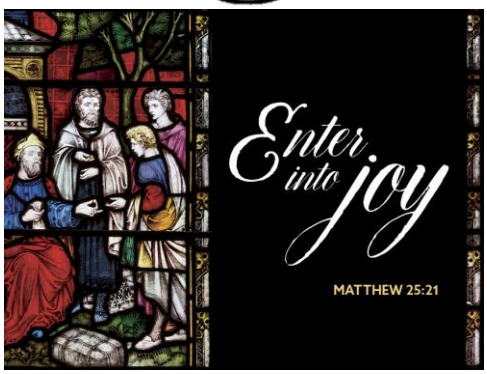
Grace Lutheran Church
1300 Kishwaukee Valley Road
Woodstock, IL 60098
www.gracewoodstock.org

November 15, 2026; 9:00 A.M.
25th Sunday after Pentecost



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

OPENING MUSIC
"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" setting, Wayne L. Wold (Augsburg Fortress)

Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS
All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
our dwelling place for all generations,
whose compassion never slumbers.
Amen.
Let us confess our sin in the presence of God
and of one another.
Silence is kept for reflection.

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

OPENING HYMN
"God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending" ELW 678 (One License)

Please be seated.

WELCOME

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.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.**

WORD

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

FIRST READING: **Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18,** *Pew Bible, Old Testament, pg. 874 & 875*

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

PSALM: **Psalm 90:1-12**

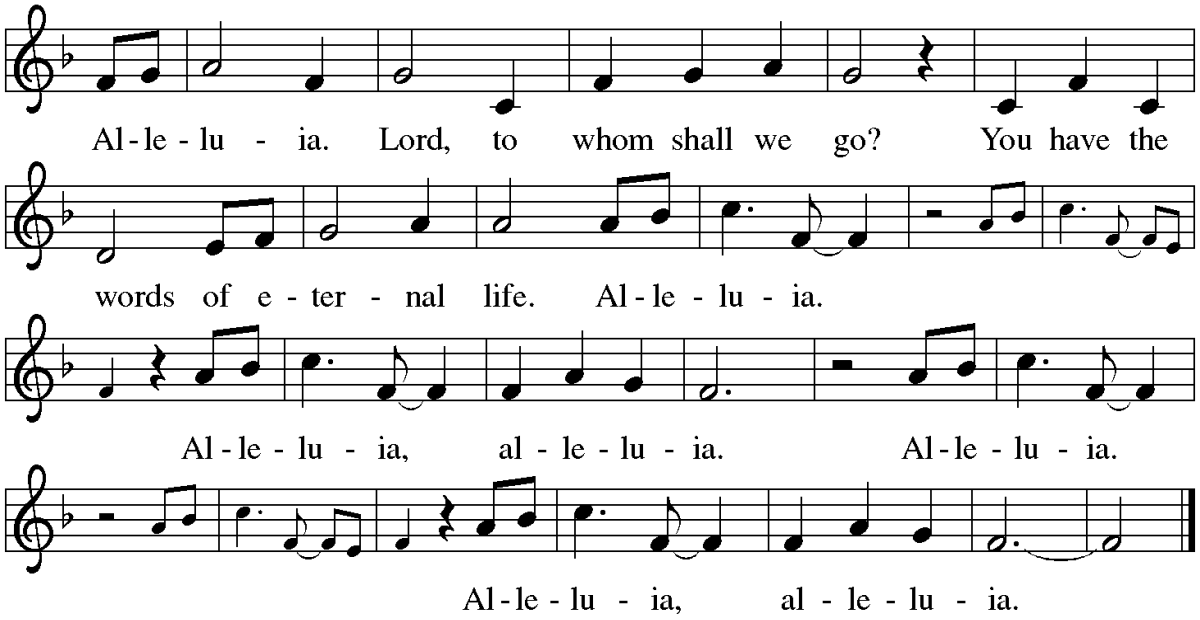
The Psalms are found in the ELW, in the front section, beginning on page 339. We will read them responsively together.

SECOND READING: **1 Thessalonians 5:1-11,** *Pew Bible, New Testament, pg. 205*

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

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL

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

Matthew 25:14-30, Pew Bible, New Testament, pg. 28

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Children are invited to come forward during the message.

SERMON

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Lord of Light" ELW 688 (One License)

THE APOSTLES' CREED ELW pg. 105

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

United with the great cloud of witnesses, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation. *A brief silence.*

You build up the church as a community of faithful witnesses throughout the generations. Enliven the worship, outreach, and service work of our congregations and ministries with the hope of your good news. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

As the nights grow longer in the northern hemisphere, make us mindful of the earth's need for rest. Provide for fallow fields and hibernating animals; show us how to curb human impact on vulnerable lands and species. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Rescue all nations and peoples from violence, displacement, or famine. Disrupt complacency among national and local leaders. Recommit our communities to transforming the systems that divide and oppress into those that empower and unite. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In your embrace, we find refuge from all trials and troubles. Care for families who are separated or estranged, accompany all undergoing medical procedures or mental health treatment, and reassure any who are ill or despairing, especially those we now name aloud or in the silence of our hearts _____. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bless all who serve in congregational leadership: council members, finance committees, volunteer coordinators, and property teams. Encourage healthy stewardship of time, talents, and resources for the mission of the gospel. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

The faithful of every age trust in the hope of your saving grace. In thanksgiving for the ways our ancestors have journeyed before us, we remember all who have entered eternal life in you. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

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

PEACE

After praying for the whole world, we receive and extend to one another the gift of Christ's peace. We invite you to share a sign of God's peace with one another.

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

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Please be seated.

OFFERING PRAYER

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.

OFFERING

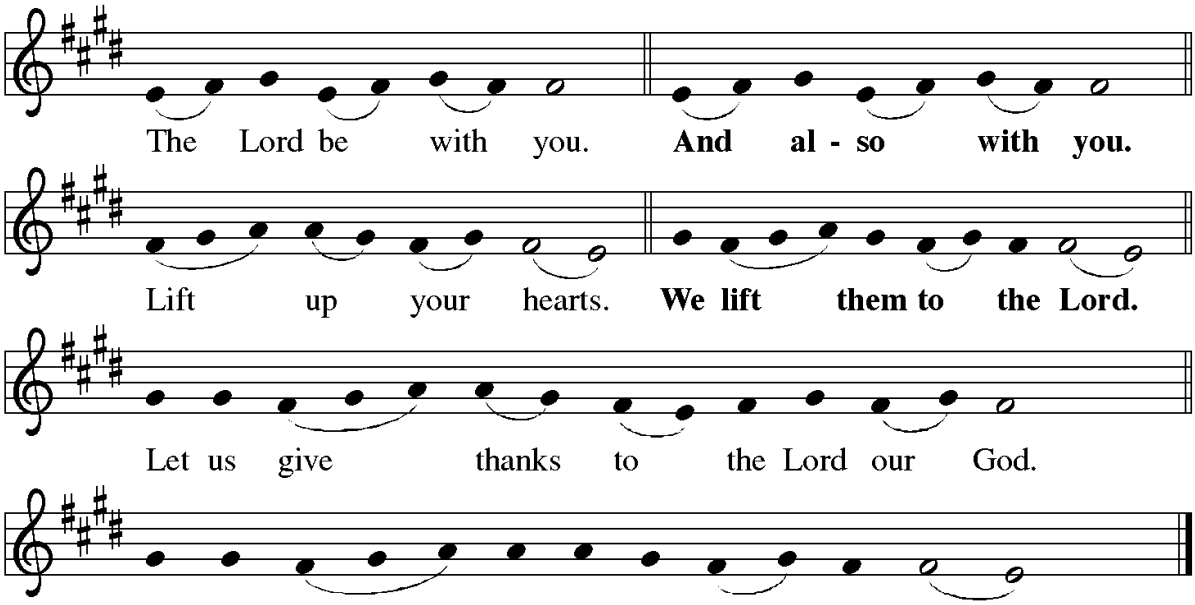
Thank you for your generous offerings and commitment to Grace's mission and ministry. You are invited to place your financial offerings in the offering plate. Additional ways to give include mailing your offering to the church office, or by giving online: by texting the amount you would like to give to 877-698-3604, through the Vanco Mobile App, or online at Grace's website (Use the QR code provided). You are also invited to call the church office to learn more about the automatic withdrawal Electronic Giving Program.

OFFERING ANTHEM

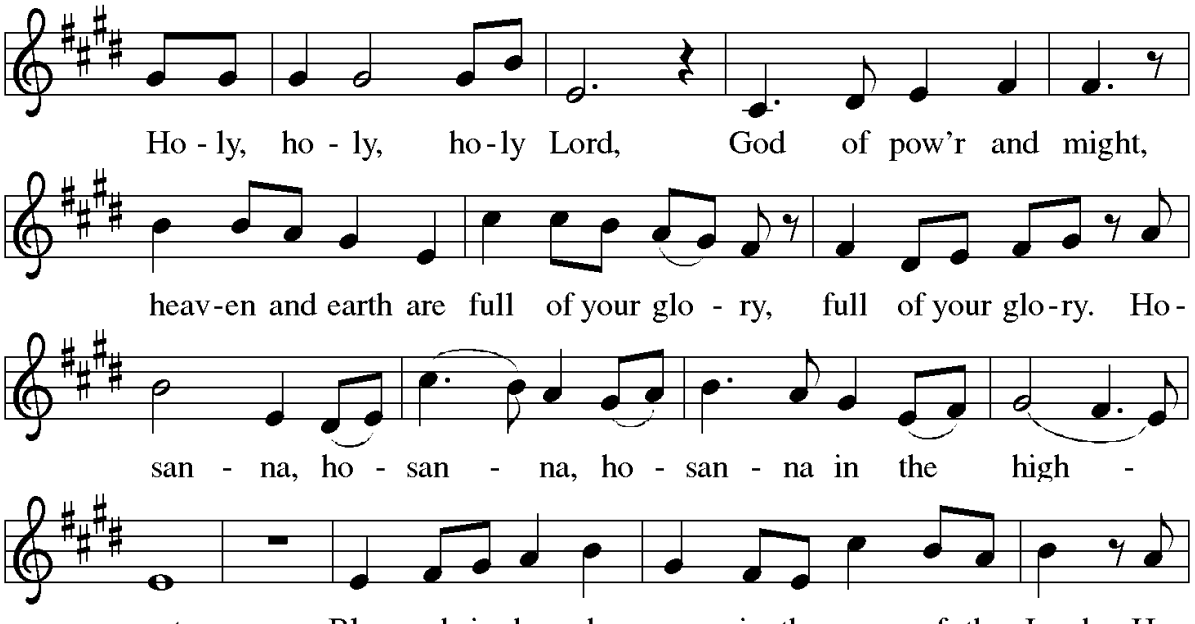
"Awake to the Day" Ed Bolduc and John Barker (One License)

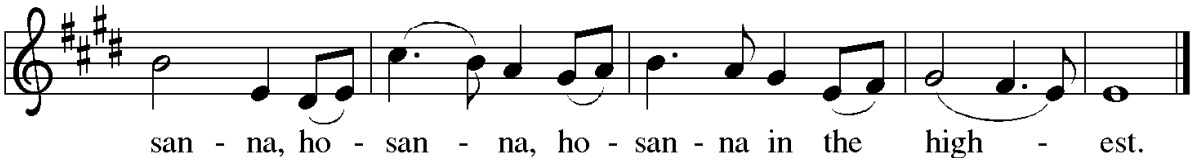
Please stand as you are able.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, . . . and join their unending hymn:





THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

LORD'S PRAYER ELW pg.191, left column

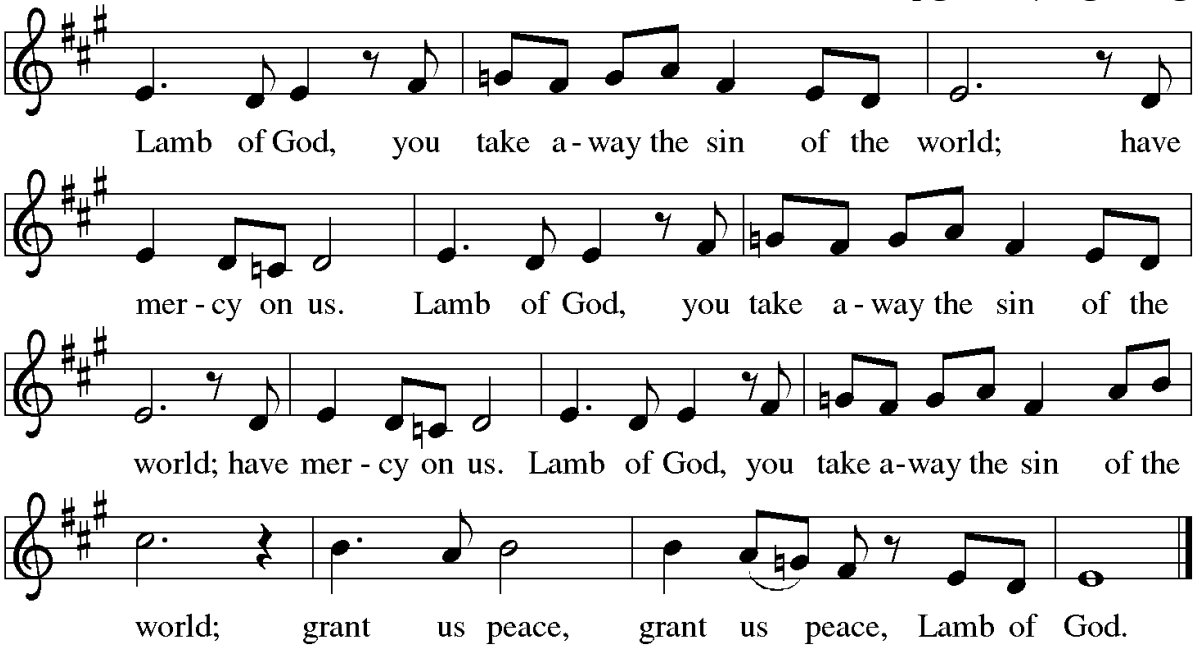
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

All are welcome at the Lord's table.
In bread and cup the reign of Christ is breaking in.
Come, receive what Christ has prepared.

Please be seated. The congregation will then commune, beginning with the front pews, you are invited to come forward to receive the bread and wine or juice. Extend your hands to receive a wafer from the pastor or communion assistant. Then please pick up one cup from the trays (red wine or white grape juice), and then place the empty cup in a tray on the front pew before returning to your seat. Gluten free elements are available upon request. If you would like the communion elements to be brought to you, please notify an usher.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

"Lamb of God" ELW pg.191 (Augsburg Fortress)



"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" ELW 815 (One License)

Please stand as you are able.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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.
Amen.

COMMUNION BLESSING
The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

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

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

SENDING HYMN
"Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ" ELW 674 (One License)

DISMISSAL
Go in peace. Encourage one another.
Thanks be to God.

CLOSING MUSIC
"Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ" setting, Mark Sedio (Augsburg Fortress)

Worship Team
A/V Team: Andy Bellavia
Communion Assistants: Michelle Anderson, Sheri Conover, Robin Gibbs, Karen Reinhard, Marylee Steinwehe
Greeters: Beth Miller, Mike Phillips
Acolyte: Braxton O'Leary
Reader: Karen Reinhard
Ushers: Kevin Kleinjan, Owen Kleinjan, Bennett Washkowiak
Children's Sermon: Jon Bergstrom
Altar Guild: Michelle Anderson, Beth Miller, Sheri Conover, Nan Behrns
Musicians: Laudate, Carrie Filetti, Jan Burns
Guest Preacher: Deacon Pam Shearman
Lead Pastor: Pastor Amanda Bergstrom

Presence Light Sponsor:

In honor of our granddaughter's 3rd birthday; given by Dan & Janette Hess.

Bulletin Sponsors:

To the Glory of God.



Thank you for sharing time to hear God's word and pray together. A video recording of worship will be posted to Grace's website later in the day. You are welcome to join Grace Lutheran Church's Facebook group for news & ministry opportunities. Peace be with you as you go forth to share God's grace.

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Woodstock Food Pantry Thanksgiving Drive November 22nd in Narthex



Sewing Circle

Every 1st & 3rd Tuesday

8:30am-12:00pm

Mahjong Game Night

Every 2nd & 4th Tuesday

6:30pm-8:00pm

Sign Up online or with the Office

Daytime Pinochle

Every 1st & 3rd Wednesday

1:00pm-4:00pm



JOIN US FOR

Thanksgiving Eve Eve

Tuesday, November 24, 7:00 p.m.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS AT GRACE

Help provide decorations for our sanctuary this Christmas. Give a gift in "honor of someone" or "in memory of a loved one" or "to the glory of God."

Mail in or drop off your coupon below, along with your $18.00 gift to Grace Lutheran Church, 1300 Kishwaukee Valley Rd. Woodstock, IL 60098.

Please **print clearly**, as you want it to appear in the bulletin. Payments due in the office by **December 11, 2026**.



Amount:_____

CHOOSE ONE PER COUPON: (Please print)

In Memory Of: _____

In Honor Of: _____

To the Glory of God: _____

GIVEN BY : _____