HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Anchored in His Word

24th after Pentecost

Order of Worship

November 8, 2026

Words of Welcome

Prelude

Order of Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, our dwelling place for all generations, whose compassion never slumbers.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God,
we confess that we have trusted in our preparation instead of your invitation. We prioritize our piety over care for your beloved. We trust the voice of our shame and fear, which keeps us from entering fully into relationship with you and others. We are not awake to the coming of your reign. Rouse us and rescue us, that we may enter into your joy. Amen.

Inherit the riches of God's grace. ☩ Jesus, the good shepherd, feeds you with his mercy. You are forgiven. Blessed are you.
Amen.

Gathering Hymn ***Come, We That Love the Lord*** ELW 625

Greeting

From the one who is and who was and who is to come, and from Jesus Christ, the first fruits of the resurrection, grace and peace be with you all. **And also with you.**

Kyrie

In peace let us pray to the Lord.
Lord have mercy.
For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord have mercy.
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 mercy.
For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy.
Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord.
Amen

This is the Feast

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.
This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Power, riches, wisdom and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his.
This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing, honor, glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen
This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.
This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray together.
O God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

[Sit]

Youth Message

Choral Anthem

All Who Believe Lloyd Larson
The Luther Singers

First Lesson **Amos 5:18-24**

18 Alas for you who desire the day of the LORD!
Why do you want the day of the LORD?
It is darkness, not light;
19 as if someone fled from a lion,
and was met by a bear;
or went into the house
and rested a hand against the wall,
and was bitten by a snake.
20 Is not the day of the LORD darkness, not light,
and gloom with no brightness in it?
21 I hate, I despise your festivals,
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.
22 Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,
I will not accept them;
and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals
I will not look upon.
23 Take away from me the noise of your songs;
I will not listen to the melody of your harps.
24 But let justice roll down like waters,
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

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

Psalm **Psalm 70**

(*Congregation speaks together.)*

1 Be pleased, O God, to deliver me;
O LORD, make haste to help me.

[2]Let those who seek my life be put to shame and confounded;
let those who take pleasure in my misfortune
draw back and be disgraced.
[3]Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat over me
turn back because of their shame.
[4]Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you;
let those who love your salvation say forever, "Great is the LORD!"
[5]But as for me, I am poor and needy; come to me quickly, O God.
You are my helper and my deliverer; O LORD, do not tarry.

Second Lesson **1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**

[13]We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. [14]For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. [15]For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. [16]For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, 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 be with the Lord forever. [18]Therefore encourage one another with these words.

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

Alleluia Verse [Stand]

Alleluia. Lord to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia!

Holy Gospel

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord**



Matthew 25:1-13

[Jesus said to the disciples:] [1]"Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. [2]Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. [3]When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; [4]but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. [5]As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. [6]But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' [7]Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. [8]The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' [9]But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' [10]And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. [11]Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' [12]But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' [13]Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

Response: The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ**

[Sit]

Sermon

[Stand]

Hymn of the Day ***Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers*** ELW 244

Apostles' Creed

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He 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.
He will come again 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

United with the great cloud of witnesses, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

[After each petition, the congregation responds with: **[Hear Our Prayer].**

You illumine the church with the hope of your new day. Prepare our hearts and minds for the inbreaking of your kingdom, that we might awaken to your transforming love at work all around us. God, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

You create and sustain the earth's natural rhythms so that all life might thrive. Show us the wisdom and wonder of nature's balance; make us careful stewards of our common home. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You make justice roll down in all places and among all nations. Encourage all who protect vulnerable communities and help rebuild in the aftermath of conflict. Uphold veterans and those who care for them. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You hasten to heal our wounds and make whole what is broken. Comfort individuals facing a difficult diagnosis, receiving palliative care, or facing uncertain treatment options. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You give rest to weary hearts and bodies. As the days grow shorter in the north, help us to move more slowly and intentionally through our days, honoring the need for quiet and stillness. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You welcome those who have come before us in faith into the joys of heaven. Sustain us by your grace and guide us into the promise of everlasting life. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Into your steadfast love, faithful God, we entrust all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus, your beloved.
Amen.

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**
(The congregation is asked to greet one another with the words of Christ: "Peace be with you.")

Offering [Sit]

Offertory [Stand]

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be filled with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and the dreams of all, unite them with the prayers we offer now. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

Offertory Prayer

Let us pray together. **Eternal God, our time, talents, and treasures are gifts from you. Receive what we offer, and all that you entrust to us, until hungry no more, all the world is fed, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

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 him thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy . . . *(Here the minister continues with the preface appropriate to the day or season, concluding:)* we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest.

Words of Institution

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

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

[Sit]

Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

Communion

All are welcome at the Lord's table.
We're nourished together by the body and blood of our Lord.

Communion Hymns

For the Bread Which You Have Broken	ELW 494
Blessed Assusrance	ELW 638
O God, Our Help in Ages Past	ELW 880

Post-Communion Canticle

[Stand]

Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev'ry one what he has done.
Let ev'ry one who seeks the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name.
He recalls his promises and leads his people forth in joy
With shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray together**. Holy God, we have received your never-ending mercy in this meal. You continuously seek the lost, bind the injured, and feed your people abundantly. Now send us out, awake to your presence, now and forever. Amen.**

Sending Hymn

When Peace like a River ELW 785

Benediction

The holy Trinity, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you with wisdom to welcome the reign of God, today and always.
Amen.

"The Peace of God"

(Sung by choir and congregation)

Whatsoever things are honest,
whatsoever things are true,
Whatsoever things are pure and lovely,
think on these things.
Whatsoever things are wholesome,
whatsoever things are good,
If there be any virtue, be any praise,
think on these things.
And the peace of God
that passes all understanding
Shall keep your hearts,
shall keep your minds
on Jesus Christ.

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

"Our worship is ended; our service and our witness continue!"

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Serving Today

* Assisting Minister	8:15 service	Carol Townsend
	10:45 service	John Hanson
* Director of Music		Sandy Hunter
* Lector	8:15 service	Ann Buehler
	10:45 service	Judy Kruger
* Greeters	10:45 service	Sandi & Fred St. John
* Ushers	10:45 service	Jeannine Sieck & Janice Weber
* Communion Assistant	10:45 service	Judy Kruger
* Counters		Mary Leyden & Barbara Mefford

Last week's attendance, in person and streaming: 98

Calendar of Events for This Week

Monday	- Knitting & Crochet ministry, 2 PM
Tuesday	- Men's Bible Study/Ellijay, 9 AM, Mike's Restaurant
	- Ladies Bible Study, 12:15
Wednesday	- Food Pantry, 8 AM-1 PM
	- Choir rehearsal, 5:30 PM
Thursday	- Quilters, 10 AM
	- Co-ed Bible Study, 2 PM
	- Calendar meeting, 4:30 PM

Next Week's Scripture Readings Are...

First Reading – Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18
Psalm – Psalm 90:1-8, 12
Second Reading – 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
Gospel – Matthew 25:14-30

Mid-Week Altar Guild – Doris Goplin

Next Week's Worship Assistants Are…

8:15 **Lector** -Jan Austin
10:45 **Lector** - John Hiscox
Greeters - Art & Wanda Dodge
Ushers – Steven & Amy Freese
Communion Asst - John Hiscox
Counters – Karie Rench & Steven Freese

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Installation of Pastor Paula

Please join us on Sunday, November 15, at the 10:45 a.m. service for the installation of Pastor Paula. We look forward to celebrating this special occasion together as a congregation!

Thanksgiving Dinner

Join us on Sunday, November 22, 2026, as we gather in gratitude and fellowship! We will have one worship service at 10:00 AM, followed by a Thanksgiving Dinner in Founder's Hall.

The church will provide turkey, dressing, mashed potatoes & gravy, and rolls. We ask that members of the congregation bring their favorite vegetable dishes, casseroles, salads, or desserts to share.

Church Office Closed Thanksgiving Week

The church will be closed Tuesday through Friday, November 23rd-27th. The office **will** be open on Monday, November 30th. If you have a pastoral need while the office is closed, please call Pastor Paula directly at 865-719-1292

Looking Ahead to December

-- We will decorate for Advent on Saturday, November 28th at 10 AM
-- Luther Singers Christmas Cantata, Sunday December 13th, during combined worship at 10 AM

Hope Lutheran Church

Ministering in His Mountains



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"Making Christ known through reaching, welcoming, praising, equipping and sending"