Grace Lutheran Church
November 1, 2026
All Saints Day



1 West Montgomery Street
Johnstown, New York 12095
The Rev. Roger A. Behrens, Pastor
gracepastorjohnstown@gmail.com
Office@gracelutheranjohnstown.org

Enter to Worship + Depart to Serve

GATHERING

Confession and Forgiveness **Page 94**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: 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.

C: Amen

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

Gracious God,
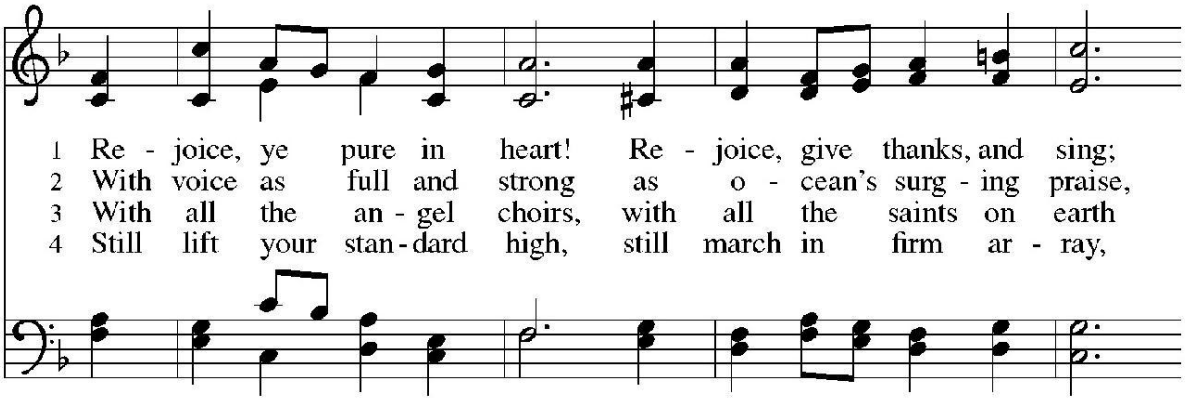
C: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

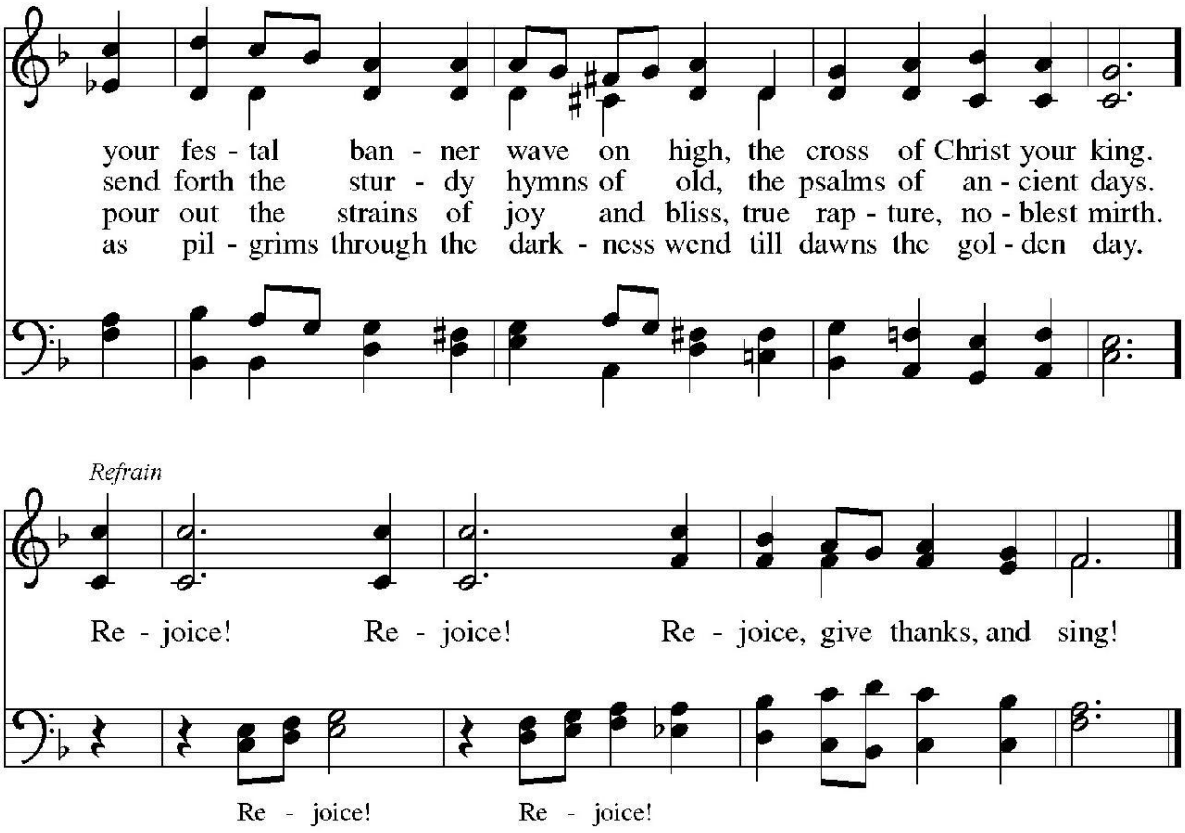
Amen.

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ☩ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C: Amen

Processional Hymn "Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart" ELW 873





5 At last the march shall end;
the wearied ones shall rest;
the pilgrims find their home at last,
Jerusalem the blest. *Refrain*

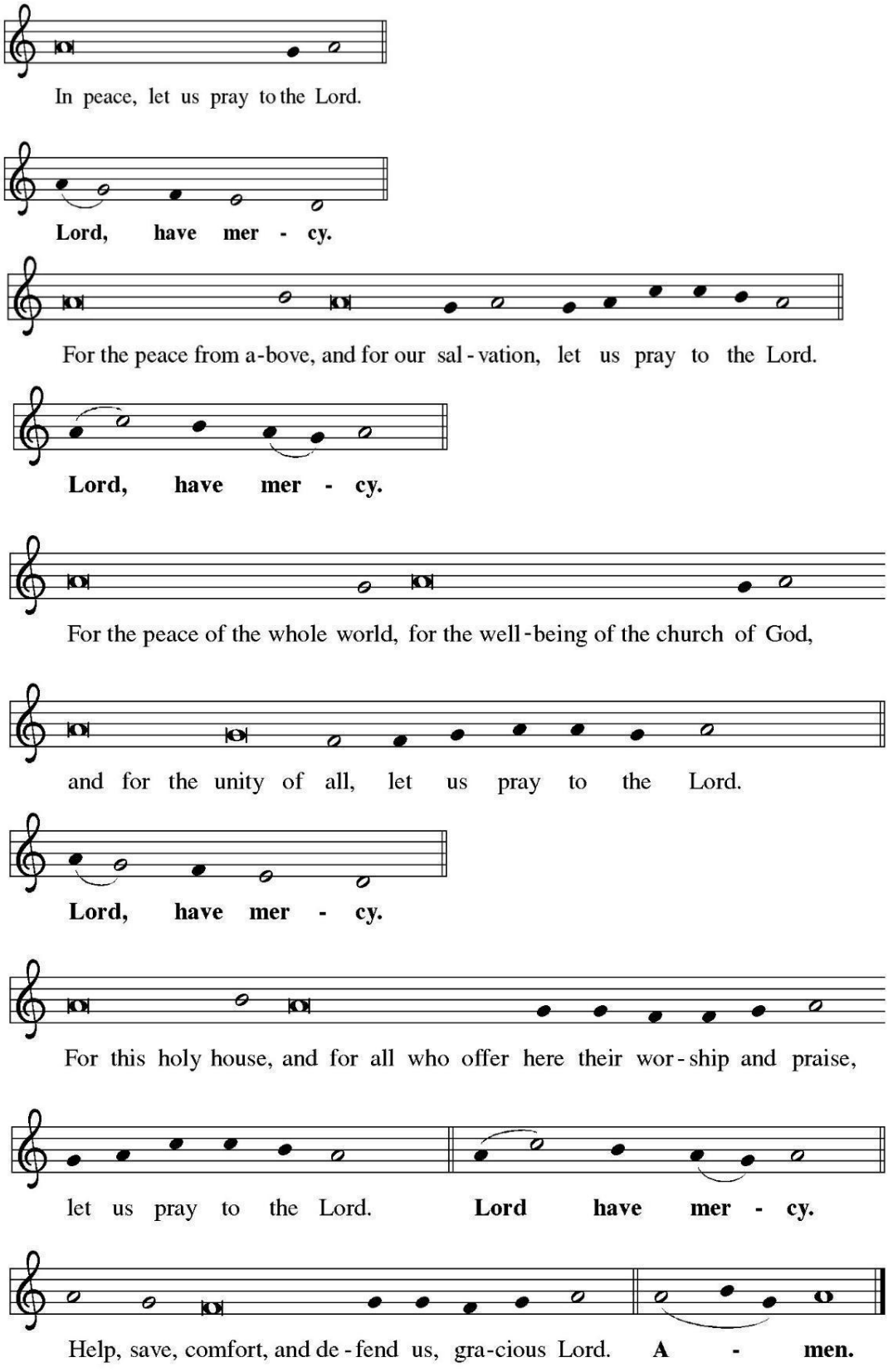
6 Praise God who reigns on high,
the Lord whom we adore:
the Father, Son, and Spirit blest,
one God forevermore. *Refrain*

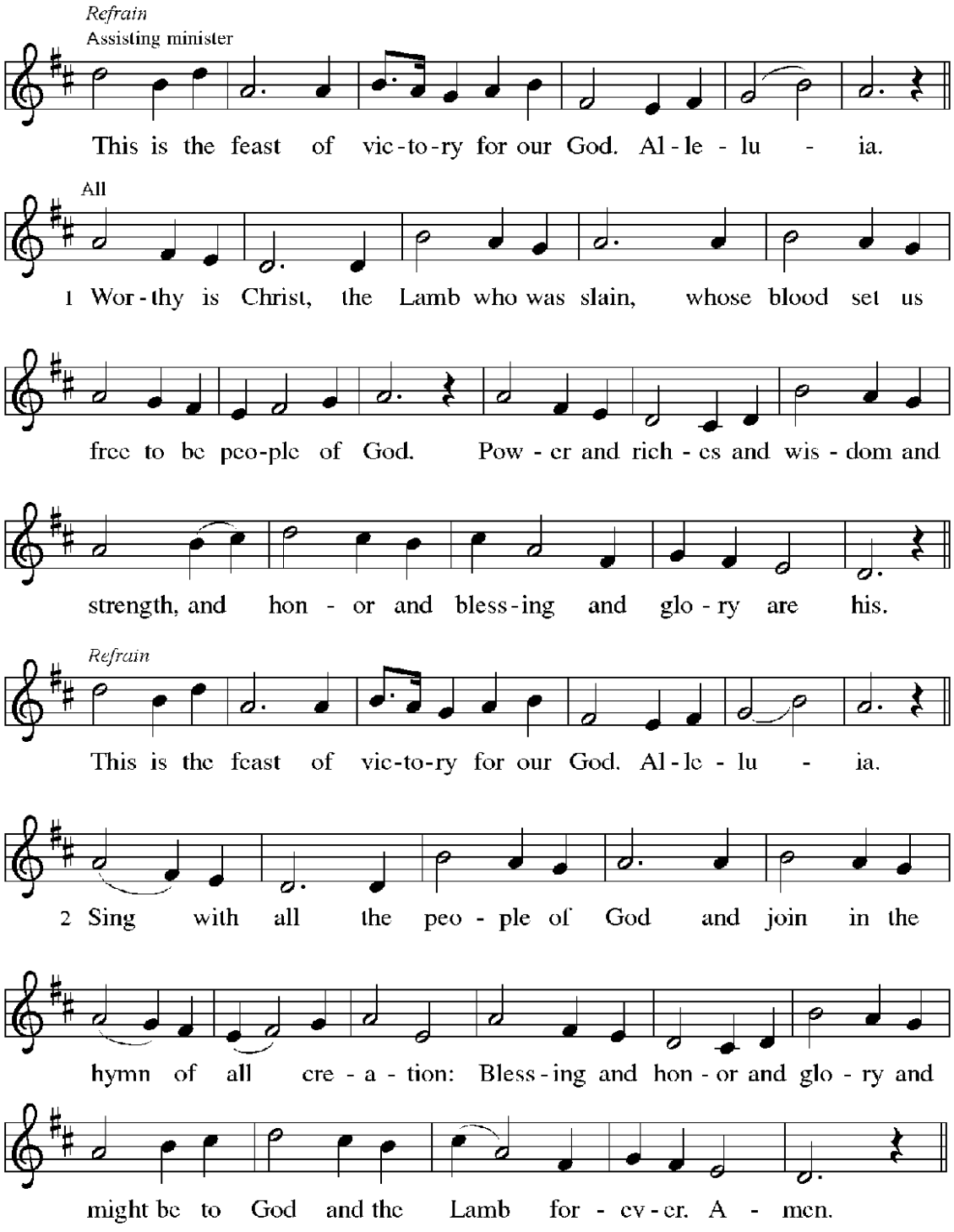
Text: Edward H. Plumptre, 1821–1891, alt.
Music: MARION, Arthur H. Messiter, 1834–1916
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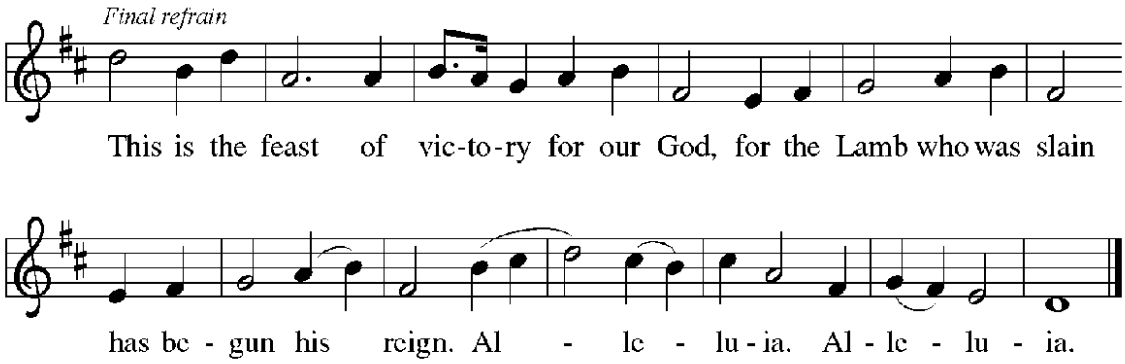
Apostolic Greeting **Page 147**

P: 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.


In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mer - cy.
For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, 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 wor - ship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.
Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.


Refrain
Assisting minister
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.
All
1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us
free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and wis-dom and
strength, and hon-or and bless-ing and glo-ry are his.
Refrain
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.
2 Sing with all the peo-ple of God and join in the
hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing and hon-or and glo-ry and
might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.



Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

WORD

Reading: Revelation 7:9-17

9 After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from
every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne
and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. 10 They cried
out in a loud voice, saying,
"Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!"
11 And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living
creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God,
12 singing,
"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honor
and power and might
be to our God forever and ever! Amen."
13 Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white,
and where have they come from?" 14 I said to him, "Sir, you are the one who knows."
Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they
have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.
15 For this reason they are before the throne of God
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.
16 They will hunger no more and thirst no more;

the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat,
17 for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

The Word of the Lord **C: Thanks be to God**

Psalm **Psalm 34:1-10, 22**

1 I will bless the LORD | at all times;
the praise of God shall ever be | in my mouth.
2 **I will glory | in the LORD;**
let the lowly hear | and rejoice.
3 Proclaim with me the greatness | of the LORD;
let us exalt God's | name together.
4 **I sought the LORD, who | answered me**
and delivered me from | all my terrors.
5 Look upon the LORD | and be radiant,
and let not your faces | be ashamed.
6 **I called in my affliction, and | the LORD heard me**
and saved me from | all my troubles.
7 The angel of the LORD encamps around those who | fear the LORD
and de- | livers them.
8 **Taste and see that the | LORD is good;**
happy are they who take ref- | uge in God!
9 Fear the LORD, you saints | of the LORD,
for those who fear the | LORD lack nothing.
10 **The lions are in want and | suffer hunger,**
but those who seek the LORD lack nothing | that is good.
22 O LORD, you redeem the life | of your servants,
and those who put their trust in you will | not be punished.

Second Reading **1 John 3:1-3**

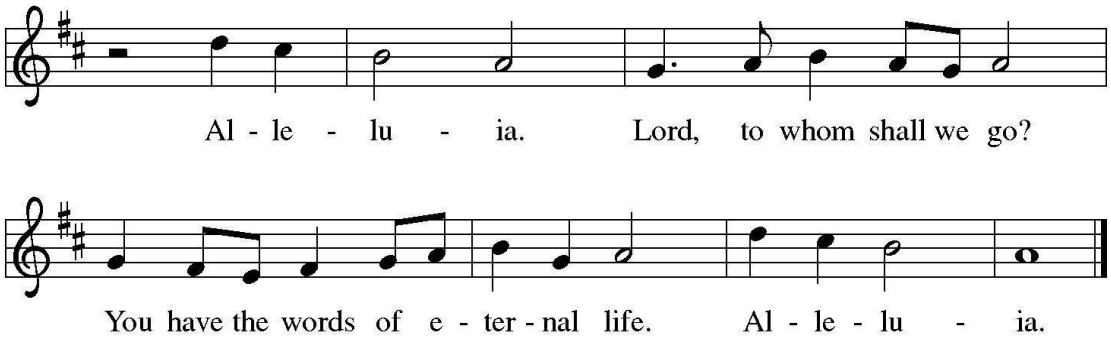
1 See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God,
and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not
know him. 2 Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been
revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we
will see him as he is. 3 And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as
he is pure.

The Word of the Lord **C: Thanks be to God**

Children's Time

Children's Blessing: Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in Heaven.

***Gospel Acclamation:** **Page 151**



The Gospel Matthew 5:1-12

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 5th Chapter

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[1] When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. [2] And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

[3] "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

[4] "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

[5] "Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

[6] "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

[7] "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

[8] "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

[9] "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

[10] "Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
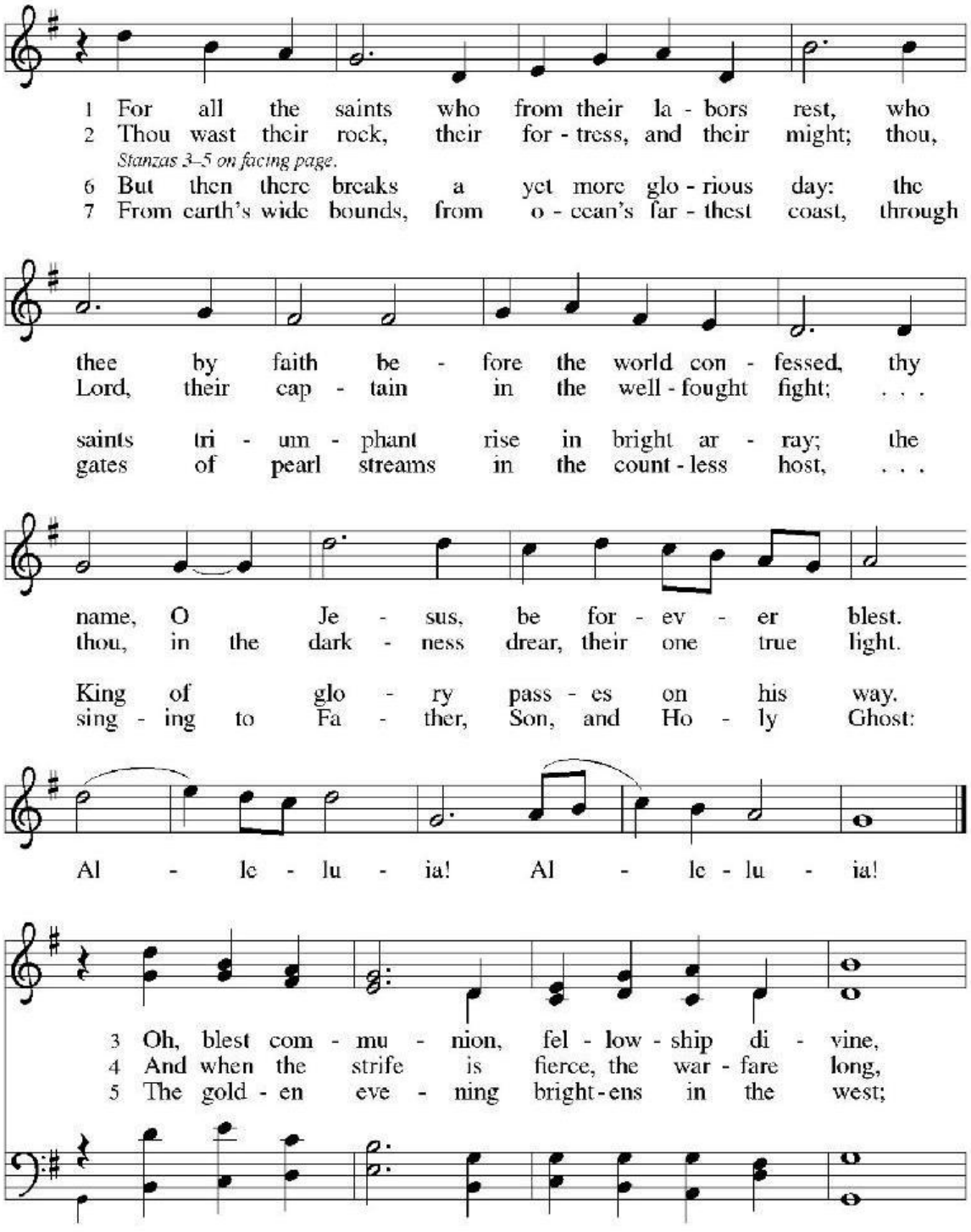
[11] "Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. [12] Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."
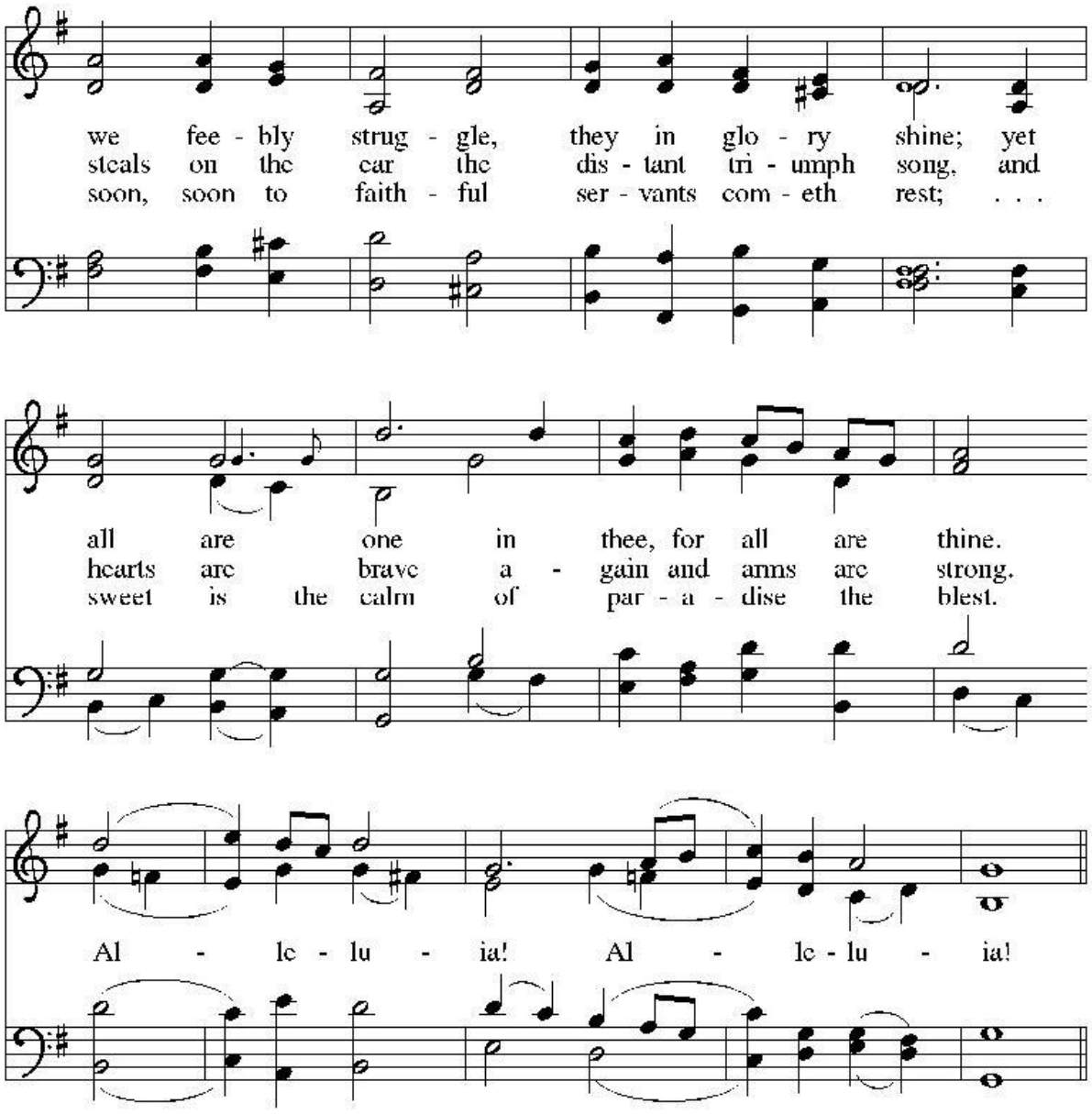
The Gospel of our Lord C: **Praise to you, Oh Christ**

Sermon Pastor Roger Behrens

Silence for reflection may follow

Hymn of the Day "For All The Saints" ELW 422





Text: William W. How, 1823–1897
Music: SINE NOMINE, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958
Outside USA: Music from *The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906.

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The Apostles' Creed

Page 105

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 into hell.*
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.

Recognition of the Saints *(see insert)*

Prayers of the Church ***Cong Response: Hear Our Prayer***

Sharing the Peace

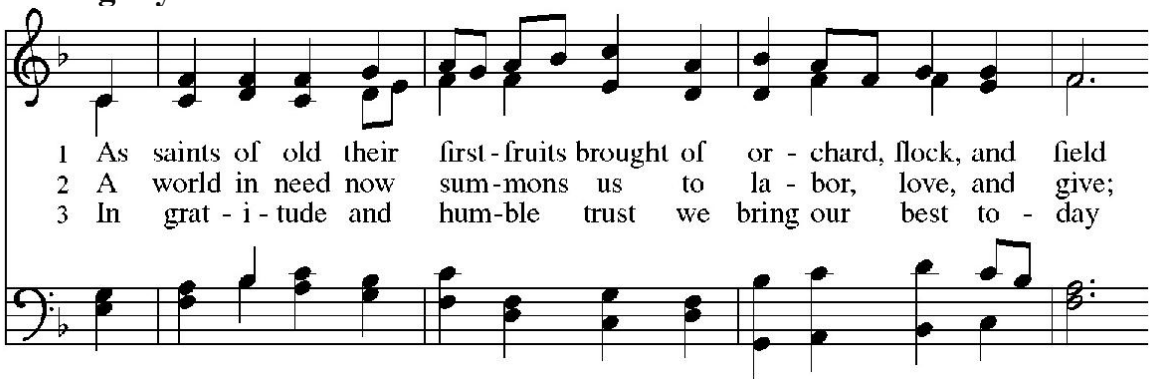
P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C: **And also with you.**
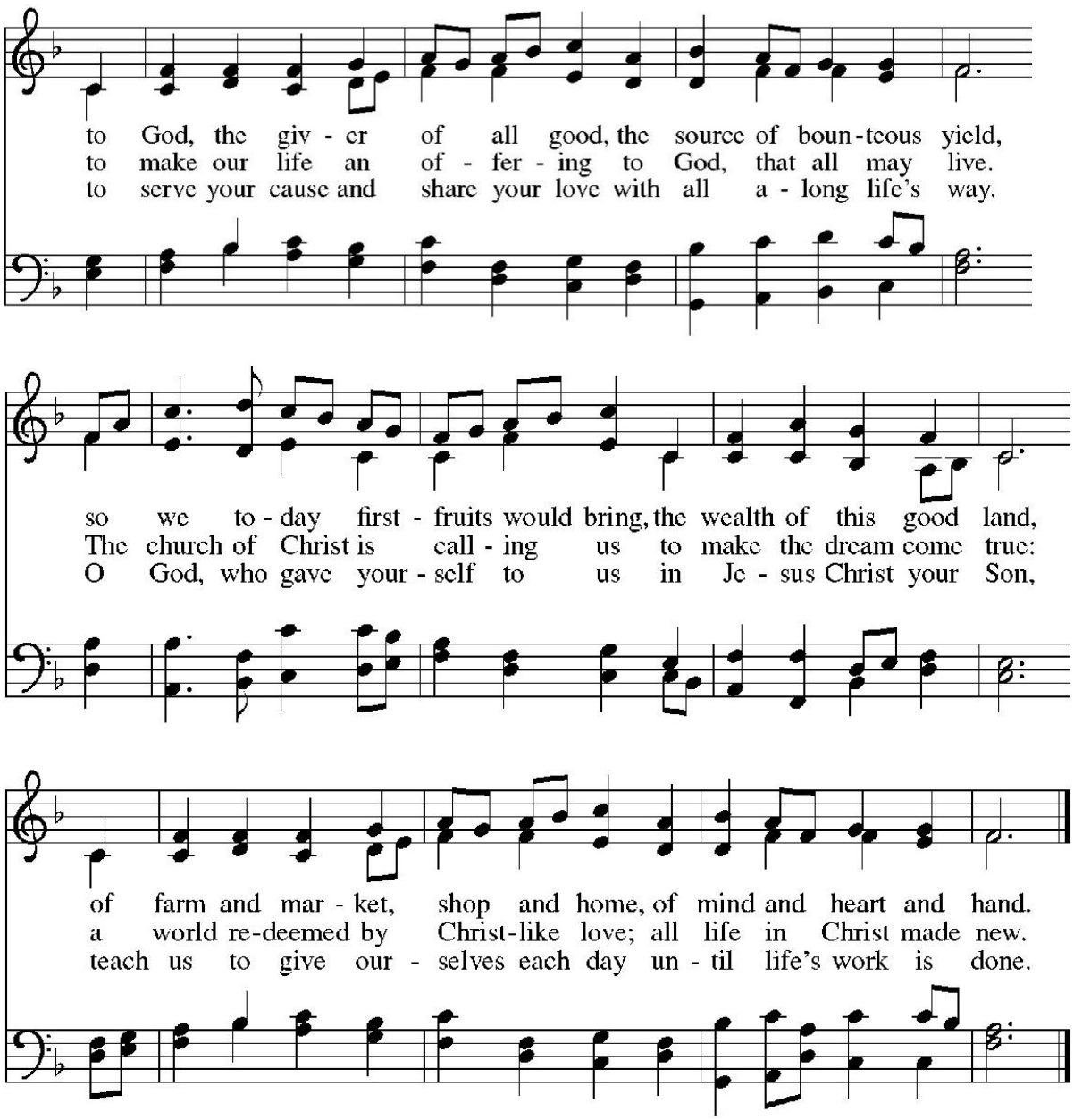
(take a few moments to greet your neighbors with a sign of peace.)

MEAL

Offering

Offering Hymn "As Saints of Old" ELW 695
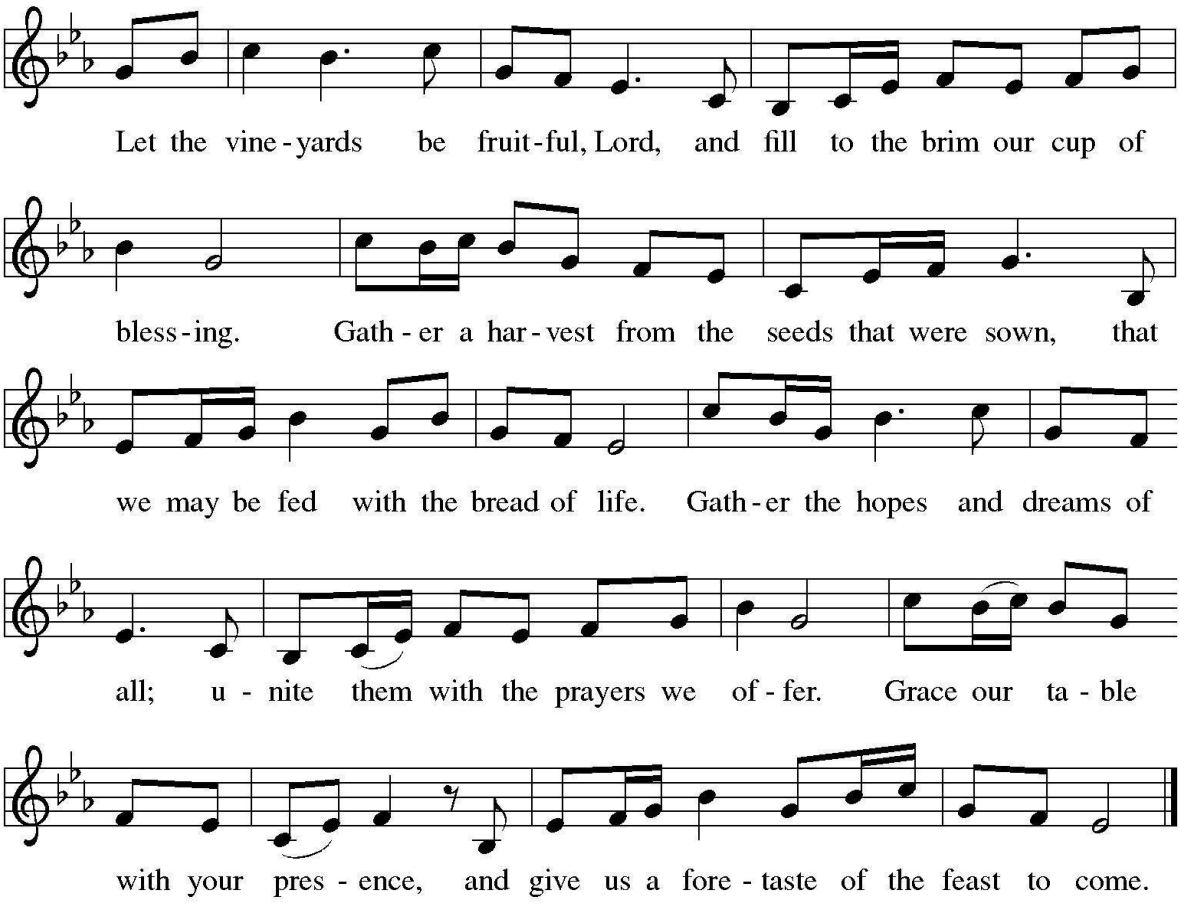




Text: Frank von Christierson, 1900–1996, alt.
Music: FOREST GREEN, English folk tune; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958
Text © 1961, ren. 1989 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188.
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Offertory Canticle Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful ELW 184



Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980
Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927
Text and music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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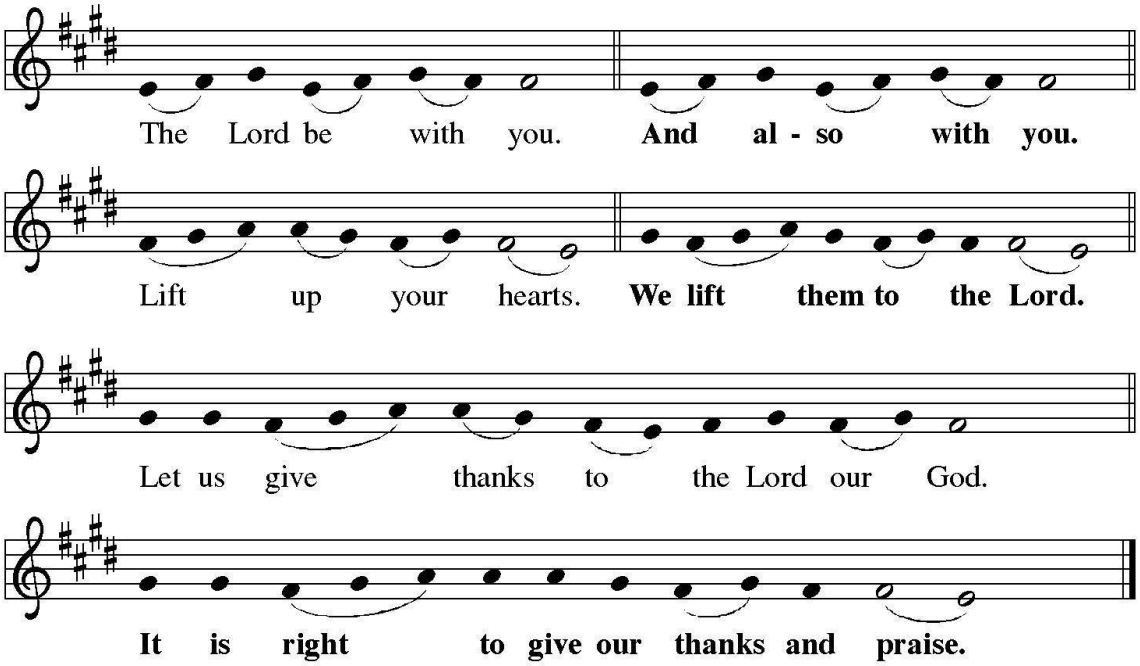
Offertory Prayer

L: Let us pray the offertory prayer together. 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.

Holy communion is the gift of our Lord Jesus, in which He is truly present, brings us grace and truth. Those who are members of His Church through Baptism – regardless of tradition – and are loyal to His Gospel are invited to commune with us.

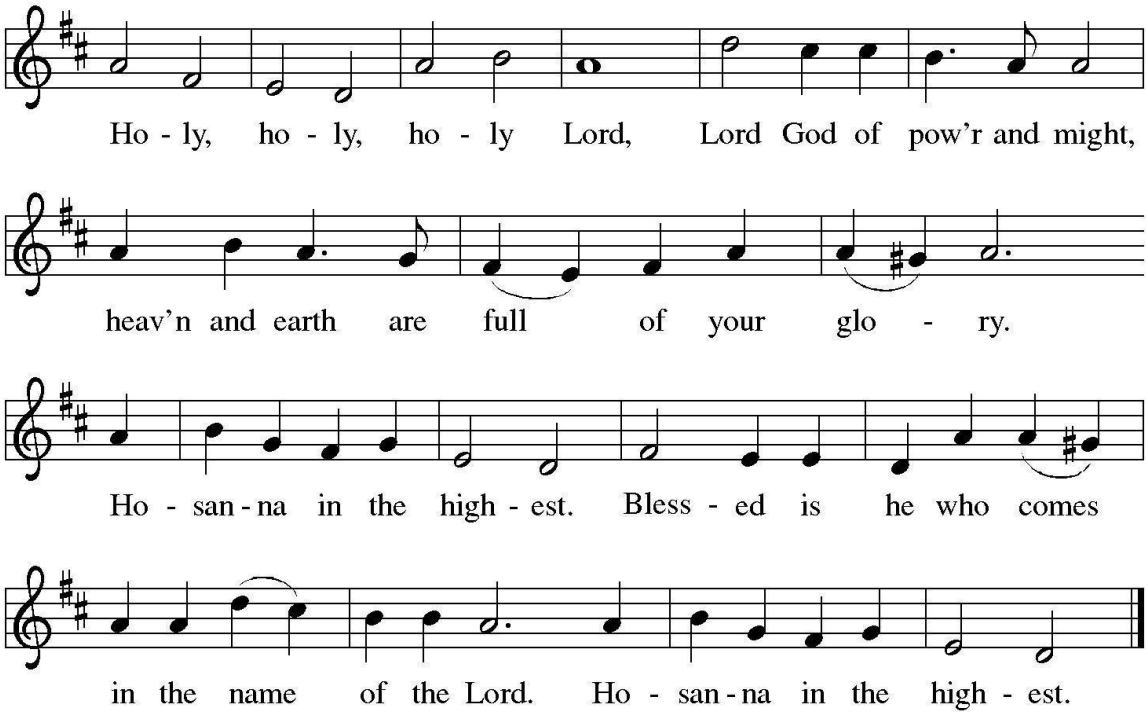
Great Thanksgiving (*Communion today will be at the rail)* **Page 152**



Preface

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

Sanctus *Holy, Holy, Holy*

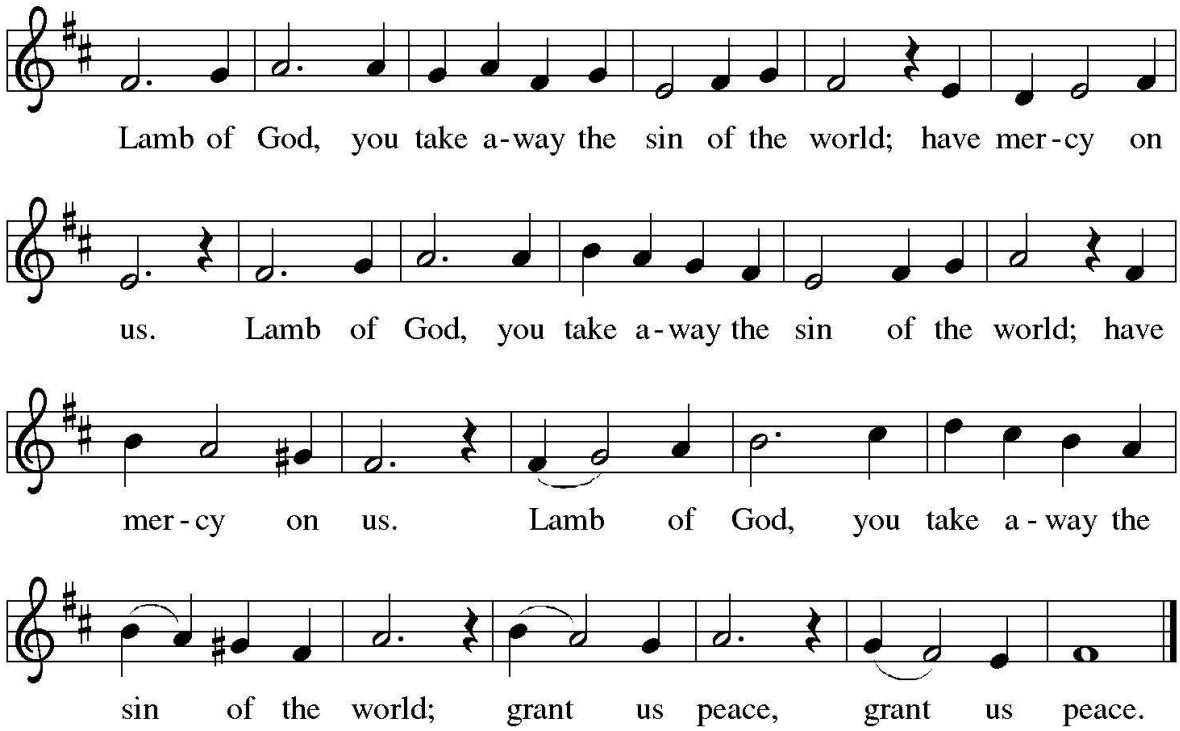


Eucharistic Prayer

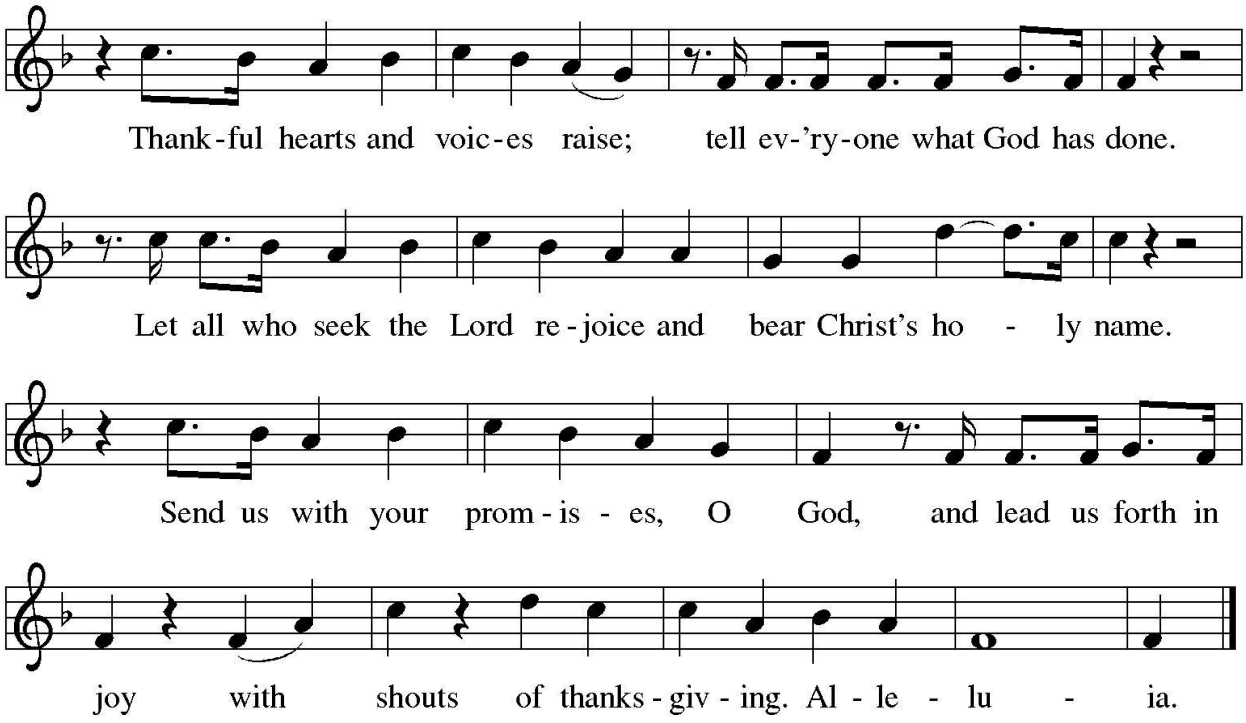
Lord's Prayer **Page 154**

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 Hymn (*The Lamb of God)* **Page 154**



Post Communion Hymn *"Thankful Hearts and ……"* ELW 206



Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980
Music: *Liturgy of Joy*, James M. Capers, b. 1948
Text © 1978, 1995 Augsburg Fortress.
Music © 1993 Augsburg Fortress.

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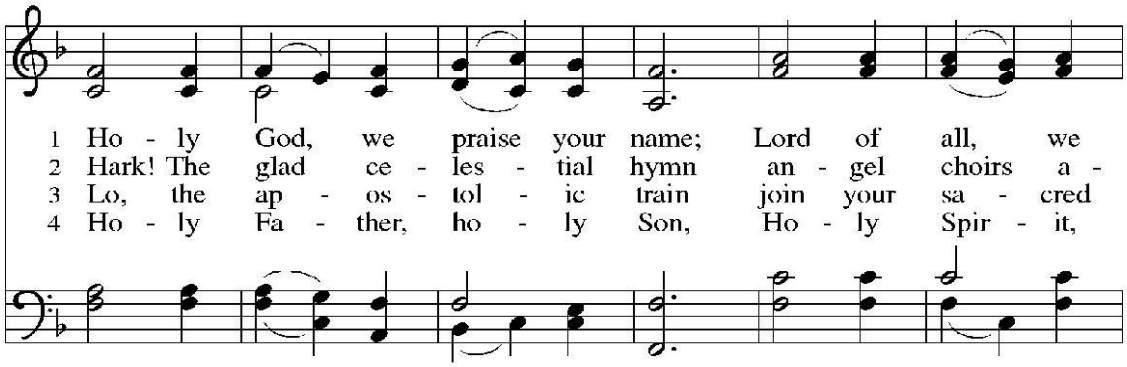
***Post Communion Prayer**
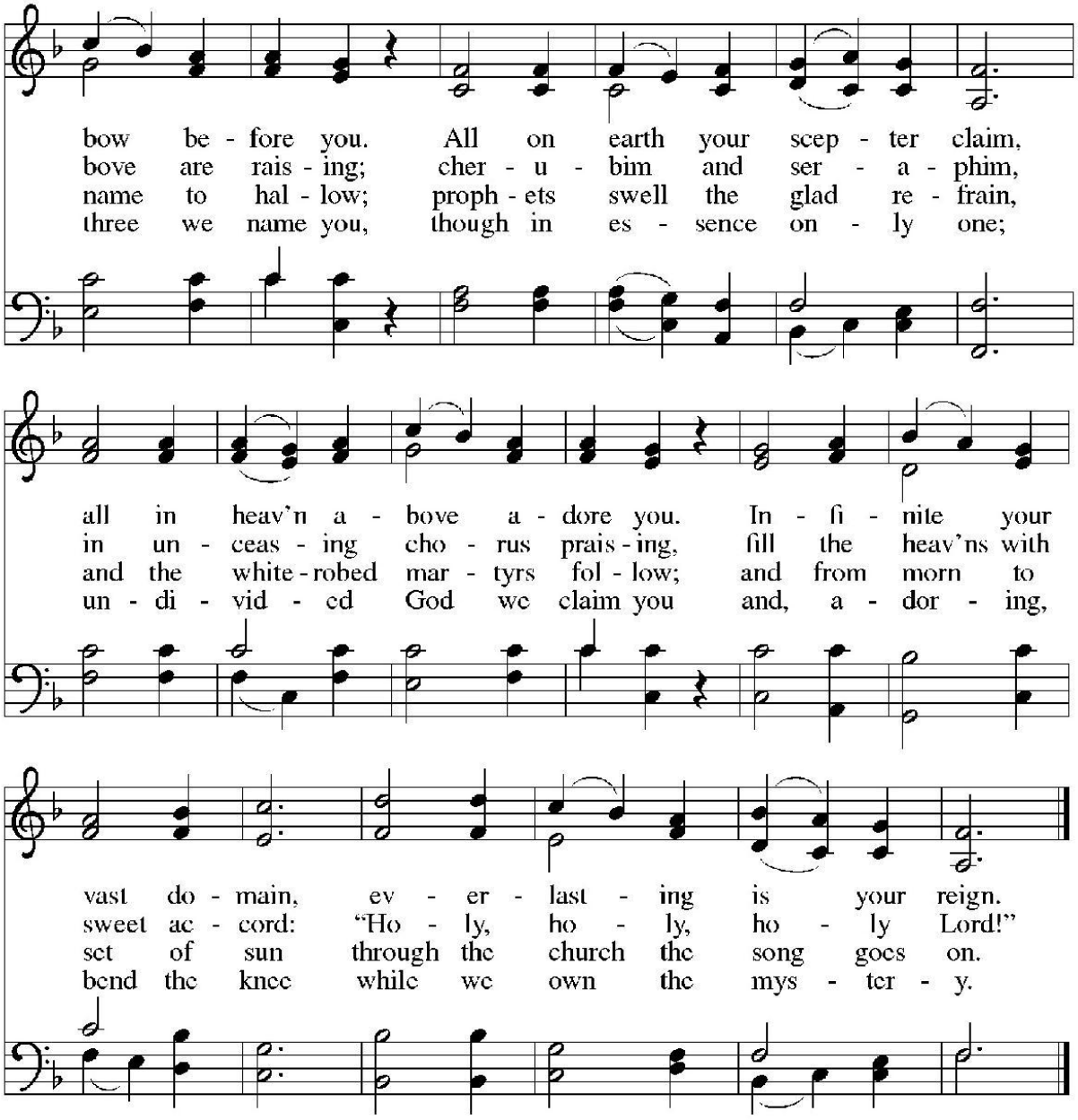
L: Holy God,
we have received your never-ending mercy in this meal. You continuously seek the lost, bind the injured, and feed your people abundantly. Now send us out, awake to your presence, now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING

***Benediction**

***Recessional Hymn** Holy God, We Praise Your Name" ELW414





Text: source unknown; tr. Clarence A. Walworth, 1820–1900
Music: GROSSER GOTT, *Katholisches Gesangbuch*, Vienna, 1774

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L: **Go in peace. Serve the Lord.**
C: **Thanks be to God.**

Announcements

IN-REACH MEETING – There will be a an In-Reach Committee meeting on Monday, November 2nd at 3:30 pm.

ELECTION DAY – Election Day is Tuesday, November 3rd. Please get out and make a difference in our community and beyond by reviewing the candidates on your ballots in advance and voting with the future of our children in your hearts.

BIBLE STUDY! This week's bible study will be at Trinity Lutheran Church and begins at 1:00 pm on Thursday. Please plan your day to fit this into your spiritual growth plan.

HARVEST DINNER – Saturday, November 7th at 5:00 pm. Today is the last day to sign up if you are attending.

VACATION – Tina will be on vacation from October 30th to November 8th. Also, the office will also be closed during her time away. Please contact Pastor with any needs you may have. Thank you.

REMEMBER OUR NEXT FOOD SUNDAY IS NOVEMBER 22. Remember food pantry items will be accepted at any time throughout the month and will be brought forward and blessed on the 3rd Sunday of each month. We will still have a 2nd offering on the 3rd Sunday to support our local food pantry.

Remember! Your dollars can purchase more through the Regional Food Bank than what you can purchase yourself.
Thank you for supporting this tremendous need.

Servers for November 1, 2026 - Communion will be at the rail

Presiding:	Pastor Roger Behrens
Pianist:	Chenya D'Arcangelis-Westley
Assisting Minister	Nancy Demarest
Communion Asst:	Nancy Demarest
Reader:	Linda Bumpus
Bread Baker	Peggy Niforos
Altar Guild:	Peggy Niforos
Crucifer	Darleen Gaugler
Ushers:	Clyde Smith
	Donovan Smith
Counters	Kathy VanValkenburgh
	Bonnie Olendorf

Servers for November 8, 2026 - Communion will be by intinction

Presiding:	Pastor Roger Behrens
Pianist:	Chenya D'Arcangelis-Westley
Assisting Minister	Peggy Niforos
Communion Asst:	Peggy Niforos
Reader:	MaryAnn Hathaway
Altar Guild:	Peggy Niforos
Ushers:	Fred Gilbert
	Kathy VanValkenburgh
Counters	Darleen Gaugler
	Bonnie Olendorf

