LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY

Gathering through the love of Christ to care, grow, and serve.

24th Sunday After Pentecost

November 8, 2026

10:00 Worship

Gathering

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude Colors of Joy Brenda Austin

Bell Choir

Please stand as able, facing the back of the church.

Confession and Forgiveness

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

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God, **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.**

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

Hymn Rejoice, Rejoice Believers ELW 244

Greeting and Prayer of the Day

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.**

Let us pray. O God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. **Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

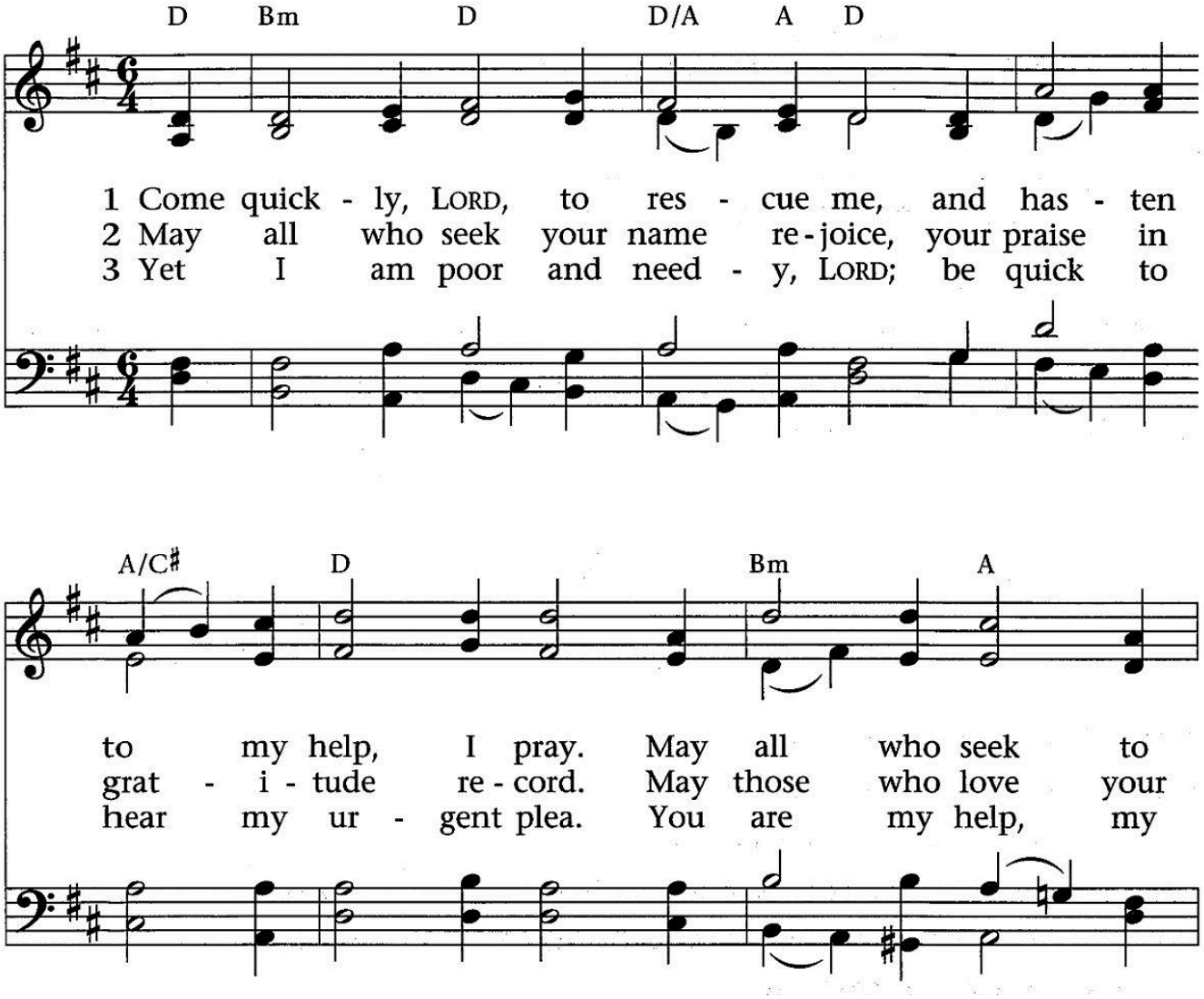
Please be seated

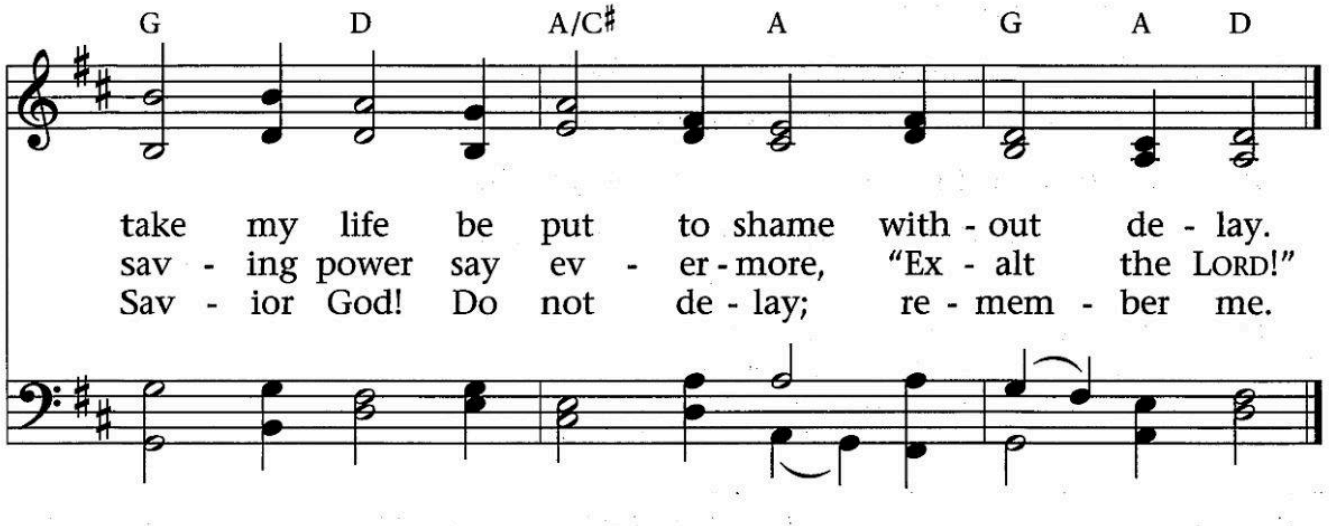
Faith in Focus

Word

First Reading Page 8

Psalm (Verse 2 in parts as able) Psalm 70
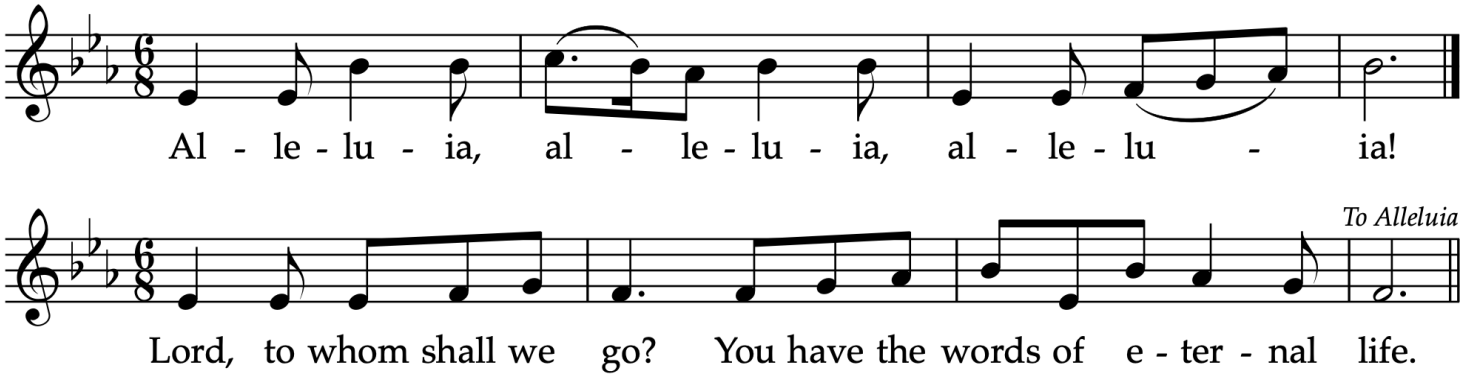




Second Reading Page 8

Please stand as able at the introduction

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel Page 8

Please be seated

Sermon

Response to the Word

Apostles' Creed

Let us profess our faith. **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.

Dedication of Prayer Shawls

Friends in Christ: Today, we give thanks to God and seek God's blessing as we send these prayer shawls. Let us pray. Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe. You made the whole earth for your glory; all creation praises you.

Renew in us the commitment to use our gifts in the service of others, and especially of those in need.

Let us be your hands to feed the hungry, shelter the homeless, clothe the naked, comfort the weary and outcast, welcome the stranger, care for creation, and be loving neighbors to all people. **Bless these prayer shawls. May those who receive them find dignity in their use and comfort in their warmth, and may these gifts be a sign of your love to all people.**

To you, O God, be glory and honor through your Son, Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, in your church and in the world, now and forever. **Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

Installation of Paula Morris

Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Greet those near you and then be seated.

Rooted in Grace, Growing for Tomorrow Paula Morris

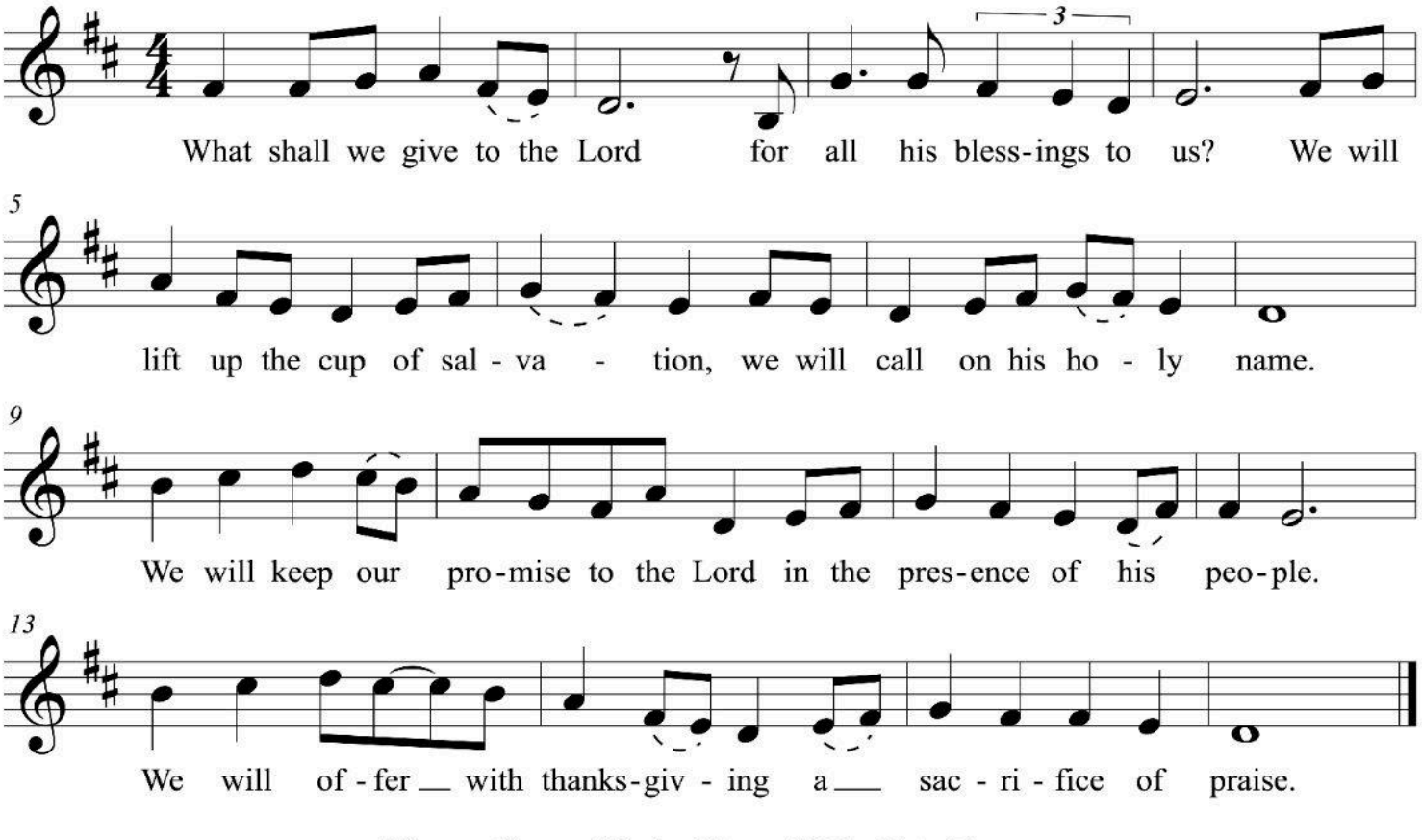
Meal

Offering My Lord, What a Mornin' Arr. Howard Helvey

Paul Calderone, soloist

Please stand as able

Offering Response



Offering Prayer
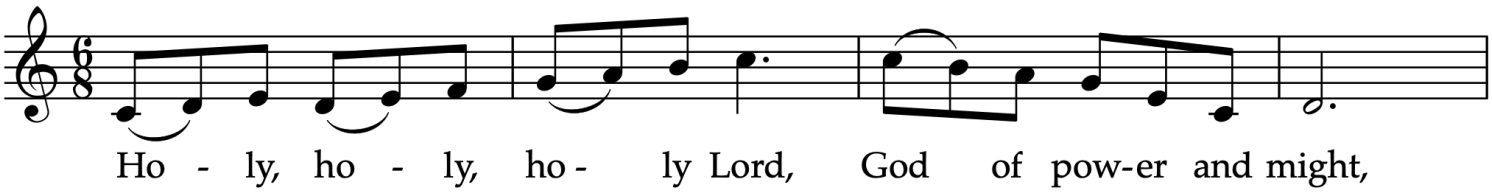
A: Let us pray. Eternal God, our time, talents, and treasures are gifts from you. **Receive what we offer, and all that you entrust to us, until hungry no more, all the world is fed, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

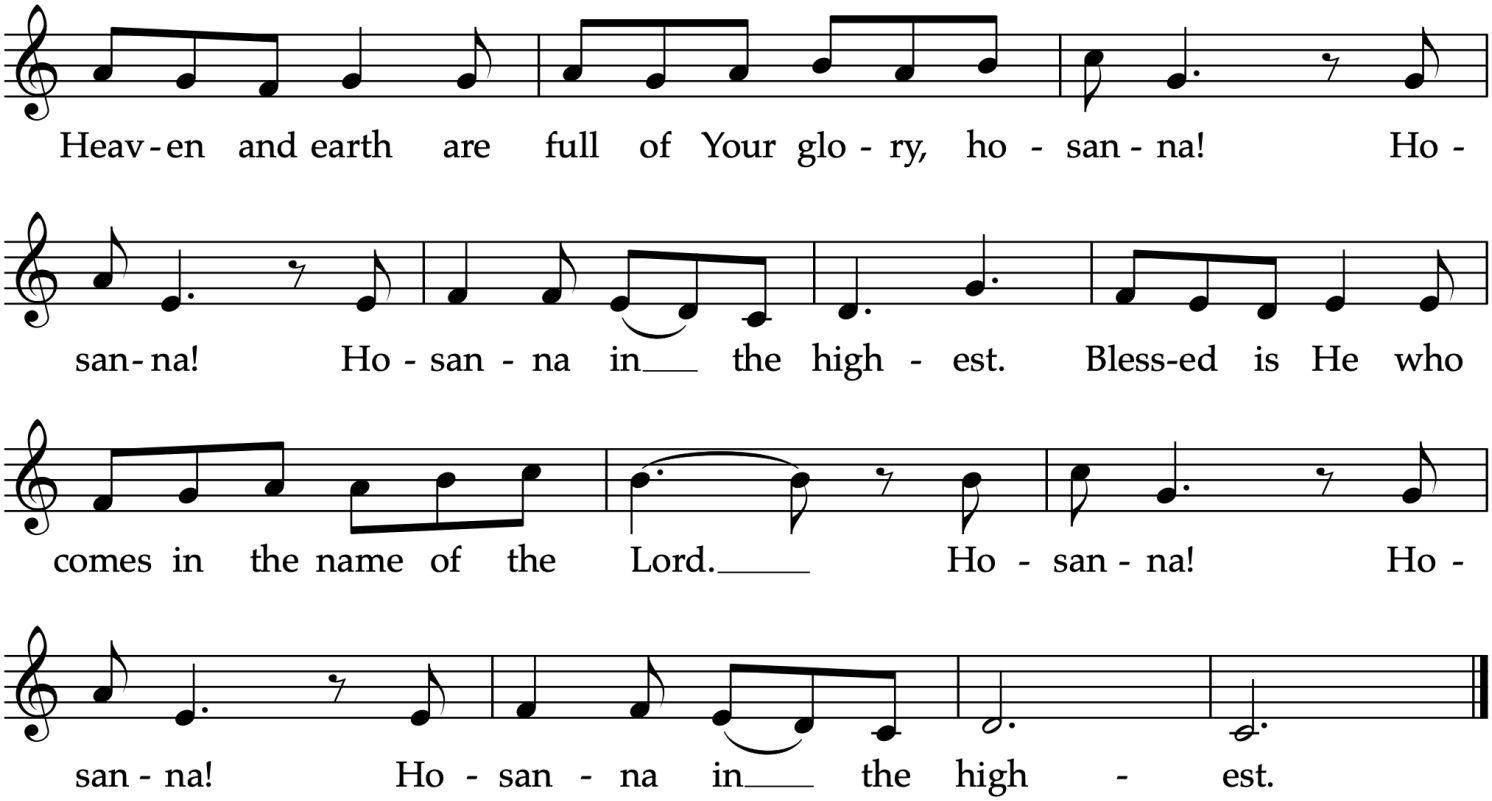
Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface

join their unending hymn…
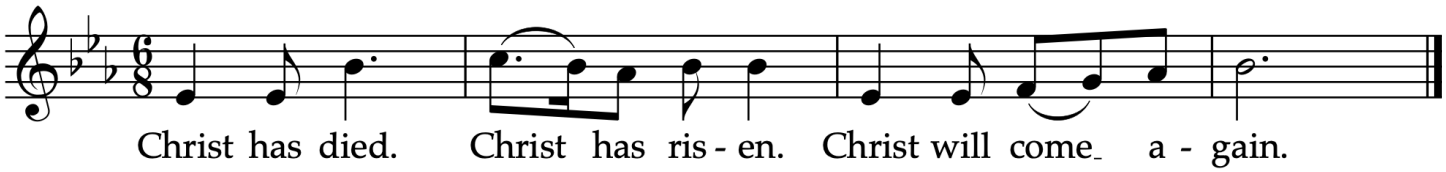




Thanksgiving at the Table

Memorial Acclamation

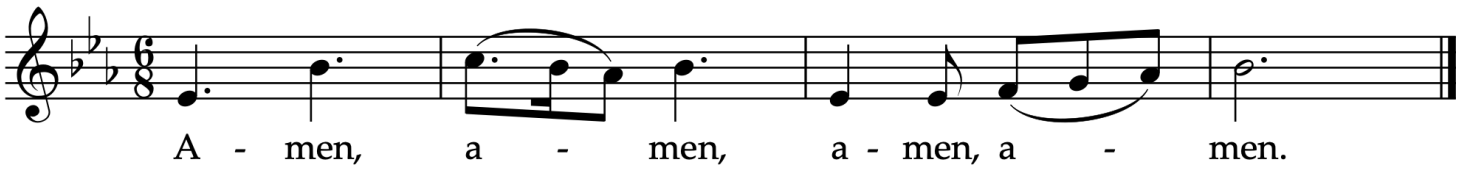
Until he comes…



And let the church say, Amen. ***Amen.***

Amen

Now and forever…



Lord's Prayer

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
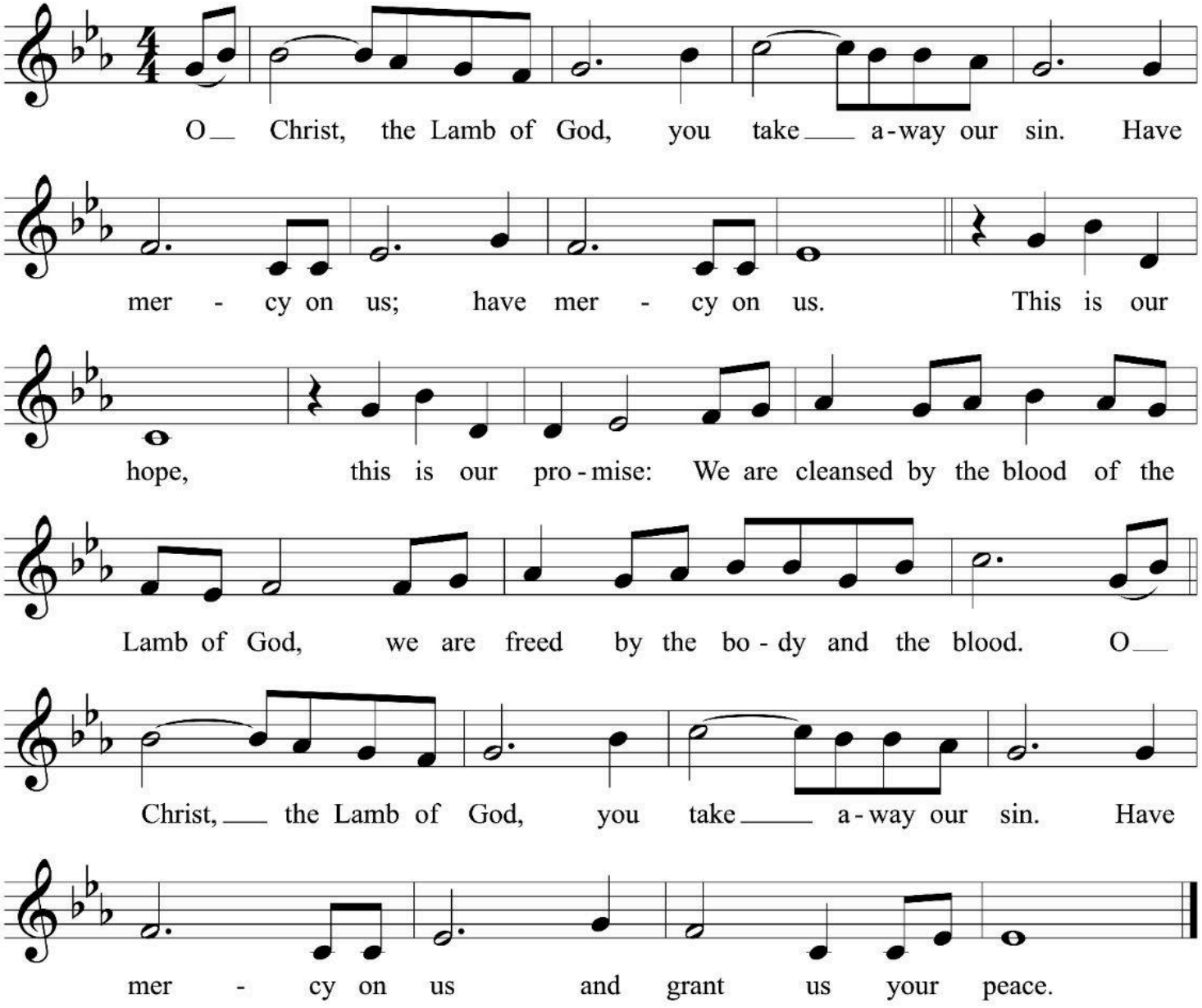
Invitation to Communion

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

This is the feast of all the baptized, regardless of denomination. All are welcome.

Please be seated

Lamb of God



Communion

Please bring an empty cup to the altar rail from the station in the center of the main aisle. Grape juice is available. A gluten-free, celiac-friendly option is also available. Please ask the server if you require a gluten-free option. If you wish to come forward for a blessing but not commune, please cross your arms over your chest.

Music During Communion

Shall We Gather At The River - Arr. Michael Helman

Please stand as able.

Post-Communion Blessing

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

Prayer after Communion

A: Let us pray. Holy God, we have received your never-ending mercy in this meal. **You continuously seek the lost, bind the injured, and feed your people abundantly. Now send us out, awake to your presence, now and forever. Amen.**

Sending

Blessing

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

Hymn Soon and Very Soon ELW 439

Verses 3 and 4 in parts as able,
along with claps on beats 2 and 4.

Dismissal

A: As disciples of Jesus at Nativity, **we are gathering through the love of Christ to care, grow, and serve. Amen.**

Amos 5:18-24

18 Woe to you who desire the day of the LORD!
Why do you want the day of the LORD? It is
darkness, not light, 19 as if someone fled from a
lion and was met by a bear or went into the
house and rested a hand against the wall and
was bitten by a snake. 20 Is not the day of the
LORD darkness, not light, and gloom with no
brightness in it? 21 I hate, I despise your
festivals, and I take no delight in your solemn
assemblies. 22 Even though you offer me your
burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not
accept them, and the offerings of well-being of
your fatted animals I will not look upon. 23 Take
away from me the noise of your songs; I will not
listen to the melody of your harps. 24 But let
justice roll down like water and righteousness
like an ever-flowing stream.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

13 We do not want you to be uninformed,
brothers and sisters, about those who have
died, so that you may not grieve as others do
who have no hope. 14 For since we believe that
Jesus died and rose again, even so, through
Jesus, God will bring with him those who have
died. 15 For this we declare to you by the word of
the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until
the coming of the Lord, will by no means
precede those who have died. 16 For the Lord
himself, with a cry of command, with the
archangel's call and with the sound of God's
trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the
dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are
alive, who are left, will be caught up in the
clouds together with them to meet the Lord in
the air, and so we will be with the Lord forever.

18 Therefore encourage one another with these
words.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Matthew 25:1-13

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

[Jesus said to the disciples:] 1 "Then the
kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten young
women took their lamps and went to meet the
bridegroom. 2 Five of them were foolish, and five
were wise. 3 When the foolish took their lamps,
they took no oil with them, 4 but the wise took
flasks of oil with their lamps. 5 As the bridegroom
was delayed, all of them became drowsy and
slept. 6 But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look!
Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.'
7 Then all those young women got up and
trimmed their lamps. 8 The foolish said to the
wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps
are going out.' 9 But the wise replied, 'No! there
will not be enough for you and for us; you had
better go to the dealers and buy some for
yourselves.' 10 And while they went to buy it, the
bridegroom came, and those who were ready
went with him into the wedding banquet, and the
door was shut. 11 Later the other young women
came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' 12 But
he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.'
13 Keep awake, therefore, for you know neither
the day nor the hour."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

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