Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
October 11, 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.

Twentieth 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,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth.

C: Amen.

P: Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

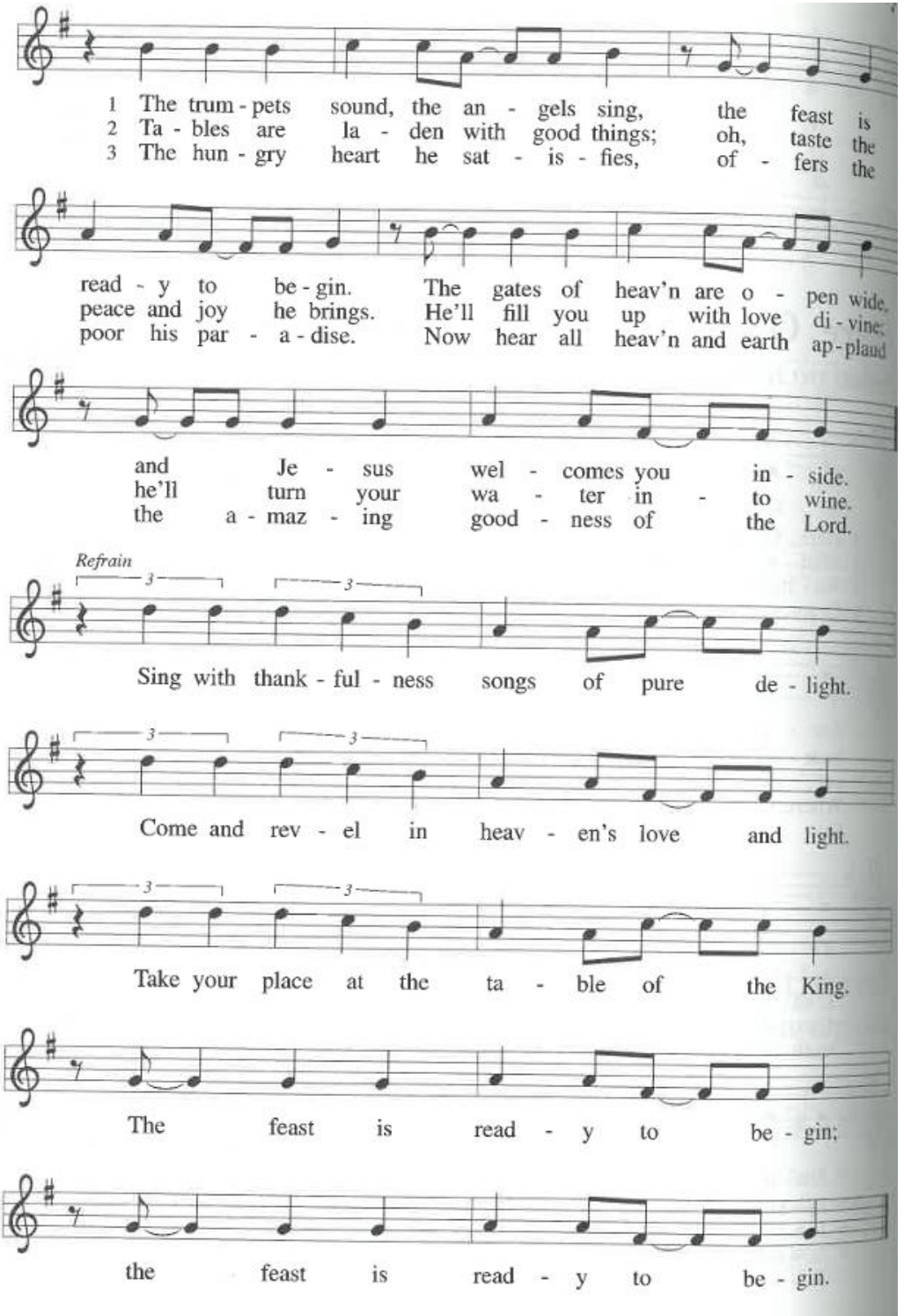
P: Compassionate God,

**C: we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness
in the world and in our own hearts.
Creation groans from overuse.
Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.
Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.
Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love
to others.
Turn our hearts back to you.
Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.
Renew us to live as your holy people,
following the way of Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

P: Hear this good news:
We have peace with God through ☩ Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN *"The Trumpets Sound, The Angels Sing"* **ELW Hymn 531**

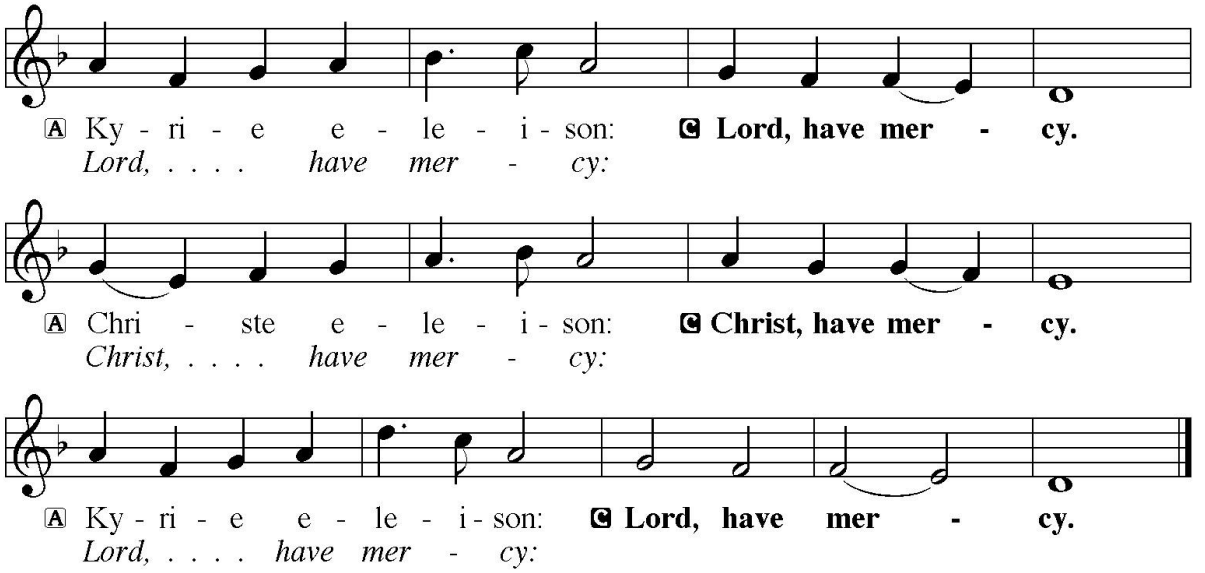


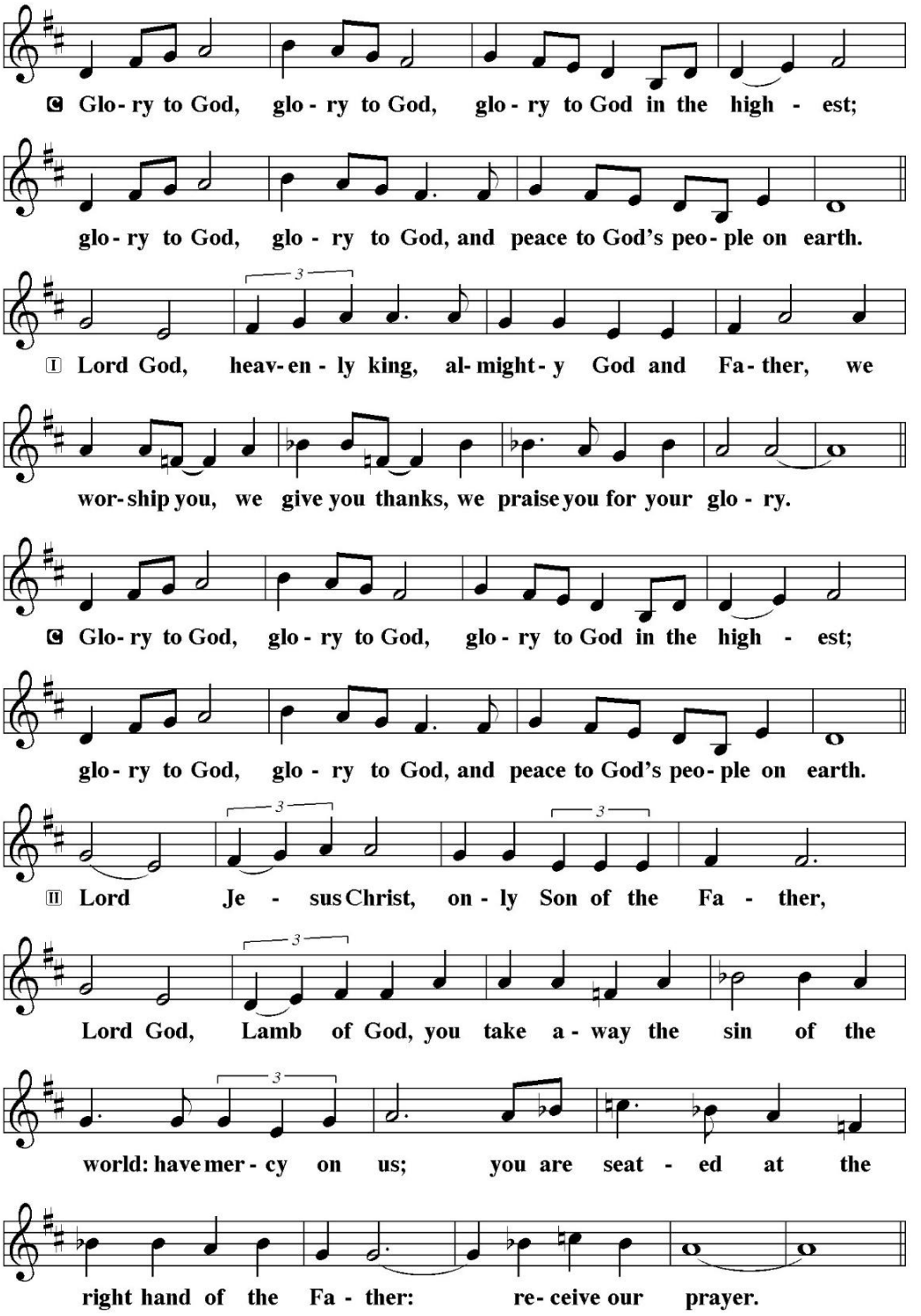
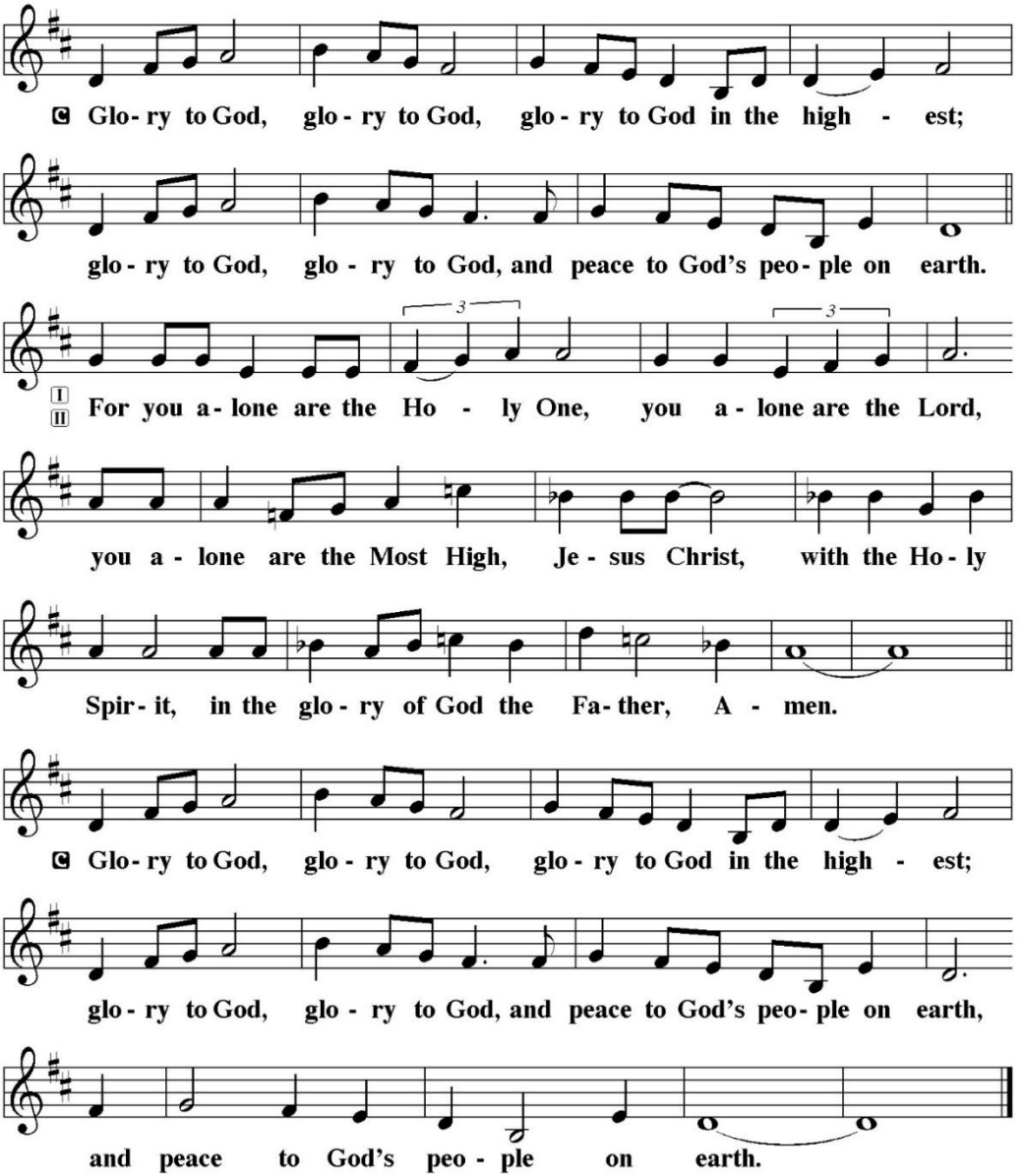
GREETING

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: **Almighty God, source of every blessing, your generous goodness comes to us anew every day. By the work of your Spirit lead us to acknowledge your goodness, give thanks for your benefits, and serve you in willing obedience; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.**
Amen.

We Listen to God's Word

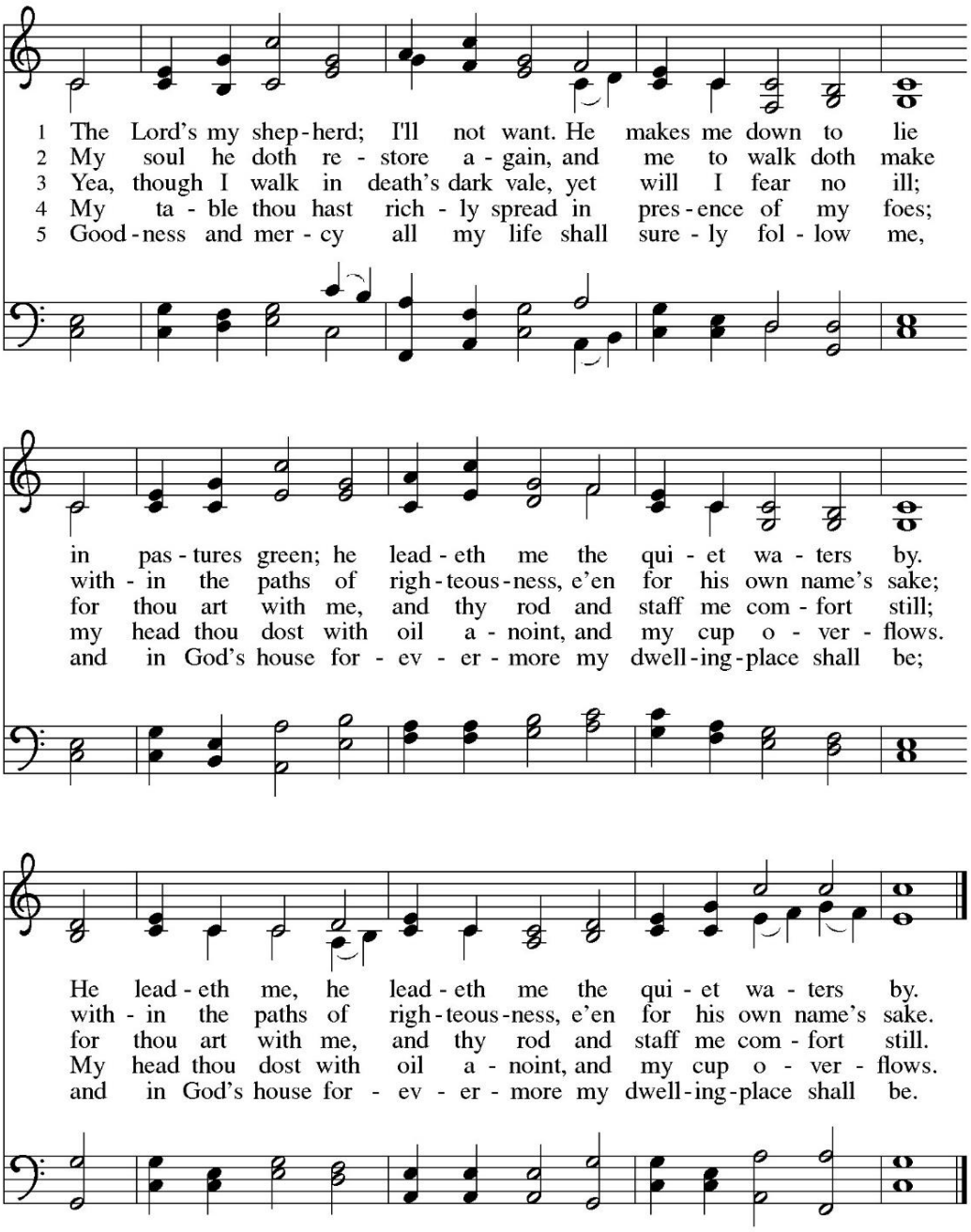
(Please be seated)

FIRST READING **Isaiah 25:1-9**

1 O LORD, you are my God;
I will exalt you; I will praise your name,
for you have done wonderful things,
plans formed of old, faithful and sure.
2 For you have made the city a heap,
the fortified city a ruin;
the palace of foreigners is a city no more;
it will never be rebuilt.
3 Therefore strong peoples will glorify you;
cities of ruthless nations will fear you.
4 For you have been a refuge to the poor,
a refuge to the needy in their distress,
a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat.
When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm,
5 the noise of foreigners like heat in a dry place,
you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds;
the song of the ruthless was stilled.

6 On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.
7 And he will destroy on this mountain
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
the covering that is spread over all nations;
8 he will swallow up death forever.
Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces,
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,
for the LORD has spoken.
9 It will be said on that day,
"See, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.
This is the LORD for whom we have waited;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation."

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

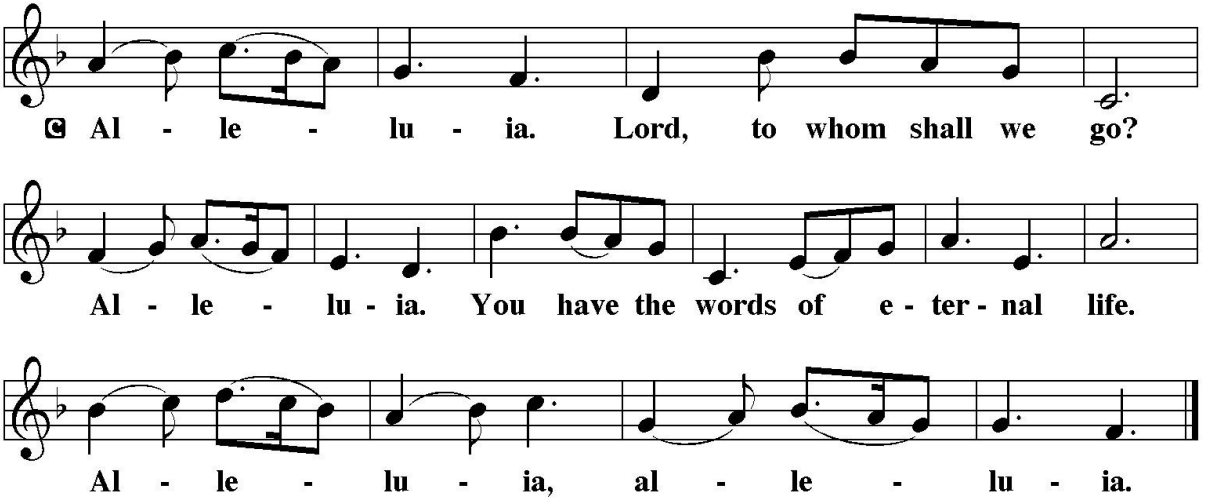
PSALM 23*(read responsively)* *"The Lord's My Shepherd"* **ELW Hymn 778**

SECOND READING **Philippians 4:1-9**

[1] My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm
in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

[2] I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. [3] Yes, and
I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled
beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my
coworkers, whose names are in the book of life.
[4] Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. [5] Let your gentleness be
known to everyone. The Lord is near. [6] Do not be anxious about anything, but in
everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made
known to God. [7] And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will
guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

[8] Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever
is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is
any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.
[9] As for the things that you have learned and received and heard and noticed in me,
do them, and the God of peace will be with you.

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

(Please Stand)
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 22nd chapter.
C: Glory to you, O Lord

GOSPEL **Matthew 22:1-14**

[1] Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: [2] "The kingdom of heaven may
be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. [3] He sent his slaves
to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not
come. [4] Again he sent other slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I
have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and
everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.' [5] But they made light of it and
went away, one to his farm, another to his business, [6] while the rest seized his
slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. [7] The king was enraged. He sent his
troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. [8] Then he said to his
slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. [9] Go therefore into
the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' [10] Those
slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and
bad, so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

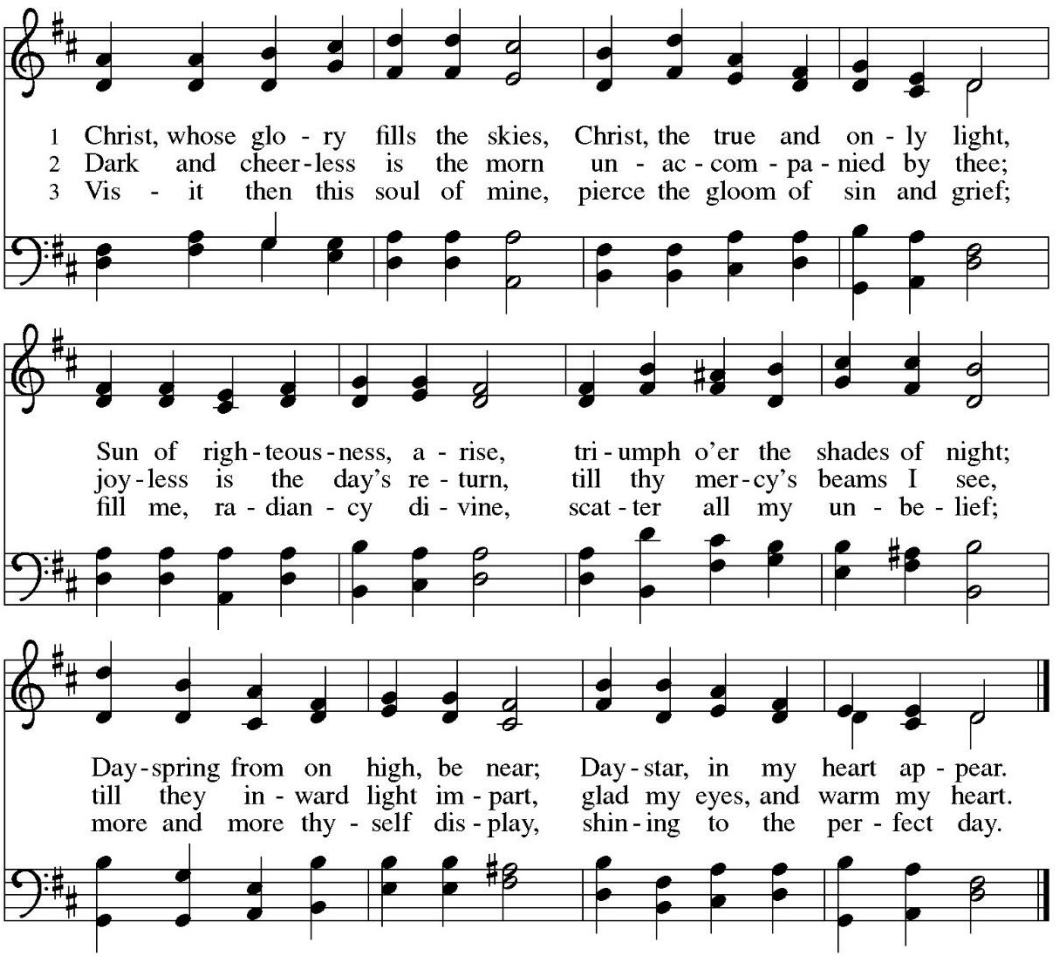
[11] "But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was
not wearing a wedding robe, [12] and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here
without a wedding robe?' And he was speechless. [13] Then the king said to the
attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where
there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' [14] For many are called, but few are
chosen."

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 *"Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies"* **ELW Hymn 553**

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: Hear us, O God.
C: Your mercy is great.

We Share in the Holy Meal

(Please Stand)

DIALOGUE

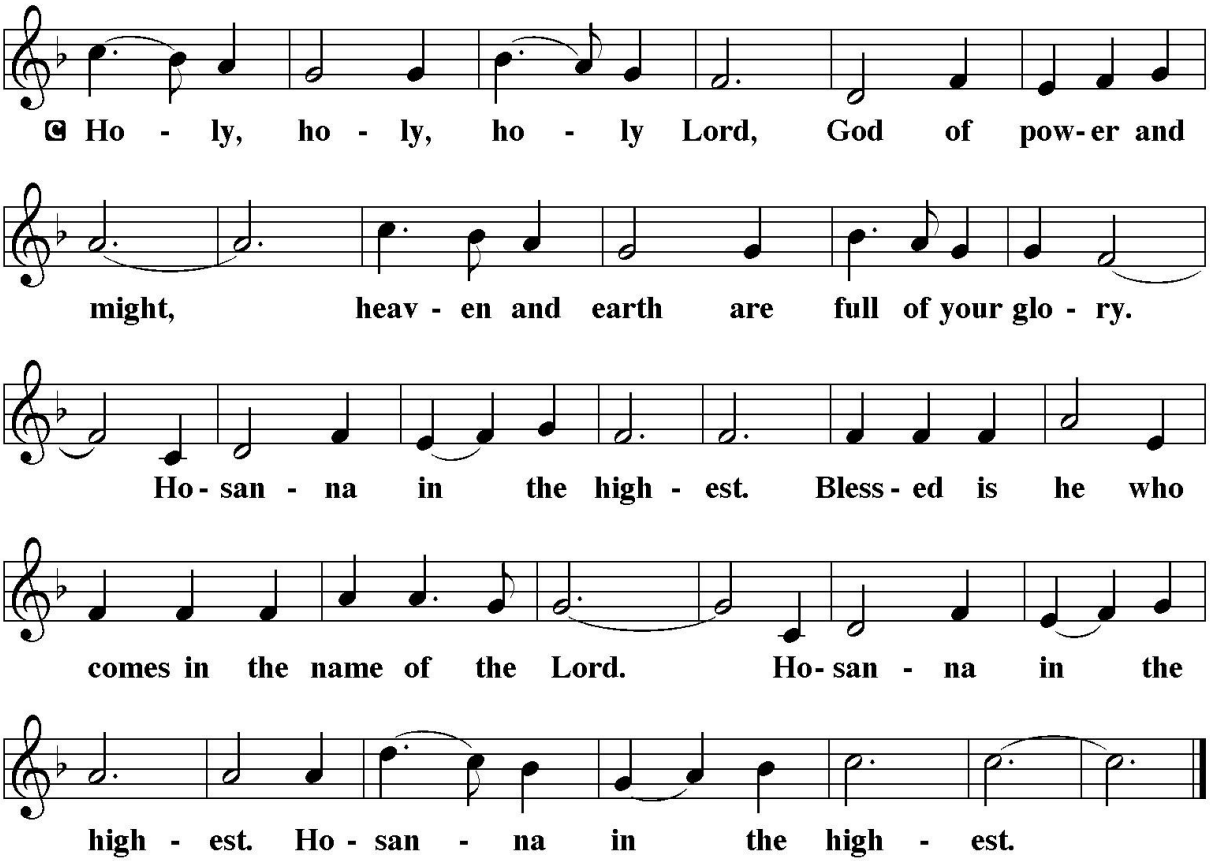
P: The Lord be with you.
C: And also with you.

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: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

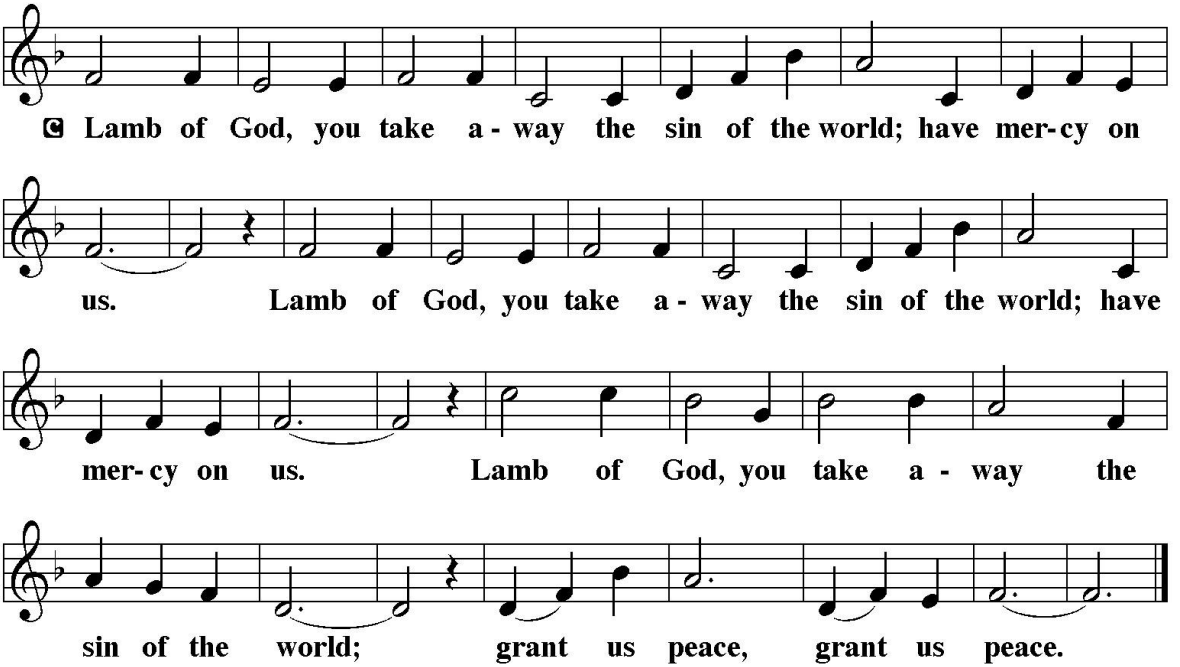
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the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

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Christ invites you to this table. All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

(Please be seated)

LAMB OF GOD

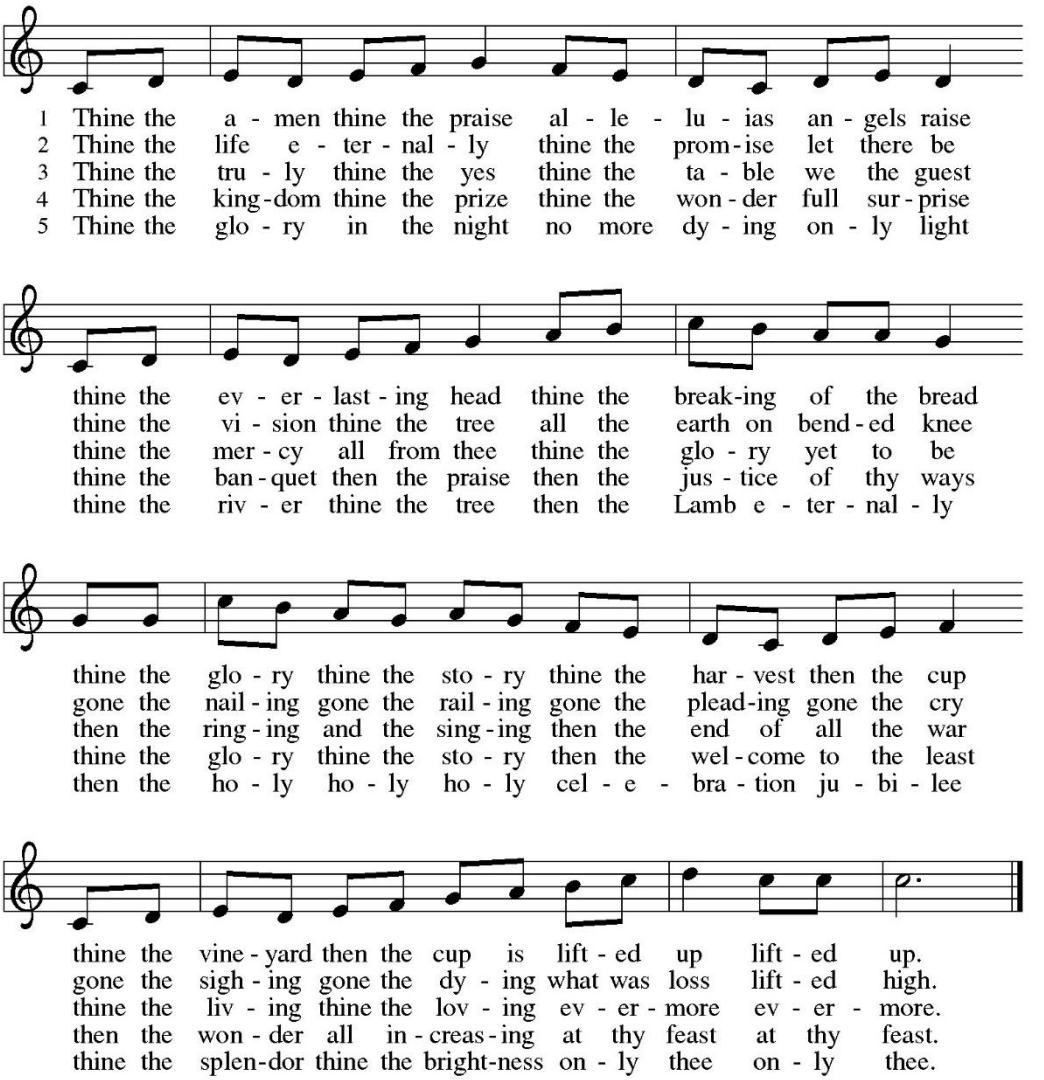


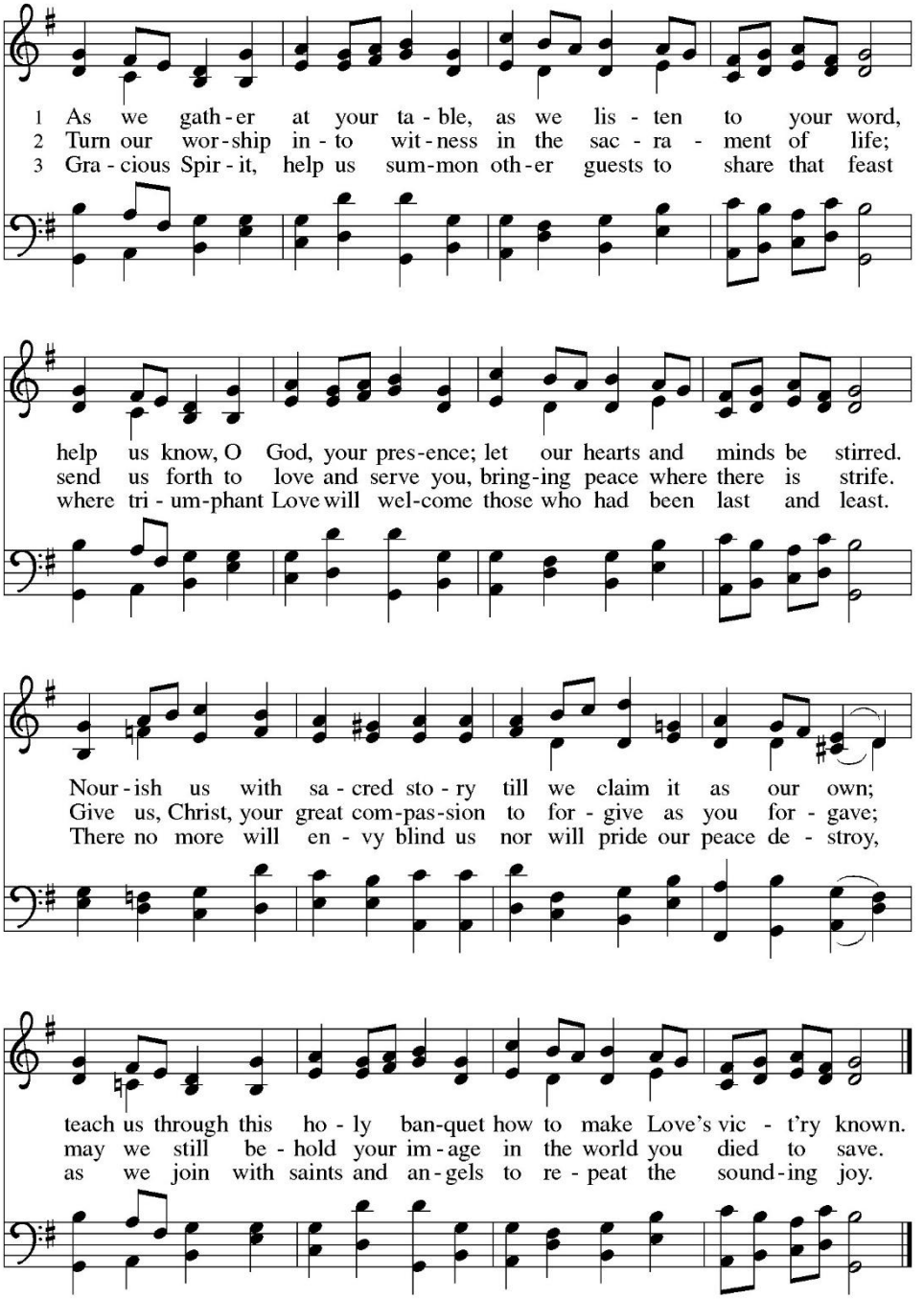
DISTRIBUTION BY INDIVIDUAL GLASSES

(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 *"Thine the Amen"* ELW Hymn 826



DISTRIBUTION HYMN *"As We Gather at Your Table"* **ELW Hymn 522**

(Please Stand)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: 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.

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.

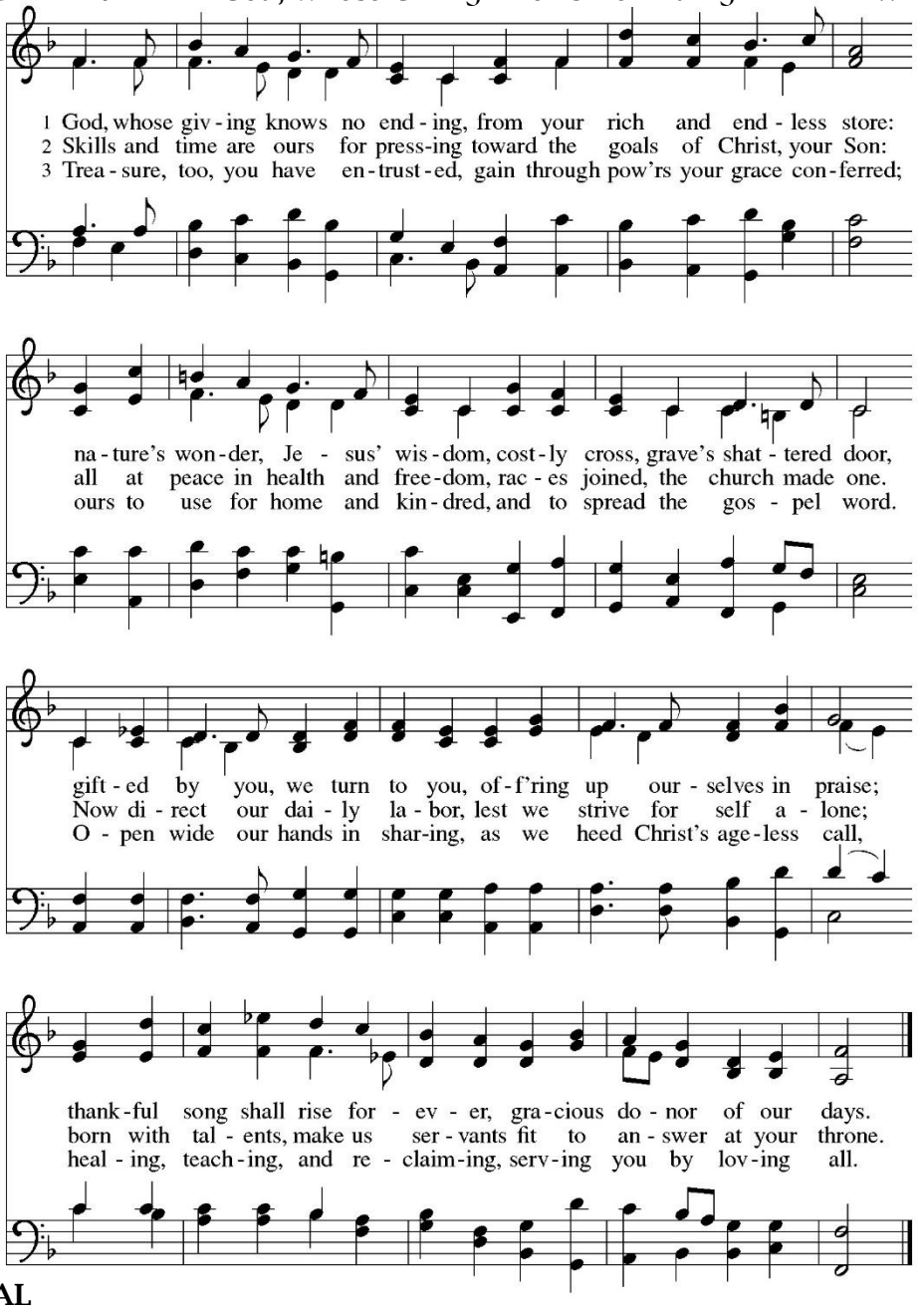
P: The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,
so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

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

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN *"God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending"* **ELW Hymn 678**



DISMISSAL

P: Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Lector:	Carlene Woodside
Usher:	Susan Swanson
Communion:	Mike Hopp; Julie Wischmeier
Greeters:	Sharon Martindale
Lutheran Campus Ministry:	Pam Taylor
Missionary Support:	Open
Altar Flowers:	Susan Swanson
Remember in prayer:	Kerri Hermann; Patty Chacey; Julie Chubb

~ ~

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.

~ ~

ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK

Today:	**Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost**	
	9:00 a.m.	Worship w/ Holy Communion
	10:15 a.m.	**Church Life & Outreach**
	10:55 a.m.	Lutheran Church of Hope Service
Monday:	**6:30 p.m.**	**Property mtg.**
Tuesday:	**5:00 p.m.**	**Pastor's Book Club @ Bethany**
Wednesday:	**12:30 p.m.**	**Lunch Bunch @ Napoli's**
Thursday:	9:30 a.m.	Bible Study @ Messiah
	6:00 p.m.	**Executive Comm. mtg.**
	6:30 p.m.	**Finance mtg.**
Saturday:	**8:00 a.m.**	**Men's Breakfast**
Next Sunday:	**Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost**	
	8:00 a.m.	**Choir Rehearsal**
	9:00 a.m.	Worship w/ Holy Communion
	10:55 a.m.	Lutheran Church of Hope Service

HAT & MITTEN TREE

It's that time of year again! Our hat and mitten tree is once again adorning our foyer! As you know, every year we collect winter hats, mittens, gloves, & scarves to donate to our local schools to be distributed to disadvantaged children.

LUNCH BUNCH

Lunch Bunch will be meeting next on Wednesday, October 14 @ 12:30pm @ Napoli's! To sign up, have questions, or need transportation arrangement, please call Dave Nuebel at 319-237-6933.

PROPERTY REQUEST
If anyone would like to donate their Menards rebates to the property committee, they would appreciate the help to buy the things needed for maintenance. If you are interested in donating yours, please drop them off to the office or give them to a member of the property committee.

SIGN UP FOR TRUNK OR TREAT AT MESSIAH
It's that time of year again! Messiah is asking for your help in the Trunk or Treat ministry, preschool and community outreach program to help pass out candy on Sunday, October 25! Each vehicle that set up to hand out candy will be given a bag of candy. Vehicle trunks can be decorated in any theme, but not required. Last year about 275 children participated in this ministry. Vehicle trunks will need to be parked by 3:30pm (in the first 2 rows of parking spaces nearest the church) and Trunk or Treat is from 4:00pm – 5:00pm. The sign-up sheet is out and available on the table in the Fellowship Hall. For more information, please contact Laura Carruthers at 319-759-4377.

WEEKLY FINANCE REPORT
These are the numbers for where we are financially for the dates of September 27 – October 3:

September 27-October 3
Income: $2,435.00
Expense: $1,430.33
Overage: $1,024.67

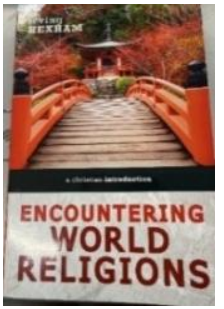
If you have any questions about these numbers, please contact a member of the Finance Committee.

OCTOBER OUTREACH DONATIONS
Food Pantry Donations for October: Soups and Crackers! Thank you for your generosity!

MESSIAH'S WOMEN'S GROUP "GIRLFRIENDS IN GRACE"
The ladies of Messiah would like to invite you to participate in a new women's fellowship group called "Girlfriends in Grace". Let's get excited about Jesus and meeting with like-minded women! Our meeting will be on Wednesday, October 21 at 6:00pm at Burlington Public Library. For information, please contact Jana Hayes at 319-457-0481.

OCTOBER PASTOR'S BOOK CLUB

Our October book club will meet again on Tuesday, October 13 @ 5:00 p.m., here at Bethany. All are invited to join us! For this month, we will be reading "A Christian Introduction: Encountering World Religions" By Irving Hexham!



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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