Reformation Sunday



Sunday, October 25, 2026
10:30am

ELW setting 3

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. We have a* ***Cozy Corner****, with books and quiet activities, in the back part of the sanctuary. We also have a staffed* ***nursery*** *available during our worship gathering. You will find it down the administrative wing, on the left. We also encourage parents and guardians to point out* ***Kids' Cues*** *during the service, as a way to help younger worshipers be more fully engaged.*

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
Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.

+ + + GATHERING + + +

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

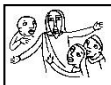
A note to children and families: watch for "kids' cues" throughout today's service. These are opportunities to engage in worship and stay connected as all generations of Grace worship together. Parents and other helpers - we encourage you to help your children notice these cues and participate at whatever level is appropriate for them.



WELCOME & KIDS' TALK

PRELUDE *Percussive Praise* Kevin McChesney
Bells of Grace

Please stand as you are able.



Kids' Cue

Join Pastor at the baptismal font.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

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

Silence for reflection.

Compassionate God,
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.

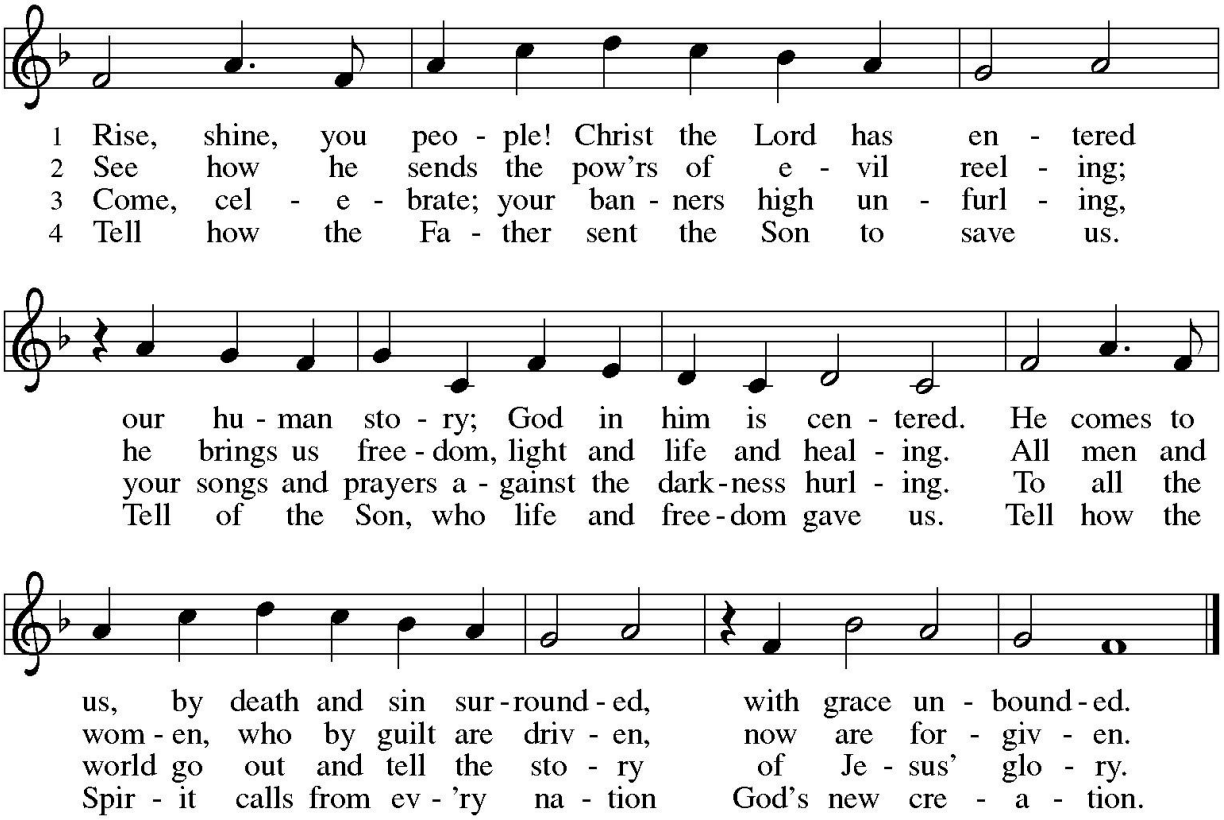
Hear this good news:
We have peace with God through ☩ Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace. **Amen.**



Kids' Cue

Walk with Pastor to the front, then go back to your family.

GATHERING SONG ELW #665, *Rise, Shine, You People!*



Text: Ronald A. Klug, b. 1939, alt.
Music: WOJTKIEWIECZ, Dale Wood, 1934–2003
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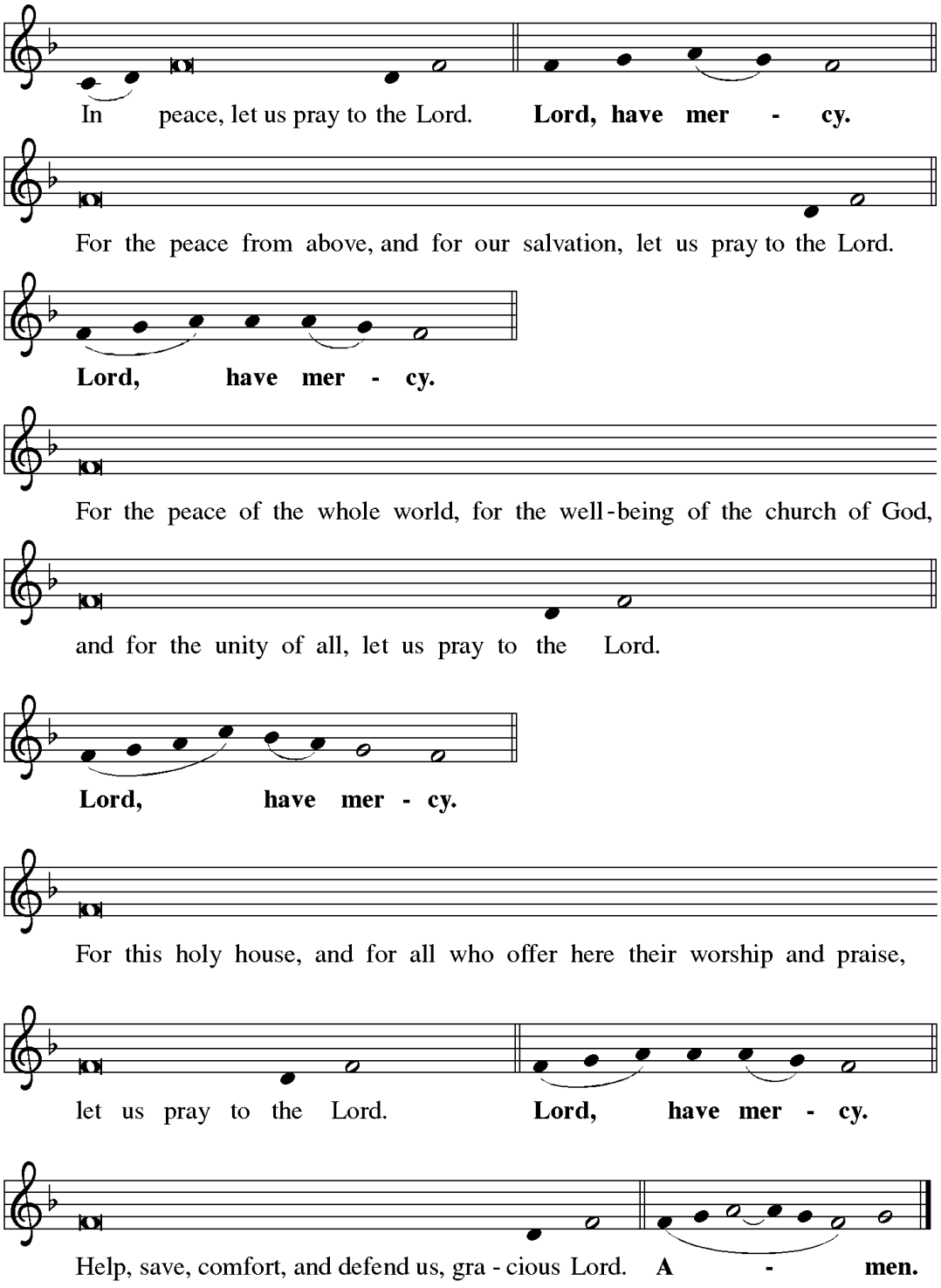
GREETING
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.
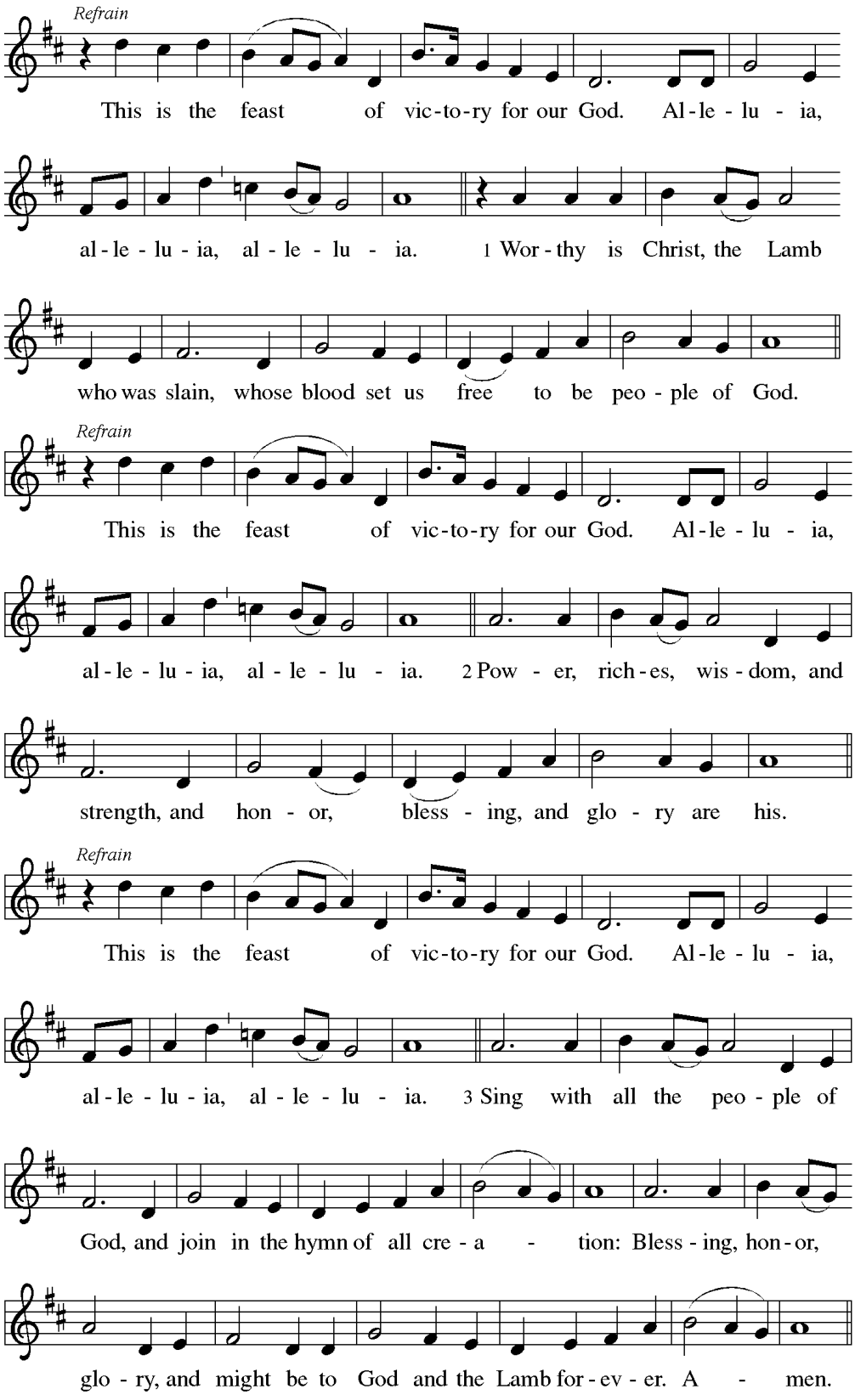


Kids' Cue

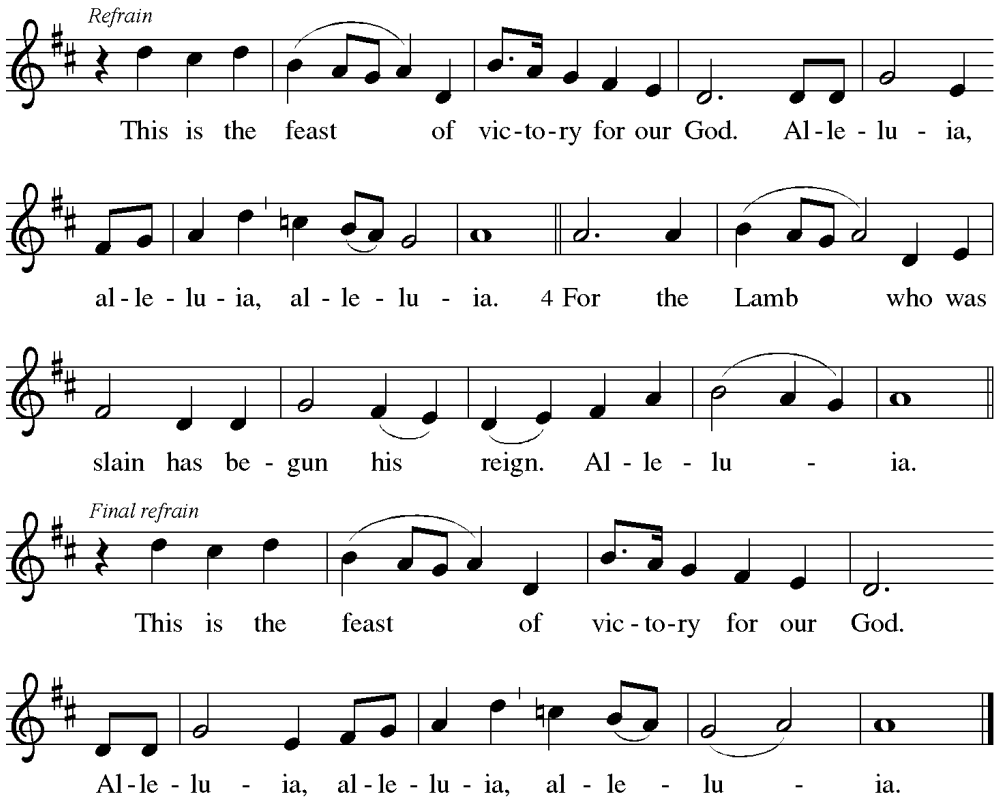
Extend your hands to also share your blessing with Pastor.

KYRIE


In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, 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 worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.
Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE *This Is the Feast*





PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, 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 31:31-34

The renewed covenant will not be breakable, but like the old covenant it will expect the people to live upright lives. To know the Lord means that one will defend the cause of the poor and needy (Jer. 22:16). The renewed covenant is possible only because the Lord will forgive iniquity and not remember sin. Our hope lies in a God who forgets.

A reading from Jeremiah.

31 The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the
house of Judah. 32 It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the
hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the
Lord. 33 But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will
put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

[34] No longer shall they teach one another or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord, for I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more.
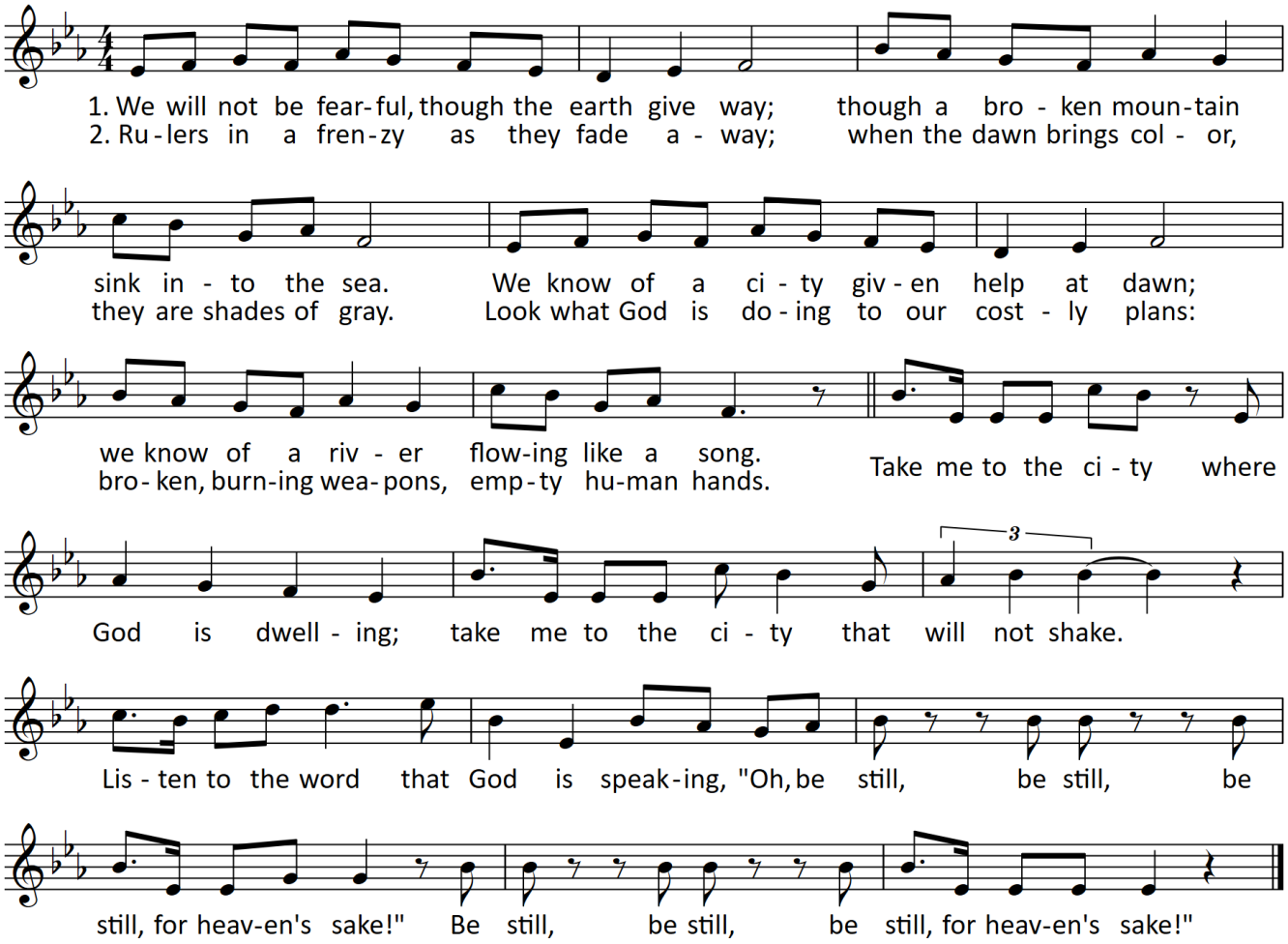
The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**



Kids’ Cue

Draw a heart. Inside your heart, draw something that reminds you of God’s love.

PSALM 46



SECOND READING: Romans 3:19-28

Paul’s words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and other Reformation leaders. No human beings make themselves right with God through works of the law. We are brought into a right relationship with God through the divine activity centered in Christ’s death. This act is a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.

A reading from Romans.

[19] Now we know that, whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world may be held accountable to God. [20] For no human will be justified before him by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

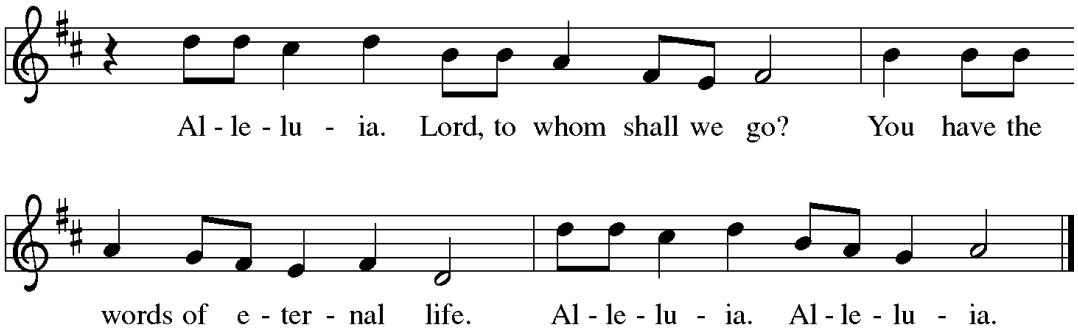
[21] But now, apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed and is attested by the Law and the Prophets, [22] the righteousness of God through the faith of Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, [23] since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; [24] they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, [25] whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; [26] it was to demonstrate at the present time his own righteousness, so that he is righteous and he justifies the one who has the faith of Jesus.

[27] Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. Through what kind of law? That of works? No, rather through the law of faith. [28] For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: John 8:31-36

Jesus speaks of truth and freedom as spiritual realities known through his word. He reveals the truth that sets people free from sin.



Kids' Cue

Draw something that helps you think of freedom in Christ.

The holy gospel according to John.
Glory to you, O Lord.

[31] Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, [32] and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." [33] They answered him, "We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, 'You will be made free'?"

[34] Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. [35] The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. [36] So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed."
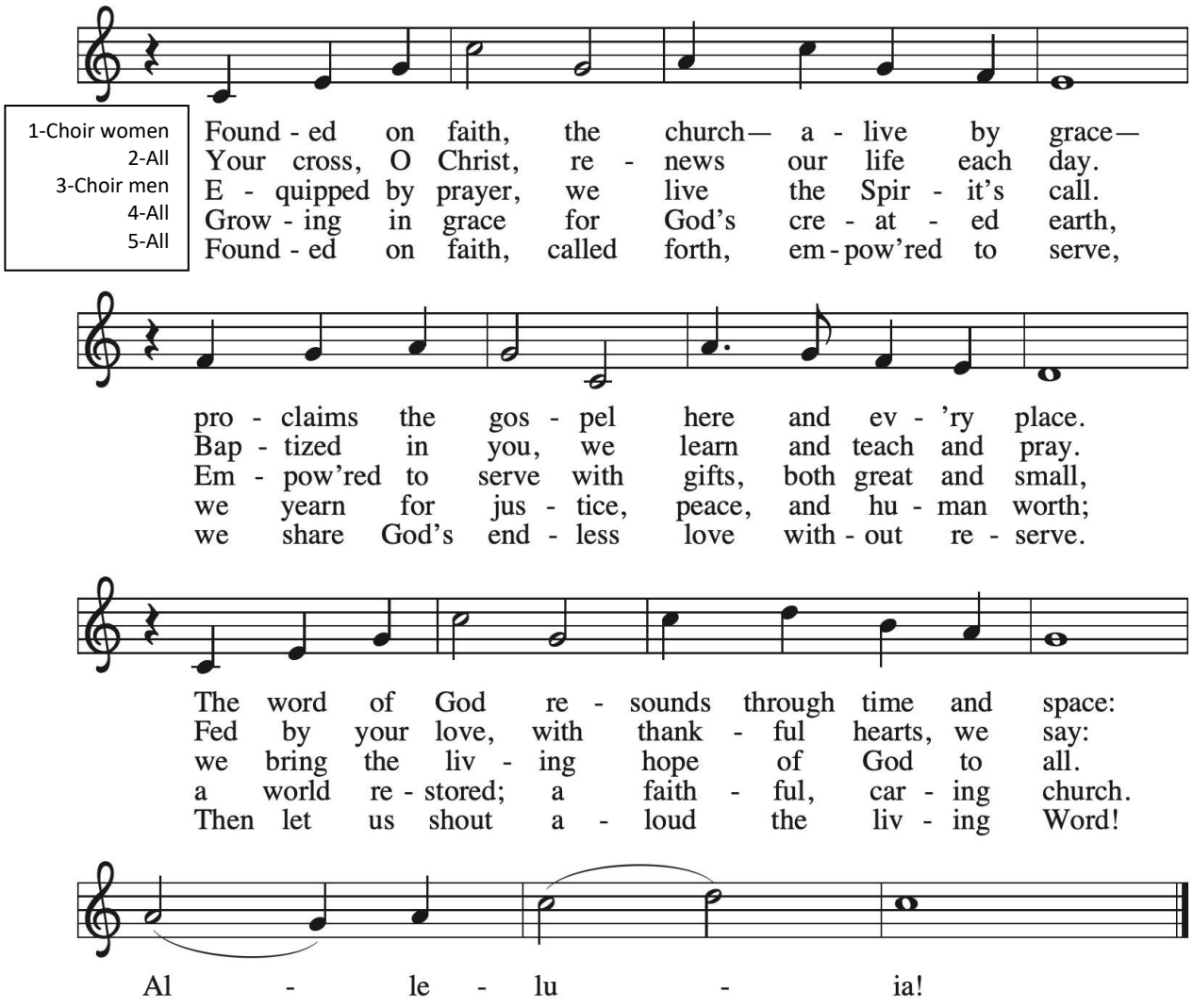
The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY *Founded on Faith*



Text: Paul D. Weber, b. 1949
Music: FOUNDED ON FAITH, Paul D. Weber
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PRESENTATION
Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for these persons, one with us in the body of Christ, who are making public affirmation of their baptism.

I present Noah Dennis, who desires to make public affirmation of his baptism.
I present Bennett Dunckel, who desires to make public affirmation of his baptism.

Let us pray.
Merciful God, we thank you for these brothers,
whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism.
You have called them to yourself,
enlightened them with the gifts of your Spirit,
and nourished them in the community of faith.
Uphold your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism,
and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth.
We ask this in the name of Christ. **Amen.**

Please stand as you are able.

PROFESSION OF FAITH
I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God,
the powers of this world that rebel against God,
and the ways of sin that draw you from God?
I renounce them.

Do you believe in God the Father?
I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?
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.

Please be seated.

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:
to live among God's faithful people,
to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,
to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?
I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

People of God, do you promise to support these siblings in the faith and pray for them in their life in Christ?
We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

Let us pray.
We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life.
Stir up in Noah/Bennett the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. **Amen.**

Father in heaven, for Jesus' sake, stir up in Noah/Bennett the gift of your Holy Spirit; confirm his faith, guide his life, empower him in his serving, give him patience in suffering, and bring him to everlasting life.
Amen.

Let us rejoice with these brothers in Christ.
We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.



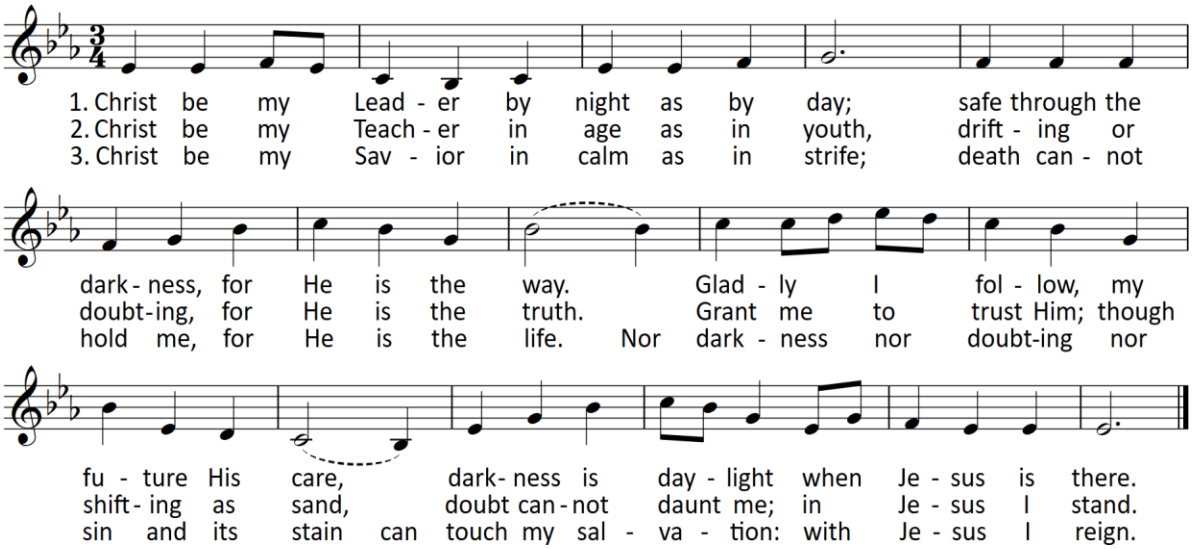
Kids' Cue

What symbols would you put on your confirmation stole?

SHARING OF CONFIRMATION STOLES

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN



PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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

After each portion of the prayers:
Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

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



Kids' Cue

Close your eyes and "listen deeply" to everything around you.

PEACE
The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

Please be seated.

+ + + MEAL + + +
God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

To donate electronically, use this QR code.

MUSICAL OFFERING *God's Word Is Our Great Heritage* arr. Carolyn Jennings
Voices of Grace, trumpets

God's Word is our great heritage forever. To spread its light shall be our chief endeavor.
Through life it guides our way; in death it is our stay.
Lord, grant your Church may hold it fast throughout all generations.

Please stand as you are able.

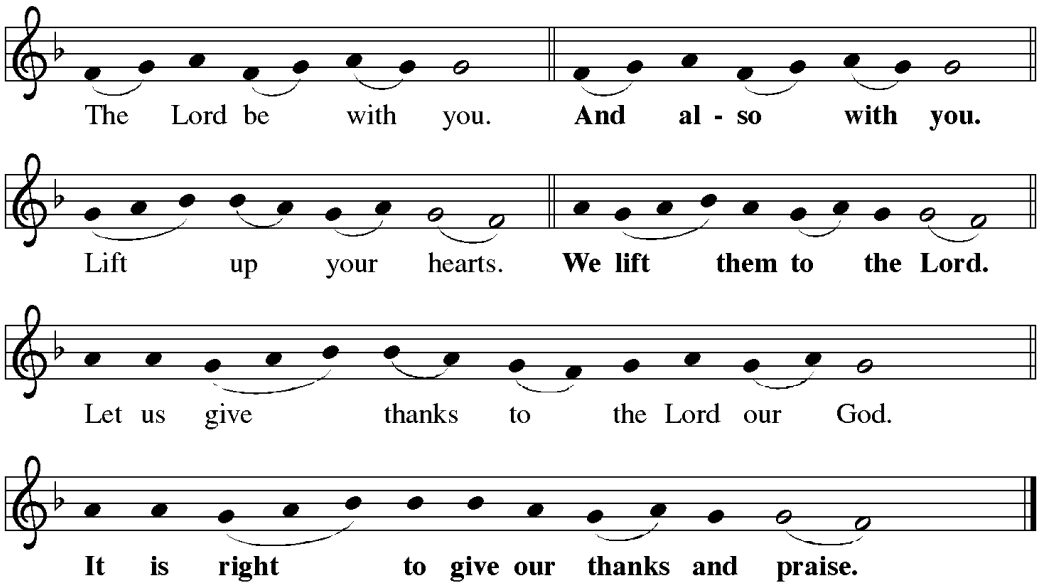
OFFERING PRAYER
God of creation,
you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly.
All blessings are from you;
make us generous with what we have.
Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts
in service to you and in love to our neighbors,
today and always.
Amen.



Kids' Cue

Which of your abilities can you offer for God's service?

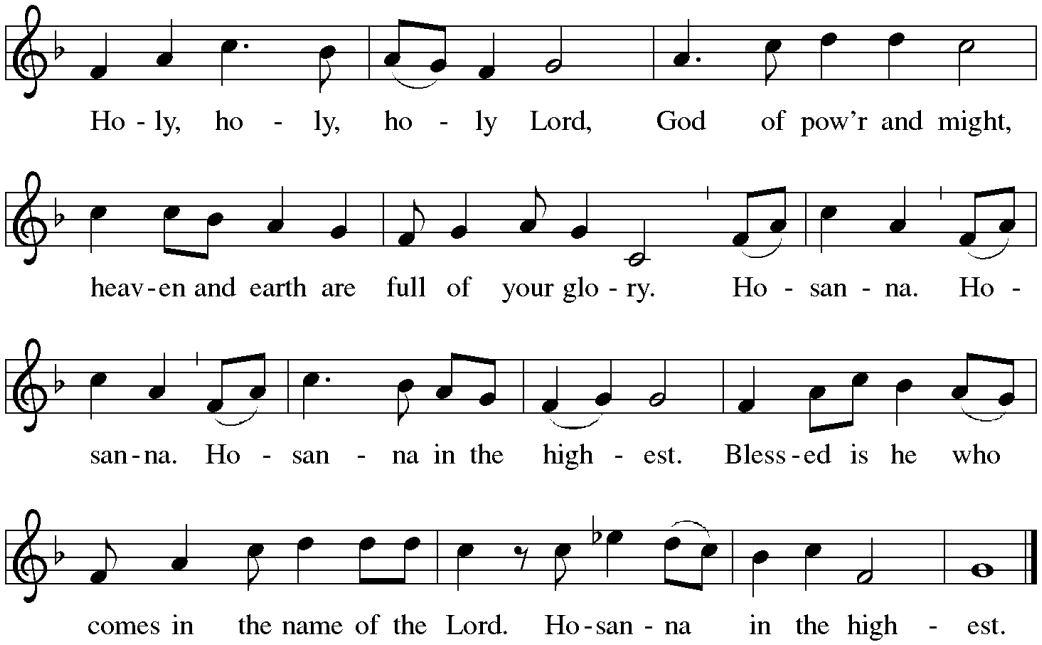
GREAT THANKSGIVING



PREFACE

It is indeed right … join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

In the night … for the remembrance of me. **Amen.**



Kids' Cue

Watch for Pastor to lift up the bread and then the wine.

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.



Kids' Cue

What does this prayer say we receive from God?

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

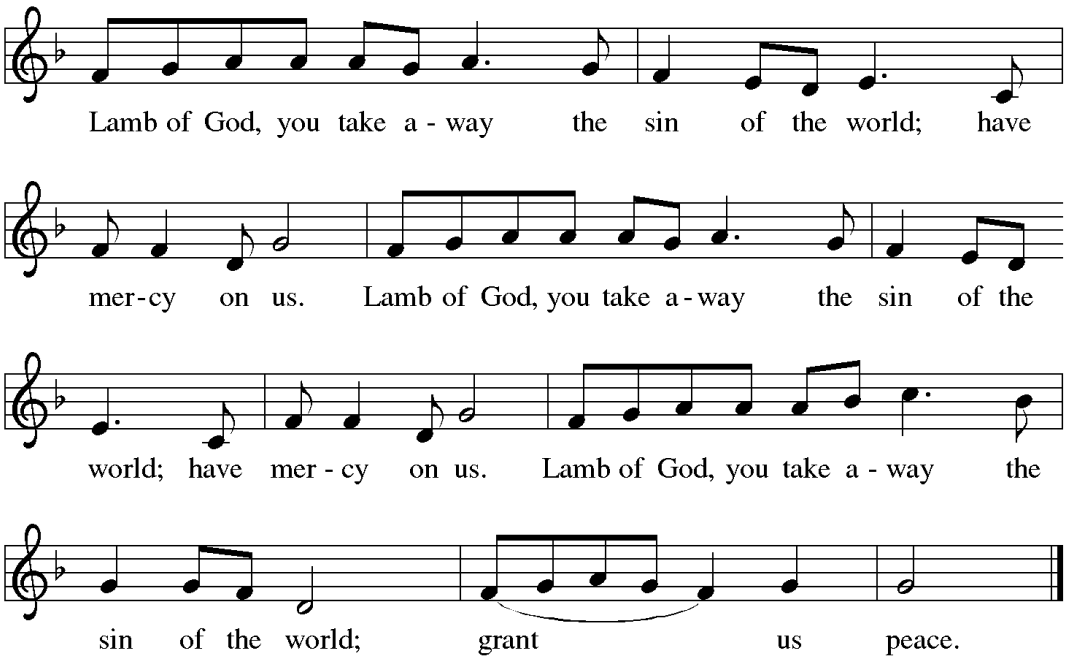
Christ invites you to this table.
All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

Please be seated.

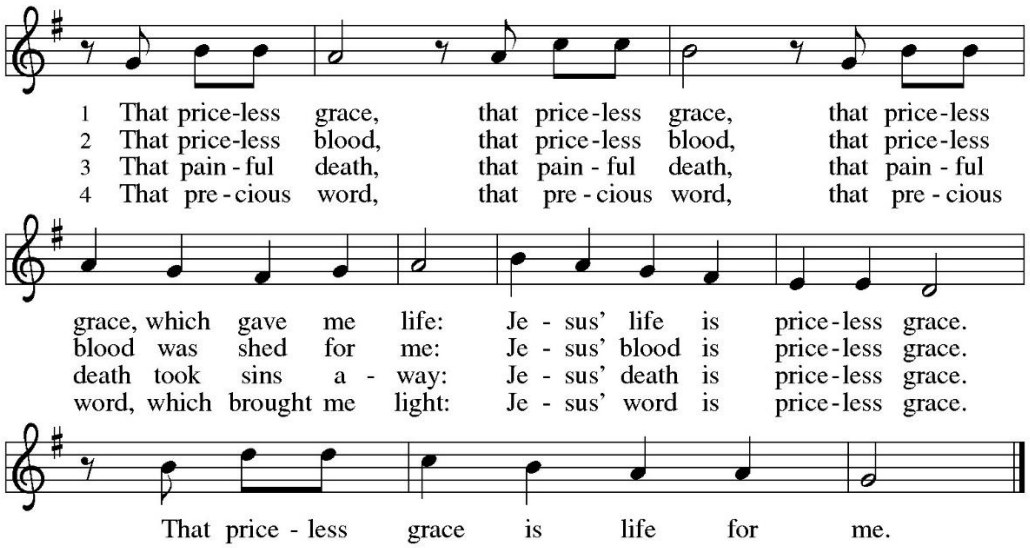
COMMUNION

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

LAMB OF GOD
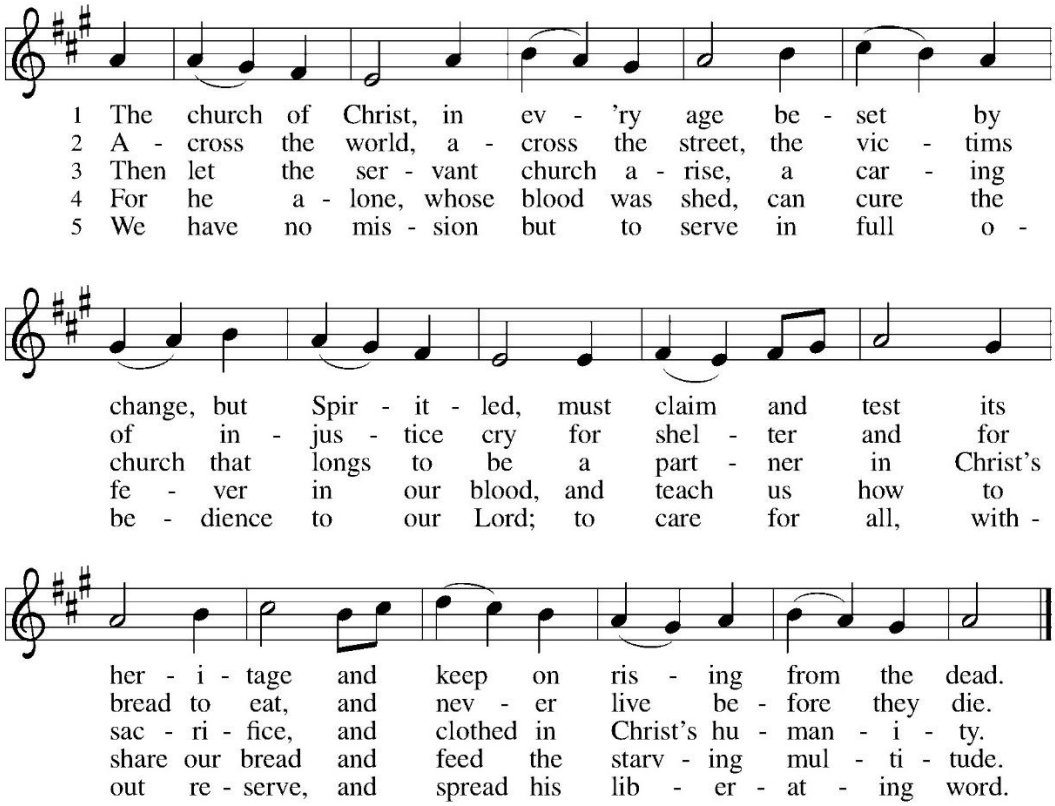


DISTRIBUTION SONG ELW #591, *That Priceless Grace*



Text: Emmanuel F. Y. Grantson, b. 1949
Music: THAT PRICELESS GRACE, Ghanaian traditional
Text © 1999 Augsburg Fortress.

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DISTRIBUTION SONG ELW #729, *The Church of Christ, in Every Age*



Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000
Music: WAREHAM, William Knapp, 1698–1768
Text © 1971 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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Please stand as you are able.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION
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.
Amen.

+ + + SENDING + + +

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

Please be seated.

MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able.
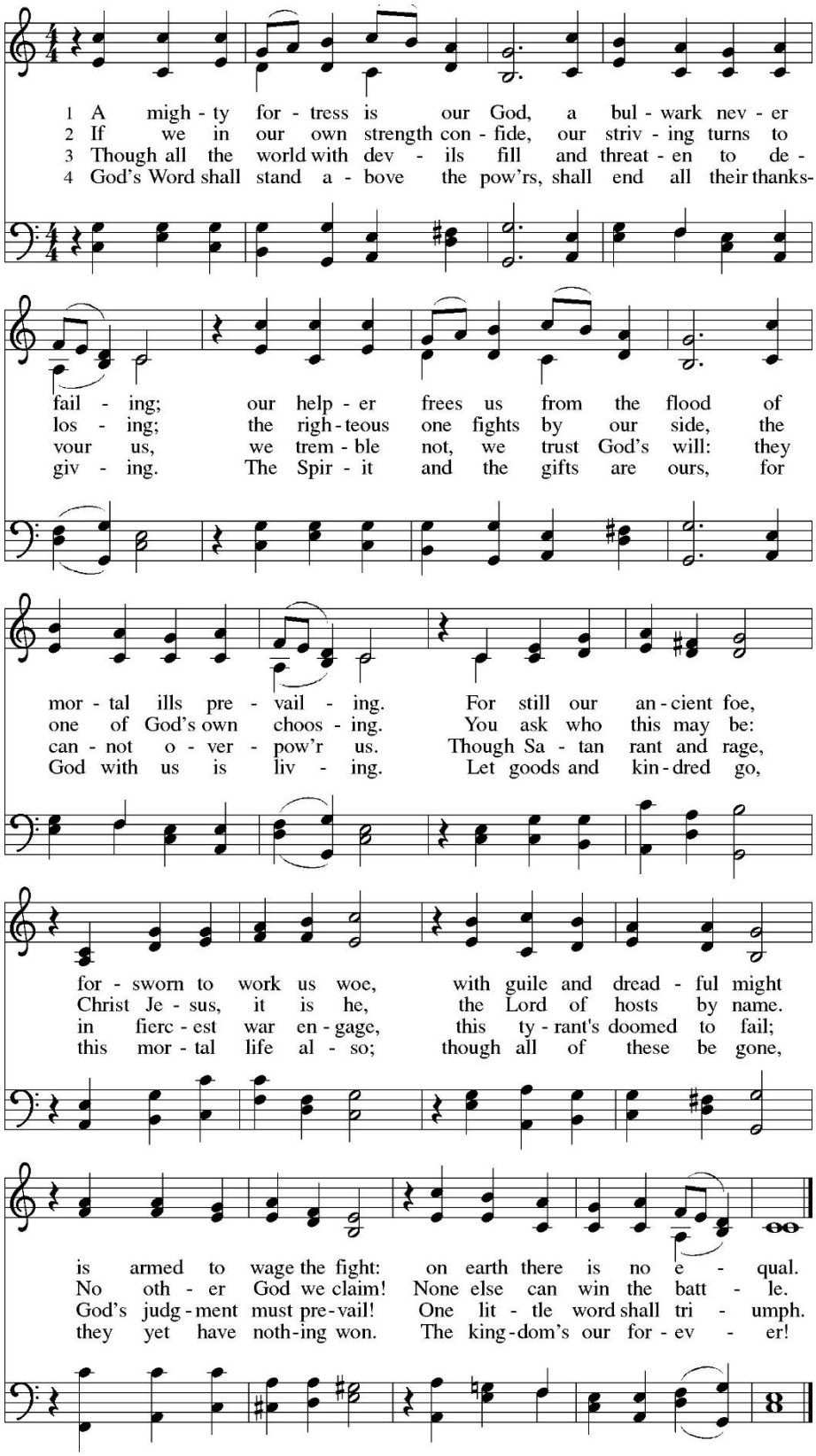


Kids' Cue

Try holding your hands out, like you are receiving a big gift.

BLESSING
The God of love
draw you into full accord and one mind,
in the body of Christ Jesus.
Amen.
The God of hope
grant you strength and joy in all circumstances
through the interceding of the Spirit.
Amen.
The God of grace
☩ bless you now and forever.
Amen.



SENDING SONG ELW #505, *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*



Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Frederick H. Hedge, 1805–1890, alt.
Music: EIN FESTE BURG, Martin Luther
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DISMISSAL
Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.
Thanks be to God.


Kids' Cue

Respond with loud joy.

POSTLUDE *To Jesus Christ Our Sovereign King* Mainz Gesangbuch, arr. Brendan Elliget
Trumpet Trio


Kids' Cue

Go up to the choir loft with a grownup and enjoy the organ music!

Serving in Today's Worship

Presiding Minister:	Rev. James Aalgaard
Assisting Minister:	Mary Ann Arndt
Director of Music Ministries:	Deacon Ruth Anderson
Lector:	Dee Ann Gregg
Cantor:	Jody Marquardt
Trumpet Trio:	David Cole, Tony Morgan, Sabrina Windsor
Altar Guild:	JuLee Fiebelkorn
Communion Assistant:	Lisa Burgett
Tech:	Adam Dunbar

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A note regarding livestreaming at Grace: With your participation in our worship services, we assume you have granted us permission to include you in our videos. If you have a concern about being included, please let the staff know, and we will help find a solution that meets your needs.

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Christ, Be My Leader Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, 1926-2024 © 1964, ren. 1992 Hope Publishing Co. All rights reserved. Music: Irish; setting: *Lutheran Service Book,* 2006 © 2006 Concordia Publishing House, cph.org. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF

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