ST. THOMAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH + SCHOOL

Worship | Study | Friendship | Compassion
November 15, 2026—10:00AM

If you are watching online, please fill out an online Connection Card by clicking the link in the comments. If you are in person, you can find a Connection Card in the church pews.

Baptized Today:

Camille Lafitte

Grounded in God

Your faithful giving helps our church grow in ministry, mission, and community. As we plan for 2027, your annual pledge plays a vital role in supporting the life and work of St. Thomas.

Please submit your pledge card online by scanning the QR code or drop it in the offering plate. We will follow up with member families who we haven't heard from this week. Thank you for your generosity!

Sunday Sermon Series:

Hope That Holds:
Comfort for the Grieving
November 1st–November 15th

Today is the final week of our three-week sermon series. Together, we're exploring what Christian hope looks like in the midst of grief and loss.

Missed a Sunday?
Previous sermons are available on our YouTube channel.
www.youtube.com/c/tom1604.

St. Thomas Ofrenda

Thank you to everyone who participated in this year's Ofrenda. Your photos helped make the display truly special. All pictures are now ready for pickup in Gosnell Hall. Please stop by to collect yours.

Youth Group Sunday Hangout: Friendsgiving

Today, November 15th
4:00pm - 6:00pm, in the Youth Room
6th - 12th grade

What's better than good food and good friends? Come celebrate Friendsgiving with us for an afternoon of food, laughter, and time together. Bring a friend, bring your appetite, and come ready to celebrate.

A Litany of Healing

Sunday, November 22nd

During both Sunday services, a special Litany of Healing will be offered for those in need of additional prayers. Anointing with oil for healing will also be available during the services. Following Communion, individuals desiring additional prayers are invited to proceed to the Chapel of the Cross, located to the left of the altar.

Christ the King Sunday

Sunday, November 22nd

The St. Thomas Music Ministry invites you to participate in Christ the King Sunday. On November 22nd, we will sing the "Hallelujah Chorus" from Handel's *Messiah* at the 10:00am service. All are welcome to join us, either for a 9:00am rehearsal or simply at the 10:00am service. Music will be provided.

To receive music in advance, contact Music Minister Ryan Becker at rbecker@tom1604.org.

Thanksgiving Eve Worship and PieFest

Wednesday, November 25th, 7:00pm

St. Thomas invites you to an evening of worship and pie. Worship begins at 7:00pm. After worship all are welcome to the Parish Hall for a slice of pie. Please bring a pie to share.

Advent Family Night

Sunday, November 29th, 5:30pm-7:30pm

Kick off the holiday season with St. Thomas! We invite you to join us for an evening of crafts, pizza, fellowship, and family fun.

Wednesday Advent Dinner Series

December 2nd - December 16th
Wednesdays in the Parish Hall

6:00pm—Dinner Served
6:30pm-7:30pm—Program Series

Gather around the table this Advent for three evenings of food, fellowship, and the story of Christmas told through art, music, and imagination. From Mary's great "yes" to the Nativity and the journey of the Magi, we'll explore familiar stories in new ways, with Handel's Messiah woven throughout each evening.

Discipleship Hour-Sundays at 9:00am

Christ the King: The Reign of God in Scripture and Tradition

November 15th–November 22nd
in the Parish Hall led by Fr. Mike

What does it mean to call Jesus King? We'll explore the biblical vision of Christ's reign and the story behind the Feast of Christ the King, discovering why this celebration still matters for how we understand Jesus and His kingdom today.

Discipleship Hour-Sundays at 9:00am

The Voice in the Wilderness: John the Baptist

November 29th–December 20th
in the Parish Hall led by Fr. Mike

Who was John the Baptist, and why does his story matter beyond preparing the way for Jesus? From his prophetic calling and ministry at the Jordan to his imprisonment, doubt, and death, we'll discover how John's life and witness continually point us to Christ.

Children's Sunday School

Ages 3 - 5th grade, in Room 112

Each Sunday, children will journey through the Old Testament. Using Bible stories, prayer, activities, and conversation, kids will grow in faith, experience God's love, and learn what it means to follow Jesus.

Discipleship for Moms

in Room 111 led by Paige Martin

This fall we're walking through *Abide* by Jen Wilkin, a study of John's letters and the call to remain in Christ's love. As we gather around Scripture, prayer, and conversation, we'll encourage one another and make room to listen for God's presence during everyday life.

Youth Group Series: Gratitude and Advent Expectation

November 22nd–December 20th
6th - 12th grade, in Room 109

What if we made space to notice the good, even while we're still waiting for what's next? As we journey toward Christmas, we'll explore gratitude, hope, peace, and joy, learning to recognize God's presence in both ordinary moments and the anticipation of Christ's coming.

The Holy Eucharist, Rite II

The Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

November 15, 2026 • 10:00 AM

Worship lies at the heart of the Christian life. It is in worship that we express our theology and define our identity. It is through encountering God within worship that we are formed and transformed as the people of God. One of the glories of the Episcopal Church is its liturgical worship. Liturgy refers to the patterns, forms, words, and actions through which public worship is conducted.

The people's responses are in **bold.**

This type of note, offering directions about the service is called a "rubric," which comes from the Latin word rubrica (red) referring to a time when these instructional notes were always written in red.

Today's altar flowers are given to the glory of God in memory of Austin Wolfburg by Mindy & Hannah Wolfburg.

Today's altar wine is given to the glory of God in memory of Austin Wolfburg by Mindy & Hannah Wolfburg.

Today's altar flowers are given to the glory of God in memory of niece, Christa Knapp by Helen Lynch.
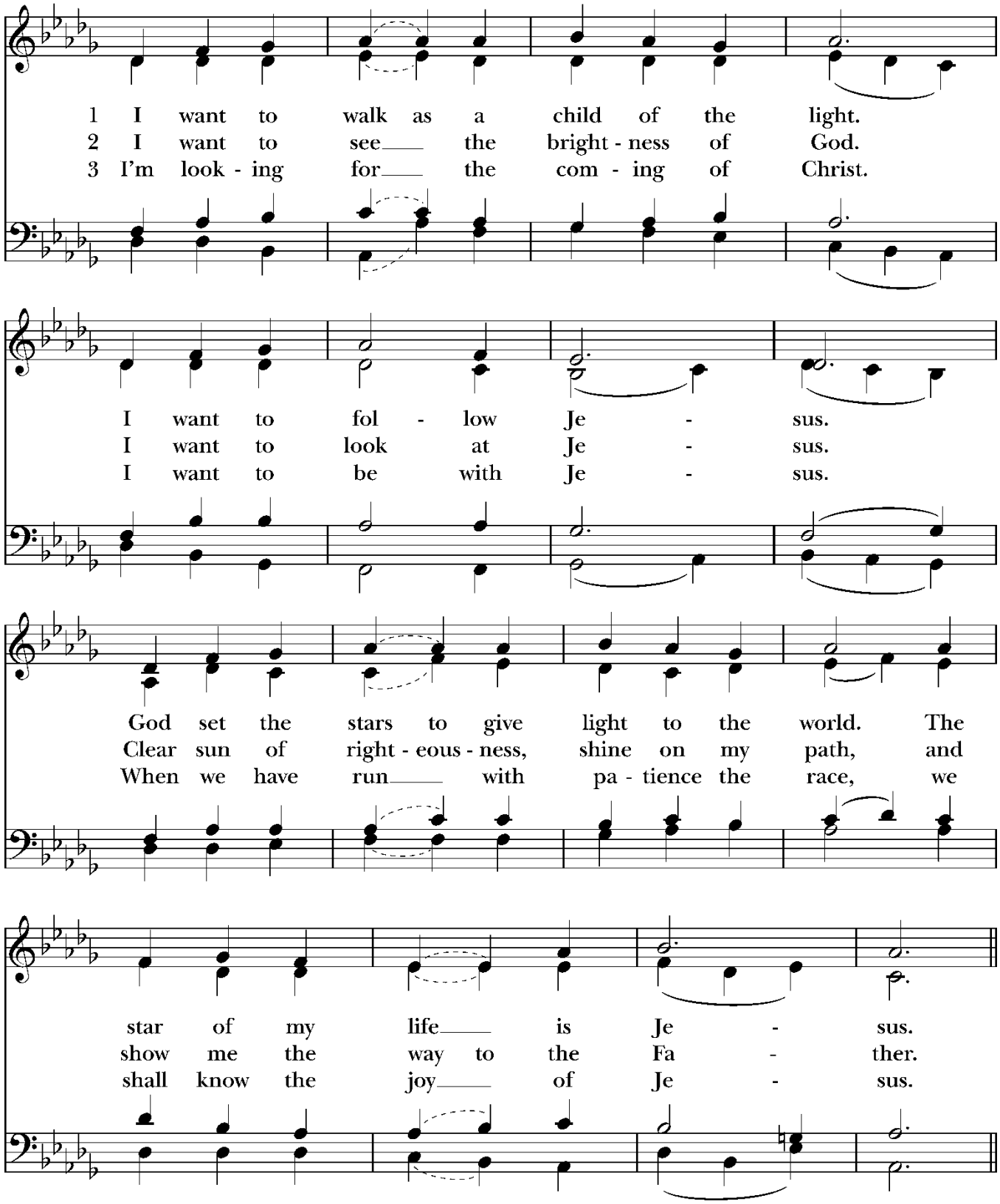
THE ENTRANCE RITE
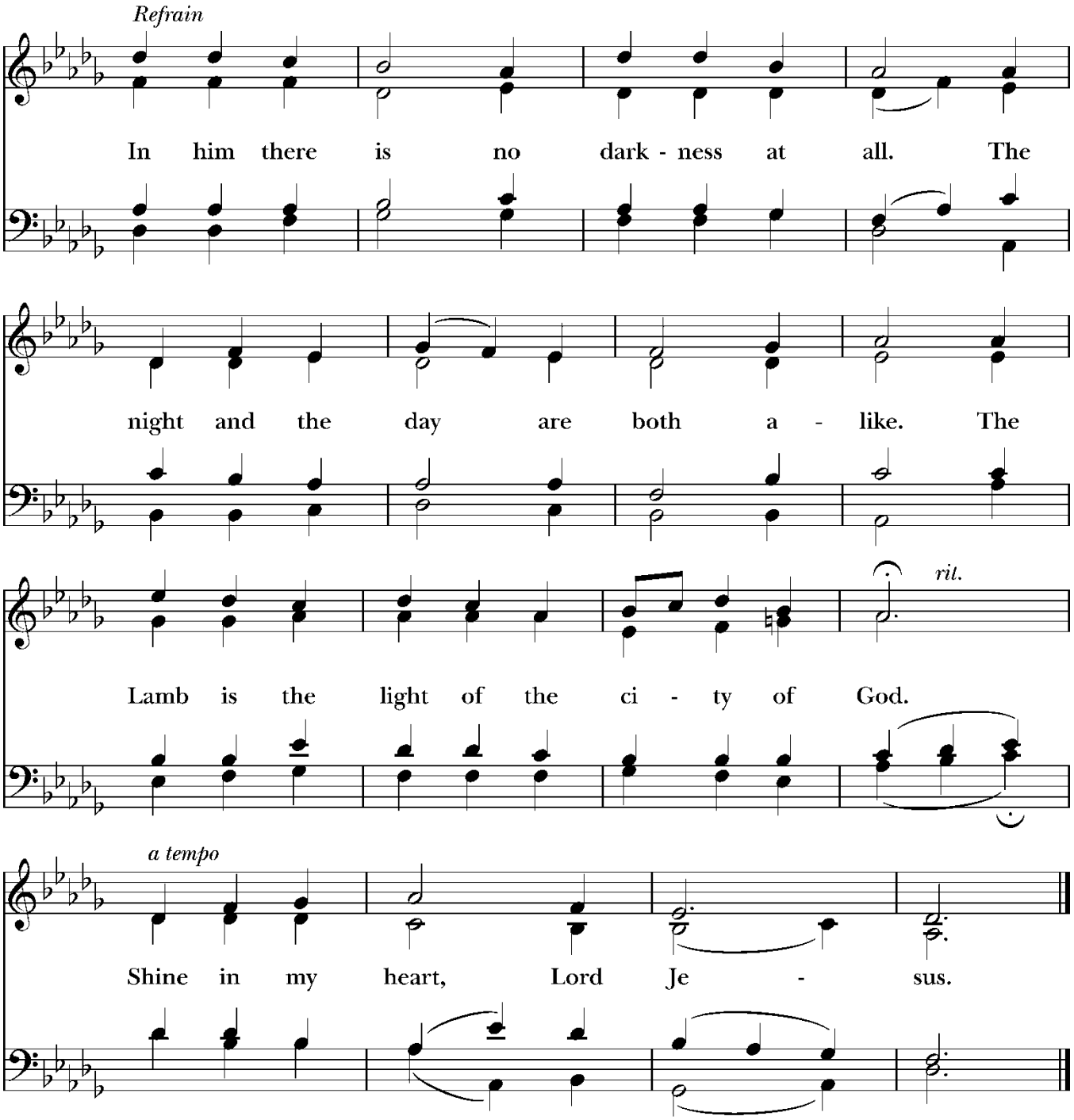
THE VOLUNTARY

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HYMN • 490

Houston





Words: Kathleen Thomerson (b. 1934). Copyright © 1970, 1975, Celebration, Aliquippa, PA 15001. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission. Music: Houston, Kathleen Thomerson (b. 1934).

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

BOOK OF **C**OMMON **P**RAYER **299**

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

The Celebrant then continues

There is one Body and one Spirit;
There is one hope in God's call to us;

One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;
One God and Father of all.

THE WORD OF GOD

The proper of the mass are the scriptural texts that change with the liturgical calendar. The collect, lessons, psalm, Gospel and preface to the communion liturgy are propers. Our lessons come from a prescribed cycle of readings called the lectionary. The lectionary consists of a three year cycle: Year. Each year we retell the story from Advent through Pentecost.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The collect is the prayer appointed for each Sunday that "collects" or captures the theme of the day or season of the Church year. It summarizes the attributes of God as revealed in the scriptures for the day.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray.

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE ANTHEM

Arr. Jay Althouse

My life flows on in endless song, above earth's lamentation.
I hear the real though far off song that hails a new creation.
Through all the tumult and the strife I hear the music ringing.
It finds an echo in my soul. How can I keep from Singing?

While though the tempest loudly roars, I hear the truth: it liveth.
And though the darkness 'round me close, songs in the night it giveth.
No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that rock I'm clinging.
Since love is lord of heav'n and earth, how can I keep from singing?

THE CHILDREN'S SERMON

We invite your child to join our Children's Church program this morning! Children ages 3 through 5th grade are invited to come up for the children's sermon and then follow our Children's Church Leader, to a classroom down the hallway in our education wing. After the exchange of the peace, children are ushered back to their seats.

THE FIRST READING

Judges 4:1-7

This reading is typically from the Old Testament (Hebrew Scriptures) which Jesus knew and from which he often referred or quoted.

[1]The Israelites again did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, after Ehud died. [2]So the LORD sold them into the hand of King Jabin of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor; the commander of his army was Sisera, who lived in Harosheth-ha-goiim. [3]Then the Israelites cried out to the LORD for help; for he had nine hundred chariots of iron, and had oppressed the Israelites cruelly for twenty years.

[4]At that time Deborah, a prophetess, wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel. [5]She used to sit
under the palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim; and
the Israelites came up to her for judgement. [6]She sent and summoned Barak son of Abinoam
from Kedesh in Naphtali, and said to him, 'The LORD, the God of Israel, commands you,
"Go, take position at Mount Tabor, bringing ten thousand from the tribe of Naphtali and
the tribe of Zebulun. [7]I will draw out Sisera, the general of Jabin's army, to meet you by the
Wadi Kishon with his chariots and his troops; and I will give him into your hand."

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM 123 *sung by the choir* *Ad te levavi oculos meos*

The psalms are sung prayers that cover every mood of humanity's relationship with God and one another. The psalm is a response to hearing the Old Testament lesson and usually it relates to the themes heard in the lesson.

1 To you I lift up my eyes, *
to you enthroned in the heavens.
2 As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters, *
and the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress,
3 So our eyes look to the Lord our God, *
until he show us his mercy.
4 Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy, *
for we have had more than enough of contempt,
5 Too much of the scorn of the indolent rich, *
and of the derision of the proud.

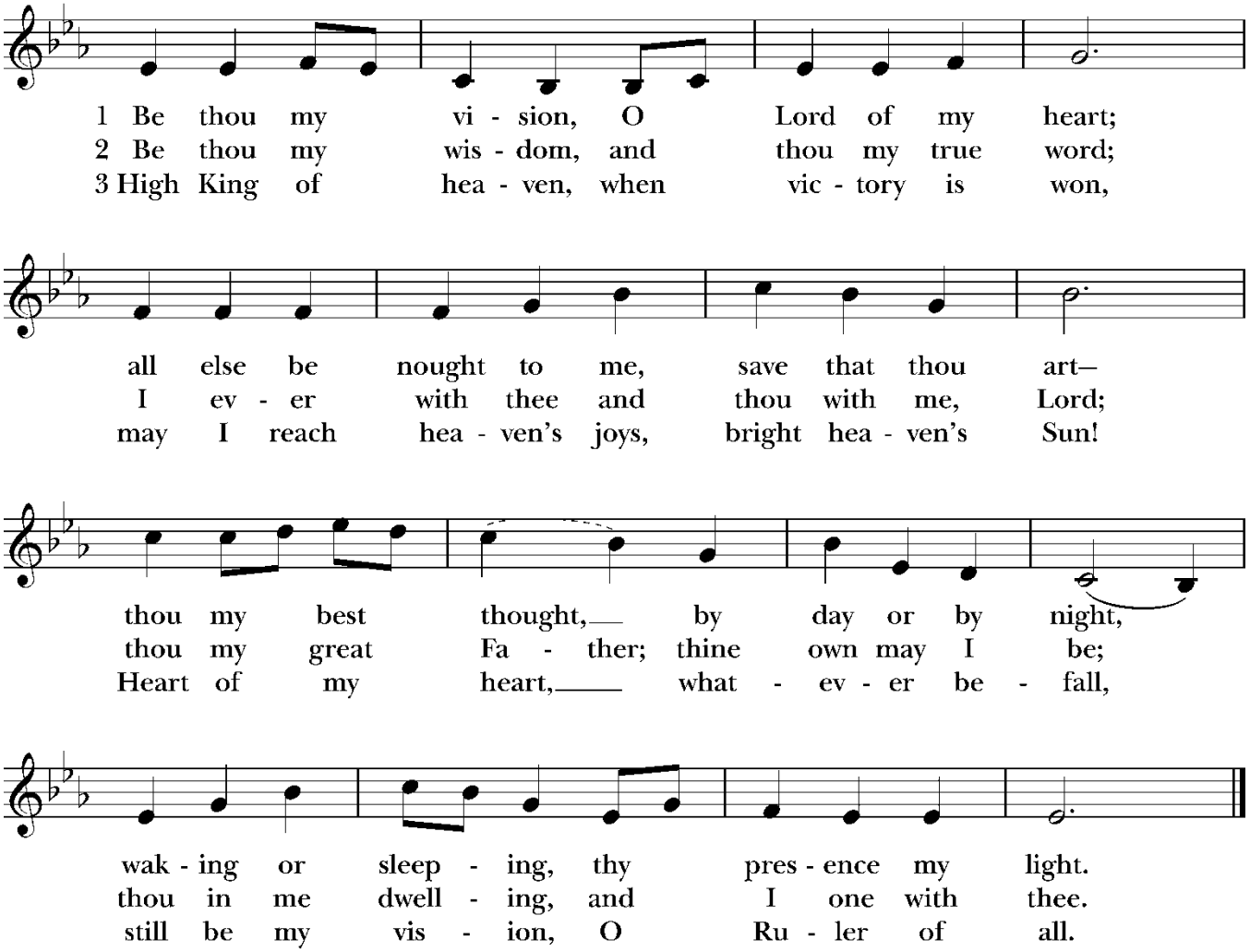
THE EPISTLE 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

This reading from the New Testament is typically from a letter (epistle) from Paul to the early Church, the Acts of the Apostles, or the Revelation to John.

[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, beloved, 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.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

THE HYMN • 488 *Slane*



THE HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 25:14-30

This reading is taken from one of the four Gospels, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, which depict the life, teachings, death, resurrection, and ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ. The Gospel is the summit of the Liturgy of the Word and means "good news" and specifically the good news of Jesus. We stand for the Gospel reading to show respect for the particular importance of Jesus' words and actions.

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

14"For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property
to them; 15to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to
his ability. Then he went away. 16The one who had received the five talents went off at once
and traded with them, and made five more talents. 17In the same way, the one who had the
two talents made two more talents. 18But the one who had received the one talent went off
and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. 19After a long time the master of
those slaves came and settled accounts with them. 20Then 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 seed; [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."

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

THE SERMON The Rev. Mike Michie

The sermon directly follows the Gospel because it illuminates the scriptural readings and relates them to daily life.

PRESENTATION AND EXAMINATION OF THE CANDIDATES BCP 301

The Candidates for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

Parents and Godparents

I present Camille Lafitte to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

Then the Celebrant asks the parents and godparents

Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?

Parents and Godparents

I will, with God's help.

Celebrant

Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

Parents and Godparents

I will, with God's help.

Then the Celebrant asks the following questions of the candidates who can speak for themselves, and of the parents and godparents who speak on behalf of the infants and younger children

Question Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

Answer I do.

Question Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

Answer I do.

Question Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

Answer I do.

After all have been presented, the Celebrant addresses the congregation, saying

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support this person in her life in Christ?

People **We will.**

The Celebrant then says

Let us join with her who is committing herself to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT BCP 304

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Father?

People **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Celebrant Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**
He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.
He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People **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.**

Celebrant Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord.

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself ?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People **I will, with God's help.**

PRAYERS FOR THE CANDIDATES BCP 305

The Celebrant then says to the congregation

Let us now pray for these persons who are to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

Leader Deliver her, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Open her heart to your grace and truth.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Fill her with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Keep her in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Teach her to love others in the power of the Spirit.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Send her into the world in witness to your love.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Bring her to the fullness of your peace and glory.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

The Celebrant says

Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and forever. **Amen.**

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER BCP 306

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

At the following words, the Celebrant touches the water

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE BAPTISM BCP 307

Camile, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon her your servant the forgiveness of sin, and have raised her to the new life of grace. Sustain her, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give her an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. **Amen.**

Then the Bishop or Priest places a hand on the person's head, marking on the forehead the sign of the cross and saying

Camille, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever. **Amen.**

When all have been baptized, the Celebrant says

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

Celebrant and People

We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.

THE PEACE

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

THE BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY PRAYERS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Having listened to the Word of God, affirmed our faith, confessed our sins, received forgiveness and shared in the peace, we are prepared for Holy Communion. At the offertory, we gratefully offer back to God some of what God has given us, symbolically in the bread and wine, and in the money we give.

All are invited to make a gift to support St. Thomas' ministry of sharing God's love with the world.

The altar is prepared for Holy Communion.

THE ANTHEM • *Oh, Freedom is Coming* South African

THE DOXOLOGY *Old 100th*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER A BCP 361

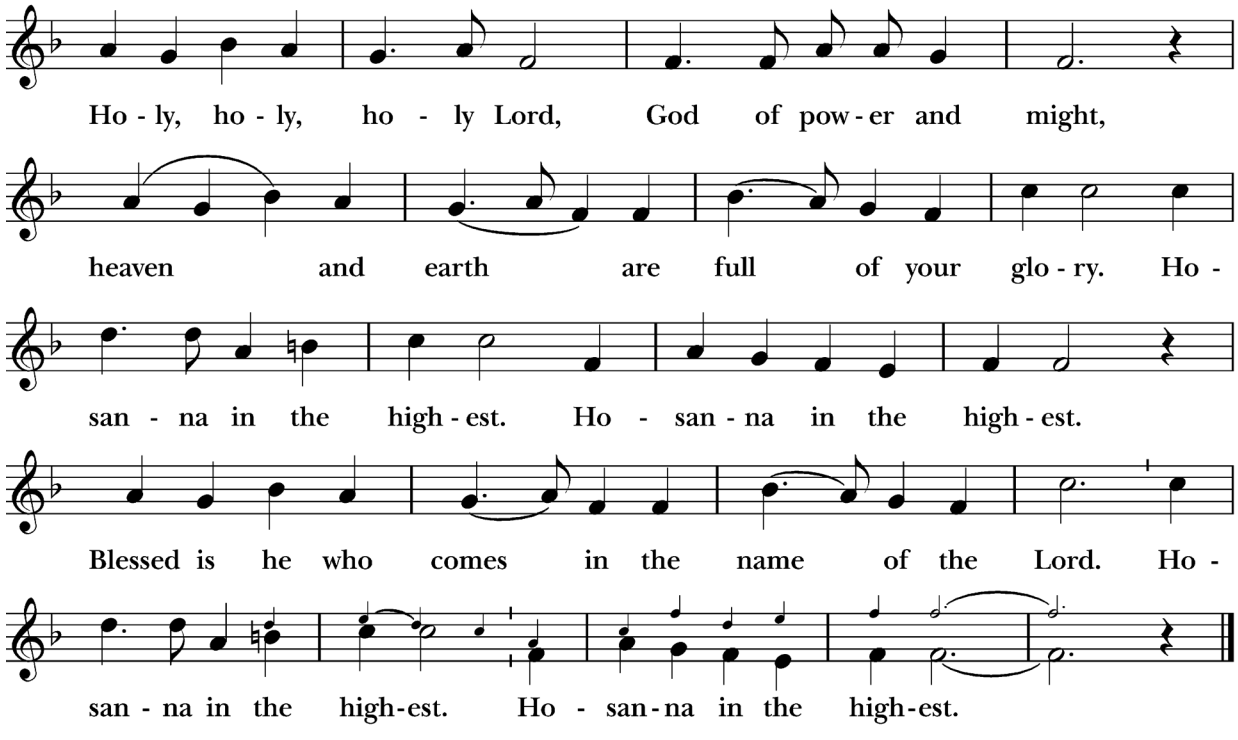
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every-where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. *(Here a Proper Preface is sung or said.)* Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

THE SANCTUS • S 125 Richard Proulx



The people stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER BCP 364

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE FRACTION ANTHEM

The presider breaks the bread.

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

THE INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The people are invited to come forward to receive communion. Gluten –free wafers are available. Inform the priest when they come to you.

For communion, you may choose to drink from the chalice or receive communion by intinction (dipping the wafer into the wine). If you wish to drink from the chalice, eat the wafer, and the chalice will be brought to you. If you prefer intinction, hold the wafer in your hand, and the intinction cup will be brought to you.

Individual prayers for healing are offered in the Chapel of the Cross. We encourage you to visit them after receiving communion.

THE HYMN • 339 *Schmucke dich*

THE HYMN • 547 *Marsh Chapel*

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER BCP 365

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE SENDING OUT
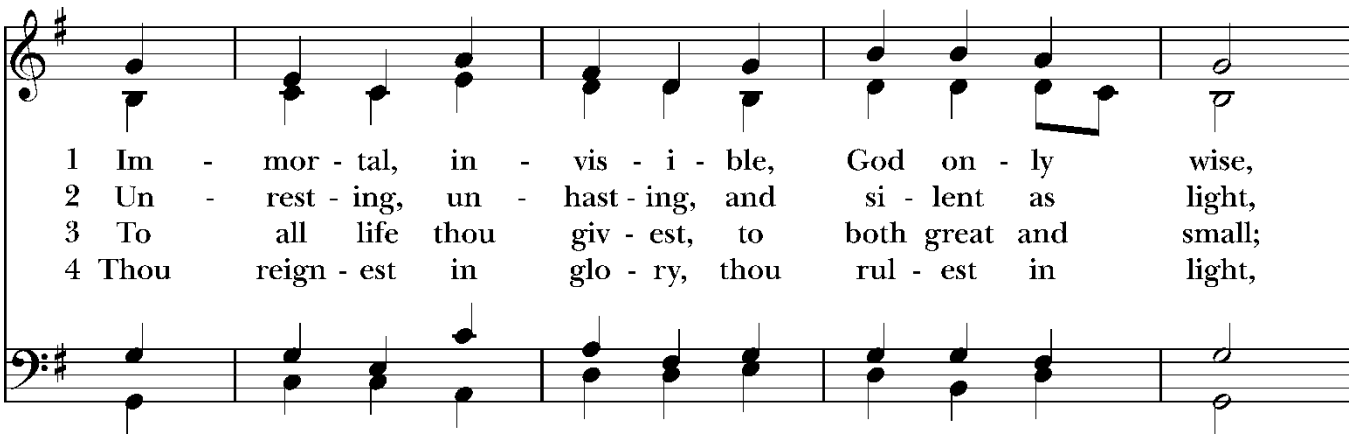
We send you out to share the communion today.
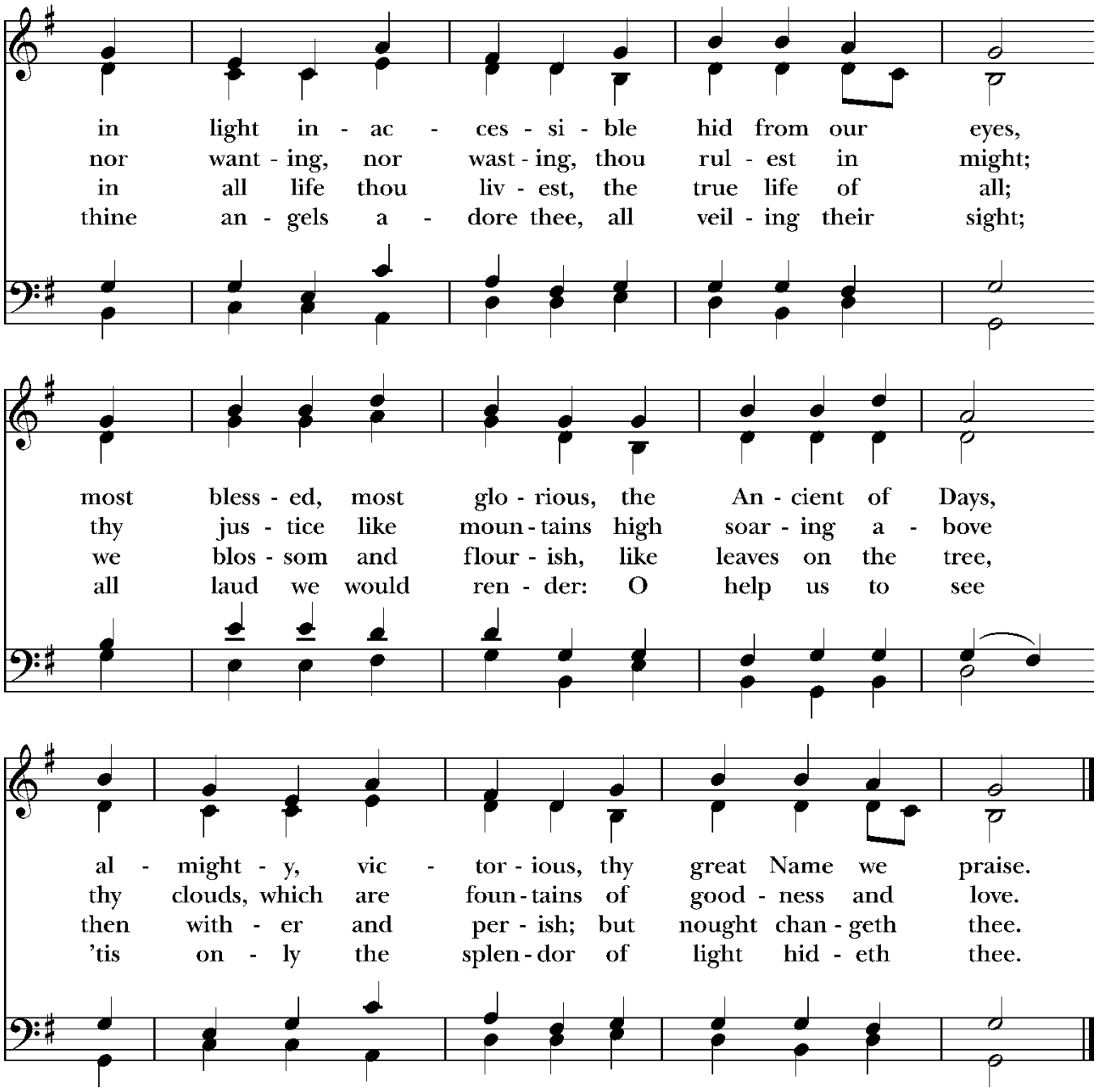
May you carry the prayers of all of us as you take this sacrament of Christ's presence.

May those who receive it from you be strengthened and encouraged in that community we have together in our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

THE BLESSING

THE HYMN • 423 *St. Denio*





Words: Walter Chalmers Smith (1824-1908), alt. Music: *St. Denio*, Welsh hymn, from *Caniadau y Cyssegr*, 1839; adapt. John Roberts (1822-1877); harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906, alt.

THE DISMISSAL

Alleluia, alleluia! Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

THE VOLUNTARY

From *RiteSong*. Copyright 2024 Church Publishing Incorporated All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission. CCLI Church Copyright License #3202108.