St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

November 22nd, 2026

All the nations will be gathered before the throne

MATTHEW 25:32



WELCOME

To our **Church Family**

We're Glad You're Here!



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

We are so glad that you chose to worship with us today. If you are visiting with us for the first time, please visit our Welcome Center in the North Narthex. As our way of saying thank you, you will receive a St. Paul's Welcome Bag with a coffee cup and information about our church. You may also want to download our new St. Paul's App and visit our website. Information on both is in the Welcome Bag.

For our young worshipers we have children's packets to play and color with during the service. These are on the white stand near the east entrance to our sanctuary.

You are welcome at the table!

If you have been baptized and believe Christ is present in the Eucharist (Holy Communion), you are welcome to join us at the table. Please come forward at the direction of the ushers and return to your seats using the side aisles. If you do not wish to partake in the Sacrament but would like to receive a blessing, please just cross your hands over your chest when you come forward.

Grape juice and Gluten-free wafers are available on request. Grape juice is in the colored glasses in the center of the communion tray. If you are not able to come forward and would like to receive communion, please inform an usher and the pastor will bring communion to you.

Altar Flowers

The **Altar flowers** were given today by Nancy & Dan Lint in honor of her sister Sherry's birthday

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.

Readings and Psalm
Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24
God will shepherd Israel
Psalm 95:1-7a
We are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand. *(Ps. 95:7)*
Ephesians 1:15-23
The reign of Christ
Matthew 25:31-46
The coming of the Son of Man; the separation of sheep and goats

The Westminster Strike
Welcome and Announcements

Prelude My Lord, What a Mornin Anonymous
Chancel Choir

My Lord, what a mornin', when the stars begin to fall. You will hear the trumpet sound, to wake the nations underground, Lookin' to my God's right hand, when the stars begin to fall. You will hear the sinner cry, to wake the nations underground, Lookin' to my God's right hand, when the stars begin to fall. You will hear the Christian shout, to wake the nations underground, Lookin' to my God's right hand, when the stars begin to fall.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS
The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

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.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
The assembly kneels or stands. Silence is kept for reflection.
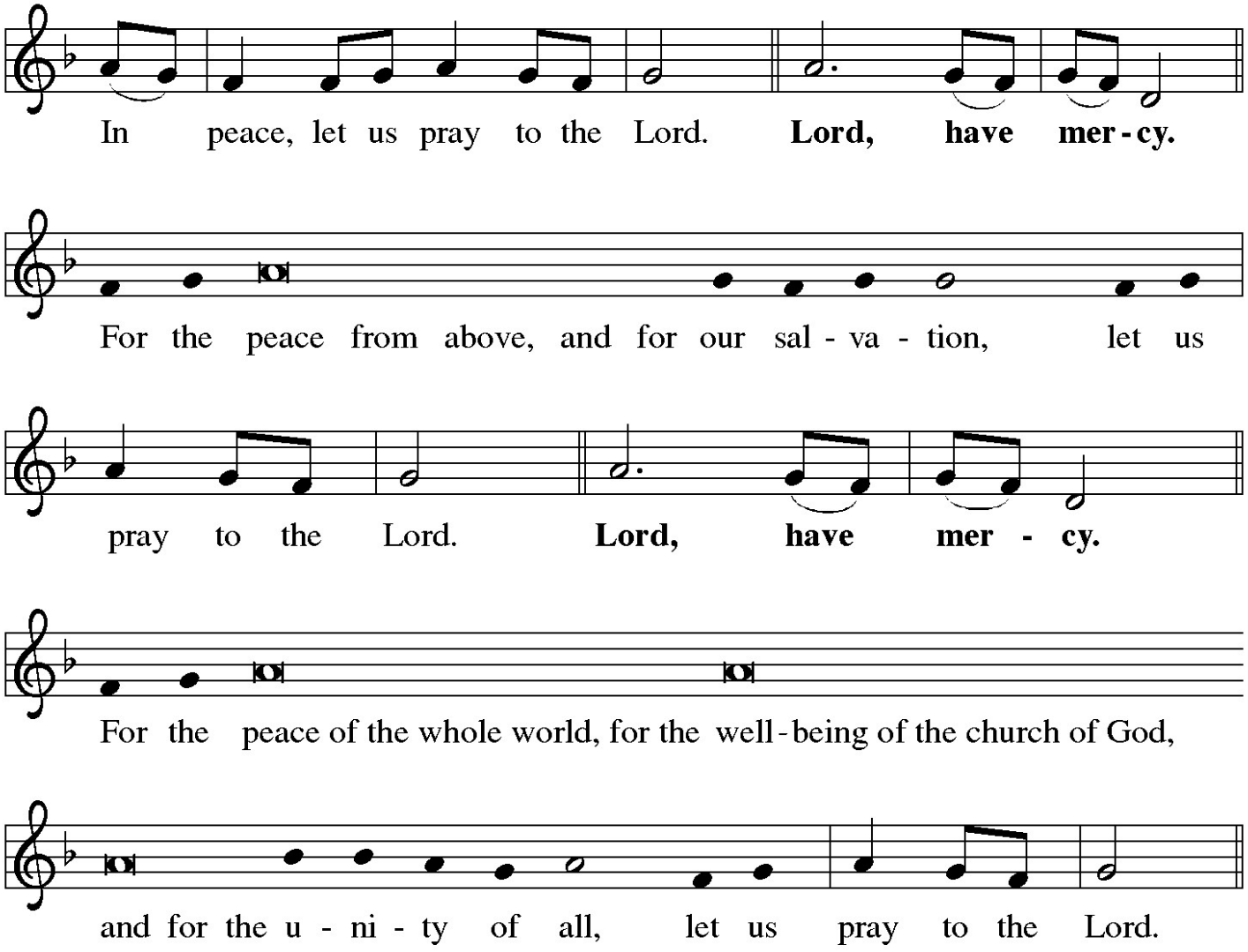
Most merciful God,
we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your 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.
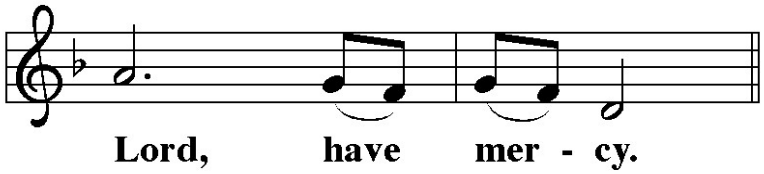
In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

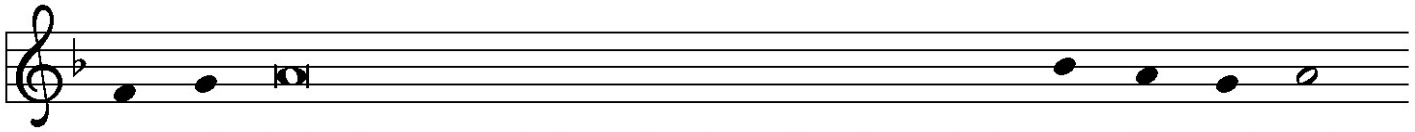
GATHERING HYMN All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name **ELW 634**

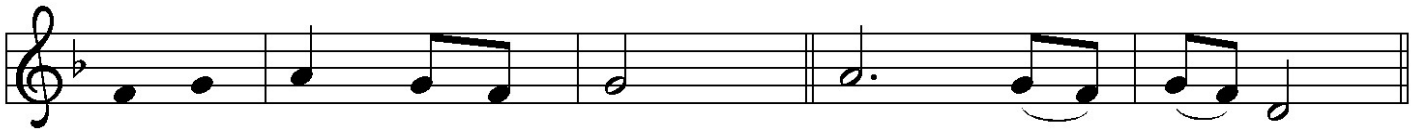
GREETING
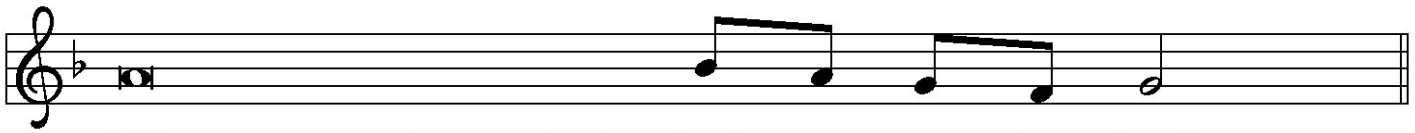
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

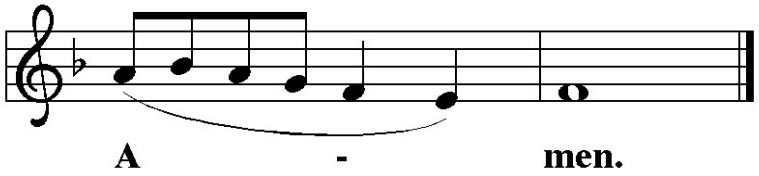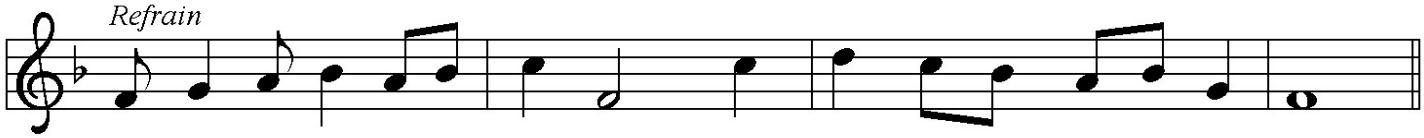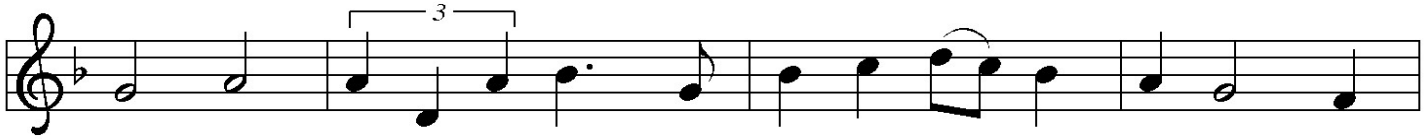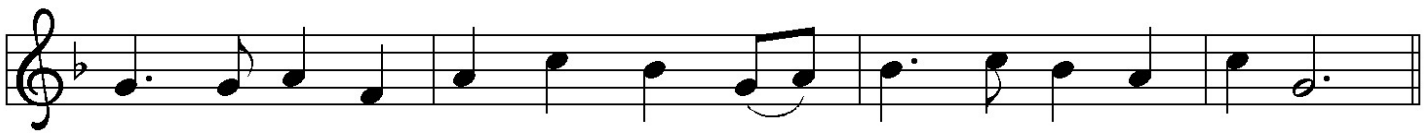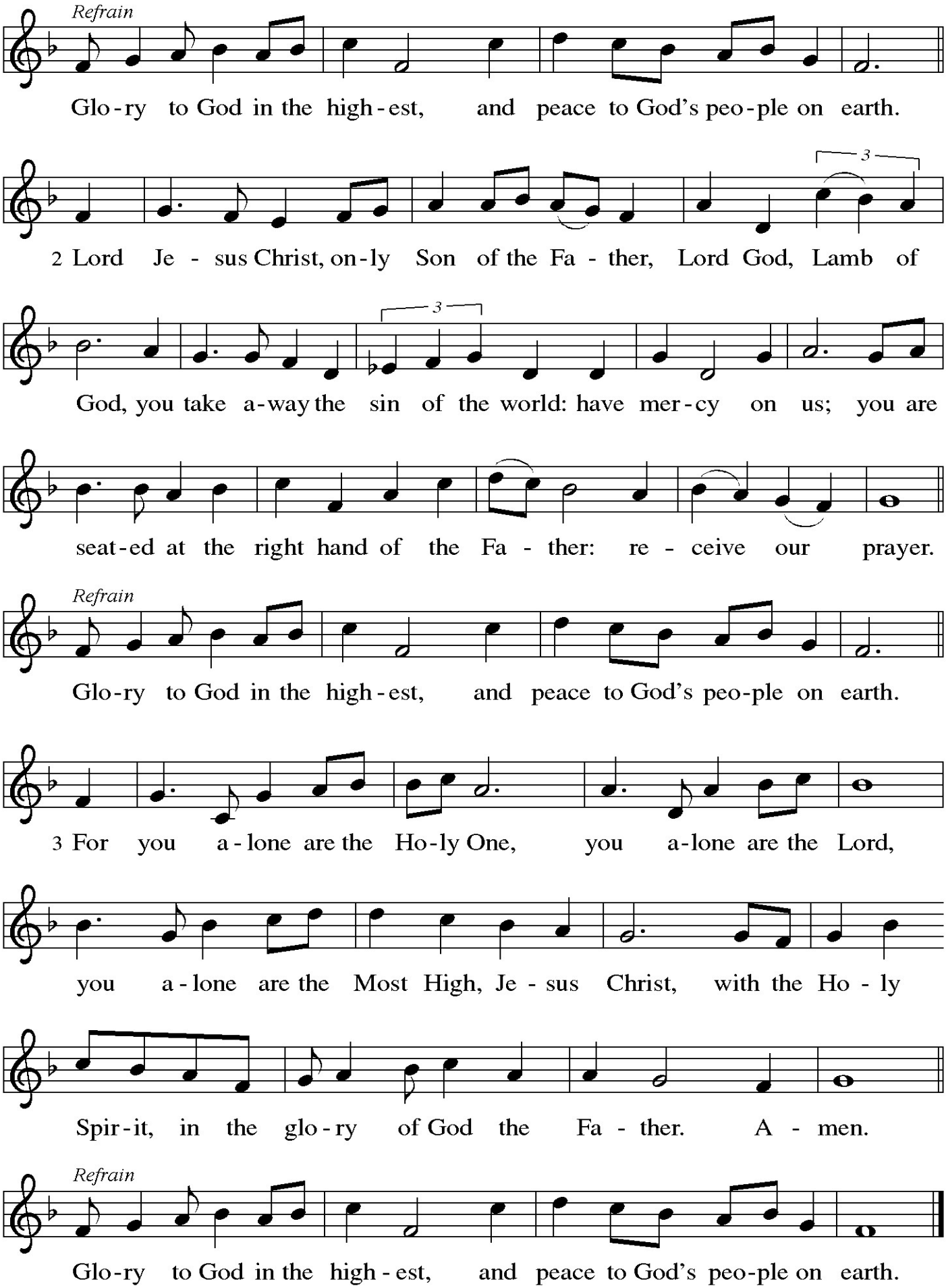












HYMN OF PRAISE








Refrain
Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of
God, you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us; you are
seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.
Refrain
Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.
3 For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,
you a-lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly
Spir-it, in the glo-ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.
Refrain
Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY
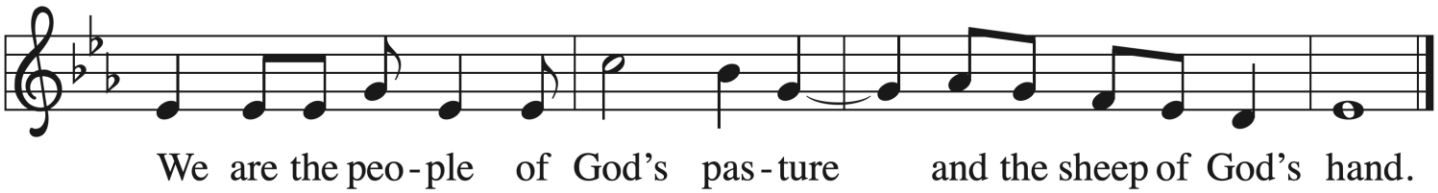
Let us pray.
O God of power and might, your Son shows us the way of service, and in him we inherit the riches of your grace. Give us the wisdom to know what is right and the strength to serve the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

First 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.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 95:1-7a
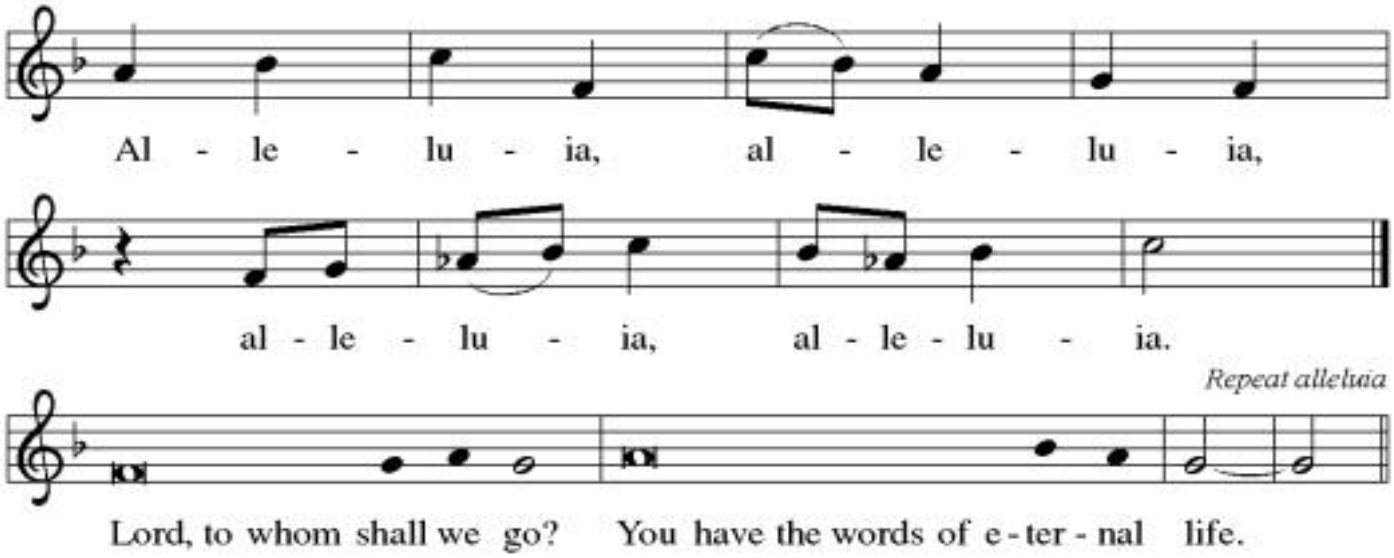


1 Come, let us sing | to the LORD;
let us shout for joy to the rock of | our salvation.
2 **Let us come before God's presence | with thanksgiving**
and raise a loud shout to the | LORD with psalms.
3 For you, LORD, | are a great God,
and a great ruler a- | bove all gods.
4 **In your hand are the caverns | of the earth;**
the heights of the hills are | also yours. R
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. **R**

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.
Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA VERSE



GOSPEL: Matthew 25:31-46

The holy gospel according to Matthew, the 25th chapter.
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 the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON **Rev Mark Kreemer**

HYMN OF THE DAY You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd **Bulletin pg.23**

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

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

After each petition the following response is given:
God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.
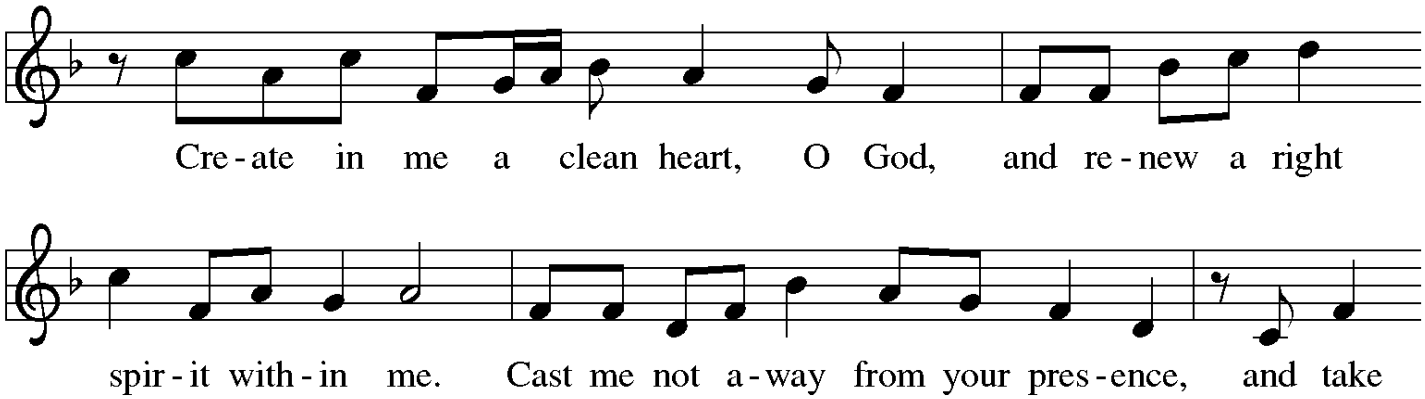
Into your steadfast love, faithful God, we entrust all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus, your beloved. **Amen.**

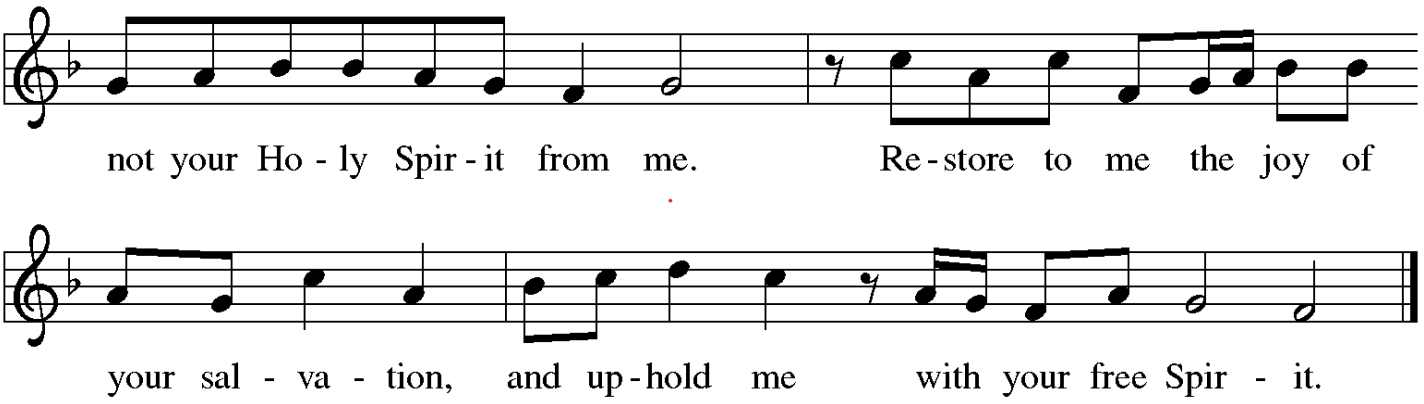
SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM Berceuse David Lasky (b. 1957)

OFFERTORY

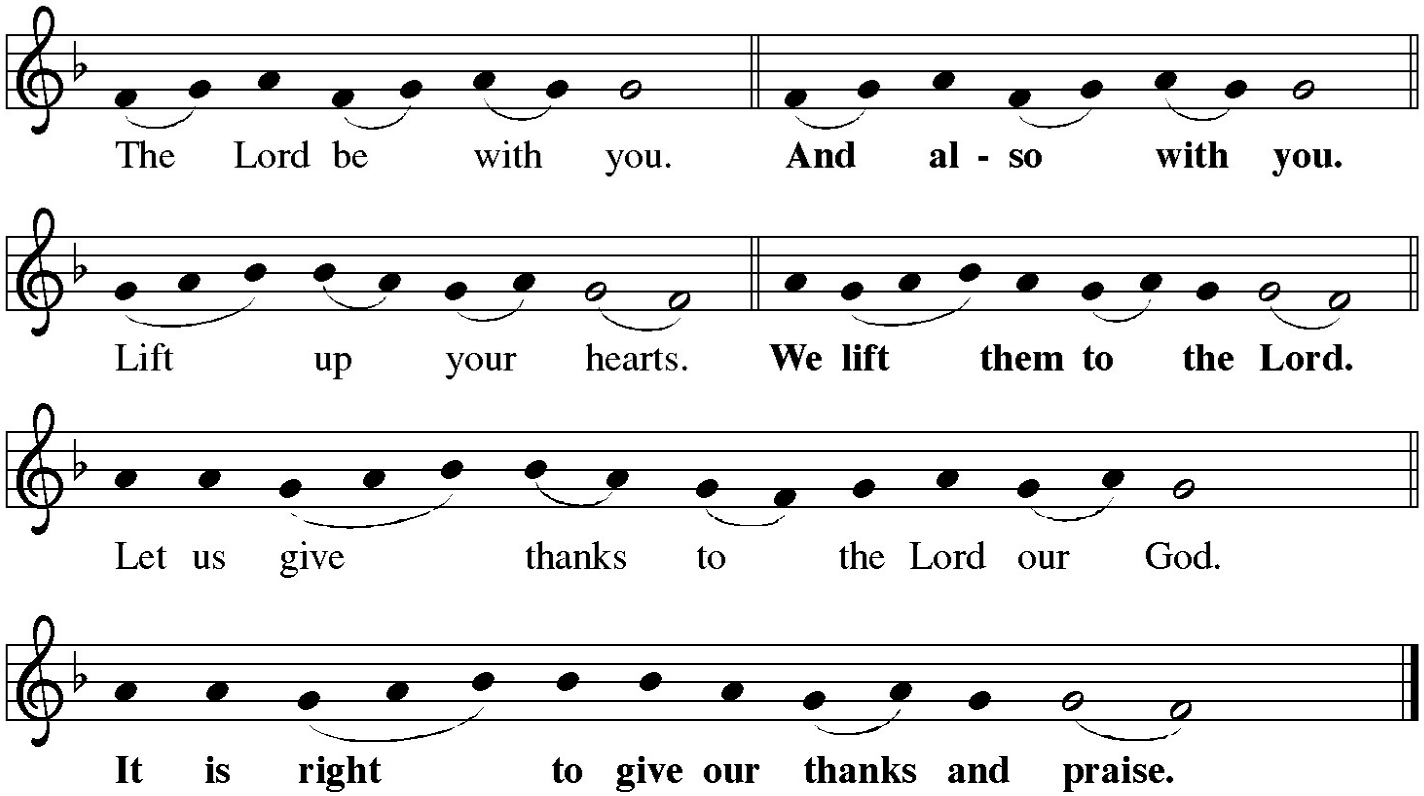




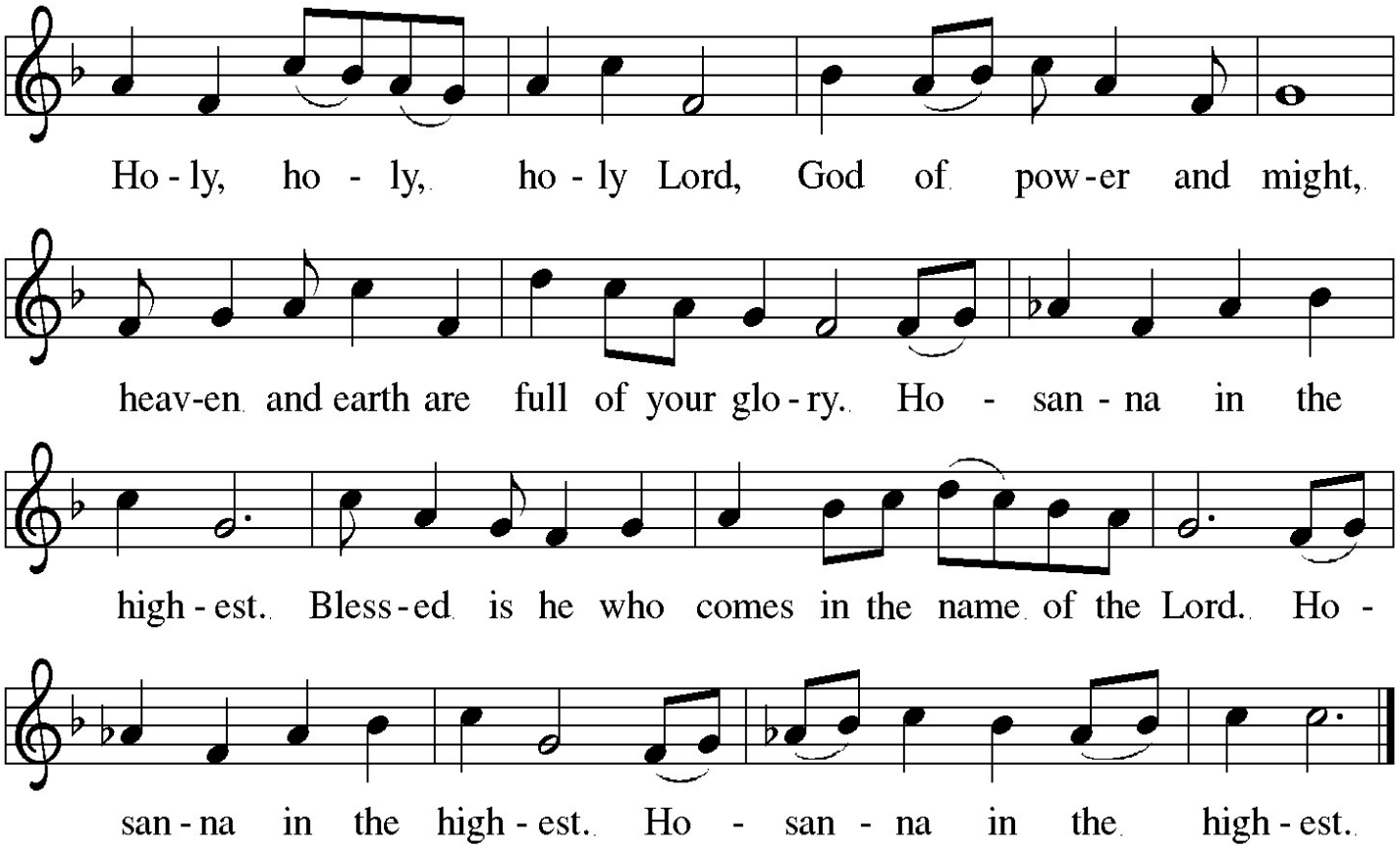
OFFERING PRAYER

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. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING



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, …. 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

LORD'S PRAYER

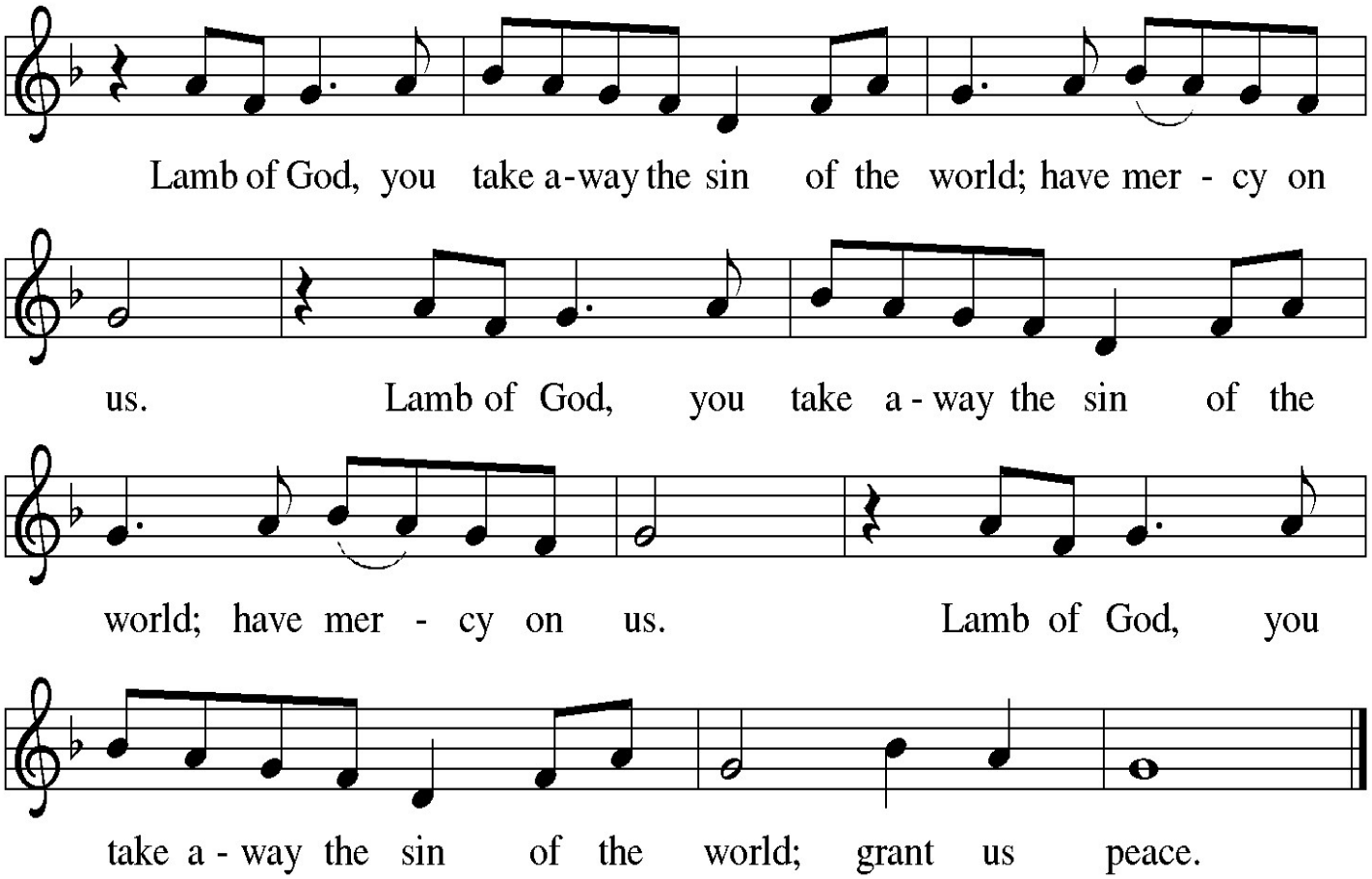
Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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

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

COMMUNION SONG



Communion: Little Lamb, Who Made Thee- William Bradley Roberts (b. 1947)
Lexi Johnson, soprano

Little lamb, who made thee? Dost thou know who made thee? Gave thee life and bid thee feed by the stream and o'er the mead; gave thee clothing of delight, softest clothing, wooly bright; gave thee such a tender voice, making all the vales rejoice. Little lamb who made thee? Dost thou know who made thee? Little lamb, I'll tell thee; little lamb, I'll tell thee. He is called by thy name. For he calls himself a lamb. He is meek and he is mild; he became a little child. I a child and thou a lamb; we are called by his name. Little lamb, God bless thee; little lamb God bless thee.
--William Blake

TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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**. Amen.**

SENDING HYMN Crown Him With Many Crowns **ELW 855**

BLESSING

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

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Encourage one another.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude A Thanksgiving Suite: III. Thanksgiving Dance- Alfred V. Fedak (b. 1953)

In our prayers today we will remember
Ken Mifflin, Jane Lanning, Mary Ellen Gresser, Greg Karlin, Maggie Paul, Amy Williams, Riley Hostatler, Lorili, Ema, Mason, Jan Hawley, La Shell Williamson, Cindy Lash, Bob & Marlene Rupp, Gary Maurer, Richard Green, Linda Wentling, Rick Theiss, Judy Hall, Karen Daily, Sandra Jelen, Jimmy Southard, Mark Gergley, Pam Neil, Chad Byington.

Lexi Johnson

Lexi Johnson is a soprano, music director, and teaching artist based in North Canton, Ohio. She holds a B.A. in Music (Voice) from the University of Akron, where she studied with Dr. Laurie Lashbrook, following earlier vocal training with Dr. Katherine Rohrer at The Ohio State University. Her performance credits include Handel's Messiah, Joby Talbot's Path of Miracles, Orff's Carmina Burana, Fauré's Requiem, and Brahms's Requiem, among others. She is also a soprano with the Cleveland Chamber Choir.

In addition to her performance work, Lexi maintains a private voice studio and works extensively as a music director and drama teaching artist throughout Northeast Ohio. Her music direction credits include Newsies, Freaky Friday, Grease, Mamma Mia!, Anastasia, and Little Shop of Horrors. She is passionate about the performance and educational sides of the arts, and enjoys cultivating meaningful musical experiences for audiences and students alike.



Let us know you are here.

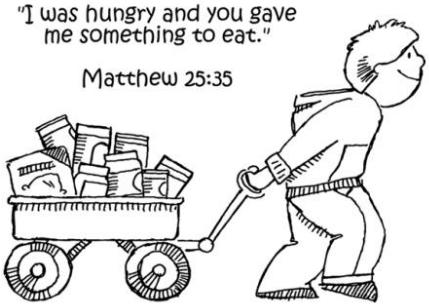


Please sign the St. Paul's Friendship Register at the end of your pew.

Pick up your cookies following Worship today

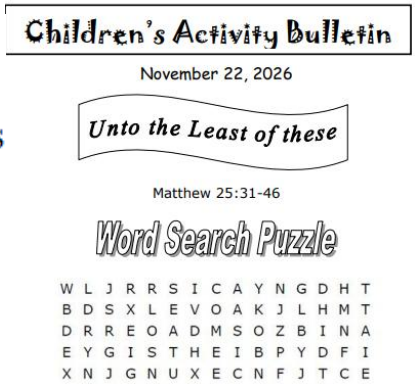


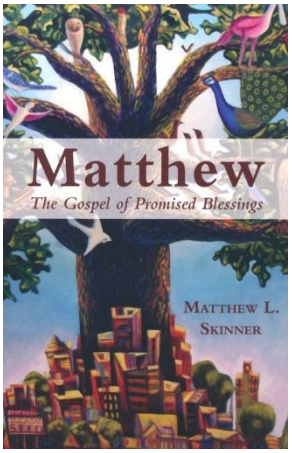
Coloring Page



Children's Activity Bulletins

Crayons and Children's Activity Bulletins are available at the side entrance. These are a fun way to spread today's Gospel to our younger ones.





Thursday Morning Bible Study @ 10:00 am
Matthew: The Gospel of Promised Blessings

By: Matthew L. Skinner
The Gospel of Matthew portrays Jesus and his message as full of tender compassion and urgent warning. This six-part exploration of an enigmatic Gospel takes readers into the themes, topics, and tensions at the heart of Matthew's story about the life and work of Jesus.

Chapters focus on blessing and comfort, judgment and retribution, the meaning of discipleship, Jesus' vision for the Church and world, conflicts and complaints, and how the Gospel of Matthew speaks to believers today.



Adult Sunday School

...they have forsaken me, the fountain of living water.
(Jeremiah 2:13b)

Jeremiah the Prophet
Jeremiah was given an important but very difficult assignment to accomplish - to speak truthfully about the failures of the people of Judah and to remind them of the One in whom they ought to put their trust, the Lord God of all creation. The book is filled with warnings, wisdom, and encouragement for living faithfully today. Please join us as we gather at 11:30 a.m. on Sundays, top floor Parish Hall for Bible study and fellowship. An elevator is available for easy access.

Adult Choir Rehearsals

Sunday Mornings at 8:30 am
All are welcome!
Join us at 8:30 AM in the choir room to make a joyful noise. All are welcome!





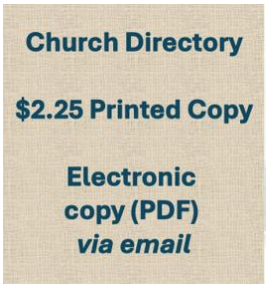
Handbell Choir

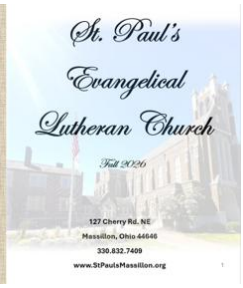
The Handbell choir will rehearsals on **11/11**, **11/18**, and **12/2** in preparation to ring on **December 6** in worship **AND** for the **Candlelight Walk**.
We meet at 6 pm. All are welcome, but please, please let Abby know if you plan to ring so she can prepare music for you!

Organ Repair Donations

If you wish to make donations specifically for organ repair, please mark your envelopes as such. If you give electronically, see Dan Farrar for details.







Church Directory

The Church Directory is now available on request. A printed copy will cost $2.25 An electronic copy (PDF) will be free of charge

You can request either or both formats by contacting the church office:

330.832.7409 or officeadmin@stpaulsmassillon.org

No copies will be issued to non-members.

St. Paul's Steelband



Join us for weekly classes at **6pm**. The focus is on learning. If you've never walked near a steel drum, and want to learn, we have something for you!

Please join us on any Wednesday!

**** On **11/18, and 12/2, we will hold class at 5 pm due to bell choir practice.***



Help Decorate the Church

Join us Saturday morning, **November 28th at 9 am** to decorate the church for the Christmas Season. Many hands make little work, and we are typically done before 11 am. You'll be done in plenty of time to watch "the game."



Our homebound members' Christmas gift bags will be available for delivery December 10th.

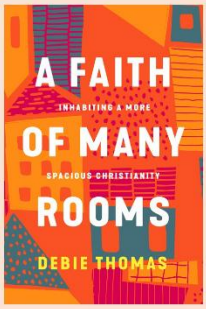
Angel Tree Gift Tags



- Angel Tree gift tags will soon be available in Portico
- The tags will have suggested gift ideas for children and families in need this Christmas Season.
- Please return your *unwrapped* gift to the church by December 10th, you may also drop them at the Salvation Army.

Parents and children will then get to pick a gift for their loved one and wrap it themselves.

****If you have a specific gift for a specific child, please see Barb Palmer.**



Books & Brews
Thursday starting
November 5th
@ 7:00 PM
Paradigm Shift
Brewing Company

Books & Brews

Grab a copy of *A Faith of Many Rooms: Inhabiting a More Spacious Christianity by Debie Thomas* and meet us for Books & Brews on Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. at Paradigm Shift Brewing Company.

Led by Pastor Tina Crog, this book discussion is one of our connection efforts for the Massillon Lutheran Cohort. In the book, author Debie Thomas reflects on faith, doubt, belonging, and what it means to discover a Christianity spacious enough to make room for our questions, our differences, and our whole selves. Through personal stories and theological reflection, she invites readers to consider what it might look like to inhabit faith with greater authenticity and joy.

Come ready for good conversation, good questions, and good food!



Download the St. Paul's Phone APP

Go to your Google or Apple app store on your smart phone and download the "**My Church**" by Pushpay. It is a free download.

Open the app and search for St Paul's by typing **STPLC APP**.
Then click on the St Paul's logo—that's it.



Community Social Media Pages

Facebook & Instagram, Search ***"Massillon Area Churches"***

Facebook, Search ***"St Paul's Lutheran Church in Massillon"***

Or ***"Cathedral Concerts at St Paul's***

Scholarship Application/Renewal



It's time to apply for/renew scholarship applications for the 2027 spring semester.

All renewal applications are sent via email to the recipients from the previous semester.

New applicants can request an application **starting November 1st** by emailing the church office at OfficeAdmin@stpaulsmassillon.org

DEADLINE to be considered for the scholarship is **December 1st, 2026**. Scholarship recipients will then be voted upon by the Scholarship Committee. Recipients will be notified, and rewards will be sent via postal mail to the address on the application within the month of December.

Christmas Food Baskets



Welfare and Social Committee will collect nonperishable food and miscellaneous items for our Community Meal families for Christmas. The items will be distributed at our Community Meal on Friday, December 11th.

We will begin collecting in October. Please place your donations in the box located at the side entrance of the church. Thank you for your generosity!

If you have questions, please contact Barb Palmer at 330.244.1602.

- Oct. 18th – Tea and coffee
- Oct. 28th – Peanut butter and jelly
- Nov. 1st – Canned soups and pork & beans
- Nov. 8th – Cereal and mixes (cake, brownies, muffins)
- Nov. 15th – Canned fruits & vegetables
- Nov. 22nd – Spaghetti sauce, pasta, instant potatoes
- Nov. 29th – Paper products (paper towels, toilet paper)
- Dec. 6th – Bar soap, toothpaste, toothbrush



Christmas Caroling to our Home Bound

Make plans to join us for Christmas caroling **on Saturday, December 12 at 2:00 p.m**. This is a great chance to feel and share the true spirit of Christmas with our homebound members. We will break into groups and go off in different directions to sing and bring Christmas cheer to these special members of our congregation. When the singing is done, plan to return to church to share a meal together.

Please help us plan for dinner by signing up. Signup sheets will be in the lounge and the portico.

Massillon's Community Candlelight Walk - Dec. 6th – 5 to 7:30pm

Take a self-guided stroll through downtown Massillon among luminarias and Christmas lights to visit nine historic churches and six community attractions. Stops include live music, storytelling, free refreshments, and entertainment. Free maps will be available at any venue where walkers begin their routes. The free public event will culminate in a musical program and Massillon's traditional candlelighting ceremony at St. Mary's Church.



Scan the QR code for more information.

Assisted Hearing Devices Available

Four assisted listening devices are available at the sound system table in the back of the sanctuary at the beginning of worship. Please see Jim Johnson or John Stanko if you need assistance with these devices.

You can also use your smartphone to access the system. Go to your app store and download the WaveCAST app. Then connect to the sanctuary Wi-Fi: Network: sound media Password: Sound127

Thank you to those serving today:

Presiding Minister	**Rev. Mark Kreemer**
Director of Music	**Dr. Abigail Haake**
Assisting Minister	**David Stoner**
Lector	**Scott Larson**
Greeters	**Gary Collard**
Communion Assistants	**Shane Jackson & Barb Palmer**
Sacristan	**Becky Johnson**
Ushers	**Chuck Gesen, Dick Longworth, Chuck Richards & Mike Skelly**
Acolytes	**Scott Larson, Thomas Haake**
Soundboard	**Jim Johnson**
Video/Live-Stream	**John Stanko**

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GATHERING HYMN All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name **ELW 634**
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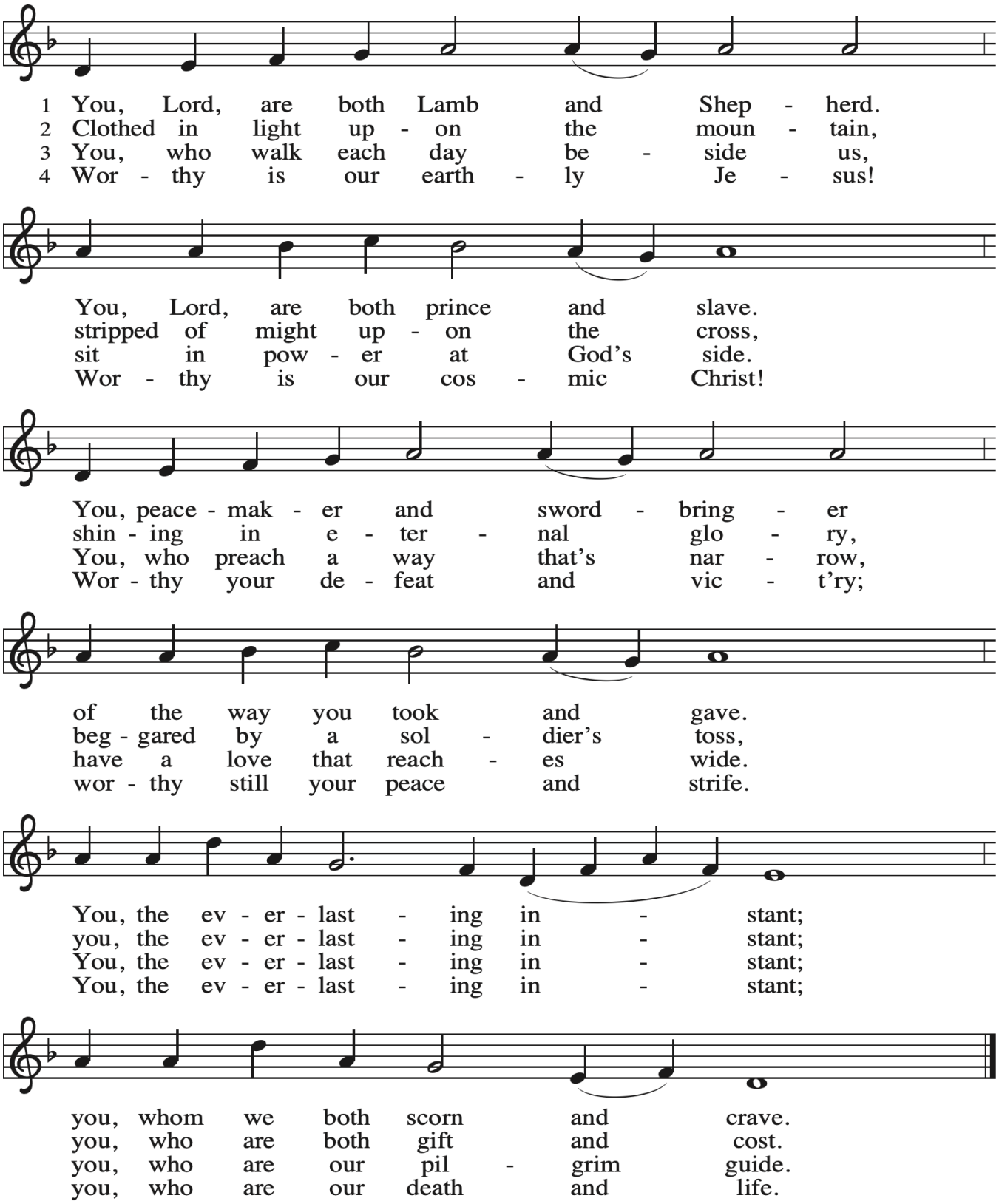
HYMN OF THE DAY You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd **Bulletin pg. 23**
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SENDING HYMN Crown Him With Many Crowns **ELW 855**
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HYMN OF THE DAY

You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd

BULLETIN PG. 23

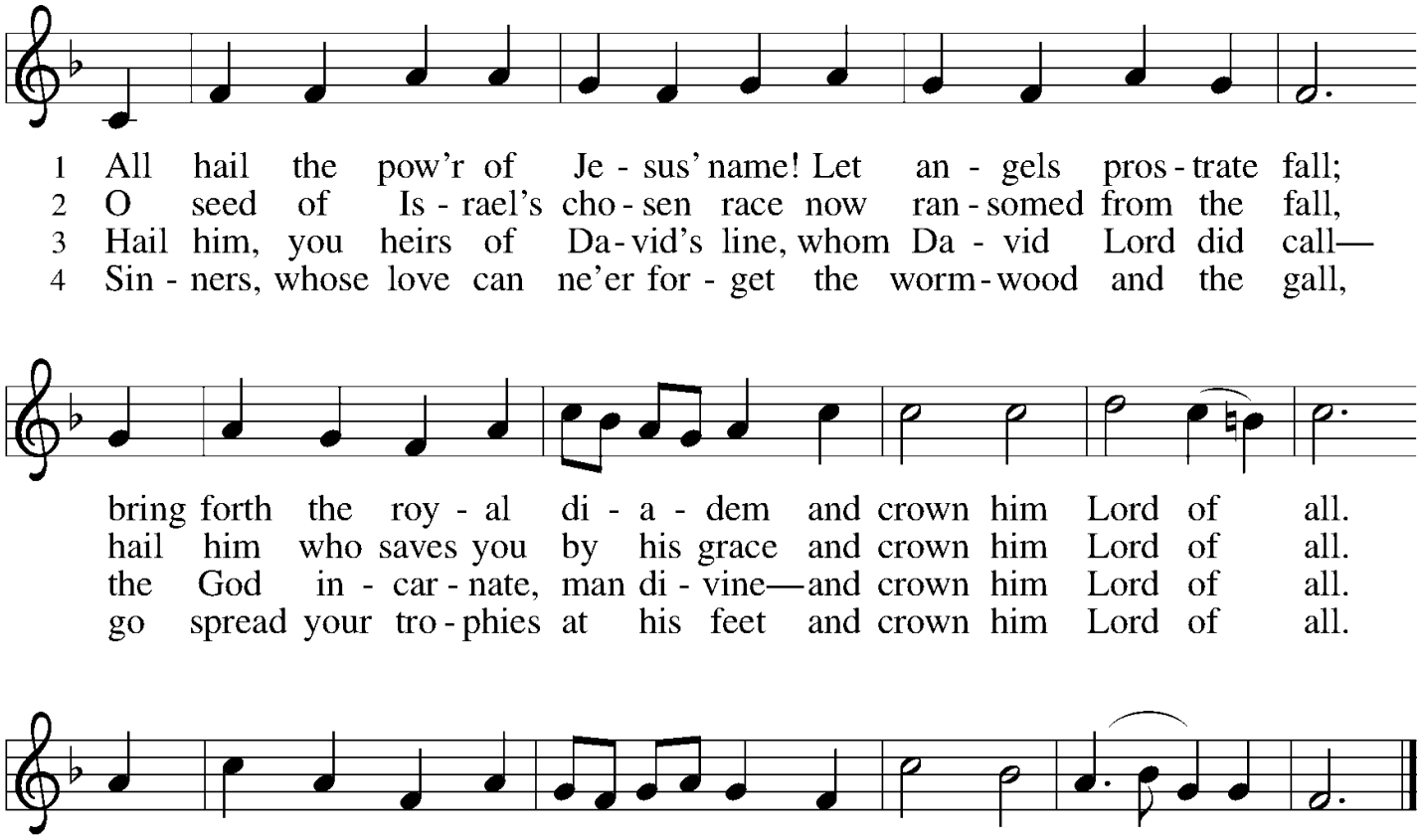


Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993
Music: PICARDY, French folk tune, 17th cent.
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GATHERING HYMN
ELW 634

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!



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

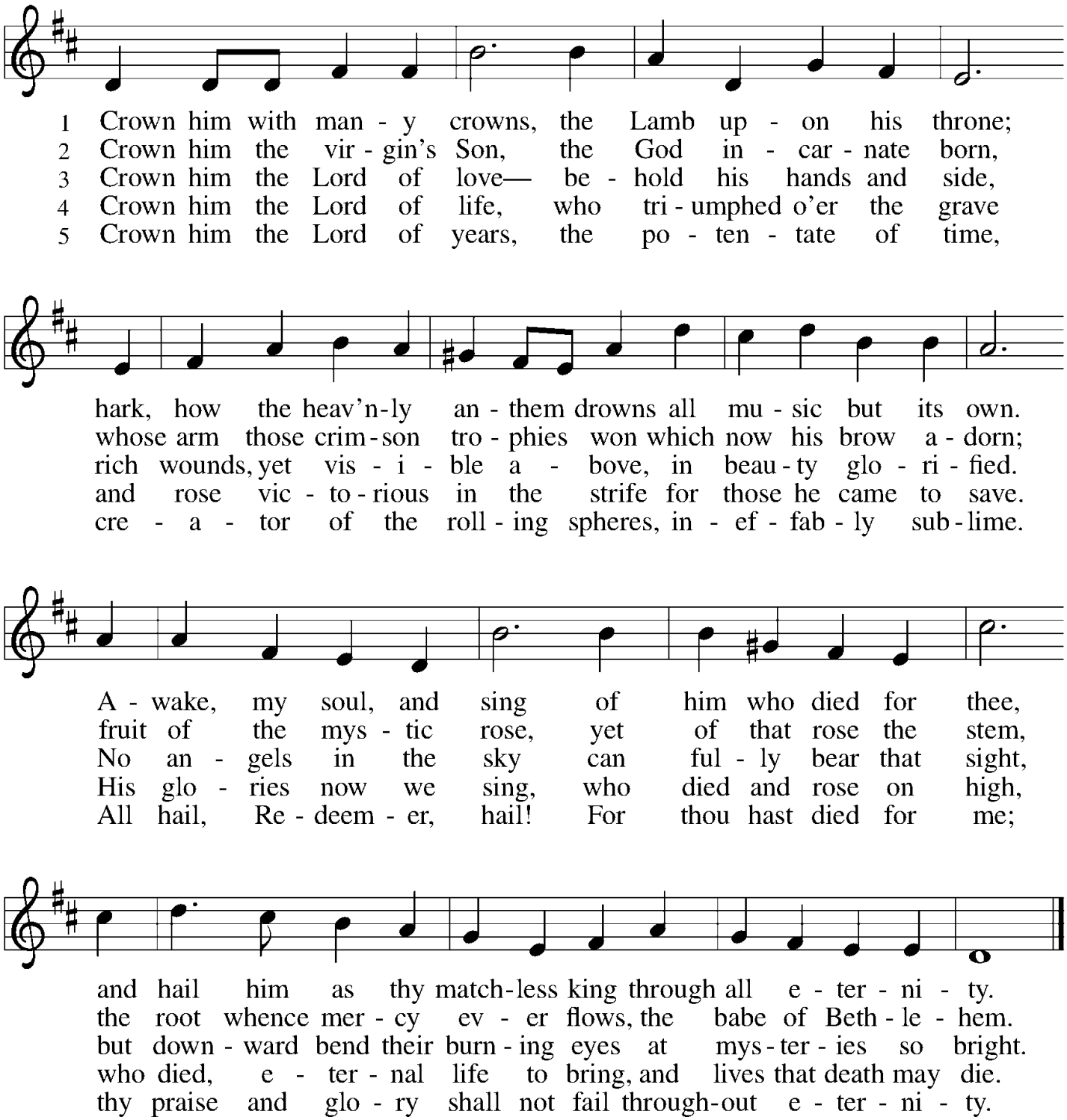
6 Oh, that with yonder sacred throng
we at his feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song
and crown him Lord of all.

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

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SENDING HYMN
ELW 855

Crown Him with Many Crowns



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