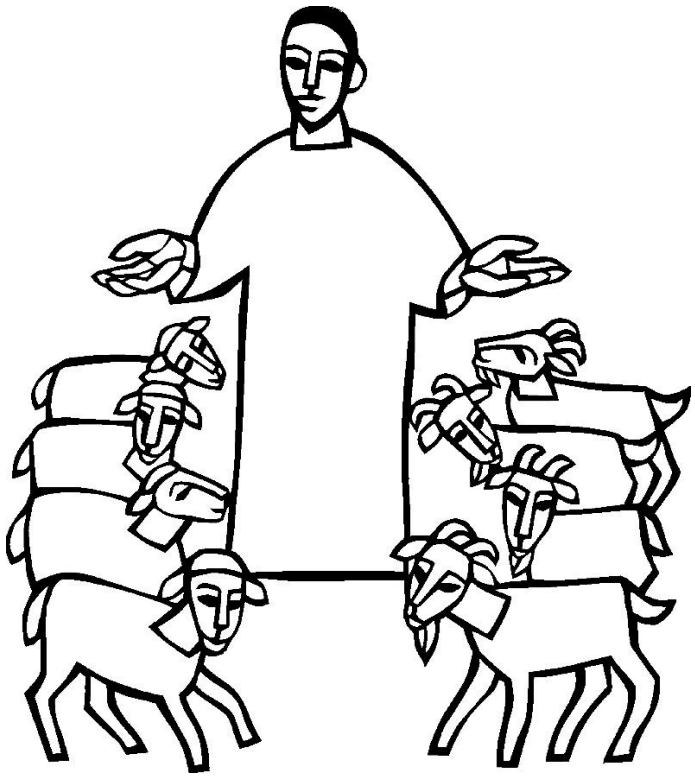
Grace Lutheran Church
November 22, 2026
Christ the King



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,

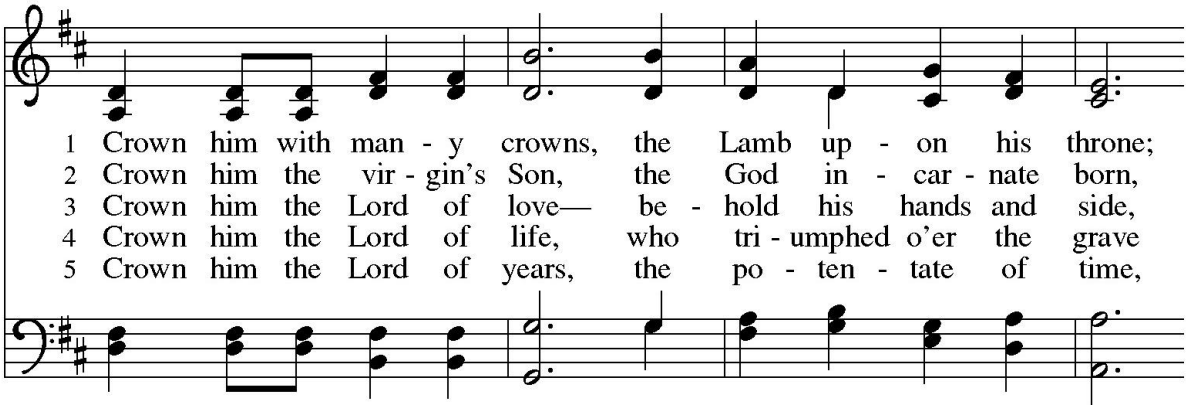
C: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit,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

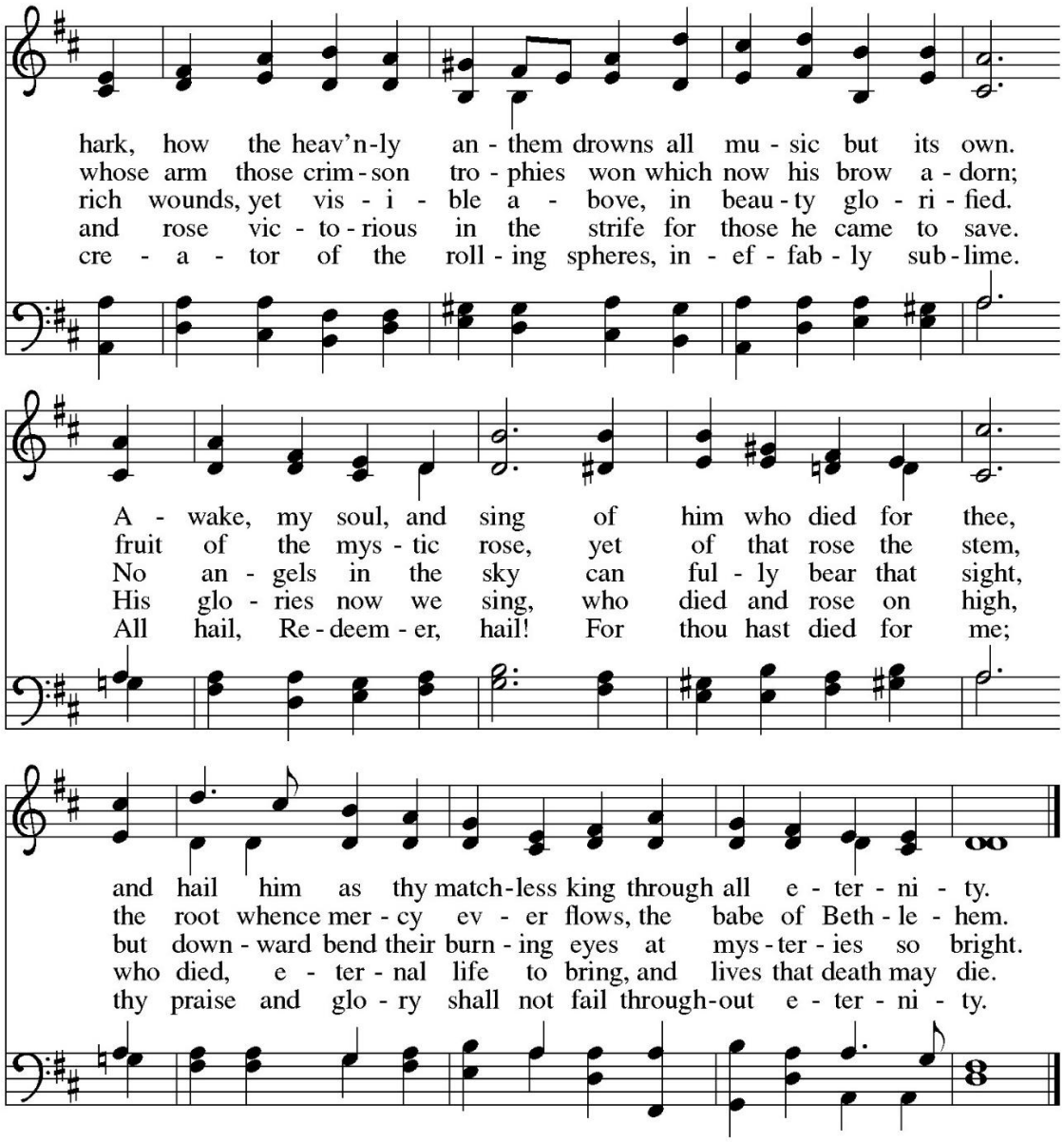
Amen.

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 "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

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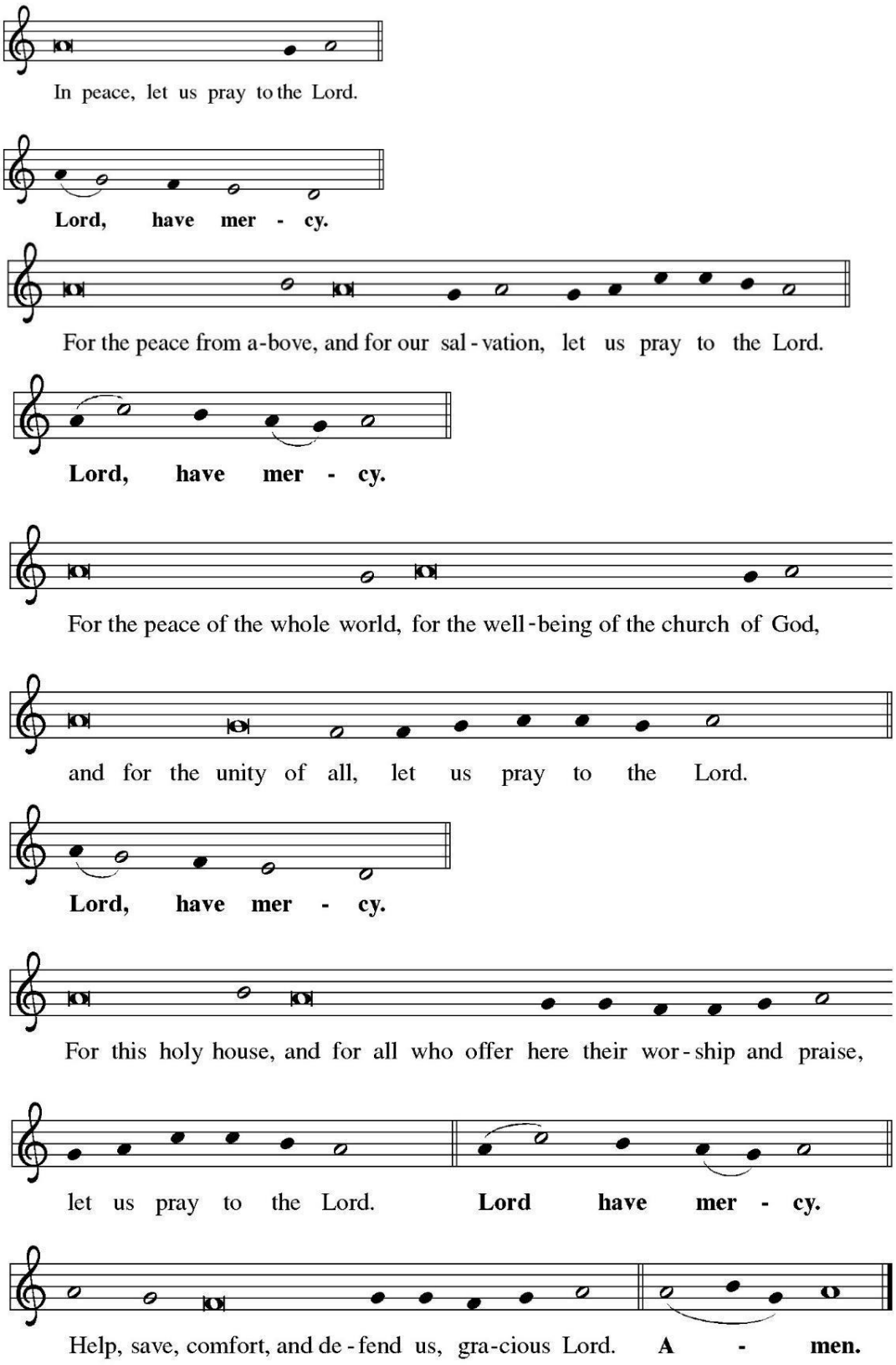
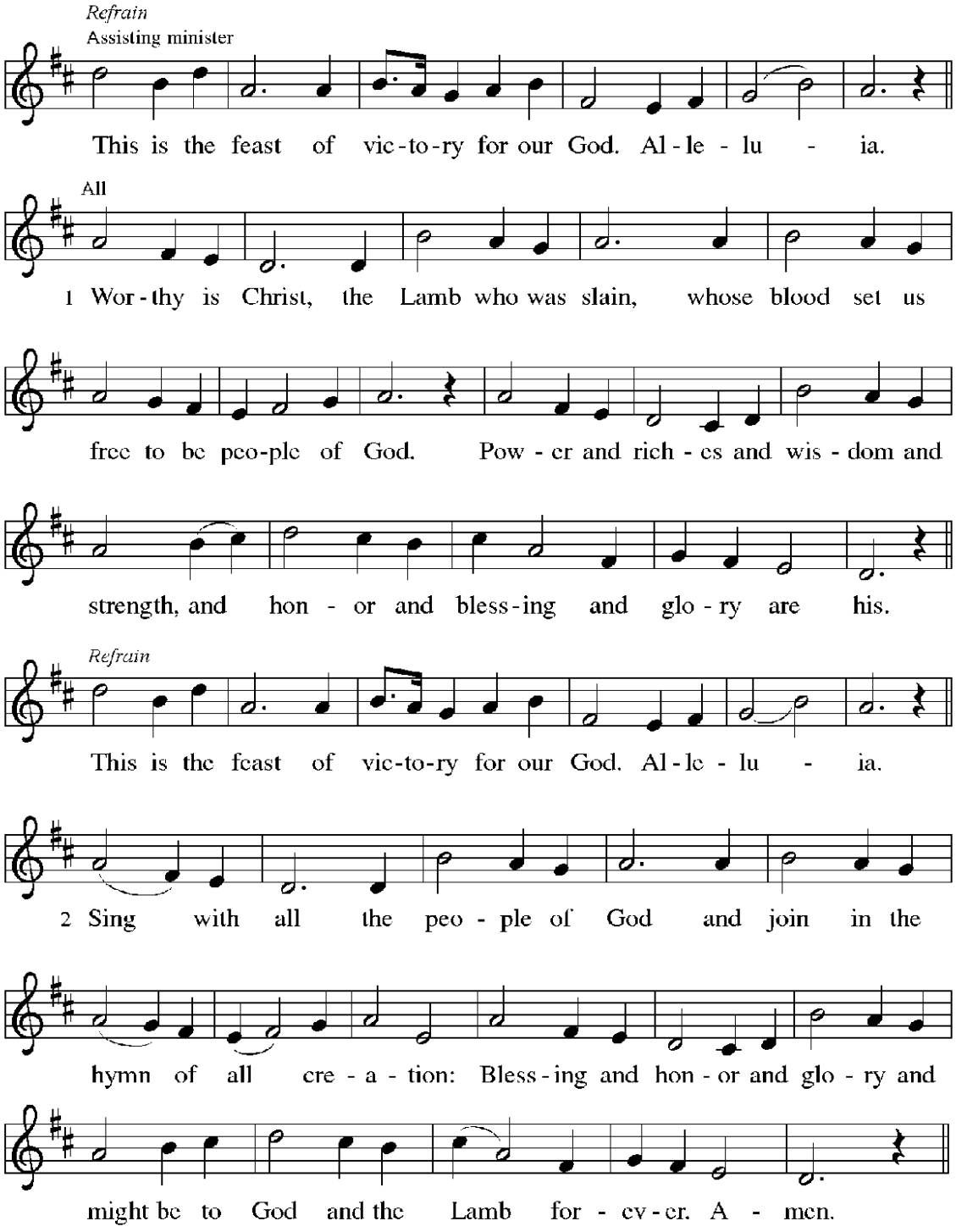
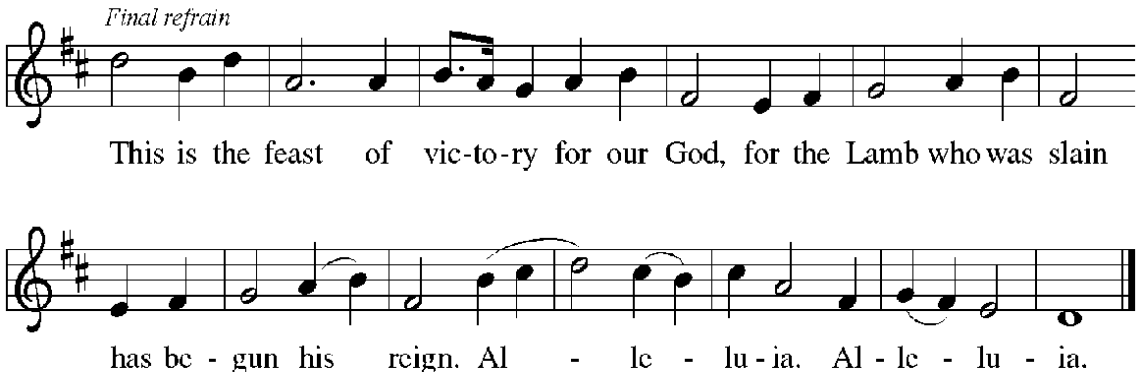
Apostolic Greeting **Page 147**

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

O God of power and might, 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.**

WORD

Reading: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

11 Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep and will sort them out.
12 As shepherds sort out their flocks when they are among scattered sheep, so I will
sort out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been
scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. 13 I will bring them out from the
peoples and gather them from the countries and bring them into their own land, and
I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the
inhabited parts of the land. 14 I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain
heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land,
and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. 15 I myself will be the
shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD. 16 I will
seek the lost, and I will bring back the strays, and I will bind up the injured, and I
will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them
with justice.

20 Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: I myself will judge between the fat
sheep and the lean sheep. 21 Because you pushed with flank and shoulder and butted
at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, 22 I
will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged, and I will judge between
sheep and sheep.

23 I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them;
he shall feed them and be their shepherd. 24 And I the LORD will be their God, and
my servant David shall be prince among them; I the LORD have spoken.

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

Psalm **Psalm 95:1-7a**

1 Come, let us sing | to the LORD;
let us shout for joy to the rock of | our salvation.
2 **Let us come before God's presence | with thanksgiving**
and raise a loud shout to the | LORD with psalms.
3 For you, LORD, | are a great God,
and a great ruler a- | bove all gods.
4 **In your hand are the caverns | of the earth;**
the heights of the hills are | also yours.
5 The sea is yours, | for you made it,
and your hands have molded | the dry land.
6 **Come, let us worship | and bow down,**
let us kneel before the | LORD our maker.
7a For the LORD | is our God,
and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep | of God's hand.

Second Reading **Ephesians 1:15-23**

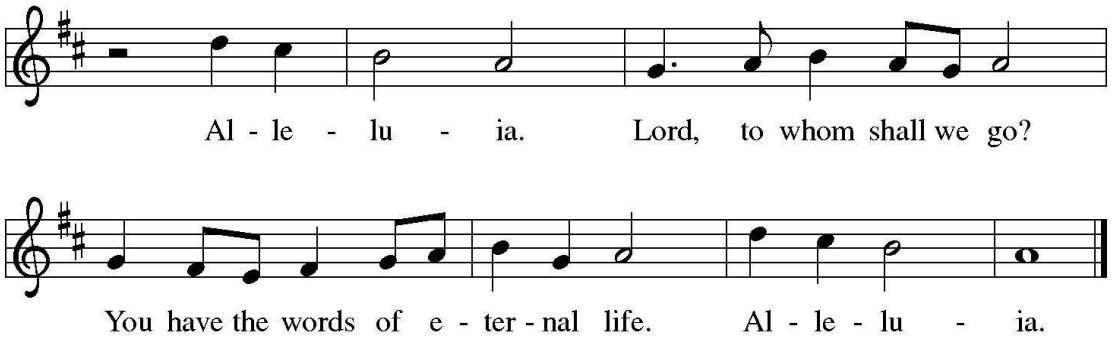
15 I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints,
and for this reason 16 I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my
prayers, 17 that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you
a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come 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.

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 25:31-46**

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 25th Chapter

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

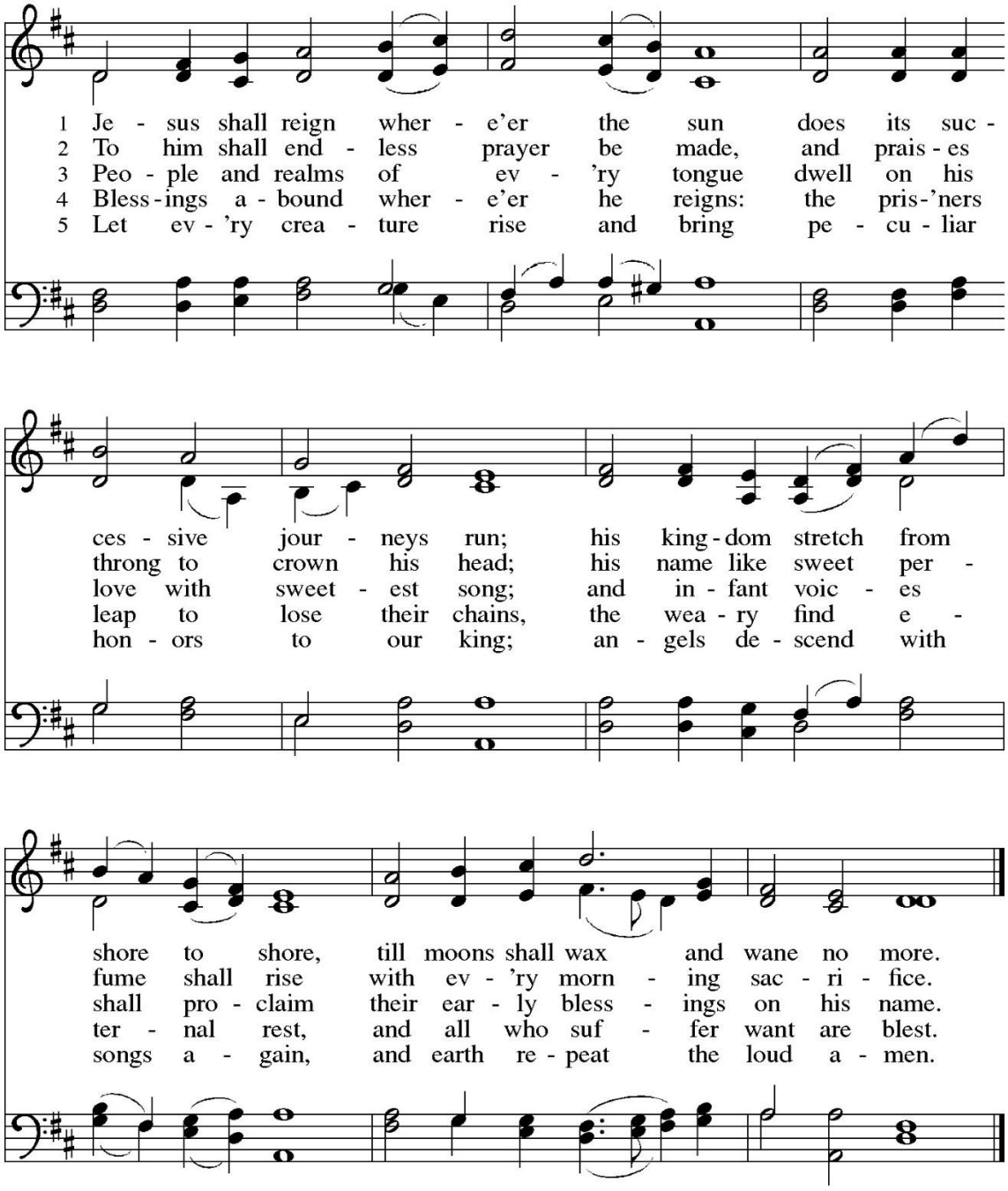
[Jesus said to the disciples:] 31 "When the Son of Man comes in his glory and all the
angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. 32 All the nations will be
gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd
separates the sheep from the goats, 33 and he 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."

The Gospel of our Lord **C: Praise to you, Oh Christ**

Sermon Pastor Roger Behrens

Silence for reflection may follow

Hymn of the Day "Jesus Shall Reign" ELW 434



Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.
Music: DUKE STREET, attr. John Hatton, d. 1793

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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 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 Church ***Cong Response: hear our prayer.***

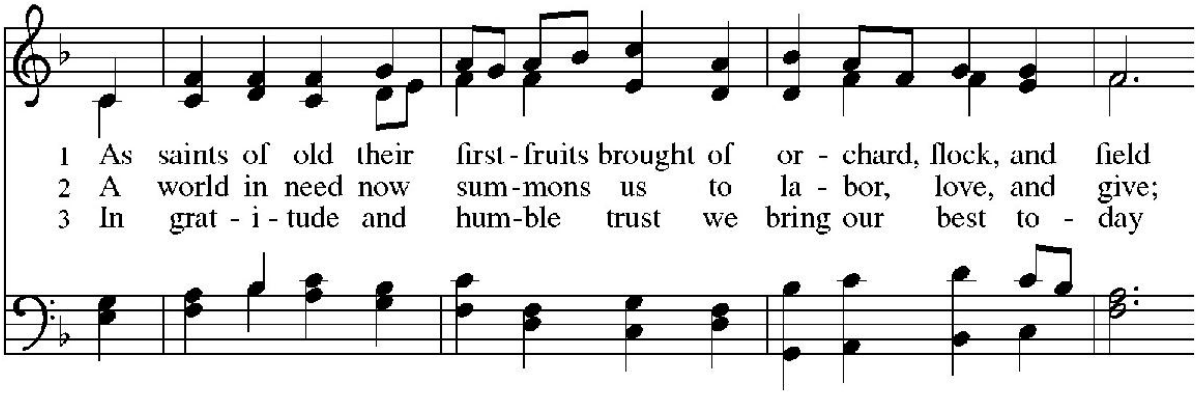
Sharing the Peace

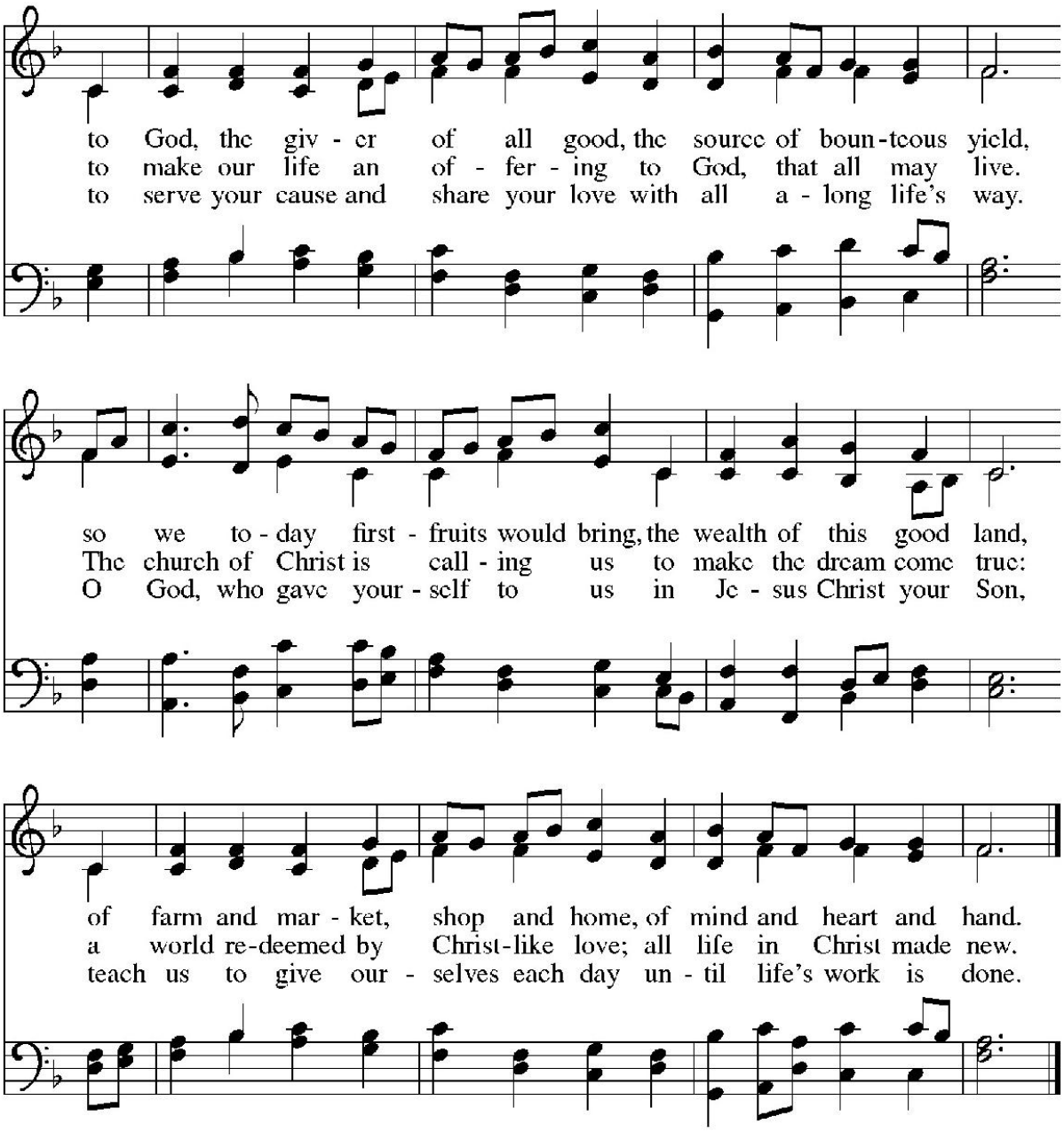
P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C: **And also with you.**

(take a few moments to greet your neighbors with a sign of peace.)

MEAL

Offering Anthem "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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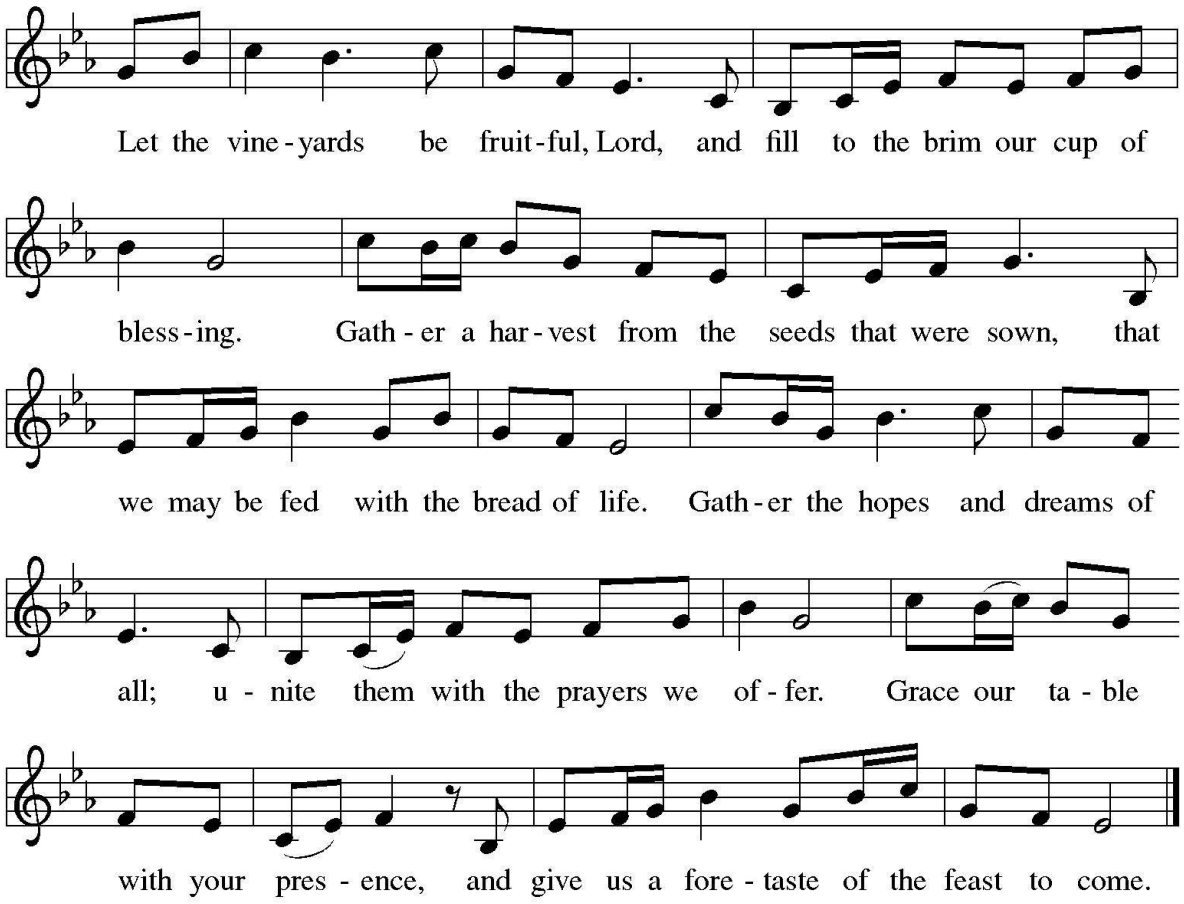
Offertory Canticle Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful ELW 184



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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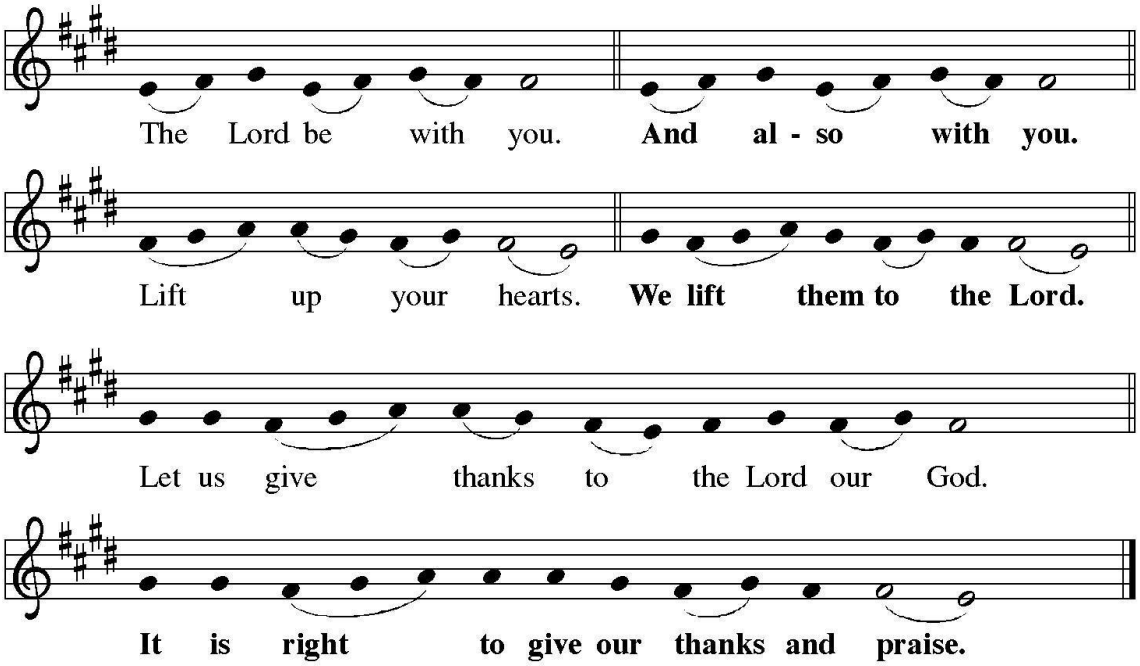
Offertory Prayer

L: Let us pray the offertory prayer together. God of all creation,

C: all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might before the world signs of your gracious presence in 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.

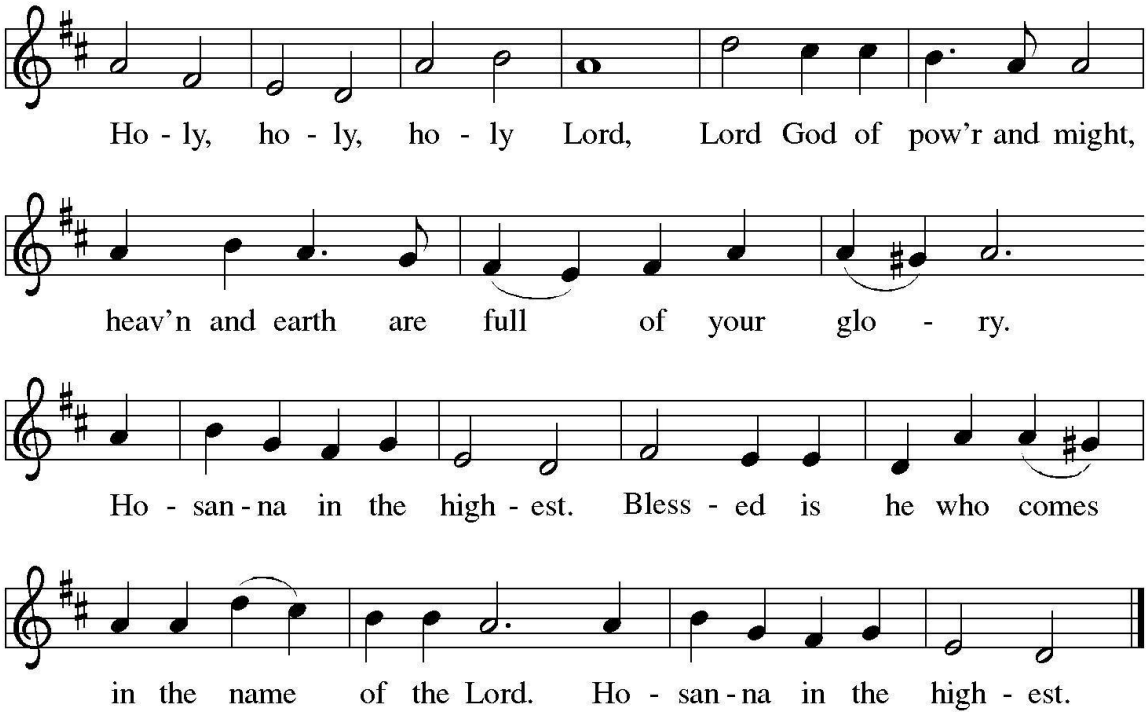
Great Thanksgiving **(***Communion today will by intinction)* **Page 152**



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*

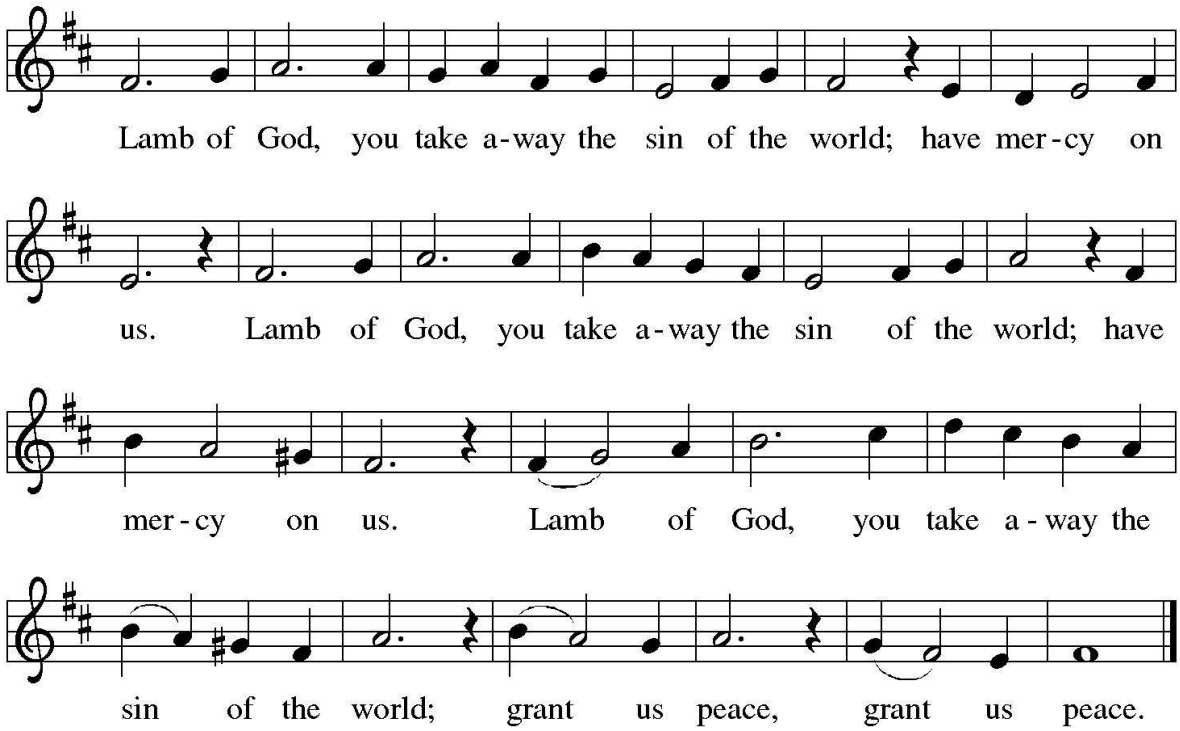


Eucharistic Prayer

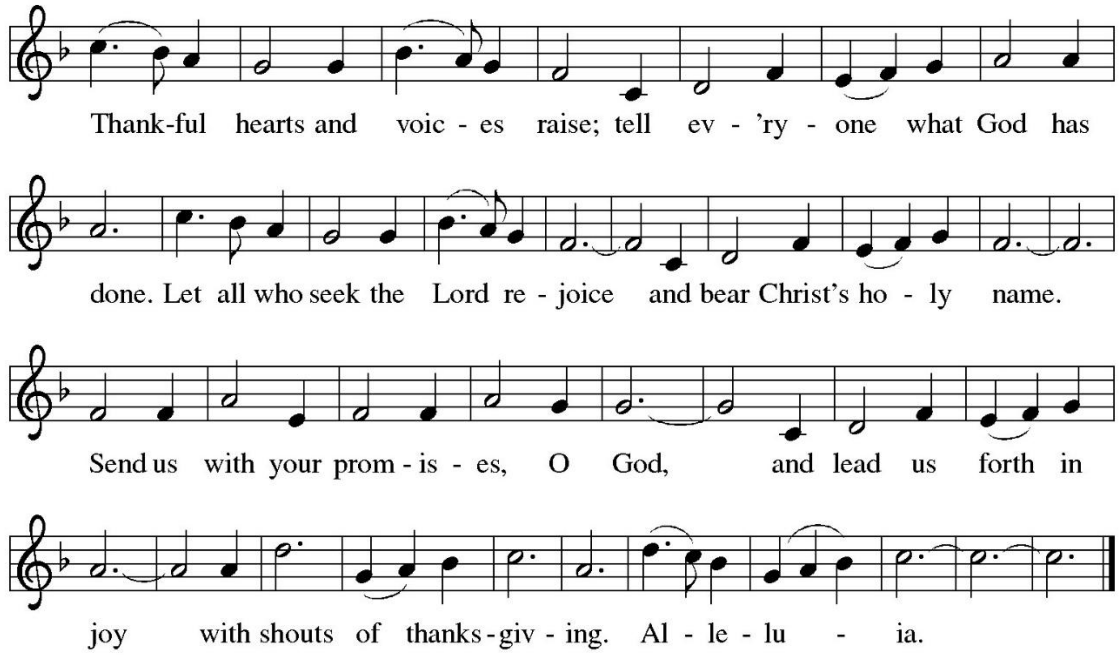
Lord's Prayer **Page 154**

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: *Bread of Life*, Jeremy Young, b. 1948
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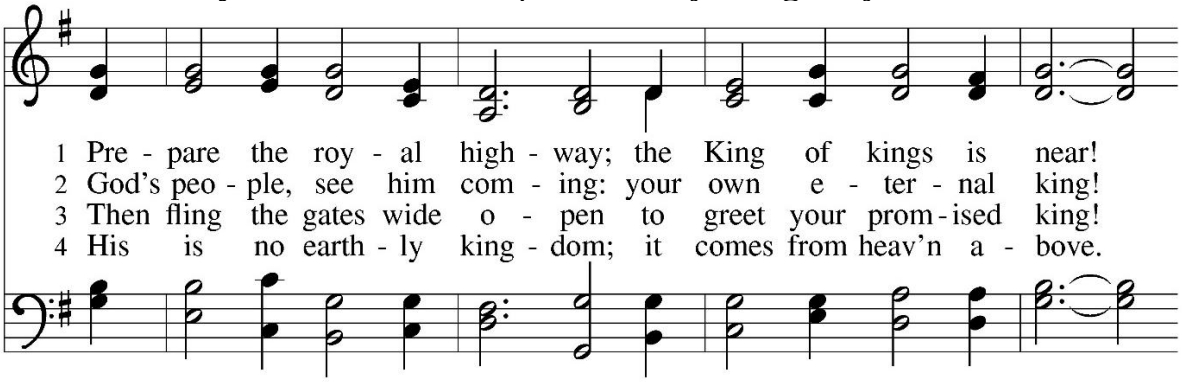
***Post Communion Prayer**

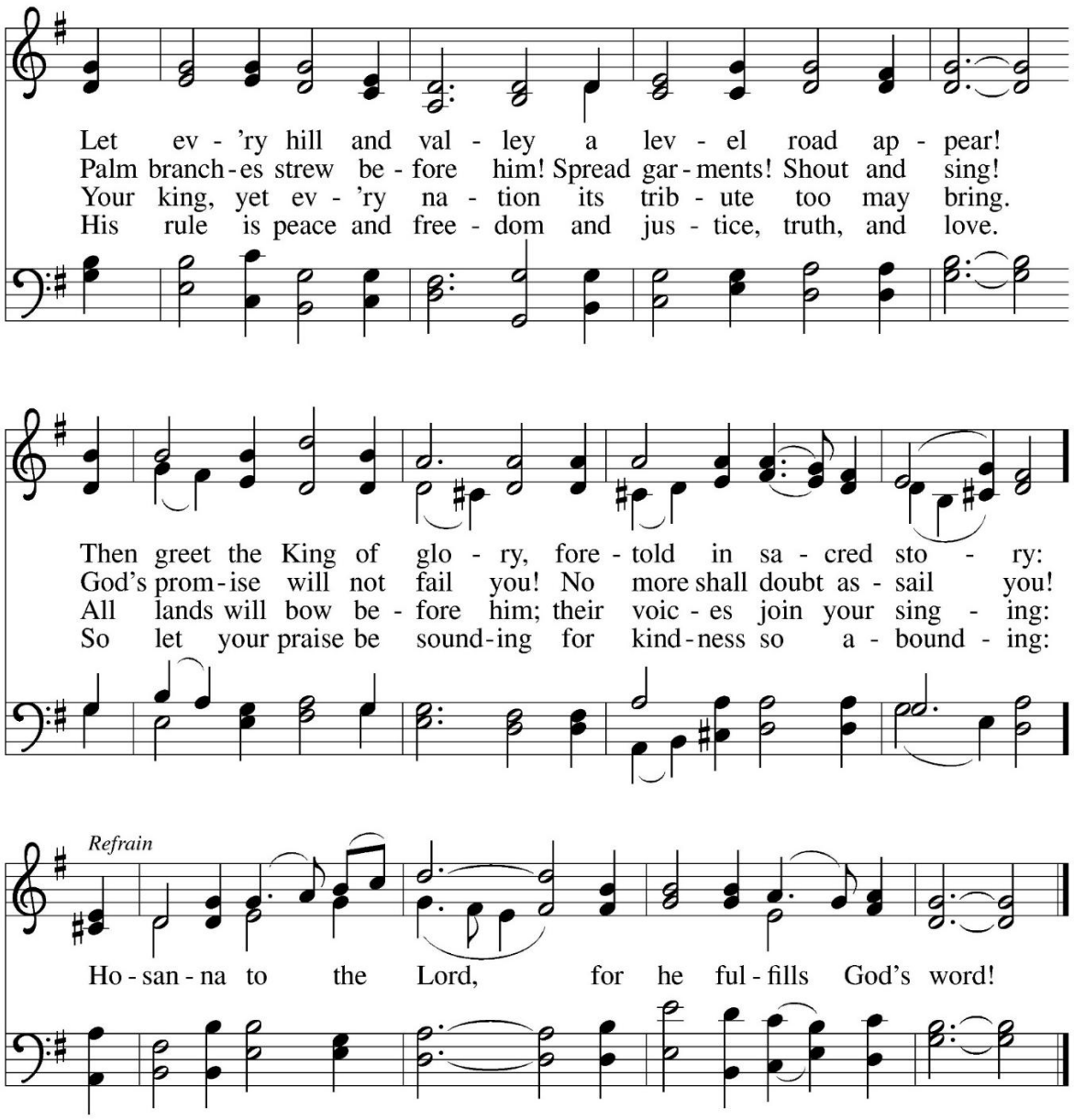
L: Holy God,
we have received your never-ending mercy in this meal. You continuously seek the lost, bind the injured, and feed your people abundantly. Now send us out, awake to your presence, now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING

***Benediction**

***Recessional Hymn** "Prepare the Royal Highway" ELW 264





Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
Music: BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN, Swedish folk tune, 17th cent.
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L: Go in peace. Encourage one another.
C: **Thanks be to God**.

Announcements

MEMORIAL SERVICE – There will be a memorial service at Grace this afternoon to celebrate the life of Kathleen Eglin, the sister of Christine VanValkenburgh.

ATTITUDE OF GRATITUDE THANKSGIVING SERVICE – The Interfaith Council of the Twin Cities Council of Churches will be holding their annual Thanksgiving Service at the First Presbyterian Church in Johnstown on Tuesday, November 24th at 7:00 p.m. Please join us as we give thanks to God for all we have been blessed with.

THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE – Trinity Lutheran invites all to join in their Thanksgiving Eve Service on Wednesday, November 25th at 7:00 p.m. This service will include the celebration of Holy Communion.

HANGING OF THE GREENS – Our Worship Service on November 29th, the First Sunday of Advent will be our Hanging of the Greens Service. Please plan to attend and learn more about our beautiful decorations that are a part of our Christmas tradition.

MID-WEEK ADVENT - The mid-week advent programs will begin at Grace Lutheran Church this year beginning on Wednesday, December 2nd at 5:30 pm. Please plan to participate!

BIBLE STUDY This week's bible study is cancelled due to Thanksgiving Day on November 26th. Enjoy your day with family and friends. We will return to our studies next on December 3rd at Trinity.

SALVATION ARMY ANGELS TAGS – There will be tags on the tree for those in need. If you take a tag, the unwrapped gifts are due no later than December 13th.

DONATION BOX – the hat, mitten and socks donation box is out. Please bring your donations and leave them in the designated box. This year, the donated items will be going to Kingsborough Elementary School in Gloversville. Donations are due December 13th.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING This year we will be Christmas Caroling at Pineview Commons on Friday, December 11th. Meet in Fellowship Hall at 5:30pm. Pizza party to follow.

TODAY IS OUR FOOD SUNDAY -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

OUR NEXT FOOD SUNDAY IS DECEMBER 20, 2026.

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 22, 2026 - Communion will be by intinction

Presiding:	Pastor Roger Behrens
Pianist:	Chenya D'Arcangelis-Westley
Assisting Minister	Linda Bumpus
Communion Asst:	Linda Bumpus
Crucifer	Donna Coonradt
Reader:	Clyde Smith
Altar Guild:	Darleen Gaugler
Bread Baker	Peggy Niforos
Ushers:	Darleen Gaugler /Lee Mitchell
Counters	Bonnie Olendorf

Servers for November 29, 2026 - Communion will be at the rail

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

