Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

St. George's Church • Glenn Dale Parish
The Episcopal Diocese of Washington

September 27, 2026
A Service of Holy Eucharist

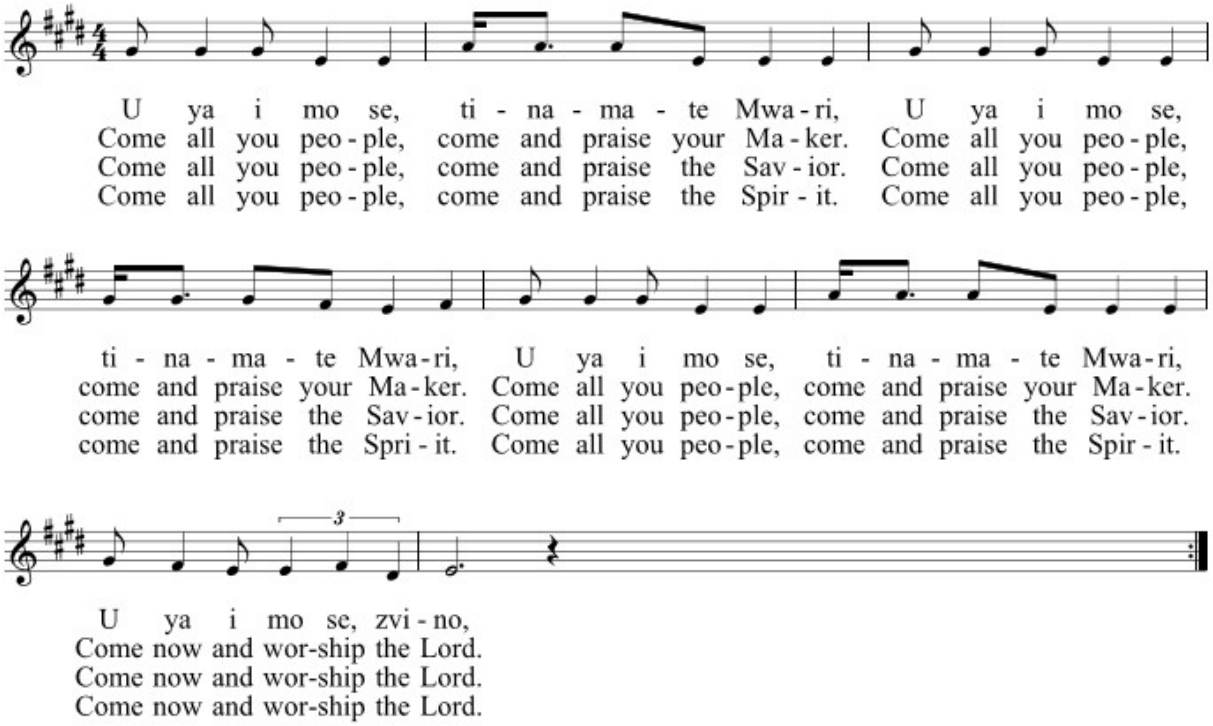
Welcome to St. George's! If you are new or visiting, we are especially glad to see you this morning, whether in person or virtually. This service booklet has the prayers and hymns needed for your participation in today's service. Wherever you are in your journey, know that you are welcome here.

Prelude: *Morning Has Broken*

Music: Cat Stevens. Guitar Soloist: Eric Hein.

Opening Hymn: My Heart Sings Out #2: *Come All You People*

Words and Music: Zimbabwe, para. Alexander Gondo; arr. John L. Bell. © 1995 Iona Community. Hymns Licensed under OneLicense.net #A-701323

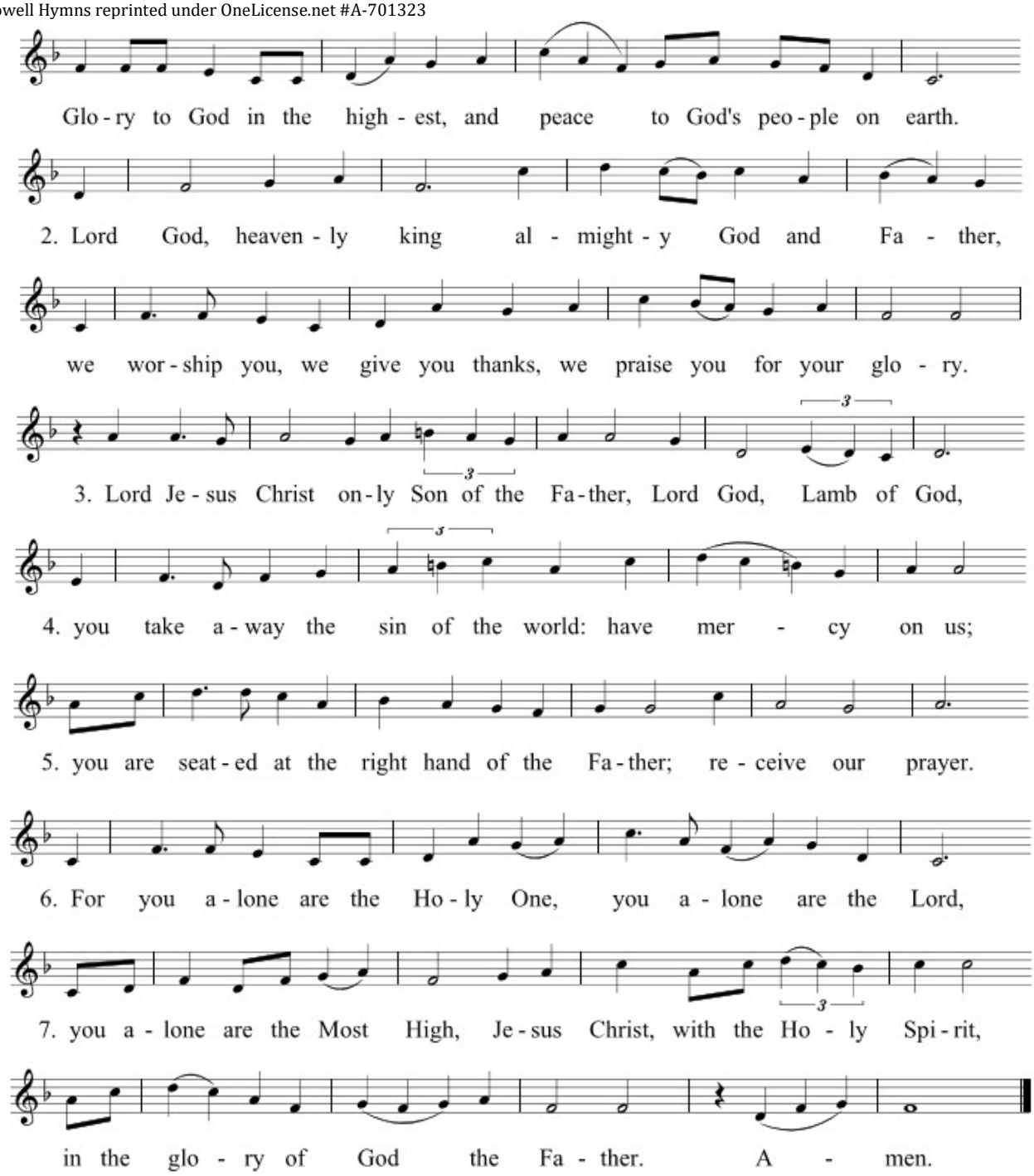


Celebrant: We enter into your presence O Holy One, we who hunger for life:
People: **For it is you O God who nourishes us at the table of grace.**
Celebrant: Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.
People: **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

All pray together: **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: Hymnal 1982 S280

Robert Powell Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray together the Collect of the Day: **O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Ezekiel 18:1–4, 25–32

The word of the Lord came to me: What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge"? As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die.

Yet you say, "The way of the Lord is unfair." Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. Yet the house of Israel says, "The way of the Lord is unfair." O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then, and live.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 25:1–8

To you Lord I lift up my soul,
my God I have put my trust in you:
let me not be disappointed,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.
For all those who hope in you shall not be ashamed:
but only those who wantonly break faith.
Make known to me your ways O Lord:
and teach me your paths.
Lead me in the way of your truth and teach me:
you are God my savior, for you have I waited all the day long.
Call to remembrance O Lord your tender care:
and the unfailing love which you have shown from of old.
Do not remember the sins and offences of my youth:
but according to your mercy, remember me Lord in your goodness.
You O Lord are upright and good:
therefore you show the path to those who go astray.
You guide the humble to do what is right:
and those who are gentle you teach your way.

At the conclusion of the psalm, all say together

Glory to God, Source of all being, Eternal Word, and Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

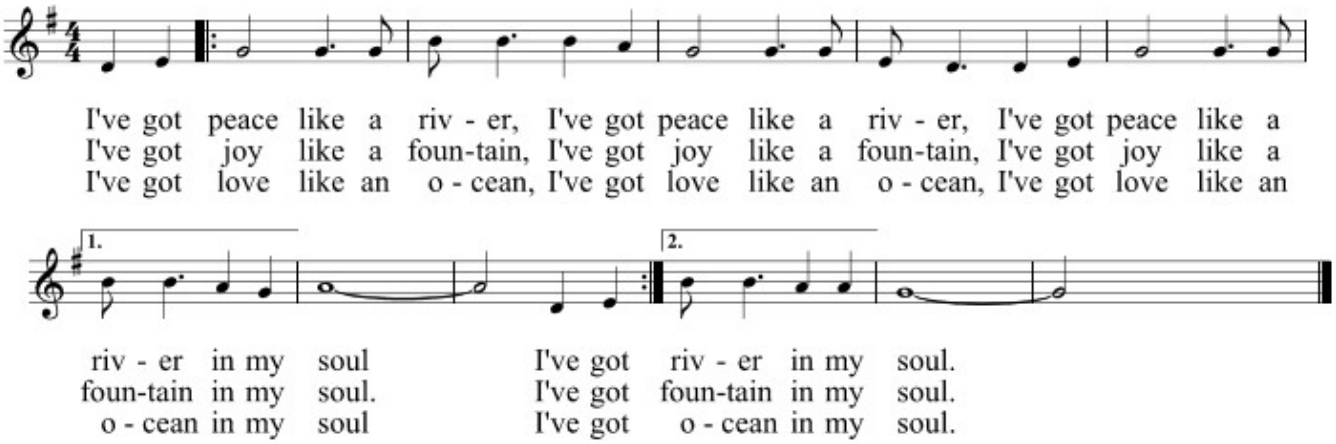
Philippians 2:1–13

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death-- even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People: **Thanks be to God**.

Gospel Hymn: LEVAS #201 *I've Got Peace Like a River*

Words and Music: Traditional Negro Spiritual



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

Matthew 21:23–32

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?"

And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

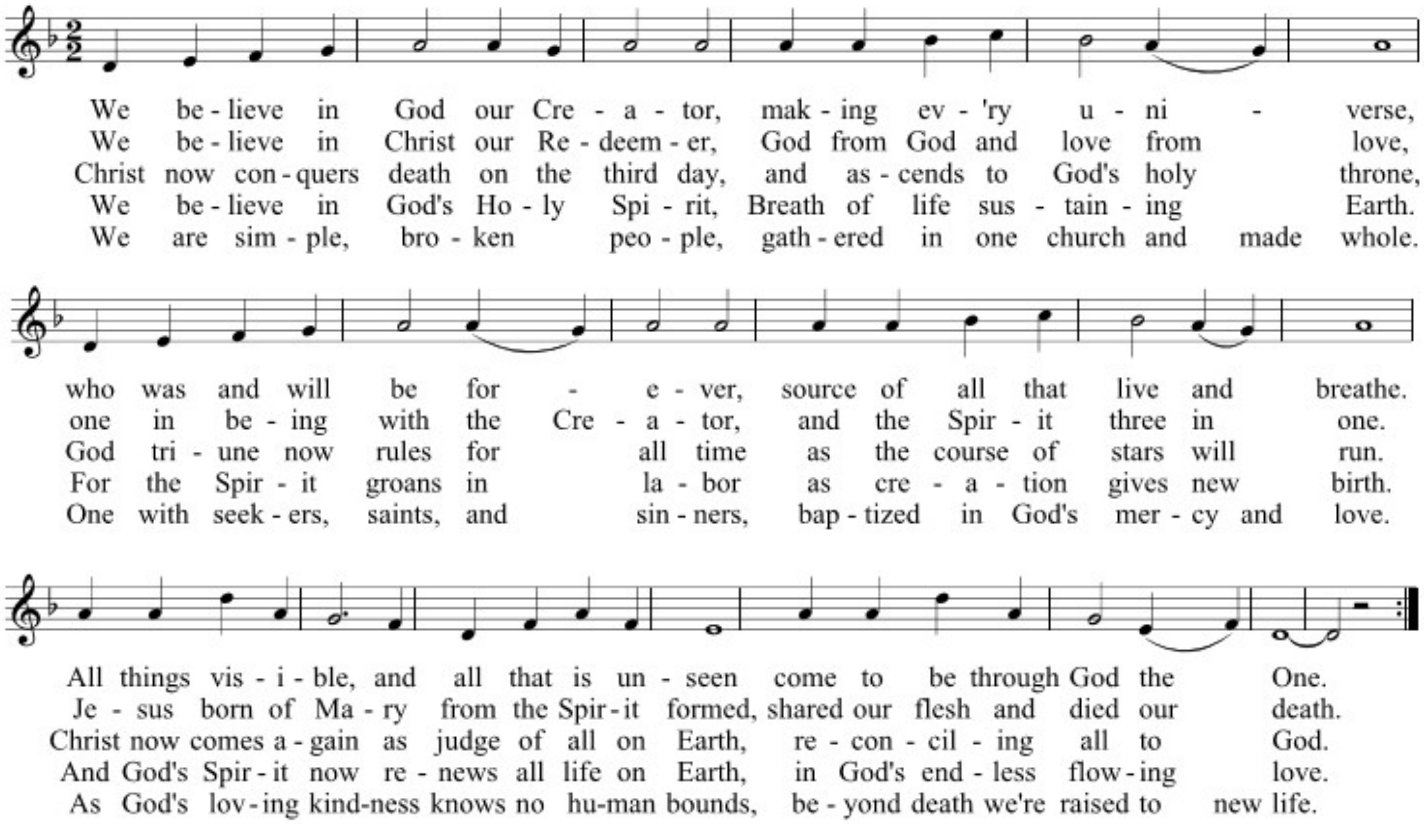
"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him."

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.
People: Praise to you Lord Christ.

Sermon: The Rev. Rondesia Jarrett-Schell

The Creed: *We Believe in God Our Creator*

Words: Nicene Creed para. Terry Doyle, TSSF. Music: 17th Century French Carol, *Picardy;* Hymnal 1982 #324 *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silent*
Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



The Prayers of the People

Let us pray for our communities, the church, and the world:

Ground of all being, you escape our feeble attempts to capture you in words but you hold us always in your own heart. May our ears be open to discern the whisper of your Spirit; may our eyes be open to see Christ in our neighbor, and may our hearts be open to make room for all your creatures. We pray, saying: **Spirit of God, we live and move in you.**

Word of life who calls us from darkness into light, may the character of Jesus Christ be formed in us so that we may truly be your hands, your feet and your compassion in this broken and divided world. We pray, saying: **Spirit of God, we live and move in you.**

Spirit of holiness, move gently but irresistibly through our lives, our homes, our churches and our work places. Raise up what is fallen, heal what is broken, reinvigorate what has become tired and renew the face of the earth. We pray, saying: **Spirit of God, we live and move in you.**

Healing presence, we pray to you for those who are sick or suffering in our communities and across the world. We pray for refugees and immigrants, and for all caught in cycles of poverty and war. We pray for all who are hungry or homeless in our community, our country and our world. For those who have asked for or need our prayers, especially those on our parish prayer list, and those we name before you now: *The people may add their own petitions.* We pray, saying: **Spirit of God, we live and move in you.**

Foundation of our lives, we pray for the church. For Sean our Presiding Bishop, for Mariann our bishop, for Connie our rector and for this community of St. George's, we pray, saying: **Spirit of God, we live and move in you**.

Giver of life, we pray for those who have died, and for those who mourn. *The people may add their own petitions*. May they who have died go from strength to strength in your heavenly reign; may those who mourn be surrounded by your comforting embrace. We pray, saying: **Spirit of God, we live and move in you.**

Bestower of all good gifts, we celebrate and pray for those marking birthdays and anniversaries, and we give thanks to you for all of the blessings of our lives. We pray, saying: **Spirit of God, we live and move in you**.

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. We offer our prayers to you, Living God, in whom we live and move and have our being. **Amen.**

The Confession and Absolution

Celebrant: Now let us confess our sins to God. *Silence is kept.*

All pray together: **Have mercy upon us, most merciful God; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

May 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

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

Blessings for Birthdays & Anniversaries

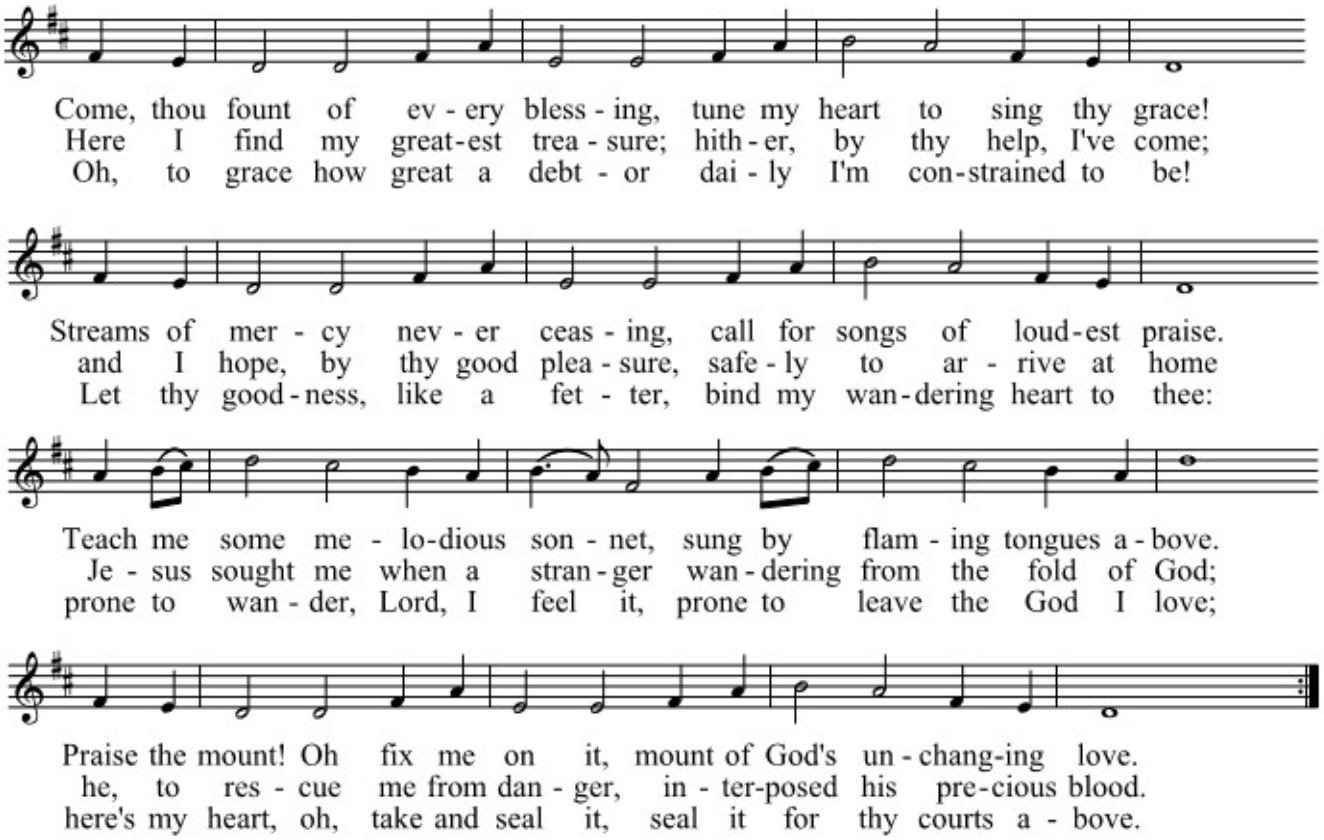
O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servant(s) and anyone celebrating their birthday or anniversary this week as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Offertory

Do good works and share what you have, for these are the sacrifices pleasing to God.

Offertory Hymn: Hymnal 1982 #686 *Come, thou fount of every blessing*

Words: Robert Robinson (1735-1790). Music: *Nettelton* from *A Repository of Sacred Music, Part II 1813.* Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



Although St. George's no longer physically "passes the basket" everyone is invited and encouraged to make a financial offering to express your gratitude to God for the gifts we are given and in support of our mission and ministries. Baskets for donations by check or cash are located at the corner entrances to the Sanctuary. We encourage you to give electronically: you can text stgeodragon to 73256, use a web browser to go to onrealm.org/StGeorgesChurch/give, or donate via Zelle to donations@stgeorgesglenndale.org. (*For texts, message and data rates may apply. Message frequency varies. Text HELP to 73256 for help. Text STOP to 73256 to cancel.)*

The Great Thanksgiving

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 God thanks and praise.

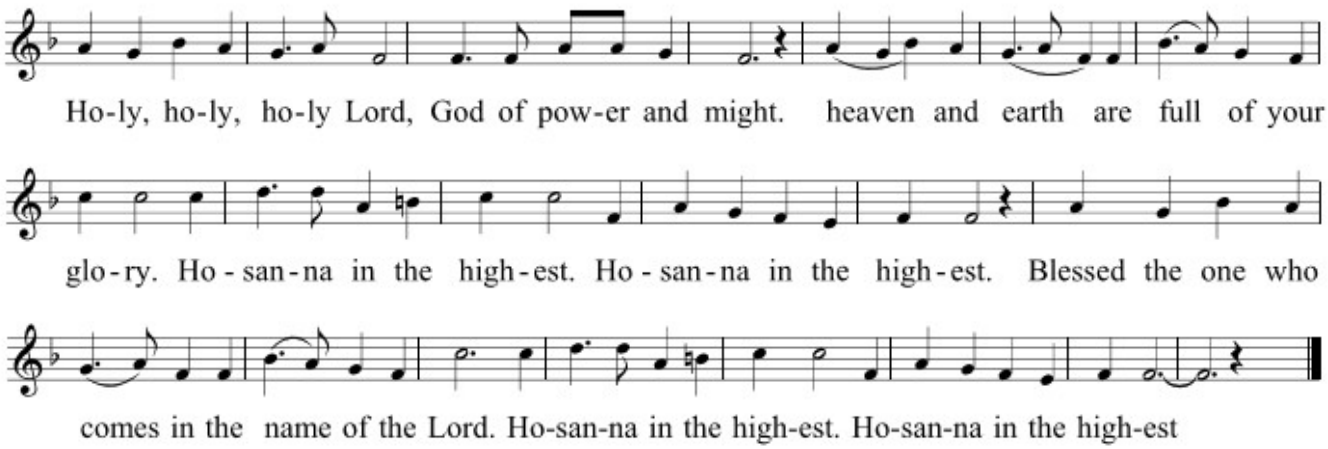
O God of grace and blessing, we thank you for making us in your image to serve the peace of all creation. You shared your name and presence with our ancestors: Sarah and Abraham, who left their home and became a blessing to all nations; Moses and Miriam, who went through sea and wilderness to the place of revelation; Deborah and Samson, who gave hope and justice to a people ruled by fear; Ruth and Jonah, who went to foreign soil and found a God who loves the stranger.

From our ancestors in faith came Jesus, the son of promise, to fulfill the law, embody your love, and draw all people to himself.

He accepted death to break its fearful hold; he was raised to new life to share it in abundance; he comes again to break the bread of justice and pour the wine of hope.
Therefore, with all the people whose story you have shaped, O Holy One, with people of faith in every part of the world, we glory in your generous love and sing in praise of you:

Sanctus: Hymnal 1982 #S 125 *Holy, holy, holy Lord*

Setting from *A Community Mass;* Richard Proulx (b. 1937) Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



Holy One, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your Son Jesus to be our Savior. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to the prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. In love for us and for you he gave himself up to death, and rising from the grave he destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And so we remember that on the night he was betrayed, Jesus gathered with his faltering friends for a meal that tasted of freedom. Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it and said: "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this to remember me."

In the same way after supper, he took the cup, saying "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, whenever you drink it, to remember me."

Great then is the mystery of faith:
Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

And now, we pray you to send your Holy Spirit upon us, O God, and upon these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice, and love.

Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time, gather us from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator with voices of unending praise.

Blessed are you now and forever. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant: The Living Christ is in our midst, and so with Christ we pray:

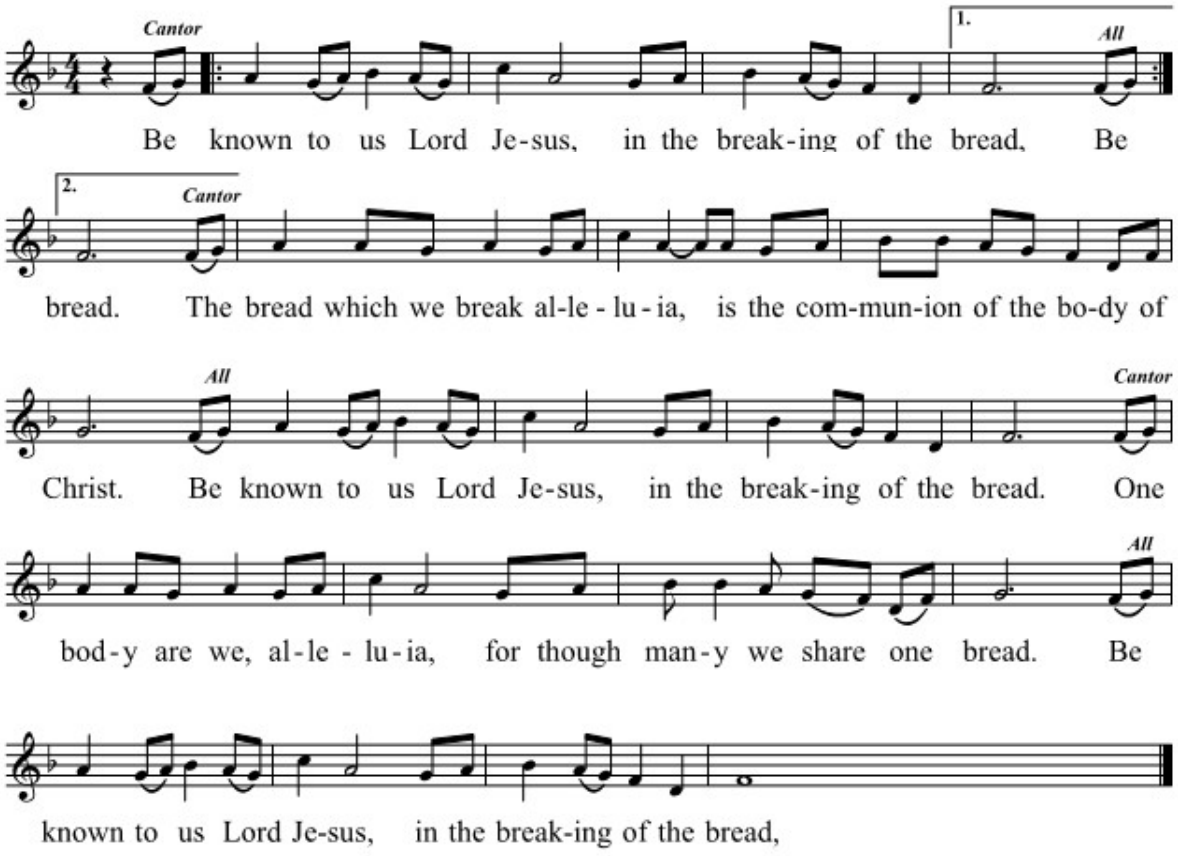
Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

The bread is broken. After a time of silence, all sing together

Fraction Anthem: Wonder, Love, and Praise # 875 *Be known to us*

Setting: Gary James (b. 1957) © MorningStar Music Publishers. Reprinted under OneLicence.net #A-701323



Celebrant: Mindful that not all are present physically to receive the sacrament, we pray with those who receive spiritual Holy Communion this day:

Lord Jesus, in union with your faithful people, we offer to you our praise and thanks. Since we cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, we pray that you come spiritually into our hearts. Strengthen us with your grace, O Lord, and let us never be separated from you. May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

Celebrant: The gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ lived, died, and rose again for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

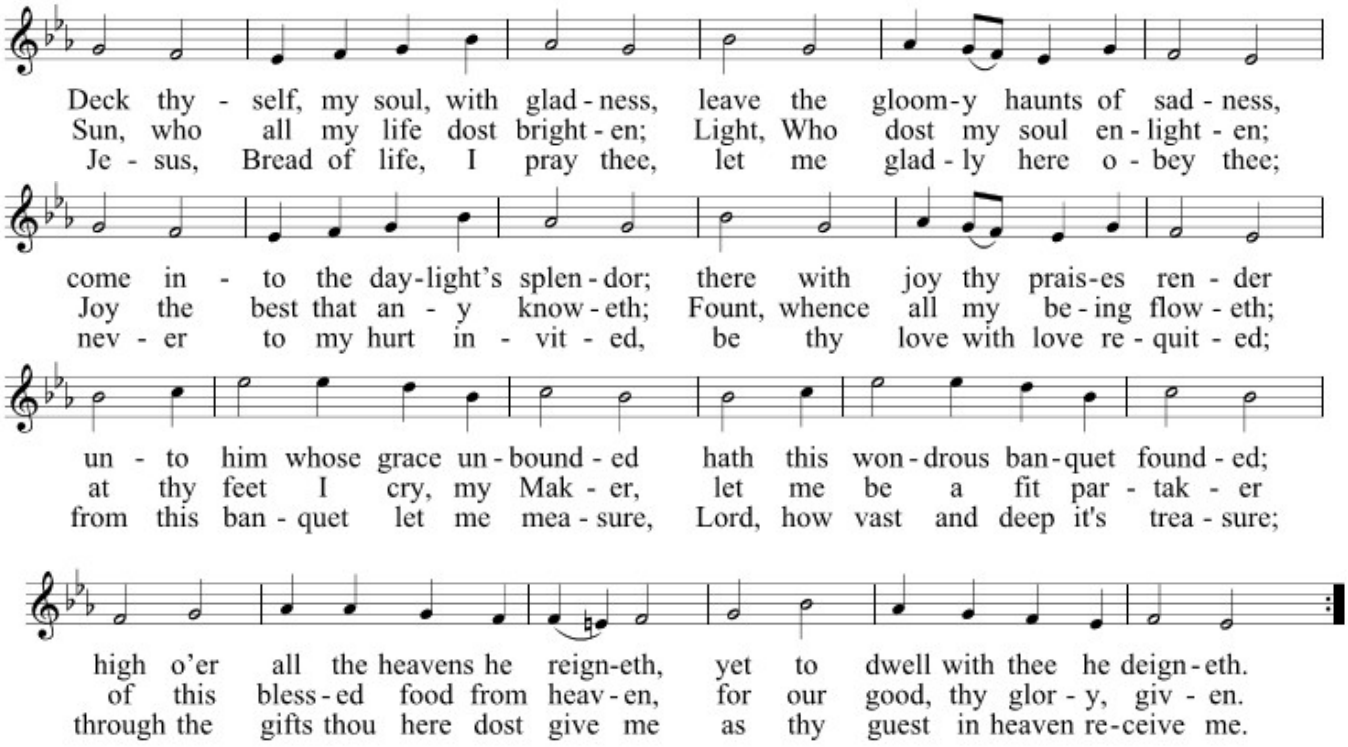
The Communion

Wherever you are on your journey, whatever you believe or don't believe,
know that you are welcome at this table. For this is Christ's table, and all are welcome.

If you would prefer not to receive the Eucharist, you are welcome to come up for a blessing;
cross your hands to your shoulders to indicate this to the priest.

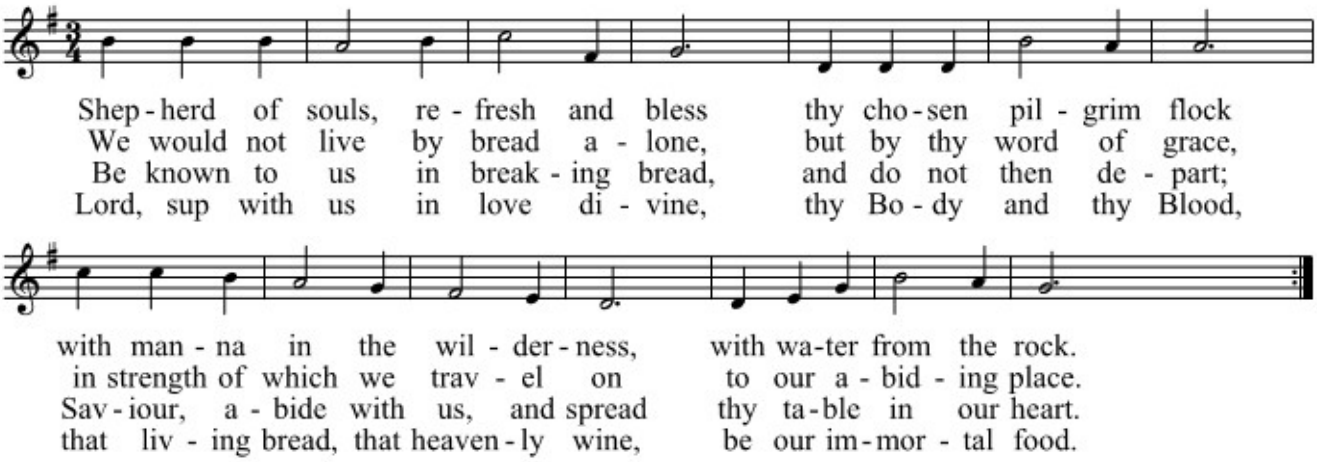
Communion Hymn 1: Hymnal 1982 # 339 *Deck Thyself, My Soul, with Gladness*

Words: Johann Franck (1618-1677). Tr. Catherine Winksworth (1827-1878). Music: Schmucke dich, Johann Cruger (1508-1662)
Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



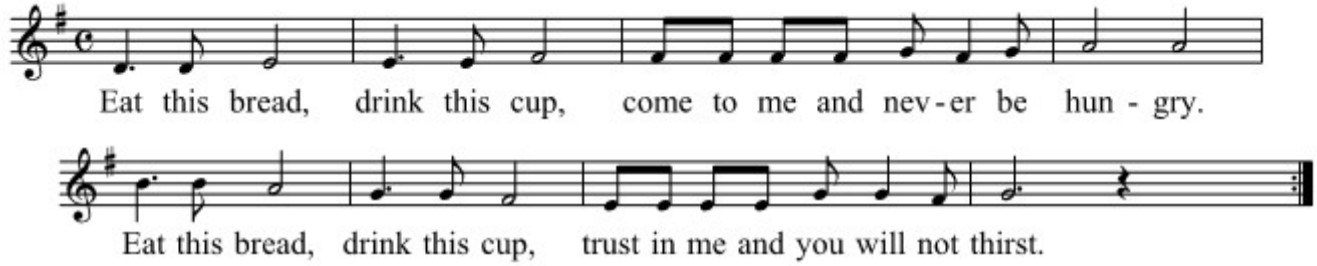
Communion Hymn 2: Hymnal 1982 #343 *Shepherd of souls*

Words: James Montgomery (1771-1854) Music: *St. Agnes.* John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1867) Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



Communion Hymn 3: Gather #588 *Eat This Bread*

Words: John 6 adapted by Robert J. Batastini (b. 1942) and the Taize Community.
Music: Jacques Berthier (b. 1923) © *Les Presses de Taize.* G.I.A Publications. Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



Prayer of Thanksgiving

Celebrant: Let us pray: **Faithful God, in the wonder of your wisdom and love you fed your people in the wilderness with the bread of angels, and you sent Jesus to be the bread of life. We thank you for feeding us with this bread and wine. May this holy Communion give us strength and courage, that by the power of the Holy Spirit we may be renewed for your service to others, embody your desire for justice, and live lives of generosity in the steadiness of hope through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

The people may be seated for announcements

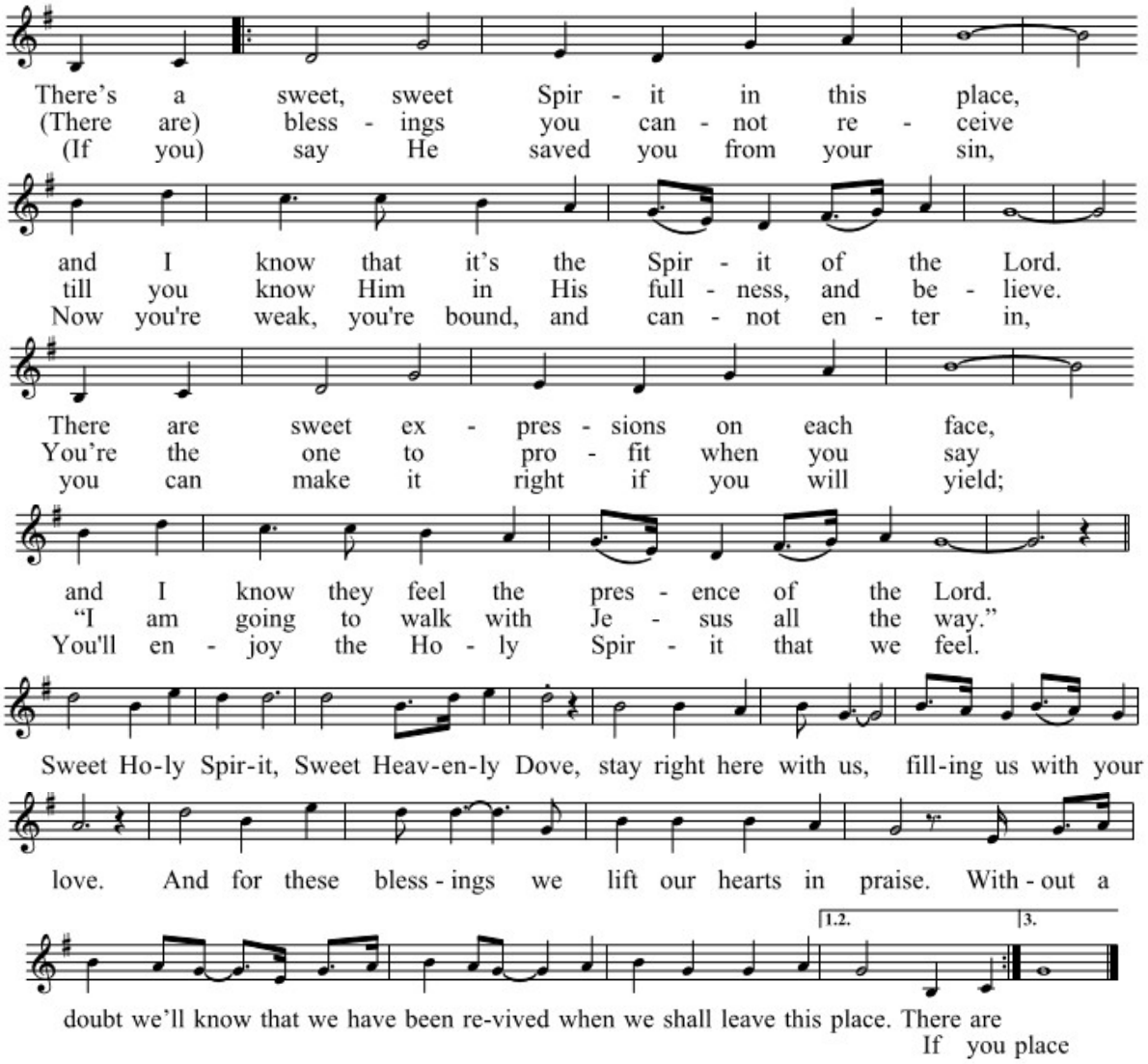
Announcements

The Blessing

May God, who is the source of all goodness and growth, pour out blessings upon all creation, and upon us God's people, that we may use the gifts God has given us to do justice and bring peace. And may the blessing of God who created us, Christ Jesus who brings us new life, and the Holy Spirit who guides and sustains us, be with you now and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Dismissal Hymn: LEVAS #120 *There's a sweet, sweet spirit in this place*

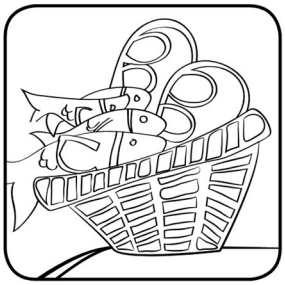
Words and Music: Doris Akers (b. 1923) © 1962. Renewed 1990 MANNA MUSIC, INC. Rreprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



The Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude: *The Church's One Foundation*

Music: Samuel S. Wesley arr by David M. Cherwien

Join us this Wednesday evening at 6:45 for our Zoom Meeting
for *The Path: A Journey Through the Bible*
as we explore the stories about the ministry of Jesus from
Chapter 18, Proclaiming the Good News of the Kingdom