Last Sunday of the Church Year



November 22, 2026
Trinity Lutheran Church
Morris Plains, New Jersey
Pastor David Russert

WELCOME TO TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH!

We are glad to have you at worship with us today,
as we receive God's good and gracious gifts!

At Trinity, we joyfully share God's love and Word with all people
through worship, learning, fellowship, and service.

Trinity is a member of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS), meaning our beliefs and teachings follow after the Bible-based teachings of Martin Luther, who sought to bring the Church back to the pure doctrines of Scripture. Simply put, we believe, teach, and confess what the Bible says—no more, no less.

As part of the LCMS, our beliefs and teachings can be summarized as:

Grace Alone: God loves the people of the world, even though they are sinful, rebel against Him & do not deserve His love. He sent Jesus, His Son, to love the unlovable & save the ungodly.

Faith Alone: Jesus' suffering & death as the substitute for all people of all time purchased & won forgiveness & eternal life for all. Those who hear this Good News & believe it receive these gifts. God creates faith in Christ & gives people forgiveness through Him.

Scripture Alone: The Bible is God's inerrant & infallible Word, in which He reveals His Law & His Gospel of salvation in Christ. It is the sole rule & norm for Christian doctrine.

God bless you as He speaks to us His Word during this time of worship!

WE OFFER BIBLE STUDIES FOR ALL OF GOD'S CHILDREN, BOTH YOUNG AND OLD! PLEASE JOIN US!

Adult Bible Study – 7:00 p.m. Thursday Evenings – Ages 12+
Confirmation Class – Contact the Church Office for more info
Membership Class – Contact the Church Office for more info

A NOTE ON COMMUNION:

In this congregation, the Lord's Supper is celebrated 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 those who trust His words and repent of all sin to His table.

Communion is also a confession of the faith confessed at this altar. Any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession different than that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (yet desire to receive the Sacrament) are asked to first speak with Pastor Russert or an usher.

"Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord." 1 Cor. 11:27-28

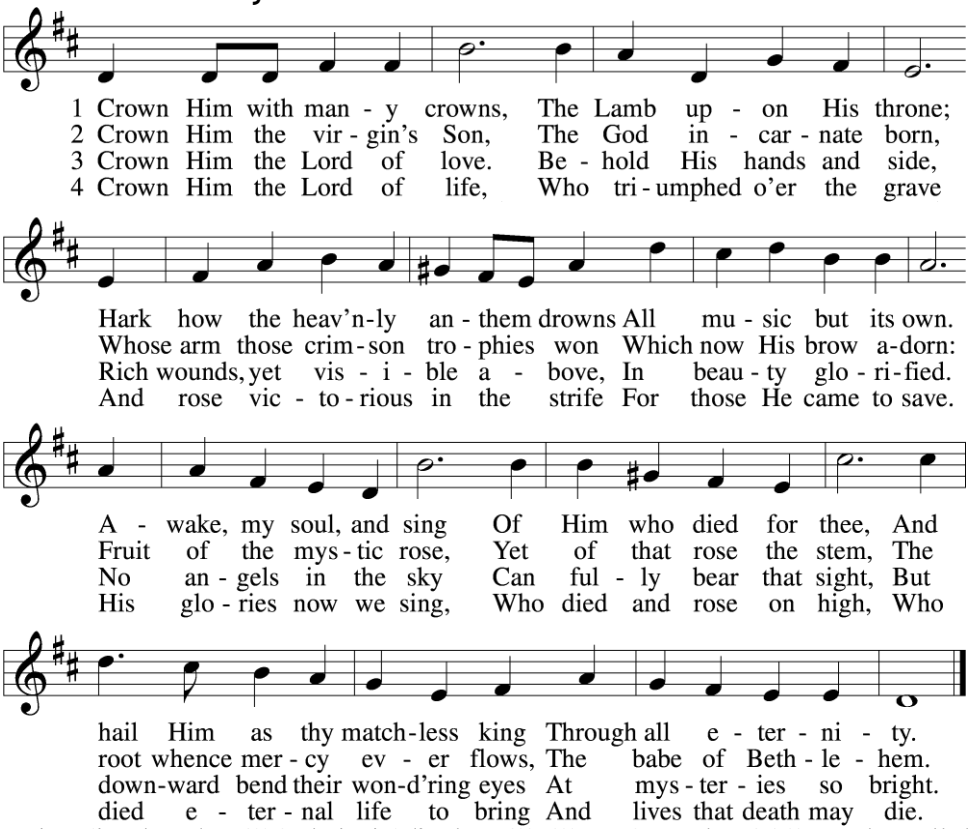
LAST SUNDAY OF THE CHURCH YEAR

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Stand

OPENING HYMN

525 Crown Him with Many Crowns



Text (sts. 1–3): Matthew Bridges, 1800–94, alt.; (st. 4): Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816–93, Text and tune: Public domain

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.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

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.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

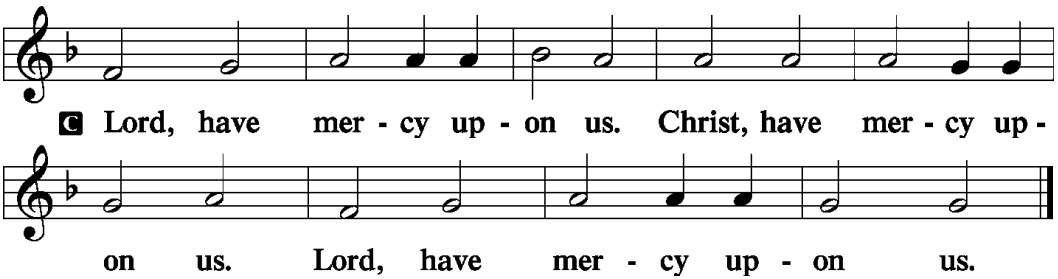
INTROIT

Psalm 39:4–5a, 7–8, 12; antiphon: 2 Peter 3:13 NIV

*In keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a | new earth,**
the home of | righteousness.
O LORD, make me know my end and what is the measure | of my days;*
let me know how fleeting | I am!
Behold, you have made my days a few | handbreadths,*
and my lifetime is as nothing be- | fore you.
And now, O Lord, for what | do I wait?*
My hope | is in you.
Deliver me from all my trans- | gressions.*
Do not make me the scorn | of the fool!
Hear my prayer, O LORD, and give ear to my cry; hold not your peace | at my tears!*
For I am a sojourner with you, a guest, like all my | fathers.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.
*In keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a | new earth,**
the home of | righteousness.

KYRIE

LSB 186



HYMN OF PRAISE

Gloria in Excelsis *LSB 187*





SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.



P Eternal God, merciful Father, You have appointed Your Son as judge of the living and the dead. Enable us to wait for the day of His return with our eyes fixed on the kingdom prepared for Your own from the foundation of the world; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever



Sit

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Ezekiel 34:11–16, 20–24*

11 "For thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them
out. 12 As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so
will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on
a day of clouds and thick darkness. 13 And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them
from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains
of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. 14 I will feed them with good
pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down
in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. 15 I myself will
be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord GOD. 16 I
will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will
strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice. . . .

20 "Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: Behold, I, I myself will judge between the fat
sheep and the lean sheep. 21 Because you push with side and shoulder, and thrust at all the weak
with your horns, till you have scattered them abroad, 22 I will rescue my flock; they shall no longer
be a prey. And I will judge between sheep and sheep. 23 And 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 am the LORD; I have
spoken."

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

PSALM *(spoken responsively)* *Psalm 95:1–7a; antiphon: v.7a*

*For he | is our God,**
and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep | of his hand.

[1]Oh come, let us sing | to the LORD;*
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal- | vation!

[2]Let us come into his presence with thanks- | giving;*
let us make a joyful noise to him with | songs of praise!

[3]For the LORD is a | great God,*
and a great King a- | bove all gods.

[4]In his hand are the depths | of the earth;*
the heights of the mountains are his | also.

[5]The sea is his, for he | made it,*
and his hands formed the | dry land.

[6]Oh come, let us worship and | bow down;*
let us kneel before the LORD, our | Maker!

[7]For he | is our God,*
and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep | of his hand.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

*For he | is our God,**
and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep | of his hand.

EPISTLE *1 Corinthians 15:20–28*

[20]But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. [21]For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. [22]For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. [23]But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. [24]Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. [25]For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. [26]The last enemy to be destroyed is death. [27]For "God has put all things in subjection under his feet." But when it says, "all things are put in subjection," it is plain that he is excepted who put all things in subjection under him. [28]When all

things are subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to him who put all things in subjection under him, that God may be all in all.

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

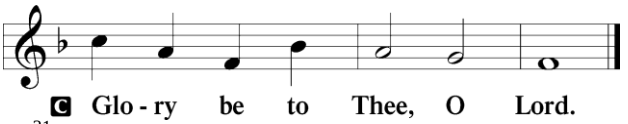
Stand

ALLELUIA AND VERSE *LSB 190*



HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 25:31–46*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.



31 [Jesus said:] "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he
will sit on his glorious throne. 32 Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate
people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. 33 And he will place the
sheep on his right, but the goats on the left. 34 Then the King will say to those on his right, '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 drink, I was a
stranger and you welcomed me, 36 I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I
was in prison and you came to me.' 37 Then the righteous will answer him, saying, 'Lord, when did
we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? 38 And when did we see you a
stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? 39 And when did we see you sick or in prison
and visit you?' 40 And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the
least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'
41 "Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you cursed, 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 no drink, 43 I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not
clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' 44 Then they also will answer, saying, 'Lord,
when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not
minister to you?' 45 Then he will answer them, saying, 'Truly, I say to you, 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."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



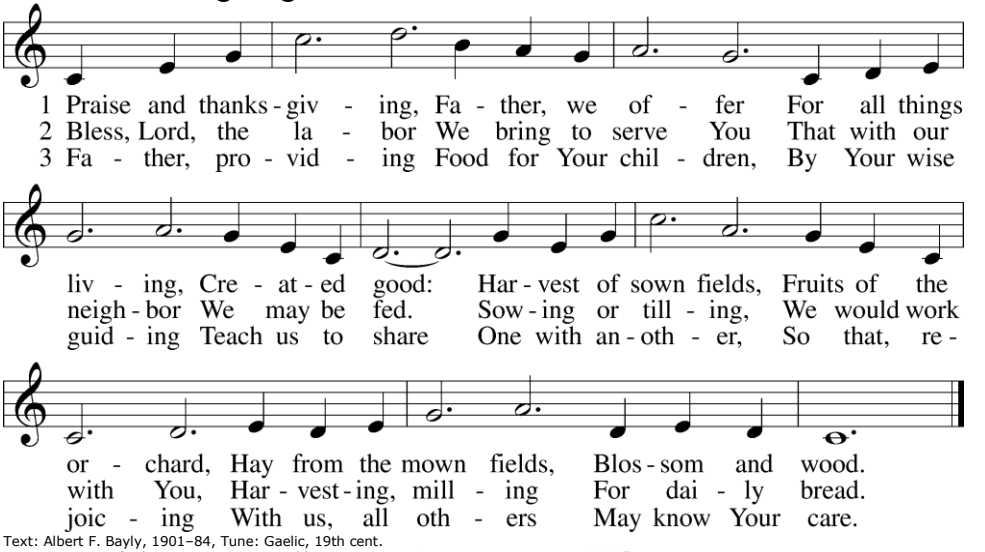
Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life ☩ everlasting. Amen.

Sit

HYMN OF THE DAY

789 Praise and Thanksgiving



Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–84, Tune: Gaelic, 19th cent.
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Tune: Public domain

SERMON *Pastor David Russert*

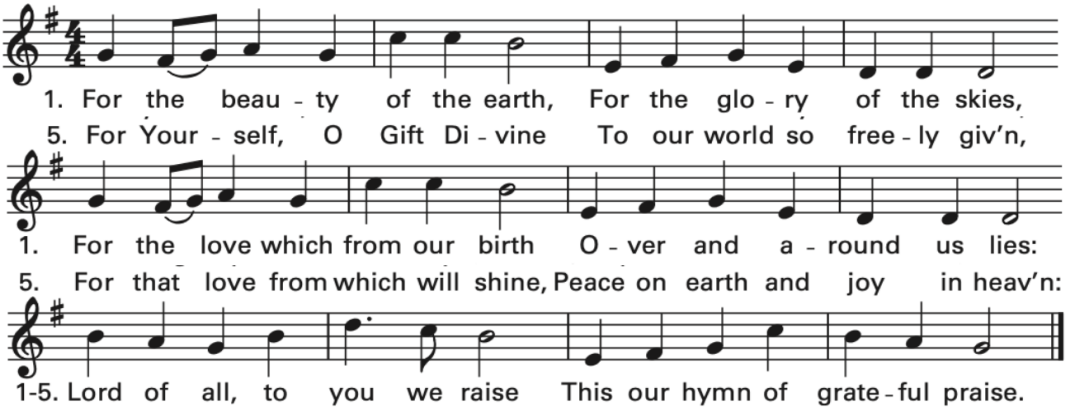
OFFERING

Stand

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

FOR THE BEAUTY OF THE EARTH

DIX



Text: 77 77 77; *Lyra Eucharistica,* 1864; Folliott S. Pierpoint, 1835–1917, alt. Music: Conrad Kocher, 1786–1872; adapt. by William H. Monk, 1823–1899.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Healing & Comfort

COURTNEY DONNELLY
DONNA FINKE
BILL FINKE
ZACH AUGER
FRANK FERRY
ANTHONY LANDGRAF
LYNIA REDDING
MARIE
WALTER
MARYANN REDONDO
PETER DOMBROWSKI
GIL SOTO
MARISSA CHRISTENSON
RITA FERRY
STEVEN BRYANT
MARC THOMAS
LAURA BRETON
BRUCE KASCMAR
SANDRA TALMADGE
MARIA
RAMON ANGELES
MARY ANN REED
ANNETTE DAVIS
JOSE SOUSA
JOSEPH TRIFUN
THEO NIEGLOS
ELANTRA VEDENETRA
CAROLYN CHERMAK
LINDA SULLIVAN
MELISSA NOTIS
FRED
BROOKE MORGAN
CAROL OLSEN
JESSICA IMHAUSER
ARLENE BACCAGLINI
SUE FRANCE
ANGELO
LORENZO DINIA

Strength & Comfort

TOM O'GRADY
PEDRO PEREZ
SUANNE MARTIN
NICHOLAS
WARREN
GERALDINE KINGSLEY



SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT



PREFACE *LSB 194*

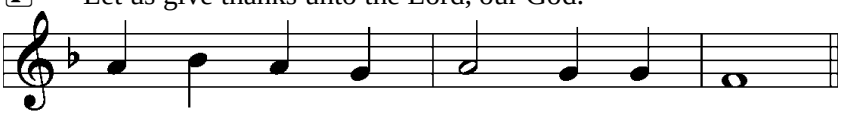
P The Lord be with you.



P Lift up your hearts.



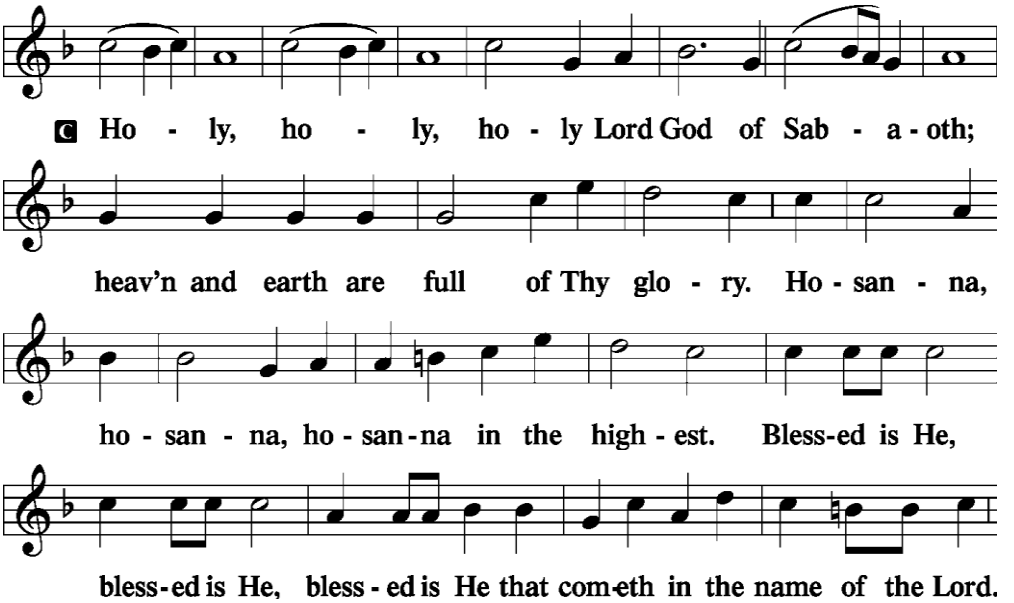
P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.



PROPER PREFACE *LSB 194*

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

SANCTUS *LSB 195*





LORD'S PRAYER *LSB 196*

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

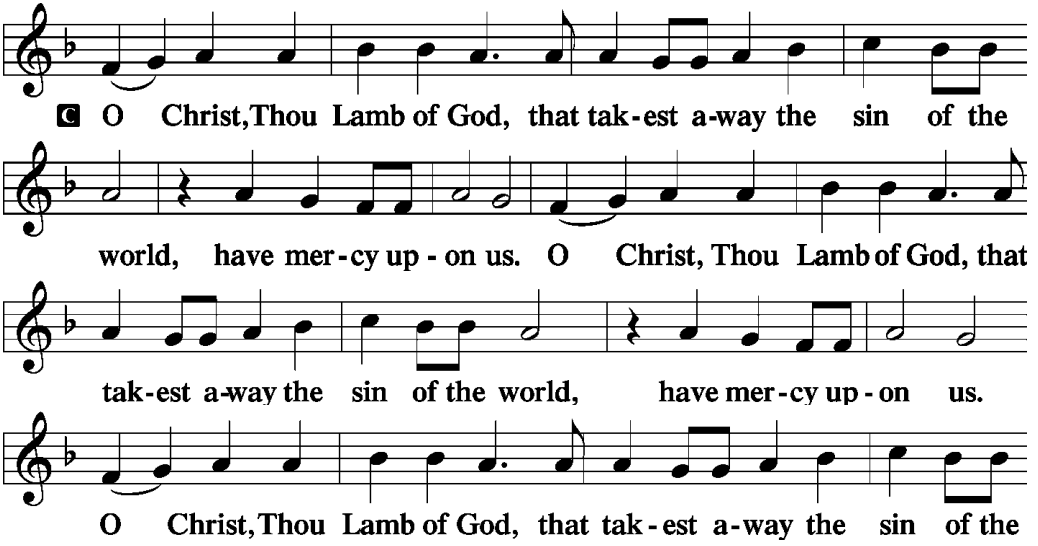
THE WORDS OF OUR LORD *LSB 197*

PAX DOMINI *LSB 197*

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.



AGNUS DEI *LSB 198*

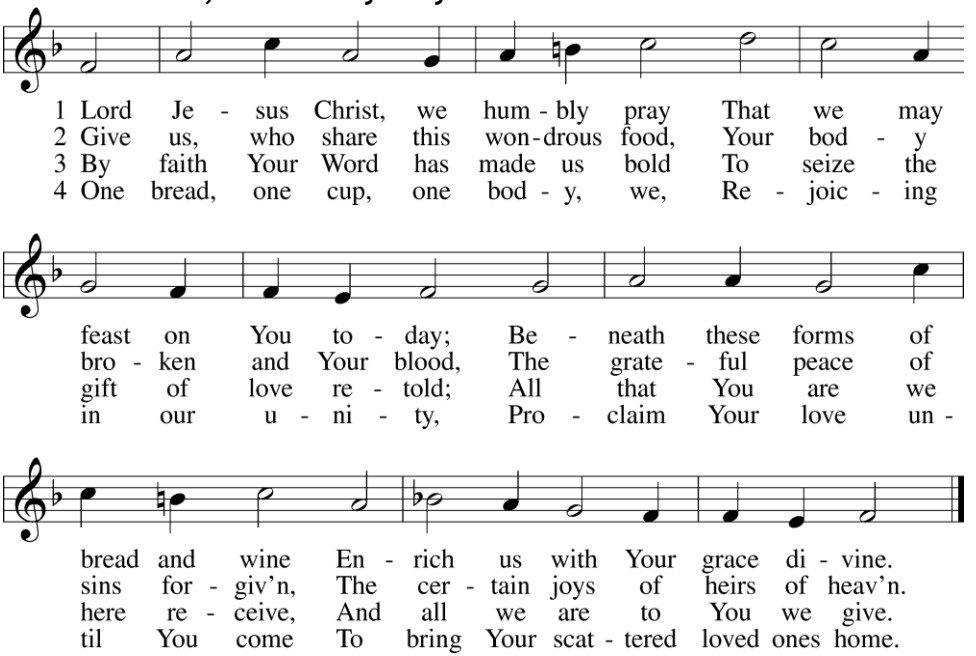




Sit

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

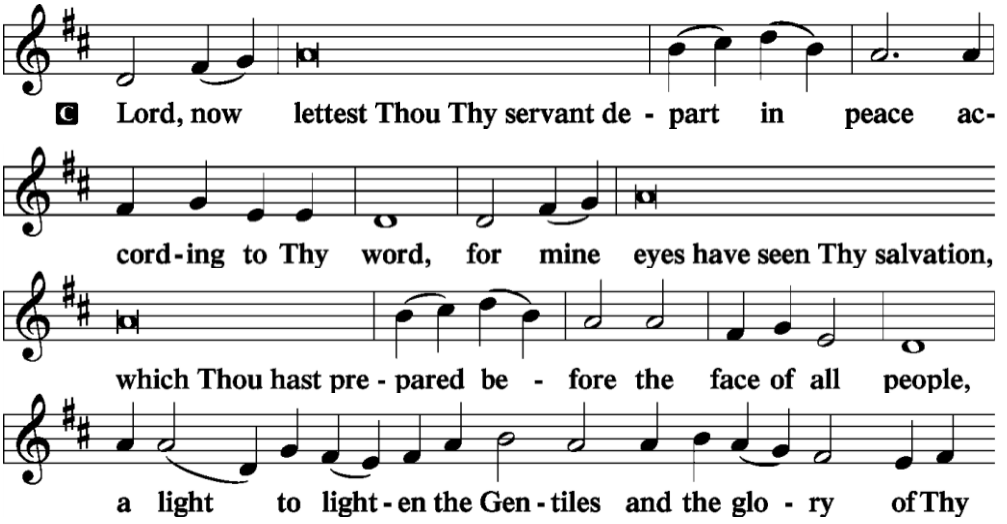
623 Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray

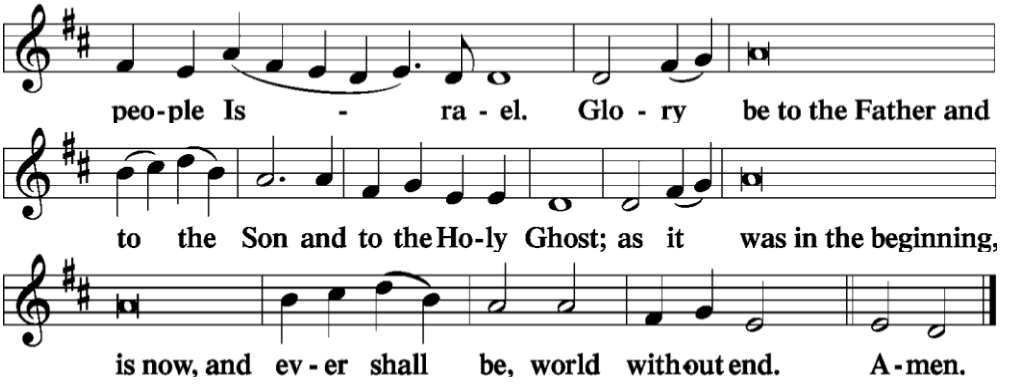


Text: Henry E. Jacobs, 1844–1932, alt., Tune: Cantionale Germanicum, 1628, Gochsheim, Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

NUNC DIMITTIS *LSB 199*



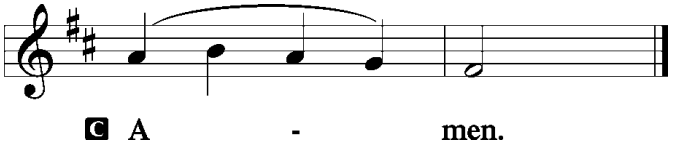


THANKSGIVING *LSB 200*

P O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



P 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 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.



SALUTATION AND BENEDICAMUS *LSB 201*

P The Lord be with you.



P Bless we the Lord.



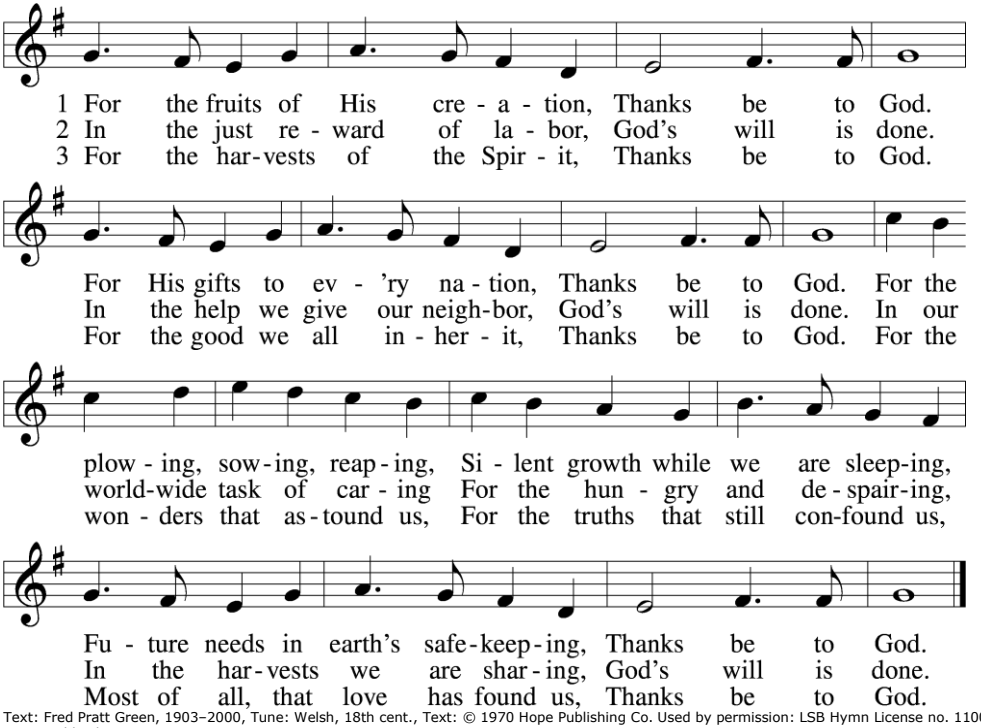
BENEDICTION *LSB 202*

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✢ give you peace.



CLOSING HYMN

894 For the Fruits of His Creation



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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

ORGANIST	*Bev McGregor*
WORSHIP ASSISTANT	*Arline Amaducci*
USHER	*George Nelson*
GREETER	*Mary Ann Ferry*
COUNTER	*Mary Ann Ferry*
ALTAR GUILD	*Elaine Dimitry, Kim Bryant*

Today's flowers are given by the Altar Guild *for the glory of God*

On Saturday, November 28 at 9:00 we will be decorating the church for Christmas. All are welcome.

We're asking for donations to ship the shoeboxes. The shipping amount is $10 per box. Please make checks out to Trinity Lutheran Church and mark it as OCC. If you plan to create your own shoeboxes, the last day to drop them off is Sunday, November 22. We will then take them to the drop-off location where they will be packed and sent to the processing locations.

Today after service is Church Giving! We will be making a thanksgiving craft and enjoying a meal and fellowship. The church will be providing assorted sandwiches. Please join us.

A Voter's Assembly meeting will take place Sunday, December 6 with the approval of the budget the main topic.

Sunday, December 6, our annual Christmas Workshop will take place at 3 PM. There are sign ups in the Narthex for supplies and for volunteers at the event. Please invite children that you know to attend!

Sunday, December 13, the Morris Choral Society will be holding a concert at Trinity. Time and ticket prices will follow.

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
131 Mountain Way, Morris Plains, New Jersey 07950, Office: 973-538-7606 ♦ www.tlcmp.com
Marie Meikle, Church Administration ♦ tlcmorrisplains@gmail.com