



Truly
I tell you,
TODAY
you will be
with me in
PARADISE.

LUKE 23:43

Welcome to St. John Lutheran Church
Sunday November 23, 2025* Christ the King



Welcome to St. John Lutheran Church

www.stjohnwilliston.org 419-836-5514

Christ the King Sunday November 23, 2025 9:45 AM

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Redeemer and King

St. John Choir

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

ALL: Amen.

L: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God
and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

L: Faithful God,

C: you have shown us the ways of your heart, yet we stray from your paths. We are stuck in sinful systems of oppression and do not embrace the freedom of your faithful promises.

We ignore our neighbors. We exploit the earth.

We reject your abundance, trusting our impulses instead of your steadfast love. Repair our relationships, restore what we have broken, renew our hearts, and bring us to new life.

Amen.

L: Hear the good news:

God the Faithful One loves you,

in Christ Jesus your sins are forgiven,

and by the power of the Holy Spirit you are set free.

ALL: Amen

GATHERING SONG

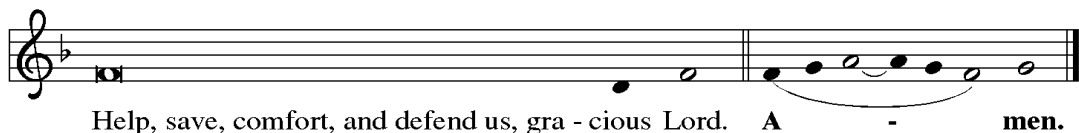
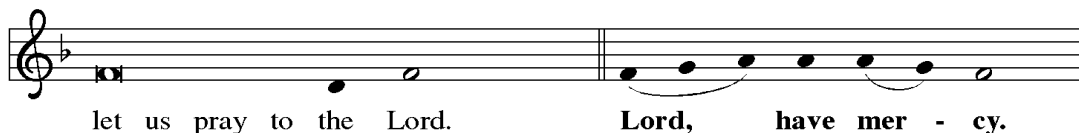
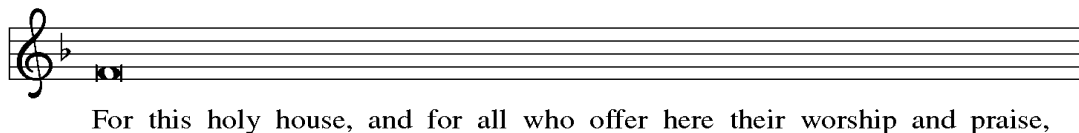
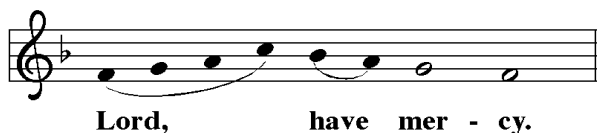
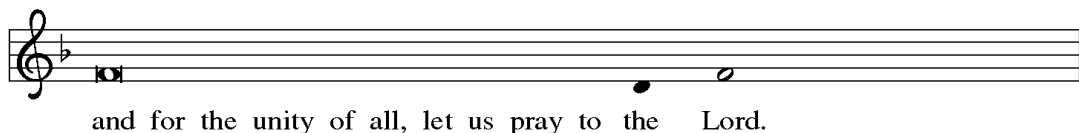
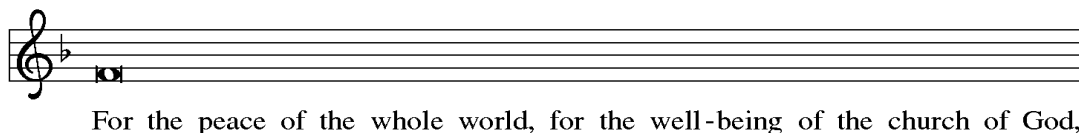
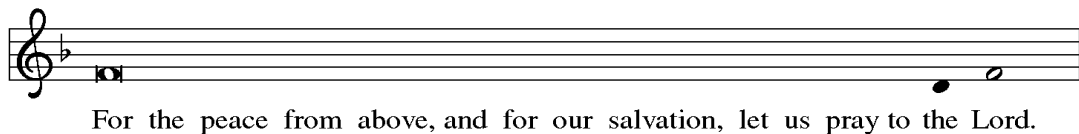
Crown Him with Many Crowns

Hymn # 855

5 verses

GREETING AND KYRIE

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C: And also with you.**



This Is the Feast



Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was

slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

P: The Lord Be With You.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: O God, our true life, to serve you is freedom, and to know you is unending joy. We worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for your great glory. Abide with us, reign in us, and make this world into a fit habitation for your divine majesty, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

ALL: Amen.

First Reading:

Jeremiah 23:1-6

¹ Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the Lord. ² Therefore thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the Lord. ³ Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. ⁴ I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall no longer fear or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the Lord.

⁵ The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶ In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

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

Second Reading

Colossians 1:11-20

¹¹ May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, so that you may have all endurance and patience, joyfully ¹² giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³ He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, ¹⁶ for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷ He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹ For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰ and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

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



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel Reading

Luke 23:33-43

³³ When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁴ Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing. ³⁵ And the people stood by watching, but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" ³⁶ The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine ³⁷ and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" ³⁸ There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

³⁹ One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" ⁴⁰ But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?" ⁴¹ And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." ⁴² Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come in your kingdom." ⁴³ He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise."

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

SERMON

Pastor Shawn O'Brien

HYMN OF THE DAY

O Christ, What Can It Mean for Us

Hymn # 431
4 verses

APOSTLES' CREED

**C: 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 INTERCESSION

P: Hear Us of God,

C: Your mercy is great

SHARING THE PEACE

L: The peace of Christ be with you always.

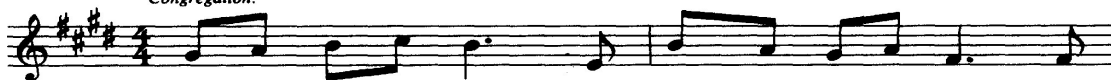
C: And also with you.



AS THE GRAINS OF WHEAT

Refrain

Congregation:



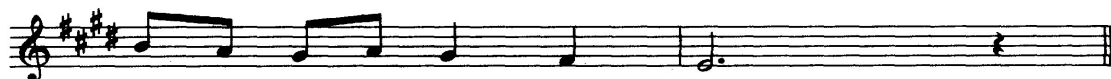
As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were



gath - ered in - to one to be - come our bread;



so may all your peo - ple from all the ends of earth be



gath - ered in - to one in you.

Verses



1. As this cup of bless - ing is shared with - in our midst, _____

2. Let this be a fore - taste of all that is to come when



To refrain

may we share the pres - ence of your love.

all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

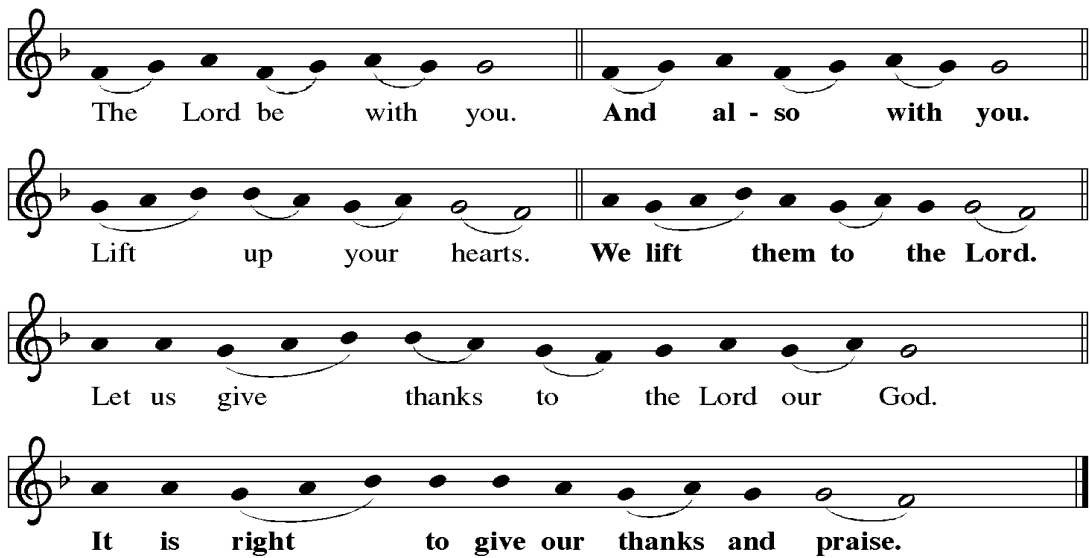
OFFERING PRAYER

P: God of healing and hope,

**C: you bless those who are hungry,
promising to fill them with good things.**

Fulfill that promise through us and these your gifts.

**Nourish us with the abundance of your feast and unite us into the
blessed body of Jesus Christ our Savior, now and forever. Amen**



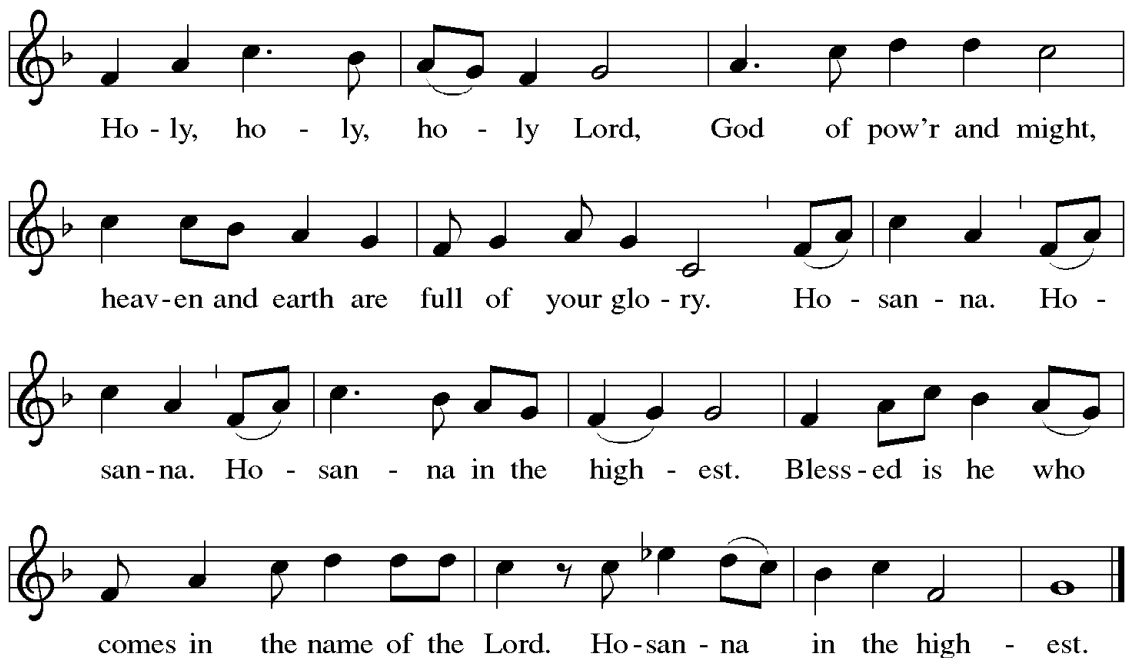
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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.

P: It is indeed right, our duty 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, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,

heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -

san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

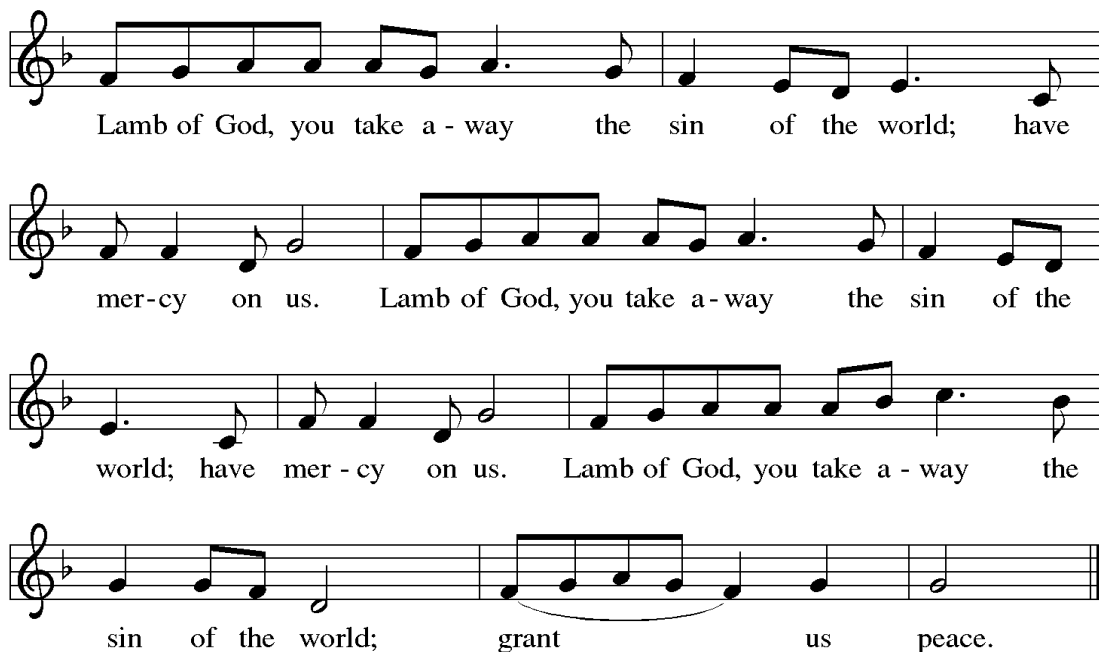
THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: 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.



THE LORD'S PRAYER

**C: 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.

THE DISTRIBUTION



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: God of creation-of field and flower, wheat and vine, you have fed us with the bread of heaven, the true food that gives life to the world. Strengthened by the body and blood of Christ, Send us out to share your abundance with all who hunger and thirst. Give us courage to love and serve in the name of Jesus. **C: Amen.**

BLESSING

P: May the love of God strengthen you,
the grace of Christ sustain you
and the power of the Holy Spirit prepare you for all that lies ahead.
May the Holy Trinity bless you and fill you with faith, courage and
peace, now and always
C: Amen

SENDING SONG

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

Hymn # 634
4 Verses

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Welcome!

St. John practices "open communion." All who are baptized and instructed are welcome to share the Lord's Supper with us today. Starting with the right side of the church, followed by the left when they are finished, the Pastor will distribute the bread and the communion assistant will serve the wine. We will also have pre-sealed elements available for those who would prefer the more hygienic option (or those who wish to receive grape juice instead of wine). Indicate to the Pastor that you would like pre-sealed elements and skip the wine server. Those who wish to receive a blessing should indicate their wishes to the Pastor by crossing their arms over their chest.