HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH
2003 N.E. Englewood Road
Kansas City, Missouri 64118
816.452.9113

"My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness."

Divine Service One
Sexagesima
February 23, 2025

Rev. Dr. Craig A. Meissner, Pastor
Website: http://holycrosskc.org
Email: church@holycrosskc.org

Receiving the Lord's Supper at Holy Cross

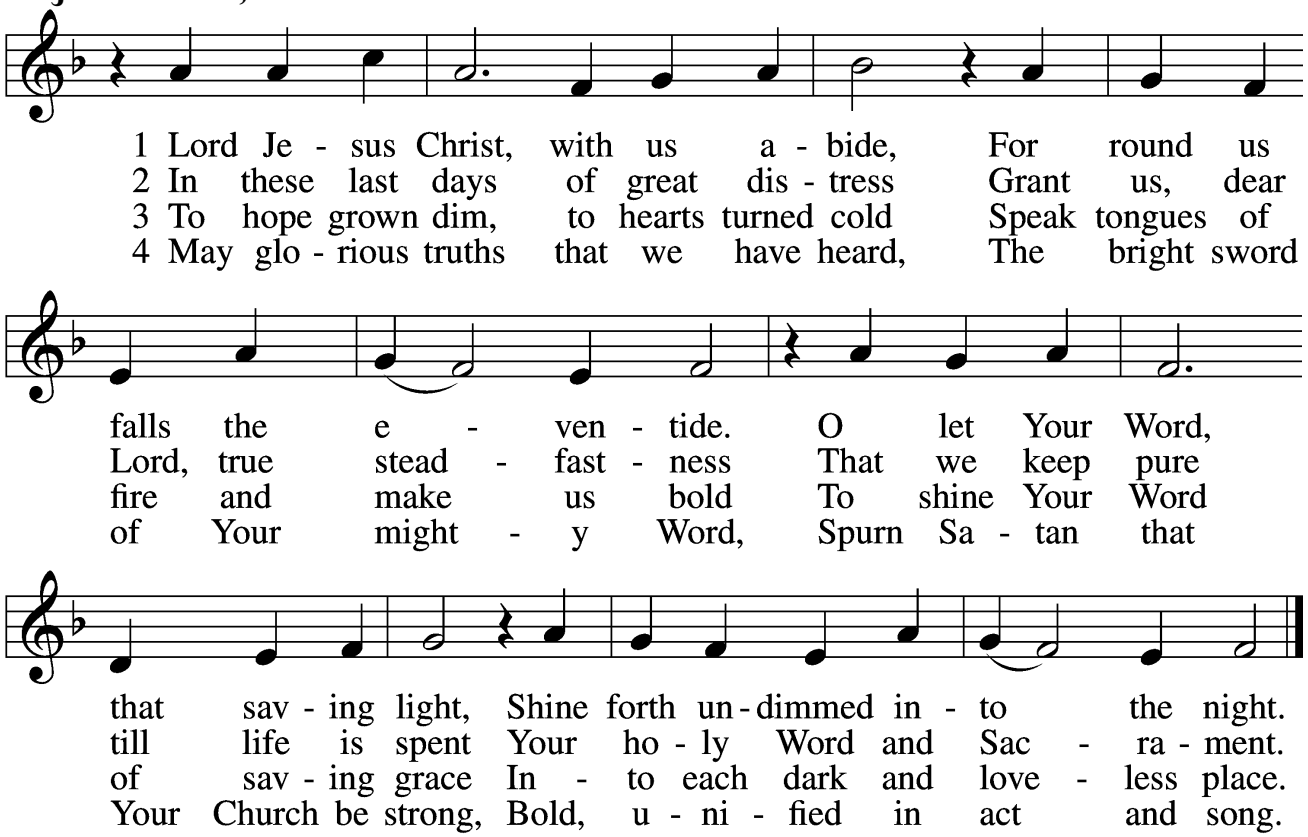
Our Lord gives both directions and warnings in Scripture when it comes to the precious gift of Holy Communion, which we take great care to follow. If you are not under the spiritual care of Holy Cross, please speak with the pastor before communing so that our unity with Christ and with one another may be genuine. Our aim is not to insult, but to instruct and prepare those who earnestly desire to join our communion. So, if you or your children are not yet communicants, you may come forward for a blessing tied to baptism, and you are encouraged to signify this by crossing your arms over your chest as the pastor comes by. The Blood of Christ is offered either in individual glasses, or simply hold out your hand to take the chalice by the base as you drink from it.

Prelude

Please stand and face the procession

+ Confession and Absolution+

585 Lord Jesus Christ, with Us Abide



5 Restrain, O Lord, the human pride
That seeks to thrust Your truth aside

Or with some man-made thoughts or things
Would dim the words Your Spirit sings.

6 Stay with us, Lord, and keep us true;
Preserve our faith our whole life through—
Your Word alone our heart's defense,
The Church's glorious confidence.

Text: tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001, alt.; (st. 1): Philipp Melanchthon, 1497–1560; (st. 1): German version Geistliche Psalmen, 1611, Nuremberg; (sts. 2–6): Nicolaus Selnecker, 1532–92
Tune: Geistliche Lieder D. Martini Lutheri, 1589, Leipzig
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Tune: Public domain

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Exhortation *LSB 151*

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Confession of Sins *LSB 151*

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole**

heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Absolution *LSB 151*

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Stand

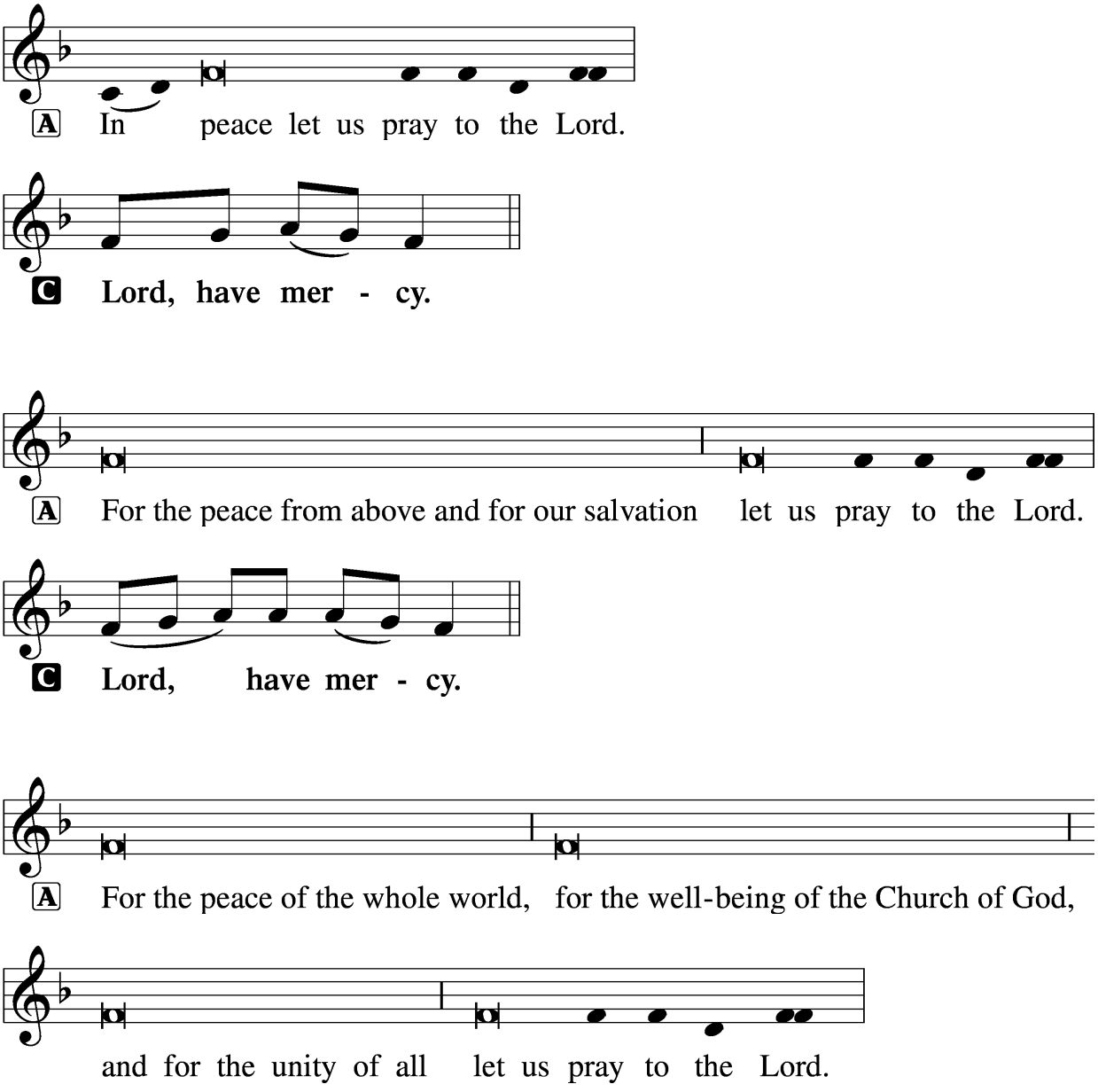
+ Service of the Word+

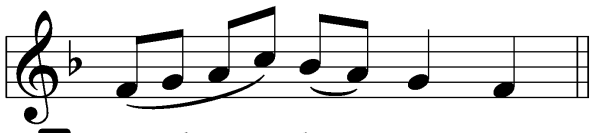
Introit *Psalm 44:1–2, 7–8; antiphon: vv. 23, 25a, 26a*

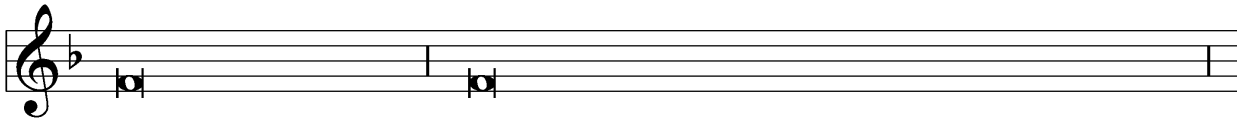
Awake! Why are you sleeping, | O Lord?*
Rouse yourself! Do not reject us for- | ever!
For our soul is bowed down | to the dust.*
Rise up; come | to our help!
O God, we have heard with our ears, our fathers have | told us,*
what deeds you performed in their days, in the | days of old:
you with your own hand drove out the nations, but them you | planted;*
you afflicted the peoples, but them you | set free.
But you have saved us | from our foes*
and have put to shame those who | hate us.
In God we have boasted con- | tinually,*

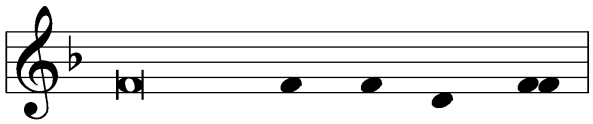
and we will give thanks to your name for- | ever.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.
Awake! Why are you sleeping, | O Lord?*
Rouse yourself! Do not reject us for- | ever!
For our soul is bowed down | to the dust.*
Rise up; come | to our help!

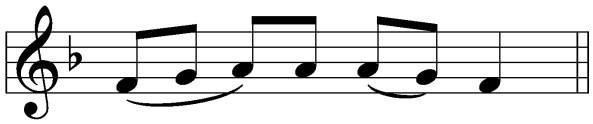
Kyrie *LSB 152*

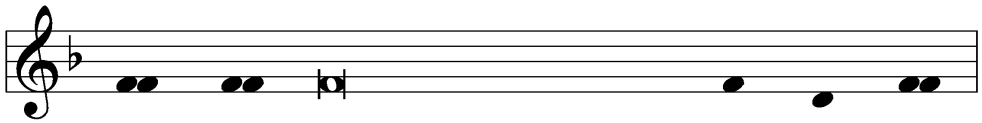


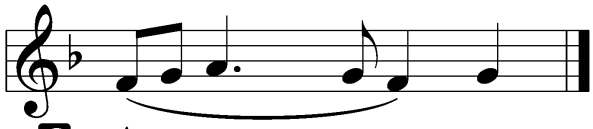




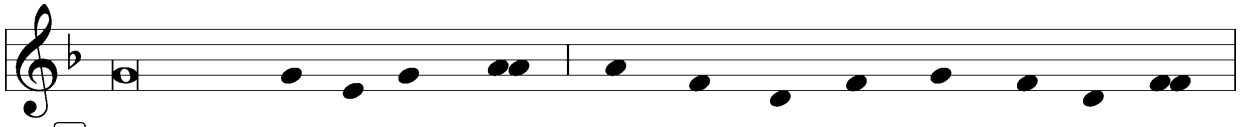


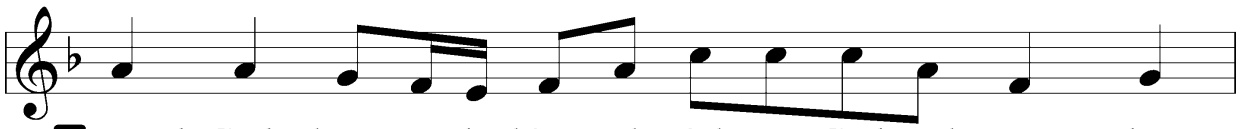


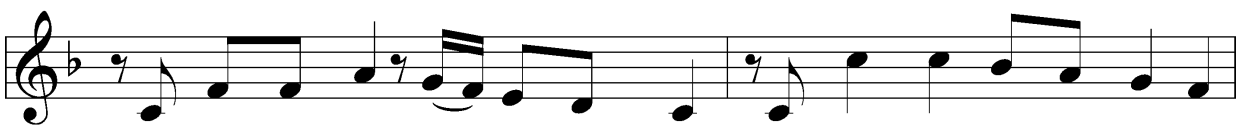


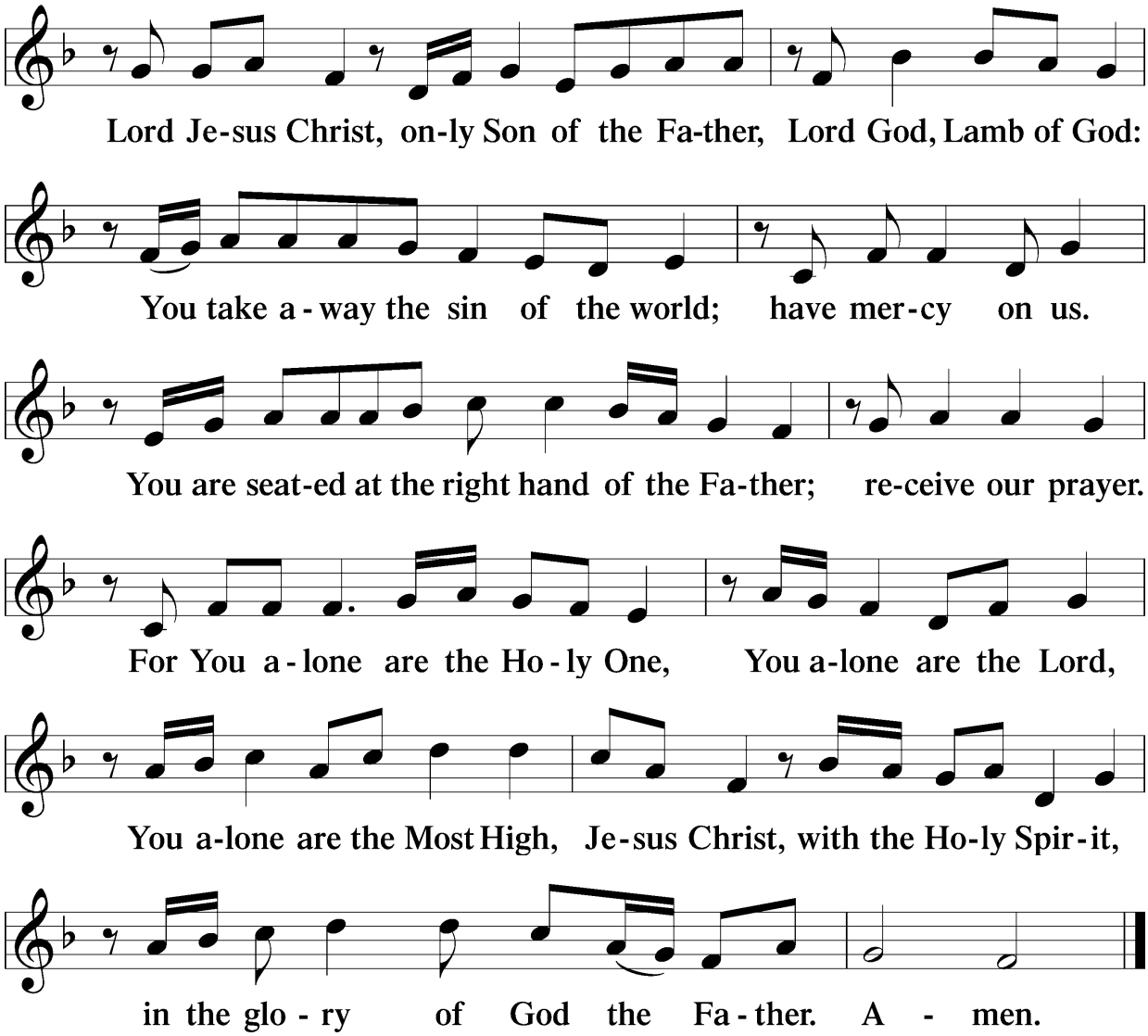


Gloria in Excelsis *LSB 154*









Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.
O God, the strength of all who put their trust in You, mercifully grant that by Your power we may be defended against all adversity; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sit

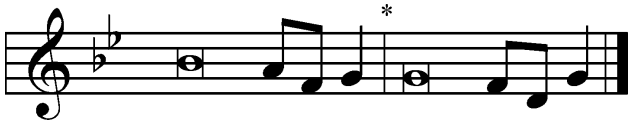
Old Testament Reading *Isaiah 55:10–13*

10 "For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven
and do not return there but water the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
11 so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.
12 "For you shall go out in joy
and be led forth in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall break forth into singing,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.
13 Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;
and it shall make a name for the LORD,
an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual *Psalm 83:18, 13*



[Let your enemies] know that you alone, whose name | is the LORD,*
are the Most High over | all the earth.
O my God, make them like | whirling dust,*
like chaff be- | fore the wind.

Epistle *2 Corinthians 11:19—12:9*

[19]For you gladly bear with fools, being wise yourselves! [20]For you bear it
if someone makes slaves of you, or devours you, or takes advantage of you,
or puts on airs, or strikes you in the face. [21]To my shame, I must say, we
were too weak for that!

But whatever anyone else dares to boast of—I am speaking as a fool—I
also dare to boast of that. [22]Are they Hebrews? So am I. Are they Israelites?
So am I. Are they offspring of Abraham? So am I. [23]Are they servants of
Christ? I am a better one—I am talking like a madman—with far greater
labors, far more imprisonments, with countless beatings, and often near
death. [24]Five times I received at the hands of the Jews the forty lashes less
one. [25]Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I was stoned. Three times
I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I was adrift at sea; [26]on frequent
journeys, in danger from rivers, danger from robbers, danger from my
own people, danger from Gentiles, danger in the city, danger in the
wilderness, danger at sea, danger from false brothers; [27]in toil and
hardship, through many a sleepless night, in hunger and thirst, often
without food, in cold and exposure. [28]And, apart from other things, there
is the daily pressure on me of my anxiety for all the churches. [29]Who is
weak, and I am not weak? Who is made to fall, and I am not indignant?

[30]If I must boast, I will boast of the things that show my weakness. [31]The
God and Father of the Lord Jesus, he who is blessed forever, knows that I
am not lying. [32]At Damascus, the governor under King Aretas was guarding
the city of Damascus in order to seize me, [33]but I was let down in a basket
through a window in the wall and escaped his hands.

[1]I must go on boasting. Though there is nothing to be gained by it, I will
go on to visions and revelations of the Lord. [2]I know a man in Christ who
fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body
or out of the body I do not know, God knows. [3]And I know that this man
was caught up into paradise—whether in the body or out of the body I do
not know, God knows— [4]and he heard things that cannot be told, which
man may not utter. [5]On behalf of this man I will boast, but on my own
behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. [6]Though if I should wish
to boast, I would not be a fool, for I would be speaking the truth. But I

refrain from it, so that no one may think more of me than he sees in me or hears from me. [7]So to keep me from being too elated by the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass me, to keep me from being too elated. [8]Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me. [9]But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Tract *Psalm 60:1–2, 5*

O God, you have rejected us, broken our de- | fenses;*
you have been angry; oh, re- | store us.
You have made the land to quake; you have torn it | open;*
repair its breaches, for it | totters.
That your beloved ones may be de- | livered,*
give salvation by your right hand and | answer us!

Holy Gospel *Luke 8:4–15*

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

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

[4]When a great crowd was gathering and people from town after town came to [Jesus], he said in a parable: [5]"A sower went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some fell along the path and was trampled underfoot, and the birds of the air devoured it. [6]And some fell on the rock, and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. [7]And some fell

among thorns, and the thorns grew up with it and choked it. [8]And some fell into good soil and grew and yielded a hundredfold." As he said these things, he called out, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

[9]And when his disciples asked him what this parable meant, [10]he said, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God, but for others they are in parables, so that 'seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand.' [11]Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. [12]The ones along the path are those who have heard. Then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. [13]And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy. But these have no root; they believe for a while, and in time of testing fall away. [14]And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. [15]As for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patience."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Please note the Service liturgy from this point through the Prayer of the Church follows the pattern of Divine Service III, unlike the arrangement for Divine Service I in LSB

Nicene Creed

C **I believe in one God,**
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

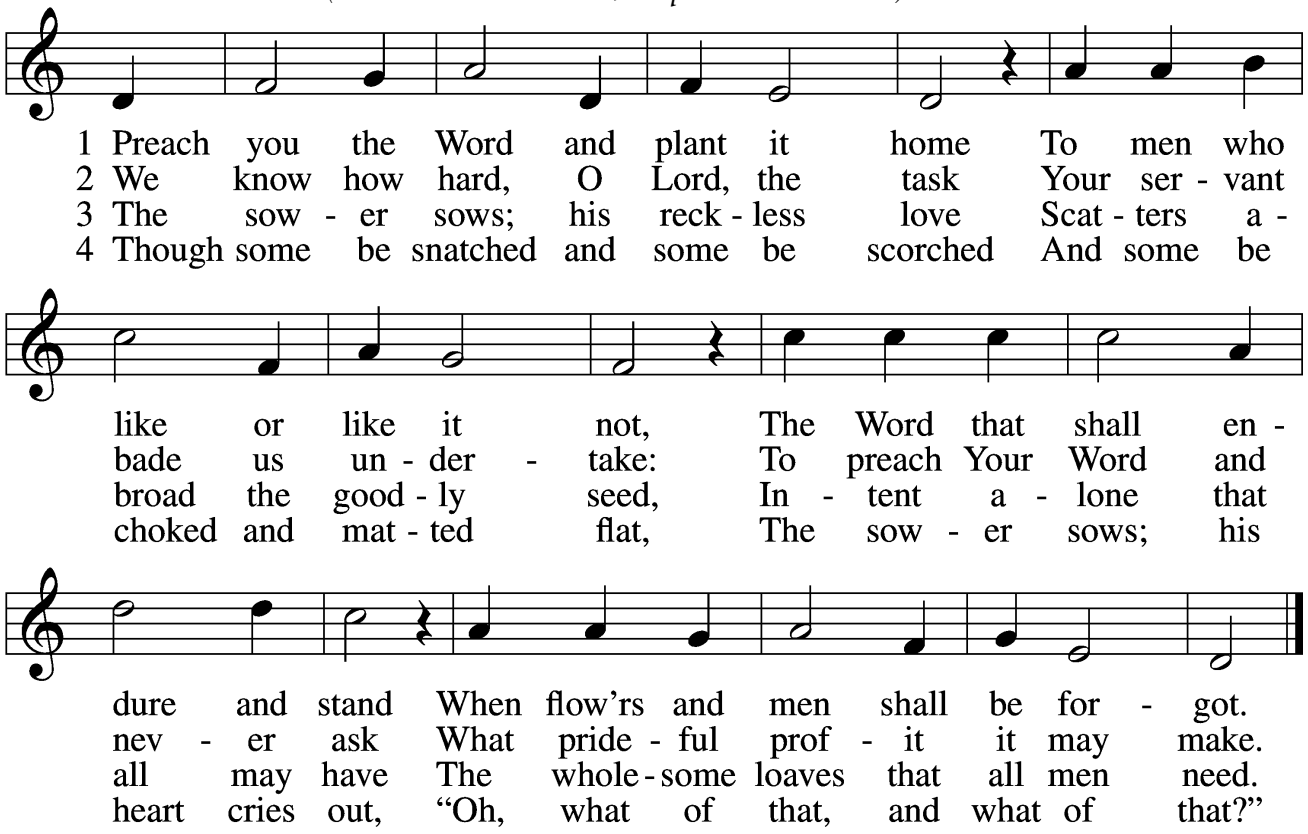
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,

very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ☩ of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

586 Preach You the Word *(Lectern side – stanza 3; Pulpit side – stanza 4)*



5 Of all his scattered plenteousness
One-fourth waves ripe on hill and flat,
And bears a harvest hundredfold:
"Ah, what of that, Lord, what of that!"

6 Preach you the Word and plant it home
And never faint; the Harvest Lord
Who gave the sower seed to sow
Will watch and tend His planted Word.

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907–76, alt.
Tune: Rheinfelssisch Deutsches Catholisches Gesangbuch, 1666, Augsburg
Text: © 1971 The Franzmann Family. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003383
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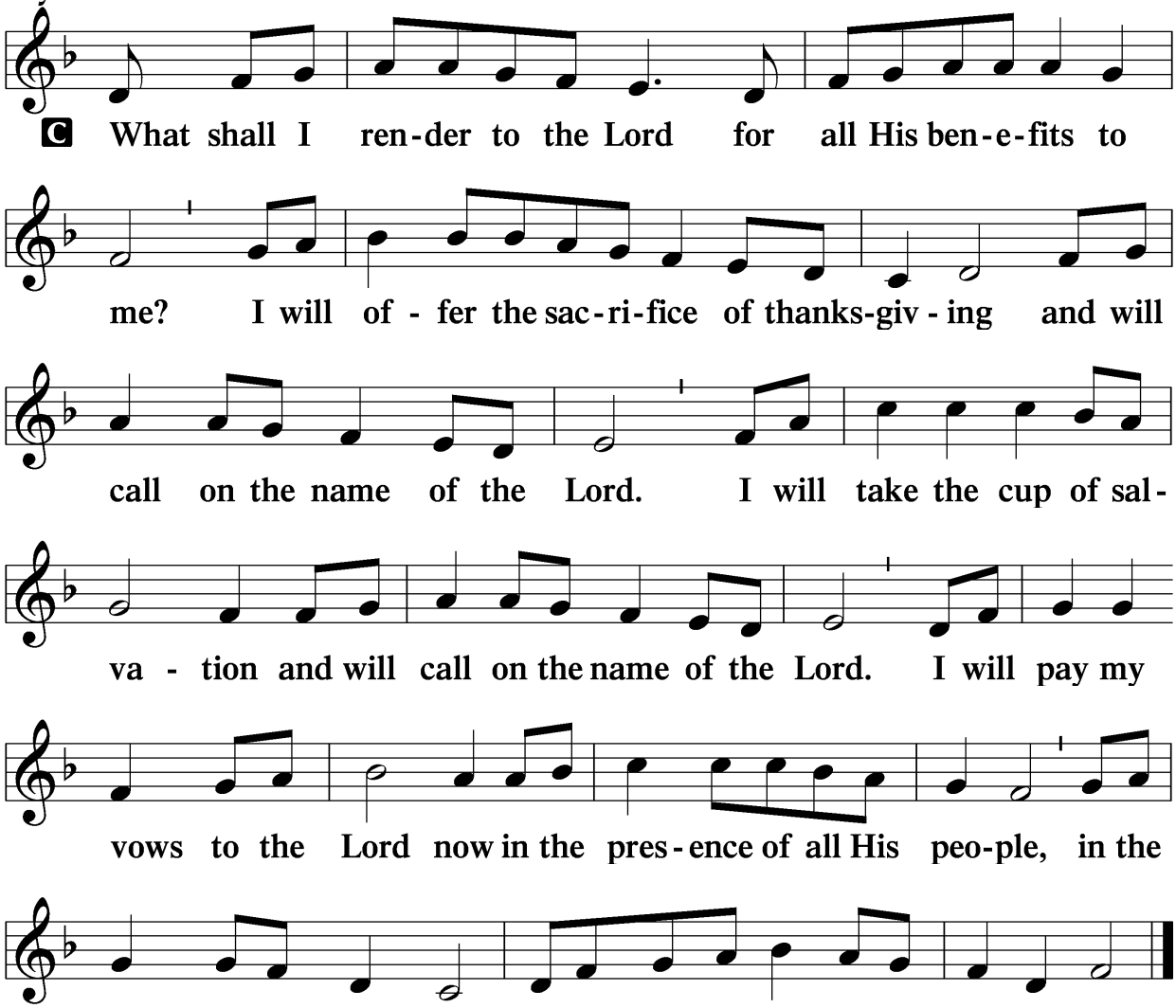
Sermon

Offering

Stand

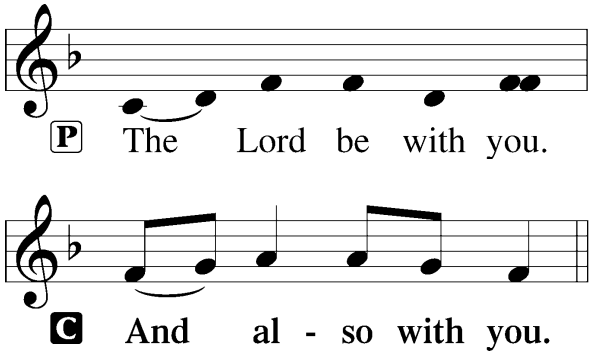
Offertory *LSB 159*

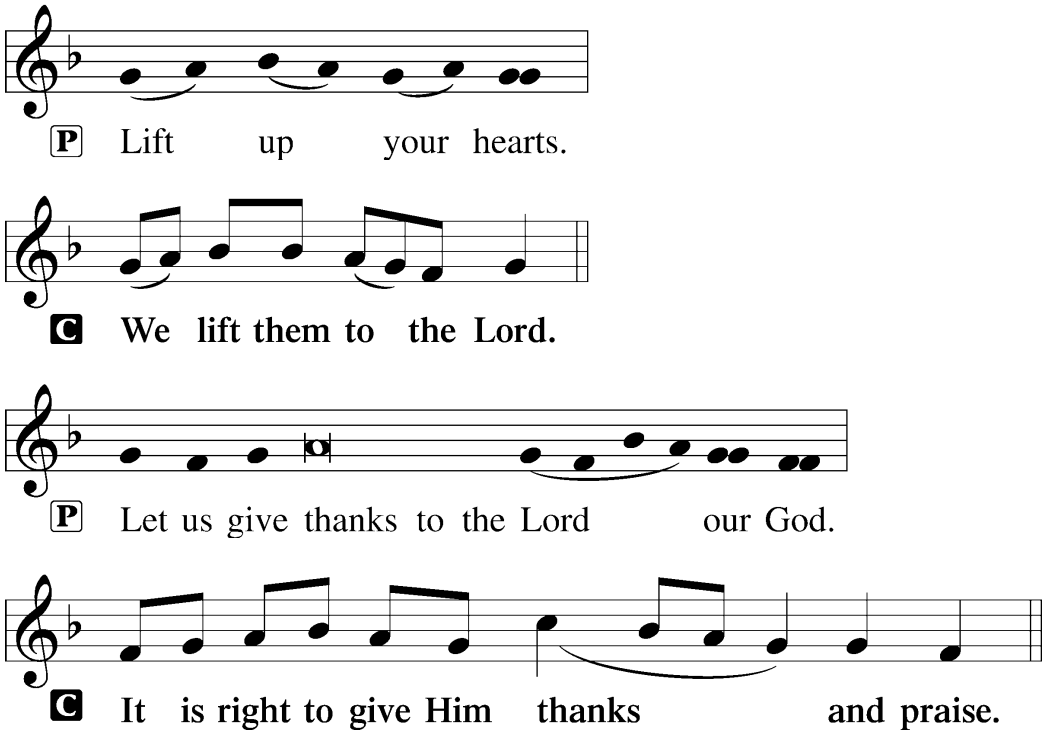


Prayer of the Church

+ Service of the Sacrament+

Preface *LSB 160*

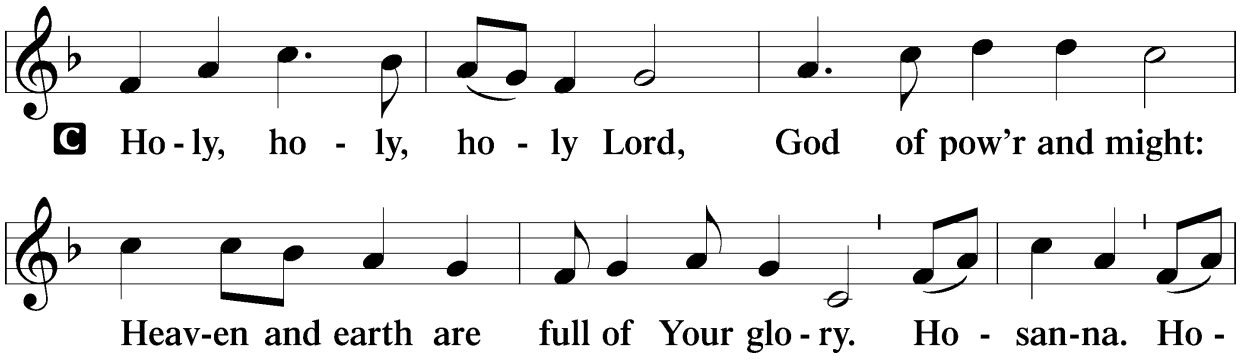


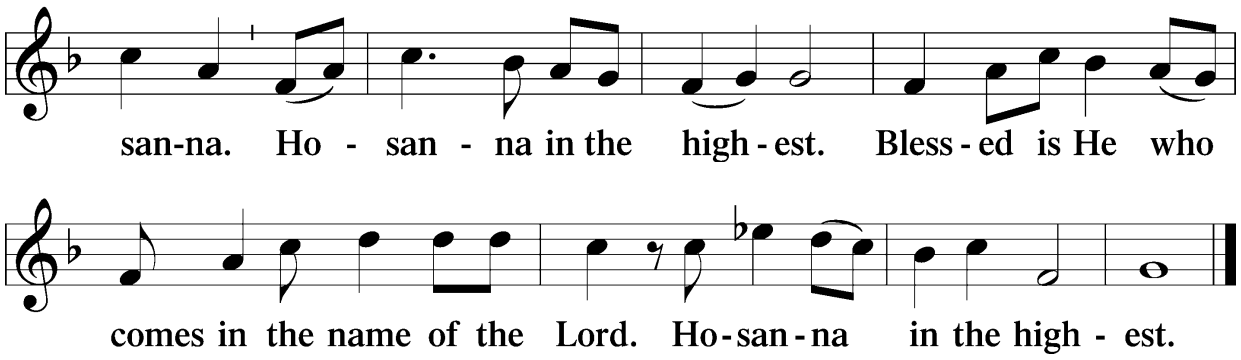


Proper Preface

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus *LSB 161*





Prayer of Thanksgiving *LSB 161*

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer *LSB 162*

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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;

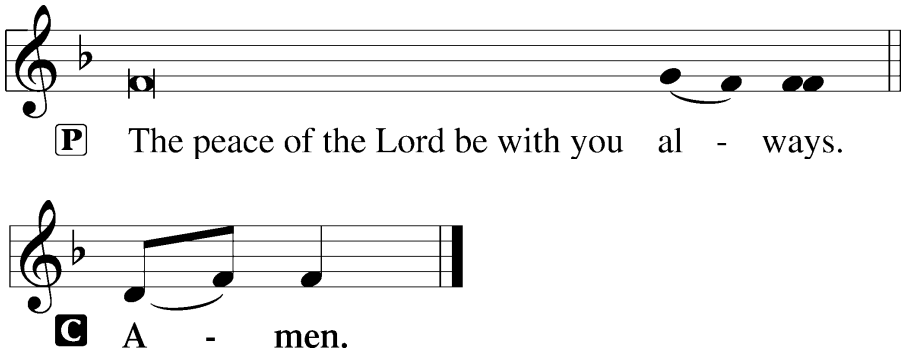
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

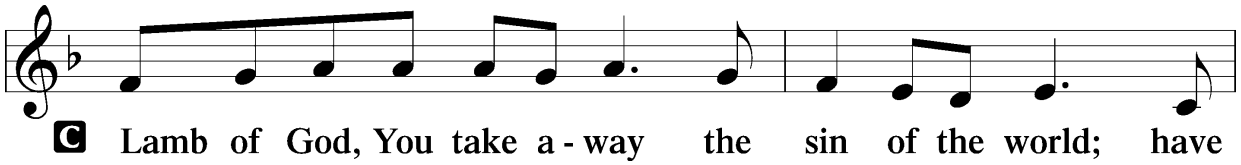
P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✝ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

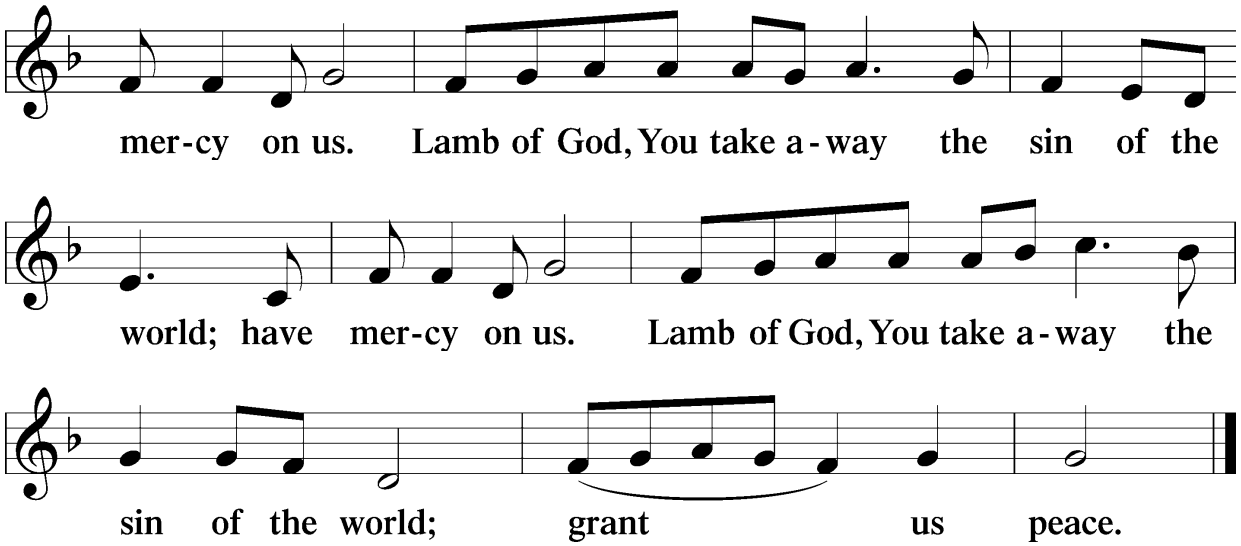
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✝ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini *LSB 163*



Agnus Dei *LSB 163*

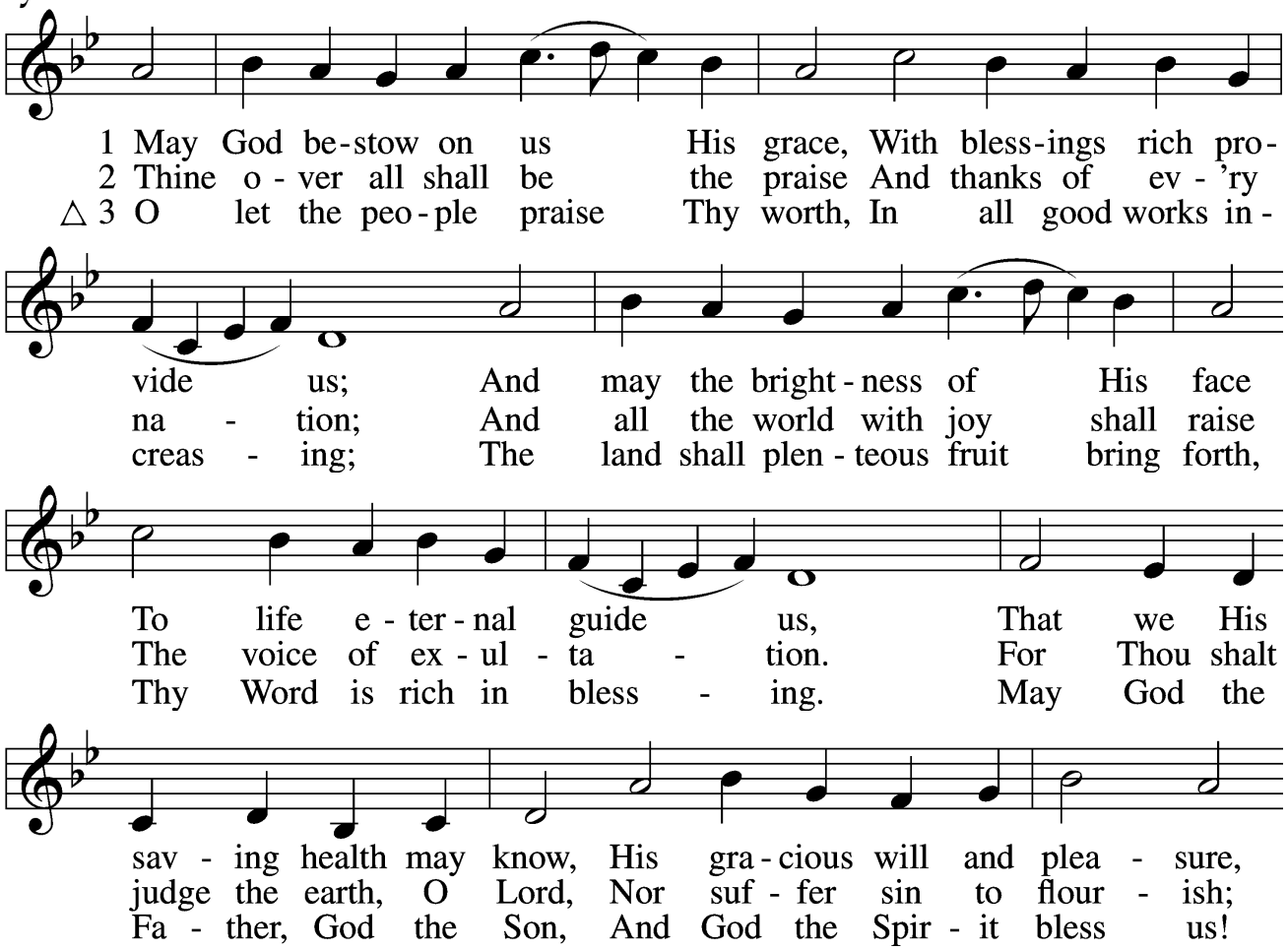


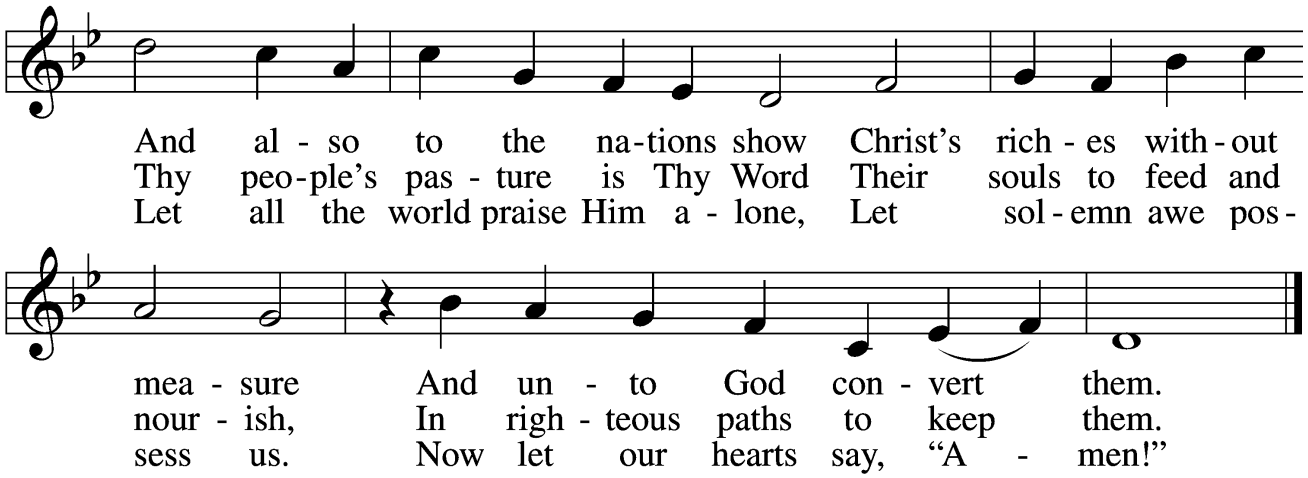


Sit

Distribution

823 May God Bestow on Us His Grace





Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Richard Massie, 1800–87, alt.
Tune: Der Lxvj. Deus Misereatur, 1524, Magdeburg
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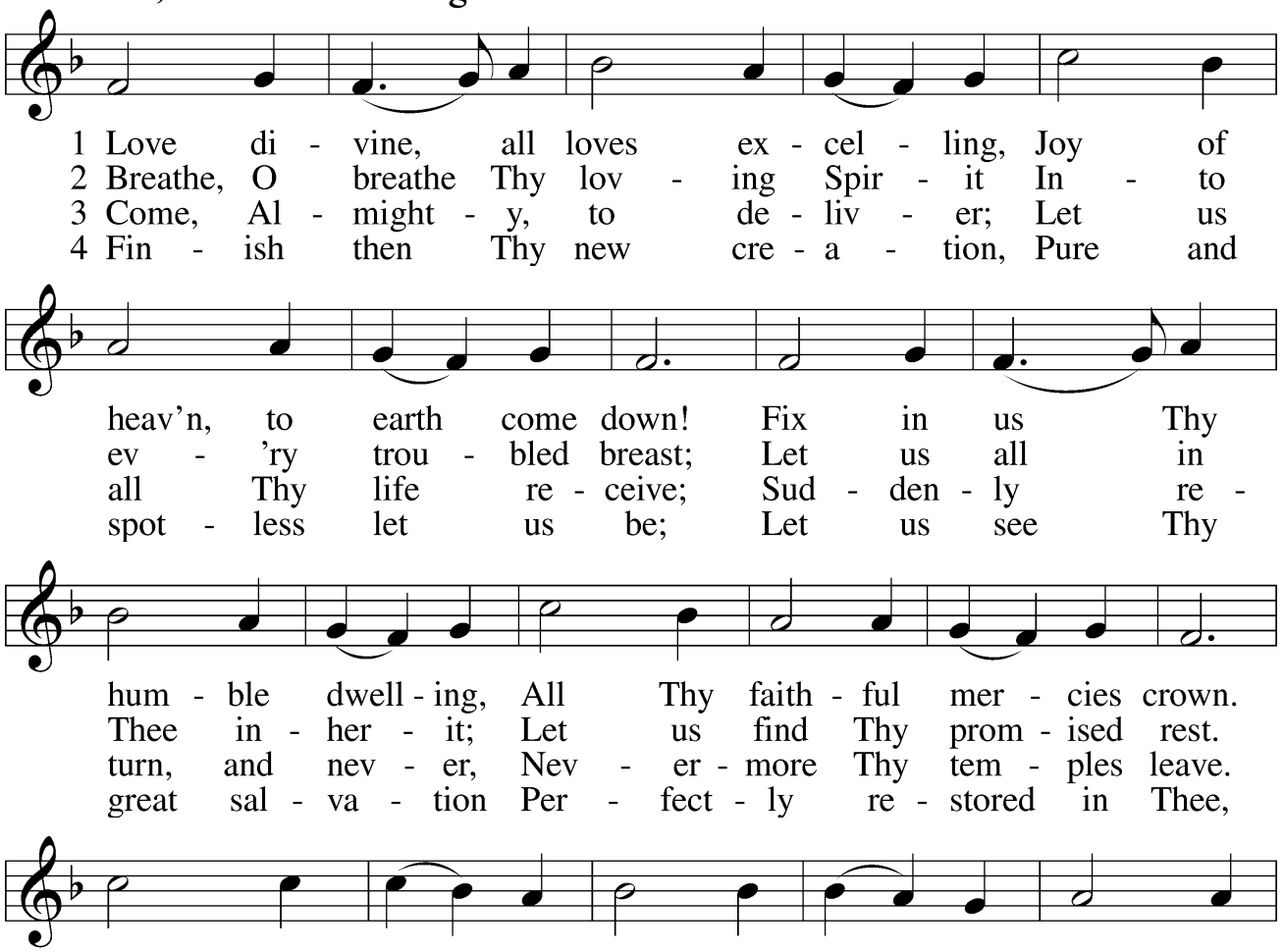
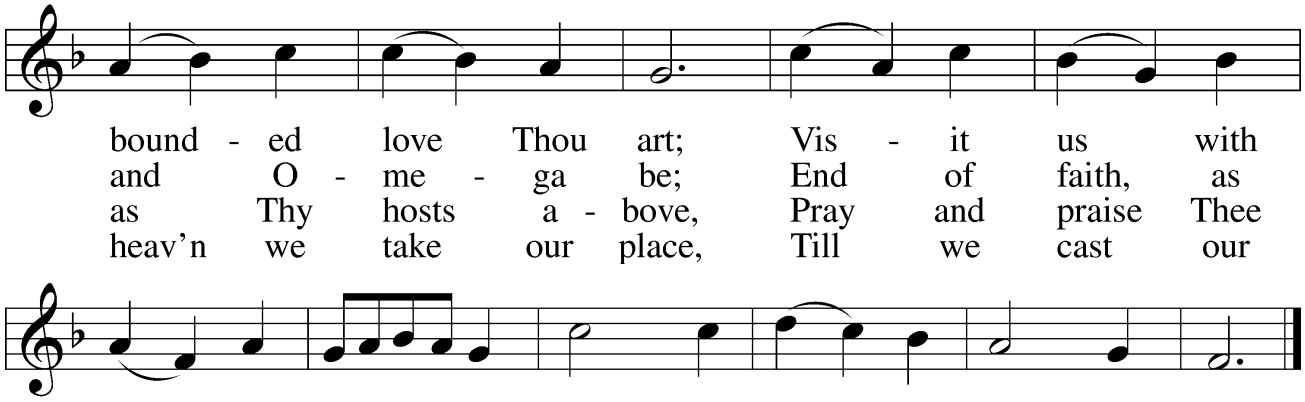
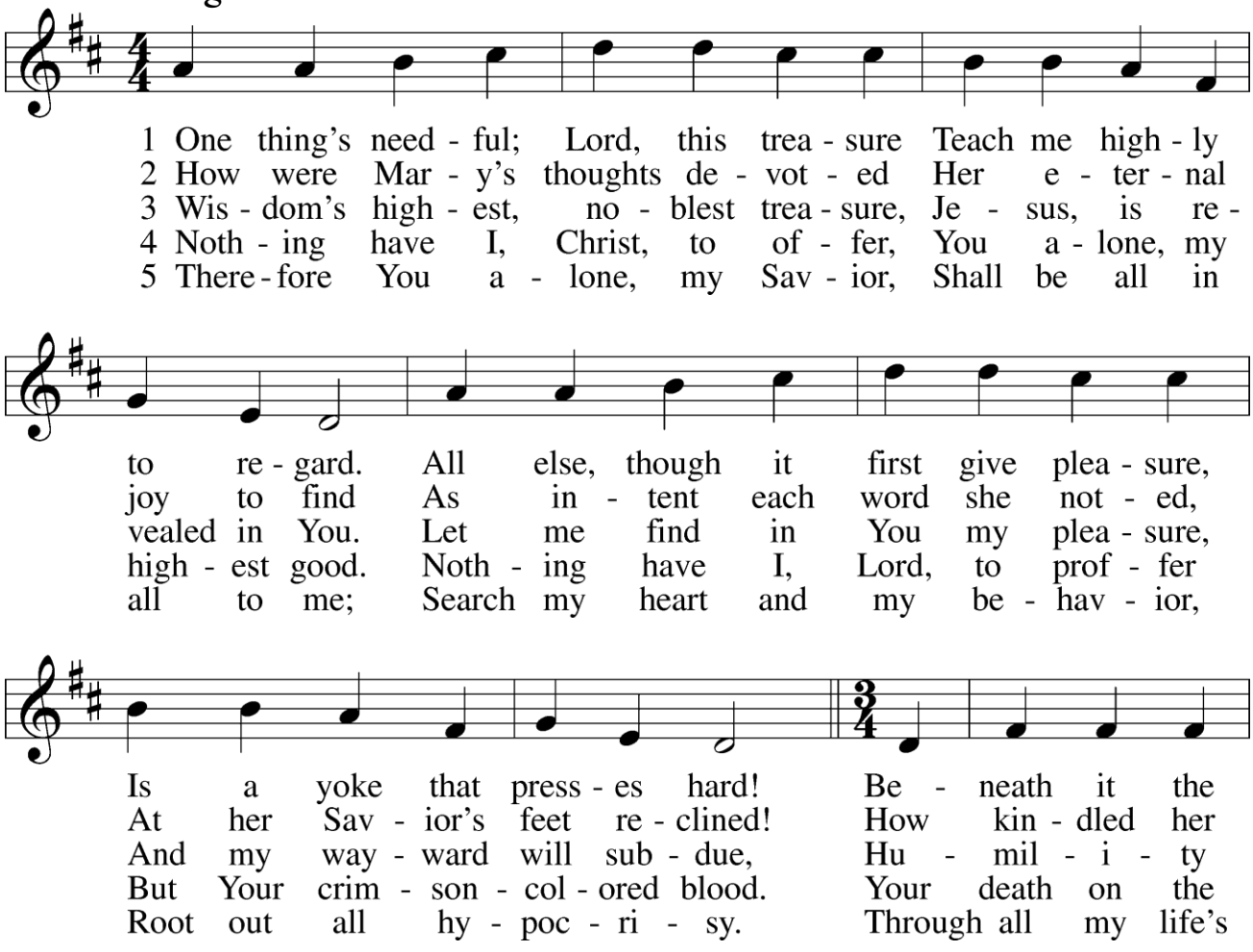
700 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

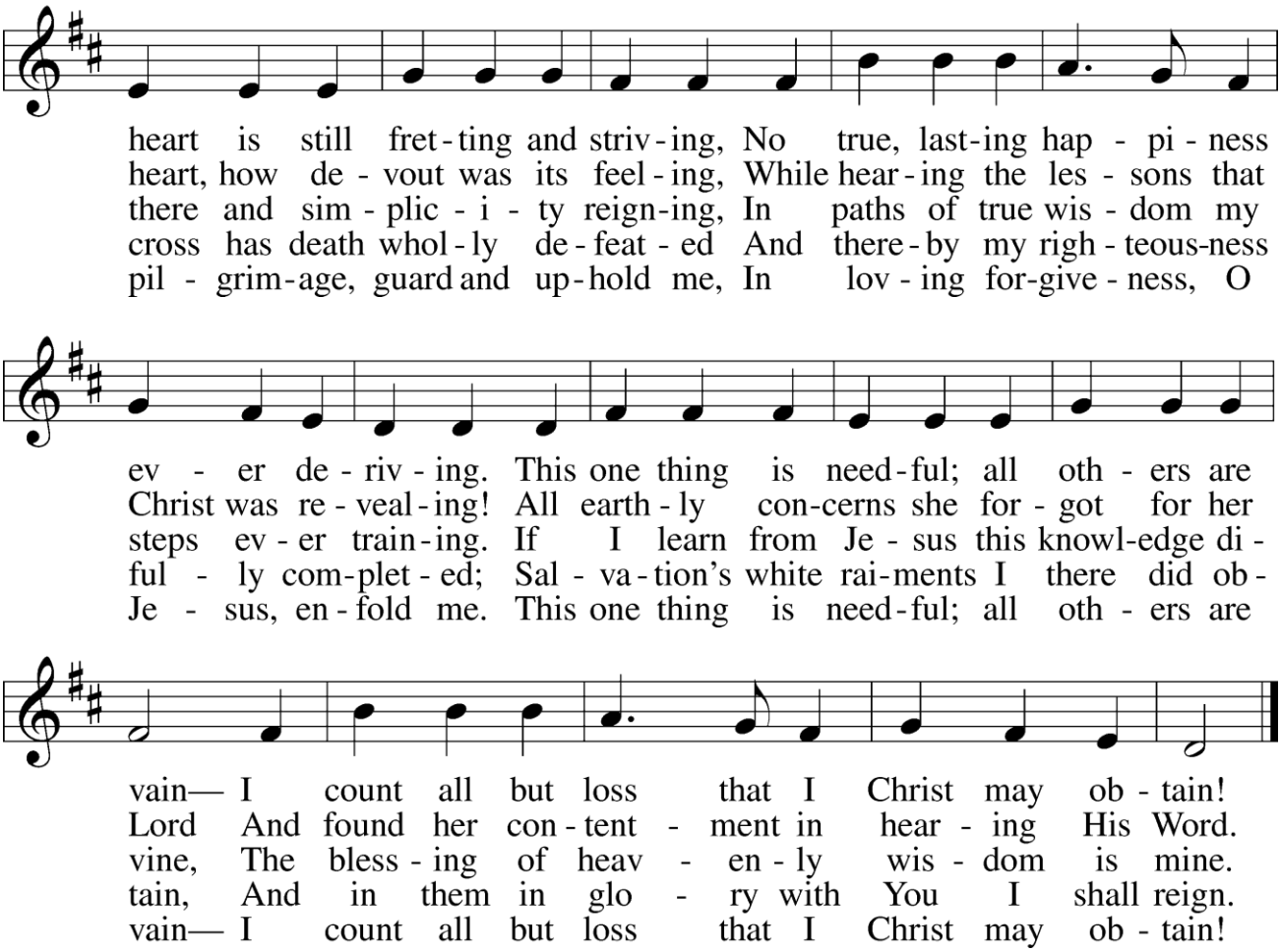




Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–88
Tune: Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–87
Text and tune: Public domain

536 One Thing's Needful

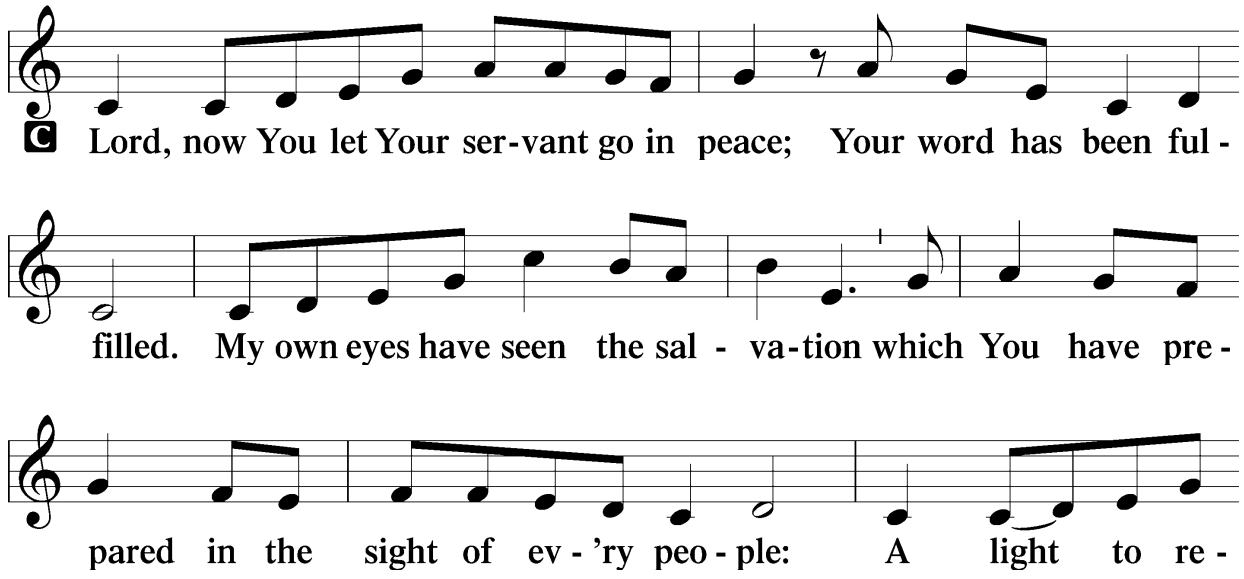


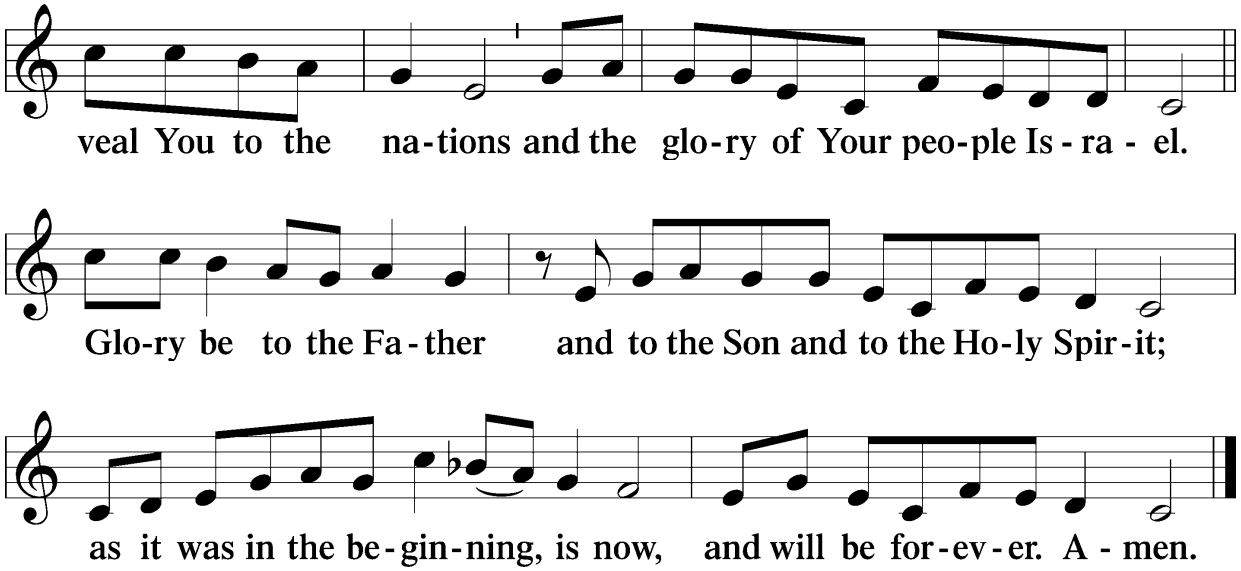


Text: Johann Heinrich Schröder, 1667–99; tr. Frances E. Cox, 1812–97, alt.
Tune: Adam Krieger, 1634–66
Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

Nunc Dimittis *LSB 165*

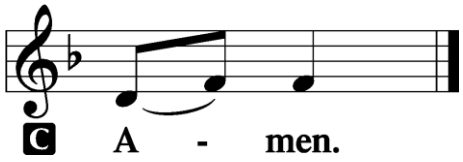




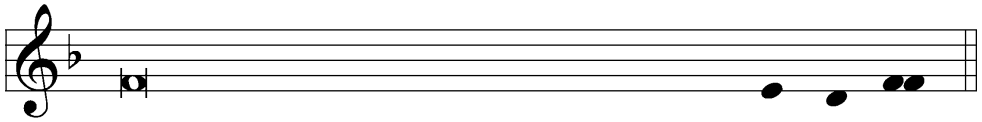
Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.

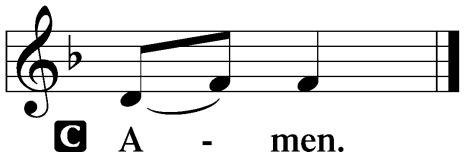
Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Benediction *LSB 166*

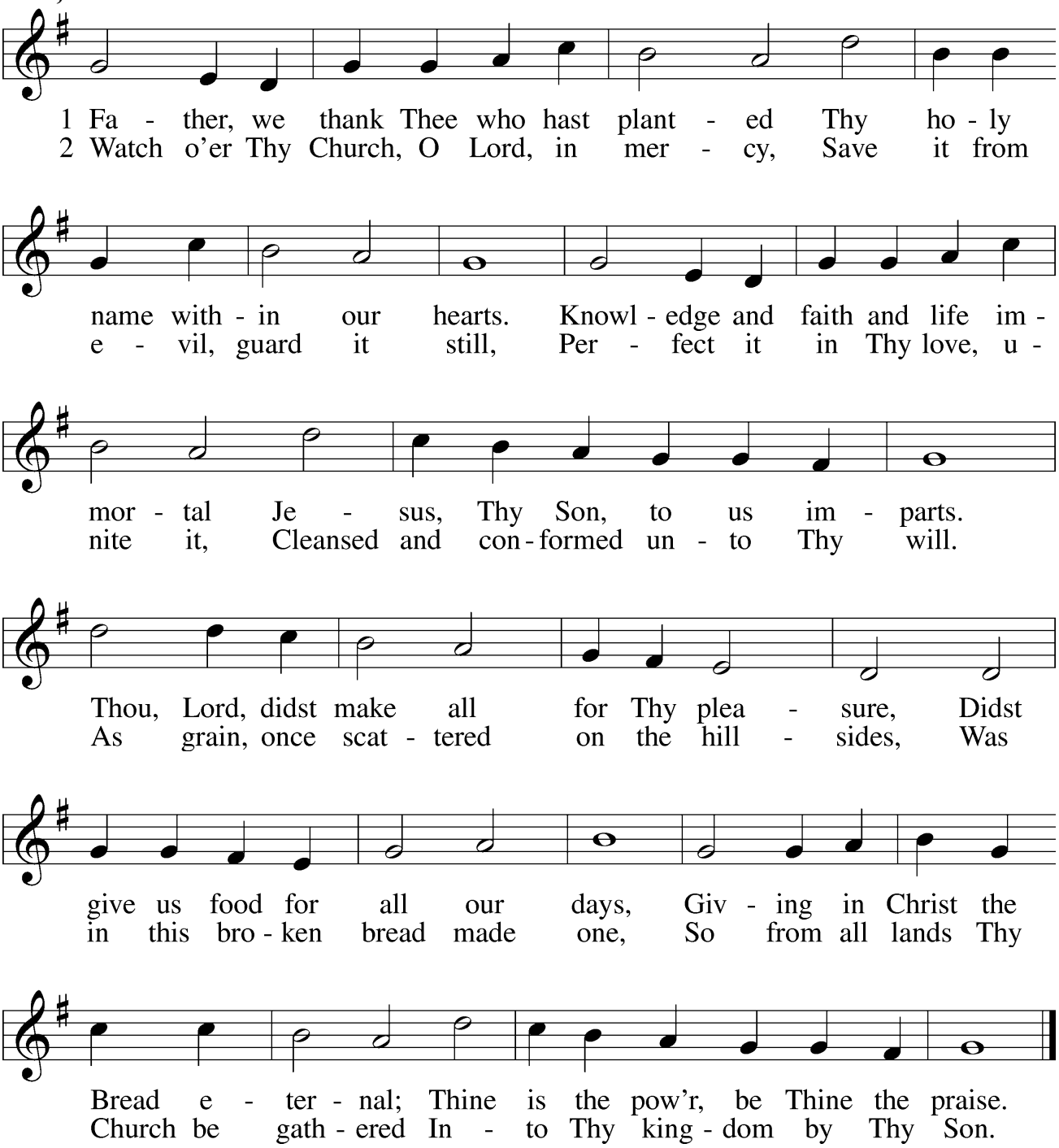


P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you
and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✢ give you peace.



Please face the procession, returning after it passes

652 Father, We Thank Thee



Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; tr. F. Bland Tucker, 1895–1984
Tune: attr. Louis Bourgeois, c. 1510–61

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Tune: Public domain

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