

**Gethsemane Lutheran Church**

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glcportland.org | (503) 256-1835

<https://www.facebook.com/gethsemaneportland>

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**December 19, 2021**

*“You, the Almighty, have done great things for me and holy is your name.”*

*Luke 1:49*

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**GATHERING**

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**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Welcome to worship! For the safety of our community, we ask that you sign in. Our worship service is broadcast live on Zoom and Facebook. Only the presenters in our worship will be recorded. Please see an usher if you have any questions.*

## LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

We praise you, O God, for this evergreen circle  
that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent.  
As we light the candles on this wreath,  
open our eyes to see your presence in unexpected places.  
Fill our hearts with your love, that we may sing  
of your advent among us in the word made flesh.  
Grant this through Christ our Savior,  
whose coming is certain and whose day draws near.  
**Amen.**

## CANDLE-LIGHTING SONG, *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*, ELW #257



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive  
2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things  
3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on  
4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here  
far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;  
Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law  
tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joice! Re-joice!  
in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.  
and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

Text: *Psalterium Cantionum Catholicarum*, Köln, 1710; tr. composite  
Music: VENI, EMMANUEL, French processional, 15th cent.  
Text sts. 2, 6, 7 © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

**\* Please stand as you are able.**

## **\*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
who lifts up the lowly,  
who fulfills his promise,  
who becomes one of us, for the sake of our salvation.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin, trusting in the tender mercy of our God.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God for whom we wait,  
**in the presence of one another,**  
**we confess our sin before you.**  
**We struggle to believe your promises.**  
**We falter in your call to tend creation.**  
**We find our sense of self in material goods.**  
**We fear those different from ourselves.**  
**We turn away from your love.**  
**Forgive us, Blessed One,**  
**and assure us again of your saving grace.**  
**Amen.**

God, in Christ Jesus, looks with favor upon you!  
Through the power of the Holy Spirit,  
† your sins are forgiven.  
You are children of the Most High,  
claimed by God and sustained in grace.  
God strengthens you anew to follow the way of peace.  
**Amen.**

# GATHERING SONG: *My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness*, ELW #251

1 My soul pro-claims your great-ness, Lord; I sing my Sav - ior's praise!  
2 To all who live in ho - ly fear your mer - cy ev - er flows.  
3 To Is - ra - el, your ser - vant blest, your help is ev - er sure;

You looked up - on my low - li - ness, and I am full of grace.  
With might - y arm you dash the proud, their schem - ing hearts ex - pose.  
the prom - ise to our par - ents made their chil - dren will se - cure.

Now ev - 'ry land and ev - 'ry age this bless - ing shall pro - claim—  
The ruth - less you have cast a - side, the low - ly throned in - stead;  
Sing glo - ry to the Ho - ly One, give hon - or to the Word,

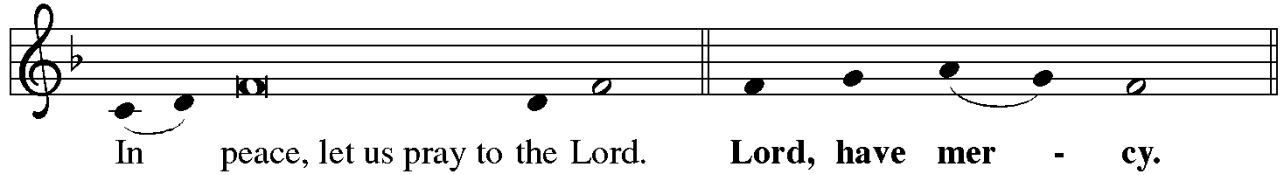
great won - ders you have done for me, and ho - ly is your name.  
the hun - gry filled with all good things, the rich sent off un - fed.  
and praise the Pow'r of the Most High, one God, by all a - dored.

## \*GREETING

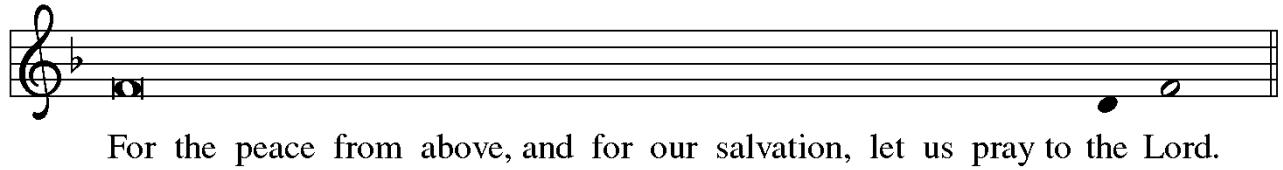
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

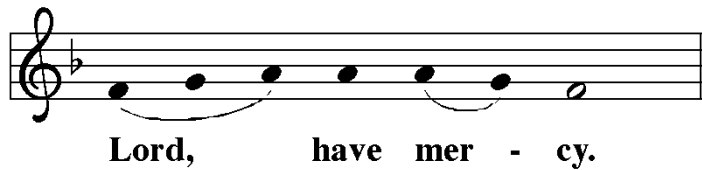
## \*KYRIE



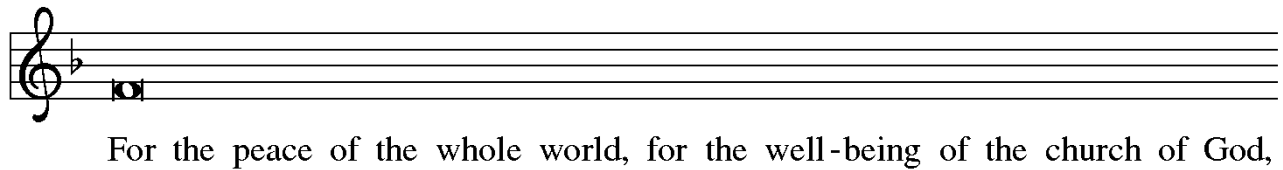
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



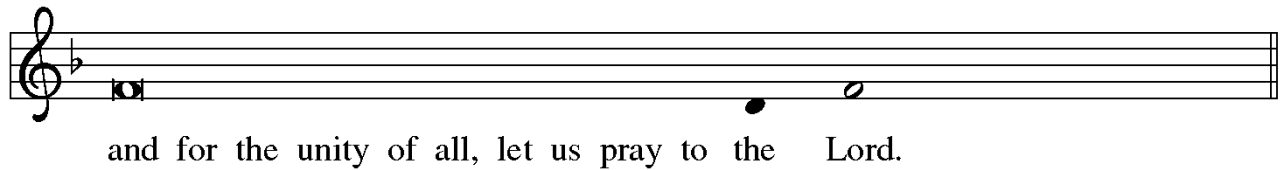
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



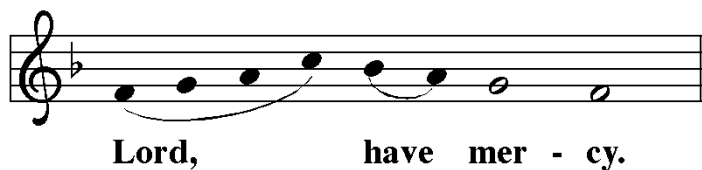
Lord, have mer - cy.



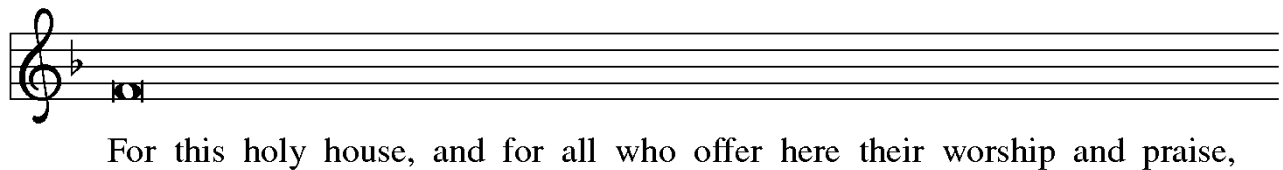
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



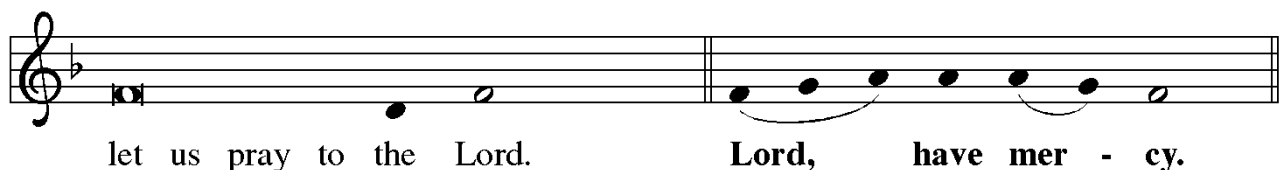
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



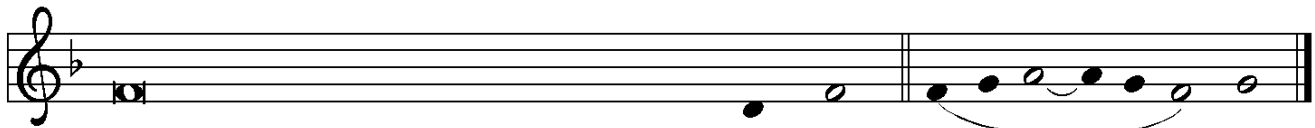
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

## CANTICLE OF PRAISE



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.



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



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and



strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.



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



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 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.



*Refrain*

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



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was



slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



*Final refrain*

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



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

## **\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray,

Dear God, thank you for loving us. Thank you for sending Jesus to be born. You know what it is like to be a baby, a child, a grown up. You love us just as we are. Help us to serve you and love others.

In Jesus name,

**Amen.**

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## **WORD**

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### **FIRST READING Micah 6:1-12**

A reading from Micah.

Hear what the LORD says:

Rise, plead your case before the mountains,  
and let the hills hear your voice.

<sup>2</sup>Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the LORD,  
and you enduring foundations of the earth;  
for the LORD has a controversy with his people,  
and he will contend with Israel.

<sup>3</sup>"O my people, what have I done to you?

In what have I wearied you? Answer me!

<sup>4</sup>For I brought you up from the land of Egypt,  
and redeemed you from the house of slavery;  
and I sent before you Moses,  
Aaron, and Miriam.

<sup>5</sup>O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised,  
what Balaam son of Beor answered him,  
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,  
that you may know the saving acts of the LORD."

<sup>6</sup>"With what shall I come before the LORD,  
and bow myself before God on high?

Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,  
with calves a year old?

<sup>7</sup>Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,  
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?

Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,  
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"



<sup>8</sup>He has told you, O mortal, what is good;  
and what does the LORD require of you  
but to do justice, and to love kindness,  
and to walk humbly with your God?

<sup>9</sup>The voice of the LORD cries to the city  
(it is sound wisdom to fear your name):  
Hear, O tribe and assembly of the city!

<sup>10</sup>Can I forget the treasures of wickedness in the house of the wicked,  
and the scant measure that is accursed?

<sup>11</sup>Can I tolerate wicked scales  
and a bag of dishonest weights?

<sup>12</sup>Your wealthy are full of violence;  
your inhabitants speak lies,  
with tongues of deceit in their mouths.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **PSALM: Luke 1:46b-55**

### **Refrain**

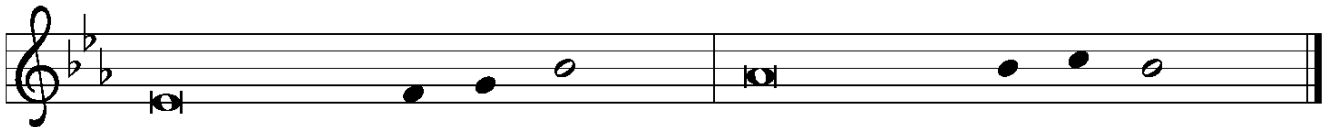


Luke 1:52

Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

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### **Tone**



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46b My soul proclaims the greatness | of the Lord,  
47 my spirit rejoices in | God my Savior,  
48 for you, Lord, have looked with favor on your | lowly servant.  
From this day all generations will | call me blessed:  
49 you, the Almighty, have done great | things for me

and holy | is your name.

50 You have mercy on | those who fear you,  
from generation to | generation. R



51 You have shown strength | with your arm  
and scattered the proud in | their conceit,

52 casting down the mighty | from their thrones  
and lifting | up the lowly.

53 You have filled the hungry | with good things  
and sent the rich | away empty.

54 You have come to the aid of your | servant Israel,  
to remember the prom- | ise of mercy,

55 the promise made | to our forebears,  
to Abraham and his chil- | dren forever. R



## SECOND READING: Jeremiah 13:1-11

A reading from Jeremiah.

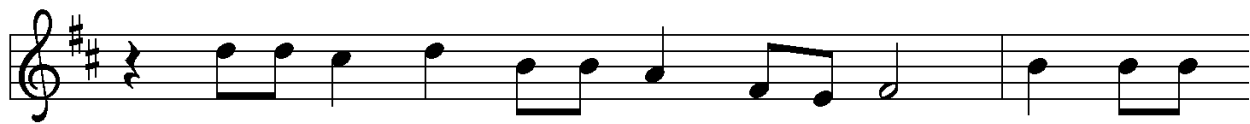
<sup>1</sup>Thus said the LORD to me, "Go and buy yourself a linen loincloth, and put it on your loins, but do not dip it in water." <sup>2</sup>So I bought a loincloth according to the word of the LORD, and put it on my loins. <sup>3</sup>And the word of the LORD came to me a second time, saying, <sup>4</sup>Take the loincloth that you bought and are wearing, and go now to the Euphrates, and hide it there in a cleft of the rock. <sup>5</sup>So I went, and hid it by the Euphrates, as the LORD commanded me. <sup>6</sup>And after many days the LORD said to me, "Go now to the Euphrates, and take from there the loincloth that I commanded you to hide there." <sup>7</sup>Then I went to the Euphrates, and dug, and I took the loincloth from the place where I had hidden it. But now the loincloth was ruined; it was good for nothing.

<sup>8</sup>Then the word of the LORD came to me: <sup>9</sup>Thus says the LORD: Just so I will ruin the pride of Judah and the great pride of Jerusalem. <sup>10</sup>This evil people, who refuse to hear my words, who stubbornly follow their own will and have gone after other gods to serve them and worship them, shall be like this loincloth, which is good for nothing. <sup>11</sup>For as the loincloth clings to one's loins, so I made the whole house of Israel and the whole house of Judah cling to me, says the LORD, in order that they might be for me a people, a name, a praise, and a glory. But they would not listen.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

### \*GOSPEL: Luke 1:39-45

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>39</sup>In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, <sup>40</sup>where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. <sup>41</sup>When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit <sup>42</sup>and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. <sup>43</sup>And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? <sup>44</sup>For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. <sup>45</sup>And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

### HYMN OF THE DAY: *The Angel Gabriel From Heaven Came*, ELW #265



1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from heav - en came,  
2 "For know a bless - ed moth - er thou shalt be,  
3 Then gen - tle Mar - y meek - ly bowed her head;  
4 Of her, Em - man - u - el, the Christ, was born



with wings as drift - ed snow, with eyes as flame:  
all gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee;  
"To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said.  
in Beth - le - hem all on a Christ - mas morn,



"All hail to thee, O low - ly maid - en Mar - y,  
thy son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,  
"My soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy God's ho - ly name."  
and Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say:



most high - ly fa - vored la - dy."  
most high - ly fa - vored la - dy."  
Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy,  
"Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy."  
Glo - ri - a!

Text: Basque carol; para. Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834–1924  
Music: GABRIEL'S MESSAGE, Basque carol

## \*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**

In this season of watching and waiting, let us pray for all people and places that yearn for God's presence.

Nurturing God, you give us life and care for our every need. Use the church's gifts and ministries for your service, bringing your word to all who seek your transforming grace. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Creator God, you proclaim your boundless love for all that you have made. Make us servants of your creation that brings forth abundant life. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Righteous God, you bring down the mighty and lift up the lowly. Strengthen those who seek justice. Bless the work of community organizers, activists, journalists, and all who call our attention to imbalances of power. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Compassionate God, you proclaim your love and mercy. Comfort those who are ill or in any kind of need, especially those we remember now in heart and with voice.... Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Faithful God, you stir up the hearts of those who love you. We give you thanks for those who, like Mary, were courageous in their witness. Give us such courage until that day when you fulfill all things. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of new life, receive these prayers and those of our hearts, in the name of Jesus.  
**Amen.**

## PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

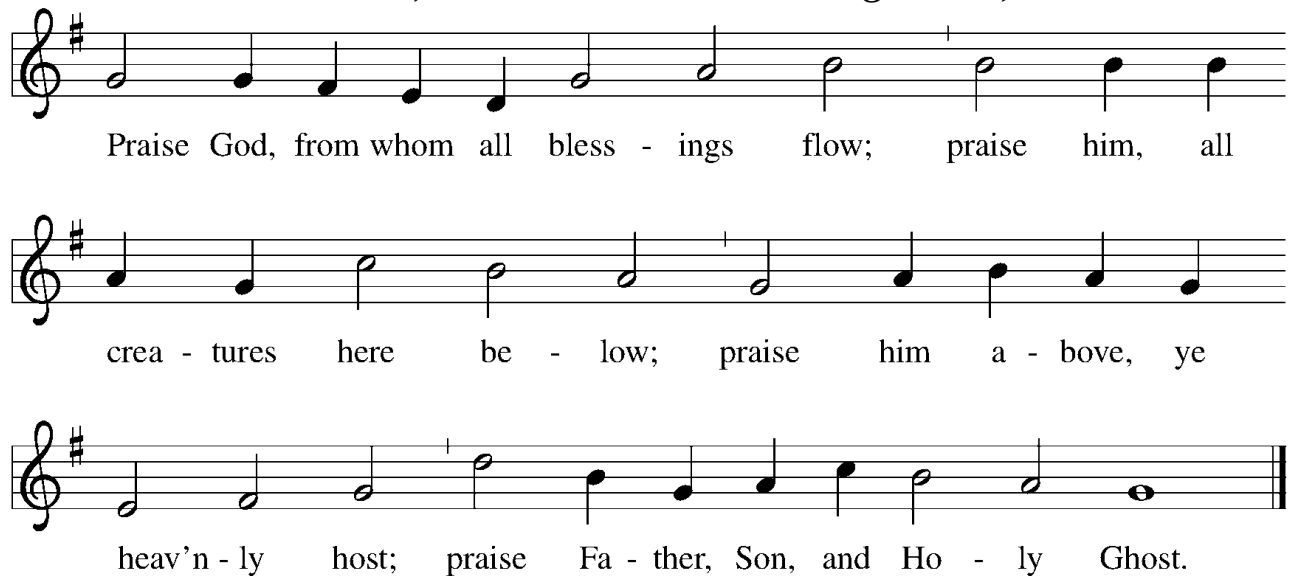
**And also with you.**

*Please remain in your seats for a moment of quiet reflection.*

## OFFERING

Thank you for your generous gifts to sustain the mission and ministry of Gethsemane Lutheran Church. You may give online at [www.glcportland.org/give](http://www.glcportland.org/give) or with Venmo.

## OFFERTORY: *Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow*, ELW #884



The image shows three staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are: "Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost." The first staff ends with a double bar line.

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise him, all  
crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye  
heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711

Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510–1561

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

### **\*THE 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.**

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everliving God. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes again to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

### **\*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

## **\*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

*All are welcome to celebrate communion! If you are joining us via livestream, you may commune from home. Any bread and wine, water or juice may be used. Please hold up bread and cup as Pastor says these words:*

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; 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, world without end.

**Amen.**

## **\*LORD'S PRAYER**

*This morning we pray the Lord's Prayer from the Anglican New Zealand prayer book:*

**Gathered into one by the Eternal Spirit,**

**Earth-maker, Pain bearer, Life-giver,**

**Source of all that is and that shall be,**

**Father and Mother of us all,**

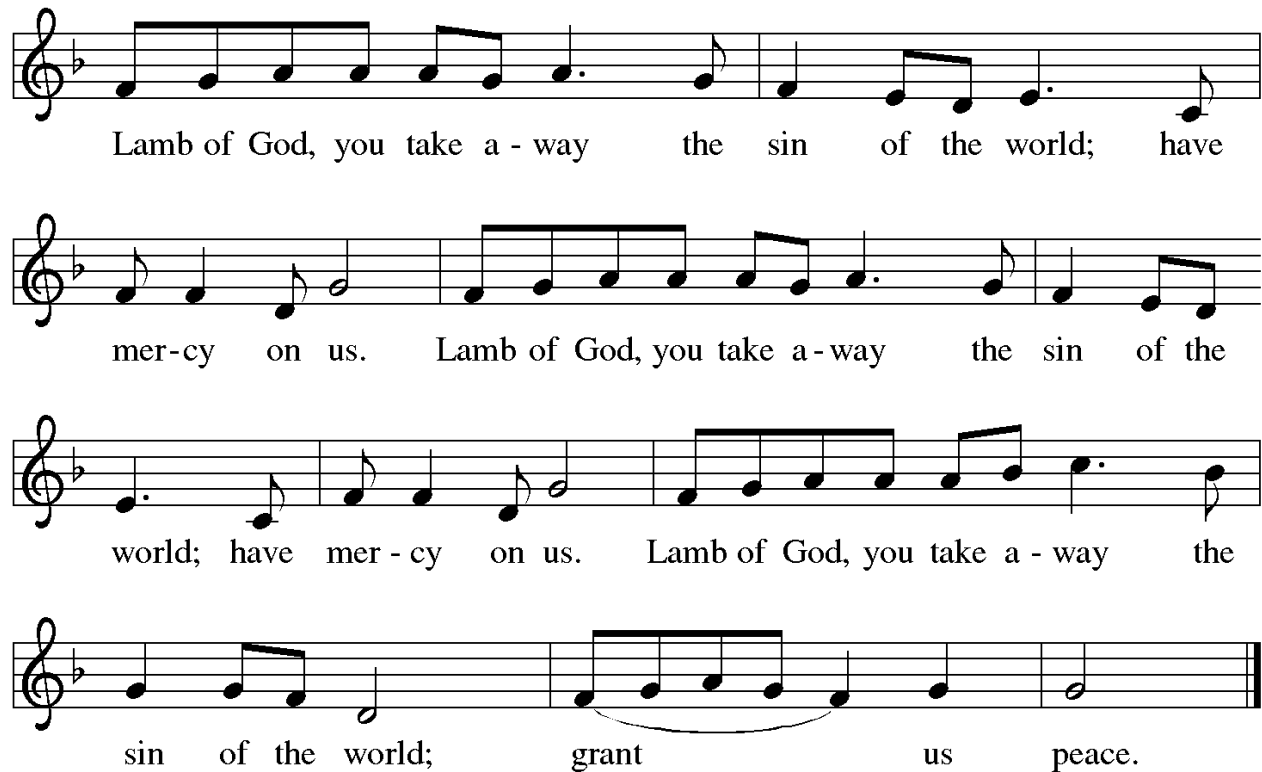
**Loving God, in whom is heaven:**



**The hallowing of your name echo through the universe;  
The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world;  
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings;  
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom  
sustain our hope and come on earth.**

**With the bread we need for today, feed us.  
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.  
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.  
From trial too great to endure, spare us.  
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.  
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,  
now and forever. Amen.**

### **LAMB OF GOD**



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.

### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

*If you did not pick up a communion cup as you entered, please see an usher. Please dispose of your cup as you exit the sanctuary today.*

### **COMMUNION BLESSING**

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

**\*COMMUNION SONG: *Ubi Caritas*, ELW #814**

The image shows a musical score for the communion song 'Ubi Caritas'. It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the vocal lines. The first system contains the lyrics: 'U - bi ca - ri - tas et a - mor, / Where true char - i - ty and love a - bide,'. The second system contains: 'u - bi ca - ri - tas, De - us i - bi est. / God is dwell - ing there; God is dwell - ing there.' The piano accompaniment features chords and moving lines, with a triplet of eighth notes in the second system.

Text: Latin antiphon, 9th cent.; Taizé Community; tr. *With One Voice*  
Music: TAIZÉ UBI CARITAS, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994  
Text and music © 1979 Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent, 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638.  
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**\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray,

God for whom we wait, in this meal you give us a foretaste of the day to come, when your peace and justice liberate all people. Send us forth to make known your deeds and testify to the righteousness of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

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**SENDING**

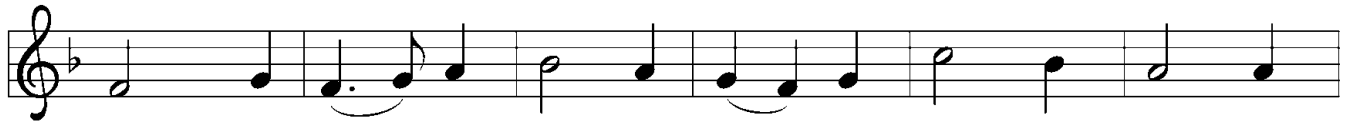
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**\*BLESSING**

The God of hope  
fill us with all joy and peace in believing,  
so that we may abound in hope  
by the power of the Holy Spirit,  
through Christ Jesus for whom we wait.

**Amen.**

**\*SENDING SONG: *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*, ELW #631**



1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heav'n, to  
2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - 'ry  
3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy  
4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and spot - less



earth come down! Fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy  
trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us  
life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -  
let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -



faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,  
find thy prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;  
more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,  
ly re - stored in thee! Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,



pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with  
Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as  
serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee  
till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.  
its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.  
with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.  
crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788

Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887

**\*DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Christ is near.

**Thanks be to God!**

## POSTLUDE

*Please leave the sanctuary quietly so that those who wish may remain to listen without interruption. Thank you!*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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- **Join us for Bible Study on Tuesday, December 21st at 10 am** in the conference room and on Zoom. <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87038575330>
- Pr. Elizabeth is offering a “**sacred pause**” **online gathering on Wednesdays at noon** during Advent. Join us on December 22nd at Noon on Zoom. <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87225860404>
- Come shop at the **Holiday Sale** in the Narthex hallway. Cash only (change not available). And get your bids in for the silent auction for the quilts!



**venmo**

Scan to donate directly to GLC (@glcpdx)!