ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH

Called by Christ to be a sanctuary that welcomes and serves all.

23225 Gill Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48335
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248-474-0584

24TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Today the prophet Amos calls for justice to roll down like waters. Paul urges us to encourage one another with the promised coming of the Lord. Jesus tells the parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids. Surrounded by the faithful of every time and place, we celebrate Christ's coming in our midst in the word of life and the feast of victory—the marriage feast of the Lamb.

November 8, 2026
10:00 am

Pastor
Rev. Dr. Mark Fisher
Director of Music: Sean Michael Jackman DMA, Ed.D
Director of Mission Advancement: Ashleigh Altemann
Office Manager
Marie Cook

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

BELL CALL TO WORSHIP
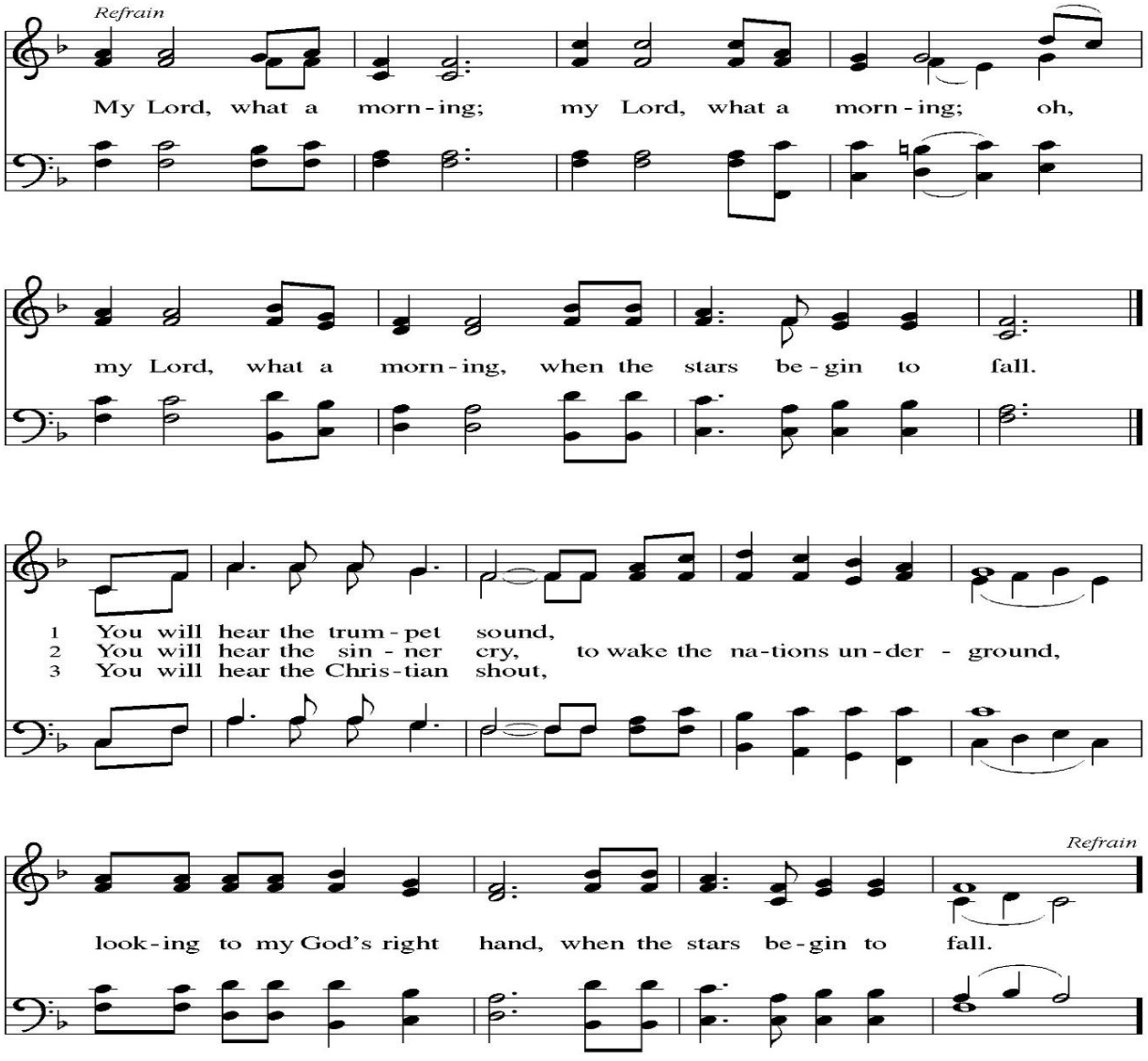
Let us prepare our hearts and minds for worship

PRELUDE: For All the Saints Arr. S. Burtonwood

WELCOME/ ANNOUNCEMENTS

please stand as you are able

GATHERING HYMN: My Lord, What a Morning ELW 438



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

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.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, our dwelling place for all generations, whose compassion never slumbers. **Amen.**
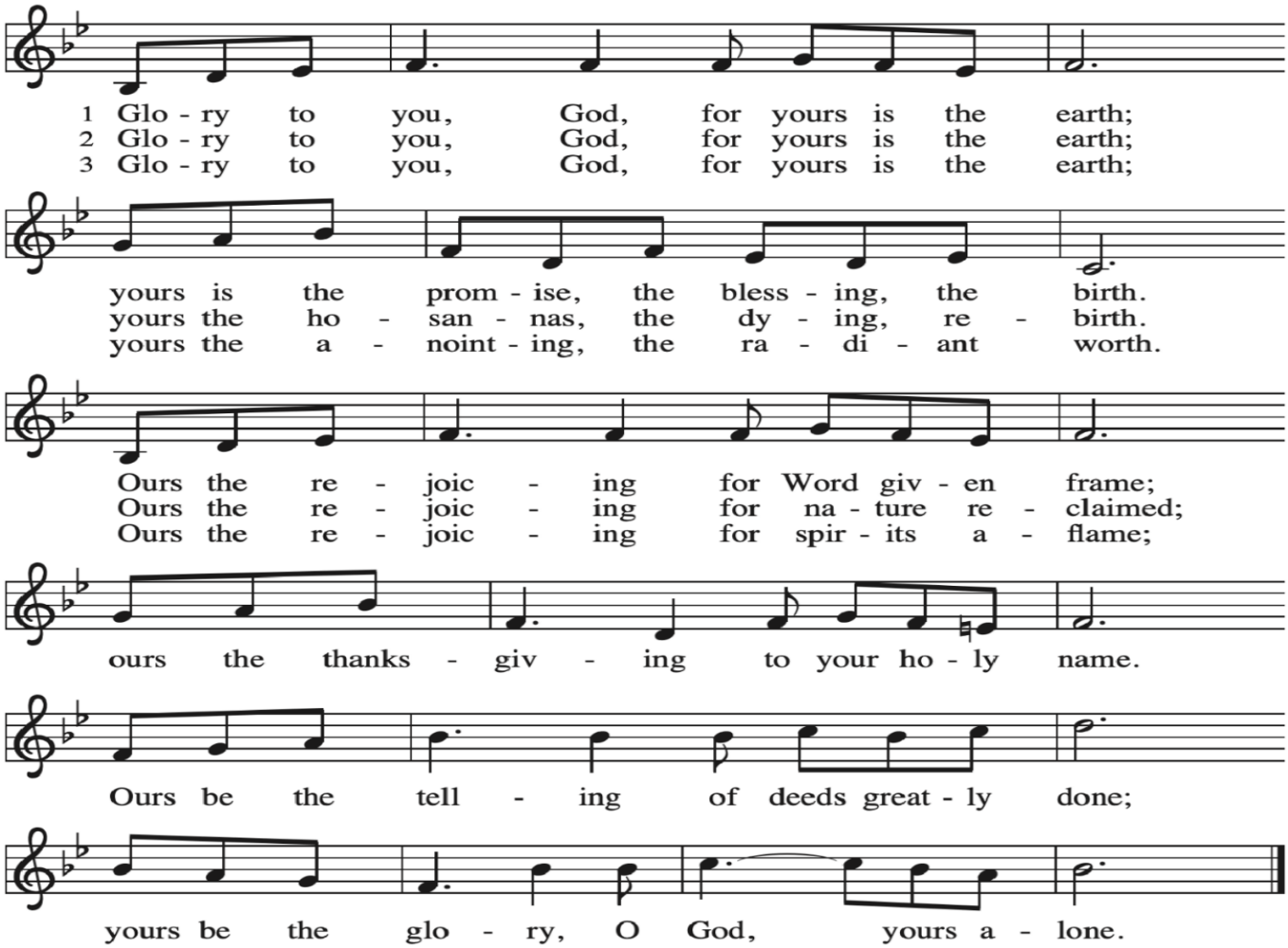
Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: 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.**

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

HYMN OF PRAISE: ACS SETTING 12



PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you. **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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Amos 5:18-24

In the days of Amos, people thought that the day of the LORD would be a time of great victory, but Amos announced that it would be a day of darkness, not light. He said liturgy is no substitute for obedience. The LORD demands justice and righteousness in the community.

A: 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.

A: The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 70

A: Be pleased, O God, to deliver me; O LORD, make haste to help me.

C: **Let those who seek my life be put to shame and confounded; let those who take pleasure in my misfortune draw back and be disgraced.**

A: Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat over me turn back because of their shame.

C: **Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; let those who love your salvation say forever, "Great is the LORD!"**

A: But as for me, I am poor and needy; come to me quickly, O God. You are my helper and my deliverer; O LORD, do not tarry.
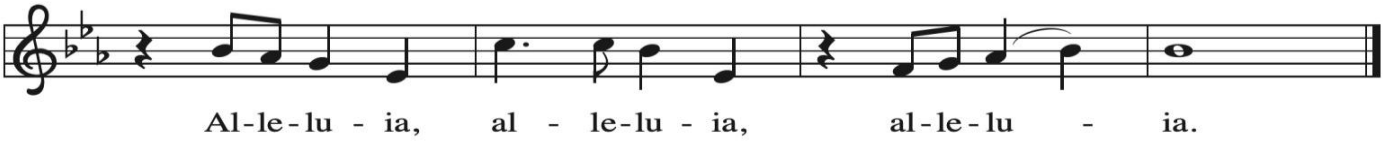
SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Some of the Thessalonians are worried that dead Christians will be excluded from the resurrection to eternal life when Christ comes again. Paul reassures them with the word of hope that all Christians, living or dead, will be raised into everlasting life with Christ.

A: 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.

A: The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**
Please stand as you are able

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ACS SETTING 12



Repeat alleluia

GOSPEL: Matthew 25:1-13
P: The holy gospel according to Matthew, the 25th chapter.
C: **Glory to you, O Lord**

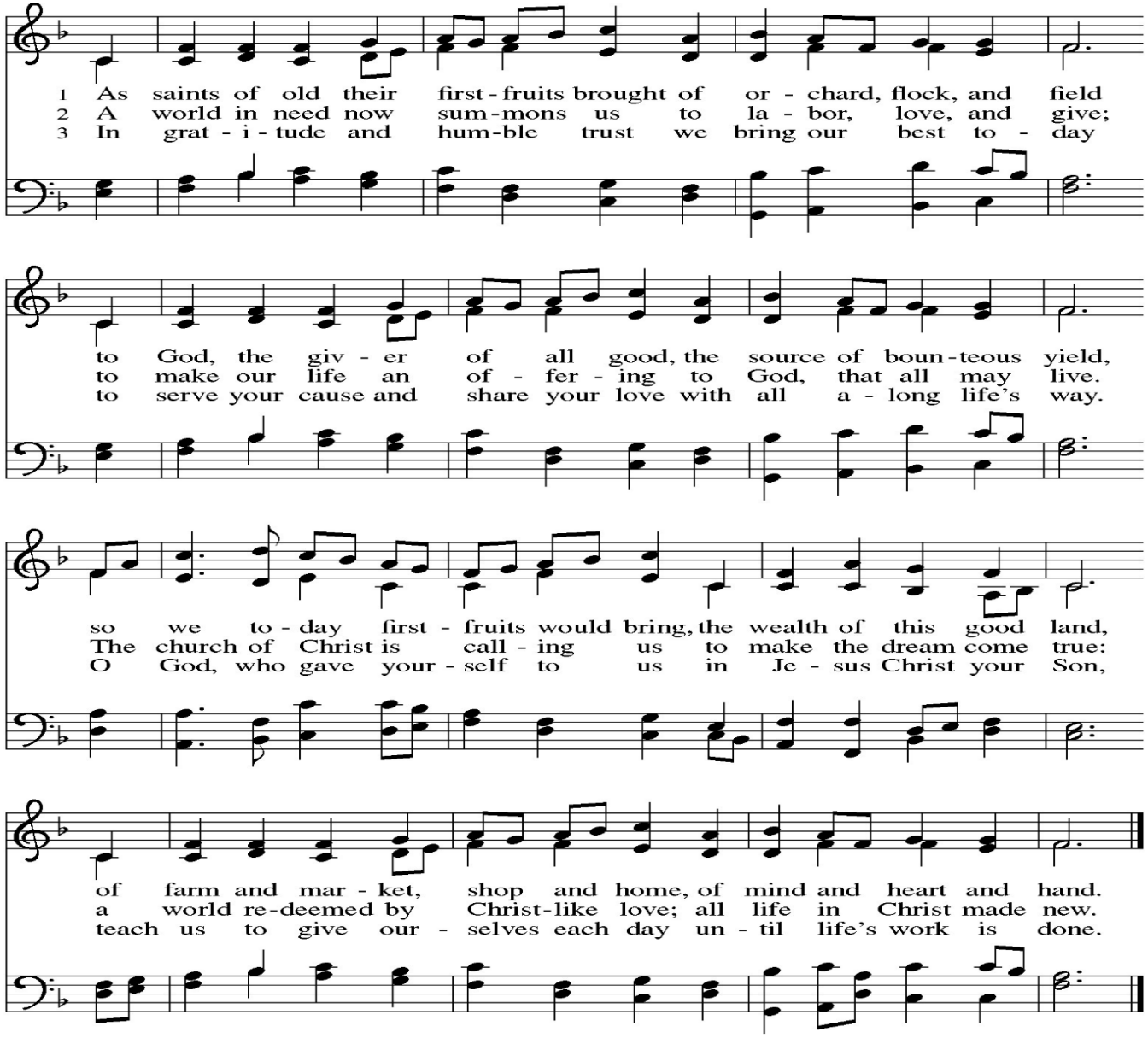
Jesus tells a parable about his own second coming, emphasizing the need for readiness at all times.

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

Please be seated.

SERMON: "Got Oil?" Pastor Mark Fisher

HYMN OF THE DAY: As Saints of Old ELW 695



Text: Frank von Christierson, 1900–1996, alt.
Music: FOREST GREEN, English folk tune; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958
Text © 1961, ren. 1989 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188.
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Outside USA: Arr. from *The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906.

CONFESSION OF FAITH: The Apostles Creed

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.

ST JOHN CHOIR ANTHEM: High is the Heaven L. Lawton arr. P. Tate

PRAYER REQUESTS AND PRAISE REPORTS

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: United with the great cloud of witnesses, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.
A brief silence.
A: You illumine the church with the hope of your new day. Prepare our hearts and minds for the inbreaking of your kingdom, that we might awaken to your transforming love at work all around us. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

A: You create and sustain the earth's natural rhythms so that all life might thrive. Show us the wisdom and wonder of nature's balance; make us careful stewards of our common home. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

A: You make justice roll down in all places and among all nations. Encourage all who protect vulnerable communities and help rebuild in the aftermath of conflict (relief ministries or organizations may be named). Uphold veterans and those who care for them. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

A: You hasten to heal our wounds and make whole what is broken. Comfort individuals facing a difficult diagnosis, receiving palliative care, or facing uncertain treatment options. (We pray especially for . . .) God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.
A: You give rest to weary hearts and bodies. As the days grow shorter in the north, help us to move more slowly and intentionally through our days, honoring the need for quiet and stillness. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.
Here other intercessions may be offered.
A: You welcome those who have come before us in faith into the joys of heaven. Sustain us by your grace and guide us into the promise of everlasting life. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

P: 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

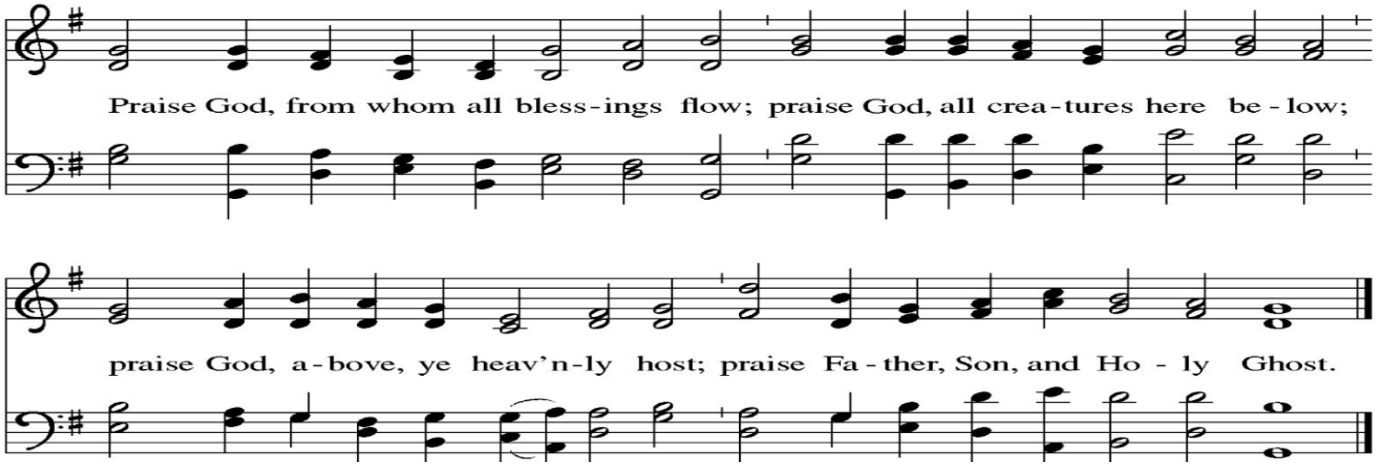
P: The peace of Christ be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Christ.

OFFERING MUSIC: Rêverie C. Debussy

Doxology ELW 885 (please stand as offering is brought forward)



OFFERING PRAYER:

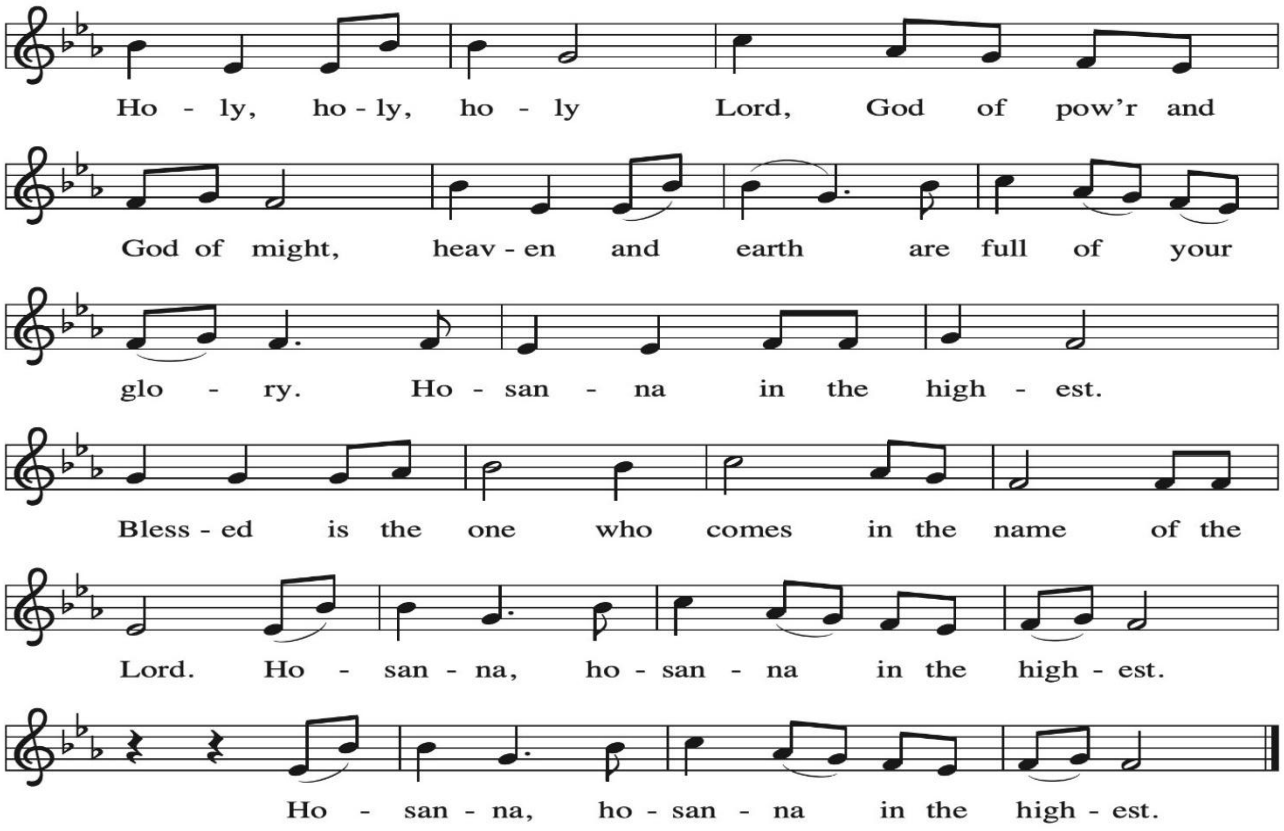
A: Eternal God, our time, talents, and treasures are gifts from you.
Receive what we offer, and all that you entrust to us,
until hungry no more, all the world is fed,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The 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.**

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: ACS SETTING 12



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

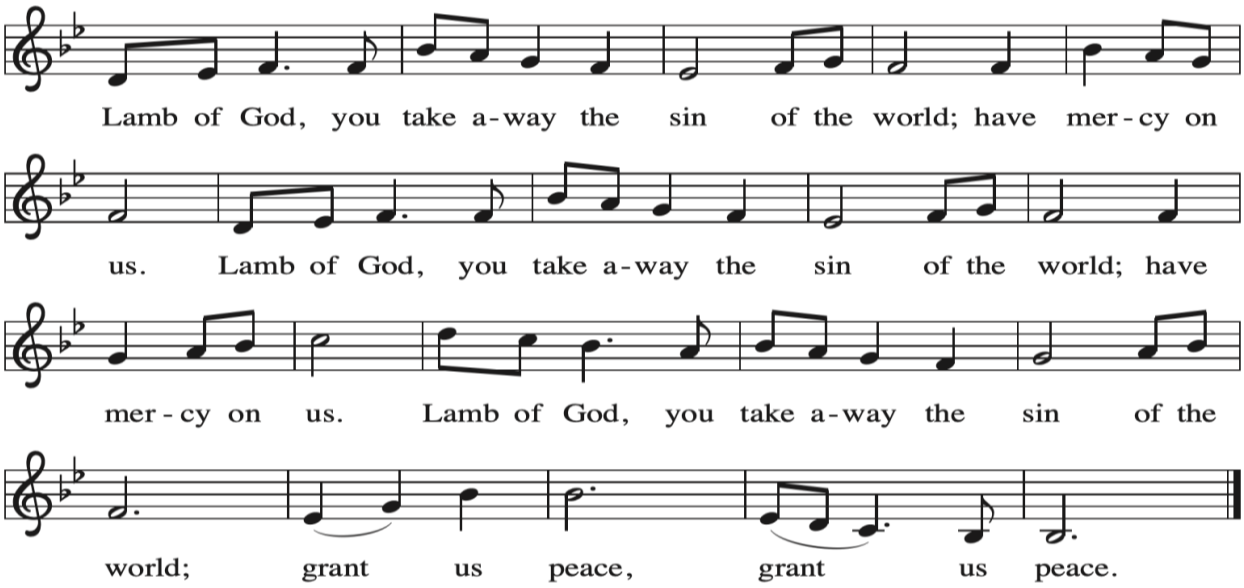
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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

Pastor/Presider extends invitation to online participants to partake of communion The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ shed for you. Amen

LAMB OF GOD: ACS SETTING 12



COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION MUSIC: Melody in the Mist, Vol. 4, No. 107 from Mikrokosmos B. Bartok
Please stand as you are able

BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

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

SENDING

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world***.**

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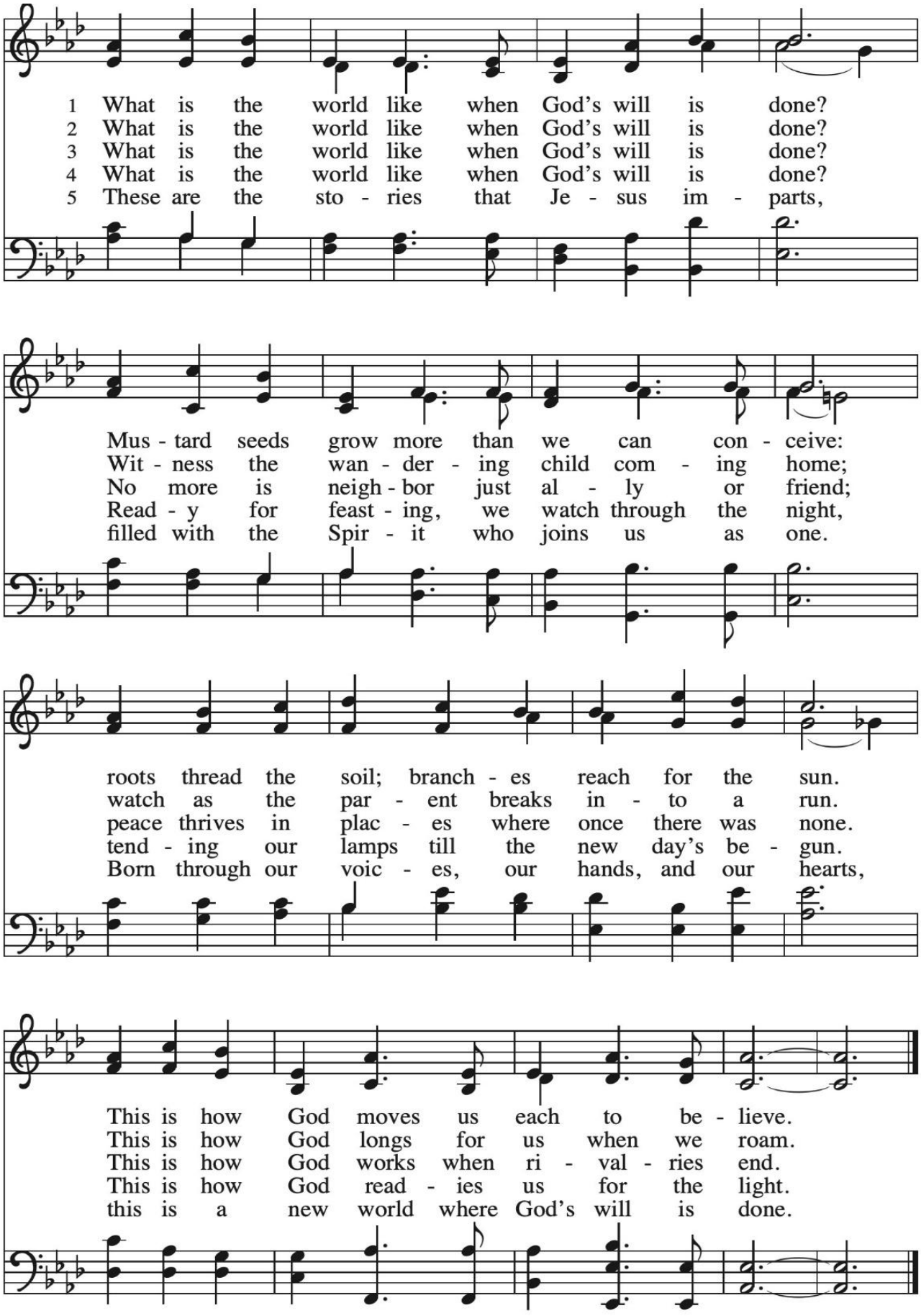
A: Holy God, we have received your never-ending mercy in this meal.
You continuously seek the lost, bind the injured, and feed your people abundantly.
Now send us out, awake to your presence, now and forever.
Amen.

RINGING OF THE BELL

BLESSING

P: The Lord bless you and keep you;
the Lord make his face shine on you and be
gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you
and give you peace. **Amen**

SENDING HYMN: What is the World Like ACS 1047 V1 V2 and V5



DISMISSAL

A: We are called by Christ

C: **to be a Sanctuary that Welcomes and Serves All.**

A: Go in peace. Encourage one another.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE: For All the Saints (Variation Four) T. Shaw

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What is the World like ACS 1047

Text: Adam M. L. Tice, b. 1979
Music: NEW WORLD, Sally Ann Morris, b. 1952
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