The Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit

An ELCA, Reconciling in Christ, and Rejoicing Spirits congregation

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25th Sunday after Pentecost
November 15, 2026
10:45 am

The Holy Spirit Empowers Us for Ministry in Daily Life

Gathered by God's grace and empowered by the Holy Spirit,
we invite and welcome all people to join us on our journey
to become more faithful ministers of Jesus Christ
in our homes, our communities, and the world.

We welcome all who worship with us today.
Visitors are invited to sign the guest register located in the lobby.
If you are interested in joining our family of faith,
please talk with one of our Pastors or call the church office.

Children are welcome and celebrated!
The "Children's Ministry" table and basket in the lobby
contains a variety of items for children's use during worship.
Stop by to borrow a book or pick up some coloring sheets and crayons.

Please silence all communication devices.

Our services are live streamed and recorded. In-person attendance implies consent to be included in the live streamed and recorded worship service.

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HOLY COMMUNION

All who believe in the presence of Jesus Christ in Holy Communion are welcome to receive the Sacrament. To facilitate flow, the ushers invite people to come forward starting with the back rows and working forward. You should come forward using the center aisle to receive the elements in a continuous style from pastor and worship assistant. Afterward you may choose to kneel or stand at the altar rail for a brief moment of prayer or return to your seat up the side aisle, depositing your empty cup in the receptacle on your way. Gluten free wafers are available. Our wine is grape juice so that all may freely receive. Children who do not commune may come forward for a blessing. Communion kits are available at the usher stands for those who prefer to remain in their seats, and they will be communed along with our Zoom worshippers at the beginning of distribution.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Gathering Music O, God, My Faithful God setting: Rizzotto

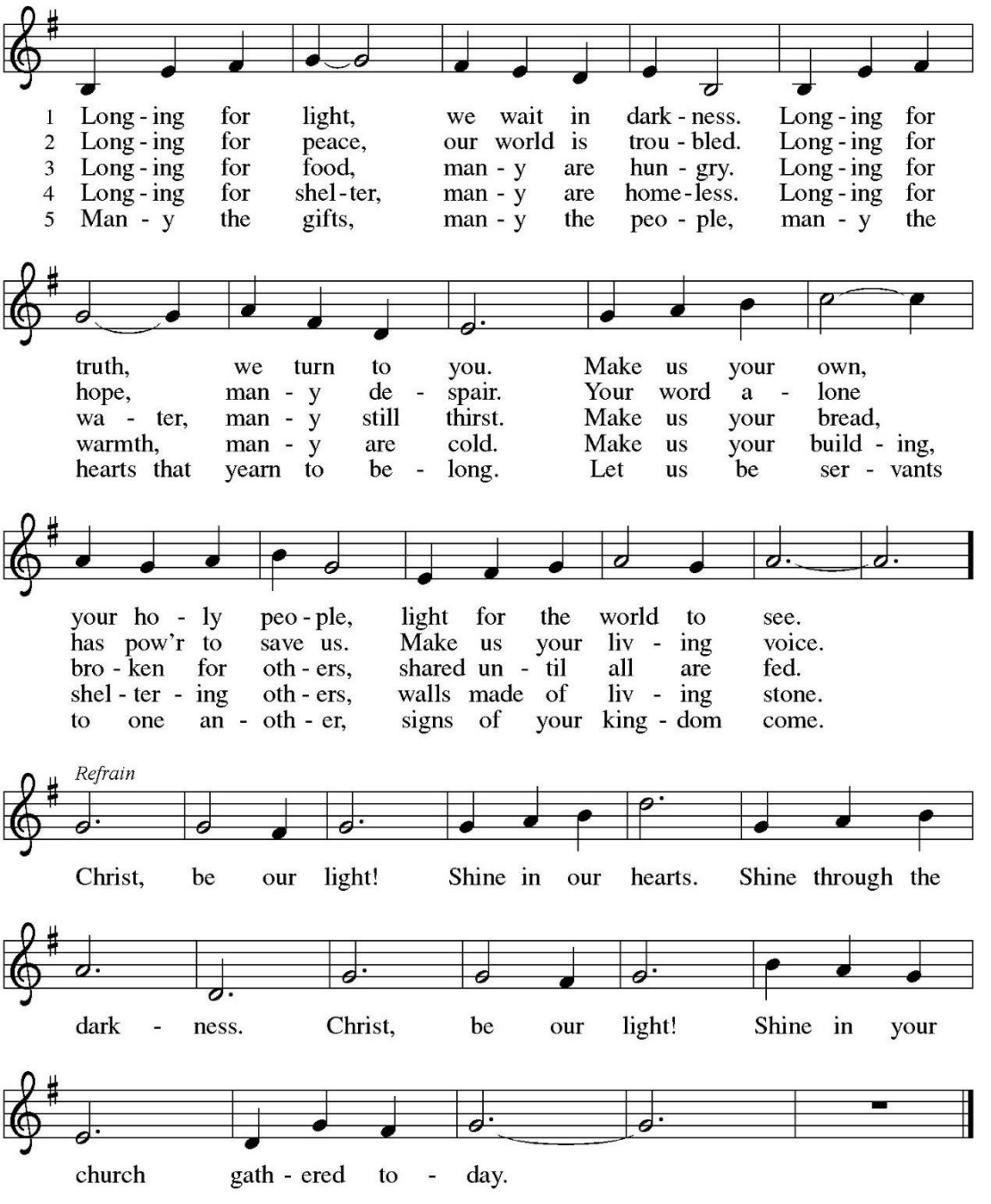
Please rise in body or spirit.

Thanksgiving for Baptism

God has not destined us for wrath, but for salvation.
Confident in God's mercy, we come to the water.
Children of God, through these waters we belong to God
and because of that we need not fear.
Jesus lived for us,
Jesus died for us,
Jesus was raised for us.

Believe the promise of your baptism,
in Christ you are freed and forgiven.

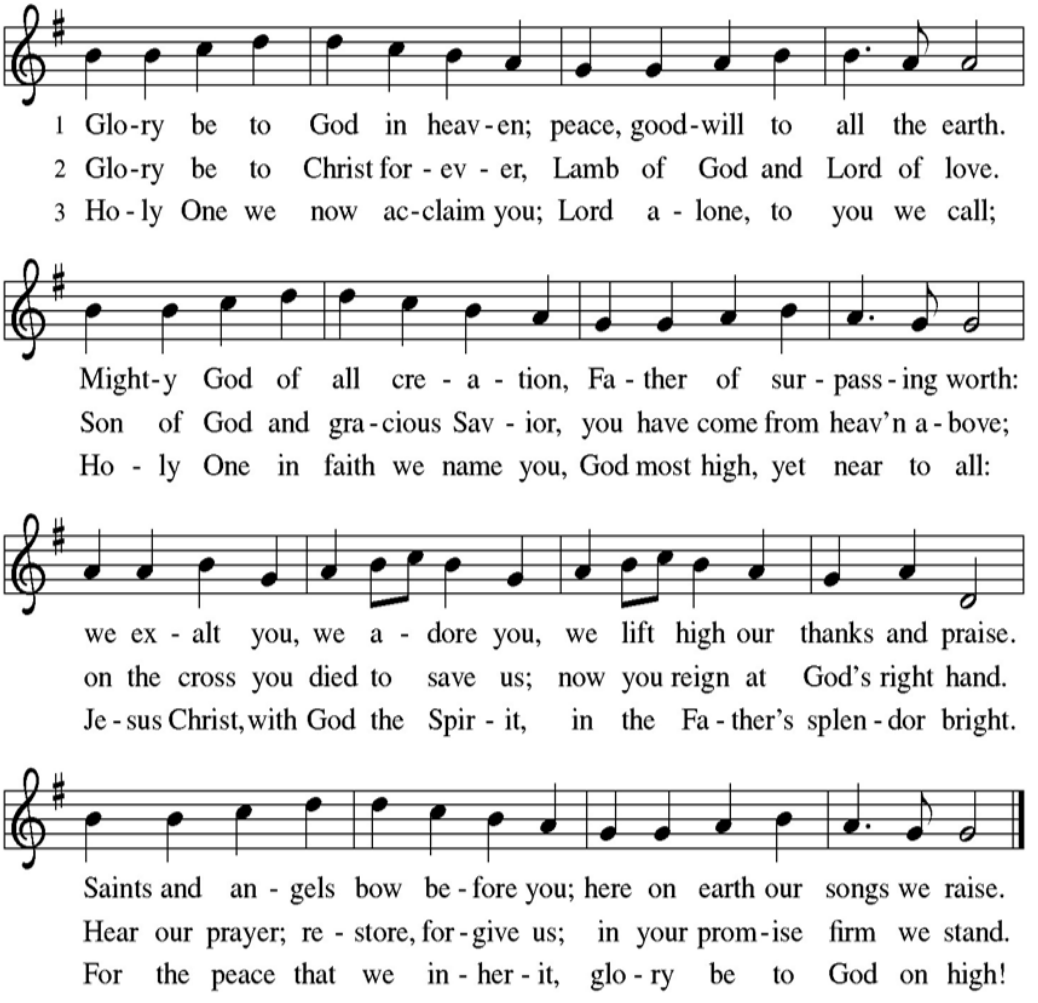
Gathering Hymn Christ, Be Our Light (vs. 1, 2, & 5) ELW 715



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

We pray.
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

The assembly is seated.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture readings, preaching and song.

1st Reading Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18 Translation: NRSVue

A reading from the prophet Zephaniah:

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.

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." 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.

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.
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,
a day of trumpet blast and battle cry
against the fortified cities
and against the lofty battlements.

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. 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.

Word of God, Word of Life.
Thanks be to God!

2nd Reading 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 Translation: NRSVue

A reading from 1st Thessalonians:

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. 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! But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So, then, let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober, for those who sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. 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. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Word of God, Word of Life.
Thanks be to God!

Please rise in body or spirit to welcome the gospel.

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel Matthew 25:14-30 Translation: NRSVue

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

[Jesus said to the disciples:] "For it is as if a man, going on a journey,
summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents,
to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability.
Then he went away. At once the one who had received the five talents
went off and traded with them and made five more talents.
In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents.
But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground
and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came
and settled accounts with them. 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.' 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.'

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.' 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.'
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, so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' 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? 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. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. 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. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' "

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

The assembly is seated.

Sermon Pastor Shari Duminy

Please rise in body or spirit.

Hymn of the Day Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us ELW 707



Bible Sunday

Today we joyfully gift 3-year olds, third graders, and 6th graders beginning confirmation a new Bible. This is a way that we as a congregation help parents to keep their baptismal promise to "place in their child's hand God's Holy Word."

We pray.
We rejoice with all receiving Bibles today as a step in their faith journeys.
We pray God will guide each one, their families, and our congregation.
May the Bibles be used in homes, Sunday School classes,
and in worship as we learn together and grow in our love for God's Word. Amen

Prayers of the People

Invitation to prayer:
Let us enter into a time of prayer for the world.

After each petition:
O God of hope,
awaken us to your new world.

Pastor's closing prayer:
Give us the courage to acknowledge human frailty, limitation, and even death, with confidence in your eternal plan. For we dwell forever in light with you, our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer. **Amen**

Peace

Continue encouraging one another and building one another up as we share signs of peace this day.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace by saying,
"Peace be with you."

The assembly is seated.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

During the Musical Offering, the gifts will be brought forward. You may remain seated. If you wish you may leave your offering in the additional offering plates located on the tables in the back of the sanctuary as you leave.

Musical Offering Here on Jesus Christ I Will Stand Kenyan melody
Spirit Voices

Offering Prayer

We 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.
Amen

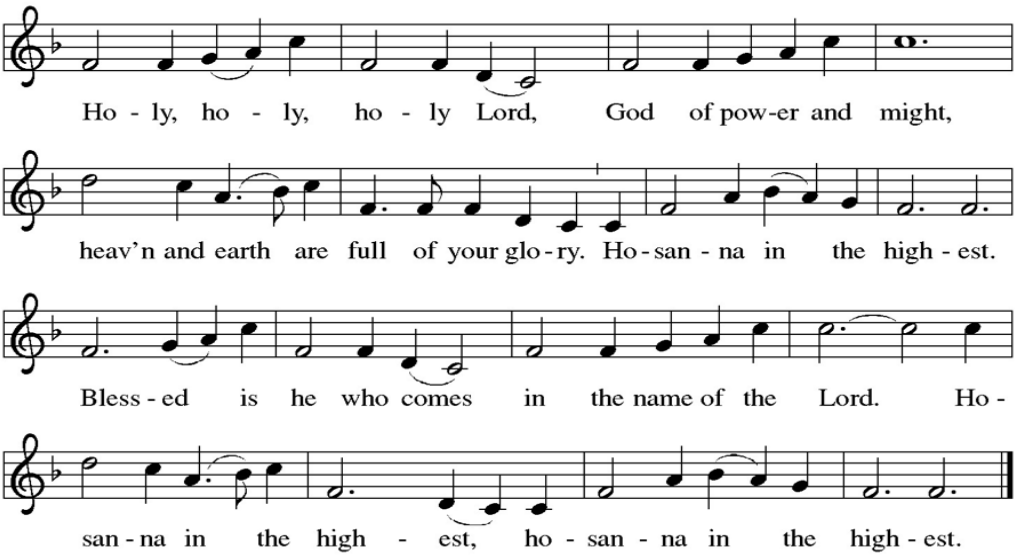
Please rise in body or spirit.

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.

We give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through Jesus Christ our greatest treasure.
And so, we join the unending hymn:

Sanctus



Words of Institution

Word in Meal

Remembering Jesus' love for us on the way,
at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

We pray for the gift of your Spirit:
in our gathering; within this meal;
among your people; throughout the world.

Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God,
through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit,
in your church, without end.
Amen.

Lord's Prayer

We pray together the prayer Jesus taught us:

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.

Agnus Dei



Invitation to the Table

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

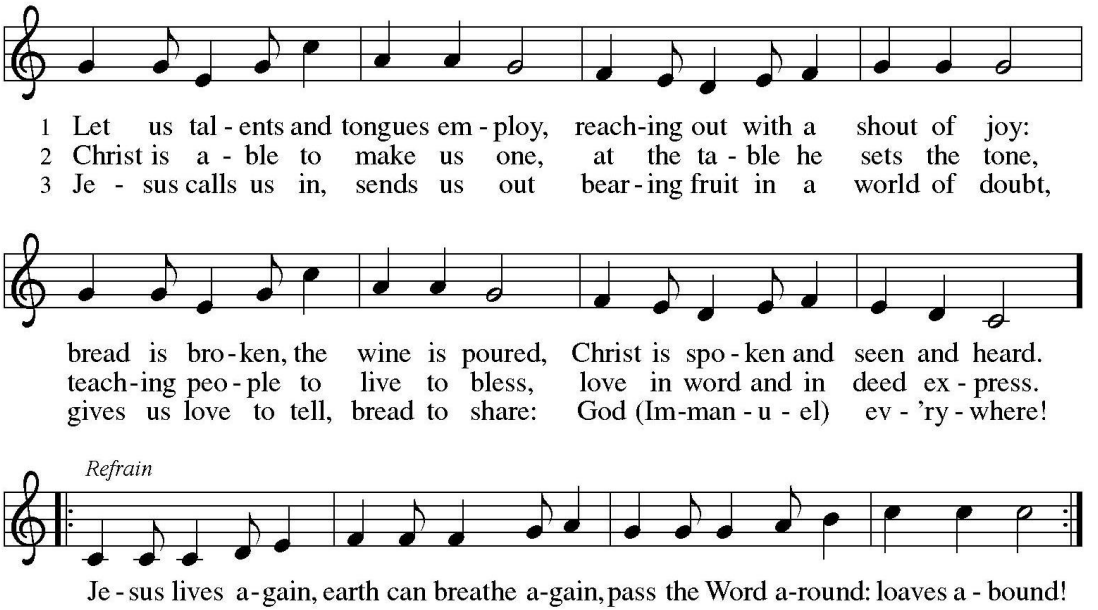
The assembly is seated.

Distribution of Communion

Communion Hymn Light Dawns on A Weary World ELW 726



Communion Hymn Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ ELW 674



Please rise in body or spirit.

Prayer after Communion

We pray. O God, in this holy communion you have welcomed us into your presence, nourished us with words of mercy, and fed us at your Table. Amid the cares of this life, strengthen us to love you with all our heart, serve our neighbors with a willing spirit, and honor the earth you have made; through Christ our Lord.
Amen

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Blessing

The holy Trinity, Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer,
bless you with wisdom to welcome the reign of God,
today and always.
Amen

Sending Hymn O God, Our Help in Ages Past ELW 632



5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
bears all our years away;
they 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. Encourage one another.
Thanks be to God.

Sending Music Postludium Young

Please join in supporting our church's ministries using your preferred method of giving:

venmo

- Enroll in our on-line giving program, Simply Giving (recommended);
- Mail your offering check to the church;
- Text your offering to 610-981-1312;
- Download our mobile app for recurring or one-time gifts;
- Establish automatic contributions to the church using your bank's bill pay service.

Additional information is located in the Stewardship section of the church's website at: lchsemmaus.org.

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WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastor Shari Duminy, Senior Pastor
Pastor Tami K. Reichley, Associate Pastor
Deacon Reylene Starego, Director of Music
Pastor Paisley Le Roy, Interim Director of Liturgy
Karin Kahler, Director Faith Formation for Children

WORSHIP HELPERS

Assisting Minister
Becky Leiby

Reader
Marian Snyder

Communion Assistants
Alice Mudge, Glynnis Rea

Greeter
Cathy Wimmer

Usher
Tom Eichelberger

Production/Technology Team
Al Bauernschmidt, Chuck Coe, Lexi H., Max H., XJ H., Glenn Hinderliter, Eric Kahler, Craig Kauffman, Bill Keane, Paige Mathieu, Tom Moessner, Bob Neitz, Bill Newill, Kristen Newill, Molly Olszewski, Carol Osenbach, John Osenbach, Chris Pirrotta, Ev Reggie, Bob Stevens, and Jimmy Lee Werley

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Carolyn Rice, Robert Rice, Robbie Flynn, Donna Bhagat, Barb Roba, Deb Stevens, Cindy Clark, Julie Timmcke, Marian Harrison, Terri Hinderliter, Dianna Olszewski, Rich Feulner, Marlene Feulner