Welcome

to the 2026

All Saints Parish



We're so happy you're here

to share in the blessing

of a new school year!

(Oh, and one important note: restrooms are located in the Parish Hall – just down the brick path)

All Saints Parish

Back to School Blessing

August 23, 2026 10:30am

Meeting ID 715 310 766 6 Password 014954
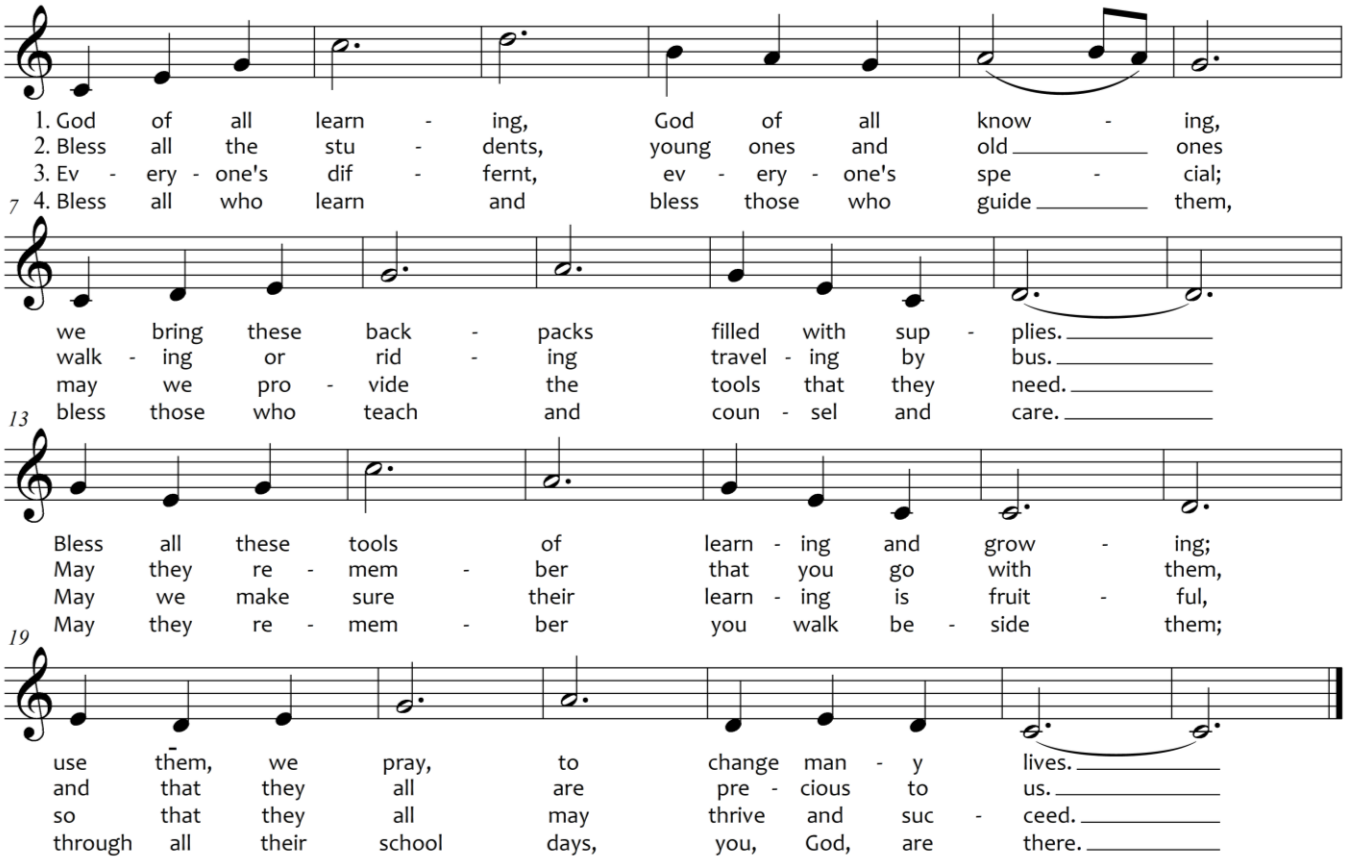
The Liturgy of the Word

Prelude I'm Gonna Sing When the Spirit Says Sing *All Saints Youth Choir and Friends*

Welcome The Rev. Virginia Tyler Smith

All stand, as you are able, or adopt a reverent posture of prayer

Opening Hymn God of all learning



Officiant Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit

People And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen

EDUCATION IS THE MOST POWERFUL WEAPON
YOU CAN USE TO CHANGE THE WORLD
Nelson Mandela

The Collect of the Day

The Officiant says to the people

The Lord be with you

People And also with you.

Officiant Let us pray.

Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered together in unity by your Holy Spirit, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Please be seated for the readings

The Lessons

A Reading from the prophet Isaiah 51:1-6 *read by Jennifer Schatz*

Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness, you that seek the Lord.

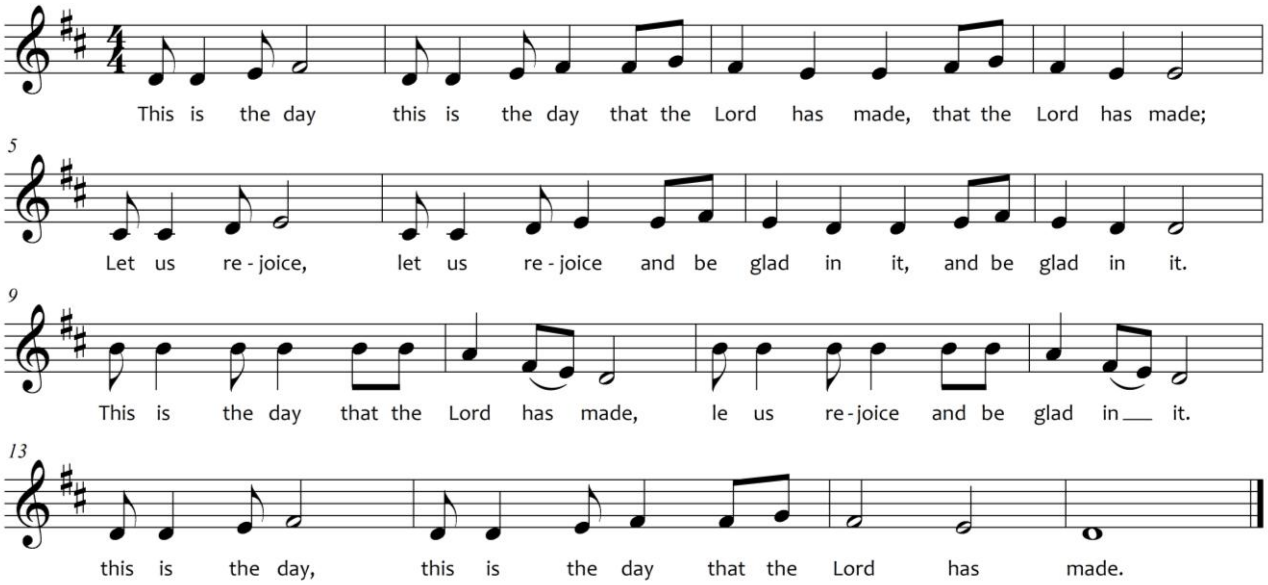
Look to the rock from which you were hewn,
and to the quarry from which you were dug.
Look to Abraham your father
and to Sarah who bore you;
for he was but one when I called him,
but I blessed him and made him many.
For the Lord will comfort Zion;
he will comfort all her waste places,
and will make her wilderness like Eden,
her desert like the garden of the Lord;
joy and gladness will be found in her,
thanksgiving and the voice of song.

Listen to me, my people,
and give heed to me, my nation;
for a teaching will go out from me,
and my justice for a light to the peoples.
I will bring near my deliverance swiftly,
my salvation has gone out and my arms will rule the peoples;
the coastlands wait for me,
and for my arm they hope.
Lift up your eyes to the heavens,
and look at the earth beneath;
for the heavens will vanish like smoke,
the earth will wear out like a garment, and those who live on it will die like gnats;
but my salvation will be for ever,
and my deliverance will never be ended.

The Word of the Lord *Thanks be to God*

All stand, as you are able, or adopt a reverent posture of prayer

HYMN This is the day



Please be seated

A Reading from St. Paul's Letter to the Romans 12:1-8 *Read by Alison Schatz*
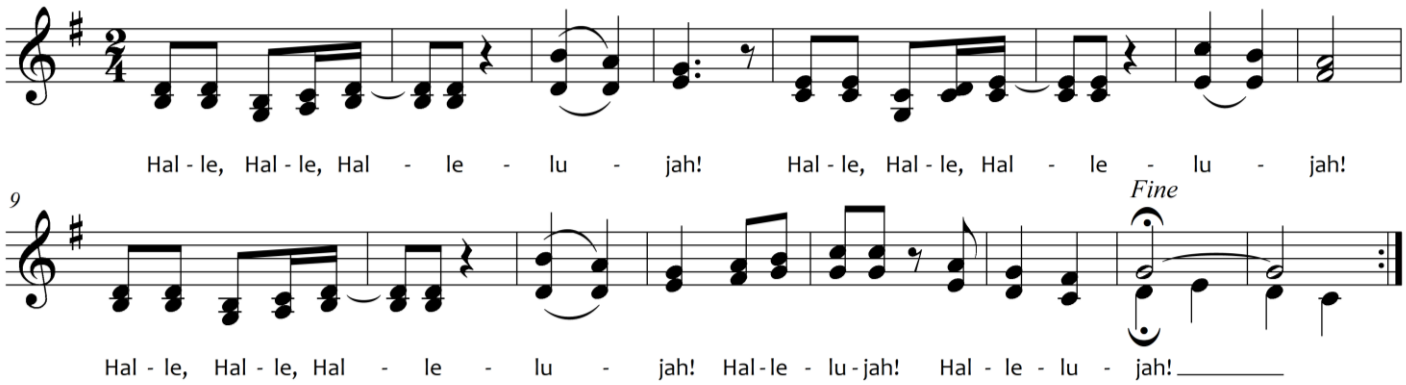
I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God- what is good and acceptable and perfect.

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

The Word of the Lord *Thanks be to God*

All stand, as you are able, or adopt a reverent posture of prayer

Gospel Acclamation *(Instrumental first time, then sing)*



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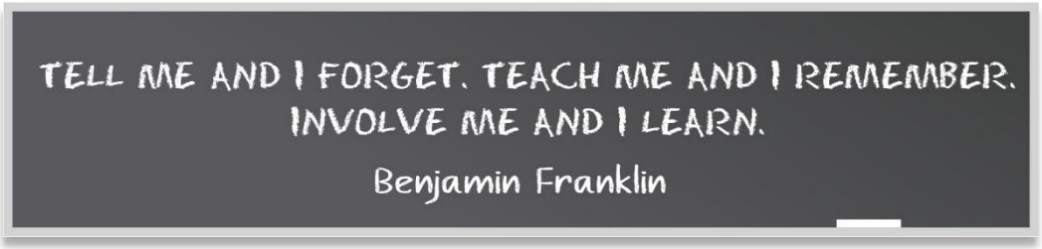
The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew 16:13-20

Glory to you, Lord Christ

Now Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, "Woman, you are set free from your ailment." When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the sabbath day." But the Lord answered him and said, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give it water? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the sabbath day?" When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame; and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things that he was doing.

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

The Sermon Dr. Marcus J. Newsome
Superintendent, Calvert County Public Schools



The Blessing

All students are invited to gather around the altar.

For Parents *Read by Patrick Lineberry, a parent of school-age children and All Saints member*

Loving God, we ask your blessing on all who teach, work with or support our children in their education. We pray that you would give them patience, wisdom, and a sense of humor. Empower them to show all their students your love. Guide them and govern them as they grow in God's Spirit.

(continued on following page)

For Teachers *Read by Katlin Bagdovitz, CCPS Teacher and All Saints member*

Holy God, bless these students, and make holy for their use these backpacks, computers, tablets, workspaces, Chrome books and notebooks. May they delight in discovering and developing their gifts and talents, and new ways of learning and growing. Send your Holy Spirit to guide them and strengthen them for this new year and new learning environment.

For Support Persons *Read by Darren Boggs, CCPS Support Person and All Saints member*

Eternal God, bless these your servants as they begin the school year. Grant that all who enter places of learning as support persons for our students and educators this year be filled with your grace and heavenly wisdom—that all their efforts be directed by your Holy Spirit, and work to your praise and glory. Most importantly, may those who support others feel support from You, our supporting God.

For School Leaders *Read by Ollie Reist, CCPS Student Member of the Board of Education and All Saints Member*

Send your Spirit upon all in our education system and fill them with your wisdom and blessings. We pray for the continued safety, protection, and well-being for all who learn, support, and teach. Grant that they may devote themselves to uplift and encourage all who need it and draw ever closer to you, the source of all knowledge.

For Students *Read by Aaron Deal, a CCPS student and All Saints member*

Gracious God, please help us who are going back to school to focus and to learn. We pray that our minds will be alert and receptive to the knowledge we need and pray that the distractions and worries of this world be alleviated by a sense of your comforting Presence. We pray that we won't be anxious about our schoolwork, but will be confident in all our efforts knowing that you love and care for us more than we could ever possibly imagine.

The Officiant then says the following blessing:
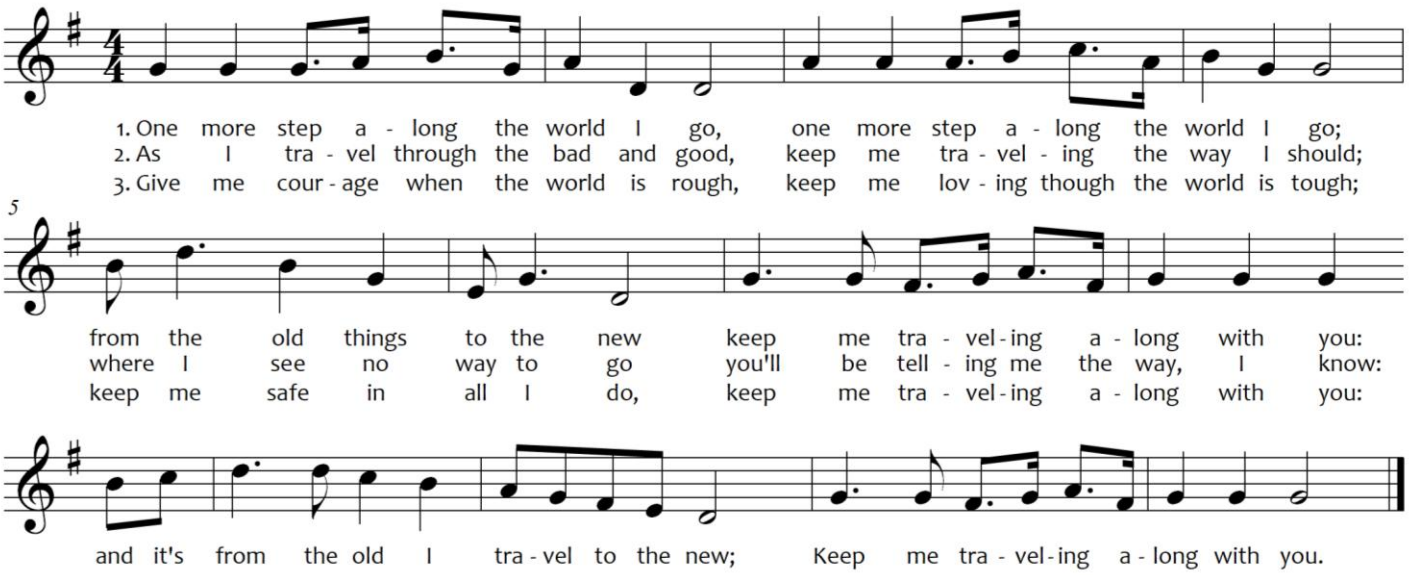
God of all creation, we ask you to hear the prayers of your faithful ones. We ask your blessing upon all who work with or support students in their education. Send your Holy Spirit to bless these students, parents, educators, administrators, support persons and all who work in our education system for the greater good of our community. Bless their homes and their hearts, their desks, kitchen tables and spaces set aside for offices. Bless their computers, books, musical instruments and art supplies. Bless their sports gear and their dance costumes; their pencils, books, pens and erasers. May their thirst for creativity be quenched. And finally, we pray that you seal and set us apart for your service and for the good of all your creation. Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that all those who are touched by this holy water receive your blessing and feel your unfailing love and presence, now and always. ***Amen***

All taking part in education in any way, shape or form are invited to stand to receive a blessing.

As the people are blessed with water we will sing:

One More Step Along the World I Go

(see following page)



The Peace

Officiant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People *And also with you.*

Vestry Welcome Ken McKenzie, All Saints Junior Warden

Announcements

The Offertory He's Got the Whole World In His Hands

Led by All Saints Youth Choir and Friends

Please join in on verse 5.

1 He's got the whole world in his hands (3x)
He's got the whole world in his hands!
2 He's got you and me, brother, in his hands (3x)
He's got the whole world in his hands!
3 He's got you and me, sister, in his hands (3x)
He's got the whole world in his hands!
4 He's got everybody here in his hands (3x)
He's got the whole world in his hands!
5 He's got the whole world in his hands (3x)
He's got the whole world in his hands!

As the Offering is presented at the altar, the people stand. The Officiant says,

All things come of thee, O Lord.

People *And of thine own have we given thee.*

The Holy Eucharist

The Great Thanksgiving

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

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

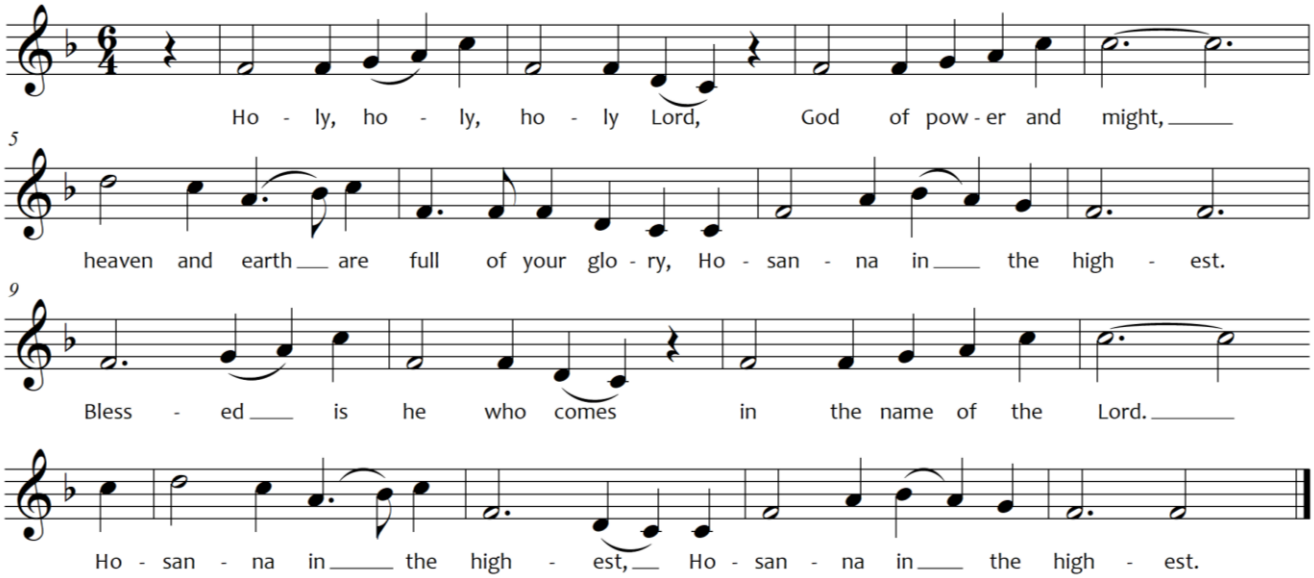
From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us.
By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:



The Officiant continues

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Officiant is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it, and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

We celebrate his death and resurrection,
as we await the day of his coming.

Lord God of our Fathers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God of Sarah, Leah and Rachel, God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. ***AMEN.***

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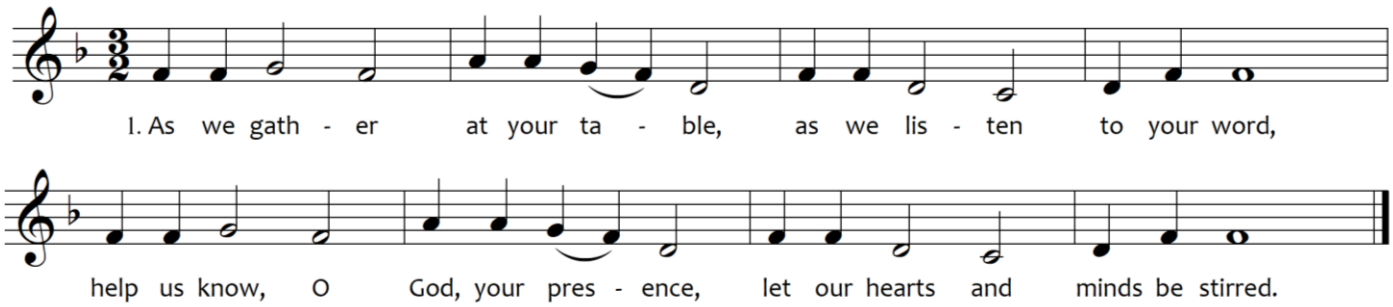
People and Officiant

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. 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, the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Officiant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Fraction Anthem



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Facing the people, the Officiant says the following Invitation

These are 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.
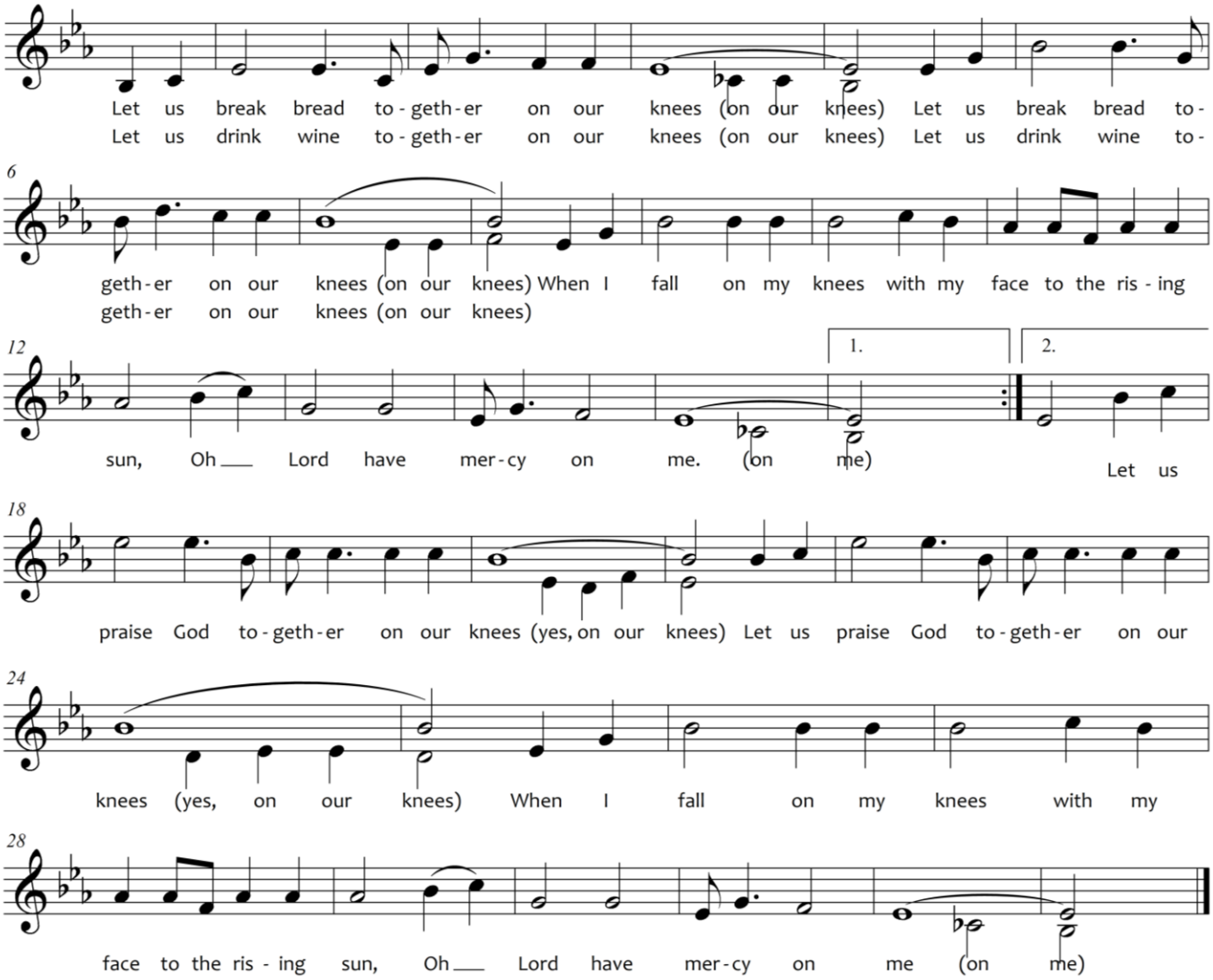
Please be seated. If you wish to accept the invitation to communion,
the ushers will direct you to the altar rail.

COMMUNION IS OPEN TO EVERYONE
All are welcome to receive Holy Communion here.

Please note that the wine we use in communion contains alcohol.
If you prefer, you are welcome to receive communion in one kind – that is, bread only.
There are also gluten-free wafers available upon request.
If you would prefer a blessing in lieu of communion,
please indicate by folding your arms across your chest.

The ministers immediately deliver the Sacraments to the people, saying:
The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. [*Amen.*]
The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. [*Amen.*]

Communion Hymn Let us break bread together on our knees
(see following page)



After Communion, the Officiant says

Let us pray.

Officiant and People

Loving God, we give you thanks
for restoring us in your image
and nourishing us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.
Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed;
that we may proclaim your love to the world
and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen

A Sending Prayer for Students
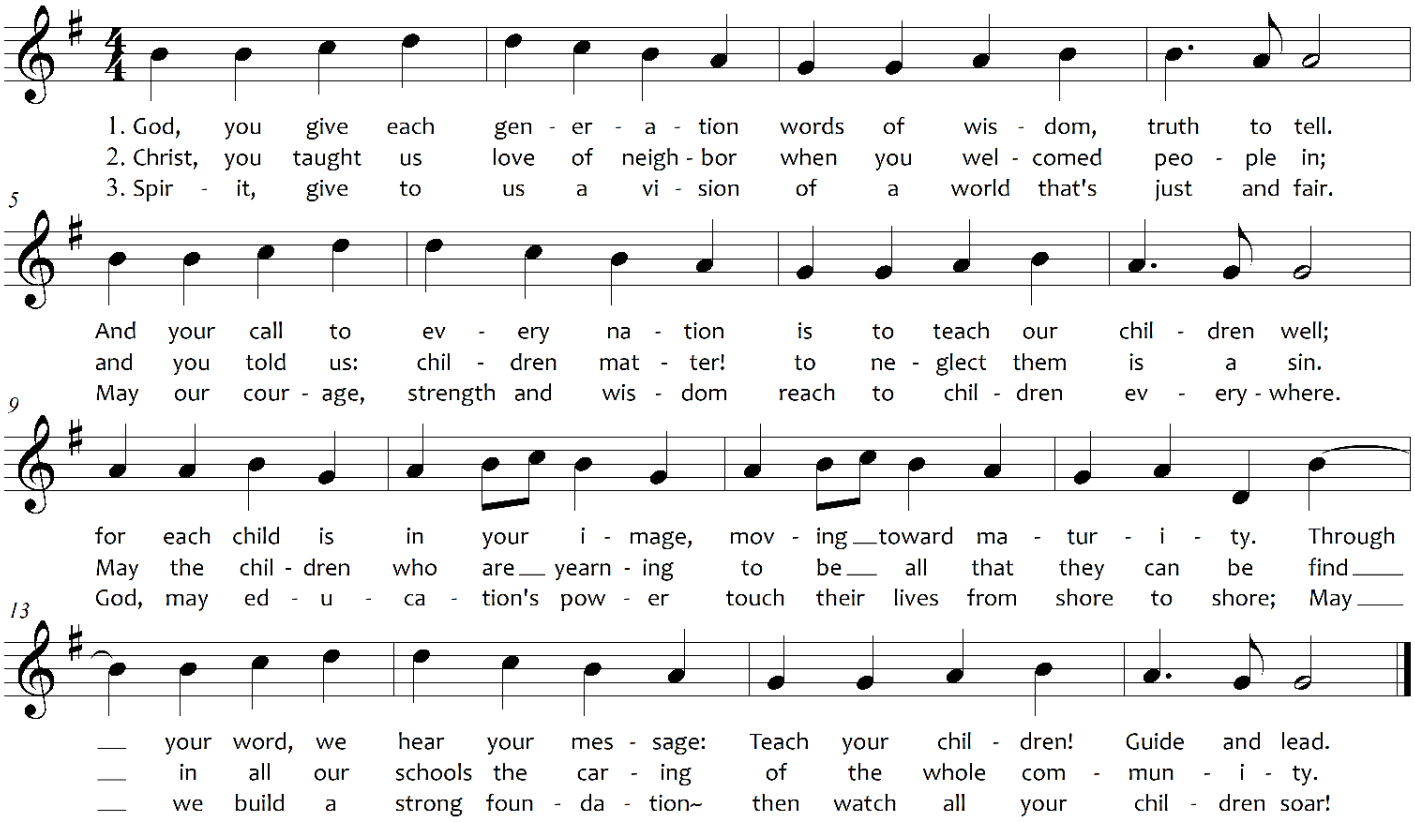
Lord, go before them and protect them from harm in the halls, in the classrooms, on the buses, and on the playground. Be with them in every unseen moment.

Open their minds to learn what is true and good and guard their hearts against fear or discouragement. Surround them with people who are kind.

Fill them with joy and the quiet confidence that You are right there with them throughout every single day. In your Holy Name we pray. ***Amen.***

Blessing

Sending Hymn God, you give each generation

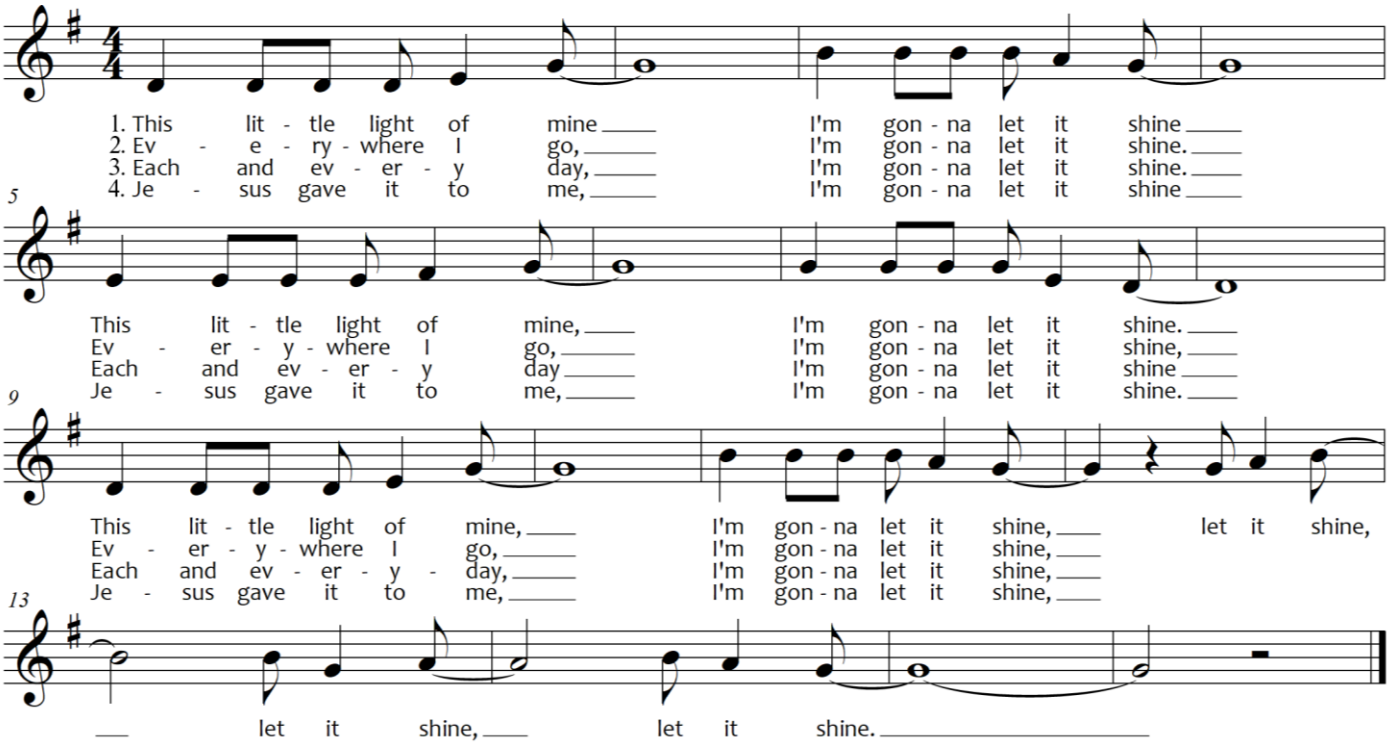


Dismissal

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

Please stay and sing along to the Postlude song found on the following page.

Postlude This Little Light of Mine *(Please sing along!)*



The altar flowers today are given by Deb and Steve Watson to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Deb's mother, Doris M. Adams whose love of learning never ceased, and in gratitude for all educators.

Please join us in the Parish Hall after the service for refreshments and fellowship.



allsaints1692.org

All Saints Parish

An Episcopal Community Serving Calvert County & the World

The Rt. Rev. Carrie Schofield Broadbent, Bishop of Maryland
The Rev. Virginia Tyler Smith, Interim Rector 585-315-6604
The Rev. Chip Tucker, Deacon The Rev. Lisa Siciliano, Regional Deacon
The Rev. Margaret Van Auker, Deacon Emeritus
Tamara Timmermann, Parish Administrator allsaints1692@allsaints1692.org
Deborah Watson, Music Director dewatson94@comcast.net
Church Office: 410-257-6306 Mailing address: P.O. Box 40, Sunderland, MD 20689

Officers and Vestry

Adriane Hope Sayles, Senior Warden	301-467-1467
Ken McKenzie, Junior Warden	703-675-4476
Filo Blake, Property Warden	443-684-1536
Barbara Brown, Prayer Warden	610-869-4456
Steven Watson, Treasurer	301-801-0961

Vestry

Katlin Bagdovitz *(2028)*	410-474-5508	Eileen Everhart *(2028)*	941-284-2570
Barbara Buck *(2027)*	540-239-5928	Joe Klausner *(2029)*	410-610-6075
Paul Dougherty *(2029)*	410-353-0357	Glenn Iona *(2028)*	443-694-1353
Jill Dowell *(2029)*	443-610-5294	Julia Schardt *(2027)*	209-986-3029

Avhlee Reist, Youth Vestry Member *(2027)*

(Note: The years given above reflect the anticipated last full calendar year of service by the Elected Vestry Person; however, Vestry persons' terms continue until the Annual Parish Meeting of the following year when successors are elected.)

All Saints Commissions and Committees

Worship & Music Commission
Deb Watson 301-801-0960

Parish Family Commission
Adriane Hope Sayles 301-467-1467

Christian Formation (Sunday School)
Ben Reist 240-721-0529

ECW Christmas Market
Elizabeth Aune & Eileen Everhart

Outreach Committee
Patti At Lee 202-669-5594

Finance Commission/Planned Giving
Ken McKenzie 703-675-4476

Calvert Concept for Reconciliation and Housing
Chair, Kip At Lee, (410) 474-3008

Connections Commission
Deb Shupe 410-231-8150

Property Committee
Glenn Iona 443-684-1353

Episcopal Church Women
Jill Dowell 443-610-5294

Calvert Arts Festival
Pat Lineberry 907-654-4655

Cemetery Committee
Bryan Dowell 410-257-5449

Diocesan Convention Delegate:
Ken McKenzie *(2029)*

Alternate Delegate: Cynthia Overstrom *(2029)*

If you are new to All Saints, welcome! We're glad you're here!

Please fill out a leaflet found on the back of the pew and place it in the Offering plate, or hand it to an usher

Ushers 8am: Nate Pope, Amanda Peterson & Josh Westlund
Greeters: Penny Dorsey and Babs Buchheister
10:30am: Eric Jenkins, Charles Sadler, Malane Silver & Nate Pope
Greeters: Katlin Bagdovitz and Brittany Downs

During the 10:30 service a staffed Nursery for young children is available in the Parish Hall.
Restrooms are located in the Parish Hall

A Back-to-School Poem

The children start school this week. It's going to be strange for them for a while.
And I wish you would sort of treat them gently, World.
You see, up to now, they've 'ruled the roost"
They've been the bosses of the backyard.
I have always been around to repair their wounds and soothe their feelings.
But now - things are going to be different.
Tomorrow morning, they're going to walk down the front steps, wave their hands
and start on a great adventure that will probably cause wars, tragedy and sorrow.
To live their lives in the world they have to live in will require faith and love
and courage.

So, World, I wish you would sort of take them by their young hands and teach them
the things they will have to know.
Teach them - but gently if you can.

They will have to learn, I know, that not all people are just,
that not everyone is true.
Teach them that for every scoundrel, there is a hero - for every crooked official,
there is a dedicated leader - that for every enemy, there is a friend.
Let them learn early that the bullies are the easiest people to lick.
Teach them the wonders of books. Give them quiet time to ponder the eternal mystery
of birds in the sky, bees in the sun, and flowers on the green hill.
Teach them that it is far more honorable to fail than to cheat.
Teach them to have faith in their own ideas, even if everyone tells them they are wrong.
Try to give my children the strength not to follow the crowd when everyone else is
getting on the bandwagon. Teach them to listen intently, but to filter all they hear
on a screen of truth and take only the good that comes through.
Teach them to close their ears to a howling mob - and to stand up for what's right.
Teach them gently, World, but don't coddle them, because only the test of fire
makes fine steel.

This is a big order, World, but see what you can do...
They're such lovely children.

-Author Unknown