November 15, 2026
25th Sunday after Pentecost



ELW Holy Communion Setting Three

PRELUDE

WELCOME

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✢ one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.

We give you thanks, O God,
for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters
and by your Word you created the world,
calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.
Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.
At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.
By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons,
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.
Shower us with your Spirit,
and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise
through Jesus Christ our Lord
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG **We Praise You, O God ELW 870**

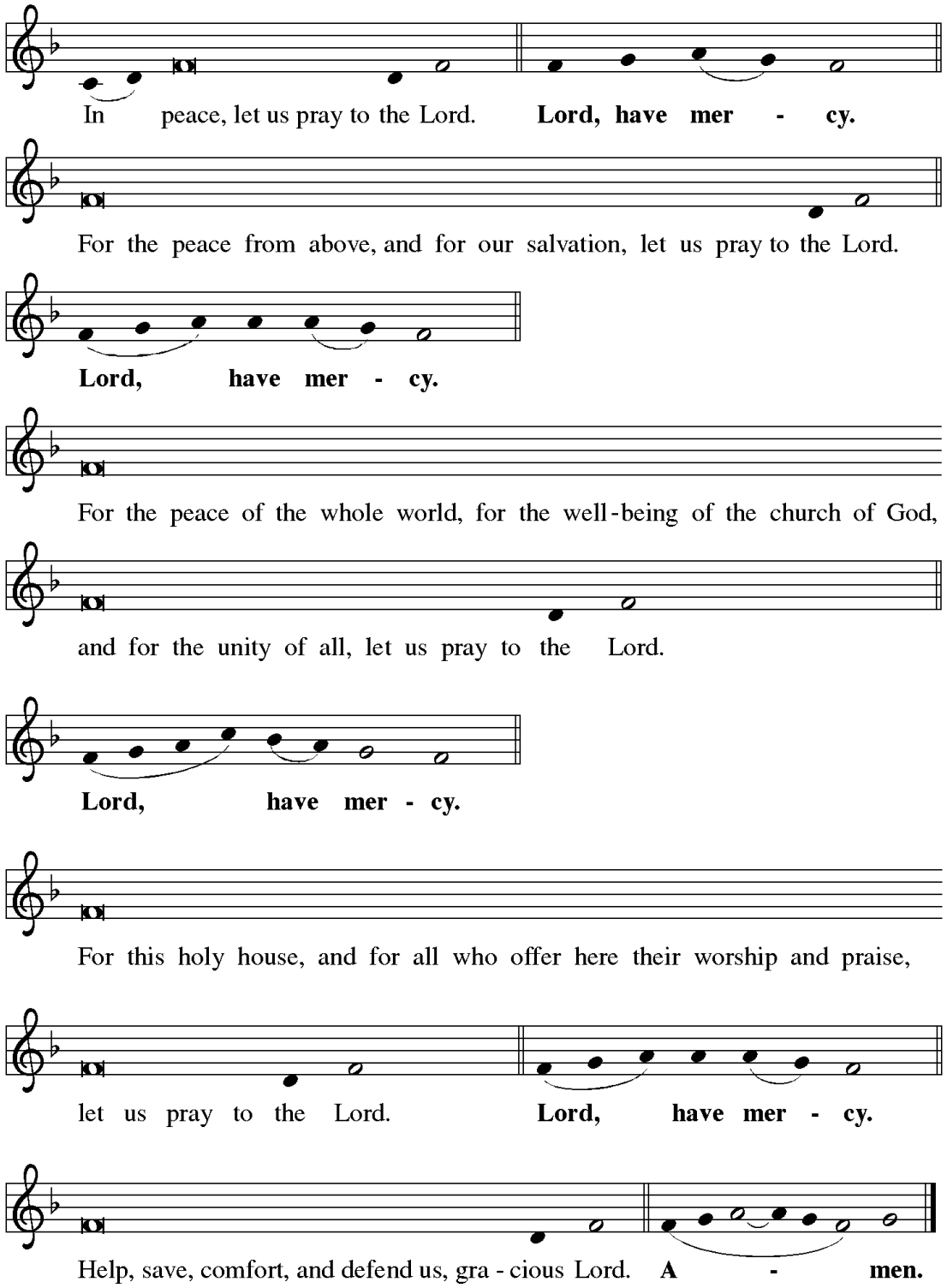


Text: Julia C. Cory, 1882–1963
Music: KREMSER, A. Valerius, *Nederlandtsch Gedenckclanck*, 1626

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

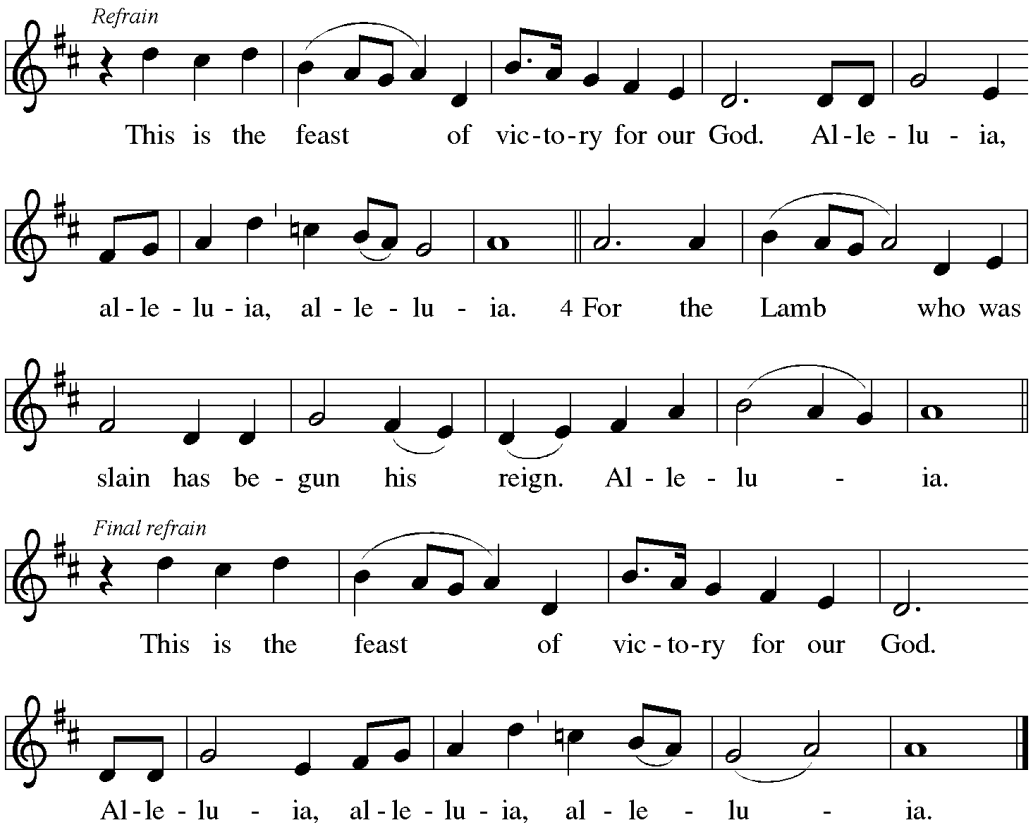
And also with you.

KYRIE



CANTICLE OF PRAISE





PRAYER OF THE DAY

Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

A reading from the 7th chapter of Zephaniah:

7 Be silent before the Lord God,
for the day of the Lord is at hand!
The Lord has prepared a sacrifice;
he has consecrated his guests.

12 At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,
and I will punish the people
who settle like dregs in wine,
those who say in their hearts,
"The Lord will not do good,
nor will he do harm."
13 Their wealth 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.

14 The great day of the Lord is near,
near and hastening fast;
the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter;
the warrior cries aloud there.
15 That day will be a day of wrath,
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,
16 a day of trumpet blast and battle cry
against the fortified cities
and against the lofty battlements.

17 I will bring such distress upon people
that they shall walk like the blind;
because they have sinned against the Lord,
their blood shall be poured out like dust
and their flesh like dung.
18 Neither their silver nor their gold
will be able to save them
on the day of the Lord's wrath;
in the fire of his passion
the whole earth shall be consumed,
for a full, a terrible end
he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 90 We will read a portion of the psalm responsively

1 Lord, you have | been our refuge
from one generation | to another.

2 **Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the | earth were born,
from age to age | you are God.**

3 You turn us back to the | dust and say,
"Turn back, O child- | ren of earth."

4 **For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when | it is past
and like a watch | in the night;**

5 you sweep them away | like a dream,
they fade away suddenly | like the grass:

6 **in the morning it is | green and flourishes;**
in the evening it is dried | up and withered.

7 For we are consumed | by your anger;
we are afraid because | of your wrath.

8 **Our iniquities you have | set before you,**
and our secret sins in the light | of your countenance.

9 When you are angry, all our | days are gone;
we bring our years to an end | like a sigh.

10 **The span of our life is seventy years, perhaps in strength | even eighty;**
yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow, for they pass away quickly and | we are gone.

11 Who regards the power | of your wrath?
Who rightly fears your | indignation?

12 **So teach us to num- | ber our days**
that we may apply our | hearts to wisdom.

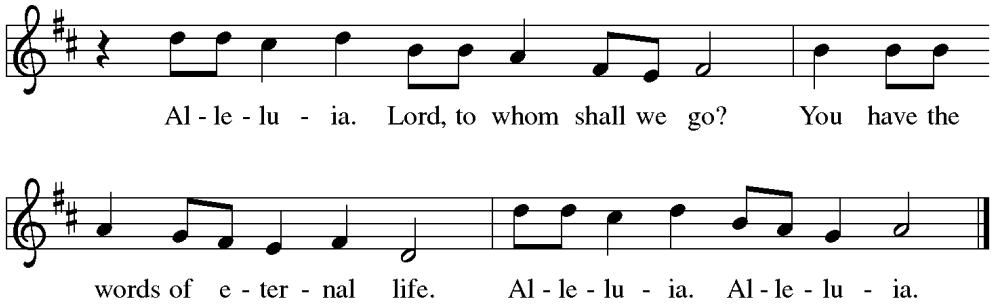
SECOND READING

A reading from the 5th chapter of 1 Thessalonians:

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

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to the 25th chapter of Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] 14 "For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves
and entrusted his property to them; 15 to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another
one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. At once 16 the one who had
received the five talents went off and traded with them and made five more talents. 17 In the
same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. 18 But the one who had
received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.
19 After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. 20 Then
the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying,
'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' 21 His
master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a
few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' 22 And
the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me
two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' 23 His master said to him, 'Well done, good
and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of
many things; enter into the joy of your master.' 24 Then the one who had received the one
talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where
you did not sow and gathering where you did not scatter, 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 replied, 'You
wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow and gather where
I did not scatter? 27 Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my
return I would have received what was my own with interest. 28 So take the talent from him,
and give it to the one with the ten talents. 29 For to all those who have, more will be given,
and they will have an abundance, but from those who have nothing, even what they have
will be taken away. 30 As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where
there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' "

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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

SONG OF THE DAY **Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying ELW 436**





Text: Philipp Nicolai, 1556-1608; tr. composite
Music: WACHET AUF, Philipp Nicolai
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APOSTLES CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

United with the great cloud of witnesses, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

You build up the church as a community of faithful witnesses throughout the generations. Enliven the worship, outreach, and service work of our congregations and ministries with the hope of your good news. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

As the nights grow longer in the northern hemisphere, make us mindful of the earth's need for rest. Provide for fallow fields and hibernating animals; show us how to curb human impact on vulnerable lands and species. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Rescue all nations and peoples from violence, displacement, or famine (*especially*). Disrupt complacency among national and local leaders. Recommit our communities to transforming the systems that divide and oppress into those that empower and unite. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

In your embrace, we find refuge from all trials and troubles. Care for families who are separated or estranged, accompany all undergoing medical procedures or mental health treatment, and reassure any who are ill or despairing (*especially*). God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Bless all who serve in congregational leadership: council members, finance committees, volunteer coordinators, and property teams (*other specific leaders or groups may be named*). Encourage healthy stewardship of time, talents, and resources for the mission of the gospel. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

The faithful of every age trust in the hope of your saving grace. In thanksgiving for the ways our ancestors have journeyed before us, we remember all who have entered eternal life in you. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Into your steadfast love, faithful God, we entrust all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus, your beloved. **Amen.**

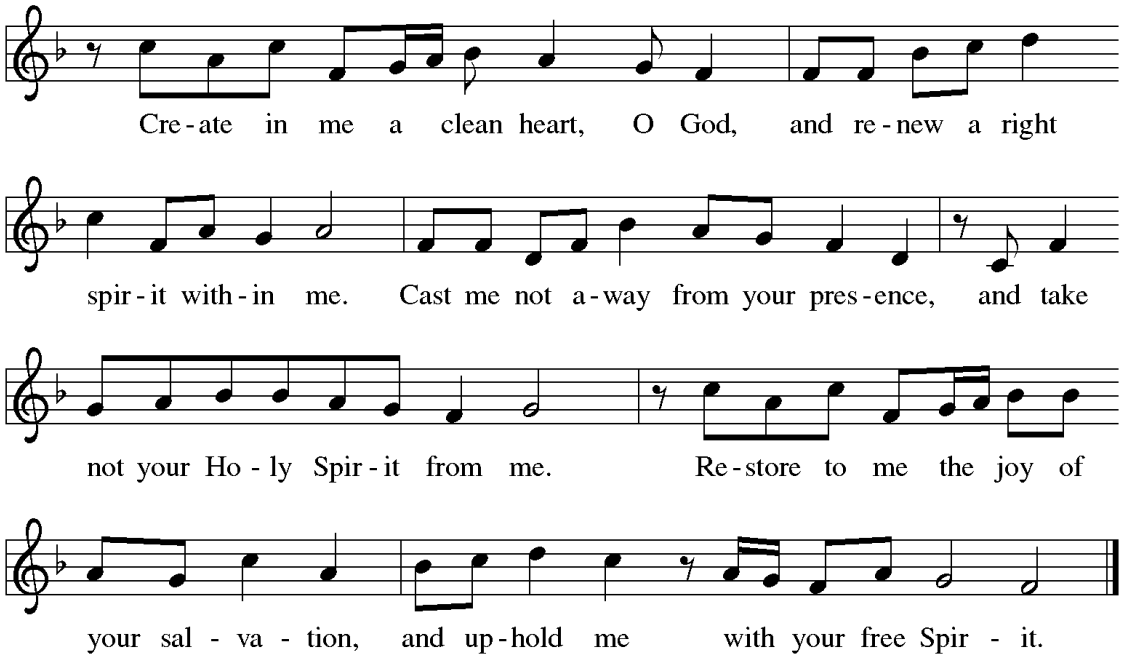
PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING

Create in Me a Clean Heart

Offering Song



Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923
Music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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OFFERING PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

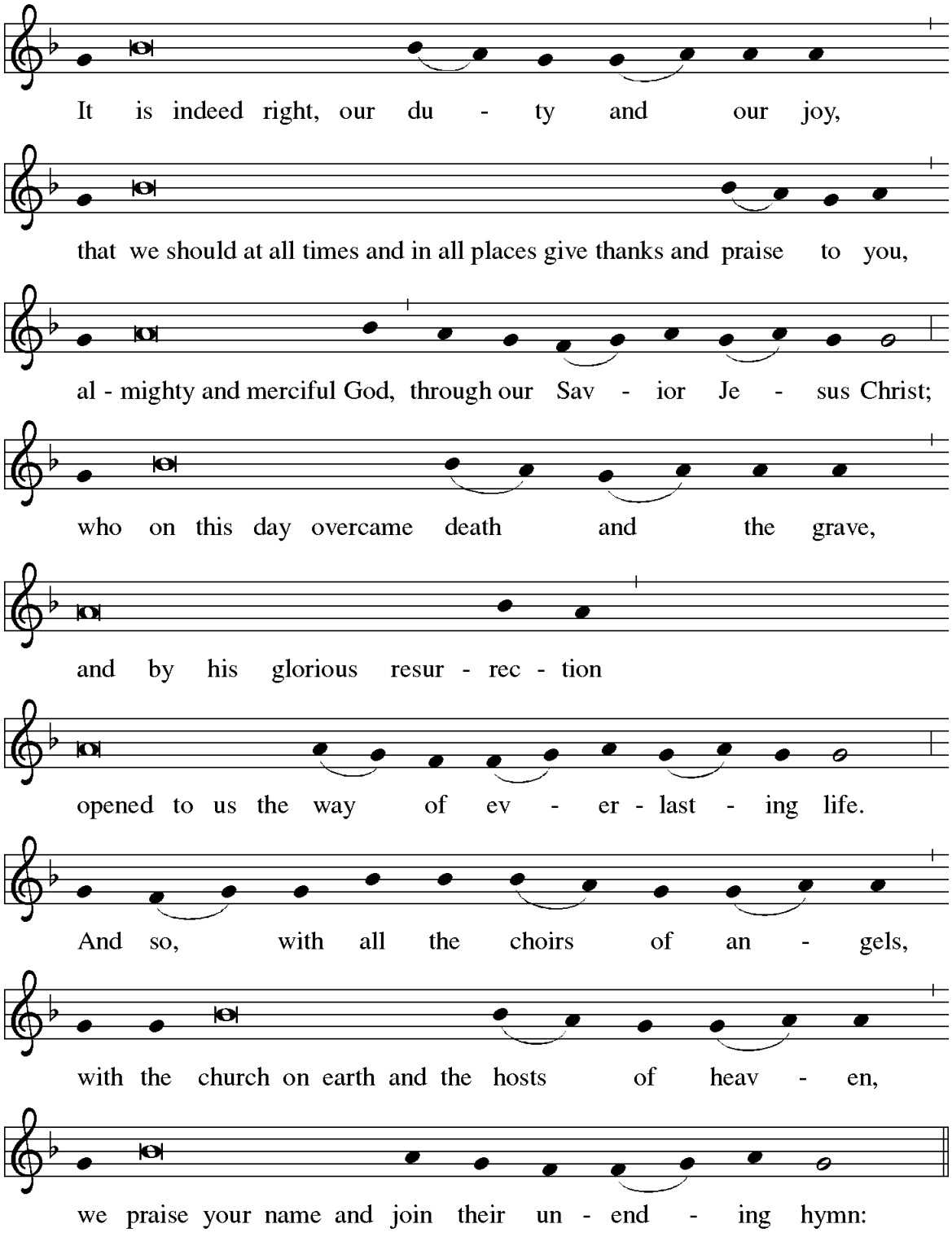
GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

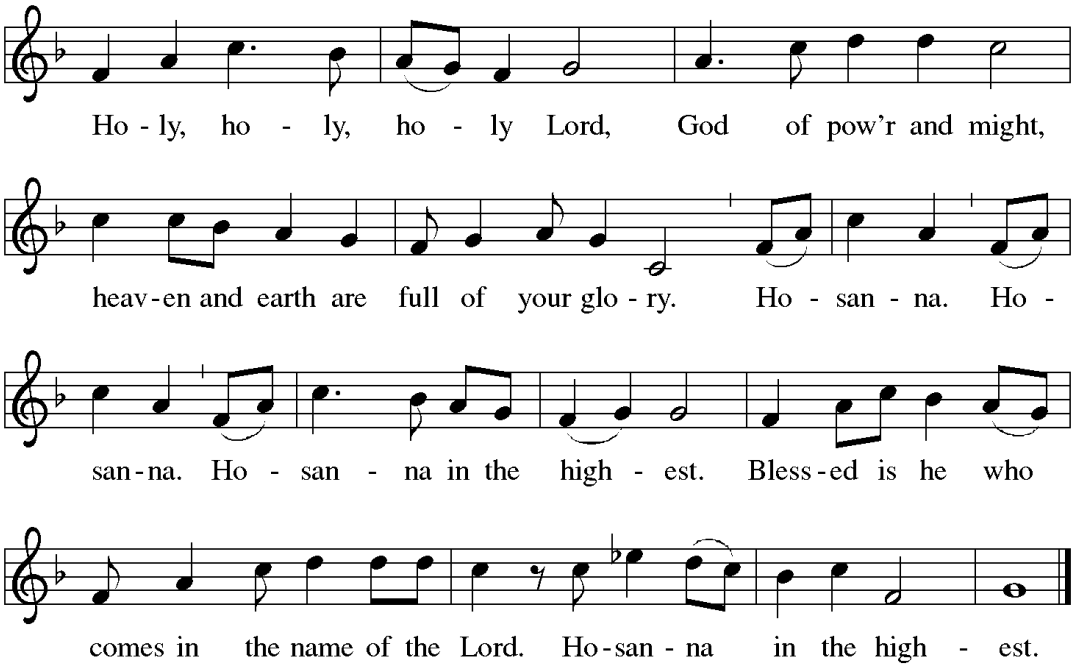
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

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

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


It is indeed right, our du - ty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you,
al - mighty and merciful God, through our Sav - ior Je - sus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resur - rec - tion
opened to us the way of ev - er - last - ing life.
And so, with all the choirs of an - gels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heav - en,
we praise your name and join their un - end - ing hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper,
he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

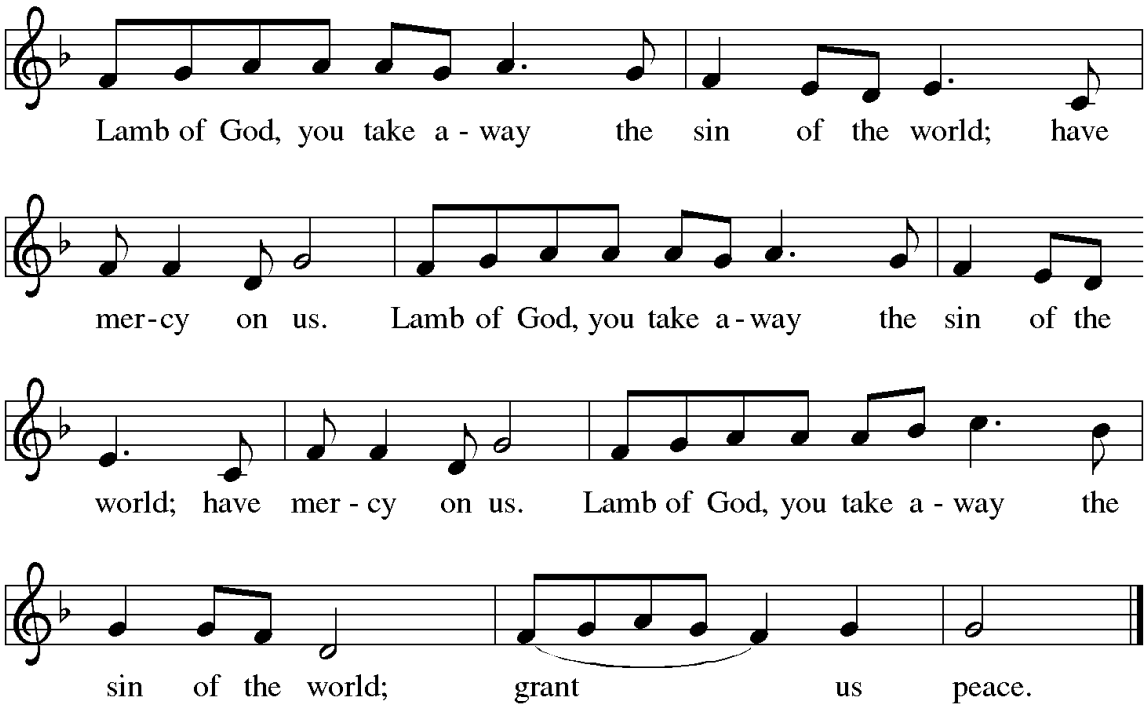
LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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,
forever and ever. Amen.

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

COMMUNION



COMMUNION SONG **What Feast of Love** **ELW 487**



Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939
Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.
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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

O God, we give you thanks that you have set before us this feast, the body and blood of your Son. By your Spirit strengthen us to serve all in need and to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise



Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980
Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, ✢ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG **The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve ELW 551**



Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939
Music: CHESTERFIELD, attr. Thomas Haweis, 1734–1820
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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE



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Mums for the 40th Anniversary Celebration

Deb and Mike Scheetz	In honor of Wilma Minnick In honor of John and Lee Scheetz In honor of Doug Pulfer
Rande and Arja Neukam	In honor of Winona Neukam-Cogan and Unelma Jokinen (our moms)
Sue Retelle	David (her brother)
Gail Pituck	In honor of Jim and Jean Pituck
Mark and Teri Drake	In honor of our parents
Julie and Bill Mitchell	In honor of John, Sandy, Cindy (Julie's cousins)
Michele Alvarez	In honor of newer members of MLC and Forward Funding efforts
Pastor Karl	In thanksgiving for clergy who have served MLC
Marge and Richard Ball	for Marge – "Happy birthday!"
Trudi Costa	In honor of Ed Costa and loved ones of the Miller and Costa families
Connie Wisneski	