Holy Cross Lutheran Church

We are Transformed in CHRIST
to Share the Hope of Eternal Life!

The Festival of the Reformation
(Observed)
October 25th, 2026, A.D.



Holy Cross Lutheran Church

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD

200 Market Street, Ste. Genevieve, MO.63670
Office Phone (573-883-5361)
holycrossstegen@gmail.com Website: holycrossstegen.org
Facebook: facebook.com/holycrossstegen

The flowers on the altar are placed by Rick and Cindy Hutson in celebration of their Holy Matrimony Anniversary!

Upcoming available dates for flowers for the altar: November 8 and 29, 2026. Please clearly print your name and occasion on the flower chart on the wall by the narthex above the water fountain. Please put $25 in an envelope; mark it "Flower Fund" and place it in the offering plate. A friendly reminder, if you take a flower vase home, please return it the following week so it can be used again.

- ***Holy Cross upholds and adheres to the Biblical practice of Closed Communion.***
- ***Doors Open on Sunday at 8:00 AM. Divine Service Begins at 9:00 AM, followed by a Bible Study after today's service with coffee and treats.***
- ***Responsive Prayer II is offered at 10:00 AM on Tuesday.***
- ***Tuesdays Bible Study begins at 10:30 AM and lasts until 11:30 AM***
- ***Individual Confession and Absolution by appointment***
- ***The ringing of the bells starts at 9:00 AM***
- ***Words written in Bold and marked with C signify congregation response.***

Needs for pastoral care in our area, call our Pastor:
Rev. Peyton Holland
(918-332-1997)
or one of our Lay Elders: Rick Hutson (573-780-9390),
Randy Ruzicka (314-210-4279), and Jim Bell

Divine Service III

Confession and Absolution

569 In Adam We Have All Been One

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C **who made heaven and earth.**
P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**.
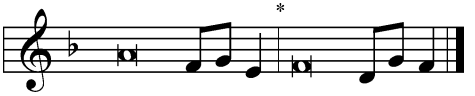
P O almighty God, merciful Father,
C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**
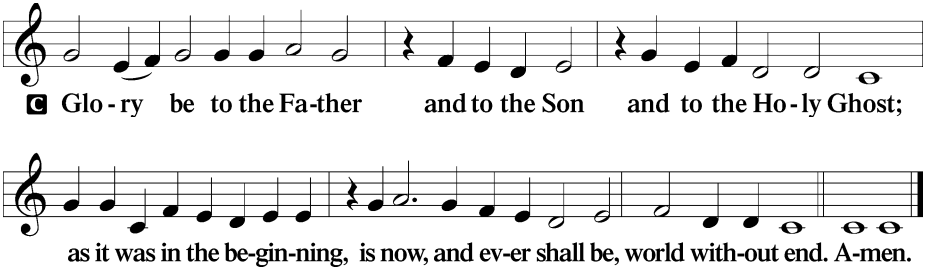
Stand

Service of the Word

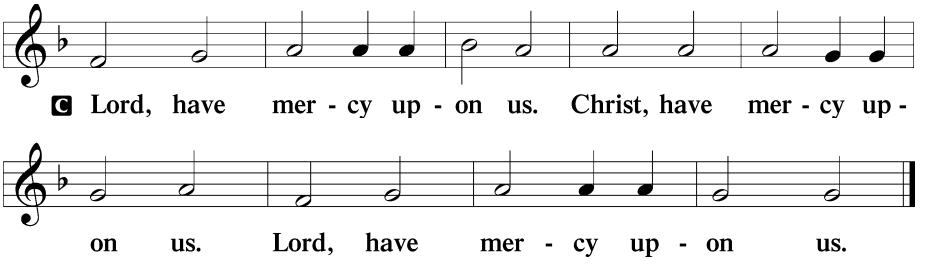
Introit — Psalm 34:1–2, 11, 22
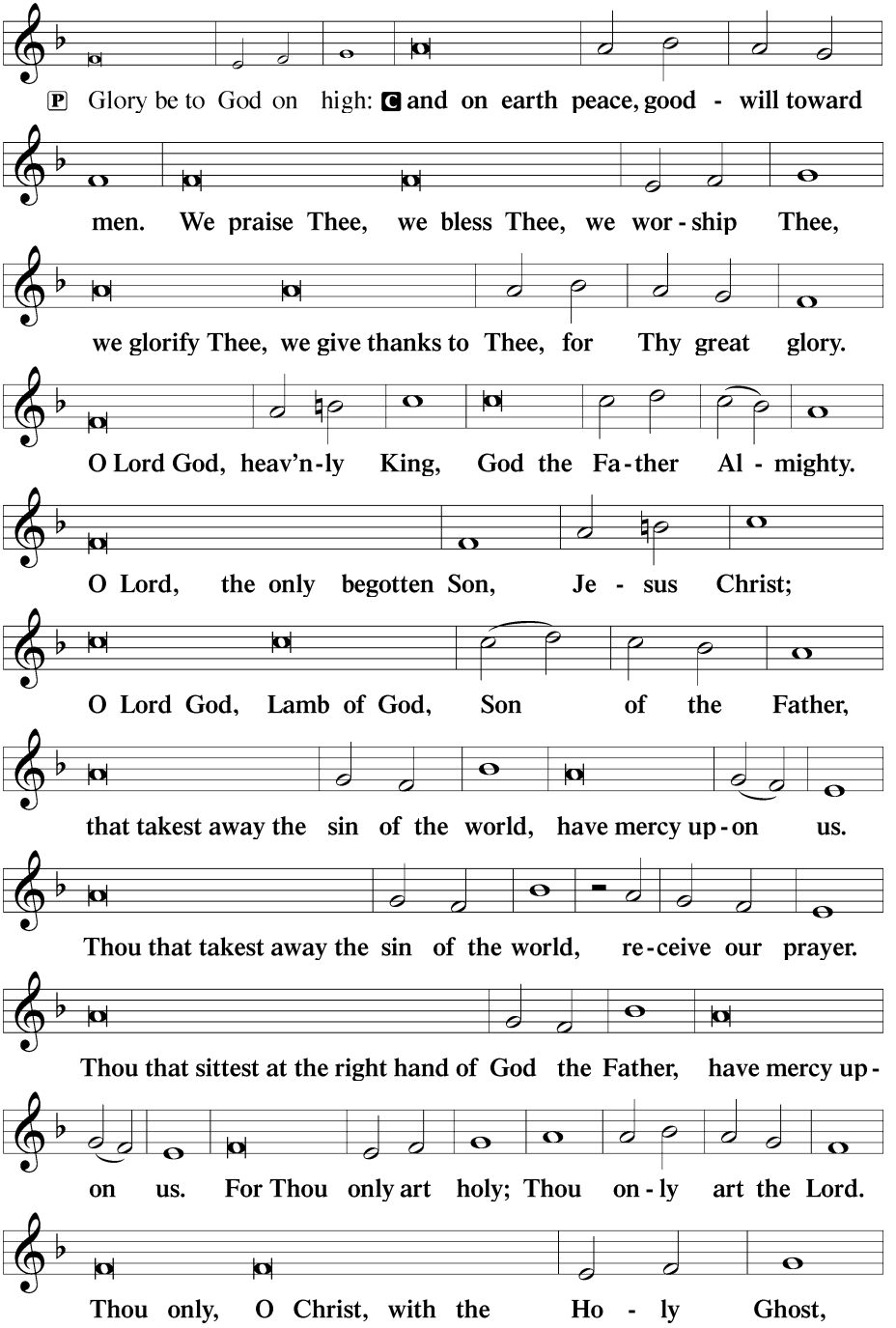


I will speak of your testimonies before kings, | [O Lord,]*
and shall not be | put to shame.
I will bless the LORD at | all times;*
his praise shall continually be | in my mouth.
My soul makes its boast | in the LORD;*
let the humble hear | and be glad.
Come, O children, lis- | ten to me;*
I will teach you the fear | of the LORD.
The LORD redeems the life of his | servants;*
none of those who take refuge in him will | be condemned.
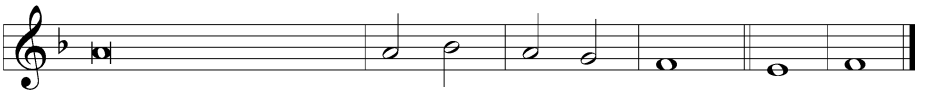


Kyrie — LSB 186
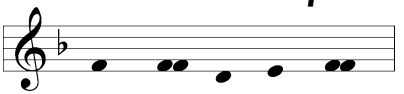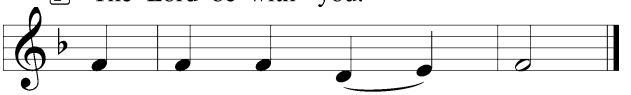


Gloria in Excelsis **LSB 187**
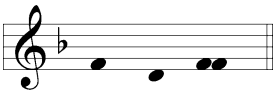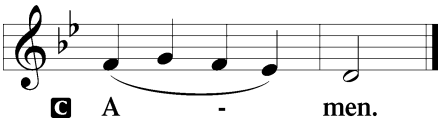




Salutation and Collect of the Day







P Almighty and gracious Lord, pour out Your Holy Spirit on Your faithful people. Keep us steadfast in Your grace and truth, protect and deliver us in times of temptation, defend us against all enemies, and grant to Your Church Your saving peace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
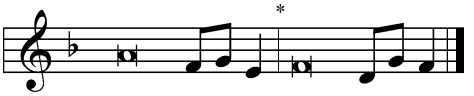


Sit

First Reading **Revelation 14:6–7**

6 Then I saw another angel flying directly overhead, with an eternal gospel to
proclaim to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and
people. 7 And he said with a loud voice, "Fear God and give him glory, because
the hour of his judgment has come, and worship him who made heaven and earth,
the sea and the springs of water."

A This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual **Psalm 48:1a, 12–14a**



Great is the LORD and greatly | to be praised*
in the city | of our God!
Walk about Zion, go around her, number her | towers,*
consider well her ramparts, go through her | citadels,
that you may tell the next gener- | ation*
that this is God, our God forever and | ever.

Epistle **Romans 3:19–28**

[19]Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. [20]For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.
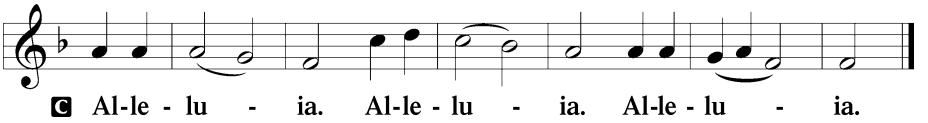
[21]But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— [22]the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: [23]for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, [24]and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, [25]whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. [26]It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

[27]Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? By a law of works? No, but by the law of faith. [28]For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.

A This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

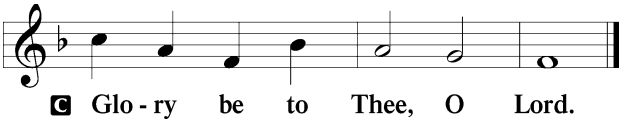
Stand

Alleluia **LSB 190**



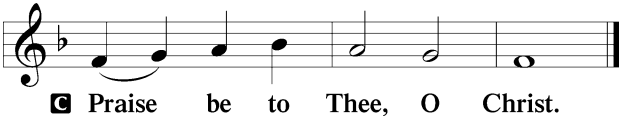
Holy Gospel **John 8:31–36**

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eighth chapter.



31So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you abide in my word,
you are truly my disciples, 32and you will know the truth, and the truth will set
you free." 33They answered him, "We are offspring of Abraham and have never
been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, 'You will become free'?"
34Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is
a slave to sin. 35The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains
forever. 36So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Nicene Creed

C **I believe in one God,**
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ☩ of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

656 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

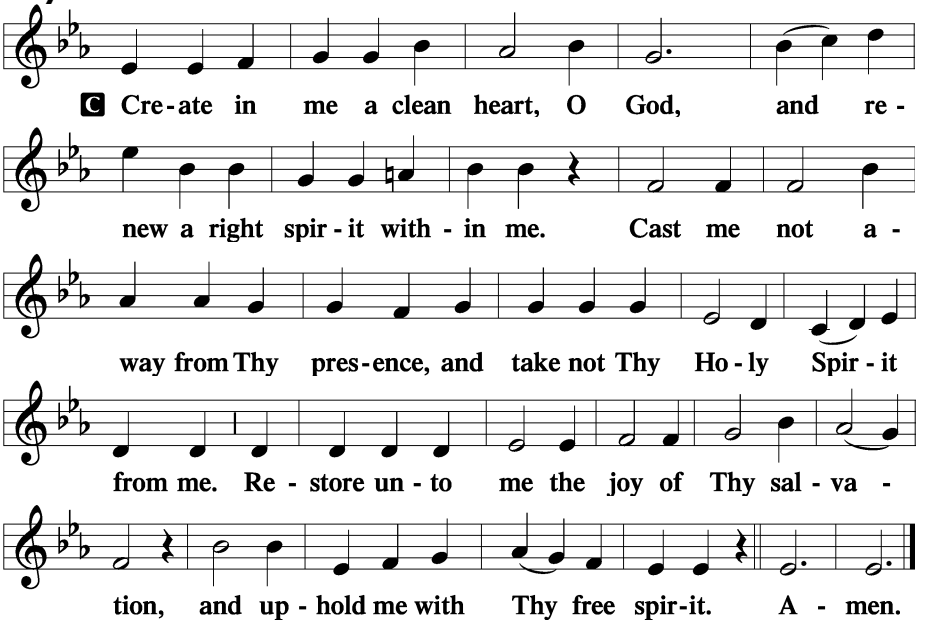
Sermon

P The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

C **Amen.**

Stand

Offertory **LSB 192**



Sit

Offering

For today's prayer requests, please write them on the attendance card provided during the service. Once completed, fold the card and either hand it to an usher or place it in the offertory plate. The Pastor will include these requests during the Prayers of the Church.

Three ways to give:

1) offering plate—cash or check.
2) online at holycrossstegen.org • Click the "Give" icon.
3) by mail.
4) scan the QR code below and enter information on Rebel Give.

Stand

Prayer of the Church

In peace, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the renewal of the Church in this and every age, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For us sinners, though we deserve only God's righteous wrath and punishment, that for the sake of His Son, our Father would not remember our transgressions, but defend us from all harm and danger of body and soul, and be our very present help in time of need, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

In thanksgiving for Martin Luther and those who contended for the Gospel against many and great enemies; and that God would also make us bold to contend for the faith against those who would silence our voices or distract His people from the one true Gospel of the crucified and risen Christ, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the faithful proclamation of Christ's saving name, that God's people may be strengthened in the true faith and His kingdom extended, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For our homes and families, that God would keep us in His Word and so make us truly His disciples, freed from errors and at peace; and especially for all fathers, that God would preserve and encourage them for their godly task to bring up children who fear Him, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all people in need, *[especially _____,]* that they would not fear though the earth gives way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea; and that they would trust in God and be comforted by His promise to be with them, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who commune, that in the worthy eating and drinking of the Sacrament they may have the certainty of forgiveness in Christ, who was set forth as the propitiation for our sins by His blood, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

Preserve Your Church, O Lord, and each of us as members of Christ's Body, that we may not surrender the true Gospel for any reason, but be kept in this faith and fear throughout the days of our earthly pilgrimage, until that day when we and all Your people shall stand

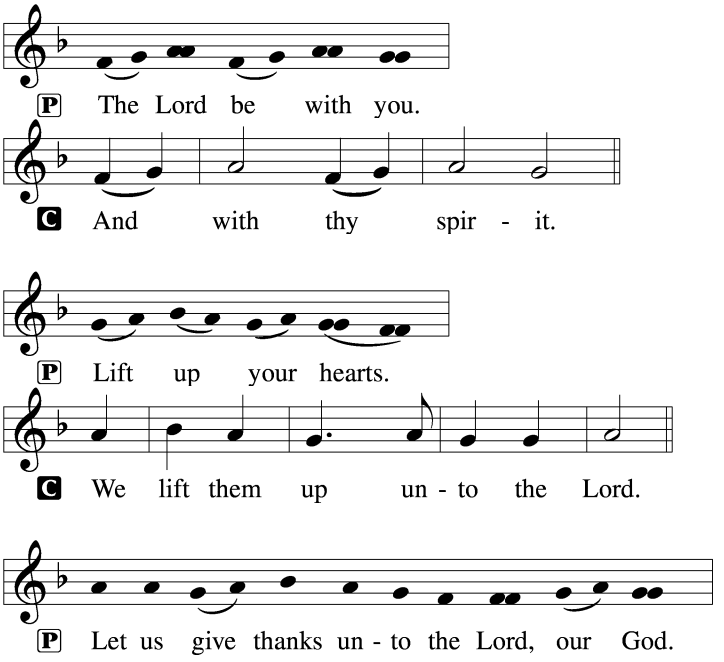
before the judgment seat of Christ to receive the reward You have prepared for us and all who have loved His appearing; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**
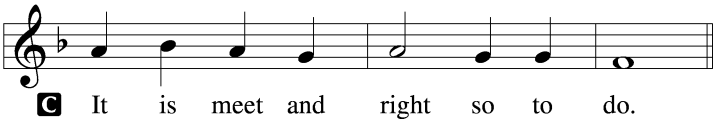
Service of the Sacrament

Statement on Holy Communion

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very Body and Blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us, that they may show forth his death until he comes. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's Body and Blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor.

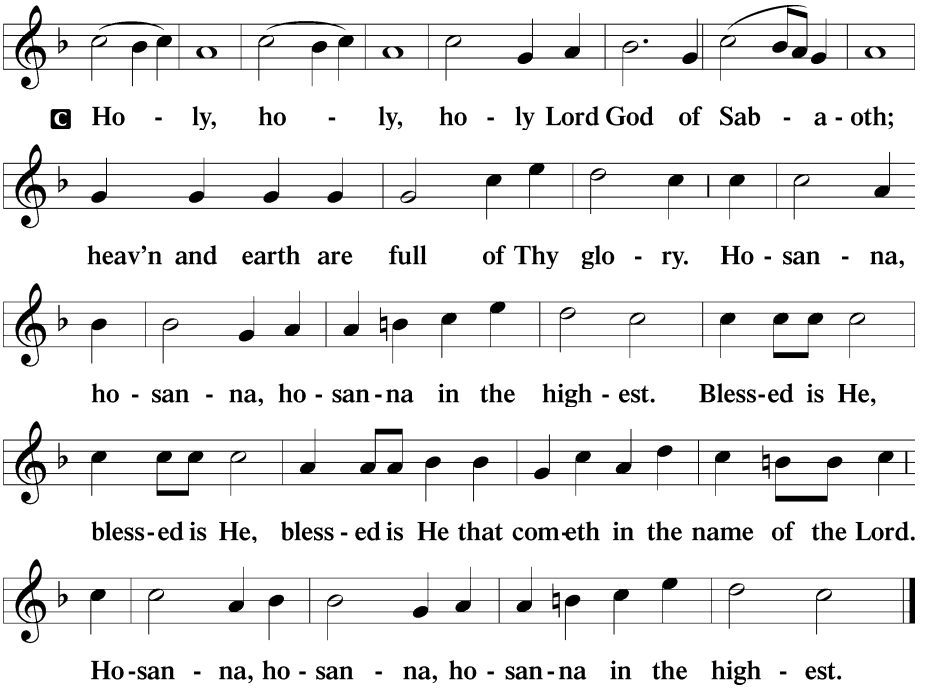
Preface **LSB 194**





P It is truly meet, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus LSB 195



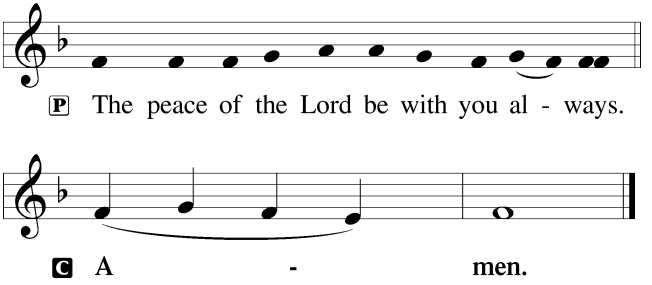
Lord's Prayer LSB 196

C 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.

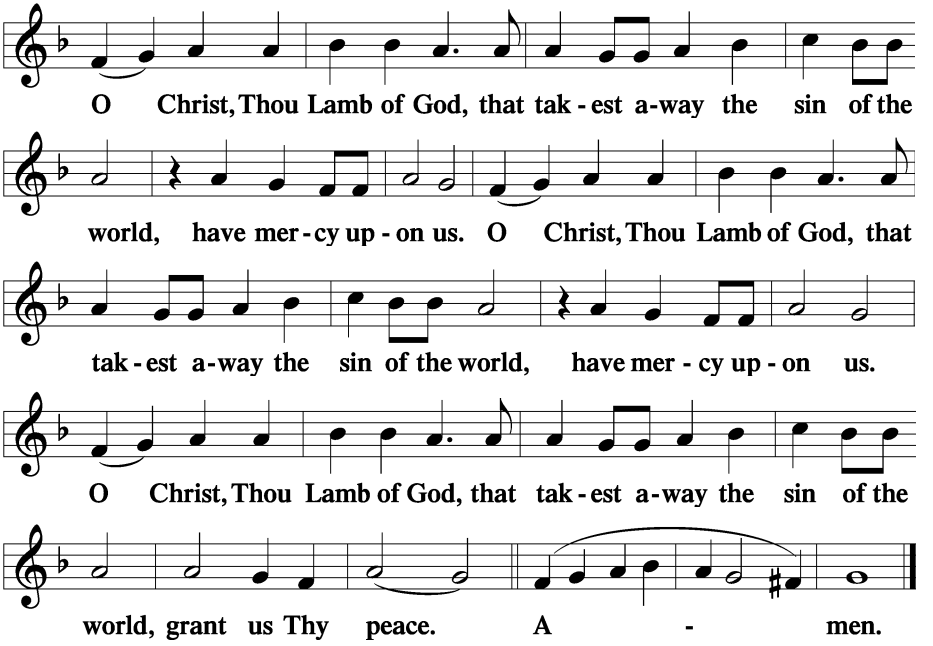
For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Our Lord **LSB 197**

Pax Domini **LSB 197**



Agnus Dei **LSB 198**



Sit

Distribution

The pastor and those who assist him receive the body and blood of Christ first and then distribute them to those who come to receive, saying:

The true body of Christ, given for you.
Amen.
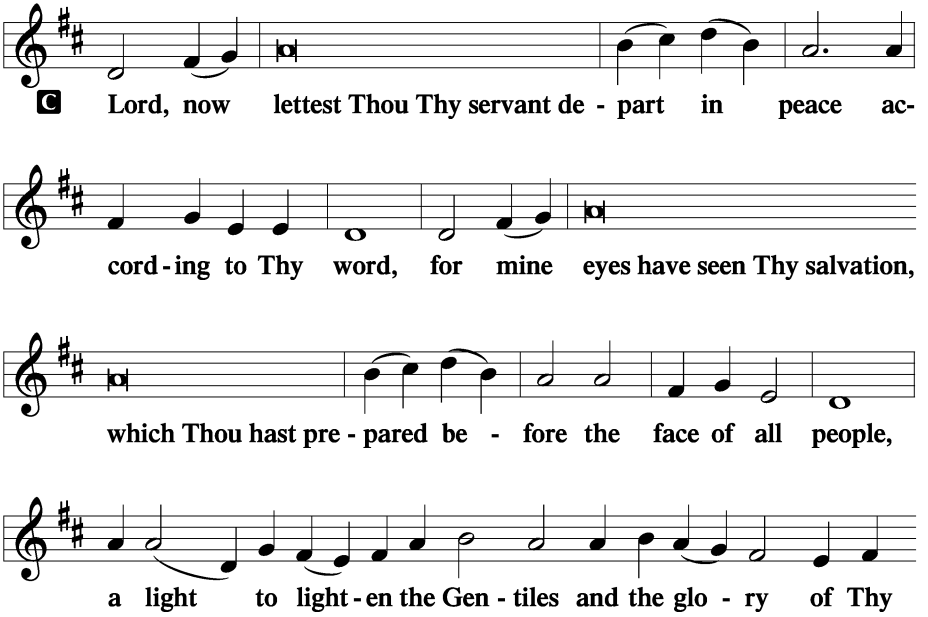
The true blood of Christ, shed for you.
Amen.

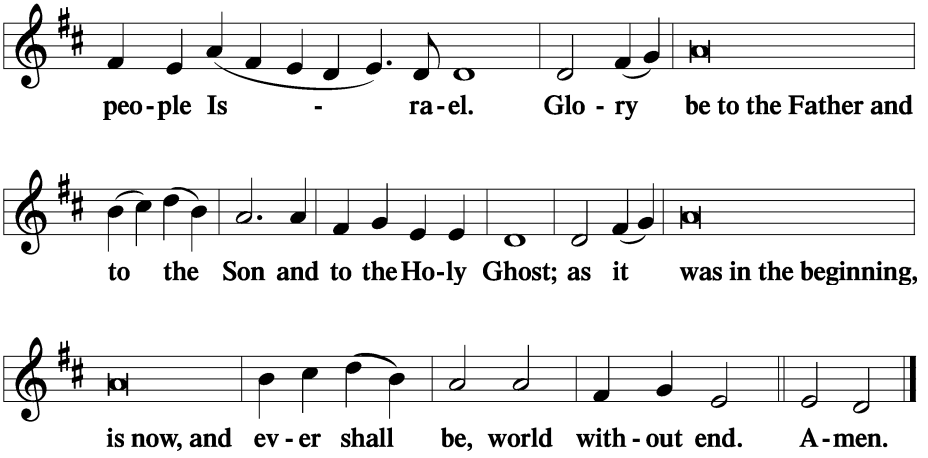
655 Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

630 Now, My Tongue, the Mystery Telling

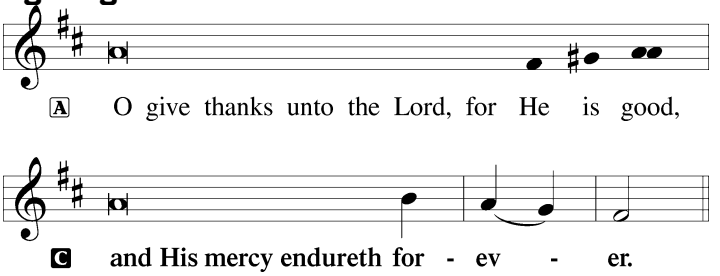
Stand

Nunc Dimittis **LSB 199**
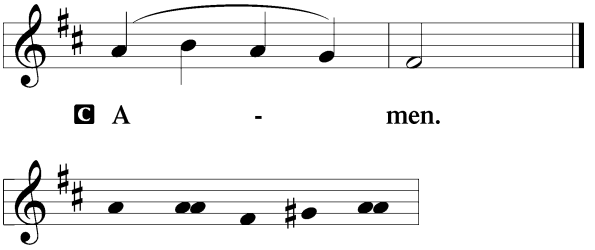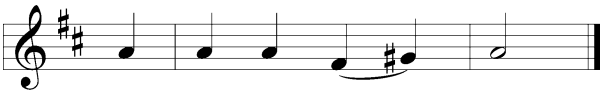




Thanksgiving LSB 200
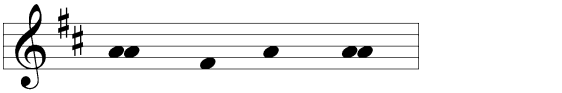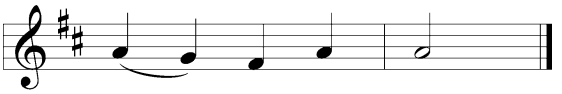


A Let us pray.
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



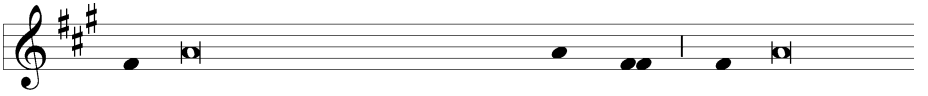


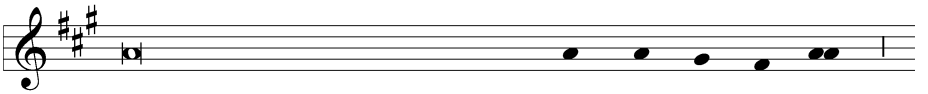
Benedicamus LSB 202

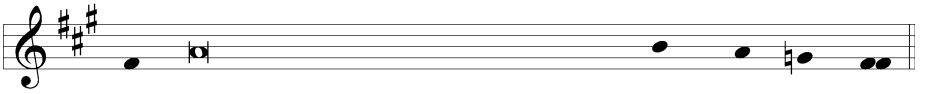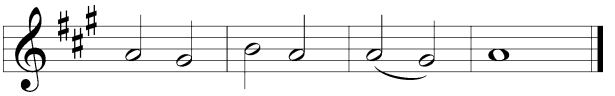




Benediction LSB 202









578 Thy Strong Word

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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Upcoming dates to remember

- **Cookie Crumb Trail and/or Pecanapalooza Street Festival –**
  - Please bring your cookies to church by November 6 no later than 12:00 p.m. so they can be packaged for the dual festival on November 7.
  - Volunteers are needed for the events that run from 10 a.m. – 4. p.m. Sign up sheets are in the back of church.

- **Church decorating for Christmas –** Saturday, November 28, 2026, starting at 8:30 a.m.

- **The Holiday Christmas Festival – December 5 and 6, 2026**
  - Volunteers are needed for both days as greeters and hostesses.

- **Christmas Country Church Tour – December 17, 2026**
  - Decorating the church on December 16
  - Volunteers are needed as tour guides and hostesses in the Fellowship room.

SERVING TODAY

Pastor: Rev. Peyton Holland
Ushers: Rick Hutson
Holy Communion Assistant: Randy Ruzicka
Organist: Todd Brueckner

Sunday Church Attendance	Attendance
First Week	39
Second Week	48
Third Week	44
Fourth Week	

Your Financial Support of Your Church	10/11/2026	Year-to-Date
Weekly Budget Requirement	$2,902.00	$121,884.00
Actual Offerings, including online offerings (Budget)	$2,674.00	$103,796.73
Ahead/Behind Budget Requirement	-$228.00	-$18,087.27
% Ahead/Behind	-7.9%	-14.8%

In Our Prayers This Week and Celebrations

Throughout the week, please keep these people in your daily prayers. As a model for prayer, consider going through the A.C.T.S. of prayer. *Adoration*: praising God for who He is. *Confession*: confessing your sins to God, especially those that weigh on your heart. *Thanksgiving*: thanking God for specific blessings. *Supplication*: asking God for help.

For those who are homebound **Barb Jones, Sharon Estes, Doug Arnold, Nick Krege, Pansy Meyer, Val Rakey.**

For healing and continued recovery **Bill Staffen** (Bonnie Keir's brother, cancer), **Dustin Hutson** (recovering from a brain bleed), **Carol Steiger-Rudoff** (Connie Schwent's Sister In-law, cancer), **Laura Pruneau Fallert** (Cancer treatment), **Maia Rottler** (granddaughter of LaJune Rottler, Leukemia treatment), **Connie Schwent.**

For those celebrating birthdays in October **• Eva May Rolfe (Oct. 03)**, **Stacy Bell** (Oct. 06), **Timothy Inman** (Oct. 07), **Ethan Schremp** (Oct. 08) **James Bell (**Oct. 17), **Pastor Peyton Holland** (Oct. 22), **Hayleigh Holland** (Oct. 24), **Cindy Hutson** (Oct. 28), **Victoria Perschbacher** (Oct. 30).

For those celebrating wedding anniversaries in October - **• Nathan and Amanda Ringwald (**Oct.01**), Michael and Bonnie Keir** (Oct. 27**), Rick and Cindy Hutson (**Oct. 28)

For local, state, and national elected officials that they uphold goodness and work humbly for those they serve.

For our community that more people are made to cease their sinful faithlessness and believe the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

For our church family We are transformed in Christ to share the hope of eternal life.

To submit a prayer request for inclusion in the bulletin, please call the church office at 573-883-5361 or email holycrossstegen@gmail.com. Prayer requests will continue to be listed until removal is requested.