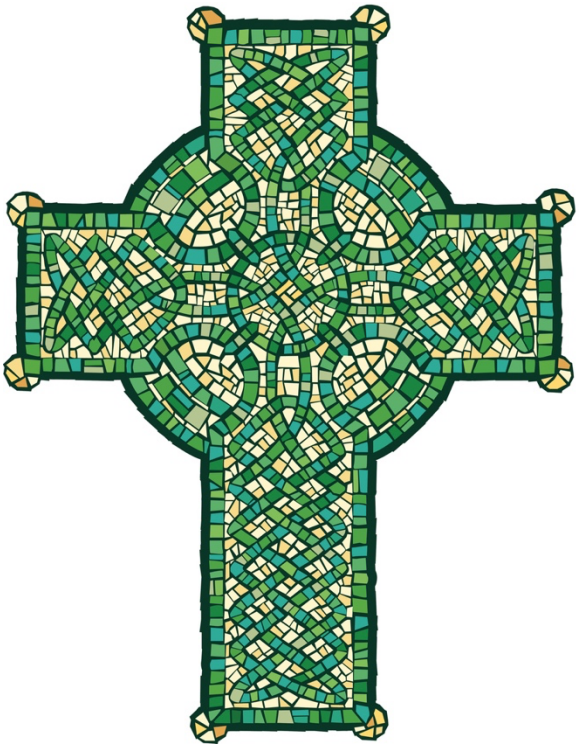


St. John the Baptist Episcopal Church

The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 27, 2026
8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. ~ Holy Eucharist

We are a welcoming Christian community
practicing hospitality, spirituality, & service!

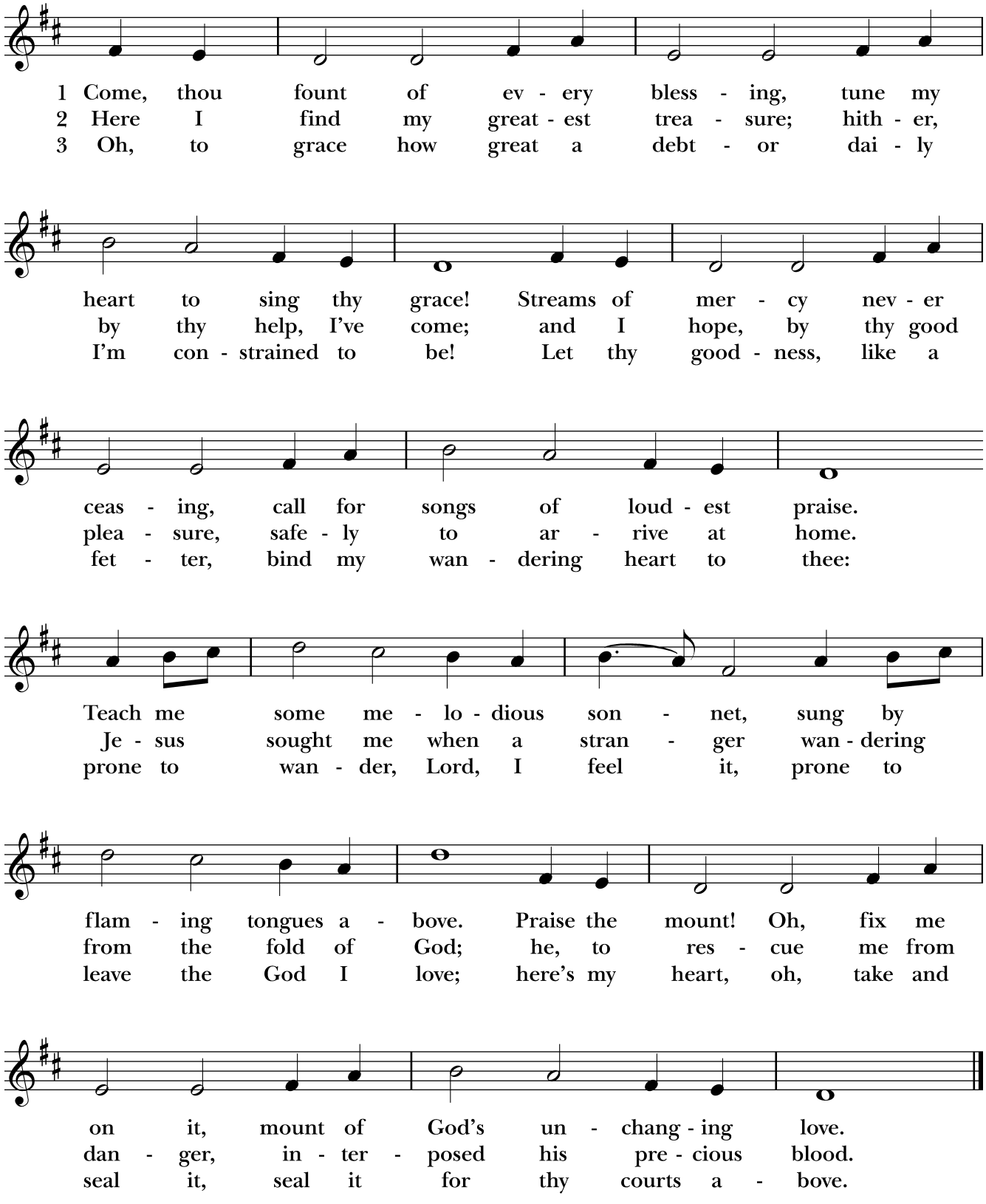
The joyful noise of children and families is always invited and celebrated.

PO Box 2166, Breckenridge, Colorado 80424
100 South French Street
Office Phone: (970) 453-4264
Website: www.stjohnsbreck.org
Email: administration@stjohnsbreck.org

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Opening Hymn –Come, thou fount of every blessing H#686



The Word of God

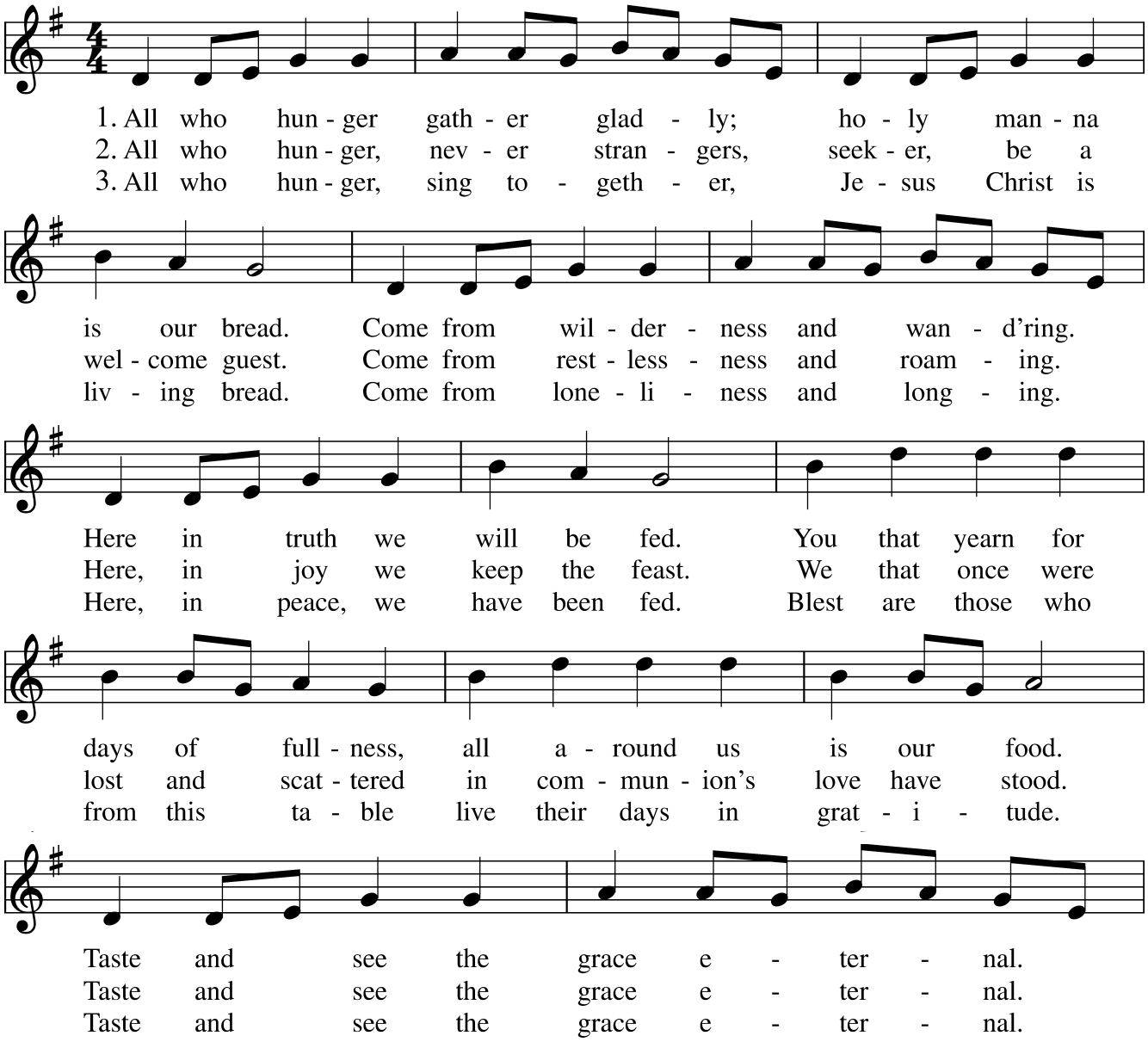
Opening Acclamation

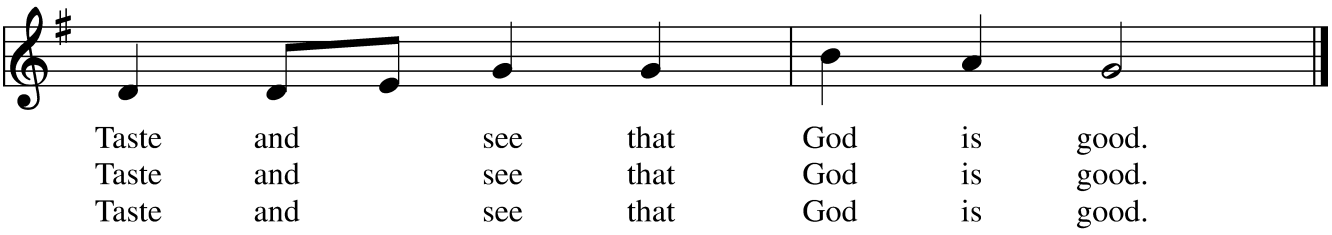
Celebrant: Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.
People: Glory to God for ever and ever.

Collect for Purity

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you 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 Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Song of Praise – All who hunger gather gladly (verses 2 and 3) WLP#761





Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Celebrant: Let us pray.

Collect of the Day

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The First Lesson – Exodus 17:1-7

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." The LORD said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

Reader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16

1 Hear my teaching, O my people; *
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

2 I will open my mouth in a parable; *
I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.

3 That which we have heard and known,
and what our forefathers have told us, *
we will not hide from their children.

4 We will recount to generations to come
the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the LORD, *
and the wonderful works he has done.

12 He worked marvels in the sight of their forefathers, *
in the land of Egypt, in the field of Zoan.

13 He split open the sea and let them pass through; *
he made the waters stand up like walls.

14 He led them with a cloud by day, *
and all the night through with a glow of fire.

15 He split the hard rocks in the wilderness *
and gave them drink as from the great deep.

16 He brought streams out of the cliff, *
and the waters gushed out like rivers.

<u>The Second Lesson – Philippians 2:1-13</u>

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,
but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form,
he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death--
even death on a cross.
Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

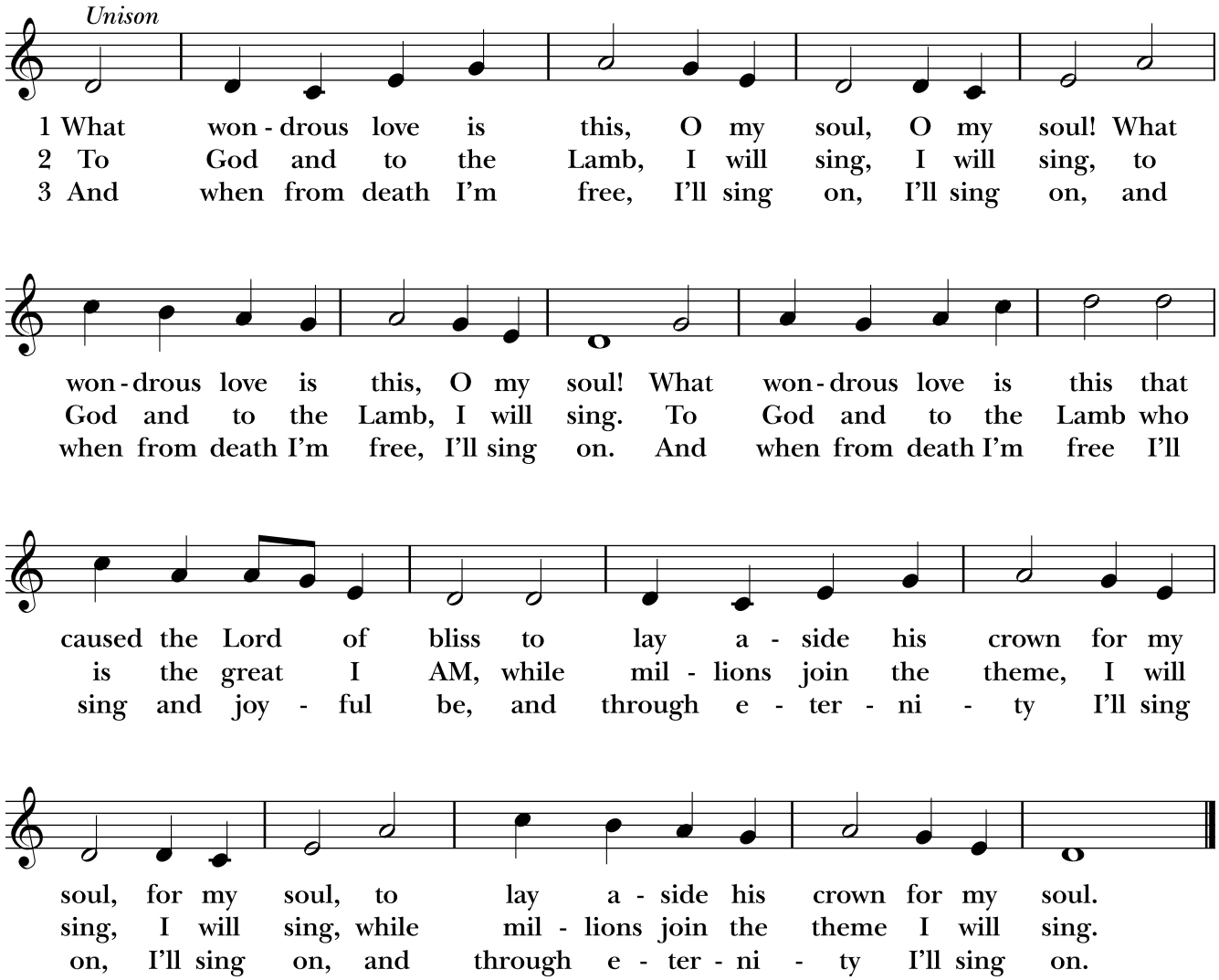
and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Sequence – What wondrous love is this H#439

Sing verses 1 and 2 before the Gospel, verse 3 after



All stand

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The Gospel – Matthew 21:23-32

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him."

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.
People: Praise to you Lord Christ.

Sermon

The Nicene Creed

All stand.

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:

by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
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.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He 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.

The Prayers of the People *Inspired by the Irish BCP*

Leader: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, you promised through your son Jesus Christ to hear the prayers of those who ask in faith.

Lord of your people: strengthen your Church in all the world; renew the life of this diocese of Colorado; bless our bishop, Kym, and build us up in faith and love. Lord, in your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Lord of creation: look with favor on the world you have made; instruct the nations in the ways of justice and peace, and guide Donald our President and all in authority. Lord, in your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Lord of our relationships: comfort and sustain the communities in which we live and work; help us to love our neighbors as ourselves, enable us to serve our families and friends and to love one another as you love us. Lord, in your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Lord of all healing: relieve and protect those who are sick or suffering, be with those who have any special need (…), and deliver all who know danger, violence or oppression.

The People add their own petitions, silently or aloud

Lord, in your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

Celebrant: Lord of eternity: bind us together by your Holy Spirit, in communion with and all who have died in the peace of Christ, that we may entrust ourselves, and one another, and our whole life to you, Lord God, and come with all your saints to the joys of your eternal kingdom. Amen.

Confession and Absolution *From the Scottish Liturgy, 1982*

God is love and we are God's children.
There is no room for fear in love.
We love because God loved us first.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith.

Silence

God our Father, we confess to you
and to our fellow members in the Body of Christ
that we have sinned in thought, word and deed,
and in what we have failed to do.
We are truly sorry.
Forgive us our sins,
and deliver us from the power of evil.
For the sake of your Son who died for us,
Jesus Christ, our Lord.

The Celebrant says

God, who is both power and love, forgive you and free you from your sins, heal and strengthen you by the Holy Spirit, and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

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

The Holy Communion

Offertory – SJB Choir: Deck thyself, my soul with gladness H#339

The Doxology (all sing)
Praise God from Whom all blessings flow
Praise Him all creatures here below
Praise Him above ye heav'nly host
Praise Father Son and Holy Ghost

The Great Thanksgiving: Prayer *Scottish Liturgy, 1982*

The people remain standing. The Celebrant says

Celebrant: The God of love is with us.
People: The Spirit of love is in us.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them to the Lord.

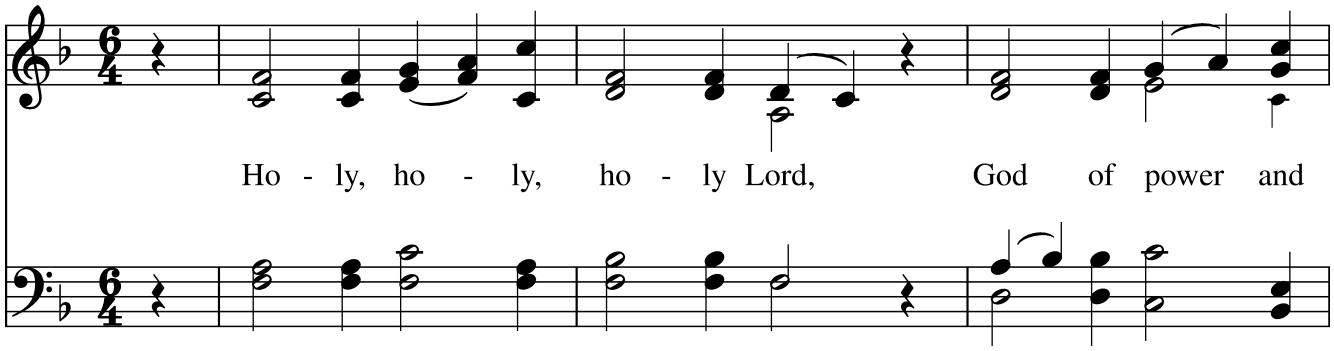
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

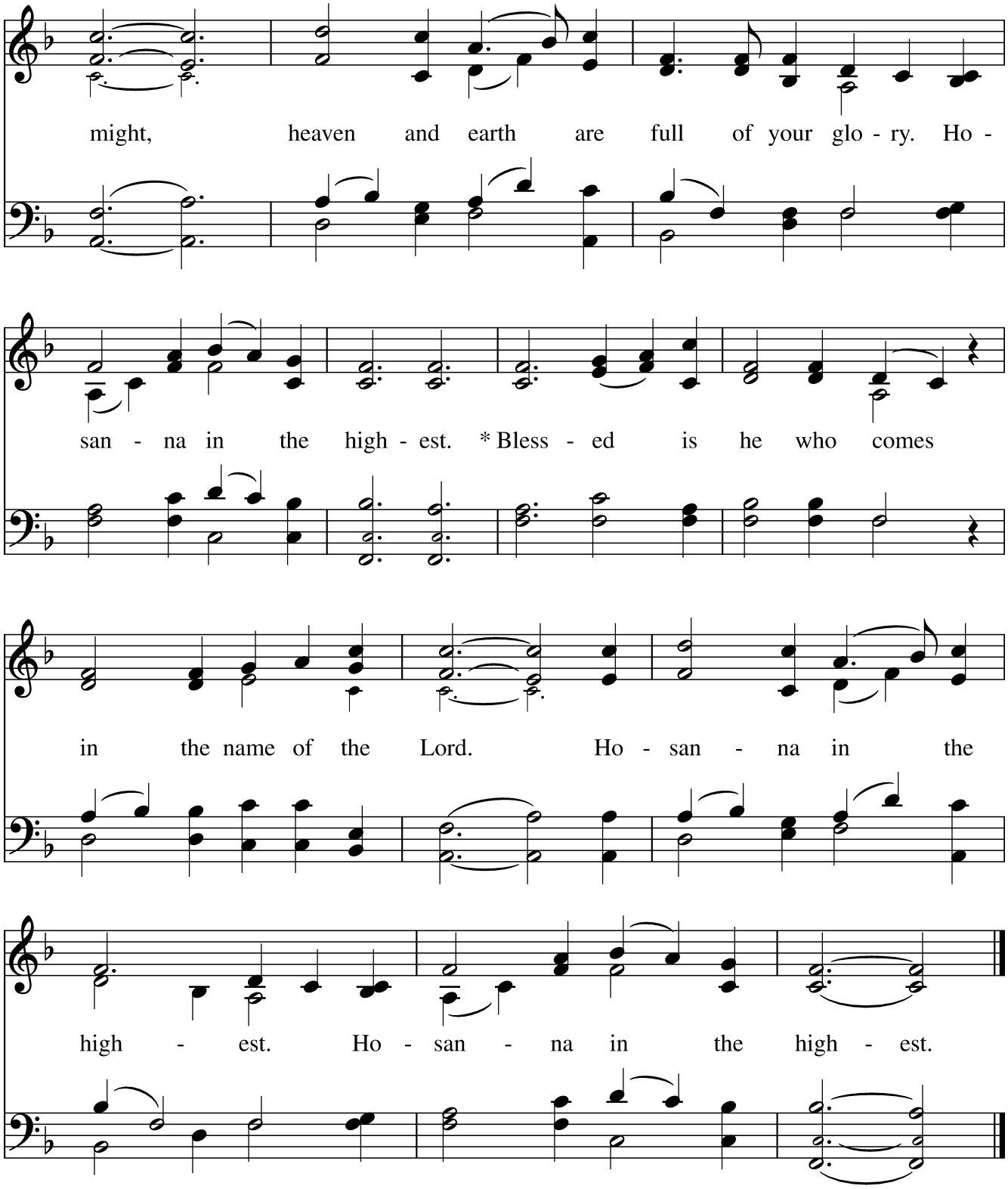
The Celebrant continues

Worship and praise belong to you, Father, in every place and at all times. All power is yours. You created the heavens and established the earth; you sustain in being all that is. In Christ your Son our life and yours are brought together in a wonderful exchange.

He made his home among us that we might for ever dwell in you. Through your Holy Spirit you call us to new birth in a creation restored by love. As children of your redeeming purpose, we offer you our praise, with angels and archangels and the whole company of heaven, singing the hymn of your unending glory:

Sanctus – WLP858





The people stand or kneel.
Then the Celebrant continues

Glory and thanksgiving be to you, most loving Father, for the gift of your Son born in human flesh. He is the Word existing beyond time, both source and final purpose, bringing to wholeness all that is made. Obedient to your will he died upon the Cross. By

your power you raised him from the dead. He broke the bonds of evil and set your people free to be his Body in the world.

On the night when he was given up to death, knowing that his hour had come, having loved his own, he loved them to the end. At supper with his disciples he took bread and offered you thanks. He broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying: "Take, eat. This is my Body: it is broken for you."

After supper, he took the cup, he offered you thanks, and gave it to them saying: "Drink this, all of you. This is my Blood of the new covenant; it is poured out for you, and for all, that sins may be forgiven. Do this in remembrance of me."

We now obey your Son's command. We recall his blessed passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension; and we look for the coming of his Kingdom. Made one with him, we offer you these gifts and with them ourselves, a single, holy, living sacrifice.

Hear us, most merciful Father, and send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this bread and this wine, that, overshadowed by your Spirit's life-giving power, they may be the Body and Blood of your Son, and we may be kindled with the fire of your love and renewed for the service of your Kingdom.

Help us, who are baptized into the fellowship of Christ's Body, to live and work to your praise and glory; may we grow together in unity and love until at last, in your new creation, we enter into our heritage in the company of the Ever-Blessed Mary, the apostles and prophets, and all our brothers and sisters living and departed.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory be to you, Lord of all ages, world without end. **Amen.**

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray:

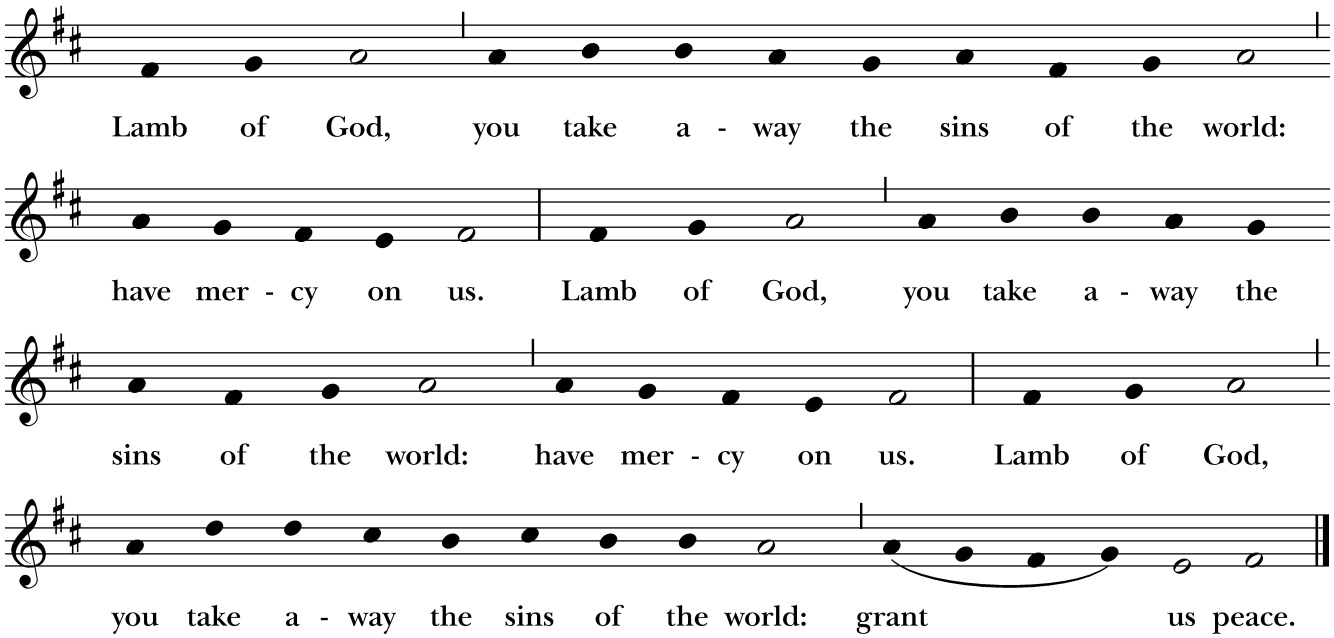
The Lord's Prayer – Book of Common Prayer p. 364

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Fraction Anthem – S161



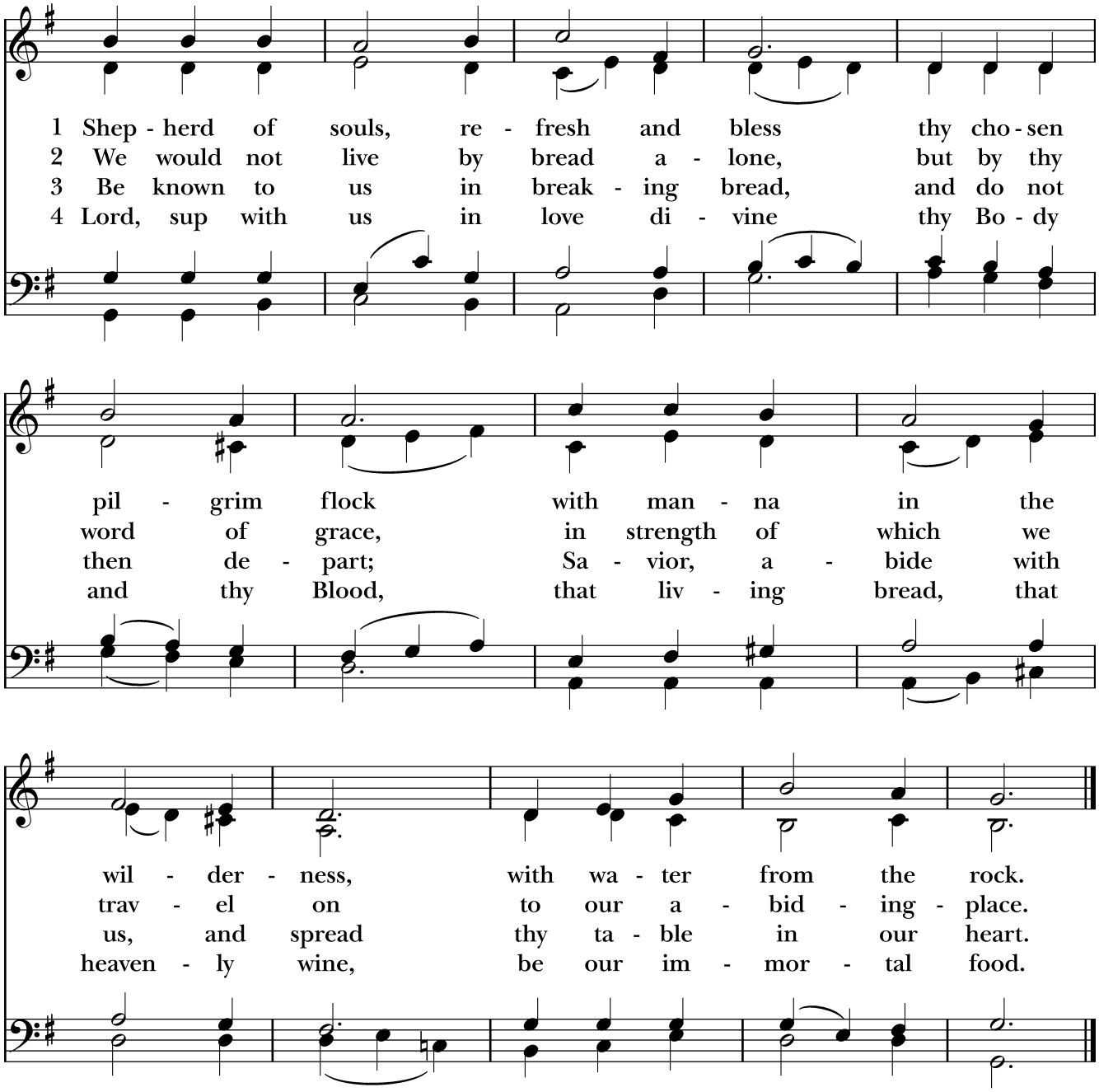
The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Celebrant: Behold what you are.
People: May we become what we receive.

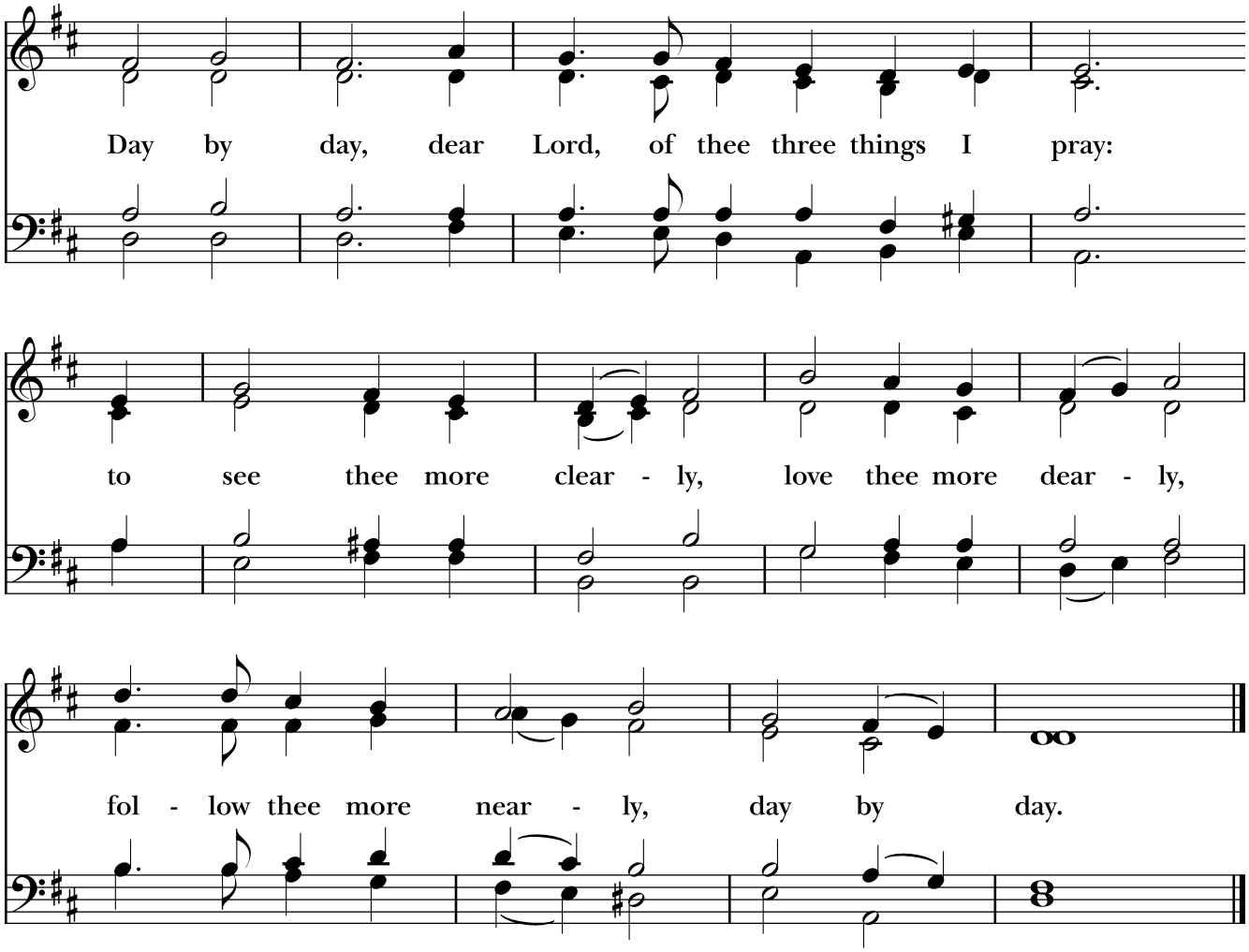
All are welcome to receive the bread and wine of the Holy Communion. To receive the bread, please hold your hands out in front of you. To receive the wine, help guide the chalice to your lips. If you prefer, you may dip the bread in the wine and then place it in your mouth. If you do not wish to receive either the bread or the wine, you are invited to come forward, cross your hands across your chest, and receive a blessing. If you are unable to come forward, please wave to an Usher so that the Sacrament may be brought to you. (Gluten-free wafers available upon request.)

Music at Communion

Communion (Congregation): Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless H#343



Communion (Congregation): Day by day H#654



Post-Communion Prayer

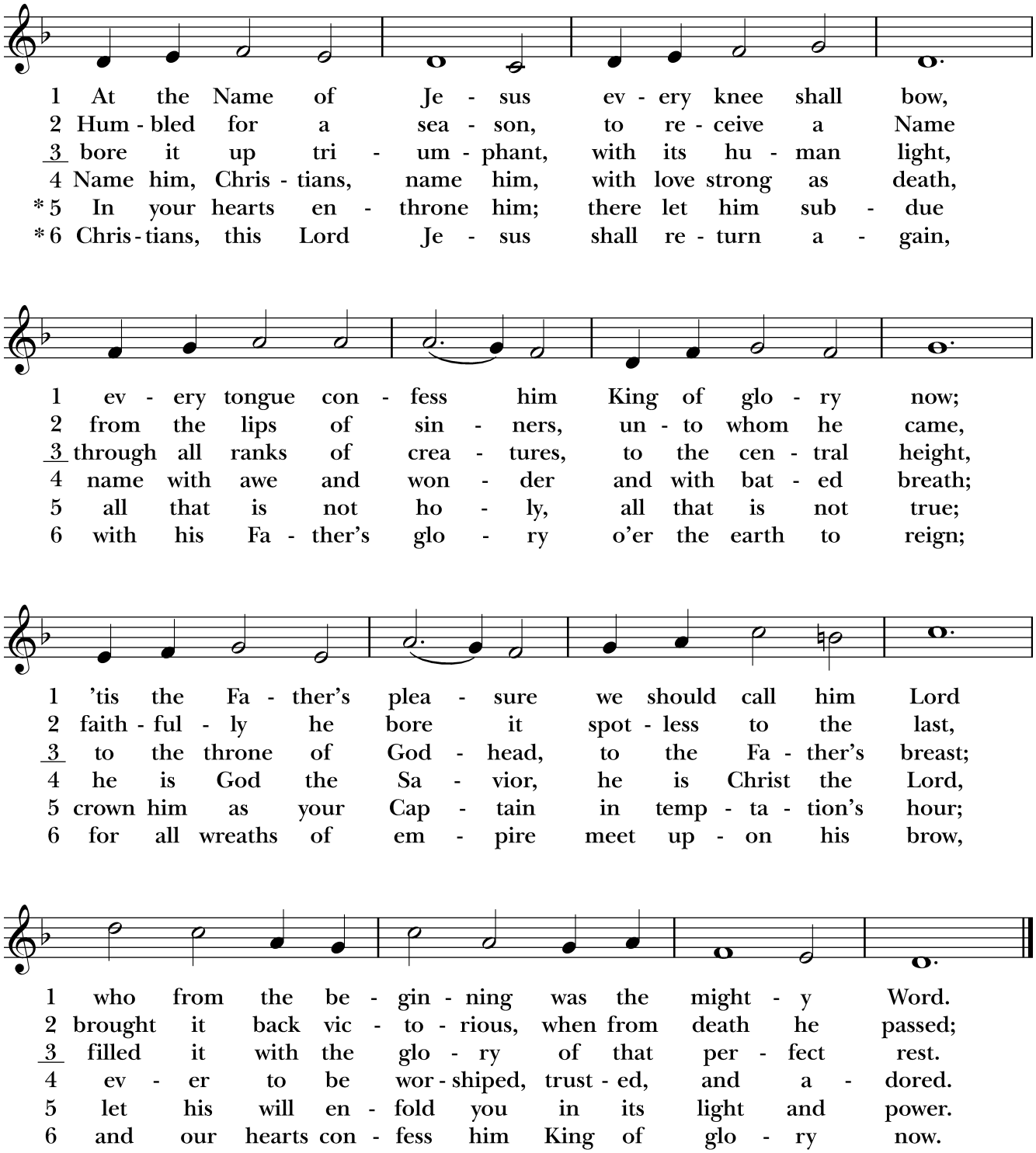
Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Holy and life-giving God,
we have broken the bread which is Christ's body,
we have tasted the wine of his new life.
We thank you for these gifts
by which we are made one in him
and drawn into that new creation
which is your will for all the world;
through him who died for us and rose again,
your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Blessing

Closing Hymn: At the name of Jesus (verses 1, 2, 4, & 5) H#435



Dismissal

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

Ringing of the Bell

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St. John's Staff and Vestry Contact Information

The Rev. Beth Blunt, Rector: rector@stjohnsbreck.org
Natalie Boyer, Parish Administrator: administration@stjohnsbreck.org
Sheila Brockmeier, Director of Children/Youth and Family: parishlife@stjohnsbreck.org
Thomas Steigerwald, Director of Music: music@stjohnsbreck.org
Vestry Members: vestry@stjohnsbreck.org

A Note to the Children and their Families

We know it's hard, but thank you for all you do to get here on a Sunday morning to be with us in church. Please know that your family – with all of its noise, struggle, commotion, and joy – is not simply tolerated; you are a vital part of the community gathered in worship.

Welcome Cards / eBlast / Name Tags

If you would like to be on St. John's "radar screen" and receive the eBlast newsletter, please fill out a Welcome Card and leave it with an usher, place it in the offering plate, or hand it to the clergy. These cards are available by the bell rope at the back of the church, and by the coffee in the Parish Hall. If you would like a name tag, we'd be delighted to make one for you – please contact Natalie Boyer at administration@stjohnsbreck.org

The Offertory

At St. John's we count on the generosity of our visitors and guests to help us carry on our vital work within and beyond this church. Please leave a gift in the offering plate as it passes or go to the stjohnsbreck.org website and use the Give tab to donate online. You can use the QR code on the right to go directly to the St. John's Vanco Giving Page.

The Rt. Rev. Kym Lucas, Bishop
The Rev. Beth Blunt, Rector
The Rev. John Butin, Priest Associate
Carol Goodwin, Sr. Warden; Chris Bartholomew, Jr. Warden
Vestry Members: Jennifer Bettridge, Jim Brook,
Sue Geiger, David Henderson, Terry Martinez, Kristen Stewart,
Jim Brook, Treasurer
Sheila Brockmeier, Director of Children, Youth, & Family Ministries
Thomas Steigerwald, Director of Music
Natalie Boyer, Parish Administrator & Vestry Clerk
In the Church Office: 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m., Tuesdays & Thursdays