


**Bethany Lutheran Church**

4500 Hampden Ave • Cherry Hills Village, CO 80113

bethany-denver.org



# Here We Stand.

*The Kessler Collection at Bethany*

On **Saturday, November 21**, Bethany Lutheran Church will host a combined lecture and choir concert, featuring artifacts from the prestigious Richard C. Kessler Collection, the largest collection of Reformation artifacts outside of Europe. The lecture will be given by Dr. Richard "Bo" Manly Adams, Jr., Margaret A. Pitts Distinguished Director of Pitts Theology Library and Associate Professor in the Practice of Theological Bibliography at Candler School of Theology. The Chancel Choir will perform beloved Lutheran hymns in conjunction with information about the artifacts.

The event will begin at **6:30 PM** in the **Sanctuary**, and the artifacts will be on display in the chapel before and after the event. This will be a night to remember - come learn and celebrate!




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

# + We Prepare Our Hearts +

## Prelude

Sonata V — Felix Mendelssohn

I. Andante II. Andante con moto III. Allegro maestoso

## Welcome to Worship

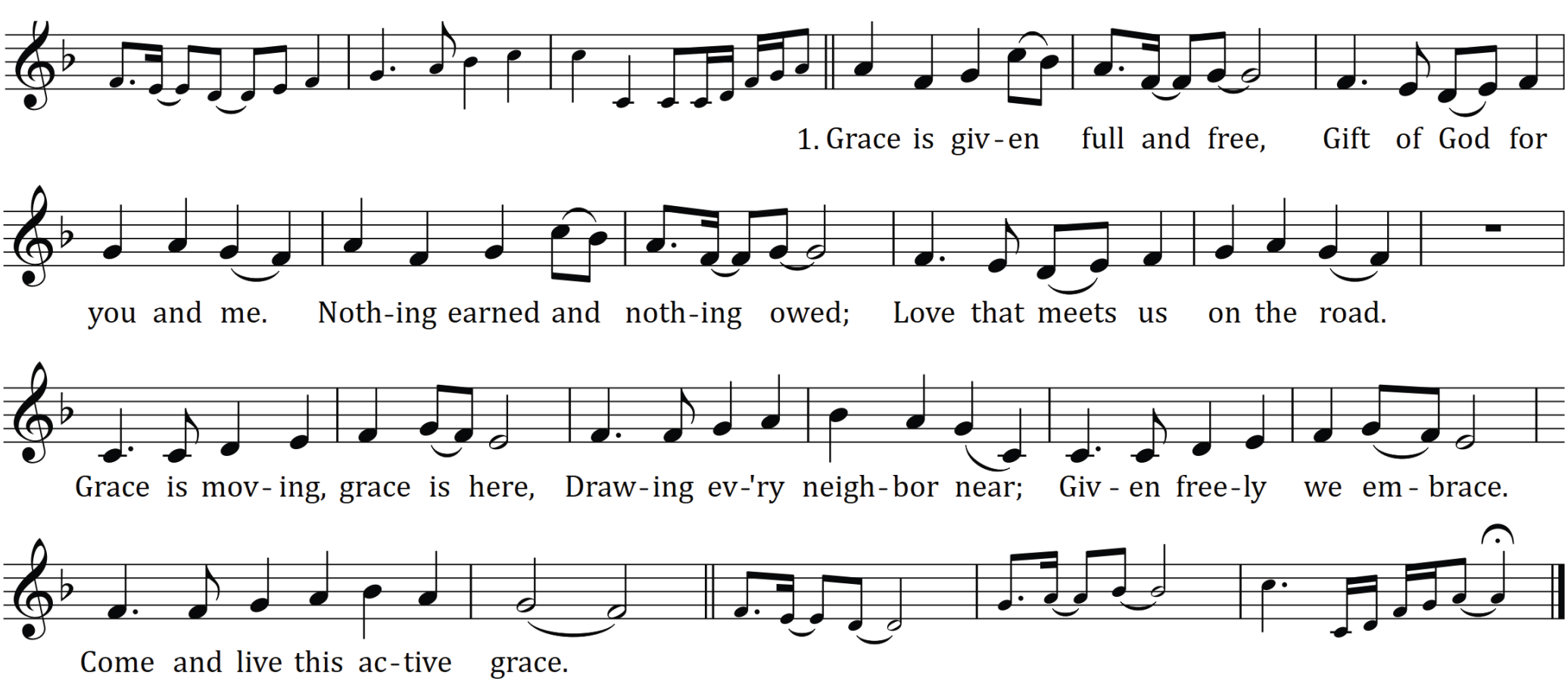
*Pastor Nate Preisinger*

To fill out your digital connection card, go to:

**www.tinyurl.com/BethanyConnect**.

## Song of Praise

Active Grace




## A Time of Confession

God of Mercy,

**Help me to be more aware of those places in my life that do not align with your best intentions for me. I ask for your forgiveness: when I ignore the challenges my neighbors face; when I focus on my desires more than my neighbors' needs; when I convince myself that my worth is greater than other's. Please continue to open pathways for me to walk in your ways.**

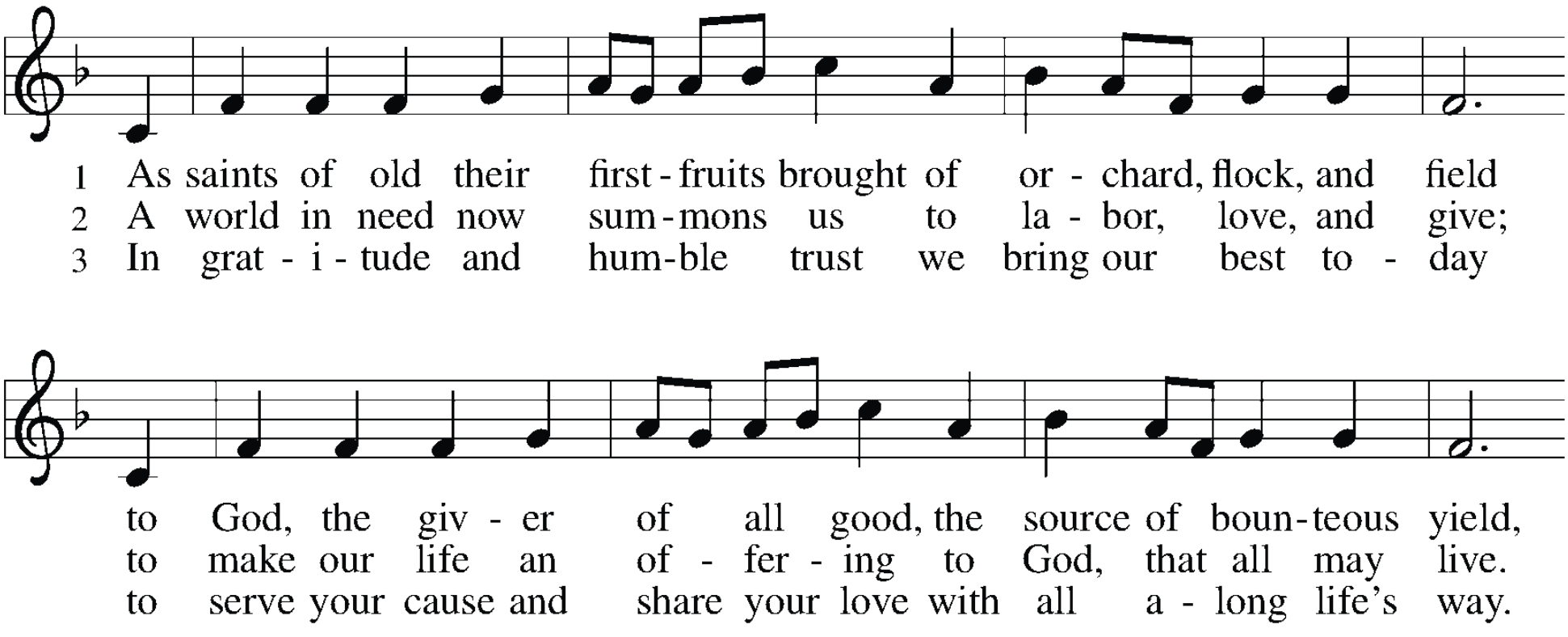
## God's Gift of Forgiveness

God is already forgiving you of all your sins. God recognizes when you fail to be your best self, and through the gift of Jesus God reminds you that in his love you are set free. You are free from your sin, free to live in God's mercy, and free to extend that mercy to others. Live in this freedom as your gift to God. **Amen.**

## Song of Praise

As Saints of Old

ELW 695




Text: Frank von Christierson, 1900–1996, alt.
Music: FOREST GREEN, English folk tune
Text © 1961, ren. 1989 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188.
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## Greeting

*Deacon Debra Alba*

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.**

## Prayer of the Day

Righteous God, **our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. AMEN**

**Anthem** How to Live Each Day Mark Hayes

Bethany Youth Choir, dir. Laura Tribby

*God has shown me what is good and how to live each day.*
*I will be fair to other people, be merciful and kind. I will walk humbly with my God.*
*If I see someone who's in trouble, I will lend a helping hand.*
*I will stand for what is fair and show how much I care, for that's what God commands.*
*When someone has done something wrong, I will not make fun of them or judge.*
*I will be their friend, their name I will defend, and that's how I'll show love.*
*I will live and act with humility. I will love God with all my heart.*
*I will show compassion through my words and actions. I will humbly do my part.*

**Children's Sermon** Deacon Debra Alba

**Children's Worship** Zach Rodasti

# + We Encounter God's Word +

**Today's Sermon is based on readings from:**

**Psalm 90:1-12**

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, "Turn back, O children 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 them away like a dream, they 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 are consumed by your anger; we are afraid because of your wrath.
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.**

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

## Gospel: Matthew 25: 14-30

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord**
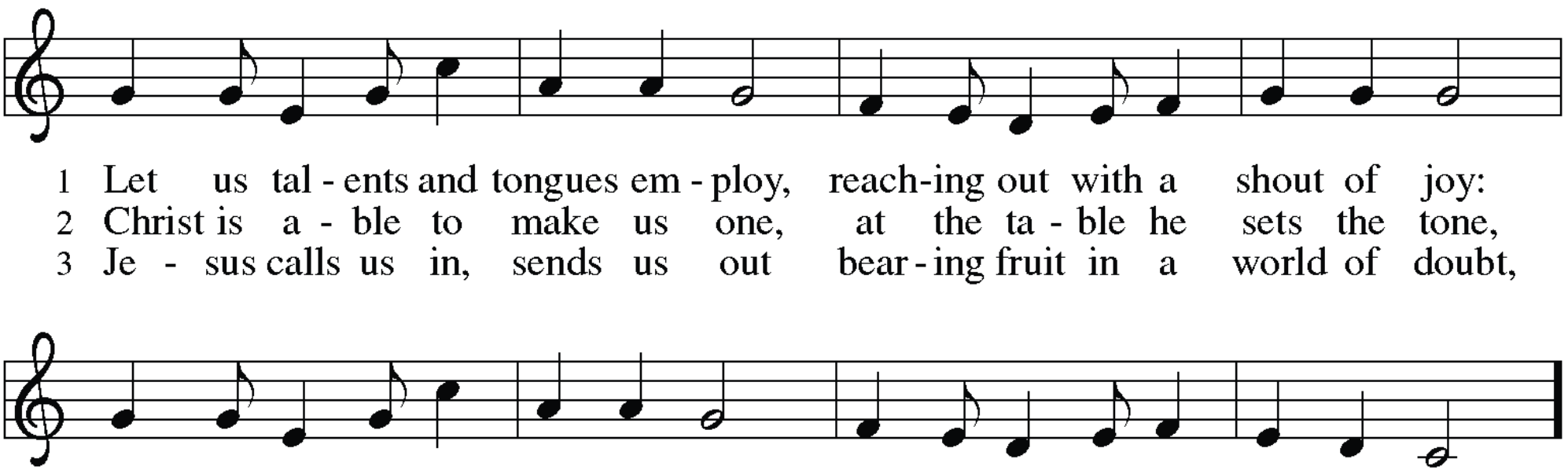
Jesus said to the disciples: [14] "For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; [15] to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. At once [16] the one who had received the five talents went off and traded with them and made five more talents. [17] In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. [18] But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. [19] After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. [20] 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.' [21] 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.' [22] 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.' [23] 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.' [24] 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, [25] so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' [26] 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? [27] 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. [28] So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. [29] 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. [30] As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' "
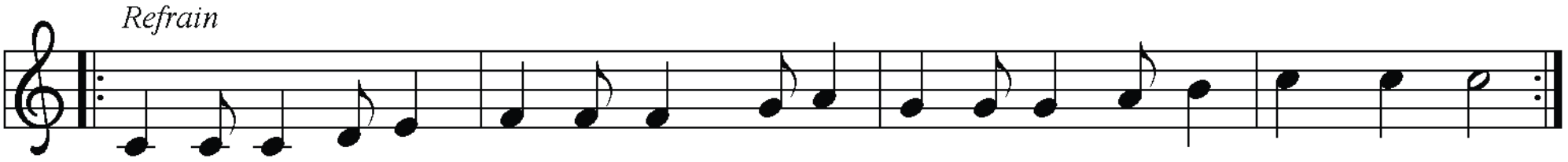
The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you O, Christ.**

**Sermon** *Deacon Debra Alba*

**Sermon Notes**

## Song of the Day — Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ — ELW 674







Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929
Music: LINSTEAD, Jamaican folk tune; adapt. Doreen Potter, 1925–1980
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## A Statement of Our Faith

*Pastor Gary Sandberg*

**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 the People

### We Share God's Peace

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

**(**Please share a sign of peace with those around you.)

# + We Worship God With Our Offerings +

## Abundantly Bethany

*Pastor Gary Sandberg*

- **Rice and Bean food breakdown TODAY**
- **Bethany Town Hall at 11:30 in room 312 TODAY**
- **Footsteps of Paul Congregational Trip Info Session at 12:15 TODAY**
- **Bethany Outdoor Adventure Nov 21**
- **Here I Stand Nov. 21**
- **Advent Fest Nov. 29**

## The Offering

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

- On our **website**, find the GIVE button in the header 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

YDT FInancial (July - October)

| | Prior YearYTD Actual | YTD Actual | YTD Budget |
|---|---|---|---|
| Contributions | $469,960 | $513,777 | $509,335 |
| Expenses | $687,647 | $743,324 | $767,937 |
| Income/(Loss) | ($215,687) | ($228,161) | ($258,602) |

## Musical Offering

Lord, Here Am I — John Ness Beck

Matt Weissenbuehler, baritone

*Master, thou callest, I gladly obey; Only direct me, and I'll find thy way.*
*Teach me the mission appointed for me, what is my labor, and where it shall be.*
*Master, thou callest, and this I reply, "Ready and willing, Lord, here am I."*
*Willing, my savior, to take up the cross; willing to suffer reproaches and loss;*
*Willing to follow, if thou will but lead; Only support me with grace in my need.*
*Living or dying, I still would be thine, yet I am mortal while thou art divine,*
*Pardon, whenever I turn from the right; Pity, and bring me again to the light.*
*Master, thou callest, and this I reply, "Ready and willing, Lord, here am I."*

## Children Return to the Sanctuary

# + The Community Meal +

## Invitation to The Communion Table

*Pastor Nate Preisinger*

## Celebration of Holy Communion

In a world where so much is uncertain,
**Christ offers us a promise.**

Even as we wait for all things to be made new,
**God meets us here in bread and wine.**

At this table, we receive a glimpse of the life God has promised.
**A life where all are welcome and restored.**

We taste the promise of what is to come,
**and find hope for the journey ahead.**

## Blessing of the Bread and Wine

## The Lord's Prayer ( Ecumenical translation)

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be 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**

## 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 Music

Lord of the Small — Dan Forrest & Johanna Anderson

Matt Weissenbuehler, baritone

*Praise to the Lord of the small, broken things, who sees the poor sparrow that cannot take wing,*
*Who loves the lame child, and the wretch in the street,*
*who comforts their sorrows and washes their feet.*
*Praise to the Lord of the faint and afraid, who girds them with courage and lends them his aid;*
*He pours our his spirit on vessels so weak that the timid can serve and the silent can speak.*
*Praise to the Lord of the frail and the ill, who heals their afflictions, or carries them till*
*They leave this tired frame and to paradise fly, to never be sick, and never to die.*
*Praise him, O praise him, all ye who yet live, who've been given so much and can so little give,*
*Our frail, lisping praise God will never despise:*
*He sees his dear children through mercy-filled eyes.*

## Table Blessing

# + God Sends Us To Serve +

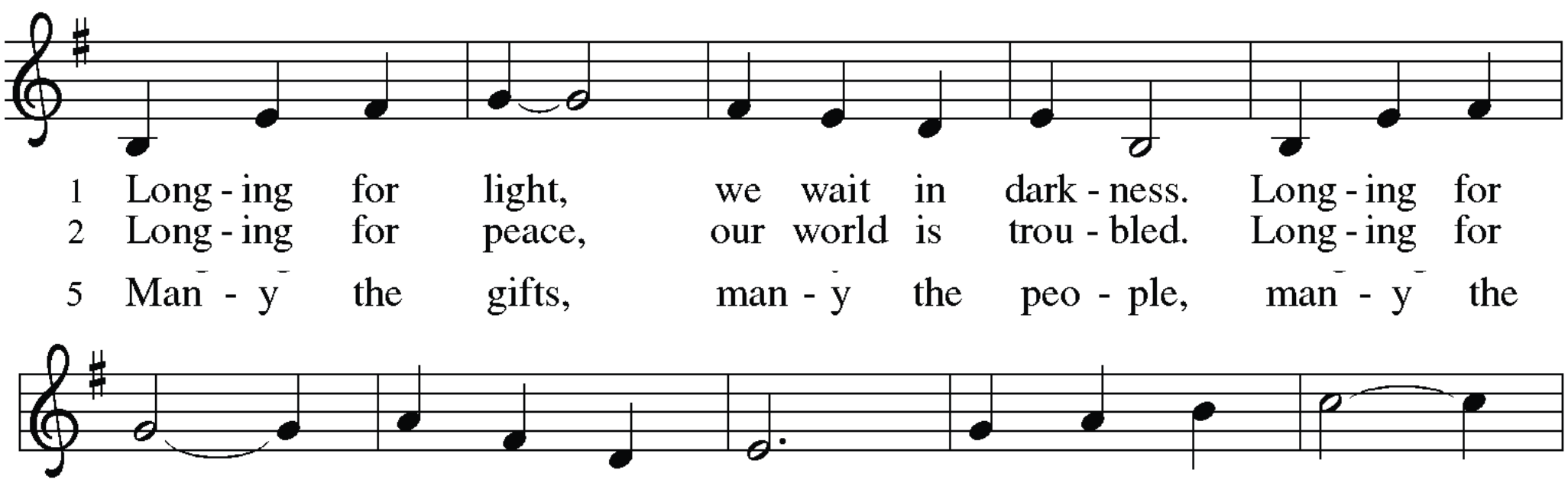
## Sending Invitation and Blessing

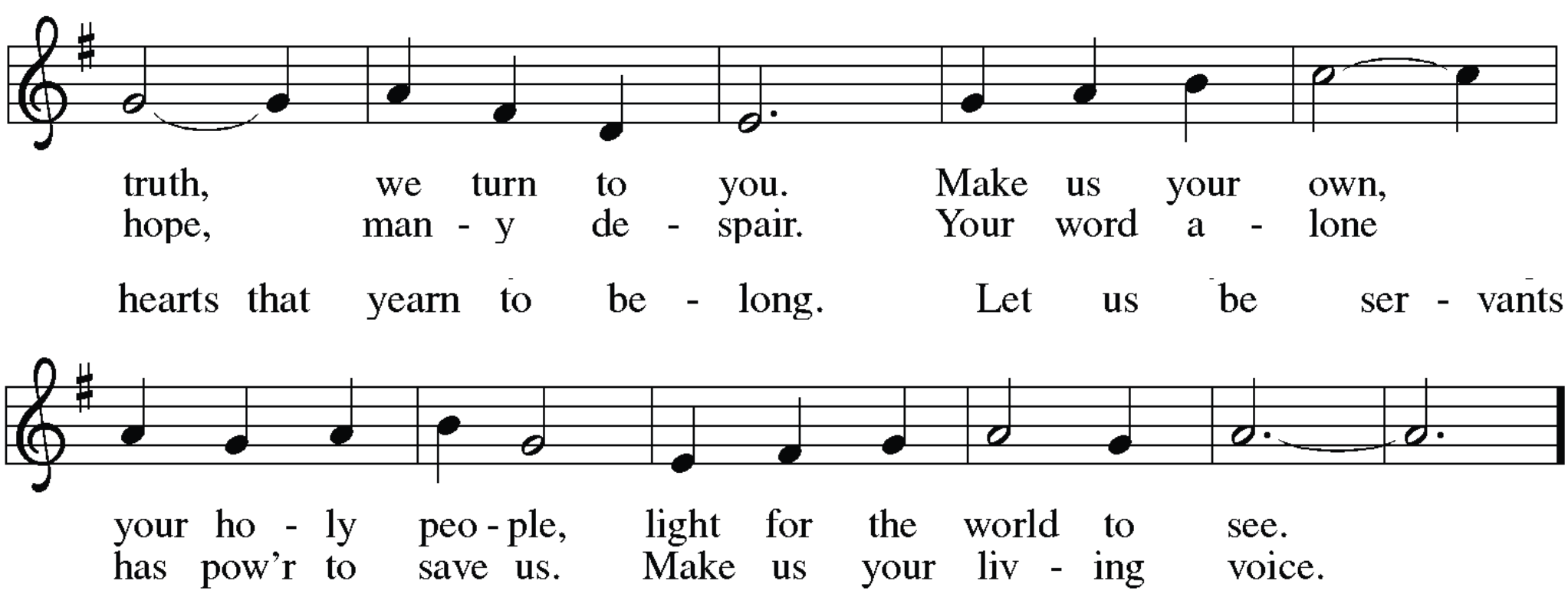
*Deacon Debra Alba*

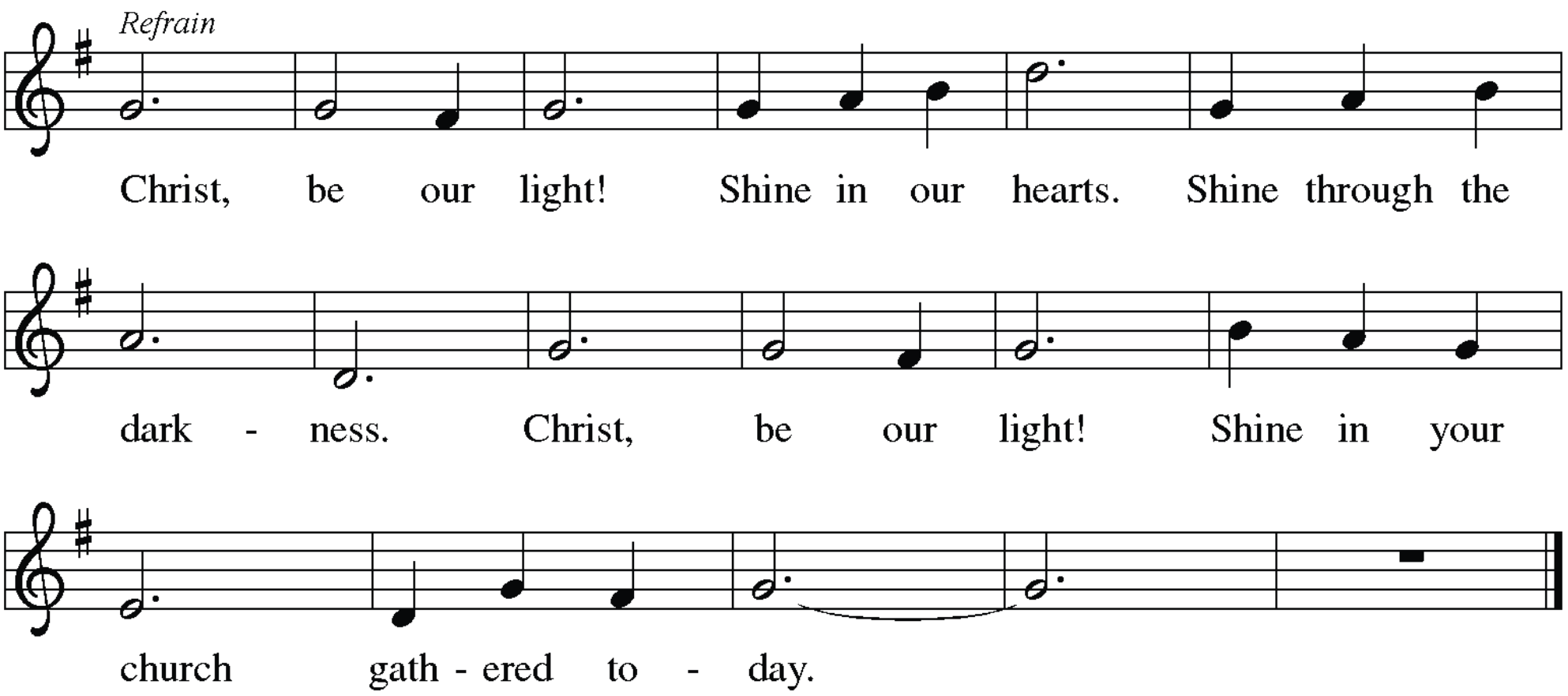
## Song of Sending

Christ, Be Our Light

ELW 715




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## Dismissal

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

Fugue in D Major — Johann Pachelbel

## Things to Know About News & Events

**Happening Today:**

- **Beans and Rice** for Metro Caring in the Fellowship Hall
- **High School Youth - TODAY** 11:15am Room 400
- **Town Hall** 11:30-12pm in Room 312
- Pick Up your **Angel Gifts Tags** by the Mission Center
- **Footsteps of Paul Trip** info session 12:15p  room 210

**Happening Next Sunday:**

- **Angel Gifts** drop offs by the Mission Center
- **Bethany Christmas Decorating** after both services, decorating for Advent and Christmas season
- **MomCo bake sale** - 8-11:30am  Fellowship Hall

**Upcoming Events**

**Worship:**

- **Rejoicing Spirits** worship and dinner **Nov. 15 4-6pm** Lord of the Hills Aurora

**Education/Faithformation:**

- **Footsteps of Paul Trip** info session Nov. 16 1pm & 6:30p room 210
- **Wednesday Night Programming -**dinner 5:15pm, 6-7pm education hour, 7:15 worship
- **Advent Fest Nov. 29** after worship in the Great Hall - food, crafts, devotions and fun for all.
- **Book Study "**Low Anthropology"  by David Zahl Dec. 6 & 13

**Hospitality:**

- **Bethany Outdoor Adventures** Nov. 21 10am South Valley Park west of Denver near Ken Caryl/C470

**Outreach:**

- **Global Mission:** Bethany's Global Mission Ministry proposals are due Nov. 17
- **Angel Gifts 2026 -** Angel Gifts Holiday Donation Drive sponsored by Lutheran Family Seoffgifts Nov. 22, 29 & Dec. 6 next to the Mission Center
- **Food Bank of the Rockies**  Dec. 8 1-4pm pack food for those in need. 12 volunteers are need

**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.