Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
(Proper 27)

Sunday, November 8, 2026

8:00 AM (spoken) & 10:15 AM (with music)

Also Live Streaming at
https://www.facebook.com/stgregoryslongbeach/

VOLUNTARY

"Sleepers Wake!" A Voice Astounds Us — Gottfried A. Homilius

(Please stand)

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers — Bulletin Page 16

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Presider Blessed be God: ✠ Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

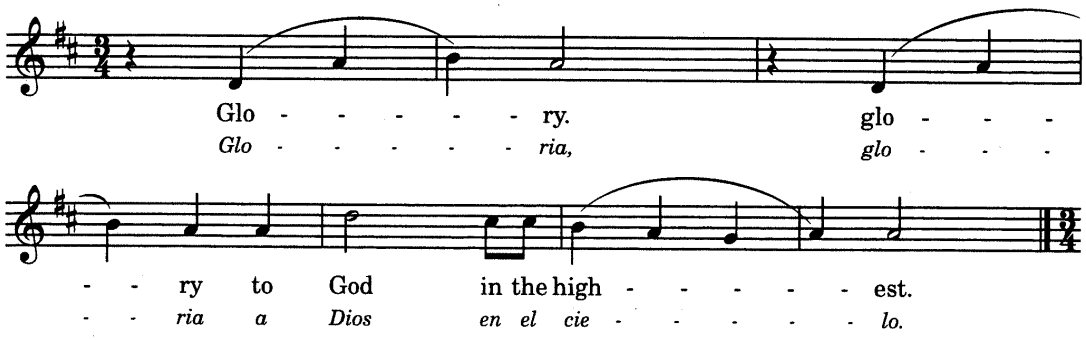
COLLECT FOR PURITY

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**.

GLORIA *(8:00 Service)*

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE *(10:15 service)* *Festival Eucharist,* Craig Phillips



Choir: and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. ***Refrain***

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world: Have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father: Receive our prayer. ***Refrain***

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen ***Refrain***

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Presider Let us pray.

O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen***.*

(Please be seated)

FIRST READING

Wisdom of Solomon 6.12-16
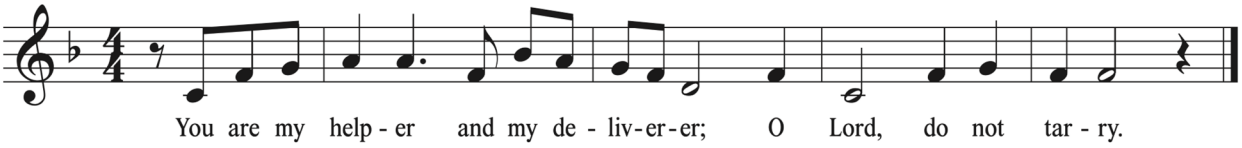
Lector A Reading from Wisdom of Solomon.

Wisdom is radiant and unfading,
and she is easily discerned by those who love her,
and is found by those who seek her.
She hastens to make herself known to those who desire her.
One who rises early to seek her will have no difficulty,
for she will be found sitting at the gate.
To fix one's thought on her is perfect understanding,
and one who is vigilant on her account will soon be free from care,
because she goes about seeking those worthy of her,
and she graciously appears to them in their paths,
and meets them in every thought.

Lector The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 70 Setting: David York

The choir sings the antiphon once and the congregation repeats. The choir sings the Psalm verses. The choir and congregation then sing the antiphon following each section of verses.



Be pleased, O God, to deliver me;
O LORD, make haste to help me.
Let those who seek my life be put to shame
and confounded;
let those who take pleasure in my misfortune
draw back and be disgraced. ***Antiphon***

Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat over me turn back,
because of their shame.
Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you;
let those who love your salvation say for ever,
"Great is the LORD!"
But as for me, I am poor and needy;
come to me quickly, O God.
You are my helper and my deliverer;
O LORD, do not tarry. ***Antiphon***

SECOND READING 1 Thessalonians 4.13-18

Lector A Reading from the First Letter to the Thessalonians.

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Lector The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

(Please stand)

SEQUENCE HYMN

Oh, When the Saints Go Marching In Bulletin Page 17

(The congregation sings vv. 1 - 3, the Gospel is read, then vv. 4 & 5 are sung)

HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 25.1-13

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Matthew.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

Presider The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

(Please be seated)

SERMON The Rev. Michael K. Fincher

(Silent reflection)

NICENE CREED *(Please stand)*

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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *(Please remain standing or kneel)*

Jesus said, "In my Father's house there are many dwelling places." Trusting in God's abundance and welcome, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all creation.

Gracious God, you have made plenty good room for us in your household. Inspire your church to be a place of welcome, generosity, and love. We thank you for the resources you have entrusted to us, and we pray for wisdom to use them in service of your mission.
Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of community, you bind us together in relationships of care and compassion. Strengthen the bonds within this congregation, and guide us to extend hospitality to our neighbors near and far.
Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of abundance, you invite us to respond with gratitude for all your gifts. Bless our stewardship campaign, that our pledges of time, talent, and treasure may be faithful signs of our trust in you.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of creation, you have made a world with plenty good room for all living things. Teach us to care for the earth and to share its resources with justice and joy.
Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of mercy, your dwelling place has room for all who suffer. Be present with those who are sick, lonely, grieving, or in any kind of need, especially those we mention now, silently or aloud [or in the comment section].

(Pause)

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of hope, you prepare a place for us in your eternal home. We remember before you those who have died, confident that they now rest in your embrace, especially those we mention now, silently or aloud [or in the comment section].

(Pause)

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Presider Loving God, you call us into your abundant life and promise that there is plenty good room for all your children. Hear our prayers and accept the offerings of our hearts, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

CONFESSION OF SIN

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

Silence may be kept.

God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.

Presider 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 PEACE

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

(Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SPECIAL BLESSINGS

Birthday and Anniversary Prayer: Watch over your *children*, O Lord, as *their* days increase; bless and guide *them* wherever *they* may be. Strengthen *them* when *they* stand; comfort *them* when discouraged or sorrowful; raise *them* up if *they* fall; and in *their* hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of *their* lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

"PLENTY GOOD ROOM" STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

Weekly stewardship handout can be found on Bulletin Page 25

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning — Traditional Spiritual, arr. Philip Kern

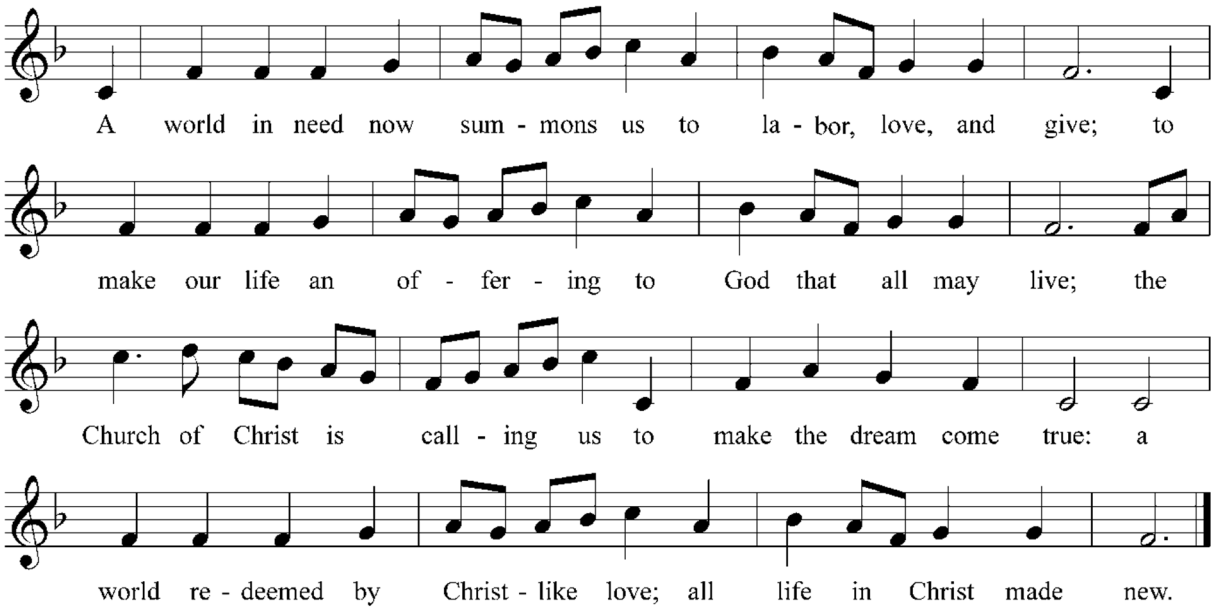
Sean Dunnahoe, percussion

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
the time is drawing nigh.

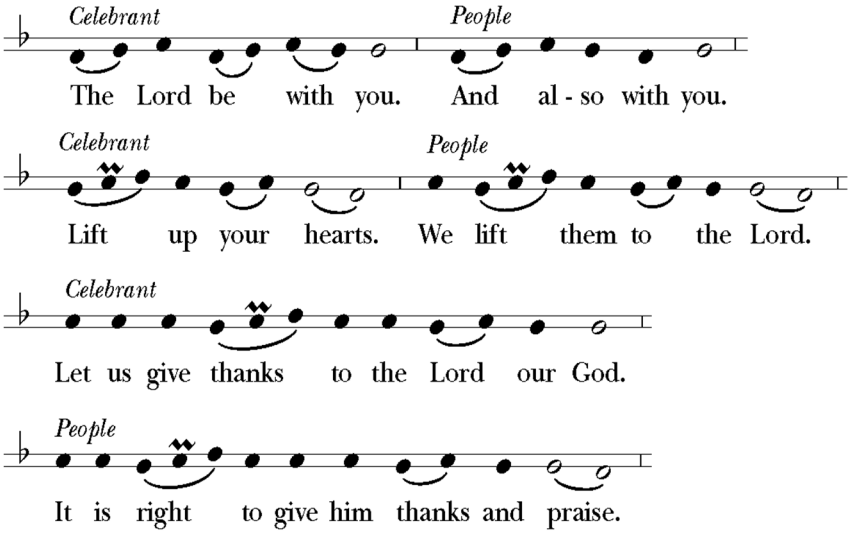
Children, don't get weary;
children, don't get weary;
children, don't get weary,
'til the work's is done.

PRESENTATION HYMN

As Those of Old Their First Fruits Brought *Forest Green*



THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy.
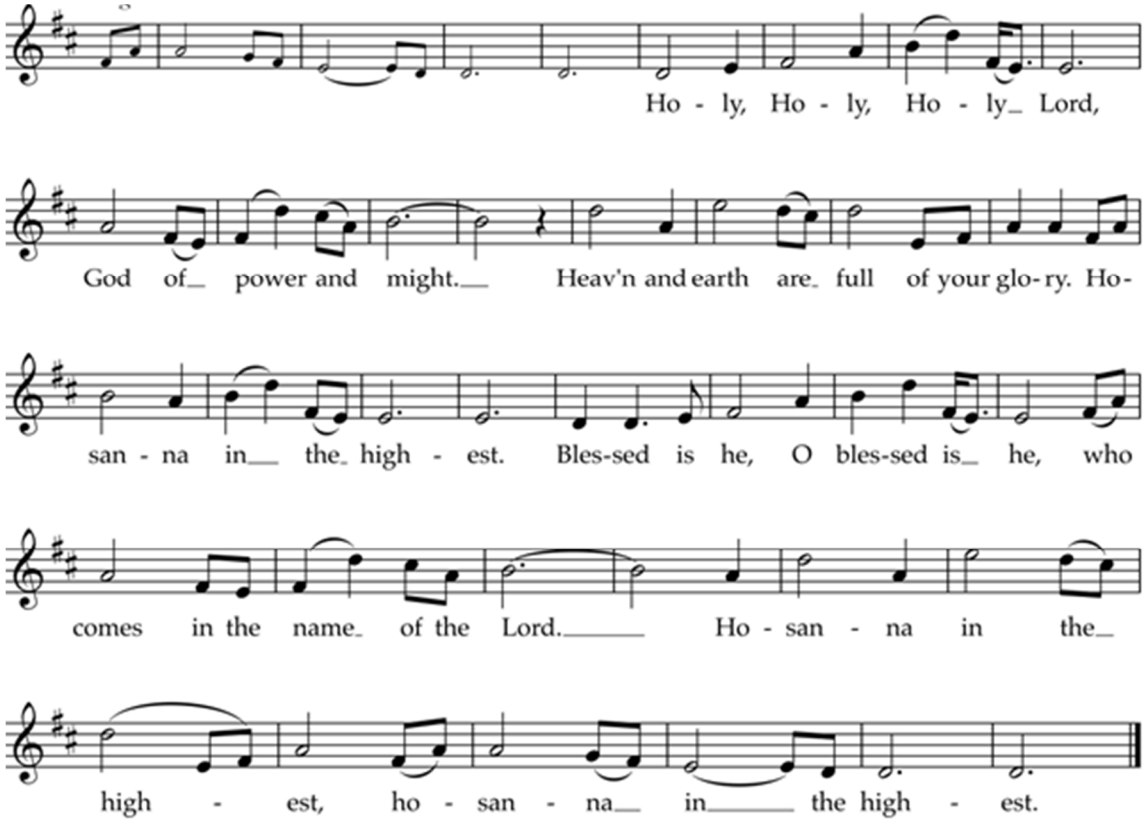
You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing (say):

At the 8:00 Service:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

At the 10:15 Service: *St. Anne's Mass,* James MacMillan



Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: “Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

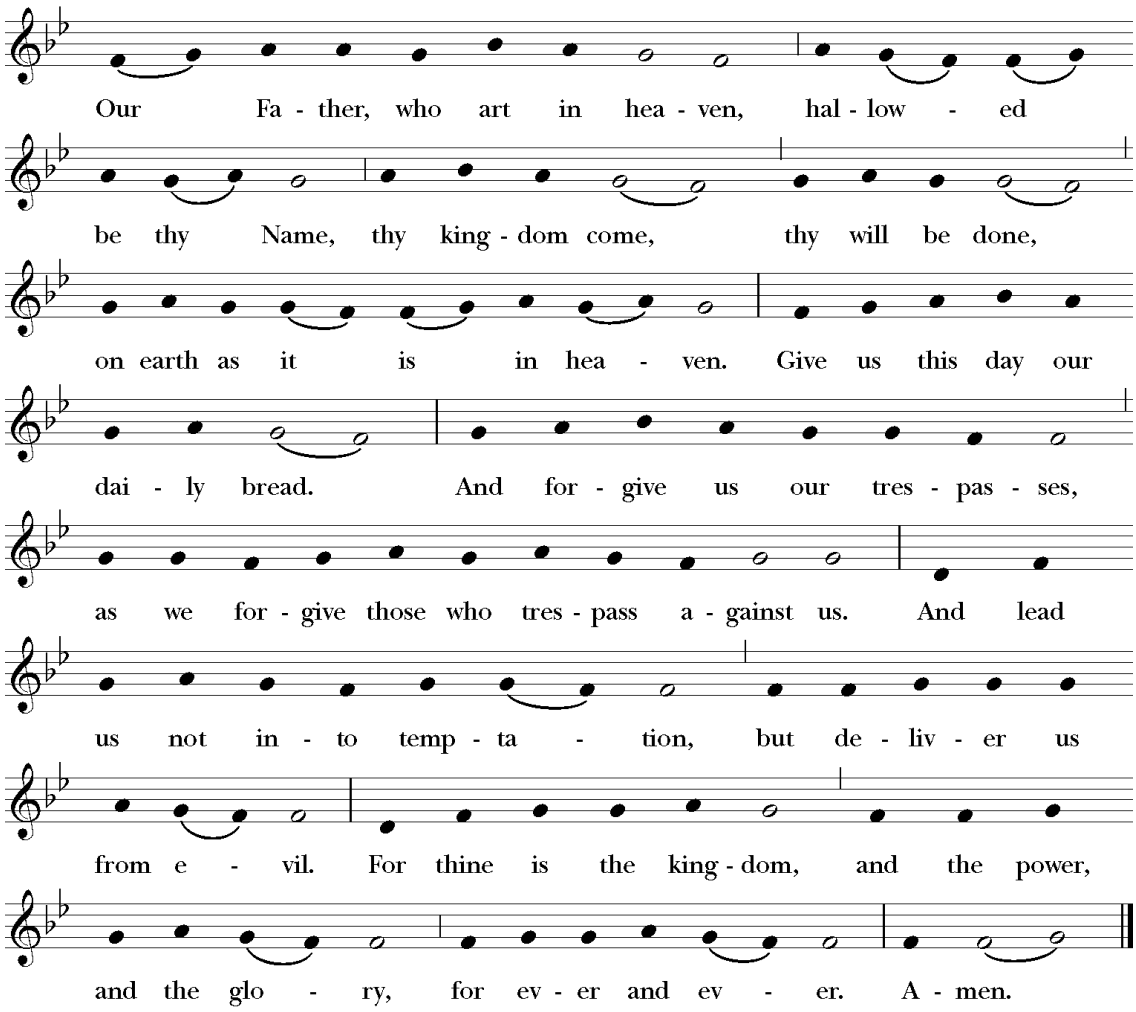
Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ’s Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with [_____ and] all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN**.

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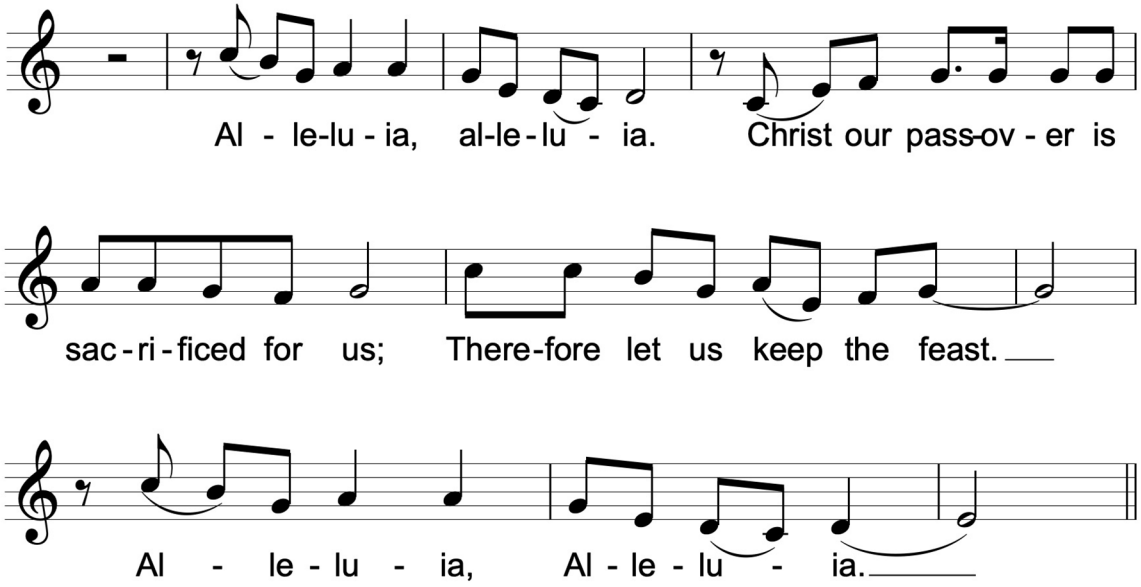


THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

(A period of silence is kept after the Presider breaks the host)

At the 8:00 Service:

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

FRACTION ANTHEM *(10:15 Service)* David York



The Presider says the following invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion at this Altar. Holy Communion will be distributed from a single Communion Station at the foot of the chancel steps. The Ushers will release people by row to receive Communion. ***Gluten free wafers are available upon request.***

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Those who are participating in the live streamed service and therefore not able to receive communion may wish to say the following prayer in recognition that the desire to receive communion carries the same spiritual benefits of actually consuming the consecrated elements.

> Lord Jesus Christ, you have instituted for us a great sacrament in your promise of life and love, which we remember now as we hear your words again: "This is my body; this is my blood — given for you." Feed us in our hearts with faith and trust, draw us closer to you and to each other, and strengthen us for service to our neighbor. We come before you now, with hearts you have fed all our lives with the promise that you have given yourself for us. Keep us strong in that faith until we can meet at your table again. Amen.

COMMUNION MUSIC

Zion Hears the Watchmen Singing — Dietrich Buxtehude

Dylan Wicks, Jordan Tickner, soloists

Zion hears the watchmen singing, and all her heart with joy is springing, she wakes, she rises from her gloom. For her Lord comes down all glorious, the strong in grace, in truth victorious. Her star is ris'n, her light is come. (Philipp Nicolai)

COMMUNION HYMN

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence — Bulletin Page 18

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Presider Let us pray.

God of blessing, at this table we have seen you face to face, and in the gift of Christ's body and blood, our hearts have been refreshed. Send us now to shine with your goodness and bear witness to the one we have received: Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

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**.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates — Bulletin Page 19

THE DISMISSAL

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

VOLUNTARY

Dialogue in D Minor — Jean-Francois Dandrieu

FLOWERS TODAY ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD

and

by Beth and Bill Eldon
In honor of their family members, as well as Veterans and their families

Please join us in Francis Hall for refreshments and fellowship following the worship service

(Francis Hall is out the main church doors and to the left)

TODAY'S WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

	8:00 SERVICE	10:15 SERVICE
Presider & Preacher	Fr. Michael Fincher	Fr. Michael Fincher
Organist	—	David York
Crucifer	—	David Luebben-Morrill
Lector	Kris Brooks	Sally Curry
Lay Eucharistic Ministers (LEMs)	Dana Lindsay David Luebben-Morrill	Elizabeth Spencer Beth Eldon

---

Texts of Sunday sermons are available on our parish website, at
http://stgregoryschurch.com/sermons-archive/
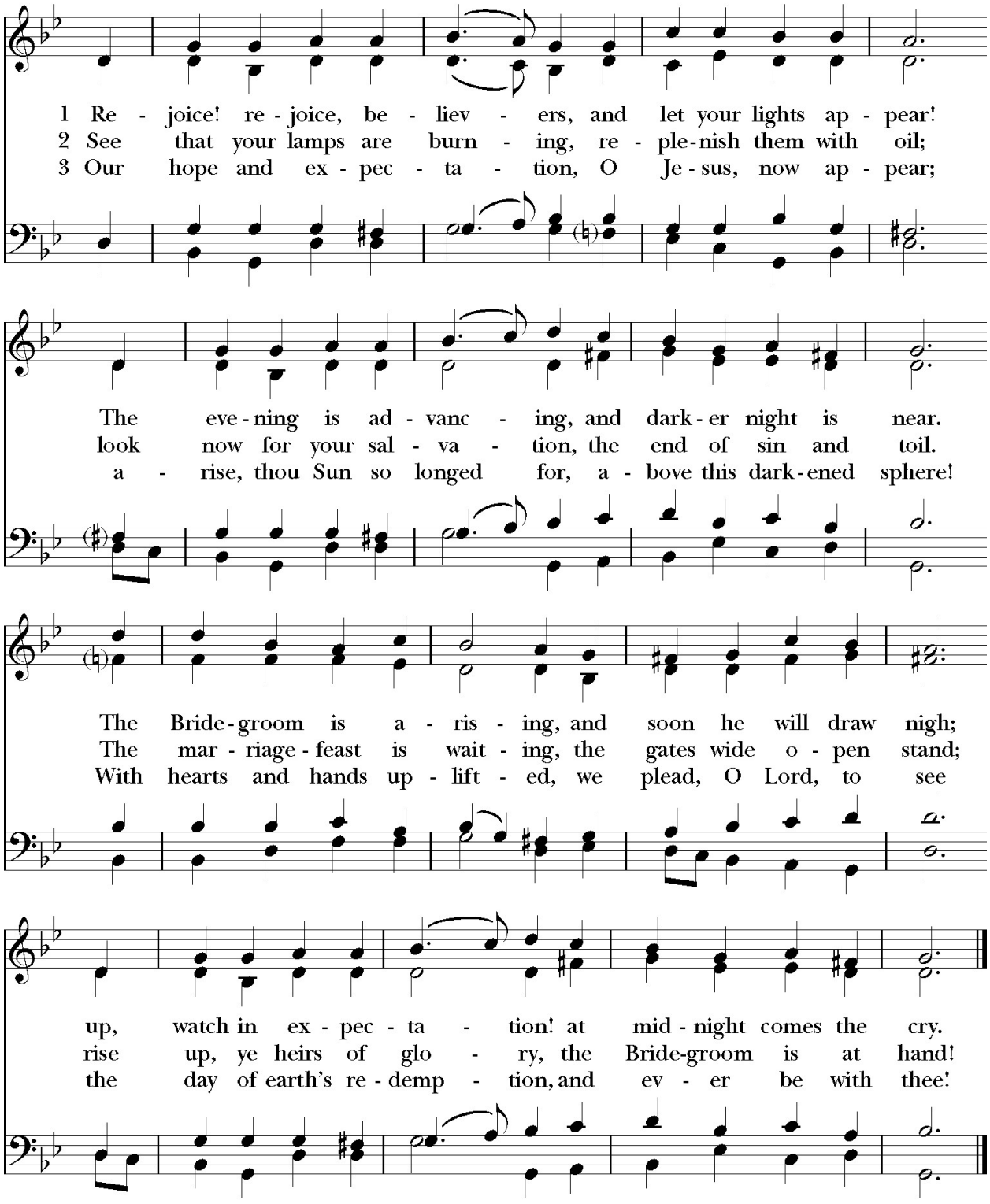
To make secure, online donations to St. Gregory's, simply scan:

Permission to reprint and stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license #A-736712. All rights reserved.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Hymnal 1982, Hymn 68
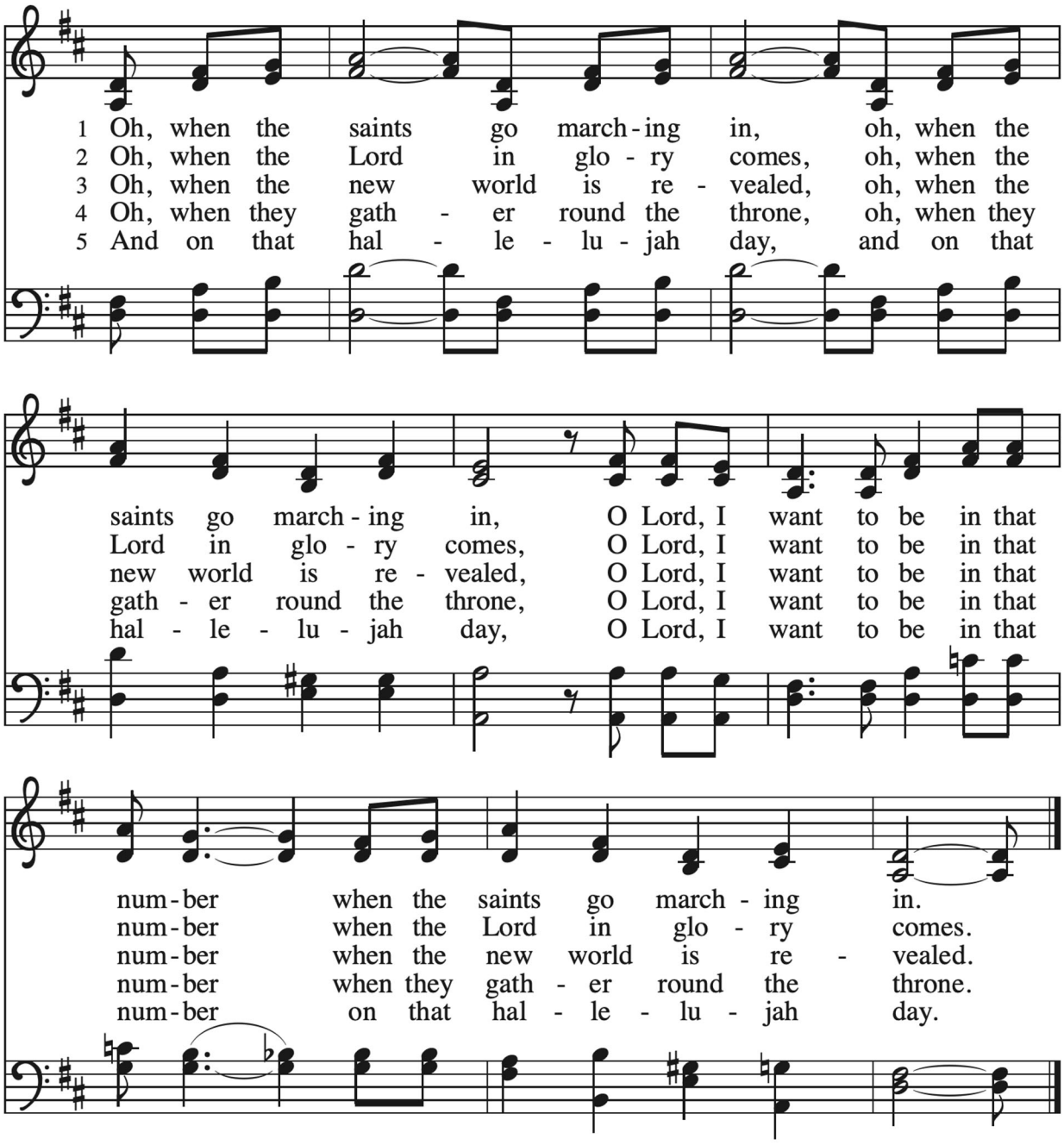
Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers — *Llangloffan*



SEQUENCE HYMN

Oh, When the Saints Go Marching In *When the Saints*

(The congregation sings vv. 1 - 3, the Gospel is read, then vv. 4 & 5 are sung)
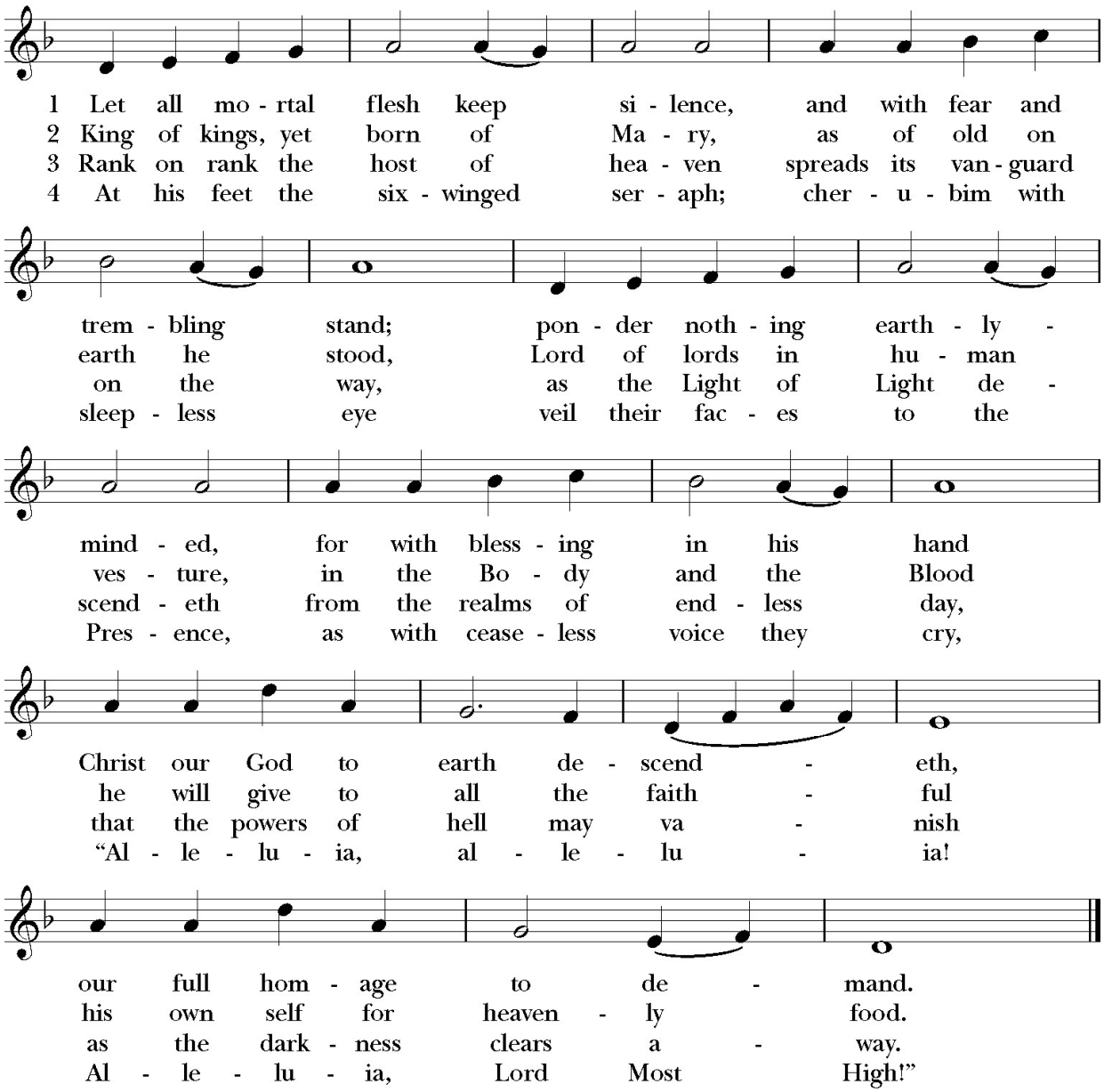


Text: African American spiritual
Music: WHEN THE SAINTS, African American spiritual; arr. hymnal version
Arr. © 2020 Augsburg Fortress

COMMUNION HYMN

Hymnal 1982, Hymn 324
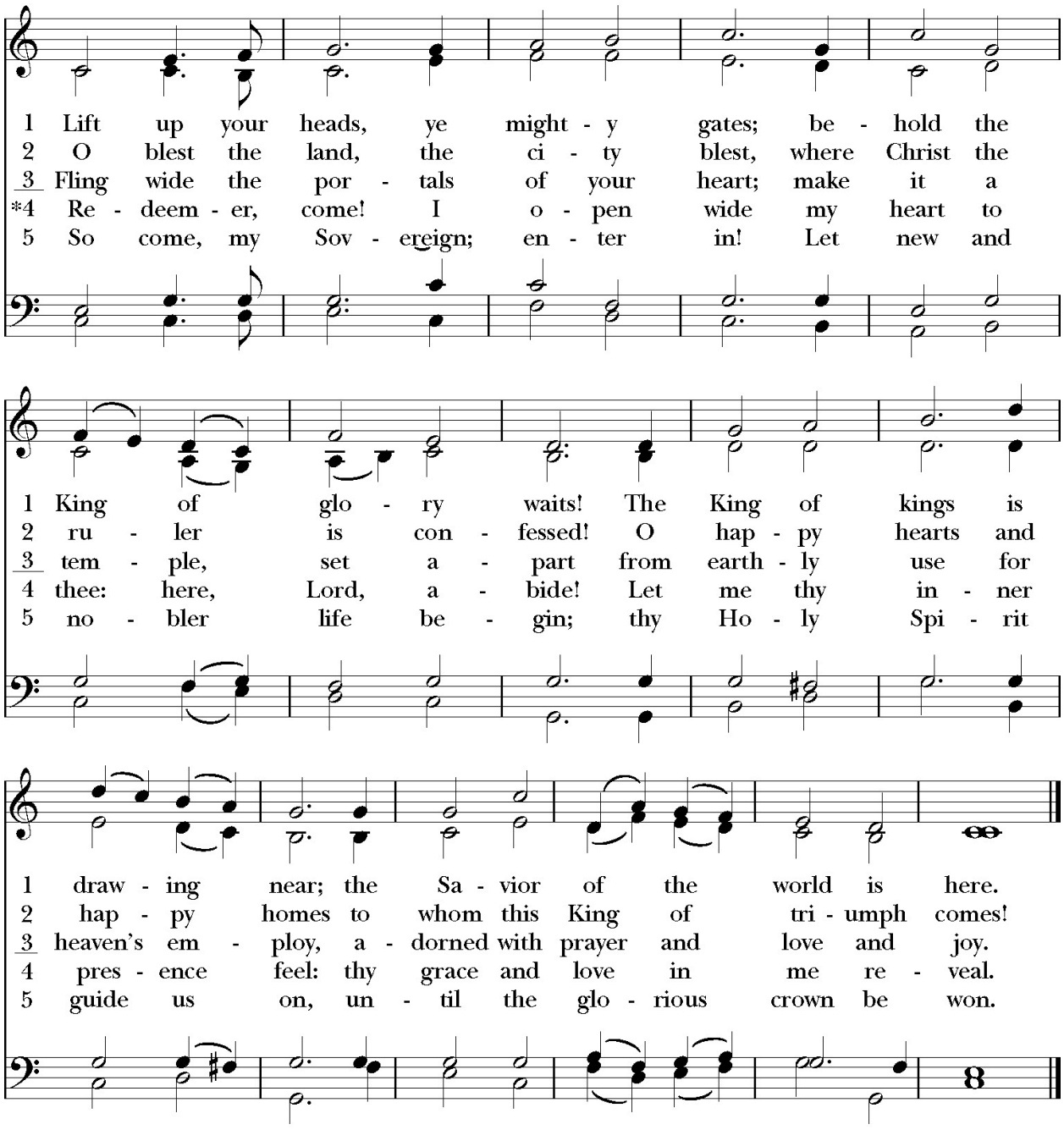
Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence *Picardy*



RECESSIONAL HYMN

Hymnal 1982, Hymn 436

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates *Truro*



THIS WEEK AT ST. GREGORY'S

Tuesday, November 10

Centering Prayer at **6:30 PM** via Zoom. Contact Fr. Michael for access information.

Thursday, November 12

Holy Eucharist and Healing Service at **10:00 AM** in the Church.

Bible Study at **11:00 AM** in the Fireside Room.

Choir Rehearsal at **7:30 PM** in the Choir Room. Contact David York for more information.

Sunday, November 15 – Pentecost 25 (Proper 28)

Holy Eucharist (spoken) at **8:00 AM** in the Church.

Holy Eucharist (with music) at **10:15 AM** in the Church and live streamed on the St. Gregory's Facebook page (https://facebook.com/stgregoryslongbeach/).

Sunday School at **10:15 AM**, as follows:
Beginners Grades K to 2) in the Youth Room
Juniors (Grades 3 & 4) in the Youth Room
Seniors (Grades 5 & 6) in Room 7

Nursery Care is available on Sundays, starting at 7:45 AM, in the Nursery (Room 3)

Evening Prayer (Tuesday through Thursday)

Evening Prayer: Tuesday through Thursday at **5:00 PM** on the St. Gregory's Facebook page (https://facebook.com/stgregoryslongbeach/).

For Evening Prayer, you will need either a Book of Common Prayer *or you can download the Evening Prayer liturgy and the Psalms for the week from the St. Gregory's website (www.stgregoryschurch.com).*

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, November 15 – Music at 4 - Kirkin' of the Tartan Evensong

The sound of Bagpipes fills the church in this festive Evensong service honoring St. Andrew, the patron saint of Scotland. St. Gregory's Choir sings music by Alfred V. Fedak, Richard Shephard, and Thomas Tallis. Come join us on Sunday, November 15 at 4:00 PM in the Sanctuary.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

United Thank Offering UTO Ingathering: November is a month of sharing our abundance with others such as family friends and our community as we begin our UTO ingathering this month, please remember that UTO grants often focus on urgent human needs meaning your individual gratitude gift help racial reconciliation efforts, to end poverty and so much more. The ingathering will continue until **November 29, 2026** Please give generously to this amazing program.

Supper Club: We will be having Supper Club on **Saturday, November 21** at **5:00 pm** in the Parish Hall. John and Susan Mora will be hosting a Thanksgiving-themed dinner. Flyers are available in the Narthex. Please call either Julie Robinson 562-619-9011 or John and Susan Mora for information on what to contribute.

Outreach Update: This is the last week for gift card donations for our families. Please, purchase gift cards from Target, Walmart, Food for Less, Albertsons, and Smart & Final in denominations of $25, $50, and $100 before next Sunday. The cards may be sent to the church or placed in the collection plate. You may also make donations through the church website.

Long Beach American Sewing Guild: The next meeting of our Long Beach American Sewing Guild will be **Sunday, November 15** in St. Gregory's Room 1 from 1:00pm – 3:30 P.M. If you have any interest in sewing or fabric, please come to our meeting. For more information, contact Susan Mora.

St. Thomas of Canterbury Holiday Bazaar: Our sister congregation of St. Thomas of Canterbury (5306 E. Arbor Road) is having their annual Holiday Bazaar on Saturday, November 21st from 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Flyers are available on the Information Table in the Parish Hall.

Return of the Roamin' Gregorians: The Roamin' Gregorians are returning for an upcoming Roamin' Gregorians Prince of Peace Walk on December 6. Contact Susan Mora (310) 894-0731 or sign up in the Narthex after church.

Air Conditioner Fund: We have recently replaced the heating and air conditioning (HVAC) system in the Sanctuary, to the tune of $120,000. While we are able to cover the expense out of our reserves, this will greatly deplete those funds. We are asking that parishioners consider giving to help offset the cost of our new HVAC system. You can do so by writing a check to St. Gregory's with "HVAC" in the memo line. Or you can make a donation online through our parish

website at https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z4WR/campaign/C-12C50 and put HVAC in the note box. Thank you for your generosity.

Columbarium Niches: Many people do not realize we have a columbarium at St. Gregory's. Having your ashes placed in the columbarium is a less expensive option than burial at a cemetery and provides for your continued presence in a place that has been important to you during your life. For more information, contact the Parish Office.

Vestry Minutes and Reports: Following Vestry meetings, the approved minutes and reports are posted on our parish website (https://stgregoryschurch.com/). Click on the "About" tab and the last option under the dropdown menu is "Vestry Minutes & Reports." Approved minutes (without reports) are also posted on the bulletin board outside the Fireside Room. In addition, anyone is free to review minutes and reports of previous meetings, available in the Parish Office.

Stitches of Faith: Are you looking for a space to share your creativity, enjoy fellowship, and be inspired? Stitches of Faith is a gathering for anyone who loves to craft—or wants to learn! Whether you knit, crochet, quilt, paint, or want to try your hand at another craft, this group is open to all skill levels, including beginners eager to discover something new. We meet on Sundays from 1:00–3:30 PM in the Conference Room. Each week, we will enjoy time for projects, encouragement, and conversation in a relaxed, faith-filled environment. Light refreshments will be provided. Bring your supplies, your curiosity, and your kind spirit. Come create, connect, and grow in community with us!

Lend a Hand: Like any older building, St. Gregory's constantly needs maintenance and touching up. Fred Cornett has made up a list of things to do in the near future: Cleaning and arranging the janitor's closet and the storage areas, cleaning the trash cans, etc. Many hands make light work, and most of the jobs won't take much time if two or three people join in. There is a signup sheet in the narthex, and Fred is always available for consultation or questions: (562) 308-6955. Thanks, Fred, for getting the projects going!

Altar Flower Donations: Need a wonderful way to honor or remember a loved one or friend? Make a flower donation. There is a flower donation chart located on the Narthex wall that you can use to sign up for special dates to donate altar flowers. Simply fill out a donation form attached to the bottom of the chart and return the form to the Parish Office. Payment for flowers can be made by check or online at https://stgregoryschurch.com/4721-2. Make sure you specify your donation is for Altar Flowers. The Altar Guild thanks you.

Episcopal News Updates: The Diocese provides weekly email updates to help you keep informed about what's happening all over our six-county diocese. If you want to receive the Episcopal News, visit https://tinyurl.com/ydxd2jn6 and enter your email address in the box provided.

Feed My Lambs: Here's How You Can Help

- On the first Saturday of every month, Feed My Lambs serves our neighbors at St. Luke's. There's a lot that happens before Saturday morning—and we would love to have you join us!
- **We Need Hard-Boiled Eggs!** Every Feed My Lambs lunch includes a hard-boiled egg, and we need more egg donors! You do not have to commit every month—even an occasional contribution helps.
  VERY IMPORTANT: Please clearly mark your egg carton "FML." We share refrigerator space with other church ministries, and if the carton isn't marked FML, we won't know the eggs are ours to take early Saturday morning.
- **Bake Homemade Cookies**: Our guests love homemade cookies, and we can always use more! Please place your cookies in Ziploc bags and label them with the date and "FML."
- **Dropping Off Eggs or Cookies**: Donations may be dropped off at the St. Gregory's church office Monday–Friday, 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. Because our office administrator occasionally needs to leave on church errands, please call ahead to make sure someone will be there to receive your donation.
- **Come Work With Us!** You don't have to do everything—or even stay for the whole day. Pick the job and time that work for you:
  - Friday before Feed My Lambs
    - 11:00 a.m. — Cookie Bagging
    - 12:00 p.m. — Sandwich Building
    - 3:00 p.m. — Lunch Packing
  - First Saturday of the month
    - 6:00 a.m. — Load Out at St. Gregory's
    - 7:00 a.m. — Set Up & Serve at St. Luke's

  Interested in volunteering or have questions? Contact Tamera Benedict at tlbenedict4@gmail.com or 562-301-6800.

Food Bank: The Food Bank relies on your financial support and appreciates all donations of funds or non-perishable food items. We also can use more volunteers at:

- Bagging and distribution the THIRD WEDNESDAY of each month from 8:30 to 11:00 AM
- Any other time you may have available and could assist with assembling our bags (e.g. on Sunday before or after service, or any time the office is open for access)

Please contact the Parish Office (info@stgregoryschurch.com, 562.420.1311) or Bill Eldon (billeldon@gmail.com, 562.234.9920) for more information about the Food Bank.

Gratitude for Your Support of the Parish: We continue to be humbled and so incredibly grateful for your generosity in supporting our parish and its ministries! While you may not be able to drop your donation in a real offering plate, there are still ways you can make sure your donation gets to the parish:

- You can mail your check to the parish office.
- Make donations through our online payment account, accessible through the parish website at http://stgregoryschurch.com/4721-2/.
- Scan the QR code found in the Sunday bulletin.

And again, THANK YOU for your continued support!

Parish Directory: Our online parish directory is at https://www.instantchurchdirectory.com/. This is a secure site and can be accessed using the email address you had published in the parish directory. You can also download the "Instant Church Directory" on your smart phone. Versions are available for Android, iPhone, iPad, and Kindle.

One Body & One Spirit Annual Appeal: The Diocese has established an ongoing campaign focused on raising funds to assist congregations, schools, affiliated institutions, and their communities who are faced with unprecedented challenges. We are invited to prayerfully consider making a donation to help others in our Diocese who may have unmet needs. More information is available at https://diocesela.org/annual-appeal/.

Forward Day By Day: For those who use the Forward Day By Day booklet for personal devotions and need the newest edition mailed, please contact the Parish Office at 562-420-1311 or info@stgregoryschurch.com.

In Case of Emergency . . . Notify Your Priest! In the event of a hospital stay, illness, death in the family, or other pastoral emergency, please call Fr. Michael on his cell phone (909-373-6478). And PLEASE, no excuses about not wanting to bother me. That's why we are here – for YOU!

PRAYER LIST

Lydia Gibbs, Suzan Laverty, Martin Nemitz, Ferdinand Gonzalez, Patrick McDonough, Mike Laverty, Mother Beryl, Scott Morgan, Fran Luebben-Morgan, Harold Peacock, Rudy Revell, Jared Baker, Kimberly Bouzguenda, Shannon Romano, Ralph Tesla, Anne Cantrell, Matt Burger, Darlene Feit-Pretzer, Keeley Gilmore, Betty Peacock, Laura Mae Harper, Elizabeth Laursen, Eric Kela, Dodie Martin, Savannah Jimenez, Martha Wong, Carlos Cruz, Sean Wood, Marina Tesla, Nancy Luebben, Diane Duacsek, Michelle Morrill, Kira Dirghalli, Edith Finney, Paige Hardin, Marty Wong, Miriam Edwards, Charles H. Parks, Perry Nelson, Nellie Bell, Ernie and Vickie Morrison, Alison and Mick, Phyllis Comiskey, Brett W., Adan Murillo, Trisha Cookmeyer, Sally Blevins, Linda Elliott, Ron Dixon, Daryl Takaki, Paul Meyer, Juhani Palomaki, Jerry Simundson, Meg Wagner, Annette Ffrench, Barbara Barton, Rosan Curtis, Nick Playter, Mary Playter, David Caffrey, Brigitta Spinocchia Freund, Casey Ramsdell, Maria Cortez, Gloria Smith, Lynda Hartman, Gary Laursen, Vivian Anaya-Outler, Greg Highstand, Keith Johnson, JR Amos, Loretta Scott, Jim Moody, Ruth Contreras, Holly Cardone, Dayna Kinkade, Laurie Baker, Lisa Fincher Bailey, Lori Topps, Dennis La Carra

Note: Unless we are aware of on-going concerns, names only stay on the Parish Prayer List for a month. If names need to be re-added, please notify the Parish Office.

Plenty Good Room

Making Space is an Invitation

A year ago I began practicing yoga at a studio near my home. The instructor is a grounded, gifted practitioner who sets the tone for movement, relaxation, and growth. Her class has grown in popularity and sometimes we are packed a bit close in the space. If someone comes in a little late, we all adjust our mats and make space graciously- although in my heart I grumbled at the inconvenience of it. That is, until I was stuck in traffic and arrived the very minute class was starting and opened the studio door to find the room full. I closed the door and felt frustrated. Darn traffic! I stood outside alone in my disappointment when the door open and a fellow student waved me in, mouthing the words: "we made room for you."

I felt tears selling up in my eyes as I hurried to the open space and rolled out my mat. Another person smiled and waved at me. It almost felt like too much to bear- this grace-filled way that my fellow students offered plenty good room for me to enter and find the balance I craved.

Making space for one another, without judgement, creates a powerful connection in community. I no longer grumble in my heart as a latecomer arrives because I've been there. And, I hope they feel the acceptance I felt as we slide our mats to make more room.

There is plenty good room for us to accept one another, just as we are right now. I pray that in all aspects of our life in community, and especially in our faith community, we learn to wave one another in and with a gentle smile mouth the words: "we made room for you." TENS.org

Questions for Reflection:

How might we shift a grumbling heart into a welcoming wave?



The Rev. Cn. Dina van Klaveren is Canon for Development at the Episcopal Diocese of Maryland and is a past-president and member of the Board of Directors for TENS.

TENS THE EPISCOPAL NETWORK FOR STEWARDSHIP

ST. GREGORY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

6201 E. WILLOW STREET, LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA 90815
562-420-1311 WWW.STGREGORYSCHURCH.COM

WELCOME TO ST. GREGORY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH!

St. Gregory's is a warm and caring community of families and singles, young and old, committed to sharing the good news that Jesus is the Lord of all life. We are an Episcopal Church, having members from all backgrounds and religious traditions, many of us had no church involvement before coming here. We want to offer to you the same welcome and friendship that were extended to us when we came to St. Gregory's.

ST. GREGORY'S MISSION STATEMENT

God has called us into Christian community and gifted us for ministry:
To worship and glorify God
To transform faith into action
To share the love of Jesus Christ

The Right Rev. Dr. Antonio José Gallardo Lucena
Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles

The Rev. Michael K. Fincher, Rector
rector@stgregoryschurch.com

David York, Music Director & Organist
york1635@aol.com

David Sachs, Parish Administrator
info@stgregoryschurch.com

Parish Office Hours: 9:00am-12:00pm, Monday – Friday
www.stgregoryschurch.com