geneva lutheran church
"as you excel in all things... may you also excel in generosity." 2 COR. 8:7
generous life in Christ

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
Covenant and Commandments
October 10/11, 2026

PRELUDE **"For the Beauty of the Earth" - arr. Patricia Sanders Cota** Joyful Ringers

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

God has freed us from bondage to sin. **We will worship and praise God**.
We shall have no other gods. **We will turn away from the idols of this world.**
God has freed us from sin and death. **Thanks be to God!**

CONFESSION

We confess our sins before God and one another.
Pause for silence and reflection.

Creating and renewing God, **You have made us in your image to carry your life-giving love as a blessing to all the world. Yet we fail again and again to live out your call. We fail to do the things we know you would have us do. Forgive us for all the ways we fall short.**

Children of God, know that through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus you are forgiven. Go forth refreshed and ready to answer God's call to love and serve the whole of creation. In Jesus' holy name. **Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE **"Gather Us In"** ELW #532 vs 1 & 3

1 Here in this place the new light is streaming,
now is the darkness vanished away;
see in this space our fears and our dreamings
brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken,
gather us in, the blind and the lame;
call to us now, and we shall awaken,
we shall arise at the sound of our name.

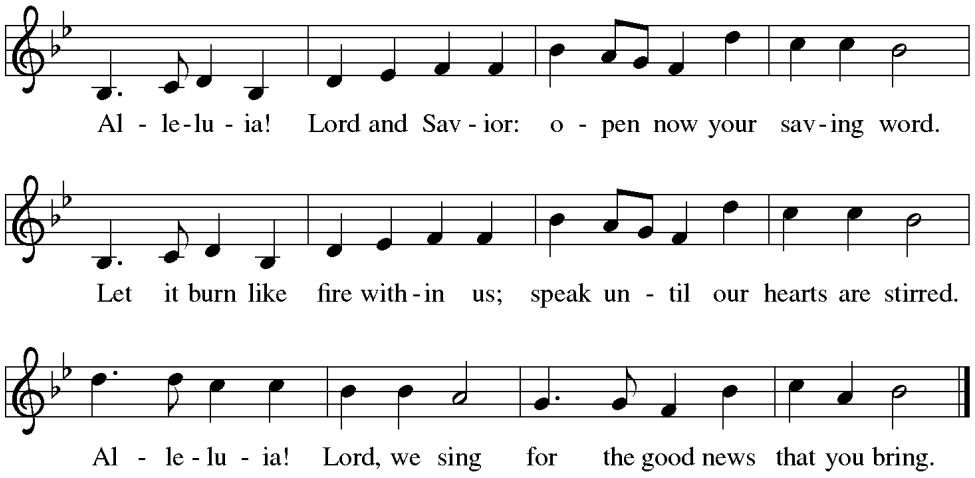
3 Here we will take the wine and the water,
here we will take the bread of new birth,
here you shall call your sons and your daughters,
call us anew to be salt for the earth.
Give us to drink the wine of compassion,
give us to eat the bread that is you;
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
Text © 1982 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved.

PRAYER OF THE DAY The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Holy God, **You ask of us no more than to love you with our whole hearts, souls, minds, and strength, and to love our neighbors as ourselves. Re-awaken us daily to the truth of this command, that we might act in love toward your whole creation. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

ACCLAMATION



ELW setting 10

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE — Jess Swanson

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

READING: Matthew 5:17 — The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

PREACHING TEXT: Exodus 19:3-7; 20:1-17 — Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON — Pastor Trudy Stoffel

SPECIAL MUSIC — **"Give Thanks!" - arr. Patricia Sanders Cota** — Joyful Ringers

OFFERING

Through your donations we are able to support the ministries of GLC including Stephen Ministry.

Ten Percent of donations go beyond our walls. There are many ways you can give--place your offering in the plate at the back, put a check in the mail, text: 630-528-2407 with a dollar amount or give ***online***.

BAPTISM

We welcome Theodore Casper, child of Sara & David Peace, who joins us through the waters of baptism at 9am.
We welcome Reggie Mae, child of Elizabeth Stoffel & John Matz, who joins us through the waters of baptism at 10:30am.

People of God, do you promise to support Theodore and Reggie and their families and pray for their new life in Christ? **We do.**

APOSTLES' CREED

Do you believe in God the Father?
I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the son of God?
**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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?
**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.**

PRAYERS After each petition: God of mercy and grace, **We lift our prayers to you.**

Let us welcome the newly baptized. **We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: joinus in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.**

PEACE

OFFERING PRAYER

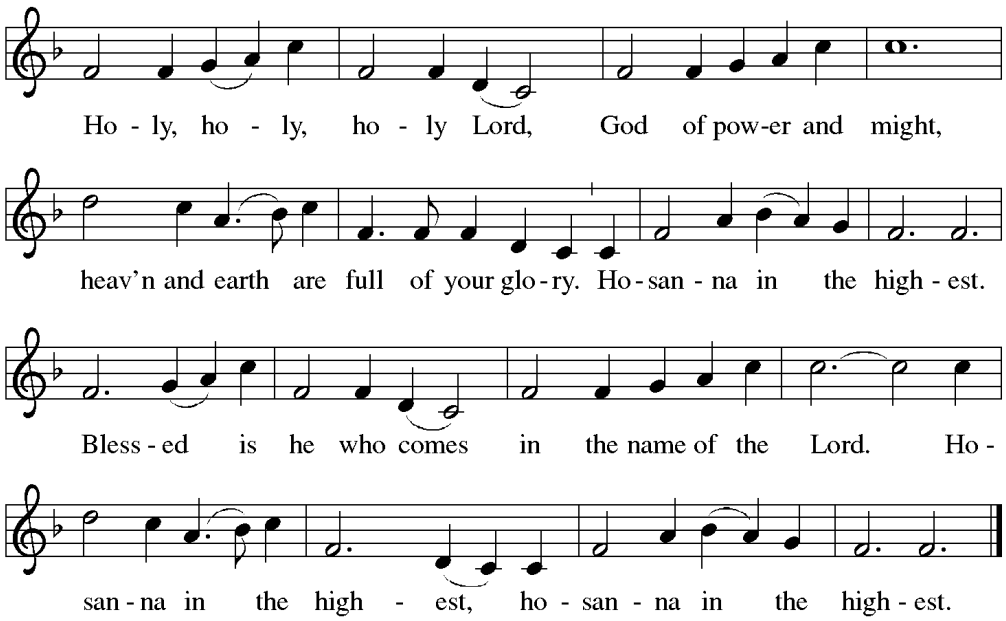
Your church is composed of people like me. I help make it what it is. It will be friendly, if I am. Its pews will be filled, if I help fill them. It will do great work, if I work. It will make generous gifts to many causes, if I am a generous giver. It will be a place of forgiveness and grace, if I forgive and receive forgiveness. It will bring other people into its worship and fellowship, here and online, if I invite and bring them. It will be a church where people grow in faith and serve you, if I am open to such growth and service. Therefore, with your help Lord, I shall dedicate myself to the task of being all the things you want your church to be. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 right, our duty and our joy,...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY ELW setting 10



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER I WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

COMMUNION

We celebrate an open table: if you commune in another community, you are also welcome at this table. We commune by intinction: you receive bread in your hands and dip it in the wine in the silver chalices or grape juice in the white chalices. Gluten free hosts are also available.

LAMB OF GOD I COMMUNION HYMN *see insert*

PRAYER I ANNOUNCEMENTS I BENEDICTION

HYMN **"O God You Made the Sabbath Day" - Carolyn Winfrey Gillette** TALLIS CANON

1. O God, you made the Sabbath day,
Your gift, your law, your healing way.
You also made, within each heart
A longing for this day apart.

2. You gave your children, long-oppressed,
Your freeing gift of Sabbath rest.
You give us Sabbath freedom, too:
Our lives are more than work we do!

3. Life's sacred rhythm seems long gone;
The world, unblinking, carries on.
Your Spirit calls us! Slow our pace
That we may hear your word of grace.

4. Christ Jesus lives! He makes us new!
On Sundays now, we worship you.
With hearts uplifted, joy restored,
Your church goes out to serve you, Lord.

Biblical References: Exodus 20:11; Deuteronomy 5:15; Acts 20:7; 2 Corinthians 5:17
Tune: Thomas Tallis, 1561 ("All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night") (MIDI)
Text: Copyright © 2000 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All rights reserved. Included in Songs of Grace: New Hymns for God and Neighbor (Upper Room Books, 2009).

DISMISSAL Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE **Chorale op.68 no.4 - Schumann (1810-1856)** Deborah Ayotte

Hearing Assistance Available. Request a receiver at the A/V Booth or use your Auracast enabled device to join the audio stream.

Liturgy from Sundays and seasons.com. Copyright 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #24176. New Revised Standard Versions Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United Stated of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. CCLI 2295288. One License A-732490.

Video and sound are recording during the 10:30 am services. By entering, you understand that your image and voice may be used and transmitted on church media platforms.

LAMB OF GOD ELW setting 10

COMMUNION HYMN **"Baptized and Set Free"** ELW #453

Text: Cathy Skogen-Soldner, b. 1956
Music: BAPTIZED AND SET FREE, Cathy Skogen-Soldner
Text and music © 1999 Augsburg Fortress.