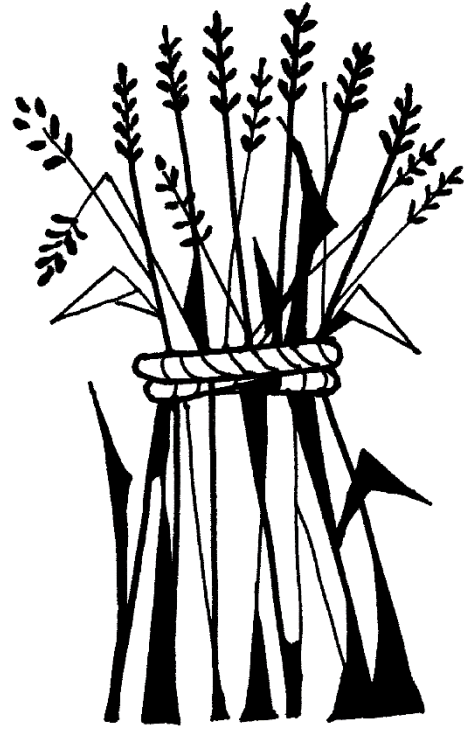


July 23, 2023

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost



CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who greets us in this and every season, whose word never fails, whose promise is sure. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors.

Merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned.
We have hurt our community.
We have squandered your blessings.
We have hoarded your bounty.
In the name of Jesus,
forgive us and grant us your mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Righteous God,
we confess that we have sinned.
We have failed to be honest.
We have lacked the courage to speak.
We have spoken falsely.
In the name of Jesus,
forgive us and grant us your mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God is a cup of cold water when we thirst. God offers boundless grace when we fail. Claim the gift of God's mercy: you are freed and forgiven in the name of + Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Entrance Hymn - LBW 548 (Verses 1-4):

Oh, Worship the King

1 Oh, wor - ship the King, all - glo - rious a - bove.
2 Oh, tell of his might; oh, sing of his grace,
3 The earth with its store of won - ders un - told,
4 Your boun - ti - ful care what tongue can re - cite?

Oh, grate - ful - ly sing his pow'r and his love;
whose robe is the light, whose can - o - py space;
Al - might - y, your pow'r has found - ed of old,
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light,

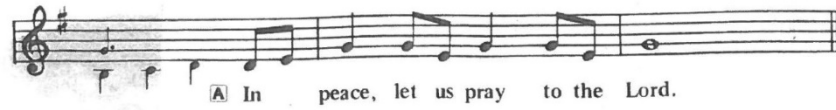
our shield and de - fend - er, the An - cient of Days,
his char - iots of wrath the deep thun - der - clouds form,
es - tab - lished it fast by a change - less de - cree,
it streams from the hills, it de - scends to the plain,

pa - vil - ioned in splen - dor, and gird - ed with praise.
and dark is his path on the wings of the storm.
and round it has cast, like a man - tle, the sea.
and sweet - ly dis - tills in the dew and the rain.

GREETING

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

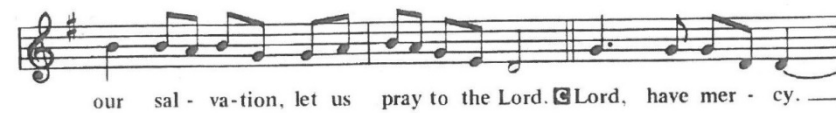
KYRIE (Cornell Setting)



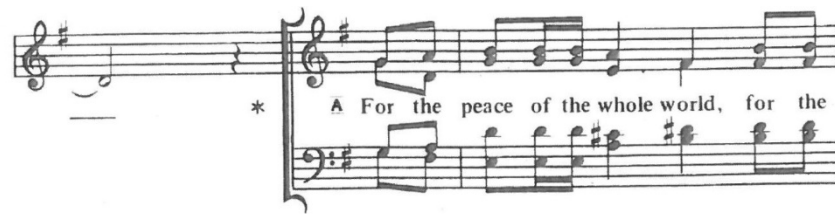
A In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



B Lord, have mer - cy. — **A** For the peace from a - bove, and for



our sal - va-tion, let us pray to the Lord. **B** Lord, have mer - cy. —



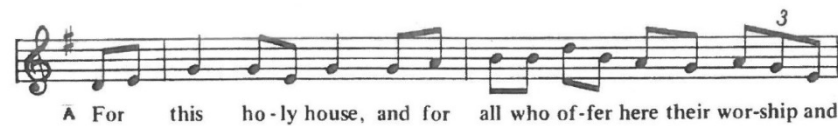
* **A** For the peace of the whole world, for the



well - be-ing of the Church of God, — and for the un - i - ty of



all, let us pray to the Lord. **B** Lord, have mer - cy. —



A For this ho - ly house, and for all who of - fer here their wor-ship and



praise, let us pray to the Lord. **B** Lord, have mer - cy. —



A Help, save, com-fort and de-fend us, gra - cious



Lord. **B** A - men

HYMN OF PRAISE – “Glory to God”



A Glo-ry to God in the



high - est, and peace to his peo-ple on earth.



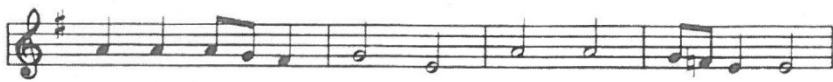
Lord God, heav-en - ly king, al - might - y God and



Fa - ther: We wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we



praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ,



on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on



us. You are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther;



re - ceive our prayer. For you a - lone are the



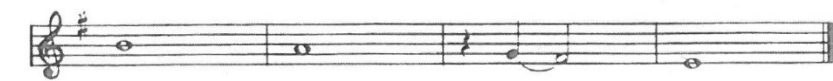
Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly



Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.



A - men, a - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY



Musical notation for the second part of the prayer. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff for the melody and a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) for the piano accompaniment. The key signature is one flat. The melody is: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4-G4 (beamed eighth notes), F4 (quarter), G4 (quarter). Above the treble staff, the notes Eb, Ab, Bb, F, and G are written above the corresponding notes. Below the treble staff, the lyrics "And al - so with you." are written, with a square box containing a 'C' above the word "And". The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords in the right hand.

Let us Pray.... Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

THE WORD

First Reading: Isaiah 44:6-8

⁶Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel,
and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts:
I am the first and I am the last;
besides me there is no god.

⁷Who is like me? Let them proclaim it,
let them declare and set it forth before me.
Who has announced from of old the things to come?
Let them tell us what is yet to be.

⁸Do not fear, or be afraid;
have I not told you from of old and declared it?
You are my witnesses!
Is there any god besides me?
There is no other rock; I know not one.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 86:11-17 (Read responsively by whole verse)

¹¹Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk in your truth;
give me an undivided heart to revere your name.

¹²**I will thank you, O Lord my God, with all my heart,
and glorify your name forevermore.**

¹³For great is your love toward me;
you have delivered me from the pit of death.

¹⁴**The arrogant rise up against me, O God, and a band of violent people seeks
my life; they have not set you before their eyes.**

¹⁵But you, O Lord, are gracious and full of compassion,
slow to anger, and full of kindness and truth.

¹⁶**Turn to me and have mercy on me; give your strength to your servant, and
save the child of your handmaid.**

¹⁷Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see it and be put to
shame; because you, LORD, have helped me and comforted me.

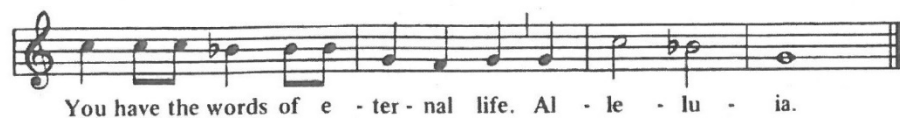
Second Reading: Romans 8:12-25

¹²So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the
flesh—¹³for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to
death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are
children of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you
have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" ¹⁶it is that very Spirit
bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs,
heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may
also be glorified with him.

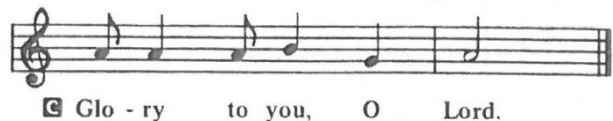
¹⁸I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the
glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹For the creation waits with eager longing for the
revealing of the children of God; ²⁰for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its
own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will
be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the
children of God. ²²We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains
until now; ²³and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the
Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in
hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is
seen? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 13th Chapter.

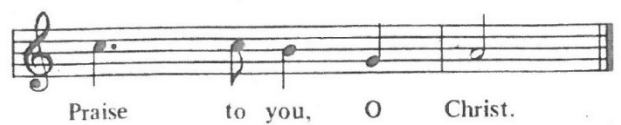


Gospel: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

²⁴[Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field;²⁵but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. ²⁶So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' ²⁸He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' ²⁹But he replied, 'No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'"

³⁶Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." ³⁷He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴²and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!"

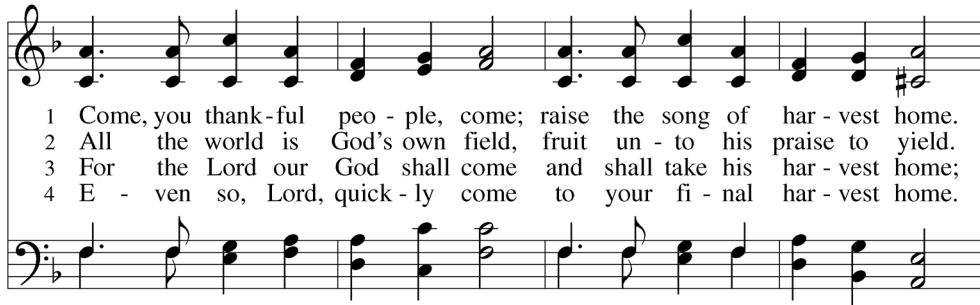
The Gospel of the Lord.



SERMON – REV. DAVID VANDERLINDE-ABERNATHY

HYMN OF THE DAY – LBW 407 (NEXT PAGE):

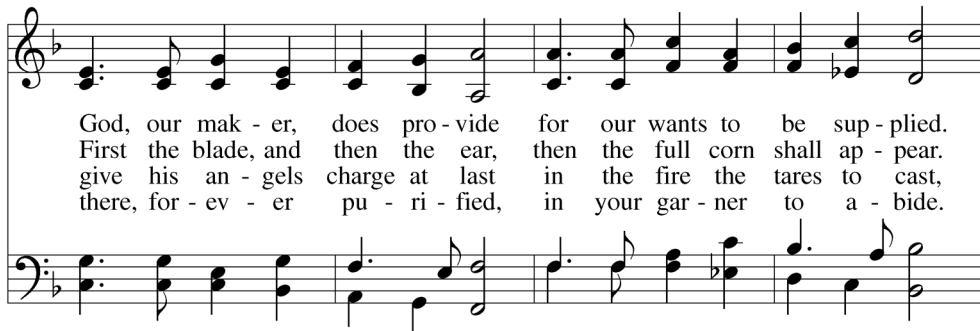
Come, You Thankful People, Come



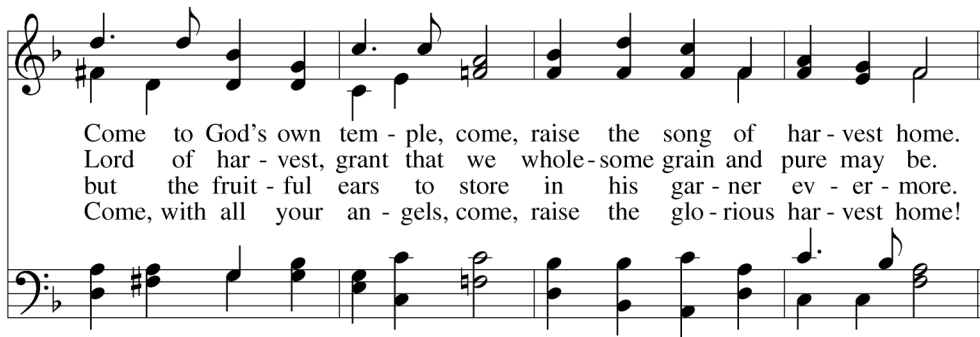
1 Come, you thank-ful peo - ple, come; raise the song of har - vest home.
 2 All the world is God's own field, fruit un - to his praise to yield.
 3 For the Lord our God shall come and shall take his har - vest home;
 4 E - ven so, Lord, quick - ly come to your fi - nal har - vest home.



All is safe - ly gath - ered in ere the win - ter storms be - gin.
 Wheat and tares to - geth - er sown, un - to joy or sor - row grown.
 from his field shall in that day all of - fens - es purge a - way,
 Gath - er all your peo - ple in, free from sor - row, free from sin,



God, our mak - er, does pro - vide for our wants to be sup - plied.
 First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall ap - pear.
 give his an - gels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,
 there, for - ev - er pu - ri - fied, in your gar - ner to a - bide.



Come to God's own tem - ple, come, raise the song of har - vest home.
 Lord of har - vest, grant that we whole - some grain and pure may be.
 but the fruit - ful ears to store in his gar - ner ev - er - more.
 Come, with all your an - gels, come, raise the glo - rious har - vest home!

Text: Henry Alford, 1810–1871, alt.
 Music: ST. GEORGE'S, WINDSOR, George J. Elvey, 1816–1893

APOSTLE'S CREED

**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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us lift our hearts, hands, and voices in prayer to God on behalf of all people. *A brief silence is kept.*

You are the first and the last; beside you there is no god. Make your Church faithful and persistent in telling the world that in Jesus, crucified and raised from the dead for the forgiveness of sins unto eternal life, you have revealed to us your very heart. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Come to the aid of all who suffer scorn and violence because they name a crucified Jewish carpenter as the one, true, and only God. Grant that they bear faithful witness to that precious truth. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We confess that our congregation is sown with weeds as well as wheat. Forgive us. Deal mercifully with us. By the grace of your Spirit, help us to bear one another's faults with patience and gentleness. Remind us that you alone will make us pure, holy, and good, by conforming us to your dear Son. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for our enemies – especially those who hate us because of our faith in Jesus. We pray for all who deny and despise him. We pray for all who do not know him, or who only know a shriveled, distorted image of him. Soften their hearts; enlighten their minds; and fill them with your Spirit, so they may repent and believe in the Good News. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Your Son's parable counseled letting weeds and wheat grow together. Yet for the sake of your people, we must stem the spread of deadly weeds: violence, injustice, and hatred. Therefore, we plead on behalf of those in the military, police, security, intelligence, and first response. Give them wisdom, integrity, and honor, so that by their labors, those they serve may have a measure of justice and safety. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Sickness, sorrow, and adversity take root in every life. We are bold to pray for everyone who suffers, including those we now name either silently or aloud...Heal and encourage them. In your good time, complete in them and in us all, the full and perfect healing that you have promised in Christ Jesus. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Hear our prayers, dear Father, as they touch your heart through the Spirit who searches our hearts. For the sake of your beloved Son, answer them as may be best for us and give you glory. **Amen.**

CELEBRATING THE EUCHARIST

PEACE

The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

(If you choose to exchange the peace, please use hand sanitizer before you start and again when finished.)

OFFERTORY

OFFERTORY HYMN - LET THE VINEYARDS

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord,
and fill to the brim our cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we
of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence, and
give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us Pray. Blessed are you, **O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING



☐ The Lord be with you.



☑ And al - so with you.



☐ Lift up your hearts.



☑ We lift them to the Lord.



☐ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

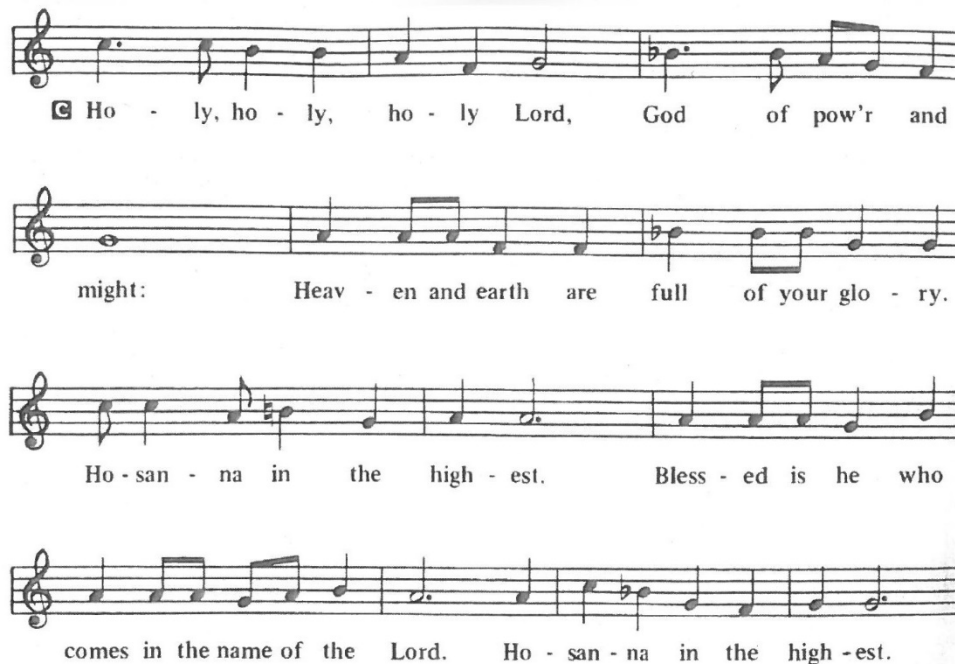


☑ It is right to give him thanks and praise.



PREFACE

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and
might: Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign. You have filled all creation with light and life; heaven and earth are full of your glory. Through Abraham you promised to bless all nations. You rescued Israel, your chosen people. Through the prophets you renewed your promise; and, at this end of all the ages, you sent your Son, who in words and deeds proclaimed your kingdom and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

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.

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Therefore, gracious Father, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us. And, believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast.

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, the spirit of our Lord and of his resurrection, that we who receive the Lord's body and blood may live to the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

C: Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Join our prayers with those of your servant of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all.

The image shows a musical score for a prayer. It consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are: "Through him, with him, in him, _____ in the". The second staff continues: "u - ni - ty of the Ho - ly Spir - it, _____ all". The third staff continues: "hon - or and glo - ry is yours, _____ al - might-y". The fourth staff concludes: "Fa - ther, now and for - ev - er. _____ A - men".

LORD'S PRAYER

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.**

FRACTION

LAMB OF GOD:



☐ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sin of the world; grant us
peace, grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

All people are called to Christ's table.

Come, eat what is good.

COMMUNION

The Body of Christ given for you.

The Blood of Christ shed for you.

(Please use hand sanitizer before coming to the Altar. Both intinction and common cup are available.)

TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace. **Amen**

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE:

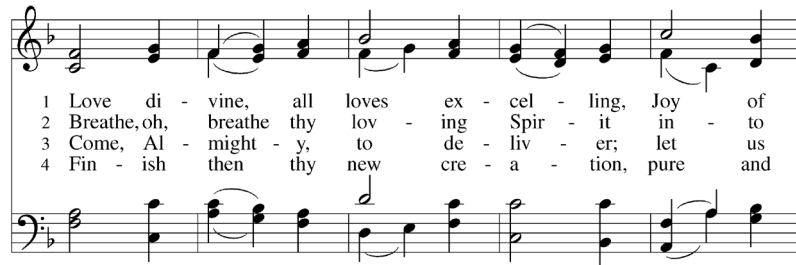
A Thank the Lord, thank the Lord, thank the Lord and
sing his praise. **G** Thank the Lord and sing his praise;
tell ev-'ry-one what he has done. Let all who seek the
Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name. He re-calls his
prom-is-es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy with
shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us Pray.... We thank you, generous God, for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table. Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world, through the one who is our dearest treasure, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN – LBW315

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling



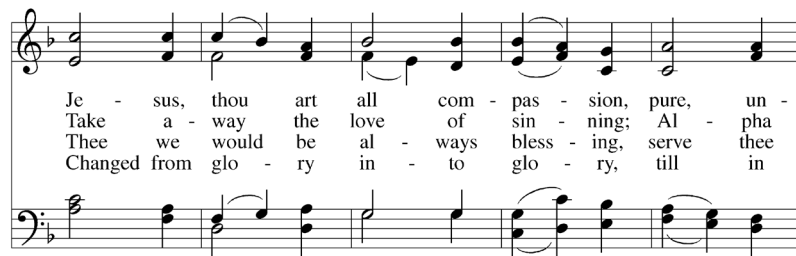
1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of
2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to
3 Come, Al - mighty, to de - liv - er; let us
4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and



heav'n, to earth come down! Fix in us thy
ev - 'ry trou - bled breast; let us all in
all thy life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re -
spot - less let us be; let us see thy



hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy faith - ful mer - cies crown.
thee in - her - it; let us find thy prom - ised rest.
turn, and nev - er, nev - er - more thy tem - ples leave.
great sal - va - tion per - fect - ly re - stored in thee!



Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion, pure, un -
Take a - way the love of sin - ning; Al - pha
Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing, serve thee
Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, till in



bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
heav'n we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.
its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise!

BLESSING

The God who calls across the cosmos and speaks in the smallest seed ✝ bless, keep, and sustain you now and to the end of the age. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the harvest.

Thanks be to God.