17th Sunday after Pentecost
September 20, 2026

We welcome you to The Traditional Service

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

2025 Eastern Ave, Erie, PA 16510 814-899-6386 messiah-erie.org

Our Staff

Cindy Anderson, *Parish Administrator Email: secretary@messiah-erie.org*
Bonnie Stearns, *Director of Utilities*
Michelle Flaherty, *The Gathering Music Minister: mlcmusic@messiah-erie.org*
Pastor Tom Glasoe, *Email: pastor@messiah-erie.org Cell: 814-460-8529*

We welcome Rev. Karen Kostur as our presider today

Our Mission:

Glorifying God through our worship, our witness, our service, and our support

Our Vision:

To build and strengthen the body of Christ

Holy Communion

We invite all baptized Christians to join us at the Lords Supper.
Wait for the Usher to guide you.

To receive the sacrament:

1. Communicant should receive the consecrated host from the Pastor and then proceed to the Assisting Minister who will be standing near the sanctuary pillar on whichever side of the church is being communed to receive a prefilled communion cup;
2. If the communicant prefers the consecrated grape juice, they shall receive that from the Pastor.
3. If you are unable to come forward, please let an usher know and the pastor will bring Holy Communion to you.

Bathrooms are located in two places. The downstairs restrooms can be reached by going through the double doors at the back of the sanctuary, then down the stairs to your left. Additional restrooms can be reached through the door next to the altar; proceed through the library, go around the corner, and use the second door on your left.

Worship Leaders Today

Assisting Minister:	Savanna Conner
Lector/Reader:	Laurie Hecht
Video:	Savanna Conner
Counter:	Laurie Hecht
Altar Guild	Robin Curtis, Jean Parker, Karen Pistner

Worship Leaders September 27

Assisting Minister:	Ray Bennett
Lector/Reader:	Laurie Hecht
Video:	Savanna Conner
Counter:	Linda Jones
Altar Guild:	Robin Curtis, Jean Parker, Karen Pistner
Altar Guild October	Ann Kent, Linda Jones, Linda Voigt

Confession and Forgiveness *Stand if Able*

P If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. Let us confess our sin to God who is faithful and just and who has promised to forgive our sin and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Most merciful God,

C have mercy on us.

C We confess to you that 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 trusted you with our whole heart; we have not loved one another in deed and truth. In your compassion forgive our sin and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ our light and our truth. Amen.

P With joy, I proclaim to you that Almighty God, rich in mercy, abundant in love, forgives you all your sin and grants you newness of life in Jesus Christ.

C Thanks be to God!

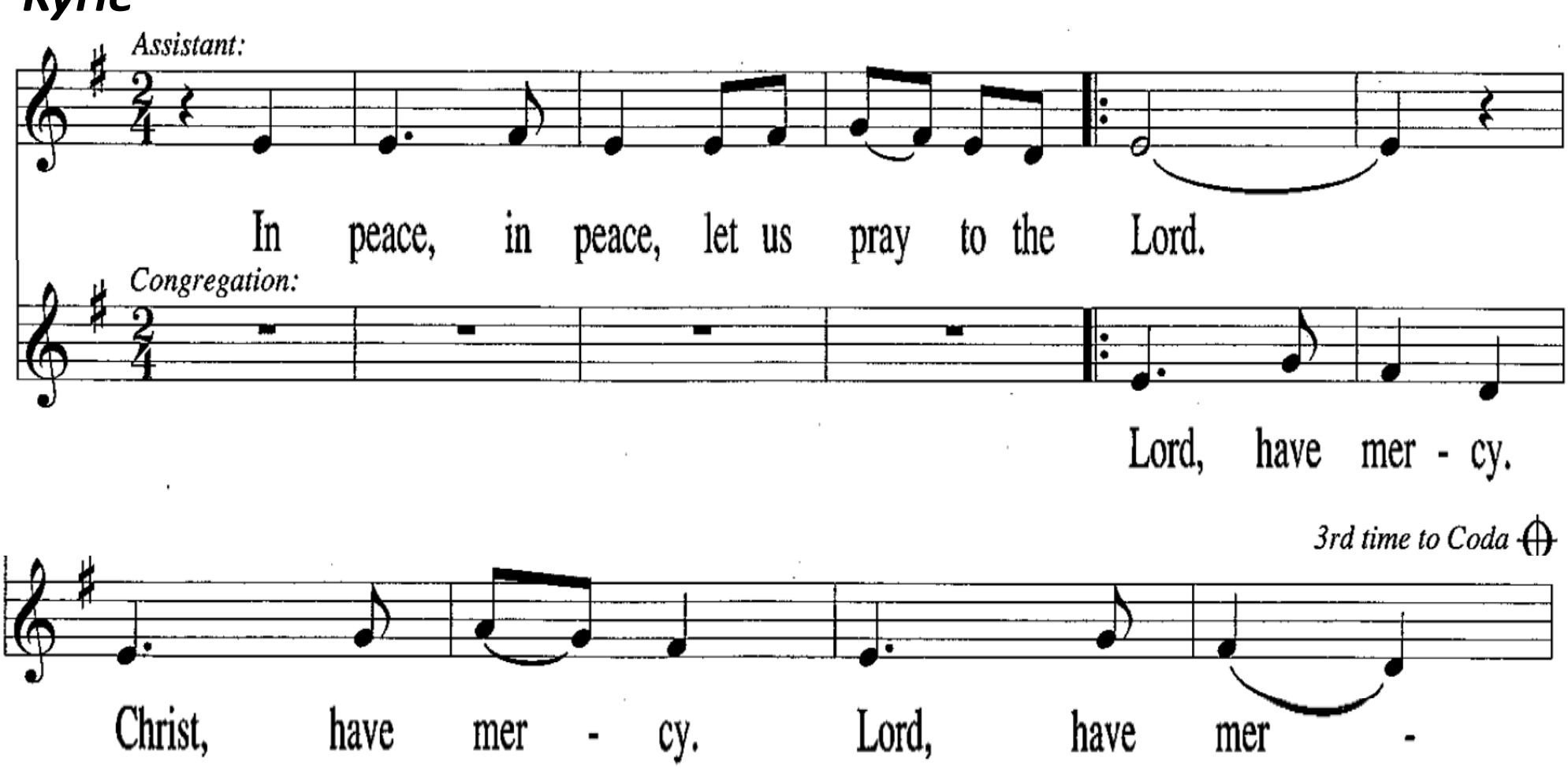
Gathering Hymn *Lord of Light*

Greeting

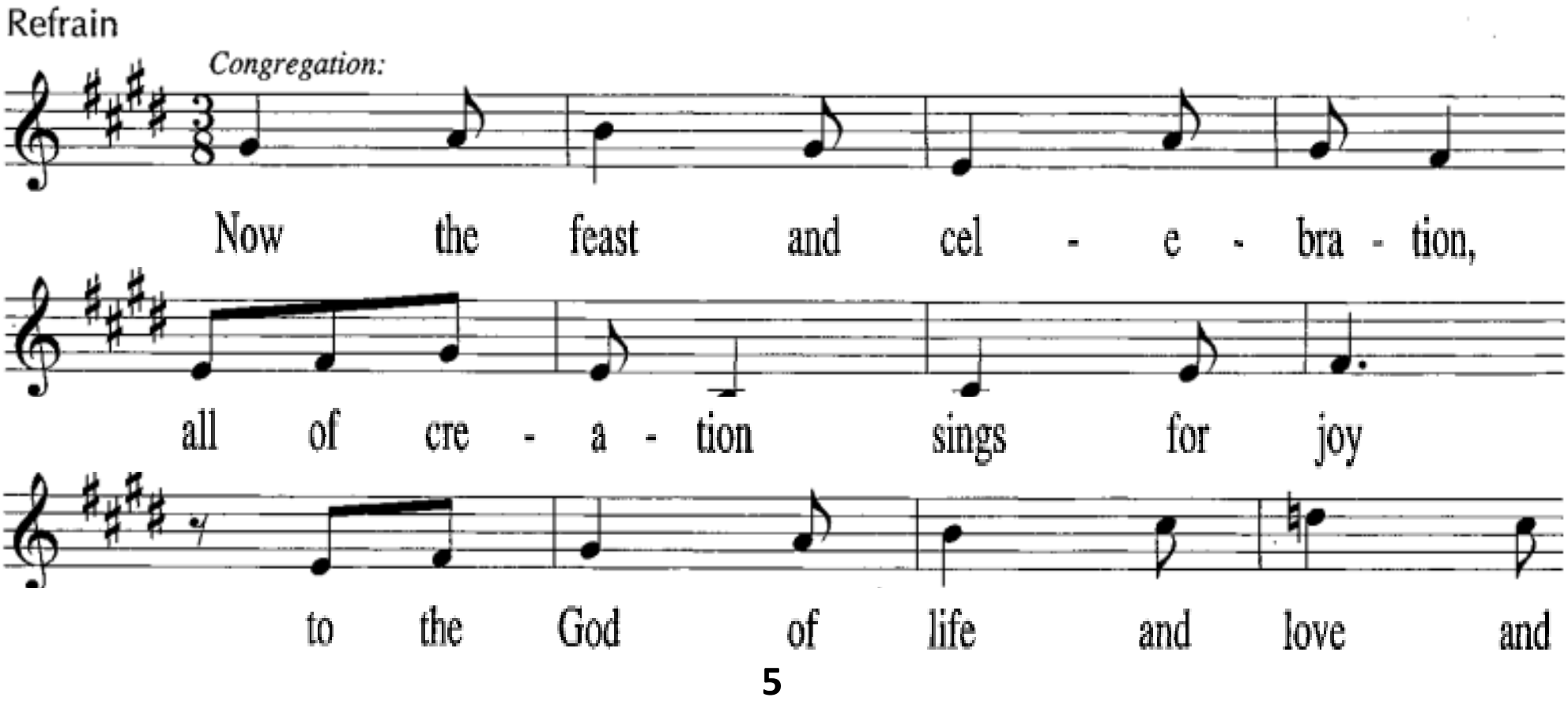
P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

Kyrie



Now the Feast



free - dom: praise and glo - ry for ev -

er - more!

Congregation or Congregation 1:

Now is the feast of the Lamb once

slain, whose blood has freed and u -

nit - ed us to be one great

To refrain

peo - ple of God.

Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and

might, all hon - or and glo - ry to Christ

To refrain

for ev - er.

Congregation:

3. For God has come to dwell with us,

to make us peo - ple of God; to make

Salutation

Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you. ***C*** **And also with you.**

P Let us Pray: Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen** *Please be seated.*

Lesson ***Jonah 3:10, 4:1-11***

When God saw what the people of Ninevah did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the LORD and said, “O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.” And the LORD said, “Is it right for you to be angry?” Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

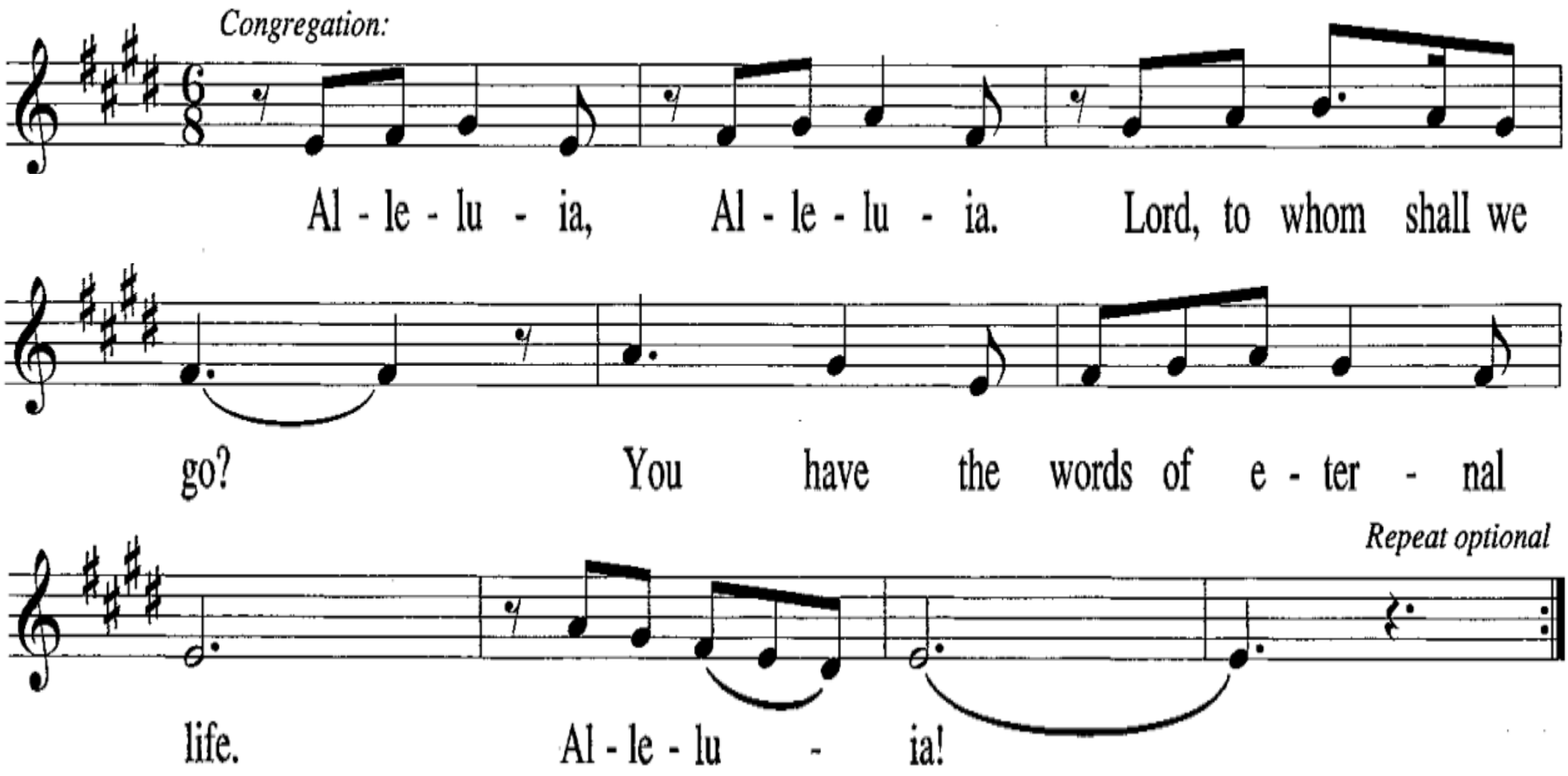
The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah

was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, “It is better for me to die than to live.”

But God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?” And he said, “Yes, angry enough to die.” Then the LORD said, “You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?”

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

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel Lesson ***Matthew 20:1-16***

Glory to you, O Lord

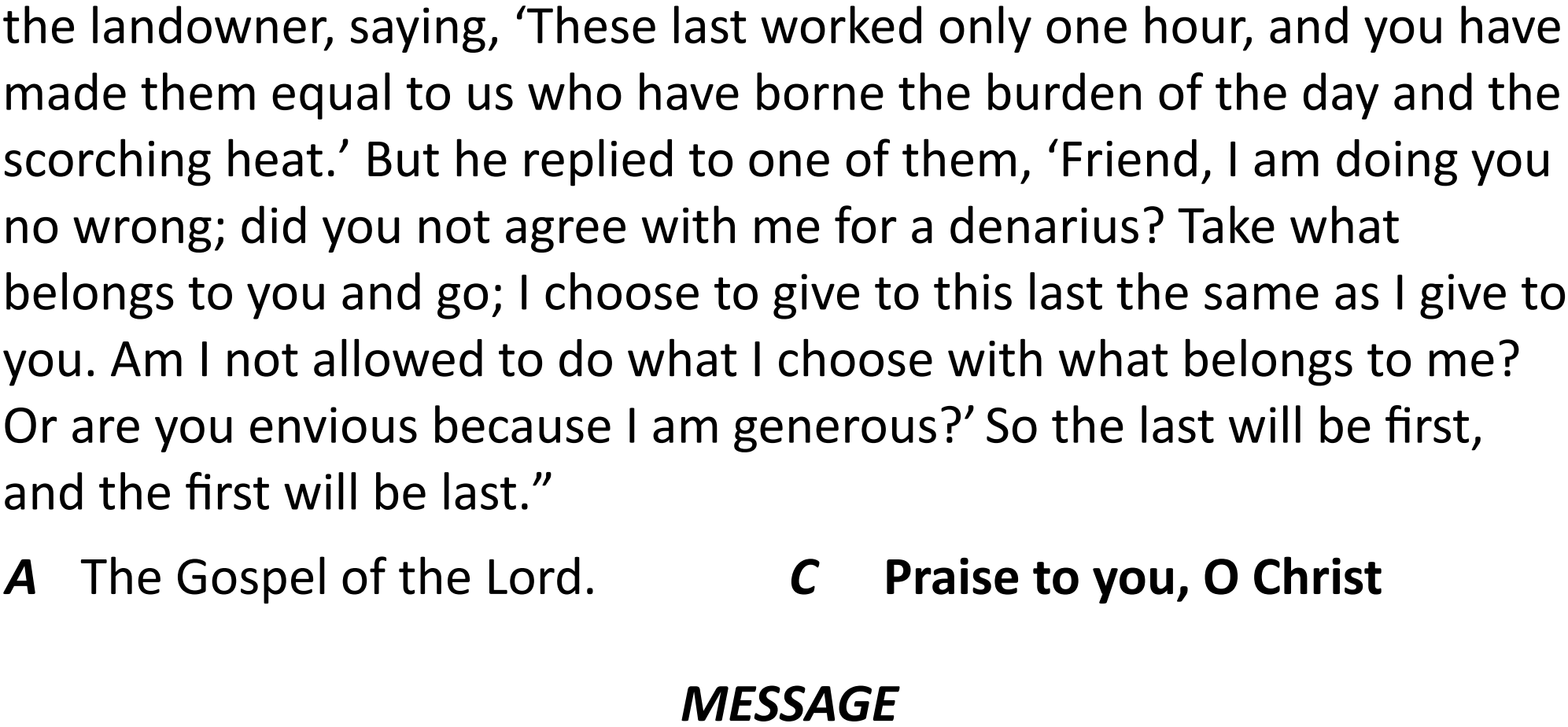
“For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius for the day, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in

the marketplace, and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around, and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received a denarius. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received a denarius. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for a denarius? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

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

MESSAGE

Hymn of the Day ***We Are Called***



Apostles' Creed

A Let us confess our faith with the words of the Apostles' 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 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 the People

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

C **Your mercy is great.**

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

C **Amen.**

Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us offer one another a sign of Christ's peace.

Instrumental music while the Altar is being prepared

Offertory Hymn Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful [stand]

Prayer of Dedication of Gifts and Self

A Let us pray. *(brief pause)* God of creation,

C **you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always. Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

Presider: The Lord be with you.

Congregation: And al - so with you.

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

Congregation: We lift them to the Lord.

Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Congregation: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Presider: It is our duty and de - light that we should everywhere and always offer thanks and praise to you, O God, through Je - sus Christ...

(Insert proper preface here)

...and so with the church on earth, all creation and the host of heaven we praise your name and join their un - end - ing

in rhythm *To Holy, Holy*

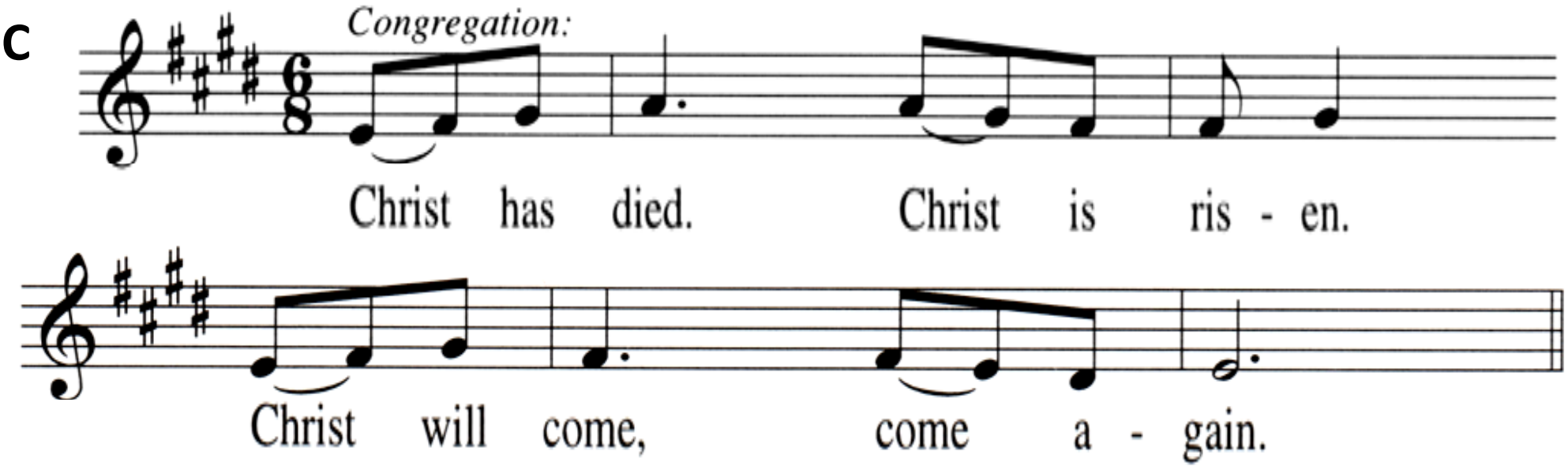
hymn: _____

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord

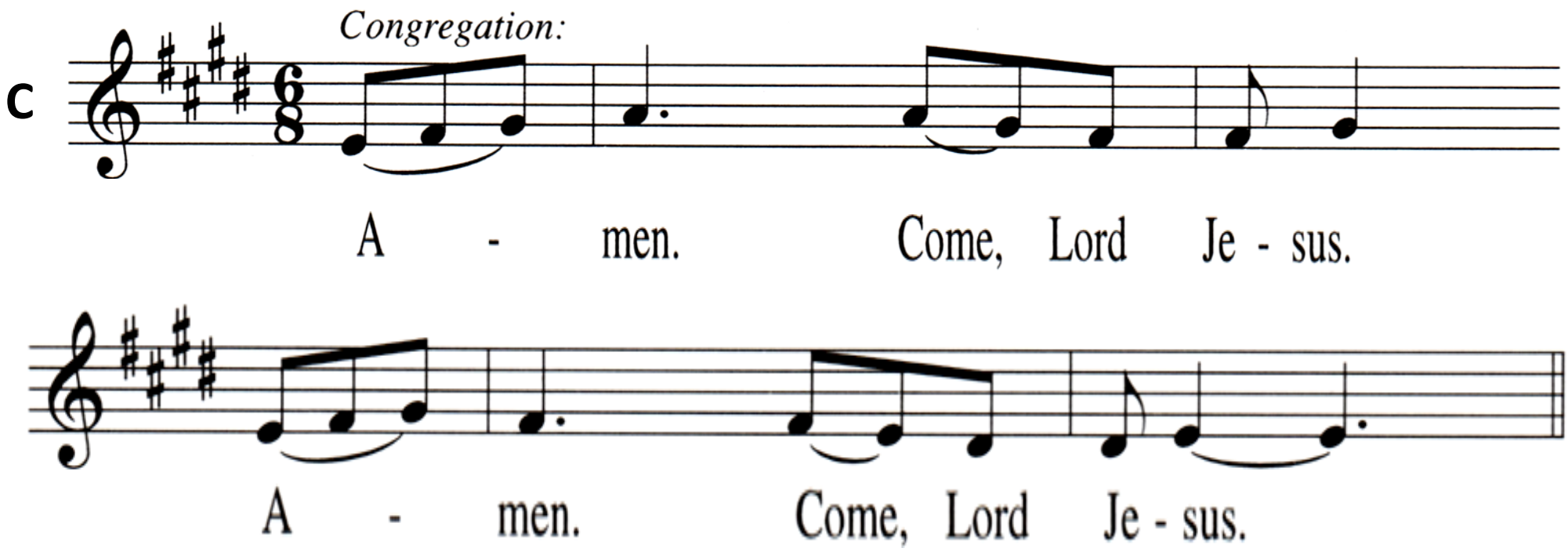
Eucharistic Prayer

P ...we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes:
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

C



P Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, ……. O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able.
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.



P We ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless ….. may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.
Amen. Come, Holy Spirit. Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

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

C **Amen.**

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.**

Invitation to Communion

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

Lamb of God

Distribution of Communion *[sit]*

Communion Music *Instrumental*

Post Communion Blessing

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

C **Amen.**

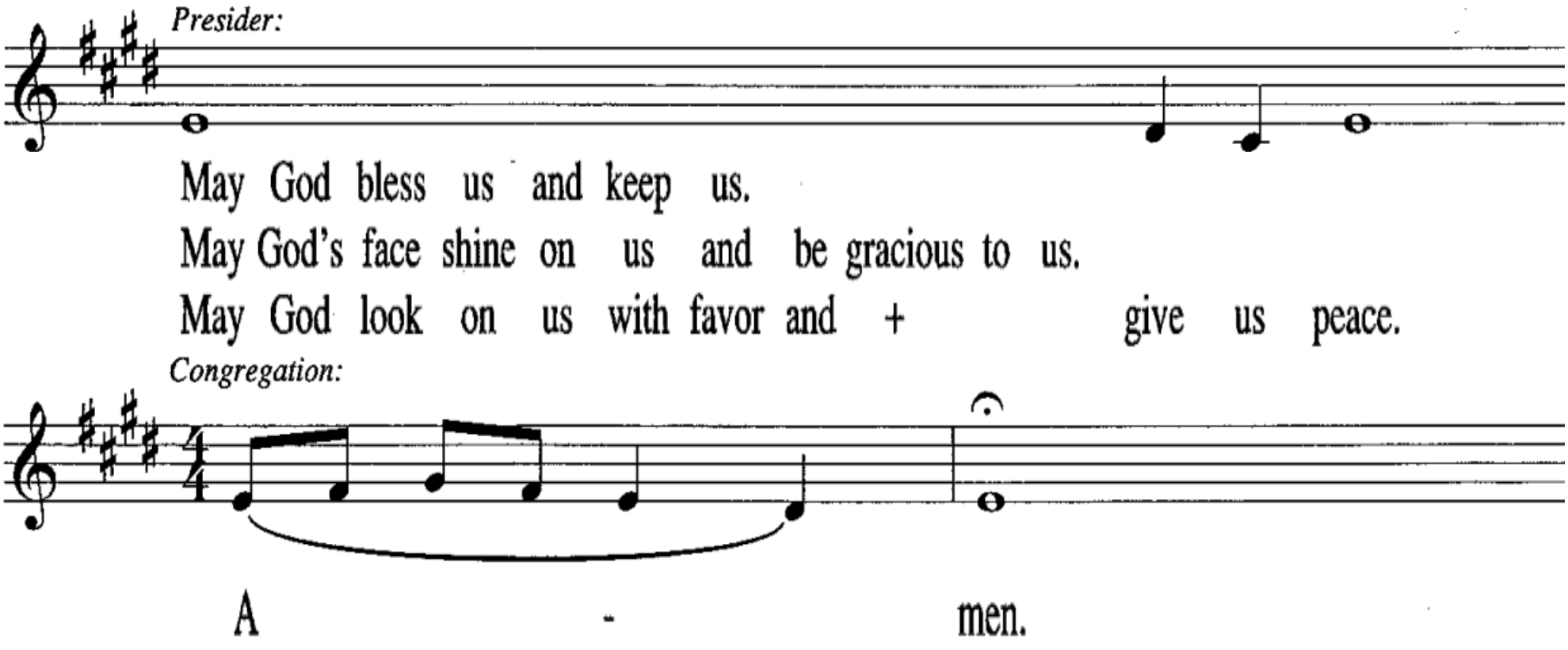
Post-Communion Canticle

Post Communion Prayer

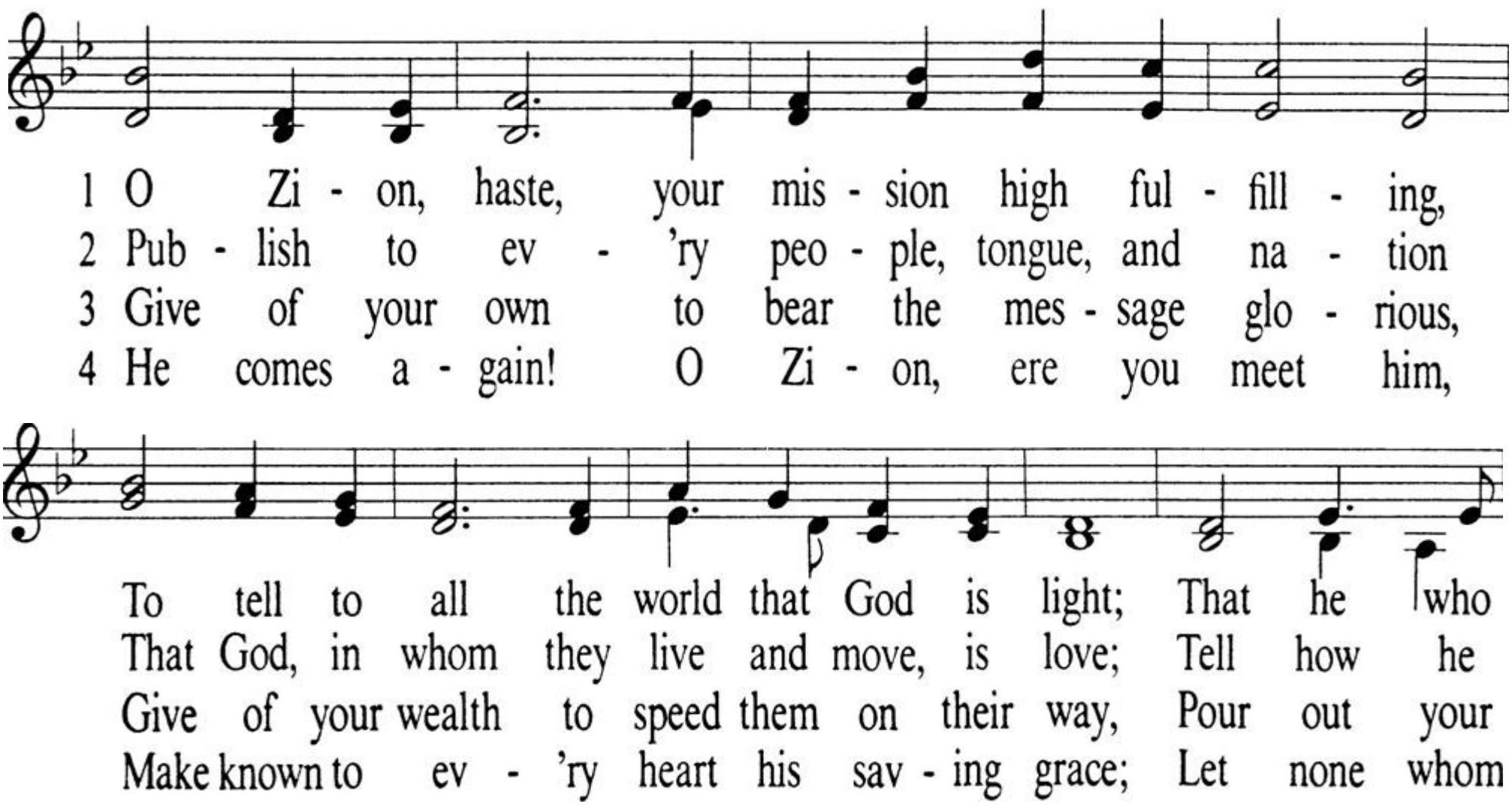
A Let us pray. Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray .

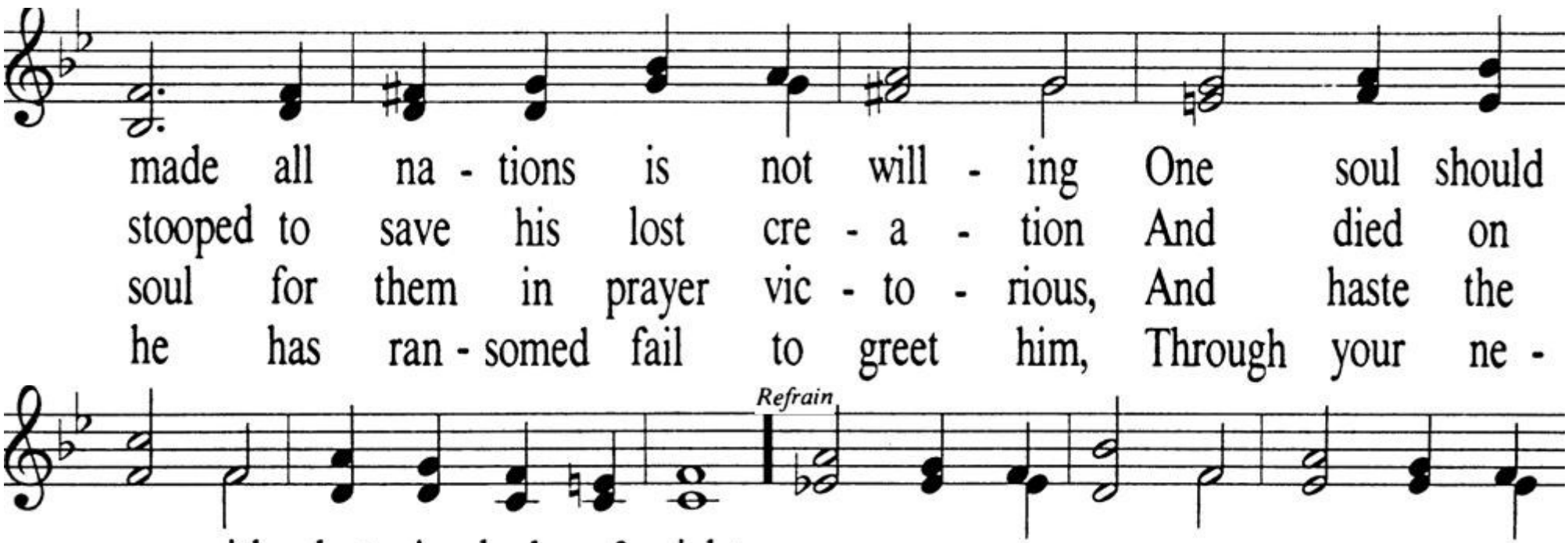
C **Amen**

Benediction



Sending Hymn ***O Zion, Haste***





Dismissal

A Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

One Vase of Flowers is given to the Glory of God and in Memory of my dad, Larry Shannon, for his birthday by Robin Curtis

One Vase of Flowers is given to the Glory of God and in Celebration of Pr. Tom's installation at Messiah by your Messiah Church Family

The Vigil Candle is given to the Glory of God and in Celebration of Pr. Tom's installation at Messiah by your Messiah Church Family

Announcements

Second Mile Giving is that stewardship we offer in addition to our regular giving. For **September *Bethesda Trinity Center*** is our Second Mile Giving beneficiary. Contributions may be made throughout the month by using the yellow envelopes found in the pews. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

Wesleyville Food Pantry: Please consider a financial gift. Checks should be made payable to Messiah Lutheran Church marking "Food Pantry" in the memo line.

Stained Glass Windows Special Congregation Meetings: **September 20, 2026 at 12:00 noon**. The Council invites you to an all-important meeting of the congregation to discuss and vote on the next step of restoring our beautiful stained-glass windows. Please come and hear the council's proposal about the windows.

Bible Study: Tuesday afternoons 1:30 pm in the Study Lounge and Wednesday night 6:00 pm in the Study Lounge.

Pulpit Exchange: Sunday, September 20 both services Rev. Karen Kostur from Immanuel Lutheran Church will be here to preach for both services.

Crop Walk: Sunday, September 27, 1:00 pm, Presque Isle Sign up on form in narthex, take an envelope and collect donations with checks payable to CWS/CROP. Don't want to walk/can't walk? Consider sponsoring someone who is by making a donation in the Narthex or online.

Lectio Divina: Sunday, September 27, 4:00 pm. Alternative worship service for all member and friends.

Pet Walk: Tuesday, September 29, 5:00 pm. *(Note change in time)* Meet in the parking lot for Pet Blessing, water provided, then a walk around the neighborhood.

Spiritual Walk: Sunday, October 4, 4:00 pm, Wintergreen Gorge.

Wesleyville Food Pantry Volunteers Needed

October 6 at 5:00-6:00pm for Country Fair distribution.
October 12 at 10:00am to unload senior boxes.
October 19at 10:00am to unload food delivery.
October 20 at 10:00-11:00am & 5:00-6:00pm for regular food distribution.

This Week at the Church

(See Newsletter for More Detail)

**Office Hours :Monday Closed, Tuesday 10:00am-5:00pm,
Wednesday Closed, Thursday 10:00am-5:00pm,
Friday 10:00am-5:00pm**

Sunday 9/20	***17th Sunday after Pentecost***	
	8:30 and 11:00AM	Service of Holy Communion
	Pulpit Exchange	Rev. Karen Kostur
	12:00PM	Special Congregational Meeting
Tuesday	10:00AM	Sewing Circle
	1:30PM	Bible Study
Wednesday	6:00PM	Bible Study
Thursday	10:00AM	Grateful Prayer Group-CC
	7:30PM	NA Group
Friday	7:30PM	AA
Sunday 9/27	***18th Sunday after Pentecost***	
	8:30 and 11:00AM	Service of Holy Communion
	9:45AM	Lectionary Study
	1:00PM	Crop Walk
	4:00PM	Lecto Divina

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