Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost



November 8, 2026

WELCOME!

If you are a visitor, please sign the guest book in the narthex. If you are seeking a church home, we joyfully invite you to join with us; please speak to me, Pastor Jami Possinger.

Holy Communion is open to all baptized believers who trust that the Lord is present for them in His Supper.

Please silence all cell phones and other electronic devices to fully enter into this time of worship.

Faith Lutheran Church
550 Rt. 940 | PO Box 228
Blakeslee, PA 18610
Office 570-646-0309

Email: faithoffice@faithlutheranblakeslee.org **Website:** faithlutheranblakeslee.org
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/Faith-Lutheran-Church-Blakeslee-PA-1721550018126312

Minister: ..... Pastor Jami Possinger
Lector..... Judie Tim
Greeters/Ushers:..... Diane Trancredi
Communion Asst./Clean up: ..... Peggy Rapp/Lois & Don Childers
Music:..... Rick Halko & Judie Tim

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Holiday Giving Tree: We'd love for you to participate in this year's giving tree! Choose a tag from the tree at the back of the church, and please return donated gifts by December 6, 2026. Thank you for sharing your generosity this holiday season!

Flowers & Bulletins: Phil and Ruth Newlander in honor of Parker Newlander and Mike Jones' birthdays. "Happy Birthday!"

Altar Service Signup: Volunteers are needed to set-up, bake bread, and clean up after communion. Please email Jan Frantz at Boris_fan@yahoo.com to help.

Bulletin Sponsors and Flower Donations: Sign-up sheets for 2027 are on the table in the foyer entrance of the church. In-house bulletin for $10 and $10 towards silk flowers, or you may bring your own fresh flowers. **Please complete the requisition form with your dedication note.**

Faith Fellowship Team: Our mission is encouraging interaction, building relationships, and creating a sense of belonging within the congregation and with the local community. If you're interested in becoming part of the Faith Fellowship Team, please contact Sara Cornell at 570-472-5560 or at saracornell10@gmail.com.

MEETINGS/EVENTS

AA Meetings: Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday at 12 p.m.

American Red Cross Blood Drive: Nov. 18, 1 p.m.-6 p.m. Please call 800-733-2767 to pre-register.

Blessing Bags: Packing bags will be held on Tuesday, November 17, from 2:30-6:30 p.m.

Bible Study: Sessions on Sundays, 8 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Studying Joshua. Please call Tom Hutton if you are interested in attending. 570-972-6331.

Bible Study: Wednesdays, 11 a.m. to Noon with Pastor Jami.

Choir Rehearsals: Sundays from 8:30 – 9:15 a.m. New members welcomed.

Faith Book Club: Our next book selection is, "Her Hidden Genius," by Marie Benedict. Discussion of the book will be after worship service on Sunday, November 29, at Murphy's Loft. All are welcome.

Faith Library: Please see one of the "Little Librarians" or Sara Cornell with any donations or questions.

Faithful Community Quilters: Second Monday of the month, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Free Community Lunch: First Tuesday of each month. (Dec. 1.) 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Five Loaf House,133 Firehouse Road, Pocono Pines.

Holy Grounds Coffee Hour: Fellowship will be held after worship on the second Sunday of each month. Volunteers to host are needed—please sign up on the sheet in the back of the church.

Pastor Jami Possinger has weekly office hours. Confidential email: pastor@faithlutheranblakeslee.org or private cell phone: 610-216-9951

Today the prophet Amos calls for justice to roll down like waters. Paul urges us to encourage one another with the promised coming of the Lord. Jesus tells the parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids. Surrounded by the faithful of every time and place, we celebrate Christ's coming in our midst in the word of life and the feast of victory—the marriage feast of the Lamb.
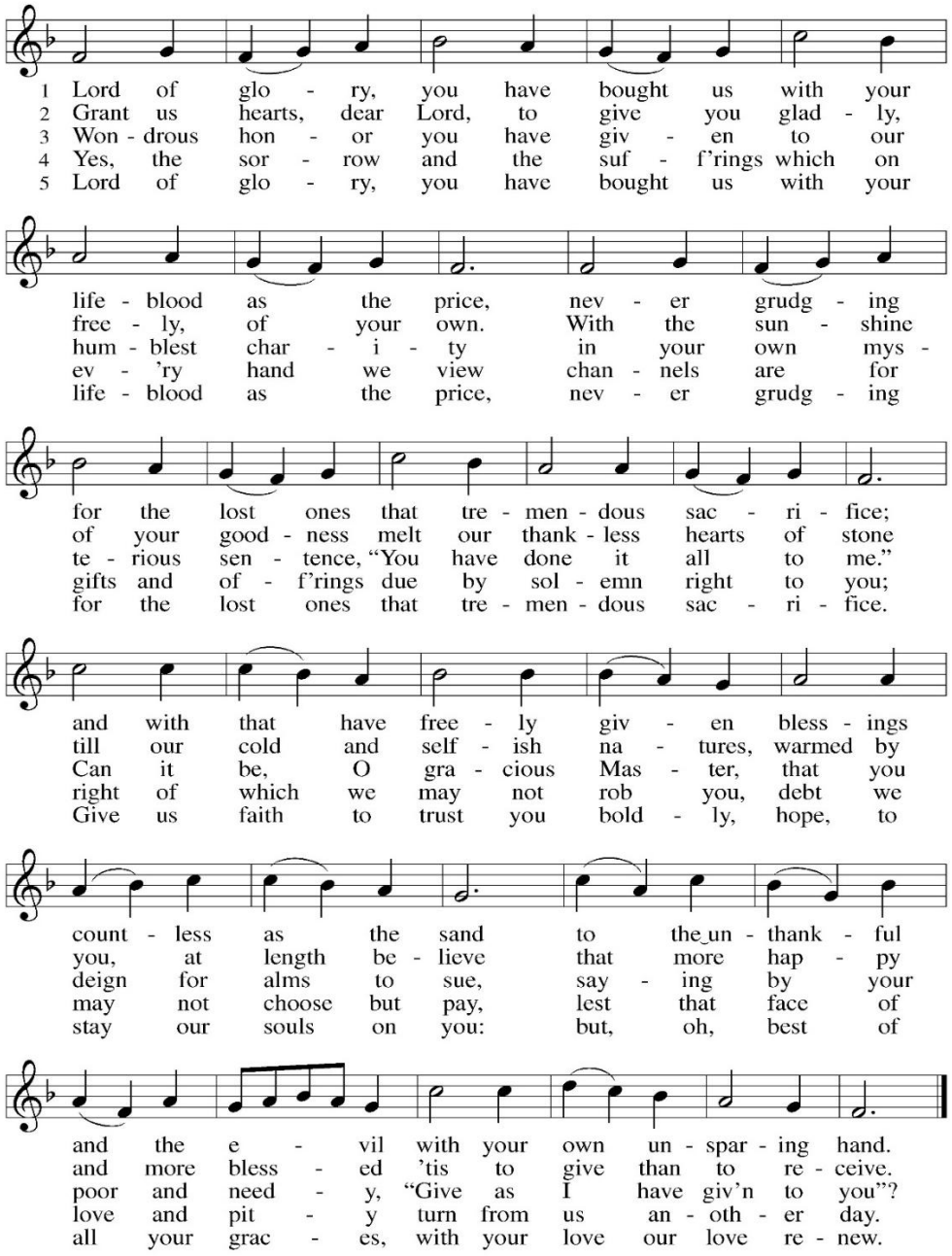
PRELUDES: Softly and Tenderly

Please rise as you are able.

RECOGNITION OF VETERANS

GATHERING HYMN **LBW 424**
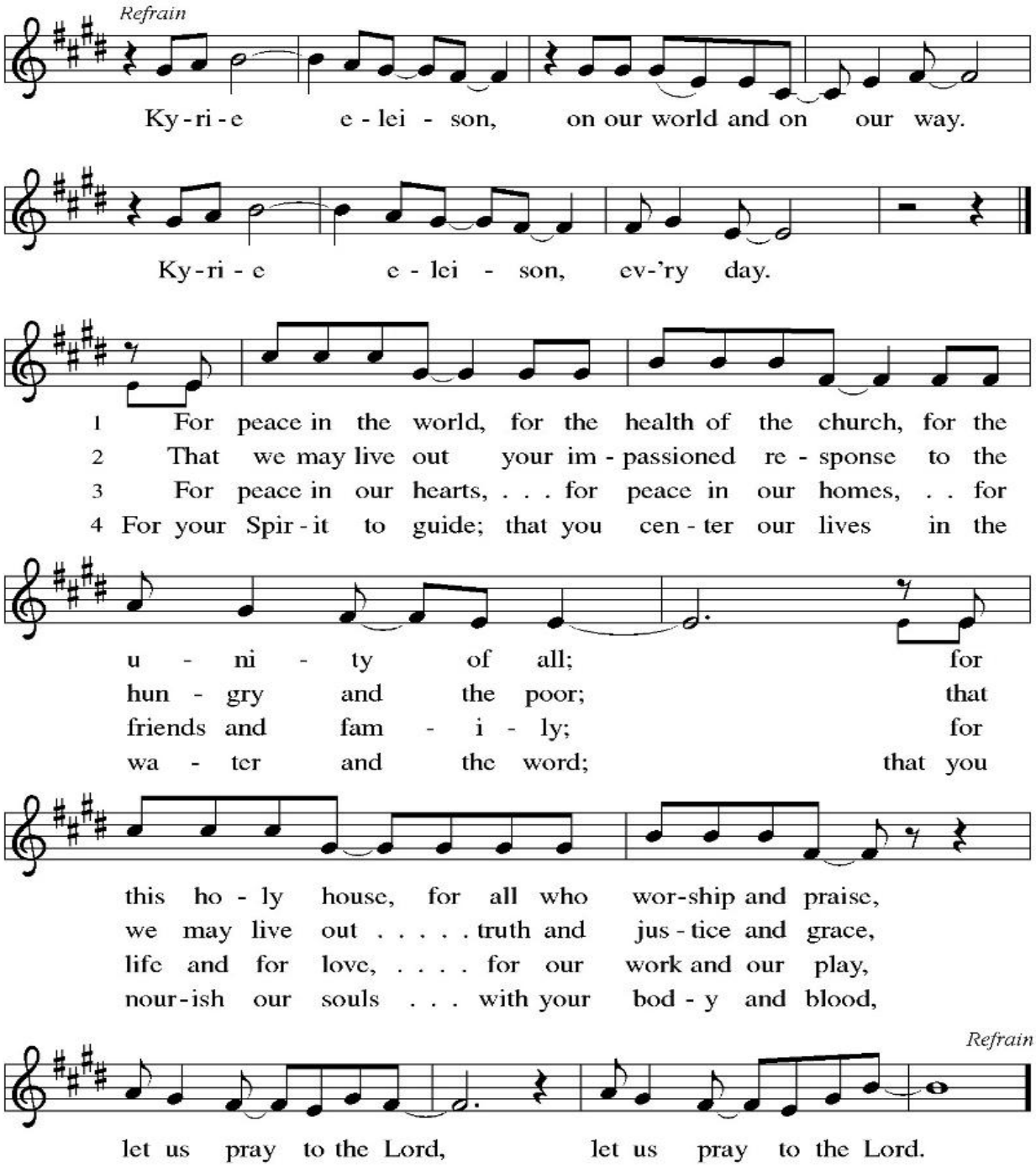
Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us
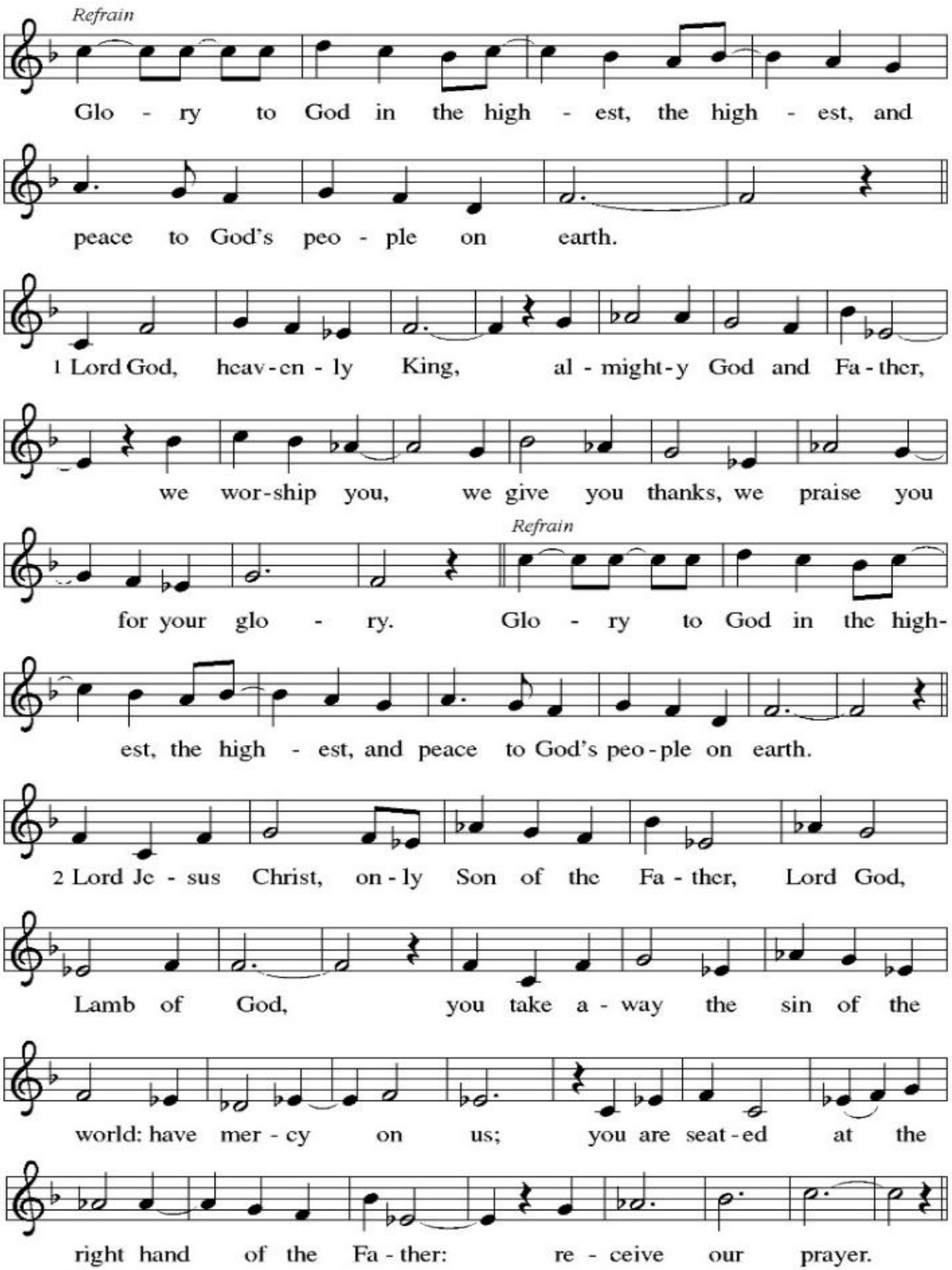


GREETING
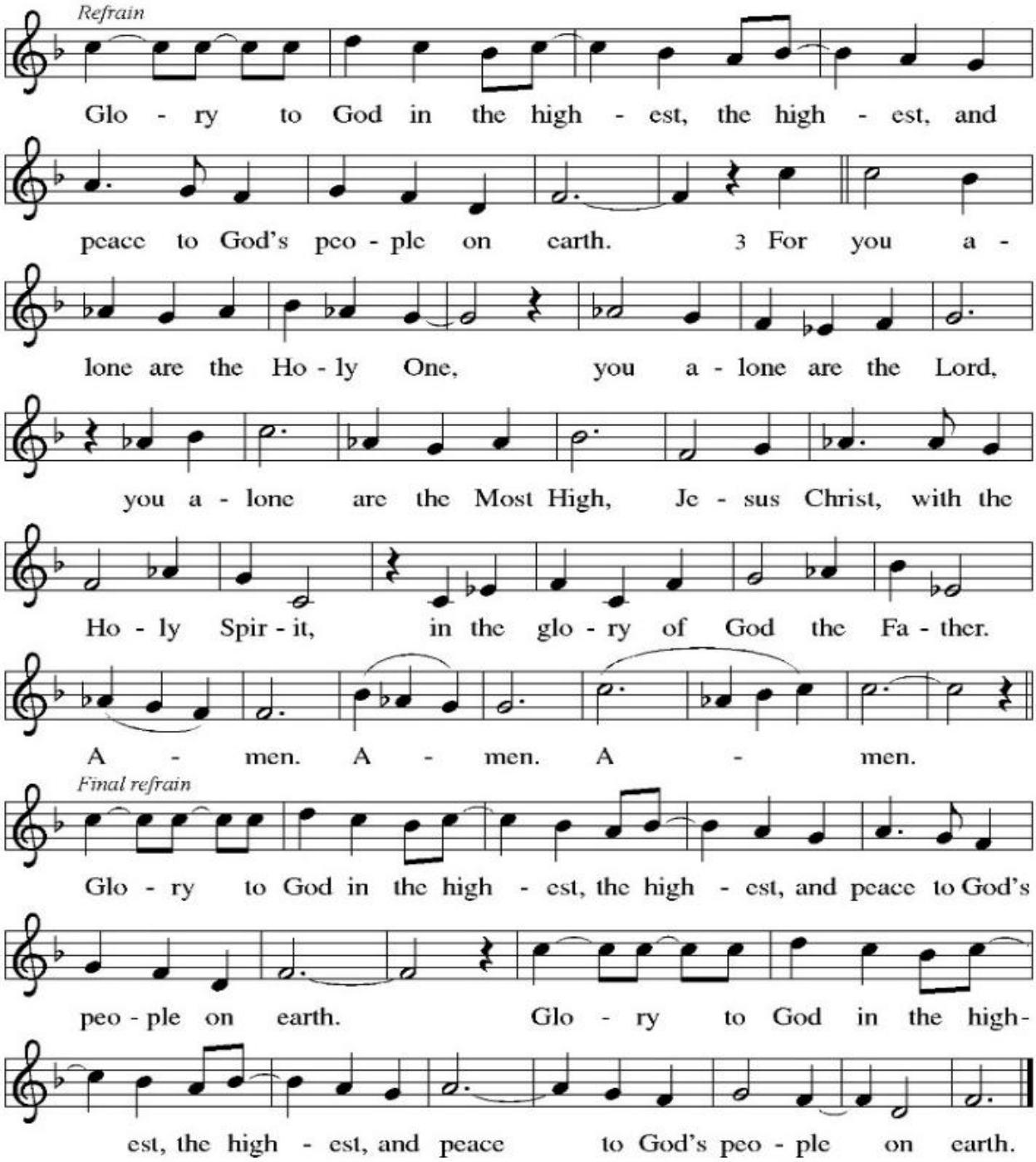
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

KYRIE



HYMN OF PRAISE





PRAYER OF THE DAY

Most generous God, by the light of your indwelling Spirit keep us alert for the comings of your true Christ into this present age. When we grow careless, or imagine he has been much delayed, give us the courage to go out into the darkness and meet him among the meek and the poor, the merciful and the persecuted. Let us live for him and beside him, to your eternal glory. **Amen!**

Please be seated.

FIRST READING: Amos 5:18-24

In the days of Amos, people thought that the day of the LORD would be a time of great victory, but Amos announced that it would be a day of darkness, not light. He said liturgy is no substitute for obedience. The LORD demands justice and righteousness in the community.

18 Woe to you who desire the day of the LORD!
Why do you want the day of the LORD?
It is darkness, not light,
19 as if someone fled from a lion
and was met by a bear
or went into the house
and rested a hand against the wall
and was bitten by a snake.
20 Is not the day of the LORD darkness, not light,
and gloom with no brightness in it?
21 I hate, I despise your festivals,
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.
22 Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,
I will not accept them,
and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals
I will not look upon.
23 Take away from me the noise of your songs;
I will not listen to the melody of your harps.
24 But let justice roll down like water
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

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

PSALM: Psalm 70

You are my helper and my deliverer; O LORD, do not tarry. (Ps. 70:5)

1 Be pleased, O God, to deliver me; O LORD, make haste to help me.

2 **Let those who seek my life be put to shame and confounded; let those who take pleasure in my misfortune draw back and be disgraced.**

3 Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat over me turn back because of their shame.

4 **Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; let those who love your salvation say forever, "Great is the LORD!"**

5 But as for me, I am poor and needy; come to me quickly, O God.
You are my helper and my deliverer; O LORD, do not tarry.

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Some of the Thessalonians are worried that dead Christians will be excluded from the resurrection to eternal life when Christ comes again. Paul reassures them with the word of hope that all Christians, living or dead, will be raised into everlasting life with Christ.

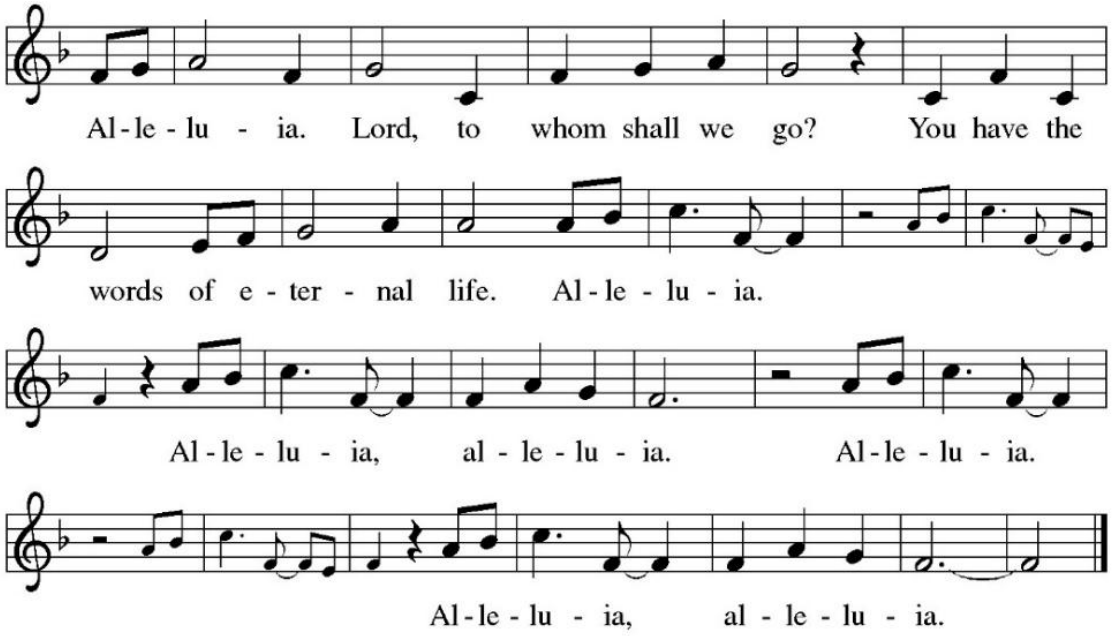
13 We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. 14 For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. 15 For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. 16 For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive, who are

left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will be with the Lord forever. 18 Therefore encourage one another with these words.

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

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to **Matthew 25:1-13**

Glory to you, O Lord.



Jesus tells a parable about his own second coming, emphasizing the need for readiness at all times.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] 1 "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten young women took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. 2 Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. 3 When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, 4 but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. 5 As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. 6 But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' 7 Then all those young women got up and trimmed their lamps. 8 The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' 9 But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' 10 And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet, and the door was shut. 11 Later the other young women came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' 12 But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' 13 Keep awake, therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**
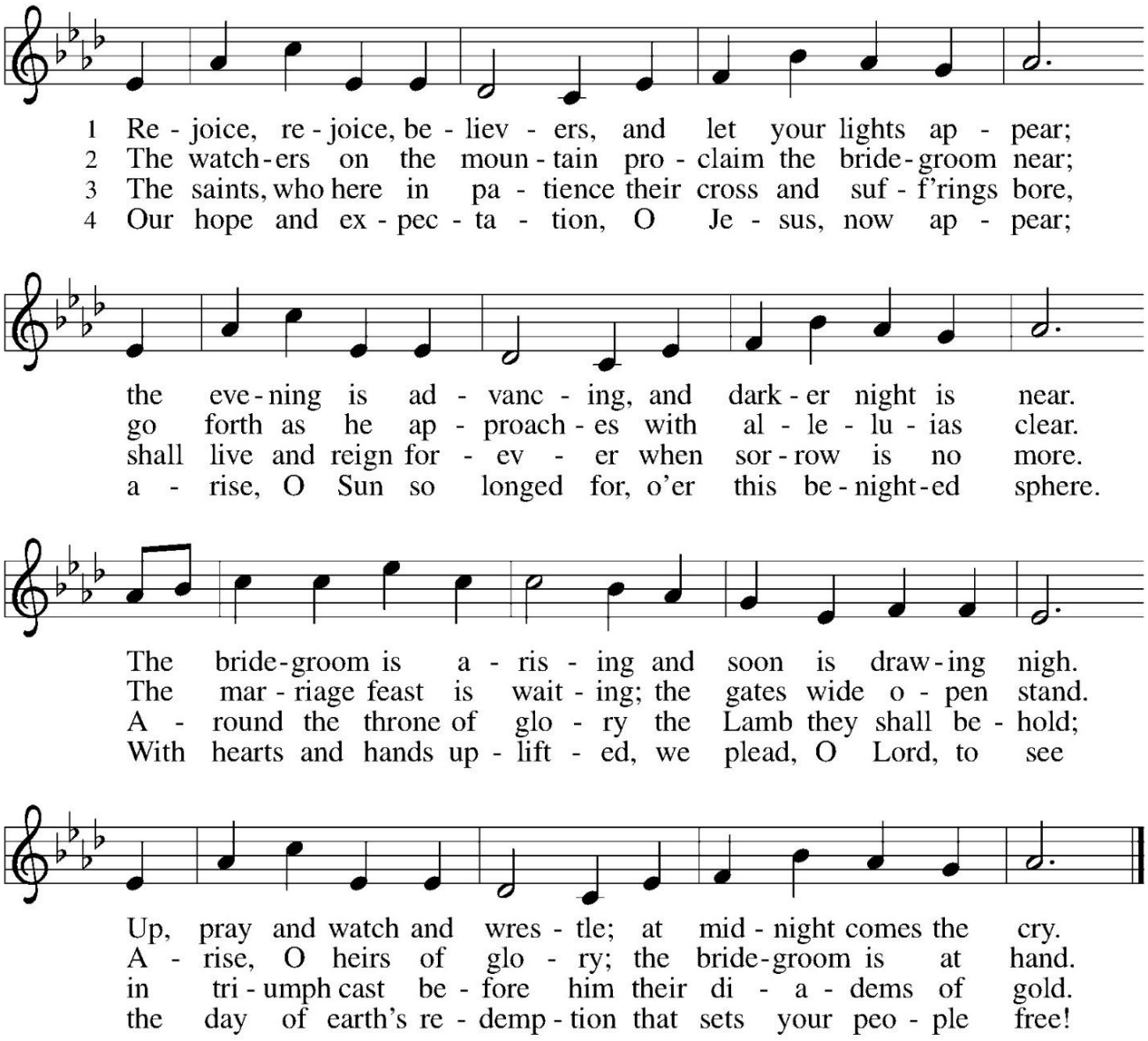
Please be seated.

CHILDREN'S TIME

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY **LBW 25**

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers





APOSTLES' CREED

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

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

A brief silence.

You illumine the church with the hope of your new day. Prepare our hearts and minds for the inbreaking of your kingdom, that we might awaken to your transforming love at work all around us. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You create and sustain the earth's natural rhythms so that all life might thrive. Show us the wisdom and wonder of nature's balance; make us careful stewards of our common home. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You make justice roll down in all places and among all nations. Encourage all who protect vulnerable communities and help rebuild in the aftermath of conflict. Uphold veterans and those who care for them. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You hasten to heal our wounds and make whole what is broken. Comfort individuals facing a difficult diagnosis, receiving palliative care, or facing uncertain treatment options. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

PRAYER LIST

Jim H.; Megan; Larissa; Denis H.; William; Richard Z.; David S.; Gail and Bob C.; Shirley S.; Justin E.; Ed. T.; Dale H.; Tom M.; Sabrina Mendez & Family; Stephanie D.; St. Jacobi, Shohola.

You give rest to weary hearts and bodies. As the days grow shorter in the north, help us to move more slowly and intentionally through our days, honoring the need for quiet and stillness. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You welcome those who have come before us in faith into the joys of heaven. Sustain us by your grace and guide us into the promise of everlasting life. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

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



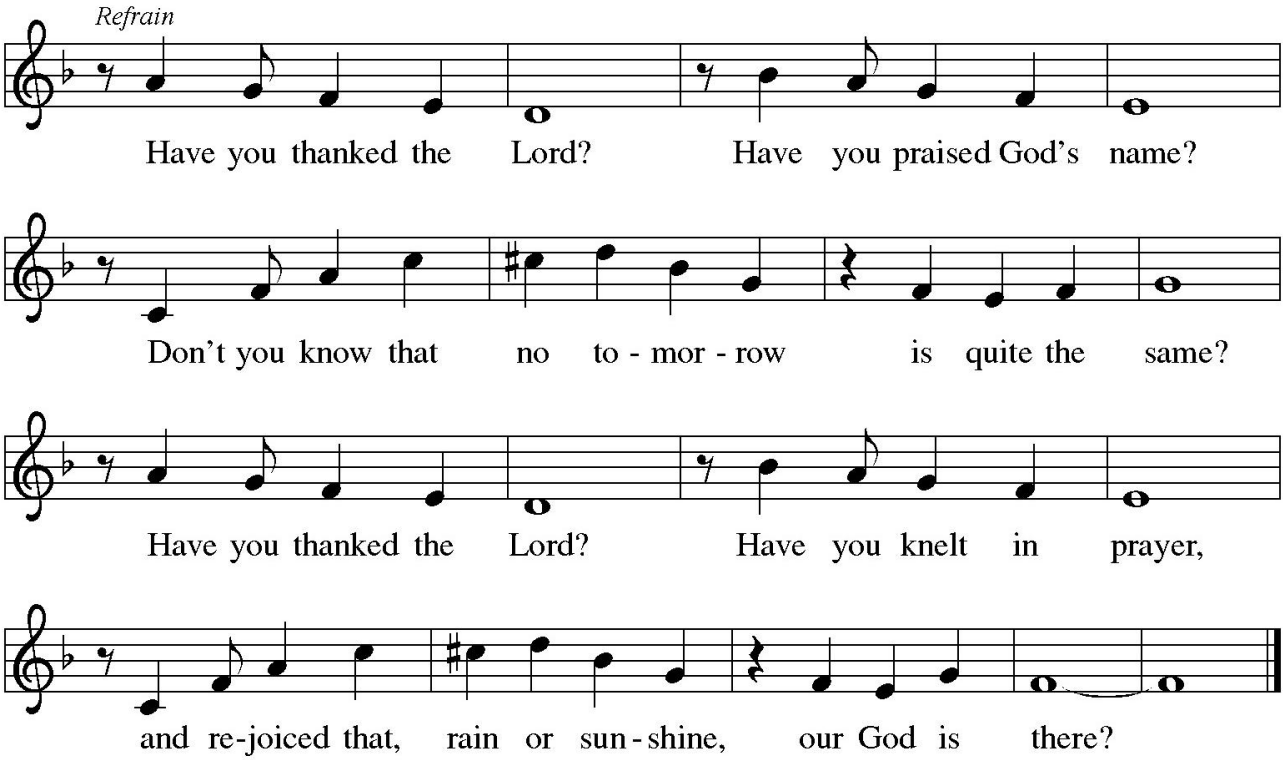
THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

SPECIAL MUSIC: "Come and See," *played by Rick Halko and Judie Tim.*

OFFERTORY SONG

Have You Thanked the Lord?



OFFERING PRAYER
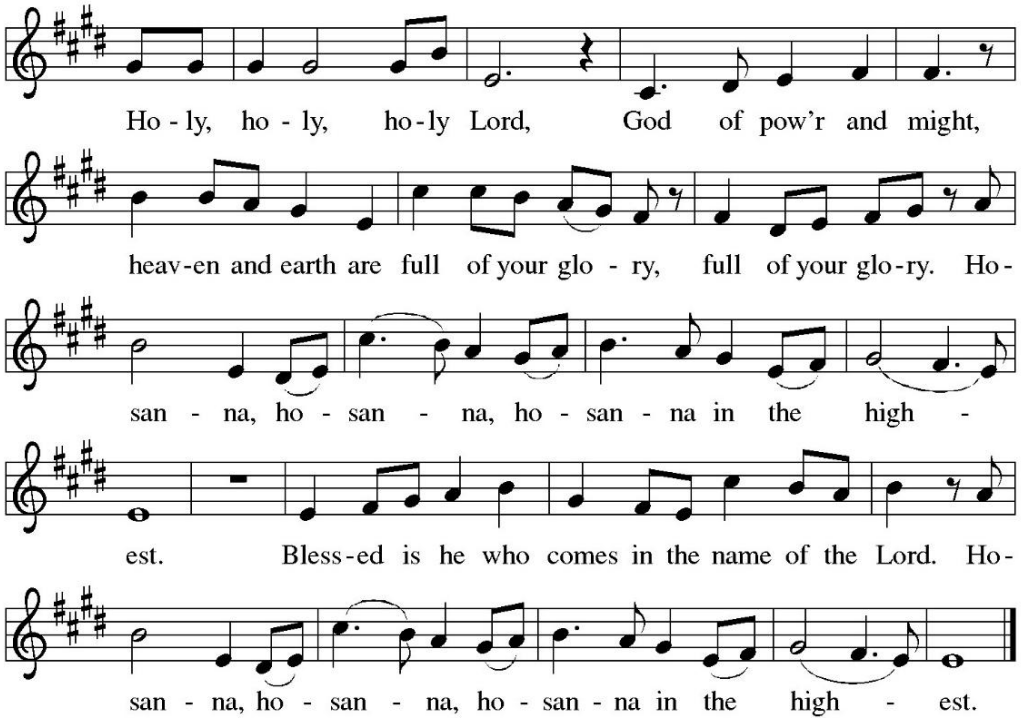
God of creation, all blessings are from you. Make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always. **Amen.**

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.	**And also 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 him thanks and praise.**

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

Send your Spirit upon these gifts of your church; gather into one all who share this bread and wine; fill us with your Holy Spirit to establish our faith in your truth. Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end. **Amen.**

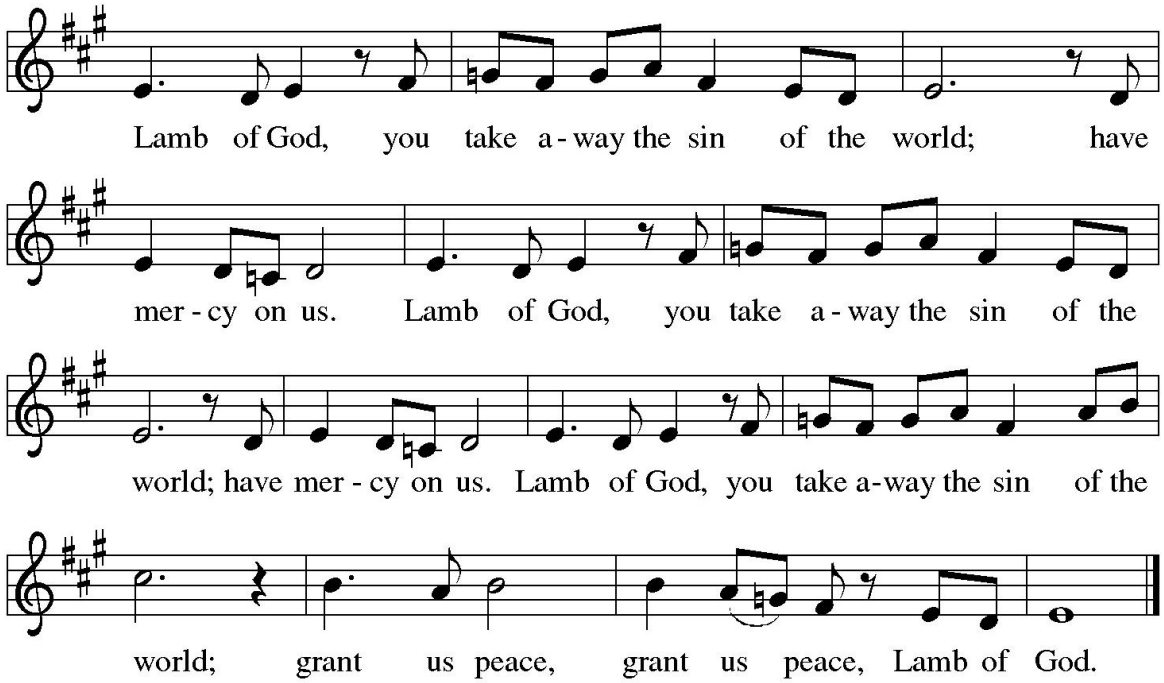
LORD'S PRAYER

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Christ invites you to this table. All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!
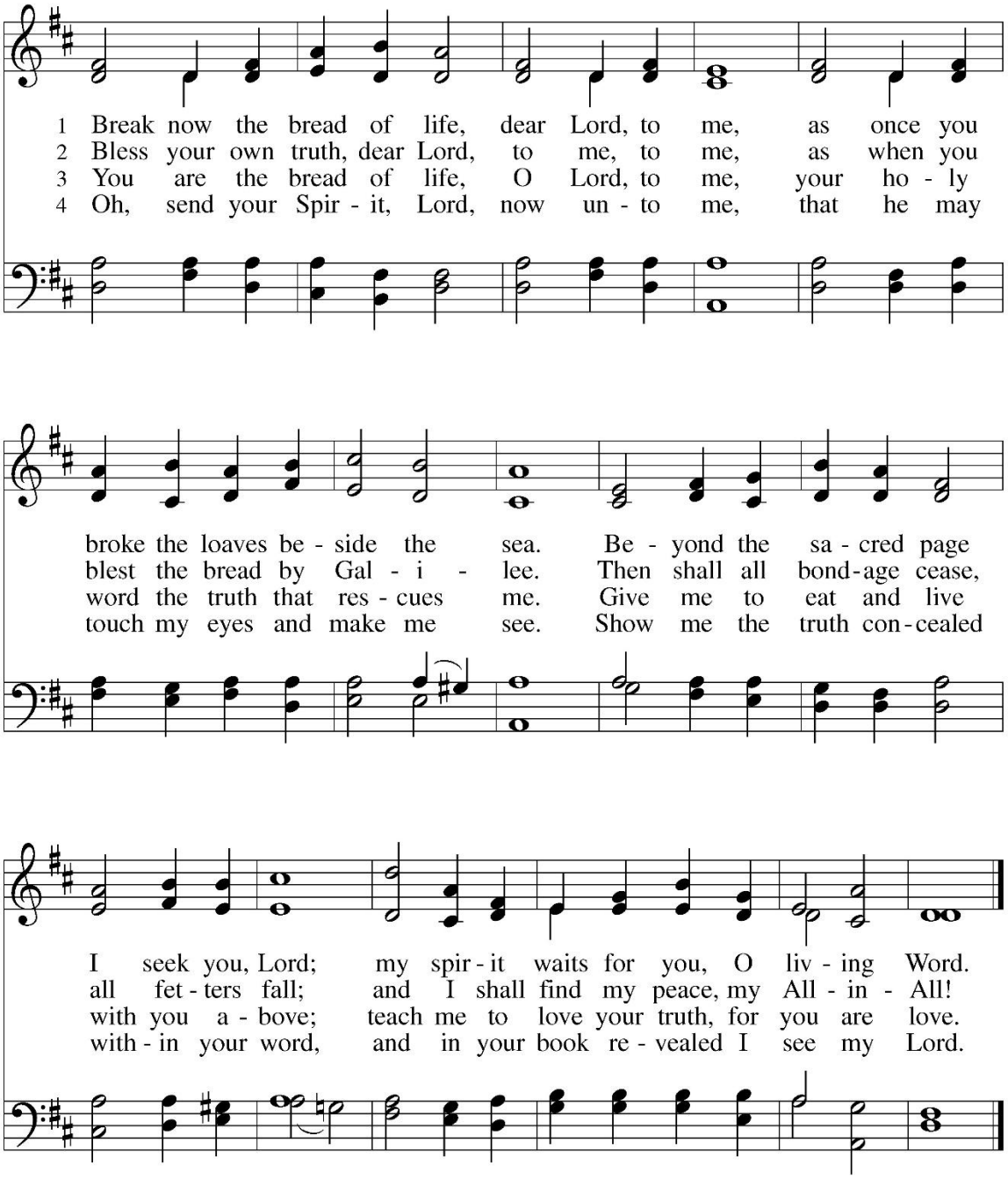
LAMB OF GOD



The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

COMMUNION HYMN:

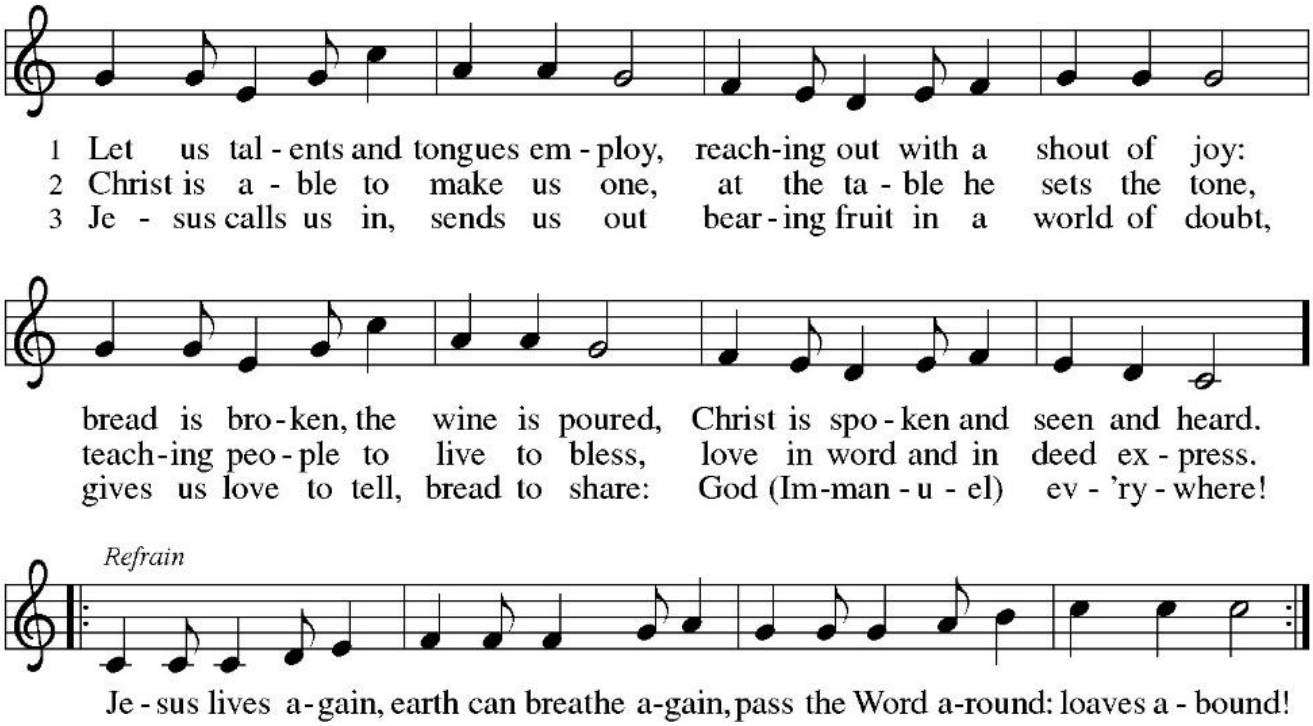
Break Now the Bread of Life



COMMUNION BLESSING

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

SONG AFTER COMMUNION **Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ**
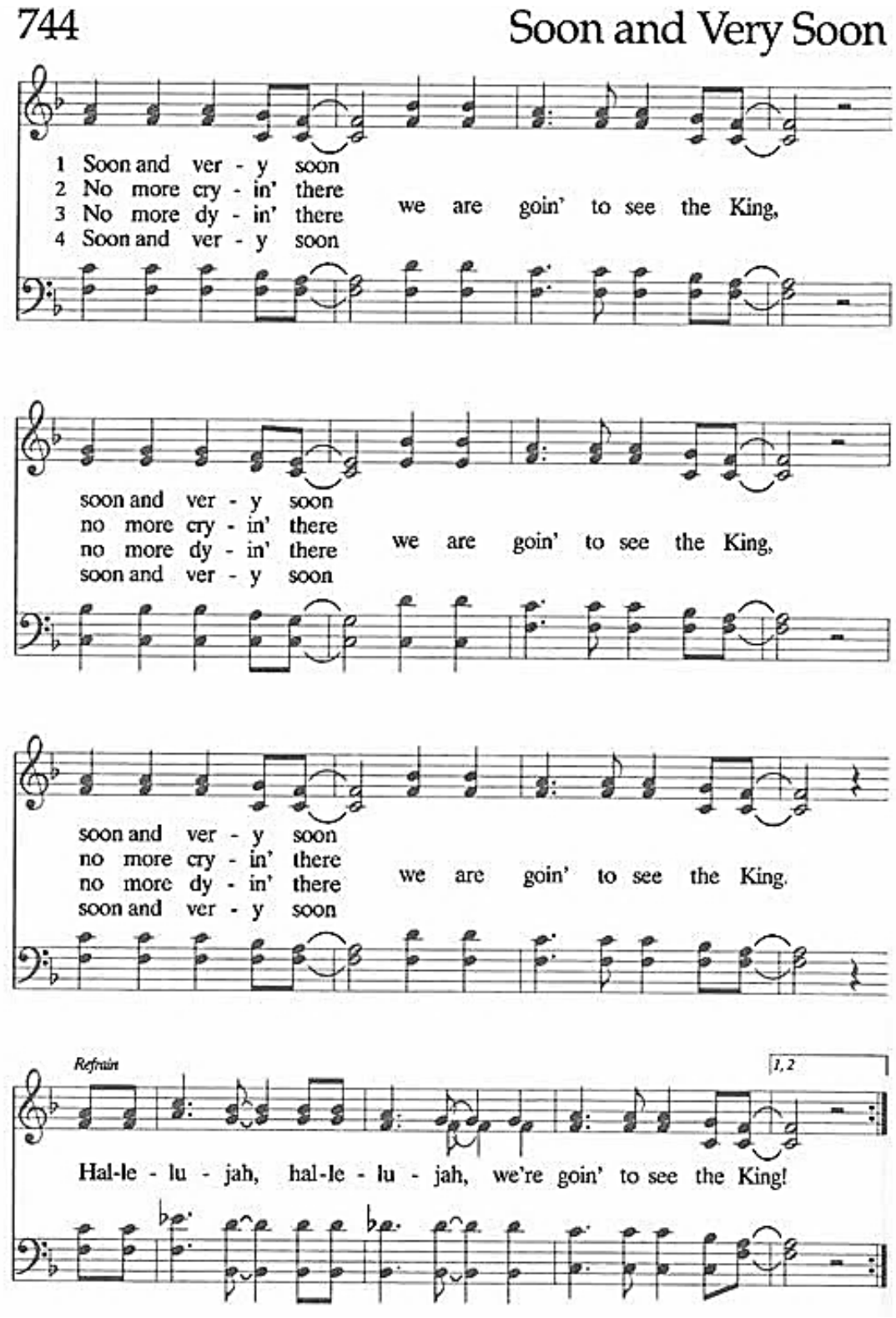


PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

BLESSING



SENDING HYMN



DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Encourage one another. **Thanks be to God.**

November 8th, 2026 – Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude:

Softly and Tenderly, Text: Will L. Thomspon, 1847-1909, Music: Thompson, Will L. © Public Domain.

Gathering Song:

Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us, Text: Eliza S. Alderson, 1818-1889, alt., Tune: Rowland H. Prichard, 1811-1887. © Public Domain.

Hymn of the Day:

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers, Text: Laurentius Laurentii, 1660-1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823-1907, alt., Tune: Swedish folk tune. © Public Domain.

Special Music:

Come and See, ©1997 Doulos Publishing, a Div. of Maranatha Music. CCLI #121737.

Service Music:

Kyrie, Glory to God, Alleluia, Holy, Lamb of God, Setting 8, Evangelical Lutheran Worship. © 2011 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Augsburg Fortress Publishers. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-726919. All rights reserved.

Have You Thanked the Lord, Bill LaMotta. © 1999, Augsburg Fortress. #50269. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE # A-726919. All rights reserved.

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ, Fred Kaan. © 1975 Hope Publishing Company. #53739. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE # A-726919. All rights reserved.

Break Thou the Bread of Life, Text: Mary A. Lathbury, 1841-1913, alt. Music: BREAD OF LIFE, William F. Sherwin, 1826-1888. © Public Domain.

Sending Hymn:

Soon and Very Soon, Andrae Crouch. © 1971 Bud John Songs, Inc. (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing). #11249. CCLI License #20635975 and Streaming License #20635982.

Postlude:

Praise to the Lord the Almighty, Text: Joachim Neander, 1650-1680; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt. Music: LOBE DEN HERREN, Ernwerten Gesangbuch, Part II, Stralsund, 1665. © Public Domain.

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Peggy Rapp, Council Secretary ..... drpeggy09@aol.com
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Janet Kath, Church Secretary ..... Faithoffice@FaithLutheranBlakeslee.org

Christmas 2026



If you can help a family in need, please select a tag from the tree.

Please bring your wrapped gift no later than December 6, 2026.

Giving Tree



Christmas Concert



Kathy Knittel, vocals
Joan Bujacich, piano and arrangements
Joe Bilotti, guitar

Holiday favorites and seasonal songs
with moments to sing along



with
The Songbird Trio

Saturday, November 21, 2026
3 p.m.

Celebrate the spirit of Christmas and the beauty of winter with the heartfelt harmonies of The Songbird Trio. Lead vocalist Kathy Knittel, pianist and arranger Joan Bujacich, and guitarist Joe Bilotti are delighted to return to Faith Lutheran Church, bringing new songs to share alongside familiar favorites, including the audience-loved "Wildfire."

From the youthful charm of "Skating" from *A Charlie Brown Christmas* to the upbeat "'Zat You, Santa Claus?" and the sheer beauty of Gordon Lightfoot's "Song for a Winter's Night," the program offers a lovely mix of holiday favorites and seasonal tunes that will warm your heart.

The Songbird Trio will lift your spirits with unique arrangements and fine musicianship. You may even find yourself singing along during the audience participation numbers!

Faith Lutheran Church
550 Route 940, Pocono Lake, PA


Faith Lutheran Church
Friendsgiving
Sunday, November 22, 2026
Immediately after church
Join us for a Thanksgiving luncheon and fellowship.
Turkey and ham will be provided.
Please bring a covered dish to share.
A sign up sheet will be on the table at the back of the church to indicate the number of people attending and the dish.
You may also call the church office at (570) 646-0309 to reply.