FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER — APRIL 28, 2024

WELCOME

Welcome in the name of Christ Jesus. As we worship, we pray that you will open your heart in preparation as our Savior comes to us through the word and sacraments. If you are a guest, please sign your name, address and most importantly your phone number in our Guest Book in the entrance and come and worship with us again. If we can be of assistance to you in your spiritual walk through life please let us know.

COMMUNION PRACTICE

Lamb of God celebrates the Lord's Supper in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust in His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, are asked first to speak with the Pastor or an elder. For further study, see MATTHEW 5:23ff; 10:32ff;18:15-35;26:26-29; 1 CORINTHIANS 11:17-34.

CAUTION

It is prudent and wise to let our church family know you have broken people sitting around you; this is a place for the broken as Jesus describes in the gospels. We have/may have folks in the congregation that have been alcoholics, drug abusers, spousal abusers, formerly violent and even sexual offenders. This is a house for the broken. We certainly understand that this is a Lamb of God Lutheran Church Ministry and have taken diligent steps to create a safe environment for all who would like to worship our Father.

A SPECIAL WELCOME TO THOSE WITH YOUNG CHILDREN

We are very happy that you are here today, whether this is your first or fiftieth time with us. If you need a little help, please ask. There are many people here at Lamb of God who will lend you a hand.

Here are some suggestions to help make worship with your children easier:

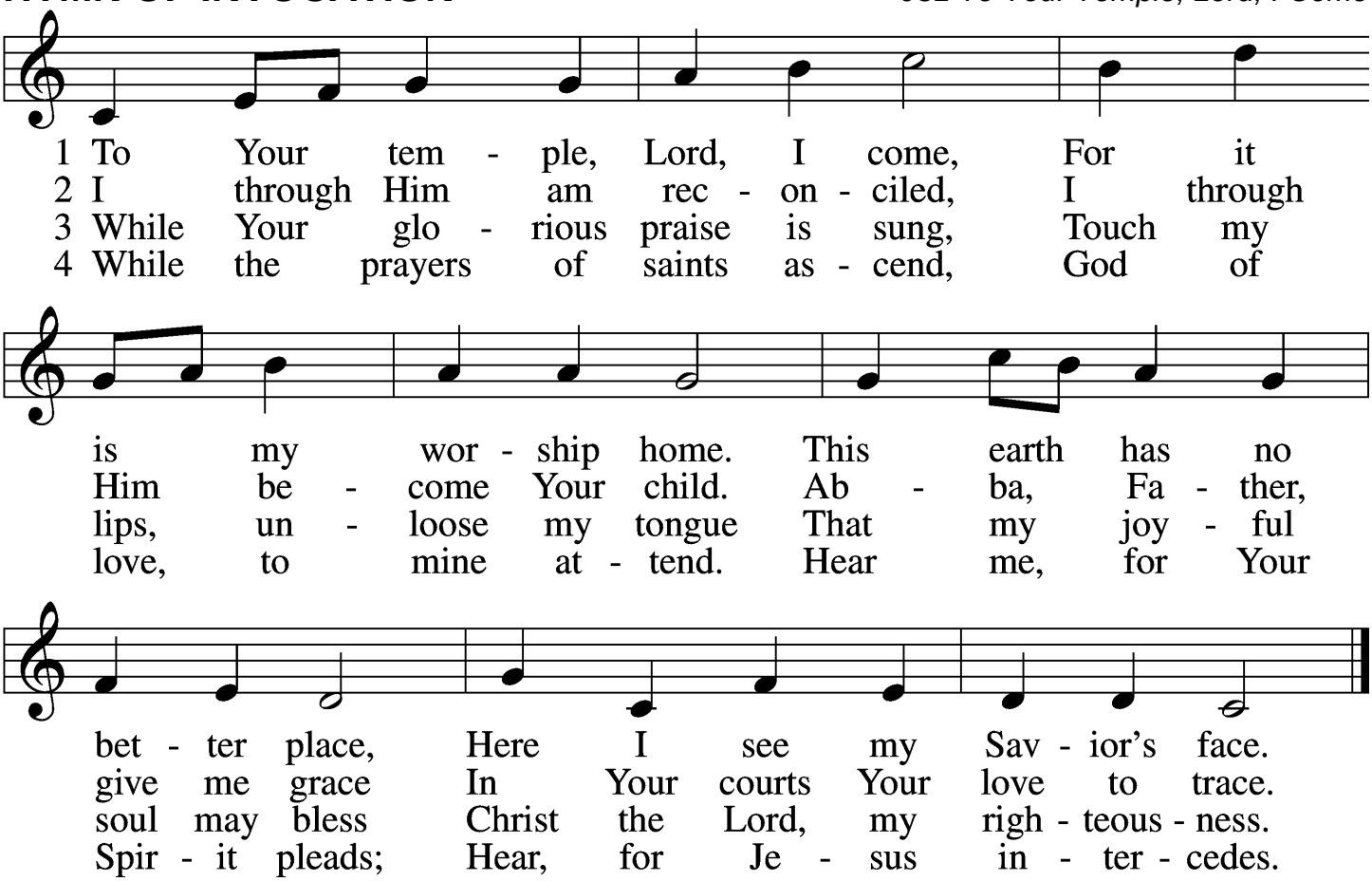
- ✞ **Relax!** Jesus knows that children tend to wiggle and squawk a bit, so please don't feel embarrassed by it. Your children are welcome at Lamb of God.
- ✞ **Please dare to sit toward the front,** where your children can easily see the pastor, note the colors, embrace the action at the altar, and wonder at the symbols in the great stained-glass windows. What Jesus does here promises to engage them.
- ✞ **Explain** the parts of the Divine Service to your children, encouraging them to chime in on their parts: *Amen! Lord have mercy! And with your spirit! I believe! Our Father!* All of this belongs to them, too.
- ✞ **Sing the hymns**, pray, and voice the responses. Children learn by following your lead.
- ✞ **If you have to leave the service** with your child, feel free to do so – but please hurry back! Like Jesus, we want your children in the Liturgy, not out (there are soft toys and books in the nursery, and activity sheets with colored pencils in the fellowship hall which can be brought into the worship hall to help engage your child)
- ✞ **Remember** that the way we nurture children in church directly affects the way they respond to the Church, God, and to one another. Let them know that they are at home in this house of worship.
- ✞ **Please know** that while you are caring for your children, the rest of us will be rejoicing in Jesus' words **"Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these"** (LUKE 18:16)

We know that your children are a gift to the church, so we will do our best to welcome, smile, encourage, help, and bless you all.

+ PREPARATION +

HYMN OF INVOCATION

981 To Your Temple, Lord, I Come



5 While I listen to Your Law, Fill my soul with humble awe
Till Your Gospel bring to me Life and immortality.

6 While Your ministers proclaim Peace and pardon in Your name,
Through their voice, by faith, may I Hear You speaking from the sky.

7 From Your house when I return, May my heart within me burn,
And at evening let me say, "I have walked with God today."

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt. Tune: Geist-reiches Gesang-Buch, 1704, Halle, ed. Johann A. Freylinghausen, alt. Text and tune: Public domain

INVOCATION *Matthew 28:19b; 18:20*

P In the name of the Father and of the ✢ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

EXHORTATION *1 John 1:8–9*

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

CONFESSION OF SINS

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

ABSOLUTION *[John 20:19–23]*

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✢ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

INTROIT

Psalm 145:1–2, 8, 10, 21; antiphon: John 16:16

L A little while, and you will see me no longer;
and again a little while, and you will see me.
I will extol you, my God and King,
and bless your name forever and ever.
Every day I will bless you
and praise your name forever and ever.
The LORD is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD,
and all your saints shall bless you!
My mouth will speak the praise of the LORD,
and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever.

C **Glory be to the Father and to the Son**
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

L A little while, and you will see me no longer;
and again a little while, and you will see me.

KYRIE

Mark 10:47

L In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

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

C **Lord, have mercy.**

L 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.**

L For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

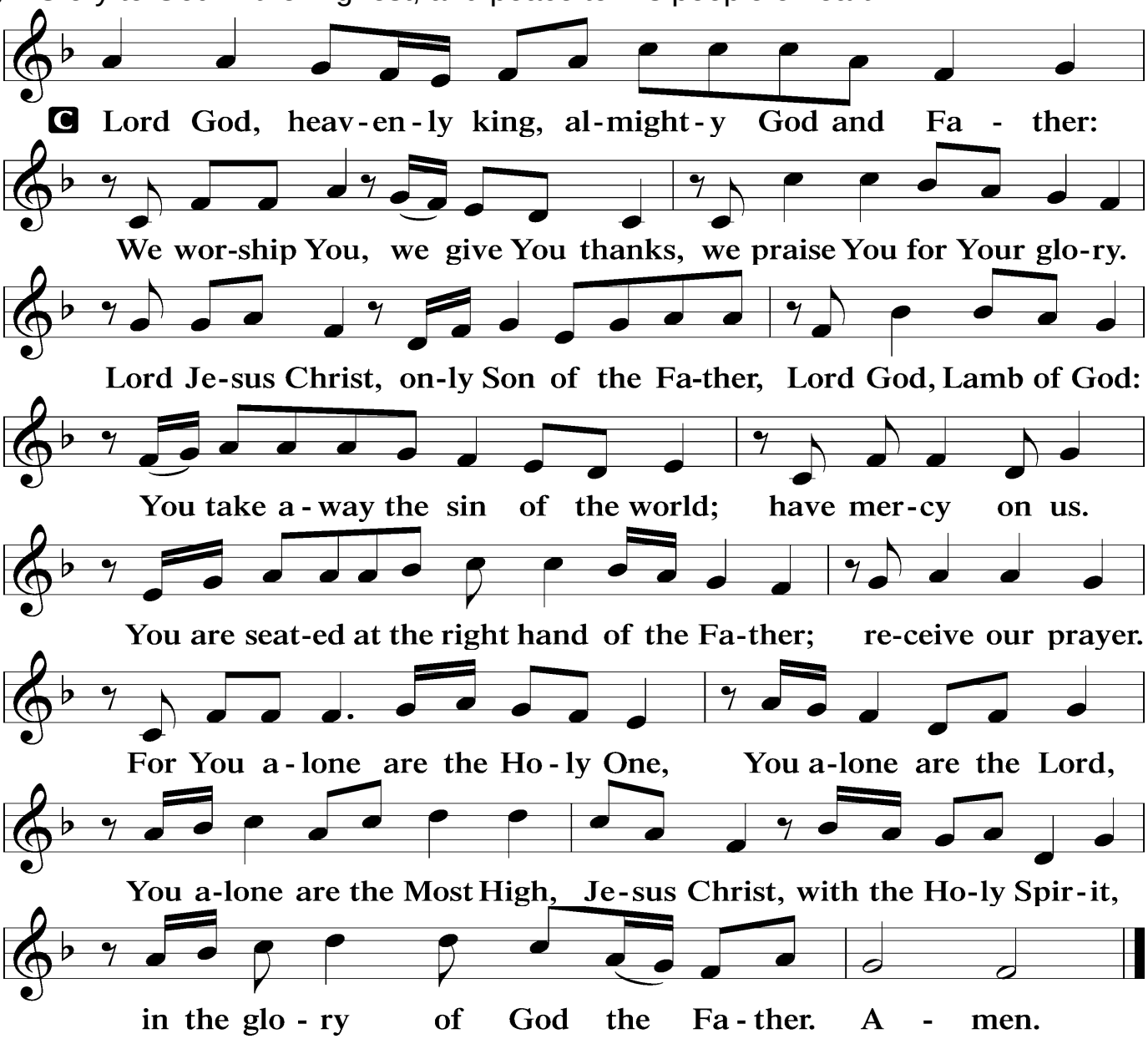
C **Lord, have mercy.**

L Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C **Amen.**

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Luke 2:14; John 1:29 LSB 154

L Glory to God in the Highest, and peace to His people on earth.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

L The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

L Let us pray: O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Acts 8:26–40

L The First Reading from Acts, chapter 8.

26 An angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Rise and go toward the south to the road that
goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” This is a desert place. 27 And he rose and went.
And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the
Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to
worship 28 and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet
Isaiah. 29 And the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over and join this chariot.” 30 So Philip ran
to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, “Do you understand
what you are reading?” 31 And he said, “How can I, unless someone guides me?”
And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. 32 Now the passage of the Scripture
that he was reading was this:

“Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter
and like a lamb before its shearer is silent,
so he opens not his mouth.
33 In his humiliation justice was denied him.
Who can describe his generation?
For his life is taken away from the earth.”

34 And the eunuch said to Philip, “About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this,
about himself or about someone else?” 35 Then Philip opened his mouth, and
beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. 36 And as they
were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, “See,
here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?” 38 And he commanded the
chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and
he baptized him. 39 And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord
carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way
rejoicing. 40 But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he
preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

Psalm 150; antiphon: v. 6

L 1 Praise the LORD!
Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty heavens!
2 Praise him for his mighty deeds; praise him according to his excellent greatness!
3 Praise him with trumpet sound; praise him with lute and harp!
4 Praise him with tambourine and dance; praise him with strings and pipe!
5 Praise him with sounding cymbals; praise him with loud clashing cymbals!
6 Let everything that has breath praise the LORD!

C **Praise the LORD!**

EPISTLE

1 John 4:1–21

L The Epistle Reading is from 1 John, chapter 4.

[1]Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from
God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. [2]By this you know the
Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is
from God, [3]and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the
spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already.
[4]Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is
greater than he who is in the world. [5]They are from the world; therefore they speak
from the world, and the world listens to them. [6]We are from God. Whoever knows
God listens to us; whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know
the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

[7]Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been
born of God and knows God. [8]Anyone who does not love does not know God,
because God is love. [9]In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that
God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. [10]In this is
love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the
propitiation for our sins. [11]Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one
another. [12]No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and
his love is perfected in us.

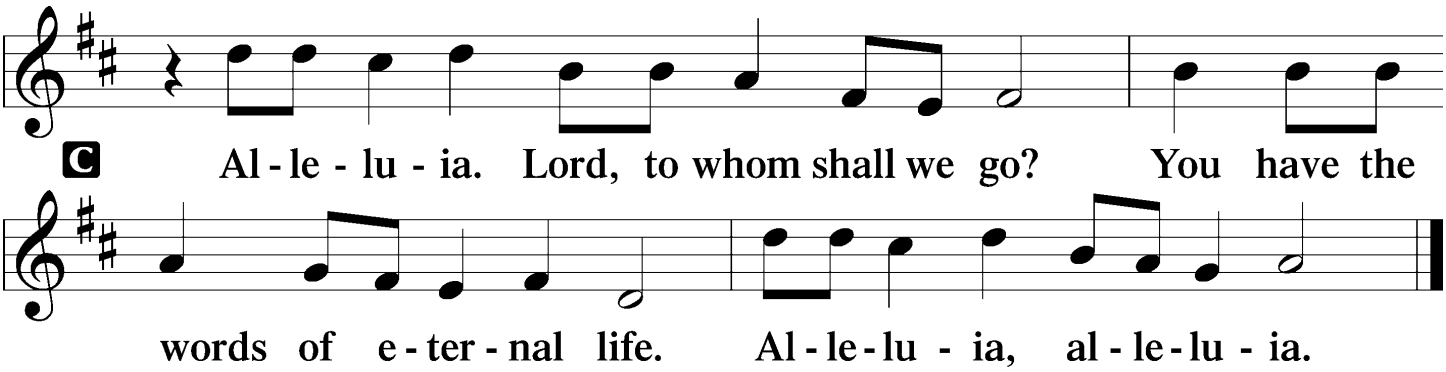
[13]By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his
Spirit. [14]And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the
Savior of the world. [15]Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides
in him, and he in God. [16]So we have come to know and to believe the love that God
has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides
in him. [17]By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the
day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world. [18]There is no fear in
love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and
whoever fears has not been perfected in love. [19]We love because he first loved us.
[20]If anyone says, “I love God,” and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does
not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen.
[21]And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his
brother.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

John 6:68 *LSB 156*



HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 6:14–32

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the sixth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

14 King Herod heard of it, for Jesus' name had become known. Some said, "John the
Baptist has been raised from the dead. That is why these miraculous powers are at
work in him." 15 But others said, "He is Elijah." And others said, "He is a prophet, like
one of the prophets of old." 16 But when Herod heard of it, he said, "John, whom I
beheaded, has been raised." 17 For it was Herod who had sent and seized John and
bound him in prison for the sake of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because he
had married her. 18 For John had been saying to Herod, "It is not lawful for you to
have your brother's wife." 19 And Herodias had a grudge against him and wanted to
put him to death. But she could not, 20 for Herod feared John, knowing that he was
a righteous and holy man, and he kept him safe. When he heard him, he was greatly
perplexed, and yet he heard him gladly.

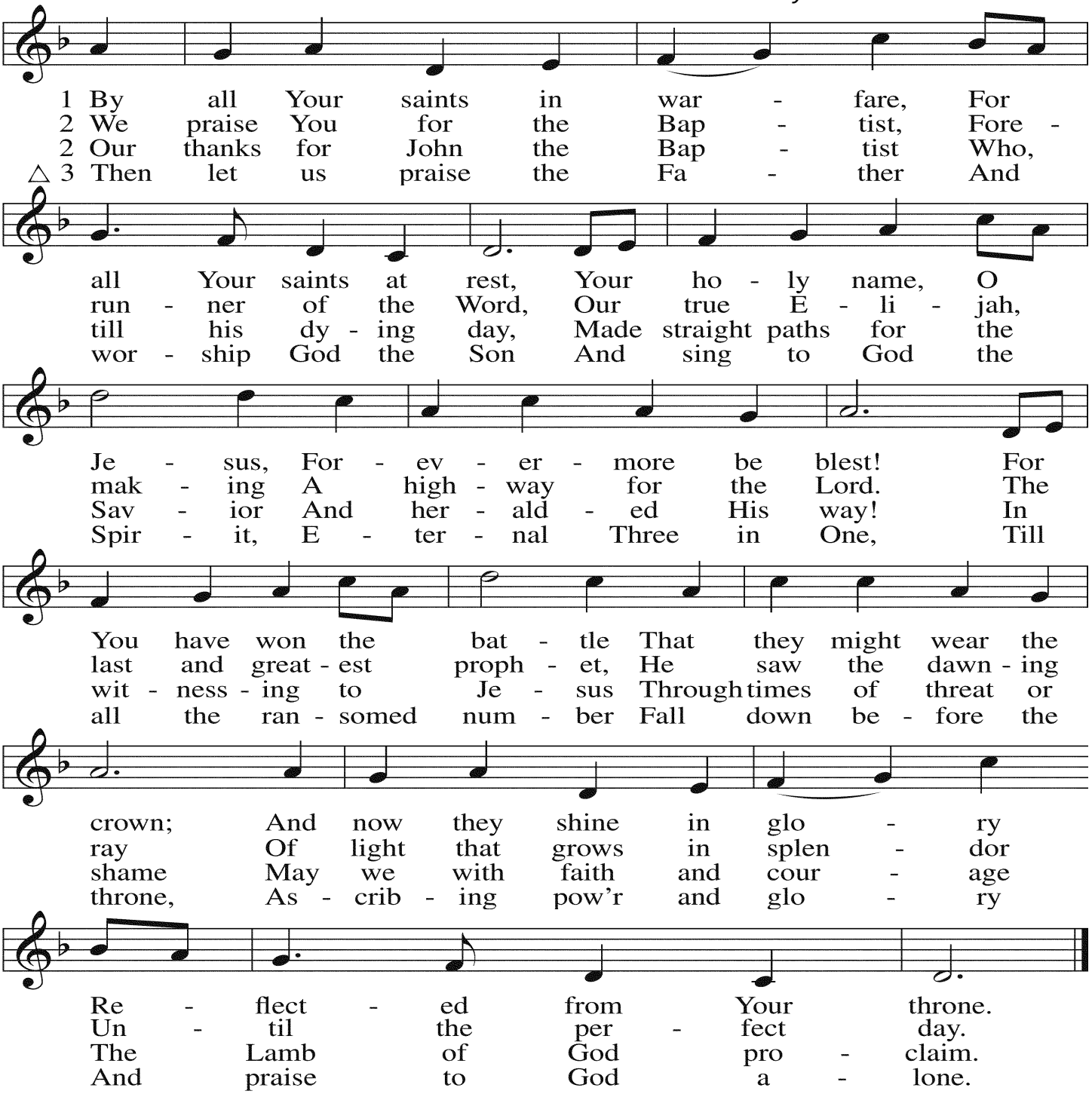
21 But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his nobles
and military commanders and the leading men of Galilee. 22 For when Herodias's
daughter came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests. And the king said
to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it to you." 23 And he vowed
to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, up to half of my kingdom." 24 And she
went out and said to her mother, "For what should I ask?" And she said, "The head
of John the Baptist." 25 And she came in immediately with haste to the king and
asked, saying, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a
platter." 26 And the king was exceedingly sorry, but because of his oaths and his
guests he did not want to break his word to her. 27 And immediately the king sent an
executioner with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the
prison 28 and brought his head on a platter and gave it to the girl, and the girl gave it
to her mother. 29 When his disciples heard of it, they came and took his body and
laid it in a tomb.

[30]The apostles returned to Jesus and told him all that they had done and taught. [31]And he said to them, “Come away by yourselves to a desolate place and rest a while.” For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. [32]And they went away in the boat to a desolate place by themselves.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

HYMN OF THE DAY

518 By All Your Saints in Warfare

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SERMON

☩ CREED

Nicene Creed LSB p 158

℣ **I believe in one God,**
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.
And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✢ of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the Church on earth, that she would be protected from all false teaching and the spirit of the Antichrist, and so always confess Christ come in the flesh, remaining faithful to Him, our only true God, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For God's people, that as branches of the vine, all sin and dead works would be pruned and cut off from them; and that drawing life from the Son, they would continually produce the fruits of faith and good works, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For all those in need of Baptism, that nothing would prevent them from being welcomed into God's kingdom and given everlasting life, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For our president and all in authority, that they may serve honorably and in accord with God's good order, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For all who bear the cross in suffering and affliction, *[*especially _____*,]* that they would ever look to the Lord and so fix their hearts where true joy is found, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For all who come to God's feast of love, that they may worthily eat of Christ's body and blood, abiding in this love of God and God in them, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

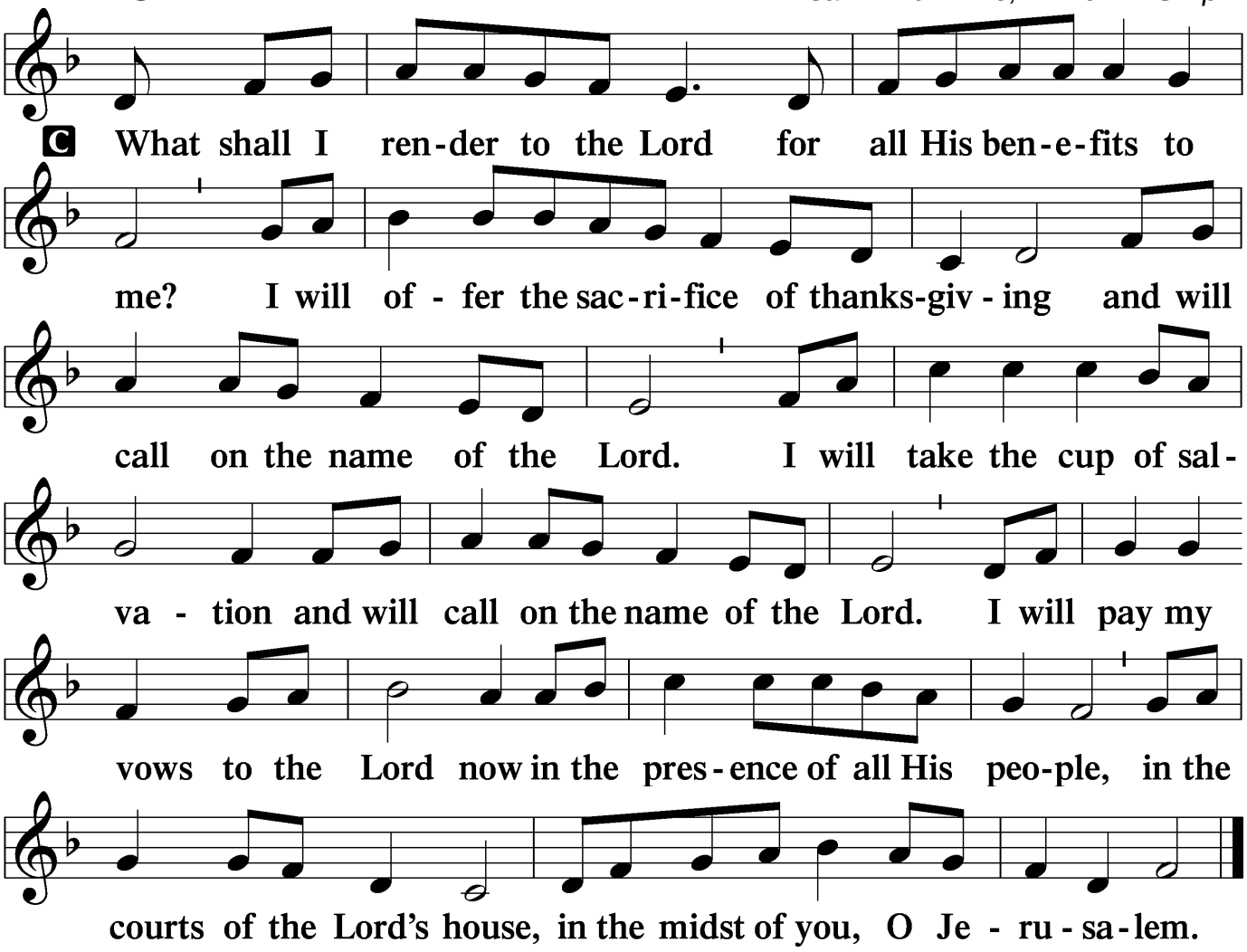
P Heavenly Father, You are gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. Hear and answer our prayers for the sake of Jesus Christ, and Your saints shall bless You; for You live and reign with the Holy Spirit, ever one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

OFFERING

Offering Plates are Passed by Ushers
Please enter your attendance in the red Record of Fellowship

OFFERTORY

Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19 LSB p 159

+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

☩ PREFACE

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]

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.

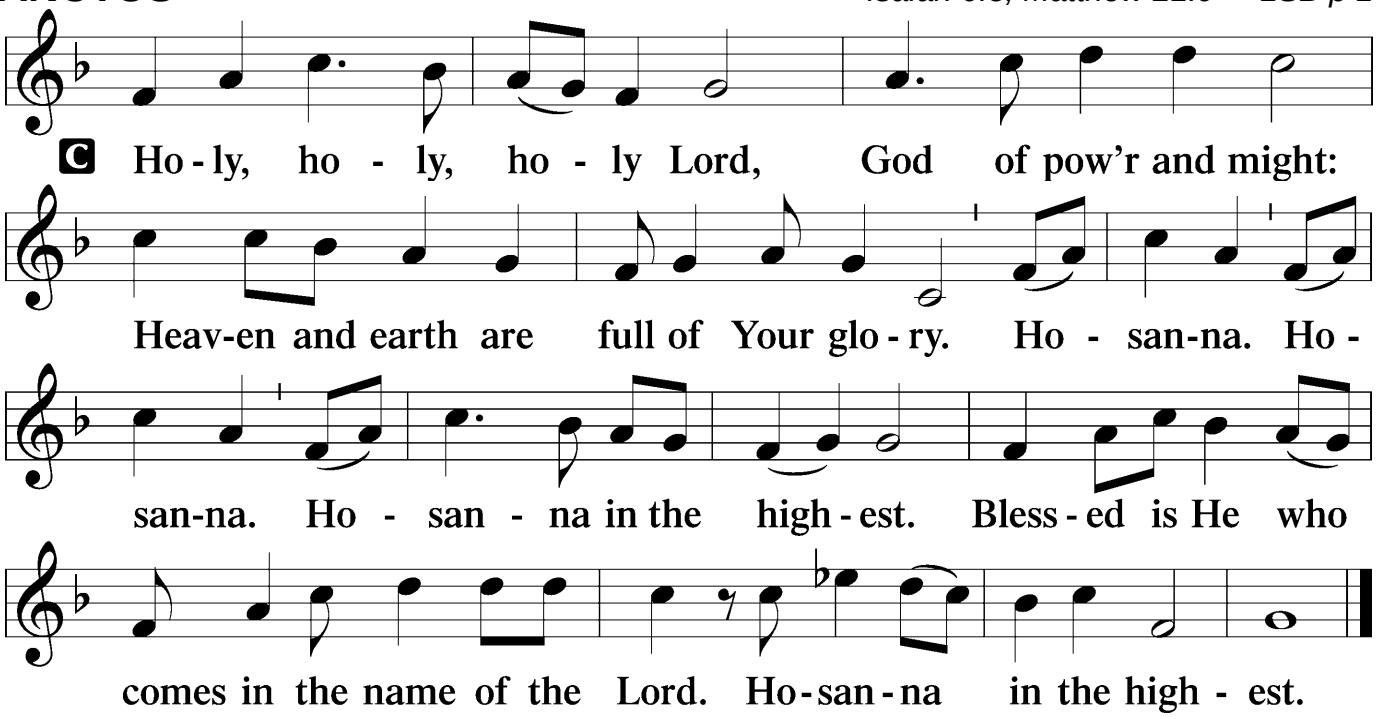
C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

PROPER PREFACE (FULL)

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9 LSB p 161



PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✢ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✢ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9–13 LSB p 162

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.

PAX DOMINI

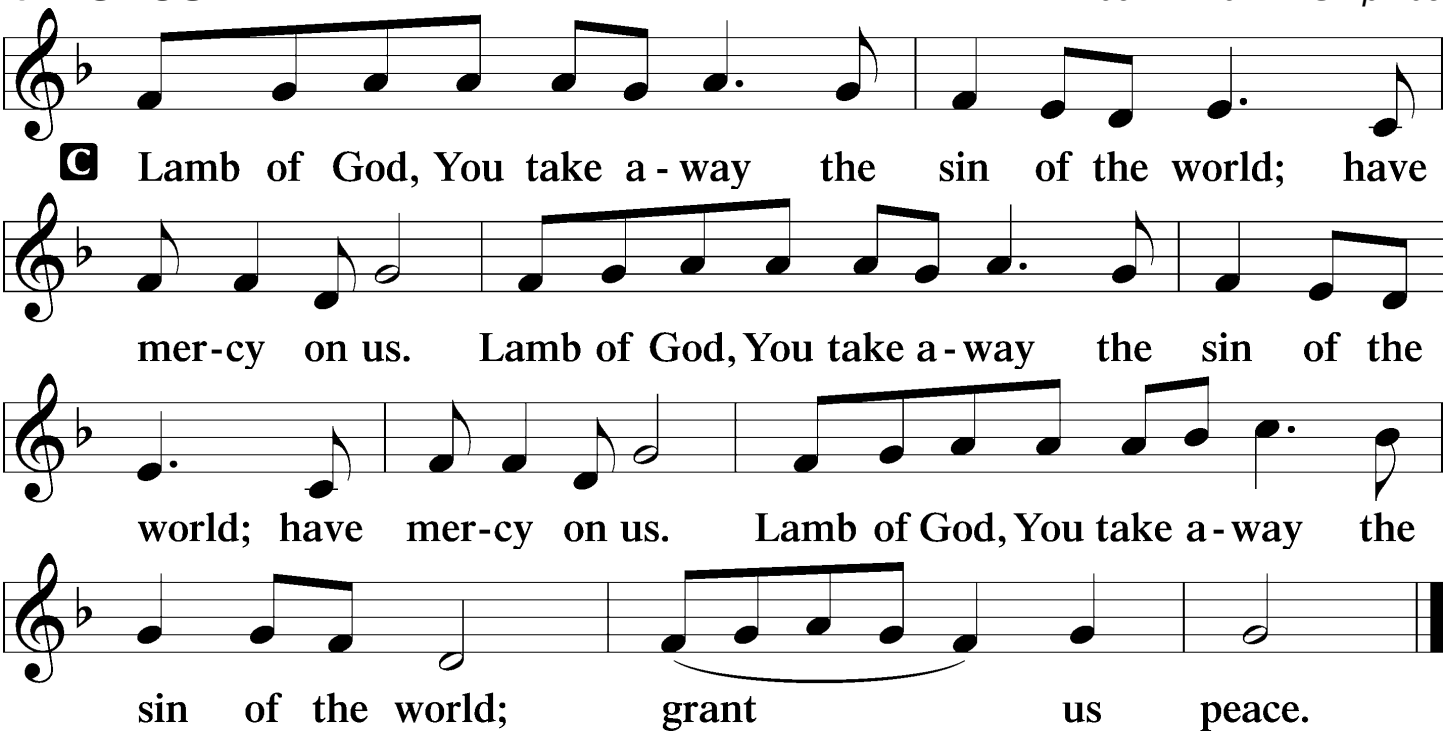
John 20:19

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **Amen.**

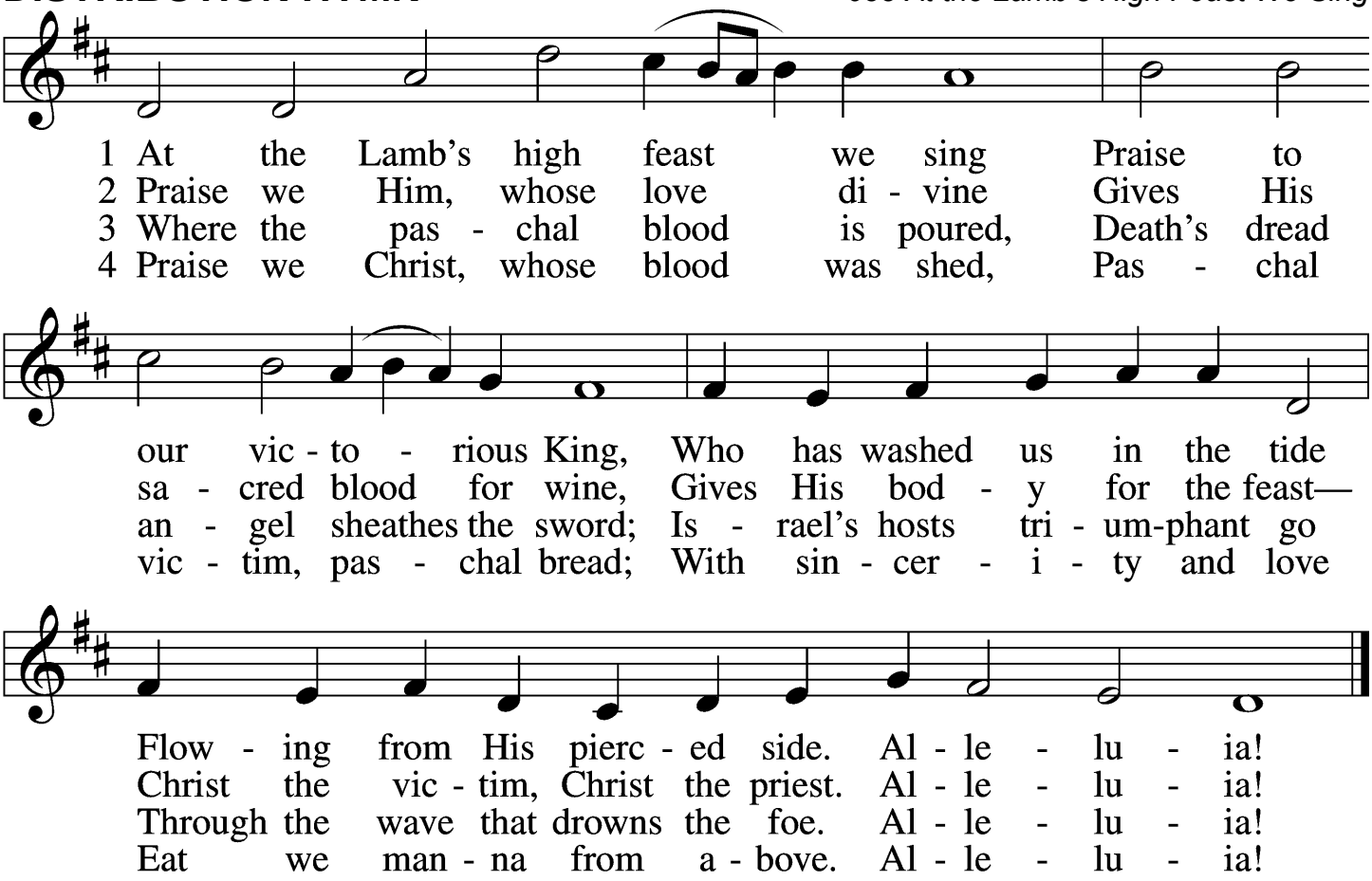
AGNUS DEI

John 1:29 *LSB p 163*



DISTRIBUTION HYMN

633 At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing



5 Mighty Victim from the sky, Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie;
You have conquered in the fight, You have brought us life and light.
Alleluia!

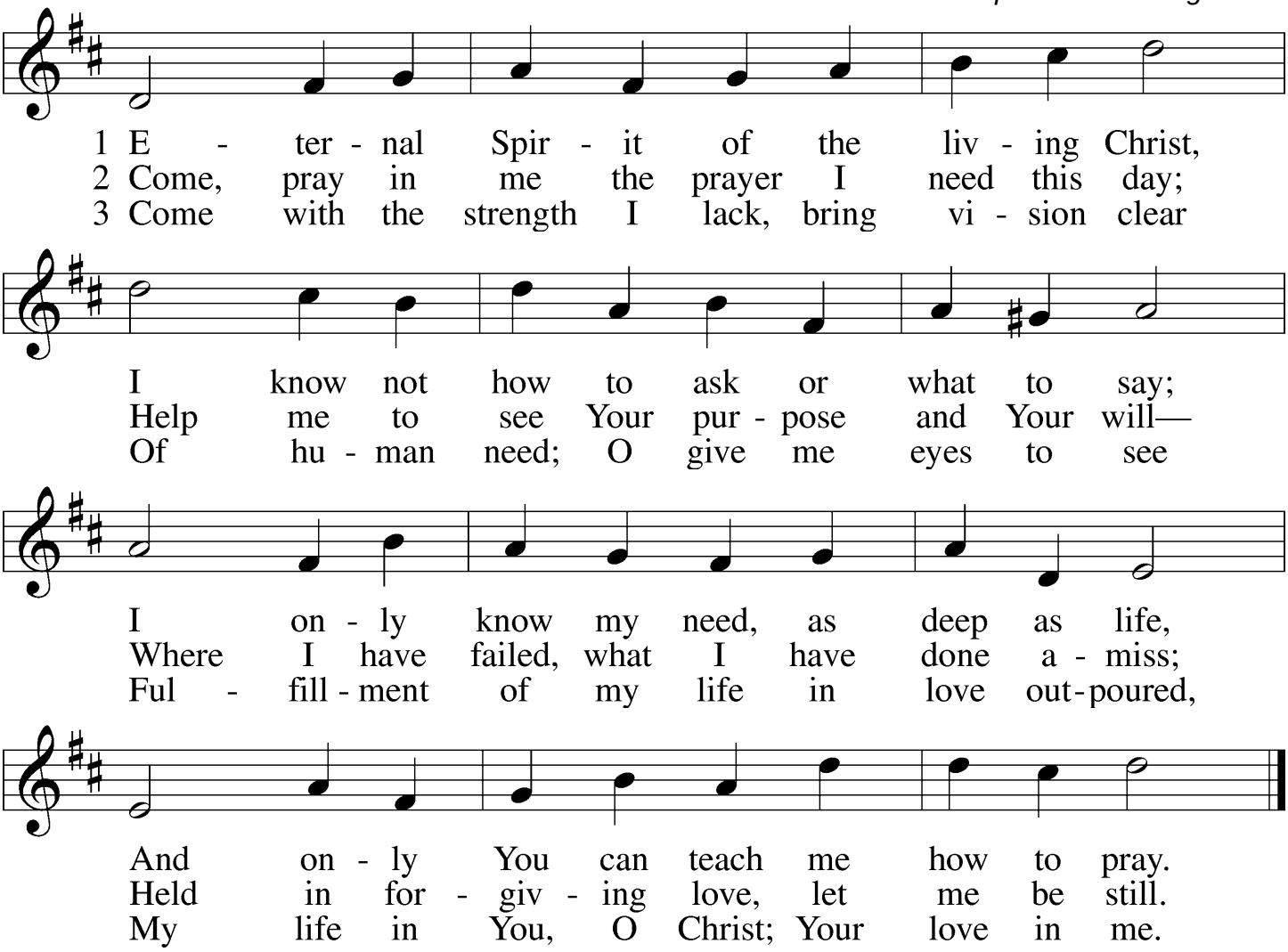
6 Now no more can death appall, Now no more the grave enthrall;
You have opened paradise, And Your saints in You shall rise.
Alleluia!

7 Easter triumph, Easter joy! This alone can sin destroy;
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free, Newborn souls in You to be.
Alleluia!

8 Father, who the crown shall give, Savior, by whose death we live,
Spirit, guide through all our days: Three in One, Your name we praise.
Alleluia!

Text: Latin, c. 5th–10th cent.; tr. Robert Campbell, 1814–68, alt. Tune: Kirchengeseng, 1566, Ivancice Text and tune: Public domain

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

769 Eternal Spirit of the Living Christ

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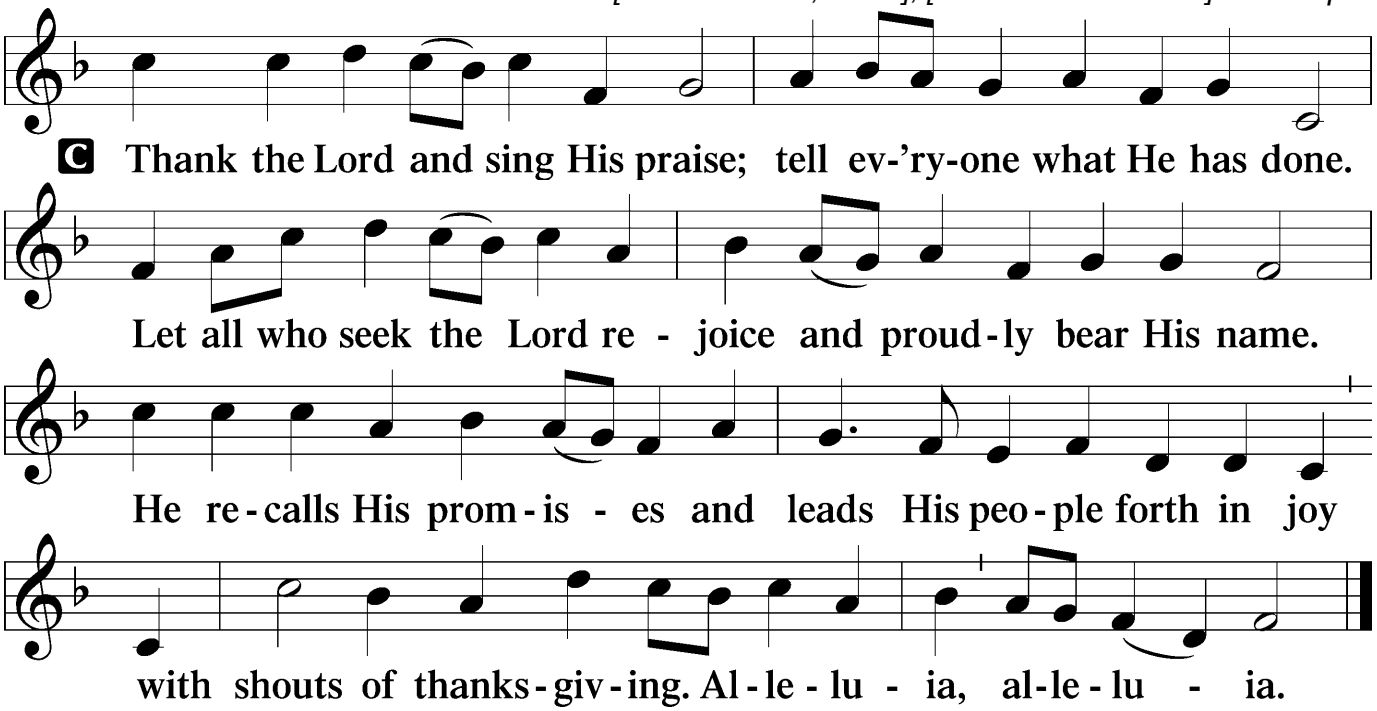
THANK THE LORD

[Psalm 105:1-3, 42-43]; [1 Chronicles 16:8-10] *LSB p 164*



POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

L Let us pray: We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

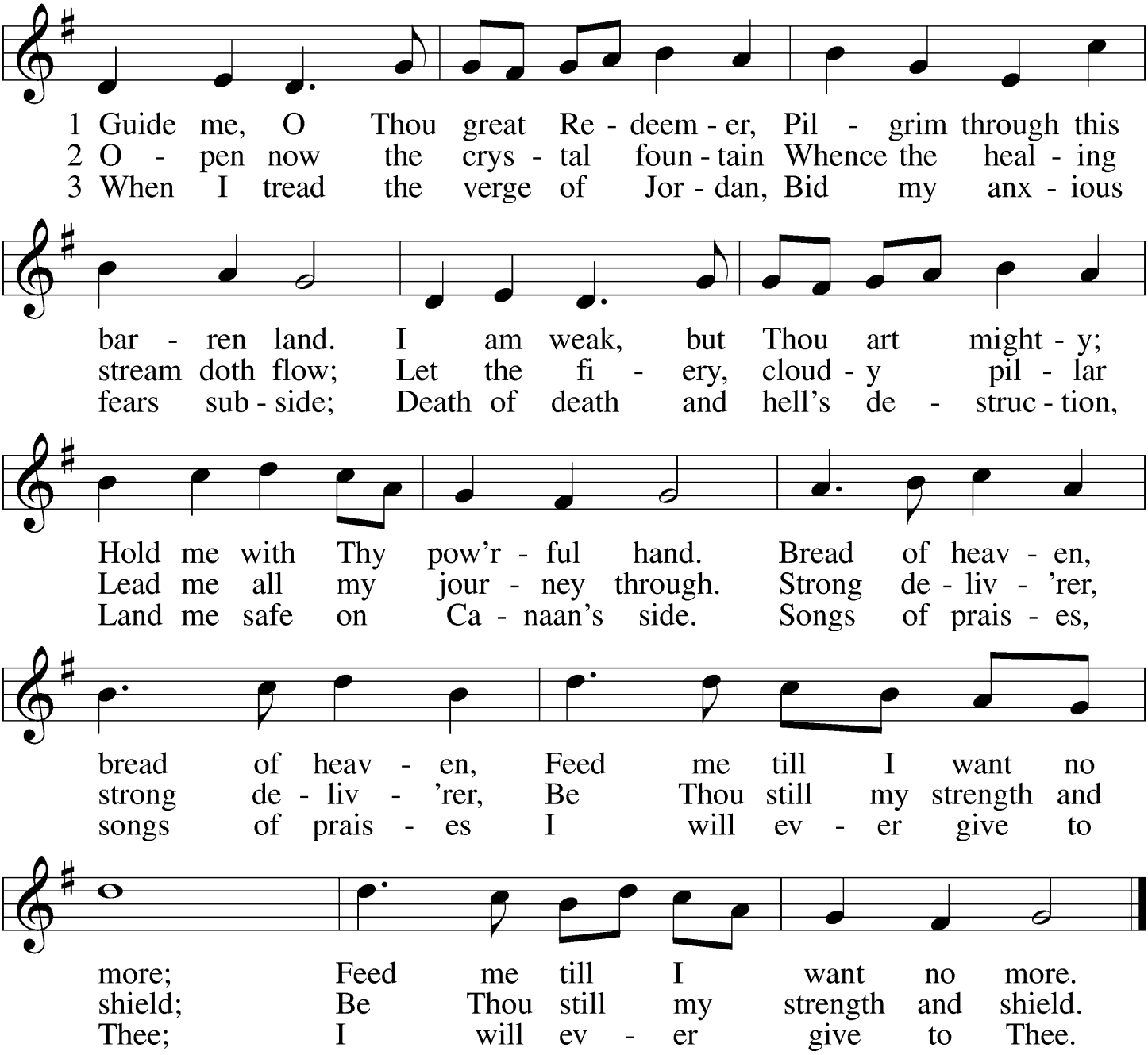
Numbers 6:24-26 *LSB p 166*

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
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.**

DISMISSAL HYMN

918 Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer



Text: William Williams, 1717–91, abr.; (st. 1): tr. Peter Williams, 1722–96, alt.; (sts. 2–3): tr. William Williams, 1717–91
Tune: John Hughes, 1873–1932

Text and tune: Public domain

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God! Alleluia, Amen!**

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