The 25th Sunday after Pentecost

November 15, 2026



Shepherd of the Hills

The Rev. Richard T. Egtvedt

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WELCOME

PRELUDE:

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, our dwelling place for all generations, whose compassion never slumbers.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

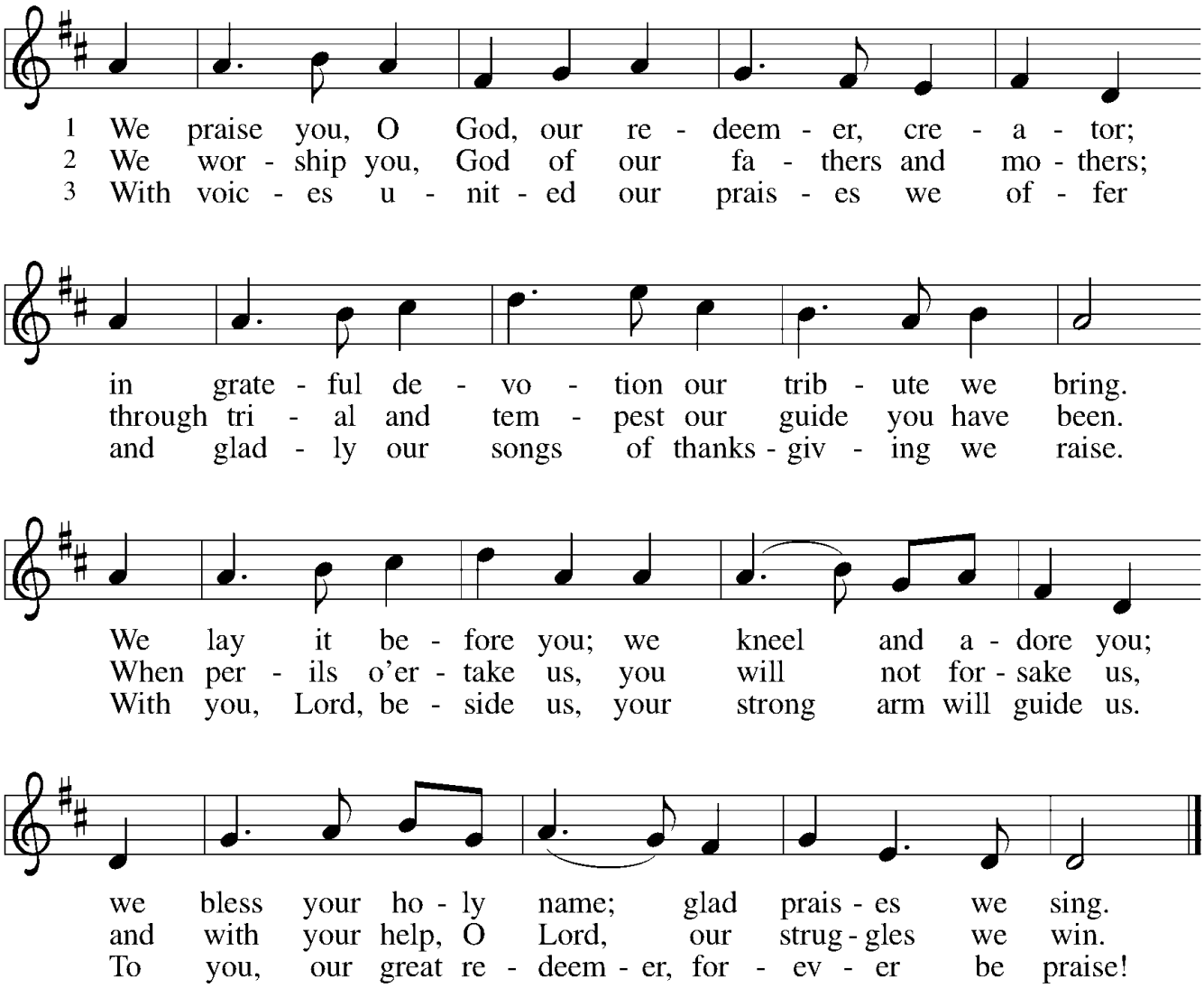
P: Holy God,
C: we confess that we have trusted in our preparation instead of your invitation. We prioritize our piety over care for your beloved. We trust the voice of our shame and fear, which keeps us from entering fully into relationship with you and others. We are not awake to the coming of your reign. Rouse us and rescue us, that we may enter into your joy. Amen.

P: Inherit the riches of God's grace. ☩ Jesus, the good shepherd, feeds you with his mercy. You are forgiven. Blessed are you.

C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN:

We Praise You, O God



Text: Julia C. Cory, 1882–1963
Music: KREMSER, A. Valerius, *Nederlandtsch Gedenckclanck*, 1626

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE: "Goodness of God" Beth Mankin

(v. 1) I love You, Lord
For Your mercy never fails me
All my days, I've been held in Your hands
From the moment that I wake up
Until I lay my head
Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God

(Chorus) And all my life You have been faithful
And all my life You have been so, so good
With every breath that I am able
Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God

I love Your voice
You have led me through the fire
In the darkest night
You are close like no other
I've known You as a Father
I've known You as a Friend
And I have lived in the goodness of God

Chorus

'Cause Your goodness is running after
It's running after me
Your goodness is running after
It's running after me
With my life laid down
I'm surrendered now
I give You everything
'Cause Your goodness is running after
It's running after me

'Cause Your goodness is running after
It's running after me
Your goodness is running after
It's running after me

With my life laid down
I'm surrendered now
I give You everything
'Cause Your goodness is running after
It's running after me

And all my life You have been faithful
And all my life You have been so, so good
With every breath that I am able
Oh, I'm gonna sing of the goodness of God
Oh, I'm gonna sing of the goodness of God

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
C: Amen.

WORD

THE FIRST READING: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

Zephaniah (like the prophet Amos in last week's first reading) presents the day of the Lord as one of judgment and wrath. Descriptions of the last day in the New Testament include details taken from Old Testament accounts of the day of the Lord.

7 Be silent before the Lord God,
for the day of the Lord is at hand!
The Lord has prepared a sacrifice;
he has consecrated his guests.

12 At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,
and I will punish the people
who settle like dregs in wine,
those who say in their hearts,
"The Lord will not do good,
nor will he do harm."
13 Their wealth shall be plundered
and their houses laid waste.
Though they build houses,
they shall not inhabit them;
though they plant vineyards,
they shall not drink wine from them.

14 The great day of the Lord is near,
near and hastening fast;
the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter;
the warrior cries aloud there.
15 That day will be a day of wrath,
a day of distress and anguish,
a day of ruin and devastation,
a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and thick darkness,
16 a day of trumpet blast and battle cry
against the fortified cities
and against the lofty battlements.

17 I will bring such distress upon people
that they shall walk like the blind;
because they have sinned against the Lord,
their blood shall be poured out like dust

and their flesh like dung.
18 Neither their silver nor their gold
will be able to save them
on the day of the Lord's wrath;
in the fire of his passion
the whole earth shall be consumed,
for a full, a terrible end
he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

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

Psalm 90:1-12 *(Read responsively)*

1 Lord, you have been our refuge
from one generation to another.

2 **Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born,**
from age to age you are God.

3 You turn us back to the dust and say,
"Turn back, O children of earth."

4 **For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past**
and like a watch in the night;

5 you sweep them away like a dream,
they fade away suddenly like the grass:

6 **in the morning it is green and flourishes;**
in the evening it is dried up and withered.

7 For we are consumed by your anger;
we are afraid because of your wrath.

8 **Our iniquities you have set before you,**
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.

9 When you are angry, all our days are gone;
we bring our years to an end like a sigh.

10 **The span of our life is seventy years, perhaps in strength even eighty;**
yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow, for they pass away quickly and we are gone.

11 Who regards the power of your wrath?
Who rightly fears your indignation?

12 **So teach us to number our days**
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

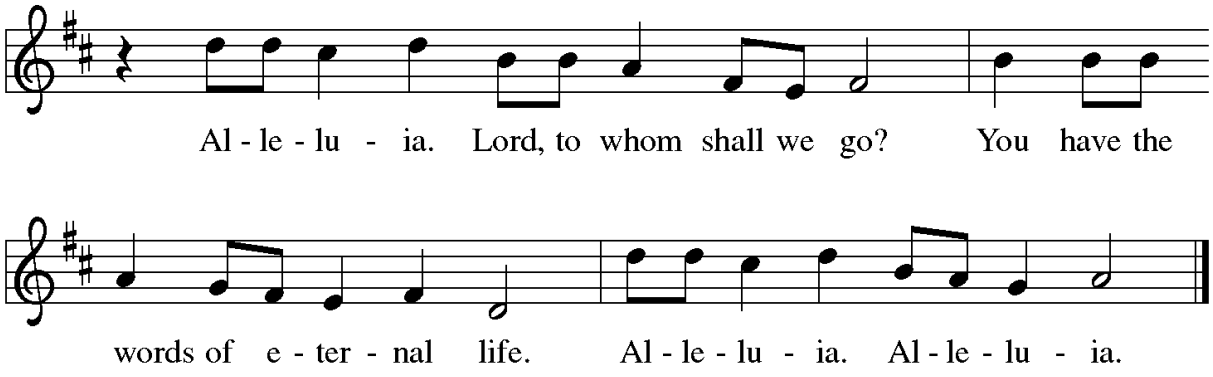
THE SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Though we do not know and cannot calculate the day of Christ's return, we live faithfully in the here and now as we anticipate the day when we will be given eternal salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything
written to you. 2 For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the
night. 3 When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them,
as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! 4 But you, brothers and
sisters, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; 5 for you are all children of light
and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. 6 So, then, let us not fall asleep as
others do, but let us keep awake and be sober, 7 for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who
are drunk get drunk at night. 8 But since we belong to the day, let us be sober and put on the
breastplate of faith and love and for a helmet the hope of salvation. 9 For God has destined us not for
wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, 10 who died for us, so that whether we
are awake or asleep we may live with him. 11 Therefore encourage one another and build up each
other, as indeed you are doing.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:



THE GOSPEL READING: Matthew 25:14-30

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 25th chapter.
C: Glory to you, O Lord.
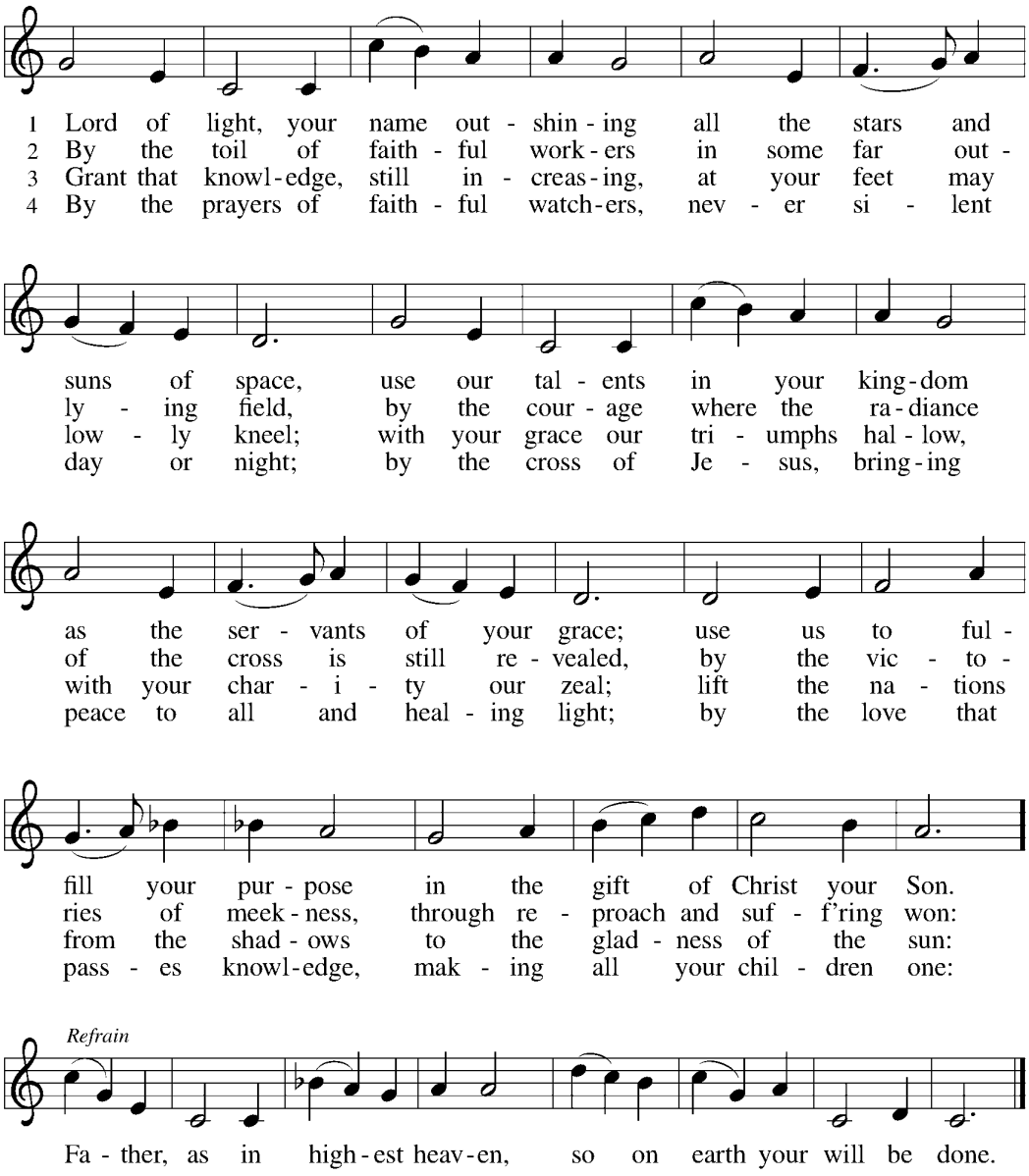
[Jesus said to the disciples:] 14 “For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and
entrusted his property to them; 15 to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each
according to his ability. Then he went away. At once 16 the one who had received the five talents went
off and traded with them and made five more talents. 17 In the same way, the one who had the two
talents made two more talents. 18 But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a
hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. 19 After a long time the master of those slaves came
and settled accounts with them. 20 Then the one who had received the five talents came forward,
bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five
more talents.’ 21 His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been
trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’
22 And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me two
talents; see, I have made two more talents.’ 23 His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and
trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things;
enter into the joy of your master.’ 24 Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward,
saying, ‘Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow and gathering
where you did not scatter, 25 so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you
have what is yours.’ 26 But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I
reap where I did not sow and gather where I did not scatter? 27 Then you ought to have invested my
money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. 28
So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. 29 For to all those who have,
more will be given, and they will have an abundance, but from those who have nothing, even what
they have will be taken away. 30 As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where
there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ ”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God

SERMON: Pastor Rick Egtvedt

HYMN OF THE DAY:

Lord of Light



Text: Howell E. Lewis, 1860–1953, alt.
Music: ABBOT'S LEIGH, Cyril V. Taylor, 1907–1991
Text © Union of Welsh Independents
Music © 1942, ren. 1970 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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THE CREED
P: Let us confess our faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed:
C: 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

A: God, in your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**
P: Into to your steadfast love…. **C. Amen.**

Prayer Concern List:

Sam	Randy	Susie	Chris	Mary	Patsy	Bob & Pam
Mike	George	Jerry	Dan	Steve	Greg	Donna
Willard	Scott.	Leslie	Amanda	Reid	Beth	Steve
Susan	Mary					

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.
C: And also with you.

OFFERING: *(**DONATIONS** can either be mailed to Shepherd of the Hills, P.O. Box 374, McHenry, MD 21541 or you may donate online using this link:* **https://www.paypal.com/donate/?cmd=_s-xclick&hosted_button_id=YXL6294BDZ82E***)*

DEDICATION OF PLEDGES AND OFFERINGS:

P: Let us pray. God of abundance, you bring grain from the earth and fruit from the vine, blessing us with your presence in mysterious ways. As we gift these pledges and offerings back to you, we ask that you bless them to your service. May they be outward signs of your inward work in us.
May they become seeds that bring forth newness in this upcoming year. May they bear good fruit for the sake of your Son and for the sake of our neighbors. Bless us in our intentions, bless us in our hopes and plans, bless us in our generosity, and bless the world through these offerings to you.

C: Amen.

MEAL

DIALOG:
P: The Lord be with you.
C: And also with you.

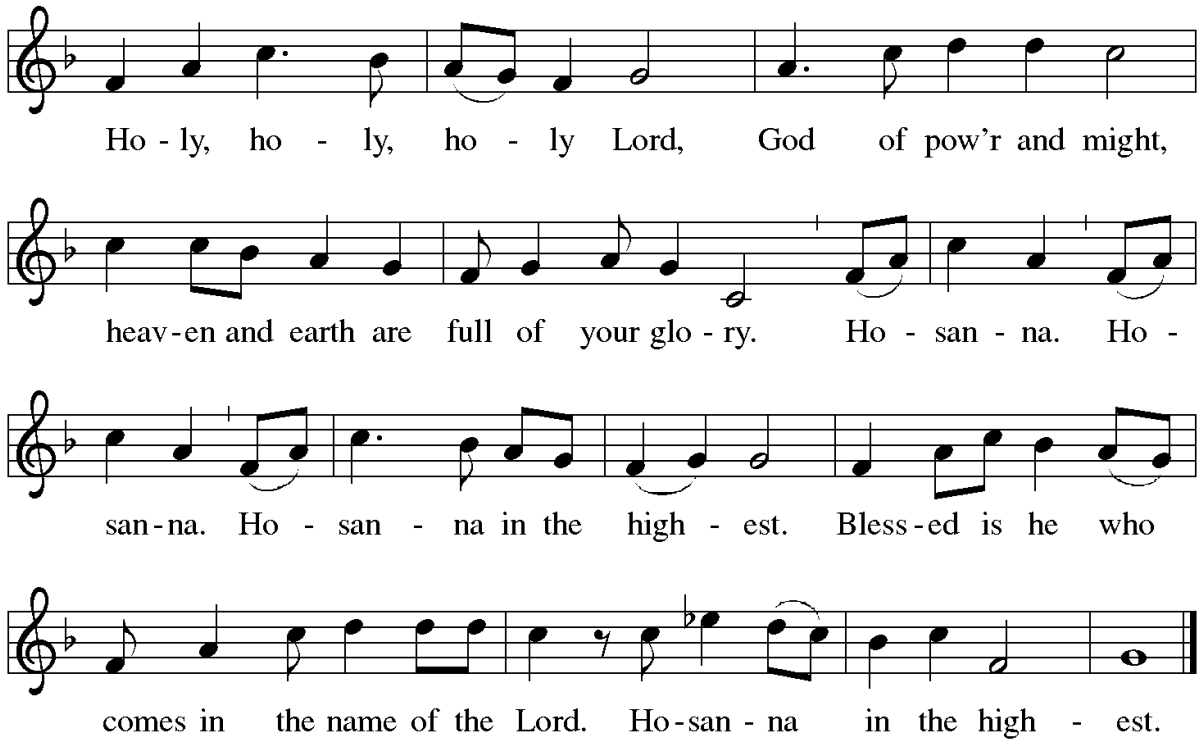
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise

PREFACE:

P: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:

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER:



P: Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God. The universe declares you praise: beyond the stars; beneath the sea; within each cell; with every breath.
C: We praise you, O God.

Generations bless your faithfulness: through your water; by night and day; across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future.
C: We bless you, O God.

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

C: Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again.

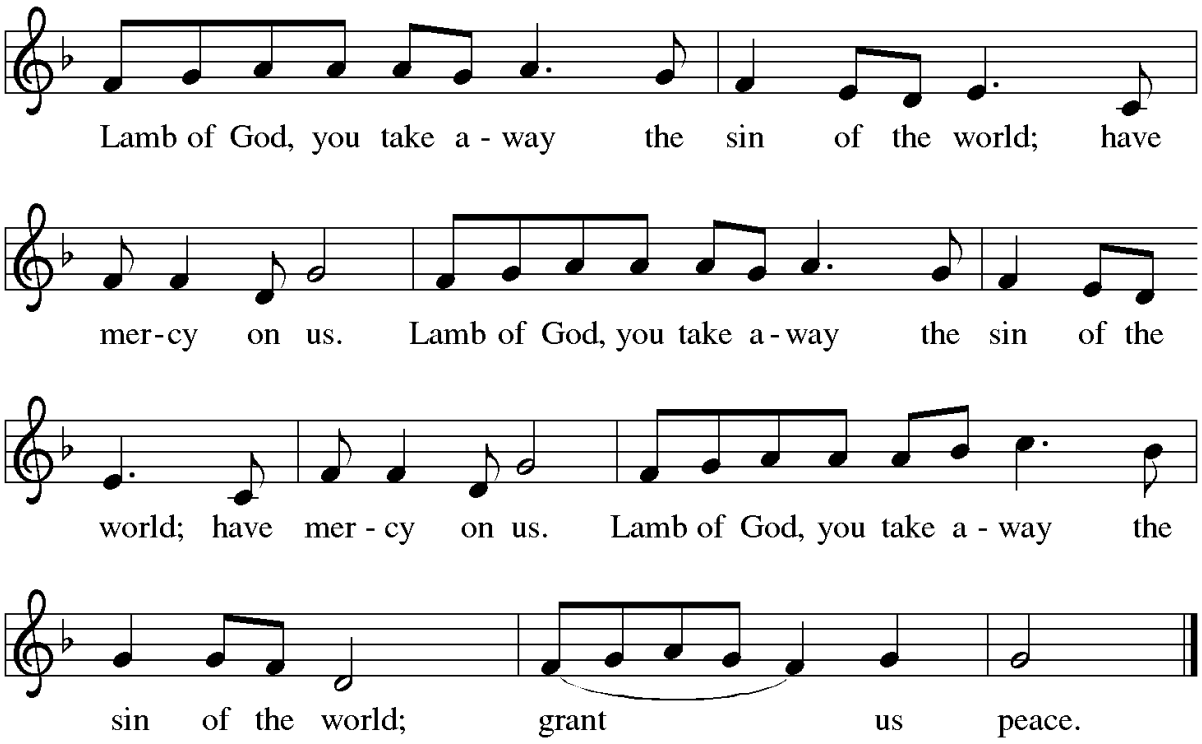
We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world. Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Jesus Christ, by your Spirit, in your church, without end.

C: Amen.

P: Let us pray in confidence with the words our Lord taught us:

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:
P: In bread and cup the reign of Christ is breaking in. Come, receive what Christ has prepared.



DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION



MUSIC DURING COMMUNION: "Lord, I Need You" *by Matt Maher* Beth Mankin

Lord I come, I confess
Bowing here, I find my rest
Without You, I fall apart
You're the one that guides my heart

Chorus:
Lord, I need You, oh I need You
Every hour, I need You
My one defense, my righteousness
Oh God, how I need You

Where sin runs deep, Your grace is more
Where grace is found is where You are
And where You are, Lord I am free
Holiness is Christ in me

Chorus

So teach my song to rise to You
When temptation comes my way
And when I cannot stand, I'll fall on You
Jesus, You're my hope and stay

Chorus

You're my one defense, my righteousness
Oh God, how I need You

My one defense, my righteousness
Oh God, how I need You

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:

A: Let us pray.Holy God, we have received your never-ending mercy in this meal. You continuously seek the lost, bind the injured, and feed your people abundantly. Now send us out, awake to your presence, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BLESSING
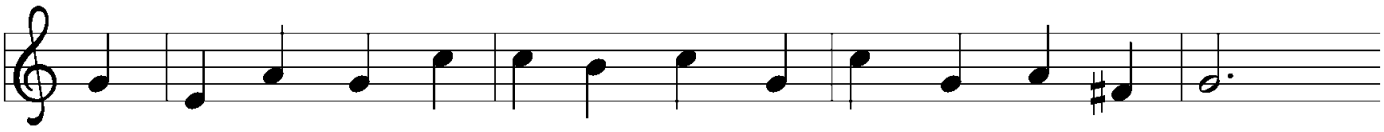
P: The holy Trinity, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you with wisdom to welcome the reign of God, today and always.

C: Amen.
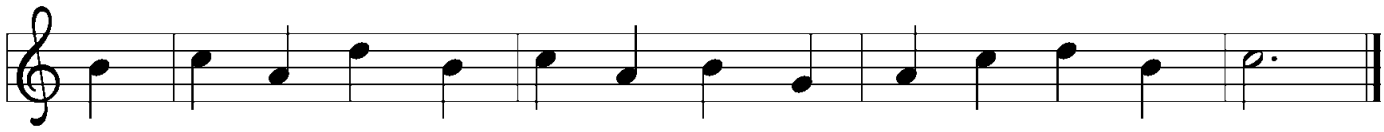


SENDING HYMN:

O God, Our Help in Ages Past



1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,
2 Un - der the shad - ow of your throne your saints have dwelt se - cure;
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood or earth re - ceived its frame,
4 A thou - sand a - ges in your sight are like an eve - ning gone,



our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:
suf - fi - cient is your arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
from ev - er - last - ing you are God, to end - less years the same.
short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
bears all our years away;
they fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the op'ning day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
still be our guard while troubles last
and our eternal home.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.
Music: ST. ANNE, William Croft, 1678–1727

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A: Let us remind ourselves of Shepherd of the Hills' Statement of Purpose:

C: God's purpose for Shepherd of the Hills is to live in witness to Jesus Christ, helping one another to experience God's life-changing love, proclaiming the Gospel, and welcoming the diverse community at Deep Creek Lake.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Encourage one another in Christ.

C: Thanks be to God.

DONATIONS can either be mailed to Shepherd of the Hills, P.O. Box 374, McHenry, MD 21541 or you may donate online using this link: **https://www.paypal.com/donate/?cmd=_s-xclick&hosted_button_id=YXL6294BDZ82E**

