Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost
November 8, 2026 – 10:30 a.m.
Lutheran Service Book, Divine Service, Setting Four

ST. JOHN'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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 "Nimrod from 'Enigma Variations'" (Edward Elgar)

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*

P 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

P Almighty God,

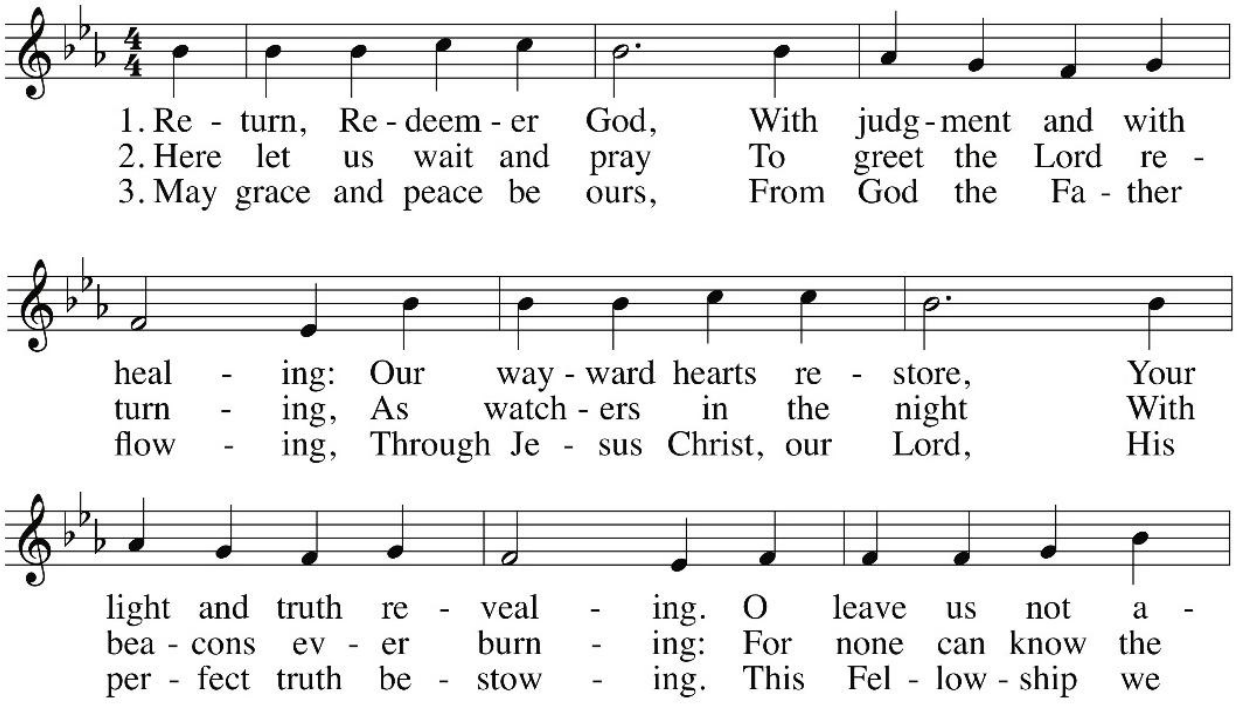
C **have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

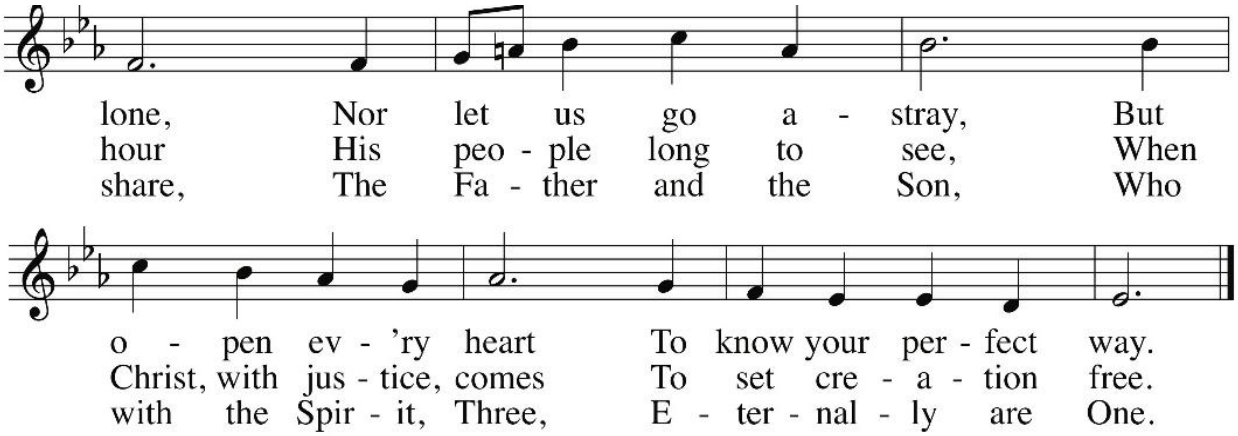
P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✢ Son and of the Holy Spirit. *[John 20:19-23]*

C **Amen.**

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Opening Hymn "Return, Redeemer God" (GIA 116)





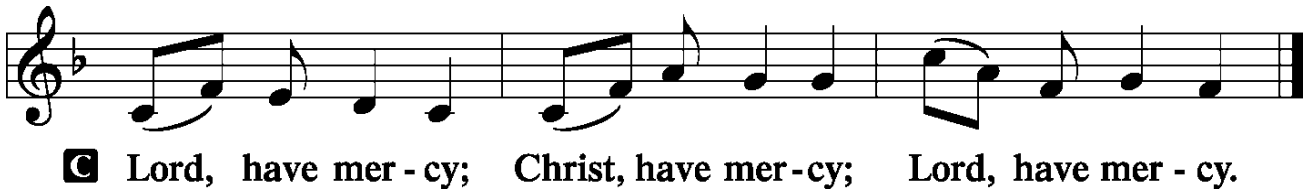
Greeting

℗ 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.

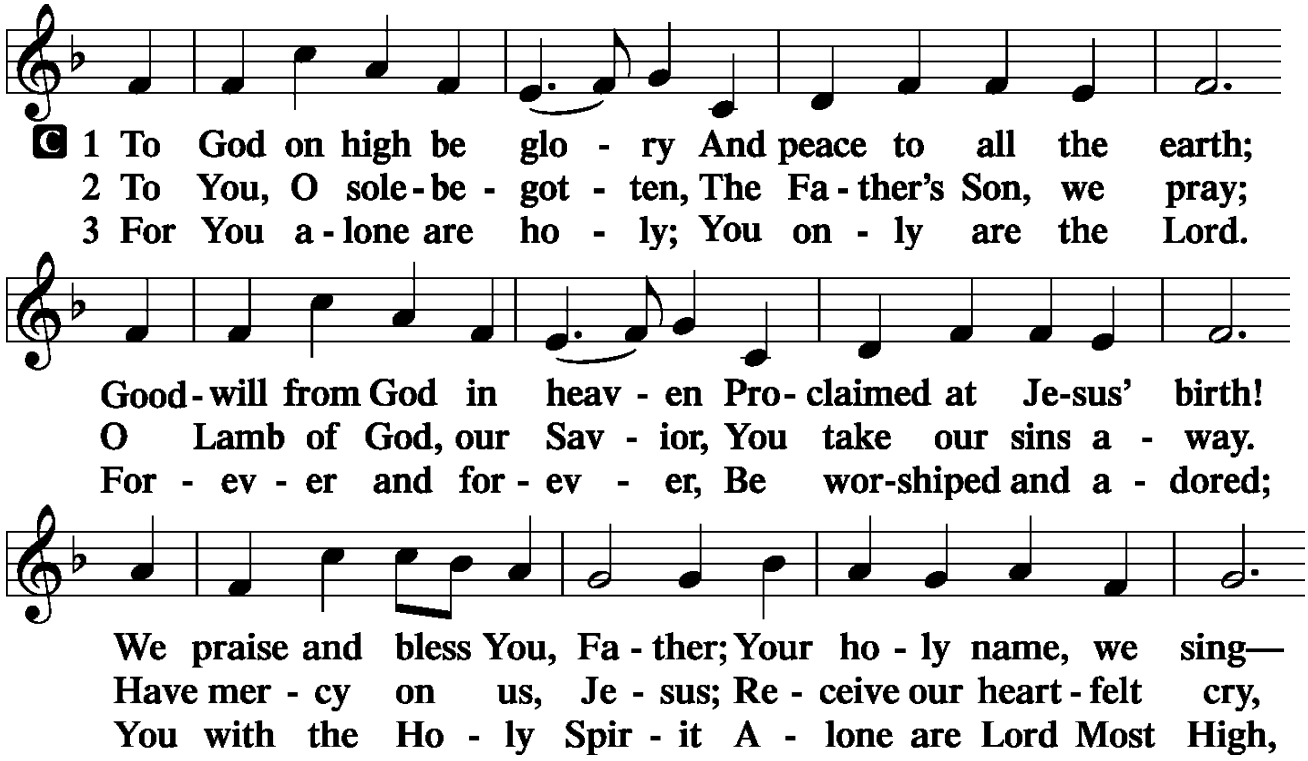
Kyrie

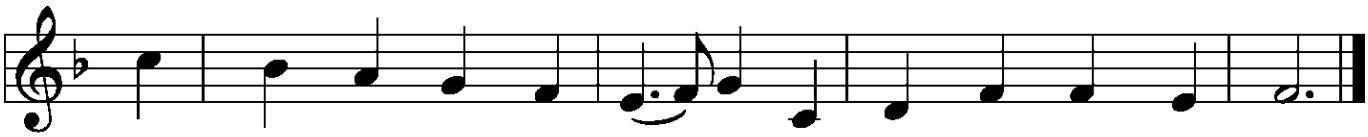
Mark 10:47



Gloria in Excelsis

Luke 2:14; John 1:29





Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray:

Lord God, heavenly Father, send forth Your Son to lead home His bride, the Church, that with all the company of the redeemed we may finally enter into His eternal wedding feast; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Children's Message

Old Testament Reading Amos 5:18-24

18 Woe to you who desire the day of the LORD! Why would you have the
day of the LORD?
It is darkness, and not light, 19 as if a man fled from a lion, and a bear met
him, or went into the house and leaned his hand against the wall, and a
serpent bit him. 20 Is not the day of the LORD darkness, and not light, and
gloom with no brightness in it? 21 "I hate, I despise your feasts, 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 peace
offerings of your fattened animals, I will not look upon them. 23 Take away
from me the noise of your songs; to the melody of your harps I will not
listen. 24 But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an
ever-flowing stream."

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm *(read responsively)* Psalm 70

L Make haste, O God, to deliver me!
O LORD, make haste to help me!

C Let them be put to shame and confusion
who seek my life!
Let them be turned back and brought to dishonor
who desire my hurt!

L Let them turn back because of their shame
who say, "Aha, Aha!"

C May all who seek you
rejoice and be glad in you!
May those who love your salvation
say evermore, "God is great!"

L But I am poor and needy;
hasten to me, O God!
You are my help and my deliverer;
O LORD, do not delay!

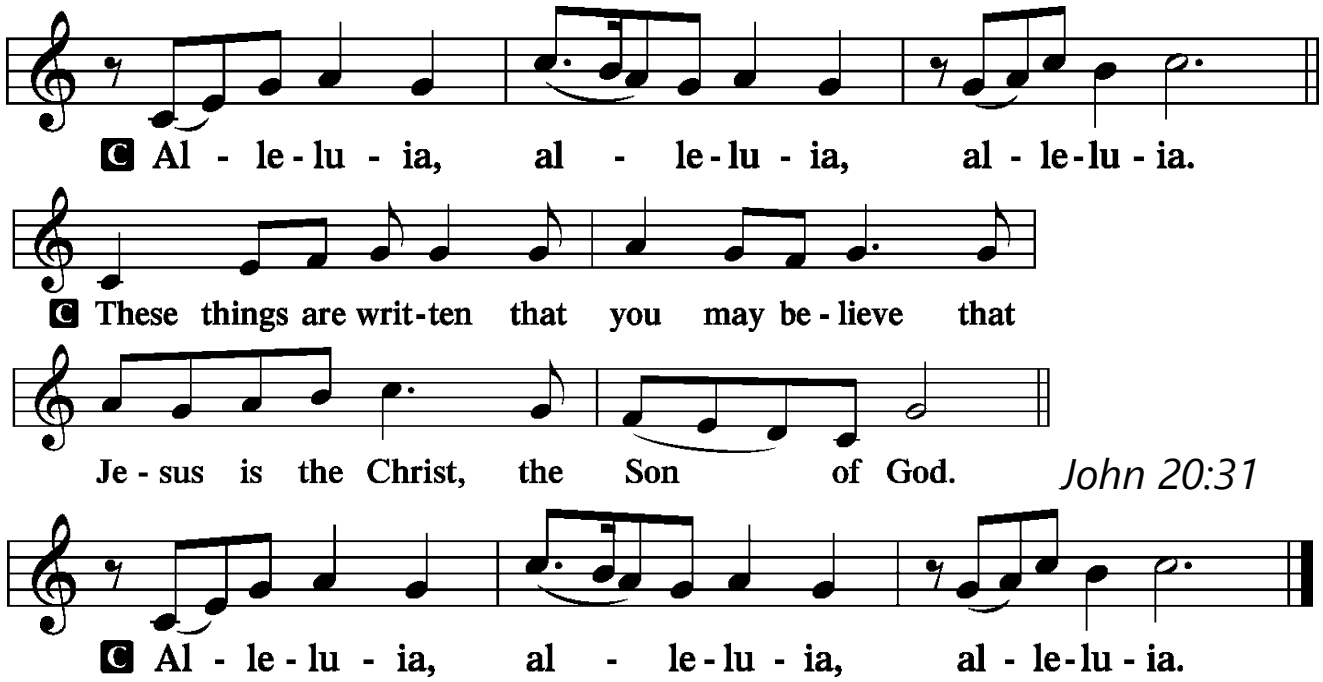
Epistle 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

13 But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who
are asleep, 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 fallen asleep. 15 For this we
declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are
left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen
asleep. 16 For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of
command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the
trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are
alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to
meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord.
18 Therefore encourage one another with these words.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Verse



Holy Gospel Matthew 25:1-13

℗ The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.

℣ Glory to You, O Lord.

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

[1][Jesus said:] "The kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. [2]Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. [3]For 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, they all became drowsy and slept. [6]But at midnight there was a cry, 'Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' [7]Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. [8]And the foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' [9]But the wise answered, saying, 'Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.' [10]And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut. [11]Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.'

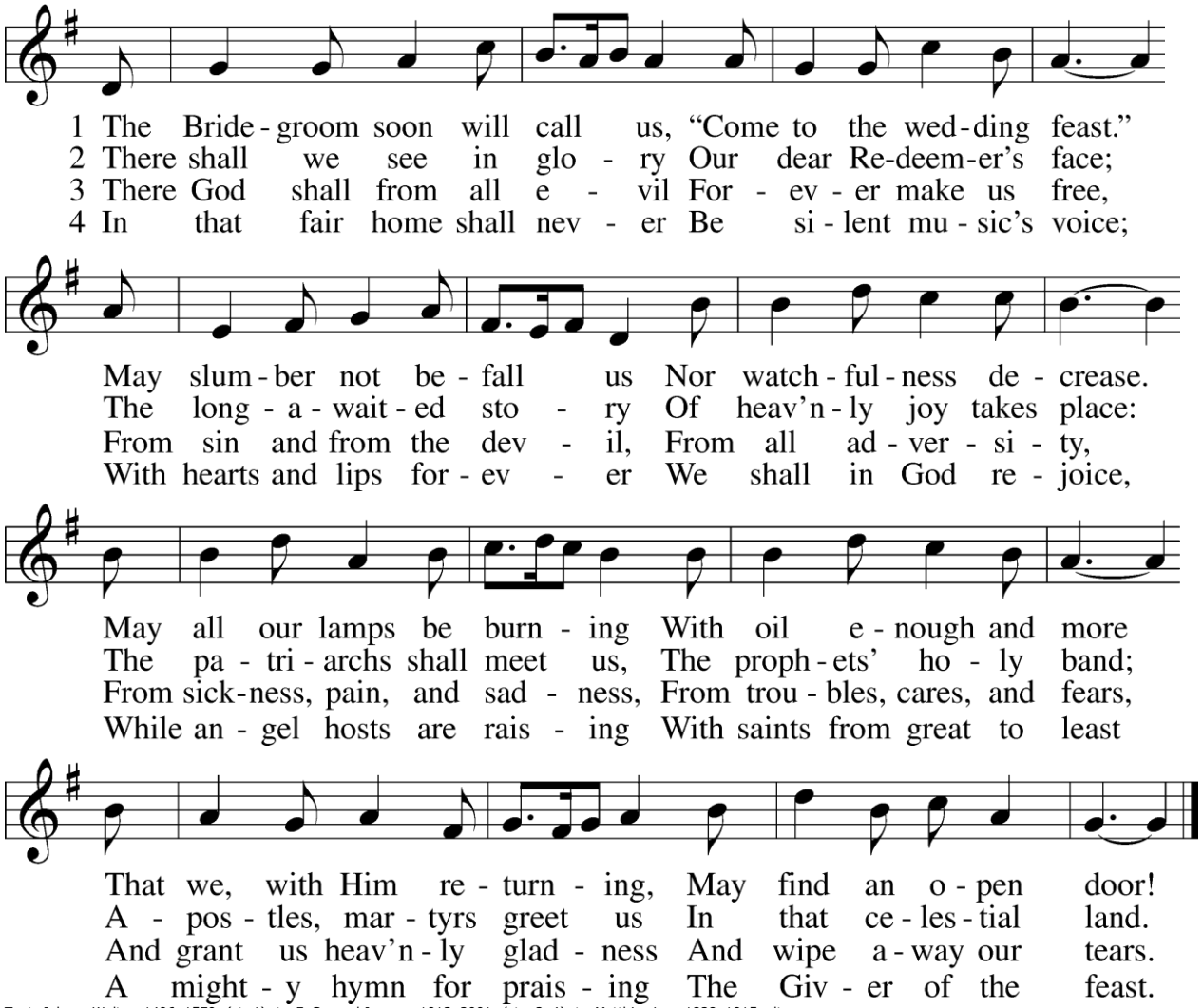
12But he answered, 'Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.' **13Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."**

℗ This is the Gospel of the Lord.

℃ **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Sermon "Waiting for the King: Living Expectantly"

Hymn of the Day "The Bridegroom Soon Will Call Us" (LSB 514 – alternate tune, "Aurelia")



Text: Johann Walter, 1496–1570; (st. 1): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001; (sts. 2–4): tr. Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, alt.
Tune: Musae Sioniae, 1609, vol. 7, Wolfenbüttel, ed. Michael Praetorius
Text (st. 1): © 1982 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005318
Text (sts. 2–4) and 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.

Reception of New Members

The congregational companions of those desiring to become members present them to the pastor at the altar. As each candidate is named, they are invited to step forward to the altar rail.

P Dear friends in Christ, the members of our congregation are glad that you are to become part of our Christian fellowship here at St. John's. As a member of St. John's Lutheran Church, you are to be an active participant in the ministry that we share, a servant with us in the kingdom of God by His grace. In response to God's full and free gift of forgiveness and new life through His Son, I exhort you attend to corporate worship as a member of the body of Christ, make diligent use of the means of grace, and lead a righteous and godly life. Support the work of that the Lord gives us as His people in this congregation with your prayers, your time, and your resources, both material and intangible. Walk with us at St. John's as a forgiven people who are gathered around the cross, formed and fueled by

God's grace, and go out into the world to invite all people to a life transformed by Jesus Christ. This is the fellowship that we share, the community into which you are about to be received as members of St. John's Lutheran Church.

In response to God's word in the Scriptures and enabled by the Holy Spirit, we now ask you to speak your covenant commitment to living out the fellowship that we share:

C **And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.** *(Hebrews 10:24-25)*

R *I will strive to **GATHER** often with this community of faith through regular participation in corporate worship life and fellowship with other members of the body of Christ.*

C **For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them.** *(Romans 12:4-6a)*

R *Recognizing that Christ will **DISCIPLE** me through God's gifts of Word and Sacrament, I will strive to walk with our Lord through prayer and the practice of spiritual disciplines, growing in faith, engaged in regular reading and study of the Scriptures, individually and with fellow Christians.*

C **For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.** *(Matthew 6:21)*

R *I will strive to **MANAGE** all the resources God has given me, tangible and intangible – in response to all that God in Christ has done for me – and offer my time, talents, and treasure in service at St. John's and in the world, committing to serving in at least one ministry of the church.*

C **Oh give thanks to the Lord; call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples! Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wondrous works!** *(Psalm 105:1-2)*

R *I will strive to **INVITE** others to a relationship with Jesus Christ through my words and actions with the help of the Holy Spirit. I will pray for wisdom to recognize witness opportunities and for boldness to share my faith.*

P Is this, then, your sincere desire and intention?

R *Yes, with the help of God.*

P Members of St. John's Lutheran Church: you have heard the promise made this day by these people who have declared their desire to walk with us on their journey of faith. What is your response?

C **We welcome you into the Lord's family. We receive you as fellow members of the body of Christ, children of the same heavenly Father, and workers with us in the kingdom of God.**

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 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*

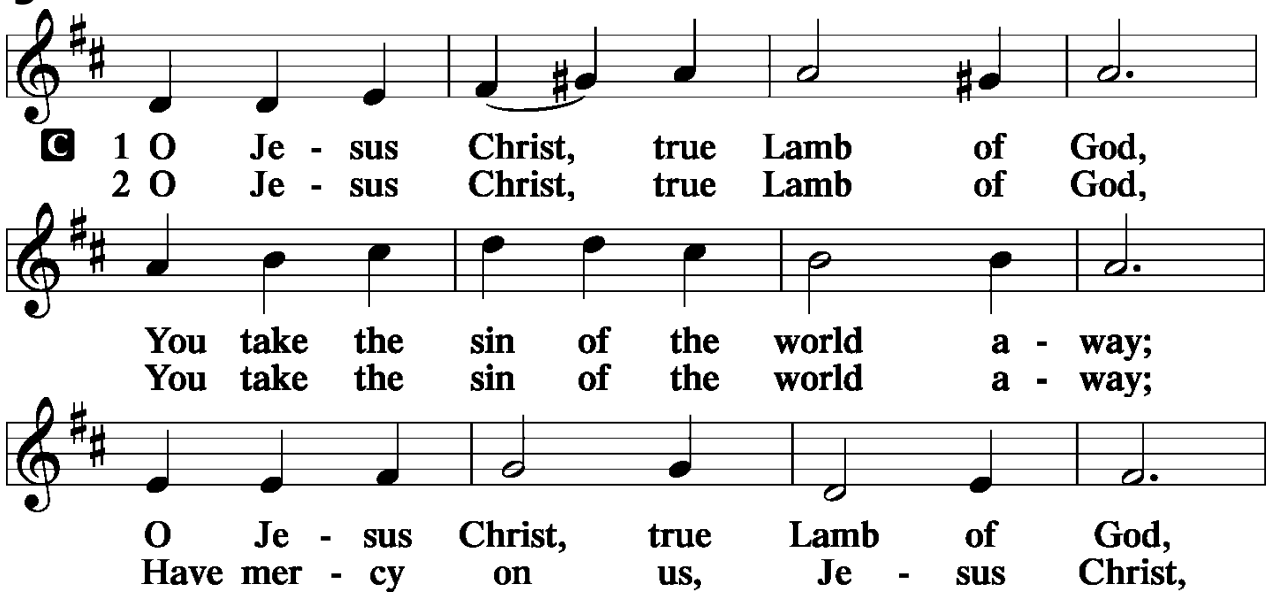
℗ Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✢ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

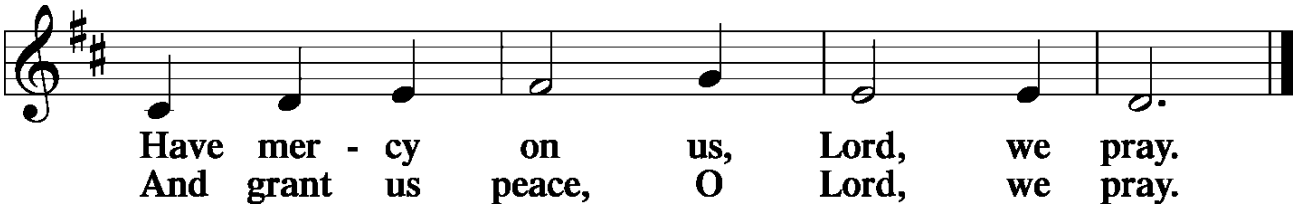
℗ In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✢ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini *John 20:19*

℗ The peace of the Lord be with you always.
Ⓒ 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.

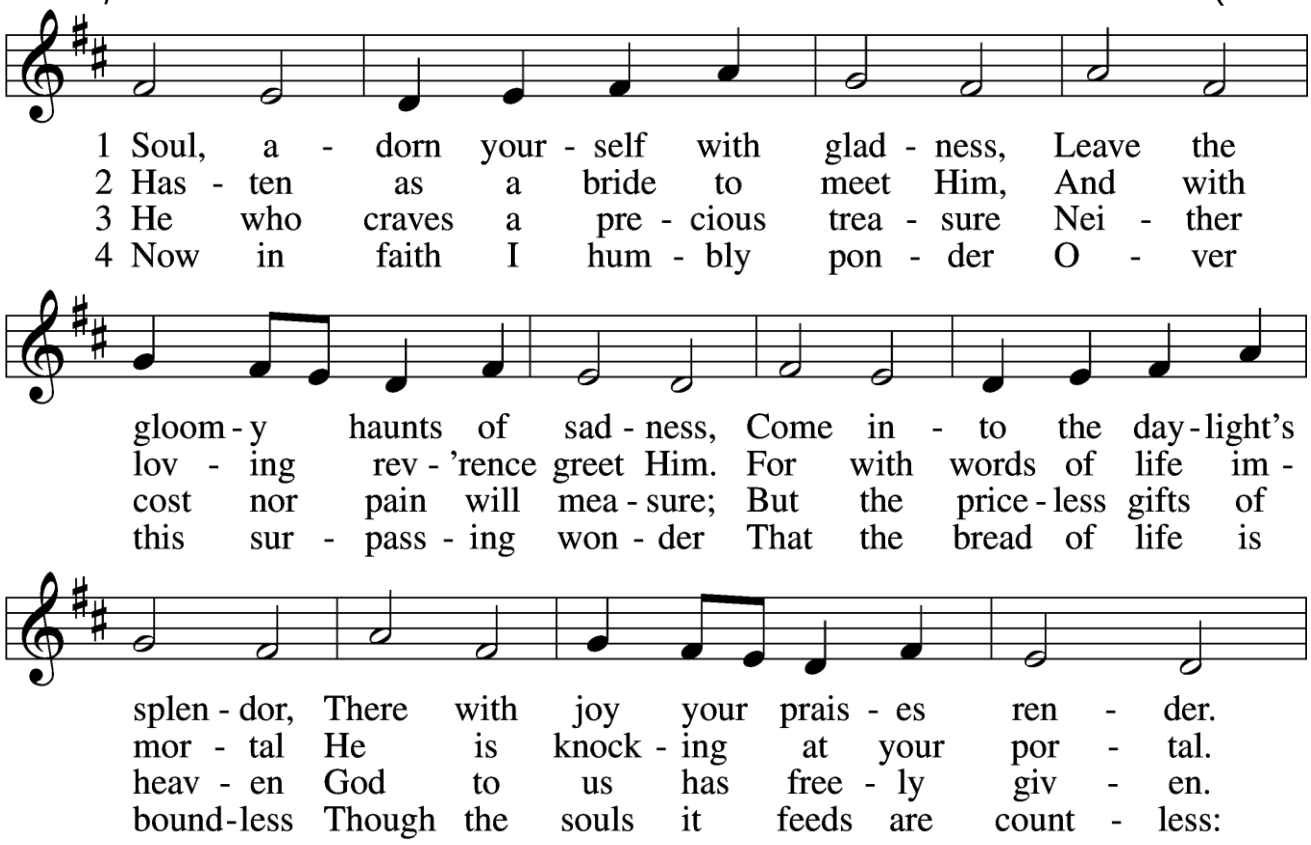
Music at Distribution

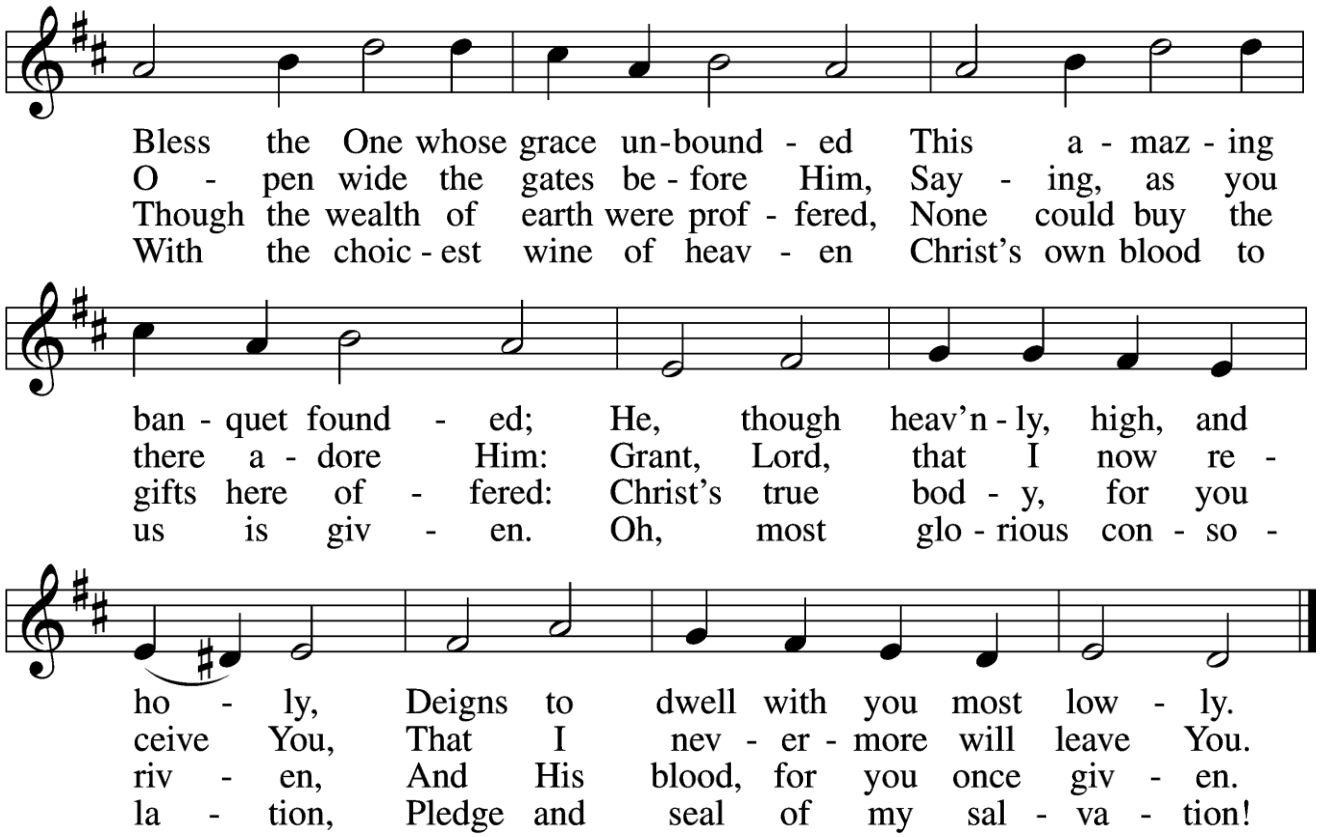
"God That Madest Earth And Heaven (Robert Lehman)
(St. John's Choir)

God that madest earth and heaven,
Darkness and light;
Who the day for toil hast given,
For rest the night,
May thine angel guards defend us,
Slumber sweet thy mercy send us,
Holy dreams and hopes attend us,
This livelong night!

Guard us waking, guard us sleeping,
and when we die,
May we in thy mighty keeping,
all peaceful lie:
And when death to life shall wake us,
thou wilt in thy likeness make us;
Then to reign in glory take us
with thee on high.

"Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness" (LSB 636)





5 Jesus, source of lasting pleasure,
Truest friend, and dearest treasure,
Peace beyond all understanding,
Joy into all life expanding:
Humbly now, I bow before You;
Love incarnate, I adore You;
Worthily let me receive You
And, so favored, never leave You.

6 Jesus, sun of life, my splendor,
Jesus, friend of friends, most tender,
Jesus, joy of my desiring,
Fount of life, my soul inspiring:
At Your feet I cry, my maker,
Let me be a fit partaker
Of this blessèd food from heaven,
For our good, Your glory, given.

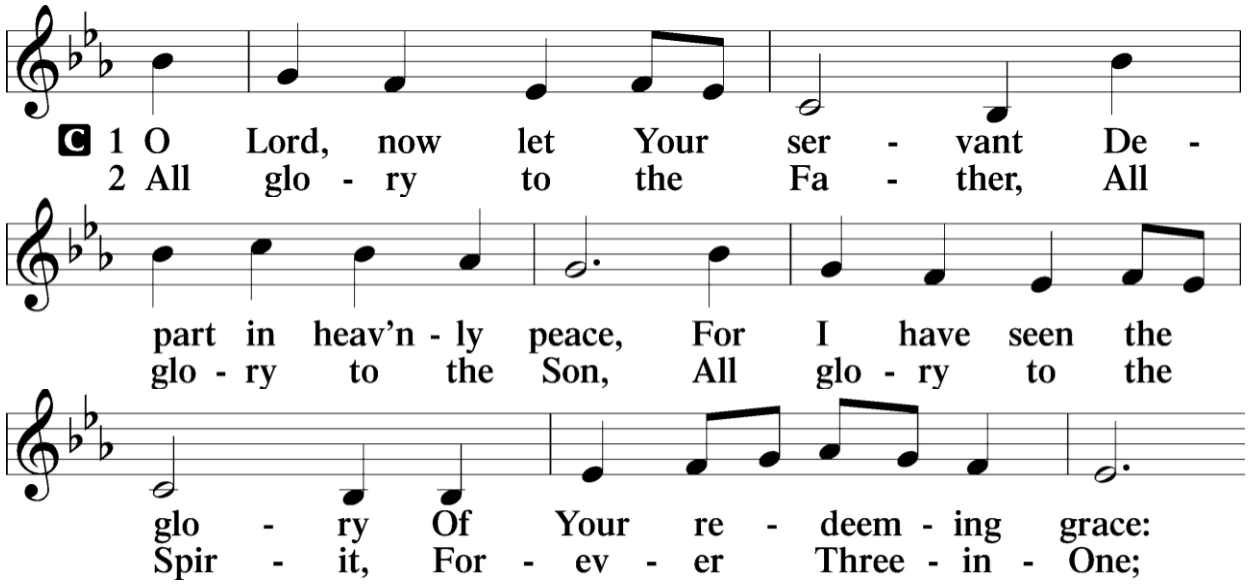
7 Lord, by love and mercy driven,
You once left Your throne in heaven
On the cross for me to languish
And to die in bitter anguish,
To forego all joy and gladness
And to shed Your blood in sadness.
By this blood redeemed and living,
Lord, I praise You with thanksgiving.

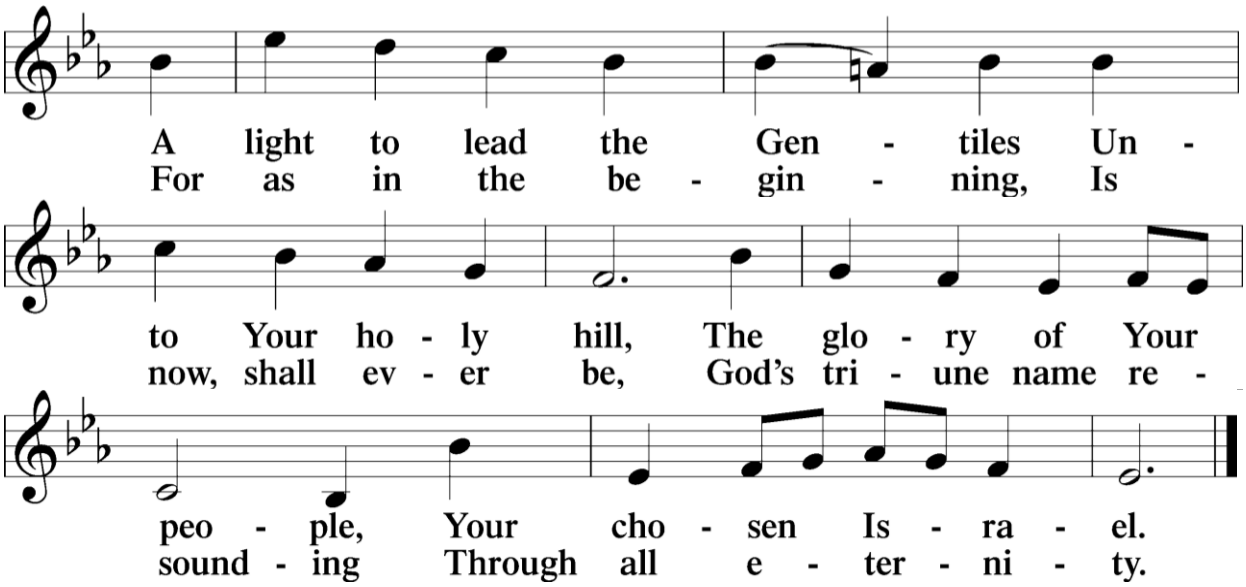
8 Jesus, bread of life, I pray You,
Let me gladly here obey You.
By Your love I am invited,
Be Your love with love requited;
By this Supper let me measure,
Lord, how vast and deep love's treasure.
Through the gift of grace You give me
As Your guest in heav'n receive me.

Text: Johann Franck, 1618–77; (sts. 1, 4–5): tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978; (sts. 2–3, 6–8): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662
Text (sts. 1, 4–5): © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005318
Text (sts. 2–3, 6–8) 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.

Sending of Lay Eucharistic Ministers

Benedicamus and Benediction

L Let us bless the Lord.

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

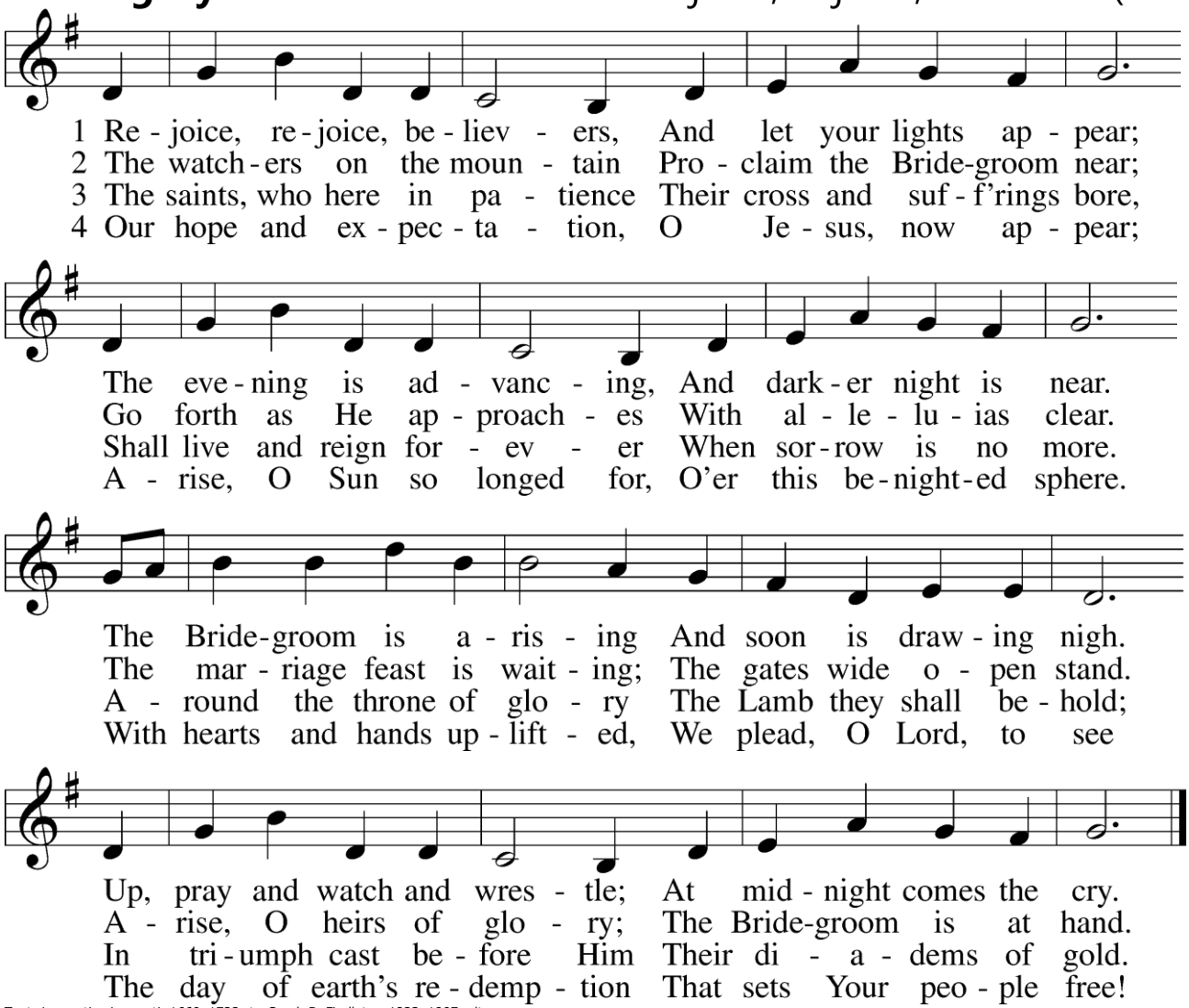
P The Lord bless you and keep you.

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 "Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers" (LSB 515)



Text: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660–1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823–1907, alt.
Tune: Swedish
Text and tune: Public domain

Postlude "Postlude" (Roger C. Wilson)

✢ ✢ ✢

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall following worship to meet our newest St. John's members during a light reception.



This weekend's **altar flowers** are 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!

Our Ministry Of Worship

Officiant/Preacher	Pastor Meehan
Welcome & Children's Message	Jennifer Hills, Director of Discipleship
Lay Assistant	Trevor Hassett
Communion Lay Assistant	Barbara Pate
Organist/Pianist	David Leahey, Director of Music
Acolyte	Sean Wilson
Ushers	Fred Esposito Joseph Godwin
Altar Care	Karen Kemmet
AV Operators	Denise Canter Andrea Godwin
Welcome Host	Debbie Haugan
Nursery	

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A member congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

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