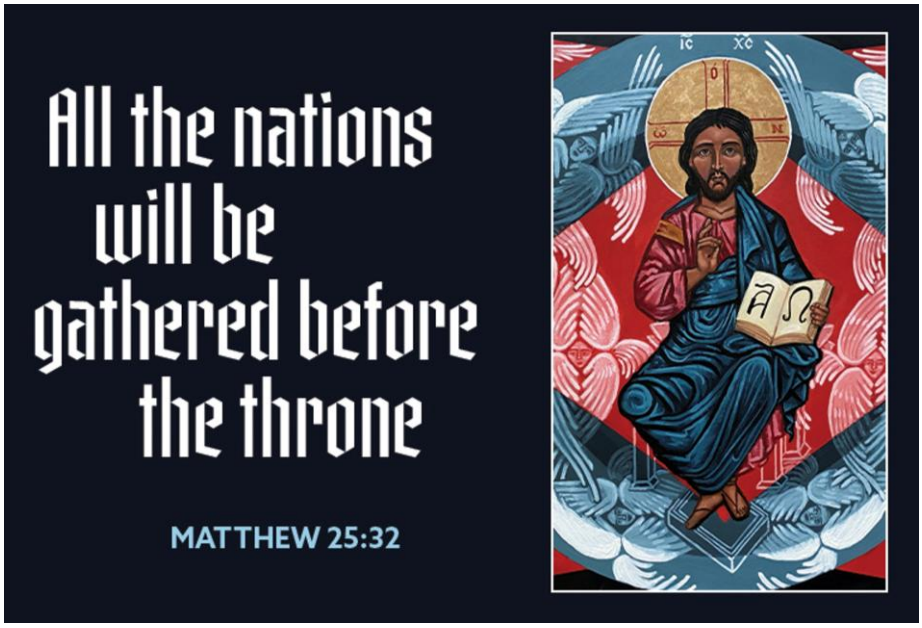
The Lutheran Church of St. Mark
75 Griswold Street, Glastonbury, CT 06033
Phone: (860) 633-1188
Email: churchoffice@saintmarkglastonbury.org



Christ the King
Service of Word and Sacrament
November 22, 2026

On this final Sunday of the church year our gospel is Jesus' great story of judgment. In the end, the faithful are those who served Christ by ministering to those who are poor, hungry, naked, sick, or estranged. In the first reading God is the shepherd who seeks the lost, weak, and injured and feeds them with justice. We gather this day to celebrate the reign of Christ and his victory over death, yet we await the consummation of all things yet to come. Acknowledging Christ as our merciful ruler, we go forth that his reign may be known in our loving words and deeds.

WELCOME TO ALL WHO HAVE COME TO WORSHIP THE LORD TODAY!

Guests—please take a moment to fill out a guest card located in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate. We would like to acknowledge your time with us and extend a friendly hand of hospitality.

*Please **turn all cell phones off** or on vibrate before the worship service begins.*
**Stand as you are able, in body or spirit.*
*The responses of the people are printed in **bold.***

GATHERING

CALL TO WORSHIP Introit from *Mass for the World Church*
Psalm 24 Traditional South American
Arr John Worst

*We gather in the name of the Father and the ☩ Son and the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

*CONFESSION

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, our dwelling place for all generations,
whose compassion never slumbers. **Amen.**

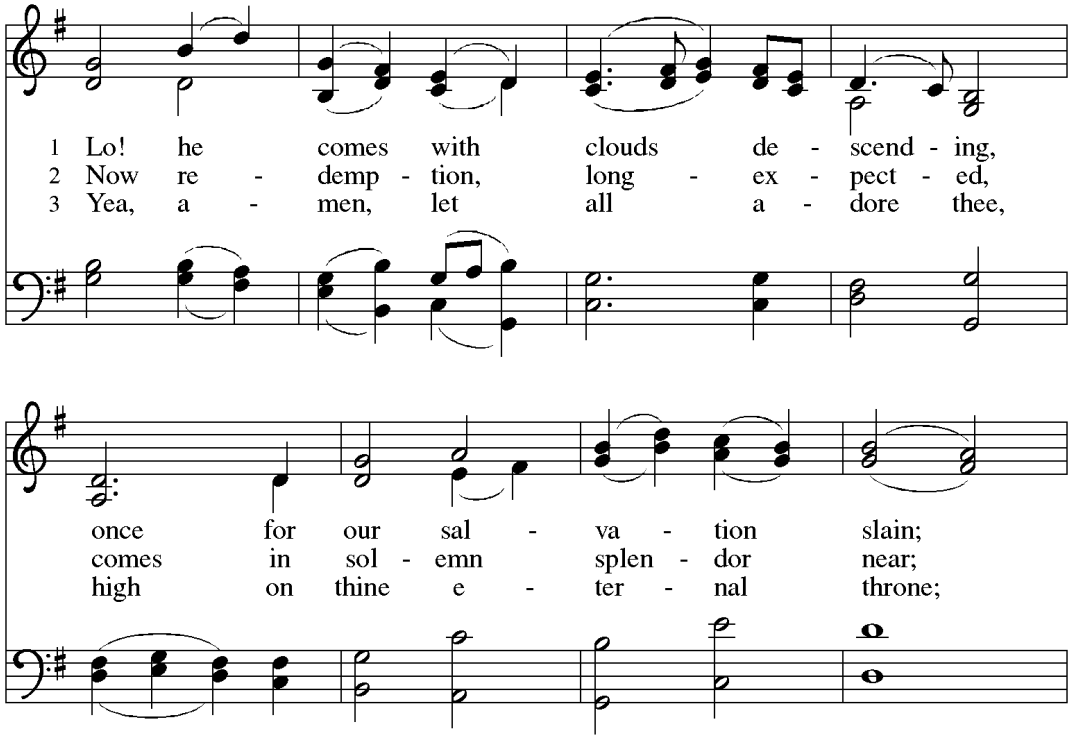
Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
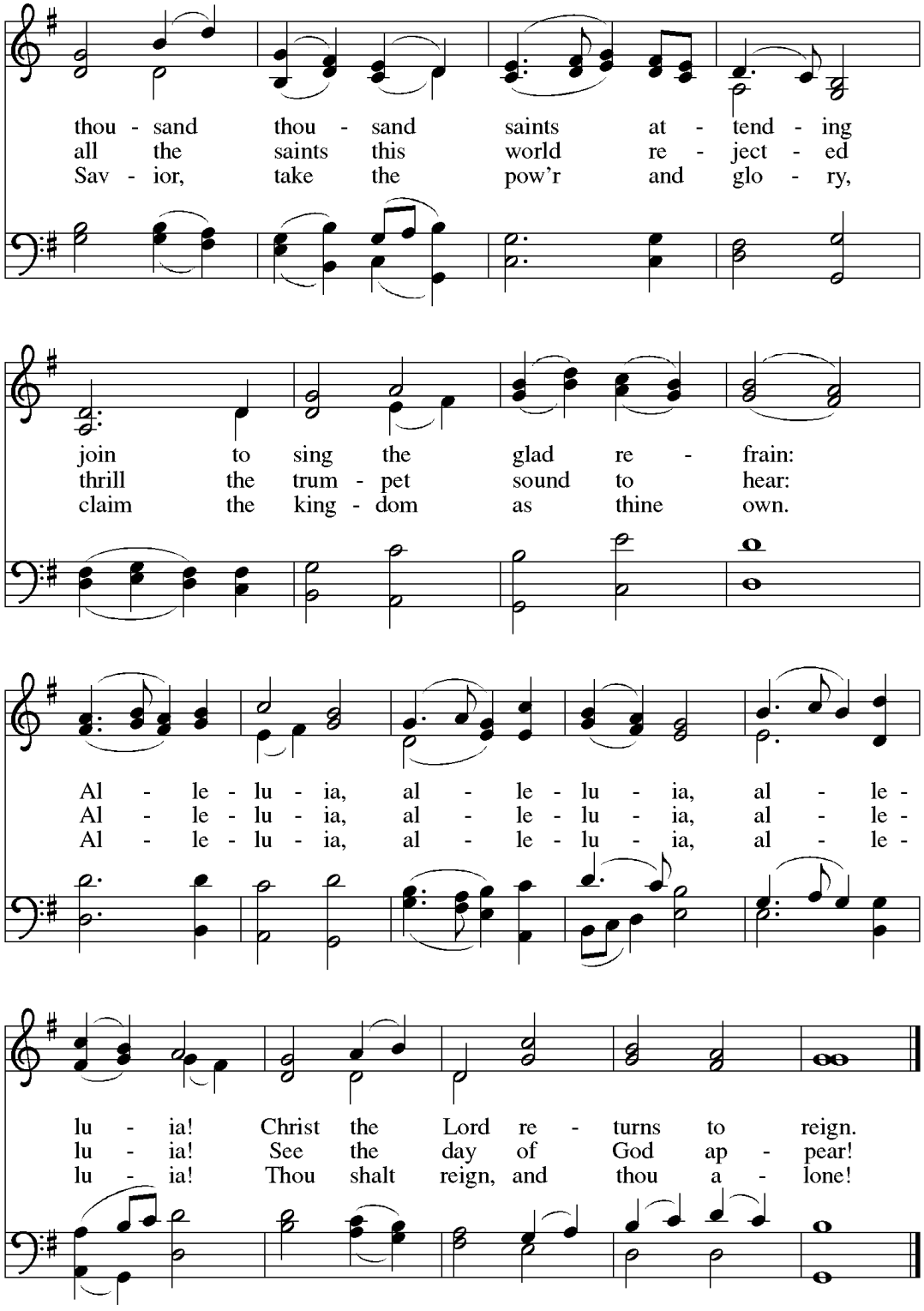
Please kneel or sit for the confession.
Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God, we confess that we have trusted in our preparation instead of your invitation. We prioritize our piety over care for your beloved. We trust the voice of our shame and fear, which keeps us from entering fully into relationship with you and others. We are not awake to the coming of your reign. Rouse us and rescue us, that we may enter into your joy. Amen.

Inherit the riches of God's grace. ☩ Jesus, the good shepherd, feeds you with his mercy. You are forgiven. Blessed are you. **Amen.**

*GATHERING HYMN *Lo! He comes with clouds descending* ELW 435
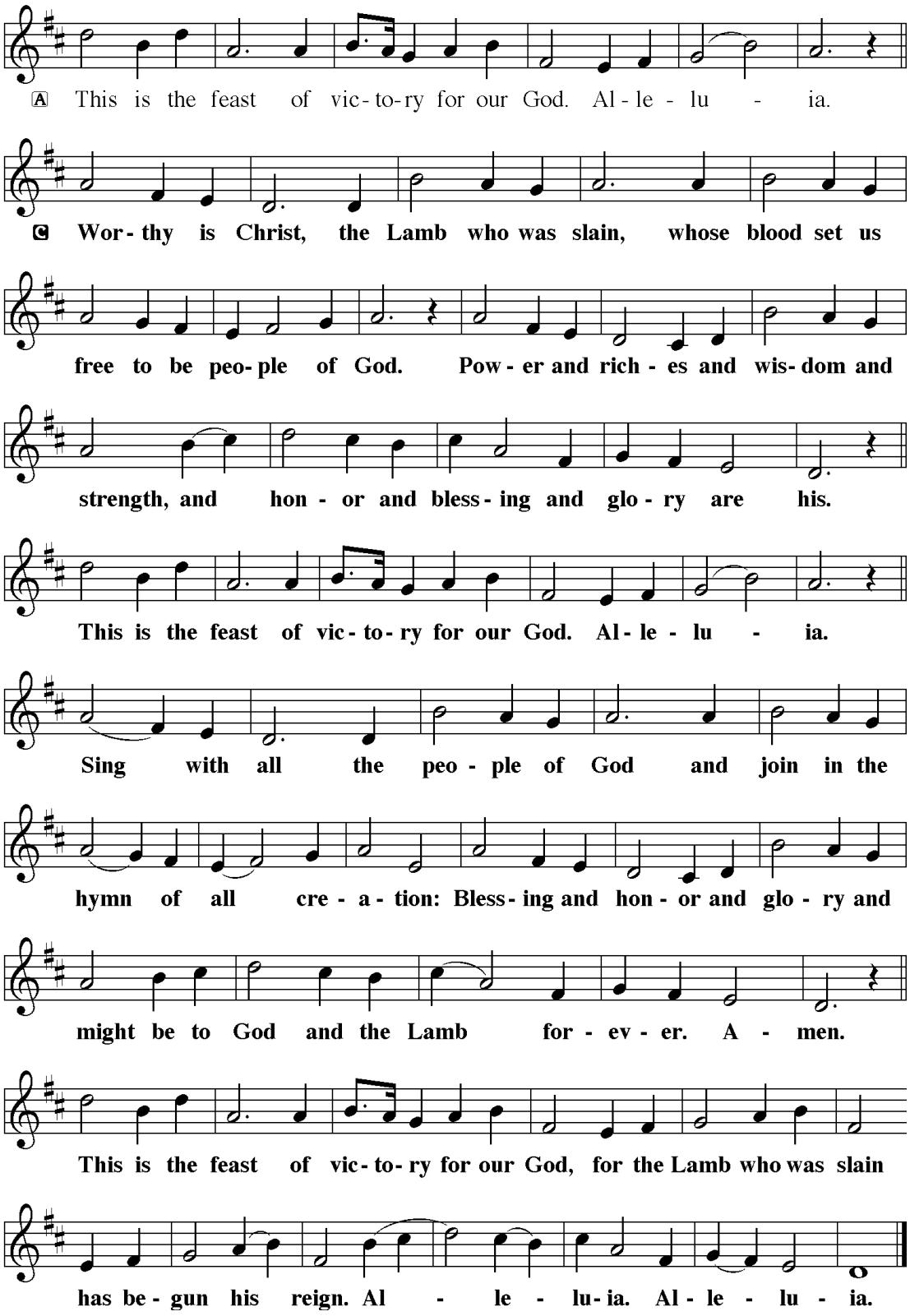




Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.
Music: HELMSLEY, Thomas Olivers, 1725–1799

*APOSTOLIC GREETING

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.**

*CANTICLE OF PRAISE

This is the feast



*Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

O God of power and might, your Son shows us the way of service, and in him we inherit the riches of your grace. Give us the wisdom to know what is right and the strength to serve the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

First Reading — Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

Because Israel's kings proved to be bad shepherds, Ezekiel declares that the Lord will assume the role of shepherd in Israel. The Lord will also set over them a shepherd-messiah, "my servant David," who will feed and care for the people.
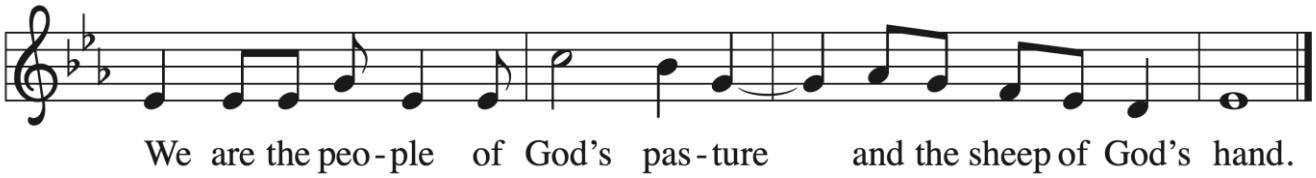
A reading from Ezekiel:

11 Thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep and will sort them out. 12 As
shepherds sort out their flocks when they are among scattered sheep, so I will sort out my
sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of
clouds and thick darkness. 13 I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the
countries and bring them into their own land, and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel,
by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. 14 I will feed them with good
pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in
good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. 15 I myself
will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. 16 I will
seek the lost, and I will bring back the strays, and I will bind up the injured, and I will
strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.
20 Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and
the lean sheep. 21 Because you pushed with flank and shoulder and butted at all the weak
animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, 22 I will save my flock, and
they shall no longer be ravaged, and I will judge between sheep and sheep. 23 I will set up
over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them; he shall feed them and
be their shepherd. 24 And I the Lord will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince
among them; I the Lord have spoken.

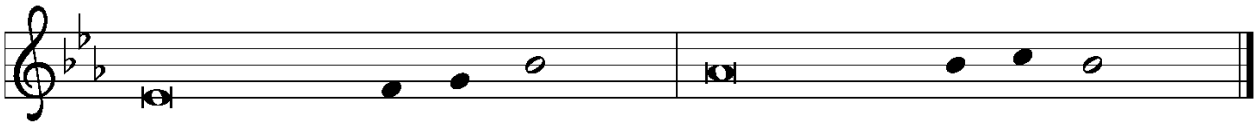
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALMODY 95:1-7A

Refrain



Tone



[1] Come, let us sing | to the Lord;
let us shout for joy to the rock of | our salvation.
[2] **Let us come before God's presence | with thanksgiving**
and raise a loud shout to the | Lord with psalms.
[3] For you, Lord, | are a great God,
and a great ruler a- | bove all gods.
[4] **In your hand are the caverns | of the earth;**
the heights of the hills are | also yours. R
[5] The sea is yours, | for you made it,
and your hands have molded | the dry land.
[6] **Come, let us worship | and bow down,**
let us kneel before the | Lord our maker.
[7a] For the Lord | is our God,
and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep | of God's hand. **R**

SECOND READING EPHESIANS 1:15-23

In this passage, God is praised for revealing ultimate divine power in raising Jesus from the dead. The resurrected, exalted Christ is Lord of both the church and the entire universe, now and in the age to come.
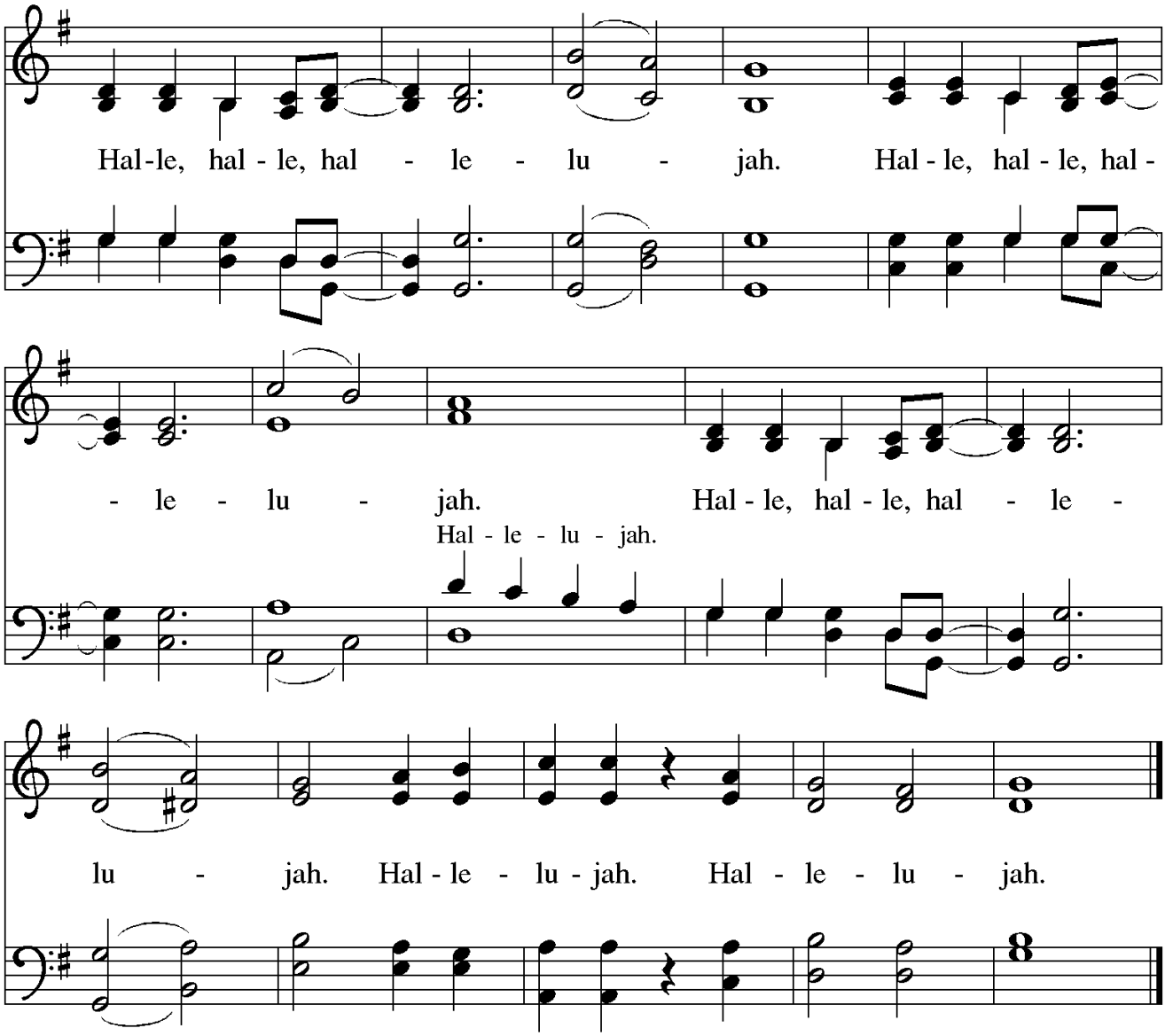
A reading from Ephesians:

[15] I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason [16] I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers, [17] that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, [18] so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may perceive what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, [19] and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. [20] God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, [21] far above all rule and authority and power and dominion and above every name that

is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. [22] And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, [23] which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Music: Caribbean traditional; arr. Mark Sedio, b. 1954
Arr. © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

*GOSPEL READING — MATTHEW 25:31-46

Jesus compares himself to a king who moves among his subjects to see how he is treated: what is done for the least of those who belong to his family is truly done for him.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 25th Chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**
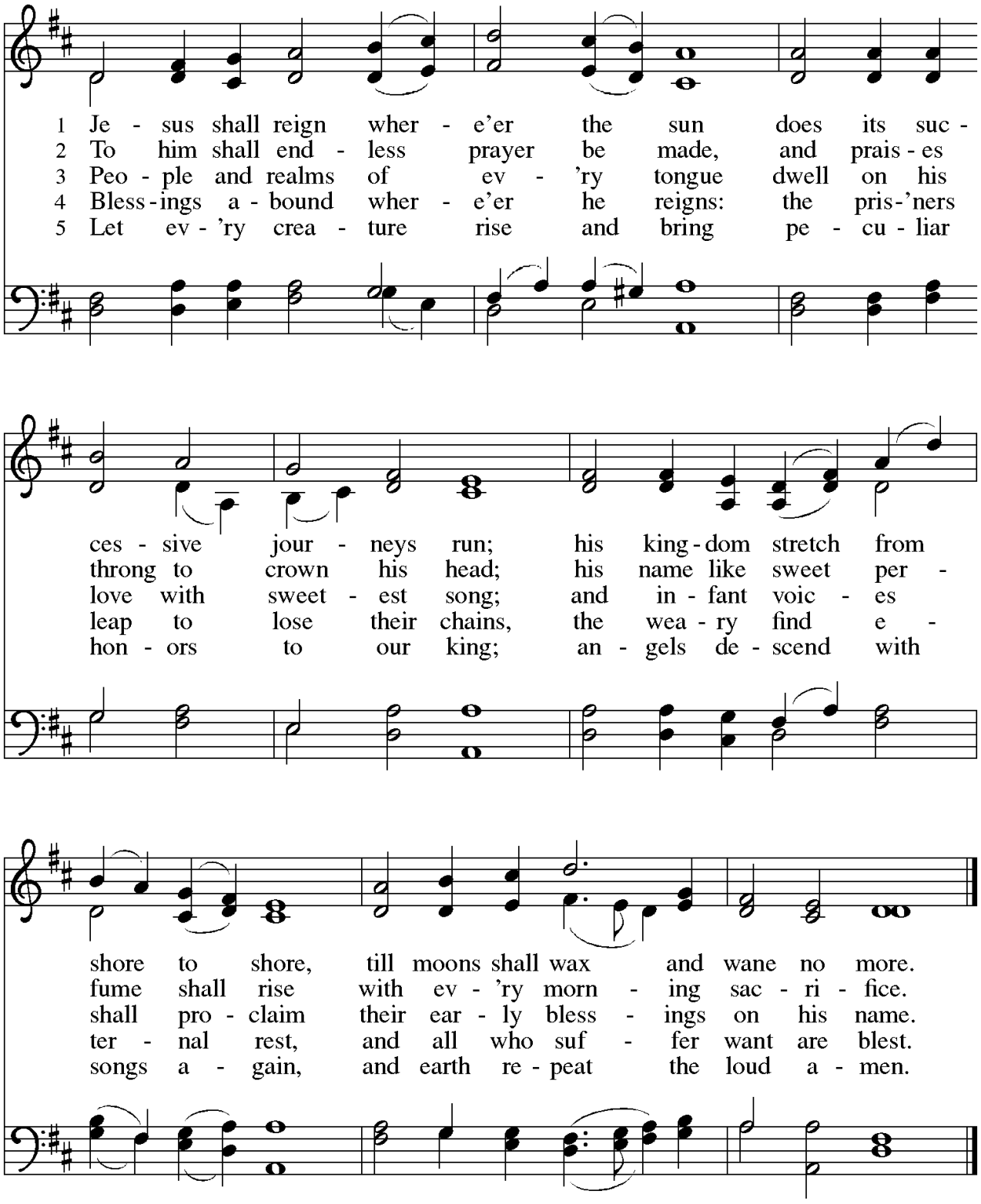
[Jesus said to the disciples:] 31 "When the Son of Man comes in his glory and all the angels
with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. 32 All the nations will be gathered before
him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the
goats, 33 and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. 34 Then the king
will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the
kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world, 35 for I was hungry and you gave
me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you
welcomed me, 36 I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me,
I was in prison and you visited me.' 37 Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was
it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink?
38 And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you
clothing? 39 And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' 40 And the
king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers
and sisters of mine, you did it to me.' 41 Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You who
are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels, 42 for I
was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, 43 I
was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick
and in prison and you did not visit me.' 44 Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that
we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and did not take care
of you?' 45 Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the
least of these, you did not do it to me.' 46 And these will go away into eternal punishment but
the righteous into eternal life."

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

HOMILY



*HYMN OF THE DAY *Jesus shall reign* ELW 434



Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.
Music: DUKE STREET, attr. John Hatton, d. 1793

*NICENE CREED

Living together in trust and hope we confess what we believe.

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen

*PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*The assisting minister prays the petition. The congregation responds to the petitions that end "Lord in your mercy with: "**hear our prayer.**" and those that end "O, God we give you thanks" with: "**Thanks be to God**" The prayers conclude with the pastoral petition followed by a congregational "**Amen**."*

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

O, God we give you thanks. **Thanks be to God.**

Into your hands… Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

MEAL

*THE PEACE

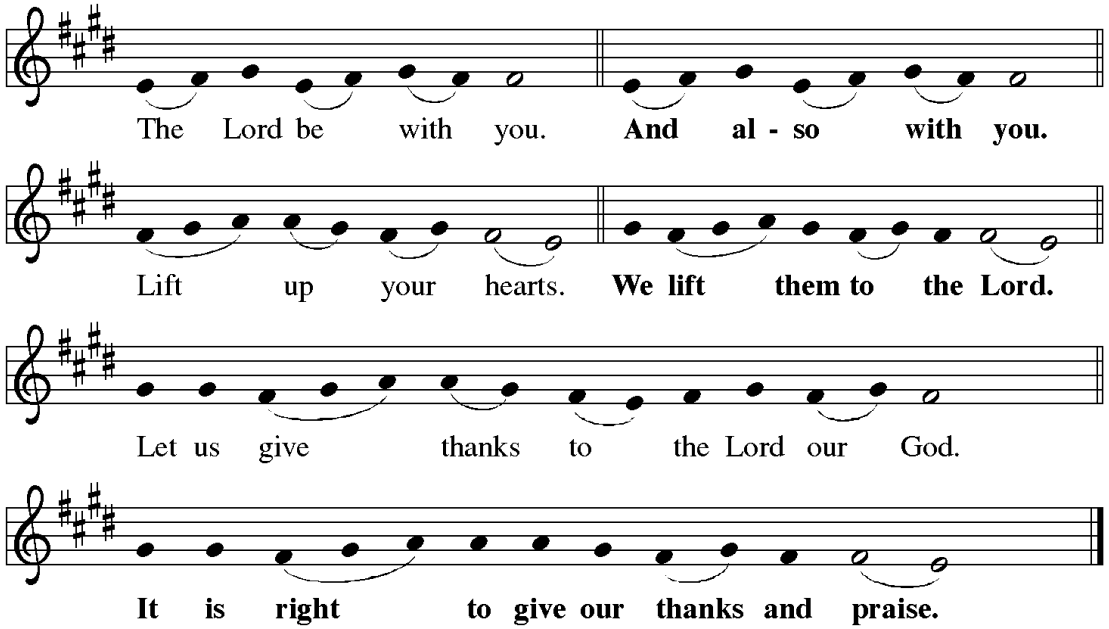
The Peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

Eternal God, our time, talents, and treasures are gifts from you. Receive what we offer, and all that you entrust to us, until hungry no more, all the world is fed, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

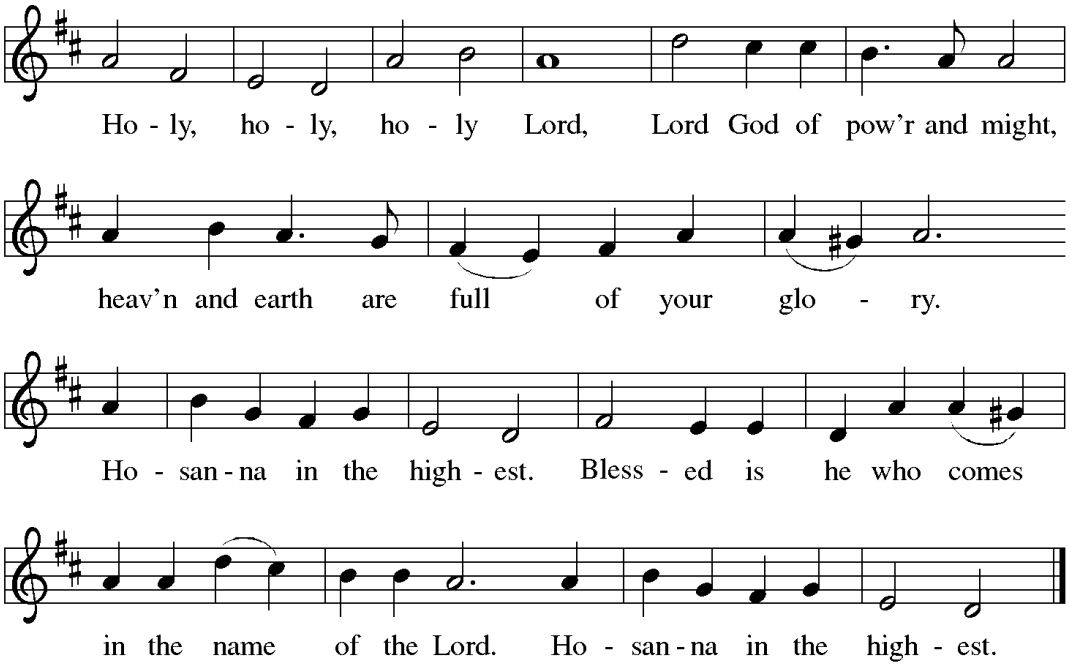
*PREFACE DIALOGUE



*PROPER PREFACE

It is indeed … unending hymn:

*SANCTUS



*Eucharistic Prayer

*The Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

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.

*Communion Invitation

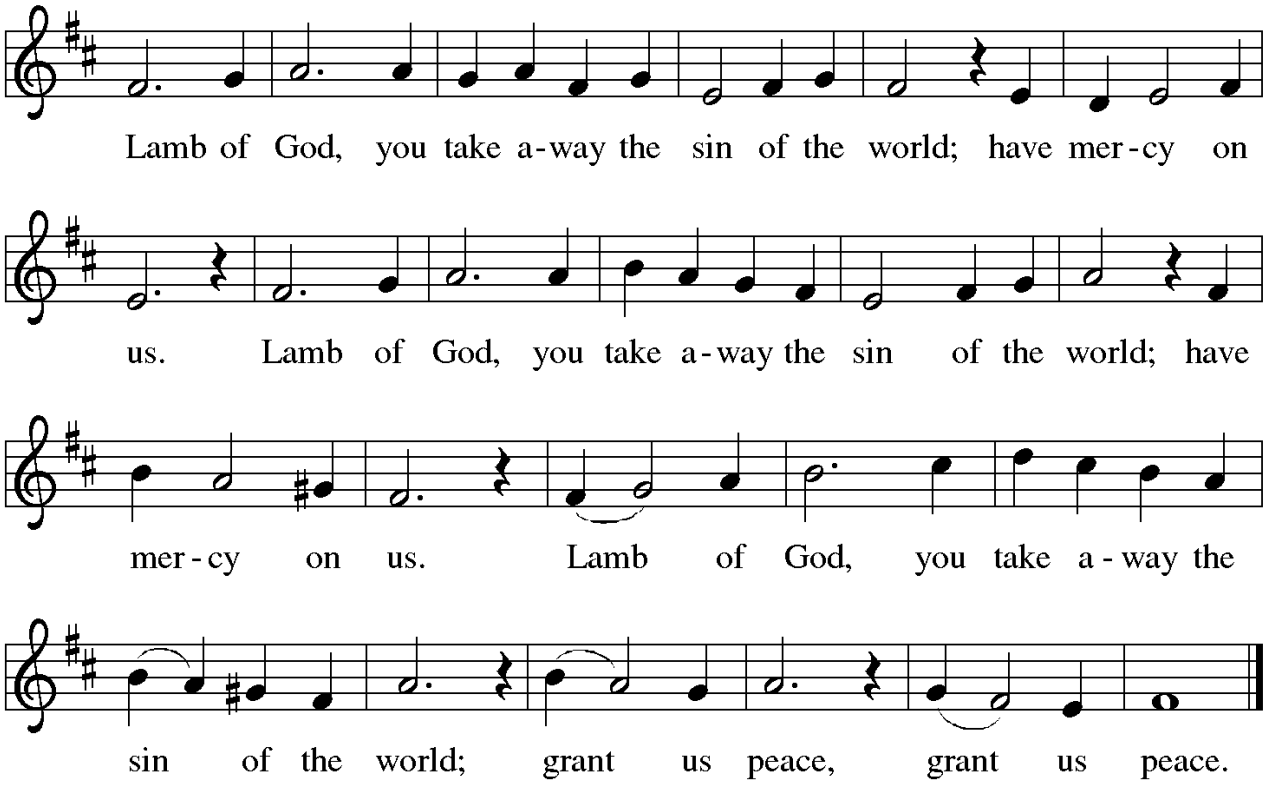
In bread and cup the reign of Christ is breaking in.
Come, receive what Christ has prepared.

Administration of the Sacrament
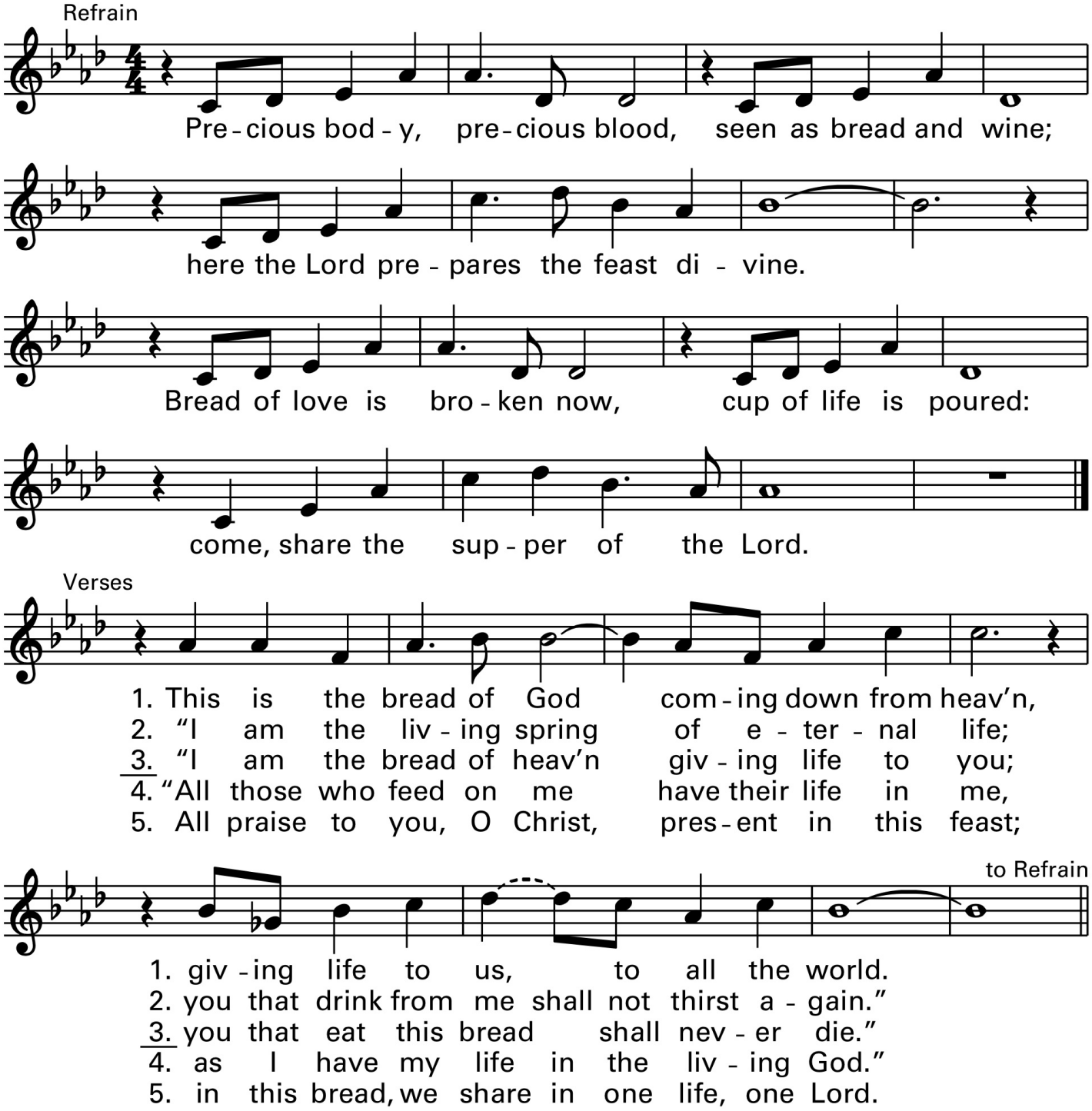
*All are welcome to partake of the Holy Sacrament. Inform the pastor if you need a **gluten-free host**. Grape juice is available in the center rings of the wine tray. Children or adults who do not or choose not to partake of the sacrament today may come forward and receive a blessing. Please indicate you would like a blessing by crossing your arms over your chest in the form of an X.*

Communion Hymns

Lamb of God



Supper of the Lord



Text: Verses 1–4 based on John 4, 6.

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PRAYER IN THE ABSENCE OF COMMUNION

Those not receiving communion are invited to pray the following while communion is being distributed:

Lord Jesus Christ, you are the bread of life and the cup of salvation. I believe that you are truly present in the sacrament of Holy Communion. I am baptized into your death and resurrection. I seek you daily and worship and adore you. When I cannot receive you in the eucharistic bread and wine, I pray that you continue to come into my heart and soul, as you always have, through Confession and Forgiveness, through the proclamation of your holy Word, and through the prayers of your people; that I may remain united to you by your all-powerful and ever-present Holy Spirit. Let me receive you and be nourished by your abundant grace. Be for me the manna in my wilderness, the bread of angels for my very human journey, a foretaste of the heavenly banquet, and solace in the hour of my death. I pray this, trusting that you are my life, my peace, and my everlasting joy. Amen.

*SACRAMENTAL BLESSING

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

*POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Holy God, we have received your never-ending mercy in this meal. You continuously seek the lost, bind the injured, and feed your people abundantly. Now send us out, awake to your presence, now and forever. Amen.
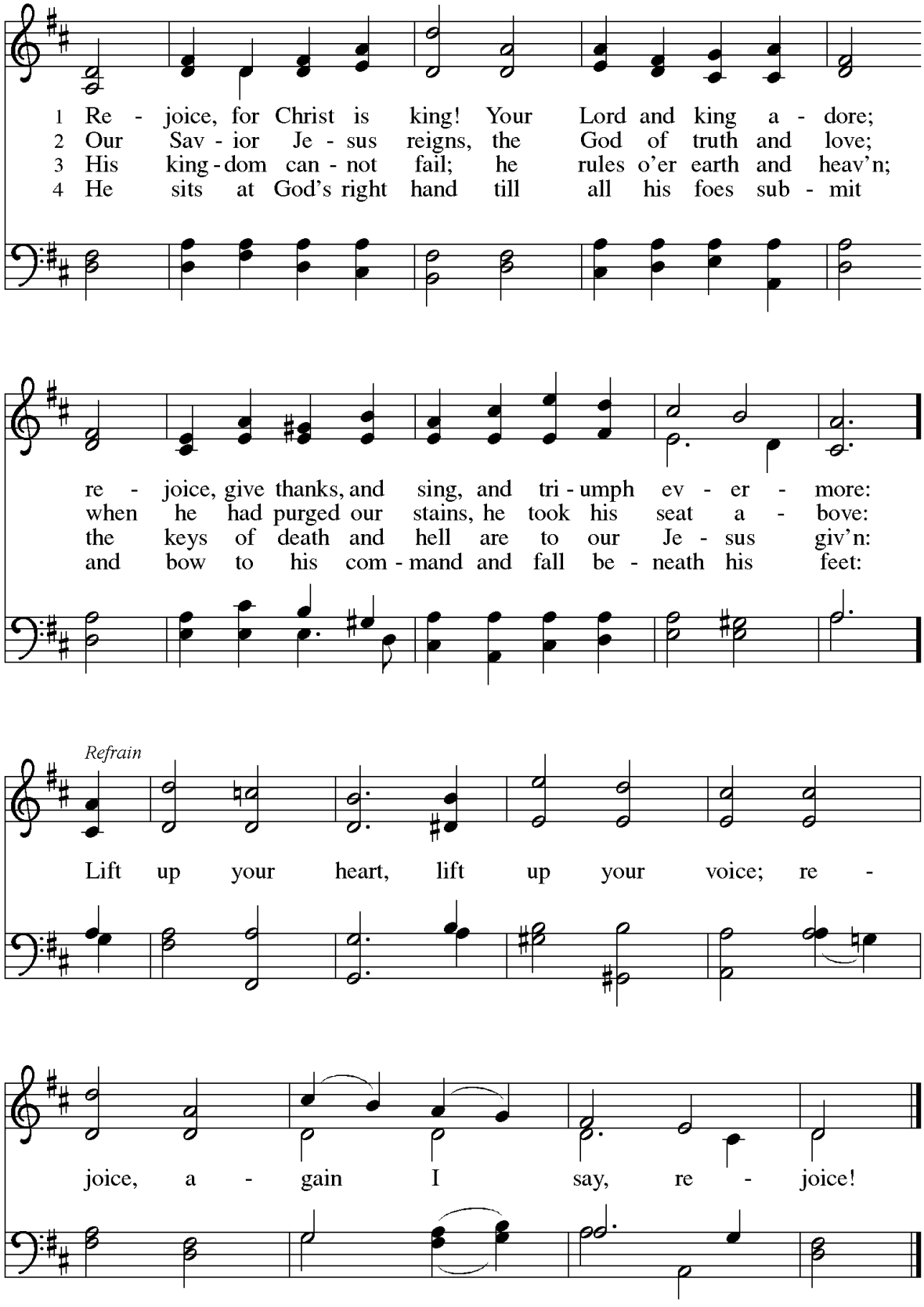
SENDING

BENEDICTION

The holy Trinity, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you with wisdom to welcome the reign of God, today and always. **Amen.**



*SENDING HYMN *Rejoice, for Christ is king!* ELW 430



Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.
Music: LAUS REGIS, William E. Fischer, 1849–1936

*DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Encourage one another.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *Jubilation No.1: Trumpet Tune* Dennis Janzer
(b. 1954)

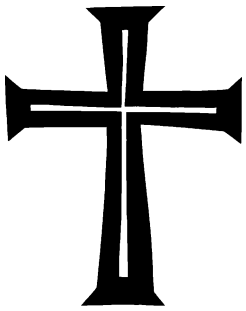
Today's altar flowers are sponsored by Leslie O'Rourke
in celebration of Leo's 5th Birthday.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Join us for Matins via Zoom on Tuesdays at 9:00am The link is available on our website.
- During Advent, Wednesday evening Vespers (December 2nd, 9th, and 16th) will be held in-person starting at 6pm with a lite meal and devotional activity. Worship will be at 7pm. The theme for this Advent is 'Comfort and Joy.'
- On Sunday, December 6th following worship service, we'll be assembling the Christmas Joy Totes. There will be a box in the lounge area for donations of candy, Christmas ornaments, fun items, etc., for stuffing the totes.
- The ministry of Carol's Closet at St. James will once again be collecting coats for November, December, and January. We at St. Mark have been supporting the Carol's Closet ministry over many years, as the needs of our neighbors are ever present. If you have any spare coats that are in good condition, then please consider donating them. You can bring them to church and leave them in the Carol's Closet baskets located in the St. Mark coat closet. If you have any questions, then please contact Jan Frick.
- The Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service will be celebrated at South Church on Tuesday, November 24 from 7:00-8:30 pm. All are welcome to attend. Address: South Church, 949 Main St, So. Glastonbury.
- Mark your calendars to celebrate on Monday, December 7 at 6:00pm! The Women's Christmas Party & Yankee Swap will be hosted by Jan Frick, and the Men's Christmas Party & Yankee Swap will be hosted by Dave Obedzinski.
- The deadline for the next Messenger newsletter is Monday, November 30th. This issue will cover December 11-January 31. Please send your articles, announcements and flyers to churchoffice@saintmarkglastonbury.org.

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR:

Sunday, November 22	9:00am	Christ the King Service of Word and Sacrament Followed by Coffee Hour Sponsored by Deb's Team
	6:30pm	Bible Study
Tuesday, November 24	9:00am	Matins via Zoom
	7:00pm	Glastonbury Interfaith Thanksgiving
Thursday, November 25	*Thanksgiving – Office Closed*	
Friday, November 27	*Office Closed*	
Sunday, November 29	9:00am	Advent 1 Service of Word and Sacrament Followed by Coffee Hour Sponsored by GF & Friends
	5:00pm	Bible Study



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