St. Simon's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH



The Twenty Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
November 8, 2026

Welcome to St. Simon's

Celebrating God's love for all. Embodying Christ in the world.

If you are here today, you belong, no matter where you are on your journey of faith. Welcome.

St Simon's is a joyful and hopeful congregation that invites all who seek God into community, questions and doubts included. Please feel free to participate as fully in the worship of God as you wish. Lift your voice in praise, respond to the prayers and readings, and come to the altar for communion or a blessing. Or, if you prefer, sit back quietly and allow God's Spirit to speak to you in the way that feels most comfortable.

Welcome, Children. You are invited as full participants in our worship just as you are. God delights in you.

Welcome, Elders. Your wisdom and experience are valued in our community. God has shaped you and you are beautiful.

Welcome, you.

Welcome, everyone, to God's table. This is the table of the risen Lord Jesus Christ, and all who seek God are invited to share in communion. If you wish to participate, but prefer not to receive communion, please join everyone coming forward. Cross your arms over your chest and we will be glad to give you a blessing instead. If you wish to have communion brought to you at your seat, or if you desire a gluten-free wafer, please notify an usher.

Wherever you find yourself on the journey, there is a place for you here.
May you encounter God in this community.

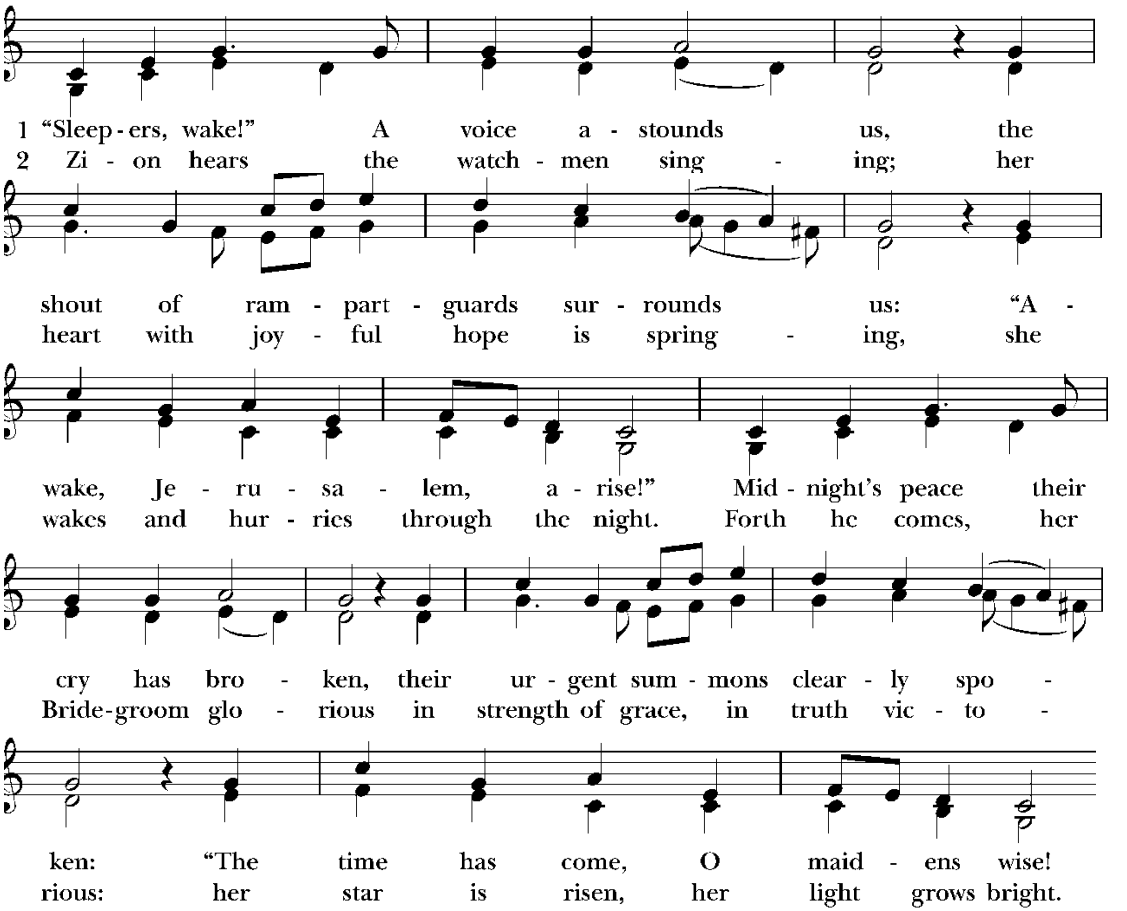
The Holy Eucharist

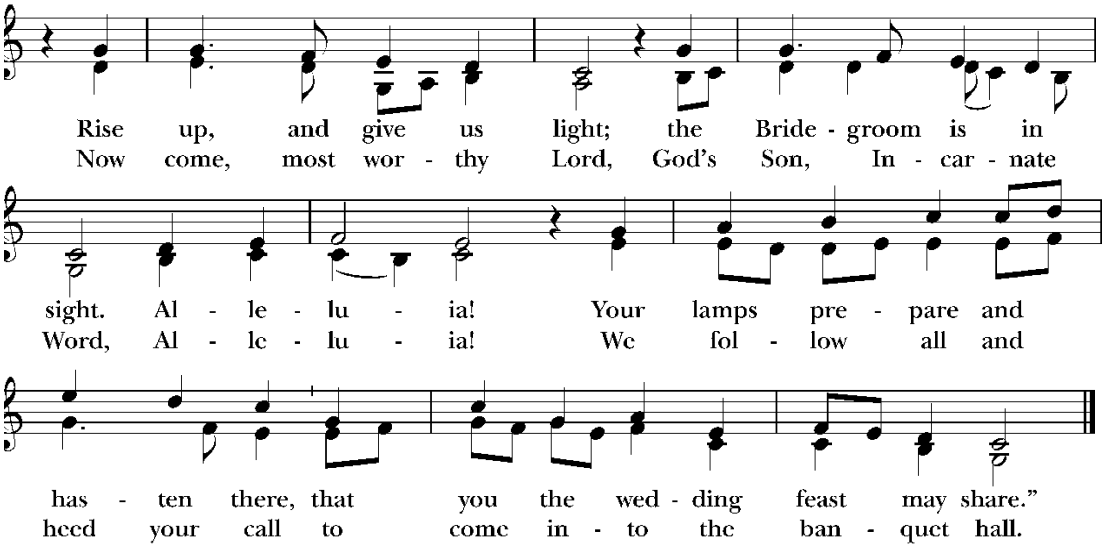
** Indicates the assembly stands, if able.*
*All portions of the service in **Bold** are spoken by the assembly.*
Please silence your cell phone.

Prelude

Words of Welcome

*Opening Hymn H 61 "Sleepers, wake!" *Wachet auf*

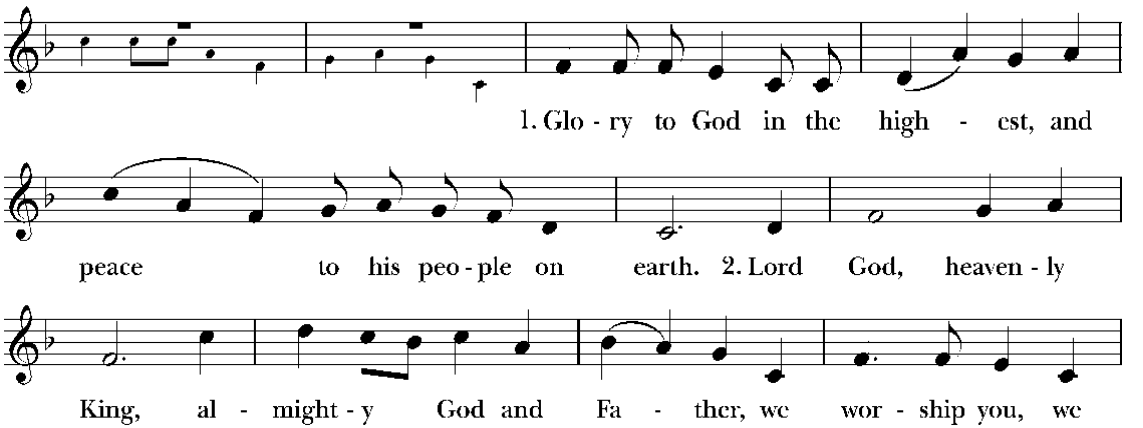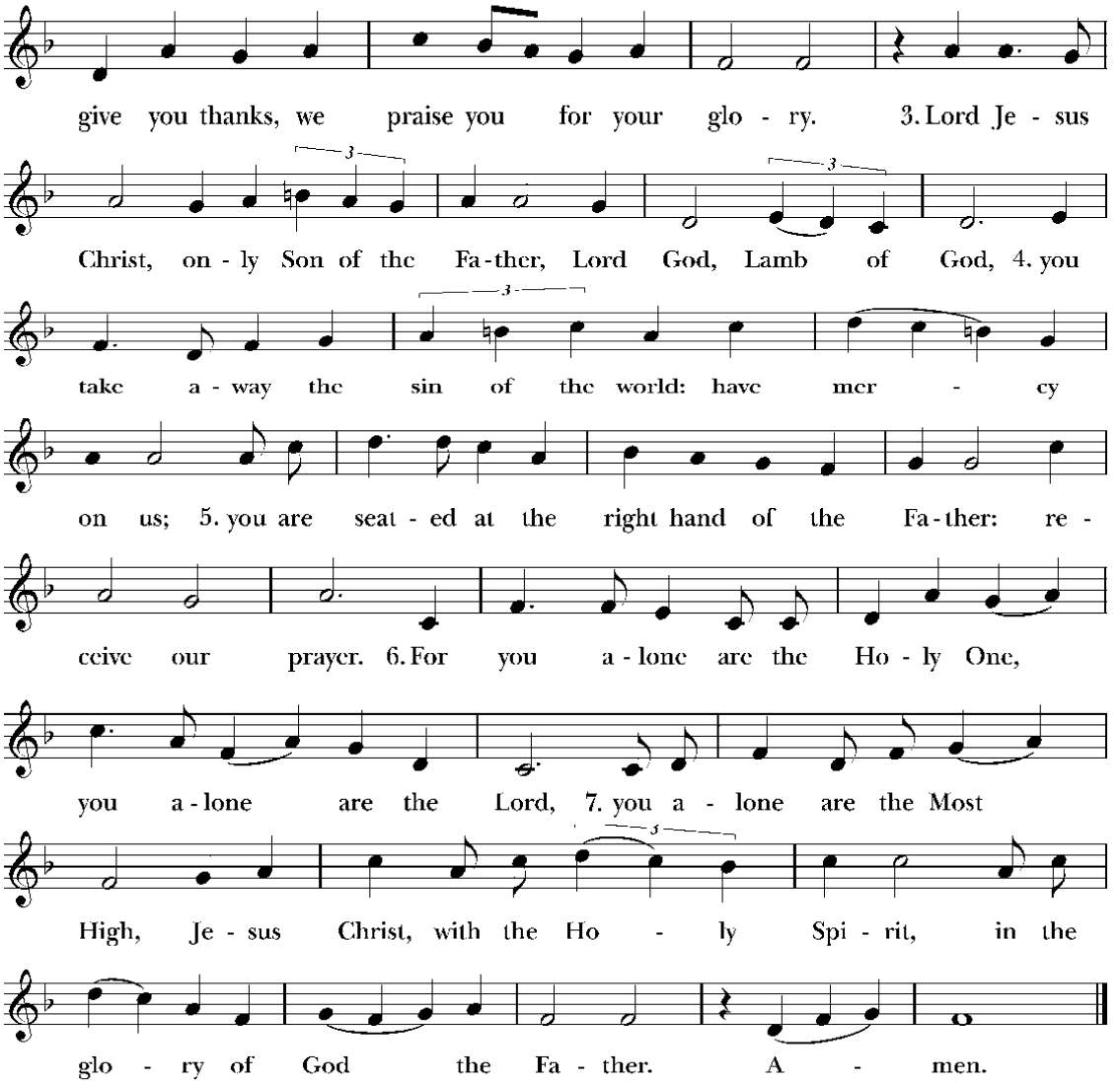




Blessed be God: the Author, the Only-Begotten, and the Gift.
And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

*The Gloria

S-280





The Word of God

*The Collect of the Day

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

O Judge of the nations, we remember before you with grateful hearts the men and women of our country who in the days of decision ventured much for the liberties we now enjoy. Grant that we may not rest until all the people of this land share the benefits of true freedom and gladly accept its disciplines. This we ask in the Name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Lessons *The Assembly is seated*

The First Lesson Amos 5:18-24

A reading from the book of Amos.

Thus says the Lord, the God of hosts, the Lord:
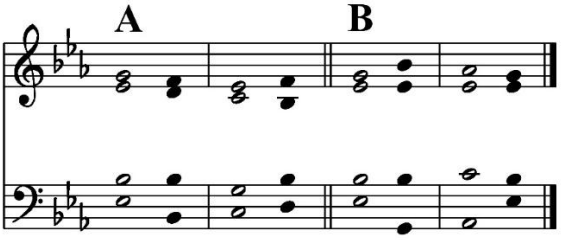
Alas for you who desire the day of the Lord!
Why do you want the day of the Lord?
It is darkness, not light;
as if someone fled from a lion,
and was met by a bear;
or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall,
and was bitten by a snake.
Is not the day of the Lord darkness, not light,
and gloom with no brightness in it?
I hate, I despise your festivals,
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.

Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,
I will not accept them;
and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals
I will not look upon.
Take away from me the noise of your songs;
I will not listen to the melody of your harps.
But let justice roll down like waters,
and righteousness like an everflowing stream.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
Thanks be to God.

The Psalter
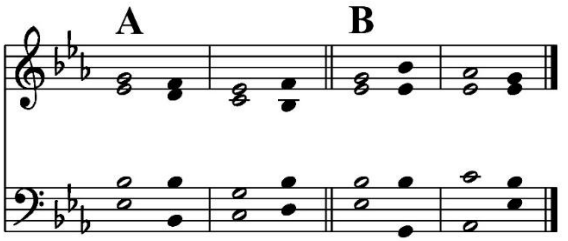
Psalm 70



A Help me, God.
Lord, be quick to save me.
B People are plotting to kill me;
humble them, shame them.

A They want to ruin me;
ruin and dis-grace them.
B Let those who jeer at me
swallow their shameful taunts.

A But those who seek you
and trust your saving love
B rejoice and always sing,
"God is great."



A I am poor and helpless,
O God, hurry to my side!
B Lord, my help, my rescue,
do not de-lay.

The Second Lesson

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

A reading from the first letter to the Thessalonians.

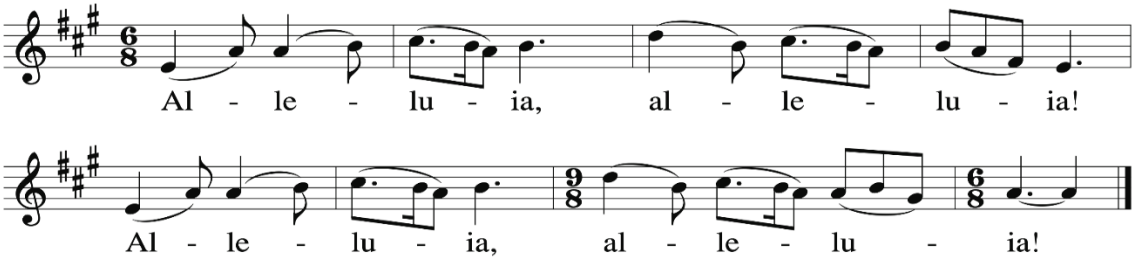
We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
Thanks be to God.

The Assembly stands as they are able to face the Gospeler.

*The Gospel Procession

All join in singing twice both before and after the gospel.



*The Holy Gospel

Matthew 25:1-13

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

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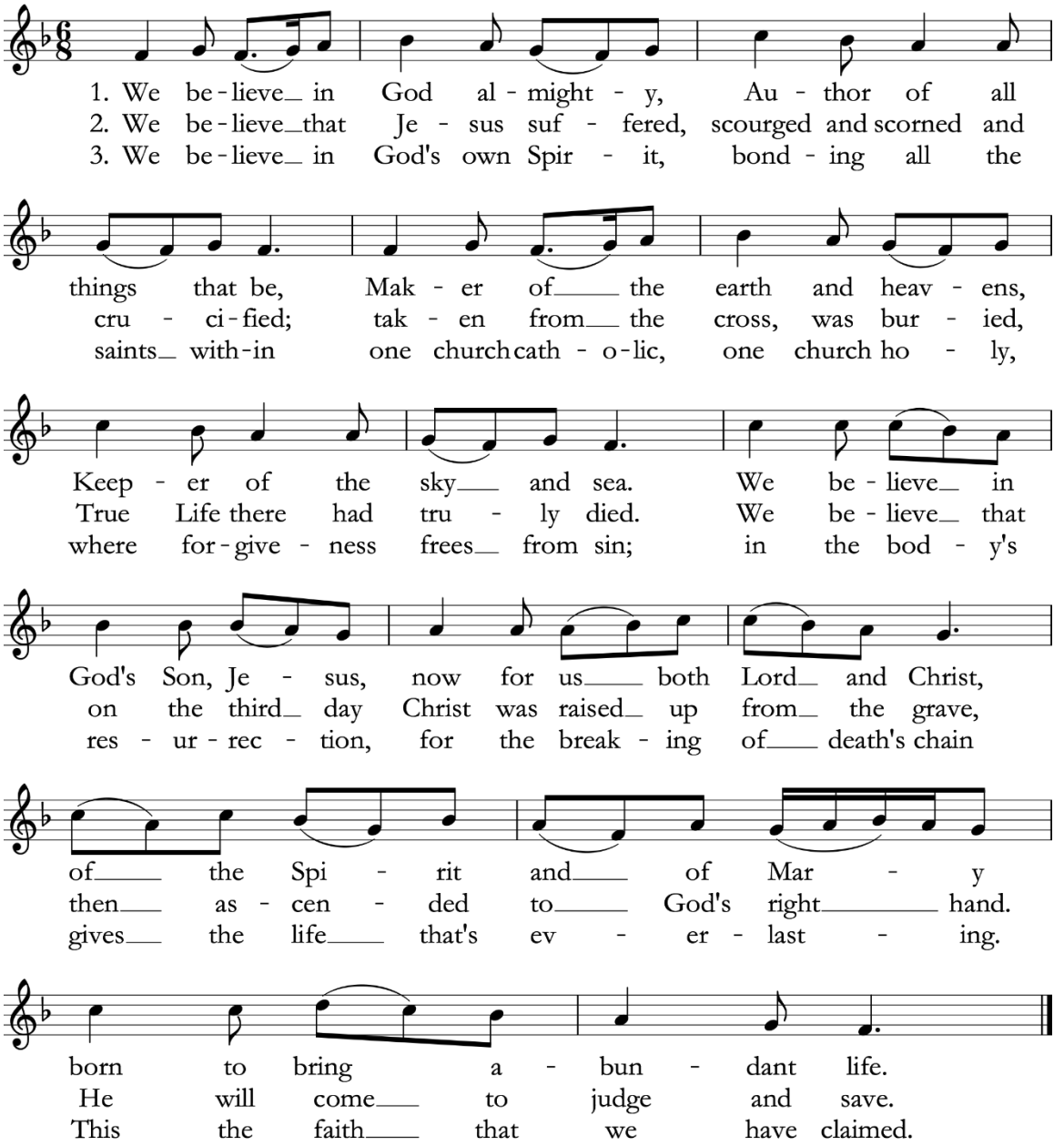
The Sermon

Jenny Hulen

A period of silence is shared after the sermon.

*The Creed

Hyfrydol



*The Prayers of the People

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying: "Hear our prayer".

For peace and tranquility in the world,
(silence)
let us pray.
Hear our prayer

For all who know you and all who seek to know you more deeply,
(silence)
let us pray.
Hear our prayer

For Sean, our Presiding Bishop, for Paula our Bishop, and for each of us as we minister to those around us,
(silence)
let us pray.
Hear our prayer

For the good earth which you have given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it,
(silence)
let us pray.
Hear our prayer

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, especially Deborah, Jane and Michael, Teri-Ellen, Bill and all patients, family members and staff at Northwest Community Hospital
(silence)
let us pray.
Hear our prayer

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for the disappeared, and for all who work against systems of inequity,
(silence)
let us pray.
Hear our prayer

For all who no longer have need of faith for they see you face to face,
(silence)
let us pray.
Hear our prayer

For our enemies and those with whom we disagree, for those who wish us harm, and those whom we have harmed,
(silence)
let us pray.
Hear our prayer

That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without
suffering and without reproach,
(silence)
let us pray.
Hear our prayer

In the communion of all your saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.
To you, O Lord our God.

Celebrant adds a concluding collect.

*The Confession and Absolution

Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence may be kept.

Most merciful God,
We confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent,
for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

*The Peace

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

The Ministers and Assembly stand to greet one another in the peace of Christ.

Blessing Birthdays and Anniversaries
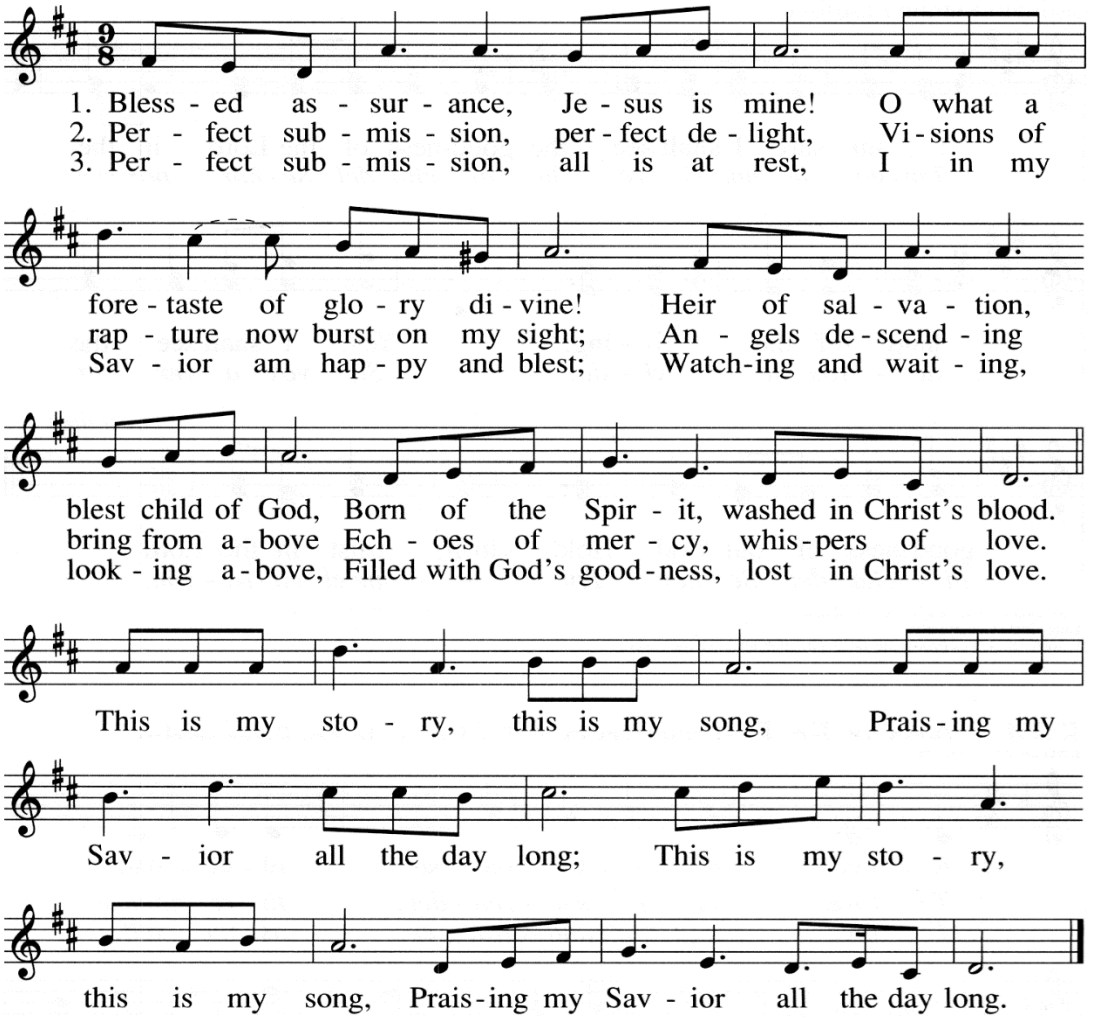
All those celebrating birthdays or anniversaries of any kind are invited to add their name to the chat on Zoom or feed on Facebook

Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
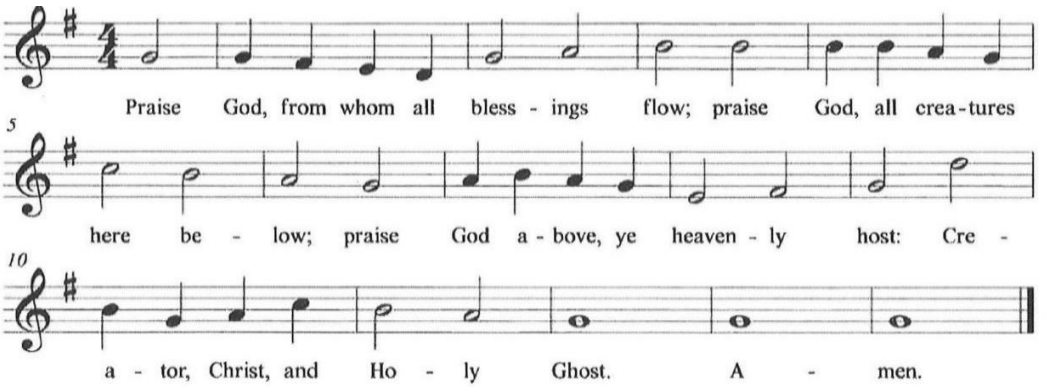
Engagement Opportunities

Offertory *Text 73256 to give. In the body of the text type saintsimons*

Offertory Hymn "Blessed Assurance"



*Presentation of the Gifts



*The Great Thanksgiving

BCP form C

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 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.

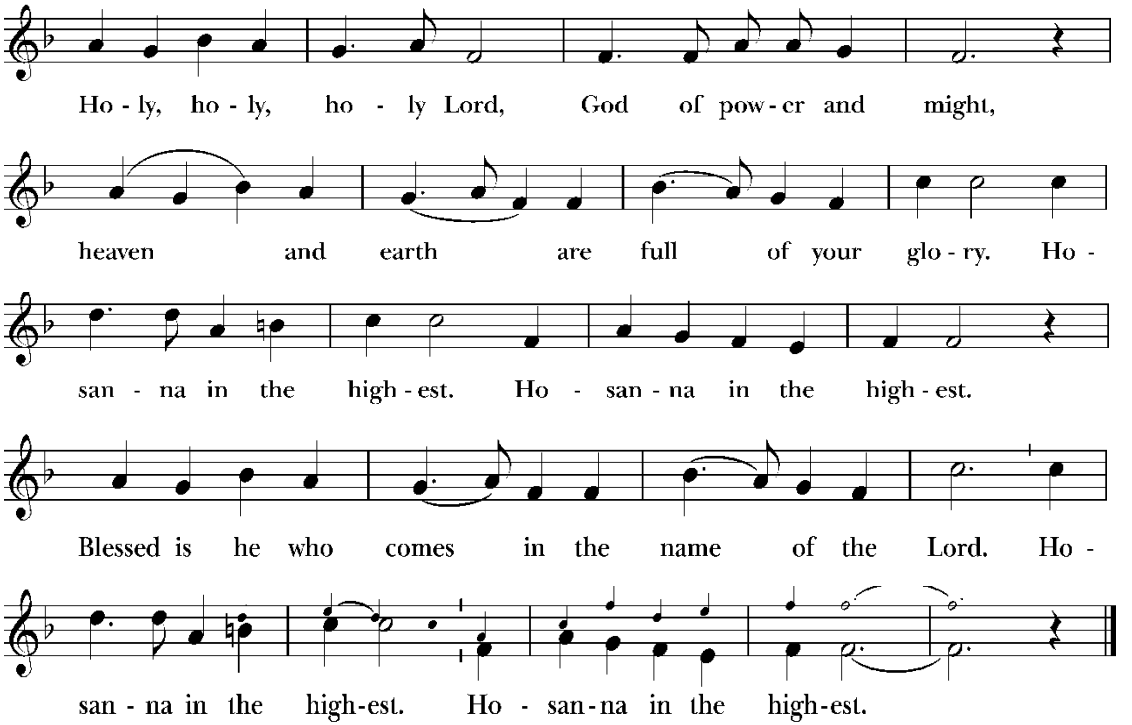
At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.
By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the stewards 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.

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:



And so, O God, 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.

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 Forbearers: God of Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebecca, Jacob, Leah, Rachael, Bilhah and Zilpah; 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, O God, 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,

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 Breaking of the Bread

The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread.

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

A period of silence is kept.

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 Presider and those worshipping online consume the host together with these words:
The body of Christ, the bread of heaven.
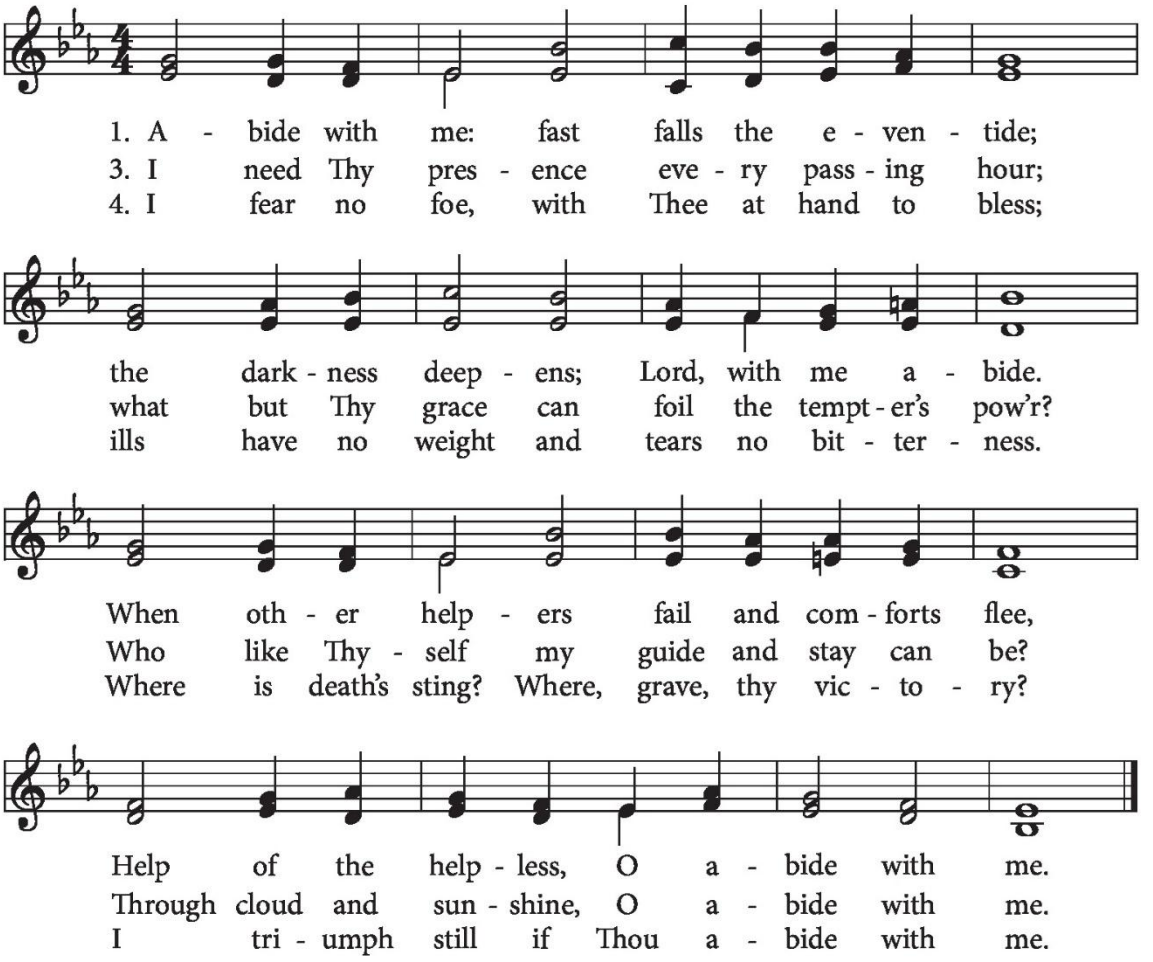
Everyone has a place at God's table and all are invited to share in communion.

You may stand or kneel at the rail. Wine is offered in individual cups around the outside of the tray. Grape juice is offered in the middle. If you prefer a gluten-free wafer, please tell the priest. If you would like to participate but do not wish to receive the bread and wine, simply cross your arms across your chest and the priest will give you a blessing instead.

Both the common cup (chalice) and individual cups are offered. Join the line for the chalice on the left (pulpit) side or the line on the right (screen) side to receive the individual cups. Grape juice is available in the individual cups.

Note: Generally, we will begin to sing the communion hymn once the final group of communion recipients has knelt at the rail. This way, more of the congregation can fully participate in singing most of the communion hymn.

Communion Hymn "Abide with me "



*Post Communion Prayer

Let us pray.

In gratitude for this moment,
this place,
those around us,
Christ among us,
we give ourselves to you our God.

Take us out to live as changed people
because we have met the risen Christ
and cannot be the same.

Ask much of us,
expect much from us,
enable much by us,
encourage many through us.

So may we live to your glory
both as inhabitants of earth
and citizens of the commonwealth of heaven.
Through Jesus our brother,
with the aid of the Holy Spirit we pray. Amen.[1]
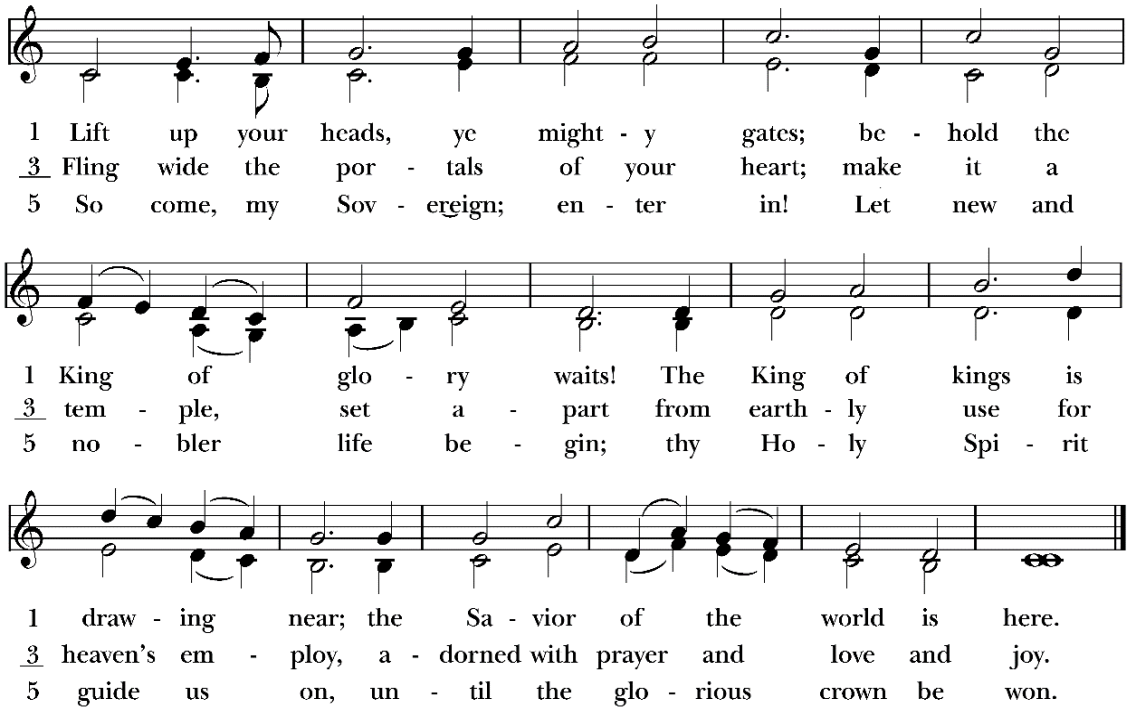
When members of the community are unable to attend the service, representatives of the people are sent with bread and wine to extend our communion with them.

In the name of this congregation, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood. We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.

*The Blessing

Now may God, who gives seed to the sower and grain to the reaper, provide all that we need so that we may produce a rich harvest of faith, love, justice and joy for the good of the earth and its people and to the glory of God. **Amen**.[2]

*Closing Hymn 436 "Lift Up Your Heads"



*Dismissal

Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

LIVE-STREAM NOTICE
A reminder, this public service will be live-streamed and your image or the image of any children or vulnerable adults in your care may appear in the video. By your entry and presence in this service, you agree on behalf of yourself and any children or vulnerable adults attending with you to be photographed, filmed, and/or otherwise recorded, and also agree to our use of such images in any and all media.

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St. Simon's Episcopal Church

717 W. Kirchhoff Road, Arlington Heights, Illinois 60005
847.259.2930 ~ office@saintsimons.org ~ www.saintsimons.org

Parish Office Hours ~ Monday—Thursday ~ 9:00am—3:00pm

The Rt. Rev. Paula Clark, *Bishop of the Diocese of Chicago*

The Rev. Jennifer Hulen, *Rector*
Martin Pazdioch, *Music Director*
Jo Gantzer, *Associate for Parish Ministry*

Today's Service Leaders

Presider & Preacher	The Rev. Jenny Hulen
Crucifer	Dave Howley
Chalice Minister	Sara Lewandowski
Readers	Rachel Jarosik
	Michael Medsker
Intercessor	Maria Whelan
Ushers	Robbin Thompson
Altar Guild	Betty Bacula
Porter	Karen Waechter
Organist	Martin Pazdioch
Recorder	Peter Hulen
Technical Production Team	Alan Medsker