

## **Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost**

November 16, 2025 10 A.M. Worship

Celebrating the Risen Christ through Acts of Love, Care and Justice

## THEME OF THE DAY (YEAR C)

The end is near. There is no doubt about it. The warnings are dire. The tone of today's texts is ominous. But the baptized know how to live in the meantime. The baptized are strengthened for the living of these days in word and sacrament. The baptized rally around the invitation of the apostle: "Do not be weary in doing what is right." (Lectionary 33)

**PRELUDE** 

Shall We Gather at the River

Robert A. Hobby

## **TOLLING THE WORSHIP HOUR**

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity,  $\oplus$  one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

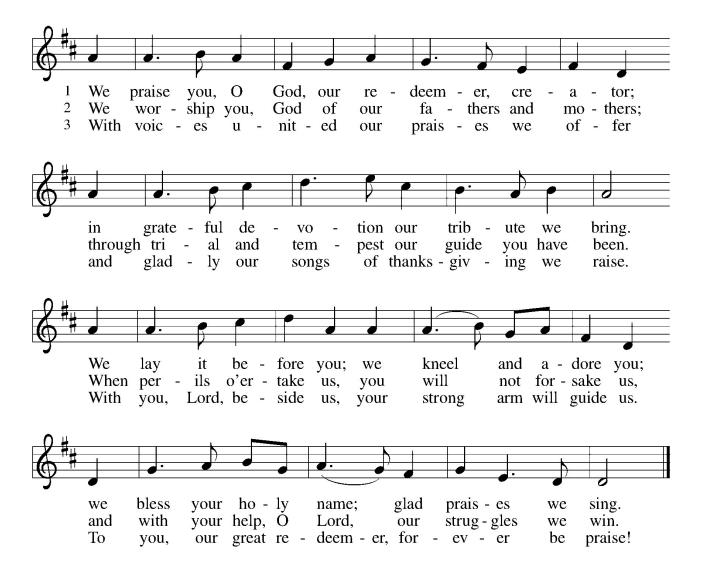
Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Faithful God,

you have shown us the ways of your heart, yet we stray from your paths. We are stuck in sinful systems of oppression and do not embrace the freedom of your faithful promises. We ignore our neighbors. We exploit the earth. We reject your abundance, trusting our impulses instead of your steadfast love. Repair our relationships, restore what we have broken, renew our hearts, and bring us to new life. Amen.

Hear the good news: God the Faithful One loves you,  $\pm$  in Christ Jesus your sins are forgiven, and by the power of the Holy Spirit you are set free. **Amen.** 



Text: Julia C. Cory, 1882-1963

Music: KREMSER, A. Valerius, Nederlandtsch Gedenckclanck, 1626

#### 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.

## **HYMN OF PRAISE**









## PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with You.

And also with you.

Let us pray... O God,

the protector of all who trust in you, without you nothing is strong, nothing is holy. Embrace us with your mercy, that with you as our ruler and guide, we may live through what is temporary without losing what is eternal, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## **CHILDREN'S SERMON / ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## WORD

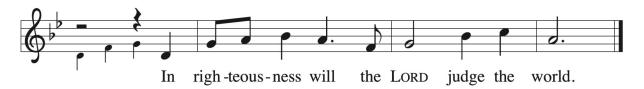
FIRST READING Malachi 4:1-2a Pew Bible, pg. 779

Malachi, whose name means "my messenger," warns that "the day is coming." On that day, the evil will be destroyed like stubble in a fire, but the "sun of righteousness" will shine on those who honor God.

<sup>1</sup> See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the LORD of

hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. <sup>2a</sup> But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings.

The cantor introduces the refrain. All repeat immediately and where indicated by "R."



Psalm 98:9
Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

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## (sung responsively)

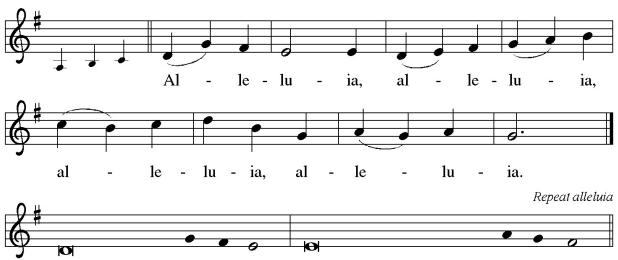
- <sup>1</sup> Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done <sup>1</sup> marvelous things, whose right hand and holy arm have <sup>1</sup> won the victory.
- <sup>2</sup>O LORD, you have made | known your victory, you have revealed your righteousness in the sight | of the nations.
- <sup>3</sup> You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the <sup>1</sup> house of Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the victory <sup>1</sup> of our God.
- <sup>4</sup> Shout with joy to the LORD, <sup>1</sup> all you lands; lift up your voice, re- <sup>1</sup> joice, and sing. R
- <sup>5</sup> Sing to the LORD | with the harp,\* with the harp and the | voice of song.
- <sup>6</sup> With trumpets and the sound | of the horn\* shout with joy before the | king, the LORD.
- $^{7}$  Let the sea roar, and  $^{1}$  all that fills it,\* the world and those who  $^{1}$  dwell therein.
- <sup>8</sup> Let the rivers | clap their hands, and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to | judge the earth.
- <sup>9</sup> The LORD will judge the <sup>1</sup> world with righteousness\* and the peo- <sup>1</sup> ples with equity. **R**

Some members of the Thessalonian community, because of their belief in the nearness of Christ's return, had ceased to work, living off the generosity of other members of the community. The writer of this letter warns them bluntly that if they want to eat, they need to work.

<sup>6</sup> Now we command you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from every brother or sister living irresponsibly and not according to the tradition that they received from us. <sup>7</sup> For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not irresponsible when we were with you, <sup>8</sup> and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it, but with toil and labor we worked night and day so that we might not burden any of you. <sup>9</sup> This was not because we do not

have that right but in order to give you an example to imitate. <sup>10</sup> For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: anyone unwilling to work should not eat. <sup>11</sup> For we hear that some of you are living irresponsibly, mere busybodies, not doing any work. <sup>12</sup> Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. <sup>13</sup> Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

## **ALLELUIA VERSE** (ALL sing)



Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e-ter-nal life.

As history moves toward God's fulfillment there will be frightening signs and events. Before the end, believers will draw strength from their relationship to God and will be given the words they need to testify and to endure without fear.

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, chapter 21 **Glory to you, O Lord.** 

<sup>5</sup> When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, [Jesus] said, <sup>6</sup> "As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down."

<sup>7</sup> They asked him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?" <sup>8</sup> And he said, "Beware that you are not led astray, for many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is near!' Do not go after them.

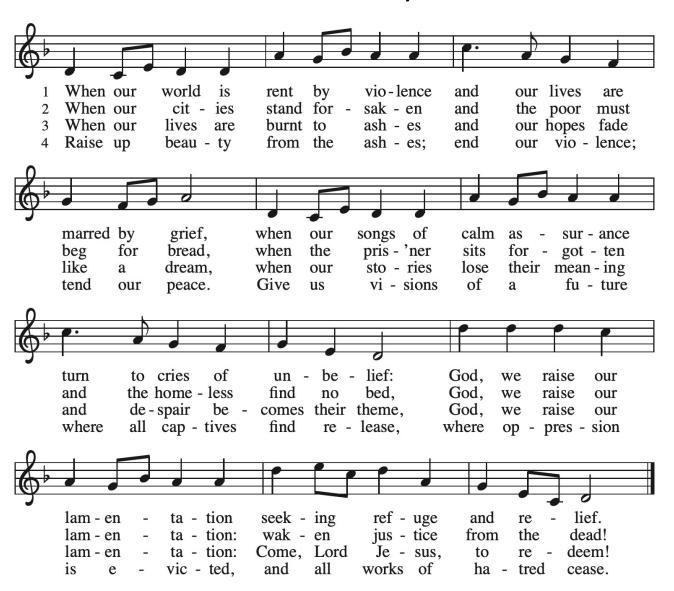
<sup>9</sup> "When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified, for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately." <sup>10</sup> Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom;

<sup>11</sup> there will be great earthquakes and in various places famines and plagues, and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

12 "But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. 13 This will give you an opportunity to testify. 14 So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance, <sup>15</sup> for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. <sup>16</sup> You will be betrayed even by parents and siblings, by relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death. 17 You will be hated by all because of my name. 18 But not a hair of your head will perish. 19 By your endurance you will gain your souls."

The Gospel of Our Lord! **Praise to you, O Christ.** 

## HYMN OF THE DAY When Our World Is Rent by Violence



Text: David Bjorlin, b. 1984

Music: FORTUNATUS NEW, Carl F. Schalk, b. 1929

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#### **RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS**

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

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.

Let us welcome these sisters and brothers in Christ to this community of faith. We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.

#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Gathered with one voice, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

(after each petition) Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We offer these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your grace and unyielding love; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

#### PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

*We share the peace of Christ with one another.* 

# MEAL

## **GATHERING OF GIFTS**

(Chancel Choir)

All Shall Be Well

Russell Schulz-Widmar

God is here.
All shall be well, and all shall be well,
And all manner of things shall be well.
God is here.

St. Julian of Norwich

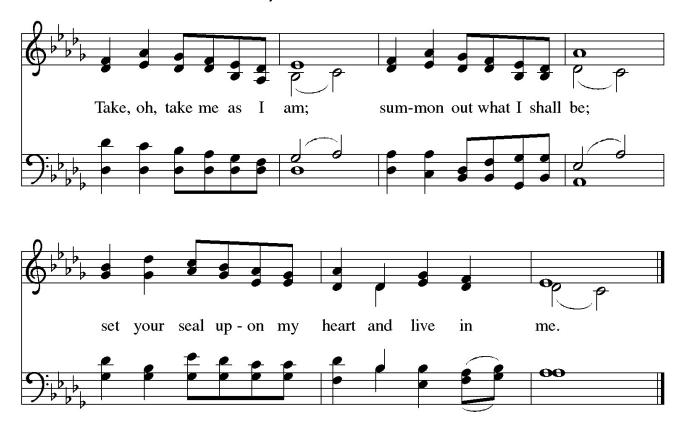
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### **SETTING THE TABLE**

## Take, Oh Take Me As I Am



Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949

Music: TAKE ME AS I AM, John L. Bell

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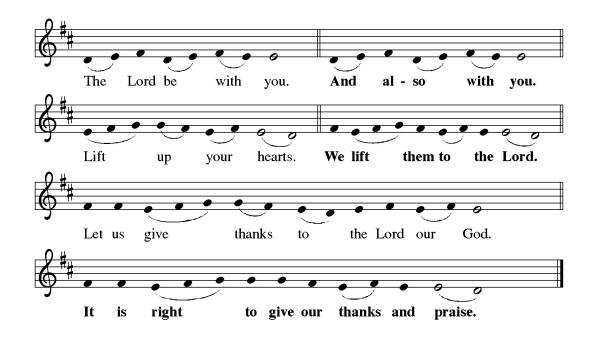
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## **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Let us pray...God of healing and hope,

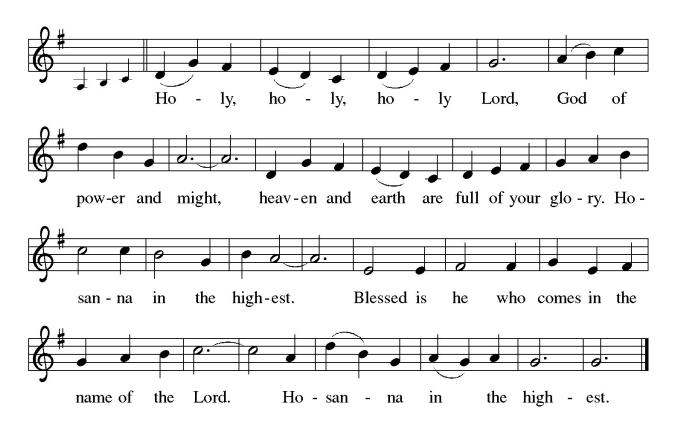
you bless those who are hungry, promising to fill them with good things. Fulfill that promise through us and these your gifts. Nourish us with the abundance of your feast and unite us into the blessed body of Jesus Christ our Savior, now and forever. Amen.

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



"It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...and join their unending hymn:

## **SANCTUS**

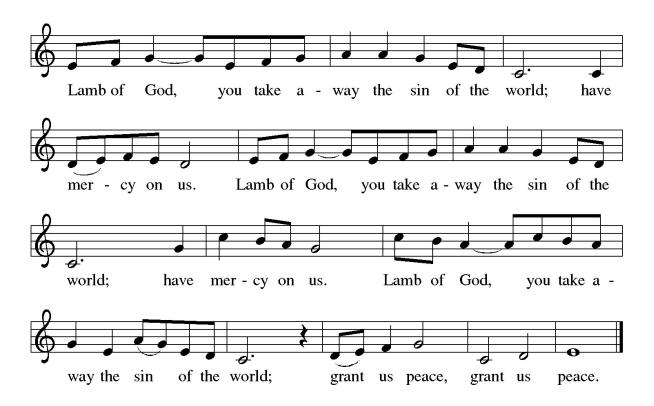


#### THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

## THE LORD'S PRAYER (contemporary text)

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

## **LAMB OF GOD**





Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821–1877 Music: ERHALT UNS, HERR, J. Klug, Geistliche Lieder, 1543

#### TABLE BLESSING

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray...God of field and flower, wheat and grape,

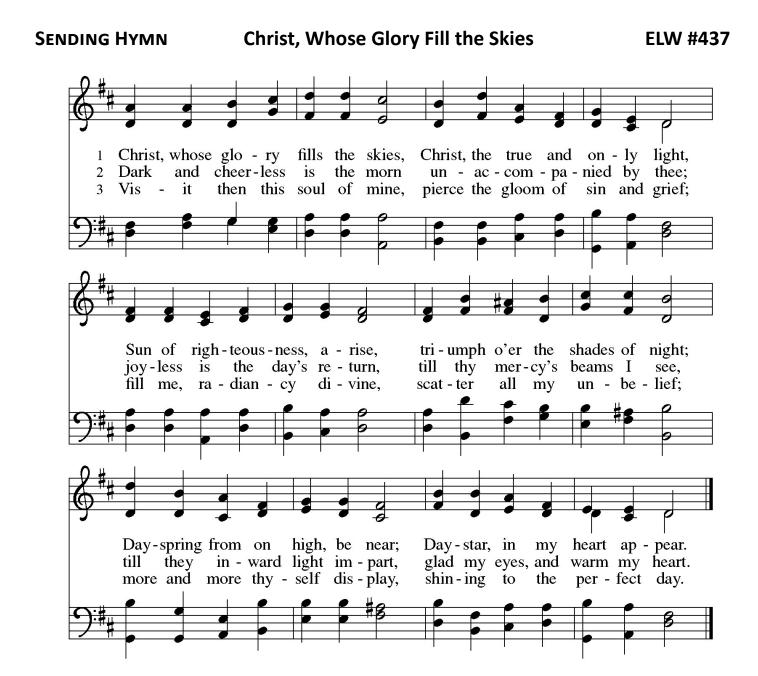
you have nourished us with the bread of heaven that gives life to the world. Strengthened by the body and blood of your Son, send us out to gather your good gifts for all who hunger and thirst, and embolden us to love and serve in Christ's name. Amen.

# SENDING

#### **BENEDICTION**

The love of God the Sovereign strengthen you, God the Son save you, and God the Holy Spirit anoint you for the work ahead. The holy Trinity bless you + and grant you a faithful and courageous heart now and forever.

Amen.



Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788

Music: RATISBON, J. G. Werner, Choralbuch, 1815

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Share the harvest.

Thanks be to God.

**POSTLUDE** How Firm A Foundation Janet Linker







#### **Ministers**

Pastor [ext. 115] Office Administrator [ext. 110]

Director of Children's Ministry and Education [Ext 116]

Director of Youth Ministry [ext. 118]
Director of Worship & Music [ext. 114]

Rev. William Jon Irons [pastorbill@rlcplano.org]

Misti Retan [misti@rlcplano.org] Betsy Boyd [betsy@rlcplano.org] Ann Loeffler [ann@rlcplano.org] Jim Loeffler [jim@rlcplano.org]

### **Volunteer Staff & Leadership**

Council President
Council Vice President
Council Secretary
Council Treasurer
Liaison for Worship
Liaison for Witness
Liaison for Learn
Liaison for Serve
Liaison for Ancillary Ministries
Liaison for Support / Facility Supervision

Liaison for Support / Facility Supervision Butterflier Editor (Newsletter)

Editor (Newsier

School Supply Project

AM's & Acolyte Coordinator

Altar Guild & Flowers

Bruce Fisher [brucewfisher@gmail.com] Kathy Barrett- [kwbarret@verizon.net]

Beth Smith [fraubeth@att.net]
David Frost [fros@Raytheon.com]
Amy Gebrian [a4704g@verizon.net]

Marylou Boardman [g777879@yahoo.com] Katherine Bandy [kmbmilton@gmail.com]

Sharon Bosse [lemonade@GTE.net]
Sallie Diamond [dithr@aol.com]

Mark Waterman [mvwaterman@sbcglobal.net]

Rita Fischer [nygiantfan2@verizon.net] info@theschoolsupplyproject.org

Lynn Waterman [joyfullynn@sbcglobal.net]

Jan Frum [jlfrum@verizon.net]

WiFi — RLC\_Guest1

Password — AofLCJ1919

#### **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

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