



A Welcoming Christ-Centered Community
11223 – 51 Ave NW, Edmonton, AB T6H 0L5
Ph: 780-434-4012

Email: church@holyspiritlutheran.ca
Website: www.holyspiritlutheran.ca
Facebook: Holy Spirit Lutheran Church



October 11, 2026 – Thanksgiving Sunday Service of Holy Communion

Pastor: Rev. Liz Bell
Assisting Minister: Carola Unsworth
Ministers: Every member
Ushers: Toby S & Rick S

Council President: Karen Oko
Musician: Jared Samborski
Video/Live Stream: Anton Chell
Worship Host: Kathryn Elford

Welcome

Gathering Song “Now Thank We All Our God” (ELW 840)

Greeting

Prayer of the Day

Children’s Time

First Reading

 Isaiah 25:1-9

¹O Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you; I will praise your name, for you have done wonderful things, plans formed of old, faithful and sure. ²For you have made the city a heap, the fortified city a ruin; the palace of foreigners is a city no more; it will never be rebuilt. ³Therefore strong peoples will glorify you; cities of ruthless nations will fear you. ⁴For you have been a refuge to the poor, a refuge to the needy in their distress, a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat. When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm, ⁵the noise of foreigners like heat in a dry place, you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds; the song of the ruthless was stilled. ⁶On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear. ⁷And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the covering that is spread over all nations; ⁸he will swallow up death forever. Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he

will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken. ⁹ It will be said on that day, "See, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation."

Psalm 23 spoken responsively

¹ The Lord is my shepherd;

I shall not be in want.

**² The Lord makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.**

³ You restore my soul, O Lord,

and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

**⁴ Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.**

⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

**⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

Second Reading Philippians 4:1-9

¹ My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved. ² I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. ³ Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my coworkers, whose names are in the book of life. ⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. ⁸ Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹ As for the things that you have learned and received and heard and noticed in me, do them, and the God of peace will be with you.

Gospel Acclamation – ‘Come to Alberta’ Canadian Liturgy

Gospel Matthew 22:1-14

¹ Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: ² "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. ³ He sent his slaves

to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. ⁴Again he sent other slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.' ⁵But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. ⁷The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. ⁸Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' ¹⁰Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad, so the wedding hall was filled with guests. ¹¹"But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, ¹²and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?' And he was speechless. ¹³Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' ¹⁴For many are called, but few are chosen."

Sermon

Song of the Day '*Praise and Thanksgiving*' (ELW 689)

Affirmation of Faith

from Universe Sunday, posted on the Web of Creation website. webofcreation.org/SeasonofCreation/universe.html

We believe that God creates all things,

renews all things, and celebrates all things.

We believe Earth is a sanctuary, a sacred planet

filled with God's presence, a home for us to share with our kin.

We believe that God became flesh and blood,

became a part of Earth, a human being called Jesus Christ,

who lived and breathed and spoke among us,

suffered and died on a cross,

for all human beings and for all creation.

We believe that the risen Jesus is the Christ at the core of creation

reconciling all things to God, renewing all creation,

and filling the universe.

We believe the Spirit renews life,

creation groans in empathy

with a suffering creation, and waits with us

for the rebirth of creation.

Prayers of Intercession

In our prayers: Gertie B, Susan K, Cody M, Brendan S, Pr. Erin T, Shirley E, Pr. Rod A, Darlene & Randy F, Anna E, Pathma D, Lasantha J, Margaret O, Dwight M & family, Hubert L, Marla W, family of Sonia Willems who are mourning her loss, and those we hold dear in our hearts.

Ministry Moment

Peace

Offertory *‘Great is Thy Faithfulness’* (ELW 733), vs 2

Offering Prayer

Words of Institution

Lord’s Prayer Emerging Church movement’s retranslation from the Aramaic – Mark Berry

O Breathing Life, your Name shines everywhere!

Release a space to plant your Presence here.

Imagine your possibilities now.

Embody your desire in every light and form.

Grow through us this moment's bread and wisdom.

Untie the knots of failure binding us,

as we release the strands we hold of others' faults.

Help us not forget our Source,

Yet free us from not being in the Present.

**From you arises every Vision, Power and Song
from gathering to gathering.**

Amen - May our future actions grow from here!

Invitation to Communion

Communion Songs

‘Lamb of God’ All Creation Sings (ACS Setting 12)

‘Come, Ye Thankful People, Come’ (ELW 693)

‘Sing to the Lord of Harvest’ (ELW 694)

‘For the Beauty of the Earth’ (ELW 879)

Prayer after Communion

Blessing

Community Life

Sending Song *‘Let All Things Now Living’* (ELW 881)

Dismissal

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