St. John's Episcopal Church
Hear the Spirit ~ See God's Beauty ~ Act in Love

The Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost
November 8, 2026 10am

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude *Allein Gott in der Hoh sei Ehr* BWV 662 J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

THE WORD OF GOD

Opening Hymn #709 *O God of Bethel, by whose hand* DUNDEE

Opening Acclamation

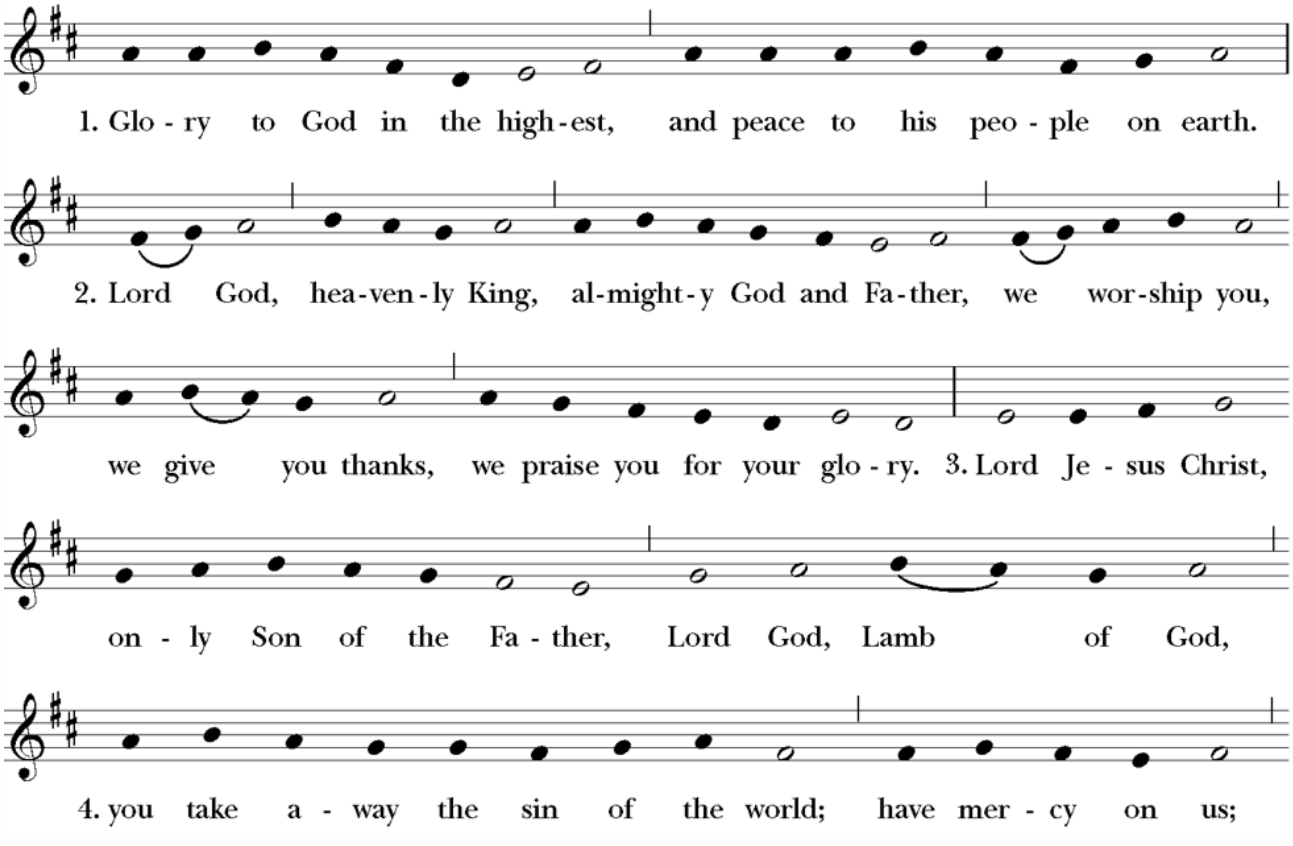
Presider Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

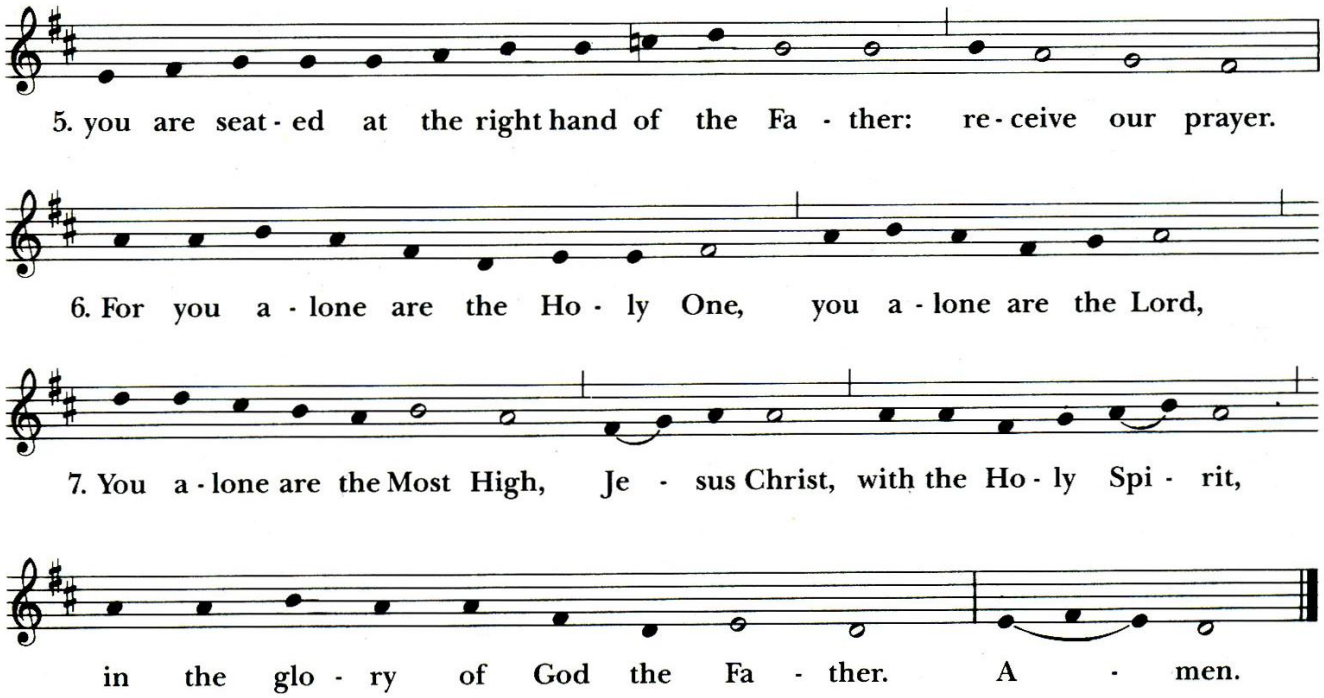
Collect for Purity

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Gloria *Hymnal S-277*

Service music is found at the beginning of the hymnal, listed in numerical order before the hymns





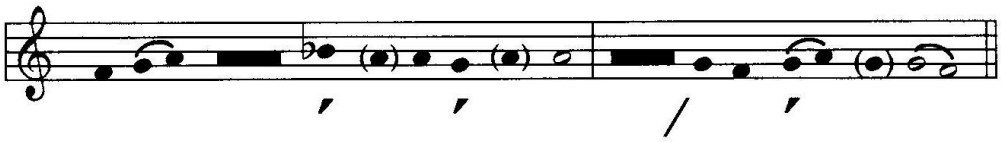
The Collect of the Day *insert*

Presider The Lord be with you
People **And also with you.**
Presider Let us pray.

The First Lesson: Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25 *insert*

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 78 Part 1 *Attendite, popule* *Tone I.2*



1 *Hear mÿ* teaching, Ó my péople; *
incline your ears to the / words of mÿ möuth.

2 I will open my móuth in a párable; *
I will declare the myster/ies of áïicient tïmes.

3 That which we have heard and known,
and what our fórefathers háve told us, *
we will not / hide from théïr childrën.

4 We will recount to generations to come
the praiseworthy deeds and the pówer óf the LORD, *
and the wonderful / works he hä́s döne.

5 He gave his decrees to Jacob
and established a law for Israel, *
which he commanded them to / teach their children;

6 That the generations to come might know,
and the children yet unborn; *
that they in their turn might tell it / to their children;

7 So that they might put their trust in God, *
and not forget the deeds of God,
but keep / his commandments;

The Second Lesson: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 *insert*

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn #68 *Rejoice! Rejoice, believers* LLANGLOFFAN

Verses 1 and 2 will be sung before the reading of the Gospel.
Verse 3 will be sung after the reading.

The Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13 *insert*

Presider The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Following the Gospel
Presider The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon The Rector

The 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:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.

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.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He 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.

The Prayers of the People

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Bishop Julia; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people.
Pray for the Church.

Silence

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people.
Pray for justice and peace.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison.
Pray for those in any need or trouble.

Silence

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him.
Pray that they may find and be found by him.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the departed.
Pray for those who have died.

Silence

I ask your prayers for Tony, Lyn, Megan, Lin, David, Gloria and Roger, Jack, Ned, Katherine, Lisa, Beth, and for those we now name either silently or aloud.

Silence

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

The Confession of Sin

The Celebrant says
Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Minister and People
Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Presider Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**
All are invited to exchange greetings of peace.

Welcome and Announcements of our Ministries — The Rector

During the Offertory Hymn, our ushers will pass the collection plate. You are welcome to make an offering by leaving cash or a check in the plate, or by scanning the QR code to donate online via Tithe.ly. Whether you are able to support our ministry financially or not, please know that you are invited to full participation in this church on exactly the same terms and conditions as God's grace and love: completely free of charge.

During the Offertory Hymn, you are invited to come forward and place your pledge card in the basket at the bottom of the stairs leading up to the altar. Pledge cards and envelopes are available in the pews.

Offertory Hymn #436 *Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates* — TRURO

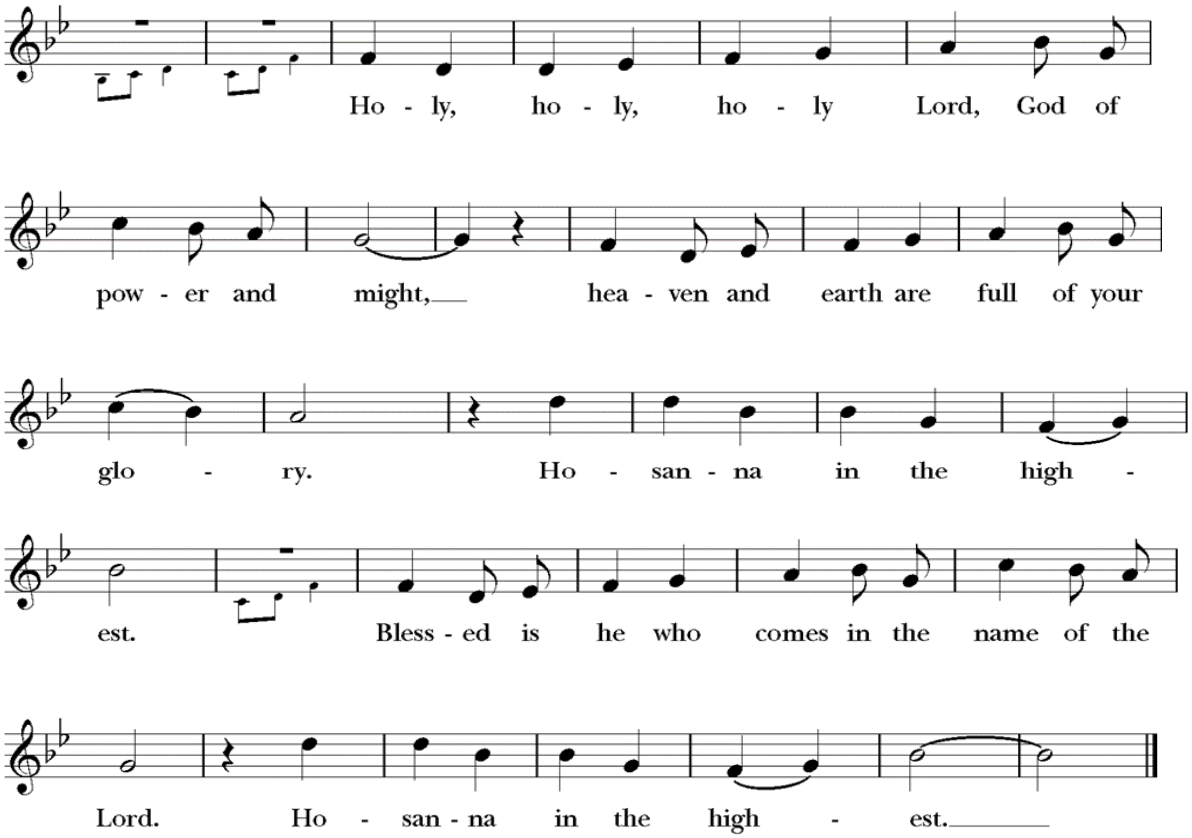
THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

The Presider gives thanks to God, continuing until the words
Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name.

The Sanctus S-127



The Presider continues to give thanks, and invites all to join in

Presider Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:
All **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

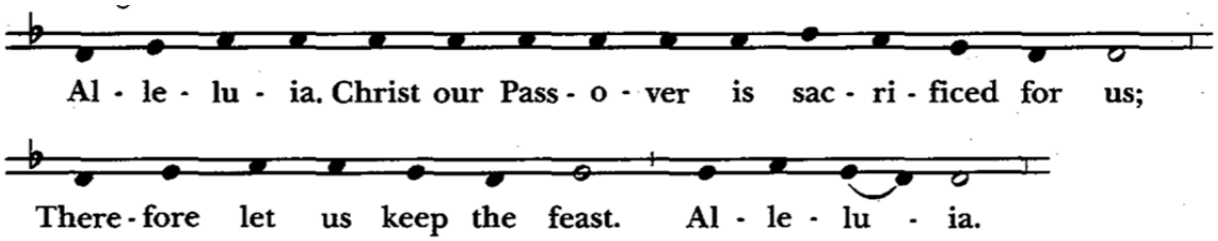
The Presider continues praying, concluding with
Presider All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.
All **AMEN.**

Presider And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.



All who seek to receive Christ in the sacrament of this meal are welcome to partake of the bread and wine.

Communion Anthem *Now let us rise and hymn the grace*
Christoph Ernst Friedrich Weyse (1774-1842)

The Postcommunion Prayer *Please stand as able.*

Presider Let us pray.
People **Almighty and everliving God,**
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Blessing

Closing Hymn #690 *Guide me, O thou great Jehovah* CWM RHONDDA

The Dismissal

Presider Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude *Allein Gott in der Hoh sei Ehr* BWV 715 Bach

The flowers on the altar were arranged by Nancy Armstrong

Ministers Serving Today:
The Rev. Greg Johnston, Presider
Douglas Witte, Organist
Tommy Bresler, Vestry Person of the Day
Tommy Bresler and Augusta Fry, Readers
Jen DiManno, Intercessor
Duncan Holbrook-Smith, Chalice Bearer
Cary Cox, Altar Guild
Joanne Graziano and Jen DiManno, Ushers
Louise Ambler Osborn, Kate Gunsch and Simon Ringrose, Refreshment Hosts

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today is Ingathering Day for our 2026 Stewardship Campaign. During the Offertory Hymn, you are invited to come forward and place your pledge card in the basket at the bottom of the stairs leading up to the altar. Pledge cards and envelopes are available in the pews.

A big THANK YOU to all Harvest Fair donors, **volunteers and attendees!** It was a wonderful day of welcoming friends and neighbors to share a meal and conversation … and do a bit of shopping.

The church office will be closed this coming Thursday, November 12.

FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Tuesday, December 1: Pizza and Carol Singing, 5:45pm
Saturday, December 12: Lessons and Carols, 5pm
Sunday, December 20: Christmas Pageant
Thursday, December 24: Christmas Eve (4pm service)