

Grace Episcopal Church

The Last Sunday after Pentecost
Christ the King
November 22, 2026
The Holy Eucharist: Rite II
10:30 a.m.

BCP **PRELUDE**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

PROCESSIONAL HYMN #435 *(In the Blue Hymnal)* ***At the name of Jesus***



355 OPENING ACCLAMATION AND COLLECT FOR PURITY

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

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 *(Sung by all)*



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THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

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

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON *Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24*

Lector A reading from the Prophet Ezekiel.

Thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the Lord, have spoken.

- The Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 95:1-7a *(Responsively by whole verse)*

1 Come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

2 Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

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

4 In his hand are the caverns of the earth,
and the heights of the hills are his also.

5 The sea is his, for he made it,
and his hands have molded the dry land.

6 Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee,
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

7 For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.

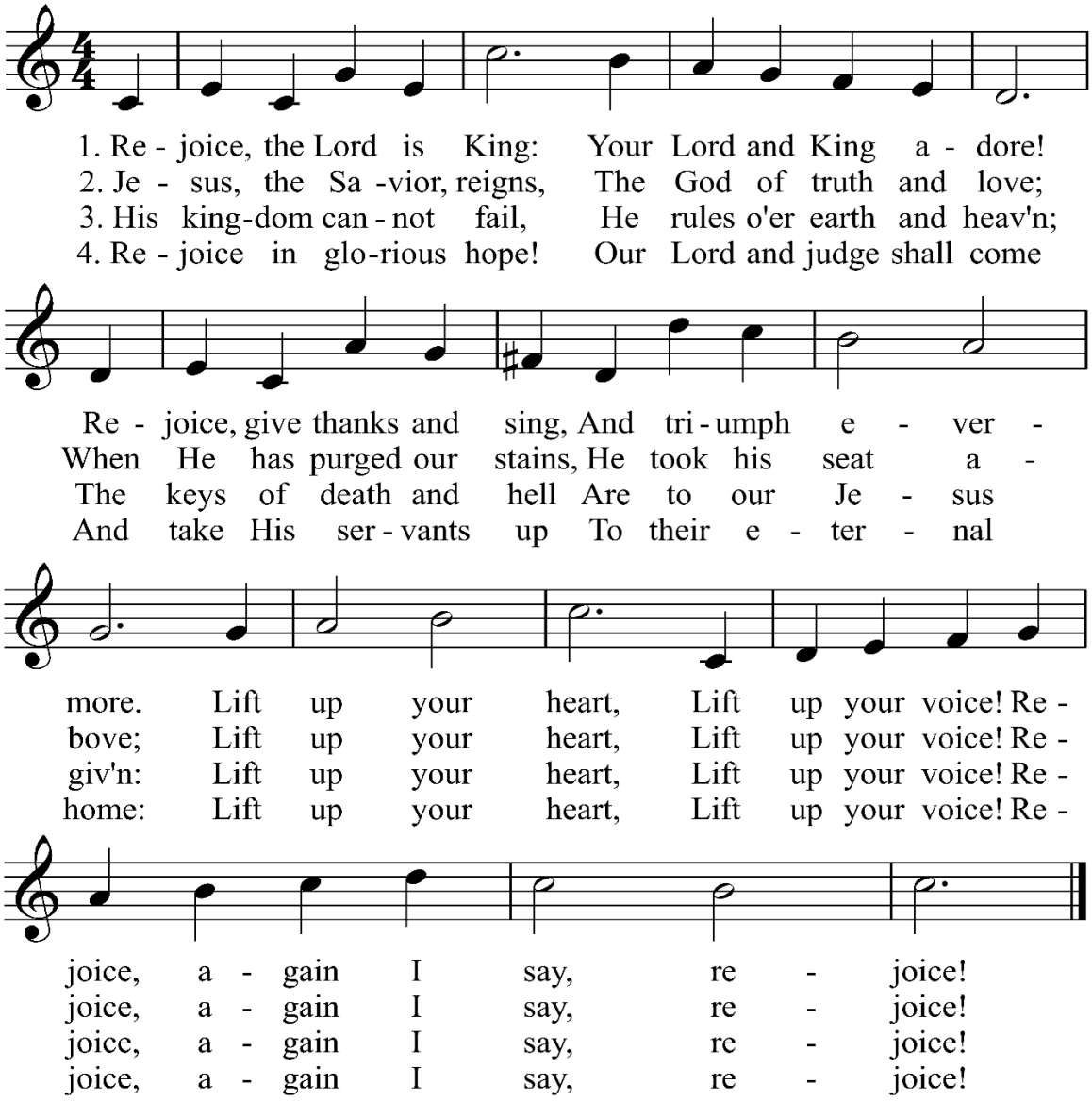
THE EPISTLE *Ephesians 1:15-23*

Lector A reading from the letter to the Ephesians.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

- The Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God.**

SEQUENCE HYMN (vv. 1-3) ***Rejoice, the Lord is King***



THE GOSPEL *Matthew 25:31-46*

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

Jesus said, "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.' Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just 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 righteous into eternal life."

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

SEQUENCE HYMN (v. 4) ***Rejoice, the Lord is King***

THE HOMILY The Rev. Stephen Becker

358 **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.

387 PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE FORM III AND CONFESSION OF SIN

The Leader 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, and deacons;
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.

Let us give thanks to God our Father for all his gifts so freely bestowed upon us.

For the beauty and wonder of your creation, in earth and sky and sea.
We thank you, Lord.

For our daily food and drink, our homes and families, and our friends,
We thank you, Lord.

For health and strength to work, and leisure to rest and play,
We thank you, Lord.

We pray for all who are traveling, especially **Lyndon** Briggs, **Julia** Klass, **Josey** Parker, **Brianna** Cantrall, **Jack** Tincher, and **Chase** Tincher,

and those with special needs:

Lee Jessup, **John** Buchanan, **Charlie** Shive, **Lou** Adkins, **Mark** Adkins, **Ella** Asebes, **Bob** Beard, **Louise** Billings, **Tom** Blalock, **Sissy** Bolstad, **Alice** Brandon, **Lynne** Broch, **Jack** Buckheit, **Gayle** Burke, **Seraphina** Byers, **Jennifer** Cashion, **Lynne** Cleckley, **Bob** Cook, **Linda** Cox, **Wesley** Crump, **Chris** Davila, **Susan** Dixon, **Renee** Ewbank, **Phyllis** Finger, **David** Fulton, **Shana** Garland, **Lilly** Griffin, **Jimmy** Hall, **George** Hanna, **Nancy** Hinkle, **Chris** Hodges, **Bob** Holcomb, **Jimmy** Holshouser, **Marlene** Jones, **Melissa** Keates, **Ed** Kelaher, **Ray** Kent, **Peggy** Klass, **Beattie** Logan, **Warren** MacKinstry, **Debbie** Mason, **Arnold** Miller, **Sherry** Moore, **Kathie** Nelson, **Nancy** Northcott, **Walker** Peoples, **Gabby** Plott, **Blanche** Poole, **Shirley** Remsburg, **Ellen** Rickert, **Jacklyn** Rojas, **Betty Jo** Sadler, **Lucas** Sanabria, **Lynn** Santolla, **Suzy** Sheets, **Carol** Sills, **Talmadge** Silversides, **Clyde** Smith, **Martha Ellen** Smith, **Sean** Sullivan, **Jackie** Touchton, **Brenda** Tyndall, **Donna** Wiederhold, **Flynn** Williams, **Paul** Wylie, **and Charlotte** Young.

"Are there others?"

Hear us, Lord; ***For your mercy is great.***

Celebrant
Almighty and gracious Father, we give you thanks for the fruits of the earth in their season and for the labors of those who harvest them. Make us, we pray, faithful stewards of your great bounty, for the provision of our necessities and the relief of all who are in need, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

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

Celebrant and People
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.

Celebrant 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.**

Please stand if you are able

360 THE PEACE

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

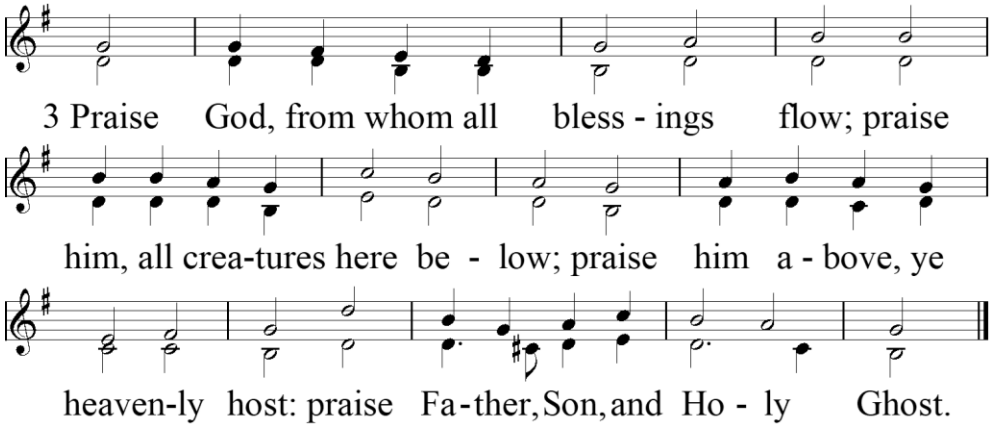
ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *Jubilate!* – M. Bedford

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS HYMN 380 (v. 3)



361 THE GREAT THANKSGIVING *(Eucharistic Prayer A)*

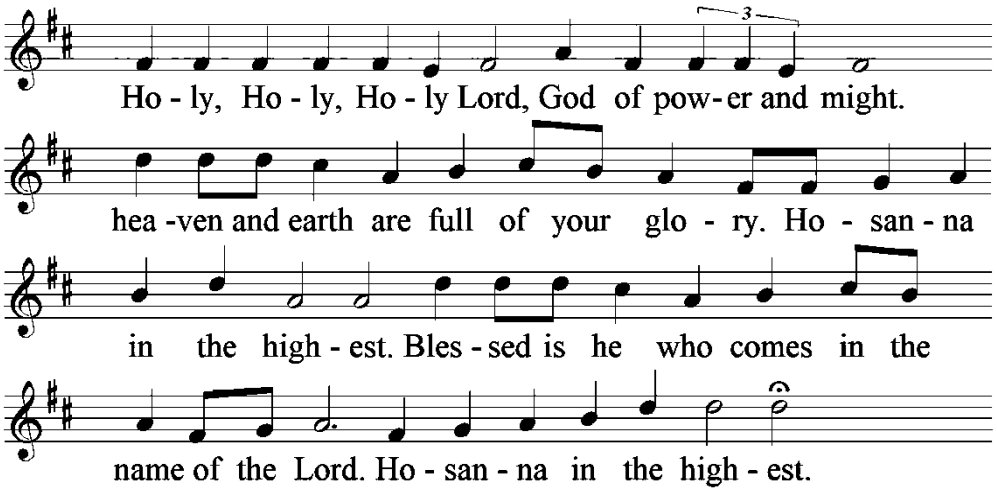
Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

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

For you are the source of light and life; you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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
(Sung by All)



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The people may stand or kneel

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:

Celebrant and People **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.

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.**

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

364 **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.

364 **THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
People **Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia**!

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

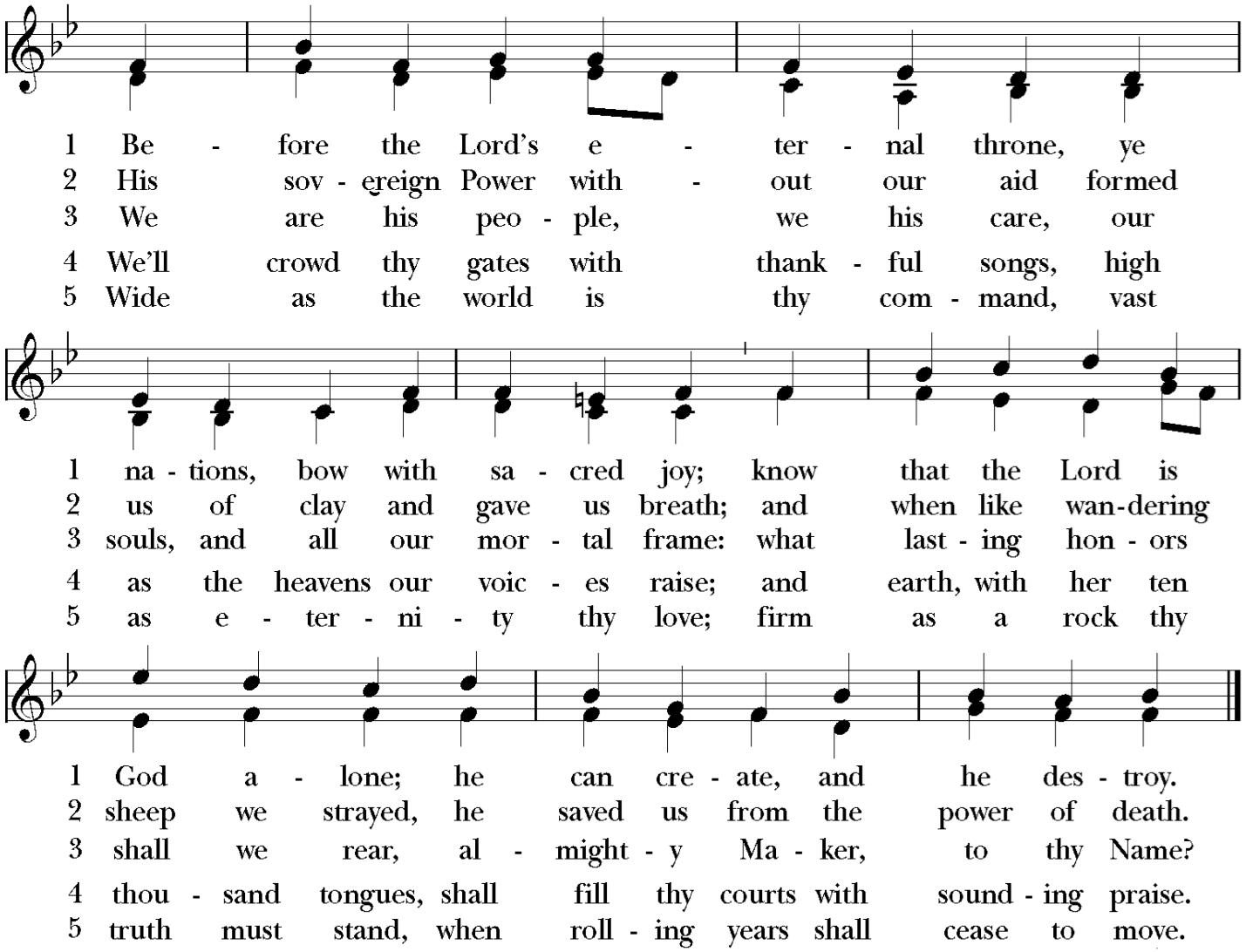
Facing the people, the Celebrant may say the following Invitation

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.

All baptized Christians are invited to come forward for Holy Communion at the Lord's Table. You may receive both the bread and wine, or only the bread or only the wine. Receiving Communion in one or both forms is sufficient sacramentally. If you prefer neither bread nor wine, you also are invited to come forward and to simply cross your arms over your chest as a sign for the minister to provide you with a holy blessing of the Lord.

During Holy Communion, if you are unable to receive communion at the altar rail, please notify an usher so that communion can be brought to you.

COMMUNION HYMN #391 *Before the Lord's eternal throne*



365 POST-COMMUNION PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

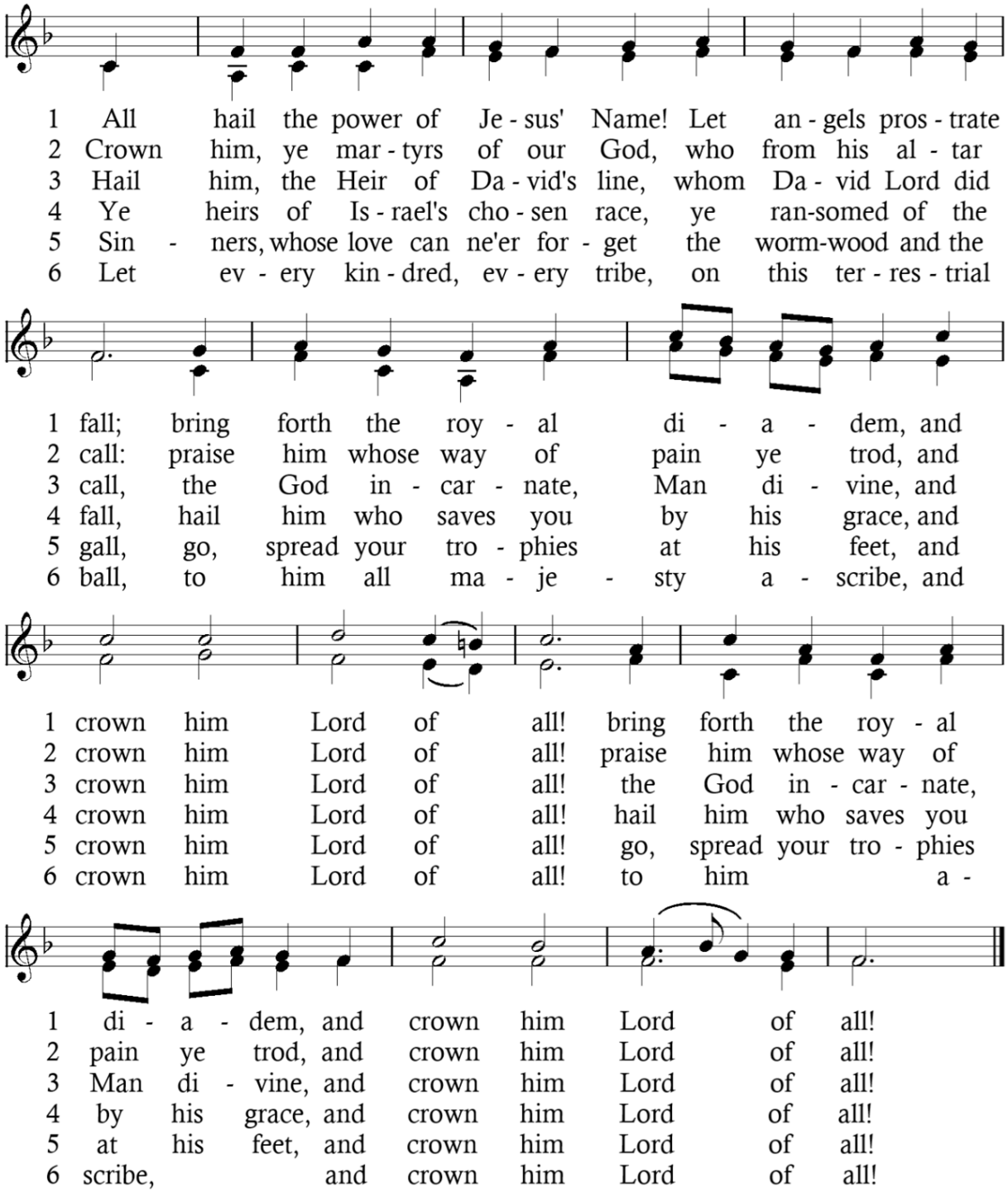
Celebrant and People

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

May Christ open your eyes to those in need, strengthen your hands to serve, and fill your hearts with compassion for all. And the blessing of God Almighty, ✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL HYMN #450 *All hail the power of Jesus' Name!*



THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia!
People **Thanks be to God! Alleluia, Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE

WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY

Lector: Sally Dodd
LEMs: Kathie Goodman, Tommy Black
Ushers: Louie Cox, Sims Riggan
Intercessor:
Greeter: Sandra Husted
Acolyte: Anderson Carter

WELCOME GUESTS AND NEWCOMERS!

We are delighted to have you worship with us today, and we would welcome the opportunity to get acquainted. Please sign the Guest Book in the narthex and join us immediately following the service in the Parish Hall (in the building next door) for refreshments and conversation. **Today are hosts are Frances Garner and Renee Kaley.**

Infants and young children are always welcome to worship with their families in the sanctuary. The restrooms are in the rear hallway, and diaper-changing stations are provided in both rooms.

During Holy Communion, if you are unable to receive communion at the altar rail, please notify an usher so that communion can be brought to you.

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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The Reverend Stephen Becker, Interim Rector
Bill Herndon, Organist and Choir Director
Maureen Tincher, Parish Administrator
Kristi Allred, Media Specialist
John Taylor, Facilities Manager
Joan Clodfelter, Minister of Music Emerita

THE VESTRY

2027	2028	2029
Dan Briggs Junior Warden	Kristi Allred	Kristie Miller
Mary Matthews Clerk of Vestry	Lynn Meeks Treasurer	Marjorie Parker Senior Warden
Leslie Sheets	Neil Shepherd	Cathy Riggan
Joe Wallace	David Inabinett	Mary-Cameron Welborn

Vestry Person of the Month for November is Kristie Miller.

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