Cross of Glory

Lutheran Church & School



Last Sunday of End Times

November 22, 2026

623-224-8839 www.crossofglory.org

Pastor Zachary Pudlo

Mr. Andrew Aguilar, Principal

Sunday 9am Worship

Growing in Faith — Living in Grace — Sharing His Glory

Welcome to our Worship Center

God defines a church as people gathering around Word and Sacrament.
As you join us in this gathering, we pray that Jesus' peace and power will fill you.

Worship Focus



The cartoon character holds a sign saying, "The End Is Near." For Christians, this is not a message of fear. Instead, it is a message of watchful hope. Scripture teaches that the End Times began with Christ's first coming, especially his death and resurrection. Christ will come again on judgment day. Now we live in that in-between time, when salvation has been won, but full glory is still to come. It's the beginning of the end. Jesus himself makes clear that no one knows the day or hour of his return. This uncertainty is not meant to trouble us, but to keep us spiritually awake. Each day becomes an opportunity to live in repentance and faith, turning from sin and trusting fully in Christ's finished work for us. Our preparation for the end is not about trying to predict signs or earn God's favor. Instead, it is about remaining rooted in Jesus: hearing the Word, receiving the sacraments, and trusting the promises of forgiveness. These are God's ways of keeping us ready. "**The Beginning of the End**" reminds us that history is moving toward our own death and toward Christ's return. For believers, that end is truly a beginning. Our path through the last weeks of the church year is:

Oct 4	Speak Truth to Power	Nov 1	Focus on the Future
Oct 11	Invite the Unworthy	Nov 8	Watch for the Final Events
Oct 18	Give to God What is God's	Nov 15	Put Your Affairs in Order
Oct 25	Stay Steadfast	**Nov 22**	**Hope for the Best**

Consider the Christian man whose body aches from both cancer and chemo. Or the Christian woman whose back is arched by time and whose fingers are twisted by arthritis. They may pray for death, hoping for something better. But their hope is not a prayerful wish. It is an expectation of the end of sorrow and pain and the beginning of a perfect eternity with Jesus. We have come to the end of the Church Year. It is time to talk about the end of the world on judgment day. That day does not scare the believer. The first time Christ came, he saved us from our sin and the accusations of the devil. The second time he comes, he will save us from everything else. It will be the best! Disease, abuse, heartache, even death—all gone. We will exist forever with the Lord Jesus. Now is the beginning of the end. We yearn for Christ to come again and usher us into the best possible life of everlasting glory.

Visitor Information

New to Cross of Glory? We are so glad you joined us today! We invite you to stay after the service to chat and join us for coffee time.

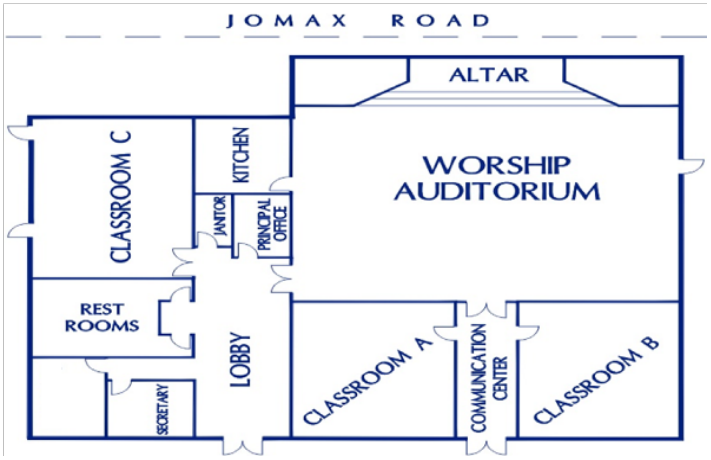
Would you like to learn more about us? We'd love to get to know you better as well. Connect with Cross of Glory by either:

Scanning this QR Code

--OR--

Emailing us at church. secretary@crossofglory.org

Church Map



Families with Children

- **Restrooms with changing tables located in lobby.**
- **Nursery for toddlers 2 years and younger accompanied by adult in Classroom A.**
- **Children in Church Program: Worship is a family affair, something that children best learn from their parents. We encourage parents to guide their children through the service. We invite children to come forward for the Children's Message during the service. Let's work together to bring up the next generation in the Word of the Lord!**

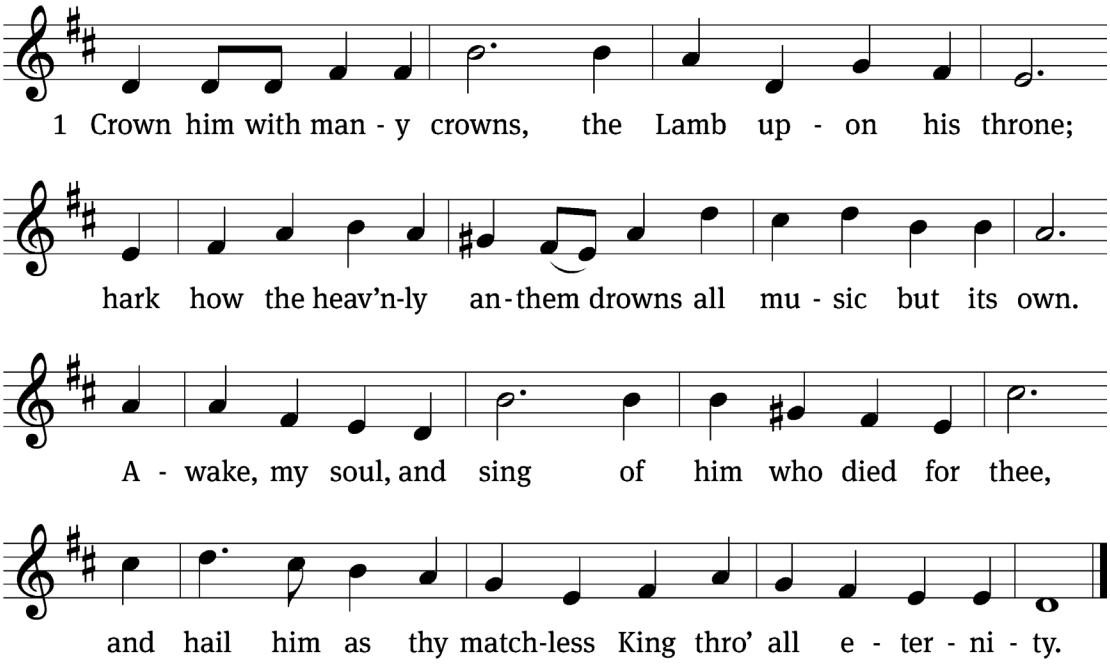
The Gathering

(Read Responsively - CWH511)

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Congregation sings:

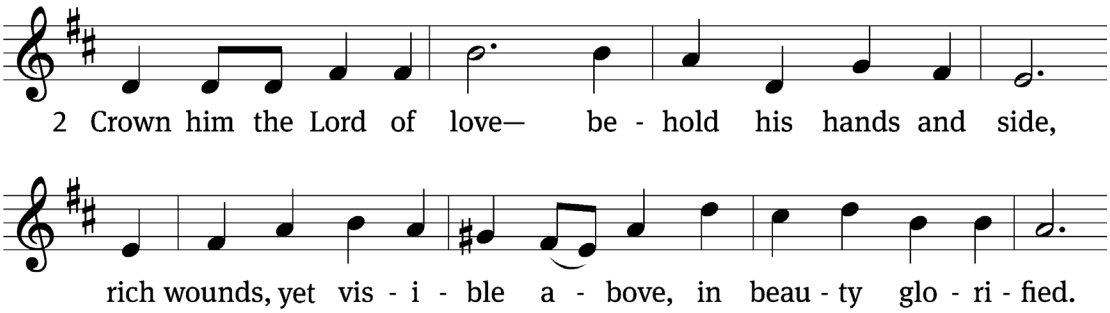


M: Grace and peace to you from him who is, and who was, and who is to come, and from the seven spirits before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

C: To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by sins by his blood, and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father - to him be glory and power forever and ever! Amen.

M: "The days are coming," declares the Lord, "when I will raise up to David a righteous Branch, a King who will reign wisely and do what is just and right in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. This is the name by which he will be called: The Lord Our Righteousness."

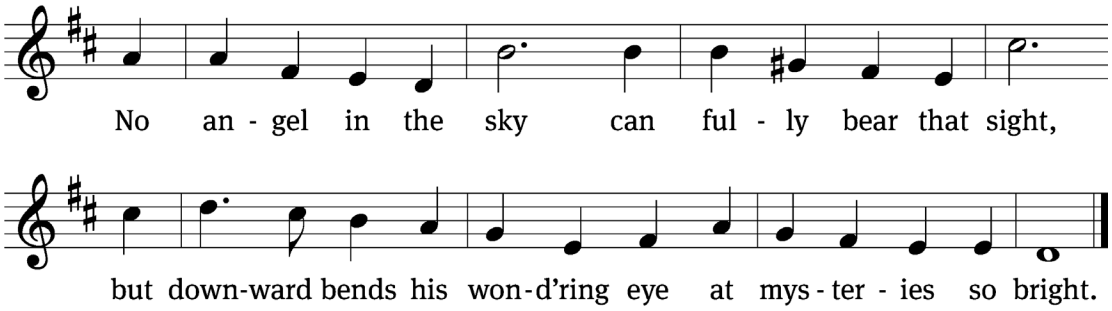
Congregation sings:





Today, we are making use of a gathering rite. Gathering rites are used to combine word and song into a a package: confession, God's proclamation of forgiveness, and priase focus our attention on a specific time of the church year.

As we begin our liturgy, we call upon our Trune God- Father, Son, and Holy SPirit- asking him to gather us and gather with us. With these words we are reminded of our baptism and how God connected us to our King through baptism. May all of our prayers, songs, and worship glorify our King, who gave us his own name as our possession in baptsim!





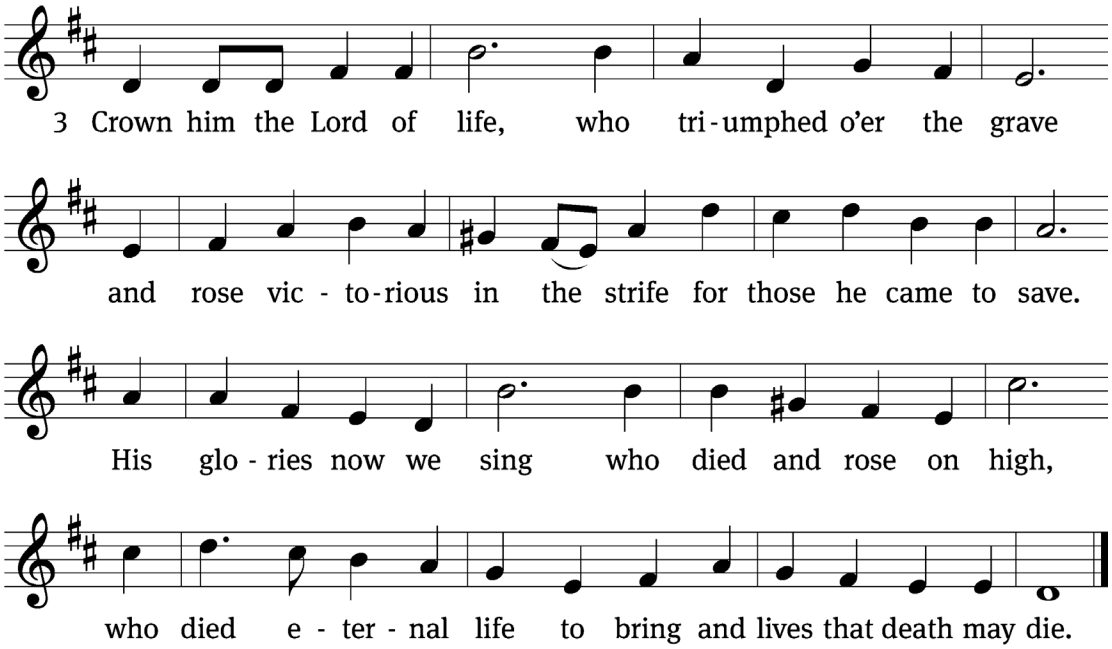
"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. "

(I John 1:9)

M: We have come to worship our King, but if we examine our life and our human nature, we find ourselves unworthy to stand in his presence. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

C: I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior, Christ the King, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

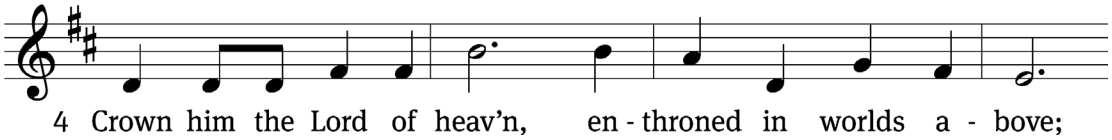
CONGREGATION SINGS:

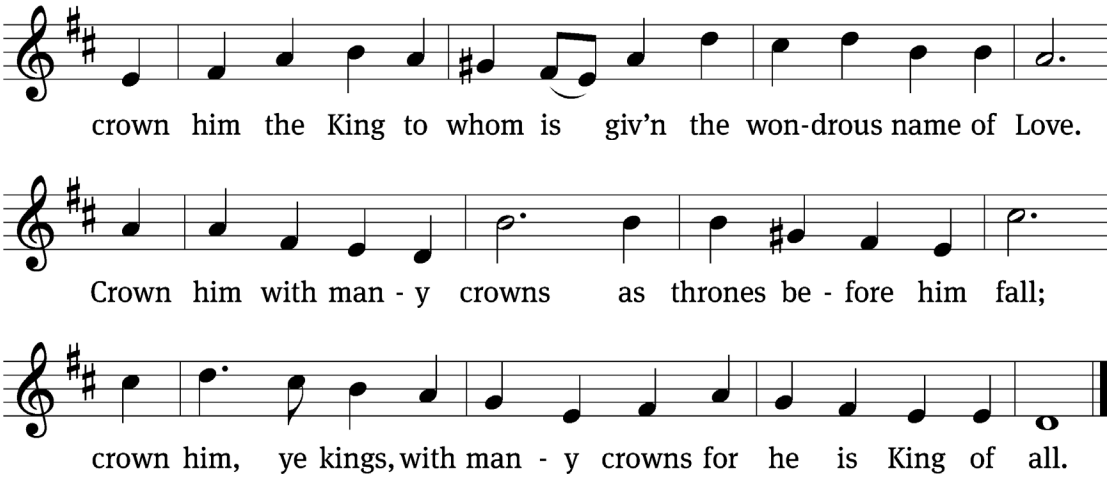


Christ said to his disciples, "If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven". The pastor speaks for God and announces God's forgiveness to those who made confession.

M: Christ, our King has won your forgiveness through his death and resurrection. In his stead and by his command, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Let us praise our King for the new life he gives us.

CONGREGATION SINGS:





Text: Matthew Bridges, 1800–1894, abr., alt.Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816–1893 Text and tune: Public domain

Prayer of the Day

(Spoken by Minister)



The main thoughts of the day are collected or summarized in this short prayer.

M: Lord Jesus Christ, by your victory you have broken the power of the evil one. Fill our hearts with joy and peace as we look with hope to that day when every creature in heaven and earth will acclaim you King of kings and Lord of lords to your unending praise and glory; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

First Reading

Daniel 7:9–10, 13–14



The prophet Daniel sees a vision of the last judgment that is filled with fire and thrones and books—and a Savior.

9 I continued to watch until thrones were set up, and the Ancient of
Days was seated. His clothing was white as snow, and the hair on his
head was like pure wool. His throne was flames of fire. Its wheels were
blazing fire. 10 A river of fire flowed out from his presence. Thousands
upon thousands served him, and ten thousand times ten thousand
stood before him. The court was seated, and books were opened.

13 I kept watching the night visions, and there, in the clouds of heaven,
I saw one like a son of man coming. He came to the Ancient of Days,
and he was brought before him. 14 To him was given dominion, honor,
and a kingdom. All peoples, nations, and languages will worship him.
His dominion is an eternal dominion that will not pass away, and his
kingdom is one that will not be destroyed.

Choir

Fix Our Eyes

Words and Music by Heather Sorenson

Children's Message

(All children are invited to sit in front with Pastor)



When Christ comes again, he will raise the dead, and death shall be forever ended.

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 4:13–18

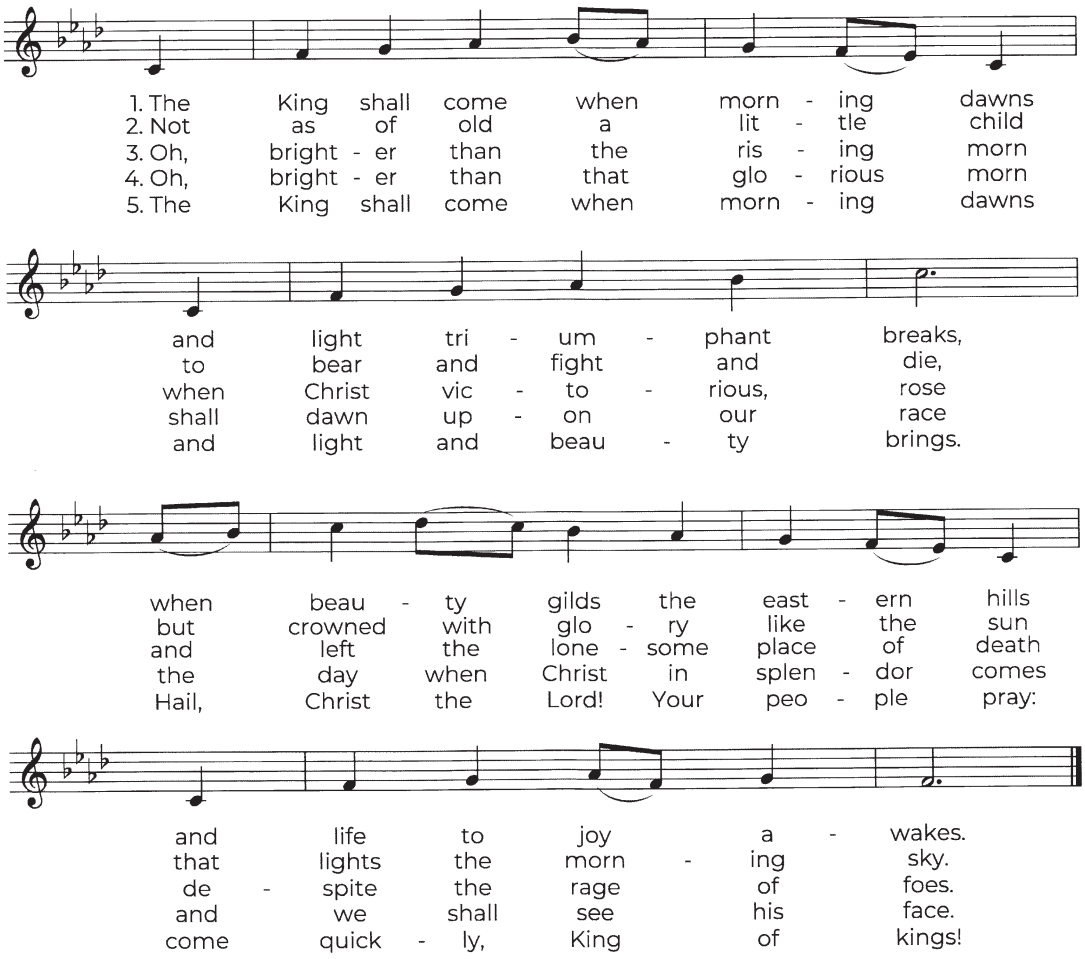
13 We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who
have fallen asleep, so that you do not grieve in the same way as the
others, who have no hope. 14 Indeed, if we believe that Jesus died and
rose again, then in the same way we also believe that God will bring
with him those who have fallen asleep through Jesus.
15 In fact, we tell you this by the word of the Lord: We who are alive
and left until the coming of the Lord will certainly not go on ahead of
those who have fallen asleep. 16 For the Lord himself will come down
from heaven with a loud command, with the voice of an archangel,
and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first.
17 Then 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 al-
ways be with the Lord. 18 Therefore, encourage one another with these
words.



This hymn follows the theme of the readings and sets the stage for the sermon.

Hymn of the Day: The King Shall Come

CW25



Sermon

Matthew 25:31–46

In the sermon the Pastor proclaims God's Word and applies that word to modern life and problems. He stresses both what God demands of us (the Law) and what God does for us through Jesus Christ (the Gospel).

31 "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with
him, he will sit on his glorious throne. 32 All the nations will be gath-
ered in his presence, and he will separate them one from another, as a
shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. 33 He will put the sheep
on his right and the goats on his left.
34 "Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are
blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the
foundation of the world. 35 For I was hungry and you gave me food to
eat. I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink. I was a stranger
and you welcomed me. 36 I was lacking clothes and you clothed me. I
was sick and you took care of me. I was in prison and you visited me.'
37 "Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you
hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you a drink? 38 When did we
see you a stranger and welcome you, or lacking clothes and clothe
you? 39 When did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?'
40 "The King will answer them, 'Amen I tell you: Just as you did it for
one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it for me.'
41 "Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you who are
cursed, into the eternal fire, which is prepared for the Devil and his
angels. 42 For I was hungry and you did not give me food to eat. I was
thirsty and you did not give me anything to drink. 43 I was a stranger
and you did not welcome me, lacking clothes and you did not clothe
me, sick and in prison and you did not take care of me.'
44 "Then they will also answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or
thirsty or a stranger or lacking clothes or sick or in prison and did not
serve you?'
45 "At that time he will answer them, 'Amen I tell you: Just as you did
not do it for one of the least of these, you did not do it for me.' 46 And
they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal
life."

Apostles' Creed



After hearing the word of God, the worshiper responds with this confession of faith.

The Apostles' Creed, developed over hundreds of years in the early Christian church, is a brief and simple statement of gospel truths taught by the apostles. Christians used it to tell others what they believed and also to confess their faith with one another as they met for worship.

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

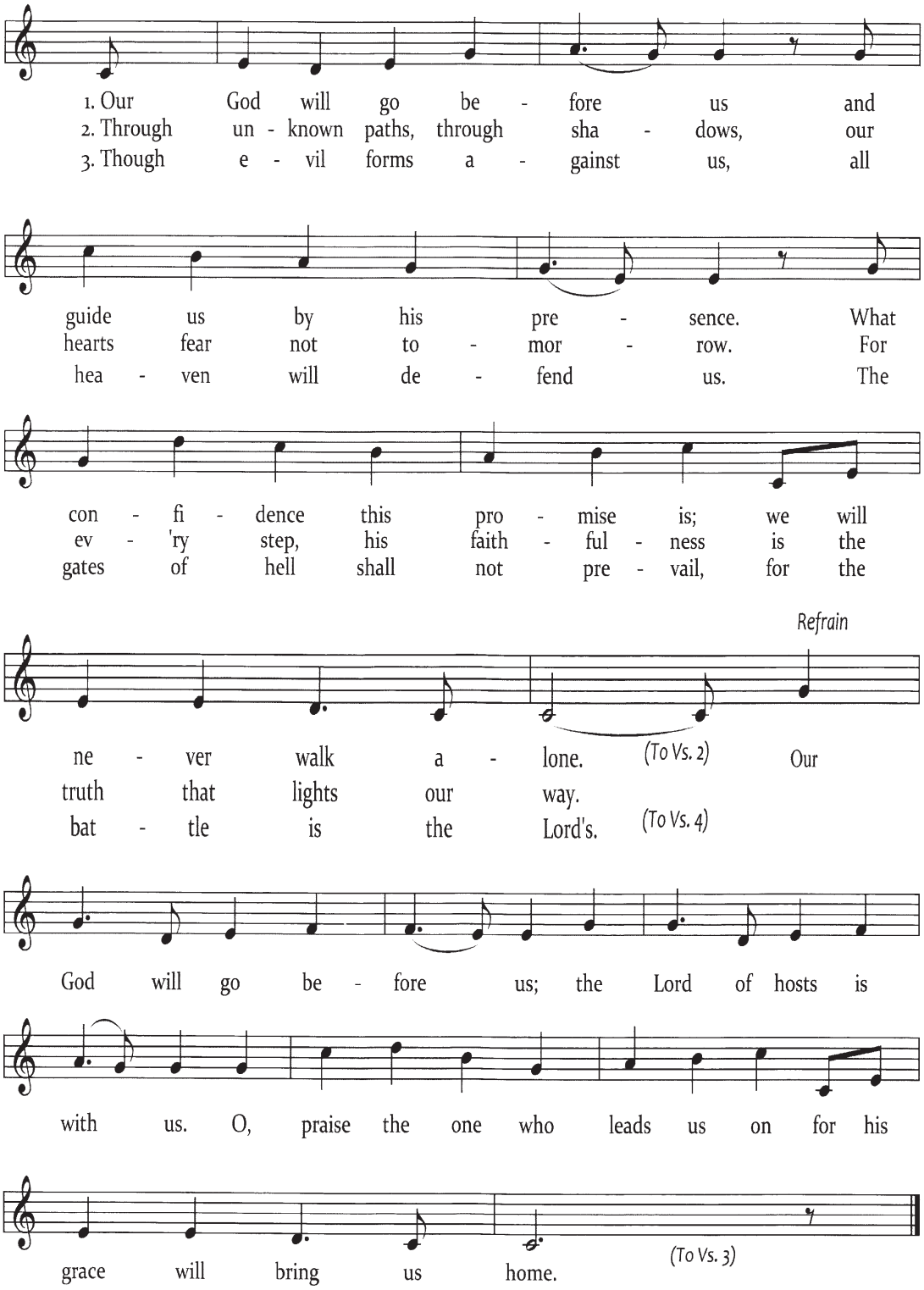
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

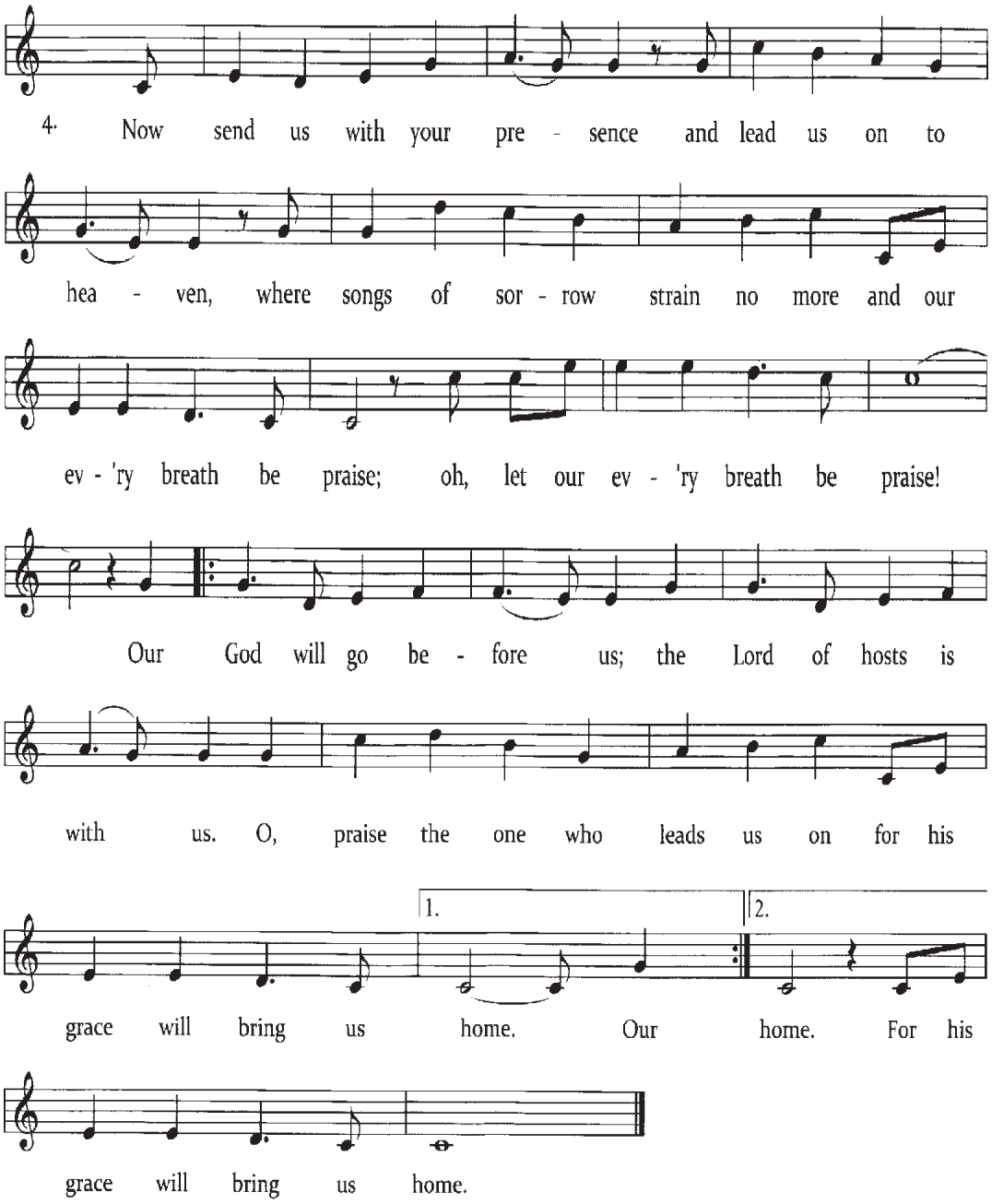
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.



This is a hymn selected for the current church season that is generally new to our congregation, usually introduced first by a soloist, and repeated for several weeks to assist the congregation in learning the hymn.

Song of the Season: Our God Will Go Before Us





Prayer

(Spoken by Minister)

If you brought a monetary gift today for the work of the church, please place your offering in the receptacle at one of the two entrances to the sanctuary either before or after the service.

Offering: *The gifts of Gods people are a response to God's blessings. If God has moved you to thank him in this way, you can use this QR code to give an offering.*

Lord's Prayer

(Spoken in Unison)

We speak to God as our Father as Jesus taught us.

(Matthew 6)

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,

your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.



The Aaronic Blessing is the blessing that Aaron and his sons were to speak over the people of Israel, recorded in Numbers 6:23–27. The pastor offers the same blessing to the congregation as they are about to conclude their worship.

Blessing

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.
C: Amen.

Ensemble

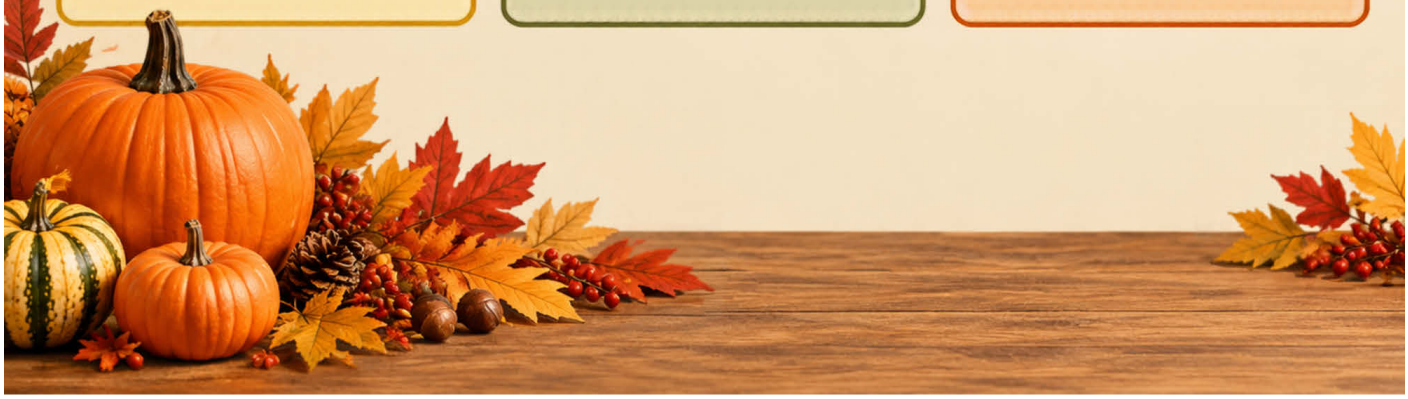
You Are My King
Words and Music by Billy James Foote

UPCOMING EVENTS

Today, November 22
Thanksgiving Potluck
11:00am

November 25
Thanksgiving Service
7:00pm

November 28
Church decorating
9:00am



Worship Volunteers

November 22nd	November 29th	December 6th
Counters Mike Ryan, Nick Nicholai	**Counters** Maggie Stevenson, Nancy Murphy	**Counters** Karin Hansen, Becky Jahns
Communion	**Communion**	**Communion** Shannon
Greeters Pentz Family	**Greeters** Deines Family	**Greeters** Jeffers Family
Ushers Carl Deines, Matthew Deines	**Ushers** Gary Jeffers, Tyler Holzhueter, Sharon Wilson	**Ushers** Matthew Call, Grayson Langum, Steve Pistor
Sunday Refreshments Thanksgiving Potluck	**Sunday Refreshments** Stacy Cornell, Diana Piepenbrink, Liz Henkel	**Sunday Refreshments** Rene Koutia, Ashley Call
A/V Elise Plitzuweit, Chris Patterson	**A/V** Shannon Gullerud, Aaron Gullerud	**A/V** Stacy Cornell, Bentley Ryan

Ushers for Thanksgiving Service November 25: Len Collyard, Nick Nickolai, Steve Semmann

Acknowledgments

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Lutheran Church & School

10111 W Jomax Road

Peoria, AZ 85383

WELS
Christ's Love, Our Calling.

The continuing purpose of this congregation as a gathering of Christians is to spread to all people in God's world the glory of the cross of Christ, by sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ on the basis of the Holy Scriptures.