Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
August 30, 2026

Bethany Lutheran Church
2515 Madison Ave., Burlington, IA
Phone: (319) 752-3621
www.bethanyburlington.org

Bethany's Mission Statement: Reaching out in Worship, Fellowship, Learning and Love – we are God's people.

We are so glad you chose to worship with us this morning. We hope everyone
feels welcome as we strive to serve and strengthen each other in faith toward God and in love toward all. Now, as you wait for the service to begin, please relax, enjoy the music, and quiet your heart before God.

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

ELW indicates that hymns or liturgy are taken from Evangelical Lutheran Worship–red hymnal

PRELUDE

Welcome, Birthday/Anniversary Bank
(money given to Bethany's Human Concerns Fund)

We Gather to Acknowledge God's Presence

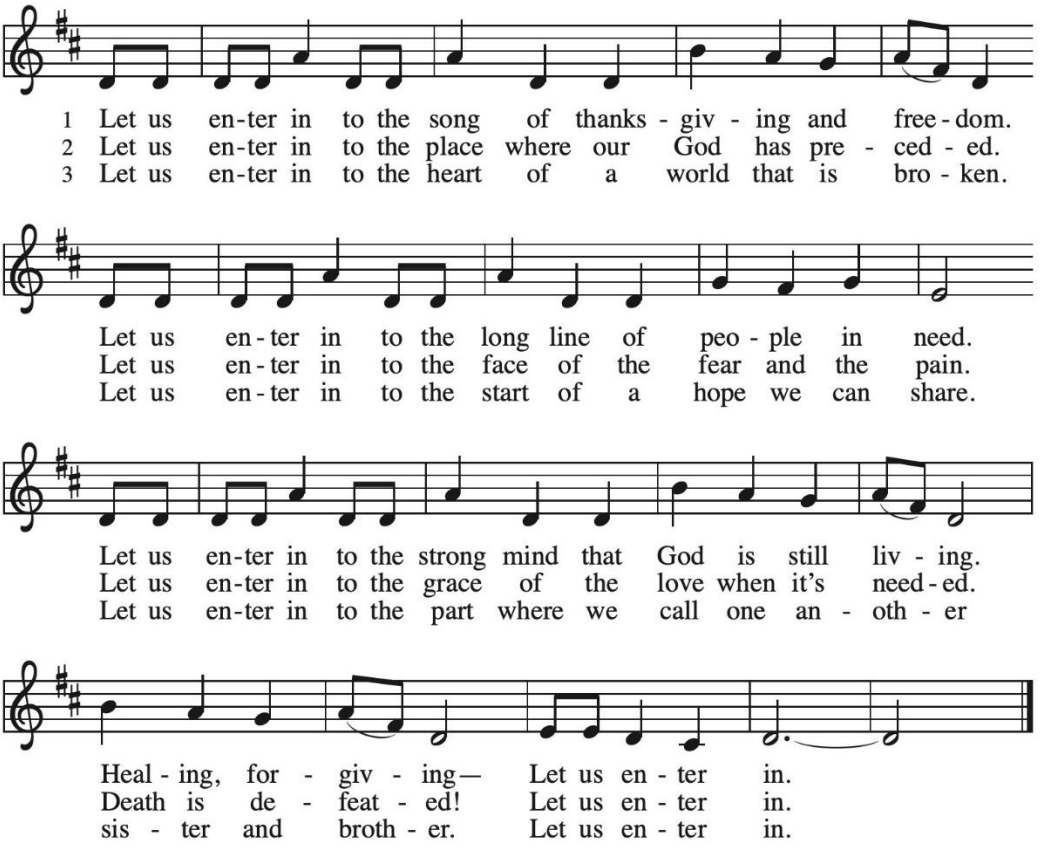
(Please Stand)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
whose compassion endures forever.
C: Amen.
P: Let us confess our sin to God.

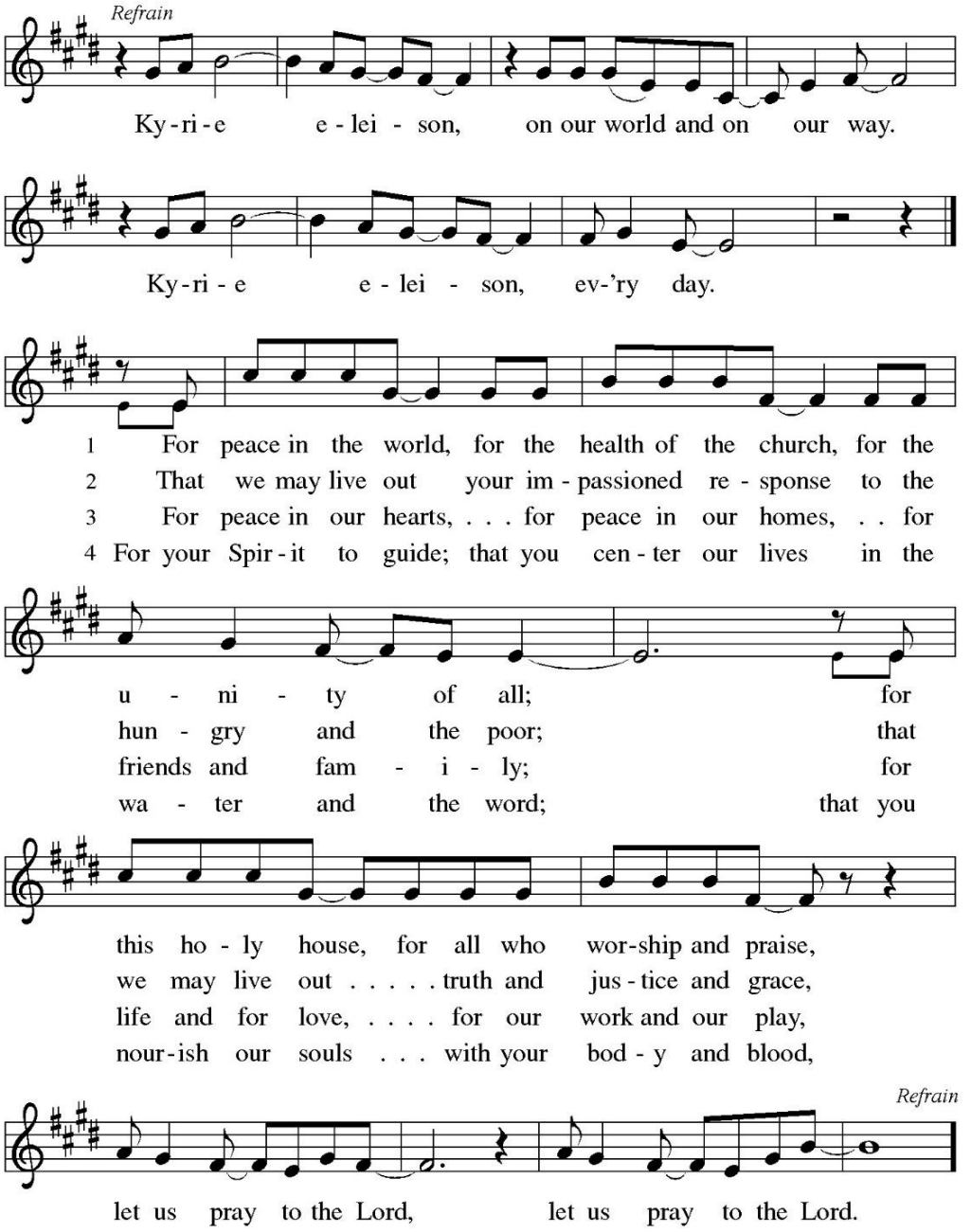
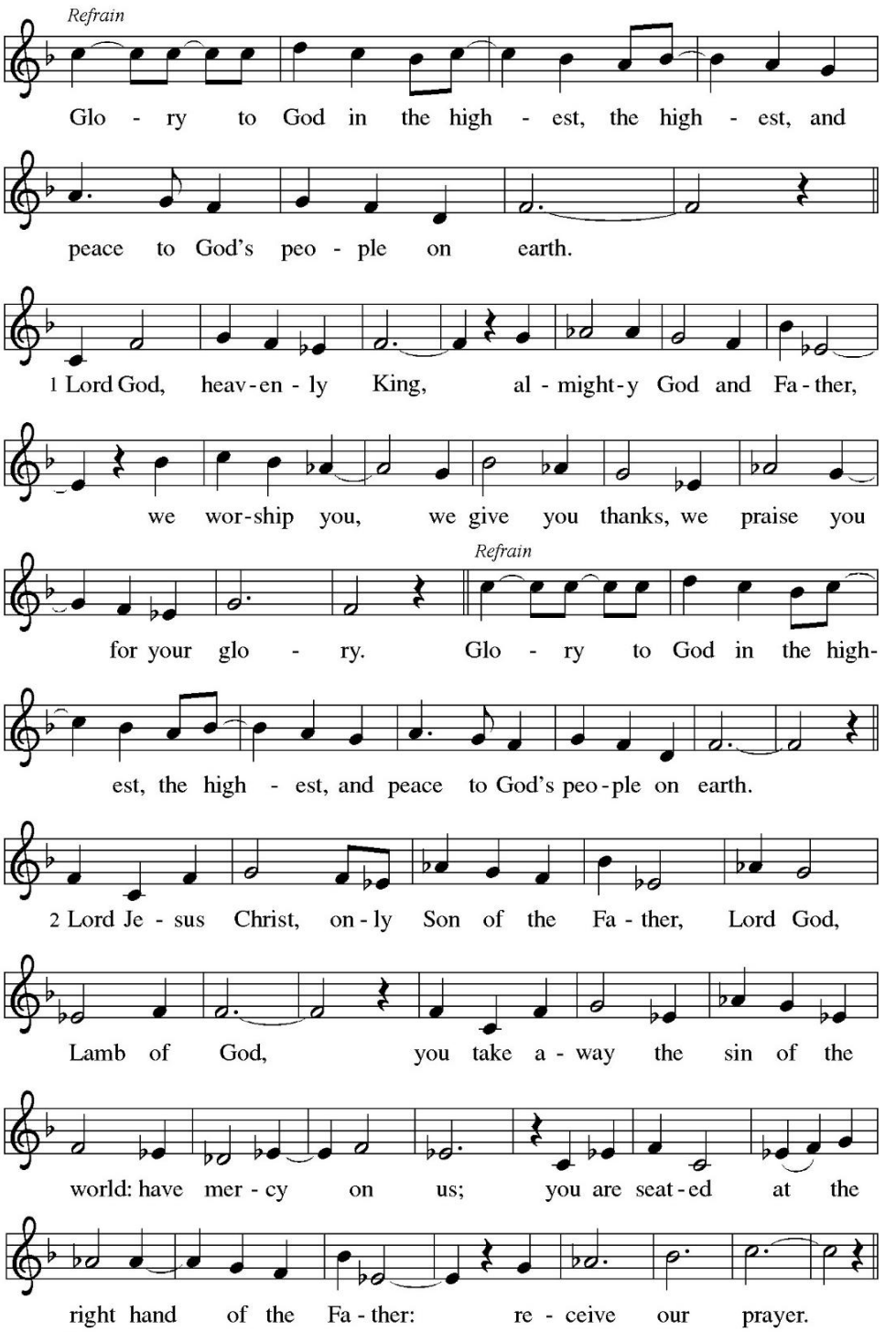
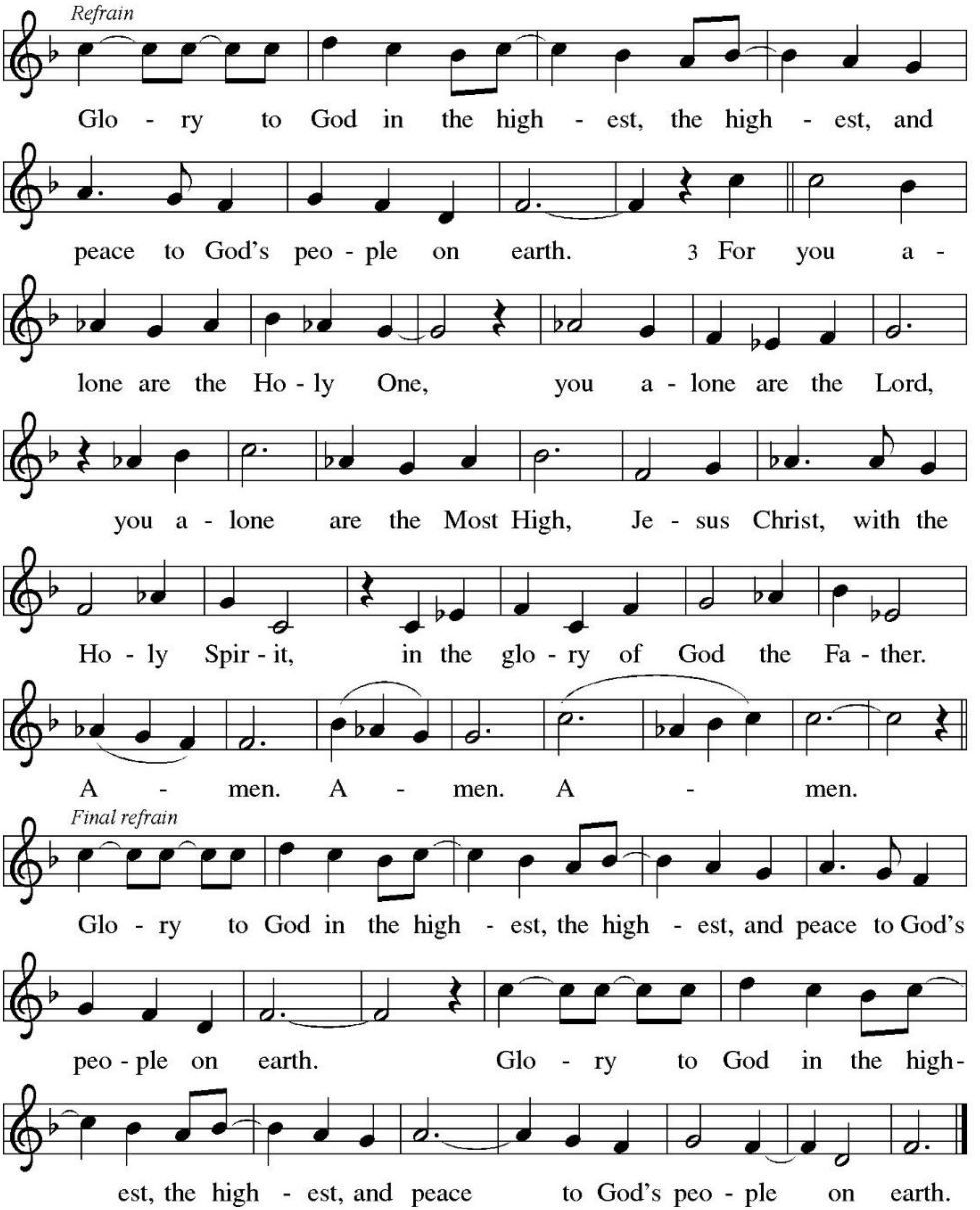
Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Compassionate God,
C: we confess to you all our sins.
Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.
In your mercy, call us back to you.
Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.
Restore us to dwell in your peace.
In Christ's name we pray,
Amen.
P: Jesus says, "Come to me,
all you who are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest."
In the name of God,
Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.
Rest in God's love.
C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN "Let Us Enter In" **ACS Hymn 985**

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

HYMN OF PRAISE

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

C: O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

We Listen to God's Word

(Please be seated)

FIRST READING **Jeremiah 15:15-20**

15 O LORD, you know;
remember me and visit me,
and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors.
In your forbearance do not take me away;
know that on your account I suffer insult.
16 Your words were found, and I ate them,
and your words became to me a joy
and the delight of my heart,
for I am called by your name,
O LORD, God of hosts.
17 I did not sit in the company of merrymakers,
nor did I rejoice;
under the weight of your hand I sat alone,
for you had filled me with indignation.
18 Why is my pain unceasing,
my wound incurable,
refusing to be healed?
Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook,
like waters that fail.

19 Therefore thus says the LORD:
If you turn back, I will take you back,
and you shall stand before me.
If you utter what is precious and not what is worthless,
you shall serve as my mouth.
It is they who will turn to you,
not you who will turn to them.
20 And I will make you to this people
a fortified wall of bronze;
they will fight against you,
but they shall not prevail over you,
for I am with you
to save you and deliver you,
says the LORD.
21 I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked
and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

L: Word of God, word of life.
C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM *(read responsively)* **Psalm 26:1-8**

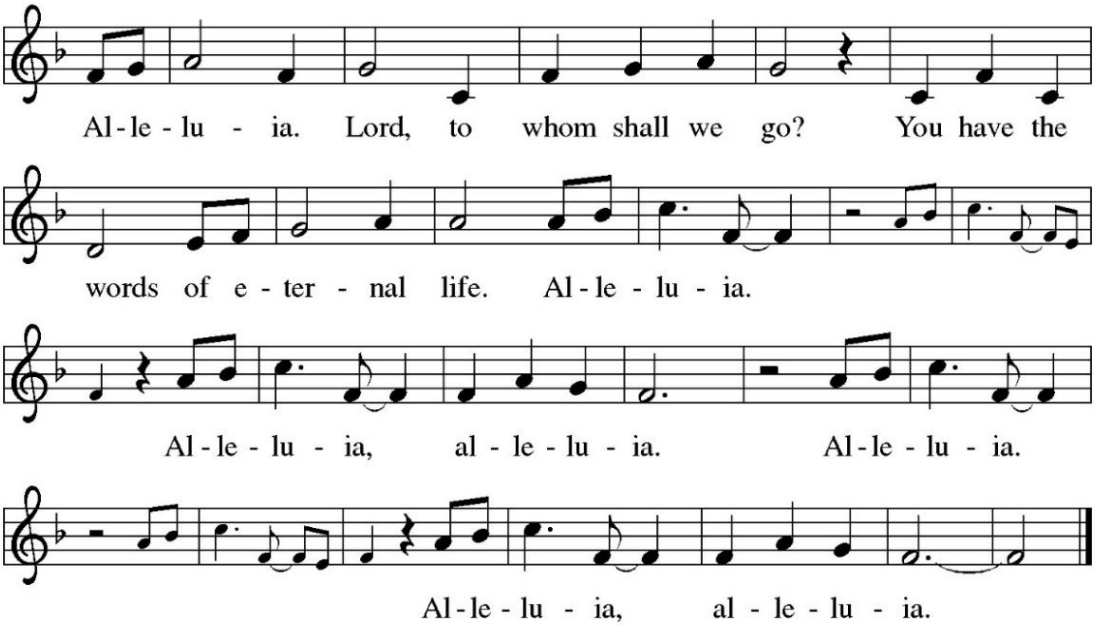
L: Give judgment for me, O LORD, for I have lived with integrity;
I have trusted in the LORD and have not faltered.
C: Test me, O LORD, and try me;
examine my heart and my mind.
L: For your steadfast love is before my eyes;
I have walked faithfully with you.
C: I have not sat with the worthless,
nor do I consort with the deceitful.
L: I have hated the company of evildoers;
I will not sit down with the wicked.
C: I will wash my hands in innocence, O LORD,
that I may go in procession round your altar,
singing aloud a song of thanksgiving
and recounting all your wonderful deeds.
L: LORD, I love the house in which you dwell
and the place where your glory abides.

SECOND READING **Romans 12:9-21**

9 Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; 10 love one another
with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. 11 Do not lag in zeal; be
ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. 12 Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere
in prayer. 13 Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers.
14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. 15 Rejoice with
those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. 16 Live in harmony with one another;
do not be arrogant, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you
are. 17 Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the
sight of all. 18 If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with
all. 19 Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it
is written, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says the Lord." 20 Instead, "if your
enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink,
for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." 21 Do not be overcome
by evil, but overcome evil with good.

L: Word of God, word of life.
C: Thanks be to God.

(Please Stand)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 16th chapter.
C: Glory to you, O Lord

GOSPEL **Matthew 16:21-28**

21 From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began
to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at
the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed and on the third
day be raised. 22 And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God
forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." 23 But he turned and said to Peter,
"Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me, for you are setting your mind
not on divine things but on human things."

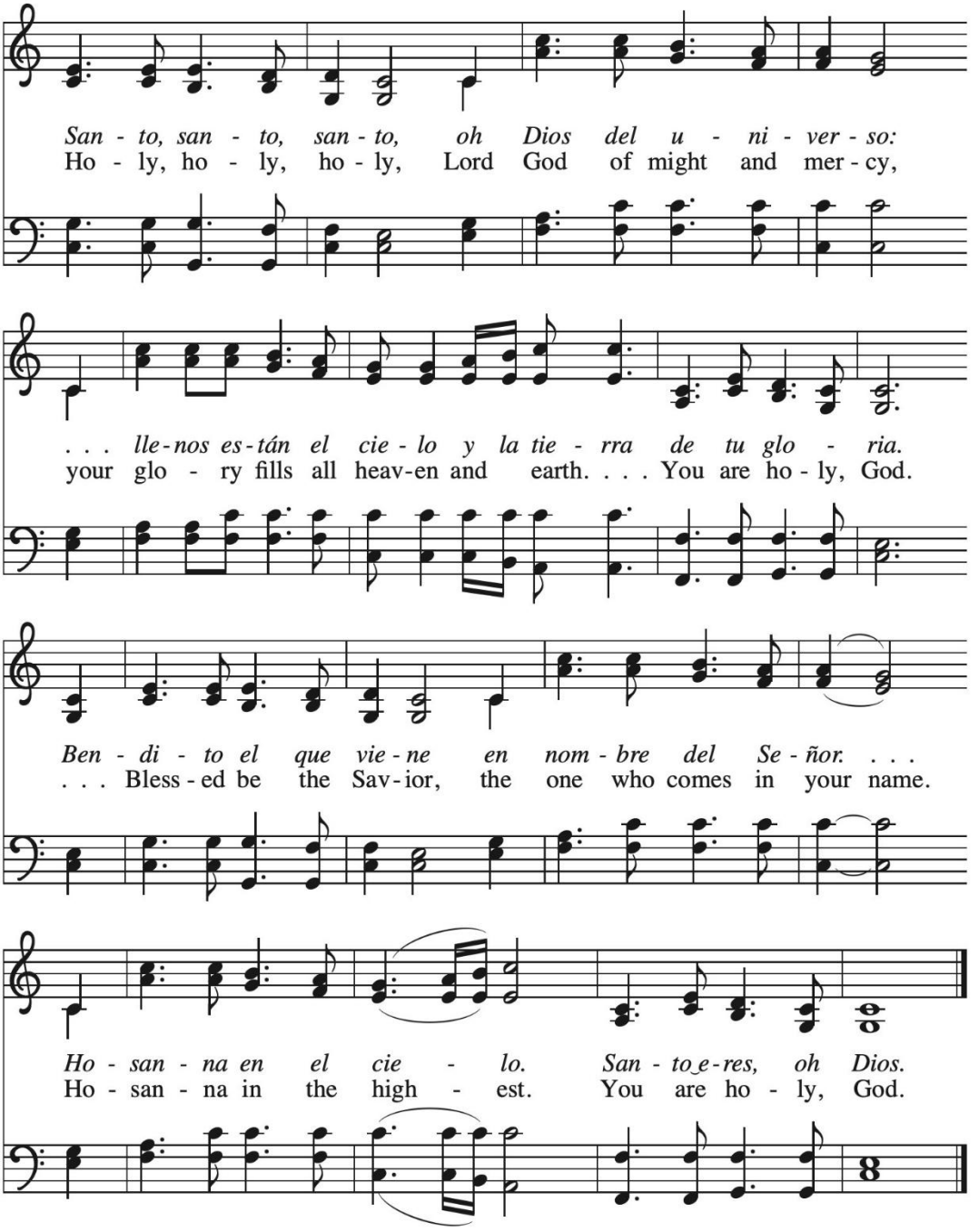
24 Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any wish to come after me, let them deny
themselves and take up their cross and follow me. 25 For those who want to save
their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. 26 For what
will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will
they give in return for their life?
27 "For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and
then he will repay everyone for what has been done. 28 Truly I tell you, there are
some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming
in his kingdom."

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

(Please be seated)

SERMON ***Pastor Misha McFarland-Pollock***

(Please Stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY *"Holy, Holy, Holy"* **ACS Hymn 1089**

We Respond to God's Word

APOSTLES' CREED ***(unison)***

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

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.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C: And also with you.

(*Please be seated)*

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Each petition concludes:
P: Merciful God,
C: receive our prayer.

We Share in the Holy Meal

(Please Stand)

DIALOGUE

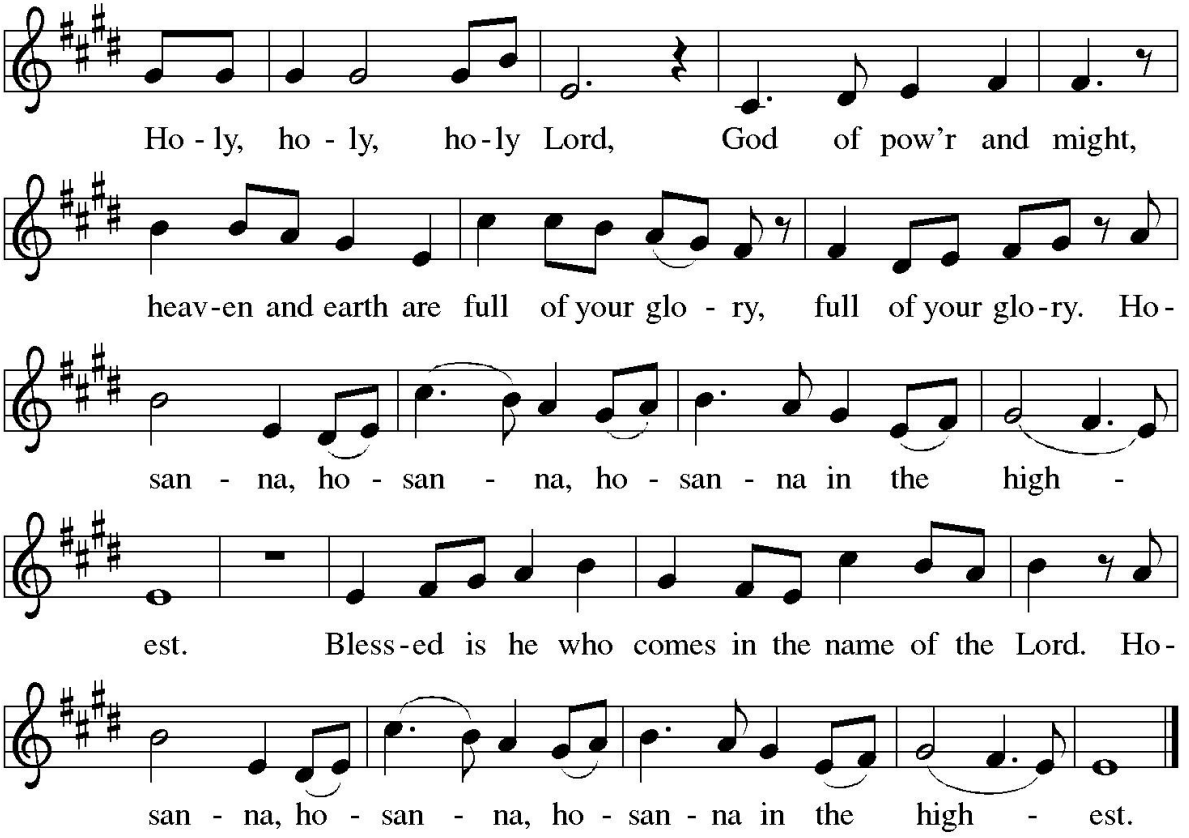
P: The Lord be with you.
C: And also with you.

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….

…we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER ***(unison)***

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

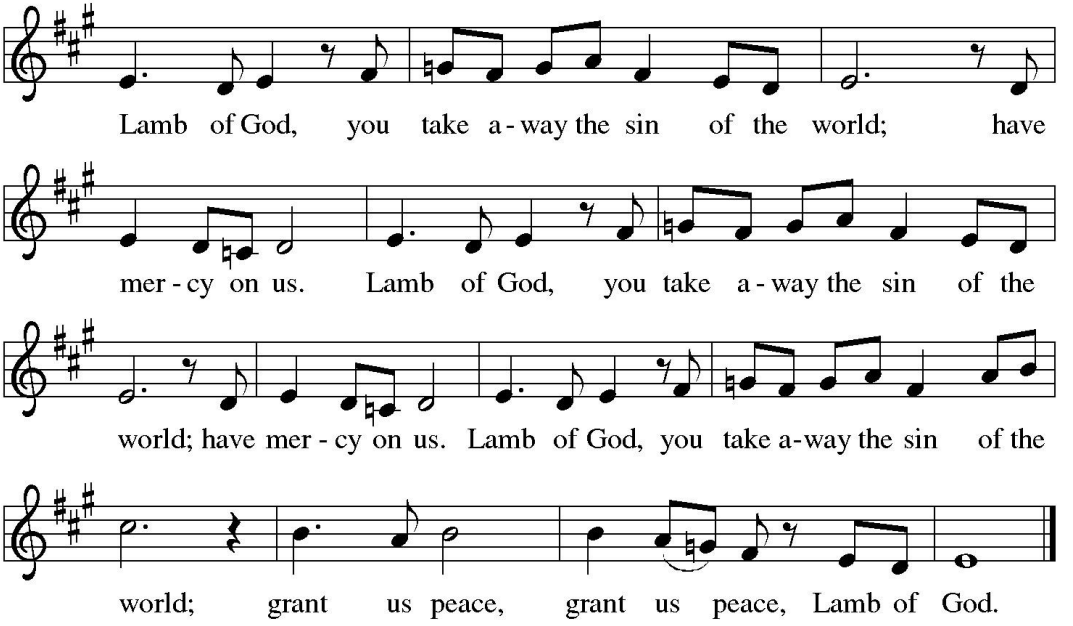
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!

(Please be seated)

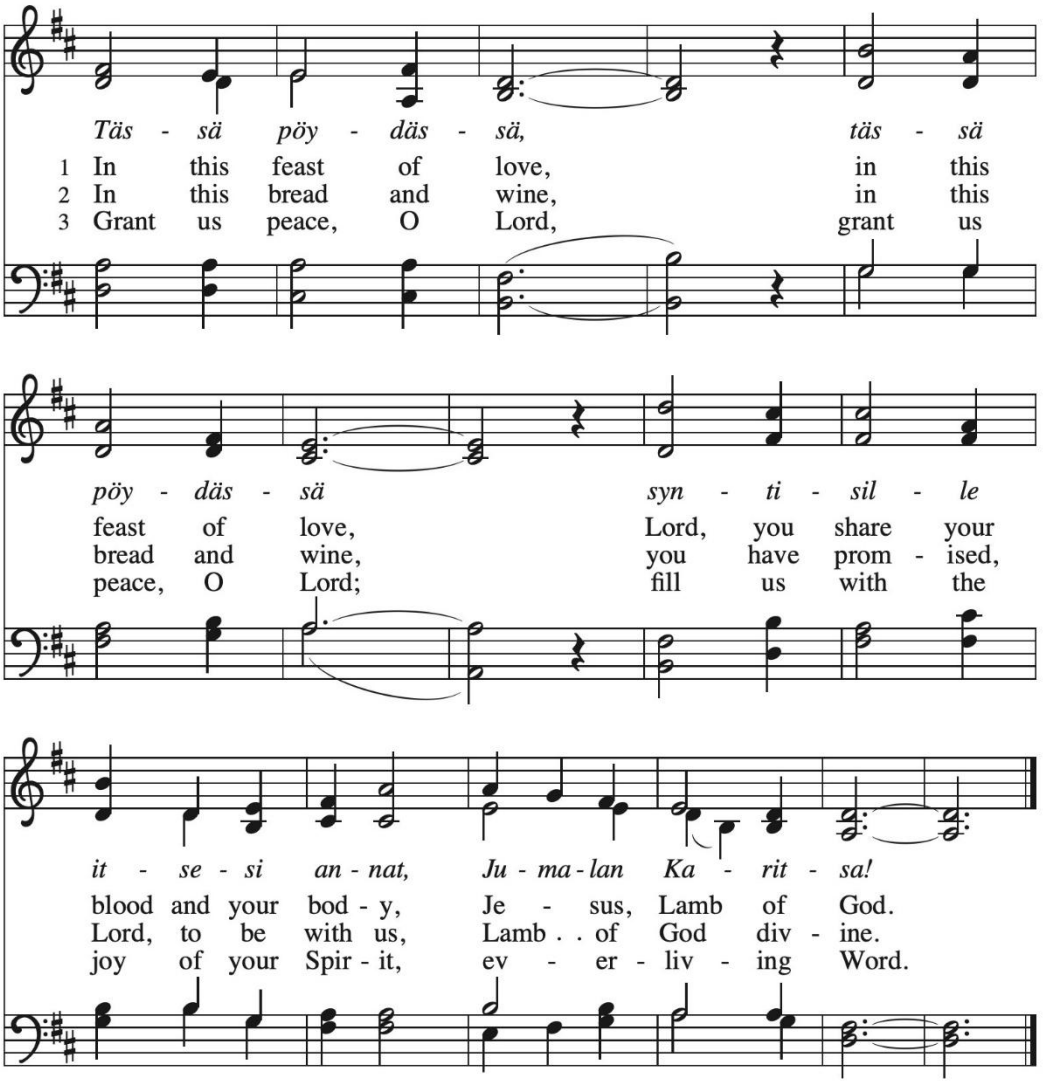
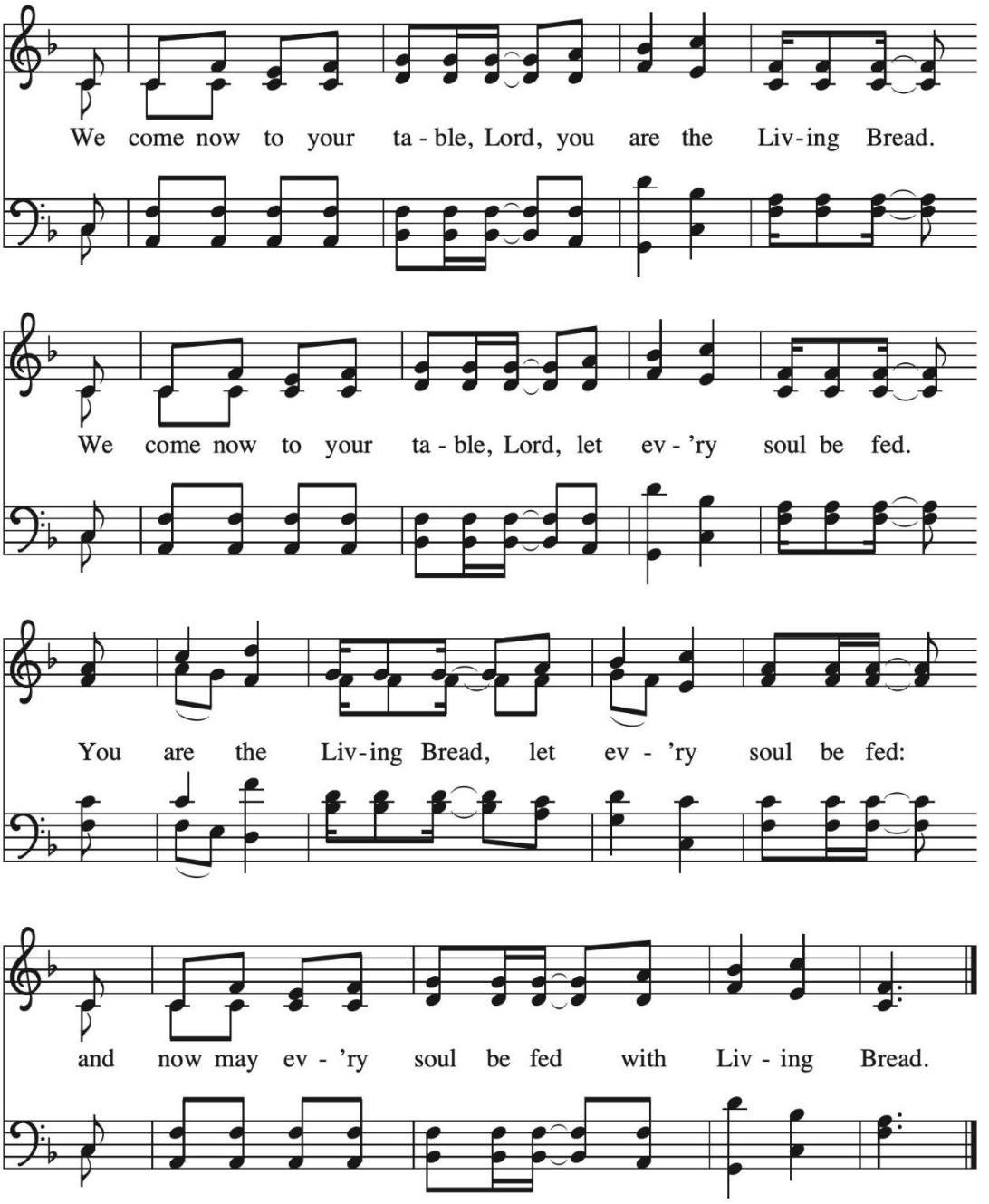
LAMB OF GOD



DISTRIBUTION BY INDIVIDUAL GLASSES

(Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.)

All who believe in the real presence of Christ in the sacrament are invited to commune. Children who do not commune are welcome to come for a blessing. You will be given a wafer. The glasses of dark liquid are wine; the middle ring is juice. There is a bowl of water if you would like to remember your baptism.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN *"In This Feast of Love"* ACS Hymn 962

DISTRIBUTION HYMN *"We Come Now to Your Table"* **ACS Hymn 970**

(Please Stand)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Compassionate God,
through the gifts of bread and wine
our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love.
Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal,
may share your love freely, as you have shared with us.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.

C: Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

P: The God of steadfastness and encouragement
grant you to live in harmony with one another,
in accordance with Christ Jesus.

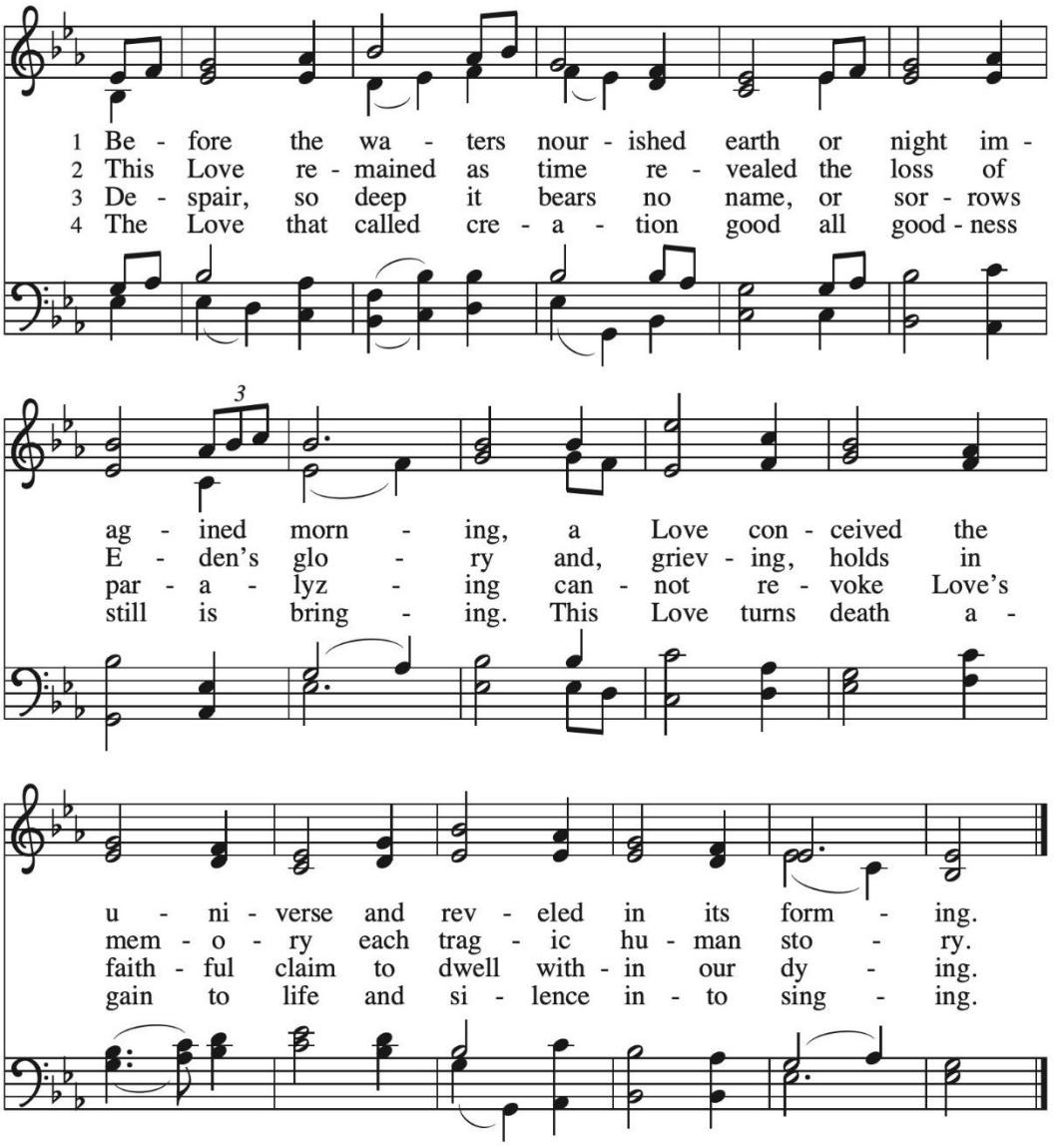
C: Amen.

P: The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,
so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: The God of all grace ☩ bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN *"Before the Waters Nourished Earth"* **ACS Hymn 1049**

DISMISSAL

P: Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Lector:	Michelle Huppenbauer
Usher:	Susan Swanson
Communion:	Bill Mundt; Rachel Lindeen
Greeters:	Vicki Stoller
Missionary Support:	Open
Altar Flowers:	Open
Remember in prayer:	Norma Bock; Mark Hermann; Kerri Hermann

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A Cry Room for infants is available up the stairs and to the right. There are Kids Celebrate children's bulletins available for youngsters who'd like to have their own reference to the lessons for this week. Ask our usher for help.

Please join us for coffee and donuts in the fellowship hall following the worship service. We would like to get to know you and offer our friendship.

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ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK

Today:	**Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost**	
	9:00 a.m.	Worship w/ Holy Communion
	10:55 a.m.	Lutheran Church of Hope Service
Wednesday:	**1:00 p.m.**	**New Women's Activity Group**
Thursday:	9:30 a.m.	Bible Study @ Messiah
Friday:	**Noon**	**Nurses Mtg.**
Next Sunday:	**Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost**	
	9:00 a.m.	Worship w/ Holy Communion
	10:55 a.m.	Lutheran Church of Hope Service

NEW WOMEN'S ACTIVITY GROUP

A new monthly activity for women will begin Wednesday of September 2nd at 1:00pm, in the "refreshed" Bethany church library. Take a look! The activity is intended to offer support (personally and spiritually), friendship, information, and fun…all unrelated to government or church politics. As a whole, the group will determine the flow of each monthly meeting and future meeting times; be it small intimate conversations, group discussions, games, planning a Godly inspired activity, etc, or all of the above. Please pray for God's goodness to guide this activity. Hope to see you ladies! If you have any questions, please see or contact Pam Taylor (319-750-7982) or Vicki Stoller (319-750-2384).

BISHOP CURRENT JOINING US FOR JOINT SERVICE RALLY DAY @ MESSIAH!

Rally Day is Sunday, September 13! We will be joining together at Messiah for Worship at 10:30am! Bishop Amy Current will also be joining us on this Sunday for Rally Day! A Potluck Picnic will be held following Worship Service!

GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS DAY
The workday for God's Work, Our Hands Day is scheduled for Saturday, September 12 starting at 9:00am at Bethany! We will be working on some outdoor projects, including, power washing at the Homeless Shelter and landscaping at HeartSong. Our lower impact projects currently are fringe tie fleece blankets for DHHS/BPD to disperse during crises and hygiene kits for local schools, both projects will take place at Bethany. We are working on expanding this list of projects! A sign-up sheet is available on the table in the fellowship hall! Please write your name under which type of project you would like to do, physical labor or lower impact.

WEEKLY FINANCE REPORT
These are the numbers for where we are financially for the dates of August 16 – August 22:

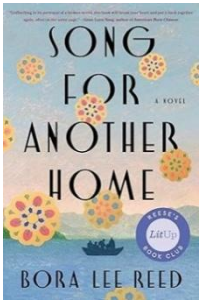
August 16-August 22
Income: $1,925.00
Expense: $349.37
Overage: $1,575.63

If you have any questions about these numbers, please contact a member of the Finance Committee.

SEPTEMBER LUNCH BUNCH
Lunch Bunch will meet next on Wednesday, September 9 @ 12:30pm @ Toast of Burlington! All are welcome to join us! To sign up, if you have questions, or need transportation arrangement, please call Dave Nuebel at 319-237-6933.

SEPTEMBER OUTREACH DONATIONS
Food Pantry Donations for September: Non-perishable lunchbox items! (i.e. peanut butter, jelly, fruit snacks, chips, sandwich bags, fruit cups, etc…) Thank you all for your generosity!

SEPTEMBER PASTOR'S BOOK CLUB
Our September book club will meet again this Tuesday, September 8 @ 5:00 p.m., here at Bethany. All are invited to join us! For this month, we will be reading "Song For Another Home" By Bora Lee Reed.



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www.bethanyburlington.org

Office Hours
Monday-Wednesday-Friday – 9:00am-1:00pm
Tuesday & Thursday – 1:30pm-4:30pm

Pastor Misha's Office Hours
Bethany: Monday & Tuesday
Messiah: Wednesday & Thursday
**** Pastor Misha's hours vary in the office from week to week as she may be out of office on visits or other Pastor duties. Please call or text her to make an appointment or to see if she is in the office. ****

Pastor Misha's contact info: 412-628-6382; damisha.mcfarlandpollock@gmail.com

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Our Staff

Rev. Misha McFarland-Pollock	Pastor
Cory Byrne	Organist/Choir Director
Wendy Bell	Office Administrator
Michelle Huppenbauer	Financial Secretary
Pam Crable	Custodian