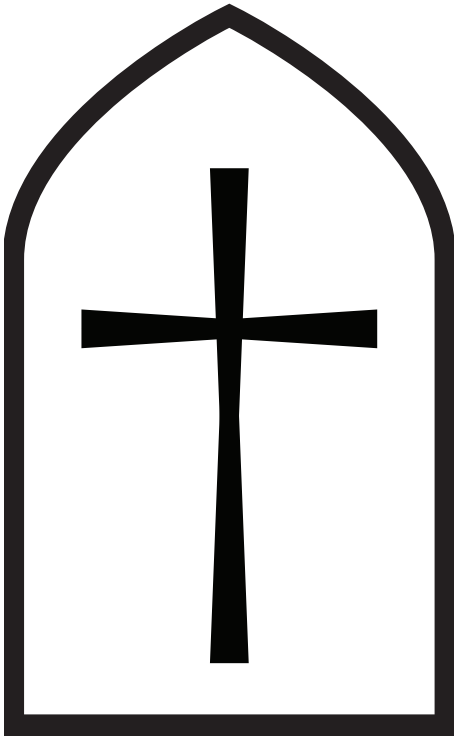
SAINT • PAUL'S

EPISCOPAL CHURCH



THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 20, 2026

10:15 AM, RITE II

LIVE FAITHFULLY.

The Holy Eucharist

The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 20, 2026 • 10:15 AM

Saint Paul's Episcopal Church, Waco, TX

••• Live Faithfully

Worship lies at the heart of the Christian life. It is in worship that we express our theology and define our identity. It is through encountering God within worship that we are formed and transformed as the people of God. One of the glories of the Episcopal Church is its liturgical worship. Liturgy refers to the patterns, forms, words, and actions through which public worship is conducted.

In the Christian tradition, there are a few dates in the liturgical calendar that are especially appropriate for baptism. These days are The Baptism of Our Lord, The Easter Vigil, The Day of Pentecost, and All Saints' Day. If you or a member of your family would like to receive the rite of baptism, please contact the church office.

The people's responses are in **bold**.

When the service is accompanied by music, it often begins with an instrumental piece of music, during which the congregation can prepare for worship.

The flowers on the altar today are given by Toni Riley to the glory of God and in memory of Jack M. Riley, Jr.

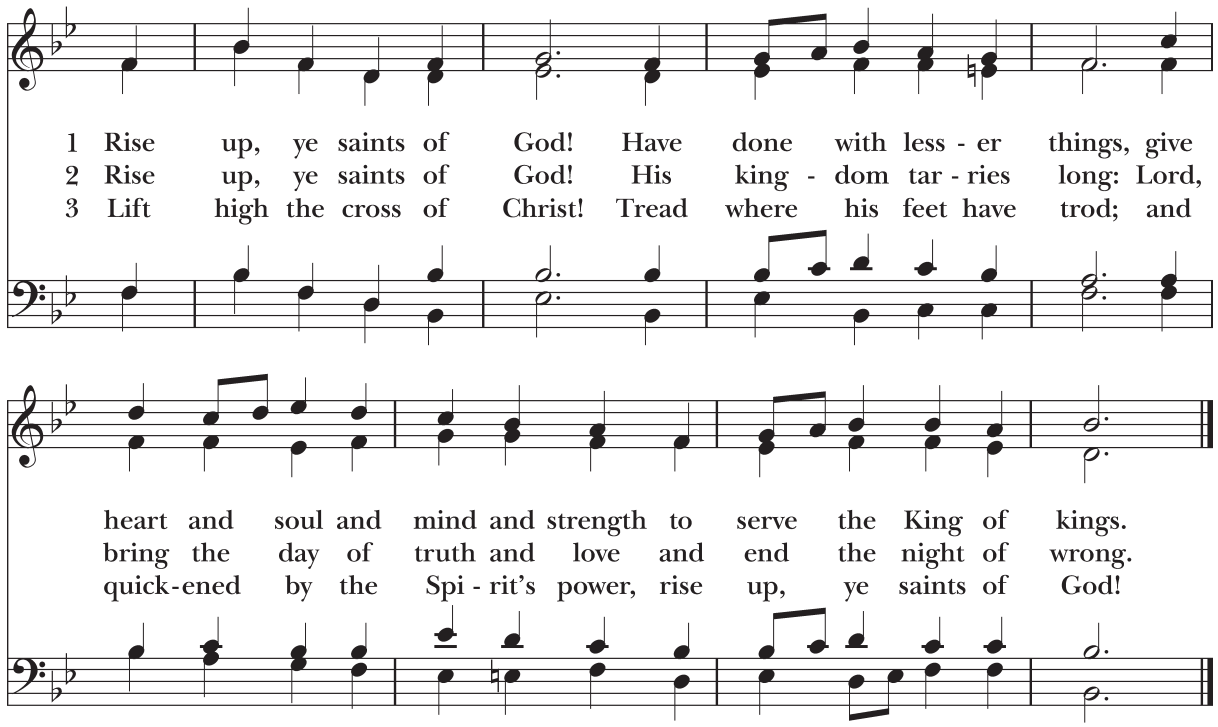
PRELUDE: *Voluntary in F* — Edward Elgar (1857-1934)

THE ENTRANCE RITE

We begin our worship as a gathered community by praising God in song.

The people stand as able at the introduction of the Processional Hymn.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN • *Rise up, ye saints of God* • 551



Words: William Pierson Merrill (1867-1954), alt. Music: *Festal Song*, William H. Walter (1825-1893).

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION BCP 355

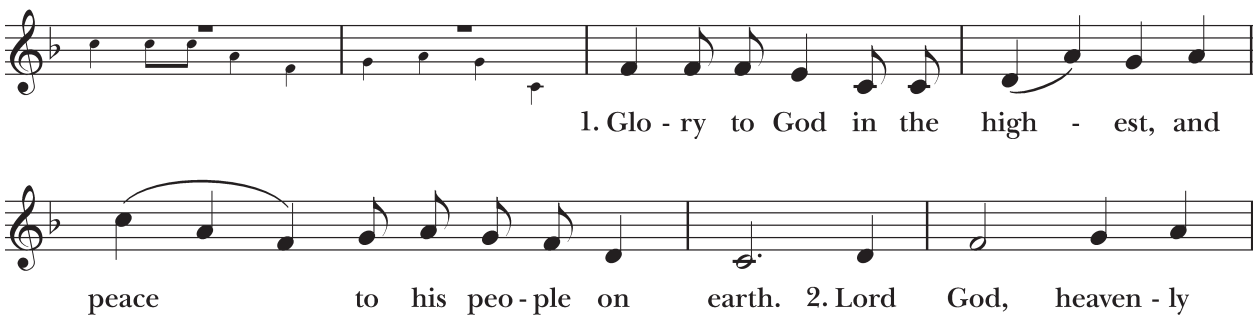
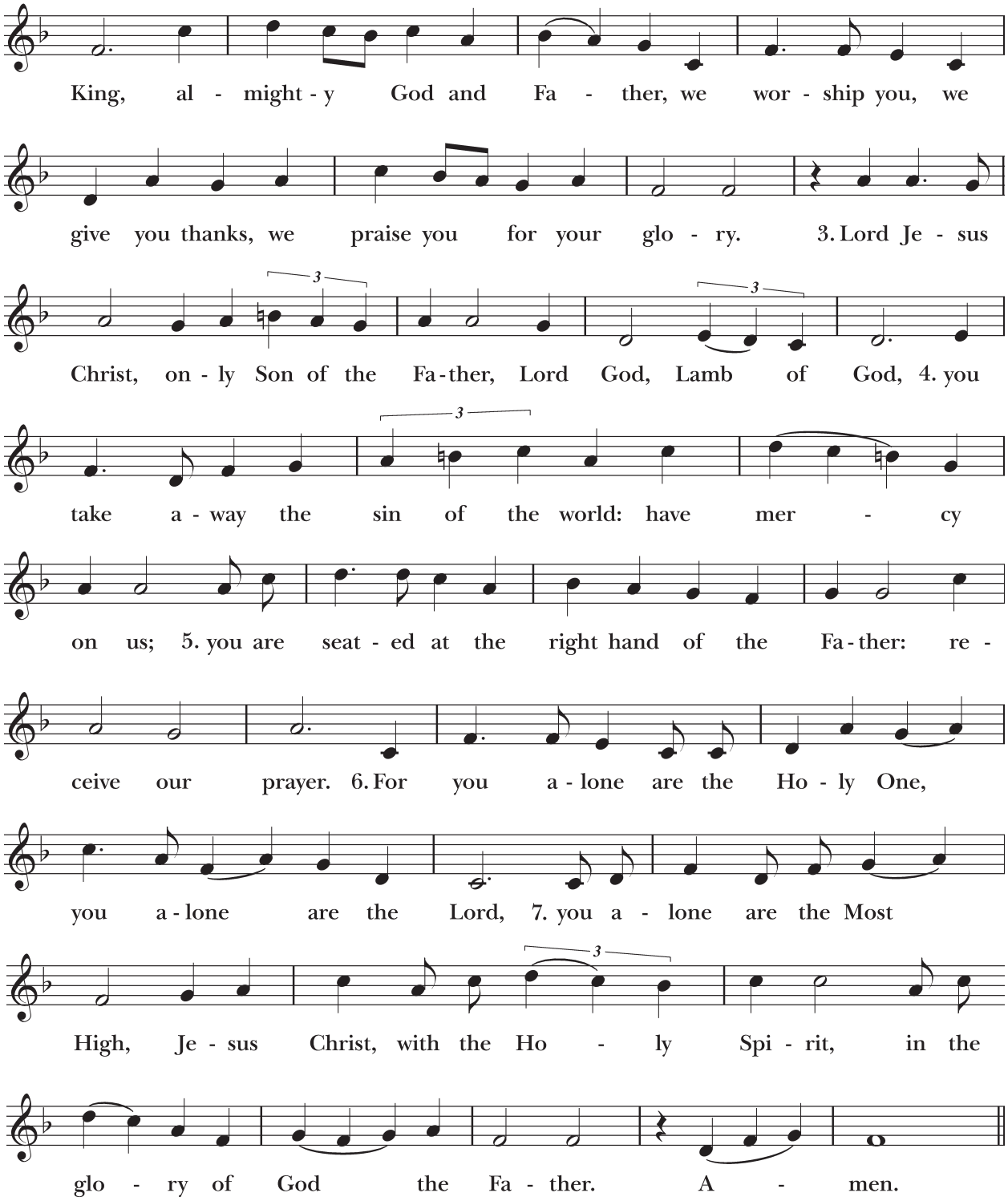
Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

This prayer is an English rendering of a Latin prayer that began the liturgy in the medieval church before the Reformation. It remains a distinctive part of Episcopal worship to this day.

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

THE GLORIA • S280



Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932), rev. Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

This collect is the prayer appointed for each Sunday that "collects" or captures the theme of the day or season of the Church year. It summarizes the attributes of God as revealed in the scriptures for the day.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray.

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen**.

The people are seated.

THE WORD OF GOD

The propers of the service are the scriptural texts that change with the liturgical calendar. The collect, lessons, psalm, Gospel, and preface to the communion liturgy are propers. Our lessons come from the Revised Common Lectionary, which is a three year cycle of readings shared by many mainline denominations. Each year we retell the Christian story from Advent through Pentecost.

THE FIRST LESSON • Jonah 3:10-4:11

Our first lesson is usually from the Old Testament, also known as the Hebrew Scriptures. The exception to this is in the Easter season, when we read lessons from the life of the early church in the Acts of the Apostles.

A reading from the Prophet Jonah.

When God saw what the people of Nineveh did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the Lord and said, "O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." And the Lord said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

The Lord God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that

it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." Then the LORD said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

THE RESPONSE • Psalm 145:1-8

The psalms are sung or spoken prayers that cover every mood of humanity's relationship with God and one another. The psalm is a response to hearing the Old Testament lesson and often it relates to the themes read in the lesson.

Read in unison.

1 I will exalt you, O God my King, *
and bless your Name for ever and ever.

2 Every day will I bless you *
and praise your Name for ever and ever.

3 Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; *
there is no end to his greatness.

4 One generation shall praise your works to another *
and shall declare your power.

5 I will ponder the glorious splendor of your majesty *
and all your marvelous works.

6 They shall speak of the might of your wondrous acts, *
and I will tell of your greatness.

7 They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness; *
they shall sing of your righteous deeds.

8 The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, *
slow to anger and of great kindness.

THE SECOND LESSON • Philippians 1:21-30

This reading, taken from the New Testament, is typically from a letter (epistle) to the early Church, the Acts of the Apostles, or the Revelation to John.

A reading from the Letter to the Church in Philippi.

To me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well-- since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

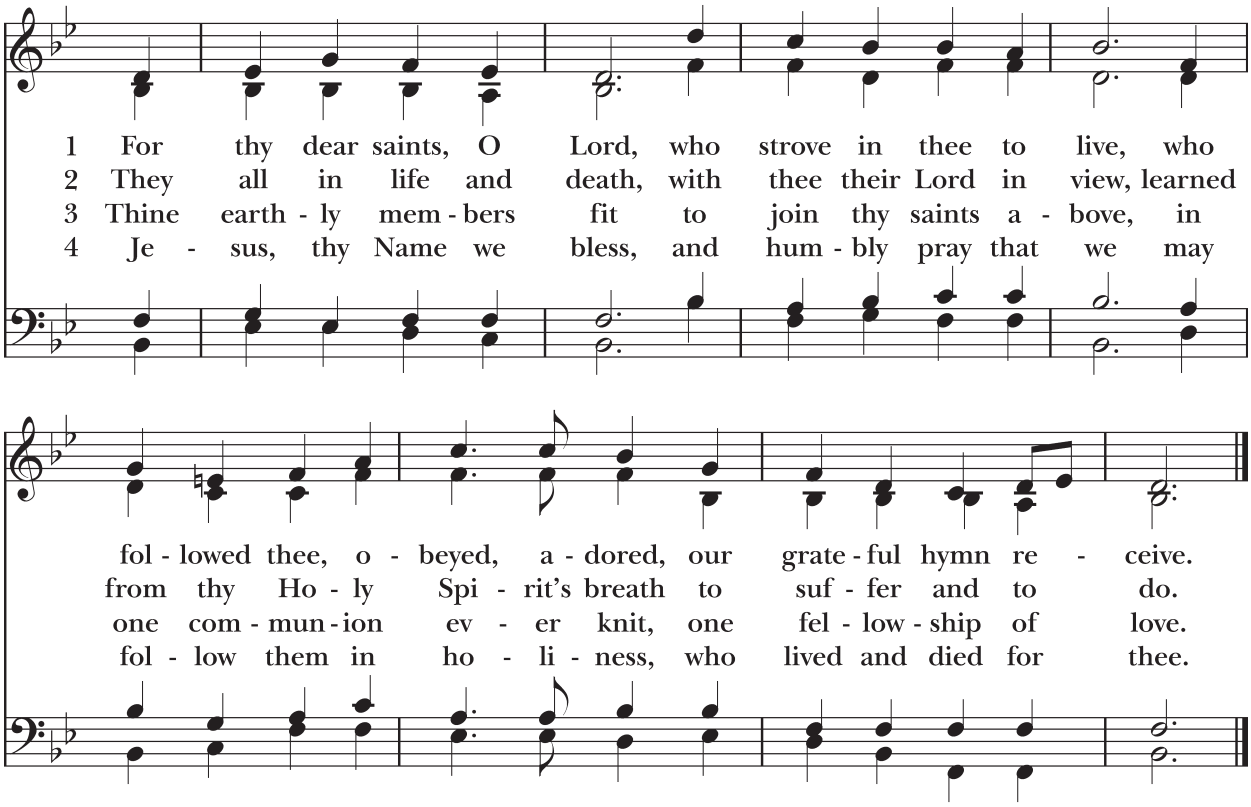
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL

We invite your child to join our Children's Chapel program this morning! Children ages pre-k through 6th grade are invited to follow our Director of Children's & Family Ministry, Lisa Terry-Ickles, to the Children's Chapel. Chaperoned children younger than pre-k are welcome to join with a parent. After the exchange of the peace, children are directed back to their seats.

The people stand as able at the introduction of the Sequence Hymn.

SEQUENCE HYMN • *For thy dear saints, O Lord* • 279



Words: Richard Mant (1776-1848), alt. Music: *St. George*, Henry John Gauntlett (1805-1876).

THE GOSPEL • Matthew 20:1-16

This reading is taken from one of the four Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John), which depict the life, teachings, death, resurrection, and ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ. We stand for the Gospel reading to show the particular importance placed on Jesus' words and actions.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them

also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

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

The people are seated at the invitation of the preacher.

THE SERMON • The Rev. Courtney M. Greene, Curate

The sermon directly follows the Gospel and helps illuminate the scriptural readings and relate them to daily life.

THE NICENE CREED BCP 358

The word "creed" comes from the Latin word "credo" which means "I believe." First formulated at the Council of Nicaea in 325 AD and confirmed in 381 AD, the Nicene Creed is said at services of Holy Eucharist and reflects the Christian belief in the Holy Trinity and the relationship between the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

The people stand as able at the invitation of the Celebrant to recite the Nicene Creed.

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE • Form III BCP 387

We pray for ourselves and on behalf of others. In our prayers we pray for the Universal Church, the nation and all who govern, the welfare of the world, the concerns of our community of faith, including those who are in need or suffer, and for the departed. We are reminded in prayer that we are part of a larger fellowship, the Church — the Body of Christ. A brief silence is kept between each bidding.

The people kneel or sit for the prayers. The Intercessor and people pray responsively.

Father, we pray for your holy catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, deacons, and our postulant for holy orders;
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest;
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

The people may offer their prayers silently or aloud.

THE CONCLUDING COLLECT

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

THE CONFESSION OF SIN BCP 360

Confessing our sins, receiving absolution, and sharing signs of peace with one another prepares us to receive Christ in the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

Let us humbly confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

A brief silence is kept.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

THE ABSOLUTION

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The people stand as able.

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

The people greet one another with a sign of God's peace and then are seated.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY

Having listened to the Word of God, affirmed our faith, confessed our sins, received forgiveness, and shared in the peace, we are prepared for Holy Communion. At the offertory, we gratefully offer back to God some of what God has given us, symbolically in the bread and wine, and materially in the money we give.

All are invited to support Saint Paul's mission to Live Faithfully as the plate is passed, at saintpaulswaco.org/give, or by scanning the QR code to the left.

If you give online, mail checks, or use other methods to give but still want to participate when the plate is passed, you are welcome to pick up a giving coin in the narthex and place it in the offering plate as it is passed.

THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

The altar is prepared for Holy Communion.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Pie Jesu, from *Requiem*
John Rutter (b. 1945)

Pie Jesu Domine, dona eis requiem.
Pie Jesu Domine, dona eis sempiternam requiem.

Blessed Jesu, grant them rest.
Blessed Jesu, grant them everlasting rest.

THE DOXOLOGY • *From all that dwell below the skies (verse 3)* • 380

The people stand as able.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING • Eucharistic Prayer A BCP 361

In the Great Thanksgiving, we do what Jesus himself asked us to do: thank God and recall all that God has done for us in the life, death, and resurrection of Christ. The Great Thanksgiving, or Eucharistic Prayer, is a long prayer with four parts. Each of these four parts corresponds to a different action of Jesus at the Last Supper, where he took, blessed, broke, and gave bread and wine as sacraments of his body and blood. We begin the Great Thanksgiving with the Sursum Corda, *meaning "Lift up your hearts."*

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

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

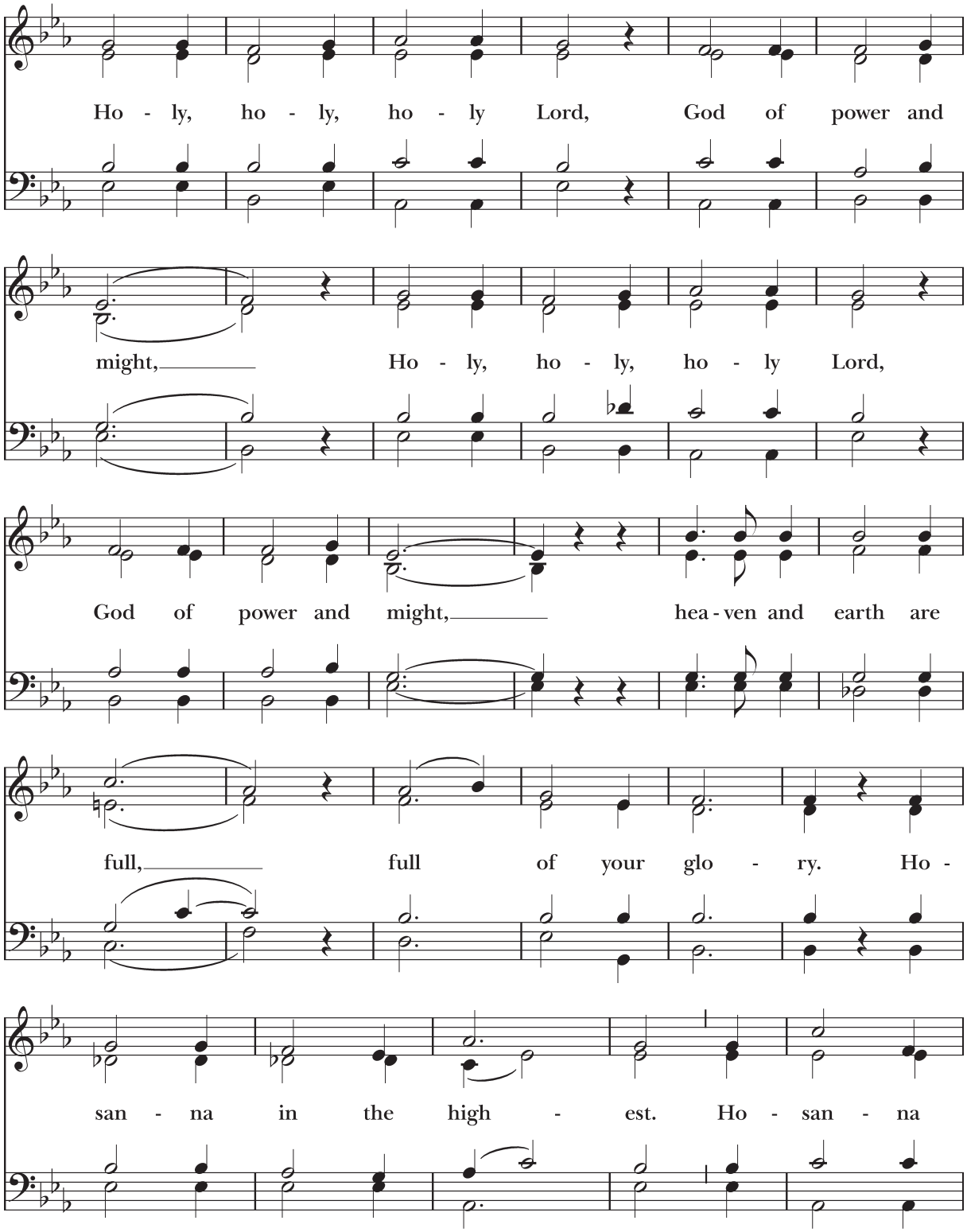
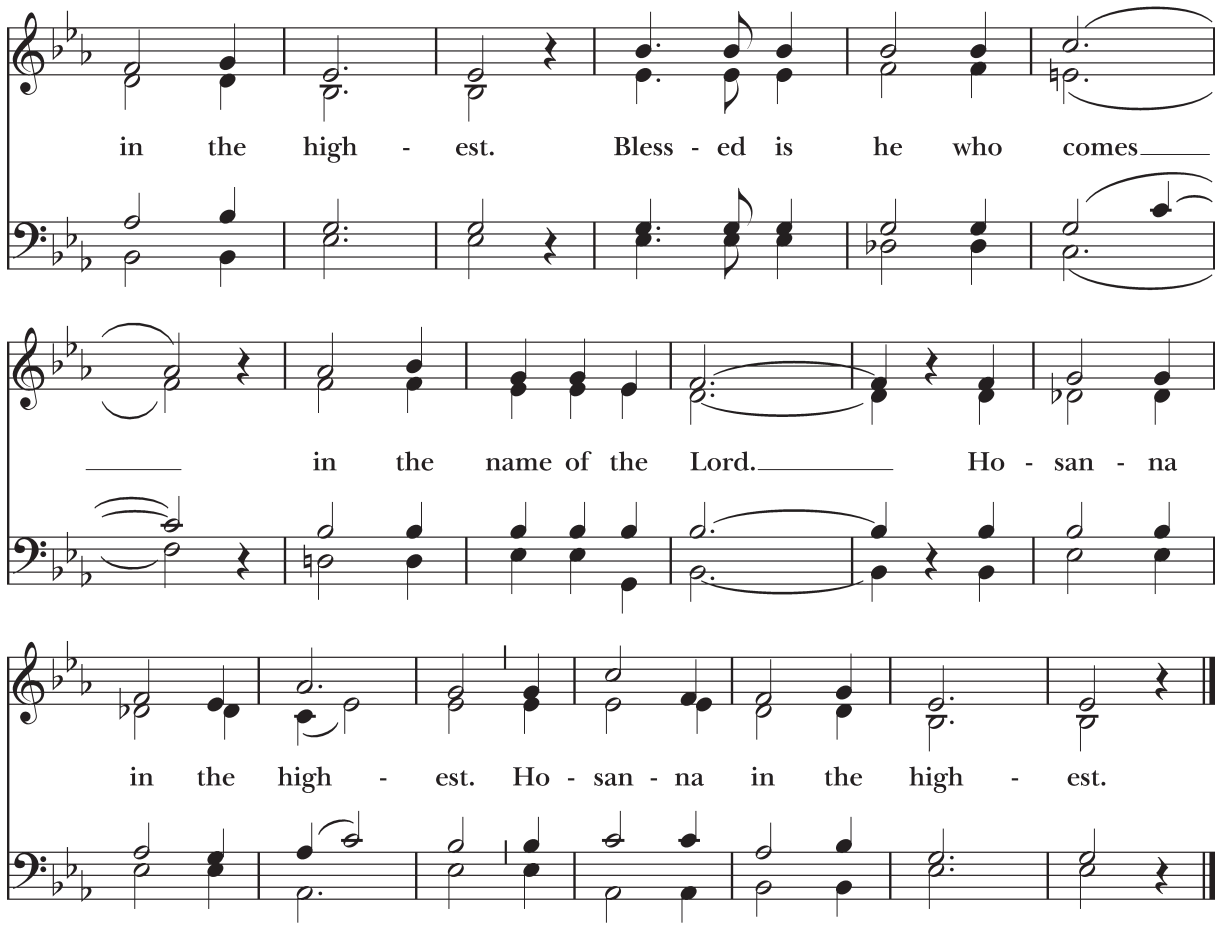
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

The Celebrant adds a proper preface appropriate to the season or day.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS • S130

The Sanctus (Holy, holy, holy) is the hymn of praise that never ceases before God and is based on Isaiah 6:3.



Music: From *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.

The people kneel or stand as able.

We recall God's acts of salvation history. The presider says the "Words of Institution" that Jesus said at the Last Supper. At the Memorial Acclamation we remember Christ's death, resurrection, and promise to return at the end of the age. During the prayer, the Holy Spirit is invoked to bless and sanctify the gifts of bread and wine.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "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. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

THE GREAT AMEN

The Great Amen is when the congregation with a unified great voice concurs with all that the presider has prayed. It is the only "Amen" in all capitals found in The Book of Common Prayer, *signifying the greatness of the congregation's response.*

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN**.

THE LORD'S PRAYER BCP 363

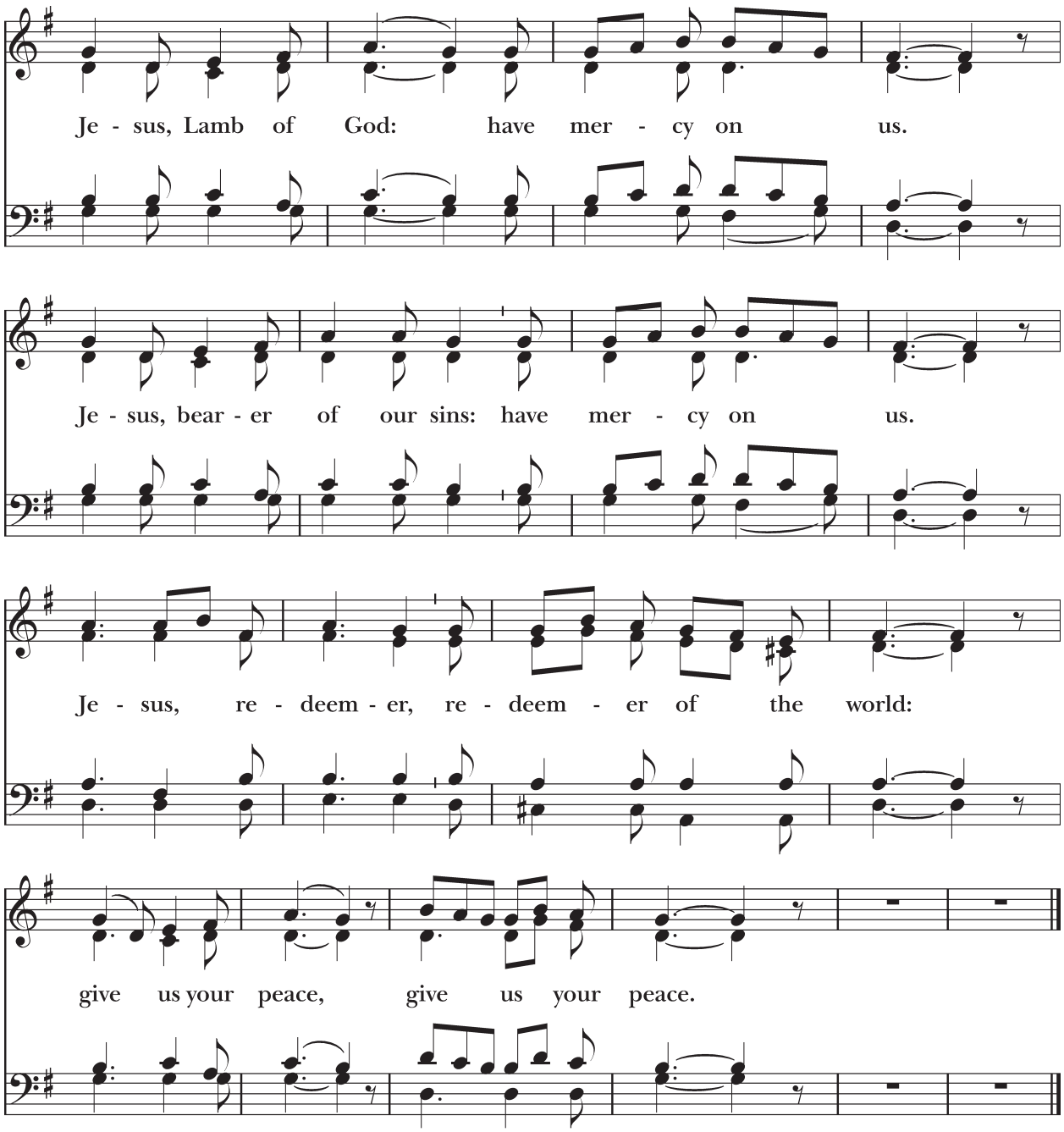
And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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,
for ever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept.

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

FRACTION ANTHEM • S164

Music: From *Deutsche Messe*; Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Adaptation: Copyright © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.

THE PRESENTATION

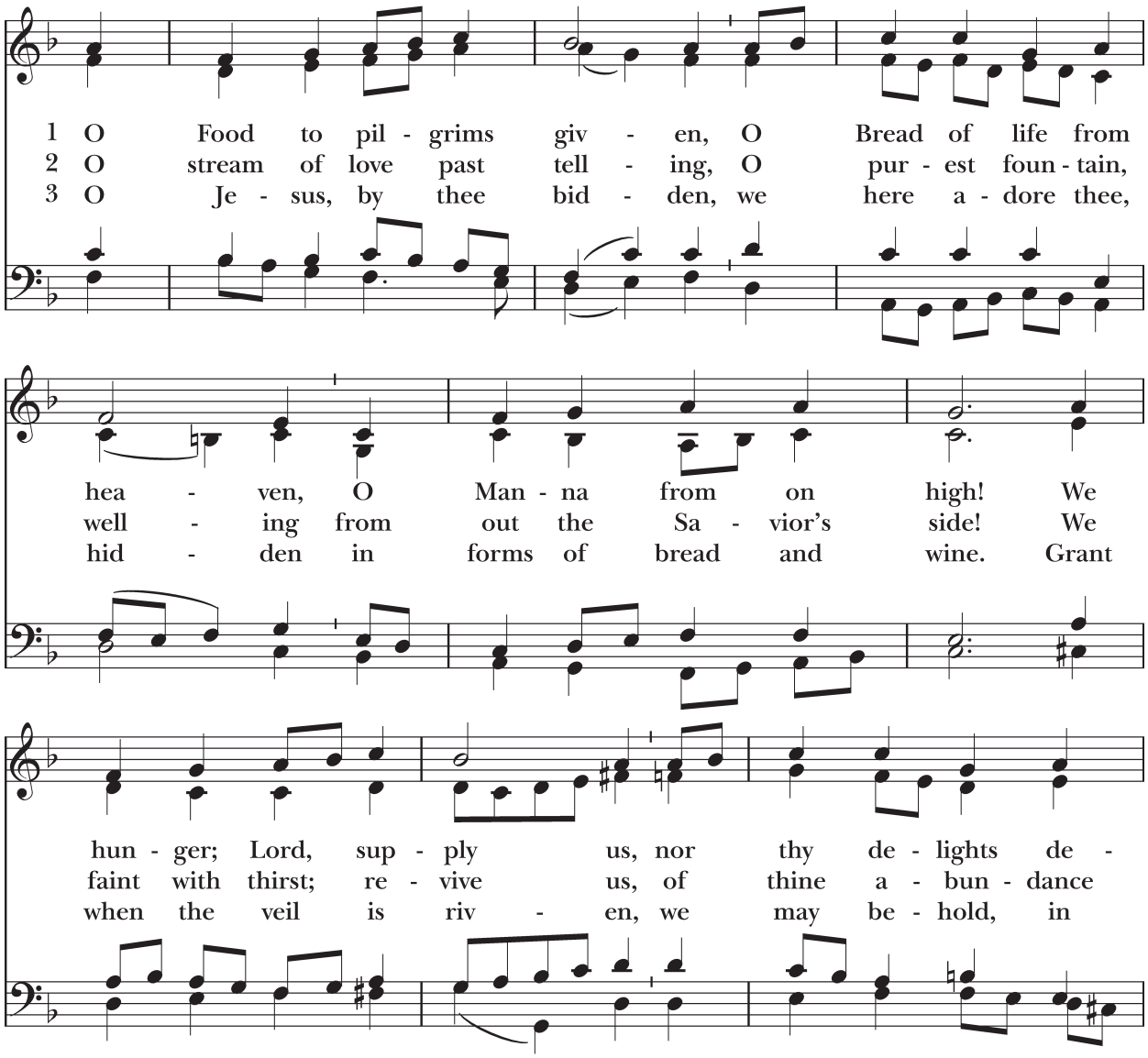
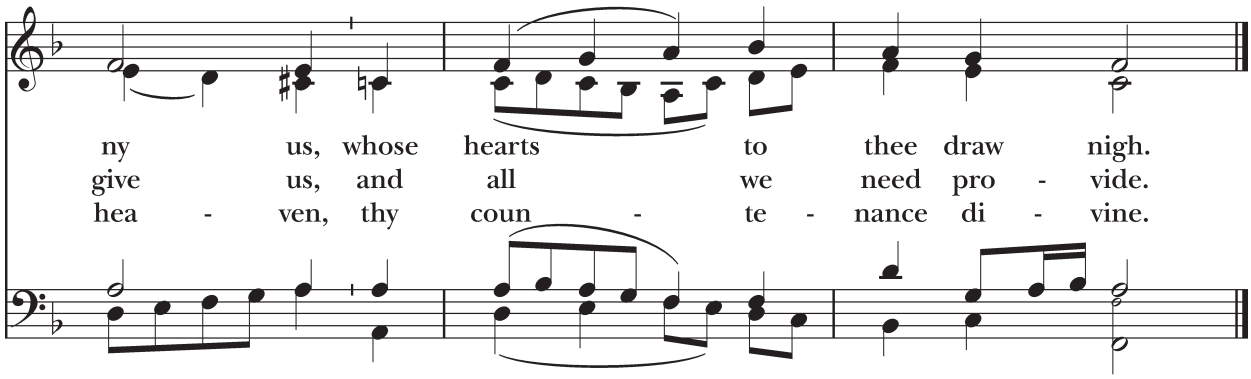
The Gifts of God for the People of God.

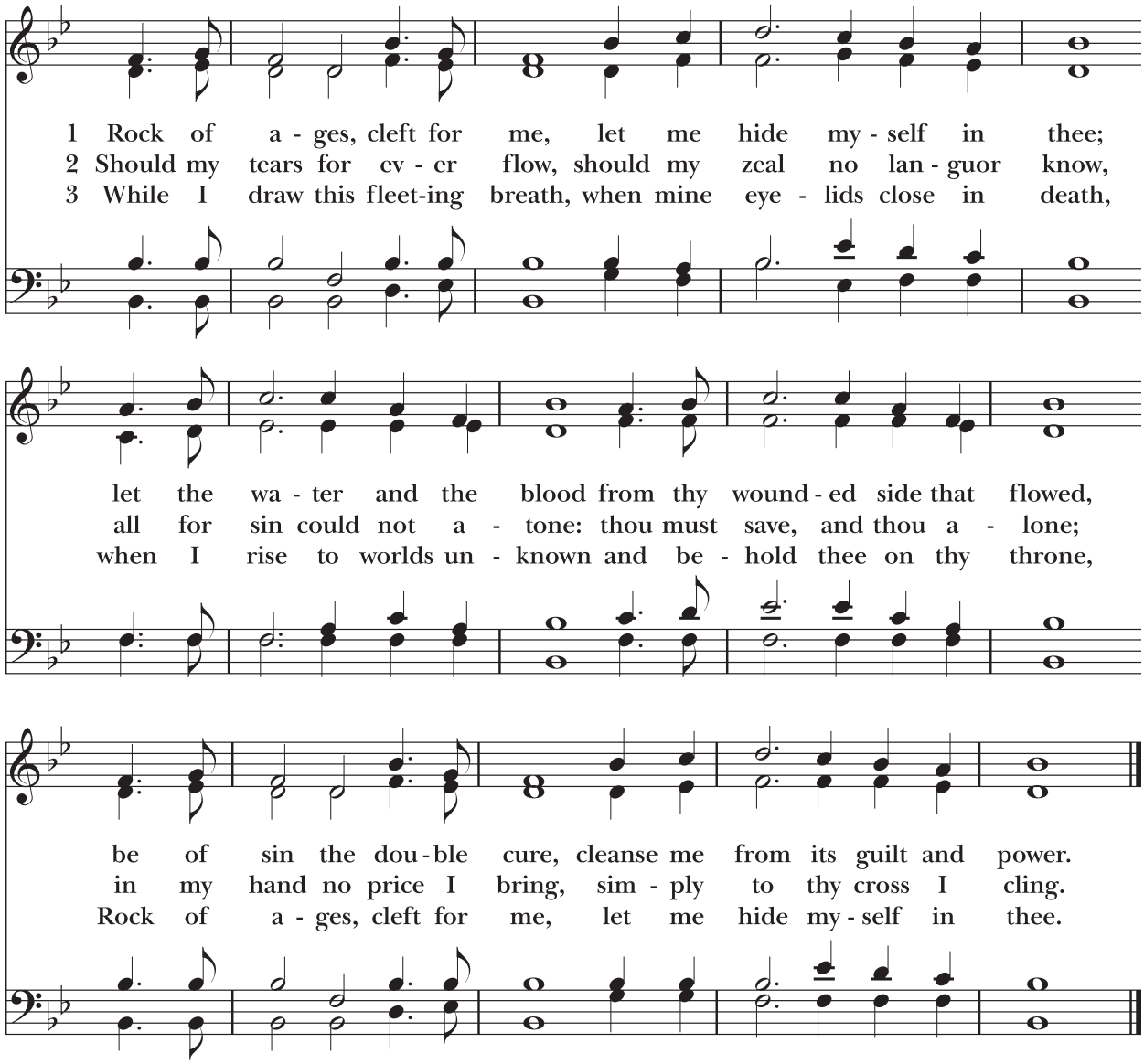
The Celebrant may add

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The people are seated until invited forward for Communion.

Communion will be distributed at the altar rail. All baptized Christians are welcome to receive communion. Gluten free wafers are available upon request. If you would prefer to receive communion from your pew, you may remain seated during altar rail distribution. A priest will come to the congregation for anyone wishing to remain in the pew. Please raise your hand to get their attention.

COMMUNION HYMN • *O Food to pilgrims given* • 309

Words: Latin, 1661; tr. John Athelstan Laurie Riley (1858-1945), alt. By permission of Oxford University Press. Music: *O Welt, ich muss dich lassen*, present form of melody att. Heinrich Isaac (1450?-1517), alt.; harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750).

COMMUNION HYMN • *Rock of ages, cleft for me* • 685

Words: Augustus Montague Toplady (1740-1778), alt. Music: *Toplady*, Thomas Hastings (1784-1872).

SENDING OF OUR LAY EUCHARISTIC VISITORS
(when appointed)

When a lay eucharistic visitor is present at the service, they come to the altar after communion to receive a communion kit in order to be sent out to distribute communion to those who cannot be with us in person.

The people remain seated.

In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

We who are many are one body,
because we all share one bread, one cup.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER BCP 365

The people kneel or stand as able.

Let us pray.

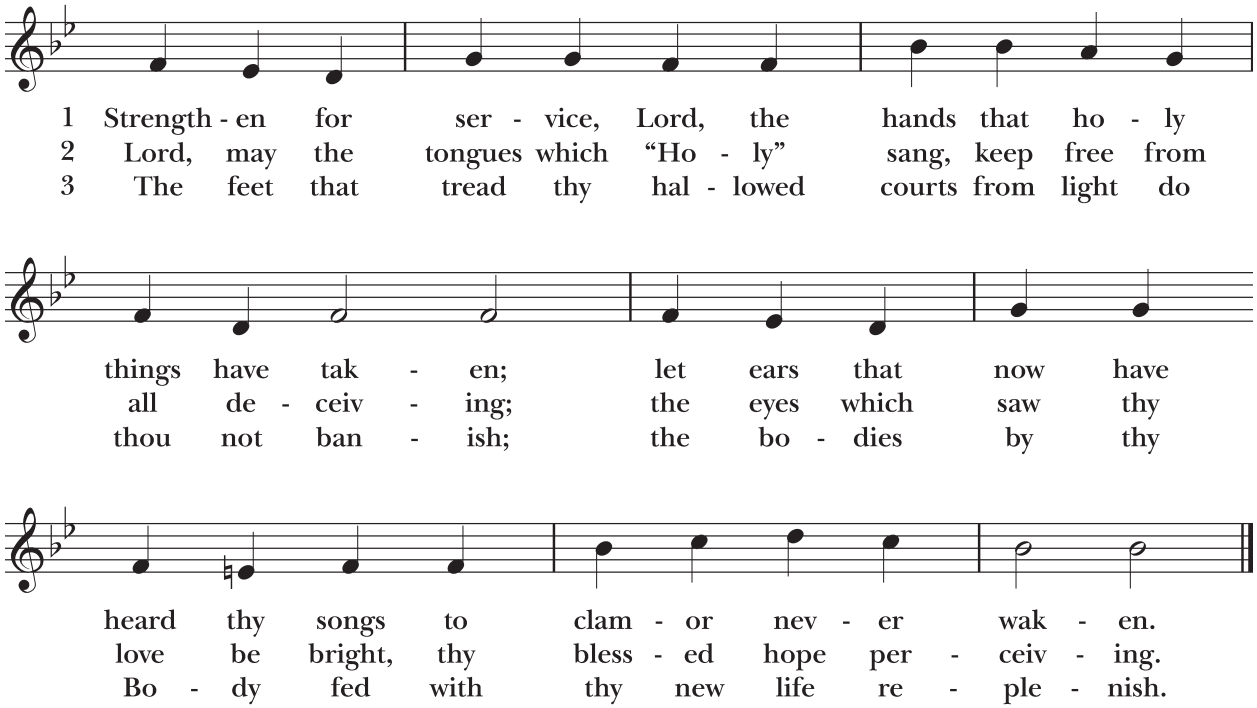
Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE BLESSING

The peace of God, which passes 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 Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen**.

The people stand as able.

CLOSING HYMN • *Strengthen for service, Lord, the hands* • 312



Words: Syriac Liturgy of Malabar; tr. Charles William Humphreys (1840-1921); alt. Percy Dearmer (1867-1936). By permission of Oxford University Press. Music: *Malabar*, David McKinley Williams (1887-1978). Copyright © The Church Pension Fund.

THE DISMISSAL

The dismissal signals the end of worship but the beginning of our service. Now that we have been renewed at Christ's altar, we are sent into the world to continue spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ. In seasons of festive celebration, like the great 50 days of Easter, we add "Alleluia, Alleluia" to our dismissal.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: *Fugue in d* — Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

For more information on our events, our calendar, and to submit RSVPs, please visit our events page on our website **saintpaulswaco.org/events.**

FUTURE FUND APPEAL

The Future Fund is a reserve that helps Saint Paul's cover unexpected capital expenses. Replacing the chiller this summer drew the fund down, and we're asking for help to rebuild it toward our $120,000 goal. So far we've raised $34,300. See this week's Tidings email to learn more and to give to the Future Fund. Thank you for helping us keep the church ready for what's ahead.

OUR POSTULANT FOR THE DIACONATE

Today, Alan Jones will join us to begin his parish fieldwork placement through the Iona School for Ministry. These placements are assigned by the fieldwork program at Iona at various churches around the diocese. Alan is a postulant for the diaconate, and he is in his last year of formation at Iona. You'll see him around Saint Paul's, especially on Sundays, learning more about parish ministry and the things that go into supporting our wonderful church and school community! He'll be with us through May 23rd, 2027. Welcome, Alan!

LEADING WACO WOMEN

The Rev. Samantha R.E. Smith has been nominated for this year's Leading Waco Women Leadership Award with the Greater Waco Chamber. The winner of this award will be named at the Leading Waco Women Fall Summit on November 19.

SAINT PAUL'S T-SHIRTS

Our new Saint Paul's T-shirts are for sale in adult sizes for $20, with children's sizes ($18) available for pre-order through the link in this week's Tidings email.

EPISCOPAL SCHOOL SUNDAY

Celebrate Saint Paul's Episcopal School with us on Sunday, September 27, at the 10:15 AM service. SPES students will serve as volunteers and perform a special music offering.

MAHJONG AND MINISTRY

Join us for Noonday Prayer and a friendly game of mahjong in the Great Hall on the first Thursday of the month. All skill levels are welcome, including first-timers. Our next gathering is Thursday, October 1 at 1 PM. RSVP to **Sara Allison** (sara@saintpaulswaco.org) so we can save you a seat.

CAMERON PARK ZOO

Visit Cameron Park Zoo with your fellow parishioners and help us bless the animals! We will gather outside the gates at 9:30 AM on Saturday, October 3.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

All well-behaved creatures on leashes or in carriers are welcome to receive a blessing in the courtyard at the 10:15 AM service on Sunday, October 4. If you cannot bring your pet please feel free to bring a picture.

STEWARDSHIP KICKOFF

Our stewardship season begins Sunday, October 4 with a celebration in the courtyard following the 10:15 service. Join us for food, mimosas, and good company, and be sure to pick up your pledge packet before you go.

ORDINATION OF THE REV. COURTNEY M. GREENE

The Rt. Rev. Kathryn M. Ryan will ordain the Rev. Courtney M. Greene to the Sacred Order of Priests on Sunday, October 11 at 4 PM at Saint Paul's Episcopal Church. All are invited to attend and celebrate Courtney's ordination to the priesthood.

WOMEN'S RETREAT REGISTRATION

Our annual Women's Retreat returns October 16–18, 2026, at Mustang Island Conference Center. Registration is now open. Use the QR code to register.

ESC MEAL SIGN UP

Want to feed our college students at the Episcopal Student Center? Use the QR code to sign up to provide a meal on Sunday or Thursday nights. Contact our Campus Missioner, Stephanie Drum, with questions (missioner@escwaco.org).

SCAM REMINDER

Please remember that your clergy and staff will never email or text you with requests for money, gift cards, or "discreet" or "urgent" communication. If you receive such a request, please delete the message.

2026 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN PROGRESS

Year-to-Date
Pledged: $481,702.43
Received: $482,016.07
Difference: +$313.64

This information reflects the period ending September 16, 2026.

SUNDAY FORMATION

THE LIFE OF PAUL

Join us for a six-week look at the life of the apostle, following Paul from Pharisee to missionary to martyr through his letters and the book of Acts. We will meet Sundays at 9 AM, September 13 to October 25, with no class October 4 for St. Francis' Day.

SAINT PAUL'S 101

Whether you're new to the parish or preparing for confirmation, this six-week class covers the foundations of the Christian faith and our parish's place in the Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion. We will meet Sundays at 9 AM, September 13 to October 25, with no class October 4 for St. Francis' Day.

YOUTH CONFIRMATION

In preparation for the Bishop's visit, we will discuss questions Christians have wrestled with for ages in coming to a deeper understanding of our faith. We will meet every Sunday morning at 9 AM through October 25. All students 6-12 grade are welcome, even those who have already been confirmed! See our newsletter for more youth ministry updates.

CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd's approach to formation is based on the unique relationship that God has with children. CGS focuses on helping children grow their relationship with God by fostering curiosity and reflection while introducing scripture and liturgy to young minds. This formation opportunity is open to children ages 3-9 on Sundays at 9 AM. Classes meet in the atrium, located behind the Children's Chapel.

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL

Children's Chapel meets during the 10:15 AM service on Sunday mornings. Children are released with Ms. Lisa before the Gospel procession and brought back during the Offertory. Look for the little cross as it passes by.

WEEKLY FORMATION

BENEDICTINE STUDY GROUP

The Benedictine Study Group meets on the first and third Tuesdays of each month at noon in the church office library. Scan the QR code to visit their website. All are welcome to join!

CENTERING PRAYER

Centering Prayer meets on Thursdays at noon in the chapel. All are welcome, and attendance is not limited to Saint Paul's parishioners. For further information, please email **contactus@saintpaulswaco.org**.

MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST

Men's Prayer Breakfast meets weekly on Wednesday mornings in the Parish Hall. Breakfast begins at 6:30 AM and study begins at 7 AM.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

The Women's Bible Study group meets on Wednesdays at 10:30 AM in the office library. The group is studying the book *Short Stories by Jesus*, by Amy-Jill Levine. All are welcome, please join!

SAINT • PAUL'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

WORSHIP SERVICES

SUNDAY

8:00 AM Service of Holy Eucharist, Rite I
10:15 AM Service of Holy Eucharist, Rite II

FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

10:15 AM Service of Holy Eucharist, Rite I

OFFICE HOURS

M-F 9 AM-12 PM & 1 PM-4 PM
Closed Federal Holidays
contactus@saintpaulswaco.org

601 Columbus Ave
Waco, TX 76701
254-753-4501

SAINT PAUL'S EPISCOPAL DAY SCHOOL

517 Columbus Ave
Waco, TX 76701
office@speswaco.org
254-753-0246

SAINT PAUL'S STAFF

The Rev. Samantha R.E. Smith
Rector

The Rev. Gavin E. Tomlin
Associate Rector

The Rev. Courtney M. Greene
Curate

The Rev. Alberto Melis
Deacon

The Rev. Dr. D. Ray Bagby
Retired Priest Associate

Lisa Terry-Ickles
Director of Children & Family Ministry

Kelsey Maglio
Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministry

Sara Allison
Director of Ministry Operations

Iona Easterwood
Accountant

Sarah Martin
Director of Communications & Development

Michelle Shackelford
Office Assistant

Adam Johnson
Facilities Director

Charles Watson
Sexton

Dr. Will McLean
Choir Director

Dr. Jeffrey Peterson
Organist

Liz Dover
Nursery Attendant

Tresa R. Wilson
Head of School