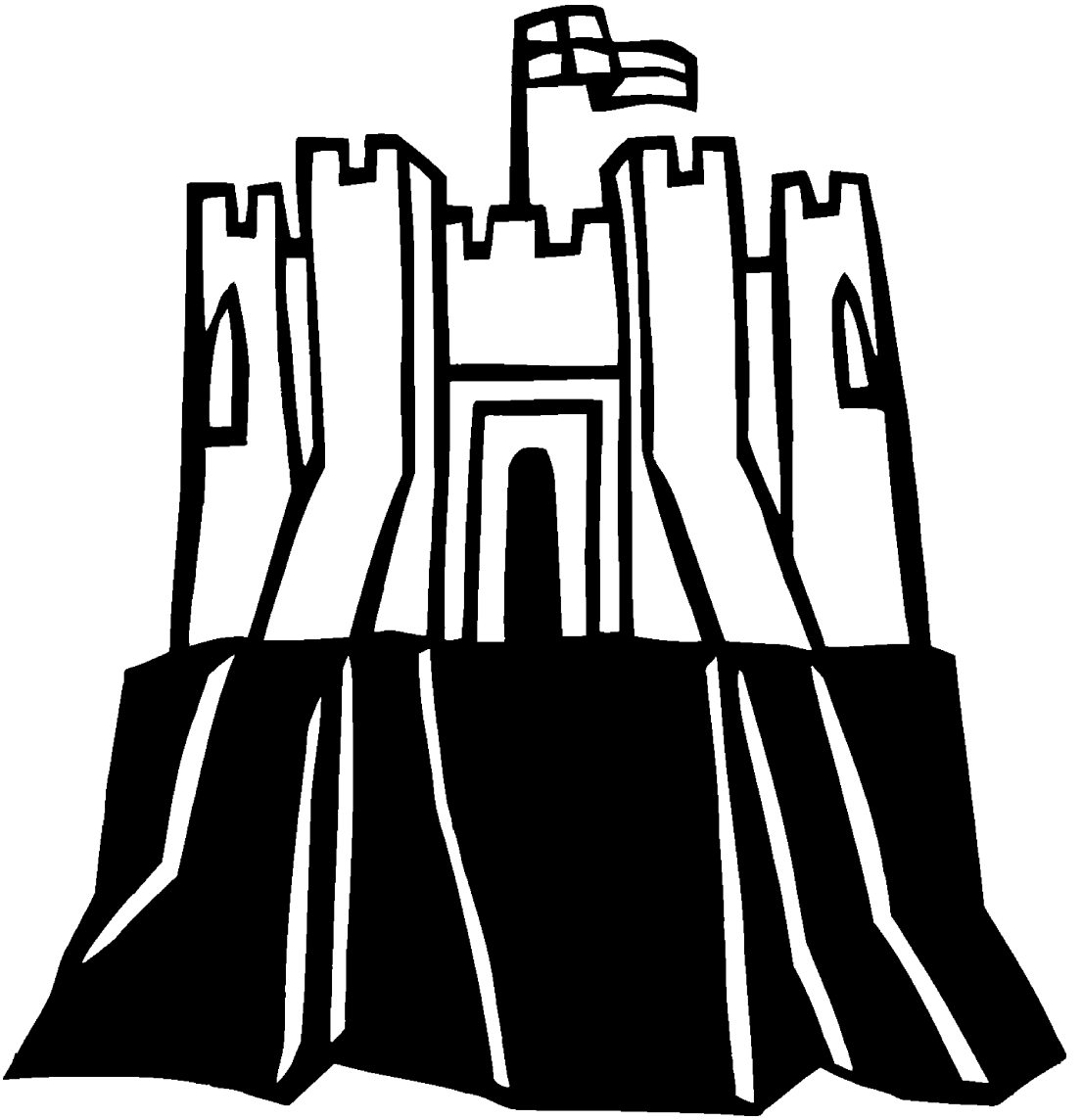


Reformation Sunday

St. Andrew Lutheran Church

October 25, 2026

Welcome to St. Andrew!

At St. Andrew Lutheran Church, we strive to be a loving and welcoming community of faith. We are centered in the Good News of Jesus Christ, who calls us to reconciliation and wholeness in a world of alienation and brokenness.

All are welcome, without exception, regardless of race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, physical or mental ability, education, income, or family status.

All are welcome here to worship God, receive the sacraments, and share in fellowship, leadership, and service. We commit to treasuring one another's similarities and differences as one body in Christ.

We are called to provide a safe space in the community as we break down the barriers of isolation. We understand that being truly welcoming involves actively working against racism, heteronormativity, sexism, transphobia, ageism, ableism, classism, and other forces that seek to divide and oppress. We commit to continuing to discover what it means to be "Reconciling in Christ."

"Welcome one another therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God."
-Romans 15:7

Orientation to the Service

This bulletin will guide you through the entire service. Starting on page 3, words printed in **bold** are for everyone to say aloud together. Instructions and information are printed in *italics*.

Hymns (songs) are found in the hymnals in the pew racks in front of your seat.
ELW = Evangelical Lutheran Worship (red hymnal)
ACS = All Creation Sings (blue hymnal)

Green-topped Welcome Cards are found in the pew racks in front of your seat. We would love for guests, visitors, and anyone in need of prayer or more information about the church to fill one out. Please place it in the offering plate or hand it to an usher after the service.

Children are welcome in worship! God put the wiggle in children, so please do not feel you have to shush or suppress those wiggles in God's house. All are welcome here! Consider sitting toward the front where it is easier for children to see and hear what is happening in the service. There are worship activity bags available for children on a shelf in the back of the sanctuary, and a staffed nursery is available for very young ones. Ask an usher if you need help locating it.

Restrooms can be found by exiting the back of the sanctuary and turning right. Walk straight until you pass the coffee bar, and you will find the women's and men's restrooms to your right. An all-gender, ADA-compliant restroom will be found to your left, near the door to the kitchen.

Online access to the bulletin and hymns: standrewlutheran.com/worship/worship-bulletins/

Reformation Sunday

October 25, 2026 | 9:30 AM

Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.

PRELUDE — *Every Time I Feel the Spirit*, Bill Ingram
Bells of Grace, directed by John Gladen

GATHERING
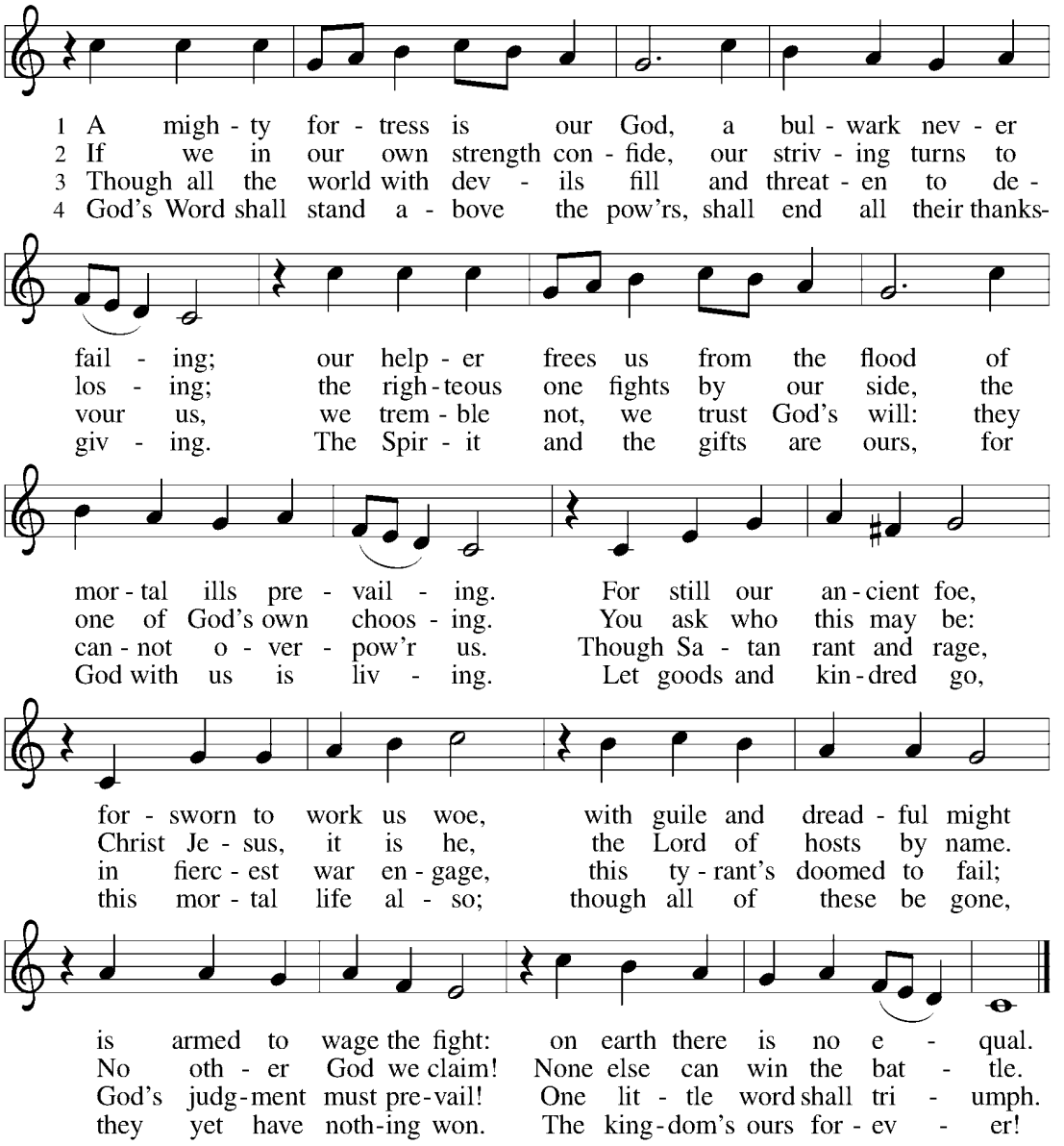
THE HOLY SPIRIT CALLS US TOGETHER AS THE PEOPLE OF GOD.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The congregation may stand.



Congregation sings verses 1, 2 & 4. Choir alone sings verse 3.



CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be God, the one who forms us, ✢ Jesus who bears the cross, and the Spirit who makes our joy complete.
Amen.

On this day of celebration of the Reformation, we pause to remember the harm that also resulted from this important movement. Harm that included pitting neighbors against one another, specifically Lutherans against Catholics.

Using words from the 2016 Joint Catholic-Lutheran Commemoration of the Reformation, we confess the sin of the church.

In the sixteenth century, Catholics and Lutherans frequently not only misunderstood but also exaggerated and caricatured their opponents in order to make them look ridiculous. They repeatedly violated the eighth commandment, which prohibits bearing false witness against one's neighbor.
Forgive us, O God.

Lutherans and Catholics often focused on what separated them from each other rather than looking for what united them. They accepted the mixing of the gospel with the political and economic interests of those in power. Their failures resulted in the deaths of hundreds of thousands of people. We deeply regret the evil things that Catholics and Lutherans have mutually done to each other.
Forgive us, O God.

Silence is kept for remembrance.

Let us pray together.
O God of mercy, we lament that even good actions of reform and renewal often have unintended negative consequences. We bring before you the burdens of the guilt of the past when our forbearers did not follow your will. We confess our own ways of thinking and acting that perpetuate division. As communities and as individuals, we build many walls around us: mental, spiritual, physical, and political walls that result in discrimination and violence. Forgive us, O God.

Christ is the way, the truth and the life. Christ is our peace, who breaks down the walls that divide us, who gives us ever-new beginnings. In ✣ the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. May God strengthen you for faithful witness to Christ's love in our time.
Amen.

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together.
Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The congregation is seated.

WORD

GOD SPEAKS TO US IN SCRIPTURE READING, PREACHING, AND SONG.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE — Pr. Allison Bengfort

Elementary-aged children (grades K-5) are invited to attend The Roots Children's Church, led by trained St. Andrew volunteers and located in the Children's Library downstairs. Parents are welcome to observe. The children will return to worship in time to receive communion.

READING Romans 3:19-28

A reading from Romans.

19Now we know that, whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under
the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world may be
held accountable to God. 20For no human will be justified before God by
deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.
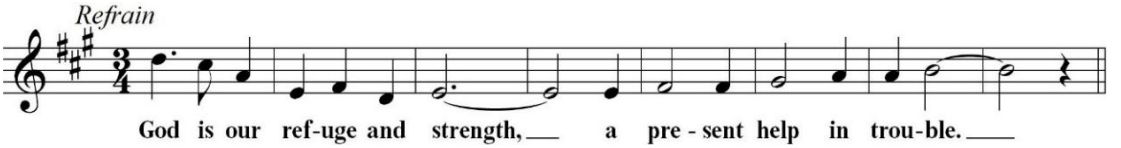
21But now, apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed
and is attested by the Law and the Prophets, 22the righteousness of God
through the faith of Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no
distinction, 23since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; 24they
are now justified by God's grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in
Christ Jesus, 25whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his
blood, effective through faith. God did this to demonstrate God's
righteousness, because in God's divine forbearance God had passed over the
sins previously committed; 26it was to demonstrate at the present time God's
own righteousness, so that God is righteous and God justifies the one who
has the faith of Jesus.

27Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. Through what kind of law?
That of works? No, rather through the law of faith. 28For we hold that a
person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God

PSALM 46 *setting by Larry Peterson*

The cantor introduces the refrain, which is repeated by the congregation.
Verses are sung by the cantor, with everyone singing subsequent refrains.



Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved
and the mountains shake in the depths of the seas.
There is a river whose stream make glad the city of God,
the dwelling of the Most High. *Refrain*

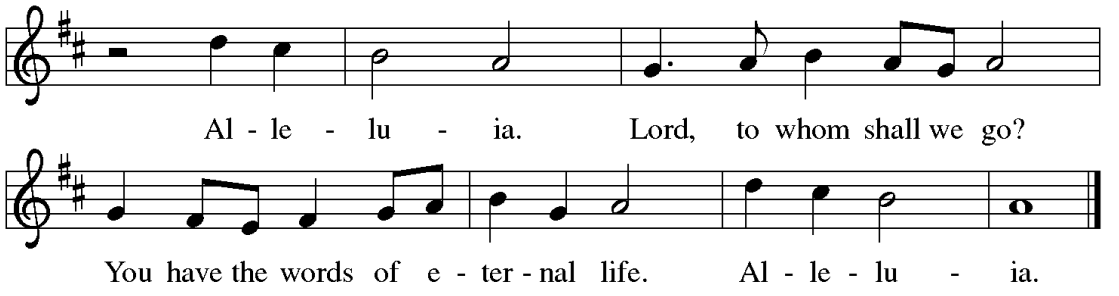
The nations rage, the kingdoms shake; God speaks, the earth melts away.
The nations rage, the kingdoms shake; God speaks, the earth melts away.
The Lord of hosts, the Lord of hosts, the God of Jacob is with us. *Refrain*

Behold the one who makes wars to cease,
who breaks the bow and shatters the spear and burns the shields with fire.
Be still then, be still then, know I am God; know I am God.
The Lord of hosts, the God of Jacob, our present help in trouble. *Refrain*

God is our refuge and strength.

The congregation may stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL John 8:31-36

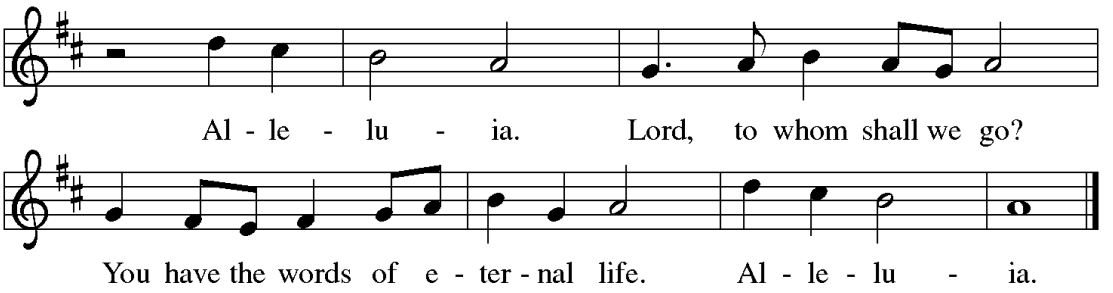
The holy gospel according to John.
Glory to you, O Lord.

31 Jesus said to the faithful who had believed in him, "If you continue in my
word, you are truly my disciples, 32and you will know the truth, and the truth
will make you free." 33They answered him, "We are descendants of Abraham
and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, 'You
will be made free'?"

34Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a
servant of sin. 35The servant does not have a permanent place in the
household; the child has a place there forever. 36So if the Son makes you free,
you will be free indeed."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

GOSPEL RESPONSE



The congregation is seated.

SERMON Pr. Allison Bengfort

The congregation may stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY Born, Reborn | ACS 956

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Let us affirm our faith together.

People of God, do you trust in God the Creator,
the divine Source of all things?
We trust in God the Creator.

Do you trust in Jesus Christ, Love incarnate,
who liberates us from evil and shows us that love is stronger than death?
We trust in Jesus Christ.

Do you trust in the Holy Spirit, who guides us on our journey,
interrupts the status quo, and opens up new possibilities?
We trust in the Holy Spirit.

Trusting in the Triune God, we affirm that grace is available to everyone,
that new life is always possible, and that God is with us on the Way.
This is most certainly true.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*The congregation assumes a posture of prayer. You may kneel, sit, or stand;
fold your hands or turn them upward; close your eyes or look to the altar.*

Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

All are invited to share a sign of peace with one another (handshake, hug, peace sign, etc.). Placing your hands together in a praying position will signal to those around you that you prefer not to physically touch others.

The congregation is seated.

MEAL *GOD FEEDS US WITH THE PRESENCE OF JESUS CHRIST.*

INVITATION TO OFFERING

During this time of offering, we join Christ in turning the values of the world upside down. The world tells us that our money is ours alone, but we know that our money comes from God and is meant for the flourishing of the whole community. Therefore, we choose to be generous, sharing our resources with one another.

Contributions to St. Andrew Lutheran Church may be placed in the offering plate or made online by scanning the QR code to the right. Thank you for your generosity!

OFFERING *The Truth Will Make You Free*, Anne Krentz Organ
Sanctuary Choir, directed by John Gladen

If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples;
and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.

Continue in my word, and my disciples be.
Continue in my word, the truth will make you free.

Know the word, know the truth, my disciples be.
Know the word, know the truth, the truth will make you free.

If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples;
and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.

You are my disciples. Continue in my word.
You will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.

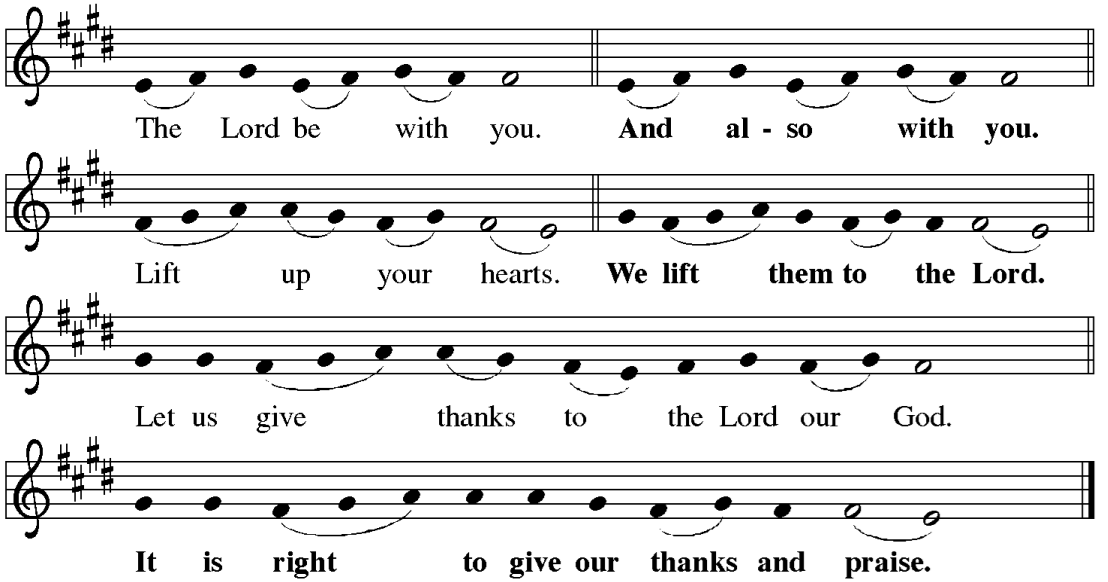
Yes, the truth will make you free. You are free.

The congregation may stand.

OFFERING PRAYER

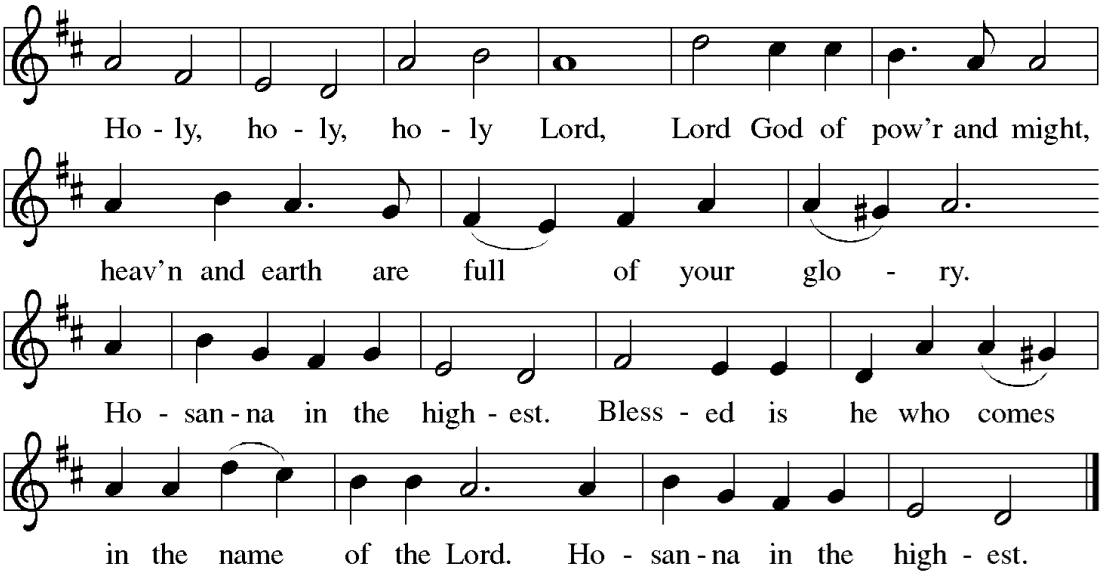
Let us pray together.
God of creation, you send rain, and the earth springs forth abundantly.
All blessings are from you. Make us generous with what we have.
Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you
and in love to our neighbors, today and always. Amen.

DIALOGUE



PREFACE

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

LORD'S PRAYER

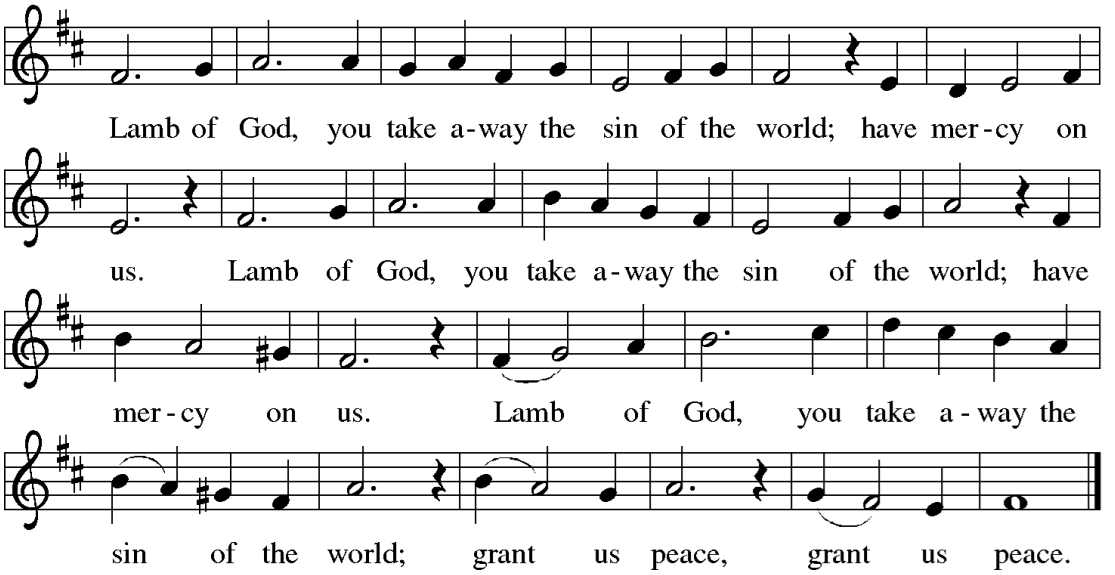
Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

The congregation is seated.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

All are invited to commune without exception! At the direction of an usher, those wishing to commune may proceed down the center aisle. A piece of gluten-free bread will be placed in your hands. You may dip the bread in the wine (red chalice) or the grape juice (light-colored chalice), or you may choose to partake of bread only. If you prefer to receive a blessing, please cross your arms across your chest to indicate this preference. If you would like to receive communion in your seat, please alert an usher, and the elements will be brought to you.

LAMB OF GOD



DISTRIBUTION HYMN Built on a Rock | ELW 652

The congregation may stand.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together.
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. Amen.

SENDING *GOD BLESSES US AND SENDS US IN MISSION TO THE WORLD.*

BLESSING

The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind,
in the body of Christ Jesus.
Amen.

The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances
through the interceding of the Spirit.
Amen.

The God of grace ☩ bless you now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN Build a Longer Table | ACS 1062

DISMISSAL

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.
Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Serving Today in Worship

Presiding Minister: Pr. Allison Bengfort
Preacher: Pr. Allison Bengfort
Assisting Minister: Kim Taylor-Blakemore
Altar Guild: Susan Reiser
Children's Church: Barbara Gutzler
Communion Assistants:
Lector: Tom Mehlhorn
Musicians: Karl Gustafson, accompanist;
John Gladen, Minister of Music
Nursery Assistant: Amy Harker
Tech Team: Chase Isaacson, Rick LeRoy
Ushers:
Welcome Team:
Worship Coordinator: Beth Johnson
Zoom Host:

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