CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY



St. Matthew 25:45-46

"Then He will answer them saying, Truly, I say to you, as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me. And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteousness into eternal life."

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY

November 22, 2026

Holy Communion 11:00 am

Prelude

*****The Processional Hymn *Crown Him with Many Crowns* (ELW) No. 855

*****The Confession and Forgiveness (ELW) page 94

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ☩Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: God of all mercy.....of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Most merciful God,

C: We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God,.....in the name of the Father, and of the ☩Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

*****The Apostolic Greeting (ELW) page 138

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

C: And also with you.

*****The Kyrie *(sung response)* (ELW) page 138

P: ....., let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

*The Hymn of Praise *This is the Feast* (ELW) No. 140

*The Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray,

C: Almighty and everlasting God, You have crowned Your Son as King and, by Him, will renew Your whole creation. May the families of the earth now torn apart and yoked by sin find liberty in Him and be subjected to His gentle rule. Grant this, we pray, through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalmody for the Day *(read responsively)* Psalm 95:1-7a

1 Oh come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our
salvation!

**2 Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him
with songs of praise!**

3 For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

4 In His hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are His also.

5 The sea is His, for He made it, and His hands formed the dry land.

6 Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!

7a For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand.

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 15:20-28

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Anthem *Come, Thou Almighty King* Bell Choir

*The Gospel Acclamation *(sung)* (ELW) page 142

C: Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.

* The Gospel Matthew 25:31-46

C: Glory to You, O Lord. (sung after announcement of the Gospel)

C: Praise to You, O Christ. (sung after conclusion of the Gospel)

Children's Sermon Pastor Grewe

(children leave for Sunday School)

Sermon Rev. Robert B. Grewe

***The Hymn of the Day** *Beautiful Savior* (ELW) No. 838

***The Nicene Creed**

I believe in one God the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

I 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.

I 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.

I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen

*The Prayers of the Church (response)

P: Lord, in Your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

*****Sharing of the Peace

The Musical Offering

*****The Offertory *Create in Me a Clean Heart* (SBH) No. 27

*The Great Thanksgiving (ELW) page 144

*The Lord's Prayer

C: 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, forever and ever. Amen.

Lamb of God (ELW) page 146

The Distribution

Communion Hymn *The King of Love My Shepherd Is* (ELW) No. 502

Prayer/Blessing

Announcements

*****The Benediction *(sung response)*

C: Amen, Amen, Amen.

*****The Recessional Hymn *When Peace Like a River* (ELW) No. 785
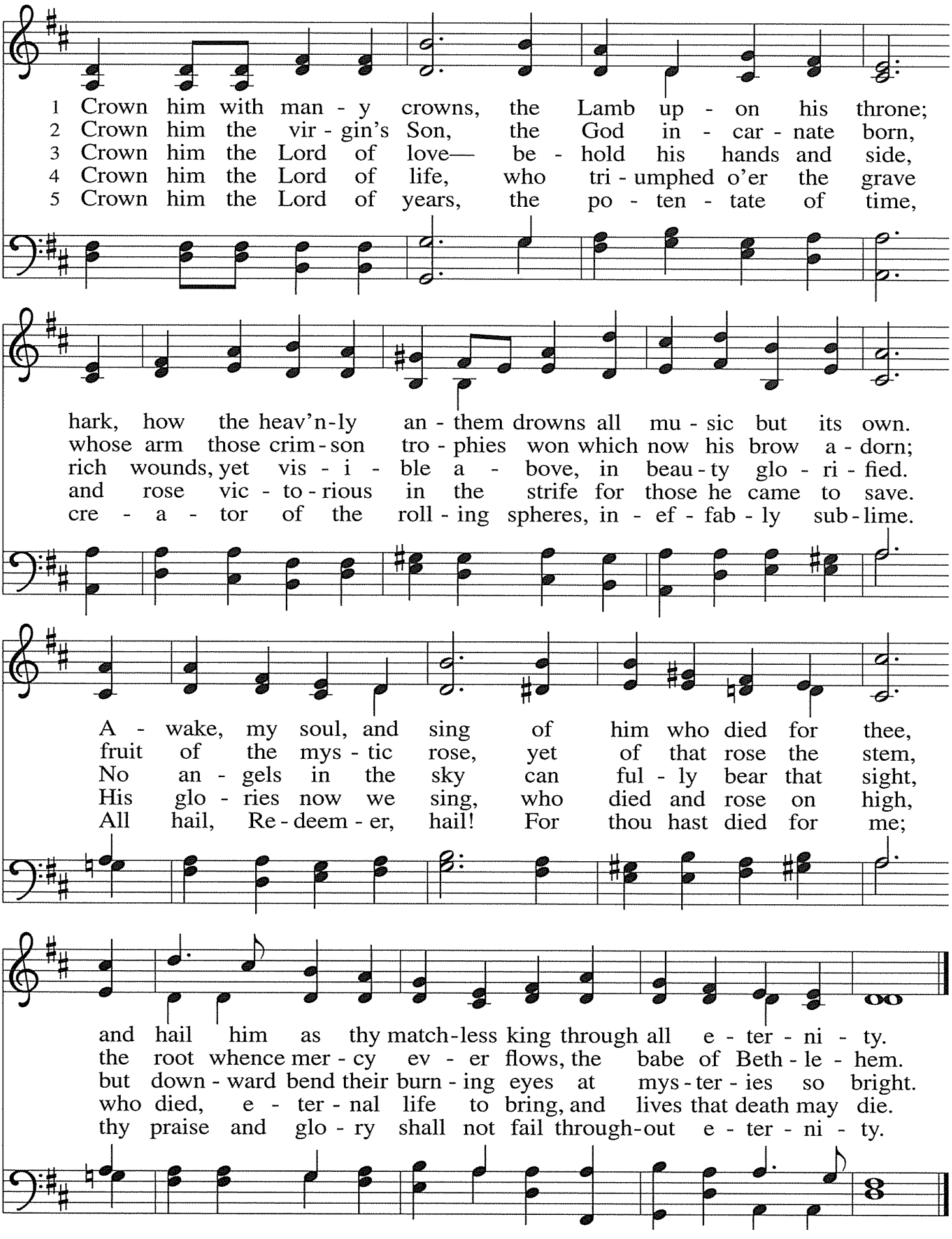
*****The Dismissal *(response)*
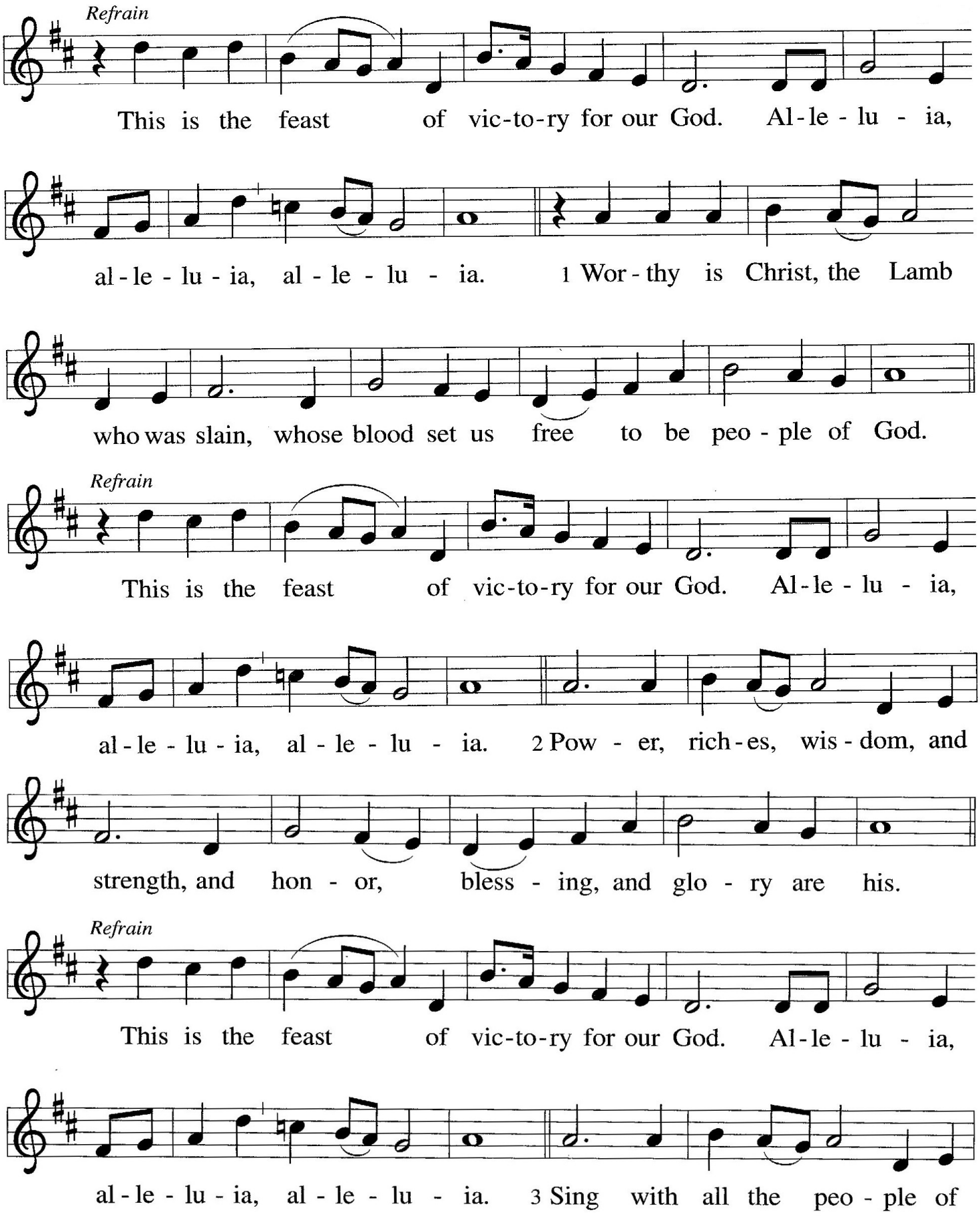
C: Thanks be to God.

Anthem *A Pilgrim's Farewell* Adult Choir
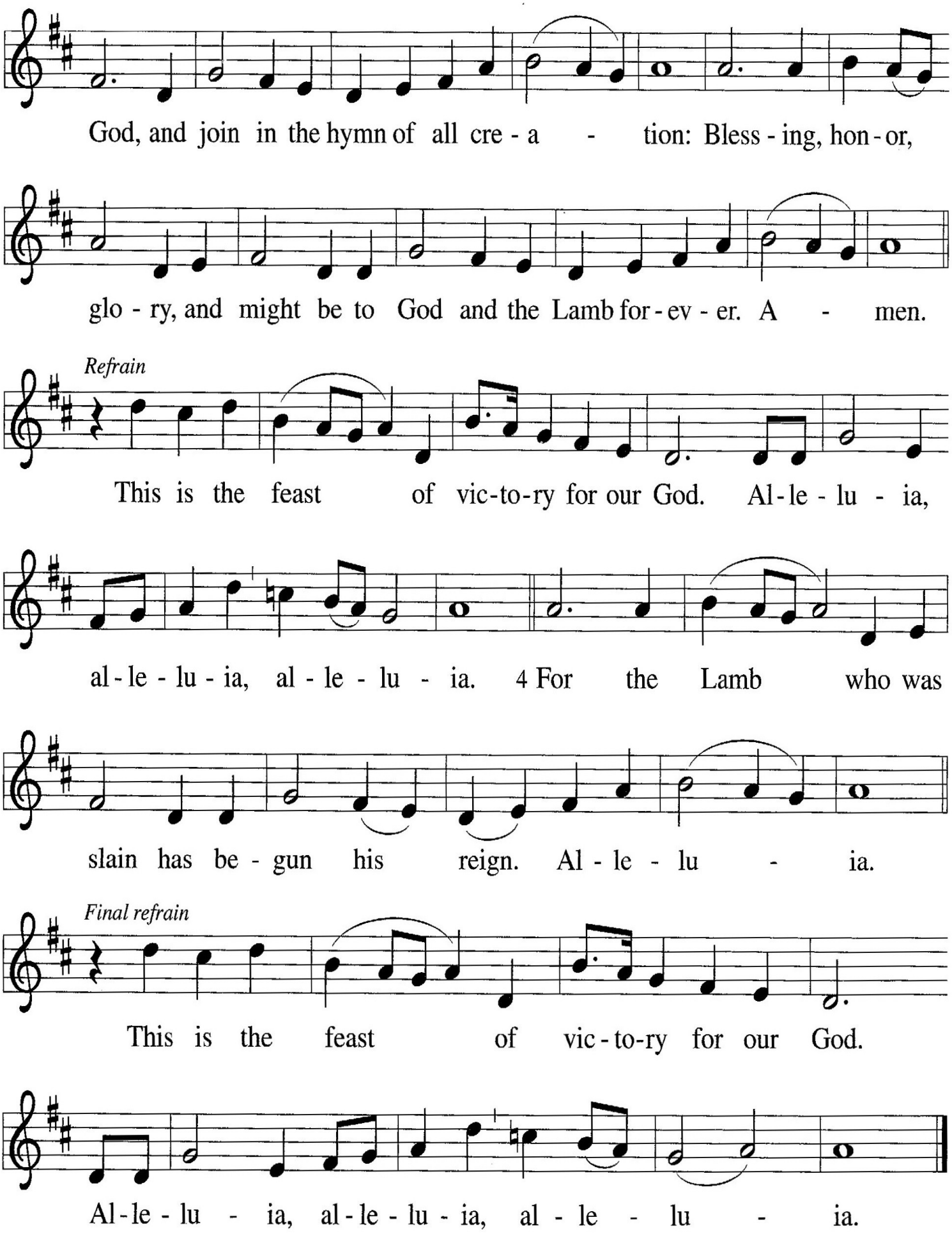
Postlude

Crown Him with Many Crowns 855
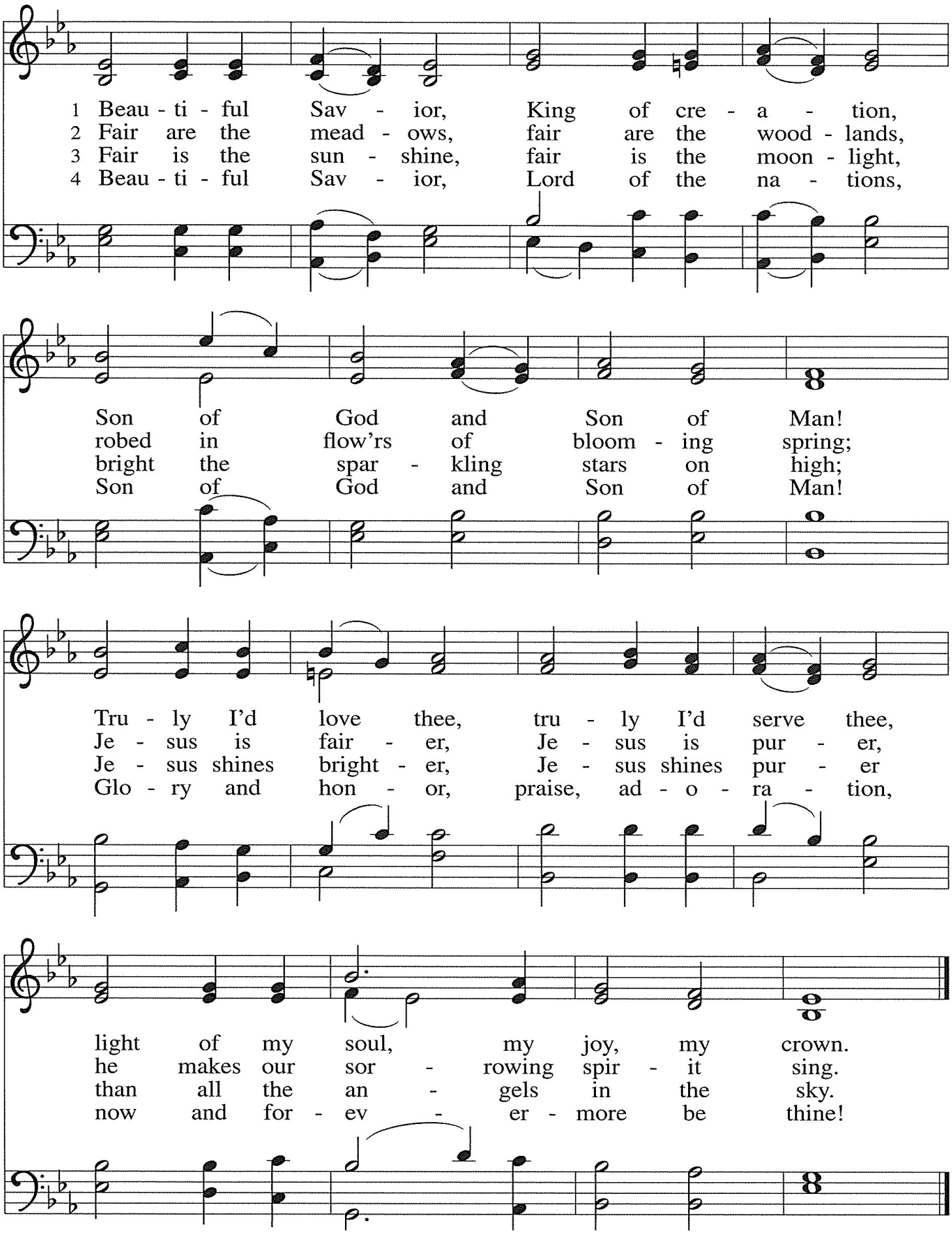




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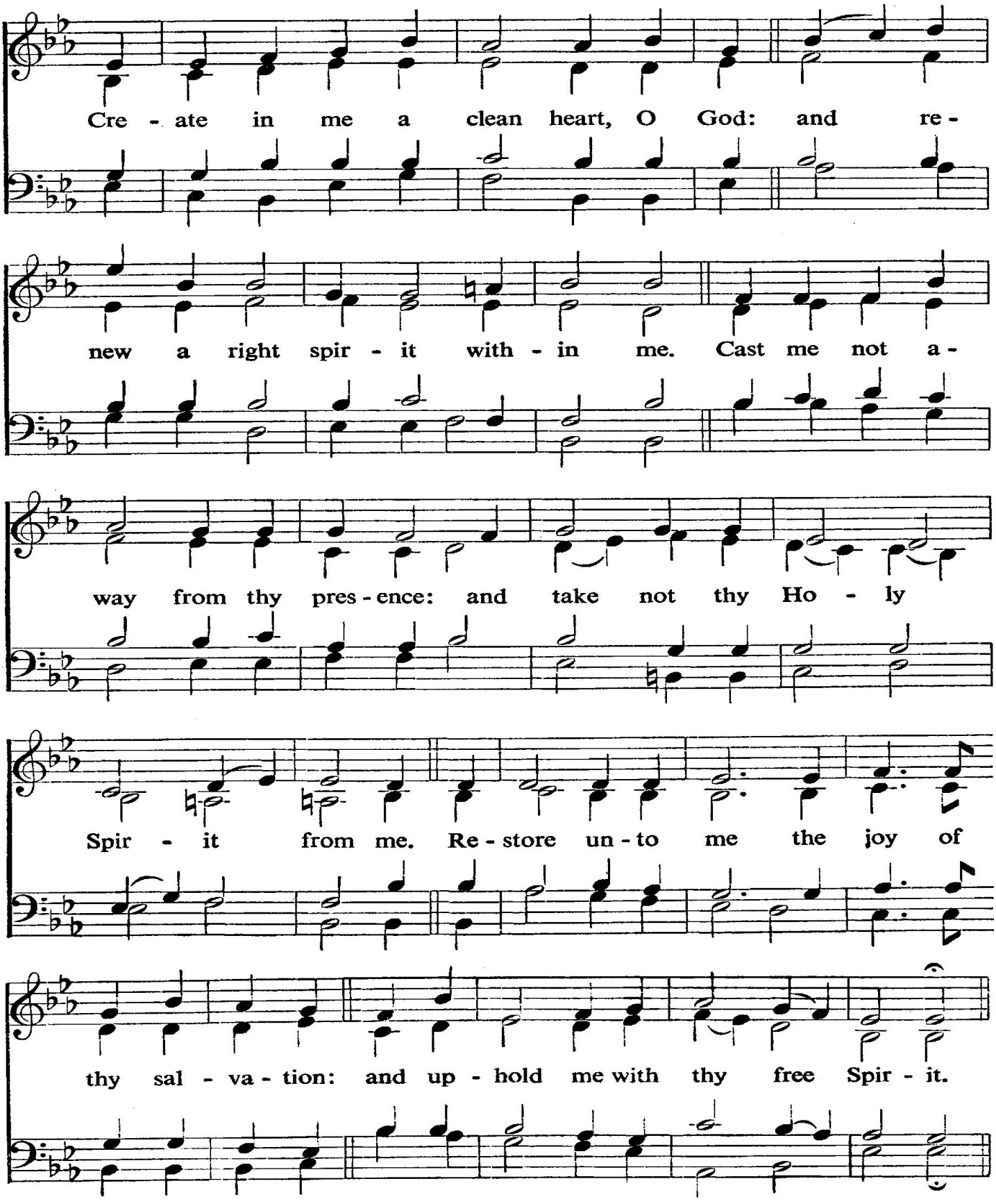

God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,
glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.
Refrain
This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was
slain has be - gun his reign. 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.

Beautiful Savior
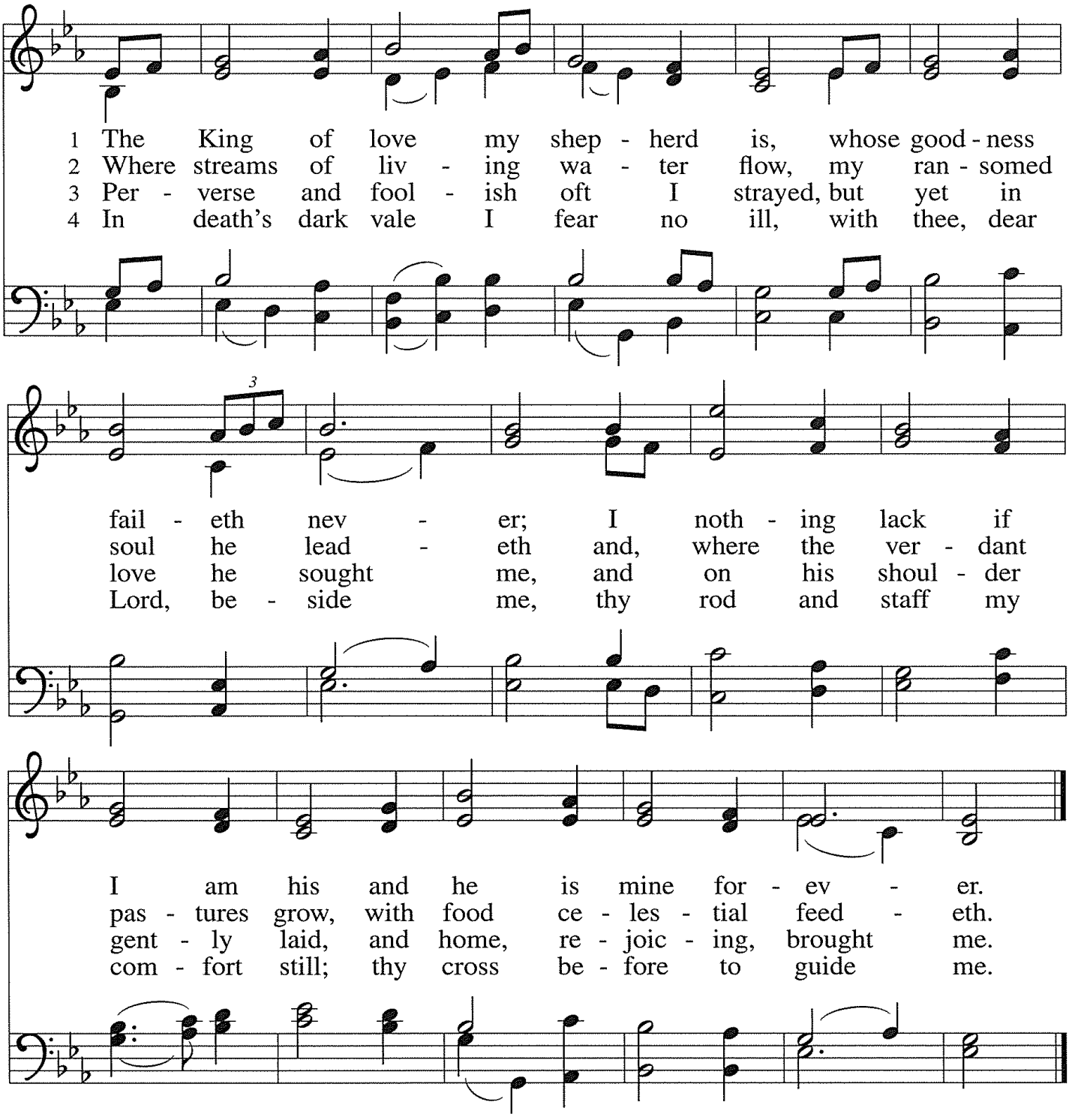
838



The Communion



502 The King of Love My Shepherd Is

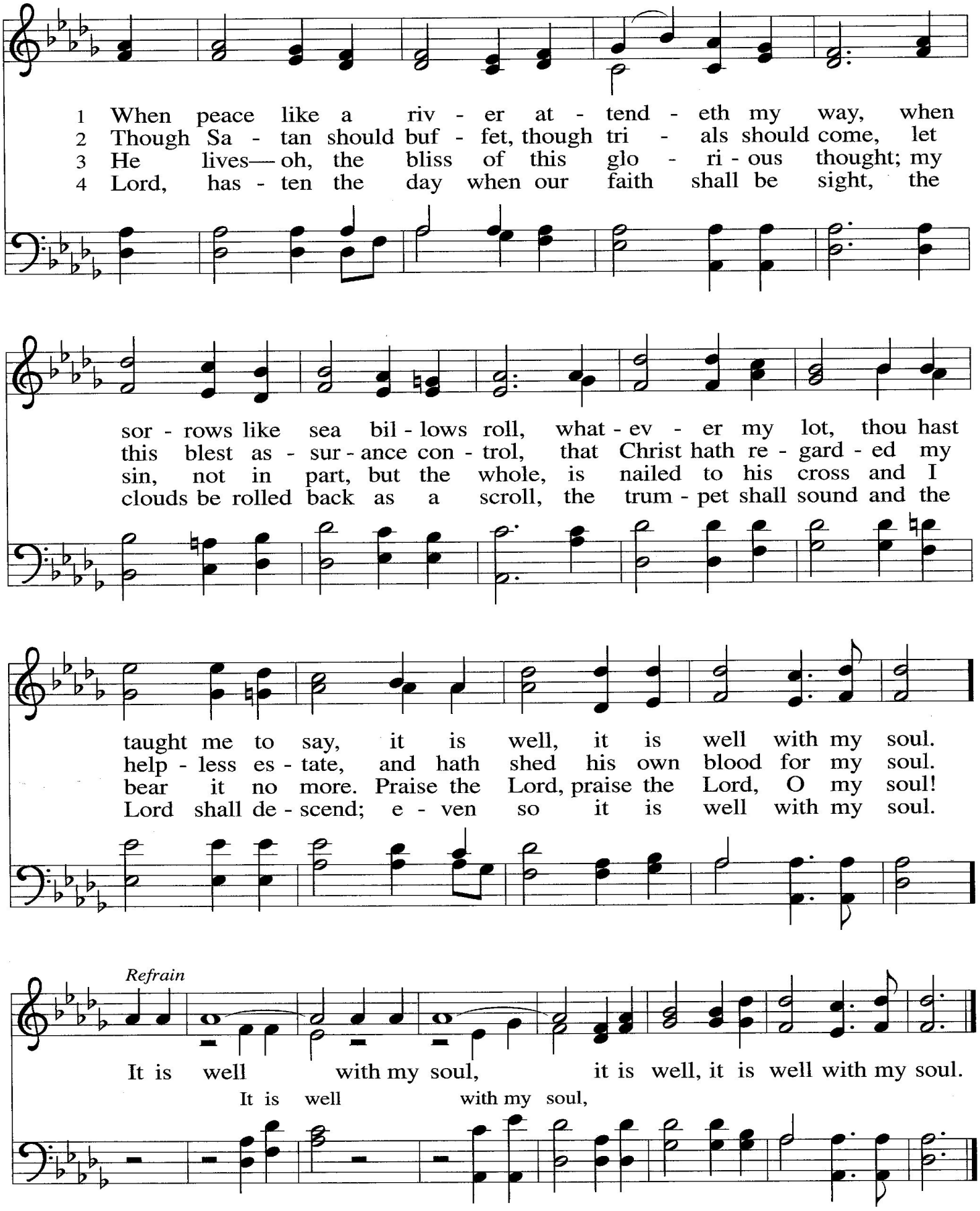


5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
thine unction grace bestoweth;
and, oh, what transport of delight
from thy pure chalice floweth!

6 And so, through all the length of days,
thy goodness faileth never.
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
within thy house forever.

785 When Peace like a River

It Is Well with My Soul



First Lutheran Church

92 W. Walnut St., Washington, PA

724-225-4040

e-mail: secretary@flcwash.church

Online services posted weekly on website:

https://firstlutheranwashington.church/

The Rev. Robert B. Grewe

724-705-4050

revrob@flcwash.church

Dennis Schmidt, Mark Black, Matthew Mazzotti, Lutheran Lay Worship Leaders

Retired: J. Judson Lacko, Lutheran Lay Worship Leader

Matthew Cimino, Organist and Music Director

The Flowers on the Chancel are given to the glory of God and to honor the day with God's omnipresence, which no human power can ever destroy and pray continually for the Lord's people to not fear this fallen world. We were made for this time. The Maust family will donate toward the roof fund in lieu of real flowers on the altar.

The Lay Reader is Lisa Maust.

Acolytes are Matthew Mazzotti and Cristina Serbak.

Counters/Greeters today are L. Coleman and R. McGoogan.

Welcome to our Visitors! The people of this congregation welcome you as you join us in worship this morning. Please sign the register, located in the narthex. If you have questions, please see the pastor or contact the church office.

Do you wish to become a member of First Lutheran Church? Please contact Pastor Grewe.

Nursery: We welcome all children to be a part of worship, but we realize that sometimes the service can be too long for the little ones. We have a nursery for those attending to the needs for infants and small children. There is a speaker in the nursery so that parents can still hear the service. You are welcome to use the nursery for the entire service, or just a small part.

The Flower Chart for 2026 is posted in the narthex. If you wish to place flowers, (real or artificial) near the altar, sign your name opposite the date of your choice. You will be reminded of your date and asked for the wording you want in the bulletin two weeks before the due date.

Sign-up sheets are posted to host a coffee hour in 2026. Please write you names under the month you would like to host. The coffee hours have been a wonderful time of fellowship and the hosts have been awesome! Thank you!!

Sign-up sheets are posted for Lay Readers in 2026. Please sign up.

Please pray for those in need of healing:

Greg Mason, Ed Dupas, Carol Cancelmi, Sandy Hebrank, Richard & Lisa Hager, Anneleise Christian, Rick & Amande, RJ, Shari Kienzle, Susan Westcott, Apollos Yocca, Cathie Schuett-Weaver, Grant Baun, Nikki Thon, Amy Verderber, RJ and James, Dennis S., Mike Miller, Joanne Marker, Don Hazlett, Ken C., Pr. Bill White, Peter & Natalie, Jaxon McNaught, Bernadette and Fred Devine, Leann Vitteck, Oliver Chadwick, Danielle Sherman, Judi, George Salvucci, Bill Kovach, Lynda Bolton-Sprowls, Crystal Worthy, Rachael R., Eric, McKenzie, Brad Webeck, Abigail, and Barbara Mounts.

Sober House Living

724-228-2203

Turning Point at Washington

Adult Catechism Class meets Tuesday at 11AM and 7 PM.

Chess Club meets on Thursday evenings at 7:30 pm. All are welcome from beginners to experienced.

Dart Ball Game is November 24. Jefferson Ave. Methodist will play at First Lutheran. Practice starts at 7:00, games start at 7:30. Hope to have several new members join our team.

Listening for the Promise

Weekly Devotional

Christ the King - November 22, 2026

31 "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. 32 Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. 33 And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left. 34 Then the King will say to those on his right,
'Come, you who are blessed by my Father,
inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.
- Matthew 25:31-34 –

The parable of the sheep and the goats is initially terrifying since it pictures a final judgment seemingly based upon works, not grace. It seems that the righteous are saved by their good works while the unrighteous are damned for their evil ones. However, while this is true on the surface, there is an asymmetry of divine grace operating in the depths. The good works of the righteous are predestined by the Father, inspired by the Holy Spirit, and covered by the blood of the Son. By contrast, the unrighteous, having rejected the Son, are left to wander in their evil and their impotence.

First, Jesus says that the righteous are blessed by the Father to inherit a kingdom that has been prepared for them from the foundation of the world. From this statement, it logically follows that the Father has also prepared the righteous for this kingdom and has therefore prepared their good works in advance that they might walk in them (Ephesians 2:10). By contrast, the wicked are told to depart into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.

Second, the good works of the righteous are inspired by the Spirit and are thus spontaneous, not calculating. For this reason the righteous are surprised to learn that they were really serving Jesus through their good works. By contrast, it is the bad deeds of the unrighteous that are spontaneous while their ostensibly good deeds are calculating. This is why they are surprised to learn that their bad deeds were really directed against Christ the whole time. Had they seen Christ in their neighbor, they might have acted differently, albeit with a calculating intent.

Finally, because the righteous are united with Christ, they and their works are covered by his blood. On their own, their good deeds are as filthy rags (Isaiah 64:6) before God. However, due to Christ's blood atonement, their imperfectly motivated and improperly executed works are reckoned good by God. By contrast, since the unrighteous have no blood covering, their "good" deeds are evil, and their bad deeds are even worse.

So, what initially looks like a terrifying picture is actually laden with grace for God's elect. As David walked with God through the valley of the shadow of death (Psalm 23:4), so we too can stand at the final judgment, knowing that God is with and for us, not against us.

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