Welcome To Worship

Today Is November 22, 2026

\+ + +

Christ the King Sunday



St. Matthew's Lutheran Church
12351 All Saints Place
Woodbridge, Virginia 22192

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME

The assembly stands.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

C: Amen.

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God 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.

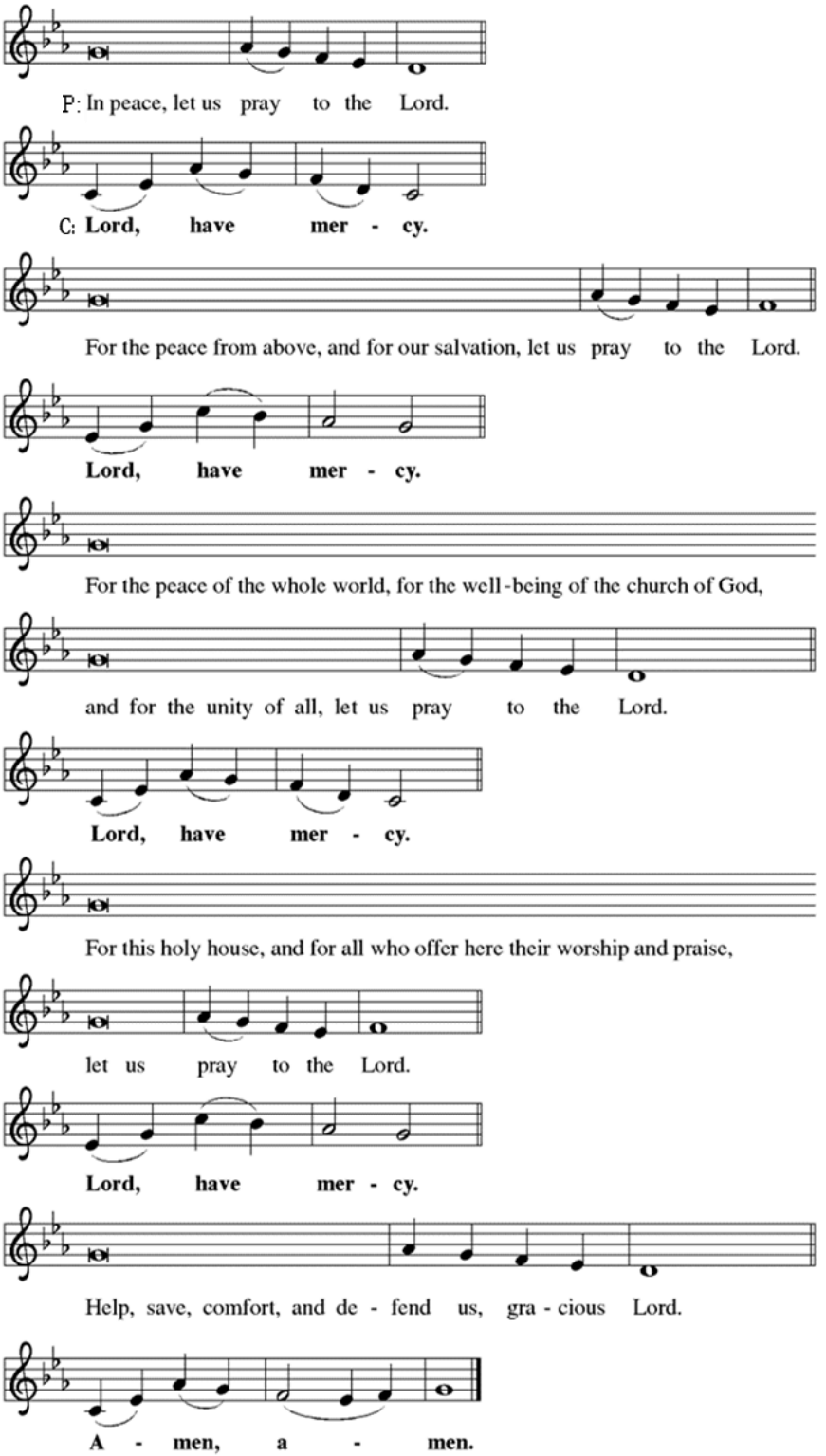
C: Amen.
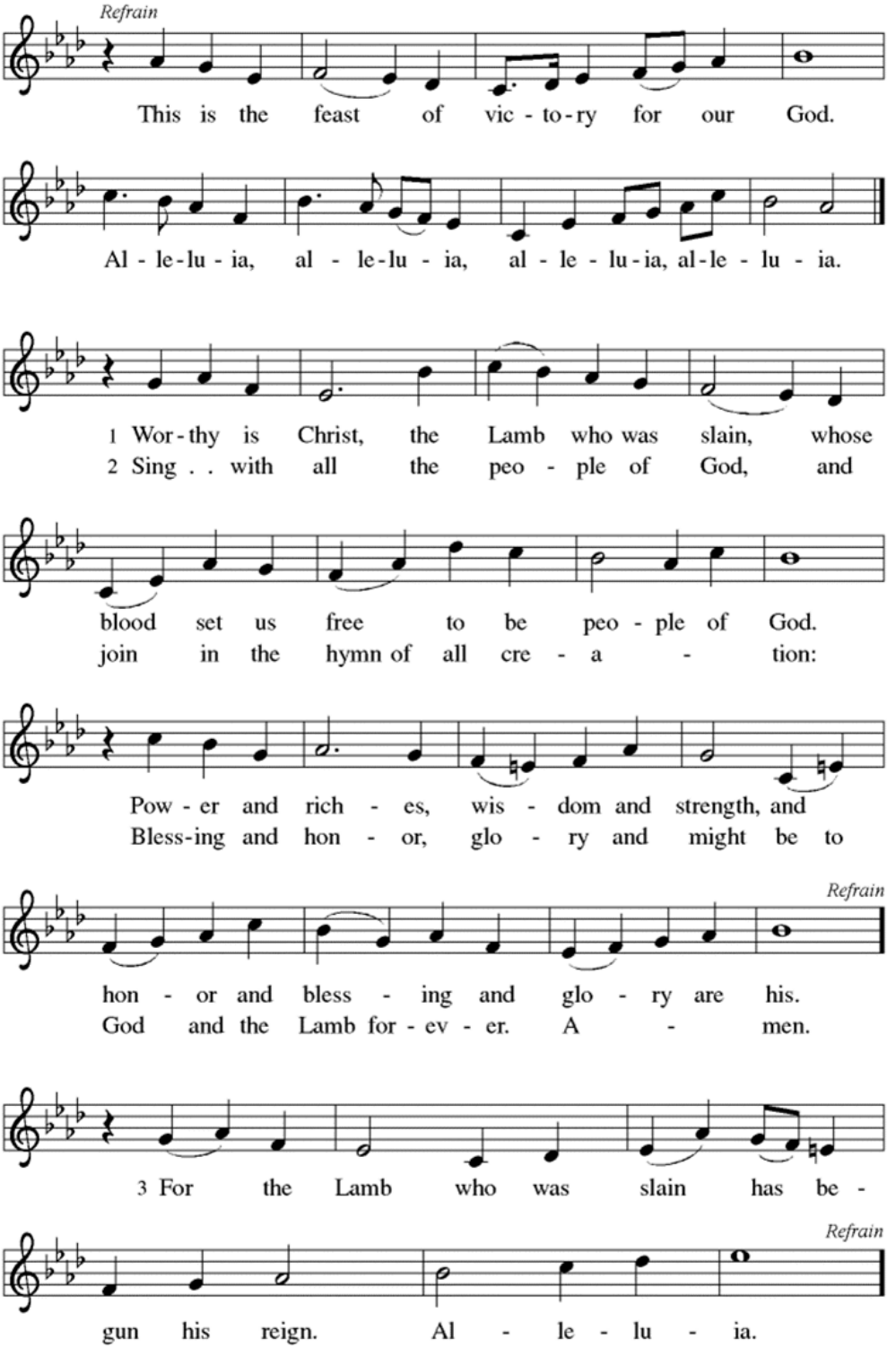
GATHERING HYMN ***All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!*** page 14

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.


P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
C: 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.


Refrain
This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and
blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:
Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to
Refrain
hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.
3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -
Refrain
gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. O God of power and might, your Son shows us the way of service, and in him we inherit the riches of your grace. Give us the wisdom to know what is right and the strength to serve the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

The assembly is seated.

WORD

FIRST READING Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

L: A reading from Ezekiel.

Thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep and will sort them out. As shepherds sort out their flocks when they are among scattered sheep, so I will sort out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries and bring them into their own land, and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strays, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged, and I will judge between sheep and sheep. I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them; he shall feed them and be their shepherd. [24] And I the Lord will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I the Lord have spoken.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 95:1-7a

L: We pray the psalm responsively.

Come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.
Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to the Lord with psalms.
For you, Lord, are a great God,
and a great ruler above all gods.
In your hand are the caverns of the earth;
the heights of the hills are also yours.
The sea is yours, for you made it,
and your hands have molded the dry land.
Come, let us worship and bow down,
let us kneel before the Lord our maker.
For the Lord is our God,
and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand. **Amen.**

SECOND READING Ephesians 1:15-23

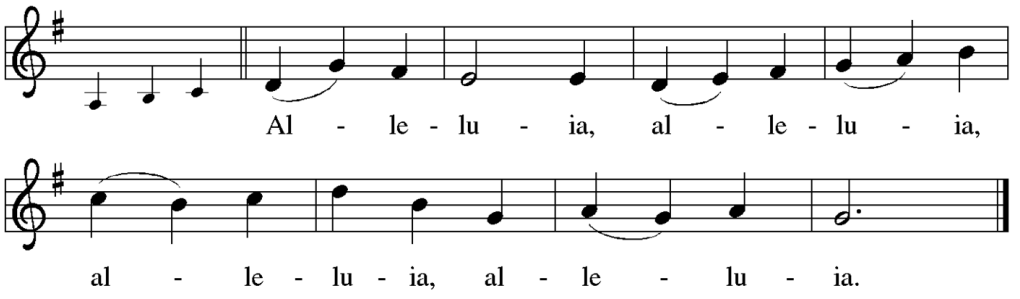
L: A reading from Ephesians.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may perceive what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

L: The word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



THE HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 25:31-46

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] "When the Son of Man comes in his glory and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world, for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.'

Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You who are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels, for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and did not take care of you?'

Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' And these will go away into eternal punishment but the righteous into eternal life."

P: The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

The assembly is seated.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON Pastor Stephen Bohannon

The assembly stands.

HYMN OF THE DAY ***Crown Him with Many Crowns*** page 15

THE APOSTLES' CREED

P: With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The pastor invites the assembly into prayer.

P: United with the great cloud of witnesses, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.

(*A brief silence is kept; each petition ends with the response.)*

L: God, in your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

P: Into your steadfast love, faithful God, we entrust all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus, your beloved. **C: Amen.**

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

You are invited to greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.
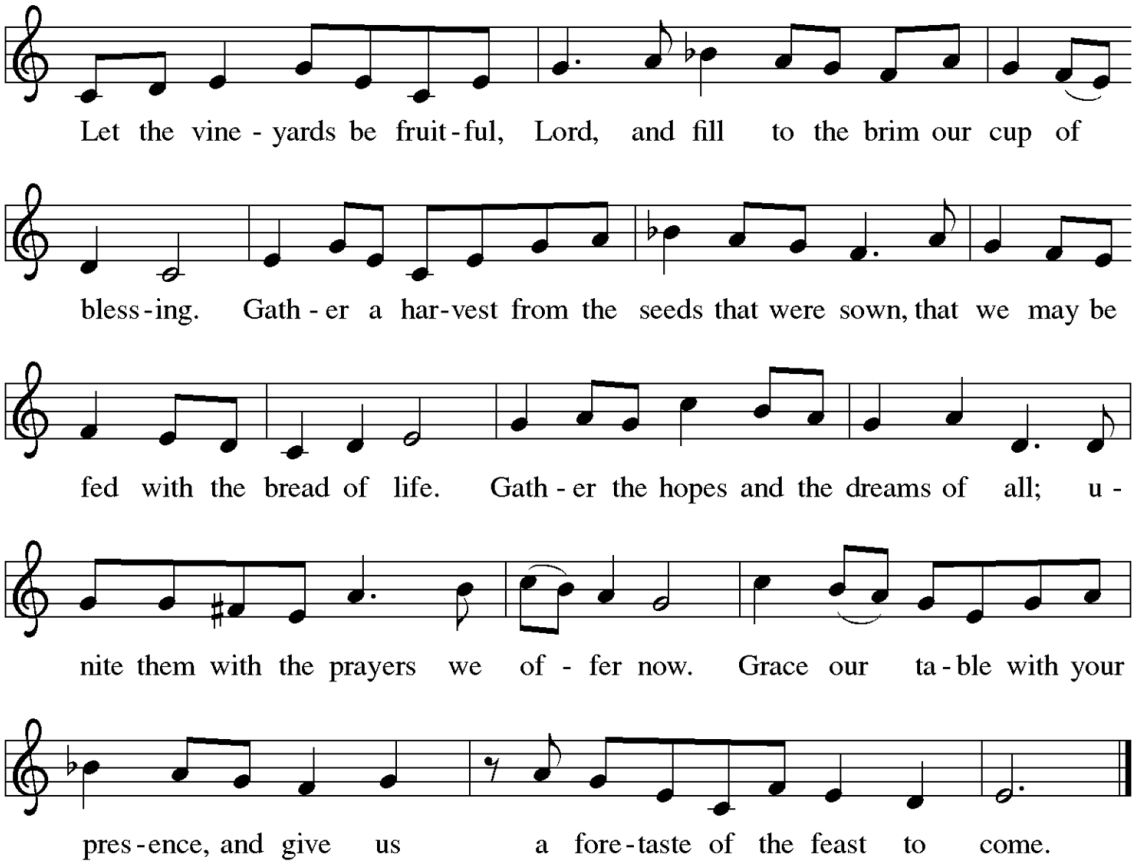
The assembly is seated.

OFFERING *Rejoice the Lord is King* Courtney

Choir

The assembly stands.

OFFERTORY ***Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful*** ELW 182



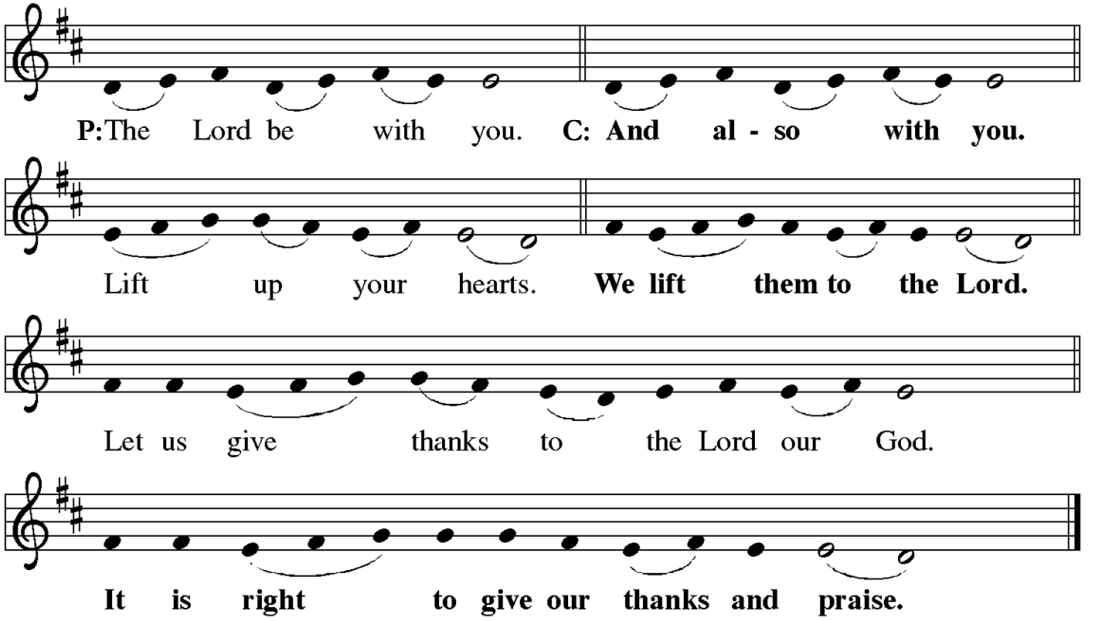
OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Let us pray. Eternal God, our time, talents, and treasures are gifts from you. Receive what we offer, and all that you entrust to us, until hungry no more, all the world is fed, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

MEAL

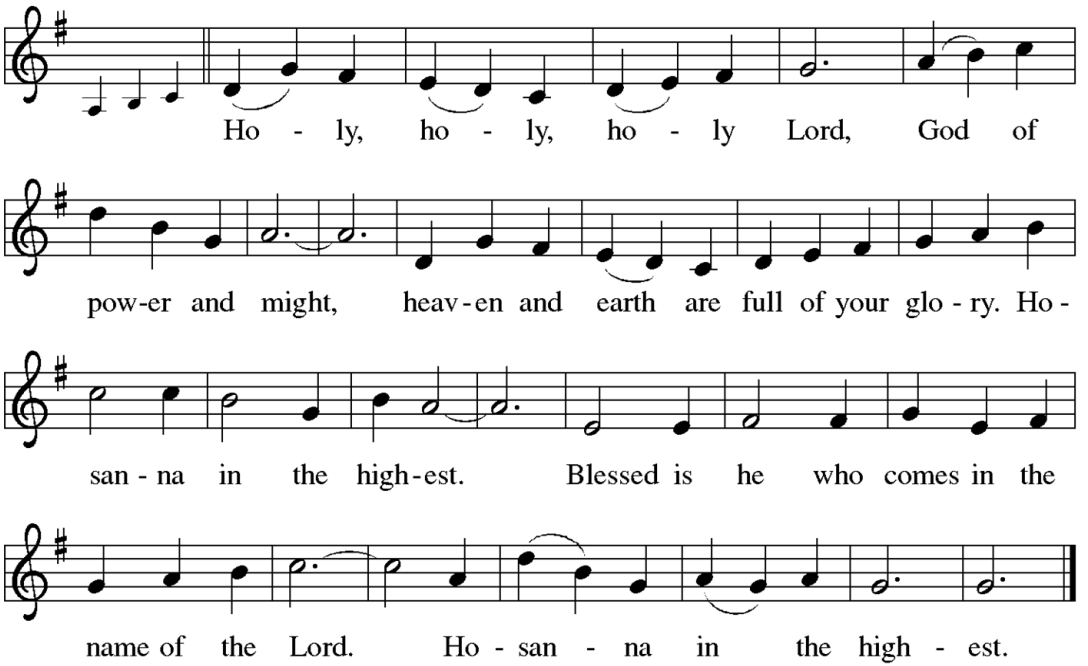
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



PROPER PREFACE

Pastor begins, "It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise…" Here the pastor continues with the preface for the day, "…we praise your name and join their unending hymn:"

Holy, Holy, Holy



Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

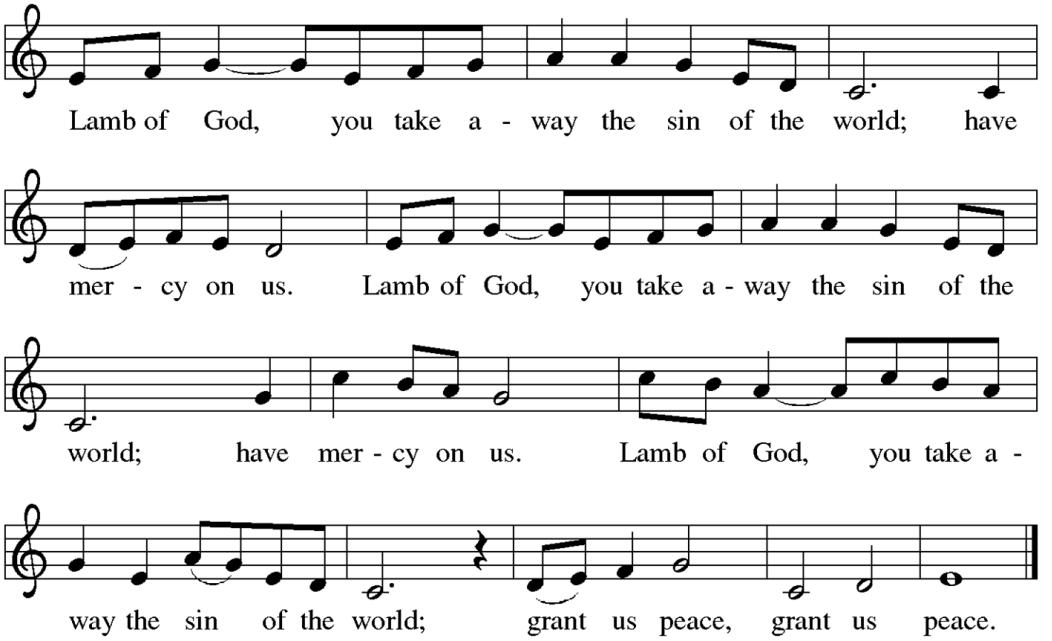
Invitation to Communion

P: In bread and cup the reign of Christ is breaking in. Come, receive what Christ has prepared. The body of Christ given for you. The blood of Christ shed for you.

C: Amen.

The assembly is seated.

LAMB OF GOD



All who believe Jesus is present in this sacrament are invited to receive the bread and wine. Communion will be distributed at the altar rail; when invited by an usher, please come forward and kneel at the altar to receive the bread and wine. Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are available. Know that if you only take the bread that you have fully communed. Whether you are receiving communion at in-person worship or if you are receiving communion at home, we extend to you: The body of Christ given for you; the blood of Christ shed for you.

COMMUNION HYMNS

For the Fruit of All Creation page 16
Bread of Life from Heaven page 17

The assembly stands.

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Let us pray. Holy God, we have received your never-ending mercy in this meal. You continuously seek the lost, bind the injured, and feed your people abundantly. Now send us out, awake to your presence, now and forever.
C: Amen.

SENDING

BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
C: Amen.

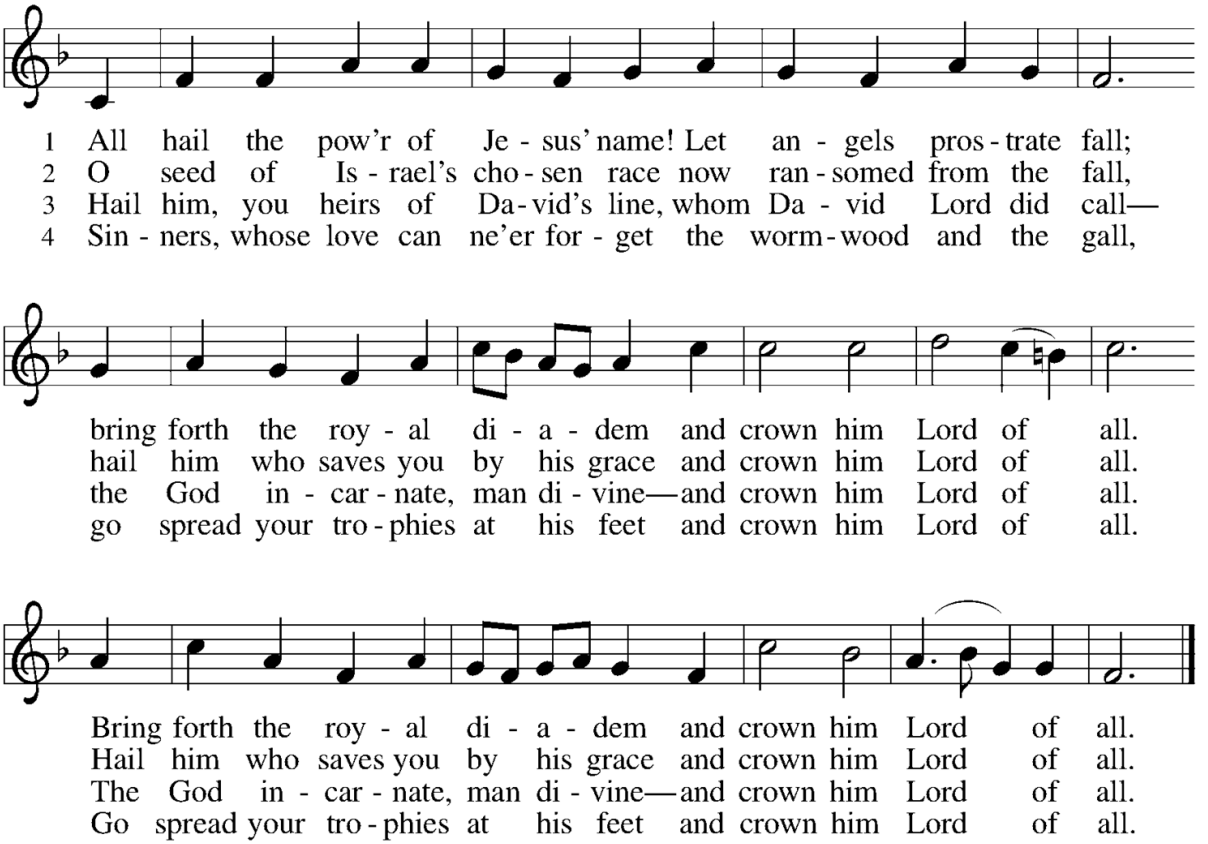
SENDING HYMN ***Christ, the Life of All the Living*** page 18

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Encourage one another.
C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!, ELW 634



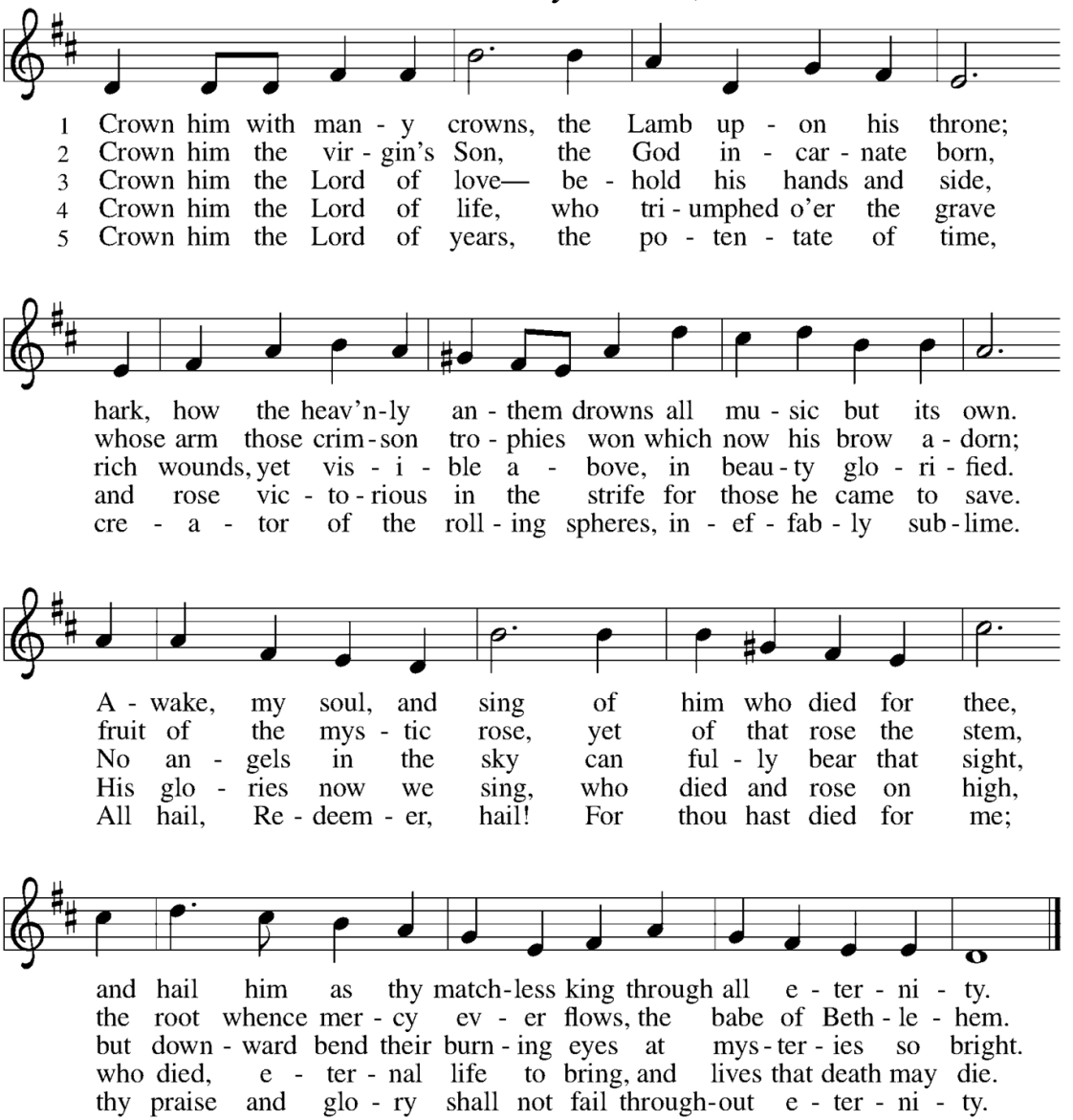
5 Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe
on this terrestrial ball
to him all majesty ascribe
and crown him Lord of all.

6 Oh, that with yonder sacred throng
we at his feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song
and crown him Lord of all.

Text: Edward Perronet, 1726–1792, sts. 1–4; J. Rippon, A Selection of Hymns, 1787, sts. 5–6
Music: CORONATION, Oliver Holden, 1765–1844

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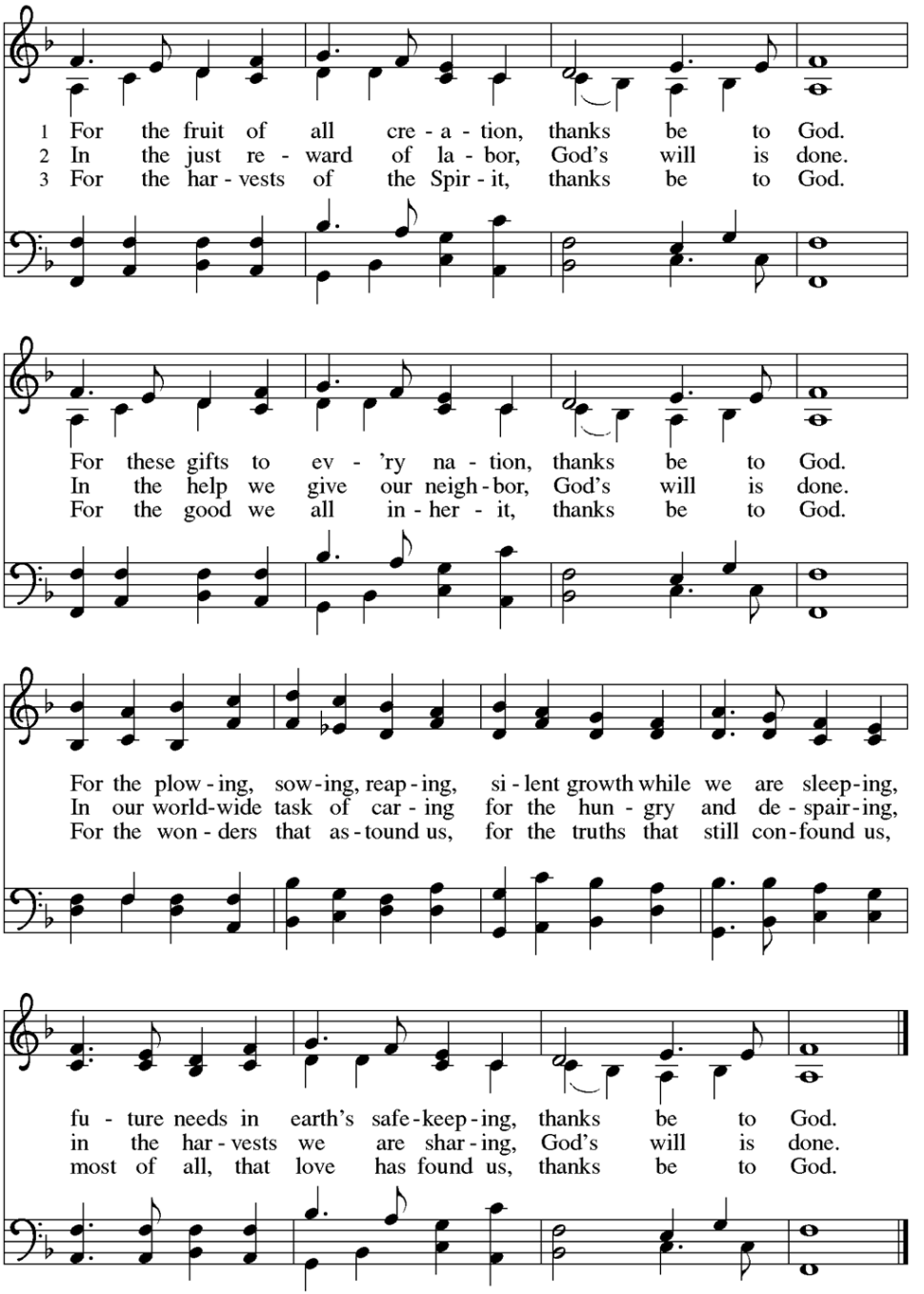
Crown Him with Many Crowns, ELW 855



Text: Matthew Bridges, 1800–1894, sts. 1–3, 5; Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, st. 4
Music: DIADEMATA, George J. Elvey, 1816–1893
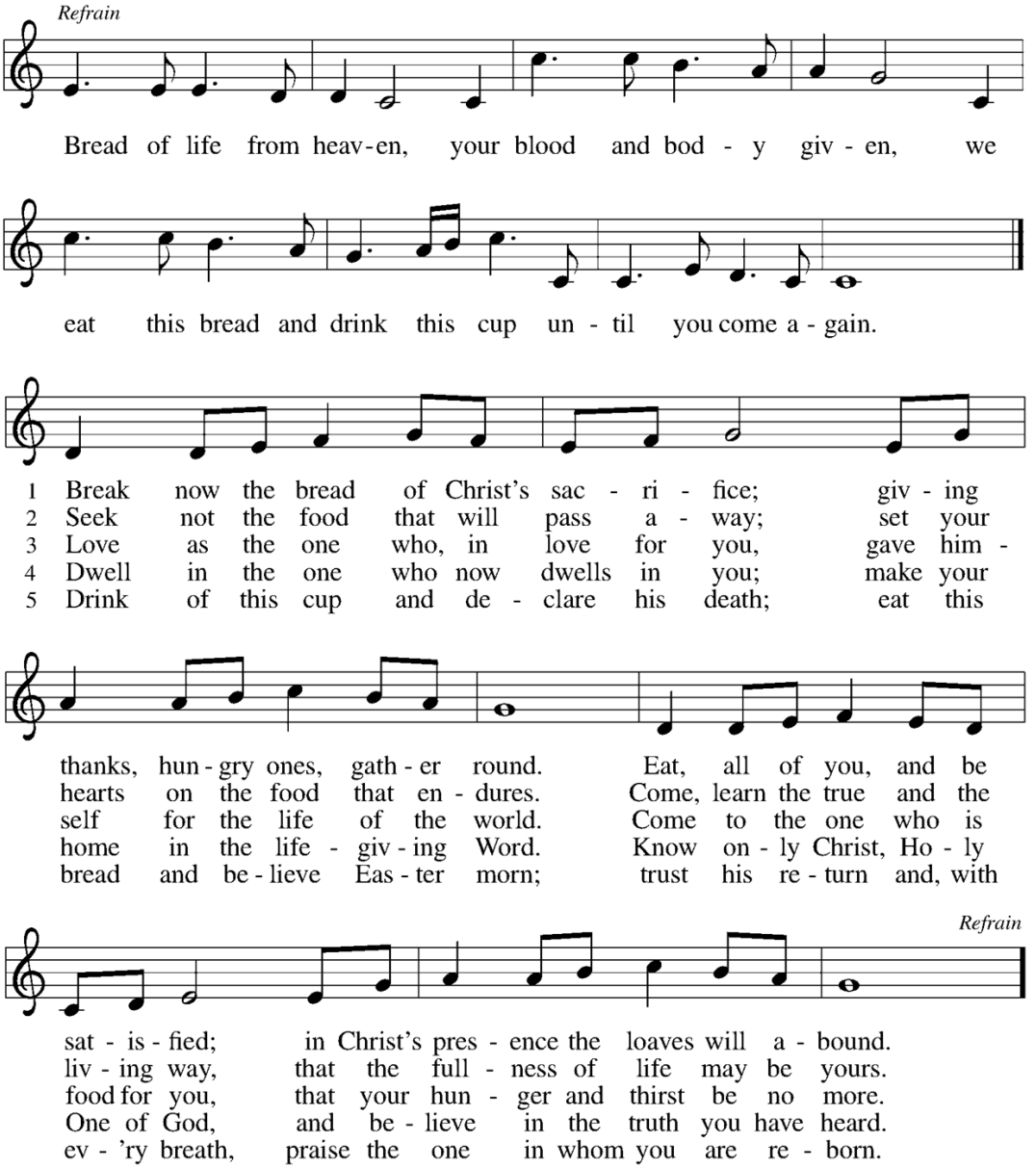
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For the Fruit of All Creation, ELW 679



Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000
Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958
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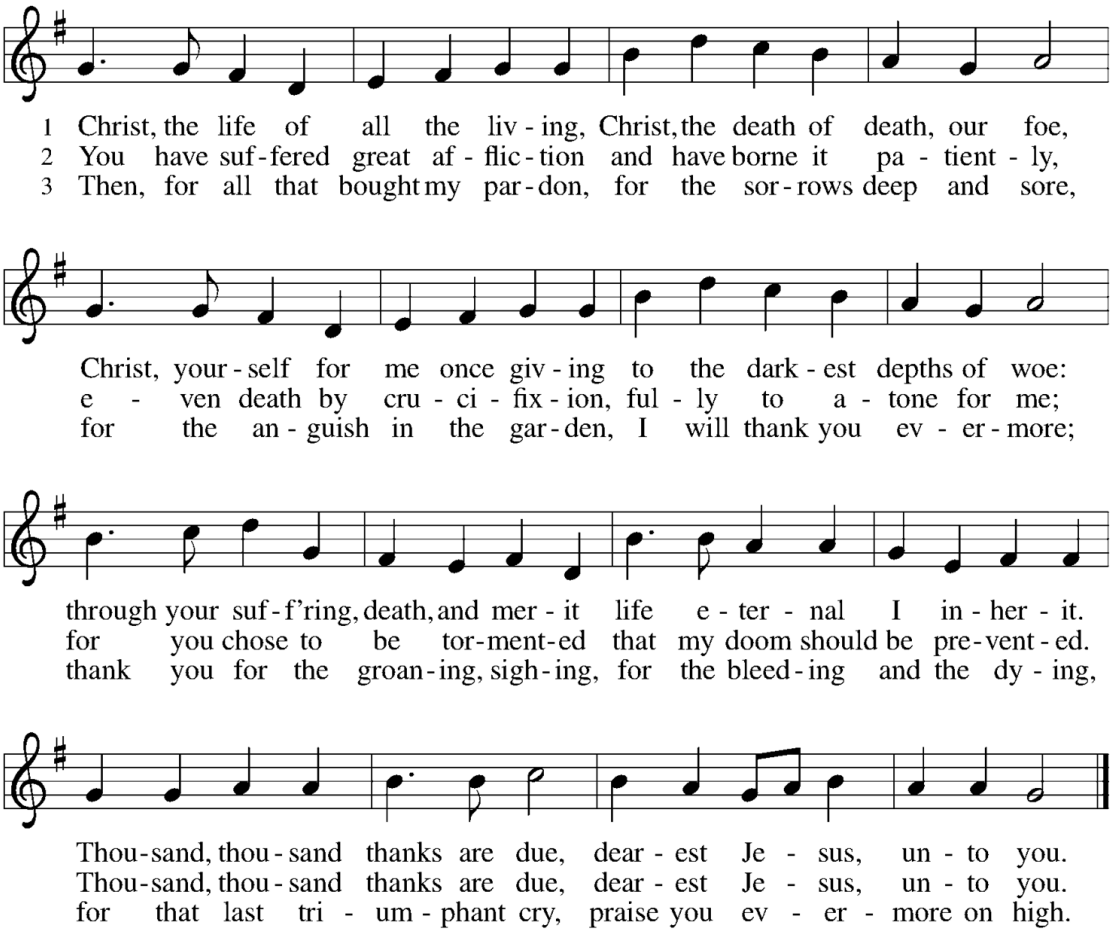
Bread of Life from Heaven, ELW 474



Text: Susan R. Briehl, b. 1952
Music: ARGENTINE SANTO, BREAK NOW THE BREAD; Argentine traditional, refrain; Marty Haugen, b. 1950, stanzas
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Christ, the Life of All the Living, ELW 339



Text: Ernst Christoph Homburg, 1605–1681; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
Music: JESU, MEINES LEBENS LEBEN, *Das grosse Cantional*, Darmstadt, 1687

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY ~

On this final Sunday of the church year our gospel is Jesus' great story of judgment. In the end, the faithful are those who served Christ by ministering to those who are poor, hungry, naked, sick, or estranged. In the first reading God is the shepherd who seeks the lost, weak, and injured and feeds them with justice. We gather this day to celebrate the reign of Christ and his victory over death, yet we await the consummation of all things yet to come. Acknowledging Christ as our merciful ruler, we go forth that his reign may be known in our loving words and deeds.

For upcoming events and announcements, please visit www.stmatthewsva.org
Scan the QR code below to access the St. Matthew's calendar.

Give online to St. Matthew's—your offerings support the mission of the church and allow us to respond to the needs of our congregation and community locally, nationally, and internationally. Scan the QR code below to donate.

Ministers: ALL the People of St. Matthew's

Pastor Stephen Bohannon sbohannon@stmatthewsva.org
Director of Music: Kathy Lundgren klundgren@stmatthewsva.org
Pianist: Justin Patrick
Administrative Assistant: Patti Hinson stmatthews@stmatthewsva.org
Congregation Council President: Cindy Schmitt councilpresident@stmatthewsva.org
Lector: Cindy Schmitt
Tech Volunteers: Tom Meier, Chris Moessner, Dave Strand
Ushers: Dave Carr, Mark Victorson
Altar Guild: Linda Mazzucchi, Pat Robbins

The altar flowers are given by the Bortner Families.
The Lord has given us so much to be thankful for. We are truly blessed.
Come, ye thankful people come.

The eternal candle for the month of November is sponsored by Suzanne Lazar.
In loving memory of my husband, Barry

Coming Up:

November 25, 7:00PM - Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service; pie reception to follow.

December 2, 9, 16, 7:00PM - Midweek Advent Services of Evening Prayer; soup supper before the service each week at 6:00PM.

December 6, 9:00AM – A special Intergenerational Sunday School Class will be held in lieu of regularly scheduled classes; make an Advent craft to take home.

December 24, 4:00PM and 7:00PM – Candlelight Christmas Eve Services

December 25, 10:00AM – Christmas Day Service

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