First Evangelical Lutheran Church

Third & Terry, Longmont, Colorado
(303) 776-2800 | www.firstluth.org
Pastor Stephanie Kopsch and Deacon Korra Looschen

Ordinary Time

25th Sunday After Pentecost
November 15, 2026 — 9:30 a.m.
Welcome to worship, we are glad you are with us!

GATHERING



PRELUDE

INTRODUCTION

Our readings during November speak of the end times. Zephaniah proclaims that the coming day of the Lord will be filled with wrath and distress. Paul says it will come like a thief in the night and urges us to be awake and sober. Jesus tells the parable of the talents, calling us to use our gifts, while we still have time, for the greater and common good. In a world filled with violence and despair, we gather around signs of hope—word, water, bread, and wine—eager to welcome the good news of Christ's coming among us.

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, our dwelling place for all generations, whose compassion never slumbers.

Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God,

we confess that we have trusted in our preparation instead of your invitation. We prioritize our piety over care for your beloved. We trust the voice of our shame and fear, which keeps us from entering fully into relationship with you and others. We are not awake to the coming of your reign. Rouse us and rescue us, that we may enter into your joy.

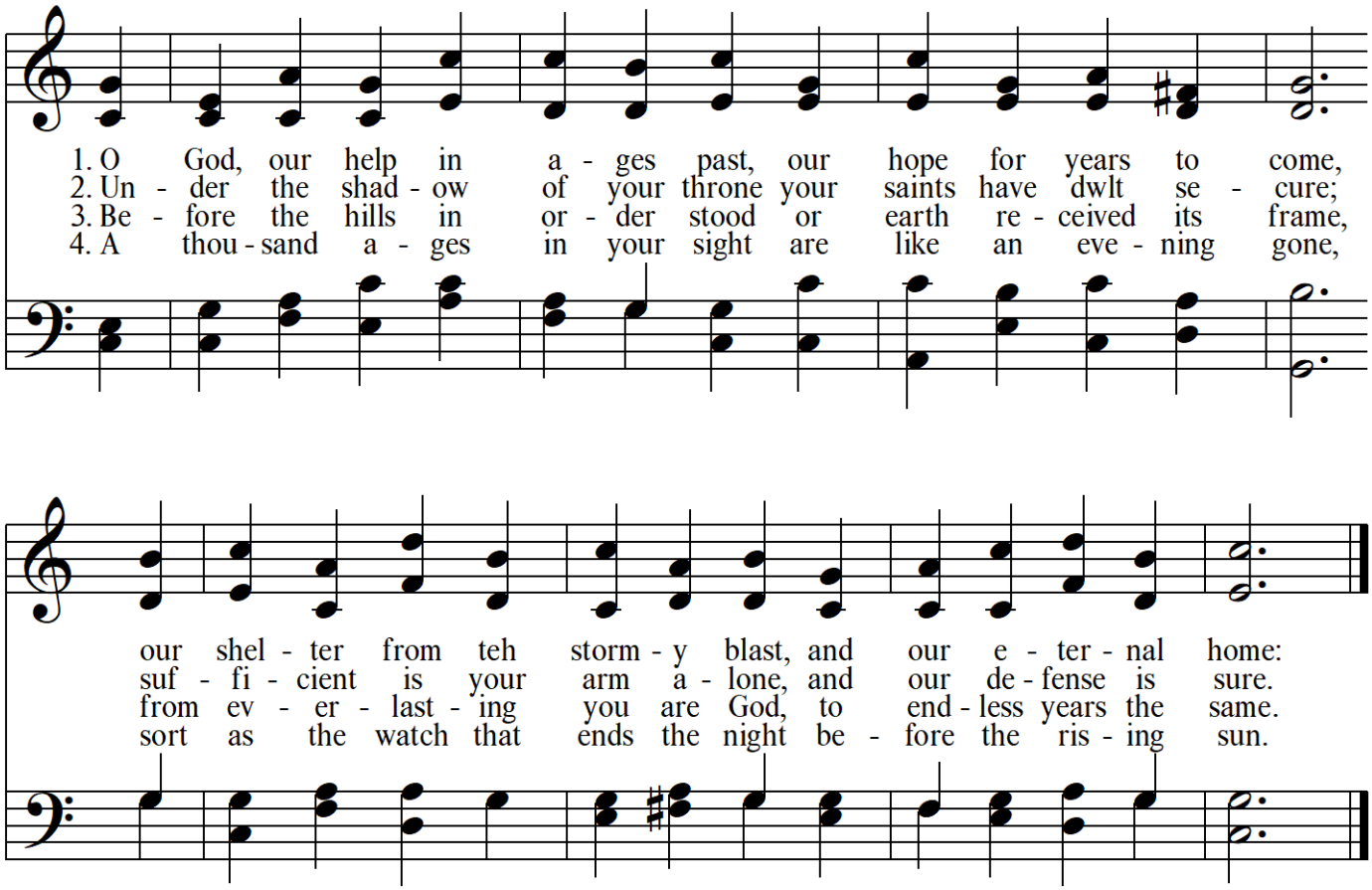
Amen.

Inherit the riches of God's grace. ☩ Jesus, the good shepherd, feeds you with his mercy. You are forgiven. Blessed are you.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN *"O God Our Help in Ages Past"* ELW 632

O God, Our Help in Ages Past — ELW 632



5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
bears all our years away;
then fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the op'ning day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
still be our guard while troubles last
and our eternal home

Text: Isaac Watts, 16784-1748, alt.
Music: William Croft, 1678-1727

ST. ANNE
CM

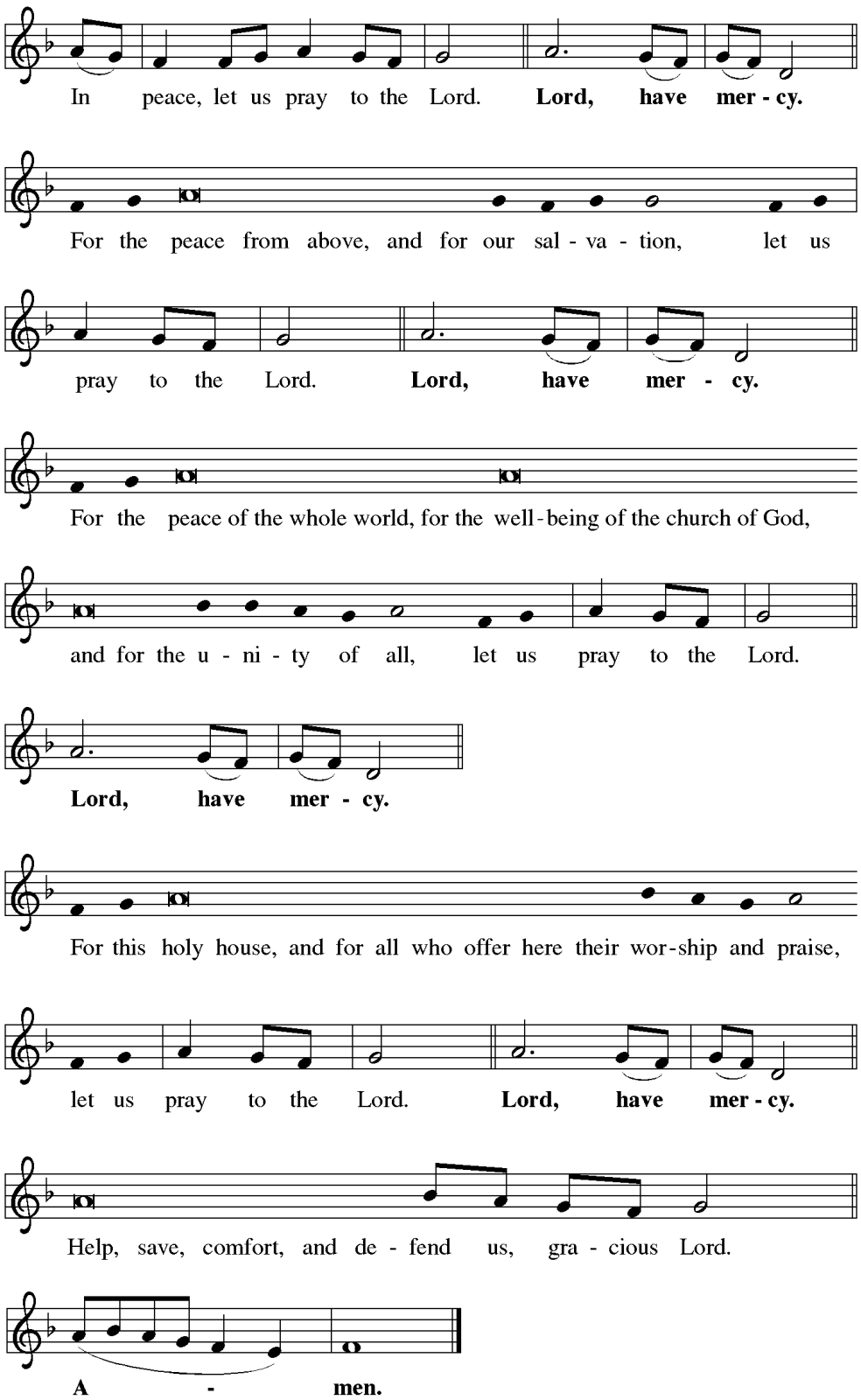
GREETING

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

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Kyrie



This Is the Feast



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

READINGS

Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

7 Be silent before the Lord God, for the day of the Lord is at hand! The Lord has prepared a sacrifice; he has
consecrated his guests. 12 At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who settle like
dregs in wine, those who say in their hearts, "The Lord will not do good, nor will he do harm." 13 Their wealth shall be
plundered and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant
vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them. 14 The great day of the Lord is near, near and hastening fast; the
sound of the day of the Lord is bitter; the warrior cries aloud there. 15 That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress
and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, 16 a day
of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements. 17 I will bring such
distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind; because they have sinned against the Lord, their blood shall
be poured out like dust and their flesh like dung. 18 Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the
day of the Lord's wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed, for a full, a terrible end he will
make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

Word of God, word of life

Thanks be to God

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

1 Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you.
2 For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. 3 When they say,
"There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant
woman, and there will be no escape! 4 But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you
like a thief; 5 for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. 6 So, then,
let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober, 7 for those who sleep sleep at night, and those
who are drunk get drunk at night. 8 But since we belong to the day, let us be sober and put on the breastplate of faith
and love and for a helmet the hope of salvation. 9 For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation
through our Lord Jesus Christ, 10 who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him.
11 Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

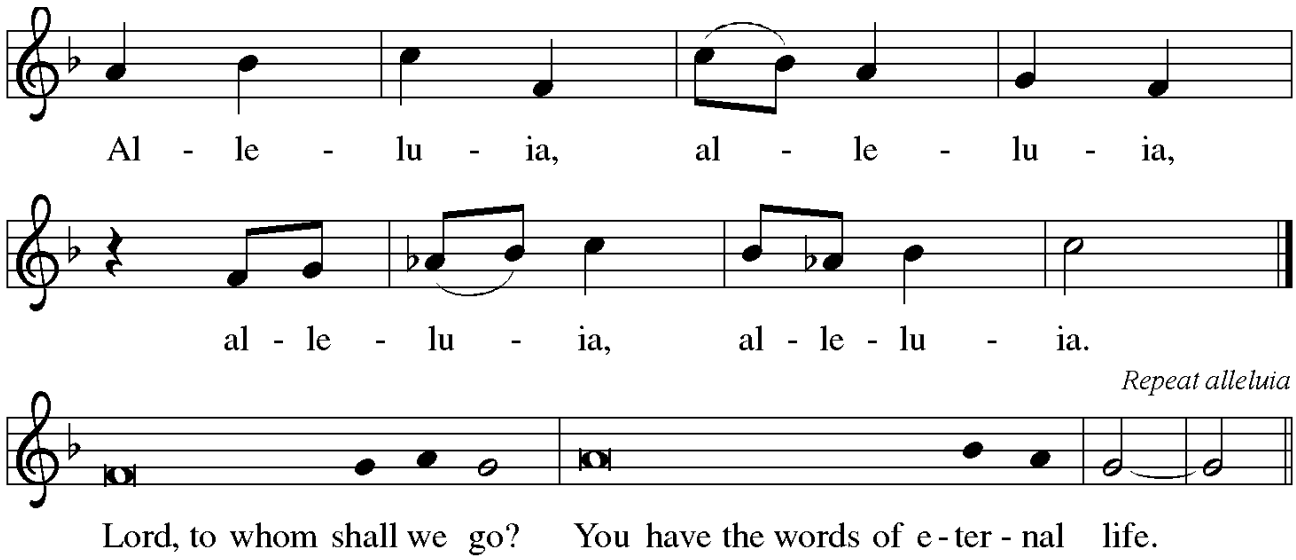
Word of God, word of life

Thanks be to God

CHILDREN'S TIME

Congregation: Please Rise for the Gospel Acclamation

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 25th chapter beginning at the 14tht verse.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Matthew 25:14-30

[Jesus said to the disciples:] 14 "For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his
property to them; 15 to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then
he went away. At once 16 the one who had received the five talents went off and traded with them and made five
more talents. 17 In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. 18 But the one who had
received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. 19 After a long time the
master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. 20 Then the one who had received the five talents came
forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more
talents.' 21 His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things;
I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' 22 And the one with the two talents also
came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' 23 His master
said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in
charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' 24 Then the one who had received the one talent also came
forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow and gathering where you
did not scatter, 25 so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' 26 But his
master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow and gather where I
did not scatter? 27 Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have
received what was my own with interest. 28 So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents.
29 For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance, but from those who have nothing,
even what they have will be taken away. 30 As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there
will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' "

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Stephanie Kopsch

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Lord of Light" ELW 688

Lord of Light **ELW 688**



Text: Howell E. Lewis, 1860–1953, alt.
Music: ABBOT'S LEIGH, Cyril V. Taylor, 1907–1991
Text © Union of Welsh Independents
Music © 1942, ren. 1970 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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PRAYER OF OFFERING FOR OUR COMMITMENT CARDS

Let us pray:

Holy and generous God,

Everything in heaven and earth belongs to you.

Let us joyfully return some of what you have given to us and dedicate it to your purpose. Help us to see how what we give contributes to the healing of ourselves, the healing of our congregation, the healing of our city, and the healing of our world. May we give joyfully, seeing your purpose fulfilled amongst us.

We pray this in Jesus's name.

Amen

At this time, people are invited to bring their commitment cards forward and place them in the baskets before the altar.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

God, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also, with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TEMPLE TALK

by Marc Cowell, Executive Director of the OUR Center

MEAL

OFFERTORY

"In the Mornin" - Spiritual — Rick Burton, Clarinet
Accompanied by Jeffrey Hartmann

In the mornin' when I rise (3 times) give me Jesus. Give me Jesus, give me Jesus, You can have all the world but give me Jesus

'Twixt the cradle and the grave (3 times) give me Jesus. Give me Jesus, give me Jesus, you can have all the world but give me Jesus.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray.

Eternal God,

our time, talents, and treasures are gifts from you. Receive what we offer, and all that you entrust to us, until hungry no more, all the world is fed, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also, with you.

Lift up your hearts

We lift them up to the Lord.

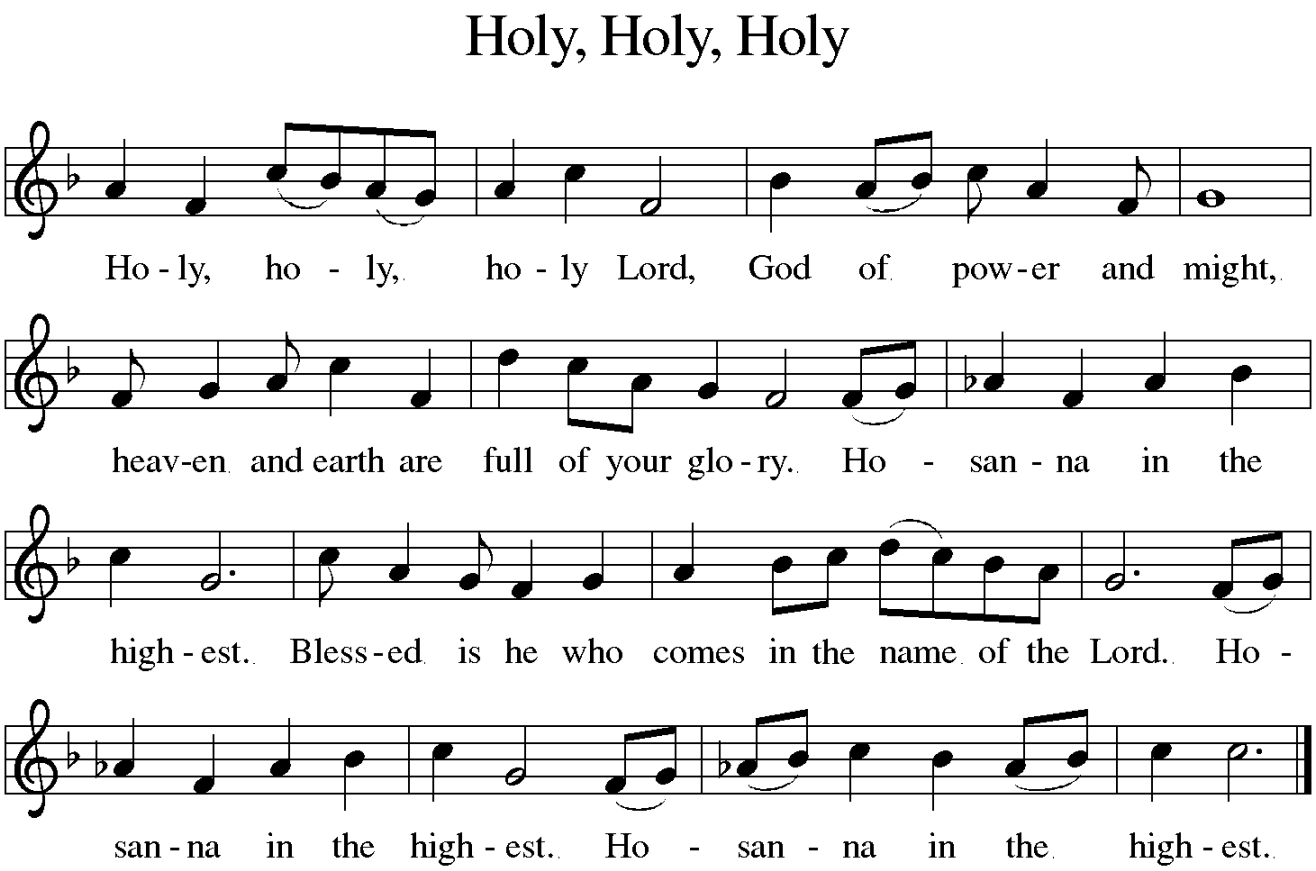
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

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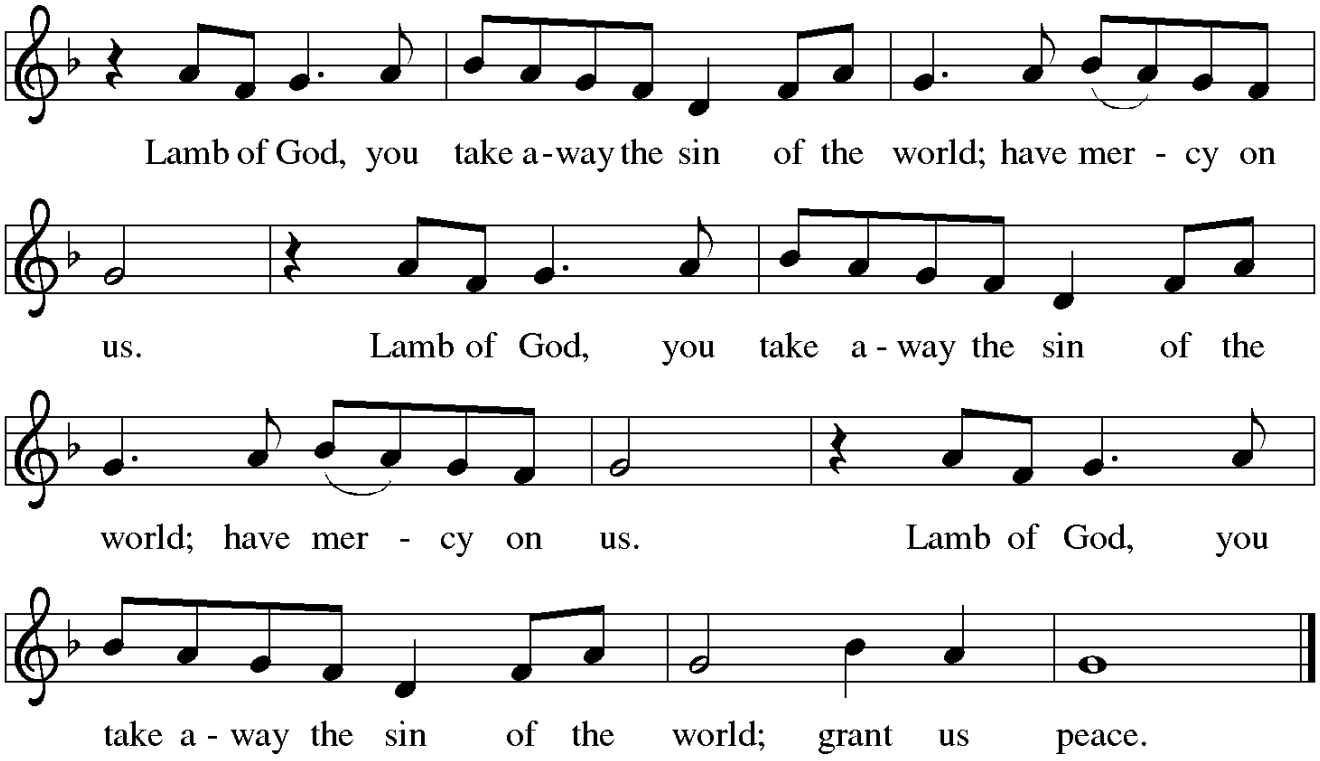
EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

LAMB OF GOD

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COMMUNION

This is the table of God. All who hunger for God's presence in their lives are invited to receive bread and wine. Please come forward at the direction of the usher. Our bread is gluten free, prepared and baked in a kitchen excluding wheat flour. The wine is in the outer, darker circle of glasses in the communion trays while the lighter glasses in the center contain grape juice. Should you prefer not to receive communion, please come forward for a blessing by crossing your arms in front of your chest. Come and see that the Lord is good.

COMMUNION HYMNS

"One Bread, One Body"	*ELW 496*
"Precious Lord, Take My Hand"	*ELW 773*
"We Come to the Hungry Feast"	*ELW 479*

One Bread, One Body

ELW 496



Text: John Foley, SJ, b. 1939
Music: John Foley, SJ
Text and music © 1978 John B. Foley, SJ, and OCP Publications

ONE BREAD, ONE BODY
4 4 6 and refrain

Precious Lord, Take My Hand **ELW 773**

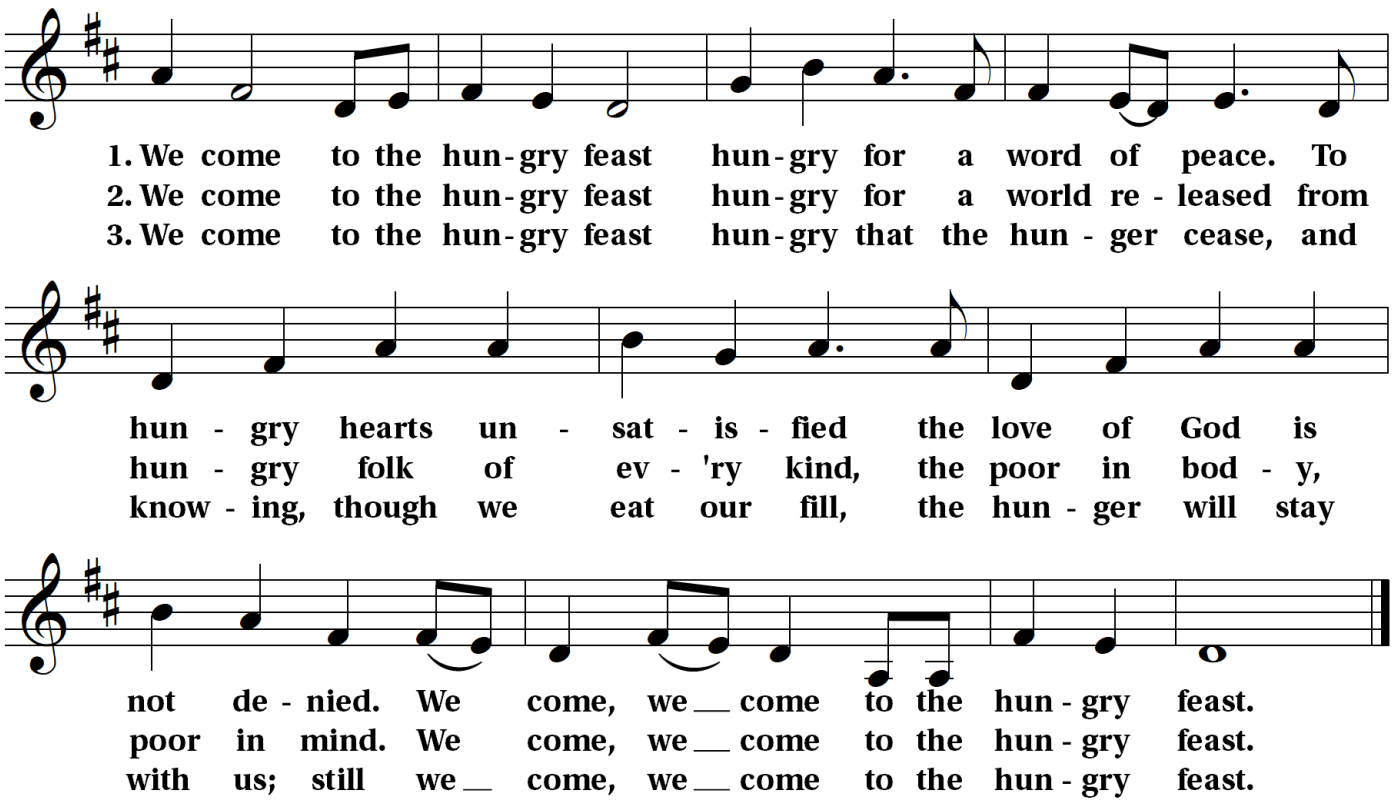
Thomas Andrew Dorsey, 1932 — George Nelson Allen, 1844



© 1938 (renewed 1965) Unichappell Music, Inc.
Courtesy of the Cyber Hymnal™

We Come to the Hungry Feast

ELW 479



Text: Ray Makeever, b. 1943
Music: Ray Makeever

Text and music © 1982 Ray Makeever, admin. Augsburg Fortress

HUNGRY FEAST
7 7 8 8 9

COMMUNION BLESSING

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Holy God,

we have received your never-ending mercy in this meal. You continuously seek the lost, bind the injured, and feed your people abundantly. Now send us out, awake to your presence, now and forever.

Amen

SENDING

BLESSING

The holy Trinity, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you with wisdom to welcome the reign of God, today and always.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN *"Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ"* ELW 674

SENDING

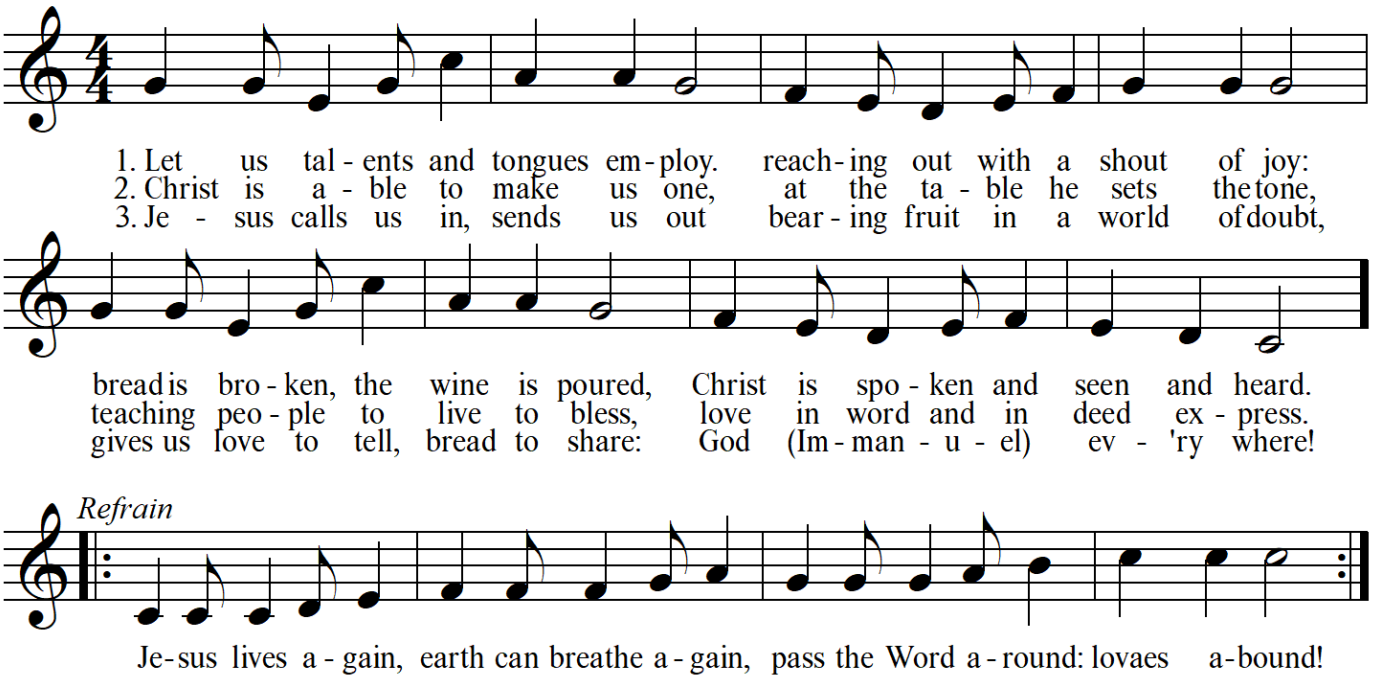
Go in peace. Encourage one another.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

ELW 674



Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929
Music: Jamaican folk tune; adapt. Doreen Potter, 1925-1980
Text and music © 1975 Hope Publishing Company

LINSTEAD
LM and refrain

Welcome to Worship!

CHILDREN ARE WELCOME IN WORSHIP, and families can sit anywhere in the sanctuary, including the chapel near the front.

A NURSERY is available downstairs across from the Choir Room for children under 5. Follow the signs.

LARGE-PRINT BULLETINS & HYMNS are available from the ushers.

ADDITIONAL PARKING is available in the Ahlberg Chapel parking lot, one-half block north of the church on Terry Street.

RESTROOMS are located on the upper level of the church, along the hallway leading to the Big Room. There are handicap accessible restrooms on the lower level near the elevator, and in the Big Room.

WORSHIP SERVICES AND LIVE STREAMED AND RECORDED so that others may enjoy worship remotely. Please note that today's worship service is audio and video recorded for online sharing and archival purposes.

We love seeing you in worship!

Preacher/Presider	Pastor Stephanie Kopsch
Council Hosts:	Al Manley Bill Campbell
Ushers:	Stephanie Nieuwlandt Mike Shiveley
Reader:	Sally Gaddis
Communion Assistants:	Sally Campbell Dwight Tilford
Organist/Pianist:	Jeffrey Hartmann
Livestream Operator	Shane Chatfield

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