

Reformation Sunday

Week 4 of Fall Stewardship Series

October 25, 2026– 10:30 a.m.

Lutheran Service Book, Divine Service, Setting Four

Prayer before worship:

As we come into your presence, O God, bless this time of worship. Unite our prayers and praises with your whole Church on earth and in heaven. By the power of your Holy Spirit, help us to worship you in spirit and in truth; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Welcome

Pre-Service Music "A Mighty Fortress" (David Cherwien)

Ringing of the Bells

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism

P In the name of the Father and of the ✢ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.** *Matthew 28:19b [18:20]*

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.** *Psalm 124:8*

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.** *Psalm 130:3-4*

℗ Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner. *[Luke 18:13]*

Please kneel or be seated for a time of silent prayer and confession, as able

℗ Almighty God,

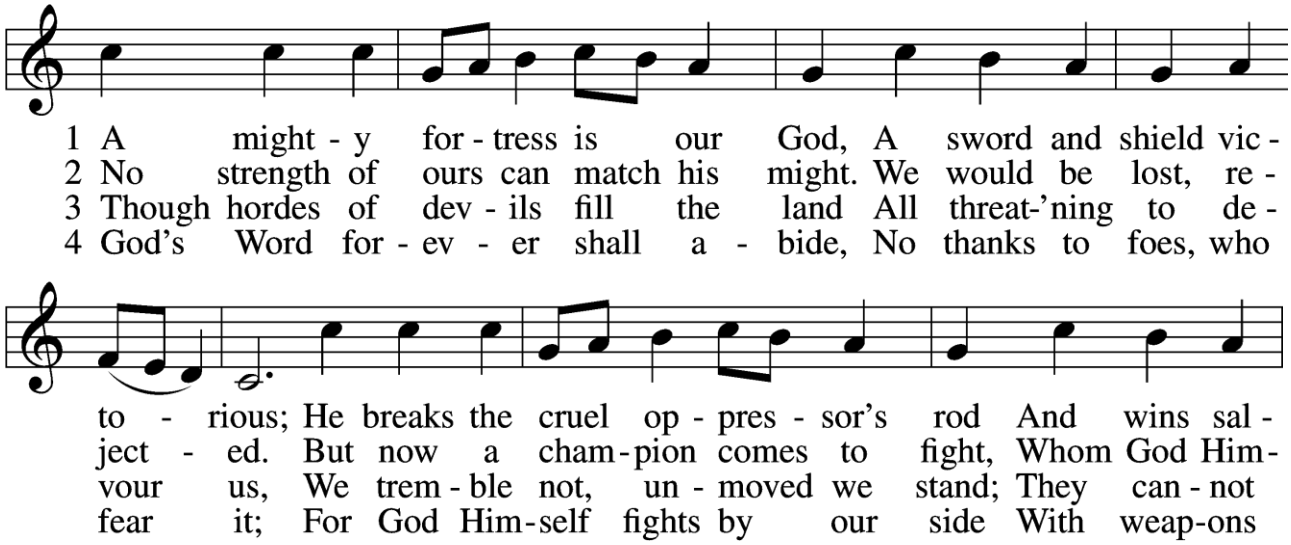
ℂ **have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

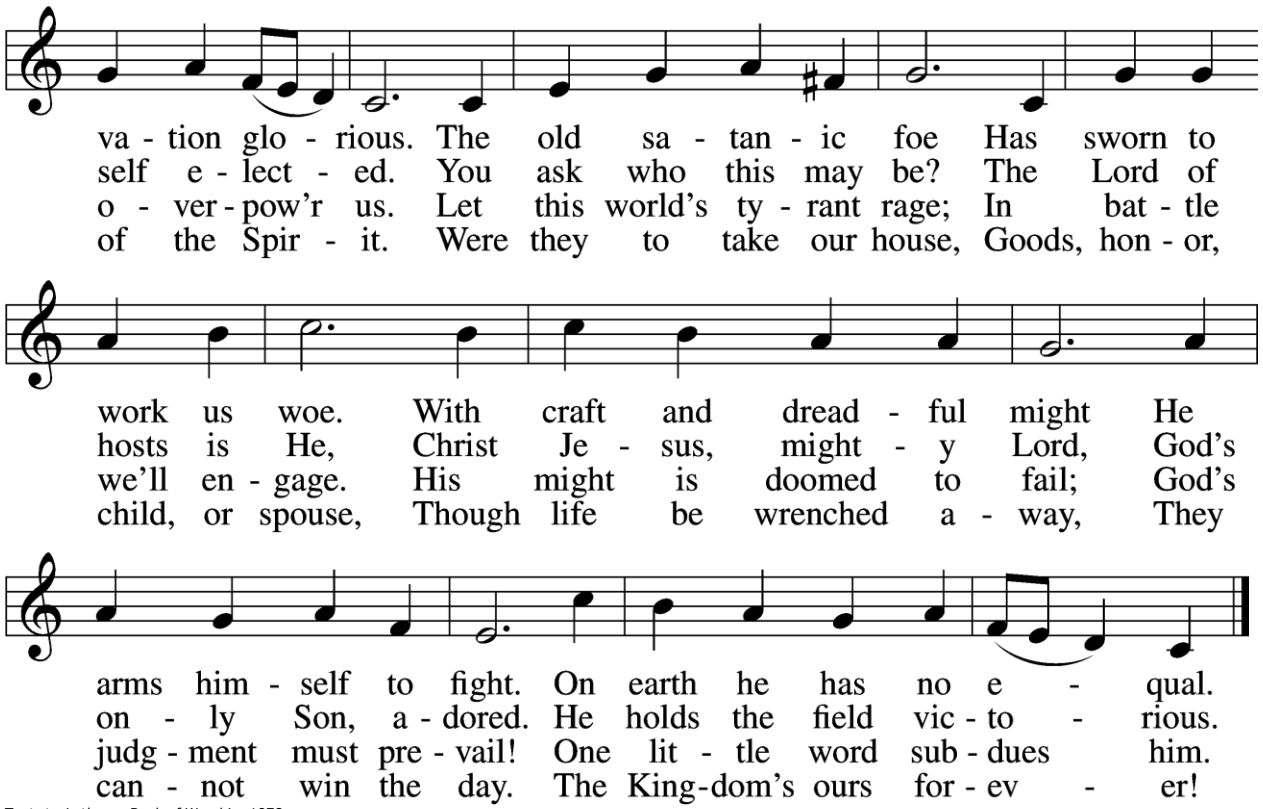
℗ Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

ℂ **Amen.** *[John 20:19-23]*

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Entrance Hymn "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" (LSB 657)





Text: tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978
Text and tune: Martin Luther, 1483–1546
Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005318
Tune: Public domain

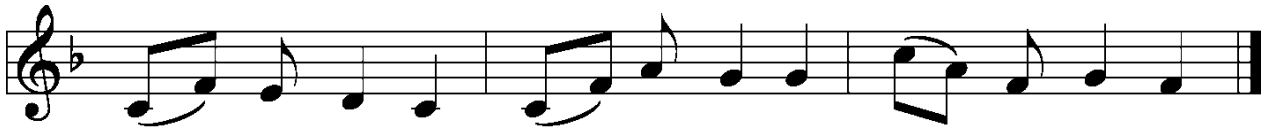
Greeting

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.

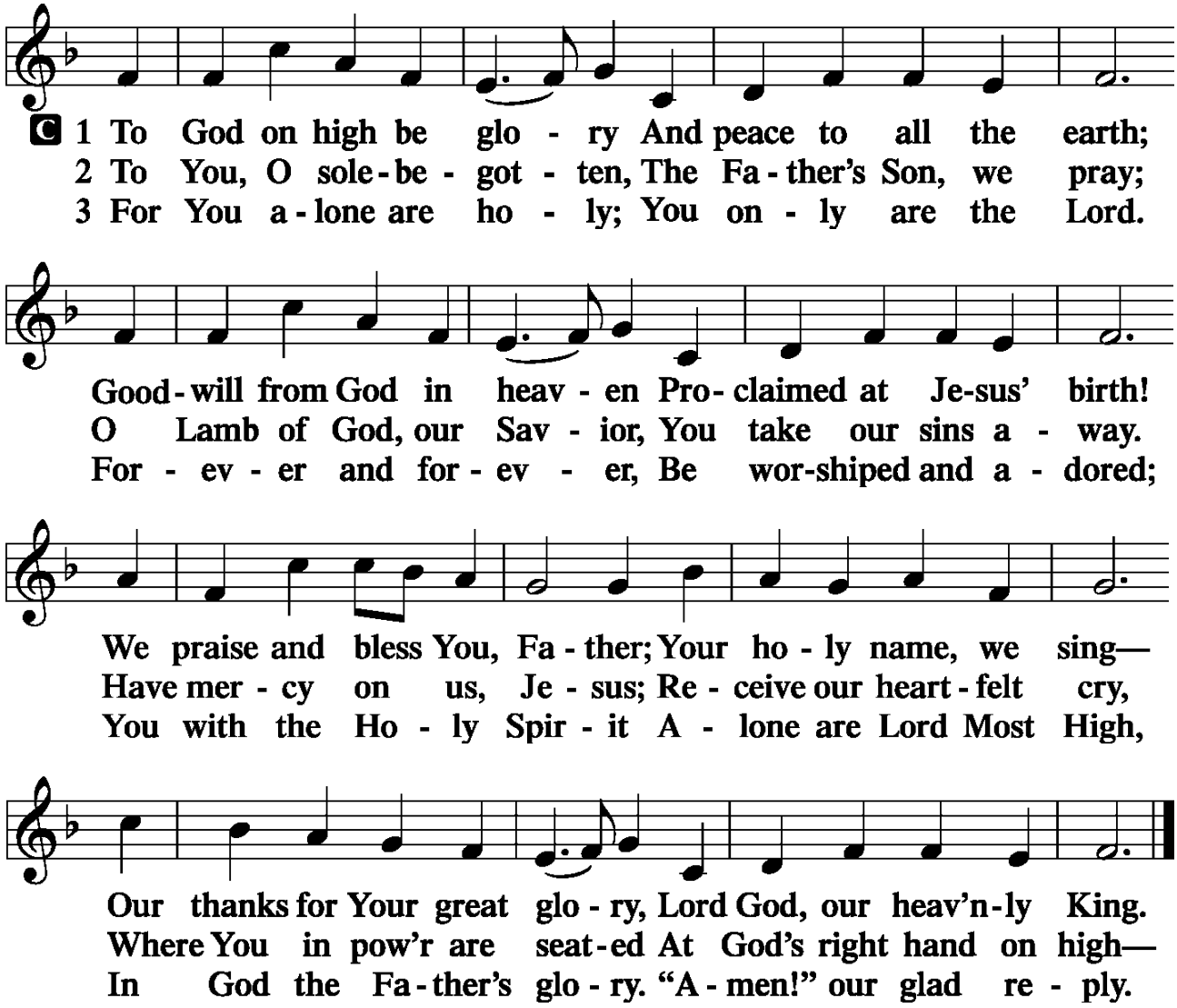
Kyrie

Mark 10:47



Gloria in Excelsis

Luke 2:14; John 1:29



Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you. *2 Timothy 4:22*

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty and gracious Lord, pour out Your Holy Spirit on Your faithful people. Keep us steadfast in Your grace and truth, protect and deliver us in times of temptation, defend us against all enemies, and grant to Your Church Your saving peace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

First Reading Revelation 14:6-7

6Then I saw another angel flying directly overhead, with an eternal gospel
to proclaim to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and
language and people. 7And he said with a loud voice, "Fear God and give
him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come, and worship him
who made heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water."

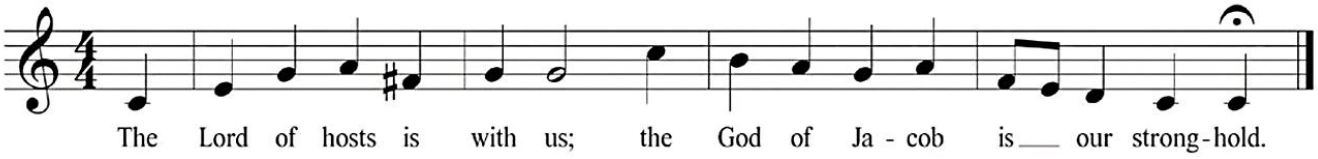
L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalmody Psalm 46

St. John's Choir and Congregation

Refrain (sung by the congregation) :



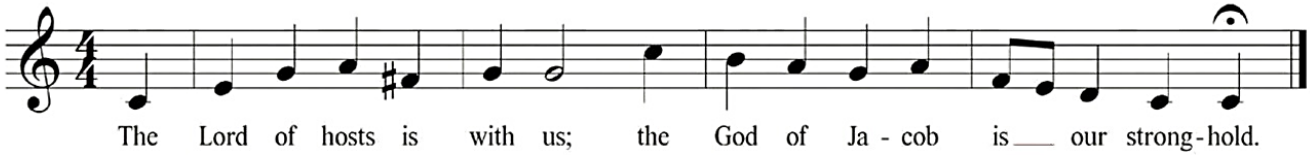
(sung by the choir)

1 God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

2 Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, and though the mountains be toppled into the depths of the sea;

3 Though its waters rage and foam, and though the mountains tremble at its tumult.

Refrain (sung by the congregation) :



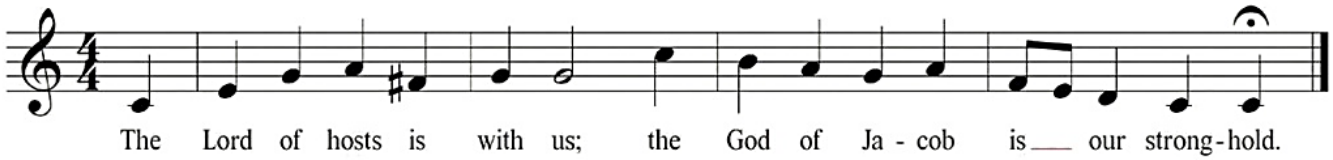
(sung by the choir)

5 There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.

6 God is in the midst of her; she shall not be overthrown; God shall help her at the break of day.

7 The nations make much ado, and the kingdoms are shaken; God has spoken, and the earth shall melt away.

Refrain (sung by the congregation) :



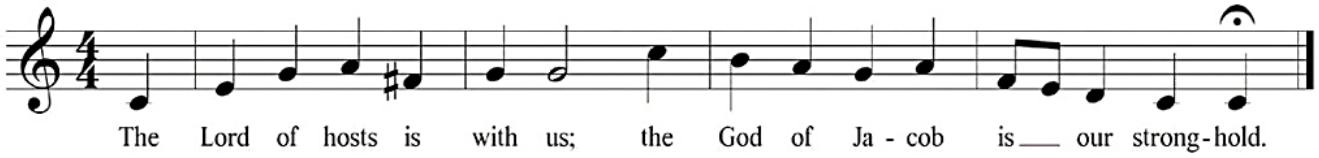
(sung by the choir)

9 Come now and look upon the works of the Lord, what awesome things he has done on earth.

10 It is he who makes war to cease in all the world; he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.

11 "Be still, then, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth."

Refrain (sung by the congregation) :



Epistle Romans 3:19-28

*Please join in reading aloud the **highlighted portion** of Scripture and consider committing this passage to memory in the week ahead.*

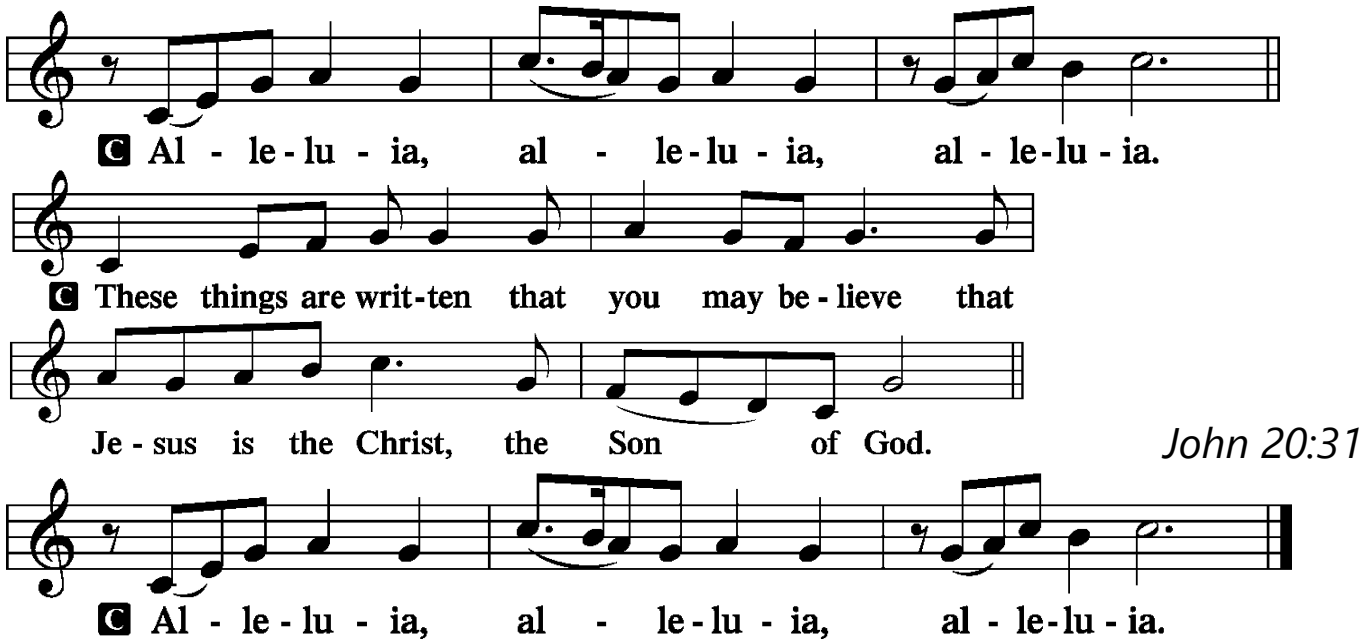
19 Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are
under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world
may be held accountable to God. 20 For by works of the law no human
being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes
knowledge of sin.

21 But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the
law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— 22 the
righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For
there is no distinction**:** 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of
God, 24 and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption
that is in Christ Jesus, 25 whom God put forward as a propitiation by his
blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness,
because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. 26 It
was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be
just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. 27 Then what
becomes of our boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? By a law of
works? No, but by the law of faith. **28 For we hold that one is justified by
faith apart from works of the law.**

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Verse



Holy Gospel John 8:31-36

℗ The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eighth chapter.

℄ Glory to You, O Lord

31So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, 32and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." 33They answered him, "We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, 'You will become free'?"

34Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. 35The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. 36So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."

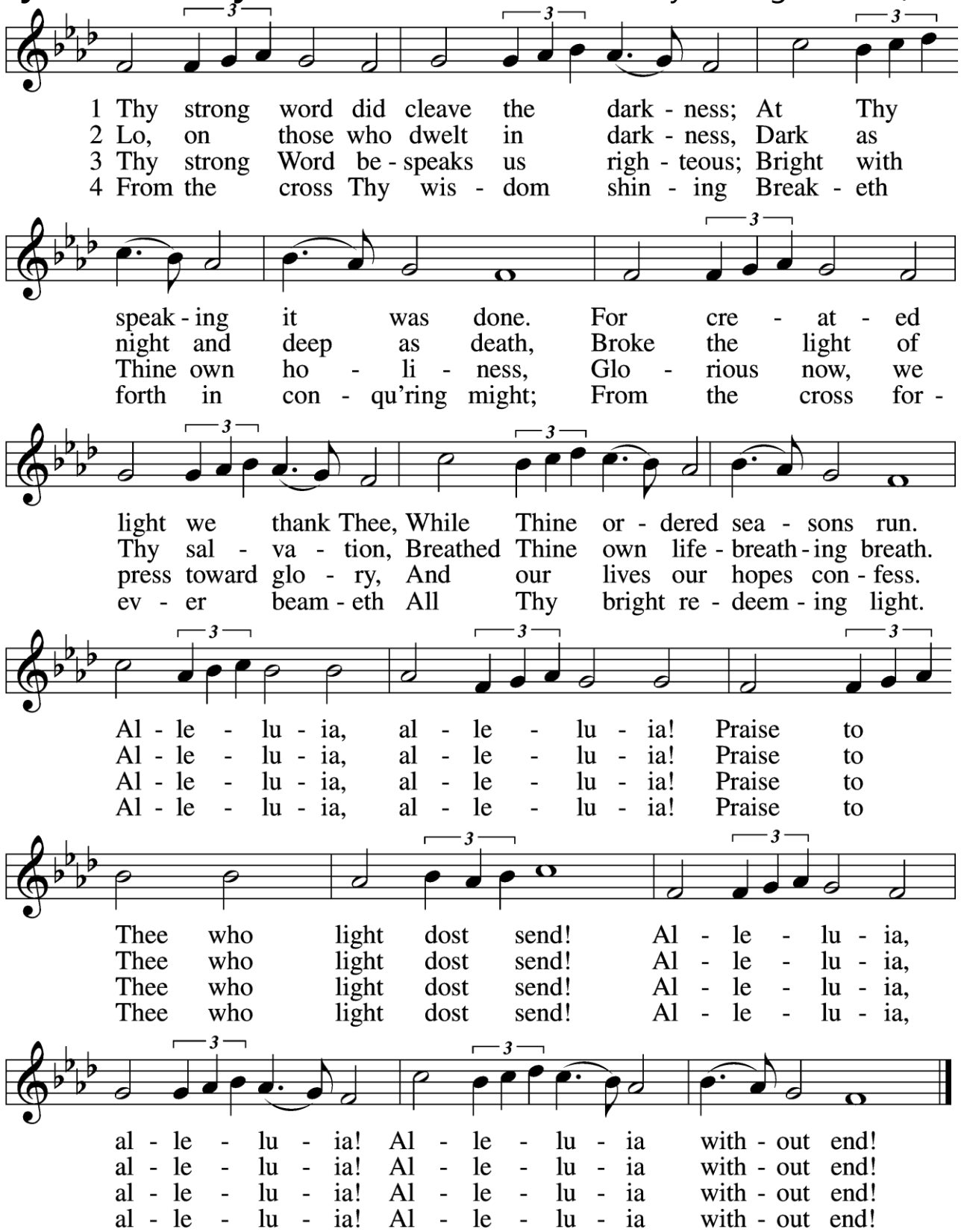
℗ This is the Gospel of the Lord.

℄ Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon "Fruits of Faith: Fruits of the Reformation"

Ingathering of Ministry Commitments for 2027

Hymn of the Day "Thy Strong Word" (LSB 578)



5 Give us lips to sing Thy glory,
Tongues Thy mercy to proclaim,
Throats that shout the hope that fills us,
Mouths to speak Thy holy name.
Alleluia, alleluia!
May the light which Thou dost send
Fill our songs with alleluias,
Alleluias without end!

6 God the Father, light-creator,
To Thee laud and honor be.
To Thee, Light of Light begotten,
Praise be sung eternally.
Holy Spirit, light-revealer,
Glory, glory be to Thee.
Mortals, angels, now and ever
Praise the holy Trinity!

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907–76
Tune: Thomas J. Williams, 1869–1944
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Tune: Public domain

Profession of Faith The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, ☩ and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of the Church *[1 Timothy 2:1-4]*

P Seeking the renewal of the Holy Spirit in our communities and in our world, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

Special prayer requests are announced followed by a brief silence for private prayer.

During the season after Pentecost each petition ends with the phrase: "Lord, in your mercy."

Please respond by saying "Hear our prayer."

The prayers end with the words:

P Into your hands, holy God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abundant mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C Amen.

Following the prayers, the people may stand and greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying,

"Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace

(Matt. 5:22–24; Eph. 4:1–3).

Announcements

Offertory Prayer

L Let us pray:
Merciful God,

C **we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer *Matthew 6:9-13*

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.

The Words of Our Lord *Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25*

℗ Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✢ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

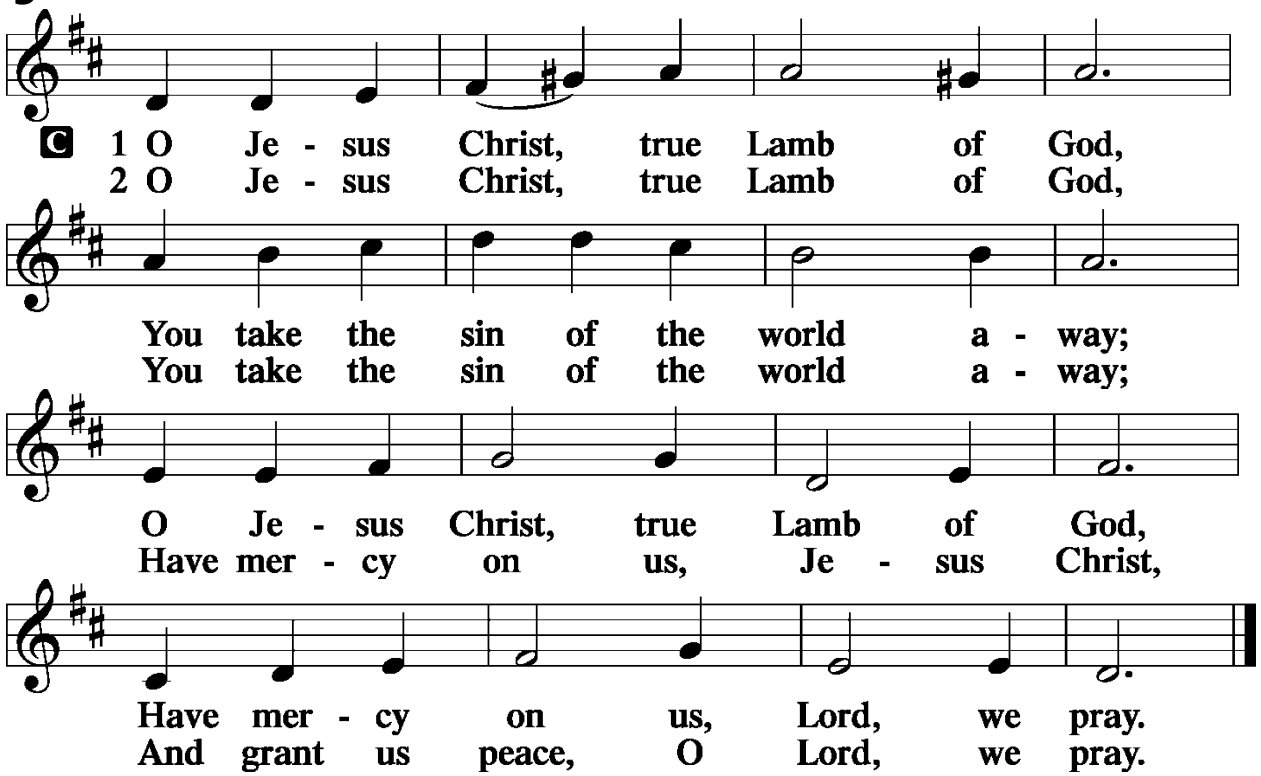
℗ In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✢ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini *John 20:19*

℗ The peace of the Lord be with you always.

ℂ **Amen.**

Agnus Dei *John 1:29*



Please be seated

Distribution

Lutheran Christians believe and teach that in the Sacrament of the Altar, Christ's body and blood are given to those who receive the bread and wine. With the bread and wine, the gifts of His body and blood are given to Christ's people for forgiveness of sins, strength for our journey of faith, and a foretaste of the heavenly banquet. All who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and who trust His words that these gifts are given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins, are invited to receive the Eucharist.

Please follow the direction of the ushers to come to the Lord's Table. The bread will be distributed first. **Gluten-free wafers** are available for those who may need these. Please indicate this to the pastor at the distribution. The wine is then received by individual glasses only. Non-alcoholic grape juice is available for those who for medical or recovery purposes must abstain from alcohol.

Children who do not receive the Sacrament are invited to come forward and receive a blessing. Please cross arms over chest so the pastor and lay assistant are able to distinguish children who do commune from those who do not yet receive the Sacrament.

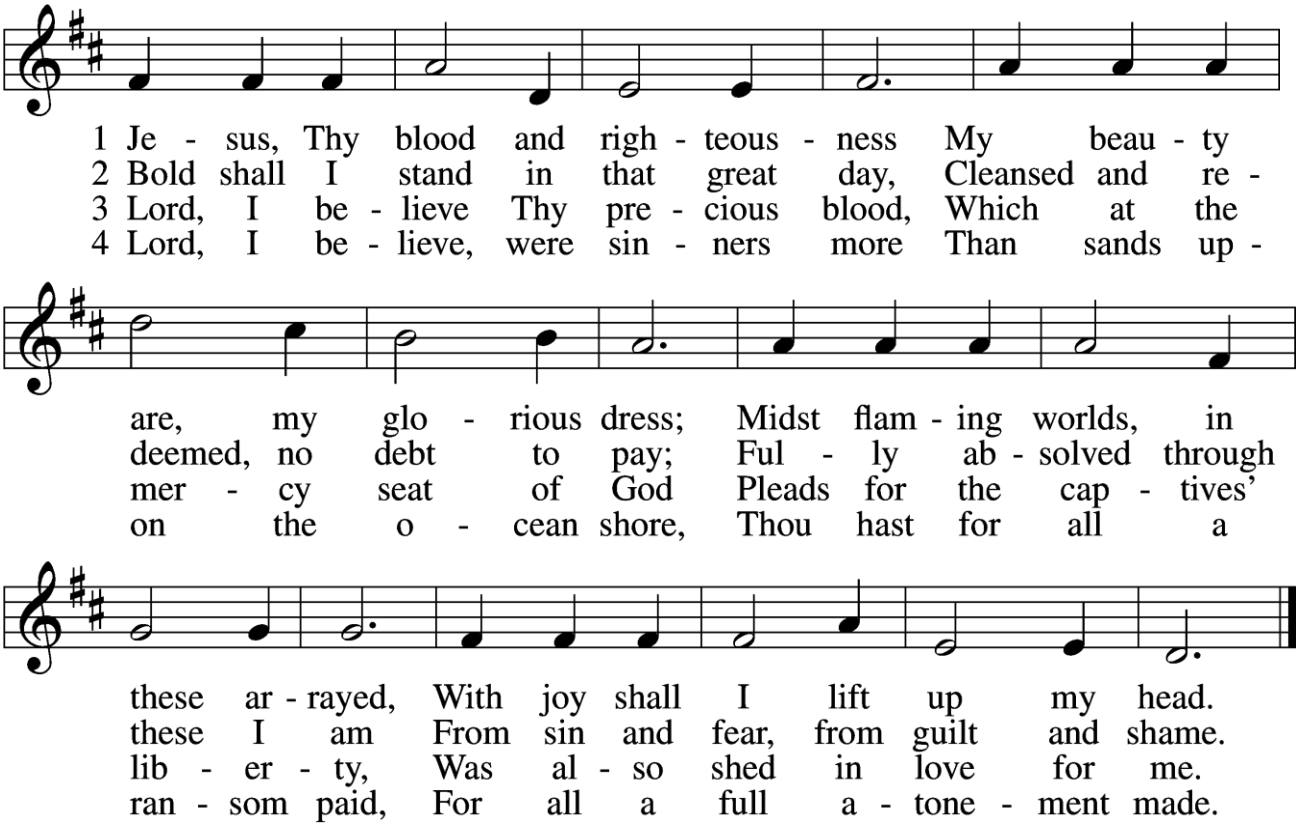
For additional self-preparation to receive the Sacrament, please see "Christian Questions with Their Answers" beginning on page 1351 in the pew Bible.

Music at the Distribution

Distribution Anthem "Behold, O God Our Defender" (Noel Rawsthorne)
Choir of St. John's

Behold, O God our defender;
and look upon the face of thine anointed.
For one day in thy courts is better than a thousand.

"Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness" (LSB 563)

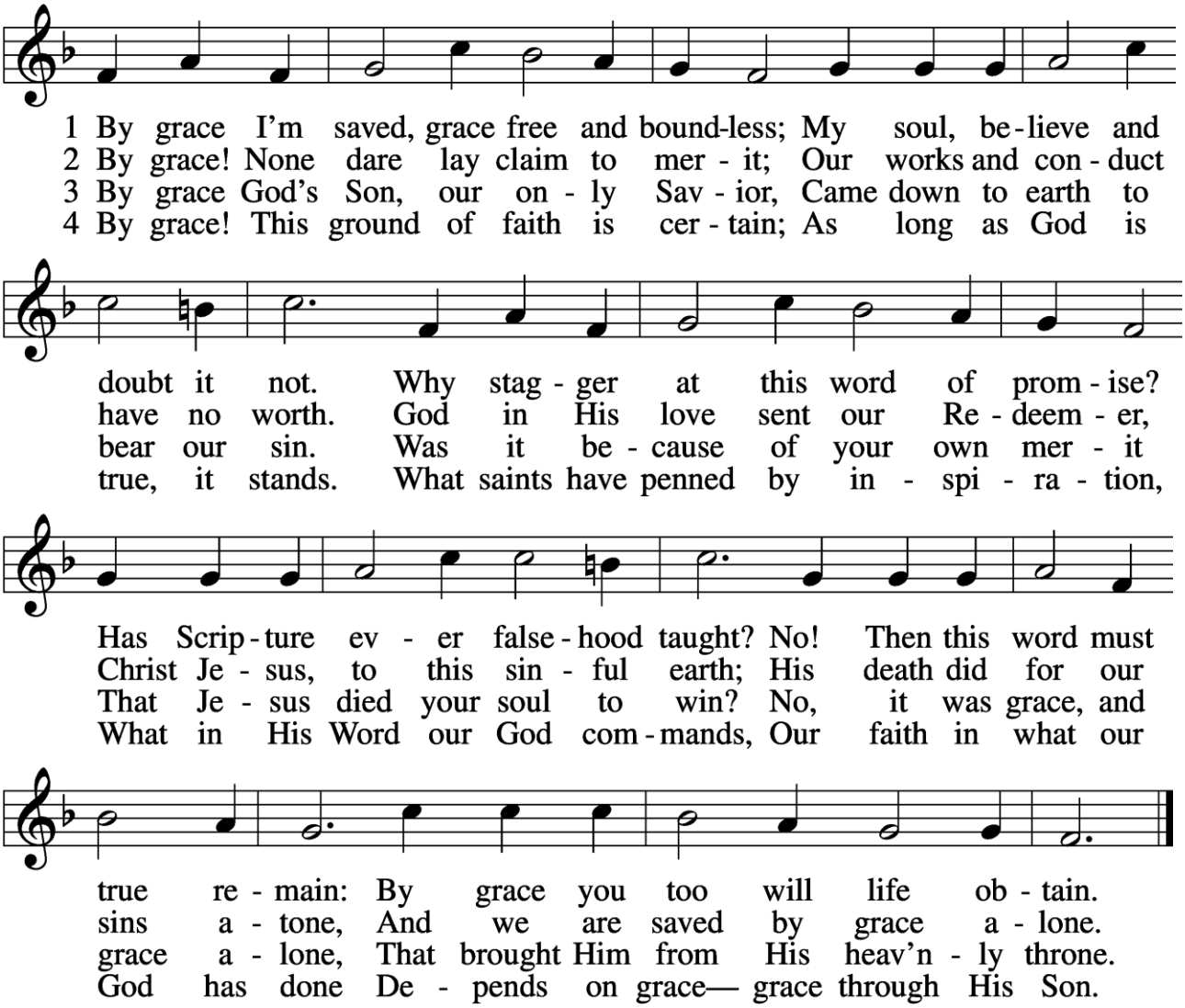


5 When from the dust of death I rise
To claim my mansion in the skies,
This then shall be my only plea:
Jesus hath lived and died for me.

6 Jesus, be endless praise to Thee,
Whose boundless mercy hath for me,
For me, and all Thy hands have made,
An everlasting ransom paid.

Text: Nicolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf, 1700–60; tr. John B. Wesley, 1703–91, alt.
Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816–93
Text and tune: Public domain

"By Grace I'm Saved" (LSB 566)



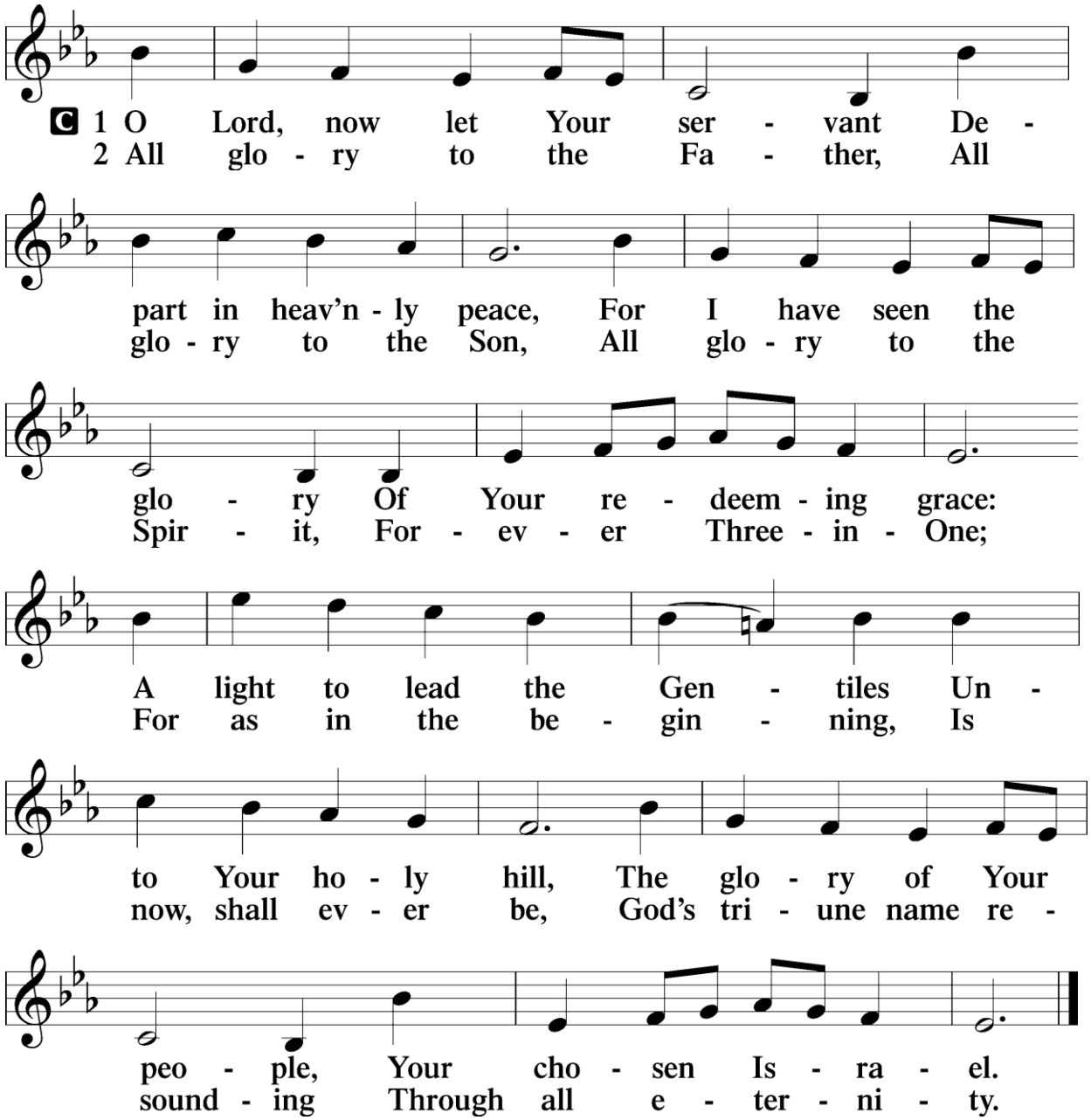
5 By grace to timid hearts that tremble,
In tribulation's furnace tried,
By grace, in spite of fear and trouble,
The Father's heart is open wide.
Where could I help and strength secure
If grace were not my anchor sure?

6 By grace! On this I'll rest when dying;
In Jesus' promise I rejoice;
For though I know my heart's condition,
I also know my Savior's voice.
My heart is glad, all grief has flown
Since I am saved by grace alone.

Text: Christian Ludwig Scheidt, 1709–61; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.
Tune: Cornelius Heinrich Dretzel, 1697–1775
Text and tune: Public domain

Dismissal

Nunc Dimittis



Post-Communion Collect

L Let us pray:

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benedicamus and Benediction

L Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God. *[Psalm 103:1]*

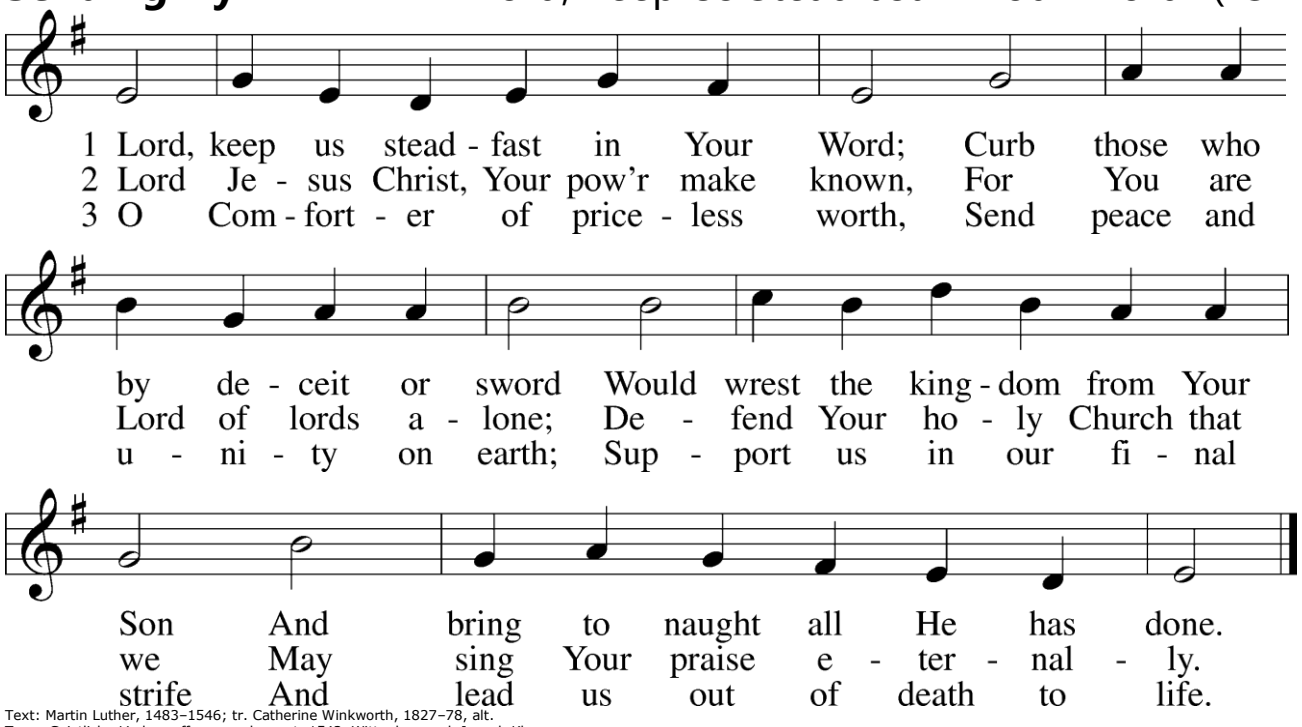
P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✢ give you peace. *Numbers 6:24-26*

C Amen.

Sending Hymn "Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word" (LSB 655)



Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Tune: Geistliche Lieder auffs new gebessert, 1543, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug
Text and tune: Public domain

Postlude "Toccata & Fugue in D Minor" (J. S. Bach)

✢ ✢ ✢

Please join us in Narthex for our Ministry Fair and then the Fellowship Hall for our annual chili cook-off and celebration of Reformation Sunday.

Our Ministry Of Worship

Officiant/Preacher	Pastor Meehan
Welcome & Children's Message	Jennifer Hills, Director of Discipleship
Lay Assistant	Mark Guilfoil
Communion Lay Assistant	Trevor Hassett
Organist/Pianist	David Leahey, Director of Music
Acolyte	Matthew Rempe
Crucifer	Grace Rempe
Ushers	Andrew Ehlers
	Jim Lofgren
Altar Care	Jean Gilbertson
AV Operators	Scott Budzien
	Denise Canter
Welcome Host	Jan Swicord
Nursery	Anita Bradford
	Elizabeth Romeo



This weekend's **altar flowers** are given by given by donations to the flower fund.

SCAN HERE TO

CONNECT WITH SJLC

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Give online

Read/Sign up for newsletters

Register or attend events/classes

Request for prayers

Connect on social media

...AND MORE!

Acknowledgments

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St. John's Lutheran Church
5952 Franconia Road
Alexandria, VA 22310

A member congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

Church and ECEC Staff

Pastor	Rev. John Meehan	pastor.meehan@sjlc.com
Director of Discipleship	Jennifer Hills, DCE	jennifer.hills@sjlc.com
Director of Music	David Leahey	david.leahey@sjlc.com
Office Administrator	Michelle May	office@sjlc.com
Finance Administrator	Jennifer Smith	finance@sjlc.com
Director of ECEC	Melinda Hale	ecec@sjlc.com
ECEC Administrator	Kari Wells	ecec.admin@sjlc.com

Contact Us

Office: 703-971-2210
ECEC: 703-971-3581
Website: www.sjlc.com