SAINT MARTIN LUTHERAN CHURCH



Reformation Sunday
October 25, 2026 at 10:30 am

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

The Day: *Today is Reformation Sunday, remembering what would become the Protestant movement and church, beginning with Martin Luther on October 31, 1517, and extending through Germany, Europe, and eventually to the world. What does this mean for us over 500 years later? We explore what it means to be a reforming church in 2026, and we celebrate our reforming congregation today literally as we welcome new members to Saint Martin.*

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.

C **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.

C **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.**
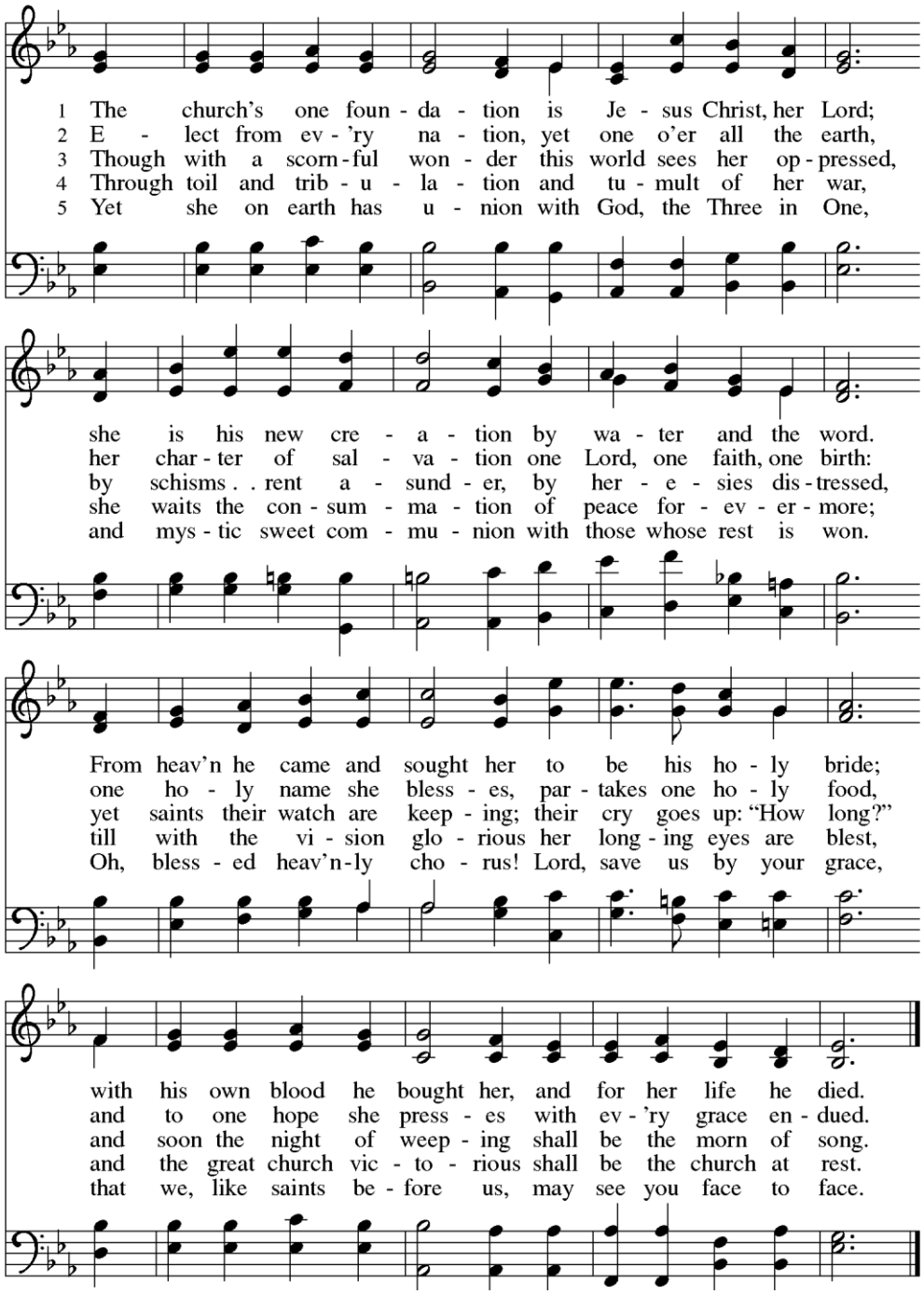
P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✢ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

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

GATHERING HYMN ELW #654

THE CHURCH'S ONE FOUNDATION
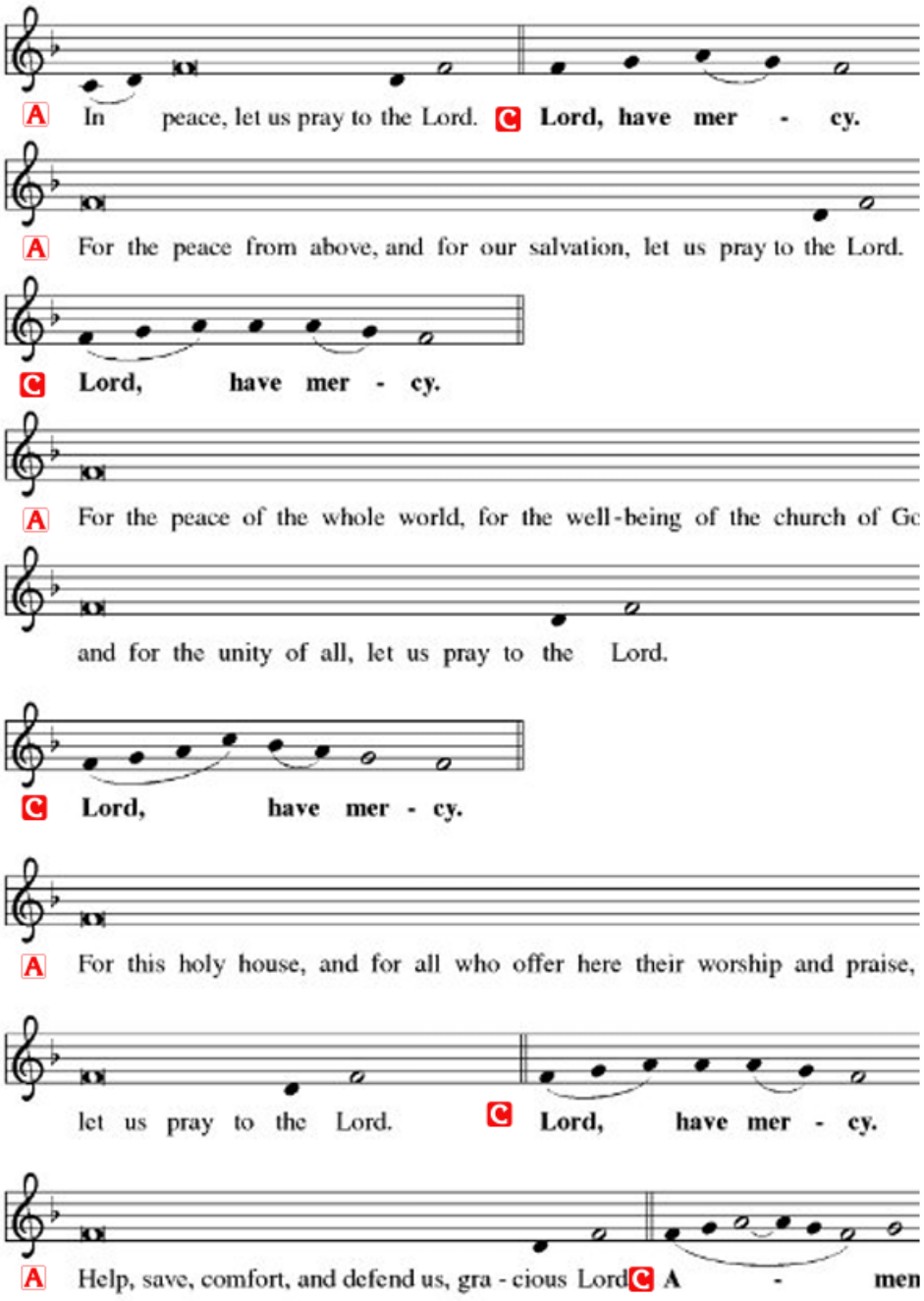


THE APOSTOLIC GREETING
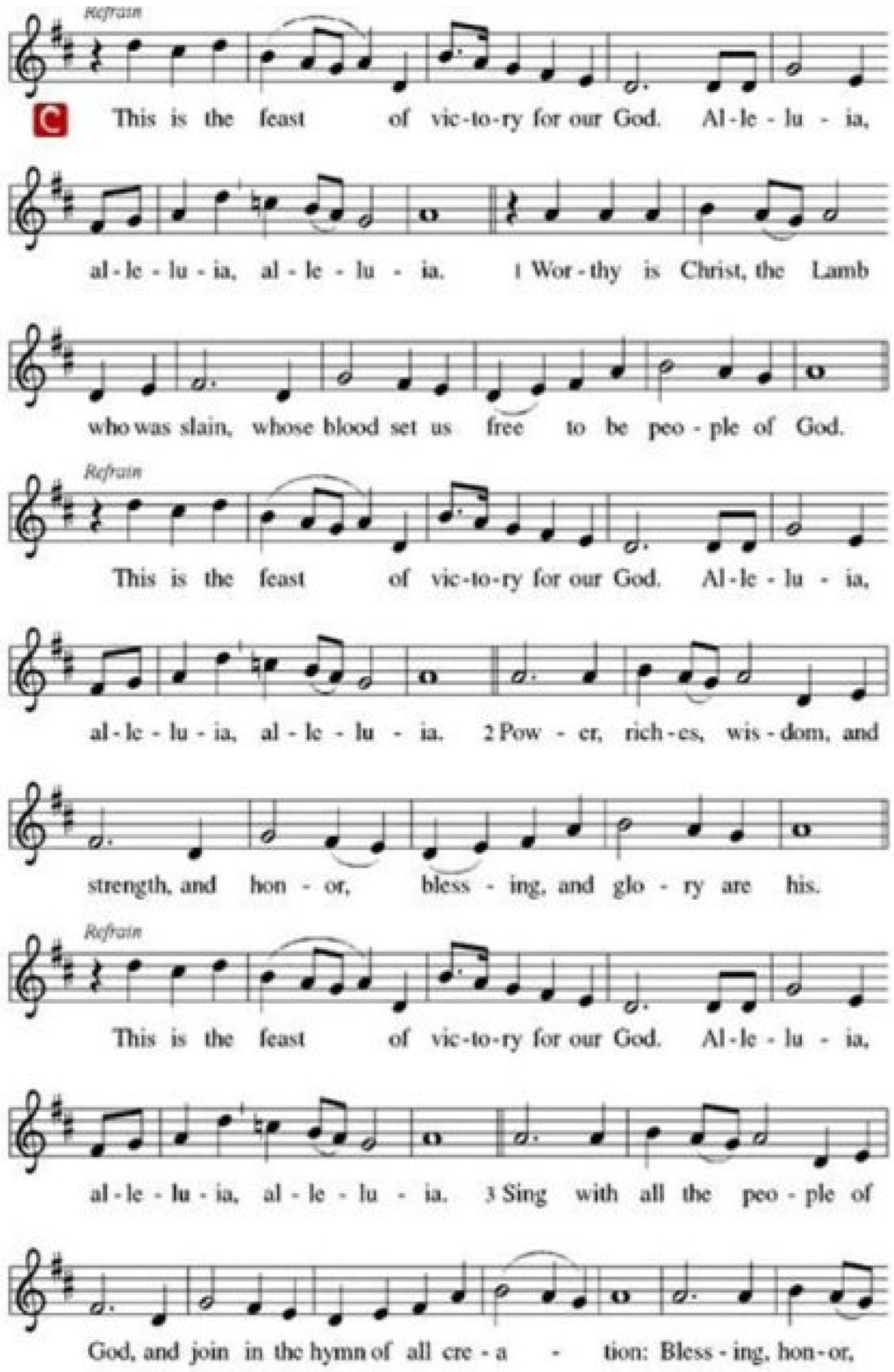
P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
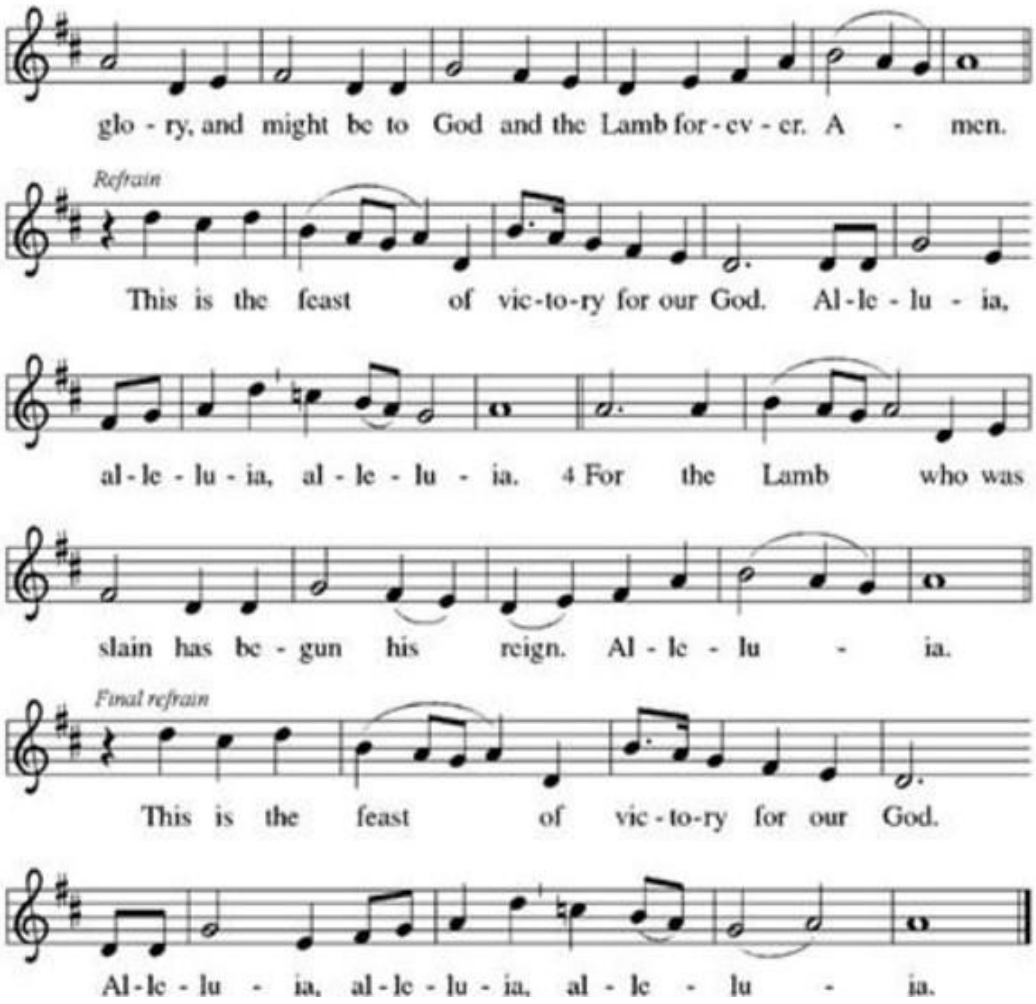
C **And also with you.**

KYRIE


A In peace, let us pray to the Lord. C Lord, have mer - cy.
A For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
C Lord, have mer - cy.
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of Go
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.
C Lord, have mer - cy.
A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord. C Lord, have mer - cy.
A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord C A - men

CANTICLE OF PRAISE





PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sit

CHILDREN'S SERMON **Pastor Beatty**

WELCOME OF NEW MEMBERS

Dear friends in Christ, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for Pastor Gregory and Colleen Davidson, Kelly and Katie Holt, and their daughter Rylee Holt, and Patricia Kilmark: one with us in the body of Christ, whom we welcome as new members into the life and ministry of Saint Martin.

In Holy Baptism, we are welcomed into the body of Christ and sent out to share God's mission. We are called to walk together in Christ's love, to receive the word of God, to share in the Lord's Supper, and to proclaim the Good News of God in Christ Jesus through word and deed, following in the example of Jesus.

Do you intend to continue in the covenant of your baptism among God's people in this place?

New members respond.

I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

The pastor addresses the congregation.

People of God, do you commit to support and pray for these new members in their life in Christ?

We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

In the joy and fellowship of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, let us welcome each new member as brother and sister in Christ at Saint Martin!

Amen.

FIRST LESSON **Jeremiah 31:31-34**

The renewed covenant will not be breakable, but like the old covenant it will expect the people to live upright lives. To know the Lord means that one will defend the cause of the poor and needy (Jer. 22:16). The renewed covenant is possible only because the Lord will forgive iniquity and not remember sin. Our hope lies in a God who forgets darkness.

L A reading from the book of Jeremiah, the 31st chapter, beginning at the 31st verse.

31 "Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, 32 not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the Lord. 33 For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. 34 And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord,' for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the Lord. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more."

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 46

Sung by the Choir

SECOND LESSON **Romans 3:19-28**

Paul's words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and other Reformation leaders. No human beings make themselves right with God through works of the law. We are brought into a right relationship with God through the divine activity centered in Christ's death. This act is a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.

L A reading from the book of Romans, the 3rd chapter, beginning at the 19th verse.

19 Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. 20 For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin. 21 But now the righteousness of God has been

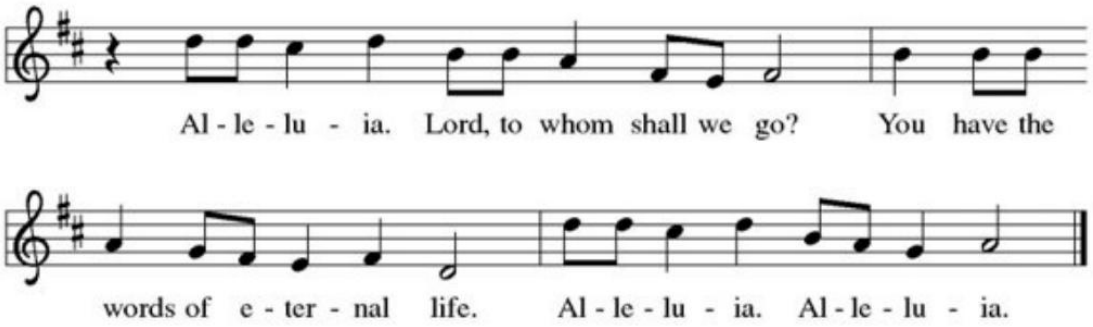
manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it — [22]the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: [23]for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, [24]and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, [25]whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. [26]It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. [27]Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? By a law of works? No, but by the law of faith. [28]For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

ALLELUIA VERSE



HOLY GOSPEL John 8:31-36

Jesus speaks of truth and freedom as spiritual realities known through his word. He reveals the truth that sets people free from sin.

P The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. John, the 8th chapter, beginning at the 31st verse.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[31]So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, [32]and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." [33]They answered him, "We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say,

‘You will become free’?” 34Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave[a] to sin. 35The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. 36So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sit
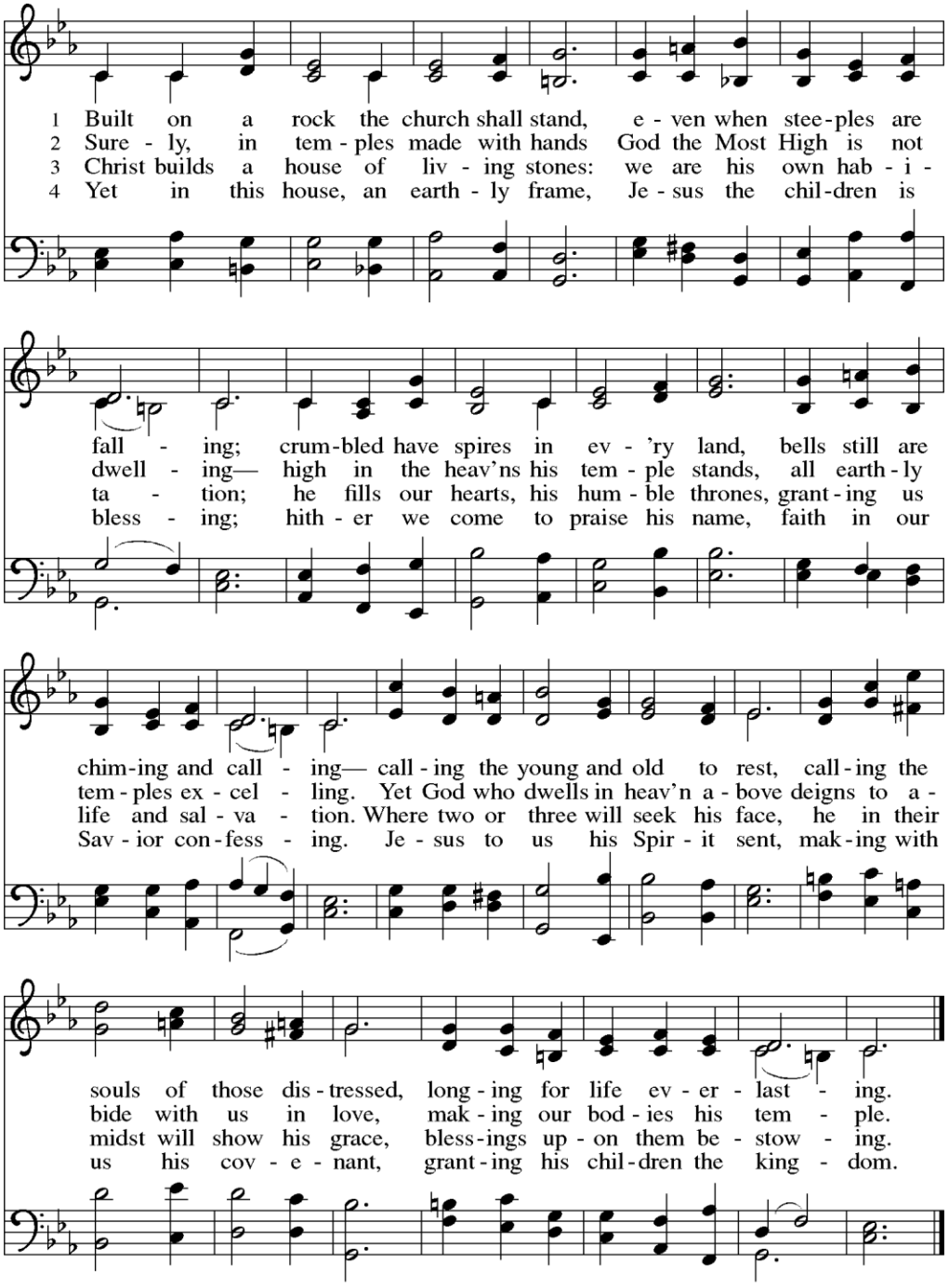
SERMON **Pastor Beatty**

“The Road to Freedom”

Stand

HYMN OF THE DAY — ELW #652

BUILT ON A ROCK



5 Through all the passing years, O Lord,
grant that, when church bells are ringing,
many may come to hear your Word,
who here this promise is bringing:
"I know my own, my own know me;
you, not the world, my face shall see;
my peace I leave with you. Amen."

NICENE CREED

C 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; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. 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. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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.

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, C hear our prayer.

A Heavenly Father, we pray for your one holy, catholic, and apostolic church. Continue to bless the faithful proclamation of Christ's saving name throughout the world, that the church's faith may be strengthened and your kingdom extended. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A As we celebrate Reformation Sunday, we remember the witness of Martin Luther and the reformers of the church in every generation. Empower us to continue the work of reform and renewal in our own day. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A Lord of truth, keep all bishops, pastors, deacons, and church workers steadfast in your Word. Encourage them for their godly task of the right preaching of the Word and the proper administration of the sacrament that your people would continue in the one true faith. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A Father of divine providence, preserve our nation and all nations especially Ukraine, the Middle East, and Iran from the ravages of war and grant us peace. Grant to our president, Donald, our governor, Brian, and all the leaders of nations, the wisdom to govern in accordance with your will for freedom, justice, and prosperity for all. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A God of grace, do not let your people fear though the earth gives way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea. Rescue all people in every kind of need, especially those named in our bulletin and those we name before you now. *(After silence count to 10.)* Comfort them with the promise that you will uphold them and are with them. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A With gratitude, we remember those disciples who paved the way for us and all of our beloved dead. Help us to continue in the path of love and faithfulness with all your saints until we come with them to the fullness of your glorious kingdom. Lord, in your mercy,

℃ **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

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

℃ **Amen.**

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

℃ **Amen.**

PEACE

℗ The peace of the Lord be with you always.

℃ **And also with you.**

We greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Peace be with you ℟ ***Peace be with you***

Sit

OFFERING

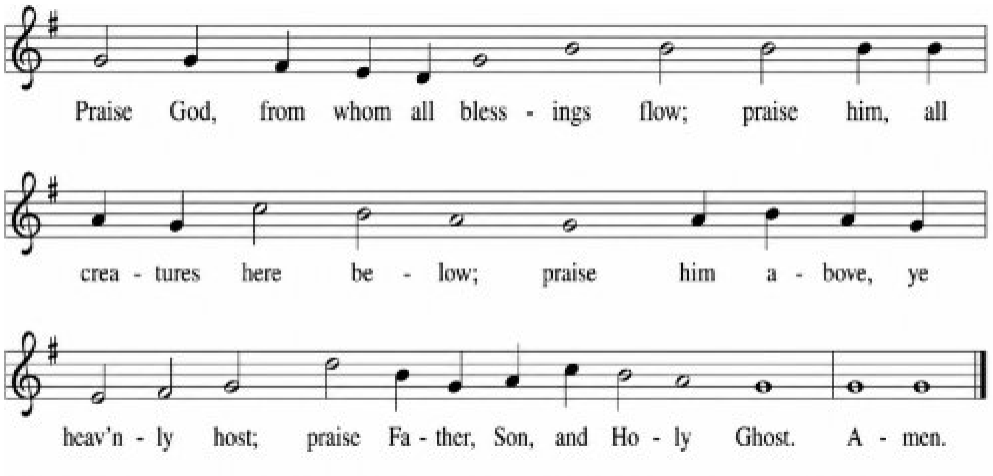
The ushers collect our gifts of tithes and offerings. The ministers make ready the bread and wine.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

A MIGHTY FORTRESS IS OUR GOD

Stand as gifts are presented.

OFFERTORY



OFFERTORY PRAYER

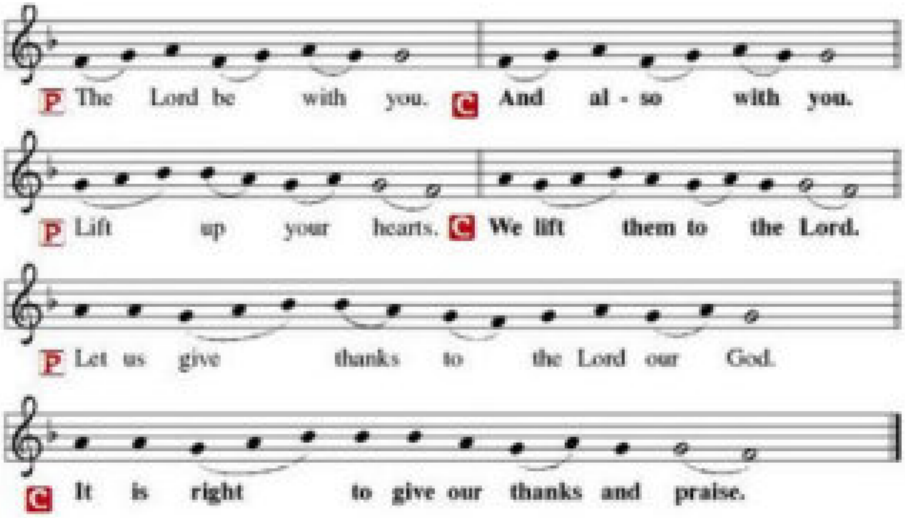
A The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

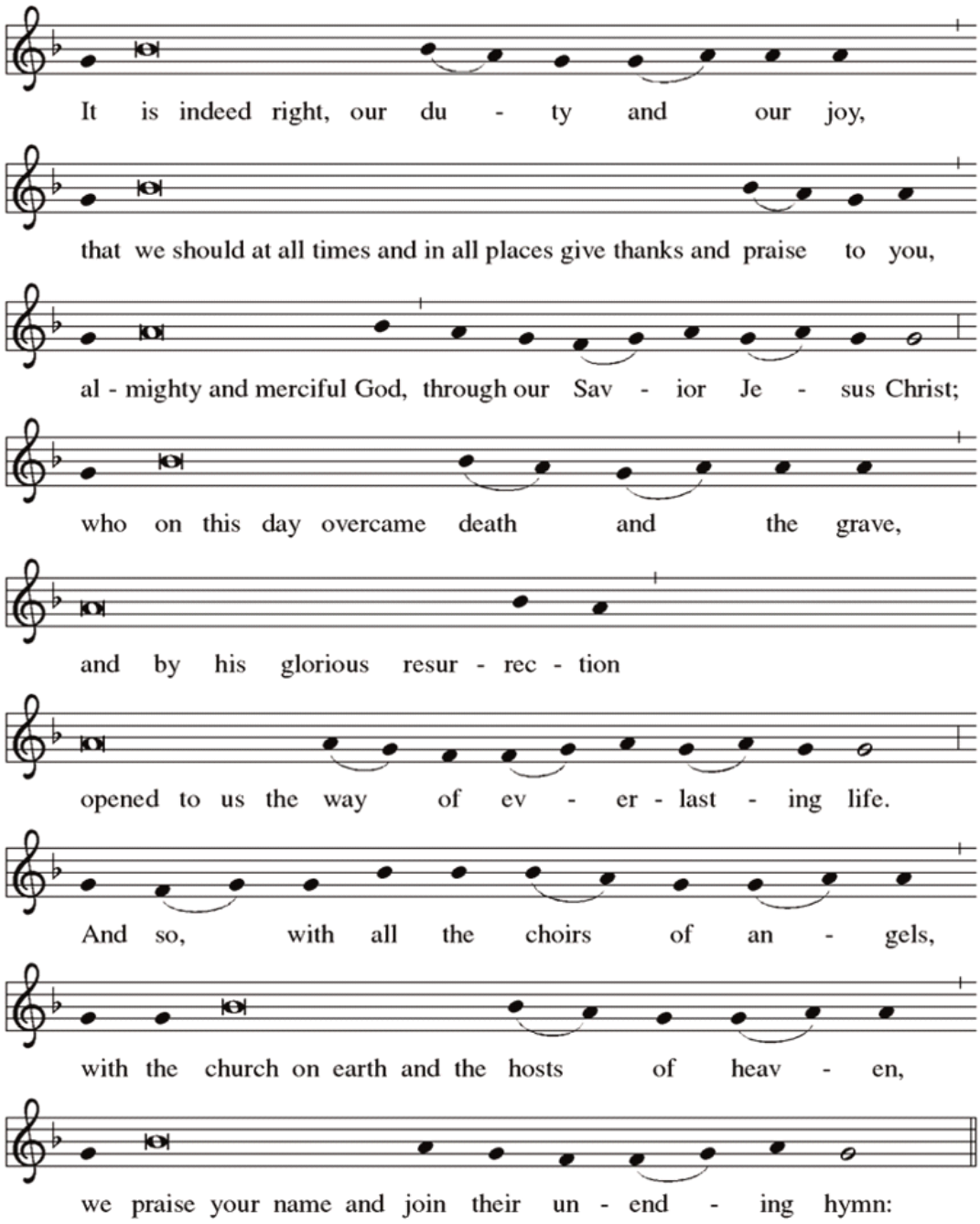
A Let us pray. Merciful Father,

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.**

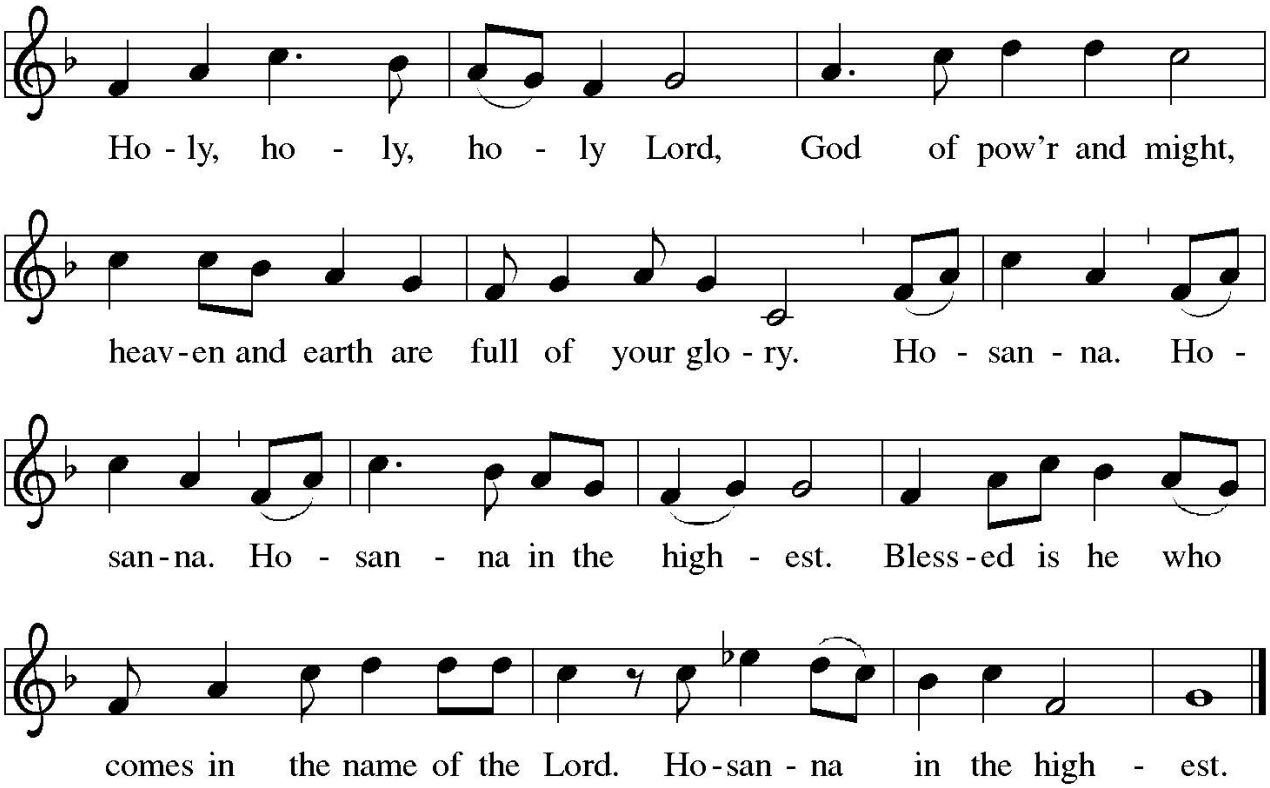
GREAT THANKSGIVING



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



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth. In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all those who believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his holy supper.

C **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

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

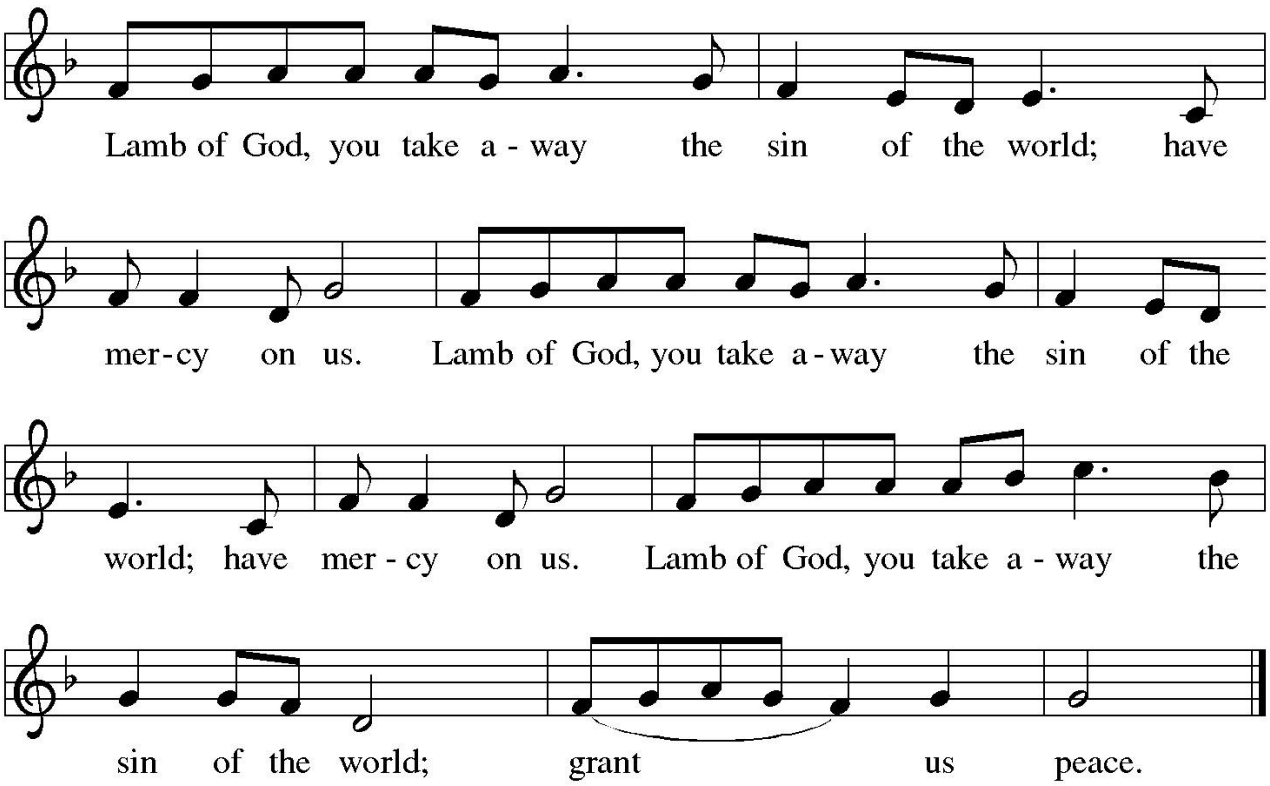
℗ Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us together to pray:

℃ **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

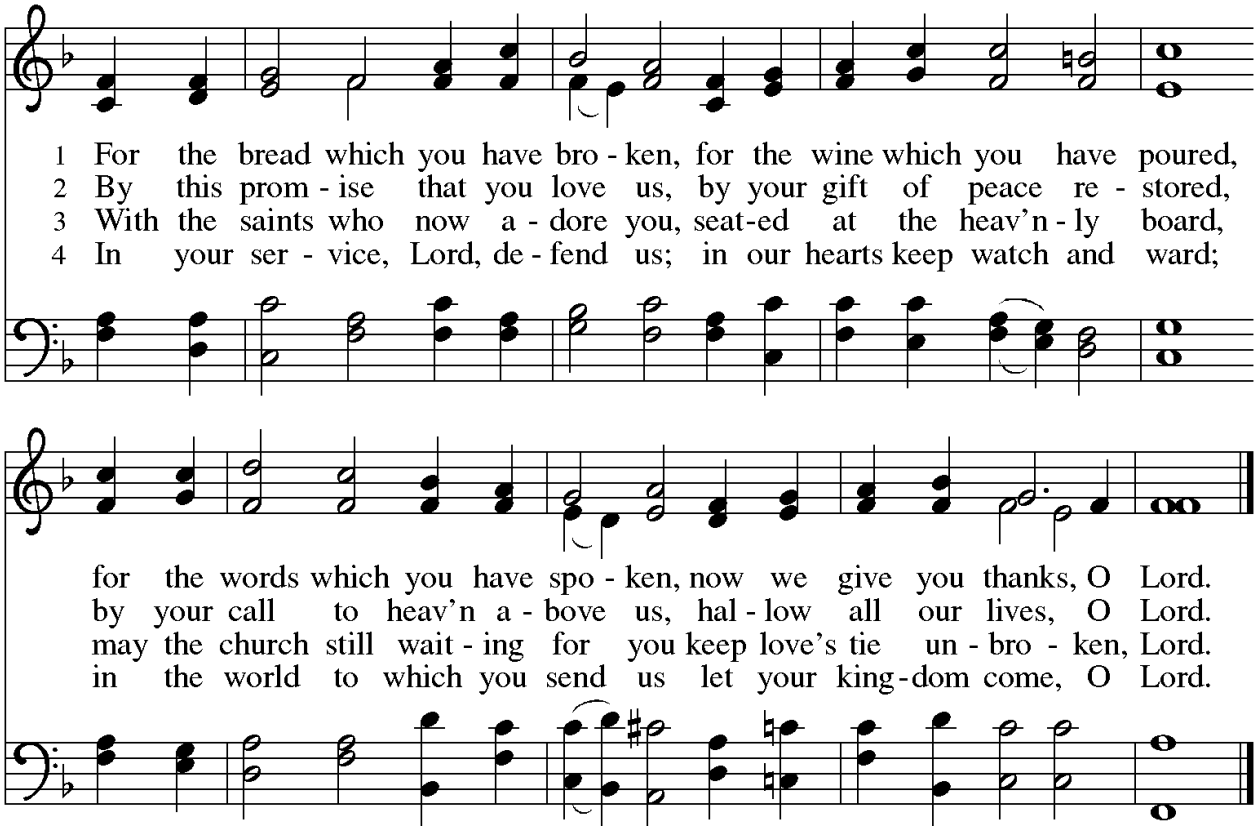
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

AGNUS DEI
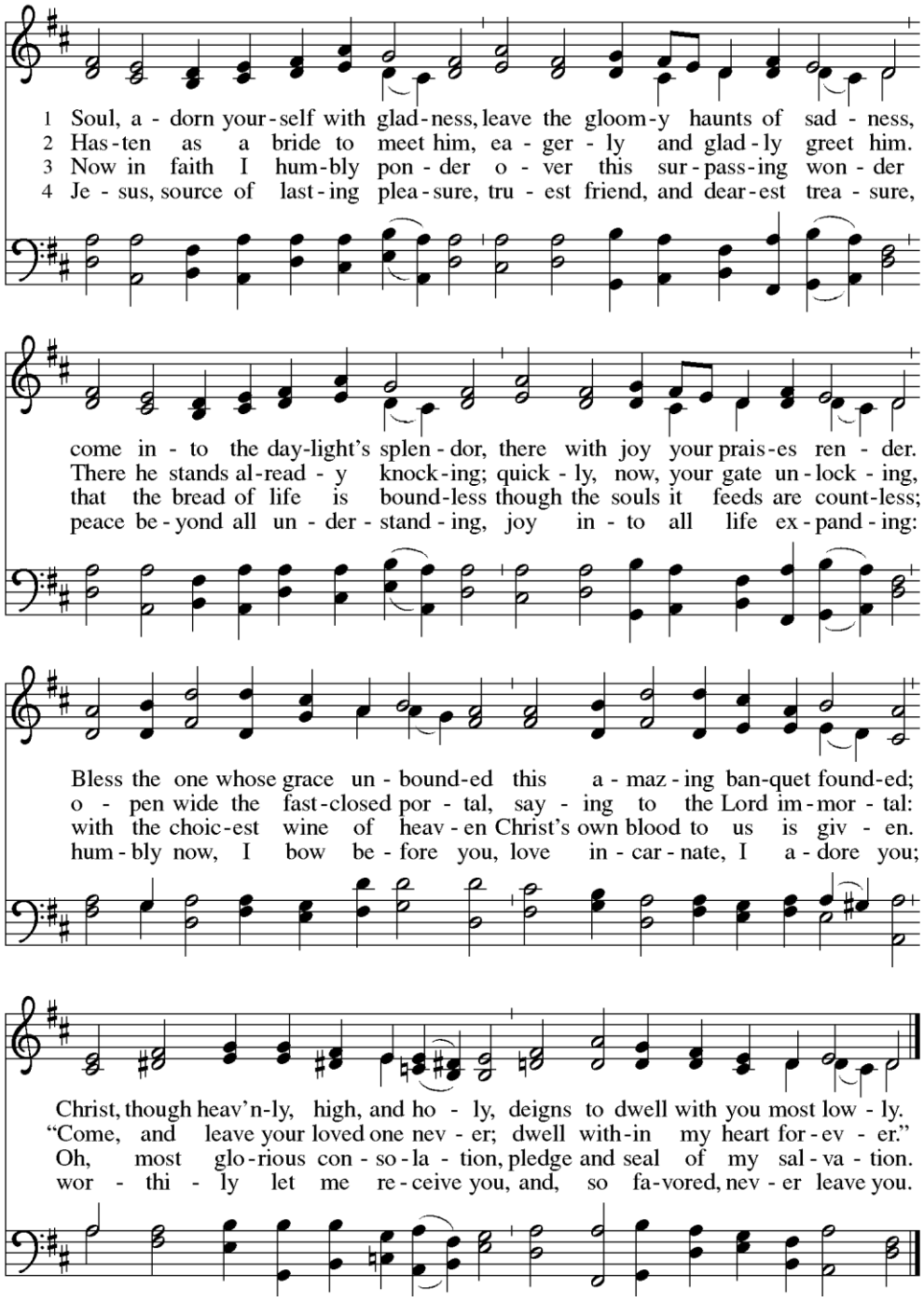


COMMUNION HYMNS

FOR THE BREAD WHICH YOU HAVE BROKEN **ELW #494**



SOUL, ADORN YOURSELF WITH GLADNESS **ELW #488**



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

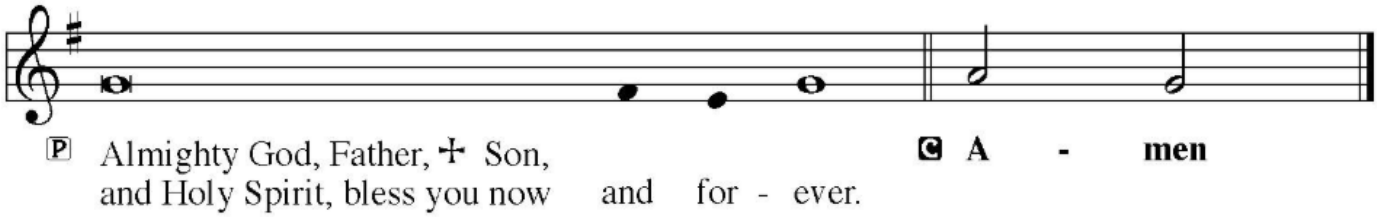
A The Lord be with you.

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.**
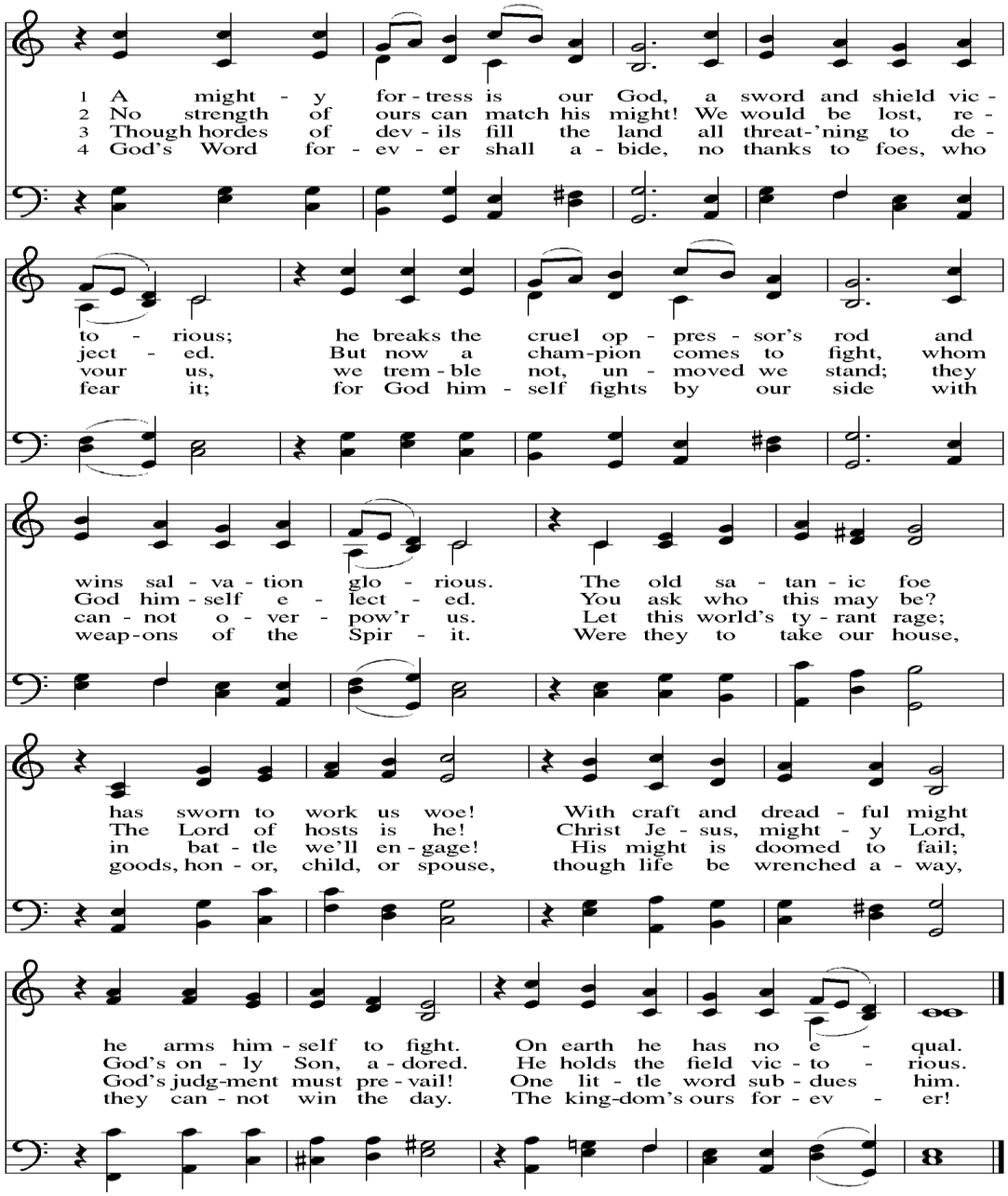
BENEDICTION



ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING HYMN — ELW #504

A MIGHTY FORTRESS IS OUR GOD



DISMISSAL

A Love The Lord!

C **Live The Mission!**

Together!

POSTLUDE

From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License # SB155749