

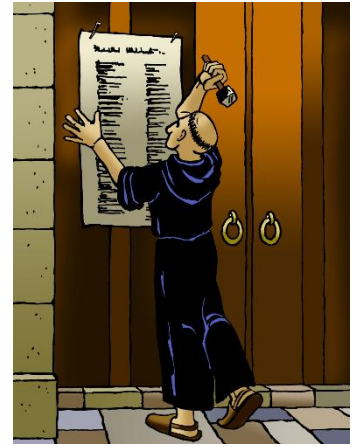
Reformation Sunday

Liturgical Setting: ELW 4

October 26, 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

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.

WELCOME AND KIDS' TALK

PRELUDE

Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

Dietrich Buxtehude, arr. Burkhardt

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,
our maker, our helper, and our keeper.

Amen.

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

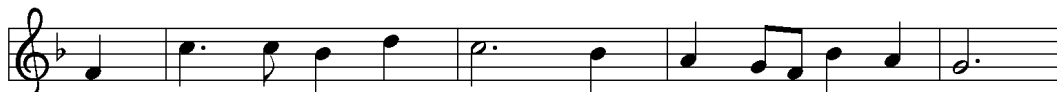
Silence is kept for reflection.

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.

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!
Amen.

GATHERING SONG

ELW #651, *Oh, Praise the Gracious Power*



1-All	Oh, praise the gra - cious pow'r that tum - bles walls of fear
2-High voices (SA)	Oh, praise per - sis - tent truth that o - pens fist - ed minds
3-All	Oh, praise in - clu - sive love, en - cir - cling ev - 'ry race,
4-Low voices (TB)	Oh, praise the word of faith that claims us as God's own,
5-All	Oh, praise the tide of grace that laps at ev - 'ry shore



and gath - ers in one house of faith all strang - ers far and near:
 and eas - es from their anx - ious clutch the prej - u - dice that blinds:
 ob - liv - i - ous to gen - der, wealth, to so - cial rank or place:
 a liv - ing tem - ple built on Christ, our rock and cor - ner - stone:
 with vi - sions of a world at peace, no lon - ger bled by war:

Refrain



We praise you, Christ! Your cross has made us one!

6-Organ, trumpet
(read text silently)

Oh, praise the pow'r, the truth,
the love, the word, the tide.

7-All

Oh, praise the living Christ
with faith's bright songful voice!
Announce the gospel to the world
and with these words rejoice: *Refrain*

Yet more than these, oh, praise their source,
praise Christ the crucified: *Refrain*

Text: Thomas H. Troeger, b. 1945

Music: CHRISTPRAISE RAY, Carol Doran, b. 1936

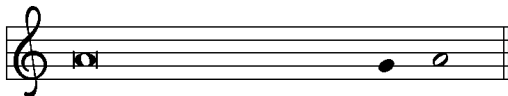
Text and music from *New Hymns for the Lectionary*, © 1984 Oxford University Press, Inc.

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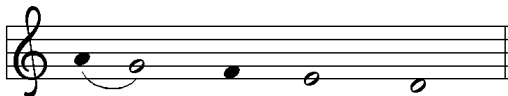
GREETING

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.



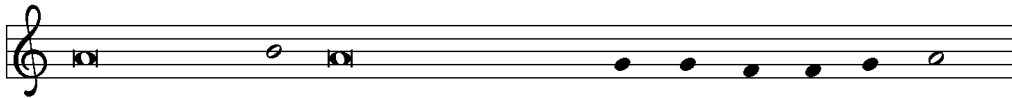
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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.



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.



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.

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.

PSALM 46

The cantor introduces the refrain; all repeat it.

The choir sings verses. All sing the refrain as indicated.

The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our strong-hold.

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, and though the mountains be toppled in the depths of the sea; though its waters rage and foam, and though the mountains tremble at its tumult. **Refrain**

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High. God is in the midst of her; she shall not be overthrown; God shall help her at the break of day. The nations make much ado, and the kingdoms are shaken; God has spoken, and the earth shall melt away. **Refrain**

Come now and look upon the works of the Lord, what awesome things he has done on earth. It is he who makes war to cease in all the world; he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire. “Be still, then, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.”

Refrain

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.

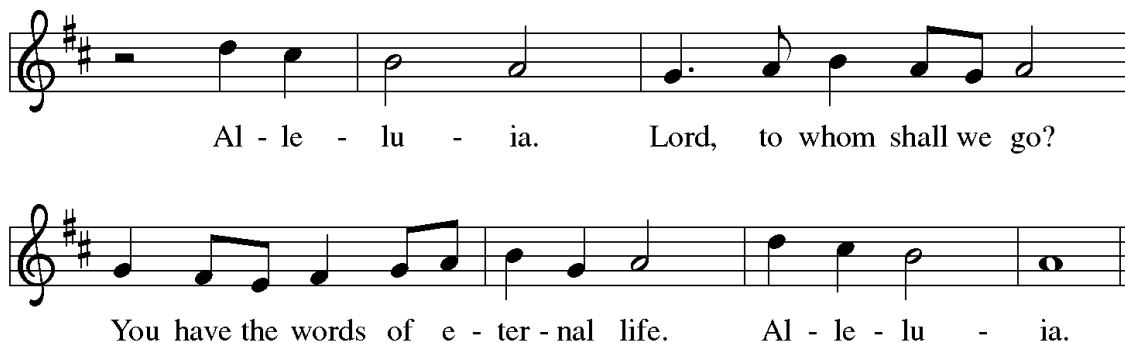
²⁷ Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. Through what kind of law? That of works? No, rather through the law of faith. ²⁸ For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

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.

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

God Alone Be Praised



1-Choir	O - ceans rise, the coast-land trem-bles; moun-tains melt and dry earth
2-All	Na - tions rage, the em - pire fal - ters; seek-ing ref - uge, ex - iles
3-All	Come and see; God's mer - cy gath - ers all that sin and grief have

crum-bles. All the world with long - ing groans. Love a -
 wan - der. Walls and weap - ons rise from fear. Through this
 shat - tered. Life from fields of death is raised. Peace, be

bides, this gra - cious prom - ise is our help, our hope and
 wil - der - ness a riv - er flows to heal and bless us
 still; let pride - ful thun - der yield to songs of joy and

so - lace. God's strong word is sol - id ground.
 ev - er. God the cru - ci - fied dwells here.
 won - der. God and God a - lone be praised.

Text: Susan R. Briehl, b. 1952, based on Psalm 46
 Music: AD LUCEM, Zebulon M. Highben, b. 1979
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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.
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

Renewed in God's everlasting grace, let us pray for the church, the world, and all creation.

After each portion of the prayers:

God of grace,
receive our prayer.

We offer our prayers, O God, trusting in your everlasting grace and mercy,
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

MUSICAL OFFERING

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God
Bells of Grace

arr. Linda R. Lamb

OFFERING PRAYER

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.

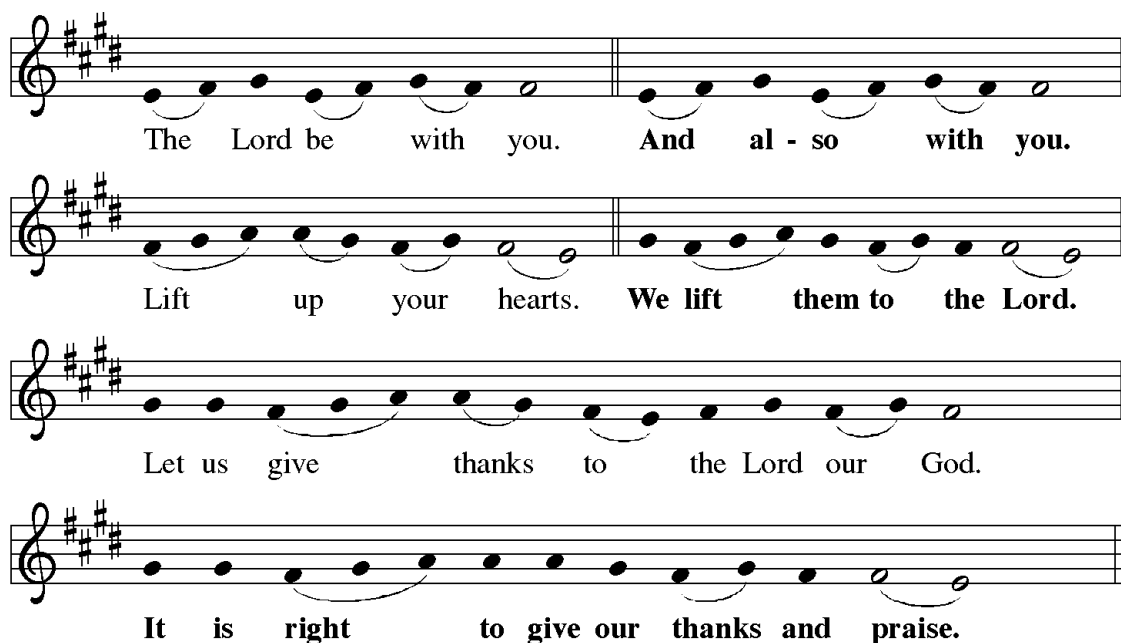
Multiply what we have gathered

to bless all who are suffering and in need,

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



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

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

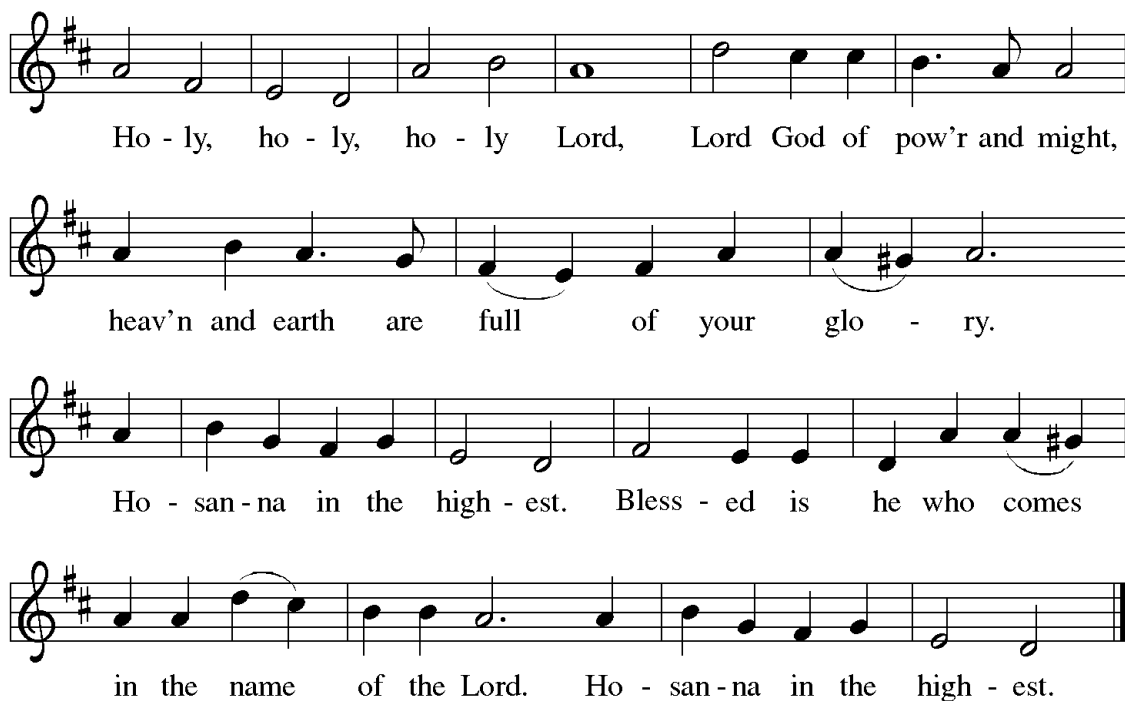
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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

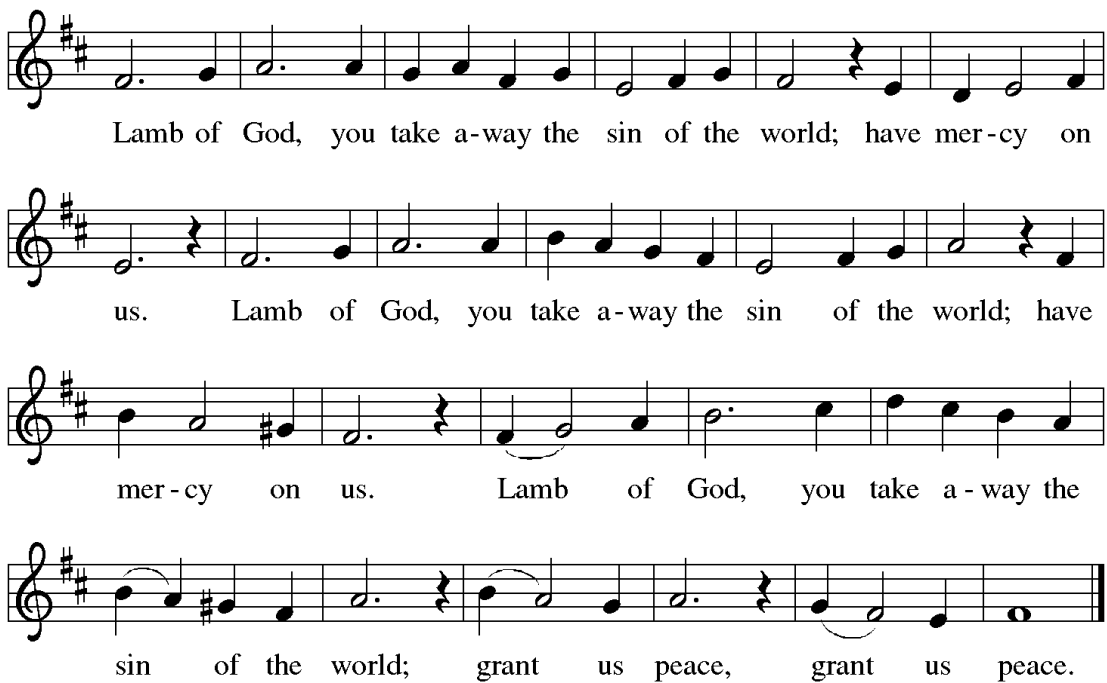
Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them.
Come to this meal of mercy.

Please be seated.

COMMUNION

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

DISTRIBUTION SONG



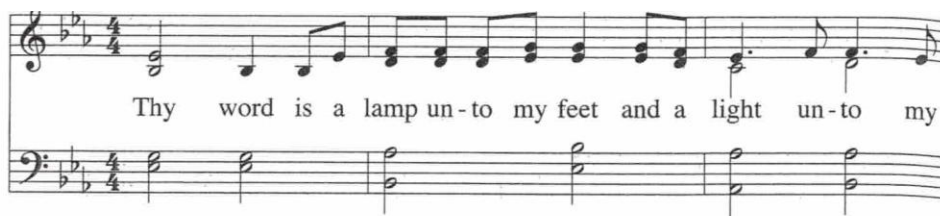
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.



DISTRIBUTION SONG

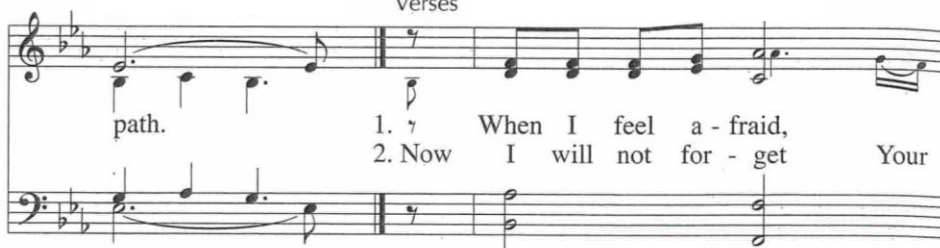
Thy Word Is a Lamp

Refrain Unison

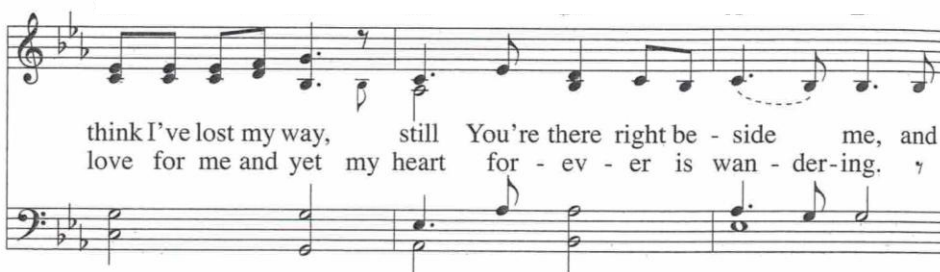


Thy word is a lamp un-to my feet and a light un-to my

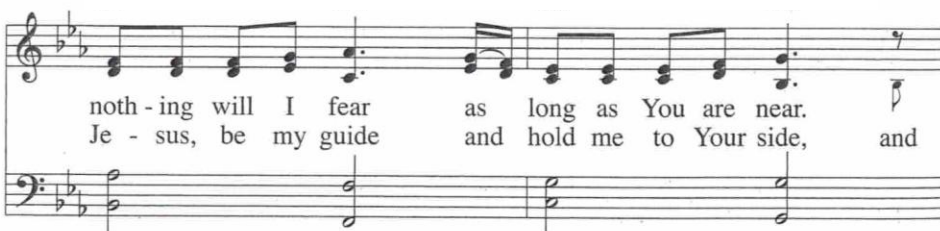
Verses



path. 1. When I feel a - fraid,
2. Now I will not for - get Your

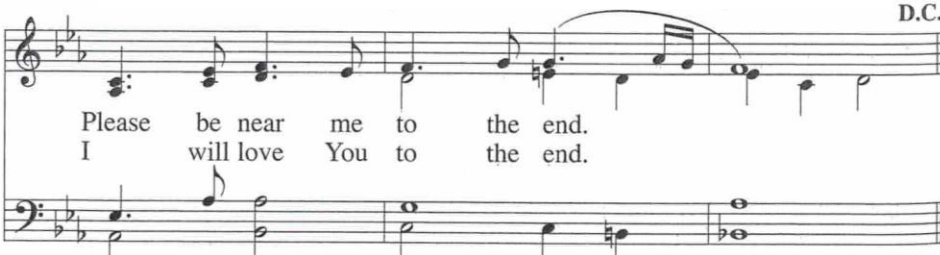


think I've lost my way, still You're there right be - side me, and
love for me and yet my heart for - ev - er is wan - der - ing.

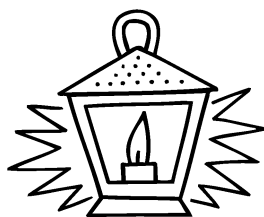


noth - ing will I fear as long as You are near.
Je - sus, be my guide and hold me to Your side, and

D.C.



Please be near me to the end.
I will love You to the end.



DISTRIBUTION SONG

Be Still and Know

Sing repeatedly.

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the song 'Be Still and Know'. The first staff is marked with a treble clef, a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#), and a 1* above the first measure. It contains the lyrics 'Be still and know that I am God.' The second staff is also marked with a treble clef and a key signature of three sharps. It contains the lyrics 'Be still and know that I am God.' and ends with a fermata over the final note. The lyrics are written below the notes.

** May be sung in canon*

Text: Psalm 46:10

Music: BE STILL AND KNOW (BELL), John L. Bell, b. 1949

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Please stand as you are able.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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.

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 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.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

ELW #652, *Built on a Rock*

Harmonies may be found in ELW – the cranberry hymnal.



1 Built on a rock the church shall stand, e - ven when stee - ples are
2 Sure - ly, in tem - ples made with hands God the Most High is not
3 Christ builds a house of liv - ing stones: we are his own hab - i -
4 Yet in this house, an earth - ly frame, Je - sus the chil - dren is
5 Through all the pass - ing years, O Lord, grant that, when church bells are



fall - ing; crum-bled have spires in ev - 'ry land, bells still are
dwell - ing— high in the heav'ns his tem - ple stands, all earth - ly
ta - tion; he fills our hearts, his hum - ble thrones, grant - ing us
bless - ing; hith - er we come to praise his name, faith in our
ring - ing, man - y may come to hear your Word, who here this



chim-ing and call - ing— call - ing the young and old to rest, call - ing the
tem - ples ex - cel - ling. Yet God who dwells in heav'n a - bove deigns to a -
life and sal - va - tion. Where two or three will seek his face, he in their
Sav - ior con-fess - ing. Je - sus to us his Spir - it sent, mak-ing with
prom-ise is bring - ing: "I know my own, my own know me; you, not the



souls of those dis - tressed, long - ing for life ev - er - last - ing.
bide with us in love, mak - ing our bod - ies his tem - ple.
midst will show his grace, bless-ings up - on them be - stow - ing.
us his cov - e - nant, grant-ing his chil-dren the king - dom.
world, my face shall see; my peace I leave with you. A - men."

Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. Carl Doving, 1867–1937, adapt.
Music: KIRKEN DEN ER ET GAMMEL HUS, Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812–1887
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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Built on a Rock

Emily Maxson Porter

Serving in Today's Worship

Presiding Minister:	Rev. James Aalgaard
Pastoral Intern:	Laura Olsen
Lector:	Josh Gale
Acolyte:	Josh Gale
Trumpet:	Tony Morgan
Tech:	Phil Gregg

+ + +

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