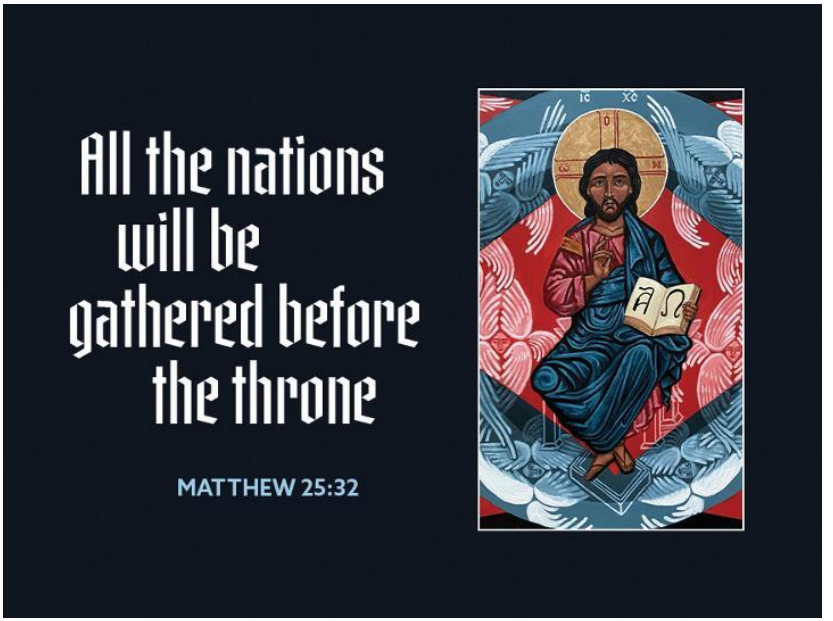
Bethel Lutheran Church

Sunday, November 22, 2026
Christ the King



Introduction

On this final Sunday of the church year our gospel is Jesus' great story of judgment. In the end, the faithful are those who served Christ by ministering to those who are poor, hungry, naked, sick, or estranged. In the first reading God is the shepherd who seeks the lost, weak, and injured and feeds them with justice. We gather this day to celebrate the reign of Christ and his victory over death, yet we await the consummation of all things yet to come. Acknowledging Christ as our merciful ruler, we go forth that his reign may be known in our loving words and deeds.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVOCATION

We gather in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

(Please be seated)

GATHERING SONG **ALL HAIL THE POWER OF JESUS NAME (ELW #634)**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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.
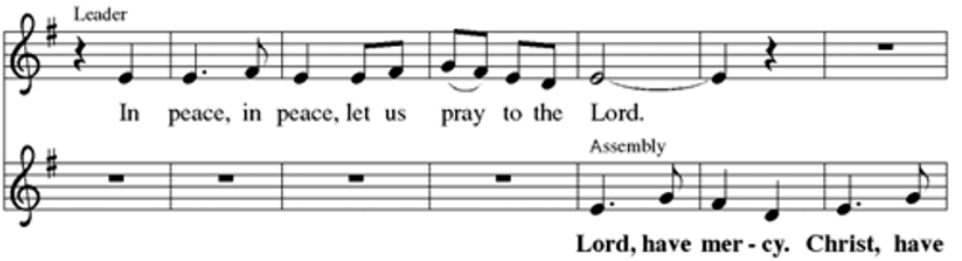
Holy God, **we confess that we have trusted in our preparation instead of your invitation. We prioritize our piety over care for your beloved. We trust the voice of our shame and fear, which keeps us from entering fully into relationship with you and others. We are not awake to the coming of your reign. Rouse us and rescue us, that we may enter into your joy. Amen.**
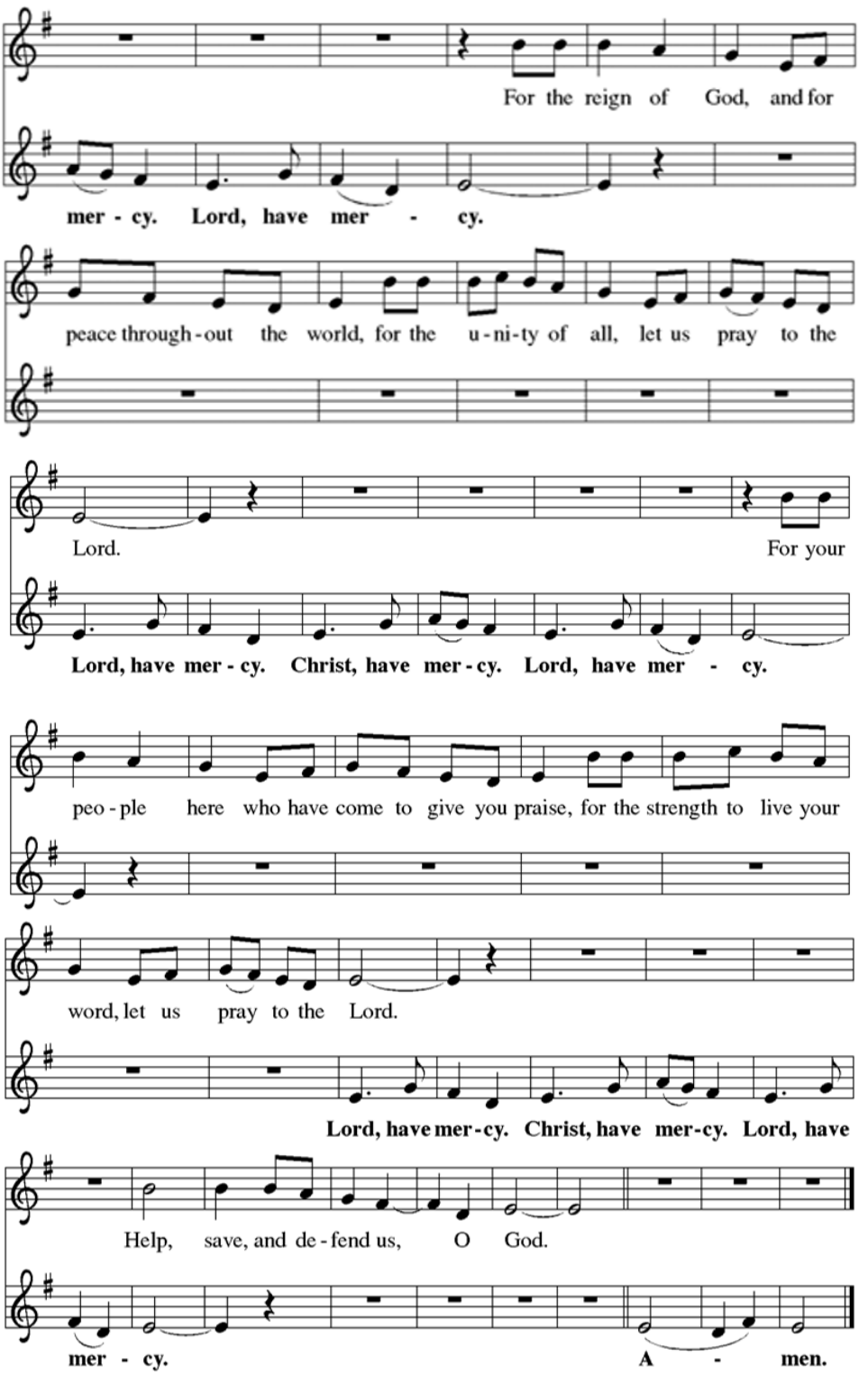
Inherit the riches of God's grace. ☩ Jesus, the good shepherd, feeds you with his mercy. You are forgiven. Blessed are you. **Amen.**

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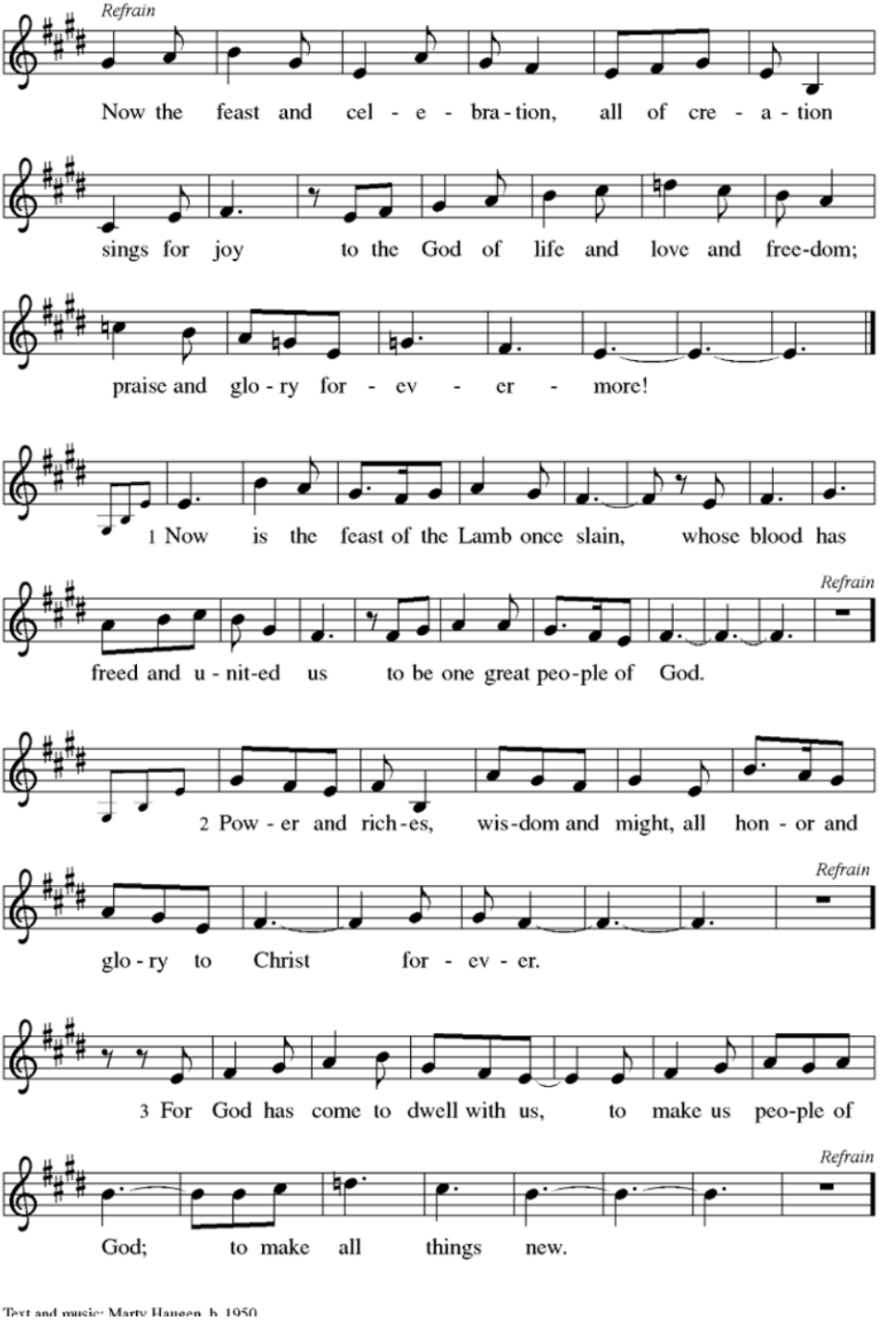
The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

KYRIE




For the reign of God, and for
mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.
peace through-out the world, for the u-ni-ty of all, let us pray to the
Lord.
For your
Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.
peo - ple here who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your
word, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mer-cy. Christ, have mer-cy. Lord, have
Help, save, and de - fend us, O God.
mer - cy.
A - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE



Text and music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God of power and might, your Son shows us the way of service, and in him we inherit the riches of your grace. Give us the wisdom to know what is right and the strength to serve the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

(Please be seated)

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE
PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION
FIRST READING **EZEKIEL 34: 11-16, 20-24**

11 Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep and will sort them out. 12 As
shepherds sort out their flocks when they are among scattered sheep, so I will sort out my sheep. I
will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick
darkness. 13 I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries and bring
them into their own land, and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and
in all the inhabited parts of the land. 14 I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights
of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on
rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. 15 I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make
them lie down, says the Lord GOD. 16 I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strays, and I will
bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed
them with justice.

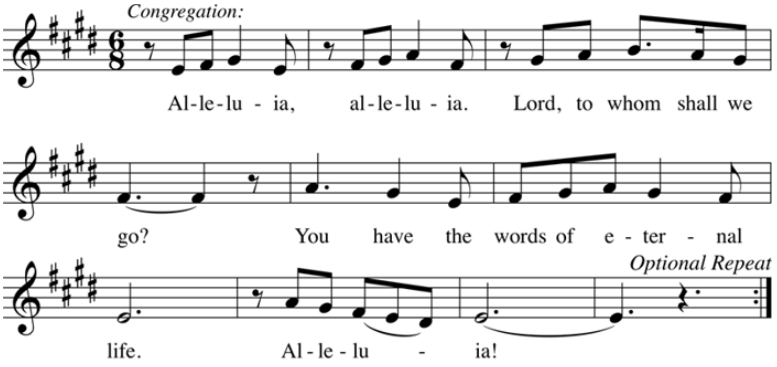
20 Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the
lean sheep. 21 Because you pushed with flank and shoulder and butted at all the weak animals with
your horns until you scattered them far and wide, 22 I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be
ravaged, and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

23 I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them; he shall feed
them and be their shepherd. 24 And I the LORD will be their God, and my servant David shall be
prince among them; I the LORD have spoken.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

(Please Stand)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL **MATTHEW 25:31-46**

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 25th Chapter. **Glory to You, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] 31 "When the Son of Man comes in his glory and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. 32 All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats,

33 and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. 34 Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world, 35 for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, 36 I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' 37 Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink? 38 And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? 39 And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' 40 And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.'

41 Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You who are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels, 42 for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, 43 I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' 44 Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and did not take care of you?' 45 Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' 46 And these will go away into eternal punishment but the righteous into eternal life."

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ**

(Please be seated)

SERMON **PASTOR RICHARD CARBAUGH**

(Please Stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY **CROWN HIM WITH MANY CROWNS (ELW #855)**

OUR STATEMENT OF FAITH **The 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 to the dead. 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.

(Please be Seated)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each petition will end with "God, in your mercy," and the response will be "**Hear our prayer.**"

SHARING OF CHRIST'S PEACE

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

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

OFFERING

Thank you for your continued generosity in supporting the ongoing ministry of Bethel Lutheran Church! In-person gifts may be placed in the offering plates, mailed to Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church (2077 N. Frederick Pike, Winchester, VA 22603), given online at www.bethelwinchester.com or using the adjacent QR code.

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION

KING OF KINGS

CCLI Song # 7127647
Brooke Ligertwood | Jason Ingram | Scott Ligertwood
© 2019 Fellow Ships Music; So Essential Tunes; Hillsong Music Publishing Australia

Verse 1
In the darkness we were waiting
Without hope without light
Till from Heaven You came running
There was mercy in Your eyes
To fulfil the law and prophets
To a virgin came the Word
From a throne of endless glory
To a cradle in the dirt

Chorus
Praise the Father
Praise the Son
Praise the Spirit three in one
God of Glory
Majesty
Praise forever to the King of kings

Verse 2
To reveal the kingdom coming
And to reconcile the lost
To redeem the whole creation
You did not despise the cross
For even in Your suffering
You saw to the other side
Knowing this was our salvation
Jesus for our sake You died

Verse 3
And the morning that You rose
All of heaven held its breath
Till that stone was moved for good
For the Lamb had conquered death
And the dead rose from their tombs
And the angels stood in awe
For the souls of all who'd come
To the Father are restored

Verse 4
And the Church of Christ was born
Then the Spirit lit the flame
Now this Gospel truth of old
Shall not kneel shall not faint
By His blood and in His Name
In His freedom I am free
For the love of Jesus Christ
Who has resurrected me

AS THE GRAINS OF WHEAT (ELW #465)
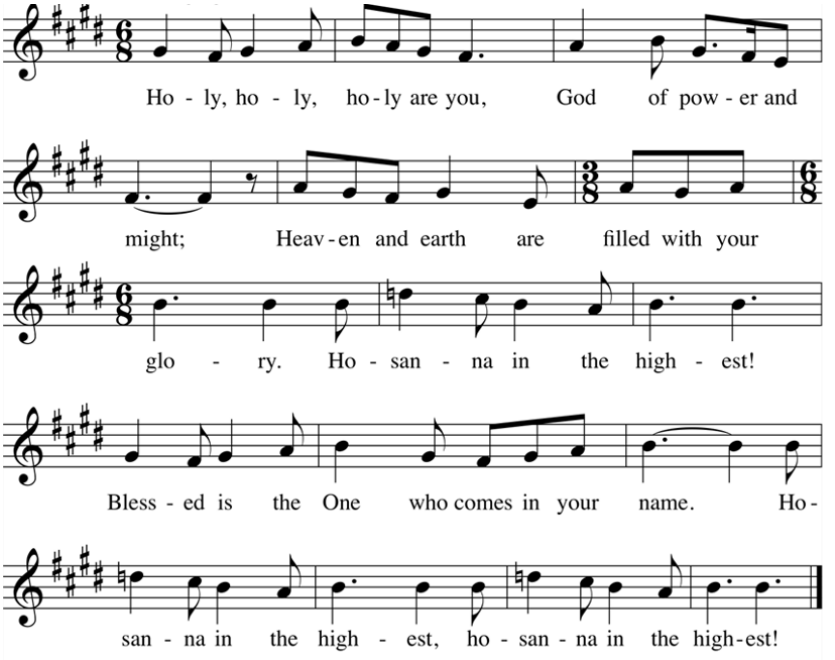
(Please Stand)

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.**
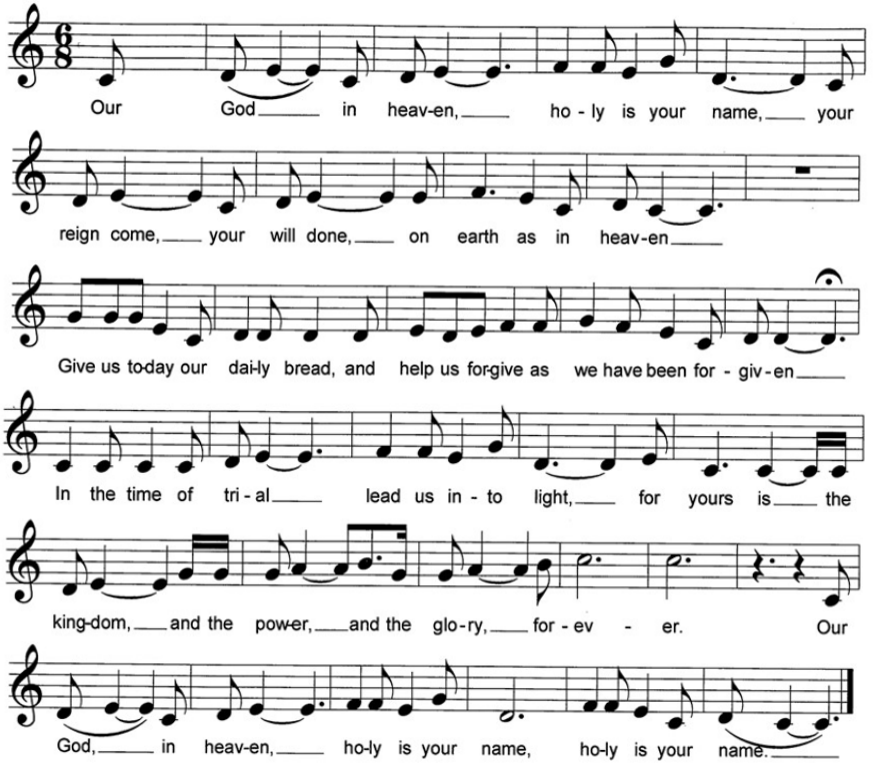
PREFACE

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



JESUS WORDS ABOUT COMMUNION

LORD'S PRAYER



Words: Matthew 6:9-13;adapt by Mark A Miller and Laurie Zelman Music: Mark A Miller Adapt and music ©2008 Abingdon Press admin by the Copyright Company

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

In bread and cup the reign of Christ is breaking in. Come, receive what Christ has prepared.

(Please be seated)

THE DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

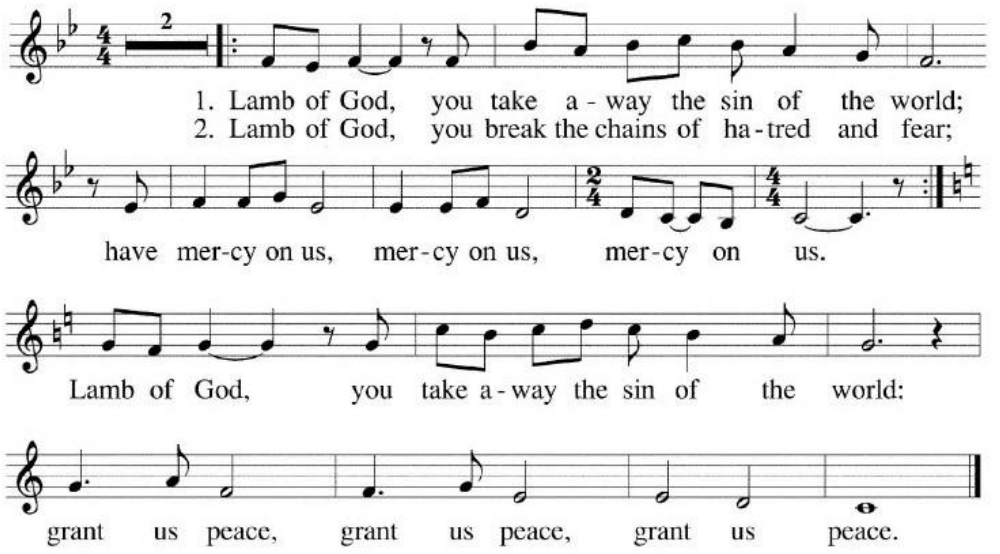
Welcome to the Lord's Table!

Everyone, regardless of age and denomination, is invited to join us for Holy Communion. If you prefer a blessing, simply inform the communion distributors. The ushers will direct your row when it is time to come forward.

You will receive the bread from the first Holy Communion distributor. You will pick up the cup of wine or juice from the tray held by the second distributor. For those who need gluten free a pre-packaged **gluten-free** wafer and a cup of **grape juice is also available.**

Once you have communed, you are invited to return to your seat for silent reflection or singing

Lamb of God *(from Now the Feast and Celebration)*



Text: ICET; additional text by Marty Haugen, © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.
Music: *Now the Feast and Celebration,* Marty Haugen, © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.



COMMUNION HYMN **HERE I AM LORD (ELW #574)**

COMMUNION BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

BENEDICTION

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

SENDING SONG **JESUS SHALL REIGN**

CCLI Song # 451232
Gerrit Gustafson | Isaac Watts
© The Worship Songbook

Verse 1
Jesus shall reign wherever the sun
Does its successive journeys run
His kingdom spread from shore to shore
'Til moons shall wax and wane no more

Verse 2
Blessings abound wherever He reigns
The prisoner leaps to loose his chains
The weary come home and find their rest
And all the sons of want are blessed

Chorus
Jesus shall reign Jesus shall reign
Open your hearts and welcome Him in
And Jesus shall reign
Jesus shall reign Jesus shall reign
Open your hearts and welcome Him in
And Jesus shall reign

Verse 3
People and realms from ev'ry tongue
Dwell on His love with sweetest song
Voices of children shall proclaim
Their early blessings on His name

Verse 4
Let ev'ry creature rise and bring
Honor and praises to our King
Angels descend with songs again
And earth repeats a loud amen

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Encourage one another. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Thank you for worshiping with us today.

We hope every person felt welcomed here, especially our guests. We trust that our time together has filled you with a sense of joy and peace, and we invite you to return soon.

BETHEL STAFF & COUNCIL

Kristal Cutler, Director of Music	music@bethelwinchester.com
Nina Davis, Office Manager	office@bethelwinchester.com
George W. Donovan, Sr., Director of Safety and Security	security@bethelwinchester.com
Shawn Garner, Facility Management	facility@bethelwinchester.com
Matt Meade & Lexy Grymala Nursery Managers	office@bethelwinchester.com
Mel Siebert, Youth Ministry	youth@bethelwinchester.com
Patty White, Parish Custodian	annwhite54@aol.com
Financial or Giving Questions	office@bethelwinchester.com

Council Executive Committee

JENNIFER LAFOLLETTE, PRESIDENT, TEXT/CALL 540-533-9142, EMAIL jnanlafollette@gmail.com

CHERIE LAUCK, VICE-PRESIDENT & MINISTRY TEAM TEXT/CALL 540-336-0300, EMAIL cherie.lauck@bethelwinchester.com

MATT LYMAN, SECRETARY &COMMUNICATIONS TEAM TEXT/CALL 540-550-0710, EMAIL matt.lyman@bethelwinchester.com

COUNCIL GENERAL MEMBERS

MEL SIEBERT, EMAIL MEL.SIEBERT@BETHELWINCHESTER.COM

LEEANNE MARPLE EMAIL LEEANNE.MARPLE@BETHELWINCHESTER.COM

RENE HOLLEBRANDSE, MINISTRY TEAM EMAIL C.J.HOLLEBRANDSE@GMAIL.COM

TAMAR YAGER EMAIL: TAMAR.YAGER@BETHELWINCHESTER.COM

ROB CUTLER EMAIL: ROB.CUTLER@BETHELWINCHESTER.COM

CALL COMMITTEE EMAIL: CALLCHAIR@BETHELWINCHESTER.COM