Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd;
I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

The 20th Sunday after Pentecost
Arlington Hills Lutheran Church
October 11, 2026

Arlington Hills Lutheran Church
1115 Greenbrier Street - St. Paul, MN 55106

Sunday, October 11, 2026
20th Sunday after Pentecost

Introduction

In Isaiah we are given a vision of the great feast to come, when God will wipe away death forever. In Jesus' parable about a great banquet, those invited do not come, so the invitation is extended to others. In our liturgy God spreads a table before us. Even amid anxiety and hardship we rejoice in the peace of God which surpasses all understanding. With great joy we feast at the table of the Lord, and we go forth to share the wonderful invitation with others hungering and thirsting for the abundant life of God.

Welcome and Announcements

(Please take some time to prepare for worship in the quiet as we light the altar candles…. If you are worshipping online, we invite you to have something to eat and something to drink, ready for communion)

Prelude **"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"** **arr. Paul Manz**

GATHERING

P: The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth.

All: Amen.

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

All: Amen.

P: Most merciful God,

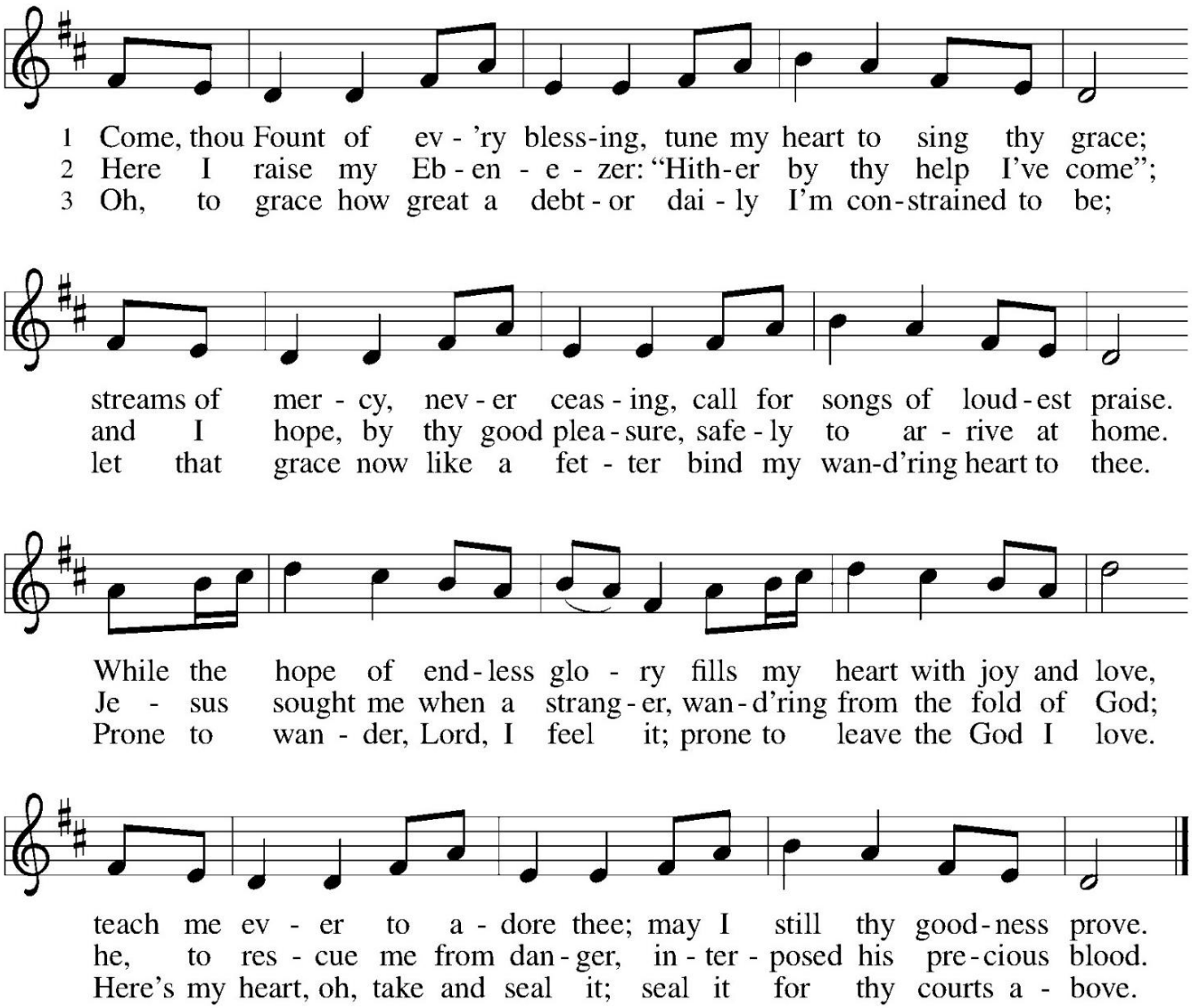
All: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus 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: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Please rise, in body or spirit, for the Gathering Hymn

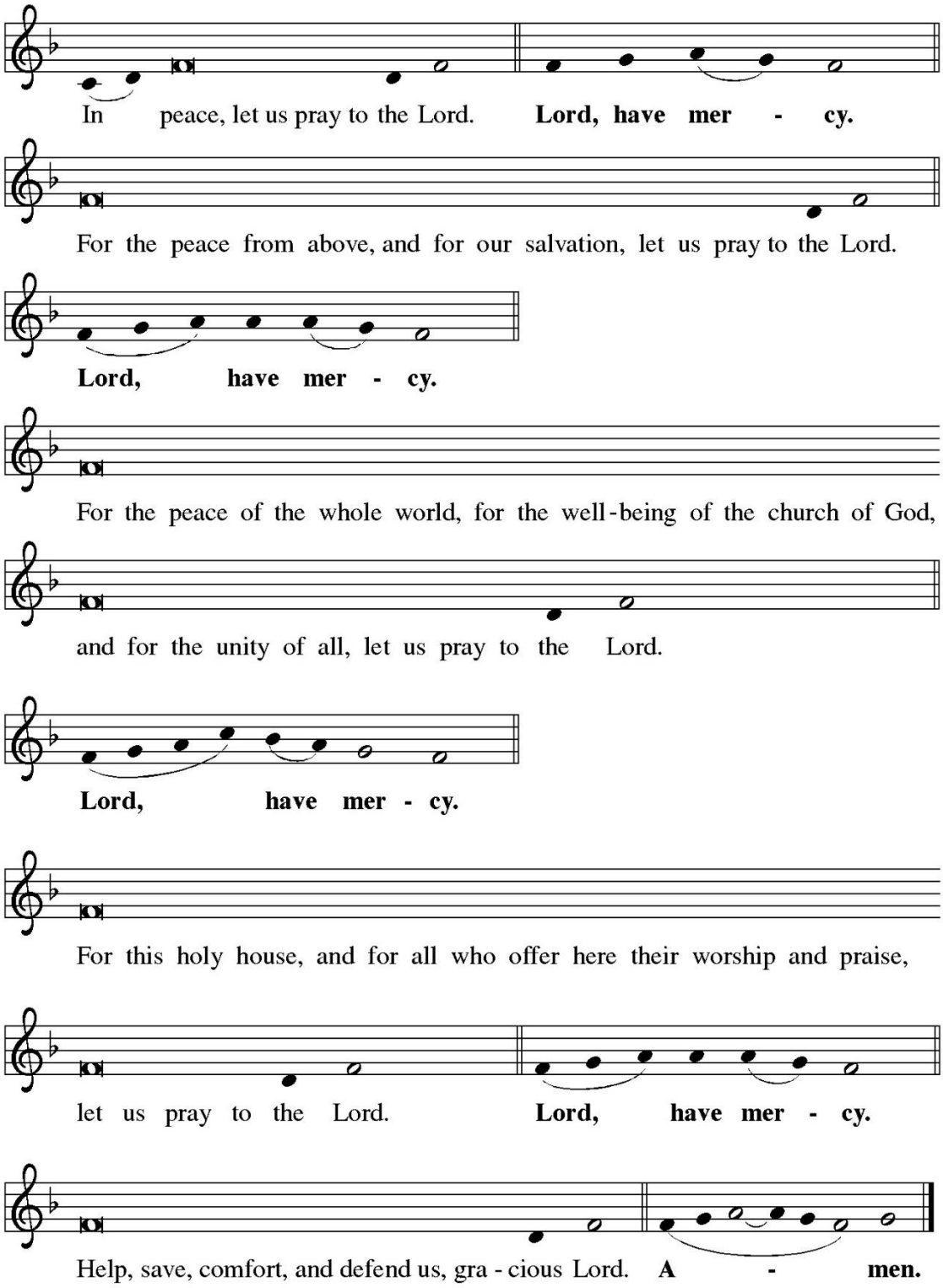
Gathering Hymn "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" ELW #807

Verses 1, 2, and 3 - Large print words found on page 21

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735–1790, alt.
Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813

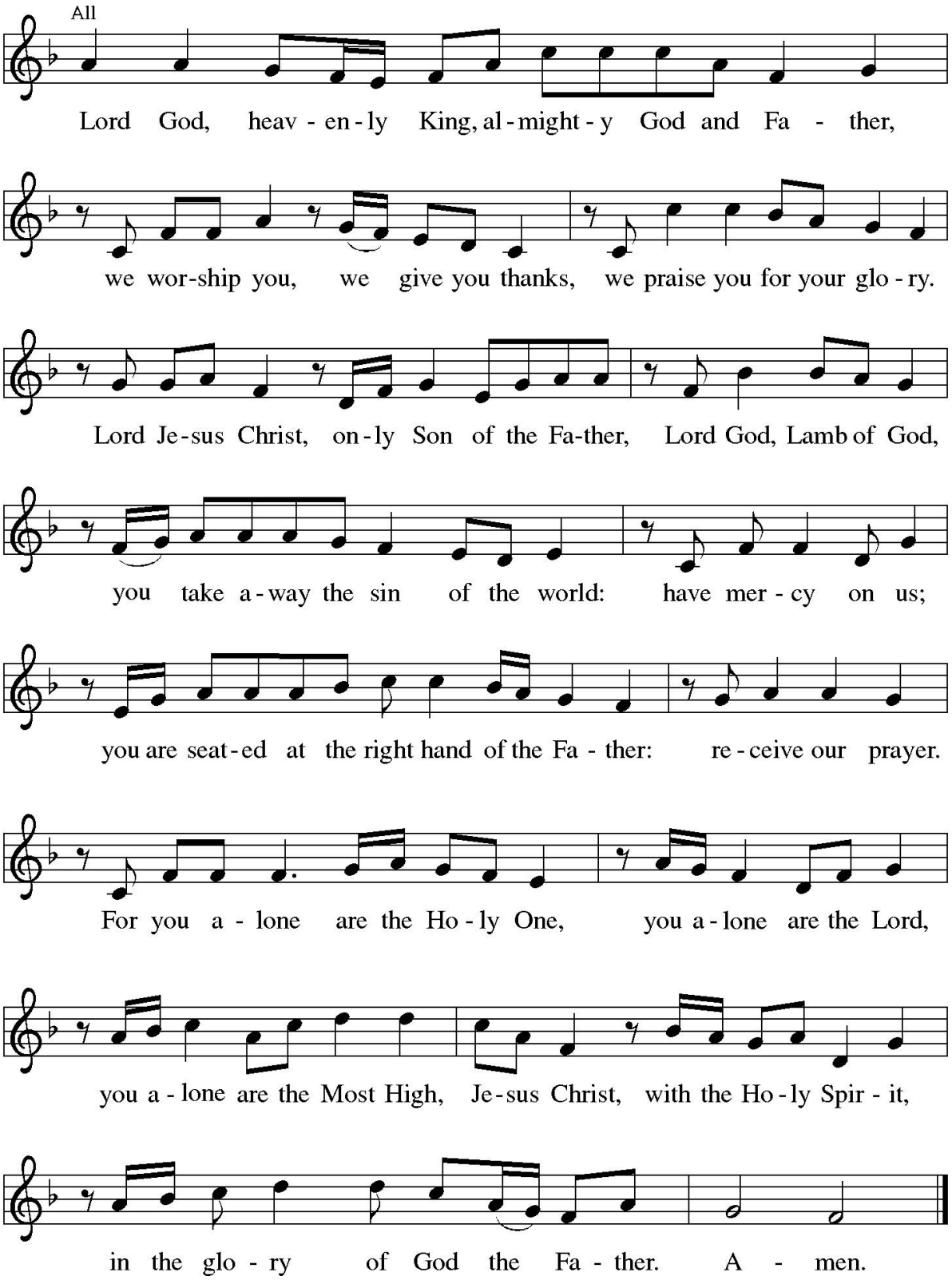
P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And also with you.

Please be seated.

KYRIE

Canticle of Praise

P: Glory to God, in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

All:

Prayer of the Day

P: Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all people and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

All: Amen.

WORD

First Reading: Isaiah 25:1-9 **Assisting Minister**

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."

AM: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 23 Read Responsively by Whole Verse Assisting Minister

AM: [1] The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

All: [2] **The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.**

AM: [3] You restore my soul, O LORD, and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

All: [4] **Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

AM: [5] You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

All: [6] **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

Second Reading: Philippians 4:1-9

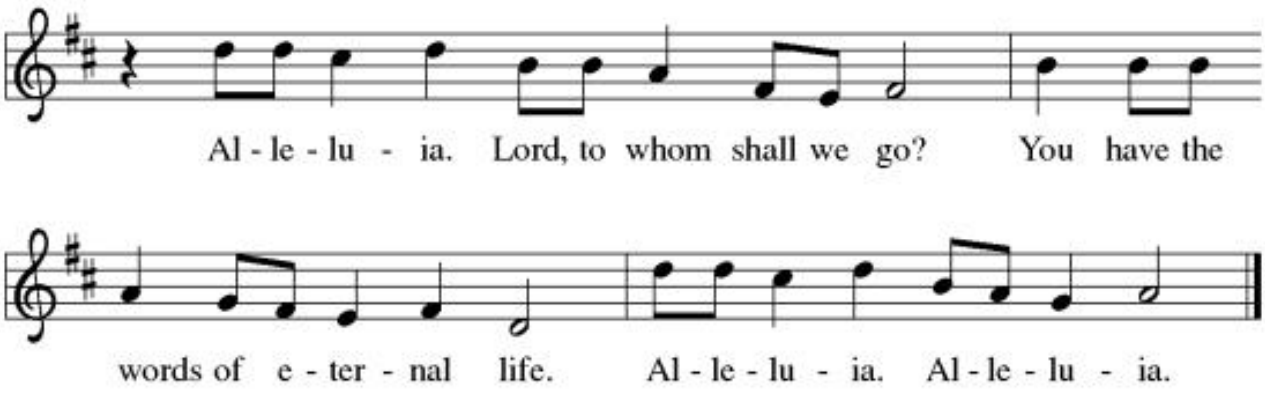
[1] My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved. [2] I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. [3] Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the 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.

AM: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Please rise, in body or spirit, for the Gospel Acclamation

Gospel Acclamation

P: The holy gospel according to Matthew the 22nd Chapter
All: 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."

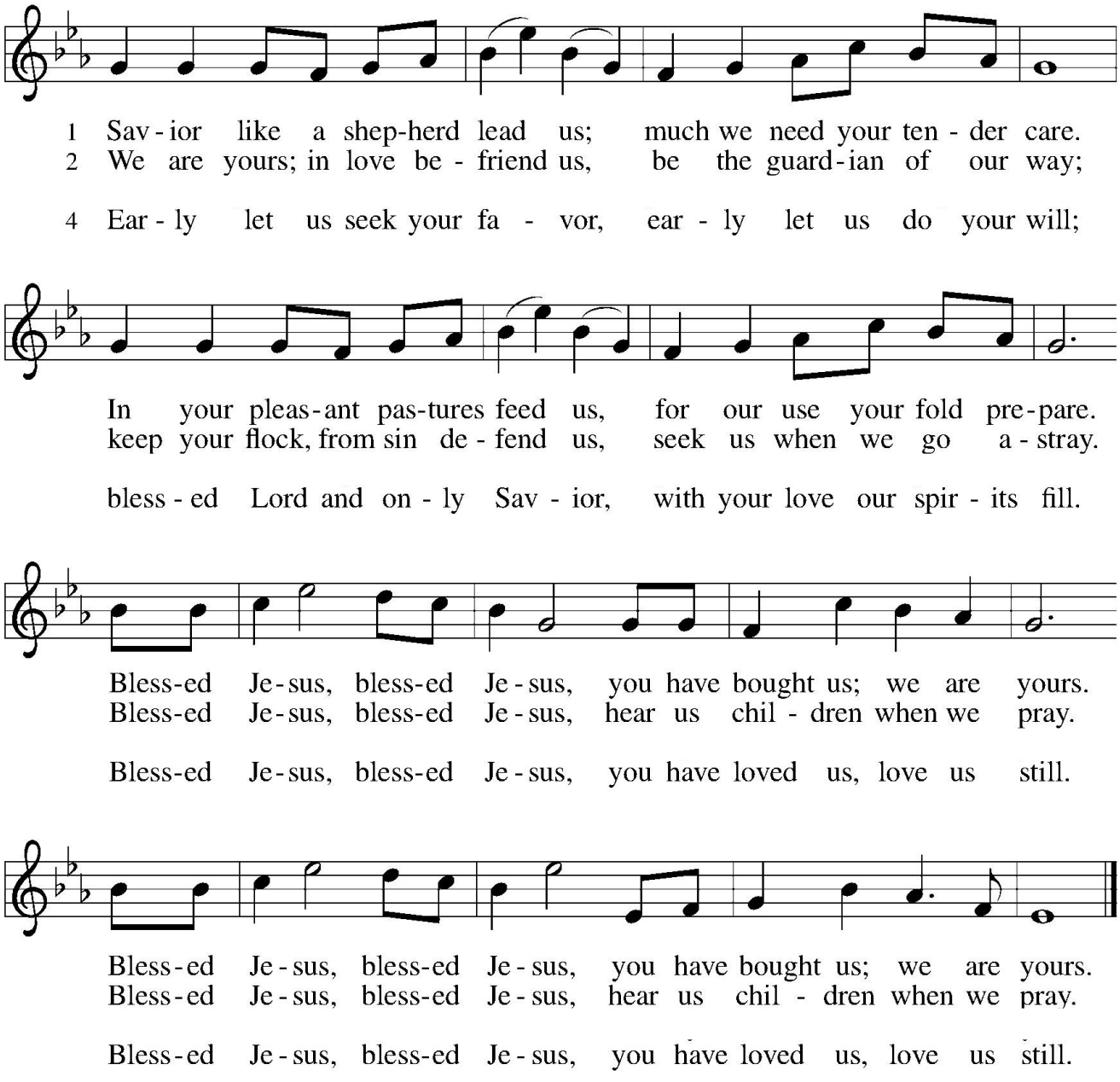
P: The gospel of our Lord.
All: Praise to you, O Christ

Please be seated.

Sermon **MY S-h-e-p-h-e-r-d** **Pastor Orv Osmundson**

Please rise, in body or spirit for the Hymn of the Day

Hymn the Day **"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"** **ELW# 789**

Verses 1, 2 and 4 - Large print words found on page 22

Text: attr. Dorothy A. Thrupp, 1779–1847
Music: BRADBURY, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

Apostles' Creed

All: 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.

Please be seated for the Prayers of Intercession

Prayers of Intercession **Assisting Minister**

AM: Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world.

A brief silence.

Holy God, we remember your promise of unity on your holy mountain. Empower the World Council of Churches and all those working across religious difference, that the world may know your undivided love. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

AM: We remember your promise of green pastures and quiet waters. Preserve all places of natural beauty and restore our relationship with the land. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

AM: Show employers the benefits of equal pay standards for all their employees. Reconcile conflicts between employees. Fill places of employment with camaraderie, and bring an end to employment disparity. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

AM: We remember your promise to not abandon us amid storm and disaster. Renew all communities facing disasters throughout the world and give your courage to those leading relief efforts. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

AM: Shepherding Lord, guide this congregation as we are in the discernment process. We know that you are walking with us. We pray for everyone at Arlington Hills Lutheran Church, Alley Shoppe, Open Door, House of Praise, Ministerio Dias de Gloria, the East Side Collaborative Churches, our mission partners in Tanzania and for Remnant Christian Network. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

AM: We remember your promise to wipe away every tear. Heal and console all who are sick or suffering . We pray especially for Marjorie Anderson, Sven & Marion Anderson, Sharon Anderson, Brenda Boogren, Tom Brackey, Carolyn Brusseau, Jerry Ekblad, Richard Edge, Marie Erickson, Judy Hanggi, Charles and Laurie Helgason, Betty Hasse, Patricia James, Sarah Jansen, Jim Jaszczak, Eugene Karls, Gisela Koegh, Velta Krauze, Chuck Linderkamp, Maria Lopez, Marilyn Nelson, Dennis Rasmusson, Marnie Rose, Bev Stickler, Dave Thomas, Ivanka Vicic, Ken Wagner, MaryAnn Wistrom and those we name in our hearts. (pause) Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

AM: We remember your promise of a banquet open to all people. Challenge this congregation to open wide our doors and welcome everyone to the table. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

AM: We remember your promise to swallow up death forever. We give thanks for those who have gone before us. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

AM: Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Please rise, in body or spirit, for the sharing of the peace.

Sharing of the Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

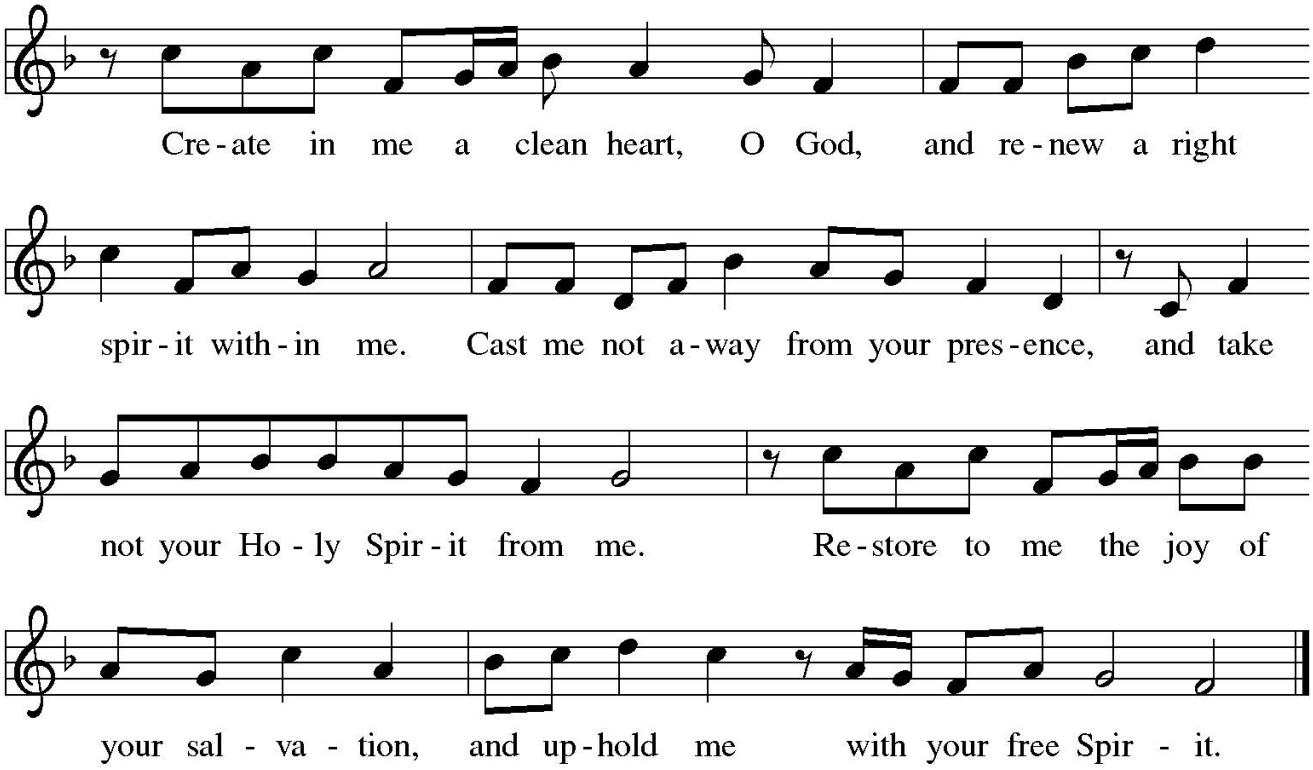
All: And also, with you.

Please be seated.

MEAL

Offering Anthem **"Have No Fear, Little Flock"** **arr. Anne Krentz Organ**

Please rise, in body or spirit, for the Offering Song

Offering Song

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923
Music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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Offering Prayer

P: God of creation, you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always.

All: Amen.

Please be seated.

Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

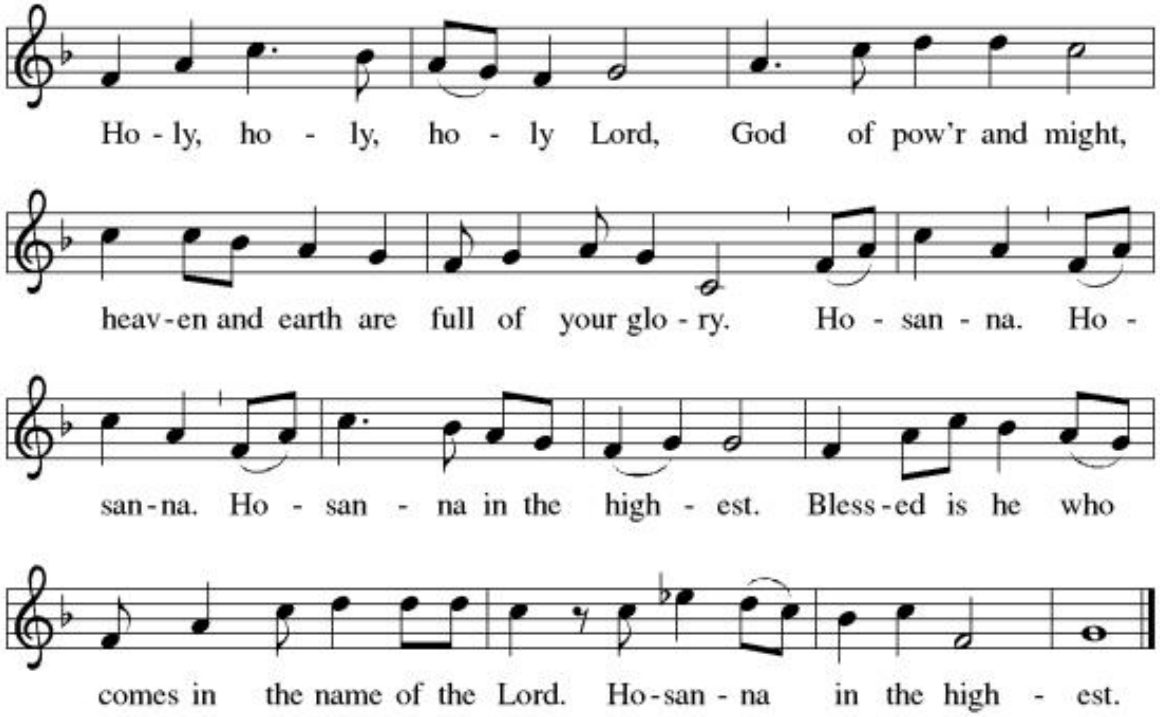
All: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: 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. Fulfilling the promise of the resurrection, you pour out the fire of your Spirit, uniting in one body people of every nation and tongue. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

All:



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: 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 holy 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 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.

All: Christ has died. Christ is 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.

All: Amen

Lord's Prayer

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

All: 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, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

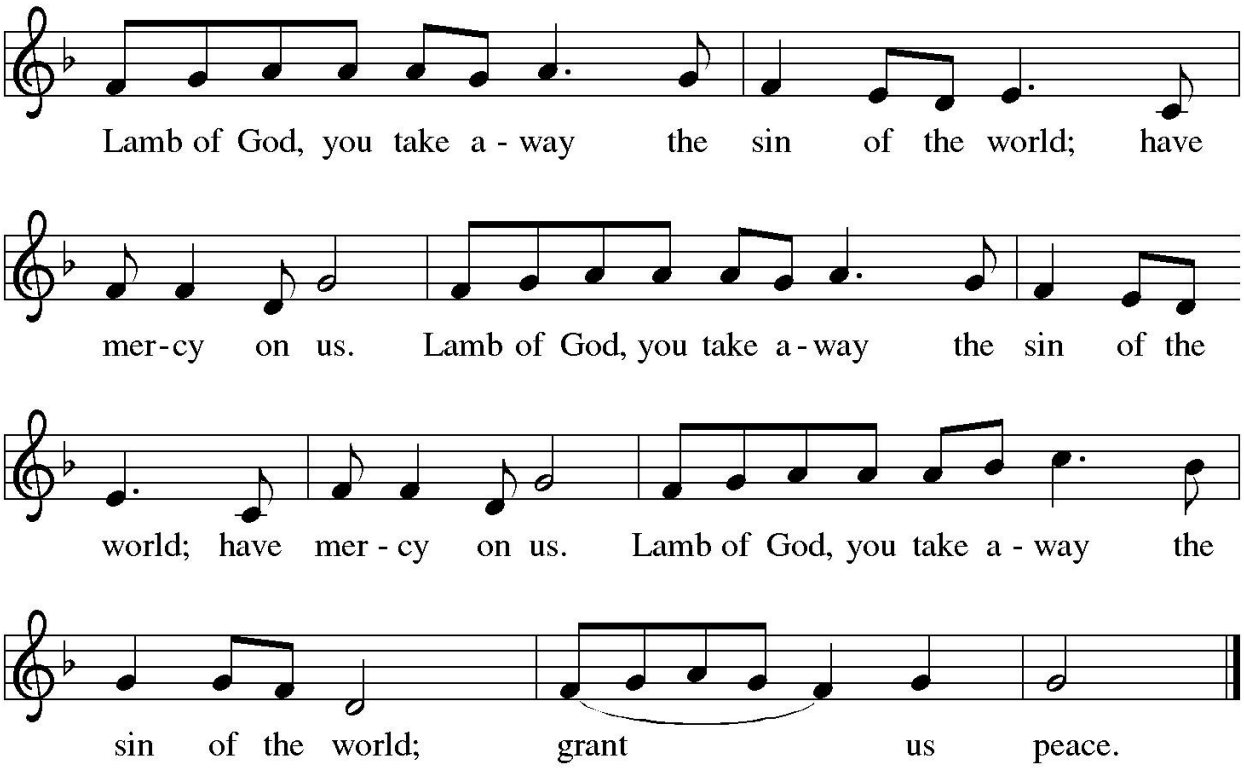
Invitation to Communion

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

Communion

As pastor comes down to serve communion you may come forward. Please form a single line to receive the bread from him by holding out your palms to receive the wafer. Once you receive the bread, you may go to the communion assistant on the side closest to where you were seated to receive the wine. If you are unable to come forward, please let an usher know, and we will bring communion to you. Please feel free to say "Amen" after you receive each element if you wish.

Lamb of God



Communion Anthem "Come, Let Us Eat" arr. Anne Krentz Organ

Table Blessing

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

All: Amen.

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.

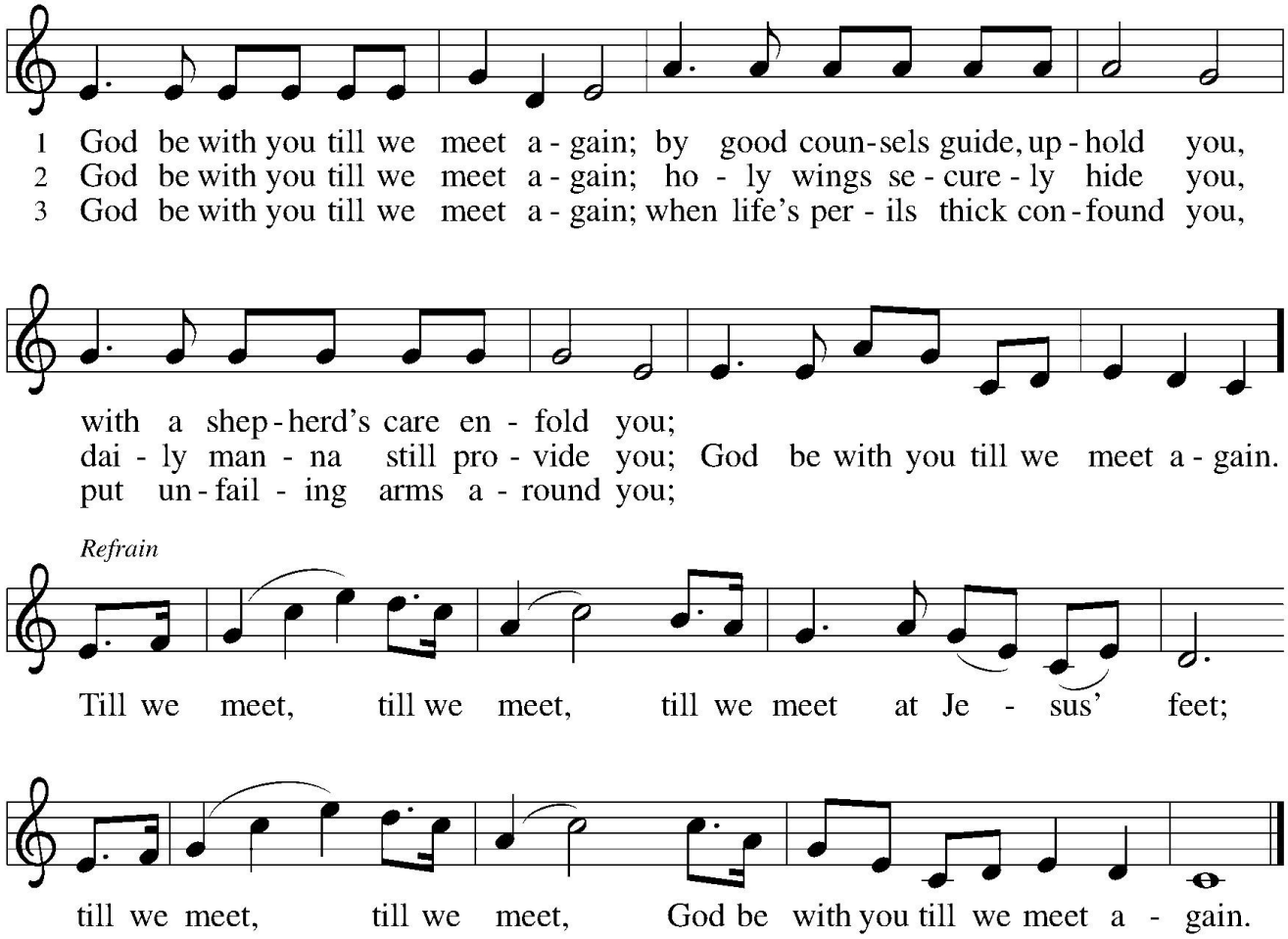
All: Amen.

SENDING

Please rise, in body or spirit, for the Sending Hymn.

Sending Hymn "God Be with You Till We Meet Again" ELW# 536

Verses 1, 2, and 3 - Large print words found on page 23



Text: Jeremiah E. Rankin, 1828–1904
Music: GOD BE WITH YOU, William G. Tomer, 1833–1896

Blessing

P: 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.

All: Amen.

Please be seated for the Postlude

Postlude **“Praeludium in G Minor” Johann Sebastian Bach**

Dismissal

P: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God.

Leading Worship Today

Pastor: Reverend Orval Osmundson
Music: Barbara Rossow
Assisting Ministers: Diane Allmendinger and Cheryl Hollman
Communion Assistants: Diane Allmendinger and Cheryl Hollman
Song Leaders: Janine Almquist, Paul Kowitz or Linda Strohkirch
Livestream Producer: Silvester Vicic, Jim Persoon and or Ryan Henk
Ushers: Wayne Hansen and David Almquist
Hospitality: Kathy Brackey and Mary Kowitz

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Our service today will be live streamed if anyone would like to view our new website or be connected to Facebook. From sundaysandseasons.com.

There will be a Special Meeting of the Congregation on Sunday, November 8th following the Worship Service to vote on the following resolution:

“Be it resolved that: We the members of Arlington Hills Lutheran Church in St. Paul, MN, declare our intention to discontinue ministry and authorize the Congregation Council and its Authority Team to take whatever steps necessary for the wind-up and dissolution of Arlington Hills Lutheran Church. The Church will hold its last worship service on Saturday, November 21, 2026 followed by a banquet.

Be it further resolved that we approve the proposed Legacy Plan of the distribution of assets of this congregation according to the procedures prescribed by the St. Paul Area Synod, the ELCA and the Minnesota Statutes.

Be it further resolved that we approve the proposed Authority Team and authorize them to conduct the legal business of Arlington Hills Lutheran Church, until such time as the Church is wound up and dissolved, in accordance with the foregoing resolutions as approved by the Congregation herein.”

Upcoming Events

Sunday Services – 9:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary
Mondays – Alley Shoppe Volunteers - 9:00 a.m. - noon
Tuesdays - Alley Shoppe – Volunteers - 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Alley Shoppe Clients - 9:30 a.m. – 1:30
Please, No Donations this fall.
Wednesday – ROMEO's Breakfast – 7:30 a.m. Perkins

October 11 – Worship at 9:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary

October 18 – Worship at 9:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary

October 25 – Reformation Sunday - Worship at 9:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary
We welcome Agape who will provide music for Reformation Sunday. The service will be followed by a Forum on Vote Two.

November 1 – Worship at 9:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary followed by a Forum

November 8 – Worship at 9:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary followed by a Congregation Meeting to vote on the second resolution

November 15 – Worship at 9:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary – Reception thanking Pastor Walter for being our interim.

Saturday – November 21 – Holy Closure Worship Service – 10:00 a.m.

Gathering Hymn: Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

1 Come, thou Fount of ev'ry blessing,
tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.
While the hope of endless glory
fills my heart with joy and love,
teach me ever to adore thee;
may I still thy goodness prove.

2 Here I raise my Ebenezer:
"Hither by thy help I've come";
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
wand'ring from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger,
interposed his precious blood.

3 Oh, to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be;
let that grace now like a fetter
bind my wand'ring heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it;
prone to leave the God I love.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it;
seal it for thy courts above.

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735-1790, alt.

Hymn of the Day: Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us

1 Savior, like a shepherd lead us;
much we need your tender care.
In your pleasant pastures feed us,
for our use your fold prepare.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
you have bought us; we are yours.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
you have bought us; we are yours.

2 We are yours; in love befriend us,
be the guardian of our way;
keep your flock, from sin defend us,
seek us when we go astray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
hear us children when we pray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
hear us children when we pray.

4 Early let us seek your favor,
early let us do your will;
blessed Lord and only Savior,
with your love our spirits fill.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
you have loved us, love us still.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
you have loved us, love us still.

Text: attr. Dorothy A. Thrupp, 1779-1847

Sending Hymn: God Be with You Till We Meet Again

1 God be with you till we meet again;
by good counsels guide, uphold you,
with a shepherd's care enfold you;
God be with you till we meet again.

Refrain

Till we meet, (till we meet,)
till we meet, (till we meet again,)
till we meet at Jesus' feet; (till we meet,)
till we meet, (till we meet,)
till we meet, (till we meet again.)
God be with you till we meet again.

2 God be with you till we meet again;
holy wings securely hide you,
daily manna still provide you;
God be with you till we meet again. *Refrain*

3 God be with you till we meet again;
when life's perils thick confound you,
put unfailing arms around you;
God be with you till we meet again. *Refrain*

Text: Jeremiah E. Rankin, 1828-1904, alt.

Arlington Hills Lutheran Church
1115 Greenbrier Street
St. Paul, MN 55106