Hope Lutheran Church

Worship Service
November 15, 2026
25th Sunday of Pentecost



Our Vision:
To be known as a Spirit-led
welcoming community of diversity and service.

Our Mission:
We care, share, and prepare so that all experience the love of Jesus Christ.

Guiding Principles:
Jesus is Lord.
God loves everyone.
All are welcome.
Everyone has a purpose.
Pray before acting.
Step out in faith, believing all is possible.
We are saved by grace.

"Whoever you are who worship here, in whatever household of faith you were born, whatever creed you now profess, whatever your race, nationality, sexual orientation, or condition, if you come to this sanctuary to seek the God in whom you may believe, or rededicate yourself to the God in whom you do believe, you are welcome; for this sanctuary is a house of prayer for all people."

PRELUDE **Bells of Hope**

"Break the Bread of Life"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME

Please stand, if able

OPENING HYMN

"As We Gather at Your Table"



CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

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

People: Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Pastor: Holy God,

People: 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.

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

SHARING OF THE PEACE
Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with You!
People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY
Pastor: Let us pray, Righteous God,
People: 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.

Please be seated

10:45 CHOIR ANTHEM **Voices of Hope**
"This Little Light of Mine"

PSALM **Psalm 123**
The psalm will be read responsively. The leader will read the light verses and the congregation will read the bold verses.

1 To you I lift up my eyes, O you who are enthroned in the heavens!
2 As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their master, as the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress, so our eyes look to the Lord our God, until he has mercy upon us.
3 Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy upon us, for we have had more than enough of contempt.
4 Our soul has had more than its fill of the scorn of those who are at ease, of the contempt of the proud.

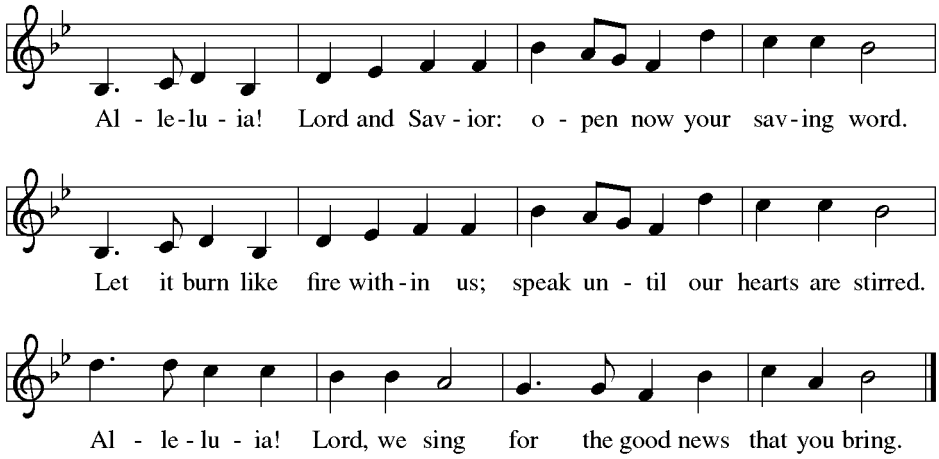
READING
A reading from 1 Thessalonians, chapter 5.
1 Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. 2 For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. 3 When they say,
"There is peace and 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.

Word of God, word of life.
People: Thanks be to God.

Please stand, if able

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 25th chapter.
People: Glory to you, O Lord.

[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.'

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.
People: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

CHILDREN'S SERMON **Pastor Amy Oehlschlaeger**

SERMON **Pastor Amy Oehlschlaeger**

Please stand, if able

HYMN OF THE DAY ***"O Christ the Same"***



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 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

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

A brief silence.

Leader: Holy God, we pray for children around the world. Grant to all children, compassionate adults who will shield them, feed them, and care for them. Empower family members and all caregivers with adequate resources and daily renewal of wisdom and patience. God in your mercy,

hear our prayer

Pastor: In your embrace, we find refuge from all trials and troubles. Care for families who are in conflict, accompany all undergoing medical procedures or mental health treatment, and reassure any who are ill or despairing (*especially*). God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Leader: Bless all who serve in congregational leadership: council members, team members, and small group leaders. Encourage healthy stewardship of time, talents, and resources for the mission of the gospel. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Leader: The faithful of every age trust in the hope of your saving grace. In thanksgiving for the ways our ancestors have journeyed before us, we remember all who have entered eternal life in you. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

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

People: Amen.

OFFERING SONG

"We Are an Offering"



OFFERTORY

"For the Fruit of All Creation"

(vs 1)



Please stand, if able

OFFERING PRAYER

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

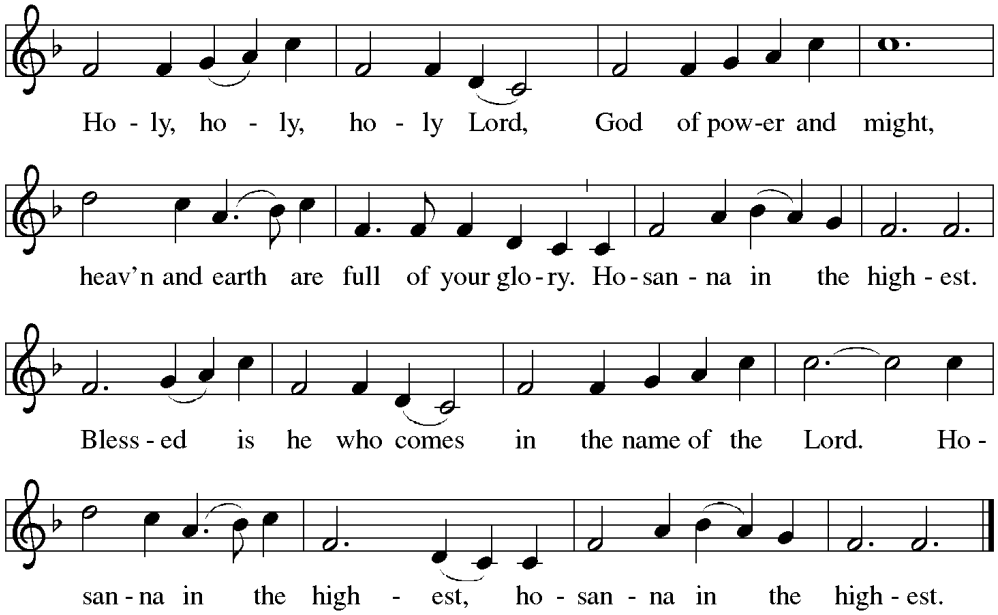
People: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is indeed right …we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

People: 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 HOLY COMMUNION

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

The body of Christ given for you. The blood of Christ shed for you.

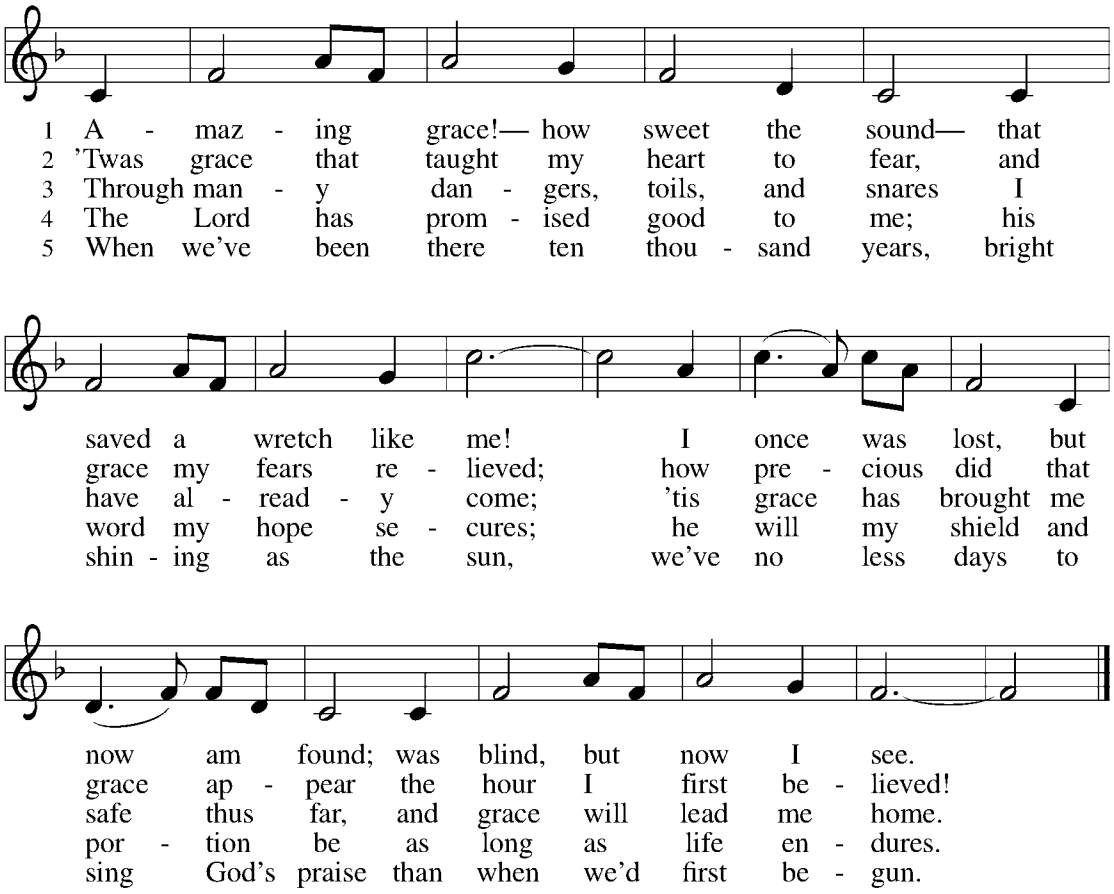
Please be seated

COMMUNION HYMN

"Light Dawns on a Weary World"



"Amazing Grace"



Please stand, if able

Pastor: The Lord's body and blood strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

People: Amen.

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Leader: 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.

People: Amen.

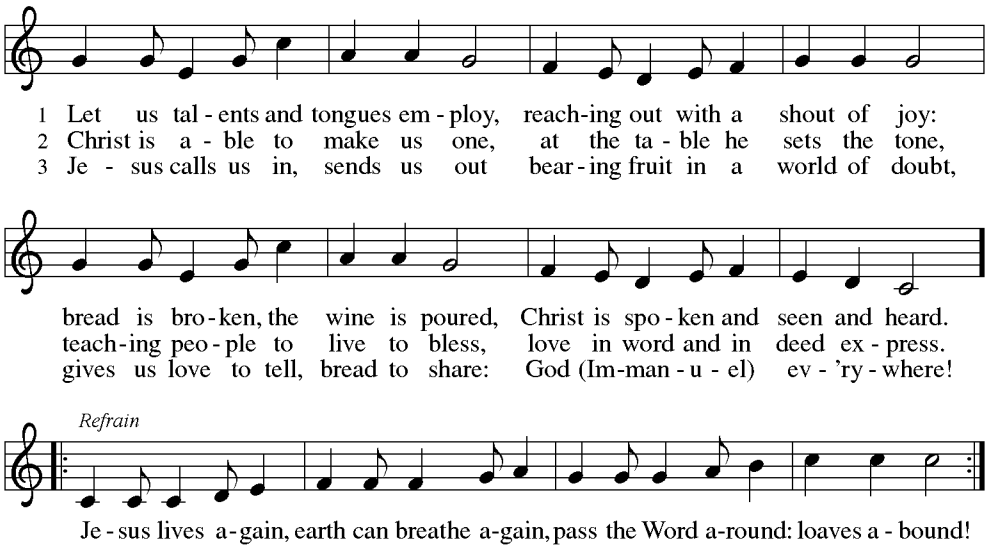
THE BENEDICTION

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

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

"Let US Talents and Tongues Employ"



DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace. Encourage one another.

People: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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