

MISSION SERVICE
NOVEMBER 8, 2026
2ND SUNDAY OF END TIMES
STAND SUNDAY

WE GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD." (Psalm 122:1)

PRELUDE AND PREPARATION *During the prelude, prepare your heart for worship: read the introduction, peruse the bulletin, find the Scripture readings in the pew Bible, and pray:* **Direct and control us, O Lord, always and everywhere. May we both discern with clear vision and share with worthy effect the Mystery which You have willed us to partake: Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

CHILDREN *of all ages are welcome! The Children's Library is available if a child needs a break during the service.*

LISTENING DEVICES *for the hearing impaired are available at the sound board (in the back of the sanctuary).*

INTRODUCTION *Why does the bridegroom come so late to the wedding celebration? Why does Christ seemingly delay His promised return? We, who live in an unjust and violent world may ask, "Where is the Lord when we need Him?" We do not know the hour of His final advent, but we do know that Christ has claimed us in baptism as His servants in this world. Between His first advent and His final coming, the church is called to serve Jesus in faith, hope, and love.*



Words: Phillipp Nicolai, 1599. Translated by Catherine Winkworth, 1858. Music: 'Wachet Auf' Phillip Nicolai, 1599.

WELCOME AND MEDITATION

GATHERING HYMN *(Please rise.)*

← *"Wake Awake, for Night Is Flying" (SBH # 7 1st tune)*

INVOCATION *(╬ = All may make the sign of the cross.)*

P: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, ╬ and of the Holy Spirit.

C: AMEN.

SMALL CATECHISM READING

L: Let us confess our faith by reading a portion of Luther's Small Catechism, ***Part V. Confession:***

L: What is confession?

C: Confession has two parts: First, that we confess our sins. Second, that we receive absolution, or forgiveness, from the confessor, as from God Himself, without doubting it, but believing firmly that our sins are forgiven by God in Heaven through it.

L: What sins should we confess?

C: Before God we should plead guilty of all sins, even of those we are not aware of, as we do in the Lord's Prayer. But before the confessor we should confess those sins alone which we know and feel in our hearts.

L: Which are these?

C: Consider here your place in life according to the Ten Commandments. Are you a father? A mother? A son? A daughter? A husband? A wife? A servant? Have you been disobedient, unfaithful or lazy? Have you hurt anyone with your words or actions? Have you stolen, neglected your duty, wasted anything, or injured someone? These things confess.

THE CONFESSION OF SINS .....SBH pages 15-16

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart, and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him, in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to grant us forgiveness.

(Please kneel. Silence is kept for reflection.)

P: Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You, that we are by nature sinful and unclean, and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C: O most merciful God, Who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us, and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will, and true obedience to Your Word, that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

P: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us, and has given His only Son to die for us, and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To them that believe on His Name, He gives power to become the sons of God, and bestows upon them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, O Lord, unto us all. **C: AMEN.**

GREETING *(Please rise.)*

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.

WE PRAISE GOD'S NAME

With one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.
"Let all the peoples praise him." (Romans 15:6,11)

HYMN OF PRAISE *"When Peace Like a River"*

(ELW # 785 - favorite) →



PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

L: Let us pray together: **C: Lord, when the day of wrath comes we have no hope except in Your grace. Make us so to watch for the last days that the consummation of our hope may be the joy of the marriage feast of Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.**

RESPONSIVE READING….Psalm 78:1-8

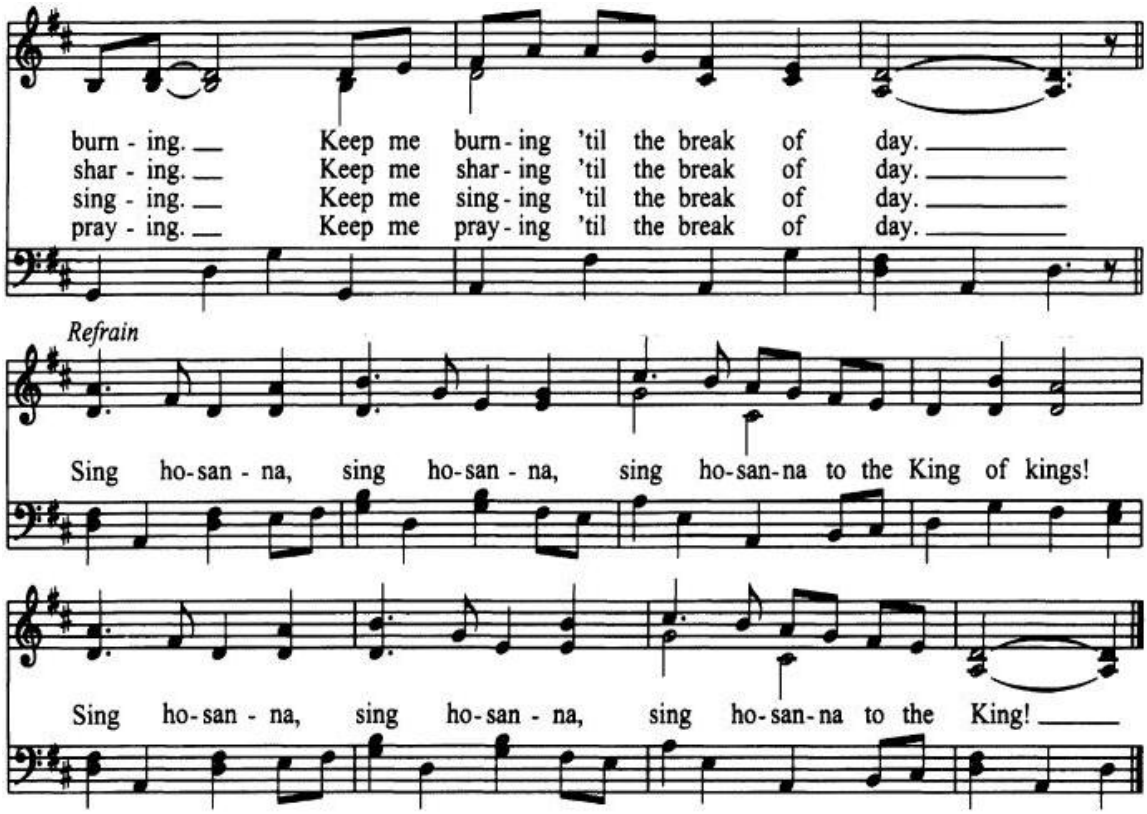
*(congregation: **indented**)*

O My people, hear My teaching;
listen to the words of My mouth.
I will open My mouth in parables,
I will utter hidden things, things from of old—
what we have heard and known,
what our fathers have told us.
We will not hide them from their children;
we will tell the next generation
the praiseworthy deeds of the LORD,
His power, and the wonders He has done.
He decreed statutes for Jacob
and established the law in Israel,
which He commanded our forefathers to teach their children,
so the next generation would know them,
even the children yet to be born,
and they in turn would tell their children.
Then they would put their trust in God
and would not forget His deeds
but would keep His commands.
They would not be like their forefathers—
a stubborn and rebellious generation,
whose hearts were not loyal to God,
whose spirits were not faithful to Him.

PRAISE SONG *(Please sit.)*

"Give Me Oil in My Lamp" (YV # 194 - Anonymous)





WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

For everything was written to teach us, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. (Romans 15:4)

FIRST LESSON….Joshua 24:1-5, 11-27……..Pew Bible p. 368

P: Word of God, Word of Life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

SECOND LESSON….1 Thessalonians 4:13-18……...p. 1840

P: Word of God, Word of Life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

COLLECT FOR CHILDREN *(When children are present.)*

P: We will dismiss for Children's Church after the Gospel reading. Let us pray the Collect for Children together: **C: Lord, we lift up to You the children of our church, asking for Your protection, guidance, and blessing over their lives. May they grow in faith, wisdom, and love, finding their identity in You and walking in the purpose You have for them. Surround them with Your grace, strengthen their families, and raise them to be lights in this world for Your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *(Please rise.)* *"Lo! He Comes"*

verse 1 (SBH # 13 - Text: Charles Wesley; Tune: Johann G.C. Storl) →



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

GOSPEL….Matthew 25:1-13……..……....Pg. 1540
P: The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *verse 2* ↑

(Please be seated. Young children may go to Children's Church)

SERMON *(See sermon outline in Announcements insert.)*
"Joshua's Example & Exhortation"

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing.
(Romans 15:13)

HYMN OF THE DAY *(Please rise.)*
"Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers" (ELW # 244) →



Text: Laurentius Laurentii, 1660–1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823–1907, alt.
Tune: Swedish folk tune

HAF TRONES LAMPA FÄRDIG
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MISSION MOMENT *(Please sit.)* Stand Sunday

OFFERING *As you leave, place your offering and Communication Card in the Offering Plate at the back of the center aisle. Thank You!*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH *(Please kneel.)*

(Response: L: Lord, in Your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**)

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

WE ARE SENT INTO GOD'S WORLD

Come, let us walk in the light of the LORD! (Isaiah 2:5)

BENEDICTION AND THREE-FOLD AMEN *(SBH p. 40)*

P: The Lord bless you, and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you, and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace. In the Name of the Father, and the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C:



SENDING HYMN *(Please rise.)* *"Stand Up, Stand Up For Jesus"*

(Maj # 596 - favorite - Text: George Duffield; Tune: George J. Webb) →

PASSING THE PEACE

L: As we leave to serve the Risen Lord in the power of His Spirit, let us share with one another some of the blessings of peace we have received. The peace of the Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

POSTLUDE

PRAYER CARE *If you would like prayer about anything, you can come to the altar rail after the service and a prayer care volunteer will pray with you.*

FELLOWSHIP AND REFRESHMENTS *All are invited to remain for fellowship. Snacks, coffee and hot water are available in the Gathering Place. You can brew your own coffee/tea using the Keurig® in the Parlor.*



Altar Flowers & Bulletins are sponsored by Holy Cross.

***Rose** vase is sponsored by daughter Susan Wirth,*
in memory of Ed Wirth's birthday

NOVEMBER 8, 2026
SECOND SUNDAY OF END TIMES

SERVANTS OF THE LORD TODAY

GREETER: 8:30-Diane Hahn | 11:00-Sharon Branigan
SOUND: 8:30-Rich Stein | 11:00-***Volunteer Needed***
LIVE STREAM: 8:30-Jonah Kincaid
SONG LEADER: Pastor David
LITURGIST: 8:30-Pat Gilbert | 11:00-Karen Brown
LECTOR: 8:30-Patty Werley | 11:00-Kathy Ballek
CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Ruthann Kistler
ALTAR GUILD: Sharon Branigan, Irene Graham
COUNTERS: Karen Brown & ***Volunteer Needed***
SEXTON: **Volunteers needed**
PHONETREE: Stephen Zeiner
PRAYER OF THE CHURCH: Stephen Zeiner
PRAYER CARE: 8:30-Sally Stein | 11:00-Ruthann Kistler

Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church

a congregation of the NORTH AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH

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CHURCH STAFF

Rev. David L. Brown, *Pastor* † Ruthann Kistler, *Christian Ed. Dir.*
Nancy Cook, *Organist* † Karen Brown, *Secretary*
Volunteers Needed, *Sexton* † Karen Steiner, *Pre-school*
Stephen Zeiner, *Webmaster*

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Worship - 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM † Sunday School - 9:45 AM
(Holy Communion 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays & Major Feasts)

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