

LEADER’S SCRIPT
Christ the King Sunday
Holy Communion, ELW Setting Ten
Sunday, November 23, 2025

PRELUDE

Andante

by Handel

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Faithful God,
**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.

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.
Amen.

GATHERING SONG

Crown Him with Many Crowns
(verses 1, 3, 5)

(ELW 855)

1 Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne;
 2 Crown him the vir - gin's Son, the God in - car - nate born,
 3 Crown him the Lord of love— be - hold his hands and side,
 4 Crown him the Lord of life, who tri - umphed o'er the grave
 5 Crown him the Lord of years, the po - ten - tate of time,

hark, how the heav'n-ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own.
 whose arm those crim - son tro - phies won which now his brow a - dorn;
 rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied.
 and rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those he came to save.
 cre - a - tor of the roll - ing spheres, in - ef - fab - ly sub - lime.

A - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
 fruit of the mys - tic rose, yet of that rose the stem,
 No an - gels in the sky can ful - ly bear that sight,
 His glo - ries now we sing, who died and rose on high,
 All hail, Re - deem - er, hail! For thou hast died for me;

and hail him as thy match-less king through all e - ter - ni - ty.
 the root whence mer - cy ev - er flows, the babe of Beth - le - hem.
 but down - ward bend their burn - ing eyes at mys - ter - ies so bright.
 who died, e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives that death may die.
 thy praise and glo - ry shall not fail through-out e - ter - ni - ty.

APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY (ELW p. 205)

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.
Amen.

(Be seated)

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Pastor Amy Gillespie

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.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 46 *(sung responsively)*

- ¹ God is our ref-^luge and strength,
a very present^l help in trouble.
- ² **Therefore we will not fear, though the^l earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths^l of the sea;**
- ³ though its waters^l rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble^l with its tumult.
- ⁴ **There is a river whose streams make glad the cit-^ly of God,
the holy habitation of^l the Most High.**
- ⁵ God is in the midst of the city; it shall^l not be shaken;
God shall help it at the^l break of day.
- ⁶ **The nations rage, and the^l kingdoms shake;
God speaks, and the earth^l melts away.**
- ⁷ The Lord of^l hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob^l is our stronghold.
- ⁸ **Come now, regard the works^l of the Lord,
what desolations God has brought up-^l on the earth;**
- ⁹ behold the one who makes war to cease in^l all the world;
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the^l shields with fire.
- ¹⁰ **“Be still, then, and know that^l I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted^l in the earth.”**
- ¹¹ The Lord of^l hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob^l is our stronghold.

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.

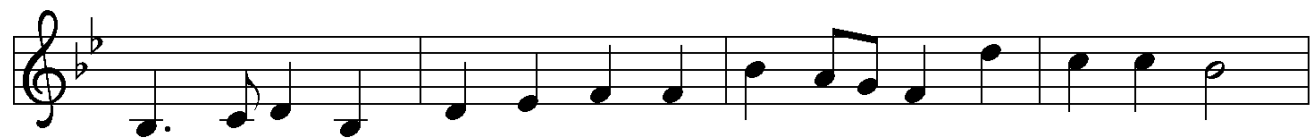
¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, ¹⁶ for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷ He himself is before all things, 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.

Thanks be to God.

(please stand as you are able)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 205)



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

GOSPEL: Luke 23:33-43

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

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.

Praise to you, O Christ.

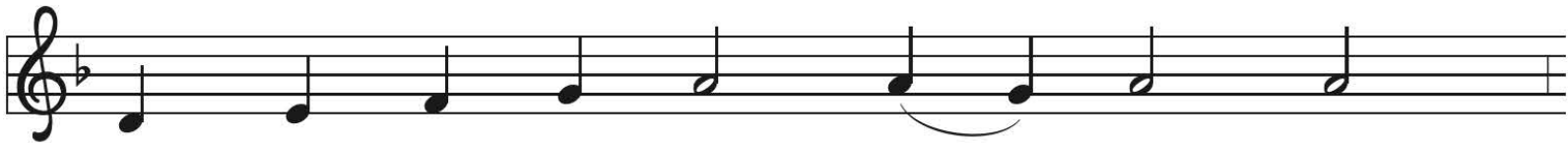
(be seated)

(please stand as you are able)

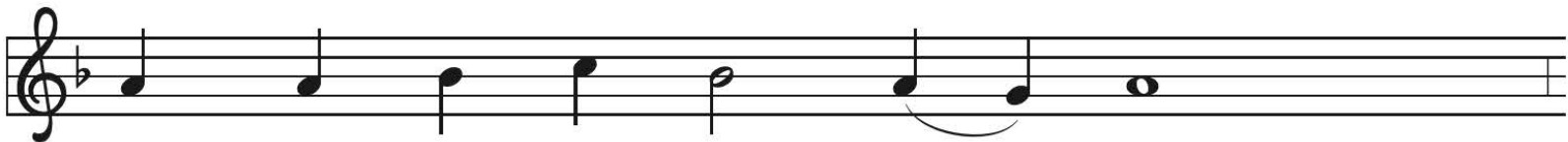
HYMN OF THE DAY

You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd

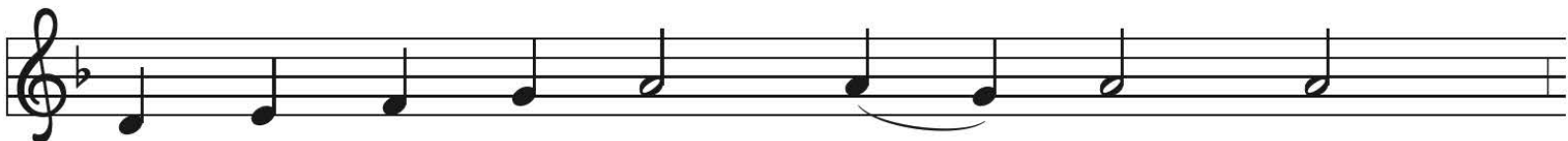
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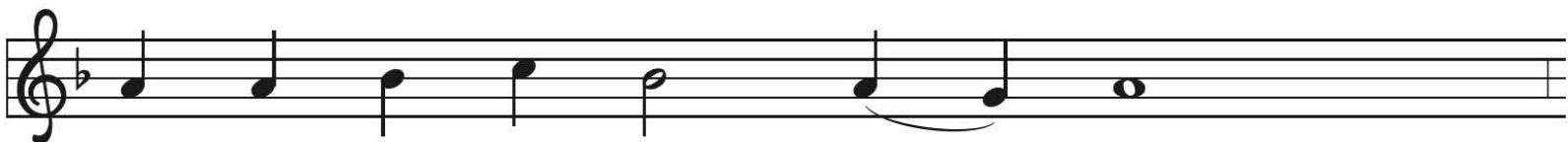
1 You, Lord, are both Lamb and Shep - herd.
2 Clothed in light up - on the moun - tain,
3 You, who walk each day be - side us,
4 Wor - thy is our earth - ly Je - sus!



You, Lord, are both prince and slave.
stripped of might up - on the cross,
sit in pow - er at God's side.
Wor - thy is our cos - mic Christ!



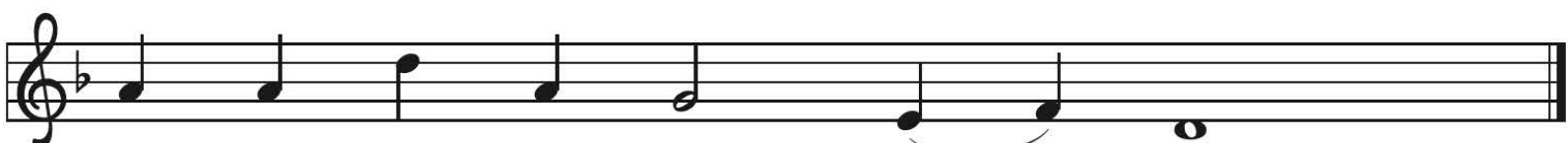
You, peace - mak - er and sword - bring - er
shin - ing in e - ter - nal glo - ry,
You, who preach a way that's nar - row,
Wor - thy your de - feat and vic - t'ry;



of the way you took and gave.
beg - gared by a sol - dier's toss,
have a love that reach - es wide.
wor - thy still your peace and strife.



You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;
you, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;
You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;
You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;



you, whom we both scorn and crave.
you, who are both gift and cost.
you, who are our pil - grim and guide.
you, who are our death and life.

(be seated)

YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY UPDATE

Melinda Voelcker

COMMISSIONING OF YOUTH SEARCH COMMITTEE

Dear friends: United with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, we are joined in God’s mission for the life of the world. We are called to that mission in our daily lives and in the ministries we share as the church of God.

Today it is our privilege to recognize and support those who are engaged in the work of this congregation, especially those we are commissioning to lead a search for our next Youth Ministry Coordinator.

Sisters and brothers, both your work and your rest are in God.
Will you endeavor to pattern your life on the Lord Jesus Christ,
in gratitude to God and in service to others,
as you carry out the search for a Youth Ministry Coordinator?
Response: I will, and I ask God to help me.

(please stand as you are able)

People of God, I ask you:
Will you support these your *sisters and brothers* in their service,
and will you share in the mutual ministry that Christ has given to all who are baptized?
We will, and we ask God to help us.

Let us pray.
We give you thanks, O God,
for all who respond to the call to serve in your name.
Give them joy and fulfillment, care and guidance in their tasks.
Help us all to give willingly and to receive thankfully the gifts of ministry,
that your name may be glorified,
your people live in peace,
and your will be done;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*Prayers ** Each week throughout the year we pray for several St. James households by name. The congregation is welcome to pray for persons by their first names when invited to do so. You are encouraged to pray some of the names of those who are listed on the Prayer List. After each portion of the prayers:*

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

The prayers conclude:

We offer these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your grace and unyielding love;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

PEACE (ELW p. 143)
The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

(be seated)

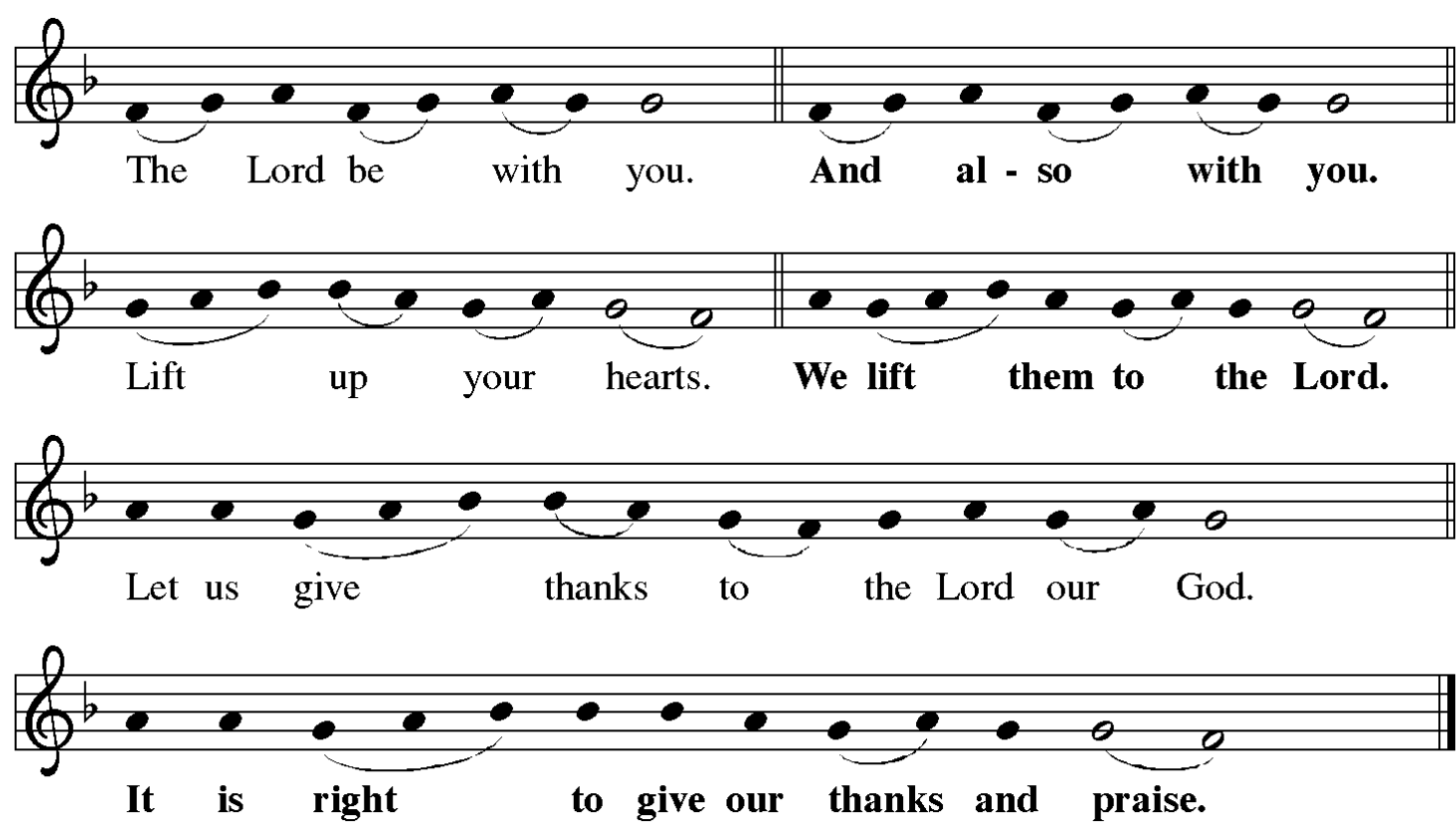
The Lord is gracious and compassionate. Slow to anger, and rich in love. And the Lord is good to all. He has compassion on all that he has made. As far as the east is from the west, that's how far He has removed our transgressions from us. Praise the Lord, O my soul, Praise the Lord.

(please stand as you are able)

OFFERING PRAYER

God of healing and hope,
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.

GREAT THANKSGIVING (ELW p. 206)



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.

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:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 207)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE (ELW p. 207)

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
 heaven and earth are full of your glory. . . .

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
 we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
 and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
 the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
 to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
 be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

LORD’S PRAYER (ELW p. 208)

**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

There is a place for you at the table of God.
 Come, receive the food that does not perish,
 a taste of life eternal.
 All are welcome at the Lord’s table.
Amen.

(be seated)

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

Our Lord Jesus welcomes you to this Holy meal. The crucified and risen Christ is present in the Lord’s Supper, giving us his true body and blood as food and drink. We will serve those who are not able to come to the altar first by bringing them the bread and the wine through intinction. Once those members are served, we will have communion at the rails. For those unable to consume wine are able to commune fully by receiving only the wafer. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. Children may come and receive a blessing and/or communion. Please process up the center aisle. Please take a cup from the Usher, kneel at the altar to receive the bread and the wine. Please return to your seats via the side aisles.

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
Amen.

LAMB OF GOD (ELW p. 208)



1

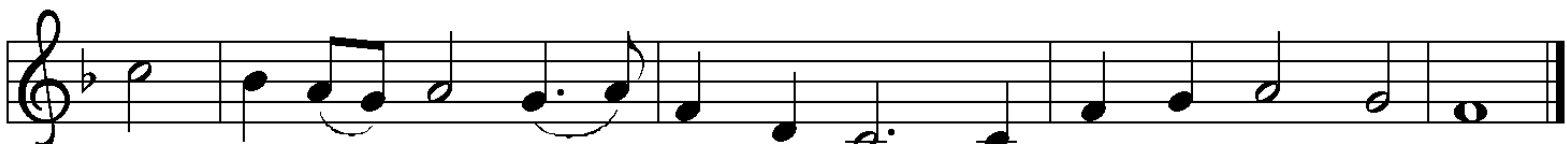
O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;

2

O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;

3

O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.

you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.

e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

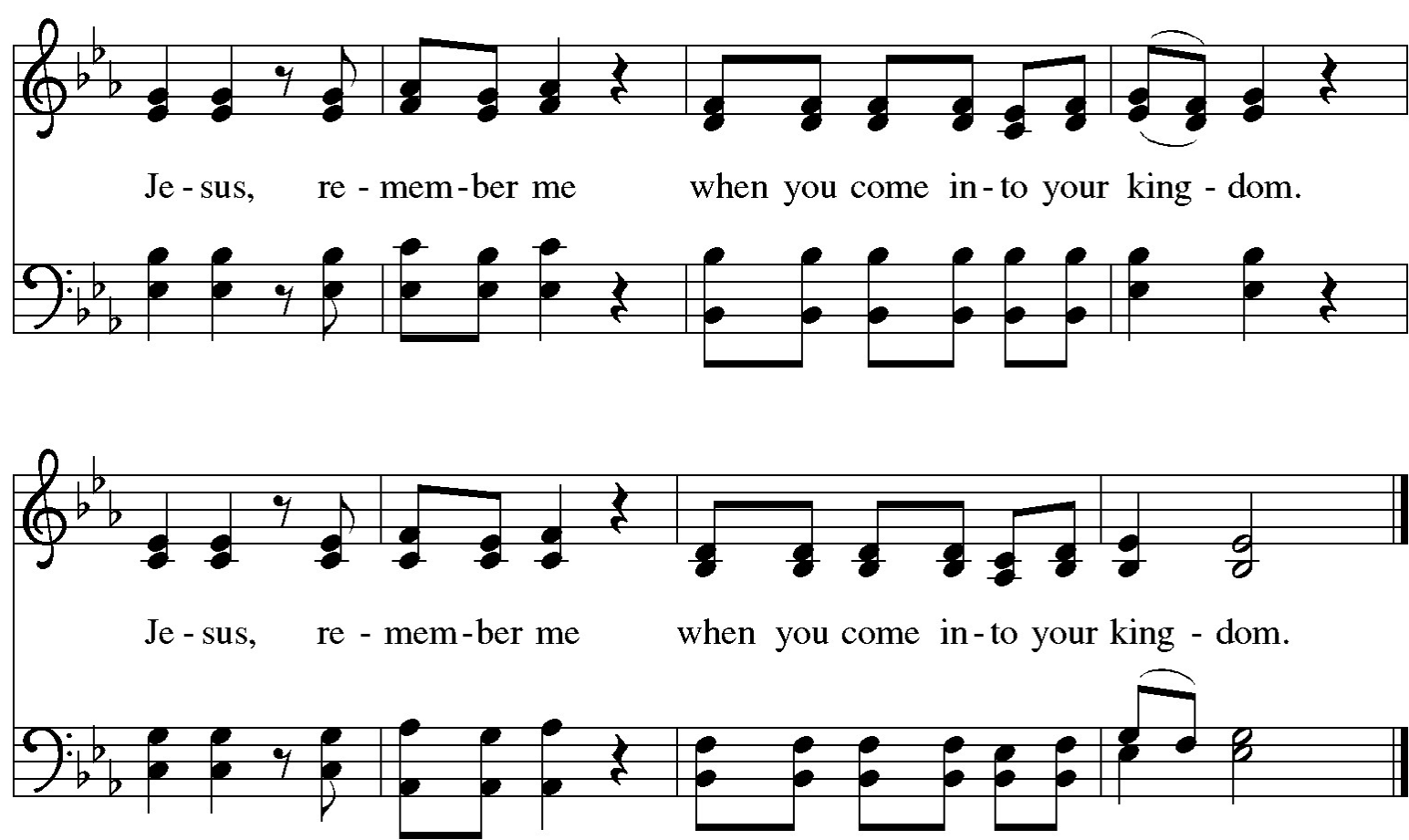
COMMUNION SONG

Be the Centre

by Michael Frey, Kathryn Scott

*^(v1) Jesus, be the centre. Be my source, be my light, Jesus. ^(v2) Jesus, be the centre. Be my hope, be my song, Jesus. **Chorus** Be the fire in my heart, be the wind in these sails, be the reason I live Jesus, Jesus. Jesus, be my vision. Be my path my guide, Jesus. **Chorus** Be the fire in my heart, be the wind in these sails, be the reason I live Jesus, Jesus. ^(v3) Jesus, be the centre. Be my source, be my light, Jesus. Jesus, be the centre.*

Please remain seated for Post Communion Song. Pastor sings the whole song once, then the Congregation sings the second time through responsively.



Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

(please stand as you are able)

COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of field and flower, wheat and grape,
you have nourished us with the bread of heaven
that gives life to the world.
Strengthened by the body and blood of your Son,
send us out to gather your good gifts for all who
hunger and thirst,
and embolden us to love and serve in Christ’s name.
Amen.

BLESSING

The love of God the Sovereign strengthen you,
God the Son save you,
and God the Holy Spirit anoint you for the work ahead.
The holy Trinity bless you ✚
and grant you a faithful and courageous heart
now and forever.
Amen

FINAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

1 Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun does its suc -
 2 To him shall end - less prayer be made, and prais - es
 3 Peo - ple and realms of ev - 'ry tongue dwell on his
 4 Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er he reigns: the pris - 'ners
 5 Let ev - 'ry crea - ture rise and bring pe - cu - liar

ces - sive jour - neys run; his king - dom stretch from
 throng to crown his head; his name like sweet per -
 love with sweet - est song; and in - fant voic - es
 leap to lose their chains, the wea - ry find e -
 hon - ors to our king; an - gels de - scend with

shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.
 fume shall rise with ev - 'ry morn - ing sac - ri - fice.
 shall pro - claim their ear - ly bless - ings on his name.
 ter - nal rest, and all who suf - fer want are blest.
 songs a - gain, and earth re - peat the loud a - men.

DISMISSAL
 Go in peace. Share the harvest.
 Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *Jesus Shall Reign* by Richard Wienhorst



ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH
LAKE FOREST, ILLINOIS

Worship Leaders for Sunday, November 23, 2025

Pastor	Pastor Amy Gillespie
Assisting Minister	Shelly Holmstrom
Reader	Barb Davoux
Cantor	Pastor Amy Gillespie
Organist	Wendy Unrath
Communion Assistants	Nancy Clemens & Teresa Miller
Usher	?? & Detlef Koska
Greeters	Emily & Tom Bohac
Altar Guild	Lisa Kollmorgen
Coffee Host	Jim Davoux
Counter	Jim Davoux & Shelly Holmstrom
DEL (Designated Emergency Leader)	Ron Koepke
Open/Close Council Member	Scott Larson
Musicians	Stacy Eppel

hello@stjameslutheran.org

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

847-234-4859

Please be aware that we have upgraded our phones here at St. James Lutheran Church. Please listen to the recording carefully when you call in. Here are the steps per the recording:

PRESS 1	SERVICE TIMES
PRESS 2	OFFICE
PRESS 3	PASTORAL CARE
PRESS 4	DIRECTORY x 2401 – Pastor Amy x 2402 – Front Office (Joan Krikau) x 2403 – Facilities / Property (Pete Clemens) x 2404 – Christian Ed x 2405 – Operations / Communications (Stacy Eppel)