

2nd Sunday of Advent—December 10, 2023—10am

+ Gathering +

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

Prelude "Ev'ry Valley Shall Be Exalted" arr. by G.F. Handel

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

ELW #247 v.1-2

Come Now, O Prince of Peace

Ososō, ososō

O - so - sō o - so - sō, pyong - hwa - ūi - im - gūm

1 Come now, O Prince of peace, make us one bod - y.
2 Come now, O God of love, make us one bod - y.
3 Come now and set us free, O God, our Sav - ior.
4 Come, Hope of u - ni - ty, make us one bod - y.

u - ri - ga han - mom i - ru - ge ha - so - sō.

Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.

Text: Geonyong Lee, b. 1947; tr. Marion Pope
Music: OSOSŌ, Geonyong Lee, b. 1947
Text and music © Geonyong Lee.

+ Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who opens the heavens and draws near to us with salvation. **Amen.**

God is patient and merciful, desiring all to come to repentance. Trusting this promise of grace, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Everlasting God, **you love justice and you hate wrongdoing. We confess the fear, greed, and self-centeredness that make us reluctant to work against oppression. We are complicit in systems of exploitation. We choose comfort over courage. We are careless with creation's bounty. Look upon us with mercy. Turn our hearts again to you. Make us glad to do your will and to walk in your ways for the sake of our waiting world. Amen.**

Hear these words of assurance: God clothes you with garments of salvation and covers you with robes of righteousness. In the tender compassion of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. God's covenant is eternal, and God's blessing rests upon us all. **Amen.**

There's a Voice in the Wilderness



1 There's a voice in the wil - der - ness cry - ing, a
 2 O Je - ru - sa - lem, her - ald good tid - ings, as -
 3 But the word of our Sav - ior is faith - ful, the



call from the ways un - trod: Pre - pare in the des - ert a
 cend to the heights and sing! Pro - claim to a des - o - late
 arm of our God is strong, who stands in the midst of the



high - way, a high - way for our God!
 peo - ple the com - ing of their king.
 na - tions and soon will right the wrong.



The val - leys shall be ex - alt - ed, the
 Like flow'rs of the field we per - ish, like
 Lord, feed your flock like a shep - herd, the



loft - y hills brought low; make straight all the crook - ed
 grass our works de - cay; the pow'r and the pomp of
 lambs so gent - ly hold; in pas - tures of peace now



plac - es where God, our God, may go!
 na - tions shall pass like a dream a - way.
 lead them, and bring them to your fold.

Text: James Lewis Milligan, 1876-1961, alt.
 Music: ASCENSION, Henry Hugh Bancroft, 1904-1988
 Music © Estate of Eldred Bancroft. B. Burrows, Executor.

+ Greeting

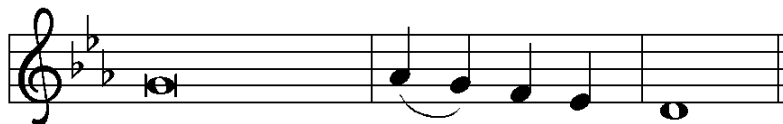
ELW p.98

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

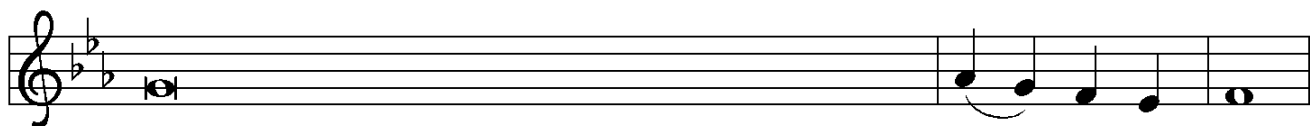
ELW p.98



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



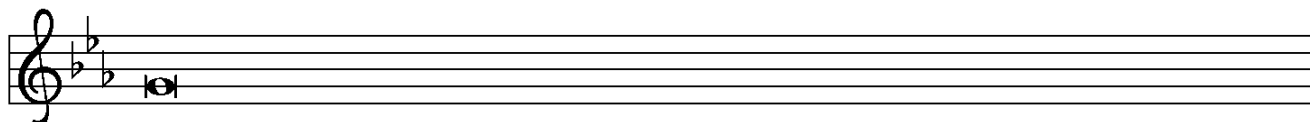
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



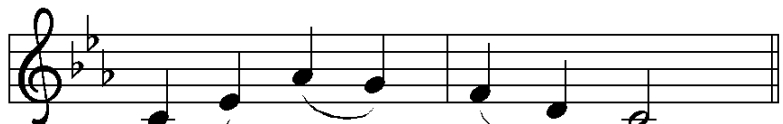
Lord, have mer - cy.



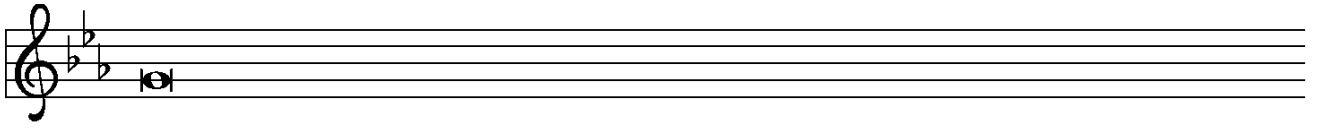
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

+ Prayer of the Day

ELW p.19

+Word+

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

First Reading

Isaiah 40:1-11

A reading from Isaiah.

¹Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. ²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins.

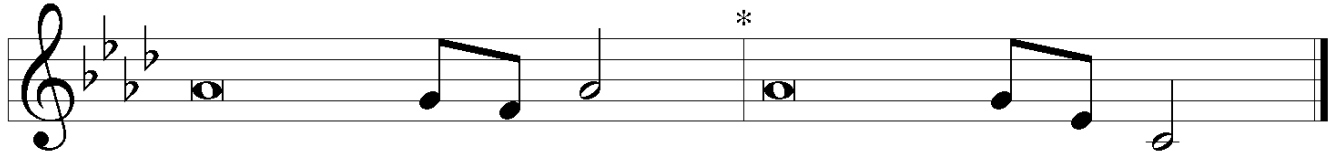
³A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. ⁵Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

⁶A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. ⁷The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. ⁸The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever. ⁹Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear, say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" ¹⁰See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. ¹¹He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

Let us sing Psalm 85, verses 1 through 2 and 8 through 13 responsively by verse as translated in the Evangelical Lutheran Worship Hymnal.



¹You have been gracious to your | land, O LORD;
you have restored the good for- | tune of Jacob.

²**You have forgiven the iniquity | of your people
and blotted out | all their sins.**

⁸I will listen to what the LORD | God is saying;
for you speak peace to your faithful people and to
those who turn their | hearts to you.

⁹**Truly, your salvation is very near to | those who fear you,
that your glory may dwell | in our land.**

¹⁰Steadfast love and faithfulness have | met together;
righteousness and peace have | kissed each other.

¹¹**Faithfulness shall spring up | from the earth,
and righteousness shall look | down from heaven.**

¹²The LORD will indeed | grant prosperity,
and our land will | yield its increase.

¹³**Righteousness shall go be- | fore the LORD
and shall prepare for | God a pathway.**

A reading from Second Peter.

⁸Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. ⁹The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. ¹⁰But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

¹¹Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, ¹²waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire?

¹³But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

¹⁴Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; ^{15a}and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

+ Gospel Acclamation

ELW p.102

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

+ Gospel Reading

Mark 1:1-8

The holy gospel according to Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. ²As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; ³the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,' "⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Young at Heart Message & Sermon The Rev. Leslie D. Weber

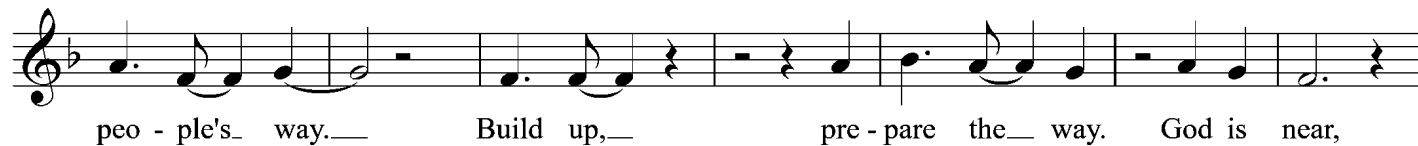
+ Song of the Day

"Build Up"

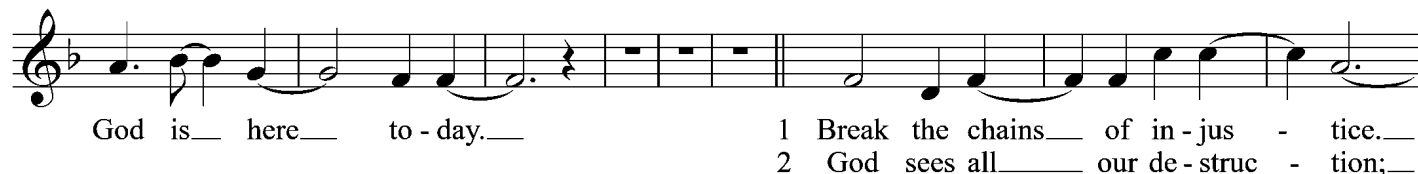
Refrain



Build up, pre - pare the way. Re-move the ob - struc-tions from my



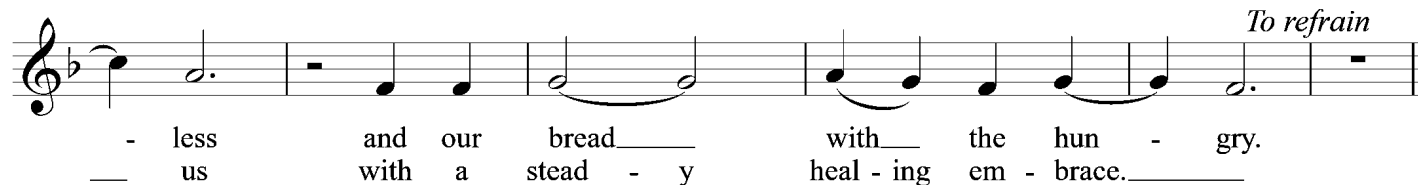
peo - ple's way. Build up, pre - pare the way. God is near,



God is here to - day. 1 Break the chains of in - jus - tice. 2 God sees all our de - struc - tion;



Let the op - pressed go free. Share our homes with the home how we get in love's way. Still God comes and meets




- less us and our bread with the hun - gry. with a stead - y heal - ing em - brace.

To refrain

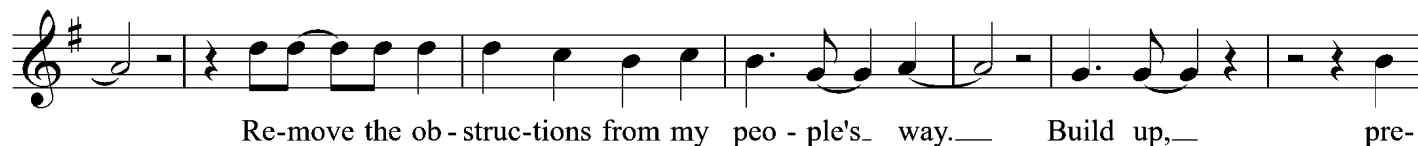


3 Then your light will break forth like the dawn, and your heal

Final refrain



- ing will break in - to song. Build up, pre - pare the way.



Re-move the ob - struc-tions from my peo - ple's way. Build up, pre -



pare the way. God is near, God is here to - day.

**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 with the Father and the Son is worshiped and
glorified, who 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.**

* universal

+ Prayers of Intercession

sung refrain: ELW #262

Wait for the Lord

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

The first system of music consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. It contains a melody with lyrics: "Wait for the Lord, whose day is near." The bottom staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature, providing a harmonic accompaniment. The music concludes with a double bar line and a common time signature.

Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

The second system of music also consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. It contains a melody with lyrics: "Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!" The bottom staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature, providing a harmonic accompaniment. The music concludes with a double bar line and a common time signature.

Text: Taizé Community

Music: WAIT FOR THE LORD, Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994

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+ Peace

+Meal+

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offering

Thank you for supporting the mission of the church as you are able!

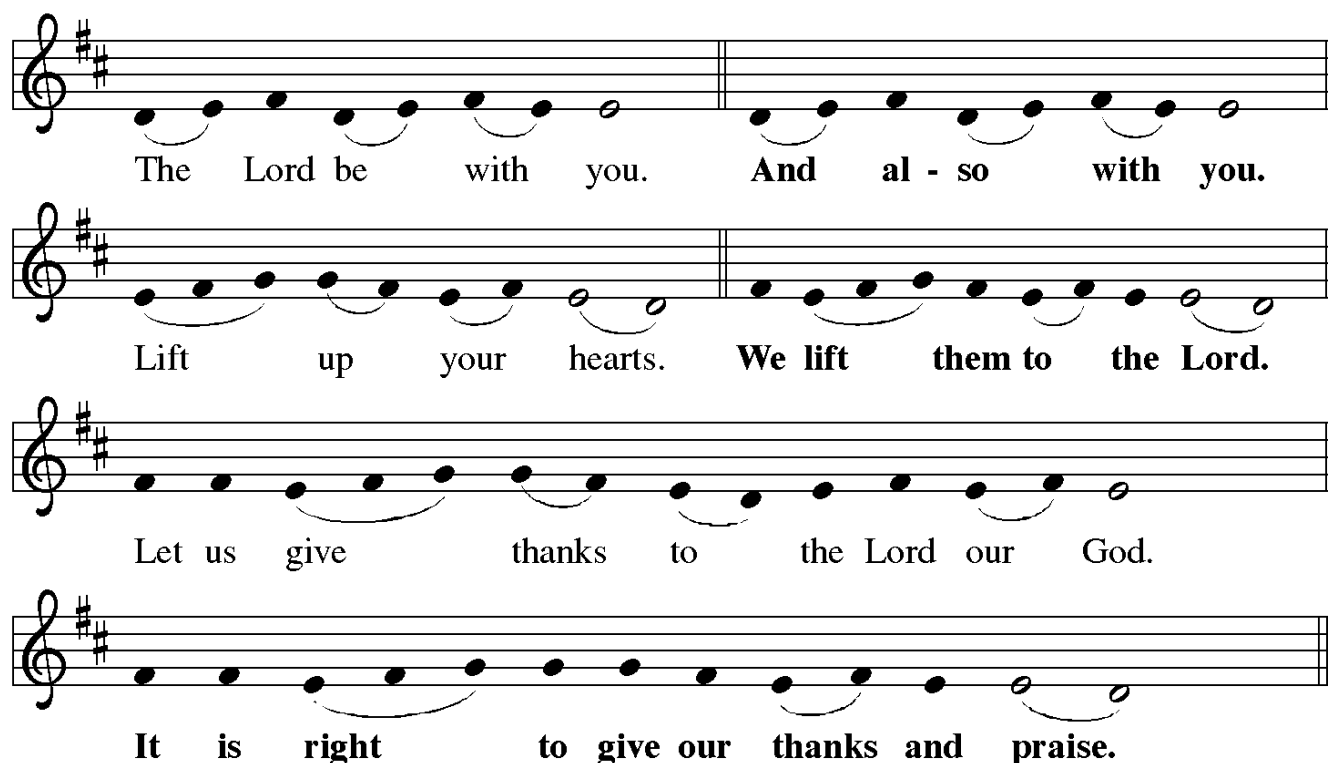
Electronic donations can be made at <https://give.tithe.ly/?formId=622d08be-6865-11ee-90fc-1260ab546d11>.



+ Offering Prayer

+ Great Thanksgiving

ELW p.107



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

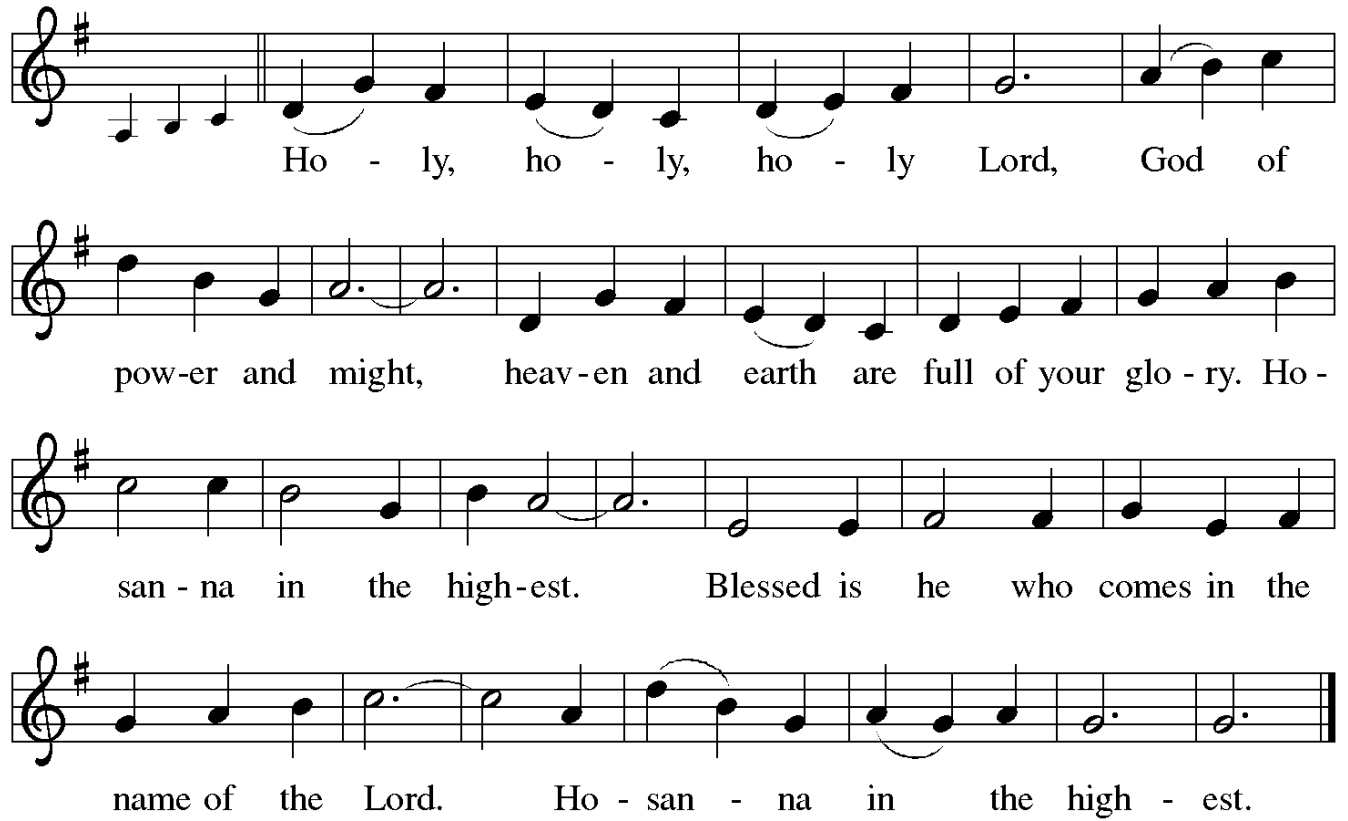
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

+ Proper Preface

+ Sanctus

ELW p.108

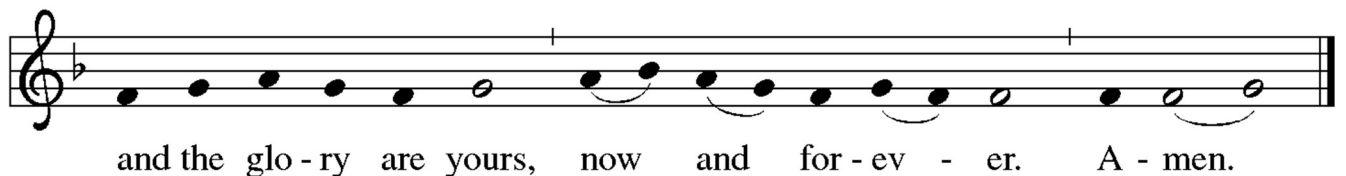
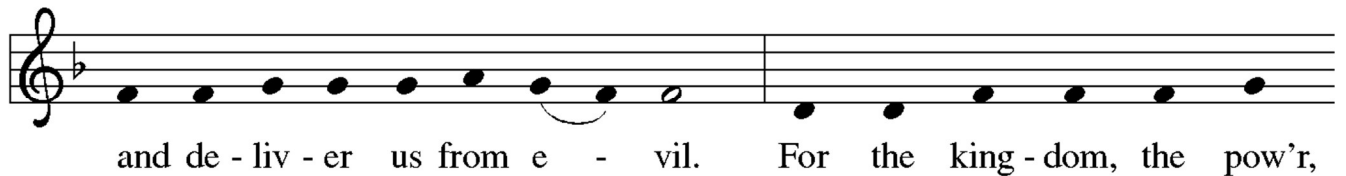
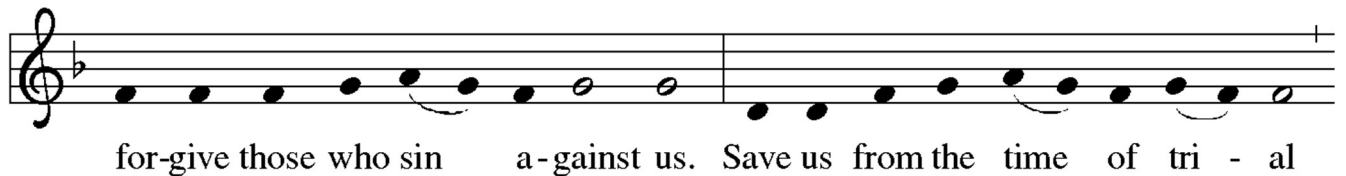
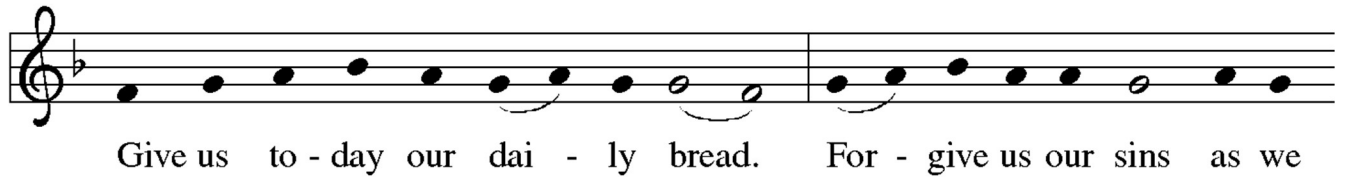
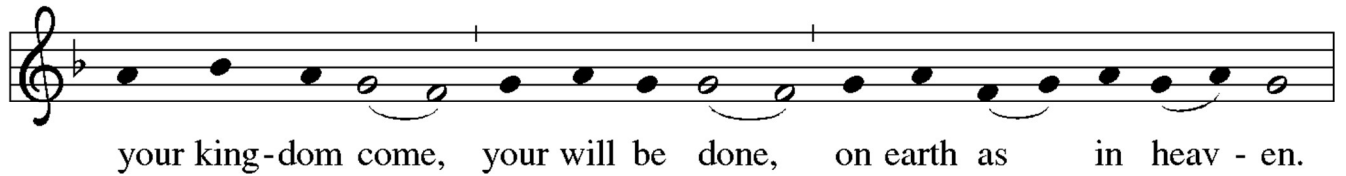
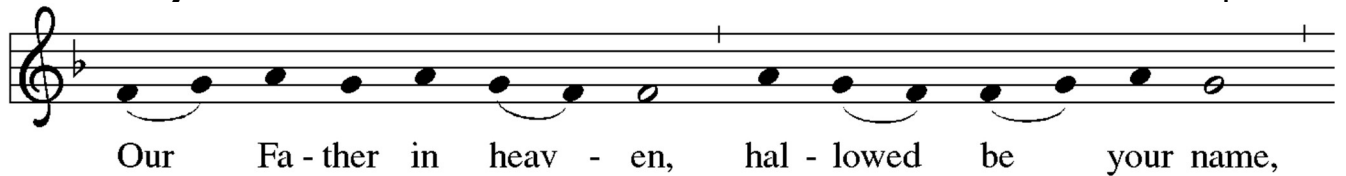


Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

+ Thanksgiving at the Table

+ Lord's Prayer

ELW p.163



+ Invitation to Communion

Agnus Dei

ELW p.112

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Notes about Communion Distribution at Grace

When we're gathered around the table, there is enough food, drink, blessing, space and time for all to share in Holy Communion! GLC practices Eucharistic hospitality since we trust that God welcomes all who come to the table where Christ is both host and meal.

Wine (red) and grape juice (white) are distributed in individual cups.

Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.

If you prefer to stay in the pew, there are prepackaged kits (wine, juice, and gluten free options) available at the sanctuary doors. If you prefer not to receive the wafer and wine/grape juice, you may kneel or stand at the rail with arms folded across your chest to receive a blessing.

Distribution Song

TFF #45 "Emmanuel"

Em-man - u - el, Em-man - u - el,

his name is called Em-man - u - el;

God with us, re-vealed in us;

his name is called Em-man - u - el.

Text: Bob McGee, b. 1944

+ Table Blessing

+ Post Communion Canticle

ELW p.113



Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been ful -



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre-pared in the



sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: a light to re-veal you to the na - tions



and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.



Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace.

+ Prayer after Communion

+ Sending +

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

+ Blessing

Announcements

+ Sending Song

"A Story for All People"



1 As peo - ple wait in dark - ness, in fear of end - less night, send
 2 We come in - to your pres - ence, in hope and joy re - stored. With
 3 A time of prep - a - ra - tion: the guest is draw - ing near, as
 4 You call us to re - pen - tance, to turn and start a - gain. You
 5 Re - newed by this en - coun - ter, we'll go out and pro - claim. We'll



forth your word of com - fort, a mes - sage of great light. The
 ea - ger hearts we lis - ten, and gath - er 'round your word. We
 moun - tain plac - es crum - ble and straight - ened paths ap - pear. Pre -
 send your Ho - ly Spir - it to drown the pow'r of sin. We
 tell of your sal - va - tion, and mag - ni - fy your name. The



world stands proud be - fore you, con - flict - ed, hun - gry poor. Come,
 watch and wait your com - ing and pray for great - er trust, to
 pare a hum - ble wel - come in ev - 'ry heart and home, and
 won - der in your mer - cy, your sing - ing fes - tal voice; and
 ser - vant words of Mar - y will swell the faith - ful soul, and



scat - ter pride and fool - ish - ness, and mend all souls with Sav - ior love once more.
 know that while we wait for you, Em - man - u - el, you watch and wait with us.
 cel - e - brate the prom - ise of our God who is, and was, and is to come.
 in your meal of bread and wine we join the in - vi - ta - tion to re - joice!
 you will bring your chil - dren home that day when all cre - a - tion will be whole.



Refrain

A sto - ry for all peo - ple, old sto - ry new to - day. A



song of love and heal - ing, a light to show the way._____

Dori Erwin Collins

+ Dismissal

Go in peace. Keep awake. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

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