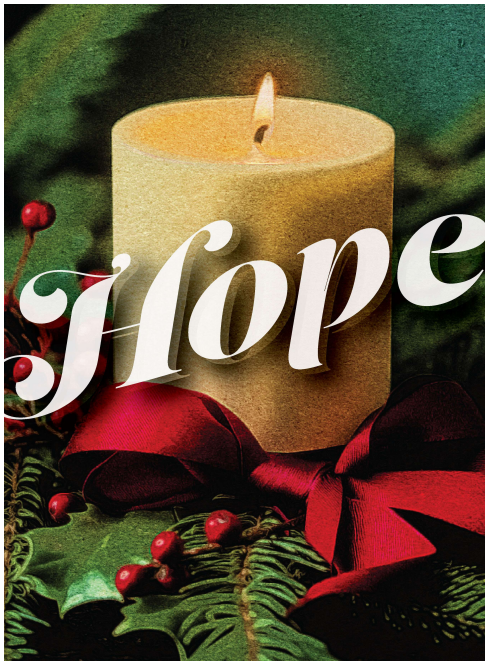


Agnus Dei Lutheran Church

Nov 29, 2026
First Sunday of Advent

Gather in Grace
Grow in Faith
Go in Service

Gather

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

Welcome

Prelude **Wake, Awake!** *J. S. Bach*

Confession and Forgiveness

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who calls out to the weary, whose word endures forever.

C Amen.

P A voice cries out in the wilderness, “Make straight the way of the Lord!” We are called to confess our sin and turn back toward God’s love.

silence for reflection

P God of promise and hope,

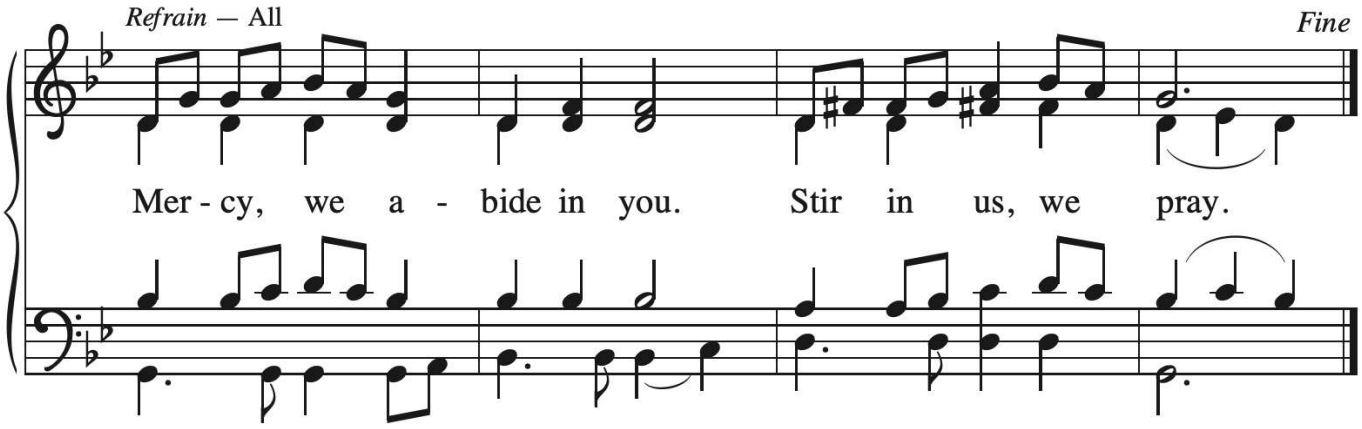
C We confess that we have grown weary waiting for you.
We have forgotten your presence, neglected your ways,
and turned away from those who need our care.
Like clay that resists the potter’s hands, we have been reluctant to let you shape us anew. Forgive us, renew us, and awaken us to your presence among us.
Amen.

P Beloved children of God, remember that you are the work of God's hands. Though we wander, God remains faithful. Though we fall short, God's mercy is greater than our failures. In Christ, ☩ you are forgiven, renewed, and made new. May God shape our hearts with love, fill us with hope, and prepare us for the coming of Christ.

C Amen.

Kyrie **Mercy, We Abide in You**

Pastor sings the verses, all sing the refrain after each verse.



In peace, may may we assemble. In peace, may we unite. In peace, may we be whole.
Move within each heart. ***Refrain***

For all who suffer in war, for all who struggle for comfort, for all who slumber in ease,
Move within each heart. ***Refrain***

We are broken, longing for peace, forgiveness, flowing among us. May we be reconciled.
Move within each heart. ***Refrain***

Prayer of the Day

P The Lord is with you. **C And also with you.**

P Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. In your mercy, awaken us from complacency, turn us from the ways that lead us away from you, and strengthen us to live faithfully in the light of your coming. Keep us watchful in hope, steadfast in love, and ready to welcome the new day of your promised reign, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Word

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

Lighting the Advent Candles

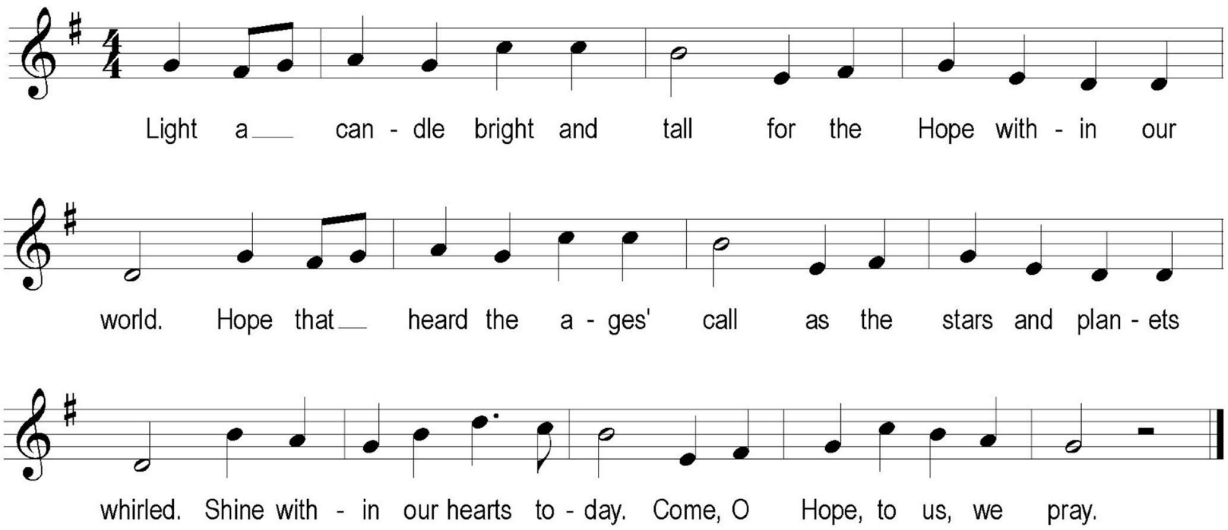
Reader: In this Advent season, God is with us in our eager waiting.

Today on the first Sunday in Advent we light the first candle, the candle of HOPE. Hope is believing that good things will happen, even when things are tough. Hope isn't just wishing; it's trusting that God keeps the promises given to us. We have hope because we know God is always with us.

God of hope, teach us bring your light of hope to others. Open our eyes so that we can notice where in our world you are already present with hope.

We thank you for always being with us—with your hope.

As the first candle on the Advent wreath is lit, we sing:



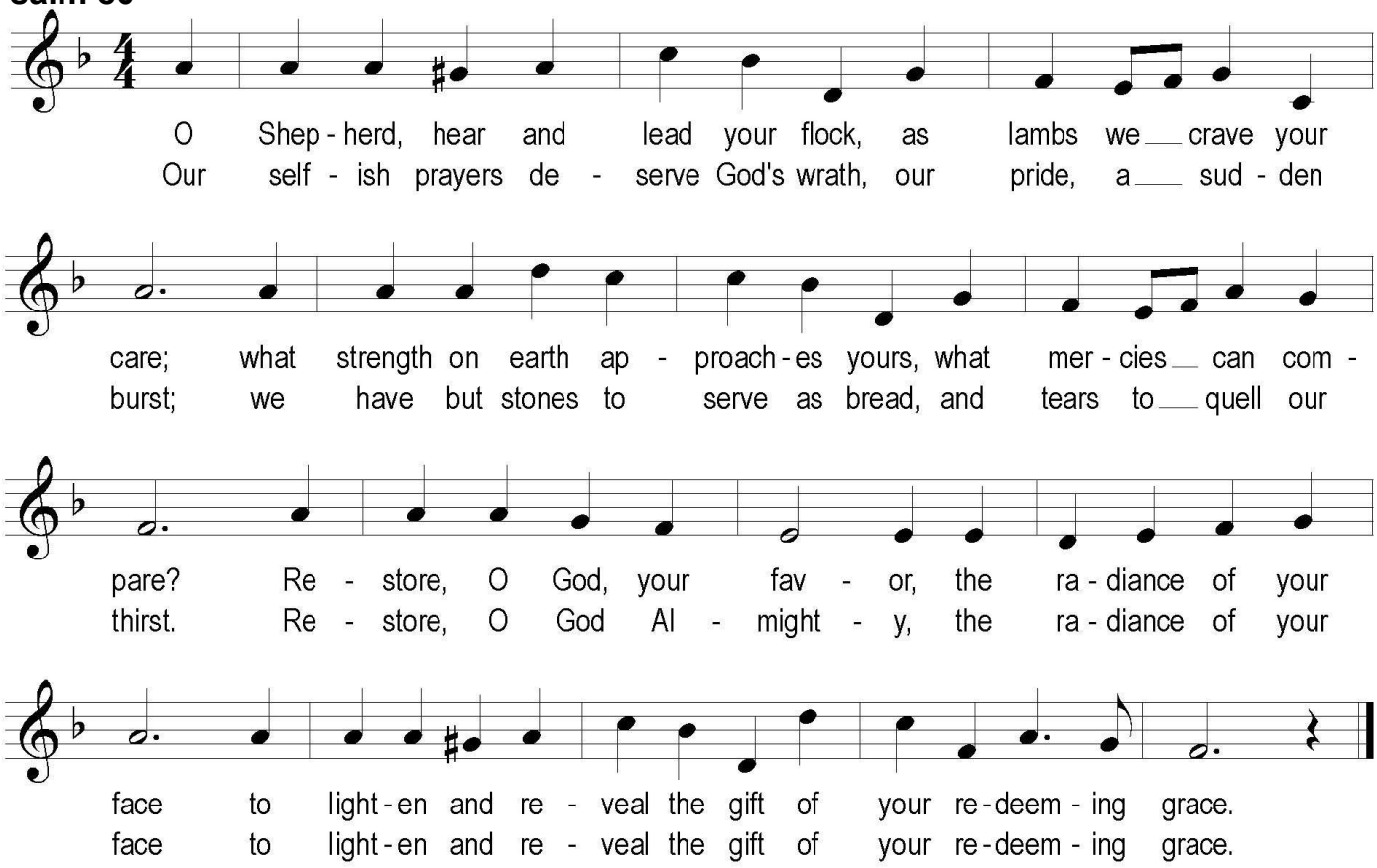
Children's Time

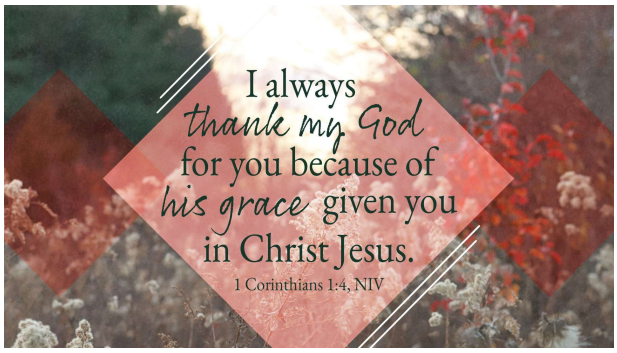
First Reading **Isaiah 64:1-9**

1 O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—
2 as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil—
to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!
3 When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down; the mountains quaked at your presence.
4 From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you,
who works for those who wait for him.
5 You meet those who gladly do right,
those who remember you in your ways.
But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed.
6 We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.
We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
7 There is no one who calls on your name
or attempts to take hold of you,
for you have hidden your face from us
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.
8 Yet, O LORD, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.
9 Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD,
and do not remember iniquity forever.
Now consider, we are all your people.

Word of God. Word of Life. **C** **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 80



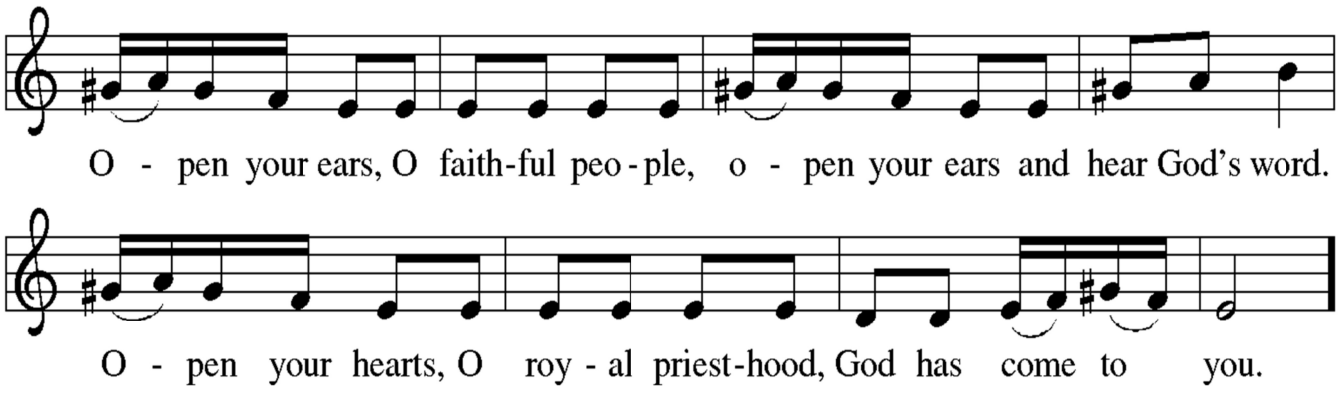


Second Reading **1 Corinthians 1:3-9**

3 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
4 I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been
given you in Christ Jesus, 5 for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and
knowledge of every kind—6 just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among
you—7 so that you are not lacking in any gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus
Christ. 8 He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of
our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 God is faithful, by whom you were called into the partnership of his
Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Word of God. Word of Life. **C Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel **Mark 13:24-37**

[Jesus said:] 24 "In those days, after that suffering,
the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light,
25 and the stars will be falling from heaven,
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.
26 "Then they will see 'the Son of Humanity coming in clouds' with great power and glory. 27 Then he will send out the angels and gather the elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

28 "From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. 29 So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. 30 Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. 31 Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

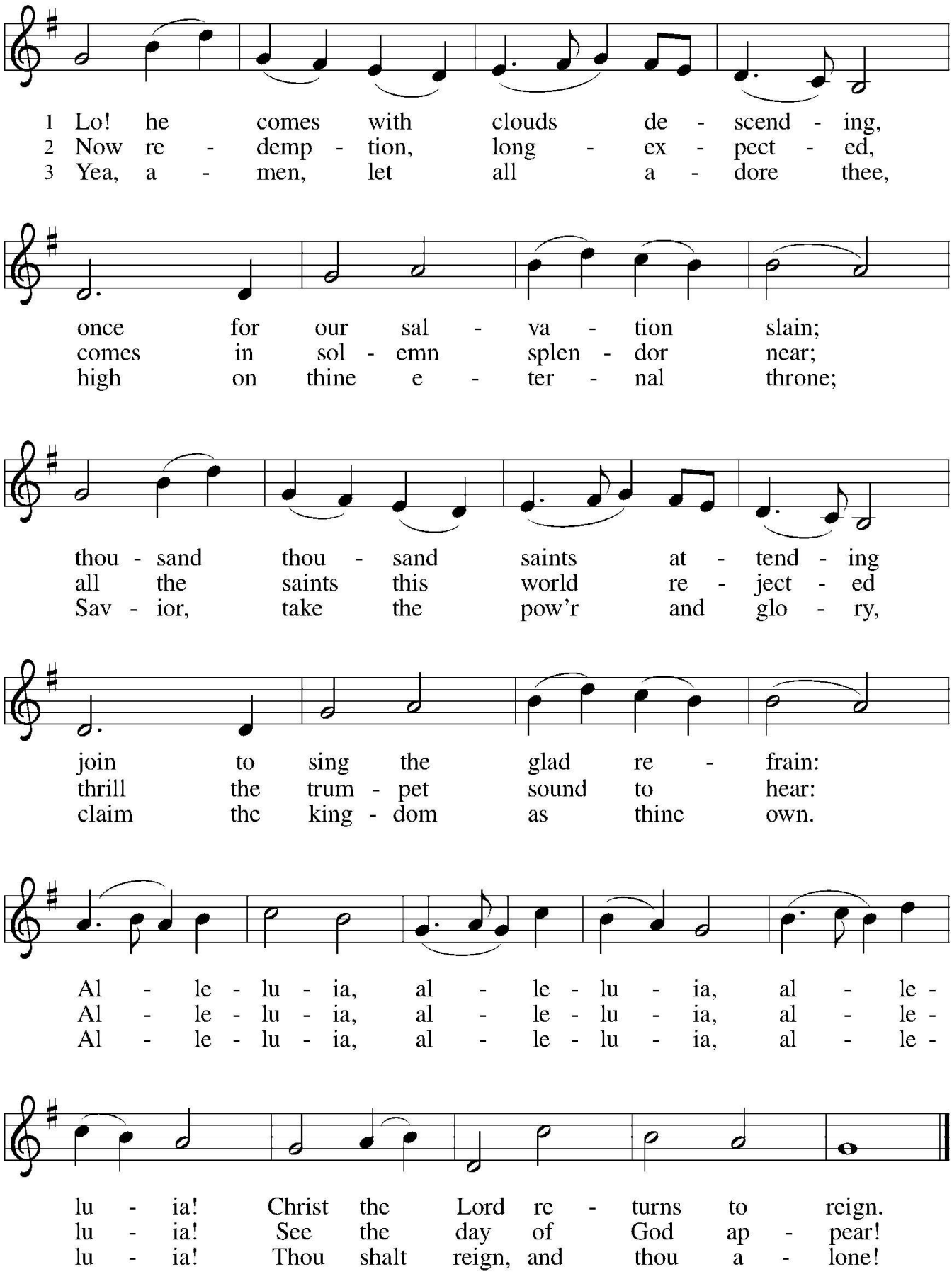
32 "But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven nor the Son, but only the Father. 33 Beware, keep alert, for you do not know when the time will come. 34 It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. 35 Therefore, keep awake, for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening or at midnight or at cockcrow or at dawn, 36 or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. 37 And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

The Gospel of our Lord. **C Thanks be to God.**

Sermon *Pastor JT Burk*

Silence for reflection

Hymn of the Day **Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending**



Affirmation of Faith

We believe that God is present in the darkness before dawn;
in the waiting and uncertainty where fear and courage join hands,
conflict and caring link arms, and the sun rises over barbed wire.

We believe in a with-us God who sits down in our midst to share our humanity.
We affirm a faith that takes us beyond the safe place; into action,
into vulnerability and into the streets.

We commit ourselves to work for change and put ourselves on the line;
to bear responsibility, take risks, live powerfully and face humiliation;
to stand with those on the edge; to choose life and be used by the spirit
for God's new community of hope. Amen. *Iona Abbey*

Prayers of Intercession

In hope and expectation, we bring to God our prayers for the church, the world, and all in need.

(a brief silence)

God, creator of both light and darkness, in the anticipation of these days, prepare our hearts for your arrival, that we might find times of quiet joy amidst our busyness. We wait in the darkness, expectantly, longingly, anxiously, thoughtfully. God, our potter, continue to mold us with your grace-filled hands.
We are the clay; shape us in love.

Creator God, what a wonderful world you fashioned for us. Mold us into all you envision for us, that we may embody the wonder of being the work of your hands. Accompany us as we answer your call to be change agents, faithfully stewarding and caring for the creation you have entrusted to us as our home. God, our potter, continue to mold us with your grace-filled hands.
We are the clay; shape us in love.

God who comes into our world in human form, send your saving grace and peace to the nations. Come, Lord, into our troubles and weaknesses. Come Lord, into war torn countries and the lives of refugees. Come, Lord, as we respond to your call of compassion for all who live in conflict. Come down, come in, come among us and make us whole. God, our potter, continue to mold us with your grace-filled hands.
We are the clay; shape us in love..

Restoring God, sustain all who are heavy with weariness, grief, illness, or worry. Console families who are estranged from one another. Awaken us to recognize those overwhelmed by sorrow, exhaustion, or loneliness. Move us to respond with compassion, serving as your hands of support, comfort, and hope. God, our potter, continue to mold us with your grace-filled hands.
We are the clay; shape us in love.

God of promise, the earth breaks forth in singing as it proclaims the Messiah's coming. Bless the work and gifts of artists, musicians, poets, and preachers who proclaim the coming gift of Emmanuel, God with us. As we wait with hope, fill our hearts with wonder and expectation that the day is coming when your light will fill our world and we will join heaven and nature in joyous song. God, our potter, continue to mold us with your grace-filled hands.
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We are the clay; shape us in love.

For what and for whom do the people pray?
(other intercessions may be offered)

God, our potter, continue to mold us with your grace-filled hands.
We are the clay; shape us in love.

God of memory, you embrace all the saints throughout the earth who died trusting in your promises. Strengthen our trust that those same promises will grant us new life with you beyond death. God, our potter, continue to mold us with your grace-filled hands.
We are the clay; shape us in love.

Draw near to us, O God, at this time when promise and prophecy meet. Let us listen to the ancient words, so that through them we might be ready to hear a baby's cry, knowing that in Jesus you are immersed into our world and your Spirit lives and breathes in and through all that is. In the name of Jesus, Emmanuel, God with us, we pray. **Amen.**

Peace

A The peace of the Lord be with you. **C And also with you.**

The greeting of peace may be shared with a reverent bow, a peace sign, or a friendly wave.

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offertory **My Lord, What a Mornin'** *arr. Randy Spitzer*

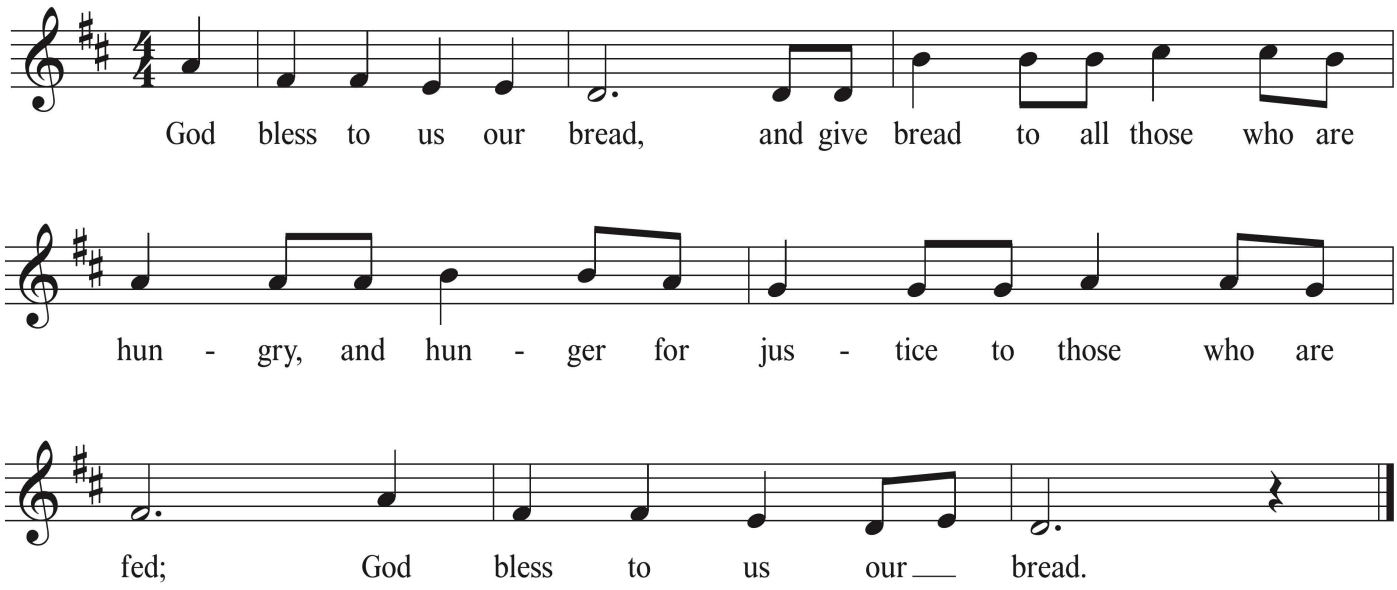
My Lord, what a morning;
My Lord, what a morning;
Oh, my Lord, what a morning,
When the stars begin to fall,
When the stars begin to fall.

You'll hear the trumpet sound,
To wake the nations underground,
Looking to my God's right hand,
When the stars begin to fall.

You'll hear the sinner cry,
To wake the nations underground,
Looking to my God's right hand,
When the stars begin to fall.

You'll hear the Christian shout,
To wake the nations underground,
Looking to my God's right hand,
When the stars begin to fall.

Offertory Response **God Bless to Us Our Bread**



Offering Prayer

A Holy Creator, we are the clay and you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand.
Receive these gifts shape them and our lives for your purpose,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **C Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

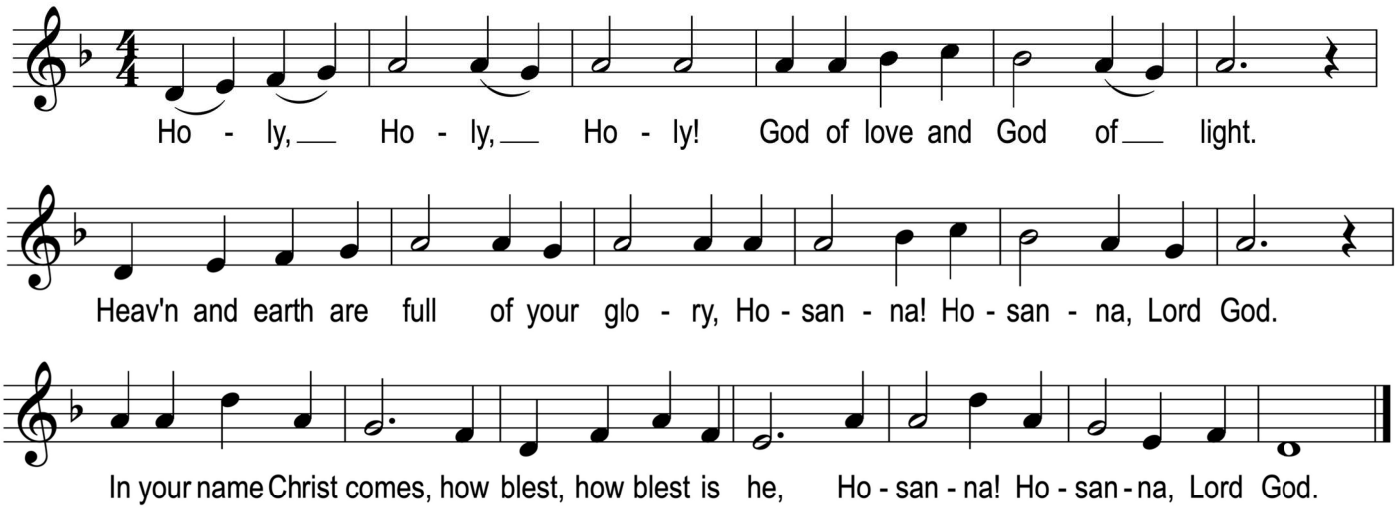
Dialog

P The Lord is with you.
C **And also with you.**
P Lift up your hearts.
C **We lift them up to the Lord**
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Preface

P It is indeed right... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus



Words of Institution

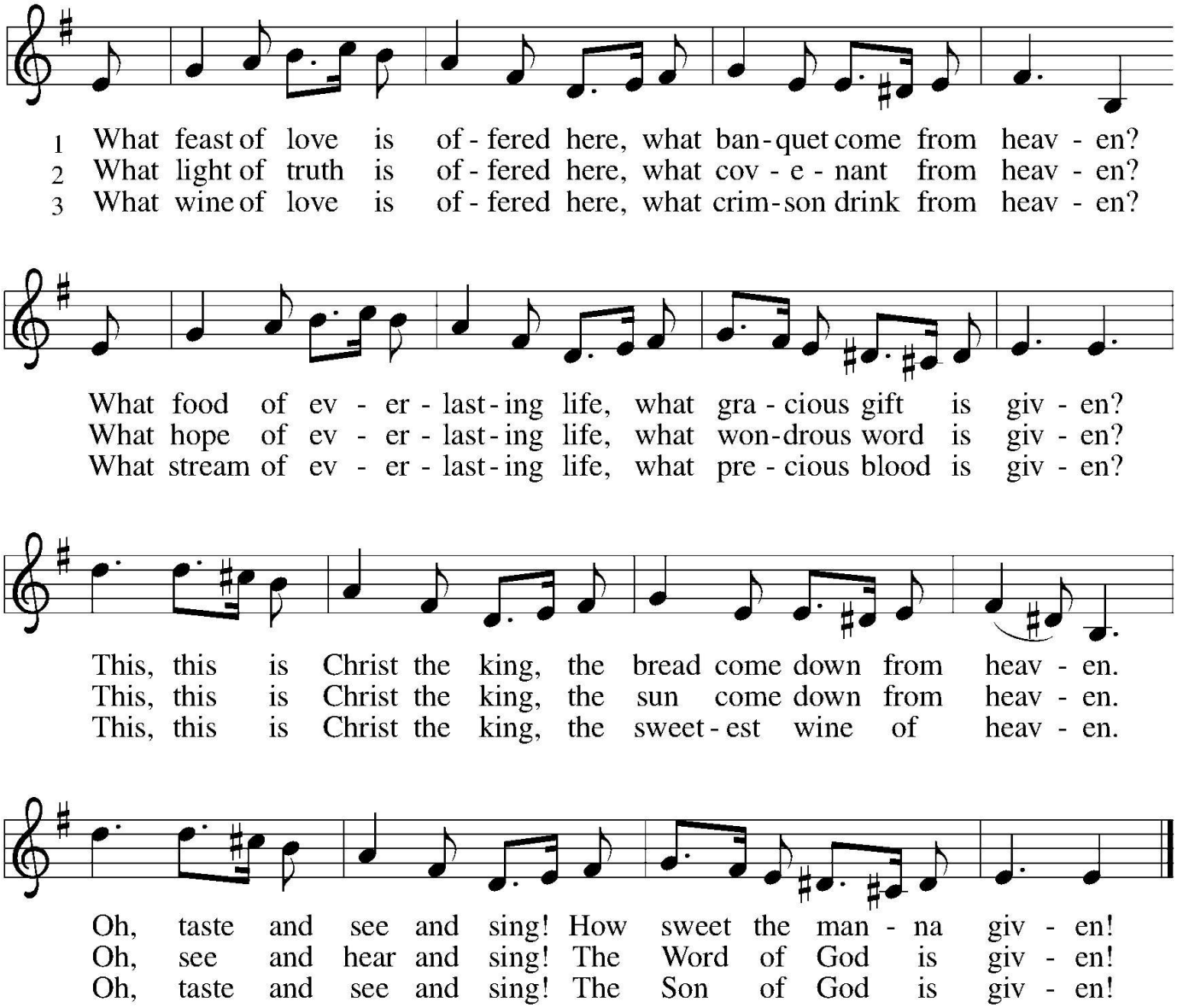
Lord's Prayer

Holy One beyond all names.
Eternal Wellspring,
May love rise again in us today with food for every table.
Shelter for every family, and reverence for every life.
Forgive us our failings in love, and free us from all falseness.
That the light of our souls may shine, and the strength of our spirits endure.
For Earth and all its people, this day, tonight, and forever.
Amen

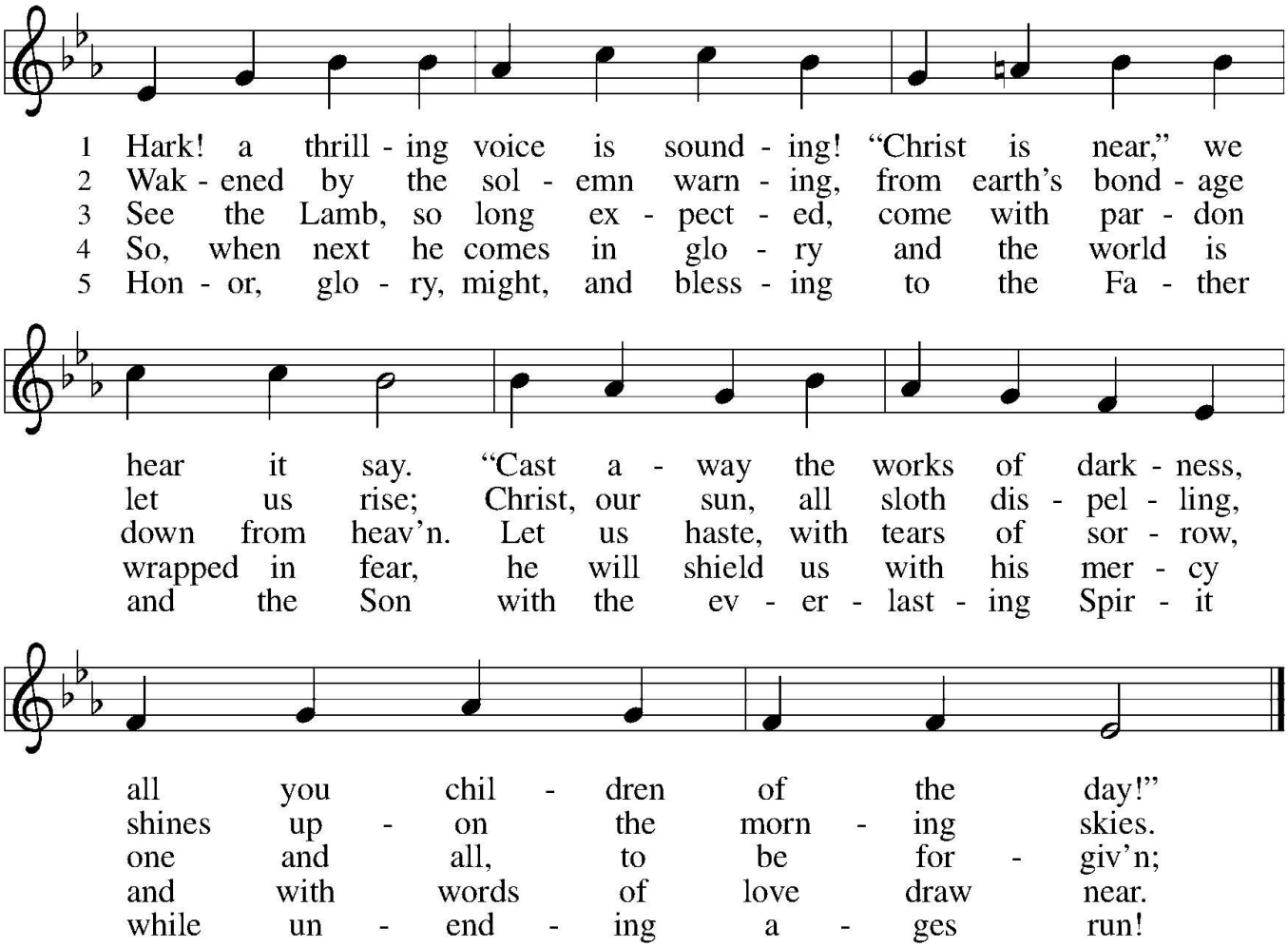
John Philip Newell

All seeking God are welcome at Christ's Supper. At the usher's direction, please come forward to receive Communion. The bread is gluten free, the wine is red and grape juice is clear. Communion is served by intinction.

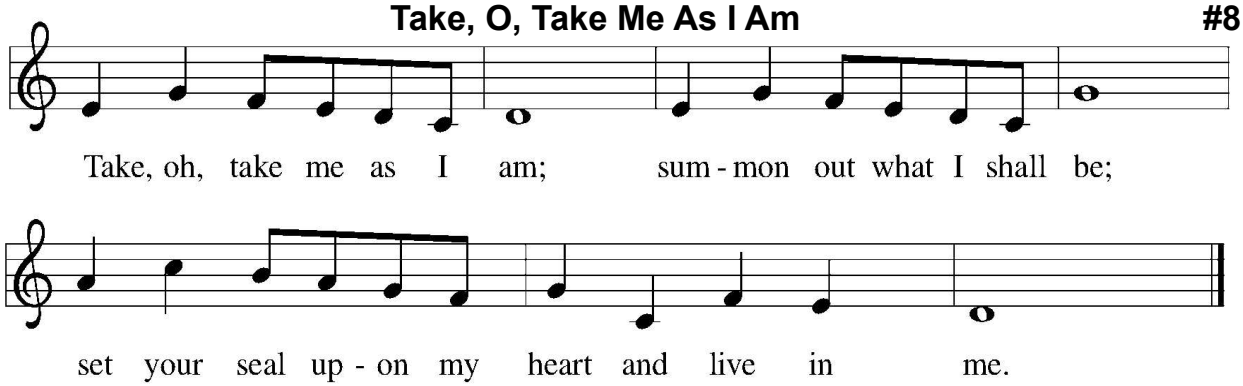
Communion Hymns **What Feast of Love**



Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding!



Take, O, Take Me As I Am #814



Blessing

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in life that is compassionate and just.

C Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

A Providing God, you feed your flock like a shepherd and gather your people in your arms. We praise you for the care and sustenance you give at this meal and always. As we leave your table, carry us near your heart,and send us with confidence in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C Amen.

Sending

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

Announcements

Benediction

P God our provider, God our feast,
God our companion, bless you now and forever.

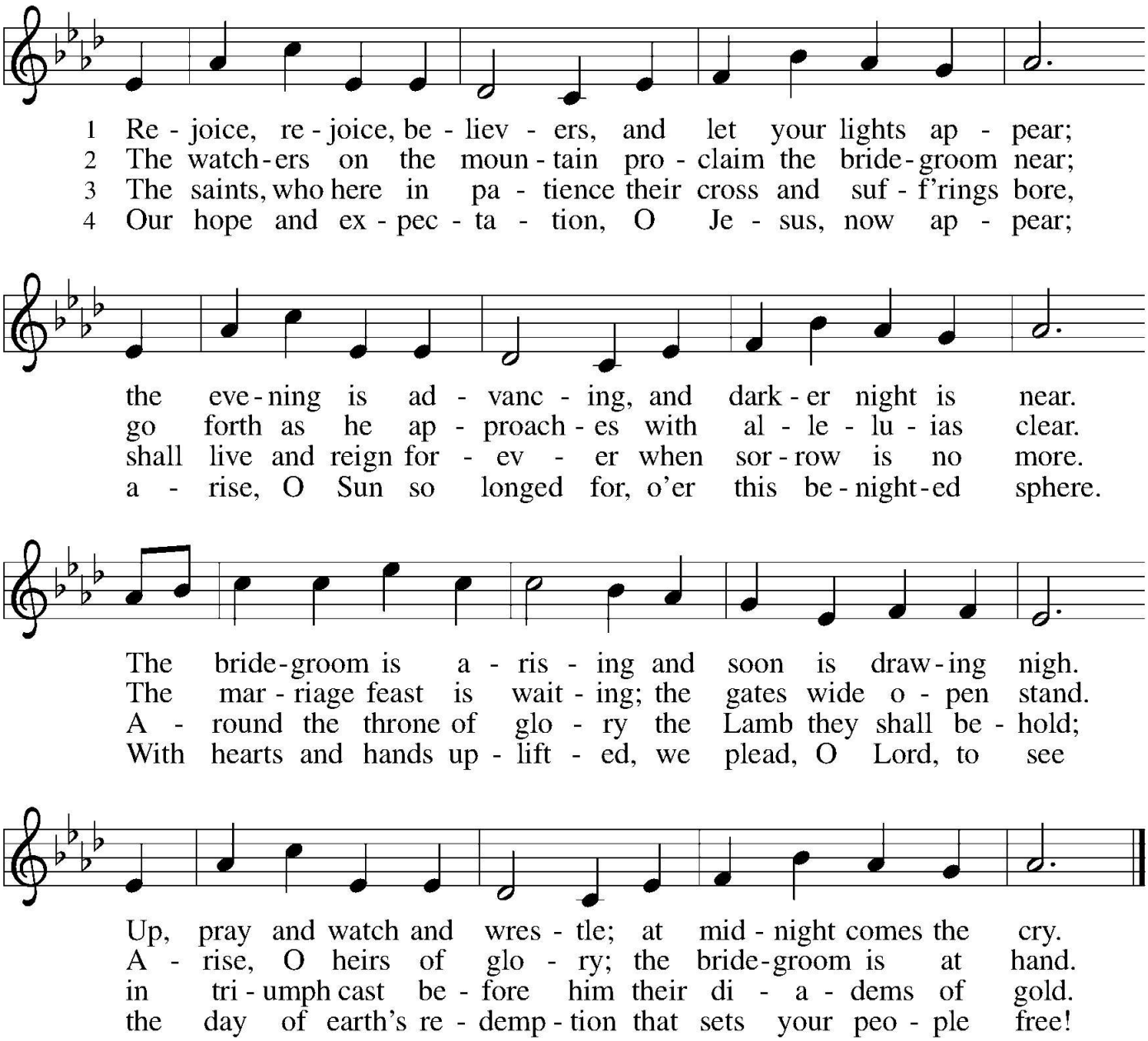
C Amen

Dismissal

A Go in peace. Keep awake.

C Thanks be to God!

Sending Hymn **Rejoice, Rejoice Believers** **#244**



Postlude **Con moto maestoso** *G. Mendelssohn*

Serving in Worship:
Presiding Minister: Pastor JT Burk
Assisting Minister: Linda Olson
Church Musician: Susan Luebeck
Organist: Una Hwang
Choir Director: Randy Spitzer
Advent Candle: Dobszinski Family
Altar Guild: Joy McCraw, Rebecca Crow
Lector: Laurie Spitzer
Ushers: Don and Sharon Krump
Stream Team: Steve Carter
Security: Gary Gemar
Front Room Kids: Ashley Ortenzo

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Prelude: " Wake, Awake!" J. S. Bach, PD
Kyrie: "Mercy, We Abide in You" Text: Bret Hesla, b. 1957; Music: MERCY, WE ABIDE, Bret Hesla; Text and Music © 2006 Augsburg Fortress
Wreath Lighting: "Light a Candle Bright and Tall" Tune: Conrad Kochrer 1838, Text: Copyright © 2012 David Wood, used with permission
Gospel Acclamation: "Open Your Ears, O Faithful People" Text: Hasidic traditional; Williard F. Jabusch, b. 1930, English version; Music: Hasidic tune, Text © 1966, 1982 Willard F. Jabusch, admin, OCP Publications
Hymn of the Day: "Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending" Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt; Music: Helmsley, Thomas Olivers, 1725-1799
Offertory: "My Lord, What a Mornin" African American Spiritual, arr. Randy Spitzer
Offertory Response: "God Bless to Us Our Bread" Text: Argentine traditional, collected by Federico Pagura 1923-2016. tr. John L. Bell b. 1949Music: BENDICE NUESTRO PAN Argentine melody; Text and tun © 2002 World Council of Churches
Communion Hymn: "What Feast of Love" Text: Delores Dufner, OSB b. 1939; Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent. Text © 1993 Delores Dufner OSB, Published by OCP Publications, All rights reserved. "Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding" Take O Take Me as I am" "TAKE ME AS I AM", John L. Bell; Text and music © 1995 Iona Community, admin, GIA Pub, Inc 7404 S. Mason Ave. Chicago, IL 60638
Sending Hymn: "Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers" Text: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660-1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823-1907; Music HAF TRONES LAMPA FÄRDIG, Swedish folk tune
Postlude: "Con moto maestoso" F. Mendelssohn, PD

Sunday, Nov 29 Advent 1	9:30 am Worship with Holy Communion In-person and Livestream Front Room Kids during worship No Forum
Monday, Nov 30	12:30 Staff Meeting 1:00 LWR Quilters in the Community Room 6:00 pm Nar Anon Family Groups in the Community Room
Tuesday, Dec 1	11:30 am Little Lambs Chapel
Wednesday, Dec 2	10:00 am Text Study in the Community Room 11:45 am Little Lambs Chapel 1:30 Prayer Shawl Ministry in the Community Room 6:15 Advent Worship 6:45 Soup Supper 7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, Dec 3	6:00 AA Meeting in the Community Room
Friday, Dec 4	10:00 am Properties Team Meeting
Saturday, Dec 5	8:30 Men's Sq and Women's Circle Bible Study at Sunset Grill 11:00 Memorial for Ellis Rousseau
Sunday, Dec 6 Advent 2	9:30 am Worship with Holy Communion In-person and Livestream Front Room Kids during worship



Today marks the beginning of Advent.

Advent Midweek Worship on Wednesdays,
Dec. 2, 9 and 16 at 6:15 pm.,
Soup supper at 6:45.
The sign-up board for the supper is in the narthex.

All Advent Midweek offerings will be directed to our local foodbanks

Advent Potluck Brunch on Sunday, Dec 13 after worship



Christmas Eve services at 5:00 and 7:30 PM
Christmas Day at 10:00 AM
Lessons and Carols on December 27 at 9:30 AM

#

Advent 2026, Making Room For Hope

Hope is more than wishful thinking or optimism that things will eventually get better. Christian hope is rooted in the promise that God is present, God is at work, and God is bringing something new into being.

Throughout Advent, we make room for hope by learning to recognize God's light in the darkness, trusting God's promise of renewal in the world around us, and finding the courage to speak and live God's vision of justice, mercy, and peace. Hope doesn't ask us to ignore the darkness, escape the world, or accept things as they are. Hope invites us to see the world as God dreams it can be.

And perhaps that is what Advent is ultimately about: making room for the possibility that God's promised future is already breaking into our present. Join us on Wednesday nights as we explore our theme of making room for hope.

Advent Brunch, Dec 13

Mark your calendars for the Advent brunch potluck after worship on Sunday, December 13. There is a sign-up board in the Narthex

Sunday Morning Faith Formation There will be no Forum today

Forum on December 6: How does the ELCA work at the national level? The ELCA is unique among denominations in the United States. Membership in congregations, synods and the churchwide expressions of this church are the baptized members of the congregations. This means that not only are you a member of Agnus Dei Lutheran Church, you are also a member of the Southwestern Washington Synod and the Churchwide expression of the ELCA. Most members of the ELCA do not know what the church is doing beyond the congregation. Please join Chris Boerger at this forum for a look at the unique structure of the ELCA. He will also include a quick overview of what we are doing through the Synod and the Churchwide organization. Beyond the ELCA we are working with ecumenical and international partners. This will be a time to talk about the many things ELCA Lutherans are doing but do not know about.

Front Room Kids After story time, children ages three to ten are invited to gather in the front room for a bible story and related activities. They will return to the sanctuary during the offertory and will be present for Communion and the remainder of the service.

December Outreach Opportunities:

ELCA Good Gifts, Give a Gift in Honor Of or in Memory Of a Loved One

Are you beginning to think about Christmas gift shopping? Do you have someone in your life who is hard to shop for? Consider making a gift in their name to the ELCA Good Gifts Program. Give meaningful gifts in honor or in memory of loved ones that make a global impact. Catalogs and gift forms are available in the narthex. Following Agnus Dei tradition, your loved one's name will be printed in our Christmas Eve bulletin. Please turn in the form by December 20.

Food 4 All

We will continue our support of the Food 4 All program through the month of December by collecting holiday and basic food items for the food pantry on the peninsula. The financial situation at Food 4 All is not good because of decreased federal funding and increased need. They serve over 1,500 clients on a weekly basis. The service committee will provide a shopping list of the most needed items and the donations will be delivered weekly to the food pantry.

Gather in Grace * Grow in Faith * Go in Service

We Are Welcoming

The congregation of Agnus Dei Lutheran Church celebrates the amazing diversity of God's beloved children. We welcome all, regardless of age, ethnicity, abilities, faith background, race, family configuration, socioeconomic status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression. We enthusiastically invite you into this worshipping congregation as we strive to share God's inclusive love with everyone in our community and in our world.

Agnus Dei's Welcome Statement adopted May 20, 2018

We Stand for Justice

Rooted in the Word and grounded in prayer, we share our membership in the Beloved Community with all people, affirming that God's love, justice, and mercy belong to everyone without exception. Aware of our failure to recognize the structures and systems contributing to racial injustice and inequality and acknowledging our role in maintaining these injustices, we confess and repent of the harm we have done. We commit to listen to the voices of the oppressed and marginalized, to educate ourselves more fully, to engage in work to end racism, to promote social justice, and to support others who seek to make a difference in the struggle for equity and justice. This is our lifetime commitment.
Statement on Racial Justice approved by the congregation on Nov. 17, 2020

We Care for Creation

As a community of faith, we affirm that all of God's creation is sacred, acknowledging that our very breath and nourishment come from Mother Earth. We are thus called to live fully in relationship and harmony with her, to lovingly care for what God has made. With attention, intention, and action, we choose to work individually and communally toward conserving, protecting, and restoring the created world as we also work to deconstruct the systems threatening her very existence and health.

Land Acknowledgment

We, the Agnus Dei Lutheran faith community, acknowledge that we gather each week on the traditional homelands of the Puyallup People (spuyaləpabš), a Coast Salish Lushootseed (txʷləšúcid) speaking People. The Puyallup People have lived along these shores for thousands of years, faithfully stewarding these lands and waters, as they continue to do today.