St. Thomas Episcopal Church

Lead With Love

Holy Eucharist
EASTER 5A
May 7, 2023

2201 Dexter St., Denver, CO
saintthomasdenver.org

Welcoming Statement

At St Thomas' Episcopal Church, we affirm God's love for all of God's people. Whoever you are, wherever you are on your spiritual journey, and whatever your age, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, religious background or social or economic circumstance or political affiliations, you are welcome here. We share a love of God and each other, a sense of meaning and belonging, a yearning to learn and grow in faith, and a desire to serve others. We are a vibrant, thriving community with opportunities for people of all ages for spiritual growth, fellowship, and making a transformative difference in our community. As an Episcopal Church, we are a worshipping community that is both rich with ancient tradition and relevant to life in the 21st century. We are glad you are here!

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, terri@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 the Week

The Rev. Terri Hobart (she, hers)

Music Leaders

Kari Miles
Angela Pleasants
Geoff Wodell

Contact Us:

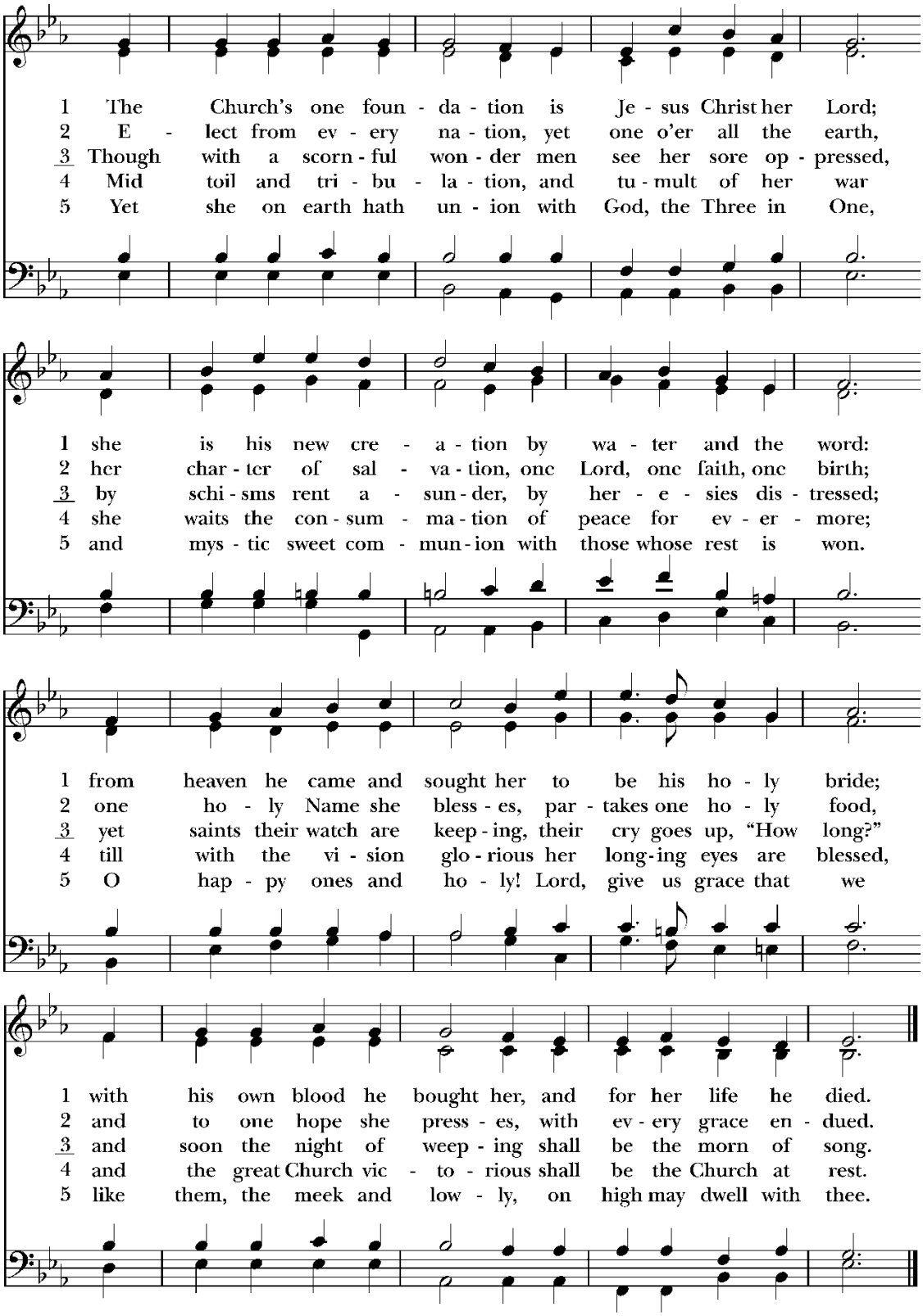
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The Rev. Terri Hobart	**terri@saintthomasdenver.org**

THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Prelude

Processional Hymn *The Church's One Foundation* Hymn 525 vs. 1-3

Please stand.



Words: Samuel John Stone (1839-1900). Music: *Aurelia*, Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1818-1876).

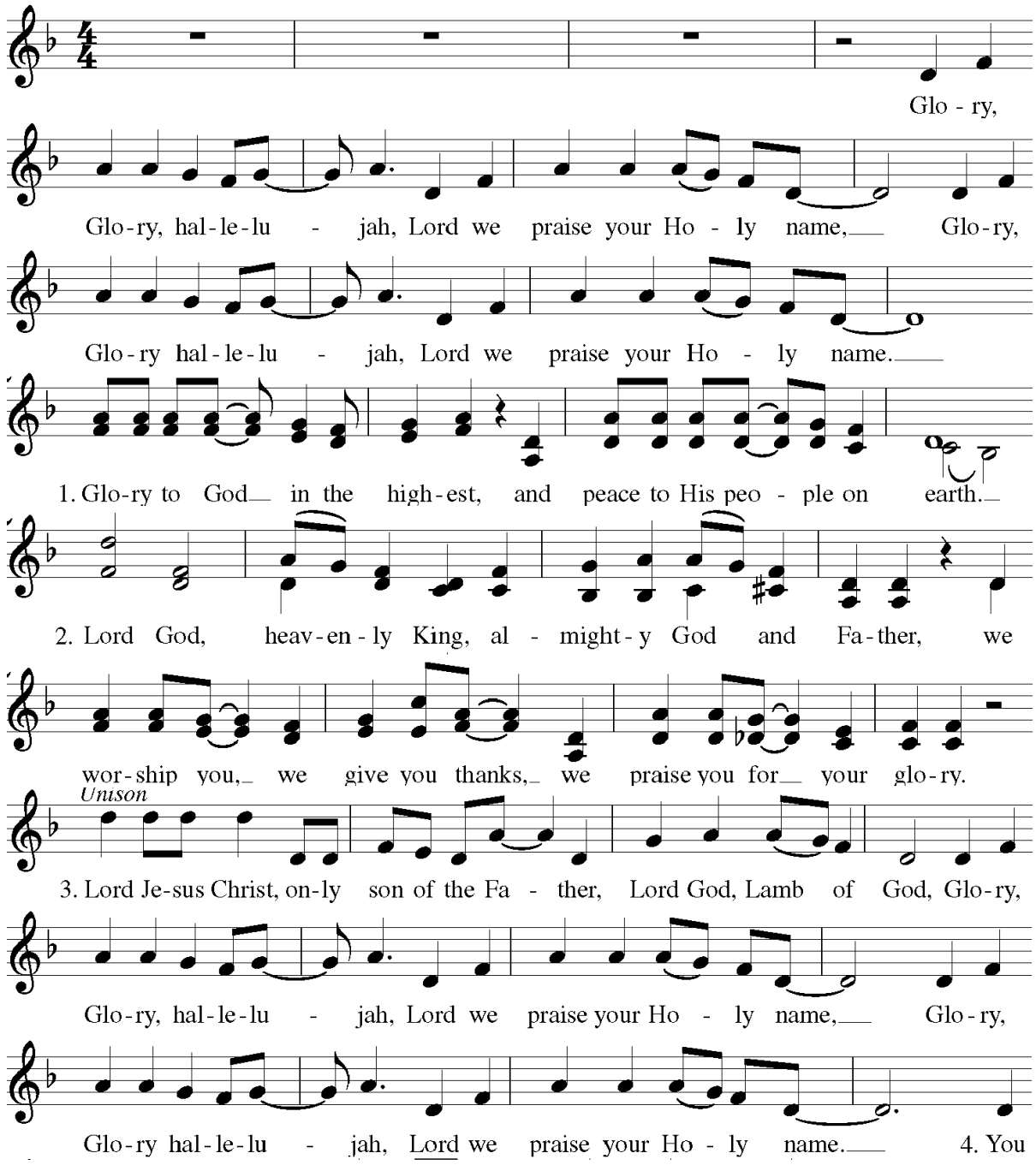
Easter Acclamation

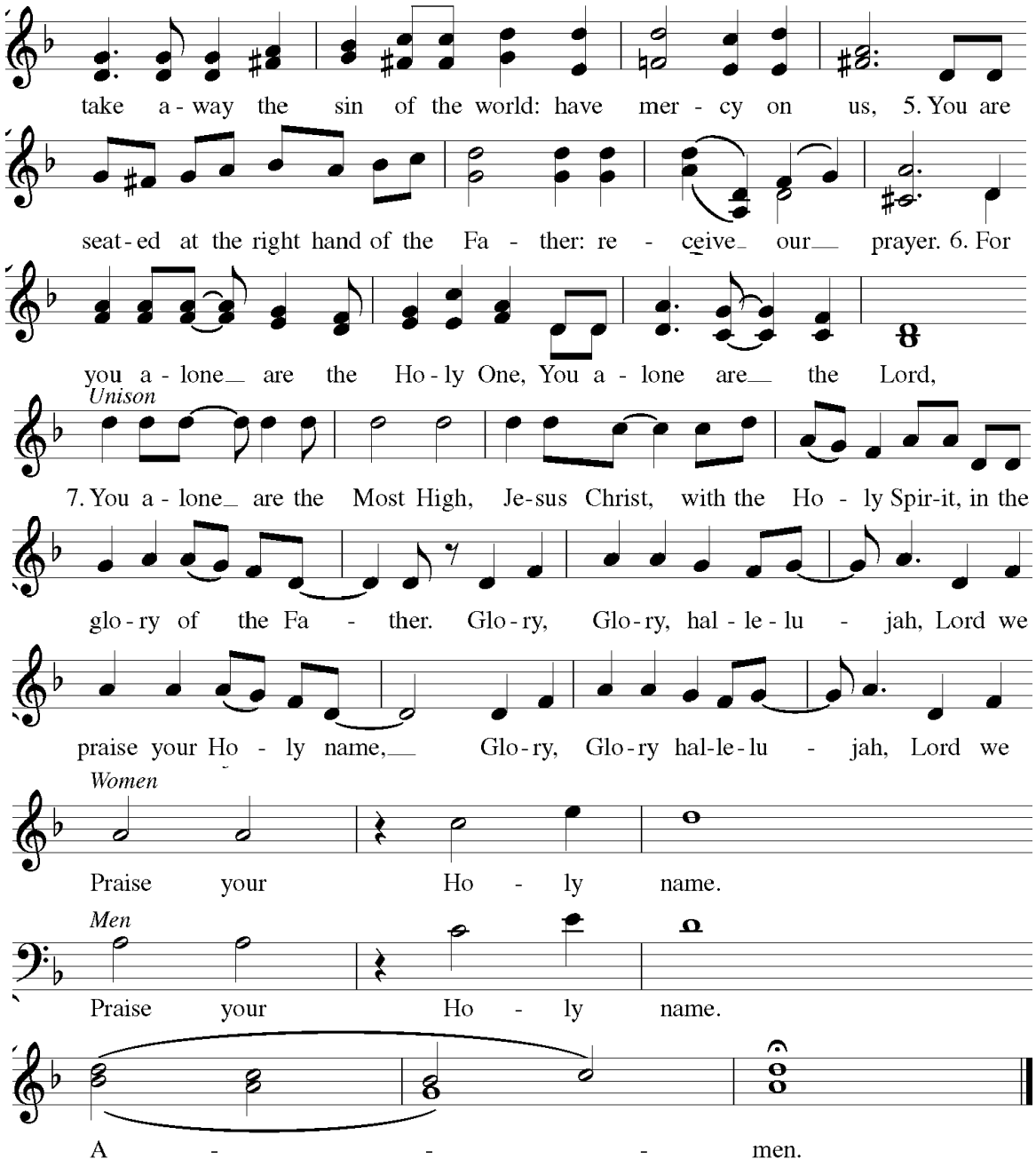
Presider Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

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

Gloria





The Collect of Day

Presider May God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

Generous God, whose way is love, whose truth is searching, Whose life is freely given in Jesus Christ our Lord: as you have opened for us your house of many rooms, so may we make a place for the rejected and unloved, and share the work of peace; through Jesus Christ, the image of God. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

A Reading from the Book of 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 In you, O God, have I taken refuge;
let me never be put to shame; *
deliver me in your righteousness.

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

3 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.

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

5 Into your hands I commend my spirit, *
for you have redeemed me, O God of truth.

15 My times are in your hand; *
rescue me from the hand of my enemies,
and from those who persecute me.

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

A Reading from the First Letter to Peter 1 Peter 2: 2-10

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture:

"See, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious;
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."

To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe,

"The stone that the builders rejected
has become the very head of the corner",

and

"A stone that makes them stumble,
and a rock that makes them fall."

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Once you were not a people,
but now you are God's people;
once you had not received mercy,
but now you have received mercy.

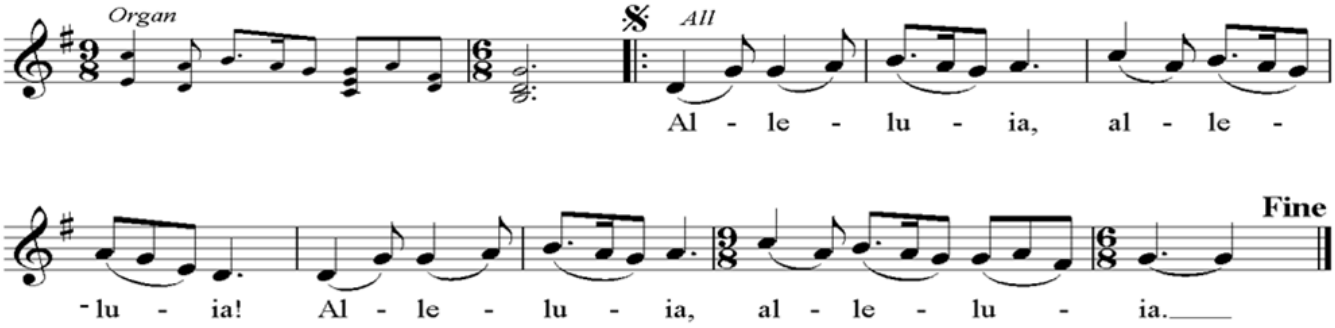
After the Reading:

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

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

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John John 14:1-14

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.

Affirmation of Faith

Please stand.

We believe in the God of Life,
who creates and loves people,
who acts in history
and who promises never to leave us alone.

We believe in Jesus of Nazareth,

who is our brother,
who wants not to be idolized but to be followed.

We believe that we dwell in the presence of the Holy Spirit;
without her we are nothing;
filled with her we are able to become creative,
lively, and free.

We believe in the Church of Jesus Christ,
a community where we find companions and
courage for the struggles of life,
where we grow in our understanding of the faith,
through worship, prayer, nurture, and service.

We believe that God has a use for us in this time and
place, that though we walk through the valley of
the shadow of death, we are called to be
instruments of God's peace.

We believe in living, hoping, laughing, and enjoying
the good of the earth;

We believe that people can change, and God keeps
pulling us to life and to a new world of joy
and peace. ~ *Women's Uncommon Prayers*

Prayers of The People

Leader We pray for the church, for all Christians everywhere, for Kym our bishop, for Terri our Rector, and for all in our parish.
(all pause for silent prayer)
Gracious God may your Spirit give strength to all your people as they work and witness in your world. Unite us in your truth and love and help us to show your love to others. (Especially we pray for...)
God of love

People **Grant our prayer.**

We pray for all people, for places where there is war, famine, or unrest.
(all pause for silent prayer)
God our creator, help everyone to share all the good gifts that you have given to us. May those who lead the nations of the world be given wisdom.
Please add your prayers silently or aloud.
God of love
Grant our prayer.

We pray for our community and for all who live and work in this area.
(all pause for silent prayer)
God our friend, we pray for our families and friends. May we be able to help each other just as you love and help us.
Please add your prayers silently or aloud.

God of love
Grant our prayer.

We pray for those in need, for sick people, for those in hospital, and for those with any other problems.
(all pause for silent prayer)
Compassionate God, give your strength and healing to all those who are sad, lonely, or sick. And bless all those who try and help them.
Please add your prayers silently or aloud.
God of love
Grant our prayer.

We remember all those who have died, (especially …).
(all pause for silent prayer)
God of hope, we thank you that not even death can separate us from your love. We pray for all who mourn, that they may feel your care for them.
Please add your prayers silently or aloud.
God of love
Grant our prayer.

We pray for ourselves – all that we will do this week, and all those we will meet.
(all pause for silent prayer)
Loving God we give this week into your hands. Be with us in all that we will do, may we enjoy this week and learn and grow in it.
Please add your prayers silently or aloud.
God of love
Grant our prayer.

The Collect

God of love grant our prayer. Those things, O God, that your servants have prayed for, give us grace to work for; and in the purpose of your love answer our prayers and fulfil our hopes for Jesus' sake. **Amen.**

The Peace

Presider May the peace of the Risen Christ be always with you.
People **And also with you.**
We greet one another in the name of Christ.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

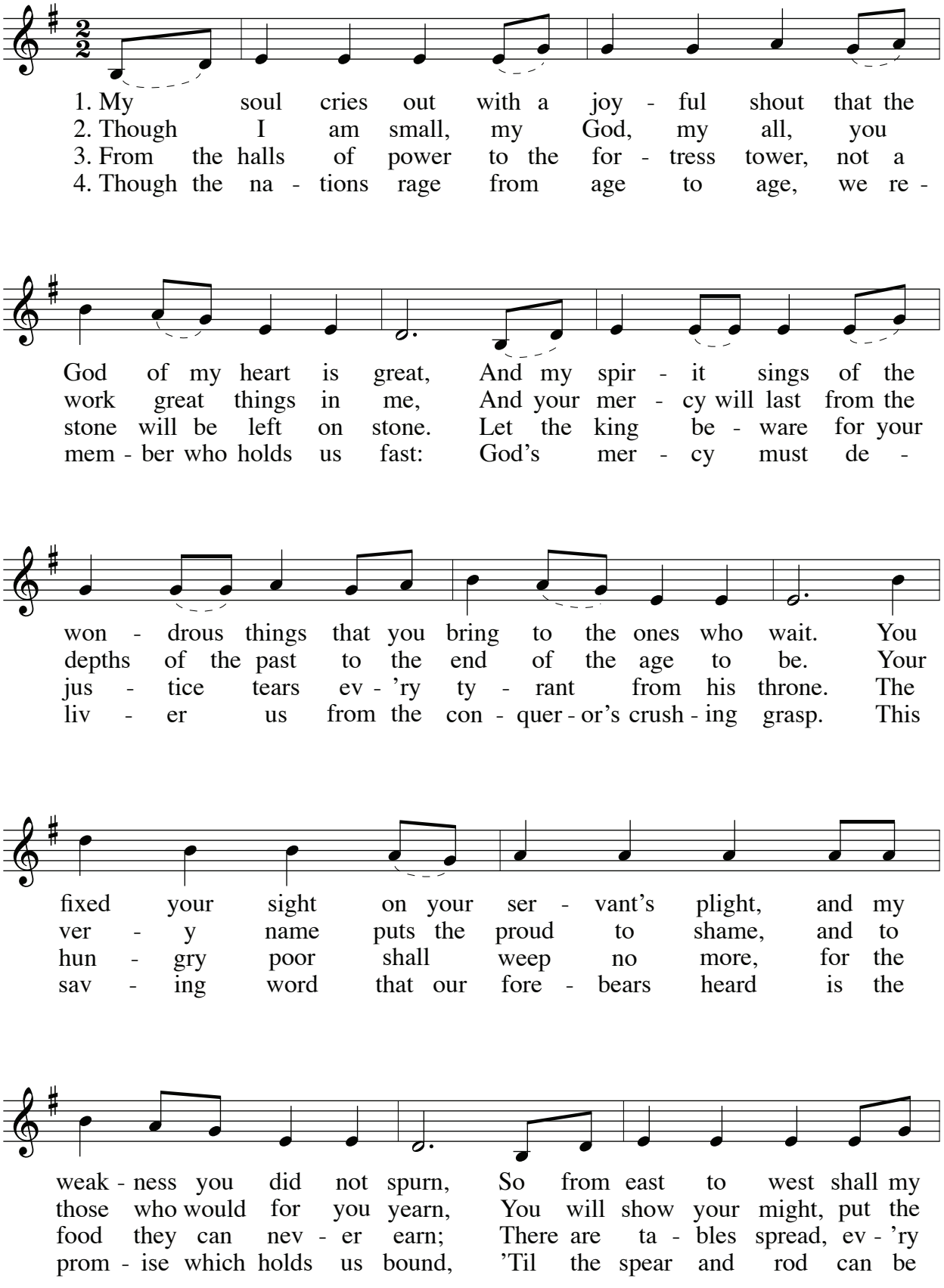
Presider On this day the Lord has acted; Jesus Christ is risen!
Let us rejoice and be glad!

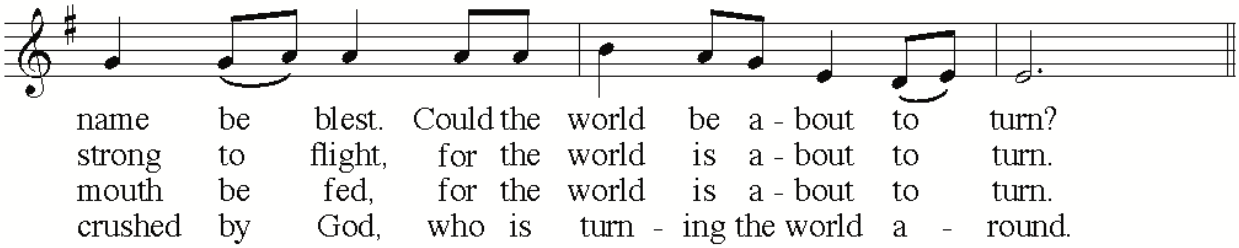
Offertory Anthem

During this hymn the offering is collected. We invite you to generously support the ministries of St. Thomas. Scan to donate:

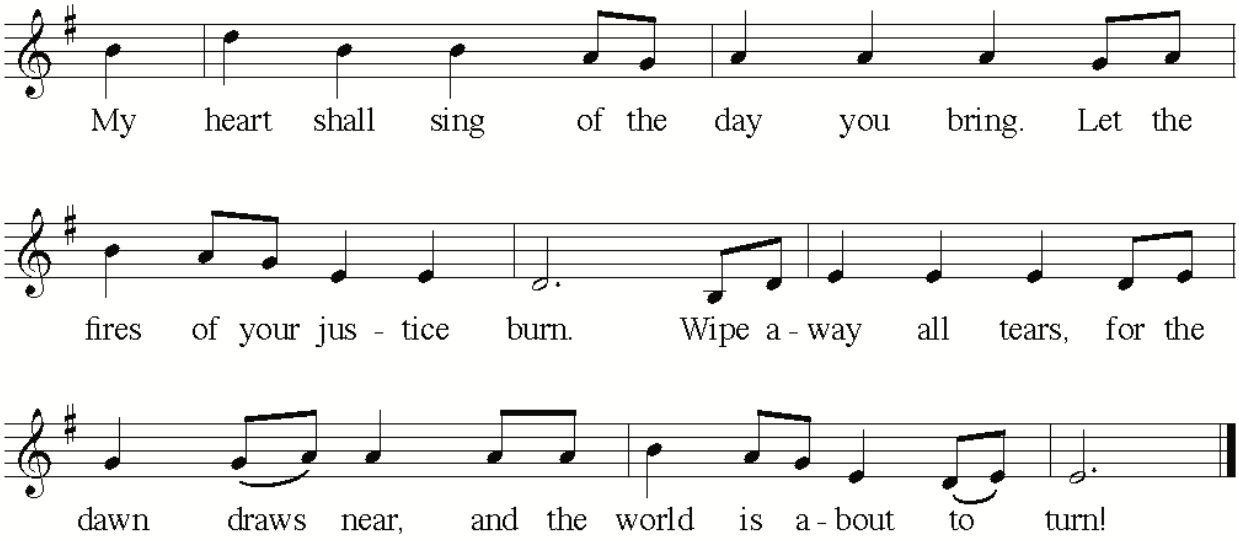
Canticle of the Turning

Verses





Refrain



Text: Luke 1:46–58; Rory Cooney, b.1952
Tune: STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN; Irish traditional; arr. by Rory Cooney, b.1952
© 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

Presentation Hymn *Doxology* Hymn #380

v3

During the hymn an offering is presented at the altar along with the oblations of bread and wine.

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

The Great Thanksgiving

Presider The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**

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

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

Presider God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.
People **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

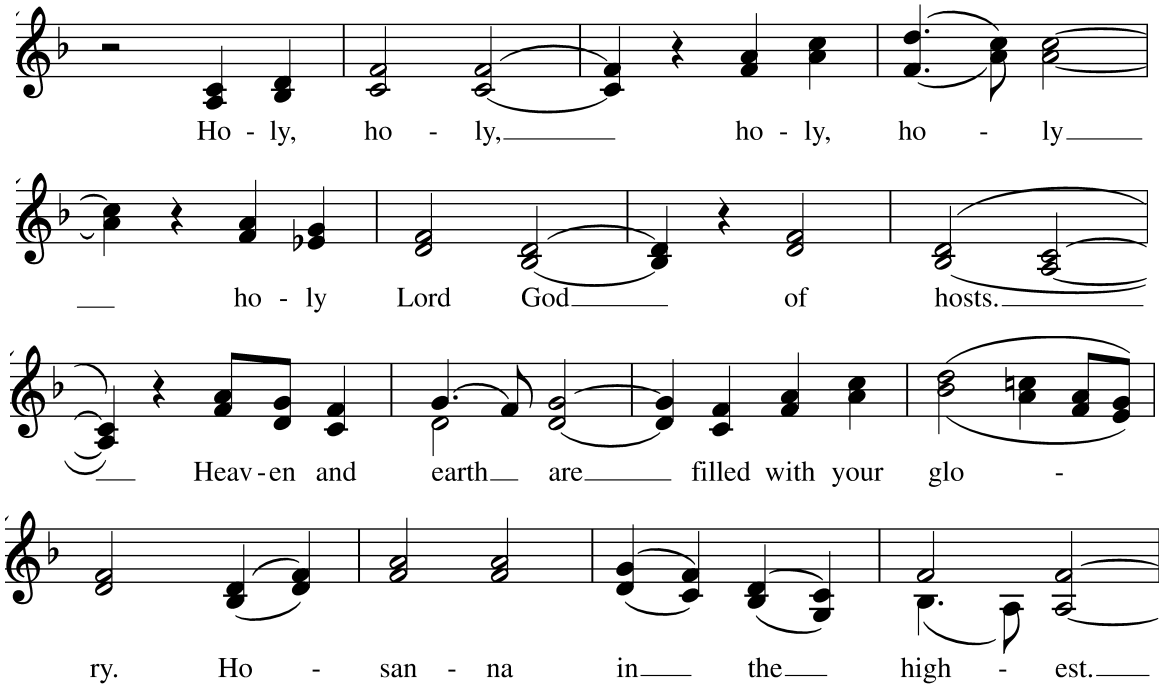
Presider At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.
By your will they were created and have their being.

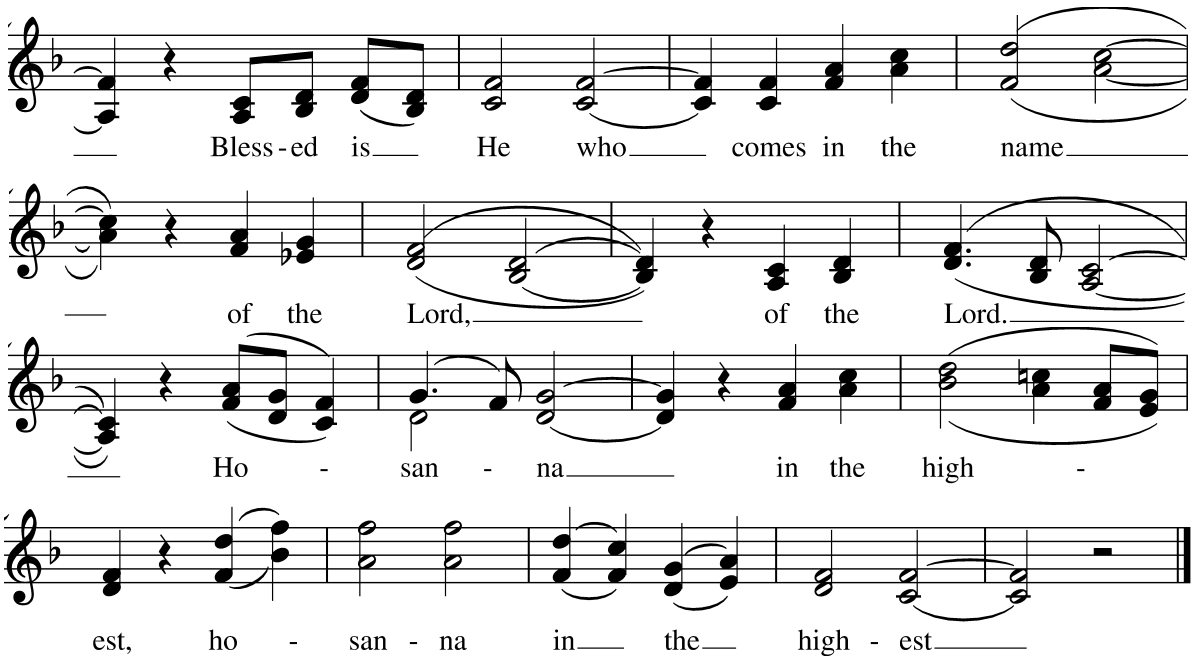
From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.
Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

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:

Sanctus LEVAS 255





The Presider 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.

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 many 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.

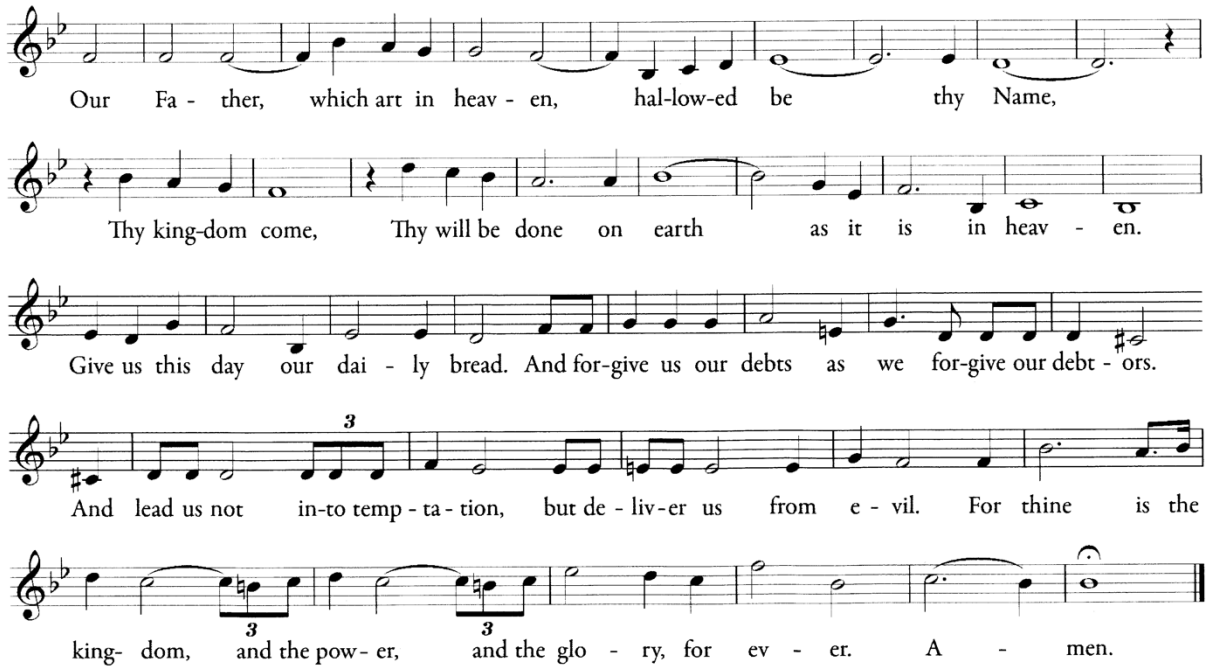
Lord God of our Mothers and Fathers; God of Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebecca, and Jacob, Rachel and Leah; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; 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**

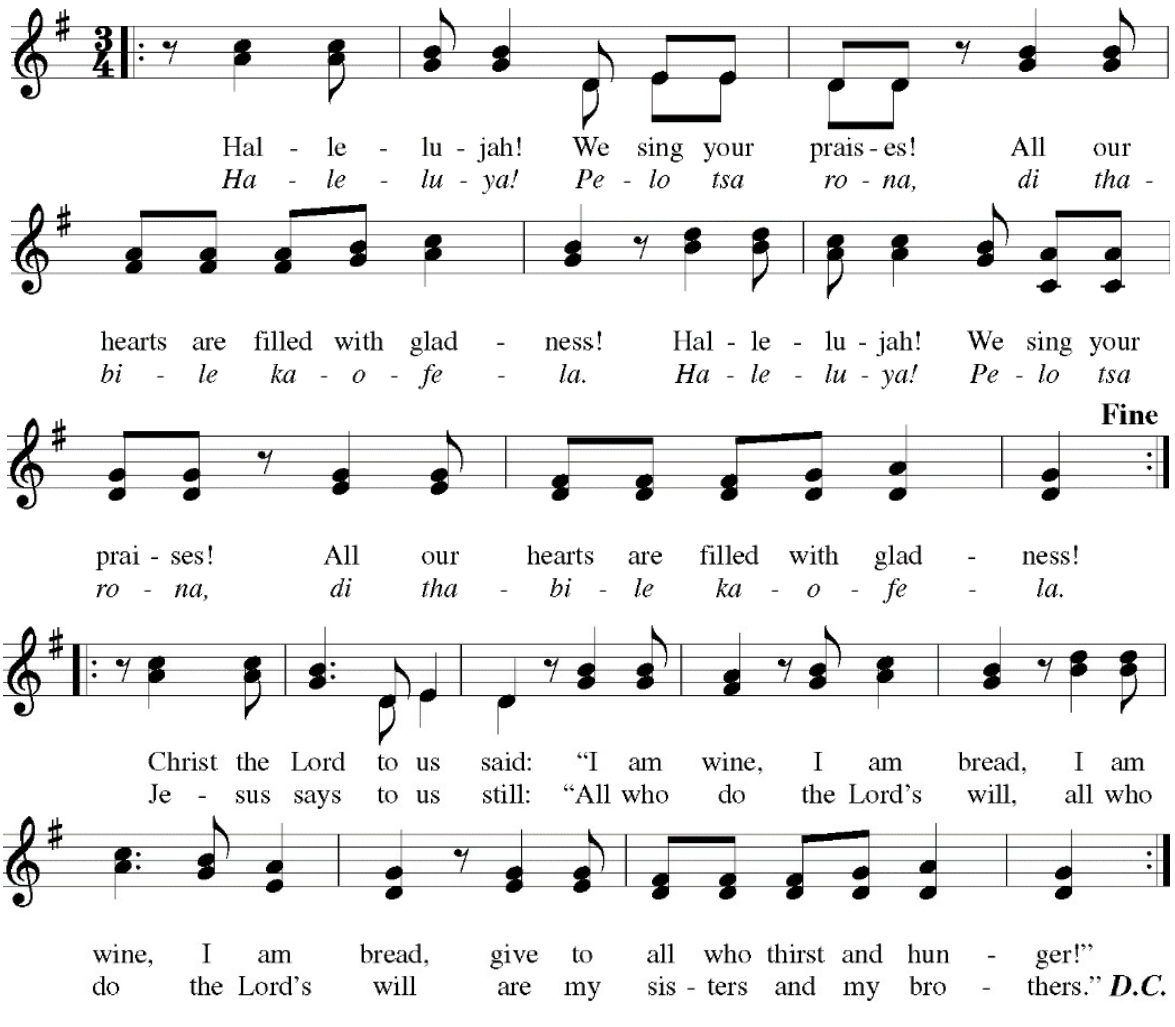
THE LORD'S PRAYER

Albert Hay Malotte



The Breaking of The Bread

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

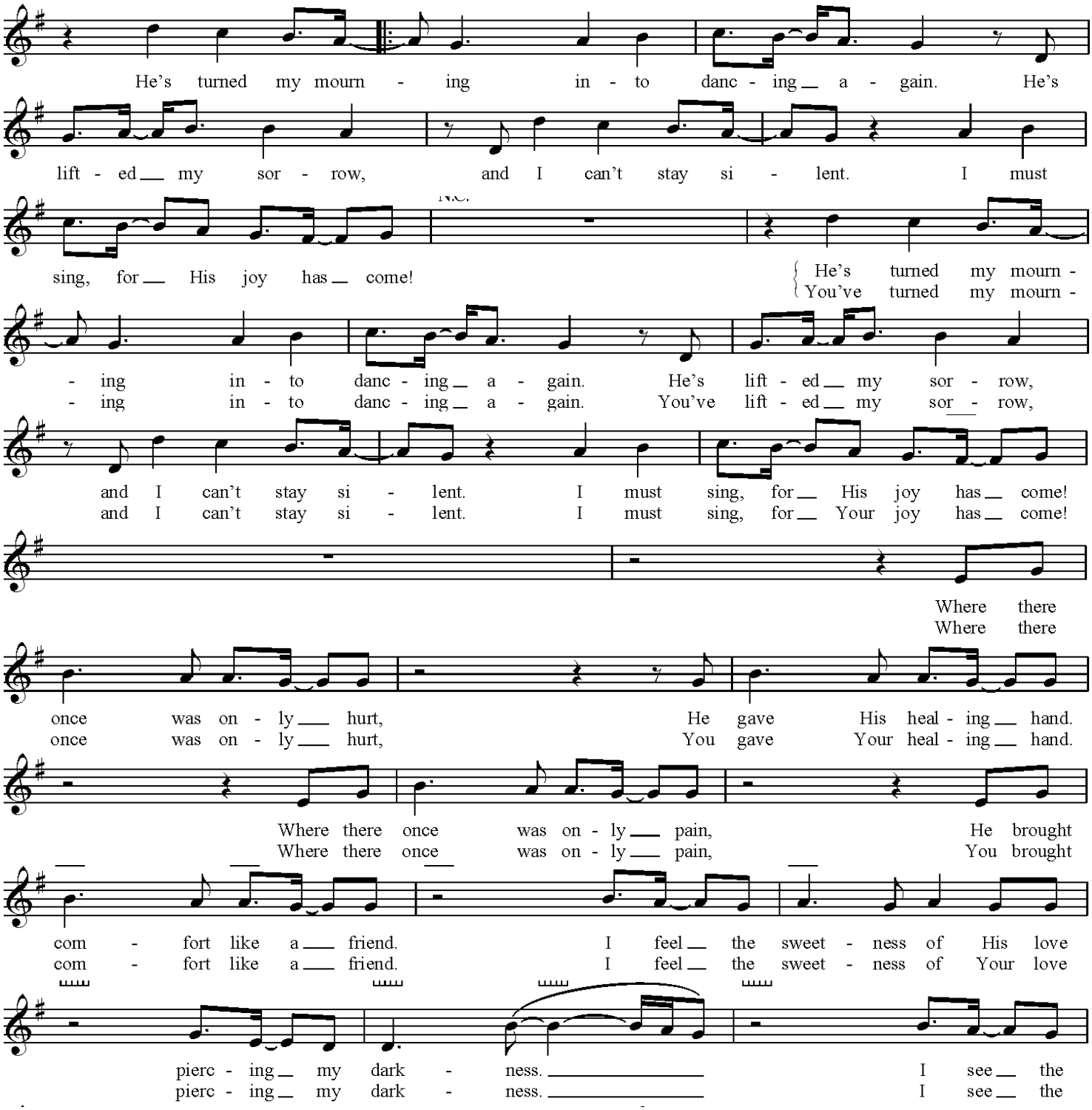


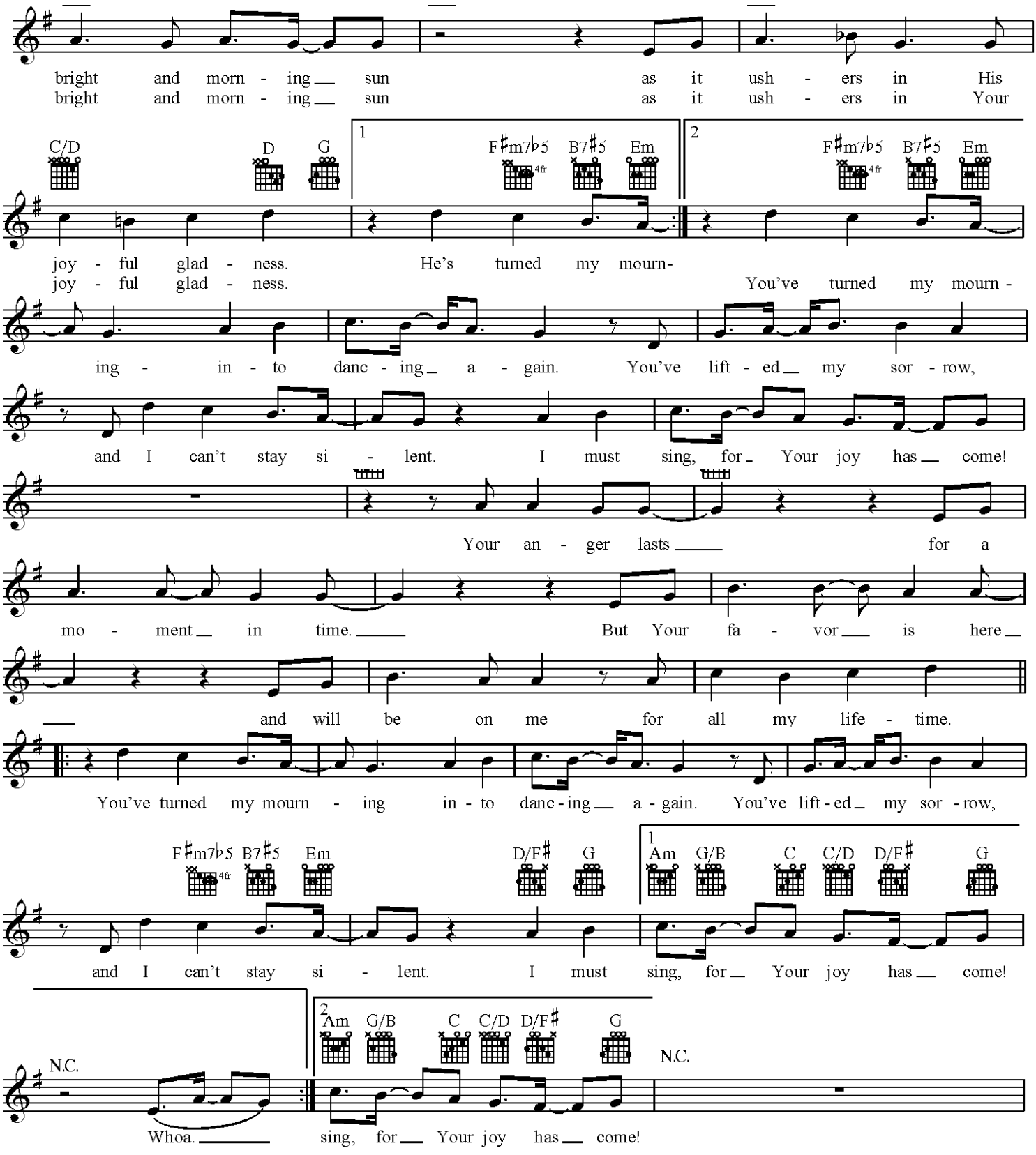
The Invitation to The Table

The Communion of the People

All who love God and seek Christ are welcome at the Lord's Table. 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. Gluten free communion wafers and chalice are available. 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.

Communion Hymn *You Turned My Morning Into Dancing*




bright and morn - ing sun as it ush - ers in His
bright and morn - ing sun as it ush - ers in Your
C/D D G 1 F♯m7♭5 B7♯5 Em 2 F♯m7♭5 B7♯5 Em
joy - ful glad - ness. He's turned my mourn-
joy - ful glad - ness. You've turned my mourn -
ing - in - to danc - ing a - gain. You've lift - ed my sor - row,
and I can't stay si - lent. I must sing, for Your joy has come!
Your an - ger lasts for a
mo - ment in time. But Your fa - vor is here
and will be on me for all my life - time.
You've turned my mourn - ing in - to danc - ing a - gain. You've lift - ed my sor - row,
F♯m7♭5 B7♯5 Em D/F♯ G 1 Am G/B C C/D D/F♯ G
and I can't stay si - lent. I must sing, for Your joy has come!
N.C. 2 Am G/B C C/D D/F♯ G N.C.
Whoa. sing, for Your joy has come!

Post-Communion Prayer

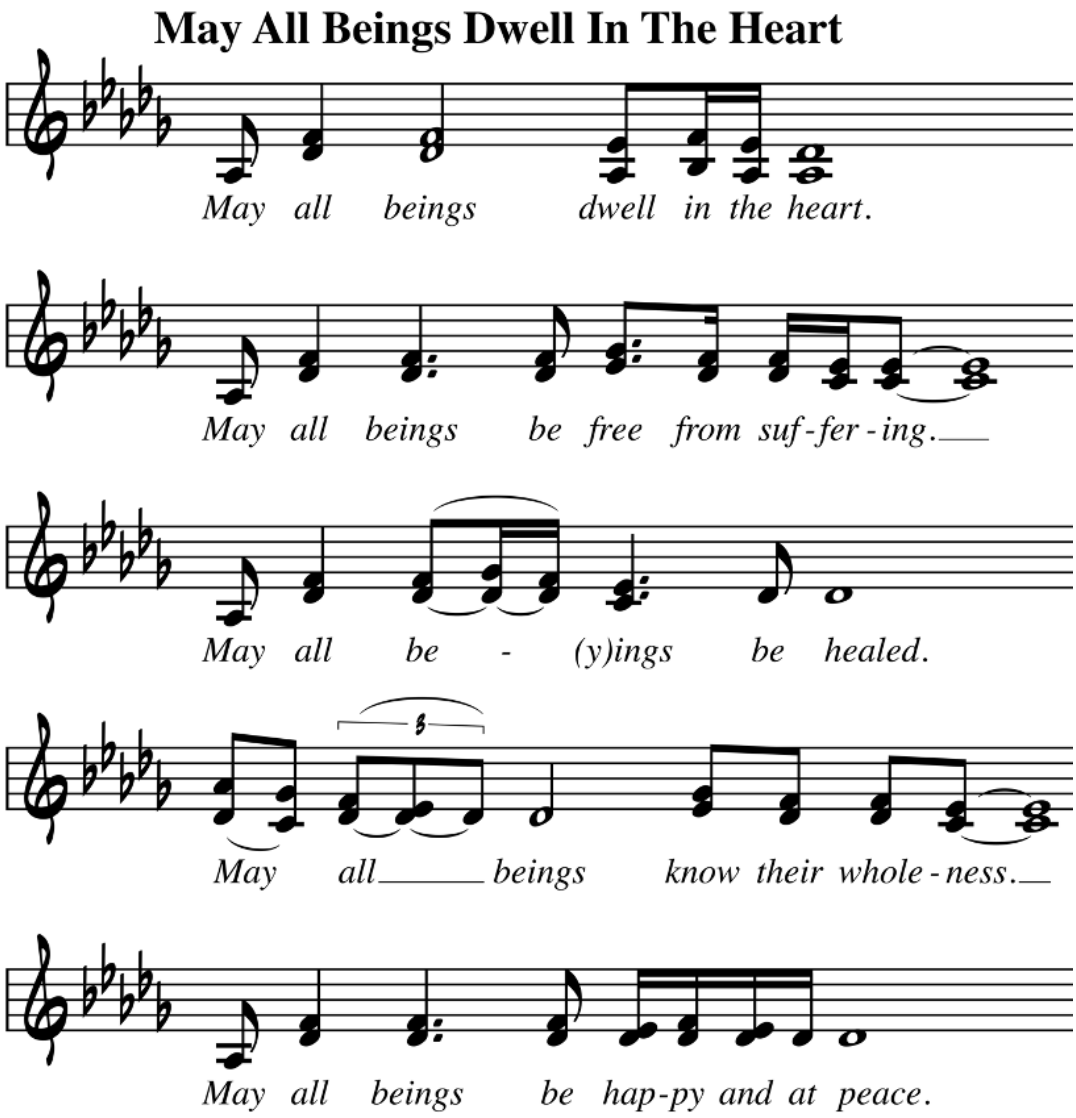
Please stand or kneel.

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 and Blessings

Announcements



Final Blessing

Recessional Hymn *Lead With Love*

Chorus
You gotta put one foot in front of the other
And lead with love
Put one foot in front of the other
And lead with love. (repeat all 4 lines)

Verses (call and response)
Don't give up hope
You're not alone
Don't you give up
Keep movin on

Lift up your eyes
Don't you despair
Look up ahead
The path is there

I know you're scared
And I'm scared too
But here I am
Right next to you

The Dismissal

Presider Let us go forth in the name of the risen Lord.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

People **Thanks be to God! Alleluia, Alleluia!**

Postlude

Upcoming Events

- May 7th – Locally Haiti Fundraiser
- May 10th Celebration of New Ministry, 6:30
- Distribution of Free Trigger Locks - June 10th Five Points Jazz festival, June 17th & 18th Juneteenth Festival, and June 24th & 25th Pride Festival
- Pride Worship Service and Parade June 25th

Information about Summer Camp

Wonder Summer Camp is for ages 6 to 12-years-old and will be held from July 24, 2023 through August 3, 2023 at Saint Thomas Episcopal Church.

Camp hours are Monday to Thursday from 9am to 3pm.
Cost of camp is $350 a week.

Group ratio is 10 children to 1 adult leader (1 leader and 1 assistant per group), to ensure safety/attention to each child's individual needs, and will promote personal independence through social emotional learning (SEL).

Activities will include science, technology, art, engineering, and math (STEAM) to strengthen development in and out of the classroom. Each day will focus on a different academic or life skill such as cooking/nutrition, woodworking/engineering, author/entrepreneurship, and many more! Your child will go on two field trips (1 off-site field trip per week) to the Denver Zoo and AMC Movie Theater with tickets and snacks included.

Stories of activism, US/BIPOC history, Godly Play, and culture will told daily.

We aim to provide your child with a safe space to wonder while learning how the world works!

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 come 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 to interpret for us 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/ themself; 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 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

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

LEAD WITH LOVE

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)

Support the Ministries of St. Thomas!

Believe OUTLOUD™

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