The Last Sunday after Pentecost
November 22, 2026
St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
Longview, WA

We as people of faith who are called to care for this creation **want to respectfully acknowledge the Cowlitz and Chinook People**, who have stewarded this land throughout the generations. We begin this effort to acknowledge what has been buried by honoring the truth. We are standing on the ancestral lands of the Cowlitz and Chinook People. We pay respects to their elders past and present. Please take a moment to consider the many legacies of violence, displacement, migration, and settlement that bring us together here today. And please join us in uncovering such truths.

St. Stephen's is a reconciling, affirming, and inclusive Christian community striving through worship, love and service to welcome all people just as God created you. No matter where you are on your journey of faith, and whether you are single, married, divorced, separated, or partnered, our welcome knows no boundaries of age, race, ethnicity, culture, political affiliation, gender, sexual orientation, economic condition, physical or mental ability. **We believe that God delights in the diversity of creation and so do we!**

Connect with St. Stephen's!

Please leave your name and email/phone number and Fr. Nic will connect with you this week with an invitation to enjoy a cup of coffee on us!



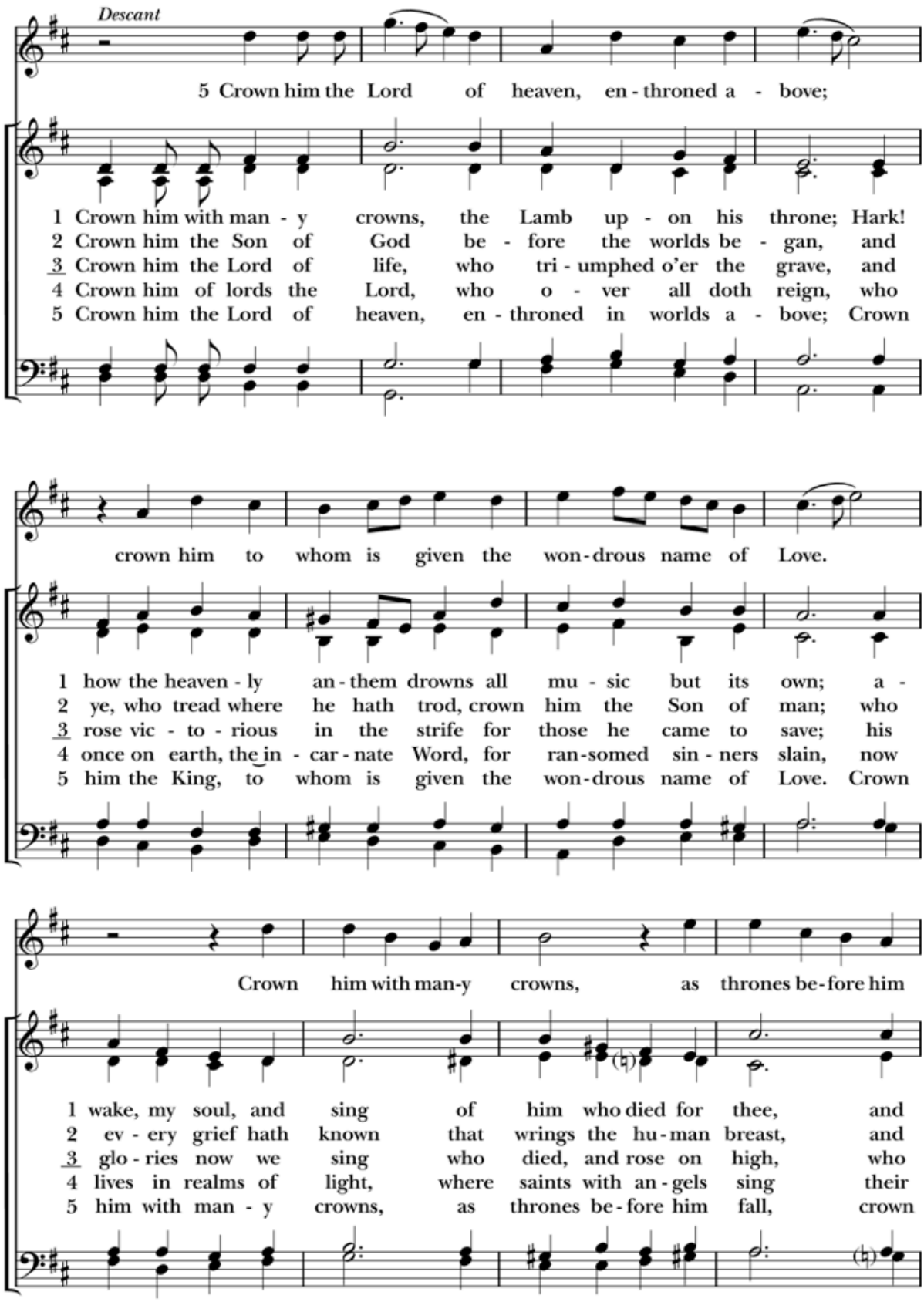
Your Name: _____

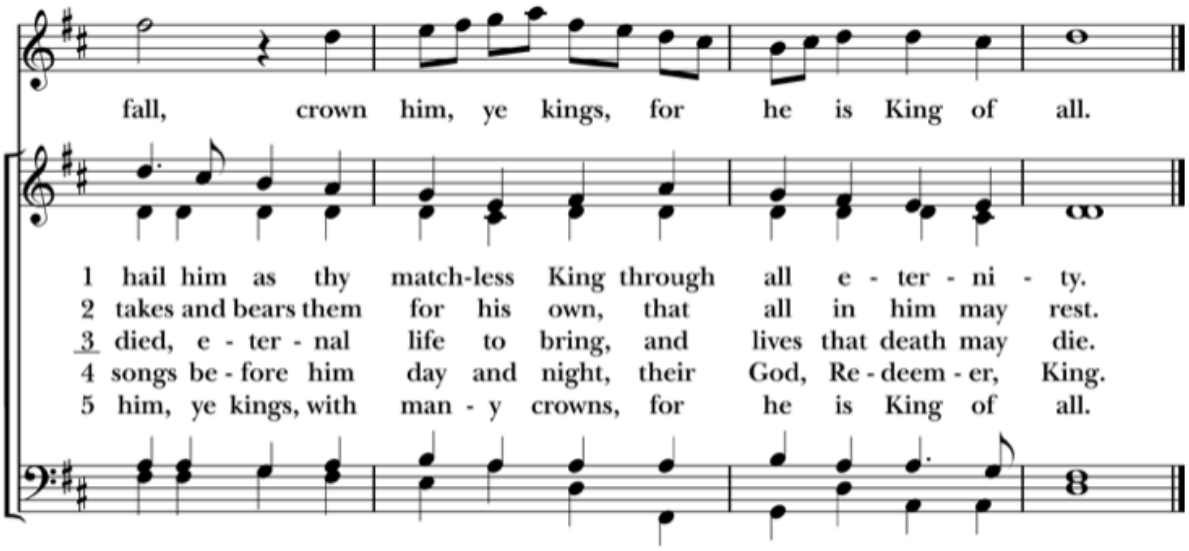
Your Phone Number: _____

Your Email:_____

Crown him with many crowns

The Hymnal 1982, **#494**





Words: Matthew Bridges (1800-1894). Music: *Diademata*, George Job Elvey (1816-1893); desc. Richard Proulx (b. 1937).
Descant, Copyright © 1970, Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission.

The Liturgy of the Word

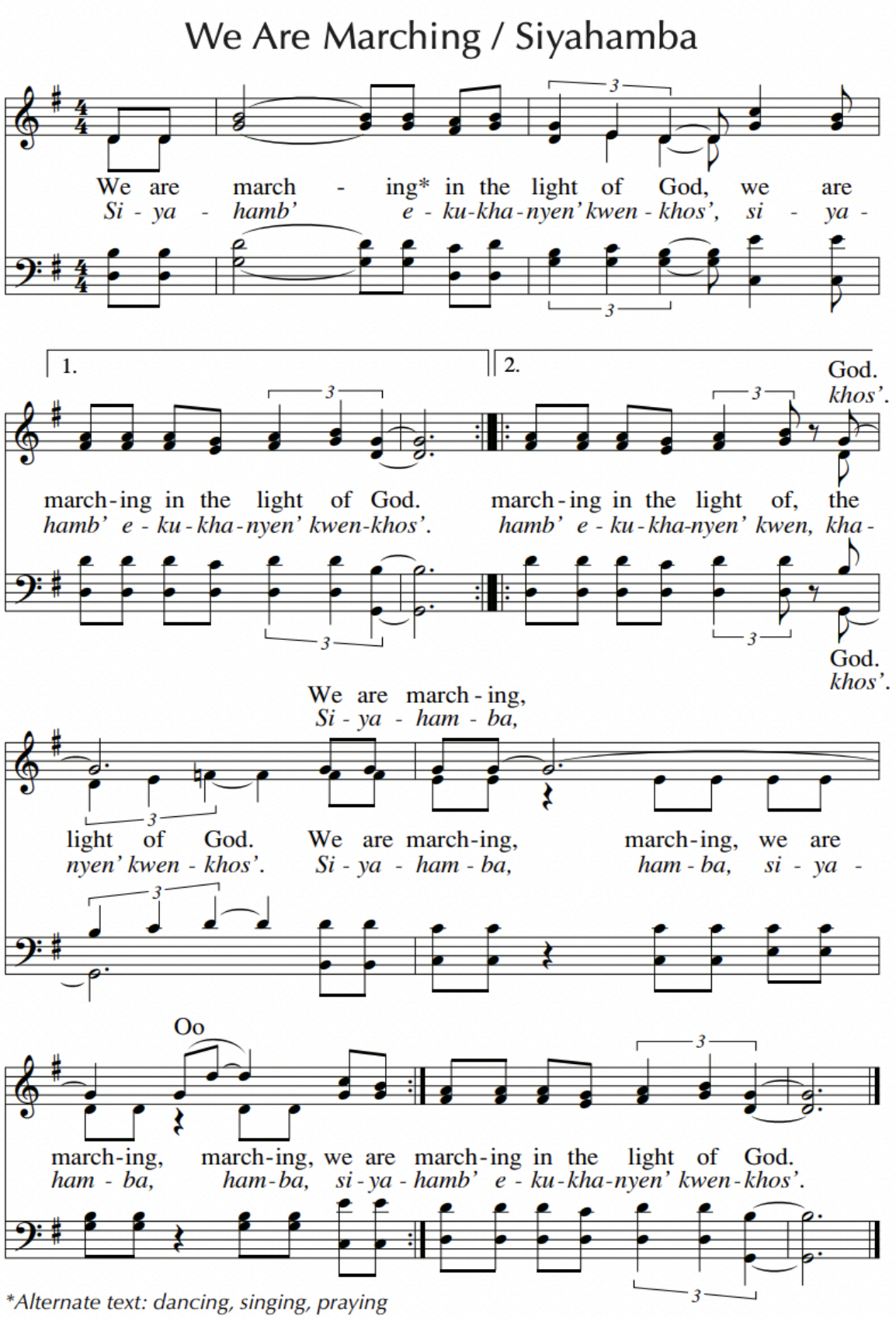
Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Song of Praise & Children's Procession

Children are invited to follow the procession of the cross from the Church to the Parish Hall for Sunday School. While the program is geared for children 10 & under, ALL children are welcome to attend. Parents are also welcome to attend. Children will return to the church in time for Eucharist (typically returning after the passing of the peace).

First time: "Marching", Second time: "Singing", Third time: "Praying"



Text: South African
Tune: South African
© 1984, Utryck, Walton Music Corporation, agent

The Collect of the Day

God be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Worship Leaders November 22, 2026

Presider	The Rev. Nic Mather
Preacher	Liz Kearny
Musician	Riki Davis
Acolyte	Miles Henricksen, Esther Henricksen
Altar Guild	Lisa Harrington, Becky Edmiston
Reader	Katherine Beauregard, Lauren Henricksen
Greeter	Wes & Lauren Henricksen
Chalice Bearer	Mary Hoover, Mary Lyons
Usher	John Brugman
Verger	Garry Beauregard
Vestry Presence	Greg Moore, Mike Claxton
Coffee Hour	D Wright

Please be seated for readings from Holy Scripture.

A Reading from **Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24**

Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 100

1 Be joyful in the LORD, all you lands; *
serve the LORD with gladness
and come before his presence with a song.

2 Know this: The LORD himself is God; *
he himself has made us, and we are his;
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

3 Enter his gates with thanksgiving;
go into his courts with praise; *
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.

4 For the LORD is good;
his mercy is everlasting; *
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

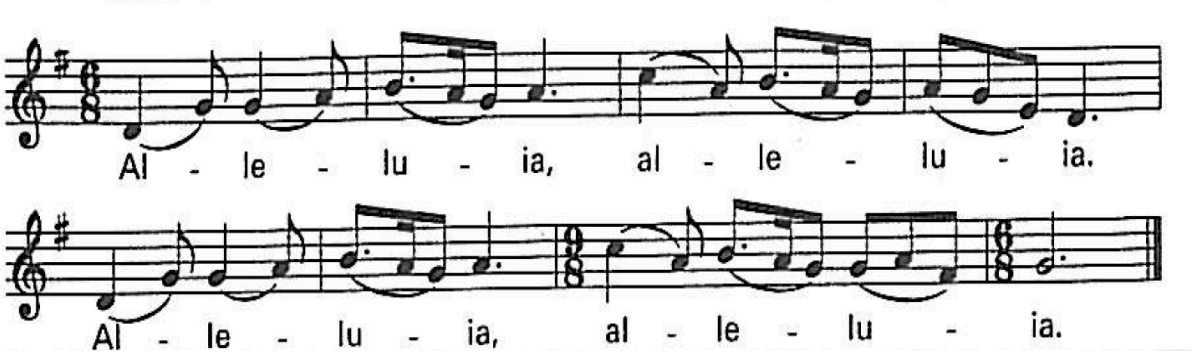
A Reading from **Ephesians 1:15-23**

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Processional (before reading) & Recessional (after reading)

You are invited to stand in body or spirit.



The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ According to **Matthew 25:31-46**
Glory to you, O Christ.

Jesus said, "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.' Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison

and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

The Gospel of our Savior. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Homily **Liz Kearny**

Nicene Creed *You are invited to stand in body or spirit*

We believe in one God,
the Father, the 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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.
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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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.

Prayers of the People

Celebrant: Lord Christ, we offer our selves to your service and love; hear these prayers offered now in your name as we say, Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Reader: The assembly of God's people, the Church, are your hands and feet in this world; grant us courage and wisdom as we seek to continue your mission in the world. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Endow our nation with your peace and embolden us to bring the light of your love to our neighbors, that we might dispel the darkness of fear and hatred. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Open our eyes, our hearts, and our hands to see and respond to the needs of our neighbors; and to respond with joy and energy so that your love is made manifest in their lives. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Grant us the spirits of wisdom, curiosity, and persistence, as we seek to weave sustainable practices in our lives; that we might better protect and preserve the bountiful abundance of your creation. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Deliver us from fear and anxiety, that we might be healers; bring to wholeness all that is broken, and grant peace and deliverance to all who suffer. Especially we pray for Ron & Harriet Byrnes, D. Rowley, Marge Ofstun, Holly Miller Spieth, Jesse Lucas, Tom & Bev Finlay, Greg Lapic, Glenna Van Allen, and those you now name either silently or aloud. *pause.* Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Welcome the dying into your arms, envelope the grieving with your strength, and lift the dread of death from our hearts by increasing our faith and securing our hope in your promises. Especially we pray for Barbara Moore and those you now name either silently or aloud. *pause.* Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Celebrant: Christ our kind and only Lord, we offer you ourselves; our very souls and bodies; that we might participate in the building of your kingdom in our lives and in the world; and we offer you our praise and glory; hosanna in the highest! In Jesus name. **Amen.**

Confession of Sins *Please kneel in body or spirit*
Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.

Absolution
Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen**.

The Peace *You are invited to stand in body or spirit.*
The peace of Christ be always with you. **And also with you.**

Virtual Offering Plate



Offertory Sentence

Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

Offertory Hymn

Bwana Awabariki
Traditional Swahili
Arr. Susan T. Nelson
Bell Choir

Eucharistic Prayer B

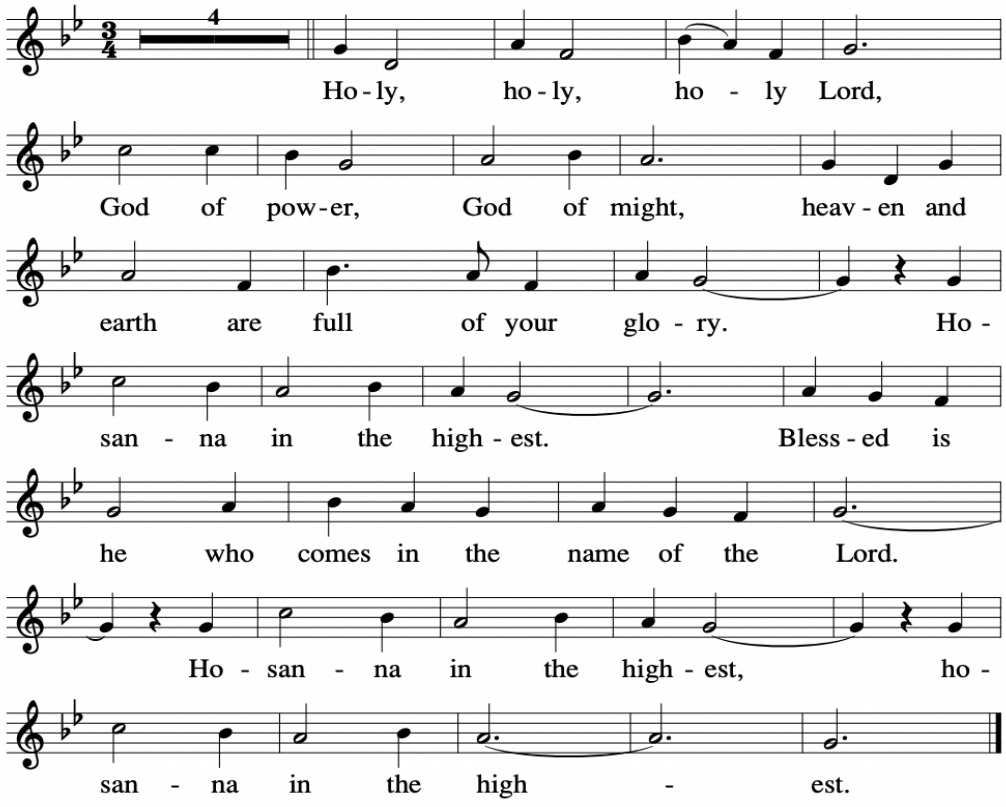
You are invited to stand in body or spirit.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth. For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS

The Sanctus acclamation is sung to conclude the introduction to the eucharistic prayer.



Music: *Mass of Creation,* Marty Haugen, © 1984, GIA Publications, Inc.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. For in these last days you sent Jesus to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In Christ, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Christ, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People
We remember Christ's death,
We proclaim Christ's resurrection,
We await Christ's coming in glory;

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Savior of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, through whom we are acceptable to you, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Stephen and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Savior, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. **AMEN**.

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

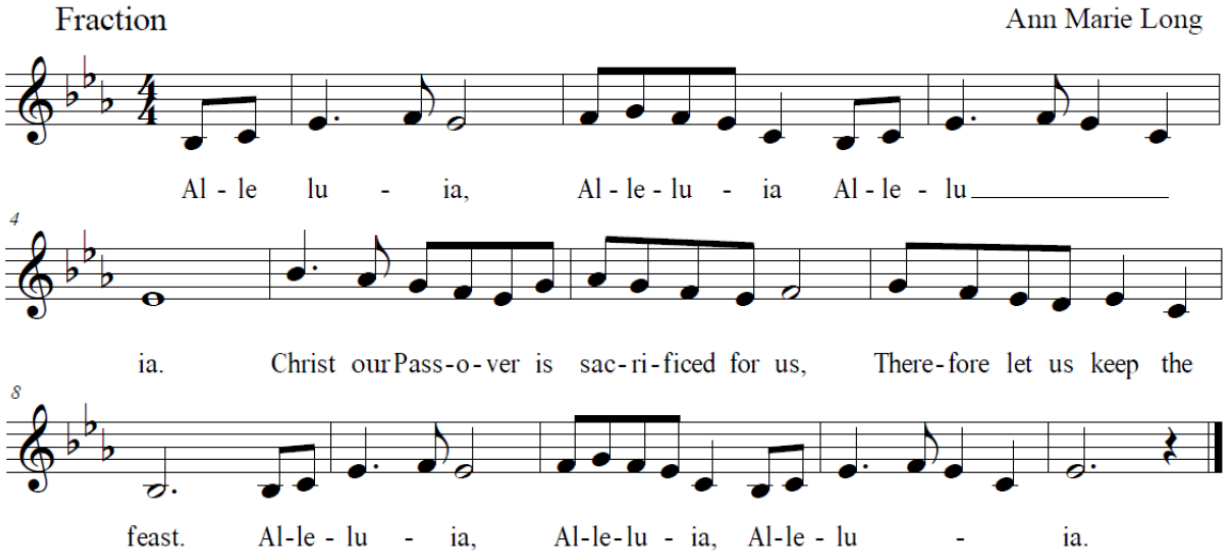
Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are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

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

Fraction

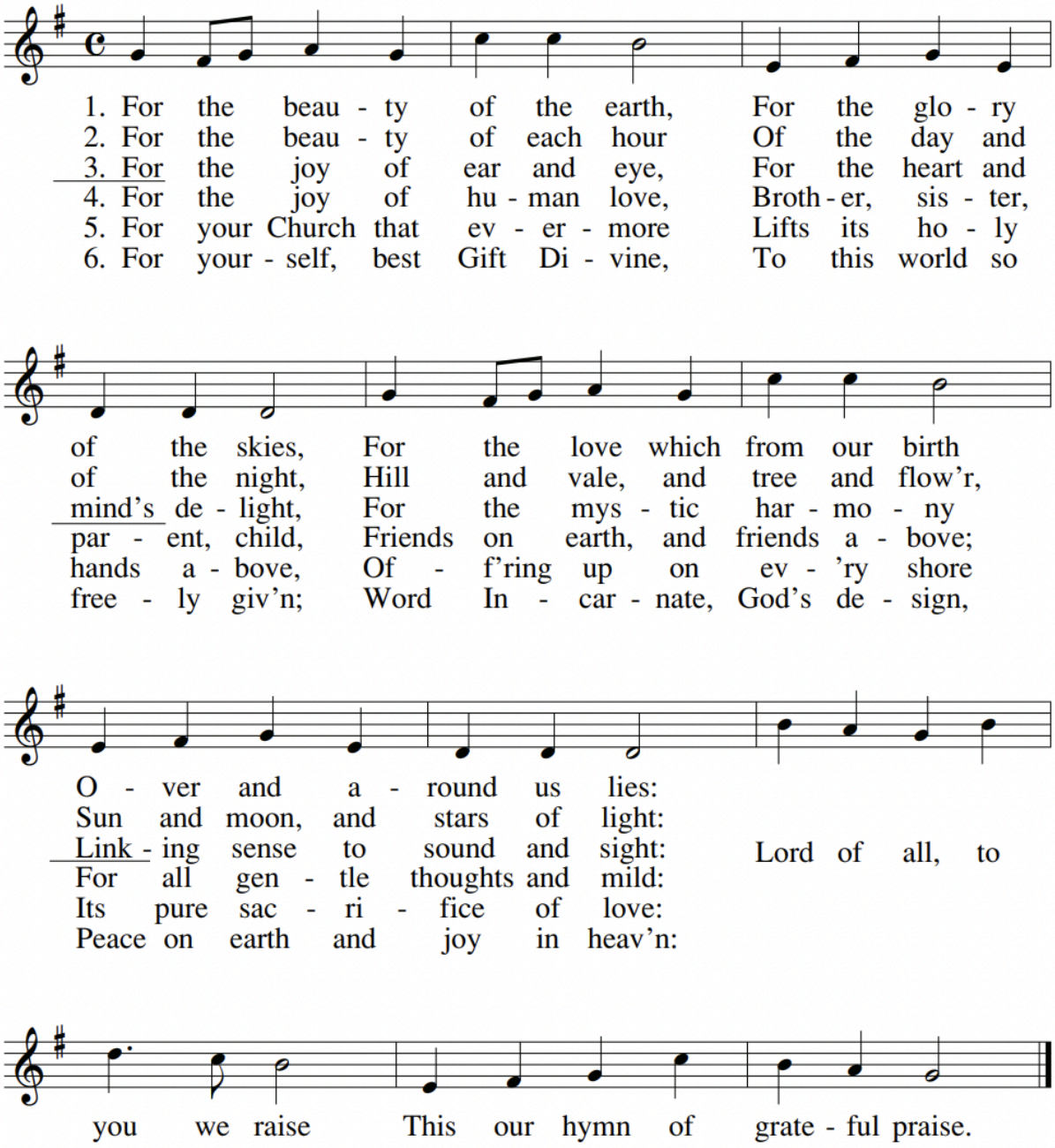


The Invitation to the Table

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

You are invited to come forward and receive Eucharist at this time. We will be sharing wine from a common chalice, so if you would prefer intinction please leave the bread in your hands and the chalice bearer will intinct for you. Gluten free communion is available and a non-alcoholic option in place of the wine is also available upon request. You may also place your arms across your chest to receive a blessing. ***Know that ALL who God calls to the table are welcome here this day.***

For the Beauty of the Earth



Text: Folliot S. Pierpont, 1835–1917, alt.
Tune: DIX, 7 7 7 7 77; arr. from Conrad Kocher, 1786–1872, by William H. Monk, 1823–1889

Prayer for Eucharistic Visitor
We offer a prayer from our community to those who are unable to join us as we send the sacrament to them carried by a minister of the church

As you go to the sick and homebound, take with you not only the sacrament that we have celebrated, but also the Word of God which we have heard, as well as the affection of this parish community. Ask for the prayers of those whom you visit in return. Go, now, with God's peace and blessing. **Amen**.

Postcommunion Prayer
Please stand in body or spirit

Loving God,
we give you thanks
for restoring us in your image
and nourishing us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.
Now send us forth a people,
forgiven, healed, renewed;
that we may proclaim your love to the world
and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.
God's Blessing be with you, Christ's peace be with you, the Spirit's outpouring be with you, now and always. **Amen**.

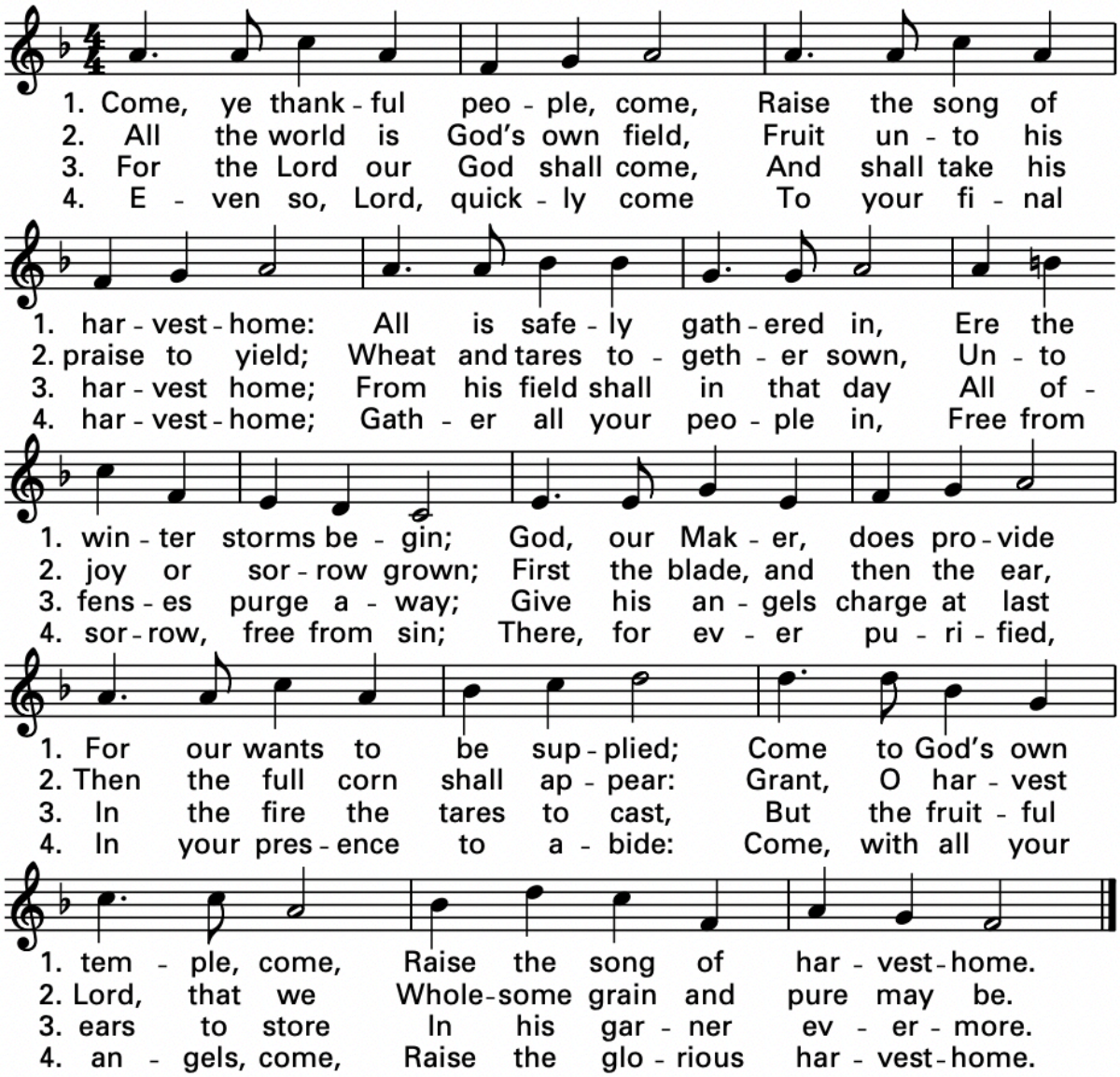
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Closing Hymn

Following the closing hymn you are invited to join us in the Parish Hall for Coffee Hour! If you are new today, please take a welcome packet (found at the front door)!

COME, YE THANKFUL PEOPLE, COME

ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR



Text: 77 77 D; Henry Alford, 1810–1871, alt. Music: George J. Elvey, 1816–1893.

Save the Dates:

- **First Sunday of Advent, Sunday November 29:**
  - Annual Advent Potluck:
    - Last Name A-H: Mains; I-O: Sides; P-W: Desserts
  - Advent Wreath Making @ Coffee Hour

- **Feast of St. Nicholas, Thursday December 3, 5-7:30pm:**
  - Crafts & Food!
  - The Story of St. Nic with Special Visitor at 6pm
  - ALL are welcome and invited!

- **Cocoa, Cookies, & Carols, Sunday December 13, 6-7:30pm**
  - ALL are welcome and invited!
  - YOU bring the cookies, WE provide the Cocoa & Carols!

- **Fourth Advent Christmas Pageant, Sunday December 20**
  - All are invited to participate in our Fourth Sunday of Advent Christmas Pageant!
  - Set decorators, costume support, and actors of all ages welcome!
  - See Fr. Nic to volunteer
  - All involved in the pageant will rehearse at 9am on Sunday December 20, and then will enjoy a provided breakfast before getting in costume and putting on the pageant for the 10:30am service

- **Christmas Eve Worship, Thursday December 24 @ 4pm**
  - Christmas Lessons & Carols with Holy Eucharist

- **Christmas Day Worship, Friday December 25 @ 10:30am**

- **Save the Date! Women's Craft Day Saturday, January 16, 2027, 10AM to 3PM**
  - Join us for a fun day of creativity, laughter, and friendship! Whether you're an experienced crafter or just want to try something new, all are welcome.
  - We'll have morning and afternoon crafting sessions, with a soup and sides potluck lunch in between. It's a wonderful opportunity to enjoy some delicious food, visit with friends, and make new connections! More details to come, so stay tuned!
  - Planning to join us? Please RSVP to Darcy Davis at darcymckee@msn.com so we can plan accordingly. We hope to see you there!