

# Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

## *Twenty-Fifth Sunday After Pentecost*

10:00 AM Worship Service • November 19, 2023

*Setting 2*



*Our readings during November speak of the end times. Zephaniah proclaims that the coming day of the Lord will be filled with wrath and distress. Paul says it will come like a thief in the night and urges us to be awake and sober. Jesus tells the parable of the talents, calling us to use our gifts, while we still have time, for the greater and common good. In a world filled with violence and despair, we gather around signs of hope – word, water, bread, and wine – eager to welcome the good news of Christ’s coming among us.*

**Welcome members and guests** to our worship service today. If you are visiting, we encourage you to sign the guest register located in the narthex; or, if you are online during our worship service, drop us a line to say hello or that you and your family are attending, so that we know you have joined us for worship. For those who come in person, please include your home address, email address and phone number. In each pew, there is a card that you can fill out if you wish to have a consult with the pastor and/or leave us more information about you. Sunday School begins at 8:45 followed by a worship service at 10:00 AM on Sunday mornings.

**A nursery room is available** during the service. The nursery is located off the hallway on the Huntington Avenue side of the church building. At this time, there are no nursery attendants. We also have “activity binders” available for older children to enjoy during the service. Please ask an usher about using one.

**Trinity offers an induction loop** for the benefit of hearing impaired worshippers. To use, please switch your hearing aid to “T.”

**TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
6812 River Road, Newport News, VA 23607  
(757) 245-7861 – <http://trinitylutheran-nn.com>  
Church Office Hours: M-Th 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.



**REV. TINA MELUSKY** – Pastor ([tina.melusky@gmail.com](mailto:tina.melusky@gmail.com))

**GEOFFREY BELL** – Director of Music Ministries ([music@trinitynn.org](mailto:music@trinitynn.org))

**KATHY STEVENS** – Interim Administrative Assistant ([admin@trinitynn.org](mailto:admin@trinitynn.org))

**CAROL BESSOM** – Treasurer ([cbessom@trinitynn.com](mailto:cbessom@trinitynn.com))

**THE CONGREGATION OF TRINITY LUTHERAN** – Ministers of the Word

**FACEBOOK & WORSHIP LIVESTREAMS:** <http://facebook.com/TrinityNN>

**TRINITY LUTHERAN SCHOOL WEBSITE:** <http://trinitynn.org>

**PASTOR MELUSKY'S OFFICE HOURS**

Monday 9am-12pm; Tuesday 9-10:30am, 11:30am-12:15pm;

Wednesday 9:30am-12pm; Thursday 9am-12pm

Times are flexible with monthly meetings, but feel free to call for an appointment or drop in.

**Pastor's Cell:** (734) 239-4013

Trinity is a partner church with Peninsula Pastoral Counseling Center, LINK, THRIVE, and The Simple Sunflower.

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## CARILLON CALL TO WORSHIP

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### PRELUDE

*For the Beauty of the Earth*

arr. Clay Christiansen

### GATHERING

*The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross,  
the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved. **Amen.**

Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy One,

**we confess that we are not awake for you.**

**We are not faithful in using your gifts.**

**We forget the least of our siblings.**

**We do not see your beautiful image in one another.**

**We are infected by sin**

**that divides your beloved community.**

**Open our hearts to your coming,**

**open our eyes to see you in our neighbor,**

**open our hands to serve your creation.**

Amen.

Beloved, we are God's children, and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us. Through † Jesus you are forgiven, by Jesus you are welcomed, in Jesus you are called to rejoice! Let us live in the promises prepared for us from the foundation of the world. **Amen.**

#### GATHERING HYMN

*For the Beauty of the Earth*

ELW 879

DIX

*The assembly faces the processing cross.*

### 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.**

# CANTICLE OF PRAISE



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



1 Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al - migh-t-y God and Fa - ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



2 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.



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



3 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

*The assembly is seated.*

## WORD

### FIRST READING: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

*Zephaniah (like the prophet Amos in last week's first reading) presents the day of the Lord as one of judgment and wrath. Descriptions of the last day in the New Testament include details taken from Old Testament accounts of the day of the Lord.*

Be silent before the Lord God!

For the day of the Lord is at hand;  
the Lord has prepared a sacrifice,  
the Lord has consecrated his guests.

At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,  
and I will punish the people  
who rest complacently on their dregs,  
those who say in their hearts,

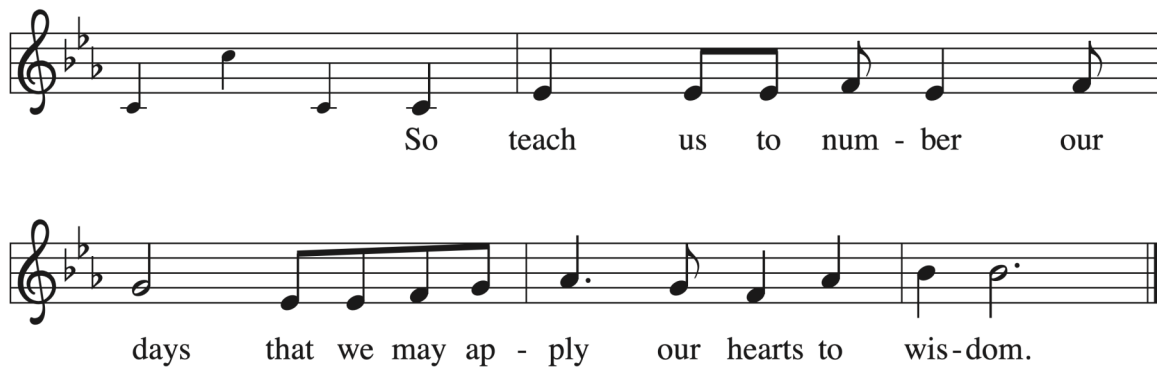
“The Lord will not do good,  
nor will the Lord do harm.”  
Their wealth shall be plundered,  
and their houses laid waste.  
Though they build houses,  
they shall not inhabit them;  
though they plant vineyards,  
they shall not drink wine from them.

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 the Lord's passion  
the whole earth shall be consumed;  
for a full, a terrible end  
the Lord will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 90** (all sing the response before the reading and when directed.)



Lord, you have been our refuge  
from one generation to another.

**Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born,  
from age to age you are God.**

You turn us back to the dust and say,  
"Turn back, O children of earth."

**For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past  
and like a watch in the night; R**

you sweep them away like a dream,  
they fade away suddenly like the grass:  
**in the morning it is green and flourishes;  
in the evening it is dried up and withered.**

For we are consumed by your anger;  
we are afraid because of your wrath.

**Our iniquities you have set before you,  
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance. R**

When you are angry, all our days are gone;  
we bring our years to an end like a sigh.

**The span of our life is seventy years, perhaps in strength even eighty;  
yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow, for they pass away quickly  
and we are gone.**

Who regards the power of your wrath?  
Who rightly fears your indignation?

**So teach us to number our days  
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom. R**

**SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11**

*Though we do not know and cannot calculate the day of Christ's return, we live faithfully in the here and now as we anticipate the day when we will be given eternal salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

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, beloved, 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 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 God. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

*The assembly stands.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,  
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
*Repeat alleluia*

**Abide in me as I a- | bide in you;  
 those who abide in me | bear much fruit.**

**GOSPEL: Matthew 25:14-30**

*Jesus tells a parable about his second coming, indicating that it is not sufficient merely to maintain things as they are. Those who await his return should make good use of the gifts that God has provided them.*

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 25th chapter. **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. The one who had received the five talents went off at once 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 seed; 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 the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The assembly is seated.*

**CHILDREN’S CHAT**

Pastor Tina Melusky

**SERMON**

Pastor Tina Melusky

*The assembly stands.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

*God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending*  
RUSTINGTON

ELW 678

## APOSTLE'S 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 OF INTERCESSION

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

*The assembly is seated.*

## RECEIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

### OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*Look at the World*

John Rutter

*Look at the world, everything all around us.  
Look at the world and marvel every day.  
Look at the world: so many joys and wonders,  
So many miracles along our way.*

*Praise to thee, O Lord, for all creation,  
Give us thankful hearts that we may see:  
All the gifts we share, and every blessing,  
All things come of thee.*

*Look at the earth bringing forth fruit and flower;  
Look at the sky, the sunshine and the rain;  
Look at the hills, look at the trees and mountains,  
Valley and flowing river, field, and plain.*

*Think of the spring, think of the warmth of summer  
Bringing the harvest before the winter's cold.  
Everything grows, everything has a season,  
Till it is gathered to the Father's fold.*

*Every good gift, all that we need and cherish  
Comes from the Lord in token of his love;  
We are his hands, stewards of all his bounty;  
His is the earth and his the heavens above.*

**OFFERTORY HYMN**

*Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful*

ELW 181

*The assembly stands.*

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

God of all goodness,  
**generations have turned to you,  
gathered around your table,  
and shared your abundant blessings.**  
Number us among them  
that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance,  
and give thanks for your rich blessings,  
we may feast upon your very self  
and care for all that you have made,  
through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant. Amen.

**MEAL**

**GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

**PROPER PREFACE**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise...

...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**SANCTUS**

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,

heav-en. and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the

high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

**THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

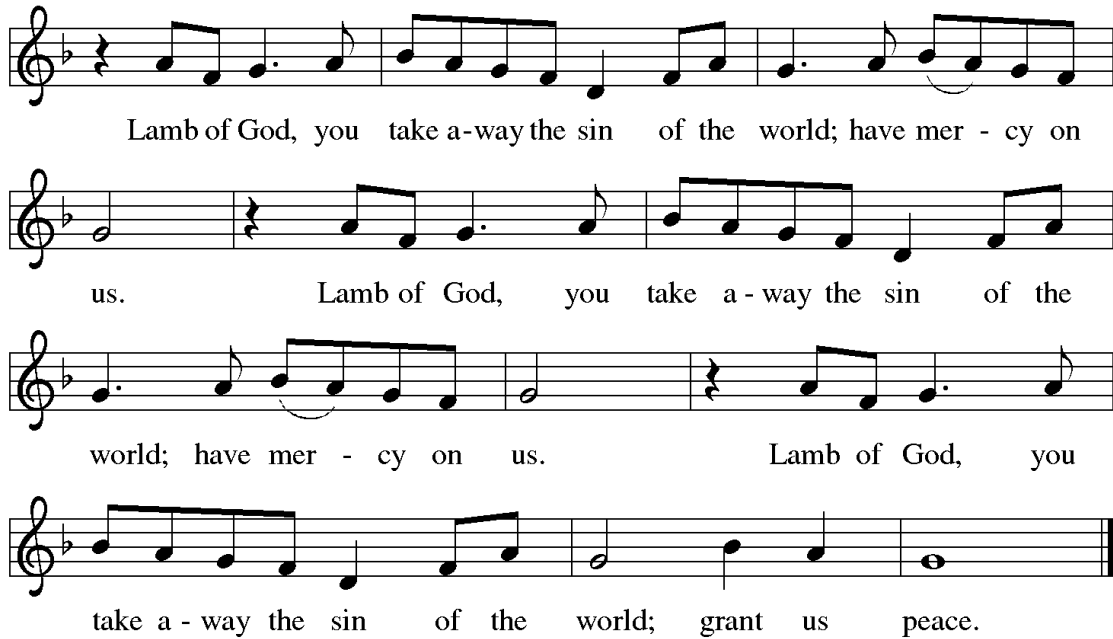
**LORD'S PRAYER**

**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.

*The assembly is seated.*

## AGNUS DEI



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on  
us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you  
take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

## COMMUNION

*Communion is held around the table. The bread will be handed to you by the pastor. Please take a communion cup with wine from the outside edge of the tray or a grape juice cup from the center of the tray. Recycle baskets are located outside of the sanctuary doors for your plastic cups.*

## MUSIC DURING THE DISTRIBUTION

*For the Fruit of All Creation*  
AR HYD Y NOS

ELW 679

*The assembly stands.*

## SENDING

### TABLE BLESSING

### POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

### BLESSING

May the God of all creation, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved, who strengthens us for service, give you reason to rejoice and be glad! The blessing of God, Sovereign, † Savior, and Spirit, be with you today and always. **Amen.**

### SENDING HYMN

*Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ*

ELW 674

LINSTEAD

*The assembly faces the recessing cross.*

### DISMISSAL

Beloved of God, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### POSTLUDE

Now Thank We All Our God "Marche Triomphale"

Sigfrid Karg-Elert

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The flowers this Sunday are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Richard E. "Dick" Davis by Laura Davis.

Please remain after worship for the congregational meeting.

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## Serving the Assembly

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**Crucifer**

Carl Carpenter

**Acolytes**

Karina Stevens

Elena Stevens

**Lector**

Charles Robinson

**Ushers/Greeters/Presenters**

Dave Roselius

Karoline Ardis

**Camera/Livestream**

Garrett Mynoymany

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## NOTES

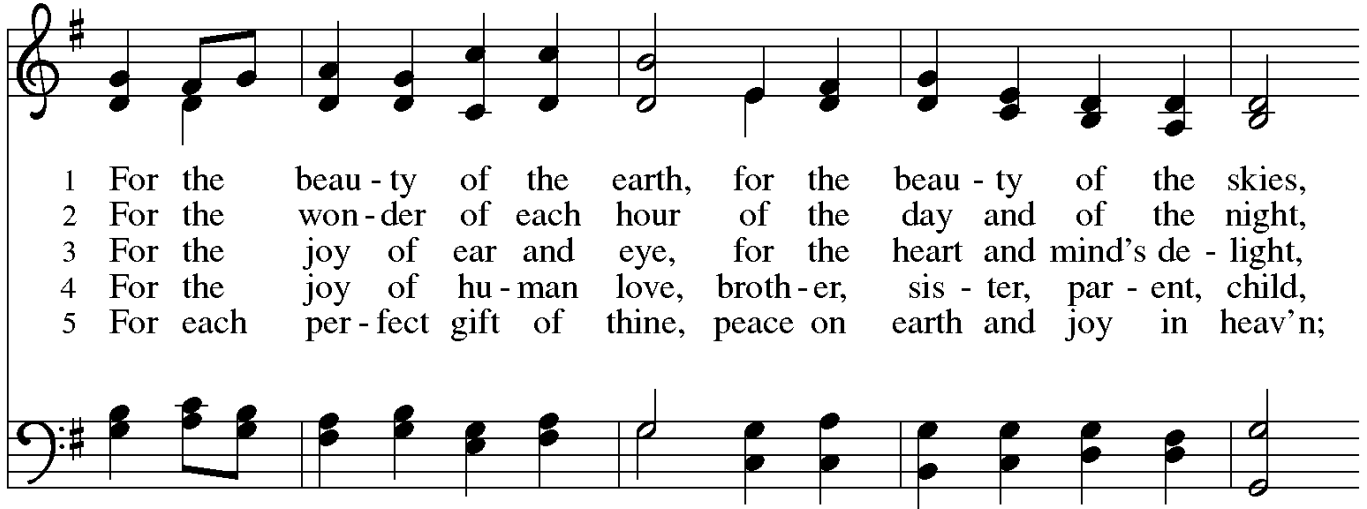
- Team Foundation disbursement forms are due today
- We need 4 more people for the Edmarc Gift Wrapping slots. Thursday, November 30 from 9-12.
- Poinsettia order forms are available in the Narthex or online.

## PRAYER LISTS

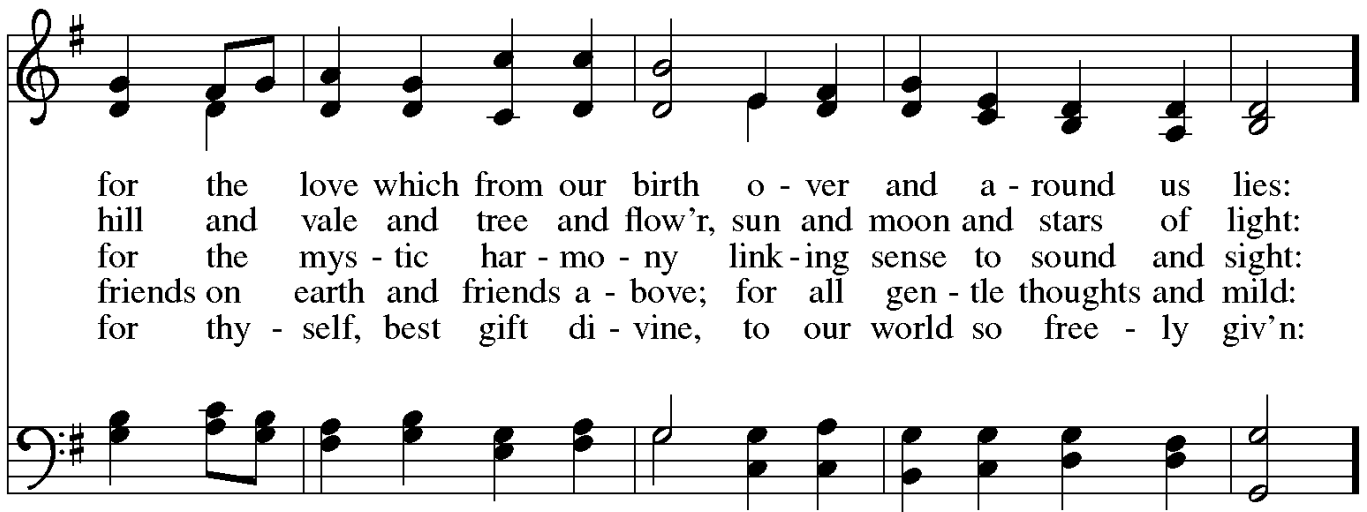
**ILLNESS, SURGERY, RECOVERY, SHUT-INS: Nursing Homes/Assisted Living:** Jeanette Cantrell, Millie Christensen, Lucille Lebold, Louise Mozingo (Northampton room W6), and Barbara Olson (The Chesapeake, Health Care Unit, Room 5); **Shut-in at Home:** Peggy Cash, Janet Edwards, Doris Moeser, and Dick Sallade; **at Riverside:** Kay Scougal; **Recovery At Home:** Richard Anderson.

**PRAYER REQUESTS: The Ahlen Family**, requested by Kathy Stevens; **Matt Adamo (Brother-in-law of Patricia)** requested by Patricia Fielding; **Matt Eggars (Sandy's nephew)**, requested by the Sniady family; the family and friends of **Patricia Goetz**, mother of Kevin Goetz; family and friends of **Nancy Gloss; Loyd Rawls**, requested by Laura Davis; **Mary Lou Hubble (Jacob's aunt)**, requested by the Wessler family; **Jessica Savage**, requested by the Dail Family; **Harry Hartman, Bill Wren and Patrick Soukup**, requested by Anne Obara; **Bill Selby (uncle) and Sherrie Strickland (cousin)**, requested by Wendy Mynoymany; **family and friends of Hannelore Voss (Karoline Ardis's mother) and Susan Koehlinger (Laura Jay's mother)**.

**Those Who Serve, Military and Civilian Duty: James Fielding**, State Dept., Myanmar; **Bryan Hunt**, State Dept., Sierra Leone.; **Eric Lindfors**, Deputy Commander US Naval Forces - Korea; **Tyler Obara**, Virginia Air National Guard, LAFB; **Josh and Ellen (Davis) Badgley**, State Department, Bangkok, Thailand; **Michael Titus**, US Navy, Naval Shipyard, Washington, DC and wife, **Elisabeth Bruce**.



1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the beau - ty of the skies,  
 2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,  
 3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,  
 4 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,  
 5 For each per - fect gift of thine, peace on earth and joy in heav'n;



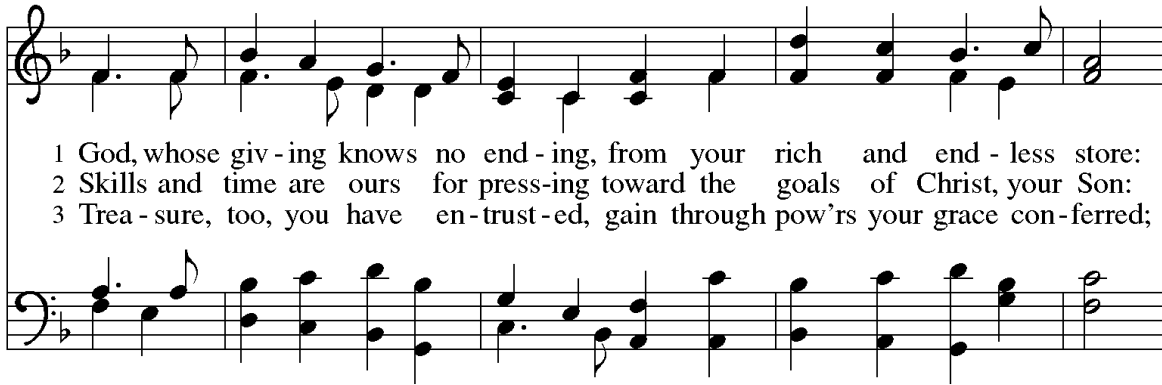
for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:  
 hill and vale and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light:  
 for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:  
 friends on earth and friends a - bove; for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:  
 for thy - self, best gift di - vine, to our world so free - ly giv'n:

*Refrain*

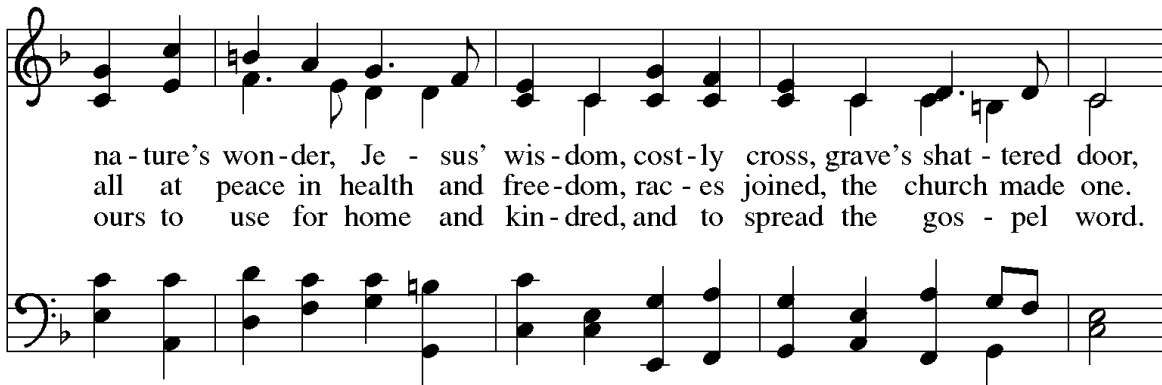


Christ, our God, to thee we raise this our sac - ri - fice of praise.

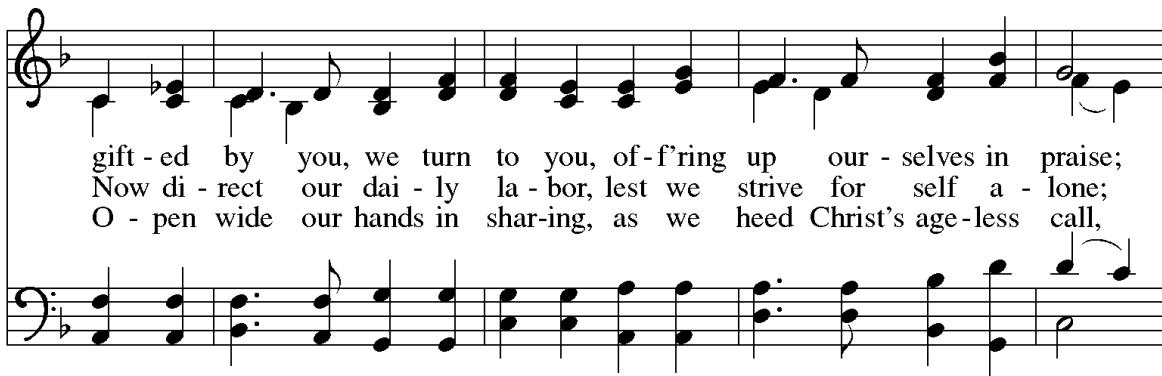




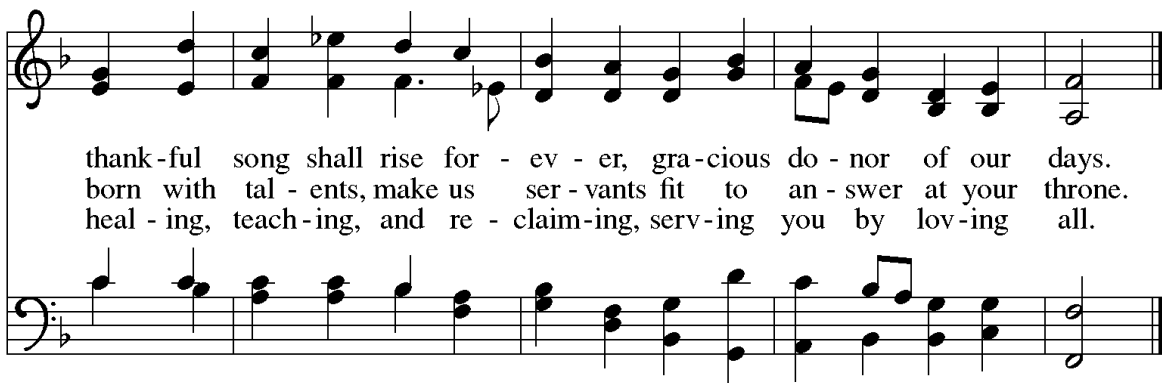
1 God, whose giv - ing knows no end - ing, from your rich and end - less store:  
 2 Skills and time are ours for press - ing toward the goals of Christ, your Son:  
 3 Trea - sure, too, you have en - trust - ed, gain through pow'rs your grace con - ferred;



na - ture's won - der, Je - sus' wis - dom, cost - ly cross, grave's shat - tered door,  
 all at peace in health and free - dom, rac - es joined, the church made one.  
 ours to use for home and kin - dred, and to spread the gos - pel word.



gift - ed by you, we turn to you, of - f'ring up our - selves in praise;  
 Now di - rect our dai - ly la - bor, lest we strive for self a - lone;  
 O - pen wide our hands in shar - ing, as we heed Christ's age - less call,



thank - ful song shall rise for - ev - er, gra - cious do - nor of our days.  
 born with tal - ents, make us ser - vants fit to an - swer at your throne.  
 heal - ing, teach - ing, and re - claim - ing, serv - ing you by lov - ing all.

Text: Robert L. Edwards, 1915–2006

Music: RUSTINGTON, C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848–1918

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Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the  
brim our cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the  
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.  
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the  
prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,  
and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress and music © 2004 Augsburg Fortress.

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1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.  
 2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.  
 3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.

For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.  
 In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.  
 For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.

For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,  
 In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,  
 For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con - found us,

fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.  
 in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.  
 most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

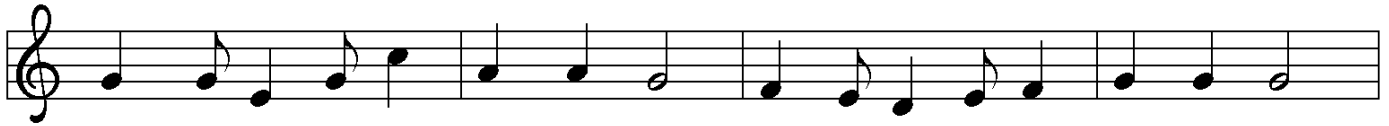
Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

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Outside USA: Arr. from *The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906.

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1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a shout of joy:  
 2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at the ta - ble he sets the tone,  
 3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a world of doubt,



bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.  
 teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.  
 gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im - man - u - el) ev - 'ry - where!

*Refrain*



Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929

Music: LINSTEAD, Jamaican folk tune; adapt. Doreen Potter, 1925–1980

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