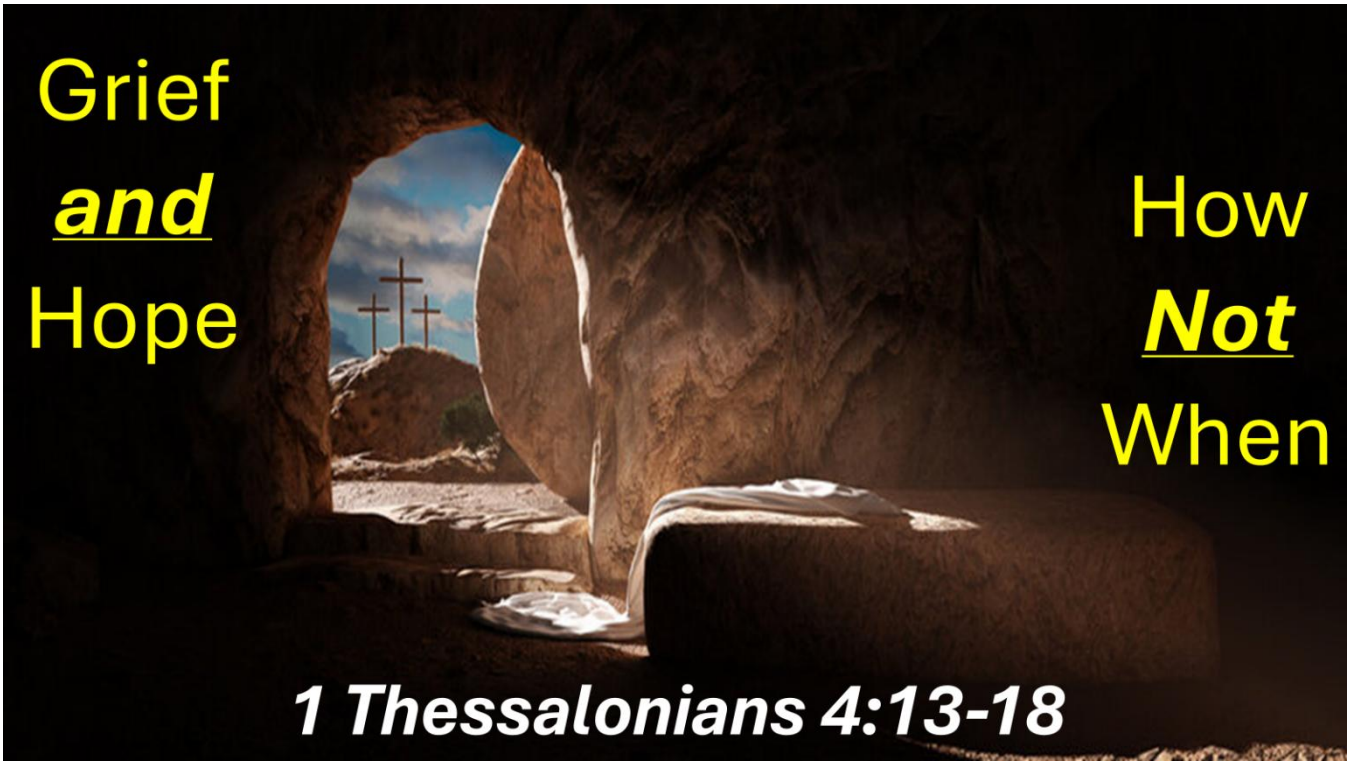


Time after Pentecost

November 7/8, 2026
6:00 pm | 8:45 am
Holy Communion

First Lutheran Church, Kearney, NE

Announcements and Welcome

Prelude
6:00pm *"I Want Jesus to Walk With Me"*
Betty Heggemeyer, musician
8:45am *"Everyday Miracles"*
Heavenly Treblemakers

Please stand as you are able.

Confession and Forgiveness

Liturgist: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
our dwelling place for all generations,
whose compassion never slumbers.
C: Amen.

Liturgist: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
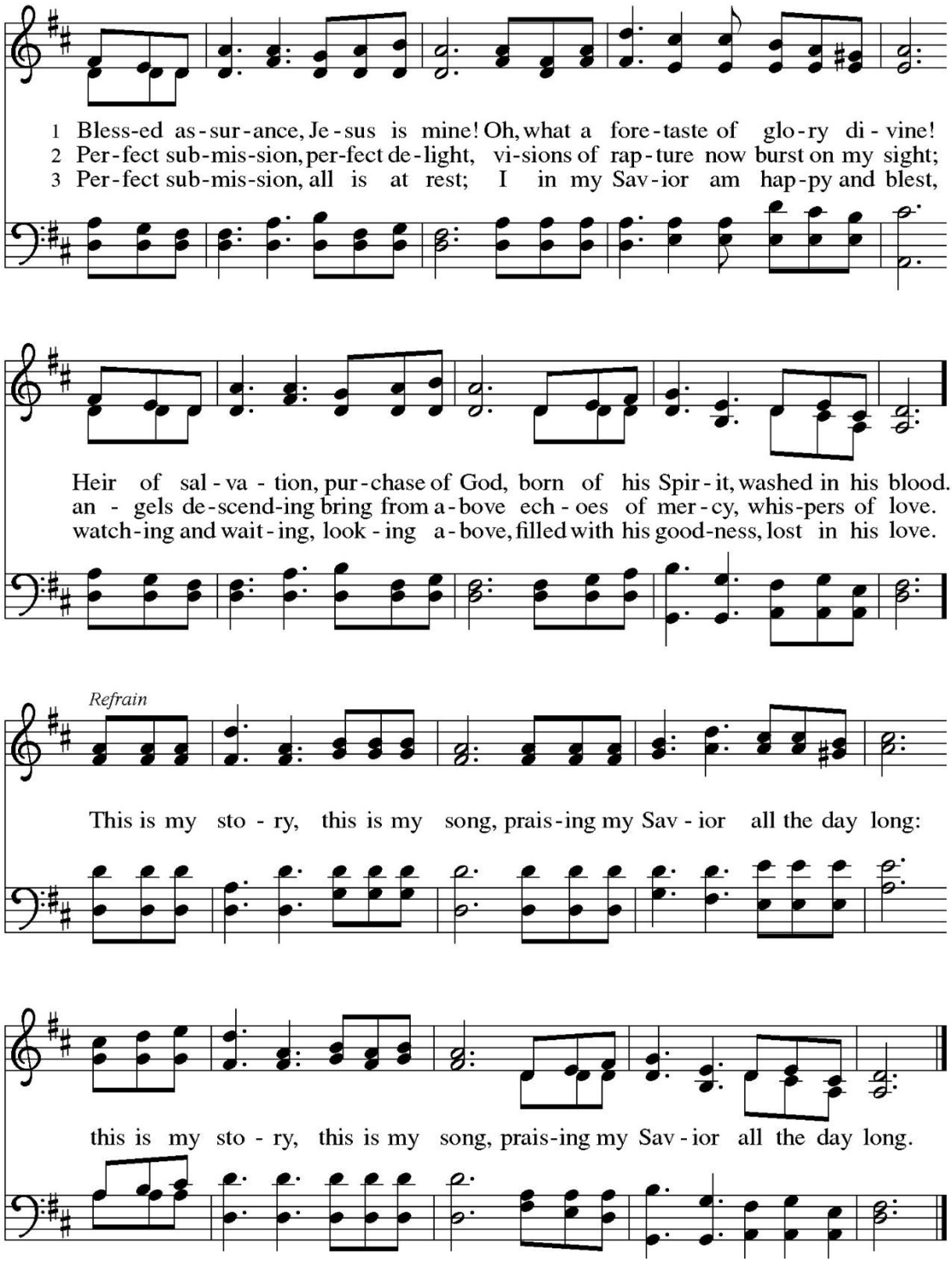
Silence is kept for reflection.

Liturgist: Holy God,
C: 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.

Liturgist: Inherit the riches of God's grace. ☩ Jesus, the good shepherd, feeds you with his mercy. You are forgiven. Blessed are you.

C: Amen.

Processional Hymn *"Blessed Assurance"* ELW 638



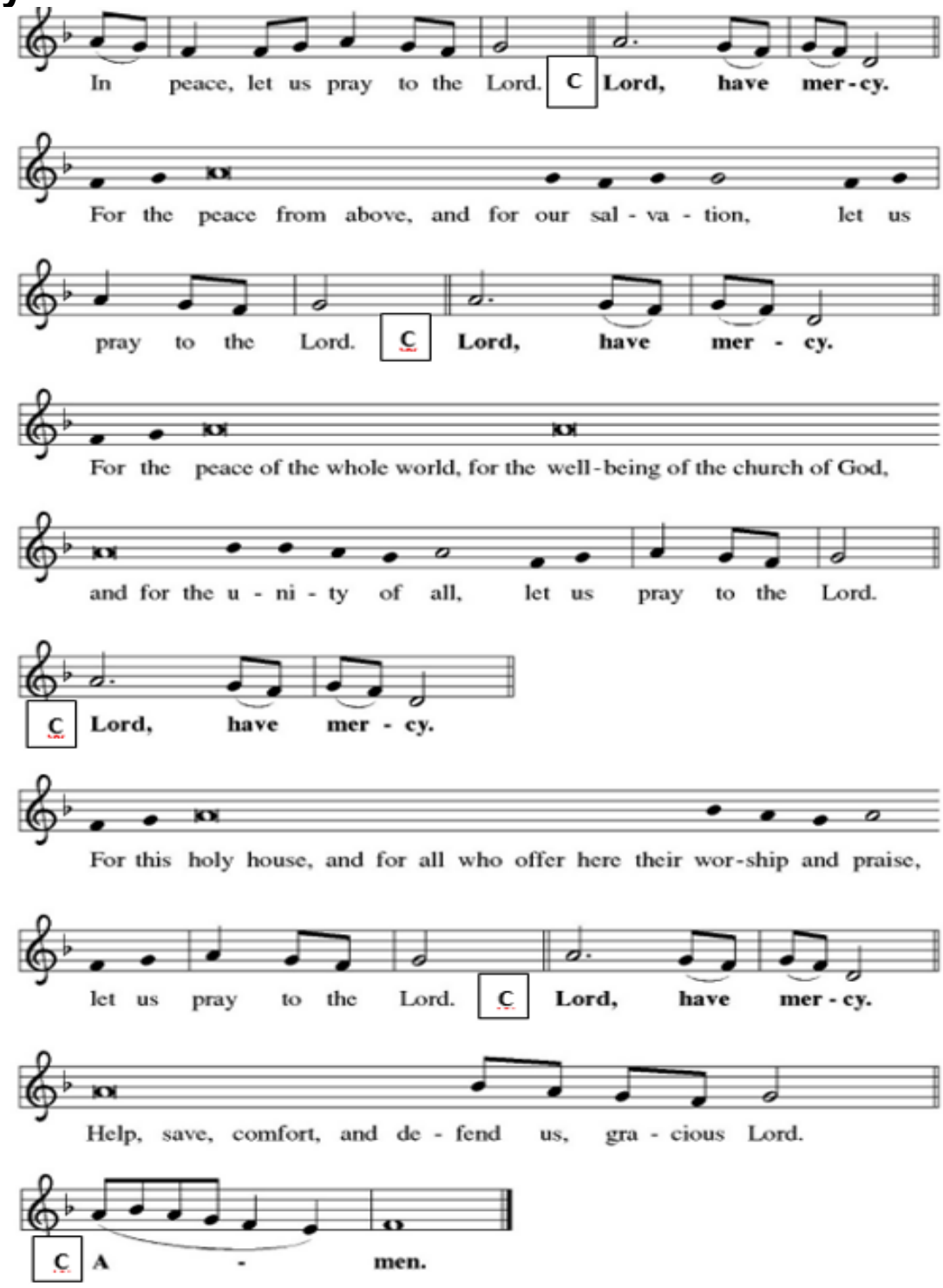
Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915
Music: ASSURANCE, Phoebe P. Knapp, 1830–1908

Greeting

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

C: And also with you.

Kyrie



Prayer of the Day

AM: Let us pray.
O God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
C: Amen.

Please be seated.

8:45am ANTHEM *"You are My Alleluia"*
Chancel Choir
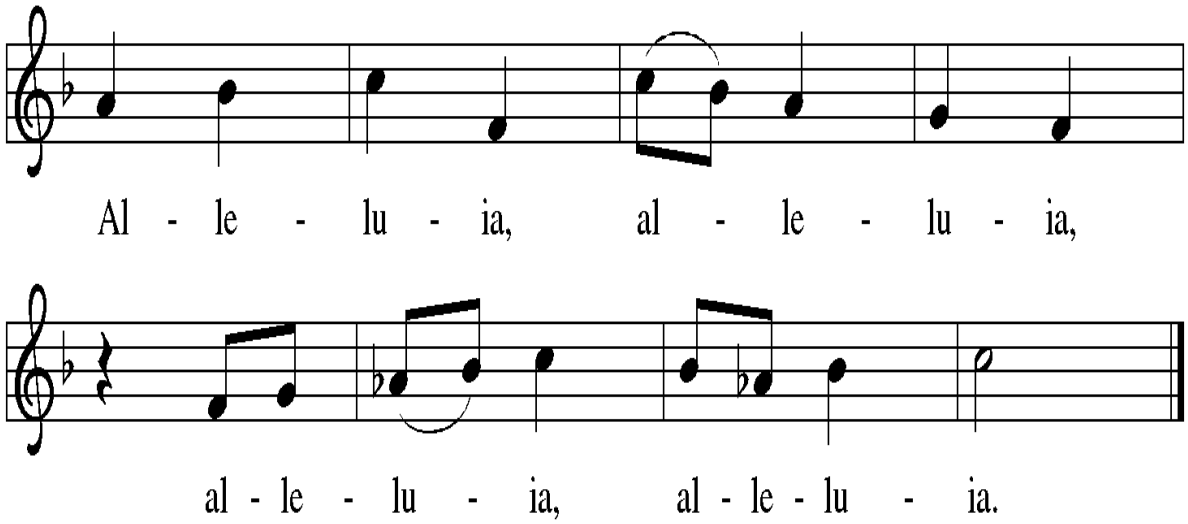
Word

L: A reading from 1 Thessalonians, the fourth chapter.

L: Brothers and sisters, we don't want you to be ignorant concerning those who are now asleep in order that you would not grieve as the rest also grieve who don't have hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and arose, so also we believe that God will bring through Jesus those who passed away. For we tell you this by a word of the Lord that we ourselves who are living, who are remaining until the Lord's coming, will definitely not proceed those who are asleep. Because the Lord himself will come down from heaven with a shouted command, with an archangel's voice, with a trumpet blast, and the dead in Christ will be raised first; then we ourselves who are remaining at the same time will be snatched up along with them in clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And in this way we will always be with the Lord. So comfort each other with these words.
[1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; NRCV]

L: Word of God. Word of Life.
C: Thanks be to God

Please stand as you are able for the Gospel Acclamation.
Gospel Acclamation



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Gospel

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.
C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: [Jesus said to the disciples:] 1 "Then the kingdom of heaven
will be like this. Ten young women took their lamps and went to
meet the bridegroom. 2 Five of them were foolish, and five were
wise. 3 When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with
them, 4 but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. 5 As the
bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept.
6 But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the
bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' 7 Then all those young
women got up and trimmed their lamps.

[8] The foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ [9] But the wise replied, ‘No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.’
[10] And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet, and the door was shut. [11] Later the other young women came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ [12] But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I do not know you.’ [13] Keep awake, therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

(*Matthew 25:1-13)*

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Children’s Message and “Noisy” Offering
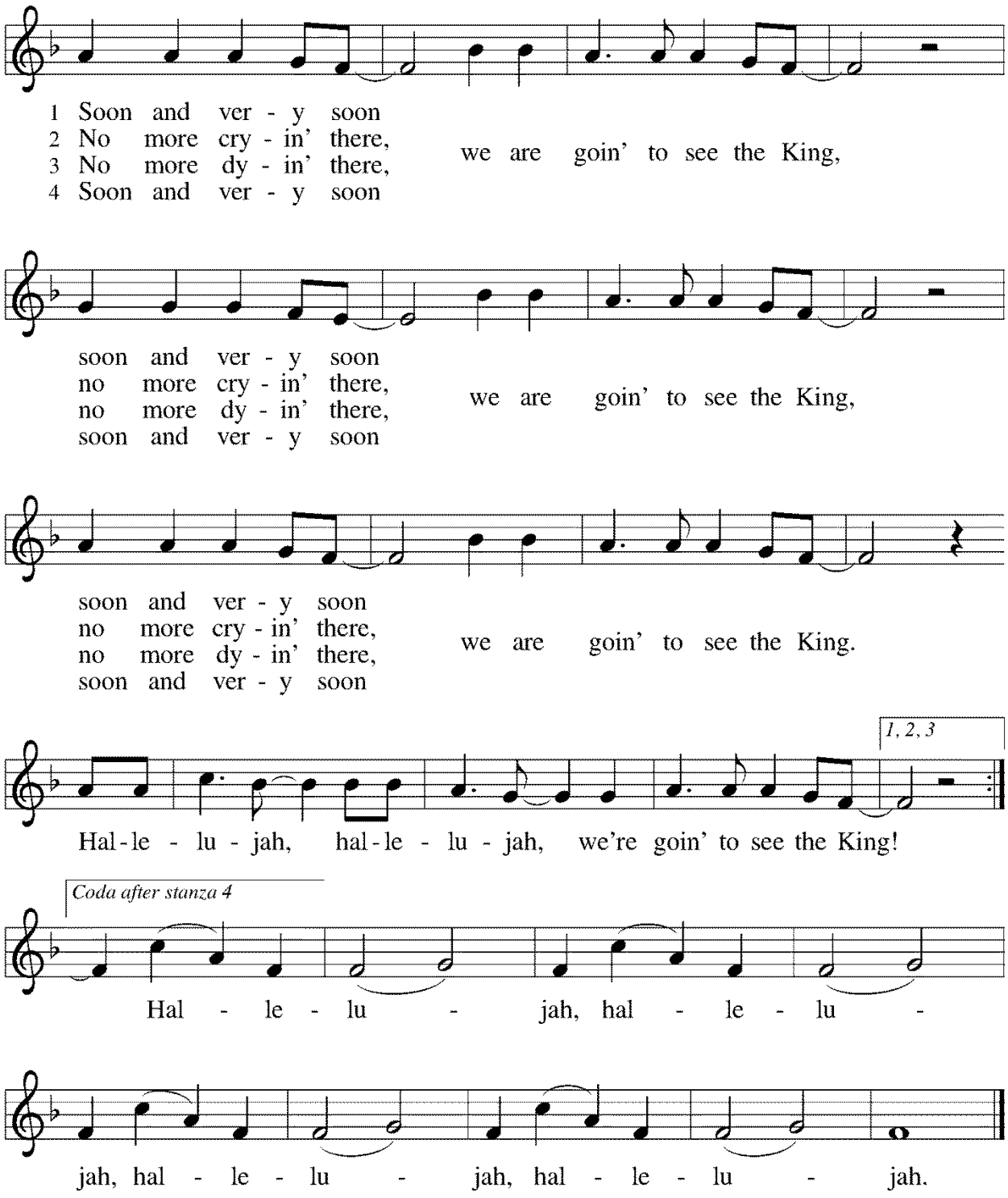
(The Children’s offering goes to Lutheran World Relief to help children in Lebanon and Ecuador.)

Sermon Pastor Rick Carlson

Please stand as you are able.

Hymn of the Day

"Soon and Very Soon" **ELW 439**



Word and Music by Andrae Crouch. Words and Music © 1976 Bud John Songs, Inc./Crouch Music, admin. EMI Christian Music Publishing.
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Apostles' Creed

AM: With the whole church, let us profess our faith.
C: 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 Intercession

AM: United with the great cloud of witnesses, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence for reflection.

AM: You illumine the church with the hope of your new day. Prepare our hearts and minds for the inbreaking of your kingdom, that we might awaken to your transforming love at work all around us.
God, in your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.

AM: You create and sustain the earth's natural rhythms so that all life might thrive. Show us the wisdom and wonder of nature's balance; make us careful stewards of our common home.
God, in your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.

AM: You make justice roll down in all places and among all nations. Encourage all who protect vulnerable communities and help rebuild in the aftermath of conflict. Uphold veterans and those who care for them.
God, in your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.

AM: You give rest to weary hearts and bodies. As the days grow shorter in the north, help us to move more slowly and intentionally through our days, honoring the need for quiet and stillness.
God, in your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.

AM: You hasten to heal our wounds and make whole what is broken. Comfort individuals facing a difficult diagnosis, receiving palliative care, or facing uncertain treatment options. We pray especially for:

Jim Anderson Shelby Blankley Bertha Boyer Vicki Buschelman Pastor John Carlson Kathy Durell Rich Ferris Adam Fie Corinne Fischer	Karen Foster Leonard Fowler Emersyn Fritson Randy Fritson Derek Johnson Lil Larson Mary Renshaw Garth Scism	Joan Smallcomb Yvonne Steinocher Joanne Suing Carol Turek Betty Warren Dean Wiese Xander Wright Paula Yoachim James Ziebarth

AM: God, in your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.

AM: You welcome those who have come before us in faith into the joys of heaven. Sustain us by your grace and guide us into the promise of everlasting life.
God, in your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.

Liturgist: Into your steadfast love, faithful God, we entrust all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus, your beloved.
C: Amen.

Peace

Liturgist: The peace of Christ be with you always.
C: And also with you.

Please share a sign of peace with one another.

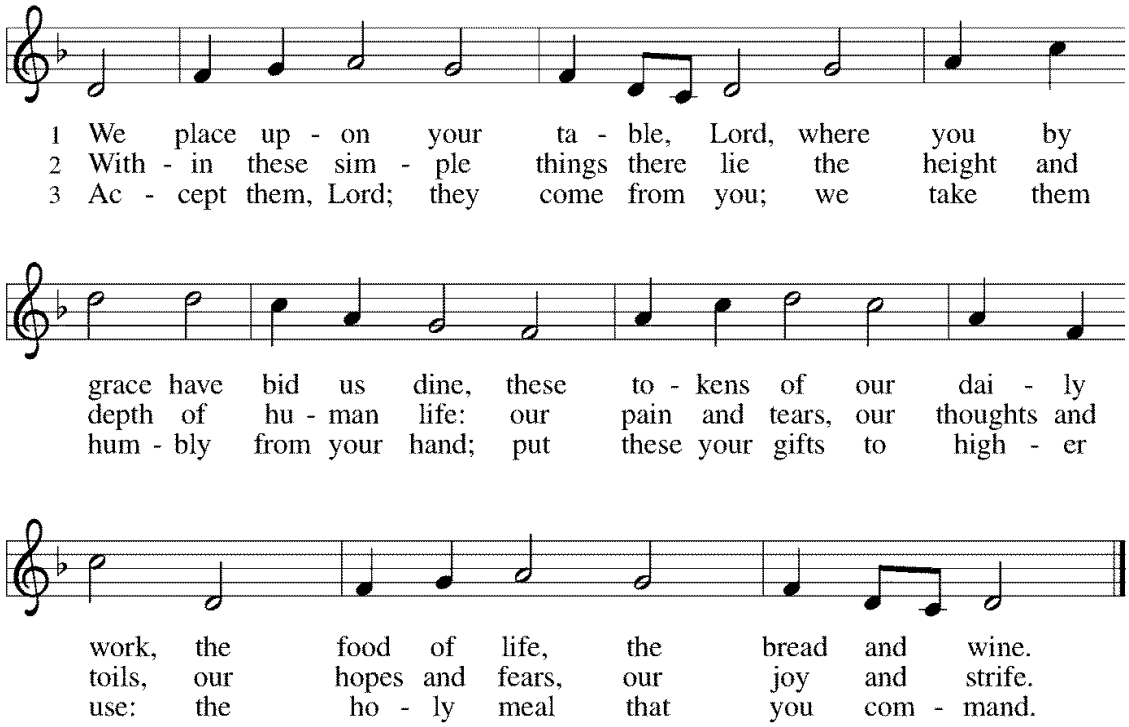
Please be seated.
Meal

Offering *"Hymn of Promise"*
Betty Heggemeyer, musician

Communion Servers: Please come forward at this time.

Offertory Response

"We Place upon Your Table, Lord" **ELW 467 Vs. 1 only**



Text: M.F.C. Wilson, 1884-1944, alt. Music: W. Walker, Southern Harmony, 1835. Text and Music Public Domain

Offertory Prayer

AM: 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.
C: Amen.

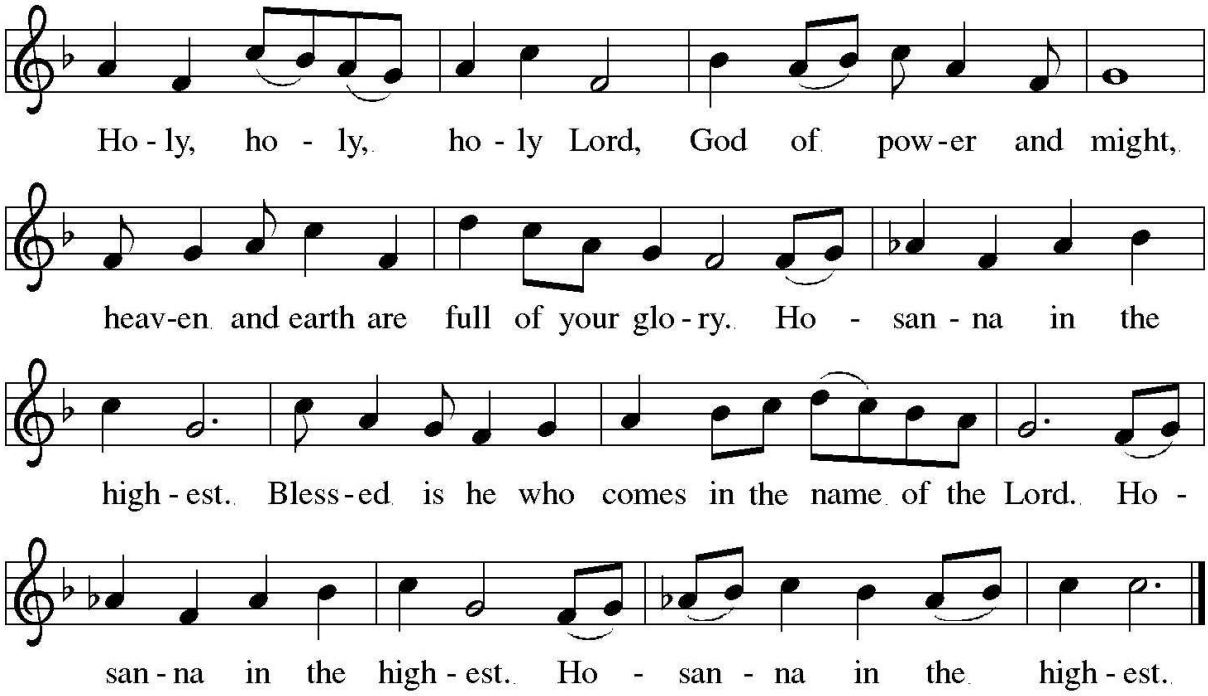
The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.
C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.
C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Sanctus *"Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord"*



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Words of Institution

P: In the night in which he was handed over, 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.

P: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:
C: Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

The Lord's Prayer

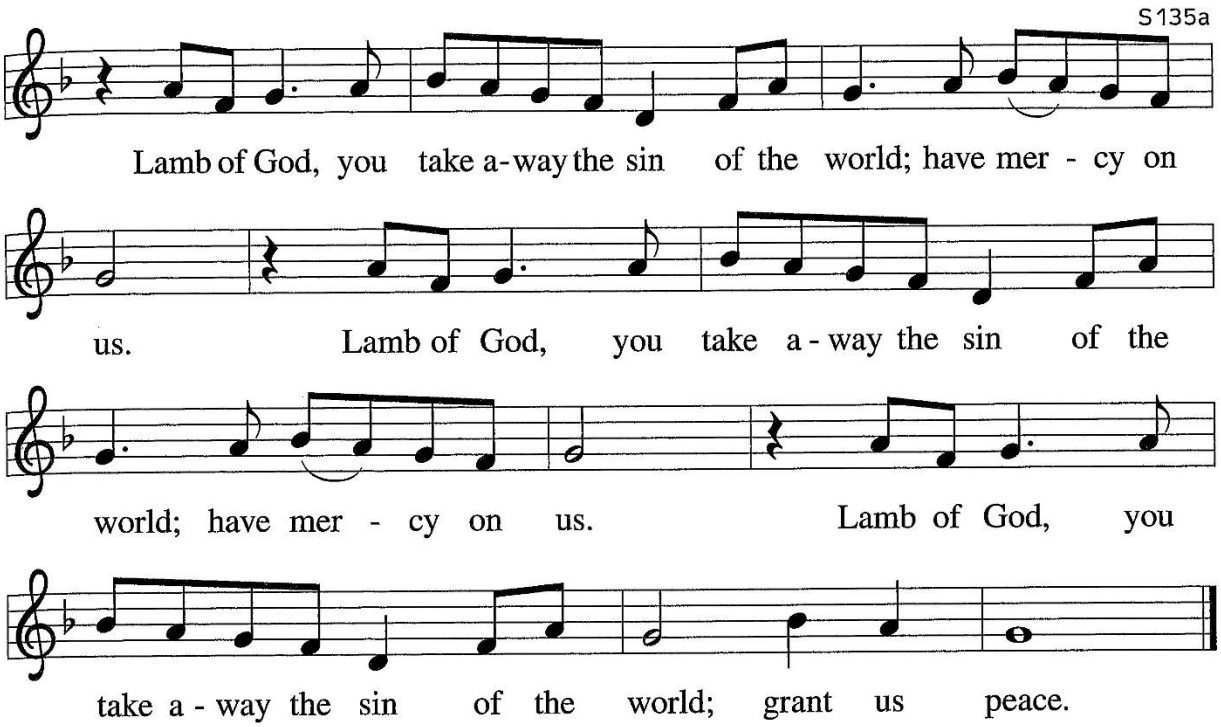
P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.
C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; 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.

Invitation To Communion

P: In bread and cup the reign of Christ is breaking in.
Come, receive what Christ has prepared.

We practice open communion at First Lutheran. All are welcome to receive the elements. Gluten-free wafers are available. In addition to the cups filled with wine (red) in the tray, there are cups containing grape juice (clear) in the center.

Lamb of God



Robert Buckley Farlee, b. 1950 © 2006 Augsburg Fortress All Rights Reserved. Used by Permission of OneLicense #A-705218

Communion Music *"O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus"*
Betty Heggemeyer, musician

Please stand as you are able.

Table Grace

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
C: Amen.

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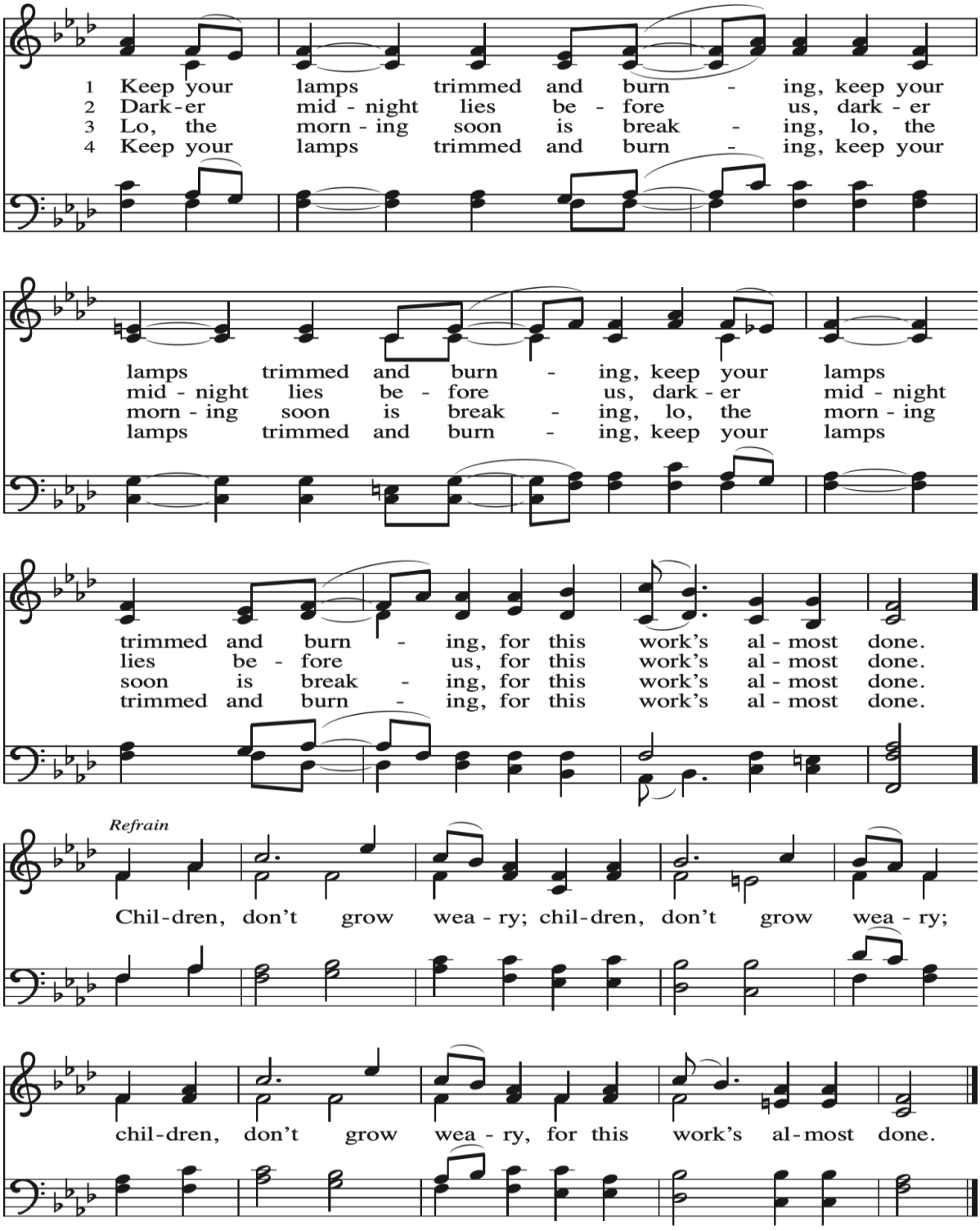
AM: Let us pray.
Holy God,
we have received your never-ending mercy in this meal.
You continuously seek the lost,
bind the injured,
and feed your people abundantly.
Now send us out,
awake to your presence,
now and forever.
C: Amen.

Blessing

P: The holy Trinity,
Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you with wisdom to welcome the reign of God,
today and always.
C: Amen.

Sending Hymn

"Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning", **ACS 949**



Text and Music: African American spiritual
Text and Music Public Domain

Dismissal

AM: Go in peace. Encourage one another.
C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude: *"Days of Elijah"*
Betty Heggemeyer, musician

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Worship Schedule—Saturday 6pm, Sunday 8:45 am and 11:00am
- **Church Office Hours—**Monday-Friday, 8:30 am to 4:00 pm.
- **Brookestone Garden Services: First Sunday** monthly at 2:00 pm
- **For the hard of hearing FLC offers a loop system** for wearers with a "T" (t-coil) setting; the coverage works **best** on the main floor in the **center** aisles. T-coil is not available in the balcony.
- **S.A.F.E. Center donations –** for November are: Body Wash and Body Lotion.
- **Volunteers of the Month** are the participants of God's Work, Our Hands. Thank you for stepping out beyond our church walls and putting your faith into action.
- **Communion registration—**Please register annually to maintain membership. Registration cards in pew racks & on Welcome Stations.
- **Visitors—**please complete a visitor card, found in the pews.
- **The Nursery** is available for anyone to use and includes a "toddler restroom". Services are livestreamed inside.
- **Now through November 15** – Directory Photos taken before and after all services – Centennial Hall, SW entrance.
- **Sun. Nov. 8, 15 & 29** – Adult Sunday School with Pastor Rick. 9:50am Centennial Hall
- **Nov. 14 / 15** –Women of the ELCA Thankofferings received. All services:
- **Nov. 14/15** –Pledge cards received during all services.
- **Sun. Nov. 15 –** Last meeting date for fall for Sunday School
- **Wed. Nov. 18 –** last meeting date for Wed. Youth activities and Feeding the Flock.
- **Sun. Nov. 22 – 9:30am – 11:00am** Advent Fair – Centennial Hall
- **Sun. Nov. 22 – 3pm** – Community Thanksgiving Service, First Presbyterian Church
- **Nov. 23 - Dec. 15th** - Auction items for FLY Brunch & Silent Auction can be dropped of in the office.
- **Wed. Nov. 25 –** Poinsettia Orders due in office. (order forms on welcome stations)
- **Sundays in December – ONE Service at 9:45am (Saturday 6pm Services remain)**
- **Wed. Dec. 2, 9 and 16 – 6:30pm Advent Services**
- **Sat. Dec. 5 – 4pm** Community Bell Concert – Merryman
- **Sat. Dec. 12** – Women's ELCA Christmas Brunch
- **Dec. 12 & 13th** – Children's Christmas Program – all services
- **Sun. Dec. 20 9:00am-9:45 & 10:45-11:15am** - FLY Brunch
- **Dec. 19 & 20th** – Chancel Choir Cantata – All services.
- **Dec. 20** – Fly Silent Auction & Brunch.
- **We've added a rocking chair** in the back of the pews – for anyone needing a little extra support or for rocking a little one.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Jim Anderson Karen Foster Leonard Fowler Emersyn Fritson Randy Fritson	Lil Larson Garth Scism Joan Smallcomb Carol Turek Dean Wiese

FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF OUR CHURCH

Shelby Blankley – Justin & Adriane Madsen's friend
Bertha Boyer – Susan Slater's aunt
Vicki Buschelman – Angie Wright's aunt
John Carlson – Monie Karschner & Becky Bredenkamp's cousin
Kathy Durell – Janiene Rewerts' friend
Rich Ferris – Larry and Nancy Merz's friend
Adam Fie – Connie Fie's son
Corinne Fischer – Bridget VonSeggern's sister
Derek Johnson – Kylee Vreugdenhil's brother
Mary Renshaw – Linda Peterson's sister
Yvonne Steinocher – Deb Rohla's cousin
Joanne Suing – Angie Wright's aunt
Betty Warren – friend of First Lutheran
Xander Wright – Dave & Angie Wright's nephew
Paula Yoachim – Deb Beerman's friend
James Ziebarth – Jane Ziebarth-Bovill's brother

Altar flowers are provided by Kelly, Stephanie & Preston Russman in honor of all service men and women.

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

First Lutheran Church ~ 3315 G Avenue ~ Kearney, NE 68847
308-237-5544 ~ office@firstlutherankearney.org

Rev. Dr. Michelle Holley Carlson, Presiding
Rev. Dr. Rick Carlson, Preaching
Vicar Libby Florian, Liturgist

Assisting Ministers:
6:00pm – Sara Davis
8:45 am – Miranda Obermeier
11:00 am – Lori McArthur

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Everyday Miracles Words by Kathy Burdette, Music by Donna Butler Douglas
"I Want Jesus to Walk With Me"Tune: "Walk With Me", a Traditional Spiritual Arranged by Gregg Sewell Copyright: Lorenz Publishing Company
Offertory:"Hymn of Promise"By Natalie Sleeth Arranged by Lloyd Larson Copyright 2017 Hope Publishing Company (Not covered by CCLI, LicenSing, or One License.net
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FIRST LUTHERAN
Church of Kearney