Joy Lutheran Church of Rockwall, Texas

302 N. Goliad - Rockwall, Texas 75087
(214) 716-7539 • www.joylutheranchurch.org

North American Lutheran Church (NALC)

North Texas/Oklahoma Mission District

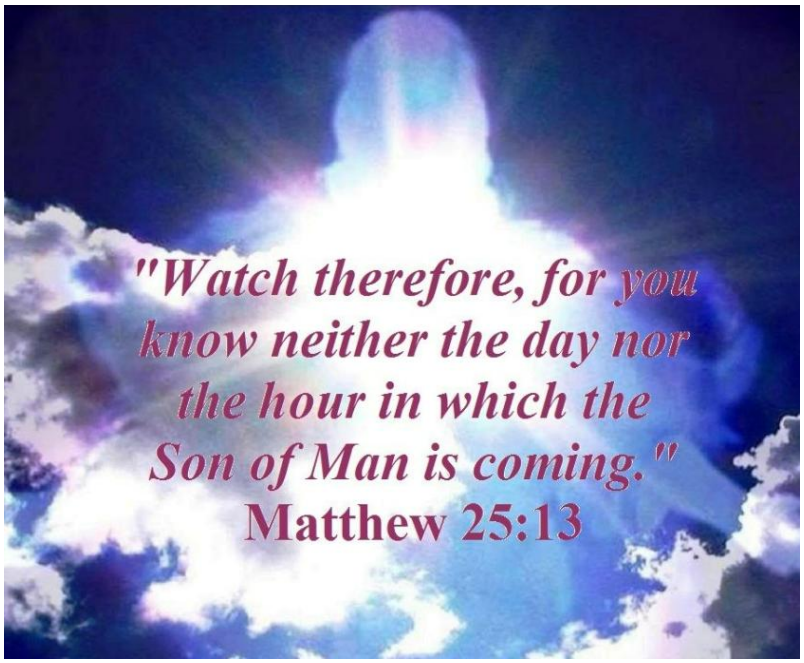
Bringing Joy to the Heart of Rockwall

We are a community of faith, formed in the grace and joy of Jesus Christ.

We are a people involved in God's sure and unfolding promise to mend His creation through the life, death and resurrection of His Son, Jesus Christ, and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

We are a church under the cross of Christ, shaped by the ancient rhythms of Christian worship, fellowship and service to others.

COME SHARE THE JOY!



Our Pastor
Rev. Martin Moore
martinmoore55@gmail.com
(979) 551-6222

Our Council President
Rhonda White
rhondawhite08@gmail.com

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
(YEAR A)

NOVEMBER 8, 2026



Our Members, Guests and Visitors
We are all on a journey of faith; God does not expect us to make the journey alone.
Please contact us if we can be of help in any way.
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Prelude

You may use this time to prepare your heart for worship

- Welcome! Whether you are a longtime member or visiting for the first time, you are a gift from God to us. Guests, please fill out the card on the back of your pew and place it in the offering plate later in the service. May the love of Christ comfort you, and the love of His people encourage you!
- All who are baptized and desire to share in the Body and Blood of our Lord are welcome to receive Communion.
- Children in worship are a blessing! A worship bag (filled with coloring pages and crayons, children's bulletin, etc.) is available at the back of the sanctuary to use during worship. Ask an usher if you need assistance.
- We've started an Artists' Gathering, which includes drawing, painting, crafts, etc., every Tuesday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Please come join us in the Fellowship Hall.
- Please stay today for the Special Congregational Meeting to be held immediately following the worship service
- A Worship & Music Team Meeting is Tuesday, November 17th at 5:30 pm.
- The Ladies' Ornament Exchange Party is scheduled for Wednesday, December 2nd at 6:30 p.m. at the Luigi's Italian Restaurant in Rockwall.
- A 'Hanging of the Greens' (and Crèche) Party with Meatball Subs is set for Sunday, December 6th at 3:00 p.m. at the church. All are invited.
- The White Elephant Exchange Party is scheduled for Sunday, December 12th at 6:00 p.m. at Paul & Linda Manak's home, located at 2125 Clubview, Rockwall.
- The NALC North Texas/Oklahoma Convocation is December 12th at San Miguel Lutheran in Ft. Worth from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
- Please remember to review the Blessing Board to volunteer for various ministries.

SERVICE OF THE WORD WITH HOLY COMMUNION

On this Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost in our readings, we are reminded this life is the wick. Keep it trimmed and ready. Jesus, the Bridegroom, promised to return for the Church, his Bride (John 14:3). The Bride of Christ must be ready, her lamps trimmed, watchful. As this parable suggests he might, the Lord has tarried. Though many grow discouraged and slothful, Christians must not give up hope. The oil of faith must be constantly replenished, and the wick of life ever-trimmed, because Jesus is returning—though he has tarried by our reckoning—to take his Bride to the wedding feast of the Lamb (Rev 19:6-9).

We are thankful for our seminarian, Blaine Davis, who has come from Our Saviour's Lutheran Church in Tyler to lead our service. In the North American Lutheran Church (NALC), a deacon or seminarian may lead a *Service of the Word with Holy Communion* using the reserved sacrament (pre-consecrated elements) when an ordained pastor is unavailable. We will use the Evangelical Lutheran Worship Hymnal (Red Book) in today's service.

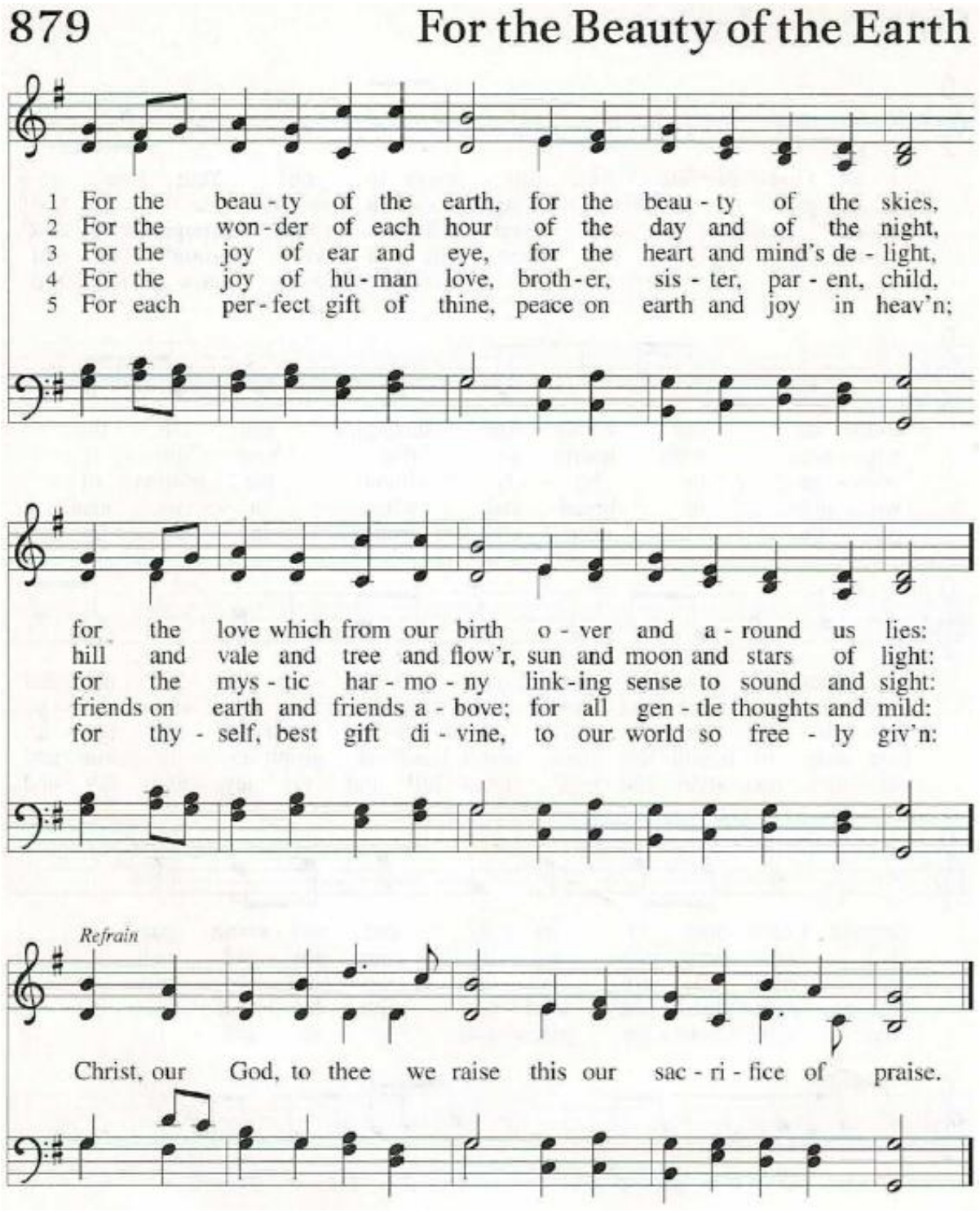
GATHERING

The service begins with the community gathering as the Body of Christ.

"O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;
let the whole earth stand in awe of him." (Psalm 96:9)

Please stand

PROCESSIONAL HYMN~ "**FOR THE BEAUTY OF THE EARTH**" *(Red P. 879)*



APOSTOLIC GREETING:

Seminarian (S): The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
Congregation (C:) And also with you.

KYRIE ~ *(Red, P. 147)*

(S): "In peace, let us pray to the Lord." **(C): Lord, have mercy.**
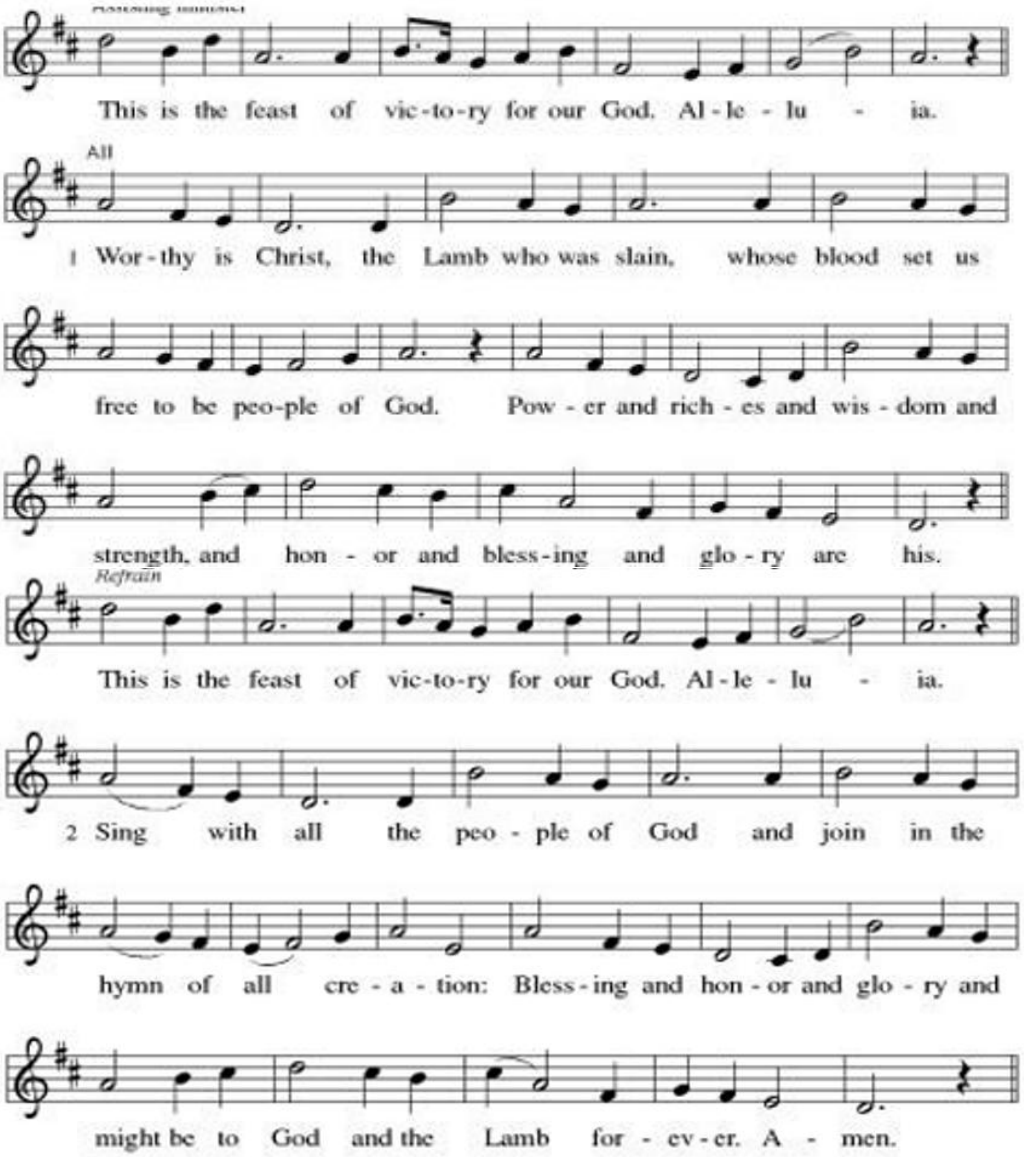
(S): "For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord." **(C): Lord, have mercy.**
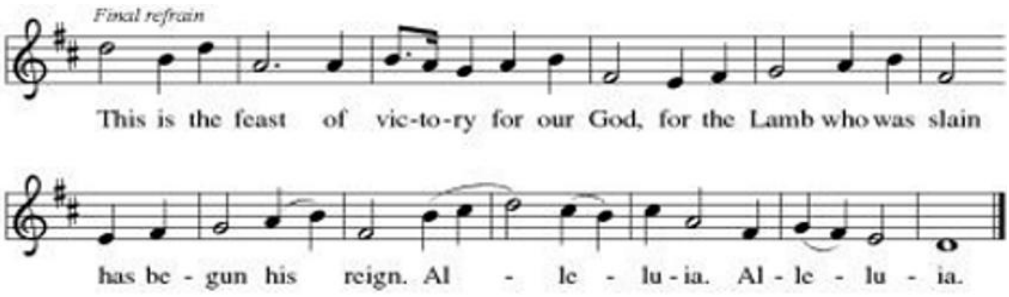
(S): "For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord." **(C): Lord, have mercy.**

(S): "For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord." **(C): Lord, have mercy.**

(S): "Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord." **(C): Amen**

HYMN OF PRAISE: "THIS IS THE FEAST"





PRAYER OF THE DAY

(S): The Lord be with you. **(C): And also with you.**

(S): Almighty, eternal God, show mercy to your children who humbly pray, that we who have no confidence in our worth may not be judged but tenderly received. Grant this, we pray, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
(C): Amen.

Please be seated

The Service of the Word

FIRST READING:
Amos 5:18-24

18 Woe to you who desire the day of the LORD!
Why would you have the day of the LORD?
It is darkness, and not light,
19 as if a man fled from a lion,
and a bear met him,
or went into the house and leaned his hand against the wall,
and a serpent bit him.
20 Is not the day of the LORD darkness, and not light,
and gloom with no brightness in it?
21 "I hate, I despise your feasts,
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 peace offerings of your fattened animals,
I will not look upon them.
23 Take away from me the noise of your songs;
to the melody of your harps I will not listen.
24 But let justice roll down like waters,
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream."

(S): The Word of the Lord
(C): Thanks be to God!

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalm 70*

1Be pleased, O God, to deliver me;*
O LORD, make haste to help me.
2Let those who seek my life be ashamed and altogether dismayed;*
let those who take pleasure in my misfortune draw back and be disgraced.
3Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat over me turn back,*
because they are ashamed.
4Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you;*
let those who love your salvation say forever, "Great is the LORD!"
5But as for me, I am poor and needy;*
come to me speedily, O God.
6You are my helper and my deliverer;*
O LORD, do not tarry.

SECOND READING

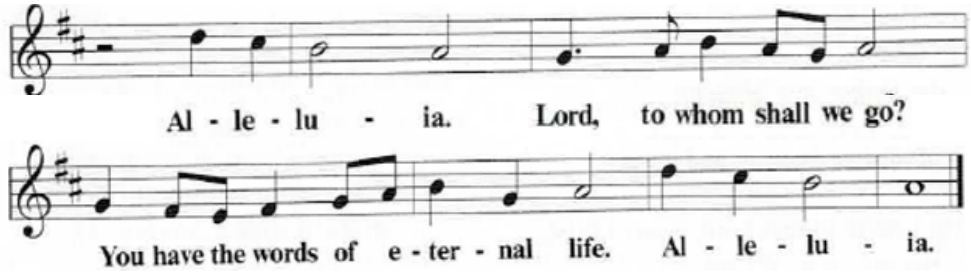
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

13We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. 14For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. 15For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. 16For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. 17Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. 18Therefore encourage one another with these words.

(R): The Word of the Lord
(C): Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the Reading of the Gospel

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ~ "ALLELUIA"



THE HOLY GOSPEL

(S): The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 25th Chapter.
(C): Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL
Matthew 25:1-13

1{Jesus said to the disciples,} "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins
who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. 2Five of them were foolish,
and five were wise. 3For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with
them, 4but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. 5As the bridegroom was
delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. 6But at midnight there was a cry, 'Here
is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' 7Then all those virgins rose and
trimmed their lamps. 8And the foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil,
for our lamps are going out.' 9But the wise answered, saying, 'Since there will not
be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.'
10And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were
ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut. 11Afterward
the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' 12But he answered,
'Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.' 13Watch therefore, for you know neither
the day nor the hour."
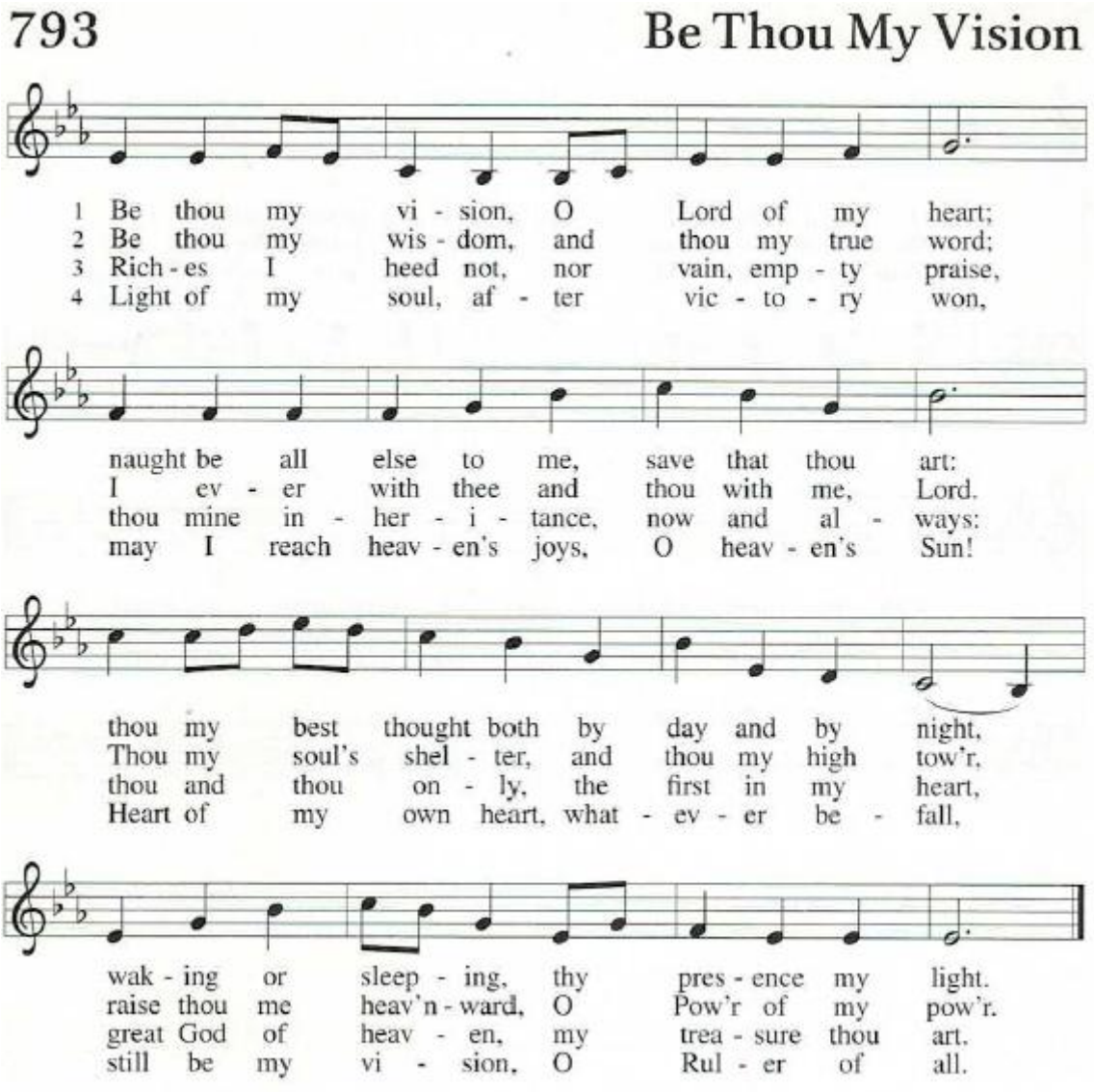
(S): The Gospel of the Lord.
(C): Praise to You, O Christ.

Please be seated

HOMILY FOR THE TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Sermon by Seminarian, Blaine Davis

Please stand

HYMN OF THE DAY ~ "BE THOU MY VISION" *(Red, P. 793)*



Please Remain Standing

APOSTLES' CREED

(S): "With the whole church, let us confess our faith with the words of the Apostles' Creed."

(C): I BELIEVE in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I BELIEVE in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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 CHURCH

(S): Confident in God's steadfast love through Jesus Christ and guided by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

A brief silence.

(S): Everlasting God, your Son promised he would return to the earth one day. Help us to be ready for his return, that our lamps would be lit and our hearts would be open to Jesus' second coming. Remind us that because of our faith there is nothing to fear and everything to look forward to as Jesus will judge us innocent, having taken our place on the cross. Lord in your mercy, **(C): hear our prayer.**

(S): Lord God, ruler of us all, you desire that all be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth. Let your blessing rest on our civic leaders and all whom you have placed in positions of authority, that your people may lead quiet and peaceable lives, godly and respectful in every way, free to pray and work in your service. Lord in your mercy, **(C): hear our prayer.**

(S): Lord of the harvest, grant favorable weather for all the farmers who are bringing in the crops this season. Watch over them and prevent accidents or injuries as they work around large machines. Provide for our daily bread and make us truly grateful for all we have. Lord in your mercy, **(C): hear our prayer.**

(S): Merciful God, as a sign of your holy reign, grant that this congregation will identify with the suffering, the sorrowing, and the sick in both our local and global communities. By your Spirit empower us to seek ways to serve and reach out to those on the fringes in loving and tangible ways. [We offer prayer this day particularly for …]. Lord in your mercy,
(C): hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

(S): Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **(C): Amen**

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

(S): "The peace of the Lord be with you always." **(C): And also with you.**

(S): "Let us share that peace with one another."

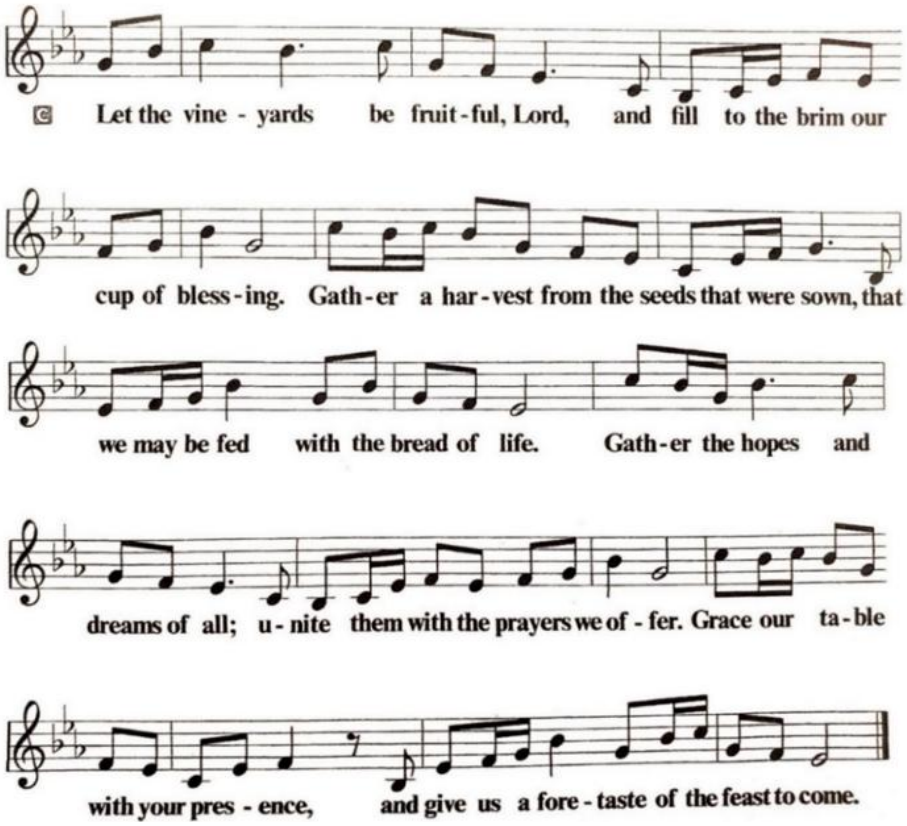
Please be seated as the gifts and offerings are collected

GATHERING & PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERINGS

As the gifts are brought forward to the altar,
we will sing the Offertory Response

Please stand.

"LET THE VINEYARDS BE FRUITFUL"



OFFERING PRAYER

(S): Let us pray.

(C): Gracious and Merciful Father, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Please remain standing

THE HOLY MEAL

(S): “"The last time we gathered, we heard Pastor Moore say: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: ‘Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.’ Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: ‘This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.’"

(P): Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us 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

Please be seated.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

(P): “Come, for all has been prepared.”

AGNUS DEI (LAMB OF GOD)

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

We invite all baptized believers to come forward and receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Small children are invited to come with arms folded across their hearts to receive a blessing from the assisting minister. Both the elements of wine and grape juice are offered. If you are unable to come forward for communion, please inform an usher and communion will be brought to you.

Please stand

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

(S): May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **(C): Amen**

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

(S): Let us pray: "We give you our thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord."

(C): Amen

Please remain standing

THE DOXOLOGY

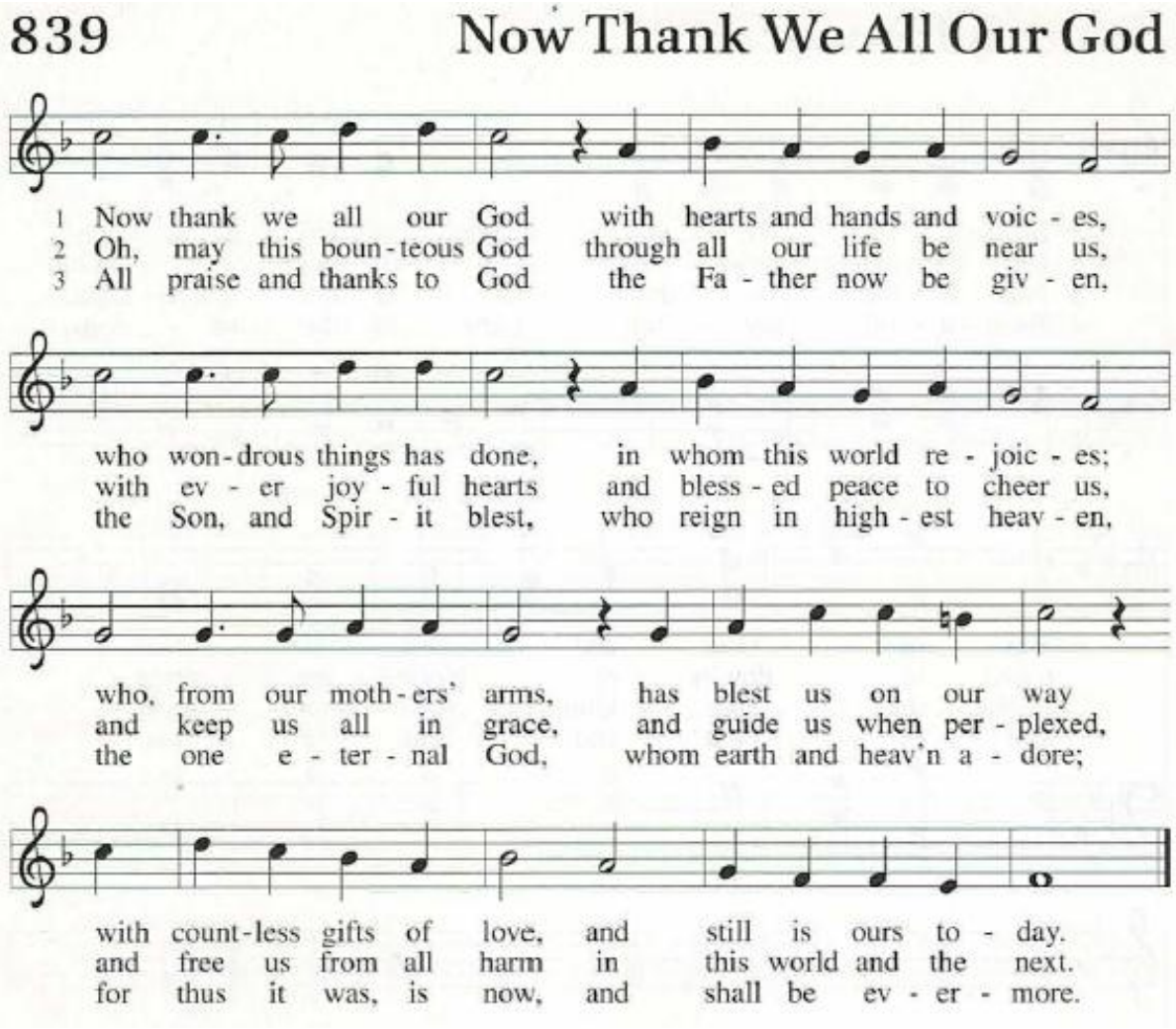
Praise God from Whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

BENEDICTION

(S) "Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us."

(C): Amen

SENDING HYMN ~ "NOW THANK WE ALL OUR GOD" *(Red, P. 839)*



DISMISSAL

(S): "We are called by Christ"
(C): To JOYfully share Jesus and ourselves with our neighbors.

(S): "Go in peace. Share the good news."
(C): Thanks be to God.

OUR WORSHIP SERVANTS THIS MORNING:

Greeter:	McCrillis Family
Ushers:	Inez Roach & Sandra Lacroix
Altar Care:	Sharon Johnson
Lector & Communion Assistant:	Gail Crawford
Acolyte & Crucifer:	Matthew Chubbs and Maxwell Hart
Music & Facebook Monitor:	Rhonda White
Hospitality:	Rhonda White
Offering Count Team:	Rhonda White & Bobbie Chubbs
Altar Flowers:	Marilyn Butler & Charlie Morell

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