

Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church

Preaching & Presiding: Pastor Todd Bertani

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Mission Statement:

Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church is a community of faith grounded in love for God and love for our neighbors



August 23, 2026

13th Sunday after Pentecost

Celice Clark, Accompanist

Prelude: Pastoral Charles Wesley

Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling Michael Burkhardt

Postlude: Toccata on 'Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee'

Christopher Uehlein

Welcome, Friends in Christ,

*To assist in worship, this bulletin includes all portions of our service; prayers, readings, hymns, congregational responses in **bold**.*

We also provide activity bags for children. You may request these from an usher to use during the service. Please note: The bags contain a treat.

Whether you are first time visitors or long time friends returning to share in worship with us, we are grateful for your presence today.

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Now the Feast: Text and Music: Marty Haugen: ©1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

Welcome: Pastor Todd Bertani

Call to Worship: "Come, Christians, Join to Sing" arr. by Craig Courtney

(You are invited to stand, in body or spirit)

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity,† one God, whose compassion endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin to God.

(Brief silence for reflection)

Compassionate God,
we confess to you all our sins.
Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.
In your mercy, call us back to you.
Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.
Restore us to dwell in your peace.
In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest."

In the name of God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven.
Rest in God's love.

Amen.

Opening Hymn: "All Creatures, Worship God Most High" *Hymn 835*

1 All crea-tures, wor-ship God most high! Sound ev - 'ry voice in earth and
4 All who for love of God for - give, all who in pain or sor - row

sky: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Sing, broth - er sun, in splen-dor
grieve: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Christ bears your bur-dens and your

bright; sing, sis - ter moon and stars of night:
fears; still make your song a - mid the tears: Al-le - lu - ia, al-le -

lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia!

Text: Francis of Assisi, 1182–1226; tr. composite

Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1623

Text © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

Greeting

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

Kyrie

(Congregation sings the highlighted text)

Assistant:

In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Congregation:

Refrain Lord, have mer - cy.

3rd time to Coda ⊕

Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Assistant:

For the Reign of God, and for peace through - out the
For your peo - ple here, who have come to give you

world, for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the
praise, for the strength to live your Word, let us pray to the

⊕ Coda **Refrain**

Help, save, and de - fend us, O

* Ending for Kyrie

God.

A - men.

Now The Feast

(Refrain, Verse 1, Refrain)

Refrain

Congregation:

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion,
all of cre - a - tion sings for joy
to the God of life and love and
free - dom: praise and glo - ry for ev -
er - more!

Verse 1

1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once
slain, whose blood has freed and u -
nit - ed us to be one great peo - ple of
God.

to Refrain

Salutation



Prayer of the Day

O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

(Please be seated)

First Reading: Psalm 26:1-12 *(read responsively)*

¹ Vindicate me, O Lord,
for I have walked in my integrity,
and I have trusted in the Lord without wavering.

² **Prove me, O Lord, and try me;
test my heart and mind.**

³ For your steadfast love is before my eyes,
and I walk in faithfulness to you.

⁴ **I do not sit with the worthless,
nor do I consort with hypocrites;**

⁵ I hate the company of evildoers
and will not sit with the wicked.

**⁶ I wash my hands in innocence
and go around your altar, O Lord,**

⁷ singing aloud a song of thanksgiving
and telling all your wondrous deeds.

**⁸ O Lord, I love the house in which you dwell
and the place where your glory abides.**

⁹ Do not sweep me away with sinners
nor my life with the bloodthirsty,

**¹⁰ those in whose hands are evil devices
and whose right hands are full of bribes.**

¹¹ But as for me, I walk in my integrity;
redeem me and be gracious to me.

**¹² My foot stands on level ground;
in the great congregation I will bless the Lord.**

Second Reading: 1 John 4:7-12

⁷ Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸ Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. ⁹ God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. ¹⁰ In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹ Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. ¹² No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us, and his love is perfected in us.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Grace Talk: Linda Schlitt

(You are invited to stand, in body or spirit)

Gospel Acclamation

Congregation:

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal
life. Al - le - lu - ia!

Gospel: Mark 12:28-34

The holy gospel according to Mark Chapter 12.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁸One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, “Which commandment is the first of all?” ²⁹Jesus answered, “The first is, ‘Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one;’ ³⁰you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’ ³¹The second is this, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.” ³²Then the scribe said to him, “You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that ‘he is one, and besides him there is no other’; ³³and ‘to love him with all the heart and with all the understanding and with all the strength’ and ‘to love one’s neighbor as oneself’—this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.” ³⁴When Jesus

saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, “You are not far from the kingdom of God.” After that no one dared to ask him any question.

The gospel of the Lord.

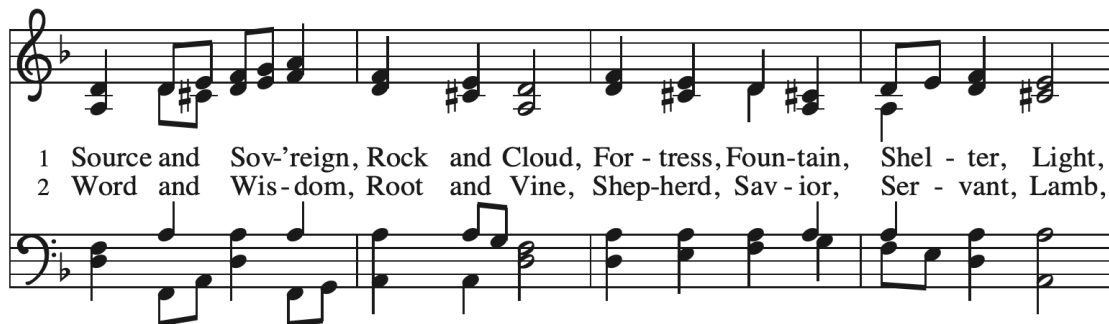
Praise to you, O Christ.

(Please be seated)

Sermon: Pastor Todd Bertani

Sermon Notes:

Sermon Hymn: "Source and Sovereign, Rock and Cloud" *ACS Hymn 947*

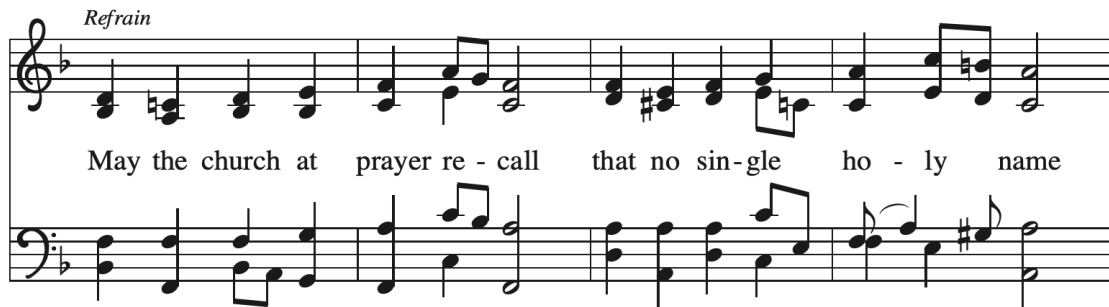


1 Source and Sov'-reign, Rock and Cloud, For - tress, Foun-tain, Shel - ter, Light,
2 Word and Wis-dom, Root and Vine, Shep-herd, Sav - ior, Ser - vant, Lamb,



Judge, De - fend - er, Mer - cy, Might, Life whose life all life en-dowed:
Well and Wa - ter, Bread and Wine, Way who leads us to I AM:

Refrain



May the church at prayer re - call that no sin-gle ho - ly name



but the truth be - hind them all is the God whom we pro - claim.

Text: Thomas H. Troeger, b. 1945

Music: ABERYSTWYTH, Joseph Parry, 1841–1903

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Apostle's 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.**

Intercessory Prayer

Each petition ends: "Merciful God"

Response is "receive our prayer."

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Choir Anthem: "Purify My Heart" by Patrick Tierney

Receiving of Gifts

(You are invited to stand, in body or spirit)

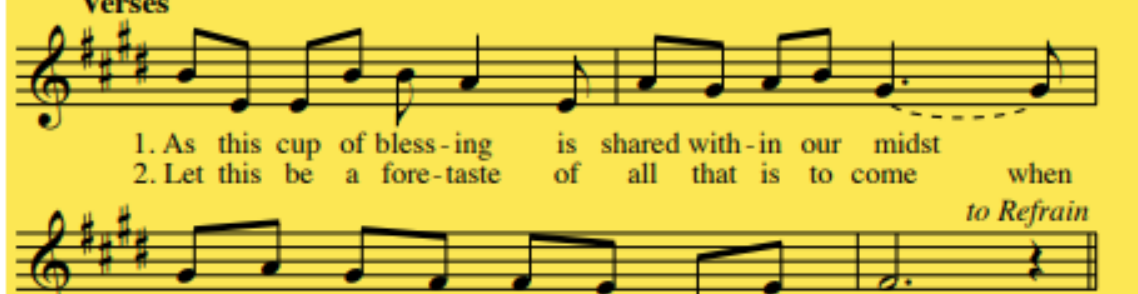
As the Grains of Wheat

Refrain
Congregation:



As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread;
so may all your peo-ple from all the ends of earth be
gath-ered in - to one in you.

Verses



1. As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst
2. Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when
to Refrain

may we share the pres - ence of your love.
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

Offering Prayer

Loving God,
we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.
Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,
so that all creation can taste your abundance.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.
Amen.

Great Thanksgiving *(Congregation sings highlighted text)*

The musical score is written for a Presider and a Congregation. It consists of four lines of music, each with a corresponding line of text. The Congregation's parts are highlighted in yellow.

Line 1:
Presider: The Lord be with you.
Congregation: And al-so with you.

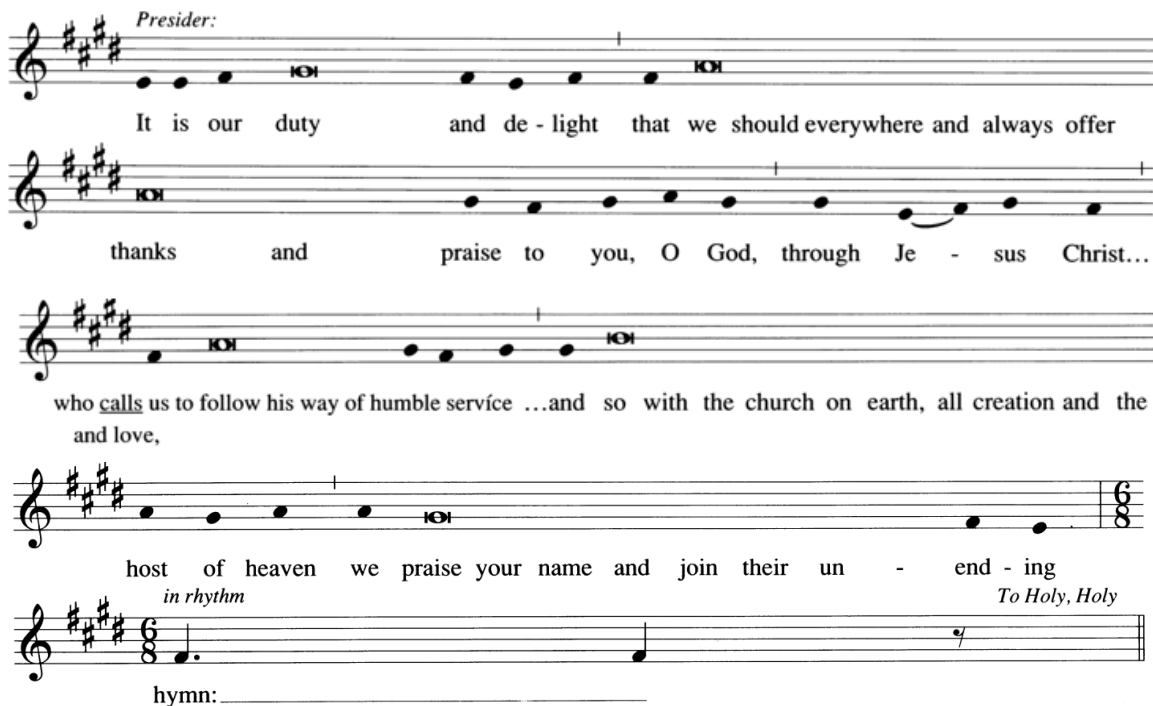
Line 2:
Presider: Lift up your hearts.
Congregation: We lift them to the Lord.

Line 3:
Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
Congregation: It is

Line 4:
right to give God thanks and praise.

Preface

Presider:



It is our duty and de - light that we should everywhere and always offer
 thanks and praise to you, O God, through Je - sus Christ...
 who calls us to follow his way of humble service ...and so with the church on earth, all creation and the
 and love,
 host of heaven we praise your name and join their un - end - ing
in rhythm *To Holy, Holy*
 hymn: _____

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

Congregation:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and
 might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your
 glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est! Bless - ed is the
 One who comes in your name. Ho - san - na in the
 high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

Eucharistic Prayer

You are indeed holy, gracious and merciful God;
everything is filled with your glory.

We give you thanks for your promise and presence which have
sustained the faithful in this and every generation.

Above all, we give you thanks for Jesus, born of Mary, who in word and
deed announced your gentle rule of justice, reconciliation and peace.

On the night of his betrayal our Lord Jesus took bread and gave thanks;
broke it and gave it to his disciples saying:

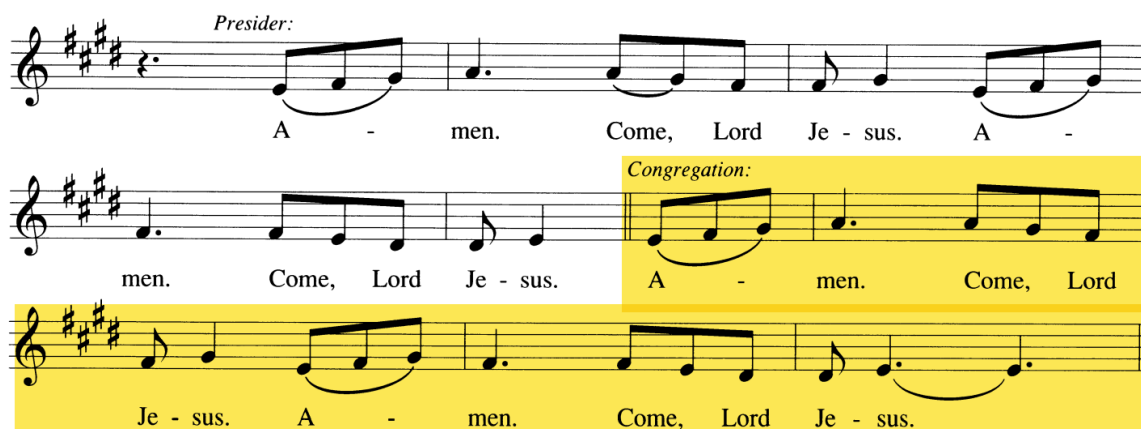
Take and eat;
this is my body given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

After the 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 all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering his command to love one another, his life and death,
his resurrection and his ascension, we pray for his coming again,
even as we cry:

Eucharistic Acclamation



The musical score is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff is for the Presider, and the subsequent two staves are for the Congregation. The lyrics are: 'A - men. Come, Lord Je - sus. A - men. Come, Lord Je - sus. A - men. Come, Lord Je - sus.' The Congregation part is highlighted in yellow.

Presider:

A - men. Come, Lord Je - sus. A -

Congregation:

men. Come, Lord Je - sus. A - men. Come, Lord

Je - sus. A - men. Come, Lord Je - sus.

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit,
that all of your promises may come to us
and your whole creation.

Presider:

A - men. Come, Ho - ly Spir - it. A - men. Come, Ho - ly Spir - it.

Congregation:

men. Come, Ho - ly Spir - it. A - men. Come, Ho - ly Spir - it. A - men. Come, Ho - ly Spir - it.

This we pray through Jesus Christ, our Savior and our friend.
And now, make us bold, O merciful God, to address you as our Abba
as we pray:

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from
the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours, now and forever. **Amen.**

Invitation to Communion

Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!

We commune by 'Intinction', by dipping the wafer in wine or grape juice.
*We are **all** guests at God's table. **Everyone** is invited to receive communion.*

(Please be seated)

Lamb of God

Congregation:

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
you break the chains of ha - tred and
you are the way of jus - tice and
you are the way of mer - cy and

Congregation:

world: have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us,
fear:
peace:
love.

Final Stanza

mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you

Congregation:

take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace,

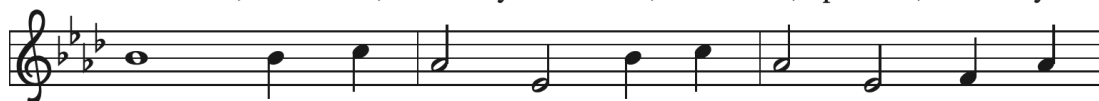
grant us peace, grant us peace.



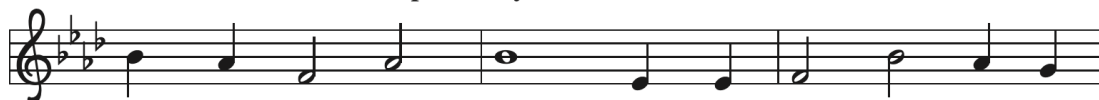
Communion Hymn: "Womb of Life and Source of Being" ACS Hymn 948



1 Womb of life and source of be - ing, home of ev - 'ry rest - less
 2 Word in flesh, our broth - er Je - sus, born to bring us sec - ond
 3 Brood - ing Spir - it, move a - mong us; be our part - ner, be our
 4 Moth - er, Broth - er, ho - ly Part - ner; Fa - ther, Spir - it, On - ly



heart, in your arms the worlds a - wak - ened; you have
 birth, you have come to stand be - side us, know - ing
 friend. When our mem - 'ry fails, re - mind us whose we
 Son: we would praise your name for - ev - er, One - in -



loved us from the start. We, your chil - dren, gath - er
 weak - ness, know - ing earth. Priest who shares our hu - man
 are, what we in - tend. La - bor with us; aid the
 Three and Three - in - One. We would share your life, your



round you, at the ta - ble you pre - pare. Shar - ing
 strug - gles, Life of life and Death of death, ris - en
 birth - ing of the new world yet to be, free of
 pas - sion, share your word of world made new, ev - er



sto - ries, tears, and laugh - ter, we are nur - tured by your care.
 Christ, come stand a - mong us, send the Spir - it by your breath.
 ser - vant, lord, and mas - ter, free for love and u - ni - ty.
 sing - ing, ev - er prais - ing, one with all, and one with you.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: RAQUEL, Skinner Chávez-Melo, 1944–1992

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Music © 1985, 1991 Estate of Skinner Chávez-Melo

Post Communion Blessing

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us, now and forever. **Amen.**

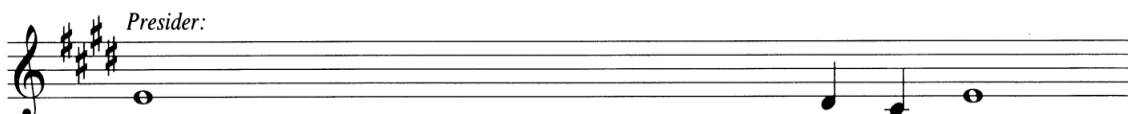
Post Communion Prayer

Compassionate God,
through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us.
We ask this in the name of Jesus, Amen.

Ministry Highlights *(see insert)*

(You are invited to stand, in body or spirit)

Blessing



May God bless us and keep us.
May God's face shine on us and be gracious to us.
May God look on us with favor and + give us peace.



Sending Hymn: “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee” *Hymn 836*



1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,

Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;

Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852–1922

Music: HYMN TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827, adapt.

Sending