

A dramatic landscape featuring a large, dark cross standing on a rocky peak. The sky is filled with dark, stormy clouds, illuminated by a bright, golden sun or light source behind the cross, creating a powerful, glowing effect. Several bright lightning bolts are visible, striking the clouds around the cross. The overall scene is one of intense, divine power and resurrection.

RISEN

DEATH WHERE IS YOUR STING?

Fourth Sunday of Easter



Pre-Worship Music

I need Thee Every Hour

R. Lowry/ Arr. Cindy Berry

**We welcome Garry Hannah
as part of our Worship Team
this morning.**

Confession and Absolution

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

C: Amen.

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

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

P: Most merciful God,

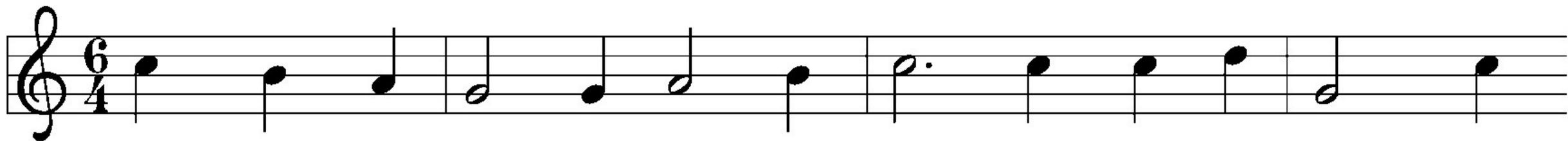
C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart;

we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. 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.

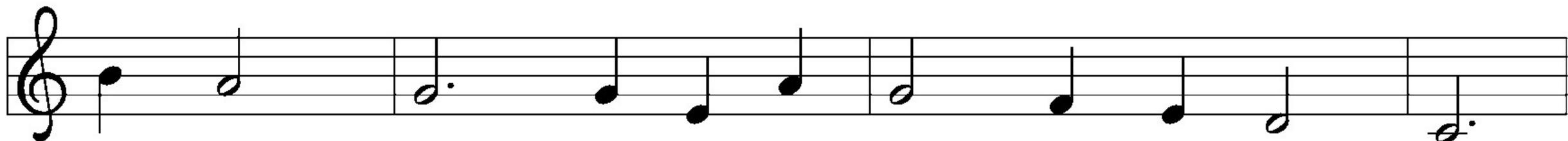
P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of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

C: Amen.

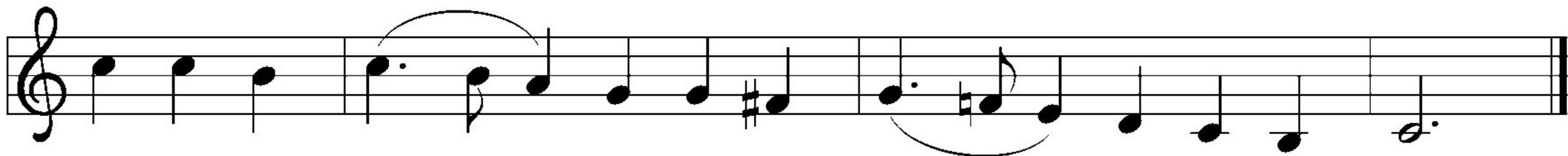
Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!



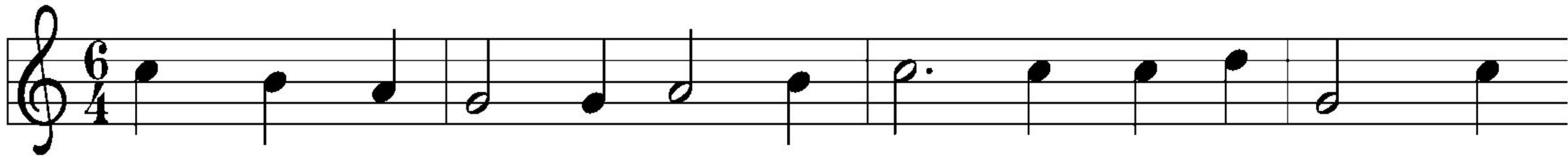
1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice and sing! Now is the tri - umph



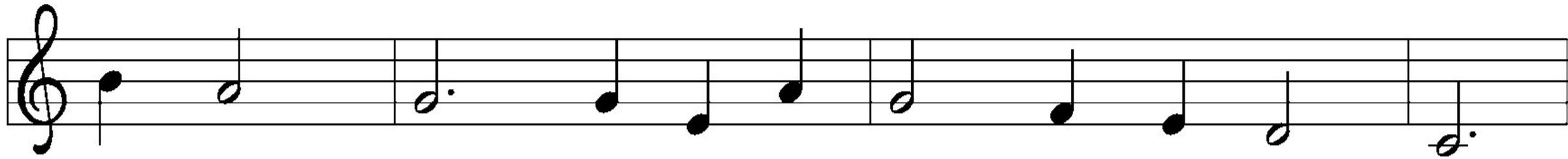
of our king! To all the world glad news we bring:



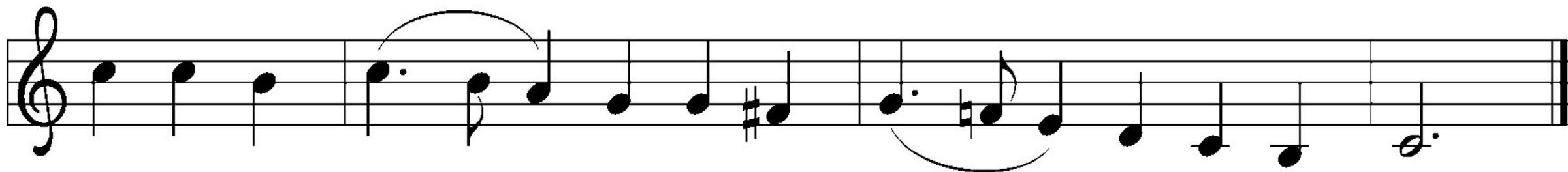
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



2 The Lord of life is ris'n this day; death's might-y stone is



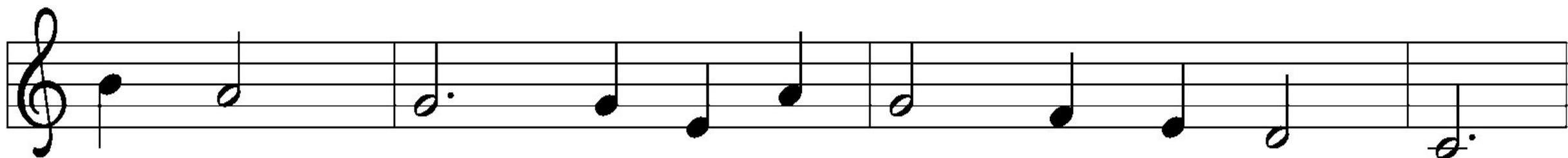
rolled a - way; let all the earth re - joice and say:



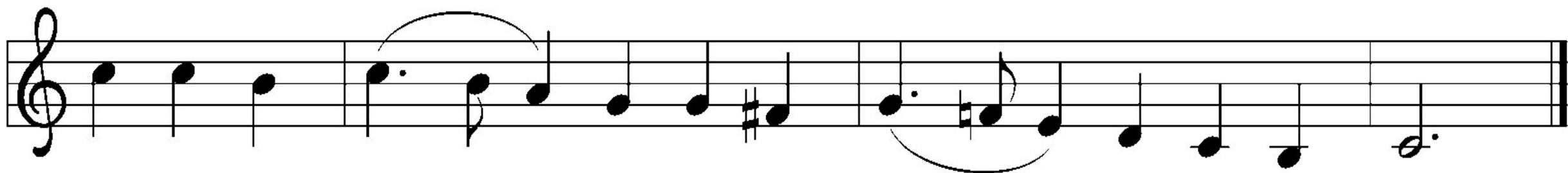
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



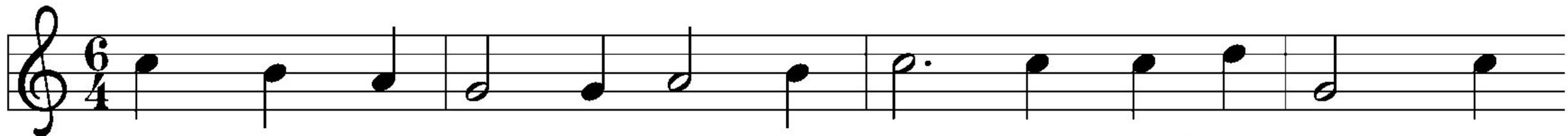
3 Praise we in songs of vic - to - ry that love, that life which



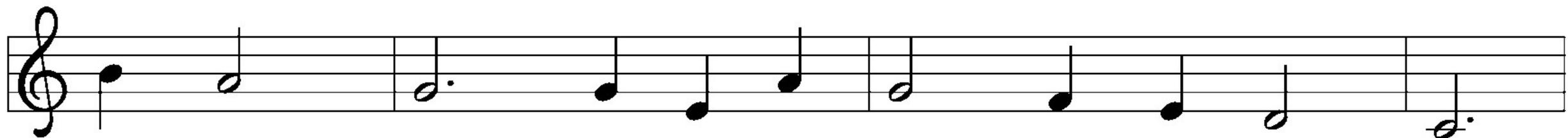
can - not die, and sing with hearts up - lift - ed high:



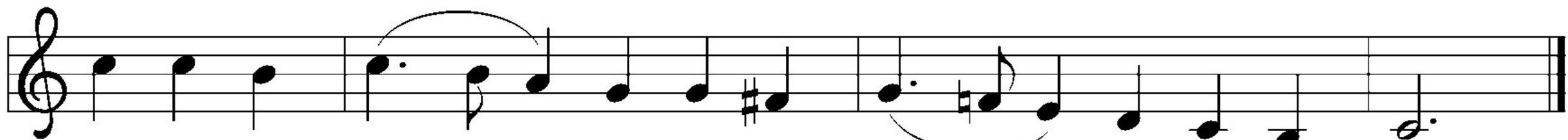
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



4 Your name we bless, O ris - en Lord, and sing to - day with



one ac - cord, the life laid down, the life re - stored:



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Cyril A. Alington, 1872–1955, alt.

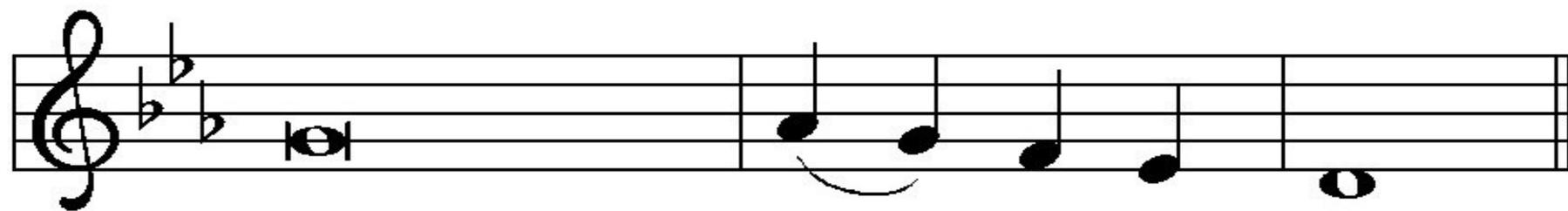
Music: GELOBT SEI GOTT, Melchior Vulpius, 1570–1615

Text © 1958, ren. 1986 *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188.

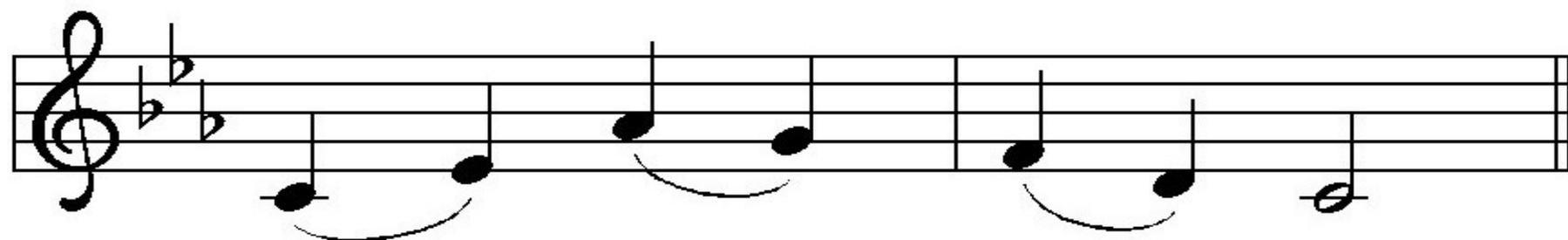
All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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

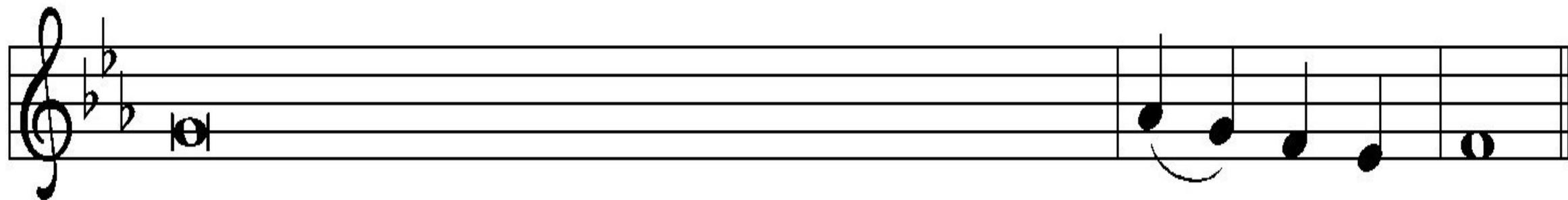
C: And also to you.



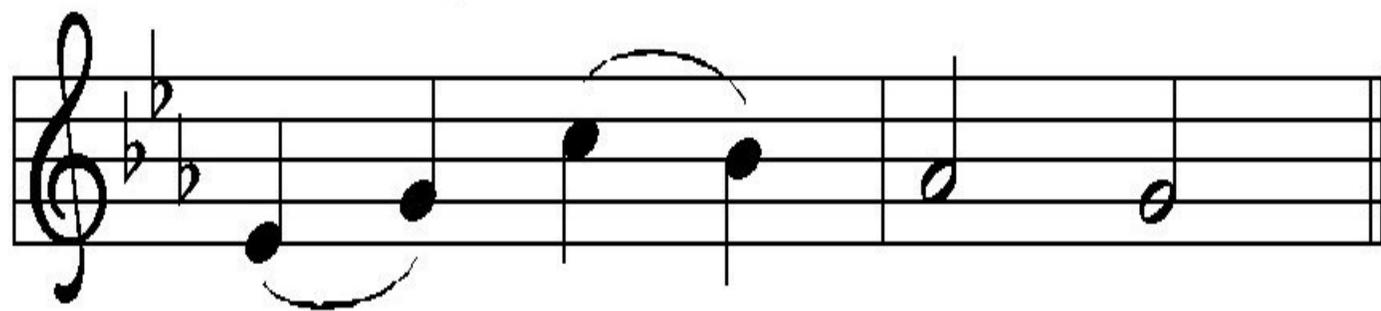
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



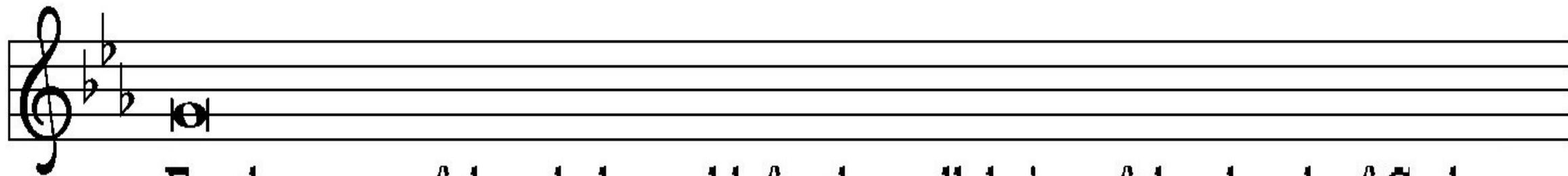
Lord, have mer - cy.



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



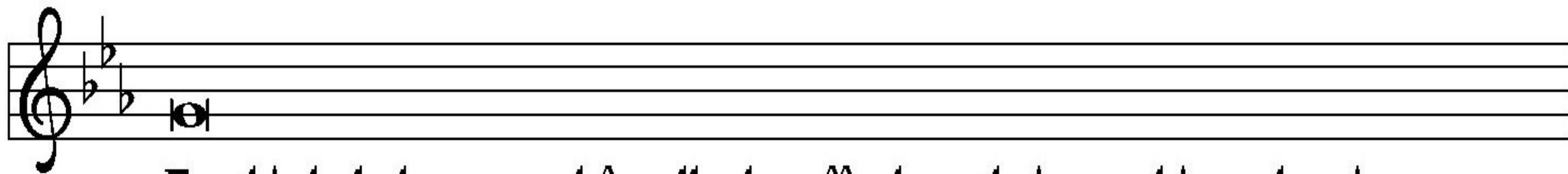
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



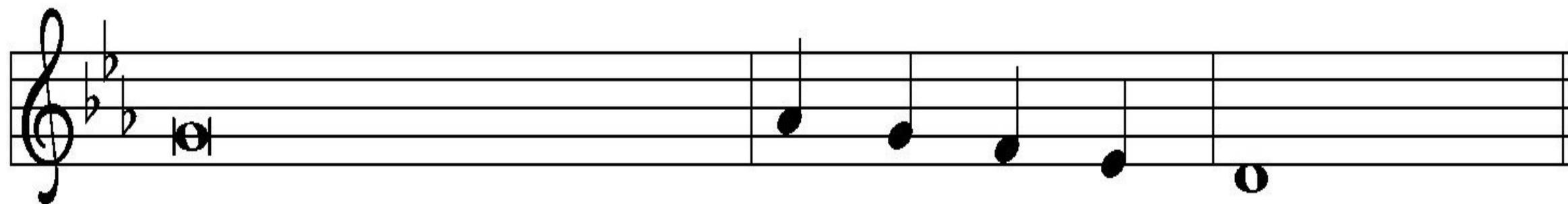
For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



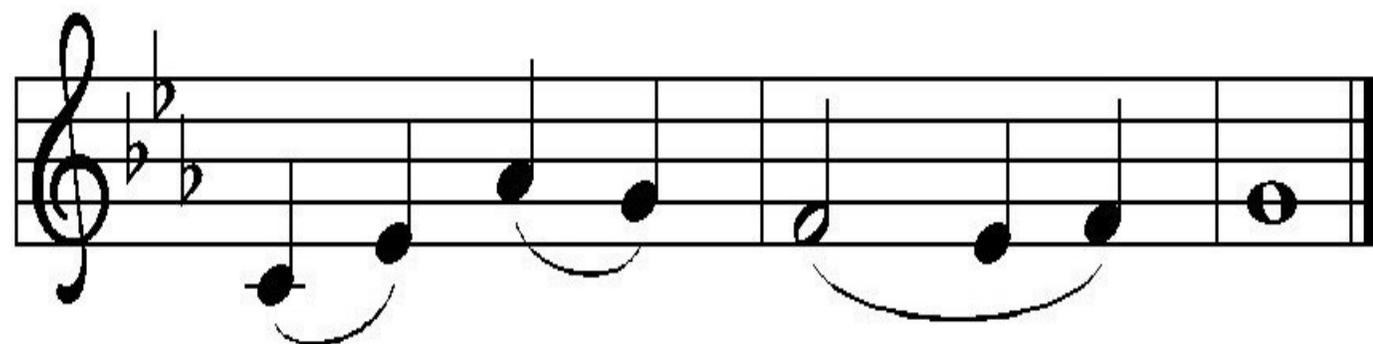
let us pray to the Lord.



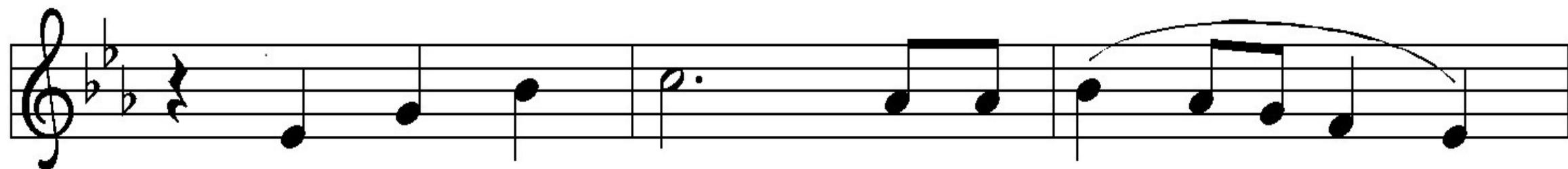
Lord, have mercy.



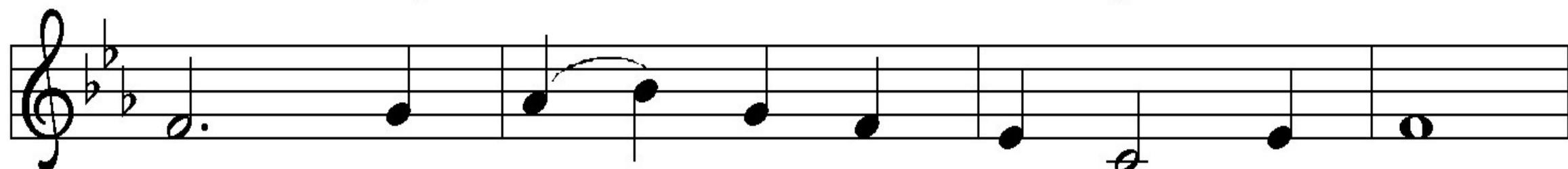
Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.



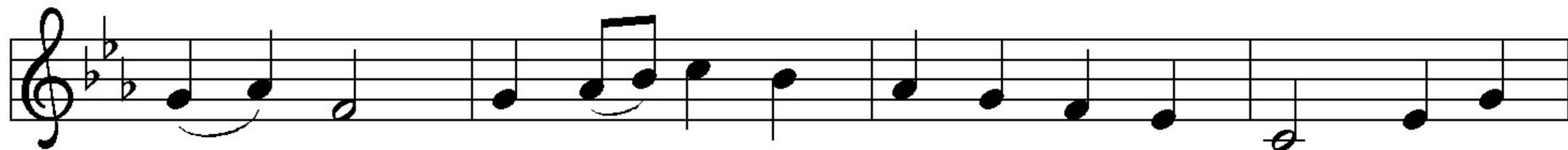
Glo - ry to God in the high -



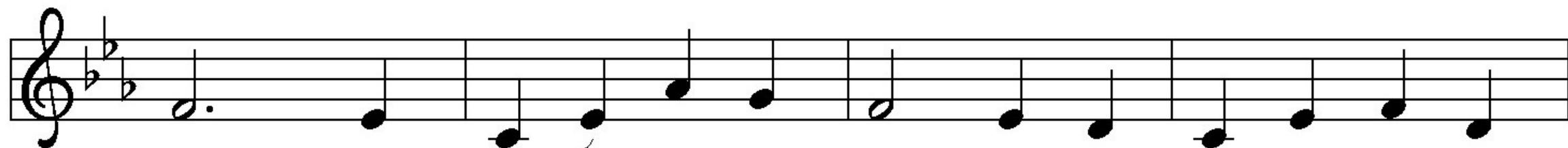
est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



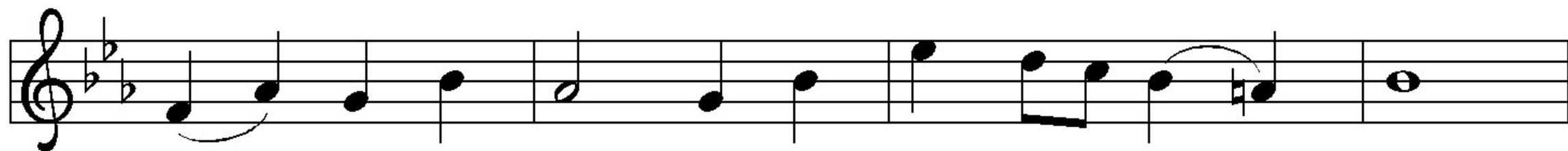
world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the



right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



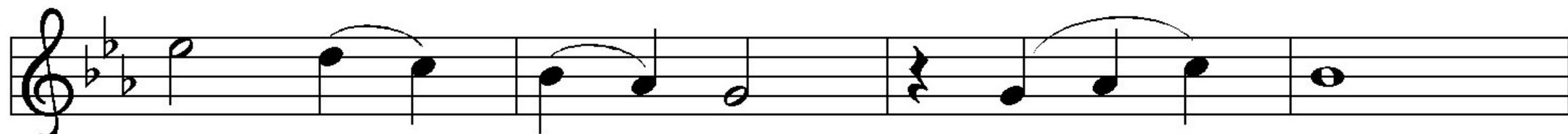
For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a -



lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most High,

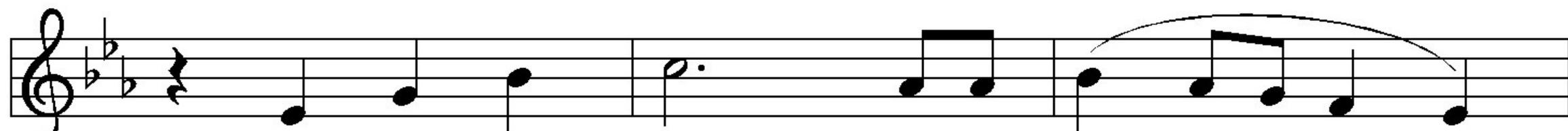


Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of



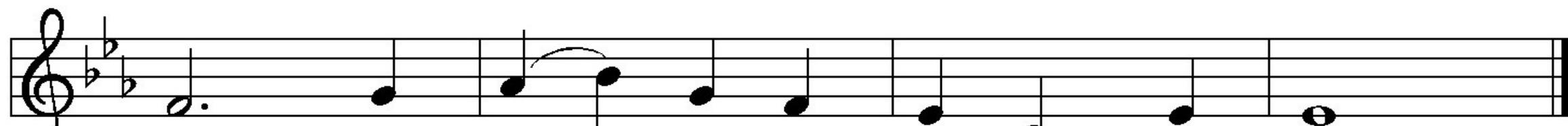
God the Fa - ther. A - men.

The first line of musical notation is written on a single staff in treble clef with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). It contains four measures of music. The first measure has a quarter note G4. The second measure has a half note A4 with a slur over it. The third measure has a half note B4 with a slur over it. The fourth measure has a quarter rest followed by a quarter note C5, a quarter note D5, and a whole note E5.



Glo - ry to God in the high -

The second line of musical notation is written on a single staff in treble clef with a key signature of two flats. It contains four measures of music. The first measure has a quarter rest followed by a quarter note G4. The second measure has a quarter note A4. The third measure has a quarter note B4 and a dotted half note C5. The fourth measure has a quarter note D5, a quarter note E5, a quarter note F5, and a quarter note G5, all under a slur.



est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

The third line of musical notation is written on a single staff in treble clef with a key signature of two flats. It contains four measures of music. The first measure has a dotted half note G4. The second measure has a quarter note A4. The third measure has a quarter note B4 and a quarter note C5 under a slur. The fourth measure has a quarter note D5, a quarter note E5, a quarter note F5, and a whole note G5.

Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

O God of peace, you brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep. By the blood of your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do your will, and work among us all that is well-pleasing in your sight, 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: Acts 9:36-43

A reading from Acts.

³⁶ Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. ³⁷ At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. ³⁸ Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, “Please come to us without delay.”

³⁹ So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. ⁴⁰ Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, “Tabitha, get up.” Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up.

⁴¹ He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. ⁴² This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. ⁴³ Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 23

¹The LORD[|] is my shepherd;
I shall not [|] be in want.

²**The LORD makes me lie down [|] in green
pastures
and leads me be- [|] side still waters.**

³ You restore my | soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways | for your
name's sake.

⁴ **Though I walk through the valley of the shadow
of death, I shall | fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff,
they | comfort me.**

⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence | of
my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is |
running over.

⁶ **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all
the days | of my life,**

**and I will dwell in the house of the | LORD
forever.**

SECOND READING: Revelation 7: 9-17

A reading from Revelation.

⁹ After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands.

¹⁰ They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

“Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!”

¹¹ And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹² singing,

“Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

¹³ Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?” ¹⁴ I said to him, “Sir, you are the one that knows.” Then he said to me, “These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵ For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

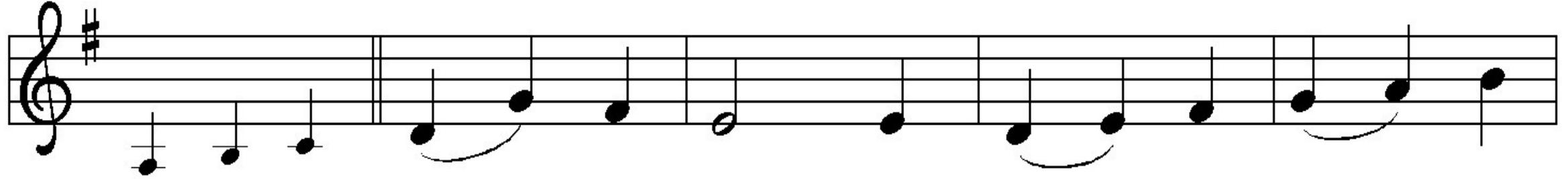
¹⁶ They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat;

¹⁷ for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

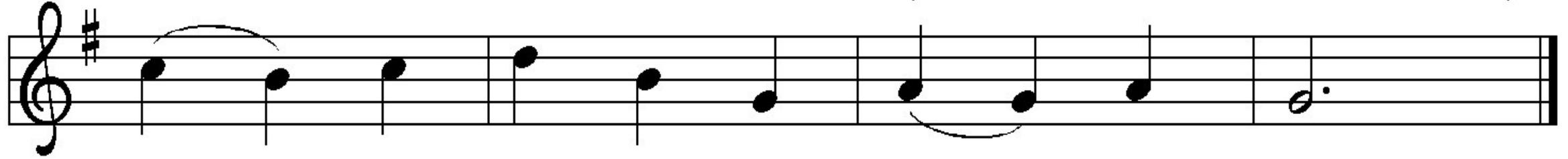
Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Please Stand as you are able

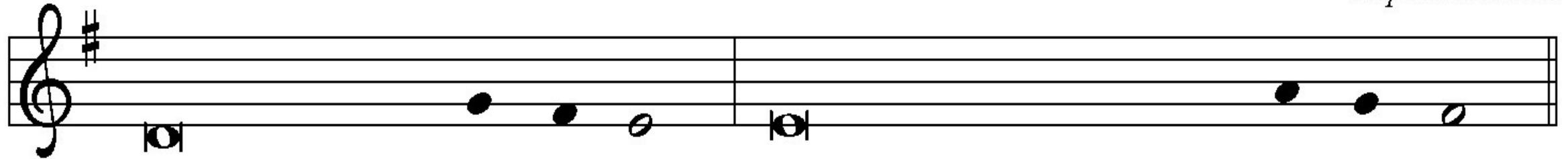


Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia:

Repeat alleluia



Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

GOSPEL: JOHN 10:22-30

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²² At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³ and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon.

²⁴ So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, “How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.”

²⁵Jesus answered, “I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father’s name testify to me; ²⁶but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. ²⁷My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand.

²⁹What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. ³⁰The Father and I are one.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

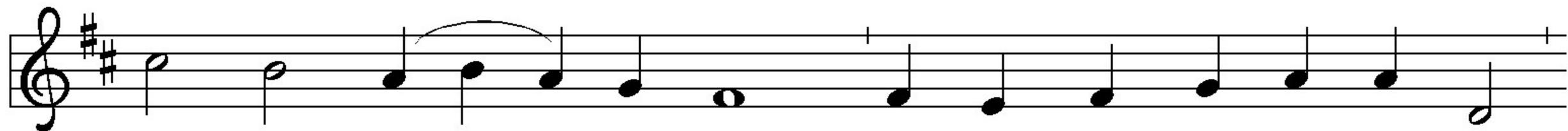
A monochromatic, sepia-toned image of a shepherd with a staff and a flock of sheep in a field. The shepherd is on the left, wearing a long robe and holding a staff with a curved top. He has a beard and long hair. A flock of sheep is scattered across the field in front of him. The background is a soft, hazy landscape.

HOMILY

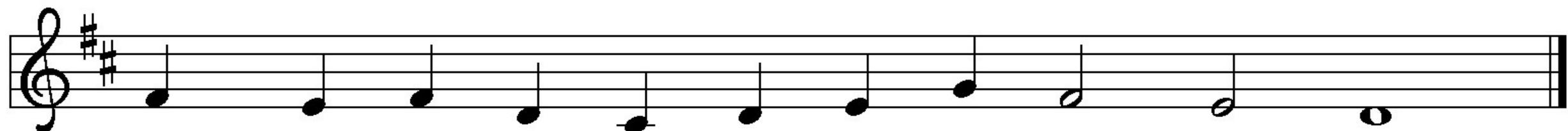
At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing



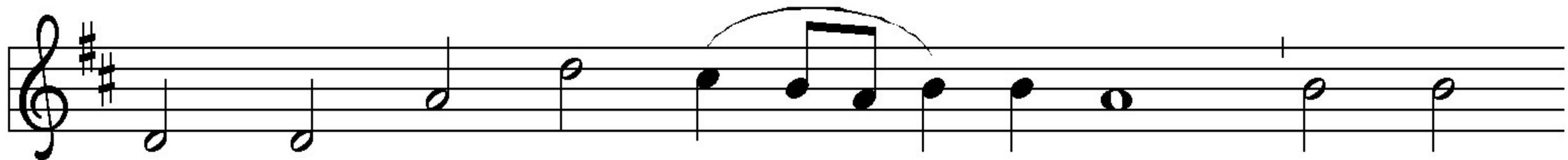
1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing praise to



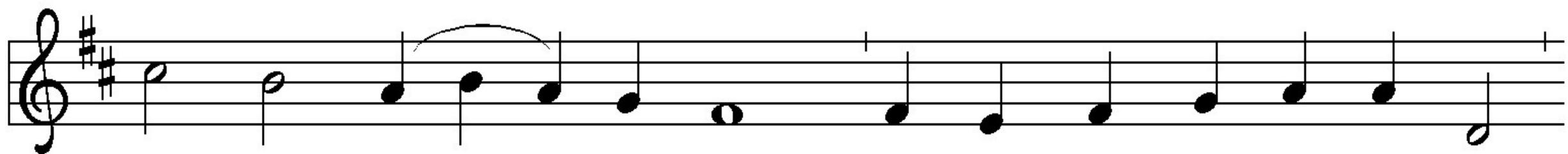
our vic - to - rious king, who has washed us in the tide



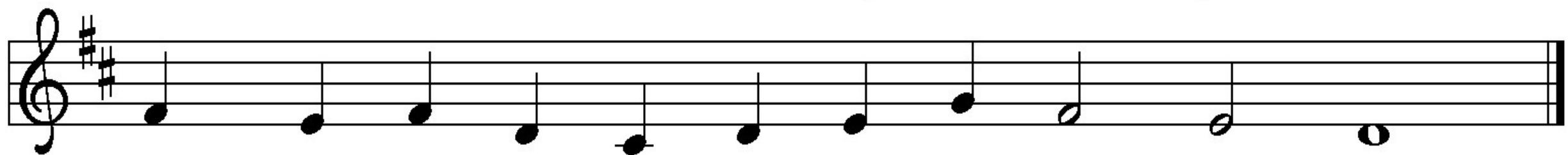
flow - ing from his wound - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!



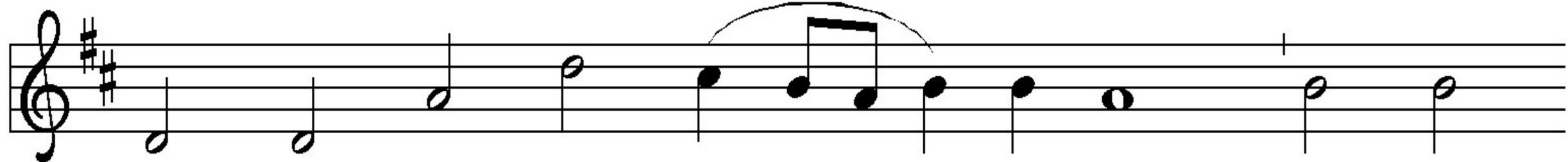
2 Praise we Christ, whose love di - vine gives his



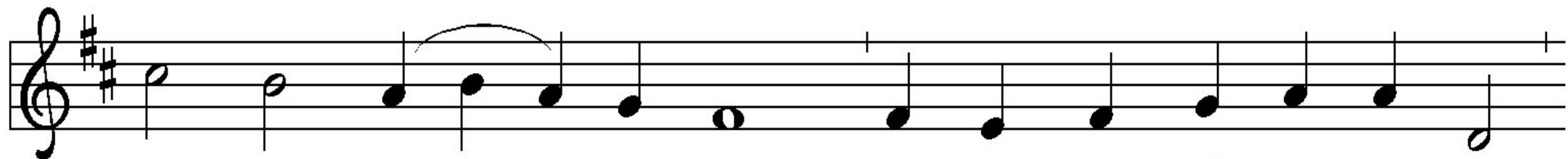
sa - cred blood for wine, gives his bod - y for the feast—



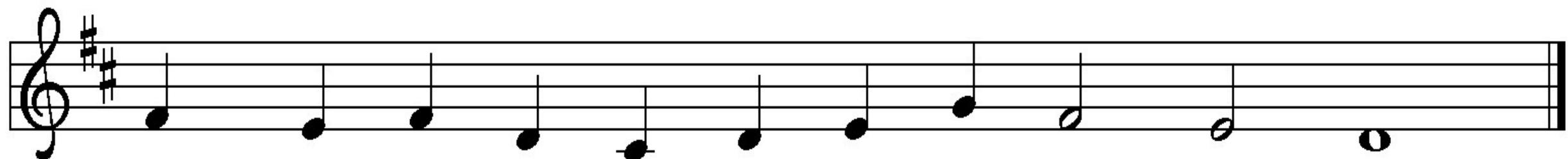
Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!



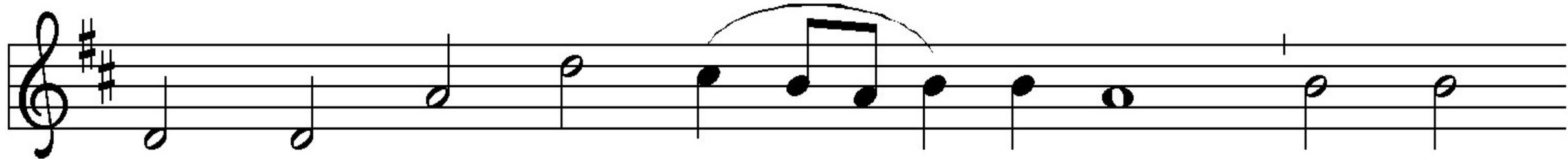
3 Where the pas - chal blood is poured death's dread



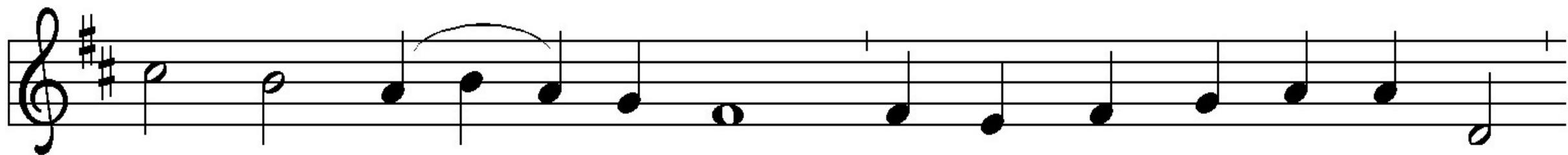
an - gel sheathes the sword; Is - rael's hosts tri - um - phant go



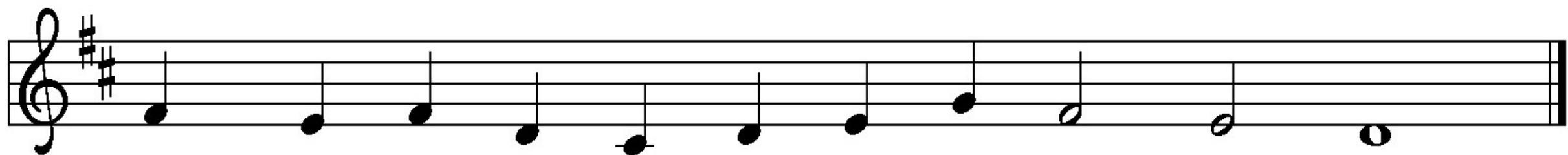
through the wave that drowns the foe. Al - le - lu - ia!



4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, pas - chal



vic - tim, pas - chal bread; with sin - cer - i - ty and love



eat we man - na from a - bove. Al - le - lu - ia!

Nicene Creed

**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

P: Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

P/A: Gentle Shepherd, enable your church to respond to the voice of Jesus. Give us unfailing trust, unafraid to join in Jesus' work of renewing all things. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P/A: Feed your people at the table of creation.
Prepare a safe place for those whose
environments are dangerous or unhealthy,
especially those making difficult journeys.
Prosper your creation for the sake of every
living thing. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P/A: Warm the hearts of all who celebrate and all who mourn on Mother's Day. Accompany those yearning to be mothers. Help us to heal from broken family relationships and open us to receive your nurturing love from all who serve mothering roles in our lives (*especially*). God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P/A: Seek out those who weep while they await healing or consolation (*especially*). Set people in their path who can provide the care they need, and wipe away every tear from their eyes. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P/A: Inspire the words of prophets and saints who employ innovative imagery to stretch our understanding. Send Christ to instruct us with motherly care. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P/A: Enfold us in the great multitude of saints from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages. Wash us in your saving grace every day, guiding us to your waters of life. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers,
and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through
Jesus Christ, our Savior.

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.

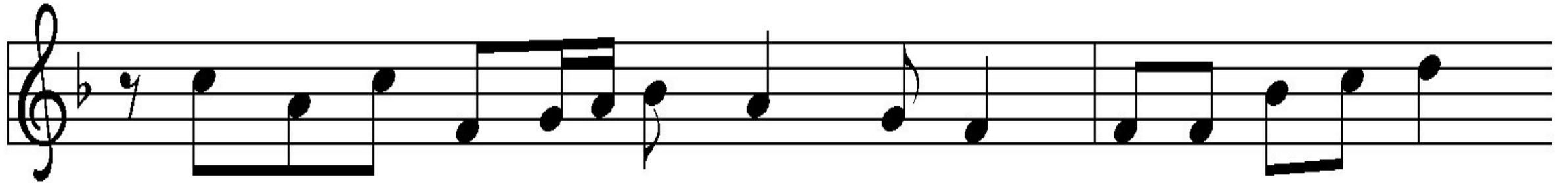
**Presentation of the Gifts of
Bread and Wine for the Feast.**



Stand as you are able

Create in Me a Clean Heart

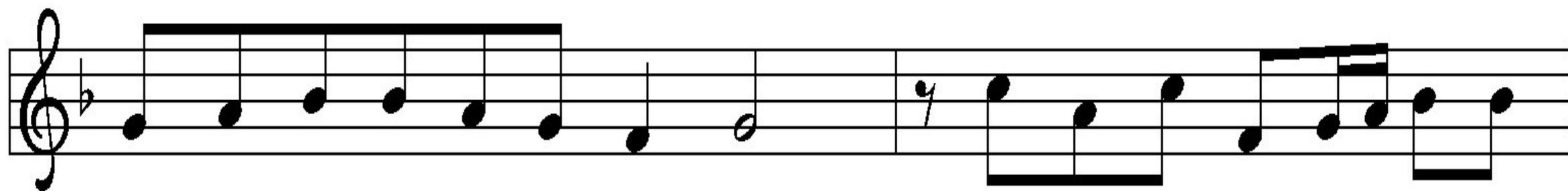
Offering Song



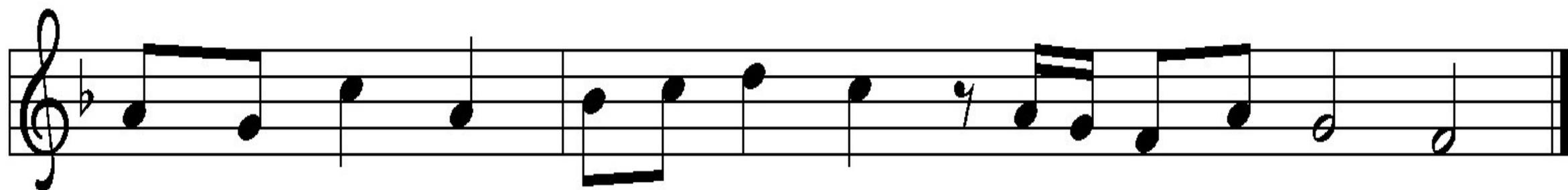
Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right



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.

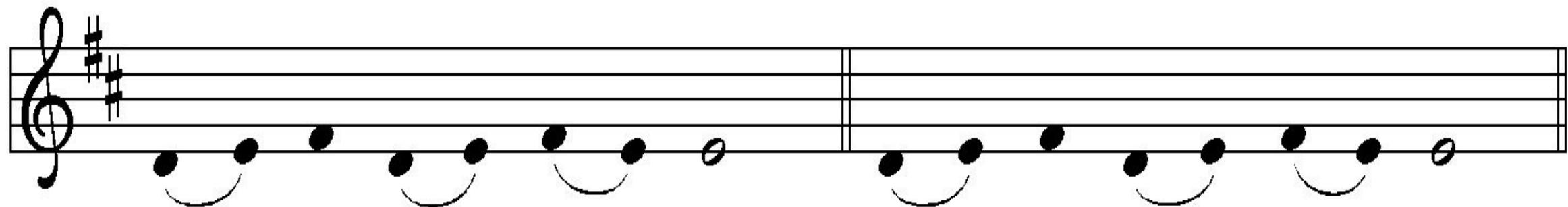
Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923

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

P/A: Let us pray.

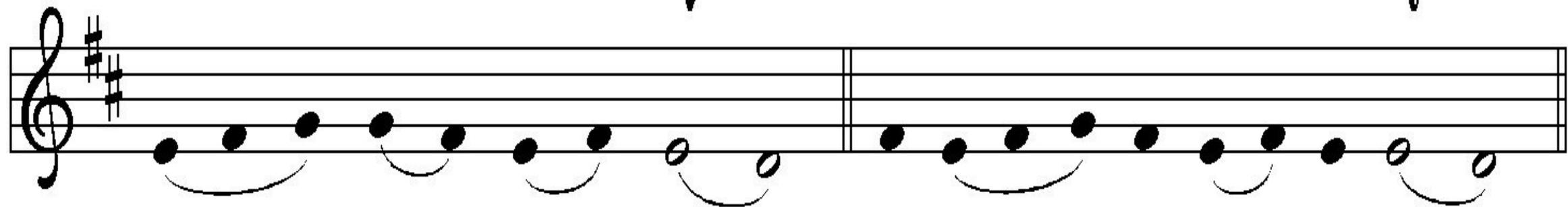
Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.



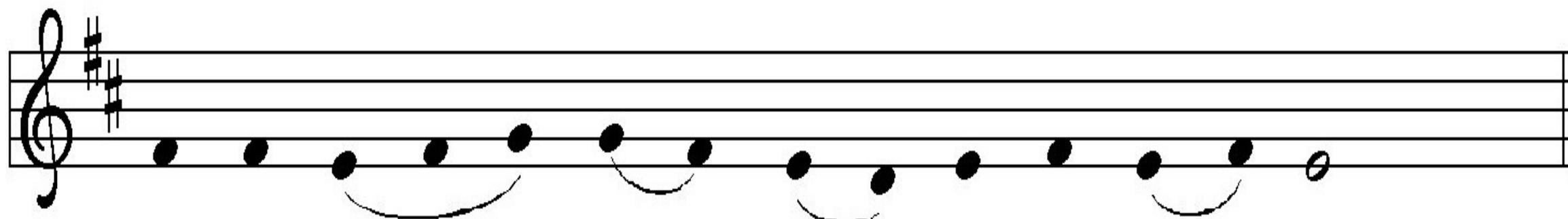
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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 a double bar line separating the two phrases.

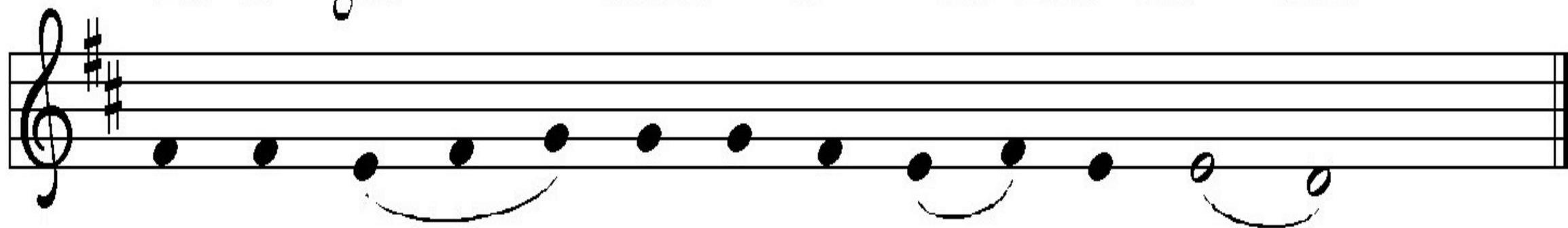


Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

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, with a double bar line separating the two phrases.



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

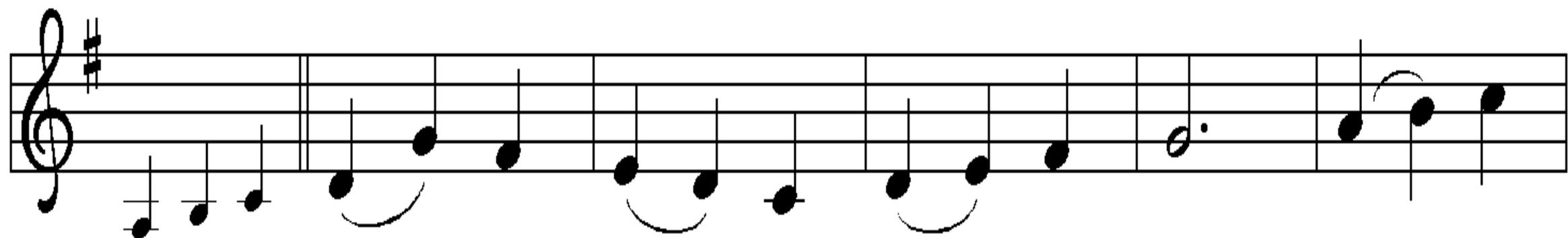


It is right to give our thanks and praise.

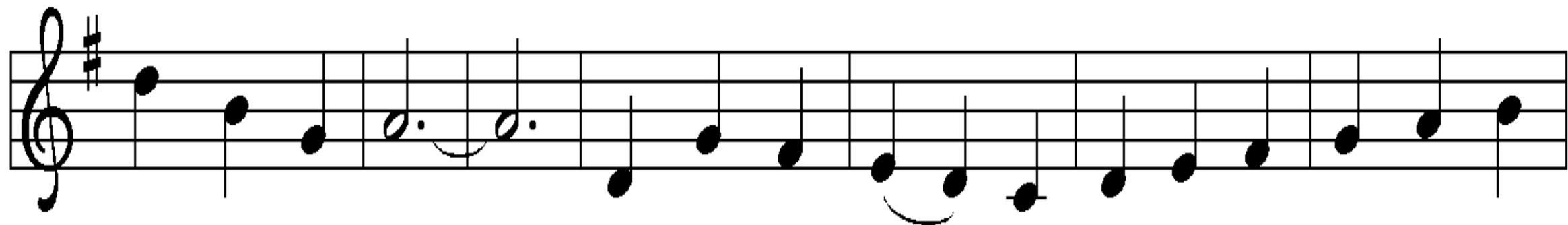
It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you,
almighty and merciful God,
for the glorious resurrection
of our Savior Jesus Christ,
the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself
to take away our sin;
who in dying has destroyed death,
and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene
and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection,
with earth and sea and all their creatures,
and with angels and archangels,
cherubim and seraphim,
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.**

Congregation – Please Be Seated



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.



At the Table

I Surrender All

From Beethoven's Sonata No, 8

Adagio Cantabile

Arr. by Cindy Berry

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.

P/A: Let us pray.

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

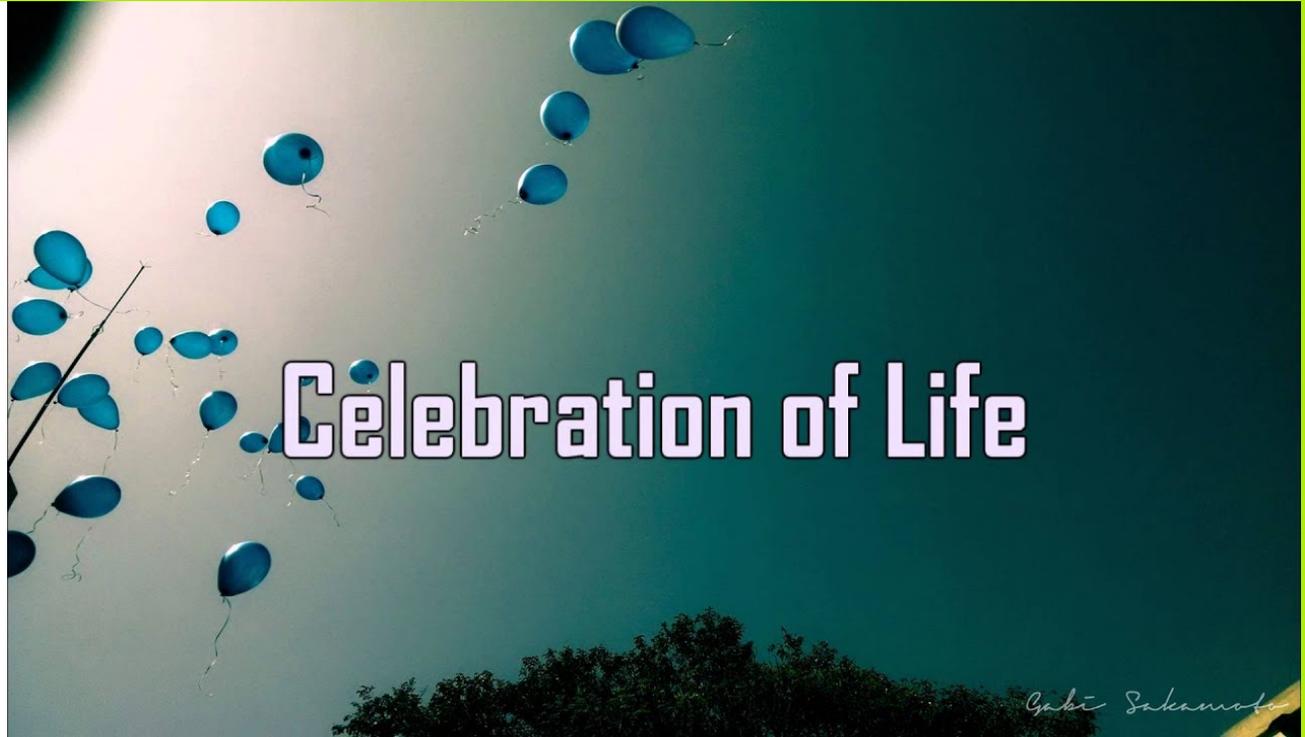
C: Amen.

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



At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

- 5 Mighty victim from the sky,
hell's fierce pow'rs beneath you lie;
you have conquered in the fight,
you have brought us life and light.
Alleluia!

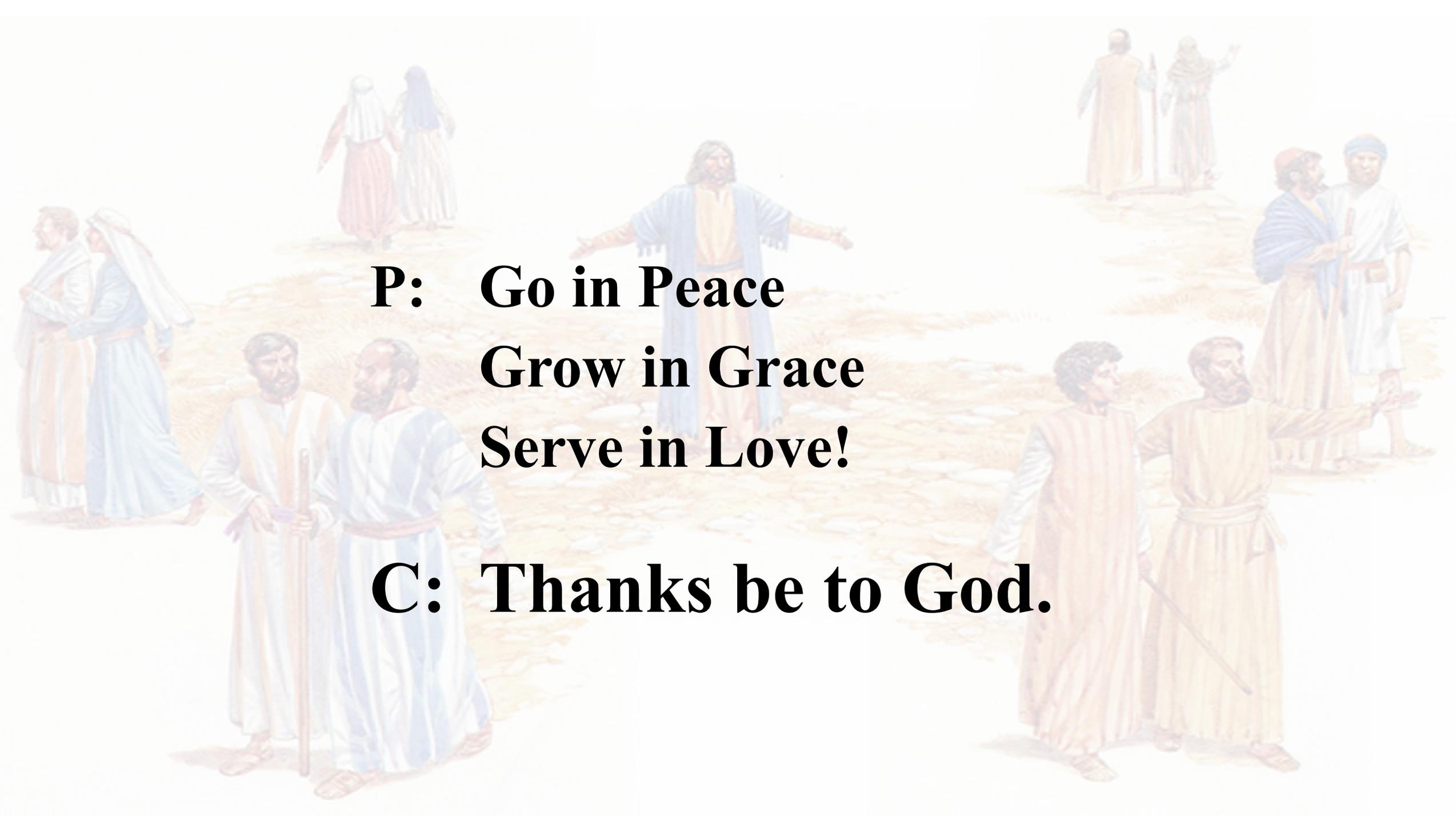
6 Now no more can death appall,
now no more the grave enthral;
you have opened paradise,
and your saints in you shall rise.
Alleluia!

7 Easter triumph, Easter joy!
This alone can sin destroy;
from sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,
newborn souls in you to be.
Alleluia!

8 Father, who the crown shall give,
Savior, by whose death we live,
Spirit, guide through all our days:
Three in One, your name we praise.
Alleluia!

Text: Latin hymn, 17th cent.; tr. Robert Campbell, 1814–1868, alt.

Music: SONNE DER GERECHTIGKEIT, Bohemian Brethren, *Kirchengeseng*, 1566



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

C: Thanks be to God.

A woman wearing a white headscarf and a dark, long-sleeved dress is leading a flock of sheep on a rocky, dirt path. She is holding a wooden staff in her right hand. The sheep are of various colors, including white, brown, and black. The background shows a hazy, mountainous landscape under a cloudy sky.

Postlude

Lead On O King Eternal

H.T. Smart/ arr. Cindy Berry