

THANKSGIVING SERVICE

24 NOVEMBER 2024

PRAISE *God*
FROM WHOM ALL
Blessings
Flow;
PRAISE *Him*
ALL
Creatures
HERE
Below.

OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

OF THE LAND AND SEASONS

PRELUDE / RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

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

P: Most merciful God,

C: 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 squandered your bountiful gifts. We have considered the blessings of the harvest our due. We have been indifferent in planning and planting for the future needs of your church. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, cause gratitude to ripen in our hearts, and wisdom to mature in our minds, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty, God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

HYMN: “O CHRIST THE SAME”

**O Christ the same, through all our story's pages--
our loves and hopes, our failures and our fears;
eternal Lord, the King of all the ages,
unchanging still, amid the passing years:
O living Word, the source of all creation,
who spread the skies, and set the stars ablaze;
O Christ the same, who wrought our whole salvation,
we bring our thanks for all our yesterdays.**

**O Christ the same, the friend of sinners, sharing
our inmost thoughts, the secrets none can hide;
still as of old upon your body bearing
the marks of love, in triumph glorified:
O Son of Man, who stooped for us from heaven,
O Prince of life, in all your saving power,
O Christ the same, to whom our hearts are given,
we bring our thanks for this the present hour.**

**O Christ the same, secure within whose keeping
our lives and loves, our days and years remain,
our work and rest, our waking and our sleeping,
our calm and storm, our pleasure and our pain:
O Lord of love, for all our joys and sorrows,
for all our hopes, when earth shall fade and flee,
O Christ the same, beyond our brief tomorrows,
we bring our thanks for all that is to be.**

GREETING

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

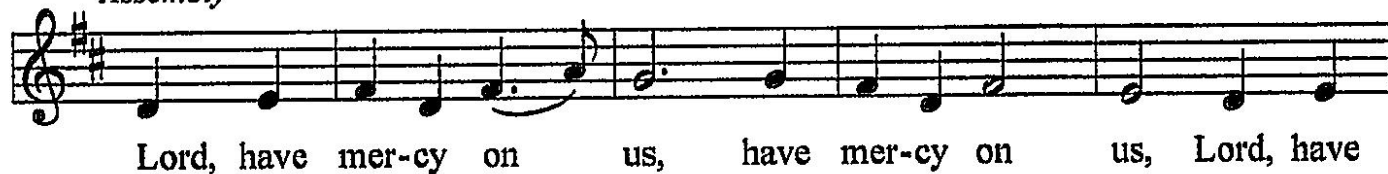
C: And also with you.

KYRIE

Cantor



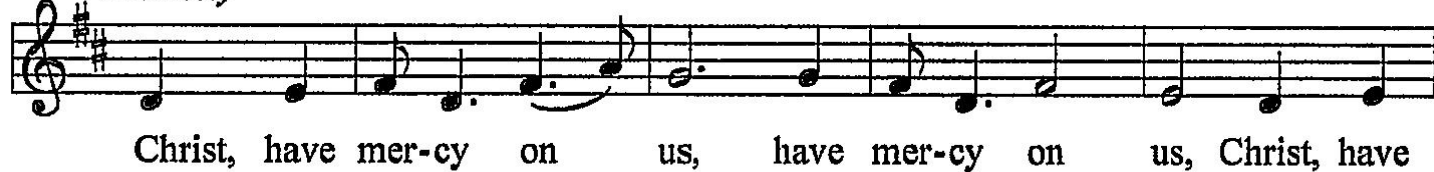
Assembly



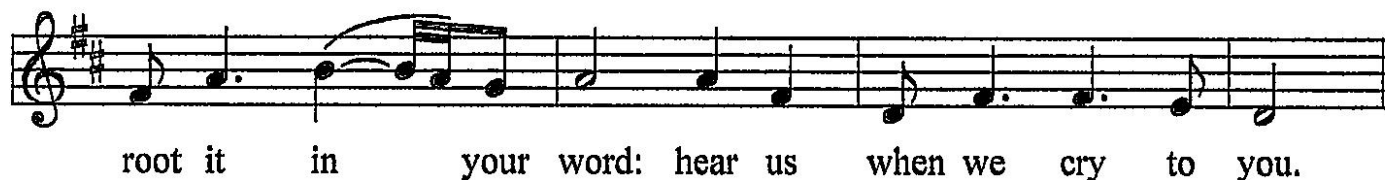
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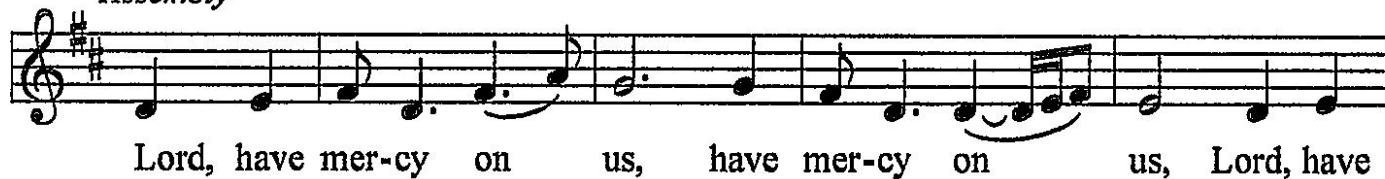
Assembly



Cantor



Assembly



CANTICLE OF PRAISE



1 A - bove the hills the an - gel hosts
2 In heav'n, on earth reigns God Most High,
3 Sing jus - tice, mer - cy, joy, and peace, sing
4 We wor - ship you, our thanks we bring,
5 To Je - sus Christ, God's Son, our Lord,



glo - ry! Glo - ry! Glo - ry! God's love is come to
Yet ten - der - ly God
God's own good will grants
We bow be - fore you
The Lamb of God, e -



seek the lost.
hears our cry.
sin's re - lease. Give glo - ry to God in the high - est!
as we sing.
ter - nal Word.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

God, our provider, you grant us an abundant harvest so that your children throughout the world may be fed. Establish in us thankfulness and faithful stewardship, that we may return the first fruits of praise and use your gifts of field and livestock, tree and vine to fulfill the needs of the hungry and the sojourner; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

FIRST READING: JOEL 2:21-27

P: A reading from Joel.

Do not fear, O soil;
 be glad and rejoice,
 for the Lord has done great things!
Do not fear, you animals of the field,
 for the pastures of the wilderness are green;
the tree bears its fruit,
 the fig tree and vine give their full yield.

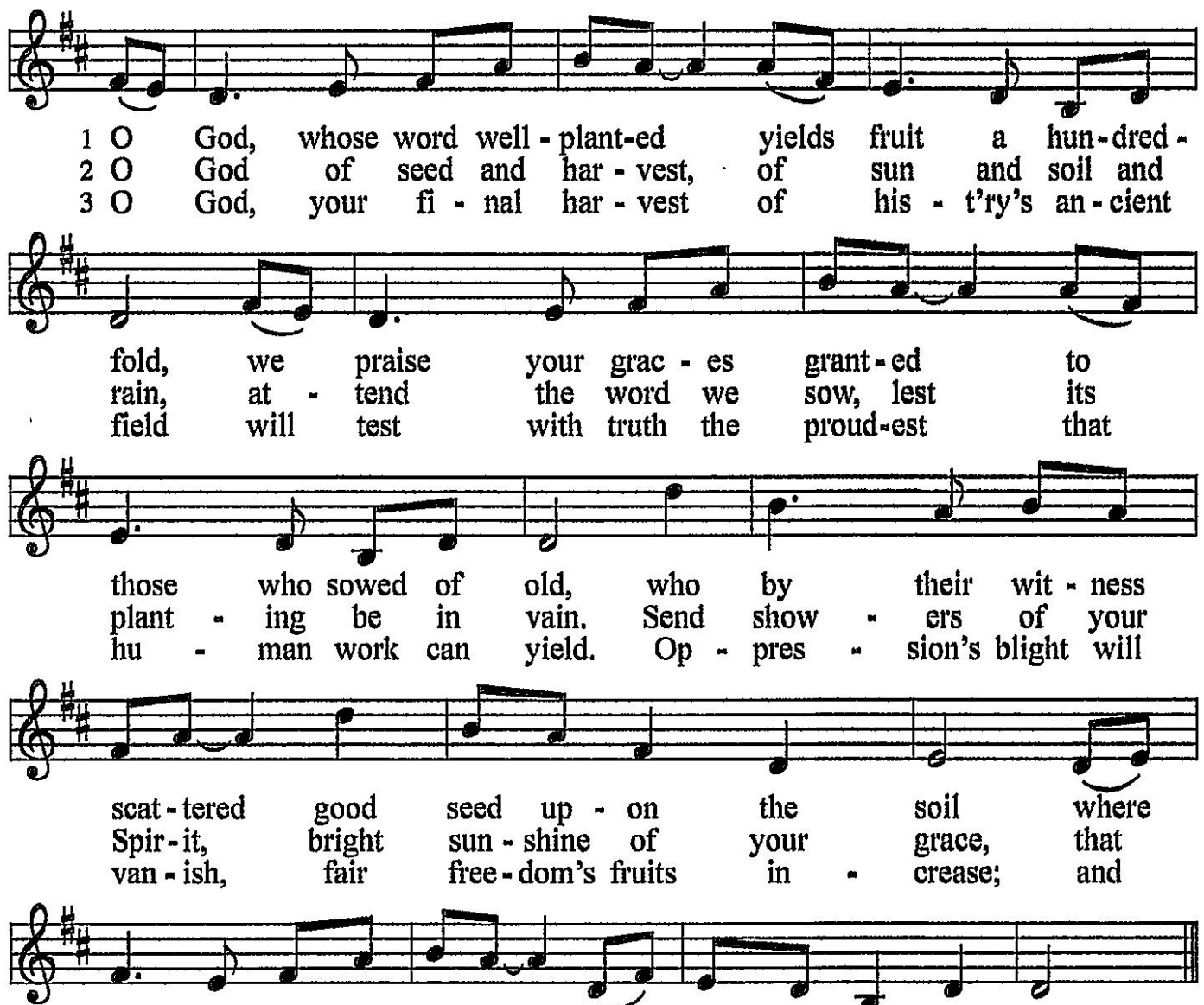
O children of Zion, be glad
 and rejoice in the Lord your God;
for he has given the early rain for your vindication,
 he has poured down for you abundant rain,
 the early and the later rain, as before.
The threshing-floors shall be full of grain,
 the vats shall overflow with wine and oil.

I will repay you for the years
 that the swarming locust has eaten,
the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter,
 my great army, which I sent against you.

You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied,
 and praise the name of the Lord your God,
 who has dealt wondrously with you.
 And my people shall never again be put to shame.
 You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel,
 and that I, the Lord, am your God and there is no other.
 And my people shall never again be put to shame.

L: The Word of the Lord. C: **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn



1 O God, whose word well - plant - ed yields fruit a hun - dred -
 2 O God of seed and har - vest, of sun and soil and
 3 O God, your fi - nal har - vest of his - t'ry's an - cient

fold, we praise your grac - es grant - ed to
 rain, at - tend the word we sow, lest its
 field will test with truth the proud - est that

those who sowed of old, who by their wit - ness
 plant - ing be in vain. Send show - ers of your
 hu - man work can yield. Op - pres - sion's blight will

scat - tered good seed up - on the soil where
 Spir - it, bright sun - shine of your grace, that
 van - ish, fair free - dom's fruits in - crease; and

oth - ers, reap - ing, gath - ered the har - vest of their toil.
 mul - ti - tudes who hear it your gos - pel may em - brace.
 love and joy will flour - ish to clothe the earth with peace.

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 6:25-33

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 6th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

‘Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, “What will we eat?” or “What will we drink?” or “What will we wear?” For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON – REV. LEAH HOLLOWAY-NILSEN

HYMN “PRAISE TO YOU, O GOD OF MERCY”

**Praise to you, O God of mercy!
Thanks be to you forever!
Raising high the weak and lowly;
thanks be to you forever!**

**From of old you loved and sought us!
Thanks be to you forever!
Truth and justice you have taught us;
thanks be to you forever!**

**Strong is your faithfulness,
strong is your love,
rememb’ring your covenant of life with us.**

**Praise to you, O God of mercy!
Thanks be to you forever!
Raising high the weak and lowly;
thanks be you forever!
Thanks be to you forever!**

CONFESSION OF FAITH: APOSTLES’ CREED

P: Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**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

P: With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

We praise you, O Lord, for you alone are God. Give to your church a holy curiosity to ask questions and build bridges across difference. Sustain ecumenical and interreligious partnerships. Commit us to respectful and faithful dialogue with Indigenous neighbors who find the day of Thanksgiving difficult. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We praise you for green pastures and abundant harvest. Feed us with the fruit of the earth, the work of human hands. Bless those who labor in fields and factories for the food that nourishes and strengthens us. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We praise you for leaders who seek justice and equity for all. For all elected officials, we pray. Guide them to prioritize the common good over narrow individualism Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We praise you for your tender care. Be present with those who weep this day. Lead them through their sorrow and tears into shouts of joy. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We praise you for our community of faith. You have brought us this far by faith. In times of worry and uncertainty, renew our trust in your abundance. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We praise you for your saints who now feast at your eternal banquet. Sustain us by their faithful lives of gratitude until that day when we join them at your table. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

P: Into your hand, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

OFFERING



1 Ac - cept, O Lord, the gifts we bring to
2 The vines were plant - ed, seeds were sown. They
3 Our hopes and dreams, our toils and cares we

place up - on your ta - ble. We do not wor - ship
grew in your good plea - sure. What once was com - mon,
lift in prayer be - fore you. Lord, by your grace now

as we ought but on - ly as we're a - ble.
dai - ly food be - comes a ho - ly trea - sure.
come to us, as hum - bly we a - dore you.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Let us pray.

Gracious God, you bless us with gifts of guidance, new life, growth in grace, and fruitful labor. Accept the first fruits of time and toil, field and orchard we offer here. Bless and multiply these gifts to our nurture and the care of your creation; for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

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.**

BLESSING

P: The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus.

C: Amen.

P: The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: The God of all grace ☩ bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

HYMN “FOR THE FRUIT OF ALL CREATION”

**For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God
For these gifts to ev'ry nation, thanks be to God.
For the plowing, sowing, reaping,
silent growth while we are sleeping,
future needs in earth's safe-keeping, thanks be to God.**

**In the just reward of labor, God's will is done.
In the help we give our neighbor, God's will is done.
In our world-wide task of caring
for the hungry and despairing,
in the harvests we are sharing, God's will is done.**

**For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God.
For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God.
For the wonders that astound us,
for the truths that still confound us,
most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.**

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

RINGING OF THE BELL

POSTLUDE