GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

November 15, 2026 – The Twenty-Fifth Sunday After Pentecost

8:30 Bulletin

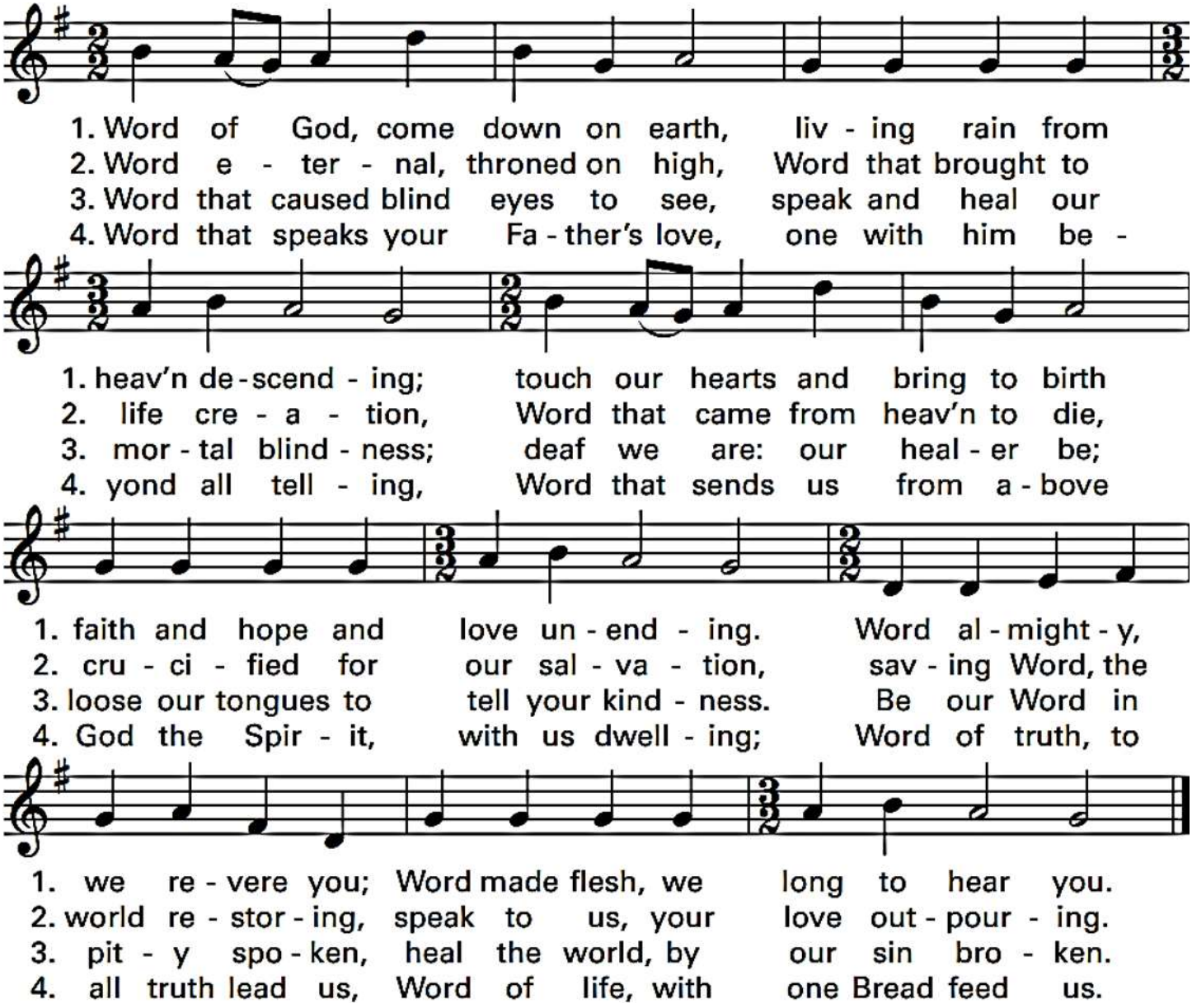
LITURGICAL SEASON EXPLAINED

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!



OPENING HYMN: Word Of God, Come Down On Earth

Please stand as you are able



ACCLAMATION *BCP p. 355*

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 *BCP p. 356*

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. AMEN.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

This Week's Reader: ***Karen Davenport*** ✞ *Next Sunday:* ***Cheryle Kahl***



FIRST READING Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18 *Please be seated*

Reader A reading from the book of Zephaniah.

Be silent before the Lord God!
For the day of the Lord is at hand;
the Lord has prepared a sacrifice,
he has consecrated his guests.
At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,
and I will punish the people
who rest complacently on their dregs,
those who say in their hearts,
"The Lord will not do good,
nor will he do harm."
Their wealth shall be plundered,
and their houses laid waste.
Though they build houses,
they shall not inhabit them;
though they plant vineyards,
they shall not drink wine from them.
The great day of the Lord is near,
near and hastening fast;
the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter,
the warrior cries aloud there.
That day will be a day of wrath,
a day of distress and anguish,
a day of ruin and devastation,
a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and thick darkness,
a day of trumpet blast and battle cry
against the fortified cities
and against the lofty battlements.

I will bring such distress upon people
that they shall walk like the blind;
because they have sinned against the Lord,

their blood shall be poured out like dust,
and their flesh like dung.

Neither their silver nor their gold
will be able to save them
on the day of the Lord's wrath;

in the fire of his passion
the whole earth shall be consumed;

for a full, a terrible end
he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

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

PSALM 90:1-12

*Verses read alternately by the reader and the people, breaking at the **

[1]Lord, you have been our refuge*
from one generation to another.

[2]Before the mountains were brought forth,
or the land and the earth were born,*
from age to age you are God.

[3]You turn us back to the dust and say,*
"Go back, O child of earth."

[4]For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past*
and like a watch in the night.

[5]You sweep us away like a dream;*
we fade away suddenly like the grass.

[6]In the morning it is green and flourishes;*
in the evening it is dried up and withered.

[7]For we consume away in your displeasure;*
we are afraid because of your wrathful indignation.

[8]Our iniquities you have set before you,*
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.

[9]When you are angry, all our days are gone;*
we bring our years to an end like a sigh.

[10]The span of our life is seventy years,
perhaps in strength even eighty;*
yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow,
for they pass away quickly and we are gone.

[11]Who regards the power of your wrath?*
who rightly fears your indignation?

[12]So teach us to number our days*
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

SECOND READING 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

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

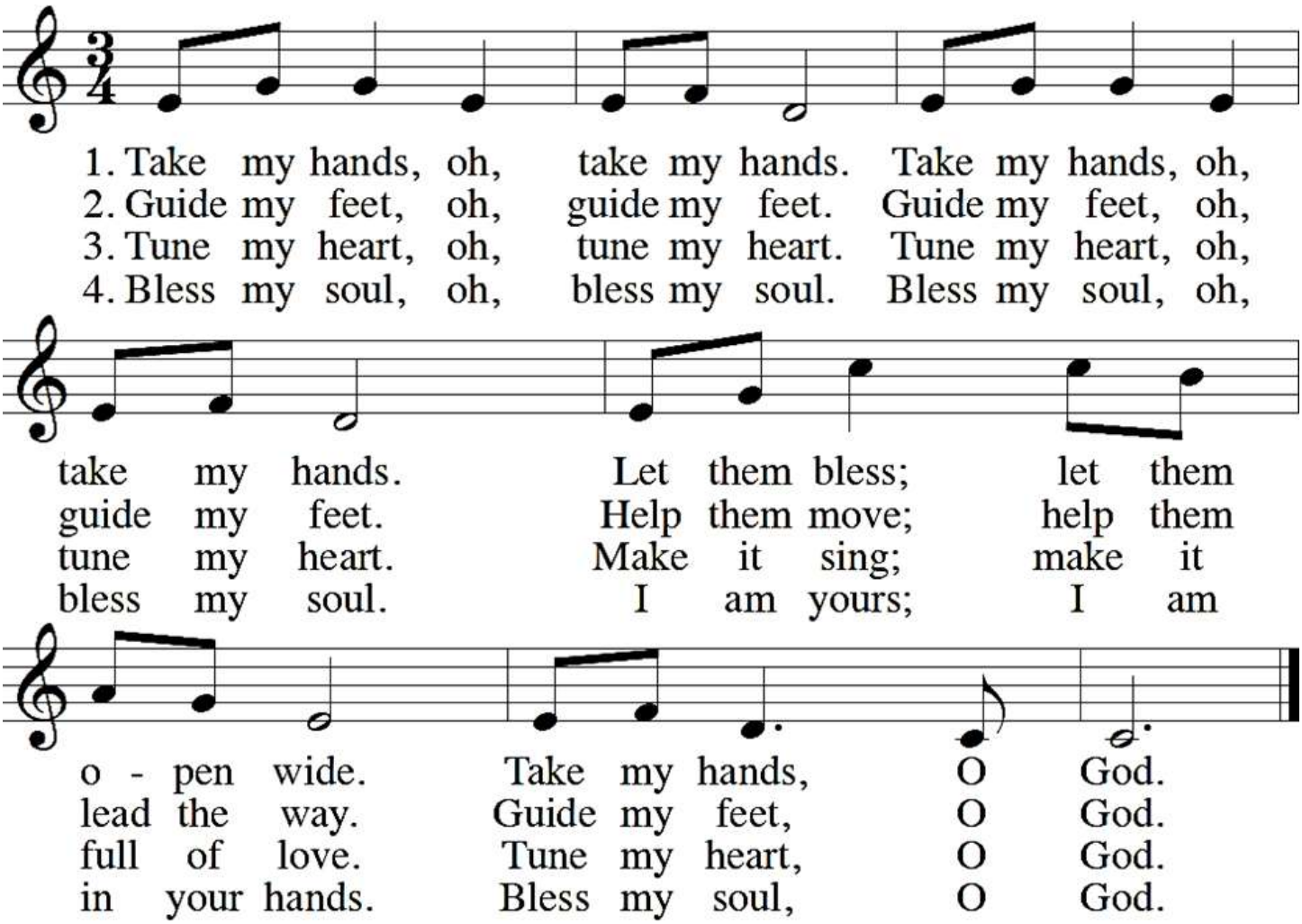
Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that

whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL HYMN: Take My Hands *Please stand as you are able*



GOSPEL Matthew 25:14-30

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, “It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’”

Celebrant The Gospel of our Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

SERMON *Please be seated*

NICENE CREED *BCP p. 358* *Please stand as you are able*

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. AMEN.



PRAYERS of the PEOPLE

The Leader and people pray responsively:

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

For all people in their daily life and work;
For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world, especially Ukraine, the Middle East, Haiti, Sudan, and Congo;
For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation, and for those suffering from natural disasters;
For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Sean our Presiding Bishop, Bonnie our diocesan Bishop, and for all bishops and other ministers;
For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of our Grace family, and for those on our prayer list. Are there others you would like to add?

Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.
We will exalt you, O God our King;
And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.
Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.
Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CONCLUDING COLLECT

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **AMEN.**

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

The Celebrant and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please be seated



THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Please stand as you are able

Celebrant May God 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:

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, O God, Creator of heaven and earth.

And now we give you thanks because you prepared the way of your Son Jesus by the preaching of your servant John the Baptist, who proclaimed him as the Lamb of God, our Savior.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus our Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, Jesus took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it,

and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "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. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom. All this we ask through your Son Jesus our Christ. For it is by him, with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, that all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER *BCP p. 364*

Celebrant:

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

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, for ever and ever. AMEN.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

Celebrant The Gifts of God for all of us, the holy People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died and rose for us, and feed on him in your hearts by faith and with thanksgiving.

COMMUNION

Please be seated

Communion at Grace is Open to Everyone

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.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER *BCP p. 366*

Please stand as you are able

After Communion, the Celebrant says:

Let us pray.
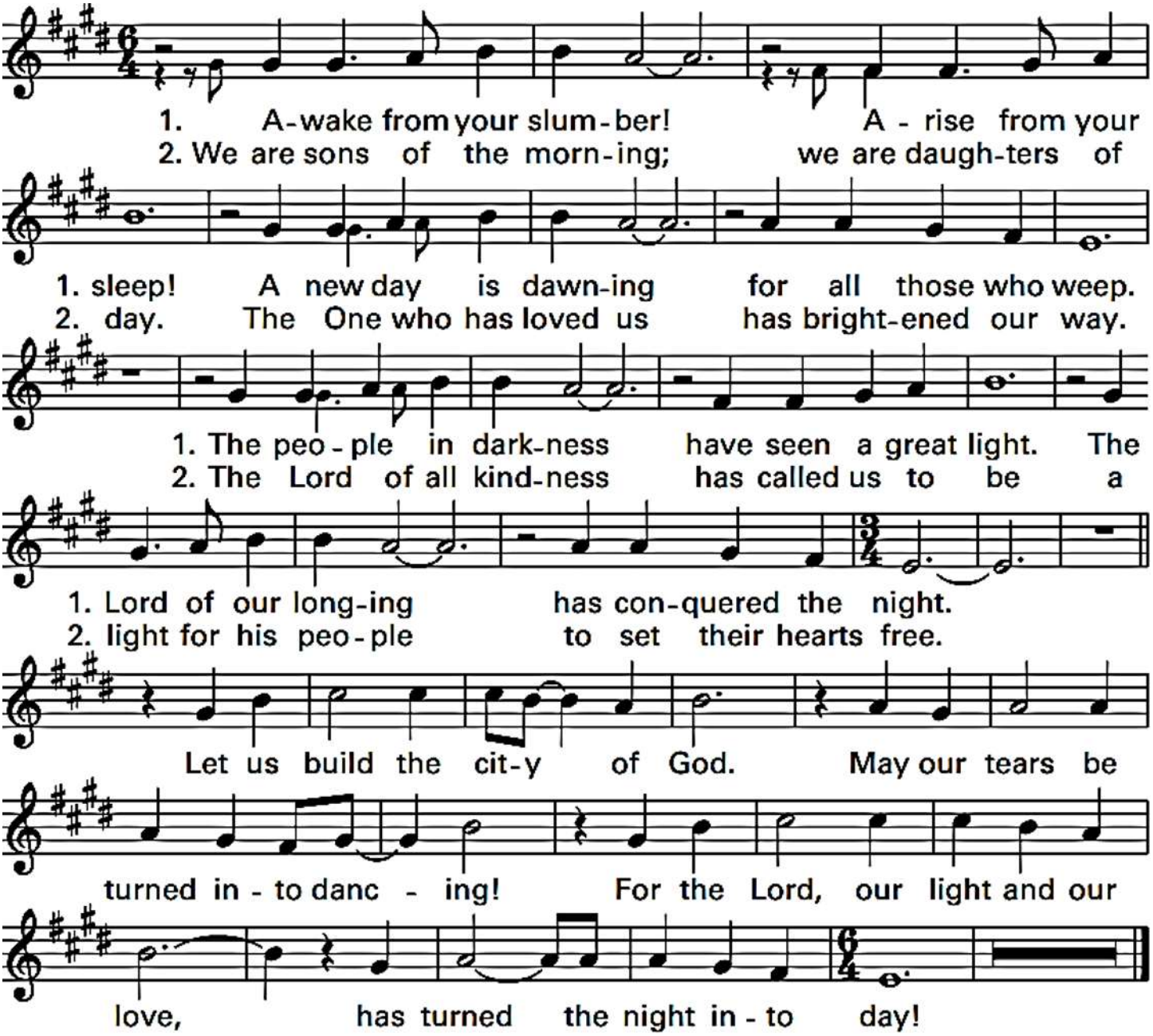
Celebrant and People:

Eternal God, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart through Christ our Lord. AMEN.

BLESSING

May the blessing of God Almighty—God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit—be with you this day and forevermore. **AMEN.**

CLOSING HYMN: City Of God



DISMISSAL

Celebrant Our worship has now ended; go in peace to love and serve the Lord. 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; Bill Atkinson; Kathy Martin.

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

CURRENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please send all bulletin submissions to bulletins@gracechurchmtclemens.org

PLENTY GOOD ROOM

Generosity is our grateful response to God's gifts. This week, we reflect on our commitments of time, talent, and treasure—offerings that sustain the life of this parish.

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.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Please consider taking the opportunity to familiarize yourself with the contents of our new first-aid kits during today's coffee hour.

SANTA PARADE

Please join us for the Mount Clemens Santa Parade next Saturday, November 21. Once again, we'll be serving coffee, hot chocolate, and cookies to the spectators, as well as offering tours of the church. We'd also like folks to march in the parade itself—20 to 30 would be a fine turnout. You just need to be at the church by 10 AM; the route is down Main Street from Grace to Cass Avenue. We'll provide bags of candy for you to distribute to spectators. There's a sign-up sheet in the hallway, but you don't need to sign up to attend. See you there!

WINTER SHELTER UPDATES

The Macomb County Winter Shelter has been renamed the WAVE Project Winter Shelter. Thanks to fundraisers and donations, they've raised some additional funding that will allow the shelter to open on December 20.

Grace will partner with Christian Trinity Church during the week of January 3-9; we'll be responsible for **January 7-9**. Please consider volunteering! See Ann Farrell for more information.

For Diplomacy to Prevail in the Iran War

God of peace, who **calls us to repentance** over warfare and commands us to live peaceably with those who are different from us, **we pray that diplomacy may prevail** among the United States, Israel, and Iran. We know that you weep with those who grieve and you give your angels charge over the fearful. **We ask that the leaders of the nations pursue peace and reconciliation**, not war. **Keep safe** all those at risk in Iran and across the region, and **help all governing authorities** discern a just future for the world. **Inspire all people to advocate** for a world free of violence and filled with relationships marked by mutual respect and forbearance. **Protect** the armed forces, humanitarian aid workers, and **all people who put themselves in danger** to serve others, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE *Episcopal* CHURCH

