Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church

Preaching and Presiding: Pastor Todd Bertani

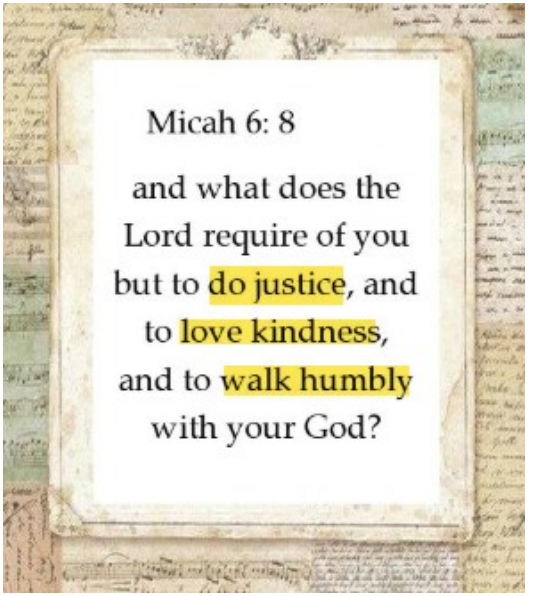
Church Website: smlcestes.org

Office Email: secretary@smlcestes.org 970-586-3900

Pastoral Care: Pastor Todd Bertani, 707-688-6411

Mission Statement:

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



November 15, 2026

25th Sunday after Pentecost

Ann Knipping, *Accompanist*

***Prelude*: "Wayfaring Stranger"** *and*

"What a Friend we Have in Jesus" *arr. by Mark Hayes* ** ***(see page 19)***

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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Welcome: Pastor Todd Bertani

Call to Worship: "Halle, Halle, Halle" *arr. by Hal H. Hopson*

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

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth. **Amen.**

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,
let us confess our sin.
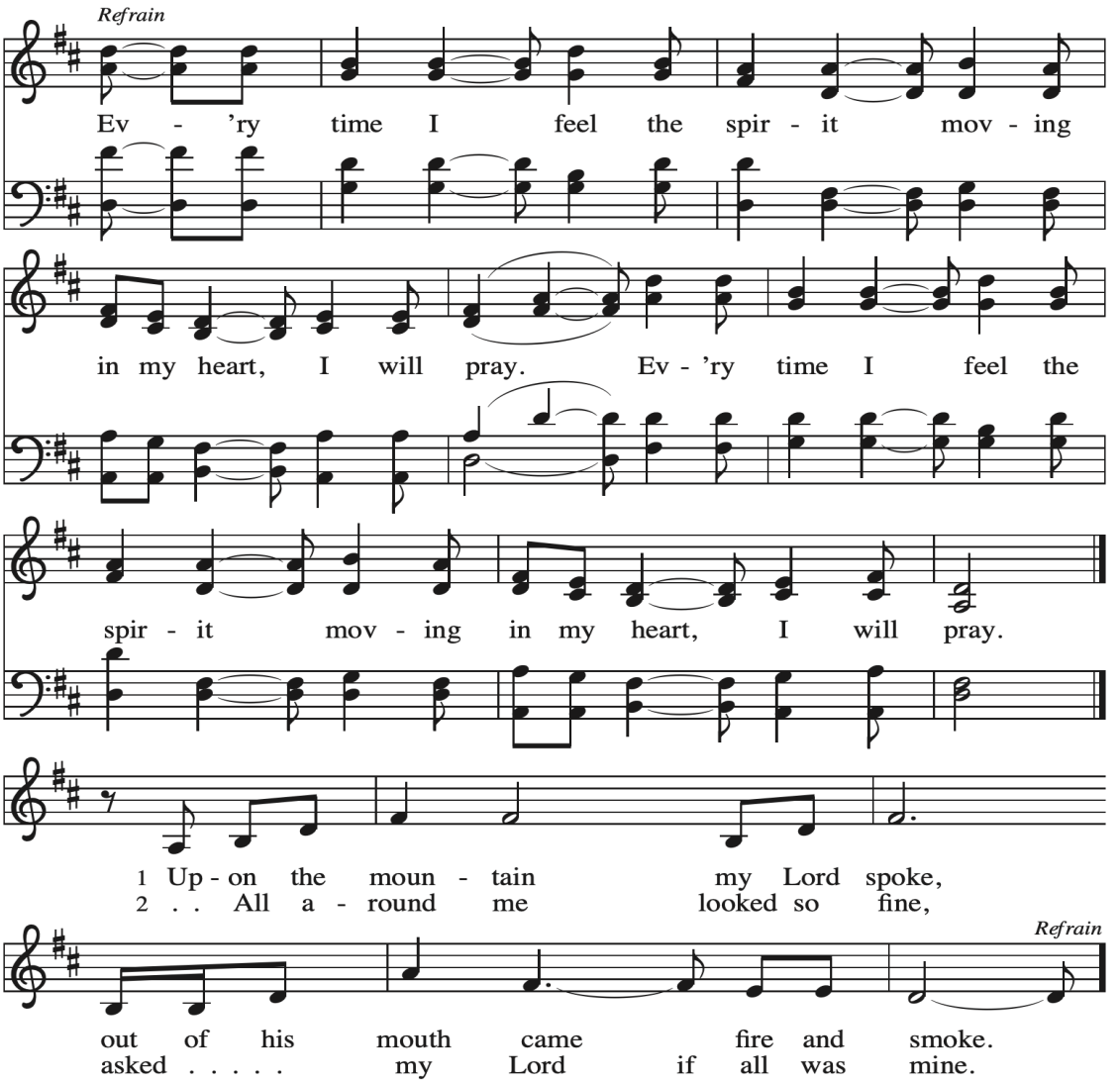
(Brief silence for reflection)

Compassionate God,
we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Hear this good news:

We have peace with God through ✝ Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace. **Amen.**

Opening Hymn: "Every Time I feel the Spirit" *ACS Hymn 942*
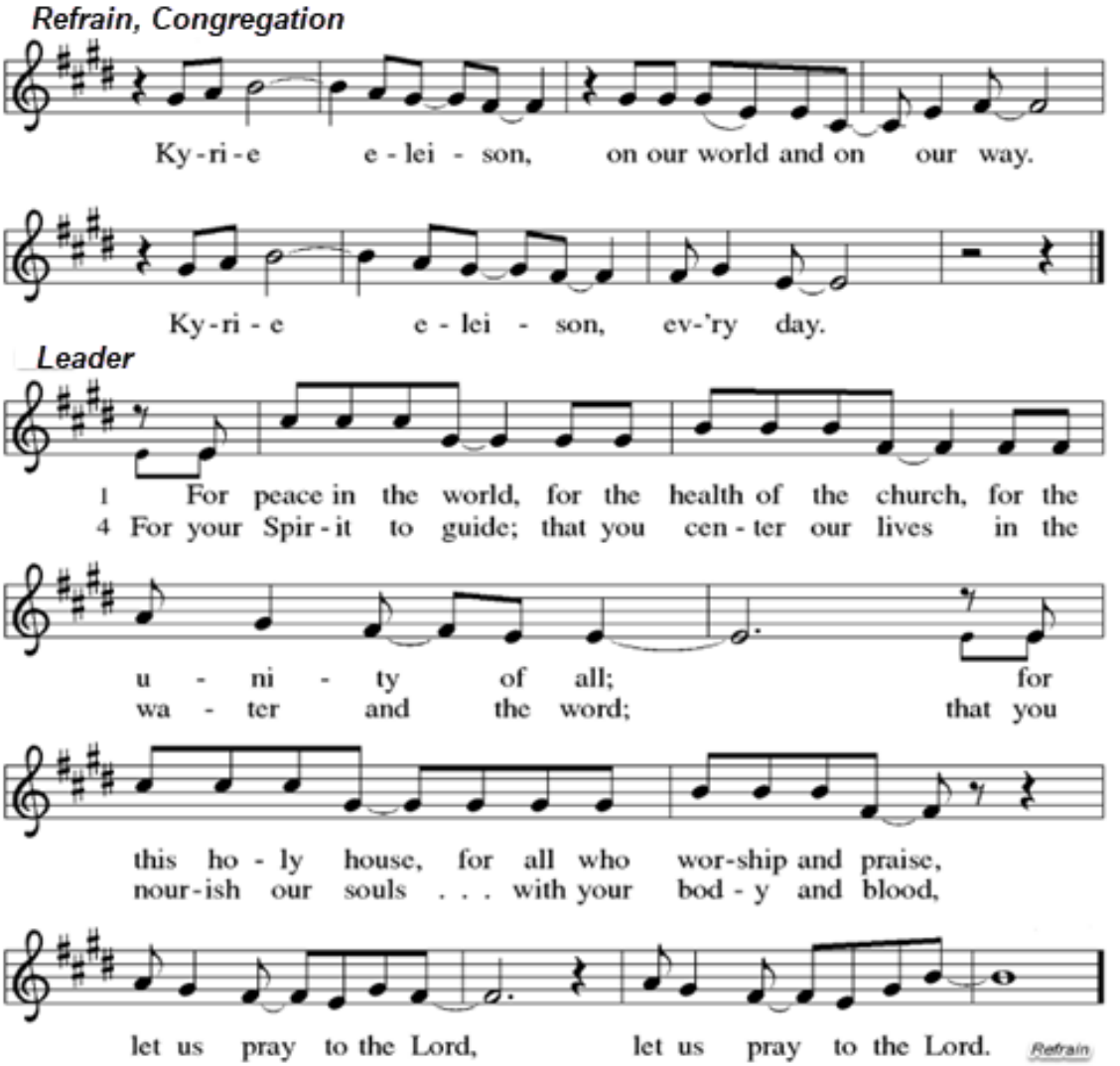


Text: African American spiritual
Music: PENTECOST, African American spiritual; arr. Melva W. Costen, b. 1933
Arr. © 1990 Melva W. Costen, admin. Augsburg Fortress
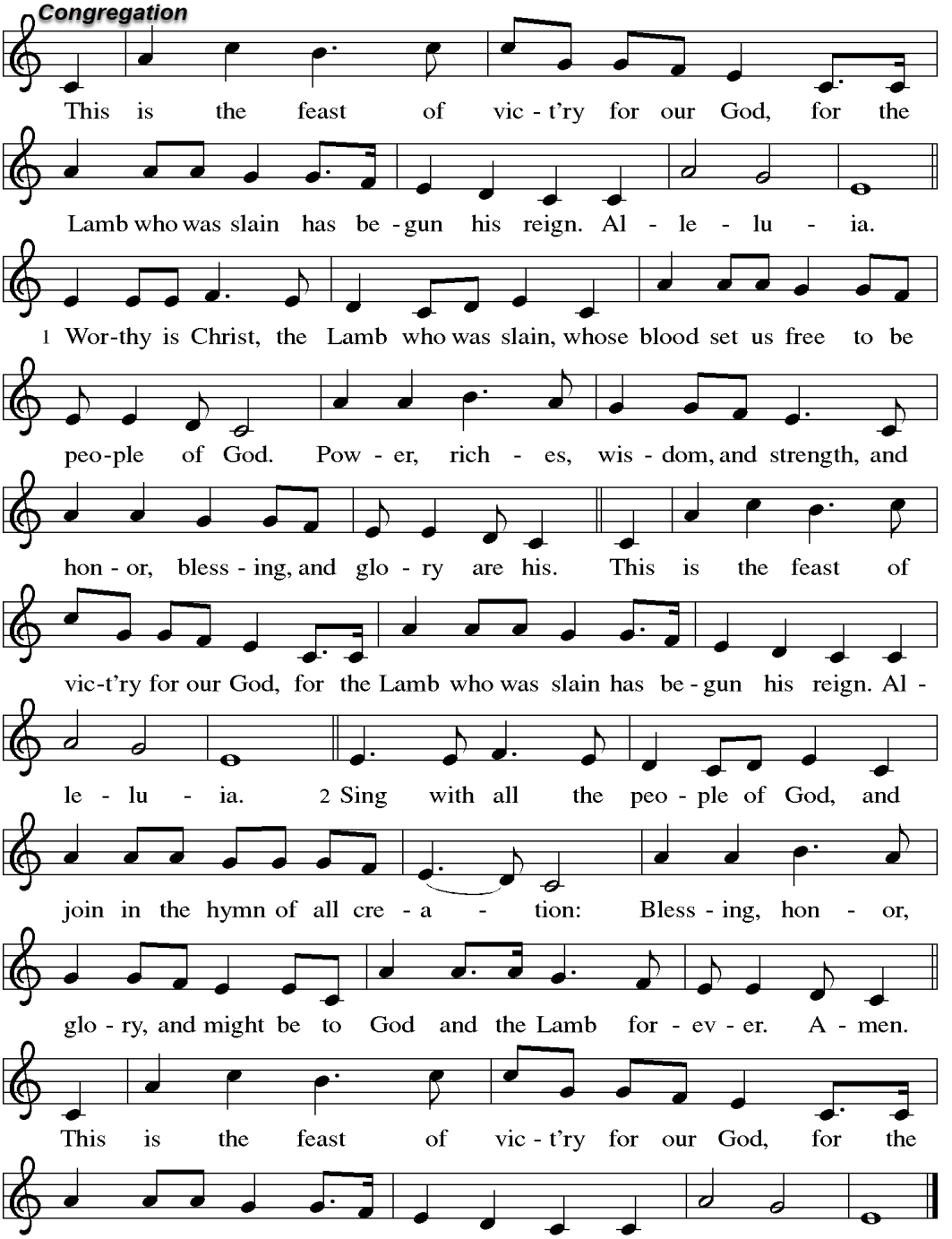
Greeting

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



Canticle of Praise



Prayer of the Day

God of justice, you sent your servant Micah to proclaim justice and peace to a world that lacked both. Make us instruments of justice and peace, so that your world might prosper. We pray these things in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

(Please be seated)

First Reading: Micah 1:3-5, 5:2-5a, 6:6-8

1:3 For the Lord is coming out of his place and will come down and tread
upon the high places of the earth. 4 Then the mountains will melt under
him, and the valleys will burst open like wax near the fire, like waters
poured down a slope. 5 All this is for the transgression of Jacob and for
the sins of the house of Israel. What is the transgression of Jacob? Is it
not Samaria? And what is the high place of Judah? Is it not Jerusalem?

5:2 But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of
Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel,
whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. 3 Therefore he shall give
them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth;
then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. 4 And he
shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of
the name of the Lord his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall
be great to the ends of the earth, 5 and he shall be the one of peace.

6:6 "With what shall I come before the Lord and bow myself before God on
high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year
old? 7 Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten
thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?" 8 He has told you, O mortal,
what is good, and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice and
to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God?

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God**.

Second Reading: Psalm 138:1-8 *(Congregation reads the **bold** print)*

[1] I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart;
before the gods I sing your praise;

[2] I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness, for you have exalted your name and your word above everything.

[3] On the day I called, you answered me;
you increased my strength of soul.

**[4] All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord,
for they have heard the words of your mouth.**

[5] They shall sing of the ways of the Lord,
for great is the glory of the Lord.

**[6] For though the Lord is high, he regards the lowly,
but the haughty he perceives from far away.**

[7] Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve me against the wrath of my enemies; you stretch out your hand, and your right hand delivers me.

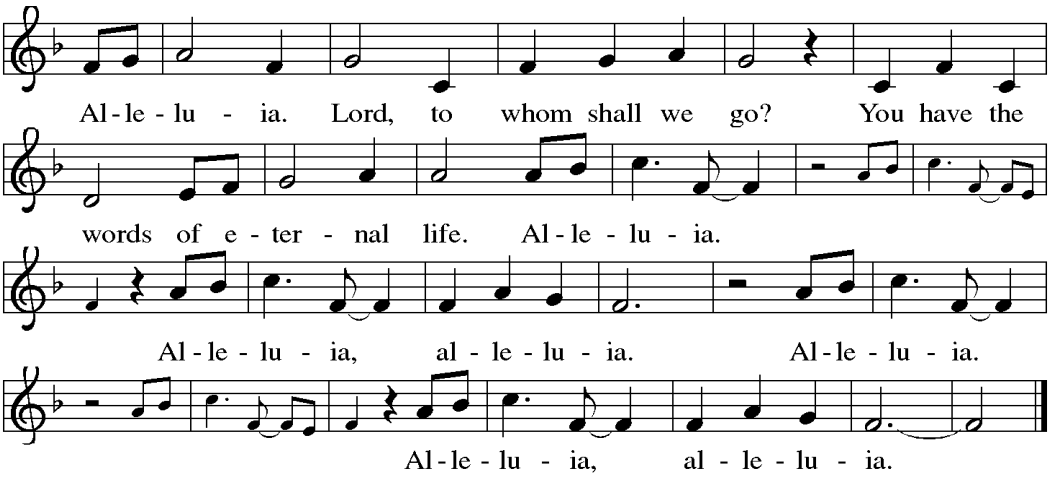
[8] The Lord will fulfill his purpose for me; your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever. Do not forsake the work of your hands.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God**.



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

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel: Matthew 9:9-13

The holy gospel according to Matthew Chapter 9.
Glory to you, O Lord.

9 As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the
tax-collection station, and he said to him, "Follow me." And he got up and
followed him.

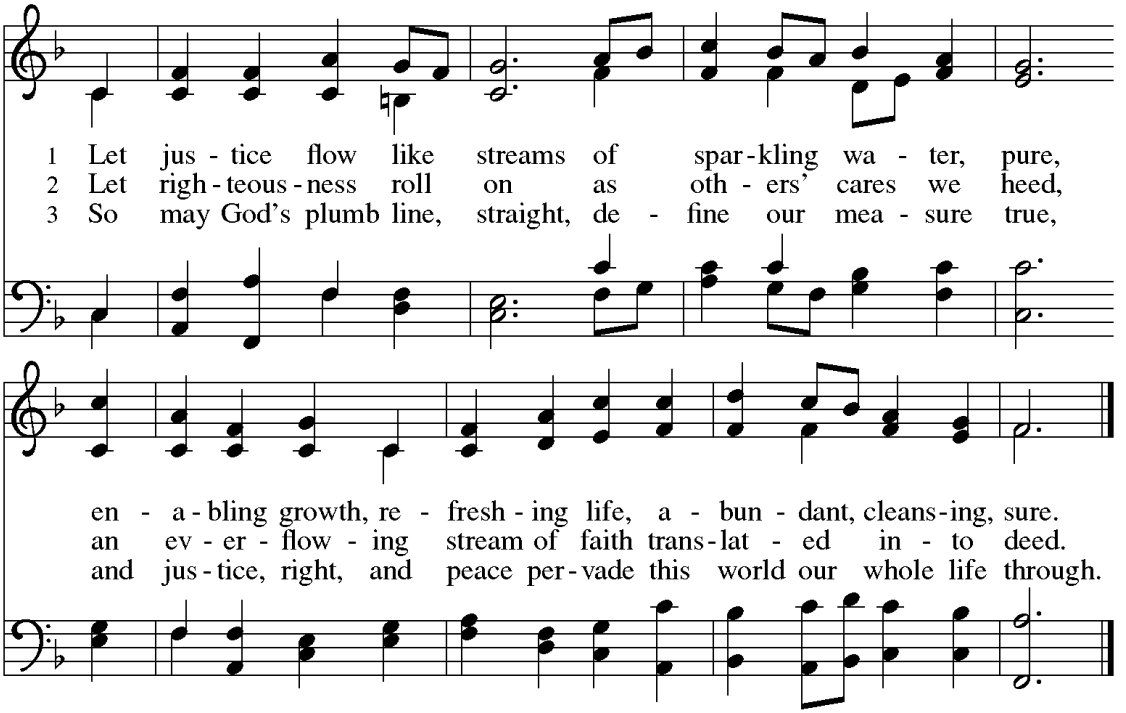
10 And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners
came and were sitting with Jesus and his disciples. 11 When the Pharisees
saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax
collectors and sinners?" 12 But when he heard this, he said, "Those who
are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. 13 Go and
learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come
to call the righteous but sinners."

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

(Please be seated)

Sermon: Pastor Todd Bertani
Sermon Notes:

Sermon Hymn: "Let Justice Roll Like Streams" *Hymn 717*



Text: Jane Parker Huber, b. 1926
Music: ST. THOMAS, Aaron Williams, 1731–1776
Text © 1984 Jane Parker Huber, admin. Westminster John Knox Press.

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

After each petition : "Hear us O God"
Congregation Response is **"your mercy is great."**

Sharing of the Peace

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

Choir Anthem: "I Remember Jesus" *by Grub and Martin*

Receiving of Gifts

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

Offering Prayer

God of creation,
you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always.

Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with You.
And also with you.

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

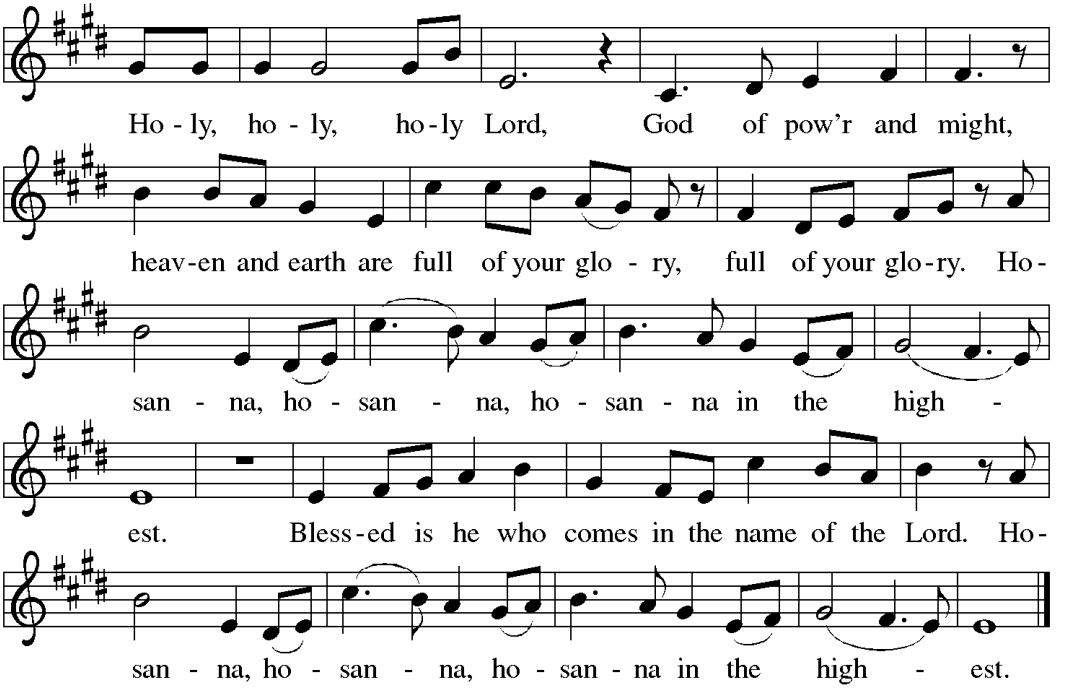
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.
You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer,
through whom you will also make all things new
in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

"Holy, Holy, Holy"



Eucharistic Prayer

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

Amen.



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.

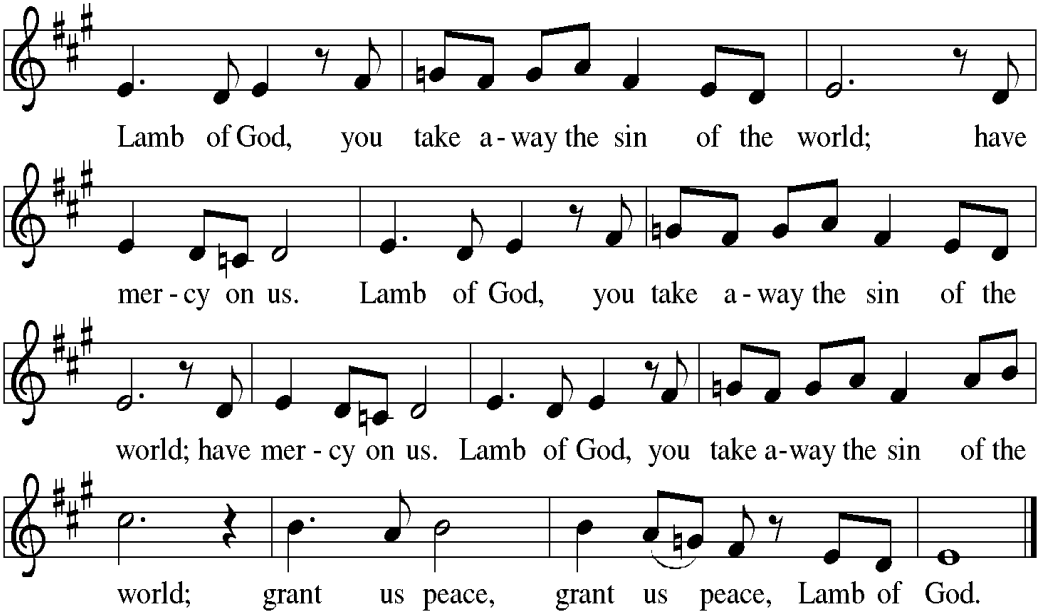
Invitation to Communion

In bread and cup the reign of Christ is breaking in.
Come, receive what Christ has prepared.
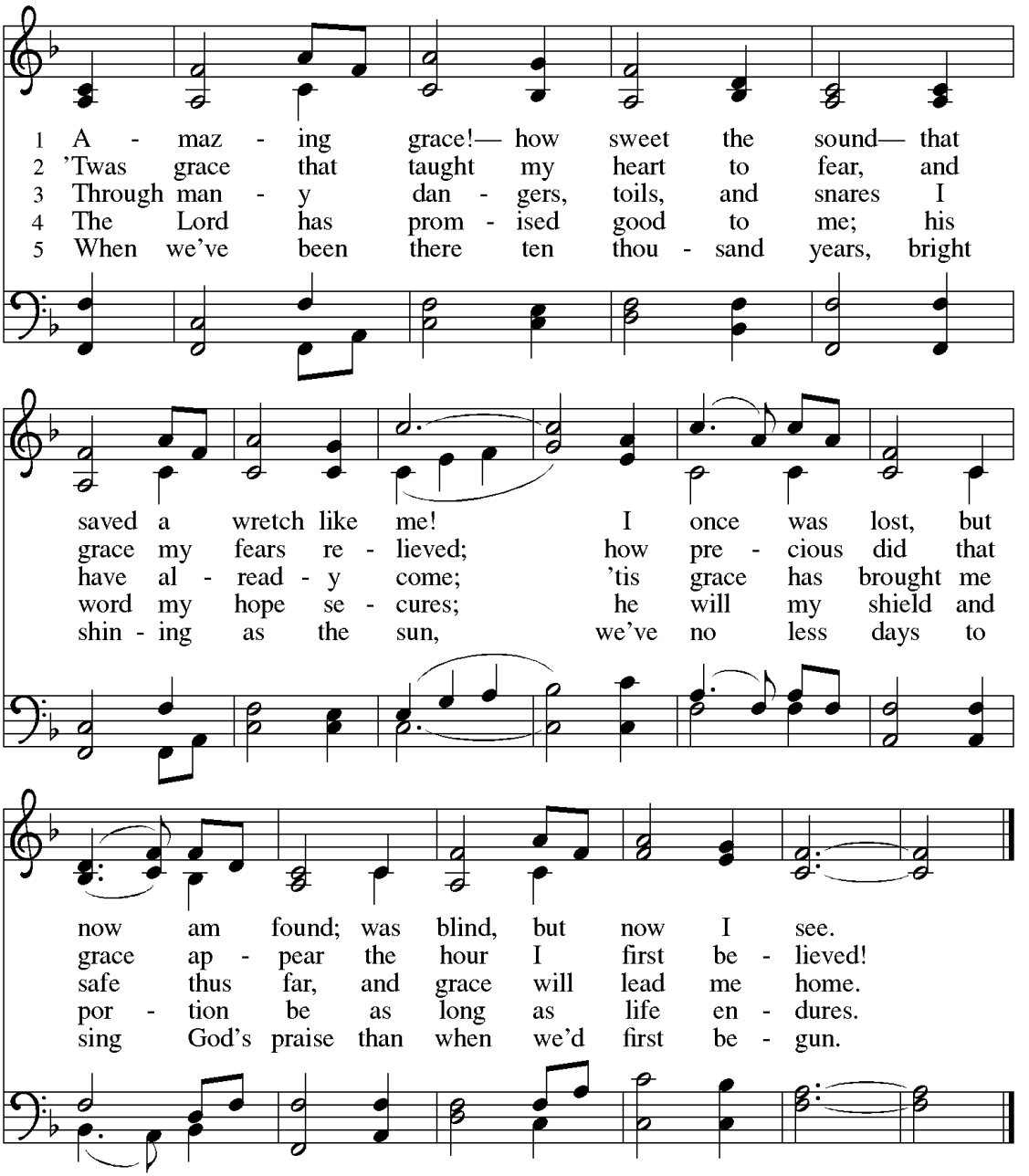
We commune by 'Intinction', by dipping the wafer in wine or grape juice.
*We are **all** guests at God's table. **Everyone** is invited to receive communion.*

(Please be seated)

Lamb of God



Communion Hymn: "Amazing Grace" *Hymn 779*



Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt., sts. 1–4; anonymous, st. 5
Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1851–1921, alt.

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

Sustaining God,
with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Ministry Calendar

November 15—Sunday

9:00 a.m.: Worship—***Pastor Todd***

November 17—Tuesday:

9:00-1:30: PEO HF Meeting
1:30 p.m.: Vision in Action
4:30p.m.: Thanksgiving Service

November 18—Wednesday:

All Day: Crossroads Thanksgiving Distribution
8:00 a.m.: Sacred Space (Zoom)
3:00 p.m.: Choir Rehearsal

November 19—Thursday:

All Day: Crossroads Thanksgiving Distribution
9:30 a.m.: Council Meeting in Library (or Pastor's office)
CANCELED Quilting

November 22—Christ the King Sunday

9:00 a.m.: Worship—***Pastor Todd***
10:00a.m.: **Deb Unruh to speak on Estes Dementia Day Center** (4th Qtr offering)
10:30a.m.: **Decorate church sanctuary and narthex for Advent**

***November 24-27*—Tuesday-Friday:**

Pastor out of office

***November 25*—Wednesday:**

8:00 a.m.: Sacred Space (Zoom)
CANCELED Choir Rehearsal

***November 26*—Thursday:**

Thanksgiving—Office Closed
CANCELED Quilting

***November 27*—Friday:**

CANCELED Good Sam worship

November 29—First Sunday of Advent

9:00 a.m.: Worship—***Pastor Todd***
Good Gifts available for purchase

***December 01*—Tuesday:**

Pastor out of office

***December 02*—Wednesday:**

8:00 a.m.: Sacred Space (Zoom)
1:30 p.m.: **Advent Afternoon in the Sanctuary**
3:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
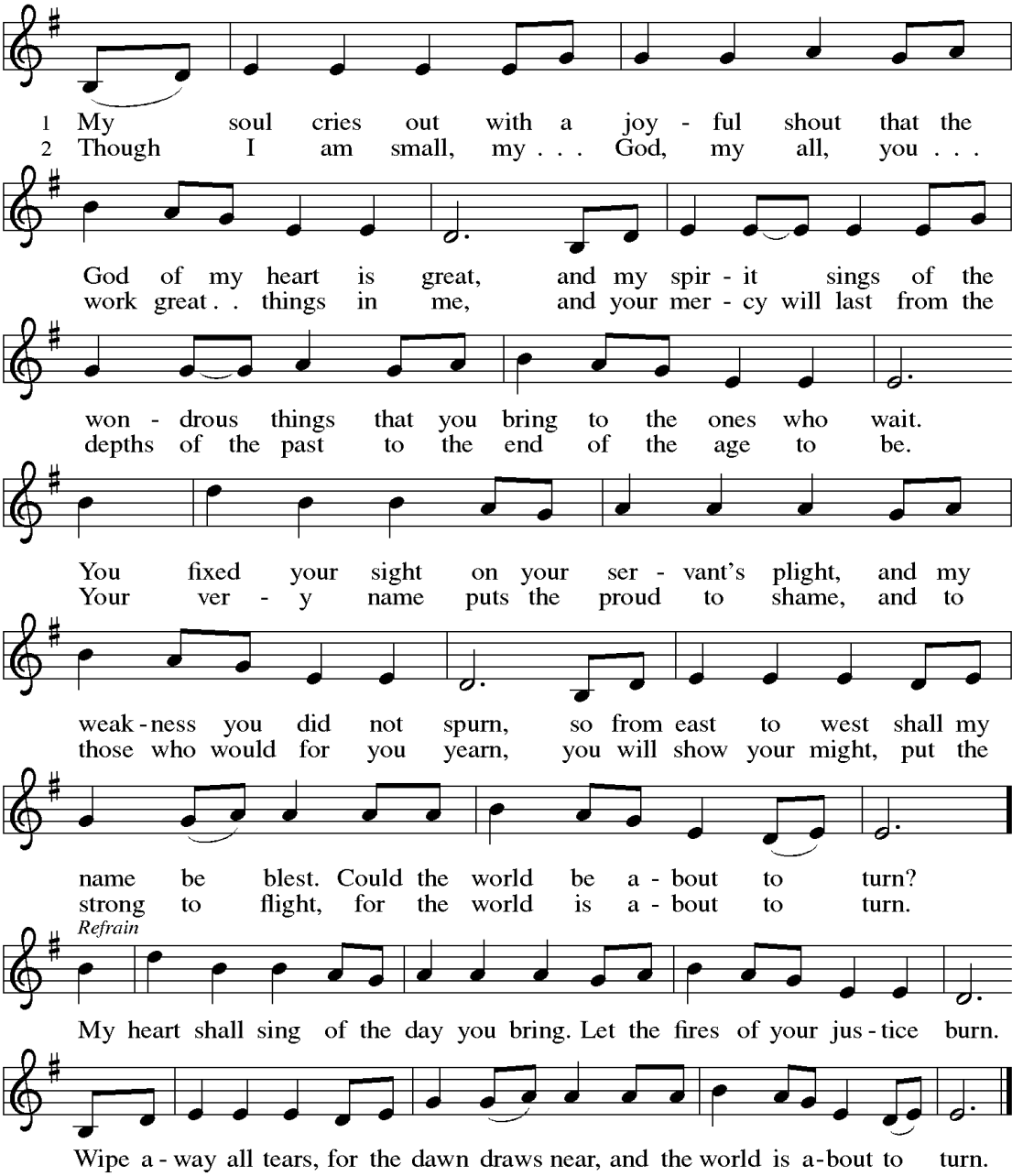
Blessing

The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind, in the body of Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances through the interceding of the Spirit. **Amen.**

The God of grace ✝ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn: "Canticle of the Turning" *Hymn 723*



Text: Rory Cooney, b. 1952, based on the Magnificat
Music: STAR OF COUNTY DOWN, Irish traditional
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Dismissal

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude: "Revive Us Again" *arr. by Mark Hayes***

**** Statement by Mark Hayes, arranger**

"At first jazz may seem like an odd choice for a piano book to be used in a worship setting. As my idea of God expands and grows, I am coming to understand that many musical expressions can be used to express the Divine. How many of us have not felt the urge to tap our feet or clap our hands when we hear a lively tune? That is simply us responding to the joyous spirit of God-given music through our emotions and our body. One of the fruits of the Spirit is joy. Why not express this quality of God through the beauty and uniqueness of jazz? I hope these pieces will bring a sense of wonder, praise, and gratitude for the indescribable presence of God in our lives."



Thank you for serving!		
	November 15	***November 22***
Accompanist:	Ann Knipping	Julie Varilek
Choir Director:	Ann Knipping	Ann Knipping
Lector:	Linda Schlitt	**OPEN**
Ushers:	Randy Huber Mike Wold	Susan Anderson Mike Wold
Tellers:	**OPEN** **OPEN**	**OPEN** **OPEN**
Altar Care:	Nancy Matson	Kris O'Neil
Communion Asst:	**OPEN** **OPEN** **OPEN**	**OPEN** **OPEN** **OPEN**
AV Engineer:	Steve Peter	Robbi Telfer
Fellowship Hosts: ***See Fellowship Host Calendar***	Karen Dick	**OPEN**
Flower Sponsor:	Rich & Sandy Stolte	Jean Anderson
Flower Arranger:	Susan Anderson	Susan Anderson

