First Sunday of Advent

November 29, 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 celebration of a new church year.

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
Darlene Guetschow - health concerns
Sharon Gust - continued health concerns
Kathy Olsen - sister-in-law of Ann Olsen - continued health concerns
Trey Tollefson - grand nephew of Chet Gabris - continued health concerns

Announcements

- HAPPY BIRTHDAYS - Mark Quam on Saturday, December 5th.
- DANN TREE - The DANN (De Forest Area Needs Network) annual giving tree is set up in the Narthex so you can donate gift cards in the amounts of $10, $15, and $20. Suggested places are Target, Walmart, Walgreens, or Family Dollar Store. The deadline is December 10th. Your support goes to help those in our community less fortunate. Thank you so much.

Next Sunday – December 6th

- Ushers - Chet Gabris and Darryl Horton
- Reader - Rona Anderson
- Communion Assistant - Karen Millard
- Altar Guild - Rona Anderson
- Head Usher - Dale Molnar

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.

Scripture readings from Revised Common Lectionary © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts. Scripture quotations based on *Readings for the Assembly* © 1995, 1996, 1997 Augsburg Fortress; NRSV Bible © 1989 and NRSVue Bible © 2021 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA. Adapted and edited by Gordon Lathrop and Gail Ramshaw.

Welcome to Worship!

Stir up your power, and come! The psalmist's plea in Psalm 80:2 has become familiar to us in the Advent prayers. Isaiah wants God to rip the heavens open. Both cry out for an apparently distant, angry God to show up, to save, to restore. When we hear Jesus describing the coming of the Son of Man with stars falling from heaven, it can sound dire and horrible, not like anything we would ever hope for. But when we really look at the suffering of people God loves, we can share the hope that God would tear open the heavens and come.

GATHERING

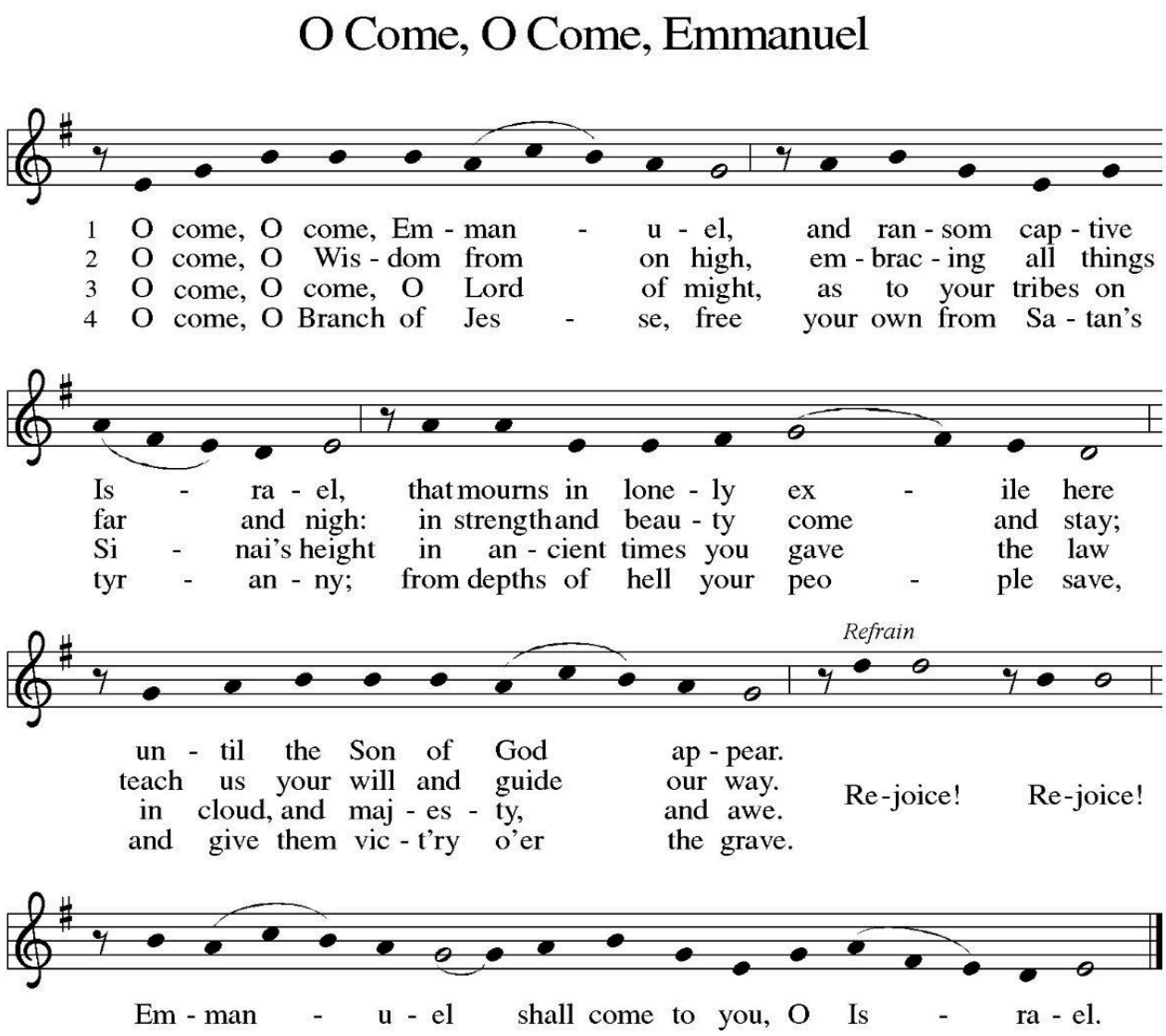
Welcome & Announcements

(Please stand as you are able.)

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.

Hymn of Praise – *ELW 257* vs. 1-2



Lighting of the Advent Wreath

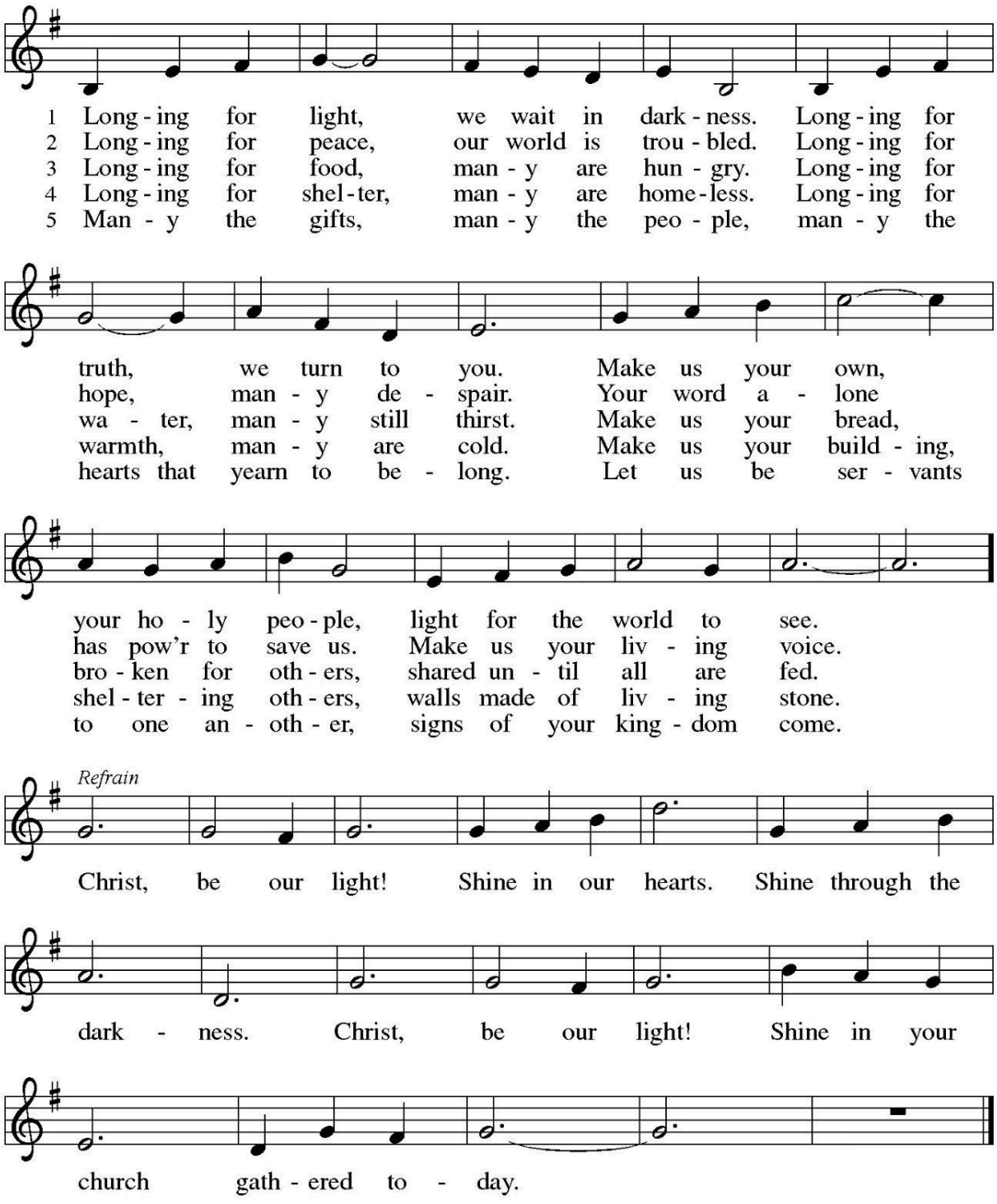
P: How does a weary world hope?
C: By telling stories of hope, by lighting candles in the night, and planting seeds in the winter that will bloom in the spring.

P: By praying for children as they grow, and picking up trash on the sidewalk.
C: By insisting that small acts can make a difference.

P: There are a million ways to practice hope.
So today we light the candle of HOPE as a reminder and a charge.
C: With God's help, may we bring hope into a weary world. Amen.

Gathering Hymn – *ELW 715*

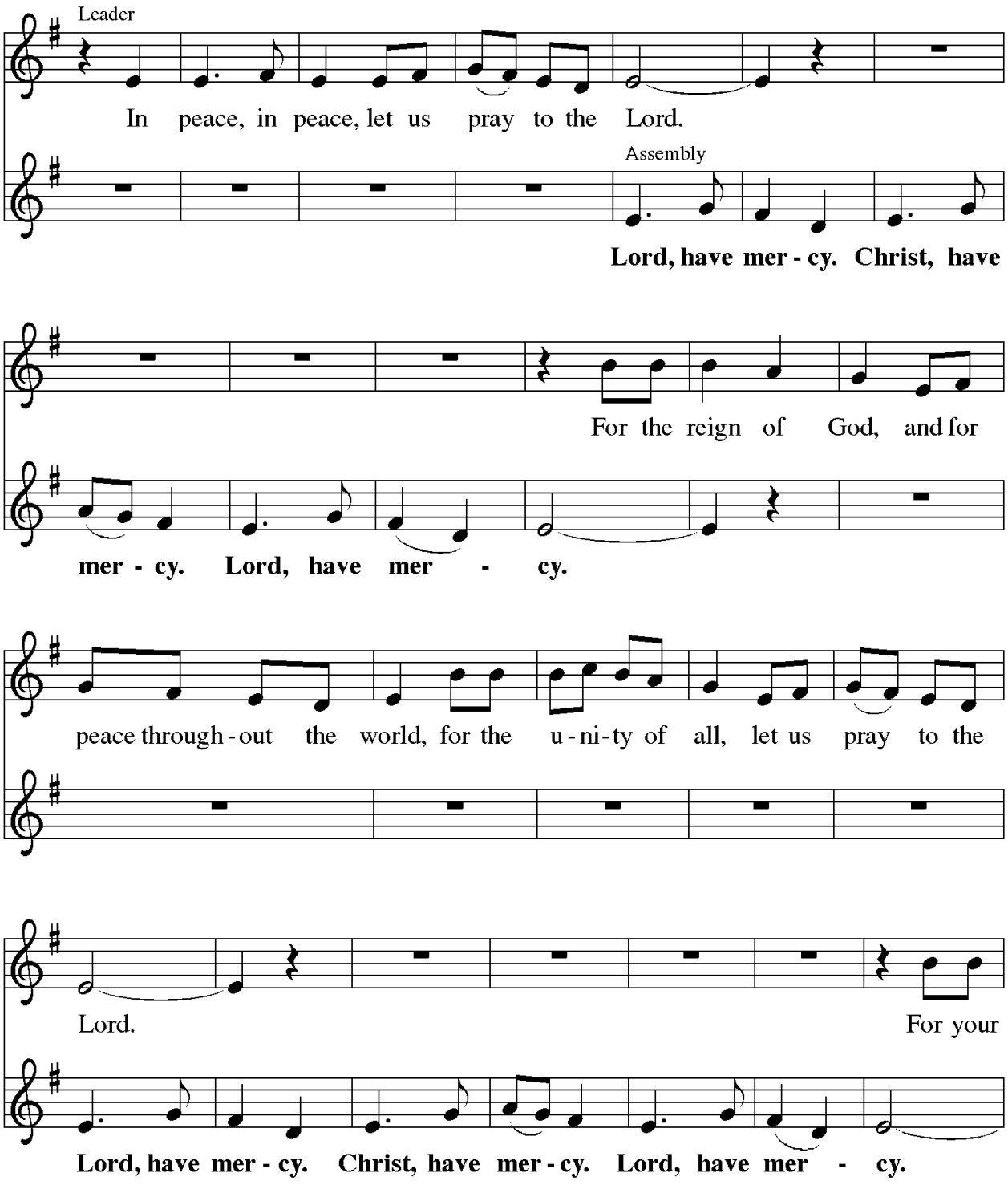
Christ, Be Our Light

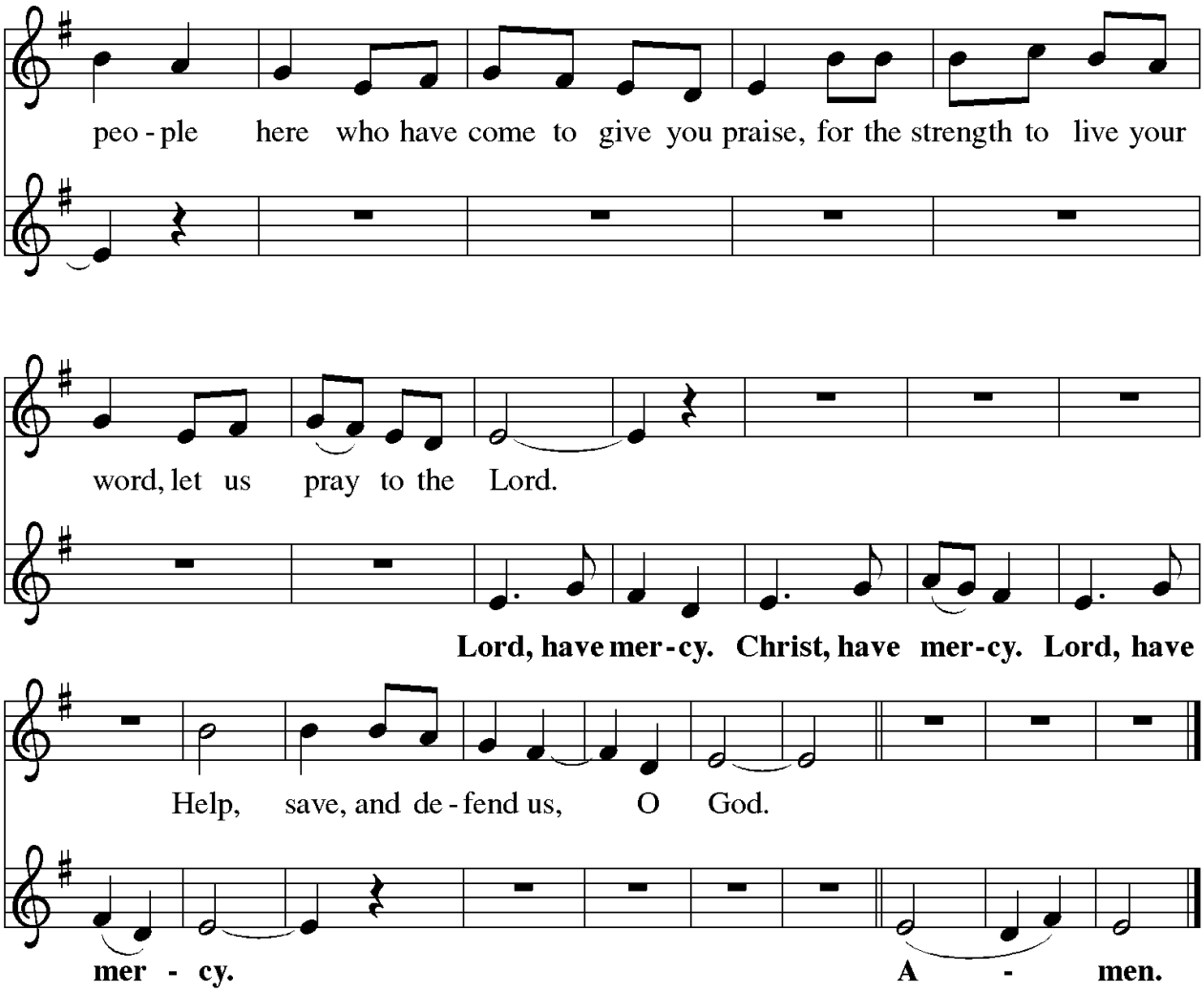


Greeting

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.


Leader
In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.
Assembly
Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have
For the reign of God, and for
mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.
peace through - out the world, for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the
Lord.
For your
Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.


peo - ple here who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your
word, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have
Help, save, and de - fend us, O God.
mer - cy.
A - men.

Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray,
Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

(Please be seated.)

WORD

First Reading — Isaiah 64:1-9

This lament comes from a people who have had their hopes shattered. The visions of a rebuilt Jerusalem and a renewed people of God, spoken of in Isaiah 40–55, have not been realized. Instead, the people experience ruin, conflict, and famine. This lament calls God to account—to be the God who has brought deliverance in the past.

[1] O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—
[2] as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil—
to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!
[3] When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down; the mountains quaked at your presence.
[4] From ages past no one has heard,
no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you,
who works for those who wait for him.
[5] You meet those who gladly do right,
those who remember you in your ways.
But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed.
[6] We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.
We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
[7] There is no one who calls on your name
or attempts to take hold of you,
for you have hidden your face from us
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.
[8] Yet, O Lord, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.
[9] Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord,

and do not remember iniquity forever.
Now consider, we are all your people.

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

Psalm: Psalm 80:1–7, 17–19

(Please read the bold text responsively)

1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
2 **In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh,**
stir up your strength and come to help us.
3 Restore us, O God;
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.
4 **O Lord God of hosts,**
how long will your anger fume when your people pray?
5 You have fed them with the bread of tears;
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
6 **You have made us the derision of our neighbors,**
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
7 Restore us, O God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.
17 **Let your hand be upon the one at your right hand,**
the one you have made so strong for yourself.
18 And so will we never turn away from you;
give us life, that we may call upon your name.
19 **Restore us, O Lord God of hosts;**
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

Second Reading — 1 Corinthians 1:3–9

As the Christians in Corinth await the advent of Jesus, Paul reminds them how the Lord has already enriched them through spiritual gifts and will continue to strengthen them until the coming day of the Lord.

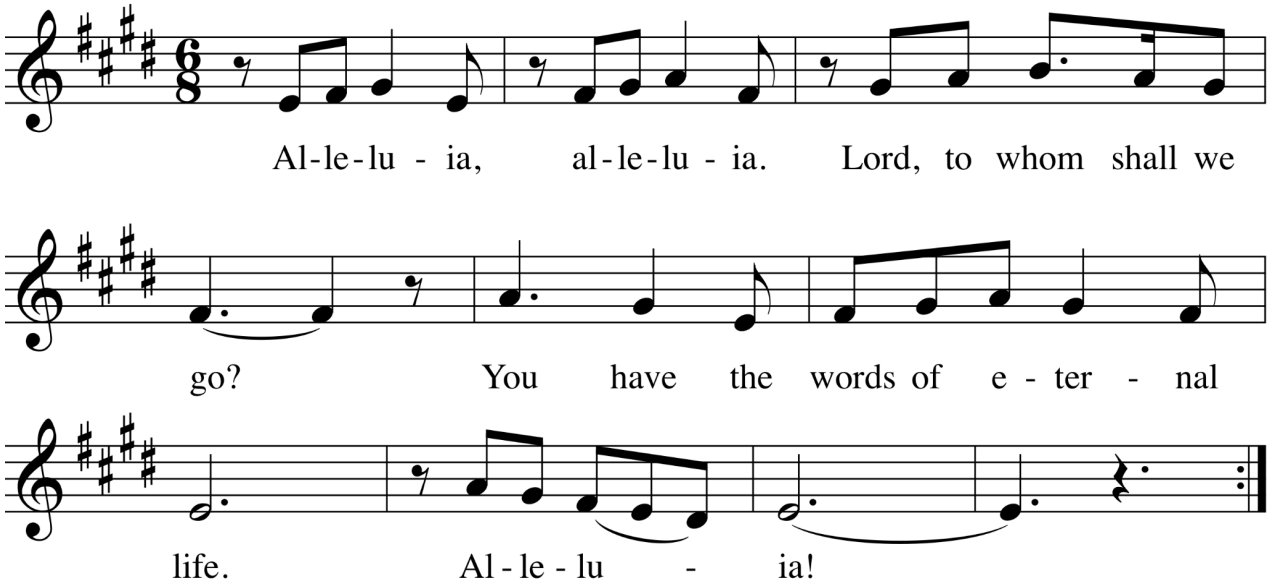
3 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

4 I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, 5 for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— 6 just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you— 7 so that you are not lacking in any gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. 8 He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 God is faithful, by whom you were called into the partnership of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

(Please stand as you are able.)

Gospel Acclamation – *Now the Feast & Celebration*



Gospel

Mark 13:24–37

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

[Jesus said:] 24 "In those days, after that suffering,
the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light,
25 and the stars will be falling from heaven,
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.
26 "Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. 27 Then he will send out the angels and gather the elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

28 "From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. 29 So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. 30 Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. 31 Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

32 "But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven nor the Son, but only the Father. 33 Beware, keep alert, for you do not know when the time will come. 34 It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. 35 Therefore, keep awake, for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening or at midnight or at cockcrow or at dawn, 36 or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. 37 And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

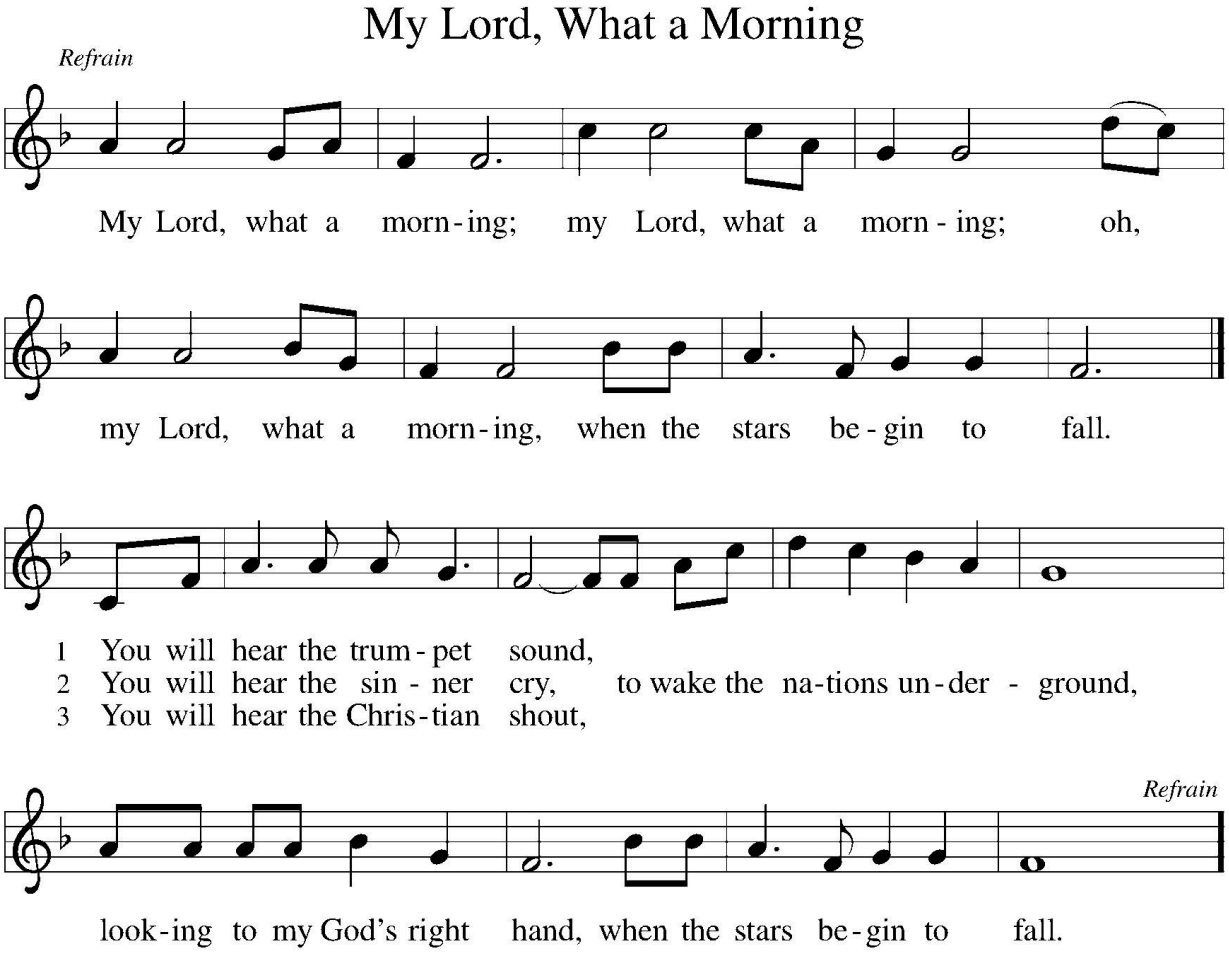
P: The gospel of the Lord.
C: Praise to you, O Christ.

(Please be seated.)

Sermon

(Please stand as you are able.)

Hymn of the Day – *ELW 438*



Text: African American spiritual
Music: BURLEIGH, African American spiritual

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: In hope and expectation, we bring to God our prayers for the church, the world, and all in need. ...

P: God, in your mercy,
C: receive our prayer.

P: ... We entrust these and the prayers of our hearts to you, most holy God, in the name of Christ Jesus our Savior.
C: Amen.

Peace

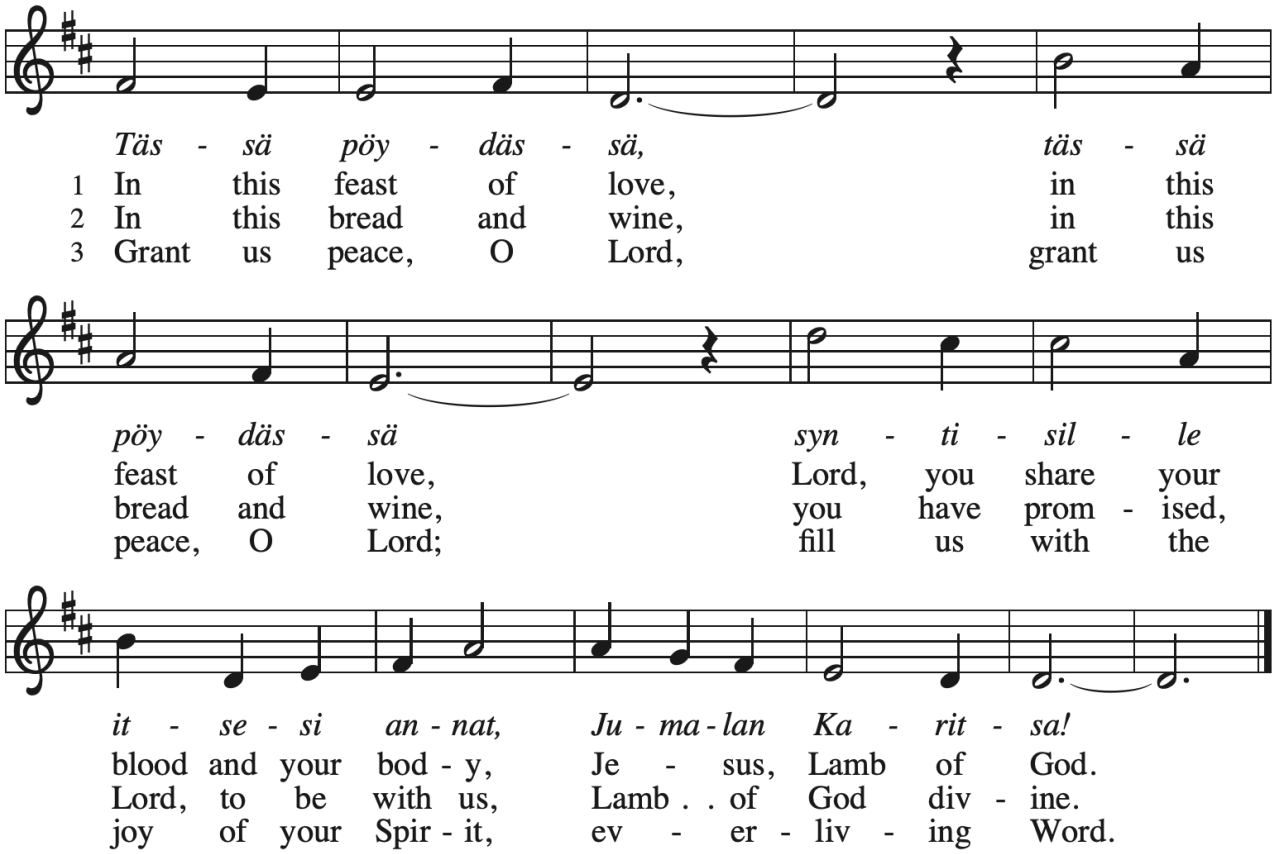
P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C: And also with you.

(Please stand as you are able.)

MEAL

Offertory – *ACS 962*

In This Feast of Love



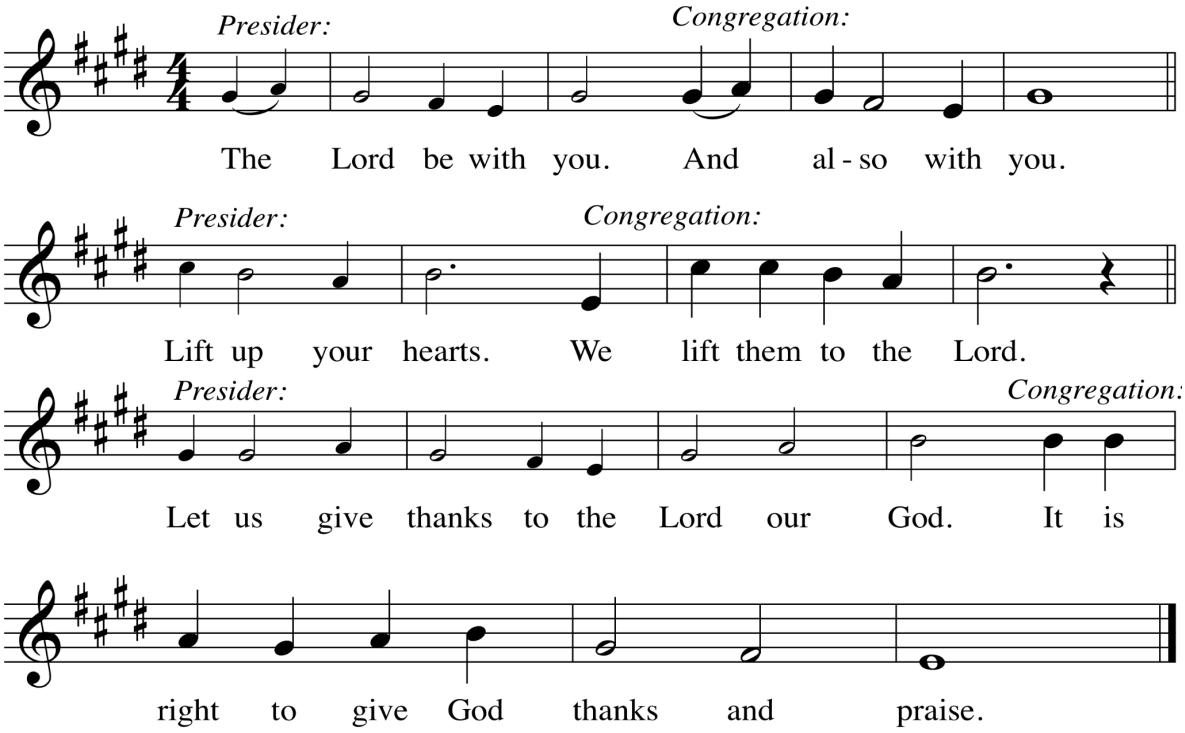
Text: Jarkko Maukonen; tr. Mark Sedio, b. 1954
Music: TÄSSÄ PÖYDÄSSÄ, Jarkko Maukonen; arr. Mark Sedio
Text and music © 2017, 2020 Jarkko Maukonen, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Offertory Prayer

P: Holy Creator,
we are the clay and you are the potter;
we are all the work of your hand.
Receive these gifts shape them and our lives for your purpose,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

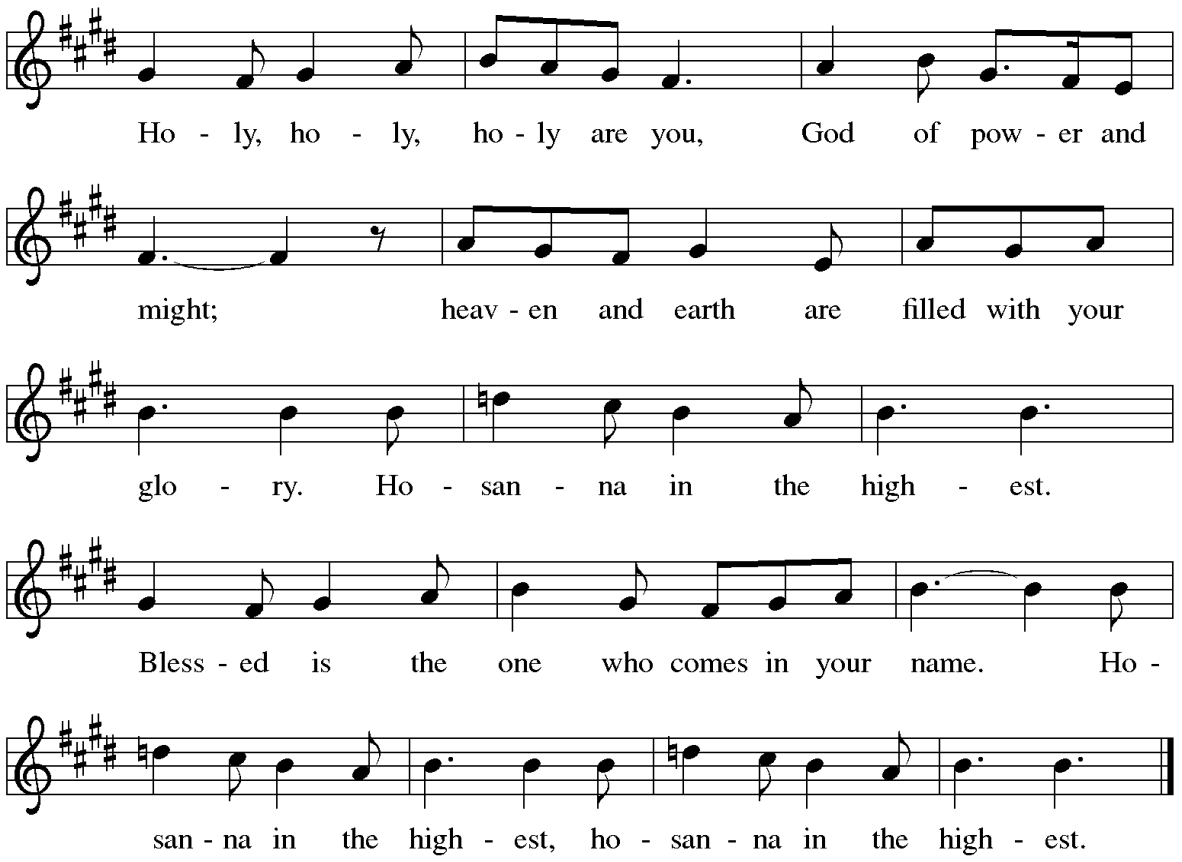
Great Thanksgiving *(May be spoken or sung.)*



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: The glory of the Lord is revealed!
Come and taste God's presence.

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 – Organ

(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: Providing God,
you feed your flock like a shepherd
and gather your people in your arms.
We praise you for the care and sustenance
you give at this meal and always.
As we leave your table, carry us near your heart,
and send us with confidence in the way
of Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: Amen.

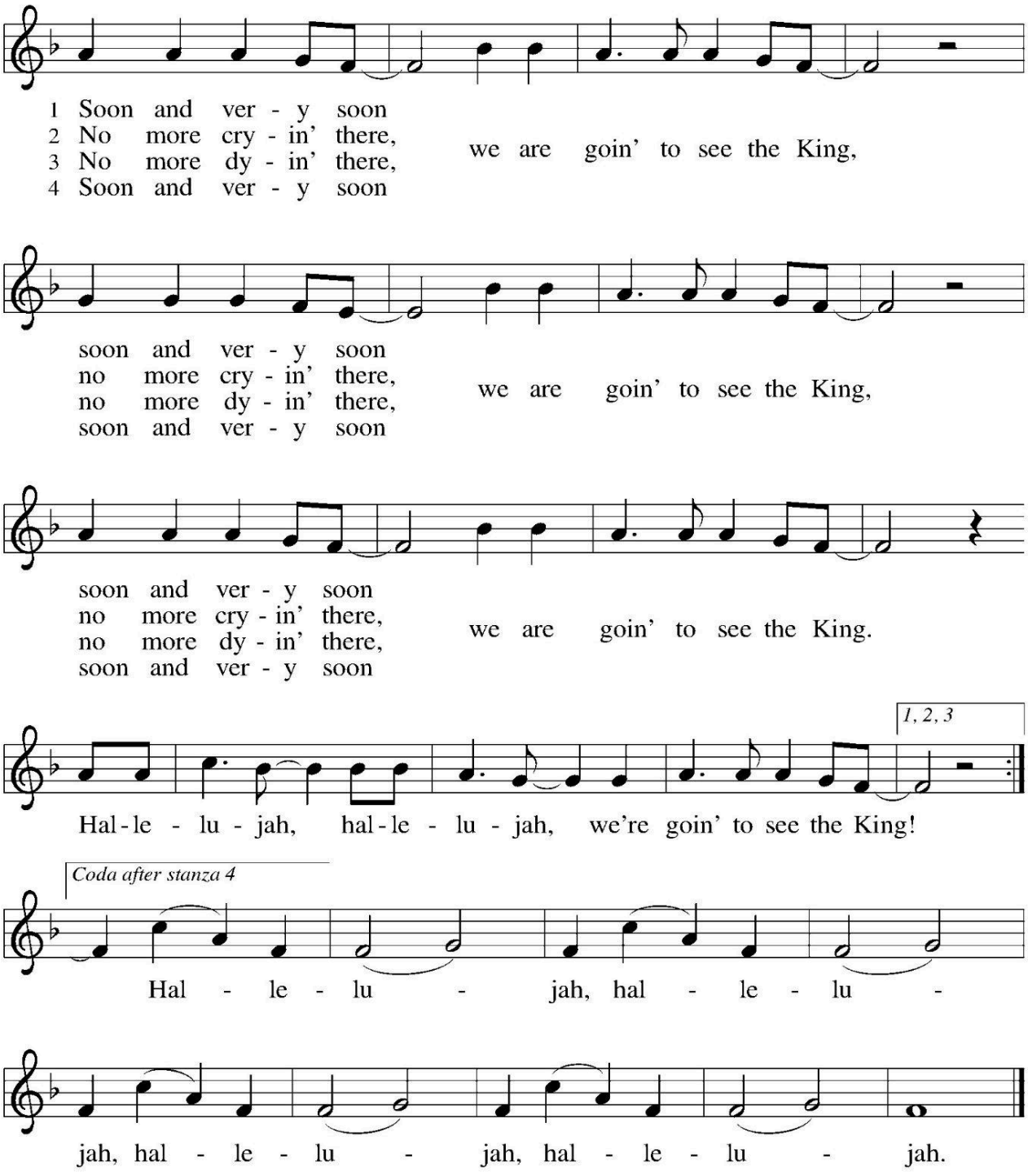
SENDING

Blessing

P: God our provider,
God our feast,
God our companion,
☩ bless you now and forever.

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. Bring good news to the brokenhearted.
C: Thanks be to God.

Serving in Worship

Presiding Minister - Rev. Derek Rosensteil
Music - Thomas Smith - Pre-recorded by Ivy McLaughlin
Reader - Julie Molnar
Communion Assistant - Paul Anderson
Ushers – Henry Lipke and Marie Rasmussen-Hall
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.