Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church

Preaching and presiding this day: 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 17, 2026

Thanksgiving Service, 4:30 p.m.

Ann Knipping, Accompanist

Prelude: "Let All Things Now Living" *and*

"Now Thank We All Our God" *arr. by Douglas E. Wagner*

Take the time to center heart and mind on God's presence in worship.

Welcome, Friends in Christ,

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

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

For children with you, we also offer activity bags. (Please note, the bag contains a treat) You may request these from an usher.

If you are interested in learning more about our congregation or if we can assist you in some way, please let the usher know.

Wherever you find yourself on the journey, you are welcome here just as you are.

Welcome and Introduction: Pastor Todd Bertani

Opening Litany
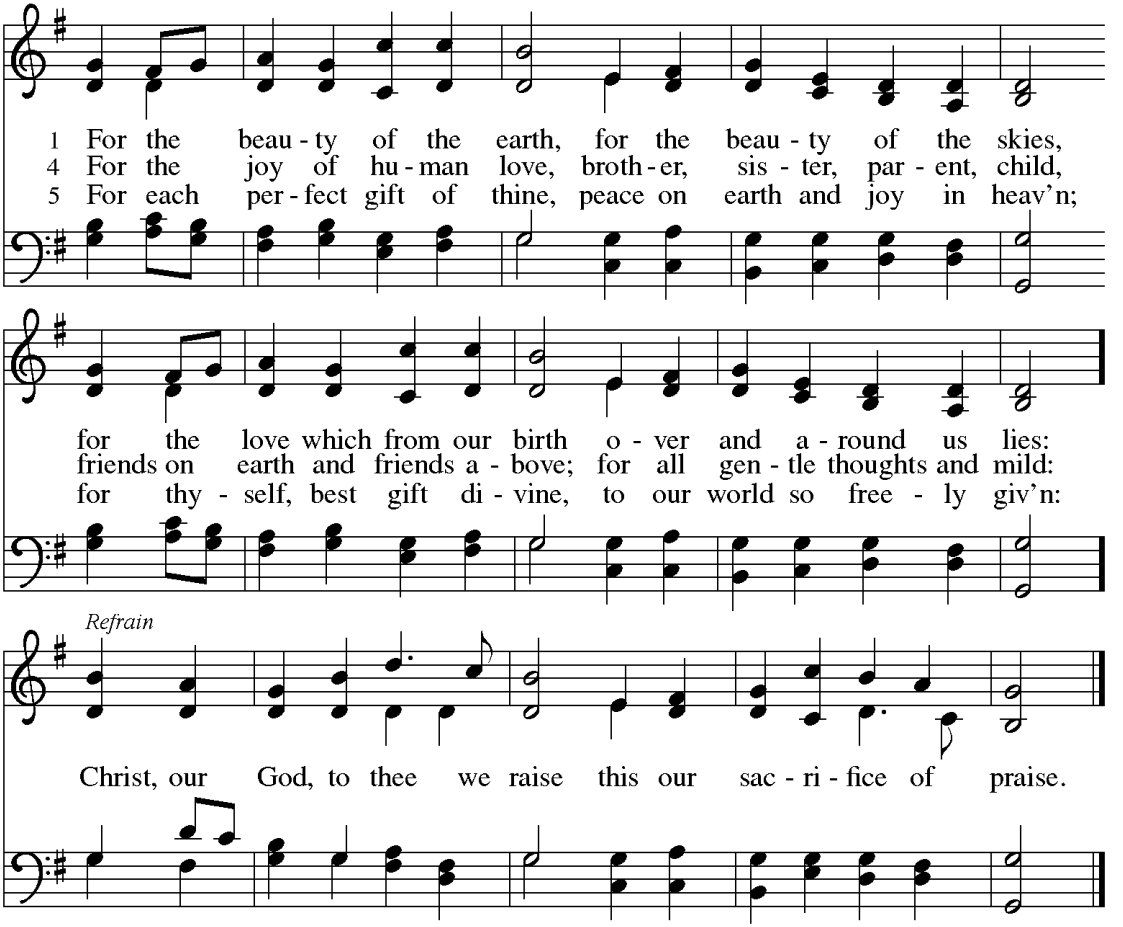
Shout with joy to God, all the earth!
Remember that our God is the only God—

the One who made us,
the One who sustains us,
the One whose Spirit lives within us.

Let us enter God's house with thanksgiving;
and come into God's presence with praise.

For God is good, with unfailing love that lasts forever,
and faithfulness that extends to all generations.

Opening Hymn: "For the Beauty of the Earth" Hymn 879



Text: Folliott S. Pierpoint, 1835–1917, alt.
Music: DIX, Conrad Kocher, 1786–1872

(Please stand, whether in body or spirit)
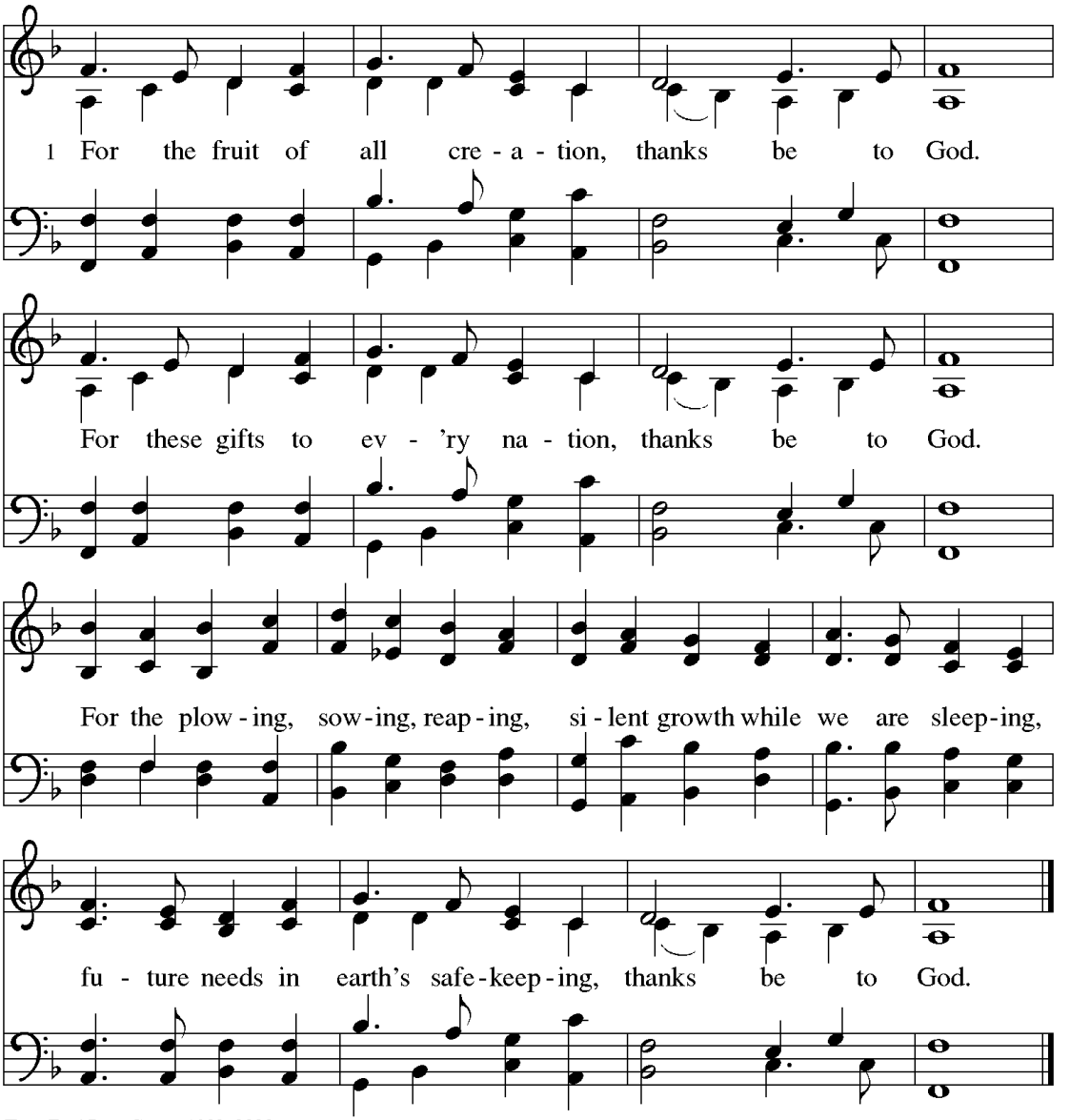
Exchange of Greetings

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.**

We are the baptized children of God, gathered in Christian community. Let us greet one another in the name of our Lord.

(Share the peace with each other)

Hymn of Praise: "For the Fruit of All Creation" Hymn 679



Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000
Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958
Text © 1970 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.
Outside USA: Arr. from *The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906.

Prayer of the Day

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

Let us pray.
Almighty God
our Father, your generous goodness comes to us new every day. By the work of your Spirit lead us to acknowledge your goodness, give thanks for your benefits, and serve you in willing obedience, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Reading: Philippians 4:4-9

[4] Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. [5] Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. [6] Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. [7] And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

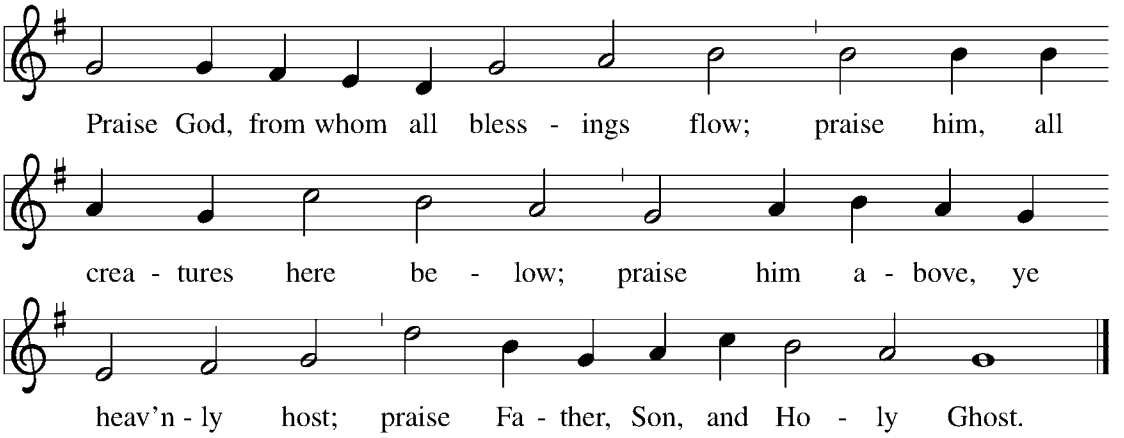
[8] Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. [9] As for the things that you have learned and received and heard and noticed in me, do them, and the God of peace will be with you.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

(Please stand, whether in body or spirit)

Gospel Acclamation: "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"



Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711
Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510–1561

Gospel: John 6:25-35

The holy gospel according to John Chapter 6.

Glory to you, O Lord.

25 When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him,
"Rabbi, when did you come here?" 26 Jesus answered them, "Very truly,
I tell you, you are looking for me not because you saw signs but because
you ate your fill of the loaves. 27 Do not work for the food that perishes
but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will
give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal." 28 Then
they said to him, "What must we do to perform the works of God?" 29
Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him
whom he has sent." 30 So they said to him, "What sign are you going to
give us, then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you
performing? 31 Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, as it is

written, ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’ ” [32] Then Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. [33] For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” [34] They said to him, “Sir, give us this bread always.”
[35] Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.”

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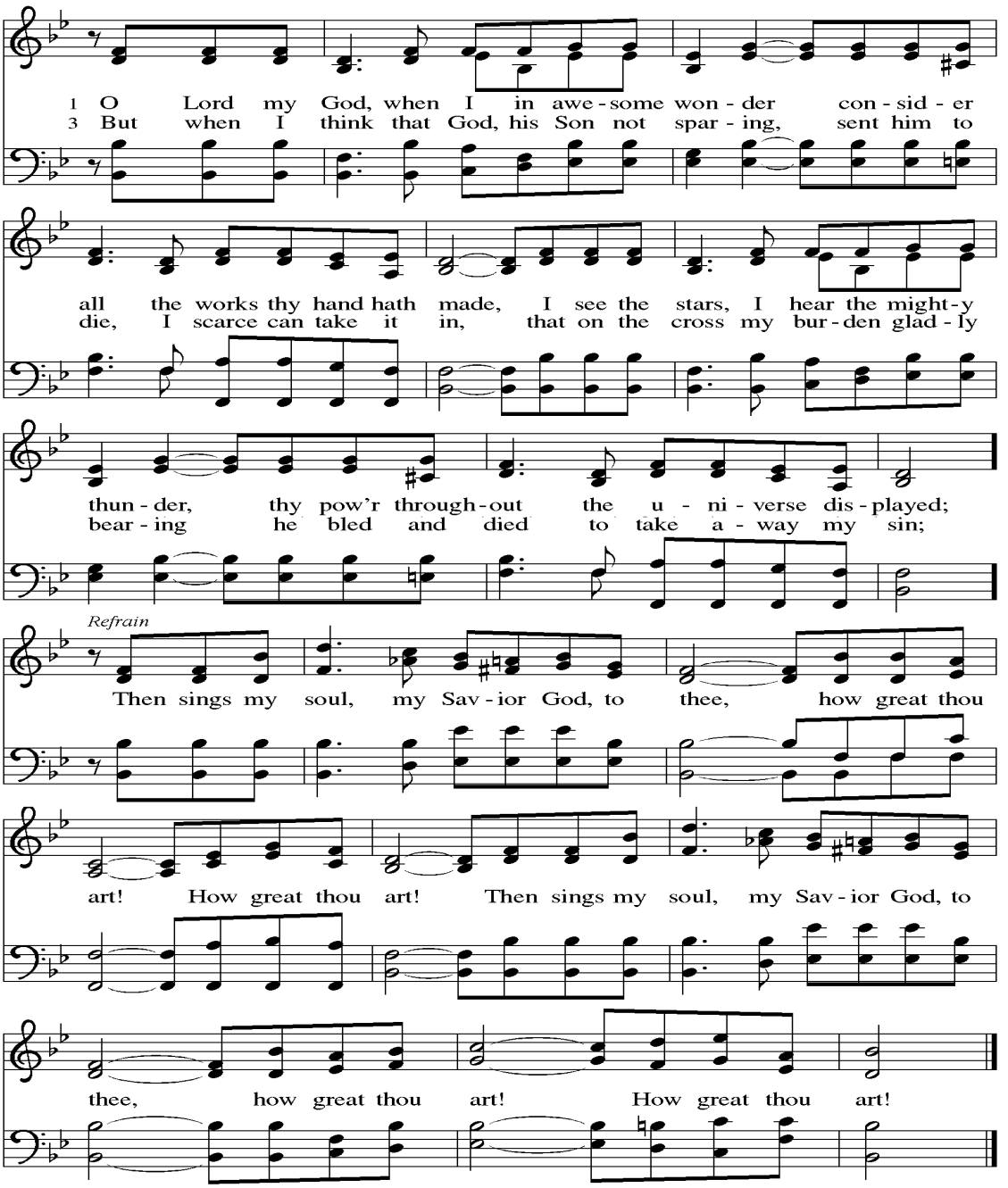
Praise to you, O Christ.

(Please be seated)

Sermon: “In All Things”



Sermon Hymn: "How Great Thou Art" Hymn 856



Text: Carl G. Boberg, 1859–1940; tr. and adapt. Stuart K. Hine, 1899–1989
Music: O STORE GUD, Swedish folk tune; adapt. Stuart K. Hine
Text and arr. © 1953 S.K. Hine, assigned to Manna Music, Inc., 35255 Brooten Road, Pacific City, OR 97135 (ASCAP).

A Prayer of Thanksgiving

From the rising of the sun in the east to its setting in the west, you have blessed us with life, family, food from creation and spiritual ways drawing us closer to you.
You gave us this land, *Turtle Island, to care for, to live in and to preserve for coming generations. Stop our ears when talk of destroying the land for temporary gain is heard. Teach us to respect the land and all her gifts of life. We are all related so what happens to any part of Creation affects us all. We are reminded that the land holds our ancestors, making it sacred.
As we work to end intolerance of people and cultures and our tolerance of historic injustice, open our hearts to reflect your image, your peace and your love to all. Open our spirits to peace and healing with those from all nations.
The wind, the sunrise, the sound of water moving forward, the songs of the bird, the beauty of the butterfly — all these things are where we find you, always. Help us to find you in this beauty and grant us lives centered upon you, Creator of the universe.
For all these blessings and more, our hearts are full of thanks. At this gathering of family and friends, this great feast of blessing, we thank you. Guide us to know your ways with respect.
Hear our prayer of Thanksgiving. Let it be so. Amen.

—"A Prayer for Thanksgiving," *by Irv Porter via presbyterianmission.org*

**"Turtle Island" commonly refers to the name some Indigenous peoples use for the continent of North America. It is derived from creation stories where the land was formed on the back of a giant turtle.*

Receiving of Gifts

Offertory: "Grateful" *arr. by Mark Hayes*

Offertory Prayer

Let us pray,

Lord God, you have enriched us, saved us, loved us. Open our hearts and minds to your will that we may be free to share everything we have, to give away whatever holds us hostage in spirit, that we may always know that possessions are just that: things, lovely to have, but in the end only good for the good they can do in this world.
Keep us always in that work, the work of Christ and Christ's kingdom, the kingdom of God. Amen.

(Please stand, whether in body or spirit)

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.

Words of Institution

On the night in which our Lord Jesus was betrayed, he took the bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying take and eat, this is my body given for you.
Again after supper, he took the cup, poured it out for all to drink saying, this is the blood of the new covenant shed for you and for all people, do this in remembrance of me.

As often as we eat of this bread, and drink of this cup, we are reminded that Christ has died, Christ has risen, Christ will come again.

Now, let us pray the prayer Jesus taught us to pray.

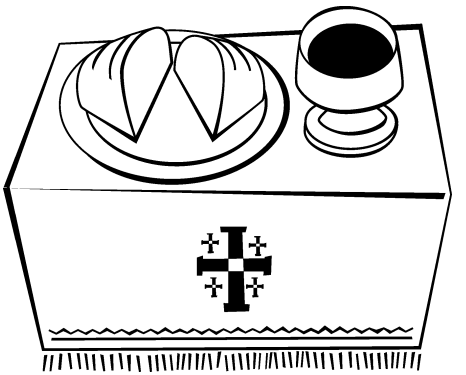
The Lord's Prayer

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.
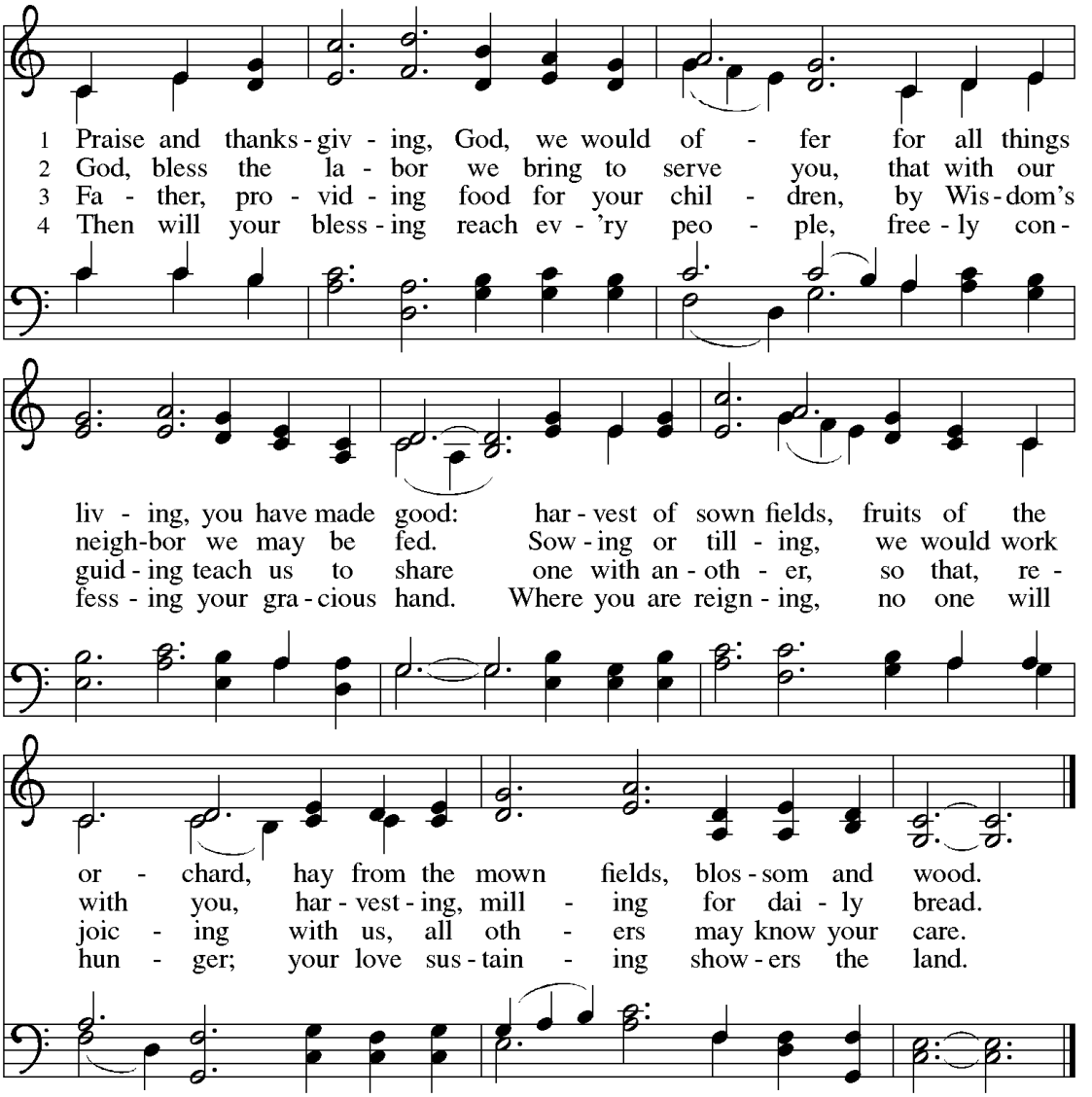
Invitation to Communion

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)



Communion Hymn: "Praise and Thanksgiving" Hymn 689



Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984, alt.
Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune; arr. hymnal version
Text © Oxford University Press. All rights reserved.
Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

Post Communion Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

Post Communion Prayer

Jesus, in this simple meal you have set a banquet. Sustain us on the journey, strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children and give us glad and generous hearts as we meet you on the way. Amen.
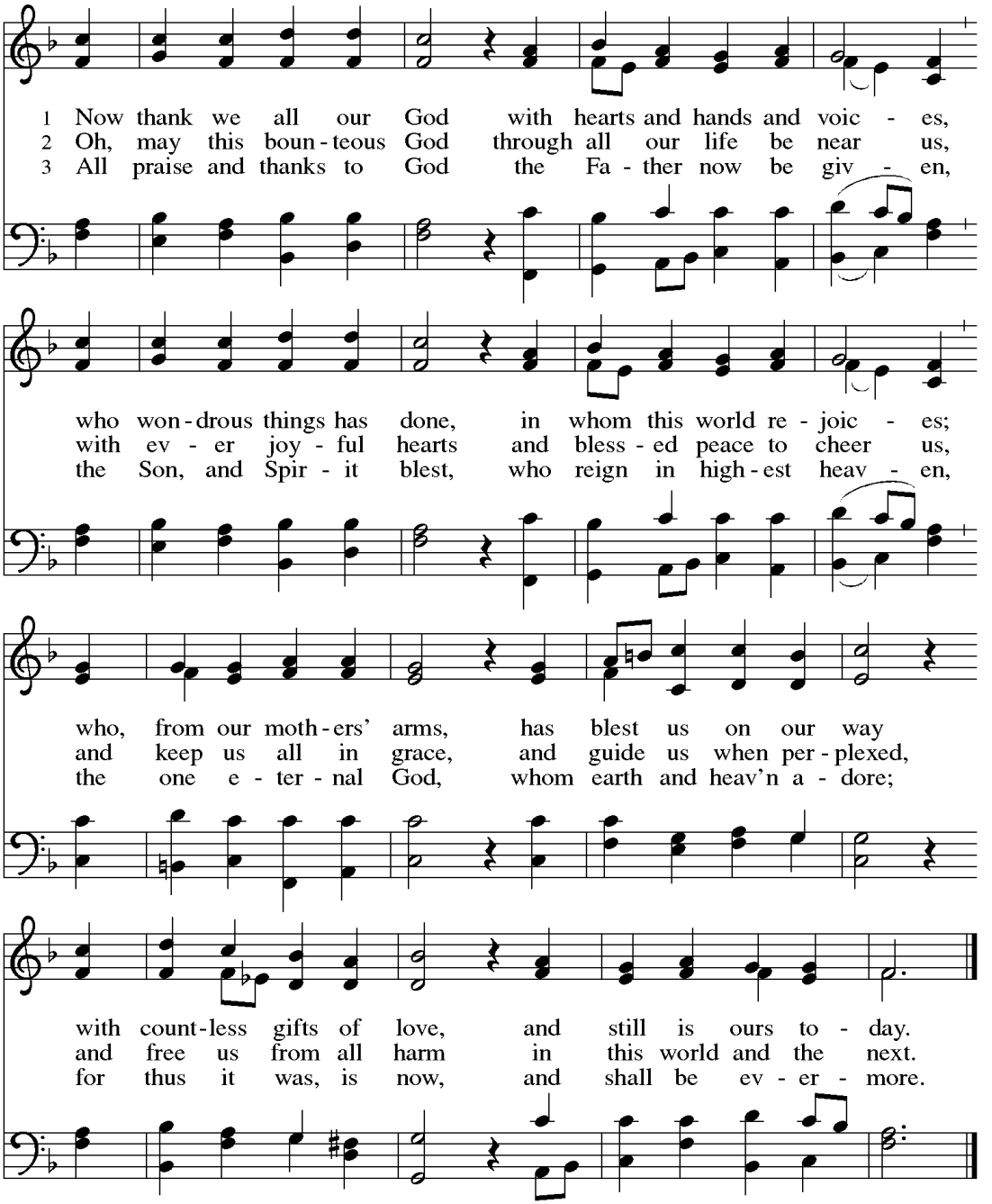
Blessing

May the Lord bless you and keep you.
May the Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
May the eyes of your heart be open to all the blessings which surround you;
may this awareness produce a harvest of generosity in your spirit.
May thankfulness rise up within you, not just today, but every day.
May thoughts of Jesus fill your mind, and thanksgiving be your response.

Amen.



Sending Hymn: "Now Thank We All Our God" Hymn 840



Text: Martin Rinkhart, 1586–1649; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878
Music: NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

Dismissal

Go in Thankfulness. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude: "Rejoice, Give Thanks, and Sing!" *arr. by Douglas E. Wagner*



Thanks for Serving

Accompanist:	**Ann Knipping**
Lector:	**Robbi Telfer**
Usher:	**Mike Wold**
Altar Care:	**Nancy Matson**
Communion :	
AV Engineer:	**Bruce Adams**

