FIRST READING: Isaiah 45:1-7

Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus,
whose right hand I have grasped
to subdue nations before him
and to strip kings of their robes,
to open doors before him—
and the gates shall not be closed:
[2]I will go before you
and level the mountains;
I will break in pieces the doors of bronze
and cut through the bars of iron;
[3]I will give you the treasures of darkness
and riches hidden in secret places,
so that you may know that it is I, the LORD,
the God of Israel, who call you by your name.
[4]For the sake of my servant Jacob
and Israel my chosen,
I call you by your name;
I give you a title, though you do not know me.
[5]I am the LORD, and there is no other;
besides me there is no god.
I arm you, though you do not know me,
[6]so that they may know, from the rising of the sun
and from the west, that there is no one
besides me;
I am the LORD, and there is no other.
[7]I form light and create darkness,
I make weal and create woe;
I the LORD do all these things.

Psalm 96:1-9 [10-13]

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,
To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:
Grace to you and peace.

[2]We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly [3]remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. [4]For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, [5]because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. [6]And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy from the Holy Spirit, [7]so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. [8]For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. [9]For they report about us what kind of welcome we had among you and how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God [10]and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

GOSPEL: Matthew 22:15-22

The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. [16]So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one, for you do not regard people with partiality. [17]Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not?" [18]But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? [19]Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. [20]Then he said to them, "Whose head is this and whose title?" [21]They answered, "Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's." [22]When they heard this, they were amazed, and they left him and went away.

Next Sunday's Readings: Reformation Sunday Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 46; Romans 3:19-28; John 8:31-36 *or* **Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost** Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18; Psalm 1; 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8; Matthew 22:34-46.

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Tracks 1 and 2
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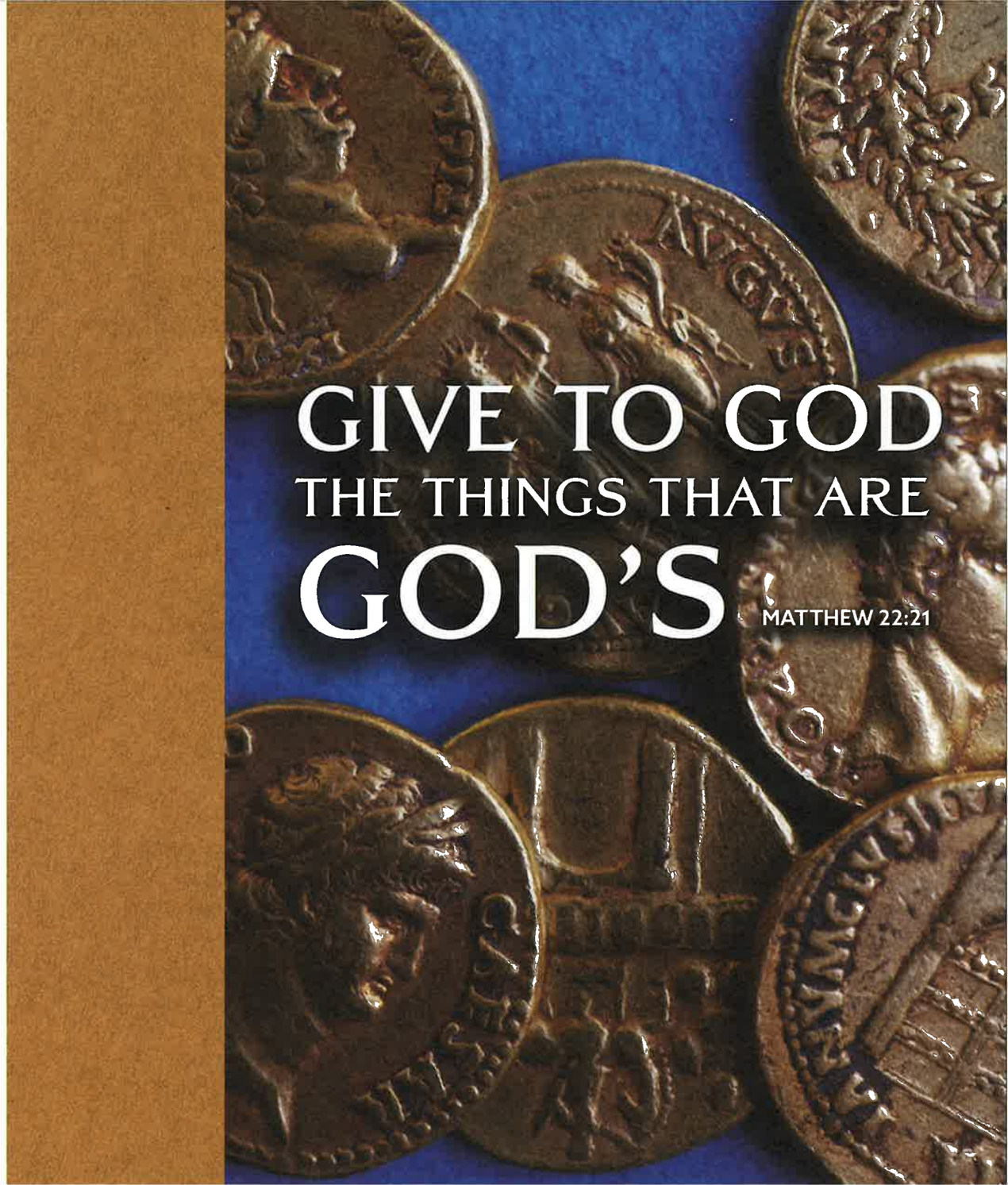

Immanuel Lutheran Church

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Church Secretary: Cindy Wilson 309-825-4099 ckwilson1983@gmail.com

Our mission is to invite people to know Jesus Christ so that we may all share God's love.

Welcome to Worship at Immanuel - With warm hearts and hands, we welcome all who have come to worship the Lord. May this be a time of encouragement and inspiration for us all.

Prayer before Worship: Lord, quiet the distractions within us and around us as we gather in Your presence. Open our hearts to Your Word, fill our minds with Your truth and lead us to worship You with sincerity and joy. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Prayer Requests: We welcome requests of prayers for our members, friends and families throughout our communities and beyond. Anyone is welcome to leave a note on the desk in the office or contact the pastor. **There is also a prayer box with cards to use on the table under the mailboxes for prayer requests.**

Offering envelopes are located and available on the table in the entry. Please designate how you would like to have your offering used if for anything other than general funds.

The Lord's Supper, the Eucharist, or Holy Communion is a means of God's grace whereby the real presence of Christ is offered (on 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month). ***If you would rather receive a blessing instead of Holy Communion, please come forward and cross your arms to your shoulders as indication of wanting a blessing. All are welcome at the Lord's table.***

We have Children's Bulletins for those who wish to enhance the worship experience for the kids. They can be found each week on the table with the regular Sunday Bulletins.

Newsletter, bulletin, and member information or changes may be sent to ckwilson1983@gmail.com or immanuelcolfax@hotmail.com

This Week at Immanuel 9:00 am - Worship 10:00 am - Sunday School

Sunday, October 18, 2026

WORSHIP LEADER: PASTOR MICHAEL JONES
Lay Reader: Dennis Griepentrog
Greeters: Terry & Kay Bose
Ushers/Acolytes: Eli & Katelyn Petersen
Communion: Dennis Griepentrog, Jerry Kukuck
Organist: Kimberly Petersen

Sunday, October 25, 2026

WORSHIP LEADER: PASTOR MICHAEL JONES
Lay Reader: Dan Harms
Greeters: Sherri Ganske, Sharon Hardesty
Ushers/Acolytes: Harlan Brucker, Tom Carlson
Communion: John & Cindy Harris
Organist: Cindy Wilson

Please include the following people in our prayers:
Lois Barker, Cheryl Poppe, Jeannie Weber, Bob & Nancy Lasser, Cindy Harris, Rebecca Casson, Shelby Hall, Rick Vance, Jeri Vance Crawley

Announcements

Today we joyfully and formally welcome the Carlson family, Thomas, Rachel, Gus, Winnie and Daisy to our family of Christ at Immanuel. After the Hymn of the Day, they will be invited to gather around the Baptismal Font and the children will be baptized in the Christian faith. Following the service, everyone is invited to celebrate with the Carlson family in the Lutheran tradition of coffee and refreshments. Please extend a warm welcome today.

Lutheran World Relief Projects Wrap Up
Next Sunday, October 25, Immanuel will bless the quilts and kits made this year for Lutheran World Relief (LWR) before they are shipped at the end of the month. A free will offering will be collected on Sundays October 18th and 25th to pay for shipping, storage and delivery of our gifts. Shipping costs have risen, and it will cost over $300 to ship our projects. In addition, collected funds will be used to purchase school kit bags made by members of St. John's Lutheran Church. Stay tuned for updates on our final count of projects!
Thank you for all your donations of supplies, money, sewing skills, time and prayers, which enable us to show God's love to our neighbors around the world.

Thank you to everyone who helped make our Fall Party so much fun last week!

Adult Sunday School will begin today, Sunday, October 18 at 10:15 am The class is open to anyone who would like to learn more about our Christian faith and teachings through the Bible and Catechism. Our first topic of discussion will be the Holy Trinity.

All Saints Day will be observed on November 1st. There is a book on the lectern at the back of the church for anyone to write names of loved ones who have died. These names will be read during the prayers on All Saints Day.

21st Sunday after Pentecost

October 18, 2026

In today's first reading God uses the Gentile ruler Cyrus to accomplish divine purposes. When the Pharisees try to trap Jesus, he tells them to give the emperor what belongs to him and to God what belongs to God. To gather for worship reminds us that our ultimate allegiance is to God rather than to any earthly authority. Created in the image of God, we offer our entire selves in the service of God and for the sake of the world.

PRELUDE
ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS *Please stand as you are able*

All may make the sign of the cross in remembrance of baptism as the worship leader begins -

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth.

C: Amen.

P: Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Compassionate God,

C: we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.

P: Hear this good news: We have peace with God through ☩ Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

C: Amen. *The congregation may be seated*

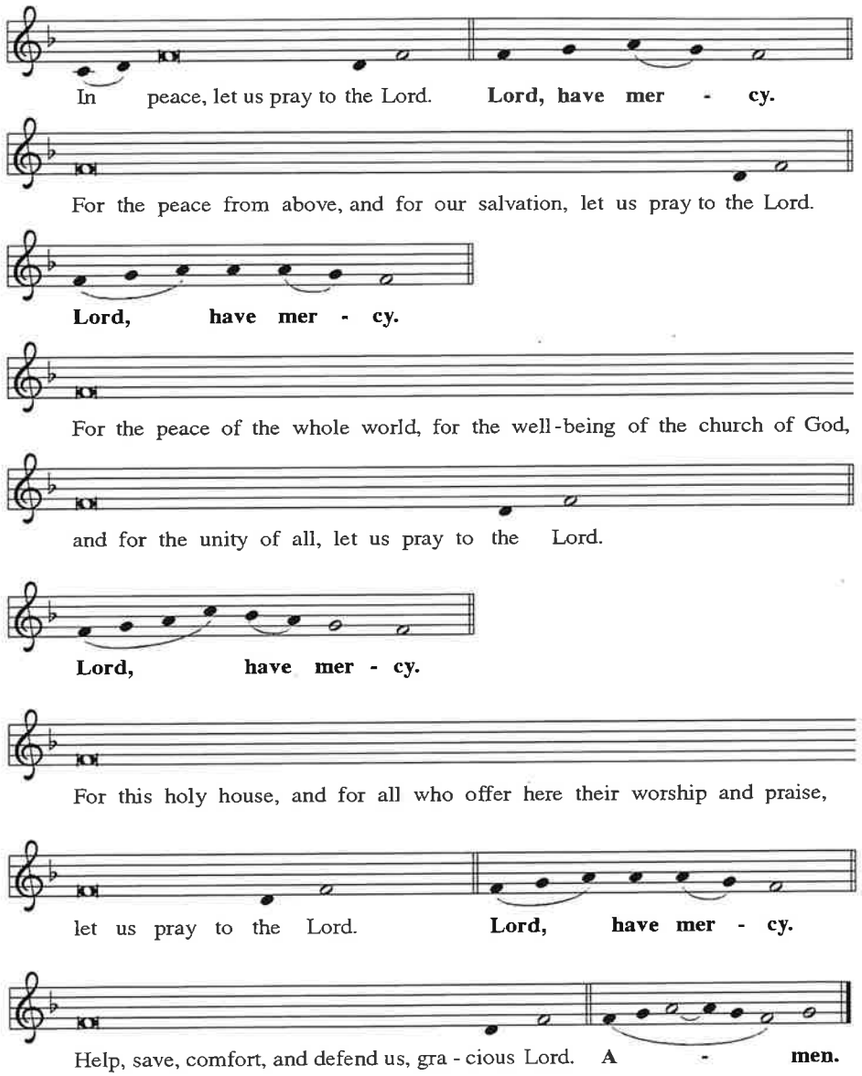
GATHERING SONG ***You Servants of God*** ELW **825**

GREETING *Please stand as you are able*

P: 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.**

THE KYRIE

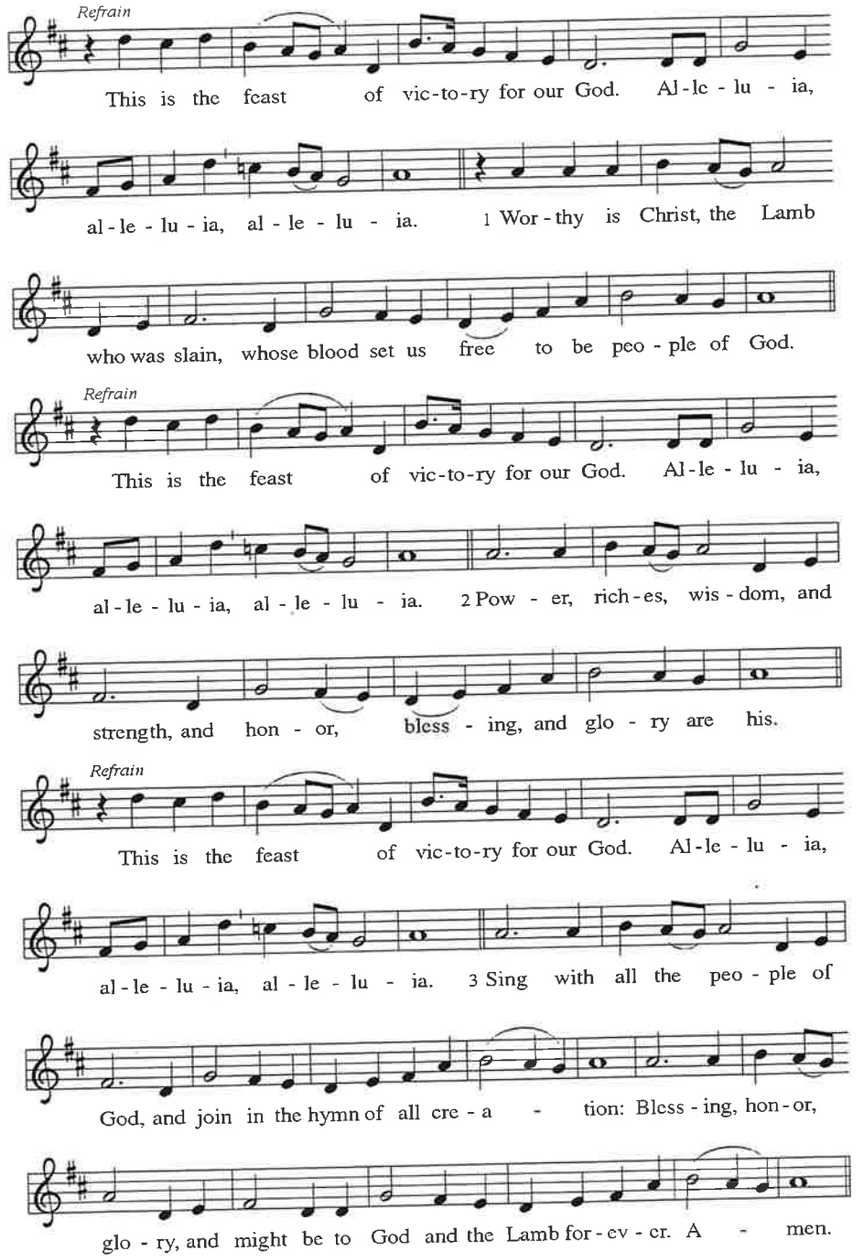
ELW page 138

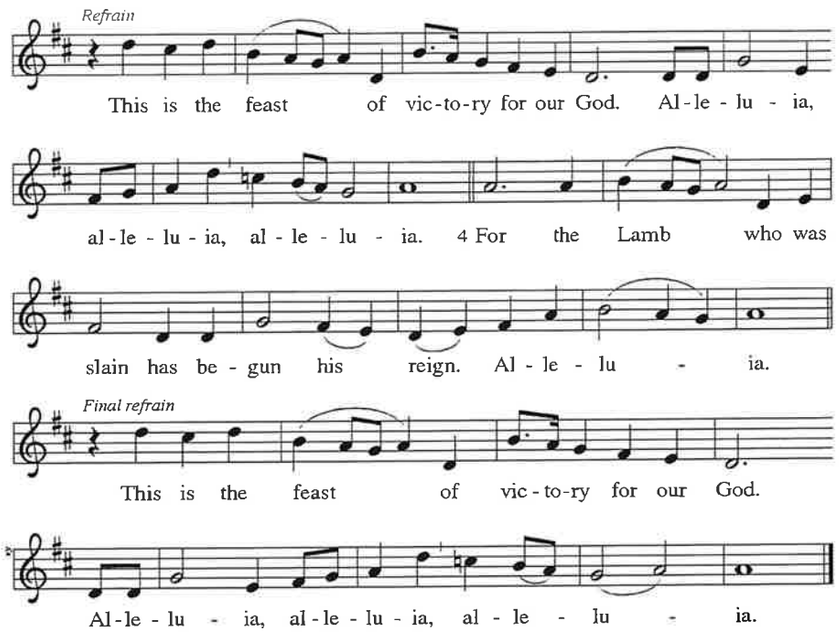


CANTICLE OF PRAISE

This Is the Feast

ELW page 140





PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

The congregation may be seated

Word ~ God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

READING Isaiah 45:1-7 back of bulletin

The prophet announces that Cyrus the Persian emperor is the one the Lord has anointed to end Israel's exile. The Lord makes this choice so that the whole world will recognize this Lord as the only God. Persia had a god of light and a god of darkness; the Lord claims sovereignty over both light and darkness.

After the reading . . . L: The word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

PSALM Psalm 96

Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth.
Sing to the Lord, bless the name of the Lord; proclaim God's salvation from day to day.
Declare God's glory among the nations and God's wonders among all peoples.
For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised, more to be feared than all gods.
As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; but you, O Lord, have made the heavens.
Majesty and magnificence are in your presence; power and splendor are in your sanctuary.
Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples, ascribe to the Lord honor and power.
Ascribe to the Lord the honor due the holy name; bring offerings and enter the courts of the Lord.
Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; tremble before the Lord, all the earth.
Tell it out among the nations: "The Lord is king! The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will judge the peoples with equity."
Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that is therein.
Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your coming, O Lord, for you come to judge the earth.
You will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with your truth.

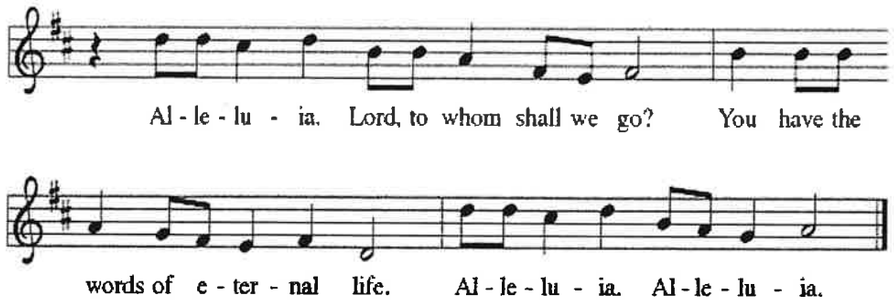
READING 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10 back of bulletin

Most likely this letter is the first written by Paul. Paul gives pastoral encouragement and reassurances to new Christians living in an antagonistic environment. Their commitment of faith, love, and hope makes them a model for other new Christian communities.

After the reading . . . L: The word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ELW, page 142



GOSPEL READING Matthew 22:15-22 back of bulletin

The Gospel is announced:

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew ... **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

After Jesus begins teaching in the temple, religious leaders try to trap him with questions. First they ask if God's people should pay taxes to an earthly tyrant like Caesar.

P: The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

The congregation may be seated

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON Pastor Michael Jones

HYMN OF DAY ***Take My Life, That I May Be*** ELW **685**

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM ELW page 227

Augustus Wayne Carlson
Ceridwyn Fae Carlson
Odessa Rhiann Carlson

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world.

After each petition: P: Hear us, O God. **C: Your mercy is great.**

P: Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

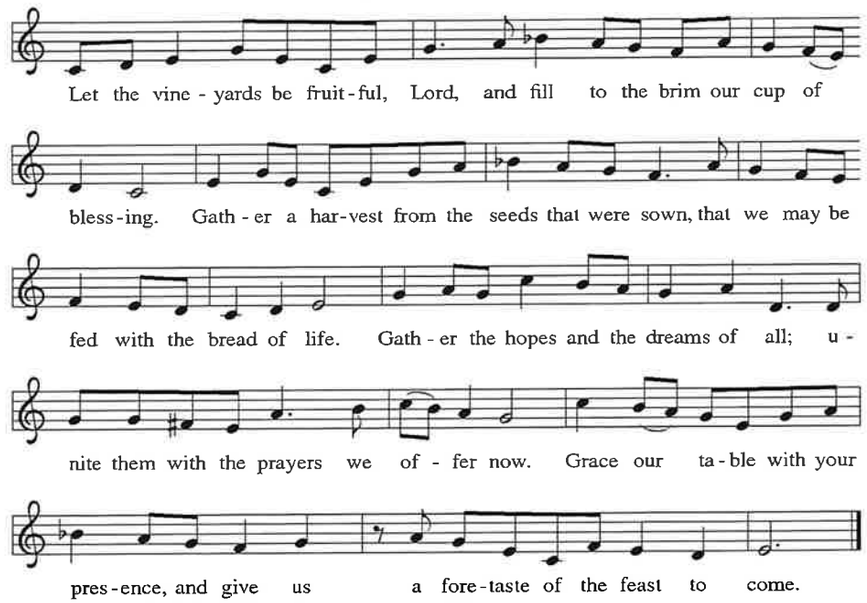
C: Amen.

The Congregation may be seated.

Meal ~ God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

WE GATHER OUR OFFERINGS

*OFFERING SONG *Please stand as you are able* ELW **182**



*OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray... Loving God,

C: God of creation, you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always. Amen.

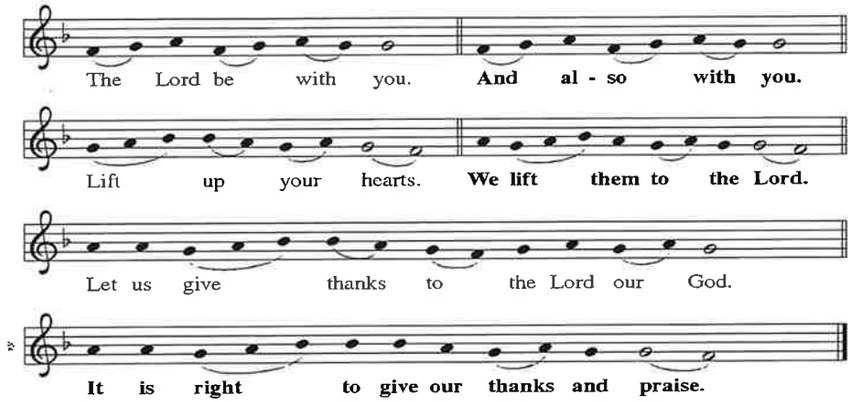
SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The Peace of the Lord be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

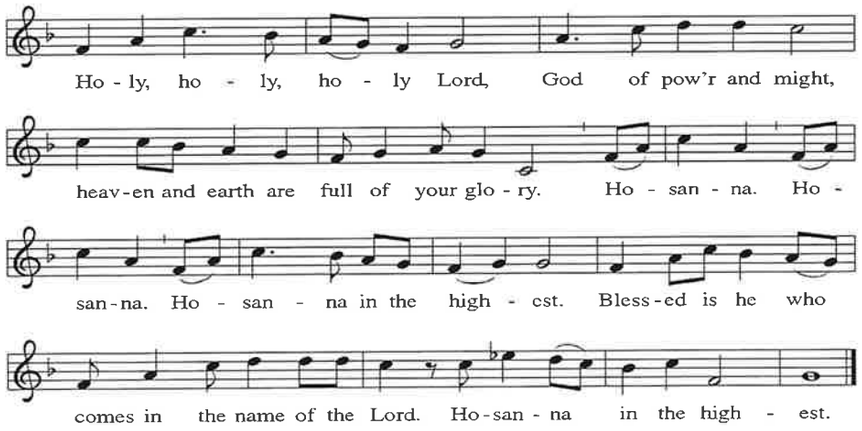
P: Let us share that peace with one another.

The congregation may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



P: 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, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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

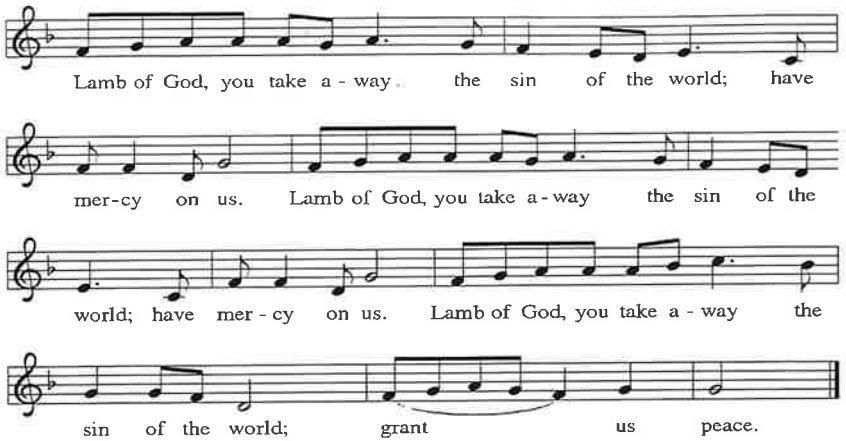
P: Christ invites you to this table. All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

Congregation may be seated.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

All are invited to receive Holy Communion at the Lord's table. The inner circle of cups contain grape juice, the rest are wine. Please follow the directions of the ushers. If you would rather receive a blessing instead of Holy Communion, please come forward and cross your arms to your shoulders as indication of wanting a blessing today. Everyone is welcome at the Lord's table.

COMMUNION HYMNS ***Lamb of God*** ELW page 146



HYMNS ***Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me*** ELW **623**
O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts ELW **658**

After all have returned to their places, please stand as you are able.

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Let us pray...

C: Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

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

BLESSING

P: The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind, in the body of Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

P: The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances through the interceding of the Spirit. **Amen.**

P: The God of grace ☩ bless you now and forever. **C: Amen.**

HYMN ***Lift Every Voice and Sing*** ELW **841**

DISMISSAL

P: Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace. **C: Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE