Kimball Memorial Lutheran Church
101 Vance St. Kannapolis, NC 28081

October 18, 2026 **21st Sunday after Pentecost**

11:00 AM

✝*Please stand as you are able. Congregation responses in* ***Bold****.*

Prelude *This Is My Father's World* *arr. Jason D. Payne*

Welcome

✝ Confession and Forgiveness

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

C Amen.

P Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Compassionate God,

C 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.

P 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.

C Amen.

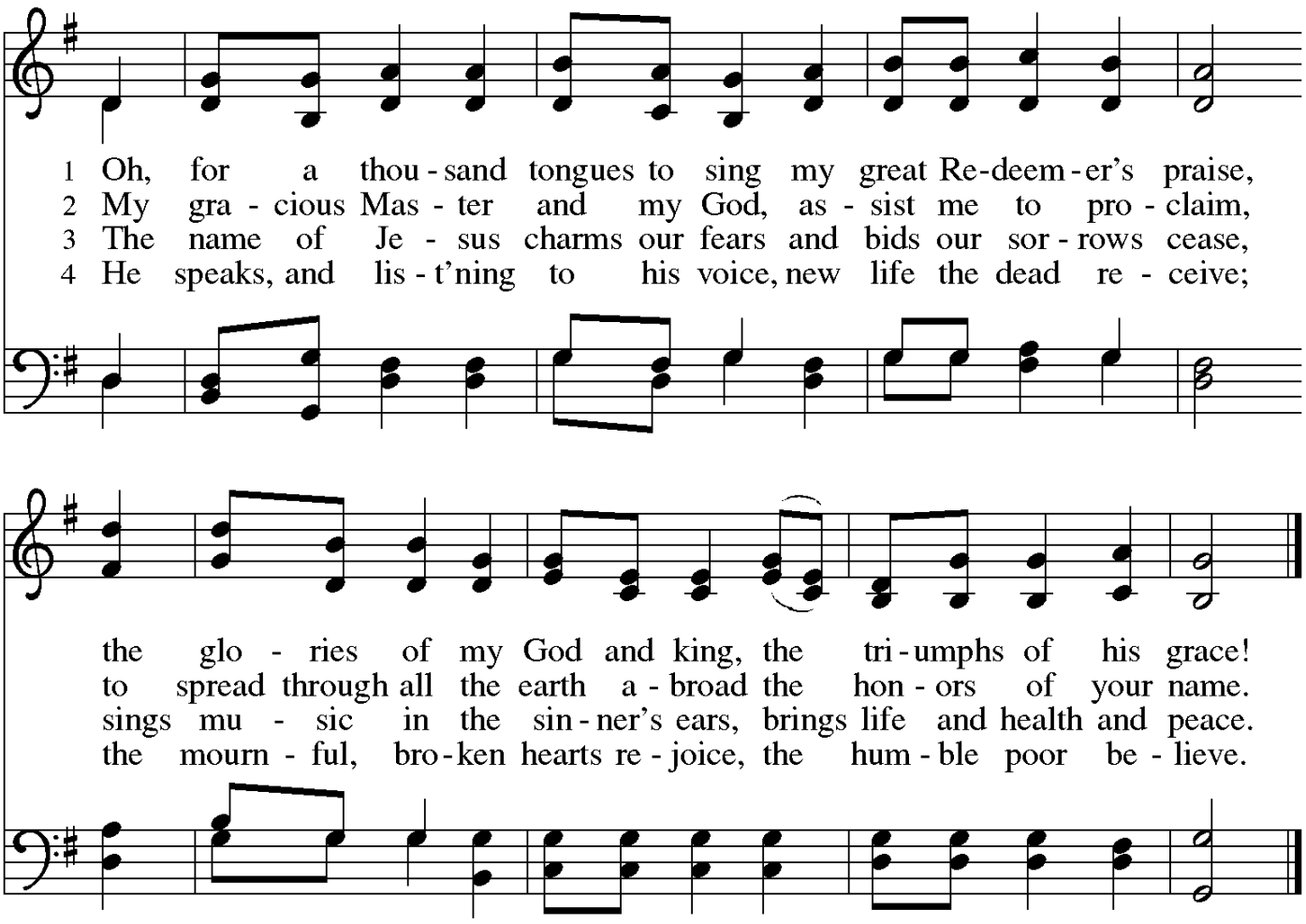
Gathering Hymn *Oh, For a Thousand Tongues to Sing* *Next Page*

✝ Greeting

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.
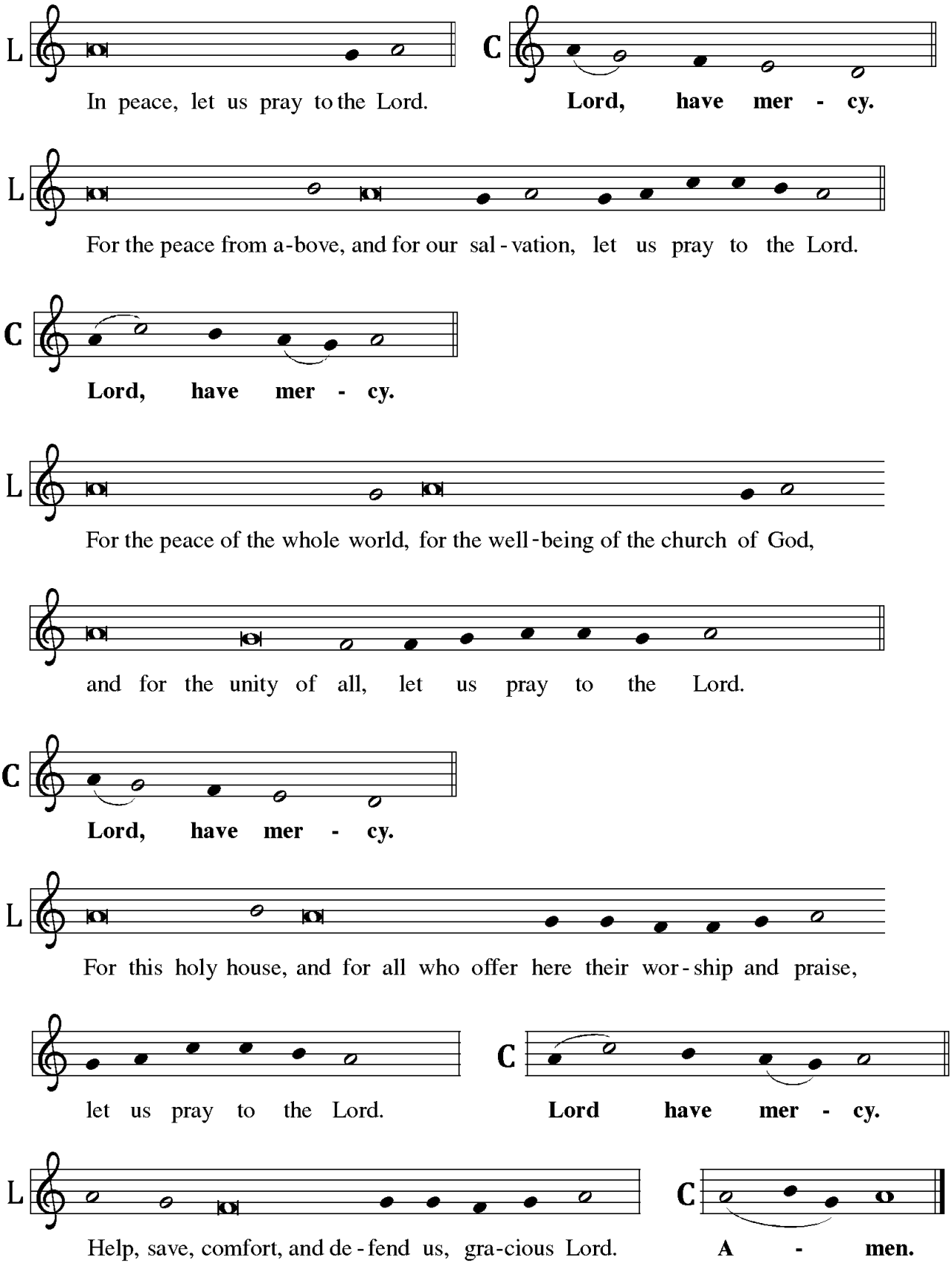
✝ GATHERING HYMN *ELW* 886 *Oh, For a Thousand Tongues to Sing* AZMON
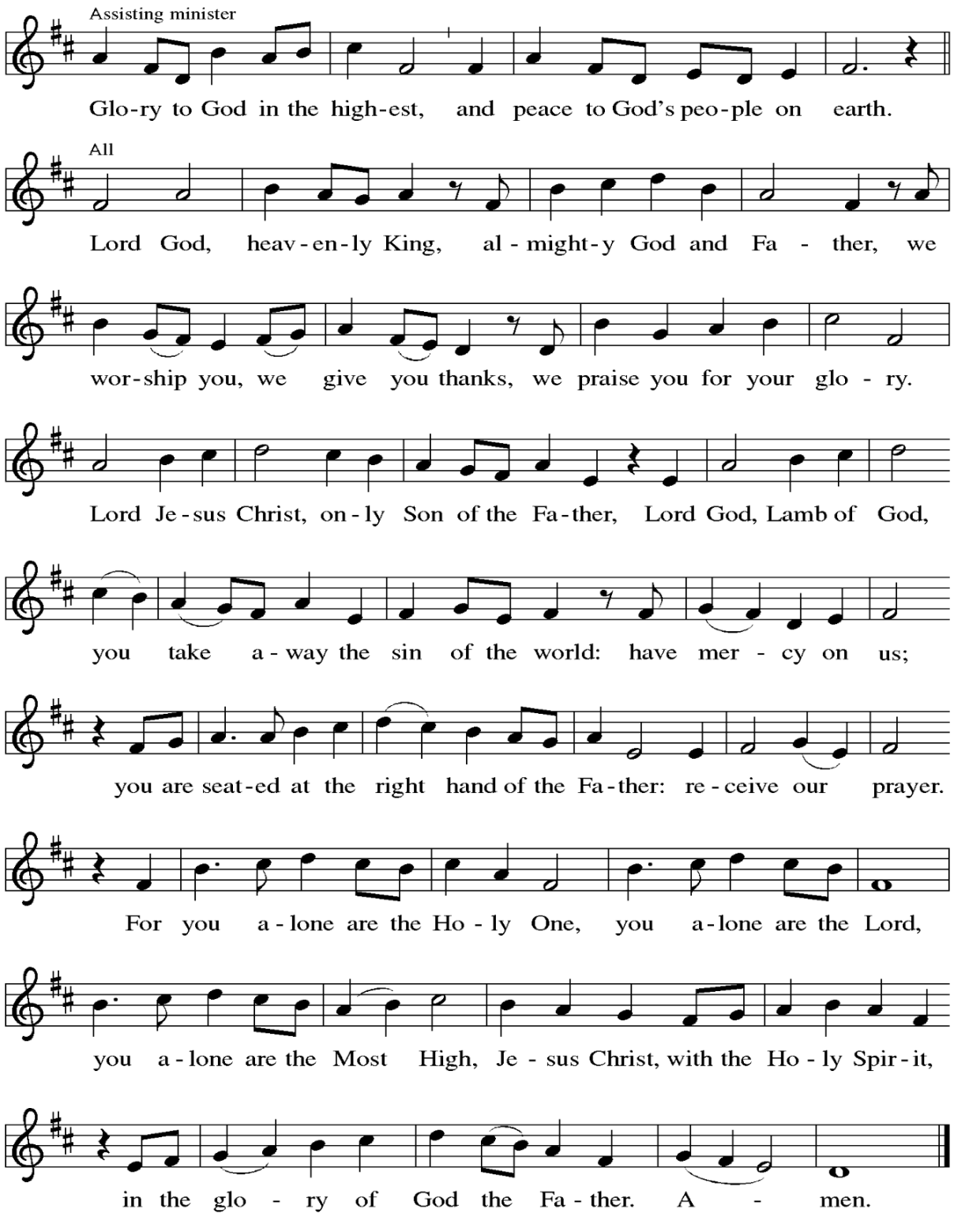


5 Look unto him, your Savior own,
O fallen human race!
Look and be saved through faith alone,
be justified by grace!

6 To God all glory, praise, and love
be now and ever giv'n
by saints below and saints above,
the church in earth and heav'n.

✝ KYRIE *ELW* S 147



✝ CANTICLE OF PRAISE *ELW* S148 *Glory to God in the Highest*



PRAYER OF THE DAY

A Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

(Please be seated)

LET'S TALK *Children's Time*

READING 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

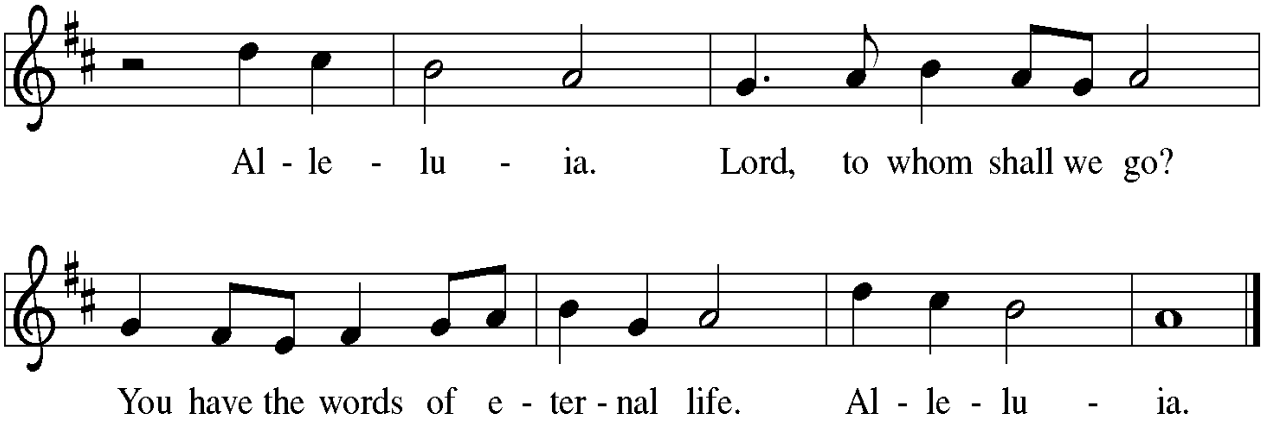
Most likely this letter is the first written by Paul. Paul gives pastoral encouragement and reassurances to new Christians living in an antagonistic environment. Their commitment of faith, love, and hope makes them a model for other new Christian communities.

L A reading from the first chapter of 1st Thessalonians.

1 Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord
Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. 2 We always give thanks to God for all of you and
mention you in our prayers, constantly 3 remembering before our God and Father your work of
faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. 4 For we know,
brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, 5 because our message of the gospel
came to you not in word only but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction;
just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. 6 And you
became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with
joy from the Holy Spirit, 7 so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and
in Achaia. 8 For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and
Achaia but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to
speak about it. 9 For they report about us what kind of welcome we had among you and how you
turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God 10 and to wait for his Son from heaven,
whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

L Word of God, word of life.
C Thanks be to God.

✝ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *ELW* S151



✝ GOSPEL Matthew 22:15-22

After Jesus begins teaching in the temple, religious leaders try to trap him with questions. First they ask if God's people should pay taxes to an earthly tyrant like Caesar.

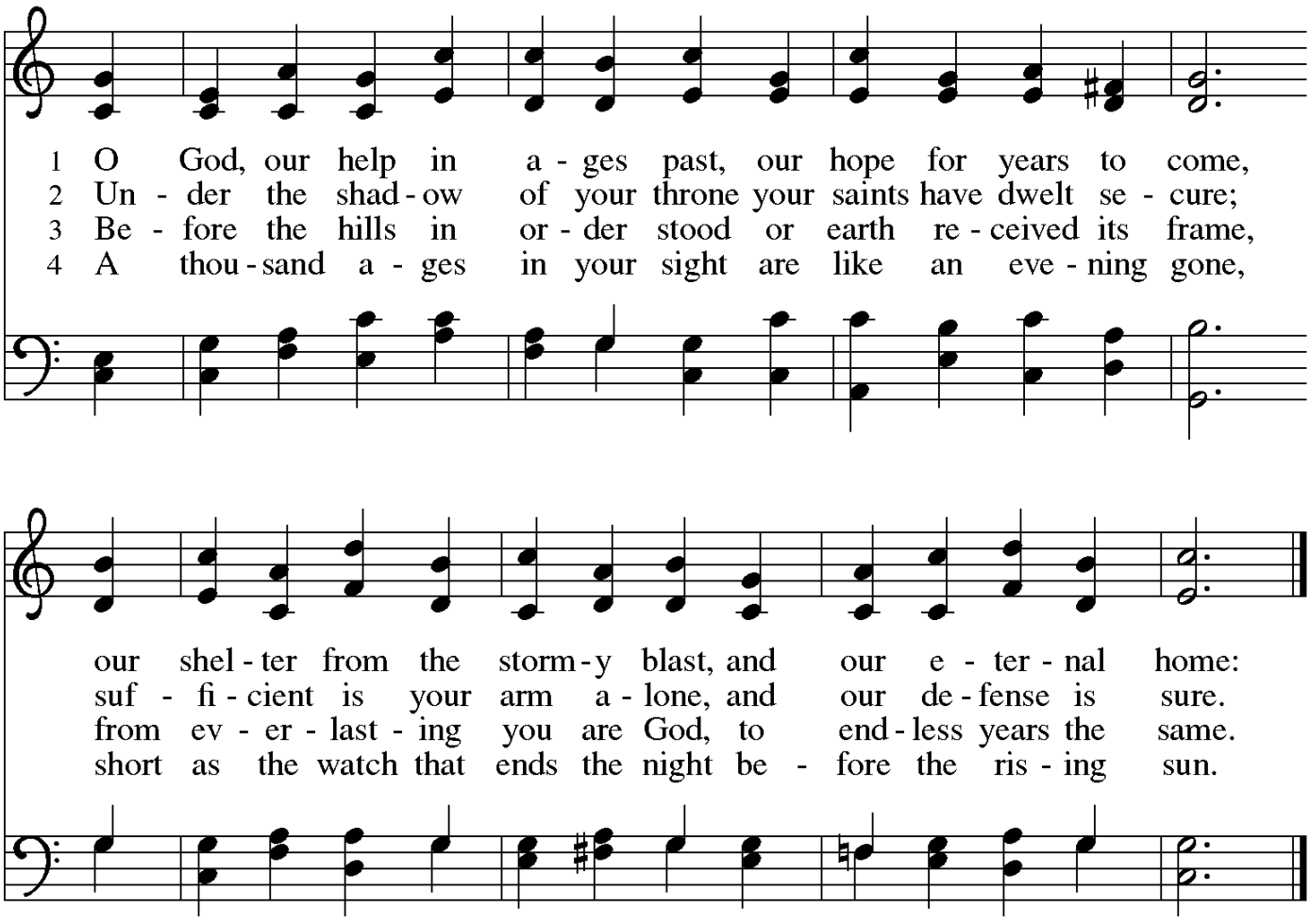
P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-second chapter.
C Glory to you, O Lord.

15 The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap Jesus in what he said. 16 So they sent their disciples to
him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way
of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one, for you do not regard people with
partiality. 17 Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not?” 18 But Jesus,
aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? 19 Show me the
coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. 20 Then he said to them, “Whose head is
this and whose title?” 21 They answered, “Caesar’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to
Caesar the things that are Caesar’s and to God the things that are God’s.” 22 When they heard this,
they were amazed, and they left him and went away.

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

SERMON *Pastor John Futterer*

✝ **HYMN OF THE DAY** ***ELW* 632** *O God, Our Help in Ages Past* ST. ANNE



5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
bears all our years away;
we fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the op’ning day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
still be our guard while troubles last
and our eternal home!

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *Apostles' Creed*

A With the people of God in Christ now and in every time, let us 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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world.

Prayer petitions will conclude: "Hear us, O God."
The congregation's response is: "Your mercy is great."

P Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

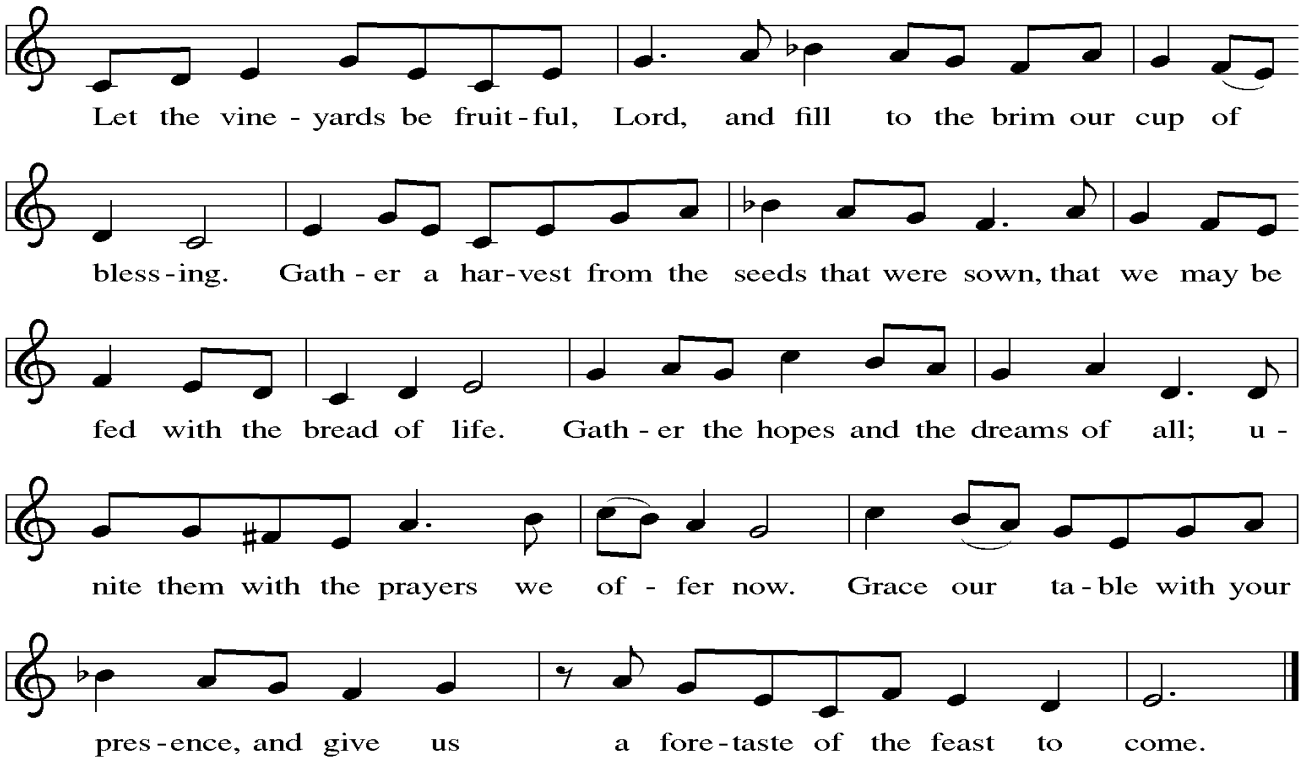
✝ SHARING OF GOD'S PEACE

A The peace of the Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

A Please greet those around you with words of peace.

✝ OFFERING PRESENTATION *ELW* 182 *Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful*



OFFERING PRAYER

P 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.

C Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

P Gathered as one by the Holy Spirit let us pray, as Jesus taught.

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.

INVITATION

P Christ invites you to this table.
All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

You may receive the Elements as the words are said:
The Body of Christ given for you; The Blood of Christ shed for you.

Healing Prayer is available under the balcony during Communion if you desire prayer.

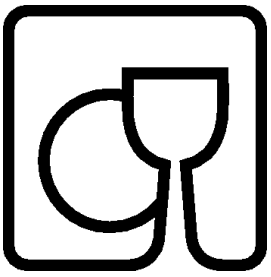
HOLY COMMUNION

We have two options for Communion during this time. You are free to come forward to receive the bread and pre-filled cups of wine from our clergy and lay assistants, returning to your seats after you've deposited the empty cup and following the guidance of our ushers; or you may continue to use the pre-packaged communion elements which are available from the ushers at the entrance to the Sanctuary. Gluton-free is available on request. However you choose to receive Communion this morning, know that we are glad you're here for this Sacrament!
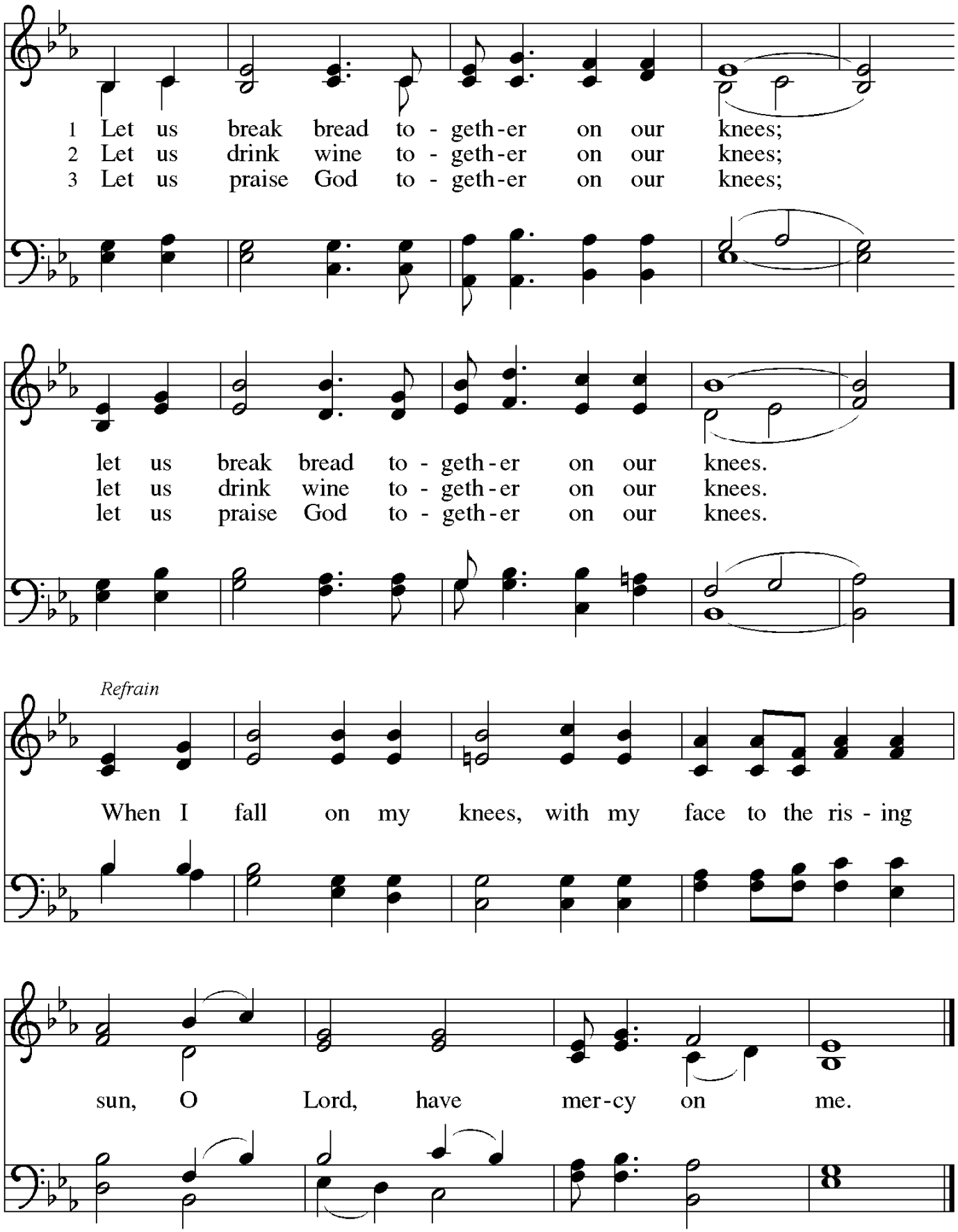
WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P 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.



COMMUNION HYMN ***ELW* 471** *Let Us Break Bread Together* BREAK BREAD TOGETHER



✝ POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.
C Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P 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.
C Amen.

BLESSING

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

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

P The God of grace ✠ bless you now and forever.
C Amen.

SENDING HYMN *This is My Father's World* *Next Page*
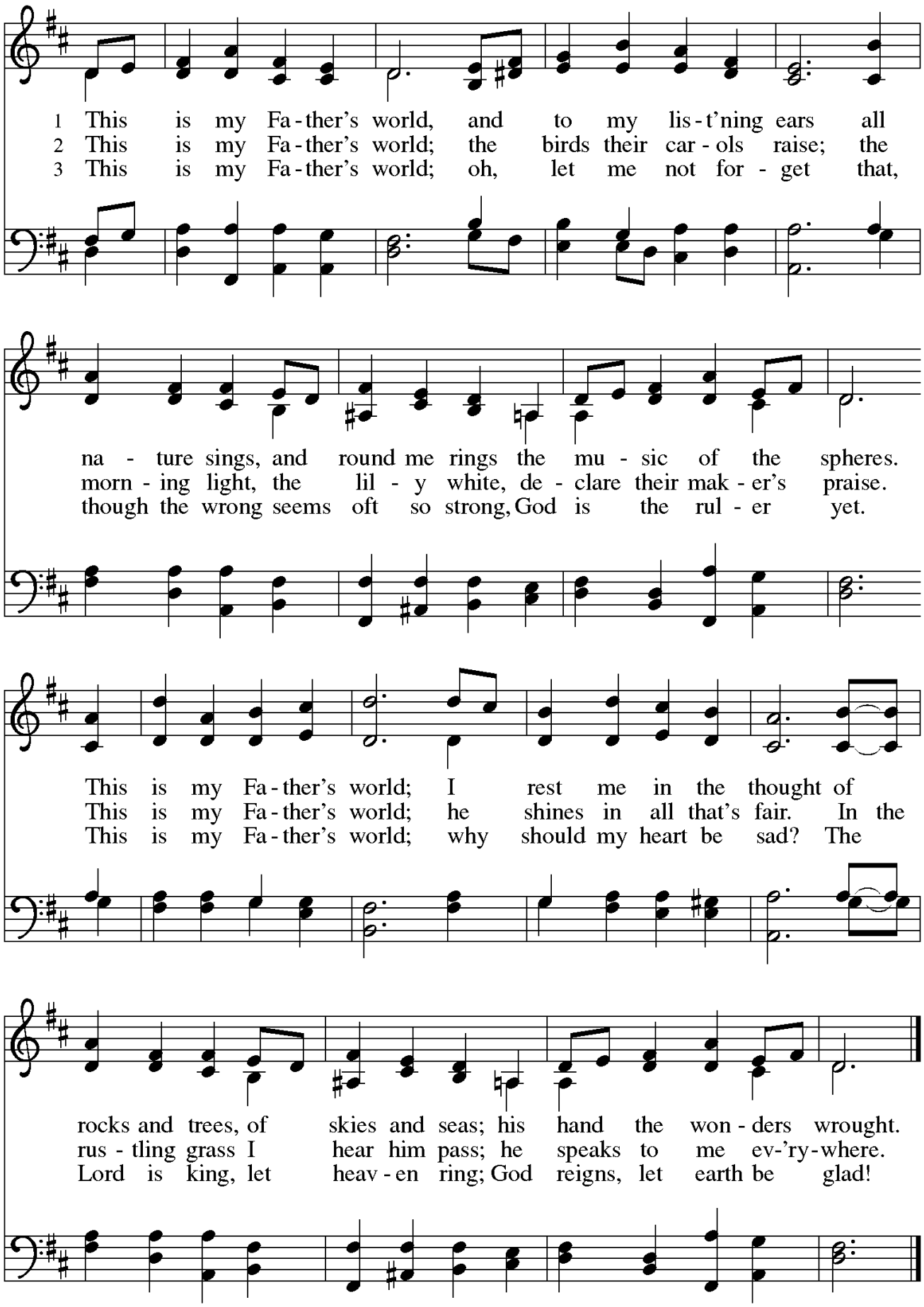
DISMISSAL

A Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing* *arr. Jason D. Payne*

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✝ **SENDING HYMN** ***ELW 824*** *This is My Father's World* TERRA PATRIS





Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, "Whose head is this and whose title?" They answered, "Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's."