First Lutheran Church

An ELCA Congregation

Celebrating 176 years of continuous ministry in Galveston!



Sunday, November 8, 2026

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost

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!



Today the prophet Amos calls for justice to roll down like waters. Paul urges us to encourage one another with the promised coming of the Lord. Jesus tells the parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids. Surrounded by the faithful of every time and place, we celebrate Christ's coming in our midst in the word of life and the feast of victory—the marriage feast of the Lamb.

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost

November 8, 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.
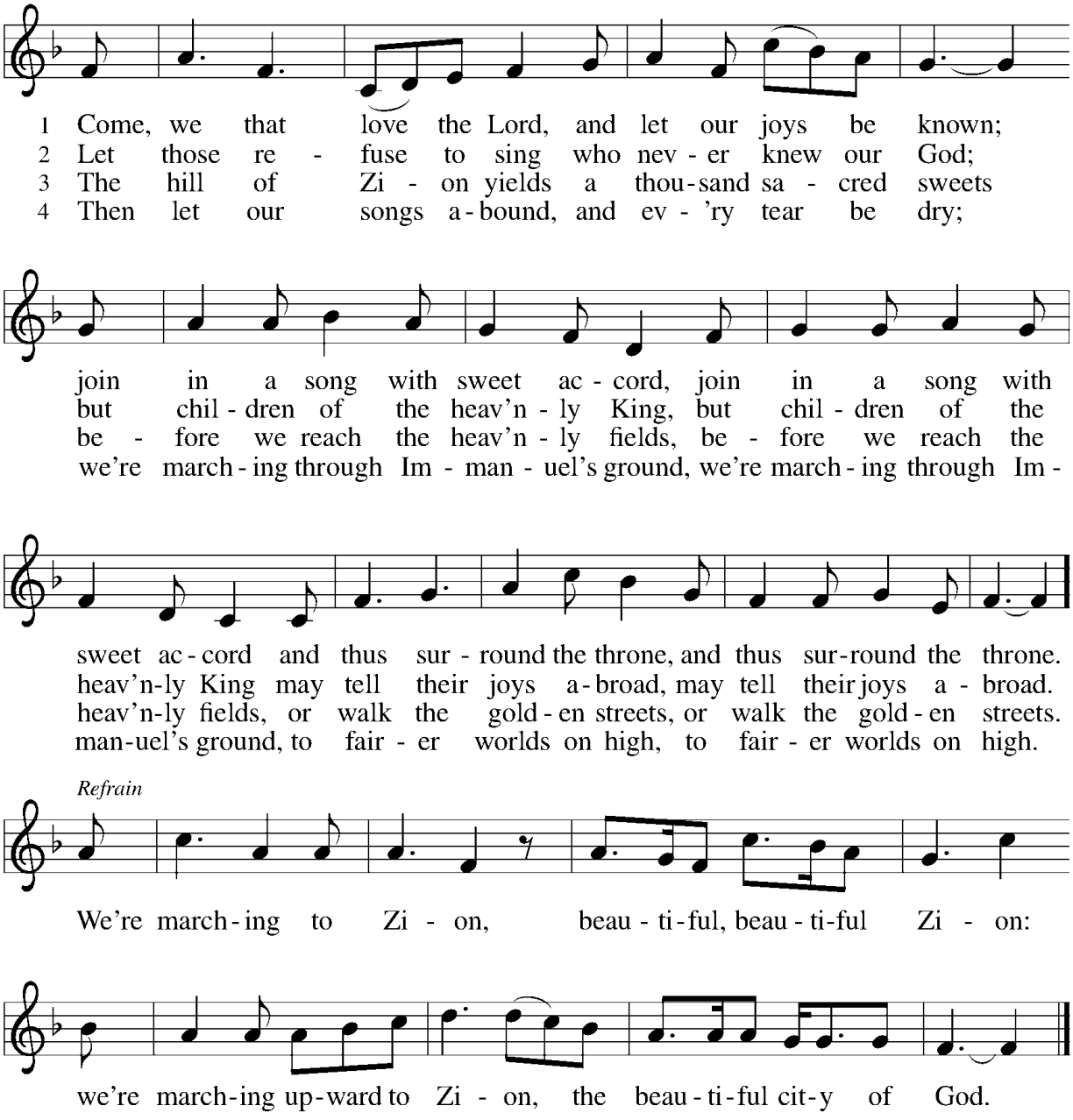
Compassionate God,
we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts.
Creation groans from overuse.
Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.
Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.
Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. We have sinned 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.

Come, We That Love the Lord
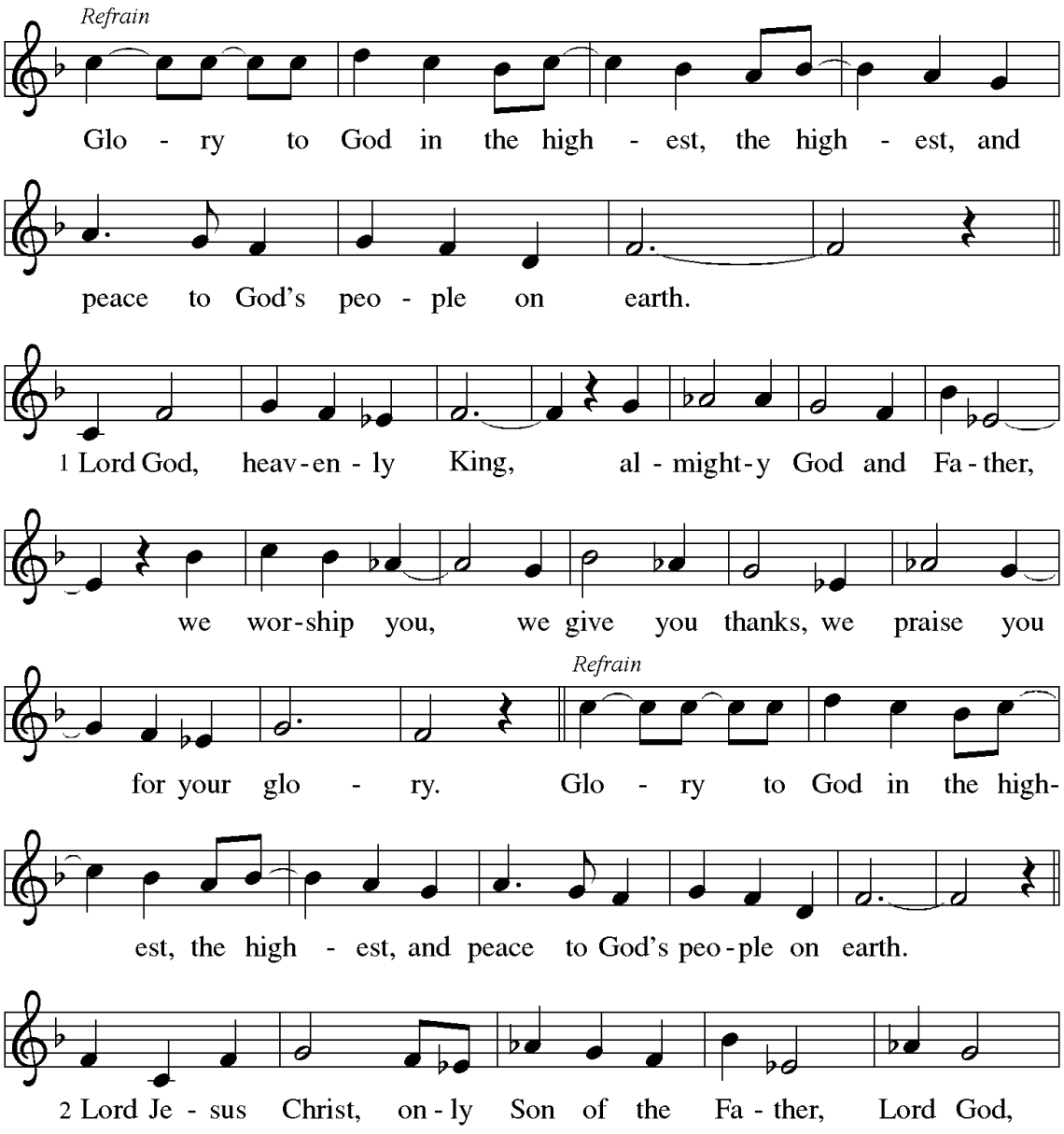
We're Marching to Zion
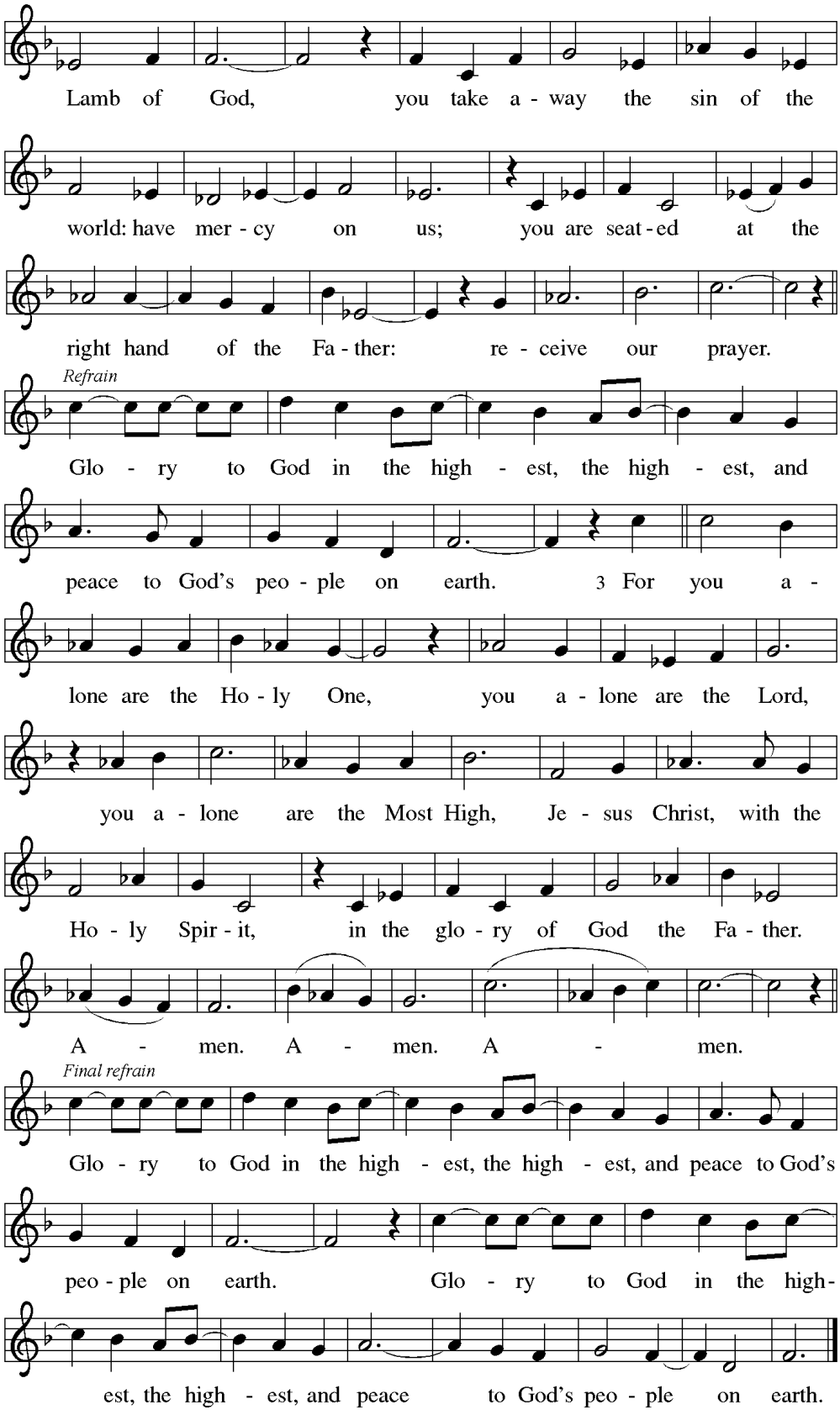


Apostolic Greeting

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.




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

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.

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: Amos 5:18-24

In the days of Amos, people thought that the day of the LORD would be a time of great victory, but Amos announced that it would be a day of darkness, not light. He said liturgy is no substitute for obedience. The LORD demands justice and righteousness in the community.

Lector The first reading comes from Amos the 5th chapter.

18 Woe to 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,

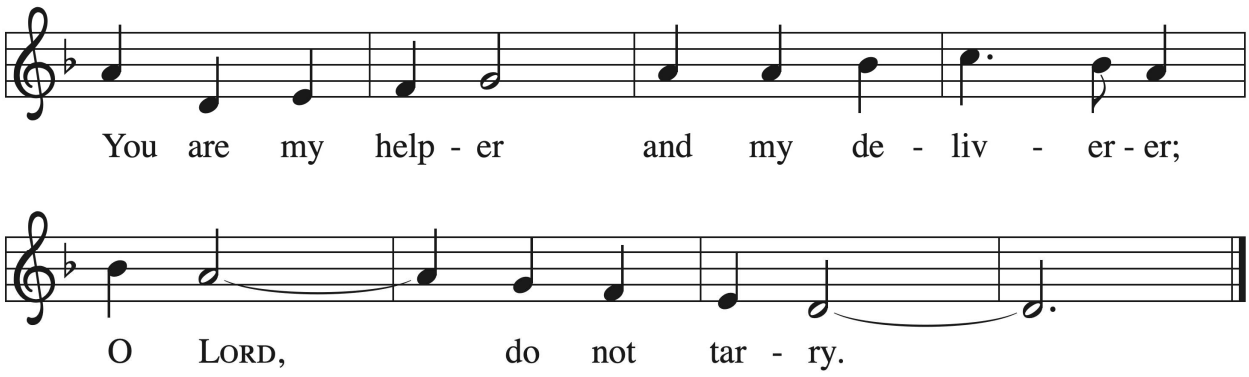
and gloom with no brightness in it?

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 water
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

Word of God. Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 70



1 Be pleased, O God, to de- | liver 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. R
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 quick- | ly, O God.
You are my helper and my deliverer; O Lord, | do not tarry. **R**

Second Reading: 1Thessalonians 4:13-18

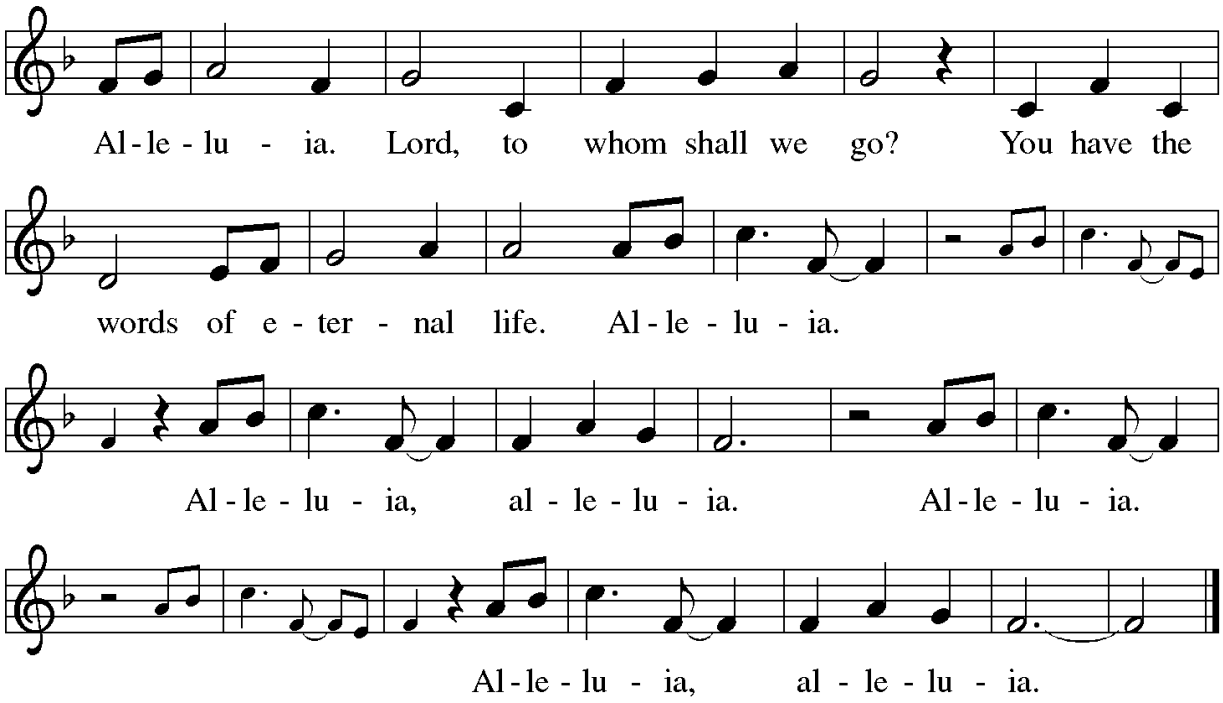
Some of the Thessalonians are worried that dead Christians will be excluded from the resurrection to eternal life when Christ comes again. Paul reassures them with the word of hope that all Christians, living or dead, will be raised into everlasting life with Christ.

Lector The second reading comes from the 1st chapter of Thessalonians.

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.

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 25:1-13

Jesus tells a parable about his own second coming, emphasizing the need for readiness at all times.
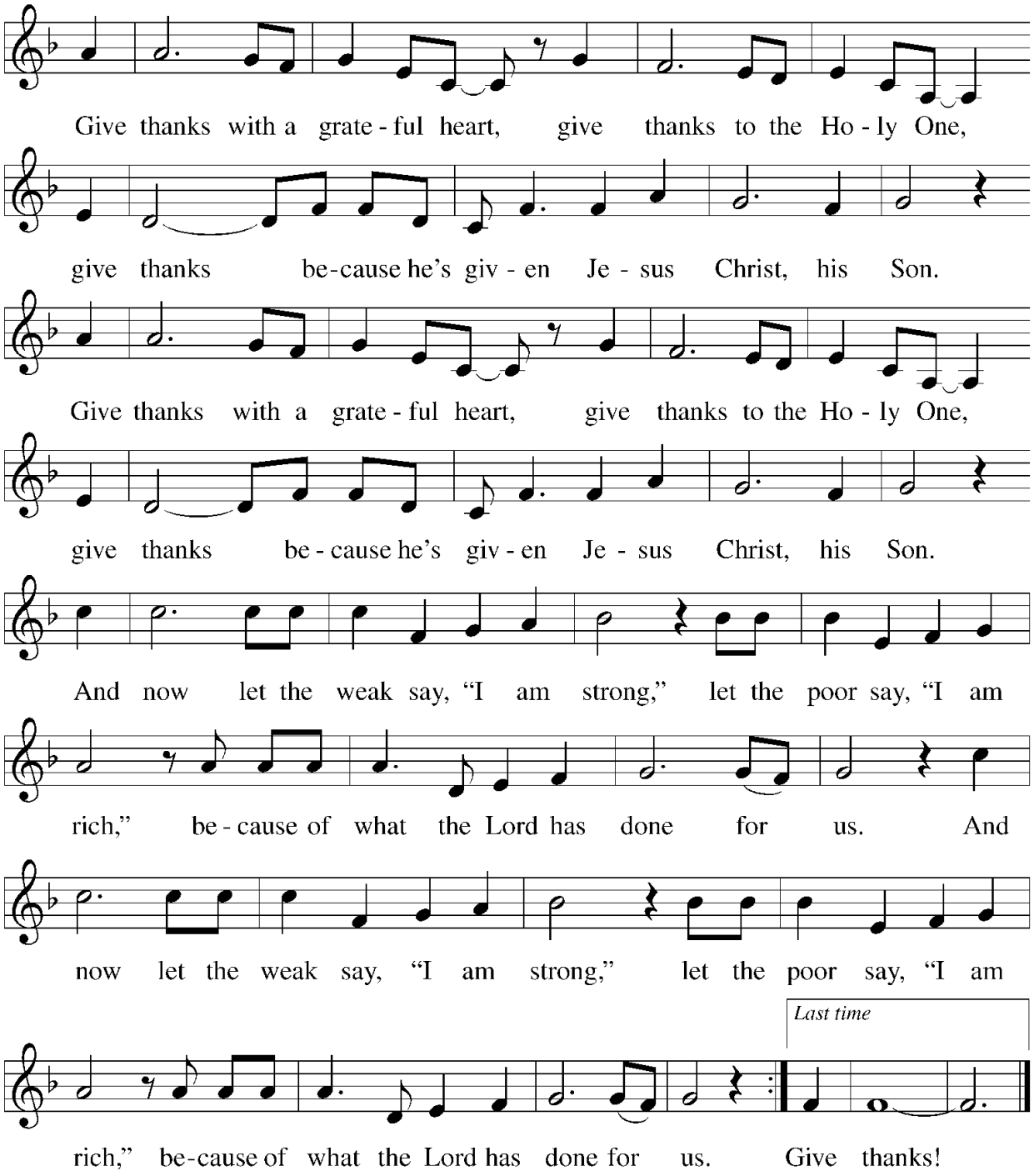
[Jesus said to the disciples:] 1 "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten young women took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. 2 Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. 3 When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, 4 but the wise took flasks of oil with their 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 young women 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 young women 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.”

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

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

Give Thanks

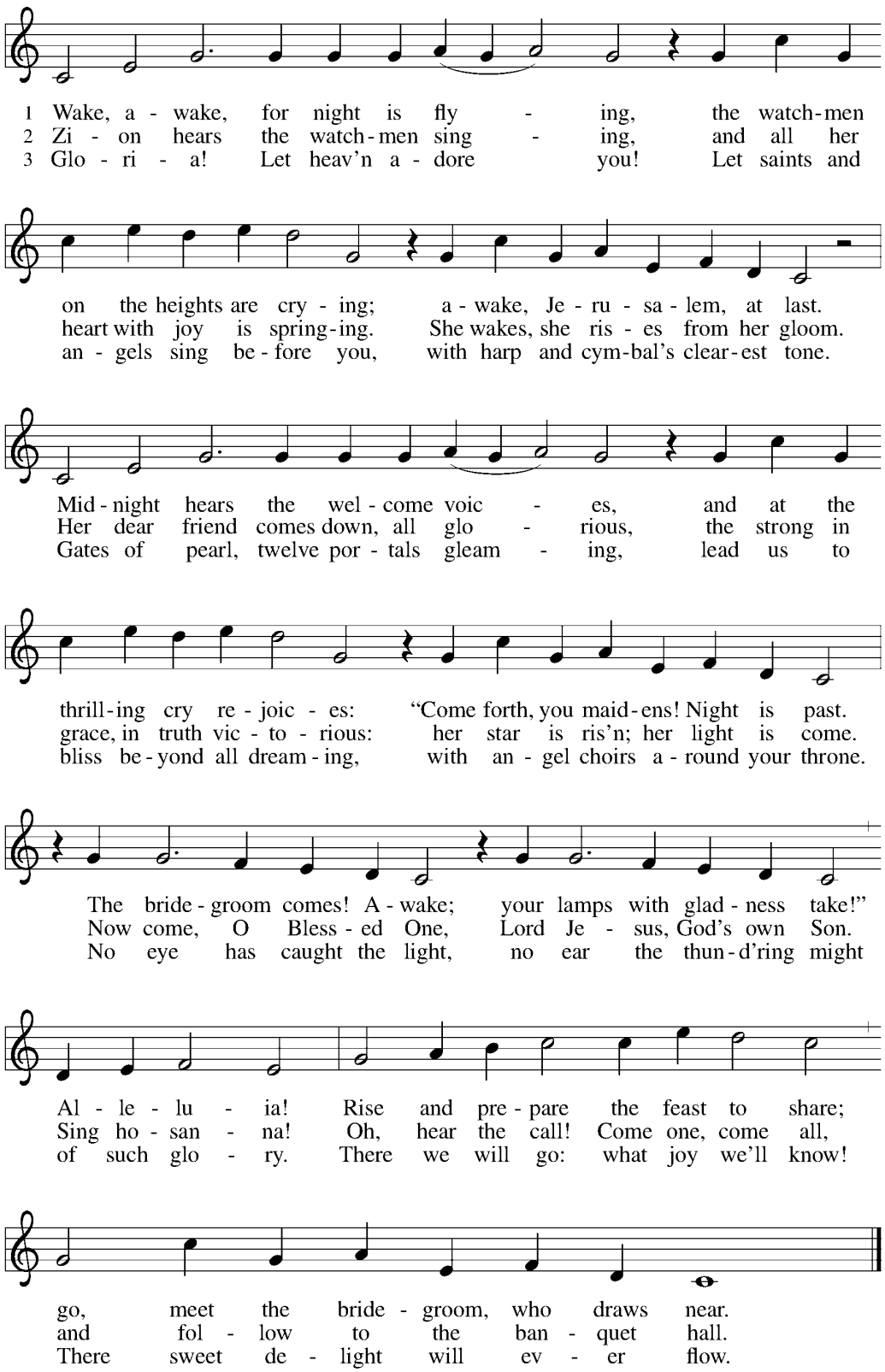


Please be seated.

Sermon **The Rev. Richard Rhoades**

Please stand as able.

Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying



CREED
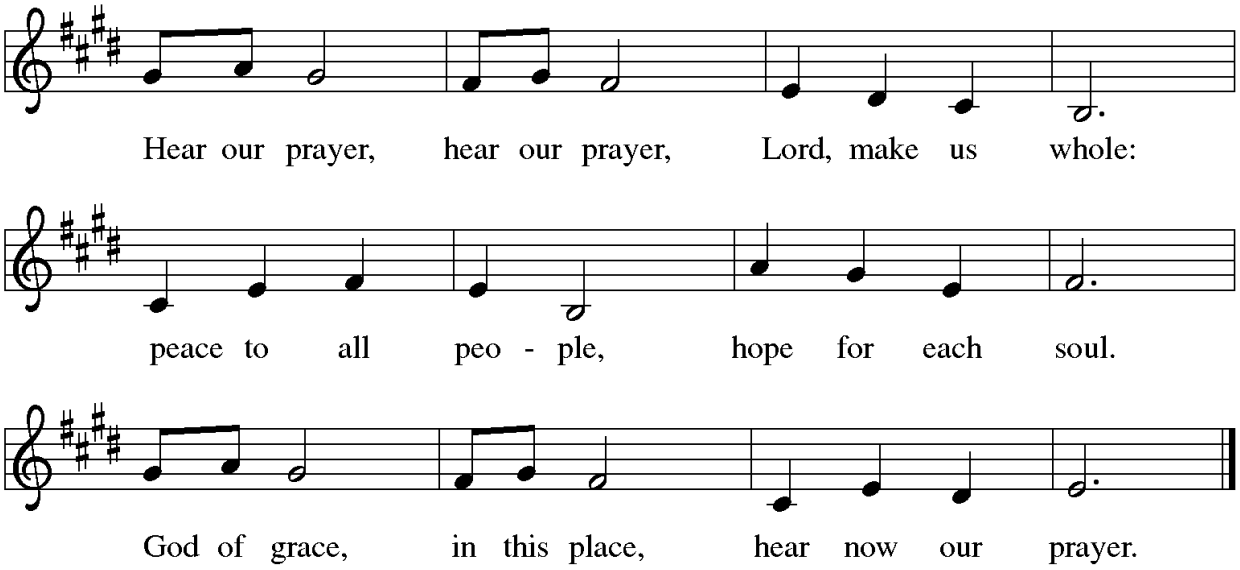
Let us join in confessing the Christian faith with the words of the Apostles' Creed

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.



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 bear witness to your transforming love at work all around us. We lift up Bishops Curry, Breashears-Schulz, and Haddad, our international partners in Peru, the Central African Republic, and the Maasai in Tanzania. Multiply their work in your name. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
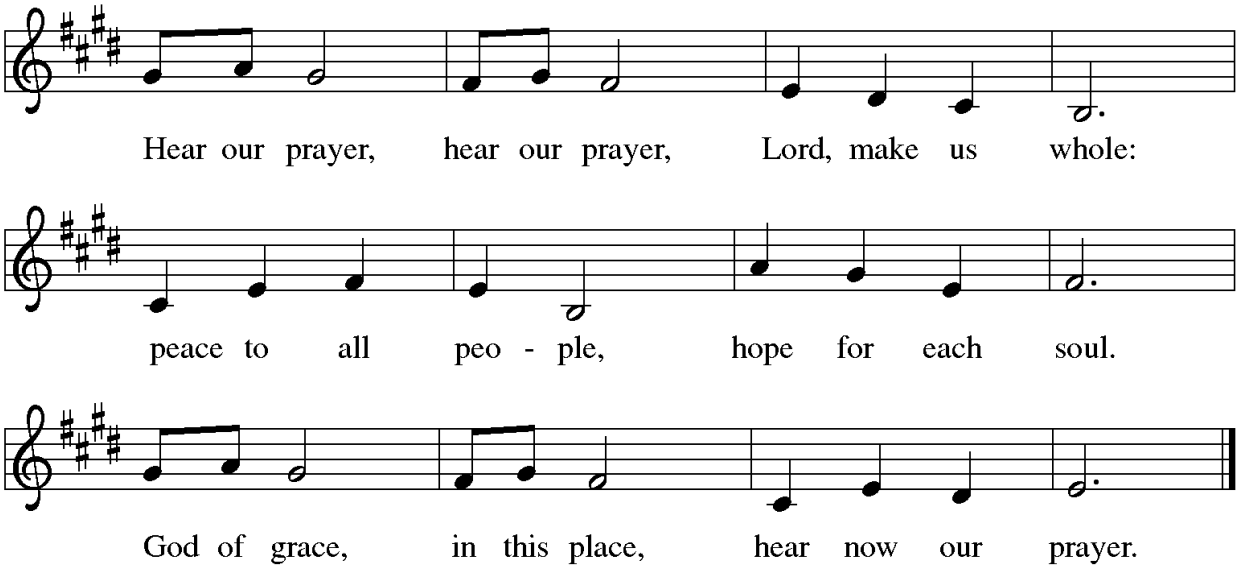
You create and sustain the earth's natural rhythms so that all life might thrive. Show us the wisdom and wonder of nature's balance; make us careful stewards of our common home. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You make justice roll down in all places and among all nations. Accompany justice with mercy and grace. Encourage all who protect vulnerable communities and help rebuild in the aftermath of conflict. We pray for our ministries of Lutheran World Relief and Lutheran Disaster Relief. 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 difficult diagnoses, receiving palliative care, or facing uncertain treatment options. We pray for families living with Alzheimer's Disease. Sustain them by your grace and calm their doubts and fears. We pray for Peggy, Danny, Jim, Carla, Don, Kay, Frank, those on our sustaining prayer list, and those we name now . . . 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.**

Passing the Peace

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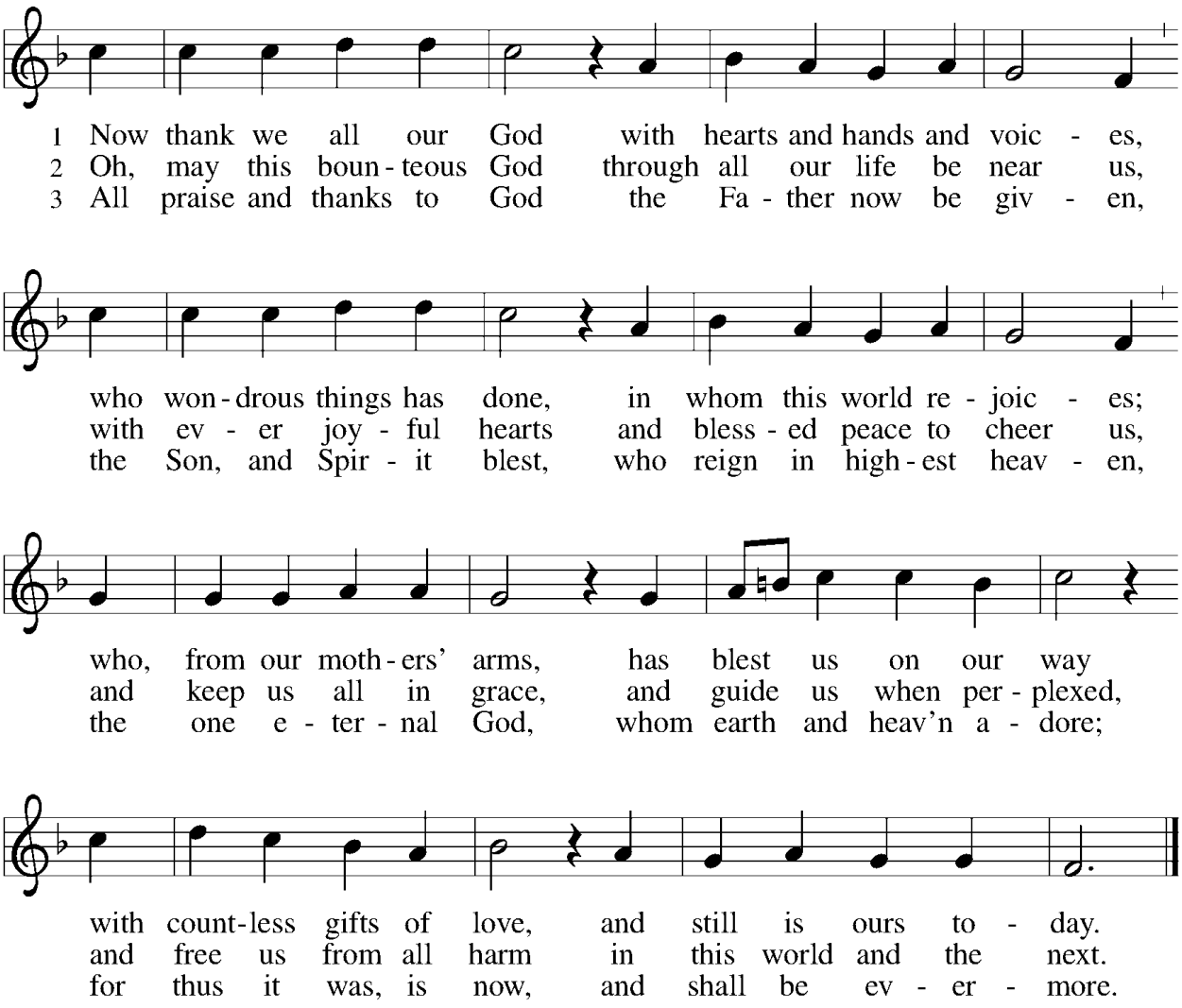
Offering

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.

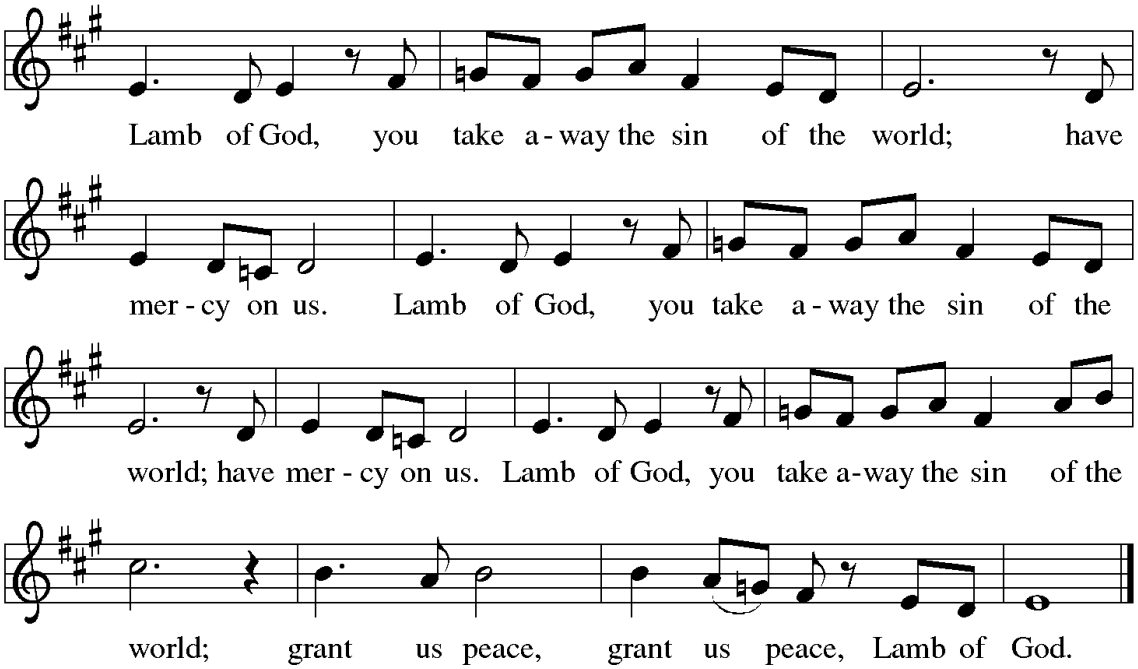
Lord's Prayer
Let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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
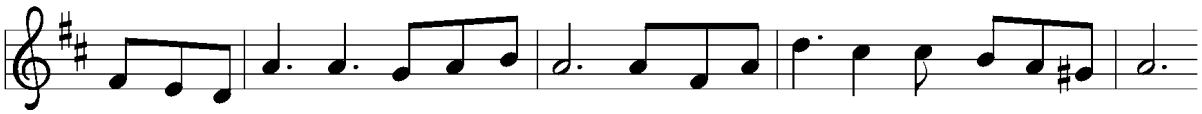
Music during the reception of Holy Communion

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.
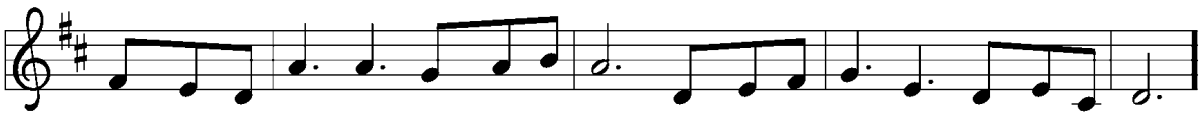
Today you may also light candles in remembrance of those who have gone before us or visit the ofrenda set up in the Chapel as an act of remembrance.

Communion Hymns

Blessed Assurance
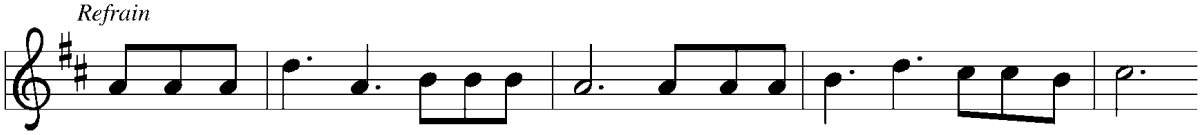


1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!
2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;
3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blest,
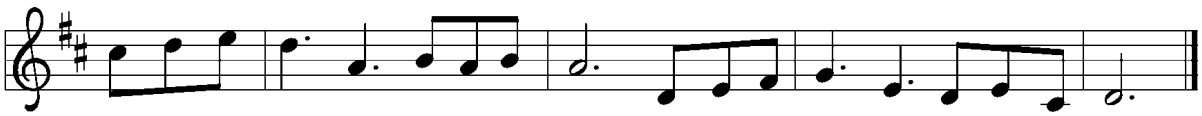


Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God, born of his Spir-it, washed in his blood.
an-gels de-scend-ing bring from a-bove ech-oes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love.
watch-ing and wait-ing, look-ing a-bove, filled with his good-ness, lost in his love.

Refrain
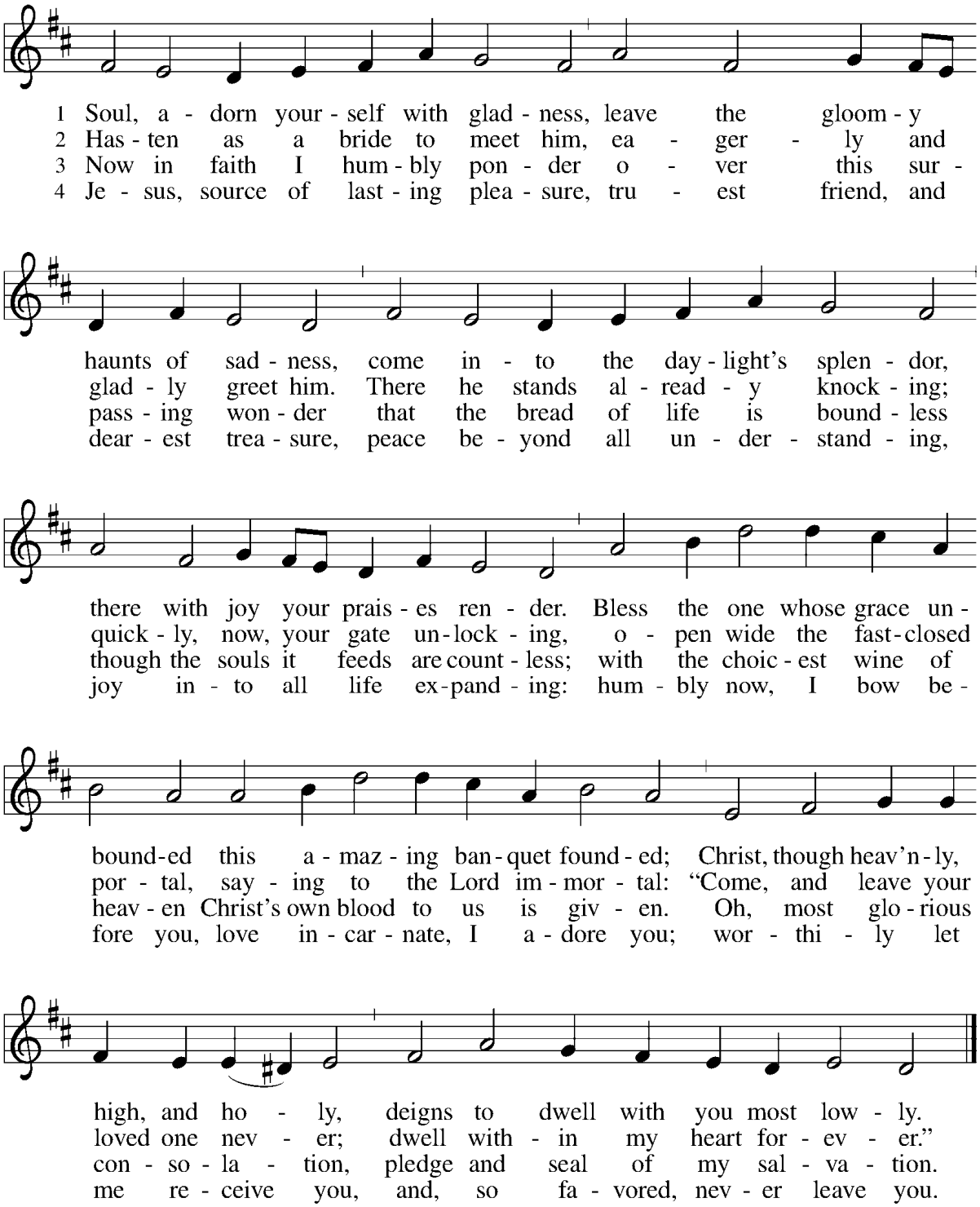


This is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long:



this is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long.

Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness



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.

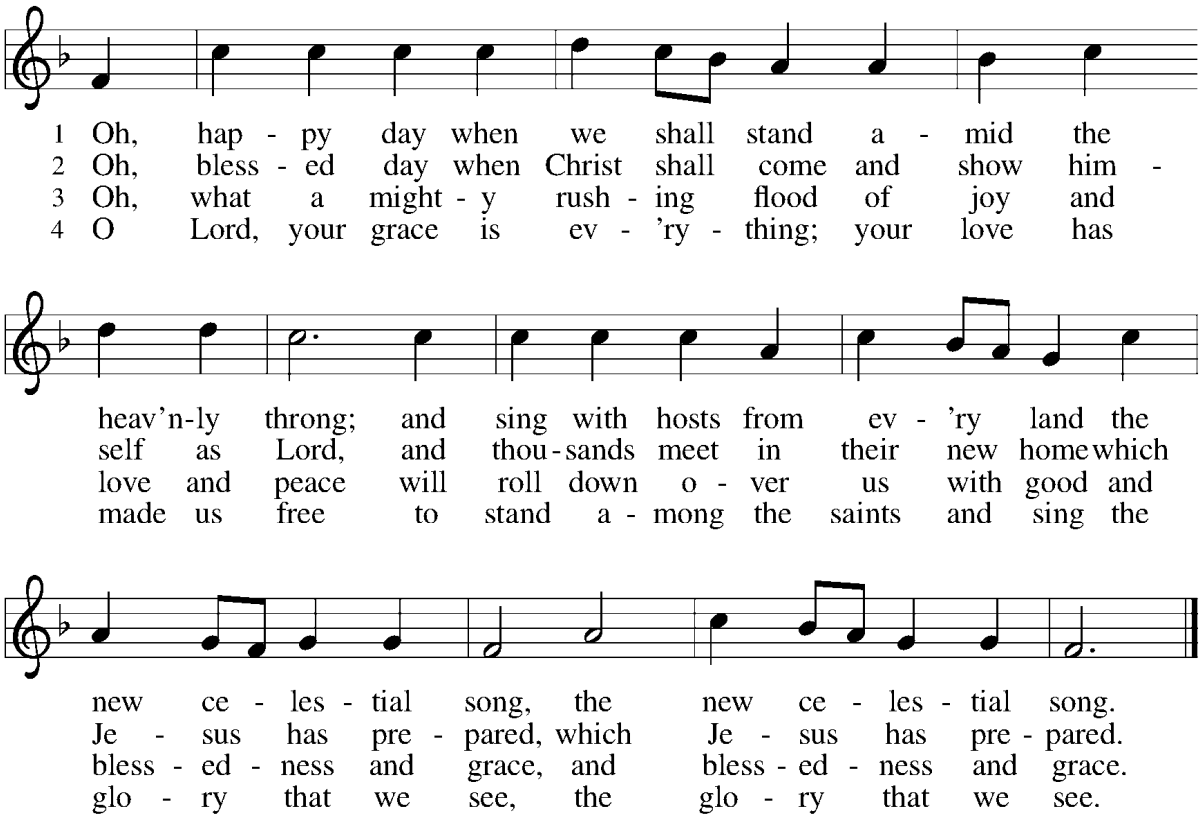
Sending

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.

Oh, Happy Day When We Shall Stand



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 Richard A. Rhoades, Senior Pastor
revrhoades@firstlutherangalveston.com

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!