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

November 8, 2026; 9:00 A.M.
24th Sunday after Pentecost



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

OPENING MUSIC
"So So Good" by Lake, Smith, Wickham, and Furtick (CCLI)

Please stand as you are able.

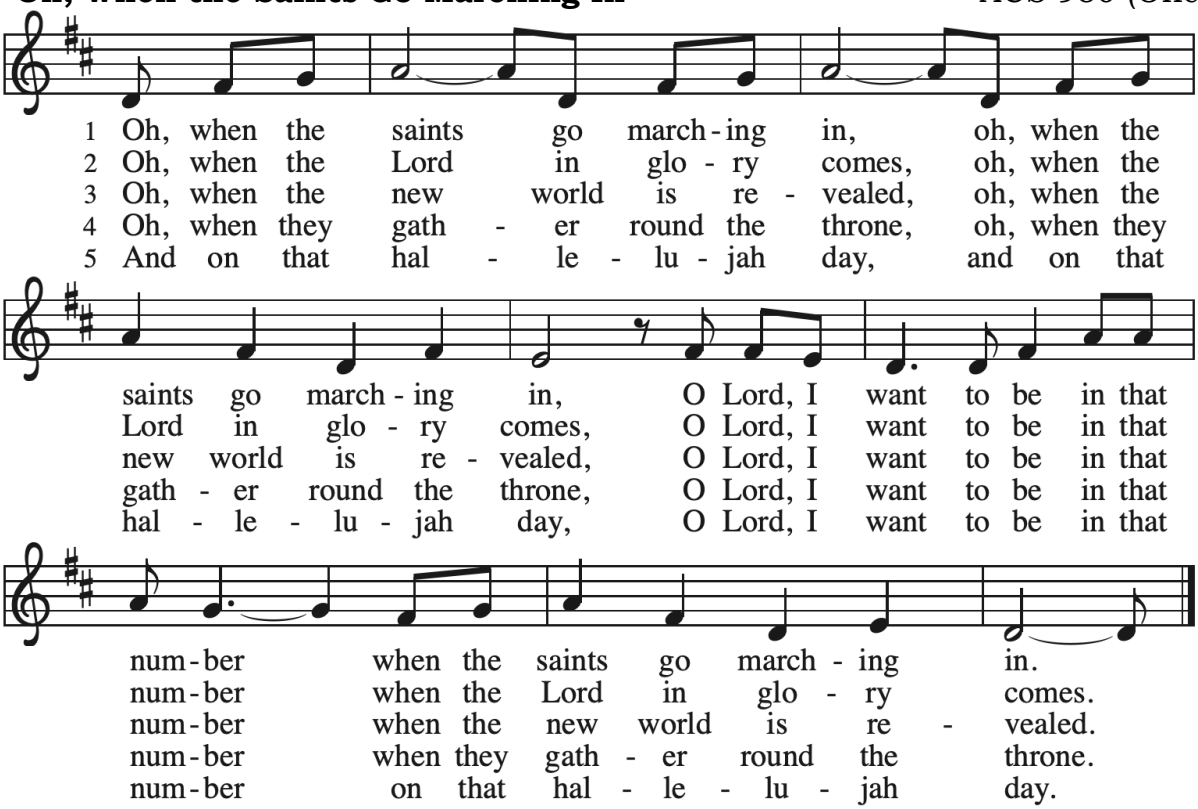
CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS
All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

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

"Oh, When the Saints Go Marching In" ACS 950 (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

O God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

WORD

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

FIRST READING: **Amos 5:18-24,** *Pew Bible, Old Testament, pg. 854*

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

PSALM: **Psalm 70**

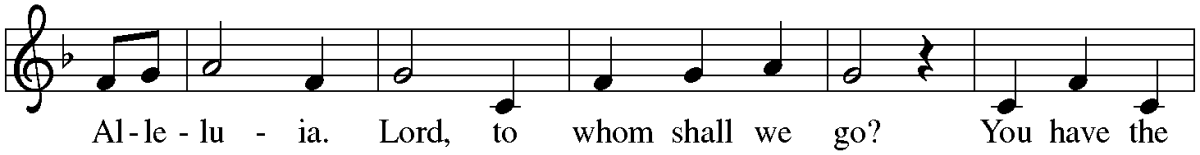
The Psalms are found in the ELW, in the front section, beginning on page 339. We will read them responsively together.
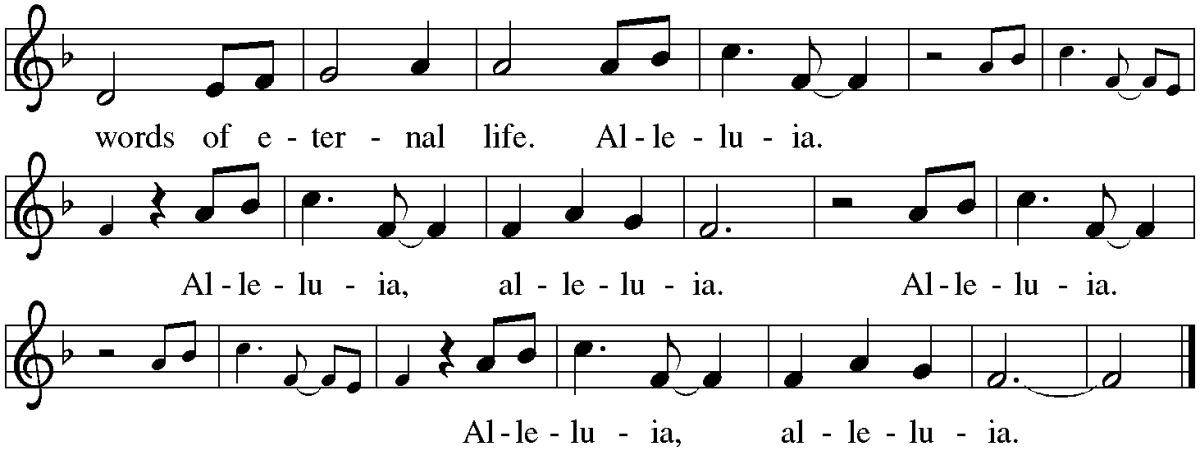
SECOND READING: **1 Thessalonians 4:13-18,** *Pew Bible, New Testament, pg. 204*

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 25:1-13, Pew Bible, New Testament, pg. 28

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

Please be seated.

CHILDREN'S SERMON
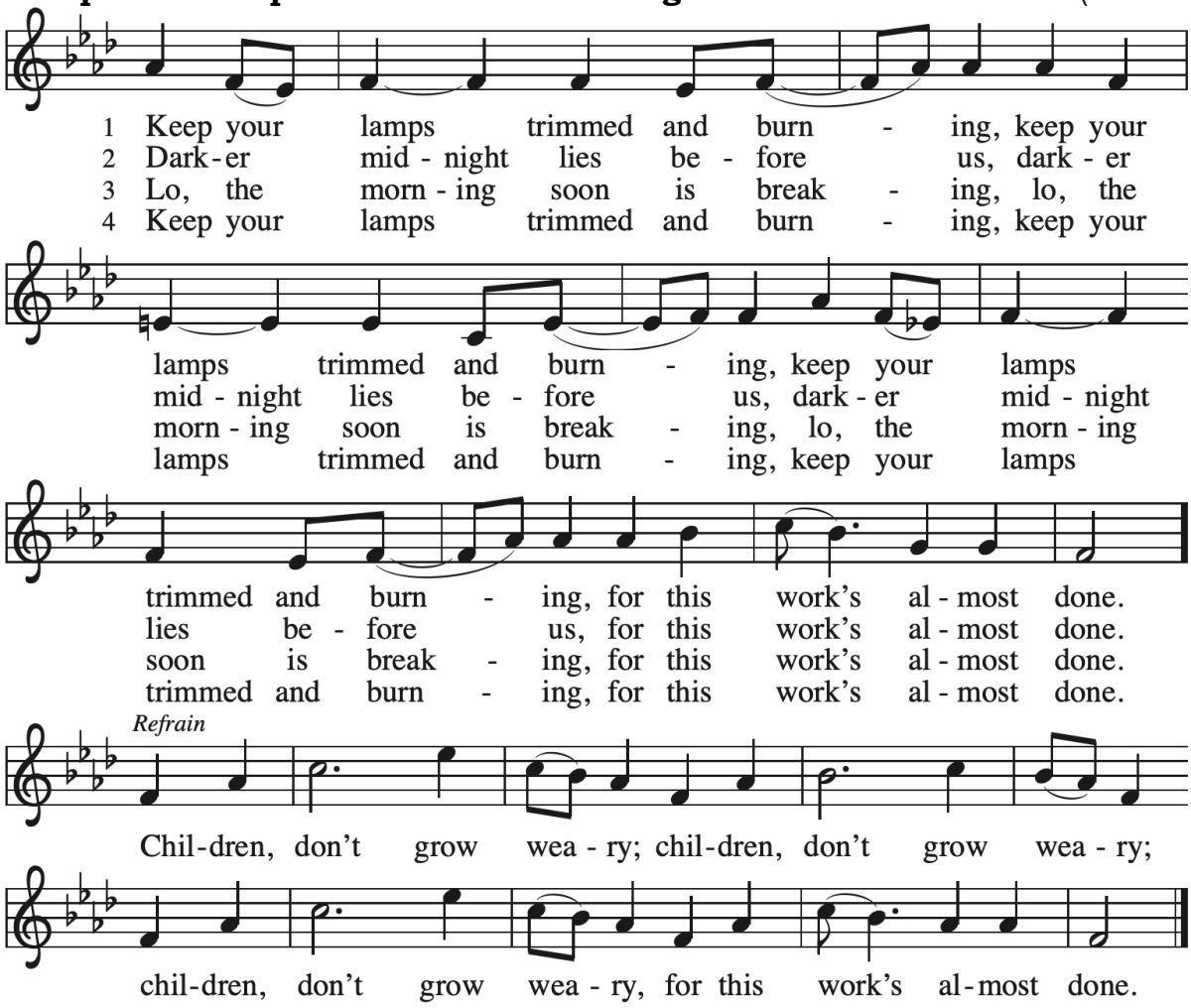
Children are invited to come forward during the message.

SERMON

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning" ACS 949 (Public Domain)



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 illumine the church with the hope of your new day. Prepare our hearts and minds for the inbreaking of your kingdom, that we might awaken to your transforming love at work all around us. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You create and sustain the earth's natural rhythms so that all life might thrive. Show us the wisdom and wonder of nature's balance; make us careful stewards of our common home. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You make justice roll down in all places and among all nations. Encourage all who protect vulnerable communities and help rebuild in the aftermath of conflict. Uphold veterans and those who care for them. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You hasten to heal our wounds and make whole what is broken. Comfort individuals facing a difficult diagnosis, receiving palliative care, or facing uncertain treatment options, especially those we now name aloud or in the silence of our hearts _____. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You give rest to weary hearts and bodies. As the days grow shorter in the north, help us to move more slowly and intentionally through our days, honoring the need for quiet and stillness. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You welcome those who have come before us in faith into the joys of heaven. Sustain us by your grace and guide us into the promise of everlasting life. 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

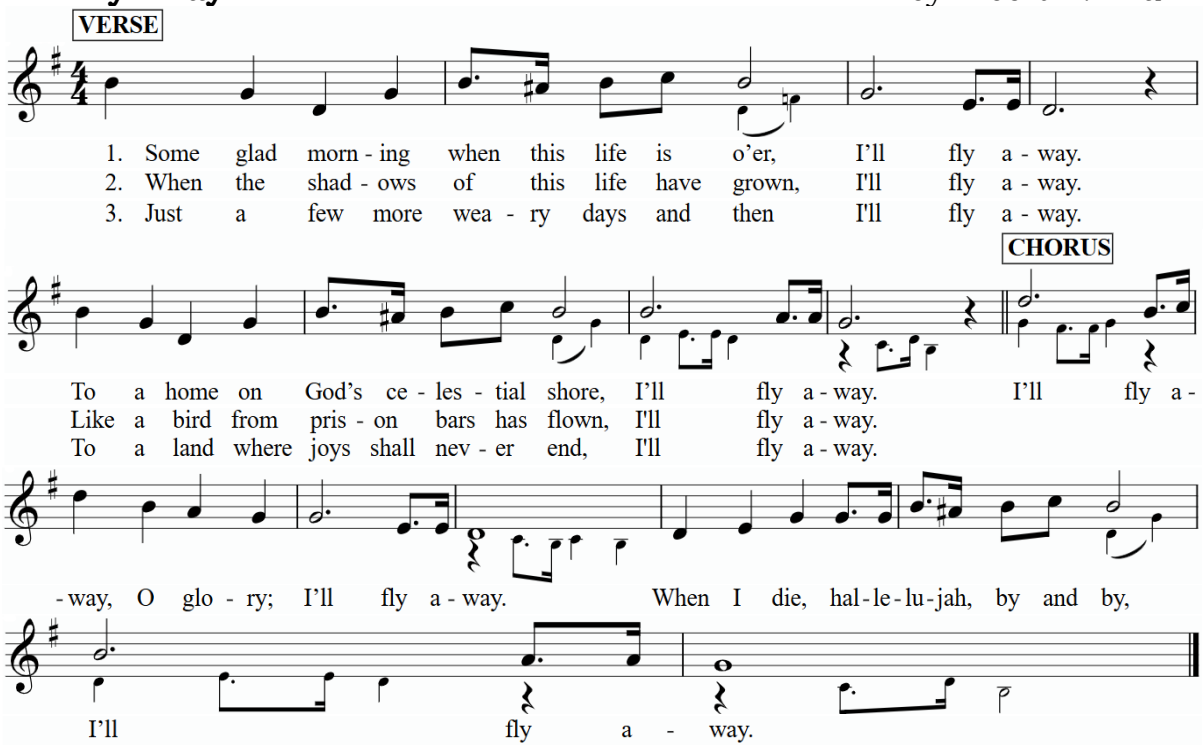
Eternal God,
our time, talents, and treasures are gifts from you.
Receive what we offer,
and all that you entrust to us,
until hungry no more, all the world is fed,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

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.

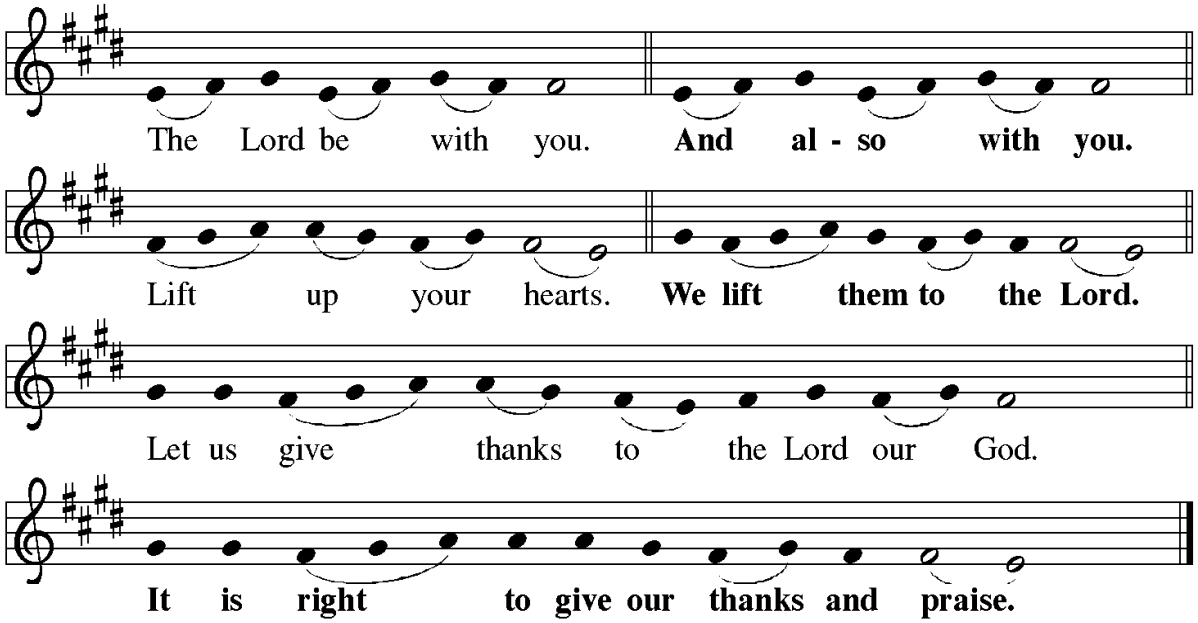
OFFERING HYMN

"I'll Fly Away" by Albert E. Brumley (CCLI)
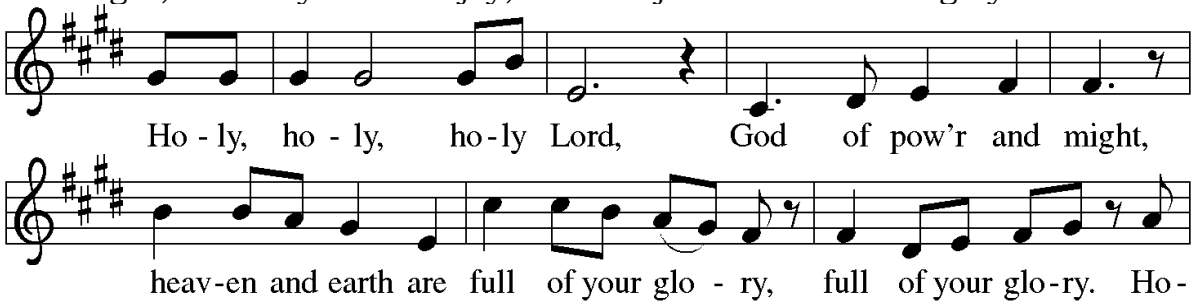


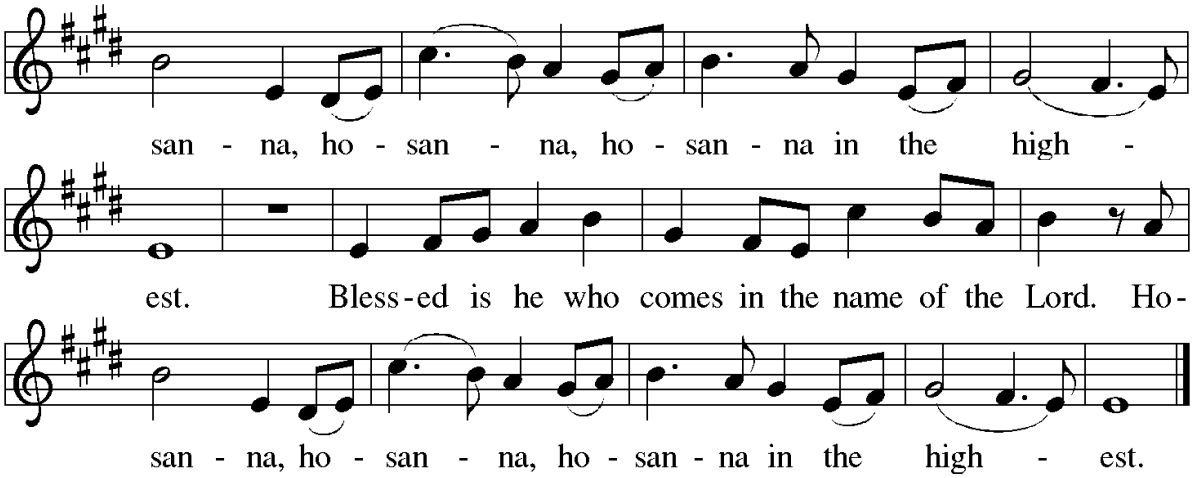
Please stand as you are able.

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

"Holy Forever" by Tomlin, Wickham, Johnson, Johnson, and Ingram (CCLI)

Verse 1
A thousand generations falling down in worship
To sing the song of ages to the Lamb
And all who've gone before us
And all who will believe
Will sing the song of ages to the Lamb

Pre-Chorus
(Jesus) Your name is the highest
Your name is the greatest
Your name stands above them all
All thrones and dominions
All powers and positions
Your name stands above them all

Chorus 1
And the angels cry Holy
All creation cries Holy
You are lifted high Holy
Holy forever

Verse 2
If you've been forgiven and if you've been redeemed
Sing the song forever to the Lamb
If you walk in freedom and if you bear His name
Sing the song forever to the Lamb
We'll sing the song forever and amen

Chorus 2
Hear Your people sing Holy
To the King of Kings Holy
You will always be Holy
Holy forever

Tag
You will always be Holy
Holy forever

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

"Soon and Very Soon" ELW 439 (CCLI)

DISMISSAL

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

CLOSING MUSIC

"Soon and Vey Soon" (Public Domain)

Worship Team

A/V Team: Andrew Thomas
Communion Assistants: Michelle Anderson, Sonia Brzezinski, Anne Johnson, Mike Phillips, Sally Sheahan
Greeters: Annie Gibbs, Loran Gibbs
Acolyte: Cai Given
Reader: Michelle Anderson
Ushers: Mike Freeman, Erica Poremba, Riley Poremba
Children's Sermon: Kim Ethridge
Altar Guild: Joy Aavang, Barb Aavang, Mike Freeman, Jen Freeman
Musicians: Grace Tones
Lead Pastor: Pastor Amanda Bergstrom

Presence Light Sponsor:
To the Glory of God.
Bulletin Sponsors:
To the Glory of God.

St. Ann's Episcopal & Grace Lutheran Mobile Food Pantry



November 9th 4pm



Across from Woodstock High School

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



A Sincere Thanks to our Worship Volunteers!

Sewing Circle

Every 1st & 3rd Tuesday

8:30am-12:00pm

Mahjong Game Night

Every 2nd & 4th Tuesday

6:30pm-8:00pm

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."

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