Welcome to Worship at Zion Lutheran Church

Sunday, November 12, 2023 9:00 am

Lake Morgan at Camp Emmaus Photo by Dave Dalager

Welcome and Announcements

Prayer Threads Work Day Sunday, November 19 11:00 am – 3:00 pm

Come help make prayer blankets or pocket prayer squares. Or bring your own project to work on and share in a time of fellowship.

You are welcome to bring snacks or treats to share with the group. Plus, we will be ordering pizza from North Country Convenience.

the power of a simple gift

Not much time left! The deadline to drop off completed shoeboxes is November 16.

Check out the display in the Gathering Space for more information and to pick up shoeboxes to fill.



Operation Child

a project of Samaritan's Purse

Thrivent Give Thanks and Give Back Food Shelf Challenge ends today!

Stay after the service to take pictures. If you remembered to bring your Thrivent t-shirt better yet!



Make a difference for our local food shelf.

My Lord, What a Morning ELW #438

Text: African American spiritual. Music: African American spiritual. Public domain.

You will hear the trumpet sound, to wake the nations underground, looking to my God's right hand, when the stars begin to fall.

You will hear the sinner cry, to wake the nations underground, looking to my God's right hand, when the stars begin to fall.

You will hear the Christian shout, to wake the nations underground, looking to my God's right hand, when the stars begin to fall.

Confession and Forgiveness

- L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved.
- C: Amen.

Silence is kept for reflection.

L: Holy One,

C: we confess that we are not awake for you. We are not faithful in using your gifts. We forget the least of our siblings. We do not see your beautiful image in one another. We are infected by sin that divides your beloved community. **Open our hearts to your coming,** open our eyes to see you in our neighbor, open our hands to serve your creation. Amen.

L: Beloved, we are God's children, and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us. Through + Jesus you are forgiven, by Jesus you are welcome, in Jesus you are called to rejoice! Let us live in the promises prepared for us from the foundation of the world.

C: Amen.

Greeting

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

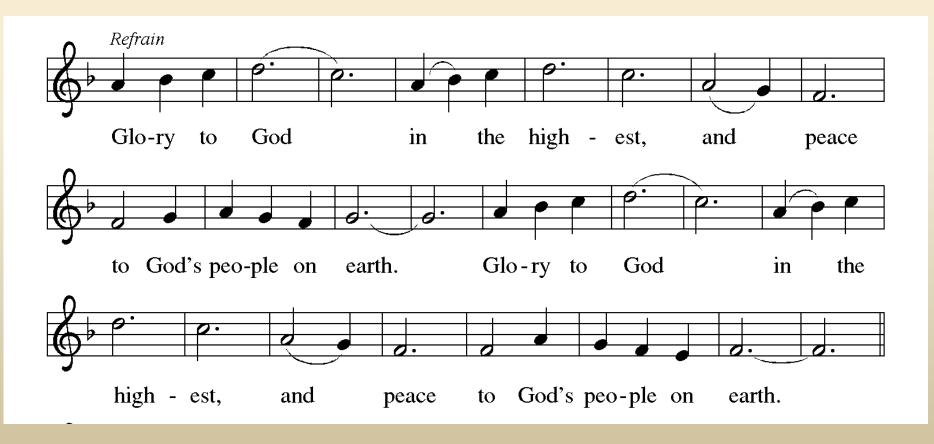
C: And also with you.

Kyrie

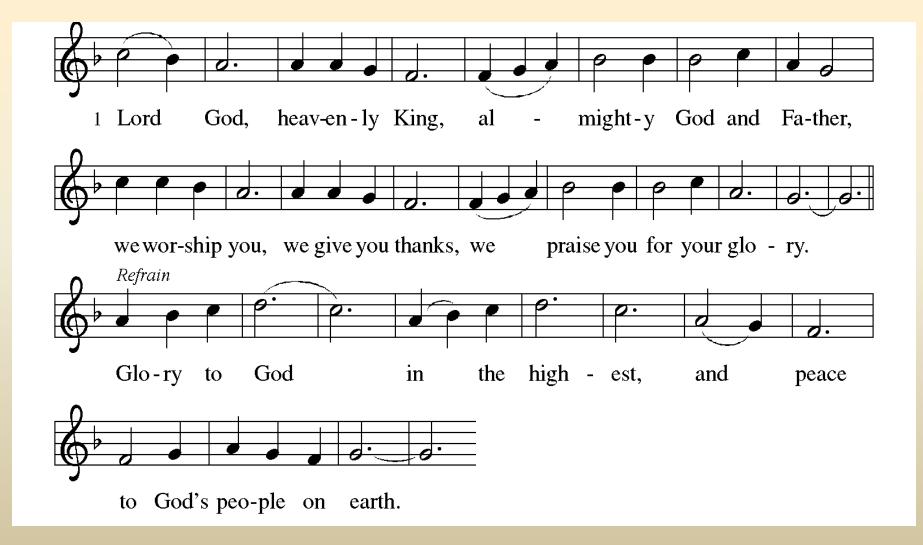
- L: In peace let us pray to the Lord.
- C: Lord, have mercy.
- L: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
- C: Lord have mercy.
- L: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.
- C: Lord, have mercy.

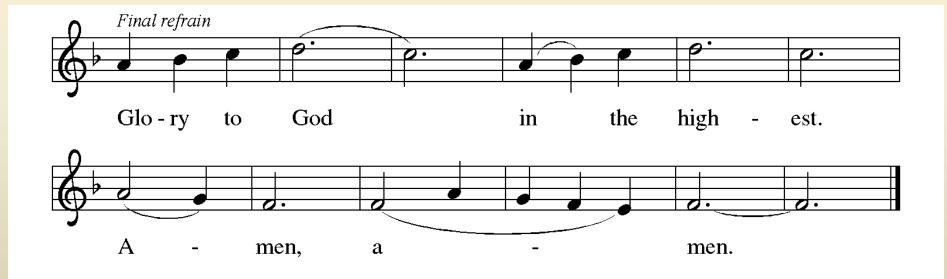
- L: For this holy house,and for all who offer here their worship and praise,let us pray to the Lord.
- C: Lord, have mercy.
- L: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- C: Amen.

Hymn of Praise



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L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

- L: O God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C: Amen.

First Reading: Amos 5:18-24

In the days of Amos, people thought that the day of the LORD would be a time of great victory, but Amos announced that it would be a day of darkness, not light. He said liturgy is no substitute for obedience. The LORD demands justice and righteousness in the community.

¹⁸Alas for you who desire the day of the LORD! Why do you want the day of the LORD? It is darkness, not light; ¹⁹as if someone fled from a lion, and was met by a bear; or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall, and was bitten by a snake. ²⁰Is not the day of the LORD darkness, not light, and gloom with no brightness in it?

²¹I hate, I despise your festivals, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies. ²²Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them; and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals I will not look upon. ²³Take away from me the noise of your songs; I will not listen to the melody of your harps. ²⁴But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 70

 L: ¹Be pleased, O God, to deliver me; O LORD, make haste to help me.
 C: ²Let those who seek my life be put to shame and confounded; let those who take pleasure in my misfortune draw back and be disgraced.

- L: ³Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat over me turn back because of their shame.
 C: ⁴Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; let those who love your salvation say forever, "Great is the LORD!"
- L: ⁵But as for me, I am poor and needy; come to me quickly, O God. You are my helper and my deliverer; O LORD, do not tarry.

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

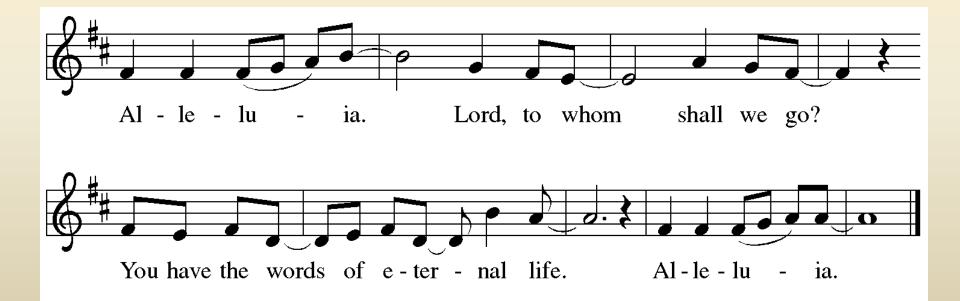
Some of the Thessalonians are worried that dead Christians will be excluded from the resurrection to eternal life when Christ comes again. Paul reassures them with the word of hope that all Christians, living or dead, will be raised into everlasting life with Christ.

¹³We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. ¹⁴For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. ¹⁵For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died.

¹⁶For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. ¹⁸Therefore encourage one another with these words. L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation



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L: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13

Jesus tells a parable about his own second coming, emphasizing the need for readiness at all times.

Jesus said to the disciples: ¹"Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. ²Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; ⁴but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. ⁵As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. ⁶But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' ⁷Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. ⁸The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' ⁹But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.'

¹⁰And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. ¹¹Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' ¹²But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' ¹³Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour." L: The Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.



Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

ELW #244

Text: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660-1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823-1907. Music: Swedish folk tune. Public Domain.

1.

Rejoice, rejoice, believers,
and let your lights appear;
the evening is advancing,
and darker night is near.
The bridegroom is arising
and soon is drawing nigh.
Up, pray and watch and wrestle;
at midnight comes the cry.

The watchers on the mountain proclaim the bridegroom near; go forth as he approaches with alleluias clear. The marriage feast is waiting; the gates wide open stand. Arise, O heirs of glory; the bridegroom is at hand.

2.

The saints, who here in patience their cross and suff'rings bore, shall live and reign forever when sorrow is no more. Around the throne of glory the Lamb they shall behold; in triumph cast before him their diadems of gold.

3.

Our hope and expectation, O Jesus, now appear; arise, O Sun so longed for, o'er this benighted sphere. With hearts and hands uplifted, we plead, O Lord, to see the day of earth's redemption that sets your people free!

4.

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.



Praise and Thanksgiving

ELW #689 vv. 1, 2

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Praise and thanksgiving, God, we would offer for all things living, you have made good: harvest of sown fields, fruits of the orchard, hay from the mown fields, blossom and wood.

God, bless the labor we bring to serve you, that with our neighbor we may be fed. Sowing or tilling, we would work with you, harvesting, milling for daily bread.

Offering Prayer

- L: God of all goodness, generations have turned to you, gathered around your table, and shared your abundant blessings. Number us among them that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance, and give thanks for your rich blessings, we may feast upon your very self and care for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant.
- C: Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

Response after each petition: L: Hear us, O God.

- C: Your mercy is great.
- L: We offer our spoken prayers and those held in our hearts trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.
 C: Amen.

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. 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.

Blessing

May the God of all creation, L: in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved, who strengthens us for service, give you reason to rejoice and be glad! The blessing of God, Sovereign, H Savior, and Spirit, be with you today and always. C: Amen.

Soon and Very Soon ELW #439

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Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King, soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King, soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King. Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're goin' to see the King. No more cryin' there, we are goin' to see the King, no more cryin' there, we are goin' to see the King, no more cryin' there, we are goin' to see the King. Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're goin' to see the King. No more dyin' there, we are goin' to see the King, no more dyin' there, we are goin' to see the King, no more dyin' there, we are goin' to see the King. Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're goin' to see the King. Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King, soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King, soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King. Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're goin' to see the King.

Hallelujah, hallelujah, Hallelujah, hallelujah.

Dismissal

L: Beloved of God, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.C: Amen.

Thank you for worshipping with us!

God bless you!

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