Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Divine Service—Setting Three—LSB 184

God's Gift of Forgiveness Engenders Our Forgiveness of Others

The Day of the Lord is *"near and hastening fast,"* and it will be *"a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation"* (Zeph. 1:14, 15). The Lord will search out and punish *"the men who are complacent"* concerning His Word, *"who fill their master's house with violence and fraud"* (Zeph. 1:9, 12). Then all their works and efforts will be for nothing: *"Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them"* (Zeph. 1:13). But those who fear, love and trust in the Lord are *"good and faithful"* stewards of His property (Matt. 25:21). They live by faith in His free gift of forgiveness, and they multiply His goods in the loving forgiveness of their neighbor, and *"the master of those servants"* settles His accounts with them by the gracious reckoning of His Gospel (Matt. 25:19). Likewise, *"God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ"* (1 Thess. 5:9). Therefore, let us also *"put on the breastplate of faith and love"* in our dealings with one another (1 Thess. 5:8).



Messiah Lutheran Church

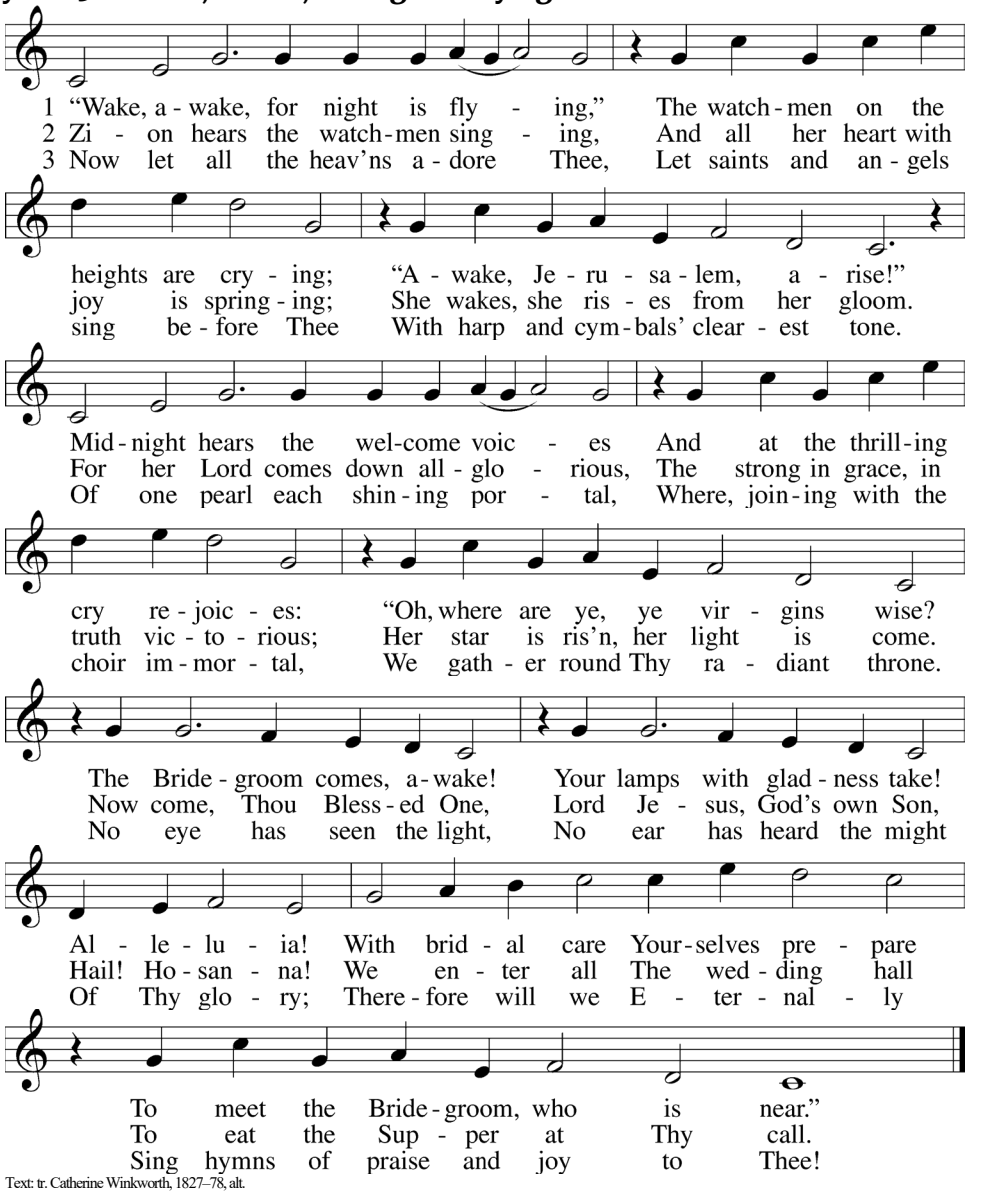
Keller, Texas

November 15, 2026

Prelude

Stand

Opening Hymn: 516 Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying



Text: tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text and tune: Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608
Text and tune: Public domain

Confession and Absolution

The sign of the cross ✢ may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the ✢Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.** *Matthew 28:19b;[18:20]*

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. *Hebrews 10:22*

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C **who made heaven and earth.** *Psalm 124:8*
P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.** *Psalm 32:5*

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P O almighty God, merciful Father,
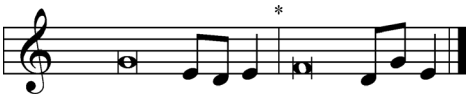
C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✢ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.** *[John 20:19-23]*



Service of the Word
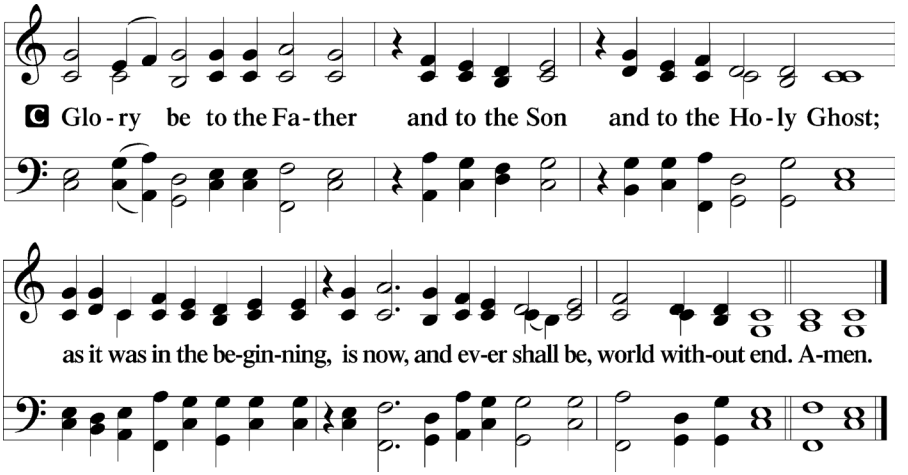
Introit *Psalm 143:2, 5–6, 10–11; antiphon: v. 1*
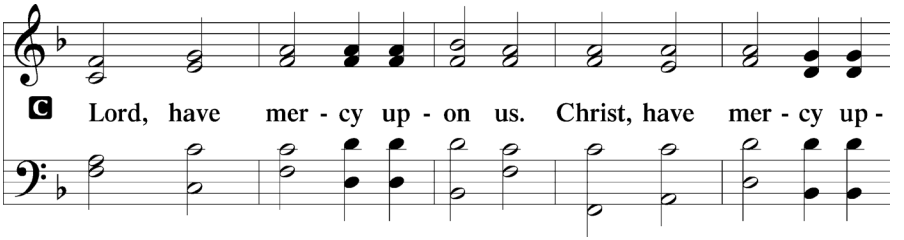


Hear my prayer, O Lord; give ear to my pleas for | mercy!*
In your faithfulness answer me, in your | righteousness!

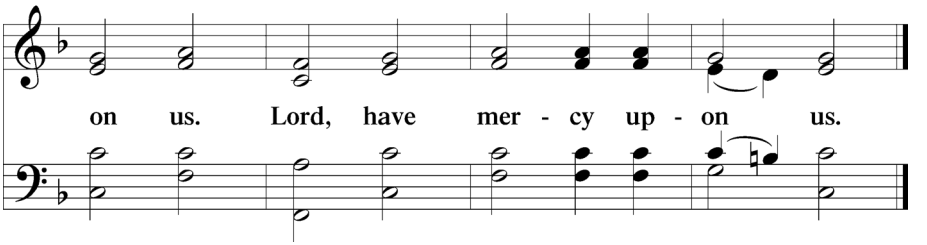
Enter not into judgment with your | servant,*
for no one living is righteous be- | fore you.
I remember the days of old; I meditate on all that | you have done;*
I ponder the work | of your hands.
I stretch out my | hands to you;*
my soul thirsts for you like a | parched land.
Teach me to do your will, for you | are my God!*
Let your good Spirit lead me on | level ground!
For your name's sake, O Lord, pre- | serve my life!*
In your righteousness bring my soul out of | trouble!

Hear my prayer, O Lord; give ear to my pleas for | mercy!*
In your faithfulness answer me, in your | righteousness!
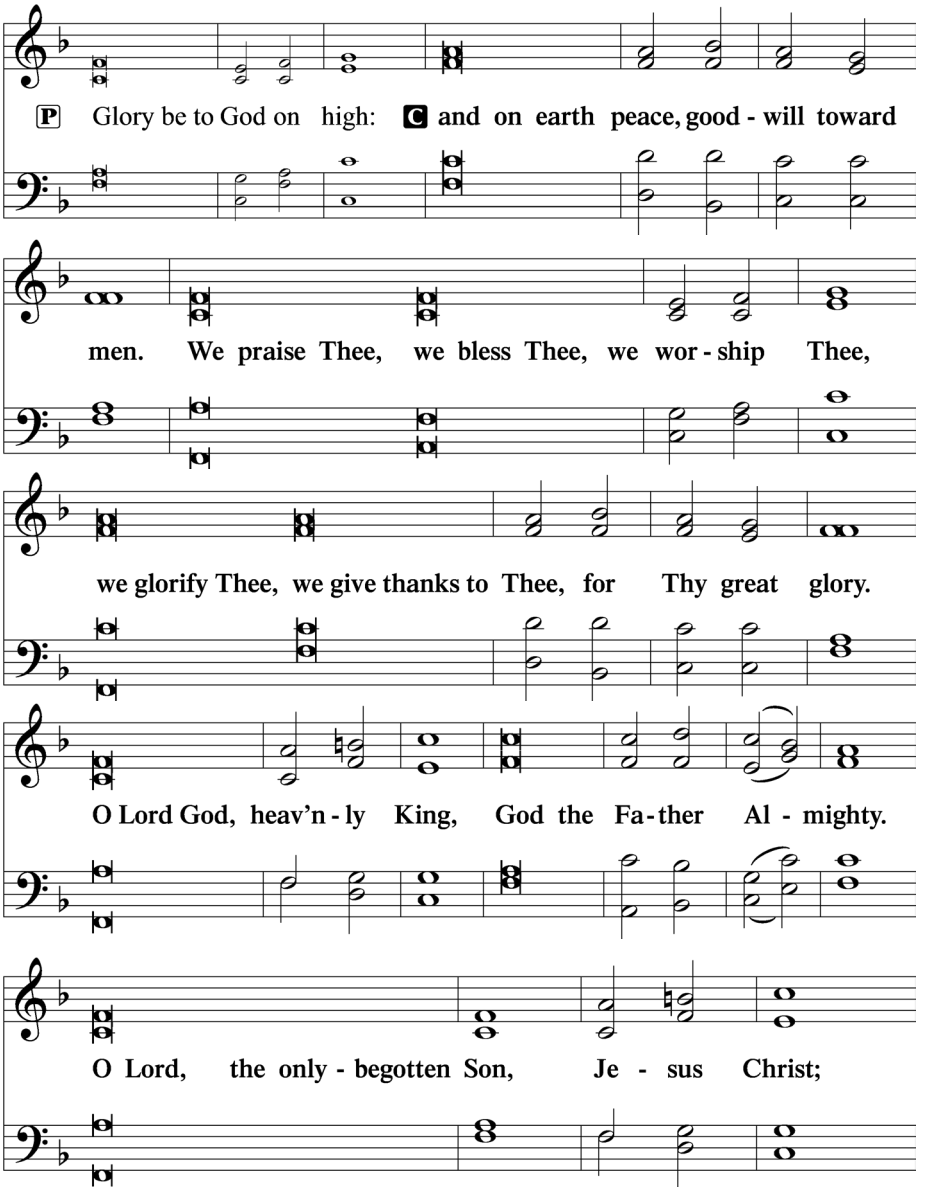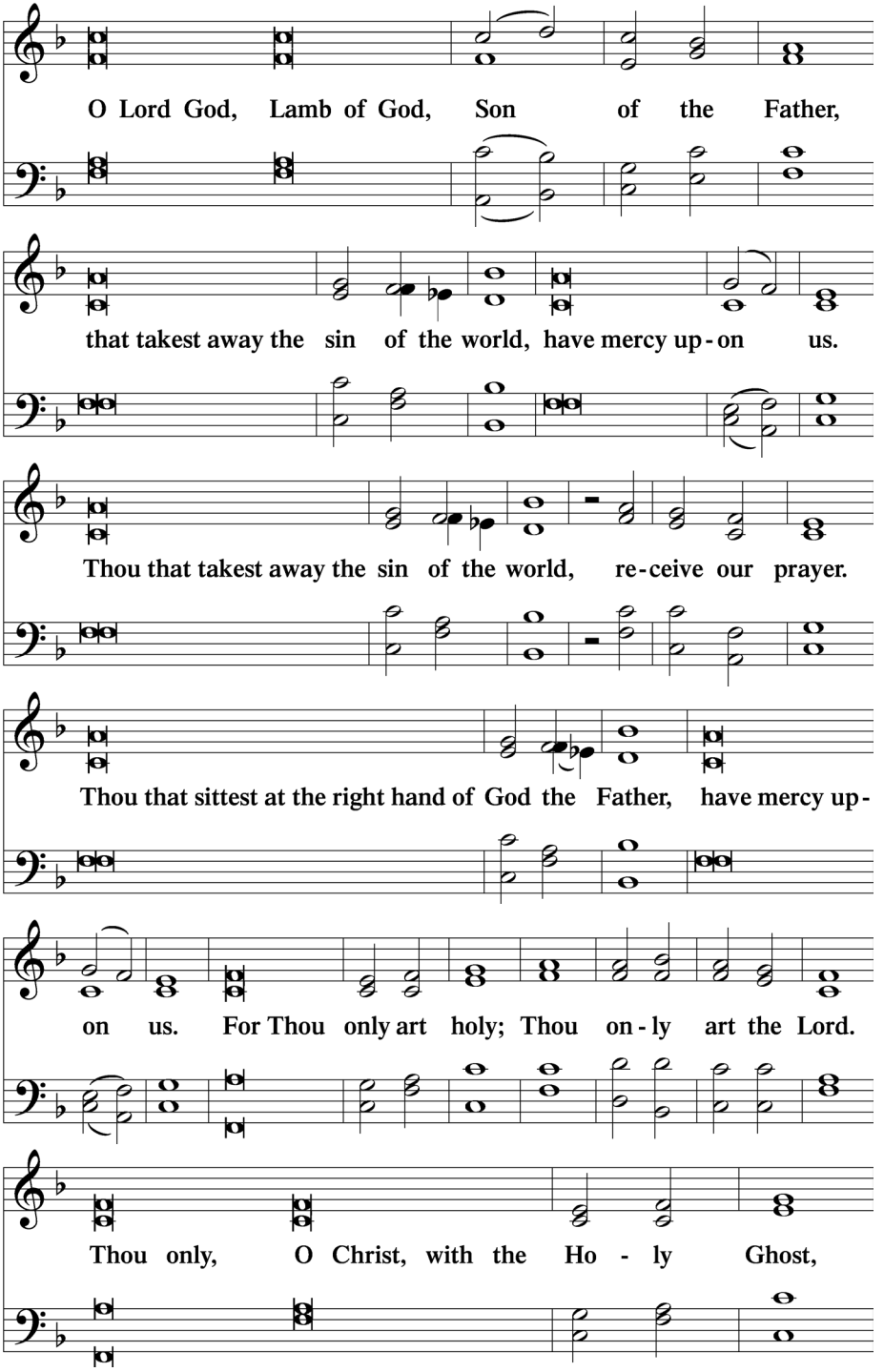


Kyrie *Mark 10:47*

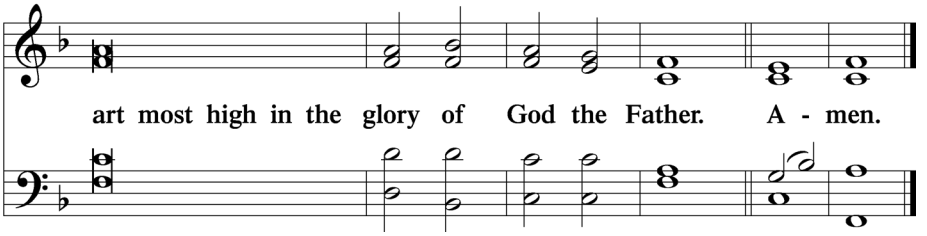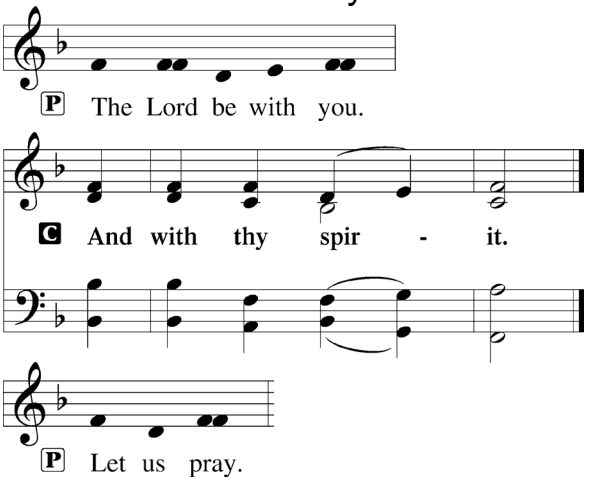




Gloria in Excelsis *Luke 2:14; John 1:29*



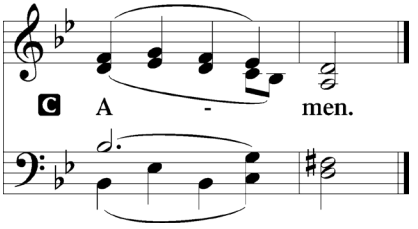

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-
on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on-ly art the Lord.
Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,



Salutation and Collect of the Day



P Almighty and ever-living God, You have given exceedingly great and precious promises to those who trust in You. Dispel from us the works of darkness and grant us to live in the light of Your Son, Jesus Christ, that our faith may never be found wanting; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Sit

Old Testament Reading
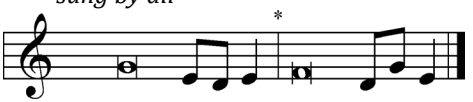
Zephaniah 1:7–16

7 Be silent before the Lord God!
For the day of the Lord is near;
the Lord has prepared a sacrifice
and consecrated his guests.
8 And on the day of the Lord's sacrifice—
"I will punish the officials and the king's sons

and all who array themselves in foreign attire.
9On that day I will punish
everyone who leaps over the threshold,
and those who fill their master's house
with violence and fraud.
10"On that day," declares the Lord,
"a cry will be heard from the Fish Gate,
a wail from the Second Quarter,
a loud crash from the hills.
11Wail, O inhabitants of the Mortar!
For all the traders are no more;
all who weigh out silver are cut off.
12At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,
and I will punish the men
who are complacent,
those who say in their hearts,
'The Lord will not do good,
nor will he do ill.'
13Their goods shall be plundered,
and their houses laid waste.
Though they build houses,
they shall not inhabit them;
though they plant vineyards,
they shall not drink wine from them."
14The great day of the Lord is near,
near and hastening fast;
the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter;
the mighty man cries aloud there.
15A day of wrath is that day,
a day of distress and anguish,
a day of ruin and devastation,
a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and thick darkness,
16a day of trumpet blast and battle cry
against the fortified cities
and against the lofty battlements.

A This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual *sung by all* *Revelation 7:14b; Psalm 84:5*



These are the ones coming out of the great tribu- | lation.*
They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood | of the Lamb.

Blessed are those whose strength is | in you,*
in whose heart are the highways to | Zion.

Epistle
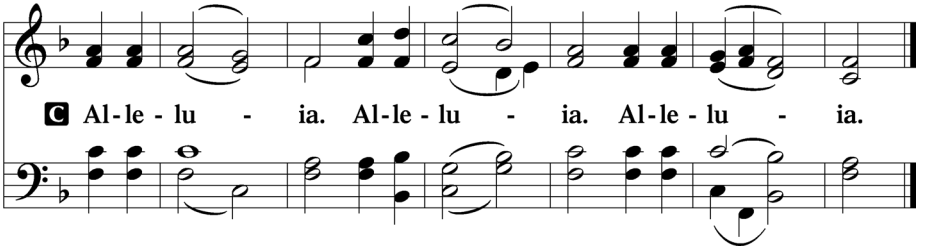
1 Thessalonians 5:1–11

[1]Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need
to have anything written to you. [2]For you yourselves are fully aware that the
day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. [3]While people are saying,
"There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them
as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. [4]But you
are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. [5]For you
are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the
darkness. [6]So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be
sober. [7]For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk
at night. [8]But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the
breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. [9]For God
has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus
Christ, [10]who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live
with him. [11]Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as
you are doing.

A This is the Word of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

Stand

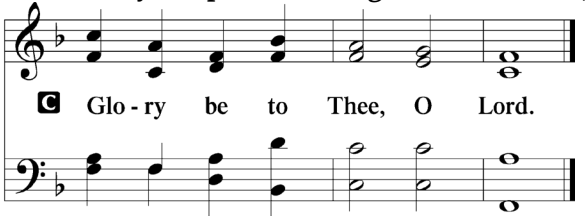
Alleluia



Holy Gospel

Matthew 25:14–30
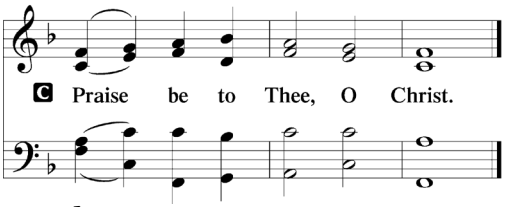
P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.



[14][Jesus said:] "For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called
his servants and entrusted to them his property. [15]To one he gave five talents,
to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went
away. [16]He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with

them, and he made five talents more. [17]So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. [18]But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. [19]Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. [20]And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.' [21]His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' [22]And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.' [23]His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' [24]He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no 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 answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sowed and gather where I scattered no seed? [27]Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. [28]So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. [29]For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. [30]And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Apostles' Creed

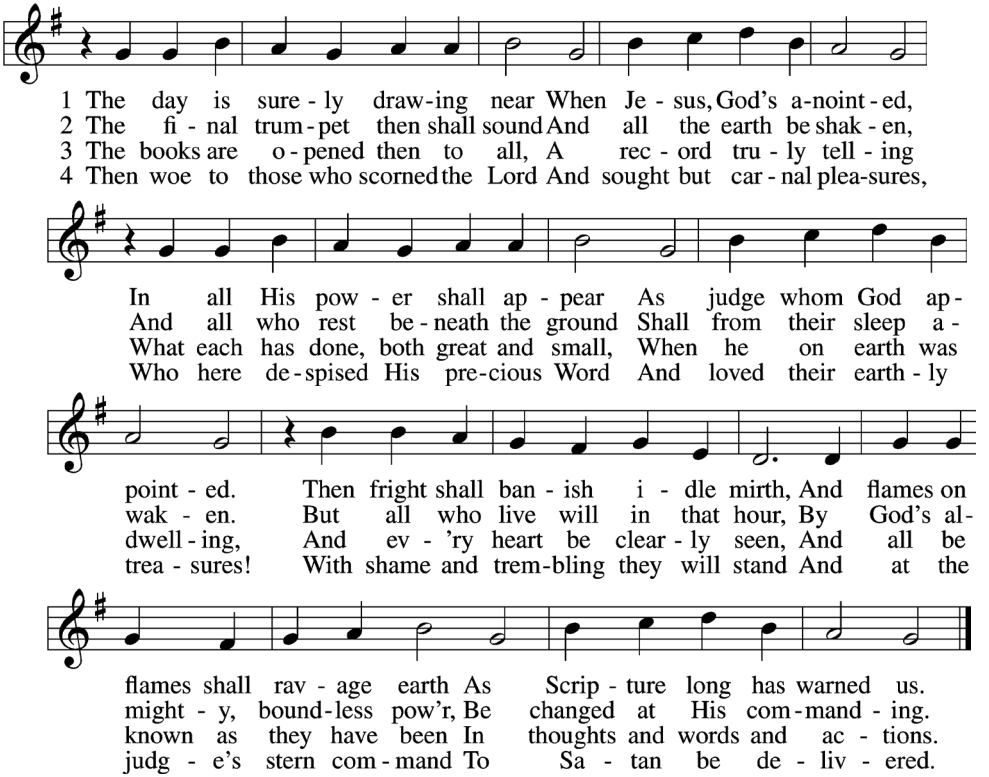
C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life T **everlasting. Amen.**

Sit

Hymn of the Day: 508 The Day Is Surely Drawing Near



5 My Savior paid the debt I owe
And for my sin was smitten;
Within the Book of Life I know
My name has now been written.
I will not doubt, for I am free,
And Satan cannot threaten me;
There is no condemnation!

6 May Christ our intercessor be
And through His blood and merit
Read from His book that we are free
With all who life inherit.
Then we shall see Him face to face,
With all His saints in that blest place
Which He has purchased for us.

7 O Jesus Christ, do not delay,
But hasten our salvation;
We often tremble on our way
In fear and tribulation.
O hear and grant our fervent plea:
Come, mighty judge, and set us free
From death and ev'ry evil.
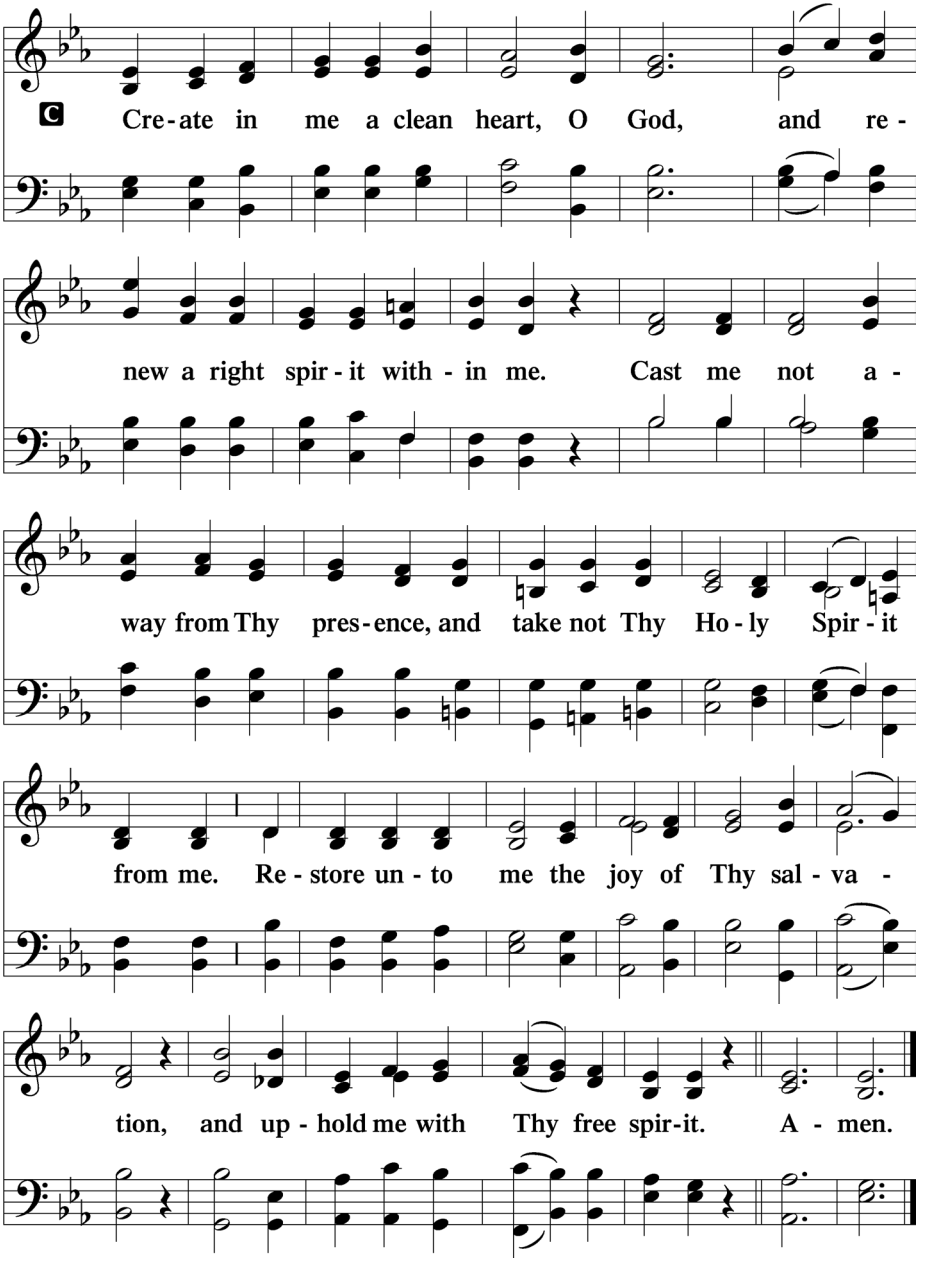
Text: Bartholomäus Ringwaldt, 1532–99; tr. Philip A. Peter, 1832–1919, alt.
Tune: Geistliche Lieder auffs new gebessert, 1535, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Stand

Offertory

Psalm 51:10–12
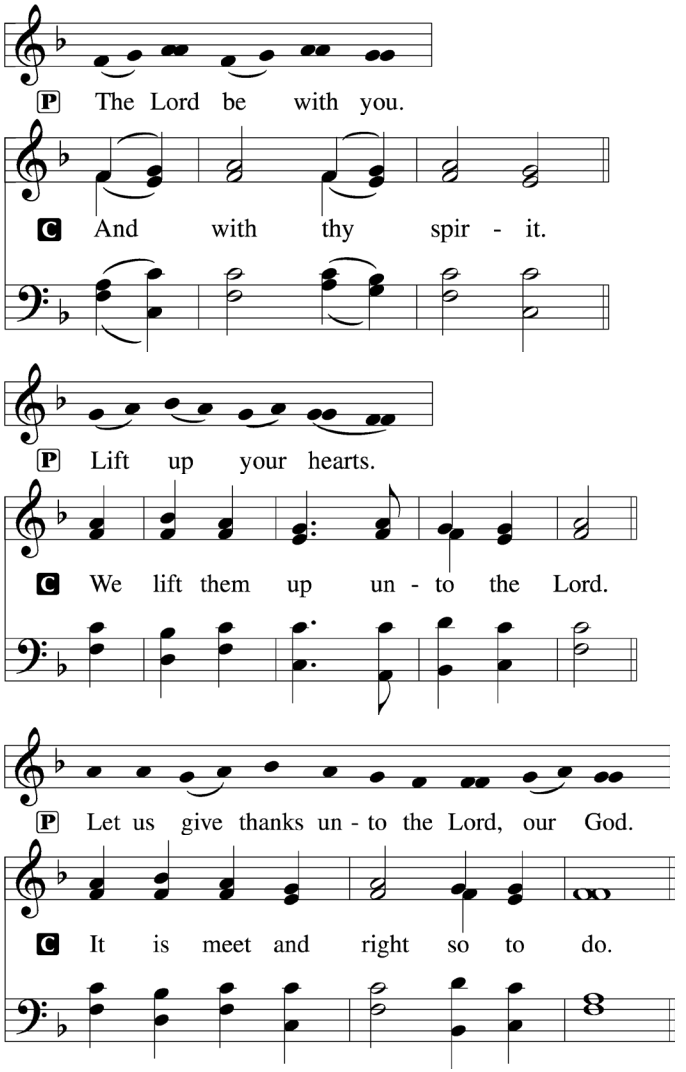


Reception of the Offering

Prayer of the Church

Service of the Sacrament
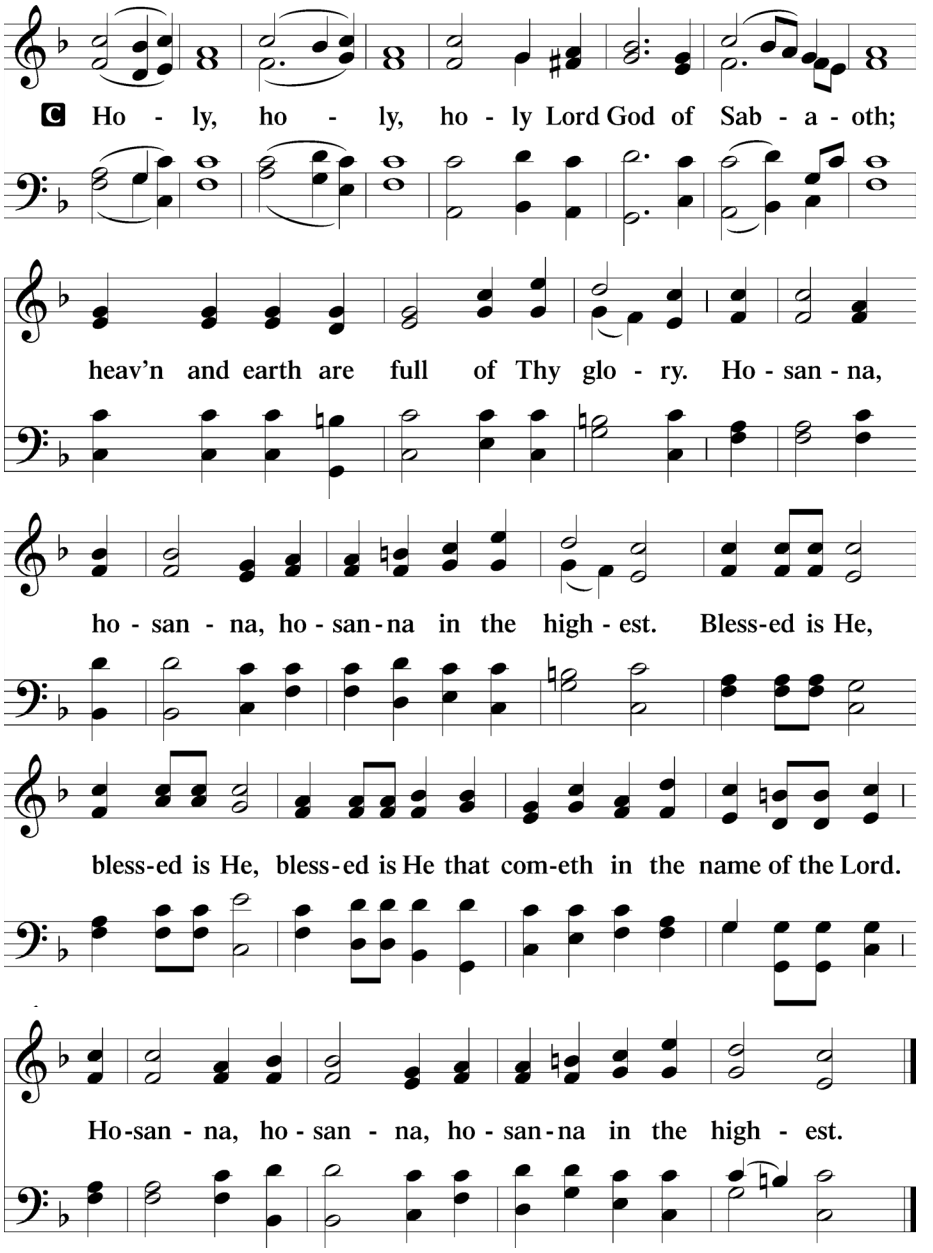
Preface *2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]*



P It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

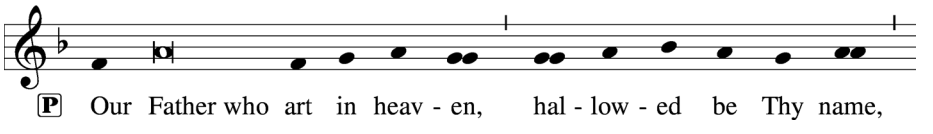
Sanctus
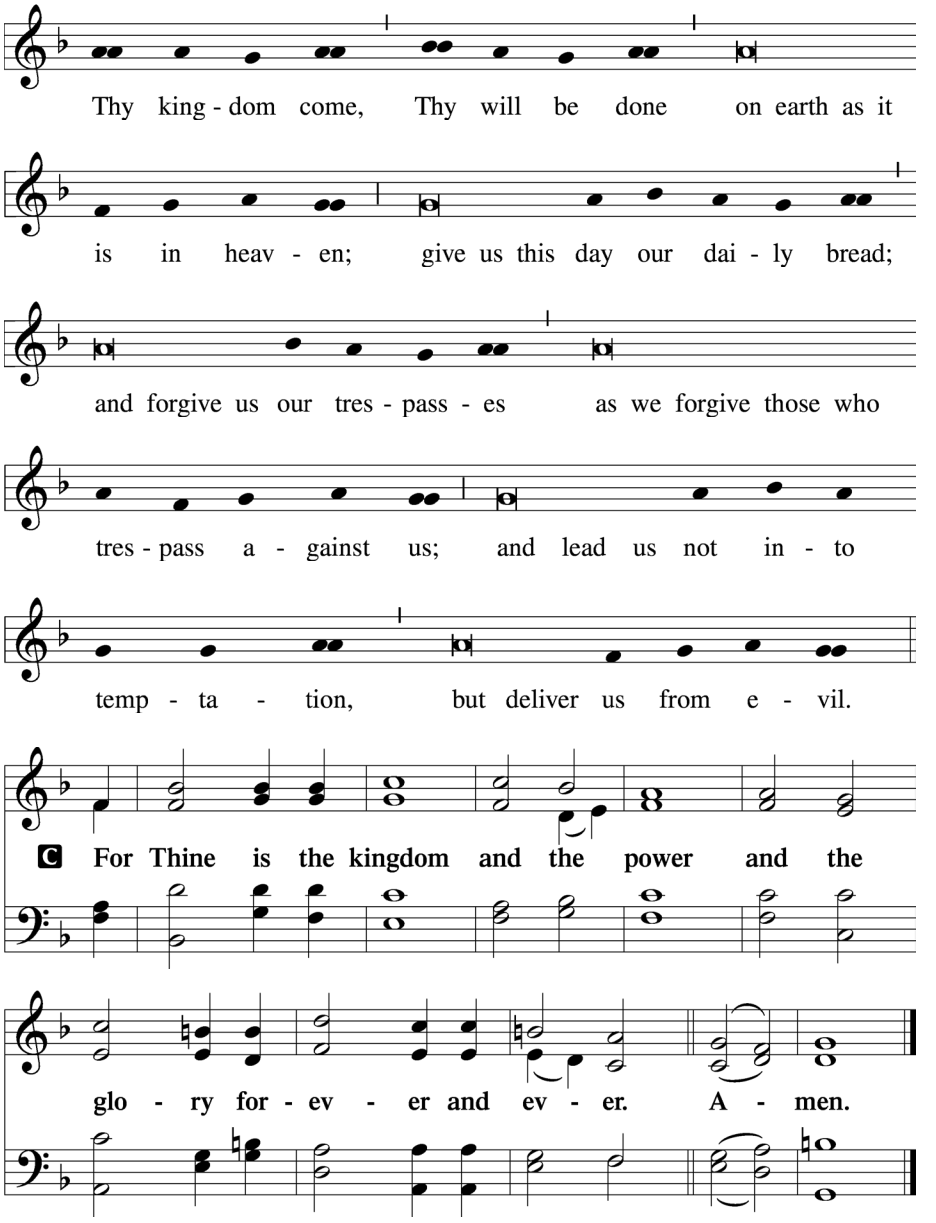
Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



Lord's Prayer

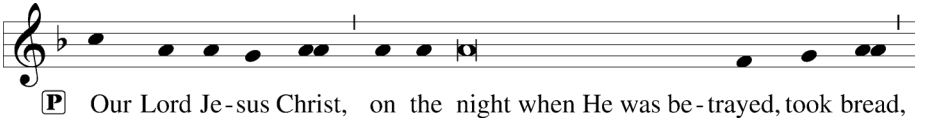
Matthew 6:9–13

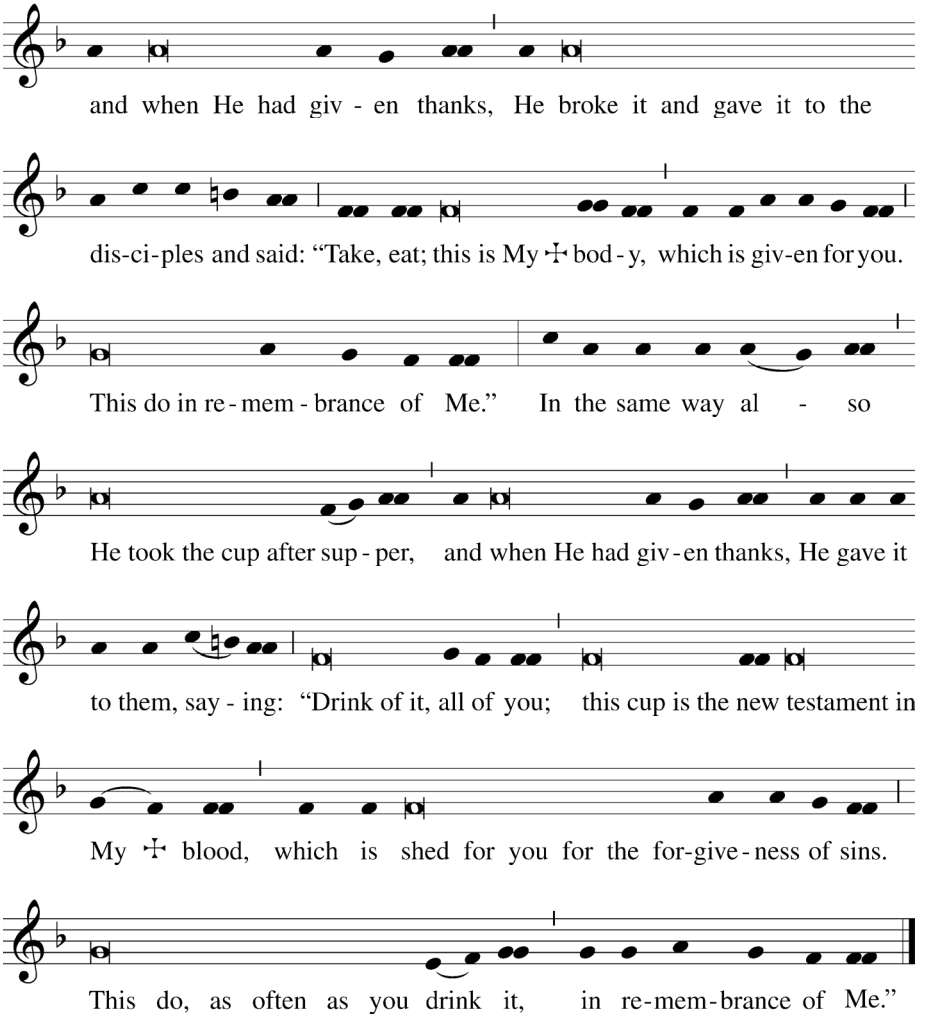




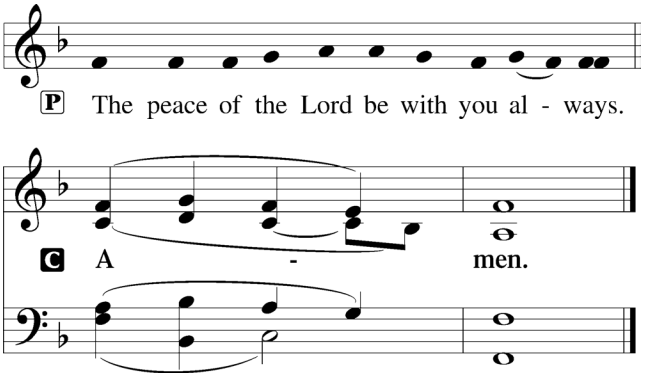
The Words of Our Lord

Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25
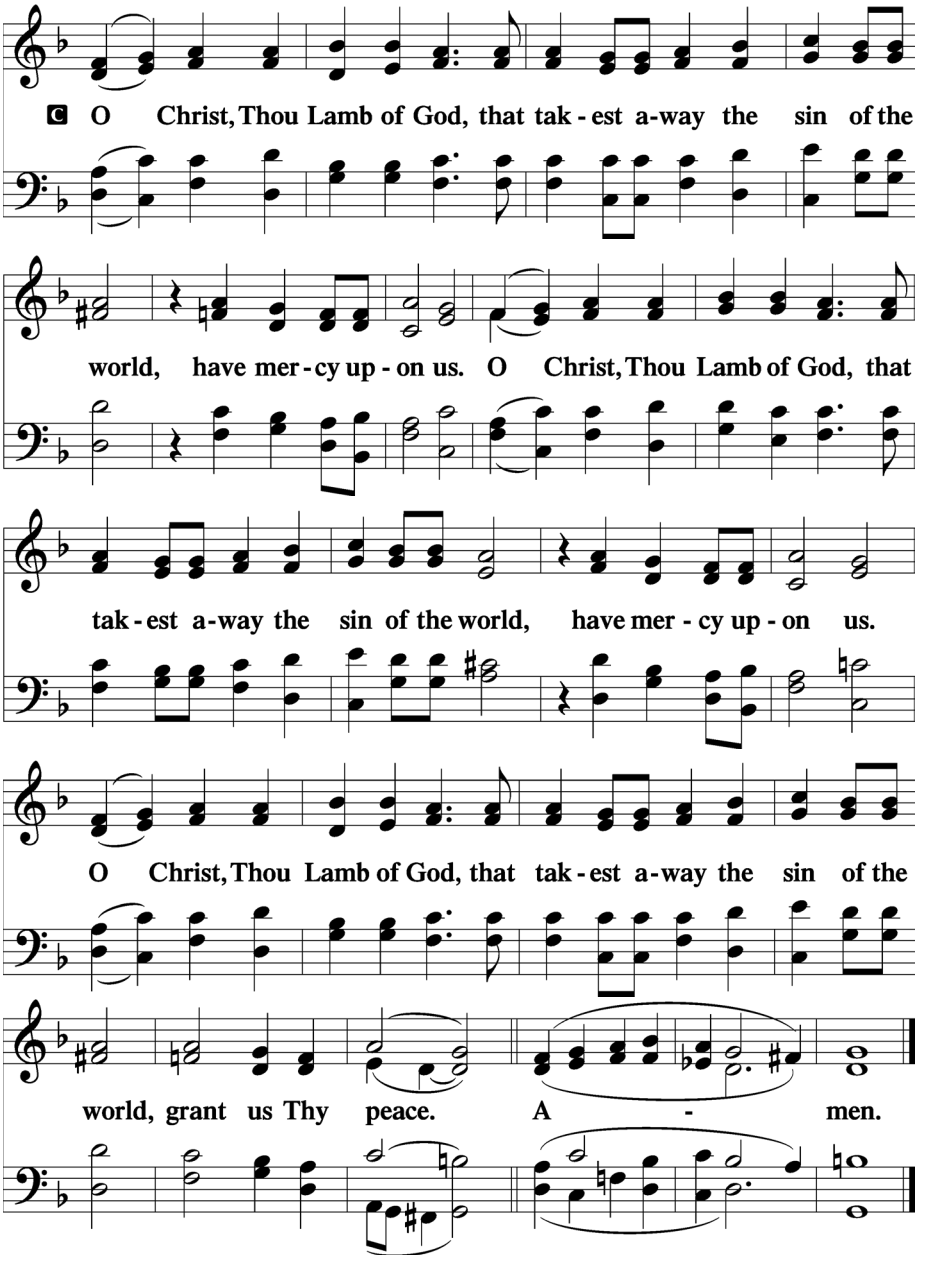




Pax Domini *John 20:19*



Agnus Dei

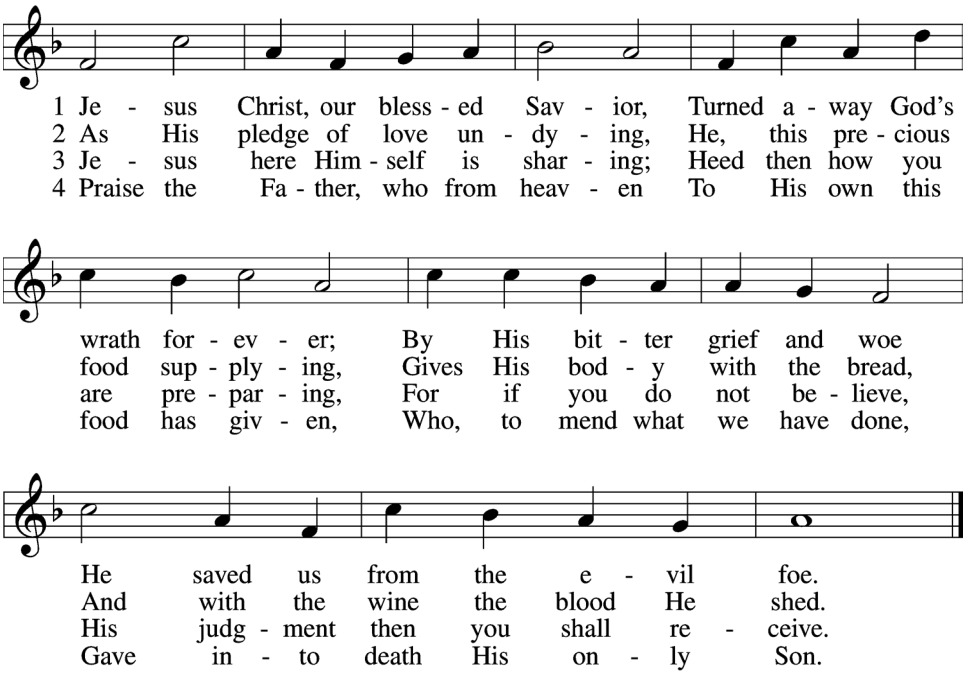
John 1:29



Sit

Distribution

627 Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior



5 Firmly hold with faith unshaken
That this food is to be taken
By the sick who are distressed,
By hearts that long for peace and rest.

6 Agony and bitter labor
Were the cost of God's high favor;
Do not come if you suppose
You need not Him who died and rose.

7 Christ says: "Come, all you that labor,
And receive My grace and favor:
Those who feel no pain or ill
Need no physician's help or skill.

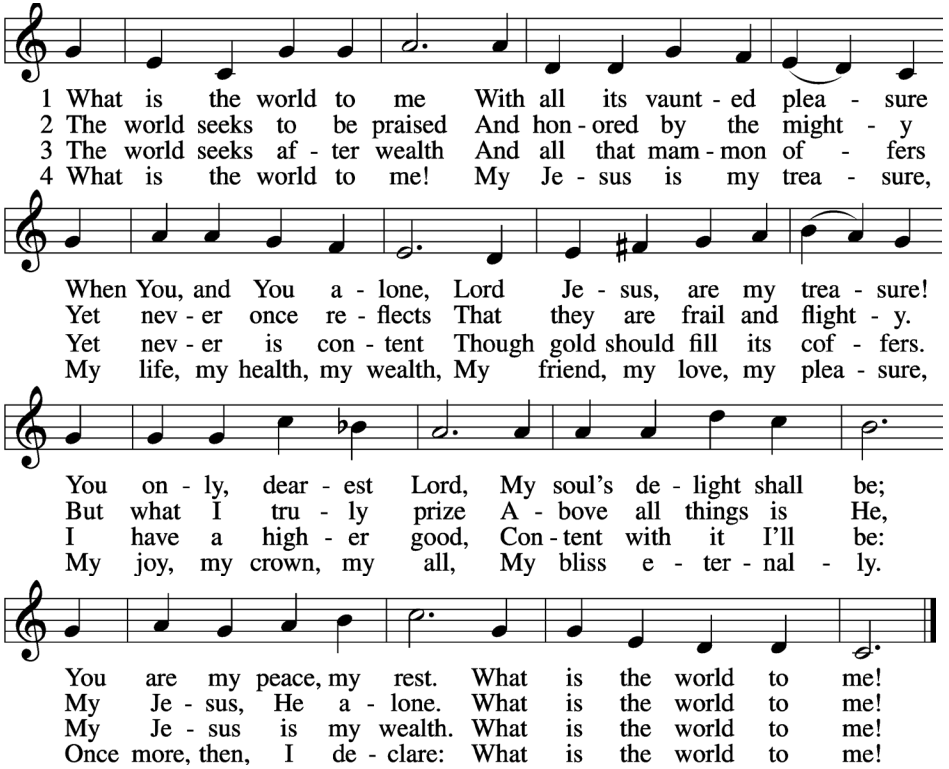
8 "For what purpose was My dying
If not for your justifying?
And what use this precious food
If you yourself were pure and good?"

9 If your heart this truth professes
And your mouth your sin confesses,
You will be your Savior's guest,
Be at His banquet truly blest.

10 Let this food your faith so nourish
That its fruit of love may flourish
And your neighbor learn from you
How much God's wondrous love can do.

Text: John Hus, c. 1369–1415; German version, Martin Luther, 1483–1546; (sts. 1–2, 4–5, 7, 9): tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; (sts. 3, 8): tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006; (sts. 6, 10): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001, alt. Tune: Geistliche Lieder auffs new gebessert, 1533, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug, alt.
Text (sts. 3, 6, 8, 10): © 1980 and 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005149 Text (sts. 1–2, 4–5, 7, 9) and tune: Public domain

730 What Is the World to Me

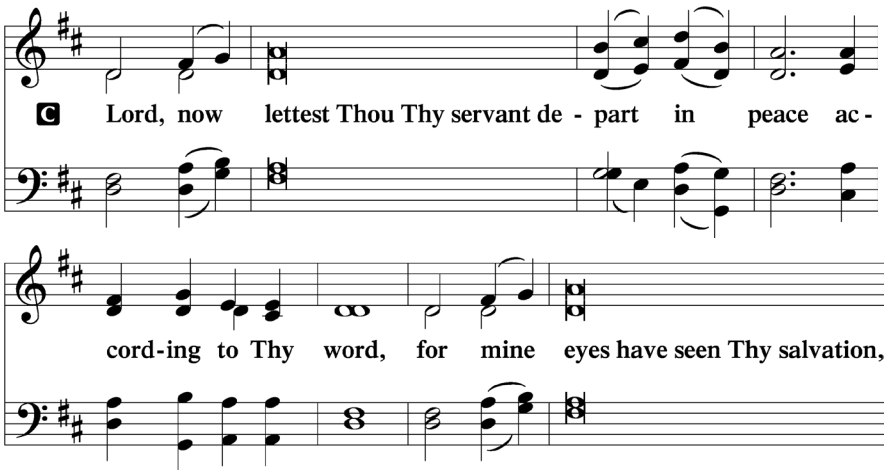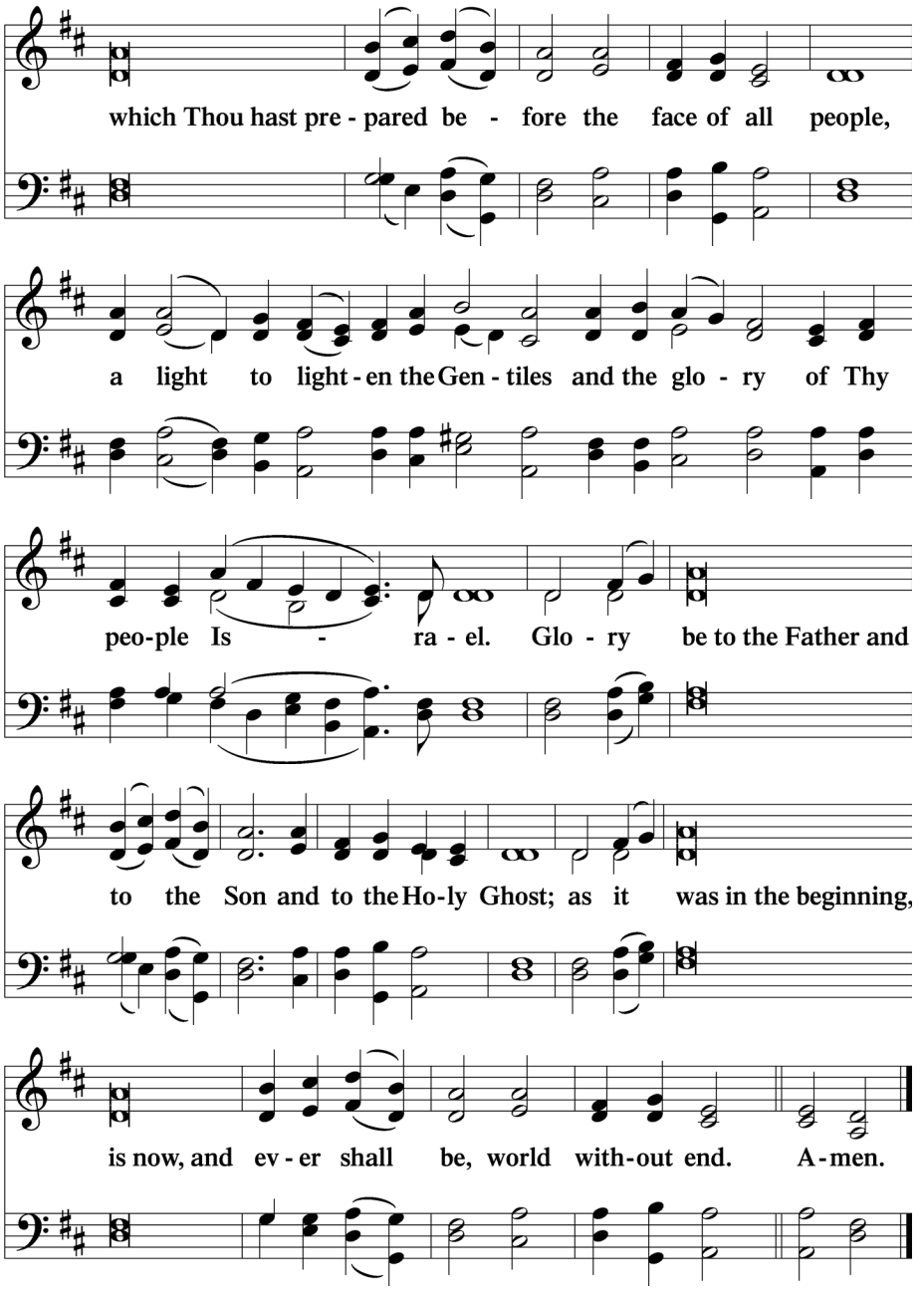


Text: Georg Michael Pfefferkorn, 1645–1732; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.
Tune: Ahasverus Fritsch, 1629–1701
Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

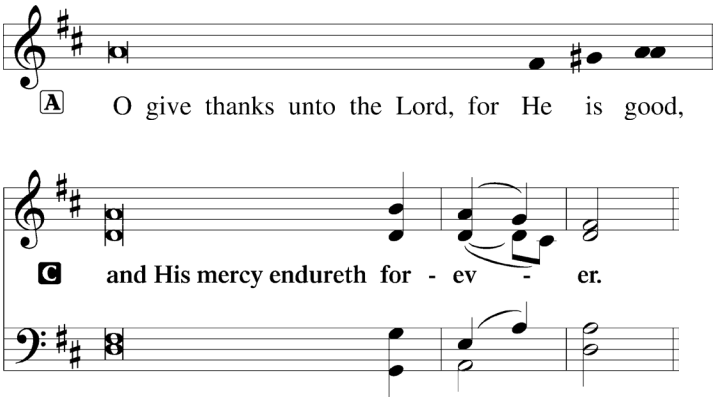
Nunc Dimittis

Luke 2:29–32



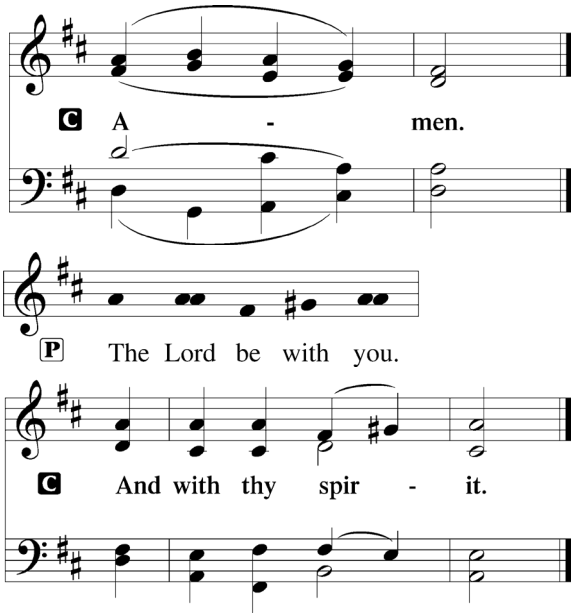

which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
peo-ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Thanksgiving *Psalm 107:1*
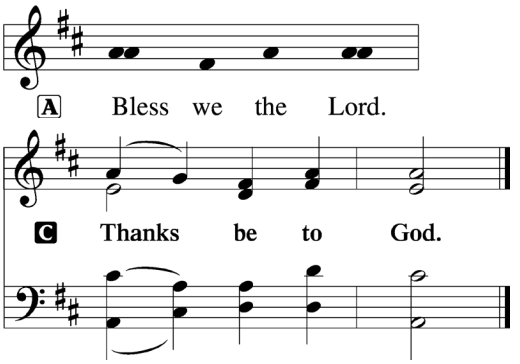


A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



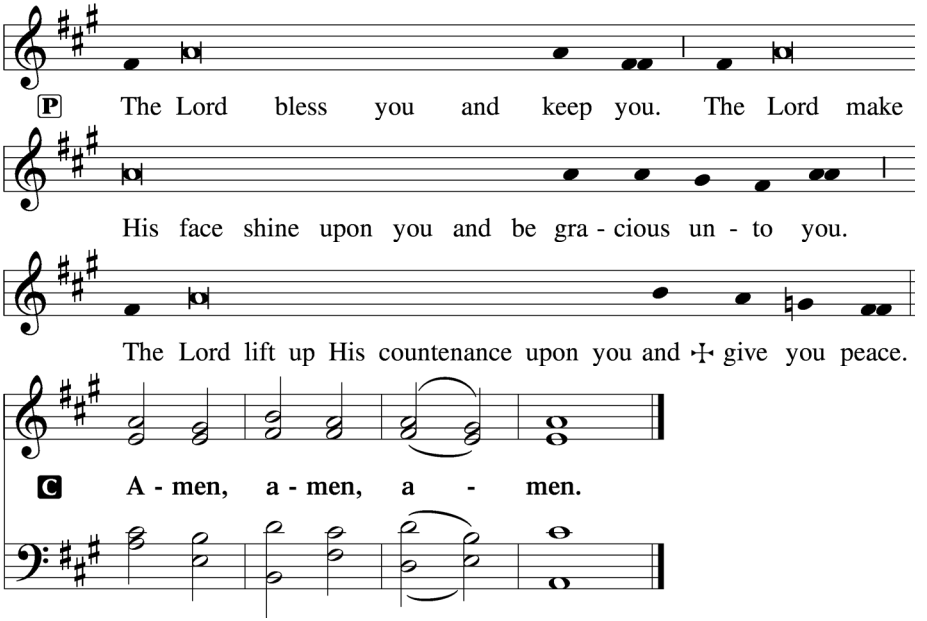
Benedicamus

Psalm 103:1

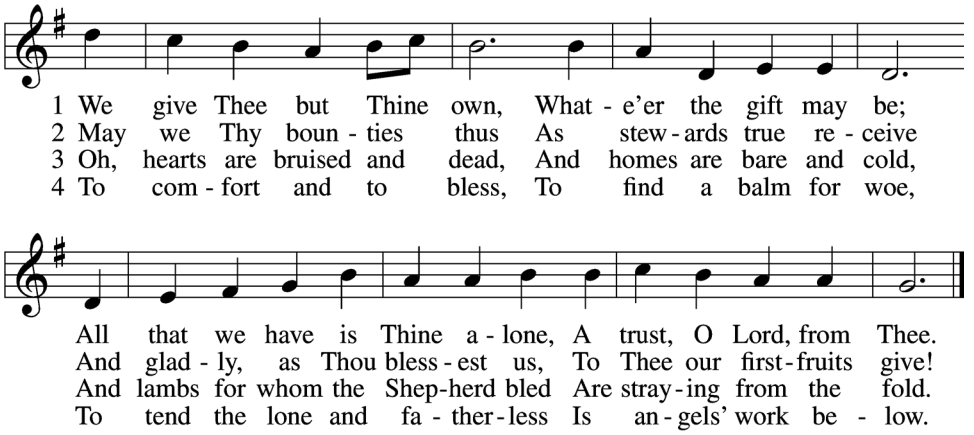


Benediction

Numbers 6:24–26



Closing Hymn: 781 We Give Thee But Thine Own



5 The captive to release,
To God the lost to bring,
To teach the way of life and peace,
It is a Christ-like thing.

6 And we believe Thy Word,
Though dim our faith may be:
Whate'er for Thine we do, O Lord,
We do it unto Thee.

Text: William W. How, 1823–97 Tune: William H. Monk, 1823–89 Text and tune: Public domain



Acknowledgments
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