

Worship Plan for Sunday, October 18, 2026

21st Sunday after Pentecost

ELW Holy Communion Setting Two

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

We gather in God's all-pervading peace.

Show us, good Lord,
**the peace we should seek,
the peace we must give,
the peace we can keep,
the peace we must forgo,
and the peace you have given in Jesus our Lord.**

Let us confess our sins to God.
Merciful God, you came in humility to share our lives
yet we remain proud.
You came with good news for all people,
yet we remain silent.
You came in love to a world of suffering,
yet we remain self-centered.

**Forgive us, open our eyes to your truth,
strengthen us to do your will
and give us the joy of your kingdom.**

As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his command I declare to you the forgiveness of all your sins and the promise to be remade in the image of his Son, in the name of the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

GATHERING SONG *God Is Here!* (ELW 526)

God Is Here!



1 God is here! As we your peo - ple meet to of - fer
2 Here are sym - bols to re - mind us of our life - long
3 Here our chil - dren find a wel - come in the Shep - herd's
4 Lord of all, of church and king - dom, in an age of



praise and prayer, may we find in full - er mea - sure
need of grace; here are ta - ble, font, and pul - pit;
flock and fold; here as bread and wine are tak - en,
change and doubt, keep us faith - ful to the gos - pel;



what it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the
here the cross has cen - tral place. Here in hon - es -
Christ sus - tains us as of old. Here the ser - vants
help us work your pur - pose out. Here, in this day's



world a - round us, all our var - ied skills and arts
ty of preach - ing, here in si - lence, as in speech,
of the Ser - vant seek in wor - ship to ex - plore
ded - i - ca - tion, all we have to give, re - ceive;



wait the com - ing of the Spir - it in - to o - pen minds and hearts.
here, in new - ness and re - new - al, God the Spir - it comes to each.
what it means in dai - ly liv - ing to be - lieve and to a - dore.
we, who can - not live with - out you, we a - dore you! We be - lieve!

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.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE (ELW p. 121)

Refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us
free to be peo - ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and
strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and join in the

hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and

might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God,

for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

CHOIR ANTHEM (My Song to the Lord)

*O Lord, I am thankful each day that I live,
For all of the wonderful blessings You give.
In the love of my fam'ly,
In the kindness of friends,*

*In this life I am leading,
Your grace never ends.*

*O Lord, You sustain me with courage and hope,
By guiding my footsteps and helping me grow.
When I'm weary or troubled,
When I'm filled with despair,
When I'm lonely or grieving,
I know You are there.*

*So my grateful voice I will raise
To proclaim Your grace and Your glory,
And my praises will ring in each song that I sing,
As I share Your truth and Your love.*

*O Lord, I will follow and serve You each day,
By using my talents and living in faith.
May Your light shine within me,
May Your peace keep me strong,
May You help me in sharing Your Word and Your song.*

*Now my grateful voice I will raise,
To proclaim Your grace and Your Glory,
And my praises will ring in each song that I sing,
As I share Your truth and Your love.
I will share Your truth and love.*

SUNDAY SCHOOL DISMISSAL

FIRST READING: Exodus 33:12-23

A reading from Exodus.

¹² Moses said to the LORD, "See, you have said to me, 'Bring up this people,' but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, 'I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight.' ¹³ Now if I have found favor in your sight, please show me your ways, so that I may know you and find favor in your sight. Consider, too, that this nation is your people." ¹⁴ He said, "My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest." ¹⁵ And he said to him, "If

your presence will not go, do not bring us up from here. ¹⁶ For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people, unless you go with us? In this way, we shall be distinct, I and your people, from every people on the face of the earth.”

¹⁷ The LORD said to Moses, “I will also do this thing that you have asked, for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name.” ¹⁸ Moses said, “Please show me your glory.” ¹⁹ And he said, “I will make all my goodness pass before you and will proclaim before you the name, ‘The LORD,’ and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. ²⁰ But,” he said, “you cannot see my face, for no one shall see me and live.” ²¹ And the LORD continued, “See, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock, ²² and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by; ²³ then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back, but my face shall not be seen.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 99



¹ The LORD is king; let the | people tremble.

The LORD is enthroned upon the cherubim; let | the earth shake.

² **The LORD, | great in Zion,
is high a- | bove all peoples.**

³ Let them confess God’s name, which is | great and awesome;
God is the | Holy One.

⁴ **O mighty king, lover of justice, you have es- | tablished equity;
you have executed justice and righteous- | ness in Jacob. R**

⁵ Proclaim the greatness of the LORD and fall down be- | fore God’s footstool;
God is the | Holy One.

⁶ **Moses and Aaron among your priests, and Samuel among those who call
upon your | name, O LORD,**

they called upon you, and you ¹ answered them,
⁷ you spoke to them out of the pil- ¹ lar of cloud;
they kept your testimonies and the decree ¹ that you gave them.
⁸ **O LORD our God, you answered ¹ them indeed;**
you were a God who forgave them, yet punished them for their ¹ evil
deeds.
⁹ Proclaim the greatness of the LORD and worship upon God's ¹ holy hill;
for the LORD our God is the ¹ Holy One. **R**

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

A reading from 1 Thessalonians.

¹ Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,
To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:
Grace to you and peace.

² We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers,
constantly ³ remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor
of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴ For we know, brothers
and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵ because our message of the
gospel came to you not in word only but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and
with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among
you for your sake. ⁶ And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of
persecution you received the word with joy from the Holy Spirit, ⁷ so that you
became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸ For the word
of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia but in
every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak
about it. ⁹ For they report about us what kind of welcome we had among you and
how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God ¹⁰ and to wait for
his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from
the coming wrath.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 124)

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Repeat alleluia

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

GOSPEL: Matthew 22:15-22

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁵ The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. ¹⁶ So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one, for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷ Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not?” ¹⁸ But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹ Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰ Then he said to them, “Whose head is this and whose title?” ²¹ They answered, “Caesar’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s and to God the things that are God’s.” ²² When they heard this, they were amazed, and they left him and went away.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *Take My Life, That I May Be* (ELW 583)

Take My Life, That I May Be

Toma, oh Dios, mi voluntad

Refrain/Estribillo



To - ma, oh Dios, mi vo - lun - tad, y haz - la tu - ya, na -
Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord,



da más; to - ma, sí, mi co - ra - zón
to thee; take my mo - ments and my days;

To stanzas *Last time*



y tu tro - no en él ten - drás. ten - drás.
let them flow in cease - less praise. less praise.



1 Que mi vi - da en - te - ra es - té
1 Take my hands and let them move
2 Take my sil - ver and my gold,
3 Take my voice and let me sing
4 Take my will and make it thine;



con - sa - gra - da a ti, Se - ñor;
at the im - pulse of thy love;
not a mite would I with - hold;
al - ways, on - ly for my King;
it shall be no lon - ger mine;



que a mis ma - nos pue - da guiar el im -
take my feet and let them be swift and
take my in - tel - lect and use ev - 'ry
take my lips and let them be filled with
take my heart, it is thine own; it shall

Refrain/Estribillo



pul - so de tu a - mor.
beau - ti - ful for thee.
pow'r as thou shalt choose.
mes - sag - es from thee.
be thy roy - al throne.

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.
Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world.

Living and true God, you inspire us to share the message of the gospel. Give your spirit of love to seminarians and those beginning their lives in ordained ministry. We pray for Lutheran Church of the Cross in Victoria and Pastors Lyndon Sayers and Eli Deifeld, for prison chaplains and their ministries, and for our partners in the Anglican Diocese of New Westminster and Bishop John Stephens. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We give you thanks for the majesty of our oceans. Protect the abundant life within them and sustain all those who work to preserve them. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We seek your wisdom in all things. Direct all who hold positions of authority around the world, that they act with compassion, seeking the good of all. We pray especially for our newly elected mayors and councils across BC. Give us wisdom as we prepare to vote in our upcoming provincial election. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for all people who work in dangerous or degrading environments. Grant them safety and courage, and heal all those who are injured, sick, or suffering (*especially those on the prayer sheet*). Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We ask your blessing on those who do the quiet, unseen work of the church. Encourage them in their work of faith and labor of love. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We thank you for our ancestors who have been called home to you. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

OFFERING *We Raise Our Hands to You, O Lord* (ELW 690)

- 1 We raise our hands to you, O Lord,
like empty vessels.
Oh, come to us and give us life
from springs where living waters flow.
- 2 What good and blessing you bestow
are freely given.
Your pow'r will make the weakest strong
and barren branches start to bud.
- 3 Oh, make our barren trees to grow,
our hands to blossom,
and let our lives bring forth such fruit
that heals our neighbor's grief and pain.
- 4 As summer follows springtime's rain,
grace follows sorrow,
and grief and joy shall bear much fruit,
though hidden from our human eyes.
- 5 Through grace your new creation lies
in hands held open.
O Giver of all goodness, come,
dwell with us in our earthly home.

OFFERING PRAYER

God of creation,
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

DIALOGUE (ELW p. 129)

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.

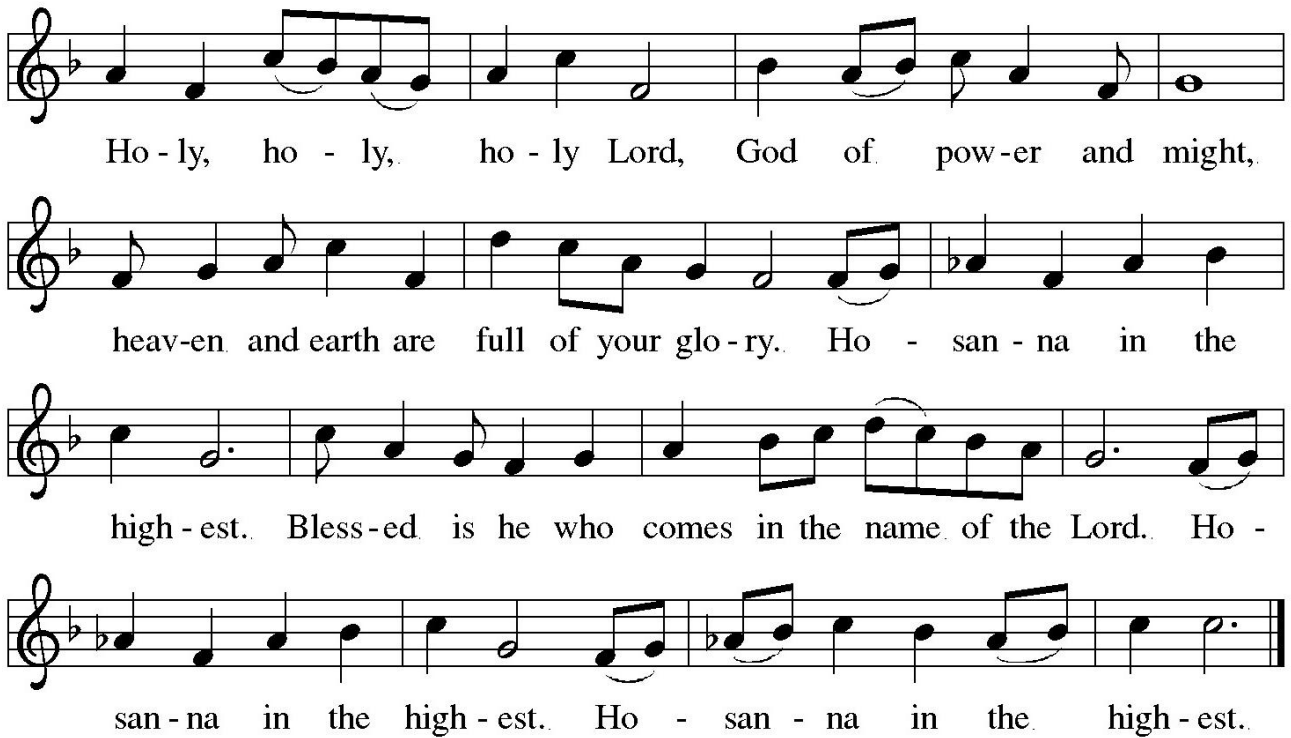
PREFACE (ELW p. 130)

We praise and thank you, God of Abraham and Moses,
because you have made your creation out of nothing,
you have come among us in liberation and covenant,
and in your Son's dying and rising
you have opened up your life to share your holiness with us.

In your tender mercy
you have broken upon us the dawn from on high
and shown us your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.
You cover us with your loving hand
that we may dare to stand in your presence,
and you tell us your name that we may see into your heart.

And so we come before you
with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven,
to sing the hymn of your unending praise:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 130)



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Merciful God, you have given us the law
as the covenant between your ways and ours,
and in Jesus you have renewed that covenant
by giving us the fulfillment of that law.
In this meal you show us
how much you long for us to be your companions
and how constant is your presence among us.

Send down your Holy Spirit upon us now,
that we might become the body of Christ that you give us to eat.
Give us your very self in these gifts of bread and wine
and make them for us the body and blood of your son Jesus Christ;
who, at supper with his disciples, took bread, gave you thanks,
broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying,
"Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup.
Again he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying,
"Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Great is the mystery of faith.
Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

God of inescapable love,
you call upon us to give to you the things that are yours.
As we realize with joy that all things are yours,
turn every action of our lives into ways of worshiping you.
Unite us with the communion of your saints,
past, present, and eternal, turning all into alleluia,
turning justice into kindness and trust,
turning fear into hope, hunger into fulfillment,
isolation into companionship, and suffering into love,
until the day comes when we and all your people
see you face to face,
ever one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

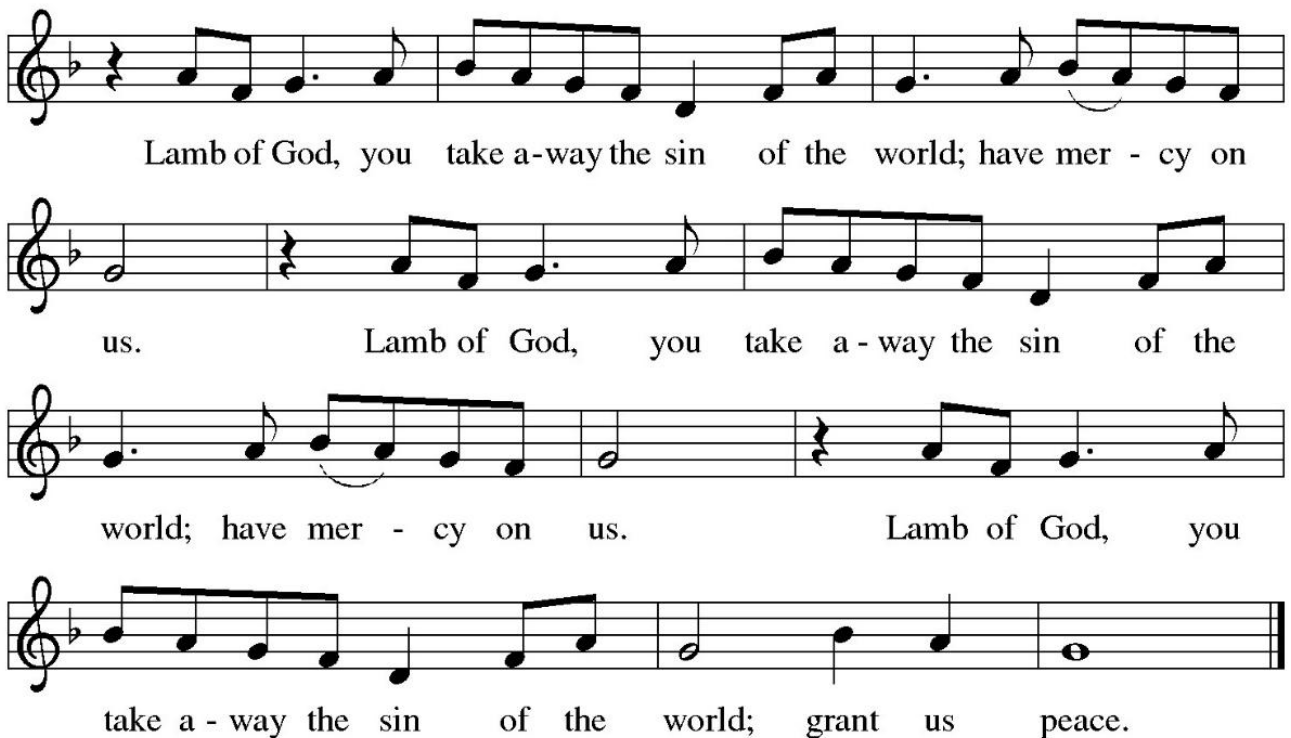
COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Amen.

COMMUNION SONG (ELW p. 135)



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on

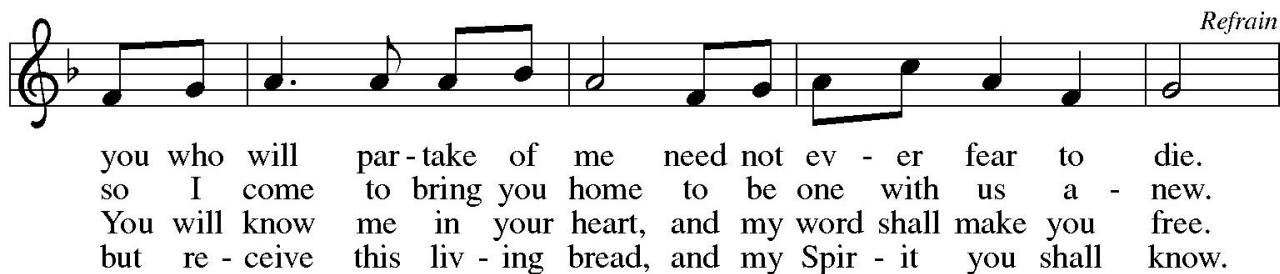
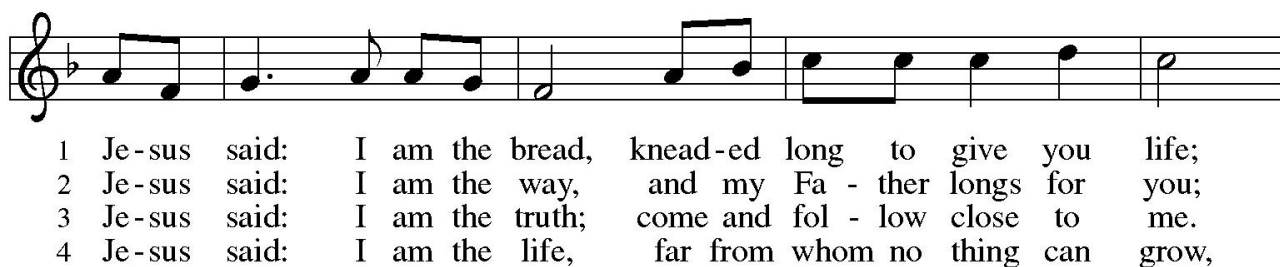
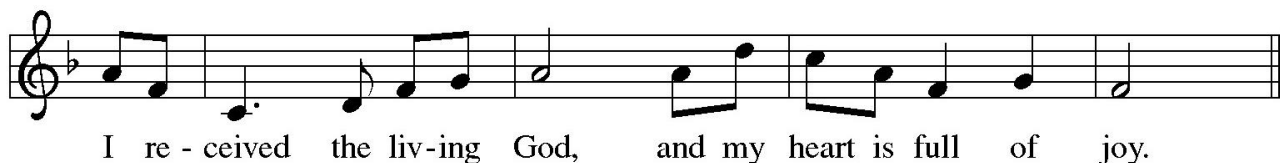
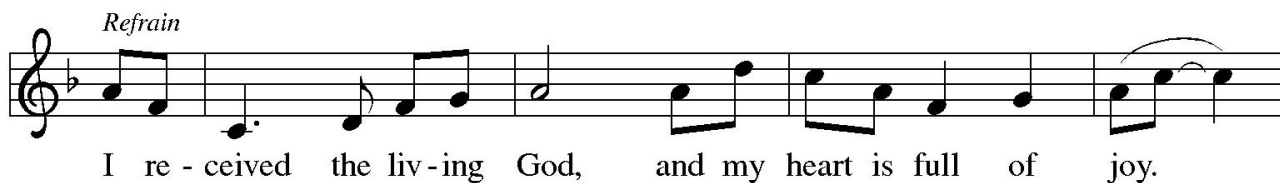
us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you

take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN *I Received the Living God* (ELW 477)

I Received the Living God



COMMUNION HYMN *Shepherd Me, O God* (ELW 780)

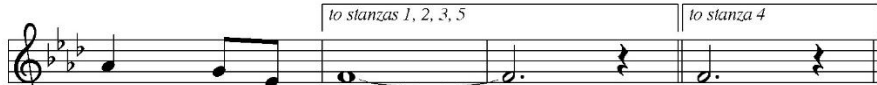
Shepherd Me, O God

Refrain
All



Shep-herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be - yond my fears, from

to stanzas 1, 2, 3, 5 *to stanza 4*



death in - to life. life.

Leader or All



1 God is my shep-herd, so noth - ing shall I want, I
2 Gent - ly you raise me and heal my wea - ry soul, you
3 Though I should wan - der the val - ley of death, I



rest in the mead-ows of faith - ful - ness and love, I
lead me by path - ways of righ - teous - ness and truth, my
fear no e - vil, for you are at my side, your

Refrain



walk by the qui - et wa - ters of peace.
spir - it shall sing the mu - sic of your name.
rod and your staff, my com - fort and my hope.

Leader or All



4 You have set me a ban-quet of love in the face of

Refrain



ha-tred, crown-ing me with love be-yond my pow'r to hold.

Leader or All



5 Sure-ly your kind-ness and mer-cy fol-low me all the days of my life;



I will dwell in the house of my God for-ev - er - more.

Final refrain
All



Shep-herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be -



yond my fears, from death in - to life.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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.
Amen.

BLESSING

The God of love
draw you into full accord and one mind,
in the body of Christ Jesus.
Amen.

The God of hope
grant you strength and joy in all circumstances
through the interceding of the Spirit.
Amen.

The God of grace
✠ bless you now and forever.
Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING SONG *To Be Your Presence* (ELW 546)

To Be Your Presence

The musical score is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The first staff contains the first line of the hymn, the second staff contains the second line, and the third staff contains the third line. The lyrics are as follows:

1 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion here, to show com -
2 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion bold, to feed the
3 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion blest, to speak for
4 We are your heart, O Christ, your hands and voice, to serve your

pas - sion's face and lis - t'ning ear, to be your heart of mer - cy
poor and shel - ter home-less cold, to be your hands of jus - tice,
all the bro - ken and op - pressed, to be your voice of hope, your
peo - ple is our call and choice, and in this mis - sion we, the

ev - er near,
right up - hold, al - le - lu - ia!
love ex - pressed,
church, re - joice,

DISMISSAL

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

Thanks be to God.

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God is Here!

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My Song to the Lord

Words by D. Besig and N. Price, Music by D. Besig.
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Take My Life, That I May Be

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879, adapt.; Spanish text: Vicente Mendoza, 1875-1955.
Music: William Dexheimer Pharris, b. 1956; arr. Mark Sedio, b. 1954. Music © 1999 Augsburg Fortress.
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We Raise Our Hands to You, O Lord

Text: Svein Ellingsen, b. 1929; tr. Hedwig T. Durnbaugh, b. 1929. Music: Trond Kverno, b. 1945.
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I Received the Living God

Text & Music: Anonymous.
Music: Public Domain.

Shepherd Me, O God

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950, based on Psalm 23. Music: Marty Haugen.
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To Be Your Presence

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b.1939. Music: Charles V. Stanford, 1852-1924.
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