



# KIMBALL MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

101 VANCE ST. KANNAPOLIS, NC 28081

September 21, 2025      15th Sunday after Pentecost  
11:00 am

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

## PRELUDE

*Amazing Grace*

*arr. James Michael Stevens*

## WELCOME

### ✝ CONFESSON AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, our maker, our helper, and our keeper.

**C Amen.**

P Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**C Merciful and loving God, we are your stiff-necked people. We trample on the needy. We grumble about your grace to others. We turn away from the poor. Have mercy on us and forgive our sins. Rejoice over us as ones who were lost and have been found. Amen.**

P Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful. Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. You who were lost have been found. In the name of ✝ Jesus, your sins are forgiven!

**C Amen.**

## GATHERING HYMN

*Earth and All Stars*

*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.**

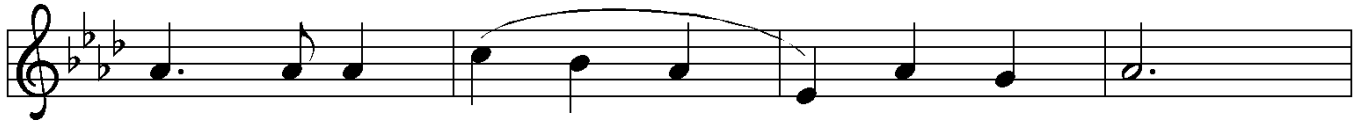
## PRAYER OF THE DAY

A Let us pray. God among us, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another. Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C Amen.**



|   |             |     |        |        |             |             |             |
|---|-------------|-----|--------|--------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1 | Earth       | and | all    | stars! | Loud        | rush - ing  | plan - ets! |
| 2 | Trum - pet  | and | pipes! | Loud   | clash - ing | cym - bals! |             |
| 3 | En - gines  | and | steel! | Loud   | pound - ing | ham - mers! |             |
| 4 | Class-rooms | and | labs!  | Loud   | boil - ing  | test tubes! |             |
| 5 | Knowl-edge  | and | truth! | Loud   | sound - ing | wis - dom!  |             |



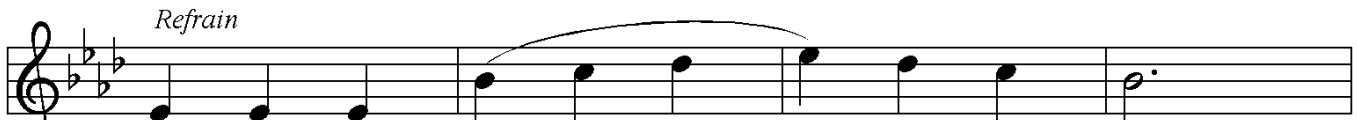
|      |    |     |      |   |     |       |
|------|----|-----|------|---|-----|-------|
| Sing | to | the | Lord | a | new | song! |
| Sing | to | the | Lord | a | new | song! |
| Sing | to | the | Lord | a | new | song! |
| Sing | to | the | Lord | a | new | song! |
| Sing | to | the | Lord | a | new | song! |



|              |       |        |       |             |             |               |
|--------------|-------|--------|-------|-------------|-------------|---------------|
| Hail,        | wind, | and    | rain! | Loud        | blow - ing  | snow - storm! |
| Harp,        | lute, | and    | lyre! | Loud        | hum - ming  | cel - los!    |
| Lime - stone | and   | beams! | Loud  | build - ing | work - ers! |               |
| Ath - lete   | and   | band!  | Loud  | cheer - ing | peo - ple!  |               |
| Daugh - ter  | and   | son!   | Loud  | pray - ing  | mem - bers! |               |



|      |    |     |      |   |     |       |
|------|----|-----|------|---|-----|-------|
| Sing | to | the | Lord | a | new | song! |
| Sing | to | the | Lord | a | new | song! |
| Sing | to | the | Lord | a | new | song! |
| Sing | to | the | Lord | a | new | song! |
| Sing | to | the | Lord | a | new | song! |



*Refrain*

|     |     |      |     |   |           |         |
|-----|-----|------|-----|---|-----------|---------|
| God | has | done | mar | - | vel - ous | things. |
|-----|-----|------|-----|---|-----------|---------|



|   |     |      |            |      |   |     |       |
|---|-----|------|------------|------|---|-----|-------|
| I | too | sing | prais - es | with | a | new | song! |
|---|-----|------|------------|------|---|-----|-------|

**PSALM 113**

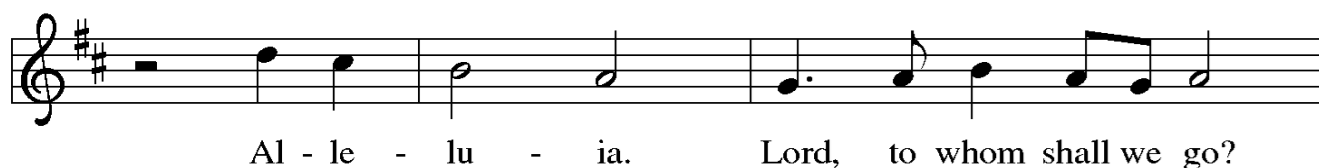
L A reading from the Psalm 113.

- <sup>1</sup> Praise the Lord! Praise, O servants of the Lord;  
praise the name of the Lord.
- <sup>2</sup> Blessed be the name of the Lord  
from this time on and forevermore.
- <sup>3</sup> From the rising of the sun to its setting,  
the name of the Lord is to be praised.
- <sup>4</sup> The Lord is high above all nations  
and his glory above the heavens.
- <sup>5</sup> Who is like the Lord our God,  
who is seated on high,  
<sup>6</sup> who looks far down  
on the heavens and the earth?
- <sup>7</sup> He raises the poor from the dust  
and lifts the needy from the ash heap,  
<sup>8</sup> to make them sit with princes,  
with the princes of his people.
- <sup>9</sup> He gives the barren woman a home,  
making her the joyous mother of children.  
Praise the Lord!

L Word of God, word of life.

C Thanks be to God.

✠ **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** ELW S151



## **GOSPEL Luke 16:1-13**

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the sixteenth chapter.

**C** Glory to you, O Lord.

*Jesus tells the curious story of a dishonest manager who cheats his employer and then is commended by him for having acted so shrewdly. Jesus wonders why his own followers are less creative and diligent in their stewardship given that they are managers of a far more valuable household.*

**T**hen Jesus said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. <sup>2</sup> So he summoned him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management because you cannot be my manager any longer.’ <sup>3</sup> Then the manager said to himself, ‘What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. <sup>4</sup> I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.’ <sup>5</sup> So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ <sup>6</sup> He answered, ‘A hundred jugs of olive oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.’ <sup>7</sup> Then he asked another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He replied, ‘A hundred containers of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill and make it eighty.’ <sup>8</sup> And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly, for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. <sup>9</sup> And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone they may welcome you into the eternal homes. <sup>10</sup>

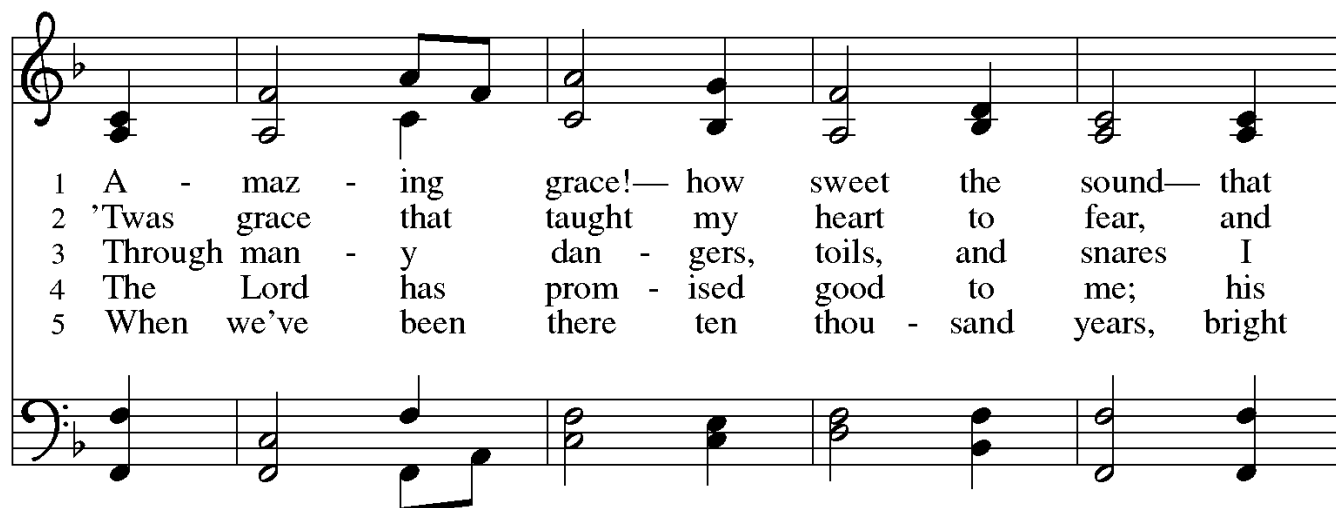
“Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much, and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. <sup>11</sup> If, then, you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? <sup>12</sup> And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? <sup>13</sup> No slave can serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.”

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.

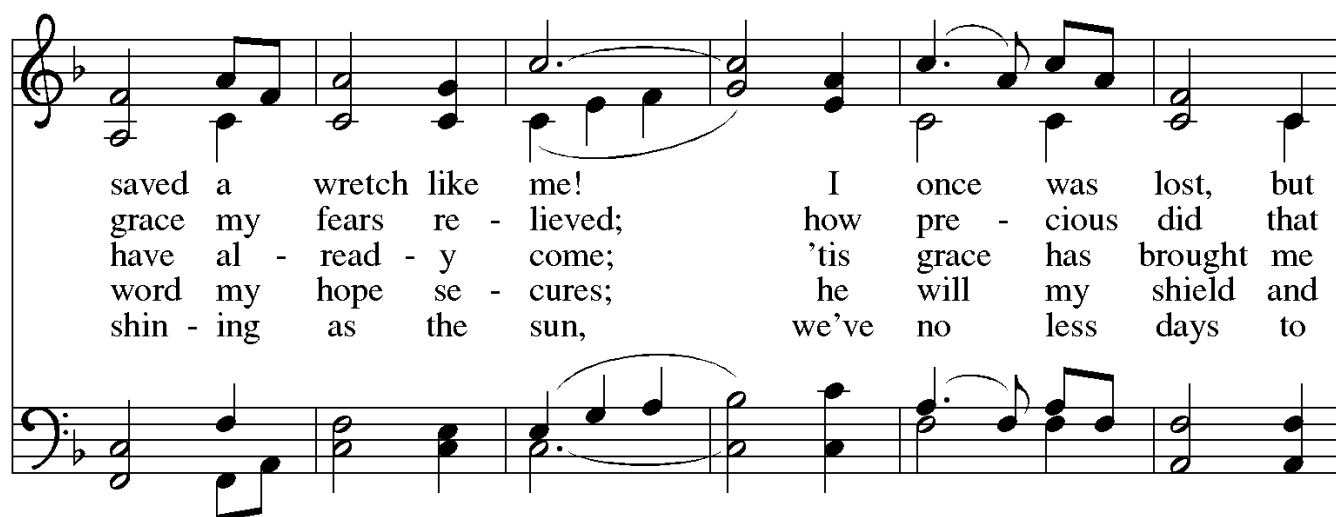
**C** Praise to you, O Christ.

**SERMON**

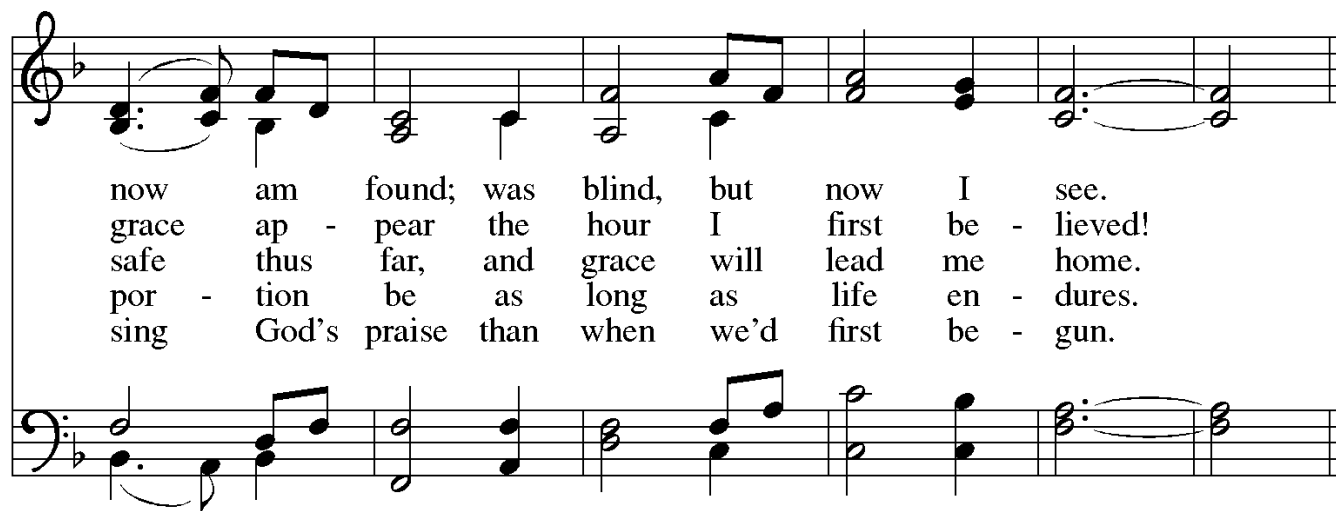
*Pastor John Futterer*



1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that  
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and  
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I  
4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his  
5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but  
grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that  
have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me  
word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and  
shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to



now am found; was blind, but now I see.  
grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!  
safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.  
por - tion be as long as life en - dures.  
sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

## 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 Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need.

*As able, you are invited to kneel or be seated for the prayers.*

*Prayer petitions will conclude: "God of grace."*

*The congregation's response is: "receive our prayer."*

P We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.

C Amen.

## ✠ SHARING OF GOD'S PEACE

A The peace of Christ be with you.

C And also with you.

A Please greet those around you with words of peace.

## OFFERING

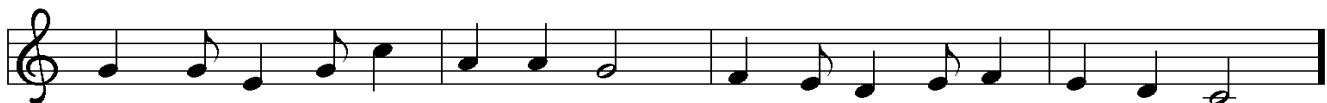
*The offering plates are in the narthex for your use. You may also place your offering in the plate at the communion rail when you come forward for communion. Please ask an usher if you have any questions.*

### ELW 674

### *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ*



1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a shout of joy:



bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.

#### *Refrain*



Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

## OFFERING PRAYER

- P** Let us pray. Lord of the harvest, we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C** Amen.

## 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. Gluten-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.

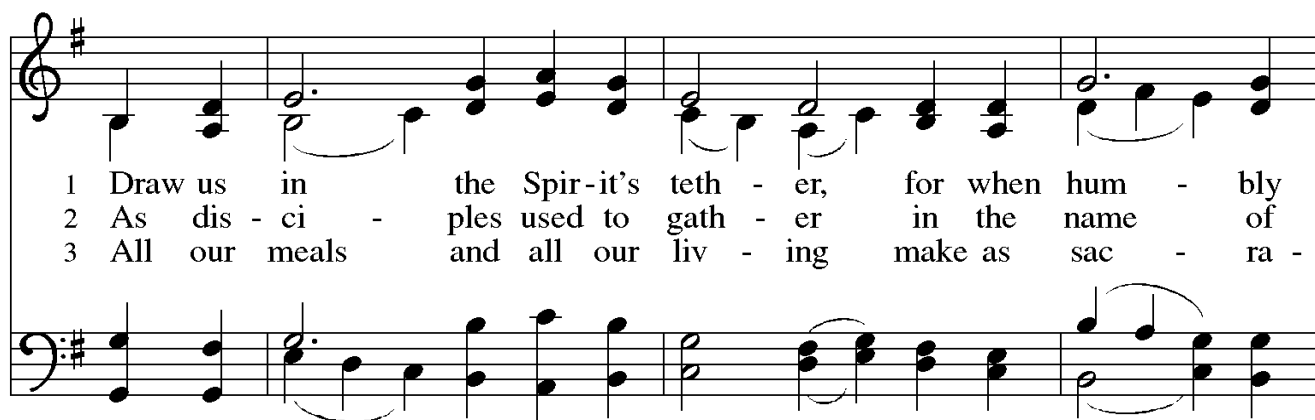
## LORD'S PRAYER

- 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.

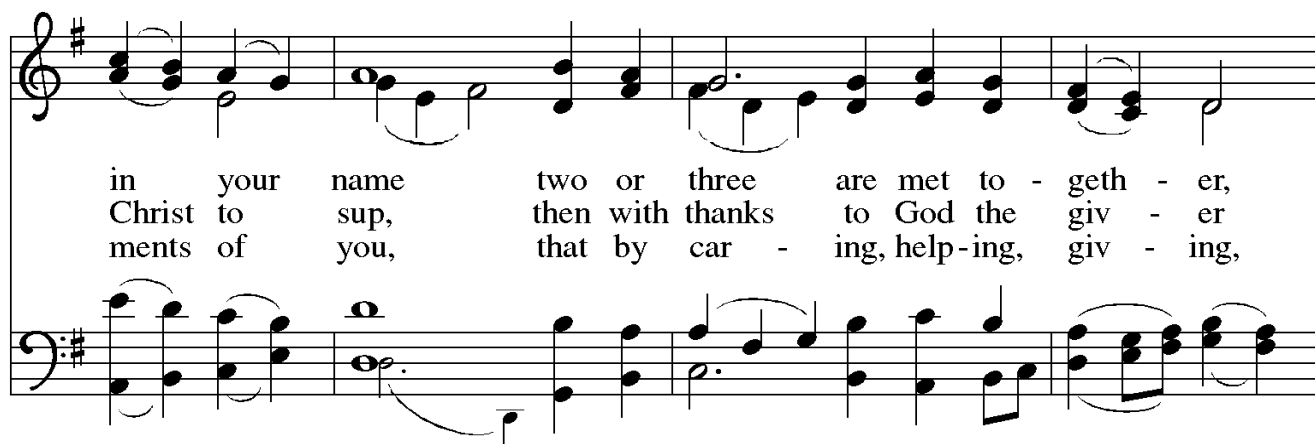
## INVITATION

- P** Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. Come to this meal of mercy.
- 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.*



1 Draw us in the Spir-it's teth - er, for when hum - bly  
2 As dis - ci - ples used to gath - er in the name of  
3 All our meals and all our liv - ing make as sac - ra -



in your name two or three are met to - geth - er,  
Christ to sup, then with thanks to God the giv - er  
ments of you, that by car - ing, help-ing, giv - ing,



you are in the midst of them. Al - le - lu - ia!  
break the bread and bless the cup, Al - le - lu - ia!  
we may be dis - ci - ples true. Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia! Touch we now your gar - ment's hem.  
Al - le - lu - ia! so now bind our friend - ship up.  
Al - le - lu - ia! We will serve with faith a - new.



## ✠ 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 Let us pray. O God, through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

C Amen.

## BENEDICTION

P The God of righteousness,  
who gives justice to the oppressed,  
who gives food to the hungry,  
who sets the prisoners free,  
✠ bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

## SENDING HYMN

*Son of God, Eternal Savior*

*Next Page*

## DISMISSAL

A Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE

*Postlude in E<sup>b</sup>*

*Gertrude Haupt Richardson*

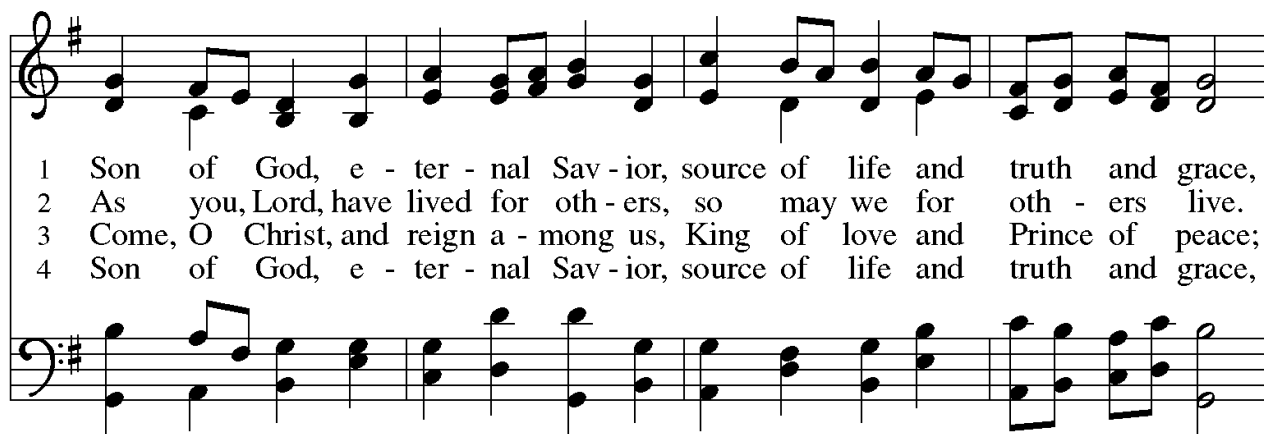
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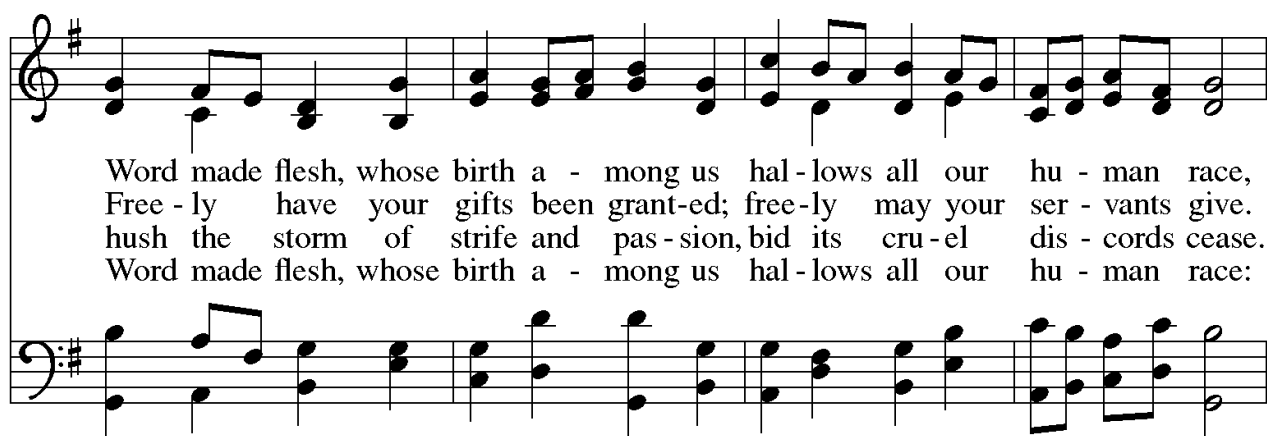
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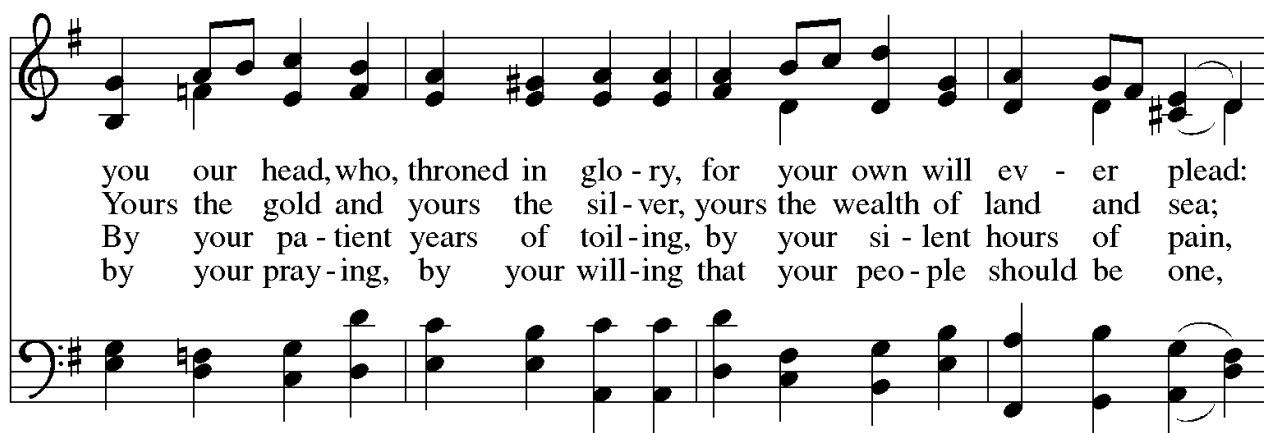
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1 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,  
2 As you, Lord, have lived for oth - ers, so may we for oth - ers live.  
3 Come, O Christ, and reign a - mong us, King of love and Prince of peace;  
4 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,



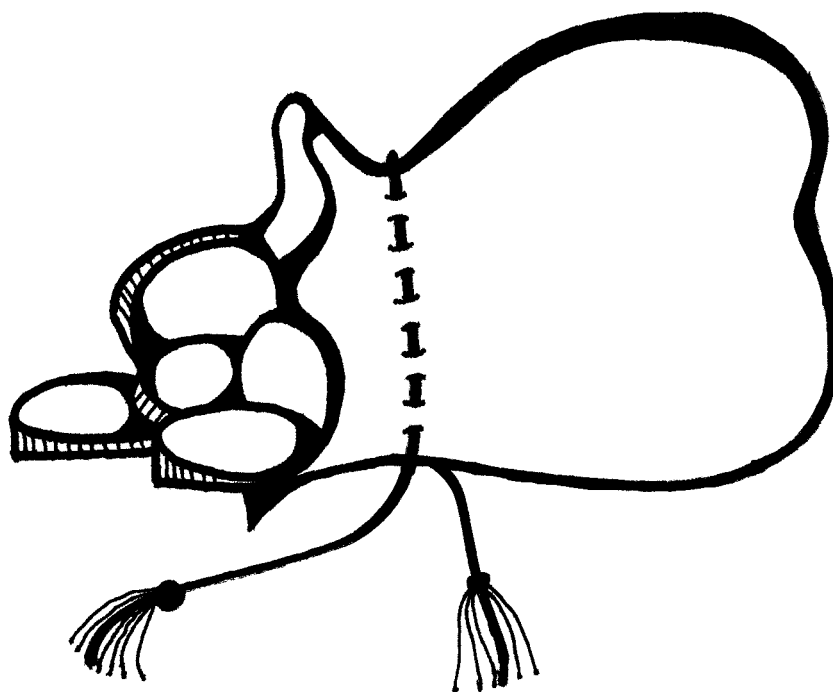
Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race,  
Free - ly have your gifts been grant - ed; free - ly may your ser - vants give.  
hush the storm of strife and pas - sion, bid its cru - el dis - cords cease.  
Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race:



you our head, who, throned in glo - ry, for your own will ev - er plead:  
Yours the gold and yours the sil - ver, yours the wealth of land and sea;  
By your pa - tient years of toil - ing, by your si - lent hours of pain,  
by your pray - ing, by your will - ing that your peo - ple should be one,



fill us with your love and pit - y, heal our wrong, and help our need.  
we but stew - ards of your boun - ty held in sol - emn trust will be.  
quench our fe - vered thirst of plea - sure, stem our self - ish greed of gain.  
grant, oh, grant our hope's fru - i - tion: here on earth your will be done.



## Upcoming Commemorations

### **Sunday, September 21, 2025—Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist**

Matthew (or Levi) was a tax collector in Capernaum for the Roman government. Tax collectors were frequently despised for dishonesty and for assisting the occupiers. Jesus nevertheless showed love for them, and chose Matthew to be a disciple.