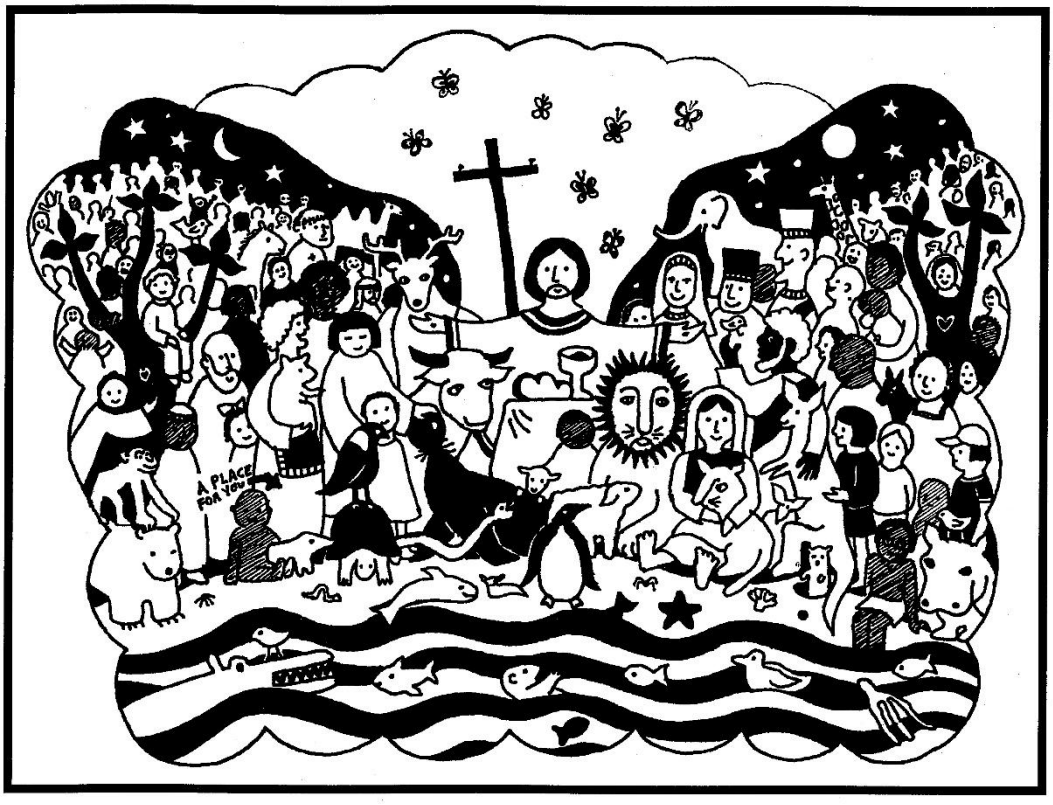
Reign of Christ
November 22, 2026



We hope you feel welcome here.
St. Thomas Lutheran Church is a Christ-centered community that lives, shares, and celebrates God's grace with all people!

As disciples of Christ who value the faith, gifts, and ministry of all God's people, and who seek justice, racial equity, and reconciliation, we welcome all God's children to an inclusive community. This welcome is extended without exception and regardless of sex, race, national origin, educational background, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, physical and mental ability, age, or economic condition.

We hope you can participate fully in worship.
Today's worship service is printed in this bulletin; the hymns are found in the back third of the red *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (ELW) or purple *All Creation Sings* (ACS) found under the seat in front of you. Places to stand are marked with * and to respond are indicated with bold type. Please sit, stand, and move as you need to be comfortable. Use a blue chair with arms or move orange chairs to accommodate mobility needs. Assisted hearing devices and large-print worship aids are available on the Worship Aids column in the narthex.

Our youngest worshipers may appreciate the Prayer Pond in the worship space or listening to the service from our unstaffed nursery. Activity bags and children's bulletins are available on the Worship Aids column in the narthex.

We hope you know Holy Communion is for you.
At communion, everyone is welcome. This includes doubters, young children, and folks who have yearned for this feast. Come forward at the direction of an usher and receive hand-torn bread or gluten-free wafers and pink wine or red grape juice. If you have mobility limitations, please take the closest available place at the altar, or ask an usher for Communion to be brought to you at your seat.

We hope you know our welcome extends beyond our building.
Gifts placed in the offering plate during the worship service contribute to this mission. Today's 8:30 a.m. service is livestreamed. By attending this service, you are giving permission to be in the video we produce.

We hope you know we pray for you.
We would love to pray for the concerns of your heart during this service. Prayer request slips are located on the table near the main doors.

+ GATHERING +

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

P: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all you lands!

C: Serve the Lord with gladness; come into God's presence with a song.

P: Know that the Lord is God, our maker to whom we belong; we are God's people and the sheep of God's pasture.

C: Enter the gates of the Lord with thanksgiving and the courts with praise;
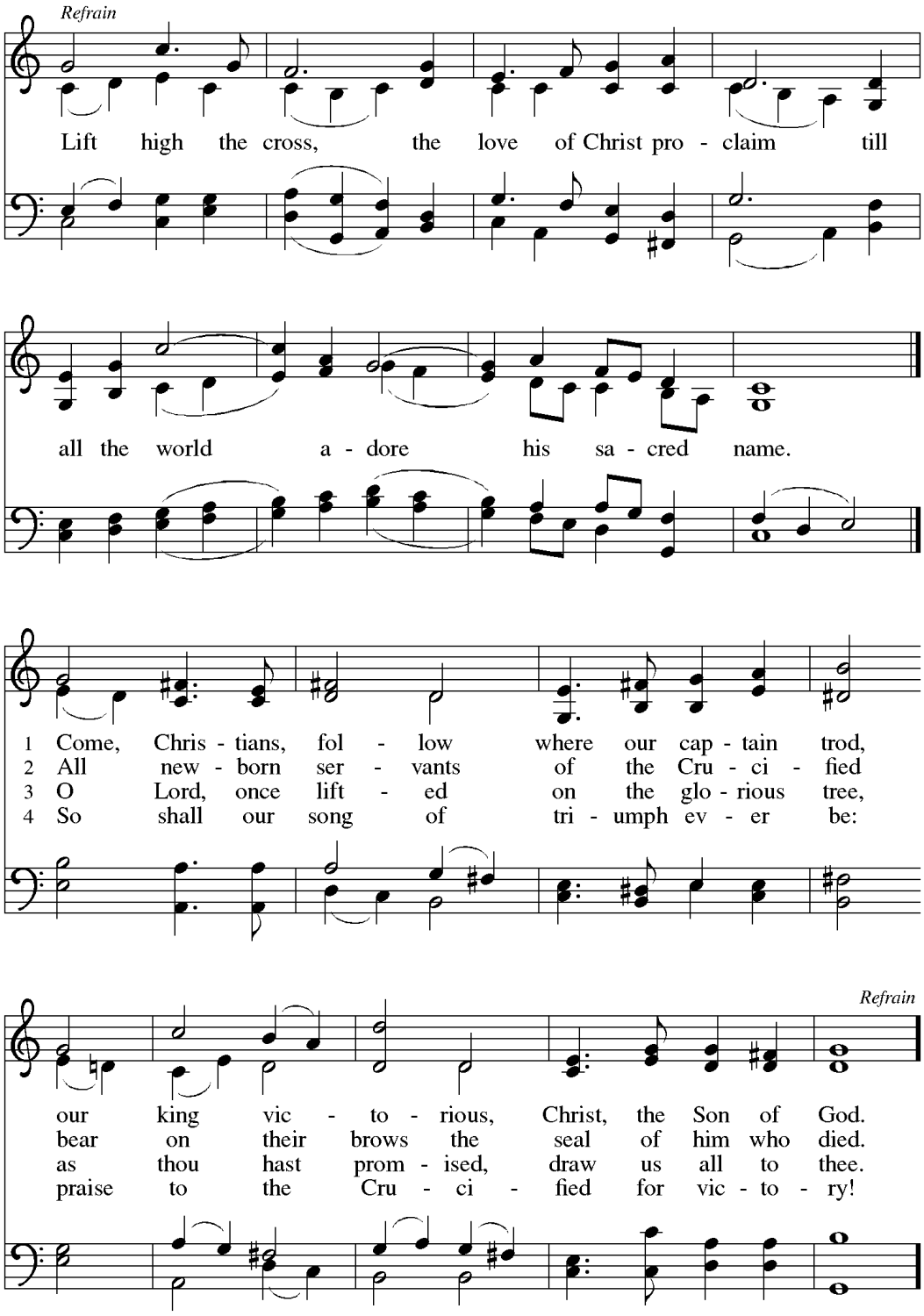
P: give thanks and bless God's holy name.

C: Good indeed is the Lord, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from age to age.

*ENTRANCE HYMN

Lift High the Cross ELW#660

During the processional, the congregation turns to face the cross as it passes.
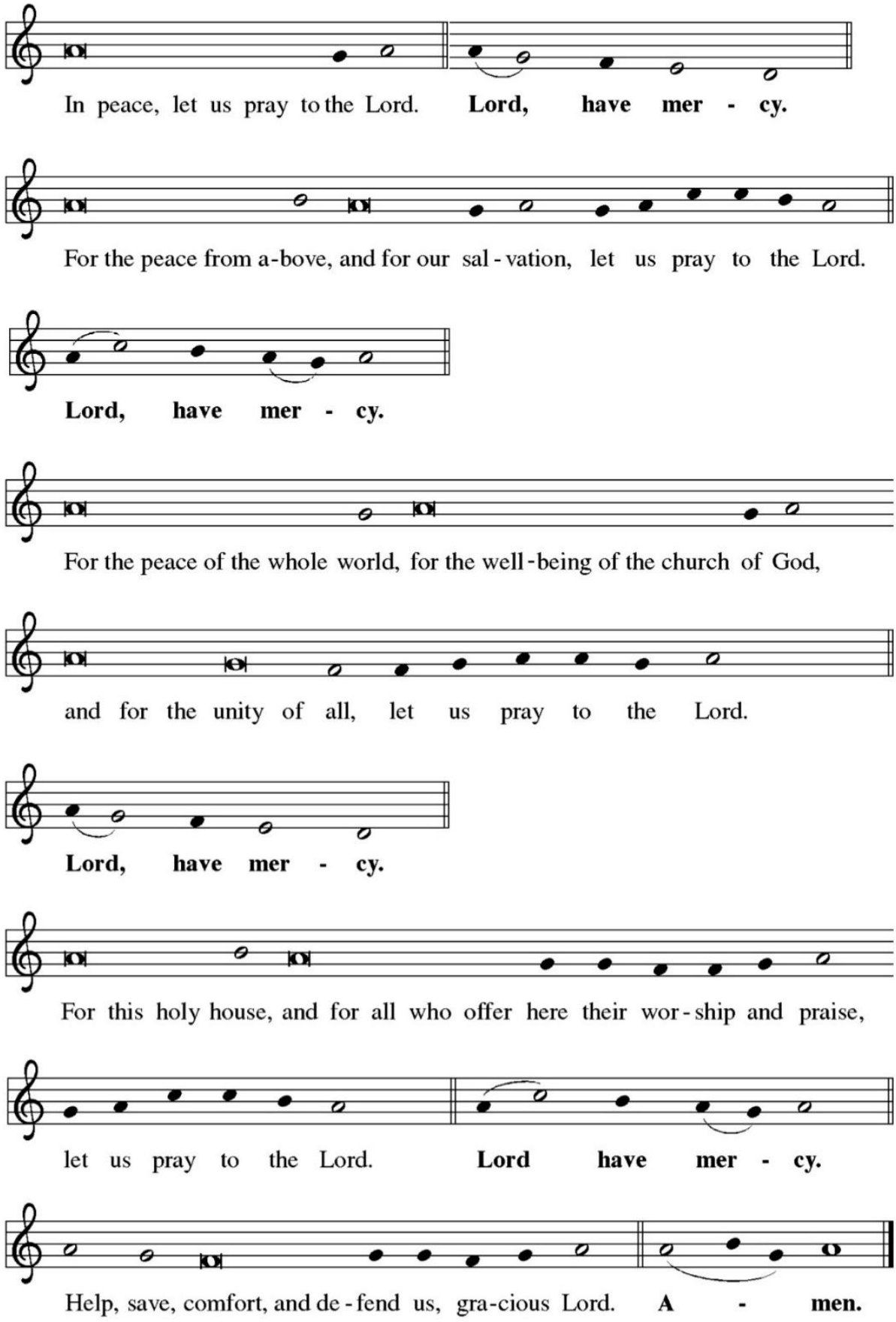


Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956
Music: CRUCIFER, Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947
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*GREETING
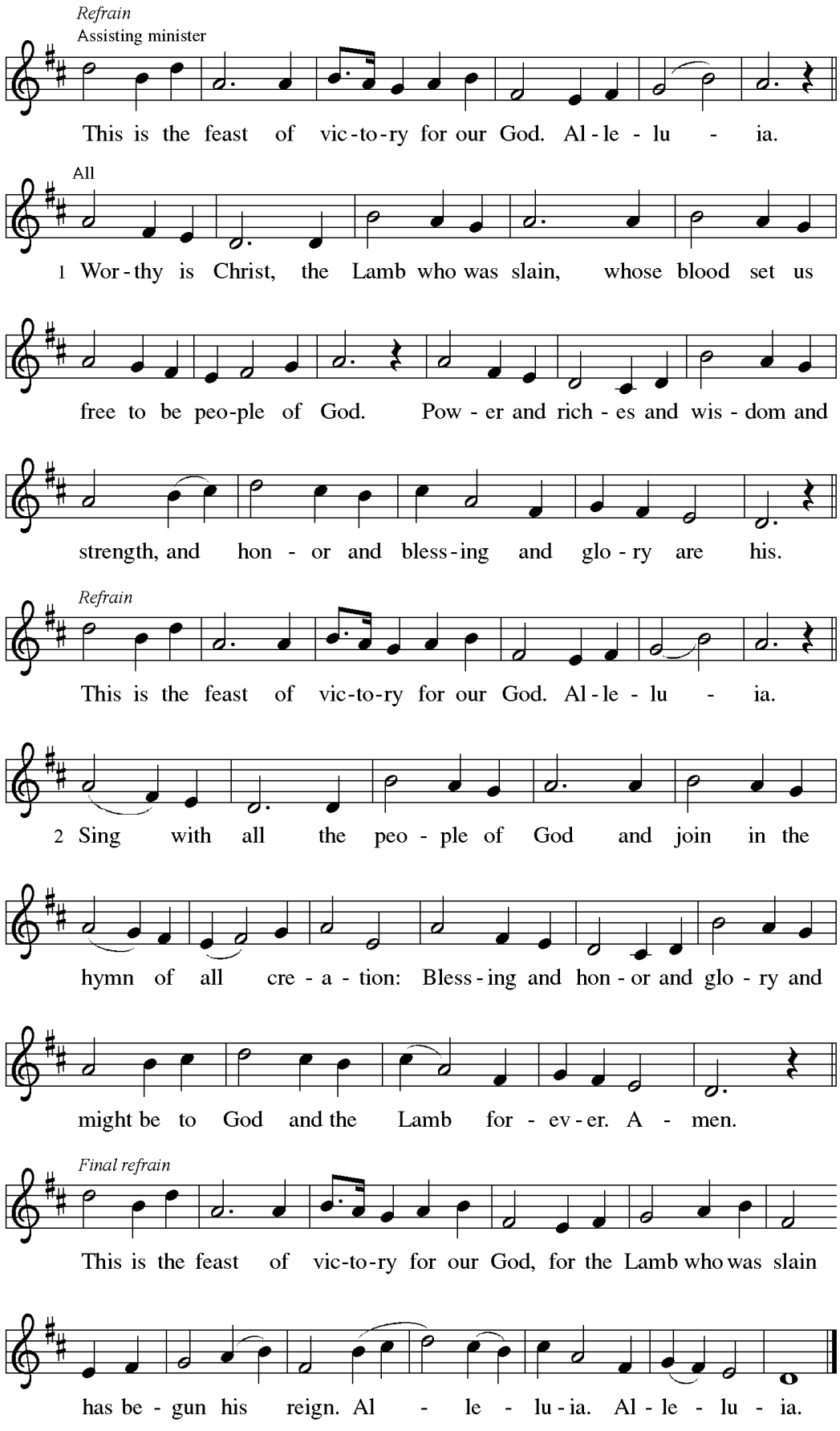
P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

*KYRIE


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.

*HYMN OF PRAISE



*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. 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.

C: Amen.

+WORD+

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Barb Unger

FIRST READING Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

Thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep and will sort them out. 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. 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. 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. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. 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.
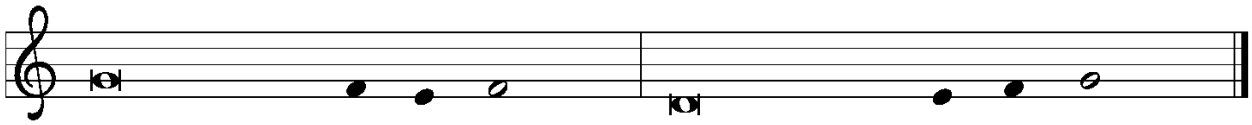
Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged, and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them; he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I

the Lord will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I the Lord have spoken.

L: Word of God, word of life.
C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 95:1-7a



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

For the Lord | is our God,
and we are the people of God's pasture and
the sheep | of God's hand.

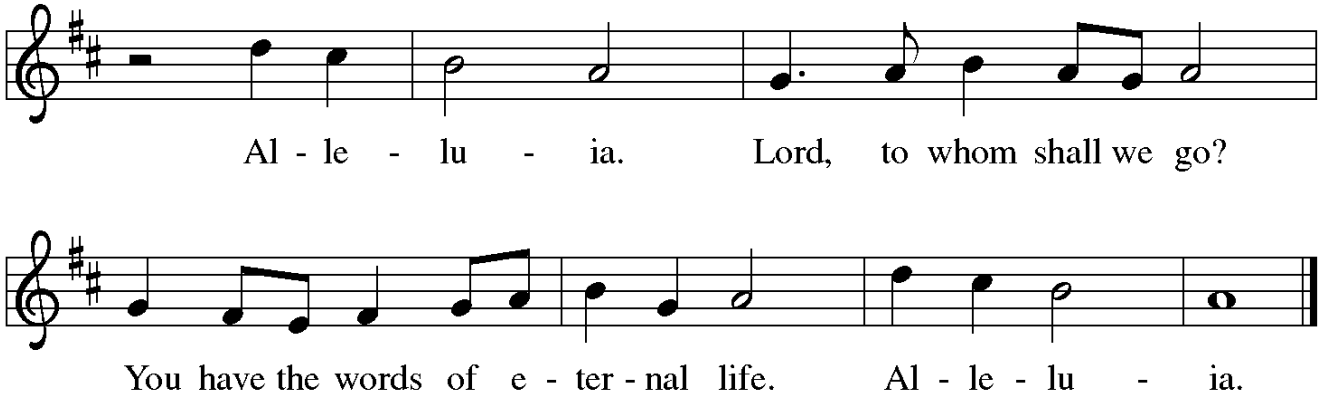
SECOND READING Ephesians 1:15-23

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers, 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 God, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may perceive what is the hope to which God has called you, what are the riches of God's glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of God's power for us who believe, according to the working of God's great power. God put this power to work in Christ when God raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, 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. And God has put all things under the feet of Christ and

has made him the head over all things for the church, which is the body of Christ, the fullness of the one who fills all in all.

L: Word of God, word of life.
C: Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



*HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 25:31-46

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.
C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] "When the Child of Humanity comes in his glory and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. 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, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. 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, 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, 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.’ 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? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ 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.’ 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 the devil’s angels, for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, 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.’ 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?’ 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.’ And these will go away into eternal punishment but the righteous into eternal life.”

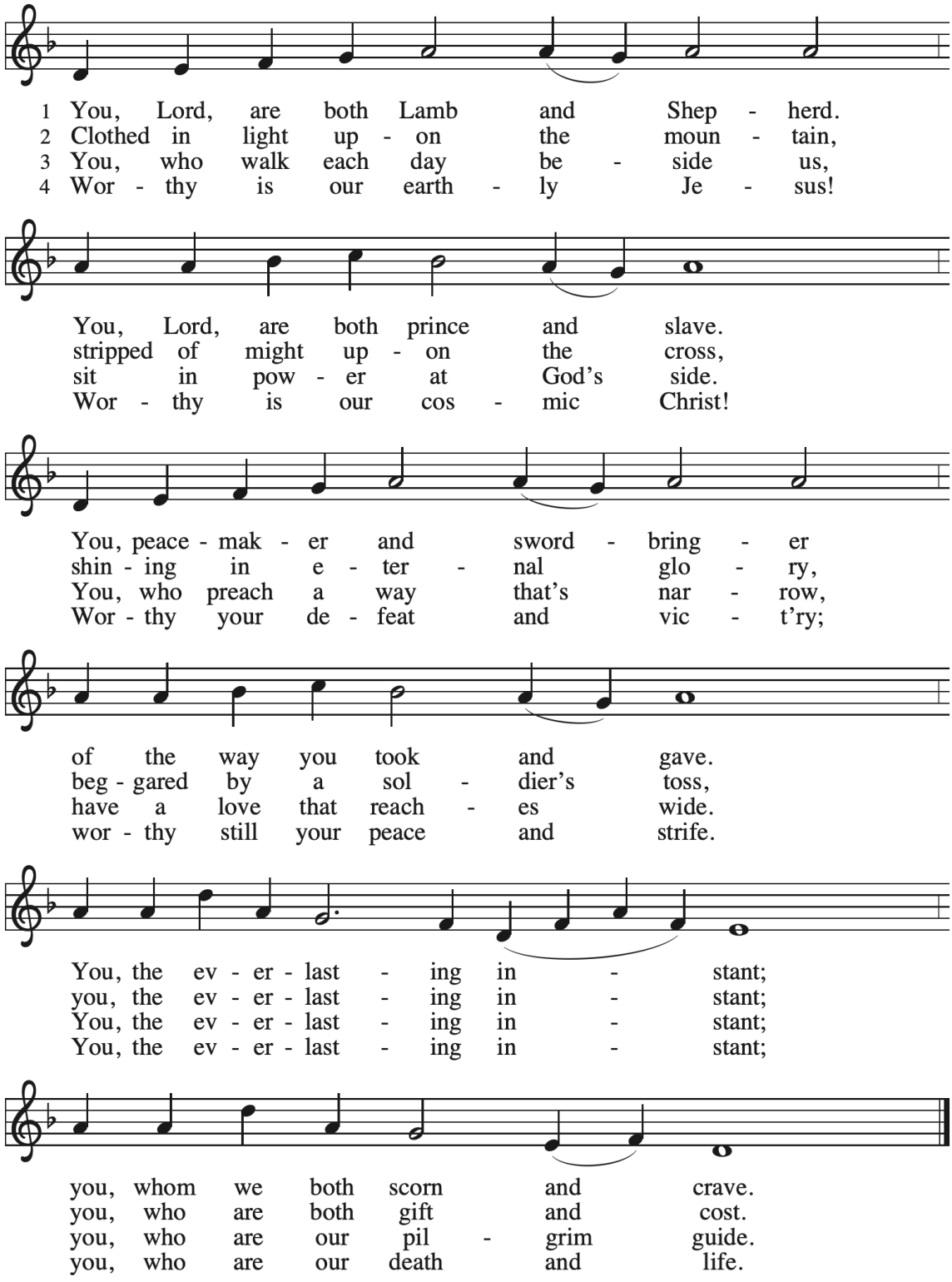
P: The Gospel of Our Lord!
C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON Pr. Adrianne Meier

*HYMN OF THE DAY

You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd

ACS#954



Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993
Music: PICARDY, French folk tune, 17th cent.
Text © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

*APOSTLES' CREED

A: With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**C: 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

A: United with the great cloud of witnesses, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

A: Holy God, we thank you for the faith communities that have guided us, strengthened us, and taught us to trust that you are always coming into the world. We pray for our neighbor congregations, Beth Shalom and University Baptist Church. Keep all your faithful people wide awake and lead us to the everyday work of your compassion and justice. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Holy God, we thank you for sweet air, fresh water, and all the ecosystems and creatures of this intricate, gracious planet, and for people everywhere who seek to understand, love and care for them. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: You are the potter, we are the clay. Shape the nations of the world so that all people may live in peace, with enough to eat and a future for all our children. God, in your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.

A: Faithful God, we hold before you the suffering of the world's people. We pray for those entrapped in armed conflict, for refugees, for the hungry and unhoused, for the lonely and despairing, and for those who endure chronic pain. We pray also for those who have commended themselves to our prayers, especially Kathleen, Drew, Del, Kristin, Helen, Bob, Leslie, Dallis, Doug, Yvonne, Kent, and Mark. Give us wise, neighborly hearts and help us not to turn away from the needs of others. God, in your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.

A: We thank you for everyone who worked together on the election and for their selfless gifts of humility, integrity, and patience. Help us here today to walk forward together as people who have within us the living spirit of Jesus Christ — his compassion for the poor, his impatience with injustice, his deep insight into structures of oppression, his laughter, his tears, his sure knowledge of your presence. God, in your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.

A: We remember before you all our beloved dead. We thank you for the life and work of Isaac Watts, hymnodist and poet, whose ten hymn texts in our hymnal, with hundreds more, have given people words, while we have breath, to praise you, to thank you, and to offer our repentance. Bring us at the end to the fellowship of all your saints in the light of your love. God, in your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.

A: Into your steadfast love, faithful God, we entrust all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus, your beloved.
C: Amen.

*SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Share the peace with a wave, a bow, or maybe an elbow, checking in with your neighbor for whatever feels safe and conveys the spirit of peace and reconciliation this ritual intends.

OFFERING

*Please sign and pass the **Together In Community pads**. Make note of the names of your neighbors so you can introduce yourself after the service.*

*An offering is collected as a grateful response for all of God's gifts. Gifts support St. Thomas's mission of living, sharing, and celebrating God's grace with all people. A portion of our offerings support Lutheran Campus Ministries at IU/Rose House and many local, national, and international ministry partners. **You may place gifts in the offering plate as it reaches you or give on our website, stlconline.org (the QR code above on the right will direct you).***

in these TIMES 5000-hour challenge submit volunteer hours here!

Use the QR code on the left to add your volunteer hours to our 5000-hour challenge.

8:30 a.m. only

CHORAL ANTHEM

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

arr. Katherine Davis

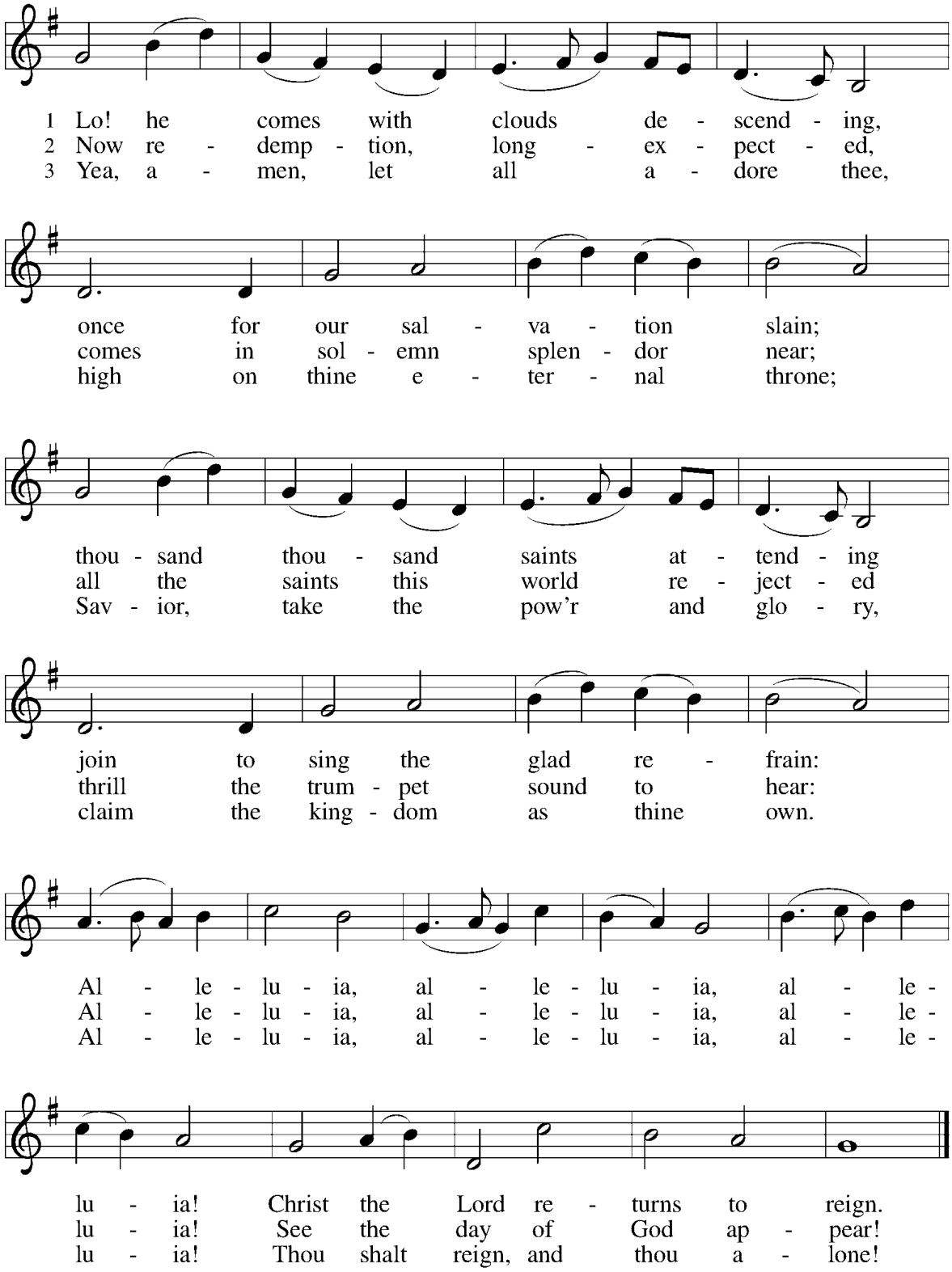
11 a.m. only

ORGAN OFFERTORY — Matthew Benkert

*OFFERTORY HYMN

Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending ELW#435

verse 3 only



Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.
Music: HELMSLEY, Thomas Olivers, 1725–1799

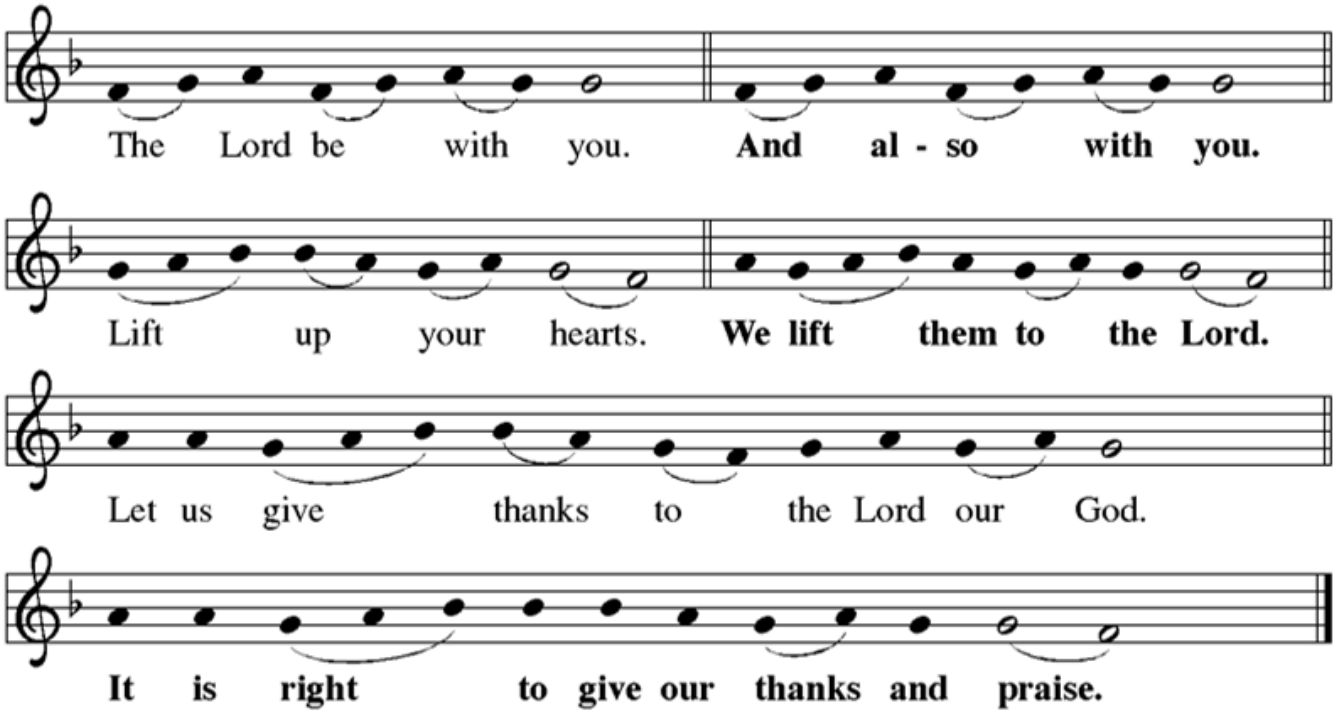
*OFFERTORY PRAYER

A: Let us pray. Eternal God, 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.

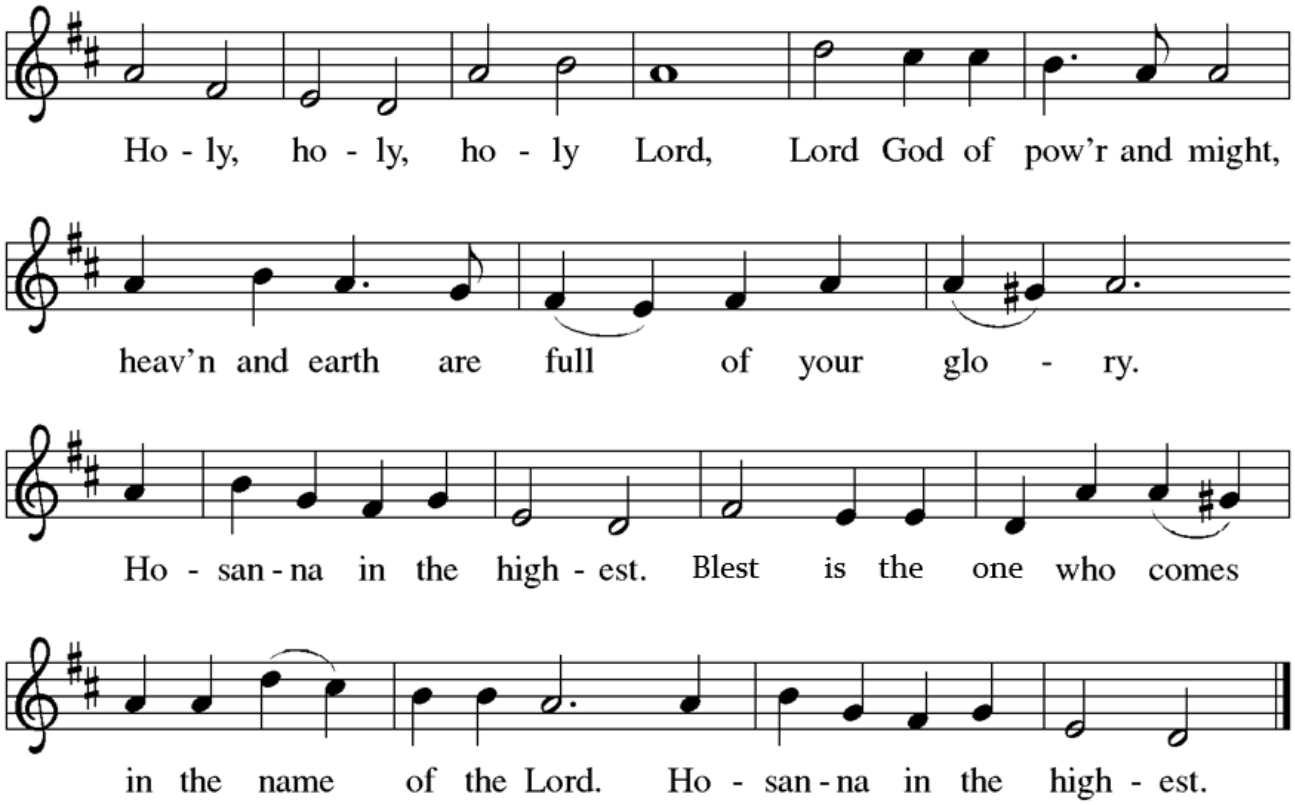
C: Amen.

+ MEAL +

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



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, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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:



*EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: We bless you, O God, Sovereign of all things, Might of the ages. We your people praise your mystery, ever one, always three.

P: O radiant Source of creation, you brought light out of darkness. Planets and stars, plants and animals receive their life from your throne. Apostles, monarchs, parents, children: your dominion enlivens us all. We praise your majestic power, saying, Blessing and glory to you, O God:

C: Blessing and glory to you, O God.

P: O Christ Jesus, Ruler and Guide, you call us to follow your path. Your scepter is your hand reaching out to the needy. We bow before you, enthroned on the cross. We laud your supreme mercy, saying, Wisdom and thanks to you, O God:

C: Wisdom and thanks to you, O God.

P: On the night before he died, our Lord Jesus Christ 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: We remember his life of service,
his suffering and death, and his rising to eternal life. We acclaim the reign of Christ our King, saying, Honor to you, O God:
C: Honor to you, O God.

P: O Spirit, our supreme Defender, transform this meal into the banquet of life.
Gather all the sick and the poor into your palace of safekeeping. Govern the nations with your justice and peace. We plead for your surpassing grace, saying, Power and might to you, O God:
C: Power and might to you, O God.

P: O God the Father, you uphold the universe that you create; O God the Son, you are crowned with compassion for all; O God the Spirit, you protect your saints with arms of love.

P: We praise you today, tomorrow, and forever. Amen.
C: Amen.

P: Once more:
C: Amen.

P: And once more:
C: Amen.

*LORD’S PRAYER

Speak this prayer in your preferred language. The pastor will continue when all versions are complete. Q'eqchi' is provided on the right.

C: 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.

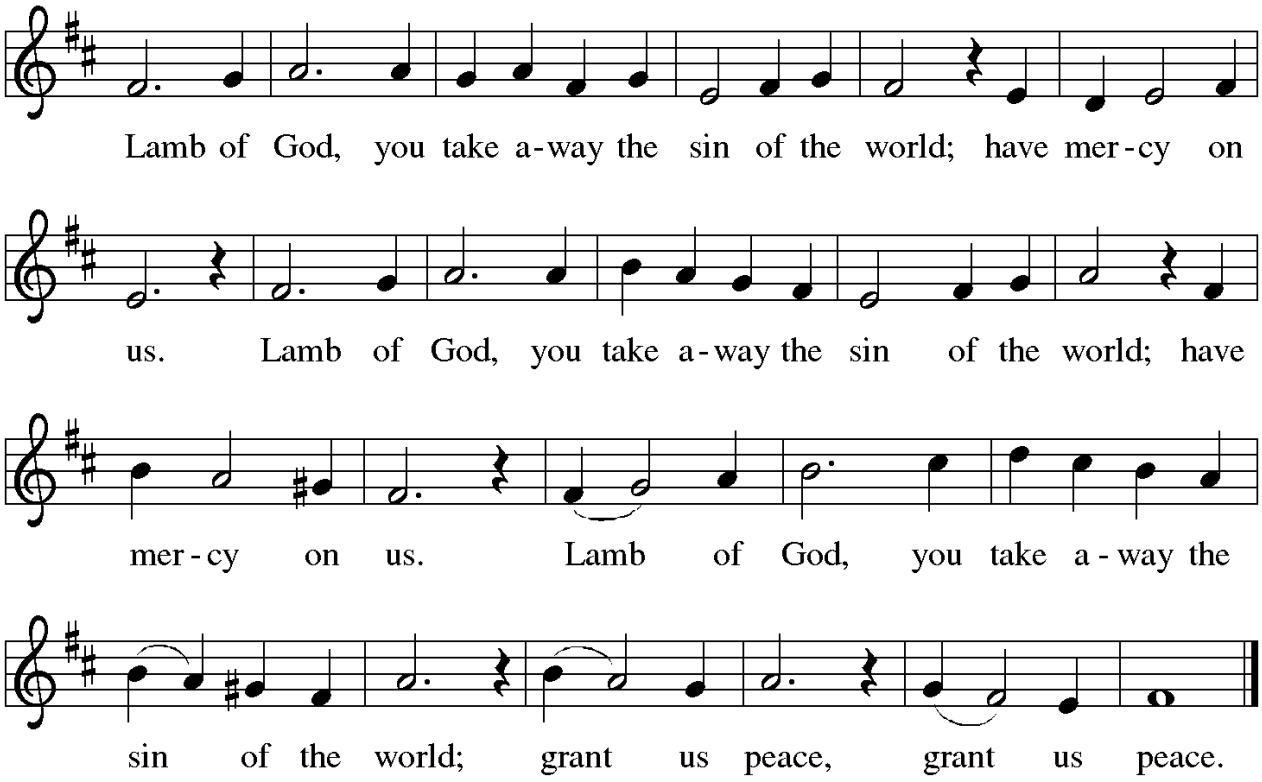
At qayuwa’ wankat sa’ chooxa
Usil aatinab’il ta laa k’ab’a
Chi chalq ta laa nimajwal awabejihom
Chi uxq ta li nakawaj arin sa’ ruuchich’och’ jo’ sa’ chooxa
Chak’e ta qe hoom li qawa chi rajlal kutan
Chakuy chasach ta li qamaak
Jo’ laa’o xqakuy xmaak li ani xmaako’ chi qu
Ut mohaakanab’ ta chi t’ane’k sa’ li aaleek
Chohaakolaq b’an chi ru li maa’us
Jo’kan taxak

*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: In bread and cup the reign of Christ is breaking in. Come, receive what Christ has prepared.
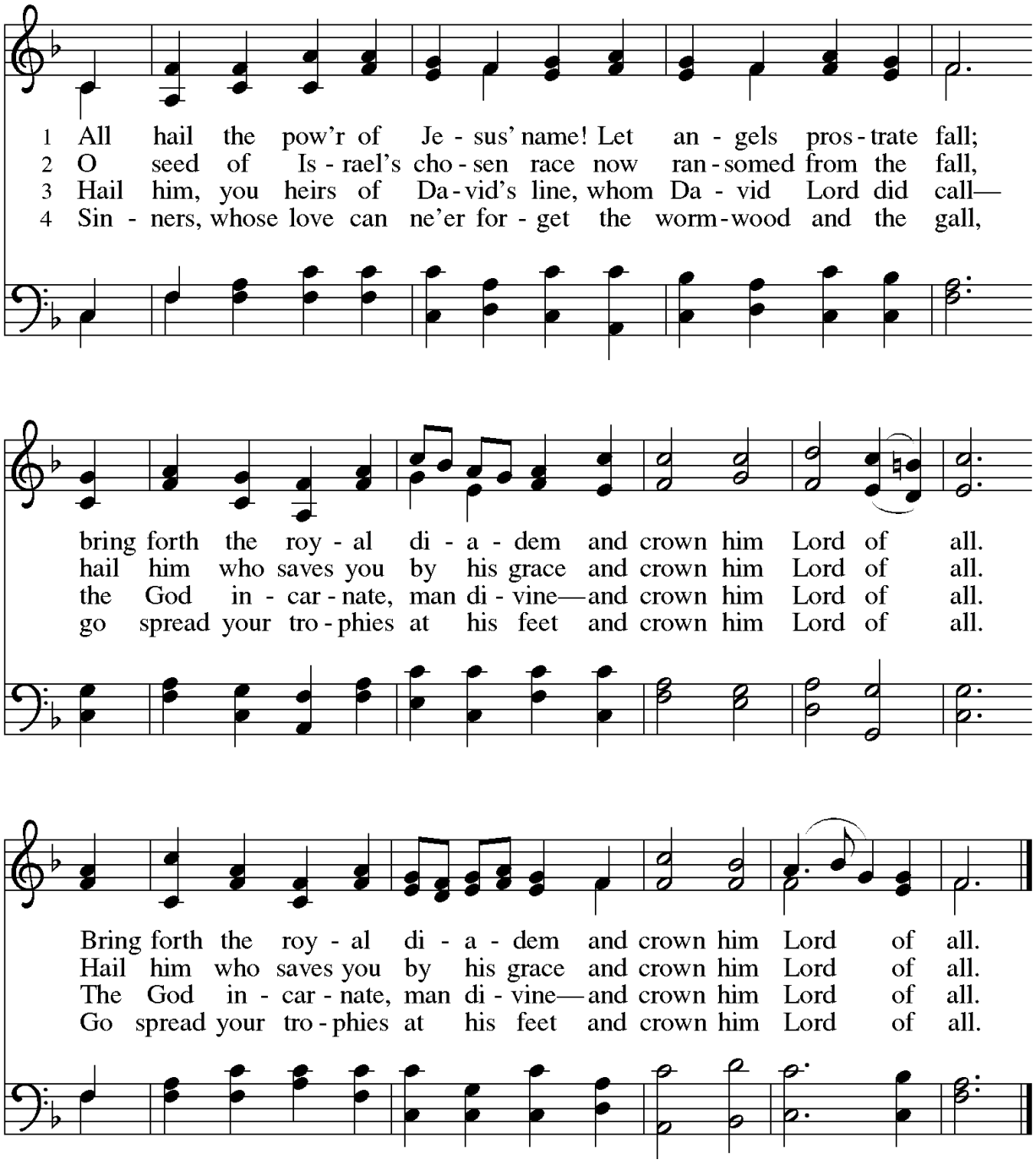
We believe that God is our host and that all people are welcome to this feast of grace, community, and forgiveness. Come forward at the direction of an usher, and receive bread or gluten-free wafer and wine in a common chalice or pink wine and red grape juice in individual cups. If you wish to receive a blessing, cross your arms over your chest.

AGNUS DEI


Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMNS

All Hail the Power of Jesus Name ELW#634
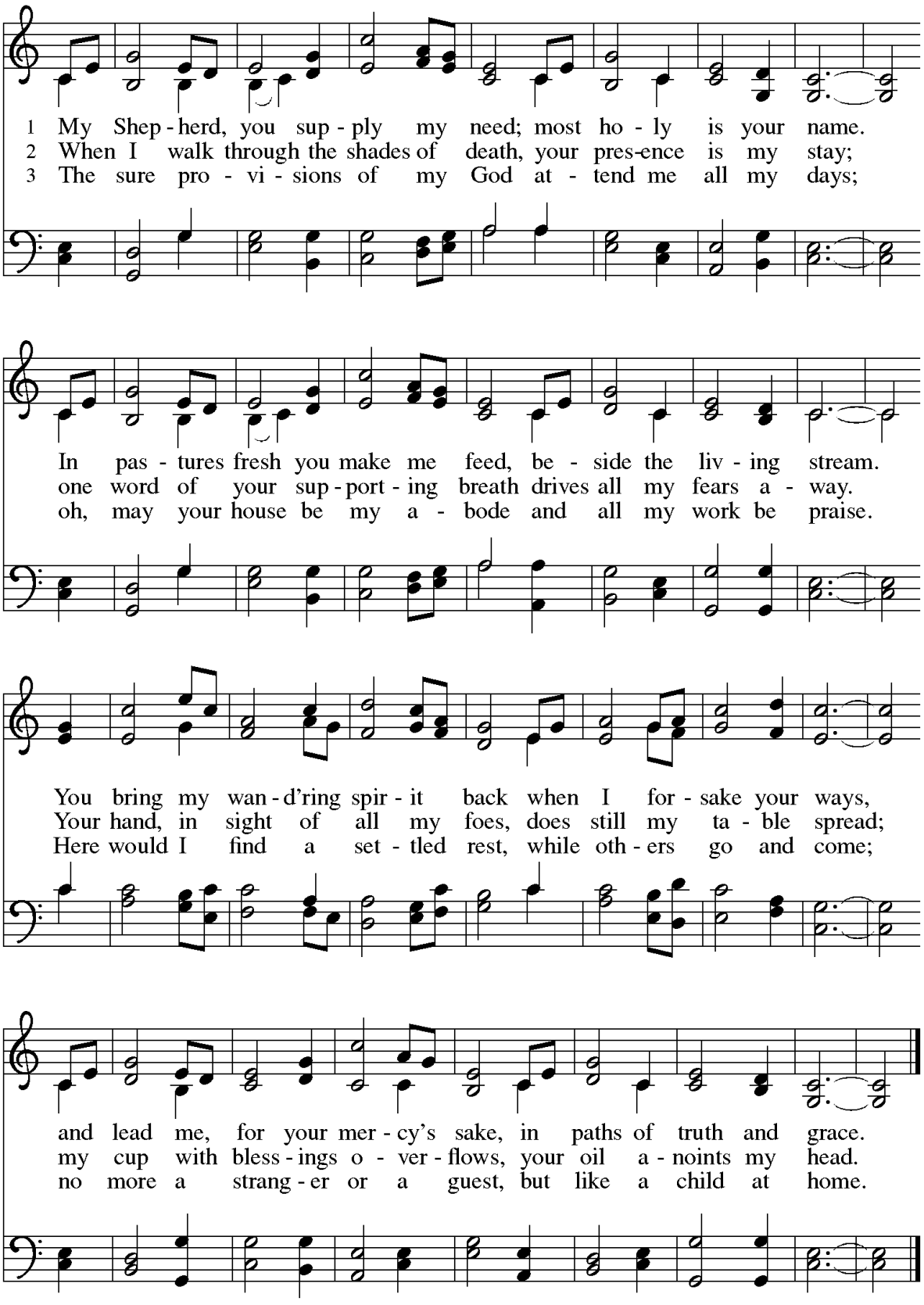


5 Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe
on this terrestrial ball
to him all majesty ascribe
and crown him Lord of all.

6 Oh, that with yonder sacred throng
we at his feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song
and crown him Lord of all.

Text: Edward Perronet, 1726–1792, sts. 1–4; J. Rippon, *A Selection of Hymns*, 1787, sts. 5–6
Music: CORONATION, Oliver Holden, 1765–1844

My Shepherd, You Supply My Need ELW#782



Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt., based on Psalm 23
Music: RESIGNATION, North American traditional

*EUCHARISTIC BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

C: Amen.

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray. 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.

C: Amen.

+ SENDING +

*BENEDICTION
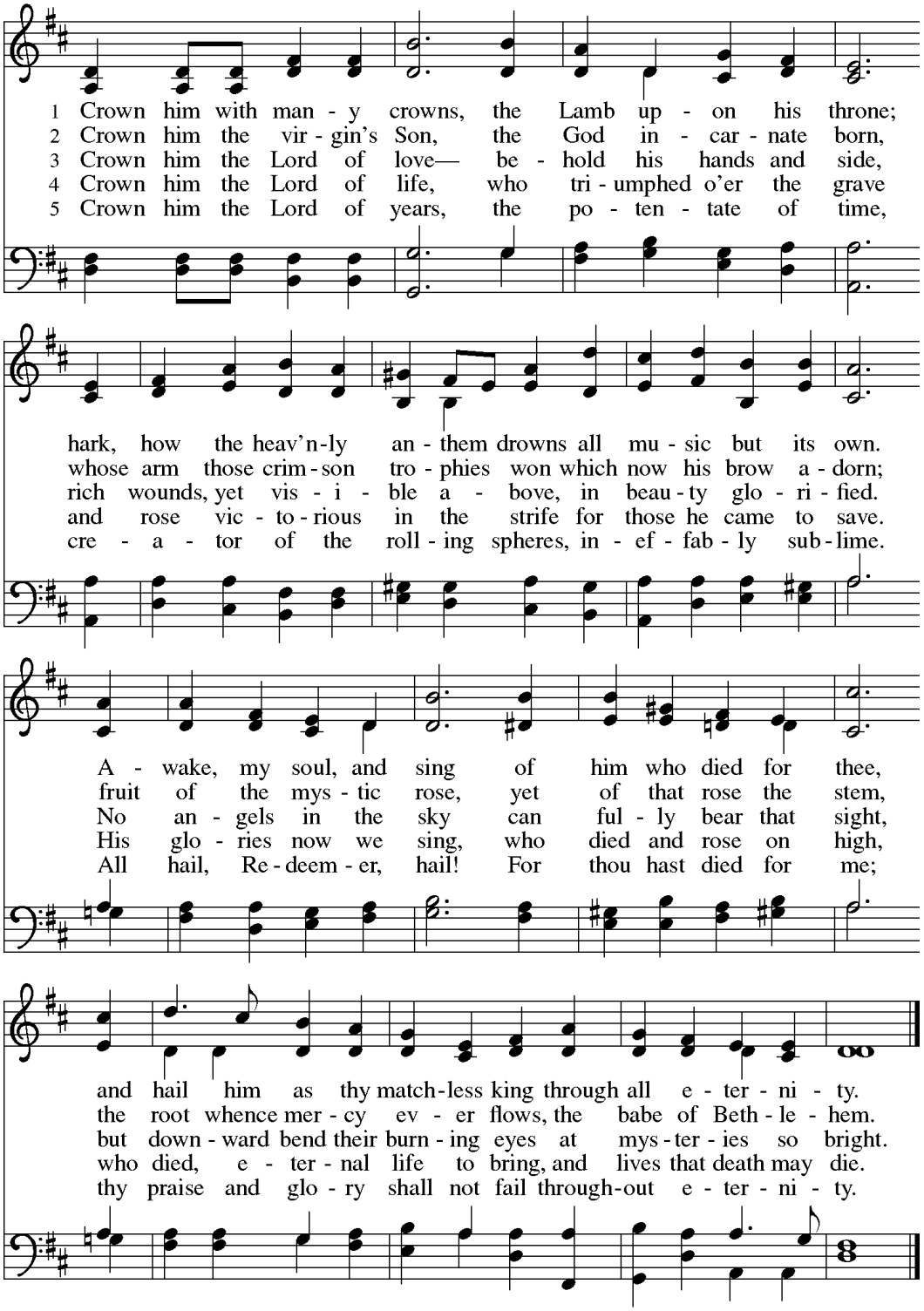
P: May God who seeks the lost keep you; May God who brings back the wandering heart uphold you; May God who binds up the injured heal you; May God who strengthens the weak empower you, +now and forever.

C: Amen.

*SENDING HYMN

Crown Him with Many Crowns ELW#855

During the recessional, the congregation turns to face the cross as it passes.



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

*DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Encourage one another.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

We depart in peace to continue our worship
in lives of witness to Christ's love
in work, play, service, and care for creation.

***

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Today's readings are selected from the Revised Common Lectionary. The texts for the scripture readings are from the *New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition*, emendations are provided by the pastoral staff of St. Thomas in consultation with emendations provided for Augsburg Fortress by Gordon Lathrop and Gail Ramshaw.

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At A Glance: This Week at St. Thomas

Sunday November 22

8:30 a.m. Worship/Livestream Worship
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
9:45 a.m. Adult Forum
11 a.m. Worship

Monday November 23

1 p.m. Pastor's Bible Study

Wednesday November 25

Office Closing Early

Thursday November 26

Office Closed

Friday November 27

Office Closed

Saturday November 28

10 a.m. Property Committee Work Day

Sunday November 29

First Sunday of Advent

8:30 a.m. Worship/Livestream Worship
9:45 a.m. Advent Mini-Retreat
11 a.m. Worship
12:15 p.m. Hanging of the Greens

Announcements

Office Closure

The church office will close early on Wednesday November 25, and remain closed Thursday November 26 and Friday November 27 in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday.

Advent is Coming

This Sunday is that last green Sunday of the year, and Advent begins in two weeks on Sunday, November 29. Join us on that day for an Advent Mini-Retreat full of ideas to spark the imagination for this season of anticipation. Advent Soup Suppers will begin on Wednesday, December 2 at 6 p.m. and continue throughout the season. Midweek services are the same evening at 7 p.m. (but you don't have to eat soup to go to worship, nor do you have to stay for worship if you came for soup). Each week will feature Holden Evening Prayer with the final week, December 23, holding a special emphasis on grief during the holidays.



WALK IN THE LIGHT!

Lessons & Carols for Advent

Carols, anthems, and readings for Sankta Lucia's Day
expressing the human longing for light and hope,
offered by the adult choir of St. Thomas Lutheran Church.

Benjamin Wegner, Choir Director
Matthew Benkert, Organist and Director of Music

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13

at 4:00 p.m.

St. Thomas Lutheran Church

3800 East Third Street, Bloomington, Indiana - stlconline.org

A hospitable reception will follow the Lessons & Carols.
St. Thomas is handicap-accessible.

This concert is sponsored by St. Thomas Worship and the Arts.

Prayers for those with health and safety concerns

Kathleen Boggess, Drew Carman, Del Newkirk, Kristin Vann, Helen Kane, Bob Osborn, Leslie Main, Dallis Fox-Nagal, Doug Bauder, Yvonne Leber, Kent Unger, and Mark Wilkes.

Contact the church office for inclusion in this list of concerns and to be included in the Sunday prayers.

A separate, confidential prayer chain is also available. Contact **Susan Colston** at skcolston@aol.com to join the prayer chain or make a request for prayer.

The altar flowers are given

by Darrell & Kathleen Boggess
in celebration of their 55th wedding anniversary,
and by David Ellies
in thanksgiving for our many blessings!

Today's Worship Leaders
Altar Care: Barb Unger, Susan Colston
Bread & Wine: Vicki Polansky
Flowers: Mary Thomason-Smith and
Melody Smith
Coffee Crew: Andrew Rhoda
Prayer Writer: Pamela Smith
A/V Tech: Johnathan Frank

8:30 a.m. Service
Assisting Minister: Allison Ward
Lectors: April Armstrong, Marianne Miller
Crucifer: David Ellies
Ushers: Lynn & Ute Coyne
Communion Stewards: Jaydene Laros,
Barb Unger
Greeters: Mike & Jaydene Laros
Council Coordinator: Dean Arnold

11 a.m. Service
Assisting Minister: Ashley Ahlbrand
Lectors: Eliot Smith, Pamela Smith
Crucifer: Mary Thomason-Smith
Acolyte: Julianna Drake
Ushers: Craig & Kathy McDonald
Communion Stewards: Susan Colston
Greeters: Randy & Nancy Nye
Council Coordinator: Savannah Hadley-DeMark

ST. THOMAS EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

3800 East Third Street
Bloomington, Indiana 47401
Office Hours 9 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.
Phone: (812) 332-5252
stlconline.org

Partners in ministry with
Lutheran Church of the Living Waters
Cherokee, North Carolina

Linked with
Sister Parish
Iglesia Santo Domingo de Guzman, Chichipate
Parish of San Pedro, El Estor, Izabal, Guatemala

In covenant with
Lutheran Campus Ministry at Indiana University
Rev. Amanda Ghaffarian,
Campus Pastor
lutheran@iu.edu
Phone: (812) 333-2474
lcmiu.org

Rev. Adrianne Meier
Senior Pastor
pastor@stlconline.org

Erica Whichello
Parish Administrator
parishadmin@stlconline.org

Matthew Benkert
Director of Music and Organist
directorofmusic@stlconline.org

Ben Wegner
Adult Choir Director
choir@stlconline.org

Melissa de Graaf
Children's Choir Director

St. Thomas Lutheran Church and LCM-IU are Reconciling in Christ Ministries

We are a Christ-centered community that lives, shares and celebrates God's grace with all people!