# Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

November 15, 2026



United in Christ
Lutheran Church
MORRISONVILLE, WI

*Sharing the Hope of Jesus in a Troubled World*

## Altar Flowers

The flowers on the altar have been given by John and Kim Eighmy in honor of their family.

## Prayer Concerns

**Rev. Yehiel Curry**, Presiding Bishop of the ELCA
**Rev. Joy Mortensen-Wiebe**, Bishop of the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin - ELCA
The **Evangelical Lutheran Church of America**
For the **people of United in Christ Lutheran Church**

**Bishop Joy Mortensen-Wiebe** - continued health concerns
**Geno Lainberger** - at Madison Health & Rehab Center
**Linda Peterson** - at Waunakee Manor
**Ron and Nola Nordeng** - at Heritage House of Portage
**Kathy Olsen** - sister-in-law of Ann Olsen - continued health concerns
**Trey Tollefson** - grand nephew of Chet Gabris - continued health concerns
**Sharon Gust** - continued health concerns
**Darlene Guetschow** - health concerns

## Announcements

- HAPPY BIRTHDAYS - None this week

## Next Sunday – November 22nd

- Ushers - Norm Harris and Mark Harris
- Reader - Rev. Gina Sterk
- Communion Assistant - Mr. Zach Smirris
- Altar Guild - Bev Harris
- Head Usher - Norm Harris

## Acknowledgements

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*Now the Feast and Celebration* text and music by Marty Haugen. Text and music © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Used by permission under ONE LICENSE #A-742073.

Call to Worship written by Beth Merrill Neel on her blog, *Hold Fast to What Is Good*. Used with permission.

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## Welcome to Worship!

*Our readings during November speak of the end times. Zephaniah proclaims that the coming day of the Lord will be filled with wrath and distress. Paul says it will come like a thief in the night and urges us to be awake and sober. Jesus tells the parable of the talents, calling us to use our gifts, while we still have time, for the greater and common good. In a world filled with violence and despair, we gather around signs of hope—word, water, bread, and wine—eager to welcome the good news of Christ's coming among us.*

# GATHERING

### Welcome & Announcements

### Invocation

*(Please stand as you are able.)*

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
our dwelling place for all generations,
whose compassion never slumbers.

**C: Amen.**

### Confession & Forgiveness

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

*Silence is kept for reflection.*
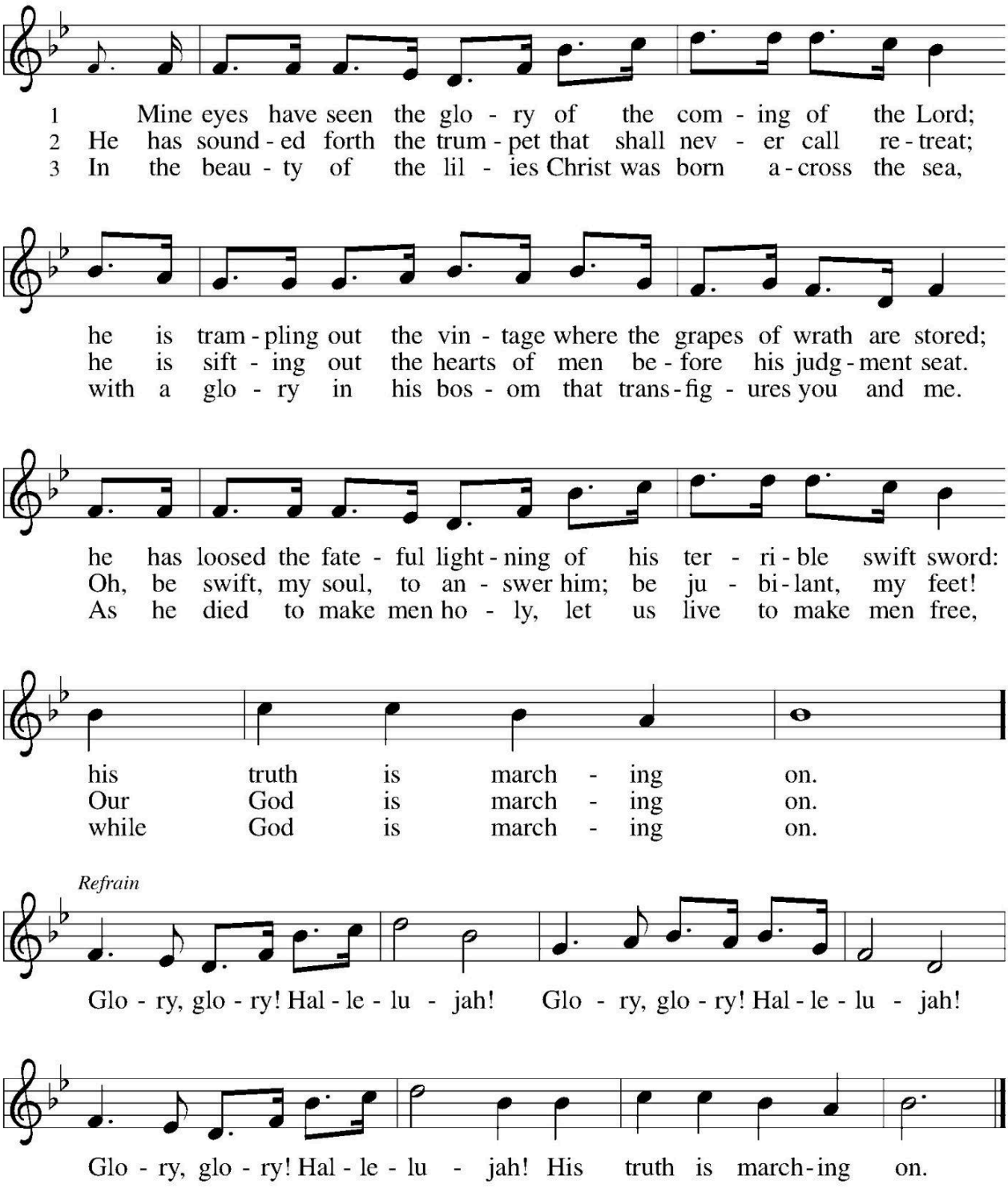
P: Holy God,

**C: we confess that we have trusted in our preparation**
**instead of your invitation.**
**We prioritize our piety over care for your beloved.**
**We trust the voice of our shame and fear,**
**which keeps us from entering fully**
**into relationship with you and others.**
**We are not awake to the coming of your reign.**
**Rouse us and rescue us,**
**that we may enter into your joy.**
**Amen.**

P: Inherit the riches of God's grace.
☩ Jesus, the good shepherd, feeds you with his mercy.
You are forgiven.
Blessed are you.

**C: Amen.**

# Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory
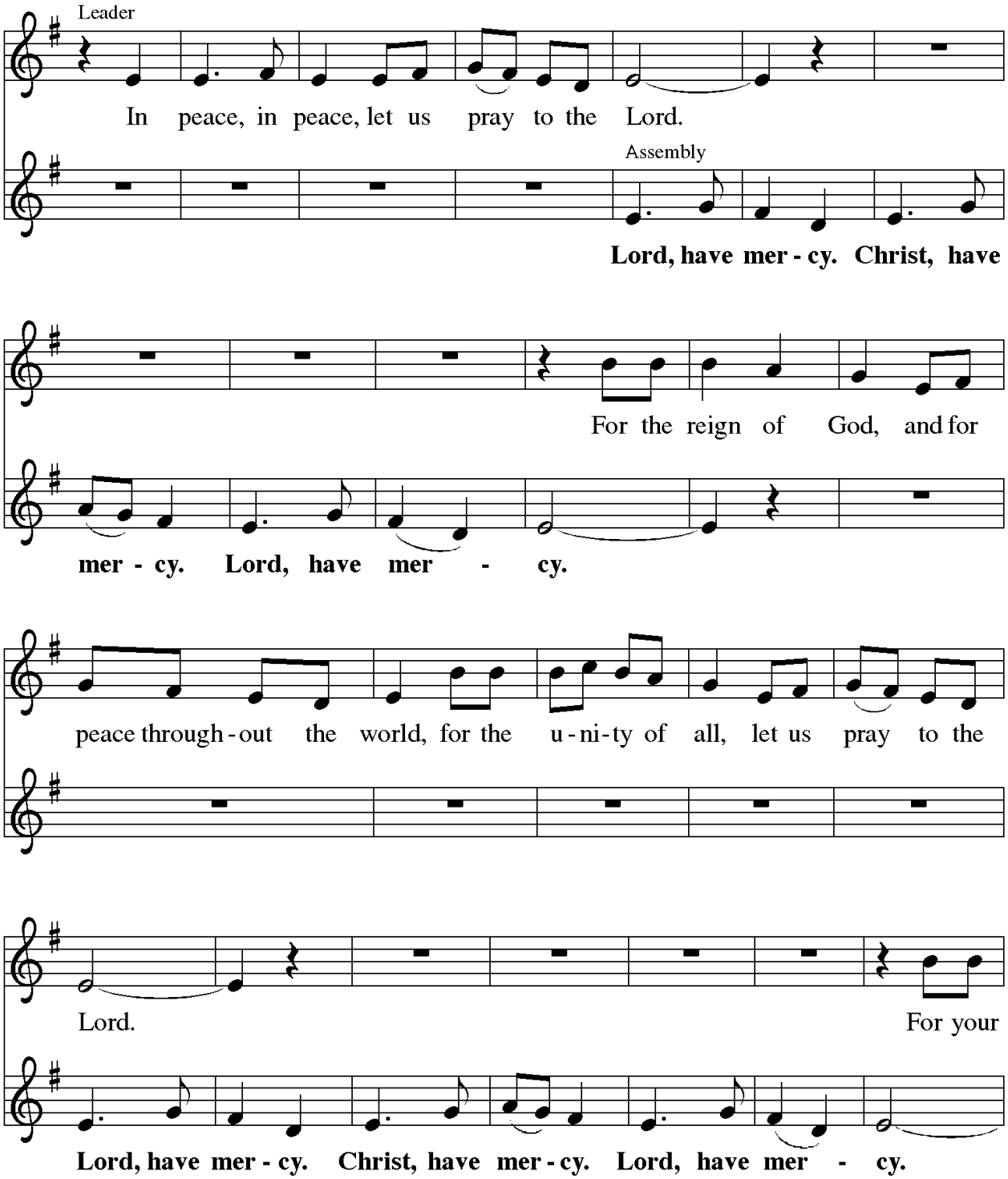



Text: Julia Ward Howe, 1819–1910
Music: BATTLE HYMN, North American, 19th cent
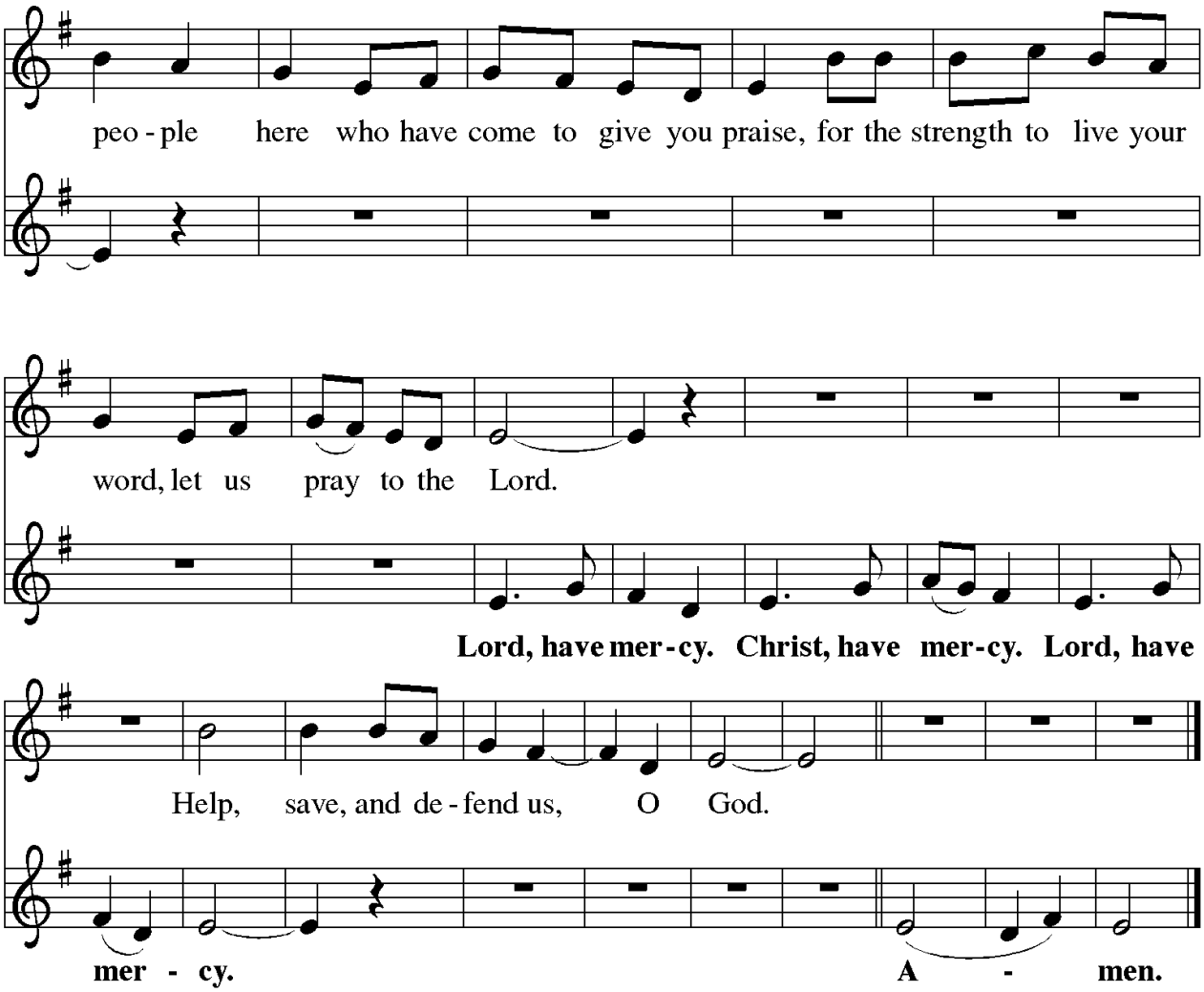
## Greeting

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 – *Now the Feast & Celebration*
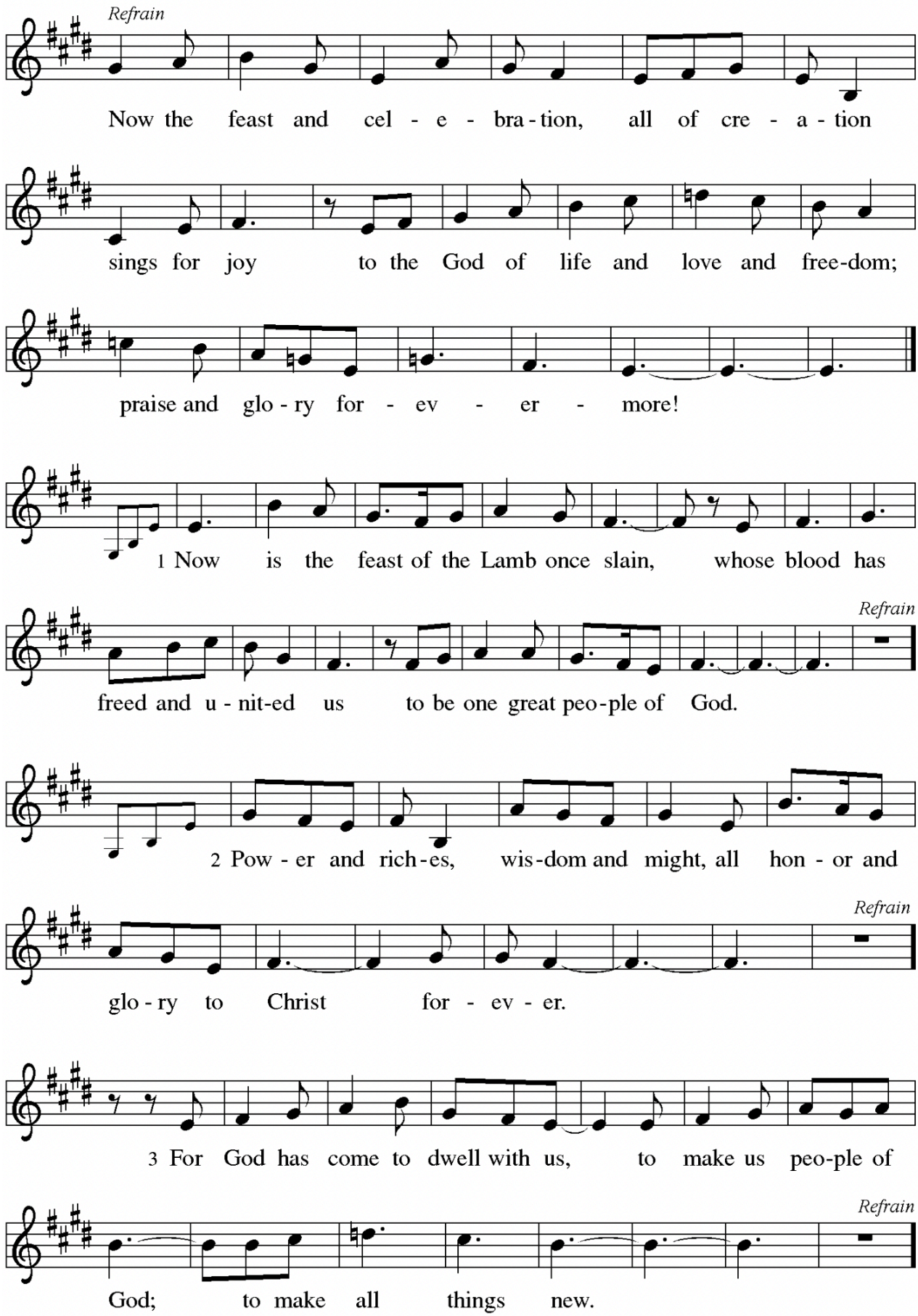





## Call to Worship

P: Welcome this day to the house of our God.
**C: We are greeted in peace and in love.**
P: Welcome this day to the worship of our Creator.
**C: We worship in hope and with grace.**
P: Welcome this day to our community of faith,
**C: Where we are sisters and brothers in Christ.**
P: Friends, let us worship God.

## CANTICLE OF PRAISE – *Now the Feast & Celebration*



### Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.
**C: And also with you.**

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

*(Please be seated.)*

## WORD

### First Reading — Zephaniah 1:7, 12–18

*Zephaniah (like the prophet Amos in last week's first reading) presents the day of the Lord as one of judgment and wrath. Descriptions of the last day in the New Testament include details taken from Old Testament accounts of the day of the Lord.*

7 Be silent before the Lord God,
for the day of the Lord is at hand!
The Lord has prepared a sacrifice;
he has consecrated his guests.

12 At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,
and I will punish the people who settle like dregs in wine,
those who say in their hearts,
"The Lord will not do good,
nor will he do harm."
13 Their wealth shall be plundered and their houses laid waste.
Though they build houses,
they shall not inhabit them;
though they plant vineyards,
they shall not drink wine from them.

14 The great day of the Lord is near,
near and hastening fast;
the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter;
the warrior cries aloud there.
15 That day will be a day of wrath,
a day of distress and anguish,
a day of ruin and devastation,
a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and thick darkness,
16 a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities
and against the lofty battlements.

17 I will bring such distress upon people
that they shall walk like the blind;
because they have sinned against the Lord,

their blood shall be poured out like dust and their flesh like dung.
18 Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them
on the day of the LORD's wrath;
in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed,
for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

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

## Psalm: Psalm 90:1–8 [9–11] 12

***(Please read the bold text responsively)***

1 Lord, you have been our refuge
from one generation to another.
2 **Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born,**
**from age to age you are God.**
3 You turn us back to the dust and say,
"Turn back, O children of earth."
4 **For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past**
**and like a watch in the night;**
5 you sweep them away like a dream,
they fade away suddenly like the grass:
6 **in the morning it is green and flourishes;**
**in the evening it is dried up and withered.**
7 For we are consumed by your anger;
we are afraid because of your wrath.
8 **Our iniquities you have set before you,**
**and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.**
[ 9 When you are angry, all our days are gone;
we bring our years to an end like a sigh.
10 **The span of our life is seventy years, perhaps in strength even eighty;**
**yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow, for they pass away quickly and we are gone.**
11 Who regards the power of your wrath?
Who rightly fears your indignation?
] 12 **So teach us to number our days**
**that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.**

## SECOND READING — 1 Thessalonians 5:1–11

*Though we do not know and cannot calculate the day of Christ's return, we live faithfully in the here and now as we anticipate the day when we will be given eternal salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

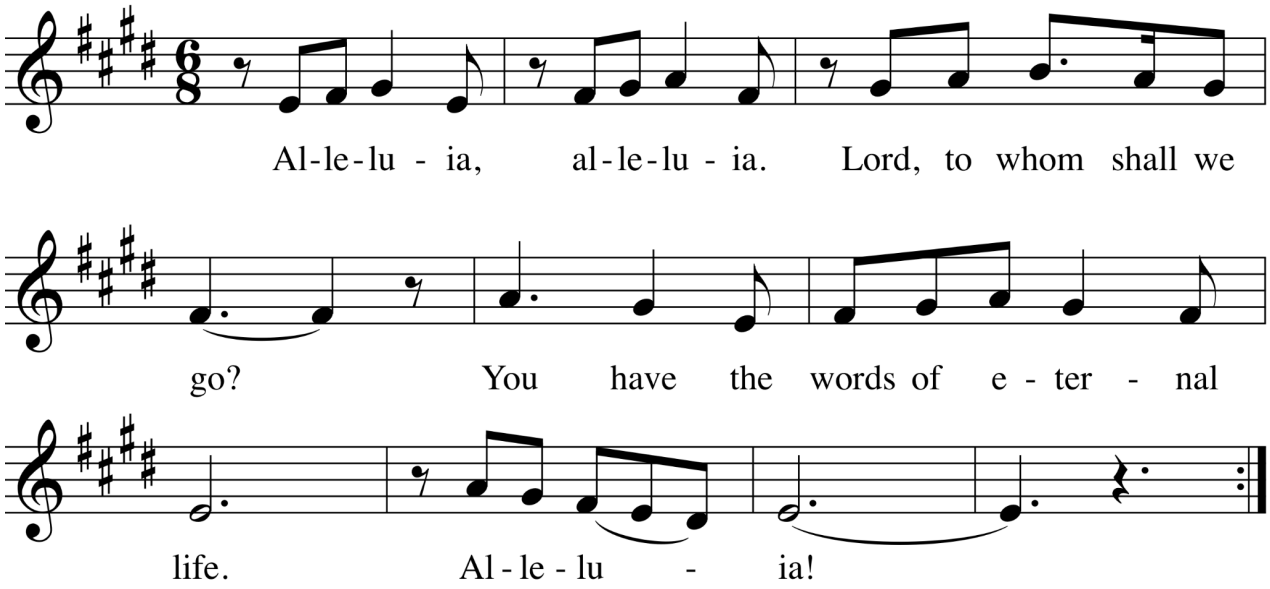
1 Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. 2 For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. 3 When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! 4 But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; 5 for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. 6 So, then, let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober, 7 for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. 8 But since we belong to the day, let us be sober and put on the breastplate of faith and love and for a helmet

the hope of salvation. [9] For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, [10] who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. [11] Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

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

*(Please stand as you are able.)*

## Gospel Acclamation – *Now the Feast & Celebration*




## Gospel Matthew 25:14–30

P: The holy gospel according to Matthew.
**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] [14] "For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; [15] to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. At once [16] the one who had received the five talents went off and traded with them and made five more talents. [17] In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. [18] But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. [19] After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. [20] Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' [21] His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' [22] And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' [23] His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' [24] Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow and gathering where you did not scatter, [25] so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' [26] But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow

and gather where I did not scatter? [27] Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. [28] So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. [29] For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance, but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. [30] As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' "

P: The gospel of the Lord.
**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**
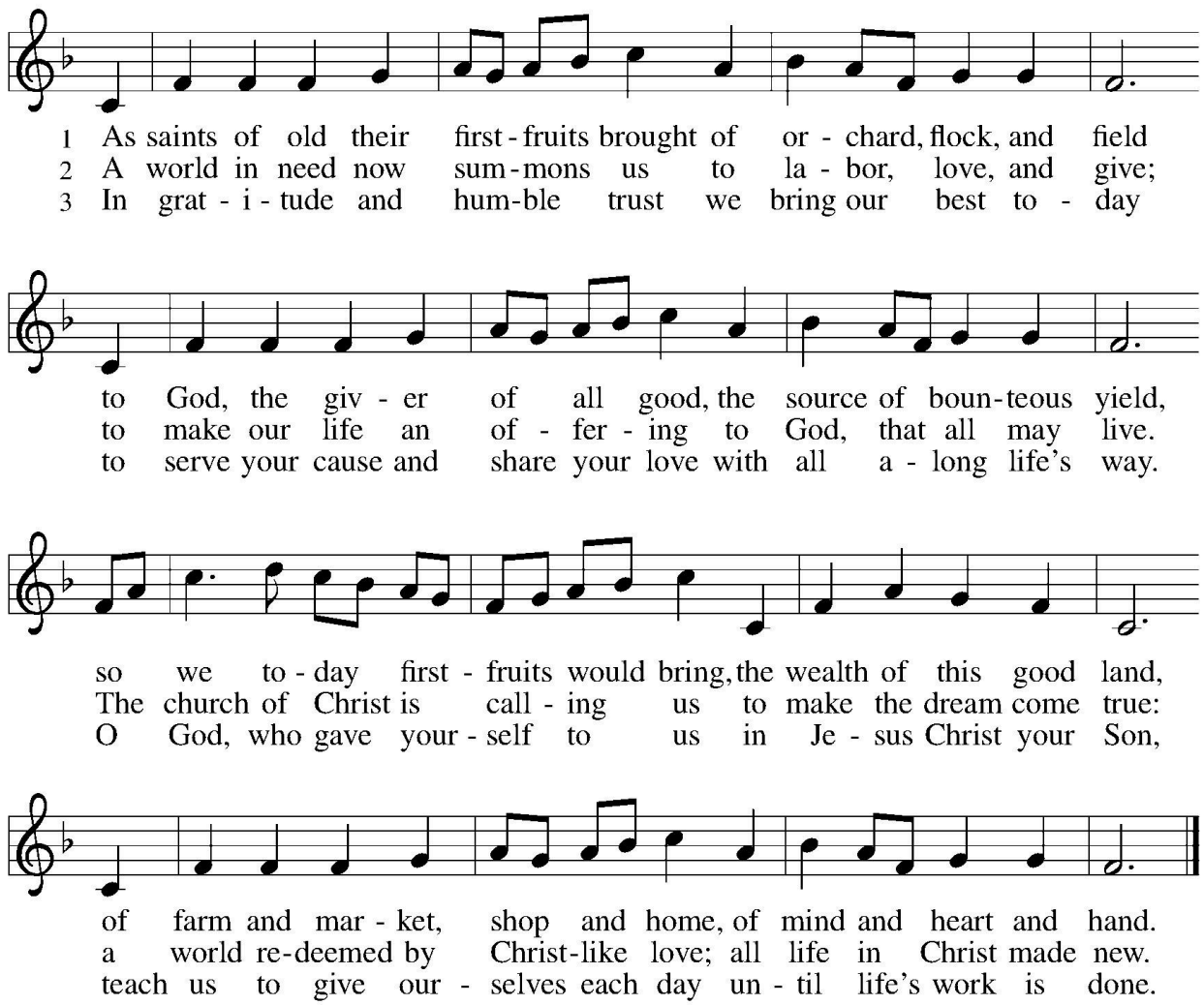
*(Please be seated.)*

## Sermon

*(Please stand as you are able.)*

## Hymn of the Day – *ELW 695*

### As Saints of Old



## Apostles Creed

P: Together with the whole body of Christ gathered around the world, let us confess our faith using the words of the Apostles Creed:

**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.**

*(Please be seated.)*

## Prayers of Intercession

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

P: God, in your mercy,
**C: hear our prayer.**

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

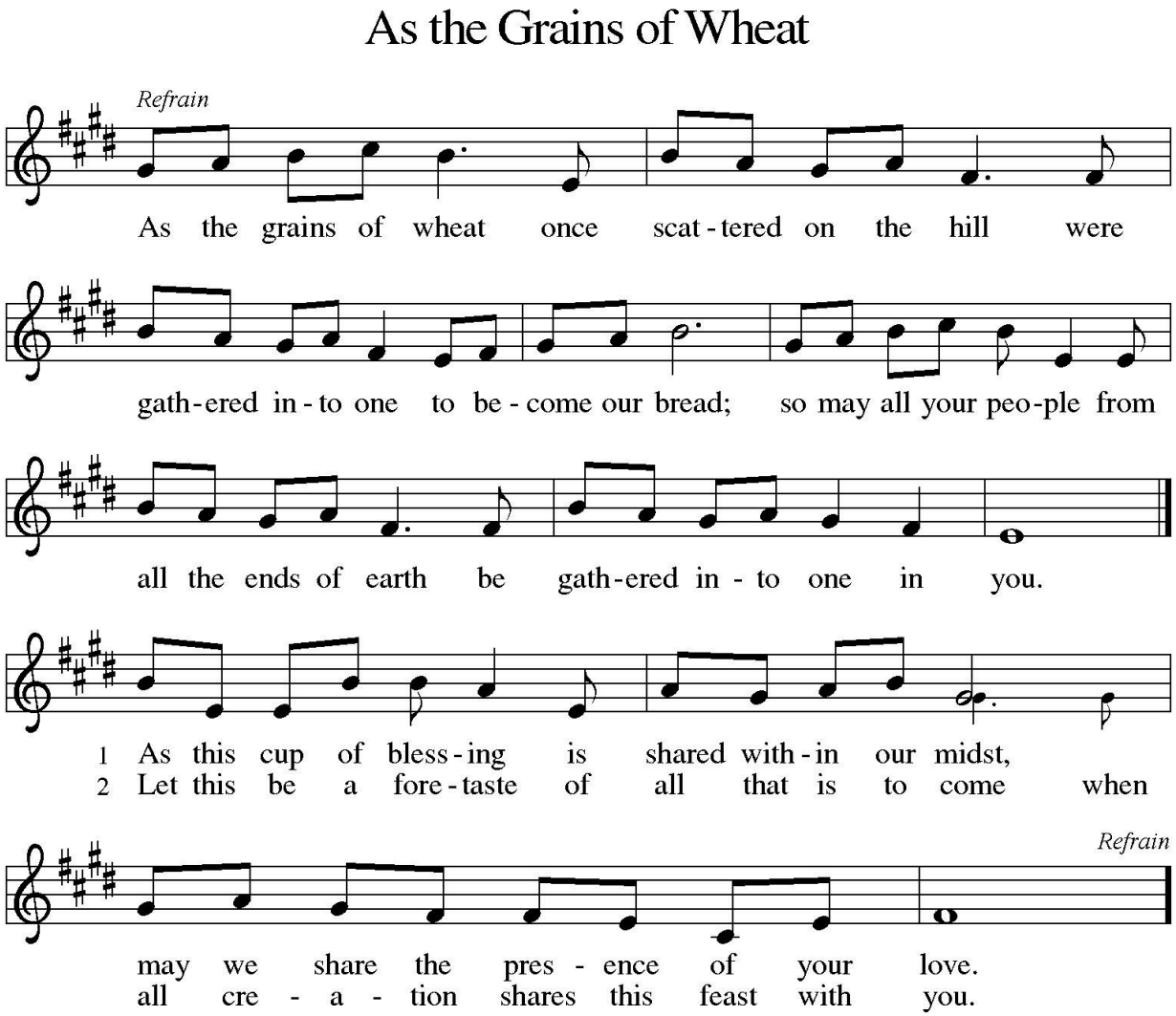
## Peace

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

*(Please stand as you are able.)*

# MEAL

## Offertory – *ELW 465*



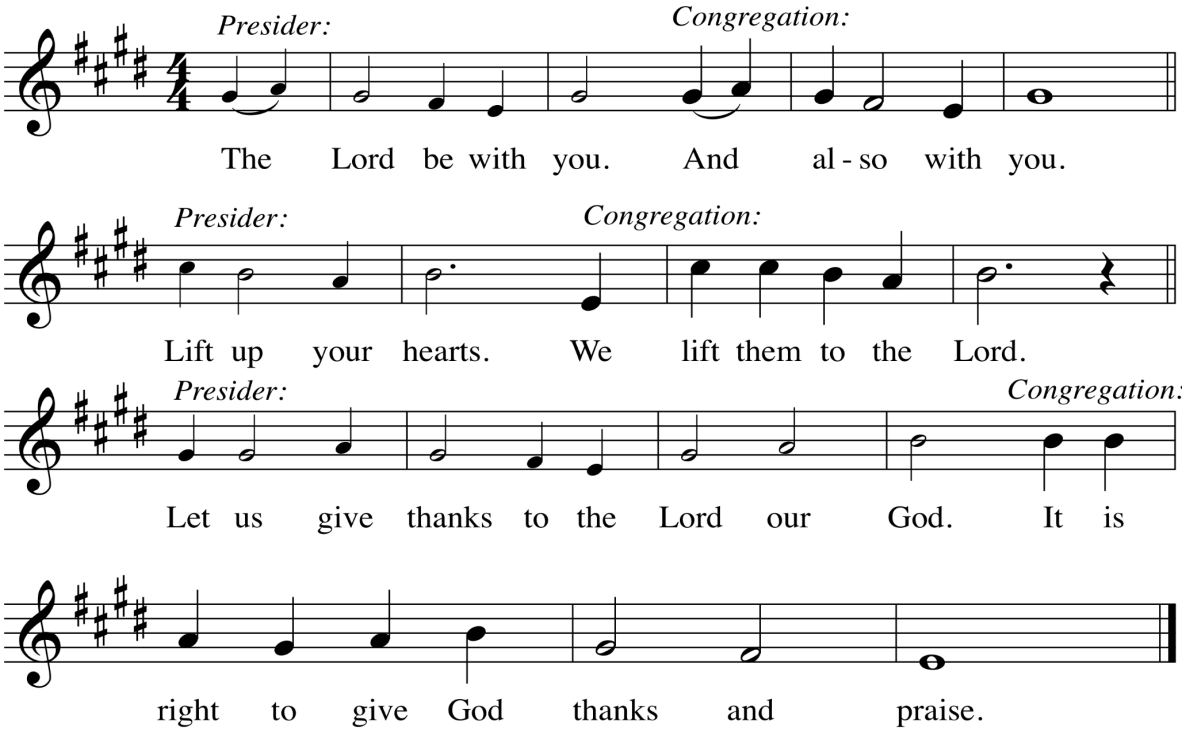

Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; Marty Haugen, b. 1950
Music: AS THE GRAINS, Marty Haugen
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## Offertory Prayer

P: 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.**

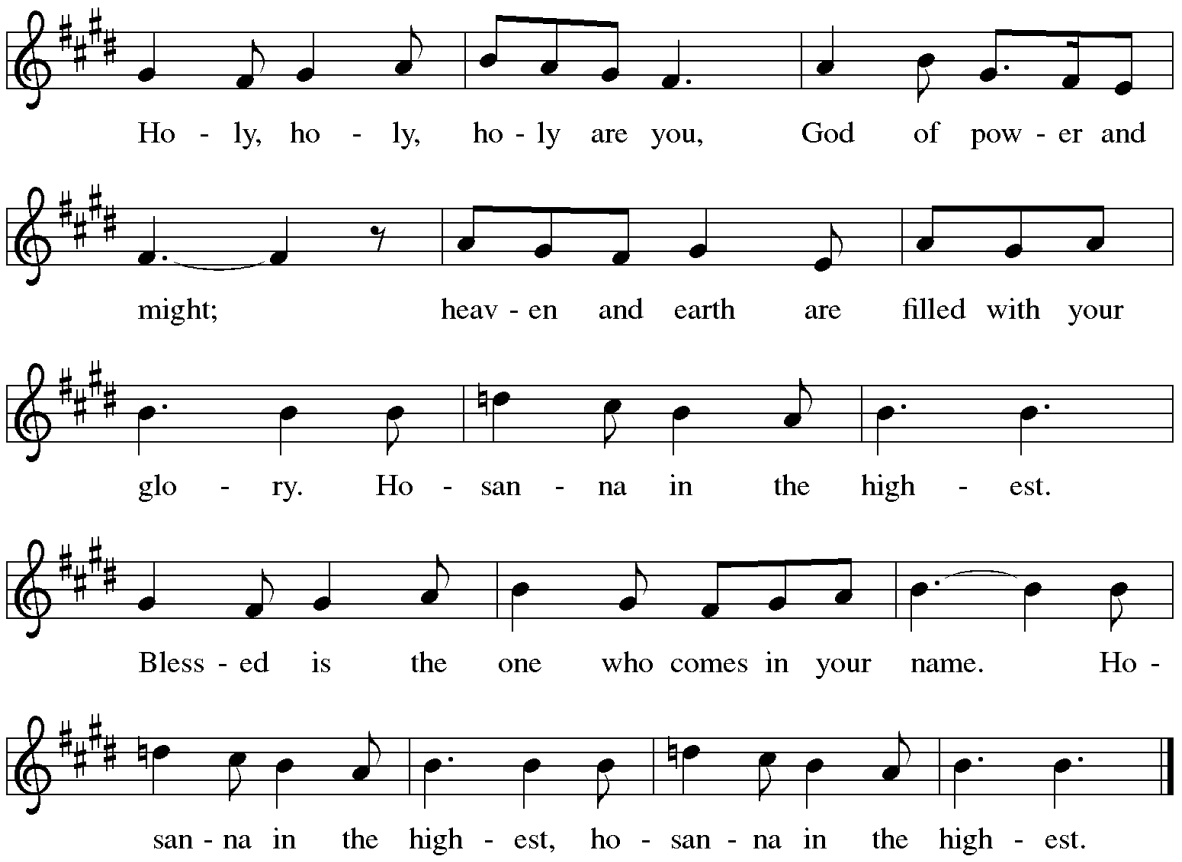
## Great Thanksgiving *(May be spoken or sung.)*




## Preface

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

C:



## Eucharistic Prayer

P: Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord...

...be all honor and glory, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## Lord's Prayer

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

**C: 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.**

## Invitation to Communion

P: In bread and cup the reign of Christ is breaking in.
Come, receive what Christ has prepared.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*(Please be seated.)*

## Communion Distribution

*Everyone is welcome to receive Holy Communion. The Presiding Pastor will provide verbal instructions for communion. If you are unable to come forward, we will bring communion to you. Gluten free bread is available. Children or those who wish not to receive communion may come forward for a blessing.*

### Communion Hymn – ELW464 – Bread of Life, Our Host and Meal

*(Hymn is played while congregation takes communion)*

*(Please stand as you are able.)*

### Blessing After Communion

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

**C: Amen.**

### Post-Communion Prayer

P: 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.**
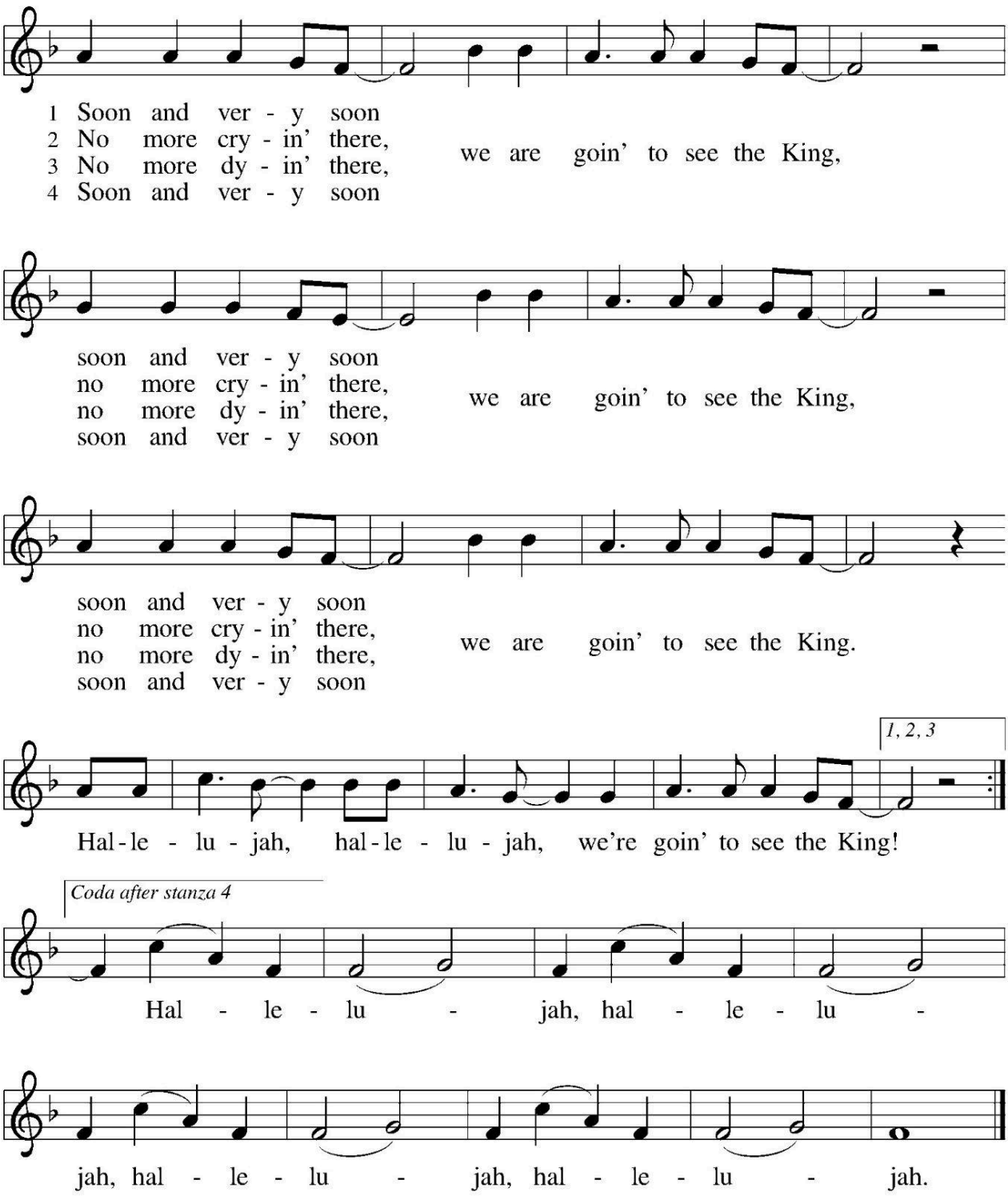
## SENDING

### Blessing

P: The holy Trinity,
Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you with wisdom to welcome the reign of God,
today and always.

**C: Amen.**

# Soon and Very Soon




Text: Andraé Crouch, b. 1945
Music: VERY SOON, Andraé Crouch
Text and music © 1976 Bud John Songs, Inc./Crouch Music, admin. EMI Christian Music Publishing

## Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Encourage one another.
**C: Thanks be to God.**

## Serving in Worship

Presiding Minister – Rev. Bob Moberg
Music – Nora Holliday – Pre-recorded by Ivy McLaughlin
Reader – Paul Anderson
Communion Assistant – Ann Olsen
Ushers – Julie and Dale Molnar
Altar Guild – Bev Harris
Head Usher – Norm Harris

## Offering

Any offerings (financial gifts) may be placed in the offering plate at the entrance to the worship space anytime before or after the service. Your contributions to the congregation help us make a difference in our community by enabling us to share the Gospel and serve in areas of need. You may also make a donation online on our website or by scanning the QR code on the right.


**United in Christ Lutheran Church**

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worship@unitedinchristlutheranchurch.org

*A congregation of the* Evangelical Lutheran Church in America


**Regular Office Hours:** By Appointment
**Weekly Worship:** Sundays @ 8:30 a.m.