Immanuel Lutheran of Evanston

The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

10:30 A.M. Worship with Eucharist
September 6, 2026

616 Lake St., Evanston, IL 60201 ● 847-864-4464 ● www.immanuelevanston.org
E-mail: Church: immanuel@immanuelevanston.org ● Pastor: pastor@immanuelevanston.org
● Parish Administrator: parish-admin@immanuelevanston.org

Welcome!

Immanuel Lutheran Church is a Reconciling in Christ congregation.
We welcome people of every age and size, color and culture, every sexual orientation and gender identity, socio-economic status and marital status, every ability and challenge.
We welcome believers and questioners, and questioning believers.

We're glad God has called you here today! If you're a guest, please feel free to introduce yourself to our pastor or assisting minister. If you would, sign the guest book in the Gathering Area or fill in a guest card, and we'll be happy to send information on how you can get involved at Immanuel.

Masks are optional during worship service.

Facilities

- Our parking lot is located on the south side of the church off Sherman Avenue. You may park in the lot at any time, whether for church events or for shopping or other errands in downtown Evanston; weekdays, see the church office at the Lake St. entrance to get a parking pass. Parking meters are free until 1:00 P.M. on Sunday.
- The parking lot entrance is an accessible entrance. An elevator is located just inside that door.
- Restrooms are downstairs near the meeting of the two hallways. Accessible restrooms are located near the elevator on both upper and lower levels. A gender-neutral restroom is located on the lower level by the elevator.
- We love having children in worship! Activity bags are available from the ushers. There is a nursery and changing/crying room for parents to use, if needed, located downstairs. There are also changing tables in both restrooms on this level, by the elevator. An usher will be happy to direct you.
- Hearing assistance is available. Ask an usher for equipment.
- Wi-Fi is available throughout most of the building. The network is "Immanuel," password "allarewelcome." Please use the Internet responsibly!

About Our Worship

Our Sunday worship is organized around the proclamation of the Word of God and the celebration of the Lord's Supper. It has a familiar form each week, but the content changes for each service according to a calendar shared with many other Christians. The liturgy is printed in this bulletin. If you're worshipping via Zoom, please remain muted until you get to the part where you will be invited to unmute and participate in some parts of the liturgy, as marked by this symbol. = UNMUTE

Receiving Holy Communion

We invite you to share with us in the sacramental meal because Christ invites you! There is no specific age requirement for Communion. There are two options: You may come forward to receive the bread from the Pastor and wine or grape juice from the Assisting Minister. The glasses will be pre-poured, with the grape juice in the inner circle and wine in the outer circle. Each person will take their own glass from the tray. Empty glasses will be collected by the Acolyte. This will be a continuous communion, standing to receive the elements. If you need communion brought to you in the pew, please tell the ushers.

Gathering: *The Holy Spirit assembles us as the People of God …*

Conflict is a part of relationships and life in community. Jesus' words in today's gospel are often used in situations having to do with church discipline. The prophet Ezekiel tells of warning the wicked to turn from their ways, and Paul reminds us that love is the fulfilling of the law. We gather in the name of Christ, assured that he is present among us with gifts of peace and reconciliation.

***P:** Presiding Minister* ***L:** Leader/Assisting Minister* ***R**: Reader* ***A:** Assembly*

✢ *All may make the sign of the cross.*

Prelude "Prelude in C Minor BWV 546" by Johann Sebastian Bach

The Assembly stands when directed and turns toward the font.

Confession and Forgiveness

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

A **Amen.**

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Compassionate God,

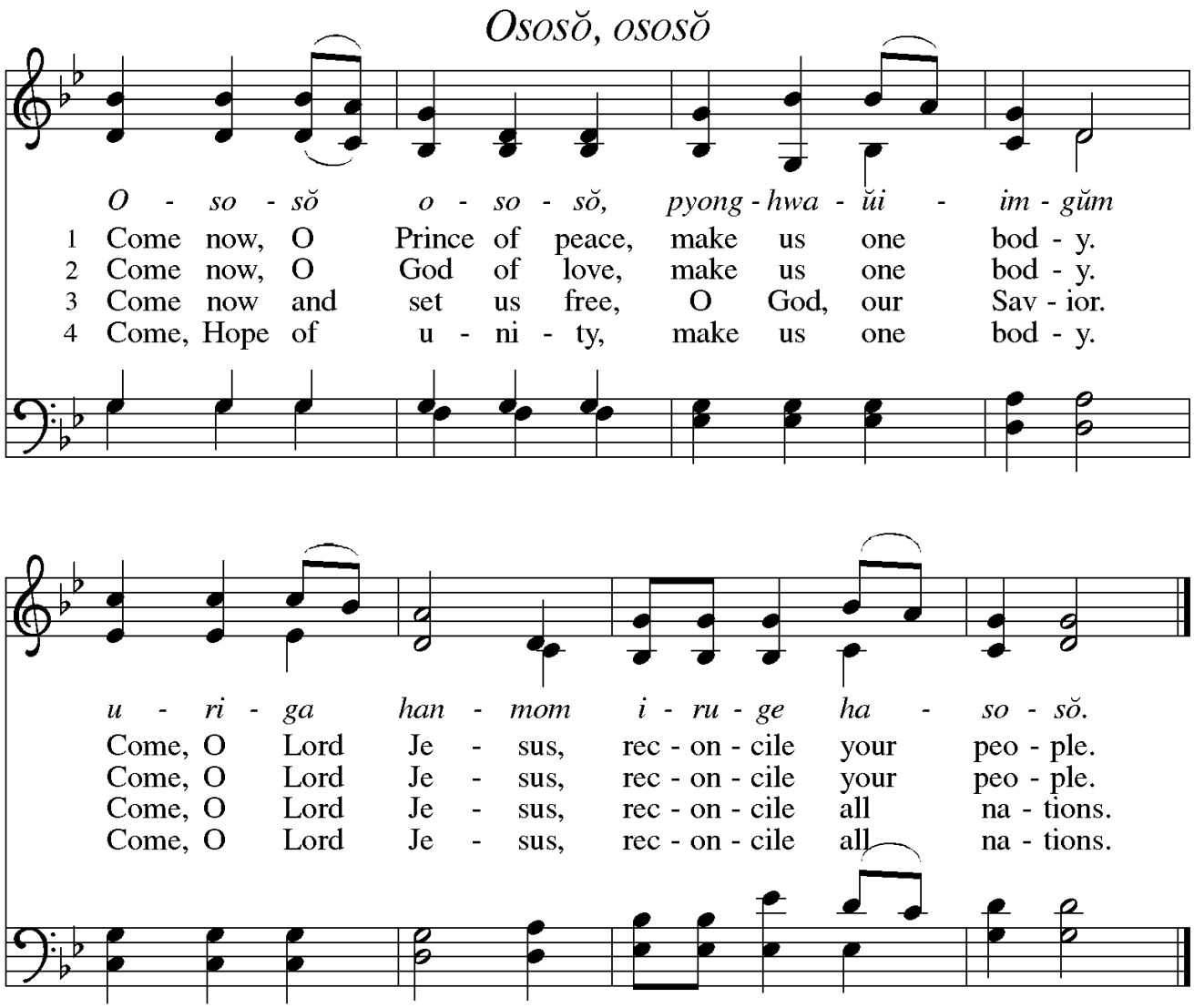
A **we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts.**
Creation groans from overuse.
Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.
Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.
Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others.
Turn our hearts back to you.
Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.
Renew us to live as your holy people,
following the way of Jesus Christ
Amen.

P Hear this good news:
We have peace with God through ✢ Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

A **Amen.**

Gathering Song "Come Now, O Prince of Peace" (OSOSO) **ELW 247**

You may reverence the cross as it passes you.

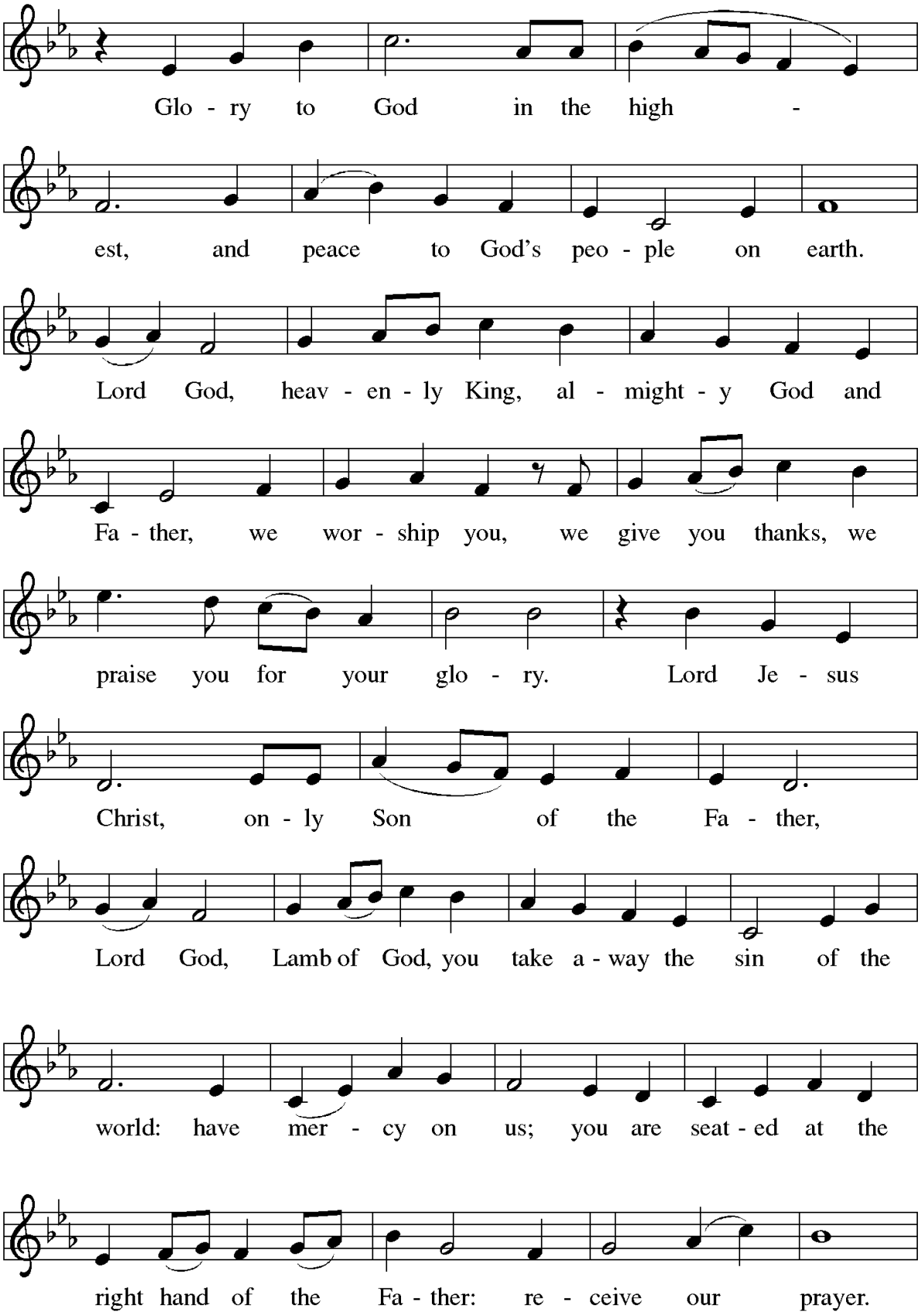


Greeting

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

A **And also with you!**

Canticle of Praise S99



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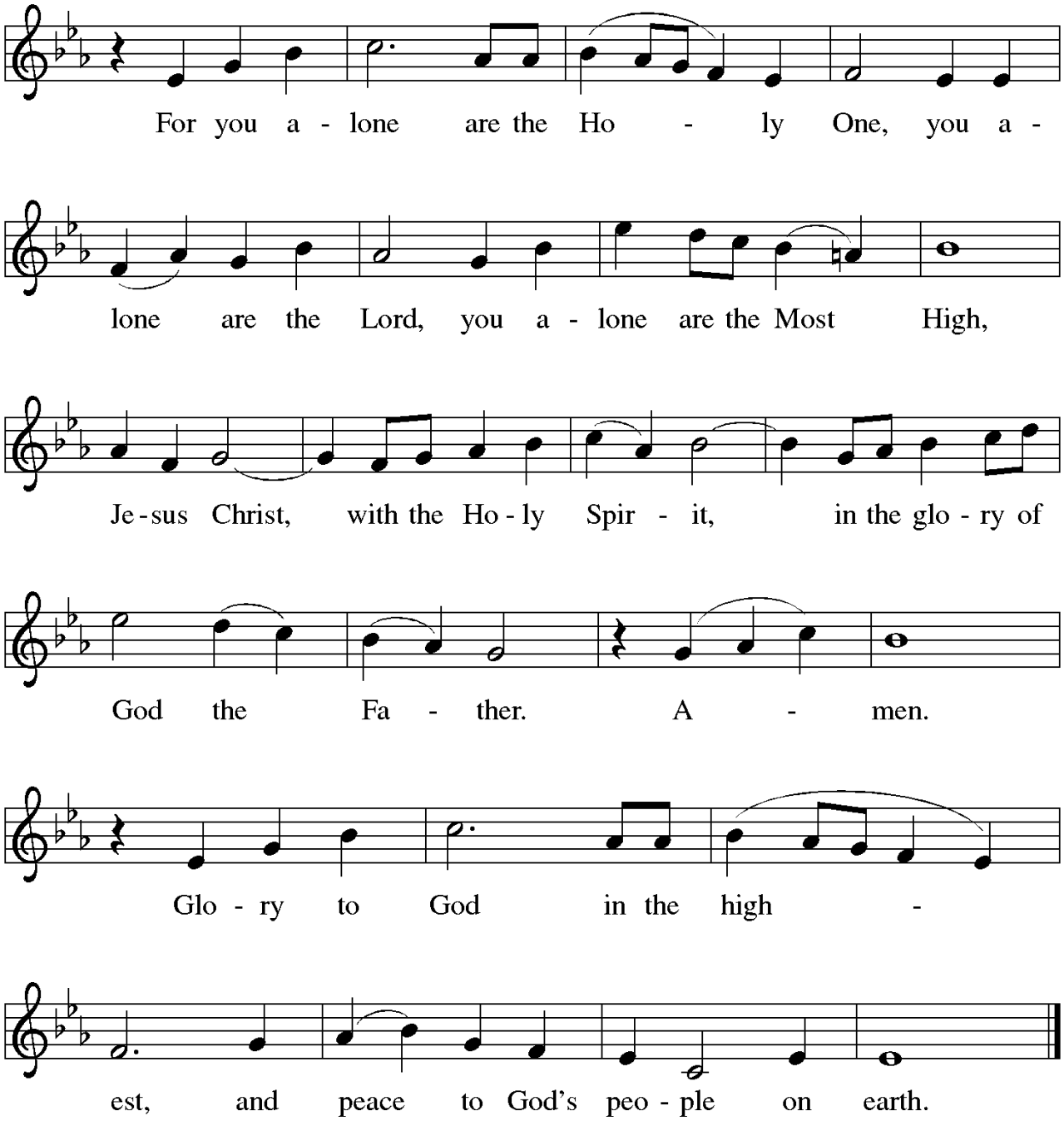


Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

A And also with you.

P Let us pray…

Pause for a moment of silence…

P O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

A Amen.

The Assembly is seated.

Word: *God speaks to us in scripture, preaching, and song*

If you wish to see the text, then use the pew Bible - Page numbers are at the top of the page & in the center.

Reading from the Old Testament *p.701 in the pew Bible* **Ezekiel 33:7-11**

R A reading from Ezekiel.

R The Word of the Lord. Or, Word of God, word of life.

A Thanks be to God!

Psalm 119:33-40 **Psalm Tone 1, 2 sharps**

The organ will play the tone. All sing the psalm in unison. There is no refrain.

Tone:

33 Teach me, O LORD, the way | of your statutes,
and I shall keep it | to the end.
34 Give me understanding, and I shall | keep your teaching;
I shall keep it with | all my heart.
35 Lead me in the path of | your commandments,
for that is | my desire.
36 Incline my heart to | your decrees
and not to | unjust gain. R
37 Turn my eyes from be- | holding falsehood;
give me life | in your way.
38 Fulfill your promise | to your servant,
which is for | those who fear you.
39 Turn away the reproach | that I dread,
because your judg- | ments are good.
40 Behold, I long for | your commandments;
by your righteousness en- | liven me.

Reading from the New Testament *p.923 in the pew Bible* **Romans 13:8-14**

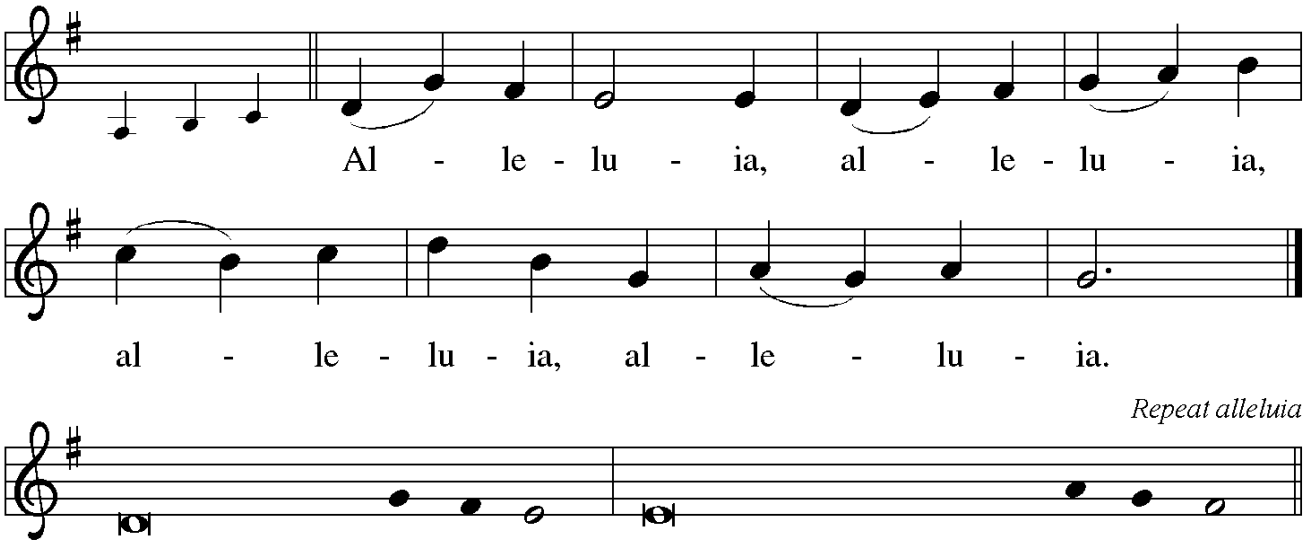
R A reading from Romans.

R The Word of the Lord. Or, Word of God, word of life.

A Thanks be to God!

The Assembly stands to greet the Good News of Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation S102



In Christ God was reconciling the world | to himself,* entrusting the message of reconcilia- | tion to us.

Gospel *p.799 in the pew Bible* **Matthew 18:15-20**

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

A Glory to you, O Lord!

The Gospel is read.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

A Praise to you, O Christ!

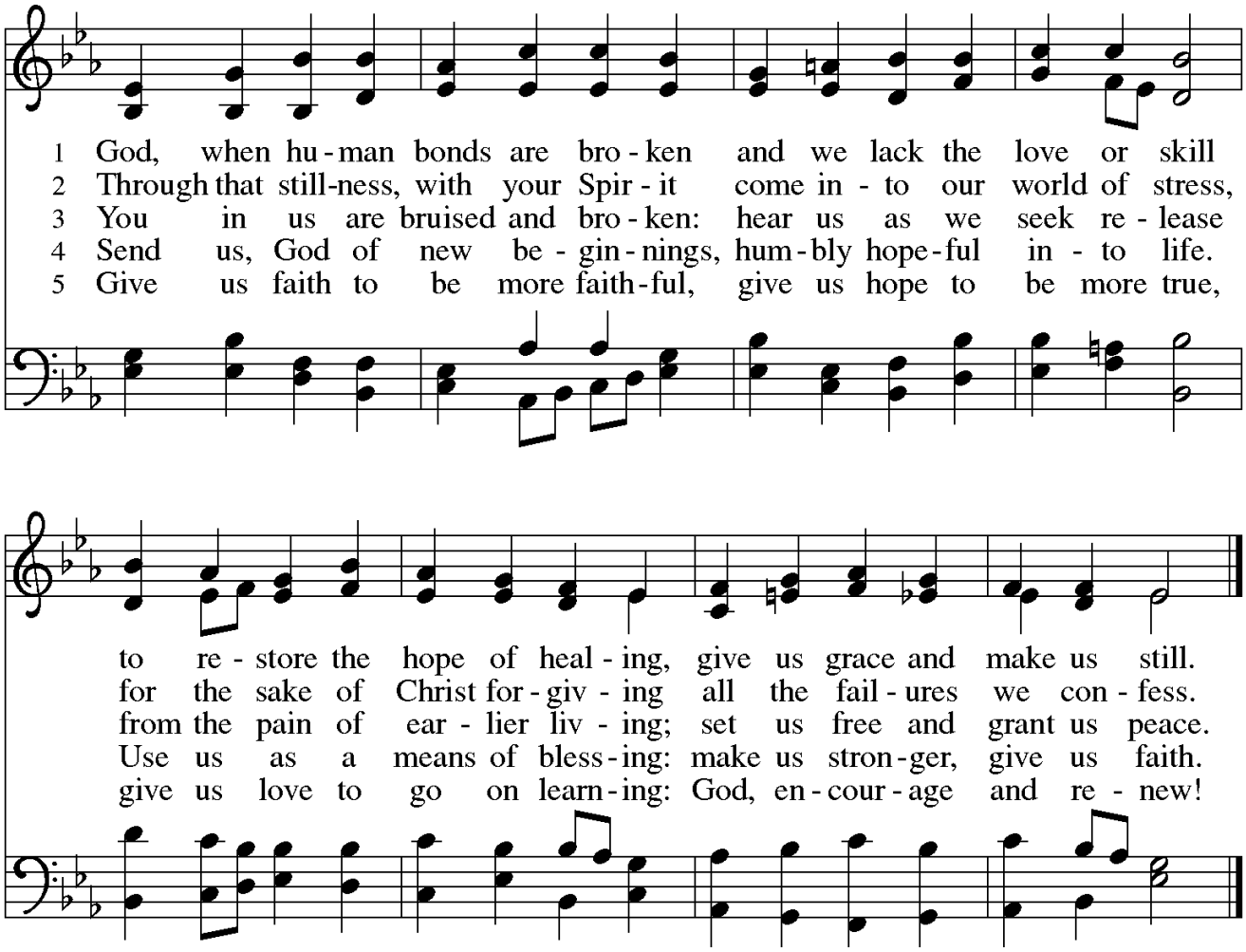
The Gospel Acclamation Alleluia is sung once again.
The Assembly is then seated.

Sermon

Time of Silence

A bell will sound to signal a time of silence for reflection.
During this time, you may want to meditate on one word from the scriptures
that stands out to you, asking the Spirit to show you how it applies to your own life.
When the bell sounds a second time, the Assembly stands to respond to the Word with song.

Hymn of the Day "God, When Human Bonds Are Broken" (MERTON) **ELW 603**



The Apostle's Creed

L With the whole Church, let us profess our faith.

A 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 the People

L Reminded of God's gracious and abundant love, we offer our prayers, confident that God hears us.

(brief pause)

L Proclaiming God, empower your church throughout the world to announce the words you give us. Open us to receive your word in unexpected ways. Hear us, O God.

A Your mercy is great.

L Loving God, your love fills us as we endeavor to love and support our communities. We pray for our bishops Yehiel, and Erik, our pastor Mark, our president Kit, our council, and our justice ministries. Hear us, O God.

A Your mercy is great.

L Forming God, renew the cycles of your creation that provide for the needs of all. Protect grasslands, marshes, swamps, and all places of transition. Heal communities crying out after disaster. Hear us, O God.

A Your mercy is great.

L Governing God, turn all who create, enforce, or interpret legislation away from selfish gain and toward your promise of good for all, especially the good of all who labor. Hear us, O God.

A Your mercy is great.

L Attending God, wake us up to any around us who are in need. Restore broken relationships, failing health, frayed emotions, and the hurts we carry with us. We pray especially for Maren Baylaender, Rebecca Bernstein, Serena Bernstein, Dori Jacobson-Wenzel, Jim Jung, Jim Krokar, Nancy Lang, Shirley Patrick, Beth Rohrer, Ionie Smith, Laurie Stivers, Steve Warner, Marina Yarnoff, and those we name now aloud or in the silence of our hearts… Hear us, O God.

A Your mercy is great.

L Gathering God, resolve conflicts in this community through your righteousness and grace. Reconcile us to each other, making your good news known even through our imperfections. Hear us, O God.

A Your mercy is great.

L And now, sisters and brothers, for what else shall we pray?

The petitions and thanksgivings of the Assembly, silent or spoken aloud, are invited.

L Hear us, O God,

A Your mercy is great.

L Loving God, all who die in faith have life with you. We give you thanks for the nearness of your salvation for Peter Claver all who have gone before us. Hear us, O God.

A Your mercy is great.

P Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask, and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

A Amen.

Peace

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

A **And also with you.**

Greet one another in the peace of Christ, saying "Peace be with you," "The peace of the Lord," or similar words.

The Assembly is seated.

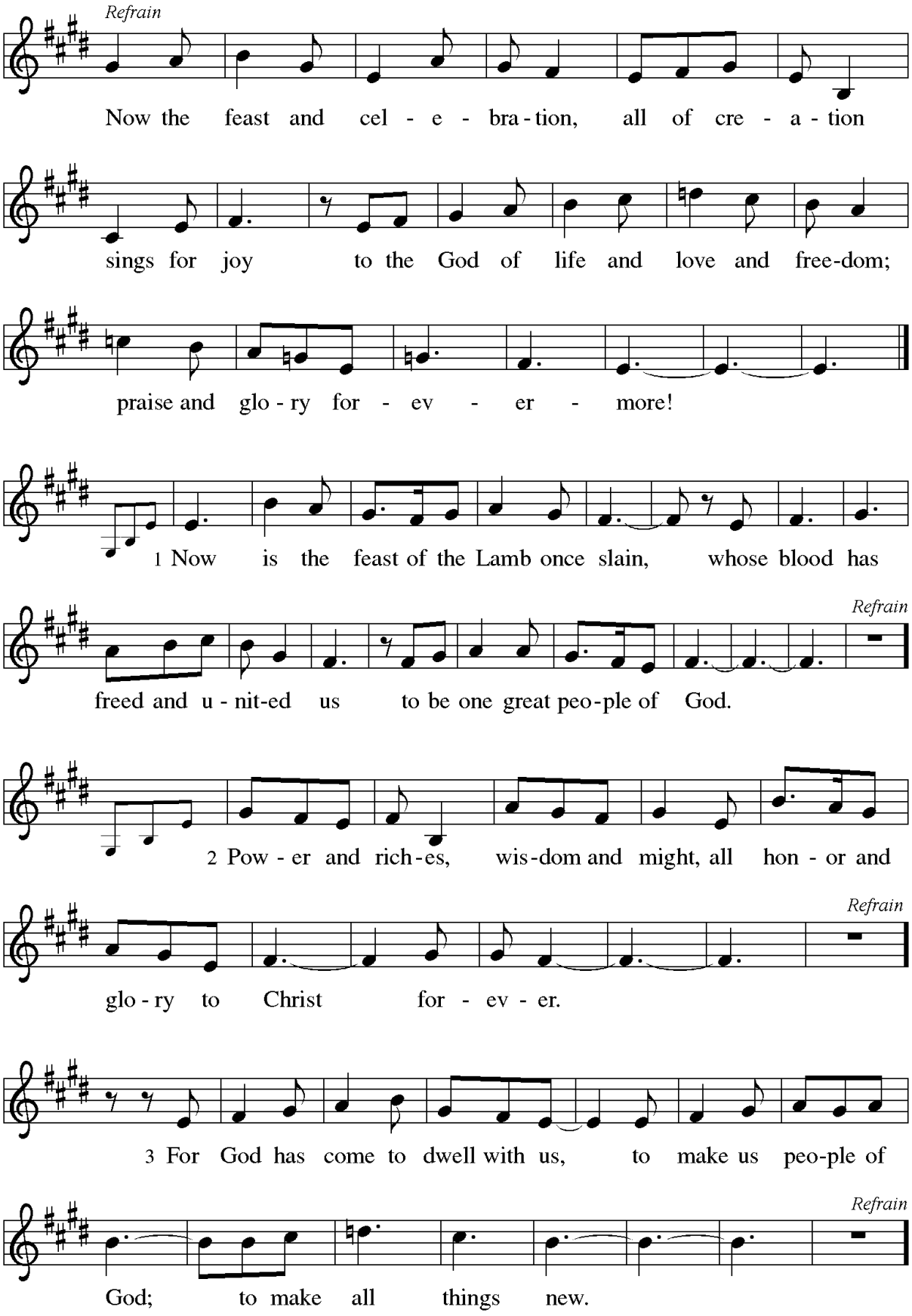
Meal: *God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ …*

Offering

An offering for doing God's mission, including the care of those in need.
Hold your smartphone camera up to this QR code and click on the link that appears on your screen to go to our website and make your financial offering online.

Offering Music "Be Thou My Vision" (Traditional Irish Melody) arr. by Brent Edstrom

Presentation of the Gifts "Now the Feast and Celebration" **ELW 167**



The Assembly stands and sings as the gifts are brought forward.

Offering Prayer

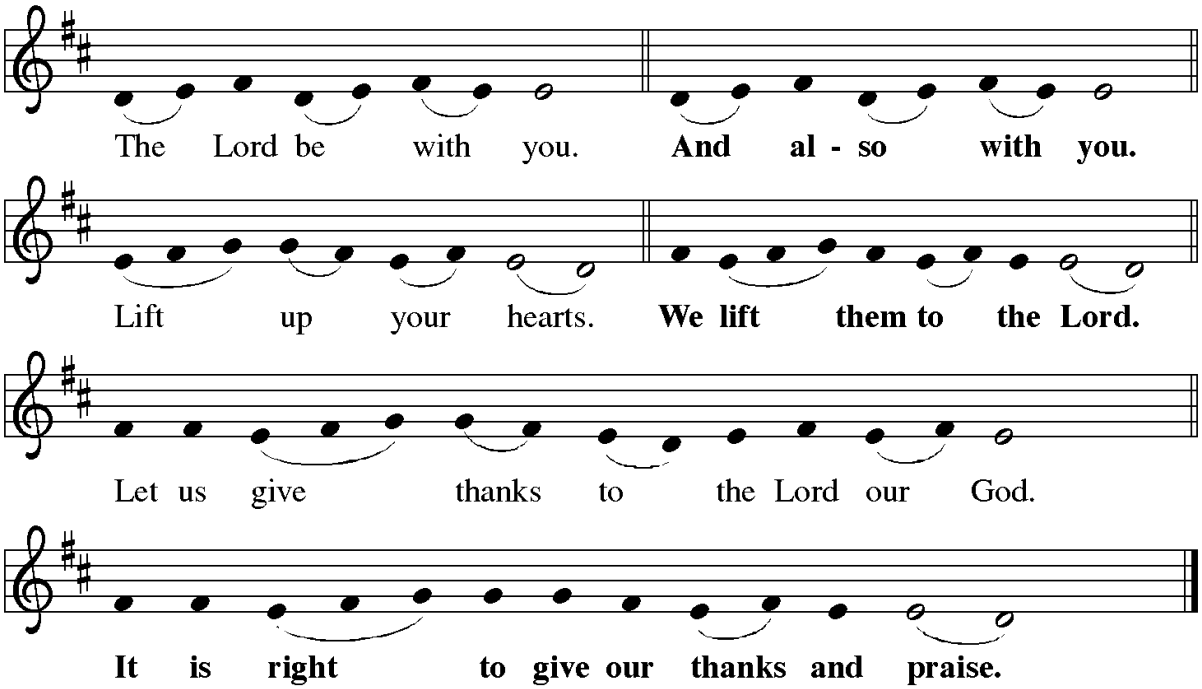
L Let us pray.

L 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.

A Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

Dialogue S107

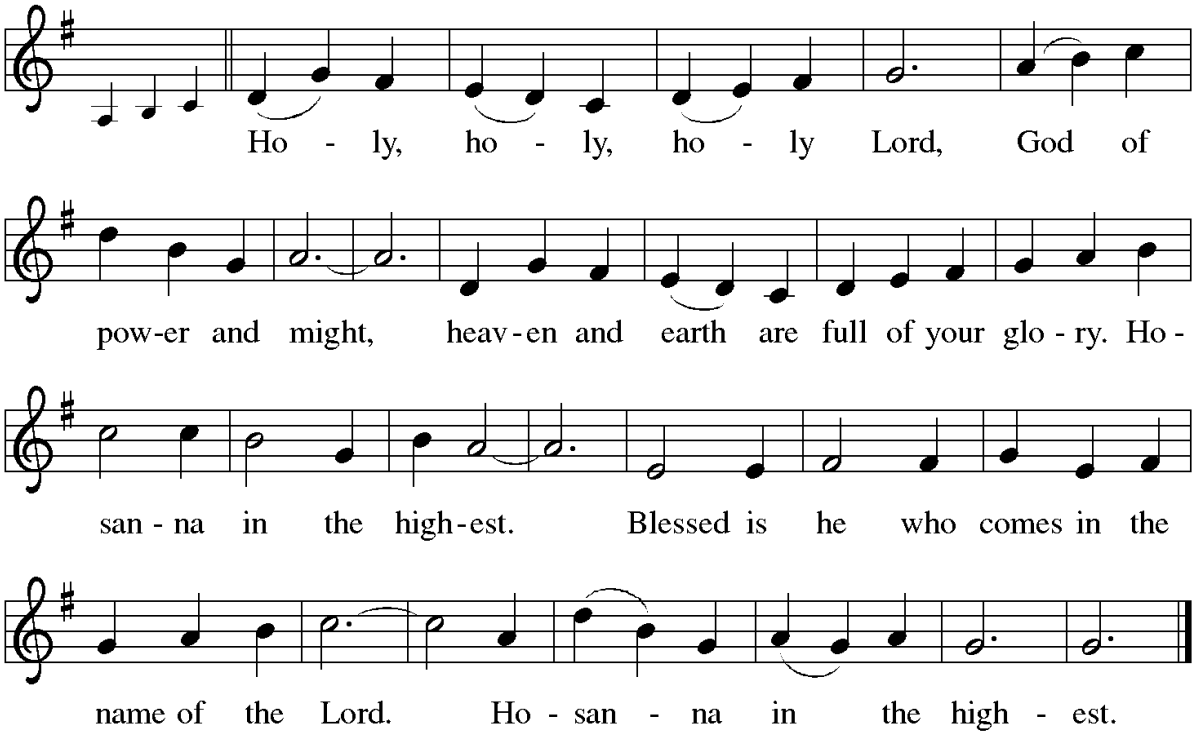


Preface *The Presiding Minister begins the prayer:*

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;
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 all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy *The Assembly joins in singing:*

S108



Thanksgiving at the Table

P Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth.
From age to age your creation sings your praises.
You feed even the birds of the air,
and you clothe the fields with lilies.
You gave your blessing to Abraham and his descendants,
and you spoke with Moses, Elijah, and David.
Blessed are you, Lord our God:

A **Blessed are you, Lord our God**.

You fulfilled your covenant with us in Jesus.
He is Emmanuel, your beloved Son,
the star that guides us to wisdom,
the treasure hidden in a field.
He is the landowner who overpays the workers,
the judge who separates good from evil.
Blessed are you, Lord our God:

A **Blessed are you, Lord our God.**

For us he lived, for us he died, for us he rose to eternal life.
Then and now he invites us to your banquet.
On the night in which he was betrayed, he 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.

We hear his call, we repent our ways,
and we enter with joy into the kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are you, Lord our God:

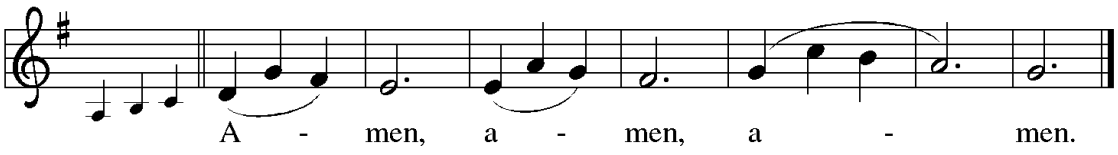
A **Blessed are you, Lord our God.**

Send your Holy Spirit here on your gathered disciples.
Make of this meal the body and blood of forgiveness.
Heal us and grant us your righteousness,
that we may love you and serve our neighbors.
Blessed are you, Lord our God:

A **Blessed are you, Lord our God.**

Blessed are you, Lord our God,
our Father in heaven,
the Rock on which we build,
the Dove alighting on us all.
We worship you and sing our praises,
today and to the end of the age.

A

A 

The Lord's Prayer

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

A **Our Loving God in heaven, Father and Mother of us all,**
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.

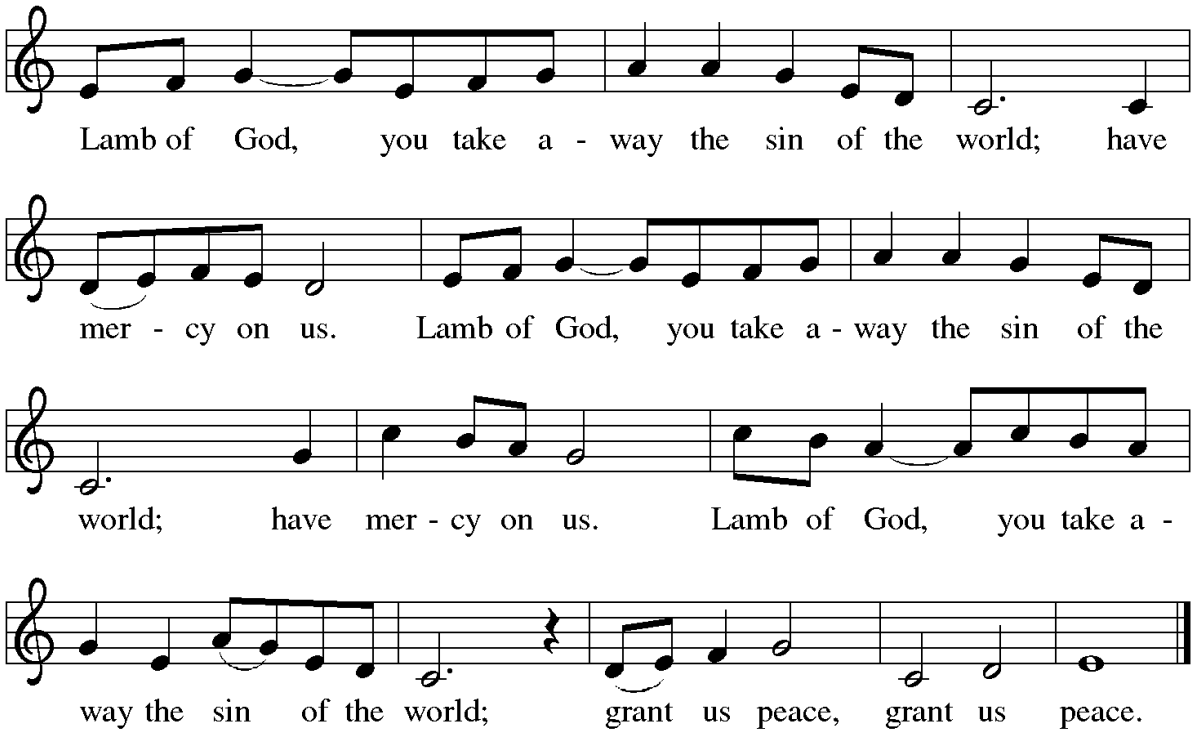
The Breaking of the Bread and Invitation

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

A **We come to be filled with new life.**

The Assembly is seated.

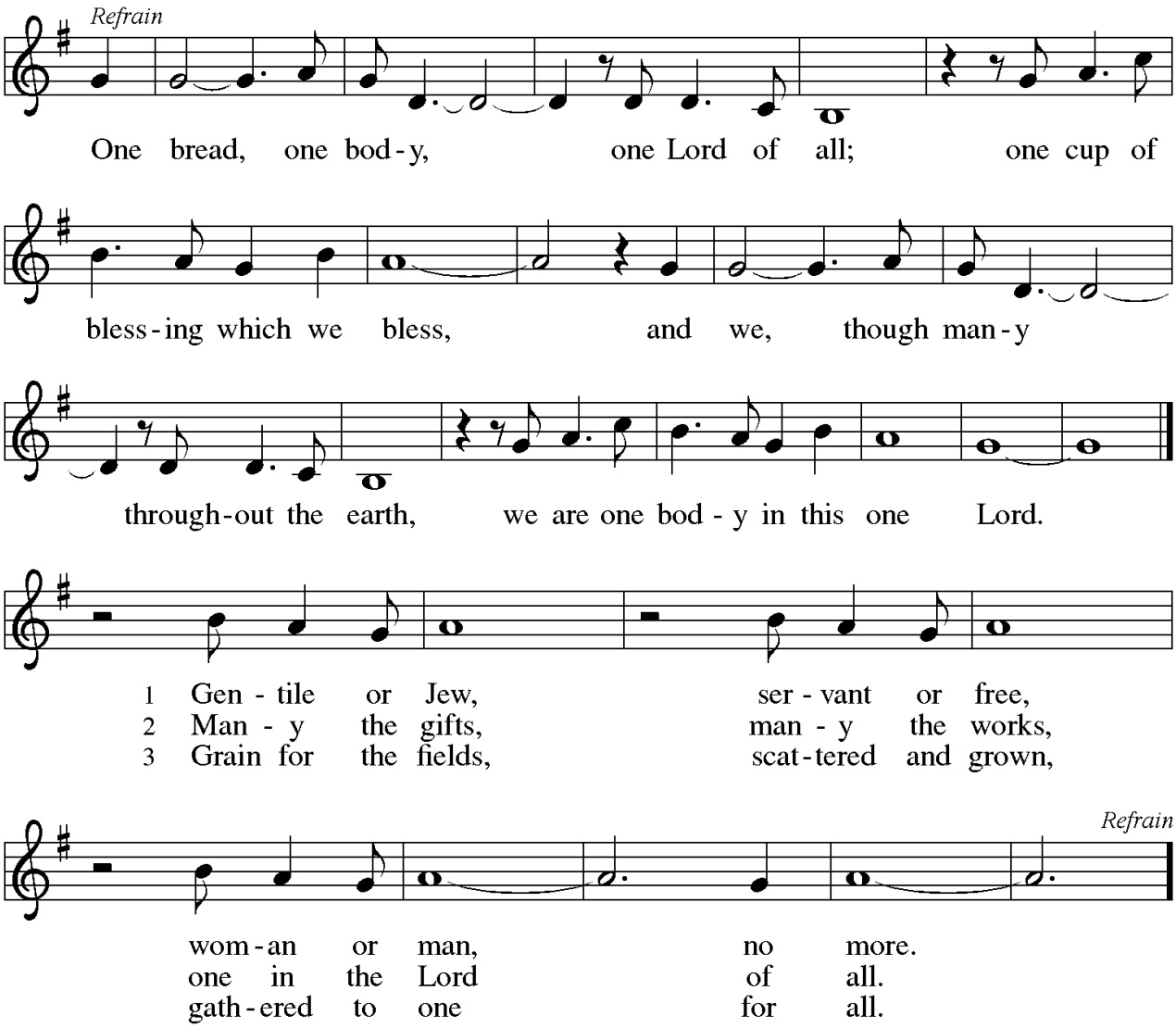
Communion Song Lamb of God S112



Distribution of Holy Communion

Those who wish, please come forward as the ushers direct, to assemble around the rail to receive communion. You may stand or kneel. You will receive the bread from the Pastor and wine or grape juice from the Assisting Minister. The glasses will be pre-poured, with the grape juice in the inner circle and wine in the outer circle. Each person will take their own glass from the tray. Empty glasses will be collected by the Acolyte. This will be a continuous communion. (If you need communion brought to you, please tell the ushers.)

Communion Hymn "One Bread, One Body" (ONE BREAD, ONE BOYD) **ELW 496**



The Assembly stands as directed.

Blessing after Communion

P May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

A Amen.

Prayer after Communion

L Let us pray...
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.

A Amen.

Sending: *God blesses us, and sends us in mission to the world …*

Blessing

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

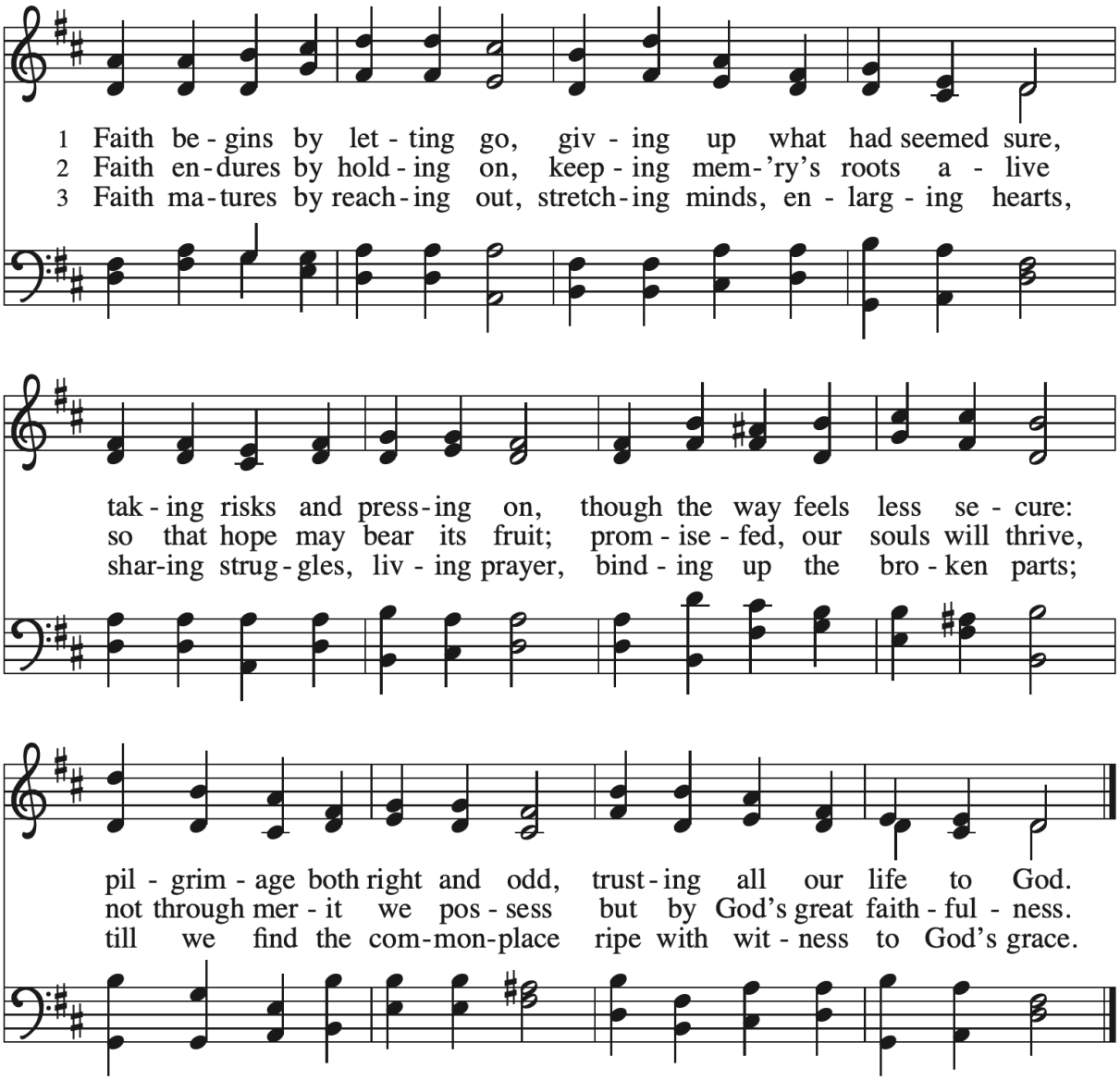
A **Amen.**

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

A **Amen.**

P The God of grace
✢ bless you now and forever.
Amen.

Sending Song "Faith Begins By Letting Go" (RATISBON) **ACS 1004**



Dismissal

L Go in peace. Be led forth in peace.

A Thanks be to God.

Postlude "Caprice sur le grands jeux" by Louis-Nicholas Clerambault

Come enjoy one another's company and learn what's happening in and throughout Immanuel congregation!!
Please stay for refreshments and announcements immediately following the service in Fellowship Hall.
Coffee Hour hosted by Pr. Mark & Susan Sloss.

To join coffee hour via Zoom on a smartphone,
scan with your camera to get the link.

Serving in worship today...

Presiding Minister ..... The Rev. Mark Sloss
Assisting Minister ..... Elora Kloster
Lector ..... Greg Hummel
Acolyte ..... Chris Djuric
Organist ..... Patricia Radosavljevic
Music Director ..... James Morehead
Table Preparation ..... Kit McCarthy
Zoom Host ..... Bert Mount
Audio-Visual Technician ..... Kevin McDaniel
Ushers ..... Nicolai Schousboe

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Upcoming Events – for details see the weekly e-blast, *Immanuel Newsfeeds,* or the website Calendar at www.immanuelevanston.org. Worship services can be attended either in person or online.

Monday, Sep. 7	Labor Day (Church office closed)	
Tuesday, Sep. 8	Tai-chi	10:30 am
	Midweek Gathering on Zoom	2:00 pm
Wednesday, Sep. 9	Building Use Committee Meeting	10:30 am
	FA Meeting	6:15 pm
	Choir Practice	7:30 pm
Thursday, Sep. 10	Wilmette Band Rehearsal	7:30 pm
Friday, Fri. Sep. 11	Tai-chi	10:30 am
Sunday, Sep. 13-GOD'S WORK OUR HANDS SUNDAY	Feeding Our Faith	9:00 am
	Sunday School	9:30 am
	Sunday Hybrid Worship	10:30 am
	God's Work Our Hands Luncheon & Service Projects	After worship service
	New Community Church	1:00 pm

This week's commemorations...

Peter Claver, priest, missionary to Colombia, died 1654
Wednesday, September 9, 2026
Born into Spanish nobility, Claver became a Jesuit missionary and served in present-day Colombia. His ministry was focused on the enslaved people who arrived there. He gave them food and medicine, learned their dialects, and taught them Christianity.
From sundaysandseasons.com.

Immanuel's Staff and Leadership

The Rev. Mark Sloss ..... Pastor
Kit McCarthy ..... Congregation President
Michael Kloster ..... Congregation Vice President
Jim Miller ..... Congregation Secretary
Susan Ross ..... Congregation Treasurer
Greg Hummel, Jerry Larson, Laura McDaniel, Jared Peck, Terri Simchak ..... Congregation Council Members
Laurie Stivers ..... Financial Secretary
James Morehead ..... Music Director
Greg Hummel ..... Organist Emeritus
Laurie Stivers ..... Associate Organist
Jane Kaihatsu ..... Parish Administrator

Immanuel Lutheran Church is a Reconciling in Christ congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), Metropolitan Chicago Synod. We've been worshiping God and serving the Evanston community since 1888!