



**Pilgrim**  
LUTHERAN  
**Church**

## Divine Service

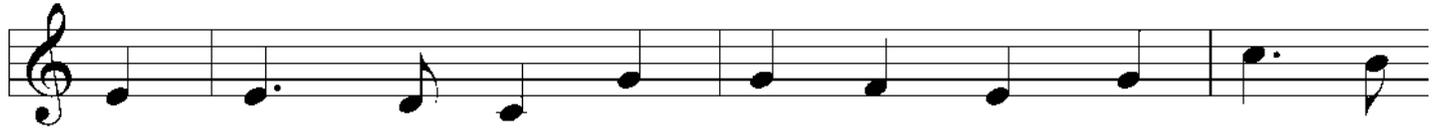


**November 16, 2025**  
**Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost**

# Welcome

## Opening Hymn

### My Hope is Built on Nothing Less



1 My hope is built on noth - ing less Than Je - sus'  
2 When dark - ness veils His love - ly face, I rest on  
3 His oath, His cov - e - nant and blood Sup - port me  
4 When He shall come with trum - pet sound, Oh, may I



blood and righ - teous - ness; No mer - it of my  
His un - chang - ing grace; In ev - 'ry high and  
in the rag - ing flood; When ev - 'ry earth - ly  
then in Him be found, Clothed in His righ - teous -



own I claim But whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.  
storm - y gale My an - chor holds with - in the veil.  
prop gives way, He then is all my hope and stay.  
ness a - lone, Re - deemed to stand be - fore His throne!

*Refrain*



On Christ, the sol-id rock, I stand; All oth-er ground is sink-ing sand.

## Confession and Forgiveness

*The assembly stands. The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom 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 Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

Most merciful God,

**We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen**

*The minister stands and addresses the congregation.*

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen**

## The Sign of Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## Songs of Praise

### The Battle Belongs to the Lord

In heavenly armor we'll enter the land  
The battle belongs to the Lord  
No weapon that's fashioned against us will stand  
The battle belongs to the Lord

And we sing glory honor  
Power and strength to the Lord  
We sing glory honor  
Power and strength to the Lord

When the power of darkness comes in like a flood  
The battle belongs to the Lord  
He's raised up a standard the pow'r of His blood  
The battle belongs to the Lord



And we sing glory honor  
Power and strength to the Lord  
We sing glory honor  
Power and strength to the Lord

When your enemy presses in hard do not fear  
The battle belongs to the Lord  
Take courage my friend your redemption is near  
The battle belongs to the Lord

And we sing glory honor  
Power and strength to the Lord  
We sing glory honor  
Power and strength to the Lord

### **Awesome God**

When He rolls up His sleeves  
He ain't just puttin' on the ritz  
Our God is an awesome God  
There is thunder in His footsteps  
And lightning in His fists  
Our God is an awesome God  
And the Lord wasn't joking  
When He kicked 'em out of Eden  
It wasn't for no reason  
That He shed His blood  
His return is very close  
And so you'd better be believin'  
That our God is an awesome God

Our God is an awesome God  
He reigns from heaven above  
With wisdom pow'r and love  
Our God is an awesome God  
(Repeat)

When the sky was starless  
In the void of the night  
Our God is an awesome God  
He spoke into the darkness  
And created the light  
Our God is an awesome God  
Judgment and wrath  
He poured out on Sodom  
Mercy and grace  
He gave us at the cross  
I hope that we have not  
Too quickly forgotten  
That our God is an awesome God

Our God is an awesome God  
He reigns from heaven above  
With wisdom pow'r and love  
Our God is an awesome God  
(Repeat)

Our God is an awesome God  
Our God is an awesome God

## Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray...

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without you nothing is strong, nothing is holy. Embrace us with your mercy, that with you as our ruler and guide, we may live through what is temporary without losing what is eternal, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## First Reading

### Malachi 4

"For behold, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble. The day that is coming shall set them ablaze, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. 2 But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall. 3 And you shall tread down the wicked, for they will be ashes under the soles of your feet, on the day when I act, says the LORD of hosts.

4 "Remember the law of my servant Moses, the statutes and rules that I commanded him at Horeb for all Israel.

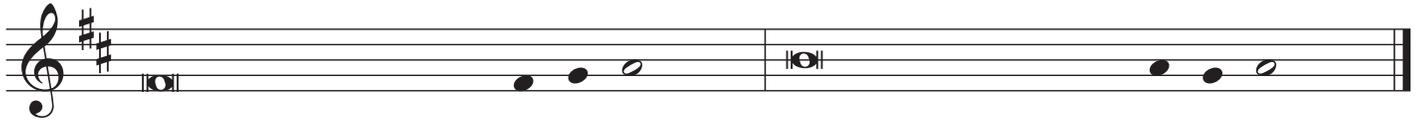
5 "Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes. 6 And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the land with a decree of utter destruction."

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

# Psalm

## Psalm 98

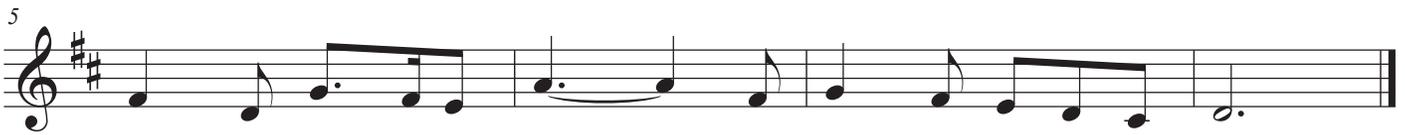
### Tone



### Refrain



All the ends of the earth \_\_\_\_\_ have seen the pow - er of God.



All the ends of the earth \_\_\_\_\_ have seen the pow - er of God.

**Refrain: All the ends of the earth, have seen the power of God.  
All the ends of the earth, have seen the power of God.**

1 Sing a new song to the Lord, who has done • marvelous things,  
whose right hand and holy arm have • won the victory.

**2 O Lord, you have made • known your victory,  
you have revealed your righteousness in the sight • of the nations.**

3 You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the • house of Israel;  
all the ends of the earth have seen the victory • of our God.

**4 Shout with joy to the Lord, • all you lands;  
lift up your voice, re- • joice, and sing.**

**Refrain: All the ends of the earth, have seen the power of God.  
All the ends of the earth, have seen the power of God.**

5 Sing to the Lord • with the harp,  
with the harp and the • voice of song.

**6 With trumpets and the sound • of the horn  
shout with joy before the • king, the Lord.**

7 Let the sea roar, and • all that fills it,  
the world and those who • dwell therein.

**8 Let the rivers • clap their hands,  
and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord, who comes to • judge the earth.**

9 The Lord will judge the • world with righteousness  
and the peo- • ples with equity.

**Glory be to the Father and • to the Son  
and to the Holy • Spirit;  
as it was in the be - • ginning,  
is now, and will be forever. • Amen.**

**Refrain: All the ends of the earth, have seen the power of God.  
All the ends of the earth, have seen the power of God.**

## Second Reading

### 2 Thessalonians 3

6 Now we command you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you keep away from any brother who is walking in idleness and not in accord with the tradition that you received from us. 7 For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us, because we were not idle when we were with you, 8 nor did we eat anyone's bread without paying for it, but with toil and labor we worked night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you. 9 It was not because we do not have that right, but to give you in ourselves an example to imitate. 10 For even when we were with you, we would give you this command: If anyone is not willing to work, let him not eat. 11 For we hear that some among you walk in idleness, not busy at work, but busybodies. 12 Now such persons we command and encourage in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. 13 As for you, brothers, do not grow weary in doing good.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## Children's Message

**Gemma Rodriguez**

## Gospel Acclamation

**All the ends of the earth, have seen the power of God.  
All the ends of the earth, have seen the power of God.**

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the twenty-first chapter. **Glory to You, O Lord!**

5 And while some were speaking of the temple, how it was adorned with noble stones and offerings, he said, 6 "As for these things that you see, the days will come when there will not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down." 7 And they asked him, "Teacher, when will these things be, and what will be the sign when these things are about to take place?" 8 And he said, "See that you are not led astray. For many will come in my name, saying, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is at hand!' Do not go after them. 9 And when you hear of wars and tumults, do not be terrified, for these things must first take place, but the end will not be at once."

10 Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. 11 There will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and pestilences. And there will be terrors and great signs from heaven. 12 But before all this they will lay their hands on you and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors for my name's sake. 13 This will be your

opportunity to bear witness. 14 Settle it therefore in your minds not to meditate beforehand how to answer, 15 for I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which none of your adversaries will be able to withstand or contradict. 16 You will be delivered up even by parents and brothers and relatives and friends, and some of you they will put to death. 17 You will be hated by all for my name's sake. 18 But not a hair of your head will perish. 19 By your endurance you will gain your lives.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you O Christ.**

## Sermon

**Rev. Lew Upchurch**

## Confession of Faith

### Apostles' Creed

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

**And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.**

**From thence 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**

## Prayers of Intercession

*Following each prayer petition:*

God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

## Offering

# The Sacrament of the Altar

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.**

It is indeed our duty and our joy...evermore praising You and saying:

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of Your glory, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed + is He who comes in the Name of the Lord, Hosanna in the highest.**

We proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

## Words of Institution

### 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;  
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.

O Lamb of God...



## Ways to Commune

**Intinction** – Pastor places bread in hands. Communicant dips bread in chalice held by Communion Assistant.

**Sealed Cups** – Gluten-Free in Blue and Alcohol-Free in Pink are available (take to seat, and we will commune together).

**Prayer** – Approach the communion table with arms crossing your chest.

## Communion Song

### I Will Praise Him Still

When the morning falls on the farthest hill  
I will sing His name I will praise Him still

When dark trials come and my heart is filled  
With the weight of doubt I will praise Him still

For the Lord our God He is strong to save  
From the arms of death from the deepest grave

And He gave us life in His perfect will  
And by His good grace I will praise Him still

## Blessing

# Closing Hymn

## When Peace Like a River



1 When peace, like a riv - er, at - tend - eth my way; when  
2 Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, let  
3 He lives— oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought; my  
4 And Lord, haste the day when our faith shall be sight, the



sor - rows, like sea bil - lows, roll; what - ev - er my lot, thou hast  
this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, that Christ hath re - gard - ed my  
sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to his cross and I  
clouds be rolled back as a scroll, the trum - pet shall sound and the



taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.  
help - less es - tate, and hath shed his own blood for my soul.  
bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O, my soul!  
Lord shall de - scend; e - ven so it is well with my soul.

### *Refrain*



It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.

Text: Horatio G. Spafford, 1828–1888

Music: VILLE DU HAVRE, Philip P. Bliss, 1838–1876

## Announcements

## **Just A Closer Walk With Thee**

I am weak but Thou art strong  
Jesus keep me from all wrong  
I'll be satisfied as long  
As I walk let me walk close to Thee

Through this world of toil and snares  
If I falter Lord who cares  
Who with me my burden shares  
None but Thee dear Lord none but Thee

Just a closer walk with thee  
Grant it Jesus is my plea  
Daily walking close to Thee  
Let it be dear Lord let it be

When my feeble life is o'er  
Time for me will be no more  
Guide me gently safely o'er  
To Thy kingdom shore to Thy shore

Just a closer walk with thee  
Grant it Jesus is my plea  
Daily walking close to Thee  
Let it be dear Lord let it be

*Please use the basket in the Narthex to dispose of your used  
Holy Communion Cups as you leave the Sanctuary*

# Sermon Notes



# Serving at Worship Today

## Preaching & Presiding

Rev. Lew Upchurch

## Director of Music

Mary Harper

## Upcoming Events



Learn more about all upcoming events at [pilgrims.org/calendar](https://pilgrims.org/calendar)

## Thanksgiving Day

No service planned.

## Decorating the Church for Christmas

**Saturday, November 29th** from 9:00-11:00 AM

## Holiday Bell Choir Concert

 presented by Concordia University Irvine

**Sunday, December 7th** at 4:00 PM.

*First Lutheran Church of Venice: 815 Venice Blvd, Venice, CA*

## Joint Wednesday Night Advent Services

**December 3rd** at 7:00 PM. *First Lutheran Church Venice*

**December 10th** at 7:00 PM. *Pilgrim Lutheran Church*

**December 17th** at 7:00 PM. *First Lutheran Church Venice.*

*Carpooling will be available.*

## Christmas Party

**Sunday, December 14th.** Please join us in the gym after Service.

## Christmas Eve Service

**Wednesday, December 24th** at 7:00 PM

## Pilgrim Giving



Your faithful financial stewardship is as important as ever. We will be creating cards with QR code to access online giving.

## Serve at Pilgrim



Interested in serving at Pilgrim? Scan the QR code or go to <https://pilgrims.org/serve-at-divine-service/> to complete an information form. We will contact you when trainings are scheduled for various service opportunities.

## Bible App



Scan this QR code to download a Bible app and access scripture, devotionals, and more right from your phone!



**Pilgrim**  
L U T H E R A N  
**Church**

Called by the Holy Spirit,  
**we are an intergenerational community of  
worship and service**  
that invites the people of  
Santa Monica and beyond  
**to flourish in the love of Jesus Christ  
through Word and Sacraments.**

**Rev. Lew Upchurch**

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