The Weekend Messenger

PASTOR Rev. Orin W. Cummings, PhD	ASSISTING Mary Keidle
LECTOR Jolynn Szesny	A/V Drew Bowman
ORGANIST Sheryl Hansen	DISTRIBUTION MINISTER Mary Keidle

Ezekiel 34: 11-16, 20-24 **Ephesians 1: 15-23** **Matthew 25: 31-46**	**Gathering—ELW 634** **HOTD—ACS 954** **Distribution 1—TFF 268** **Distribution 2—ELW 855** **Sending—ELW 430**	**Gathering—Liturgy** **HOTD—ACS 954** **Distribution 1—TFF 268** **Distribution 2—ELW 855** **Sending—ELW 430**

Announcements:

11/25—Thanksgiving Eve Service followed by Pie Social
11/26—Thanksgiving Day—Church Office and MLCFDC Closed
11/28—Hanging of the Greens @ 9:00 a.m.
11/28/29—Advent Weekend 1
11/28/29—Healing Services & First Communion
12/02—Mutual Ministry Committee meeting
12/02—Advent mid-week service @ 12:00 p.m.
12/03—MLCFDC Christmas Program
12/05—WELCA Christmas Event at 8:30 a.m.

This week at Messiah:

11/22	@	9:30 AM	Traditional worship
11/22	@	11:00 AM	Education Forum
11/23	@	9:00 AM	Lutheran World Relief work
11/24	@	7:00 AM	Men's Bible Study
11/24	@	6:30 PM	Parkcrest AA & Al-Anon meeting
11/24	@	7:00 PM	Springfield Singers rehearsal
11/25	@	5:00 PM	Prayer Support group
11/25	@	7:00 PM	Thanksgiving Eve service followed by Pie Social
11/26		Church Office and MLCFDC Closed	
11/27	@	5:30 PM	Revelations praise band practice
11/27	@	6:30 PM	Parkcrest AA & Al-Anon meeting
11/28	@	9:00 AM	Hanging of the Greens
11/28	@	5:30 PM	Casual worship with Healing Service & First Communion

Date: 11/21/26 Season: CHRIST THE KING (WHITE)

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit Calls us together as the people of God.

CALL TO WORSHIP

In celebration of our baptism, we worship
In the name of God: Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit.
Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

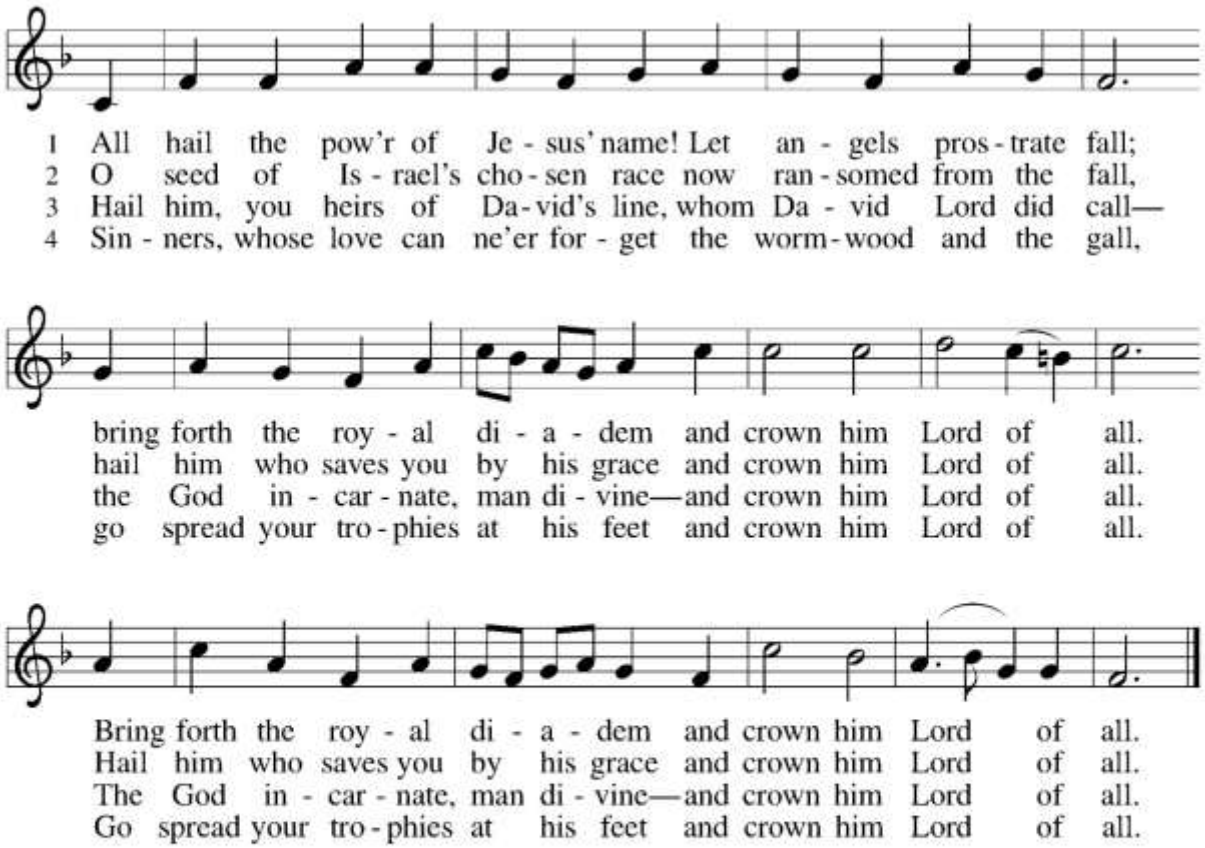
Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God,
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.

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

GATHERING HYMN (vs.1-4) **ELW 634**

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!



5 Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe
on this terrestrial ball
to him all majesty ascribe
and crown him Lord of all.

6 Oh, that with yonder sacred throng
we at his feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song
and crown him Lord of all.

Text: Edward Perronet, 1726–1792, sts. 1–4; J. Rippon, A Selection of Hymns, 1787, sts. 5–6
Music: CORONATION, Oliver Holden, 1765–1844

APOSTOLIC 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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God of power and might, your Son shows us the way of service, and in him we inherit the riches of your grace. Give us the wisdom to know what is right and the strength to serve the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

THE FIRST READING FROM EZEKIEL 34:11-16, 20-24

**11 Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep and will sort them out.
12 As shepherds sort out their flocks when they are among scattered sheep, so I will sort out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. 13 I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries and bring them into their own land, and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. 14 I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. 15 I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD. 16 I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strays, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.
20 Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. 21 Because you pushed with flank and shoulder and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, 22 I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged, and I will judge between sheep and sheep.
23 I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them; he shall feed them and be their shepherd. 24 And I the LORD will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I the LORD have spoken.**

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

THE SECOND READING FROM EPHESIANS 1:15-23

**15 I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints,
and for this reason 16 I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in
my prayers, 17 that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give
you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, 18 so that, with
the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may perceive what is the hope to which
he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the
saints, 19 and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe,
according to the working of his great power. 20 God put this power to work in
Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the
heavenly places, 21 far above all rule and authority and power and dominion and
above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to
come. 22 And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head
over all things for the church, 23 which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in
all.**

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL

Please stand as you are able for the reading of the Gospel.
The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 25th Chapter
Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] 31 "When the Son of Man comes in his glory and all
the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. 32 All the nations will
be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a
shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, 33 and he will put the sheep at his
right hand and the goats at the left. 34 Then the king will say to those at his right
hand, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared
for you from the foundation of the world, 35 for 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, 36 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.' 37 Then the righteous will
answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or
thirsty and gave you something to drink? 38 And when was it that we saw you a
stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? 39 And when was
it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' 40 And the king will answer
them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and
sisters of mine, you did it to me.' 41 Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You
who are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil
and his angels, 42 for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and
you gave me nothing to drink, 43 I was a stranger and you did not welcome me,
naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit
me.' 44 Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or
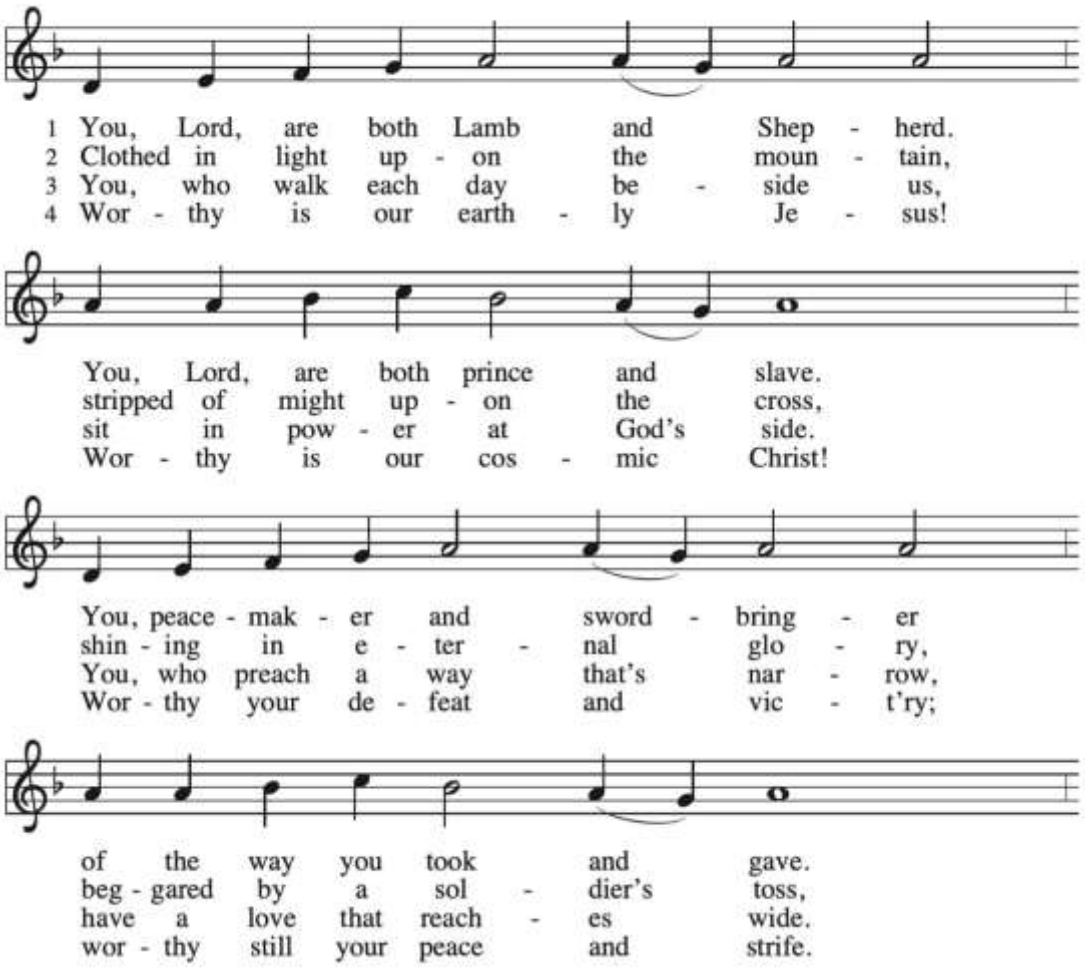
thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and did not take care of you?'
45 Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the
least of these, you did not do it to me.' 46 And these will go away into eternal
punishment but the righteous into eternal life."

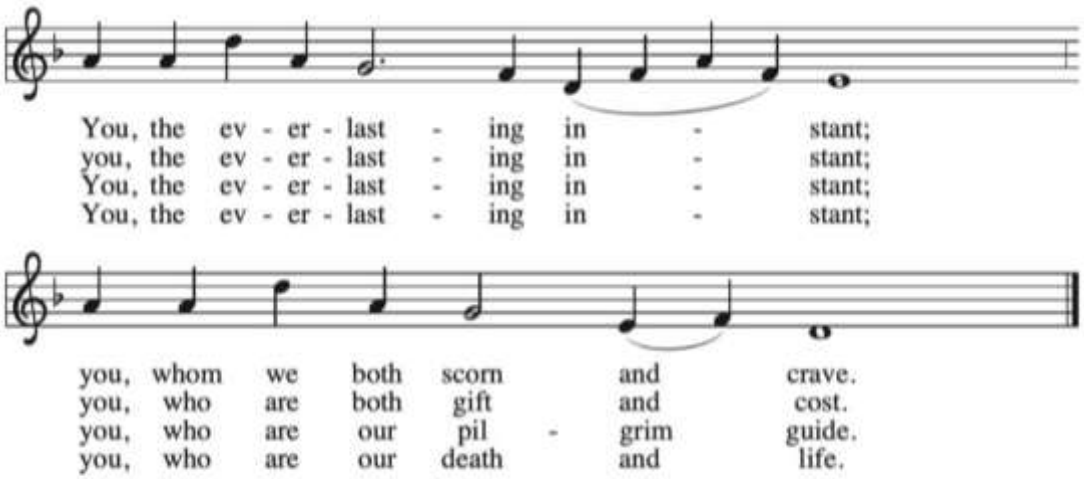
The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON Pastor Orin W Cummings

HYMN OF THE DAY **ACS 954**

You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd





Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993
Music: PICARDY, French folk tune, 17th cent.
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APOSTLES' CREED

With the whole church, let us affirm our faith with the Apostles' 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.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The Peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.
Please share a sign of God's peace with one another.

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

United with the great cloud of witnesses, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, all of creation, and open our hearts to God's will.

A brief silence.

Prepare your people for your reign to come among us. Where the church is wary, make us bold; where we are complacent, stir us to action; where we are anxious, assure us of your never-ending care. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

All the heights, depths, and expanses of the earth belong to you. Deliver every corner of your creation from disaster. Restore lands ravaged by floods, fires, drought, or contamination. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Gather all the nations at your side and teach them the ways of your kingdom of wholeness and abundant life. Empower judges, juries, and legal advocates to create and uphold pathways toward transformative justice. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Bind up the wounds of all your people. Give courage to all who experience uncertainty, guide all people facing difficult decisions, and lift the spirits of any who are in need *especially* Don Blumberg, Steve Koehler, Jerry Sherman, Steve Mullen, Marilyn Boston, Marissa Weaver, Leah Berkheimer, Jane Schwab, Ernie Russell, Nicole Brooks, Peggy Trinidad, Virgie Wood, Carol Bickel, Lynn Burk, Wanda Wilson, Bob Ockree, Jennie Rohy, Allison Gregory, Susan Klockow, David Grochowsky, Andrew Langr, Mark Krueger, Cathy Carleton, and Beverly Carlson. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of peace and reconciliation, be present with all communities struggling with conflict, division, and pain. Soften hardened hearts and open our ears to truly hear one another with compassion and understanding. Help us release hurt, anger, and resentment, and give us the courage to seek forgiveness and extend grace. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

May Nicole Brooks and Mary Beth Robinson rest in the eternal peace of your loving presence, O God. May their lives, memories, and spirits continue to shine in the hearts of all who loved them. Comfort the grieving, and bring us, at last, into the hope of your promised new day, where there is no more sorrow, no more pain, and no more death, but life everlasting in your presence. 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.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER
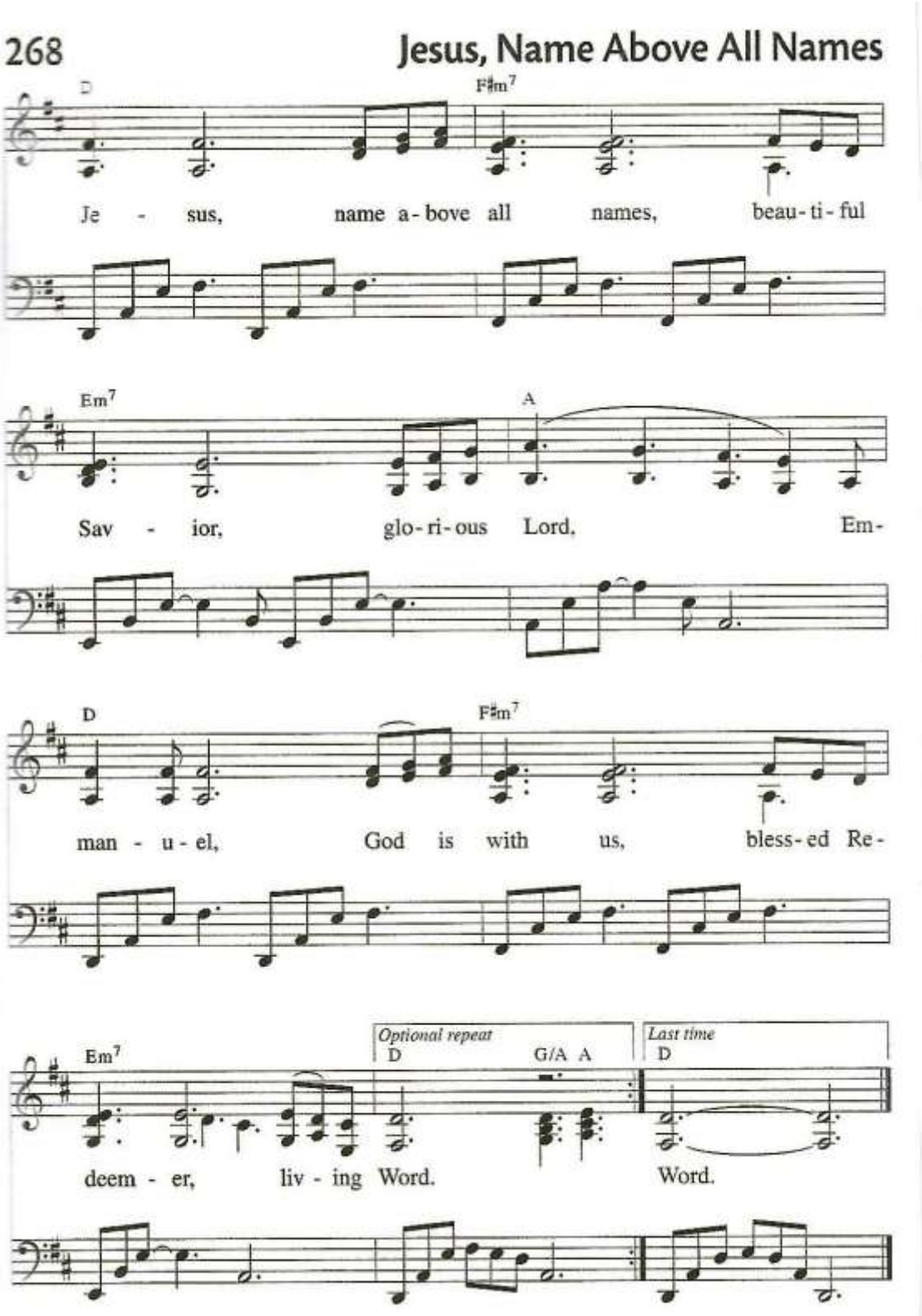
Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:
Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever.
Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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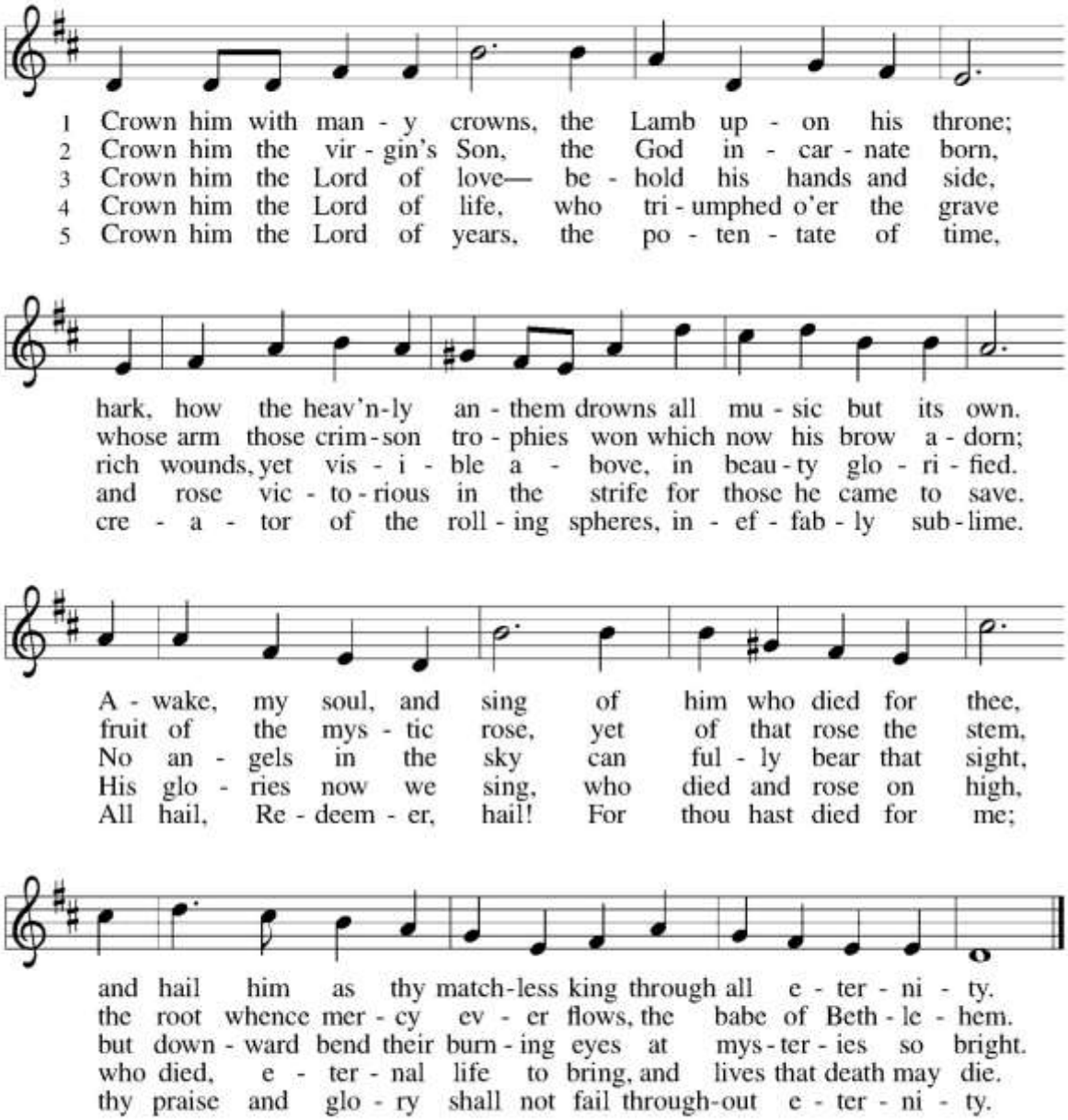
COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMN



DISTRIBUTION HYMN **ELW 855**

Crown Him with Many Crowns



Text: Matthew Bridges, 1800–1894, sts. 1–3, 5; Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, st. 4
Music: DIADEMATA, George J. Elvey, 1816–1893

TABLE BLESSING

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

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.
Amen.

SENDING

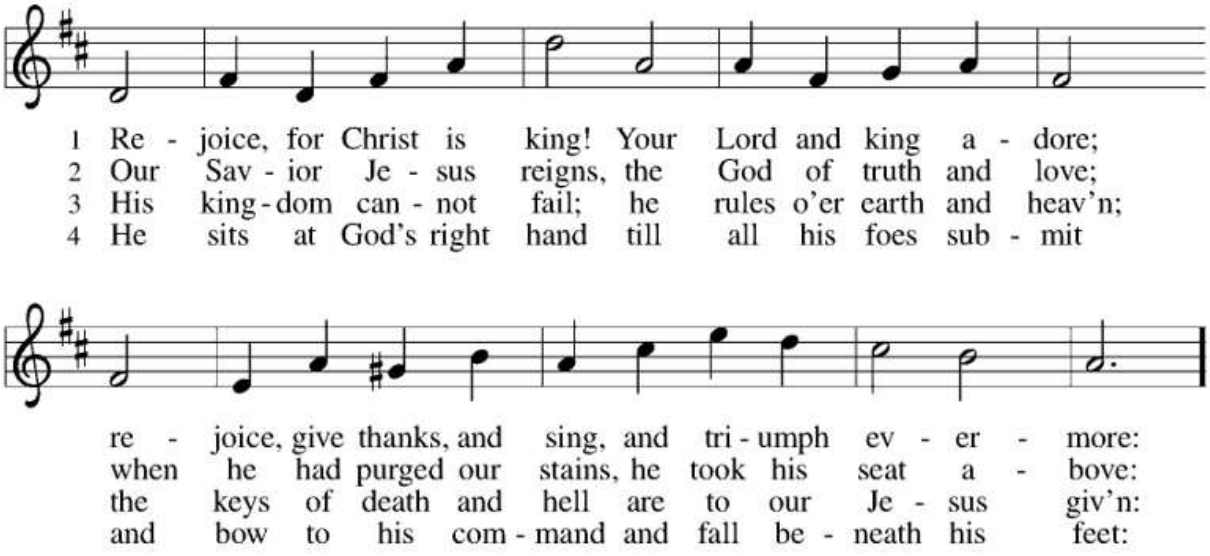
God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

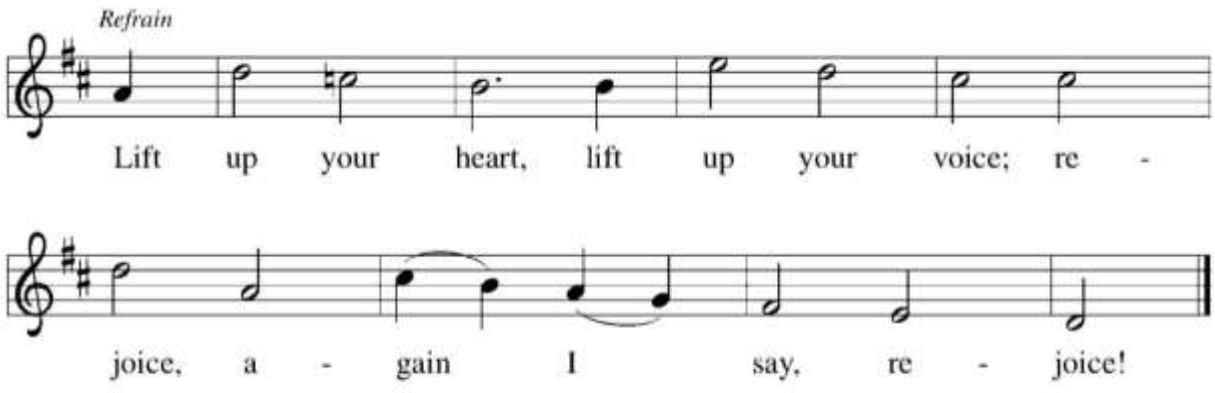
BLESSING

The holy Trinity,
Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you with wisdom to welcome the reign of God,
today and always.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN **ELW 430**

Rejoice, for Christ Is King!





Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.
Music: LAUS REGIS, William E. Fischer, 1849–1936

MISSION STATEMENT

Guided by the Gospel, we:
Welcome all to worship;
Make disciples;
Hunger for ministry;
Nurture youth;
Gather resources for growing ministries;
Offer healing and care to all in need.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Encourage one another.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

OFFERING

(Please place gifts in the plates as you leave)

POSTLUDE