The Fourth Sunday of Advent: A Service of Holy Communion

Leader's Guide

PRELUDE **(begins at 10:10am)**

WELCOME **(begins at 10:20am)**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P. Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

A. Amen.

P. Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom 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 Jesus Christ our Lord.

A. Amen.

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

P. Gracious God,

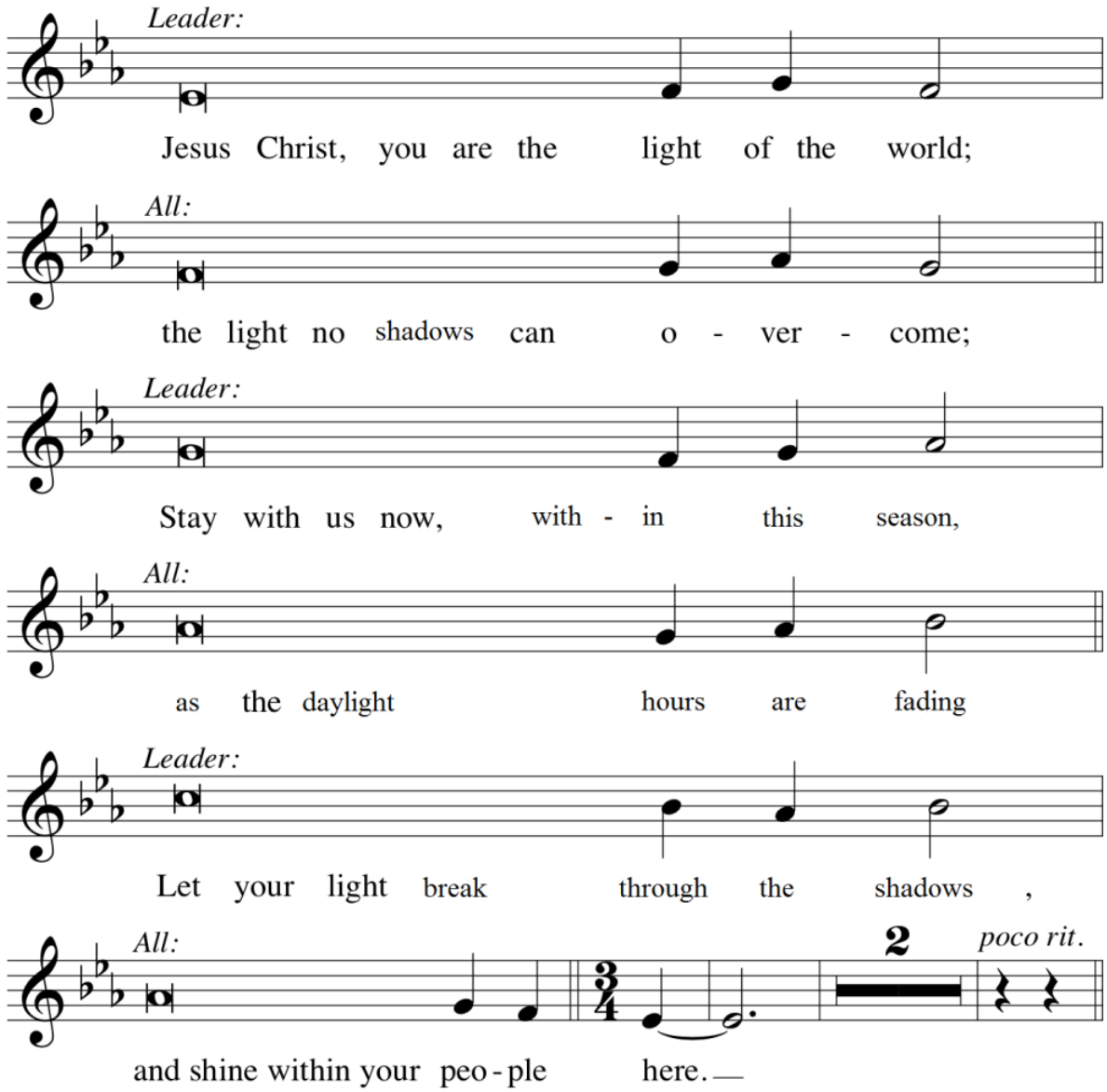
A. have mercy on us.
We confess that we have turned from you
and given ourselves into the power of sin.
We are truly sorry and humbly repent.
In your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown,
things we have done
and things we have failed to do.
Turn us again to you,
and uphold us by your Spirit,
so that we may live and serve you in newness of life
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

P. God, who is rich in mercy, loved us
even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive
together with Christ. By grace you have been saved.
In the name of the Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.
Almighty God strengthen you with power through the
Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

A. Amen.

GATHERING

PROCESSION



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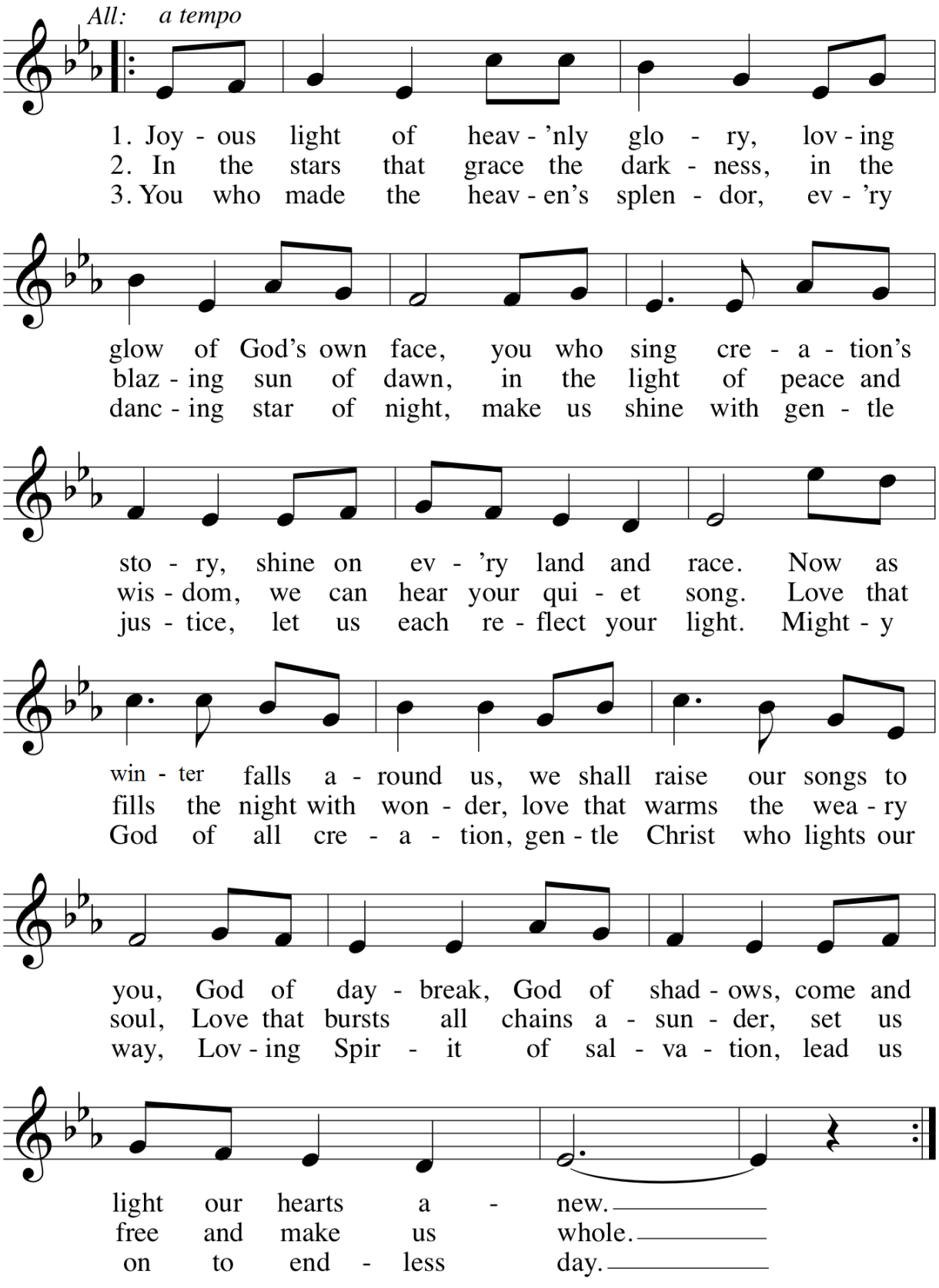
GATHERING HYMN



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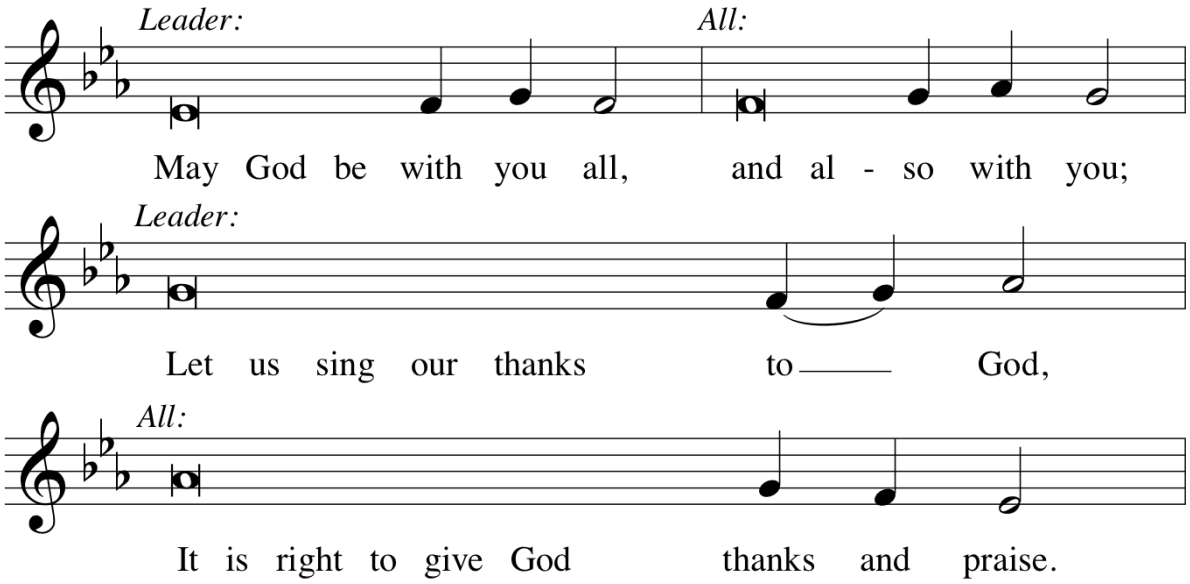
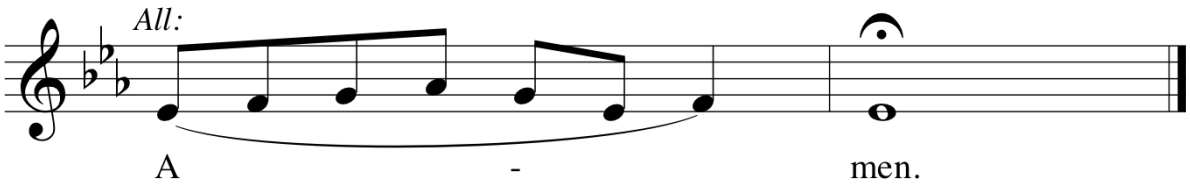
MORNING THANKSGIVING



Leader: Blessed are you, Creator of the universe–from old you have led your people by night and day. May the light of your Christ make our darkness bright, for your Word and your presence are the light of our pathways, and you are the light and life of all creation.



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PRAYER OF THE DAY

P. Let us pray;
Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that would obstruct your mercy, that willingly we may bear your redeeming love to all the world, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

A. Amen.

LIGHTING OF ADVENT WREATH (BLISS FAMILY)

ADVENT HYMN "Come To Us/O Come All Ye Faithful"

****BRIEF REFLECTION ON WREATH LIGHTING****

P. PASTOR – REFLECTION - WHEN REFLECTION IS OVER -
"We continue today with our first reading"

WORD

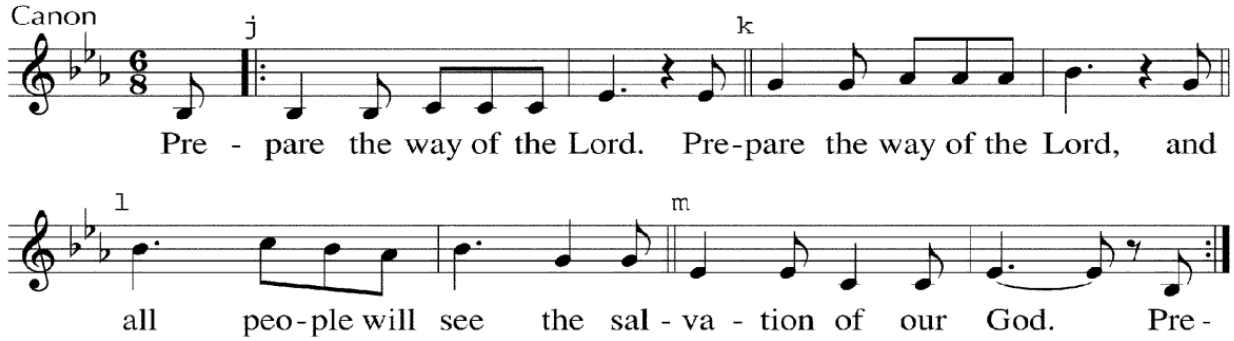
FIRST READING **2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16**

L. Now when the king was settled in his house, and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the Lord is with you." But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the Lord: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the Lord of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.
The word of the Lord.

A. Thanks be to God.

MEDITATIVE MUSIC

GOSPEL VERSE *"Prepare the Way of the Lord"*



Text: Luke 3:4,6; Taizé Community, 1984
Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994
© 1984, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

GOSPEL **Luke 1:26-38**

P. The Gospel according to St. Luke.

A. Glory to you O Lord.

P. In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her."

P. This, my siblings of Christ, is the Gospel of Our Lord.

A. Praise to you O Christ.

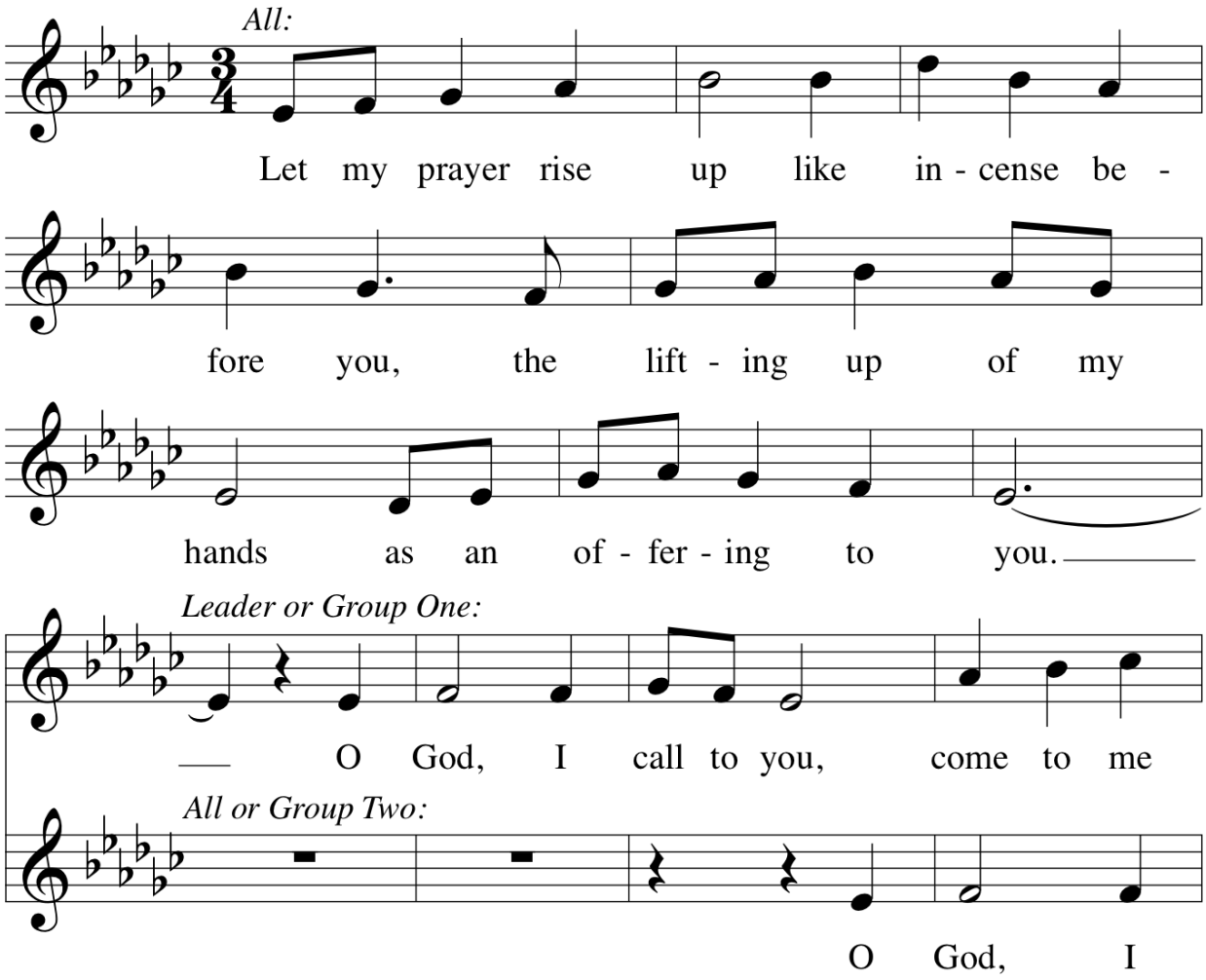
SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *"In Christ Alone"*

****INTRO TO PSALM 141****

P. PASTOR DUSTIN LEAD IN TO PSALM 141 (LET MY PRAYER RISE UP)

PSALM 141



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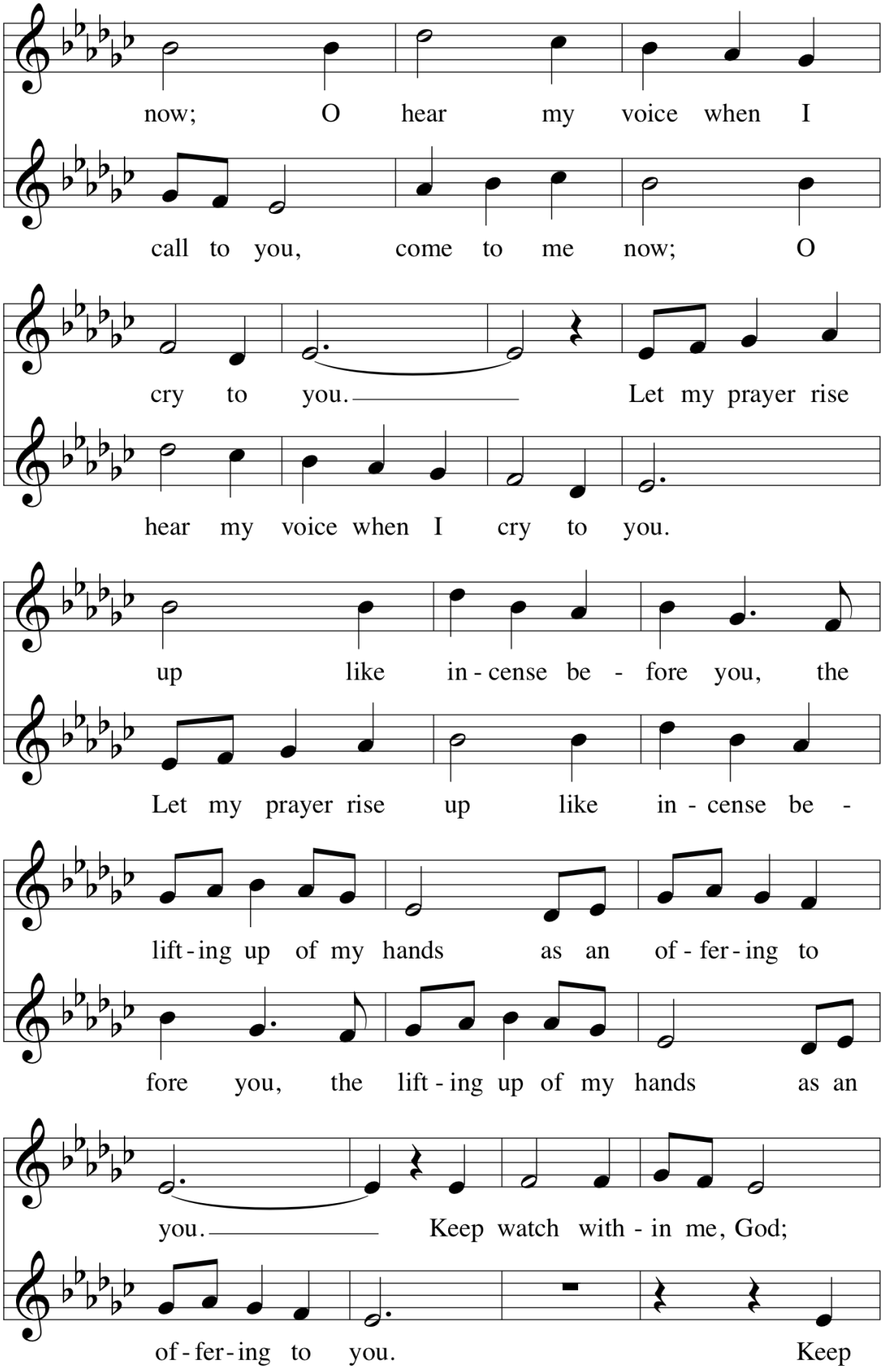

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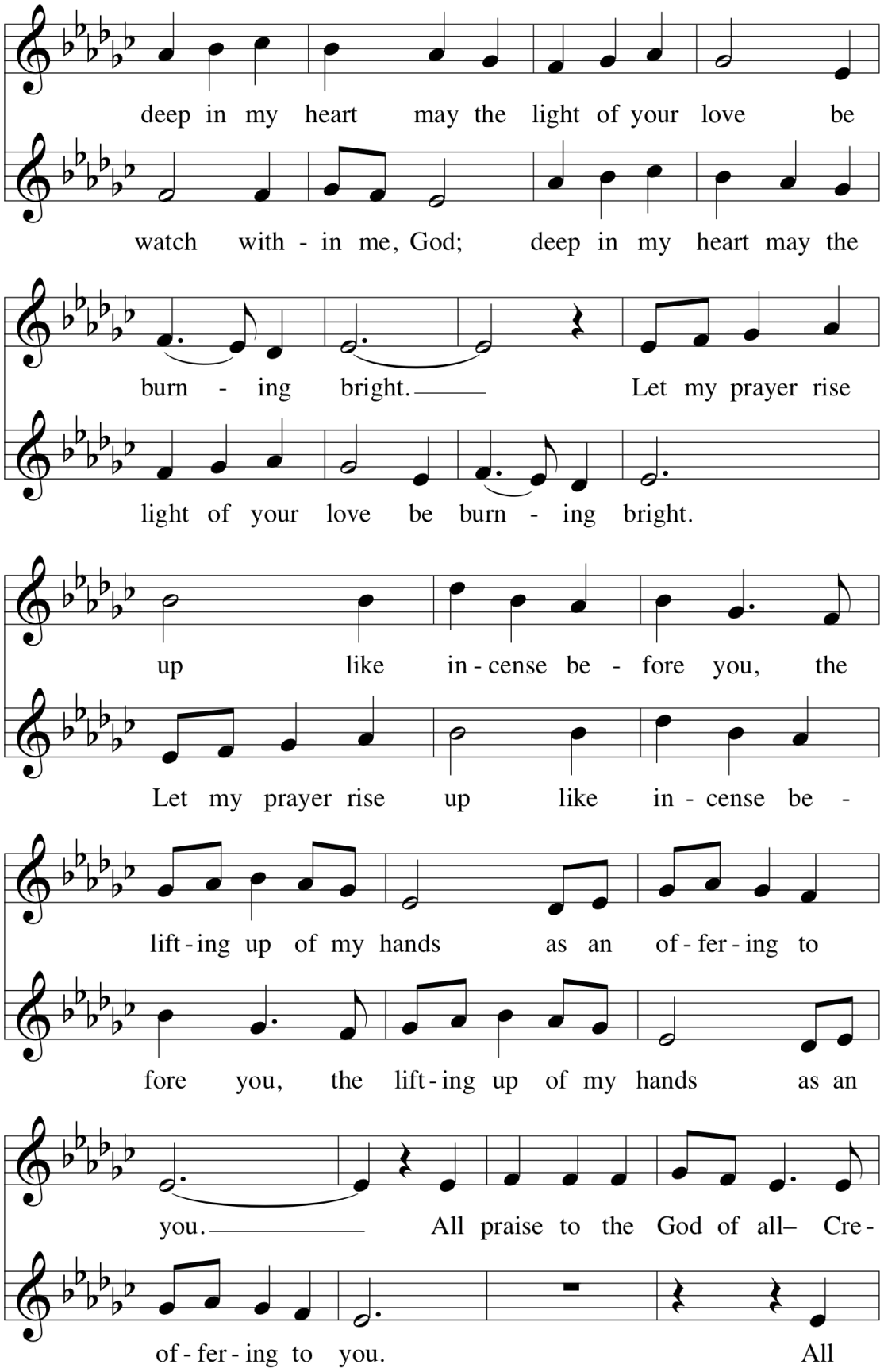

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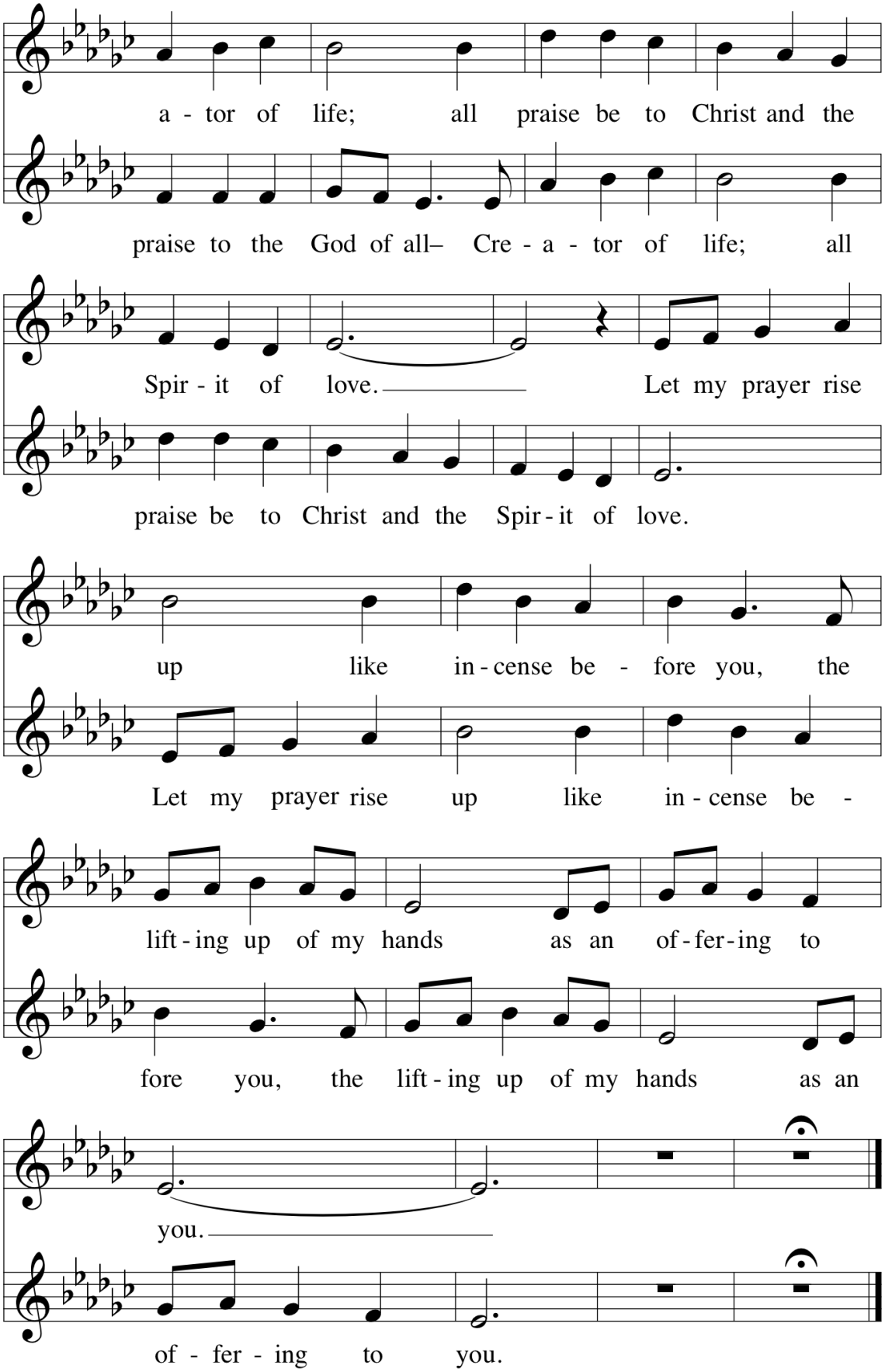

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Prayers of Intercession

P. We ask that you lift up your prayers in the comments section of Facebook Live (or in your hearts) at this time.

P. Hear us, O God
A. Your mercy is great.

PEACE

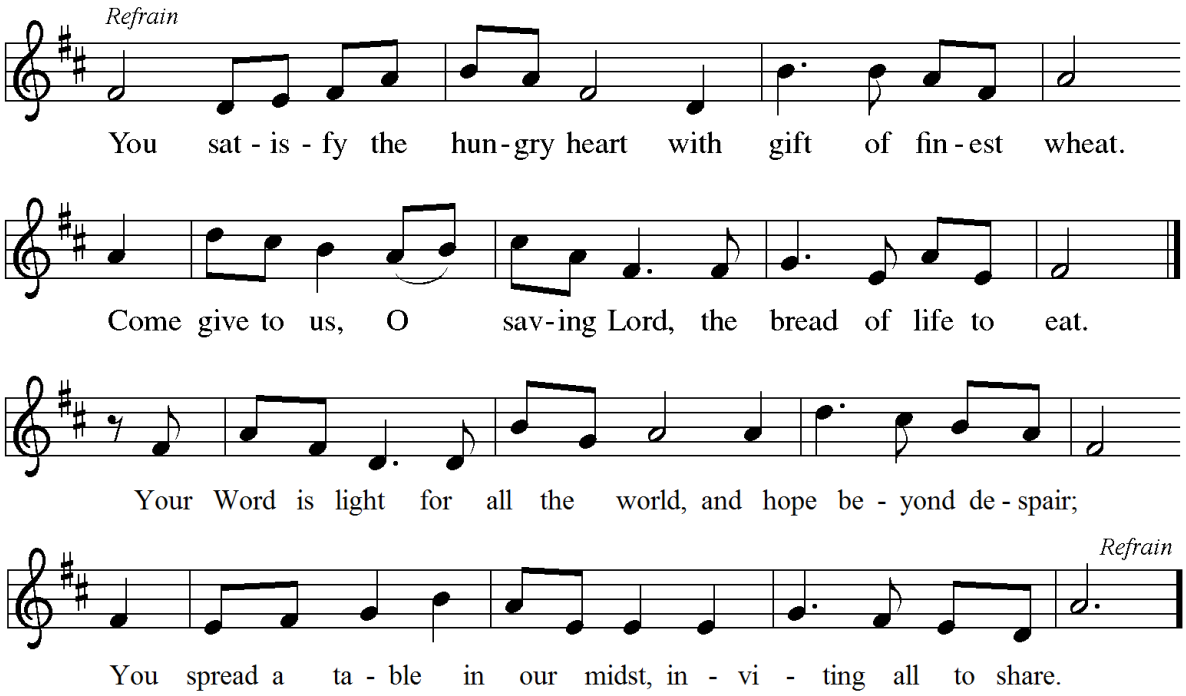
P. The peace of Lord be with you always,
A. And also with you.
P. Let us share God's peace with one another.

ANNOUNCEMENTS
Announcements may be shared at this time.

MEAL

OFFERING
P. At this time, if you'd like to make an online gift using tithe.ly or via mail to Messiah, feel free to do so.

OFFERING SONG "You Satisfy the Hungry Heart"



Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997
Music: BICENTENNIAL, Robert E. Kreutz, 1922–1996
Text and music © 1977 Archdiocese of Philadelphia.
Verse text written by Barbara Lundblad

OFFERING PRAYER

AM. 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.

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you

And also with you!

Now life up your hearts;

We lift them in praise!

O let us give thanks to the Lord. It is good and it is right!

Our joy and our delight to give God praise

At all times and in all ways!

Holy and right it is…we worship and adore your glorious name.

O holy are you Lord! The God of power and might;

The angels veil their sight! Earth is aflame

With the glory of your name!

Hosanna! Blessed is he! Christ Jesus, who is come,

The Lord's anointed one: He comes again!

Hosanna, Lord. Amen!

Most righteous God, we remember…we proclaim the mystery of the faith:

Your death, O Christ, we proclaim

Your rising – celebrate!

Your coming we await, to make all things new,

All glory unto you!

Send your Holy Spirit…even so, come, Lord Jesus!

Alleluia! Lord! Amen!

LORD'S PRAYER

P. God remember us in your love, and teach us to pray:

A. 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.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P. 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, therefore, his life-giving death and glorious resurrection, we await your promised life for all this dying world.
Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup: carry us in your arms from death to life, that we may live as your chosen ones, clothed in the righteousness of Christ. Through him all glory and honor is yours,

Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

A. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P. Even when we cannot be physically together, we are one in Christ Jesus united around a common table. Indeed, at this table, Jesus gathers us all together: the humble and the proud, the joyful and the grieving, the pious and the profane, those of strong faith and those who only long for faith, to everyone, without exception. Come siblings in faith, and join in Spirit filled community!

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

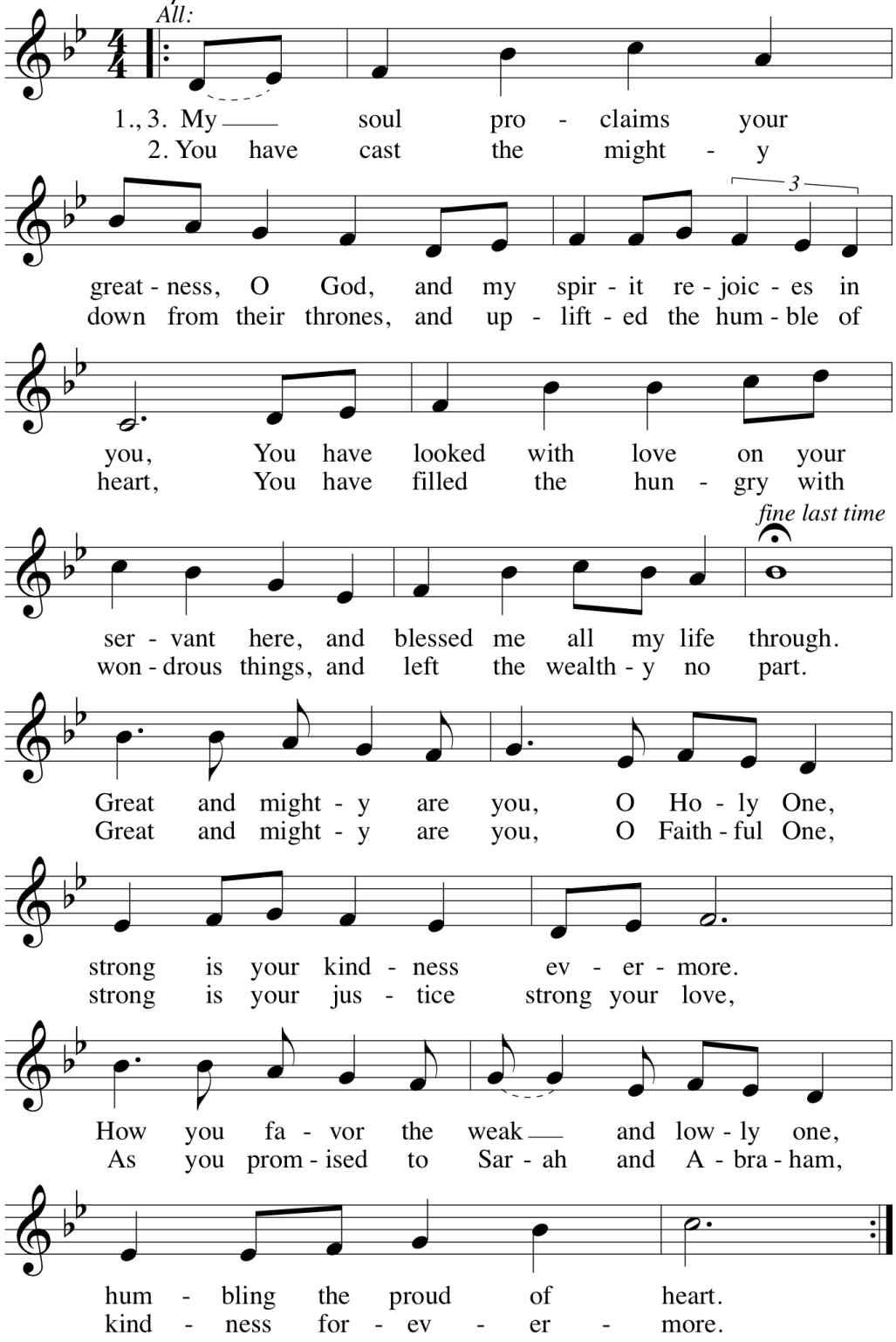
At this time, all may share Holy Communion amongst their families.

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P. The body of our Lord Jesus Christ and his precious blood strengthen you and keep you in God's Grace.

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE

C. An angel went from God to a town called Nazareth to a woman whose name was Mary. The angel said to her, "Rejoice, O highly favored, for God is with you. You shall bear a child, and his name shall be Jesus, the Chosen One of God Most High." And Mary said, "I am the servant of my God, I live to do your will."



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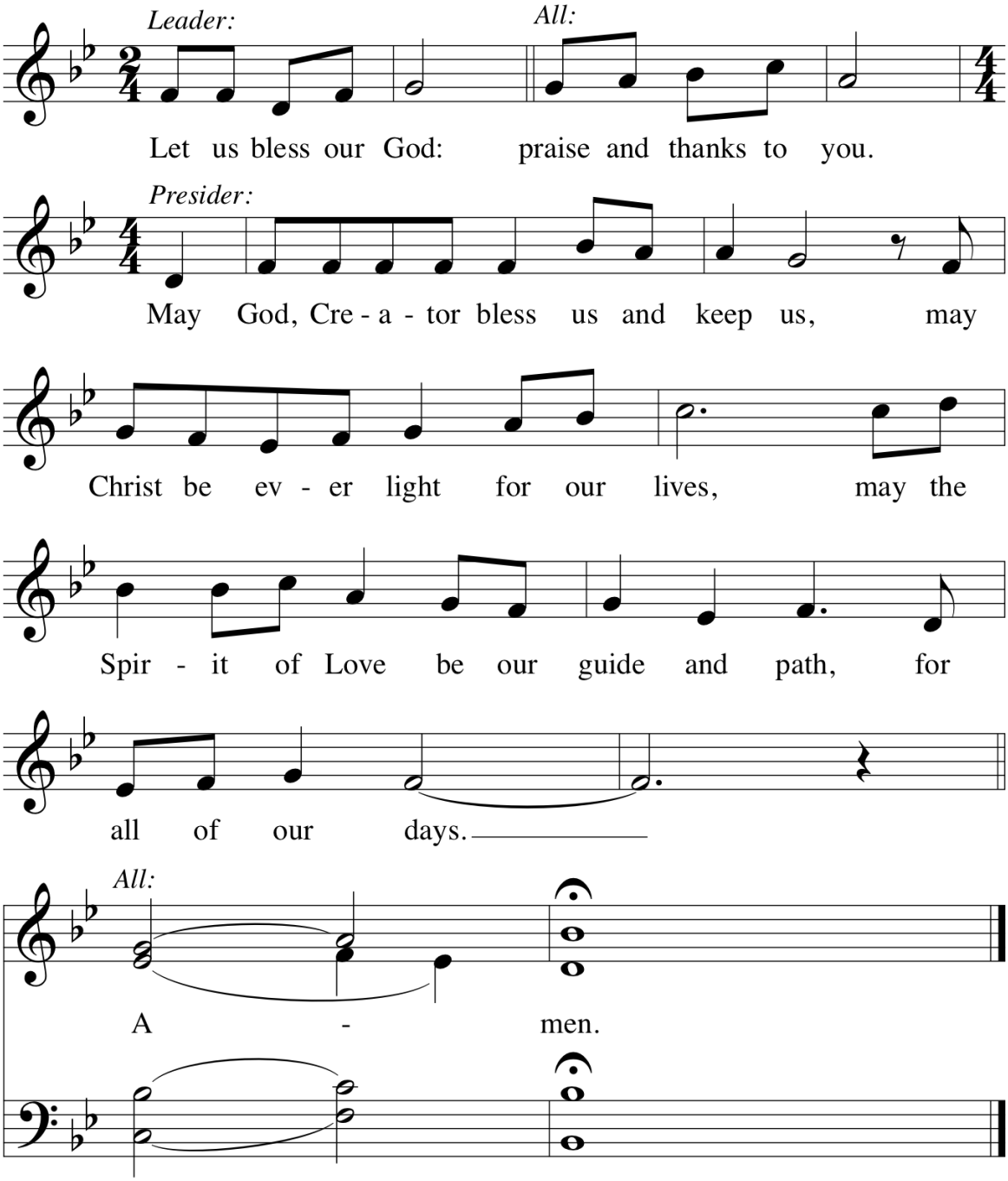
POST COMMUNION PRAYER

P. Holy Generous One, we say **thank you.**
With this food, give us strength to live, and to live fully. We say **thank you.**
We love one another like a family and we trust you to serve the world until we meet again. And we say **thank you.**
In the name of Jesus our Christ who feeds the world. **Amen.**

FINAL BLESSING



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SENDING HYMN *"Joy to the World"*

DISMISSAL

P. Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.
A. Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE