Sunday - November 29, 2026
First Sunday of Advent

OUR MISSION: God calls us to live and share the amazing love and grace of Jesus Christ with all people.

Welcome to Christ Lutheran Church. Christ Lutheran Church is a Reconciling in Christ congregation that welcomes all. May God bless us in Word and Sacrament, music and community in our worship today. The service is complete in this bulletin. The spoken responses are bolded text.

We acknowledge that our building of worship is built upon the territory of xučyun (Huichin), the unceded land stewarded by the Ohlone people who speak to their Creator and loved ones in the language of Chochenyo.

INTRODUCTION

Stir up your power, and come! The psalmist's plea in Psalm 80:2 has become familiar to us in the Advent prayers. Isaiah wants God to rip the heavens open. Both cry out for an apparently distant, angry God to show up, to save, to restore. When we hear Jesus describing the coming of the Son of Man with stars falling from heaven, it can sound dire and horrible, not like anything we would ever hope for. But when we really look at the suffering of people God loves, we can share the hope that God would tear open the heavens and come.

PRELUDE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

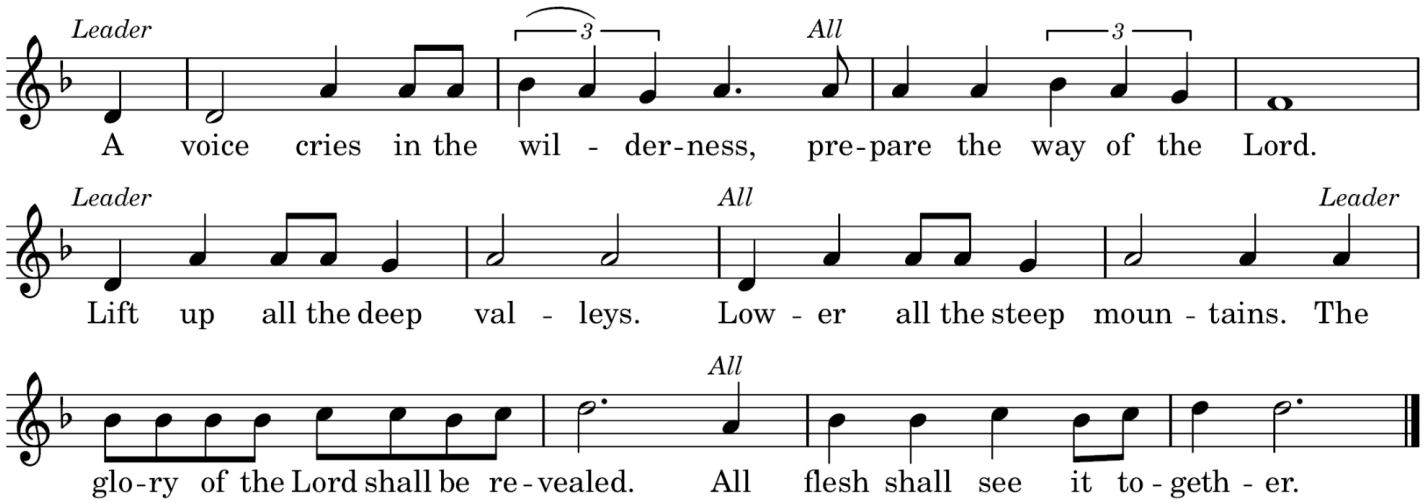
Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who calls out to the weary, whose word endures forever. **Amen.**

A voice cries out in the wilderness, "Make straight the way of the Lord!" We are called to confess our sin and turn back toward God's love.
Silence is kept for reflection.

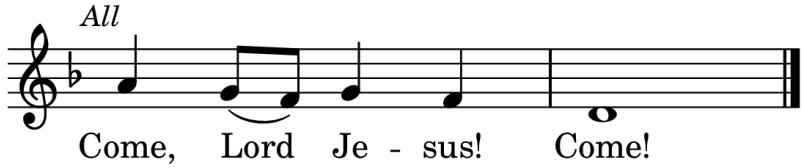
Comforting God, **we are your people, but we have neglected to call on your name. We are your people, but we have not remembered your ways. We are your people, but we have forgotten your hold on us. We are your people, but now we fade like a leaf, and our sins, like the wind, take us away. Restore us as your people. Cleanse us from our sin, and clothe us in your righteousness. Amen.**

“Comfort, comfort my people!” says your God, who has clothed you with the garments of salvation and wrapped you in the robe of righteousness. God has given you a mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. In the name of ☩ Christ, your sins are forgiven: Rejoice in the Lord! Rejoice in the Lord! **Amen.**

GATHERING



Ruler of all things in heaven and earth, may the desert blossom like a rose, and may we, passing through what you have made good, guide each other to your holy mountain, where wolf and lamb can lie down together in peace, for we look to you in hope.



Judge of the Nations, may we not put you to the test in our arrogance, but find wisdom, restraint, and courage to beat our swords into plowshares and no longer to study the ways of war, for we look to you in hope. ♫ **Come, Lord Jesus! Come!**

Foretold by John on the banks of the Jordan, immerse us into a baptism of repentance, so that we may rise from water, reaching out our hands to people of all faiths who long for your goodness, for we look to you in hope. ♫ **Come, Lord Jesus! Come!**

Herald of Good News, may all our words and deeds loosen the yoke of the troubled and lighten the burden of the poor, so that what we proclaim becomes what we spend ourselves to accomplish, for we look to you in hope. ♫ **Come, Lord Jesus! Come!**

Heir of David’s Throne, empower us to establish justice in our cities and communities and to honor the covenant into which we have entered, so that all homes may be lively and joyful and all children may flourish, for we look to you in hope. ♫ **Come, Lord Jesus! Come!**

Head of the Household, may what you have entrusted to us, our homes, families, friends, and possessions, be ready always for your arrival, and keep us alert to the signs of your presence, for we look to you in hope. ♫ **Come, Lord Jesus! Come!**

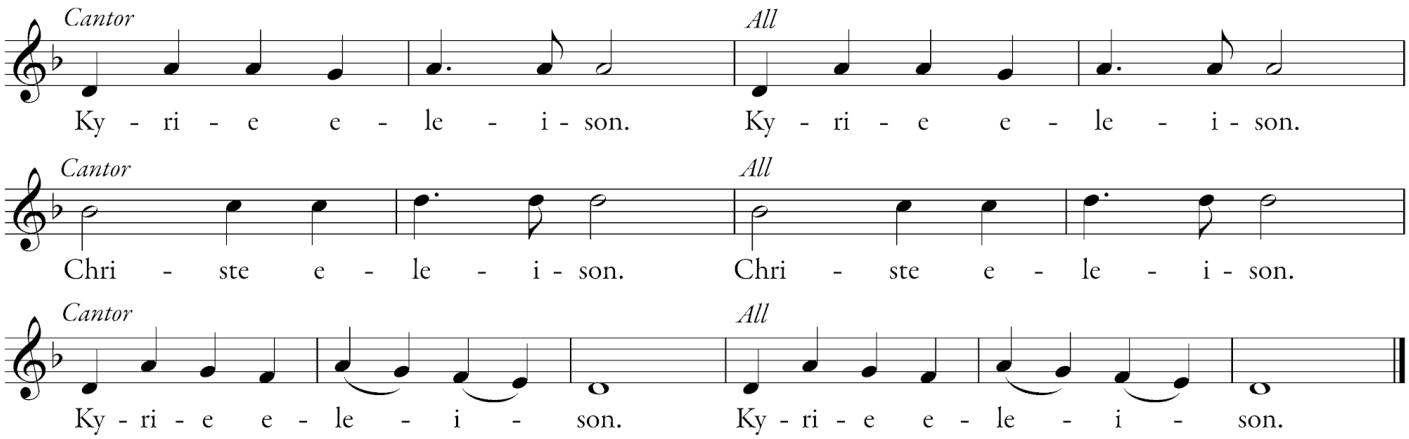
Bridegroom of our Soul, draw us beyond selfish desire and fear, so that we may give ourselves fully to you, for we look to you in hope. ♫ **Come, Lord Jesus! Come!**

Incarnate of the Virgin Mary, care for our flesh, heal our diseases, strengthen our weakness, and enfold us at last in your peace, and may what is done in us be according to your will, for we look to you in hope. ♫ **Come, Lord Jesus! Come!**

Child of Bethlehem, make us your children, simplify and soften our hearts so that we may enter the realm of God with gratitude and joy, for we look to you in hope. ♫ **Come, Lord Jesus! Come!**

Gracious God, Eternal Light, come among us! Enter our darkness and guide us in those paths of justice and peace that fulfill your purposes for us. Lift us up to rejoice forever in the life of the Holy Trinity, for we look to you in hope, and praise you, with the Father, and the Spirit, one God, from before time and through all eternity.

KYRIE



LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

We praise you, O God, for this evergreen crown
that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent.
As we light the first candle on this wreath,
rouse us from sleep, that we may be ready to greet our Lord
when he comes with all the saints and angels.
Enlighten us with your grace, and prepare our hearts to welcome him with joy.
Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near.
Amen.

1 O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall
come to you, O Israel

4 O come, O Branch of Jesse, free
your own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell your people save,
and give them vict'ry o'er the grave.
Refrain

FIRST READING: Isaiah 64:1-9

1 O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—
2 as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil—
to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!
3 When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down; the mountains quaked at your presence.
4 From ages past no one has heard,
no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you,
who works for those who wait for him.
5 You meet those who gladly do right,
those who remember you in your ways.
But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed.
6 We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.
We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
7 There is no one who calls on your name
or attempts to take hold of you,
for you have hidden your face from us
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.
8 Yet, O Lord, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.
9 Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord,
and do not remember iniquity forever.
Now consider, we are all your people.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 80

[1] Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
[2] **In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh,**
stir up your strength and come to help us.
[3] Restore us, O God;
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.
[4] **O Lord God of hosts,**
how long will your anger fume when your people pray?
[5] You have fed them with the bread of tears;
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
[6] **You have made us the derision of our neighbors,**
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
[7] Restore us, O God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.
[17] **Let your hand be upon the one at your right hand,**
the one you have made so strong for yourself.
[18] And so will we never turn away from you;
give us life, that we may call upon your name.
[19] **Restore us, O Lord God of hosts;**
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

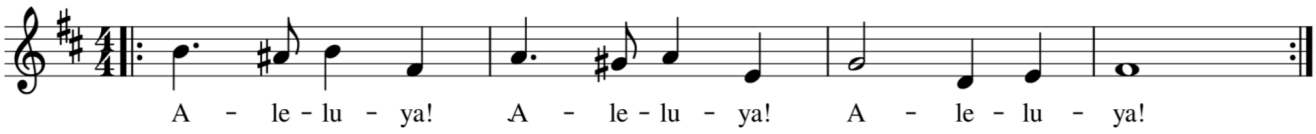
SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

[3] Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

[4] I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, [5] for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—[6] just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—[7] so that you are not lacking in any gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. [8] He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. [9] God is faithful, by whom you were called into the partnership of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Stay awake! The day is dawning;
Watch, for Christ is drawing near.
Tear the heavens, Lord, descending;
Come in might and meet us here!

GOSPEL: Mark 13:24-37

The holy gospel according to Mark. **Glory to you, O God.**

[Jesus said:] 24 “In those days, after that suffering,

the sun will be darkened,

and the moon will not give its light,

25 and the stars will be falling from heaven,

and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

26 “Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory.
27 Then he will send out the angels and gather the elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

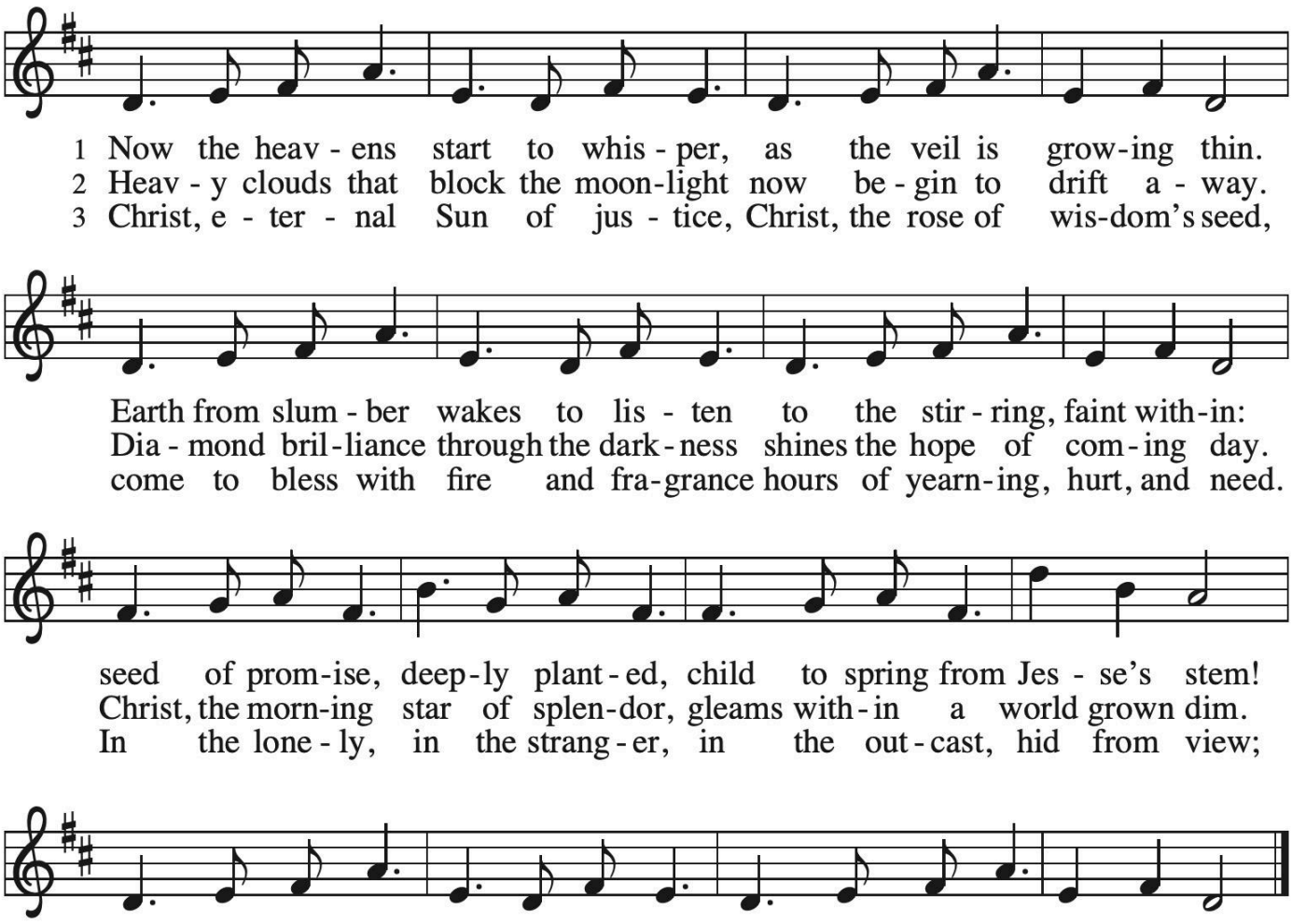
28 “From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. 29 So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. 30 Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. 31 Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

32 “But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven nor the Son, but only the Father. 33 Beware, keep alert, for you do not know when the time will come. 34 It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch.
35 Therefore, keep awake, for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening or at midnight or at cockcrow or at dawn, 36 or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. 37 And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

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

SERMON - Pr Kyle

HYMN OF THE DAY- "Now the Heavens Start to Whisper" (ACS 901)



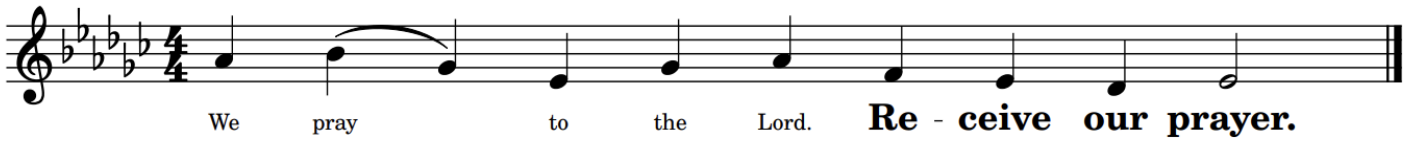
THE APOSTLES' CREED

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 INTERCESSION

In hope and expectation, we bring to God our prayers for the church, the world, and all in need.

Strengthen your church in this season of anticipation. Nourish all people who gather around word and water, bread and cup. Reassure any whose faith feels dry that you are always near.



Come and restore the earth. Give rest to weary lands and renewed life to species at risk. Make us wise stewards of the places we call home. We pray to the Lord. ♫

Bring peace among all nations and communities. Embolden leaders to seek creative and sustainable resolutions to war and conflict. Show us new possibilities in places where peace has been elusive. We pray to the Lord. ♫

Sustain all who are heavy with weariness, grief, illness, or worry especially for Karen, Fred, George G., Maryann H., Evie D., Diane, Carla, Laurie & John P., Scott F., and Pr. Sharon, Dave Miller, George F., Pr. Kyle, and those we name at this time. Comfort families who are estranged from one another and any who are separated from loved ones. We pray to the Lord. ♫

Inspire liturgists, preachers, musicians, and all who lead our worship and prayer. May we be prepared as we await Christ's coming this Advent season. We pray to the Lord. ♫

I invite you, the people of God gathered here, to offer your prayers at this time, spoken aloud, in silence, or typed in the livestream chat.

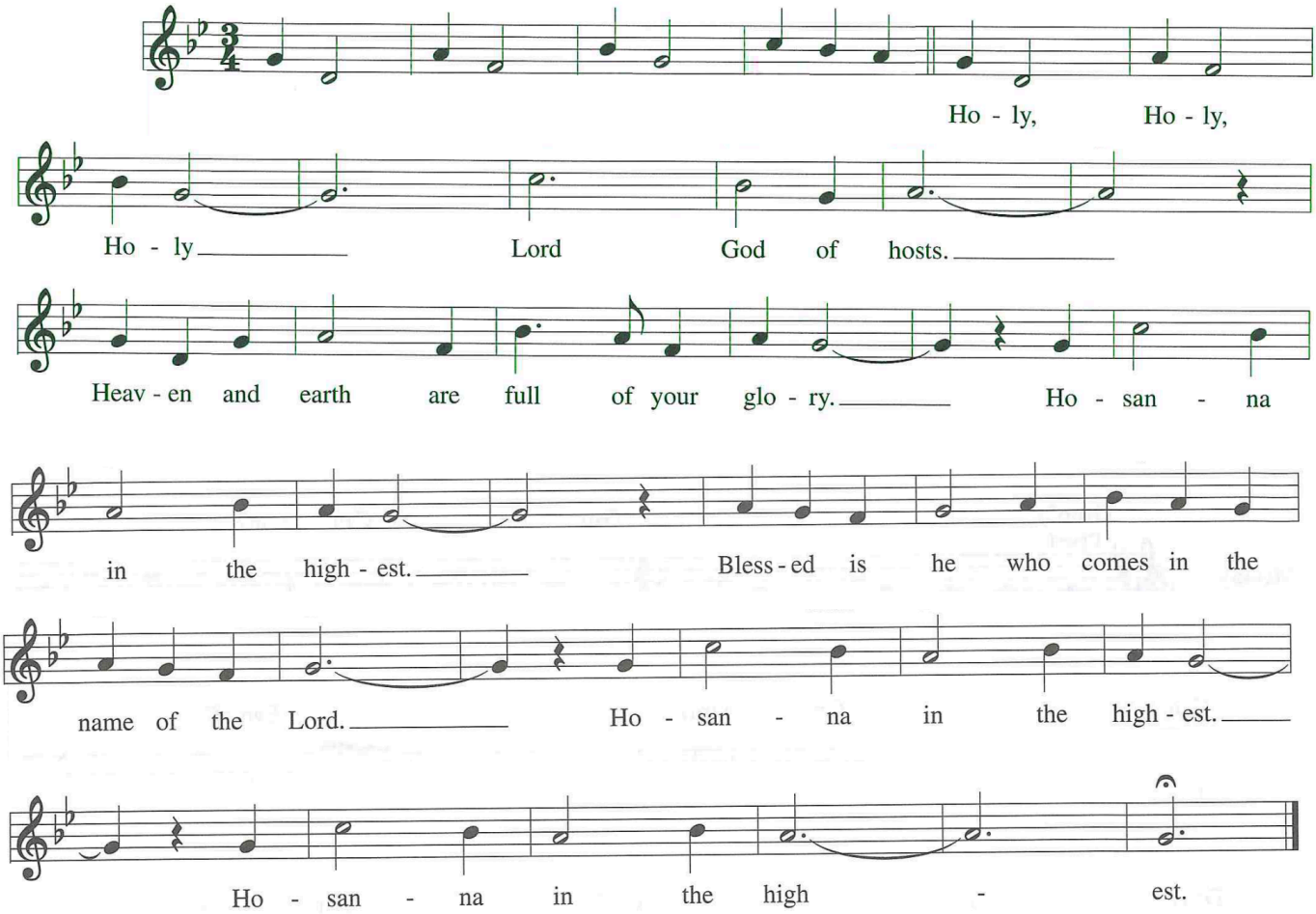
You embrace all the saints from the far reaches of the earth. We remember with care all who have died and now abide in their eternal home. We pray to the Lord. ♫
We entrust these and the prayers of our hearts to you, most holy God, in the name of Christ Jesus our Savior. **Amen.**

OFFERING: Handbell Ensemble – "As the Deer"

GREAT THANKSGIVING

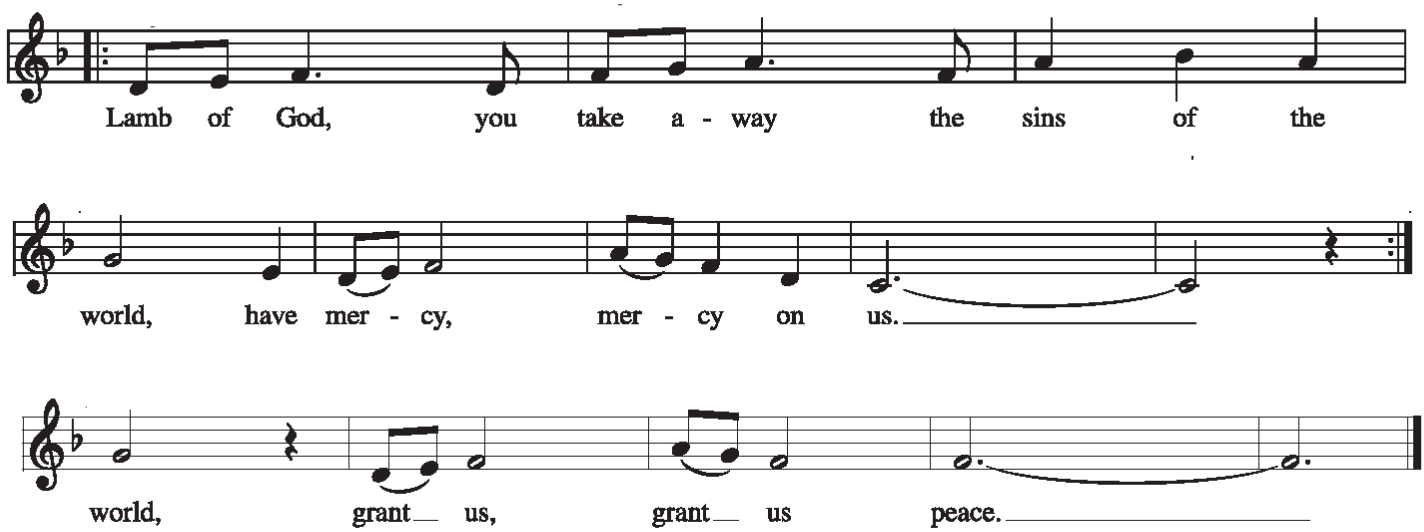
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**
It is indeed right … we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS

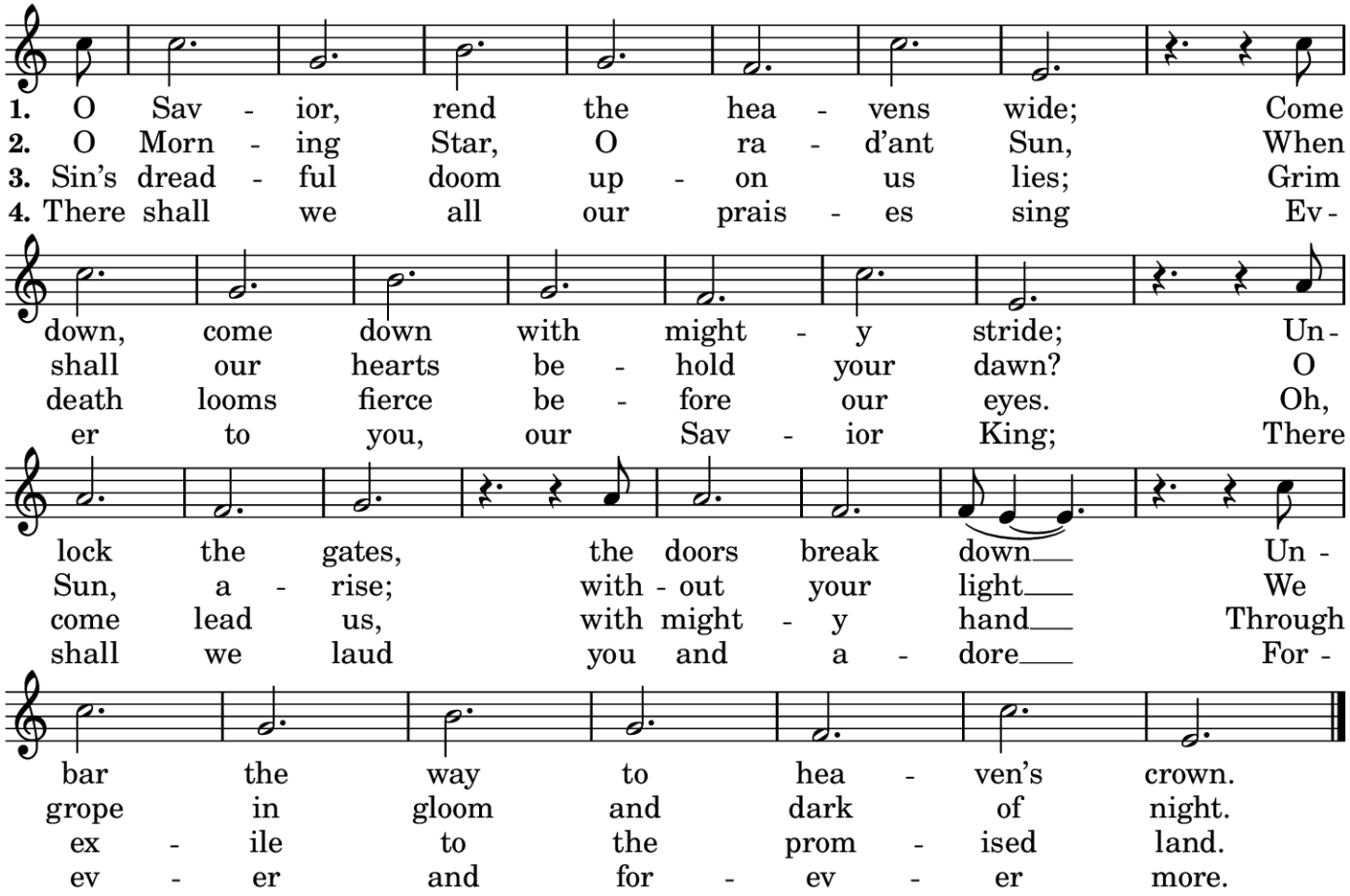


Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us. **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and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

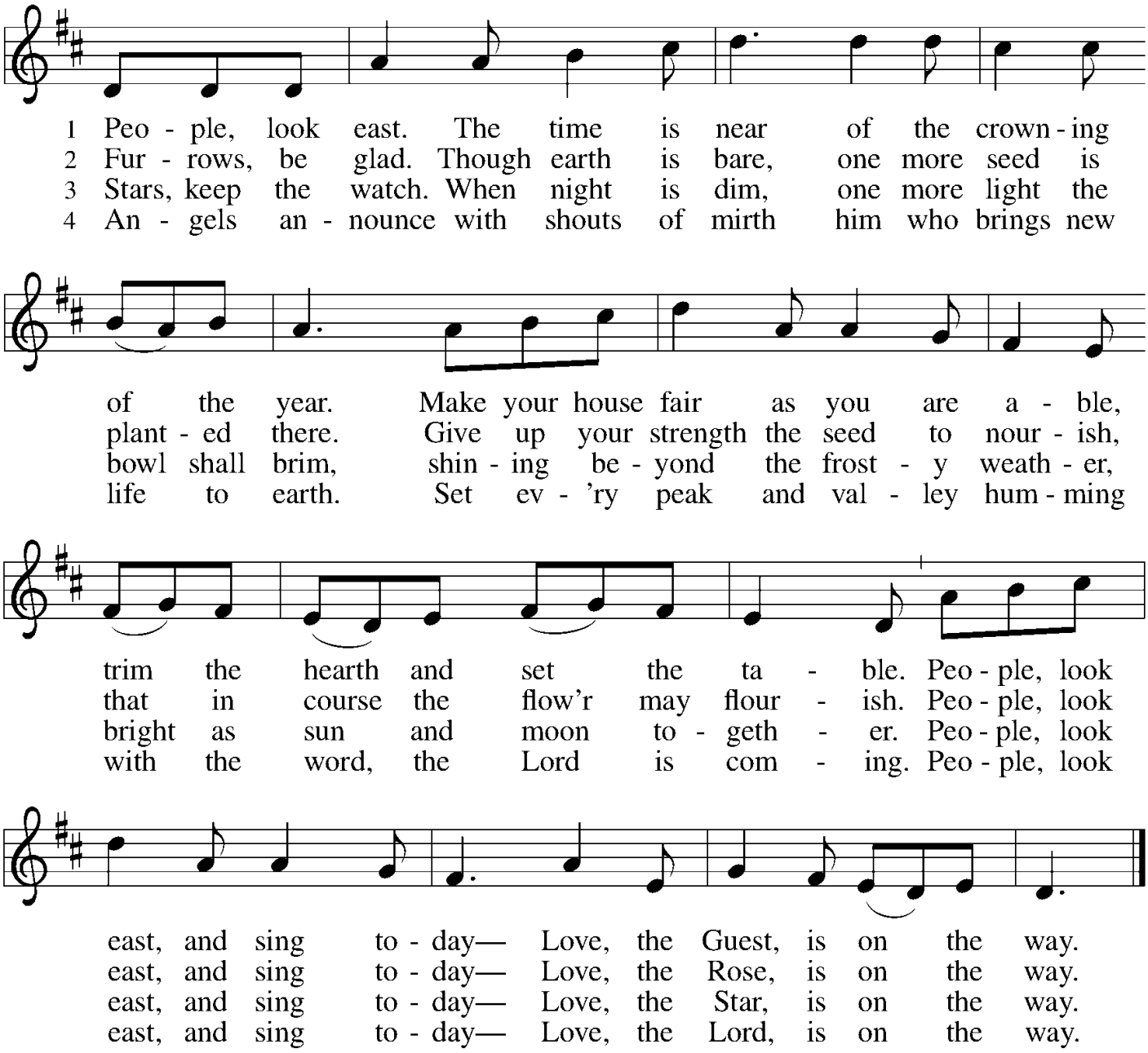
LAMB OF GOD



COMMUNION HYMN- "O Savior, Rend the Heavens Wide"



SENDING HYMN: "People, Look East" (ELW 248)



DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Prepare your hearts for the coming of the Lord

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bible study 11:15 today

Open Mic Night Friday Dec 4

Christmas Crafternoon Dec 5

Christmas Party Dec 13

Community Concert Dec 17

Christmas Eve Service 5:30

PARTICIPATING IN WORSHIP
PRESIDING/PREACHING:
Bridge Pastor
Kyle Schiefelbein-Guerrero
(510) 480-1476
kyle@christlutheranelcerrito.org

MINISTER OF MUSIC & LITURGY
Daniel Alley

GUITARS: George Fosselius & Randy Mayer

LECTOR:

WORSHIP ASSISTANT: Christine H.L.

COMMUNION SET UP/CLEAN UP:

COFFEE HOUR:

This Week at CLC

Today
9 AM Choir Rehearsal
10 AM CLC Worship
11:15 Bible Study
1:30 PM Greater Love Worship

Monday
9 AM- 3:00 PM Senior Center
7 PM- 8:30 PM The Scouts

Tuesday
10 AM-3:00PM- WCCAE Respite Care
4:30-6:30 PM CCCT
7 PM Lady AA Meeting

Wednesday
4:30-6:30 PM CCCT

Thursday
4:30-6:30 PM CCCT
7 PM Handbell Rehearsal

Friday
4:30-6:30 PM CCCT
7 PM Open Mic Night

Saturday
1-4 PM Christmas Craternoon
6 PM Millennium AA Meeting

Next Sunday
9AM Choir Rehearsal
10 AM CLC Worship
11:15 Bible Study
1:30 PM Greater Love Worship

PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR:

Diane L.	Laurie P.	Chris
Lysle P.	Carolina S.	Phil C.
Mike S.	Karen H.	Scott F.
The Vale Community	Fred W.	Thelma & Mike G.
Robin & Wendy	Chad B.	John Z.
George F.	TJ B.	Pr. Sharon
Jimmy D.	Carla L.	Dave Miller
Vince	Mark	Pr. Kyle
George G.		

DON'T FORGET YOUR OFFERING

Thank you for your continued financial support of Christ Lutheran. It is very much appreciated. Options for giving include bringing offerings in person, mailing checks, or giving electronically with Tithely. For the latter, simply click the "Giving" tab on the church website. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Amy Tieku at 510-290-2125

WORSHIP FROM HOME Livestream: Facebook.com/clec.org. Bulletins can be found at christlutheranelcerrito.org/bulletins *Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-709536*