Advent Lutheran Church (E.L.C.A.)

1416 Vernon Road. LaGrange, GA 30240. 706-882-0130.

November 8, 2026 – Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost

(*Gathering music, church announcements, lighting of candles, and words of welcome may precede the following liturgy.*)

(Please stand)

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

C: **Amen.**

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

(Please kneel if you are able).

P: Most merciful God,

C: We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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.

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C: **Amen.**
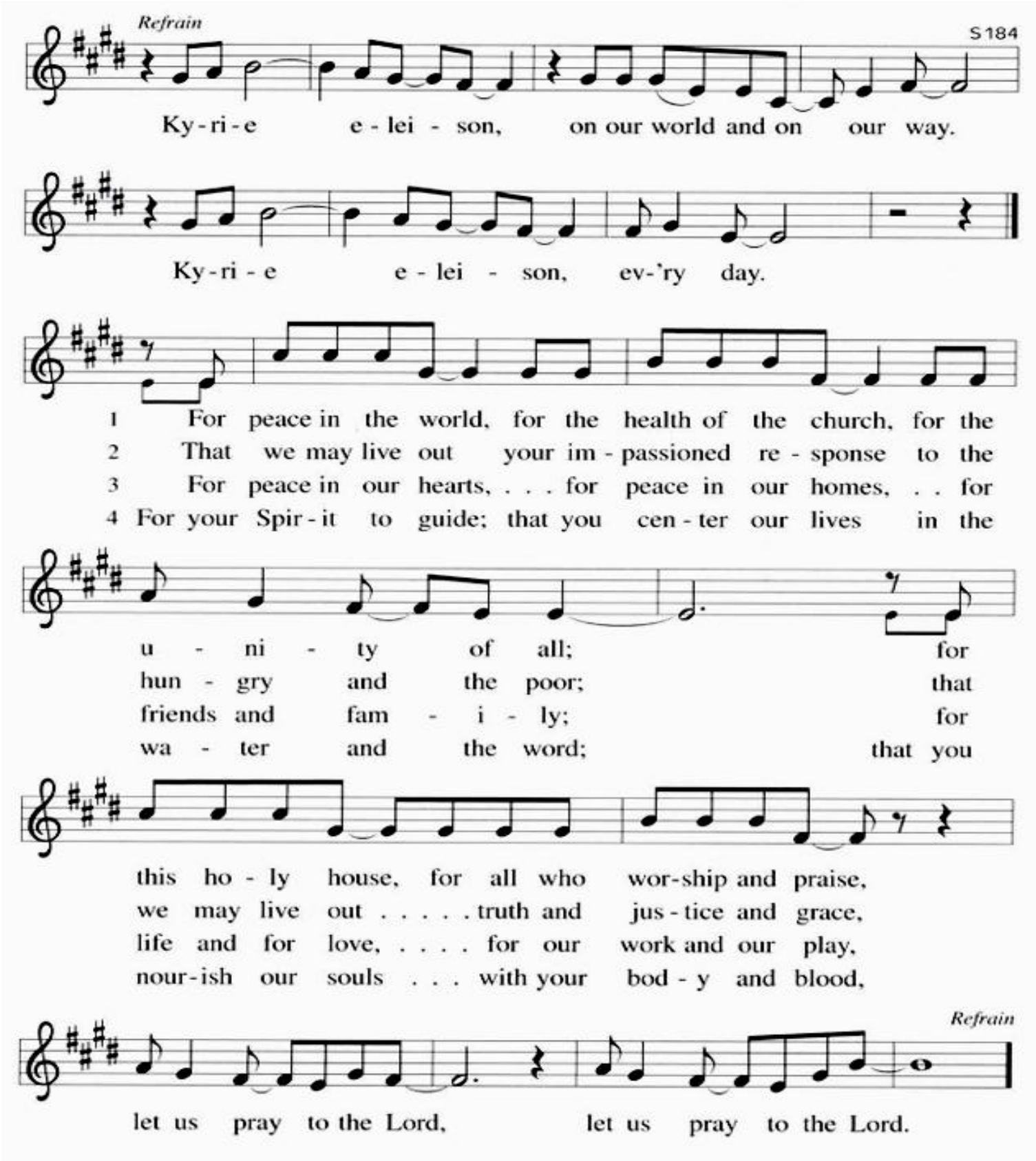
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all!

C: **And also with you!**
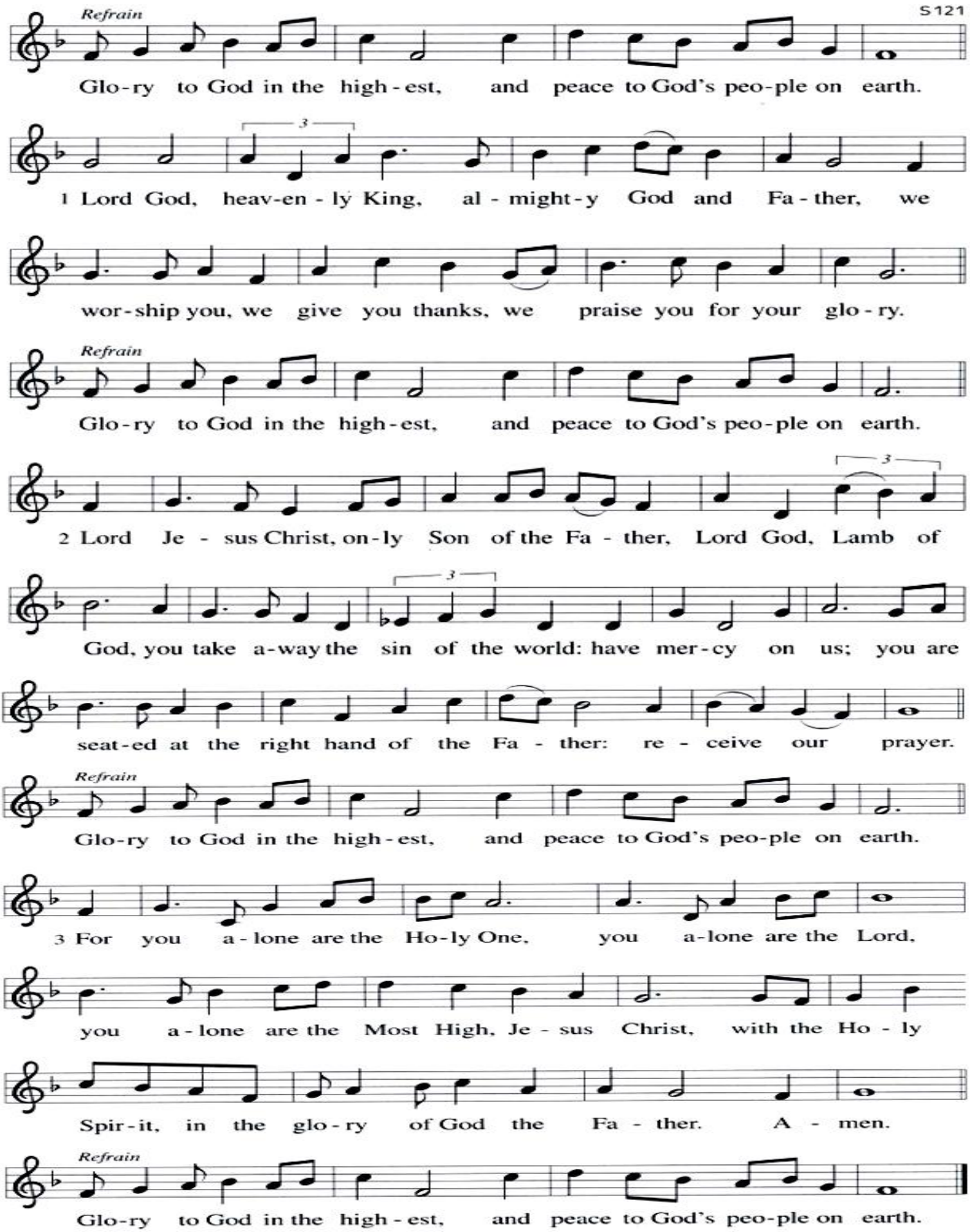
(Please stand to sing the Gathering Hymn)

Gathering Song: "Come We That Love the Lord" ELW 625

Kyrie:



Canticle of Praise:



P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray: 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.

(*Please be seated for today's readings.*)

A reading from the Book of Amos.

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. (5:18-24).

Let us read from Psalm 70 responsively:

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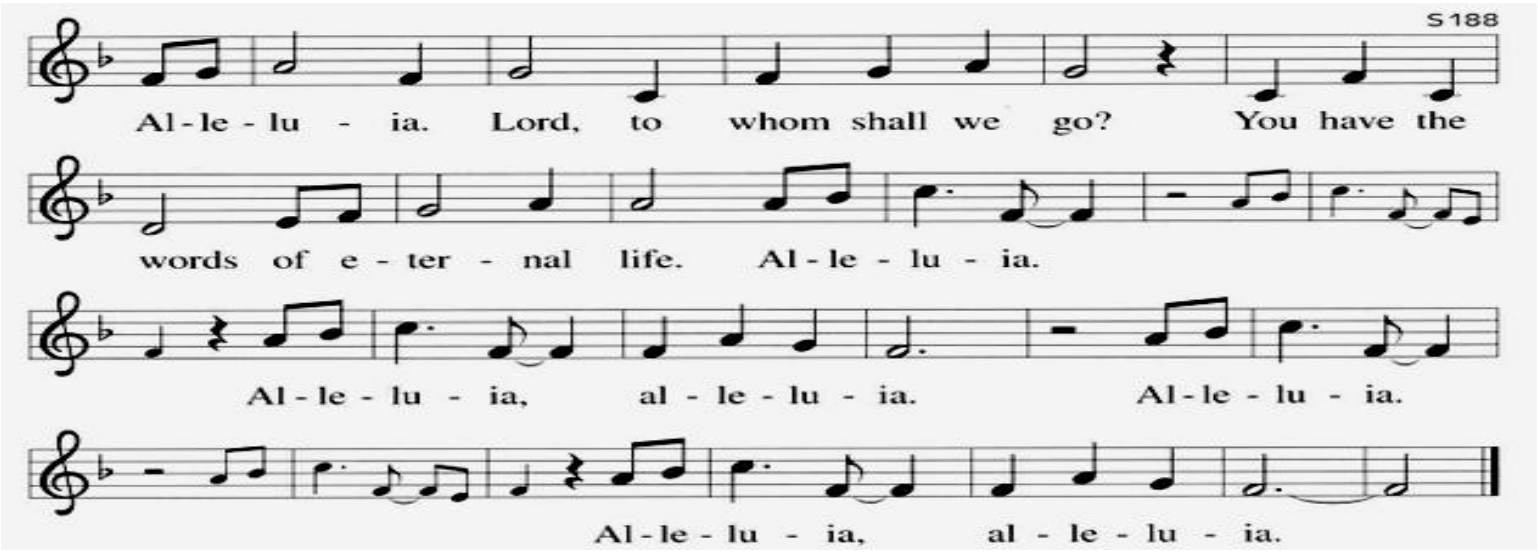
5 But as for me, I am poor and needy; come to me quickly, O God.
You are my helper and my deliverer; O LORD, do not tarry.

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Thessalonians:

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. (4:13-18).

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

(Please stand to recite the gospel acclamation)



The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[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." (25:1-13)

The gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.** (*Please be seated.*)

SERMON

Grateful Even While We Wait — Psalm 70

(*Please stand to sing the hymn of the day.*)

Hymn of the Day: "Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying" ELW 436

(Let us confess our faith together in the words of the Apostles Creed)

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. He 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.
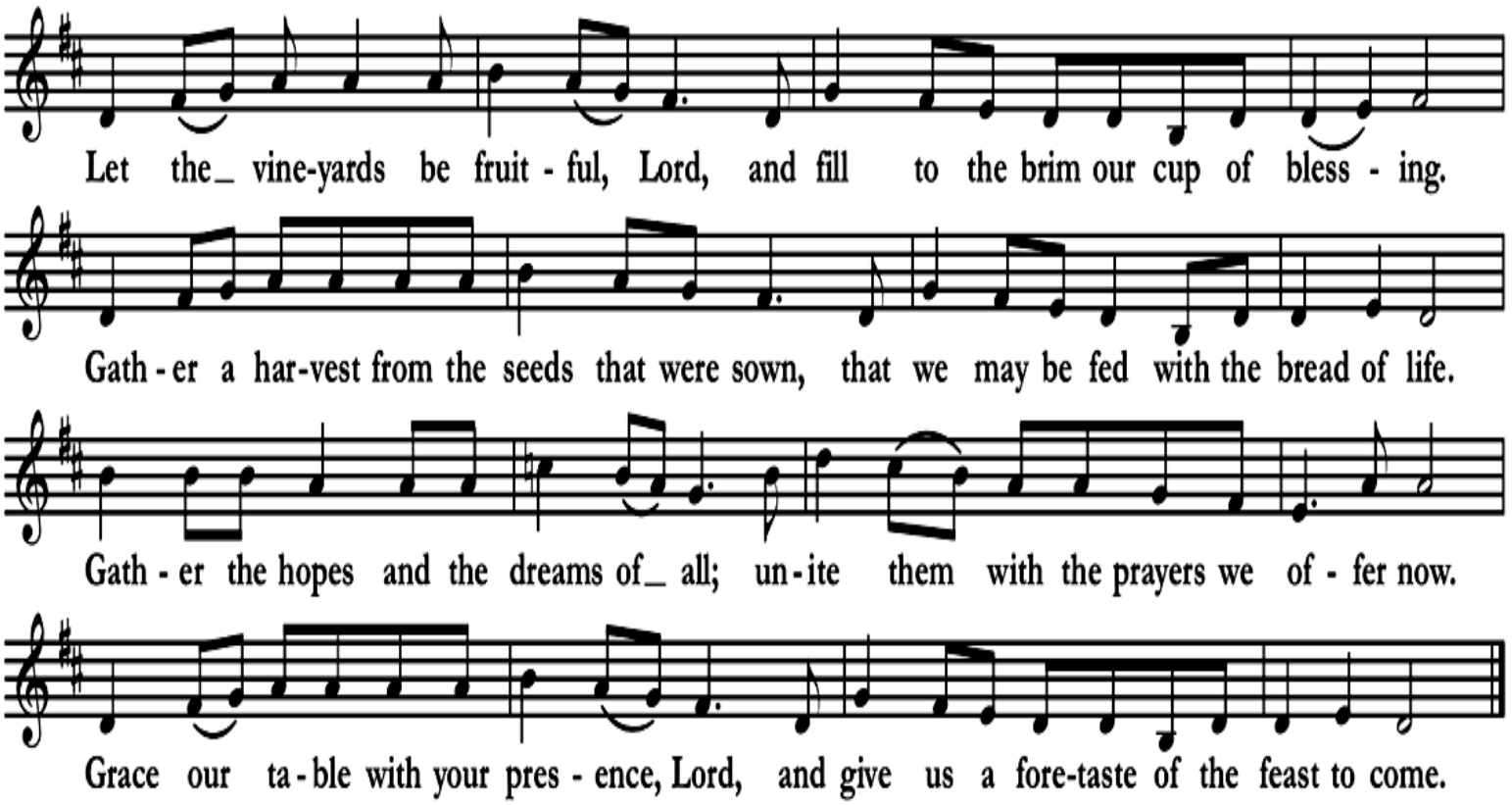
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

[Assisting minister (AM):] With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation […] Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

[Presiding minister (PM):] The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

(*We share greetings of God's peace, and we offer our gifts to God.*)

(*Please stand to sing the offertory response.*)



[AM:] Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
C: **Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving

[PM:] The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

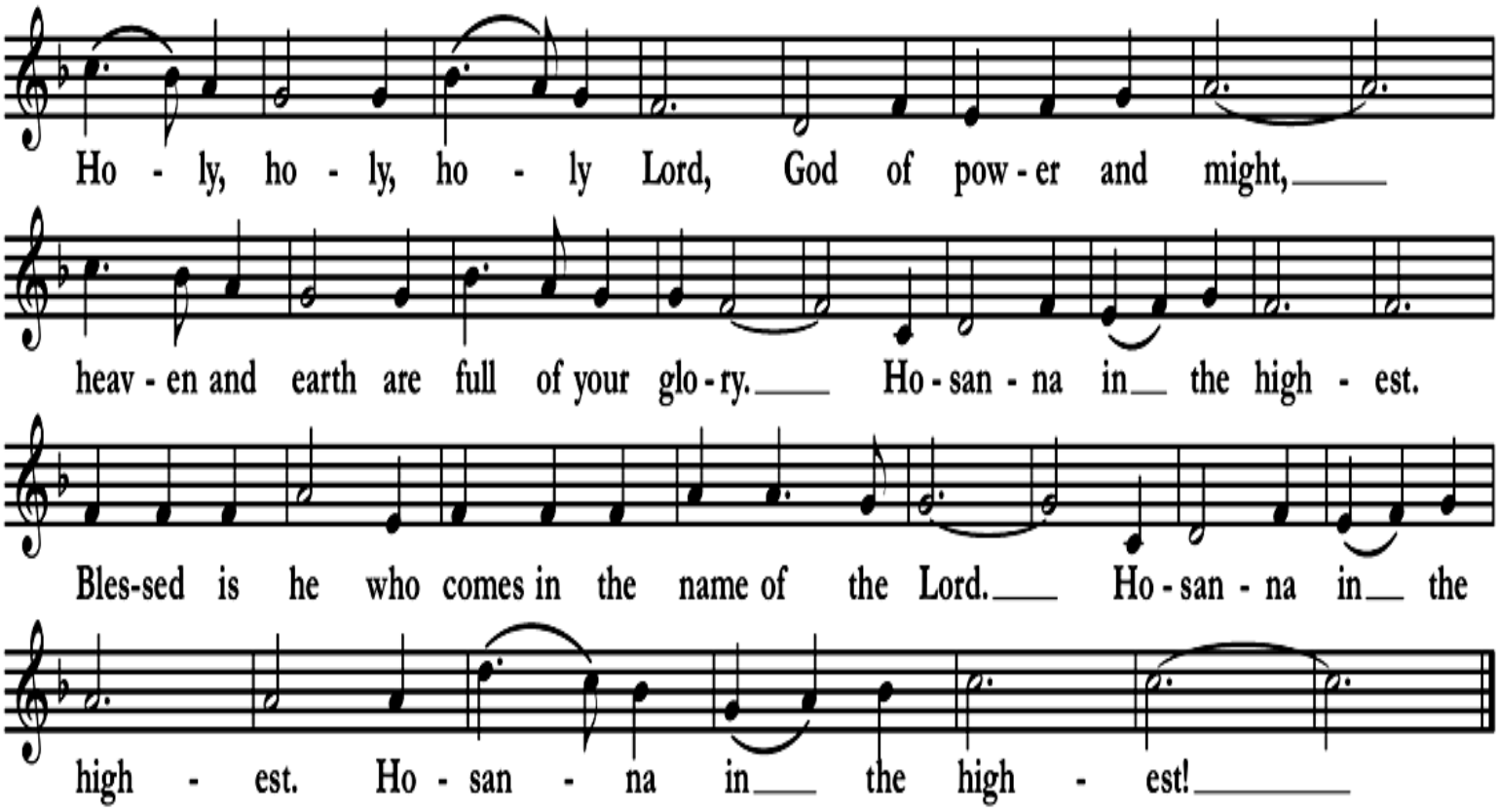
We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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 the great shepherd of your flock, our Savior Jesus Christ; who after his resurrection sent forth the apostles to preach the gospel, teach all nations, and promised to be with them, even to the end of the ages. And so, with the glorious company of the apostles, with the choirs of angels and all the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus: Holy, Holy, Holy…



You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your hold will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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 the 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 has risen. Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever. Amen.

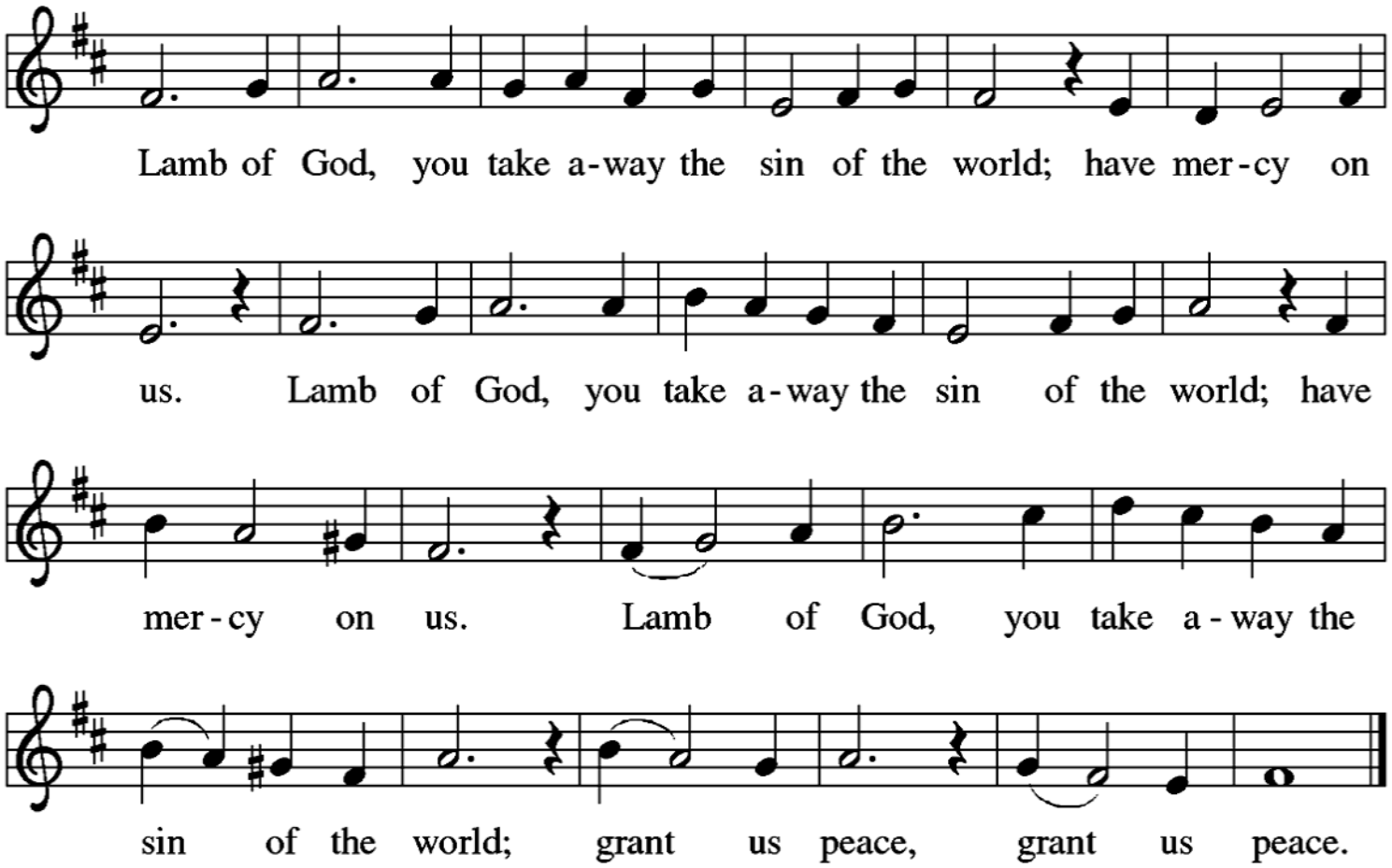
C: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

Agnes Dei: Lamb of God



INVITATION TO COMMUNION

In bread and cup the reign of Christ is breaking in. Come all, receive what Christ has prepared for you.

COMMUNION

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

(Please stand)

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

C: **Amen.**

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

[AM:] Let us pray. We give you thanks almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

BLESSING

[PM:] The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.
C: **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN: "God Be With You Till We Meet Again" ELW 536

[AM:] Go in peace. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

Today's scripture readings are appointed by the *Revised Common Lectionary*, an ecumenical resource first published in 1992 and summarized in pages 18-53 of *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, 2006. For more information about the *Revised Common Lectionary*, please visit lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/faq/

Today's communion preface is composed based upon the lectionary readings.

All other material is from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*.