# Living Saviour Lutheran Church
# Charlotte, North Carolina



## Twenty-Fifth Sunday After Pentecost
## November 15, 2026

***Living Saviour Lutheran Church is a faith community striving to live and love as Jesus did, eagerly welcoming all and bringing healing, help, and hope to the world.***

**WELCOME TO WORSHIP!**

**WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:**

Assisting Minister - **Pat Snodgrass**
Crucifer - **Jackson Thom**
Acolyte - **Diego Kooi**

**INSTRUMENTALISTS:**

Trumpet - **Gordon Hann**
Woodwinds - **Barbara Tobin**

**THE ALTAR FLOWERS** are given by Sue Hunsinger in honor of God and all of the little things He does for us.

**THIS WORSHIP FOLDER** contains all elements of the worship service. It is designed to encourage your participation. Please read the words in bold print and join in the singing of all hymns. Italicized words are instructions.

**RESTROOMS** are located at the back of the sanctuary and down the short hallway.

**WE WELCOME CHILDREN IN OUR WORSHIP SERVICES!**
Parents, you are always welcome to bring your children to worship with you. If you are comfortable and prefer having them in supervised childcare, it is available and is under the very capable and loving supervision of Ms. Carla. The Childcare Room is down the steps as you enter the gathering area outside the sanctuary. Someone will be happy to direct you there.

- **CHILDREN'S WORSHIP BULLETINS** for readers and non-readers are available on the welcome table where the worship folders are located.
- **QUIET BAGS** for use by children during worship have been updated and arranged by age groups. They are located to the left as you enter the sanctuary. Feel free to pick one up and replace it on the hooks when you leave.

**WEEKLY ACTIVITIES** are on page 17.

**NEIGHBOR BAGS** have been assembled and are located in the blue bin outside of the sanctuary. Please take a few to keep in your car and hand out when the opportunity arises.

**NOISY OFFERING** for November (11/15) will go to Diaper Bank of NC. Their mission is to increase awareness of and access to essential hygiene items to promote dignity, health, and quality of life for the people of North Carolina. And they don't stop with diapers - they also assist with period products, adult incontinence supplies and formula.

You can learn more on their website: https://www.ncdiaperbank.org/

## WE GATHER IN CHRIST'S NAME

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRELUDE

*Please stand as you are able.*

### CONFESSIONS AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation.
**Amen.**

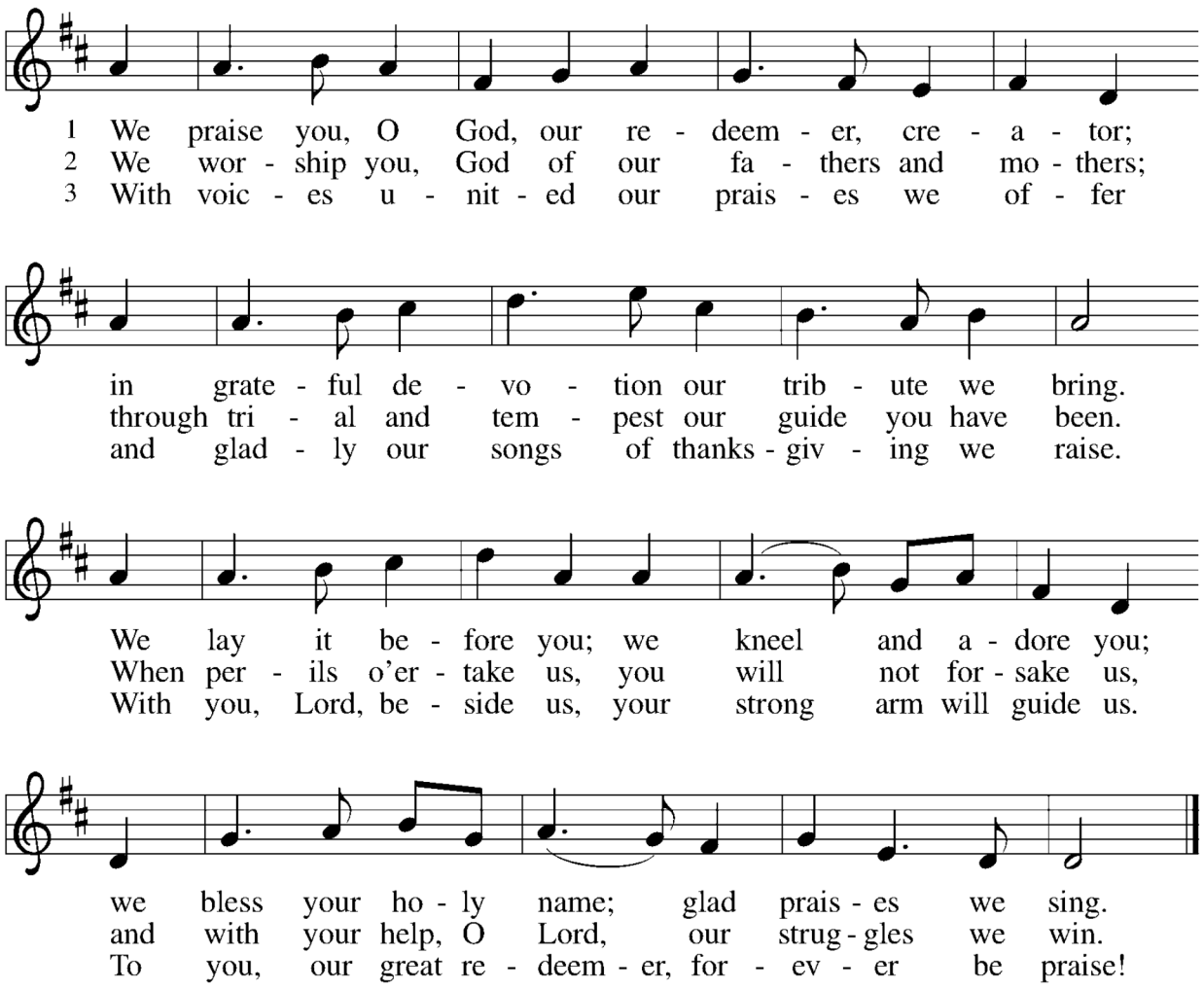
Let us confess our sins in the presence of God and of one another.

Lord of Creation,
**we confess that we have squandered your gifts**
**and used them as if they had been given for us alone.**
**We have not loved you with our whole heart.**
**We have failed to be obedient disciples.**
**We have not done your will,**
**we have broken your law,**
**we have rebelled against your love,**
**we have not loved our neighbors,**
**and we have not heard the cry of the needy.**
**Forgive us, we pray.**
**Free us for joyful service,**
**through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Hear the Good News:
Even though we have not been faithful in all things,
our God still welcomes us with love, patience and kindness.
Therefore, with joy I tell you that your sins are forgiven,
in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Let us receive forgiveness and embrace hope,
seeking to live and love as Jesus did,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
**Glory to God! Amen.**

*Please turn to face the processional cross.*
*As the cross passes your row, please turn to the altar.*

**GATHERING HYMN** "We Praise You, O God" ELW 870




Text: Julia C. Cory, 1882–1963
Music: KREMSER, A. Valerius, *Nederlandtsch Gedenckclanck*, 1626

**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.

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.**

*Please be seated.*

## WE HEAR THE WORD OF GOD

### READING: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-13, 17-18

A reading from Zephaniah.

7 Be silent before the Lord God,
for the day of the Lord is at hand!
The Lord has prepared a sacrifice;
he has consecrated his guests.

12 At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,
and I will punish the people
who settle like dregs in wine,
those who say in their hearts,
"The Lord will not do good,
nor will he do harm."
13 Their wealth shall be plundered
and their houses laid waste.
Though they build houses,
they shall not inhabit them;
though they plant vineyards,
they shall not drink wine from them.

17 I will bring such distress upon people
that they shall walk like the blind;
because they have sinned against the Lord,
their blood shall be poured out like dust
and their flesh like dung.
18 Neither their silver nor their gold
will be able to save them
on the day of the Lord's wrath;
in the fire of his passion
the whole earth shall be consumed,
for a full, a terrible end
he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

The word of the Lord.
**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 90:1-6,12**

*Please read responsively.*

[1] Lord, you have been our refuge
from one generation to another.

[2] **Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born,**
**from age to age you are God.**

[3] You turn us back to the dust and say,
"Turn back, O children of earth."

[4] **For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past and like a watch in the night;**

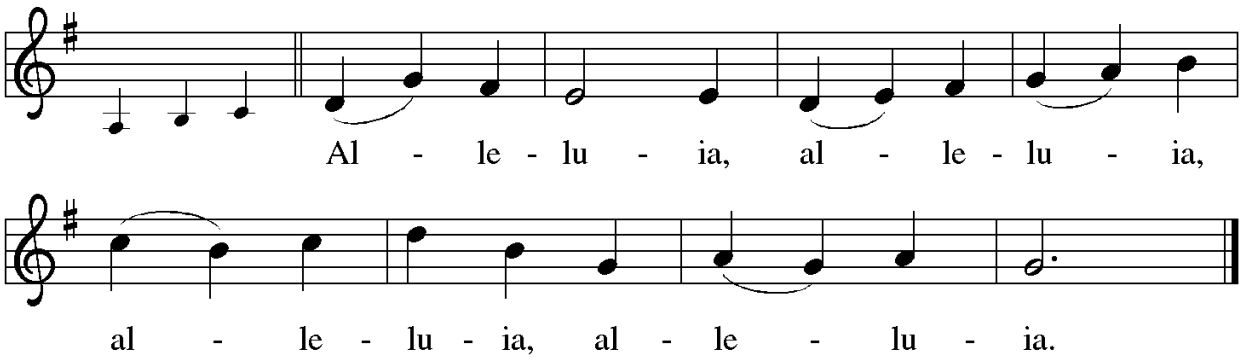
[5] you sweep them away like a dream,
they fade away suddenly like the grass:

[6] **in the morning it is green and flourishes;**
**in the evening it is dried up and withered.**

[12] **So teach us to number our days**
**that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.**

*Please stand as you are able to welcome the gospel.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** Setting One



**GOSPEL: Matthew 25:14-30**

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

[Jesus said to the disciples:] 14 "For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned
his slaves and entrusted his property to them; 15 to one he gave five talents, to
another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. At
once 16 the one who had received the five talents went off and traded with them and
made five more talents. 17 In the same way, the one who had the two talents made
two more talents. 18 But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a
hole in the ground and hid his master's money. 19 After a long time the master of
those slaves came and settled accounts with them. 20 Then the one who had
received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master,
you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' 21 His
master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been
trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the
joy of your master.' 22 And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying,
'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.'
23 His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been
trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the
joy of your master.' 24 Then the one who had received the one talent also came
forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did
not sow and gathering where you did not scatter, 25 so I was afraid, and I went and
hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' 26 But his master
replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not
sow and gather where I did not scatter? 27 Then you ought to have invested my
money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own
with interest. 28 So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten
talents. 29 For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an
abundance, but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken
away. 30 As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there
will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' "

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

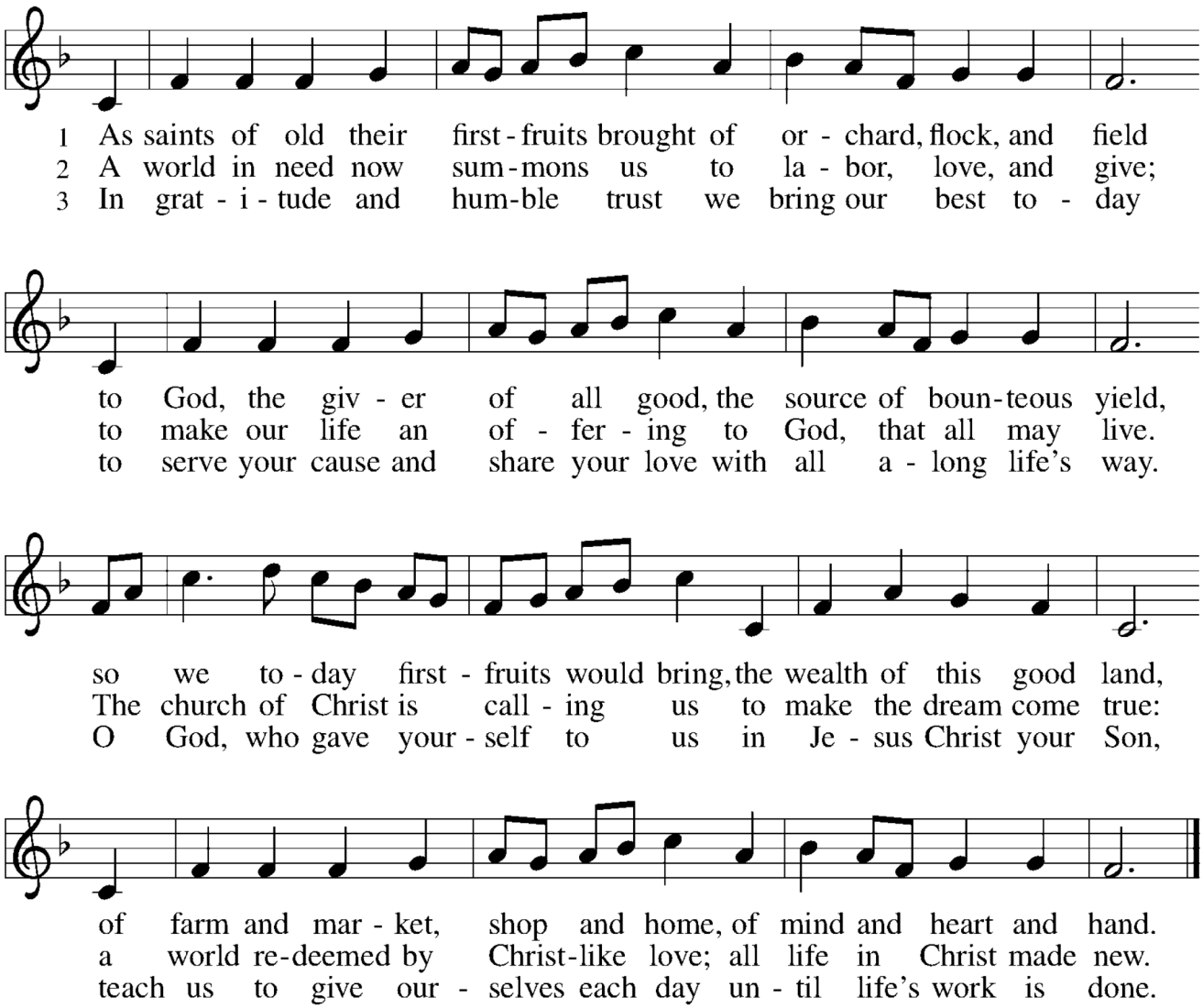
*Please be seated.*

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE/NOISY OFFERING**

**SERMON** **Pastor Sara Ilderton**

*Please stand as you are able.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY** "As Saints of Old" ELW 695




Text: Frank von Christierson, 1900–1996, alt.
Music: FOREST GREEN, English folk tune
Text © 1961, ren. 1989 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188.
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**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

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

You build up the church as a community of faithful witnesses throughout the generations. Enliven worship and outreach. Encourage healthy stewardship of time, talents, and resources for the mission of the gospel in this and all congregations.
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 name silently or aloud...
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**

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

*After exchanging the peace with those near you, please be seated.*

## WE CELEBRATE THE SUPPER OF OUR LORD

### INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving,
and make good your vows to the Most High. *Psalm 50:14*

*The offering plate is passed. You may also give electronically using the QR code on the back cover.*

**MUSICAL OFFERING** "All Good Gifts" David Schwoebel

*Please stand as you are able.*

### OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God, whose giving knows no ending,
**we offer the treasures that you have entrusted to us;**
**we offer the skills and time that you have graciously given to us;**
**we offer ourselves in service and praise.**
**Receive these gifts by your grace.**
**Multiply and use them through the power of the Holy Spirit**
**to accomplish Christ's work of love in the world. Amen.**

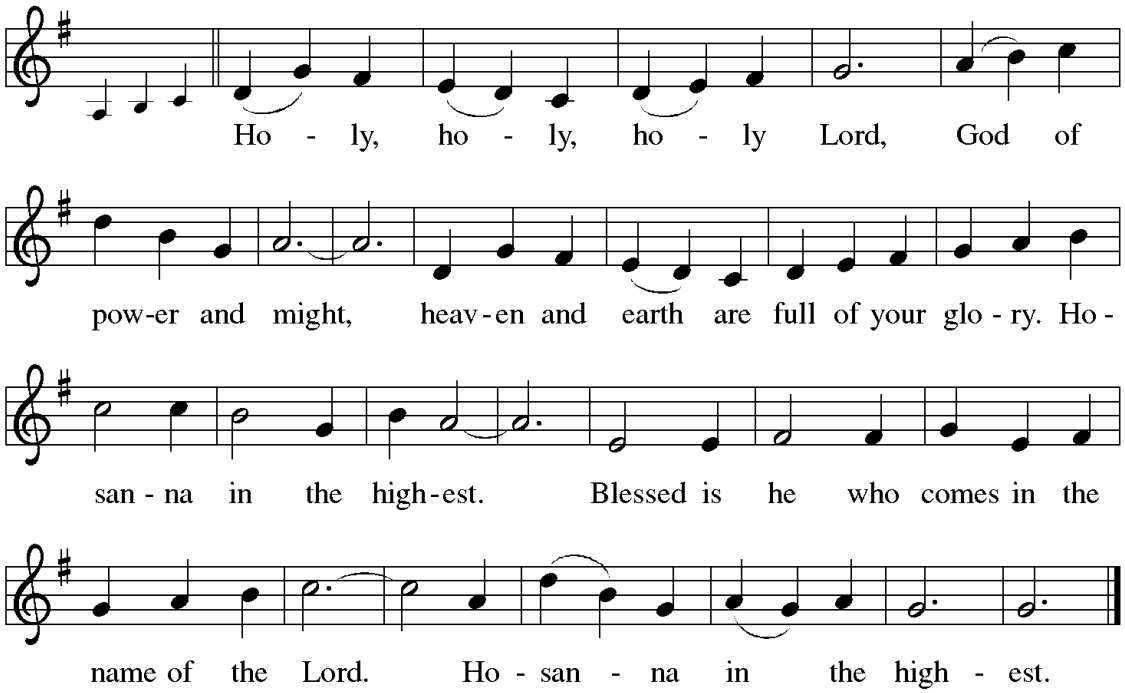
### GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.**

It is indeed right, our privilege 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.
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:




**THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

*The celebrant continues with the 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 COMMUNION**

*Please be seated.*

*An usher will direct you forward for Communion.*

*Communion is served at the head of the aisle.*

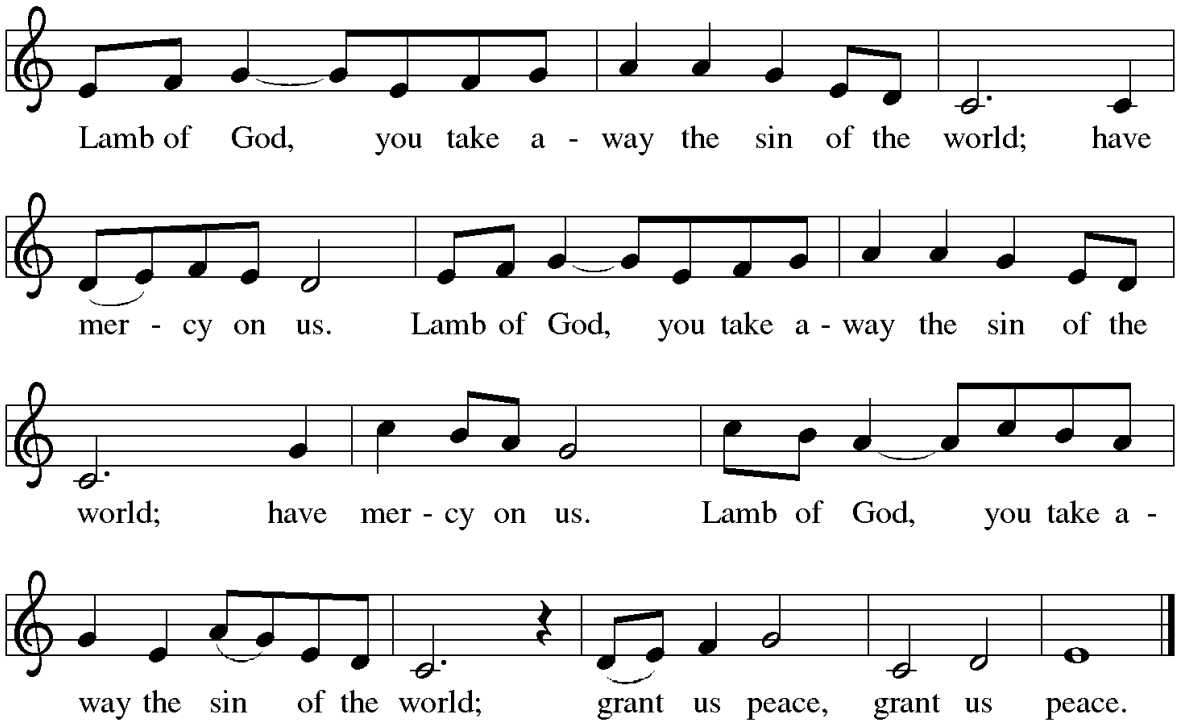
*We use wheat wafers, wine and white grape juice. If you need a gluten free wafer, please make that known to the pastor.*

*For any who desire a blessing, please come forward with your arms crossed.*

**SHARING OF THE BREAD AND WINE**

*The body of Christ given for you.*
*The blood of Christ shed for you.*
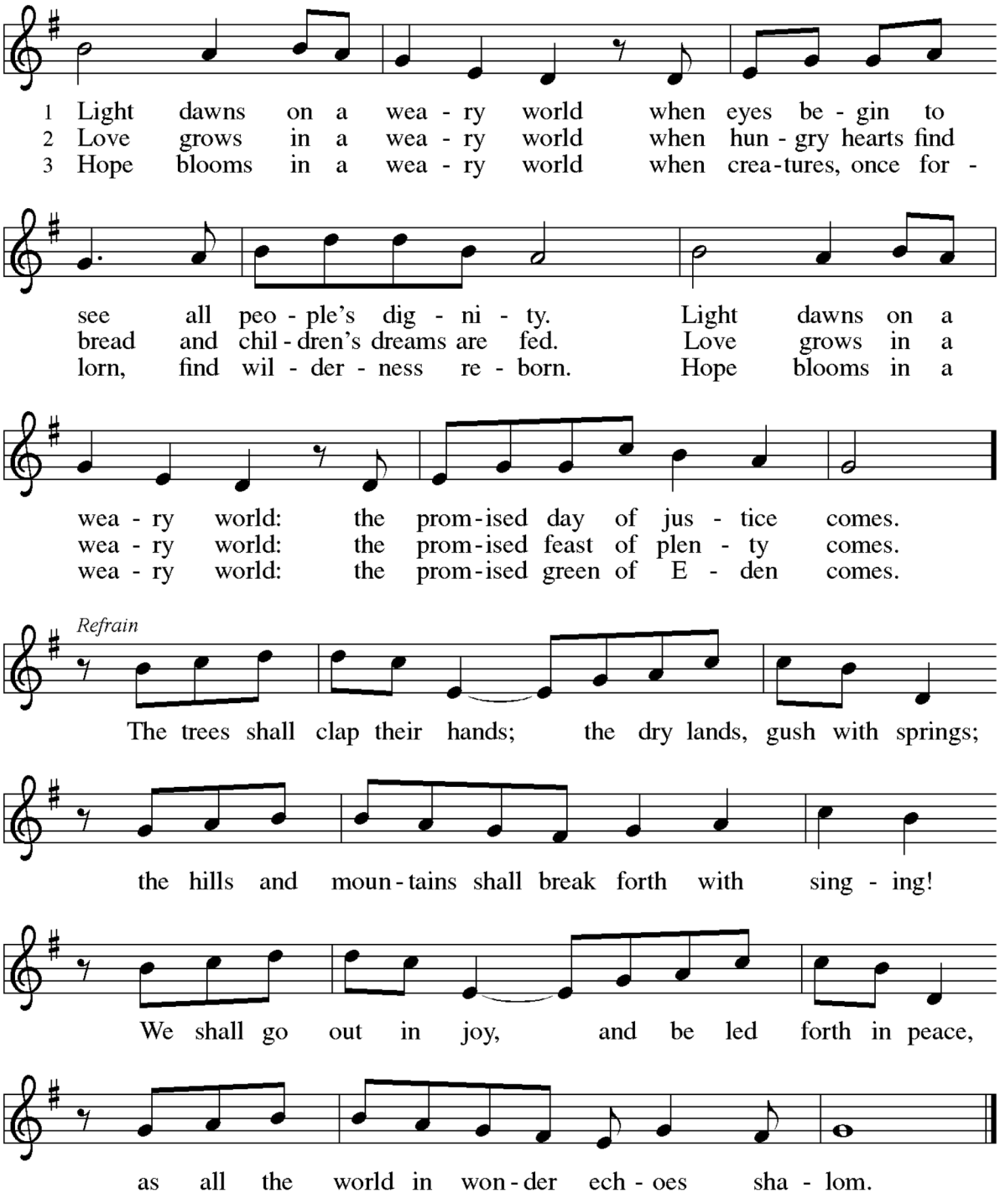
**LAMB OF GOD** Setting One



## HYMNS DURING DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

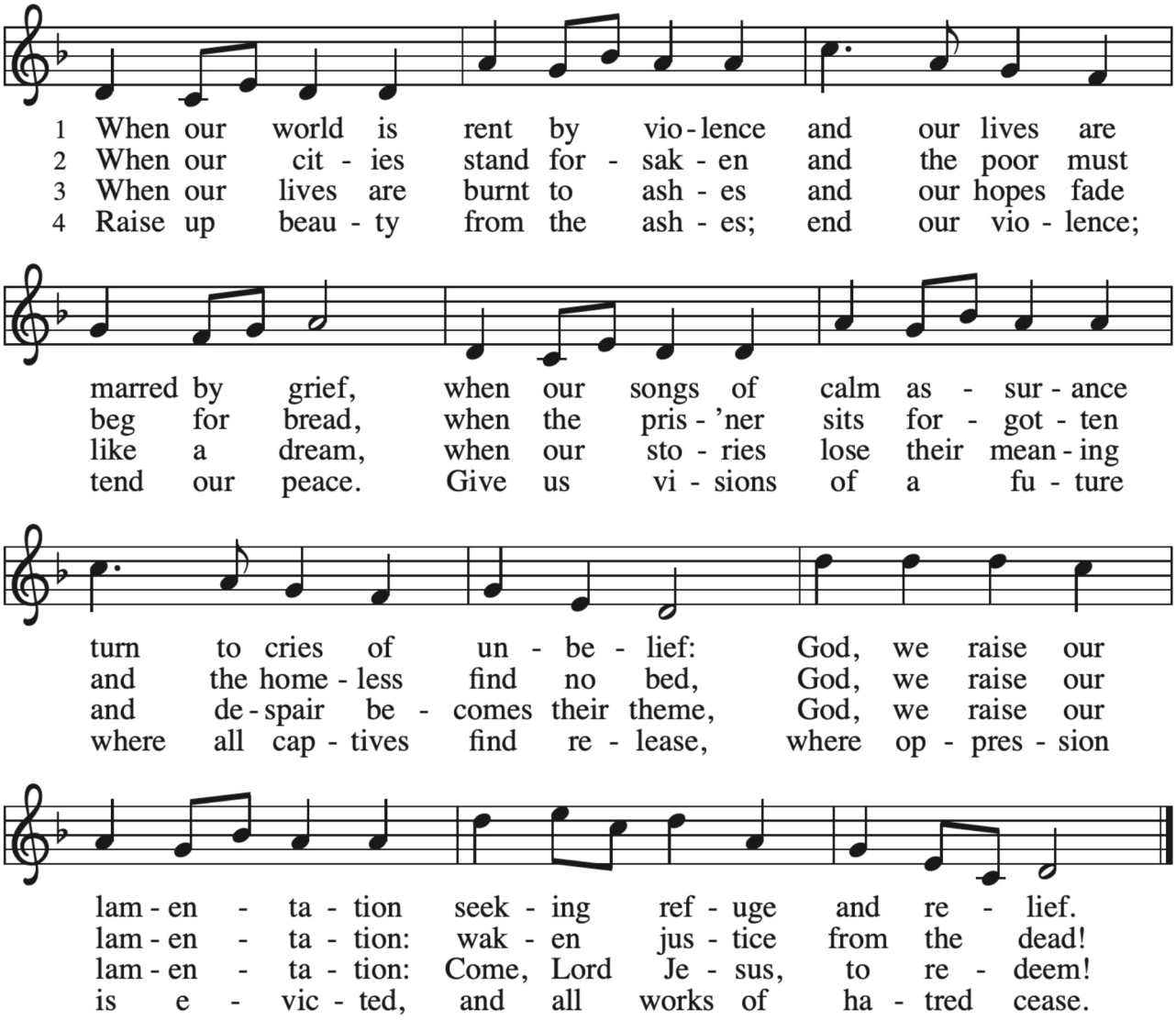
*Please join in singing the hymns which follow.*

"Light Dawns on a Weary World" ELW 726




Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953
Music: TEMPLE OF PEACE, William P. Rowan, b. 1951
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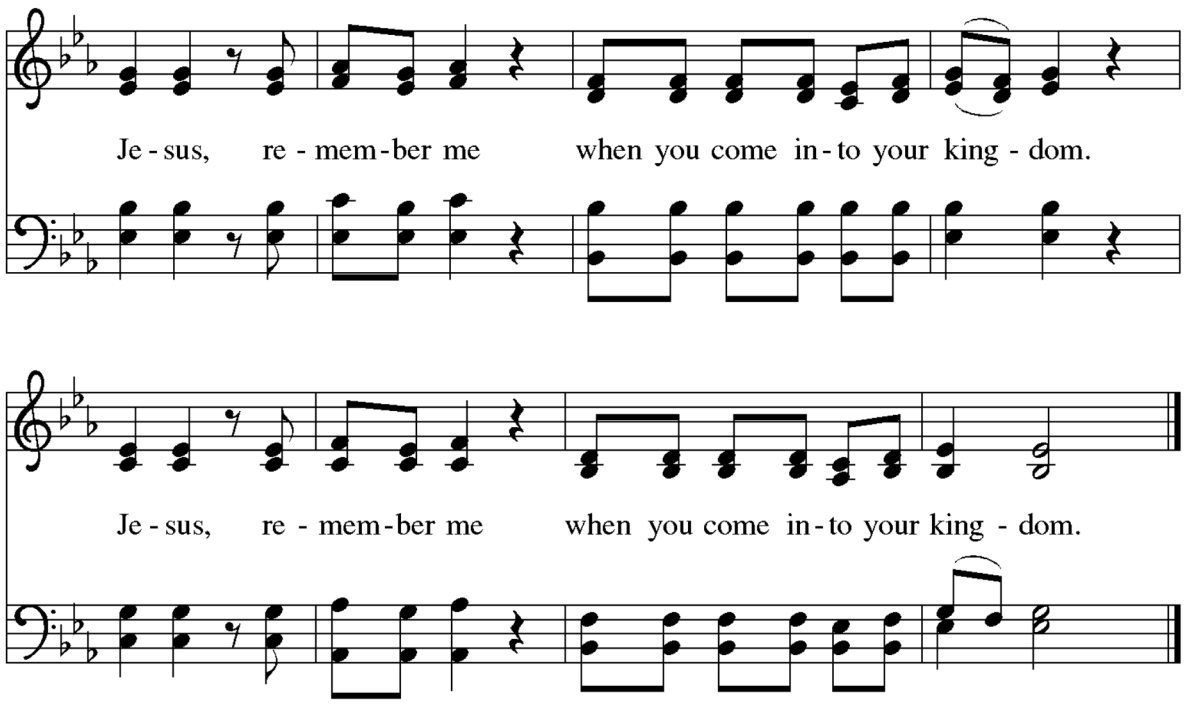
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Text: David Bjorlin, b. 1984
Music: FORTUNATUS NEW, Carl F. Schalk, b. 1929
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Music © 1967 Concordia Publishing House, cph.org. All rights reserved.

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"Jesus, Remember Me" ELW 616




Text: Luke 23:42; Taizé Community
Music: REMEMBER ME, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994
Text and music © 1981 Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638.
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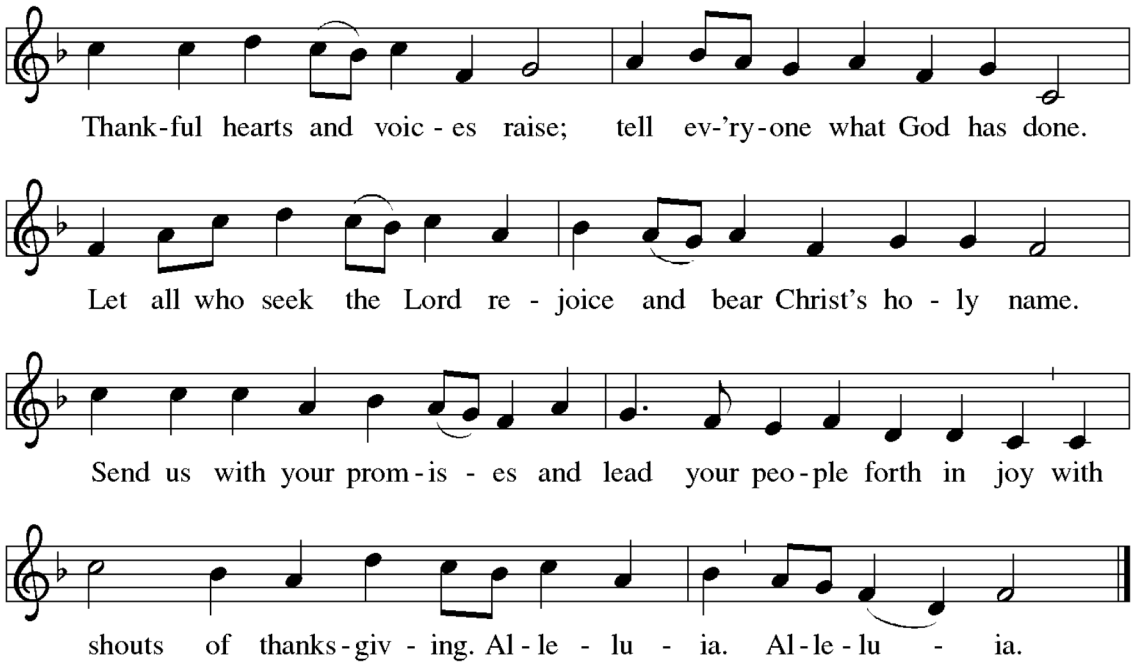
*Please stand as you are able.*

**COMMUNION BLESSING**

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood, strengthen, keep and unite us now and forever.
**Amen.**

**CANTICLE AFTER COMMUNION**

"Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise" ELW 204




Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980
Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923
Text and music © 1978, 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

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**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.

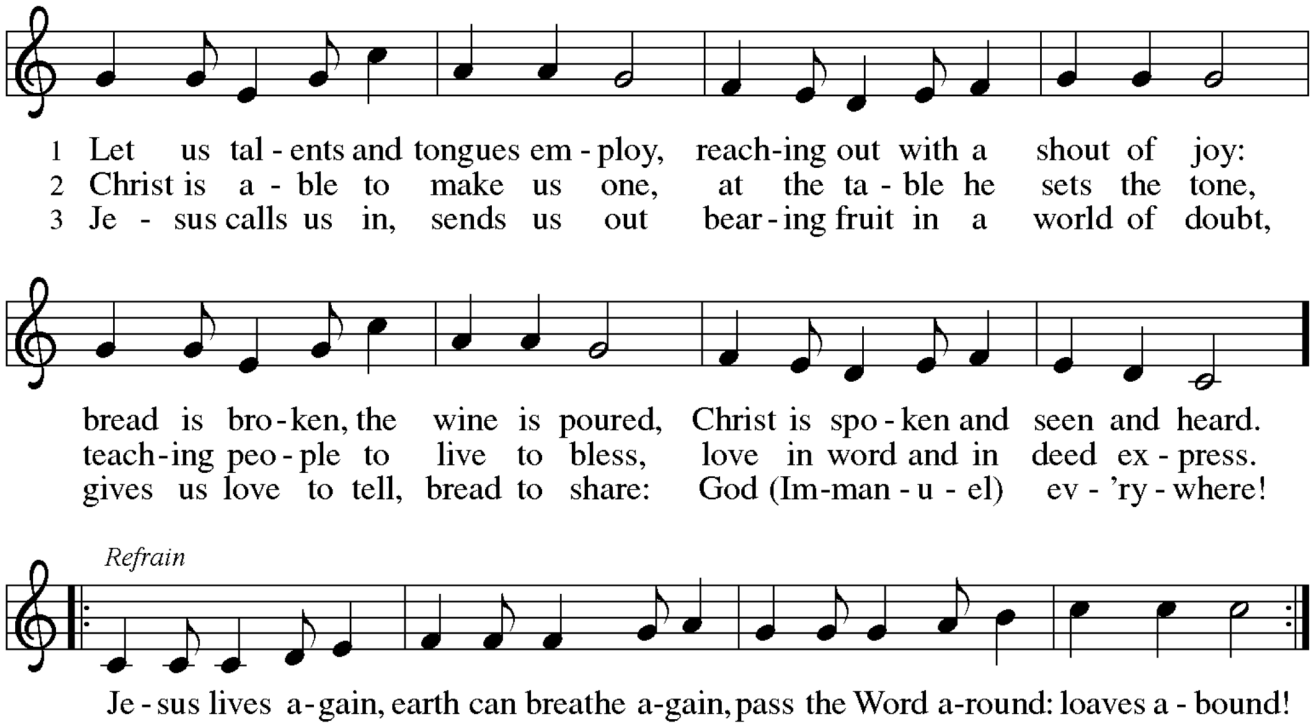
Holy God,
we have received your never-ending mercy in this meal.
**You continuously seek the lost,**
**bind the injured,**
**and feed your people abundantly.**
**Now send us out,**
**always awake to your presence,**
**bringing healing, help and hope to the world.**
**Amen.**

**WE ARE SENT TO SHARE THE GOOD NEWS**

**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




Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929
Music: LINSTEAD, Jamaican folk tune; adapt. Doreen Potter, 1925–1980
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**DISMISSAL**

Go out with joy, share the good news.
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**POSTLUDE** "God of Grace and God of Glory" Helman

## HEALTH & WHOLENESS MINISTRY

**The November theme is suicide prevention.**

**Tip#3:** Reduce access to means of suicide. People with suicidal thoughts may talk about suicide or harming themselves. Guns and other weapons should be safely locked away. Medications and harmful substances should also be safely stored out of reach. Assist the person at risk to reach help from 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline and also walk-in crisis clinics or a hospital based psychiatric emergency clinic.

**Matthew 11:28** Come to me, all you who are weary and heavy burdened and I will give you rest.

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Offering Prayer: written by Joanna Harader, and posted on the Spacious Faith blog.
http://spaciousfaith.com/

## THIS WEEK AT LIVING SAVIOUR

**Sunday: November 15**

- 9:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
- 9:15 a.m. Adult Faith Formation & Children's Sunday School
- 9:30 a.m. Middle/High School Hangout
- 10:30 a.m. Worship
- 11:45 a.m. Monthly Council Meeting
- 5:30 p.m. Monthly bRidge Meeting

**Monday: November 16**

- 10:00 a.m. Charlotte Lyric Theatre
- 6:15 p.m. Yoga 4 You
- 7:00 p.m. Scout Troop 165

**Tuesday: November 17**

- 9:30 a.m. Yoga 4 You
- 10:00 a.m. Quilt Ministry
- 6:45 p.m. Cub Scout Pack 265

**Wednesday: November 18**

- 10:00 a.m. Bible/Book Study
- 11:00 a.m. Chair Yoga
- 6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

**Thursday: November 19**

- 9:30 a.m. Yoga 4 You
- 10:30 a.m. International Lunch
- 6:00 p.m. Renaissance Gardens HOA Meeting
- 6:15 p.m. Yoga 4 You

**Saturday: November 21**

- 9:00 a.m. South Charlotte Chapter of Jack & Jill Facility Rental
- 10:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
- 10:00 a.m. Yoga 4 You

**Sunday: November 22**

- 9:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
- 9:15 a.m. Adult Faith Formation & Children's Sunday School
- 9:30 a.m. Middle/High School Hangout
- 10:30 a.m. Worship

# LIVING SAVIOUR
Lutheran Church

Living Saviour Lutheran Church
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Charlotte, North Carolina 28226
(704) 542-3626

The Reverend Sara Ilderton, Pastor
Don Huff, Director, Music Ministry
Nancy Mersereau, Assistant Musician
Laura Schwab, Office Administrator
Amanda Thom, Director, Children, Youth & Families
Susan Hall, Treasurer
Elsie Davis, LS Preschool Director

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*join us online*

*Scan the QR code with your smartphone's camera, tap the link, and you'll be taken to LSLC's YouTube Channel*

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SCAN ME
SCAN ME
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