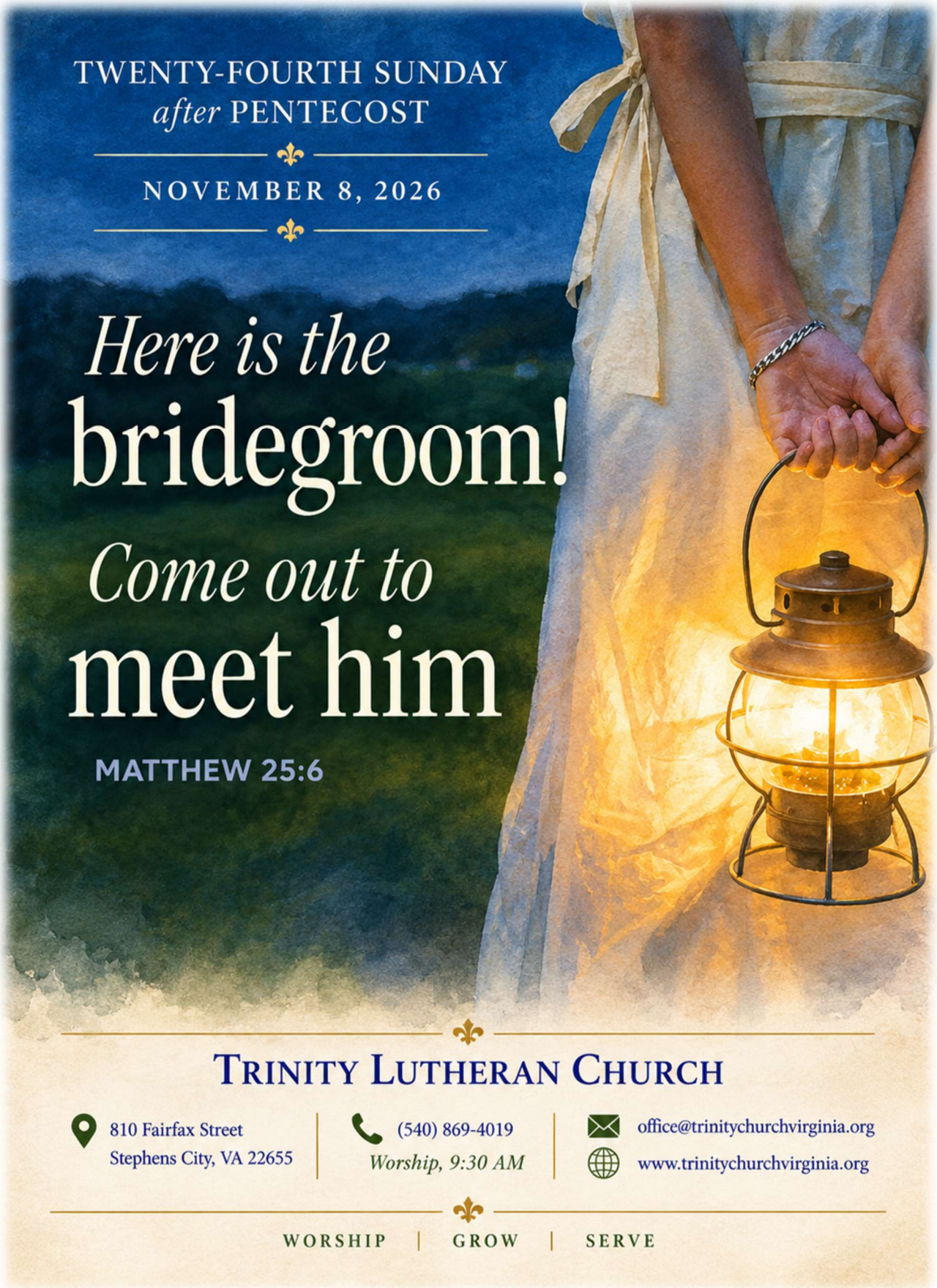


From Sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. From sundaysandseasons.com license #SAS024465. Copyright © 2025 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE, License # A-720634. All rights reserved. CCLI, copyright Lic. 11381030, Streaming Lic. 20167089 Psalmody refrain from Psalter for Worship Year A © 2008 Augsburg Fortress, tone from Psalter for Worship Year A ©2006 Augsburg Fortress. Prelude © 1984 Belwin Mills Pub.Co. Offertory © 1987 Shawnee Press Inc. Postlude ©Public Domain. Memorial Acclamation – Ricky Gearhart Quoting Dresden Amen, used by permission. Amen - Dresden, Public Domain.

PRELUDE *How Bright These Glorious Spirits Shine* Robert J. Powell (1932-2025)

CONFESSION OF SINS
Please stand. (All may make the sign of the cross)

In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom 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 Jesus Christ our Lord.

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
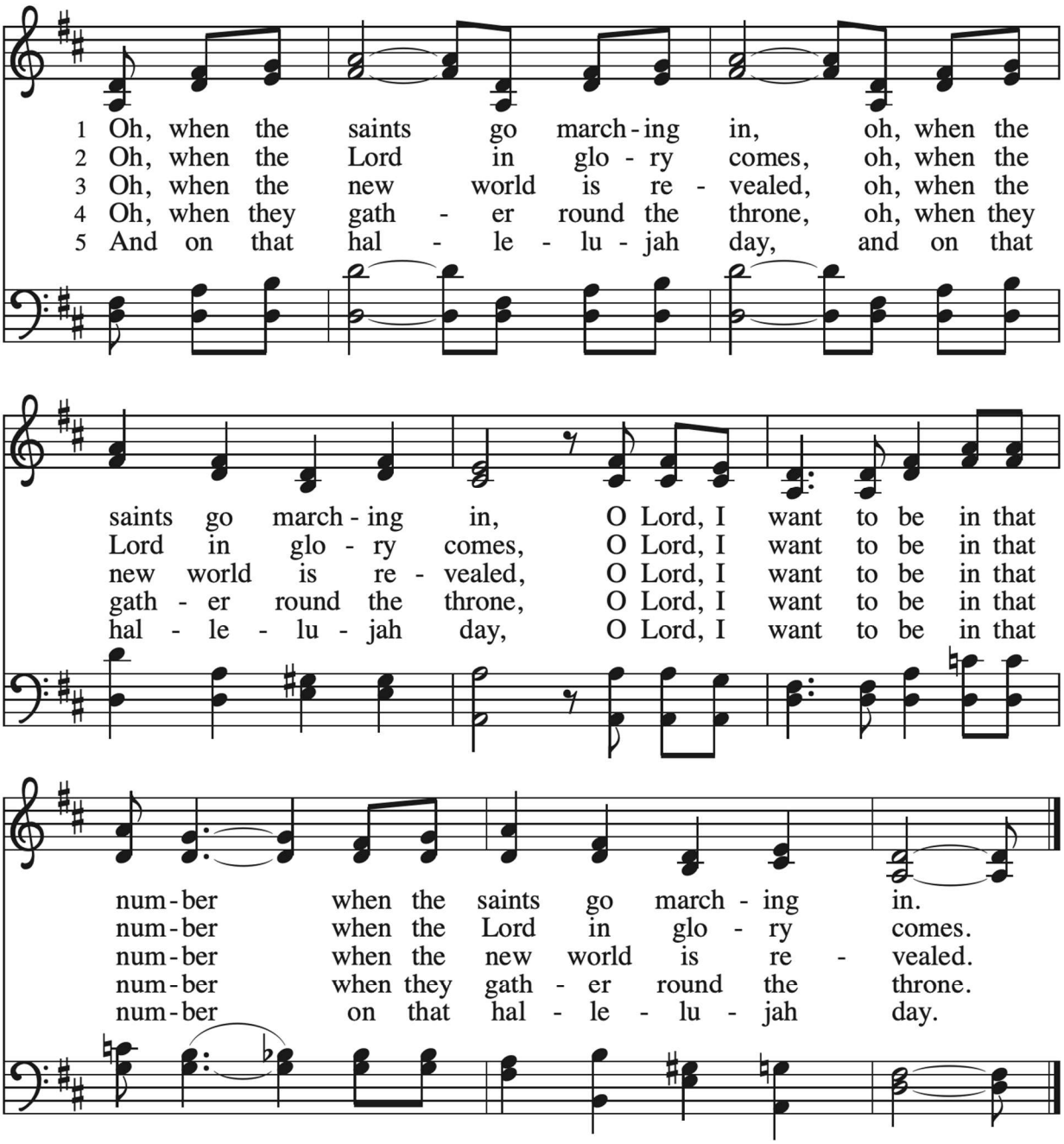
Silence for reflection

Most merciful God,

We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a member with you of the priesthood of all believers, and by the authority of Christ alone, I declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

GATHERING SONG *Oh, When the Saints Go Marching In* (ACS 950)
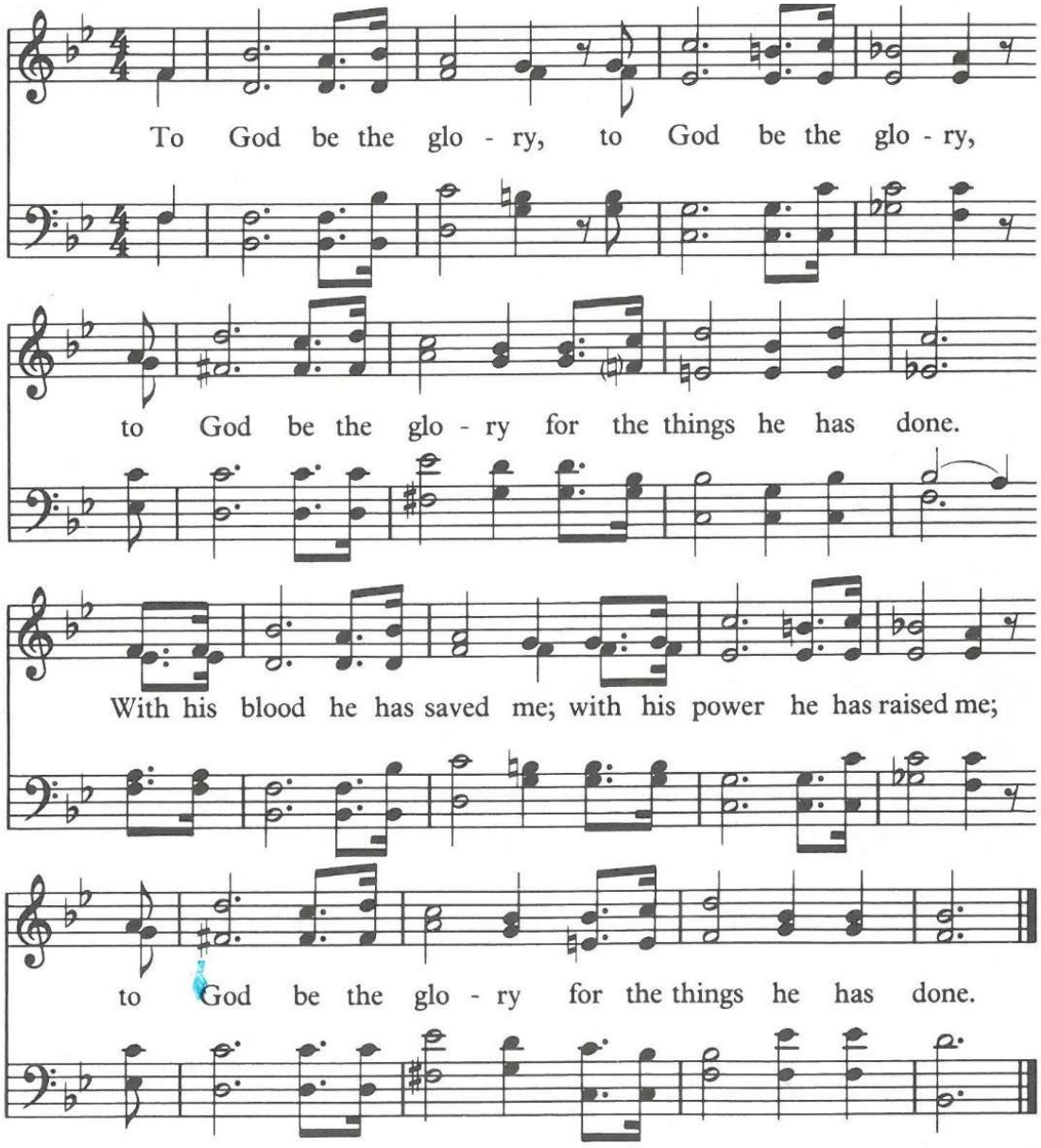


Text: African American spiritual
Music: WHEN THE SAINTS, African American spiritual; arr. hymnal version
Arr. © 2020 Augsburg Fortress

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.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE (UMH 99)



WORDS: Andraé Crouch, 1971
MUSIC: Andraé Crouch, 1971

MY TRIBUTE
Irr.

© 1971 Communiqué Music, Inc.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated

FIRST READING: Amos 5:18-24

A reading from Amos.

18 Woe to you who desire the day of the LORD!
Why do you want the day of the LORD?
It is darkness, not light,
19 as if someone fled from a lion
and was met by a bear
or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall
and was bitten by a snake.
20 Is not the day of the LORD darkness, not light,
and gloom with no brightness in it?
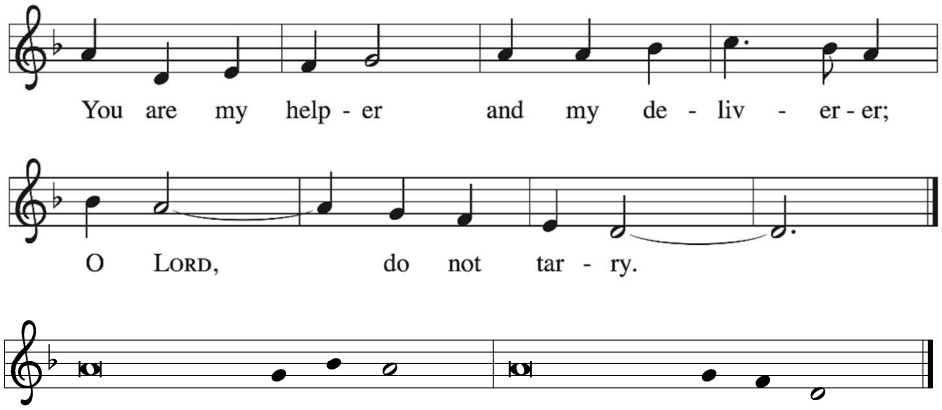
21 I hate, I despise your festivals,
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.
22 Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,
I will not accept them,
and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals
I will not look upon.
23 Take away from me the noise of your songs;
I will not listen to the melody of your harps.
24 But let justice roll down like water
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.



PSALM: Psalm 70



1 Be pleased, O God, to de- | liver me;
O LORD, make | haste to help me.
2 **Let those who seek my life be put to shame | and confounded;**
let those who take pleasure in my misfortune draw back and | be disgraced. R
3 Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat | over me
turn back because | of their shame.
4 **Let all who seek you rejoice and be | glad in you;**
let those who love your salvation say forever, "Great | is the LORD!"
5 But as for me, I am poor and needy; come to me quick- | ly, O God.
You are my helper and my deliverer; O LORD, | do not tarry. **R**

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

A reading from 1 Thessalonians.

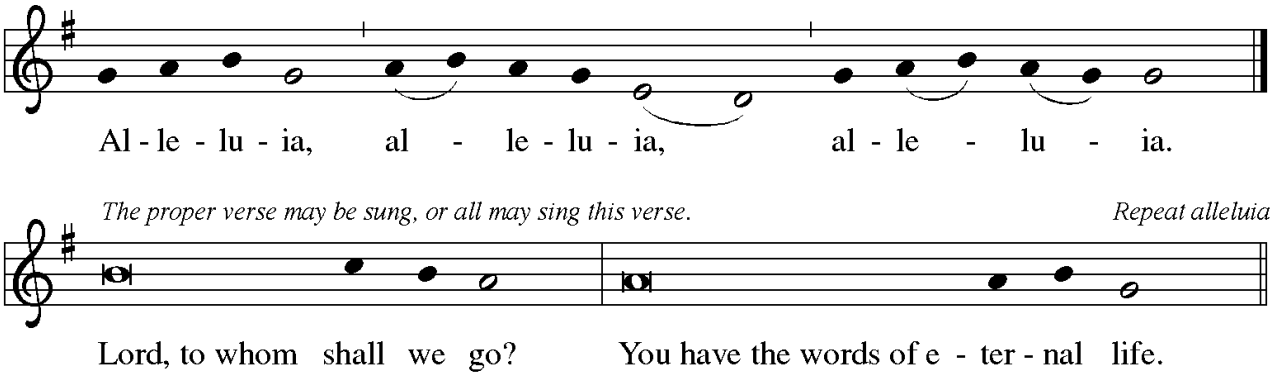
13 We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have
died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. 14 For since we
believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him
those who have died. 15 For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we
who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede
those who have died. 16 For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the
archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and
the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught
up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will be
with the Lord forever. 18 Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Music: Plainsong mode VI

GOSPEL: Matthew 25:1-13

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] [1] "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten young women took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. [2] Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. [3] When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, [4] but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. [5] As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. [6] But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' [7] Then all those young women got up and trimmed their lamps. [8] The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' [9] But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' [10] And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet, and the door was shut. [11] Later the other young women came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' [12] But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' [13] Keep awake, therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.
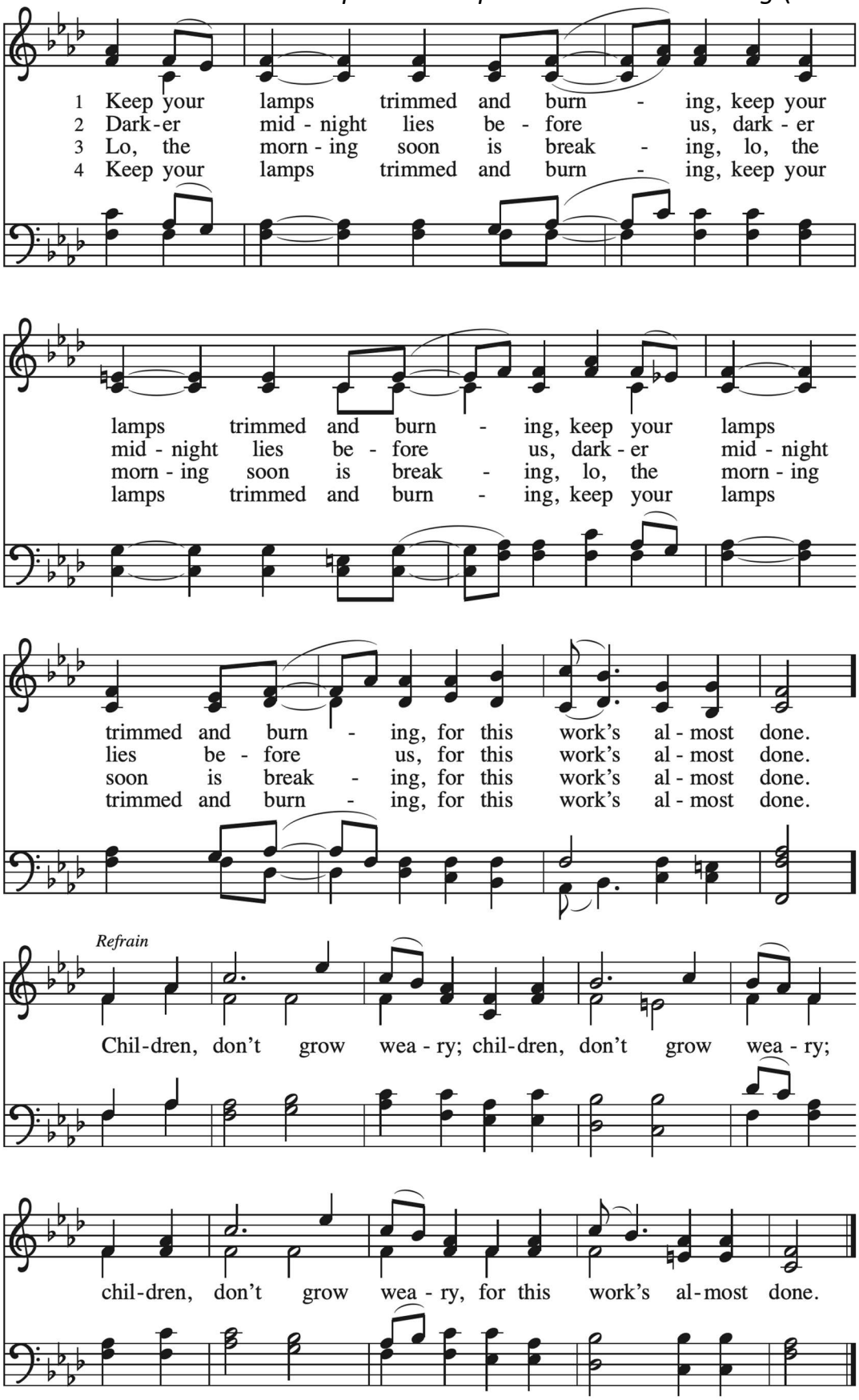
Please be seated

SERMON **REV. LARRY CLOSTER**



Please stand

HYMN OF THE DAY *Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning* (ACS 949)



Text: African American spiritual
Music: KEEP YOUR LAMPS, African American spiritual

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 OF INTERCESSION

United with the great cloud of witnesses, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.

You illumine the church with the hope of your new day. Prepare our hearts and minds for the inbreaking of your kingdom, that we might awaken to your transforming love at work all around us. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.
You create and sustain the earth's natural rhythms so that all life might thrive. Show us the wisdom and wonder of nature's balance; make us careful stewards of our common home. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.
You make justice roll down in all places and among all nations. Encourage all who protect vulnerable communities and help rebuild in the aftermath of conflict. Uphold veterans and those who care for them. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.
You hasten to heal our wounds and make whole what is broken. Comfort individuals facing a difficult diagnosis, receiving palliative care, or facing uncertain treatment options. We pray especially for Shirley, Louise, Bernie, Paul, Hadley, Nikki, Jeff, Adam, Anthony, Dan. (worshippers may add names silently or aloud). God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

You give rest to weary hearts and bodies. As the days grow shorter in the north, help us to move more slowly and intentionally through our days, honoring the need for quiet and stillness. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.
You welcome those who have come before us in faith into the joys of heaven. Sustain us by your grace and guide us into the promise of everlasting life. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.
Into your steadfast love, faithful God, we entrust all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus, your beloved.
Amen.

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

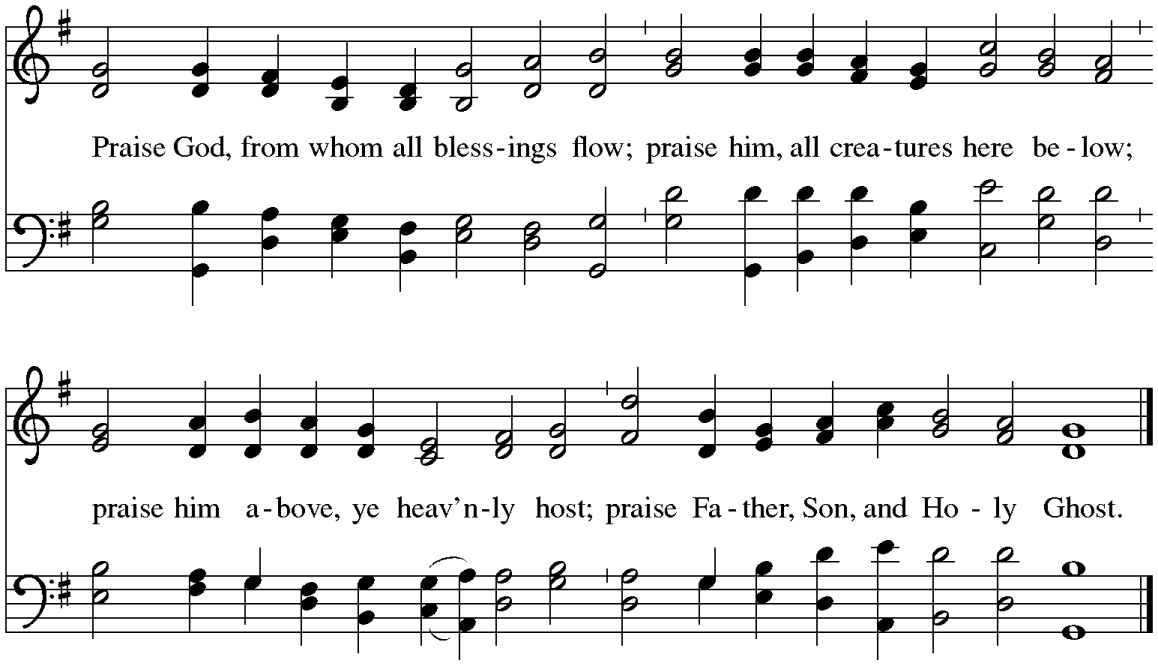
Please be seated

OFFERING *Walk Along Beside Me, O My Lord* Don Besig Trinity Choir

Offering is an act of worship. The offering today will provide support for the ministries of Trinity both locally and in the world around us. You may place your offering in the offering plate or scan the QR code adjacent.

Please stand

OFFERING PRESENTATION (ELW 884)



Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711
Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510–1561

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Almighty God, As we bring before you our offerings, we are reminded that you are our provider, our sustainer, and our strength. Without you, we are nothing. May these gifts impress upon us our dependence on you, acknowledging that all we have comes from your hand. May these gifts be used to spread your love to others, bringing hope and healing to a world in need. Thank you for your love that never fails us. **Amen**.

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

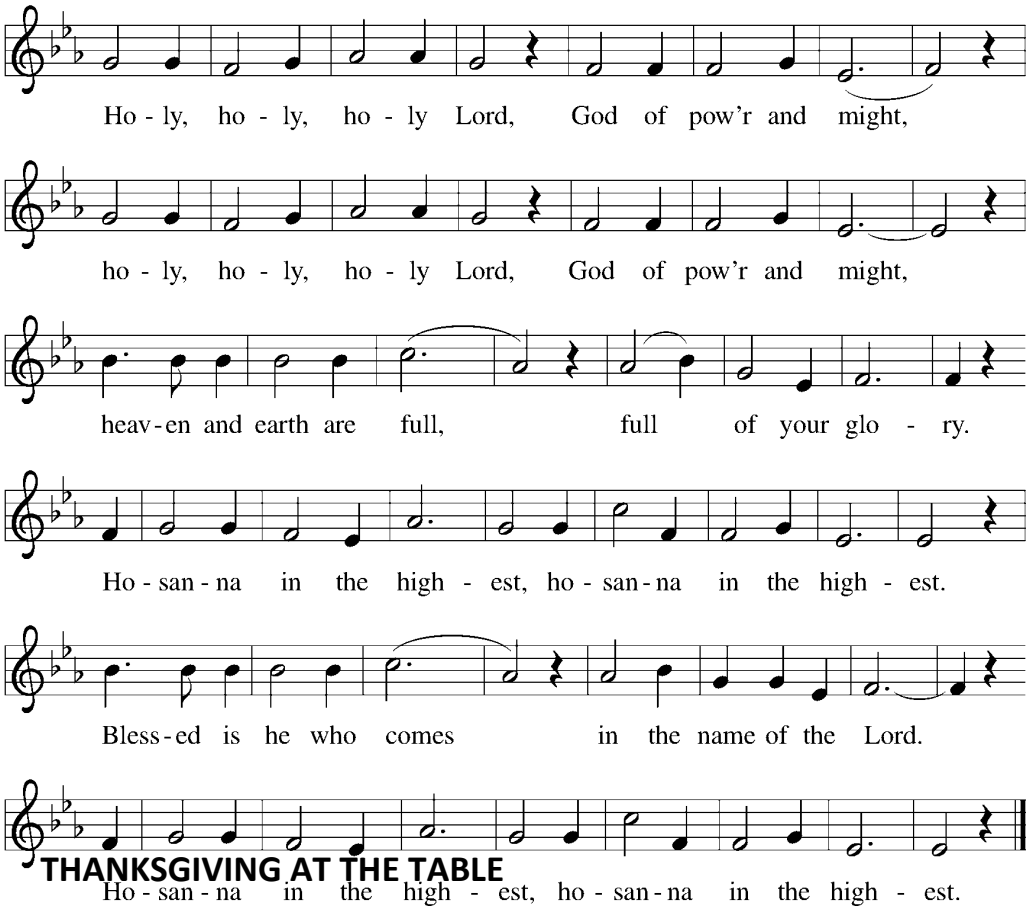
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

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:



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Music: *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Schubert, 1797–1828; adapt. Richard Proulx, b. 1937
Adapt. © 1985, 1989 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638 www.giamusic.com
800.442.3358 All rights reserved. Used by permission.
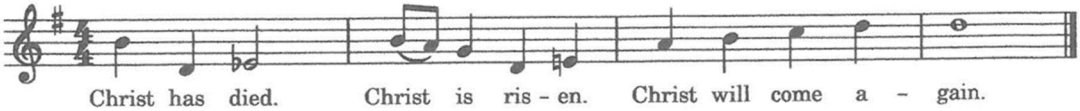
You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.
You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.
You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish
but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world
to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all
things for our salvation.

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.

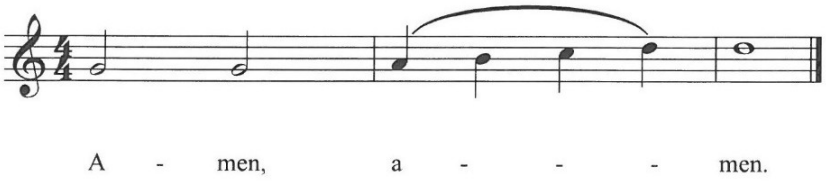
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

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



Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,
his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension,
and the promise of his coming again,
we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty,
not as we ought but as we are able;
we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving
and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants,
and these your own gifts of bread and wine,
so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ
may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace,
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin,
may be formed to live as your holy people
and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.



LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit,
let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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

Come, taste and see that the Lord is good.

For those communing at home, have your package ready to open. The pastor will acknowledge your presence and request that you consume the elements at this time.

Please be seated

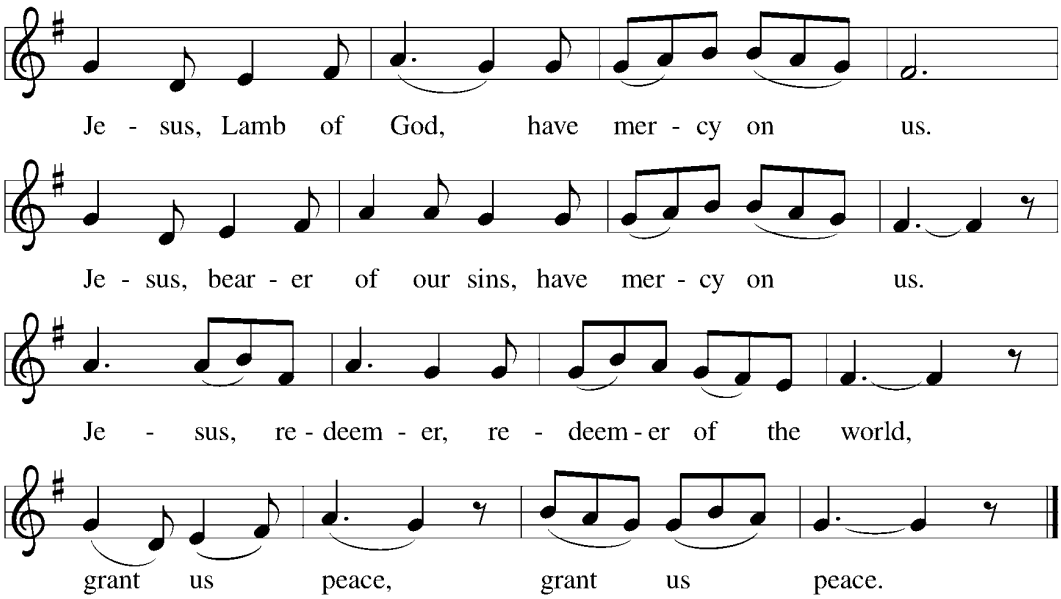
COMMUNION

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
Amen.

For those who prefer not to partake of the wine there are cups filled with grape juice in the center of the communion tray.

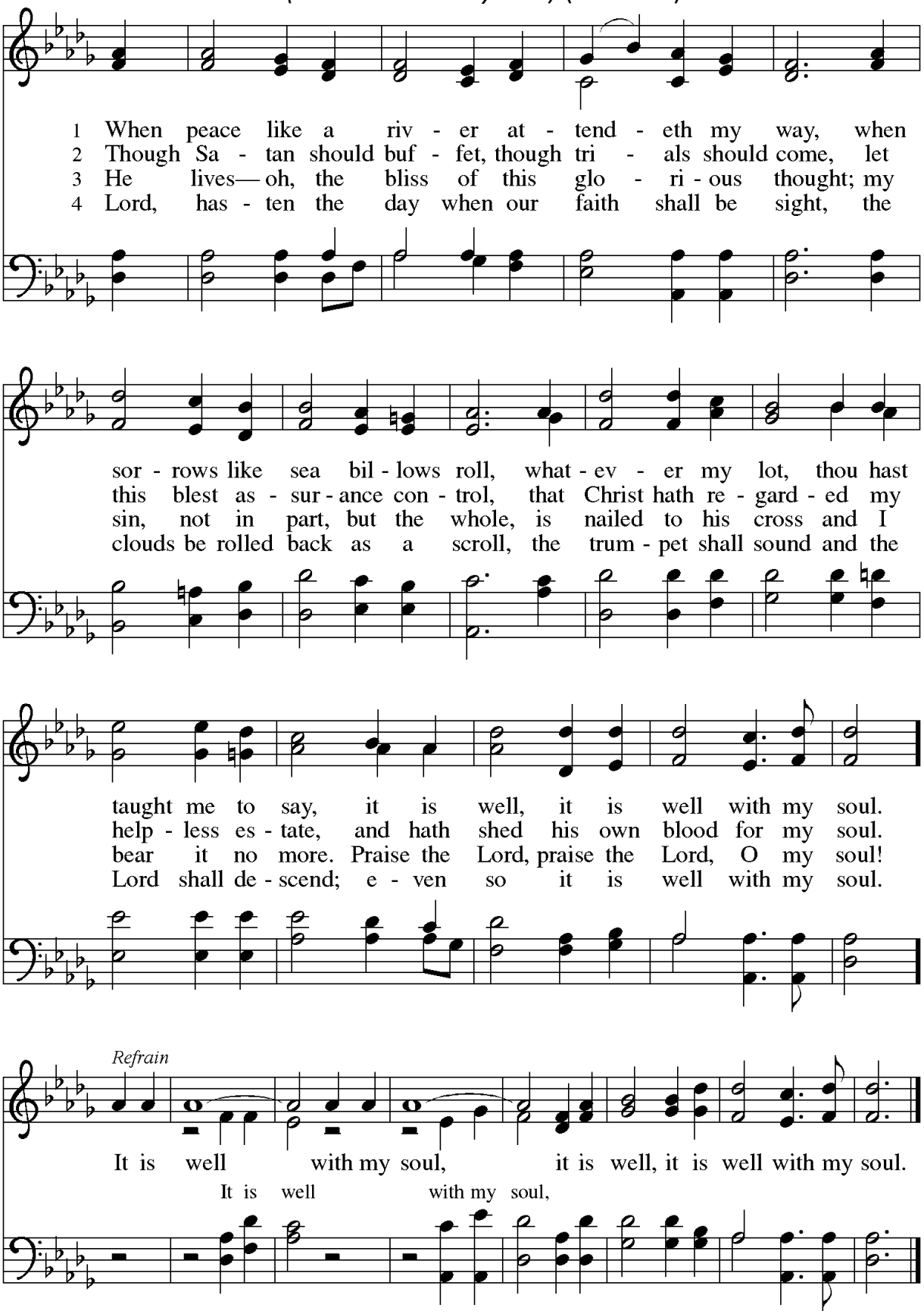
COMMUNION SONG



Music: *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Schubert, 1797–1828; adapt. Richard Proulx, b. 1937
Adapt. © 1985, 1989 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638 www.giamusic.com
800.442.3358 All rights reserved. Used by permission.

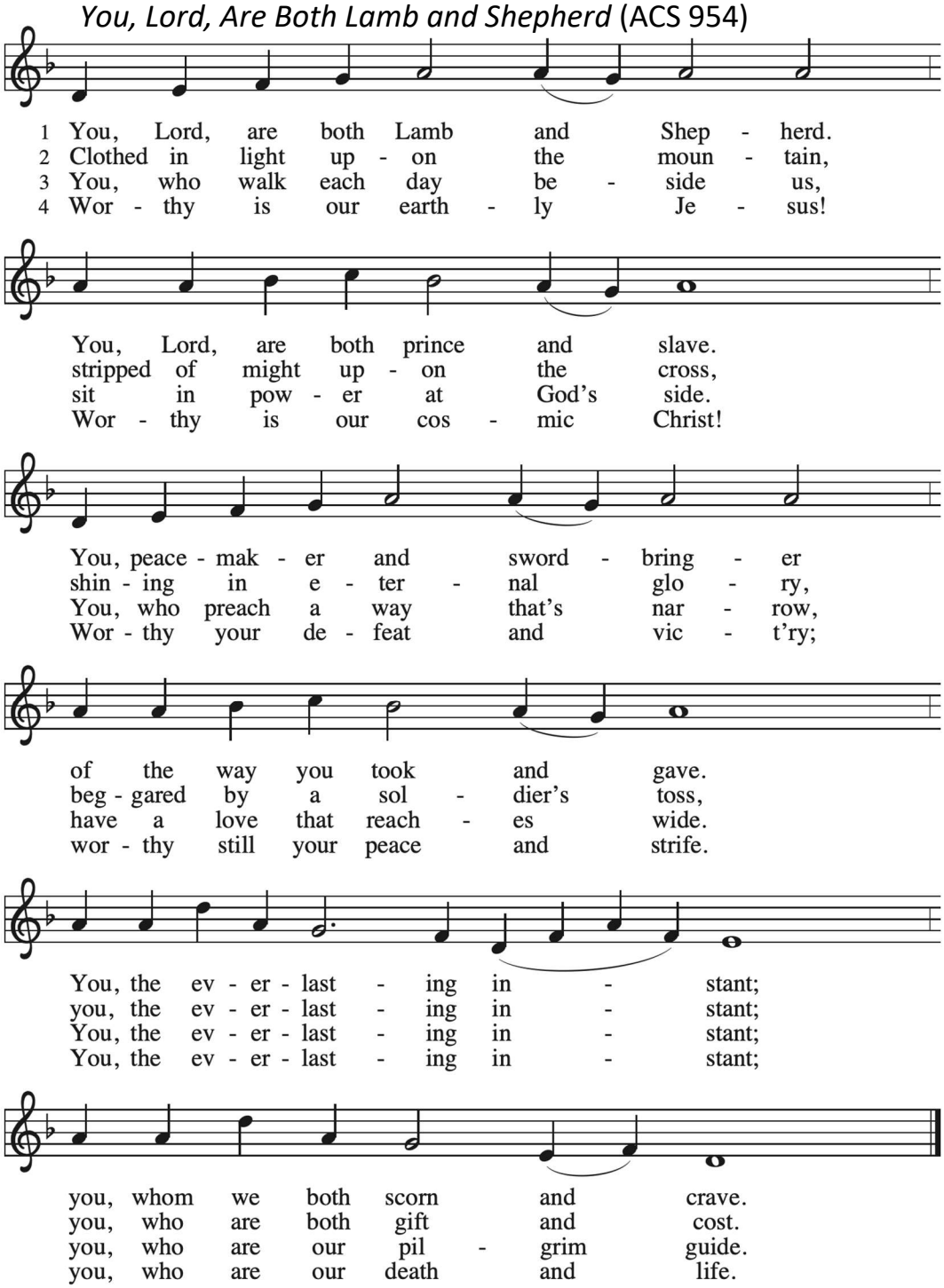
SONGS DURING COMMUNION

When Peace like a River (It Is Well with My Soul) (ELW 785)



Text: Horatio G. Spafford, 1828–1888
Music: VILLE DU HAVRE, Philip P. Bliss, 1838–1876

You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd (ACS 954)



Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993
Music: PICARDY, French folk tune, 17th cent.
Text © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

Please stand

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated
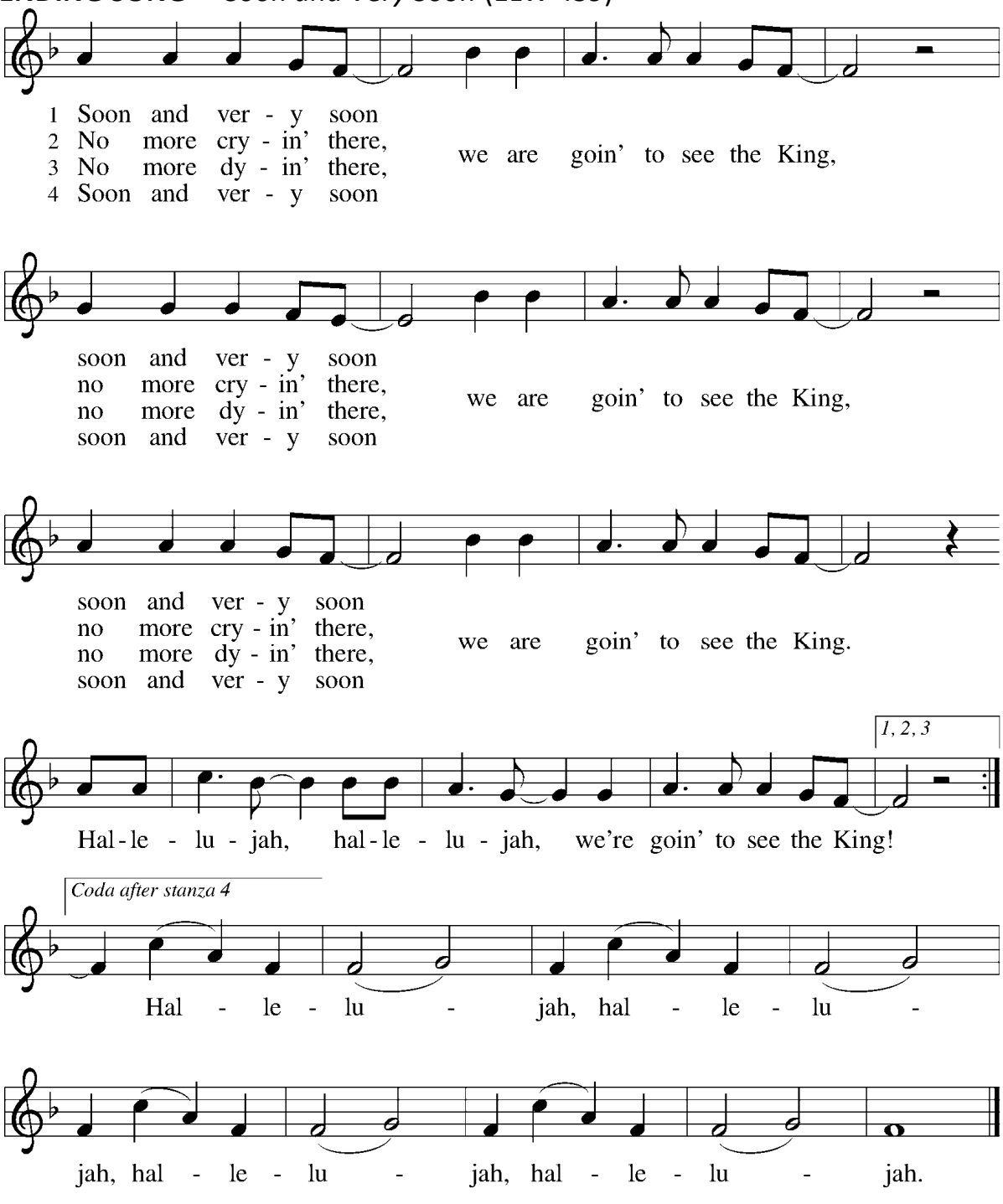
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you and be gracious towards you
the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you;
the Lord turn his face toward you and ✢ give you peace.
Amen.

SENDING SONG *Soon and Very Soon* (ELW 439)



Text: Andraé Crouch, b. 1945
Music: VERY SOON, Andraé Crouch
Text and music © 1976 Bud John Songs, Inc./Crouch Music, admin. EMI Christian Music Publishing

DISMISSAL
Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *Toccata* Joseph Seeger (1716-1782)

The Ministers of Service:

- Officiant: The Reverend Larry Closter
- Organist & Music Director: Ricky Gearhart
- This Service: Greeters: Nan Righter. Lessons & Prayers Reader: Ken Martin. Communion Assistant: Barry Hockenberry. Acolyte: Jacob Caroll
- Next Service: Greeters: Mistie McPadalin &Marianne Watson. Lessons & Prayers Reader: Bill McPadalin. Communion Assistant: ___ . Acolyte: Joey Patterson.

THIS WEEK AT TRINITY

~ Here's what's happening...



Welcome, scan the QR code—we'd love to connect with you.

- **Monday, November 9**
  - Senior Connections Lunch | parish Hall @10:30am – 1 pm.
- **Tuesday, November 10**
  - Sewing for the Savior @ 9:30 AM
  - LCW (Lutheran Church Women) @ 11:30 AM
  - Congregational Council Meeting @ 6:30 PM
- **Wednesday, November 11**
  - Veterans Day
- **Thursday, November 12**
  - Choir Rehearsal 5:45 PM
- **Friday, November 13**
  - Bible Study @ 10:00 AM | Room 205
  - CMSP Music private lesson 5PM
- **Saturday, November 14**
  - CMSP – Fall Music Together 9:00–10:00 AM | Room 202
- **Sunday, November 15**
  - **Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost** Worship @ 9:30 AM, following service; Fellowship Coffee Hour, Chime Choir, Bible Study.
  - *FYI, Angel tree goes up*

Attendance and General Offering

DATE	IN PERSON | ONLINE | OFFERING
10/11/2026	40 | 16 | $1383
10/18/2026	37 | 13 | $ 2,605
10/26/2026	52 | 9 | $9756
11/1/2026	54 | 10 | $3,577

WEEKLY OPERATIONAL COSTS $ 4,649.00

Holiday Food Box Program

From the Social Ministry & Outreach Team

Our Holiday Food Box Program, a partnership among local churches for more than 15 years, provides Thanksgiving meals to families in need. This year, we are helping 88 families, including families referred through Frederick County Public Schools and elderly veterans.

We are still collecting:

- Boxed mashed potatoes
- Canned yams
- Turkey gravy
- Cranberry sauce
- Instant rice
- Egg noodles
- Stuffing mix

Additional Pantry Needs: Laundry detergent and toilet paper.

Every donation helps! Please bring items to the church office by November 15.

Questions? Contact Kim at 540-664-8088 or kbegnaud0101@yahoo.com

Please Consider Donating Chancel Flowers

Would you like to honor a loved one or celebrate a special occasion? Consider donating **chancel flowers** for a Sunday service.
Flower donations are a beautiful way to:

- Honor or remember someone special
- Celebrating a birthday, anniversary, or milestone
- Add beauty to our worship space

If you'd like to donate flowers for an upcoming Sunday, please sign up on the **flower calendar** in the church Narthex or contact Martha Cooley.
You're welcome to take the flowers home after the service, or they can be delivered to someone in need of encouragement.

November at Trinity 8–30, 2026

November 8–19

Sun., Nov. 8 – Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost
Worship – 9:30 AM
Coffee Hour – Parish Hall; all welcome!
Chime Choir Practice & Bible Study

Mon., Nov. 9
Senior Connections Lunch – 10:30 AM–1 PM

Tues., Nov. 10
Sewing for the Savior – 9:30 AM, Room 204
LCW – 11:30 AM, Room 205
Council Meeting – 6:30 PM, Parish Hall

Wed., Nov. 11
Veterans Day

Thu., Nov. 12
Choir Rehearsal – 5:45 PM

Fri., Nov. 13
Bible Study

Sun., Nov. 15 – Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost
Worship – 9:30 AM
Coffee Hour – Parish Hall; all welcome!
Chime Choir Practice & Bible Study

Mon.–Fri., Nov. 16–20
Thanksgiving Food Box Preparation – Parish Hall

Thu., Nov. 19
Choir Rehearsal – 5:45 PM

November 20–30

Fri., Nov. 20
Bible Study

Sat., Nov. 21
Thanksgiving Food Box Distribution – 9 AM–12 PM

Sun., Nov. 22 – Christ the King Sunday
Worship – 9:30 AM
Coffee Hour – Parish Hall; all welcome!
Chime Choir Practice & Bible Study

Mon., Nov. 23
Hanging of the Greens – 2:30 PM

Tues., Nov. 24
Sewing for the Savior – 9:30 AM, Room 204

Wed., Nov. 25
No Community Meal. Holiday meal December 2!

Thu., Nov. 26 – Thanksgiving
Office Closed

Fri., Nov. 27
Office Closed
Bible Study Canceled

Sun., Nov. 29 – First Sunday of Advent (Year B)
Worship – 9:30 AM
Coffee Hour – Parish Hall; all welcome!
Chime Choir Practice & Bible Study

I Can 2
With God All Things Are Possible

I Can 2 Meets on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays.
They gather in the Parish Hall for 10 – 20 minutes before either going upstairs to room 203 or departing for events, they gather back downstairs on Mondays to have lunch, and then again prior to departure at 3 pm on those days.
(unless room conflict then they gather in the Narthex instead of Parish Hall)

Christmas Eve Service Survey Results:

This Year we will have one service @ 7PM on Christmas Eve.

Thank you for sharing your feedback!



Introducing the Trinity Cyber Café!

Beginning Sunday, November 15 · During Coffee Hour

Have questions about Trinity's website or mobile app? Stop by and visit with our volunteers, who will have a church laptop ready to help you one-on-one!

Explore the app, learn how to log in and update your profile, discover helpful features, and share your questions and feedback. Keeping your profile current also helps our church office maintain accurate records and our church directory.

More than technology help, the Cyber Café is an opportunity for fellowship, discovery, and getting to know one another. We all communicate differently, and your input helps us make these resources more useful for everyone.

Stop by, say hello, and explore with us!

trinitychurchvirginia.com



ONGOING ANNOUNCEMENTS

🙌 **Sunday Servants**

We'd love your help in making each Sunday special. Whether you'd like to greet, read, assist with Communion, or take part in special services, there's a place for you! Reach out to **Christine Cornwell** or sign up through **SignUpGenius** in the newsletter.

🙏 **Prayer Team Table**

Located just inside the sanctuary entrance. Submit a card with your prayer request or contact **Laurie Closter 540-840-8401**, to add a name to the Prayers of Intercession. Or simply scan and submit

🏥 **Hospital Visitation**

Pastor Closter is registered with Valley Health for hospital visits. Due to HIPAA laws, the hospital cannot notify us when someone is admitted.

To request a visit, contact the church office at **540-869-4019**, or after hours, call Pastor Closter at **540-848-5325**. You may also reach out to **Pastor Closter** or **Martha Cooley**.

HANGING OF THE GREENS - Monday, November 23rd @2:30 PM

Join us as we come together to prepare our church for the Advent and Christmas seasons! Members of the Altar Guild and volunteers will set up the Advent wreath and decorate our church for Christmas. All are welcome to lend a hand as we prepare our sanctuary for this special time of year.

Many hands make the work joyful!

Now taking vendor applications. Please see link in newsletter, or on the event Calander on our website to apply. Return by November 15, 2026.



TRINITY
LUTHERAN CHURCH

STEPHENS CITY, VIRGINIA

Growing in God's Grace

TRINITY LEADERSHIP & STAFF

Growing in God's Grace

CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. Larry Closter
Interim Pastor
Cell: (540) 848-5325

Ricky Gearhart
Organist & Music Director

Jodie Broccolo
Administrative Assistant

Mark Greene
Treasurer

Vacant
Bookkeeper

Mike Pyne
Financial Secretary

TRUSTEES

- Diann Daily
- Barry Hockenberry
- Tom Righter

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL • 2026

Carole Pfisterer
President

Marianne Watson
Vice President

Patty Stringer
Secretary

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Bruce Everly • Jim Hall • David Reichert
Tom Righter • Dorothée St. Germain

CHURCHWIDE LEADERSHIP

The Rev. Yehiel Curry
Presiding Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

The Rev. Dr. Phyllis Blair Milton
Bishop
Virginia Synod, ELCA

VISIT US
810 Fairfax Street
Stephens City, VA 22655

CONTACT US
(540) 869-4019
office@trinitychurchvirginia.org
trinitychurchvirginia.com

OFFICE HOURS
Church Office:
Monday–Thursday • 8:30 AM–1:00 PM
Pastor's Office Hours:
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday
9:00 AM–1:00 PM

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP
SUNDAYS AT 9:30 AM