ST. THOMAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH



The Fifth Sunday of Easter

Holy Eucharist

May 3, 2026
2201 Dexter St., Denver, CO
saintthomasdenver.org

Welcome

St Thomas Episcopal Church offers sanctuary and spiritual renewal to everyone regardless of age, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, religious background, social or economic circumstance, political affiliation or where you are on your spiritual journey. We welcome all who desire deep relationships and value our relationships with others over the differences that separate us.

Our Commitment

We believe all people are beloved of God and we strive to live and proclaim God's love through all our actions and words. As a community and as individuals, we Lead with Love, shine light in the darkness, create safe spaces and offer hope, courage, peace and strength for the journey. We are here for each other and for those in need of any kind. St. Thomas is a place of refuge for those who are wearied by the world and desire nourishment for the spirit and the soul. We welcome you to come as you are and to join us in the sacred task of loving a new world into being.

The Meaning of the Conch Shell and Shofar

The resonant sound of the conch shell is considered a sacred call, symbolizing the start of a ritual and invoking divine presence. Our parishioner, Tana Knopf, gifted St, Thomas with a conch shell and introduced this practice as a call to worship. In addition to blowing the conch we have added another call to prayer. Geoff Wodell blows the shofar, a ram's horn trumpet used by ancient Jews in religious ceremonies and as a battle signal. These are some of the ways that we incorporate a diversity of cultures and traditions into our liturgy and, of course, the children love it.

Learn More About St. Thomas

If you would like to learn more about St. Thomas, we invite you to visit our website (www.saintthomasdenver.org), subscribe to our weekly newsletter (link is on website), or schedule a conversation with our priest by emailing office@saintthomasdenver.org.

Inclusive Language:

At St. Thomas, we support and encourage the use of inclusive language. Towards that end we often choose more contemporary prayers and hymns for our worship service. However, we recognize that many parishioners also appreciate and love our traditional prayers and hymns that employ more patriarchal language. When such prayers or hymns are included in our worship, we encourage you to substitute the word or pronoun that most resonates with you when you pray or sing.

Preaching and Presiding this Week: The Rev. Tory Moir

Music Leaders

Brandon Bennett
Kari Miles
Angela Pleasants
Geoff Wodell

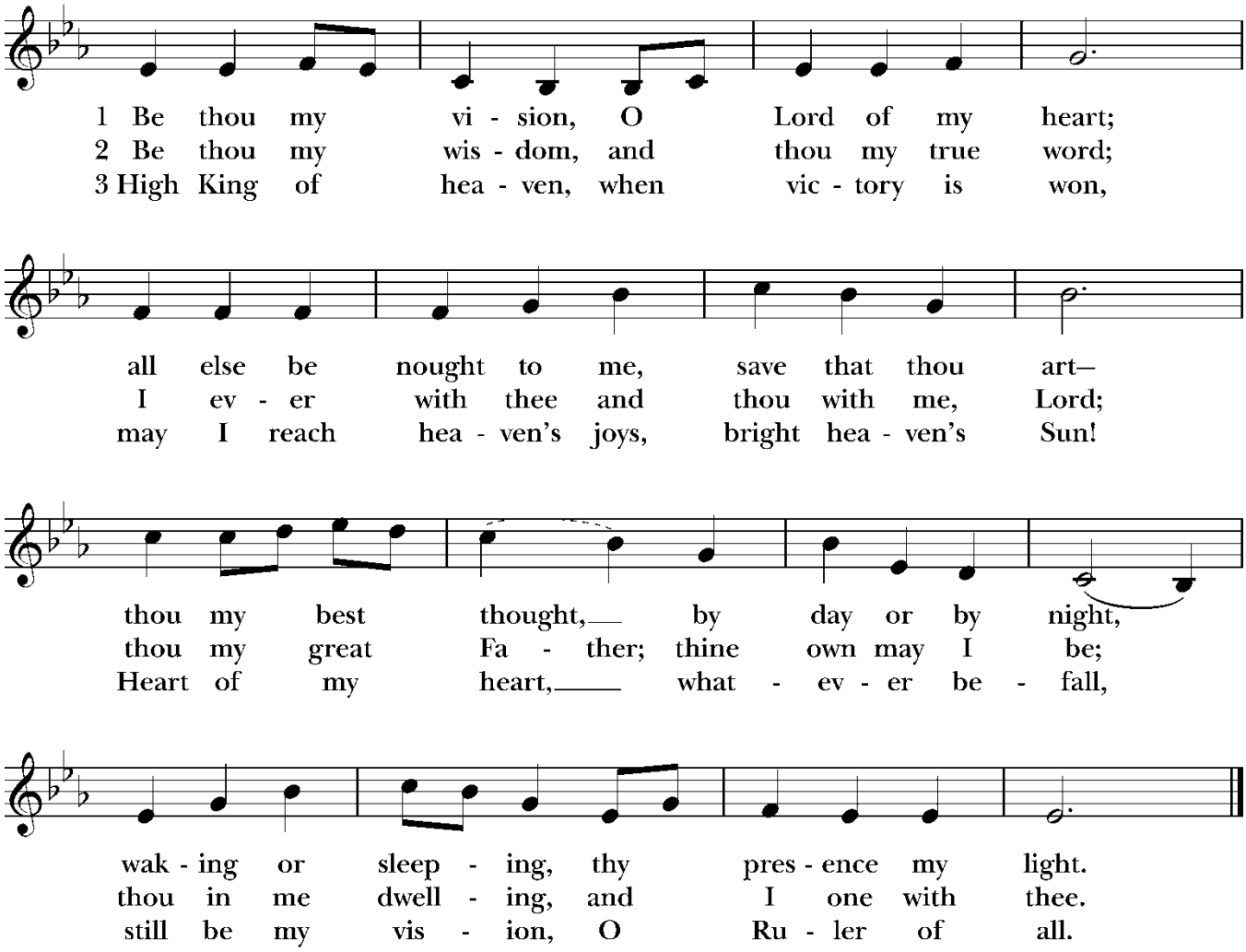
Godly Play and Nursery
Maria Perez

Contact Us:

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Leslie Stewart, Treasurer treasury@saintthomasdenver.org
Samantha Church, Children's Program samantha@saintthomasdenver.org

Processional *Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my Heart* Hymnal 1982 #488

Please stand in body or spirit.



Words: Irish, ca. 700; versified Mary Elizabeth Byrne (1880-1931); tr. Eleanor H. Hull (1860-1935), alt. Music: *Slane*, Irish ballad melody; adapt. *The Church Hymnary*, 1927; harm. David Evans (1874-1948). By permission of Oxford University Press.
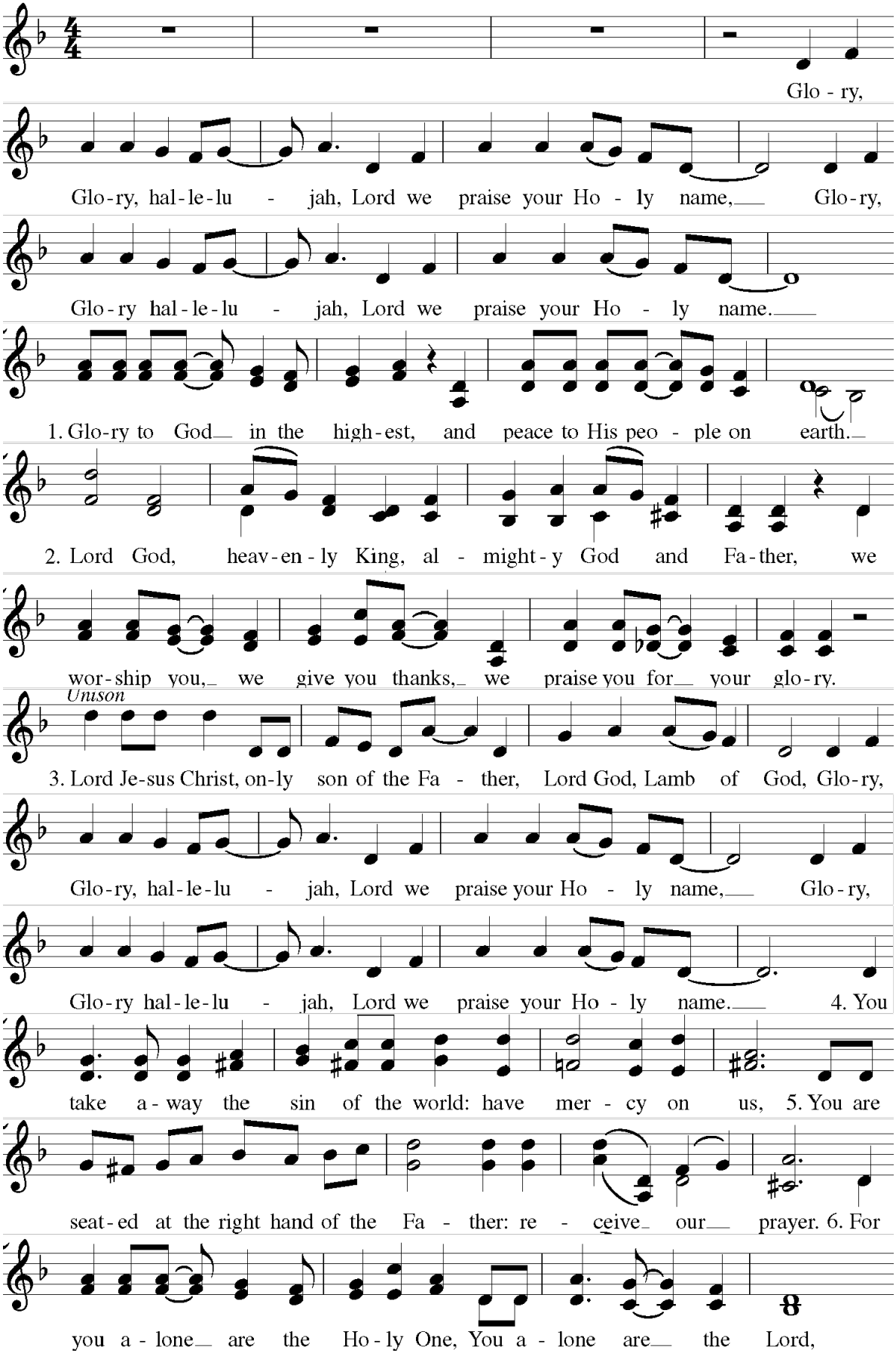
Opening Acclamation
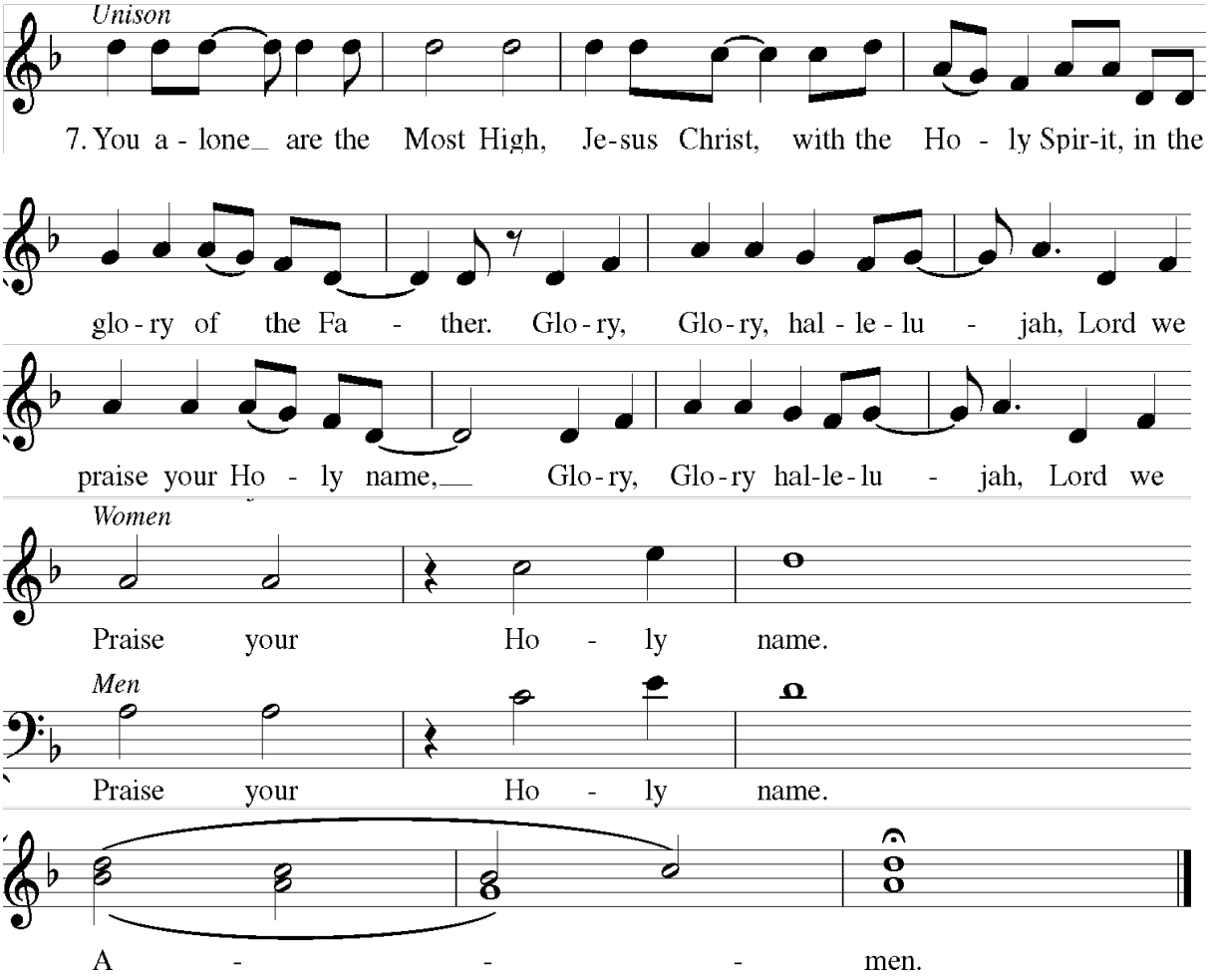
Presider Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. He who does not love does not know God, for God is love. *1 John 4:7,8*

Blessed are you, our beloved God.

People **In you is glory and love forever.**

Gloria


Glo - ry,
Glo-ry, hal-le-lu - jah, Lord we praise your Ho - ly name, Glo-ry,
Glo-ry hal-le-lu - jah, Lord we praise your Ho - ly name.
1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to His peo - ple on earth.
2. Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al - might-y God and Fa-ther, we
wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.
Unison
3. Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, Glo-ry,
Glo-ry, hal-le-lu - jah, Lord we praise your Ho - ly name, Glo-ry,
Glo-ry hal-le-lu - jah, Lord we praise your Ho - ly name. 4. You
take a-way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us, 5. You are
seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer. 6. For
you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, You a-lone are the Lord,



The Collect of the Day

Presider May God be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Presider Let us pray.

Risen Christ, give us grace to love one another, to search for truth and to walk in the ways of justice and peace, so that we may abide in the Father's love always. **Amen**. *Propers Working Group (2016)*

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Please sit as you are able.

A Reading from Acts Acts 7:55-60

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my

spirit." Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

After the Reading:

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

In you, O God, have I taken refuge;
let me never be put to shame; *
d**eliver me in your righteousness.**

Incline your ear to me; *
make haste to deliver me.

Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,
for you are my crag and my stronghold; *
for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.

Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, *
for you are my tower of strength.

Into your hands I commend my spirit, *
for you have redeemed me, O God of truth.
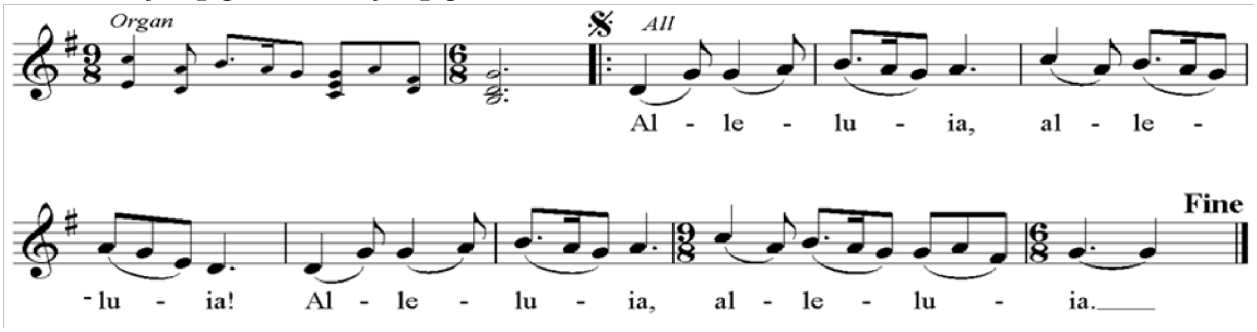
My times are in your hand; *
rescue me from the hand of my enemies,
and from those who persecute me.

Make your face to shine upon your servant, *
and in your loving-kindness, save me."

Sequence Hymn *Celtic Alleluia*

Please stand.

Verses 1-2 before gospel; Verse 3 after gospel



1. *Speak, Lord, your servant is list'ning. Speak your words of wisdom, for the words you speak are everlasting life.*

2. *The Word of the Lord lasts forever.*
   What is the word that is living? It is brought to us
   through God's Son: Jesus Christ.

3. *Now he is living, the Christ. Out of the*
   tomb he is risen; he has conquered death,
   opened heaven to all believers.

The Gospel John 14-1-14

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."

After the Gospel:

Presider The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Dismissal Of Children for Godly Play Story

Sung after final gradual verse as children leave the church.

Go on your way in joy, my friends!
Go on your way in joy, my friends!
Go on your way in joy, my friends!
Let your left foot say 'Glory!'
and your right say, 'Amen!

Homily

Please sit.

A Stewardship Message

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Presider Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.
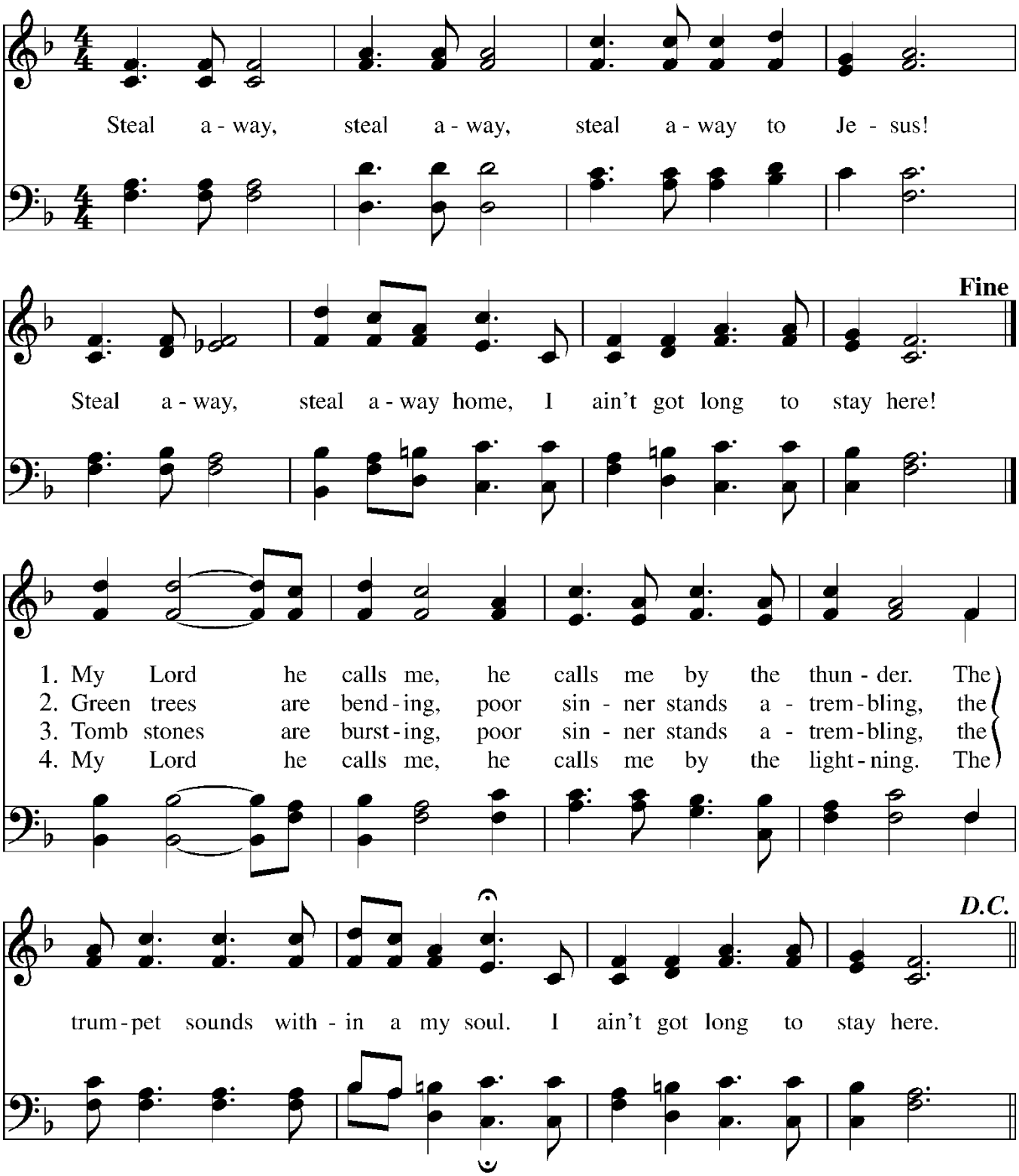
Each week we gather to proclaim God's love for all and to offer strength and courage for the journey. We are convinced that the hope, love and good news that we offer are exactly what people need to navigate these challenging times in which we live. If you share our conviction and values, we invite you to generously support St. Thomas and help us to continue to make a difference in our community and the lives of people that we serve.

If you give electronically, please place a giving card from the pew in the offering plate in lieu of your gift. Scan to donate:

venmo
@StThomasDenver

Credit Card

Offertory Anthem *Steal Away* WLP #804



Words: Traditional. Music: Negro Spiritual; arr. Carl Haywood (b. 1949), from *The Haywood Collection of Negro Spirituals*.

Presentation Hymn *Doxology* Hymn #380 v3

Please stand as you are able.

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

The Great Thanksgiving

Presider May God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.
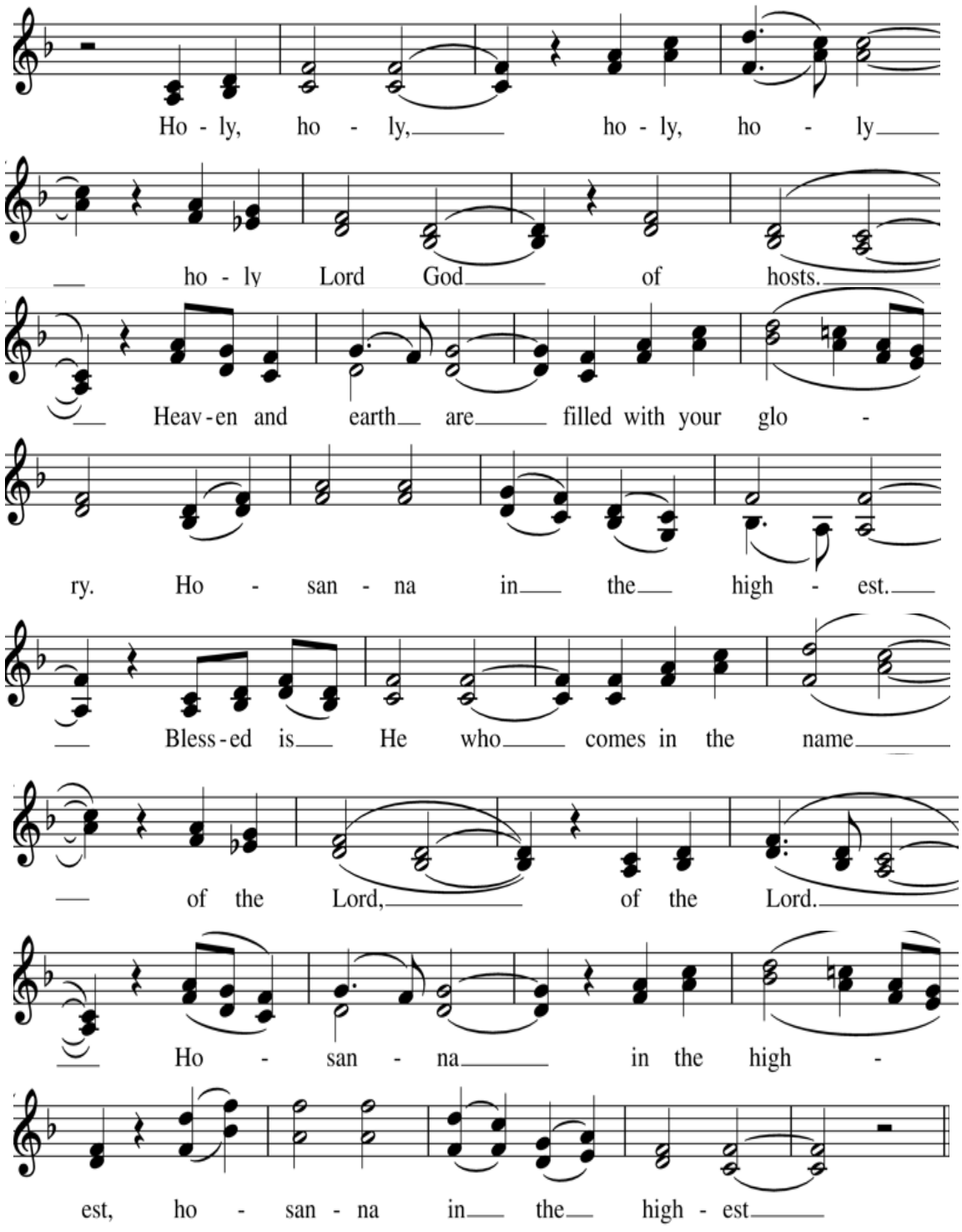
People **We lift them up to God.**

Presider Let us give thanks to God.

People **It is right to offer thanks and praise.**

Presider It is right indeed to give you thanks most loving God, through Jesus Christ, the first born from the dead, the pioneer of our salvation, who is with us always, one of us, yet from your very heart. O Holy One, you make all things new. Righteous and strong to save, you came among us in Jesus, our crucified and living Lord, in his suffering and cross you reveal your glory. You pour out your Spirit on all. You empower us to know your truth and to proclaim your gospel in this sorrowing world that longs to hear good news. Your love fires our hearts; and in your Spirit we hunger and thirst for justice in the world.

Therefore with saints and martyrs, apostles and prophets, with all who have gone before us, joyfully we praise you as we sing:


Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly
ho - ly Lord God of hosts.
Heav - en and earth are filled with your glo -
ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is He who comes in the name
of the Lord, of the Lord.
Ho - san - na in the high -
est, ho - san - na in the high - est

Presider continues

All glory to you, Giver of life sufficient and full for all creation. Accept our praises, living God, for Jesus Christ, your beloved child, who in the night before he was crucified, took bread, and when he had given thanks, broke it, gave it to his friends, and said, "Take, eat. "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." After supper he took the cup and when he had given thanks he gave it to them and said: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so in this great sacrament we celebrate and proclaim the mystery of our faith.

Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come in glory.

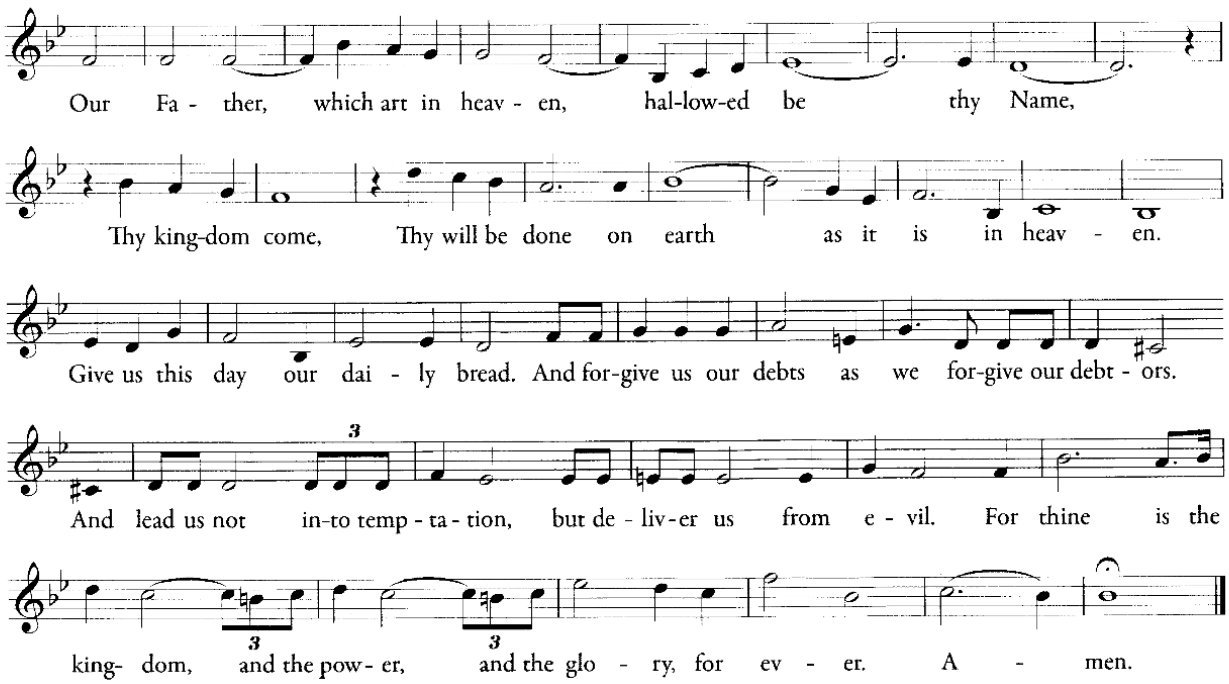
We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; Empower our celebration with your Holy Spirit, feed us with your life, fire us with your love, confront us with your justice, and make us one in the body of Christ with all who share your gifts of love.

Through Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Creator God. **Amen.**

Presider And now as our Savior Christ has taught us we, are bold to pray.
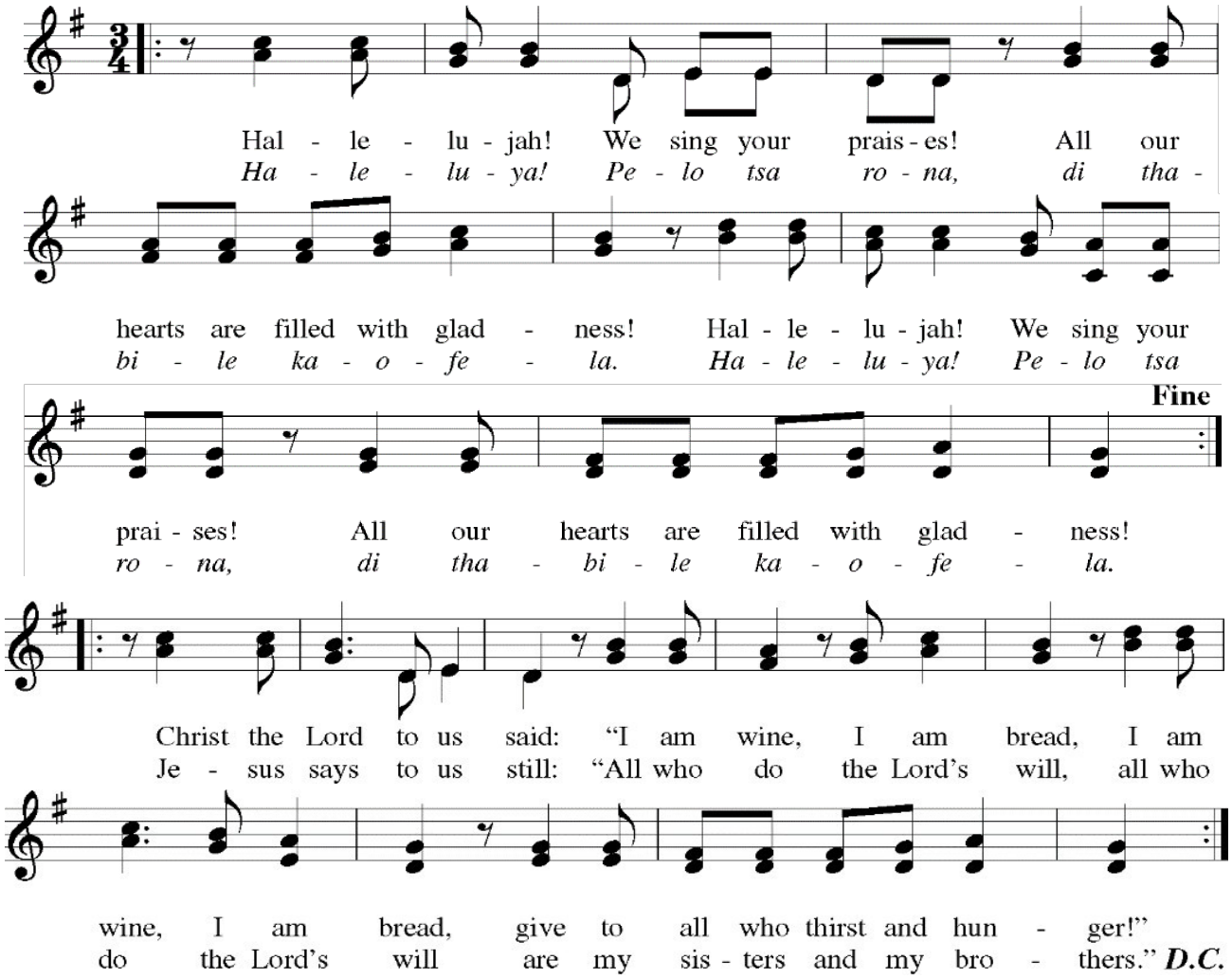
THE LORD'S PRAYER

Albert Hay Malotte



The Breaking of The Bread

Fraction Hymn *Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises* WLP #784
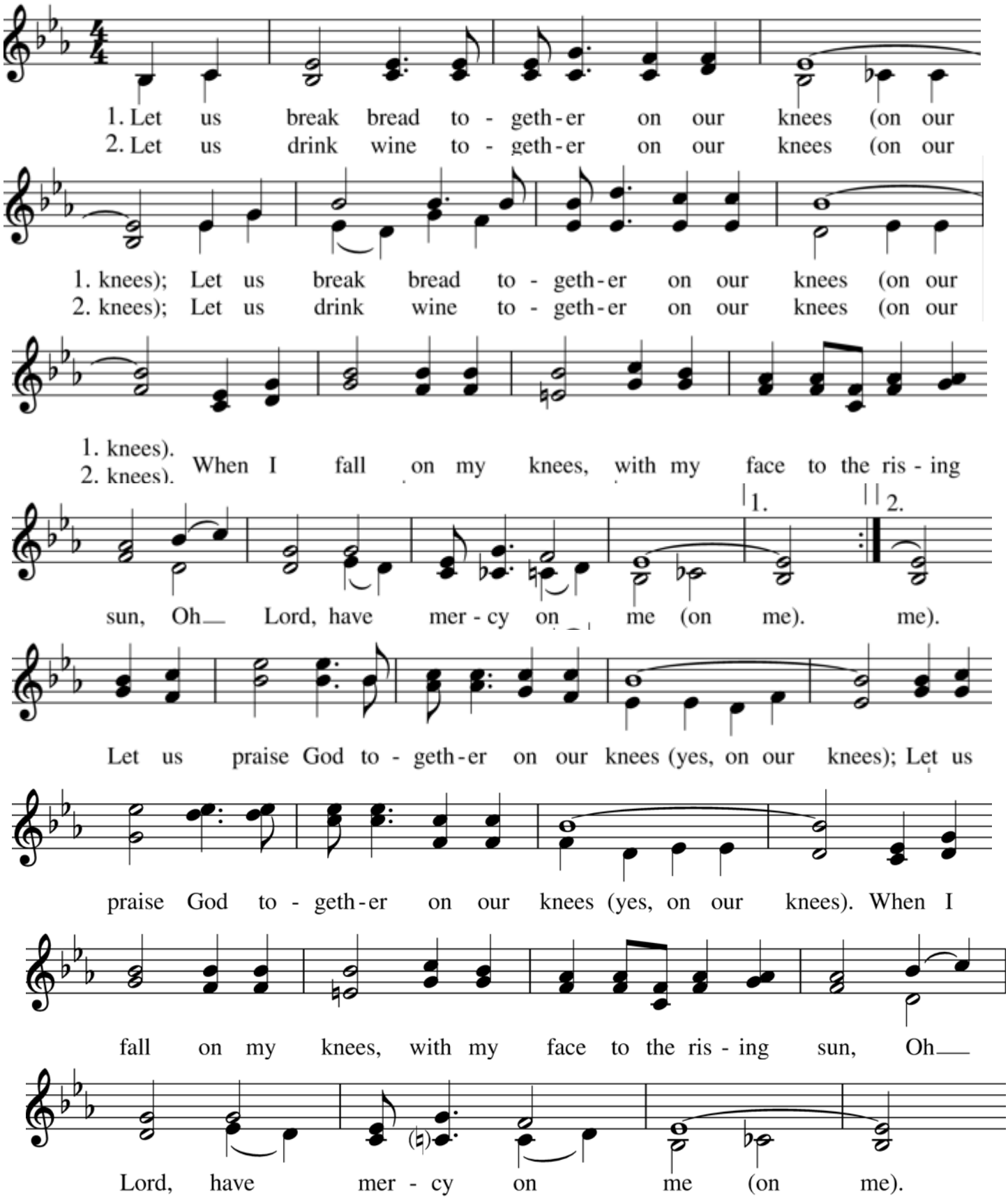


The Invitation to The Table

The Communion of the People

All who love God and seek Christ are welcome at the Lord's Table. Our bread is gluten free. To receive the bread, please place one hand over the other. If you choose not to receive communion, you are invited to come forward for a blessing, indicating your desire by crossing your arms over your chest. Simply, indicate your desire to the clergy. If you need to have communion brought to you, please alert an usher and the clergy will come to you. ***Please note: For reason of sanitation, we do not allow intinction.***

Communion Hymn *Let Us Break Bread Together* LEVAS #152



Words: Traditional. Music: Negro Spiritual; arr. Carl Haywood (b. 1949), from *The Haywood Collection of Negro Spirituals*. Arr.
Copyright © 1992 Carl Haywood.

Post-Communion Prayer

Please stand or kneel.

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.**

GOING OUT INTO THE WORLD

Birthdays, Anniversaries, Blessings

Welcoming Visitors

Announcements

Read Our Weekly Newsletter:

Final Blessing

Please stand in body or spirit.

Recessional Hymn *This Joy* Shirley Ceasar
Resistance Revival

Chorus

This joy that I have the world didn't give it to me (oh, oh, oh)
This joy that I have the world didn't give it to me (don't you know that)
This joy that I have the world didn't give it to me
The world didn't give it, the world can't take it away!

(insert:) strength, love, pride, peace

The Dismissal

Presider Let us go forth in the name of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude

COMMUNICATION COVENANT

1. If we have a concern or issue that involves someone, we will discuss it with that person privately.

2. If someone has a concern or issue with another person and comes to us, we will send them to that person.

3. If someone is reluctant to speak to the person with whom they have a concern, we will offer to accompany him or her to see that person.

4. We will not interpret what others say or mean. (We will ask them if we are unclear of their intentions.)

5. If something is confidential, we will not share it with anyone. Exception: If you are aware that a) someone is going to physically harm someone else; b) someone is going to harm herself/himself; c) a child has been physically or sexually abused, please consult with the clergy.

6. We will not read or react to unsigned letters or notes.

7. We will not act on anonymous complaints brought by others.

8. We will not manipulate; We will not be manipulated. We will not let others try to manipulate others through us.

9. When in doubt, we will just say what is on our minds. The only dumb questions are the ones that are not asked.

10. When in disagreement, we will say it. We cannot resolve issues that are left unspoken. We cannot work together without mutual understanding and trust.

11. Our relationships with each other are the most important asset in our community. So, if we have a concern, we will pray and then, if led, speak up.

ST. THOMAS
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

LEAD WITH LOVE

OUR WHY: To Lead With Love

We lead with love by:

- Being an inclusive, welcoming space for all.
- Seeking the holy in ourselves, each other, and the world
- Making a difference in our community

CORE VALUES

- ATTEND TO OUR SPIRITUAL LIVES
  Through prayer, spiritual practices and formation, we weave our relationship with the Holy into the fabric of our daily lives. Prayer and discernment guide ministries and worship. (Foundational)
- CHOOSE LOVE
  We act from love not fear; build bridges not walls. (Foundational)
- CREATE AND SUSTAIN COMMUNITY
  We gather and care for each other. We cultivate deep relationships. We will prioritize our relationships with each other over the differences that separate us. (Foundational)
- WELCOME ALL
  All means all and all are welcome. We promote an inclusive culture by 1) fostering the skills to shift our cultural perspectives and appropriately adapt our behavior to bridge cultural differences; 2) cultivating the self-awareness and empathy needed to value difference in working toward equity. (Missional)
- HONOR DIVERSITY
  All are welcome. Our leadership, worship, music and ministry initiatives will reflect our diversity. (Missional)
- PROMOTE THE DIGNITY OF ALL
  Through formation, lobbying and other initiatives we prayerfully engage in social justice activities that promote and protect the dignity of all people. (Missional)
- CARE FOR CREATION
  We value our interdependence with creation and recognize our role as stewards. We incorporate practices that protect, sustain, and nourish our fragile earth and her inhabitants.
- ENGAGE OUR NEIGHBORHOOD
  We open our hearts and doors to our individual and church neighbors, strive to understand their needs and support them.
  (Missional)
- NURTURE THE NEXT GENERATION
  We offer, support and staff worship and formation opportunities for families and children. (Missional)
- CULTIVATE BEAUTY
  We tend to the beauty of our space, worship and music that evokes a sacred sense of awe, stillness and joy. (Missional)

THANK YOU!

None of this would be possible without your financial support.
www.saintthomasdenver.org

Believe OUTLOUD