Worship Service for November 15, 2026
The 25th Sunday of Pentecost



WELL DONE, MY GOOD
AND FAITHFUL SERVANT

Welcome and Announcements

Let us prepare our hearts for worship.

Confession and Forgiveness

In remembrance of our Holy Baptism, we begin in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. ***Amen.***

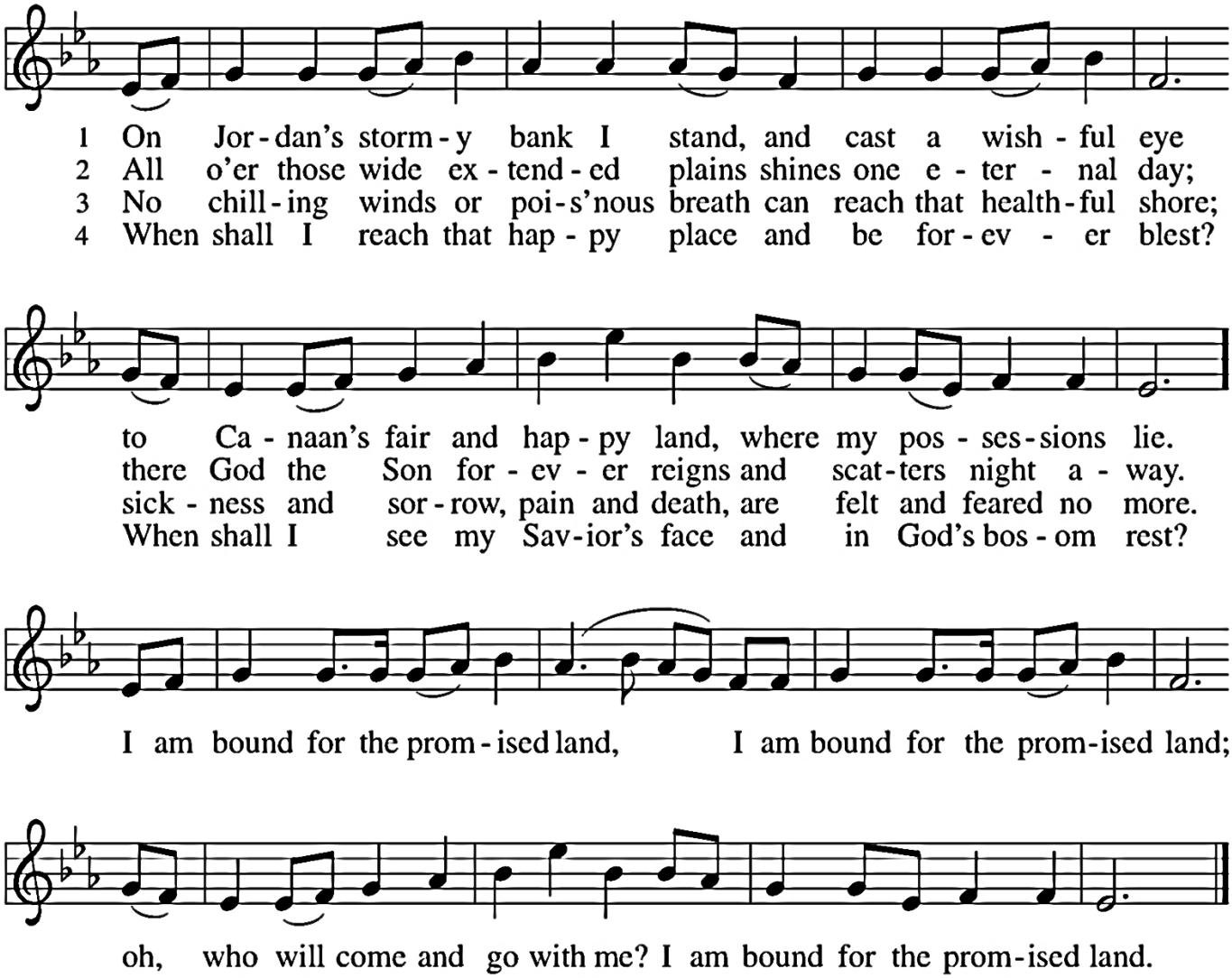
Beloved people of God, if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Trusting in God's mercy and grace, let us confess our sins in the presence of God and one another.

Brief silence for reflection.

Together we pray: ***Heavenly Father, Maker of heaven and earth, we come before you acknowledging our brokenness. We confess that we have sinned against you in our thoughts, words, and actions. We have often focused on our own desires instead of your will. We have failed to love you with all our hearts, and we have failed to love our neighbors as ourselves. "In your mercy, create in us clean hearts, and send your Holy Spirit to renew us and lead us in the way of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

Beloved people of God, through the life, death, and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, God forgives all our sins and grants us grace to walk in the way of Jesus, our Lord and Savior. Trusting in God's abundant grace, let us go forth to love God and to love our neighbors as ourselves. ***Amen.***

Gathering Hymn **On Jordan's Stormy Bank I Stand**



Prayer of the Day

Together we pray: ***Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.***

Reading of the Word

First Reading: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

7 Be silent before the Lord God, for the day of the Lord is at hand! The Lord has prepared a
sacrifice; he has consecrated his guests.

12 At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who settle like
dregs in wine, those who say in their hearts, "The Lord will not do good, nor will he do harm."
13 Their wealth shall be plundered and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they
shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them.

14 The great day of the Lord is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the Lord
is bitter; the warrior cries aloud there. 15 That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and
anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick

darkness, [16] a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.

[17] I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind; because they have sinned against the Lord, their blood shall be poured out like dust and their flesh like dung. [18] Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the Lord's wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed, for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

Word of God, Word of Life. ***Thanks be to God.***

Psalm: Psalm 90:1-8 [9-11] 12

[1] Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to another.

[2] **Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born, from age to age you are God.**

[3] You turn us back to the dust and say, "Turn back, O children of earth."

[4] **For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past and like a watch in the night;**

[5] you sweep them away like a dream, they fade away suddenly like the grass:

[6] **in the morning it is green and flourishes; in the evening it is dried up and withered.**

[7] For we are consumed by your anger; we are afraid because of your wrath.

[8] **Our iniquities you have set before you, and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.**

[[9] When you are angry, all our days are gone; we bring our years to an end | like a sigh.

[10] **The span of our life is seventy years, perhaps in strength even eighty; yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow, for they pass away quickly and we are gone.**

[11] Who regards the power of your wrath? Who rightly fears your indignation?]

[12] **So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.**

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
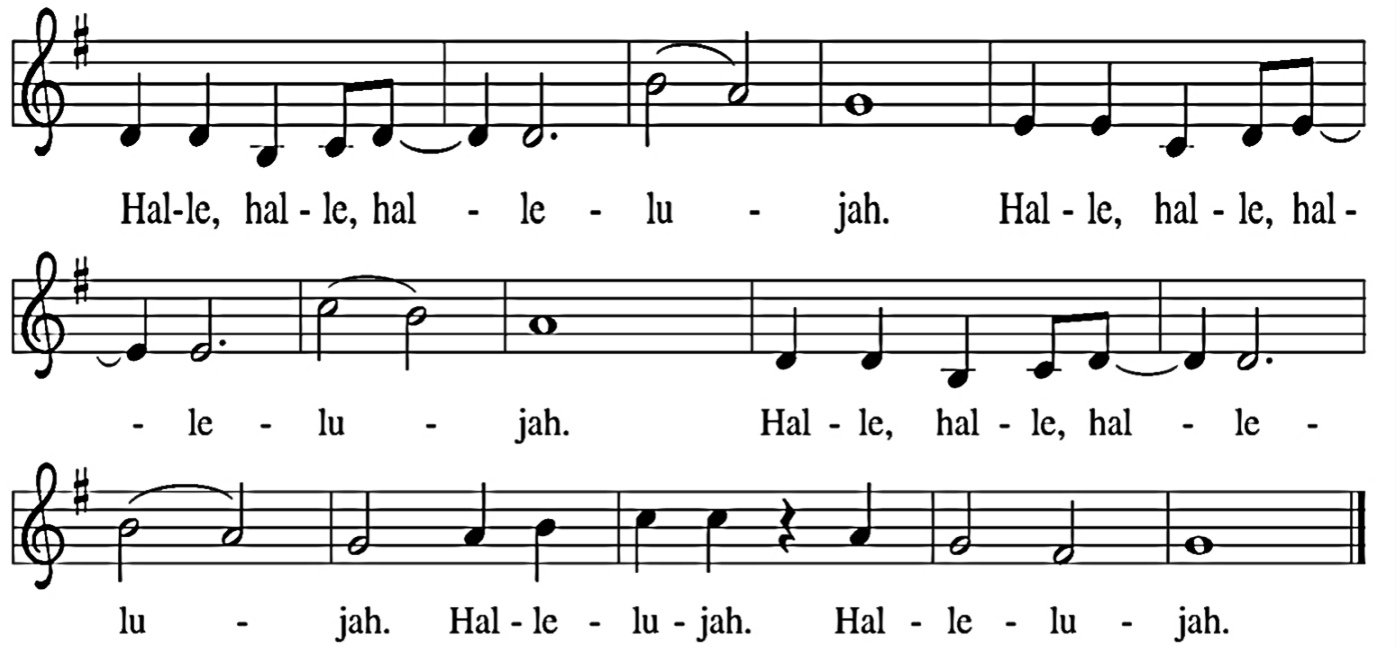
[1] Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. [2] For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. [3] When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! [4] But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; [5] for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. [6] So, then, let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober, [7] for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. [8] But since we belong to the day, let us be sober and put on the breastplate of faith and love and for a helmet the hope of salvation. [9] For God has destined us not for wrath but for

obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, [10] who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. [11] Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Word of God, Word of Life. ***Thanks be to God.***

Children's Message

Gospel Acclamation **Halle, Halle, Hallelujah (sing 3X)**



Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30

[Jesus said to the disciples:] [14] "For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; [15] to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. At once [16] the one who had received the five talents went off and traded with them and made five more talents. [17] In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. [18] But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. [19] After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. [20] Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' [21] His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' [22] And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' [23] His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' [24] Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow and gathering where you did not scatter, [25] so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' [26] But his master replied, 'You wicked

and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow and gather where I did not scatter? [27] Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. [28] So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. [29] For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance, but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. [30] As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' "

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

Sermon



Welcome to New Salem - we are blessed to have you worship with us today!

If you are looking for a church home, please contact Traci Schanke in the church office at 218-586-2262 or via email at newsalem@paulbunyan.net. If you are a visitor, please sign our guest book outside the church office.

Website: newsalemlutheran.org

YouTube Channel: New Salem Lutheran Church, Turtle River, MN

Share in the Worship Ministries of New Salem!

YOU are invited to serve as a reader, proclaiming God's Word; as an usher, welcoming all who gather for worship; as a communion assistant, helping share the Lord's Supper with God's people; host the post-worship fellowship hour; or join the choir and lift your voice in praise. These ministries are an important part of our worship life and a wonderful way to serve God and one another. Please consider sharing your gifts! Please watch your email in the coming weeks for an invitation – or you can sign up using the sheets available on the rear table in the narthex! (Choir rehearsals are 5 p.m. on Wednesdays – no need to sign up, just join us!)
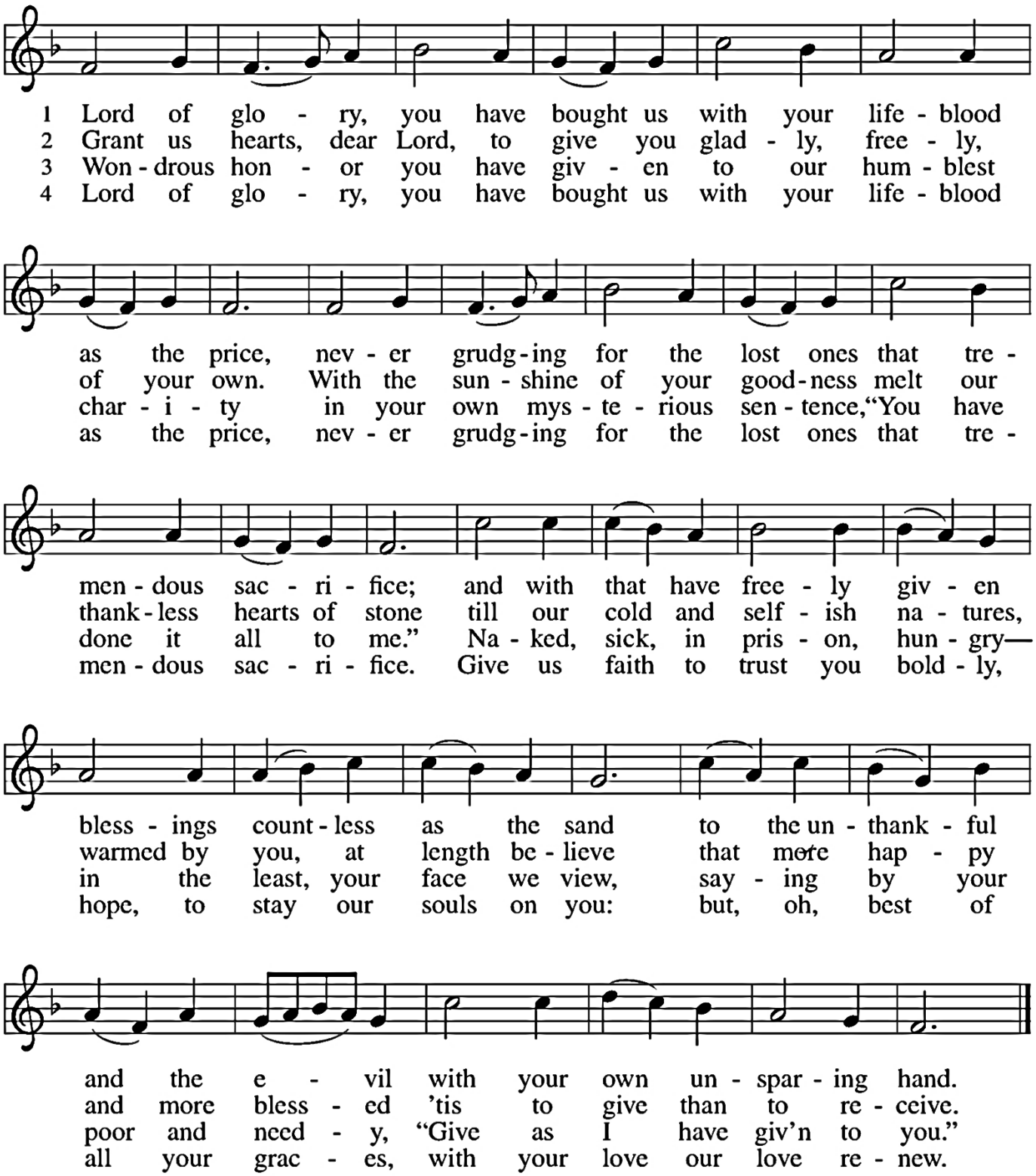










Hymn of the Day **Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us**



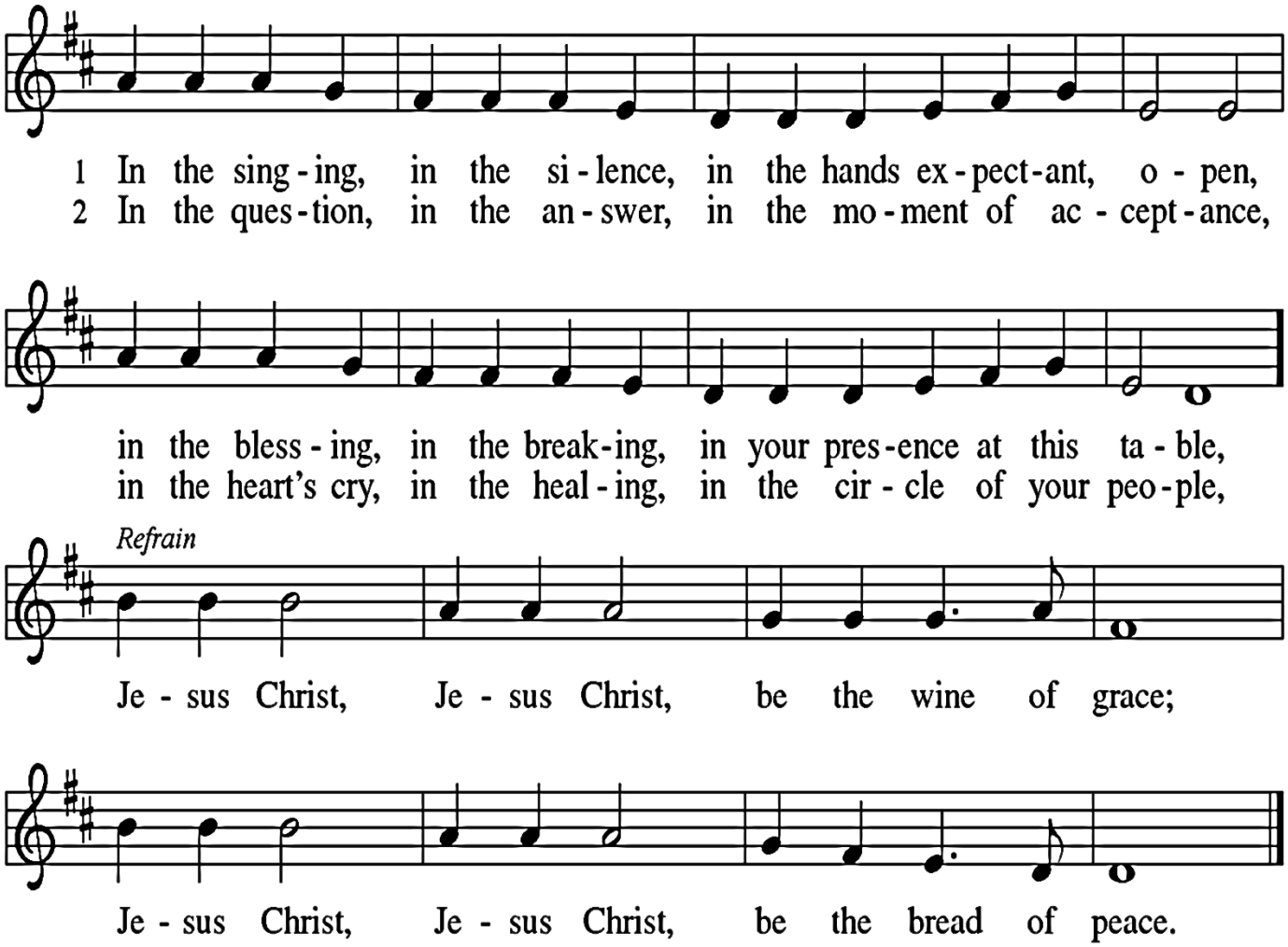
Prayers of the People

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

Sharing the Peace

Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Hymn **In the Singing**



Offering Prayer

Together we pray***: Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with your blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, fill us with grateful and generous hearts, that we may praise you through our words and actions and respond with love to those in need; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.***

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

Together we pray: ***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. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.***

Sharing Christ's Meal

Communion Hymn #1 **Light Dawns on a Weary World**

1 Light dawns on a wea - ry world when eyes be - gin to see all peo - ple's dig - ni - ty. Light dawns on a
2 Love grows in a wea - ry world when hun - gry hearts find bread and chil - dren's dreams are fed. Love grows in a
3 Hope blooms in a wea - ry world when crea - tures, once for - lorn, find wil - der - ness re - born. Hope blooms in a

wea - ry world: the prom - ised day of jus - tice comes.
wea - ry world: the prom - ised feast of plen - ty comes.
wea - ry world: the prom - ised green of E - den comes.

Refrain

The trees shall clap their hands; the dry lands, gush with springs;

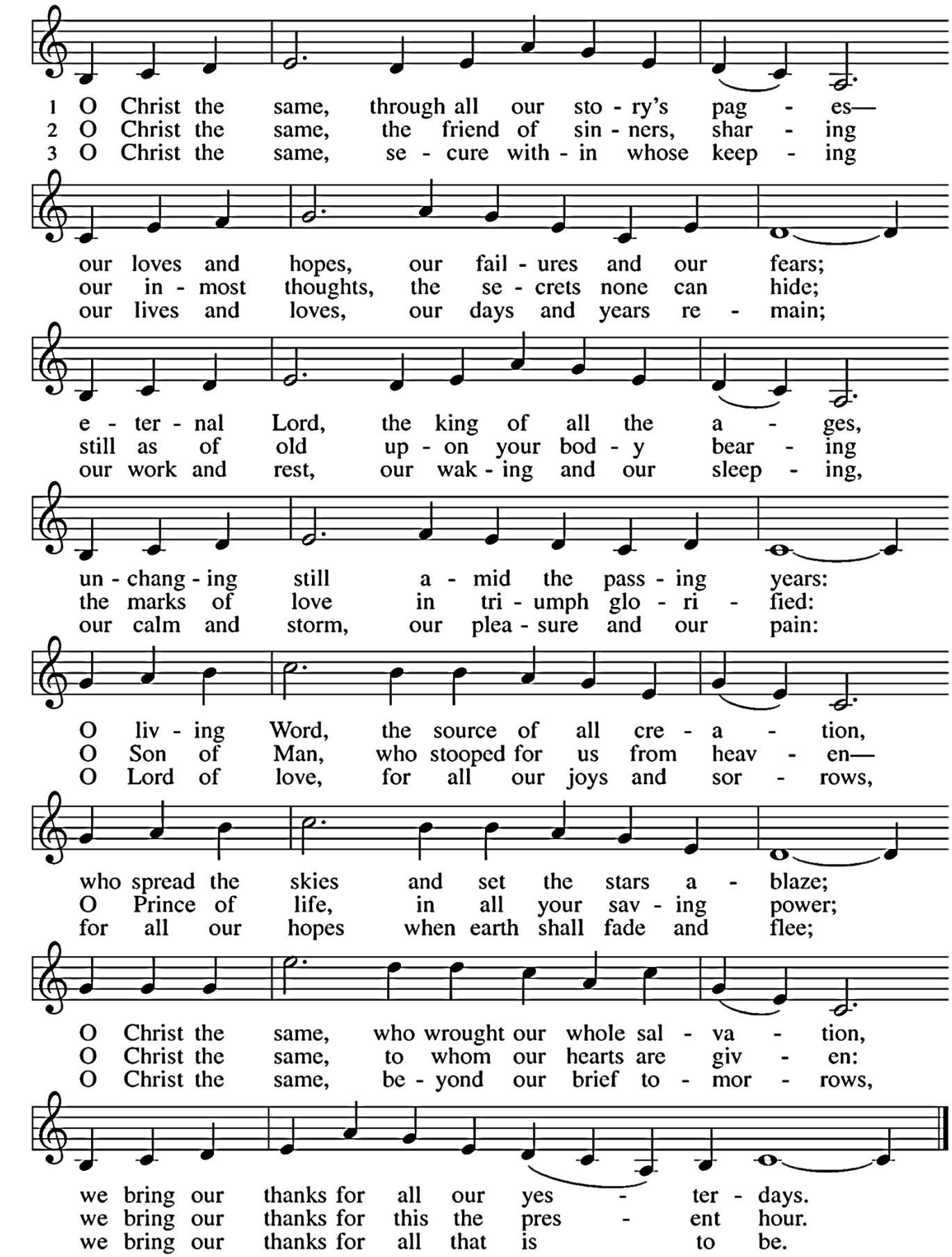
the hills and moun - tains shall break forth with sing - ing!

We shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace,

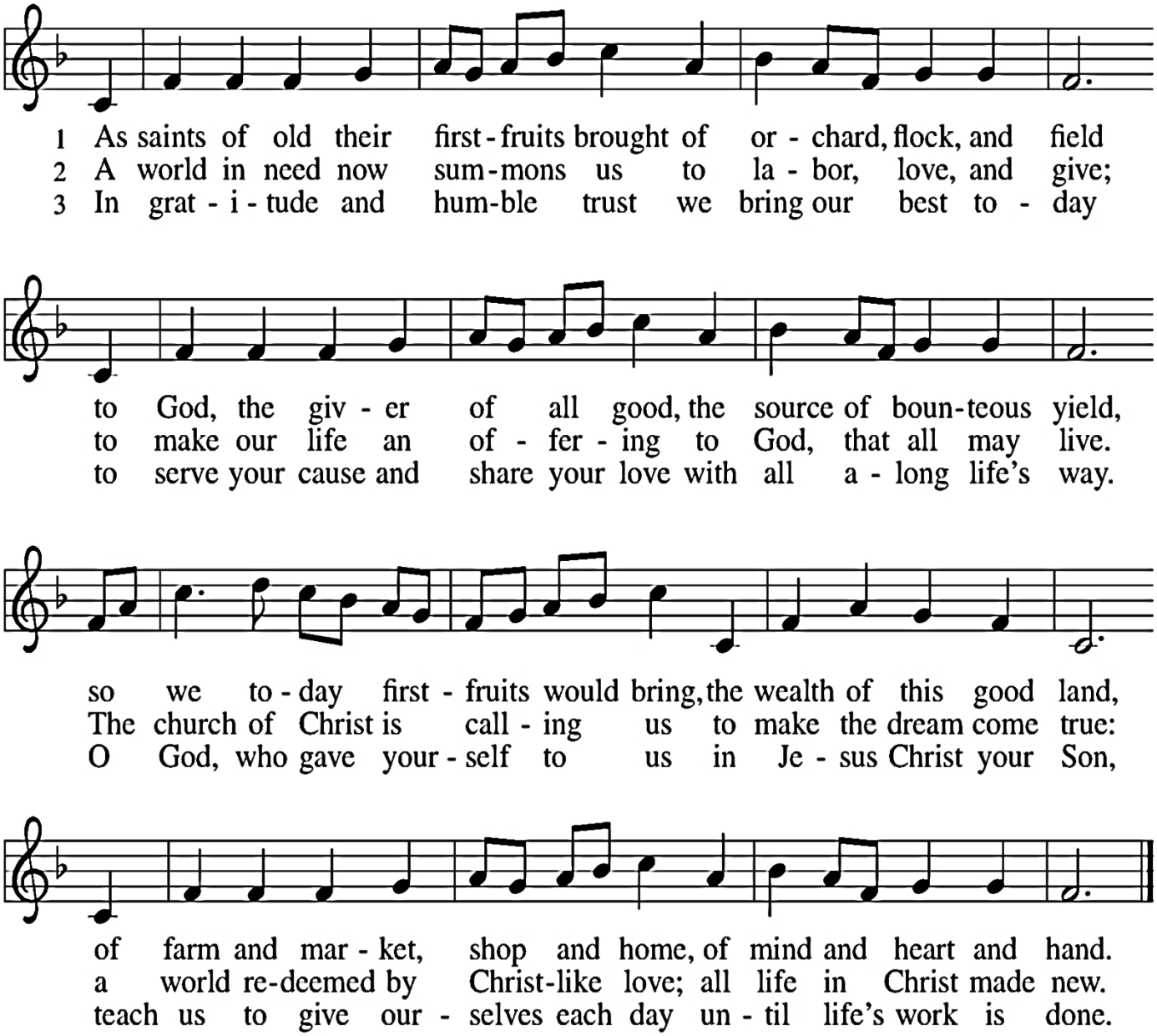
as all the world in won - der ech - oes sha - lom.



Communion Hymn #2 **O Christ the Same**



Communion Hymn #3 **As Saints of Old**



Communion Blessing
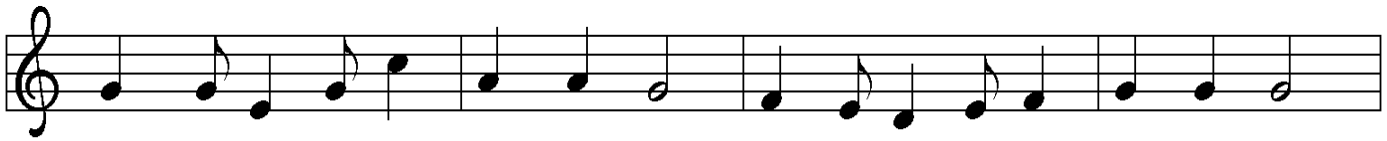
Post Communion Prayer

Together we pray: ***Life-giving God, you nourish us with your Word and strengthen us with your grace. By the power of your Holy Spirit, deepen our faith and guide us in the way of Jesus. Send us forth to love our neighbors, serve those in need, and share your grace through our words and actions; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.***
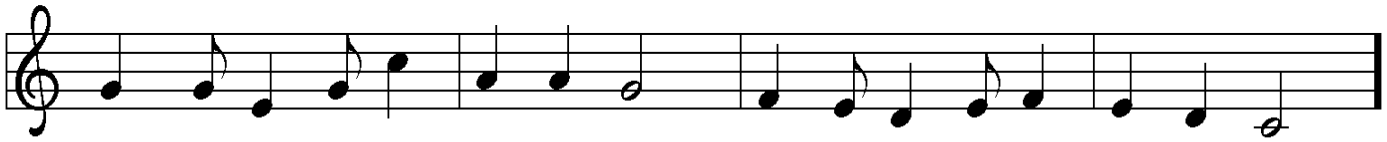


Benediction
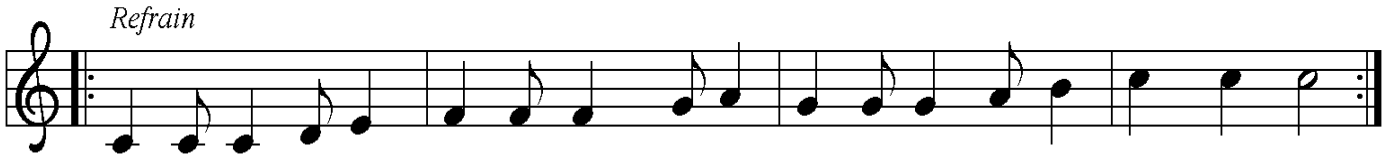
Sending Hymn **Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ**



1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach-ing out with a shout of joy:
2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at the ta - ble he sets the tone,
3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a world of doubt,



bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
teach-ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im-man - u - el) ev - 'ry - where!



Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a-gain, pass the Word a-round: loaves a - bound!

Upcoming @ New Salem

Tues, Nov 17	**November Team/Council Night**	**6 p.m./7 p.m.**
Wed, Nov 18	**Choir Rehearsal**	**5 p.m.**
	Evening Bible Study	**6:30 p.m.**
Thurs, Nov 19	**Morning Bible Study**	**9:30 a.m.**
	Confirmation Class	**5 p.m.**
Sun, Nov 22	**Commitment Sunday**	
Wed, Nov 25	**No Choir Rehearsal or Evening Bible Study**	
Thurs, Nov 26	**Happy Thanksgiving! Church and Office Closed**	
Fri, Nov 27	**Church and Office Closed**	
Sun, Nov 29	**The First Sunday of Advent**	



Christmas Program December 13 – Save the Date!
Church youth and the New Salem Choir will present a Christmas program during worship on Sunday, December 13, followed by a festive fellowship hour with holiday treats – mark your calendar!

Today's Worship Leaders/Assistants

Presiding Clergy: Pastor Terry R. Hagensen
Ushers: Dar & Mike Moen
Reader: Mert Schultz
Communion Assistant:
Fellowship Host: Joy Wilander
Social Media Coordinator: Nora Illies
Setting the Lord's Table: Sonya & Paul Kraft
Pianist: Cheryl Durant
Cantor/Choir Director: Annalise Aakhus
AV Services: Traci Schanke

New Salem Lutheran Church - Terry R. Hagensen, Pastor
7491 Island View Drive NE, Turtle River, MN 56601
Office Tel: 218-586-2262/Office Email (Traci Schanke): newsalem@paulbunyan.net
Website: newsalemlutheran.org
YouTube Channel: New Salem Lutheran Church, Turtle River, MN

October Income vs Expenses (*FINAL)*
Total General Fund Income: $13,799
Total Expenses: $17,794
DEFICIT for October: (-$3,995)
11.8.26 General Fund Offering: $2,367

Attendance/Social Media Engagement (as of 11.13.26)
Sunday, Nov 8 (in person/online): 54/36
Facebook reach: 101,462
YouTube Views: 1,643
YouTube Subscribers: 144

Announcements for the Week of November 15, 2026

Traci's Office Hours This Week: 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Monday – Wednesday, and Friday. Out of the office Thursday, Nov 19.

Continuing Email Issues: This seems to be an issue connected to select addresses ending in gmail.com, hotmail.com or outlook.com that are rejecting messages coming from newsalem@paulbunyan.net as spam, even if that address is on their approved contact list. Traci is reaching out to Paul Bunyan Communications and Bemidji Communications to find a solution. We apologize for any inconvenience; in the meantime, the addresses affected will receive New Salem emails from tracileeschanke@yahoo.com.

November's Mission Partner: This month New Salem is lifting up the work of **Northwoods Caregivers**, and urges you to consider the various ways you might support this valuable area ministry. You can send your check to New Salem and indicate it is for **Northwoods Caregivers**, or send your gift to Northwoods Caregivers, 616 America Ave, Suite 110, Bemidji, MN 56601. See page 14 of the Worship Guide for more information.

Commitment Sunday – November 22, 2026: Several years ago, New Salem began a faith practice we call Commitment Sunday, an opportunity to prayerfully reflect on the time, gifts, and financial resources God has entrusted to us and how we choose to share them in service to God and our neighbors.

On November 22, you will be invited to complete a 2027 Statement of Mission Intent, a personal commitment between you and God. Your statement will be placed in a sealed envelope, kept unopened, and returned to you on Pentecost Sunday, May 16, 2027, for your own reflection.

We invite you to prayerfully consider how God is calling you to share your time, gifts, and resources in the coming year.

Offering Reminder: Please remember to indicate on your check/offering envelope how you wish your gift to be credited. Unmarked offerings/those marked "general" go toward New Salem's annual operating expenses; gifts marked for other entities are credited as such in your giving record and sent to those organizations. Thank you for supporting the missions and good works of New Salem!

Need Medical Equipment?/Have Medical Equipment?. If you are in need of medical equipment, call and/or come to the Bemidji Senior Center (216 3rd St NW, 218-751-8836, in downtown Bemidji) Mon – Fri 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. to see what is available through the HELP program (Home Equipment Loan Program). The item(s) can be checked out and used as long as needed. The Senior Center also accepts used-clean-workable equipment. The Disabled American Veterans (15th Street NW, 218-556-4592, in Bemidji) also has equipment to loan. The DAV has electric hospital beds/etc.; the Senior Center **does not** have any electrical equipment to loan out. You do not have to be a veteran borrow the DAV equipment.

The live-streaming of New Salem's worship services is made possible by a generous memorial gift from the family of Margaret Carlson.

Music Rights/Permissions for November 15

Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service and include the printed music in this worship guide has been obtained from *ONE LICENSE*, License #A-726224; credits are as follows:

On Jordan's Stormy Bank I Stand – Text: Samuel Stennett (1727-1795)
Music: W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; adapt. Rigdon M. McIntosh (1836-1899)

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah – Music: Caribbean traditional; arr. Mark Sedio (b. 1954)
Arr. © 1995 Augsburg Fortress

Lord of Glory, You Have Brought Us – Text: Eliza S. Alderson (1818-1889) alt.
Music: Rowland H. Pritchard (1811-1887)

In the Singing – Text: Shirley Erena Murray (b. 1931)
Music: Carlton R. Young (b. 1926)/Text and music © 1996 Hope Publishing Company

Light Dawns on a Weary World – Text: Mary Louise Bringle (b. 1953)
Music: William P. Rowan (b. 1951)

O Christ the Same – Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith (b. 1926)
Music: Irish tune, arr. John Barnard (b. 1948)/text © 1984, arr. © 1982 Hope Publishing Company

As Saints of Old – Text: Frank von Christierson (1900-1996), alt. © 1961, ren. 1989 *The Hymn Society,* Admin. Hope Publishing Company/Music: English folk tune, arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1858) © Oxford University

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ – Text: Fred Kaan (b. 1929)
Music: Jamaican folk tune; adapt. Doreen Potter (1925-1980)/Text & music © 1975 Hope Publishing

Those who sing pray twice.



NORTHWOODS CAREGIVERS

New Salem's Highlighted Mission Partner

November 2026

Northwoods Caregivers

Connecting, Enriching, and Empowering the Lives of Northwoods Individuals and Families is the mission of Northwoods Caregivers. This mission defines all of the services we provide to our clients and their families.

At Northwoods Caregivers, our dedicated team comprises individuals from diverse backgrounds, united in their commitment to work closely with clients and their families. We offer essential services, including respite care, transportation, and shopping assistance, among others.

History

The idea of Northwoods Interfaith was introduced to the area after three separate surveys identified a gap in services to the elderly and people with special needs. The Bemidji Area Council of Nonprofits was asked to become the lead agency on this new program's development and in 1997, a meeting of area congregations, interested residents, and human service agencies was held to research community response to the project. The group then assigned a steering committee to carry out the necessary work, and in July of 1998, a full time Executive Director was hired. Since then, the program has grown to include more staff and has provided more than 10,000 hours of direct service each year. Services have grown to include homemaking, respite care, home health care, volunteer transportation, caregiver coaching, caregiver support groups, caregiver classes, supervised visitations and exchanges, and more!

Homemaking Services

At Northwoods Caregivers, our homemakers do far more than tidy a room or check off a task list — they bring comfort, dignity, and peace of mind into the homes of those who need it most. Their work is personal, attentive, and rooted in genuine care. Every visit is an opportunity to make someone's day easier, safer, and a little brighter.

Respite Care

In-home respite care provides a break to primary caregivers who are caring for a loved one and just need a break! Northwoods Caregiver Respite Providers are Certified Nursing Assistants, RN's or LPN's or have passed the REST training, and have all passed several background and reference checks. They can help with daily activities such as: safety and supervision to complete tasks, transfers, meal preparation, feeding, exercising, dressing, bathing, and companionship.

God's Work, Our Treasure—NOVEMBER 2026

This month New Salem is lifting up the work of a mission partner, **Northwoods Caregivers**, and urges you to consider the various ways you might support this valuable ministry.

You can send your check to New Salem and indicate it is for **Northwoods Caregivers.**

Please prayerfully consider how you might support the work of this important ministry.

https://northwoodscaregivers.org/

GIVE THANKS & SHARE
IN THE 46TH ANNUAL
COMMUNITY
THANKSGIVING DINNER
(HOME DELIVERED)

Meals will be delivered on Thanksgiving Day, upon request, to those who are homebound in the Bemidji area. Call Sydney at 218-308-3869 by noon on Monday, November 23, 2026, to make your request. Remember-home delivery only!

Interested in Volunteering?

Wednesday, November 25
5:00 PM-6:30 PM
(prep pies, rolls, etc.)
Thursday, November 26
10:00 AM - Noon
(Delivery drivers, filling meal containers, cleanup)
Call LaMae at 218-766-8876 to volunteer



Monetary donations are welcome and appreciated.
Checks may be made payable to **Bemidji Community Meals.**
Mail to: LaMae Ritchie
1424 Otterpoint Lane SW
Bemidji, MN 56601

Sermon Notes/Weekly Assignment