24th Sunday after Pentecost

NOVEMBER 8, 2026

TRADITIONAL



Bethany Lutheran Church

4500 Hampden Ave • Cherry Hills Village, CO 80113

bethany-denver.org

Bethany Advent Fest

Get Ready

Sunday, November 29th
11:15 AM - 1:00 PM
Great Hall

Lunch provided!



Sing-along



Outreach Project



Craft Rotations

All ages are welcome!
Families are encouraged to attend together.



Register here!

✠ Gathering ✠

Prelude Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme J. S. Bach
G. F. Handel

Welcome *Pastor Nate Preisinger*

To fill out your digital connection card, go to **www.tinyurl.com/BethanyConnect**.

Confession and Forgiveness *Pastor Nate Preisinger*

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom 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 Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

The assembly kneels or stands. Silence is kept for reflection.

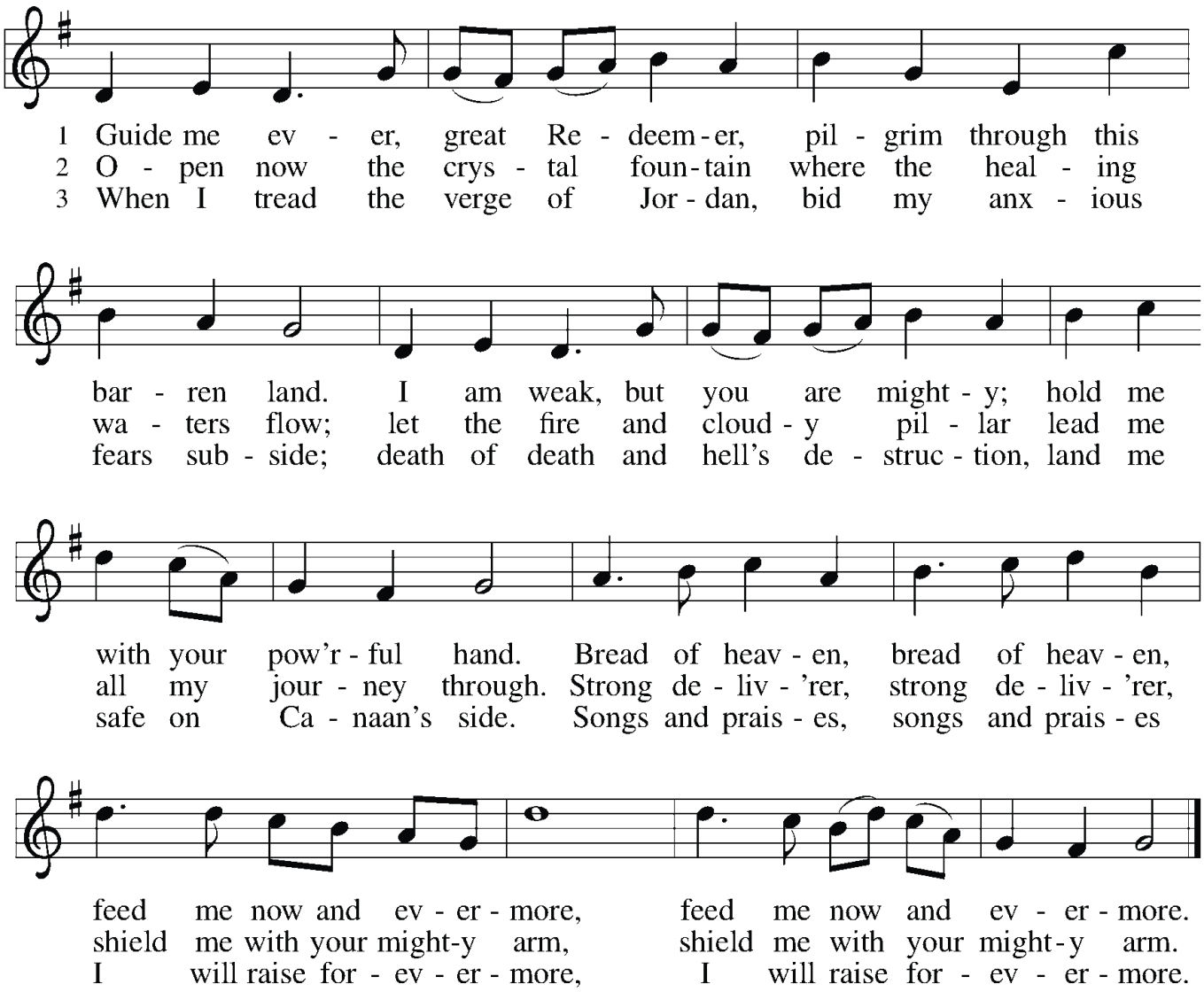
Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn — Guide Me Ever, Great Redeem — ELW 618

You are invited to face the cross as it enters.



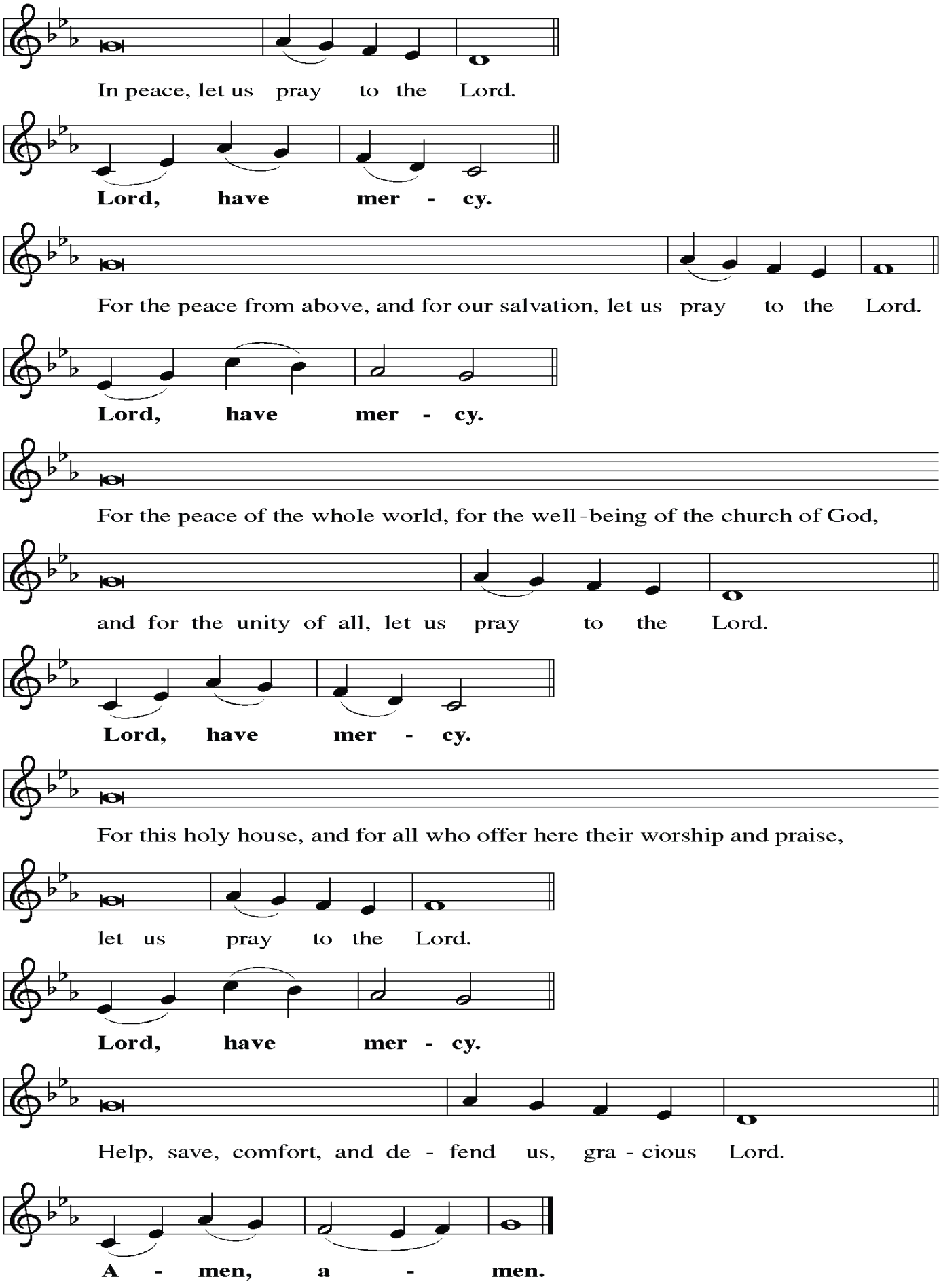
Text: William Williams, 1717–1791; tr. William Williams and Peter Williams, 1722–1796, alt.
Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873–1932
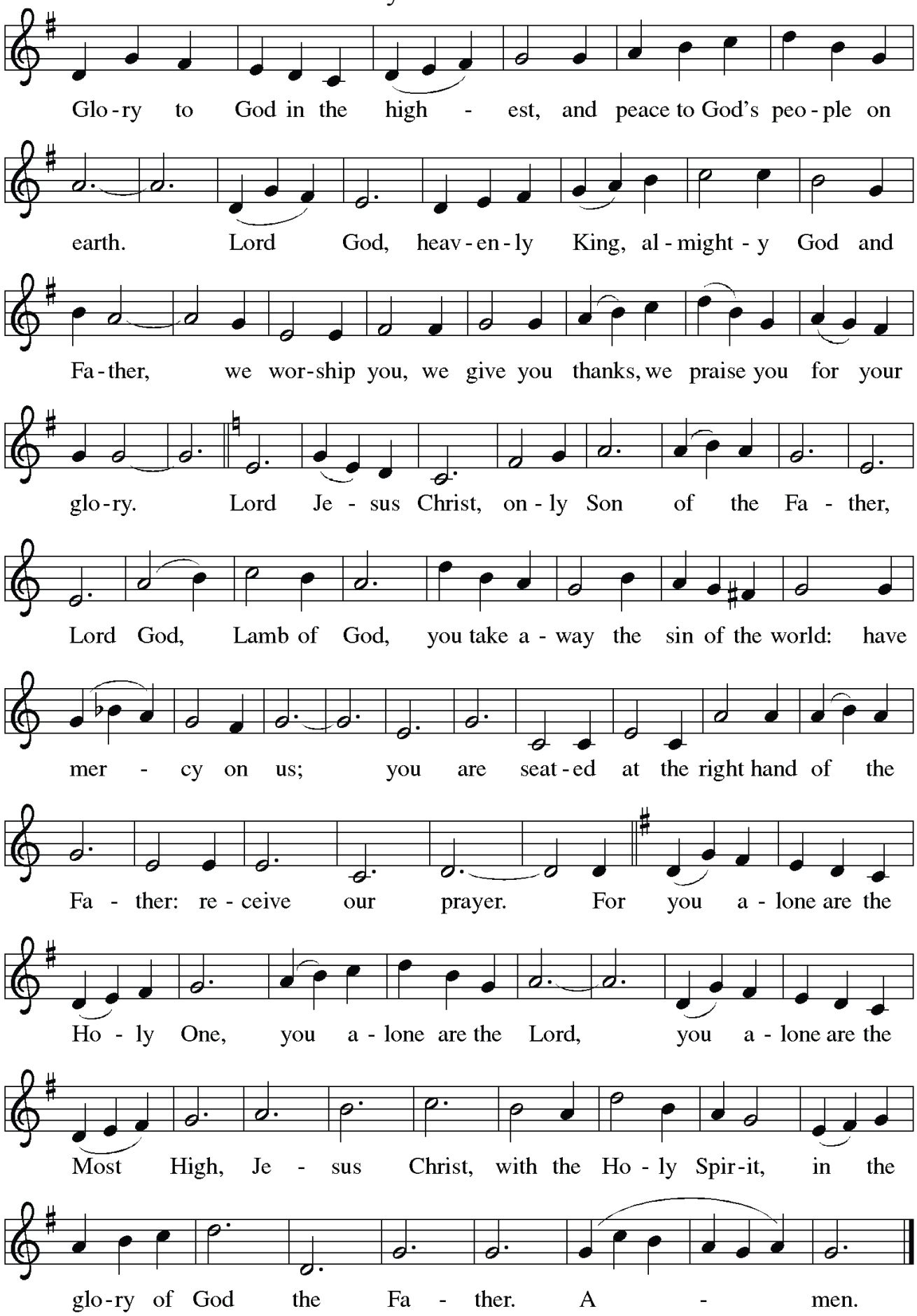
Greeting — *Gartth Englund III*

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

And also with you.

KYRIE


In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mer - cy.
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mer - cy.
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mer - cy.
For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mer - cy.
Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.
A - men, a - men.



Music: Thomas Pavlechko, b. 1962
Music © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

Prayer of the Day

Garth Englund III

Let us pray,

God of life and promise, meet us in our waiting. Keep our hope alive when the night grows long and help us trust that even death cannot separate us from the life you promise. Through Jesus Christ, who is with us now and forever. **Amen.**

✠ Word ✠

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

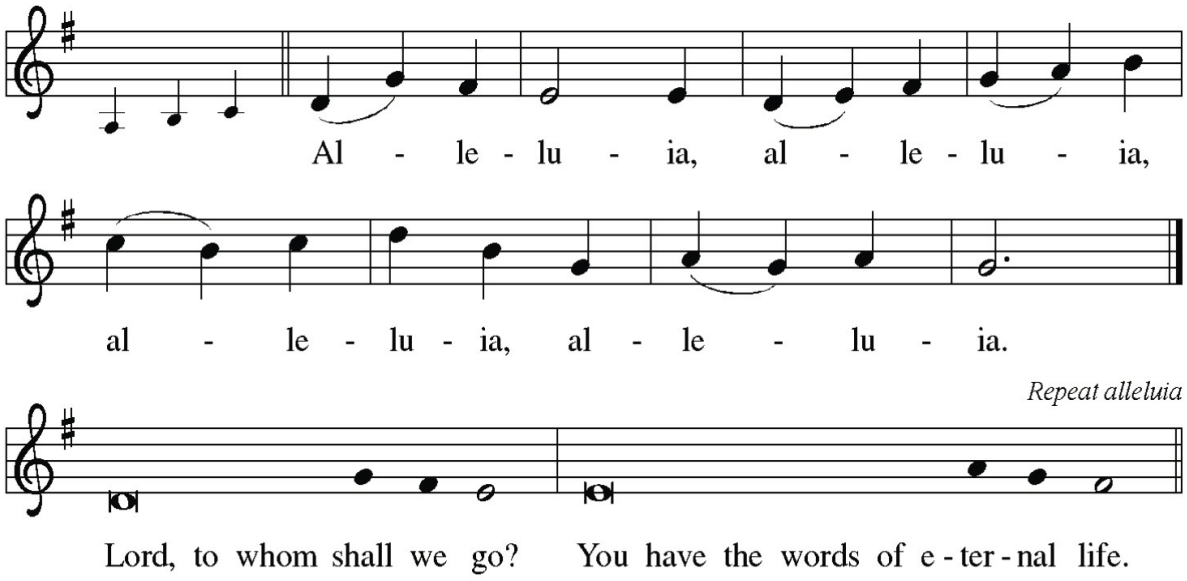
Paul Rodeck

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.

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.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13

Jesus tells a parable about his own second coming, emphasizing the need for readiness at all times.
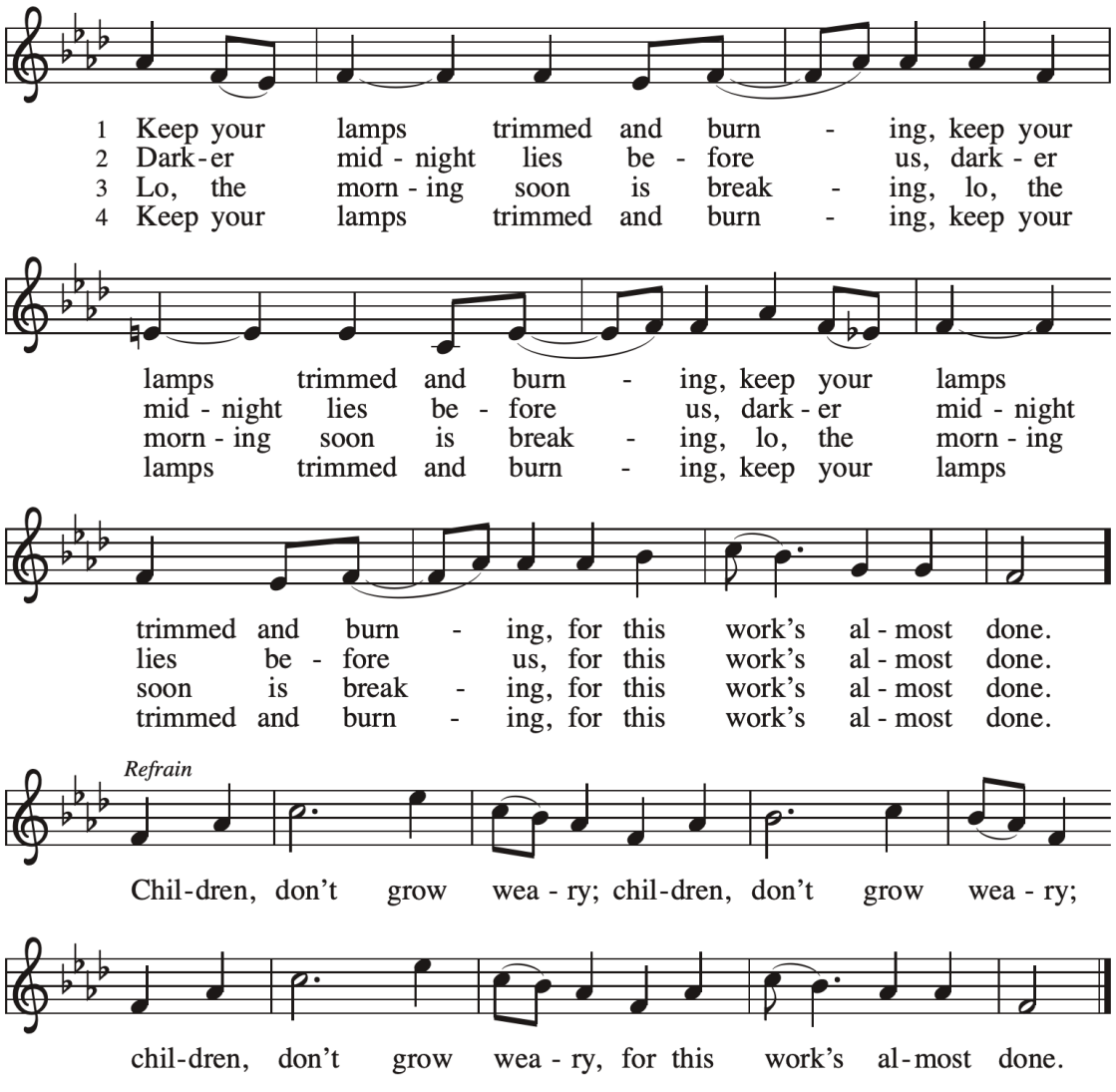
The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, **Glory to you O, Lord.**

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."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you O, Christ.**

Sermon *Pastor Nate Preisinger*

Hymn of the Day Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning ACS 949



Apostles' Creed

Garth Englund III

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

Blessing of Peace

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

Please share a blessing of peace with others around you. After sharing the Peace please be seated.

✠ Offering ✠

Abundantly Bethany

Pastor Nate Preisinger

- **Advent Fest Nov. 29**
- **Adult Education Today-** Cathy Lessmann -Lessons from Hilarious Jonah Room 210 9:45am
- **Usher and Altar Guild Training today 9:35am**
- **Low Anthropology Book Club**

Offering

You can give in the following ways; Thank you for your gifts!

- On our **website**, find the GIVE button in the header or under the Get Involved tab at **Bethany-Denver.org**
- Through **SubSplash -** Use your phone's camera to scan this **QR Code**
- Unlock your phone, hold near the **NFC card** (on pew back), and wait for the notification to appear
- **Mail** in your check to the office (4500 E. Hampden Ave. Cherry Hills Village, CO 80113)
- Sunday mornings, drop your offering in the plate as it is passed

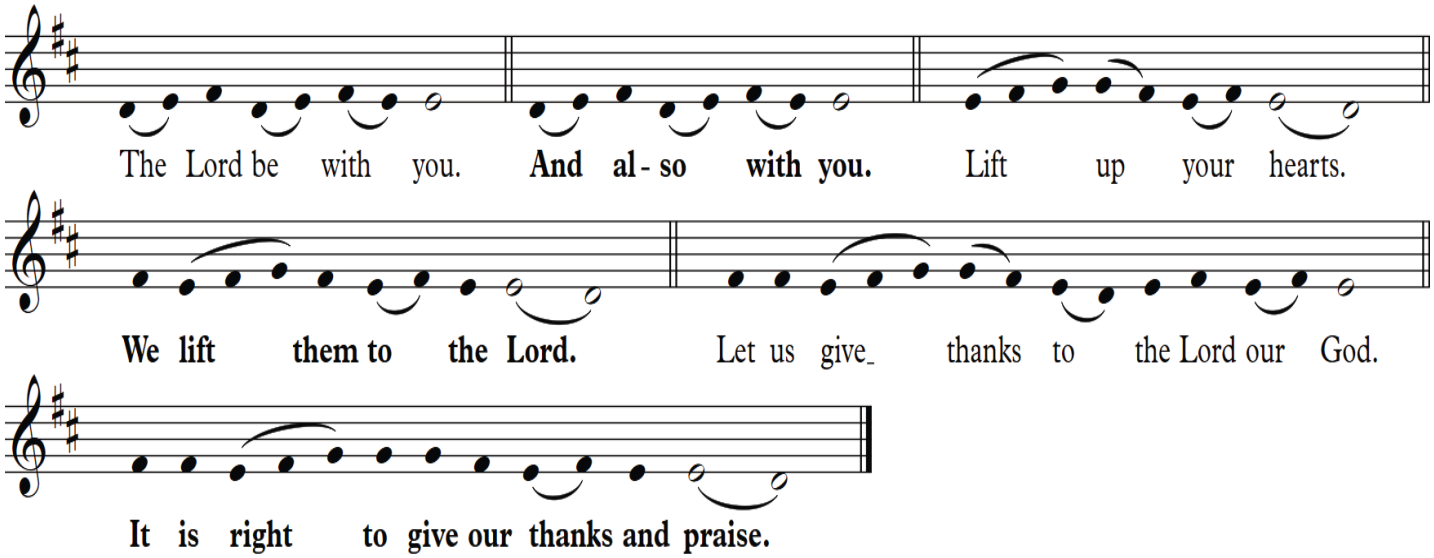
Anthem The Church's One Foundation Samuel S Wesley, arr. Cathy Moklebust
Carillons, dir. Nolan Oltjenbruns

✠ Meal ✠

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Pastor Nate Preisinger

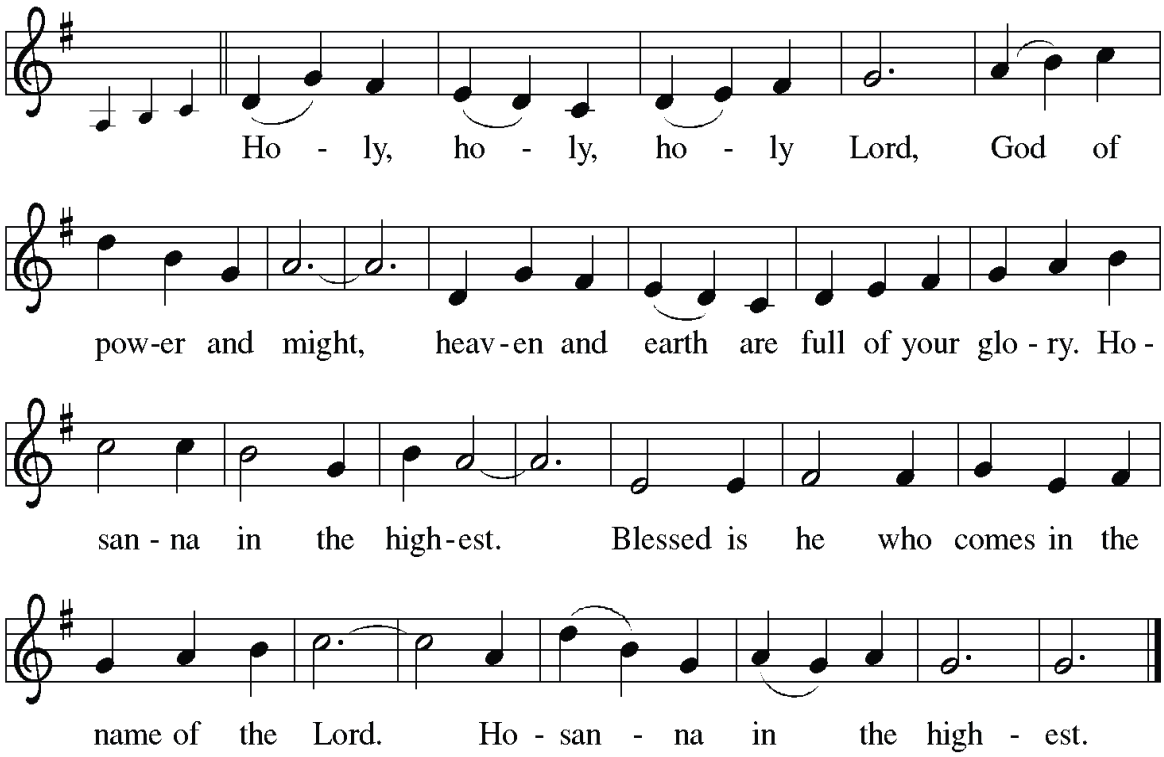
Celebration of Holy Communion



Preface

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy…
...we praise your name and join in their unending hymn:

Sanctus



Blessing of the Bread and the Wine

The Lord's Prayer
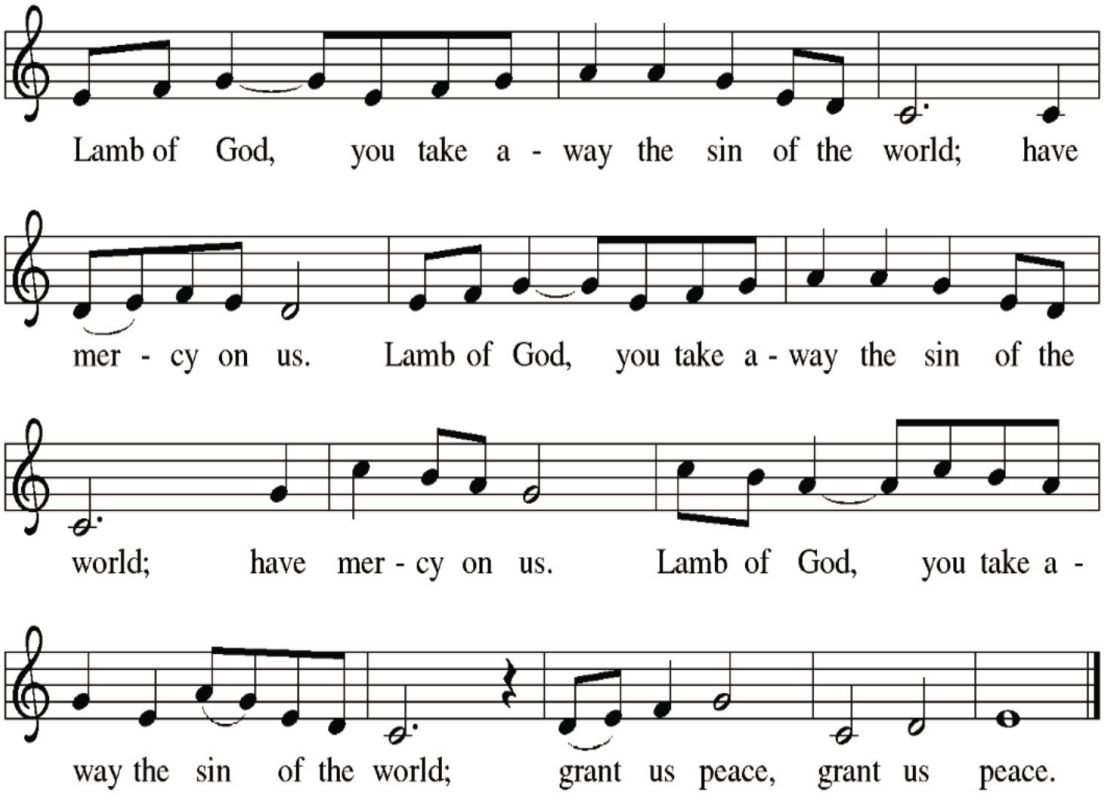
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever.
Amen

Communion Instruction

Receive communion by dipping the bread into the wine. Pre-packaged communion sets are alcohol free; gluten-free options are available. Groups are welcome to visit a communion station together. Those who are not receiving communion are invited to cross their arms across their chest to receive a blessing.

Communion Distribution

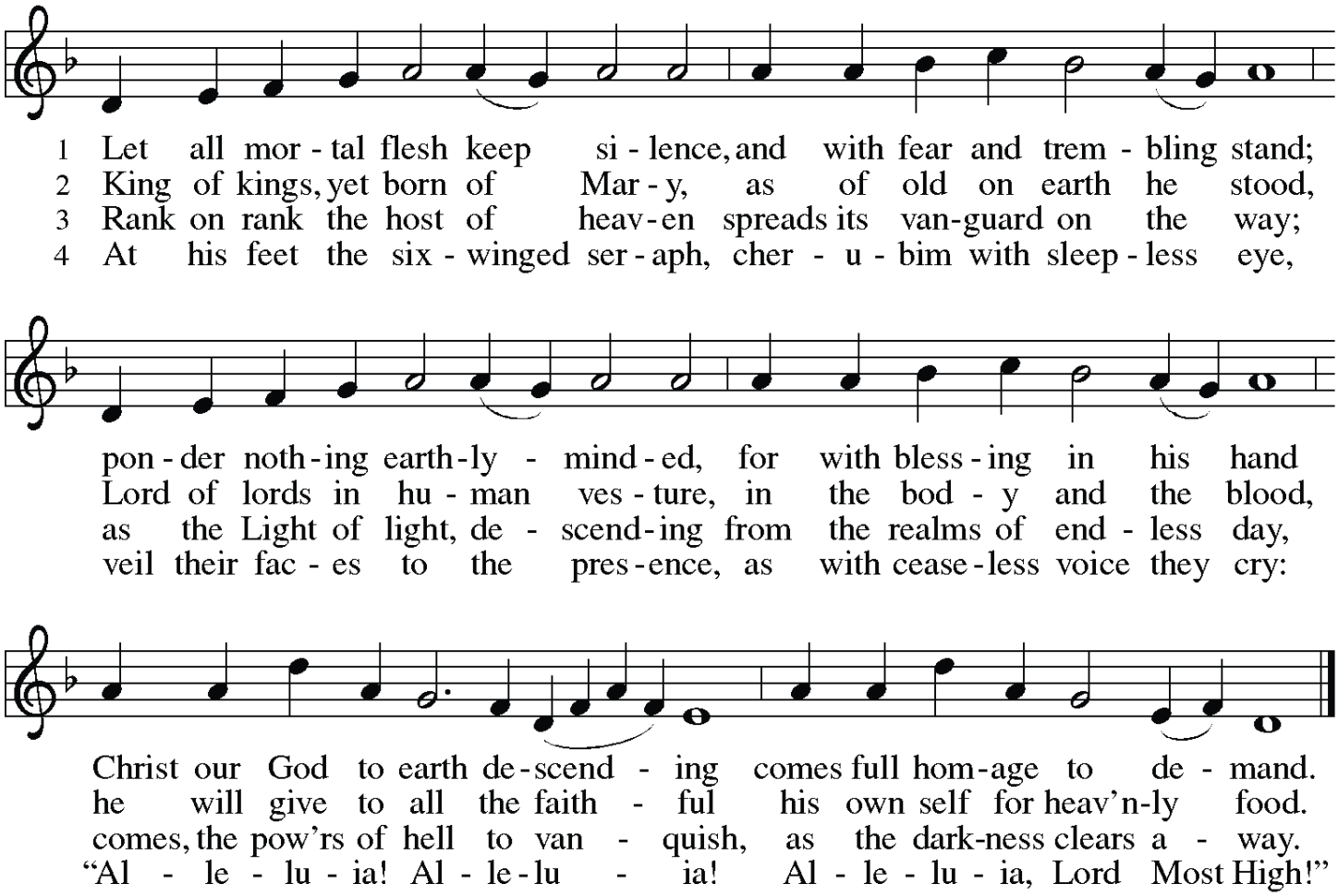
Lamb of God



Communion Music Acclamation in G Minor Karen Thompson

Carillons dir. Nolan Oltjenbruns

Communion Hymn Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence ELW 490



Text: Liturgy of St. James; tr. Gerard Moultrie, 1829–1885, alt.
Music: PICARDY, French folk tune, 17th cent.

Table Blessing

✠ Sending ✠

Veteran's Recognition

Benediction
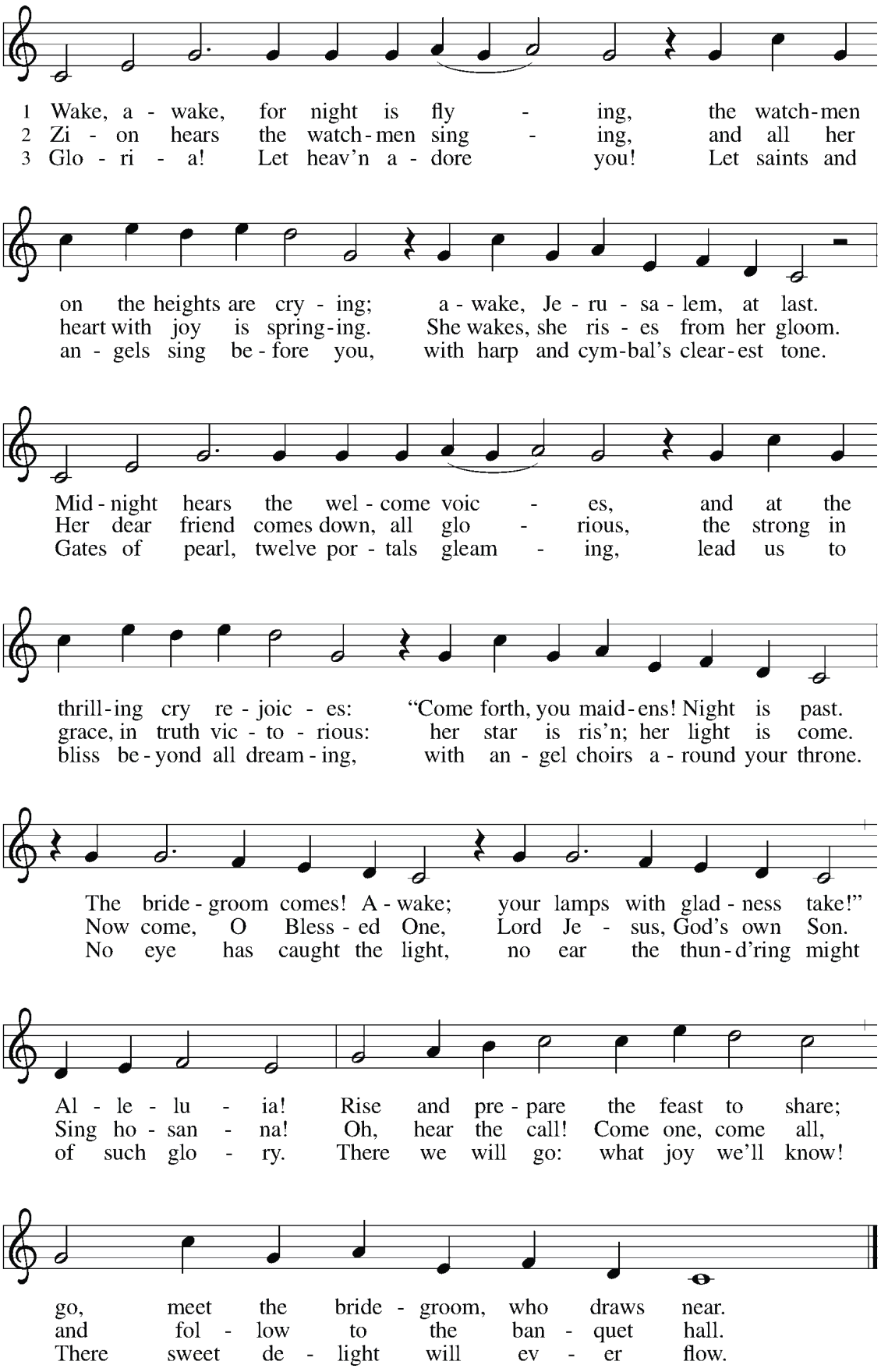
Pastor Nate Preisinger

Sending Hymn

Wake, Awake, for night is flying (vs.1-2)

ELW 436

You are invited to face the cross as it recesses to the center.



Text: Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608; tr. composite
Music: WACHET AUF, Philipp Nicolai
Text © 1999 Augsburg Fortress

DISMISSAL *Pastor Nate Preisinger*

As we go forth into the week ahead we remember our calling as the people of Bethany. Together we will:

Worship and encounter a God who loves us;
Embrace healthy dialogue that promotes unity over division;
Respond to the needs of the world through generosity and action.

With this as our mission, go in peace, serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE Recessional on "Wachet auf" Rick Seaton

New to Bethany? Stop by the Mission Center for a welcome to Bethany Gift.



Things to Know About News & Events

Happening Today:

- **Usher Training** - Today 9:35am
- **Altar Guild Training -** Today 9:35am
- **Bronco Watch Party -** 11am Room 412

Happening Next Sunday Nov. 15:

- **Brian Tennien Memorial Rice and Bean Breakdown** for Metro Caring Sunday, Nov 15
- **Town Hall -** 11:30-12pm in Room 312

Worship:

- **Rejoicing Spirits** for dinner and worship, Sunday, November 15 4-6 pm

Education/Faith Formation:

- **Book discussion** of "Low Anthropology" by David Zahl on Dec 6 and 13.
- **Advent Fest -** Nov 29 11:15-1pm

Hospitality:

- **Bethany Outdoor Adventures -** South Valley Park Nov 21, 10am

Outreach:

- **Angel Gifts 2026** -Angel Gifts Holiday Donation Drive sponsored by Lutheran Family Services Rocky Mountains! Angel Gifts (Angel Tree) Drop off on Nov 15, Nov 22, Nov 29 and Dec 6.
- **Global Mission**: Bethany's Global Mission Ministry proposals- Nov 17
- **Integrated Family Community Services** (IFCS) Fresh Thanks - Sat, Nov 21
- **Food Bank of the Rockies -** Dec 8, 1-4pm

Other:

- **Bethany Nursery** is currently hiring nursery attendants for Sunday mornings

Look for full details for all our news and events on the Bethany website: Bethany-denver.org/news

Things To Know About Worship

Welcome to Bethany! If you have questions or would like to consider making Bethany your church home, visit our website, Bethany-Denver.org, or stop by the Newcomer Nook after worship. The pastoral team, consisting of Pastor Gary Sandberg (he/him), Pastor Nate Preisinger (he/him), Deacon Debra Alba (she/her) and Director of Pastoral Care Janet Mortinsen (she/her), is available to speak with you.

Bethany Lutheran Church values people of diverse race, sexual identity, ethnicity, and political affiliation. All are welcome at Bethany Lutheran Church and this community is enriched because you are here. We are together for good!

Sunday Worship services: (8:30am Traditional) - worship follows traditional Lutheran liturgy. (10:00am Casual Blended) a flow of worship that includes the elements of Lutheran worship with music that spans multiple genres and brings some creative ways to engage the theme of the day. Worship leaders are generally dressed more casually.

Participating in Worship: There will be times during worship when you are invited to stand, but if it is more comfortable or more meaningful for you to remain seated, please feel free to do so.

Communion Statement: Everyone gathered for worship is invited to take part in Communion. Jesus did not place any barriers around who received communion and neither does Bethany.

Safety: Bethany Lutheran Church is committed to maintaining a safe and welcoming environment for everyone. If at any time you feel uncomfortable, unsafe or have concerns, please speak with one of our staff or designated leaders. We are here to listen and to support you.

Hearing Assistance Device: Please see the Sound Tech in the A/V booth at the rear of the Sanctuary if you need a hearing assistance device.

Worship Servants: Thank you to all the A/V team, Ushers, Communion Servers, Altar Guild, Musicians, Embrace Volunteers and Sacristans for your work to greet people and make worship happen. We always welcome Worship Servants - go to www.signupschedule.com/Bethany to sign up!

Children at Bethany: Children and youth are a blessing from God and we love having children in the Sanctuary! Additionally, we offer several options for children and families to feel comfortable in a variety of spaces on Sunday mornings:

> **Fidget Station:** We know that all of God's children (young and old) are wonderfully and fear fully made in the image of God. And, at Bethany, ALL are welcome to worship.
> Available outside the Sanctuary's north doors is a Fidget Station. Children and adults are invited to use these fidgets and art supplies to aid in your spiritual growth and presence in worship. Please return items to the station when you are finished.
>
> **Busy Bags:** Near the Sanctuary doors you will find premade bags perfect for littles. Pick one up on the way in and return it on the way out.
>
> **Nursery:** For directions to our staffed Nursery, please speak with an usher.