Christ Lutheran Church & The Bridge Campus Ministry
24th Sunday after Pentecost - November 8, 2026

Connecting people to people • people to faith • faith to life

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INTRODUCTION

Today the prophet Amos calls for justice to roll down like waters. Paul urges us to encourage one another with the promised coming of the Lord. Jesus tells the parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids. Surrounded by the faithful of every time and place, we celebrate Christ's coming in our midst in the word of life and the feast of victory—the marriage feast of the Lamb.



SERVING TODAY: *Presider: Pastor Chad Huebner**;** Organist: Bekah Davenport; Choir Director: Christian Yoder; Accompanist: Donnalee Yoder; Viola: Lydia Kress; Autoharp: Kayden Brafford; Asst/Lector: Lexie Reynolds; Time with Children: Katie Mosher; Acolyte: Amelia Cassidy; Tray Server: Linus Juedes; Greeters: Rod Sauer, Katie W; Ushers: Jim Sillery, JoAnn Ball; Livestream: Dan Snoddy*

WELCOME ***(PLEASE POWER OFF OR AIRPLANE MODE YOUR DEVICES)***

Here in Athens, in SE Ohio, we are occupying the traditional homeland of the Shawnee people. Before the Shawnee, this land was occupied by the Osage people, and by the Adena, Hopewell, and Fort Ancient cultures.

PRELUDE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
whose compassion endures forever.
Amen.
Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,
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 squandered your bountiful gifts.
We have considered
the blessings of the harvest our due.
We have been indifferent
in planning and planting
for the future needs of your Church.
For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us.
Forgive us,
cause gratitude to ripen in our hearts,
and wisdom to mature in our minds,
so that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy,
loved us even when we were dead in sin,
and made us alive together with Christ.
By grace you have been saved.
In the name of + Jesus Christ,
your sins are forgiven.
Almighty God strengthen you
with power through the Holy Spirit,
that Christ may live in your hearts
through faith.
Amen.

GATHERING SONG ***My Lord, What a Morning*** **(ELW 438)**



Text: African American spiritual
Music: BURLEIGH, African American spiritual

GREETING

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

Kyrie

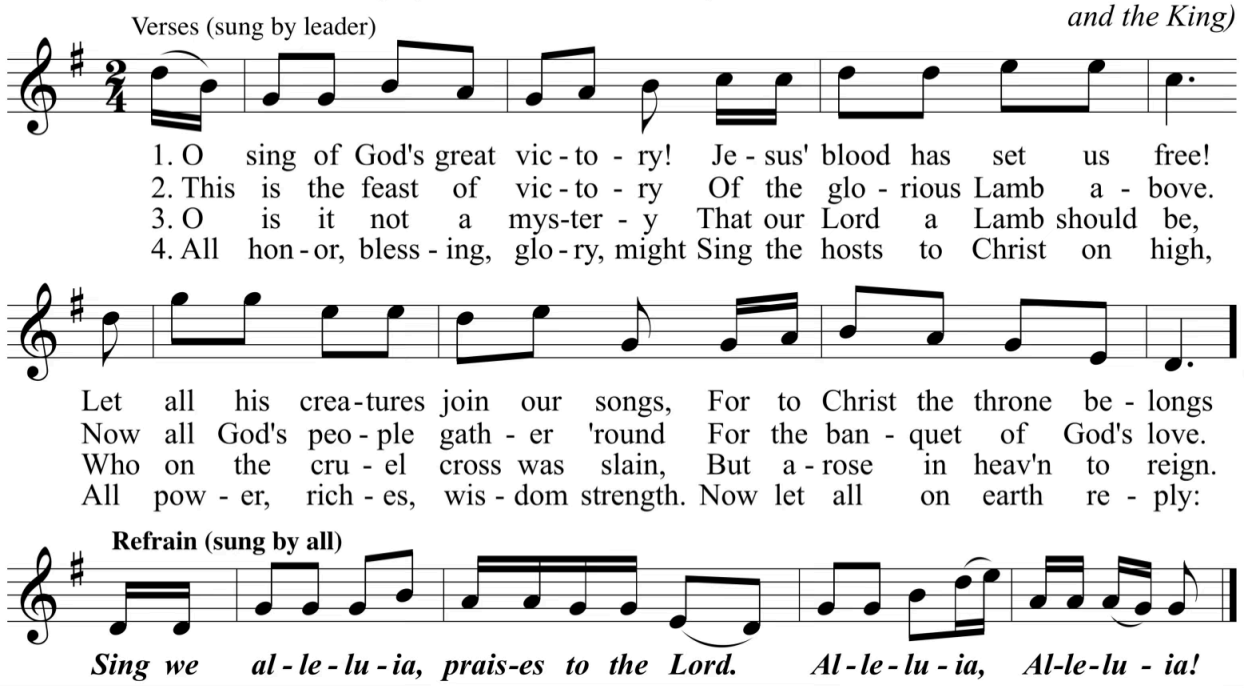
(tune: *My Father, How Long*)

Leader sings parts marked "A"
Congregation sings parts marked "**C**"



(VERSES 1 & 4 ONLY)

Canticle of Praise, *"O Sing of God's Great Victory!"* (tune: *The Shepherd's Daughter and the King)*



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

TIME WITH CHILDREN

FIRST READING: Amos 5:18-24

A reading from Amos.

18 Woe to you who desire the day of the LORD!
Why do you want the day of the LORD?
It is darkness, not light,
19 as if someone fled from a lion
and was met by a bear
or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall
and was bitten by a snake.
20 Is not the day of the LORD darkness, not light,
and gloom with no brightness in it?

21 I hate, I despise your festivals,
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.
22 Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,

I will not accept them,
and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals
I will not look upon.
23 Take away from me the noise of your songs;
I will not listen to the melody of your harps.
24 But let justice roll down like water
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.
The word of the Lord.

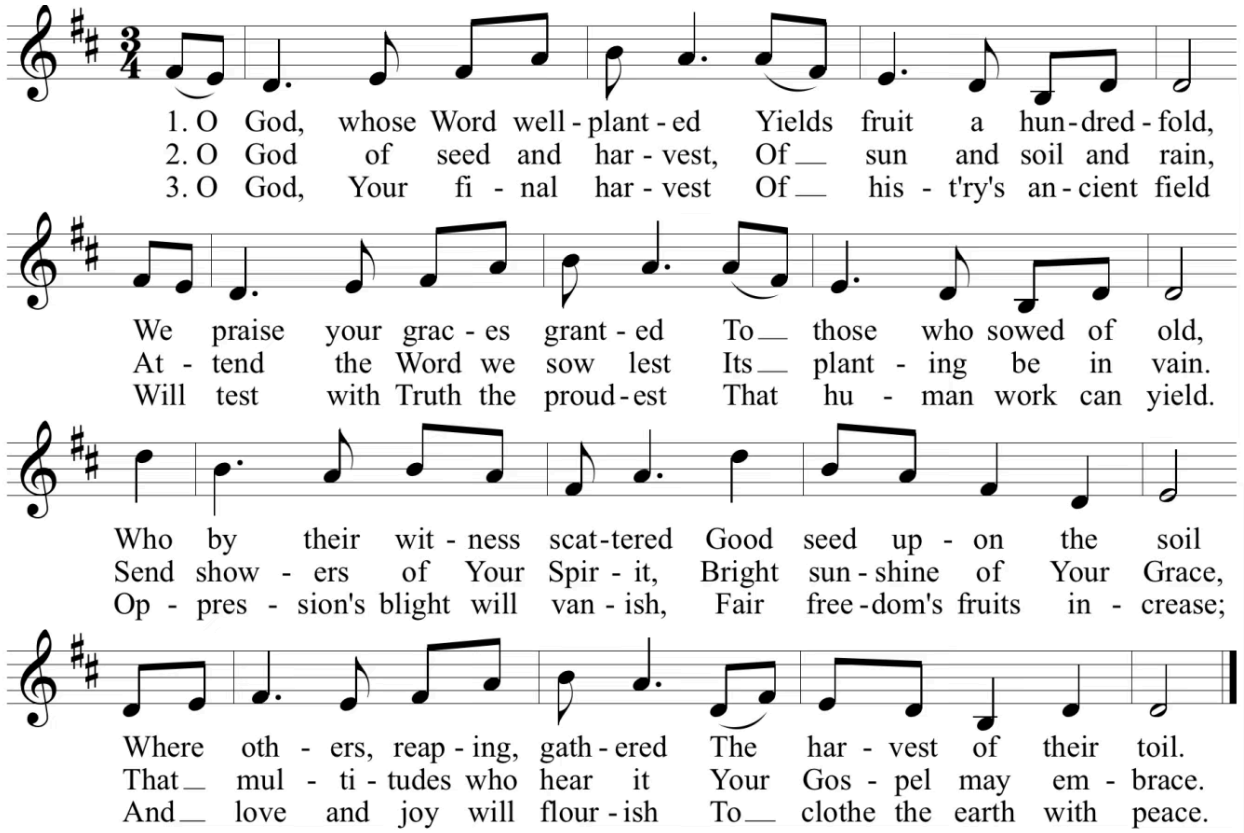
PSALM: Psalm 70

1 Be pleased, O God, to deliver me;
O LORD, make haste to help me.
2 **Let those who seek my life be put to shame and confounded;**
let those who take pleasure in my misfortune draw back and be disgraced.
3 Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat over me
turn back because of their shame.
4 **Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you;**
let those who love your salvation say forever, "Great is the LORD!"
5 But as for me, I am poor and needy; come to me quickly, O God.
You are my helper and my deliverer; O LORD, do not tarry.

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

A reading from 1 Thessalonians.
13 We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. 14 For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. 15 For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. 16 For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will be with the Lord forever. 18 Therefore encourage one another with these words.
The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN (Verse 1 only)



GOSPEL: Matthew 25:1-13

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] [1] "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten young women took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. [2] Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. [3] When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, [4] but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. [5] As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. [6] But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' [7] Then all those young women got up and trimmed their lamps. [8] The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' [9] But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' [10] And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet, and the door was shut. [11] Later the other young women came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' [12] But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' [13] Keep awake, therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY ***Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers*** **(ELW 244)**



Text: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660–1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823–1907
Music: HAF TRONES LAMPA FÄRDIG, Swedish folk tune

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us pray for our families, friends, and the world. We thank you, God, for the end of the election season and the return to some sort of normalcy. May we put the acrimony behind us so that we can work for the good of all people. Lord, in your mercy. Hear our prayer.

We pray for all the newly elected, that they will take their mandate seriously and work for all the people, those who voted for them and those who didn't. Lord, in your mercy. Hear our prayer.

We pray for nature, that we can work to protect our air, water, land, and all creatures. Lord, in your mercy. Hear our prayer.

We pray for our neighbors who are hurting economically. Lord, in your mercy. Hear our prayer.

We pray for the safety of our military around the world, but especially in the Middle East. We pray for an end to the war there. And we pray for the people of Ukraine, for an end to the fighting there and especially an end to the targeting of infrastructure as winter begins. Lord, in your mercy. Hear our prayer.

We pray for those who are ill. We ask that you hold them in your hands, comfort them and their families and friends, relieve their suffering, and be present with them. Lord, in your mercy. Hear our prayer.

We pray for those who have died and those who mourn.
Lord, in your mercy. Hear our prayer.

We celebrate with those who are celebrating happy occasions – birthdays and anniversaries and those little victories of life, sometimes unexpected. We offer our prayers now, either aloud or in our hearts… Lord, in your mercy. Hear our prayer.

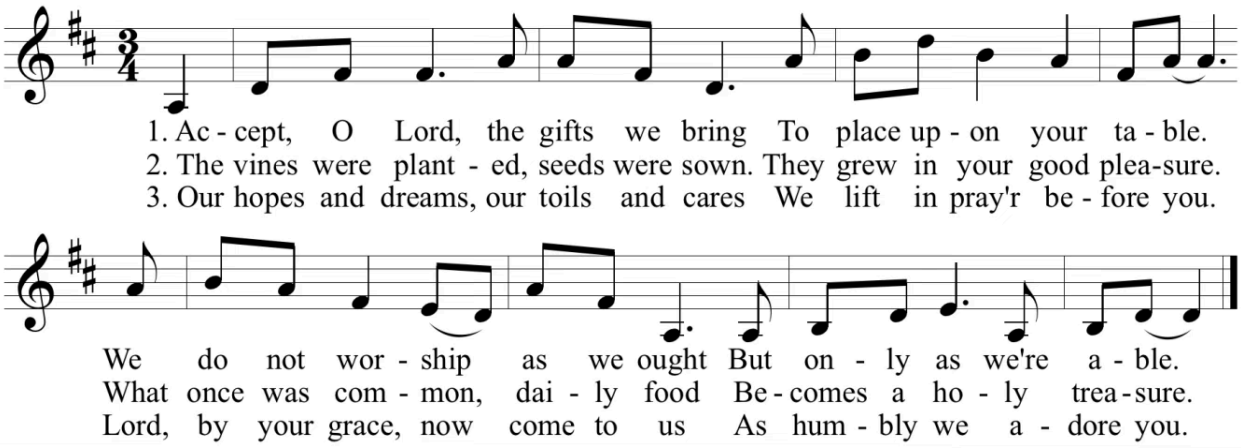
For these prayers, and for anything else you see we need, even what we didn't realize, we pray. In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **AMEN**

PEACE The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING – THANK YOU! YOUR GENEROSITY MAKES OUR MINISTRY POSSIBLE.
Giving is easy online through our website at https://www.clcathens.org/give
There you will also find instructions on how to text to give or download our church app!

MUSICAL OFFERING **"Cherubim Hymn No. 7" by Dimitry Bortniansky** **CLC Choir**

OFFERTORY



OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Gracious God,
You bless us with gifts of guidance, new life,
growth in grace, and fruitful labor.
Accept the first fruits of time and toil,
field and orchard we offer here.
Bless and multiply these gifts to our nurture
and the care of your creation;
for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

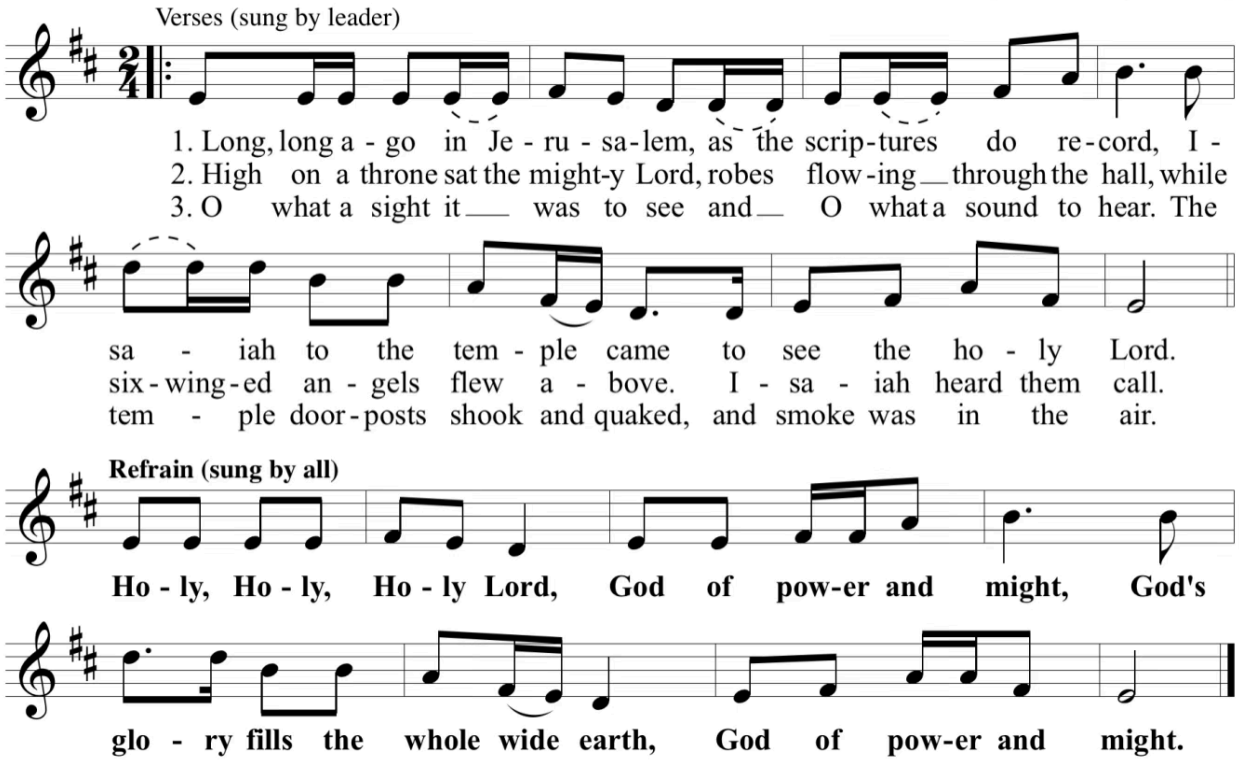
PROPER PREFACE

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.
Through your Son, you taught us that true riches are to be found in loving you
rather than earthly treasure.

For your glory, and to give us the fullness of life and salvation, Christ emptied himself upon the cross and was raised in power to sit at your right hand.
And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join in adoring song:

(VERSES 1&3 ONLY)

Sanctus (tune: *Shady Grove*)



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

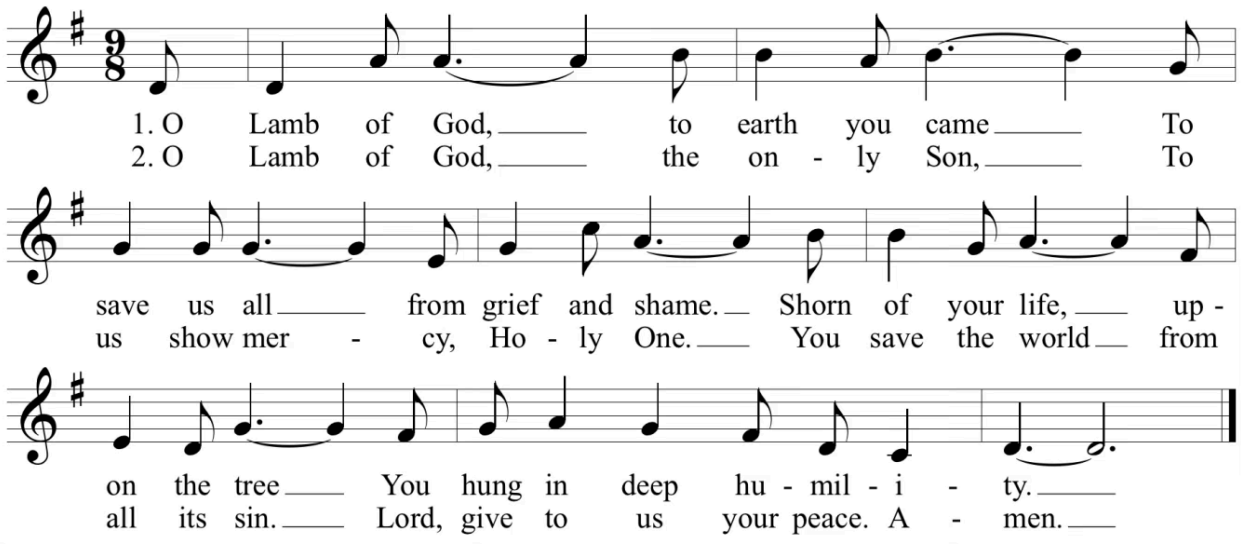
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Just as this broken bread was first scattered on the hills, then was brought together and became one, so let your Church be brought together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours are the glory and the power through Jesus Christ forever.
Thanks be to God.

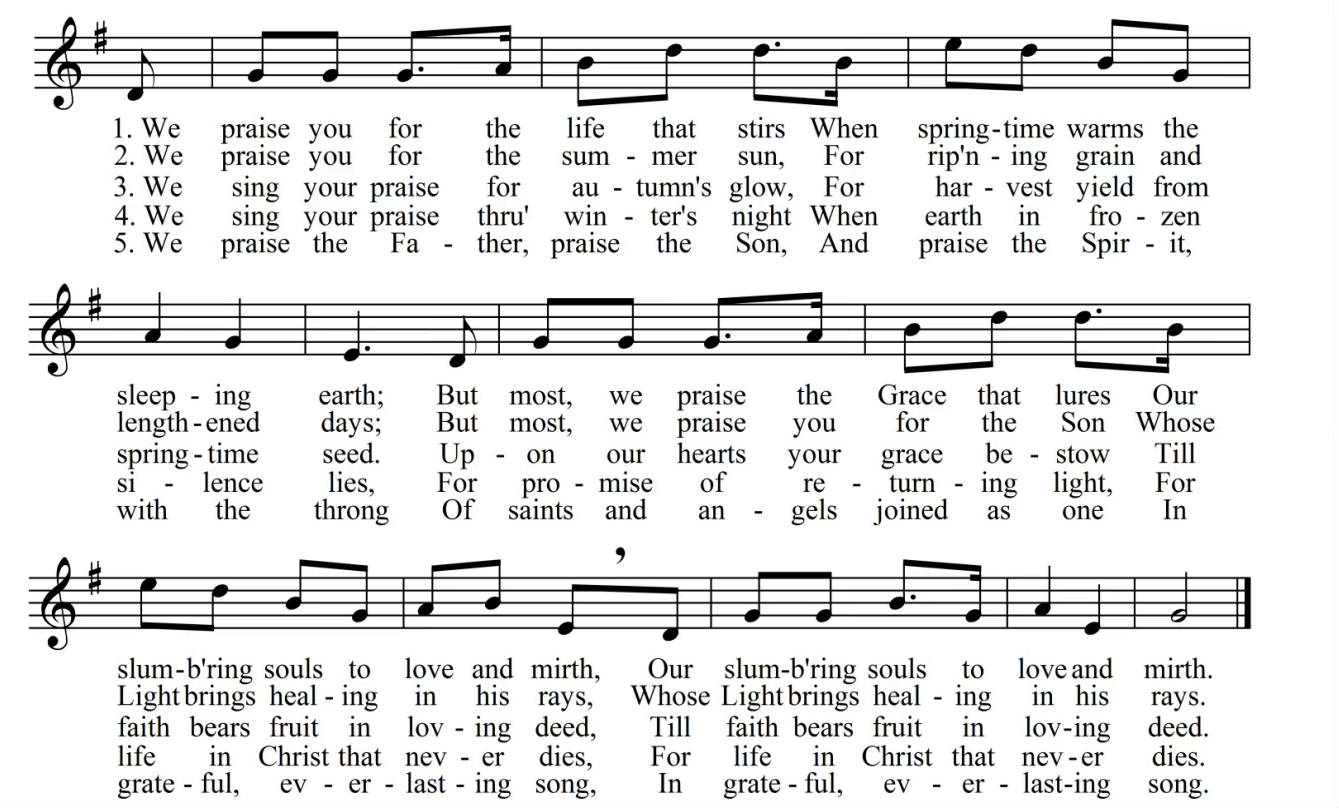
AGNUS DEI



COMMUNION

(Whatever the state of your faith today, ALL are invited to the Lord's table. No Exceptions.
To receive communion, come forward at the ushers' direction and take a place at the altar rail. You may stand or kneel as you wish. You will first receive the bread, then you may choose either red wine or white grape juice in a small glass, or sip wine from the chalice. If you choose a small glass, you will place it in the empty tray carried by the acolyte. After receiving the bread and wine, you will return to your seat.)

COMMUNION HYMN (Sung during the distribution)



SONG AFTER COMMUNION (Verse 1 only)



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Gracious God, we give thanks for your pruning, planting, and nurture. We rejoice that you have used the harvest of field and vineyard to renew and sustain us. Lead us as we go from this life-giving meal into lives of grateful service to you and your cherished creation; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG ***Blessed Assurance*** **(ELW 638)**



Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915
Music: ASSURANCE, Phoebe P. Knapp, 1830–1908

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.