

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELLS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting.

C Amen.

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

God-with-us,

C we confess that we have turned away those seeking shelter, claiming there is no room when we have plenty. We have made power and wealth our idols, while you show us true glory: a baby in a manger. Too often, we have valued violence instead of your peace. Turn us from our ways to your ways. Grant us the grace to begin again. Free us from all that keeps us bound, and forgive our sin, through Jesus Christ, who gives himself for us.

C Amen.

GREETING

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



A Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **C** Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:



A Chri - ste e - le - i - son: **C** Christ, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy:



A Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **C** Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:

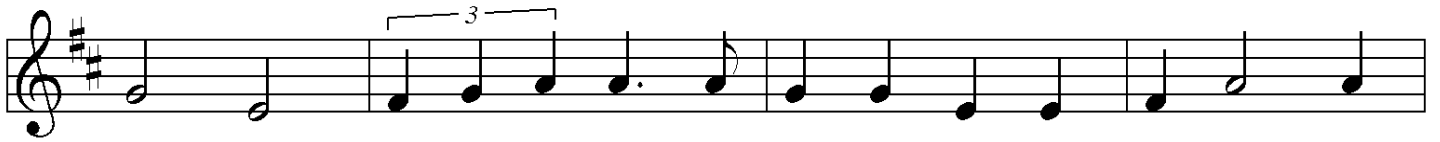
HYMN OF PRAISE *(four measures introduction)*



C Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



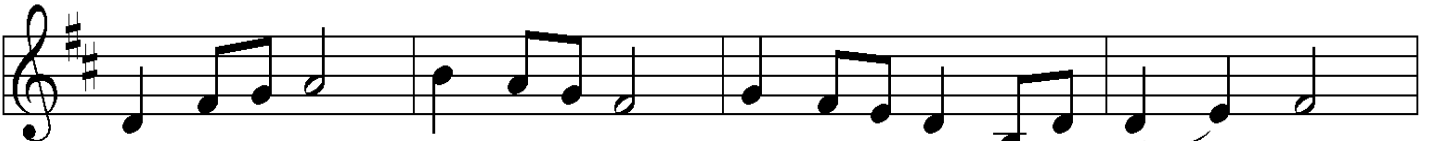
glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



I 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.



C Glo- ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



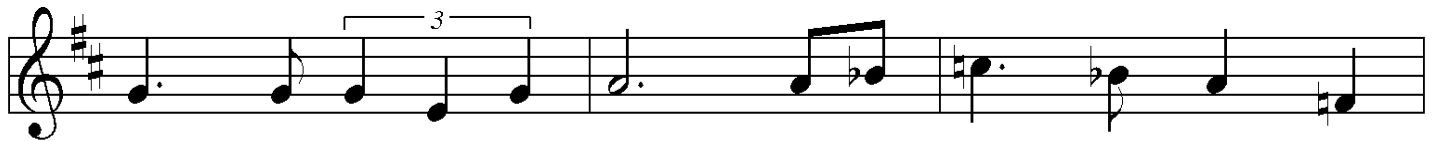
glo- ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo- ple on earth.



II 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.



☐ Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;



glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



I For you a-lone are the Ho - ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,
II



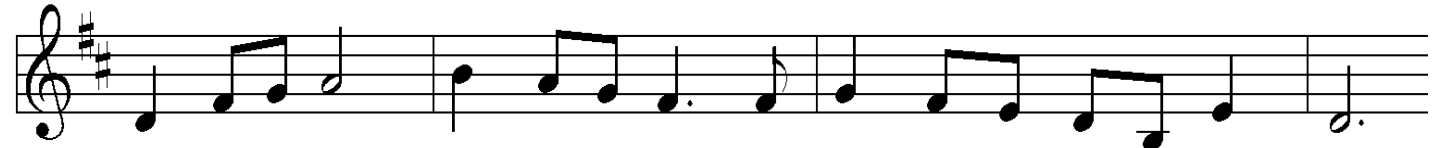
you a-lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly



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



☐ Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;



glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth,



and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:7-14

⁷ Thus says the LORD: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O LORD, your people, the remnant of Israel." ⁸ See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. ⁹ With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn. ¹⁰ Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather

him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock.” ¹¹ For the LORD has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. ¹² They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. ¹³ Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. ¹⁴ I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the LORD.

The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 147:12-20

(Refrain: Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem; praise your God, O Zion.)

¹² Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem; praise your God, O Zion,

C ¹³ who has strengthened the bars of your gates and has blessed your children within you.

¹⁴ God has established peace on your borders and satisfies you with the finest wheat.

C ¹⁵ God sends out a command to the earth, a word that runs very swiftly. *(Refrain)*

¹⁶ God gives snow like wool, scattering frost like ashes.

C ¹⁷ God scatters hail like bread crumbs. Who can stand against God's cold?

¹⁸ The LORD sends forth the word and melts them; the wind blows, and the waters flow.

C ¹⁹ God declares the word to Jacob, statutes and judgments to Israel.

²⁰ The LORD has not done so to any other nation; they do not know God's judgments.

Hallelujah! *(Refrain)*

(Refrain: Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem; praise your God, O Zion.)

SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:3-14

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴ just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵ He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷ In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸ that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight ⁹ he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰ as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹ In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹² so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³ In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your

salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴ this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
Al - le - lu - ia. You have the words of e - ter - nal life.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The image shows three staves of musical notation in G major, 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a common time signature 'C' and contains the lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?'. The second staff contains the lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia. You have the words of e - ter - nal life.'. The third staff contains the lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.'. The music consists of a single melodic line with various note values and rests.

GOSPEL: John 1:[1-9] 10-18

C Glory to you, O Lord.

[¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things came into being

through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴ in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. ⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸ He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹ The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.] ¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹² But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵ (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") ¹⁶ From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷ The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ No one has ever seen

God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON *Pastor Timothy Holt*

HYMN OF THE DAY *"Ding Dong Merrily on High"*

Ding Dong! Merrily on High in heav'n the bells are ringing
Ding Dong! angel voices nigh, we hear them sweetly singing
Gloria, hosanna in excelsis. Gloria, hosanna in excelsis.

Also now on earth below, the steeple bells are ringing
And our hearts so gladly glow, as young and old are singing
Gloria, hosanna in excelsis. Gloria, hosanna in excelsis.

As we beautifully chime, set morning bells to ringing
Let us make a merry time, as evening choirs are singing
Gloria, hosanna in excelsis. Gloria, hosanna in excelsis.

INSTALLATION OF CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit gives them. There are different ways of serving, but the same Lord is served. There are different abilities to perform service, but the same God gives to everyone ability for particular service. The Spirit's presence is shown in some way in each person, for the good of all. *(1 Corinthians 12:4-7)* You have been elected to positions of leadership and trust in this congregation.

You are to see that the words and deeds of this household of faith reflect him in whose name we gather.

You are to work together with other members to see that the worship and work of Christ are done in this congregation, that our constitution is upheld, and that God's will is done in this community and in the whole world.

You are to be diligent in your specific area of serving, that the one Lord who empowers you is glorified. You are to be examples of faith active in love, to help maintain the life and harmony of this congregation.

On behalf of your sisters and brothers in Christ, I ask you: Are you ready to accept and faithfully to carry out the duties of the offices to which you have been elected?

COUNCIL REPLIES: Yes, by the help of God.

Terry Seitz, President

Keith Keller, Vice-President

Jeff Schmitt, Treasurer

Mike Weisheit, Treasurer-designee

Doug Wiseman, Financial Secretary

Debbie Bauer, Financial Secretary designee

Jen Begle, Secretary

Barb Schnarr

Shirley Stallwood

Brandie Beck

People of God, I ask you: Will you support these, your elected leaders, and will you share in the mutual ministry that Christ has given to all who are baptized?

COUNCIL REPLIES: Yes, by the help of God.

I now declare you installed as council members of this congregation. God bless you with his Holy Spirit, that you may prove faithful servants of Christ.

COUNCIL REPLIES: Amen

APOSTLE'S CREED

C I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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

Filled with good news of great joy, let us offer our prayers for the church, the earth, and all people.

O God, you reveal yourself in this assembly. In water, wine, and bread, show us again and again your grace

upon grace, that your church boldly testifies to your love. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

You reveal yourself in every human being. Help us recognize your image in our siblings in Christ who are in the strong grip of addiction, depression, anxiety, hopelessness, or other illness (*We pray especially for Mary Ann Jerger, Annetta Nigg, and all those we name before you either silently or aloud.*) Grant us compassion in our care for your people. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

We pray that you guide the military serving to protect us. Grant them safety and wisdom to carry out their assigned duties. (*We pray especially for Austin Breitwieser, Luke Himsel and Cooper Uebelhor, Devin Wilson.*) God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

You reveal yourself anew every day. In this new year, renew this congregation and its ministries in our witness to the good news of the incarnation. Transform the way we have always done things into your new future for us. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

You reveal yourself in the lives of your holy ones. We give you thanks for those who set their hope on you, trusting the inheritance we receive in you. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

We commend these prayers to you, O God, trusting your grace made known to all, through the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

OFFERING OF OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY

OFFERTORY RESPONSE



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right



spir-it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take



not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re-store to me the joy of



your sal - va - tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir - it.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

C Blessed are you, Holy One, for all good things come from you. In bread and cup you open heaven to us. Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek and follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMMUNION

All who are baptized are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Children who have not yet received instruction about Holy Communion are invited to come forward for a blessing. As you approach the communion assistant, the first will hand you the bread. Take and eat it. Then take a communion cup from the tray. After you have taken the wine, place your empty cup in the tray table beside the pillar.

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

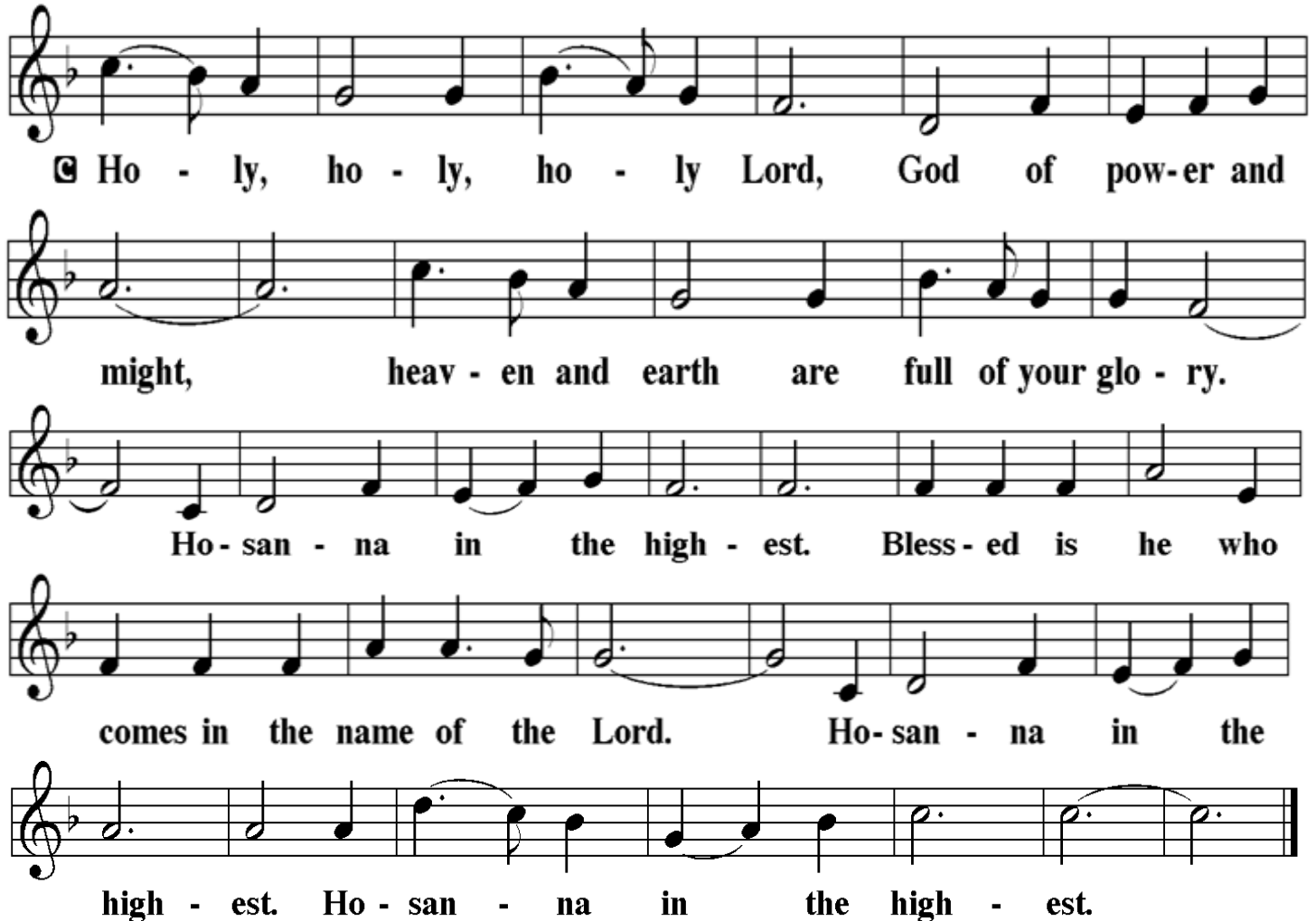
C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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. Sharing our life, he lived among us to reveal your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to his own

brilliant light. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS *(four measures introduction)*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

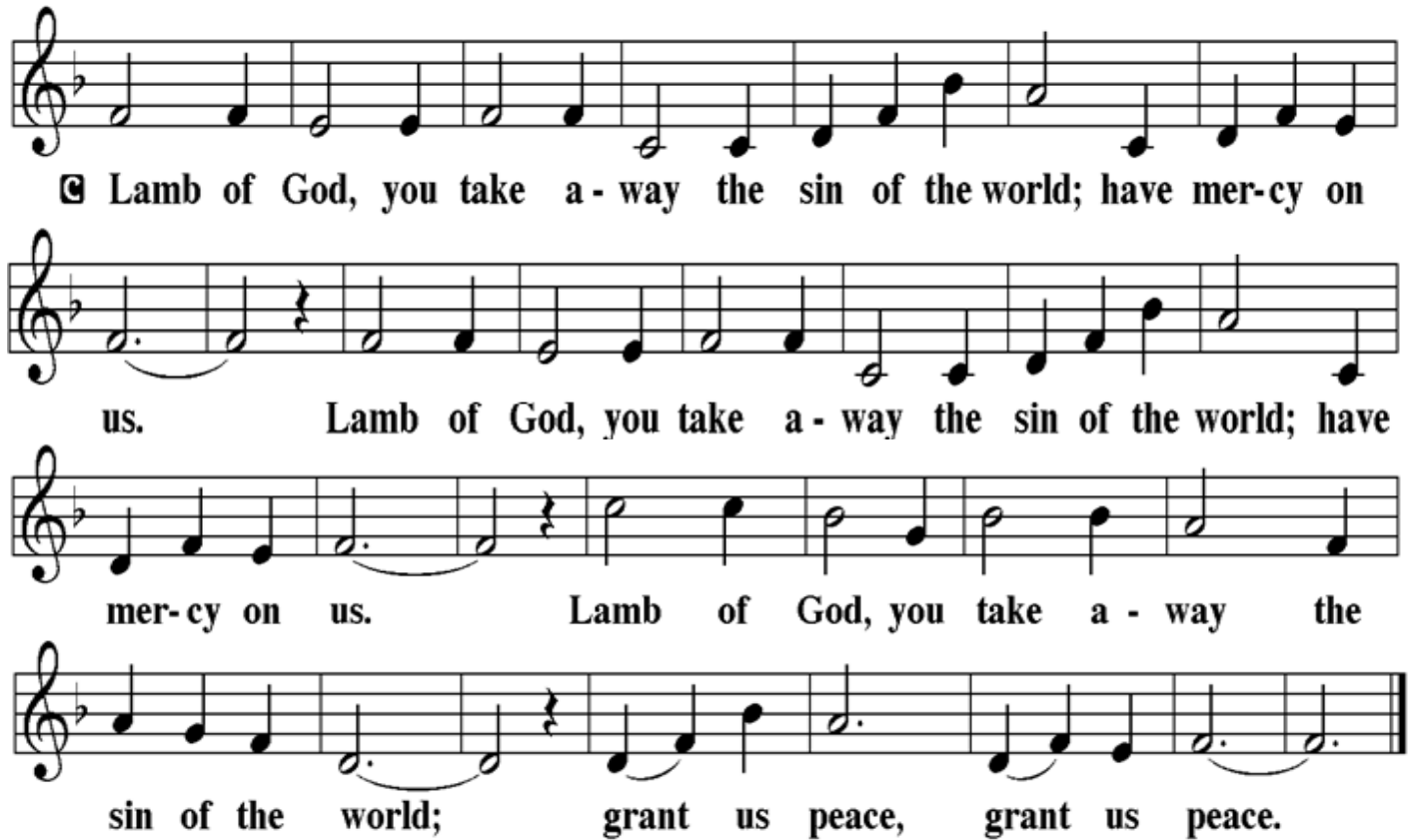
C Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you. **Amen.**

The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen.**

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.

COMMUNION HYMNS

“God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen”

God rest ye merry gentlemen, let nothing you dismay,
Remember, Christ our Savior was born on Christmas Day.
To save us all from Satan’s pow’r when we were gone astray
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy. O tidings of
comfort and joy.

From God our Heavenly Father, a blessed Angel came,
And unto certain shepherds brought tidings of the same
How that in Bethlehem was born the Song of God by name.

O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy. O tidings of comfort and joy.

“Fear not then” said the Angel “Let nothing you fright
This day is born a Savior a blessed holy sight
To free all those who trust in Him from Satan’s pow’r and
might”

O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy. O tidings of comfort and joy.

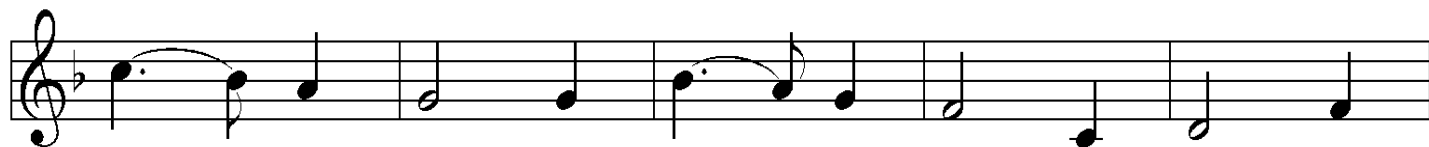
Now to the Lord sing praises, all you within this place.
And with true love and brotherhood each other now embrace.
This Holy Child of Christmas shall fill our hearts with grace.
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy. O tidings of comfort and joy.

WOV 642 “I Wonder as I Wander”

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen.

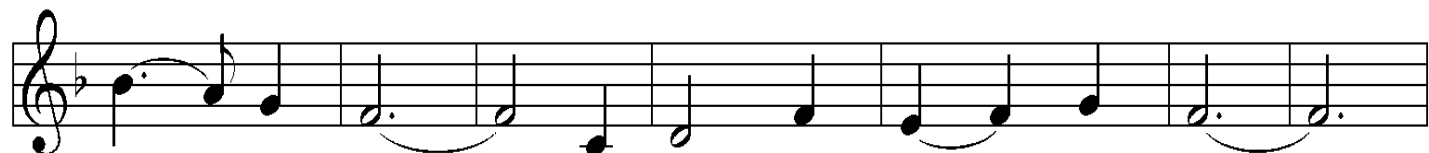
POST COMMUNION CANTICLE *(four measures introduction)*



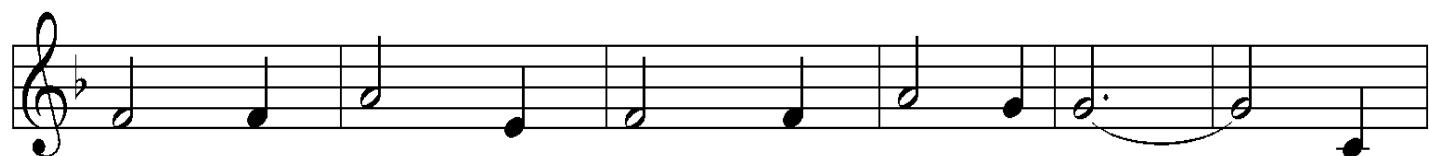
☞ Thank - ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev - 'ry -



one what God has done. Let all who seek the



Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.



Send us with your prom - is - es, O God, and



lead us forth in joy with shouts of thanks-



giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

C Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever. Amen

BLESSING

God who names you, Christ who claims you, and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you, ✠ bless you and remain with you always.

C Amen.

SENDING HYMN *LBW 55* *"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"*

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. You are God's beloved.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Mission Statement: *Worship Boldly, Empower for Discipleship,
Cultivate Spiritual Maturity, Strengthen Community, Serve.*

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THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE FOR YOUR SERVICE TODAY:

Greeters: Darlene Ziegler
Comm. Asst: Doug Wiseman
Video: Jeff Schmitt
Pianist: Kaia Holt
Lay Reader: Jeanne Hoffman
Audio: Bryan Buchta
Acolyte: Kole Kalb

ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY: 138 SS:

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF
Jan 5th – Jan. 12th, 2025

Sun. Jan.5 th	8:00 AM	Chancel Choir Practice
	9:00 AM	Sunday Worship Service <i>(installation of new council members)</i>
	10:00 AM	Take down Christmas decor
Tues Jan 7 th	4:00 PM	Blanket Tacking
	6:30 PM	WELCA Meeting
Wed. Jan. 8 th	6:30 PM	Confirmation
	6:30 PM	Handbell Practice
Sun. Jan. 12 th	8:00 AM	Chancel Choir Practice
	9:00 AM	Sunday Worship Service

ST. PAUL'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

St. Paul's Annual Meeting Part 2 will be held following worship on Sunday, January 26, 2025. All members are encouraged to attend for presentation of the 2024 Annual Report and discussion of old and new business.

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Seitz's Restaurant is now open on Sundays at 10:00 AM with breakfast and pizza buffet.

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Wreaths Across America

Wreaths will be removed from the graves at 12:30 PM on Saturday, January 4, 2025.

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WELCA News

Tuesday, January 7th is our first meeting for 2025. We will be doing Blanket Tacking beginning at 4:00 pm in the basement. Hope to see you there!

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2025 offering envelopes are available to pick-up. There is a table set-up in the welcome area. If you

cannot find a box with your name, please advise Marcie Rumfelt in the church office at (812)695-3061 or email at: secretaryst.paul@frontier.com. Please remember envelope numbers can change from year to year, so these should only be used starting in January 2025.

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In Service to Our Country

Austin Breitwieser
AM-1 Luke Himsel
Cooper Uebelhor
Devin Wilson

Redzikowo, Poland
Virginia Beach, VA
Colorado Springs, CO



2022
NEW
year
NEW
blessings
NEW
worship