

November 28-29, 2026

Advent 1

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

359 Leonard Street North, West Salem, Wisconsin
608-786-0030 office@oursaviorswestsalem.org
www.oursaviorswestsalem.org

Pastor Jonathan M. Schmidt
Pastor Jean R. Schmidt



WELCOME TO WORSHIP! God gathers us through Word and Sacrament to celebrate God's presence and to receive God's gift of grace. God has made us his people through our baptism and keeps us close to him through the preaching of the word and God's presence in the bread and wine of Holy Communion. We give thanks today for the gift of faith God has planted in us, and we depart to be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ.

We extend a special **welcome** to those who are our guests. May God bless this time of worship for you as we are blessed by your presence. If you have no church home we invite you to join with us and consider Our Savior's as your church home. If you are not baptized and would like to talk about baptism as part of your faith journey, please speak with one of the pastors.

PEACEKEEPER BAGS FOR CHILDREN to use during worship are available in the coat room.

FELLOWSHIP PADS: We ask everyone to sign and pass the fellowship pad in the pew and return it to the rack when done.

OFFERING: No offering is collected during our worship this day; however, we do welcome your support of our ministries and thank you for your gifts. Together we make a difference in the lives of others.

Offering plates are available as you leave the sanctuary. For online giving go to the church website: oursaviorswestsalem.org/giving. Or text your gift amount to 608-471-7267 and follow the instructions on the response you receive. Or use the QR Code to the right. Thank you for your generosity and support of our work together.

Order of Worship

*Please stand as you are able

PRELUDE

WELCOME

READING 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

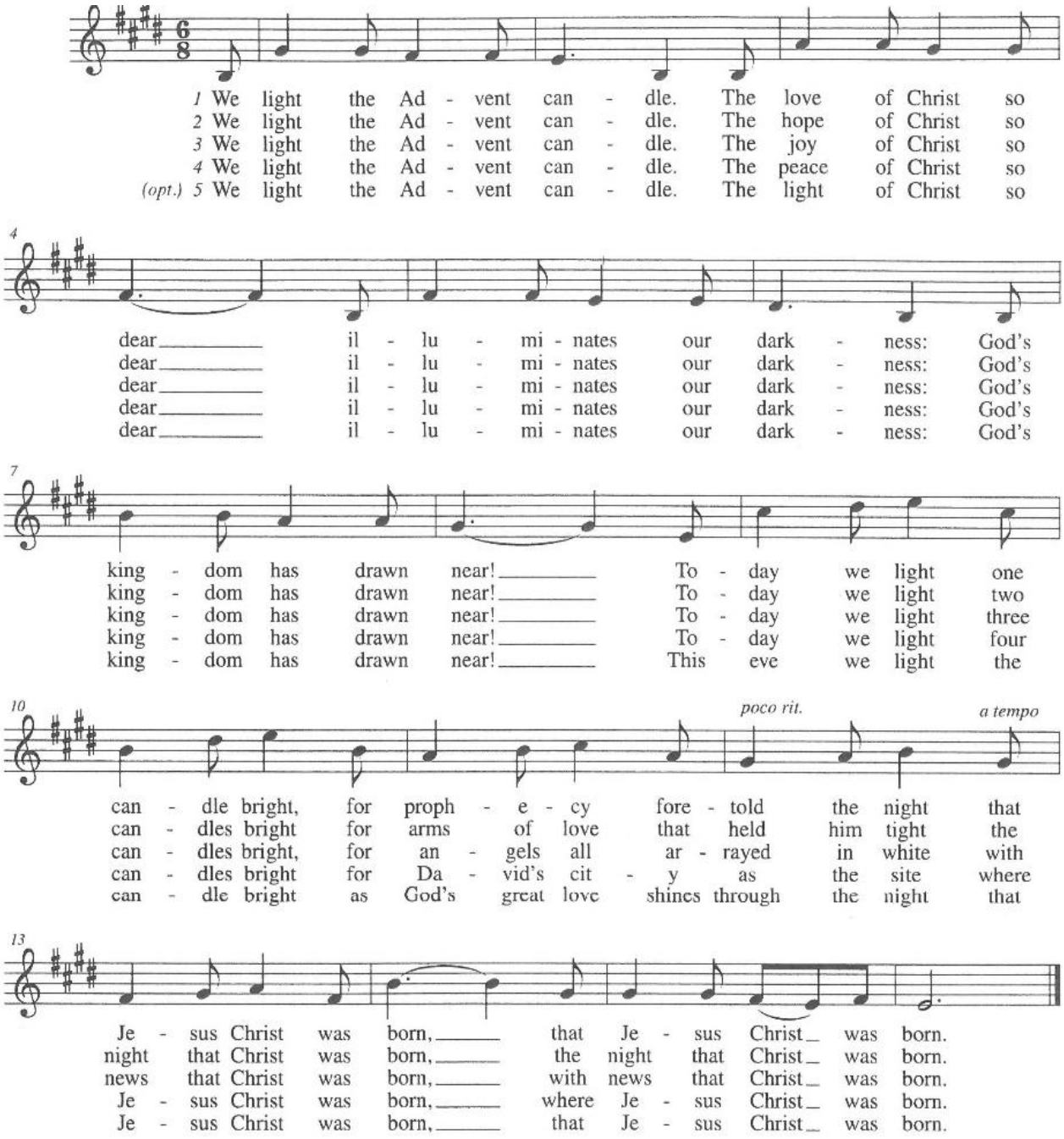
3 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus
Christ. 4 I give thanks to my God always for you because of the
grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, 5 for in
every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and
knowledge of every kind—6 just as the testimony of Christ has
been strengthened among you—7 so that you are not lacking in
any gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ.
8 He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be
blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 God is faithful, by
whom you were called into the partnership of his Son, Jesus
Christ our Lord.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

We praise you, O God, for this evergreen crown that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent. As we light the first candle on this wreath, rouse us from sleep, that we may be ready to greet our Lord when he comes with all the saints and angels. Enlighten us with your grace, and prepare our hearts to welcome him with joy. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near.
Amen.



“We Light the Advent Candle”
Sing verse one



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*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who calls out to the weary, whose word endures forever.
Amen.

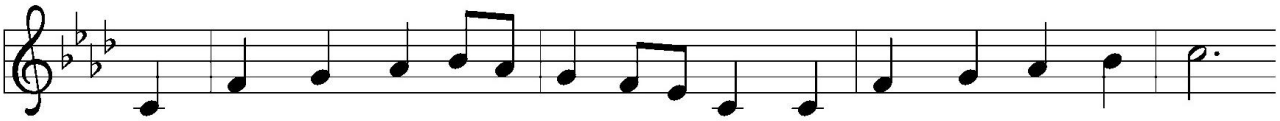
A voice cries out in the wilderness, "Make straight the way of the Lord!" We are called to confess our sin and turn back toward God's love.

Silence is kept for reflection.

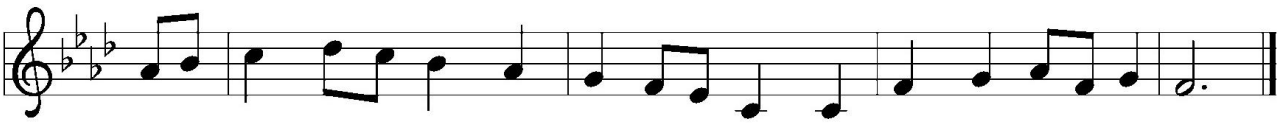
Comforting God,
We are your people, but we have neglected to call on your name. We are your people, but we have not remembered your ways. We are your people, but we have forgotten your hold on us. We are your people, but now we fade like a leaf, and our sins, like the wind, take us away. Restore us as your people. Cleanse us from our sin, and clothe us in your righteousness.
Amen.

"Comfort, comfort my people!" says your God, who has clothed you with the garments of salvation and wrapped you in the robe of righteousness. God has given you a mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. In the name of ✝ Christ, your sins are forgiven: Rejoice in the Lord! Rejoice in the Lord!
Amen.

*HYMN "The King Shall Come!" #260



1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light tri - um-phant breaks,
2 Not as of old a lit - tle child, to bear and fight and die,
3 Oh, bright - er than the ris - ing morn when Christ, vic - to - rious, rose
4 Oh, bright - er than that glo - rious morn shall dawn up - on our race
5 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light and beau - ty brings.



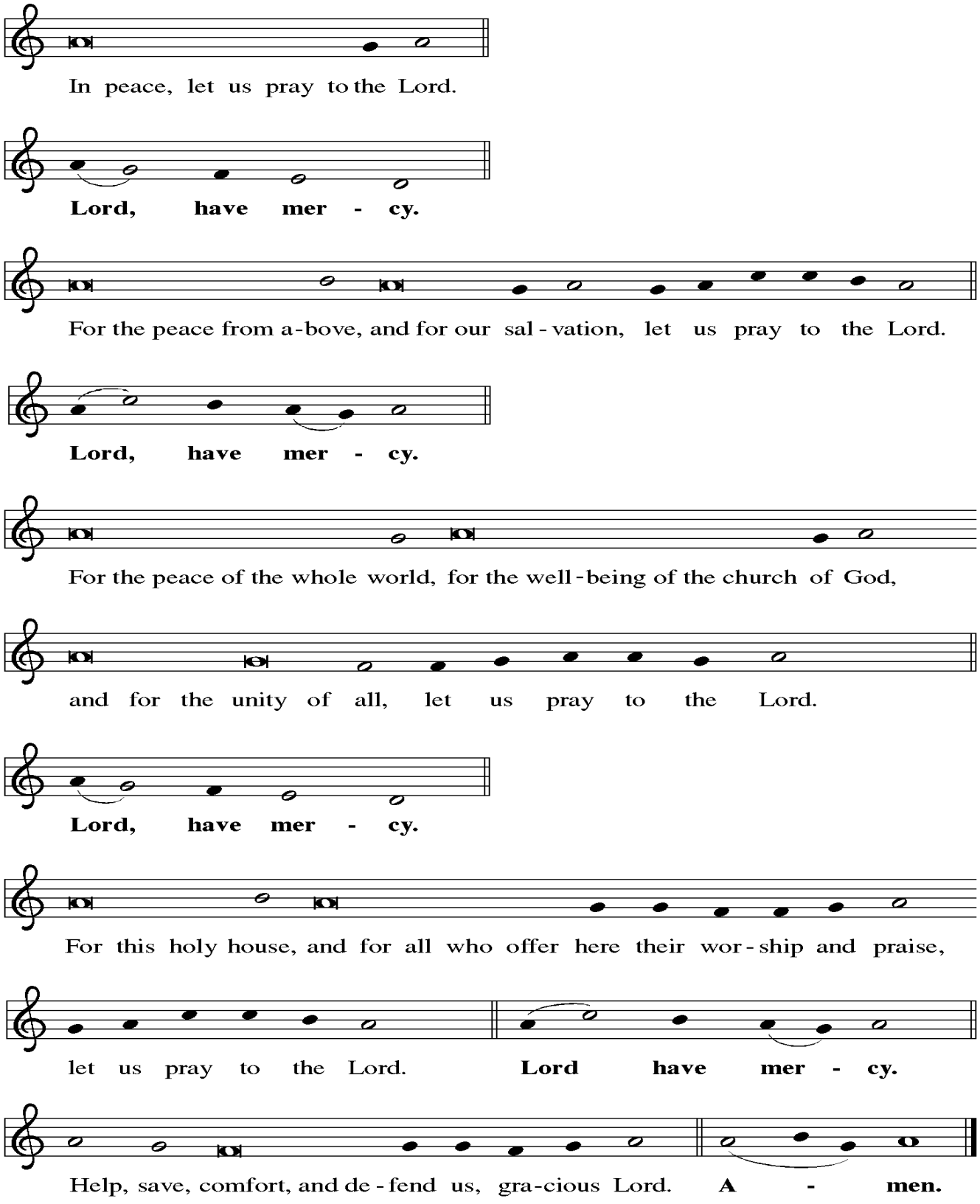
when beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills and life to joy a - wakes.
but crowned with glo - ry like the sun that lights the morn-ing sky.
and left the lone-some place of death, de - spite the rage of foes.
the day when Christ in splen-dor comes, and we shall see his face.
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your peo - ple pray: come quick-ly, King of kings.

Text: John Brownlie, 1859–1925
Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davisson, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816

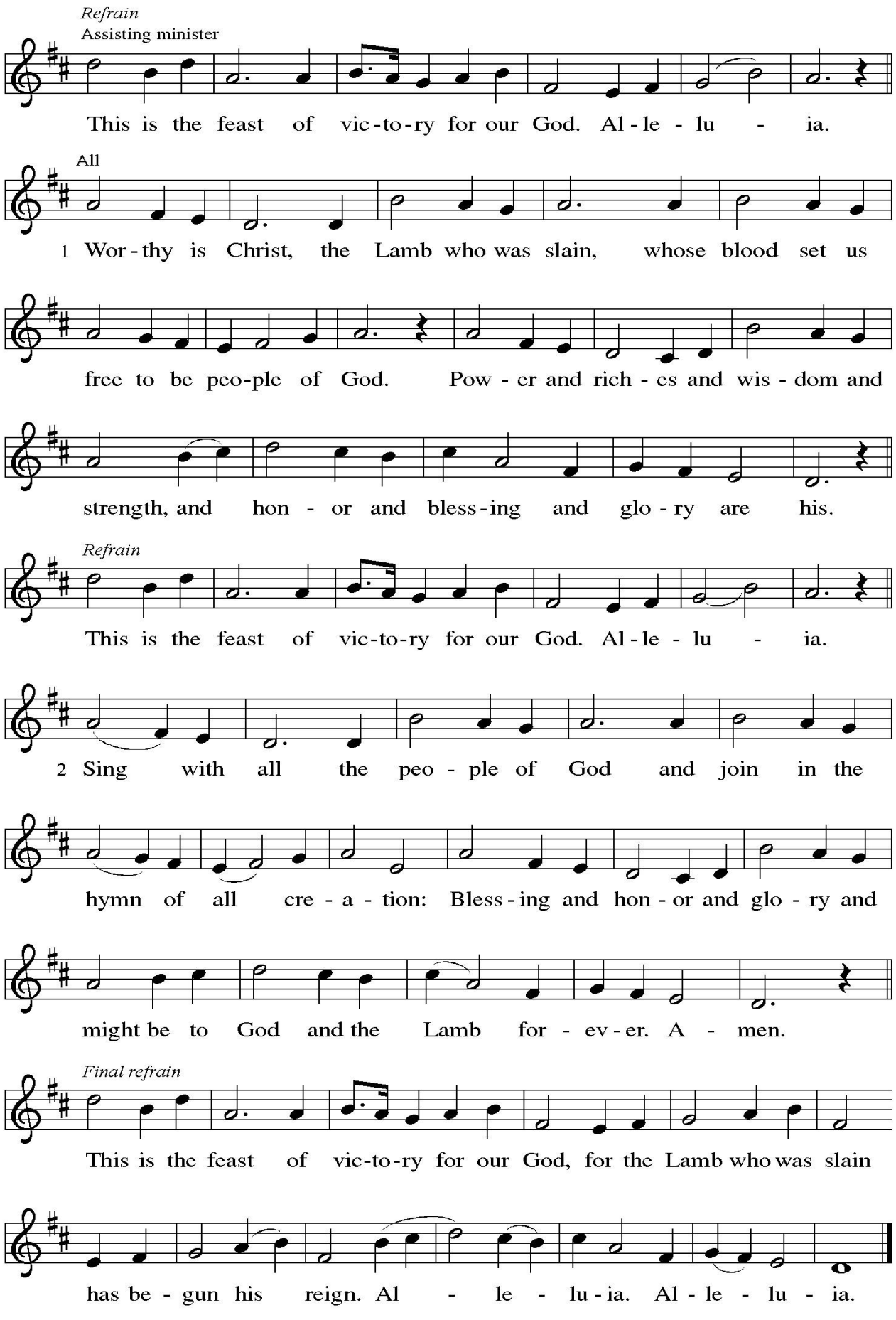
***GREETING** page 147 (in front of the hymnal)

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**



*CANTICLE OF PRAISE page 149 (in front of the hymnal)



***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Comfort, Comfort Now My People" 10:30 AM
Senior Choir

As the anthem is sung please use this time for prayer and meditation. As the music concludes we ask to continue in silence. No applause please!

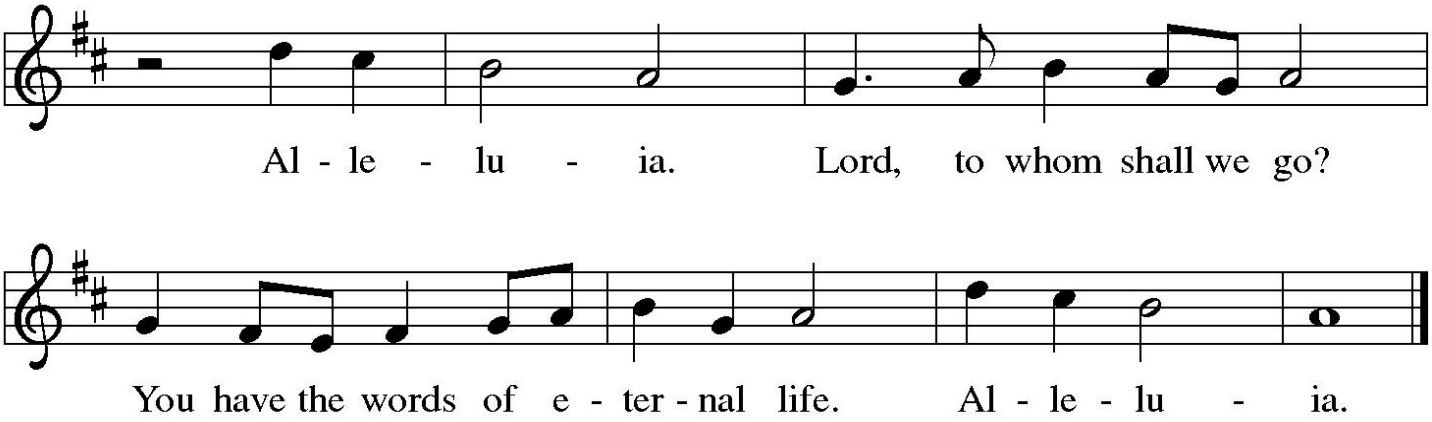
READING Micah 6: 6-8

6"With what shall I come before the Lord and bow myself before
God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with
calves a year old? 7Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of
rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn
for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"
8He has told you, O mortal, what is good, and what does the Lord
require of you but to do justice and to love kindness and to walk
humbly with your God?"

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



***GOSPEL** Mark 13:24-37

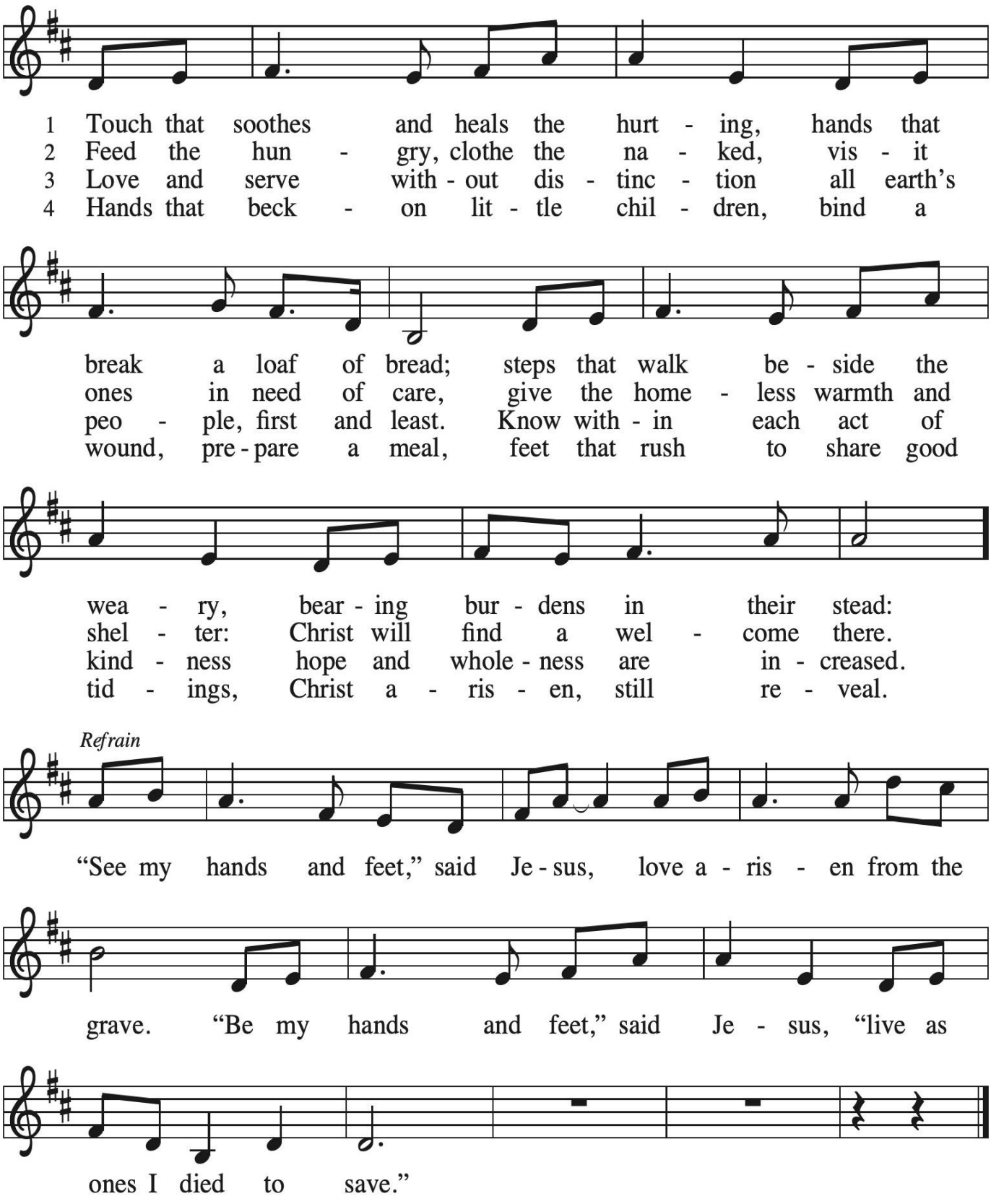
The Gospel according to Mark.
Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] 24 "In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be
darkened, and the moon will not give its light, 25 and the stars will
be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be
shaken. 26 "Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds'
with great power and glory. 27 Then he will send out the angels
and gather the elect from the four winds, from the ends of the
earth to the ends of heaven. 28 "From the fig tree learn its lesson:
as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves,
you know that summer is near. 29 So also, when you see these
things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates.
30 Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these
things have taken place. 31 Heaven and earth will pass away, but
my words will not pass away. 32 "But about that day or hour no
one knows, neither the angels in heaven nor the Son, but only
the Father. 33 Beware, keep alert, for you do not know when the
time will come. 34 It is like a man going on a journey, when he
leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work,
and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. 35 Therefore,
keep awake, for you do not know when the master of the house
will come, in the evening or at midnight or at cockcrow or at
dawn, 36 or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly.
37 And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

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

SERMON

***HYMN** "Touch That Soothes and Heals" **ACS #939**



Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953
Music: CIVILITY, Gregg DeMey, b. 1972

BAPTISM page 227 (in front of the hymnal) 8 AM and 10:30 AM

*APOSTLES CREED

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

P: In hope and expectation, we bring to God our prayers for the church, the world, and all in need.

*(After a brief silence…The **congregation** is invited to read aloud individually the prayer petitions as the spirit moves them. If more than one person reads the petition, all the better!)*

Strengthen your church in this season of anticipation. Nourish all people who gather around word and water, bread and cup. Reassure any whose faith feels dry that you are always near. God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

Come and restore the earth. Give rest to weary lands and renewed life to species at risk. Make us wise stewards of the places we call home. God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

Bring peace among all nations and communities. Embolden leaders to seek creative and sustainable resolutions to war and conflict. Show us new possibilities in places where peace has been elusive. God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

Sustain all who are heavy with weariness, grief, illness, or worry. Accompany those who are isolated, alone, or homebound, especially Shirley and Betty. Comfort families who are estranged from one another and any who are separated from loved ones. God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

Inspire liturgists, preachers, musicians, and all who lead our worship and prayer. May we be prepared as we await Christ's coming this Advent season. God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

Be present with our confirmation students, especially Addison, as she seeks to grow in her discipleship, and guide her family that together they may reflect your love and grace. God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

You embrace all the saints from the far reaches of the earth. We remember with care all who have died and now abide in their eternal home. God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

P: We entrust these and the prayers of our hearts to you, most holy God, in the name of Christ Jesus our Savior. **Amen.**

***PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

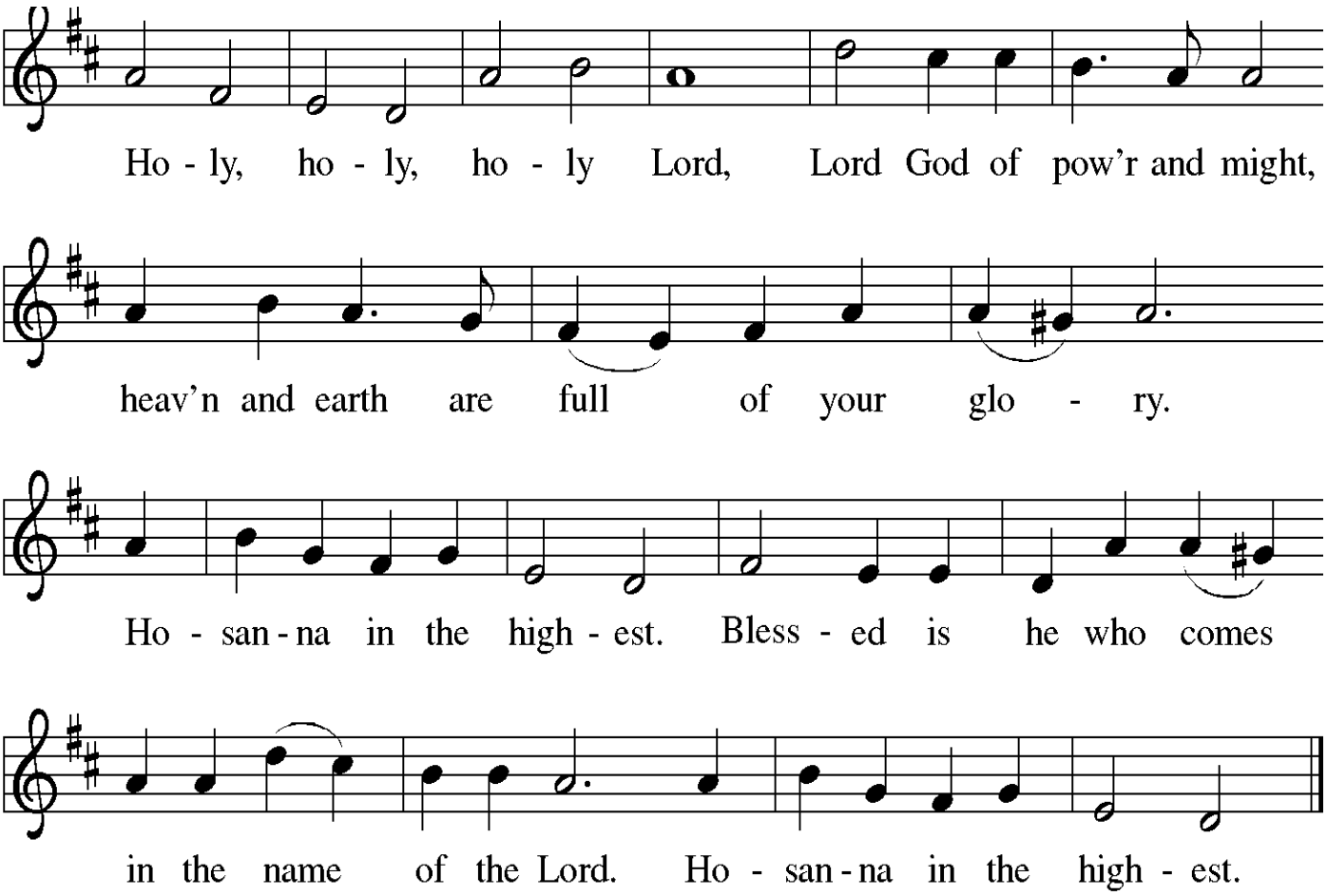
Please share a sign of peace with those around you.

MISSION MOMENT

***GREAT THANKSGIVING**

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 indeed our 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:



***EUCHARISTIC 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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

***LORD'S PRAYER** page 154 *(in front of hymnal)*

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.

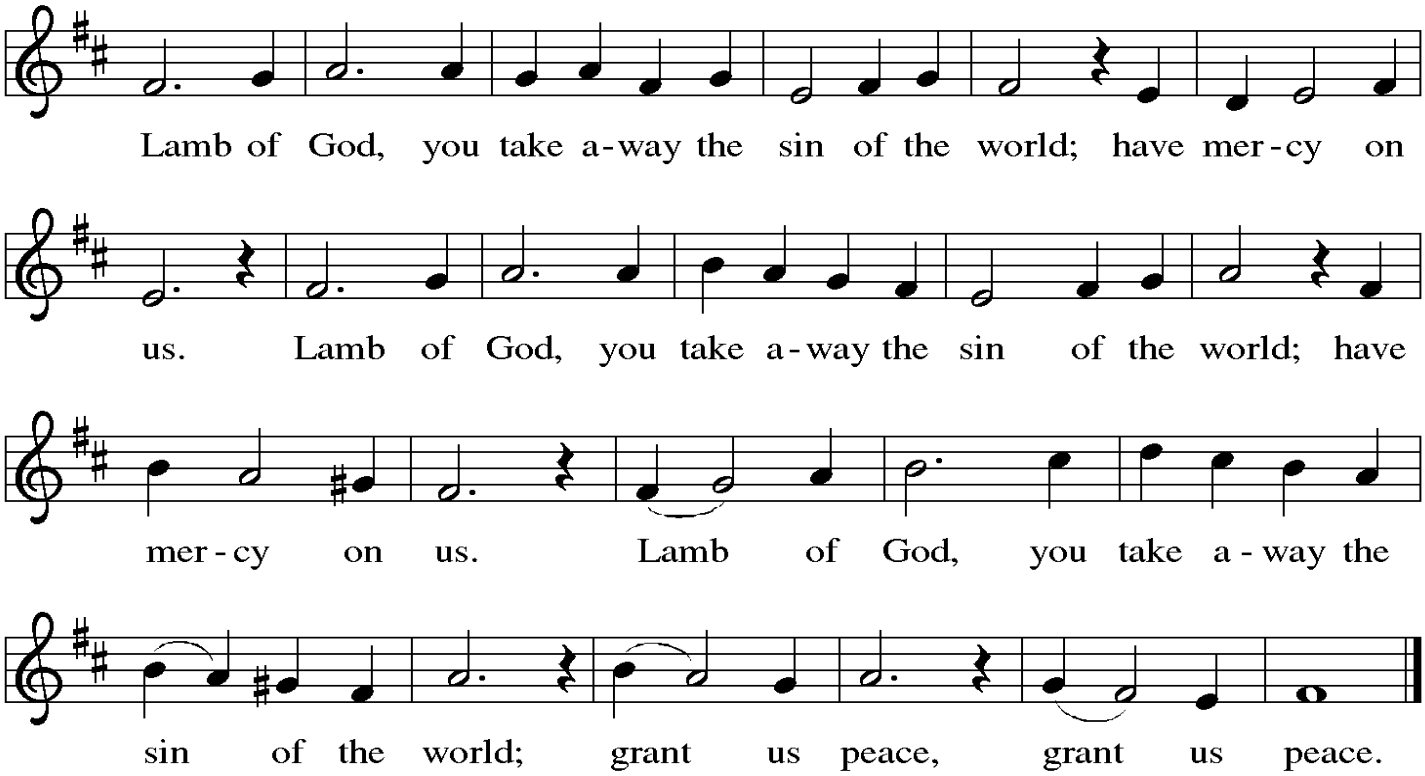
***INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

The glory of the Lord is revealed!
Come and taste God's presence.

HOLY COMMUNION *All who believe that our Lord Jesus Christ is truly present in the bread and wine of Holy Communion, bringing to us the gift of forgiveness and the promise of eternal life, are welcome to gather at the Lord's Table. Younger children are invited to come forward to receive a blessing.*

Both wine and grape juice are available – grape juice glasses are purple. Gluten free wafers are also available.

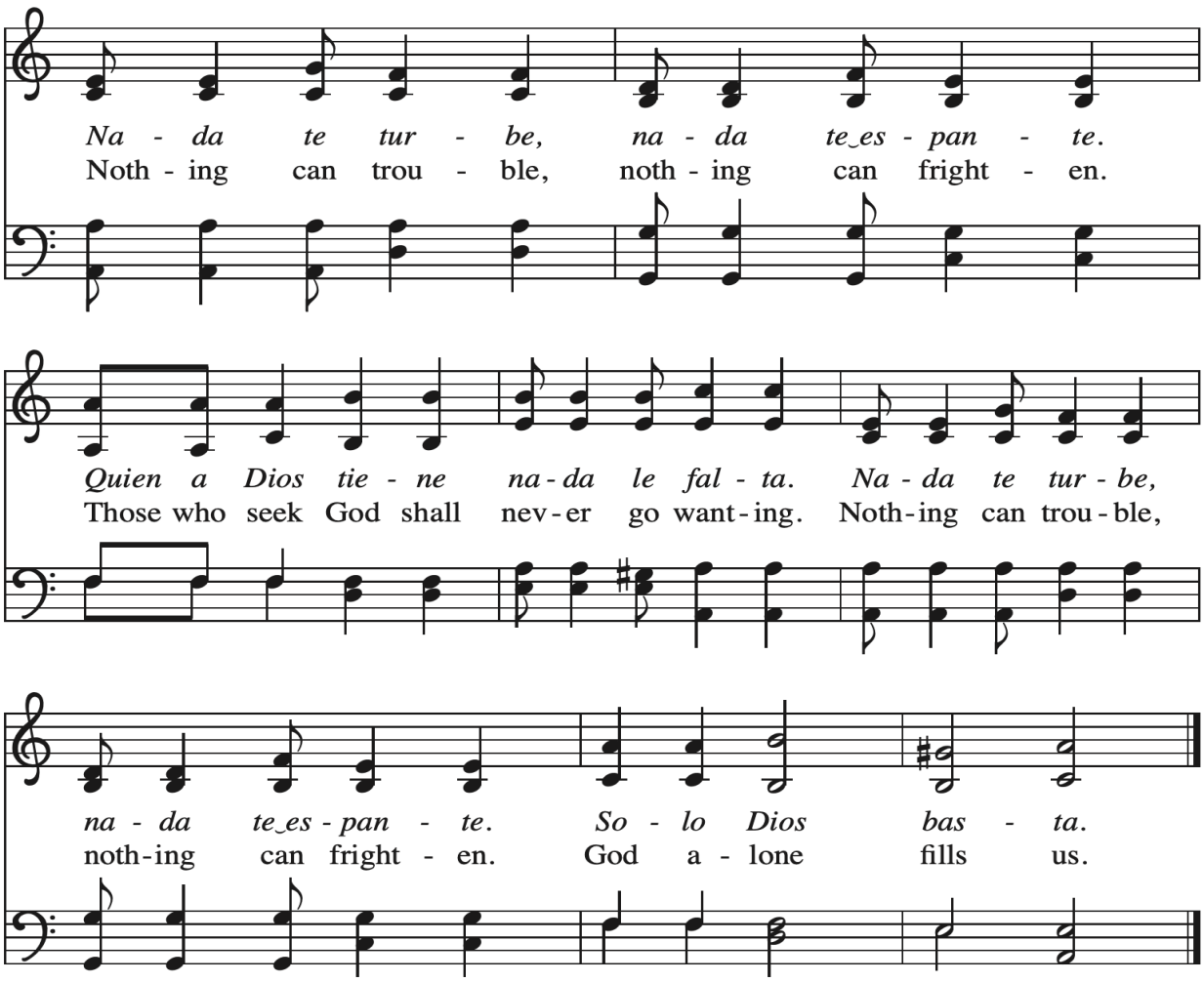
AGNUS DEI "Lamb of God"



COMMUNION HYMNS

"As We Gather at Your Table" **#522**

"Nothing Can Trouble ACS 1003



***POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

Providing God, you feed your flock like a shepherd and gather your people in your arms. We praise you for the care and sustenance you give at this meal and always. As we leave your table, carry us near your heart, and send us with confidence in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.

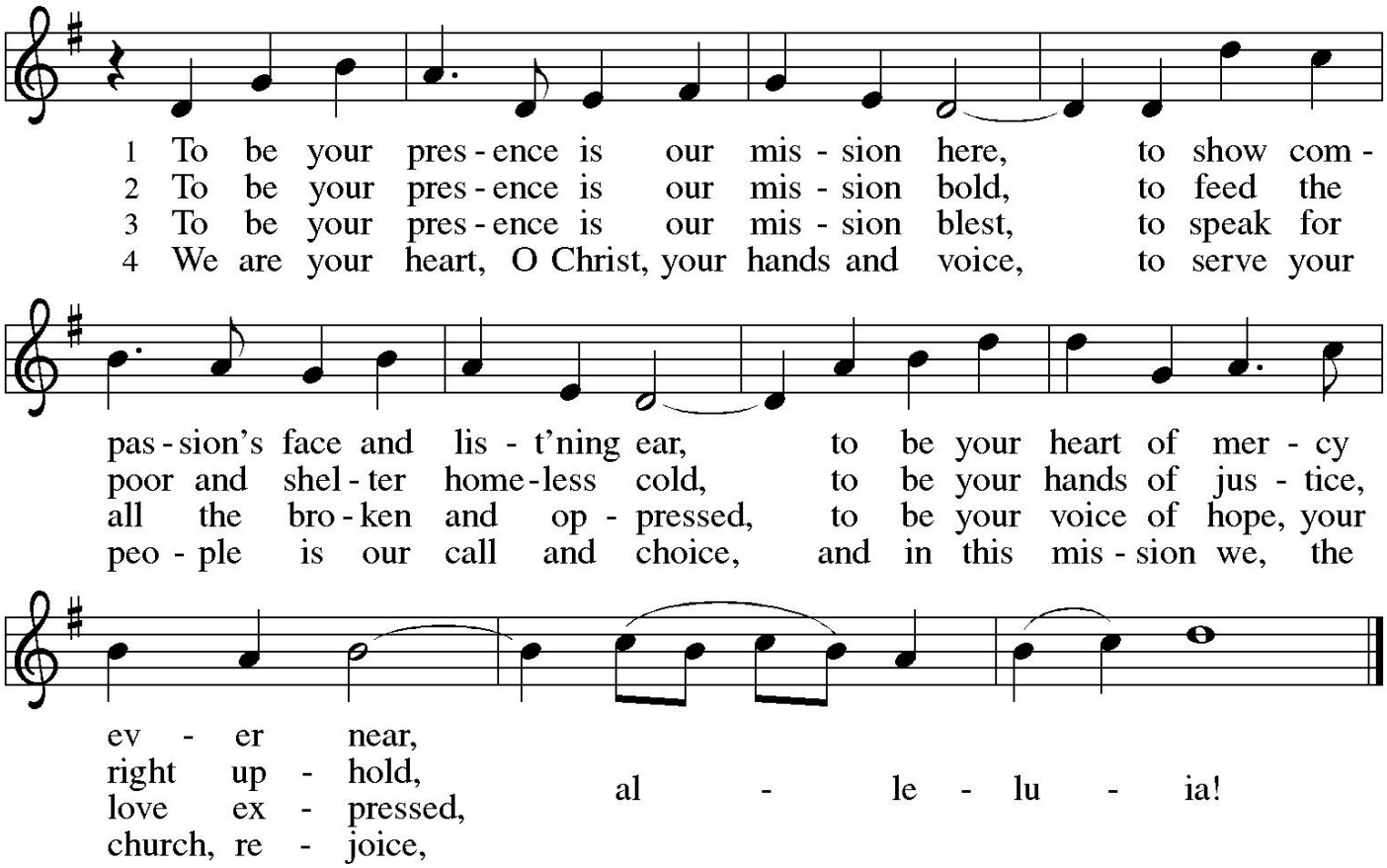
***SENDING OF HOME COMMUNION**

Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist XXX in this ministry on which she is/he is/they are sent forth. Bless her/his/ their time with YY, and in your love and care, nourish and strengthen them in this sacrament, that through the body and blood of your Son we all may know the comfort of your abiding presence. Amen.

***BLESSING**

May God who comes among us, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, grant you patience in waiting, peace in the darkness, and good news to share today and always.
Amen.

***HYMN** "To Be Your Presence" **#546**



Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939
Music: ENGELBERG, Charles V. Stanford, 1852–1924

***DISMISSAL** *(Done from the back of the church)*

Go in peace. Bring good news to the brokenhearted.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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OUR SAVIOR'S WORSHIP TEAM

www.oursaviorswestsalem.org

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Laurie Noelke, Handbell Choir Director/Assistant Worship Musician
Email: laurienoelke@gmail.com
Joey Barnett, Senior Choir Director 715-896-3825
Email: barnetjos@gmail.com

BAPTISM - In the waters of baptism, we welcome Grace Ann, daughter of Cody & Alicia Braun. Grace's sponsors are AJ Braun and Nicole Garrett.

We also welcome Landon David, son of Travis & Allison Kvamme. Landon's sponsors are Jake Obert and Keelie Obert.

CARD MINISTRY - Please be sure to sign the cards for this week's shut-ins, Shirley Schoenfeld and Betty Whitlock. The cards are on the table by the Pre-K/K classroom.

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP - A time for fellowship and treats between services on Sundays! Please sign up to bring treats or to serve what others have provided.

WORSHIP LEADERS

6 p.m.

Worship Assistant	Kirya Eckland
Communion Assistant	Judy Gilbert
Welcoming Team	Todd & Inger Michael

8 a.m.

Worship Assistant	Emerson Ferguson
Communion Assistant	Eric Ender
Welcoming Team	Eric & Jill Iliff

10:30 a.m.

Worship Assistant	Blake Hundt
Communion Assistant	Denise Jones
Welcoming Team	Gullickson Family
Home Communion	Rasmussen Family
Altar Guild for November	Susan Giblin/Jill Iliff

STEWARDSHIP - If you have not returned your intent card, please do so as soon as possible. Together we can make a difference with God's blessings.



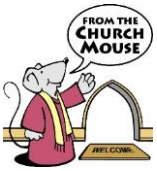
Sunday, November 29 - 11:30 AM

Please join us as we put up the trees and decorate the rest of the church. Hot chocolate, apple cider, and cookies will be provided. Your whole family is invited to have fun and make memories.

Lakeview Caring Tree



Thank you for helping to make Christmas just a little brighter for our neighbors! If you took a tag, the ***wrapped gift, along with the tag on the outside of the package***, should be returned to church by **December 6.**



Call Process Update

The Transition Team is already hard at work developing a plan to help them complete the Ministry Site Profile which includes conversations and input from congregation members. They have crafted a schedule for listening sessions in hopes of creating opportunities for as many people as possible to participate.

You are invited to join them in the Library on the following days:

- Saturday, November 28 – 7 PM
- Sunday, November 29 – 9:15 and 11:45 AM
- Saturday, December 5, 7PM
- Sunday, December 6, 9:15 and 11:45 AM

For those who aren't able to participate in person, check out the survey on the website. Please take advantage of these opportunities and share your thoughts - hopes and dreams - about the future of ministry here at Our Savior's. Feel free to contact any of the Transition Team members: Mike Larson (Chair), Bonnie Gensch (Secretary), Ilene Pavelko, Eric Ender, and Dori Jensen

8th graders meet December 2 at 6 PM to lead the "Hanging of the Greens" at 7PM.





Hanging of the Greens
Wednesday, December 2 at 7 PM

It's time to get things ready – and so we sing some songs, hear God's word, and "hang the greens!" Join us as we get the season started, with help from some of our confirmation students.

Eggnog and Carols
December 13
5:30 PM at Hunter's



Just like "Beer and Hymns," only December style. Join us for a fun time of carols and treats. We'll provide the music – you provide whatever you want to eat and drink. And it doesn't have to be eggnog!



Young Adult/Family …

December Gathering
Sunday, December 6
4 PM
at Amber & Andy's home
(105 Marigold Lane N, West Salem)

True white elephant for the adults ($20 limit, funny/more traditional white elephant gag gifts are encouraged!). For the kiddos, everyone can bring a book and a snack to exchange (the book can be second hand or new!).
**Bring a dish to pass.*

Norwegian Dinner Disbursement Meeting
December 6 – 9:30 AM



Join us in the library to discuss where the proceeds of the Norwegian Dinner will be distributed. We welcome all people to attend this meeting and share their ideas as to where this year's money will be given.



Poinsettia Orders are due soon! You may provide your own plant, or we will order plants for you through Under the Rust. Please return your **form and money** by **December 8th** to the church office or place it in the offering plate. We will acknowledge your poinsettia in the Christmas bulletins.



Sunday School Christmas Program

"The Greatest Gift"

December 13th

10:30 AM worship

Senior Choir Presents ...

"A Choral Christmas"

December 20th - 8 & 10:30 AM



We invite you to "A Choral Christmas". The Choir has been rehearsing four unique anthems that lead us from Advent into Epiphany. We look forward to singing them for you, please join us!



SCRIP CARDS MAKE GREAT GIFTS!

Scrip cards make great gifts and help support Our Savior's Sugar Creek Bible Camp Camperships and World Hunger! You can't beat that!!

Culver's, Kwik Trip, Kwik Trip car wash, Woodman's.

Available after worship services and in the office during the week.

Culver's FROZEN CUSTARD BUTTERBURGERS®

KWIK TRIP

WOODMAN'S

CARE AND SHARE FOOD PANTRY-



The Care and Share Food Pantry is open Saturdays, 10 AM to Noon. We are thankful for all the donations we have recently received. Many local families have benefited from your generosity. Monetary, food, and personal items are always appreciated.

Hungry Jar Offering for November – LaCrosse Warming Center

As we anticipate the cold weather … The La Crosse Warming Center's mission is to work with the greater La Crosse community to better serve those experiencing homelessness with dignity and respect by providing a safe and warm place for homeless adults 18 years and older to get in out of the cold during the winter months from November 1 until May 1. The Warming Center is located at 413 South Third Street in La Crosse. Guests are able to take a shower and wash their clothes. To keep the doors open, hundreds of volunteers from area churches and the community are needed to staff the center. Please be generous as we care for those who are hurting.

Check out the December newsletter www.oursaviorswestsalem.org) to find out more.

Facebook Page - Our Savior's ELCA – West Salem
Instagram Page – oursaviors_ws
YouTube Channel (for livestream and recording of worship) - **youtube.com/@techoslc**