First Lutheran Church

An ELCA Congregation

Celebrating 176 years of continuous ministry in Galveston!



Sunday, November 22, 2026

Christ the King Sunday

10:00 AM Worship & Communion

Welcome!

<u>ALL</u> are welcome here! Believers, doubters, people with questions, people with pasts, all walks of life…People!
We are thankful that YOU are here!



On this final Sunday of the church year our gospel is Jesus' great story of judgment. In the end, the faithful are those who served Christ by ministering to those who are poor, hungry, naked, sick, or estranged. In the first reading God is the shepherd who seeks the lost, weak, and injured and feeds them with justice. We gather this day to celebrate the reign of Christ and his victory over death, yet we await the consummation of all things yet to come. Acknowledging Christ as our merciful ruler, we go forth that his reign may be known in our loving words and deeds.

Christ the King Sunday

November 22, 2026

Holy Communion 10:00am

Prelude & Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Confession & Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth. **Amen.**

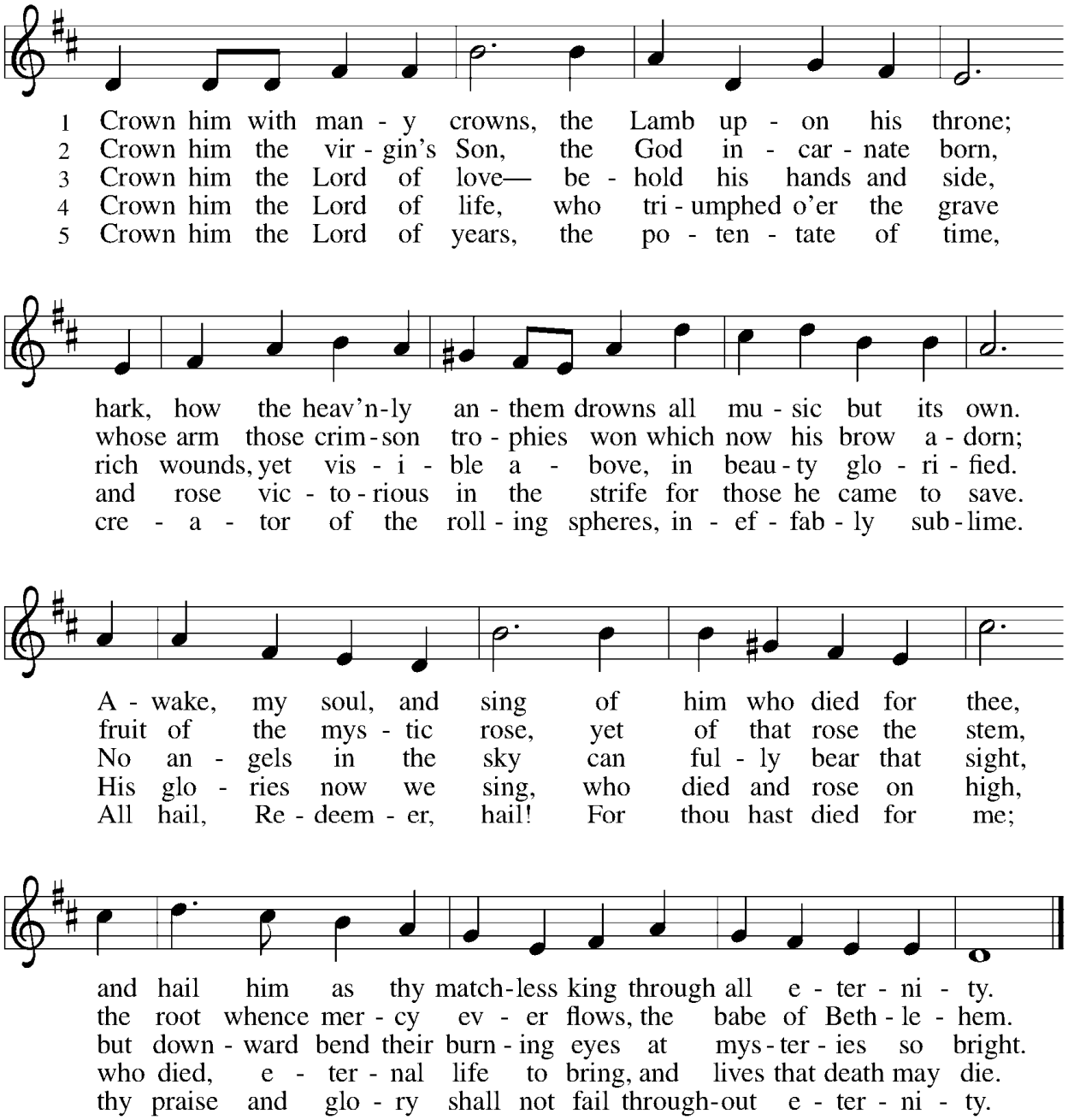
Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection. Please kneel or be seated.

Compassionate God,
we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts.
Creation groans from overuse.
Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.
Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.
Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. We have sinned in thought, word and deed.
Turn our hearts back to you.
Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.
Renew us to live as your holy people,
following the way of Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Hear this good news:
We have peace with God through ☩ Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace. **Amen.**
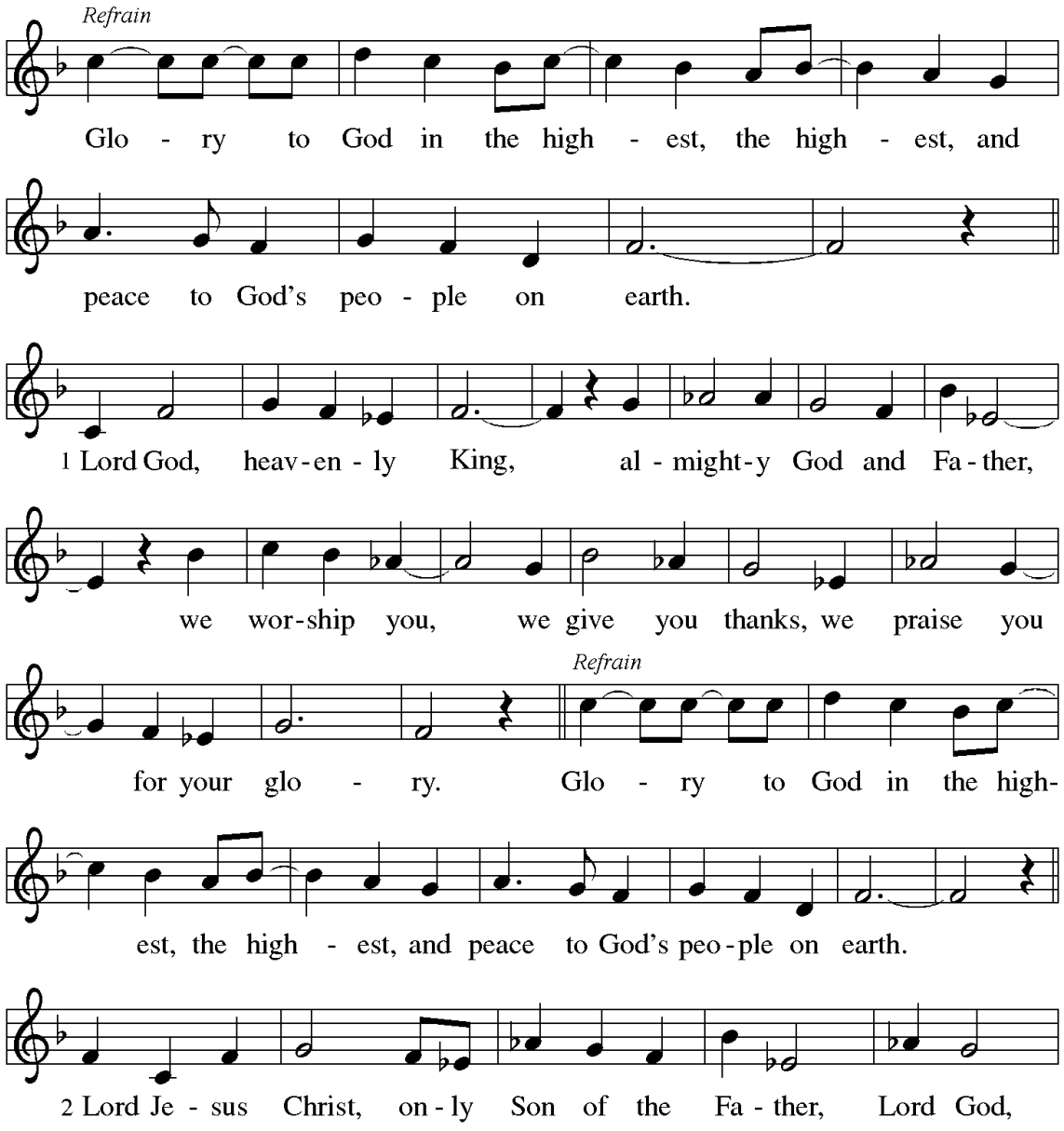
Crown Him with Many Crowns
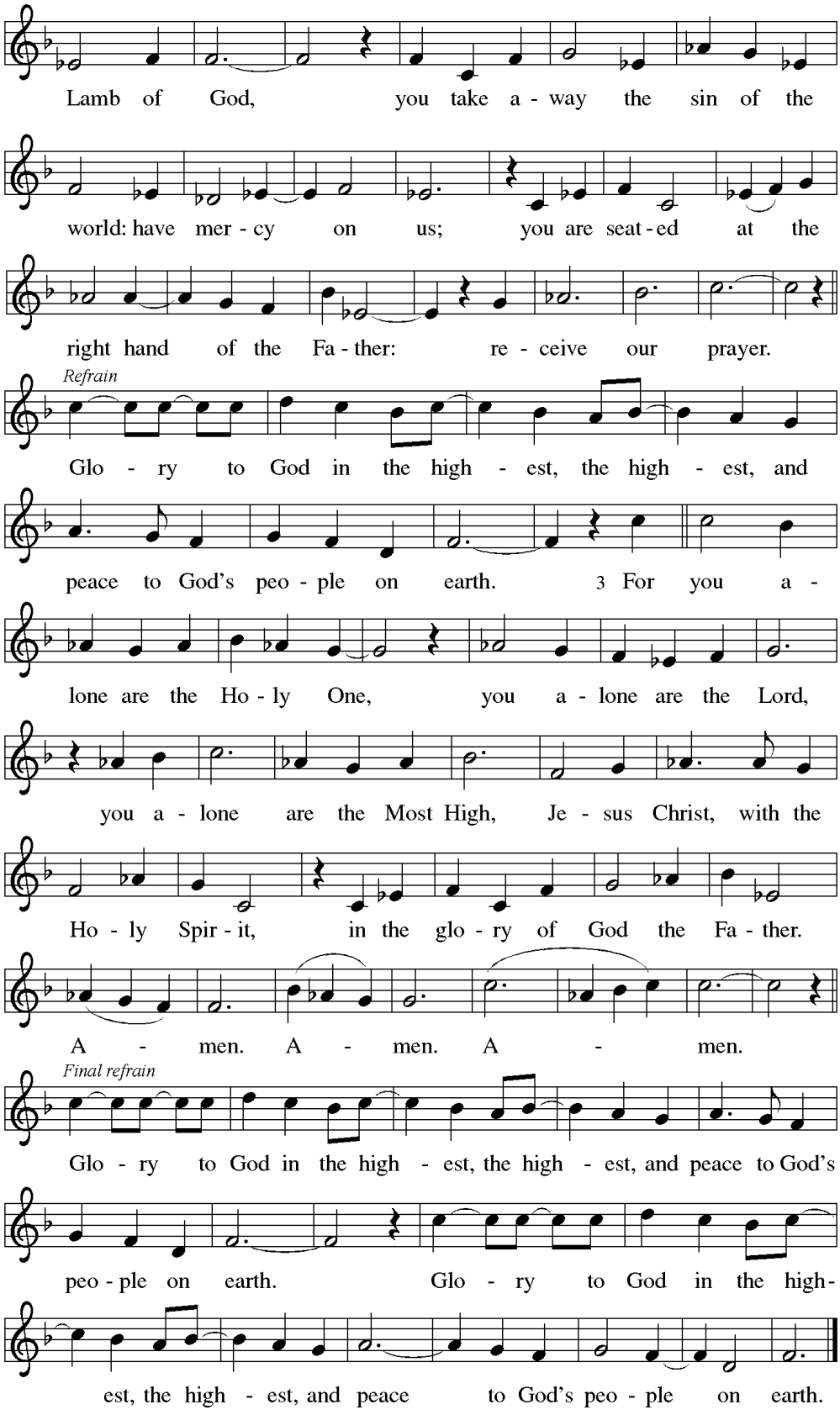


Apostolic Greeting

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

All And also with you.


Refrain
Glo - ry to God in the high - est, 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
Refrain
for your glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high-
est, 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.
Refrain
Glo - ry to God in the high - est, 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. A - men. A - men.
Final refrain
Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and peace to God's
peo - ple on earth. Glo - ry to God in the high -
est, the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

Prayer of the Day

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.

Children's Message

Children are invited forward for a special message with Ms. Krista!

Word

God speaks to us in scripture, preaching and song.

First Reading: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

Because Israel's kings proved to be bad shepherds, Ezekiel declares that the Lord will assume the role of shepherd in Israel. The Lord will also set over them a shepherd-messiah, "my servant David," who will feed and care for the people.

Lector The first reading comes from Ezekiel the 34th chapter.

11 Thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my
sheep and will sort them out. 12 As shepherds sort out
their flocks when they are among scattered sheep,
so I will sort out my sheep. I will rescue them from all
the places to which they have been scattered on a
day of clouds and thick darkness. 13 I will bring them
out from the peoples and gather them from the
countries and bring them into their own land, and I
will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the

watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. 14 I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. 15 I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. 16 I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strays, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.
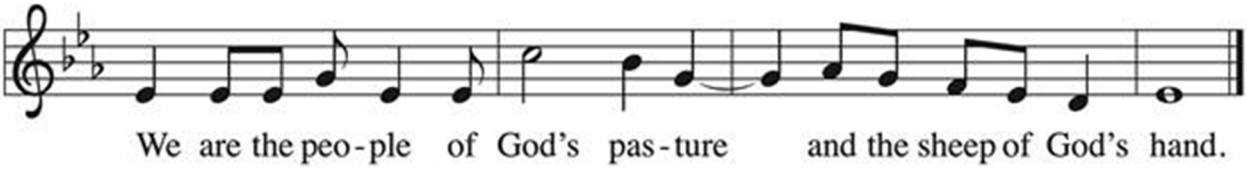
20 Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. 21 Because you pushed with flank and shoulder and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, 22 I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged, and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

23 I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them; he shall feed them and be their shepherd. 24 And I the Lord will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I the Lord have spoken.

Word of God. Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 95:1-7a



1 Come, let us sing | to the Lord;
let us shout for joy to the rock of | our salvation.
2 Let us come before God's presence | with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to the | Lord with psalms.
3 For you, Lord, | are a great God,
and a great ruler a- | bove all gods.
4 In your hand are the caverns | of the earth;
the heights of the hills are | also yours. R
5 The sea is yours, | for you made it,
and your hands have molded | the dry land.
6 Come, let us worship | and bow down,
let us kneel before the | Lord our maker.
7a For the Lord | is our God,
and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep | of God's hand. R

Second Reading: Ephesians 1:15-23

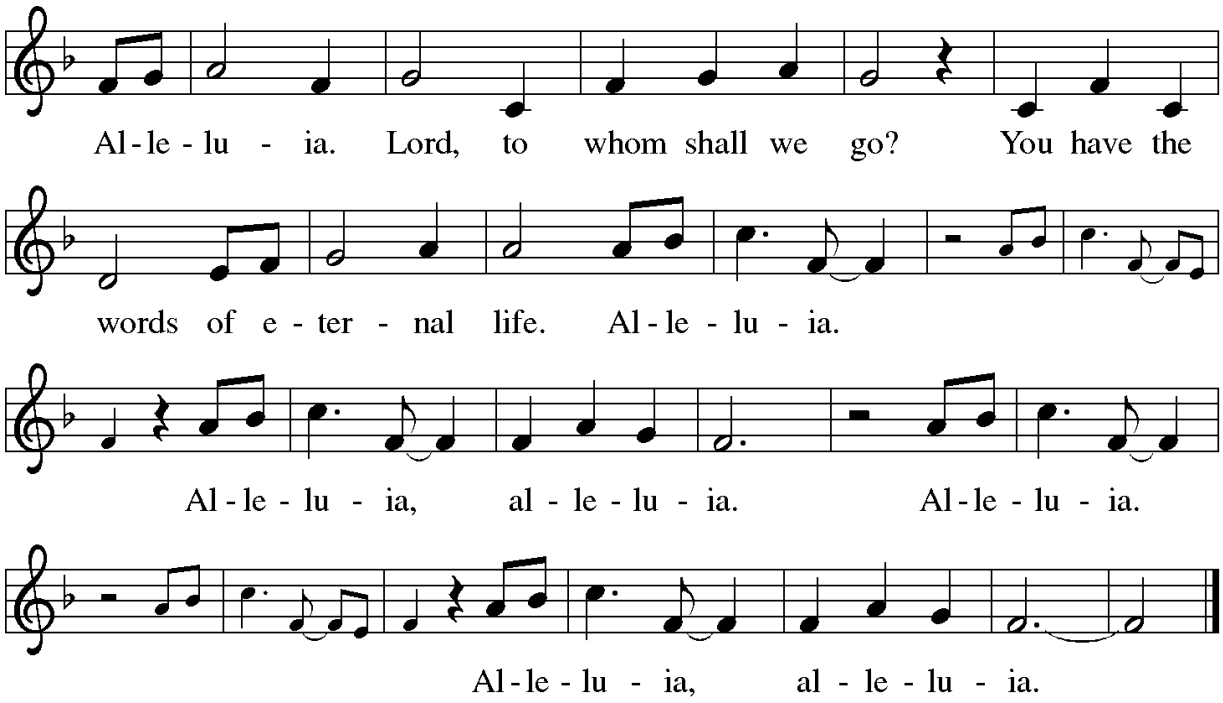
In this passage, God is praised for revealing ultimate divine power in raising Jesus from the dead. The resurrected, exalted Christ is Lord of both the church and the entire universe, now and in the age to come.

Lector The second reading comes from Ephesians the 1st chapter.

15 I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your
love toward all the saints, and for this reason 16 I do
not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in
my prayers, 17 that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom
and revelation as you come to know him, 18 so that,
with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may
perceive what is the hope to which he has called
you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance
among the saints, 19 and what is the immeasurable
greatness of his power for us who believe, according
to the working of his great power. 20 God put this
power to work in Christ when he raised him from the
dead and seated him at his right hand in the
heavenly places, 21 far above all rule and authority
and power and dominion and above every name
that is named, not only in this age but also in the age
to come. 22 And he has put all things under his feet
and has made him the head over all things for the
church, 23 which is his body, the fullness of him who fills
all in all.

Word of God. Word of life.
Thanks be to God.

Please stand as able to receive the gospel.



Gospel

Pastor The holy gospel according to St. Matthew, the 25th chapter.

All Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46

Jesus compares himself to a king who moves among his subjects to see how he is treated: what is done for the least of those who belong to his family is truly done for him.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] 31 "When the Son of Man comes in his glory and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. 32 All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, 33 and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. 34 Then the
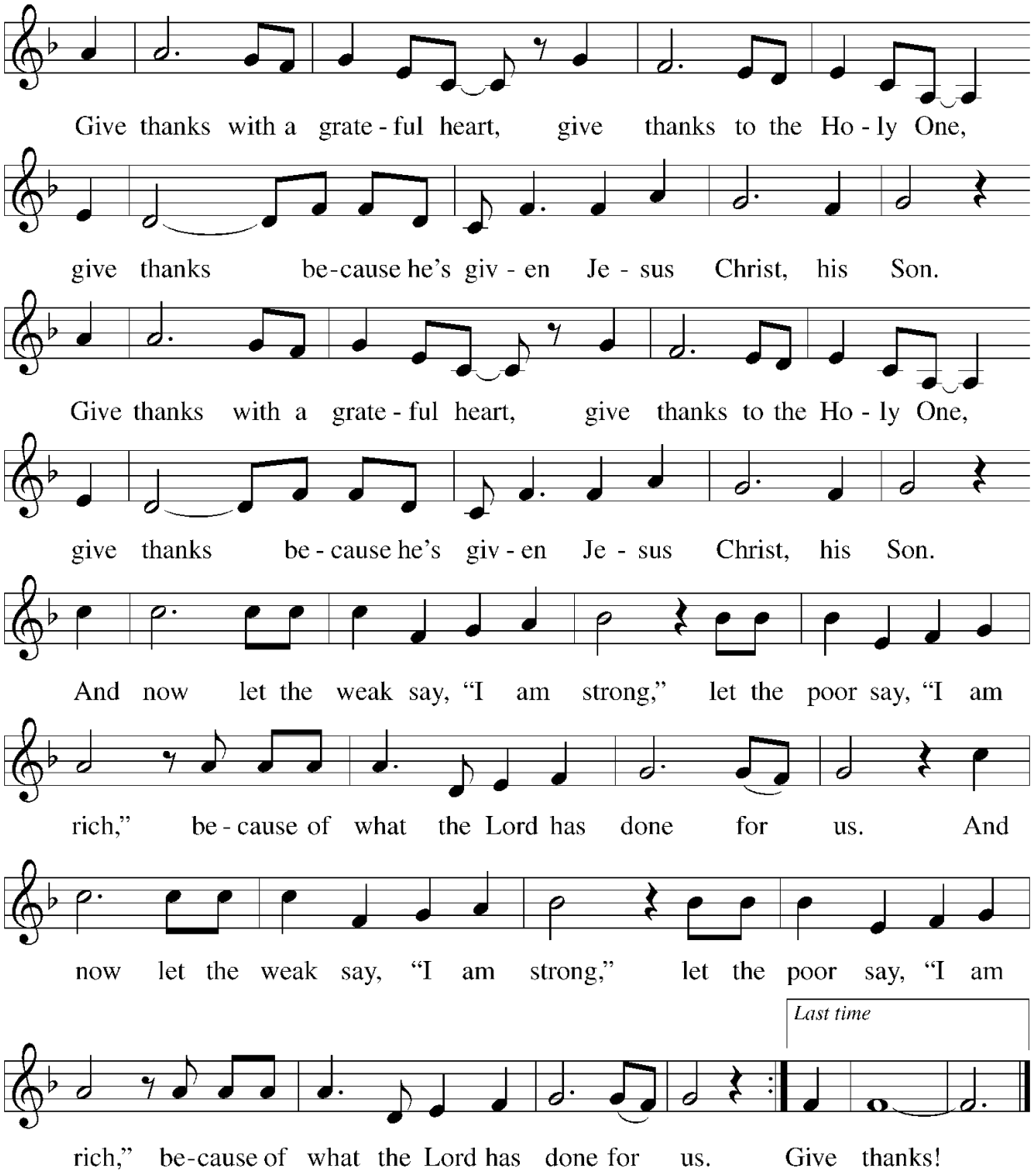
king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world, 35 for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, 36 I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ 37 Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink? 38 And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? 39 And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ 40 And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.’ 41 Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You who are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels, 42 for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, 43 I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ 44 Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and did not take care of you?’ 45 Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ 46 And

these will go away into eternal punishment but the righteous into eternal life."

Pastor The gospel of the Lord.
All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Song of Gratitude *To be sung one time through.*

Give Thanks
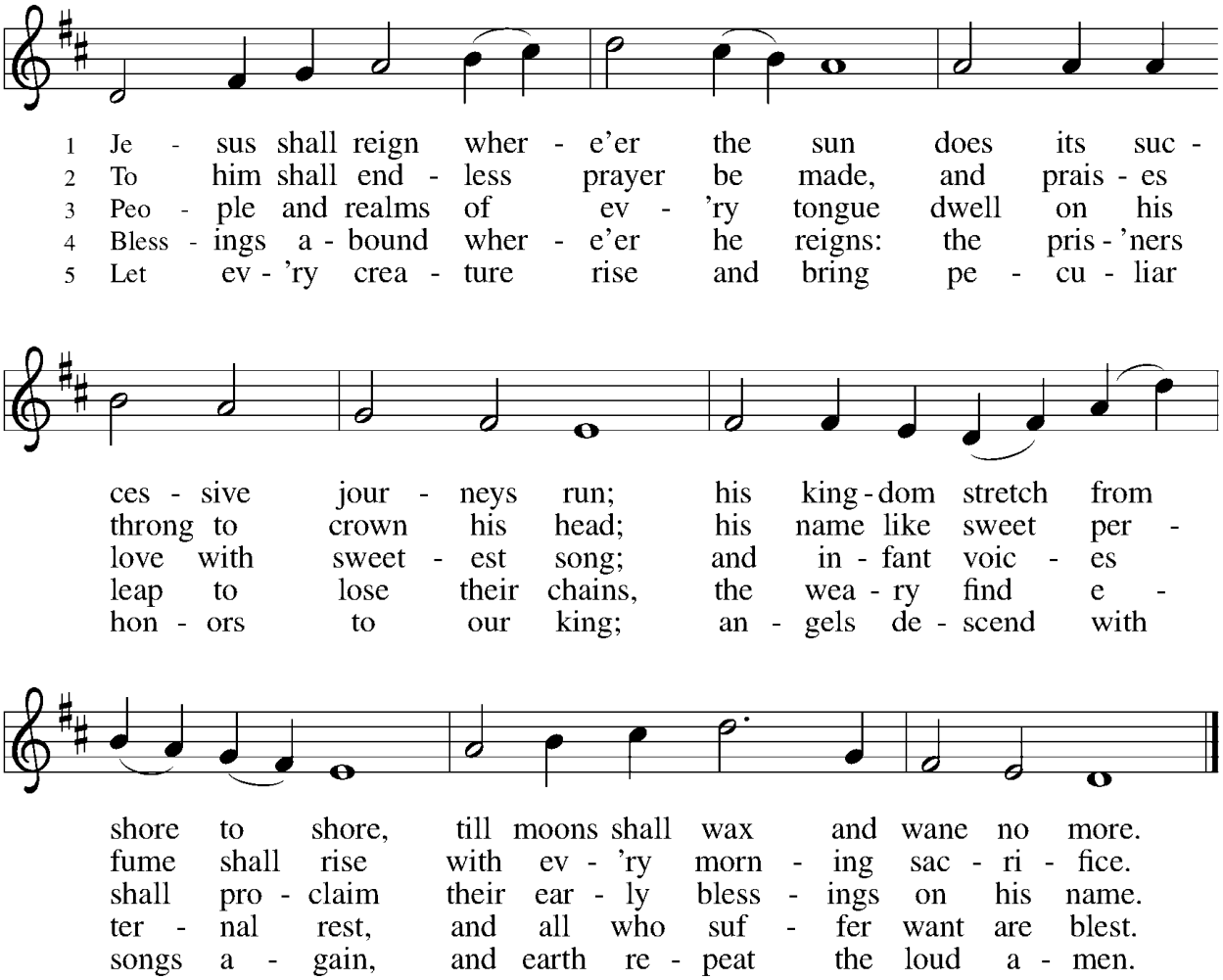


Please be seated.

Sermon **The Rev. Grant Housewright**

Please stand as able.

Jesus Shall Reign



CREED

Let us join in confessing the Christian faith with the words of the Apostles' Creed
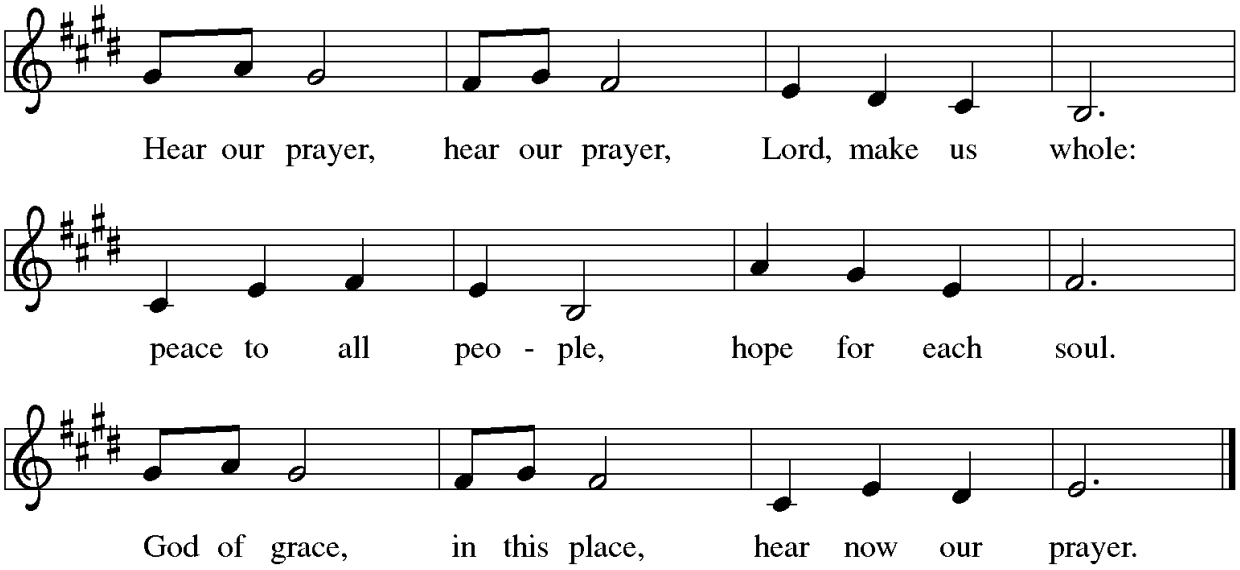
I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,

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 of Intercession

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

*Please kneel or be seated***.**



Prepare your people for your reign to come among us. Where the church is wary, make us bold; where we are complacent, stir us to action; where we are anxious, assure us of your never-ending care. Bring blessing and encouragement to our partners in ministry including Breashears-Schulz, and Haddad, our international partners in Peru, the Central African Republic, and the Maasai in Tanzania. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
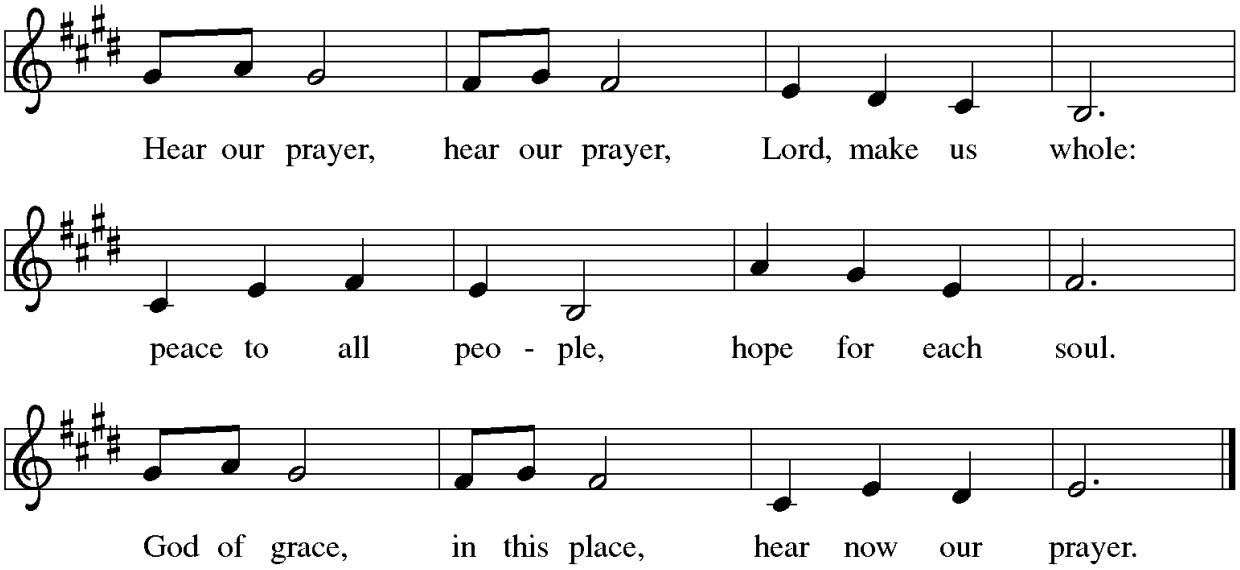
All the heights, depths, and expanses of the earth belong to you. Deliver every corner of your creation from disaster. Restore lands ravaged by floods, fires, drought, or contamination. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Gather all the nations at your side and teach them the ways of your kingdom of wholeness and abundant life. Empower judges, juries, and legal advocates to create and uphold pathways toward transformative justice. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bind up the wounds of all your people. Give courage to all who experience uncertainty, guide all people facing difficult decisions, and lift the spirits of any who are in need. We pray for Kurt, Peggy, Jim, Carla, Frank, those on our sustaining prayer list, and those we name now . . .. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Accompany communities struggling with conflict. Help us to listen deeply to one another, that we might know one another more fully and release any hurt or anger. Create ways of healing and reconciliation among us. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Fill us with the spirit of wisdom and perseverance that you grant to all the saints, and bring us, at the last, into the hope of your promised new day. 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.**

Passing the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also, with you.
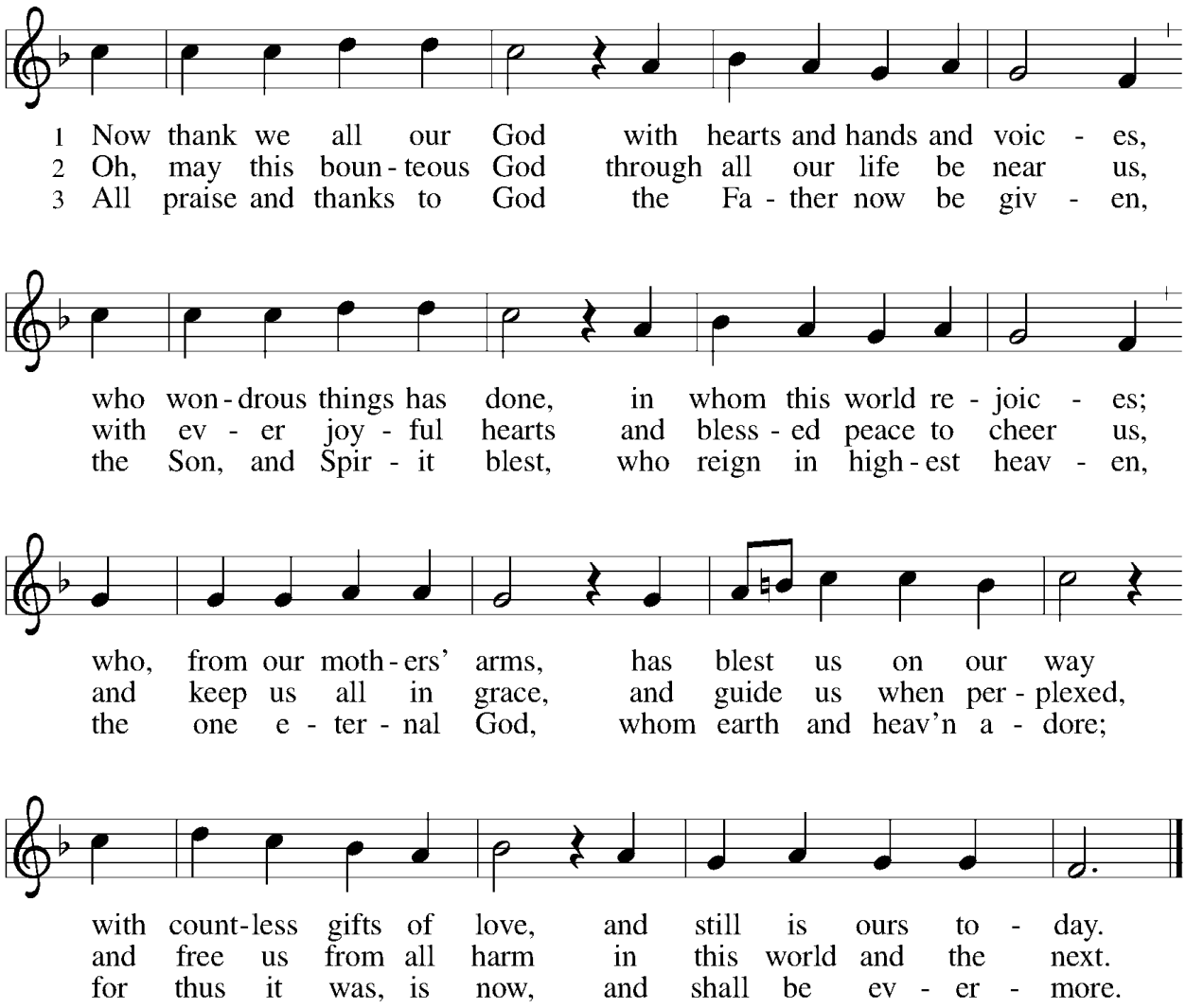
Offering

For those who wish to donate online the QR code will take you to the online giving page.

Please stand as able.

Offering Song

Now Thank We All Our God



Offering Prayer

God of creation, you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always. **Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving

Pastor The Lord be with you.
All And also with you
Pastor Lift up your hearts
All We lift them to the Lord.
Pastor Let us give thanks to the lord our God.
All It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Holy, Holy, Holy (ELW 413)

All Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!
Heav'n and earth are full of your glory and your grace.
Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who
Comes in the name of the Lord God most high.

Pastor In the night that Jesus was betrayed, in an upper room,
He took the bread and blessed it as he said,
Here's my body broken for you.

He took the cup and raised it up on high,
bowed his head and prayed,
And then he said my blood for you is shed,
a cleansing stream to wash your sins away.

All Come and see the Glory of the Lord,
come behold the Lamb,

Come and taste the mercy of the King,
bowing down before him.
For He is Lord above the heavens,
Lord in all the earth
Lord of all the angels,
Worthy to be served.

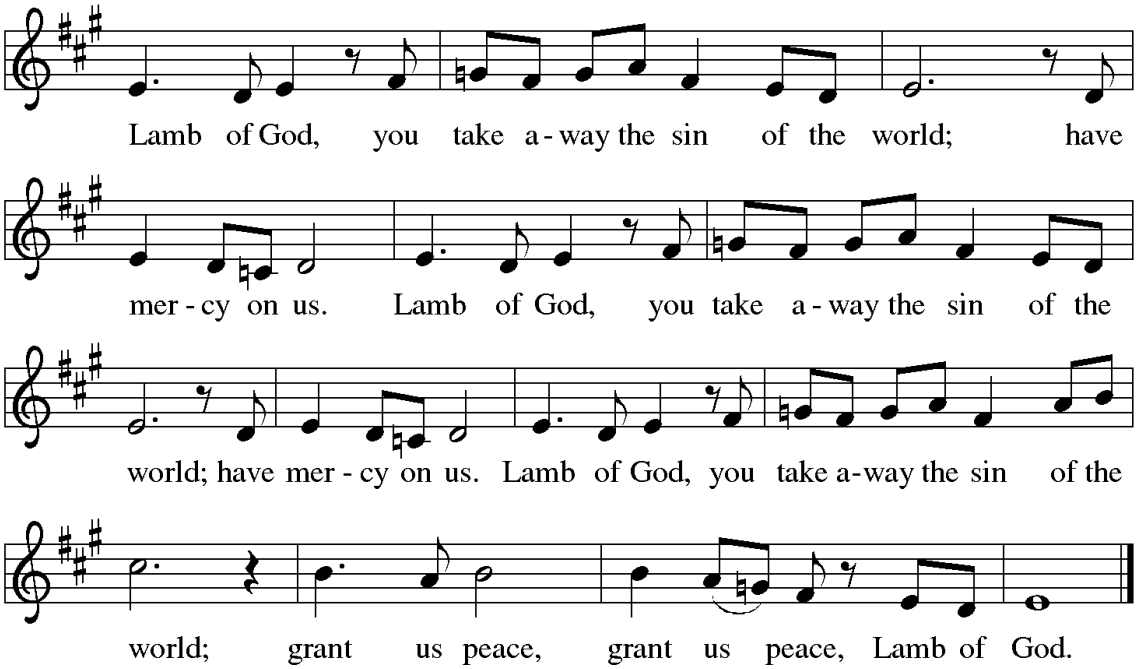
Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord.

Lord's Prayer
Let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

Invitation To Communion
Christ invites you to this table.
All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

Communion Song



Please be seated.

Reception of Holy Communion
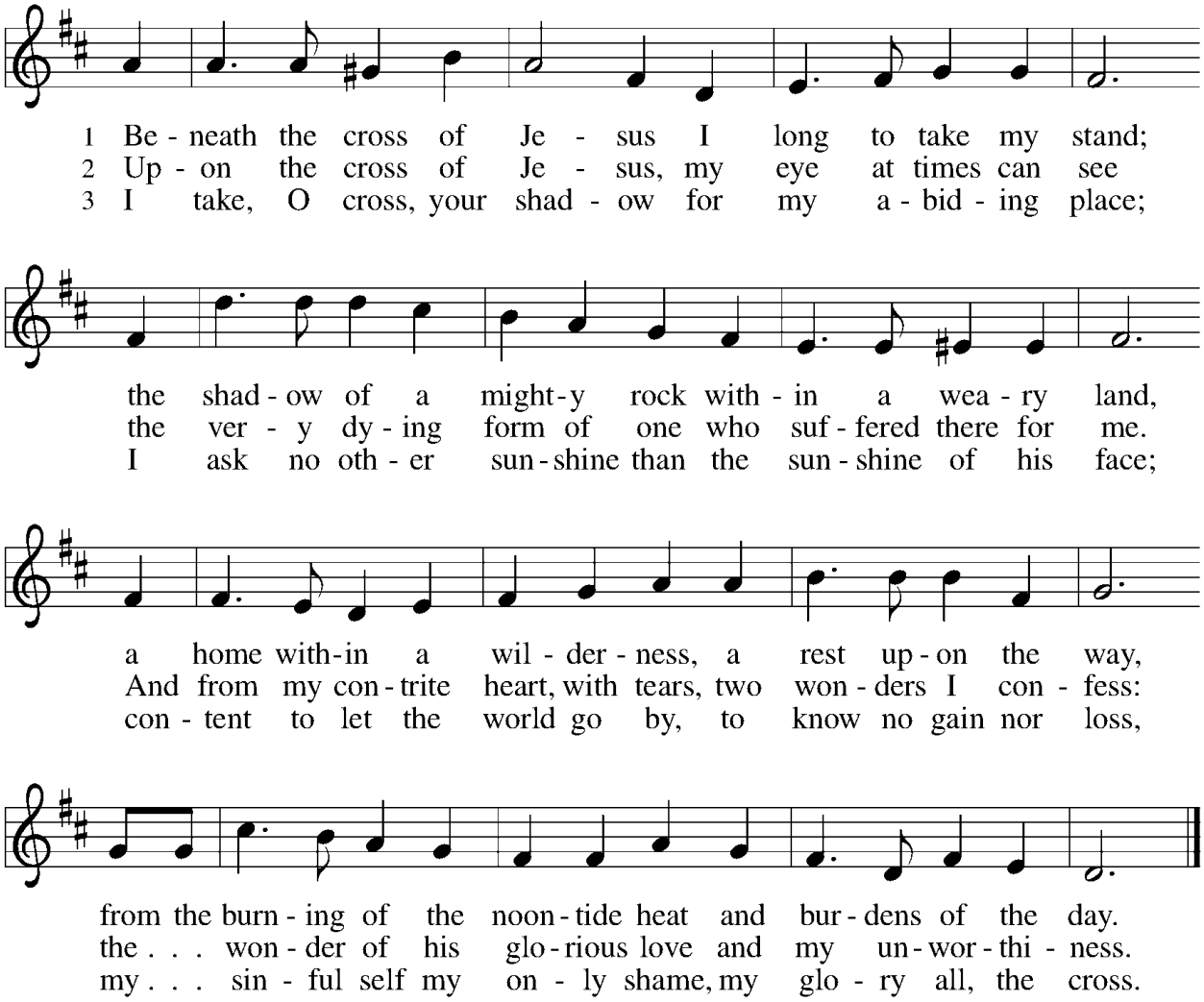
Music during the reception of Holy Communion

Distribution: Ushers will guide you to receive communion. Gluten free wafers are available from the Pastor. Both red wine and white grape juice are offered in the trays. For a blessing, come forward with your arms folded over your chest. A Healing Prayer Station is located in the Chapel.
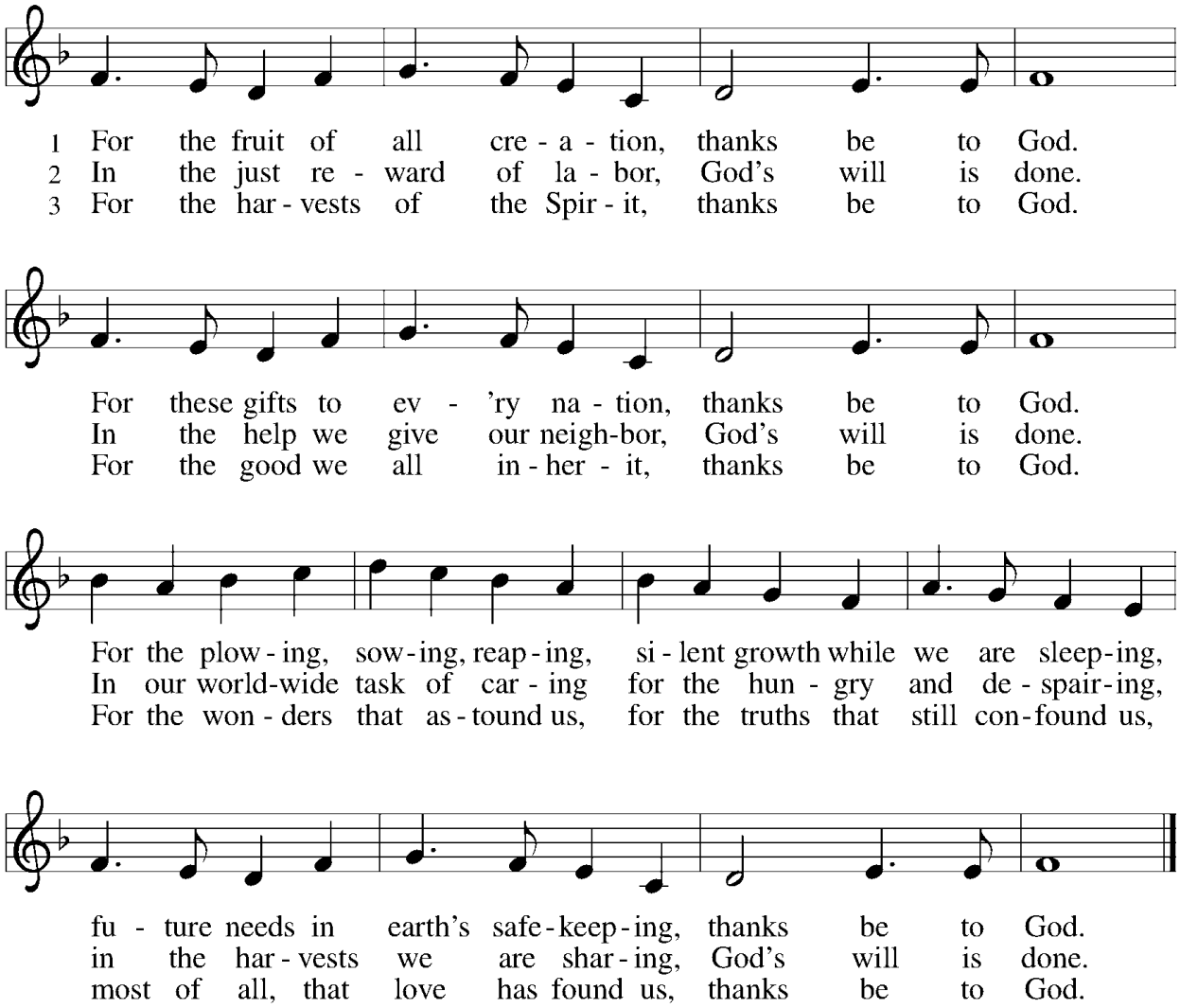
Today you may also light candles in remembrance of those who have gone before us or visit the ofrenda set up in the Chapel as an act of remembrance.

Communion Hymns

Beneath the Cross of Jesus



For the Fruit of All Creation



Please stand as able.

Communion Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ ☩ strengthen and preserve you in eternal life. **Amen.**

Prayer

Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.

Amen.

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Blessing

The God of love
draw you into full accord and one mind,
in the body of Christ Jesus.

Amen.
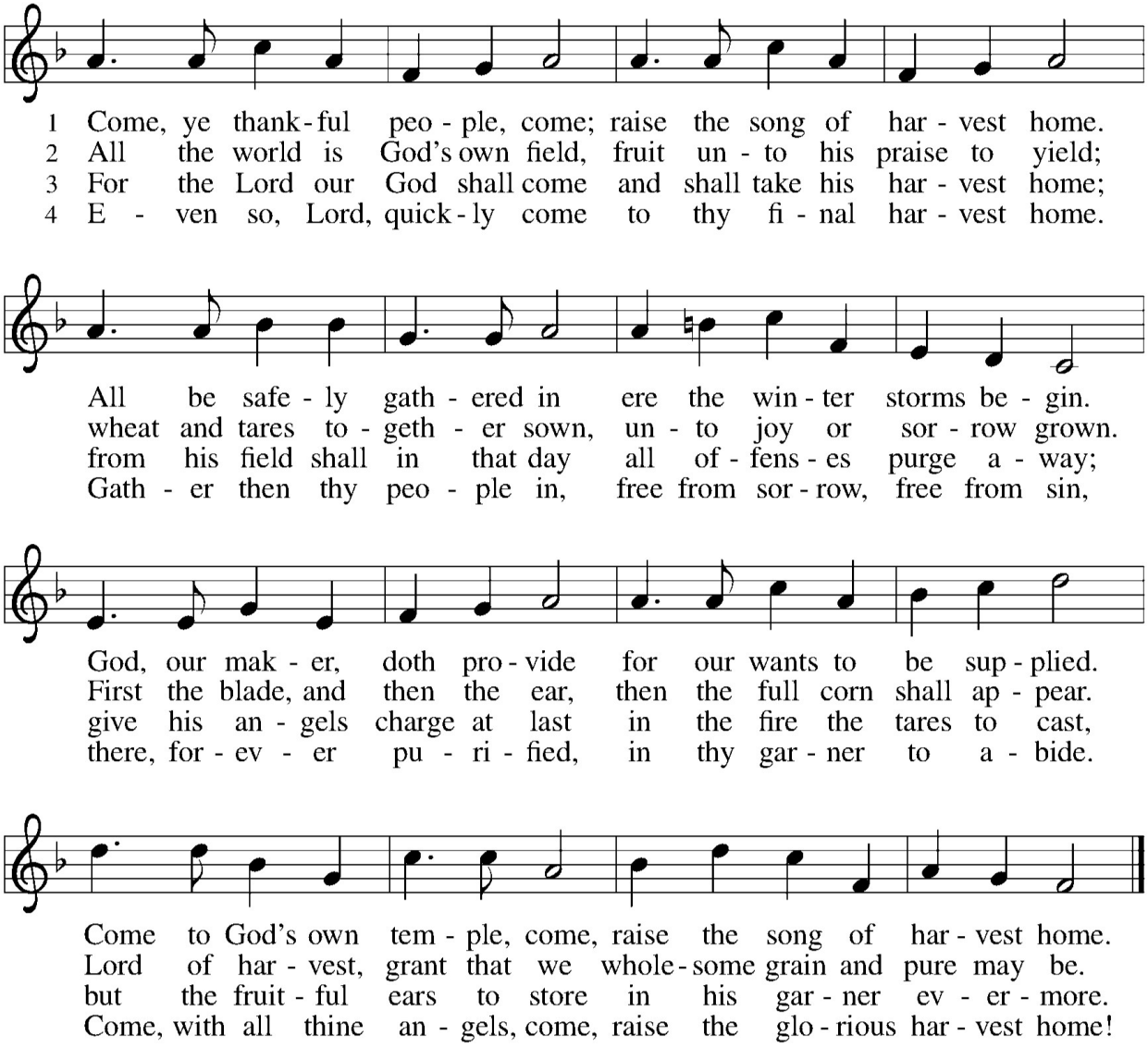
The God of hope
grant you strength and joy in all circumstances
through the interceding of the Spirit.

Amen.

The God of grace
✢ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come



Dismissal

Jesus calls us to be a community,

embracing all; nourishing mind, body and spirit.

We go into the world

Following Jesus – Loving All!

Go in peace. Encourage one another.

Thanks be to God. And we will!

Postlude

First Lutheran Church

Email: flcg@firstlutherangalveston.com
www.firstlutherangalveston.com

Church Office Hours, Monday – Thursday
9:00am to 12:00pm, 12:30pm to 3:00pm

The People of First Lutheran, Ministers

The Reverend A. Rhoades, Senior Pastor
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Krista Scheuerman, Youth, Family & Communications
youth@firstlutherangalveston.com

Don F. Hermanson, Director of Music/Organist

Annie Blancken, Executive Director,
Fanfare Lutheran Music Academy

Christina Muehe, Director, Lyceum
info@lyceumgalveston.com

Kim Robles, Nursery (Wiggle Room)

Let Us Know You Are Here!