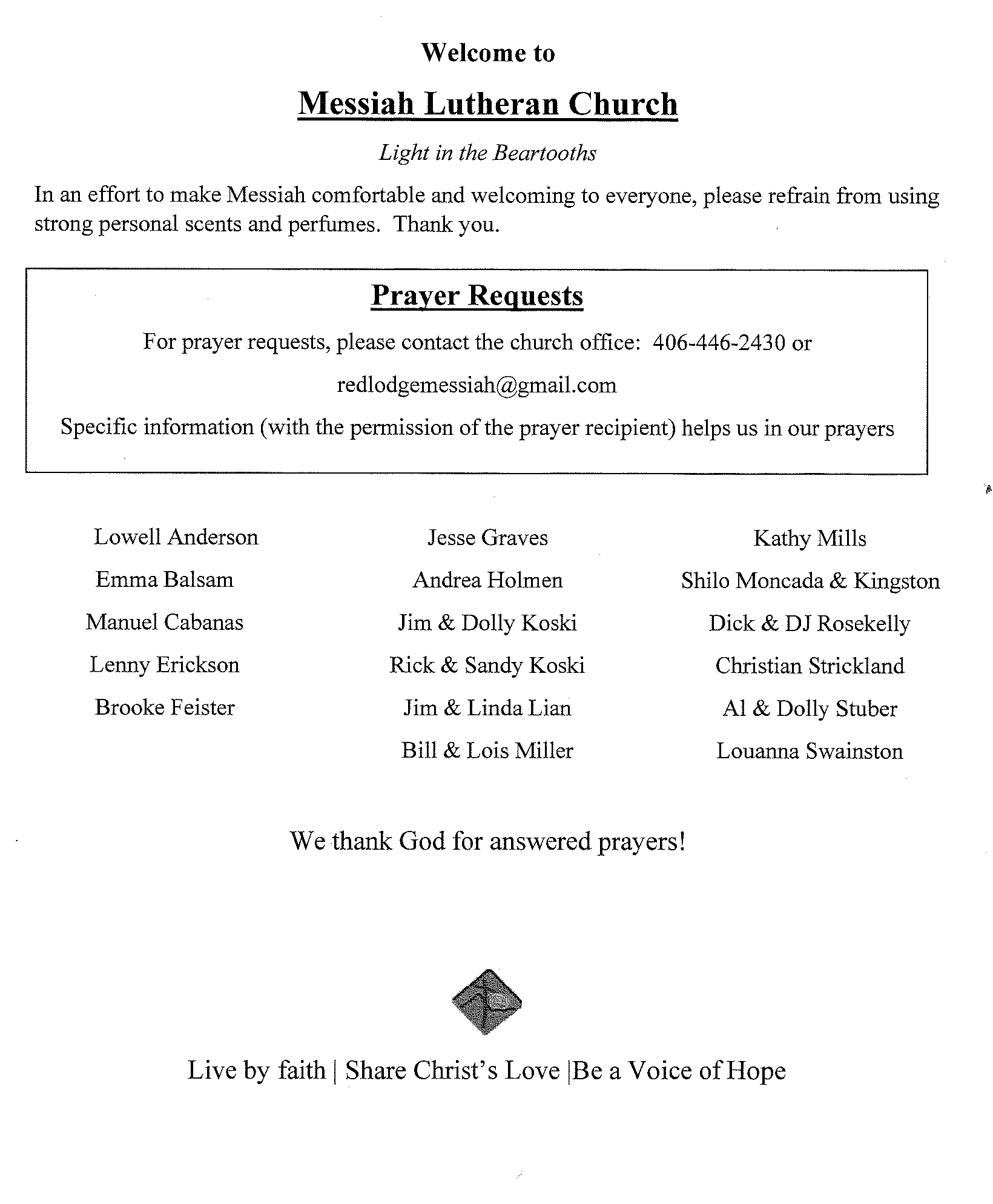


Seventh Sunday of Easter

Messiah Lutheran Church

*Light in the Beartooths*

Pastor Ben Cherland

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**Seventh Sunday of Easter**

May 21, 2023

**Gathering**

**Greeting**

Alleuia!  Christ is Risen.

**Christ is risen indeed.  Alleluia!**

**Thanksgiving for Baptism**

Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ,

     let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We thank you, risen Christ, for these waters

where you make us new,

leading us from death to life,

from tears to joy.

We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us

in the grace-filled waters of rebirth.

     like rain to our thirsting earth,

     like streams that revive our souls,

     like cups of cool water shared with strangers.

Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear.

Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness,

Send us companions on our journey as we share your life.

Make us one, risen Christ, in love and mission.

Cleanse our hearts of all division.

Shower us with the life we have in you.

To you be given all praise, with the Holy Spirit,

     in the glory of God, now and forever.  **AMEN**

**GATHERING HYMN | ELW 657**

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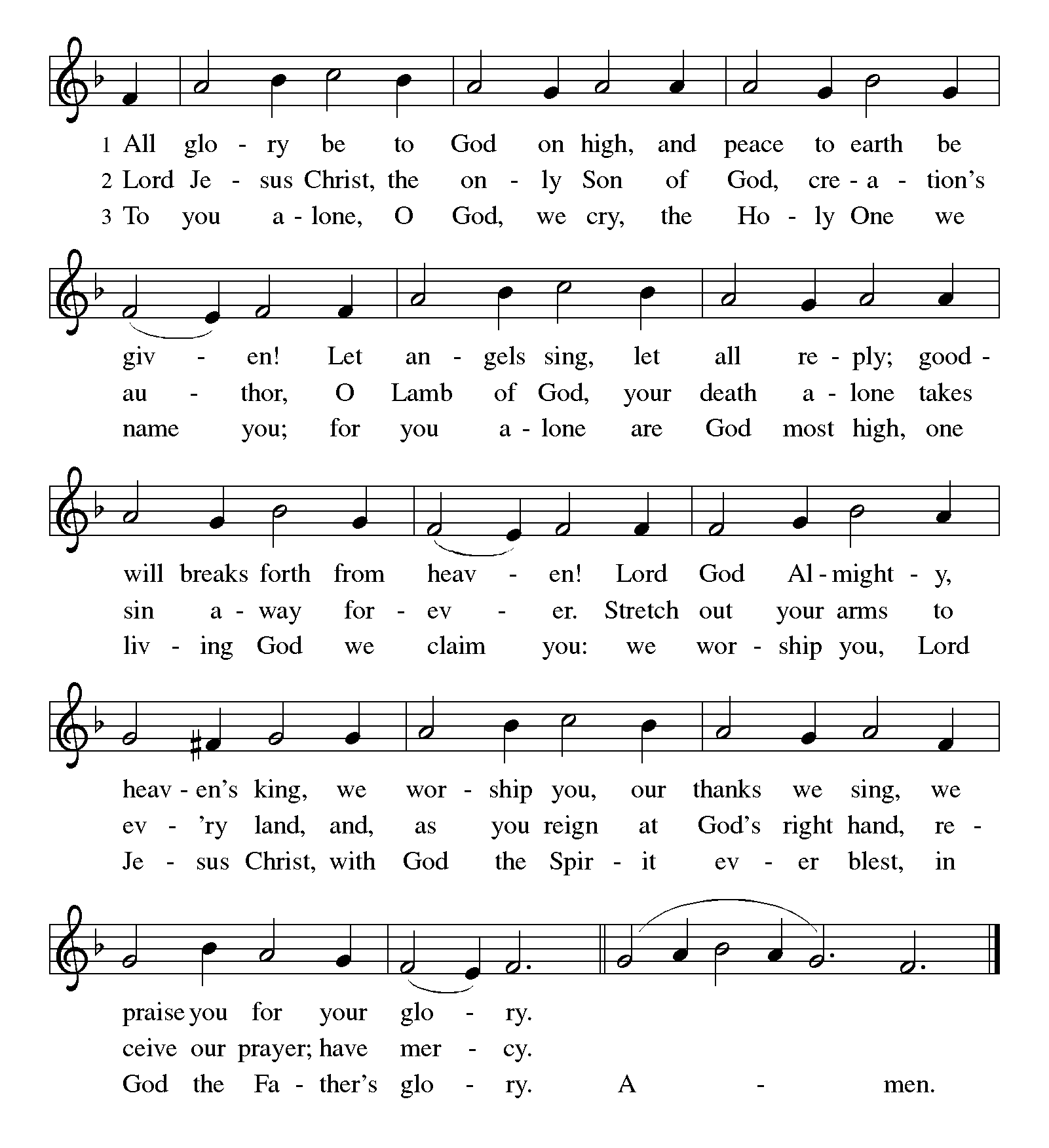
**Greeting**

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.**

**hymn of Praise**



**Prayer of the Day**

**O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

**Word**

**children’s sermon**

### Acts 1:6-14

6When [the apostles] had come together, they asked [Jesus], “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” 7He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. 8But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” 9When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. 10While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. 11They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”  
 12Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day’s journey away. 13When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. 14All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35

1Let God arise, and let God’s enemies be scattered;  
  let those who hate God flee.  
 2**As smoke is driven away, so you should drive them away;**  
  **as the wax melts before the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.**  
 3But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God;  
  let them also be merry and joyful.  
 4**Sing to God, sing praises to God’s name; exalt the one who rides the clouds;**  
  **I Am is that name, rejoice before God!**  
 5In your holy habitation, O God,  
  you are a father to orphans, defender of widows;

6**you give the solitary a home and bring forth prisoners into freedom;**  
  **but the rebels shall live in desert places.**  
 7O God, when you went forth before your people,  
  when you marched through the wilderness,  
 8**the earth quaked, and the skies poured down rain, at the presence of God, the God of Sinai,**  
  **at the presence of God, the God of Israel.**  
 9You sent a bountiful rain, O God;  
  you restored your inheritance when it languished.  
 10**Your people found their home in it;**  
  **in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor.**  
 32Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth;  
  sing praises to the Lord.  
 33**You ride in the heavens, O God, in the ancient heavens;**  
  **you send forth your voice, your mighty voice.**  
 34Ascribe power to God,  
  whose majesty is over Israel; whose strength is in the skies.  
 35**How wonderful you are in your holy places, O God of Israel,**  
  **giving strength and power to your people! Blessed be God!**

### 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

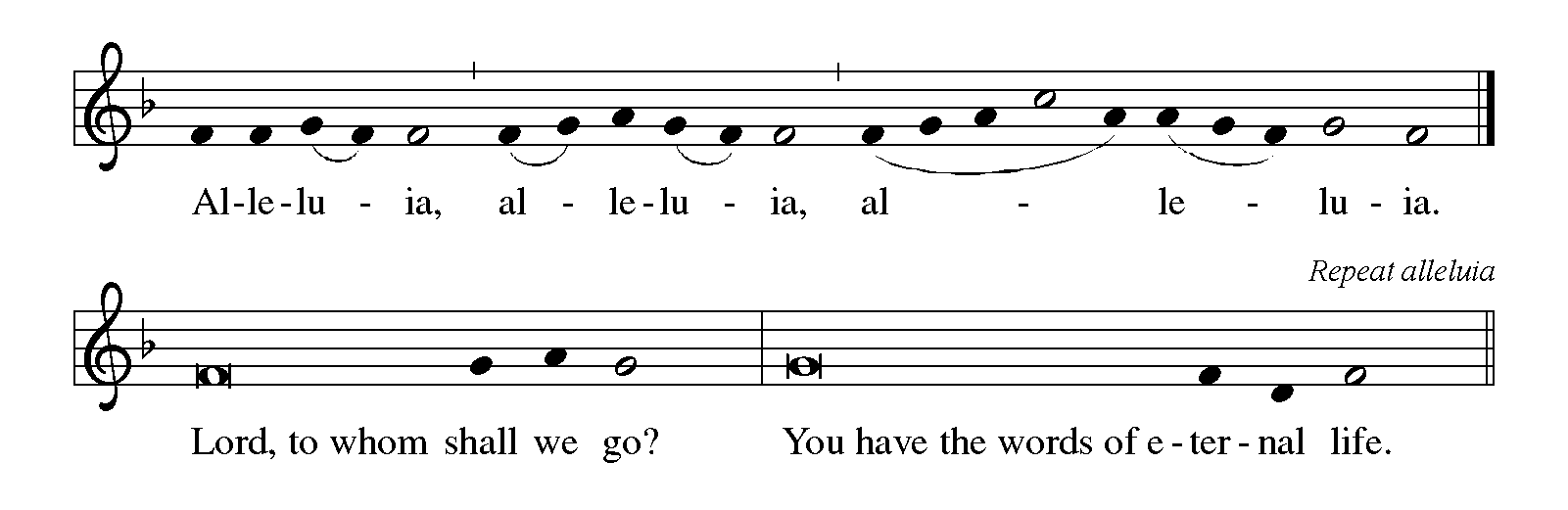
12Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. 13But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ’s sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. 14If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.  
  
 5:6Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. 7Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. 8Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. 9Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. 10And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. 11To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation**

*The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.*

*Pastor Sings, then sing together*



*Pastor Sings*

### JOHN 17:1-11

### The holy gospel according to John.

### Glory to you, O Lord.

### 

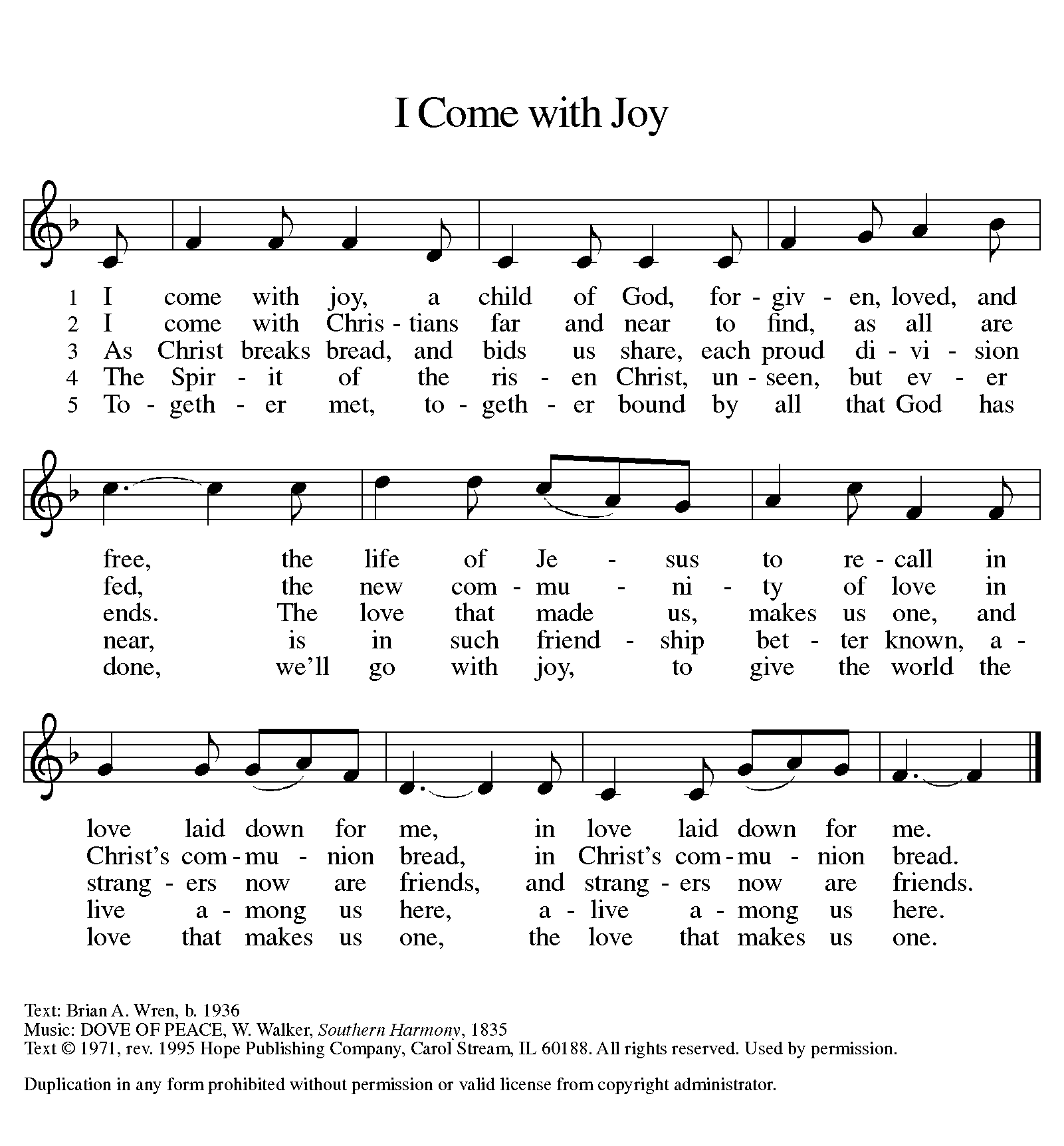
### 1After Jesus had spoken these words [to his disciples], he looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, 2since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. 3And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. 4I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. 5So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.  6“I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. 7Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; 8for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. 9I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. 10All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. 11And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon**

**Hymn of the Day| ELW 482**



**nicene Creed**

**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,**

**was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary**

**and became truly human.**

**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,\***

**who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,**

**who 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 Intercession**

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

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

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.  **Amen**

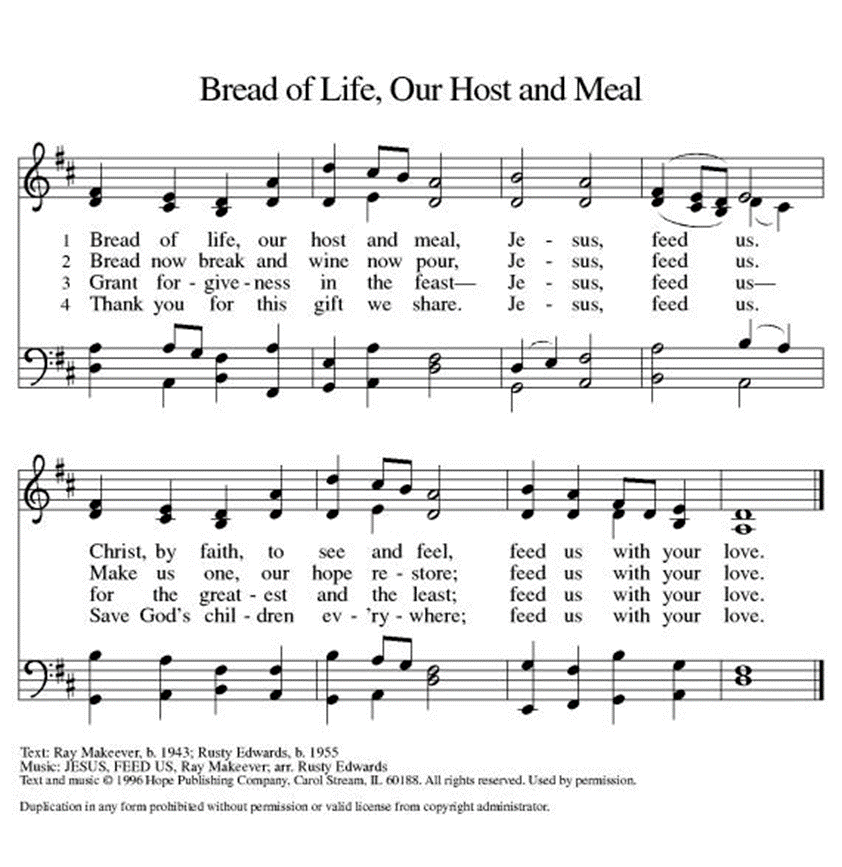
**sharing of the Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**Meal**

**Offering**

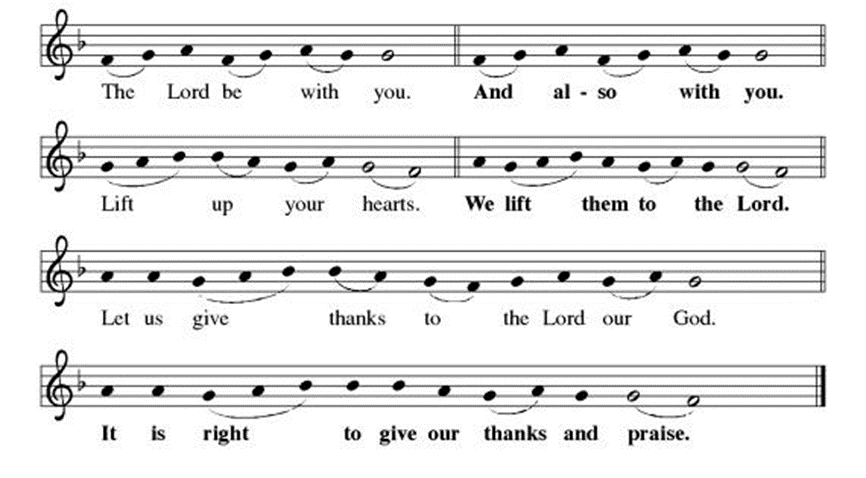
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**Offering Prayer**

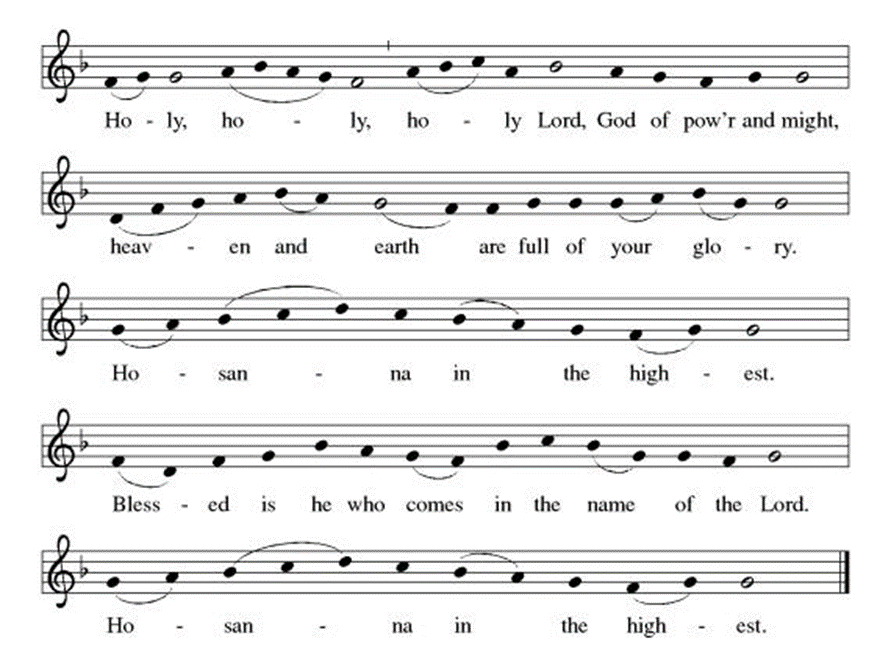
Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

**Great Thanksgiving**

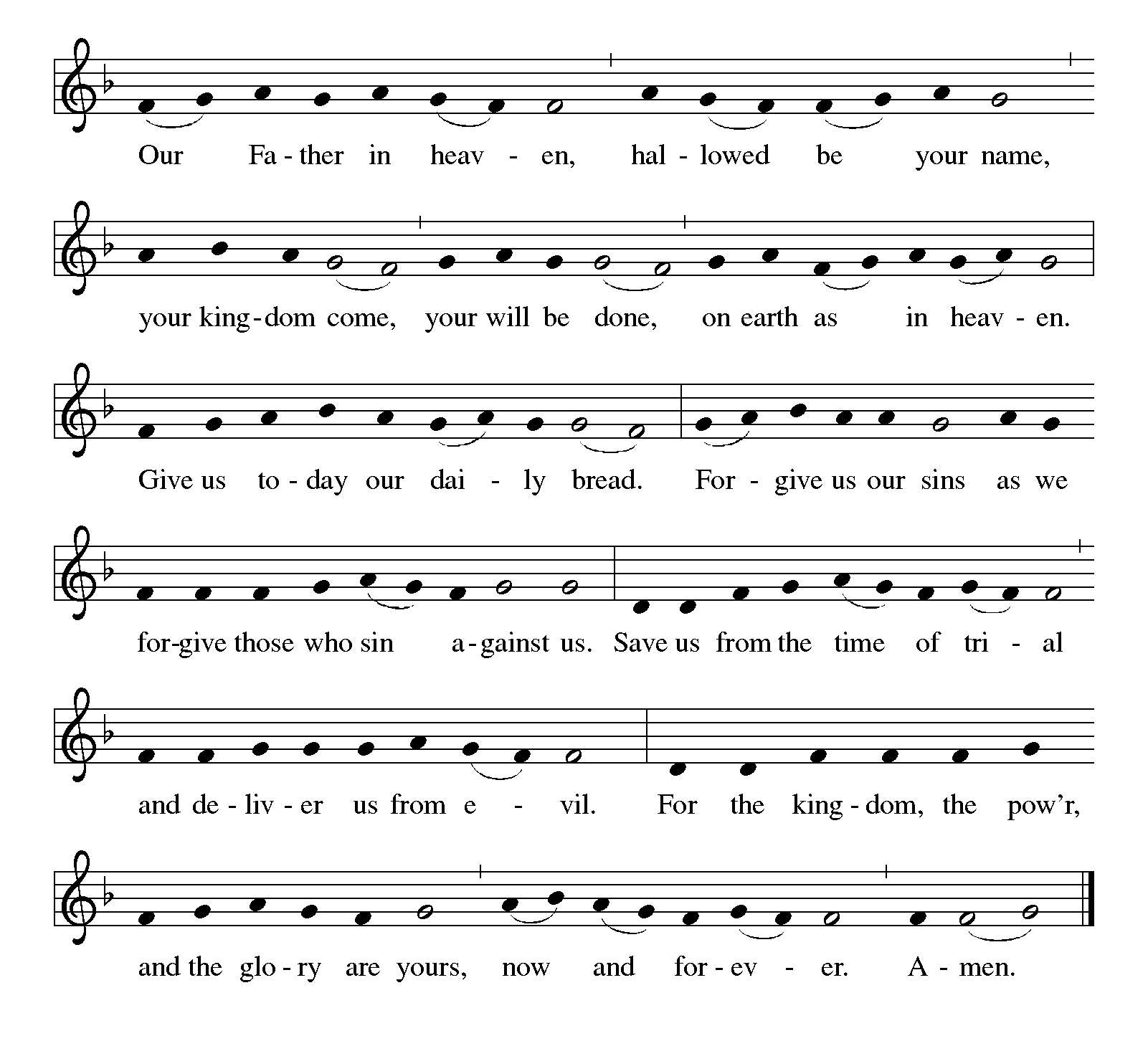
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**Preface**

**holy, holy, holy**

**EUCHARISTIC PRAYER | WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**THE Lord’s Prayer**



**Communion**

**Communion Song | What a Friend We Have in Jesus**

**ELW 742**

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**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ’s resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son’s resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

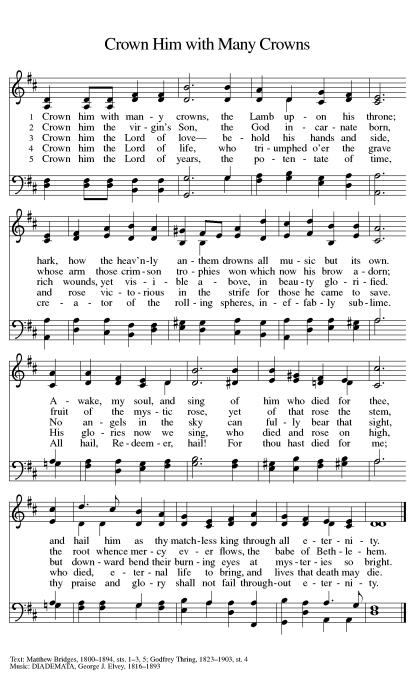
**Amen.**

**Sending**

**Blessing**

May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus.  The God of life, Father, +Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.  Amen

**Sending HYMN |ELW 855 (***See next page)*

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**Dismissal**

Alleluia!  Christ is risen!  **Christ is risen indeed!  Alleluia!**

Our worship has ended.  **Now our service begins.**

Go in peace, share the good news.  **Thanks be to God.  Alleluia!**

**Announcements**

As we are working on completing this building, we are conscious of the ways it marks a new chapter in the life of this faith community. The path we now take in serving Red Lodge, Carbon County and everyone who passes through these doors is the subject of conversation and deliberate reflection for us. Some things will look familiar (The Christmas Kids Shoppe, for instance) and some will be new for us (incorporating a new childcare center, set to open this summer). We invite you to join this conversation in discerning the direction in which Christ is calling us. You may be surprised at the life waiting for you in this place, among these people—a life blessed with healing, wholeness, belonging, community and great joy. Your voice is needed and your presence eagerly awaited and welcomed.

Sincerely,

Pastor Ben

Safari book club meets at 3:00 pm May 18th at the home of Donna Downing. Please contact Marla Ebel (406-664-3178) for more information.

(Communion) Wine tasting May 23 at 6:30

Volunteers are needed to serve on the Altar Guild. Duties include changing the paraments with the church seasons, helping with communion set up, and providing flowers and greenery for the sanctuary. Please talk to Marla Ebel (406-664-3178) if you are interested in serving in this way.

Sign up for the Ushers Guild. Our first meeting will be June 4 at 11:15 in the sanctuary.

I hereby certify that Allen Hansen is licensed to preach and preside for the Messiah Lutheran Church, Red Lodge, MT, May 21, 2023.

Laurie Jungling, Bishop of the Montana Synod. 5/12/2023

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