

PENTECOST TWENTY-FIVE

TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH | Saline, Michigan

November 15, 2026

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

THANK YOU for joining us in God's house today! We cordially ask that our guests sign one of the guestbooks located at either the front or back entryways, or fill out a "Let's Get Acquainted" card located in the hymnal pew rack and place it in the collection plate.

THANK OFFERING: Members of Trinity give their offering as an expression of love and thankfulness to the Lord and to help support the Lord's work in our community and around the world. Visitors need not feel obligated to participate in this offering which supports our ministry.

RESTROOMS are located at the back of the upper level (the annex), and in the basement (down the back stairs of the sanctuary or annex). Handicap access is available, please ask an usher for assistance.

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION:

In His Word, God makes it clear that the Lord's Supper is to be shared by people of a common proclamation of faith (1 Corinthians 11:26; 1 Corinthians 10:16-17). Without judging anyone's hearts, we invite those who share in our confession by their membership in our congregation or another congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) or the Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS) and who are properly prepared (1 Corinthians 11;27-29) to receive the Sacrament. Page 295 in the front of Christian Worship provides a guide for preparation.

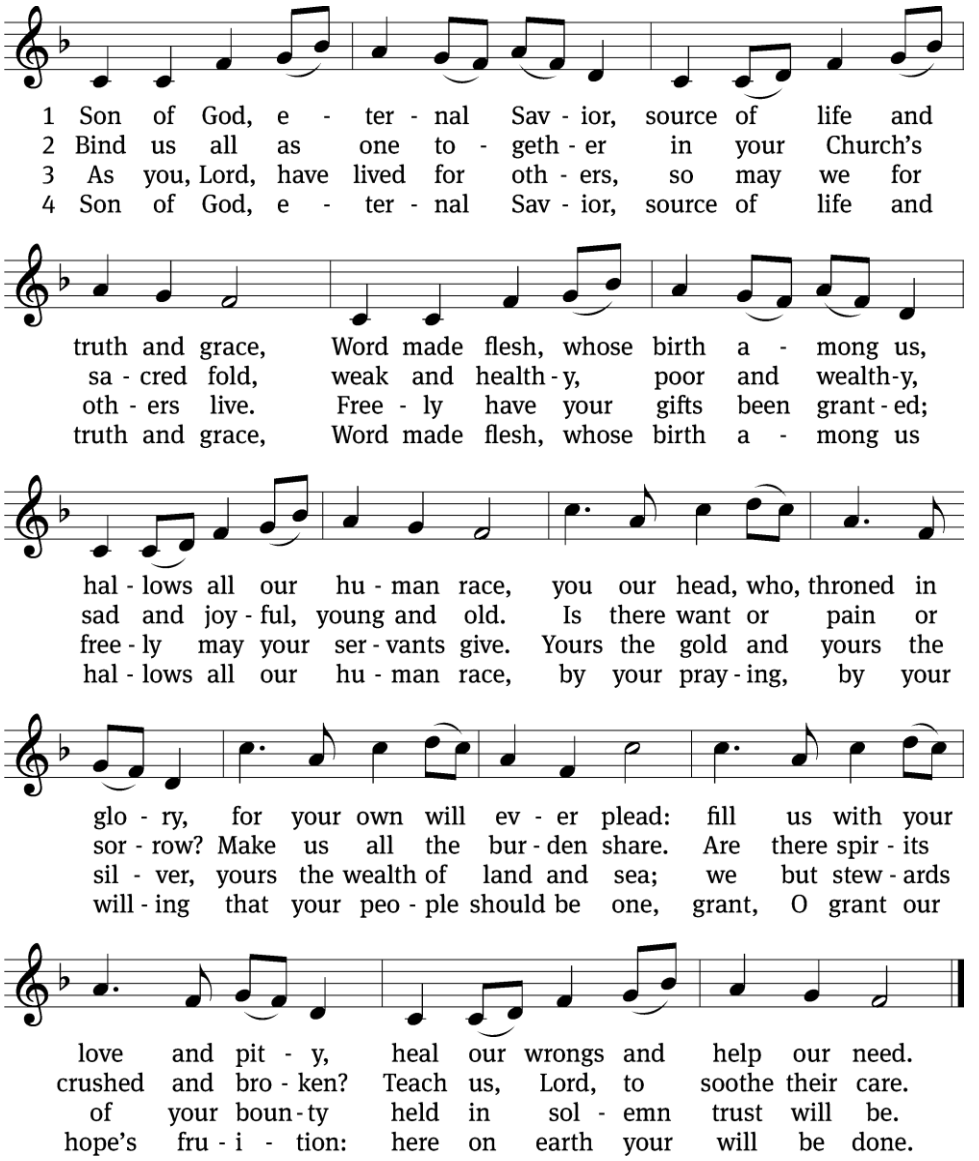
Trinity Lutheran Church follows the historic Christian practice of *close communion*. We ask that only members of Trinity or one of our sister congregations partake of the sacrament.

Guests, we would love to have you join us in communion fellowship in the future, and for that to be possible, we ask that you meet the pastor so that we may speak with you on how that would be possible. We thank you for respecting the way we celebrate the Lord's Supper in our congregations.

SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

729 Son of God, Eternal Savior

CW 729



Text: Somerset T. C. Lowry, 1855–1932, abr., alt.
Tune: The Revivalist, Troy, 1868, ed. Joseph Hillman
Text and tune: Public domain

Please stand if you are able

INVOCATION

M: The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: And also with you.

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

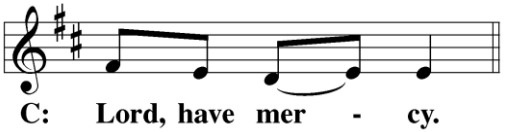
M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

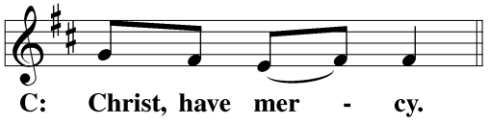
PRAYER AND PRAISE

LORD, HAVE MERCY

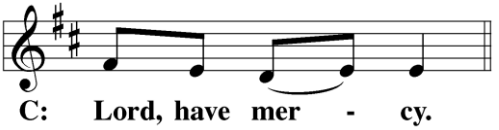
M: For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.



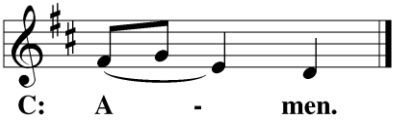
M: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.



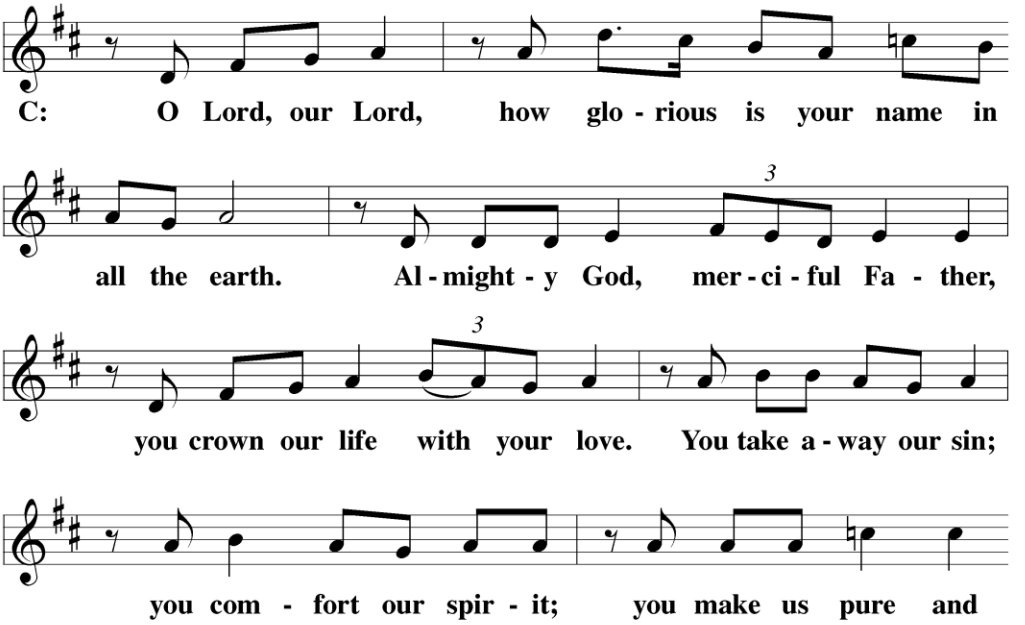
M: For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.

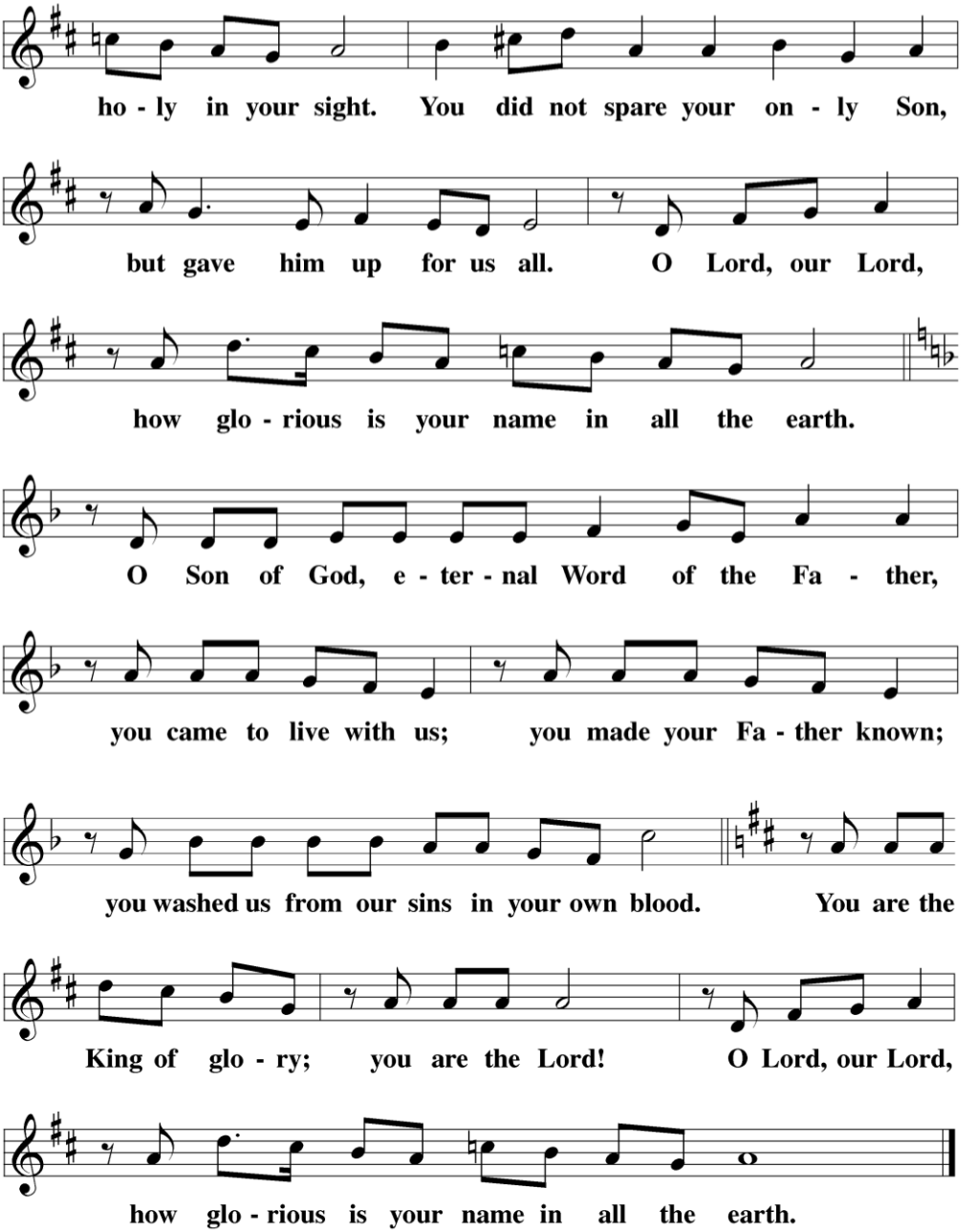


M: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:



M: The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.




ho - ly in your sight. You did not spare your on - ly Son,
but gave him up for us all. O Lord, our Lord,
how glo - rious is your name in all the earth.
O Son of God, e - ter - nal Word of the Fa - ther,
you came to live with us; you made your Fa - ther known;
you washed us from our sins in your own blood. You are the
King of glo - ry; you are the Lord! O Lord, our Lord,
how glo - rious is your name in all the earth.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Lord God Almighty, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit that we may always look forward to the end of this present evil age and the day of your righteous judgment. Keep us steadfast in true and living faith, and present us at last holy and blameless before you; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Please be seated

The Word

First Reading

Isaiah 1:10–18

10 Hear the word of the LORD, you rulers of Sodom!
Listen to the law of our God, you people of Gomorrah!

11 What do your many sacrifices mean to me? says the LORD.
I have more than enough rams as burnt offerings
and enough fat from well-fed animals.
I am not pleased with the blood of bulls
or the blood of lambs and male goats.
12 When you come to appear before me,
who has asked for this from your hands:
this trampling on my courts?
13 Stop bringing worthless offerings!
Your incense is an abomination to me.
I cannot stand your sinful assemblies
on the new moons, Sabbaths, and holy days.

14 Deep in my soul I hate your new moons and your appointed feasts.
They have become a burden to me.
I am tired of putting up with them.
15 When you spread out your hands, I will hide my eyes from you.
Indeed, even though you make many prayers, I will not hear.
Your hands are full of blood.
16 Wash yourselves. Purify yourselves.
Remove your evil deeds from my sight.
Stop doing evil. 17 Learn to do good.
Seek justice. Relieve the oppressed.
Seek justice for the fatherless. Plead for the widow.

18 Come now, and let us reason together, says the LORD.
Though your sins are like scarlet, they will be as white as snow.
Though they are as red as crimson, they will be like wool.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Romans 12:1–8

1 Therefore I urge you, brothers, by the mercies of God, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice—holy and pleasing to God—which is your appropriate worship. 2 Also, do not continue to conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, so that you test and approve what is the will of God—what is good, pleasing, and perfect.

3 So by the grace given to me, I tell everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought, but think in a way that results in sound judgment, as God distributed a measure of faith to each of you. 4 For we have many members in one body, and not all the members have the same function. 5 In the same way, though we are many, we are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another.

6 We have different gifts, according to the grace God has given us. If the gift is prophecy, do it in complete agreement with the faith. 7 If it is serving, then serve. If it is teaching, then teach. 8 If it is encouraging, then encourage. If it is contributing, be generous. If it is leadership, be diligent. If it is showing mercy, do it cheerfully.

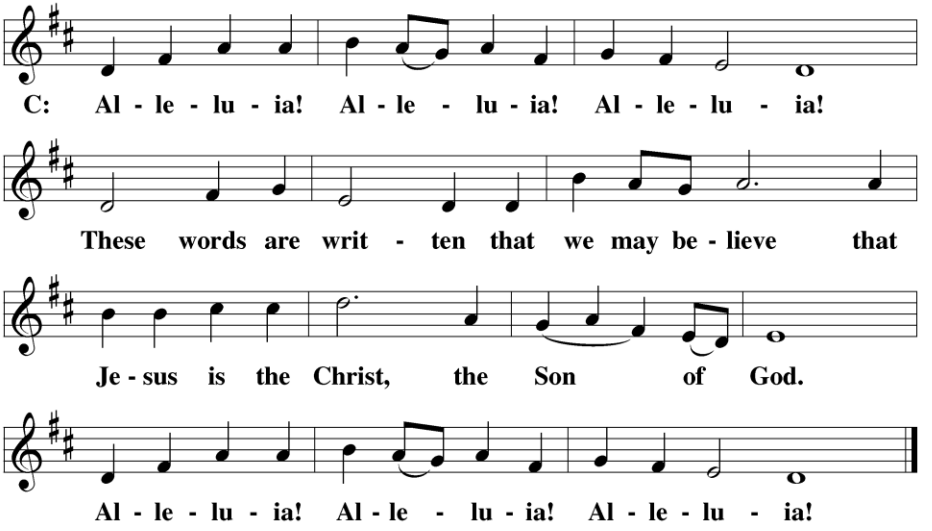
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Please stand if you are able

VERSE OF THE DAY

Revelation 2:10

Alleluia. Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you life as your victor's crown. Alleluia.



Gospel

Matthew 25:14–30

14"You see, the kingdom of heaven is like a man going on a journey. He called his servants
and entrusted his possessions to them. 15To one he gave five talents, to another two talents,
and to still another one talent, each according to his own ability. Then he went on his journey.
16The servant who had received the five talents immediately put them to work and gained five
more talents. 17In the same way, the servant who had received the two talents gained two
more. 18But the servant who had received one talent went away, dug a hole in the ground, and
hid his master's money.

19"After a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them.
20The servant who received the five talents came and brought five more talents. He said,
'Master, you entrusted five talents to me. See, I have gained five more talents.'

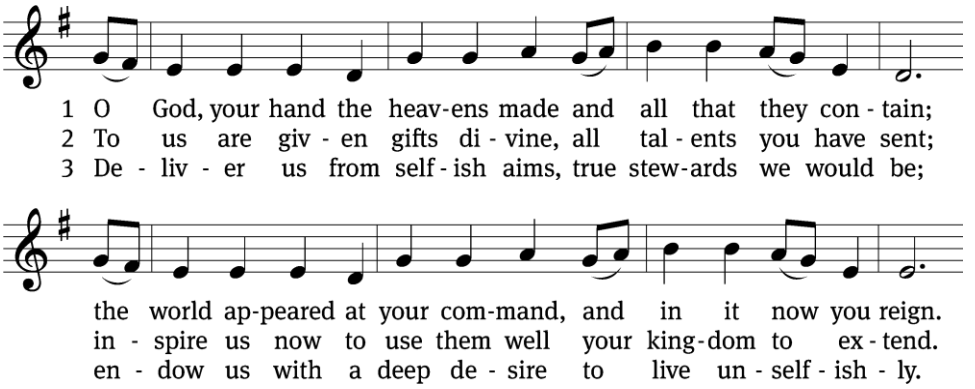
[21]"His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You were faithful with a
few things. I will put you in charge of many things. Enter into the joy of your master.'
[22]"The servant who received the two talents came and said, 'Master, you entrusted me with
two talents. See, I have gained two more talents.'
[23]"His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You were faithful with a
few things. I will put you in charge of many things. Enter into the joy of your master.'
[24]"Then the servant who received one talent came and said, 'Master, I knew that you are a
hard man, reaping where you did not plant and gathering where you did not scatter seed.
[25]Since I was afraid, I went away and hid your talent in the ground. See, you have what is
yours.'
[26]"His master answered him, 'You wicked and lazy servant! You knew that I reap where I did
not plant and gather where I did not scatter seed? [27]Well then, you should have deposited my
money with the bankers so that when I came I would get my money back with interest. [28]Take
the talent away from him and give it to the servant who has the ten talents. [29]Because everyone
who has will be given more, and he will have an abundance. But the one who does not have,
even what he has will be taken away from him. [30]Throw that worthless servant into the outer
darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

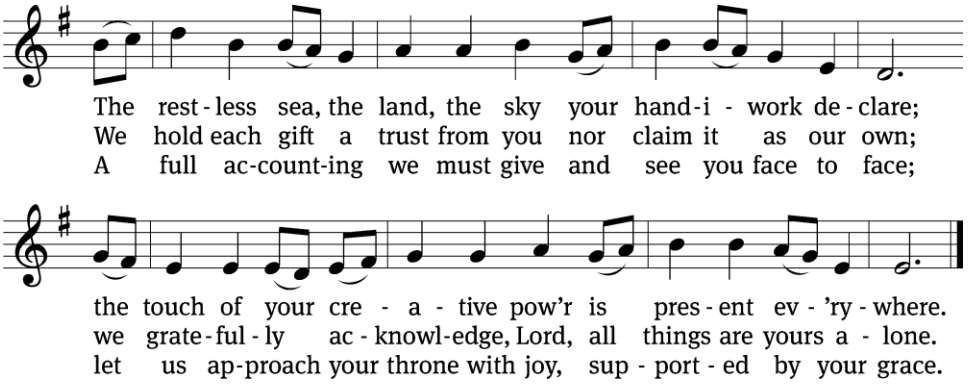
The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to you, O Christ!

Please be seated

751 O God, Your Hand the Heavens Made

CW 751





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SERMON

1 Thessalonians 4:13-14

13 We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who have fallen asleep, so
that you do not grieve in the same way as the others, who have no hope. 14 Indeed, if we believe
that Jesus died and rose again, then in the same way we also believe that God will bring with
him those who have fallen asleep through Jesus.

THEME: God Speaks to a Grieving Christian
I. Remember What Christ Has Done
II. Remember the Hope You Have

Please stand if you are able

NICENE CREED

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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became truly human. 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, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian 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

Please be seated as we prepare the altar for Holy Communion

Please stand if you are able

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

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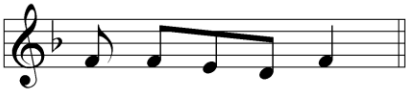
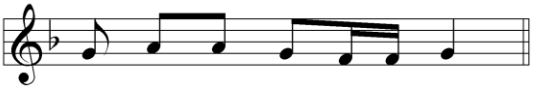
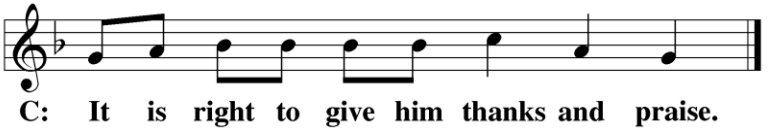
M: The Lord be with you.



M: Lift up your hearts.

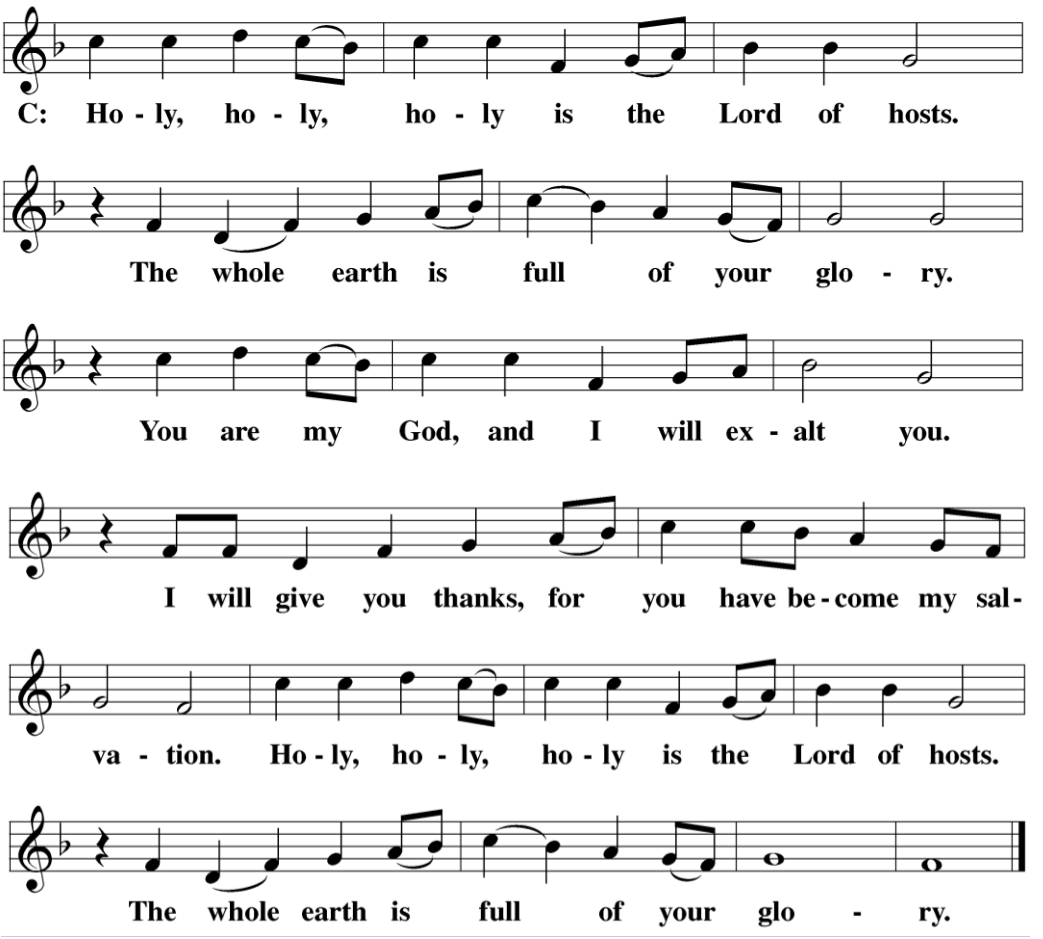


M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He protects and preserves his Church in every age and gives us confidence to lift up our heads and watch for Jesus with joy. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

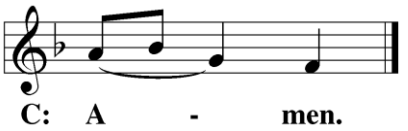


WORDS OF INSTITUTION

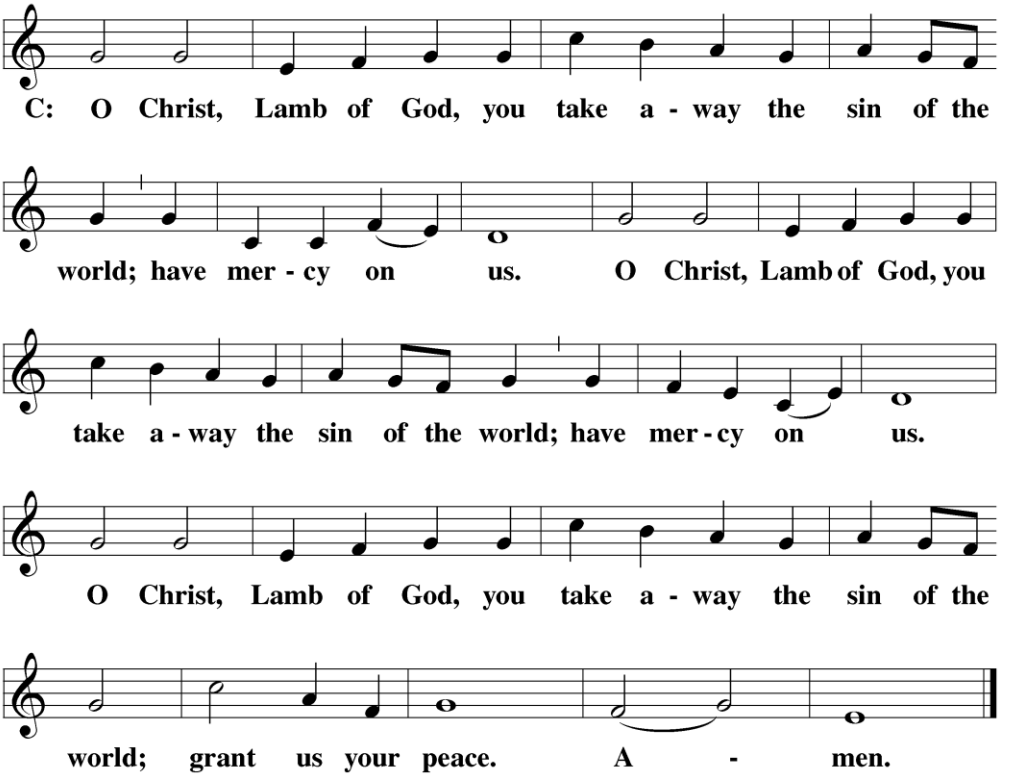
M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat. This is my ✙ body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it all of you; this is my ✙ blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.



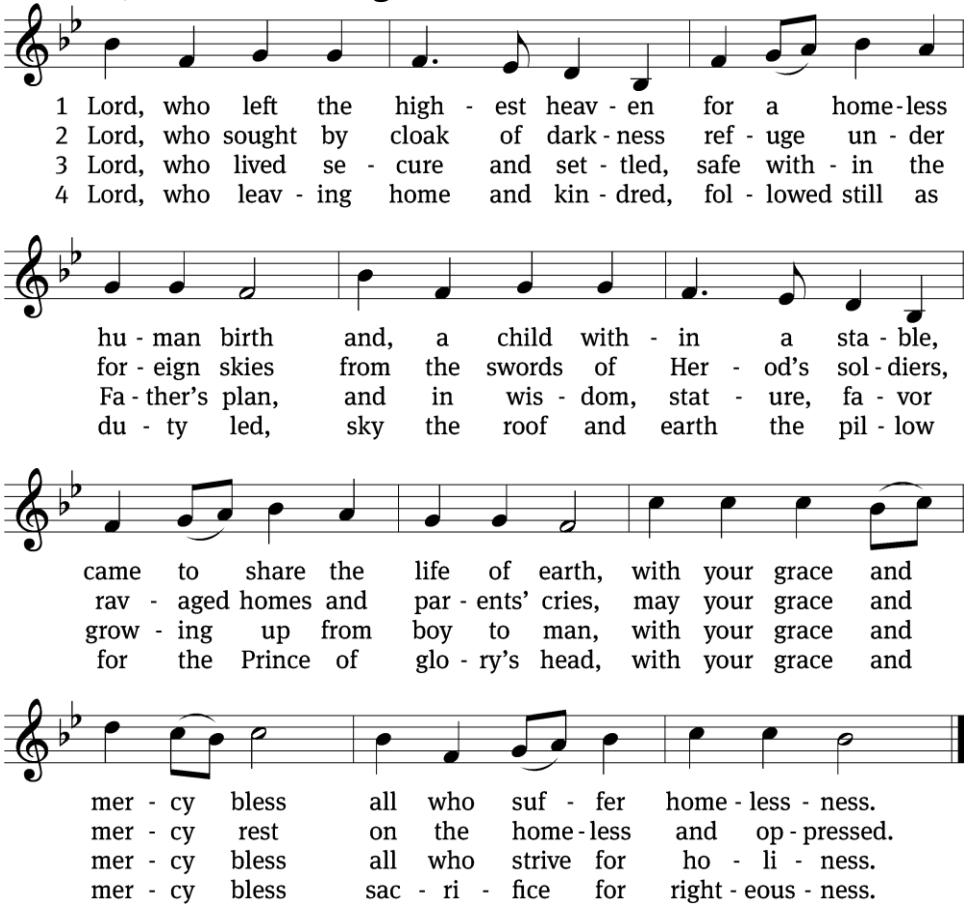
O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD



Please be seated

771 Lord, Who Left the Highest Heaven

CW 771



5 Lord, who in your cross and passion
hung beneath a darkened sky,
yet whose thoughts were for your mother,
and a thief condemned to die,
may your grace and mercy rest
on the helpless and distressed.

6 Lord, who rose to life triumphant
with our whole salvation won,
risen, glorified, ascended,
all the Father's purpose done,
may your grace, all conflict past,
bring your children home at last.

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, b. 1926
Tune: Geistreiches Gesang-Buch, Darmstadt, 1698
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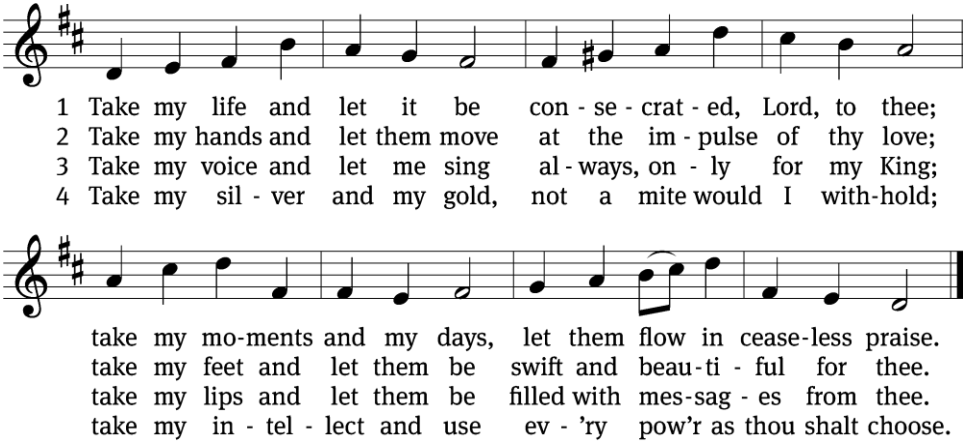
695 Take My Life and Let It Be

CW 695

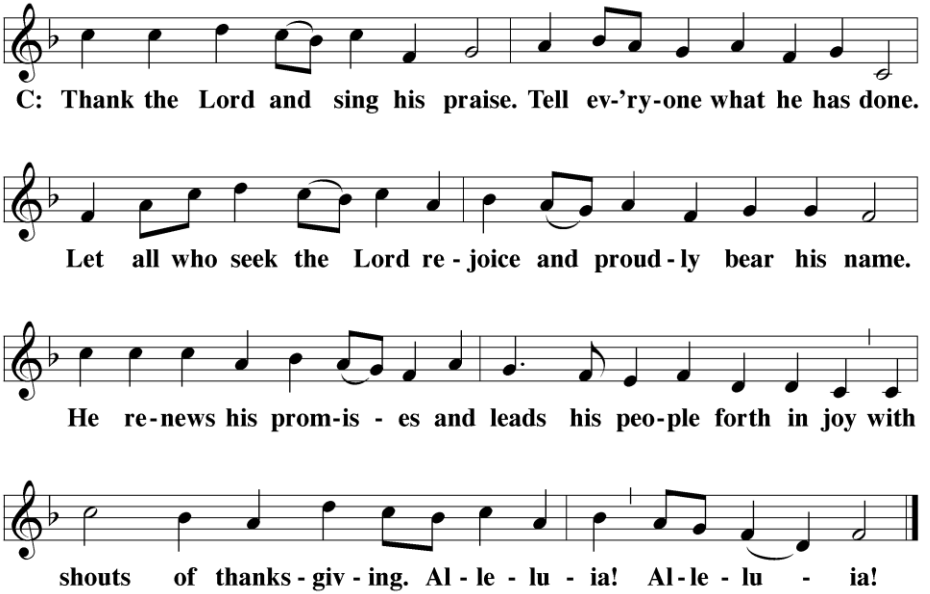


5 Take my will and make it thine,
it shall be no longer mine;
take my heart, it is thine own,
it shall be thy royal throne.

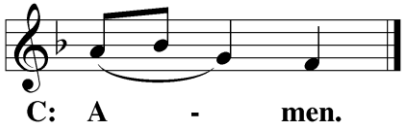
6 Take my love, my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879
Tune: William H. Havergal, 1793–1870
Text and tune: Public domain

Please stand if you are able

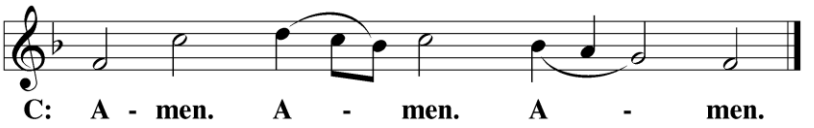


M: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BENEDICTION

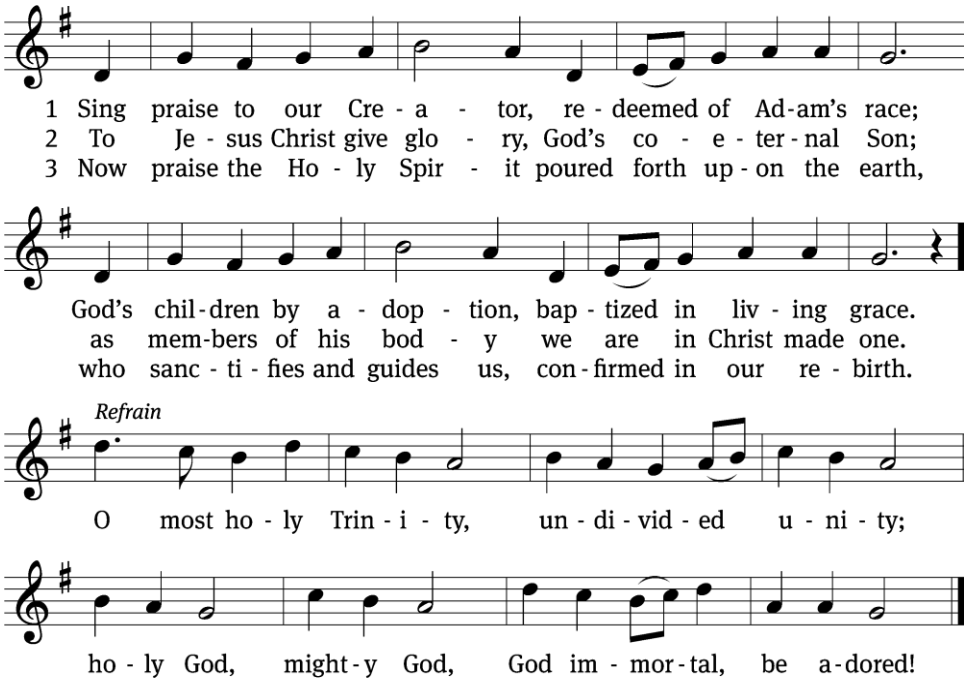
M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another.
Serve the Lord with gladness.
The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.



Please remain standing for the closing hymn

480 Sing Praise to Our Creator

CW 480



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SERVING IN WORSHIP

Officiant..... Pastor Ralph Stuebs
Organist ..... Marcia Marion Ackling
Deacons.....Ron Roehm and Jeff Neuburger
Ushers..... Dale Finkbeiner and Mark Finkbeiner
Altar Guild ..... Pam Frey and Brenda Stevenson
Videographer.....Jake Vershum

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