

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

Pastor Heinz Raidel
Pam Villarreal, Musician

11:00am

8950 Refugee Road
Pickerington, OH 43147
Phone: 614.868-3397

25TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
November 15, 2026

25TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST NOVEMBER 15, 2026

CALL TO WORSHIP

Chimes

Prelude

Welcome

The congregation is asked to respond where appropriate. Stand as you are able.

P: We begin, in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
C: Amen.

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

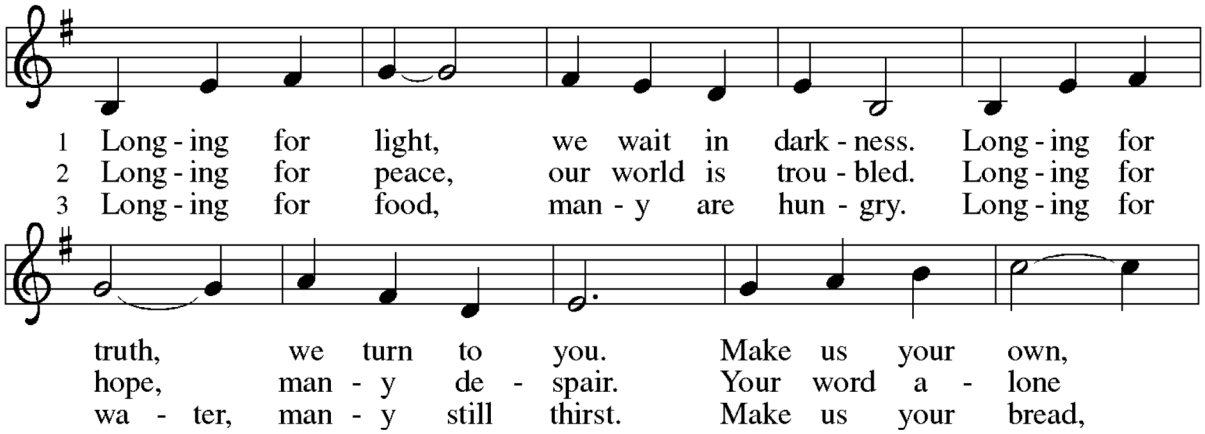
Stand as you are able.
Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

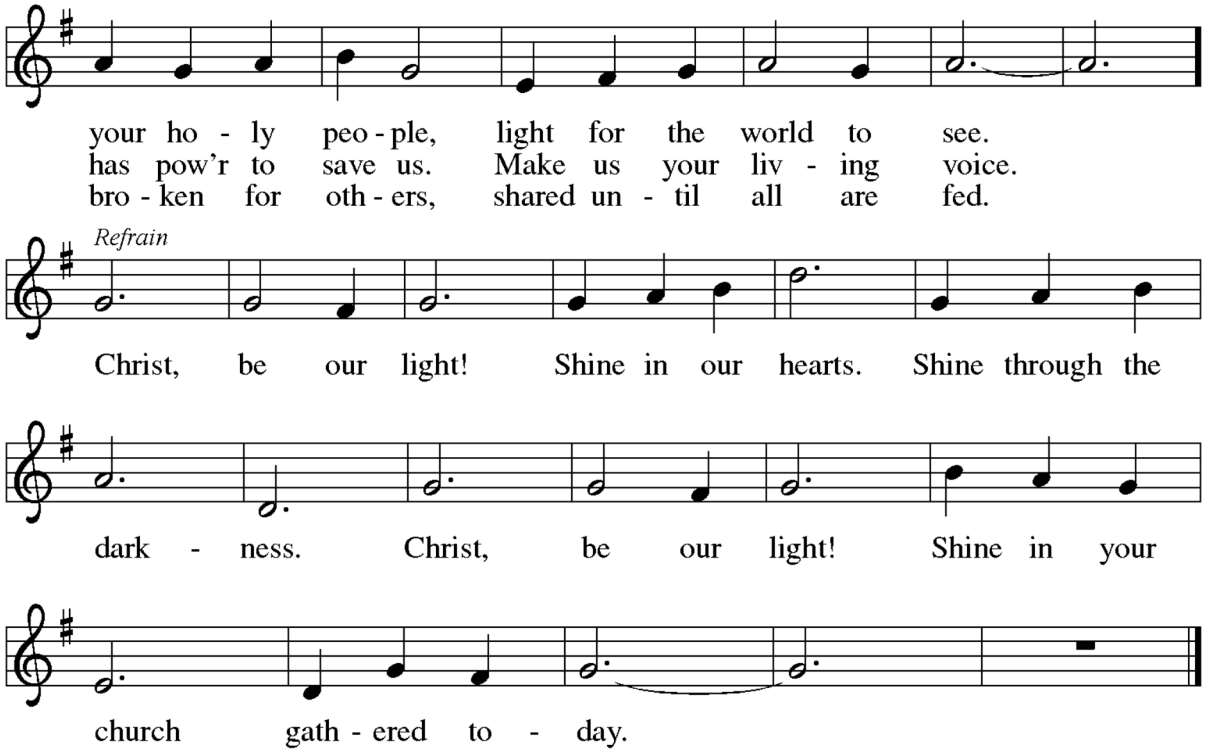
P: Holy God,
C: we confess that we have trusted in our preparation instead of your invitation. We prioritize our piety over care for your beloved. We trust the voice of our shame and fear, which keeps us from entering fully into relationship with you and others. We are not awake to the coming of your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

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

GATHERING HYMN

Christ, Be Our Light (ELW 715)





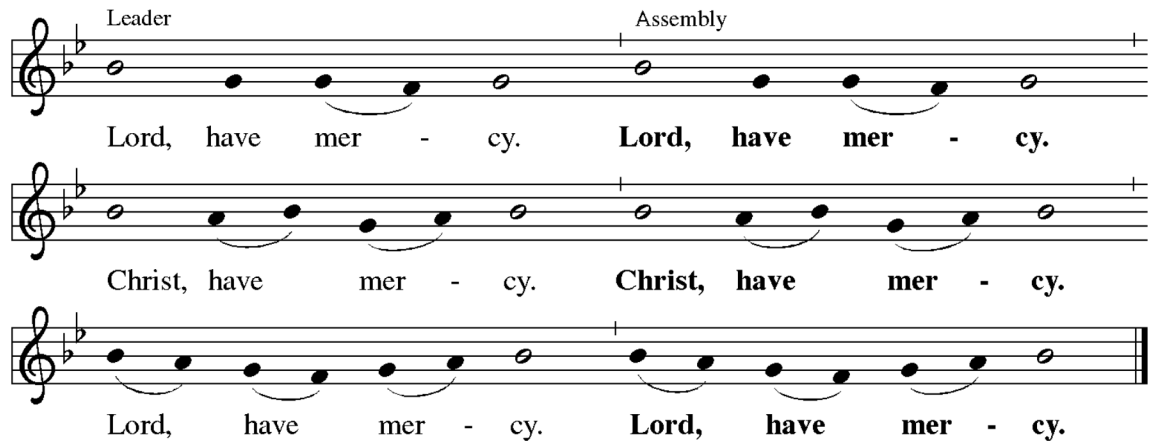
Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957
Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell
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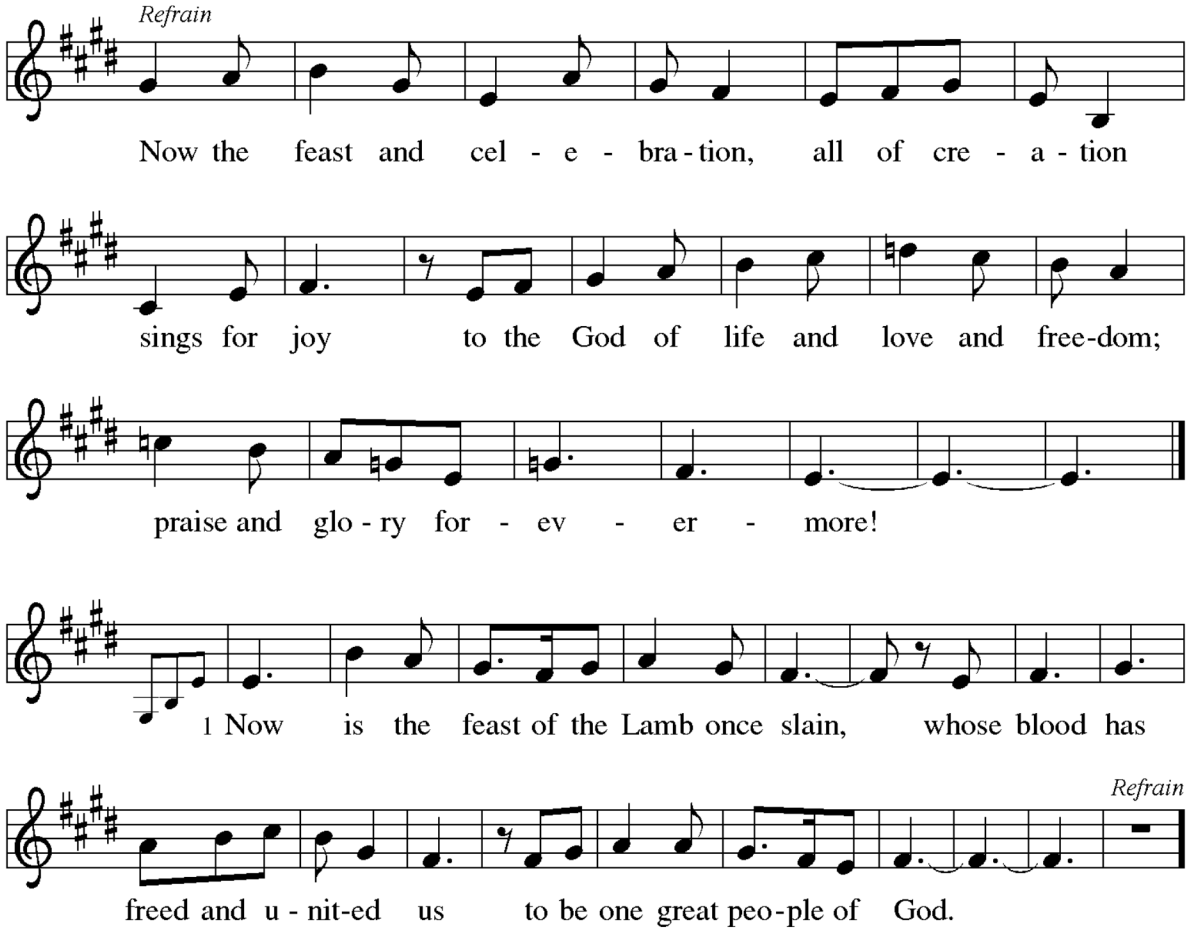
PRAYER OF THE DAY

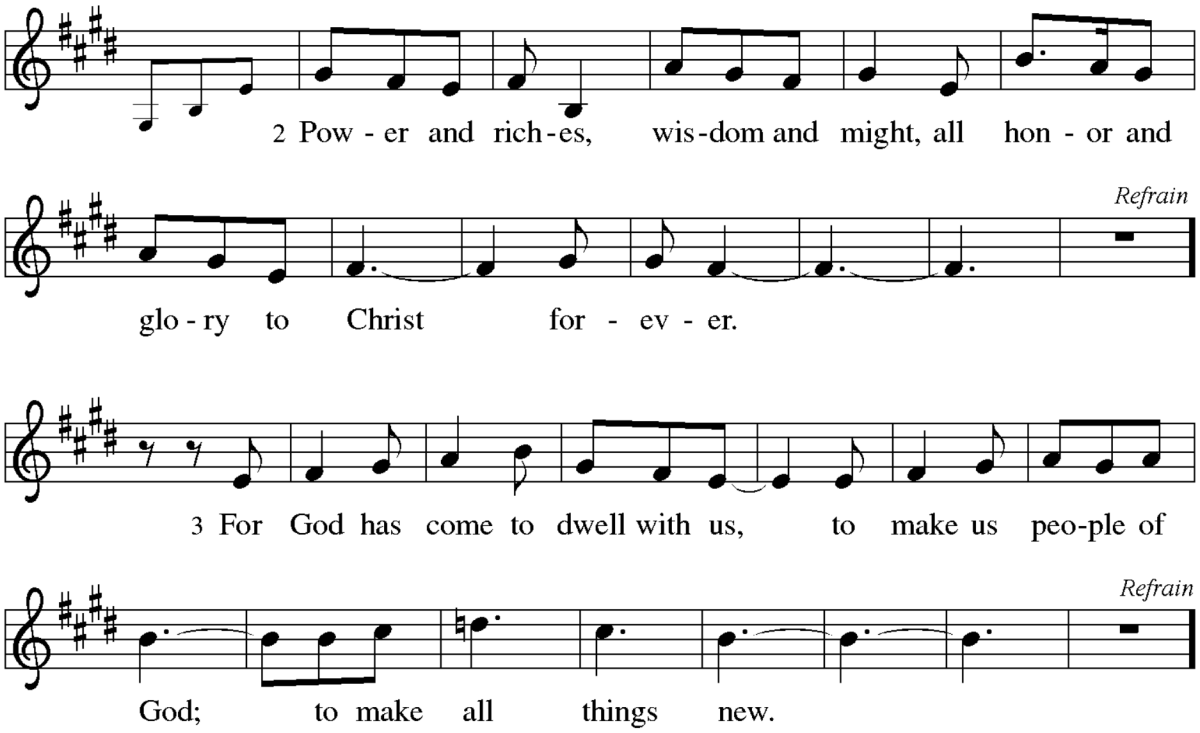
P: The Lord be with you.
C: And also with you.
P: Let us pray.
P: Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
C: Amen

KYRIE



HYMN OF PRAISE





Text and music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
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THE WORD

THE FIRST READING: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

Zephaniah (like the prophet Amos in last week's first reading) presents the day of the LORD as one of judgment and wrath. Descriptions of the last day in the New Testament include details taken from Old Testament accounts of the day of the LORD.

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.

L: The word of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 90:1-12

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 children 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 number our days**
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.
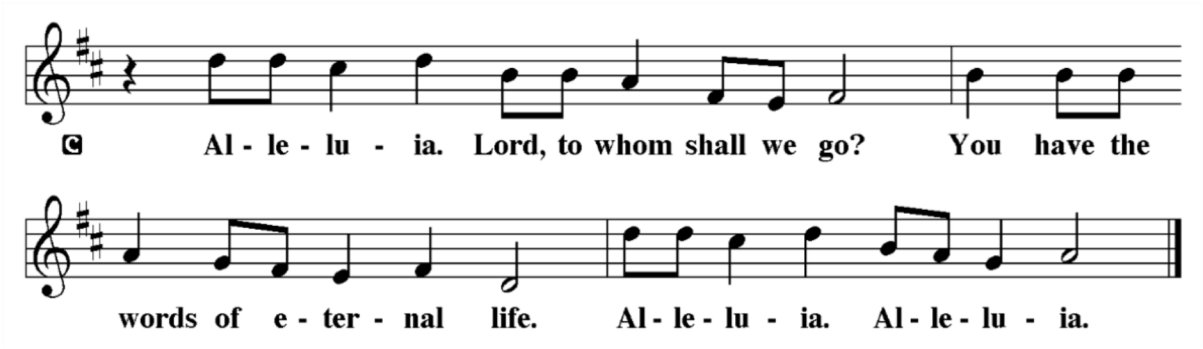
SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Though we do not know and cannot calculate the day of Christ's return, we live faithfully in the here and now as we anticipate the day when we will be given eternal salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.

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 dark-
ness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; 5 for you are all children of light and chil-
dren 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 salva-
tion. 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.

L: The word of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation



The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the twenty-fifth chapter:
C: Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Matthew 25:14-30

[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 tal-
ents. 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 tal-
ents 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 trustwor-
thy 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 tal-
ent 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.'
"

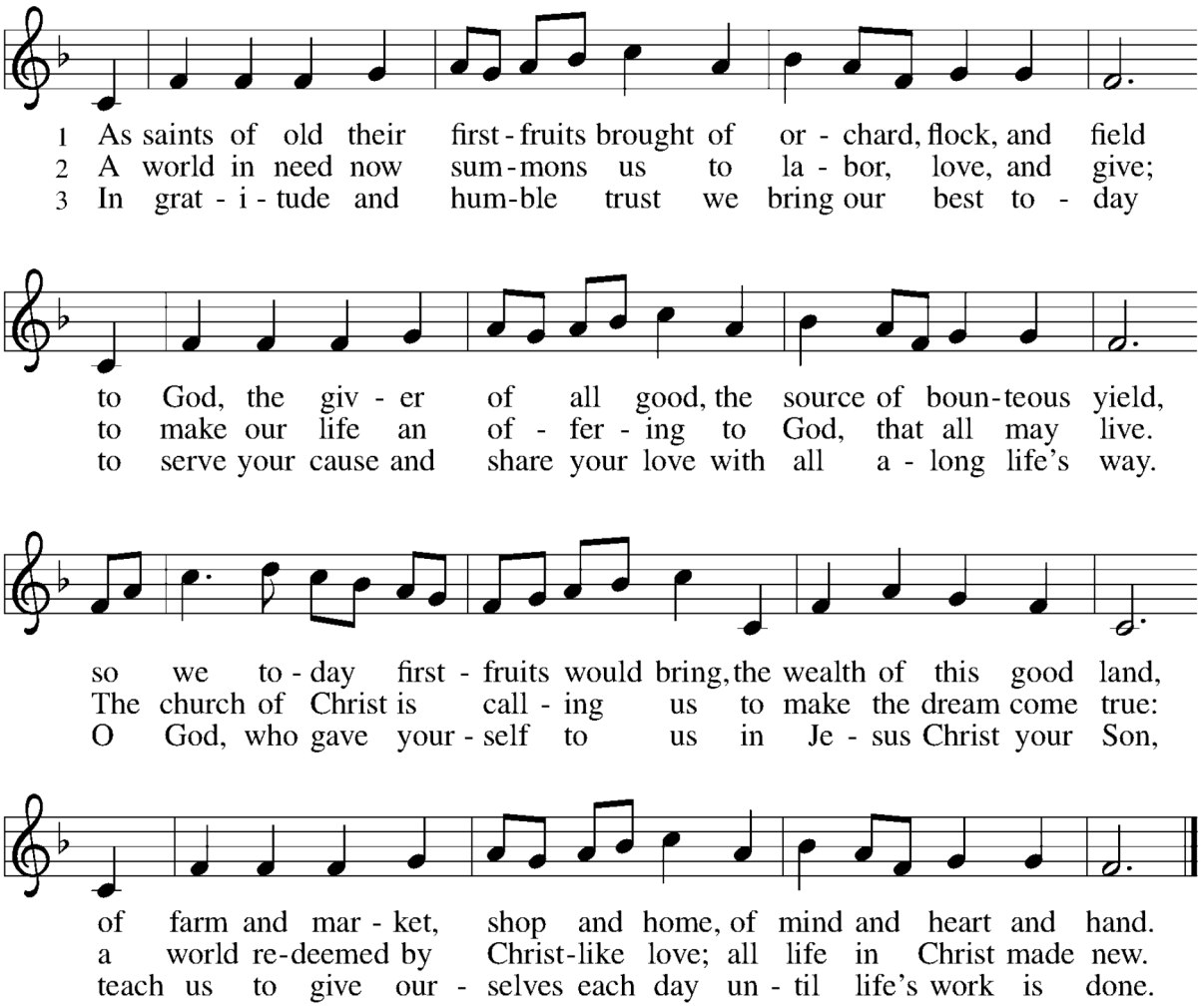
P: The Gospel of the Lord.
C: Praise to you, O Christ

THE MESSAGE

The Reverend Heinz D. Raidel

HYMN OF THE DAY

As Saints of Old (ELW 695)



Text: Frank von Christierson, 1900–1996, alt.
Music: FOREST GREEN, English folk tune
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THE PRAYERS

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

A brief silence.

A: God, in your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.

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

APOSTLE'S CREED

A: Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith:
C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
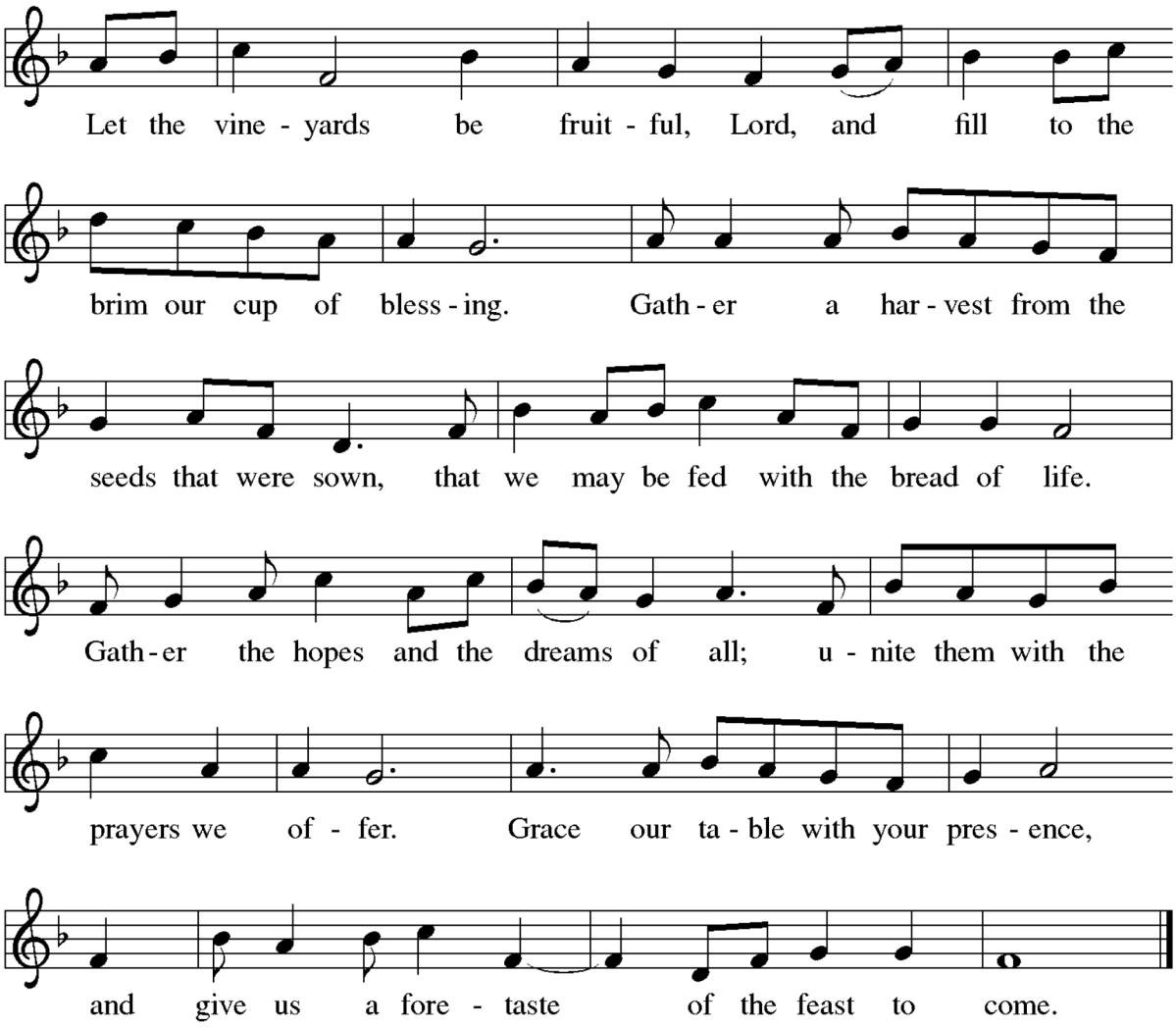
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

THE PEACE

A: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C: And also with you.
A: Let us share the peace.

THE OFFERING

The Offertory



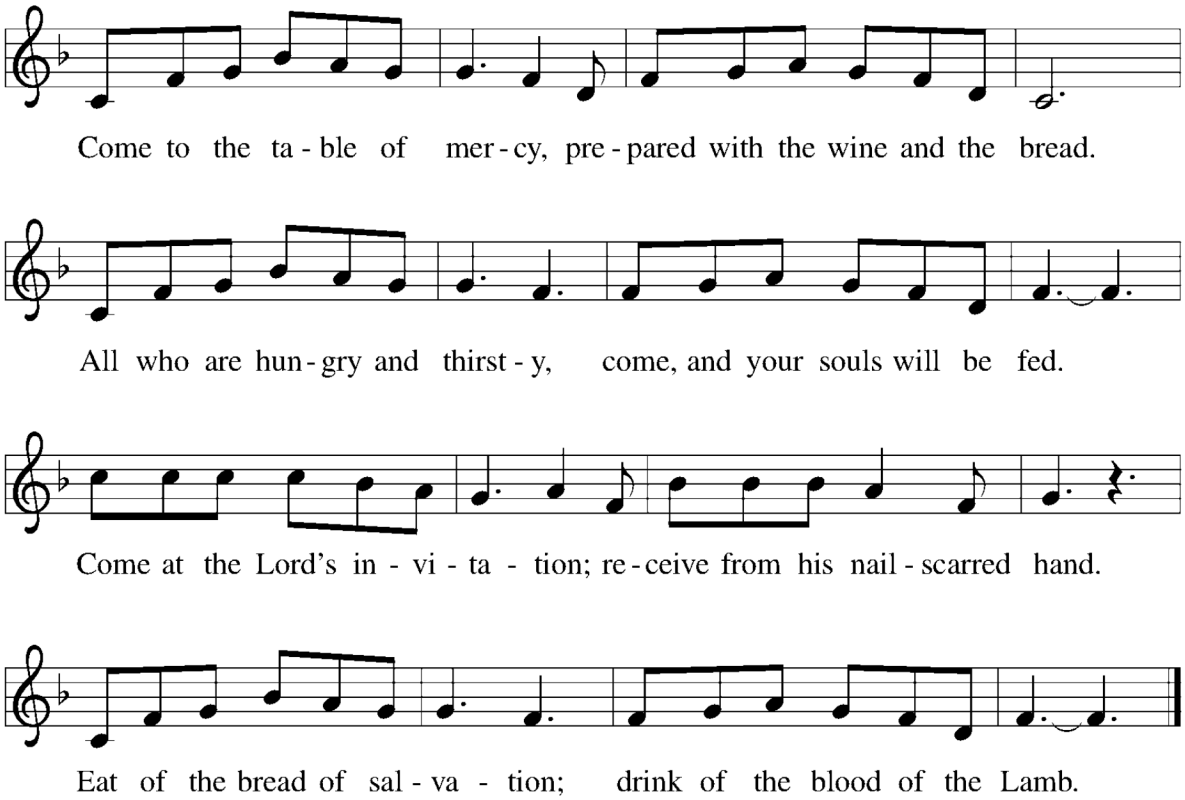
Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980
Music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
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Offertory Prayer

A: 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.
C: Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

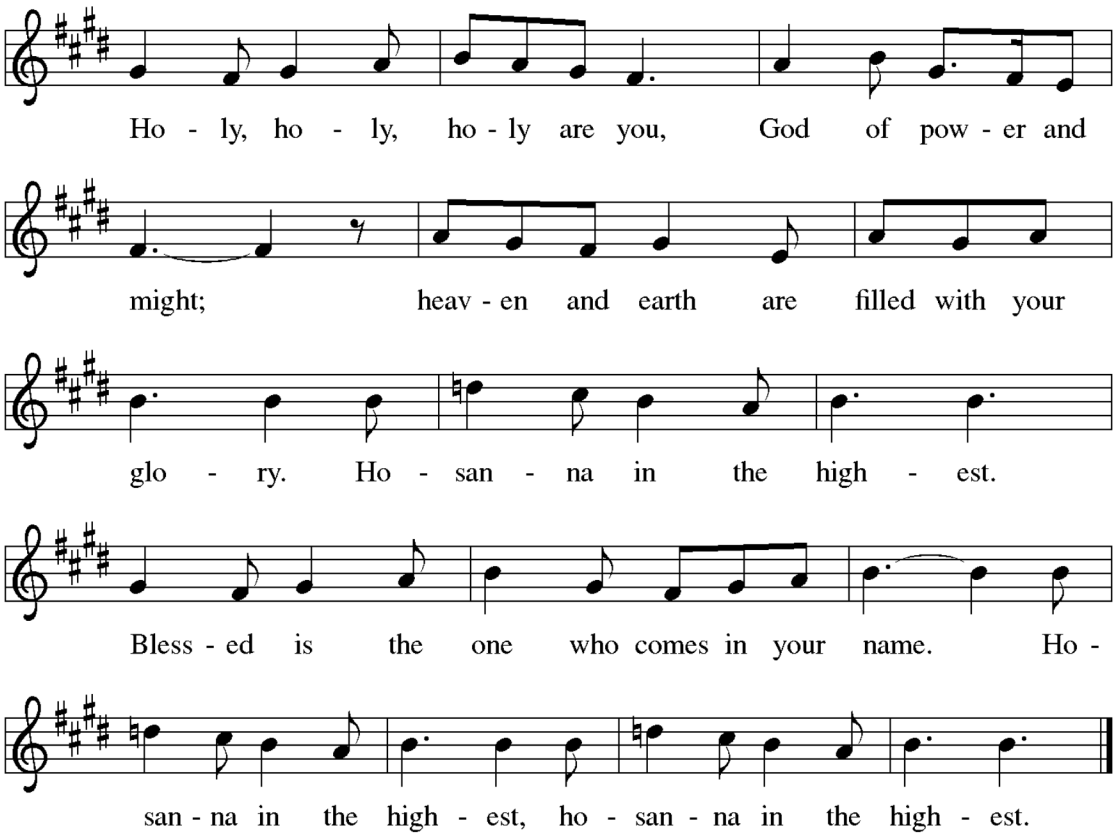


Text: Claire Cloninger, b. 1942
Music: COME TO THE TABLE, Martin J. Nystrom, b. 1956
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P: The Lord be with you.
C: And also with you.
P: Lift up your hearts.
C: We lift them to the Lord.
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P: 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; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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:



Music: *Now the Feast and Celebration*, Marty Haugen, b. 1950
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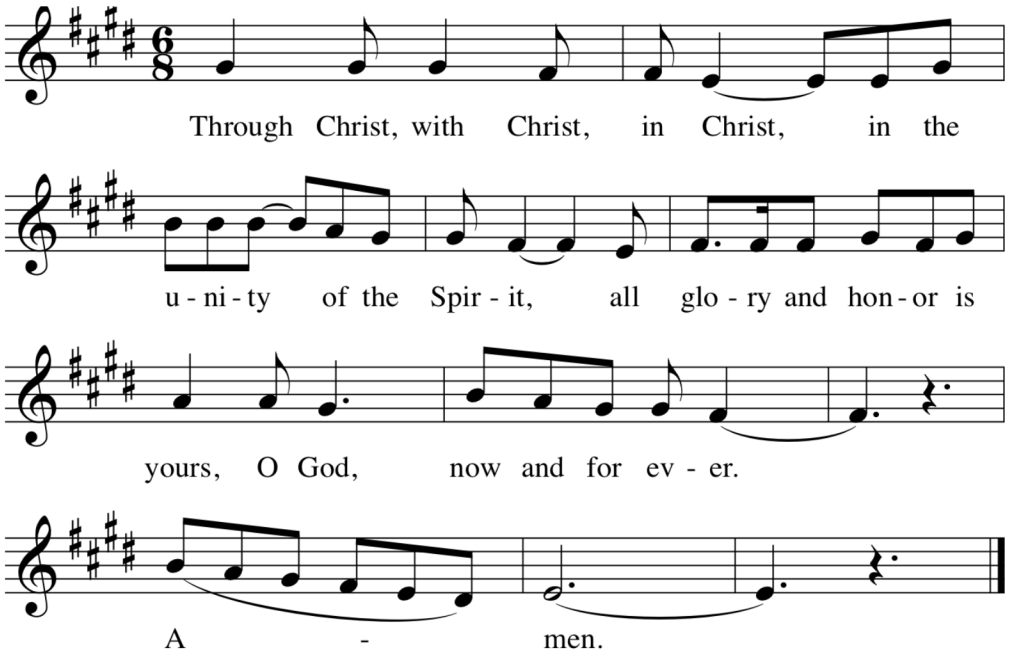
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P: We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

P: On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

P: After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

P: Therefore, according to his command, O Father,
C: We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;



Text and Music: Marty Haugen; © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

P: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever.
C: Amen

P: Let us pray as Jesus taught us:
C: 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

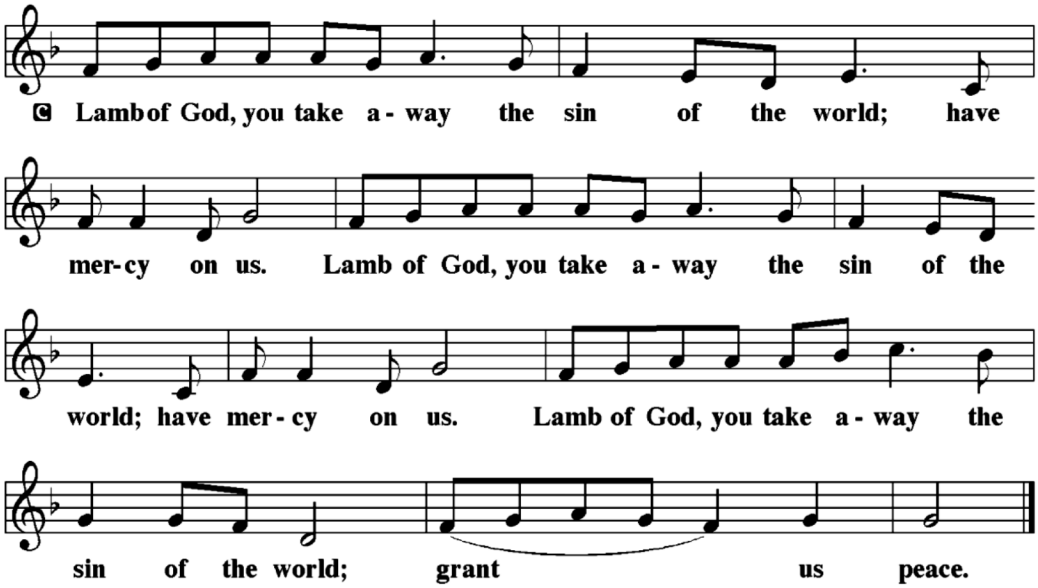
P: Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.
C: Make us one body, broken for the world..

Invitation to Communion

P: In this house, inside these walls, everyone is welcome at the table of the Lord.
C:Thanks be to God.

The Distribution of Elements

Agnus Dei/Lamb of God



POST COMMUNION PRAYER

P: 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.

C: Amen

THE BLESSING

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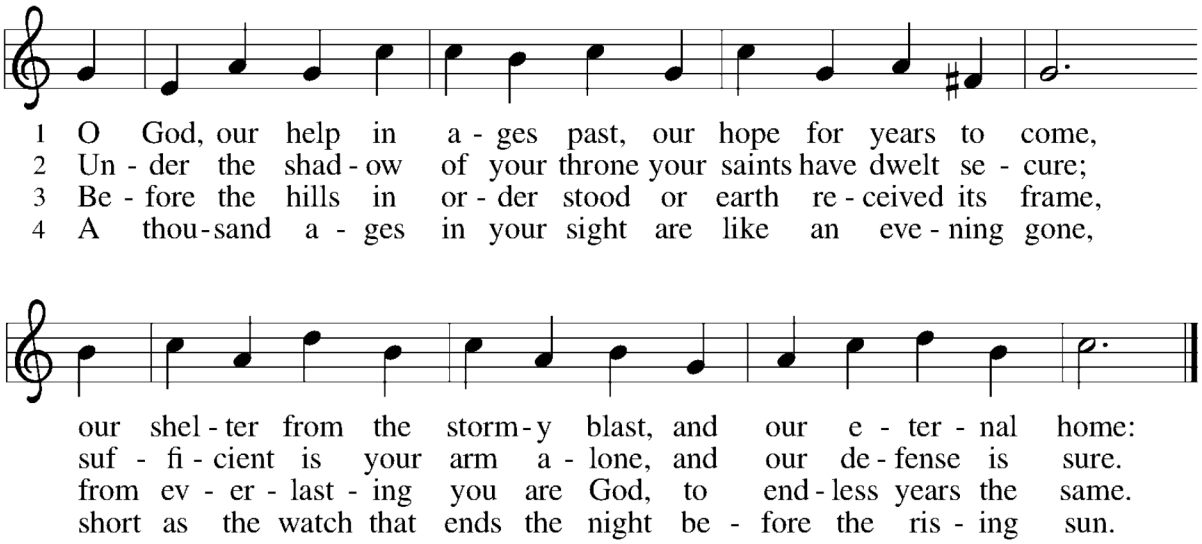
C: Amen

SENDING HYMN

O God, Our Help in Ages Past (ELW 632)

Next Page

O God, Our Help in Ages Past



Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.
Music: ST. ANNE, William Croft, 1678–1727

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DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Encourage one another.
C: Thanks be to God.

Chimes

Postlude