CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY



Sunday, November 22, 2026

8:15 and 10:30 AM

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Welcome to **ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

We are happy you have joined us for worship today. Wherever you are on your journey with or toward God, you are welcome here—you are a blessing to this assembly. We welcome all who are seeking God's love and grace. We welcome all because God welcomes all, regardless of race or culture, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or relationship status.

We welcome all without regard to addictions, physical or mental health, imprisonment, socio-economic circumstances, or anything that too often divides us. Our unity is in Christ.

Lutherans believe, teach, and confess that in, with, and under the bread and wine in Holy Communion we receive the true Body and Blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, for the forgiveness of sin, life, and salvation. All who are drawn in faith are welcome to join in this confession and receive the Sacrament.

We invite and encourage your full participation in our worship this morning. With this service bulletin you can follow and participate in this morning's liturgy.

New to St. Paul? If you have questions or want more information, please fill out a newcomer form with the QR code at the right. Questions about transferring membership from another Lutheran church, or for beginning the process for baptism, confirmation, membership, or transferring from one of the other Christian traditions, may be directed to the Church Office at 781-646-7773 or parishadmin@stpaularlington.org.

SUNDAY SERVICE

8:15 AM | Holy Communion
9:00 AM | Choir Practice
9:30 AM | Education Hour: Sunday School, Confirmation class, Adult Forum
10:30 AM | Holy Communion livestreamed

LIVESTREAMING

Worship is streamed on our Facebook page StPaulArlingtonMA. A Facebook account is not necessary to stream, but without a Facebook account the stream works on a computer browser only and not on a phone.

SERVING THE COMMUNITY TODAY

Lydia Zuehsow and Marie Breitenbach, *Altar Guild*
Amelia C. and Morgan B., *Acolytes*
Bev Hjorth, *Cantor*
Allison and Isaac Van Deventer, *Lectors*
Taryn Walsh, *Assisting Minister*
Mat Carter and Hollie Schmidt, *Livestream Broadcast Team*
Peter & Hollie Schmidt and Lisa Chiulli Lay, *Coffee Guild*

WE WELCOME PASTOR GREG MILESKI AS A SHORT-TERM PASTOR

St. Paul welcomes Pastor Greg Mileski to serve while Pastor Don Larsen is out. Pastor Greg recently preached and led the adult forum on October 8th. We are excited to welcome him back! Pastor Mileski is currently a doctoral candidate and Boston College School of Divinity. Pastor Greg begins his service at St. Paul on November 16. He will lead worship each week, advise the church council and lead the weekly staff meetings.

Altar flowers are given in celebration of the 22nd anniversary of our marriage by Jeff Schafer and Lisa Kunze.

*When the instruction for standing * appears, please stand as you are able and as seems comfortable. At the ☒, you may make the sign of the cross, which reminds us of our baptism. The congregational responses are printed in **bold**.*

GATHERING

PRELUDE C. Gounod: O, Divine Redeemer (arr. by Clair W. Johnson)
Mark Olson, trumpet
Ana Zecic Jeffers, piano

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS
Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

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

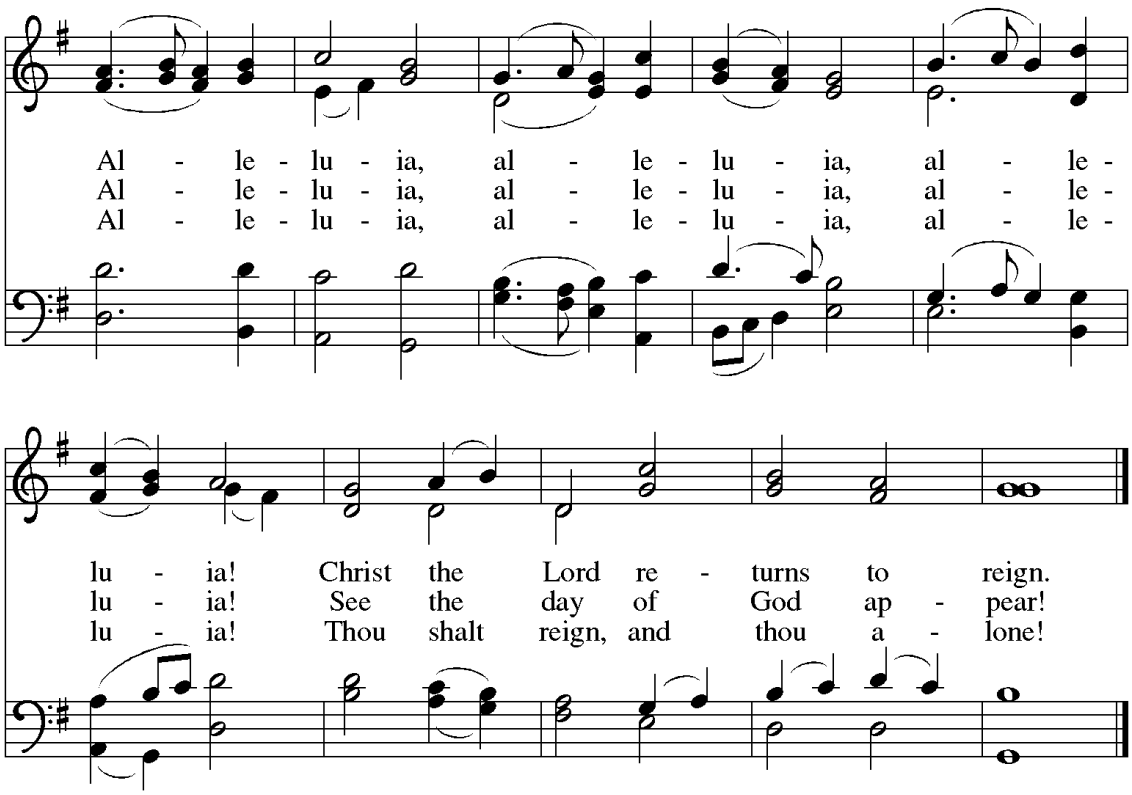
Most merciful God,
we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ☩ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

*** GATHERING HYMN**

"Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending" ELW 435

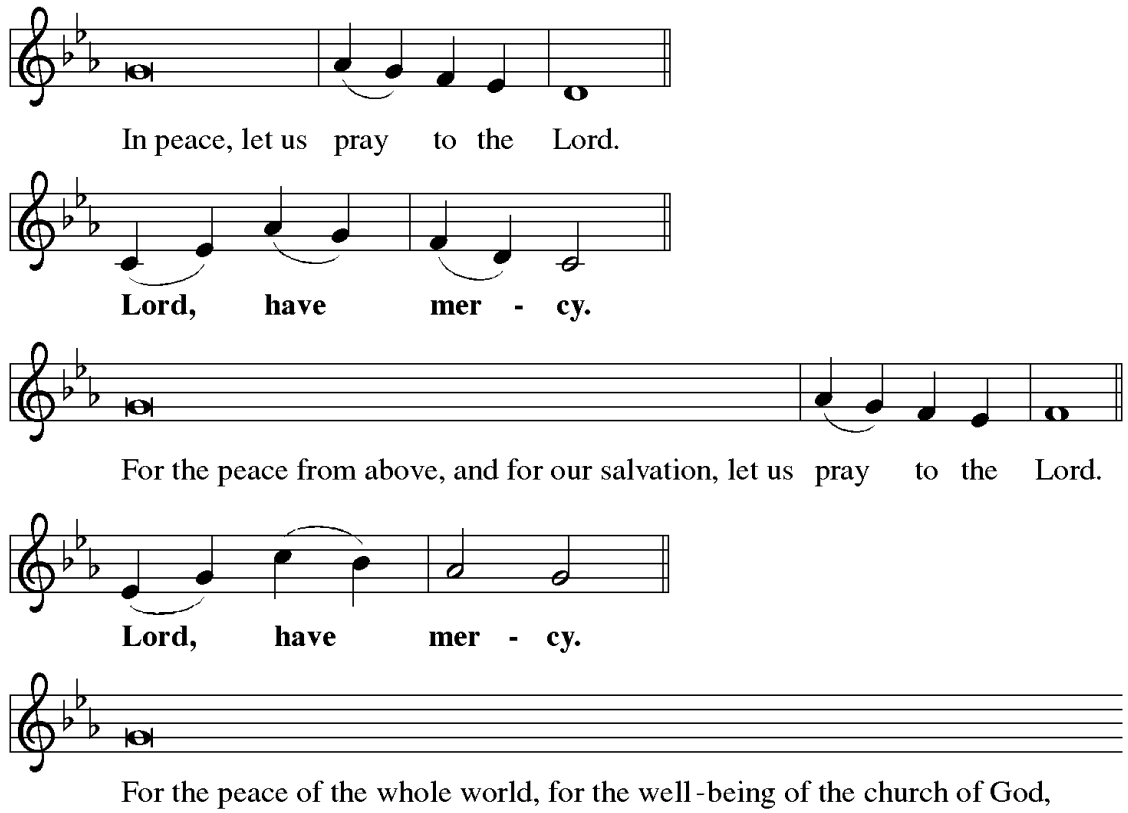




* **GREETING**

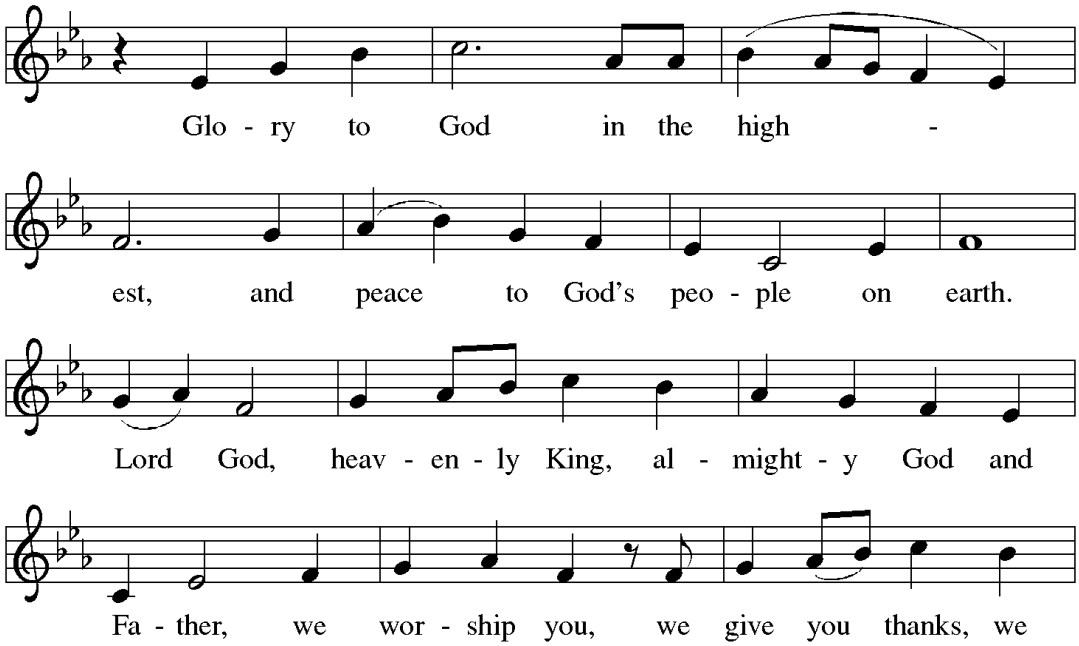
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

* KYRIE





*** HYMN OF PRAISE**




praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the
right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.
For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a -
lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most High,
Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of
God the Fa - ther. A - men.
Glo - ry to God in the high -
est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

*** PRAYER OF THE DAY**

O God of power and might, your Son shows us the way of service, and in him we inherit the riches of your grace. Give us the wisdom to know what is right and the strength to serve the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

FIRST READING Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

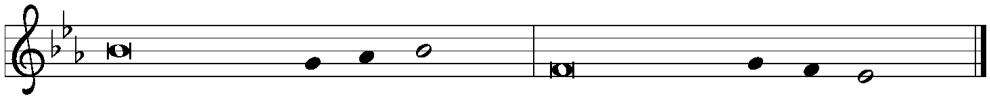
Thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep and will sort them out. As shepherds sort out their flocks when they are among scattered sheep, so I will sort out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries and bring them into their own land, and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strays, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged, and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them; he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I the Lord will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I the Lord have spoken.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM *(spoken at 8:15)* Psalm 95:1-7a



Come, let us sing ˈ to the Lord;
let us shout for joy to the rock of ˈ our salvation.
Let us come before God's presence ˈ with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to the ˈ Lord with psalms.
For you, Lord, ˈ are a great God,
and a great ruler a- ˈ bove all gods.
In your hand are the caverns ˈ of the earth;
the heights of the hills are ˈ also yours.
The sea is yours, ˈ for you made it,

and your hands have molded | the dry land.
Come, let us worship | and bow down,
let us kneel before the | Lord our maker.
For the Lord | is our God,
and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep | of God's hand.

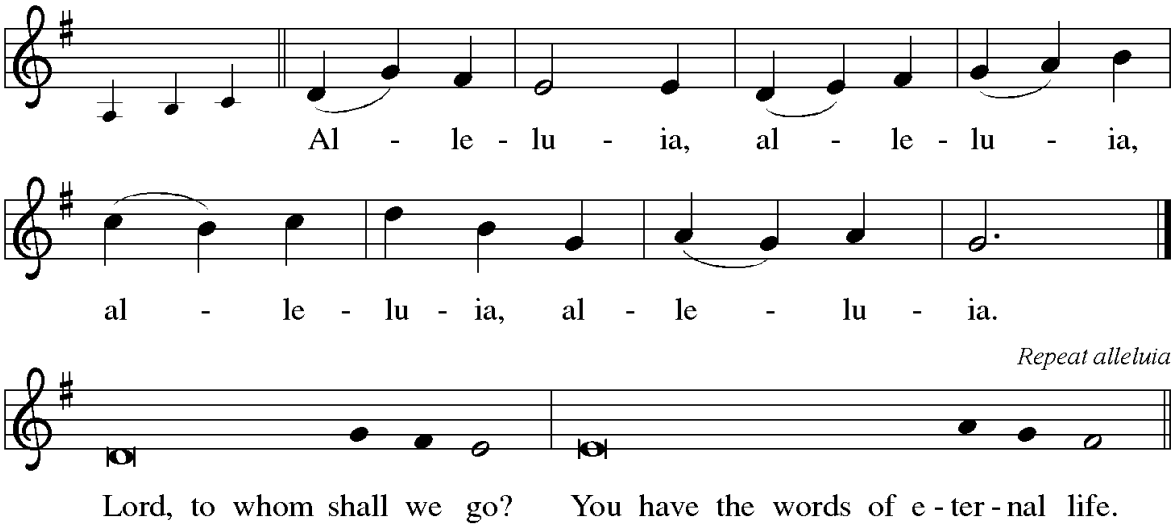
SECOND READING Ephesians 1:15-23

A reading from the book of Ephesians.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may perceive what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

*** GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



*** GOSPEL** Matthew 25:31-46

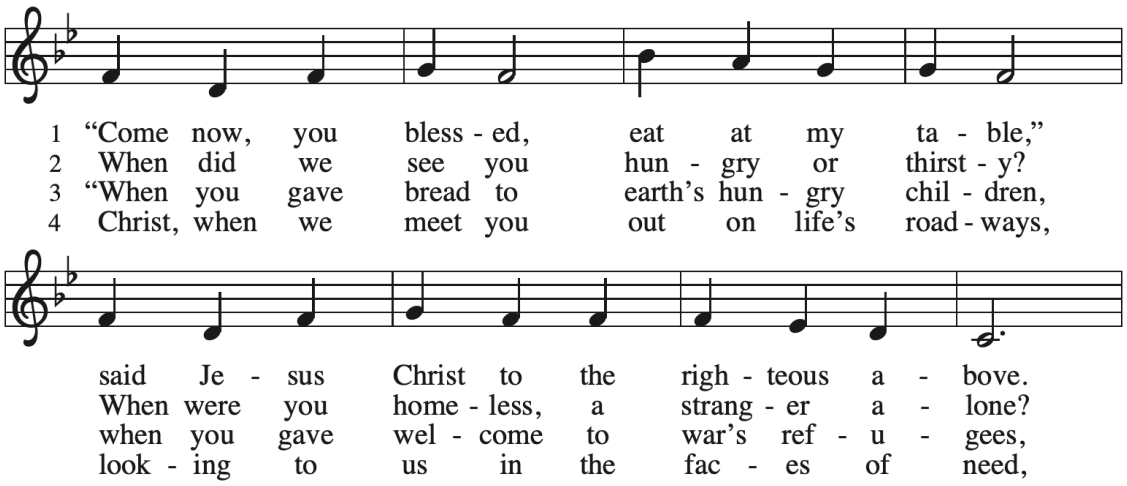
The holy gospel according to Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.

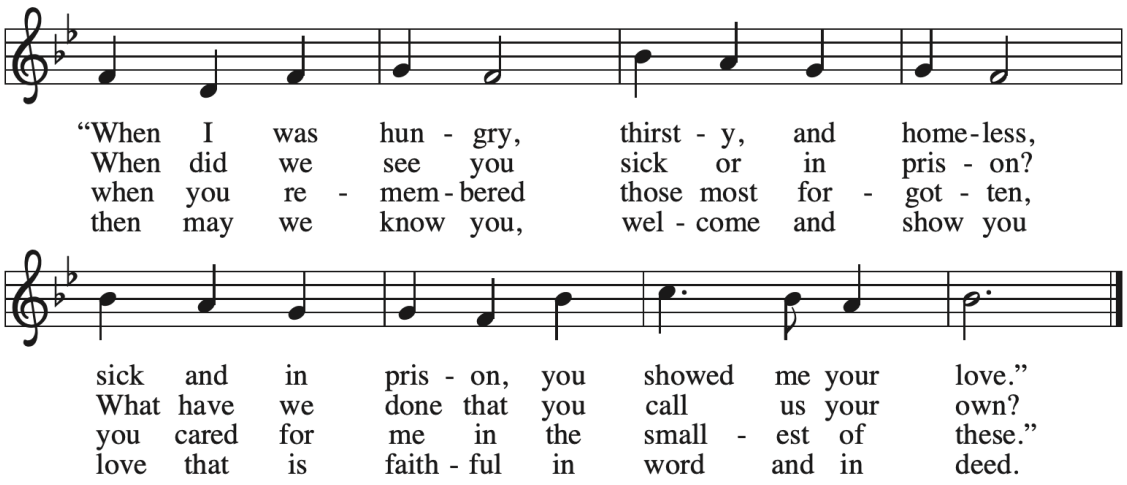
[Jesus said to the disciples:] "When the Son of Man comes in his glory and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world, for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.' Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You who are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels, for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and did not take care of you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' And these will go away into eternal punishment but the righteous into eternal life."

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S TIME AND SERMON Pastor Greg Mileski

*** HYMN OF THE DAY**
"Come, You Blessed" ACS 1059





Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947
Music: MATTHEW 25, Emily R. Brink, b. 1940

APOSTLES 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 into hell.
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**

As is our custom, please face one another across the center aisle. The deacon invites us to prayer and offers the first intercession. As you are moved to pray, you are invited to pray any of the following intercessions aloud.

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

A brief silence.

Prepare your people for your reign to come among us. Where the church is wary, make us bold; where we are complacent, stir us to action; where we are anxious, assure us of your never-ending care. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

All the heights, depths, and expanses of the earth belong to you. Deliver every corner of your creation from disaster. Restore lands ravaged by floods, fires, drought, or contamination. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Gather all the nations at your side and teach them the ways of your kingdom of wholeness and abundant life. Empower judges, juries, and legal advocates to create and uphold pathways toward transformative justice. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bind up the wounds of all your people. Give courage to all who experience uncertainty, guide all people facing difficult decisions, and lift the spirits of any who are in need especially Bobby, Dan, Don, Heather, Jim, Kate, Lynn, Mark, Meredith, Paul, Roberta, and Susan. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Accompany communities struggling with conflict. Help us to listen deeply to one another, that we might know one another more fully and release any hurt or anger. Create ways of healing and reconciliation among us. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Fill us with the spirit of wisdom and perseverance that you grant to all the saints, and bring us, at the last, into the hope of your promised new day. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

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

*** PEACE**

Keep your hands together or make the peace sign if you'd rather not pass the peace with touch.

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

ANTHEM Come Thou, Almighty King, arr. by Lloyd Larson

Mark Olson, trumpet
Ana Zecic Jeffers, piano

MEAL

***OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, **O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen**.

OFFERING

You may give an offering through the Givelify app by scanning the QR code. You may also make an offering by placing a gift in the offering plate as it passes through congregation.

***OFFERTORY**



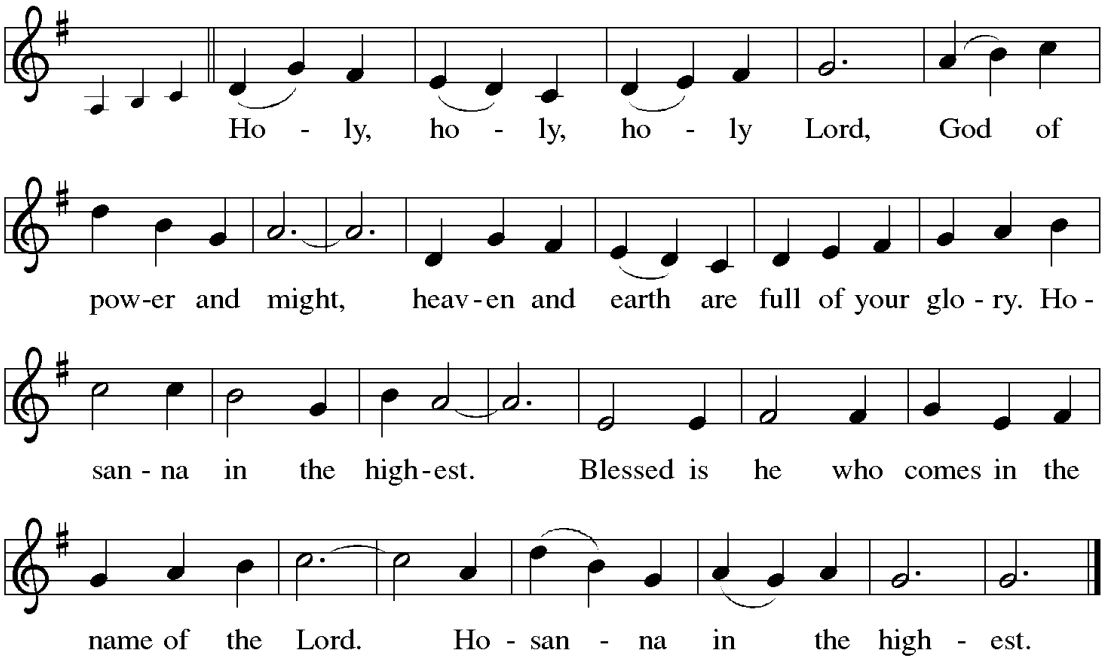
*** GREAT THANKSGIVING**

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.

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:



In the night in which he was betrayed, 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.

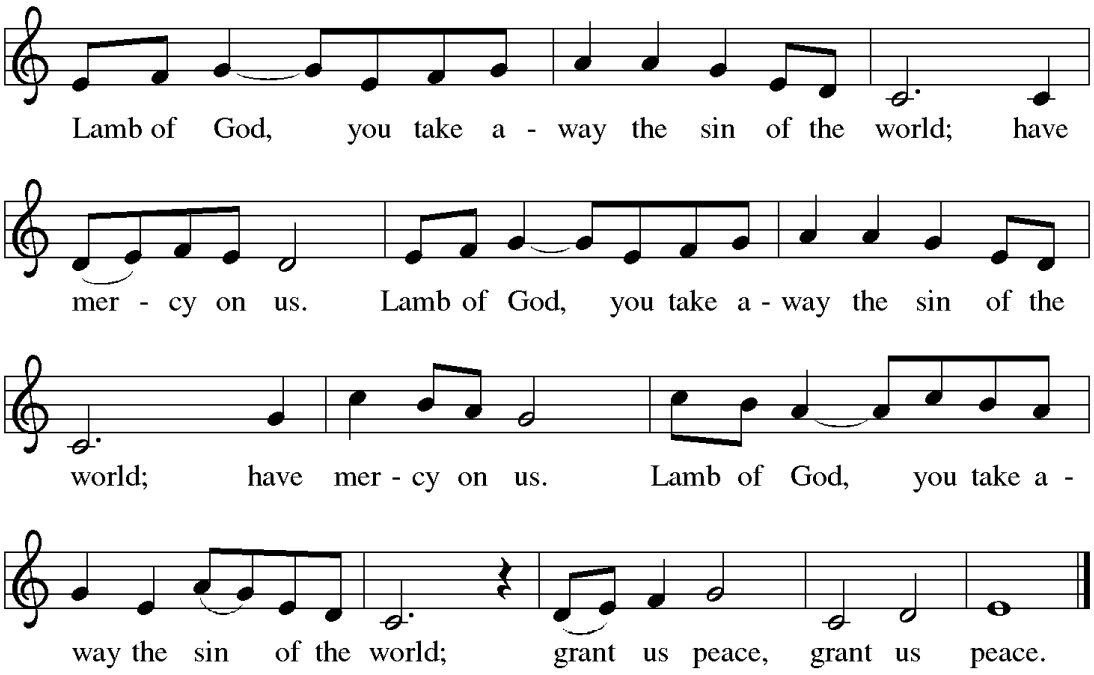
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

*** LORD'S PRAYER**

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.

COMMUNION

All are welcome to receive the bread and the wine. Gluten free wafers are available on request. Both wine (red) and grape juice (white) are available in each tray. Come forward in the center aisle starting at the front of the church. The pastors will motion the first people forward.



COMMUNION HYMN

"For The Fruit of All Creation" ELW 679



*** TABLE BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

*** PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.

God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen**

SENDING

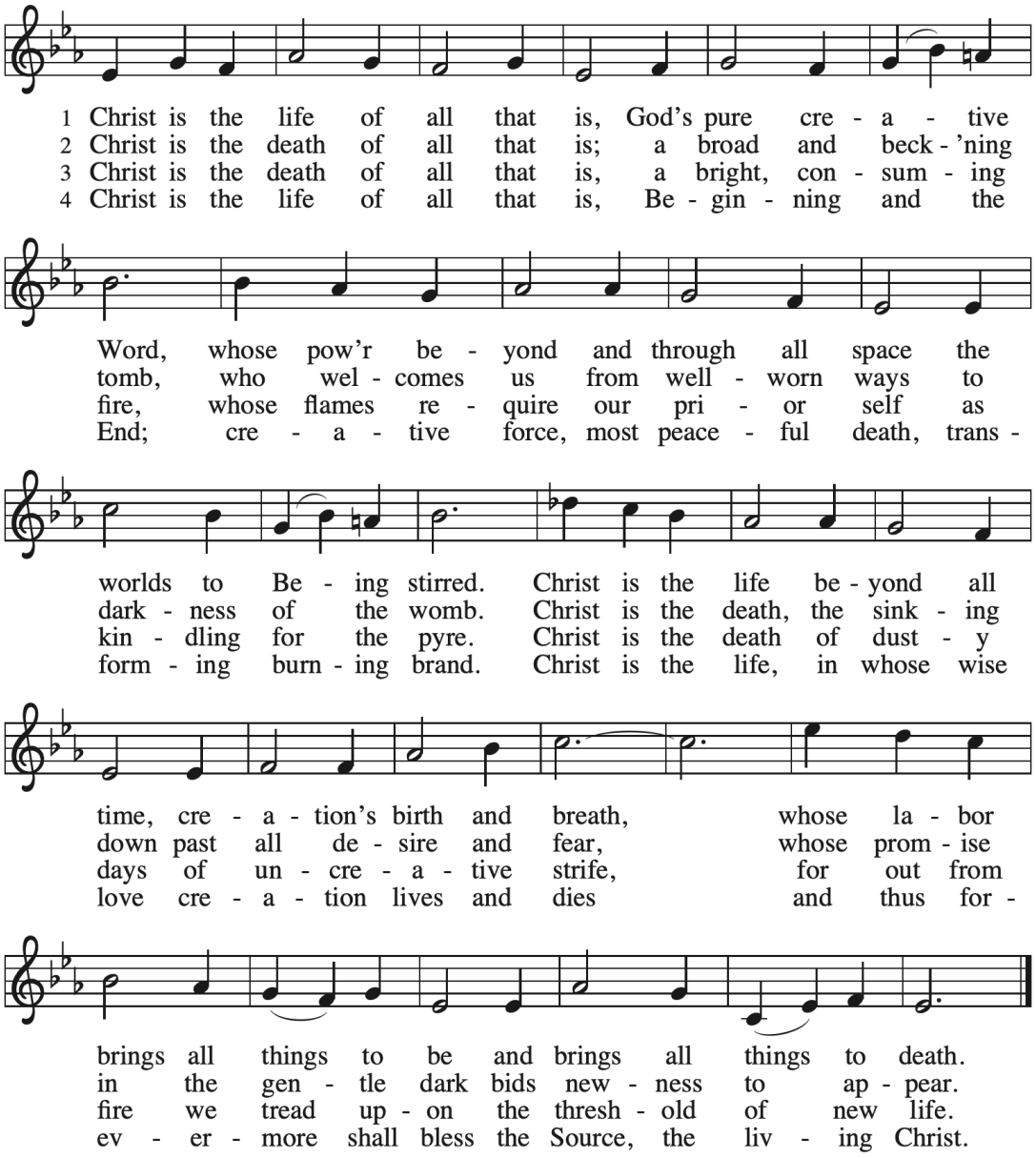
*** BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor ☩ and grant you peace. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*** SENDING HYMN**

"Christ Is the Life" ACS 927



DISMISSAL
Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE Henry T. Smart: Lead On, O King Eternal (arr. by Lloyd Larson)
Mark Olson, trumpet
Ana Zecic Jeffers, piano

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADULT FORUM | Sundays at 9:30 AM

This Sunday, November 22 - John Christianson and Heather Sheridan will dip into the vast subject of Artificial Intelligence. This forum is meant to be an appetizer for a fuller discussion early in the new year. Questions abound, of course, as do anxieties and opportunities. Ethics, regulatory politics, uses and abuses, and reflection on the help that grounded faith may offer in such a time. Heather and John will begin with fairly straightforward matters, and with the group set the table for later conversation.

November 29 and December 6 - Professor Charles Hallisey will present his insights on points of contact between Shinran Buddhism and the New Finnish Interpretation of Luther's theology. Hallisey is the Yehan Numata Senior Lecturer on Buddhist Literatures at Harvard Divinity School. He happens also to be a member of Faith Lutheran Church in Cambridge. You can learn more about Professor Hallisey by listening to a faculty focus interview here: https://www.hds.harvard.edu/news/2023/4/14/faculty-focus-charles-hallisey-beauty-world-buddhist-studies-harvard.

3 CONTEMPLATIVE WEDNESDAY EVENING ADVENT SERVICES | Wednesdays on December 2, 9 and 16 at 7PM in the sanctuary.
On 12/2 we'll Welcome the advent season with Holden Evening Prayer. The next week, on 12/9 we'll use meditative Taizé music and a guided relaxation and in the third week we'll use traditional Advent hymns in Prayer Around the Cross. All are welcome and there are opportunities for you to contribute to music leading, spiritual reflection, or other contemplative activities. Please contact John Christianson if you are interested or have questions johnchristianson@me.com

continued

THANKS FOR THE GOOD START!
This year's pledge season is off to a good start. As of Nov 18, we have received 46 pledges committing just over $202,000. At this stage of 2027 budget development, the estimated target for congregational giving is $295-300,000. If you have pledged in the past but have not yet done so for next year, please pitch in as we prepare ourselves to enter this chapter of St. Paul's life on a strong financial footing. If you have not pledged in the past, this is a great moment to become a first-time pledger! Pledge cards are available in the upper narthex and can be placed in the offering plate or mailed to the church office.

POINSETTIAS ORDERS | Due Sunday, November 29
An order form and be found by clicking here or paper order forms are in the upper narthex during Sunday Services. They are $12 and are in pink, white and red. Kelli Oliver will be collecting forms and payments if not paying for them through Givelify. Take them home after the 8PM Christmas Eve service.

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL / CONFIRMATION CLASS on NOVEMBER 29
We will not be having Sunday School or Confirmation Class on November 29. Instead, all are invited to join us in the Middle School Classroom for an advent craft.

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR GUNTER KEGEL | November 23 at 10:30 AM
We will be having a memorial service for longtime parishioner Gunter Kegel this coming Monday at 10:30 AM.

ASCENTRIA GIVING TREE 2026 | Signup until November 22
We have again committed to fulfill the wish lists of 20 of Ascentria's Unaccompanied Refugee Minors and Unaccompanied Children. Each minor lists 3 wishes. At signup you can choose to fulfill one or more wishes for one or more youth. Some youths have been very specific in the things they have asked for, so donors are welcome to purchase a gift card toward the item if that is preferred. Signup will continue until November 22nd. Gifts will be collected each week, but must be collected by Sunday November 29. Bring your gift to church unwrapped with the gift tag/label (provided) firmly taped to package by Sunday November 29.

ARLINGTON EATS! | November Spotlight Items
- Pasta sauce
- Dried Fruit & Nuts (almonds, walnuts, dates, cranberries, dried apples, mango)
- Soy sauce
- Stock/bullion
- Crackers
- Quinoa
- Farro
- Laundry detergent (smaller bottles or sheets)

SAINT PAUL
LUTHERAN CHURCH
ARLINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS

www.stpaularlington.org | 781-646-7773

Staff

The Reverend Don Larsen, *Transition Pastor*	stpaularlington.interim.pastor@gmail.com
Ana Zecic Jeffers, *Director of Music*	anazecicjeffers@gmail.com
Sarah Carter, *Children, Youth and Families Director*	stpaularlingtonfamily@gmail.com
Jennifer White, *Parish Administrator*	parishadmin@stpaularlington.org
Dennis O'Brien, *Church Property Manager*	

Church Council and Officers

Kerri Frick, *President*
Sandy Walker, *Vice President*
Eric Haugen, *Treasurer*
Piercen Oliver, *Secretary*
Mark Olson, *Financial Secretary*
Kristen Anderson
Eric Carlson
Elizabeth Heichler
Dave Hering
Kathleen Kean
Kevin Kreutter
Taryn Walsh

Committees	Chairperson
Altar Guild	Kelli Oliver
Faith Formation Committee	Bev Hjorth
Intern Committee	Kristen Anderson
Social Ministry Committee	Janice Sniffen
Nomination Committee	Taryn Walsh
Worship & Music Committee	John Christiansen
Finance Committee	Eric Haugen
Audit Committee	Eric Haugen
Usher Committee	Dan Ries & Andy Airasian
Property Committee	Eric Carlson
Call Committee	Sandy Walker

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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