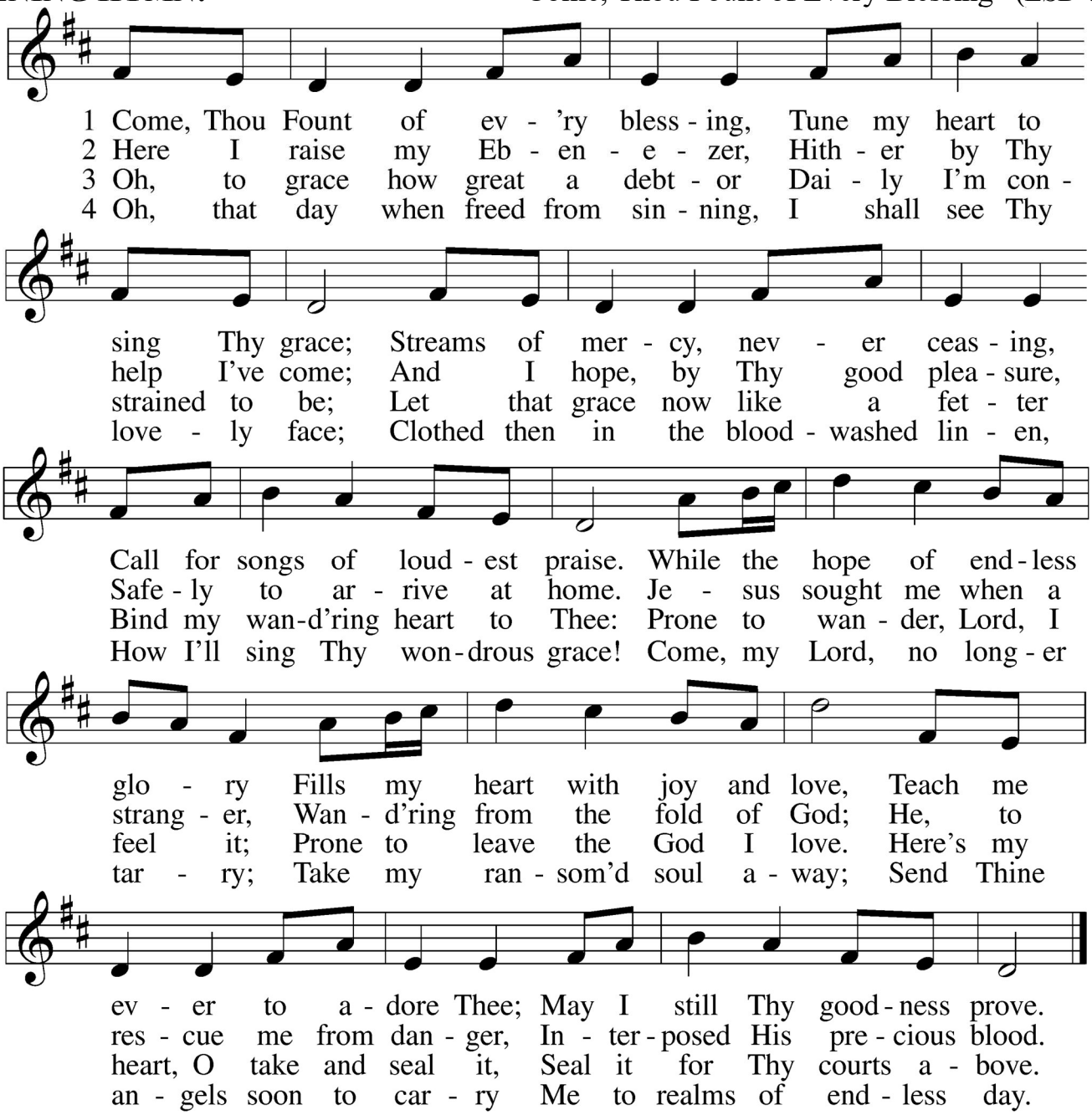
Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost ***St. John's Lutheran Church***
November 15, 2026 *10:30 a.m. Alternative Service* **Red Bud, Illinois**

PRELUDE: "To God on High Be Glory" *arranged by Matthew Weston*

THE RINGING OF THE BELL calls us to holy worship.

OPENING HYMN: "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" (*LSB* 686)



CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION: (*LSB* 151)

P: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence to reflect on God's Word and self-examination.

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.

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

INTROIT: *(spoken)* *Psalm 143:2, 5–6, 10–11; antiphon: v. 1*

Hear my prayer, O Lord; give ear to my pleas for mercy!
In your faithfulness answer me, in your righteousness!
Enter not into judgment with your servant, **for no one living is righteous before you.**
I remember the days of old; I meditate on all that you have done;
I ponder the work of your hands.
I stretch out my hands to you; **my soul thirsts for you like a parched land.**
Teach me to do your will, for you are my God! **Let your good Spirit lead me on level ground!**
For your name's sake, O Lord, preserve my life!
In your righteousness bring my soul out of trouble!
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.
Hear my prayer, O Lord; give ear to my pleas for mercy!
In your faithfulness answer me, in your righteousness!

KYRIE:*(spoken)* **Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

SONG OF PRAISE: "*Shine, Jesus, Shine*"

1. Lord, the light of Your love is shining, In the midst of the darkness shining;
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us; Set us free by the truth You now bring us;
Shine on me. Shine on me.

***Chorus*:** Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father's glory; Blaze, Spirit, blaze,
Set our hearts on fire. Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy,
Send forth Your Word, Lord, and let there be light.

2. Lord, I come to Your awesome presence, From the shadows into Your radiance;
By Your blood I may enter Your brightness: Search me, try me, consume all my darkness; Shine on me. Shine on me. ***(Chorus)***

3. As we gaze on Your kingly brightness so our faces display Your likeness,
Ever changing from glory to glory: Mirrored here, may our lives tell Your story,
Shine on me. Shine on me. ***(Chorus)***

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY:

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

C: Almighty and ever-living God, You have given exceedingly great and precious promises to those who trust in You. Dispel from us the works of darkness and grant us to live in the light of Your Son, Jesus Christ, that our faith may never be found wanting; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING: *Zephaniah 1:7–16*

P: [7]Be silent before the Lord God! For the day of the Lord is near; the Lord has prepared a sacrifice and consecrated his guests. [8]And on the day of the Lord's sacrifice— "I will punish the officials and the king's sons and all who array themselves in foreign attire. [9]On that day I will punish everyone who leaps over the threshold, and those who fill their master's house with violence and fraud. [10]"On that day," declares the Lord, "a cry will be heard from the Fish Gate, a wail from the Second Quarter, a loud crash from the hills. [11]Wail, O inhabitants of the Mortar! For all the traders are no more; all who weigh out silver are cut off. [12]At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the men who are complacent, those who say in their hearts, 'The Lord will not do good, nor will he do ill.' [13]Their goods 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 mighty man cries aloud there. [15]A day of wrath is that day, 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.

P: This is the Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL: *Revelation 7:14b; Psalm 84:5*

P: These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation.

C: They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

P: Blessèd are those whose strength is in you,

C: in whose heart are the highways to Zion.

EPISTLE: *1 Thessalonians 5:1–11*

P: [1]Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. [2]For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. [3]While people are saying, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. [4]But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. [5]For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. [6]So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. [7]For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. [8]But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. [9]For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain

salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, [10]who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. [11]Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

P: This is the Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

SONG: "*Oh, Sing to the Lord*"

For Jesus is Lord! Amen! Alleluia! For Jesus is Lord! Amen! Alleluia!
For Jesus is Lord! Amen! Alleluia! O sing to our God, O sing to our God.

HOLY GOSPEL: *Matthew 25:14–30*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 25th chapter. **C: Glory to You, O Lord.**

P: [14][Jesus said:] "For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. [15]To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. [16]He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. [17]So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. [18]But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. [19]Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. [20]And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.' [21]His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' [22]And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.' [23]His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' [24]He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, [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 answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sowed and gather where I scattered no seed? [27]Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. [28]So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. [29]For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. [30]And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE SONG: *"The King of Glory"*

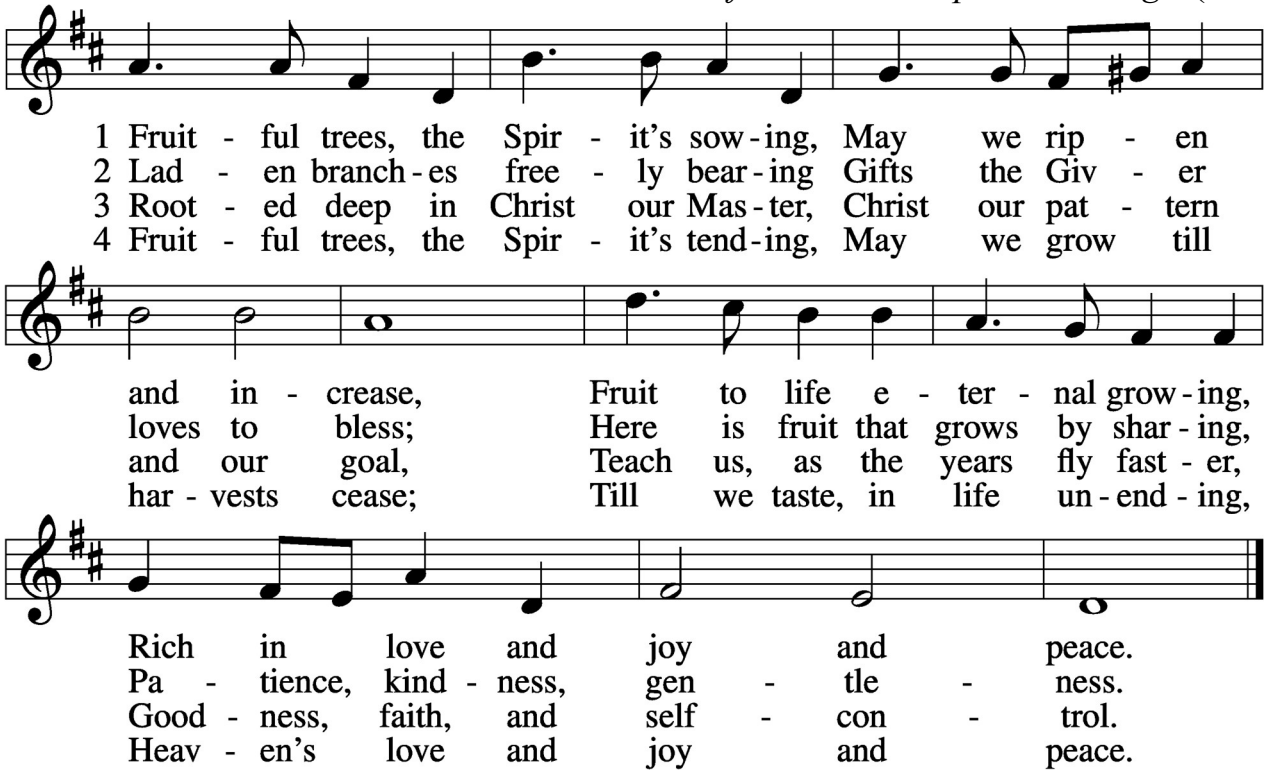
Chorus: The King of Glory comes, the nation rejoices;
Open the gates before Him, lift up Your voices.

4. He gave His life for us, the Lamb of salvation,
He took upon Himself the sins of the nation. ***(Chorus)***

5. He conquered sin and death, He truly has risen,
And He will share with us His heavenly vision. ***(Chorus)***

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY: *"Fruitful Trees, the Spirit's Sowing"* (*LSB* 691)



SERMON

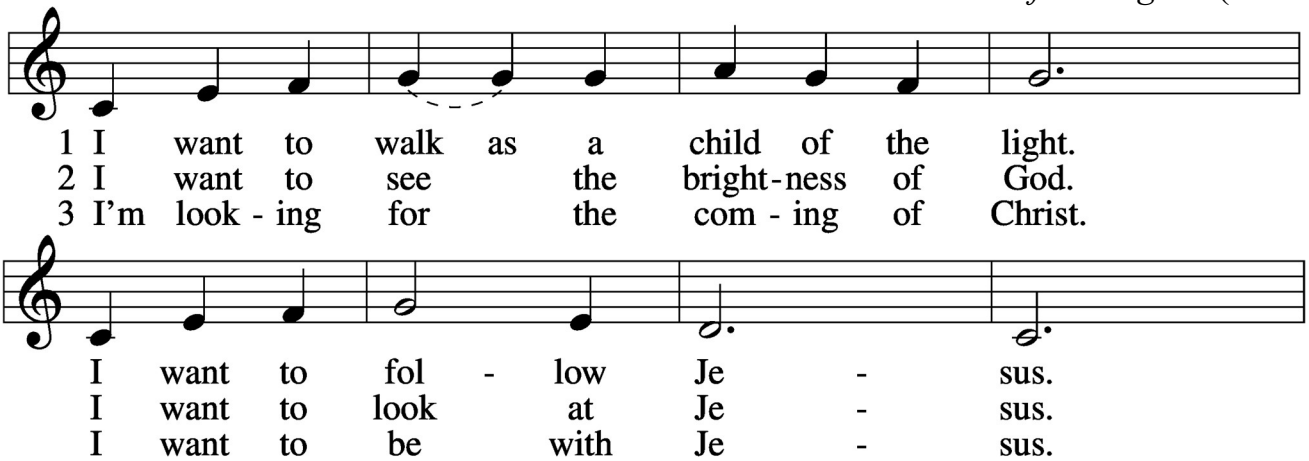
OUR CONFESSION OF FAITH: **Apostles' Creed**

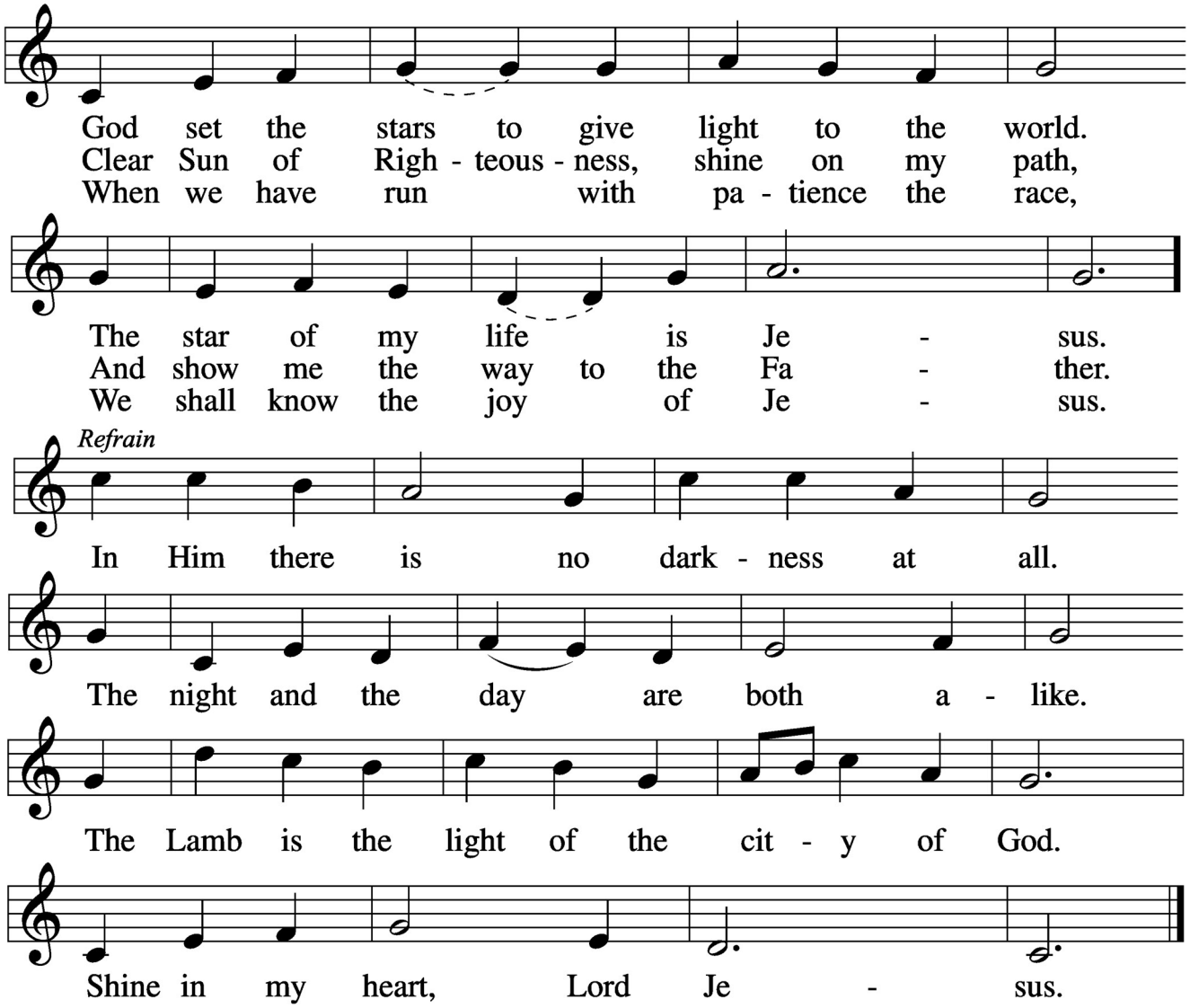
I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

HYMN OF RESPONSE: *"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"* (*LSB* 411)





PRAYER OF THE CHURCH *(please stand if you are able)*

*(Each petition ends **"Lord, in Your mercy"** and we respond, **"hear our prayer."**)*

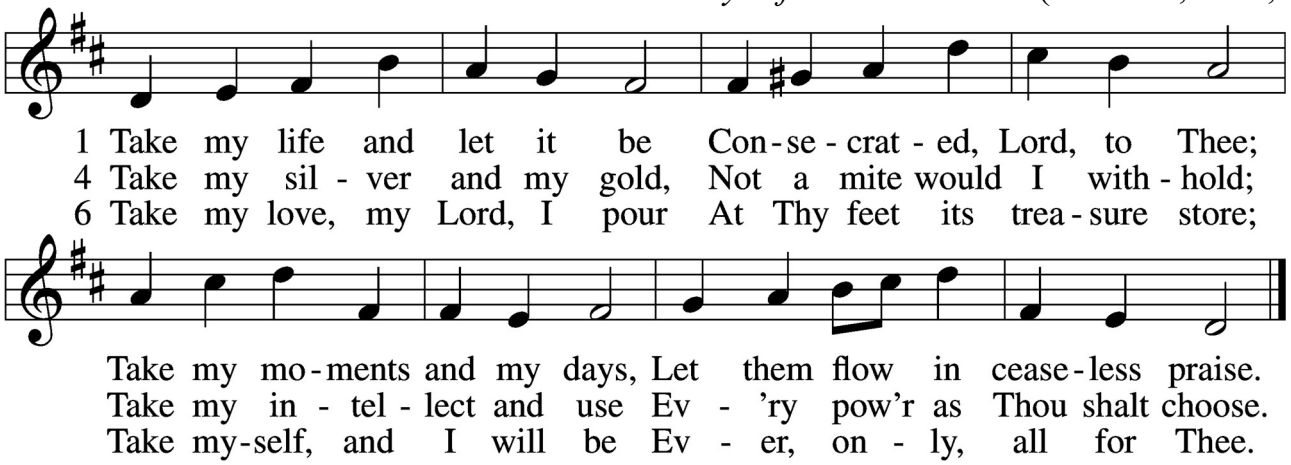
HEALING AND COMFORT: Mike DeRousse, Donald Fausz, Glen Guebert, Jim Guebert, Margaret Hanebutt, Brendan Harms, Ruth Hecht, Beth Kilpatrick, Barbara Korves, Elsie Miller, Kortney Moll, Norma Preston, Clyde Rowold, Bunny Schnepel, Mary Schultz, Eugene Stamm, Elroy & Carolyn Stellhorn, Trudy Woolbright; *Family/Friends of St. John's Members:* Andy Amann, Doug Burford, Carey Coffman, Pam Ehlers, Justin Fausz, Bob & Marsha Garcea, Mary Gibson, Shirley Hartmann, Darlene Heck, Tina Heinemann, Rev. Russell Koen, Andrea Kuehner, Susan McFadden, Tyson Moonier, Jennifer (nee Stolte) Sievers, Ted Stellhorn, Matthew Vallett, Amy Winkelman, Roger Womack.

✠ those who mourn: family of David Blankenship; died in the Lord on Monday, November 9

✠ God's guidance through our pastoral vacancy

✠ blessings on the harvest and safety in the fields

OFFERTORY: "*Take My Life and Let It Be*" (*LSB* 783, vs. 1, 4, 6)



THE LORD'S PRAYER and CLOSING PRAYER

BENEDICTION: *(spoken)*

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: *"God Is in Control"*

Verse: I got this feeling in my soul. I know I'm not alone.
God is always near me, He hears me I know.
My God is telling me to stand up for what I believe.
When I'm faithful, He is grateful I know. God is in control.

Chorus: God is in control! He's mighty and undefeatable. God is in control!
So feel the thunder of His power. A warrior, defender,
He's the Savior of my soul. God is in control.

Bridge: My God! (My God!) Is in (Is in) Control (Control) I know...God is in control!
(Repeat Verse and Chorus)

POSTLUDE: "March" *by Michael Larkin*

Acknowledgments Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture quotations are from *The Holy Bible, English Standard Version*, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2026 Concordia Publishing House.

This Week with Our Lord, November 15-22, 2026

SUNDAY, November 15-
9:30 a.m. Adult Bible Class & Sunday School
11:30 a.m. Jr. Youth Meeting for Operation Christmas Child
Monday, November 16-
5:30 p.m. BBB @ St. Mary's
6:30 p.m. Adult Choir practice
7:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting in Library

Tuesday, November 17- ***Pastor Winkelman's day off***
9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Quilting in Fellowship Hall
9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study in Fellowship Hall
6:00 p.m. GBB @ Chester Catholic St. Mary's (A team only)
6:00 p.m. Bible Recap Class in Fellowship Hall
7:00 p.m. Evening Guild Meeting in Fellowship Hall
Wednesday, November 18-
7:00 a.m. Public School Confirmation
8:30 a.m. 3rd-8th Grade Chapel
9:00 a.m. to Noon Quilting in Fellowship Hall
9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study in Fellowship Hall
1:35 p.m. Staff meeting
3:15 p.m. Public School Confirmation
5:30 p.m. Board for Parish Education meeting
6:30 p.m. Divine Service
Thursday, November 19-
GBB "A" Trny @ TSJ
5:30 p.m. BBB vs Coulterville
6:00 p.m. Bell Choir Practice
6:30 p.m. Class Trip Funding Committee Meeting
Friday, November 20- ***Epistle articles are due!!***
Fall Picture Retake Day at School
8:30 a.m. Early Childhood Chapel
11:15 a.m. Dismissal - No Lunch & No After School Care
12:45 p.m. Faculty meeting
GBB "A" Trny @ TSJ
BBB "A" Trny @ Good Shepherd
Saturday, November 21-
GBB "A" Trny @ TSJ
BBB "A" Trny @ Good Shepherd
5:00 p.m. Divine Service; Acolyte – McKinley Florreich
SUNDAY, November 22-
BBB "A" Trny @ Good Shepherd
8:00 a.m. Divine Service; Acolyte – Karys Papenberg
9:30 a.m. Adult Bible Class & Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion; Acolyte – Elsie Liefer

THE PRAYER CHAIN:

Vickie Heller is our Prayer Chain Coordinator. To serve in the Prayer Chain or if you have a prayer request, please contact her at dvheller@htc.net or 618/521-7417. Call our office to add someone to our worship prayers.

OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL LAST WEEK:

November 7-8: Worship: 401; Communion: 109; Adult Bible Classes: 51; Sun. School: 60
November 10-11: Women's Bible Study: 19; Bible Recap: 15; Worship: 59; Communion: 36

WE GIVE THEE BUT THINE OWN, WHATE'ER THE GIFT MAY BE:

We join together in the grace of giving. 11/8/26- General: $14,083.00; School: $500.00; Elder Baskets: $100.00; Debt Reduction: $165.00.

2027 LUTHERAN WITNESS RENEWAL: ***Pricing Correction****

If you are currently receiving or would like to be added to receive the Lutheran Witness subscription, please call the office at 282-2394. We will need to submit our renewal order by **December 1st**. The 2027 subscription payment of **$30.70** may be turned into the office or collected in the offertory. Please have checks made payable to the church.

FLOWERS IN CHANCEL:

To have flowers in worship please call the office at 618-282-2394 to notify the committee and to have proper thanks in the bulletin of those donating.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY:

11/15- Peggy Moeller, Susan Conboy, Debra Meyer, Crystal Liefer, Geoffrey McDaniel, Michael Watters, Sophie Heller, Chase Lucht, Lucas Schwartzkopf, Evan Muench; **11/16-** Robert Kueker, Wyatt Kennedy; **11/17-** Debra Hartmann; **11/18-** Lorma Schneider, Cynthia Stellhorn, Trinity Bolter, Chloe Reinhardt; **11/19-** Darla Hollmann, Byron Rahn, Taylor Giglotto; **11/20-** Jonathan Ratz, Lacy Evancich, William Kuehn; **11/21-** Kalin Liefer, Melinda Kiefer.

LCMS MEMORY VERSE CHALLENGE:

The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous man runs into it and is safe. (Proverbs 18:10)

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY:

We extend our Christian sympathy to the family of St. John's member David Blankenship who died in the Lord Monday at the age of 88 years. He received a Christian funeral here on Saturday, November 14th. Thanks be to God for His gift of eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord!

EVENING GUILD MEETING:

The Evening Guild will help the Jr. Youth Group assemble Operation Christmas Child at 11:30 a.m. on Sunday, November 15. On Tuesday, November 17, at 7:00 p.m., guest speakers Raley Smith and Abby Jahnke from Camp Wartburg will speak. Paula Wiley will lead devotions. Hostesses are Betty Schmitz, Joan Wiegand, and Deitt Schneider.

LCFS GIFTS FOR CHILDREN IN NEED:

Sharing with those in need is showing the love of Jesus. We will again be adopting 12 children through Lutheran Child and Family Services of Illinois, to provide gifts for them at Christmas. Please have your monetary gift in an envelope marked "LCFS gift" to the school's office or drop it in the offering plate by **Nov. 20, 2026**, so that there is ample time to purchase the gifts. See Mr. Becker for the label(s) that need to be placed on each unwrapped gift placed into a gift bag. I plan to deliver all the gifts on Friday, Dec. 4. The money collected will be divided equally among the classes in Day-Care-8th grade. Thank you for your love and compassion to those who are less fortunate.

ELDER BASKET DELIVERIES AND DONATIONS:

If you would like to contribute to our Christmas gifts for our homebound and shut-in members, please place your gift in an envelope marked "Elder Baskets" and put it into an offering plate at church or bring/send it to the church office. Deliveries will take place the morning of Saturday, December 5.

BBLE RECAP PLAN IN 2027:

The Bible Recap reading group is about to finish our year of reading the Bible. This year has been a great learning experience for our group. We have read some very difficult passages and many beautiful and uplifting passages. We have had many difficult discussions and we have laughed - a lot. Our understanding of our faith has grown throughout this process. We will be taking another trip through the Bible with The Bible Recap plan in 2027. If you are interested in joining us, we would love to have you. We are planning on starting up again in the middle of January. If you are looking for a sign - maybe this is it. If you would like to join us or have any questions, contact Lori Colbert at 618-977-2826.

SCHOOL CHAPEL SERVICES:

Wednesday morning chapel services will be held at 8:30am for 3-8 grades. Early childhood services for Daycare-2nd grade will be held on Friday mornings at 8:30am. Services will be typically held at church, weather permitting. Otherwise, services will be held in the school's new gym. If location changes, this will be communicated via Facebook and Remind for both chapel groups. Guests are welcome to attend!

SCHOOL CHAPEL OFFERINGS:

During the month of November chapel offerings will benefit two causes: The Food Bank at the St. Louis Seminary, and Comwell. The goal of the Seminary Food Bank is to allow students and their families the opportunity to stretch their resources by reducing out-of-pocket grocery expenses. Comwell partners with local providers to leverage resources to create a new model of comprehensive care that positively affects behavioral and overall health.

VOLUNTEERS FOR WORSHIP GREETERS:

We need a couple or two individuals to serve as greeters on the 1st and/or the 3rd Saturday services**.** The only requirements, expectations, and duties are to stand for about 15 minutes, smile and greet people as they enter the church. If interested in either one of those two options or both, please contact the office.

VOLUNTEERS FOR CHURCH OPEN/CLOSERS:

Have you been looking for a way to serve our church family? Consider becoming a part of our new team of volunteers who help prepare our building for our weekly worship services. This is a great opportunity for those who have a heart for service and prefer to work behind the scenes. Typical duties include: Unlocking doors and turning on lights, Adjusting heating and cooling, Updating hymn boards, Refilling candles, & Ensuring the building is securely closed after the service. No experience is necessary (training will be provided), and you would be scheduled on a rotating basis so the commitment is minimal. Your help will ensure a warm and welcoming environment for everyone who enters. If you are potentially interested, please add your name to our list by contacting our church office at 618-282-3873 or by sending an email to office@stjohnsredbud.org. This is for information sharing purposes only and does not commit you to serving. We will simply use this list to gauge interest and provide more details on the responsibilities and rotation schedule, so you can decide if it's the right fit for you. Thank you for your consideration.

CHRISTMAS DECORATING – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

We will be decorating the church for Christmas on **Friday, November 27th**, beginning at noon. Volunteers are welcome to help us set-up! This marks the end of the Buchs and Meiers' three-year term leading the Christmas decorating, and we are looking for 1–2 families to take this over beginning next year. We would love for those interested to shadow us during this year's setup and take-down so you can see how everything comes together and help make the transition smooth for next year. If you are interested or would like more information, please reach out to Kourtney at 618-792-9686.

GIVING WALL EXPANSION:

Dear Church and School Families, we are excited to invite you to join the donors' wall in the New Gym Lobby. Each tile is a six-inch stainless-steel square that can be engraved with a message. The cost to add a tile to the wall is a $500 donation. To order, please scan the QR code with your smartphone or tablet camera app or use this link: https://forms.gle/6jDpHh2PktcAfLq28. Once we have a specific number of orders, we will then start the process of collecting the message that you would like engraved on your tile. **The deadline for tile orders is 12/31/26.**

St. John's Lutheran Church – LCMS 508 Bloom Street, Red Bud, Illinois

Church Office & School: 808 S Main Street 618-282-3873 Fax 618-282-4087

E-mail: office@stjohnsredbud.org Web address: www.stjohnsredbud.org

Senior Pastor Mark Winkelman 815-499-1135

Principal – Mr. Justin Palm 618-214-1103

Director of Parish Music – Mrs. Lindsey Hudak 618-340-6055

Director of Christian Education/School Librarian–Mr. Bill Becker 618-282-2958

Secretaries – Mrs. Sara Shepherd and Miss Cynthia Wilson

Senior Youth – Kirk and Stephanie Liefer 618-967-0804

Junior Youth – Erin Kuehn 618-581-5928

Serving Us in Worship Today

Preacher/Liturgist: Rev. Mark Winkelman

Organist: Mrs. Lindsey Hudak

Acolyte: Sadie Stellhorn

Greeters: Ron & Diane Kunkelmann

Instrumentalists: Lindsey and Jonathan Hudak, John Kellerhouse, & Brandon Nehrt

Video: Eric Fritsche/Justin Palm Communion Cloths: Lynn Langrehr

Flower Servers: Amanda Ruhmann & Doreen Schnepel Paraments: Virginia Moeller