GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

A Protestant church in the worldwide
Anglican Communion.

The Twenty-Fourth Sunday After Pentecost
Celebrant: The Rev. Chris Humphrey
November 8, 2026

Before the Service — Speak quietly to God
During the Service — Let God speak to you
After the Service — Speak to one another

LITURGICAL SEASON EXPLAINED

The Season after Pentecost is not actually a liturgical season with a common focus, rather, it is just the weeks between the Day of Pentecost and the First Sunday of Advent. This period is often referred to as "Ordinary Time" and the liturgical color is **green**. These are the ordinary days in which we live our Christian faith in the regular routine of daily life. This seems simple enough, but the way the Sundays are counted on the calendar gets a bit confusing. It begins with the First Sunday after Pentecost and then counts sequentially until the 24th Sunday after Pentecost which is Christ the King, the Sunday before Thanksgiving. If it stopped here that would be clear, but each Sunday during this time is also given another title: Proper 7-29 where the numbers do not coincide with the numbered Sundays after Pentecost. This proper numbering system is based on the moveable date of Easter. Honestly, there is no need to be concerned about this numbering framework, just focus on the ordinary daily life of Jesus as he goes about teaching, healing, and loving people as you live your ordinary life each day!

TO JOIN SERVICES ONLINE OR BY PHONE

To join the 8:30 service online, visit our website at gracechurchmtclemens.org and follow the links.

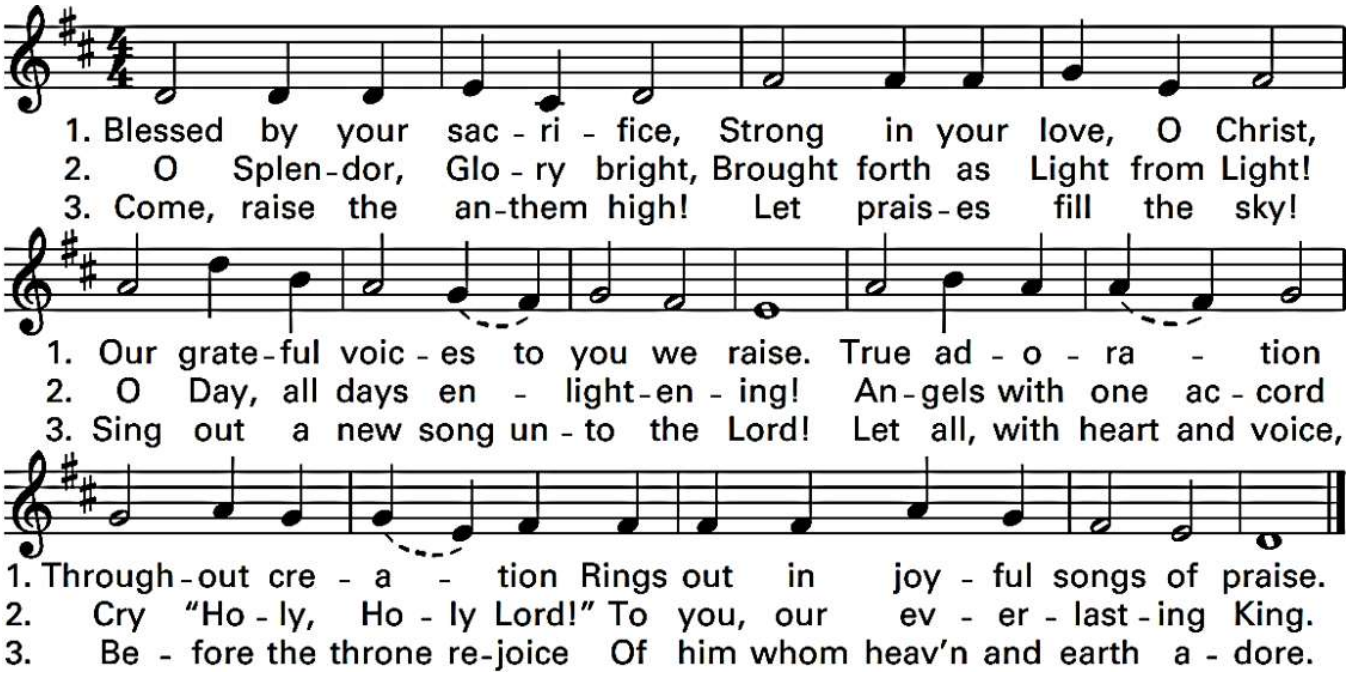
To join the 8:30 service by phone, call 312-626-6799
8:30 AM Service: Meeting ID: 881 8016 9300 Password: 246040

Follow the link on our website to watch the 10:30 service on YouTube.

Rector: The Rev. Steven Steinberger-Domienik
Cell: 203-641-2068
Field Education Student: A.J. Hawks
Clergy Emerita: The Rev. Deacon Betty Brogan
Mr. Josh Dulin, Minister of Music
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Visit us on the web at
www.gracechurchmtclemens.org

PRESENTATION OF THE FLAGS

OPENING HYMN: Blessed By Your Sacrifice *Please stand as you are able*



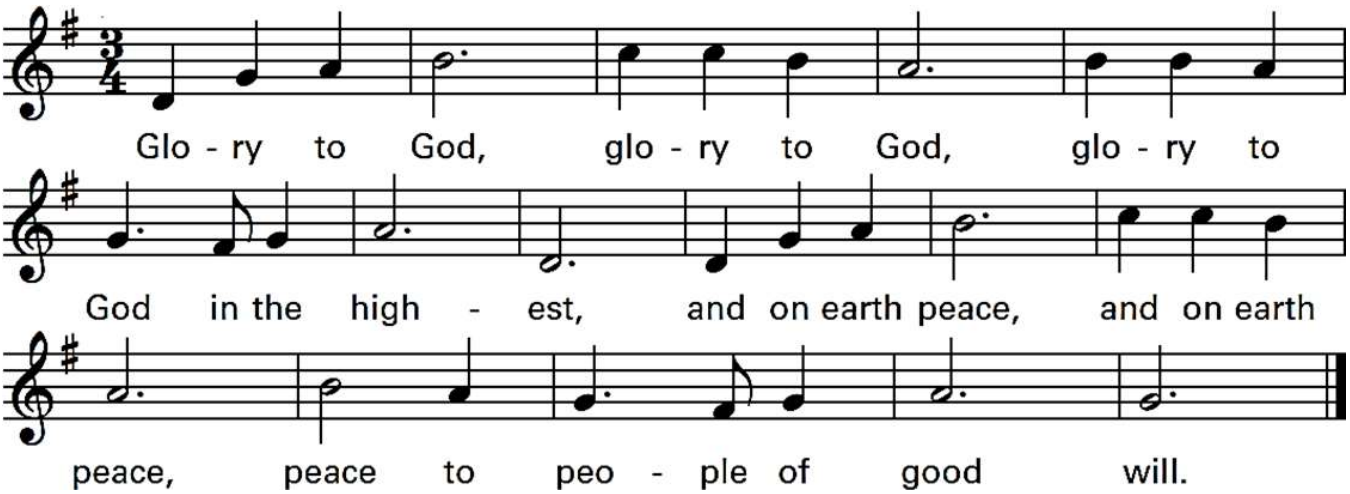
ACCLAMATION

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. AMEN.**

Celebrant continues:

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **AMEN.**

GLORIA



Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

This Week's Readers: ***Neville Thompson & Selia Tuten***
Next Week's Readers: ***Gay Gillespie & Lucia Smith***

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Please be seated

FIRST READING Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25

Reader A reading from the book of Joshua.

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors—Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor—lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many.

"Now therefore revere the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."

Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God."

But Joshua said to the people, "You cannot serve the Lord, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. If you forsake the Lord and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm, and consume you, after having done you good." And the people said to Joshua, "No, we will serve the Lord!" Then Joshua said to the people, "You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the Lord, to serve him." And they said, "We are witnesses." He said, "Then put

away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the Lord, the God of Israel." The people said to Joshua, "The Lord our God we will serve, and him we will obey." So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSE Psalm 78:1-7 – *Attendite, populе*

[1]Hear my teaching, O my people;*
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

[2]I will open my mouth in a parable;*
I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.

[3]That which we have heard and known,
and what our forefathers have told us,*
we will not hide from their children.

[4]We will recount to generations to come
the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the Lord,*
and the wonderful works he has done.

[5]He gave his decrees to Jacob
and established a law for Israel,*
which he commanded them to teach their children;

[6]That the generations to come might know,
and the children yet unborn;*
that they in their turn might tell it to their children;

[7]So that they might put their trust in God,*
and not forget the deeds of God,
but keep his commandments.

SECOND READING 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

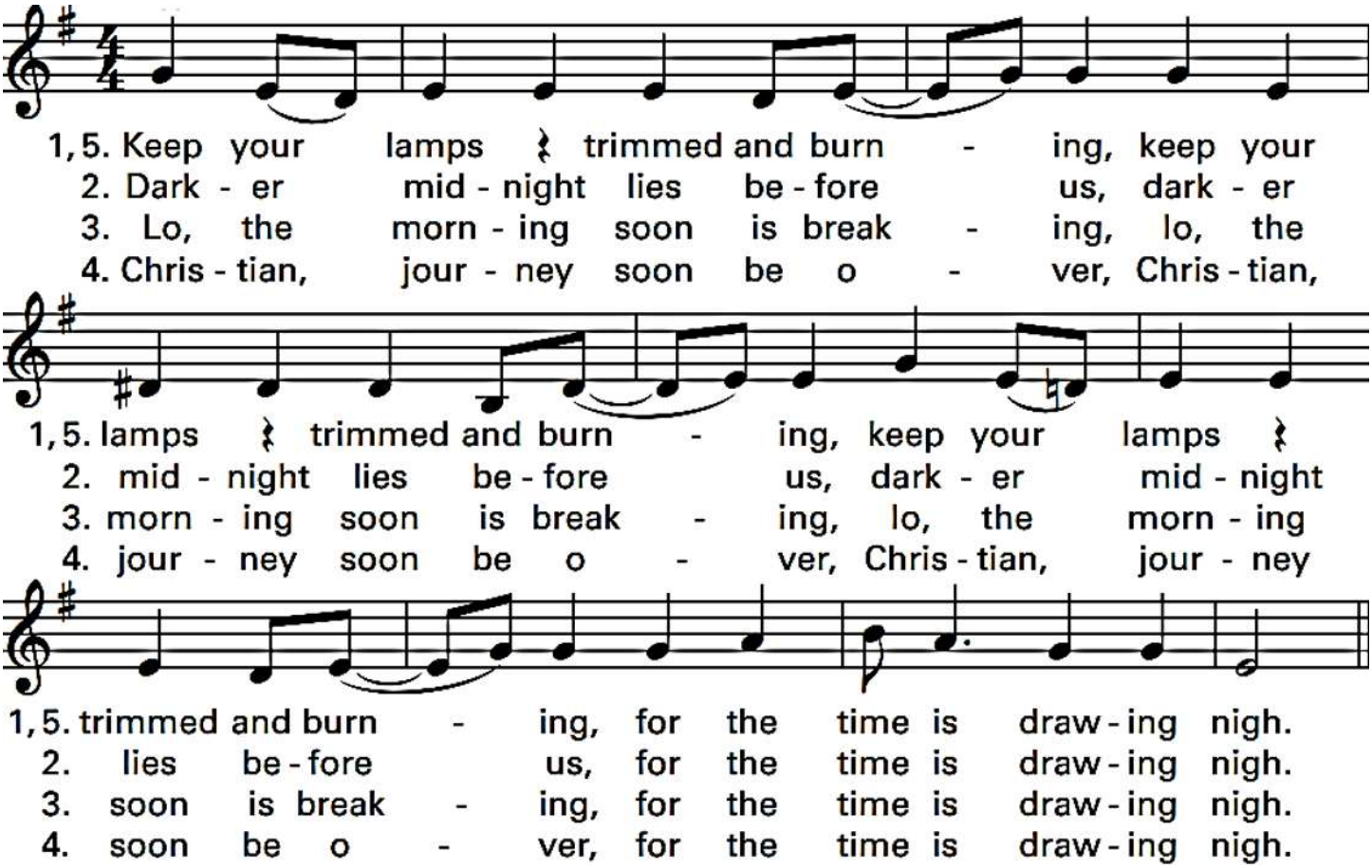
Reader A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Thessalonians.

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. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. 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. 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. 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. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL HYMN: Keep Your Lamps Trimmed And Burning

Please stand as you are able



GOSPEL Matthew 25:1-13 The Rev. Chris Humphrey

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' 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.' 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. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

Celebrant The Gospel of our Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

HOMILY The Rev. Chris Humphrey *Please be seated*

THE APOSTLES' CREED *Please stand as you are able*

This is an ancient baptismal creed, but using the words "I give my heart," a truer translation of the Latin word "credo" than "I believe."

I give my heart to God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I give my heart to 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, and 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 give my heart to the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic and apostolic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. AMEN.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader We pray for those who have served our nation, and for those who have laid down their lives to protect our country.

People **Hear us, O God.**

Leader We pray for those who have fought, for those whose spirits and bodies are scarred by war, whose nights are haunted by memories too painful for the light of day.

People **Hear us, O God.**

Leader Comfort our ill and wounded veterans who languish in hospitals or homes. Lighten their burdens; relieve their suffering and pain.

People **Hear us, O God.**

Leader We pray for those who serve us now, especially for those in harm's way. Shield them from danger and bring them home.

People **Hear us, O God.**

Leader Watch over all those who live and work in war-torn areas of the world, especially in Ukraine, the Middle East, Haiti, and Sudan.

People **Hear us, O God.**

Leader Grant your healing grace to all who are sick, injured, or disabled due to war and violence.

People **Hear us, O God.**

Leader Bless physicians, nurses, medics, chaplains, and all others who minister to the suffering and injured in time of war.

People **Hear us, O God.**

Leader Look with compassion on all victims of war; ease their sufferings and heal their wounds.

People **Hear us, O God.**

Leader Put an end to wars over all the earth, and hasten the day when the human family will rejoice in lasting peace.

People **Hear us, O God.**

Leader Restore to wholeness all those who are grieving, suffering, or in pain, especially those on our prayer list. Are there others?

We humbly pray:

People **Hear us, O God.**

Leader Be with all of those who are close to death and those who have died, as well as their families and caregivers.

People **Hear us, O God.**

CONCLUDING COLLECT

Celebrant:

In the name of the true and living Holy One, who made us for love, who saved us by love, and who loves us still. **AMEN.**

RECOGNITION OF OUR VETERANS

Celebrant continues:

Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all the women and men of our armed forces both present and past. Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils which beset them; and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **AMEN.**

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Please share a sign of peace with one another.
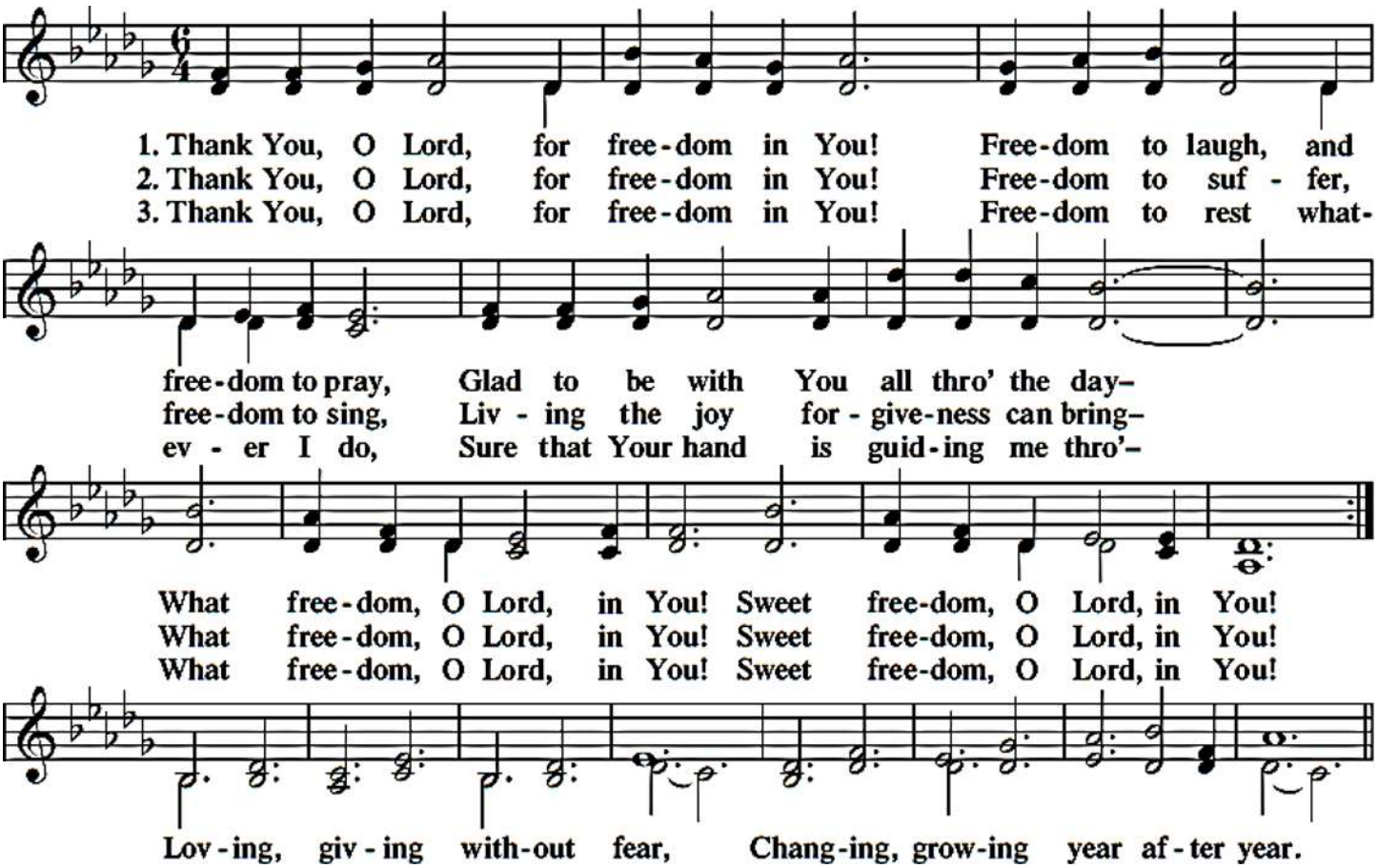
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please be seated



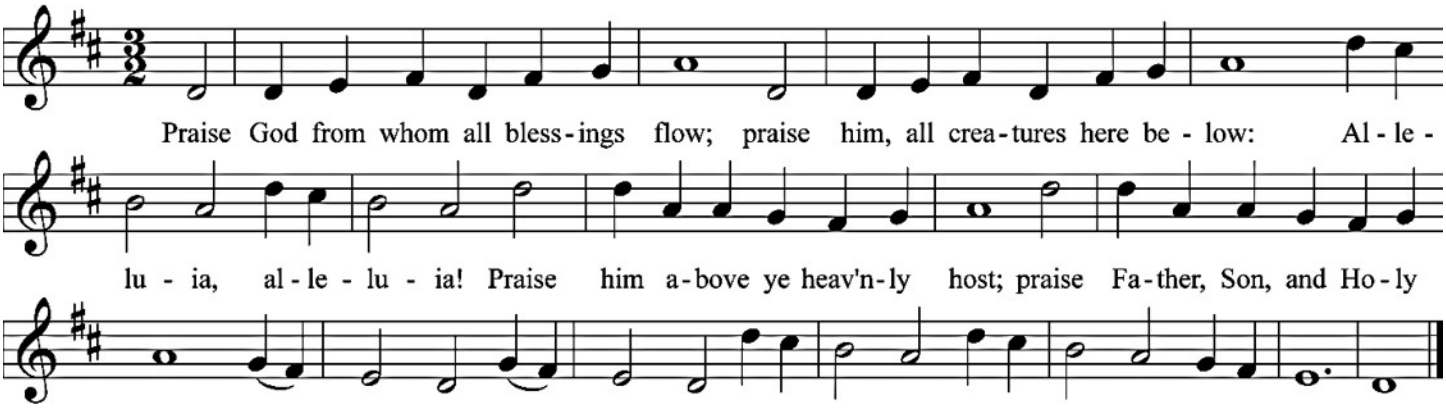


OFFERTORY HYMN: Thank You, O Lord, For Freedom In You!





DOXOLOGY *Please stand as you are able*



THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**

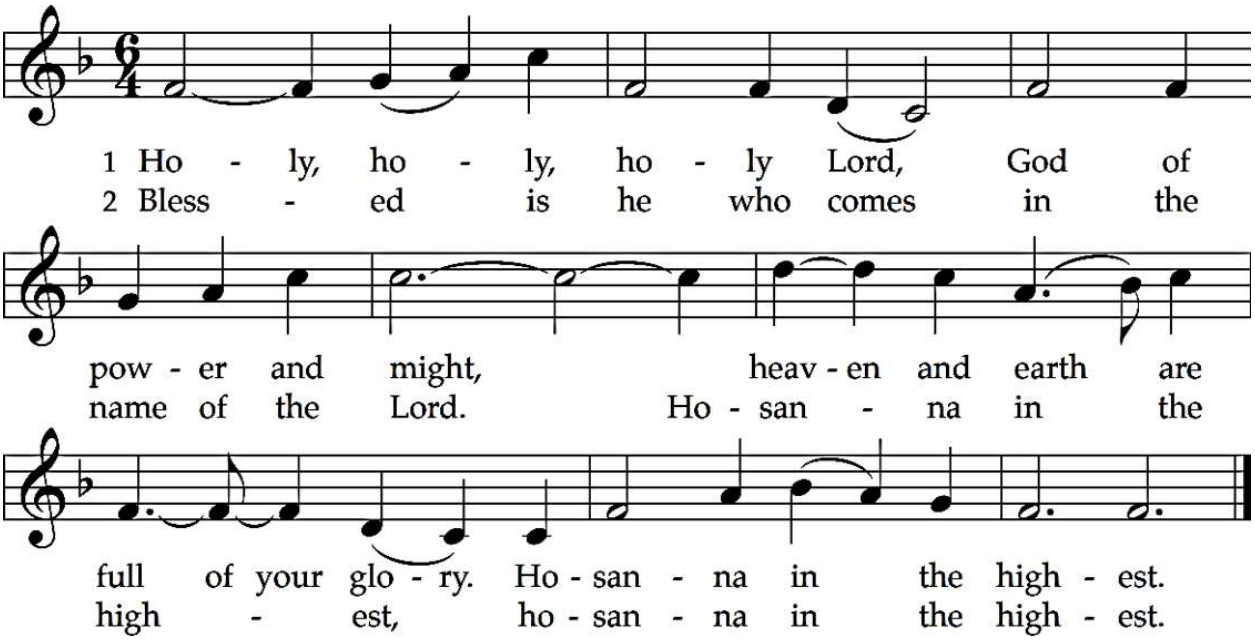
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Celebrant continues:

You are worthy of our thanks and praise, Lord God of truth, for by the breath of your mouth you have spoken your Word and all things have come into being. You fashioned us in your image and placed us in the garden of your delight.

Though we chose the path of rebellion, you would not abandon your own. Again and again you drew us into your covenant of grace. You gave your people the Law and taught us by your prophets to look for your reign of justice and mercy. In our unending joy we echo on earth the song of the angels in heaven, evermore praising you as we sing:

SANCTUS



Celebrant continues:

Lord, you are the most holy one, enthroned in splendor and light, yet in the coming of your Son Jesus Christ, who suffered for the salvation of the world, you reveal the glory and power of your love.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

Embracing our humanity, he taught us the way of salvation. Loving us to the end, he gave himself to death for us. Dying for his own, he set us free from the bonds of sin, that we might rise and reign with him in glory.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

On the night you gave up your Son for us all, he took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Therefore, we proclaim the death that he suffered on the cross, we celebrate his resurrection, his bursting from the tomb, and we long for his coming in glory.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

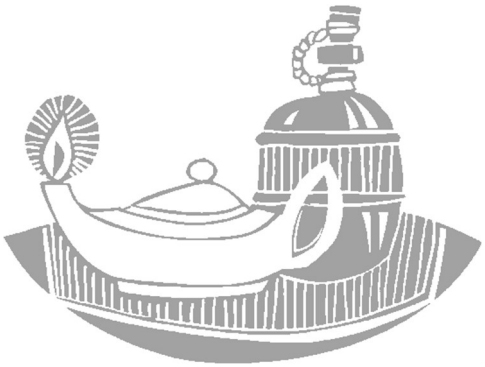
As we recall the one, perfect sacrifice of our redemption, Father, by your Holy Spirit, let these gifts of your creation be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ; form us into the likeness of Christ and make us a perfect offering in your sight.

Amen. Come, Holy Spirit!

Look with favor on your people and in your mercy hear the cry of our hearts. Bless the earth, heal the sick, free the oppressed, and fill your Church with power from on high.

Gather your people from the ends of the earth to feast with all your saints at the table in your kingdom, where the new creation is brought to perfection in Jesus Christ our Lord; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory are yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever.

Amen. Alleluia!



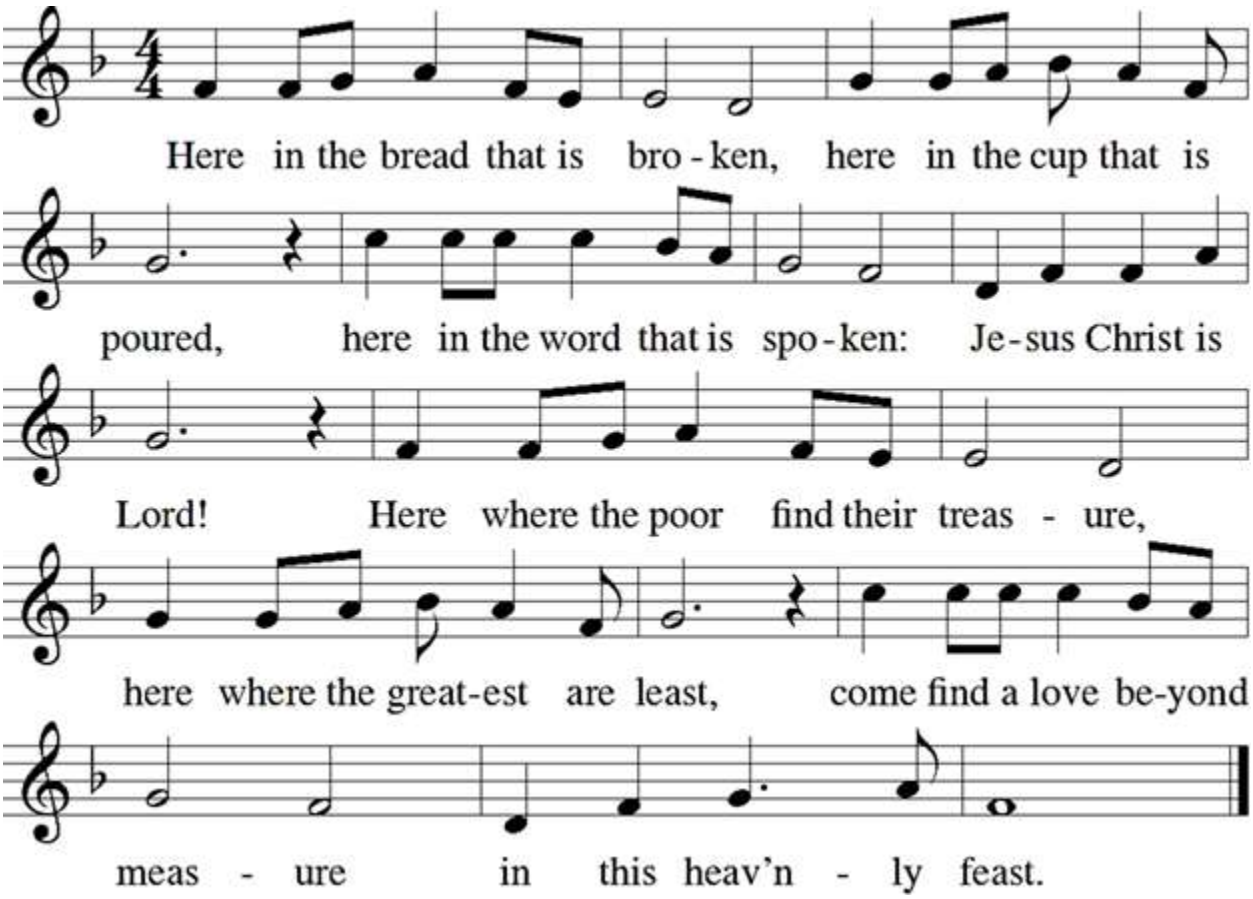
THE LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant says:

And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

Our Father in heaven, holy is your Name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. AMEN.

FRACTION



Celebrant Taste and see that our God is good; come to the banquet table with joy and thanksgiving!
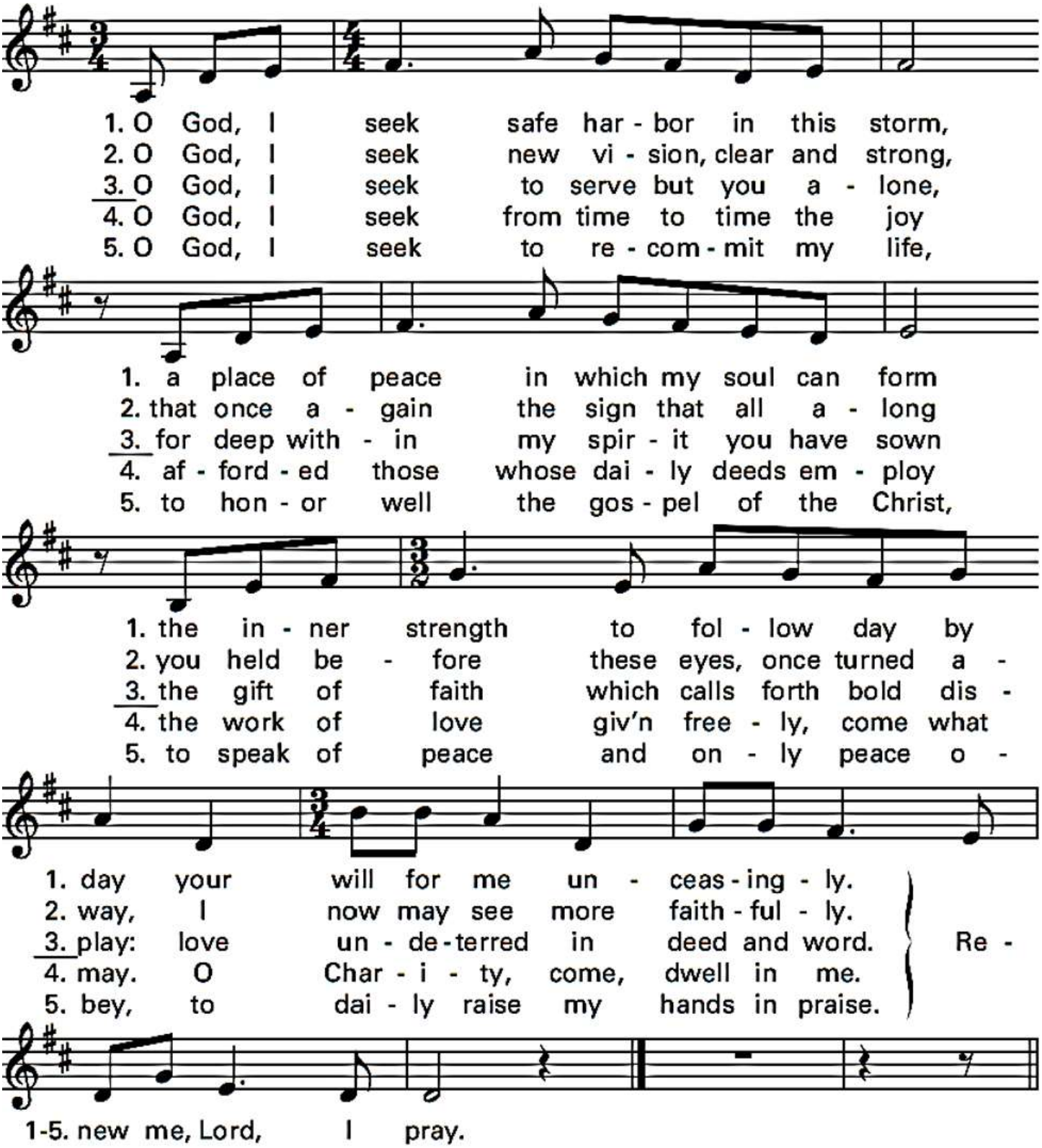


COMMUNION *Please be seated*

<u>Communion at Grace is Open to Everyone</u>

Whoever you are, wherever you find yourself on the journey of faith, there is a place for you at God's table. You may choose to receive bread (gluten free wafers available upon request). You may choose to receive wine in the silver chalice or grape juice in the white and blue chalice. You may drink from either cup or intinct (dip) the bread into the chalice. You may refrain from the bread and chalice and just receive a blessing by crossing your arms over your chest.



COMMUNION HYMN: Renew Me, Lord



POST-COMMUNION PRAYER *Please stand as you are able*

Celebrant Let us pray together our post-Communion prayer.

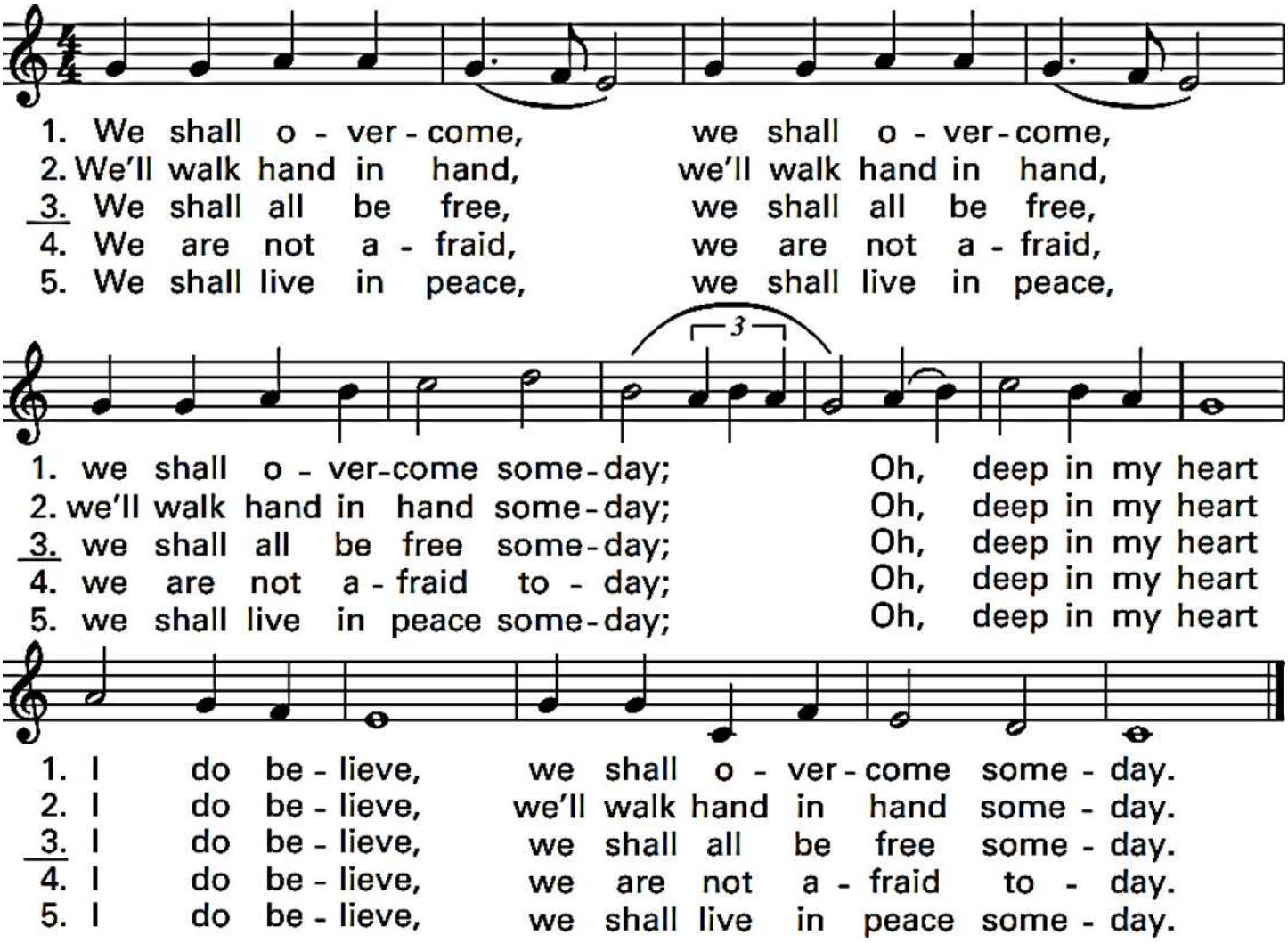
Celebrant and People say together:

Eternal God, comfort of the afflicted and healer of the broken, you have fed us at the table of life and hope: teach us the ways of gentleness and peace, that all the world may acknowledge the kingdom of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

BLESSING

May God lead you in marvelous ways and stir your inmost being to be light and love to those around you, and may the blessing of God—God our Creator, God our Redeemer, and God our Sanctifier—be upon you this day and remain with you always. **AMEN.**

CLOSING HYMN: We Shall Overcome



DISMISSAL

Celebrant Our time of worship has now ended. Go in peace to love God and to love your neighbor! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

People **Thanks be to God! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**



The Prayers of this Congregation

Sean Rowe, our Presiding Bishop; our Bishop, Bonnie Anne Perry; Moises Quezada Mota, Bishop of the Diocese of the Dominican Republic; Elizabeth Eaton, ELCA Presiding Bishop; Donald P. Kreiss, ELCA Bishop, SE Michigan Synod; Julie E. Schneider-Thomas, ELCA Bishop, NW Lower Michigan Synod. Our retired bishop, Wendell Gibbs; our retired community, spouses, and companions. Our diocesan household: Committees, commissions, ministries, agencies, priests, deacons, lay leaders, volunteers, and staff members; Steven Steinberger–Domienik; Grace Church Mt. Clemens; Bonao, DR Church of the Pentecost.

For our Wednesday and Sunday supper guests; Donna Hanes; Frankie Dion; Elliott Belair; Charlotte Kalligeros; Jennifer Holland; Elizabeth Gage; Logan & Teresa Davidson; Jeanne Nowak; Donna Powell; Pamela Sherry; Linda Fields; Michael Woodard; Sara Mattocks; Gene Skladnowski; Sherie Borsa; Joan Donald; Rob Haynes; Scott Kadets; Brenda Steinberger-Domienik; Laurisa; Pat Ruditis; Jean & Terry Hitchcock; Laura Mary Lake; Allen Clay; Martha Wehba; Jody Gorney; Tammy Murphy; Eka & Kiana Bassey; Suzanne LaMontagne; Vito Fontana; Christa Carpenter; Nancy Johnson & family; Rick Ghersi; Rory Heinz; Carole Schwertman; Tish Germain; Shirley & Nelson Rumpel; Helen Fitzgibbon; Joyce & Roy Schafer; Danielle; Betty Brogan; Ulrike Lamb; Debbie H.; Beverly Wolff; Beth Jarvis; Dave Salyer; Al Gazoul; Sharon Fedchenko; Joyce Geiger & family; Steve Burns; Sandy Krell; Bobby Couts; Sharon Potter; Rita Vermeersch; Sallie Coffer; Frank Davis; Shelly Volpe; Bud Denham; John Schober; Tish Mastro-Burns; Gary Cynowa; Linda Hurley; Fran Merlo; Betty Gillis; Robert Tuten; Daniel Ranger; Gary Keranen; Leslie Sasges; Louise Lambert; Norris Satterly; Dan Kotesky; Judy Kuase; Brian Negran; Takashi Nawafune; Mary Lang; Sue Sargent; Jess Taylor; Scott Satterly; Sue Retherford; Carole Marshall; Kris Eckert; Margaret Morgan.

Do you know someone who can use our prayers?
Please contact the office to add them to or keep them on the prayer list.

The MINISTRIES of GRACE CHURCH

WORSHIP SERVICES

Sundays, in person & online 8:30 & 10:30 AM. Visit our website for more information.
Bible Study: Sundays at 9:30 AM in the Guild Room

OUTREACH MINISTRIES

Community Suppers:
Wednesdays at 4:00
Sunday Suppers: Sundays at 4:00, November-March

Food Pantry:
Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, 10 AM-12 noon, curbside pickup
Serving from 250-500 people every month

Fueling Kids' Futures:
Tuesdays at 11 AM at Oakley Industries, Inc. Plant 4
35088 Automation Drive, Clinton Township, MI 48035

All outreach ministries welcome volunteers, financial donations, or food and clothing donations.

Call the office to learn about helping or giving: 586-465-4573

CURRENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please send all bulletin submissions to bulletins@gracechurchmtclemens.org

PLENTY GOOD ROOM

Plenty Good Room means radical welcome. This week, we give thanks for the hospitality of this parish and the ways we extend God's welcome to others.

ALTAR FLOWERS

Please sign up for altar flowers on the bulletin board in the hallway leading to the sanctuary.

COFFEE HOUR

Please volunteer to host a coffee hour; the sign-up sheet is in the hallway. The host(s) makes and sets up the coffee and any snacks and then cleans up afterwards. You may also be reimbursed for any money you spend for snacks—just let Marchea (in the office) know! Thank you for sharing in the hospitality ministry of our parish!

BIBLE STUDY

Please join us on **Sundays** at **9:30 AM** in the Guild Room for our Bible study. No preparation needed; just come and listen and join in the conversation. Each session is self-contained so you do not have to attend each week; come when you can. We learn a great deal about Scripture, our faith, ourselves, and each other! Hope to see you there!

COME, CHRISTIANS, JOIN AND SING!

Join us at choir rehearsal **Wednesdays** at **6:30 PM** in the sanctuary. Faces and voices both new and familiar are most welcome as we lift up our praises in song and help guide our Grace community into the seasons of thankfulness, Advent, and the birth of our Lord!

INQUIRER CLASSES

Interested in being confirmed or received into the Episcopal Church by our bishop? Join us for four one-hour sessions from **2 to 3 PM** on the following **Wednesdays**: **November 11** and **18** and **December 2** and **9**. Attend in person or via Zoom. If you're interested but cannot make this time, please speak to Pastor Steve and we'll come up with a time that works for you.

BOOK CLUB

The next book club meeting will be at Grace **this Thursday, November 12** at **6 PM**, and we'll be discussing John Grisham's *The Widow*. We would love for you to attend! Just read the book, come to the meeting, and be prepared for a lively discussion in a comfortable setting. Call or see Ann Strevel with any questions or concerns.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Please consider taking the opportunity to familiarize yourself with the contents of our new first-aid kits during coffee hour **next Sunday, November 15**.

MACOMB COUNTY WINTER SHELTER 2026–27

Save the date! We'll need volunteers for the Macomb County Winter Shelter (**January 3** through **February 21**). See this month's *Amazing Grace* for more info.

For Children Who Attend Immigration Court Alone

Merciful **God**, whose son welcomed children and placed them in the midst of his disciples, **we pray for migrant children** who must face immigration proceedings without a parent or guardian beside them. **Be near to them**, O Lord. Give your angels charge over them and **raise up people** who will stand beside them, **advocate** for them, and **safeguard** their dignity. **Give** our governing authorities the **wisdom** to protect the rights and future of migrant children; give those entrusted with our laws and courts wisdom **to ensure that children** have access to independent counsel and **do not have to navigate our legal system alone**. Help us to follow in the lead of your son, to **welcome the little ones**, to protect them, to love them, and **uphold their dignity** as your beloved children. We ask this in the name of Christ, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

THE Episcopal CHURCH