



Prelude & Confession & Absolution

P: In the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit
C: Amen

P: Brothers and sisters in Christ, on this Labor Day Sunday, we celebrate and honor our calling in Christ to labor for God's Kingdom with our good works of compassion, grace and justice. Yet, we also confess our bondage to a labor system rife with the hardships, exploitations and injustices of sin. Let us confess our struggle to be faithful, confronting our weakness and imploring God's forgiveness, that we may be renewed in our efforts to be more like God's people in every way.

A: We confess a concern for the reward of our labors and the satisfaction of our needs and wants that too often overlooks, ignores or intentionally closes our eyes to the peril and plight of others whose work we benefit from.

C: We have faltered in our faithfulness, O Lord.

A: When what we buy seems too complex to have concern and compassion for all the hands that conceived, designed, mined, refined, produced, assembled, packaged, marketed, delivered, and sold the goods we consume, forgive our lack of holding ourselves even as accountable as we could be.

C: We have faltered in our faithfulness, O Lord.

A: When we can know and we can decide between the results of labor done with justice and equity and labor that is exploitative and oppressive, yet we make price and cost to us more important, forgive us.

C: We have faltered in our faithfulness, O Lord.

A: For too often being silent supporters of a society and an economic system that rewards the labor of a few "elites" with astronomical compensation while allowing the many receiving minimum wage and other unsustainable salaries to suffer, forgive us.

C: We have faltered in our faithfulness, O Lord.

A: When we fail to advocate for equal pay for equal work, for eliminating any discrimination in hiring or the workplace, for policies and regulations that protect the well-being, safety and health of all employees, forgive us.

C: We have faltered in our faithfulness, O Lord.

A: And when we, ourselves, are disrespectful, uncourteous and ungrateful to anyone who labors on our behalf, forgive us.

C: We have faltered in our faithfulness, O Lord.

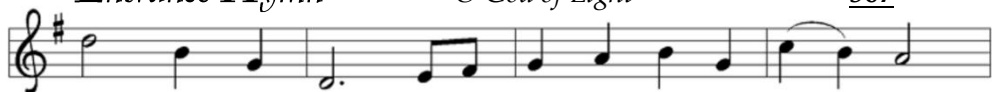
P: God, the Father, in a great labor of love, sent the Son, our Savior, Jesus the Christ, to do the faithful work of suffering, dying and rising, that we might know the promise and hope of forgiveness and salvation even in the face of our shortcomings and sin. Therefore, in obedience to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I declare the entire forgiveness of all your sin in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Entrance Hymn

O God of Light

507



1 O God of light, your word, a lamp un - fail - ing,
2 From days of old, through blind and will - ful a - ges,
3 Un - dimmed by time, those words are still re - veal - ing
4 To all the world your sum - mons you are send - ing,



shall pierce the dark - ness of our earth - bound way
though we re - belled, you gent - ly sought a - gain,
to sin - ful hearts your jus - tice and your grace;
through all the earth, to ev - 'ry land and race,



and show your grace, your plan for us un - veil - ing,
and spoke through saints, a - pos - tles, proph - ets, sa - ges,
and quest - ing spir - its, long - ing for your heal - ing,
that myr - iad tongues, in one great an - them blend - ing,



and guide our foot - steps to the per - fect day.
who wrote with ea - ger or re - luc - tant pen.
see your com - pas - sion in the Sav - ior's face.
may praise and cel - e - brate your gift of grace.

Greeting

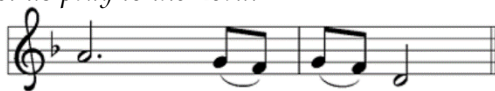
P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you

Kyrie

ELW Setting 2

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



Hymn of Praise

A

men.

ELW Setting 2

S 121



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



1 Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



2 Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of



God, you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us; you are



seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



3 For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,

you a-lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly

Spir-it, in the glo-ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Refrain

Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

Prayer of the Day

P: You are the treasured people of the Lord,

C: A people holy to the Lord our God.

A: We have seen what our God has done

C: We declare God's faithfulness from age to age for all time.

A: We hear and keep God's Word,

C: And all that God has spoken we will do.

P: Let us pray:

C: God of Light, shine into the darkness of our world and bring your light to the shadows in our lives, that the joyful hope of an expectation for good things will always shine brightly in our hearts and minds. Send us the Spirit, that we will be vigilant in our endurance as we wait the fulfilling of your promise to banish the shadows and darkness forever. We pray this in the name of the blessed bridegroom, Jesus, our Lord. Amen.

First Lesson

Amos 5

The Prophet Amos spoke the Word of the Lord to God's people, saying . . .

I have pity on those of you who desire the "Day of the Lord!" Why do you want the "Day of the Lord"?!! Do you not know that it is darkness and *not* light - as if someone was running away from a lion and was met by a bear! - or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall, but was bitten by a snake! The "Day of the

Lord" is darkness, *not* light - gloom with *no* brightness in it. I hate, no, I *despise* your festivals, and I take *no* delight in your "solemn assemblies." Even though you offer me, the Lord, your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will *not* accept them; and the offerings of your fatted animals, I will *not* pay attention to. Take away from me the "noise" of your songs - I will *not* listen to the melody of your harps. Instead, you should let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream!!

Reader: The Word of the Lord! C: Thanks be to God!

Psalm

62

*For God alone my soul waits in silence;
From God comes my salvation.*

**God alone is my rock and my salvation,
my fortress; I will never be shaken.**

*How long will you assail a person,
will you batter your victim, all of you,
as you would a leaning wall, a tottering fence?*

**Their only plan is to bring down a person of credibility.
They take pleasure in falsehood;
they bless with their mouths,
but inwardly they curse.**

*For God alone my soul waits in silence,
for my hope is from the Lord.*

**God alone is my rock and my salvation,
my fortress; I will not be shaken.**

*On God rests my deliverance and my honor;
my mighty rock, my refuge is in God.*

**Trust in the Lord at all times, O people;
pour out your heart before the Lord;
God is a refuge for us.**

Second Lesson

1 Thessalonians 5

P*aul writes:* But about the endtime - God's "critical moment" - you do not need to have anything written to *you*, brothers and

sisters. For *you* know very well that the “Day of the Lord” *will* come - like a thief in the night! When *others* may be saying, “Look at the wonderful peace and security we now have!” it is then that destruction will come upon them suddenly - like when labor grips the pregnant belly suddenly and without warning - and there will be *no* fleeing away. But, brothers and sisters, *you* are not in “darkness” so that this “Day” may overtake you like a thief - for you are all “children of light” and “children of the day!” None of us are people of “the night” or of “darkness.” So then, *we* must not “fall asleep,” as *others* do, but *we* must “keep awake” and be “sober” - for those who are “sleeping,” “sleep” in “the night,” and those who are “intoxicated,” are “intoxicated” in “the night.” But since *we* know it is “day” *we* may be sober - putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and the helmet of the hope of salvation. For God has not planted us to grow into God’s wrath, but to grow into obtaining salvation through our Lord, Jesus, Christ - who died for our sake so that, whether we may “keep awake,” or whether we may “sleep” - either way - we may live with him. Therefore, *encourage* one another and build each other up - as indeed you are doing!

Reader: The Word of the Lord! **C: Thanks be to God!**

Verse

S124

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel Acclamation

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 25th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

In his last days Jesus spent time in the Temple in Jerusalem, teaching. As he finished his first day of teaching, he was leaving the Temple his disciples looked about and noted how grand and impressive the Temple buildings were, but Jesus began to speak about how the end of such things was coming and how the disciples should be careful not to be deceived by other teachings and interpretations of the signs of the times. As part of his teaching on what God intends for the actual coming of the Kingdom, Jesus told a parable, saying:

"Then the Kingdom of the Heavens will be like ten bridesmaids, who, taking their lamps, go out into "The Meeting of the Bridegroom." But, five of them are foolish, and five are prudent, because the foolish bridesmaid, taking their lamps, do not take oil with them, but the prudent bridesmaids take oil in flasks. But the bridegroom lingered and all of the bridesmaids became drowsy and slept.

But then in the middle of the cry begins, 'Behold, the bridegroom. Come out to meet him!'

Then the bridesmaids rose up and readied their lamps.

But the five foolish bridesmaids had to say to the five prudent bridesmaids, 'Give us oil out of your oil, because our lamps are extinguished.'

But the prudent bridesmaids reply, 'No! Perhaps there may not be enough for you and us. Go, rather, to the oil dealers and buy some for yourselves!'

But as those five foolish bridesmaids go away to buy oil, the bridegroom comes, and those who were ready enter with him into the wedding and the door is shut.

But later, those remaining bridesmaids return saying, 'Lord, Lord, open to us!'

But the bridegroom replies, 'Truly I say to you, I do not know you.'"

"Stay alert, therefore, because you do not know the day and you do not know the hour."

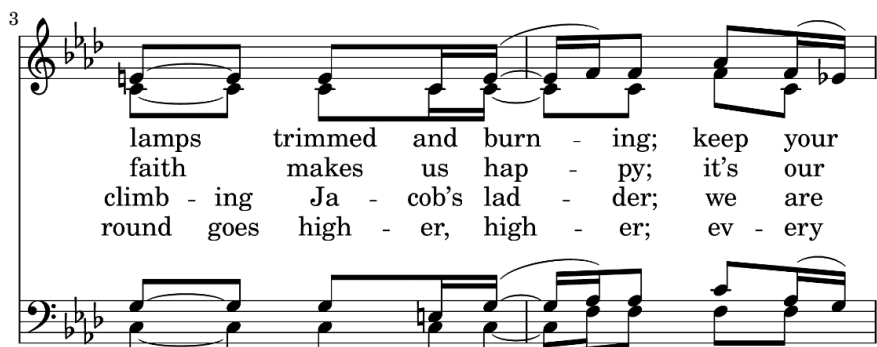
P: The Gospel of the Lord! C: Praise to you, O Christ!

Sermon & Hymn of the Day *Keep Your Lamp*



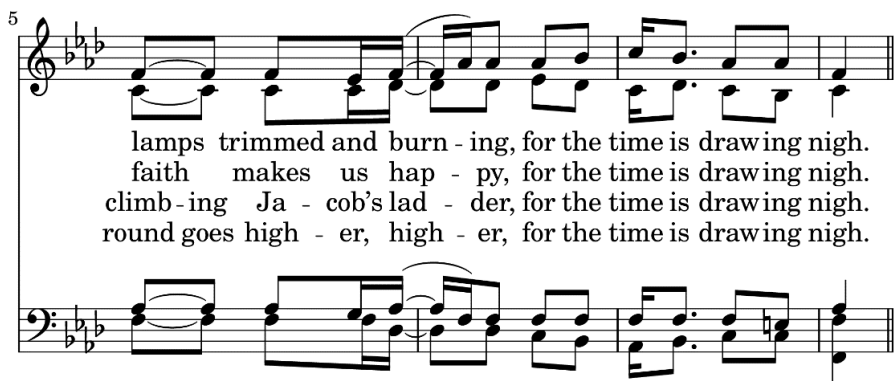
1 Keep your lamps trimmed and burn - ing; keep your
 2 It's our faith makes us hap - py; it's our
 3 We are climb - ing Ja - cob's lad - der; we are
 4 Ev - ery round goes high - er, high - er; ev - ery

3



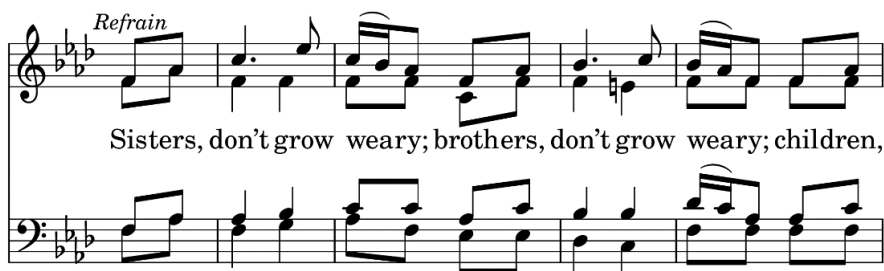
lamps trimmed and burn - ing; keep your
 faith makes us hap - py; it's our
 climb - ing Ja - cob's lad - der; we are
 round goes high - er, high - er; ev - ery

5

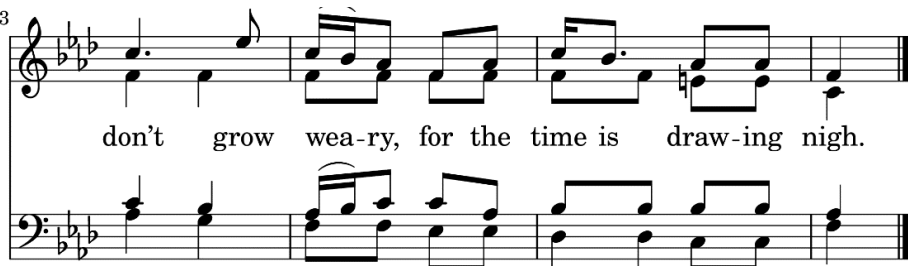


lamps trimmed and burn - ing, for the time is drawing nigh.
 faith makes us hap - py, for the time is drawing nigh.
 climb - ing Ja - cob's lad - der, for the time is drawing nigh.
 round goes high - er, high - er, for the time is drawing nigh.

Refrain



Sisters, don't grow weary; brothers, don't grow weary; children,



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.

Prayers & Passing of the Peace

Offering / Offertory

182

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. Gath - er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

A: Let us Pray

C: Living God, we praise you for the abundant blessings of this life. In humble recognition of the love you always show to us, we bring these gifts and ourselves as our thanks. Use them and us to bear the fruit of goodness and grace so that your glory will be known to all. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

ELW Setting 2

S 152



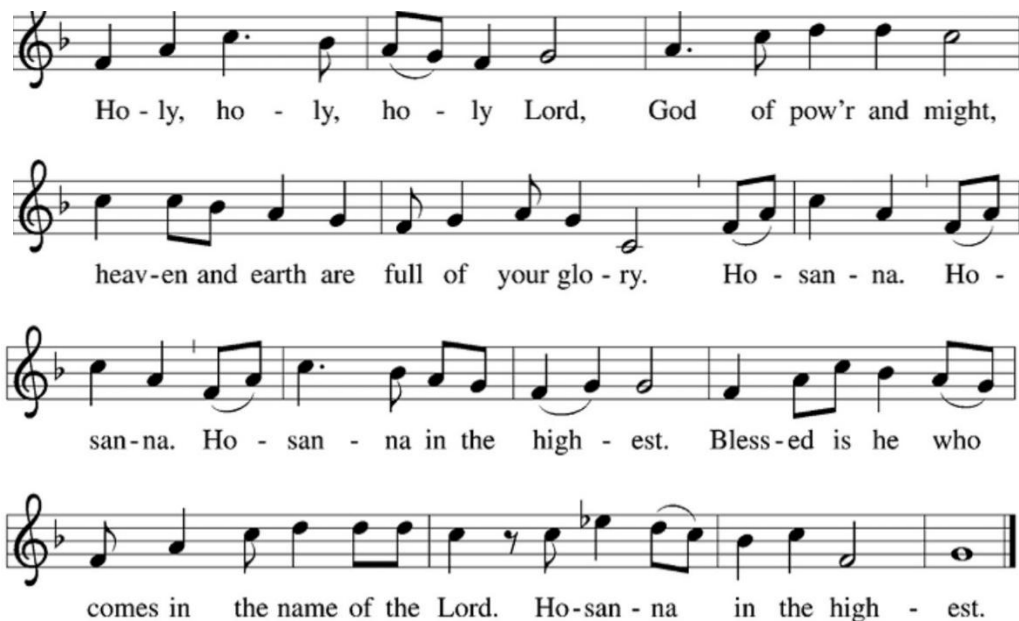
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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.

P: It is indeed . . .



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,

heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -

san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

The Lord's Prayer

C: 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. 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 now and forever. Amen.

Distribution Hymns

561, 244



1 Joy - ous light of heav'n-ly glo - ry, lov-ing glow of God's own
2 In the stars that grace the dark - ness, in the blaz - ing sun of
3 You who made the heav-en's splen - dor, ev-'ry danc - ing star of



face, you who sing cre - a - tion's sto - ry, shine on
dawn, in the light of peace and wis - dom, we can
night, make us shine with gen - tle jus - tice, let us



ev - 'ry land and race. Now as eve - ning falls a -
hear your qui - et song. Love that fills the night with
each re - flect your light. Might - y God of all cre -



round us, we shall raise our songs to you. God of day - break,
won - der, love that warms the wea - ry soul, love that bursts all
a - tion, gen - tle Christ who lights our way, lov-ing Spir - it



God of shad - ows, come and light our hearts a - new.
chains a - sun - der, set us free and make us whole.
of sal - va - tion, lead us on to end - less day.

1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear;
 2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain pro - claim the bride - groom near;
 3 The saints, who here in pa - tience their cross and suf - f' rings bore,
 4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;

the eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.
 go forth as he ap - proach - es with al - le - lu - ias clear.
 shall live and reign for - ev - er when sor - row is no more.
 a - rise, O Sun so longed for, o'er this be - night - ed sphere.

The bride - groom is a - ris - ing and soon is draw - ing nigh.
 The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; the gates wide o - pen stand.
 A - round the throne of glo - ry the Lamb they shall be - hold;
 With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see

Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; at mid - night comes the cry.
 A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; the bride - groom is at hand.
 in tri - umph cast be - fore him their di - a - dems of gold.
 the day of earth's re - demp - tion that sets your peo - ple free!

Post Communion Blessing & Prayer & Benediction

Recessional *I Want to Walk as a Child of Light*

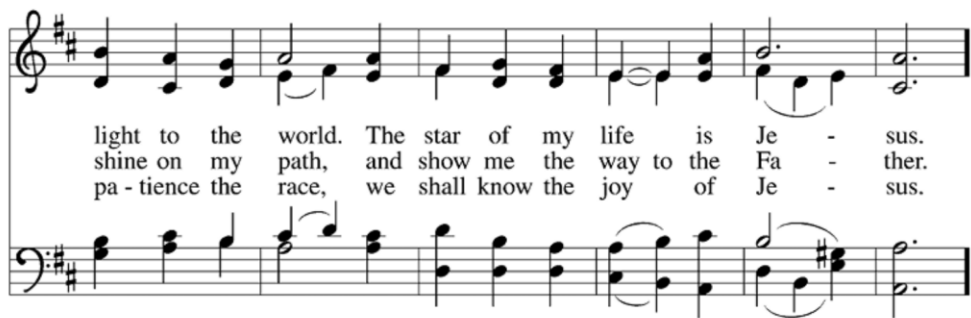
815



1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to
 2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to
 3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to



fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give
 look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous-ness,
 be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with



light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.
 shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.
 pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain



In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the



Postlude & Dismissal



Sunday, September 6

Name Tag Sunday

8:30 a.m. Worship

11:00 a.m. Worship

Tuesday, September 8

11:00 a.m. Bible Study w/ Pastor Chris – hybrid

3:00 p.m. Bible Study 101 Lite w/ Pastor Chris

7:00 p.m. Bible Study w/ Pastor Chris – online only

Wednesday, September 9

9:00 a.m. Peacemakers Quilting Group

Thursday, September 10

7:30 p.m. Digital Committee Meeting

Sunday, September 13

God's Work Our Hands Sunday

Blessing of the Backpacks

Blessing of the LWR Quilts

8:30 a.m. Worship

9:45 a.m. Sunday School Begins!

9:45 a.m. Confirmation Class

9:45 a.m. Personal Care Kit Assembly in the Fellowship Hall

11:00 a.m. Worship

John and Samantha de Graffenried Evans would like to extend an invitation to the members of Grace Lutheran Church to attend the baptism of Mary Anne Elizabeth Evans on Saturday September 26th at 12:00 pm. A casual luncheon will follow the baptism. The baptism will be held at St. Paul's Lutheran Church (Stoverstown), 4767 Lehman Road, Spring Grove, PA 17362.

Kindly RSVP if you plan to attend to Kathie de Graffenried at (845)216-2302 (phone or text).

God's work. Our hands.



September 13, 2026

Grace Lutheran Church

Christopher Chantelau, *Pastor* • Becki Advocate, *Music Director*
Kristen Halderman, *Parish Administrator* • Samantha Calamera, *Sexton*
Doug Jenkins, *Dig. Ministry* • Rev. Dr. Timothy Kennedy, *Pastor*
Emeritus

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