St. Luke's Lutheran Church

"Saved by Grace. Reaching out in Faith."

Sunday, November 8, 2026

10:15 AM



For when the **foolish** took their lamps,
they **took no oil** with them,
but the **wise** took
flasks of oil with their lamps.

Matthew 25:3-4

419-227-1961 • 209 W. North Street, Lima, Ohio 45801 • www.StLukesLima.org



Our Mission Statement
"Saved by Grace. Reaching out in Faith."

24th Sunday after Pentecost November 8, 2026

Welcome to St. Luke's. Whether you are visiting the Lima area or looking for a church home, we hope you find St. Luke's Lutheran Church to be a people who reflect the joy and peace and love we have in Christ. More than that, we hope you hear, with us, the good news of Jesus Christ crucified and risen for the forgiveness of sins.

Blue Welcome Cards help us welcome visitors, inform us of changes in your contact information, and let us know your prayer concerns. Welcome Cards may be placed in the offering plate stationed on a table for drop-off before or after service.

Holy Communion All who are baptized and believe that with the bread and wine we receive the true body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of sins and salvation are encouraged to come to the Lord's Supper. Those not receiving communion are invited to come forward for a blessing.

Rest Rooms are on the main floor at the south end of the office hallway.

Ushers and other members are here to help you if you need assistance.

Please stand, if able, for parts of the service marked ╬

WELCOME

PRELUDE ***"Jesus Christ, the Lord of Peace"*** Bach

The organ chimes call us to worship.

INTRODUCTION
Today the prophet Amos calls for justice to roll down like waters. Paul urges us to encourage one another with the promised coming of the Lord. Jesus tells the parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids. Surrounded by the faithful of every time and place, we celebrate Christ's coming in our midst in the word of life and the feast of victory—the marriage feast of the Lamb.

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 for reflection and self-examination. Please kneel as you are able.

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.

PEACE ╬

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

Please share a sign of Christ's peace with those around you.

GATHERING HYMN ╬ ***"O, Happy Day When We Shall Stand"*** #441

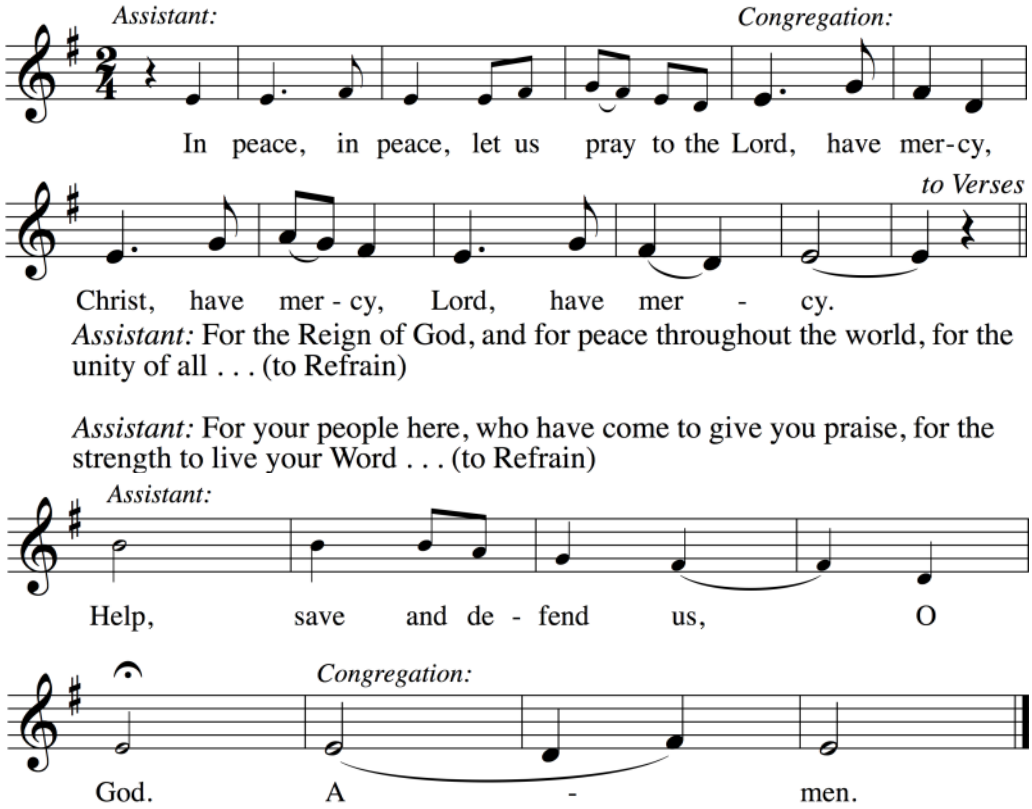


GREETING ╬

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.

KYRIE

Refrain

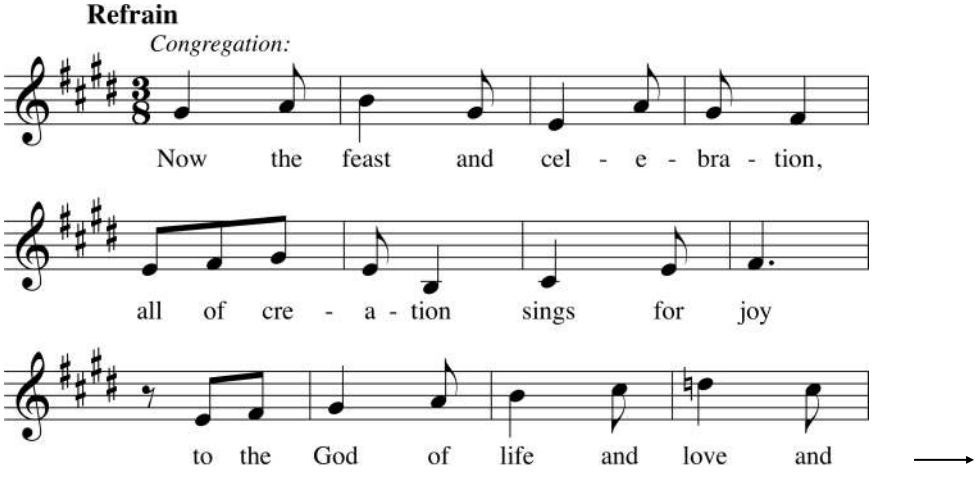


Assistant: For the Reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all . . . (to Refrain)

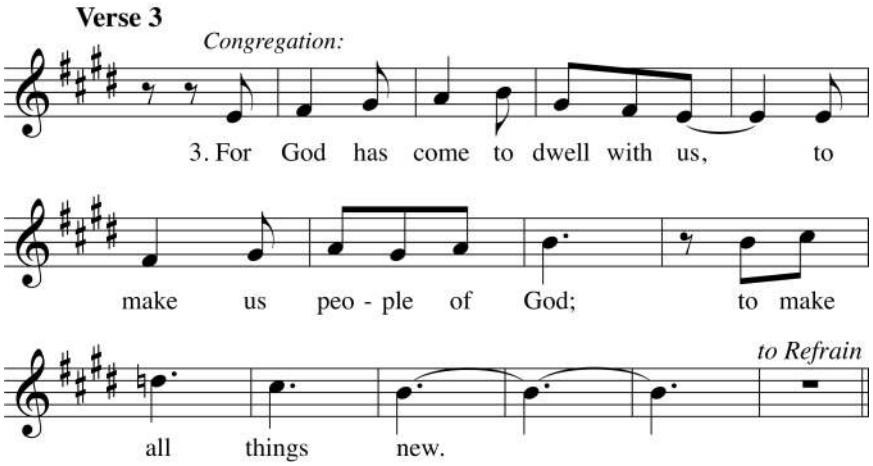
Assistant: For your people here, who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your Word . . . (to Refrain)

NOW THE FEAST

Refrain




free-dom: praise and glo - ry for ev -
er - more!
Verse 1
Congregation or Congregation 1:
1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once
slain, whose blood has freed and u -
nit - ed us to be one great peo - ple of
to Refrain
God.
Verse 2
Congregation or Congregation 2:
2. Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and
might, all hon - or and glo - ry to Christ
to Refrain
for ev - er.



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.

The assembly is seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NOISY OFFERING
On the second Sunday of each month, the children collect a special "noisy" offering of loose change (or dollar bills), typically designated to support Churches United Pantry (CUP).

FIRST READING: Amos 5:18-24

18 Woe to you who desire the day of the LORD!
Why do you want the day of the LORD?
It is darkness, not light,
19 as if someone fled from a lion
and was met by a bear
or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall
and was bitten by a snake.
20 Is not the day of the LORD darkness, not light,
and gloom with no brightness in it?

21 I hate, I despise your festivals,
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies. →

22 Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,
I will not accept them,
and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals
I will not look upon.
23 Take away from me the noise of your songs;
I will not listen to the melody of your harps.
24 But let justice roll down like water
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God

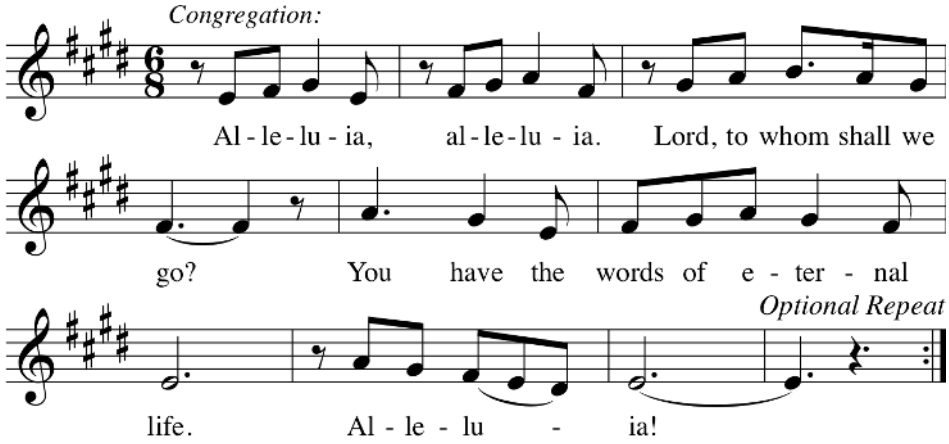
ANTHEM ***"When Morning Gilds the Skies"*** Paul
Lauren Williams, trumpet

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

13 We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so
that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. 14 For since we believe that Jesus
died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died.
15 For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left
until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. 16 For the Lord
himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's
trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are
alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in
the air, and so we will be with the Lord forever. 18 Therefore encourage one another with
these words.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION 𝄫



HOLY GOSPEL: ╬ Matthew 25:1-13

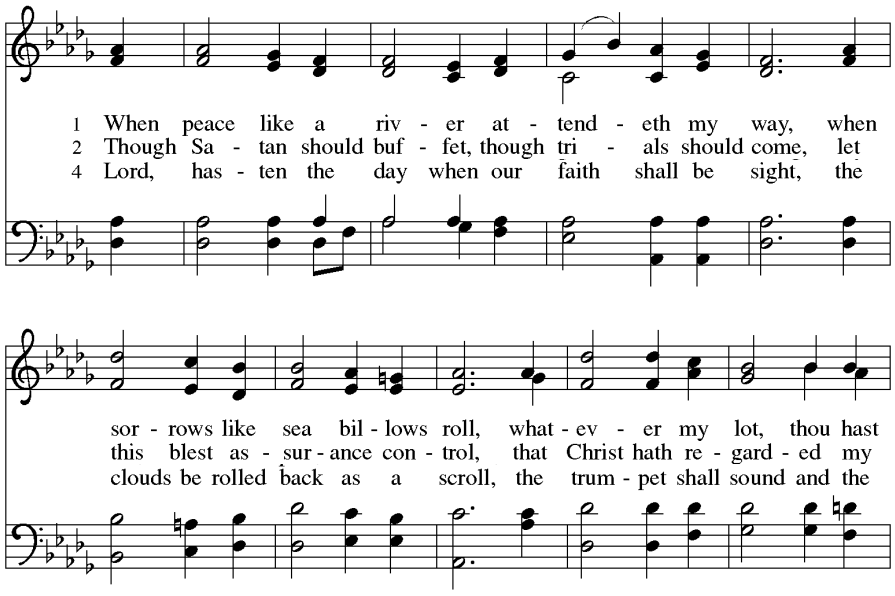
The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.

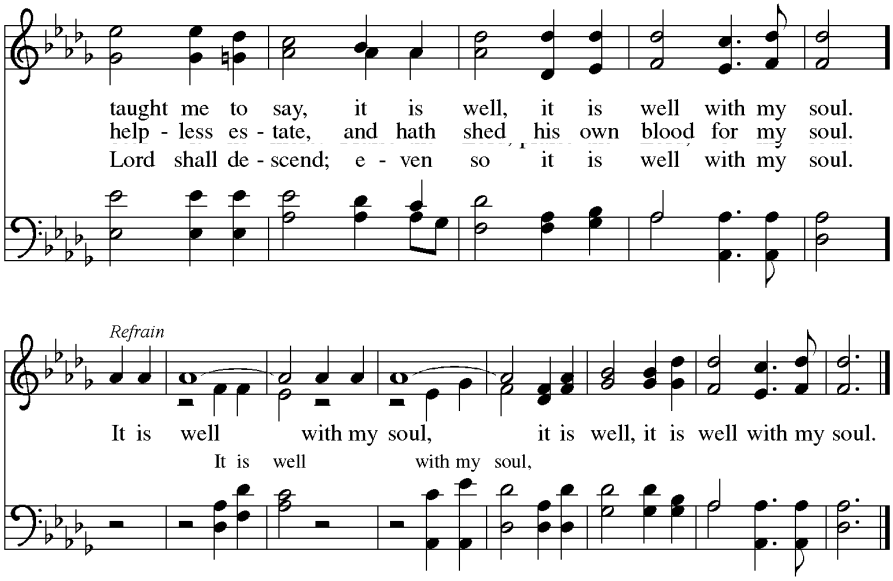
[Jesus said to the disciples:] [1] "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten young women took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. [2] Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. [3] When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, [4] but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. [5] As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. [6] But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' [7] Then all those young women got up and trimmed their lamps. [8] The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' [9] But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' [10] And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet, and the door was shut. [11] Later the other young women came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' [12] But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' [13] Keep awake, therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

The Gospel of Our Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON **Pastor Don Pletcher**

HYMN OF THE DAY ╬ ***"When Peace, like a River"*** #785 vs 1,2,4





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 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

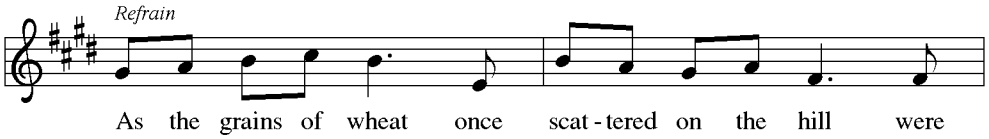
PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH ╬

Response after each petition: Lord, in your mercy; **Hear our prayer.**

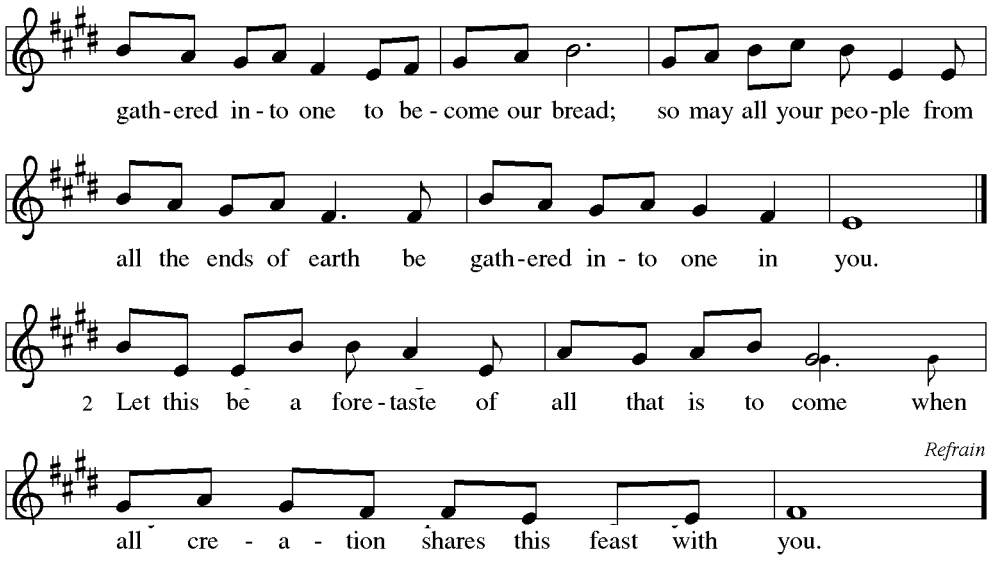
OFFERING

Voluntary ***"Let Us Break Bread Together"*** Wood

OFERTORY HYMN ╬ ***"As the Grains of Wheat"*** #465



⟶



OFFERTORY 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.

GREAT THANKSGIVING ╬

DIALOGUE ╬

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

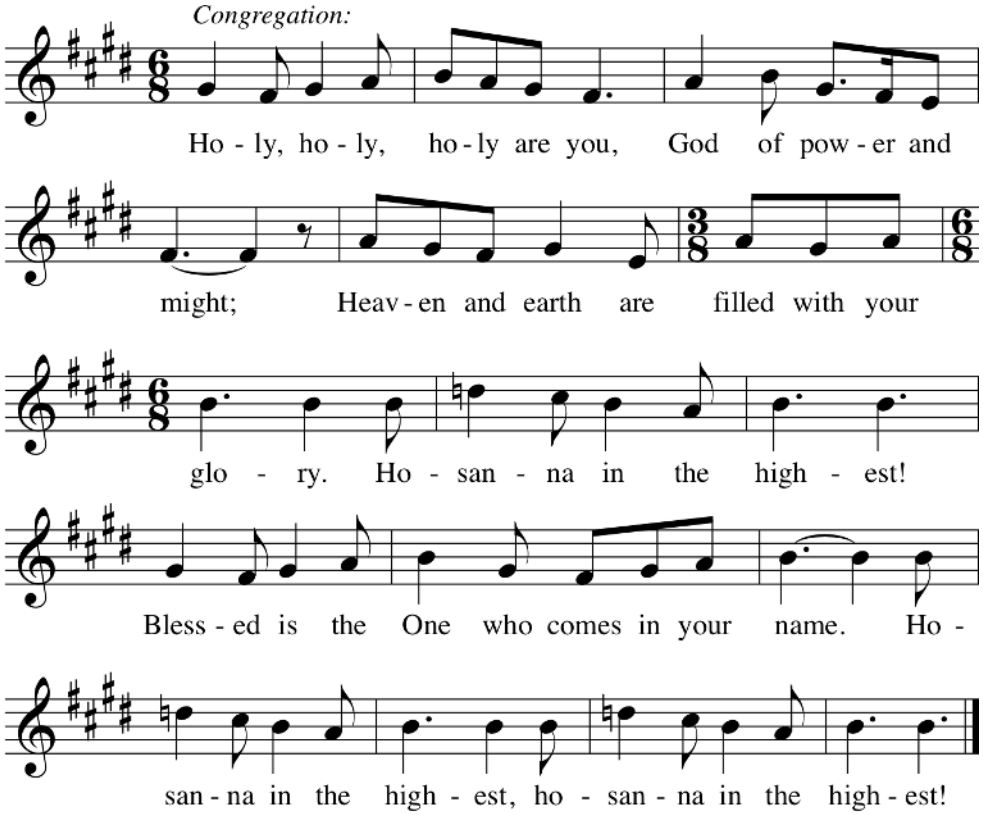
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE ╬

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy…praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY ╬



WORDS OF INSTITUTION ╬

LORD'S PRAYER ╬

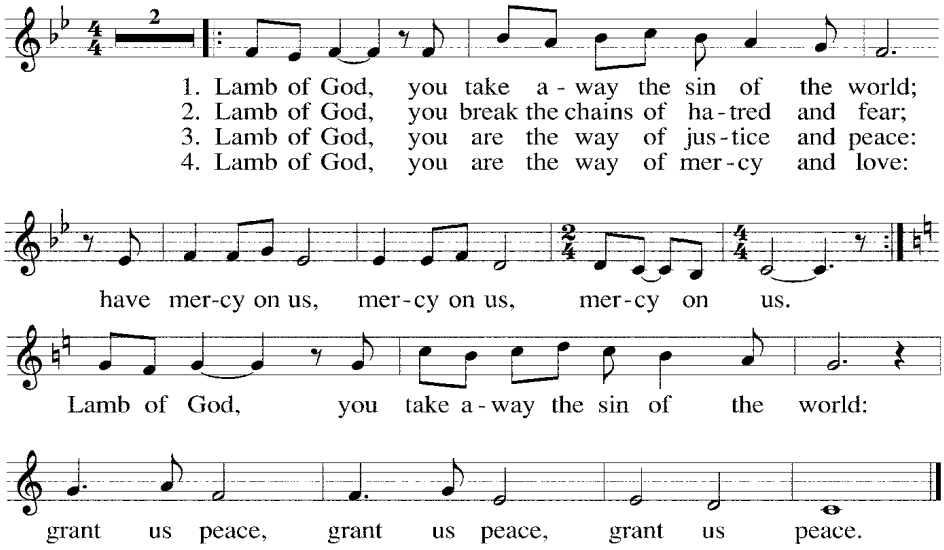
Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

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.

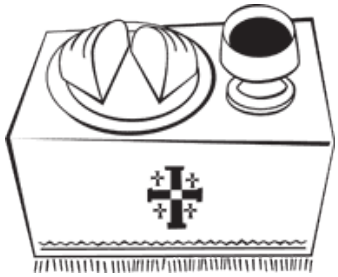
INVITATION TO THE LORD'S SUPPER ╬
In bread and cup the reign of Christ is breaking in.
Come, receive what Christ has prepared.

The assembly is seated.

LAMB OF GOD



THE LORD'S SUPPER
This morning communion is served continuously. Come forward down the center aisle as directed by the ushers and receive the bread—the body of Christ—from the pastor. Take a glass from the tray and move to the wine servers. (The pre-filled glasses are grape juice.) When finished, place the cup in the basket and return to your seat via the side aisles.



COMMUNION HYMNS ***"Let Us Break Bread Together"*** #471



"Blessed Assurance" #638



EUCHARISTIC BLESSING ╬

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

Amen

POST COMMUNION PRAYER ╬
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.

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

SENDING HYMN ╬ ***"Come, We that Love the Lord"*** #625 vs 1,2,4





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

Silent prayer with chimes.

POSTLUDE ***"We're Marching to Zion"*** Held

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WORSHIP ASSISTANTS	**Today, SUNDAY 11/8**	**NEXT SUNDAY 11/15**
Worship Leader	Pastor Don Pletcher	Kent Miller
Organist	Sandy Miller	Sandy Miller
Acolyte	Zoey Kennedy	Addy Cardenas
Children's Message	Noisy Offering	Kathy Luhn
Lector	Lonnie Collins	Dale Laukhuf
Communion Servers	Jane Williams, Lauren Williams	Kim Howard, Marcia Laukhuf
Ushers	Jack Williams, Bob Williams	Mike Gray, Dick McCarty
Altar Guild	Beth Arheit McCarty	Beth Arheit McCarty



The flowers in the chancel this morning were given by
Liz Ebbing in celebration of her son's birthday

WOMEN OF THE E.L.C.A. (WELCA)

Mary/Martha Circle meets on Tuesday, November 17, 2026 at 11am, in the Pastor's Study. Lunch provided by: Mila and Sarah

Projects for November & December

Global Mission Thankoffering:
Turned in to be blessed on **Sunday, November 22nd** for National Welca (Bring your checks made out to WELCA and place them in the offering plates)

Local Mission Project:
Angel Tree Benefits Churches United Pantry (C.U.P.) Take a tag or two, buy the item & bring it to church and place it in the box next to the tree.

Local Mission Project:
Hats, Mittens, Scarves and warm socks for Salvation Army (delivered before Christmas)



Hanging of the Greens Sunday, November 29, is the first Sunday of Advent and the beginning of a new church year. It's also time to decorate the church for the Advent and Christmas season. Plan to stay after worship on **Sunday, November 22** – Christ the King Sunday – to help with the trees, wreaths, garland, and other seasonal decorations which beautify our church.



Sunday, November 29, 2026 @ 10:15 am ~ First Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 6, 2026 @ 10:15 am ~ Second Sunday of Avent

Sunday, December 13, 2026 @ 10:15 am ~ Third Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 20, 2026 @ 10:15 am ~ Third Sunday of Advent



DEADLINE IS NOVEMBER 22, 2026

Payment must accompany the order! Please make check payable to St. Luke's Lutheran Church. If you have any questions, please call Robin at the church 419-227-1961. Orders should be turned in to the church office or placed in the offering plate on Sunday. You can also find order forms in the Gathering Area.

Number of Red Poinsettias 6 ½" _____ @ $14.00 per

Number of White Poinsettias 6 ½" _____ @ $14.00 per

Number of Pink Poinsettias 6 ½" _____ @ $14.00 per

Your name:_____

Phone # _____Amount enclosed:_____

DEDICATIONS

In loving memory of:_____

_____

In honor of:_____

_____

In celebration of:_____

_____

Please check one of the following:

I will pick up my plant(s) at the 12/24 service _____
Please deliver to a shut-in _____

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK		
Mon, 11/9	6:00 pm	Council Meeting
Sun, 11/15	9:00 am 9:00 am 10:15 am 11:15 am	Choir Christian Education Hour Liturgy of Holy Communion Congregational Meeting

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Meadows of Marion - Dorothy
Lockhaven - Barb
Wyngate Senior Living - Glen & Elizabeth

Pat, Ida, Madison, Judy, Norman, Natalia, Andrew, Timothy, Susan, Florian

Scripture readings for 11/15/2026

Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18
1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
Matthew 25:14-30



Mark your calendars and plan to be present for our **annual congregational meeting, Sunday, November 15**, following our morning worship service. The agenda includes examining and voting on the proposed 2027 budget and the election of members for the church council.

"NUMBERS" from November 1, 2026"

Attendance: 48
Giving: $7,114.75 given to the glory of God for the work of the Gospel of Jesus Christ in Lima and beyond.

Staff	*Congregational Leadership*
Interim Hospital Visitation Pastor - Samuel Payne (Cell:419-371-9774) Organist – Sandy Miller Choir Director – Brian Reeves Office Secretary – Robin Hefner	President - Rich Moritz Vice President - James Williams Secretary - Lois Kennedy Treasurer - Alison Williams Tyler Arheit Susie Cornell Perry Luhn Marcy Reeves Jane Williams

E-Mail Addresses
Office Secretary – secretary@stlukeslima.org