

SAINT MARTIN LUTHERAN CHURCH



**Sixth Sunday after Pentecost and US Semiquincentennial
July 5, 2026 at 10:30 am**

Welcome to the worship of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

***The Day:** In today's gospel, Jesus thanks the Father for keeping certain things hidden from the wise and revealing them to little children. May we approach today's gospel with childlike faith and openness, to perhaps see a glimpse of the Lord's very heart.*

PRELUDE

Please silence devices during this quiet time of preparing our hearts for worship.

Stand

BRIEF ORDER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

G 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.

G Amen.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P Most merciful God,

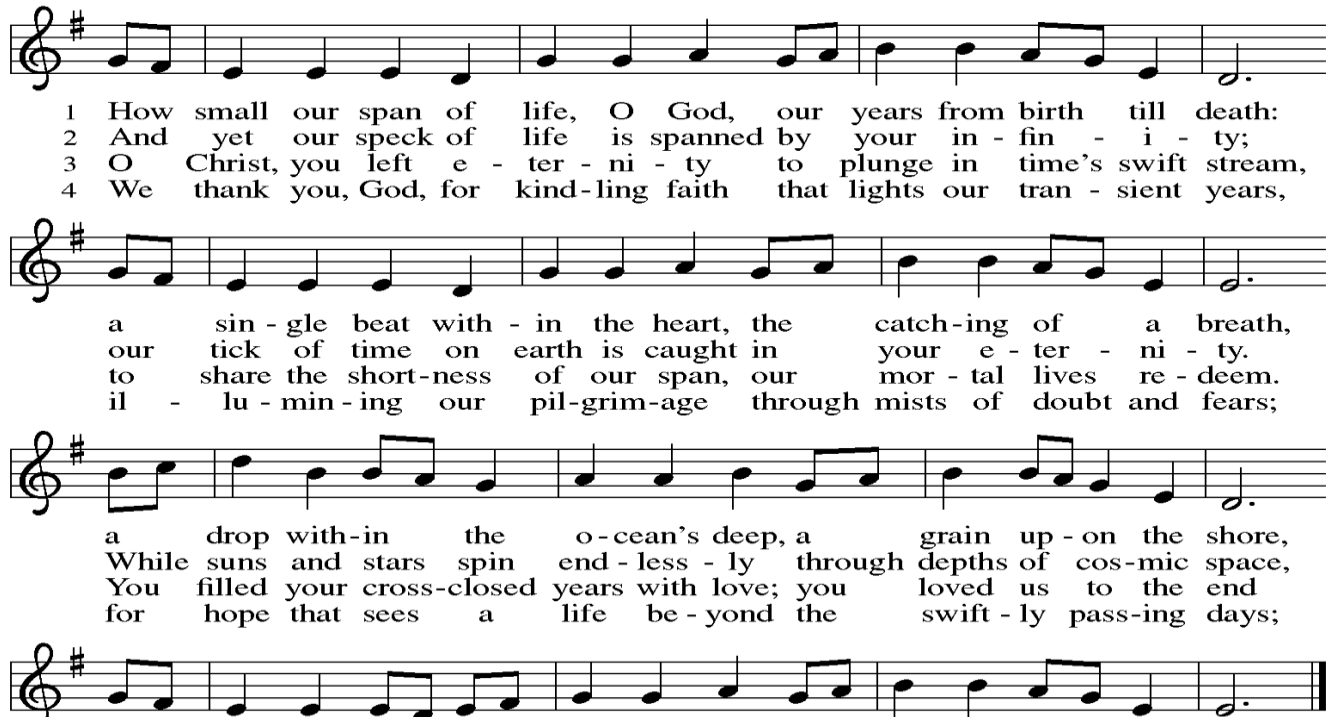
C we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus 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 Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, 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.

The assembly follows the ministers into the church. The Procession begins.

HOW SMALL OUR SPAN OF LIFE, O GOD



1 How small our span of life, O God, our years from birth till death:
 2 And yet our speck of life is spanned by your in - fin - i - ty;
 3 O Christ, you left e - ter - ni - ty to plunge in time's swift stream,
 4 We thank you, God, for kind-ling faith that lights our tran - sient years,

a sin - gle beat with - in the heart, the catch-ing of a breath,
 our tick of time on earth is caught in your e - ter - ni - ty.
 to share the short-ness of our span, our mor - tal lives re - deem.
 il - lu - min - ing our pil-grim-age through mists of doubt and fears;

a drop with-in the o - cean's deep, a grain up - on the shore,
 While suns and stars spin end - less - ly through depths of cos-mic space,
 You filled your cross-closed years with love; you loved us to the end
 for hope that sees a life be - yond the swift - ly pass-ing days;

a flash of light be - fore we sleep to see the sun no more.
 while ae - ons roll and ag - es pass, you hold us in your grace.
 and touch us with your ris - en life that ours may time trans-cend.
 for love, both hu - man and di - vine, that lifts our hearts to praise.

THE APOSTOLIC GREETING

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

You are great, O God, and greatly to be praised. You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

Sit

FIRST LESSON

Zechariah 9:9-12

The coming messianic king will inaugurate an era of disarmament and prosperity. Because of God's covenant with Israel, the people are designated as "prisoners of hope."

L A reading from the book of Zechariah, the 9th chapter, beginning at the 9th verse.

⁹Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. ¹⁰I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall speak peace to the nations; his rule shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth. ¹¹As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. ¹²Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

PSALMODY

Psalm 145:8-14



8 The Lord is gracious and full | of compassion,
slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love.

9 Lord, you are | good to all,
and your compassion is over | all your works.

10 All your works shall praise | you, O Lord,
and your faithful | ones shall bless you.

**11 They shall tell of the glory | of your kingdom
and speak | of your power,**

12 that all people may know | of your power
and the glorious splendor | of your kingdom.

13 Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your dominion endures
through- | out all ages.

You, Lord, are faithful in all your words, and loving in | all your
works.

14 The Lord upholds all | those who fall
and lifts up those who | are bowed down.

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the | Holy Spirit: as it
was in the beginning, is now, and will be forev- | er. Amen.**

SECOND LESSON

Romans 7:15-25a

Life captive to sin is a catch-22 existence in which we know good but do not do it and do things we know to be wrong. Through Jesus Christ, God has set us free from such a futile existence.

L A reading from Romans, the 7th chapter, beginning at the 15th verse.

¹⁵For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. ¹⁶Now if I do what I do not want, I agree with the law, that it is good. ¹⁷So now it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. ¹⁸For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. ¹⁹For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing.

²⁰Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. ²¹So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. ²²For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being,

²³but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members.
²⁴Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?
²⁵Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

²⁴Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?

²⁵Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

L This is the Word of the Lord.

 Thanks be to God.

Stand

ALLELUIA VERSE

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

Jesus chides people who find fault with both his ministry and that of John the Baptist. He thanks God that wisdom and intelligence are not needed to receive what God has to offer.

P The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Matthew,
the 11th chapter, beginning at the 16th verse.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁶“But to what shall I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to their playmates, ¹⁷‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we sang a dirge, and you did not mourn.’ ¹⁸For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon.’ ¹⁹The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look

¹⁸For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon.’ ¹⁹The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look

demon.’ ¹⁹The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look

at him! A glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is justified by her deeds.”

²⁵At that time Jesus declared, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; ²⁶yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²⁷All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. ²⁸Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

SERMON

“The Lord’s Heart”

Pastor Beatty

Stand

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW #595

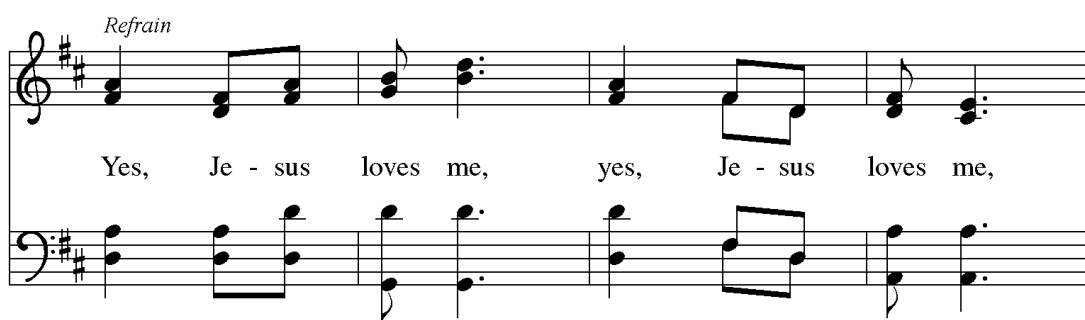
JESUS LOVES ME! THIS I KNOW



1 Je - sus loves me! this I know, for the Bi - ble tells me so;
2 Je - sus loves me! he who died heav - en's gates to o - pen wide;
3 Je - sus loves me! he will stay close be - side me all the way;



lit - tle ones to him be - long, they are weak, but he is strong.
he will wash a - way my sin, let his lit - tle child come in.
when at last I come to die, he will take me home on high.



Refrain
Yes, Je - sus loves me, yes, Je - sus loves me,



yes, Je - sus loves me, the Bi - ble tells me so.

P With one voice let us confess our faith together in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

APOSTLES' CREED

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He 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,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again 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.**

BLESSING OF PRAYER SQUARES

Pastor Beatty

INTERCESSIONS OF THE CHURCH

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

P/A Lord in your Mercy, G hear our prayer.

A O God, your Son Jesus invited us to take up his light and easy burden and so find rest for our souls. Send your Spirit on your church. Knit us together into one body and heal the divisions we have caused. Overcome our timidity to witness and act when your purpose is being thwarted. Lord, in your mercy,

G **hear our prayer.**

A Lord of heaven and earth, you have hidden things from the wise and understanding. Give to your Church bishops, pastors, deacons, and ministers who will faithfully proclaim the hidden things and make them known to us and our children. May your Word and Sacraments continue to bear fruit in our congregation, and may we grow in faith and knowledge. Lord, in your mercy,

G **hear our prayer.**

A Heavenly Father, fill our homes with your Word and grace. Be the companion of those who are alone. Strengthen husbands and wives. Bless parents as they catechize their children. Let them all find refuge in you and so preserve them from every evil. Lord, in your mercy,

G **hear our prayer.**

A Holy Trinity, you show us the splendor of diversity and the beauty of unity in your own divine life. We come from many nations with many languages; make us a united people that delights in our many different gifts. We thank you for the blessings you have bestowed upon the United States of America and her people for 250 years. We pray that you would grant her good and wise government and sustain her in peace and security, especially so that your Holy Gospel may be confessed openly and received gladly by her people. Bless the celebrations of this milestone, that they may unite our country as a people and cause us to renew our commitment to the public good. Let all Christians give respect, honor, and love where each is due, as

servants of Christ in this world whose eternal citizenship is in heaven.
Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A Lord God, be with all who are weary and heavy-laden with the tribulations of this life. Give comfort to those who suffer the ravages of war and calamity especially, the people of Ukraine, the Middle East, and Venezuela. Grant healing to all who suffer illness, those named in our bulletin, and those we name before you now. *(count to 10 after silence.)* Console all who suffer with the knowledge that your yoke is easy and your burden light, and that in you they will find rest and healing for their souls. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A Merciful Lord, you release your people from the waterless pit by the blood of your covenant. Bless all who receive Christ's body and blood with penitent hearts, trusting in your grace and love. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A We remember before you those who have died in the faith in every generation. On this the 250th anniversary of our nation, we remember all those who have died ensuring the freedoms of this country: people in the armed services, peace officers, advocates, and activists. Gather us, together with those who have gone before us, into the holy city you have prepared for all the faithful. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

We greet one another in the name of the Lord.

*Peace be with you **R** Peace be with you*

Sit

OFFERING

The ushers collect our gifts of tithes and offerings. The ministers make ready the bread and wine.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Sung by Saint Martin Choir

FAITH OF OUR FATHERS

Stand as gifts are presented.

OFFERTORY

The musical score is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff.

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise him, all
crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye
heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

A Let us pray. Merciful Father,

C we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us — ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The musical notation consists of four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes, with a red 'P' for the priest's part and a red 'C' for the congregation's part. The lyrics are: 'The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.'

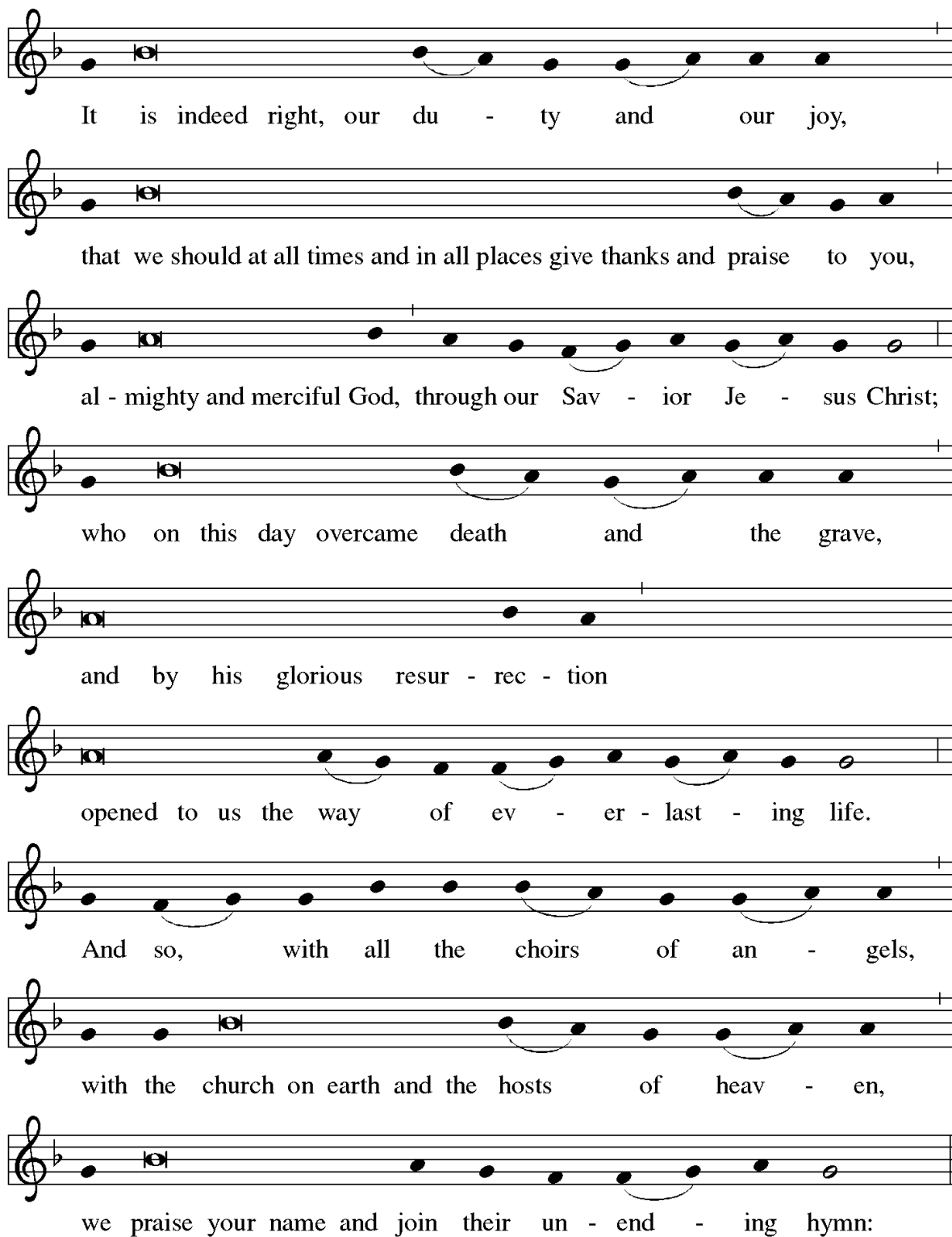
P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

P Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

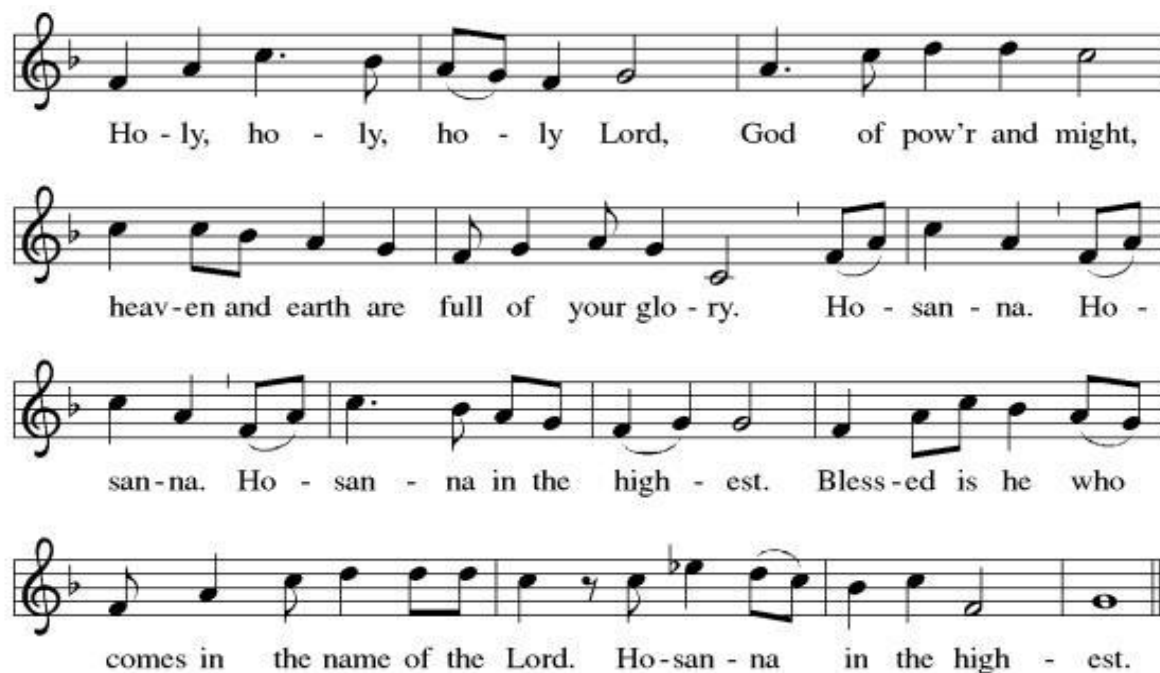
C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE



It is indeed right, our du - ty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you,
al - mighty and merciful God, through our Sav - ior Je - sus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resur - rec - tion
opened to us the way of ev - er - last - ing life.
And so, with all the choirs of an - gels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heav - en,
we praise your name and join their un - end - ing hymn:

SANCTUS



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P 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

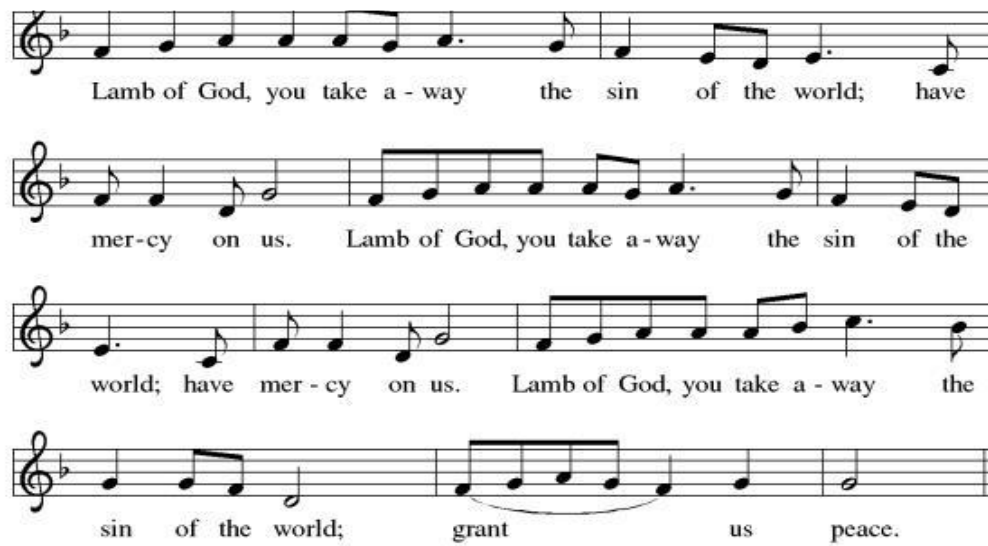
P Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us together to pray:
**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy
kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give
us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we**

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.

Sit

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

AGNUS DEI



ANTHEM

sung by Melissa Freas

I RECEIVED THE LIVING GOD

Stand

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

P Now may the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen ✝ you and keep you in God's grace.

C Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

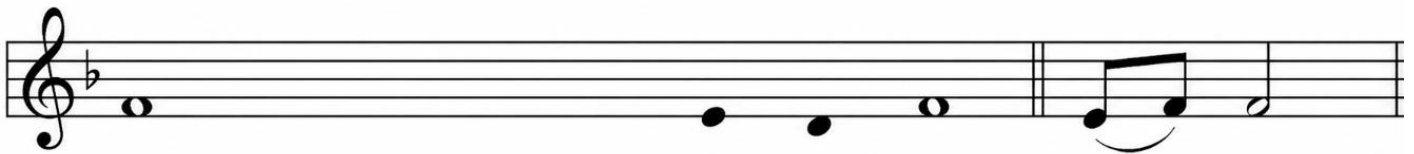
A The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

A Let us pray: God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION



P The Lord bless you and keep you.

C A - men

The Lord make his face shine on you
and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace;

In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING FOR MATTHEW WILLIAMS

SENDING HYMN

ELW #781

CHILDREN OF THE HEAVENLY FATHER

Tryg - ga - re kan ing - en va - ra än Guds lil - la bar - na - ska - ra,
1 Chil - dren of the heav'n-ly Fa - ther safe - ly in his bo - som gath - er;
2 God his own doth tend and nour-ish, in his ho - ly courts they flour-ish.
3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er from the Lord his chil - dren sev - er;
4 Though he giv - eth or he tak-eth, God his chil-dren ne'er for - sak - eth;

stjär-nan ej på him-la - fäs - tet, få-geln ej i kän-da näs - tet.
nest - ling bird nor star in heav - en such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.
From all e - vil things he spares them, in his might - y arms he bears them.
un - to them his grace he show - eth, and their sor - rows all he know - eth.
his the lov - ing pur-pose sole - ly to pre-serve them pure and ho - ly.

O BEAUTIFUL FOR SPACIOUS SKIES



1 O beau - ti - ful for spa - cious skies, for am - ber waves of grain,
 2 O beau - ti - ful for he - roes proved in lib - er - at - ing strife,
 3 O beau - ti - ful for pa - triot dream that sees be - yond the years

for pur - ple moun - tain maj - es - ties a - bove the fruit - ed plain:
 who more than self their coun - try loved, and mer - cy more than life:
 thine al - a - bas - ter cit - ies gleam, un - dimmed by hu - man tears:

A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God shed his grace on thee,
 A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! May God thy gold re - fine,
 A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God mend thine ev - 'ry flaw,

and crown thy good with broth - er - hood from sea to shin - ing sea.
 till all suc - cess be no - ble - ness, and ev - 'ry gain di - vine.
 con - firm thy soul in self - con - trol, thy lib - er - ty in law.

DISMISSAL

A Love The Lord!

C Live The Mission!

Together!

POSTLUDE