

Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Eucharist

Sunday, November 15, 2026, 10:30 a.m.

CENTRAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Exploring the promise of God for all

You are welcome. No exceptions.

Central Lutheran Church experiences God's expansive love and strives to share it abundantly. We affirm all people without regard to age, race, biological sex, housing status, ethnicity, sexual orientation, immigration, refugee or migration status, gender identity or expression, socioeconomic status, and physical or mental health or ability. All are a part of God's family, created in God's image.

We strive to practice radical hospitality with all people and work toward racial equity. Everyone is invited to immerse themselves in the life of this community of faith as we explore the promise of God for all.

Worship



Bold print indicates responses spoken by all.



Congregational hymns are found printed in this bulletin or in the red hymnal, Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW).



You are encouraged to listen to your body and stand or remain seated at any point in the service.



Masks are welcome, but not required.



Children are welcome and celebrated in worship. Each Sunday there are Children's Bags at each of the ushers' tables at the entrances to the sanctuary. Inside each bag is a worship activity and snack. Many families sit near the children's tables next to the baptismal font, but you are welcome to sit anywhere in the sanctuary that is comfortable to you.



All are welcome to receive communion at Central. At the ushers' invitation, you will proceed toward the altar where there are regular and gluten-free wafers served with wine or grape juice. Your server will offer bread and wine for all, including children. If you prefer to receive a blessing rather than communion, please let your server know.



Offering can be made online using the QR code in the bulletin or left in the offering plates just outside the sanctuary doors.

MEMBERS OF:
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America | www.elca.org
Align Minneapolis | www.alignmpls.org
ReconcilingWorks | www.reconcilingworks.org
MNIPL Climate Justice Congregation | www.mnipl.org

Welcome to Worship

As you arrive for worship, you are invited to prepare your hearts and minds while listening to the prelude before the service begins today.



The Holy Spirit gathers us in unity on this first day of the week.

PRELUDE

Prelude in E Flat Major — Alexandre Guilmant

(At the sound of the bell, please stand and face the font.)

Gathering

OPENING SENTENCES — 1 Thessalonians

We do not want you to be uninformed, siblings, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope.

For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died.

For God has destined us not for wrath, but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with God.

Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

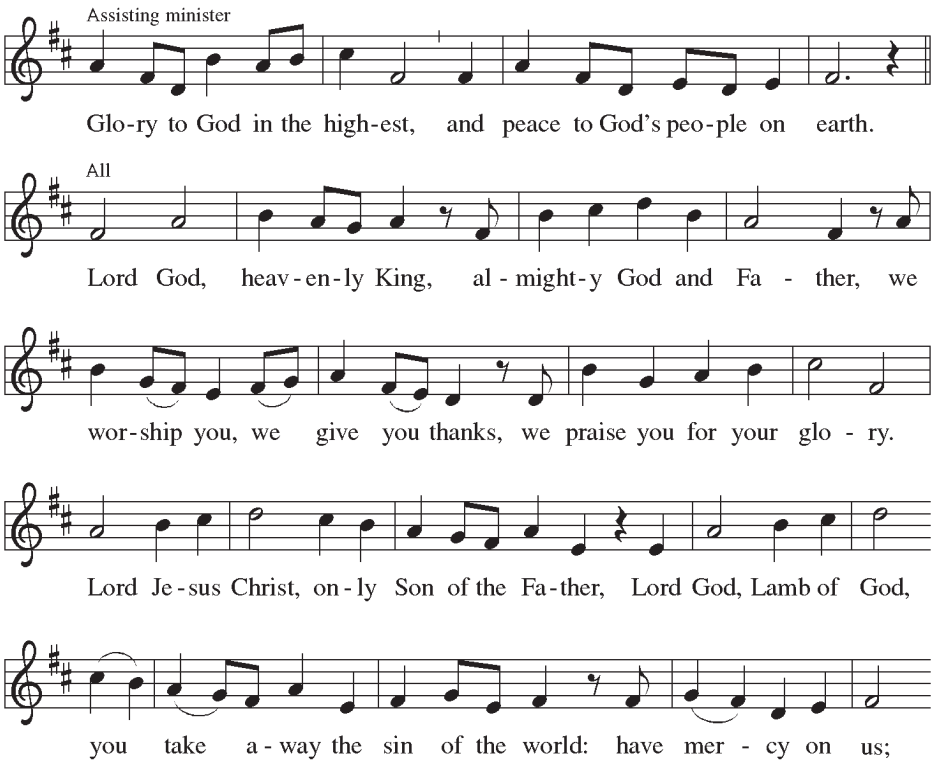
GATHERING HYMN — Hymn 679

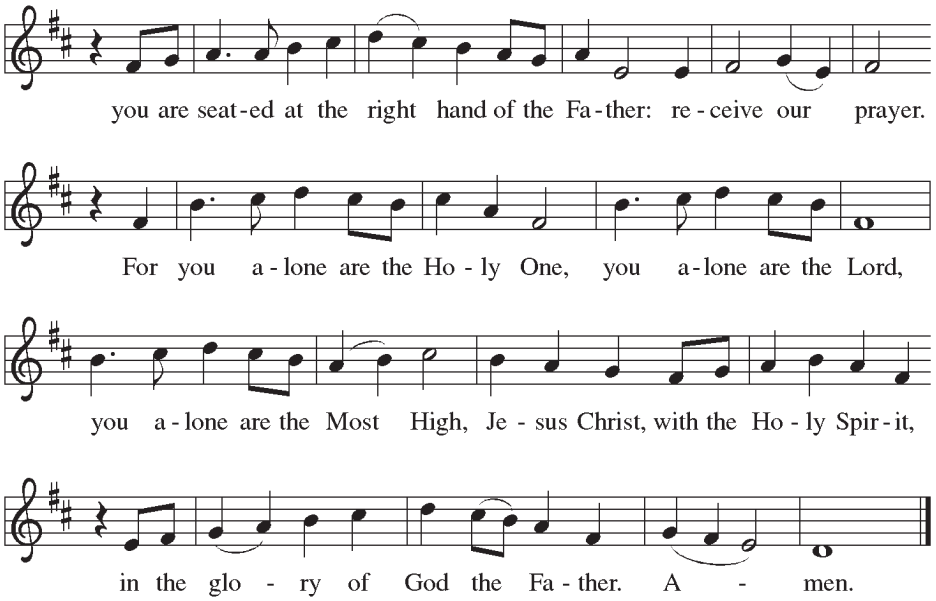
"For the Fruit of All Creation"

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE





PRAYER OF THE DAY

We turn our hearts to God in prayer:
Steadfast God, you sustain 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)



God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

Word

CHILDREN'S TIME

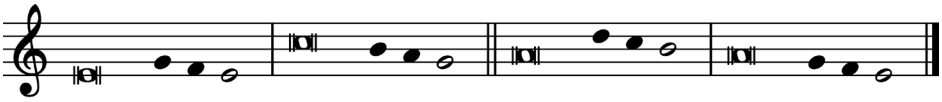
FIRST READING Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

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.
14 The great day of the Lord is near,
near and hastening fast;
the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter;

the warrior cries aloud there.
15 That day will be a day of wrath,
a day of distress and anguish,
a day of ruin and devastation,
a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and thick darkness,
16 a day of trumpet blast and battle cry
against the fortified cities
and against the lofty battlements.
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 90:1-12



Choir: *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.

All: **3 You turn us back to the | dust and say,**
"Turn back, O child- | ren of earth."
4 For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday
when | it is past
and like a watch | in the night;

Choir: *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.

All: **7 For we are consumed | by your anger;**
we are afraid because | of your wrath.
8 Our iniquities you have | set before you,
and our secret sins in the light | of your countenance.

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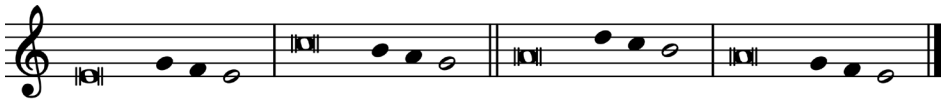
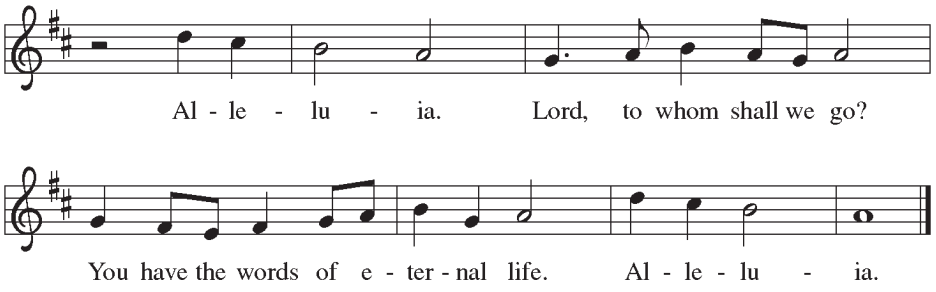


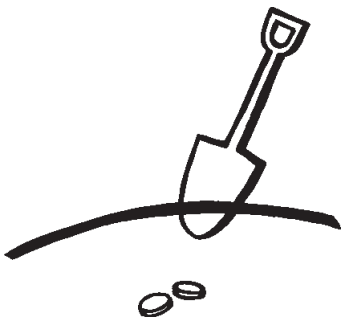
Choir: *9 When you are angry, all our | days are gone;*
we bring our years to an end | like a sigh.
10 The span of our life is sev- | enty years,
perhaps in strength | even eighty;
yet the sum of them is but la- | bor and sorrow,
for they pass away quickly and | we are gone.

All: **11 Who regards the power | of your wrath?**
Who rightly fears your | indignation?
12 So teach us to num- | ber our days
that we may apply our | hearts to wisdom.

(Please stand)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION





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 servants 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 the landowner's money. 19 After a long time the landowner of those servants came and settled accounts with them. 20 Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Sir, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' 21 He said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy servant; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your landowner.' 22 And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Sir, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' 23 He said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy servant; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your landowner.' 24 Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Sir, 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 the landowner replied, 'You wicked and lazy servant! 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 servant, throw him into the outer shadows, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

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

(Please be seated)

SERMON

(Please stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY Hymn 583
"Take My Life, That I May Be"

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

Each petition concludes:
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 the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

(Please be seated)

MUSICAL OFFERING
"My Lord What a Morning" *African American Spiritual.
arr. Harry T. Burleigh

My Lord what a morning, when the stars begin to fall
Done quit all my worldly ways
Join that Heavenly Band.
Oh My Lord what a morning, when the stars begin to fall.
-based on Revelation 8:10

Scan to make a financial offering.

***African American Spiritual**
Many African American spirituals and hymns were never credited to their creators or were claimed by other individuals. On weekends when Central uses music or music texts created by people who were kept in chattel slavery, a donation will be made to a Historical Black College and University (HBCU) as a reparation to their descendants. For 2026, Central will be sending donations to Texas Southern University in Houston, Texas.



God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Meal

(Please stand)

PRESENTATION HYMN — Hymn 674
"Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ" — *Stanzas 1 and 2*

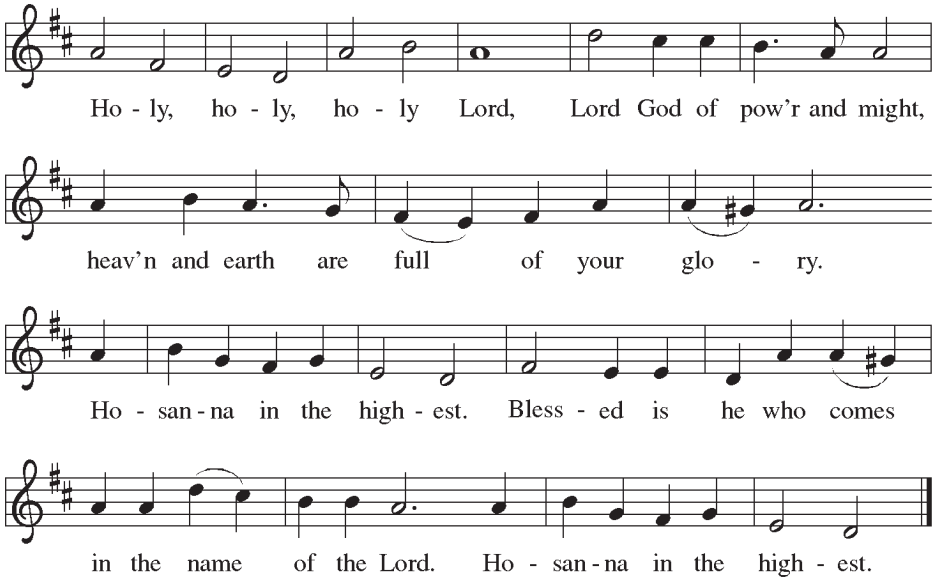
GREAT THANKSGIVING

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...and join in their unending hymn:



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, creator of heaven and earth...
...Glory and praise to you, O God, author of life, word made flesh, power of the most high, now and forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

As the beloved of God, let us pray as Jesus taught us:
Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

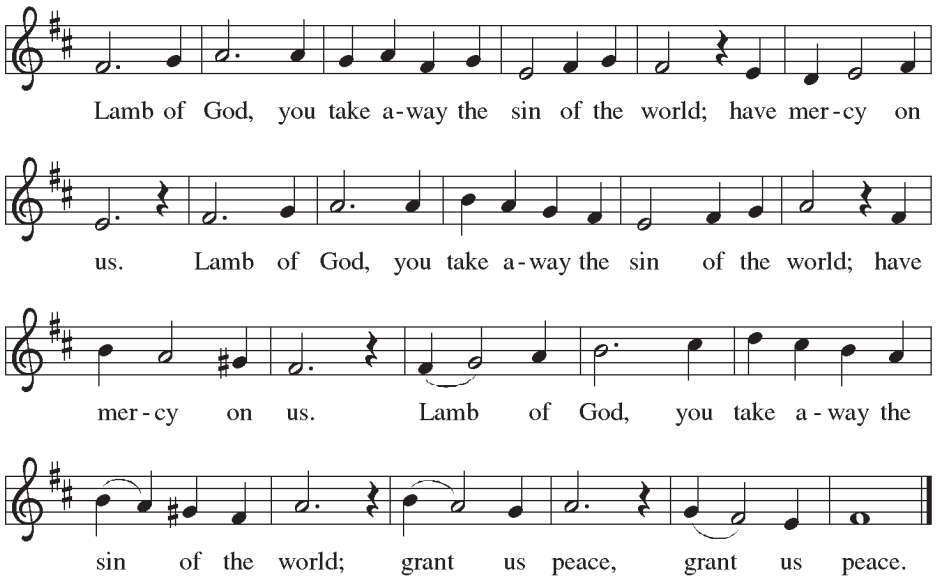
Communion
All are invited to receive these gifts of God.

Children are welcome to come forward and receive communion or a blessing.

(Please be seated)

COMMUNION

"Lamb of God"



"Once He Came in Blessing" Bohemian Bretheren
Ein New Gesengbuchlen, 1531
Arr. Mark Sedio

Once he came in blessing, all our sins redressing;
Came in likeness lowly, Son of God most holy;
Bore the cross to save us; Hope and freedom gave us.
Still he comes within us; Still his voice would win us
From the sins that hurt us; Would to truth convert us
From our foolish error e're he comes in terror.

Thus, if we have known him, not ashamed to own him,
Nor have spurned him coldly, but will trust him boldly,
He will then receive you, heal you, and forgive you.

Those who then are loyal find a welcome royal.
Come, then, O Lord Jesus, from our sins release us;
Let us here confess you, till in heav'n we bless you.

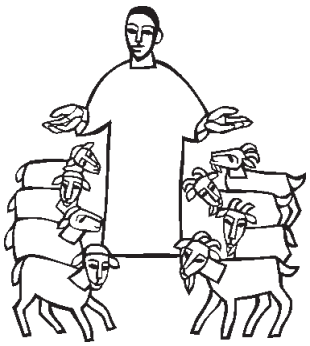
-Johann Horn, translated by Catherine Winkworth

"O God, Our Help in Ages Past" Hymn 632

(Please stand)

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.
We thank you, O God, that you have strengthened our hearts through this feast of life and salvation. Shine the light of Christ on our path, that we may do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you, now and forever. **Amen.**



God blesses us and sends us for shared mission in our shared world.

Sending

BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✢ give you peace.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN Hymn 678

"God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending"

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Praeludium in E Major, BuxWV 141 Dieterich Buxtehude

Serving Today

Pastor Melissa Pohlman	*preaching*
Pastor Stephanie Friesen	*presiding*
Pastor Peter Nycklemoe	*hospitality*
Jeff Block	*assisting*
Tom von Fischer	*reading*
Central Choir	*ensemble*
Joe Osowski	*choir director*
Isaac Drewes	*organist*
Mark Kieffer	*video/sound*
Arlene Lind	*host*
Marie Wiegert	*healing prayers*

Thanks to:
Sacristans, Usher, and Hospitality Ministry Teams.

Chancel flowers this week are given by Steven Langmo
in memory of his beloved Joseph Davis.

If you wish to donate flowers, please contact Judy Korogi
at 612-788-1288 or receptionist@centralmpls.org.

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Central Lutheran
MINNEAPOLIS

An Everyday Church for Everyone

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