NATIVITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

4517 Mt. Royal Blvd., Allison Park, PA 15101
(412) 346-4971 e-mail: NativityLC@verizon.net
www.nativitylutheranchurch15101.org
Celebrating 60 years of Caring, Witnessing, Serving

Christ the King **10:15 a.m.** **November 22, 2026**

ORDER OF WORSHIP **ELW - SETTING I**

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INTRODUCTION

On this final Sunday of the church year our gospel is Jesus' great story of judgment. In the end, the faithful are those who served Christ by ministering to those who are poor, hungry, naked, sick, or estranged. In the first reading God is the shepherd who seeks the lost, weak, and injured and feeds them with justice. We gather this day to celebrate the reign of Christ and his victory over death, yet we await the consummation of all things yet to come. Acknowledging Christ as our merciful ruler, we go forth that his reign may be known in our loving words and deeds.

P: = *Pastor* W: = *Worship Assistant* **A: = *All in Attendance***

**indicates congregation should stand if able.*

PRELUDE

GATHERING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

P: Let us prepare our hearts and minds for worship:

(a moment of silence for reflection as we prepare our hearts and minds for worship.)

*ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

A: **Amen.**

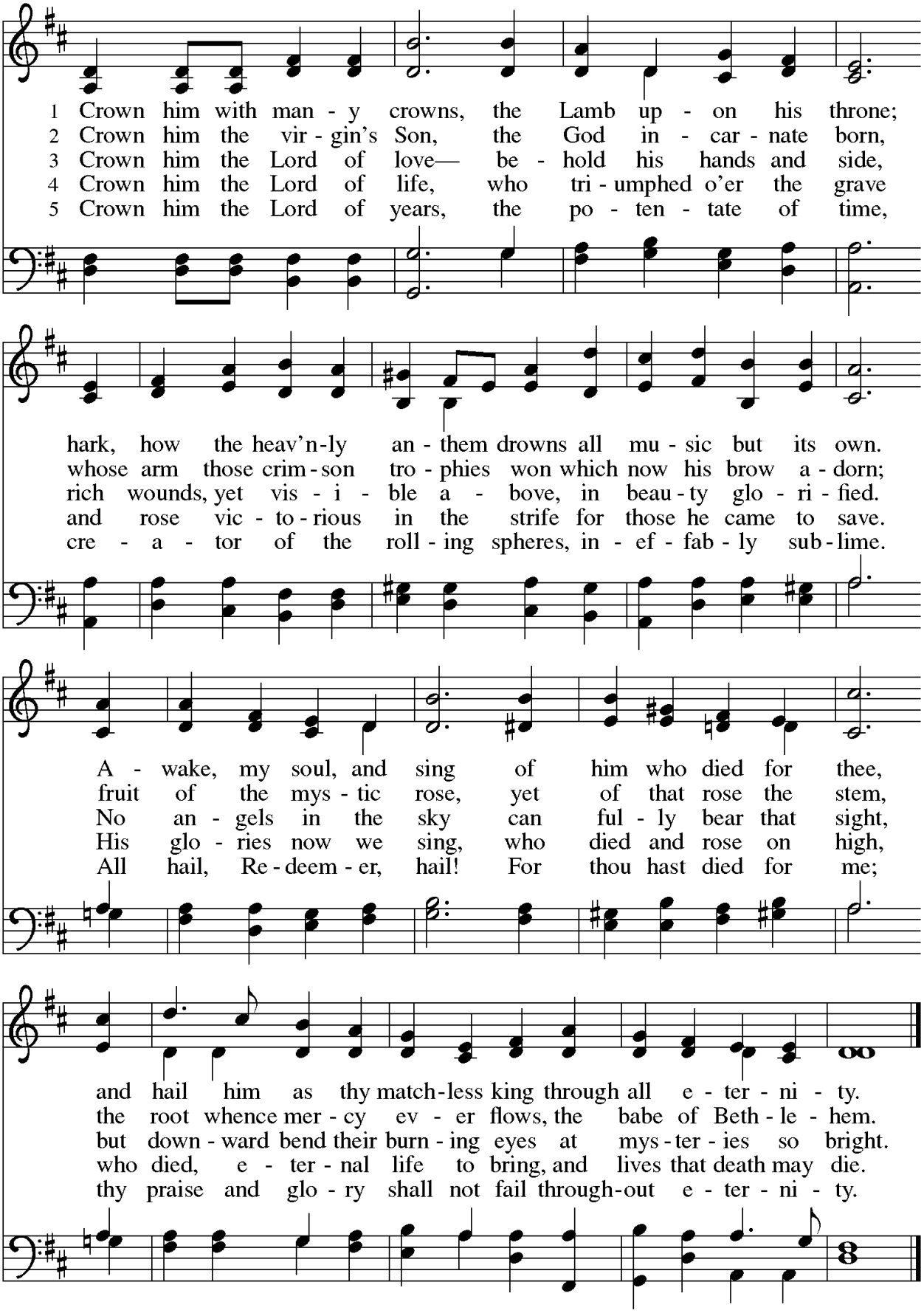
P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection

P: Most merciful God,
A: 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.

P: 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.
A: Amen.

***GATHERING HYMN:** "Crown Him with Many Crowns" **ELW #855**



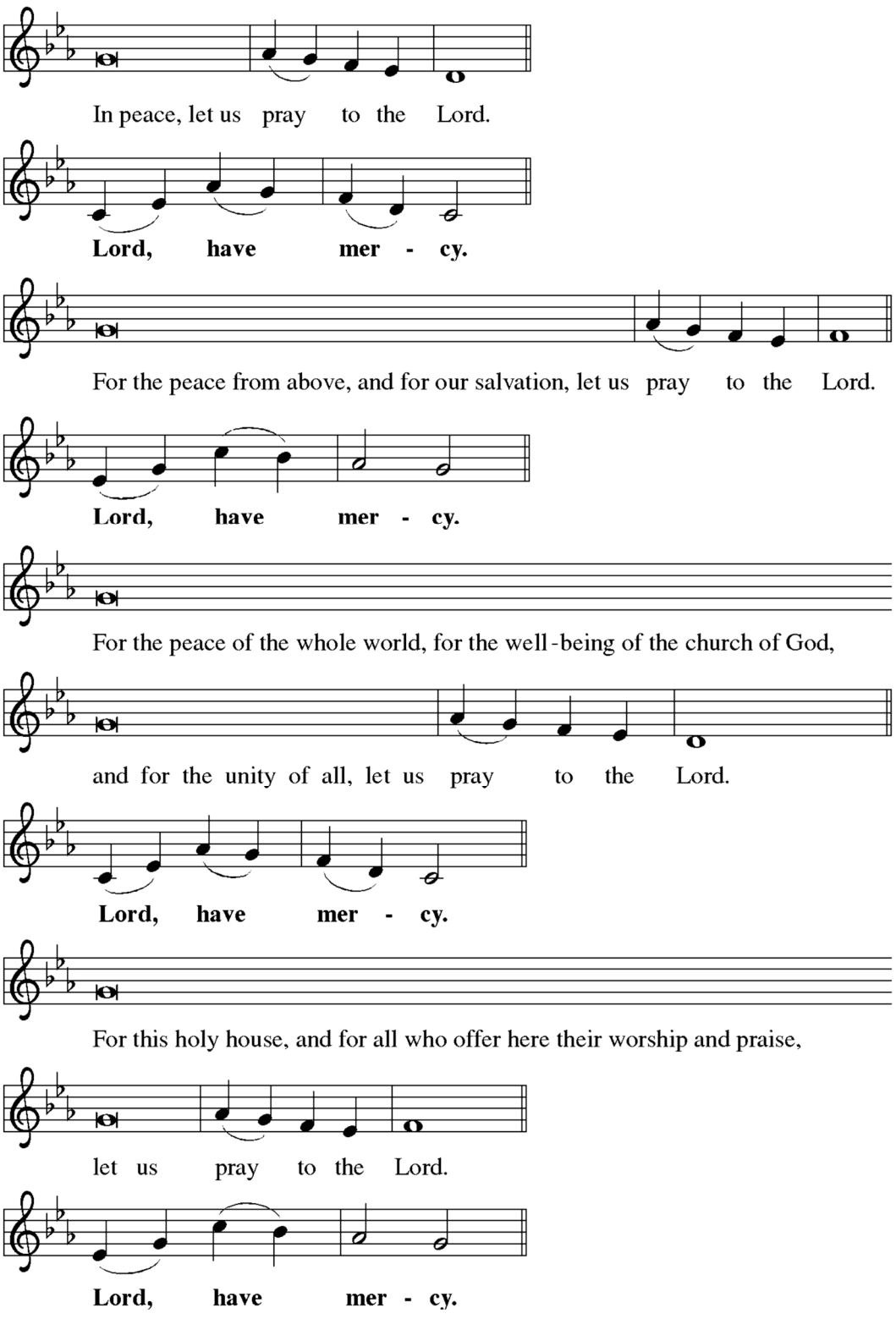
Text: Matthew Bridges, 1800–1894, sts. 1–3, 5; Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, st. 4
Music: DIADEMATA, George J. Elvey, 1816–1893

***GREETING**

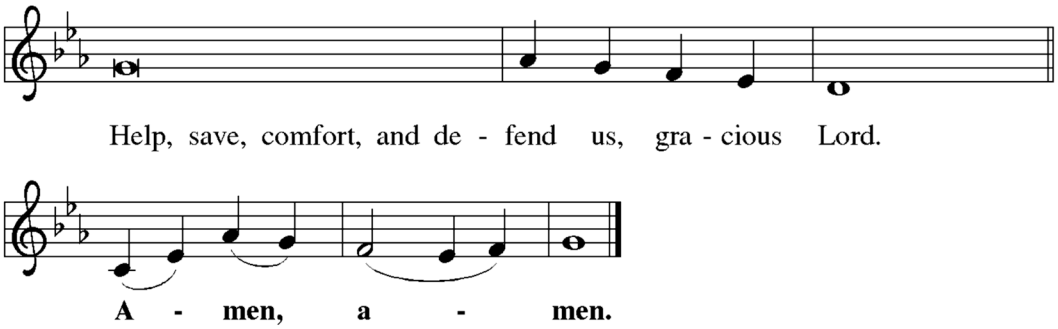
P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

A: And also with you.

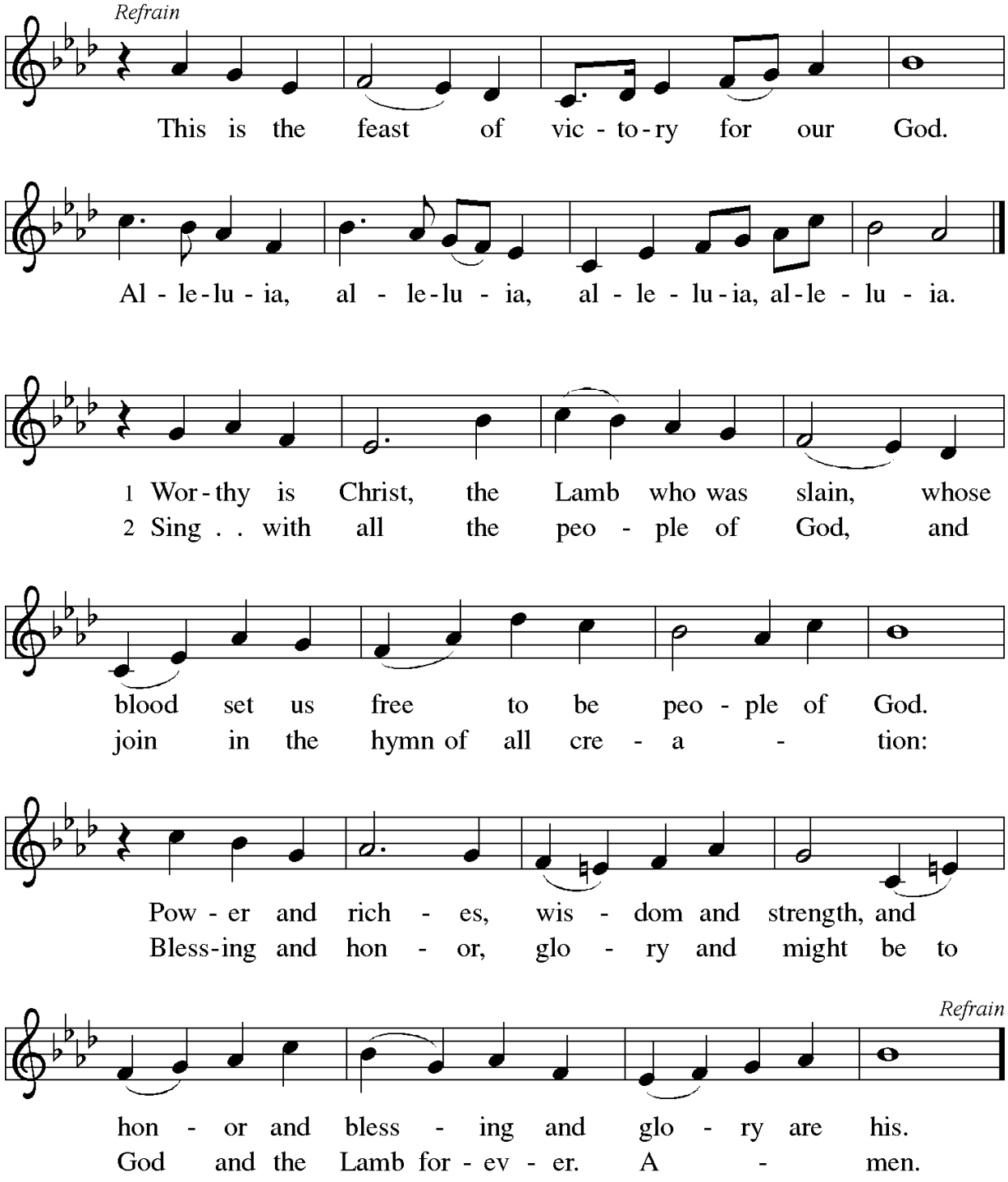
***KYRIE**



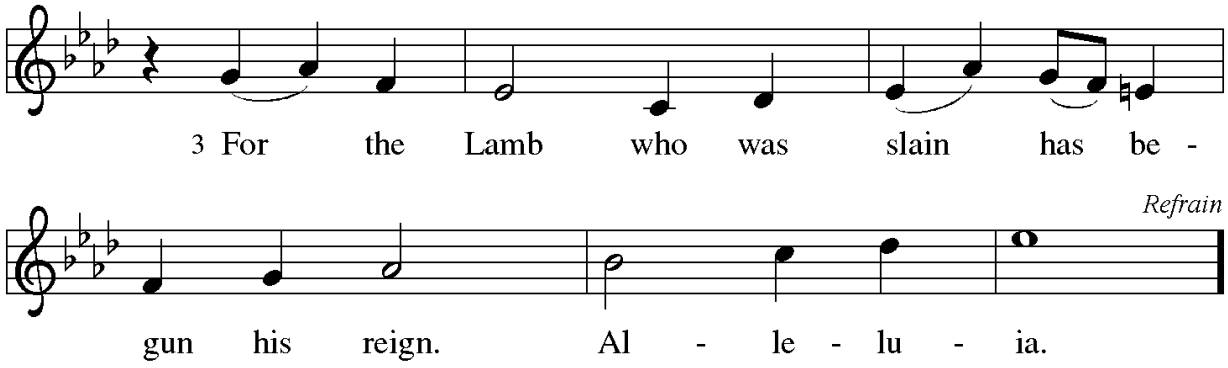
*KYRIE *(CONT'D)*



*CANTICLE OF PRAISE



***CANTICLE 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.
A: Amen

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

Because Israel's kings proved to be bad shepherds, Ezekiel declares that the LORD will assume the role of shepherd in Israel. The LORD will also set over them a shepherd-messiah, "my servant David," who will feed and care for the people.

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.

L: The Word of the Lord.
A: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: 95:1-7a
We are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand. (Ps. 95:7)

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

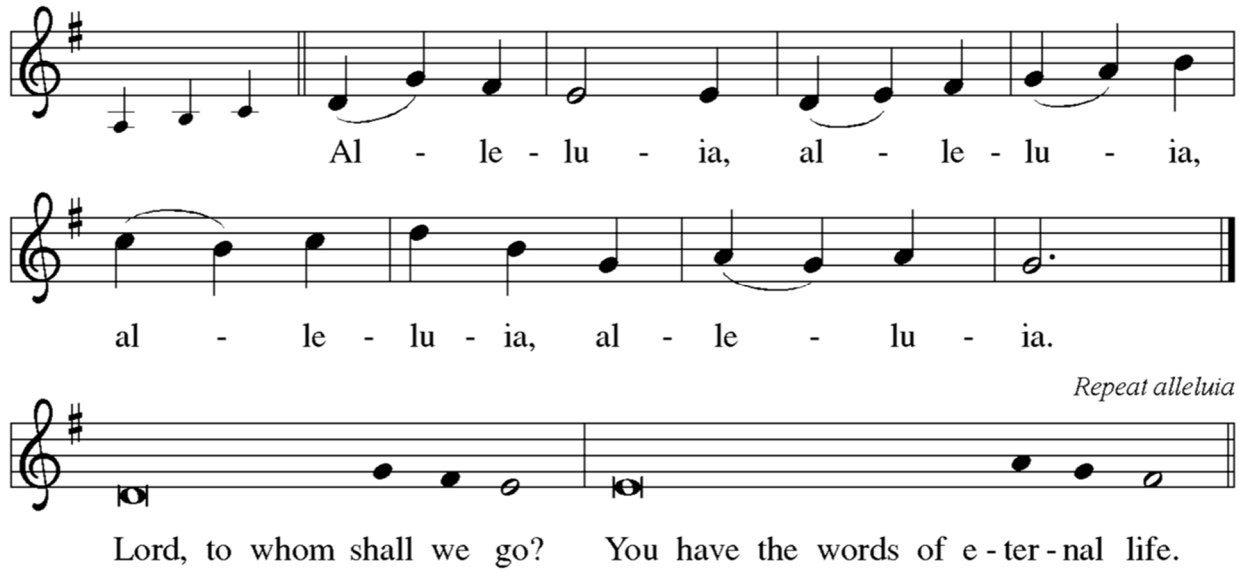
SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:15-23
In this passage, God is praised for revealing ultimate divine power in raising Jesus from the dead. The resurrected, exalted Christ is Lord of both the church and the entire universe, now and in the age to come.

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.

L: The Word of the Lord.
A: Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 25th chapter.
A: Glory to you, O Lord.

***GOSPEL: Matthew 25:31-46**

Jesus compares himself to a king who moves among his subjects to see how he is treated: what is done for the least of those who belong to his family is truly done for him.

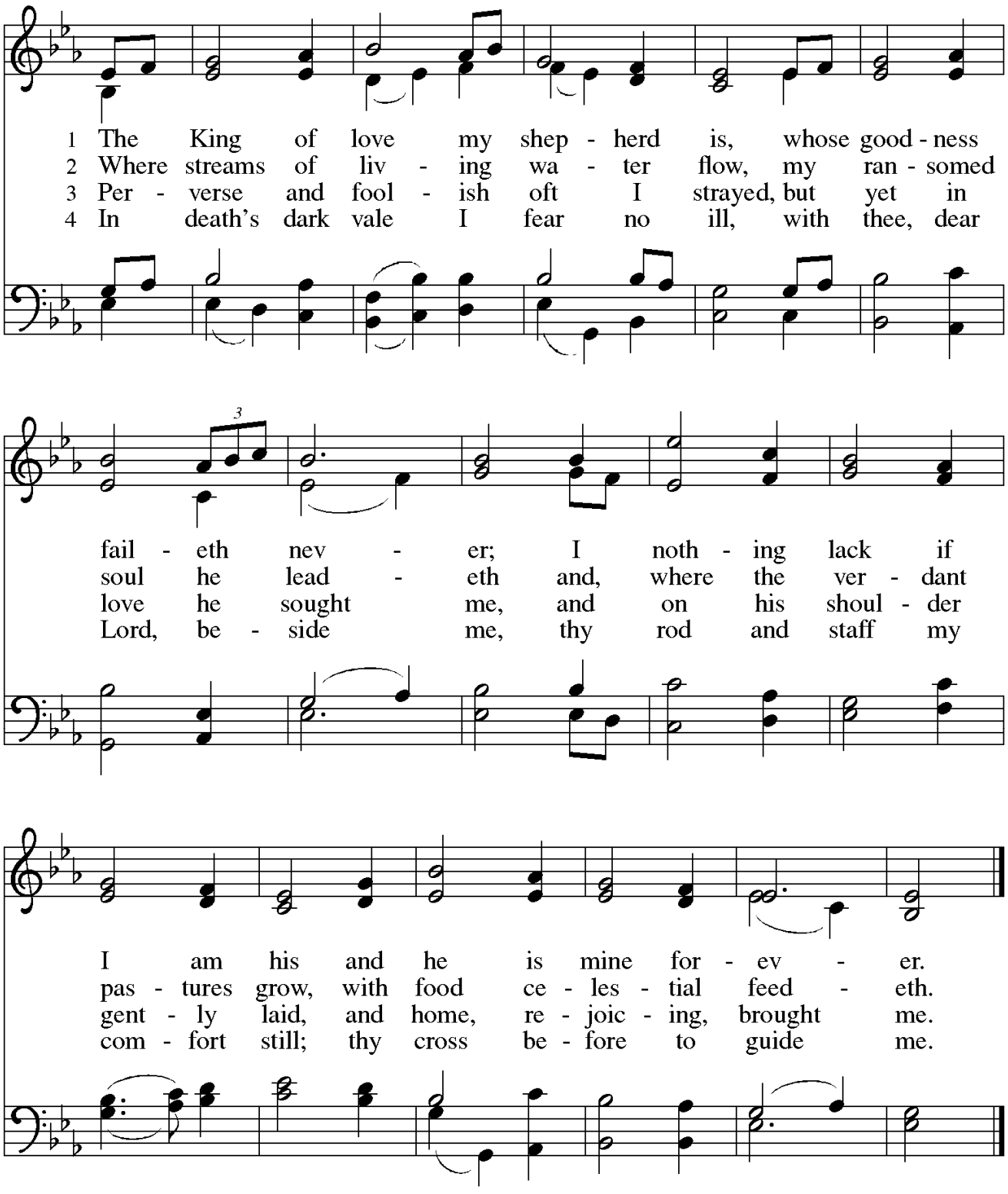
[Jesus said to the disciples:] 31 "When the Son of Man comes in his glory and all the
angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. 32 All the nations will be
gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd
separates the sheep from the goats, 33 and he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

P: The Gospel of the Lord.
A: Praise to you, O Christ.

PRESENTATION OF BIBLE TO SIENNA PABLA

SERMON

***HYMN OF THE DAY:** "The King of Love, My Shepherd Is" **ELW#502**



5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
thine unction grace bestoweth;
and, oh, what transport of delight
from thy pure chalice floweth!

6 And so, through all the length of days,
thy goodness faileth never.
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
within thy house forever.

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821–1877
Music: ST. COLUMBA, Irish tune

***THE NICENE CREED**

P: Let us now confess our faith with the words of the Nicene Creed.

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,*
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*** PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

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

A brief silence.

W: Prepare your people for your reign to come among us. Where the church is wary, make us bold; where we are complacent, stir us to action; where we are anxious, assure us of your never-ending care. God, in your mercy,
A: hear our prayer.

W: All the heights, depths, and expanses of the earth belong to you. Deliver every corner of your creation from disaster. Restore lands ravaged by floods, fires, drought, or contamination. God, in your mercy,
A: hear our prayer.

W: Gather all the nations at your side and teach them the ways of your kingdom of wholeness and abundant life. Empower judges, juries, and legal advocates to create and uphold pathways toward transformative justice. We pray for all those who witness and experience violence and those who live amongst the cruelty and chaos of war. God, in your mercy,
A: hear our prayer.

W: Bind up the wounds of all your people. Give courage to all who experience uncertainty, guide all people facing difficult decisions, and lift the spirits of any who are in need. Especially *Barbaro Kelley, Ingrid Lukach, George Lukach, Adam Brandt, Jeff Pietrusinski, Joan Gennarini, Carol Zimmerman, Jim Coon* and all those whom we name in our hearts before you. God, in your mercy,
A: hear our prayer.

W: Accompany communities struggling with conflict. Help us to listen deeply to one another, that we might know one another more fully and release any hurt or anger. Create ways of healing and reconciliation among us. God, in your mercy,
A: hear our prayer.

W: Fill us with the spirit of wisdom and perseverance that you grant to all the saints, and bring us, at the last, into the hope of your promised new day. God, in your mercy,
A: hear our prayer.

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

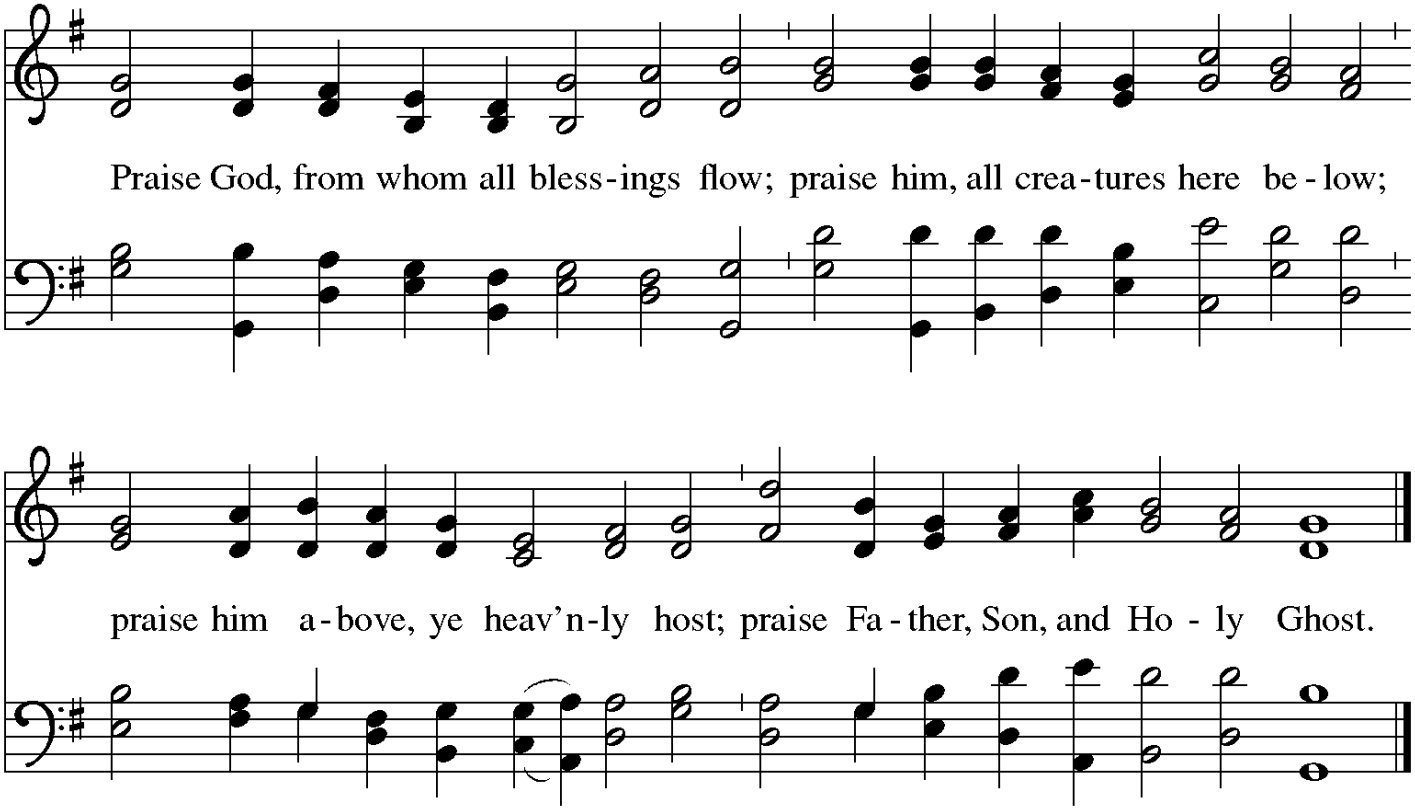
***PEACE**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

A: And also with you.

OFFERTORY INTERLUDE

***OFFERTORY** "Praise God, From Whom all Blessings Flow" **ELW #884**



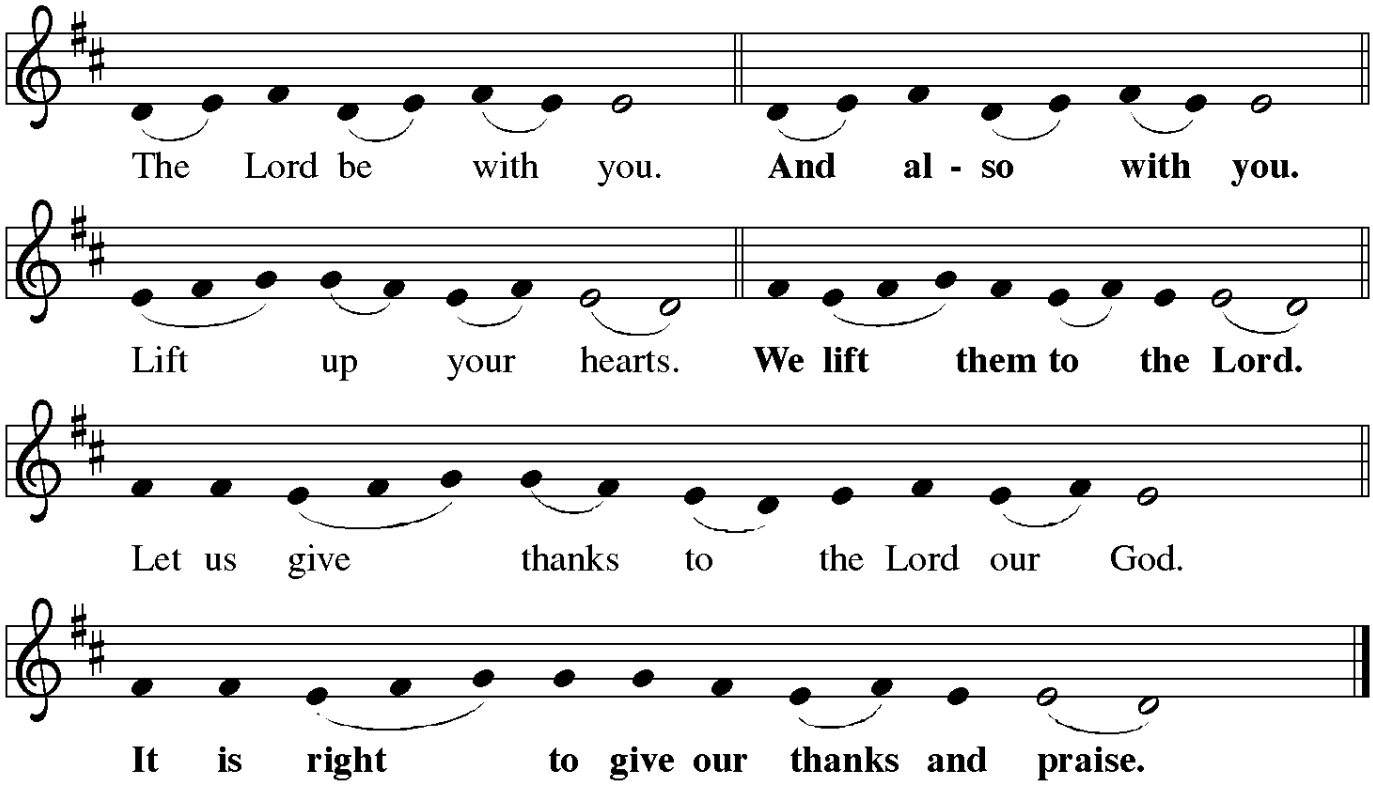
Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711
Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510–1561

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

W: Let us pray together.

A: 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. Amen.

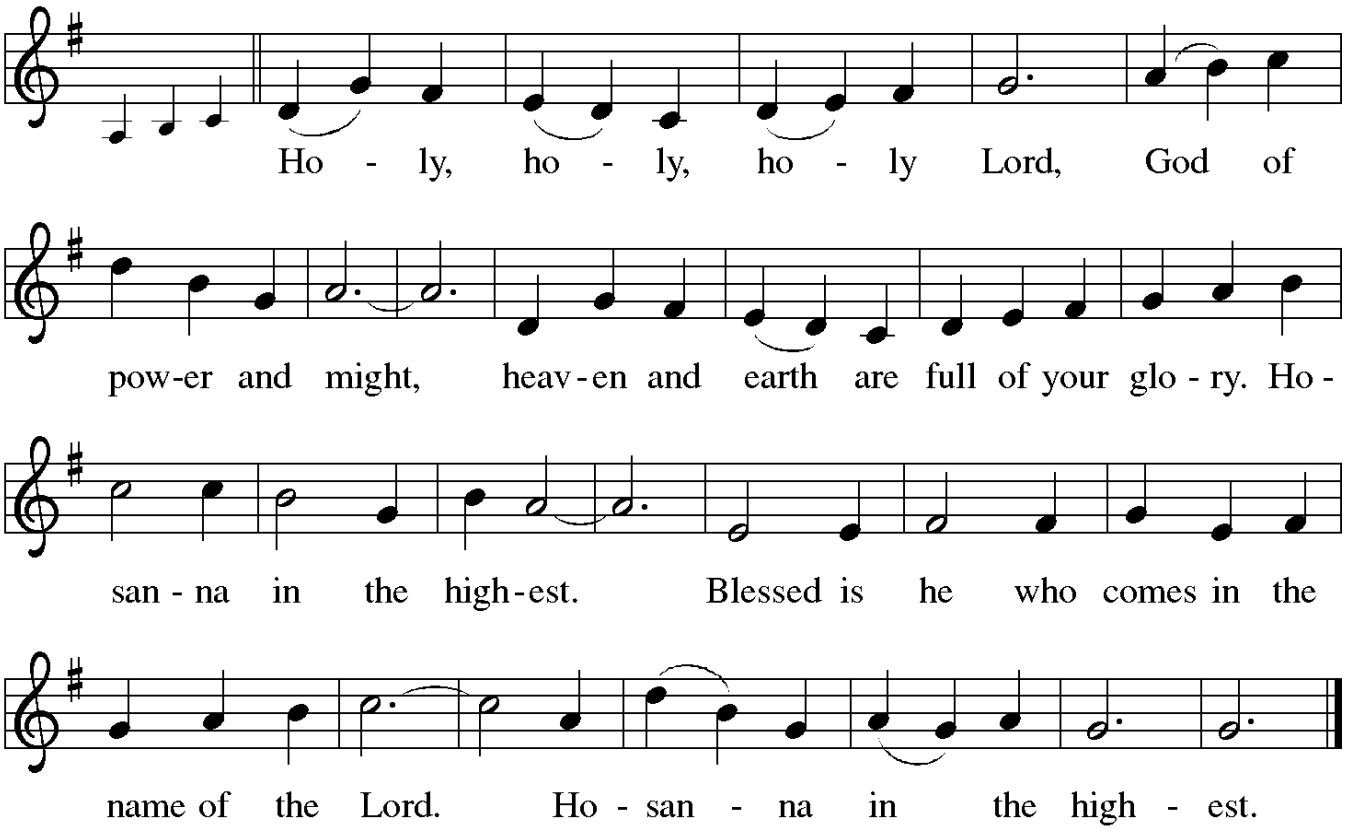
***GREAT THANKSGIVING**



***THE PREFACE**

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:

***HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**



***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

P: You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus 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. 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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

A: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

A: Amen.

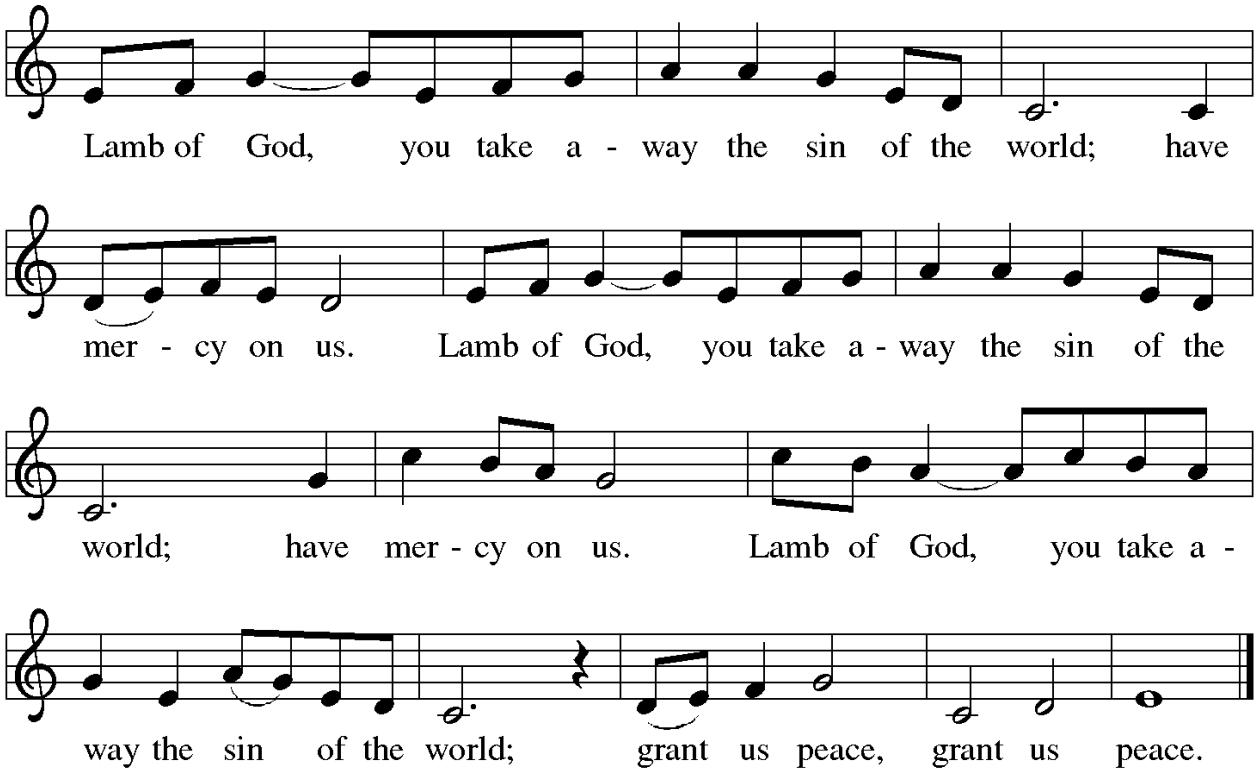
***THE LORD'S PRAYER**

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

A: 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.

***THE PRESENTATION:** The gifts of God for the people of God. Come for all is now ready.

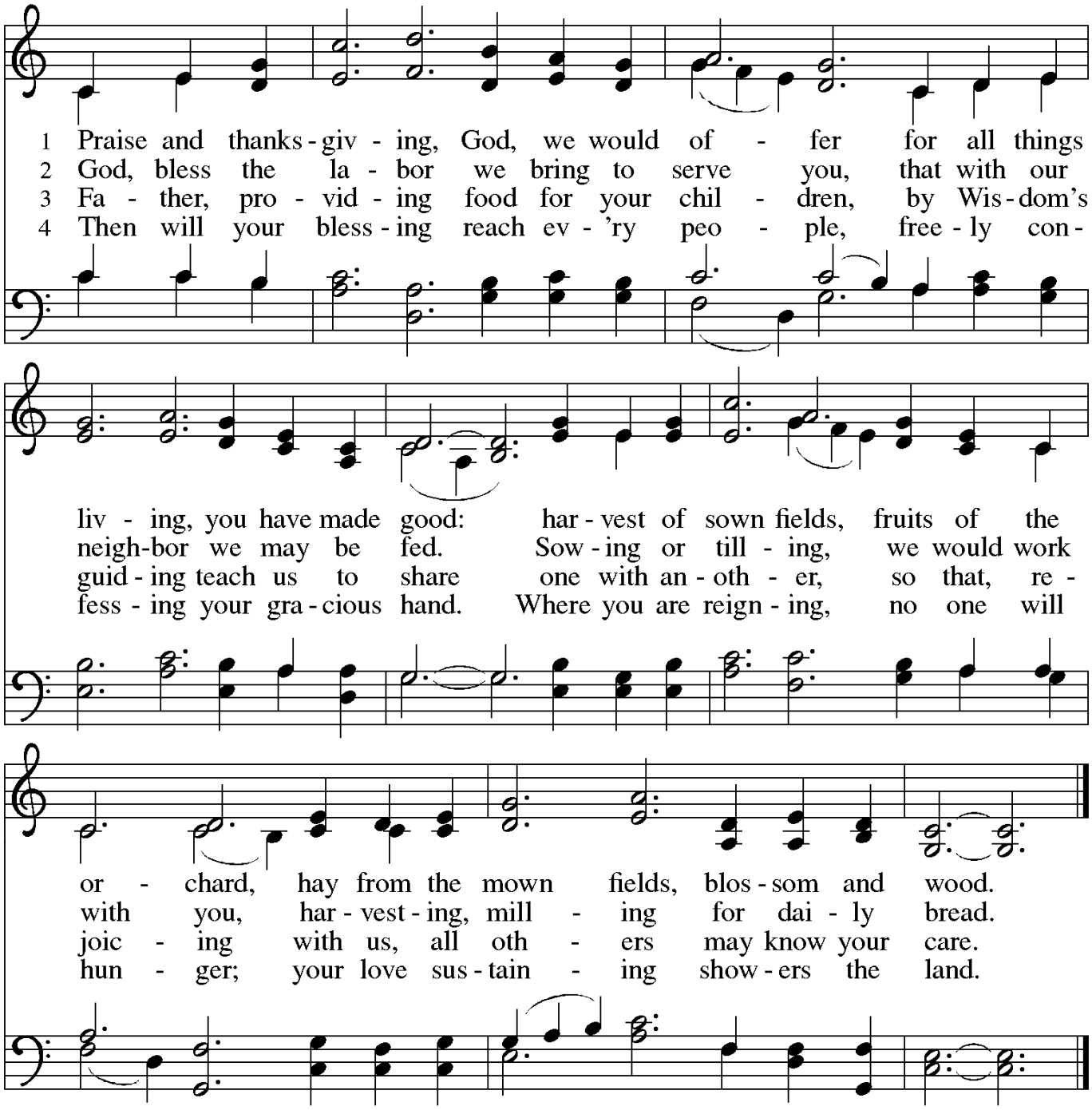
LAMB OF GOD



COMMUNION

There is a grape juice option in cups located in the communion trays for those who wish to abstain from wine. If you desire a gluten free wafer in lieu of the bread for communion, please let Pastor know.

TABLE HYMN: "Praise and Thanksgiving" **ELW#689**



Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984, alt.
Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune; arr. hymnal version
Text © Oxford University Press. All rights reserved.
Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

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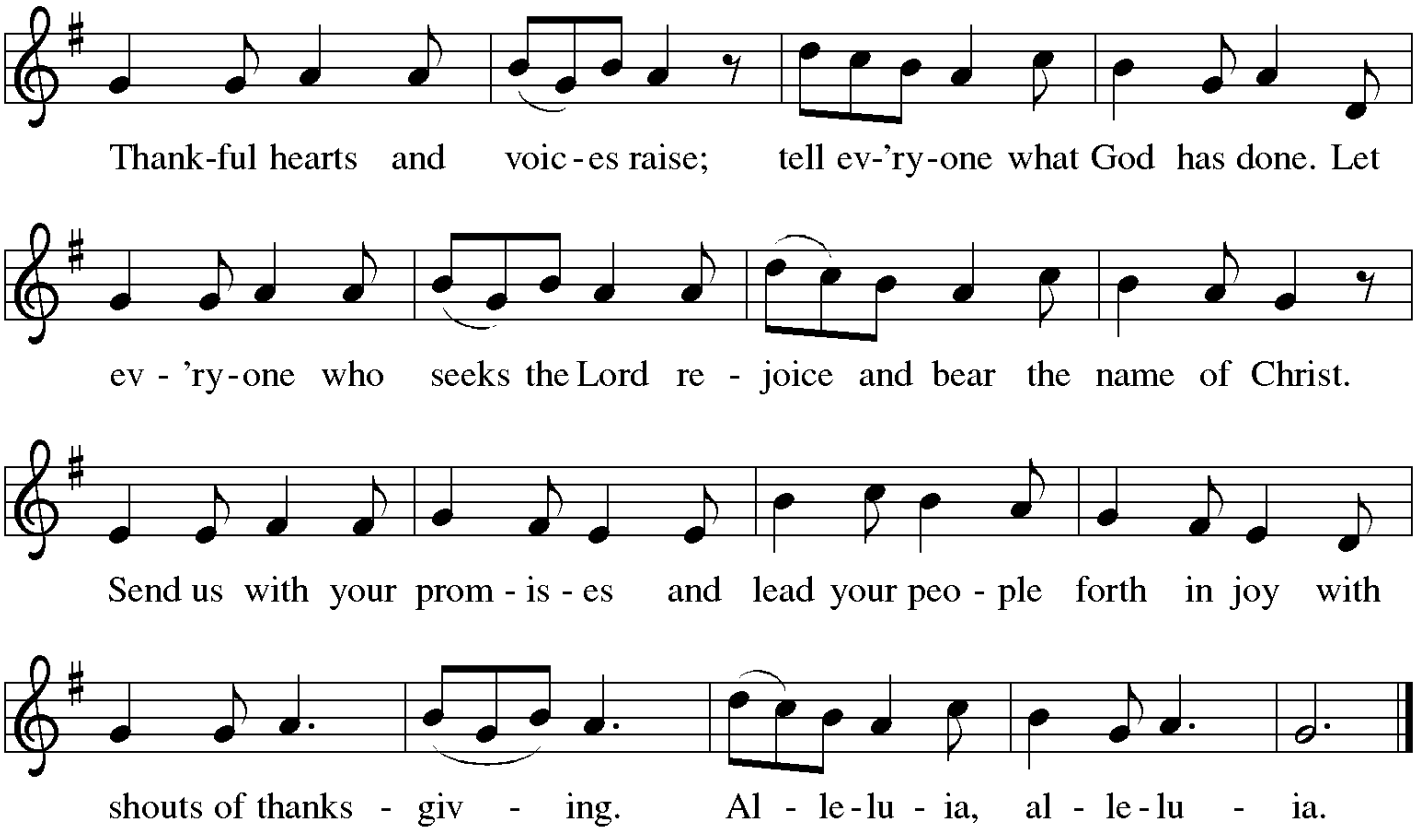
***TABLE BLESSING**

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

A: Amen

*POST COMMUNION CANTICLE ELW#207



Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980
Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927
Text and music © 1978, 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

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*POST COMMUNION PRAYER

W: 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.

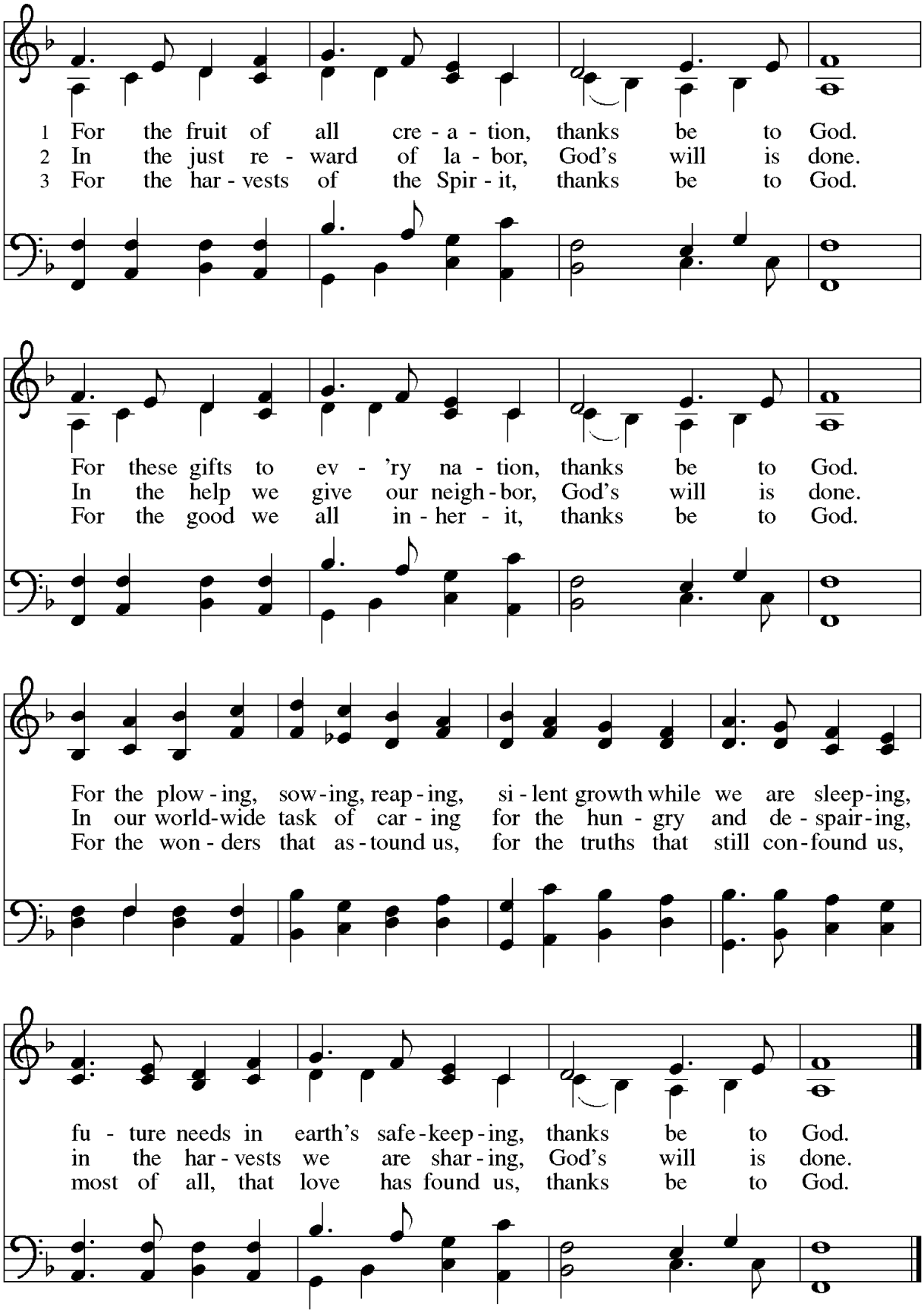
A: Amen.

* BLESSING

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

A: Amen.

***SENDING HYMN:** "For the Fruit of All Creation" **ELW#679**



Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000
Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958
Text © 1970 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.
Outside USA: Arr. from *The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906.

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***DISMISSAL**

P: Go in peace. Encourage one another.

A: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

* Announcements *

We welcome back and thank **Carol Zimmerman** for serving as our supply organist today.



The **Christian Education Committee is presenting Sienna Pabla with a Bible today** on behalf of the congregation. Bibles are presented to children in 3rd grade. We place the Word of God in the hands of this beloved child of God. Sienna is the daughter of Emily (Chantz) Pabla.

Plan to stay after church today, as we plan to **decorate the Sanctuary for Advent and Christmas**.

Christmas Poinsettia orders are being taken until December 6. You can choose between Red or White (or both). Signups are posted across from the nursery and on-line.

We will be **delivering cookies and going caroling** at the homes of some of our Nativity family on the afternoon of Saturday December 12. If you are interested, please reach out to Jean Chantz or Kim Brandt.

Advent Calendars and Devotionals are available in the Narthex for you to take home.

Lutherlyn's annual Advent Retreat is Dec 4-6. Deadline to sign up is November 24. You can sign up on their website or by calling them.

Advent Zoom Bible Study - Perhaps you've seen the movie "It's a Wonderful Life" once or a dozen times in your life. It's a wonderful movie with some powerful lessons about life and faith in it. Join Pastor Jen for a special 5-week Bible study based on the movie. We'll examine the spiritual themes in the film, read scripture, and have discussion. This study will be held on Tuesday evenings at 7pm over zoom, starting on November 24. It would probably be helpful to have the movie watched for the study

series (especially if you haven't seen it in a while.) . For those who would like to watch in person, (Whether you plan to be a part of the study or not), we will show it in the fellowship hall on Sunday evening at 6 pm and will have some snacks available. Or let Pr. Jen know if you need to borrow a copy to watch another time. Please let Pr. Jen know by Tuesday afternoon if you are interested so she can send you the Zoom link! Hope you will join us for this fun study!

We are collecting **Christmas gifts for MHY Family Services**. Please bring in your unwrapped gifts to church by NEXT Sunday, November 29. Gifts can be placed in the bins under the coat rack and will be kept in Pastor's office until the delivery date. Please include your name and address with each gift so every donation is tracked and thanked properly. Lists are on the table in the Narthex and on our website.

Hampton-Shaler-Etna Thanksgiving Service - You are invited to come to the Etna Community Thanksgiving Service on Sunday, November 29 at 2pm at Calvert Memorial Presbyterian Church. 94 Locus St. Pittsburgh, PA 15223

Tuesday, December 1 is Thrivent's "Giving Tuesday". On this day only, Thrivent will match gifts made through their giving platform up to $3 million. In other words, every dollar you give is matched up to $3 million from a pooled trust. Because of this, your generosity can go twice as far. This is for one day only and all donations made online must be completed by midnight on Tuesday, Dec 1. Visit **thrivent.com/give** to donate.

Attention all Ladies of Nativity, You are cordially invited to join the **Nativity W/ELCA at their annual Christmas luncheon** on Tuesday, December 15 at 12p at the Olive Garden in McIntyre Square. See details and sign up on the WELCA bulletin board across from the kitchen. Hope to see you there!

Social Ministry is looking for volunteers for 2027 to deliver the food pantry and sharing project collections. Please sign up on the sheet posted on the bulletin board or on sign-up genius.

The 2027 Flower chart is now posted across from the nursery. The dates have also been added on-line. As a reminder, please be sure to specify the reason for the dedication when signing up**.**

NATIVITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

www.nativitylutheranchurch15101.org
The Rev. Jennifer Soltis, Pastor

Organist:	Carol Zimmerman
Worship Assistant:	Kim Brandt
Lector:	Emily Pabla
Usher:	Merlinda Bisese
Greeter:	Sienna, Harleen & Faith Pabla
Videographer:	Heather Johnson
Altar Guild:	Kim Brandt
Offering Tellers:	Lori Coon & Diana Mitchell

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The flowers in the sanctuary are presented by the Ed & Carol Banks in honor of their wedding anniversary.

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For the Week of November 22 – 29

TODAY	Greening of the Church
	It's a Wonderful Life movie – 6p
MONDAY	AA meeting – 7p
TUESDAY	WELCA – 10a
	NA meeting– 7p
	Advent Bible Study (Zoom) – 7p
THURSDAY	Happy Thanksgiving!
SUNDAY	1st Sunday of Advent & Coffee Hour

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	In Person	YouTube	Offering
November 15	35	42	$ 1,487

Pastor Jennifer's Office Hours This Week
Tuesday 2-4
or by appointment

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