Covenant Lutheran Church
November 8, 2026
24th Sunday after Pentecost

GATHERING

Call to Worship

Welcome

Please stand

Confession and Forgiveness

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.

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: *Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning*
(Words on screen)

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.

Please be seated

THE WORD

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.

R: Word of God. Word of Life.
C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 70
(Read Responsively – Congregation in Bold)

[1] Be pleased, O God, to deliver me;
O LORD, make haste to help me.
[2] **Let those who seek my life be put to shame and confounded;**
let those who take pleasure in my misfortune draw back and be disgraced.
[3] Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat over me
turn back because of their shame.
[4] **Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you;**
let those who love your salvation say forever, "Great is the LORD!"
[5] But as for me, I am poor and needy; come to me quickly, O God.
You are my helper and my deliverer; O LORD, do not tarry.

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.

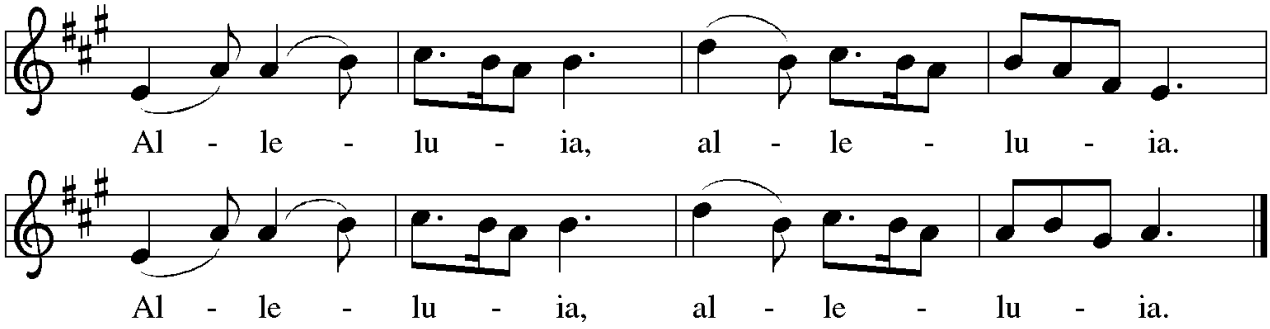
R: Word of God. Word of Life.
C: Thanks be to God.

Please stand

Gospel Acclamation
Please rise as we welcome the gospel together.

Gospel Acclamation

Celtic Alleluia



Verses may be sung by a leader. Then the alleluia is repeated.

Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker
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Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13

[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."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Hymn of the Day: *Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers*

ELW #244

Please Be Seated

The Message

Moment of Silent Reflection

Please Stand

Apostle's Creed

Let us confess our faith with confidence in the words of the 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 People: Assisting Minister
Responses:
God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Sharing of the Peace

Please Be Seated

Announcements

Time of Response

Offertory Song: *Simple Kingdom*
Covenant Praise Band

Offering Prayer: Assisting Minister
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.

Please Stand

THE MEAL

The 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.

Holy, Holy, Holy

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer
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
In bread and cup the reign of Christ is breaking in.
Come, receive what Christ has prepared.

Please be seated.

Distribution of Communion

Please Stand

Communion Blessing

Prayer after Communion: Assisting Minister
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

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

Sending Song: *Soon and Very Soon*

Dismissal: Assisting Minister
Go in peace. Encourage one another.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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