

Reign of Christ Sunday

Liturgical Setting: ELW 4

November 23, 2025

10:30 am

Grace Lutheran Church
Wenatchee, WA



Welcome to Grace!

The stained-glass windows in our church display a beautiful collection of glass pieces, each one unique and important. The same is true for all of God's children. As people of Grace Lutheran Church, our diversity makes us stronger and more resilient.

We strive to welcome all. We want to be a church where all are safe, all are welcome. Believers, non-believers, doubters, seekers, and questioners: You are welcome here. Old and young. Able or disabled. People of all sexual orientations and gender identities: You are welcome here. Rich and poor. Black, brown, and white: You are welcome here. Jeans and a t-shirt or a suit and tie. Addiction and mental health concerns: You are welcome here.

You are welcomed and valued here, because we are all pieces of stained glass, broken and beautiful in our own way.

As a church, we resolve to open our hearts, our minds, and our doors. We seek to reconcile ourselves to one another and to God, the master artist.

Holy Communion: We celebrate the grace of God with Holy Communion each Sunday. All are welcome!

If you are worshipping with children: Children are welcome and encouraged to join us in worship! We have a few options, especially for our young worshipers. Children's bulletins are available from the ushers. Quiet toys are located just outside the back door of the sanctuary for young children and caregivers. Most Sundays we have nursery staff available to help watch the children in that space. You are also welcome to use the quiet area under the balcony, beside the stained-glass window.

Our Mission Statement: "To proclaim and celebrate the gospel of Jesus Christ through word and sacraments so that a community of believers is created, trained, nurtured, and sent into mission."

Grace Lutheran is a Reconciling in Christ Congregation



INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

Jeremiah's promise of the execution of "justice and righteousness in the land" finds ironic fulfillment in the execution of Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews. It appears utterly contradictory that a king should be crucified with a criminal. This victory appears for all the world as humiliating defeat. Yet through the gate of death Jesus opens the door to paradise.

+ + + GATHERING + + +

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

WELCOME AND KIDS' TALK

PRELUDE

Crown Him with Many Crowns
Bells of Grace

arr. Barbara B. Kinyon

Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Faithful God,
**you have shown us the ways of your heart,
yet we stray from your paths.**
**We are stuck in sinful systems of oppression
and do not embrace the freedom
of your faithful promises.**
We ignore our neighbors.
We exploit the earth.
**We reject your abundance,
trusting our impulses instead of your steadfast love.**
**Repair our relationships,
restore what we have broken,
renew our hearts,
and bring us to new life.**
Amen.

Hear the good news:
 God the Faithful One loves you,
 † in Christ Jesus your sins are forgiven,
 and by the power of the Holy Spirit you are set free.
Amen.

GATHERING SONG

ELW #634, *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!*
Harmonies may be found in ELW – the cranberry hymnal.



1-All	All hail the pow'r of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros - trate fall;
2-High voices (SA)	O seed of Is - rael's cho - sen race now ran - somed from the fall,
3-All	Hail him, you heirs of Da - vid's line, whom Da - vid Lord did call—
4-Choir	Sin - ners, whose love can ne'er for - get the worm - wood and the gall,



bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem and crown him Lord of all.
 hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him Lord of all.
 the God in - car - nate, man di - vine—and crown him Lord of all.
 go spread your tro - phies at his feet and crown him Lord of all.



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem and crown him Lord of all.
 Hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him Lord of all.
 The God in - car - nate, man di - vine—and crown him Lord of all.
 Go spread your tro - phies at his feet and crown him Lord of all.

5-Low voices (TB)

Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe
 on this terrestrial ball
 to him all majesty ascribe
 and crown him Lord of all.

6-All

Oh, that with yonder sacred throng
 we at his feet may fall!
 We'll join the everlasting song
 and crown him Lord of all.

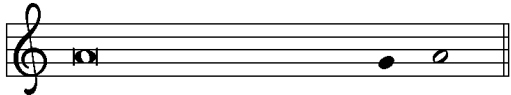
Text: Edward Perronet, 1726–1792, sts. 1–4; J. Rippon, A Selection of Hymns, 1787, sts. 5–6
 Music: CORONATION, Oliver Holden, 1765–1844

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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.

KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



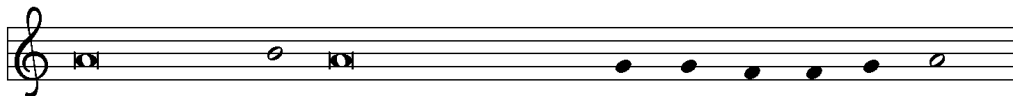
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - - men.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

This Is the Feast

Refrain

Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, our true life, to serve you is freedom, and to know you is unending joy. We worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for your great glory. Abide with us, reign in us, and make this world into a fit habitation for your divine majesty, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

+++ WORD +++

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 23:1-6

Today's reading builds on the common, ancient Near Eastern metaphor of the king as shepherd. Judah's unjust rulers have caused their people, their "flock," to be scattered. Nevertheless, God will raise up a new and righteous shepherd who will rule a restored Judah.

A reading from Jeremiah.

¹ Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the Lord. ² Therefore thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the Lord. ³ Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. ⁴ I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall no longer fear or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the Lord.

⁵ The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶ In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

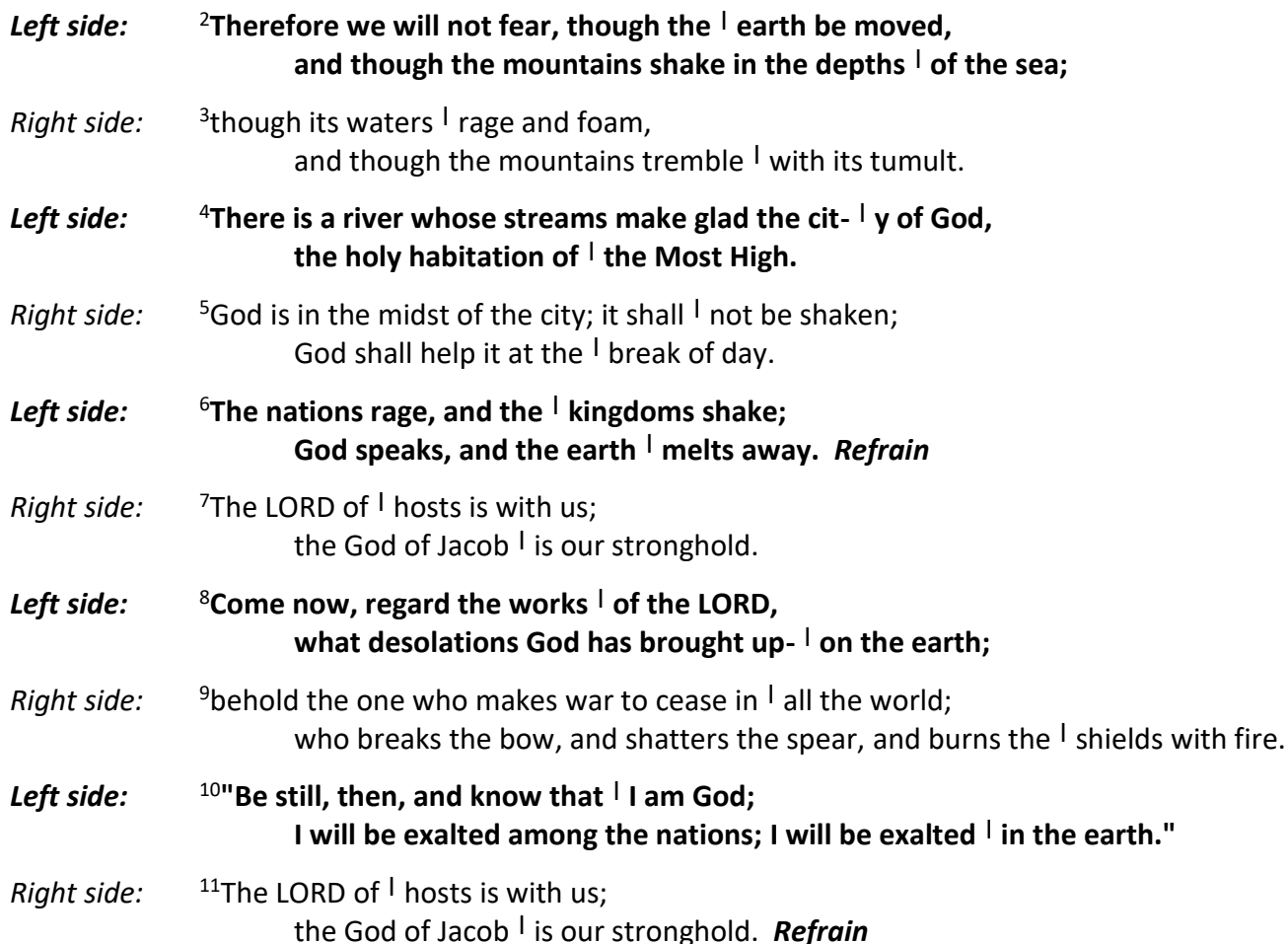
PSALM 46

The cantor introduces the refrain; all repeat it.

All sing the verses and refrain as indicated.



Right side: God is our ref-^luge and strength,
a very present ^lhelp in trouble.



An early Christian hymn praises the mystery of the political, personal, and mystical Christ, the one who was present at creation and is eternally reigning with God.

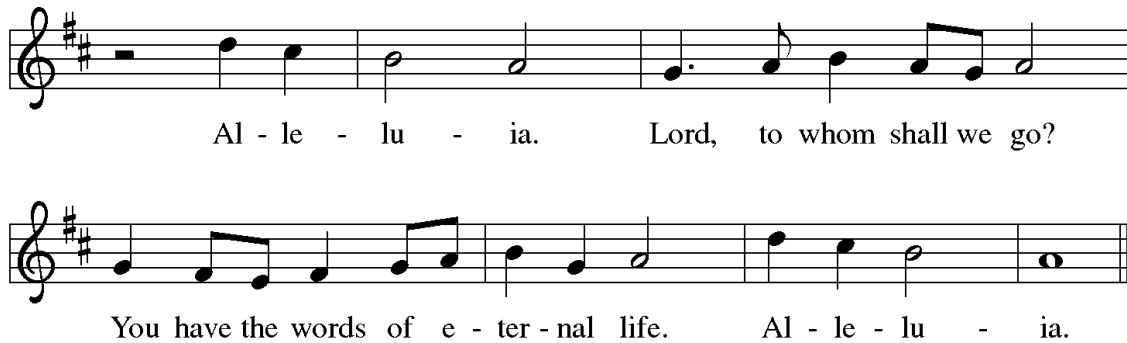
¹¹ May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, so that you may have all endurance and patience, joyfully ¹² giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³ He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, ¹⁶ for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷ He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹ For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰ and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

7

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Luke 23:33-43

Amid scoffing and slander from those who sarcastically call him Messiah and king, Jesus reveals that to be Messiah and king is to give one's life for others. Here he uses his power to welcome a despised sinner to paradise but puts his own death into God's hands.

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³³ When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁴ [[Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."]] And they cast lots to divide his clothing. ³⁵ And the people stood by watching, but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" ³⁶ The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine ³⁷ and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" ³⁸ There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

³⁹ One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" ⁴⁰ But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? ⁴¹ And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." ⁴² Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come in your kingdom." ⁴³ He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON

Please stand as you are able.



1-Choir women	Ho - ly God,	ho - ly and glo - ri - ous,
2-All	Ho - ly God,	ho - ly and pow - er - ful,
3-Choir men	Ho - ly God,	ho - ly and beau - ti - ful,
4-All	Ho - ly God,	ho - ly and on - ly wise,
5-All	Ho - ly God,	ho - ly and liv - ing one,



glo - ry most sub - lime, you come as one a - mong us
 pow - er with - out peer, you bend to us in weak - ness;
 beau - ty un - sur - passed, you are de - spised, re - ject - ed;
 wis - dom of great price, you choose the way of fol - ly:
 life that nev - er ends, you show your love by dy - ing,



in - to hu - man time, and we be - hold your glo - ry.
 emp - tied, you draw near, and we be - hold your pow - er.
 scorned, you hold us fast, and we be - hold your beau - ty.
 God the cru - ci - fied, and we be - hold your wis - dom.
 dy - ing for your friends, and we be - hold you liv - ing.

Text: Susan R. Briehl, b. 1952

Music: NELSON, Robert Buckley Farlee, b. 1950

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NICENE CREED

Let us confess our Christian faith:

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.**

... continued on p. 10 ...

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

Gathered with one voice, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

After each portion of the prayers:

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We offer these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your grace and unyielding love; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

+ + + MEAL + + +

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Please be seated.

OFFERING

OFFERING ANTHEM

The Lord Is King Voices of Grace

Jan Sanborn

The Lord is King! Lift up your voice. O Earth and all the heavens now rejoice;
from world to world the joy shall ring, the Lord omnipotent is King!

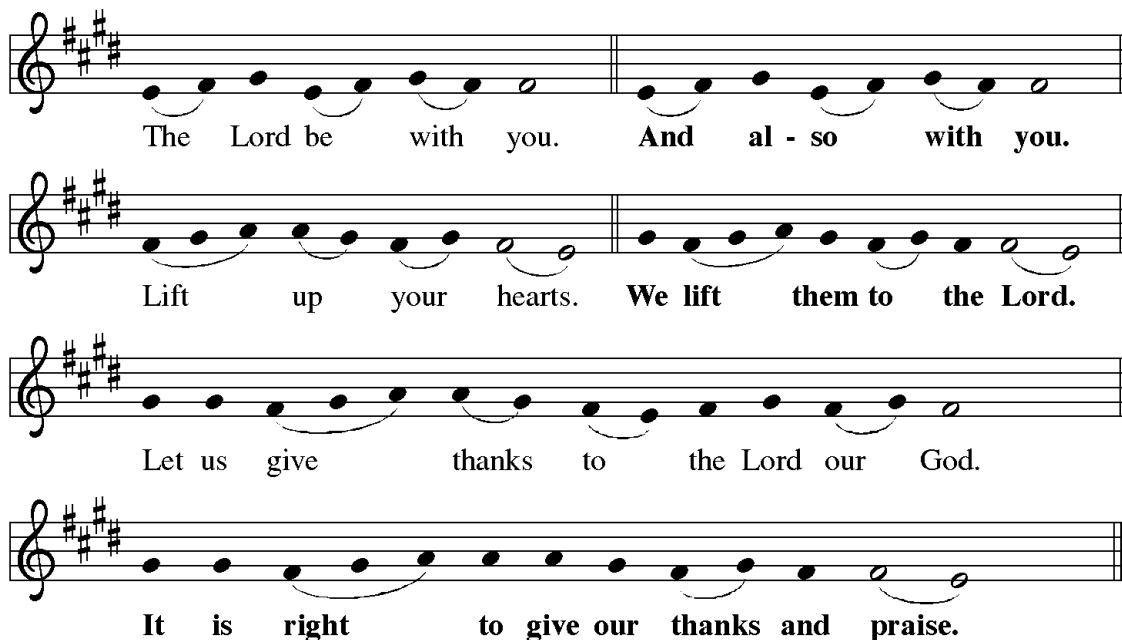
Alike pervaded by His eye all parts of His dominion lie:
This world of ours and worlds unseen, and thin the boundary between.

One Lord, one Empire all secures, He reigns, and life and joy are yours;
through earth and heaven one song shall ring: The Lord omnipotent is King!

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.
God of healing and hope,
you bless those who are hungry,
promising to fill them with good things.
Fulfill that promise through us and these your gifts.
Nourish us with the abundance of your feast
and unite us into the blessed body of Jesus Christ our Savior,
now and forever.
Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

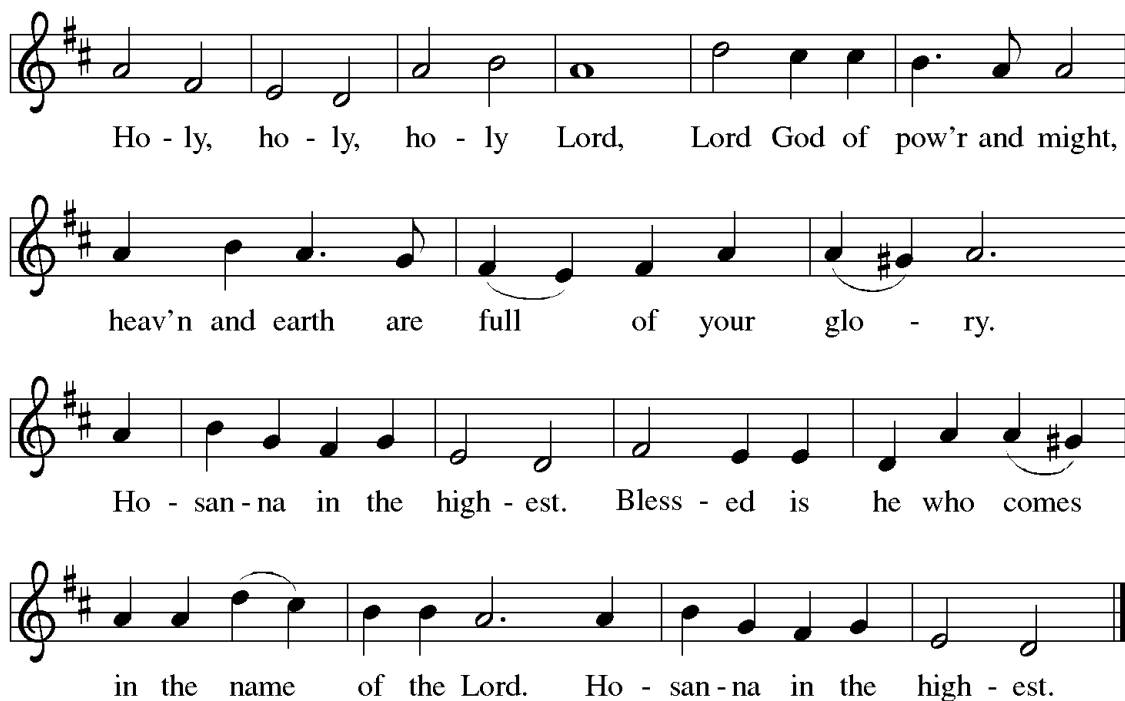
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The musical notation consists of four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The notes are simple, mostly quarter and half notes, with some slurs indicating phrasing. The lyrics are written below the notes.

PREFACE

It is indeed right ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

God of our weary years ... we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore ... let the church say, Amen.

Amen.

Send your Holy Spirit ... let the church say, Amen.

Amen.

Join our prayers ... now and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

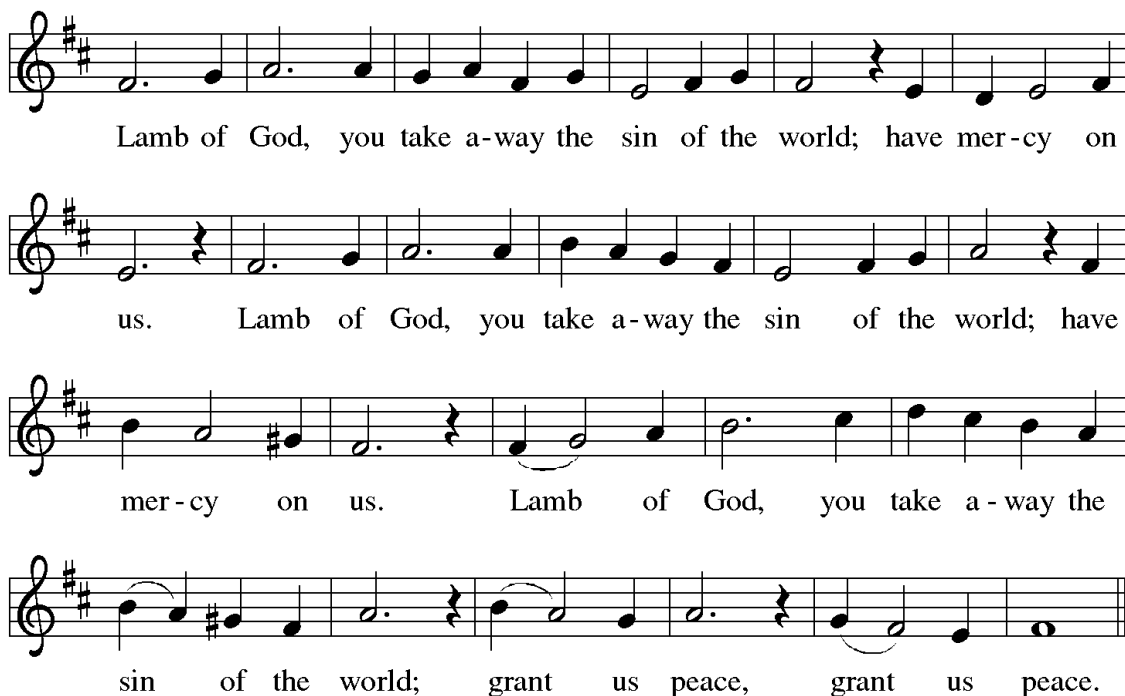
There is a place for you at the table of God.
Come, receive the food that does not perish,
a taste of life eternal.

Please be seated.

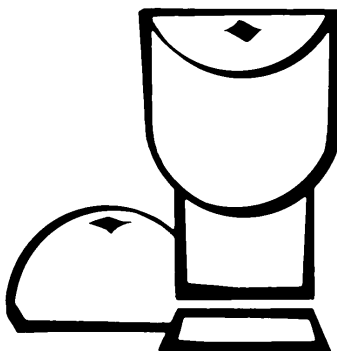
COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
Amen.

DISTRIBUTION SONG



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.



DISTRIBUTION SONG

ELW #838, *Beautiful Savior*

Harmonies may be found in ELW – the cranberry hymnal.



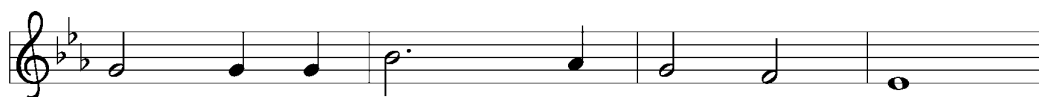
1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,
2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,
3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,
4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,



Son of God and Son of Man!
robed in flow'rs of bloom - ing spring;
bright the spar - kling stars on high;
Son of God and Son of Man!



Tru - ly I'd love thee, tru - ly I'd serve thee,
Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er,
Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er,
Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion,



light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
he makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing.
than all the an - gels in the sky.
now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

DISTRIBUTION SONG

ELW #616, *Jesus, Remember Me*

Sing repeatedly, in harmony.



Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.



Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.



Please stand as you are able.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

God of field and flower, wheat and grape,
you have nourished us with the bread of heaven
that gives life to the world.

Strengthened by the body and blood of your Son,
send us out to gather your good gifts for all who
hunger and thirst, and embolden us to love and serve in Christ's name.

Amen.

+ + + SENDING + + +

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Please be seated.

MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able.

BLESSING

The love of God the Sovereign strengthen you,
God the Son save you,
and God the Holy Spirit anoint you for the work ahead.

The holy Trinity bless you ✙
and grant you a faithful and courageous heart
now and forever.

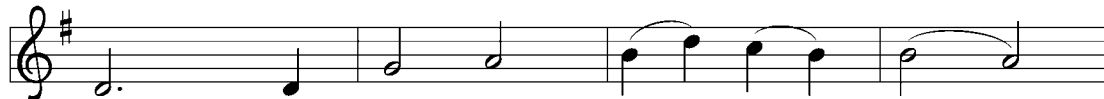
Amen.

SENDING SONG

ELW #435, *Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending*
Harmonies may be found in ELW – the cranberry hymnal.



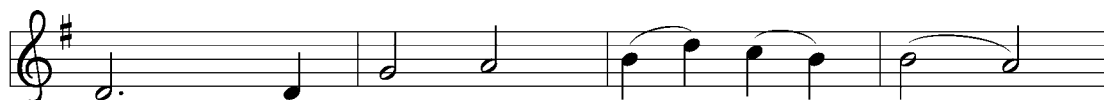
1 Lo! he comes with clouds de - scend - ing,
 2 Now re - demp - tion, long - ex - pect - ed,
 3 Yea, a - men, let all a - dore thee,



once for our sal - va - tion slain;
 comes in sol - emn splen - dor near;
 high on thine e - ter - nal throne;



thou - sand thou - sand saints at - tend - ing
 all the saints this world re - ject - ed
 Sav - ior, take the pow'r and glo - ry,



join to sing the glad re - frain:
 thrill the trum - pet sound to hear:
 claim the king - dom as thine own.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -



lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.
 lu - ia! See the day of God ap - pear!
 lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone!

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

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the harvest.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending

Robert Lind

+ + +

Serving in Today's Worship

Presiding Minister:	Rev. James Aalgaard
Pastoral Intern:	Laura Olsen
Lector:	Joyce Owens
Cantor:	John McQuaig
Brass Quartet:	Kate Gregg, Sherry Krebs, Ross Miller, Tony Morgan, Sabrina Windsor, Mark Woolsey, Tim Zanol
Flute:	Lisa Zanol
Tech:	Phil Gregg

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Beautiful Savior Text: *Gesangbuch*, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823-1904. P.D. Music: Silesian folk tune, 19th cent. P.D.

Jesus, Remember Me Text: Luke 23:42; Taizé Community. Music: Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994. Text and Music © 1981 Les Presses de Taizé, admin. GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved.

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