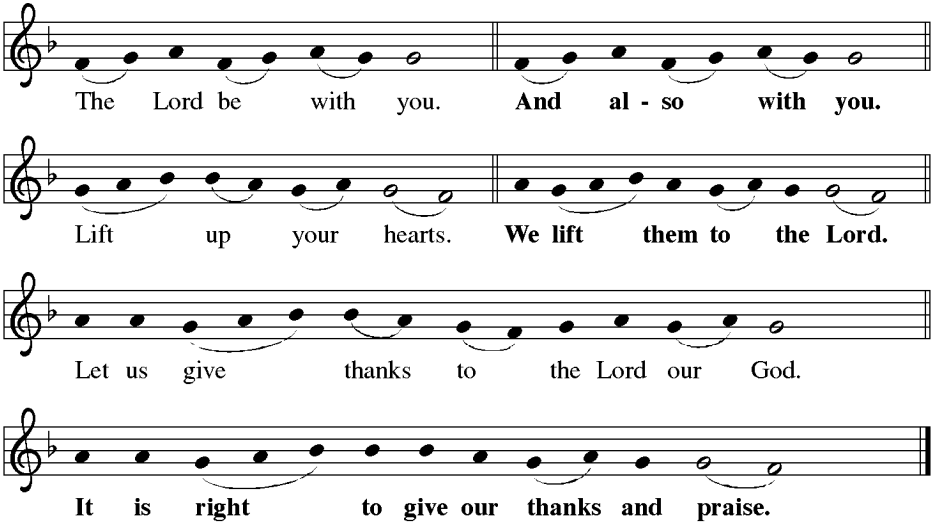


OFFERING PRAYER

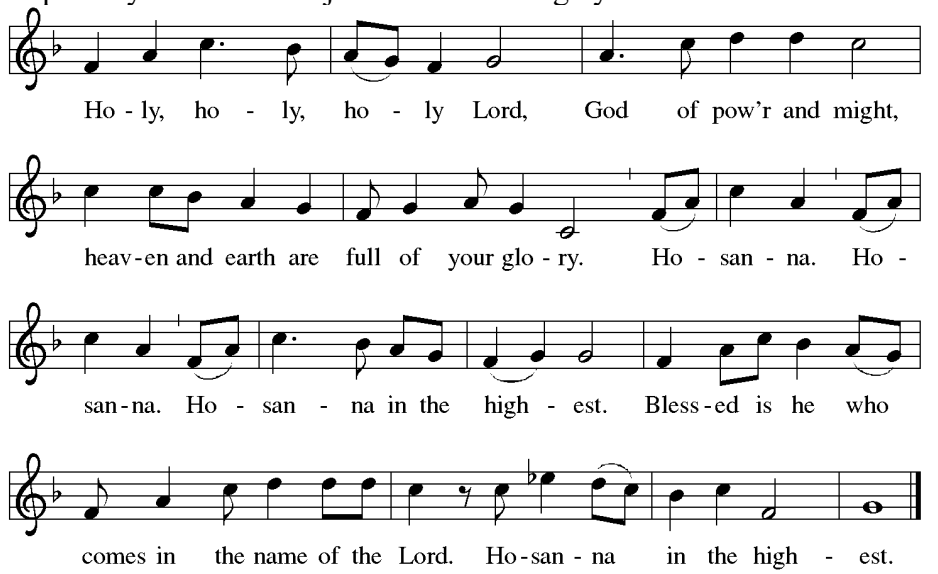
Let us pray:

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.

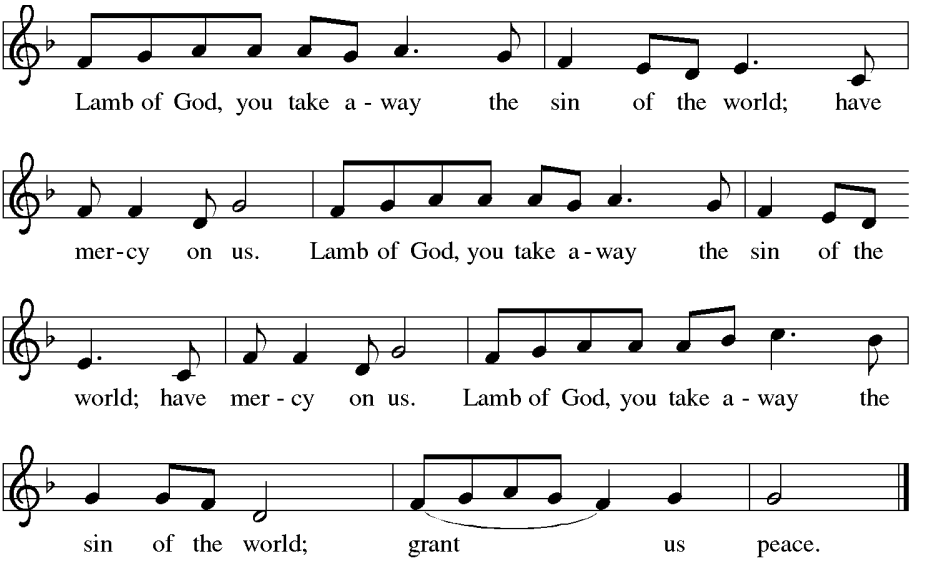
LORD'S PRAYER

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.

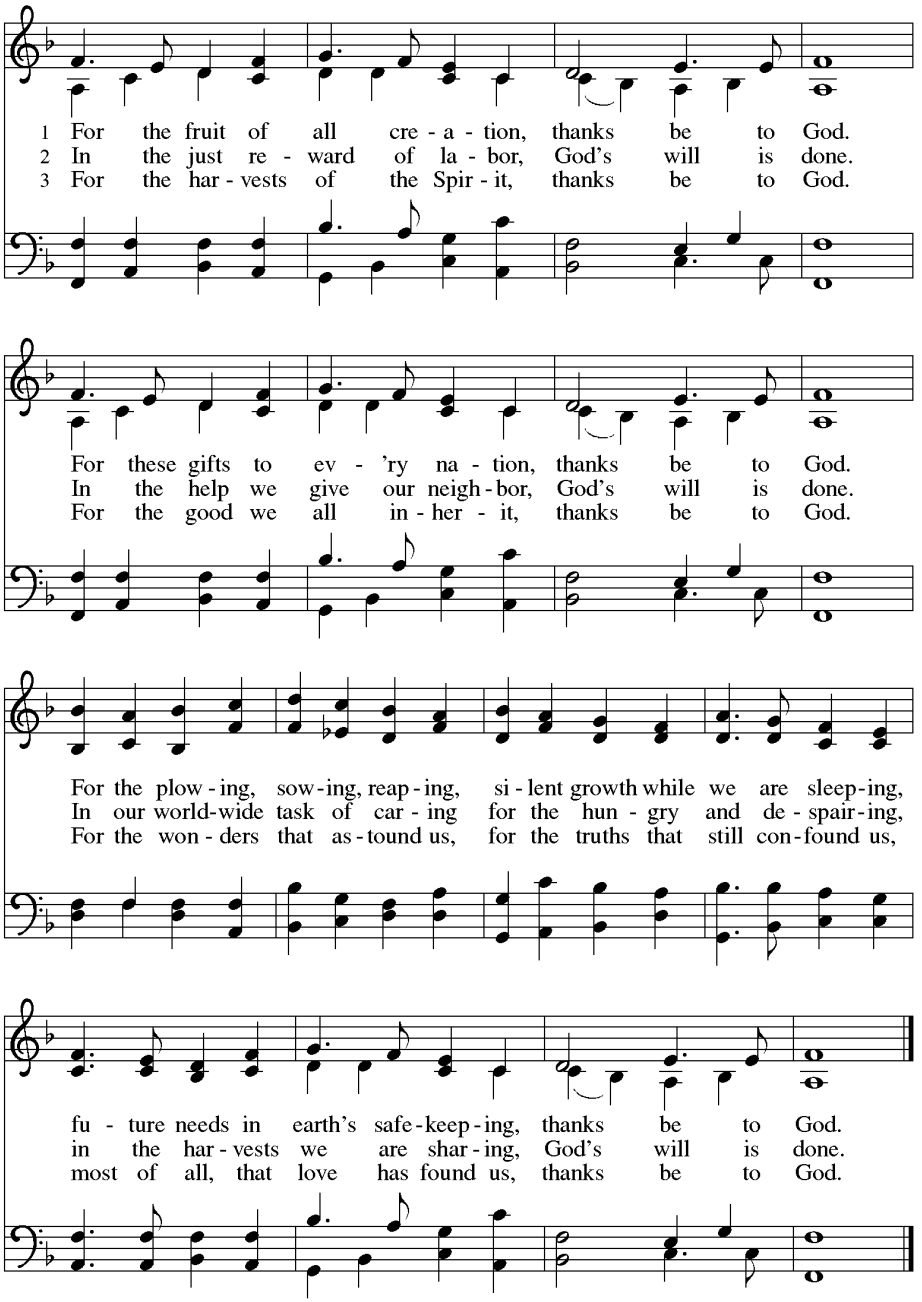


COMMUNION HYMNS

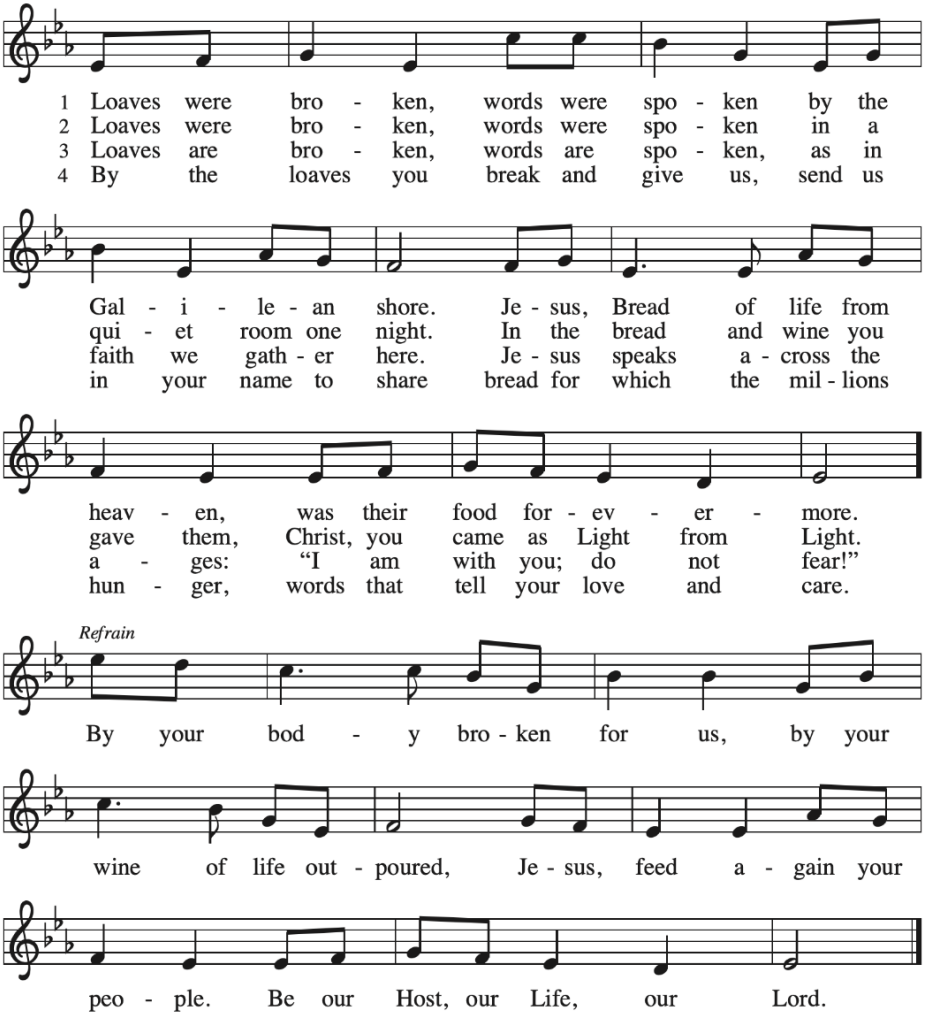
Lord, I Lift Your Name on High **ELW 857**

Music can be found in the Red Hymnal

For the Fruit of All Creation — ELW 679



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



The assembly stands.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

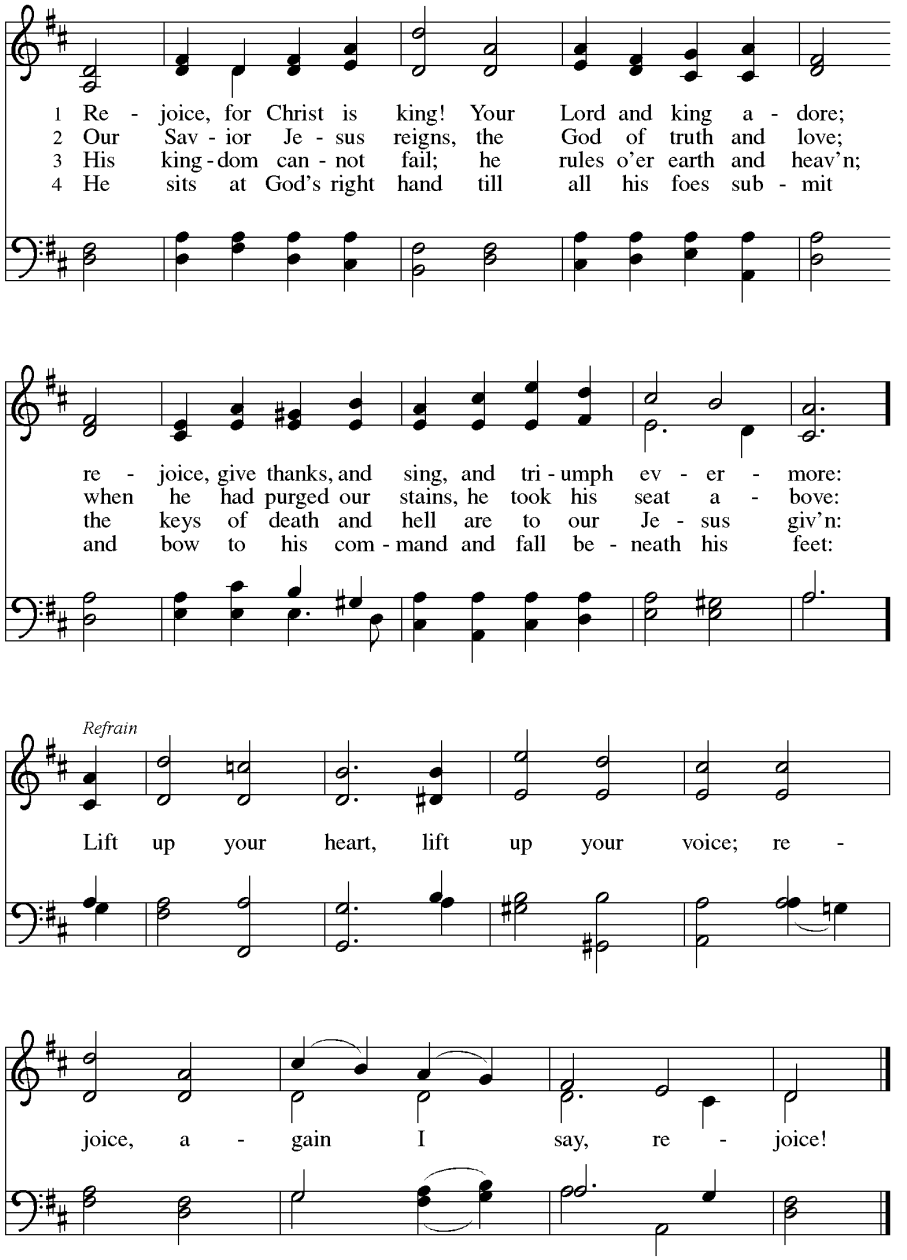
Holy God, we have received your never-ending mercy in this meal. You continuously seek the lost, bind the injured, and feed your people abundantly. Now send us out, awake to your presence, now and forever. Amen.

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 430**

Rejoice, for Christ Is King!



The assembly may be seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

POSTLUDE

PRAYER LIST

Added – none

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, Pat Schonour, Scott, Linda Sell,, Elinor Snyder, Jack Swartz, Erica Sweigert, and Herb Zettlemoyer

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, 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 29th

Ushers	Rich Hawk and Dee Dee Werner
Reader	Dee Dee Werner
Assisting Minister	John Baver
Acolyte	Jen Weaver

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prepare! An Intergenerational Advent Workshop will be held on Sunday, November 29th beginning at 10:35 AM in the Parish Hall. Join us for crafts, fresh Advent wreath-making, take home devotionals, Advent calendars, as well as a mini-music workshop for our youngest learners and refreshments!

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.

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.