NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Seek, Serve, Embrace | Engaging with neighbors near and far in Christ's love

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Christ the King Sunday | November 22, 2026 | 10:00 am

*(*For those who are able, please stand)*

CENTERING THOUGHT

We saw a stranger yesterday.
We put food in the eating place,
drink in the drinking place,
music in the listening place.
And in the sacred name of the triune God
he blessed us and our house,
our cattle and our dear ones.
As the lark says in her song:
Often, often, often, goes the Christ
in the stranger's guise.

Celtic Rune of Hospitality

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

WELCOME

PRELUDE

"Fanfare" | *William Mathias (1934-1992)*

INTROIT

"Cantate!" | *Victor Johnson*

Cantate! Cantate canticum novum.
Cantate! Cantate alleluia!

Come, let us sing on this festive day.
With a joyful heart let your songs of gladness raise!

Cantate! Cantate canticum novum.
Cantate! Cantate alleluia!

Let a new song now fill the skies.
With jubilation, lift your voices on high and sing cantate.

* **OPENING SENTENCES**

Make a joyful noise to God!
Worship God with gladness!
Come into God's presence with a song!
Know that the Lord is God.
God made us. We belong to God.
Give thanks to God! Bless the name of the Lord!

* **HYMN NO. 263**
"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name" | *CORONATION*

* **CALL TO CONFESSION**

* **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

God of mercy,
who has compassion for the lost and the least,
in disbelief and denial, we ask:
"When did we see you among us?"

We should have seen you
in the classmate on the playground
whom we did not invite to join our game,
in the stranger on the sidewalk
whom we crossed the street to avoid,
in the neighbor at the nursing home
whom we left to carry her pain alone.

We should have seen you
in the man begging for work or a warm meal,
in the woman struggling to overcome addiction,
in the child seeking refuge from the terrors of violence.
But instead, we turned away.

Forgive us, Lord.
Break our hearts for what breaks yours,
and give us compassion and courage
to respond to the suffering of this world.

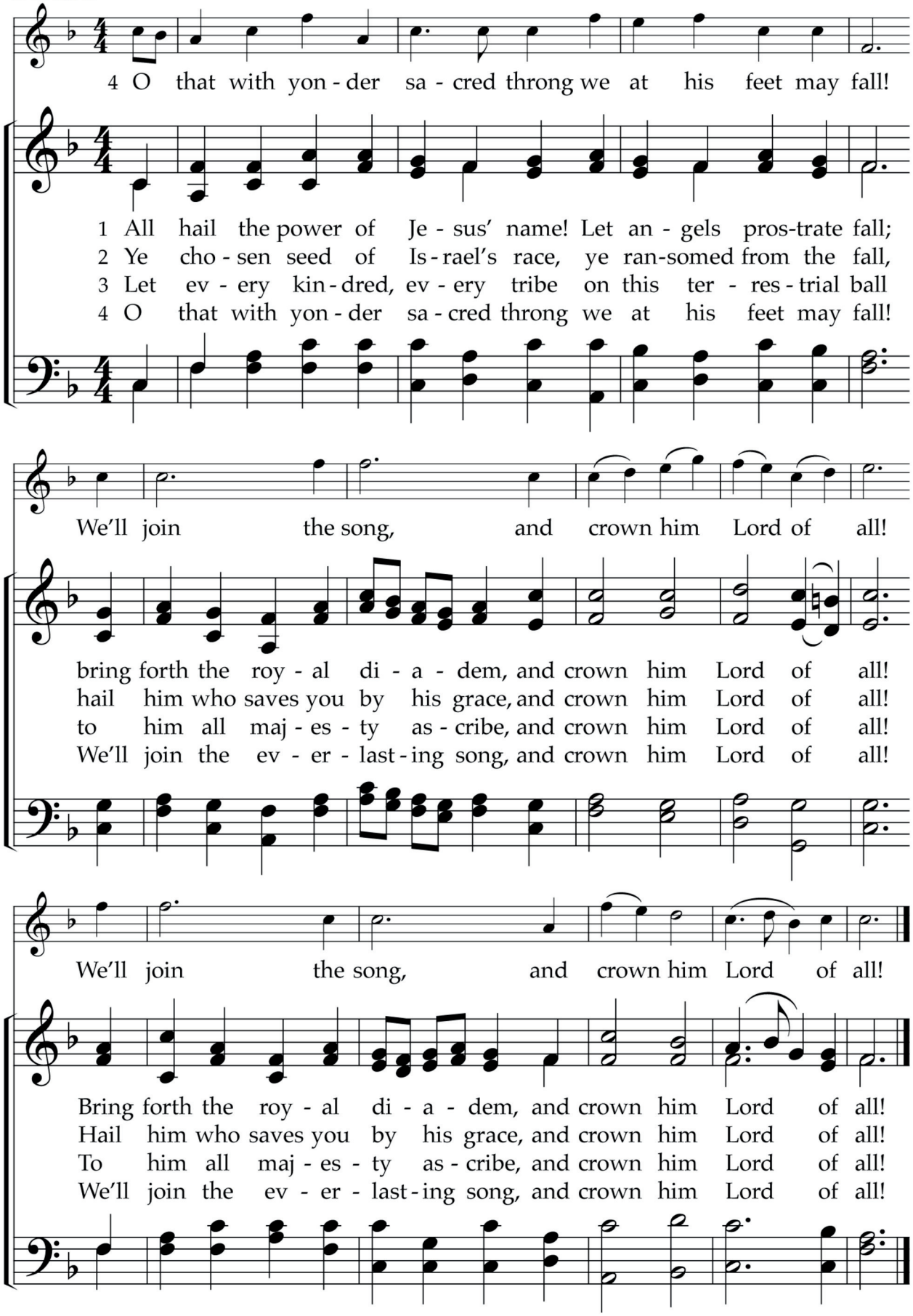
* **SILENT CONFESSION**

* **WORD OF GRACE**

However long we wander, however far we stray,
God's steadfast love endures forever.
Friends, be assured in Jesus Christ we are forgiven,
and freed to try again!

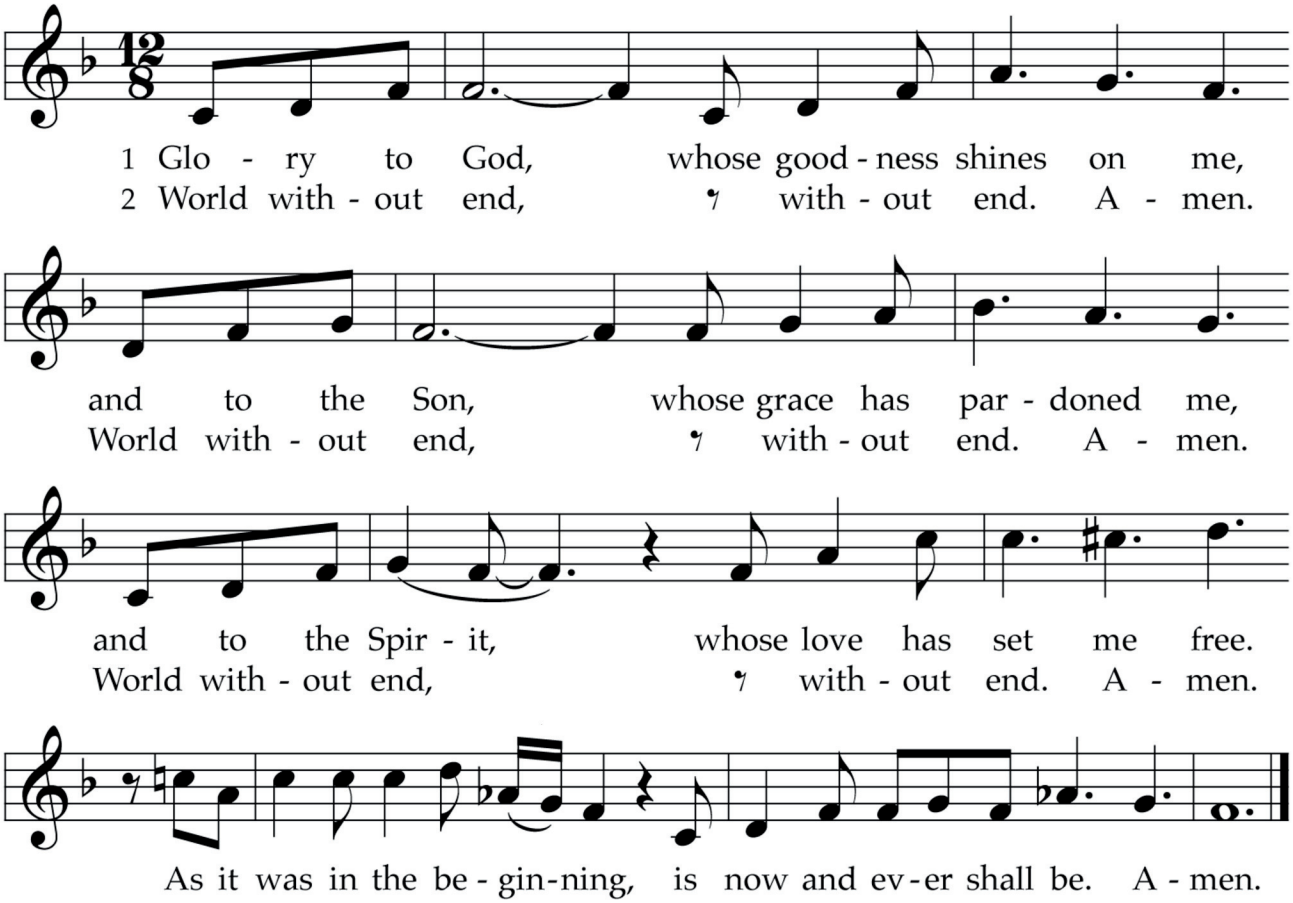
263 All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!

Descant



* **RESPONSE**

"Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me" | *GLORY TO GOD, arr. Paul Vasile*



WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S TIME

Offerings added to the Joyful Noise Pail are for mission partner Heifer International

Following Children's Time, children may stay in the Sanctuary or go to Church School

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

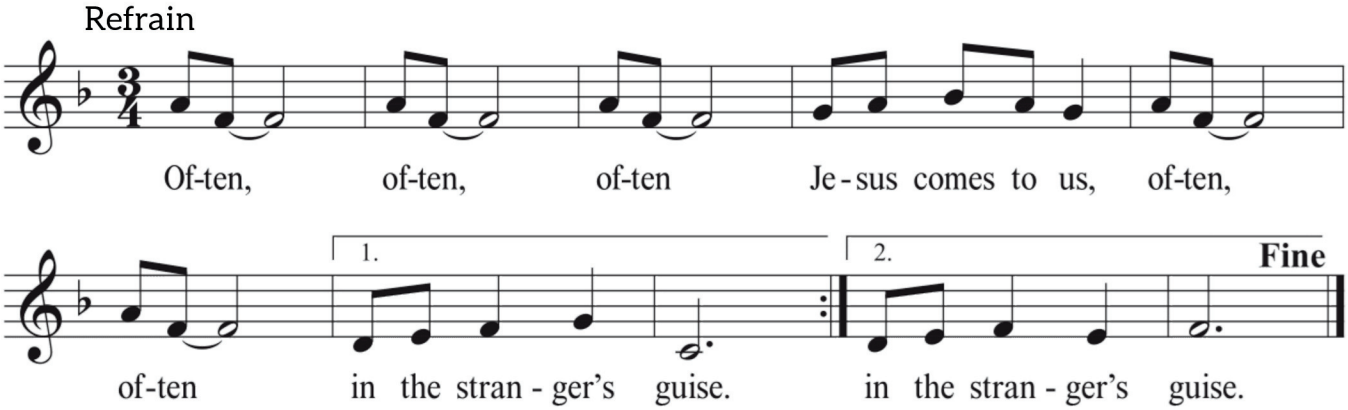
FIRST LESSON | EPISTLE

Ephesians 1:15-23 | *NT p. 192*

SOLO

"Song of the Lark" | *David Gambrell*

(Worshippers are invited to sing refrain on cue from leader)



We saw a stranger yesterday, a traveler along the way,
Invited them to stop and stay awhile.
We broke the bread and poured the wine,
And lifted up a song divine,
And could it be we saw the stranger's guise? *(Refrain)*

SECOND LESSON | GOSPEL

Matthew 25:31-46 | *NT p. 29, Spark Bible p. 318*

SERMON

"Matthew 25: It's More Than You Think" | *Brian Shivers*

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Phillippians 2:5-11

Christ Jesus,
though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,
but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,
he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death -
even death on a cross.

Therefore, God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name that is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue should confess
to the glory of God: Jesus Christ is Lord! Amen.

OFFERING

(Please sign the pew pad and pass it to your neighbor)

OFFERTORY

"Te Deum" | *Jean Langlais (1907-1991)*

* **DOXOLOGY**

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit, Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

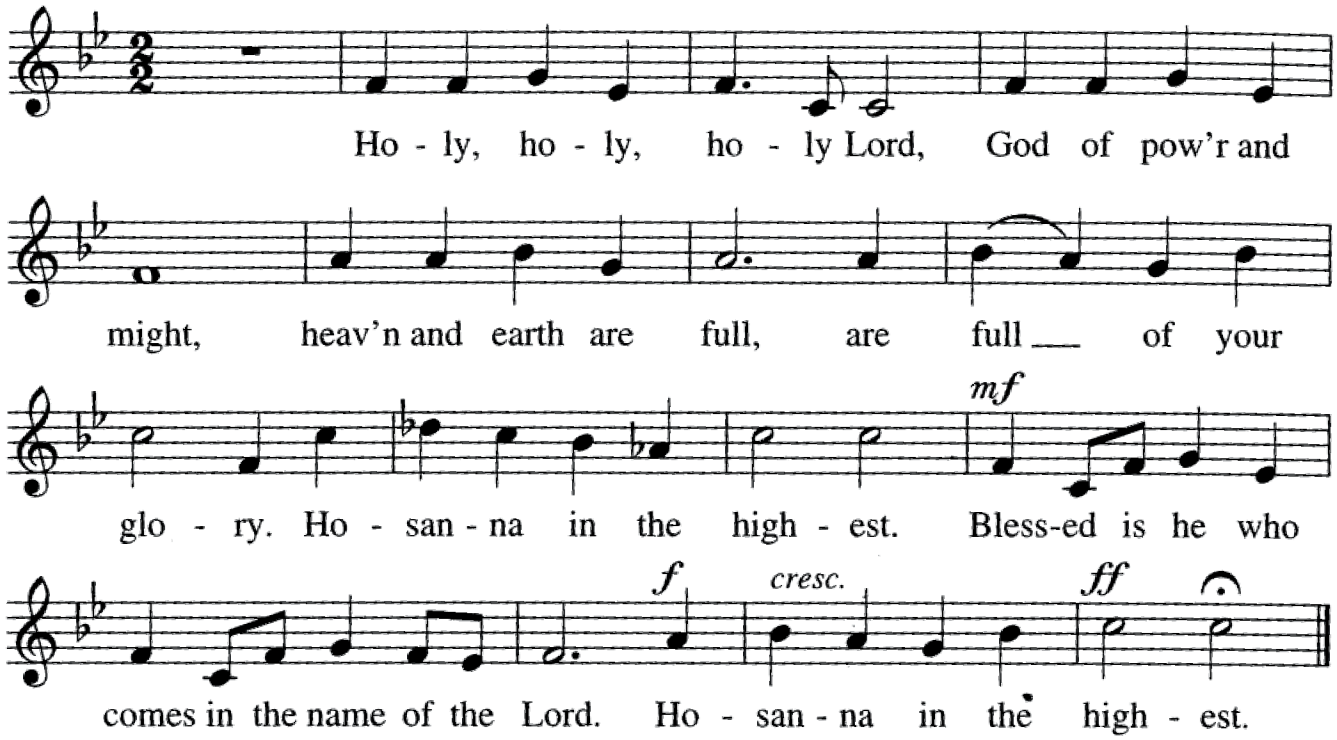
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

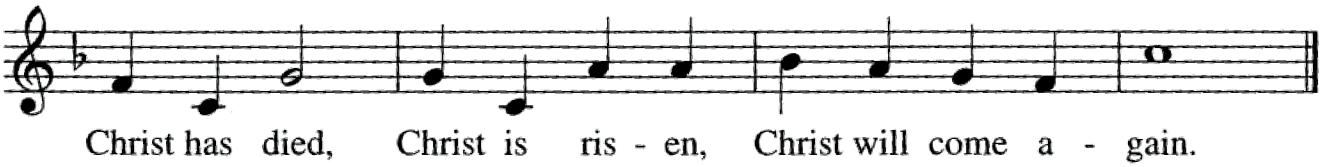
HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

SANCTUS



CHRIST HAS DIED; CHRIST IS RISEN

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

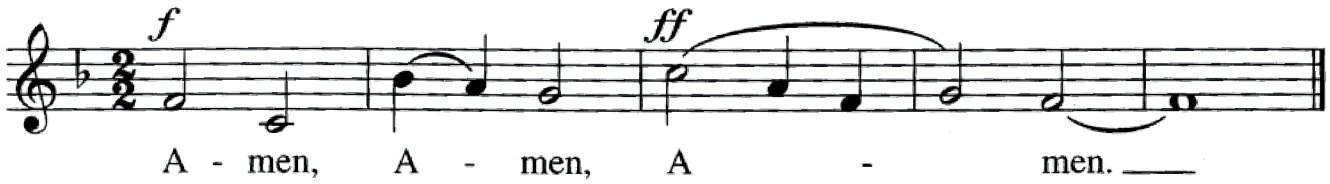


THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever.

AMEN

AMEN



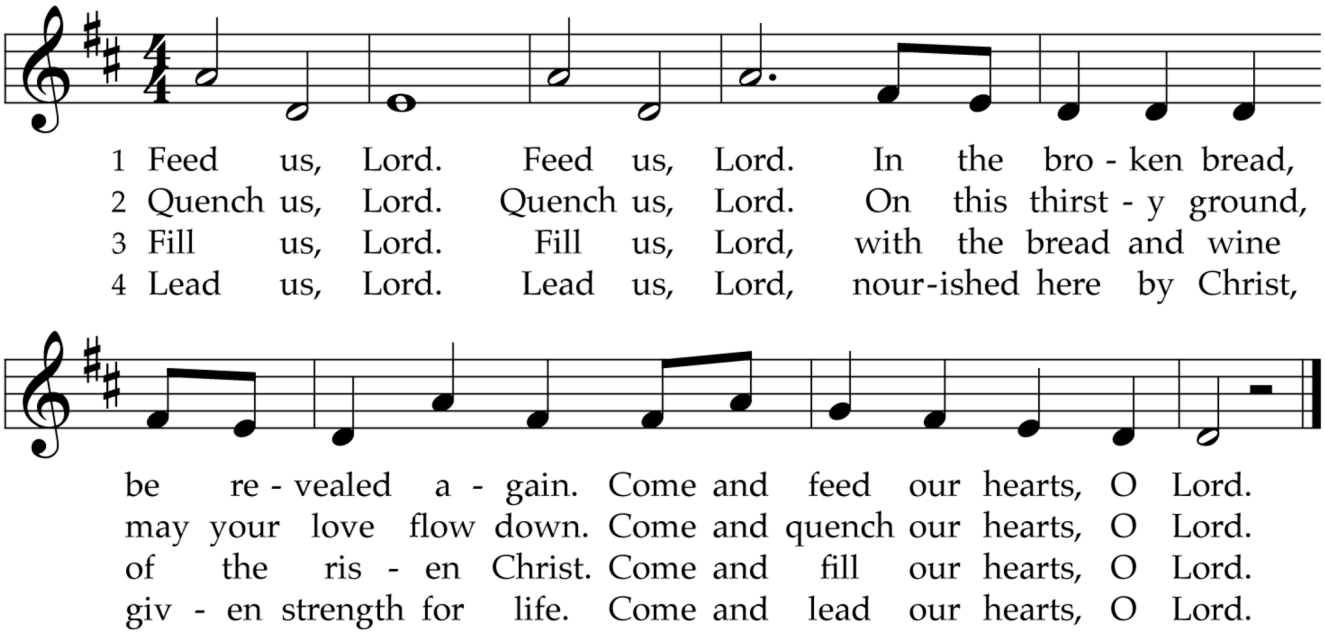
WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

All are welcome and all bread is gluten-free

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

"Feed Us, Lord" | *FEED US*



MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

"Jerusalem" | *Michael McGlynn*

Refrain: Jerusalem, our happy home
When shall we come to thee?
When shall our sorrow have an end?
Thy joy, when shall we see?

There's cinnamon that scenteth sweet;
There palms spring on the ground.
No tongue can tell, no heart can think,
What joys do there abound. *(Refrain)*

Forevermore the trees bear fruit,
And evermore they spring,
And evermore the saints are glad,
And evermore they sing. *(Refrain)*

Fair Magdalen hath dried her tears;
She's seen no more to weep,
Nor wet the ringlets of her hair,
To wipe our Savior's feet. *(Refrain)*

* **THANKSGIVING AFTER THE MEAL**

We praise you, great God,
for you are ruler of the universe,
and have sent your Son to be King of kings.
We rejoice that he has triumphed over all the powers of this world,
and governs the nations in justice and righteousness.
We celebrate his victory in his life, death, resurrection,
and ascension to sit by your side.
By your Spirit, guide us,
so we may offer our lives in the service of Christ's kingdom.
Amen.

* **SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all;

And also with you.

Worshippers may greet one another with words of Christ's peace

WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD

* **HYMN NO. 384**

"Soon and Very Soon" | *SOON AND VERY SOON*

* **SENDING**

In the fullness of time, our Lord will say:
I was hungry and you gave me food.
I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink.
I was a stranger and you welcomed me.
I was naked and you gave me clothing.
I was sick and you took care of me.
I was in prison and you visited me.

Then the faithful will respond:
Lord, when did we see you hungry, thirsty, or naked?
Lord, when did we see you sick or in prison?
Lord, when did we see you as a stranger?
When did we welcome you?

And our Lord will answer:
'Truly I tell you,
just as you did it to one of the least of these
who are members of my family, you did it to me.'

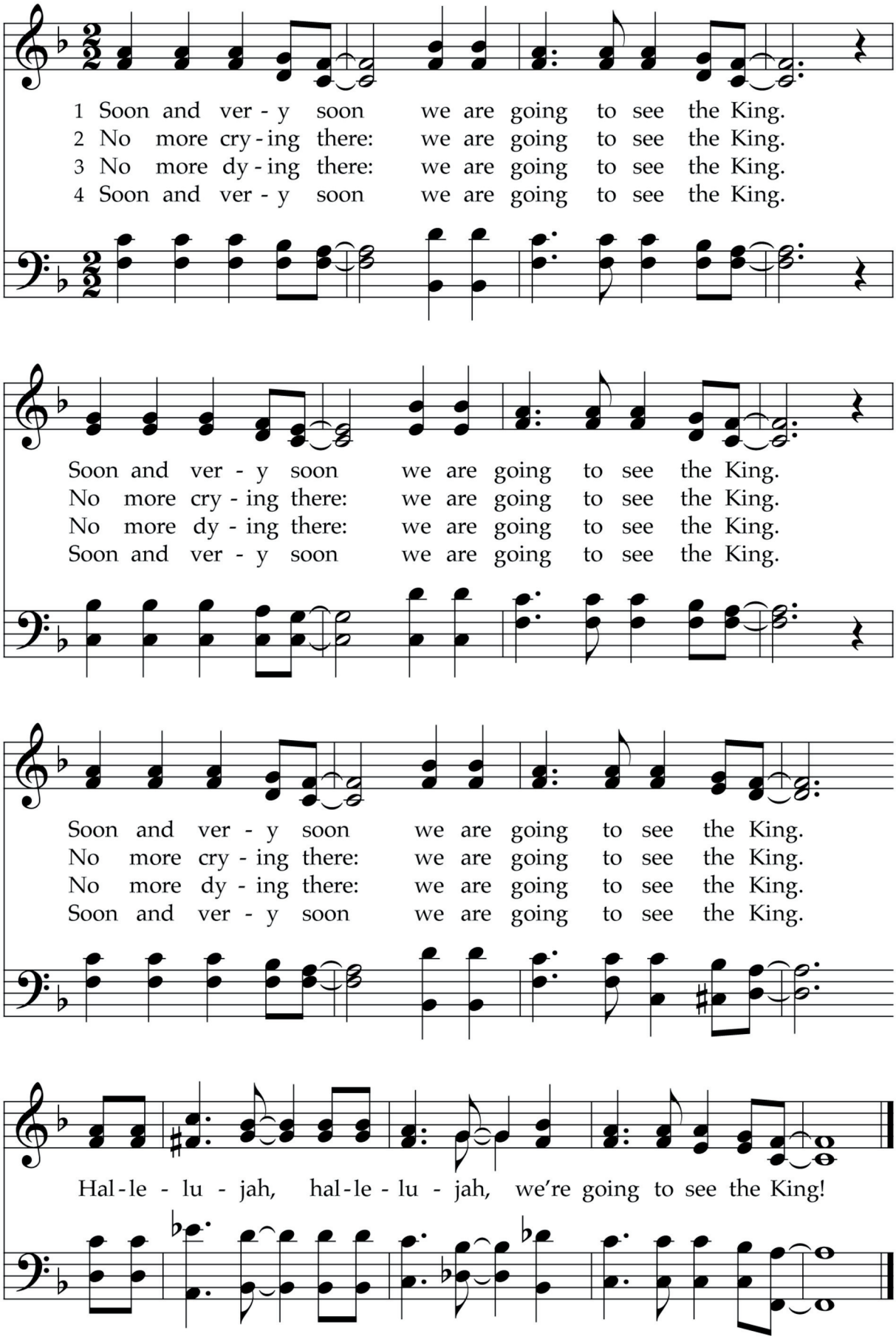
Wanderers, seekers, pilgrims on the journey – Go!
Go forth to seek Christ.
Go forth to serve Christ -
for often, often, often goes the Christ in the stranger's guise.

CHORAL RESPONSE

"The Peace of God" | *John Rutter*

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God,
and of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost
be amongst you and remain with you always.
Amen.

384 Soon and Very Soon



IN WORSHIP

"Song of the Lark" was written by David Gambrell for the 2021 Montreat Conference on Worship and Music. The song is a paraphrase of part of the *Celtic Rune of Hospitality*. This Celtic wisdom has its basis in scripture, beginning in Genesis, but most notably in today's gospel lesson: Matthew 25. We are called to take care of the stranger, not only meeting the needs for food and drink but even the need for welcome, for the arts, and for all who might be encompassed by hospitality, caring communication, and love. The Lord reminds those gathered and all who have ears to hear that one can find the risen Savior hidden among the sick, the poor, the lonely, the hungry, the imprisoned, and those on society's edge. As we listen to and sing "Song of the Lark," may we consider cultivating a lifestyle that incorporates the practice of discovering Christ's presence where we would least expect to find him. Hymn writer David Gambrell serves as associate for worship in the Presbyterian Church (USA) Office of Theology and Worship in Louisville, Kentucky.

For today's offertory, Dr. Marko Petričić plays blind French organ composer Jean Langlais's (1907-1991) *Hymne d'action de grâce* (*Te Deum*). It is the third and final movement of his *Trois Paraphrases Grégoriennes*, composed in the early 1930s. Based on the traditional Gregorian chant "Te Deum," the piece opens with a grand, triumphant statement of praise. The second section features cascading motions (i.e., a flurry of eighth-note triplets), which develops aspects of the chant theme. The final section builds toward a powerful *Maestoso* (majestic). Jean Langlais was one of the leading figures of the 20th-century French organ school. An organist, composer, improviser, concert performer, and teacher, he left a lasting mark on the history of organ music alongside such figures as Maurice Duruflé and Olivier Messiaen. His musical legacy reflects a deeply spiritual vision of music (often inspired by Gregorian chant), where liturgical tradition, harmonic modernity, and virtuoso improvisation come together.

The final hymn is gospel singer and songwriter Andraé Crouch's "Soon and Very Soon." The hymn takes its text from the book of Revelation and is filled with exuberant joy and hope. It revels in the promise of paradise and eternal communion with the King, where there will be no more hurting or crying or dying: "Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him;" and "He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning nor crying." Born in Los Angeles, California, Andraé Crouch (1942-2015) began his musical life as a child accompanist in his father's worship services. He is the recipient of seven Grammy Awards and four Dove Awards for his accomplishments as a composer and recording artist.

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Brian Shivers | *Pastor*
Marko Petričić | *Organ*
Peace Choir | *Katie Ray, Director*
Luciana Higgins | *Liturgist*
Elizabeth Higgins | *Liturgist*
Krista Wright | *Piano*
Chamber Ensemble

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Events and Announcements

Holiday Grief Seminar | Today | 11:15 am - 12:45 pm
Holidays can be difficult when we are dealing with various forms of grief. This seminar, led by Northminster member Joanna Morse, is a support group that offers connection. You are not in this alone. We are here for each other.

Drumstick Dash Volunteers Needed | November 26 | 8:00 - 11:00 am
Every year, NPC is a warming station/rest stop for the Drumstick Dash! We need volunteers to greet, direct runners to restrooms, and serve hot chocolate. Call or email the church office to volunteer!

Clothe-A-Child | December 3 | 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
Clothe-a-Child is back, and the NPC Deacons would love your support! Please consider donating to this fund using the QR code to the right or by including a check in the designated envelopes located in the pews.

Bach Cantata: Jauchzet Frohlocket | December 6 | 10:00 am
Join us during worship for this rousing 20-minute work, featuring Northminster's Chancel Choir, Orchestra, and soloists. It balances the celebration of Jesus' birth with undertones that point to his fate on the cross.

Intergenerational Advent Event | December 6 | 11:15 am - 1:00 pm
Celebrate the Advent Season with fun and fellowship! We'll have a hot chocolate bar, cookie decorating, and craft activities for all ages. Everyone is welcome to help us celebrate this season of preparation and expectation.

Bake Sale | December 13 | 11:00 am - 12:00 pm
Bring holiday treats in grab-and-go packaging to the Gathering Place before worship. After worship, take home your favorites with a donation of your choice.

Comfort and Joy | December 17 | 6:00 - 8:30 pm
This free, candle-light, open-house-style event includes a sound bath with live music, a Longest Night self-guided liturgy, and a labyrinth walk. Come and go as you please. Open to all ages, with childcare available!

December Mission Collection: Toilet Paper and Paper Towels
The Mission Team is collecting toilet paper and paper towels for our partner, Family Promise. Please consider a donation in the brown bins in The Gathering Place!

More information on these events and others can be found on our website at northminster.chuch/events

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Seek, Serve, Embrace | Engaging with neighbors near and far in Christ's love
Christ-Centered | Grounded in the Word | Relevant | Inclusive | Nurturing | Serving

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Brian Shivers
Pastor/Head of Staff

Karen Herbst-Kim
Associate Pastor

John Wright
Director of Music Ministries

Carol McDonald
Parish Associate

Marko Petričić
Music Associate/Organist

Cheryl Plunkett
Office Administrator

Melissa Hopkins
Director of Children's Ministry

Timothy Foster
Director of Communications

Denise Harrington
Director of Senior Ministries

Emma Moore
Operations Administrator & Youth Ministry Coordinator

Krista Wright
Spiritual Wholeness and Wellness Coordinator

Elisabeth Kleinsmith Russ
Family Engagement Coordinator

Kym Stone
Bookkeeper

Steve Williams
Finance Administrator

Sarah Froehlke
Director of Preschool

Tim McElroy
Lead Custodian

Jonathan McGee
Custodian

Chanciella Chipola
Custodian

Salima Lutumika
Custodian

Rod Mail
Stephen Ministry Leader

Tony Dzwonar
Stephen Ministry Leader

Teri Thomas
Pastor Emerita

Donald R. Durrett
Associate Pastor Emeritus

Matthew 25
As a Matthew 25 congregation, we focus on building congregational vitality, dismantling structural racism, and eradicating systemic poverty.

Covenant Network of Presbyterians
As a member of the Covenant Network of Presbyterians, we seek equity for LGBTQIA2S+ people in church and society. We welcome, honor, celebrate, and include all.

Parenting and Sensory Rooms
Behind the sanctuary in the Narthex are Parenting and Sensory Rooms.
The Parenting Room offers a private space for feeding, changing diapers, and calming children. Toys, games, and books are also available! The Sensory Room provides a quieter, darker space with tools for those with sensory needs. Both rooms have TVs for livestreaming the service via YouTube.
Fidgets and noise-dimming headphones are available outside the Sensory Room.

Children in Worship
We rejoice in all ages worshipping together! A "Prayground" is located in the front of the Sanctuary. There are red worship bags available with activities that can completed in the pews, and rocking chairs on the east side of the sanctuary. We also have nursery care and church school options available.

Prayer Lists
The prayer list is available 24/7 online! Visit northminster.church/prayer

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Connect With Us

@Northminsterindy @northminsterindy northminster-indy.org

(317) 251-9489 office@northminster-indy.org 9am - 3pm (M-Th) | Closed Friday

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