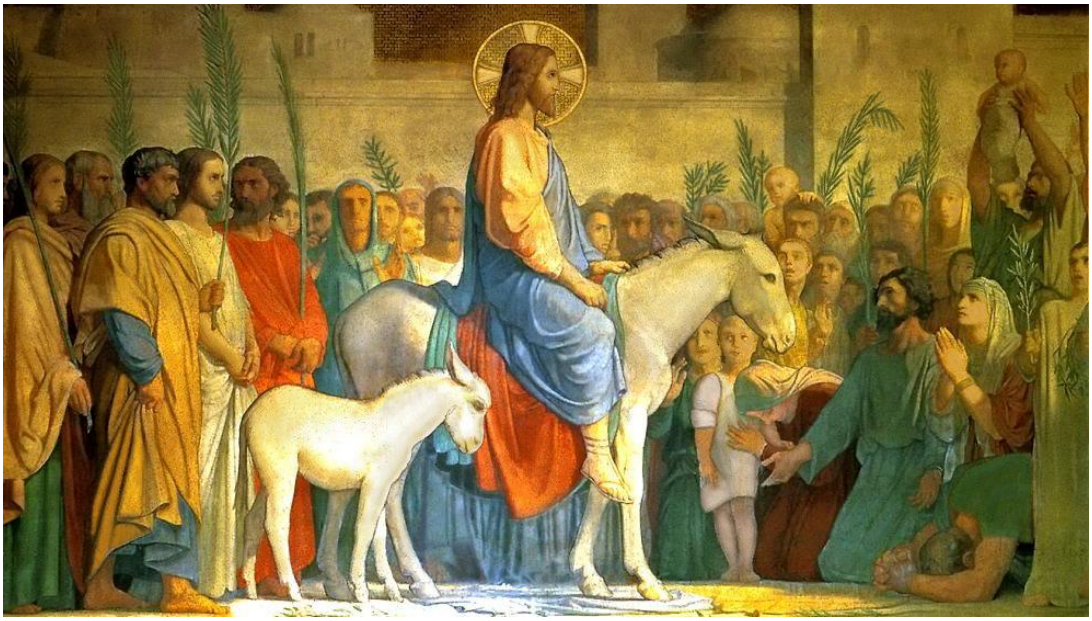
HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH
2003 N.E. Englewood Road
Kansas City, Missouri 64118
816.452.9113

"Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!"



Divine Service Three
First Sunday in Advent
November 29, 2026

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.

It is appropriate to bow the head at italicized words; to bow at the waist at the italicized words in this font; to make the sign of the cross when you see ✠ printed.

Prelude - *331 The Advent of Our King – Holy Cross Choir*

1 The advent of our King
Our prayers must now employ,
And we must hymns of welcome sing
In strains of holy joy.

2 The everlasting Son
Incarnate deigns to be,
Himself a servant's form puts on
To set His servants free.

3 O Zion's daughter, rise
To meet your lowly King,
Nor let your faithless heart despise
The peace He comes to bring.

4 As judge, on clouds of light,
He soon will come again
And His true members all unite
With Him in heav'n to reign.

5 Before the dawning day
Let sin's dark deeds be gone,
The sinful self be put away,
The new self now put on.

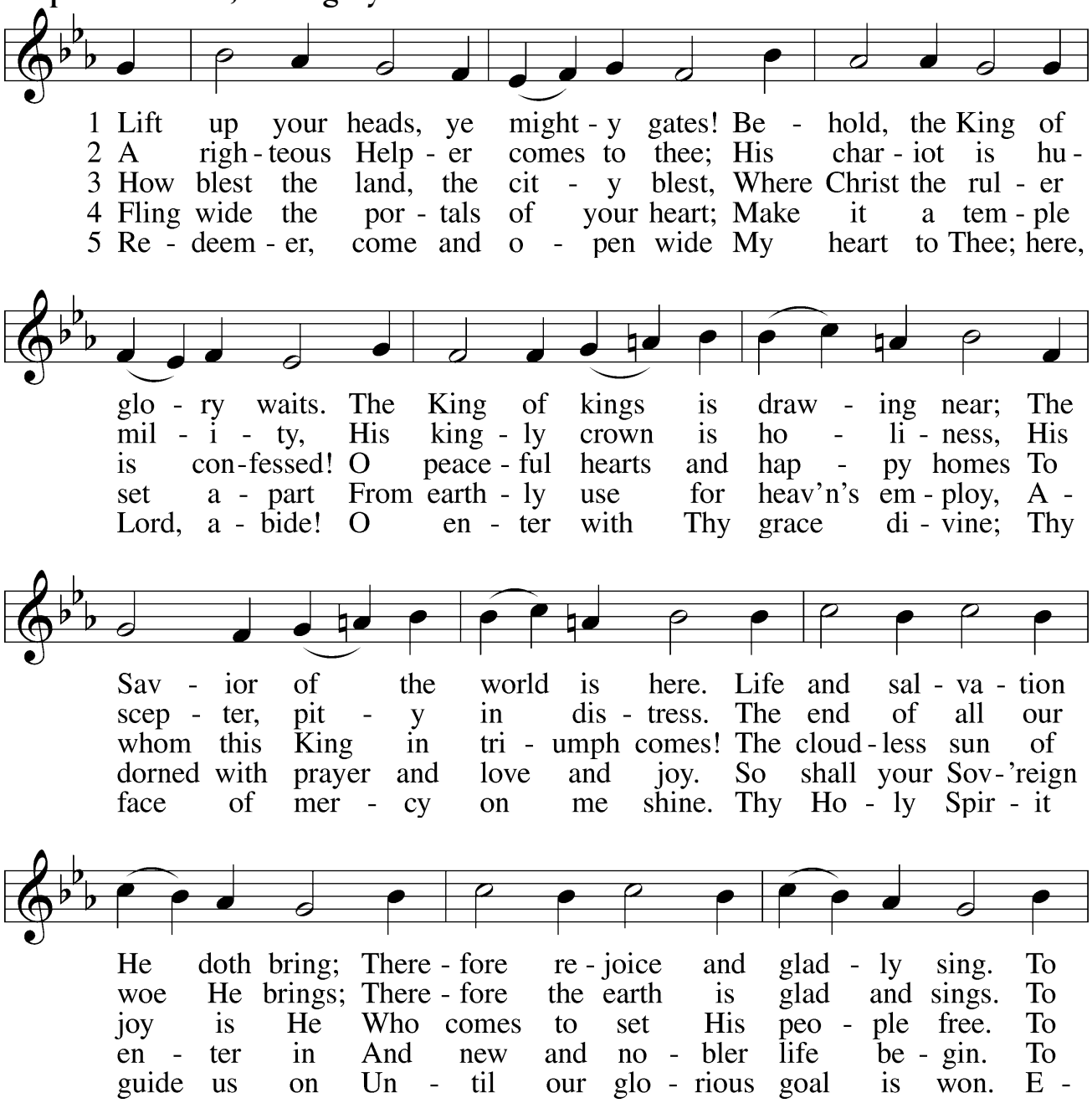
6 All glory to the Son,
Who comes to set us free,

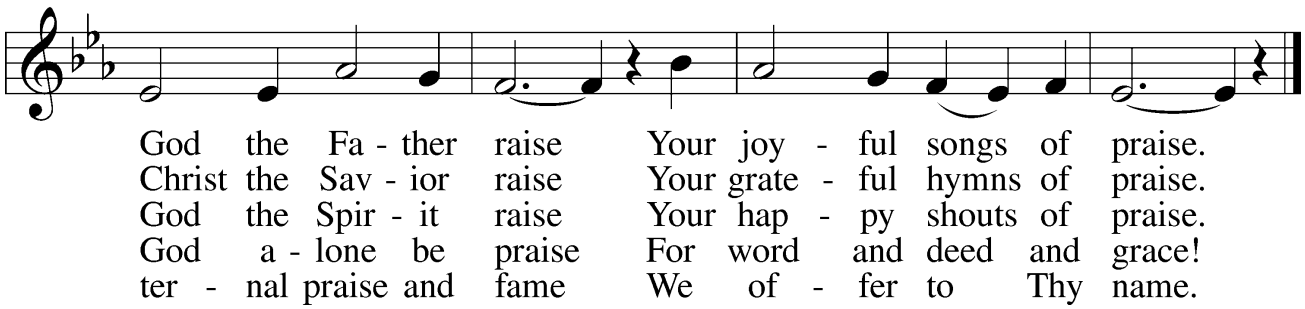
With Father, Spirit, ever one
Through all eternity.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. John Chandler, 1806–76, alt.
Text: Public domain

Please stand and face the procession

340 Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates





Text: Georg Weissel, 1590–1635; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Tune: Geist-reiches Gesang-Buch, 1704, Halle, ed. Johann A. Freylinghausen, alt.
Text and tune: Public domain

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 184*

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

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

Confession of Sins *LSB 184*

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them,**

and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

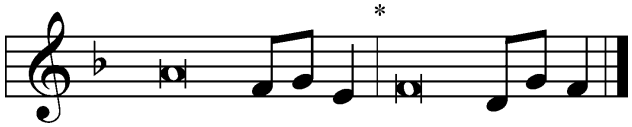
Absolution *LSB 185*

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✢ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

+ Service of the Word+

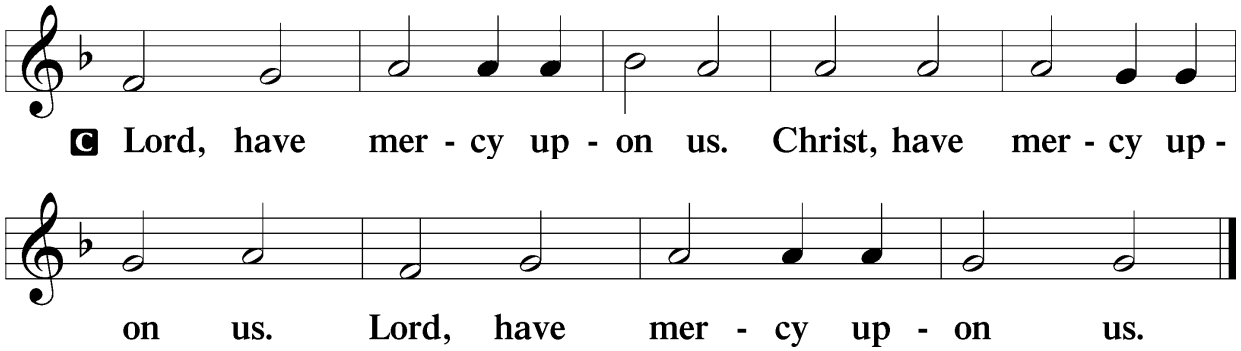
Introit *Psalm 25:4–5, 21–22; antiphon: vv. 1–3a (Sung by the Choir)*



To you, O LORD, I lift | up my soul.*
O my God, in you I trust; let me not be | put to shame.
Let not my enemies exult | over me.*
Indeed, none who wait for you shall be | put to shame.
Make me to know your ways, | O LORD;*
teach me | your paths.
Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my sal- | vation;*
for you I wait all the | day long.
May integrity and uprightness pre- | serve me,*
for I | wait for you.
Redeem Israel, | O God,*
out of all his | troubles.
*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.
To you, O LORD, I lift | up my soul.*
O my God, in you I trust; let me not be | put to shame.
Let not my enemies exult | over me.*
Indeed, none who wait for you shall be | put to shame.

Kyrie *LSB 186*



Gloria in Excelsis - *Omitted for Advent*

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And with thy spirit.**

P Let us pray.
Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sit

Old Testament *Jeremiah 23:5–8*

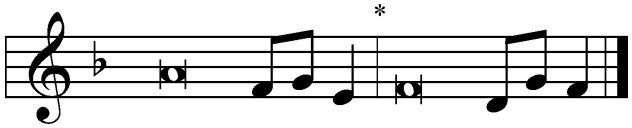
5 “Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will raise up
for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely,
and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. 6 In his days Judah
will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely. And this is the name by which
he will be called: ‘The LORD is our righteousness.’

7 “Therefore, behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when they
shall no longer say, ‘As the LORD lives who brought up the people of Israel
out of the land of Egypt,’ 8 but ‘As the LORD lives who brought up and led
the offspring of the house of Israel out of the north country and out of all
the countries where he had driven them.’ Then they shall dwell in their
own land.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual *Psalm 25:3–4*



None who wait for you shall be | put to shame;*
they shall be ashamed who are wantonly | treacherous.
Make me to know your ways, | O LORD;*
teach me | your paths.

Epistle *Romans 13:11–14*

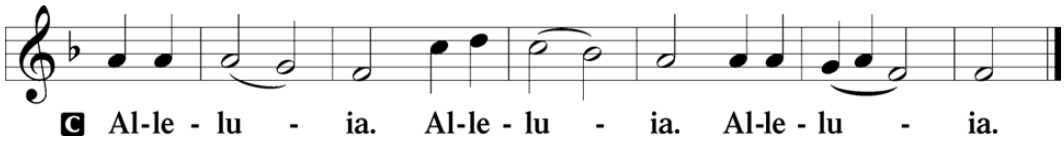
11 Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to
wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first
believed. 12 The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off
the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. 13 Let us walk properly
as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality
and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. 14 But put on the Lord Jesus
Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

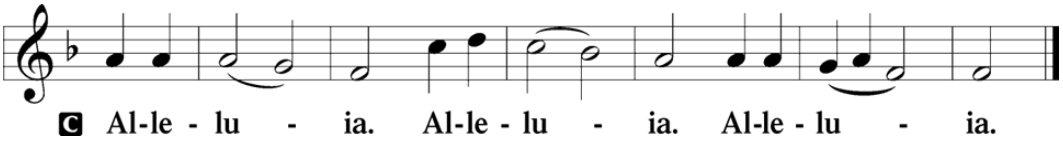
C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Verse of the Day *Psalm 85:7*



A Show us your steadfast love, O LORD, and grant us your salvation.



Holy Gospel *Matthew 21:1–9*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.

C **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

[1]When they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the
Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, [2]saying to them, "Go into
the village in front of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied,
and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me. [3]If anyone says
anything to you, you shall say, 'The Lord needs them,' and he will send
them at once." [4]This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet,
saying,

> [5]"Say to the daughter of Zion,
> 'Behold, your king is coming to you,
> humble, and mounted on a donkey,
> and on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.'"

[6]The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. [7]They brought the
donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them.
[8]Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut

branches from the trees and spread them on the road. [9]And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!"

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

Nicene Creed

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

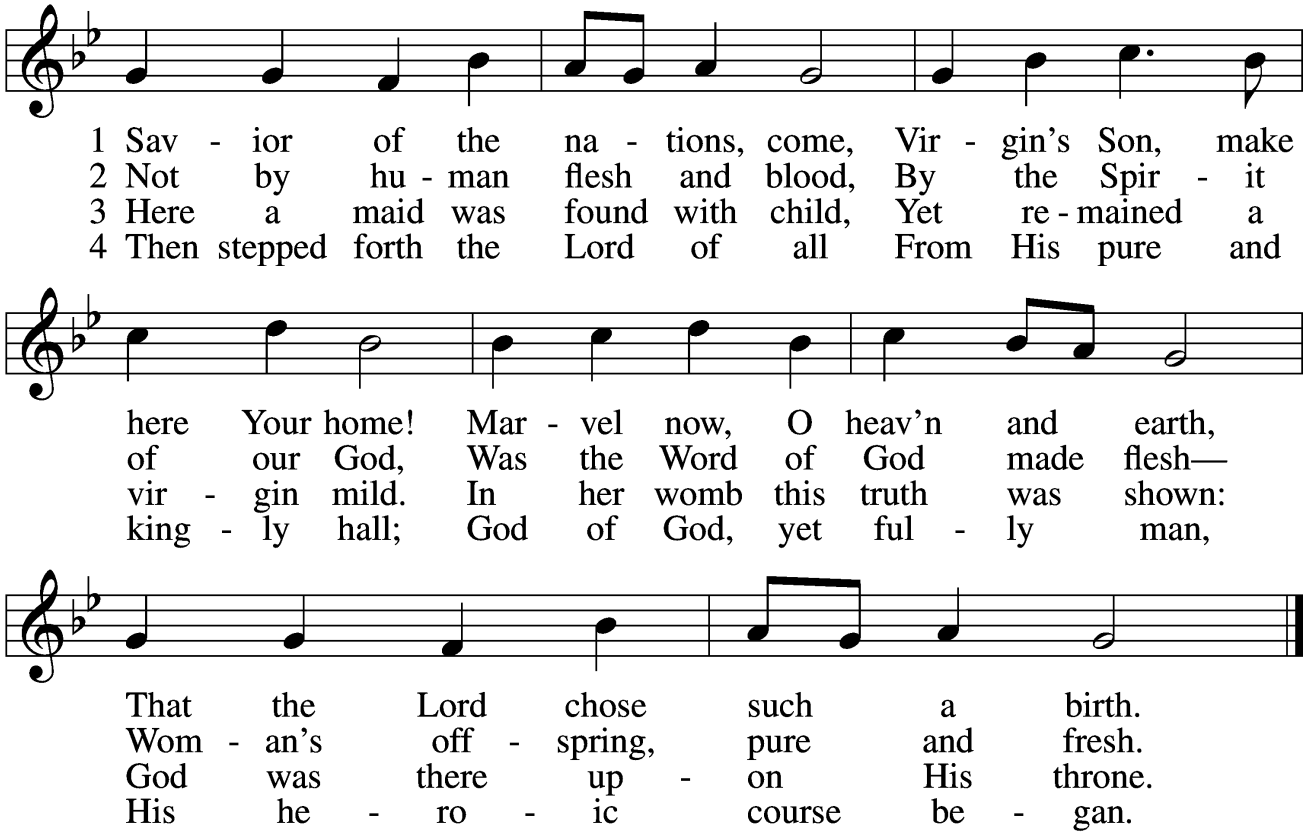
And in one Lord *Jesus Christ,*
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
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

332 Savior of the Nations, Come



5 God the Father was His source,
Back to God He ran His course.
Into hell His road went down,
Back then to His throne and crown.

6 For You are the Father's Son
Who in flesh the vict'ry won.
By Your mighty pow'r make whole
All our ills of flesh and soul.

7 From the manger newborn light
Shines in glory through the night.
Darkness there no more resides;
In this light faith now abides.

△ 8 Glory to the Father sing,
Glory to the Son, our king,
Glory to the Spirit be
Now and through eternity.

Text: attr. Ambrose of Milan, 340–397; German version, Martin Luther, 1483–1546; (sts. 1–2): tr. William M. Reynolds, 1812–76; (sts. 3, 6): tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006; (sts. 4–5, 8): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001; (st. 7): tr. Gifford A. Grobien, 1973
Tune: Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn, 1524, Wittenberg, ed. Johann Walter
Text (sts. 3, 6–7): © 2006 Concordia Publishing House; (sts. 4–5, 8): © 1978 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003383
Text (sts. 1–2) and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Votum

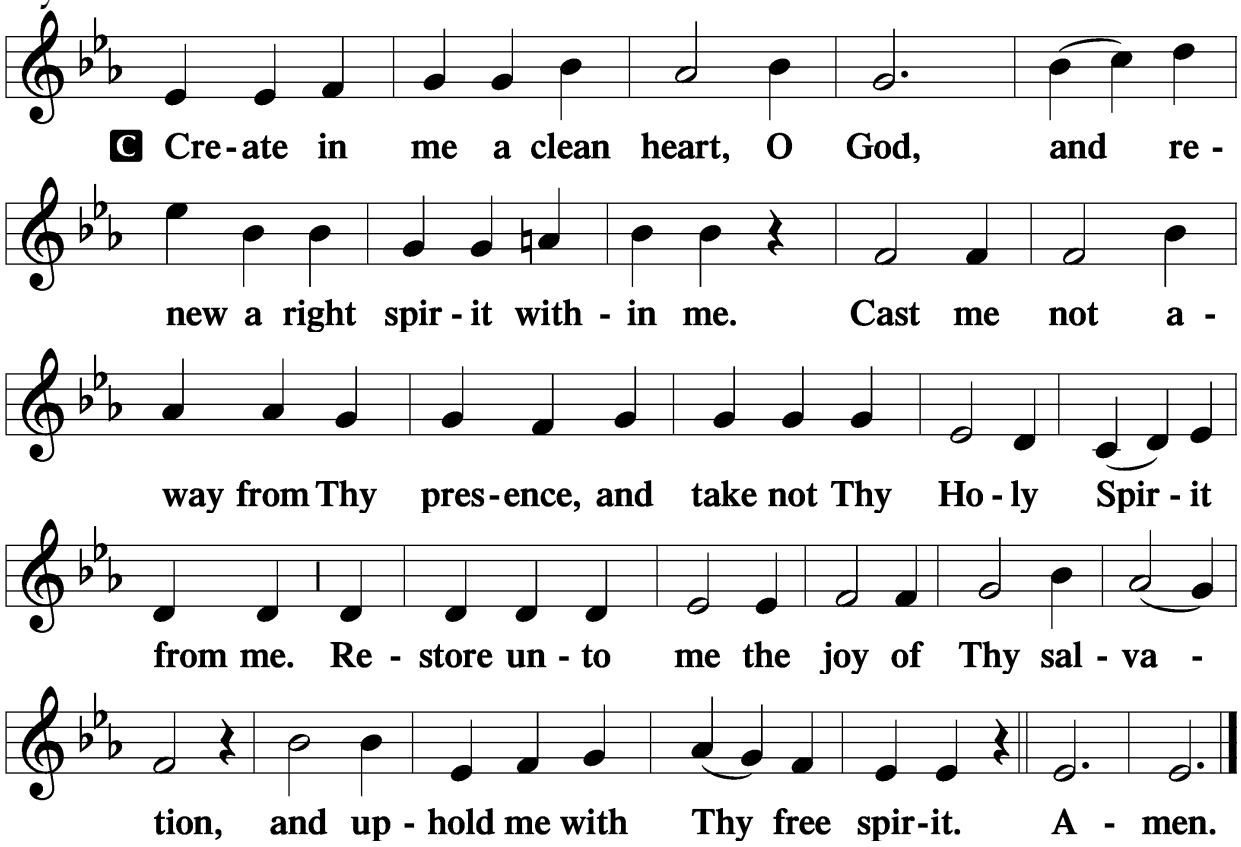
P The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

C **Amen.**

Offering - *Please place your offering and attendance card in the plate as it is passed.*

Stand

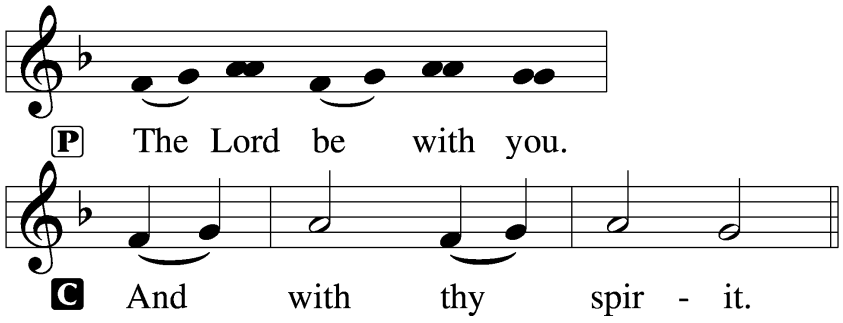
Offertory *LSB 192*

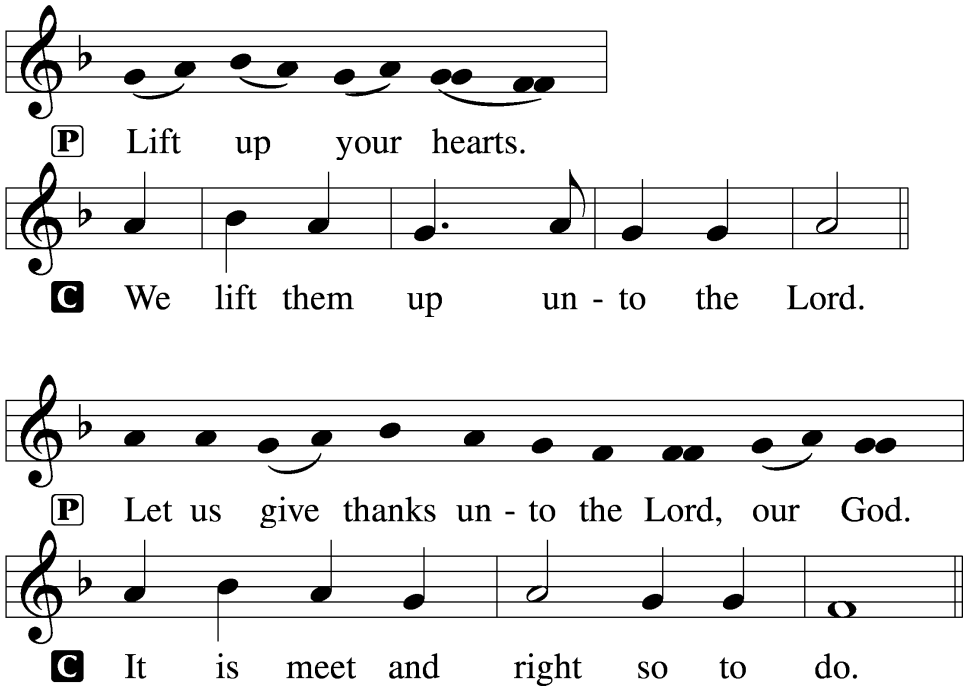


Prayer of the Church

+ Service of the Sacrament+

Preface *LSB 194*





Proper Preface

P It is truly meet, 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, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in 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 195 (Sung)*

C ***Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;***
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He, blessed is He ✢, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Lord's Prayer *LSB 196*

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 *LSB 197*

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."*

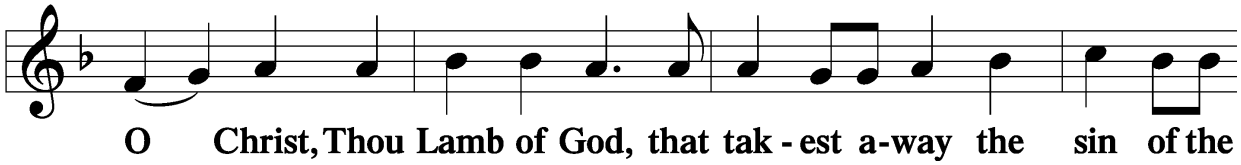
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: *"Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."*

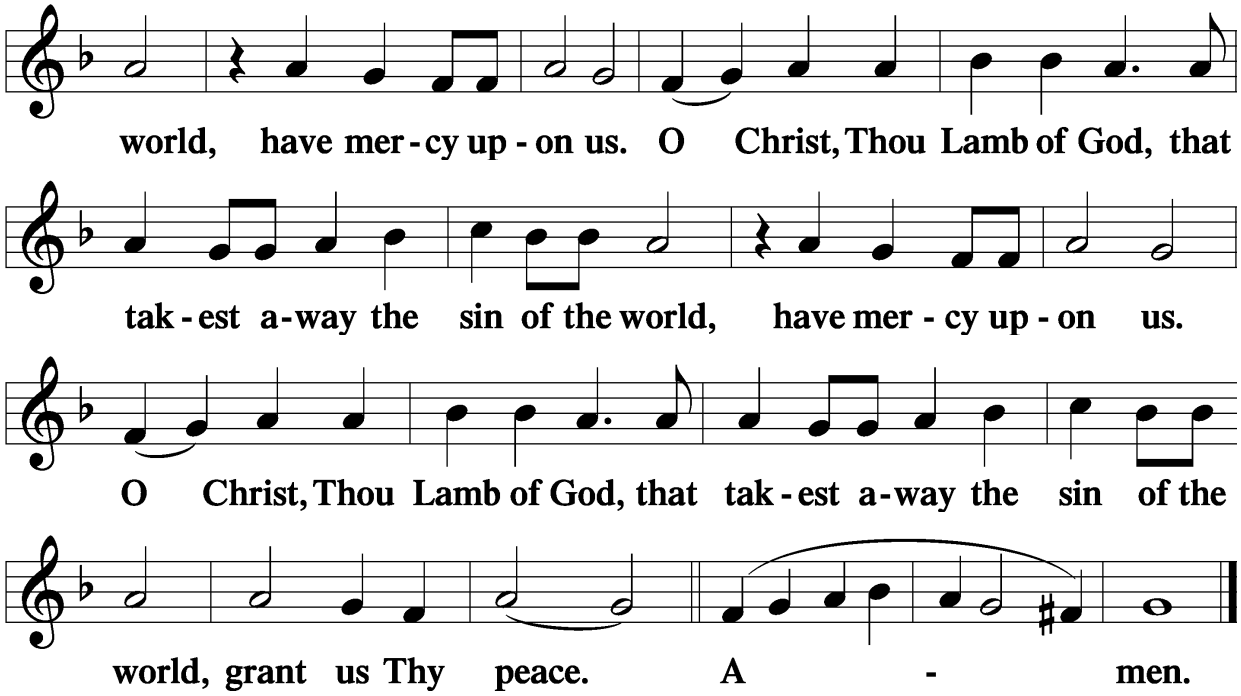
Pax Domini *LSB 197*

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **Amen.**

Agnus Dei *LSB 198*

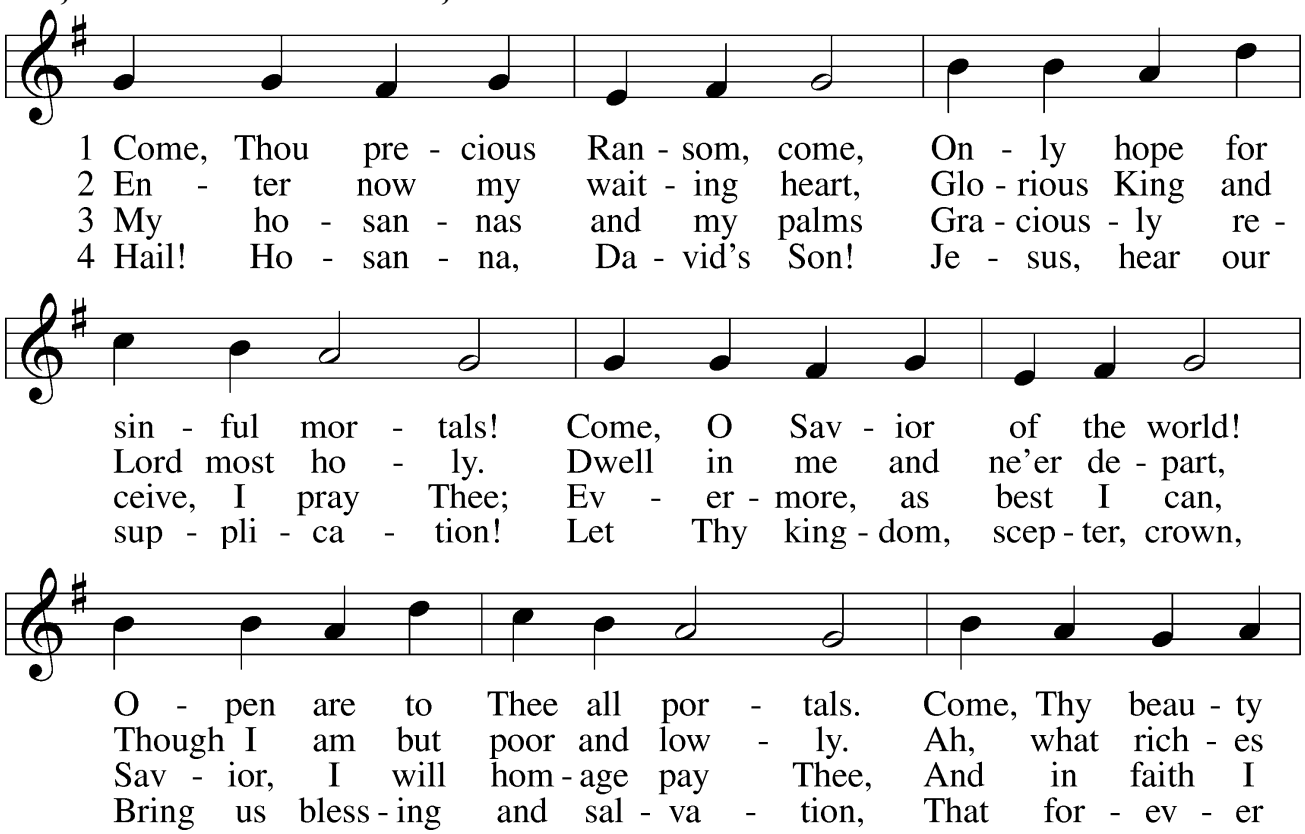


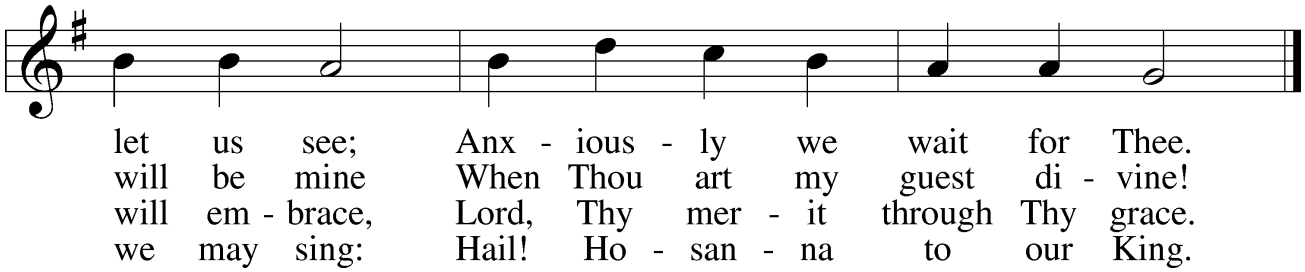


Distribution

Sit

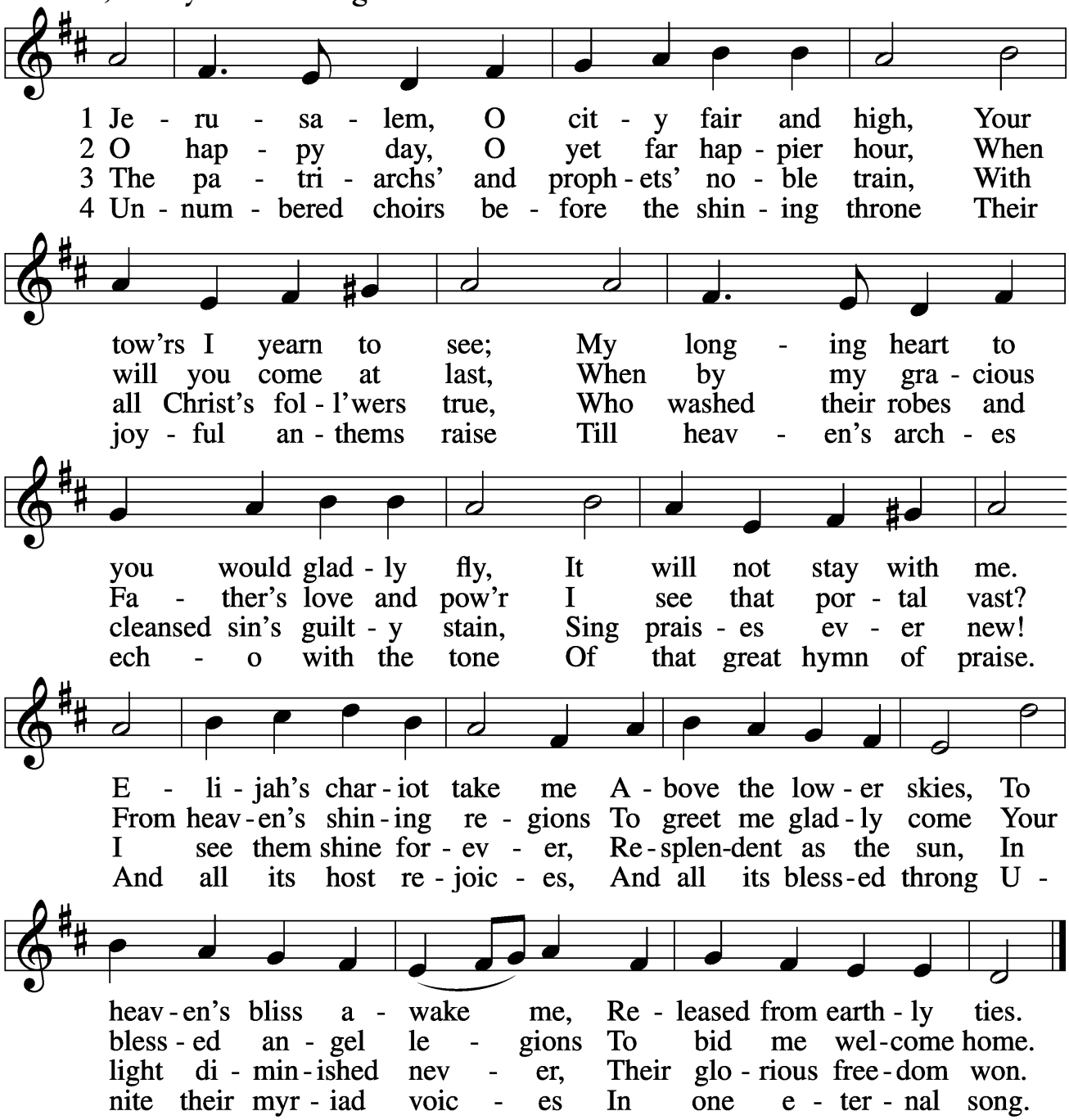
350 Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come





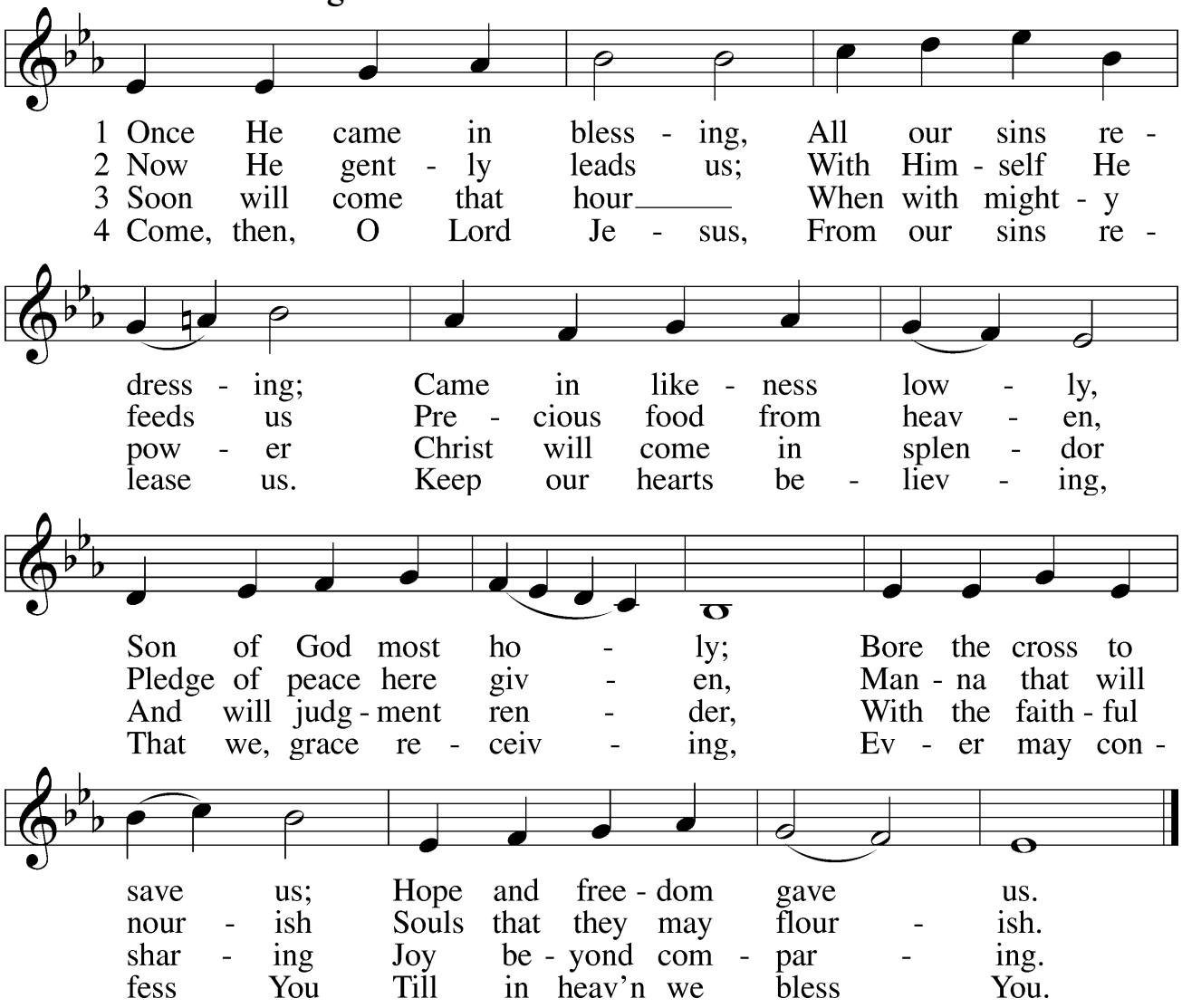
Text: Johann Gottfried Olearius, 1635–1711; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.
Tune: Neu-verfertigtes Darmstädtisches Gesang-Buch, 1699, Darmstadt
Text and tune: Public domain

674 Jerusalem, O City Fair and High



Text: Johann Matthäus Meyfart, 1590–1642; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Tune: Christlich Neu-vermehrt . . . Gesangbuch, 1663, Erfurt
Text and tune: Public domain

333 Once He Came in Blessing



Text: Johann Horn, c. 1490–1547; (sts. 1, 4): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.; (sts. 2–3): tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006
Tune: Michael Weisse, c. 1480–1534
Text (sts. 2–3): © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003383
Text (sts. 1, 4) and tune: Public domain

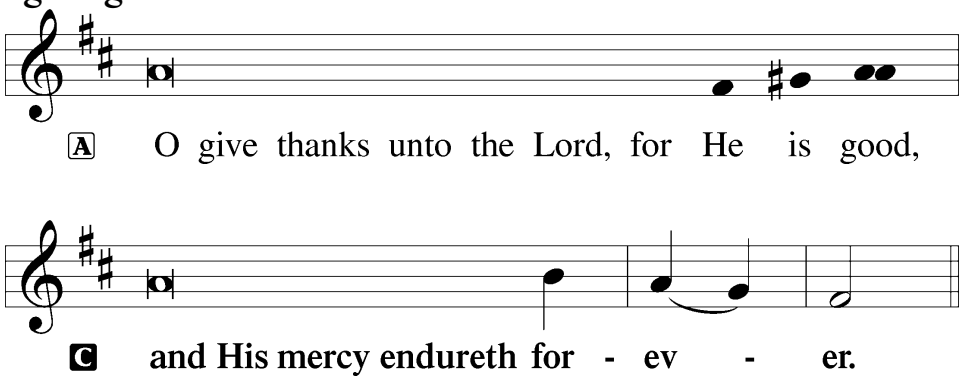
Stand

Nunc Dimittis *LSB 199 (Sung)*

C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy

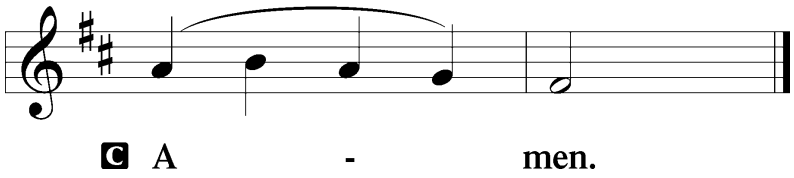
people Israel. ***Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;*** **as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

Thanksgiving *LSB 200*

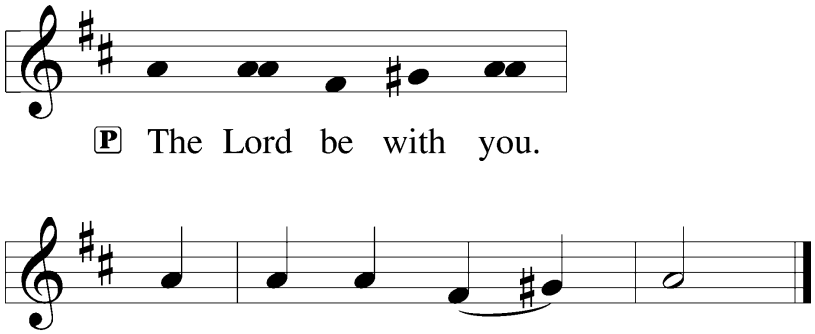


Post-Communion Collect

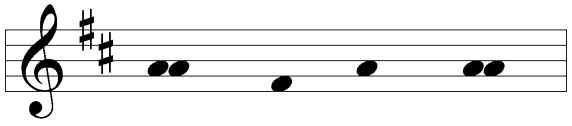
P Let us pray.
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



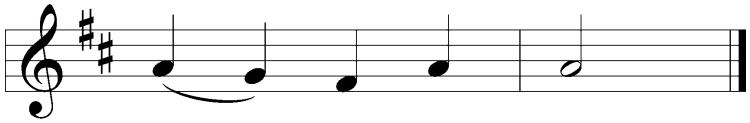
Salutation *LSB 201*



Benedicamus *LSB 202*



A Bless we the Lord.



C **Thanks be to God.**

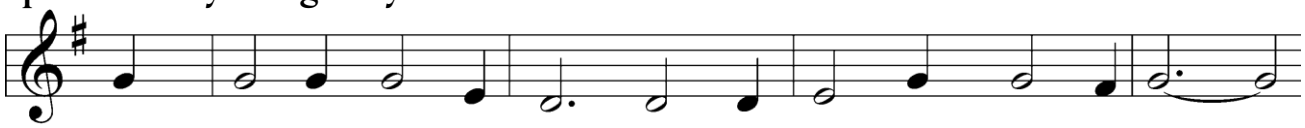
Benediction *LSB 202*

P *The Lord bless you and keep you.*
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✝ give you peace.

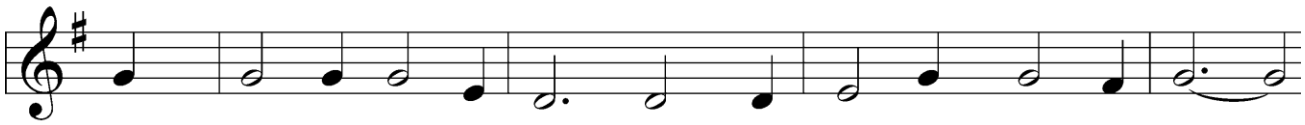
C **Amen, amen, amen.**

Please face the procession, returning after it passes

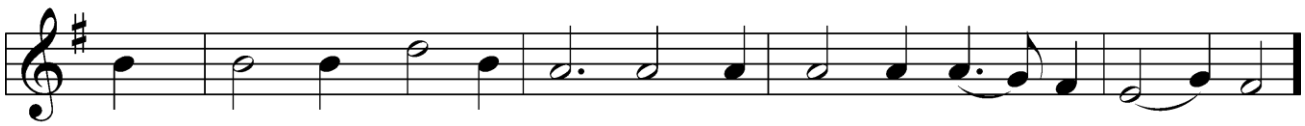
343 Prepare the Royal Highway



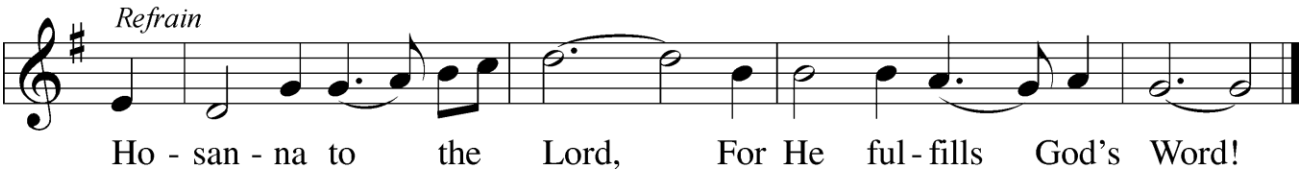
1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; The King of kings is near!
2 God's peo - ple, see Him com - ing: Your own e - ter - nal king!
3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen To greet your prom - ised king!
4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; It comes from heav'n a - bove.



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley A lev - el road ap - pear!
Palm branch - es strew be - fore Him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!
Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion Its trib - ute too should bring.
His rule is peace and free - dom And jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of Glo - ry Fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:
God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!
All lands, bow down be - fore Him! All na - tions, now a - dore Him!
So let your praise be sound - ing For kind - ness so a - bound - ing:



Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978, alt.
Tune: Swedish, 17th cent.
Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003383
Tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2026 Concordia Publishing House.

Organist. . . . . Linda Rusche
Communion Elder. . . . . Randy Wilson
Ushers. . . . . Pat Schroeder, David Johnson, Reece Schroder & Rich Rusche