Christ the King

Sunday, November 22, 2026



Gethsemane Lutheran Church

3600 Hampton - St. Louis, MO 63109

Worship God, welcome all to nurture a community of harmony, healing, and justice.

Welcome to worship! We're delighted you are here!



Gethsemane Lutheran Church is a *Reconciling in Christ* Congregation. **You are welcome here.**



We ask all members, guests, and visitors to please fill out the attendance slip in your worship folder and place it in the offering plate.



Please **silence** phones and other devices during the worship service. Sharing that you're at Gethsemane on social media is encouraged! "Check in" using hashtag: #glcstlCheckIn.



The presence, energy, and noise of **children** are always welcome in worship at Gethsemane. The sound of a child in worship is music to our ears. We welcome and encourage kids to move and play. Additional space to move and Wiggle Bags are located in the narthex area.



Postures are a way in which we engage the body in worship. These movements (sitting, standing, making the sign of the cross) are optional; please engage in them only as you are comfortable or able.



Holy Communion is offered to all who seek the presence of Christ. This is a welcome table.



Gethsemane Lutheran Church wishes to **acknowledge** and **honor** the Osage, Quapaw, Myaamia, Očhéthi Šakówiŋ, Kaskaskia, and Kickapoo peoples upon whose ancestral homelands we gather for worship, as well as all our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to care for this place—this land—and call it their home.

CHURCH STAFF

Minister: Pastor Cheryl Walenta Gorvie	pastor@gethsemanestl.org
Connections Coordinator: Gretchen Jenson	connect@gethsemanestl.org
Office Manager: Eve Cooney	office@gethsemanestl.org
Minister of Music/Choir Director: Amy Crousore	organist@gethsemanestl.org
Handbell Choir Director: Ella Rothgangel	handbelldirector@gethsemanestl.org
Council President: Cayce Morice, 314-574-0850	cayce.morice@yahoo.com

Office Hours: Vary, but include Tues-Thurs, 10 am – 3 pm.
Outside of these hours, please call before coming to the church to ensure someone will be here to let you in.

Church Office – (314) 352-8050

office@gethsemanestl.org www.gethsemanestl.org

Holy Communion, Setting 12

On this final Sunday of the church year our gospel is Jesus' great story of judgment. In the end, the faithful are those who served Christ by ministering to those who are poor, hungry, naked, sick, or estranged. In the first reading God is the shepherd who seeks the lost, weak, and injured and feeds them with justice. We gather this day to celebrate the reign of Christ and his victory over death, yet we await the consummation of all things yet to come. Acknowledging Christ as our merciful ruler, we go forth that his reign may be known in our loving words and deeds.

GATHERING

PRELUDE: *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come* George Elvey, Arr. Hal Hopson

The congregation may stand as comfortable.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

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

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

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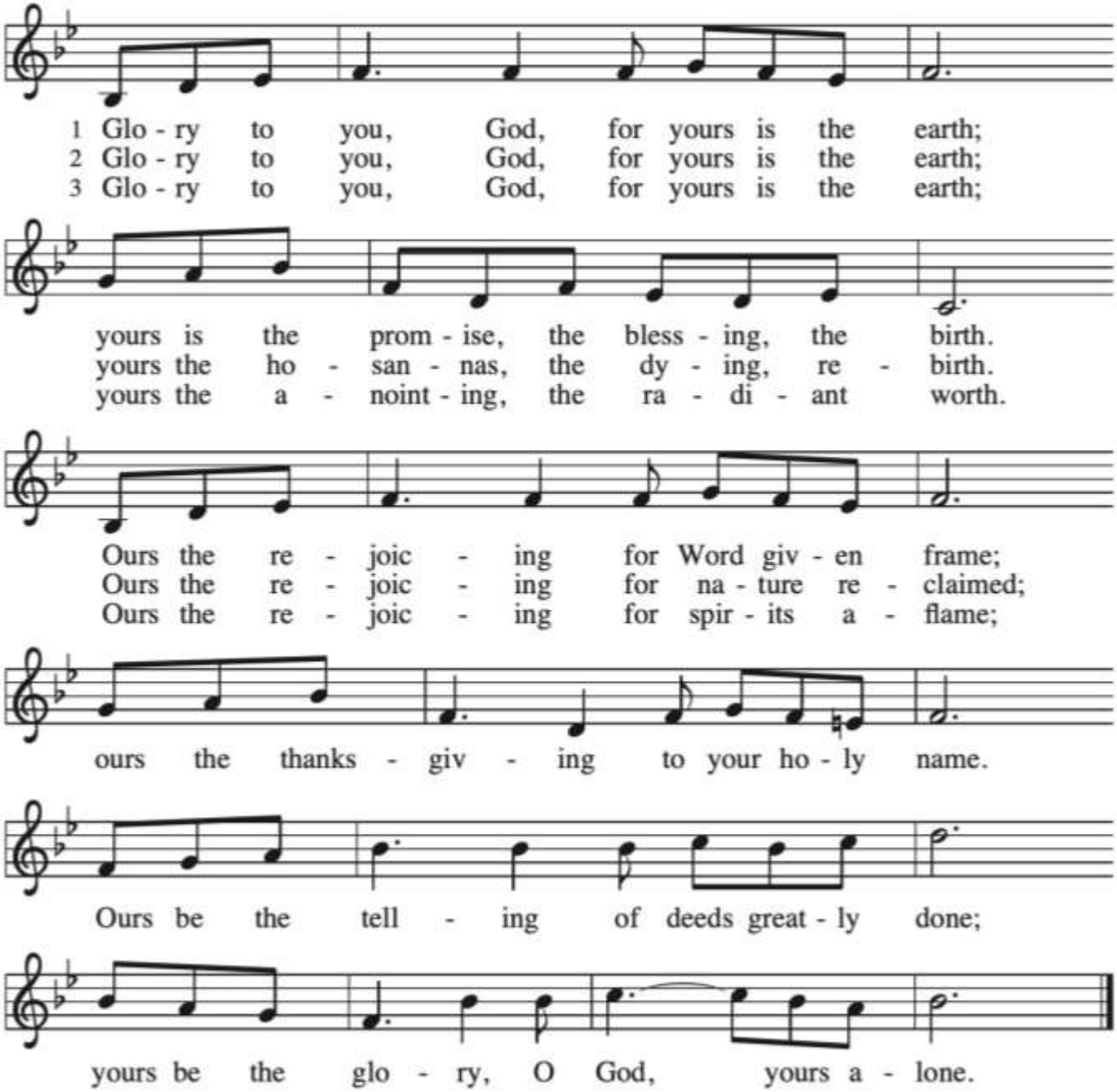
P: Inherit the riches of God's grace. ☩ Jesus, the good shepherd, feeds you with his mercy. You are forgiven. Blessed are you.
C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN: ***Crown Him with Many Crowns*** **HYMN# 855**

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.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE:



PRAYER OF THE DAY

AM: Let us Pray. O God of power and might, your Son shows us the way of service, and in him we inherit the riches of your grace. Give us the wisdom to know what is right and the strength to serve the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

The congregation is seated.

MISSION MOMENT Cindy Breed, Stewardship

WORD

THE FIRST READING: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

Because Israel's kings proved to be bad shepherds, Ezekiel declares that the LORD will assume the role of shepherd in Israel. The LORD will also set over them a shepherd-messiah, "my servant David," who will feed and care for the people.

[11]Thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep and will sort them out. [12]As shepherds sort out their flocks when they are among scattered sheep, so I will sort out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. [13]I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries and bring them into their own land, and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. [14]I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. [15]I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. [16]I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strays, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

[20]Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. [21]Because you pushed with flank and shoulder and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, [22]I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged, and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

[23]I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them; he shall feed them and be their shepherd. [24]And I the Lord will be their God, and my servant David shall be ruler among them; I the Lord have spoken.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 95:1-7a

A cantor will lead the singing of the Psalm with the congregation singing the bolded lines.

[1] Come, let us sing | to the LORD;
let us shout for joy to the rock of | our salvation.
[2] Let us come before God's presence | with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to the | LORD with psalms.
[3] For you, LORD, | are a great God,
and a great ruler a- | bove all gods.
[4] In your hand are the caverns | of the earth;
the heights of the hills are | also yours.
[5] The sea is yours, | for you made it,
and your hands have molded | the dry land.
[6] Come, let us worship | and bow down,
let us kneel before the | LORD our maker.
[7a] For the LORD | is our God,
and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep | of God's hand.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:15-23
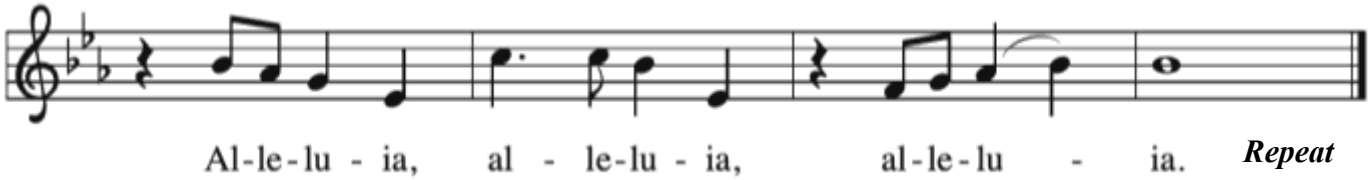
In this passage, God is praised for revealing ultimate divine power in raising Jesus from the dead. The resurrected, exalted Christ is Lord of both the church and the entire universe, now and in the age to come.

15 I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for
this reason 16 I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers, 17 that the
God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and
revelation as you come to know God, 18 so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you
may perceive what is the hope to which God has called you, what are the riches of God's
glorious inheritance among the saints, 19 and what is the immeasurable greatness of God's power
for us who believe, according to the working of God's great power. 20 God put this power to
work in Christ when God raised him from the dead and seated him at the right hand of Power in
the heavenly places, 21 far above all rule and authority and might and dominion and above every
name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. 22 And God has put all
things under the feet of Christ and has made him the head over all things for the church, 23 which
is the body of Christ, the fullness of the one who fills all in all.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The congregation may stand as comfortable.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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

GOSPEL: Matthew 25:31-46

Jesus compares himself to a king who moves among his subjects to see how he is treated: what is done for the least of those who belong to his family is truly done for him.

Jesus said to the disciples: 31 "When the Son-of-Man comes in his glory and all the angels
with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. 32 All the nations will be gathered before
him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the
goats, 33 and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. 34 "Then the king will
say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the dominion

prepared for you from the foundation of the world, [35]for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, [36]I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' [37]Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink? [38]And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? [39]And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' [40]And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.'

[41]"Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You who are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and the devil's angels, [42]for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, [43]I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' [44]Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and did not take care of you?' [45]Then the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' [46]And these will go away into eternal punishment but the righteous into eternal life."

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

The congregation is seated.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

The congregation may stand as comfortable.

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Jesus Shall Reign* **HYMN# 434**

CONFESSION OF FAITH

P: Let us confess our faith using the words of the 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 into hell. 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

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

A brief silence.

AM: . . . God, in your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.

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

PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C: And also, with you.

P: Let us share a sign of peace with one another, using the words of the risen Lord: Peace be with you.

The ministers and congregation may greet one another with a gesture of peace, using these or similar words: **Peace be with you.**

The congregation is seated.

MEAL

THE OFFERING: *The Offering is received as the Lord's table is prepared.*

MUSICAL OFFERING: (Handbell choir) *Give Thanks* Henry Smith, Arr. Lloyd Larson

The congregation rises in body or spirit.

OFFERING PRAYER
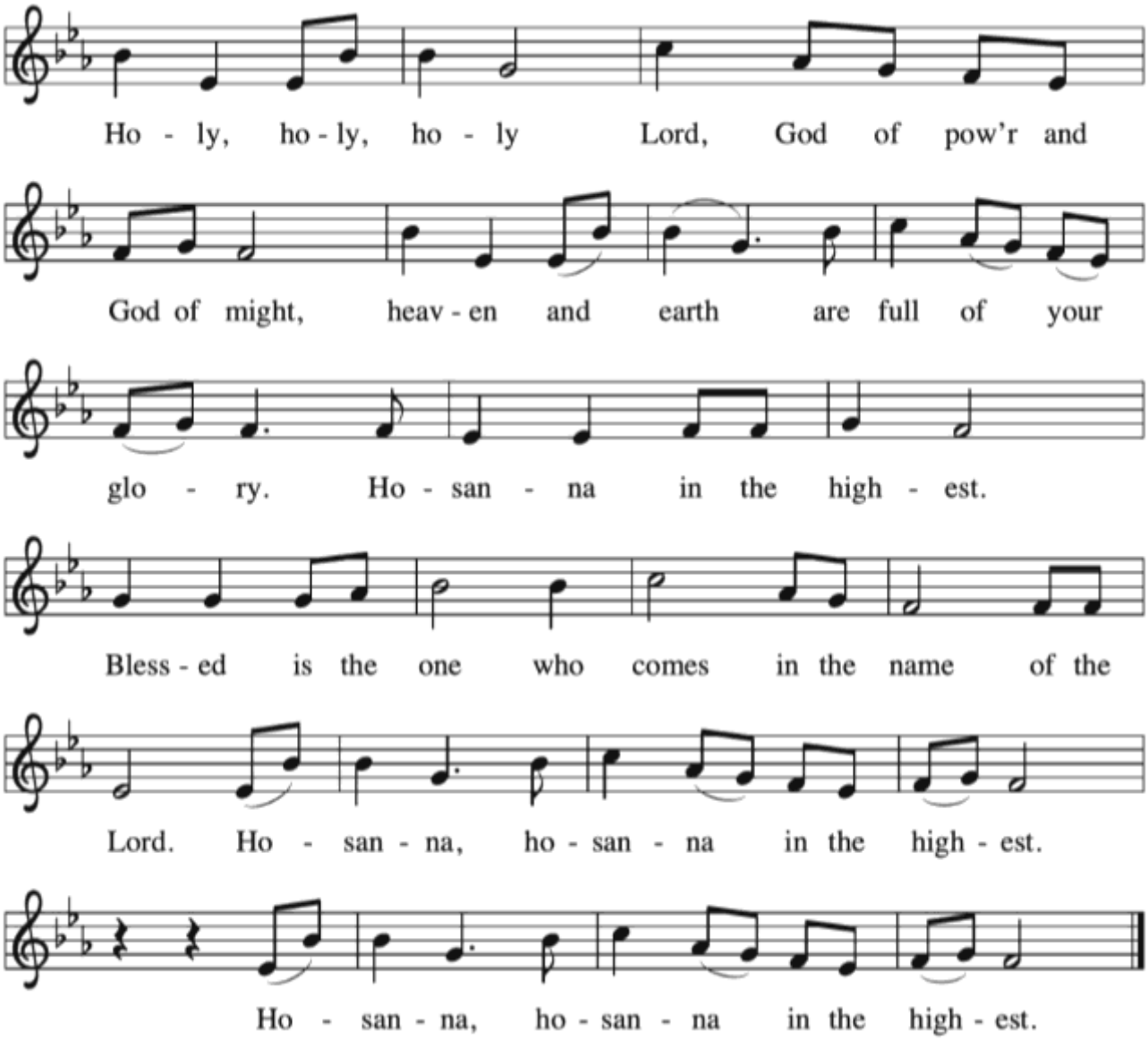
AM: Let us pray. Eternal God, our time, talents, and treasures are gifts from you. Receive what we offer, and all that you entrust to us, until hungry no more, all the world is fed, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.
C: **And also with you.**
P: Lift up your hearts.
C: **We lift them to the Lord.**
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P: It is truly right, our duty and our joy . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE 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
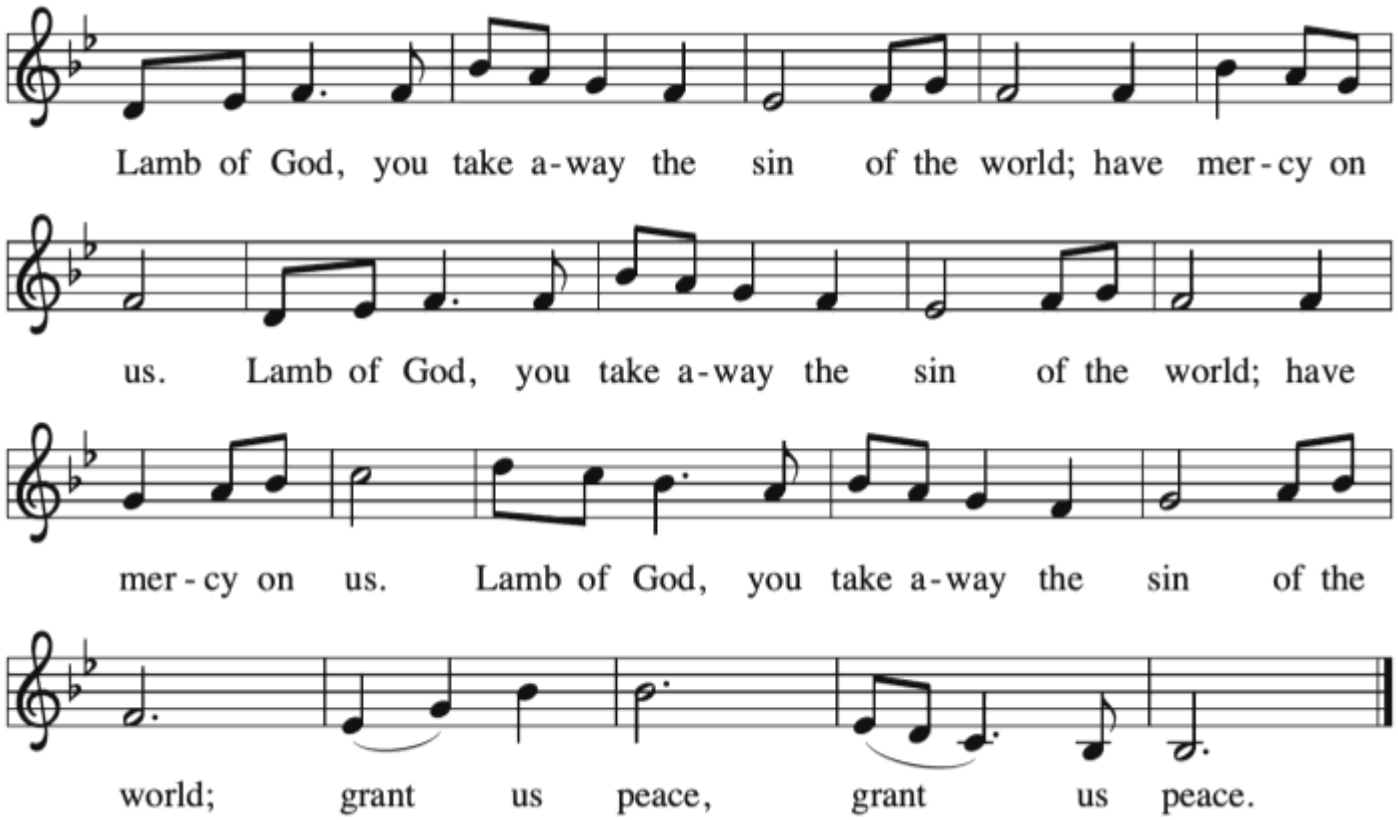
COMMUNION

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

The congregation is seated.
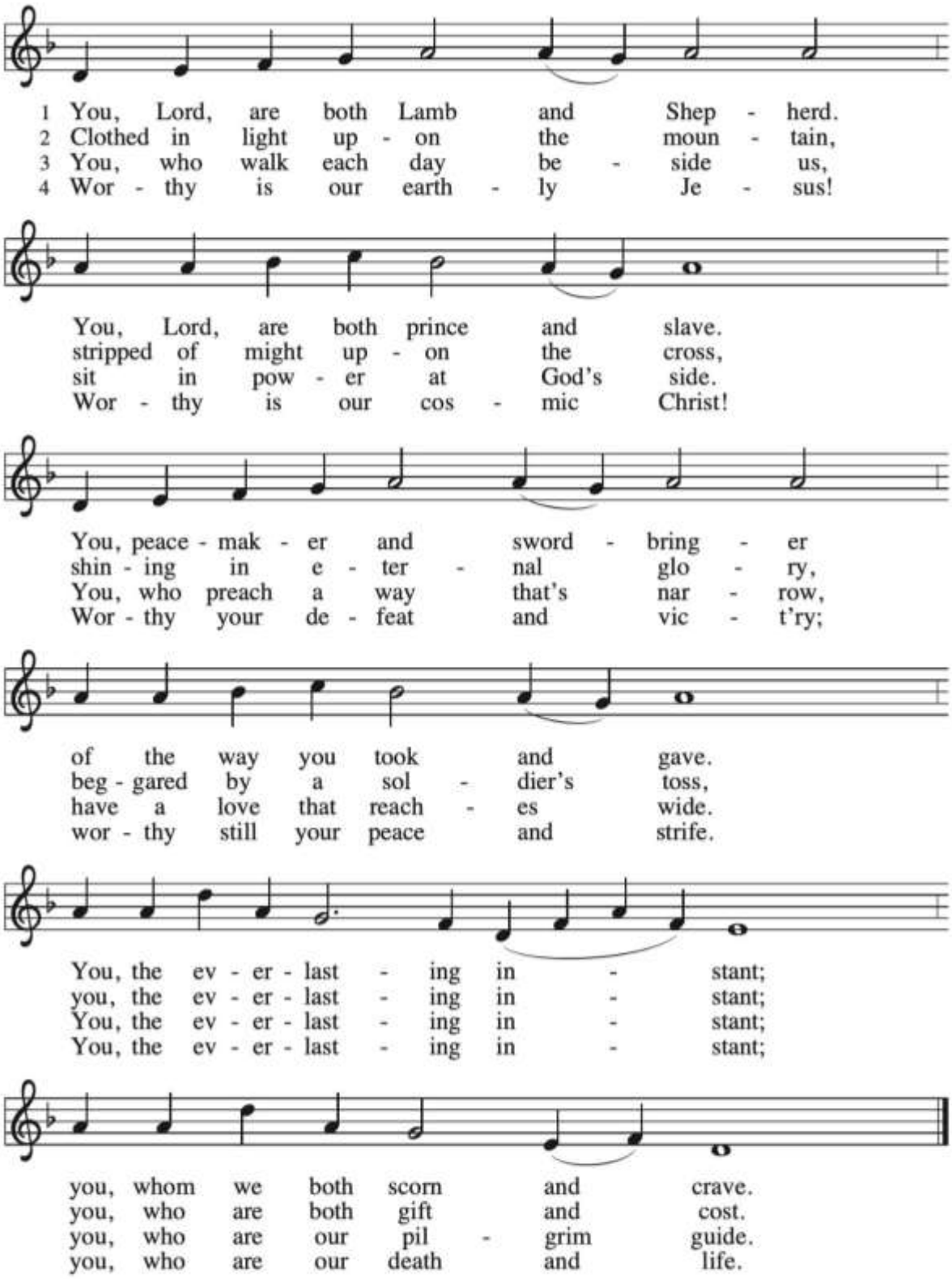
All who seek the Lord are welcome at Christ's table to receive the gift of God's grace! Those not receiving the bread and wine are welcome to come for a blessing. Please come forward at the direction of the ushers.

MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION: ***Lamb of God***



All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name! **HYMN# 634**

You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd



Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993
Music: PICARDY, French folk tune, 17th cent.
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P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
C: **Amen**

The congregation may stand as comfortable.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

AM: Let us pray. 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.
C: **Amen**

SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS *After making this time to worship God, these are ways we welcome all to nurture a community of harmony, healing, and justice.*

The congregation may stand as comfortable.

BLESSING

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

SENDING HYMN: ***Rejoice, for Christ Is King!*** **HYMN# 430**

DISMISSAL

AM: Go in peace. Encourage one another.
C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE: *Variations on Duke Street: Jesus Shall Reign* *by* George Elvey, Arr. Hal Hopson

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The Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God by
The Scanlan Family



WORSHIP LEADERS	
PRESIDER	Rev. Cheryl Walenta Gorvie
GREETER	Lois Wind
USHERS	Denise Beuhrer, Steve Hetager
ASSISTING MINISTER	Rick Schuessler
LECTOR	Richard Lima
CANTOR	Andrew Copeland
CHILDREN'S SERMON	Pastor Cheryl
ACOLYTE	Noel Nahm
DONUT DRIVER	*Not needed!*
FELLOWSHIP HOST	Fellowship Team!
ALTAR GUILD	Leah Morrell
CAMERA	Gary Borkowski
WINE SPONSOR	Kate Hartz

PRAYER REQUESTS:

Damien Gustafson: healing at home
Kate Hartz: courage and trust
Barb Johnson: continued healing and increased mobility
Margaret Lenhart: comfort and peace
Sharon Salerno: healing and strength
Mary Scanlan: recovering after stroke

Request for:	***On Behalf of:***
Lisa McL (healing)	*Jean Chouquette*
Grandson Oscar Hirth (healing)	*Hirth Family*
Arlis (comfort and hope); Barbara (bravery), Gabe (discernment)	*Jenson Family*
Nick - recovering after a fall	*Jung Family*
Tina – grieving on loss of mother. Continued health of parents. Farmers of the world. Country on upcoming midterm elections. Melissa (employment)	*Cat Leonard*
For Pastor Nikki, after the unexpected death of her husband before their 5th anniversary.	*Morrell Family*
The people of Gaza and the Occupied Territories of Palestine, Lebanon, Syria, Iran, Ukraine, Sudan, South Sudan, Myanmar, Venezuela, Colombia, Nepal and Tibet; all impacted by disasters; Pat Fulton (strength); Ginny Olson (strength); Jojo (healing, energy); Sonya and Sean (healing and strength); those who do not feel safe in their communities; for peace with justice in our world.	*Maryn Olson and Angie Fulton*
Nephew, Peter, for continued sensations as discharged from rehab. Optimal therapy time and needed equipment for continued progress.	*Carleen Reinhart*
Toby (patience and faith while jailed), Ronnie (employment), Dale (food, housing, employment), all who use our Little Free Pantries.	*Social Action*

LIVING YOUR FAITH

GIVE

Today is Stewardship Sunday! Please make your Stewardship Pledge using the online link in the enews, or using a Pledge Card in your bulletin. Imagine More!

Instead of November/December Big Asks Gethsemane will again participate in the **St. Anthony's Christmas Cheer program**, formerly known as Adopt-a-family. We will be "adopting" 35 people this year! Sign up will be available during Fellowship TODAY, and/or online via a link in the enews. Wrapped gifts should be delivered to Gethsemane by Dec 13.

The **Little Free Pantry** needs **Pasta sauce,** preferably in cans or plastic jars. Place donations for Big Ask items in the cabinets near the shopping cart. Items placed **IN** the cart go to our Free Food Pantry. We are also looking for someone who could either regularly purchase some items from Aldi or receive a delivery at their home and bring it to Gethsemane.

ACT

Gretchen and Eve are organizing **Thanksgiving meals** for our home-bound members and others in need. Look for the sign-up in the enews and on the Sanctuary door to provide a side dish and/or help prep or deliver meals. If you would like a meal delivered to you or know someone who would, please contact Eve or Gretchen to be put on the list!

Advent Devotion books are available for pick up in the Narthex and on the table near the parking lot doors.

Winter blessing bags are available in the Narthex for you to pick up and distribute to those you see who are in need

Fellowship Hosts Wanted! Please sign up in the kitchen to help "host fellowship," which just entails some light clean-up afterwards (9:45 – 10 am). We've made clean-up even easier during our trial one service time this fall, by using paper cups instead of washing mugs.

Did you know Gethsemane has a **Member Care team**? If you or a church member you know is in need of support from the GLC's Member Care team please contact the church office or Betsy Bartholomew, or check the box on the weekly attendance insert.

Share your voice! Send December newsletter items to Gretchen by November 29.

JOIN

The **November Women's Lunch** is Monday, Nov. 30, 11:30 am at Maggie O'Briens in Sunset Hills. Final Answer! RSVP to Cindy Fenton by Nov. 27.

Ponies and sheep and baby Jesus, Oh My! Our Live Nativity is only a few weeks away on **December 5, 4-5 pm**. See the volunteer sign up in the enews! Pet the sheep and welcome our *NEIGH-BAAHrs (neighbors)!*

The final rehearsal for the Children's Christmas Program and Parent's Day Out are on December 19. Think you'll need a few extra hours to prepare for the holidays, or maybe you would just like a moment of peace before the chaos? Bring the kids to Parent's Day Out at Gethsemane on **Saturday, December 19, from 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.** Please **register** using the link in the enews.

Gethsemane Lutheran Church Calendar
November 22 - 29, 2026

11/22 Sunday ***Christ the King Sunday***	**9:00 am** 9:00 am **10:00 am**	**Stewardship Breakfast, Fellowship** Sunday School and Faith Village **ONE Worship Service: In-Person and on YouTube**
11/23 Monday		**NO** Handbell Choir Rehearsal
11/24 Tuesday	10:00 am	Bible Study
11/25 Wednesday	1–3 pm 6-7 pm	Staff Meeting (phones unanswered) Thanksgiving side dishes Drop Off **NO** Choir Rehearsal
11/26 Thursday	9-10 am 10-11 am 11am - noon	Thanksgiving side dishes drop-off Meal Prep Thanksgiving meal delivery
11/29 Sunday ***1st Week in Advent***	9:00 am 9:00 am **10:00 am**	Fellowship, Donuts & Coffee Sunday School and Faith Village **ONE Worship Service: In-Person and on YouTube**

Upcoming Dates to Consider

Date	**Time**	**Event**
Mondays	6 - 7 pm	Handbell Choir Rehearsal
Tuesdays	10 am	Bible Study
Wednesdays	6:30 – 8 pm	Choir Rehearsal
Mon, Nov 30	11:30 am	Gethsemane Women's Luncheon
Sat, Dec 5	4-5 pm	Live Nativity!
Sat, Dec 19	9:30 am – 2:30 pm	Parent's Day Out AND Children's Christmas program rehearsal
Sun, Dec 20	10 am	Children's Christmas Program during Worship
Thurs, Dec 24	4 pm	Christmas Eve Worship
Fri, Dec 25	10 am	Christmas Day Worship – Lessons and Carols
Sun, Dec 27	9:30 am	Lessons and Carols

Women's Luncheon: Fourth Monday of every month. *Except for Holidays.

Gethsemane is a Reconciling in Christ Congregation
Affirmation of Welcome

Christ's welcome knows no boundaries! Therefore, our welcome knows no boundaries and we invite all people to full participation in the life of the congregation.

We at Gethsemane Lutheran Church in Saint Louis embrace…

People of any race or ethnicity…
People who are male, female, transgender, intersex or any other gender identity…
People of any age…
People wherever they are, or wherever they have been, on their faith journeys…
People who are single, married, widowed, divorced, separated or partnered…
People who are gay, lesbian, straight, bisexual, or any other sexual orientation…
People with a variety of political perspectives…
People who have, or had, addictions, phobias, abortions, or a criminal record…
People who are homeowners, renters, living with parents, or unhoused…
People who are fully-abled, disabled, or of differing abilities…
People of differing educational backgrounds…
People of any socio-economic condition…
People not mentioned above, all of whom are created and loved by God!

As we celebrate and seek to preserve the beautiful, amazing diversity of God's creation, we pledge to ourselves and to all others that we will strive to live as a reconciling people in our life together and in our outreach to the world. We are committed to being a radically loving and welcoming community of faith.

Sunday Funnies: The Sunday Flock is printed with permission through Pastoral Center.



Scan here to donate to Gethsemane's African American Spiritual Reparation project.

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