

Fourth Sunday in Lent

St. Peter's Lutheran Church

March 27, 2022

Prelude

**We welcome Eileen Kramer this morning as
part of our Worship Team.**

Confession and Absolution

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known, and from whom no secrets
are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by
the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we
may perfectly love you and worthily magnify
your holy name, through Jesus Christ our
Lord.

C: Amen.

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

P: Gracious God,

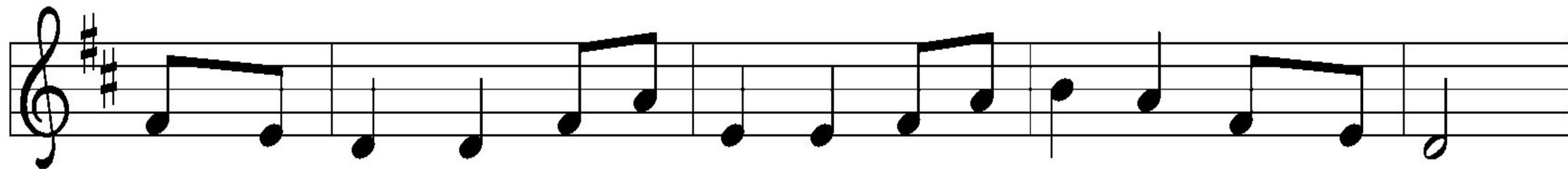
C: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent.

**In your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown, things we have
done and things we have failed to do.
Turn us again to you, and uphold us by
your Spirit, so that we may live and
serve you in newness of life through
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.**

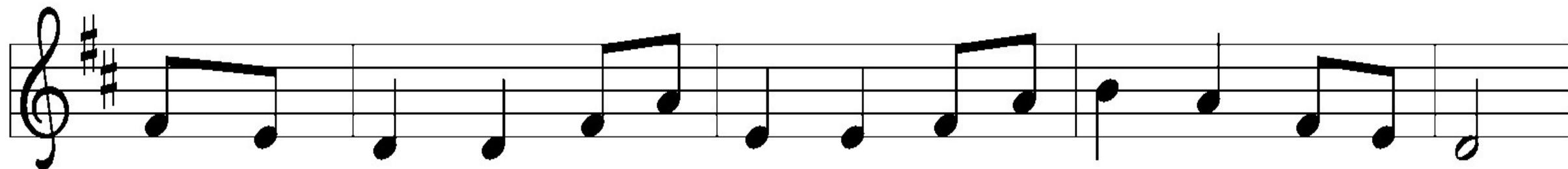
P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the  Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

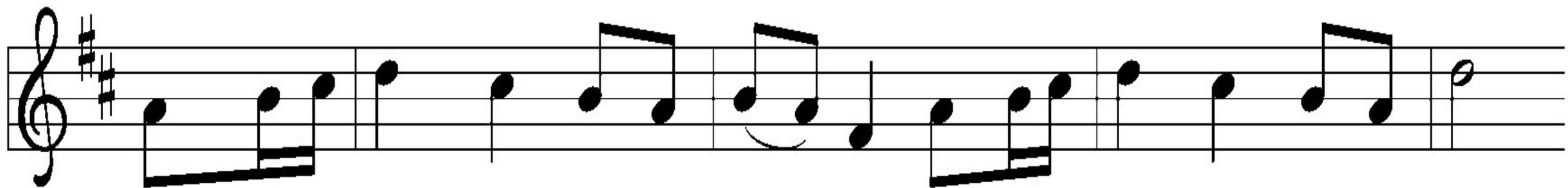
Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing



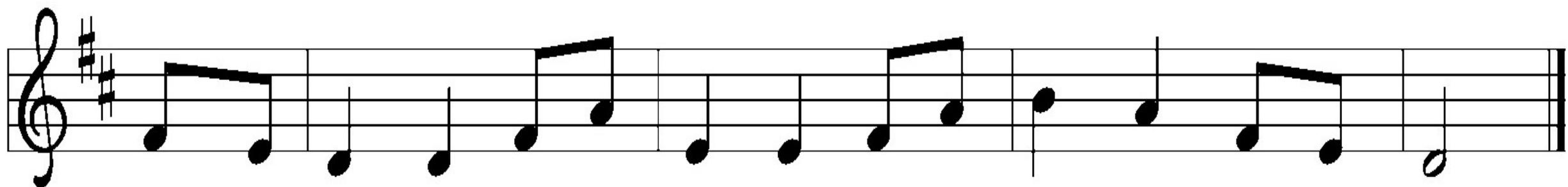
1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;



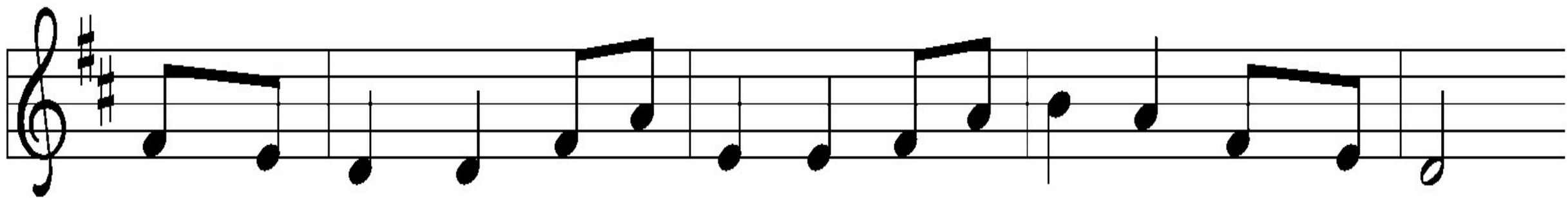
streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.



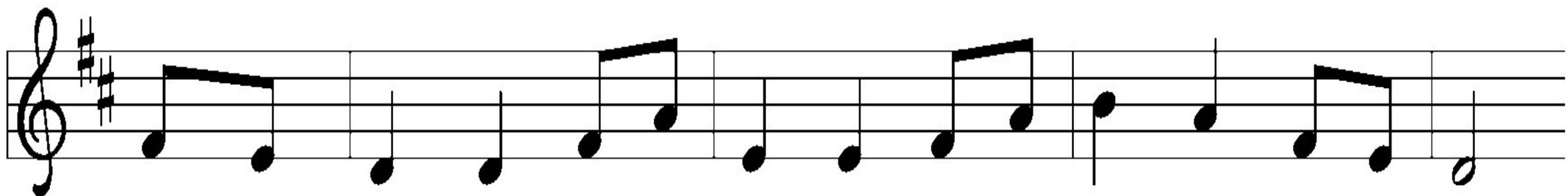
While the hope of end-less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,



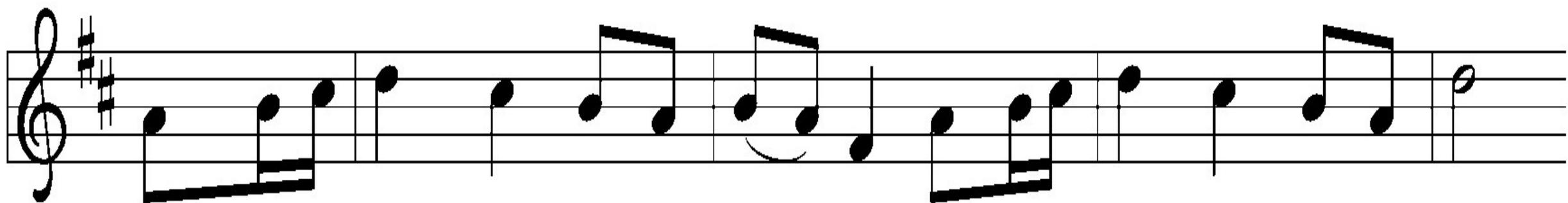
teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good-ness prove.



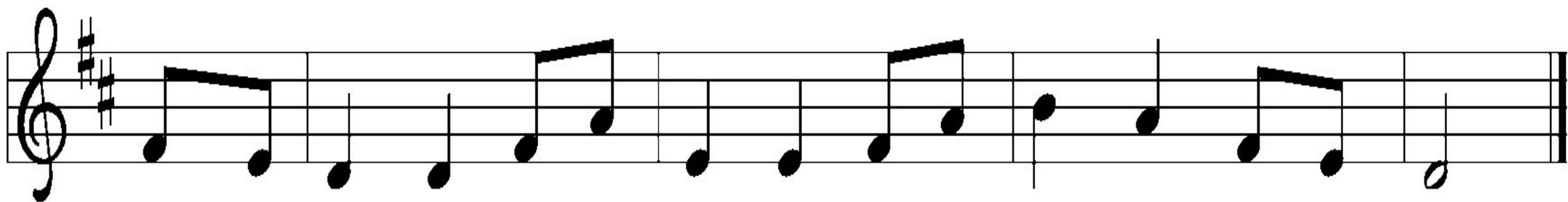
2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer: "Hith-er by thy help I've come";



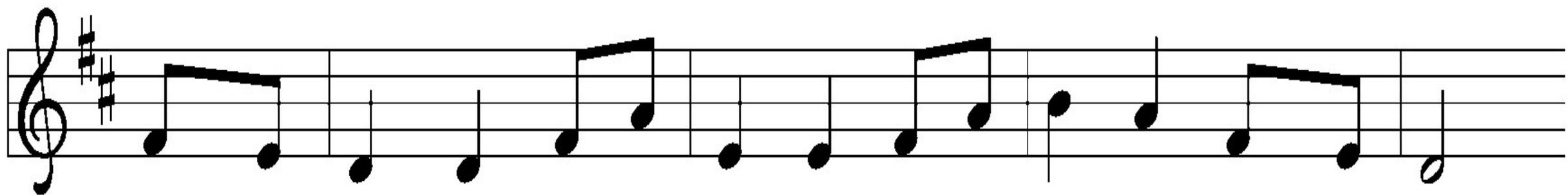
and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.



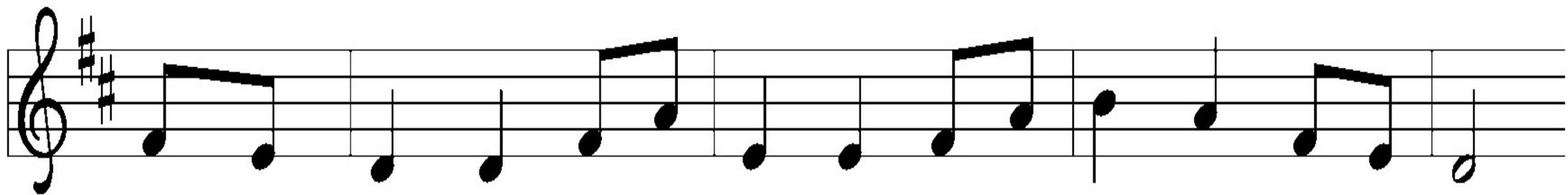
Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan - d'ring from the fold of God;



he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.



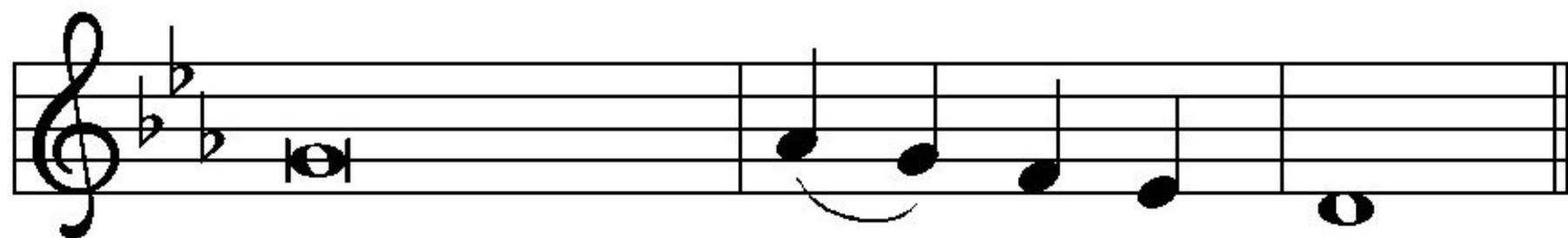
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con - strained to be;



let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan - d'ring heart to thee.

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

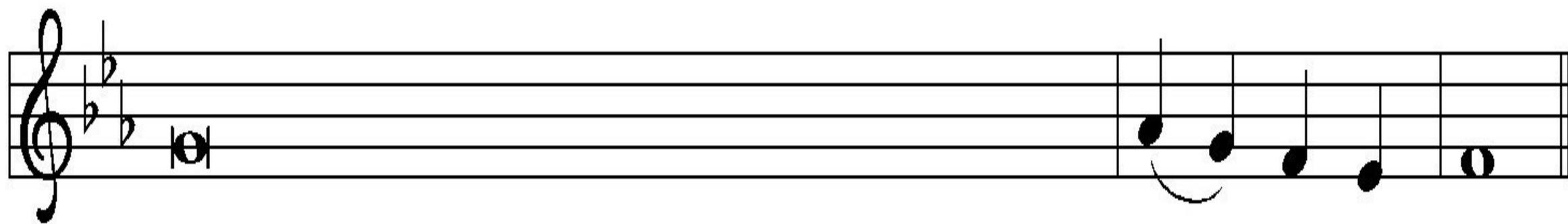
C: And also with you.



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



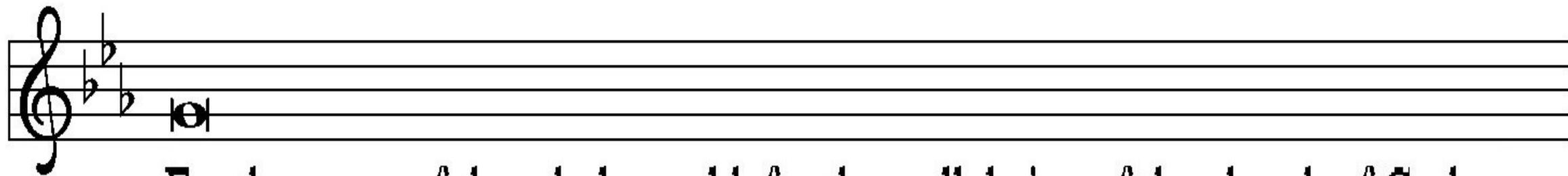
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



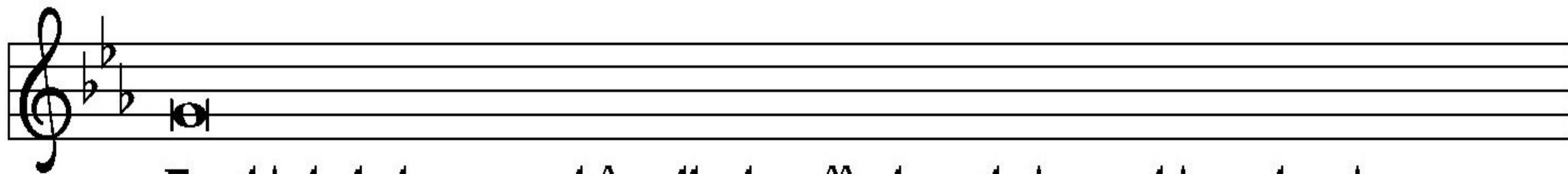
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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



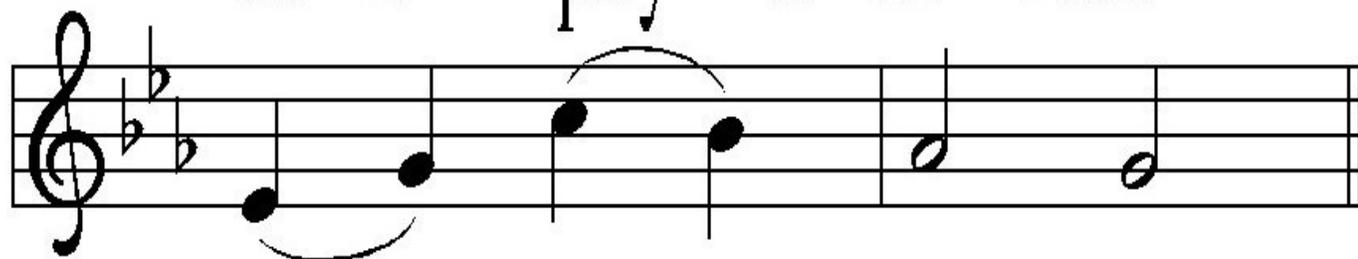
Lord, have mer - cy.



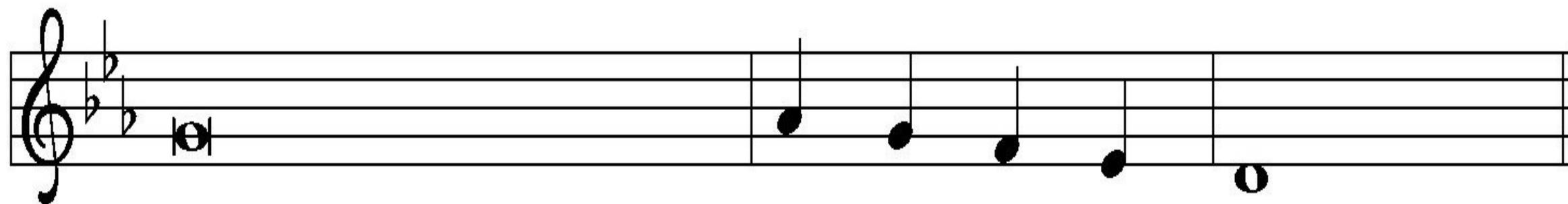
For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



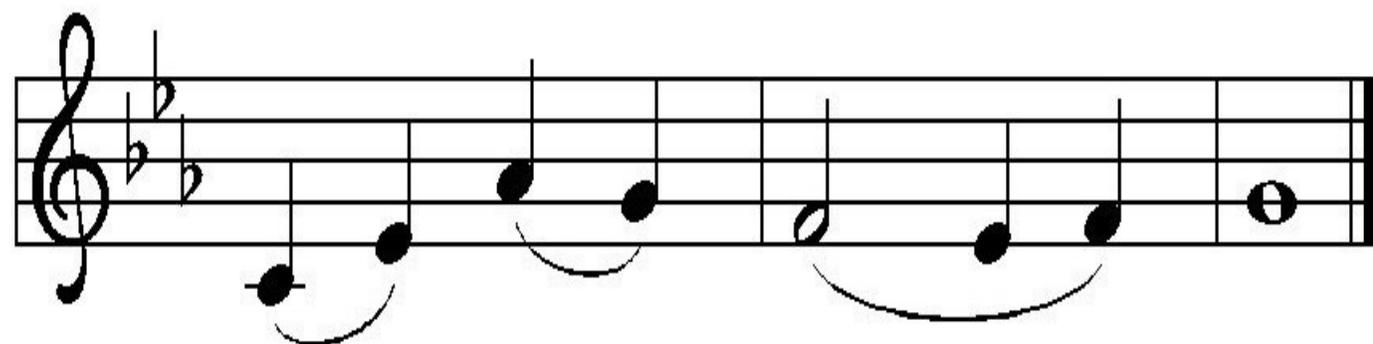
let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mercy.



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



A - men, a - men.

Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

God of compassion, you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Please be seated

FIRST READING: JOSHUA 5:9-12

A reading from Joshua.

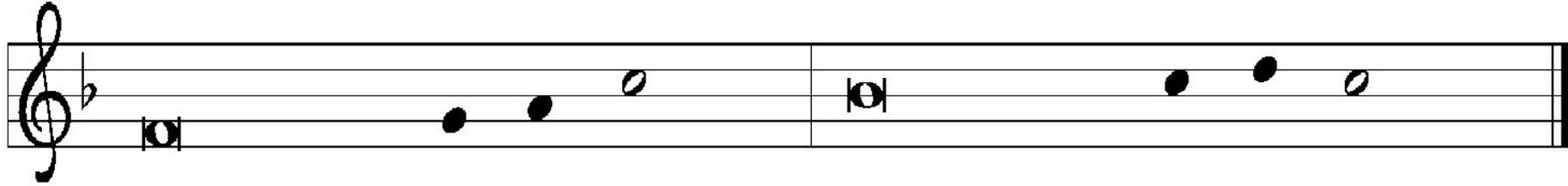
⁹The LORD said to Joshua, “Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt.” And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

¹⁰ While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. ¹¹ On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. ¹² The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 32



¹ Happy are they whose transgressions | are forgiven,
and whose sin is | put away!

² **Happy are they to whom
the LORD im- | putes no guilt,
and in whose spirit there | is no guile!**

³While I held my tongue, my bones with- | ered away,
because of my groaning | all day long.

**⁴For your hand was heavy upon
me | day and night;
my moisture was dried up
as in the | heat of summer.**

⁵Then I acknowledged my sin to you,
and did not con- | ceal my guilt.

I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the
LORD.” Then you forgave me the guilt | of my sin.

**⁶Therefore all the faithful will make their
prayers to you in | time of trouble;
when the great waters overflow,
they | shall not reach them.**

⁷You are my hiding-place;
you preserve | me from trouble;
you surround me with shouts | of deliverance.

⁸**“I will instruct you and teach you in the
way that | you should go;
I will guide you | with my eye.**

⁹Do not be like horse or mule,
which have no | understanding;
who must be fitted with bit and bridle,
or else they will | not stay near you.”

¹⁰**Great are the tribulations | of the wicked;
but mercy embraces those who trust |
in the LORD.**

¹¹Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice | in the LORD;
shout for joy, all who are | true of heart.

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

A reading from 2 Corinthians.

¹⁶ From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷ So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

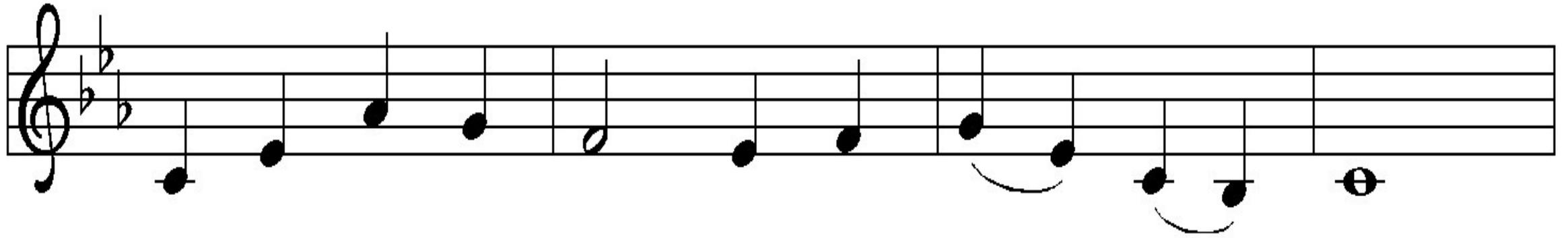
¹⁸ All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹ that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us.

²⁰ So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹ For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

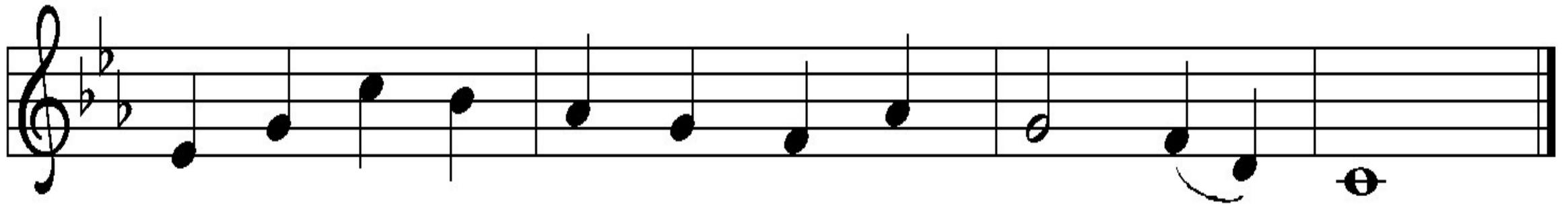
Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please Stand as you are able



Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.



Save us as you prom-ised; we will trust your word.

GOSPEL: LUKE 15:1-3. 11b-32

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] ² And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

³ So he told them this parable: ^{11b} “There was a man who had two sons. ¹² The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.’ So he divided his property between them. ¹³ A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living.

¹⁴ When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶ He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷ But when he came to himself he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger!’

¹⁸ I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.”’ ²⁰ So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹ Then the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’

²² But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³ And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; ²⁴ for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!’ And they began to celebrate.

²⁵ “Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on.

²⁷ He replied, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.’ ²⁸ Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. ²⁹ But he answered his father, ‘Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends.’

³⁰ But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’ ³¹ Then the father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³² But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.’ ”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

HOMILY

Purpose, Mission, Vision, Values

Historically, Lent has been a time of instruction for those preparing for baptism at the Easter Vigil.

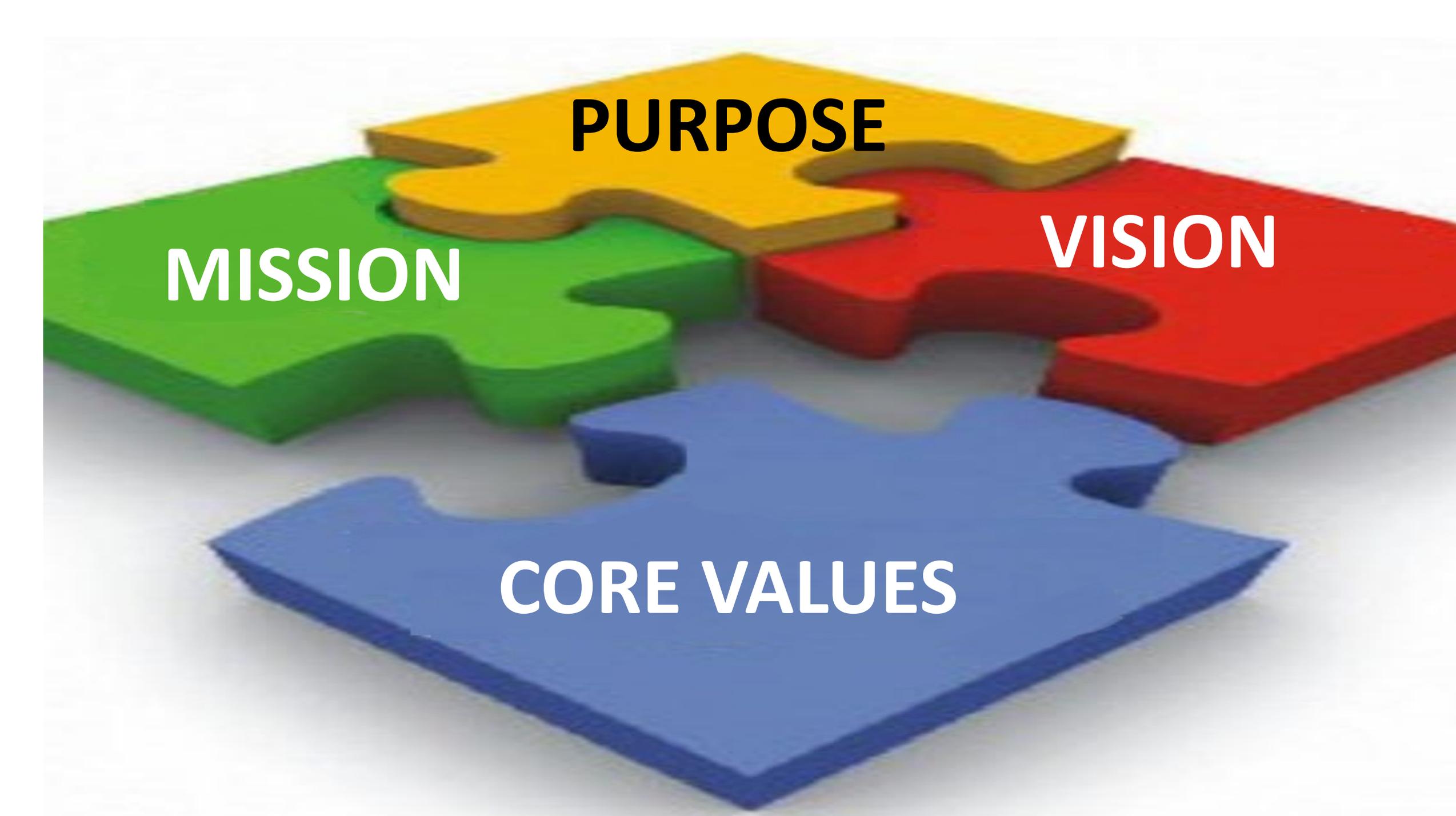
Many Lutherans around the world, including St. Peter's, have reviewed the basics of our faith by using The Small Catechism of Martin Luther during the season of Lent.





This Lent, as we emerge from COVID-19, we will explore the **Purpose, Mission, Vision, and Values** of St. Peter's, as we grow into our call to be disciples of Jesus Christ.

Today, we explore the Values of St. Peter's Lutheran Church.



PURPOSE

MISSION

VISION

CORE VALUES

What are Values?

Values are deeply held beliefs; our highest priorities; and fundamental principles that are at the core of our identity.



Values are the mortar that holds everything together.

What are our core values?

- **Jesus, Son of God, is our Lord and Savior**
- **Seeking, inviting, welcoming, respecting, and including all people**
- **As God's stewards we share our gifts of time, talent, and treasure with the church and the world**
- **Accountable to God we support, encourage, and love one another as the body of Christ.**

What does Scripture say about Jesus as Son of God, Lord, and Savior?

“You are the Christ, the Son of the living God”

(Matthew 16:16)

...these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name. John 20.31

This is most certainly true.

What does Scripture say about seeking, inviting, welcoming, respecting, and including all people?

For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” Galatians 5.14

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit . . .” (Matthew 28:19)

This is most certainly true

What does Scripture say about our stewardship?

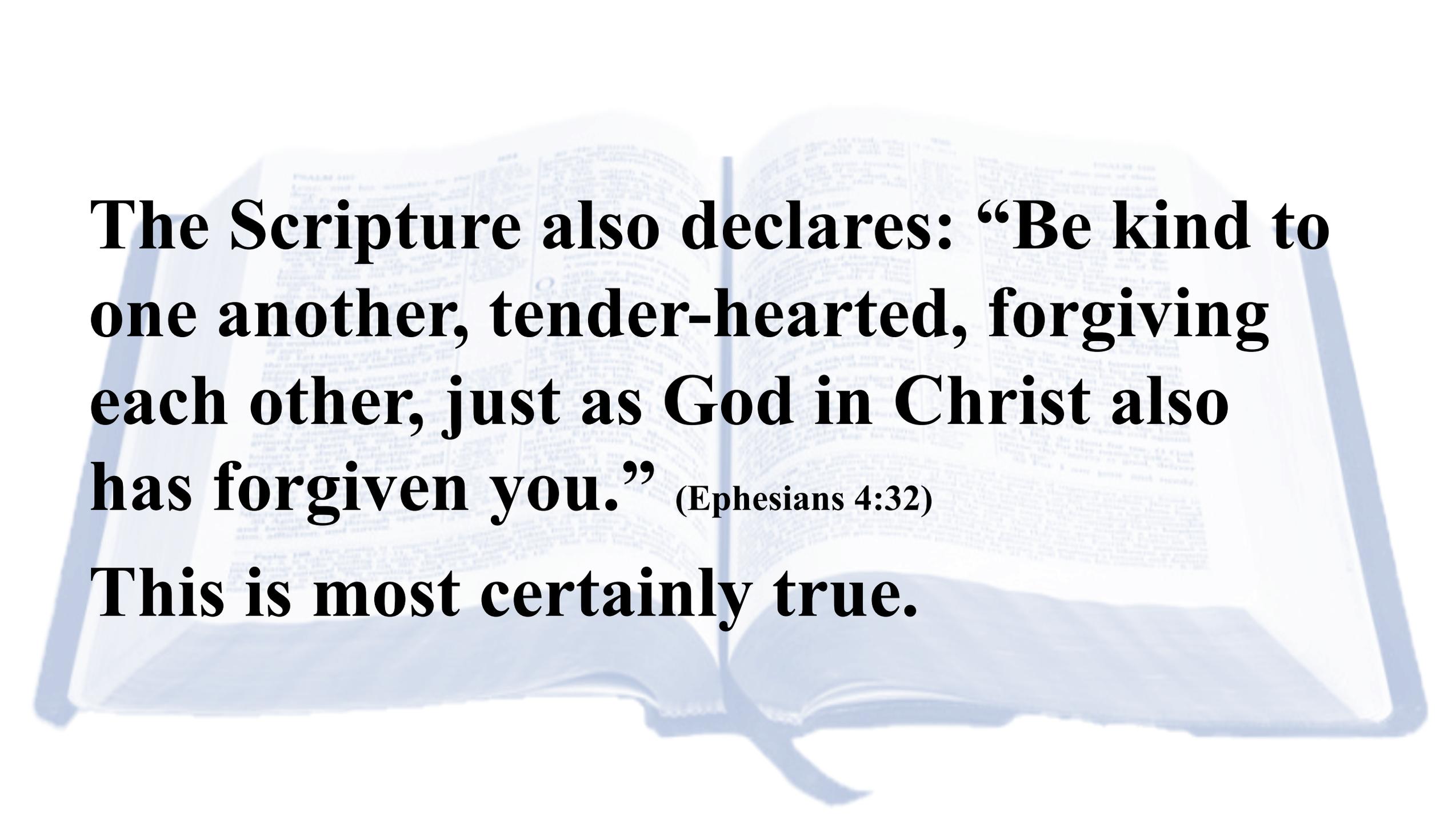
“The earth and everything in it, the world and its inhabitants, belong to the Lord.” (Psalm 24:1)

Furthermore: “This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God.” (1 Corinthians 4:1)

This is most certainly true.

What does Scripture say about our care for one another?

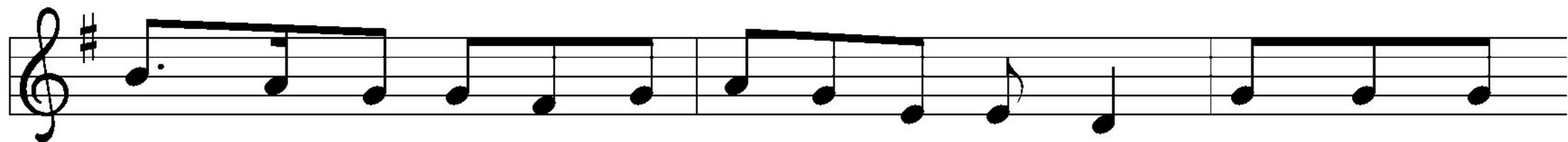
Jesus says: “A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.” (John 13:34-35)



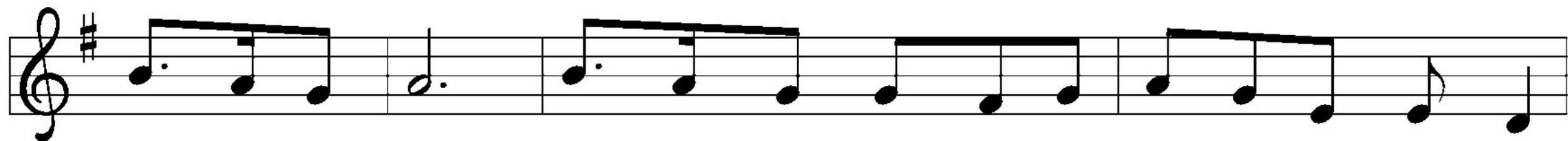
The Scripture also declares: “Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.” (Ephesians 4:32)

This is most certainly true.

Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling

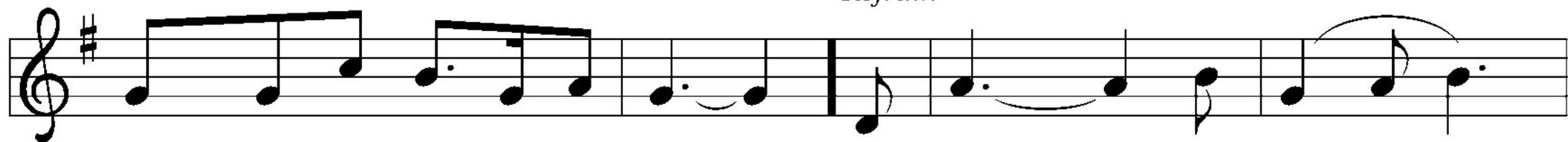


1 Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing for



you and for me. See, on the por - tals he's wait - ing and watch - ing,

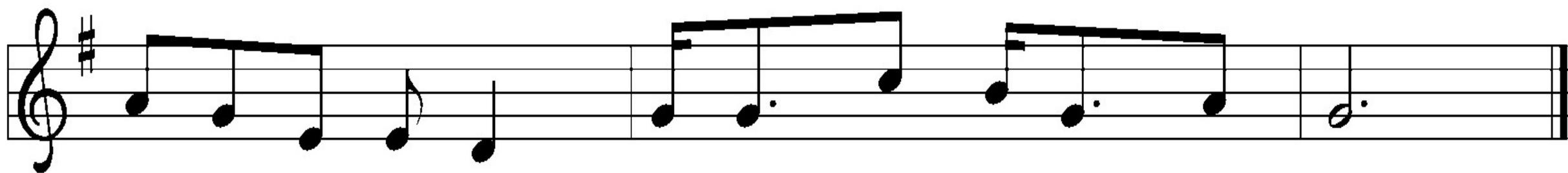
Refrain



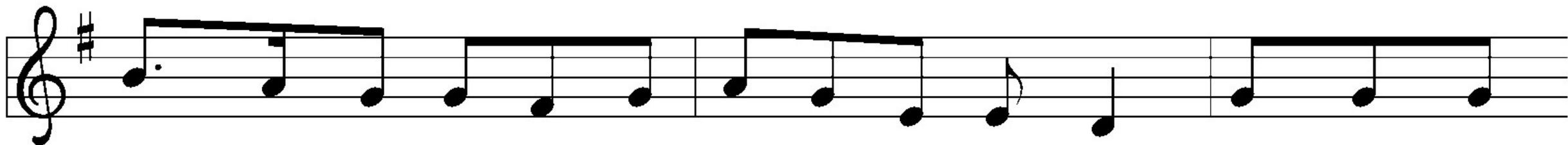
watch - ing for you and for me. "Come home, come home!"



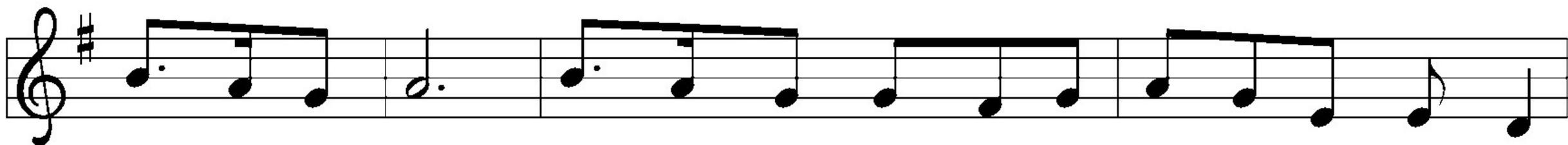
You who are wea-ry, come home.” Ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly,



Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing, “O sin - ner, come home!”

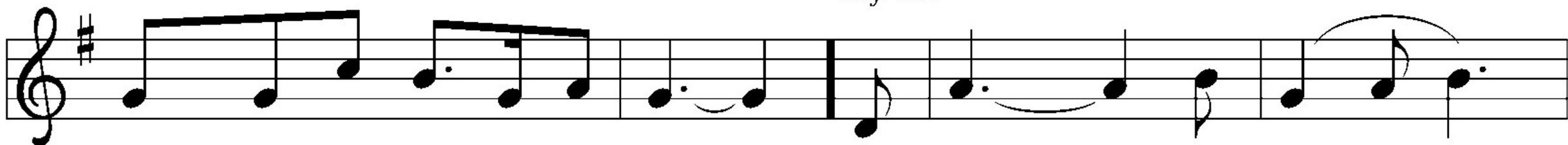


2 Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing, plead - ing for



you and for me? Why should we lin - ger and heed not his mer - cies,

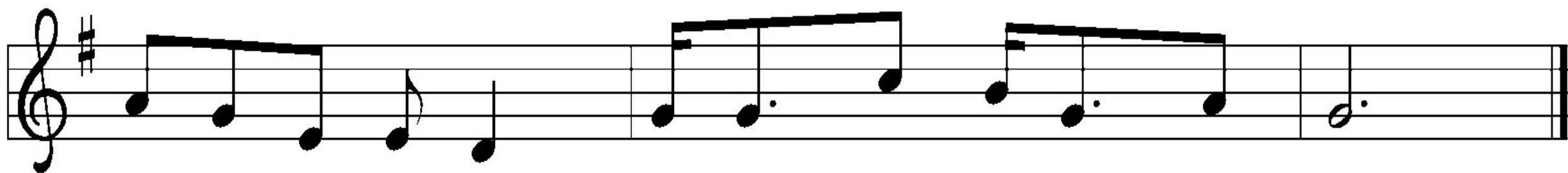
Refrain



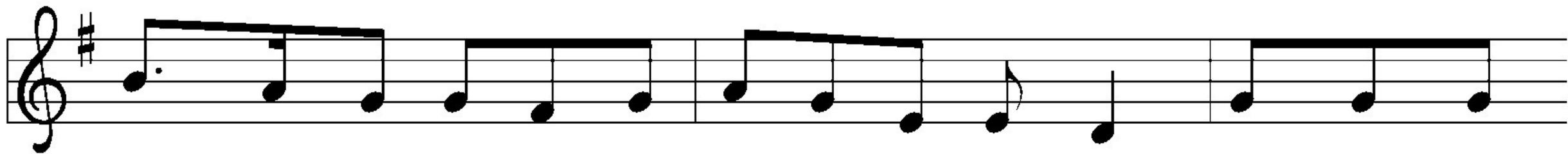
mer - cies for you and for me? "Come home, come home!"



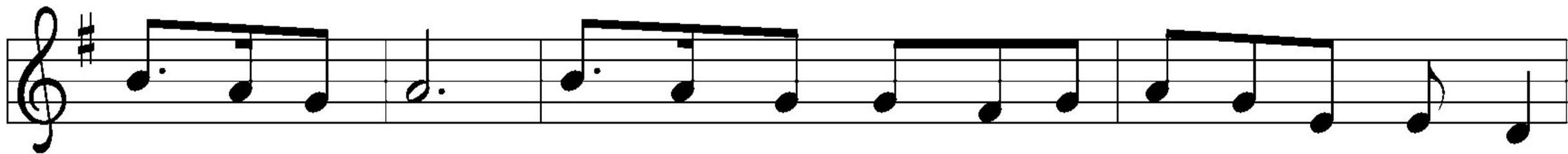
You who are wea-ry, come home.” Ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly,



Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing, “O sin - ner, come home!”

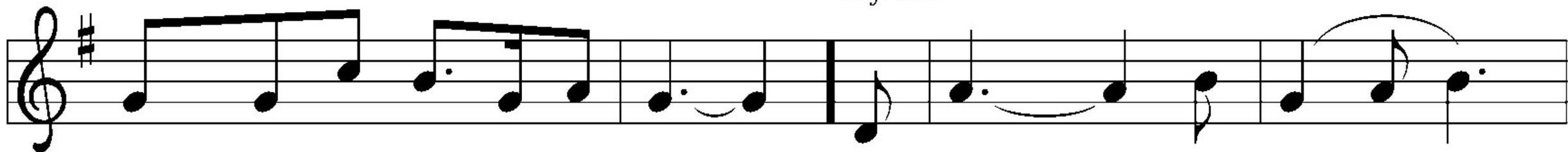


3 Oh, for the won-der - ful love he has prom - ised, prom - ised for

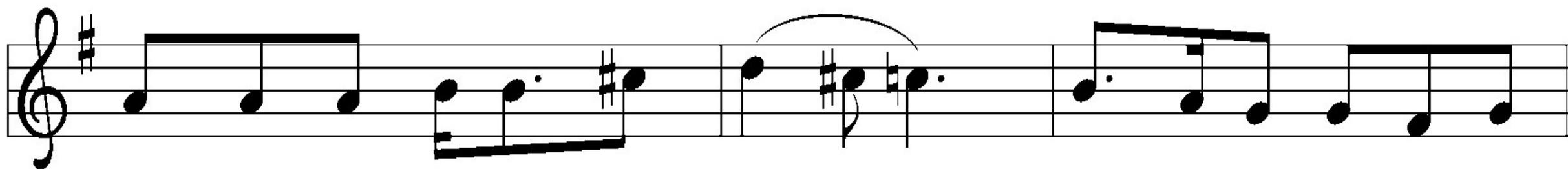


you and for me! Though we have sinned, he has mer - cy and par - don,

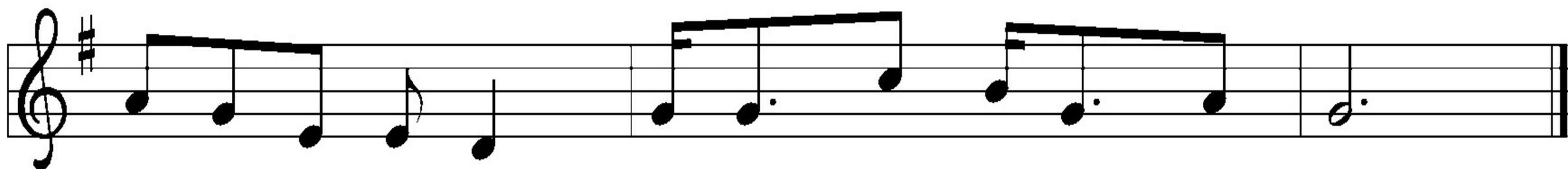
Refrain



par - don for you and for me. "Come home, come home!"



You who are wea-ry, come home.” Ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly,



Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing, “O sin - ner, come home!”

Text: Will L. Thompson, 1847–1909

Music: THOMPSON, Will L. Thompson

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**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 into Hell.**

**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.**

**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. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: Drawn close to the heart of God, we offer these prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

P/A: Jesus formed the disciples in the ways of extravagant mercy and profound welcome. Lead your church to be a community marked by forgiveness, hospitality, and celebration. Send us to transform a world plagued by fear and condemnation. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P/A: You make the land to produce a harvest that sustains your entire creation. Equip farmers and farm workers who till the soil. Nourish the earth with ample rainfall and abundant sunshine. Heal grounds tainted by pollution or misuse. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P/A: Countries are divided and leaders often harbor grudges. Reconcile nations that experience conflict (*especially*). Act quickly to bring an end to war. Anoint peacemakers trained in the art of diplomacy and foster a spirit of collaboration among political rivals. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P/A: Your people cry for help in times of distress. Resolve disagreements among family members. Save those experiencing financial hardship. Hear our prayers for those who are sick or grieving (*especially*). Console us with the promise that everything can become new. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P/A: Your love comes to us when a table is set and a feast is prepared. Bless the feeding ministries of this congregation (*especially*). Bring an end to hunger in our community and around the world.
Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P/A: The one who was dead is alive again. We give thanks for those who have died, confident that steadfast love surrounds them. Shelter them in your love until we are gathered at your heavenly banquet. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Accept the prayers we bring, O God, on behalf of a world in need, for the sake of Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

PEACE

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

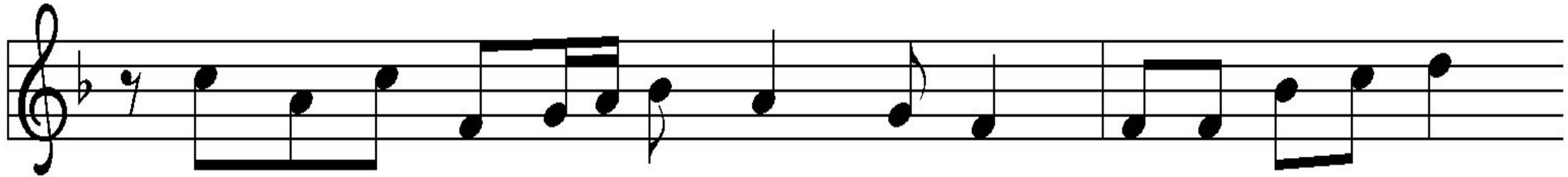
The assembly is seated.

Presentation of the Bread and Wine for the Eucharistic Feast

Stand as you are able

Create in Me a Clean Heart

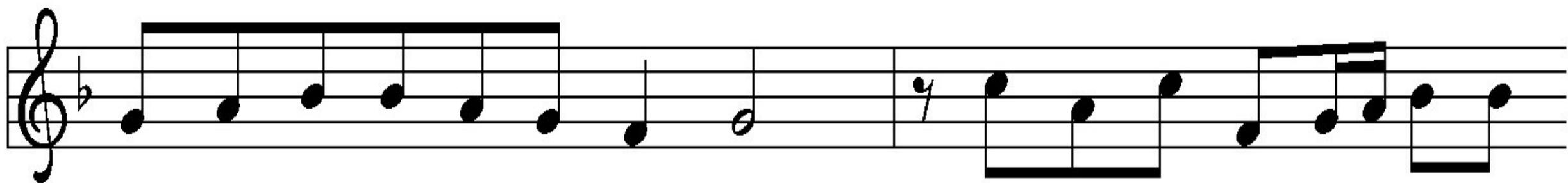
Offering Song



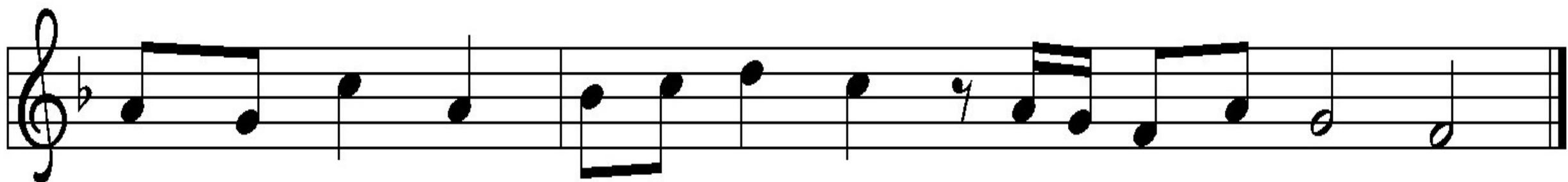
Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right



spir-it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take



not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re-store to me the joy of



your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

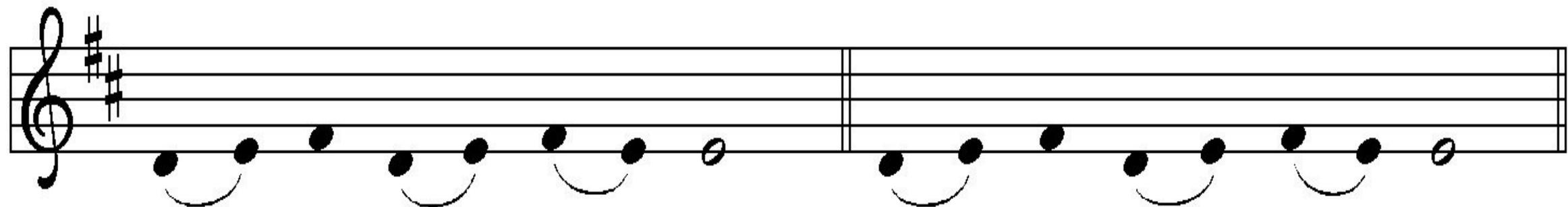
Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923

Music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

P/A: Let us pray.

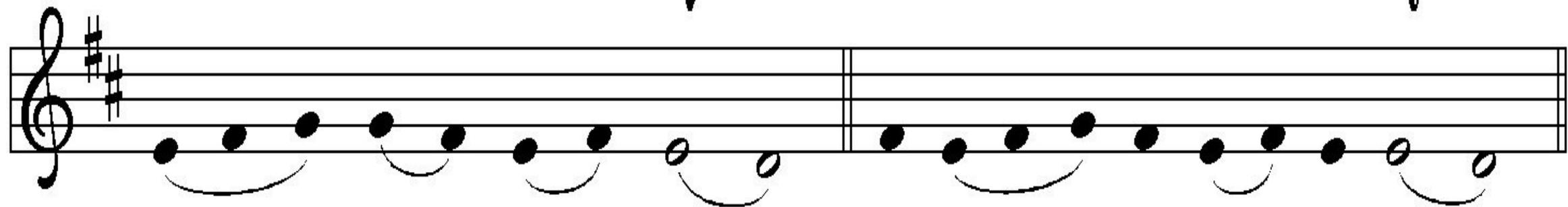
God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.



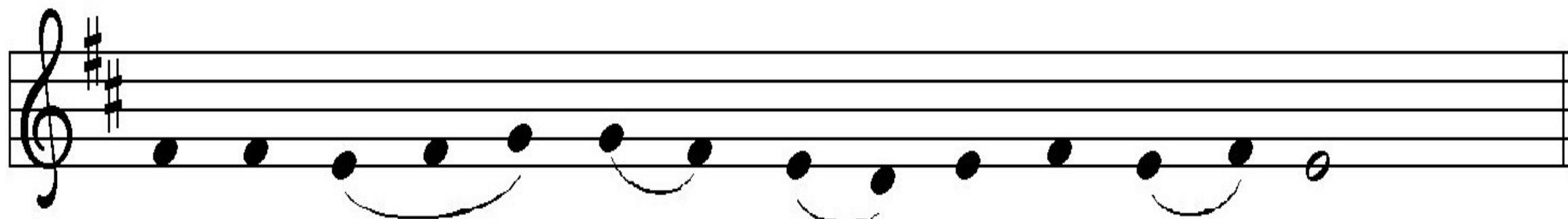
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

The first line of music is written on a single staff in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The melody consists of eight quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, and F#4. The notes are grouped into four pairs, each with a slur underneath. The lyrics are printed below the staff, with hyphens under 'al - so'.

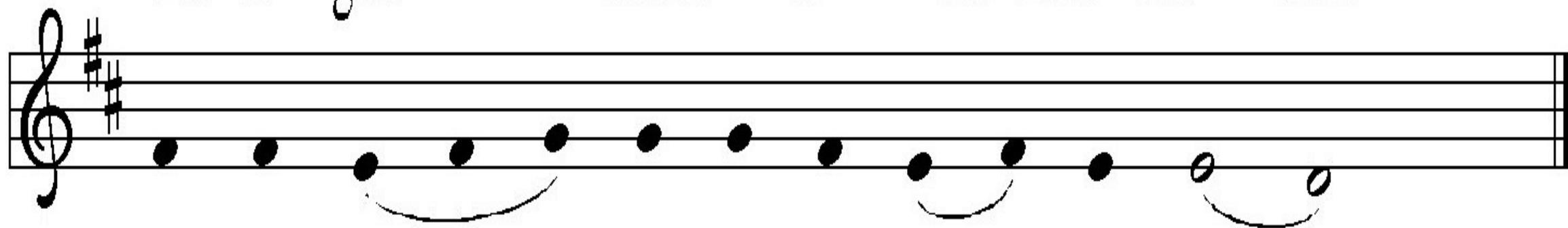


Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

The second line of music is written on a single staff in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The melody consists of eight quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, and F#4. The notes are grouped into four pairs, each with a slur underneath. The lyrics are printed below the staff.



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



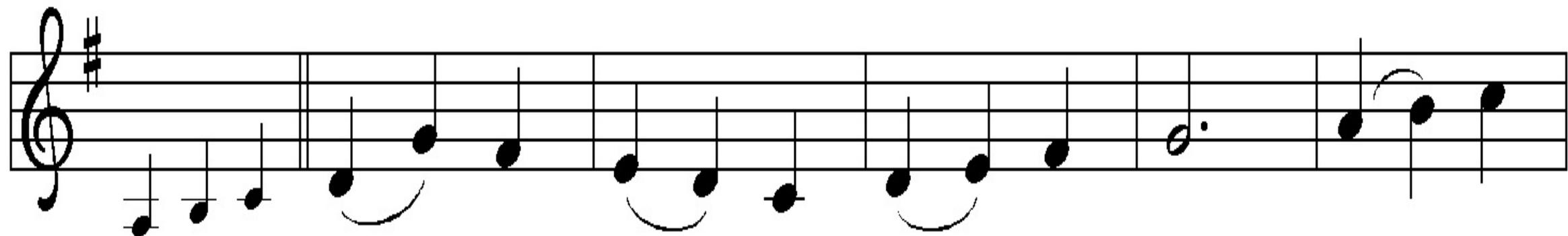
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

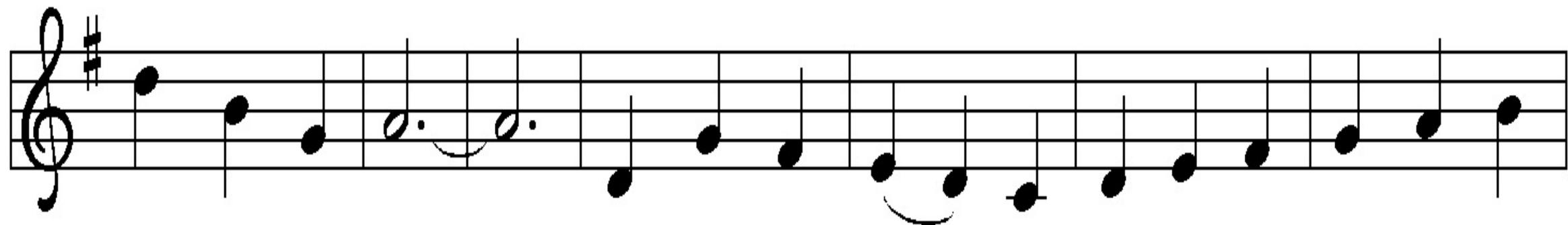
You call your people to cleanse their hearts
and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,
that, renewed in the gift of baptism,
we may come to the fullness of your grace.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

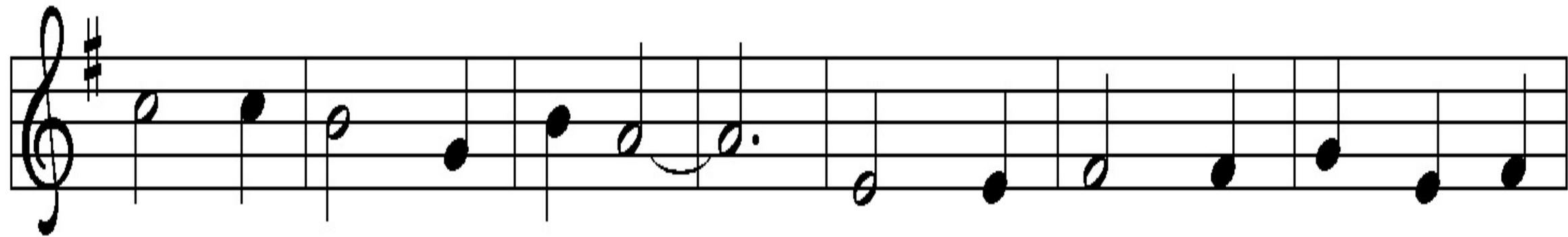
Congregation sings



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of



pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -



san - na in the high - est. Blessed is he who comes in the



name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

P: Blessed are you, O God of the universe.
Your mercy is everlasting
and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.
Praise to you for saving
the earth from the waters of the flood.
Praise to you for bringing
the Israelites safely through the sea.
Praise to you for leading your people
through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey.

Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus,
your anointed one.

Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.

Praise to you for your Spirit
poured out on all nations.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people
for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup
we remember our Lord's passover from death to life
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life:
Pour out your Holy Spirit on us
and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Bless this feast.
Grace our table with your presence.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.

Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.

Breathe new life into us.

Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

Come, Holy Spirit.

With your holy ones of all times and places,
with the earth and all its creatures,
with sun and moon and stars,
we praise you, O God,
blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

Amen.

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.**

P: Behold the Lamb of God
who takes away the sin of the world.

**C: Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

Lamb of God

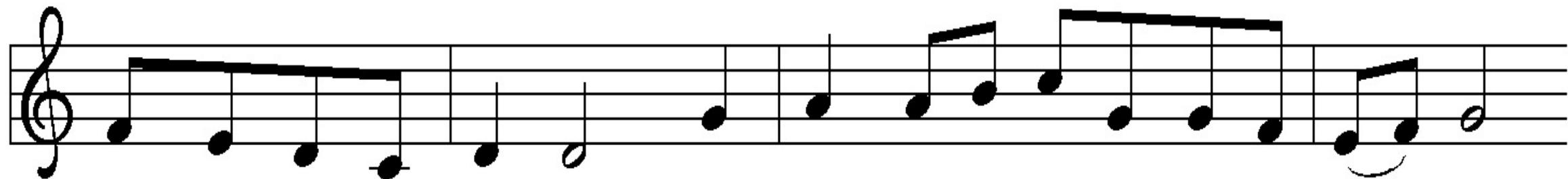
Assembly may be seated

At the Table

After all have returned to their places, stand as you are able

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his grace.

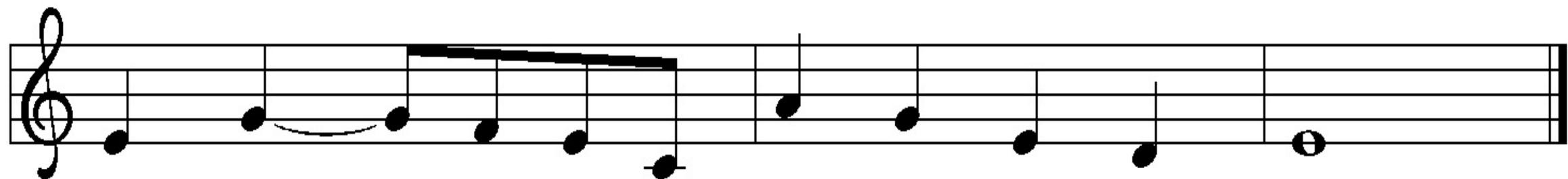
C: Amen.



sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: a light to re - veal you to the na - tions



and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.



Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace.

Stand as you are able

P/A: Let us pray.

Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

P: The Lord bless you and keep you,
and empower you to bless
and keep those around you.
The Lord's face shine on you
with grace and mercy,
as you share that grace
and mercy with all that you meet.

The Lord look upon you with favor
and give you ✝ peace,
and let that peace shine
through you for all the world to see.

C: Amen.

Announcements

God Sightings

Celebrations

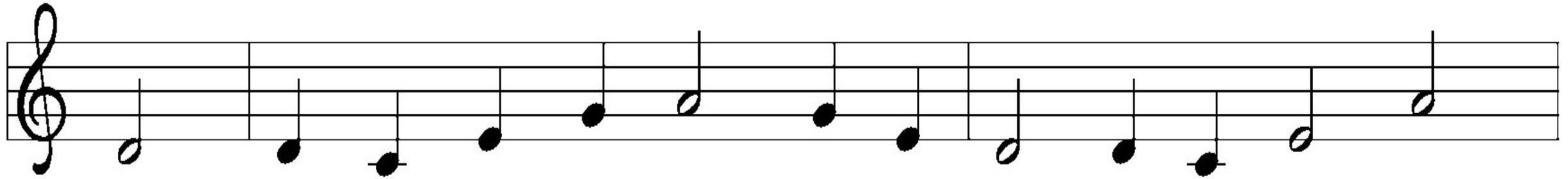
SENDING HYMN



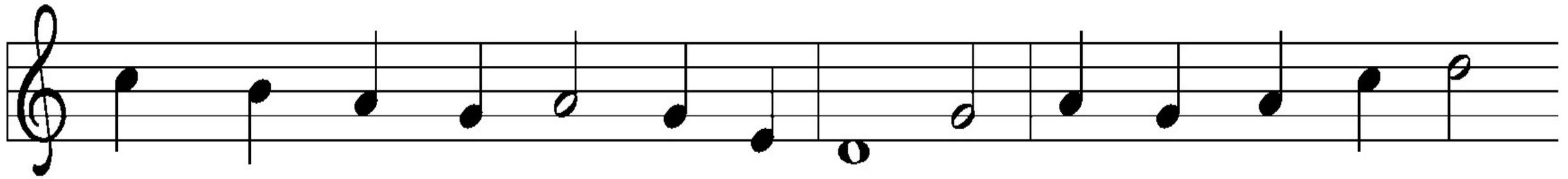
that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread-ful curse for my



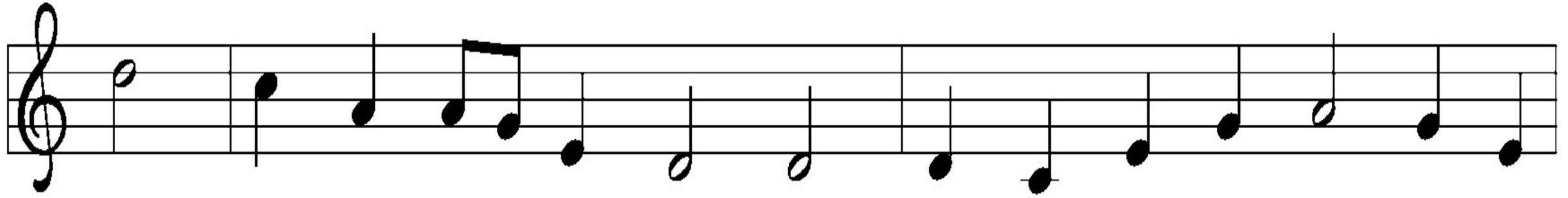
soul, for my soul, to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul?



2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when



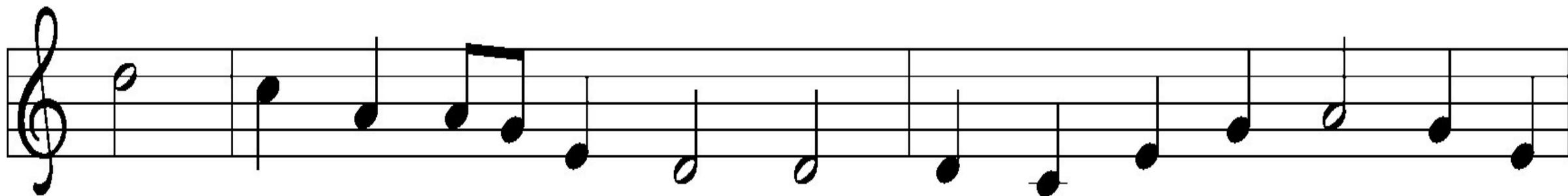
I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when I was sink - ing down



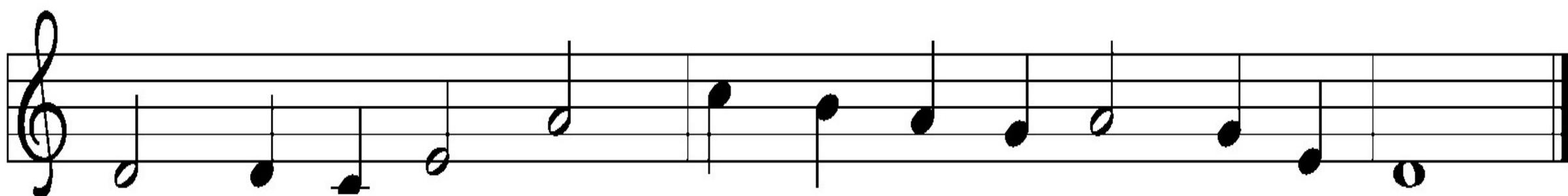
be - neath God's righ - teous frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my



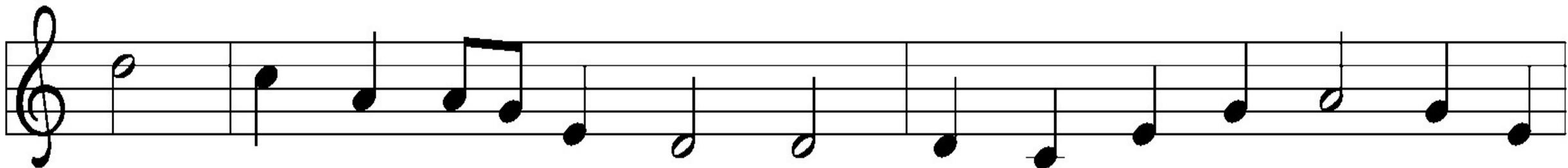
soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul.



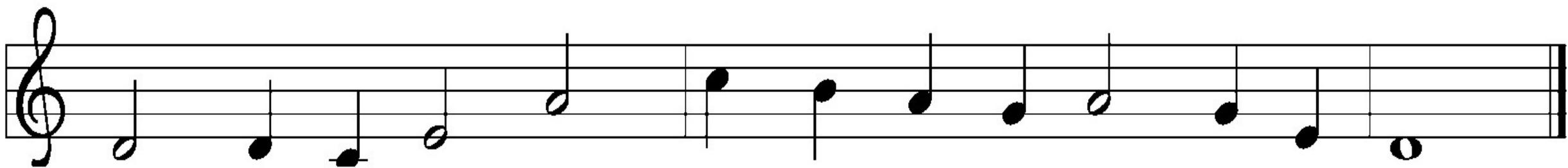
who is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will



sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.



I'll sing God's love for me, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing



on, I'll sing on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

Text: North American folk hymn, 19th cent., alt.

Music: WONDROUS LOVE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

P: Go in Peace
Grow in Grace
Serve in Love!

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude