Welcome to Shepherd of the Desert Lutheran Church

Sun City, Arizona



Service of Holy Communion

24th Weekend after Pentecost

November 7 and 8, 2026

Mission Statement

To be a congregation that puts the love of Christ into action from one generation to another and from our community to our world.

Order of Worship

+ denotes please stand in body or spirit.

Prelude

Words of Welcome

+ Confession and Forgiveness

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

C Amen.

P Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart, and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching him, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P I said, I will confess my transgressions to the Lord.

C And you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

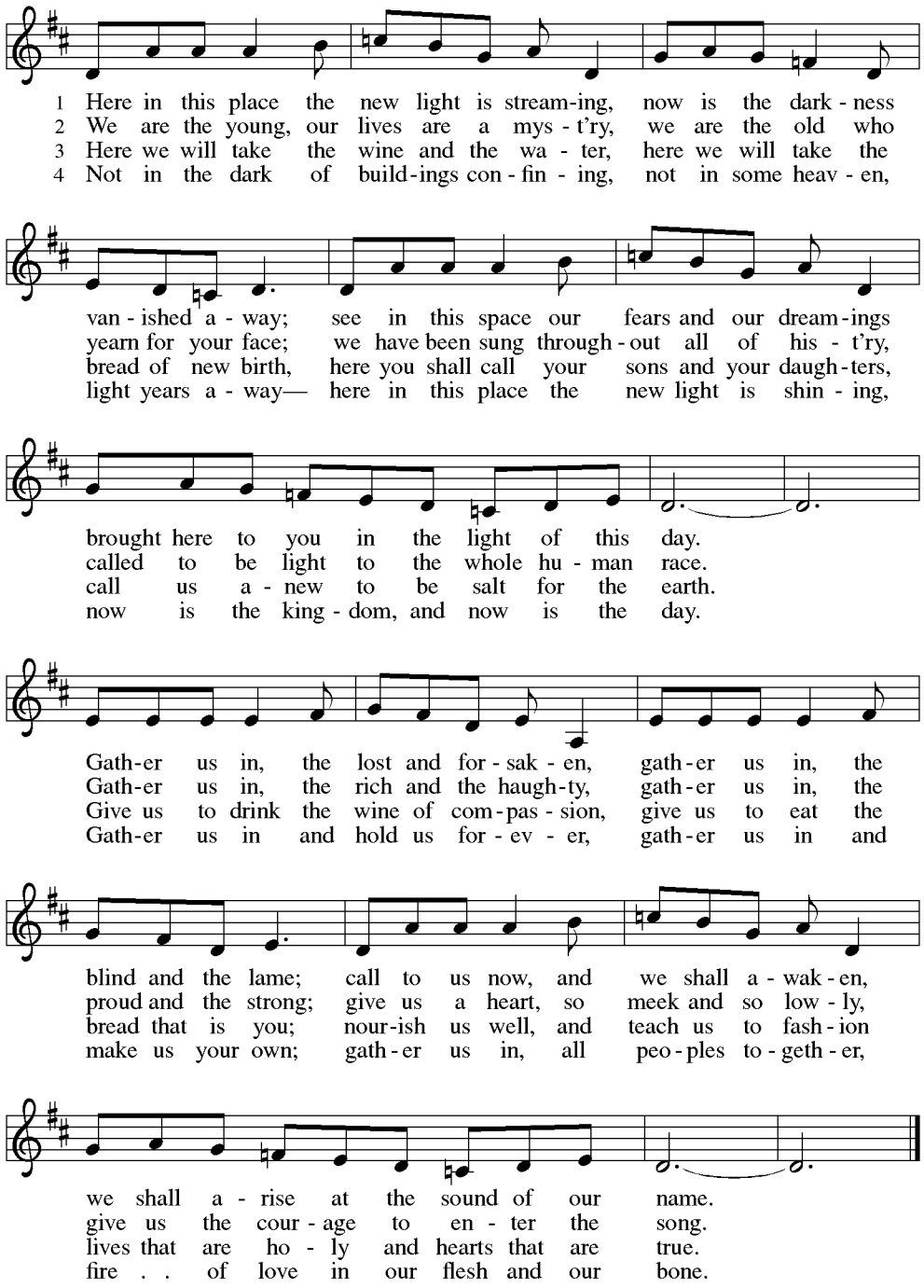
P To you, O God,

C all hearts are open, to you all desires known. We come to you, confessing our sins. Forgive us in your mercy, and remember us in your love. Show us your ways; teach us your paths; and lead us in justice and truth, for the sake of your goodness in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

P The Almighty and merciful God grant unto you, being penitent, pardon and remission of all your sins, time for amendment of life, and the grace and comfort of his Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

+ Gathering Hymn *Gather Us In* #532



+ 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.

+ Kyrie Page 147

A In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
C Lord, have mercy.
A For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
C Lord, have mercy.
A 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.
C Lord, have mercy.
A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.
C Lord, have mercy.
A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
C Amen, amen.

+ Hymn of Praise Page 149

A This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.
C Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God.
Power and riches and wisdom and strength,
and honor and blessing and glory are his.
This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.
Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing and honor and glory and might
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.
This is the feast of victory for our God,
for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign.
Alleluia. Alleluia.

+ Prayer of the Day

A The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.
A O God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
C Amen.

First Reading Wisdom of Solomon 6:12-16

L The Word of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

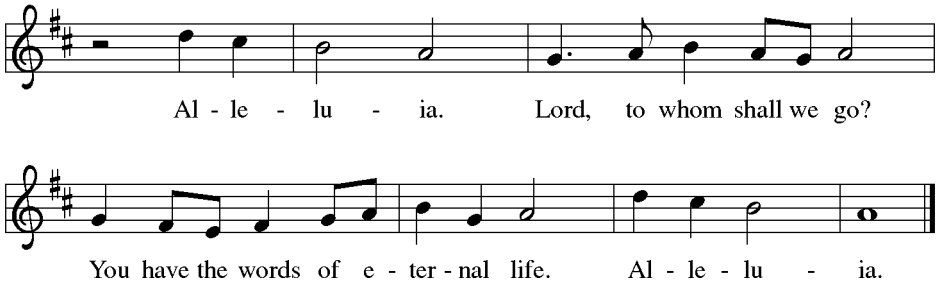
Psalm of the Day Wisdom of Solomon 6:17-20

17 The beginning of wisdom is the most sincere desire for instruction,
and concern for instruction is love of wisdom,
18 **and love of wisdom is the keeping of wise laws,**
and giving heed to wise laws is assurance of immortality,
19 and immortality brings one near to God;
20 so the desire for wisdom leads to a kingdom.

Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

L The Word of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

+ Gospel Acclamation

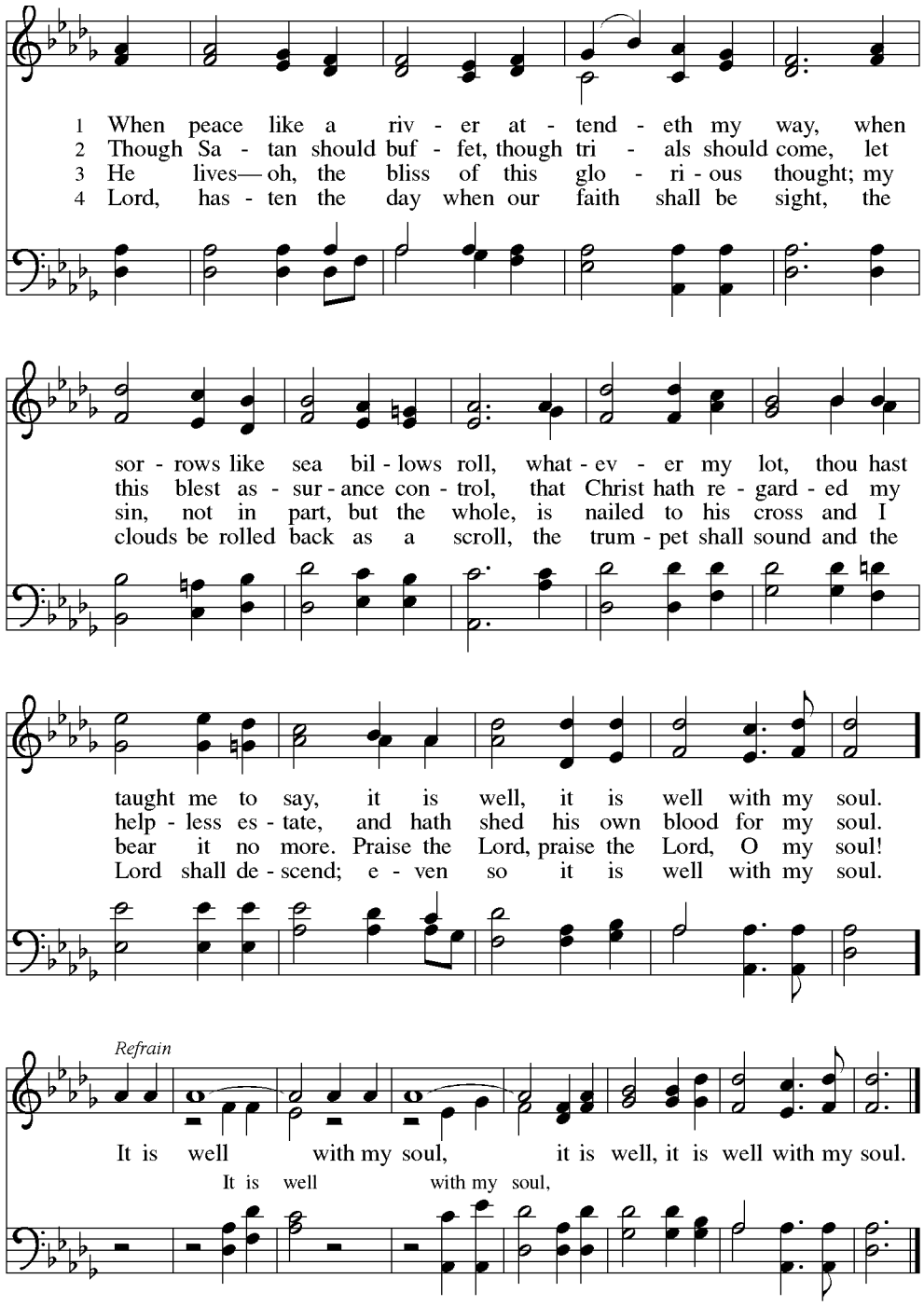


+ Gospel Reading Matthew 25:1-13

P The Gospel of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

Message

+ Hymn of the Day *When Peace Like a River* #785



+ <u>Apostles' Creed</u>

A With the whole Church let us confess our faith.

C I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth:
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy *Spirit*,
Born of the Virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead and buried:
He descended into hell; The third day he rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy *Spirit*; The Holy Christian Church, the Communion of Saints; The Forgiveness of sins; The Resurrection of the body, And the Life everlasting. Amen.

<u>Prayers of the Gathered Community</u>

Each petition ends: A God, in your mercy,
C Hear our prayer.

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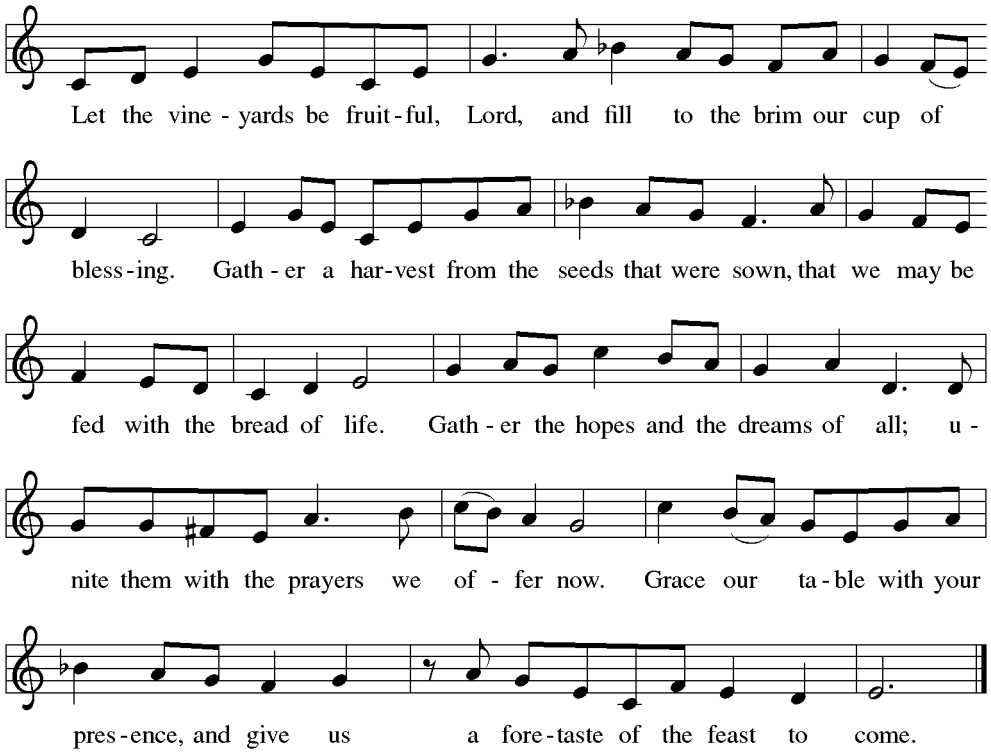
C Amen.

+ <u>Share the Peace</u>

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

+ <u>Offertory</u>



+ <u>Prayer at the Table</u>

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

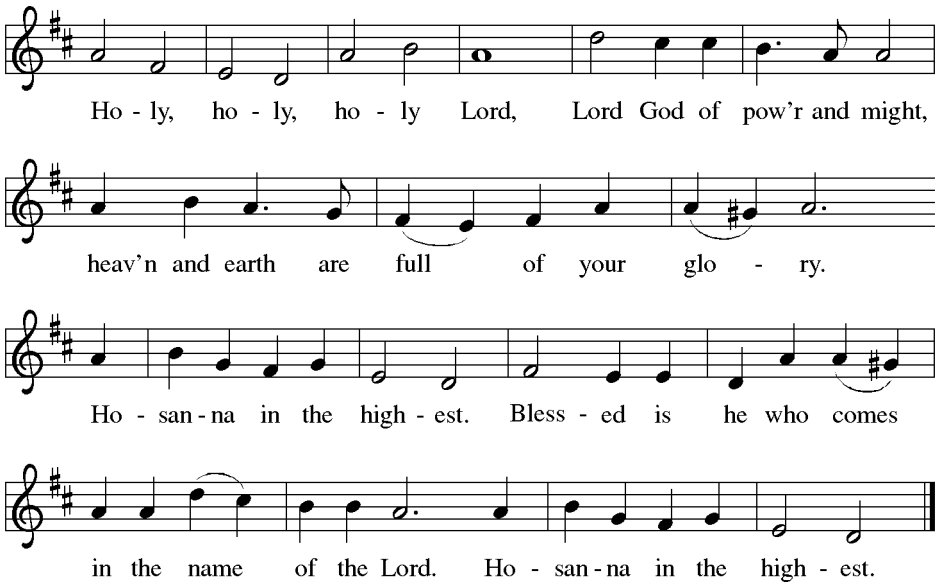
P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P 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. By the witness of your saints you show us the hope of our calling and strengthen us to run the race set before us, that we may delight in your mercy and rejoice with them in glory. And so, with all the saints, with the choirs of angels and all the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:
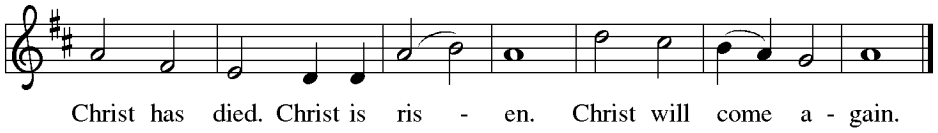


P Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age. All creation sings your praise. Sun, moon, and stars reflect your glory. Mountains, lakes, and forests declare your wonders. With saints through the ages we ponder the mystery of Christ's dying and rising.

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.

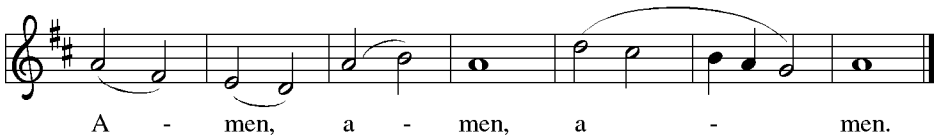
P Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end,
we proclaim the mystery of faith:

C



P At this table make us your body. Form us to be people of justice and peace. Fill us with gratitude and generosity that we may bear the fruit of love in word and deed.
To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

C



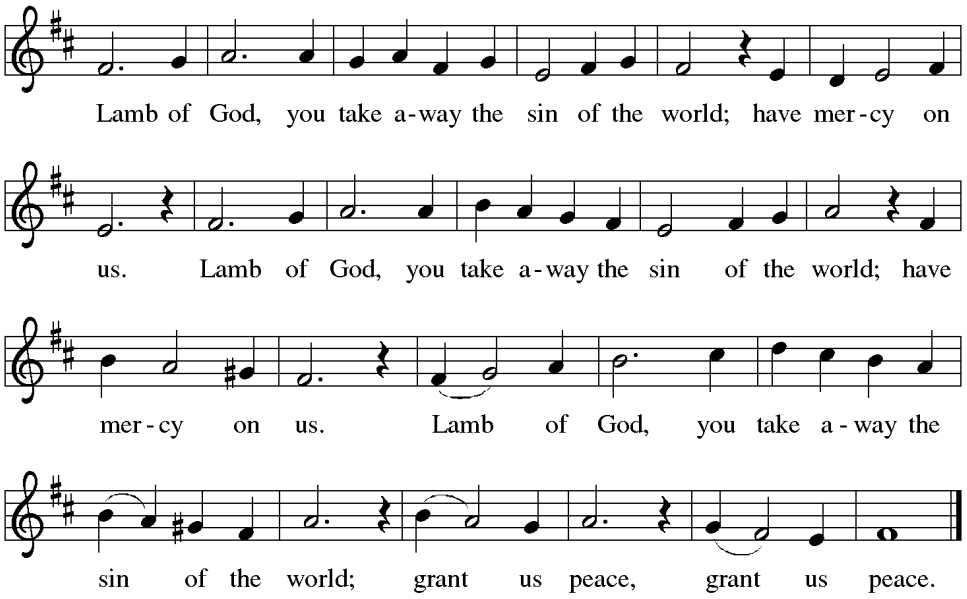
P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

<u>Invitation to Communion</u>

P There is a place for everyone at the Lord's table. All of you are welcome.

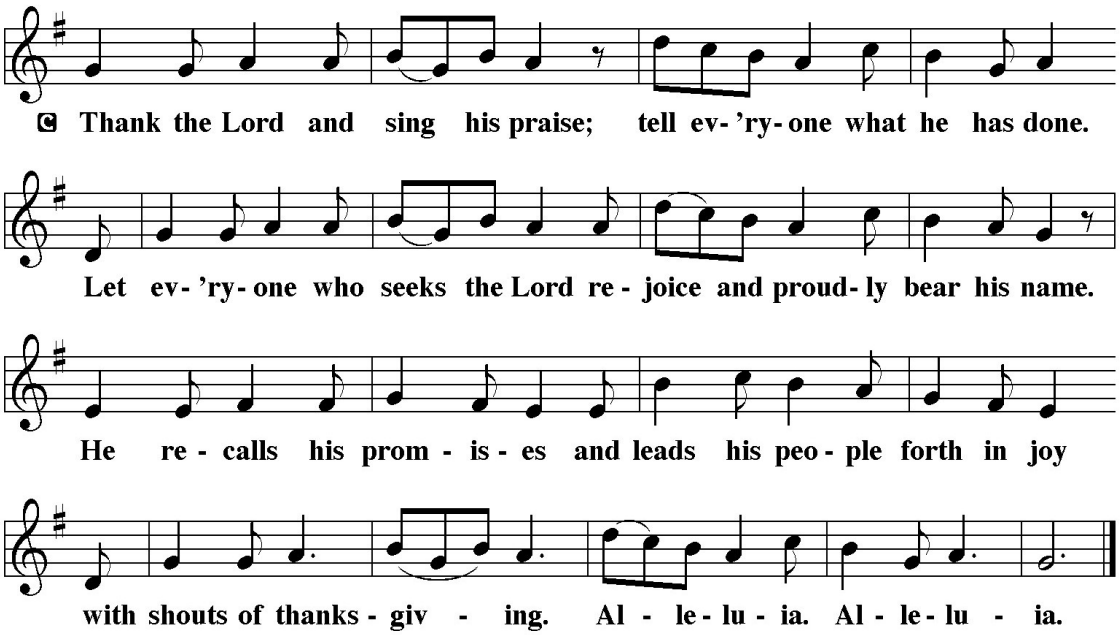
All wafers are gluten free. Wine is red. Juice is gold.



+ <u>Post Communion Blessing and Canticle</u>

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

C Amen.



+ <u>Post Communion Prayer and Sending of Communion</u>

A 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.

We pray especially for our Eucharistic ministers who go forth to share the gifts of this meal with our sisters and brothers who are sick, homebound, or isolated. May those who carry these holy gifts, and all who receive them, know the comfort of your presence and the strength of our shared faith.

Make us all living signs of your healing, grace, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.
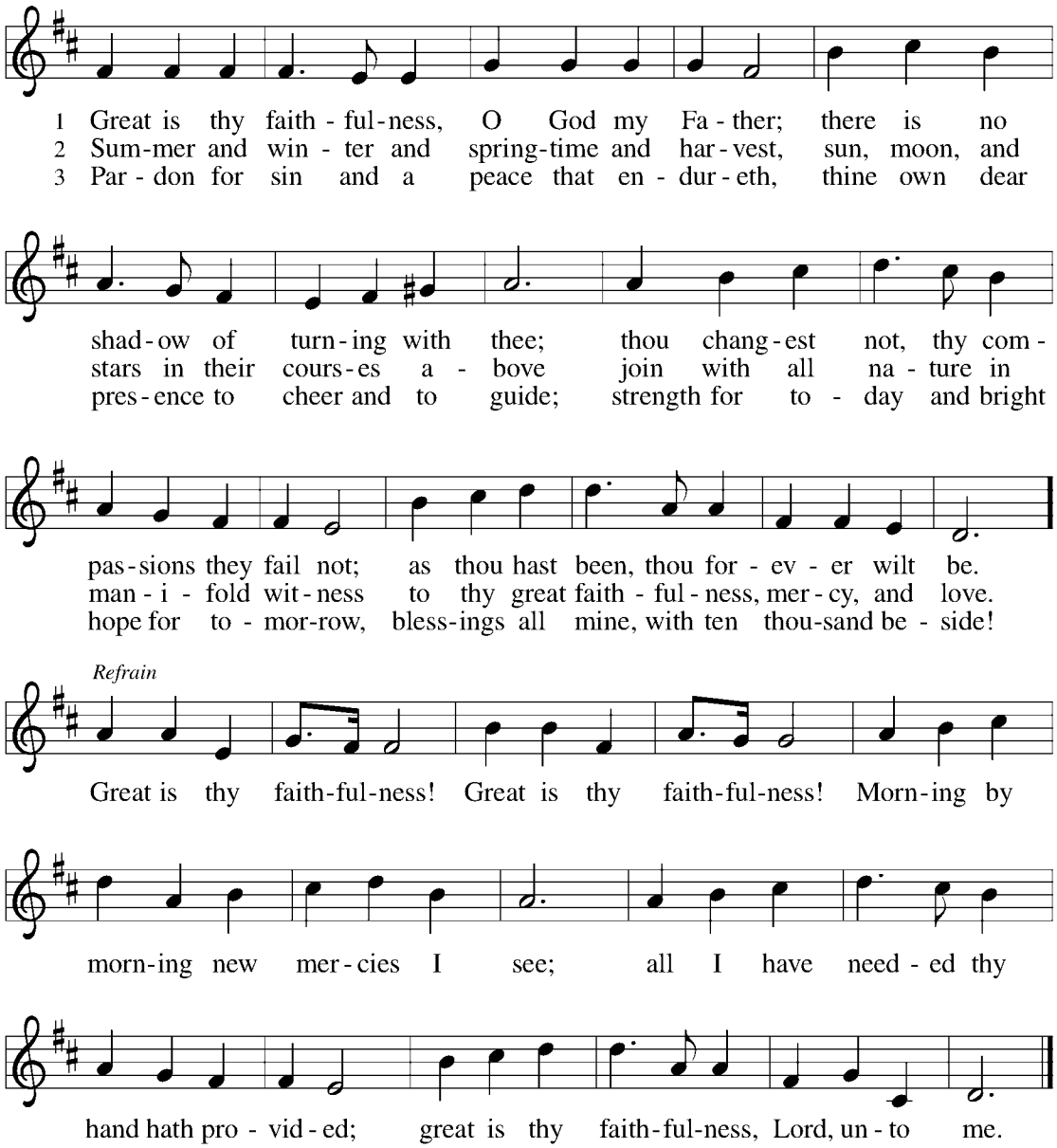
C Amen.

+ <u>Blessing</u>

P The Lord bless you and keep.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C Amen.

+ Sending Hymn *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* #733



+ Dismissal

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Postlude