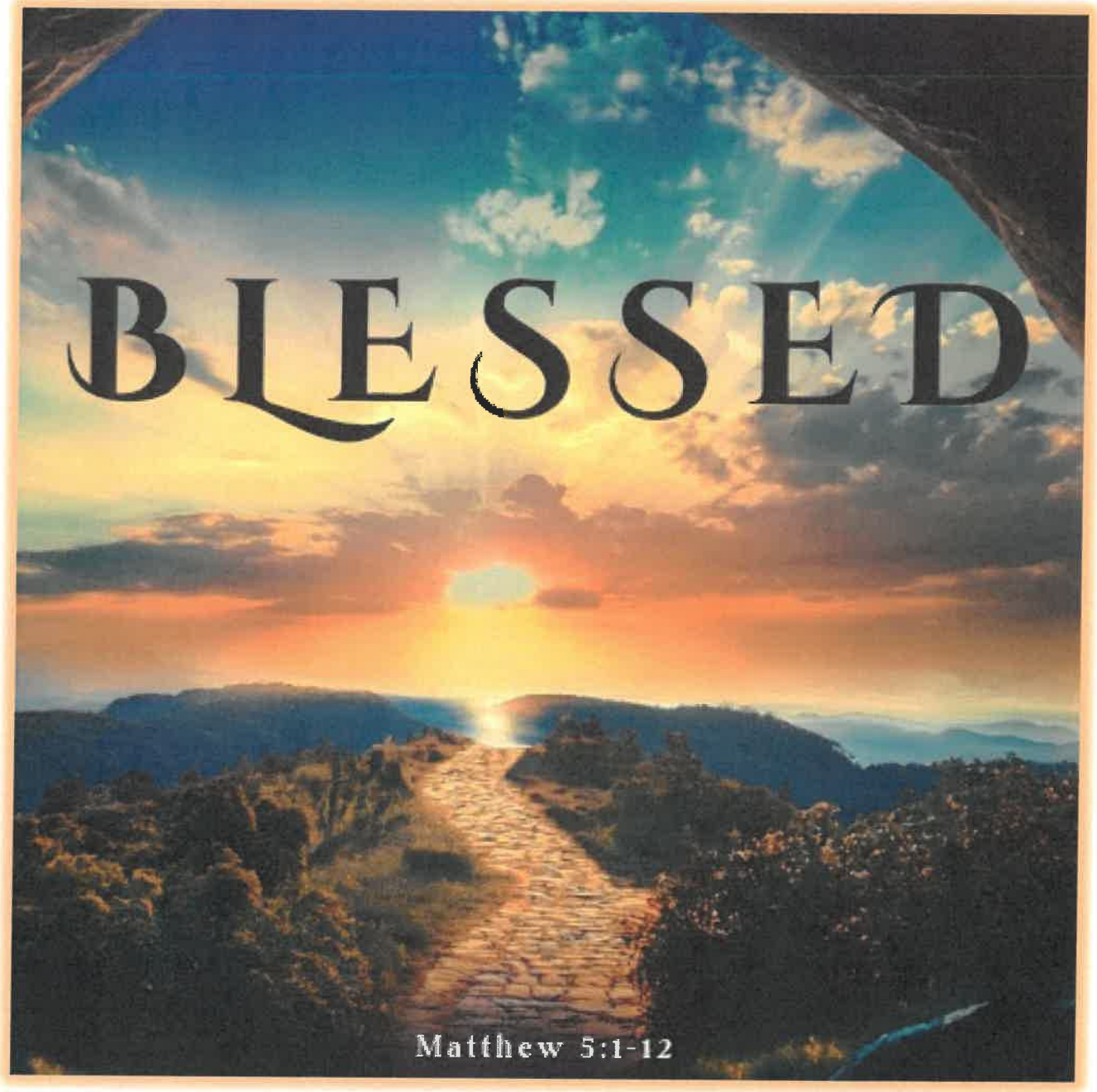
ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

November 01, 2026 | 10:30 A.M.



CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)
3401 S. Dixon Road
Kokomo, IN 46902
765.453.6183

WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT CHRIST LUTHERAN!

FIRST TIME WORSHIPPING AT CHRIST LUTHERAN?

Christ Lutheran is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. It is a community in and of the city where all are welcome in every aspect of congregational life. We believe that worship is central to our life together, that our weekly gathering around Word and Sacrament strengthens us for our work as people of God in this and in every place. Please be sure to greet the Pastor at the back of the church after the service so she can get to know you better!

TIPS FOR FOLLOWING THE LITURGY

Numbers marked with the word "page…" in small case are in the front portion of the hymnal at the bottom left and right corners of the page. Numbers marked with the word "HYMN…" are in the back portion of the hymnal in the upper left and right corners of the page. Note that the psalms are numbered as hymns 1 – 150. Throughout the liturgy, text in **BOLD typeface** is spoken by the assembly. ** *Please know that at all times in the service where standing is indicated, you are most welcome to be seated if this is more comfortable for you.* **

COMMUNION INSTRUCTIONS

At the second half of the service, we share Holy Communion. We would love for you to join us in this sacred moment. Instructions are on the back of this bulletin. All are welcome!

FELLOWSHIP – COFFEE & DONUTS!

We share fellowship, coffee & donuts (*provided by generous members*), and a time to connect, each Sunday morning in the Fellowship Hall from 9:30 – 10:15 a.m. Please join us!

PRAYER REQUEST CARDS

Prayer Request Cards are located on the Welcome Table in the Gathering Area. Please fill one out and place in the Offering Plate or in the basket on the table.

RESTROOMS

Restrooms are located by going through the hall off the main entrance. They are located through the doors on the left side of the building.

PASTORAL EMERGENCIES

After office hours, an emergency contact can be made to Pastor Gladys Nwabah by calling (469) 735-7084.

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The Entrance Liturgy

PRELUDE
"Behold a Host" *arranged by:* John Ferguson

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

The assembly stands. 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,
our dwelling place for all generations,
whose compassion never slumbers.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God
and of one another.
Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God,
we confess that we have trusted in our preparation
instead of your invitation.
We prioritize our piety over care for your beloved.
We trust the voice of our shame and fear,
which keeps us from entering fully
into relationship with you and others.
We are not awake to the coming of your reign.
Rouse us and rescue us,
that we may enter into your joy.
Amen.

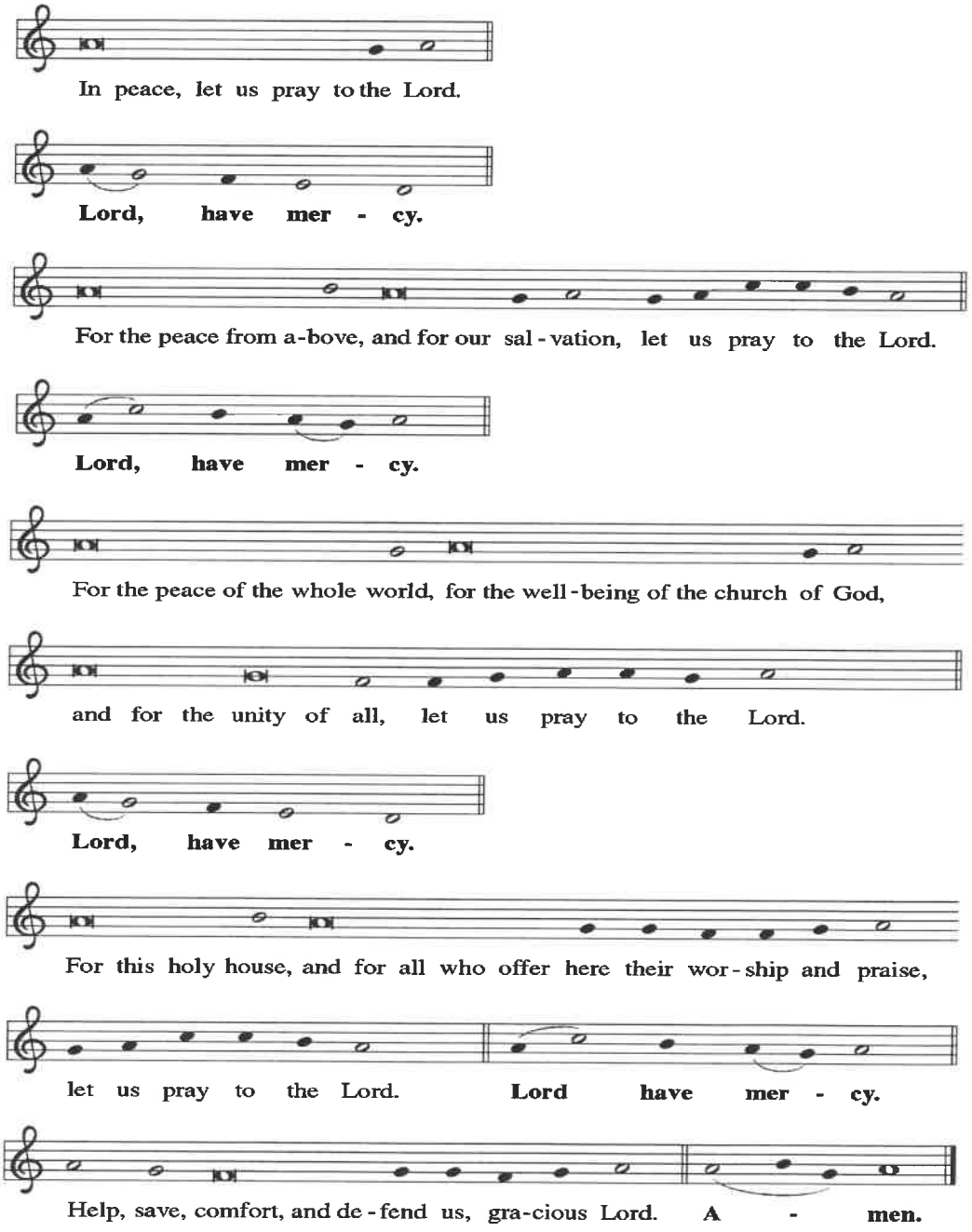
Inherit the riches of God's grace.
☩ Jesus, the good shepherd, feeds you with his mercy.
You are forgiven.
Blessed are you.
Amen

GATHERING HYMN
"For All the Saints" HYMN 422
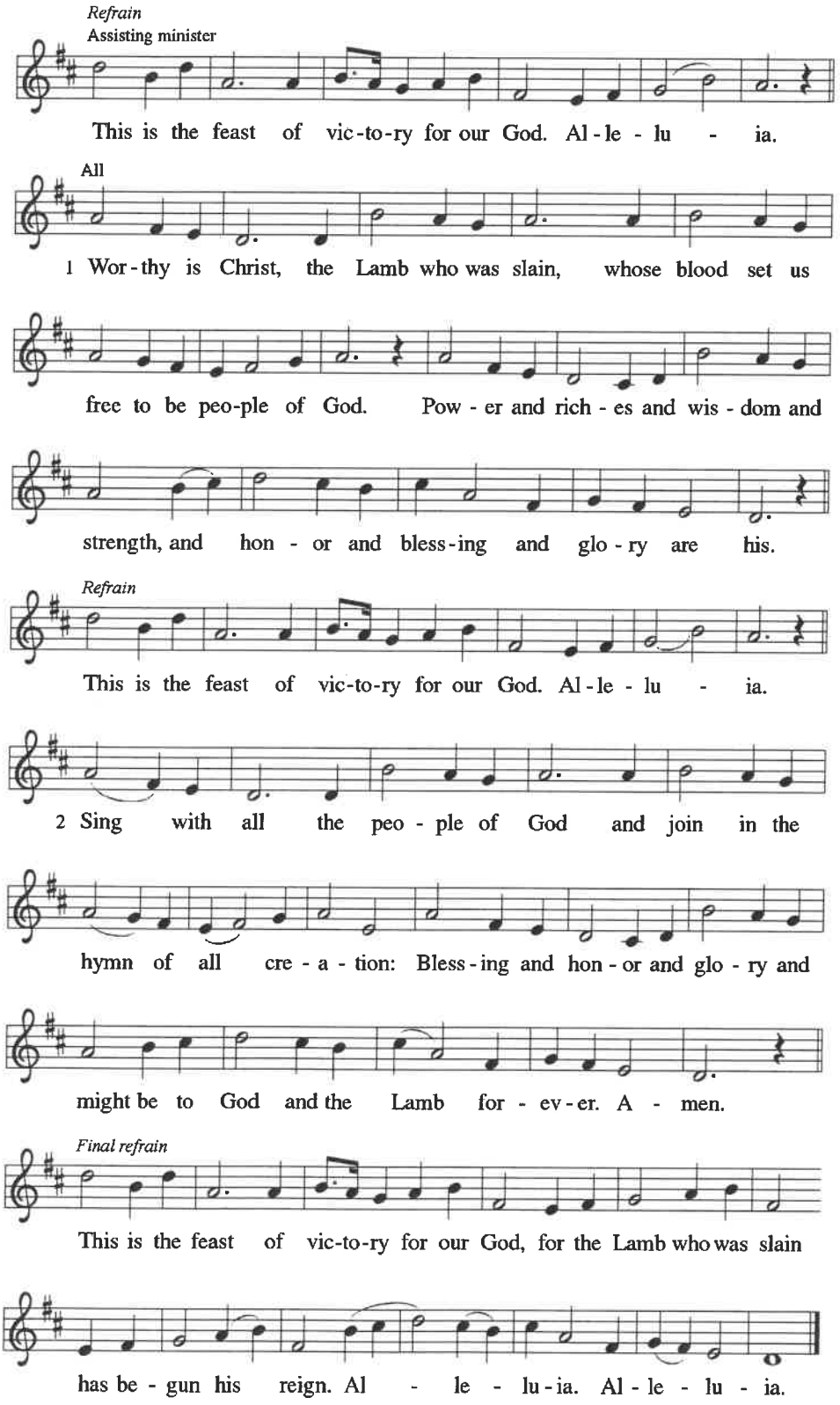
GREETING
During this time, the presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

KYRIE



HYMN OF PRAISE



PRAYER OF THE DAY

The presiding minister leads the prayer of the day.

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The assembly is seated

The Liturgy of the Word

FIRST READING: Revelation 7:9-17

A reading from Revelation.

The book of Revelation is written to seven churches in western Asia Minor during a time of great oppression. Today's reading is a response to the question asked in 6:17: "Who is able to stand?" The writer gives the faithful the assurance of God's protection and a vision of victory.

9 After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from
every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne
and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. 10 They cried
out in a loud voice, saying,

"Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!"

11 And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living
creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, 12 singing,

"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honor
and power and might
be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

13 Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white,
and where have they come from?" 14 I said to him, "Sir, you are the one who knows."
Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have
washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.
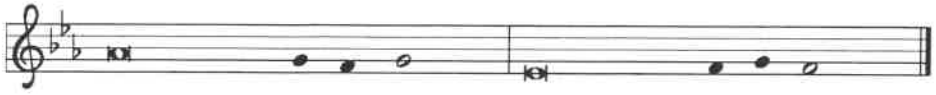
15 For this reason they are before the throne of God
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.
16 They will hunger no more and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat,

17 for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

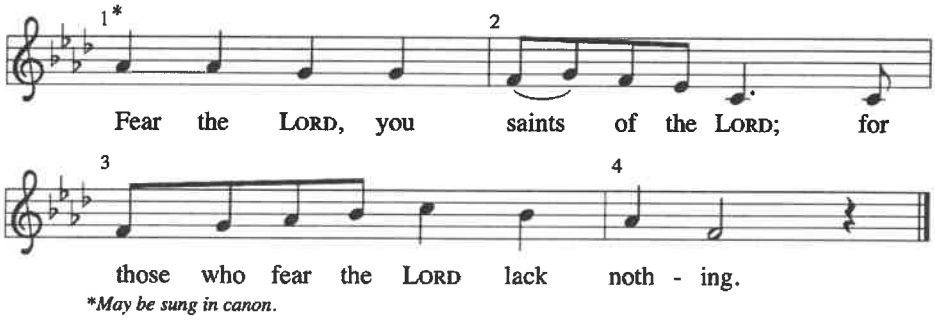
The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALMODY: Psalm 34:1-10, 22

The cantor first sings the refrain, which is repeated by the choir/ congregation. The psalm is sung alternating between cantor and choir/ congregation. The refrain is sung where indicated.



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**May be sung in canon.*

Psalm 34:9
Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year A* © 2007 Augsburg Fortress.
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1 I will bless the LORD | at all times;
the praise of God shall ever be | in my mouth.
2 **I will glory | in the LORD;**
let the lowly hear | and rejoice. R
3 Proclaim with me the greatness | of the LORD;
let us exalt God's | name together.
4 **I sought the LORD, who | answered me**
and delivered me from | all my terrors.
5 Look upon the LORD | and be radiant,
and let not your faces | be ashamed.
6 **I called in my affliction, and | the LORD heard me**
and saved me from | all my troubles. R
7 The angel of the LORD encamps around those who | fear the LORD
and de- | livers them.

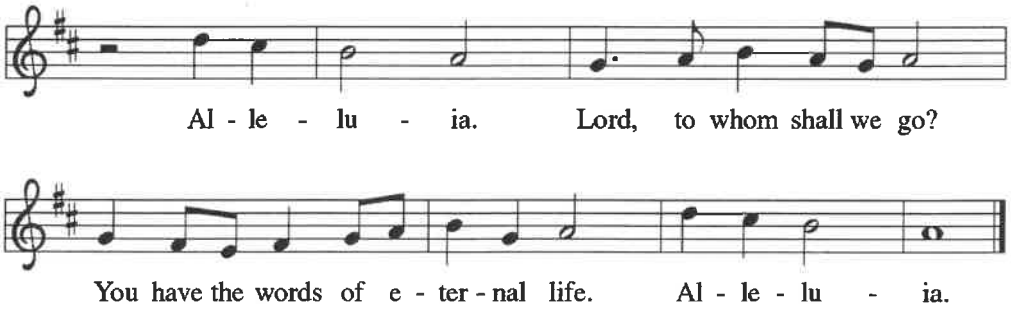
[8] **Taste and see that the | LORD is good;**
happy are they who take ref- | uge in God!
[9] Fear the LORD, you saints | of the LORD,
for those who fear the | LORD lack nothing.
[10] **The lions are in want and | suffer hunger,**
but those who seek the LORD lack nothing | that is good.
[22] O LORD, you redeem the life | of your servants,
and those who put their trust in you will | not be punished. **R**

SECOND READING: 1 John 3:1-3
A reading from 1 John.
A saint is one who has been set apart by God for God's purposes. God, out of divine love, set us apart to be the children of God. Our holy hope is that we shall see God as God really is.

[1] See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God, and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. [2] Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. [3] And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION
The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.



GOSPEL: Matthew 5:1-12
The holy gospel according to Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.
In the Beatitudes, Jesus provides a unique description of those who are blessed with God's favor. His teaching is surprising and shocking to those who seek wealth, fame, and control over others.

[1] When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. [2] And he began to speak and taught them, saying:
[3] "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
[4] "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
[5] "Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.
[6] "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.
[7] "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.
[8] "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
[9] "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.
[10] "Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
[11] "Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. [12] Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON — The Rev. Dr. Gladys Nwabah
The assembly is seated. Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

HYMN OF THE DAY
"Behold the Host Arrayed in White" — HYMN 425

The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,*
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

United with the great cloud of witnesses, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Fill your church with mercy and humility as we proclaim the gospel in our worship and witness in the world. Renew and inspire all who preach and teach among us. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Restore all lands suffering from ecological degradation. Protect soils and waterways (*local places may be named*). Point us toward innovative ways of living in harmony and joy with creation. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Unite the nations in their actions toward justice and peace. Raise up leaders who listen deeply for the needs of their communities, and surround the election process with wisdom and discernment. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bring comfort and care to all who are in need, especially all who mourn this day. Sustain any who are weary, experiencing loneliness, or struggling with chronic illness (*especially*). God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Nurture programs and communities that support elders and those who are homebound. Bless caregivers, nurses, chaplains, social workers, and hospice staff. Guide this congregation's ministry with seniors and their families. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

With grateful hearts we remember all who have died and now rest from their labors (*those who have died in the past year may be named*). Fill us with songs of praise until we too are gathered at your side. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Into your steadfast love, faithful God, we entrust all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus, your beloved.
Amen.

PEACE

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.
The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

The assembly is seated.

The Liturgy of the Eucharistic Meal

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. During this time, the table is set.

OFFERTORY

"Blest Are They" *arranged by:* David Haas (Words at Hymn 728)
CLC Parish Choir

OFFERING PRAYER *(standing)*

Eternal God,
our time, talents, and treasures are gifts from you.
Receive what we offer,
and all that you entrust to us,
until hungry no more, all the world is fed,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

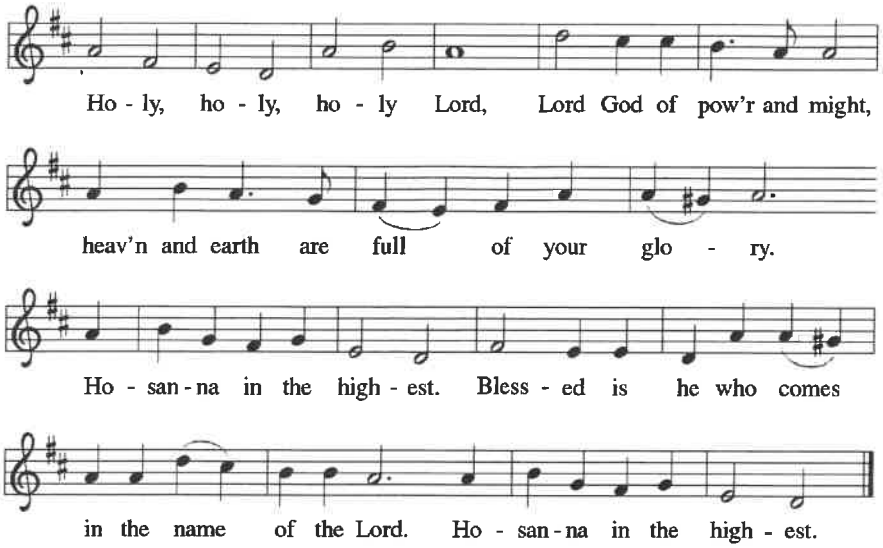
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

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:

SANCTUS



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

With all the saints
of Africa and Asia, Europe and the Americas, India, Australia, and the islands,
we praise you, O God, for creating the worlds.
With all the baptized,
the old and the young, the weak and the strong, the famous and the forgotten,
we bless you, O God, for providing mortals with food.
With all the faithful
in tents and mansions, cities and farms, past and present,
we worship you, O God, for sheltering the generations.
With all your holy people
who minister in the church, who serve the poor, who walk the way of the cross,
we glorify you, O God, for journeying with us in Jesus.

With Paul and the evangelists,
we remember the meal of your Son:
On the night before he died, he 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.

With Peter and all the martyrs,
we honor Christ's death, saying Amen.
Amen!

With Mary Magdalene and all the apostles,
we proclaim his resurrection, shouting Amen.
Amen!

With John, the theologians, and the mystics,
we celebrate Christ present with us, exclaiming Amen.
Amen!

With the Virgin Mary and all who sang of your greatness,
we pray for the power of the Spirit.
Imbue this gathering, this bread and this cup,
with the merciful body and blood of Christ.
Form us into a communion of service,
and infuse your earth with the wholeness we seek.

With grandparents and godparents,
with the Orthodox, Roman Catholics, Protestants, Pentecostals, Evangelicals,
and independents, Mona Swinehart, Walt Doering, Paul Kepner, Nelda
Garrison, Karen Dearchs, Nora Pederson, Don Morrow and Mike Werner.,
lead us to a future we cannot yet see,
and at the end draw all humanity to yourself.
Now with all of the family you saved by your love,

we shout blessing: **Blessing**
glory: **Glory**
wisdom: **Wisdom**
thanksgiving: **Thanksgiving**
honor: **Honor**
power: **Power**
might: **Might**
be to you, our God, forever and ever.
Amen.
Amen

LORD'S PRAYER

Presiding Minister: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

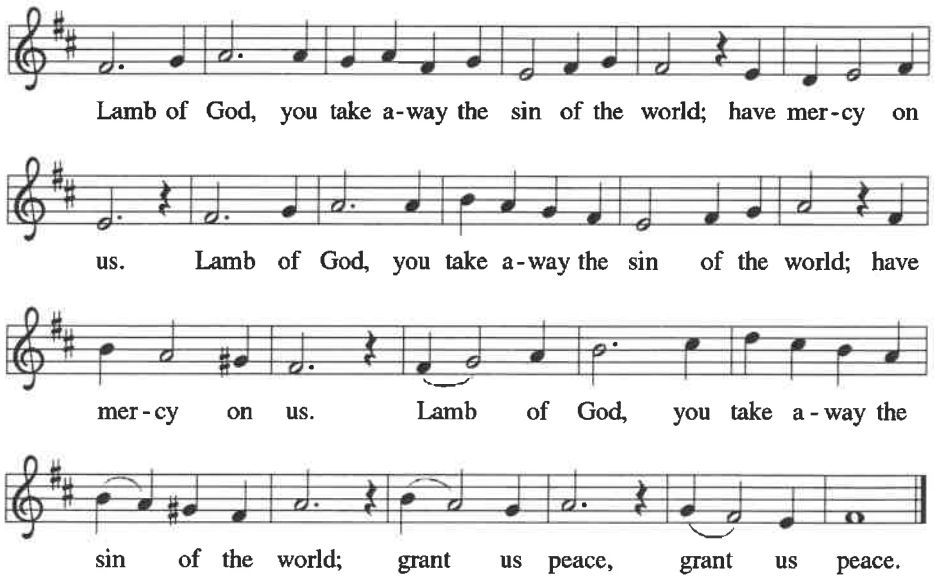
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

In bread and cup the reign of Christ is breaking in.
Come, receive what Christ has prepared.

The assembly may be seated. The bread may be broken for the communion.

AGNUS DEI



When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say
The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
Amen.

COMMUNION HYMN
"Shall We Gather at the River" HYMN 423

After all have returned to their places, the assembly stands. The presiding minister may say a table blessing; the assembly responds **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION
Holy God,
we have received your never-ending mercy in this meal.
You continuously seek the lost,
bind the injured,
and feed your people abundantly.
Now send us out,
awake to your presence,
now and forever.
Amen.

The Liturgy of Sending

ANNOUNCEMENTS
Brief announcements may be made, especially those related to the assembly's participation in God's mission in the world.

BLESSING
The holy Trinity,
Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you with wisdom to welcome the reign of God,
today and always.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN
"For All Your Saints, O Lord" HYMN 427

DISMISSAL

The presiding minister may send the assembly into mission.

Glory to God in the highest!

And peace to God's people on earth!

Go in joy. Embody God's redeeming grace.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name" *arranged by*: Tim Fields

LEADERS IN TODAY'S WORSHIP

Presiding Minister:	Rev. Dr. Gladys Nwabah
Music Minister & Organist:	Travis Person
Choir:	CLC Parish Choir
Lector:	Lenore Kane
Acolyte:	Dee Ann Daniels
Chalice Bearer:	Janet Black
Altar Guild:	Elaine Newman
Greeters:	Judie McCoy & Nadine Owens
Counters:	Bob Howell & Kevin Yeager
A/V Assistant:	Peter Kane

ALTAR FLOWERS

The Altar Flowers are sponsored by: Marty Ridoux

…in memory of my husband, Frank, and in honor of All Saints' Day.

ETERNAL CANDLE

The Eternal Candle is sponsored by: Betty Spotts

…a glowing light for those gone but not forgotten.

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH • KOKOMO

23rd (All Saints) Sunday After Pentecost • November 1, 2026

"The Vast and Victorious Multitude"

Sermon Summary • Rev. Dr. Gladys Nwabah

Scripture Readings: Revelation 7:9–17 • Psalm 34:1–10 • 1 John 3:1–3 • Matthew 5:1–12

THE ILLUSION OF ISOLATION

In 1 Kings 19, the prophet Elijah sat beneath a solitary broom tree, exhausted, broken, and consumed by despair. He cried out to the Lord: *"I have been very zealous for the Lord God of Hosts... I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away."* Elijah was convinced that he was the sole remaining worshipper of the true God in an apostate world.

How easily we fall into Elijah's trap today. We look at empty pews, shifting cultural tides, and moral uncertainty, whispering to ourselves: *"Is anyone still seeking God? Is the faith dying out?"* Yet on All Saints' Sunday, the vision in Revelation 7 shatters this illusion. When God gathers His redeemed, it will not be a fragile remnant. It will be a vast, triumphant multitude that no one can count—drawn from every nation, tribe, people, and language. Elijah was not alone, we are not alone, and God's work is immensely larger than our limited vision.

"Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb." — Revelation 7:10

THE ORIGIN AND UNITY OF THE MULTITUDE

John's vision reveals an innumerable throng standing before the throne and the Lamb, arrayed in white robes with palm branches in hand. When asked who these saints are, the elder reveals: *"These are the ones who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb"* (Rev 7:14).

This heavenly assembly includes all who have died in Christ—from famous martyrs of antiquity to faithful family members and quiet believers whose names never made a history book. They did not earn their place through human endurance, moral perfection, or spiritual pedigree. They were cleansed solely by grace through the sacrificial blood of Christ. Their unity rests not on political power or human tradition, but on a single reality: salvation belongs entirely to God and the Lamb.

THE MARKS OF THE SAINTS ON EARTH

What do these white-robed worshippers look like while walking the earth? In the Beatitudes (Matthew 5:1–12), Jesus gives us a clear portrait of the character of the saints. While the world mistakes these qualities for weakness, to God they are the marks of a life washed in the Lamb:

Poor in Spirit & Mourning: Recognizing total spiritual need, relying entirely on God's mercy, and grieving the world's brokenness.
Meek & Merciful: Walking in humble surrender to God while extending active compassion and forgiveness to others.
Pure in Heart: Seeking God with single-minded devotion and hungering for righteousness in daily life.
Peacemakers: Bringing Christ's reconciliation and peace into places of conflict and discord.

THE HOLY SPIRIT'S HIDDEN HARVEST

While we often measure God's work by what is visible in our pulpits and pews, the Holy Spirit operates on a global scale. Beneath the surface, the Spirit is relentlessly at work—drawing souls to repentance, opening blind

eyes, converting hearts, and gathering the scattered. The faithful proclamation of the Gospel throughout generations serves this grand purpose: ensuring we are united to Christ by faith and that our lives mirror His Kingdom.

THE ETERNAL REWARD AND COMFORT

Revelation 7:15–17 promises that believers will stand before God's throne, sheltered by His presence. The Lamb will be their Shepherd, leading them to springs of living water. Every earthly trial, relational heartbreak, physical pain, and grief is temporary—God Himself will gently wipe away every single tear.

Standing Among the Saints

Refuse the fatigue of Elijah under the broom tree. You are part of an unfathomable family, bought by Christ's blood, filled by His Spirit, and bound for His glory. Hold fast to faith, live out the Beatitudes, and rejoice: your name is written in heaven, and your place among the victorious multitude is secure in the Lamb.

Communion at Christ Lutheran Church

Please know that if you feel called to share in communion with us you are welcome to do so! You may also come forward for a blessing by coming to the altar as described below and crossing your arms across your chest.

When the time comes, the pastor will indicate that the choir and choral scholars will come forward. The assembly will then come forward pew-by-pew. You can follow someone easily. When you reach the altar, go to the side that corresponds to the side of the church where you have been sitting (e.g. if you sat on the right side of the center aisle, go to the right side of the altar). You may stand or kneel as you prefer.

You can hold out your hands, palms up, to receive the bread. A second person will come to give you wine. The glasses in the center section contain fruit juice. Consume the bread and then the wine (or juice).

You may choose to receive communion in the form of the bread only; this is considered not only valid but also a full and complete participation in communion.

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say
The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
And each person may respond Amen.

When you finish, you exit on the side where you took communion (e.g. to the right if you are on the right of the altar). Please place your empty glass in the container on the stand located near the first row of pews. Continue down the side aisle and then return to your seat. Thank you for worshipping with us, and may the presence of Jesus in the bread and wine remain in your heart and soul until you return to worship with us again!

Ways to Support the Mission of Christ Lutheran Church:



Online
Visit **www.christlutherankokomo.org** and click **E-GIVING** to set up a one-time or recurring donation, or to make a gift.



QR CODE
Scan the QR code to visit our online giving page.



In Person
Whether it's cash or check, we appreciate your gift. Please place your donation in an offering envelope and drop them in the offering plate at the back of the church. Thank you!