“Christ the King Sunday”
November 22, 2026



INTRODUCTION

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.

\+ +

PRELUDE

(Please stand as you are able)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, our dwelling place for all generations, whose compassion never slumbers.

C Amen.

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
(Silence is kept for reflection.)
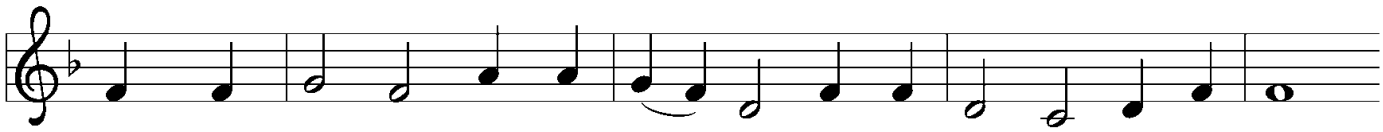
P Holy God,

C We confess that we have trusted in our preparation instead of your invitation. We prioritize our piety over care for your beloved. We trust the voice of our shame and fear, which keeps us from entering fully into relationship with you and others. We are not awake to the coming of your reign. Rouse us and rescue us, that we may enter into your joy. Amen.
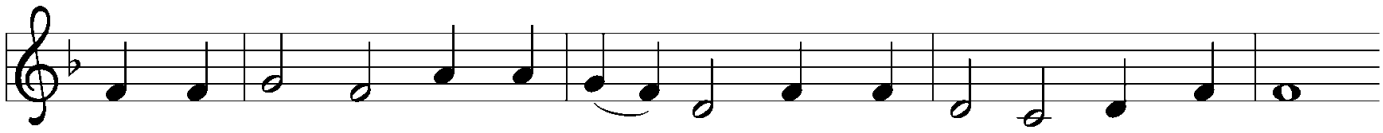
P Inherit the riches of God’s grace. ☩ Jesus, the good shepherd, feeds you with his mercy.
You are forgiven.
Blessed are you.

C Amen
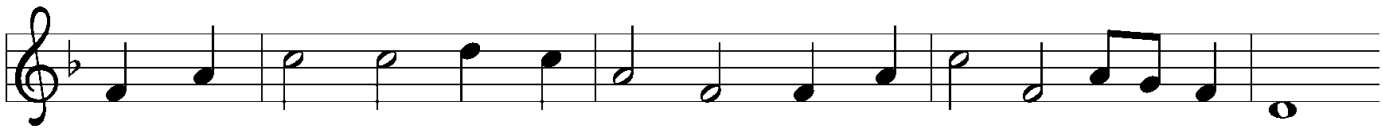
GATHERING SONG "Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service" (verses 1 – 3) ELW 712
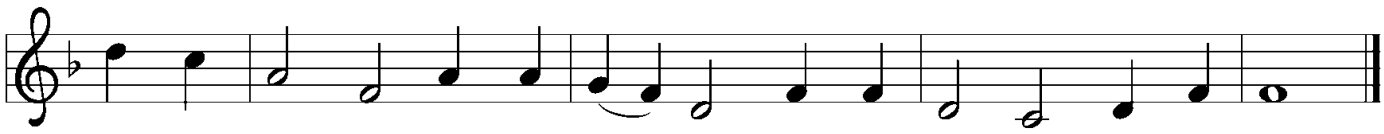


1 Lord, whose love in hum - ble ser - vice bore the weight of hu - man need,
2 Still your chil - dren wan - der home-less; still the hun - gry cry for bread;
3 As we wor - ship, grant us vi - sion, till your love's re - veal - ing light
4 Called by wor - ship to your ser - vice, forth in your dear name we go,



who up - on the cross, for - sak - en, worked your mer-cy's per - fect deed:
still the cap - tives long for free - dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
in its height and depth and great-ness dawns up - on our quick-ened sight,
to the child, the youth, the a - ged, love in liv - ing deeds to show;



we, your ser - vants, bring the wor - ship not of voice a - lone, but heart;
As you, Lord, in deep com-pas - sion healed the sick and freed the soul,
mak - ing known the needs and bur - dens your com-pas - sion bids us bear,
hope and health, good - will and com - fort, coun - sel, aid, and peace we give,



con - se - crat - ing to your pur - pose ev - 'ry gift which you im - part.
by your Spir - it send your pow - er to our world to make it whole.
stir - ring us to ar - dent ser - vice, your a - bun - dant life to share.
that your ser - vants, Lord, in free - dom may your mer - cy know and live.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984
Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844
Text © Oxford University Press

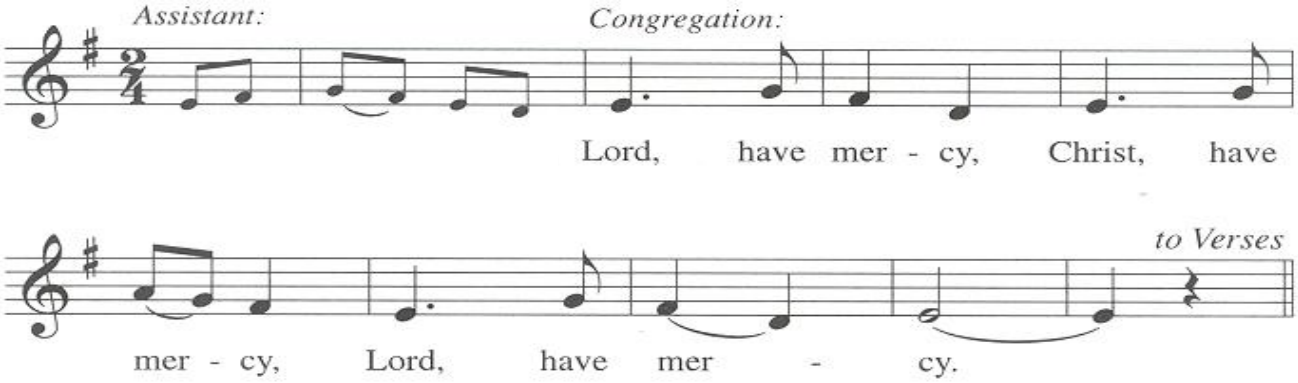
GREETING

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

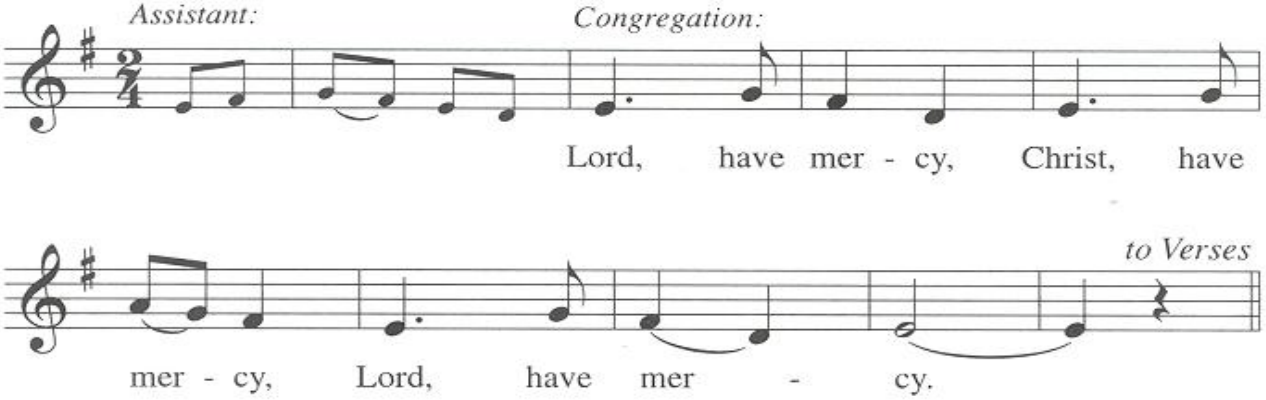
C And also with you.

KYRIE

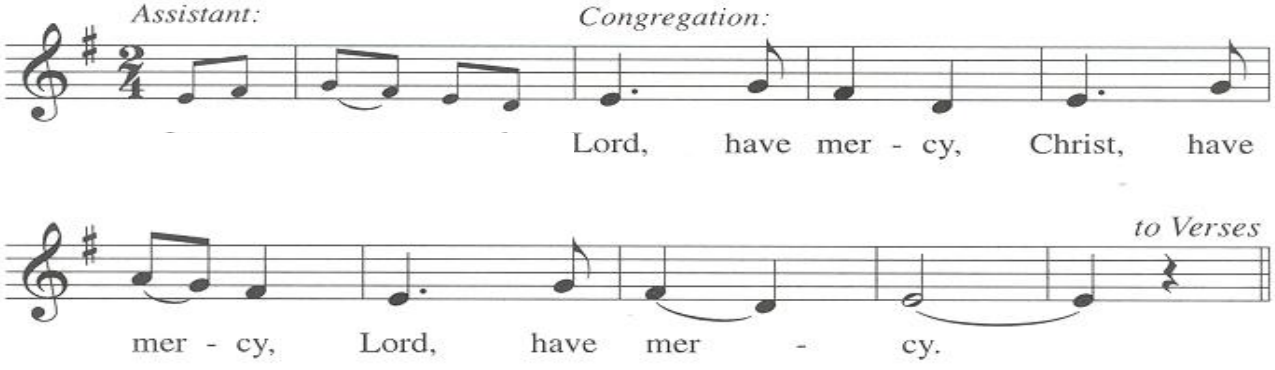
A In peace, in peace, let us pray to the…
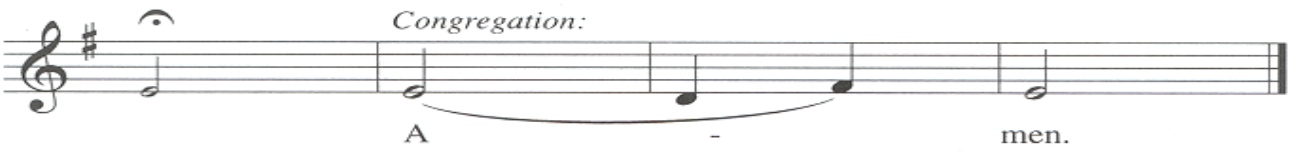


A For the Reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all let us pray to the…
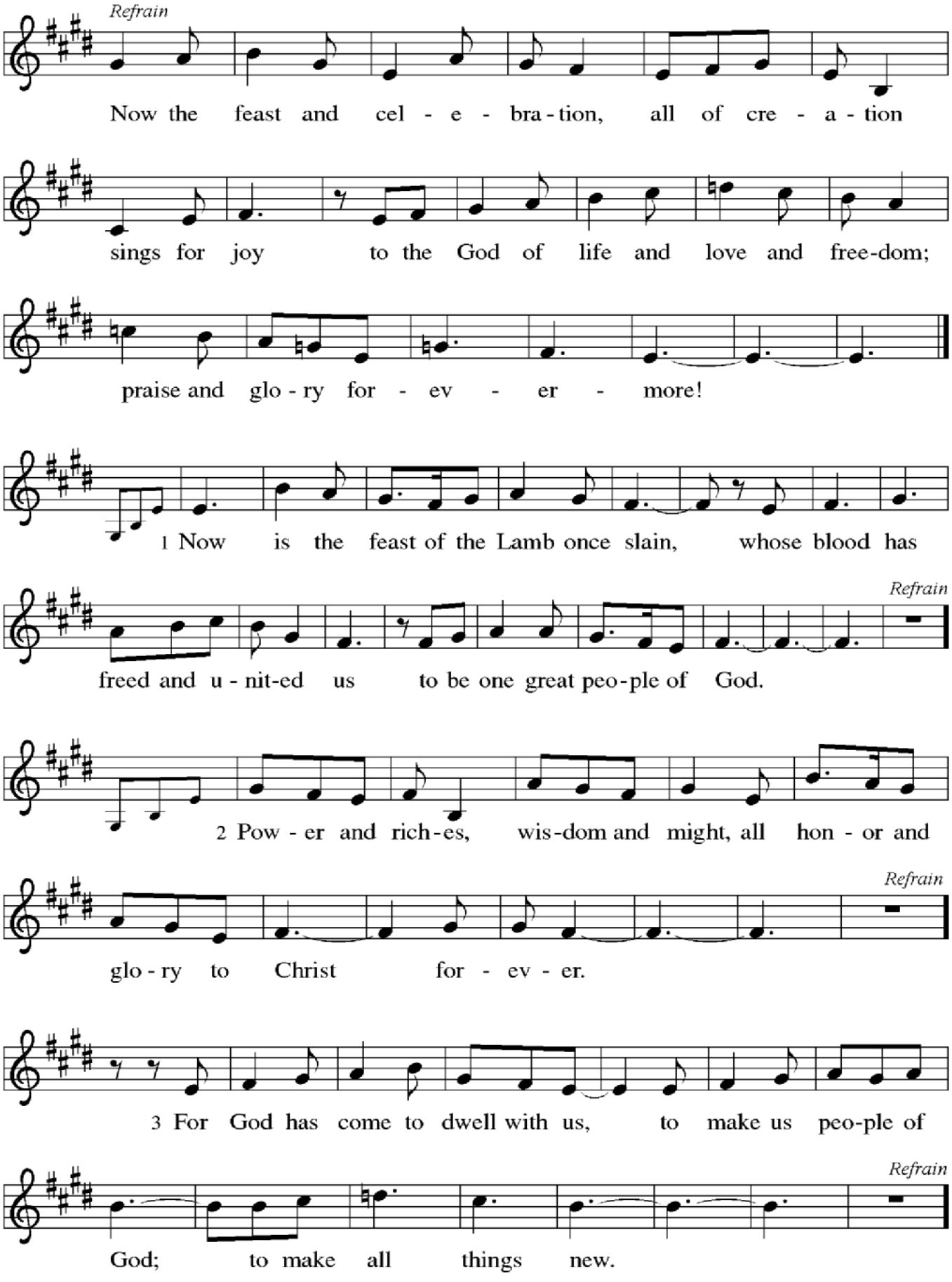


A For your people here, who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your Word let us pray to the…



A Help, save, and defend us, O God…



HYMN OF PRAISE Now the Feast and Celebration ELW 167



THE SALUTATION

A The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

A O God of power and might,

C Your Son shows us the way of service, and in him we inherit the riches of your grace. Give us the wisdom to know what is right and the strength to serve the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

(Please be seated)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Also see our "Blue Sheet" and/or LCR.org)

FIRST READING Ephesians 1:15-23

A A reading from Ephesians

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.

A Word of God, Word of life.

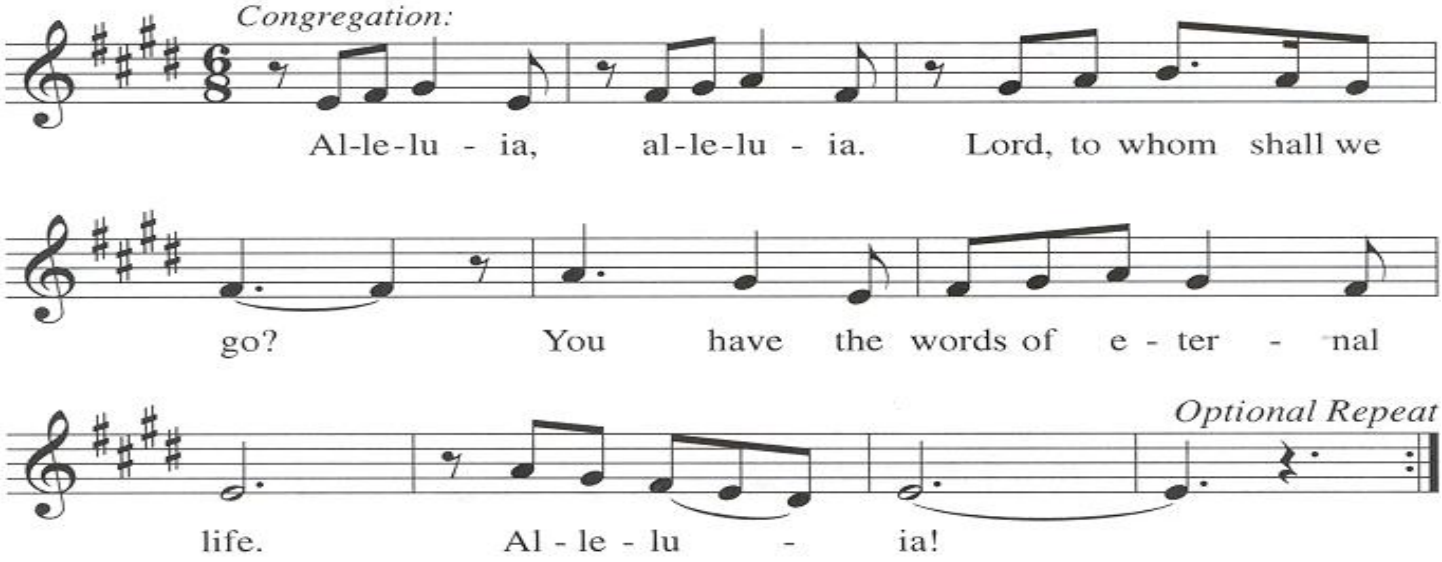
C Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC "I will Give Thanks to the Lord" LCR Choir



(Please stand as you are able)

GOSPEL VERSE





THE GOSPEL Matthew 25:31-46

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew
C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[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."
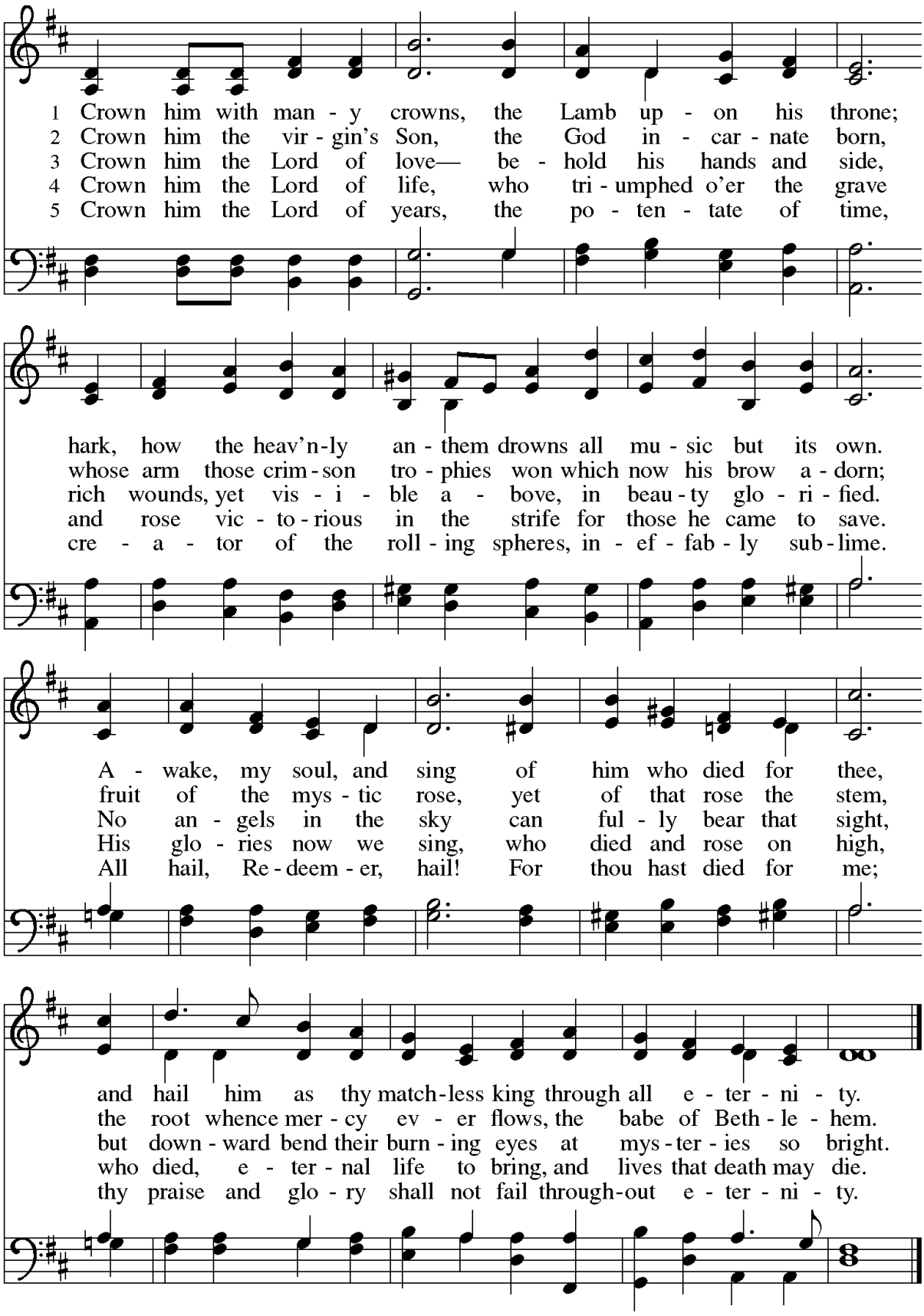
P The Gospel of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

(Please be seated)

SERMON Pastor Derek Harman

(Please stand as you are able)

HYMN OF RESPONSE "Crown Him with Many Crowns" ELW 855



Text: Matthew Bridges, 1800–1894, sts. 1–3, 5; Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, st. 4
Music: DIADEMATA, George J. Elvey, 1816–1893

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

(After each petition concludes with ***"God in your mercy"***, the congregation responds, ***"Hear our prayer"***)

PEACE

A The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

A I invite you to share the Peace of Christ with one another.

(Please be seated)

GIFTS OF OFFERING

(See inside cover for QR code to give electronically)

(Please stand as you are able)

OFFERING PRAYER

P Eternal God,

C Our time, talents, and treasures are gifts from you. Receive what we offer, and all that you entrust to us, until hungry no more, all the world is fed, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.
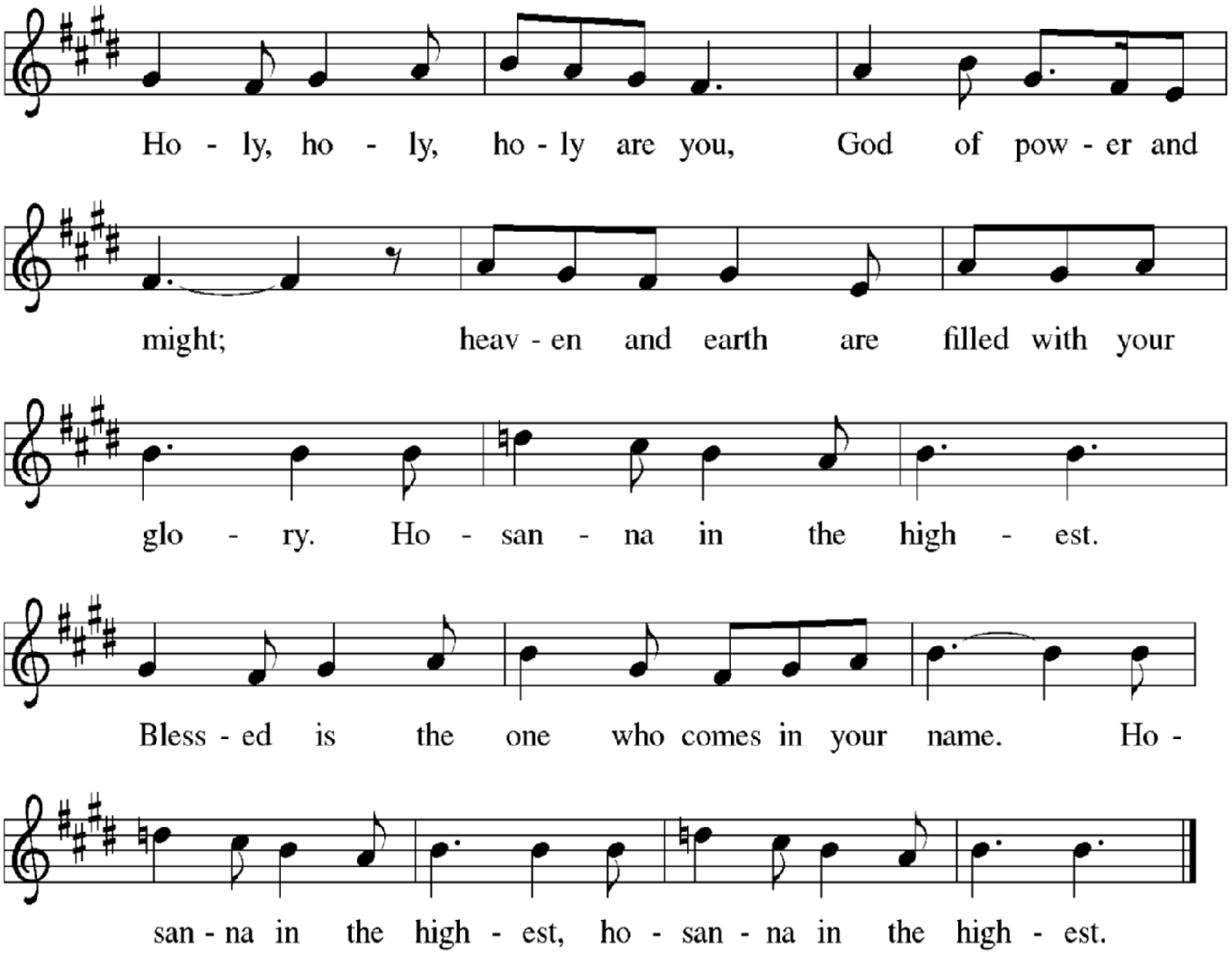
C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God. You reveal your glory as the glory of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit: equal in majesty, undivided in splendor, one Lord, one God, ever to be adored in your eternal glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

CONGREGATONAL SONG Holy, Holy, Holy ELW 191



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

P Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER

C 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

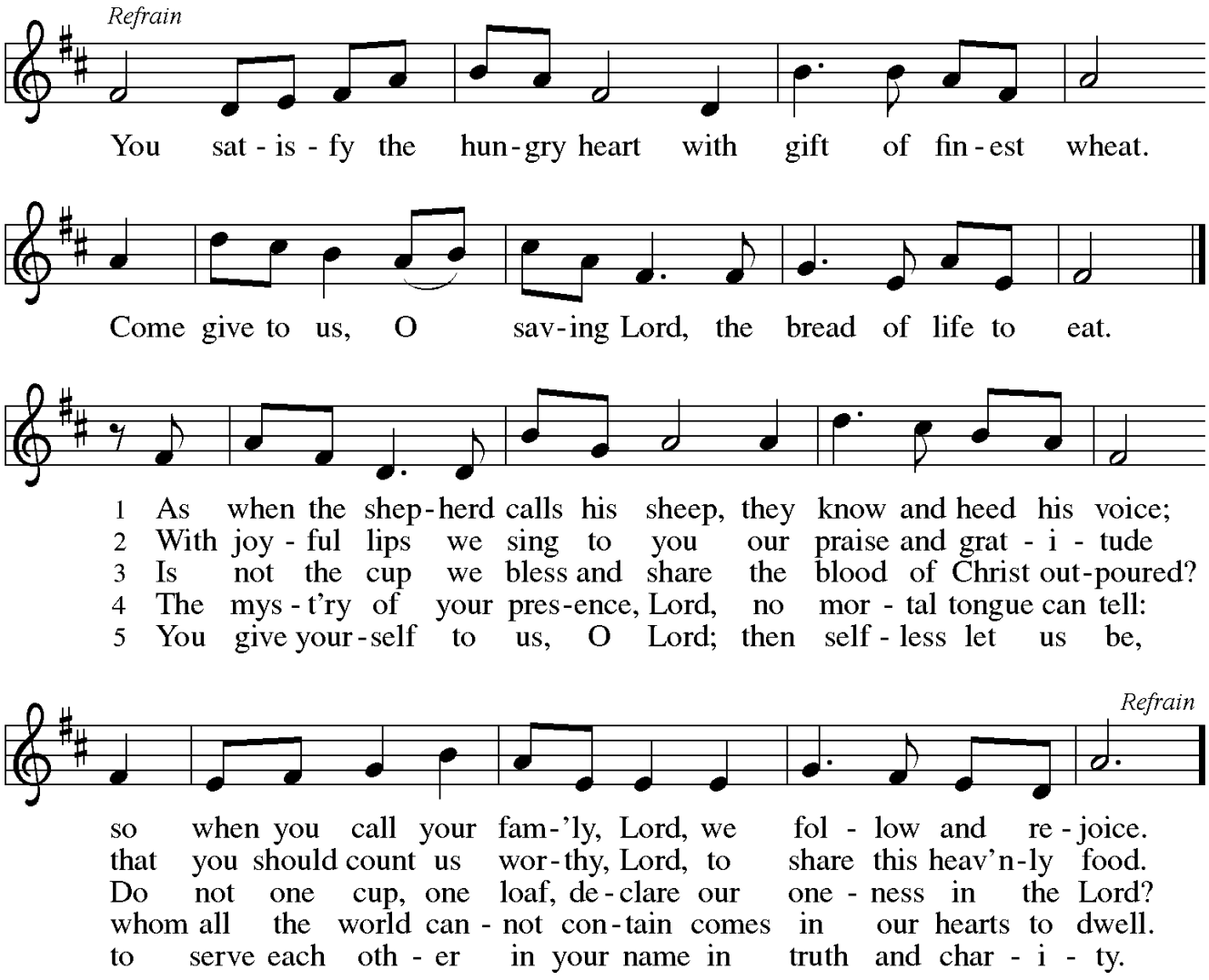
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P In bread and cup the reign of Christ is breaking in.
Come, receive what Christ has prepared!

(Please be seated)

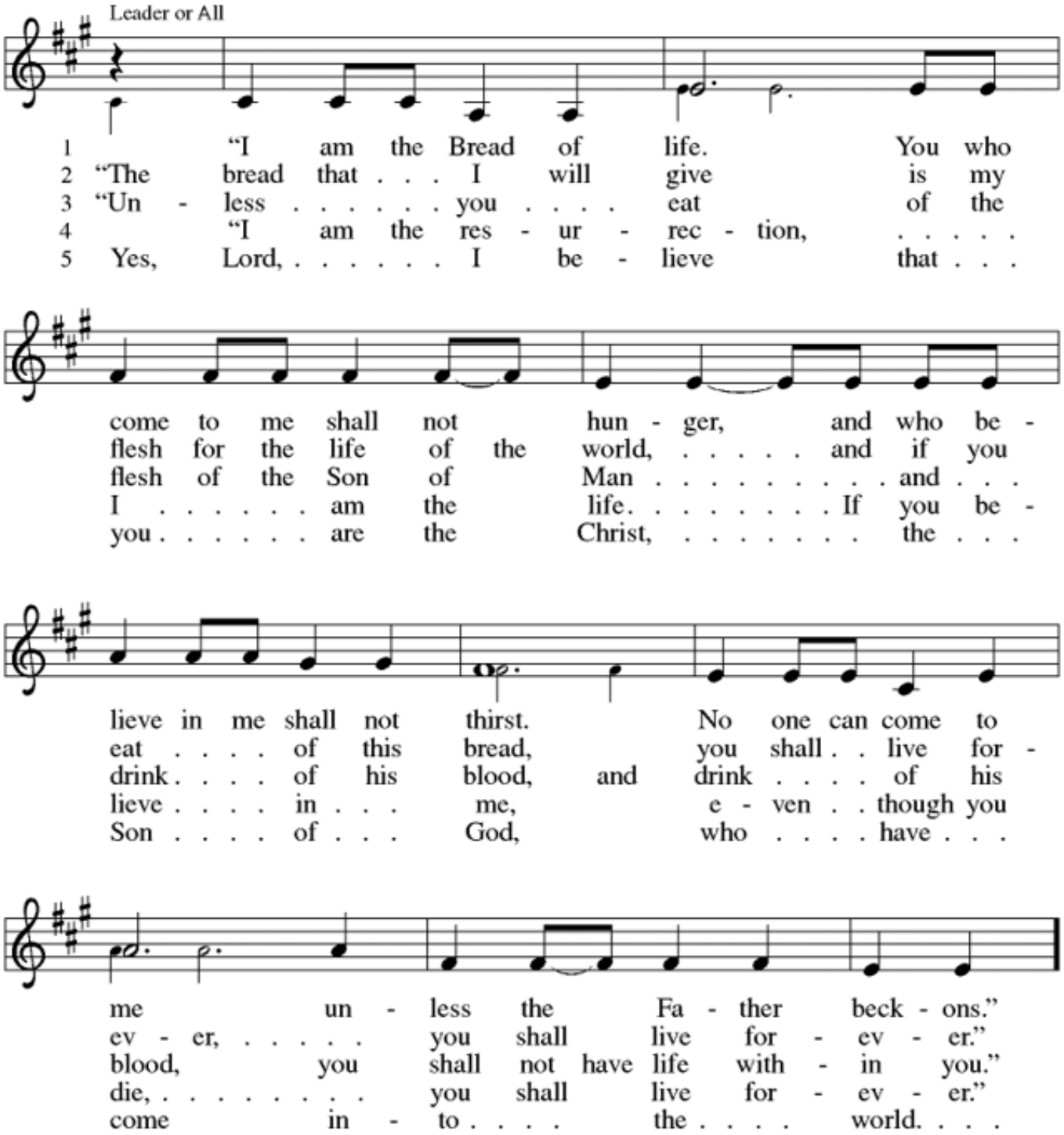
COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMN "You Satisfied the Hungry Heart" ELW 484



Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997
Music: BICENTENNIAL, Robert E. Kreutz, 1922–1996
Text and music © 1977 Archdiocese of Philadelphia.
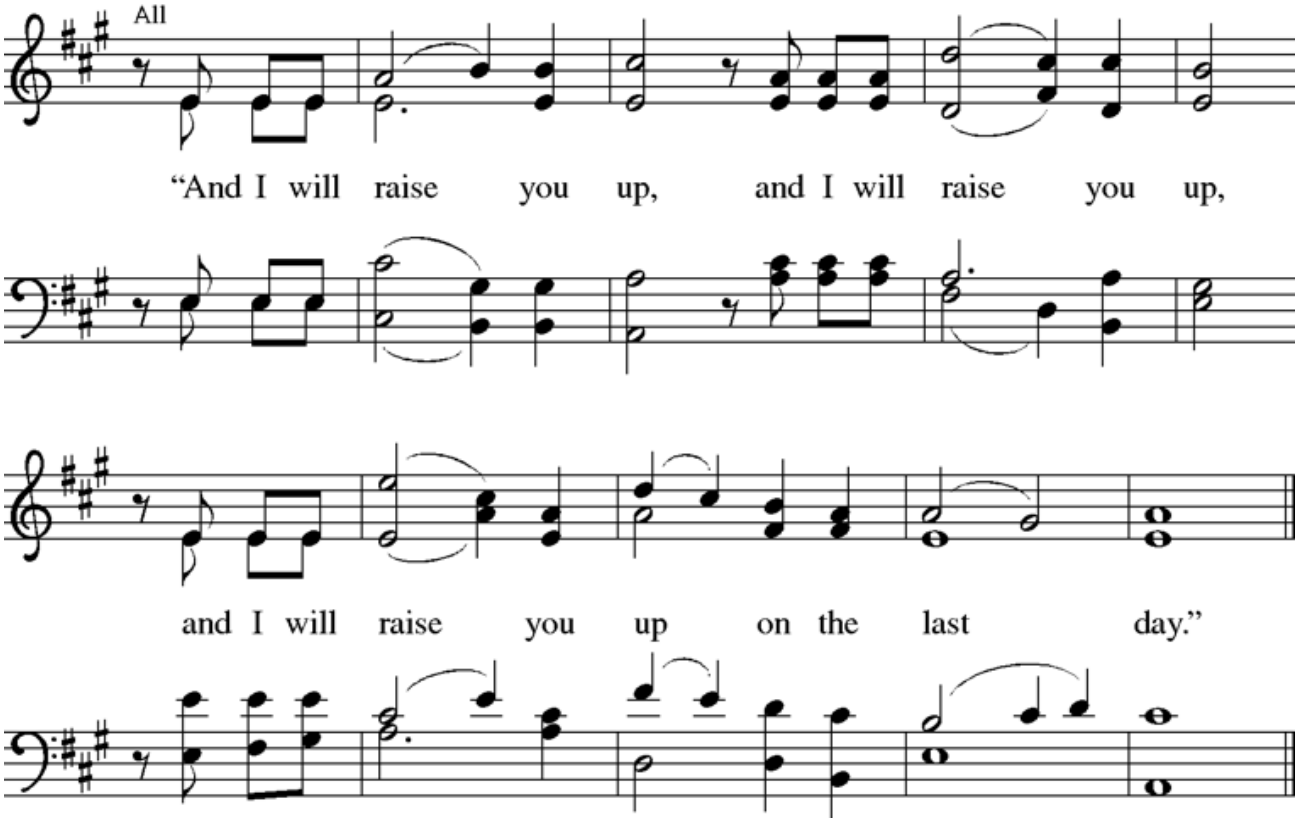
COMMUNION HYMN "I Am the Bread of Life" ELW 485



(Refrain on next page)

Refrain

All



Text: Suzanne Toolan, RSM, b. 1927, based on John 6
Music: I AM THE BREAD, Suzanne Toolan, RSM
Text and music © 1966, 1970, 1986, 1993 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.
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(Please stand as you are able)

P May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood, strengthen, keep and unite us, now and forever.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Holy God,

C We have received your never- ending mercy in this meal. You continuously seek the lost, bind the injured, and feed your people abundantly. Now send us out, awake to your presence, now and forever. Amen
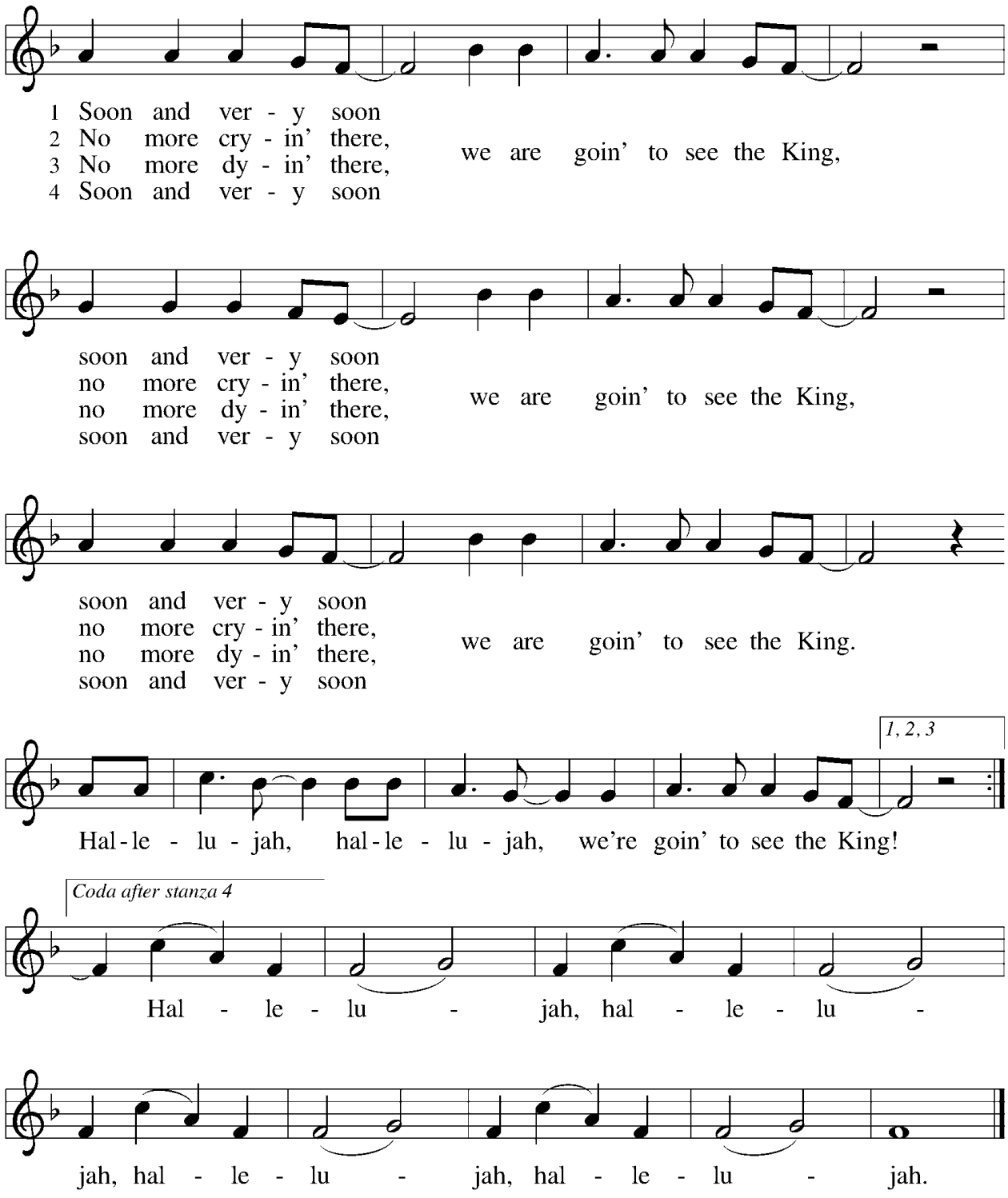
BLESSING

P The holy Trinity, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you with wisdom to welcome the reign of God, today and always.

C Amen.



SENDING HYMN "Soon and Very Soon" ELW 439



Text: Andraé Crouch, b. 1945
Music: VERY SOON, Andraé Crouch
Text and music © 1976 Bud John Songs, Inc./Crouch Music, admin. EMI Christian Music Publishing

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Encourage one another.

C Thanks be to God.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:

Assisting Minister: Warren Schwegel
Lector: Judy Moore
Communion: Casey Mills & Sandy Russell
Coffee Corner: Jim & Linda Arbaugh

Ushers: Mike Wollen, David & Tamara Crocker
Altar Flowers: Paula Marsh
Altar Guild: Paula Marsh

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COMMEMORATIONS FOR THE WEEK

Elizabeth of Hungary, renewer of society, died 1231
Tuesday, November 17, 2026
Born in Hungary, Elizabeth was betrothed to the son of the Landgrave of Thuringia, and at age four was taken to be raised with him at the Wartburg Castle. Ten years later they were married. She was very generous to the poor, and after her husband's death she lived in cruel hardship until her own death at age twenty-four.

Clement, Bishop of Rome, died around 100
Monday, November 23, 2026
Clement was the third bishop of Rome. He is best remembered for a letter he wrote to the congregation in Corinth, still struggling with the same problems that led to Paul's letters to them. As did Paul, he focused on the need for love among Christians.

Miguel Agustín Pro, martyr, died 1927
Monday, November 23, 2026
Pro grew up in a time when the Mexican revolutionaries accused the church of siding with the wealthy. He became a Jesuit priest, and worked on behalf of the poor and homeless. Falsely accused of throwing a bomb at a government official, he was executed, but not before crying out "Long live Christ the King!"

Justus Falckner, died 1723; Jehu Jones, died 1852; William Passavant, died 1894; pastors in North America
Tuesday, November 24, 2026
Not only was Falckner the first Lutheran ordained in North America, but he published a catechism which was the first Lutheran book published on the continent. Jones was the Lutheran church's first African American pastor and carried out missionary work in Philadelphia which led to the formation there of the first African American Lutheran congregation (St. Paul's). William Passavant helped to establish hospitals and orphanages in a number of cities and was the first to introduce deaconesses to the work of hospitals in the United States.

Isaac Watts, hymnwriter, died 1748
Wednesday, November 25, 2026
Thought by many to be the greatest hymnwriter in the English language, Watts as a youth was critical of the quality of the metrical psalter of the time. He wrote about 600 hymns—many based on the psalms, but others that are not.