Grace Lutheran Church

3020 Grace Church Rd. Salisbury, NC 28147

(704) 857-8641 www.grace-salisbury.com



25th Sunday after Pentecost

November 15, 2026

+ Ministers: The People of Grace +

+ Pastor: the Rev. Joshua Copeland +

gracepastor.salisbury@gmail.com (704) 245-2875

+ Director of Youth & Family Ministries Sarah Stirewalt +

graceyouth.salisbury@gmail.com (336) 250-1733

+ Bookkeeper/Treasurer Anita Miller +

gracebookkeeper.salisbury@gmail.com (704)857-8641

+ Secretary Terri Brown +

gracesecretary.salisbury@gmail.com (704) 213-4202

+ Director of Music Lynn Lippard +

+ Director of Children & Youth Choirs Angela Lippard +

+ Accompanist for Children & Youth Teresa Yost +

+ Accompanist for Chancel Choir Becky Lippard +

+ Pastor Emeritus Rev. Gene C. Bost +

+ Those who are able please stand.
(Congregation responses are printed in bold type)

LBW = Green book
WOV = Blue book

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

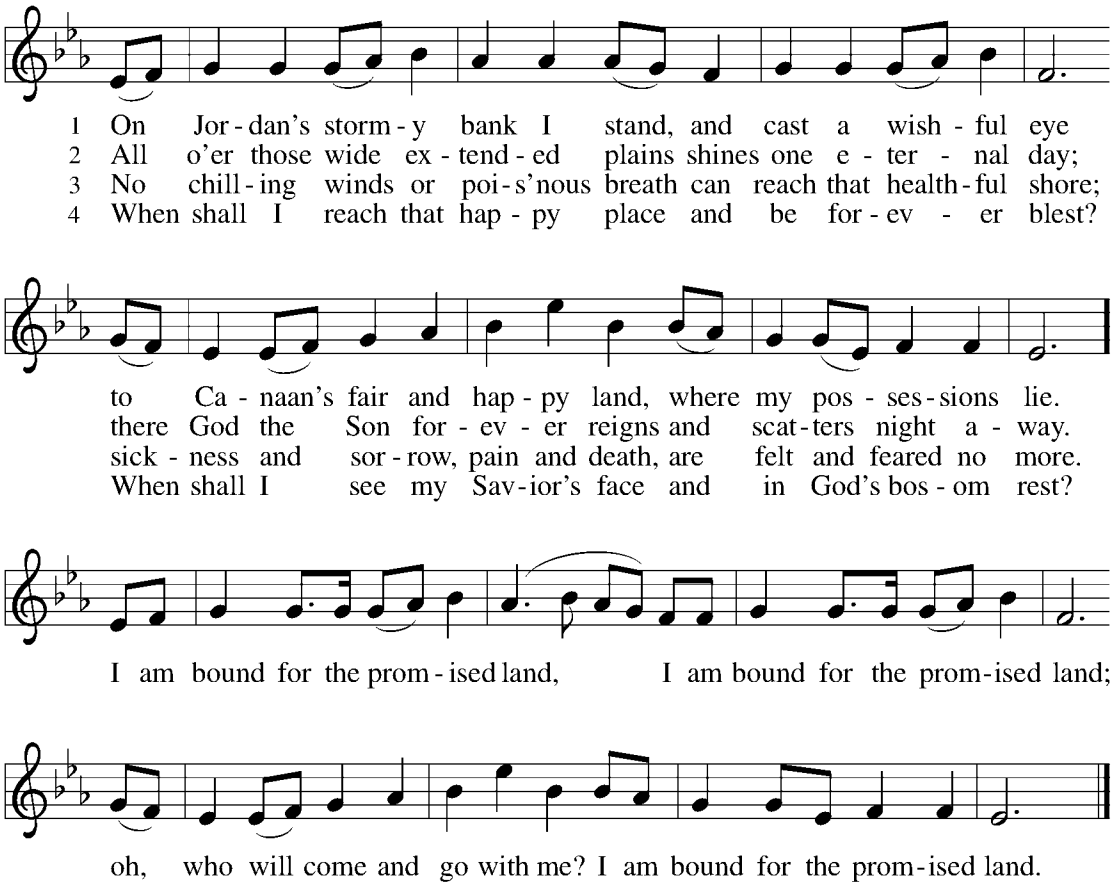
+ CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

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.
Silence is kept for reflection.

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 "On Jordan's Stormy Bank I Stand"
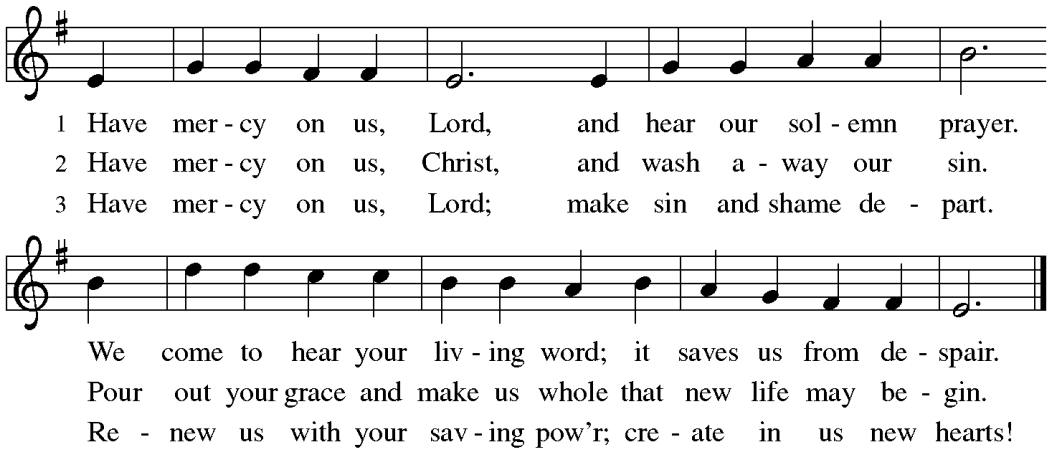


+ GREETING

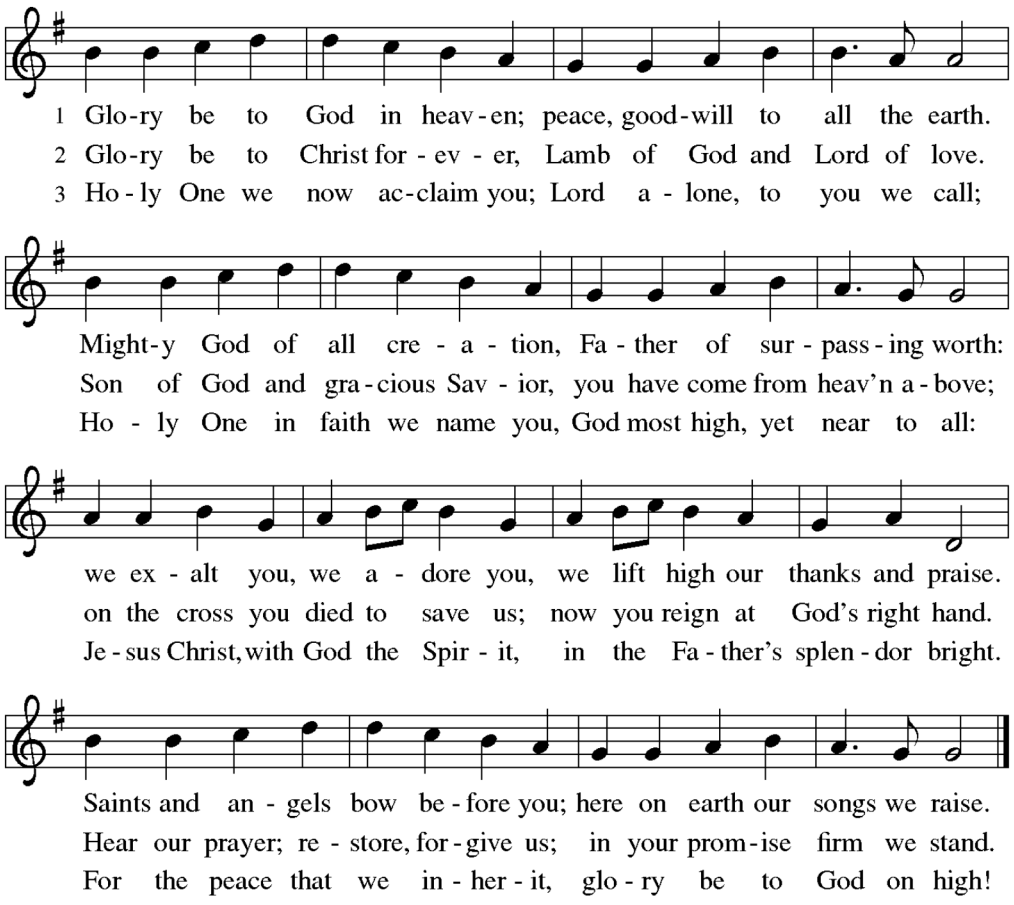
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

+ KYRIE



+ CANTICLE OF PRAISE



+ SALUTATION

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

+ PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together ...

Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

FIRST READING: ZEPHANIAH 1:7, 12-18

7 Be silent before the Lord GOD, for the day of the LORD is at hand!
The LORD has prepared a sacrifice; he has consecrated his guests.
12 At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people
who settle like dregs in wine, those who say in their hearts,
"The LORD will not do good, nor will he do harm."
13 Their wealth shall be plundered and their houses laid waste.
Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them;
though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them.
14 The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast;
the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter; the warrior cries aloud there.
15 That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish,
a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and thick darkness, 16 a day of trumpet blast and battle cry
against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.
17 I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind;
because they have sinned against the LORD, their blood shall be poured out like dust
and their flesh like dung. 18 Neither their silver nor their gold
will be able to save them on the day of the LORD's wrath;
in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed,
for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 90:1-12

1 Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to another.
2 **Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born, from age to age you are God.**
3 You turn us back to the dust and say, "Turn back, O children of earth."
4 **For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past and like a watch in the night;**
5 you sweep them away like a dream, they fade away suddenly like the grass:
6 **in the morning it is green and flourishes; in the evening it is dried up and withered.**
7 For we are consumed by your anger; we are afraid because of your wrath.
8 **Our iniquities you have set before you, and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.**
9 When you are angry, all our days are gone; we bring our years to an end like a sigh.
10 **The span of our life is seventy years, perhaps in strength even eighty; yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow, for they pass away quickly and we are gone.**
11 Who regards the power of your wrath? Who rightly fears your indignation?
12 **So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.**

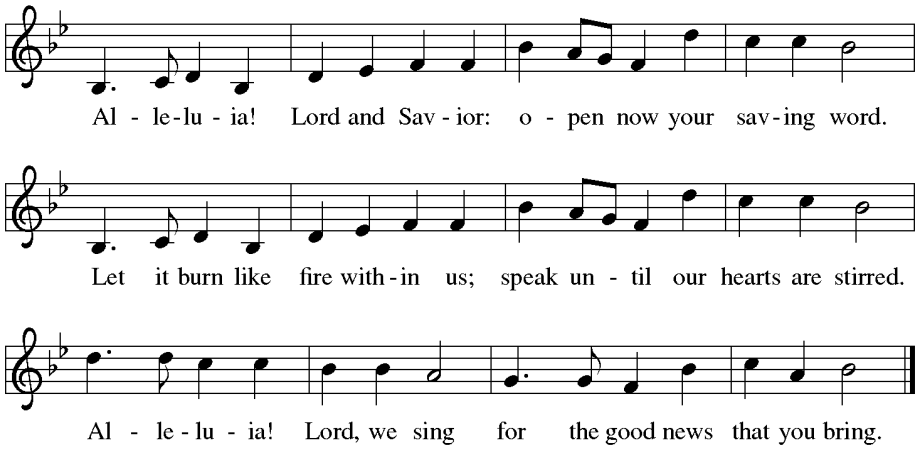
SECOND READING: 1 THESSALONIANS 5:1-11

[1] Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have
anything written to you. [2] For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come
like a thief in the night. [3] When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction
will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape!
[4] But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; [5] for
you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. [6] So,
then, let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober, [7] for those who sleep
sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. [8] But since we belong to the day, let
us be sober and put on the breastplate of faith and love and for a helmet the hope of salvation.
[9] For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus
Christ, [10] who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him.
[11] Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

+ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



+ GOSPEL: MATTHEW 25:14-30

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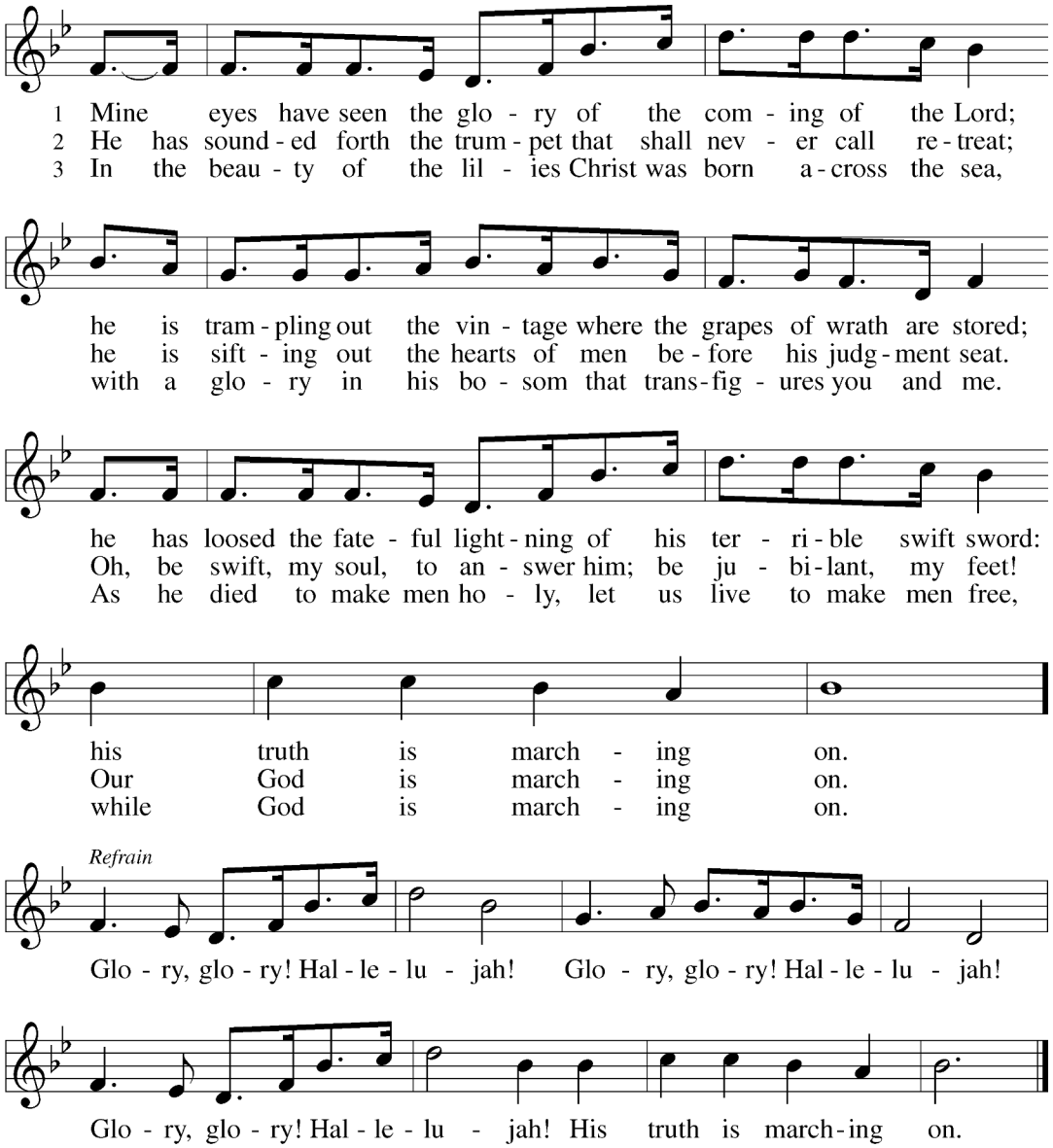
Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to the disciples: [14] "For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and
entrusted his property to them; [15] to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to
each according to his ability. Then he went away. At once [16] the one who had received the five
talents went off and traded with them and made five more talents. [17] In the same way, the one
who had the two talents made two more talents. [18] But the one who had received the one talent
went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. [19] After a long time the
master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. [20] Then the one who had received
the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to
me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' [21] His master said to him, 'Well done, good
and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of
many things; enter into the joy of your master.' [22] And the one with the two talents also came
forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more
talents.' [23] His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been
trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your
master.'

[24] Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew that
you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow and gathering where you did not scatter,
[25] so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’
[26] But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did
not sow and gather where I did not scatter? [27] Then you ought to have invested my money with
the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. [28] So take
the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. [29] For to all those who have, more
will be given, and they will have an abundance, but from those who have nothing, even what
they have will be taken away. [30] As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness,
where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ ”
The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

+ HYMN OF THE DAY **“ Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory”** **LBW#332**



+APOSTLE'S 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.

+ PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

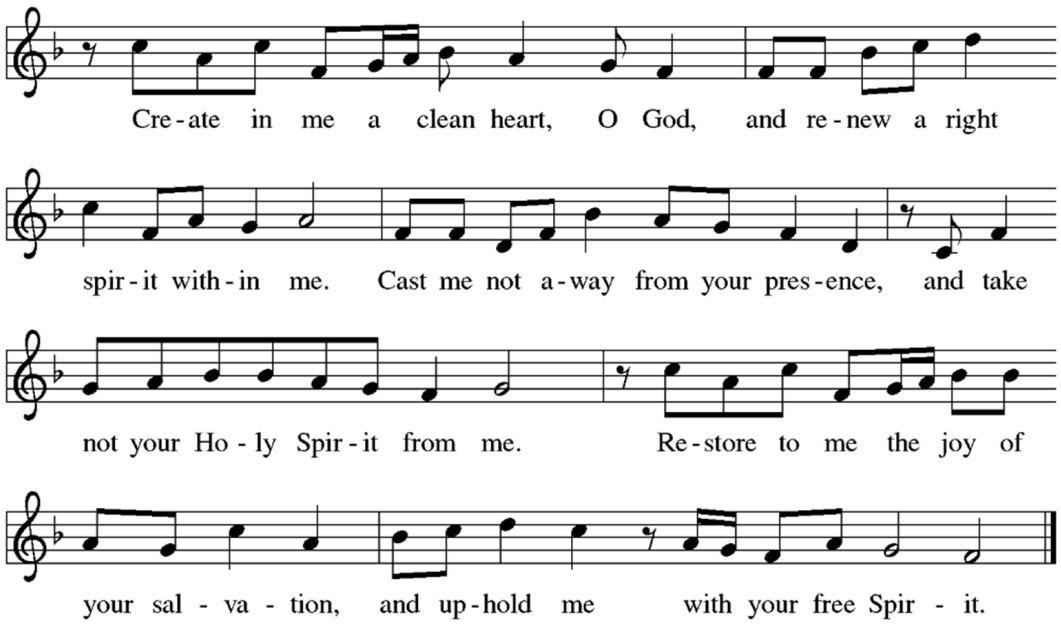
Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

+ SHARING THE PEACE

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

OFFERING

+ OFFERTORY SONG



+ OFFERING PRAYER

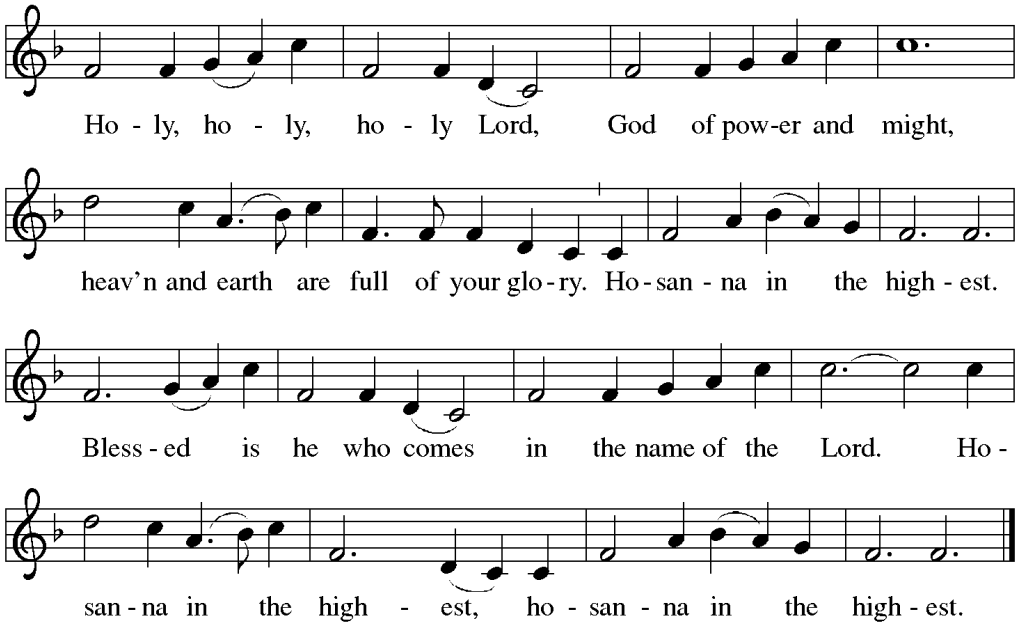
Let us pray together ...
Eternal God, our time, talents, and treasures are gifts from you. Receive what we offer, and all that you entrust to us, until all the world is fed, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

+ GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.	**And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts.	**We lift them to the lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.	**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

+ PREFACE

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; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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

+ LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.
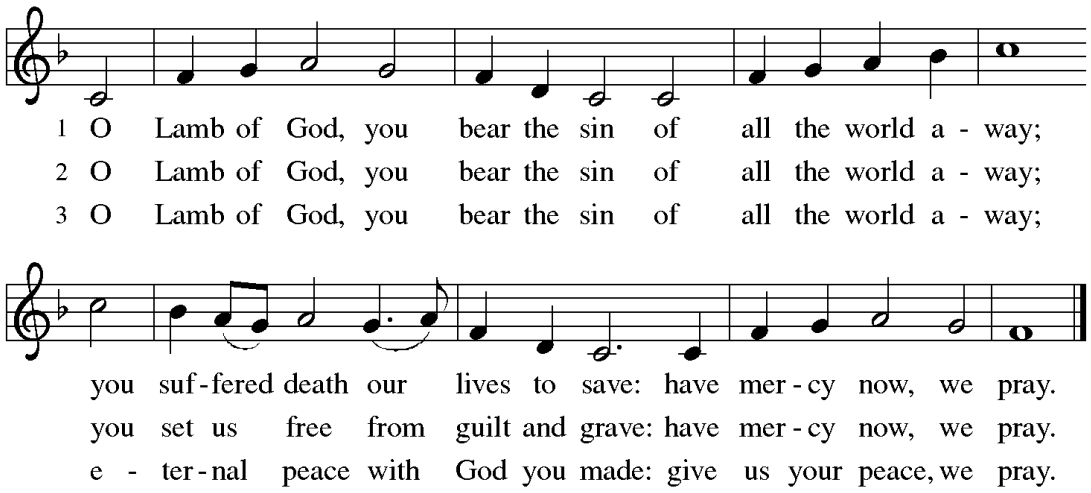
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

+ INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Thanks be to God.

LAMB OF GOD



DISTRIBUTION – All of God's children are welcome at the table for communion. Come forward in two lines to receive the bread from the pastor and wine/grape juice from a communion assistant.

+ TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our LORD and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you always in his grace.

Amen.

+ PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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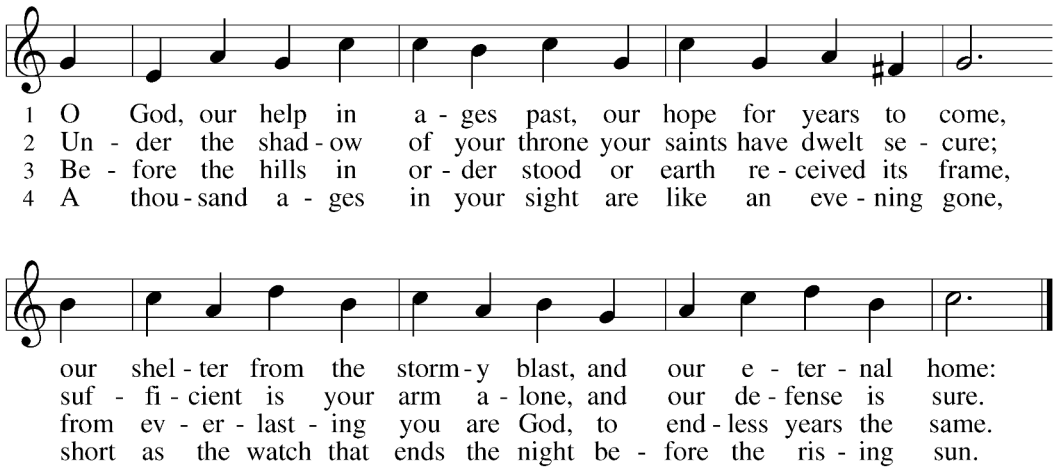
Holy God, we have received your never-ending mercy in this meal. You continuously seek the lost, heal the injured, and feed your people abundantly. Now send us out, awake to your presence, now and forever. Amen.

+ BENEDICTION

May the God of love draw you into the body of Christ and grant you strength and joy in all circumstances and may God ☩ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

+SENDING HYMN **"O God, Our Help in Ages Past"** **LBW#320**



5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
soon bears us all away;
we fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the op'ning day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
still be our guard while troubles last
and our eternal home!

+ DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Prayer List

Immediate needs:

Kelly Shores, Tara Mills, Robert Hunter, David Miller, Jeff Ritchie, Louise Vaughn, Arlene Wise

Community Concerns:

Lily Gariepy *(Fish Fry Recipient),* David Stirewalt *(Gene Stirewalt),* Jerry Hurlbut *(Jackie Hurlbut),* Brian Collins *(Barbara Collins),* Georgia Flanagan *(Tara Mills),* Bobby Barringer *(Tara Mills),* Ruby Faith Tyer *(Shelly Hunter),* Frances Yost Basinger *(Cassandra Kluttz),* Danny Schenck *(Randy Basinger)*

Comfort:

Family and friends of Peggy Cashion

Ongoing Needs:

John Miller, Bobby & Barbara Sloop, Mary Miller, Kari Overcash, Janice Gray, Janis Eury, Allen & Lynn Sloop, Sophie Hooks, Louise Vaughn, Judy Copeland, Diane Bouk, Arlene Wise, Hazel Miller, Ronnie Gorman, Earl Thomas, Joe Miller, Jesse Martin, Alice & Michael Baglio, Laura Reynolds, Emily Weddington, Monica Crossen, Mike Stout, Nancy Shue, Roy Morris, Rebekah Safriet, Kelly Shores, Mary Gentry

Those who serve others:

Active Duty Military personnel and families; First Responders and families; our school teachers, staff and administrators

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR TODAY are given to the glory of God.

PRAYERS & PRAISES baskets are located in the Narthex and at the front of the Sanctuary for anyone who would like to submit a Praise or Prayer to be read during the Prayers of the People. They will be taken to Pastor Josh at the Children's Sermon.

CHRISTMAS ANGEL PROGRAM goal is to help 20 Children this year from China Grove, Millbridge and Knollwood Elementary Schools. Angels are on the back wall of the Sanctuary. Please take as many as you would like to support this year All Angel gifts must be returned back to the church by Sunday, Nov 29th All gifts must be new, unwrapped and returned with Angel attached to gift We also need the Retail Price(not price paid) noted on Angel, so that when sold at the "Knollwood Christmas Store", they will have a base price to adjust from. Proceeds from the "Knollwood Christmas Store" will be used to stock the school clothing closet, and also allow parents to be more involved while shopping Christmas for their children. Any questions please ask anyone from Social Ministries. Cash Donations can also be made in brown envelope marked Christmas Angel.

SHUT IN CHRISTMAS BAGS are in the narthex. Please take a bag and fill it for one of our shut-ins. Return it to the church narthex by December 6. The Youth will distribute the bags to shut-ins when they go caroling. Or you may take the bag directly to the shut-in. Suggestions as to what to put in your bag are also in the narthex.

LUNCH & LEARN BIBLE STUDY will meet on Wednesday at Noon in the Parish Hall. Bring your lunch or email Pastor Josh for the link. Readings for next week are Ezekiel 34:11-24, Psalm 95, Ephesians,1:15-23, Matthew 25:31-46.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING is today for the purpose of voting on Congregation Council Members and the 2027 Proposed Spending Plan.

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE will be held Sunday, November 22 at 5:00pm at Salem Lutheran Church.

BOY SCOUT FUNDRAISER Order a Boston Butt (8-10 lbs. + Scout-made BBQ sauce) by November 18. $40 for whole or $50 for chopped. Pick up on Saturday, November 21, 1-3pm at the Shelter. Purchase a ticket from any Scout or leader or order online at www.scouts315grace.com. Contact Jamey Basinger with any questions 704-796-1445.

USHERS STILL NEEDED FOR 2027 - Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to serve our church family as an usher! Thirty of the 48 available spots have been filled, but we still need a few more helping hands.Would you prayerfully consider serving as an usher for one month in 2027? Please scan the QR code to sign up or contact Head Usher Gary Elmore if you are interested.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS
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Setting 10 ELW
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Serving 11/15/2026	
Organist	Becky Lippard
Children's Sermon	Leslie Sechler
Lector	David Miller
Communion Assistant	Ila Sechler, David Miller
Acolyte	Clara Linker
Security Team	Robert Hunter, Monty Brown
Sound System	Carson Hurst
Teller Team	Alex Storey, Tara Mills, Mary Sloop
Ushers	Michael & Kristi Miller, Cooper & Olivia

Serving 11/22/2026	
Organist	Teresa Yost
Children's Sermon	Heather Basinger
Lector	Megan Bame
Communion Assistant	Duane Nolan, Chris Sloop
Acolyte	Ila Sechler
Security Team	David Diggs, Chad Rivers
Sound System	Finn Basinger
Teller Team	Alex Storey, Tara Mills, Mary Sloop
Ushers	Michael & Kristi Miller, Cooper & Olivia

This Week's Giving 11/08/2026		**Needed Weekly**	
Category	**Amount**	**Per Spending Plan**	**Difference**
Attendance 140			
Current	$ 2,980.00		
Sunday School (Attendance 77)	$ 49.00		
Benevolence	$ 40.00		
World Hunger	$ 200.00		
Total Current:	$ 3,269.00	$ 8,251.00	$ (4,982.00)
Angel Tree	$ 20.00		
Clean Water 5K	$ 535.00		
Facility Rental (Capital Improvement Fund)	$ 355.00		
Total Deposit:	$ 4,179.00		

Scan here for online giving.

Week at a Glance

Tuesday	Quilting	10:00am
Wednesday	Lunch & Learn	Noon
	Children's Choir	6:00pm
	Chancel Choir	7:00pm
Thursday	Amazing Grace Seniors	10:45am
	Altar Guild	6:30pm