Saint James Lutheran Church

November 22, 2026

Christ the King Sunday



The Rev. John Locke

704-530-9969 (cell) JPL406@gmail.com

1424 Morganton Rd. 910-484-8052 (office)

PO Box 53276 www.saintjamesfay.org

Fayetteville, NC 28305

Musician: Alyssa Hall

Worship Leaders		
	November 22 **26th Sunday after Pentecost**	**November 29** **First Sunday of Advent**
Assisting Minister	Lindsey Smith	Scott Marosek
Lector	Diana Vittoe	Glenn Stockwell
Communion Assistants	Sue Rink	Nancy Oliver
Ushers	Hannah Rea, Ben Burt	Gary & Ruth Ann Crecelius
Greeter	Erika & Glenn Stockwell	Sonia Nazario
Acolyte	Gianna Orellano	Holden Linkous
Rover	Jake Smalley	Verena & Christopher Min
Worship Nursery	Erika Stockwell	Tonie Neal, Patsy Linkous

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GATHERING

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

PRELUDE

WORDS OF WELCOME

We stand

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is 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.

GATHERING HYMN

All Hail The Power ELW 634

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

Let us pray together.

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. Amen.

WORD

We sit.

CHILDREN'S TIME

Following Children's Time, children (Up to 5th grade) are invited and encouraged to participate in the Children's Worship Time in the lower level. They will return prior to Holy Communion.

· Children up to Kindergarten will be in the nursery for a supervised play time.

· Children 1st - 5th grade will participate in a more structured learning time led by Jacky Hummel.

(Adult volunteers are needed in both areas. Please talk with Amber Habermehl, Pastor, or call the church office.)

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

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 prince among them; I the Lord have
spoken.

The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM Psalm 95:1-7a

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 above 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.

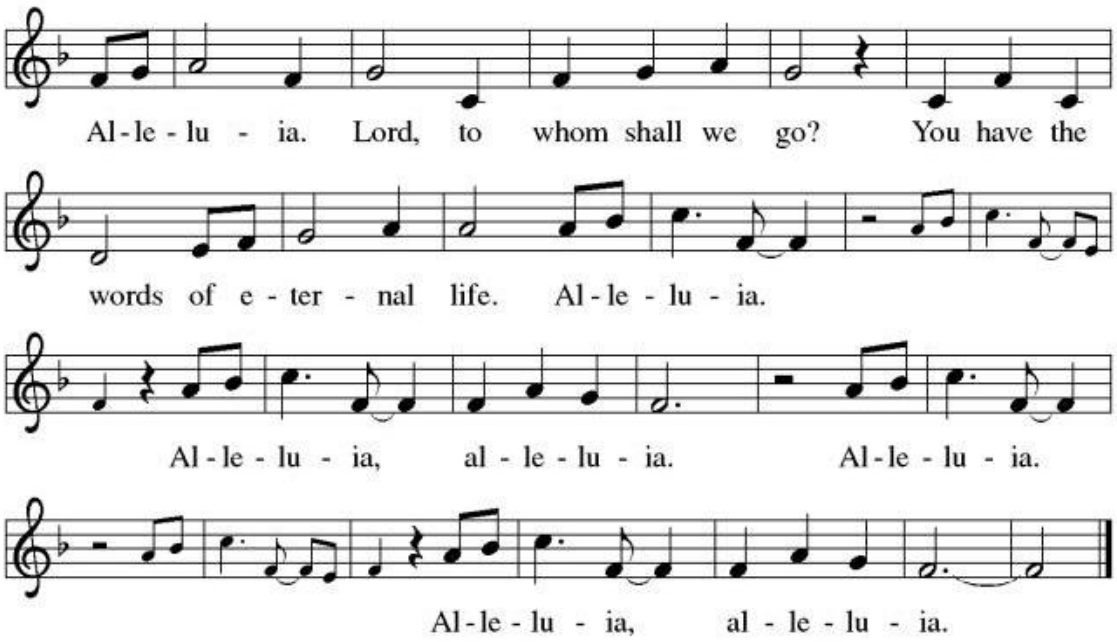
SECOND READING Ephesians 1:15-23

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 him, 18 so that, with the eyes of your heart
enlightened, you may perceive what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious
inheritance among the saints, 19 and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to
the working of his great power. 20 God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated
him at his right hand in the heavenly places, 21 far above all rule and authority and power and dominion and above
every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. 22 And he has put all things under his feet
and has made him the head over all things for the church, 23 which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

We stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (Setting 8)



GOSPEL The Holy Gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Matthew 25:31-46

[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 kingdom 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 brothers and sisters of mine, 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 his 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 he 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.”

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

We sit

SERMON Pastor John

We stand

HYMN OF THE DAY

Come Now, You Blessed ACS 1059



NICENE CREED

We join with the Great Communion of Saints in confessing our faith, using the words of the Nicene Creed.

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,*
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.



We sit.

AFFIRMATION OF MARRIAGE VOWS FOR GEORGETTE MILLER AND AGNES RYBAR

Introduction

We celebrate with our friends as they renew their wedding vows.

Declaration of Intention

Prayer of the Day

Affirmation of Vows

The Acclamation and Marriage Blessing

We stand

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION *(Names are listed in the back of the bulletin)*
Each portion of the prayers ends with these words:
God, in your mercy.
hear our prayer.

PEACE
The peace of God be with you always.
And also with you.

We share this peace as a sign of our baptismal unity as children of God. The "exchange of peace" (also commonly called "sharing the peace" or "passing the peace") is an act of reconciliation that serves as a transition point between the Word and Meal portions of the liturgy.

We sit

OFFERING
An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.



Support of the ministries of St. James, as well as the wider church, is appreciated. To donate with cash or check use an envelope from the back of the pew or scan the QR code to donate digitally. Thank you for your generosity.

ANTHEM *Crown Him with Many Crowns*

We stand
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.

MEAL
God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

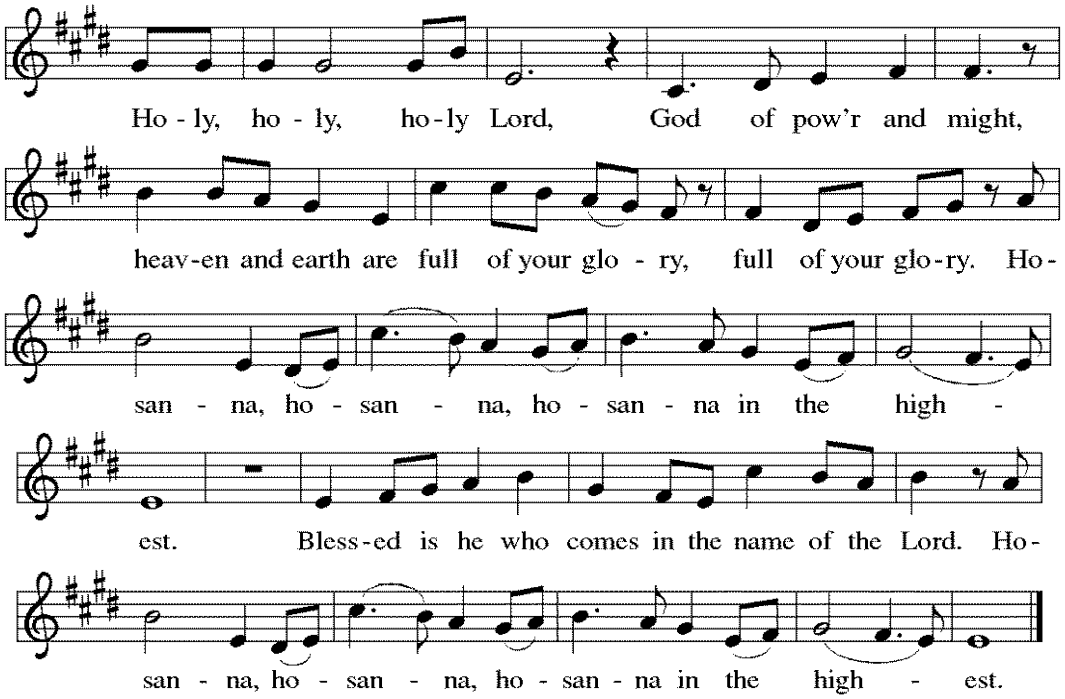
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE
The Lord be with you.
And also 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.

PREFACE
It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection
opened to us the way of everlasting life.

And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW setting 8)



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory,
now and forever.
Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER *(Traditional Version)*

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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 HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

In bread and cup the reign of Christ is breaking in.
Come, receive what Christ has prepared.
Thanks be to God.

We sit.

COMMUNION INSTRUCTIONS

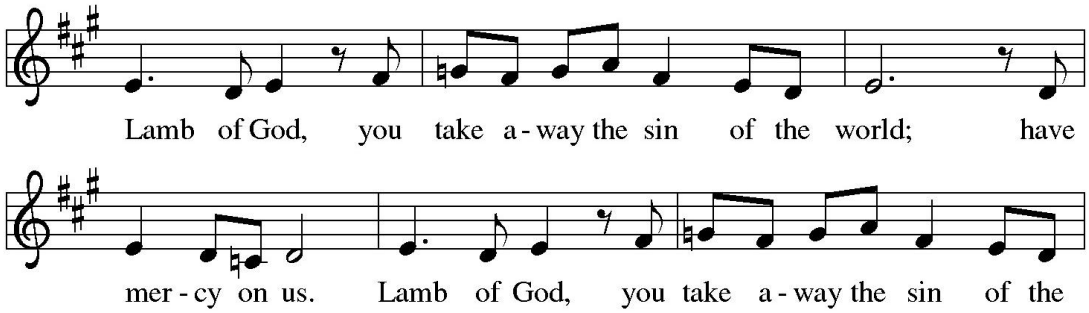
All are welcome at Holy Communion. Lutherans believe that Jesus' real presence is in, under, and through the bread and wine. The sacrament is effective in either bread or wine, so if you have an issue with either bread or wine, you may commune with one element. Grape juice and gluten-free wafers are available for those who prefer. We will distribute bread and wine by individual cup. Children and others not communing may fold arms across their chest, and they will receive a blessing from the communion minister.

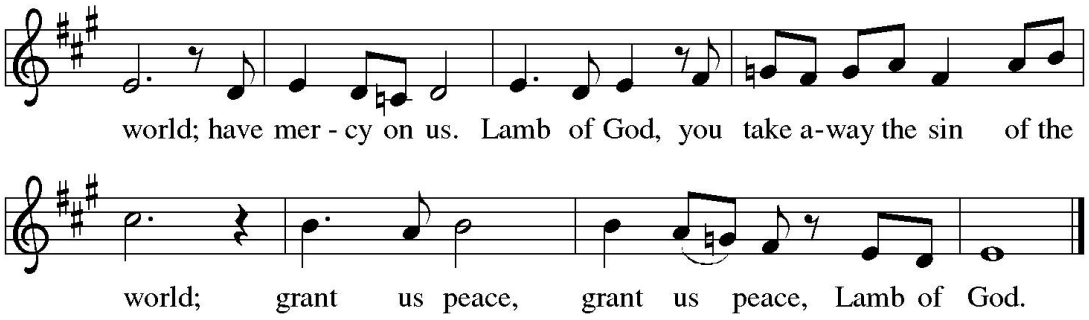
COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say
The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
And each person may respond **Amen**

COMMUNION SONGS

Lamb of God (Setting 8)

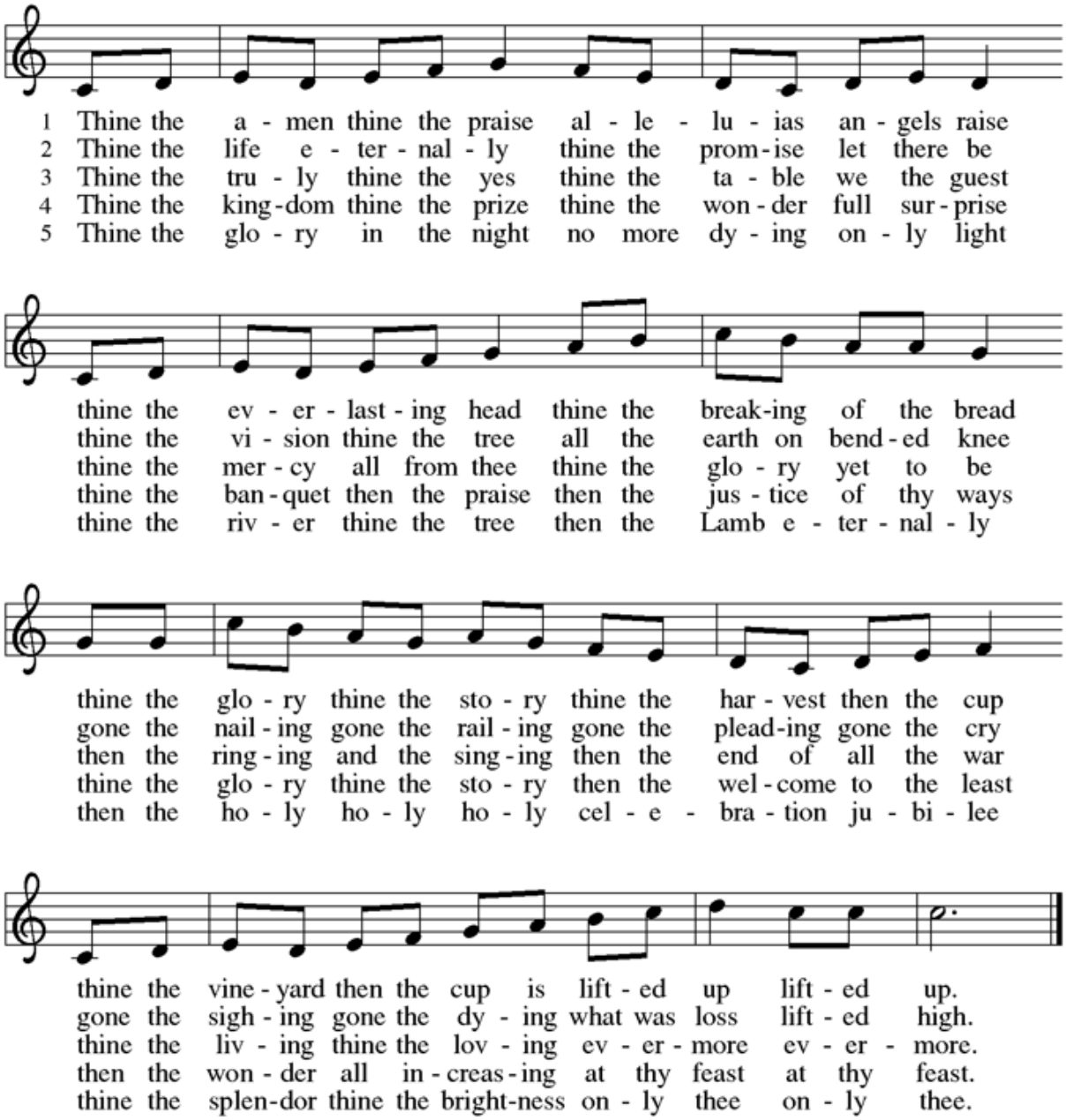




Now The Silence ELW 460



Thine The Amen ELW 826



During the summer of 1981 at Holden Village, Herb Brokering and composer Carl Schalk collaborated to create a new hymn each day for two weeks. The hymn "Thine" originated when Schalk suggested Brokering write a companion to Jaroslav Vajda's hymn "Now The Silence" Published in 1983 and included in hymn collections in 1989, the hymn is ideally suited for use as a post-communion meditation or during the distribution of Holy Communion. Today we pair these two wonderful hymns, and celebrate the gifts of God: Brokering, Schalk, and Vajda.

We stand.

TABLE BLESSING

May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His Grace.
Amen.

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.

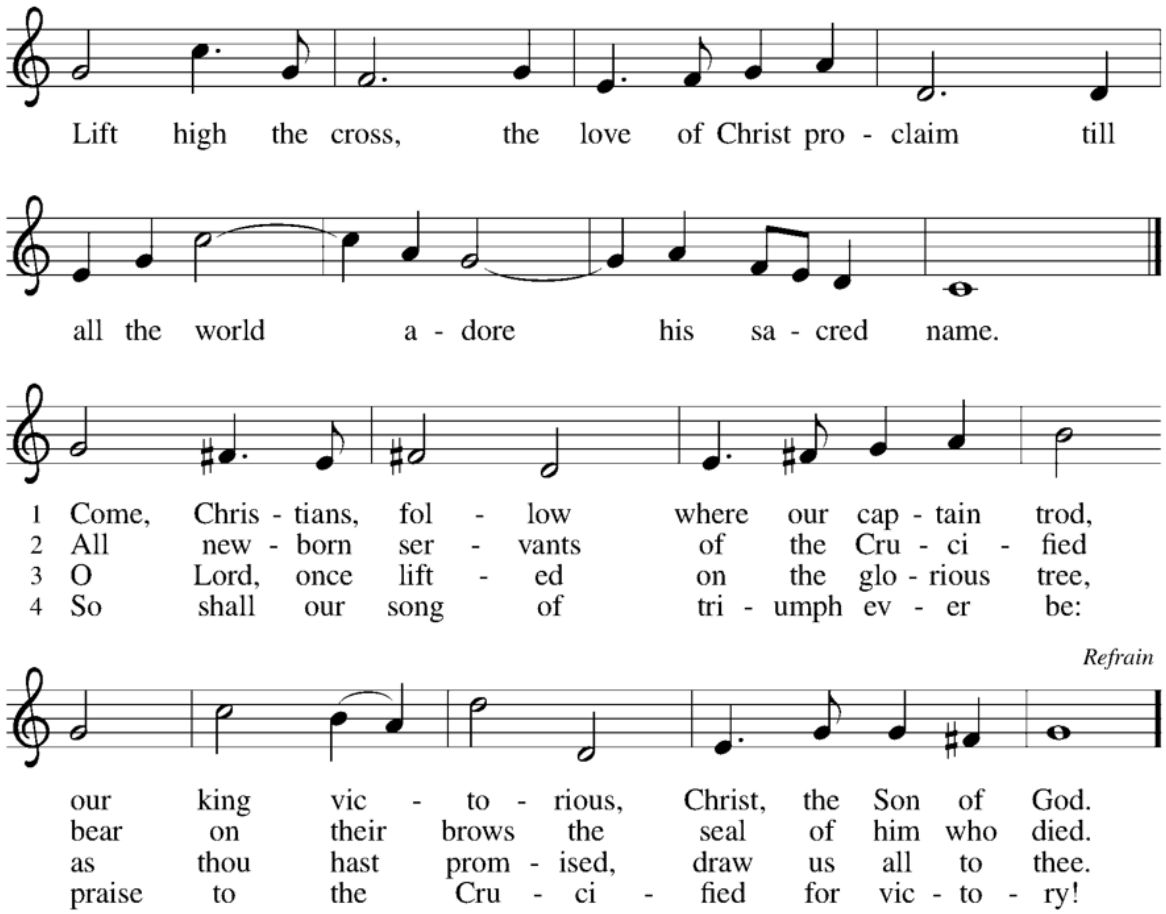
SENDING

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 *Lift High The Cross* ELW 660



DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER CONCERNS

November 11/22/26

The list in the weekly bulletin is intended to be for persons in immediate crisis. Generally, those names are moved to the newsletter after 3 weeks. The newsletter has our long-term prayer list which is updated as you tell us.

Members · Beth Sessoms · Larry Schiebe · Philip Williams · Anna Lena Andersen · Cayla Chaplin · Gary Eissinger · Barbara Azzarelli · Suzi Wilkinson · Paul Orose · Thanksgiving for Josh Trogdon's safe return from deployment

Friends & Family

· Diane Stultz · Stasha ·Katie Maxwell · Charlotte Choice and family · Mindy Quinby · Morgen Jensen · James Rose · Ethan Thompkins · Simone Ryan · Mike Crecelius · Connie Vargas · Priscilla Unger · Irene Ferguson ·Sal LoGalbo · Kathy Huling · Karrie Hawkins · Betty Beale · Nicole Bordley & Illya Tietzel · Jason Everage · Alan Carlson · Mary Rosenberg (former member) and fiancé Kymani, as they begin life together Nov 28th

People at Home or in Care facilities: · Charlotte Davis · Brenda Killett · Betty Kern

Our military members (*deployed)

· Earl Stockham · Dan Gibson · Joshua Trogdon · Bella Fish · Hochang Min · Alex Habermehl · Matthew Porter · Derek Carlson ·Howard Hogan* · Zach Fuhr ·Addie Piatz* · Douglas Gearing* · Chad Kennedy · Riley Broding · Robert Bradley · Angelus VanDervoort · Mustafa Alshamari

The Altar Flowers are given today by Agnes Rybar and Georgette Miller in celebration of their wedding vow renewal!

Ministry at St. James … November 22 - 29, 2026

Sun. Nov 22 ***Christ the King Sunday***
- 9:00 am Sunday Morning Faith Formation
- 10:00 am Worship and renewal of Vows for Agnes and Georgette
- 11:30 am Choir Practice

Mon. Nov 23
- 9:00 am Quilting Ministry (Annex)
- 7:00 pm Interfaith Thanksgiving
  The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
  6420 Morganton Rd., Fayetteville, NC 28314

Tue. Nov 24
- 6:30 pm Boy Scouts Troop 747
- 7:00 pm Fellowship on Zoom

Thu. Nov 26 Thanksgiving

Fri. Nov 27 Office Closed

Sat. Nov 28 9:00 am Outdoor Nativity Set-up

Sun. Nov 29 ***First Sunday of Advent***
- 9:00 am Sunday Morning Faith Formation
- 10:00 am Worship and Baptism of Cold Broding
- 11:30 am Choir Practice

Upcoming Worship Highlights:

Nov. 29	First Sunday of Advent; Baptism of Colt Broding (Riley and Caitlyn)
Dec 11	Annual Christmas – Advent Fellowship Dinner with ***Rivermist***



Nominations for Congregation Council 2027 – 28

If you know someone you think has skills, passions, or gifts for Council, please speak with one of the nominating team members below; and remember, self-nominations are allowed. Elections are scheduled for December 27.

Nominating Committee 2026

Edward Samuelian	910-551-9082	**Joan Eissinger**	910-850-8444
Amber Habermehl	864-704-3482	**Daniel Linkous**	910-527-6633
Lindsey Smith	812-272-8161	**Illya Tietzel**	504-334-1166



To celebrate our 90th anniversary, a small snippet of our history will be featured in the bulletin each week.

In the mid-sixties, the music in our church's worship services was greatly enhanced by the gift of a pipe organ by Mrs. Theda Suggs.

It was custom designed by W. Zimmer & Sons and is equipped with 475 pipes, 8 ranks, and six basic stops. The cost was in excess of $12,000.



JINGLE BELL JAMBOREE

A Holiday Gathering of Music, Fellowship & Giving

Friday, December 11



Join us for a festive, Scout-inspired Christmas celebration filled with good food, camping style fun and live music from our friends in RIVERMIST!



Dinner being served at 5:30pm

A time of Christmas Celebration featuring *Rivermist* to follow approximately 7pm

Holiday Giving Drive

In the spirit of helping others this season we will be collecting monetary donations to bless the family of Ethan Thompkinson, one of our Scouts who needed his leg amputated due to bone cancer.

RSVP: Michelle at 910-484-8052 by December 4

QUESTIONS AND FOOD DONATIONS: Contact Ruth Ann Crecelius by text at 910-309-1007

If you cannot attend the party but want to donate, use an envelope from the pew and put it in the collection plate if that is acceptable.