POWER IN THE SPIRIT



Friday, July 17, 2026
Worship with Holy Communion

Virginia Lutherans
Virginia Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

POWER IN THE SPIRIT WORSHIP
WITH HOLY COMMUNION



CALL TO WORSHIP "Sweet Hour Of Prayer" Kevin McChesney

Power in The Spirit Handchime Choir

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Please rise as you are able. All may make the sign of the cross as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity,+ one God,
whose compassion endures forever.
Amen.

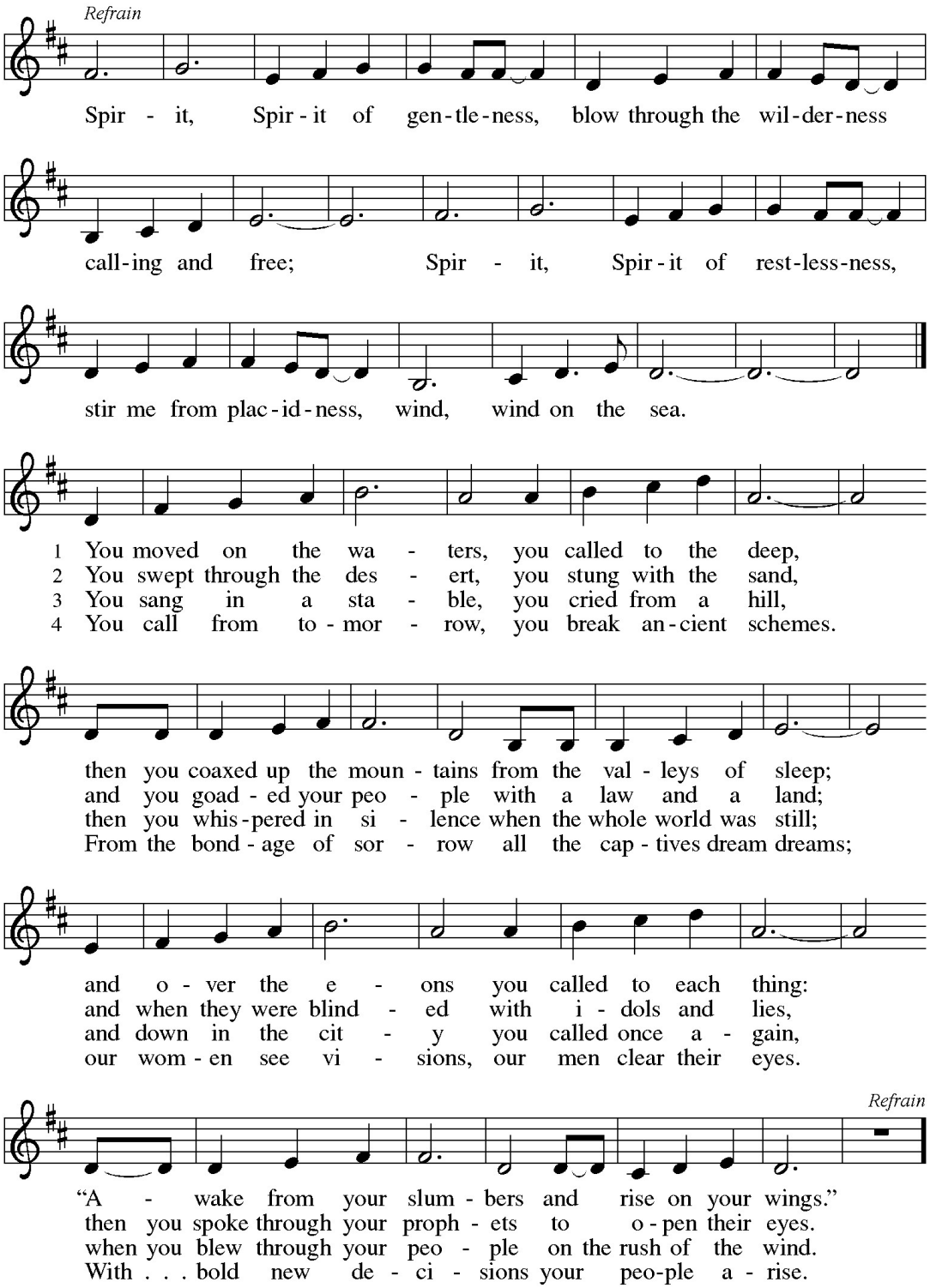
Let us confess our sin to God.
Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,
we confess to you all our sins.
Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.
In your mercy, call us back to you.
Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.
Restore us to dwell in your peace.
In Christ's name we pray,
Amen.

Jesus says, "Come to me,
all you who are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest."
In the name of God,
Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.
Rest in God's love.
Amen.

OPENING HYMN

Spirit of Gentleness



Text: James K. Manley, b. 1940
Music: SPIRIT, James K. Manley
Text and music © 1978 James K. Manley, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

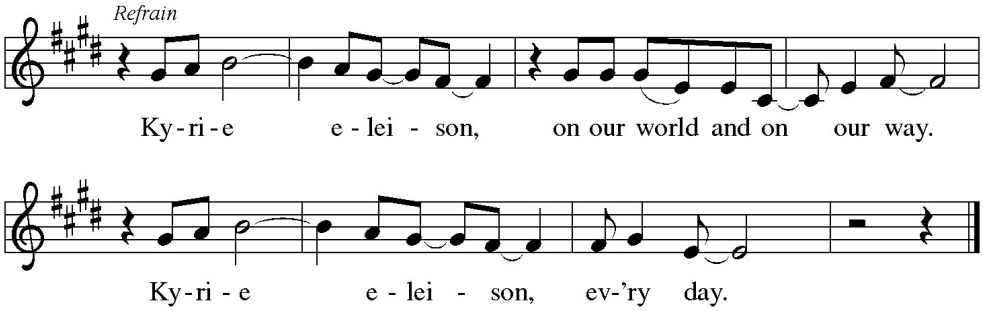
GREETING

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.

KYRIE

The assembly sings the refrain, and a leader sings the verses.



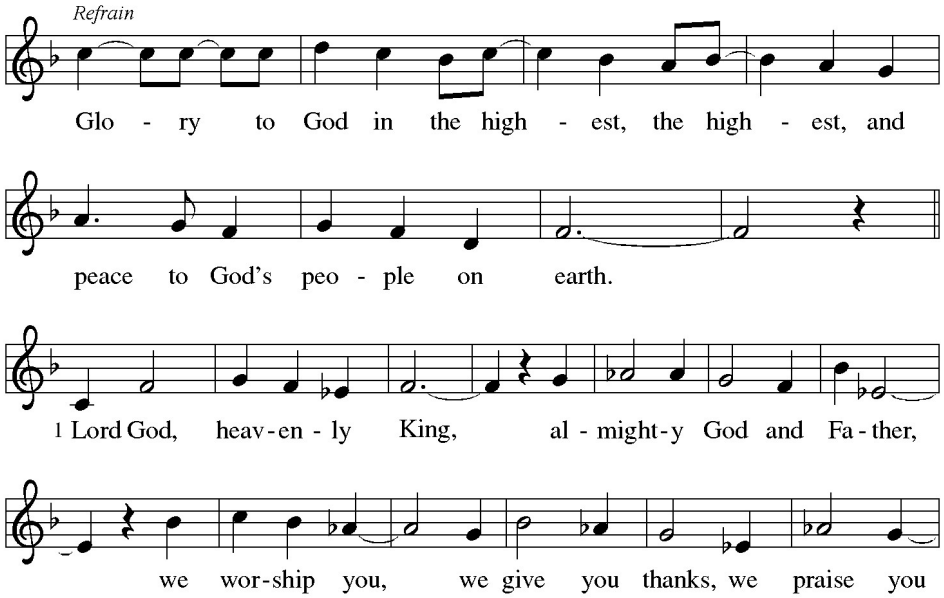
For peace in the world, for the health of the church,
for the unity of all;
for this holy house, for all who worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. ***Refrain***

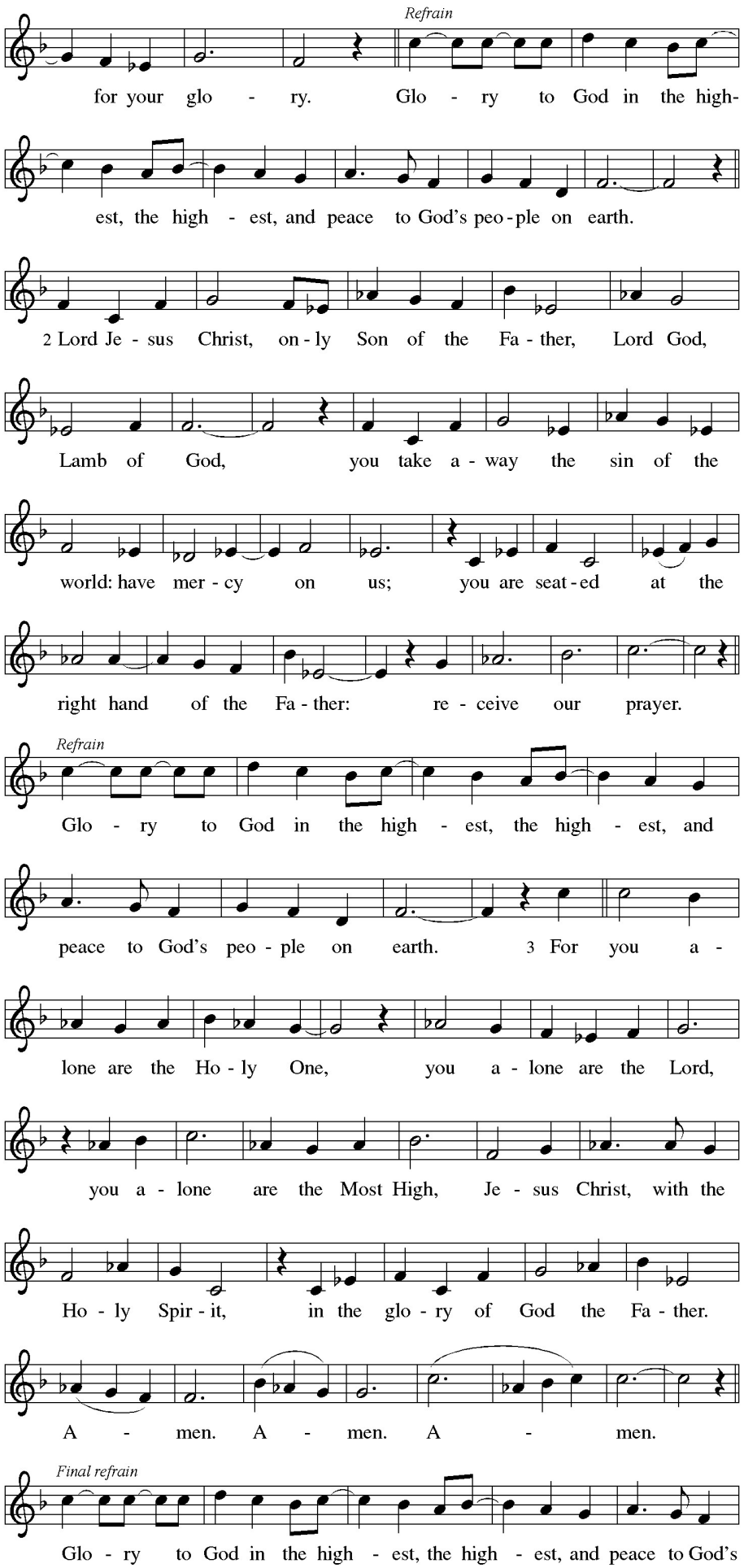
That we may live out your impassioned response
to the hungry and the poor;
that we may live out truth and justice and grace,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. ***Refrain***

For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes,
for friends and family;
for life and for love, for our work and our play,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. ***Refrain***

For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives
in the water and the Word;
that you nourish our souls with your body and blood,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. ***Refrain***

CANTICLE OF PRAISE



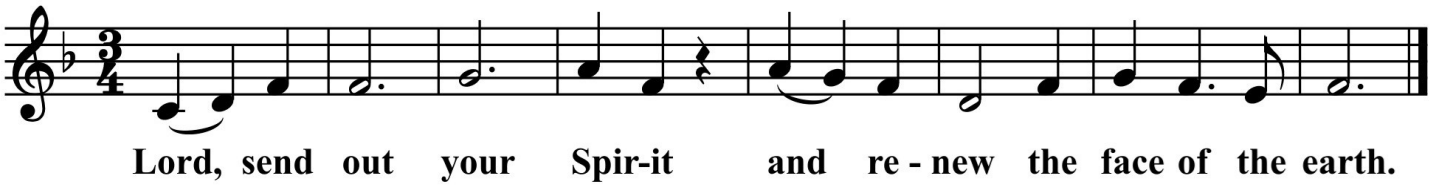

Refrain
for your glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high-
est, the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God,
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat-ed at the
right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.
Refrain
Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and
peace to God's peo - ple on earth. 3 For you a -
lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
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. A - men. A - men.
Final refrain
Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and peace to God's

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the power of your Holy Spirit. By your grace, empower, equip, and enlighten us so that we may reflect your love and your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.
Please be seated.

PSALM 104 Lord, Send Out Your Spirit Ken Canedo
The cantor will sing the verses and the assembly will respond by singing the refrain.

Refrain:



1. Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord, my God, you are great indeed!
   How manifold are your works, O Lord!
   The earth is full of your creatures. ***Refrain.***

2. If you take away their breath, they perish and return to dust.
   When you send forth your spirit, they are created,
   and you renew the face of the earth. ***Refrain.***

3. May the glory of the Lord endure forever; may the Lord be glad in his works!
   Pleasing to him by my theme;
   I will be glad in the Lord. ***Refrain.***

NEW TESTAMENT READING **Acts 16:13-15**

13 On the Sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer,
and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. 14 A certain woman named Lydia, a wor-
shiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord
opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. 15 When she and her household were baptized, she
urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she pre-
vailed upon us.

Word of God. Word of Life.
Thanks be to God.

Please rise as you are able.

THE SERMON TEXT Acts 1:8

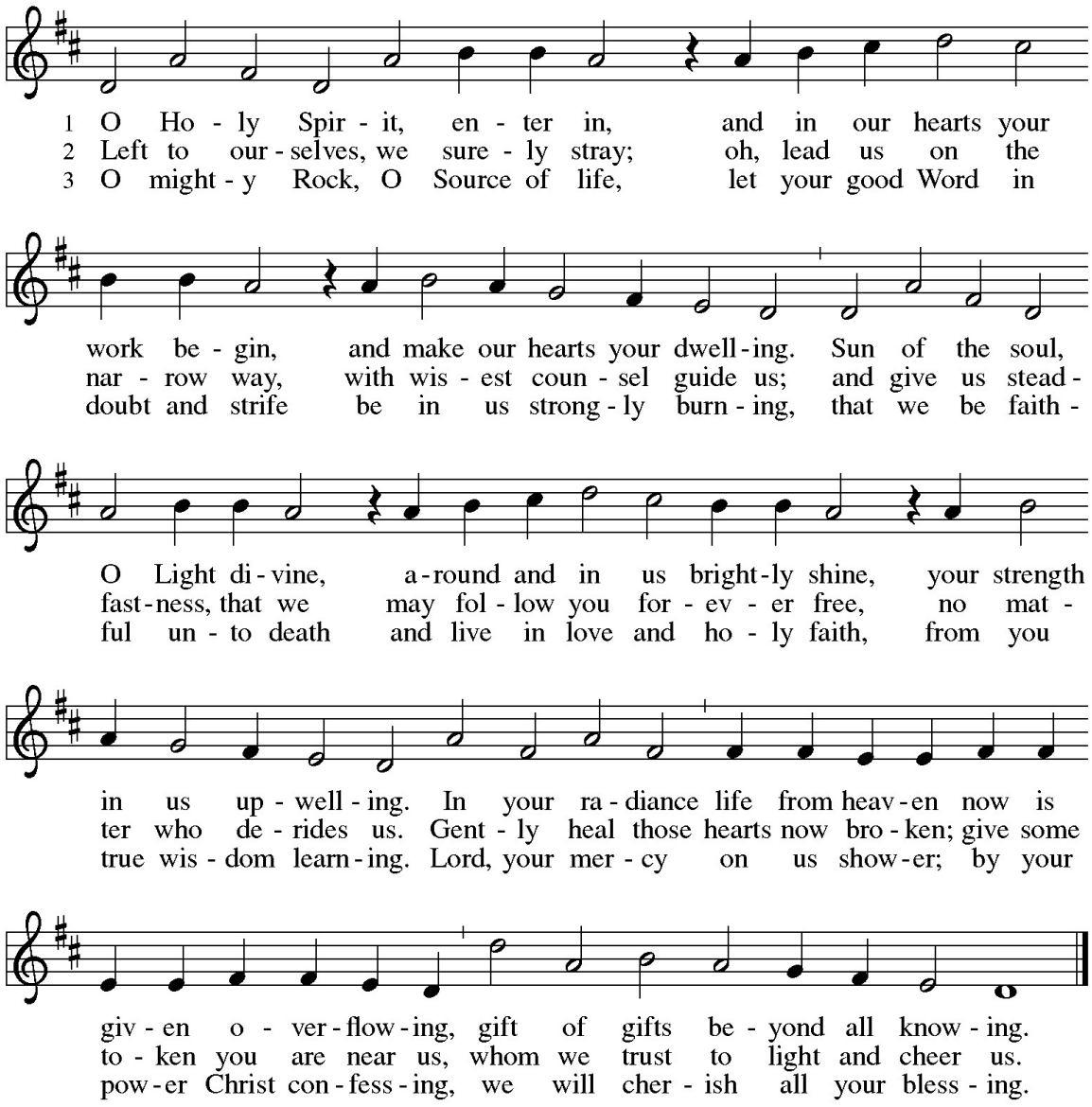
8 [Jesus said:] But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my
witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Word of God. Word of life.
Thanks be to God.

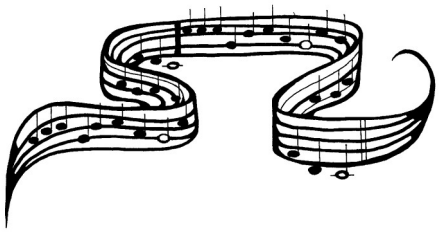
SERMON The Reverend Yehiel Curry, Presiding Bishop, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

HYMN OF THE DAY

O Holy Spirit, Enter In



Text: Michael Schirmer, 1606–1673; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, adapt.
Music: WIE SCHÖN LEUCHTET, Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608



APOSTLES' CREED

Let us confess our faith together:

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

Each petition ends with: Hear us, O God. The response is: **Your mercy is great.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

We share the peace of Christ with each other with a handshake, a hug, or in other appropriate ways acknowledging there are still health concerns for some.

OFFERINGS

This year's worship offering will go to The Horizon Apprenticeship Program. You can use the QR code below if you wish.

Horizon Apprenticeship Program is an innovative, year-round initiative that empowers youth and young adults, ages 16-20, from racially and ethnically diverse backgrounds to grow as leaders through hands-on ministry, mentorship, and community engagement. Through the program, they will:

- *Develop practical leadership skills in a supportive, faith-based environment*
- *Make a meaningful impact in your congregation, camp, or community*
- *Connect with a network of peers and mentors from across the ELCA*
- *Earn a stipend while growing in purpose and confidence*

Join in shaping the future of the church and the world.

OFFERTORY "Total Praise" *Richard Smallwood*

Power in The Spirit Conference Choir

OFFERING PRAYER

Loving God,
we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.
Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,
so that all creation can taste your abundance.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.
Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

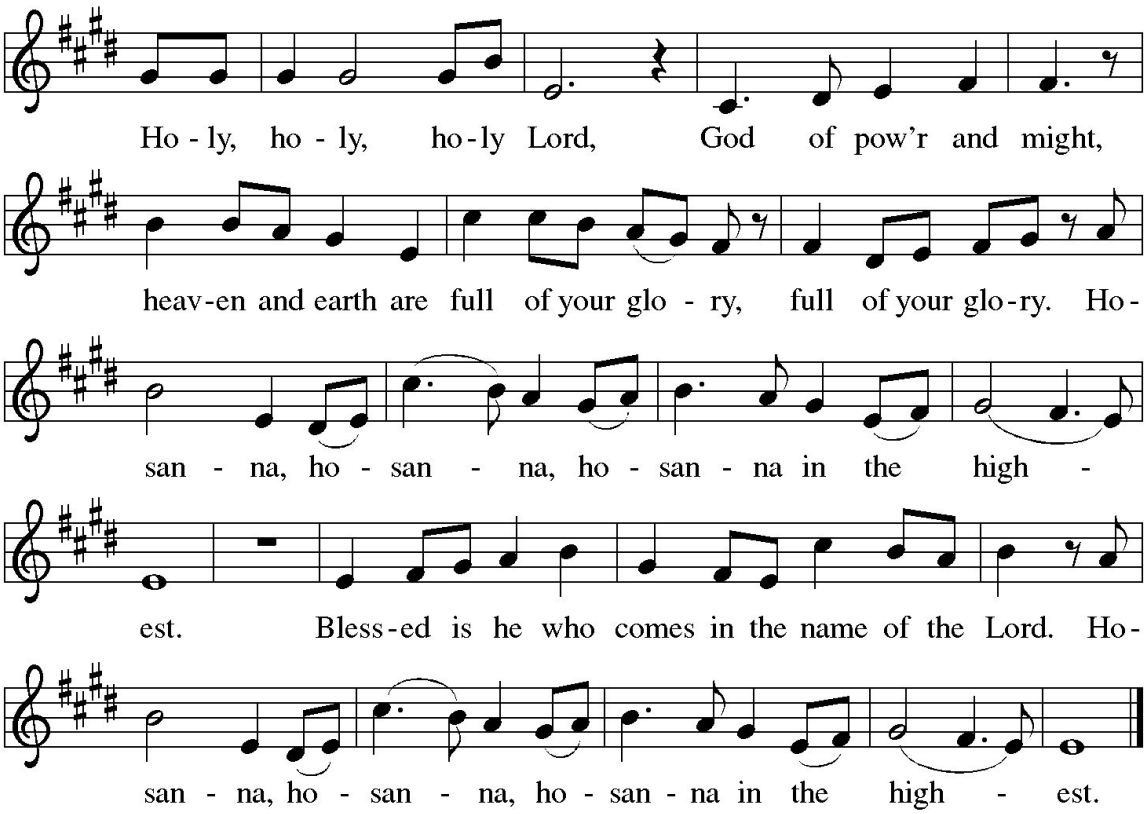
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

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.

The presiding minister continues:

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. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the host of heaven, we praise your name and join in their unending hymn:



Eucharistic Prayer

Holy God,
you alone are holy,
you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise:
beyond the stars;
beneath the sea;
within each cell;
with every breath.

We praise you, O God.

Generations bless your faithfulness:
through the water;
by night and day;
across the wilderness;
out of exile;
into the future.

We bless you, O God.

We give you thanks for your dear Son:
at the heart of human life;
near to those who suffer;
beside the sinner;
among the poor;
with us now.

We thank you, O God.

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.

Remembering his love for us
on the way,
at the table,
and to the end,
we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

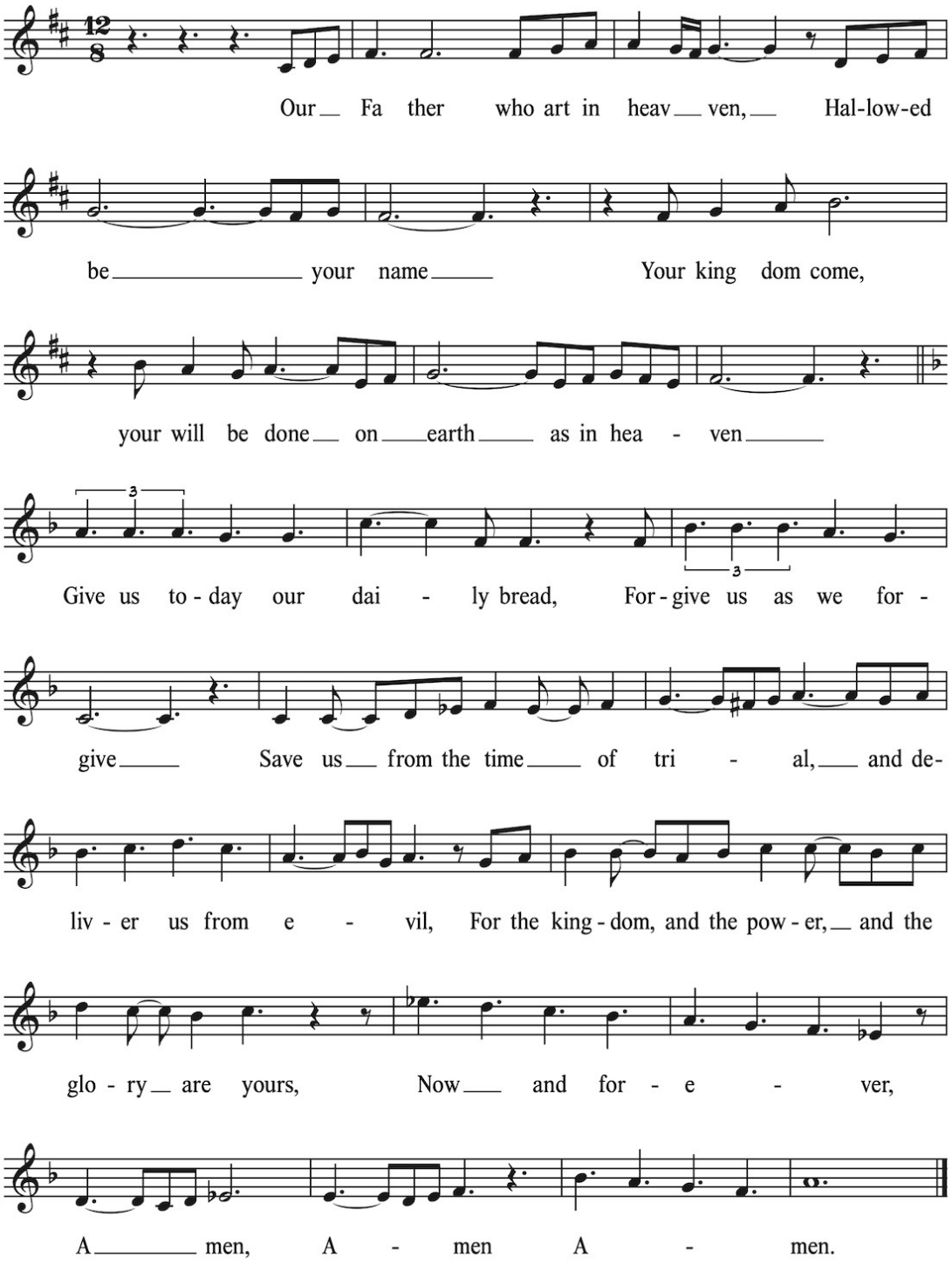
We pray for the gift of your Spirit:
in our gathering;
within this meal;
among your people;
throughout the world.

Blessing, praise, and thanks
to you, holy God,
through Christ Jesus,
by your Spirit,
in your church,
without end.

Amen.

The service continues with singing
The Lord's Prayer on the following page

THE LORD'S PRAYER



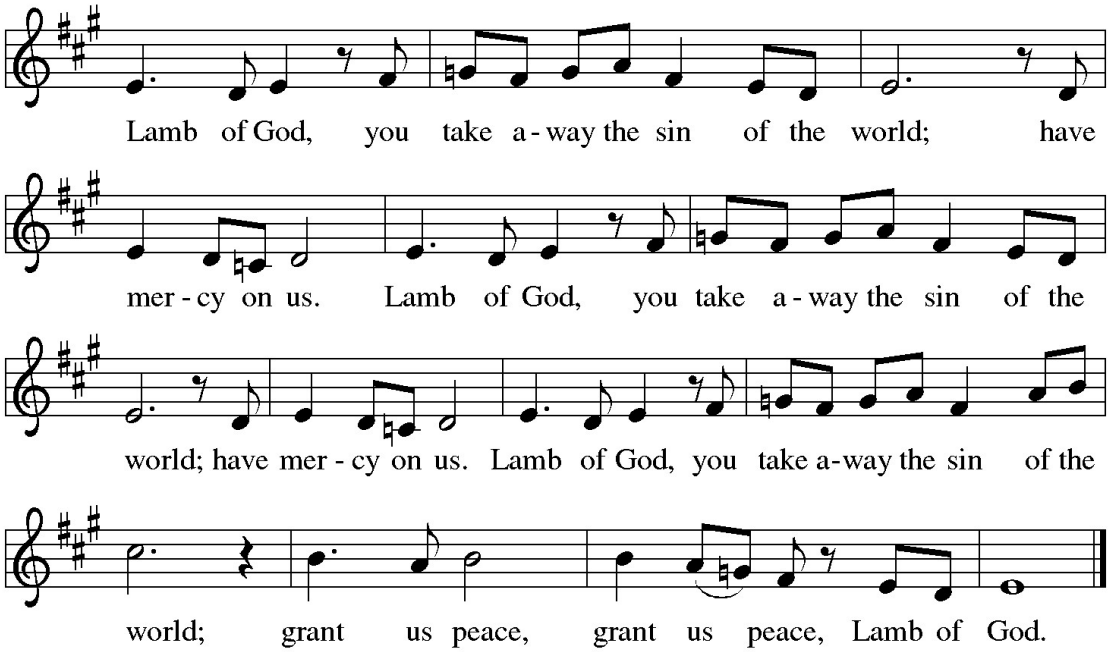
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!

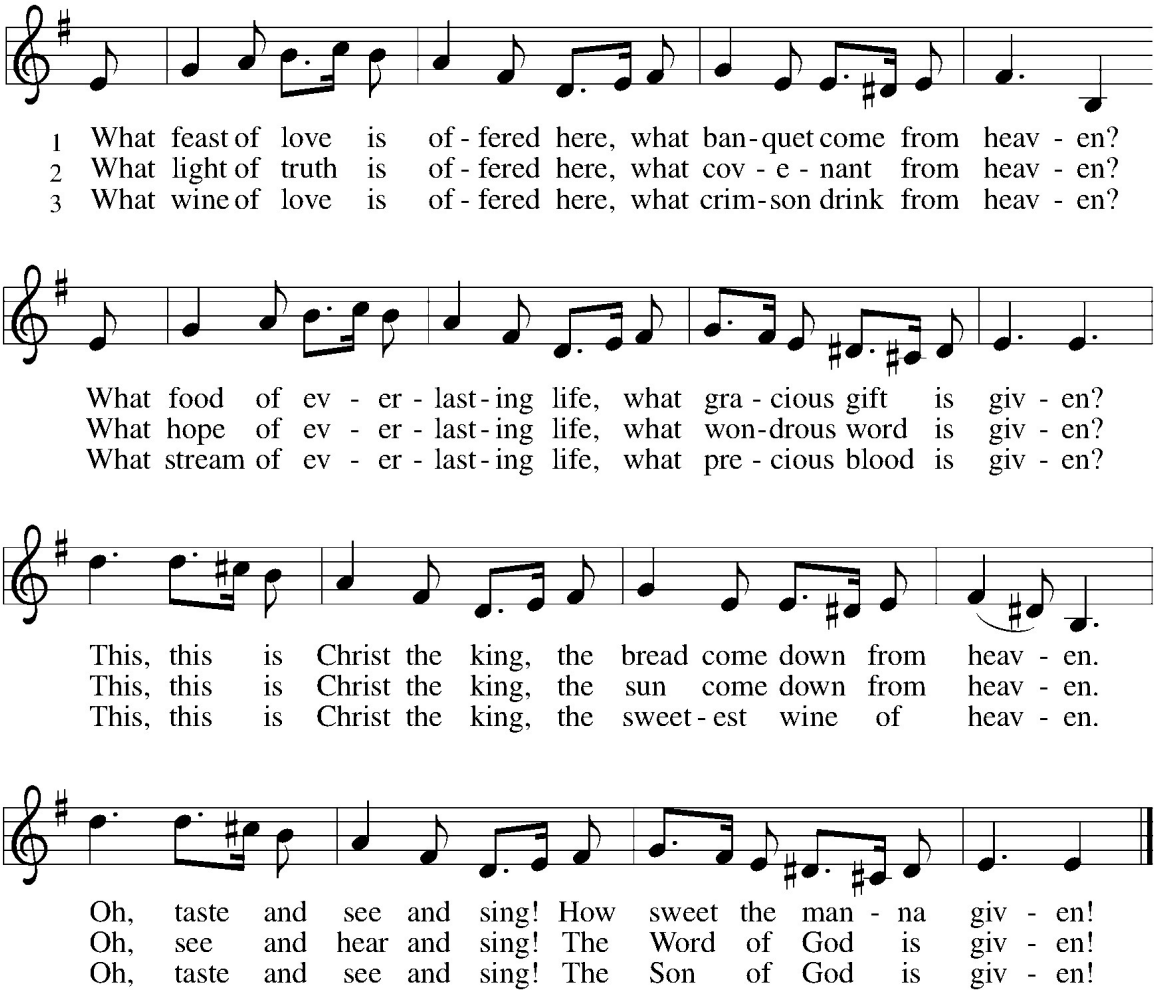
Holy Communion will be distributed at three stations. The sides of the theater will commune first, then the center section. There you will take the bread (gluten-free) then move on to choose either the wine in the clear glasses, or grape juice in the purple glasses. Place the empty glass in the basket provided and return to your seat.

*For those **remaining in their places** with the pre-packaged communion sets, the presiding minister will instruct you as to when you may partake.*

The service continues with the Agnus Dei as we prepare for distribution.

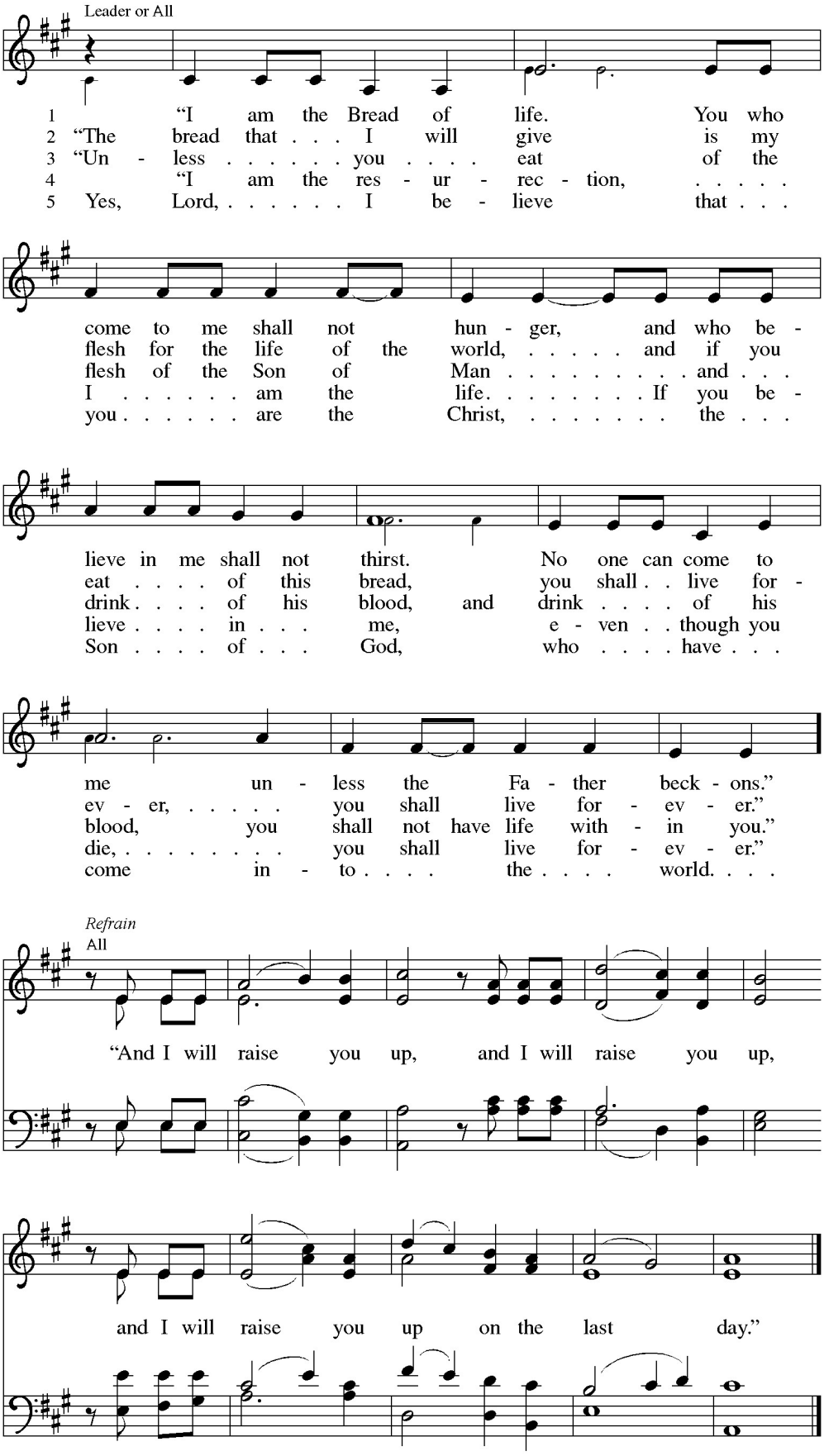


What Feast of Love



Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939
Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.
Text © 1993 Delores Dufner OSB. Published by OCP Publications. All rights reserved.

I Am the Bread of Life



Text: Suzanne Toolan, RSM, b. 1927, based on John 6
Music: I AM THE BREAD, Suzanne Toolan, RSM
Text and music © 1966, 1970, 1986, 1993 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.
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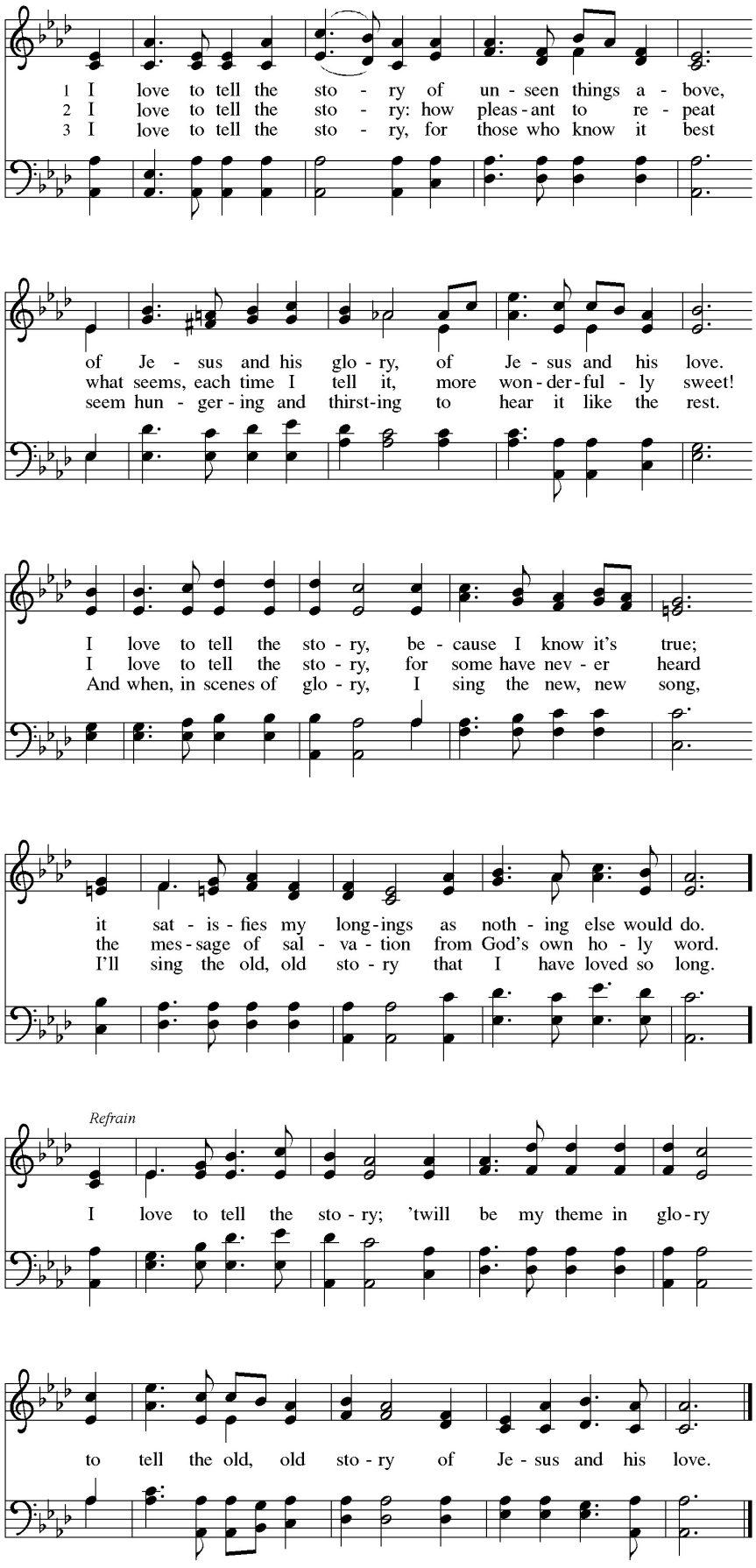
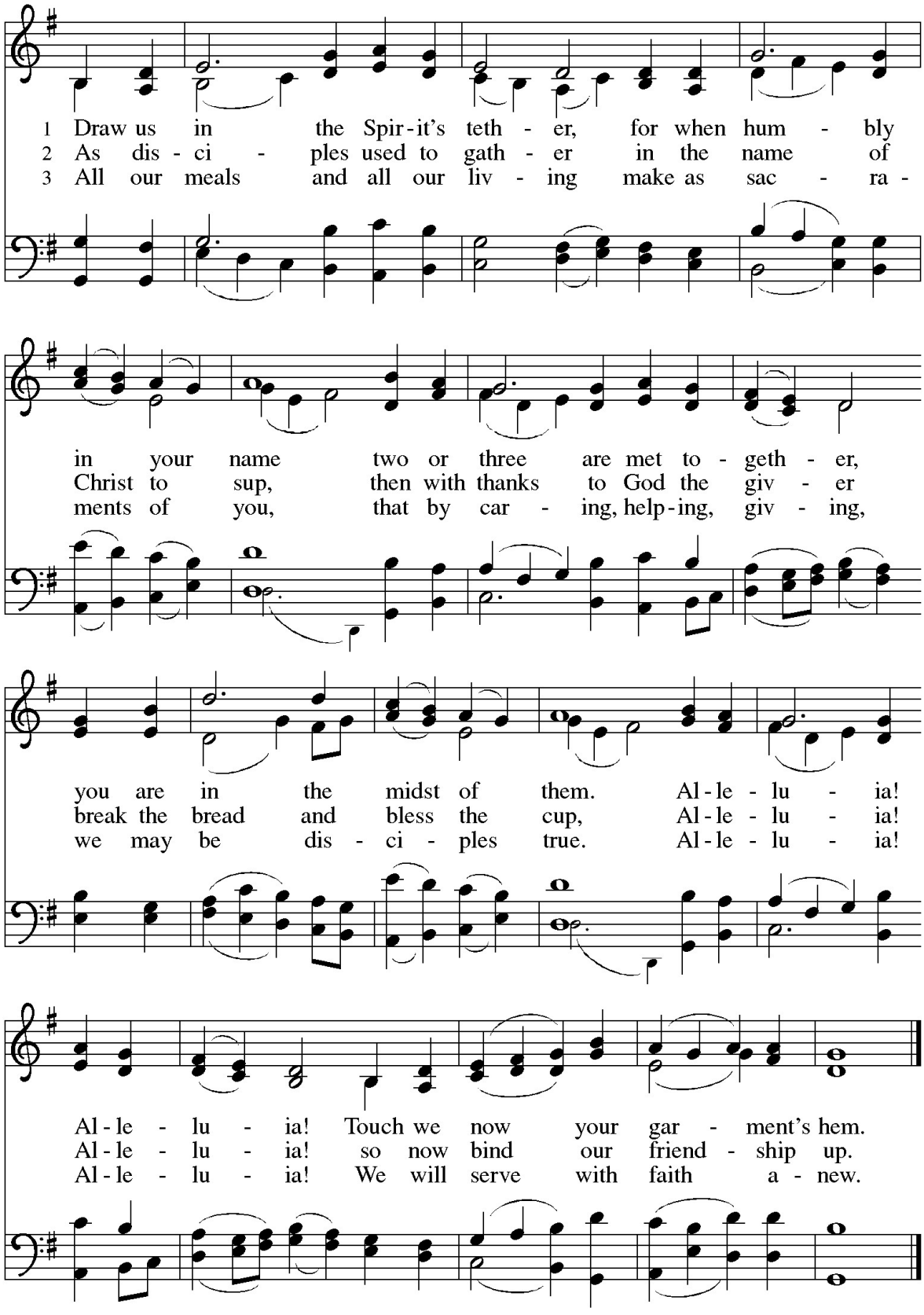
I Love to Tell the Story



Text: Katherine Hankey, 1834–1911
Music: HANKEY, William E. Fischer, 1849–1936

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether



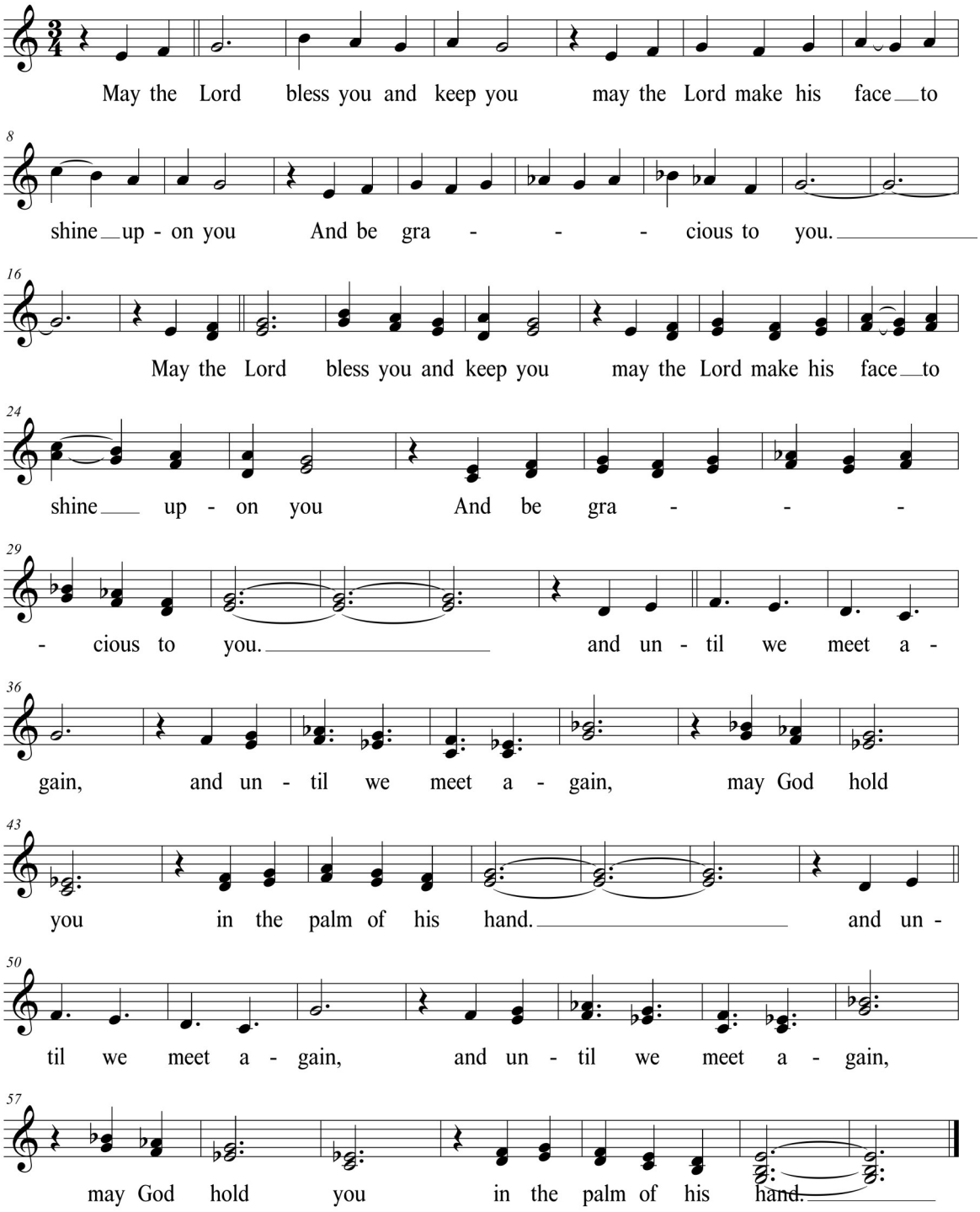
Text: Percy Dearmer, 1867–1936, alt.
Music: UNION SEMINARY, Harold Friedell, 1905–1958
Text from *Songs of Praise* Enlarged Edition, © Oxford University Press 1931.
Music © 1957, 1985 H. W. Gray, admin. CPP/Belwin.

When all have returned to their places, the presiding minister continues with:

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION and BENEDICTION

Compassionate God,
through the gifts of bread and wine
our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love.
Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal,
may share your love freely, as you have shared with us.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever. **Amen.**



FAREWELL AND GODSPEED

The Reverend Doctor Dave Delaney, we of The Virginia Synod, ELCA, called you to this place to be the Director for Youth and Young Adult Ministries to proclaim God's word, to baptize and teach, to announce God's forgiveness, and to preside at the Lord's table. With the gospel you have guided us and the future of the church in in times of joy and adversity. Sharing our joys and sorrows, you and your family have been important to our life together in the church of Jesus Christ, in our service to this community, and in God's mission to the whole world. As you retire from this community of faith, we say farewell, and we pray for God's blessing.



Thanksgiving and Sending

The presiding minister leads the assembly in prayer.

Let us pray.
Almighty God, through your Son Jesus Christ
you gave the holy apostles many gifts and commanded them to feed your flock.
You equip your people with abilities that differ according to the grace given to them,
and you call them to various avenues of service.

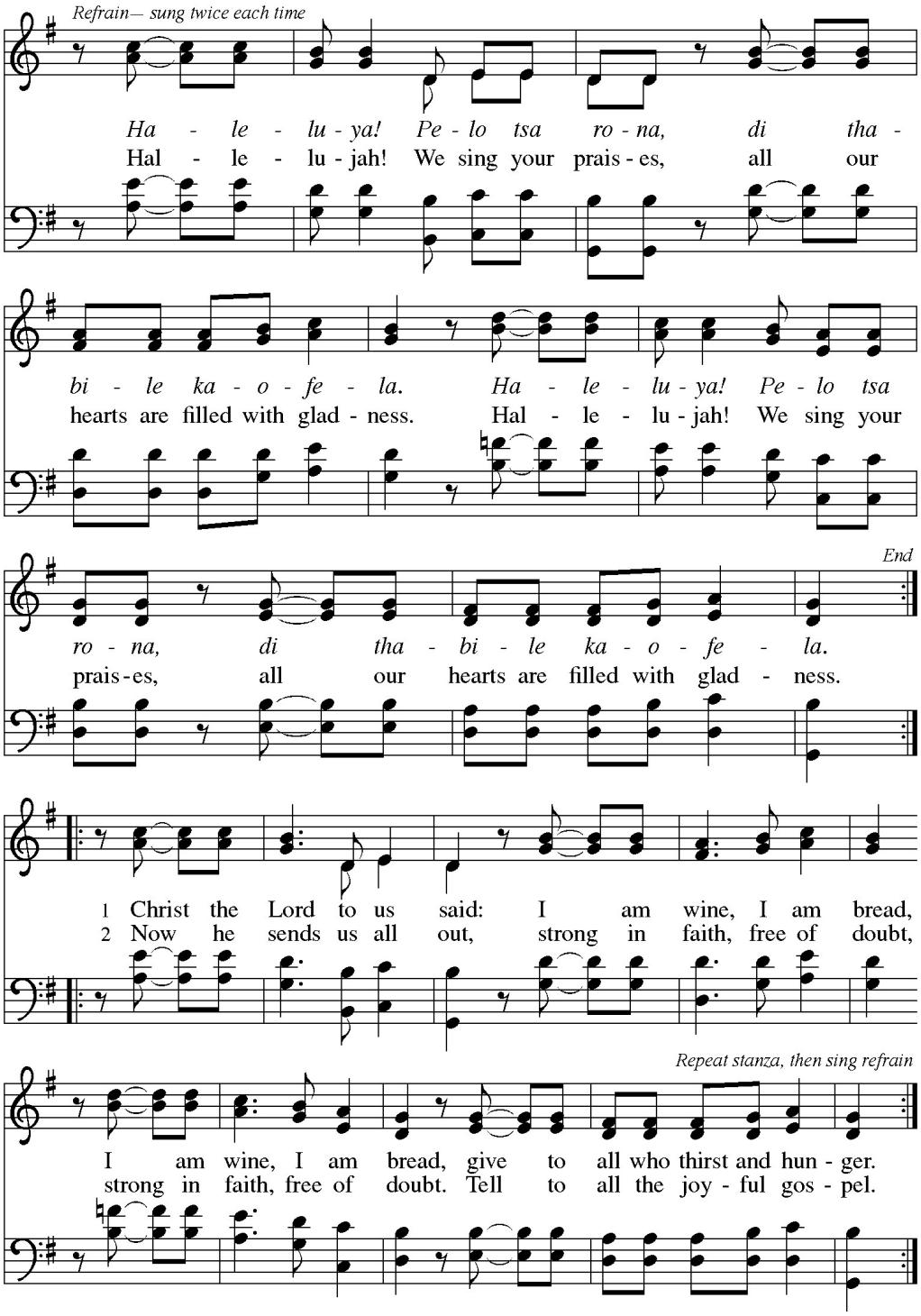
We give you thanks for the ministry of Dave among the people of God in this place.
You watch over our going out and our coming in:
bless this time of ending and beginning.
You surround your people in every time and place:
keep us close in your love.

You accompany your people in times of joy and times of trial:
prosper all that has been done to your glory in this time together;
heal and forgive all that has fallen short of your will for us.
Help Dave, his family, and all of us
to live with courage and gladness in the future you give to us.
He has been a blessing to us;
now send him forth to a blessed peace and retirement;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises

Haleluya! Pelo tsa rona



Text: South African; tr. *Freedom Is Coming*, 1984
Music: HALELUYA! PELO TSA RONA, South African; arr. *Freedom Is Coming*
English text and arr. © 1984 Utryck, admin. Walton Music Corp.

DISMISSAL

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news! **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE "Concerto For Two Trumpets" Vivaldi

Dante Fowler, Trumpet and Diane Colin, Flute

Worship leaders are: Presider—Bishop, The Reverend Doctor Phyllis Blair Milton, Virginia Synod
Preacher—Presiding Bishop, The Reverend Yehiel Curry,
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Assisting Minister—Deacon Lisa Geiger
Communion Assistants—Donna Gum, John Staubus, The Reverend Janice Lowden,
Barbara Atkinson, The Reverend Wesley Smith
Music Conductor—Michael Benshish
Musicians—Alli Beck, Soloist, Dante Fowler, Trumpet;
The Reverend Heidi Moore, Flute; Suzanne McGuire, Soprano section leader;
Larry Giddens, Baritone section leader; Diane Colin, Flute; Jillian Stierwalt, Clarinet
Choir: The Power In The Spirit Conference Choir

Sung liturgical selections Benediction and Lord's Prayer, Composed by Michael Benshish and graciously reprinted by permission of the composer.

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O Holy Spirit, Enter In. Text: Michael Schirmer, tr. Catherine Winkworth, adapt.
Tune: Philipp Nicolai, WIE SCHON LEUCHTET
What Feast of Love. Text: Delores Dufner, osb, © 1983 Delores Dufner, admin. OCP Publications,
Tune: English Ballad GREENSLEEVES
I Am the Bread of Life. Text and Tune: Suzanne Toolsan, RSM © 1966, 1970, 1986, 1993 GIA Publications
Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether. Text: Percy Dearmer, 1867-1936, Tune: Harold Friedell UNION SEMINARY, © Oxford University Press, 1957, 1985 H.W. Gray, adm, CPP/Belwin
I Love to Tell the Story. Text: Katherine Hankey, 1834-1911, Tune: William E. Fischer, 1849-1936 HANKEY
Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises Test and Music: South African arr Freedom Is Coming, HALELUYA!
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