Family of Christ Lutheran Church and Early Education Center

Welcome to the Family!

The 25th Sunday After Pentecost
November 22, 2020

Pastor's Greeting

Invocation: (*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*)

P: In the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit. *Matthew 28:19b*

C: Amen.

Exhortation *Hebrews 10:22*

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: who made heaven and earth.

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

(Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination).

The Confession of Sins

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors

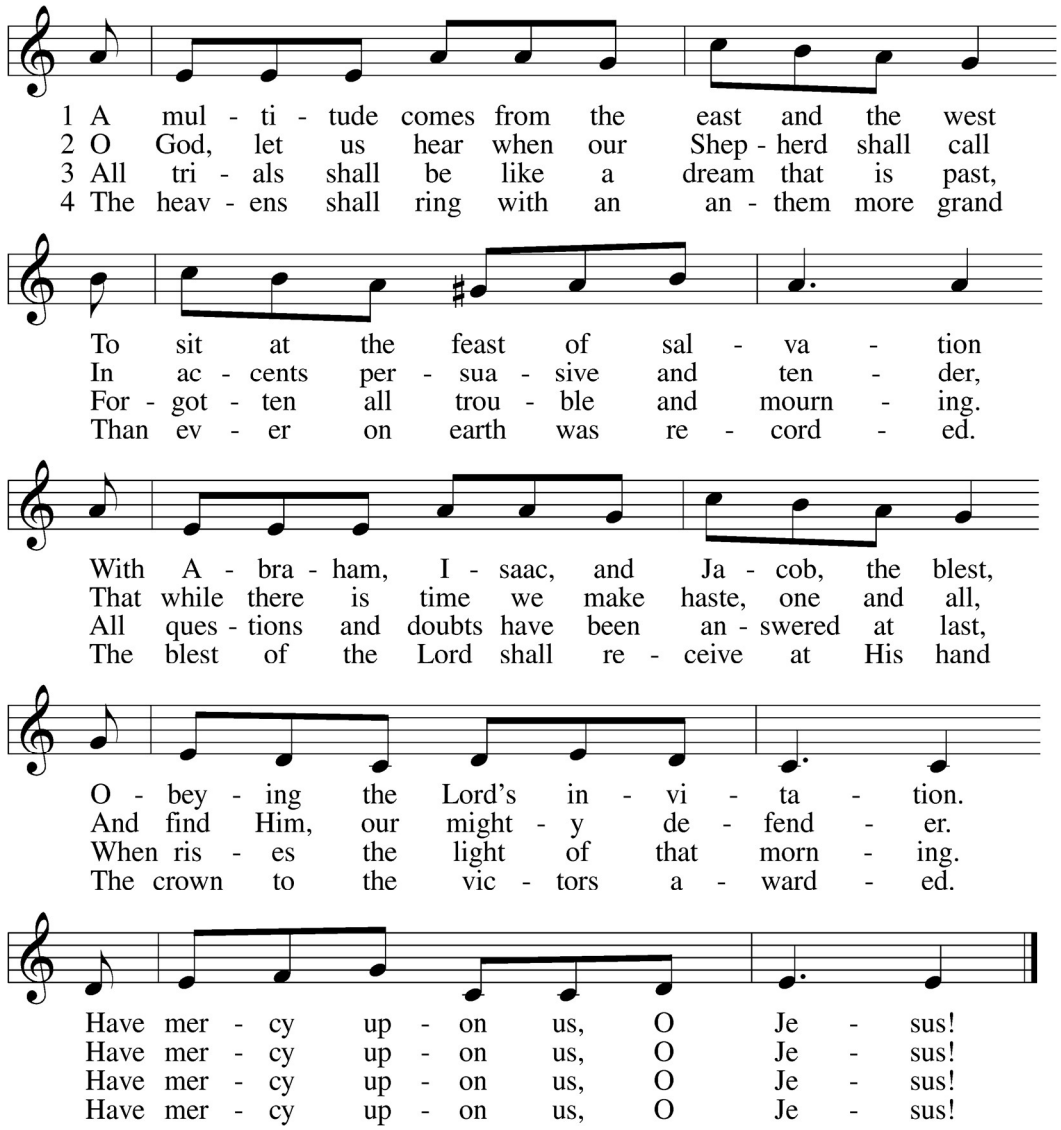
as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name, Amen.

ABSOLUTION *John 20:21*

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

OPENING HYMN A MULTITUDE COMES FROM THE EAST AND THE WEST *LSB 510 STS.1-4*



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PSALM 95:1–7A; ANTIPHON: V. 7A

P: Oh come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

C: Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise!

P: For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

C: In His hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are His also.

P: The sea is His, for he made it, and His hands formed the dry land.

C: Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!

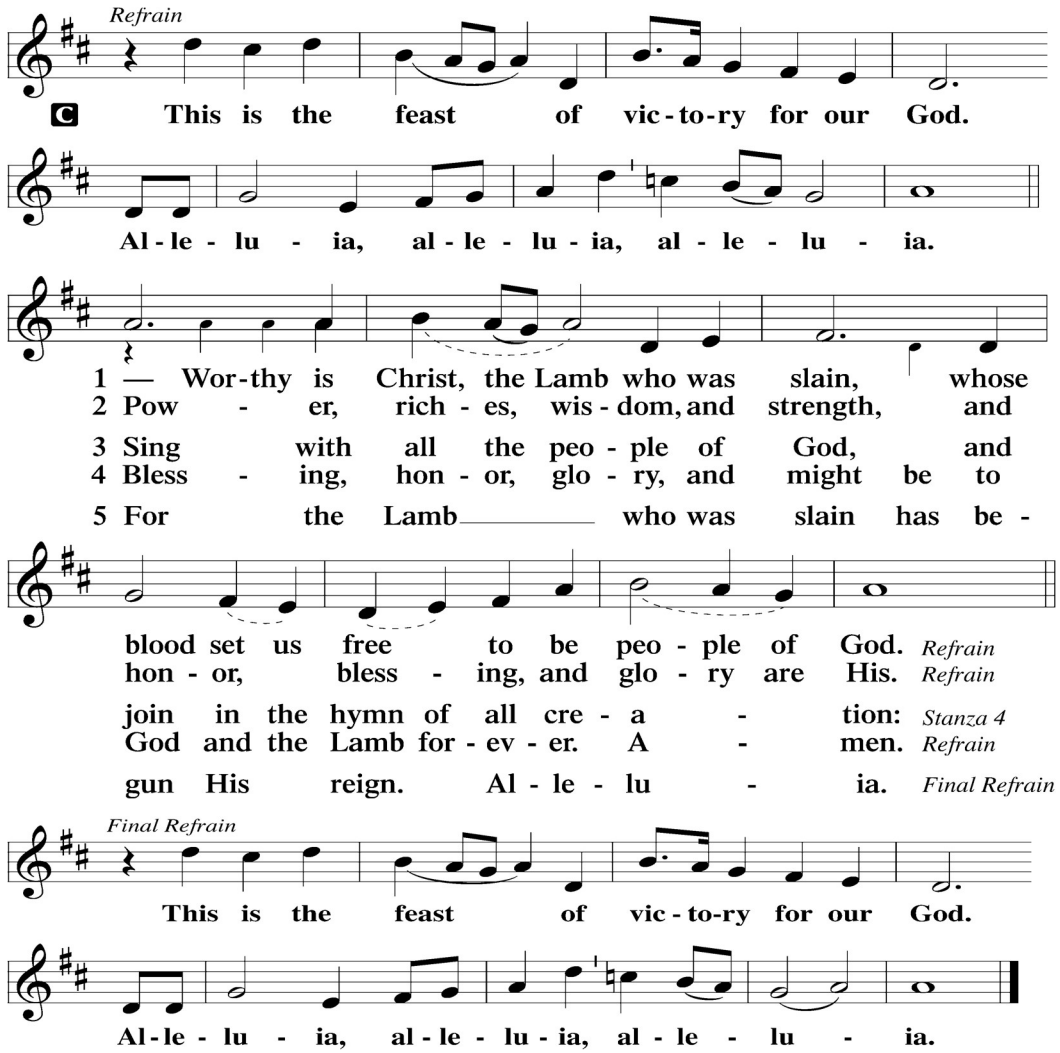
P: For He is our God,

C: and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of His hand.

All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

THE KYRIE *LSB 186*

C: Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

HYMN OF PRAISE: THIS IS THE FEAST *LSB 155* *Revelation 5:12-13; 19:5-9*

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: *Let us pray*: Eternal God, merciful Father, You have appointed Your Son as judge of the living and the dead. Enable us to wait for the day of His return with our eyes fixed on the kingdom prepared for Your own from the foundation of the world; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

A Reading from the Book of Ezekiel 34:11–16, 20–24

Reader: "For thus says the Lord God: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. As a shepherd seeks out his flock when He is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord GOD. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice.

"Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: Behold, I, I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you push with side and shoulder, and thrust at all the weak with your horns, till you have scattered them abroad, I will rescue my flock; they shall no longer be a prey. And I will judge between sheep and sheep. And I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them. I am the LORD; I have spoken."

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

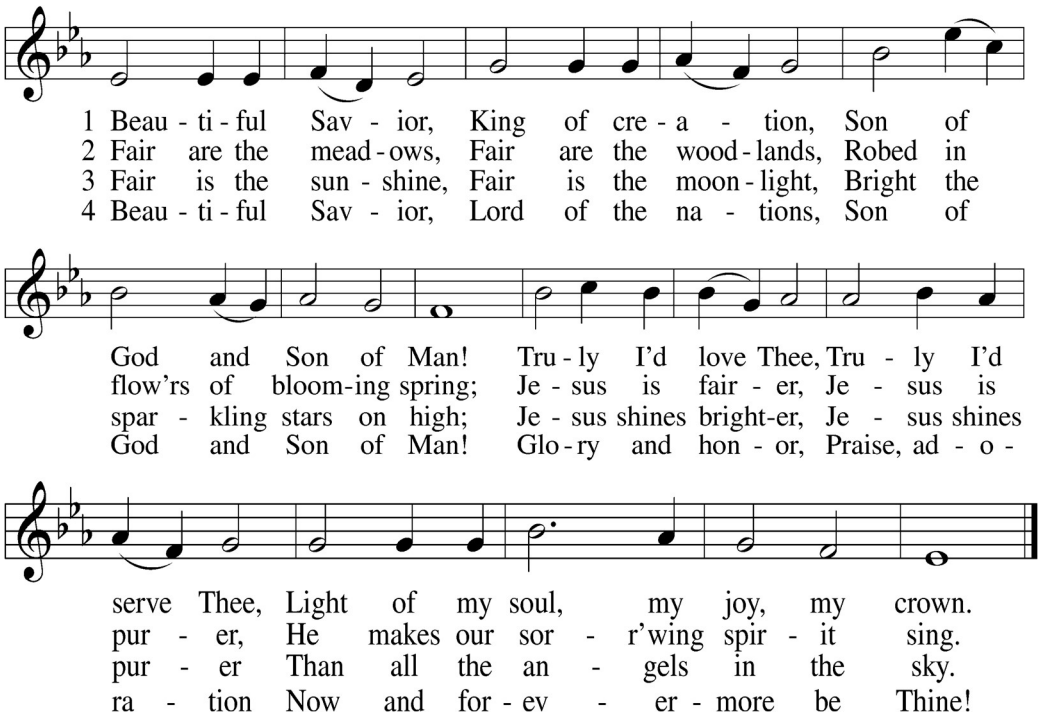
C: Thanks be to God!

The Gradual *Psalm 48:1a, 12–14a*

P: These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

C: Blessed are those whose strength is in You, in whose heart are the highways to Zion.

HYMN **BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR** ***LSB 537 STS.1-4***



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THE EPISTLE READING FROM 1 CORINTHIANS 15:20–28

Reader: But in fact, Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death. For "God has put all things in subjection under His feet." But when it says, "all things are put in subjection," it is plain that he is excepted who put all things in subjection under him. When all things are subjected to Him, then the Son Himself will also be subjected to Him who put all things in subjection under Him, that God may be all in all.

R: This is the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

ALLELUIA AND VERSE *LSB 156*

C: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

P: The Reading of the Holy Gospel according St. Matthew 25: 31-46

C: Glory to You O Lord!

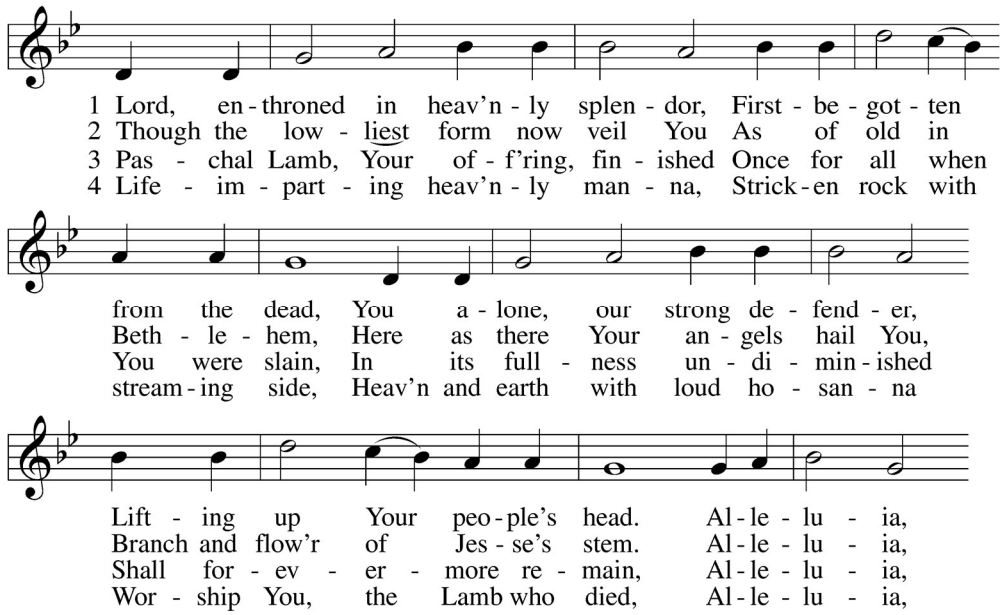
P: Jesus said: “When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne. Before Him will be gathered all the nations, and He will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. And He will place the sheep on His right, but the goats on the left. Then the King will say to those on His right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry, and you gave me food, I was thirsty, and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked, and you clothed me, I was sick, and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.’ Then the righteous will answer him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?’ And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.’

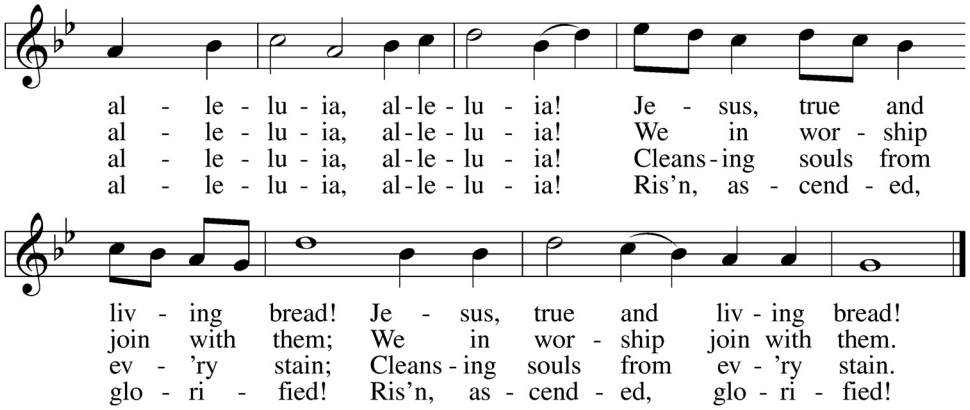
“Then He will say to those on His left, ‘Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and His angels. For I was hungry, and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ Then they also will answer, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?’ Then He will answer them, saying, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You O Christ!

SERMON HYMN **LORD, ENTHRONED IN HEAVENLY SPLENDOR** ***LSB 534 STS.1-4***





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SERMON

THE NICENE CREED

C: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life † of the world to come.
Amen.

OFFERTORY

As we celebrate the holy gifts and blessings God has given to us, please pray concerning your first fruits offering of thanksgiving to our Lord for all His benefits to us.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

(Prayer requests may be submitted online at www.FamilyofChristLutheranAZ.org or emailed to Pastor@familyofchristlutheranaz.org or Prayer@familyofchristlutheranaz.org)

P: For the faithful proclamation of Christ, our King, and for the strengthening of God's people in this true faith and their baptismal life in Christ, *let us pray to the Lord*:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For Christ's holy, catholic and apostolic Church; for all who faithfully confess the saving name of Christ; and for the protection of the Lord to extend over us against the devil, the world and our own sinful selves, *let us pray to the Lord*:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For our Early Education Center and all the schools of our church body, for the seminaries where our pastors are being trained for Your service, and for the campuses where our young are prepared for their occupations by their vocation as God's people by Baptism and faith, *let us pray to the Lord*:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For those who have wandered from the flock of God, for the faithful shepherds who gather them in through the voice of God's Word, for our forgiveness, and for our willingness to forgive others in Christ's name, *let us pray to the Lord*:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For a right reception of the true body and blood of Christ, for grace to use well what we receive here in Christ's name, and for the day when no division of doctrine and faith will hinder our communion together at the Lord's altar, *let us pray to the Lord*:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For our president and governor, our newly elected leaders and all in authority over us, *let us pray to the Lord*:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the hungry and homeless, for the unemployed and underemployed, for those who work in disaster relief, and for the social-service agencies of our church, *let us pray to the Lord*:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For a giving spirit, that we may not neglect the poor nor fail to provide resources to the church to fulfill the Lord's bidding and spread the Gospel to every place, *let us pray to the Lord*:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For those afflicted by illness of body or mind and for those who care for them, *especially* **Gerri**, **Inge**, **Victoria**, _____ that with God's strength they may kept through patience and delivered to everlasting life, *let us pray to the Lord*:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the grieving, that they may have hope, *especially* **Dave and his sister Nettie at the death of her husband Don,** _____, and for those near the end of their earthly lives, that they may be sustained in faith to everlasting life, *let us pray to the Lord*:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Lord God, heavenly Father, we here remember the sufferings and death of Your dear Son, Jesus Christ, for our salvation. Praising His victorious resurrection from the dead, we draw strength from His ascension before You, where He ever stands for us as our own High Priest. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His Kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers, deliver, and preserve us, for to You alone we give all glory, honor and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

P: Taught by our Savior we are bold 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.

Closing Collect

P: Gracious Father, in mercy and love You sent Your beloved Son Jesus to die for our sins so we can receive the gift eternal of life. Lord, as we go our separate ways cause us to cling to Your Word planted in us this day. Thank you for gathering us in this place to be fed by Your Word and by Your Son's very Body and Blood. Let our hearts embrace all You have taught us so that we may bear the fruits of faith in our lives. Grant that the Light of Christ shine before us to the glorify of Your Holy name this we pray through Jesus Christ Your Son who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever:

All: Amen.

BENEDICAMUS *LSB 218*

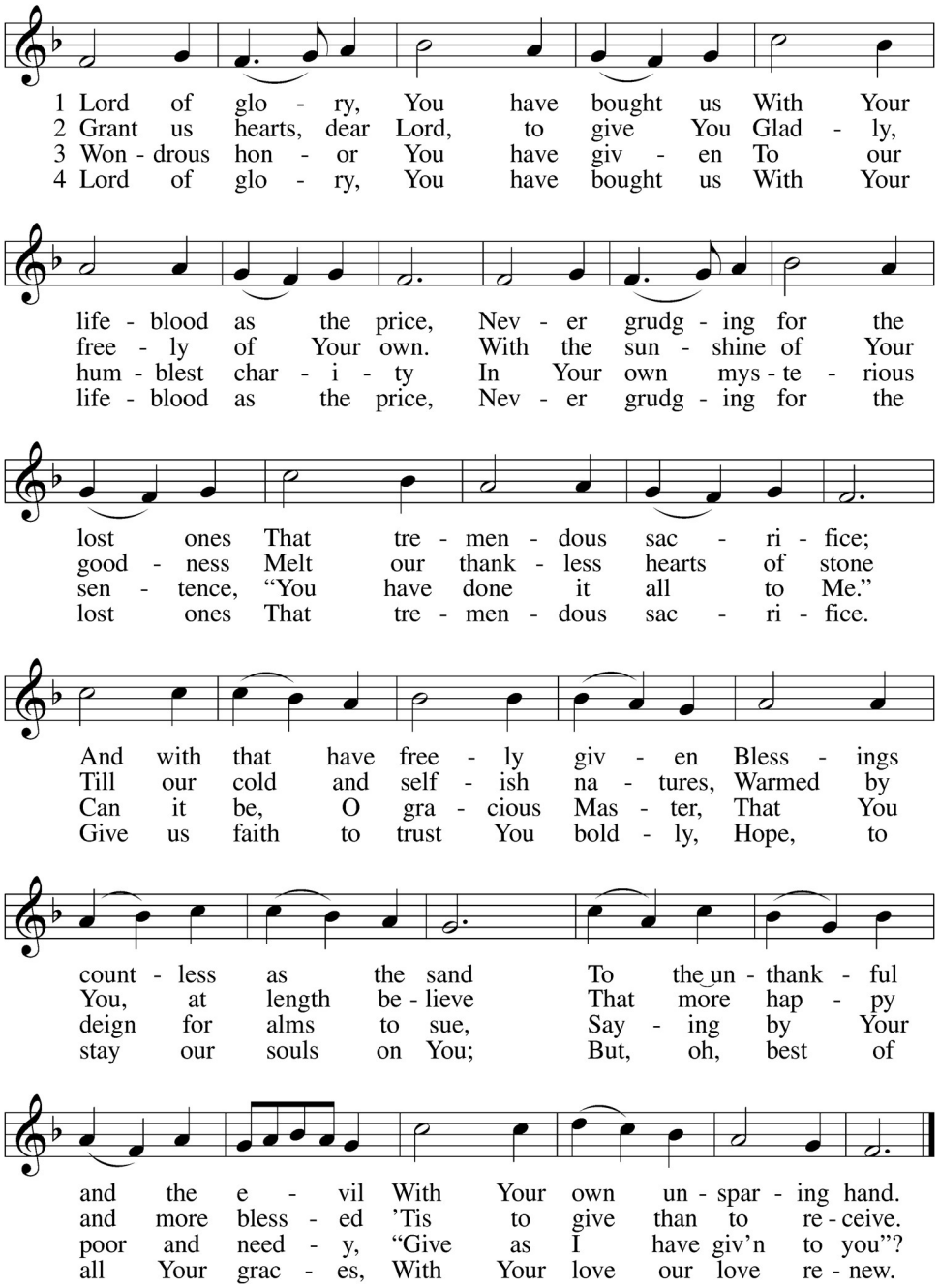
P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION *LSB 228*

P: The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✝ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN **LORD OF GLORY, YOU HAVE BOUGHT US** ***LSB 851 STS.1-4***

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Prayer Requests
Prayer@FamilyOfChristLutheranAZ.org

This Week at Family of Christ

This Sunday (Last Sunday of the Church Year)

9:30AM Divine Worship

11:00AM Bible Study on Large Catechism

Wednesday

6:00PM Thanksgiving Eve Service

Thursday

No Confirmation Class

Friday

6:30AM Men's Bible Study in Leviticus

Next Sunday (First Sunday in Advent)

9:30AM Divine Worship

11:00AM Bible Study on Large Catechism

Upcoming

Wednesday Evening Advent Services will be at 6:00PM on December 2nd, 9th and 16th.

PLEASE NOTE: *Church Services and Bible Studies are currently offered in person and via Zoom. In-person meetings follow all CDC-recommended protocols.*

Pastor is available upon request for: *(call the Church office or Pastor's cell to schedule)*

- ✝ Individual Confession and Absolution
- ✝ Home, hospital or nursing home visits
- ✝ Communion
- ✝ Prayer

Offerings can be mailed to the church or sent via Zelle® directly from your bank to:
familyofchristaz@gmail.com