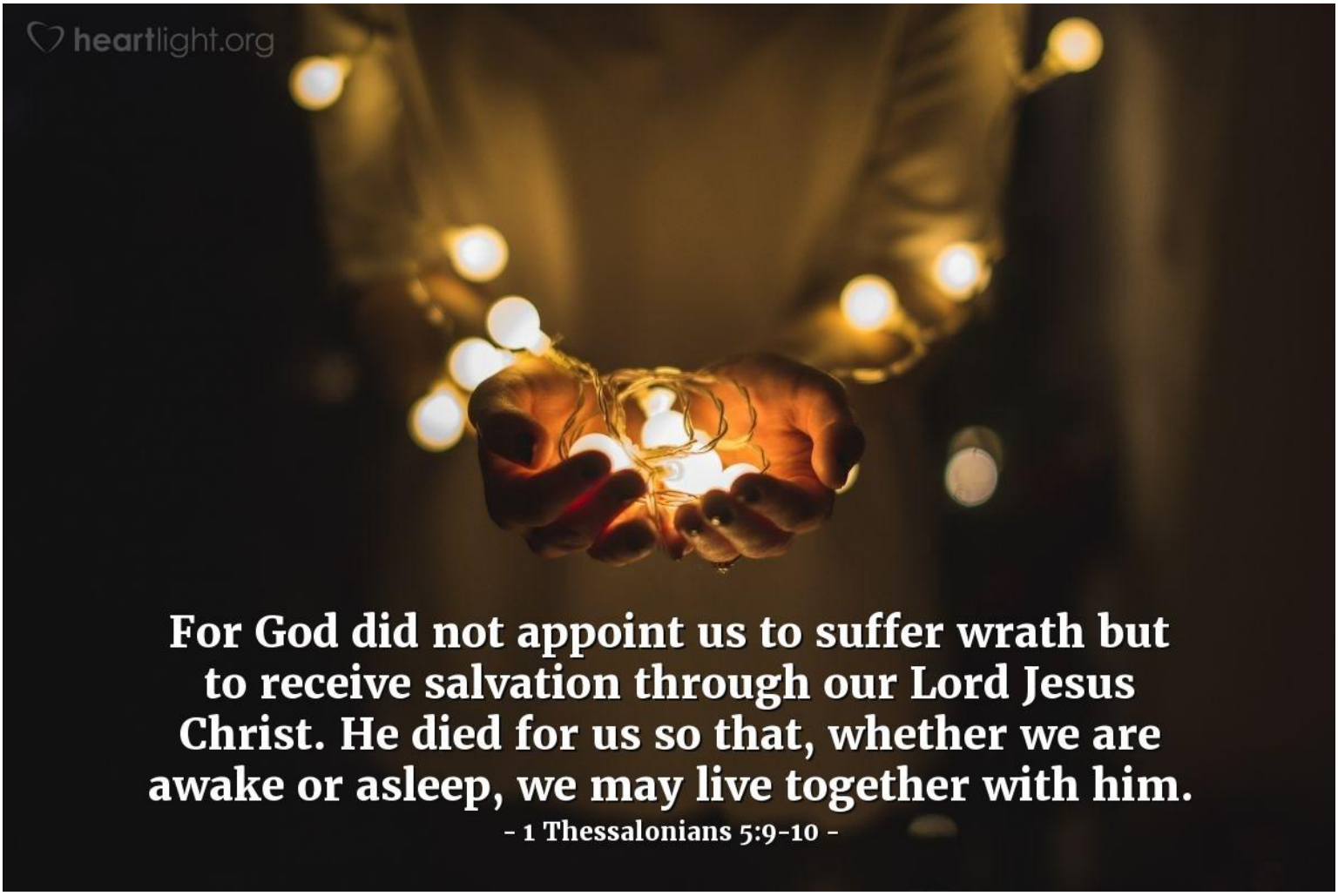
ZION
Lutheran Church



25 st Sunday after Pentecost
November 15, 2026
11:00 a.m.

Zion's Office Email **zionmuscatine@gmail.com**
Zion's Phone Number **563-263-5074**

Presiding Minister – Rev. Susan Bantz
Reader-Wendy Brendel
Music Minister – Sue Robinson
Holy Communion, WOV setting 5

Our readings during November speak of the end times. Zephaniah proclaims that the coming day of the Lord will be filled with wrath and distress. Paul says it will come like a thief in the night and urges us to be awake and sober. Jesus tells the parable of the talents, calling us to use our gifts, while we still have time, for the greater and common good. In a world filled with violence and despair, we gather around signs of hope—word, water, bread, and wine—eager to welcome the good news of Christ's coming among us.

Thank you for joining us! If you are visiting us today, please fill out a Visitor Card, located in your pew rack, if you would like to have us contact you.
We practice an open communion table at Zion. All who believe in Christ as Lord and Savior are welcome to celebrate Holy Communion with us, from the youngest to the oldest members of the body of Christ present in worship.

Children are welcome to fully participate in worship. What could be better than the whole family of God being together in worship? There are Children's worship bags available near the usher's table in the narthex. Should you or your child need a break, there is a nursery located across from Fellowship Hall for your use.
Nursing mothers are welcome to use the Mothers' Room, just two doors down the hall from the nursery. Please knock before entering.

+ Indicates that you are invited to rise as you are able.

BOLD PRINT INDICATES CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSES

Thank you for silencing all electronic devices.

PRELUDE
WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS
RINGING OF THE BELL

+Confession and Forgiveness
All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.
Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
our dwelling place for all generations, whose compassion never slumbers. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
Silence is kept for reflection.
Holy God,
we confess that we have trusted in our preparation
instead of your invitation.

We prioritize our piety over care for your beloved.
We trust the voice of our shame and fear,
which keeps us from entering fully
into relationship with you and others.
We are not awake to the coming of your reign.
Rouse us and rescue us,
that we may enter into your joy.
Amen.

Inherit the riches of God's grace.

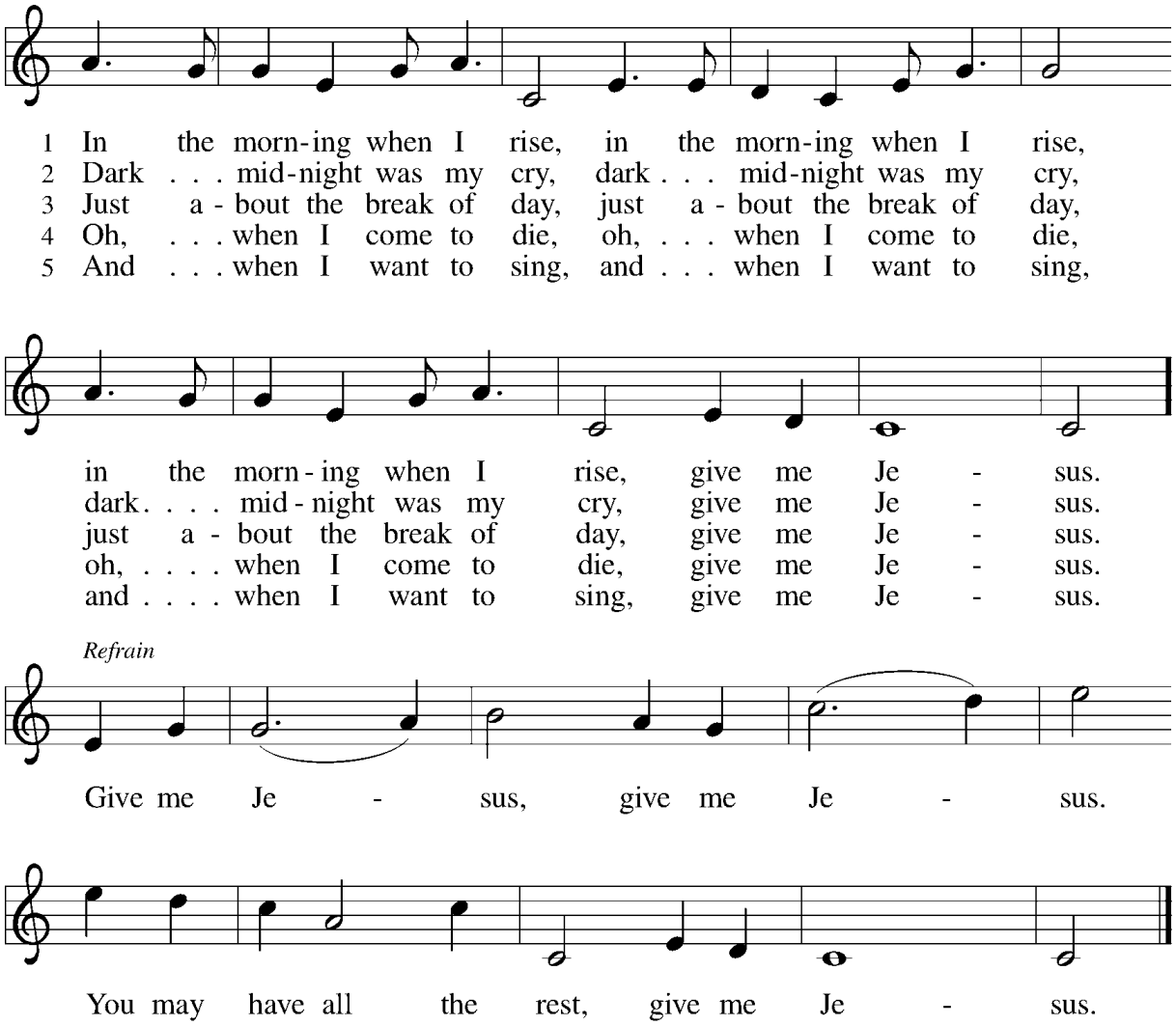
☩ Jesus, the good shepherd, feeds you with his mercy.

You are forgiven.

Blessed are you.

Amen.

+ OPENING HYMN WOV 777 "In the Morning When I Rise"



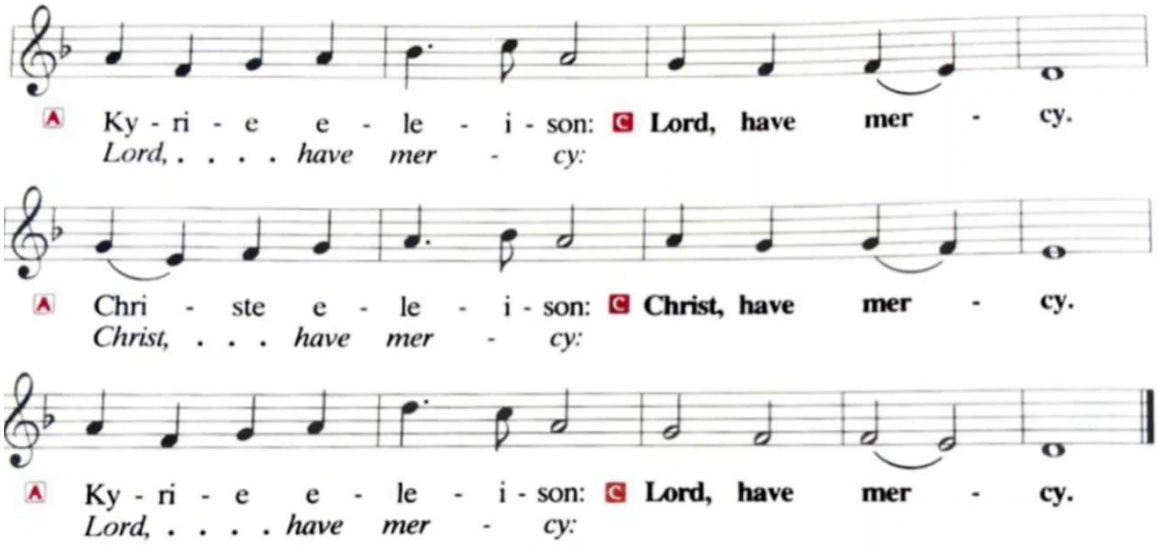
Text: African American spiritual
Music: GIVE ME JESUS, African American spiritual

+GREETING

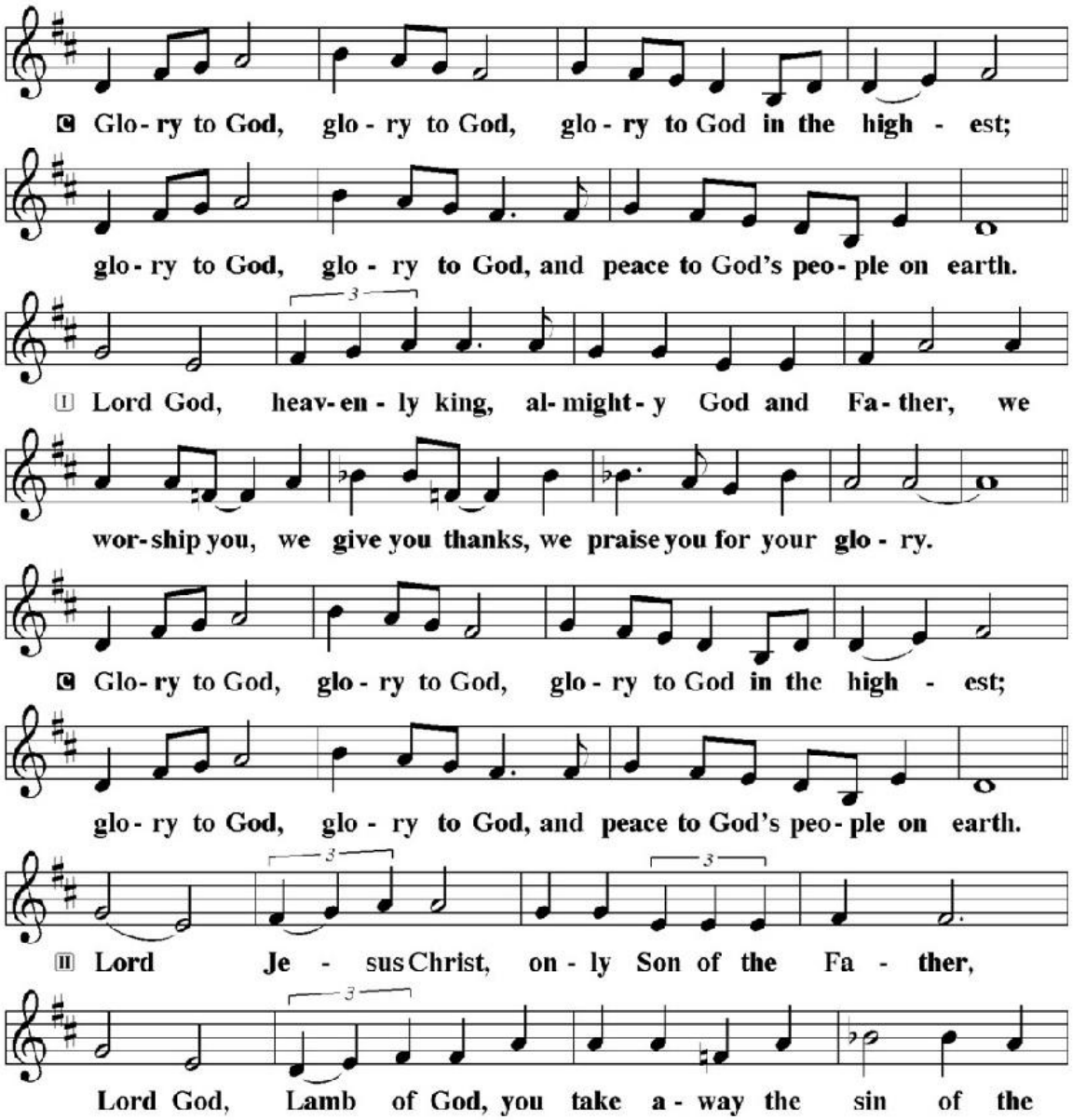
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

+Kyrie: WOV page 28



+Hymn of Praise: WOV page 29





+Prayer of the Day:
Let us pray,
Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

Anthem "Christ Hath A Garden" Senior Choir

FIRST READING Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

7 Be silent before the Lord God,
for the day of the Lord is at hand!
The Lord has prepared a sacrifice;
he has consecrated his guests.

12 At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,
and I will punish the people
who settle like dregs in wine,
those who say in their hearts,
"The Lord will not do good,
nor will he do harm."
13 Their wealth shall be plundered
and their houses laid waste.
Though they build houses,
they shall not inhabit them;
though they plant vineyards,
they shall not drink wine from them.

14 The great day of the Lord is near,
near and hastening fast;
the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter;
the warrior cries aloud there.
15 That day will be a day of wrath,
a day of distress and anguish,
a day of ruin and devastation,
a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and thick darkness,
16 a day of trumpet blast and battle cry
against the fortified cities
and against the lofty battlements.

17 I will bring such distress upon people
that they shall walk like the blind;
because they have sinned against the Lord,
their blood shall be poured out like dust
and their flesh like dung.
18 Neither their silver nor their gold
will be able to save them
on the day of the Lord's wrath;
in the fire of his passion
the whole earth shall be consumed,
for a full, a terrible end
he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 90:1- 12

1 Lord, you have been our refuge
from one generation to another.
2 Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born, from age to age you are God.
3 You turn us back to the dust and say,
"Turn back, O children of earth."
4 For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past and like a watch in the night;
5 you sweep them away like a dream,
they fade away suddenly like the grass:
**6 in the morning it is green and flourishes;
in the evening it is dried up and withered.**
7 For we are consumed by your anger;
we are afraid because of your wrath.
**8 Our iniquities you have set before you,
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.**
9 When you are angry, all our days are gone;
we bring our years to an end like a sigh.
10 The span of our life is seventy years, perhaps in strength even eighty; yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow, for they pass away quickly and we are gone.
11 Who regards the power of your wrath?
Who rightly fears your indignation?
**12 So teach us to number our days
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.**

SECOND READING 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

1 Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. 2 For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. 3 When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! 4 But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; 5 for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. 6 So, then, let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober, 7 for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. 8 But since we belong to the day, let us be sober and put on the breastplate of faith and love and for a helmet the hope of salvation. 9 For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, 10 who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. 11 Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.
The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Children's Sermon Sarah Evans

+GOSPEL ACCLAMATION WOV page 31



+GOSPEL Matthew 25:14-30

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 25th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

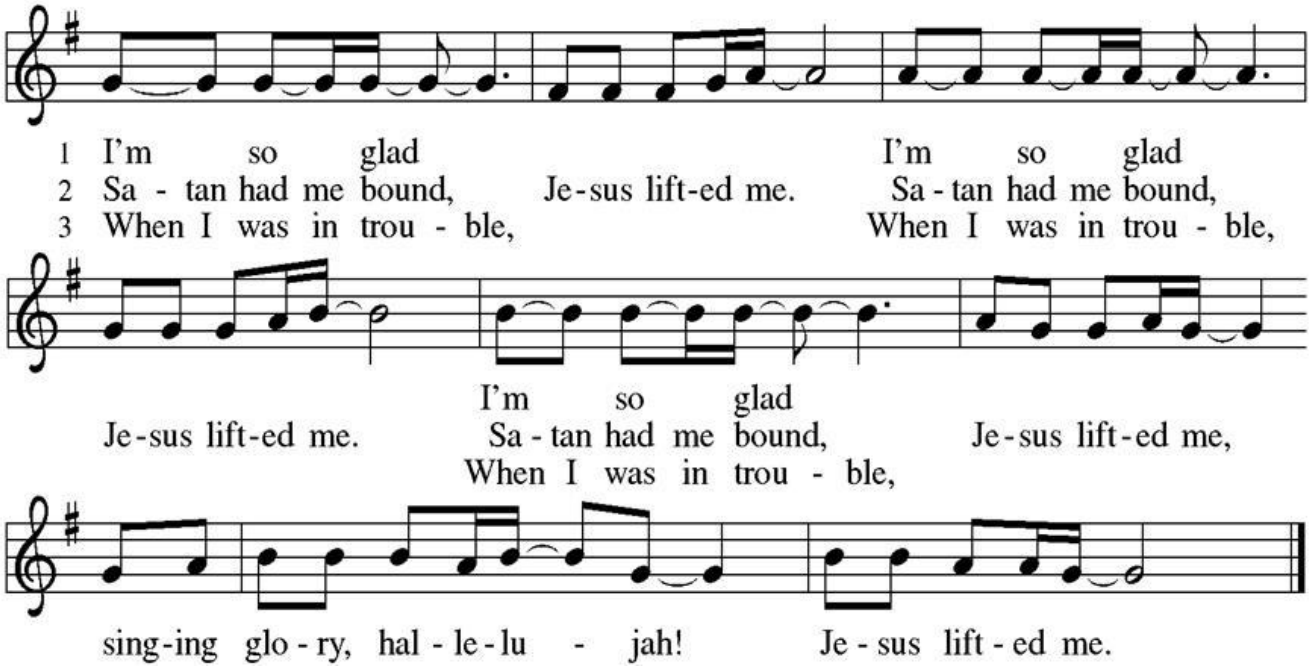
[Jesus said to the disciples:] 14 "For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his
slaves and entrusted his property to them; 15 to one he gave five talents, to another two, to
another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. At once 16 the one who had
received the five talents went off and traded with them and made five more talents. 17 In the
same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. 18 But the one who had
received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.
19 After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. 20 Then
the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying,
'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' 21 His
master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a
few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' 22 And
the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two
talents; see, I have made two more talents.' 23 His master said to him, 'Well done, good and
trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of
many things; enter into the joy of your master.' 24 Then the one who had received the one
talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where
you did not sow and gathering where you did not scatter, 25 so I was afraid, and I went and
hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' 26 But his master replied, 'You
wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow and gather where
I did not scatter? 27 Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on
my return I would have received what was my own with interest. 28 So take the talent from
him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. 29 For to all those who have, more will be
given, and they will have an abundance, but from those who have nothing, even what they
have will be taken away. 30 As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness,
where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

+HYMN OF THE DAY WOV 673 " I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me"



+ APOSTLES' CREED
Let us confess our faith together in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

+ PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION
United with the great cloud of witnesses, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.

Each petition ends with: God, in your mercy,
Congregational response: **Hear our prayer**

Into your steadfast love, faithful God, we entrust all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus, your beloved. **Amen.**

+ SHARING OF THE PEACE
The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

‡ MEAL ‡

Offering

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

Thank you for supporting God's ministry and mission through the people of Zion Lutheran Church. Your contributions are greatly appreciated.
We have online giving options available through Tithe.ly which allows you to give through the app, online, and even make weekly, biweekly, or monthly donations on a regular schedule. To give right now, please scan the QR code to make a contribution.
If you are interested in electronic giving options, please contact the church office.

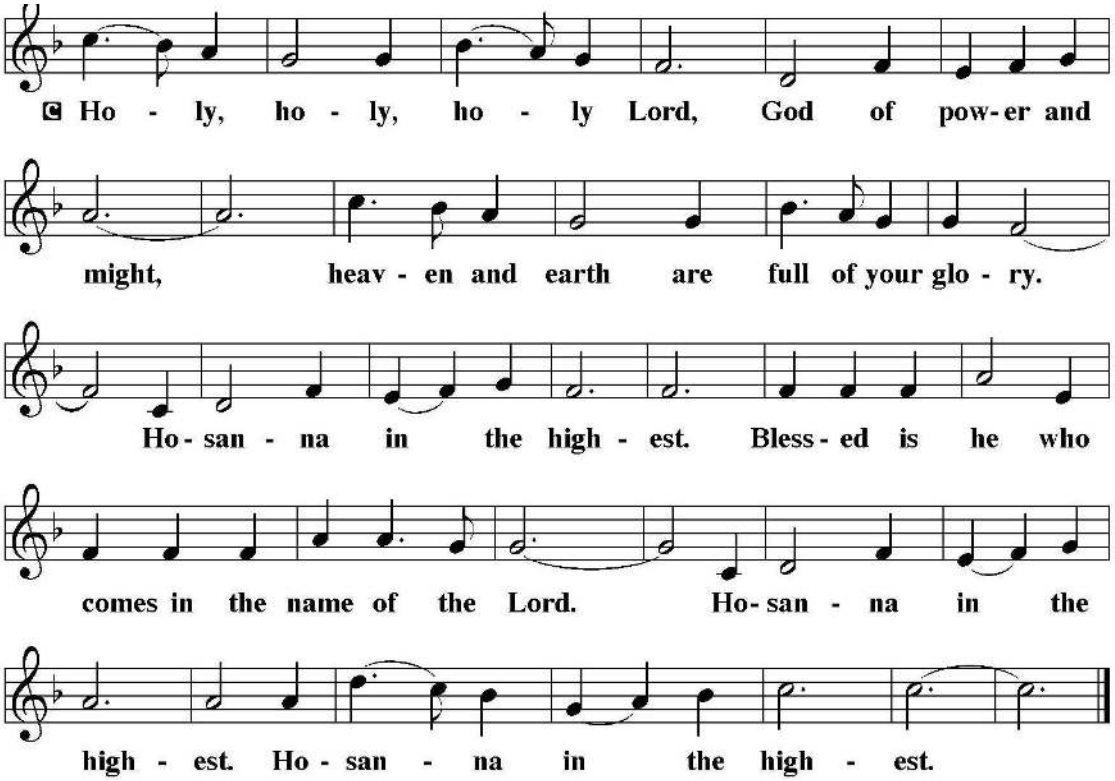
MUSICAL OFFERING

+ OFFERING PRAYER
Eternal God,
our time, talents, and treasures are gifts from you.
Receive what we offer,
and all that you entrust to us,
until hungry no more, all the world is fed,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

+ DIALOGUE WOV p. 36
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

+ PREFACE
It is right, our duty, and our joy……and join their unending hymn.

+HOLY, HOLY, HOLY WOVp.36



+ WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was betrayed…Do this for the remembrance of me.

+ LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us, using the language or version of your heart:

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

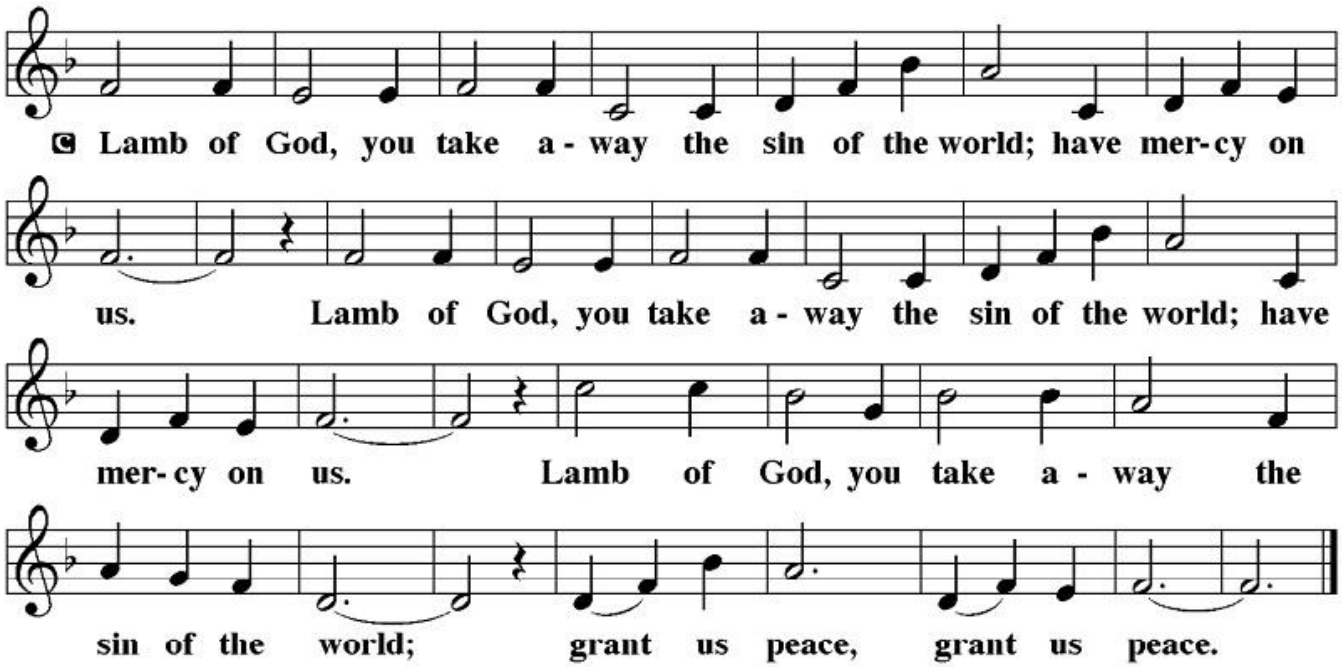
+ INVITATION TO COMMUNION

In bread and cup the reign of Christ is breaking in.
Come, receive what Christ has prepared.

DISTRIBUTION

Please come forward for communion as directed. We will serve communion continuously. If you wish to kneel, please do so after receiving the elements and then proceed to the side aisles. If you are unable or would prefer not to come forward, please inform one of the ushers and communion will be brought to where you are seated. If you do not wish to receive communion, you are welcome to come forward with arms crossed to receive a blessing. Gluten-free wafers are available in the separate small dish. Please let the presiding minister know if you would like a gluten-free wafer. The grape juice is located in the center ring of the communion tray. All who believe in Christ as Lord and Savior, young and old, are welcome at this feast.

LAMB OF GOD WOV p.39



DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

WOV 731"Precious Lord, Take My Hand"



WOV 746 “Day by Day”

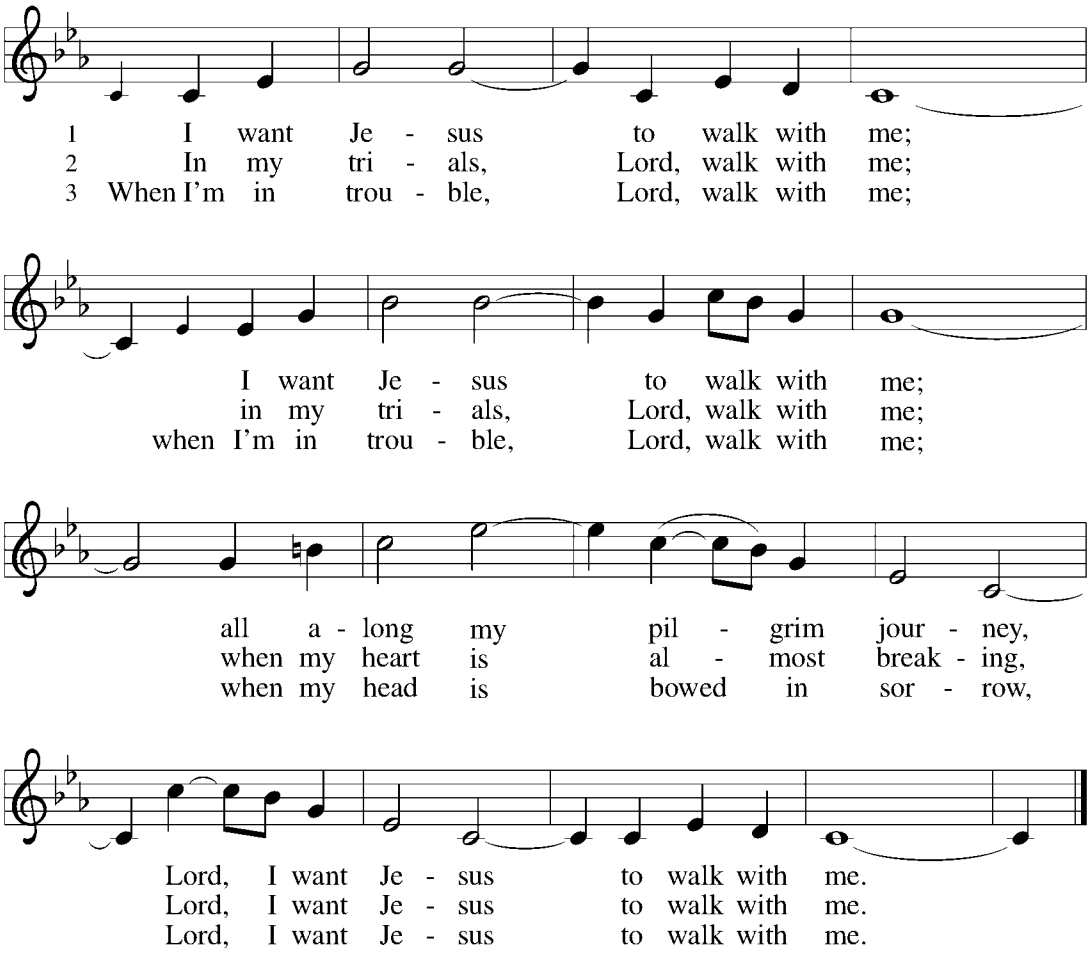


Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903; tr. Robert Leaf, b. 1936
Music: BLOTT EN DAG, Oskar Ahnfelt, 1813–1882

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WOV 660 "I Want Jesus to Walk with Me"



Text: African American spiritual
Music: SOJOURNER, African American spiritual

+ POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

Now may this body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace, ☩ now and forever. **Amen**

+ PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy God,
we have received your never-ending mercy in this meal.
You continuously seek the lost,
bind the injured,
and feed your people abundantly.
Now send us out,
awake to your presence,
now and forever. **Amen.**

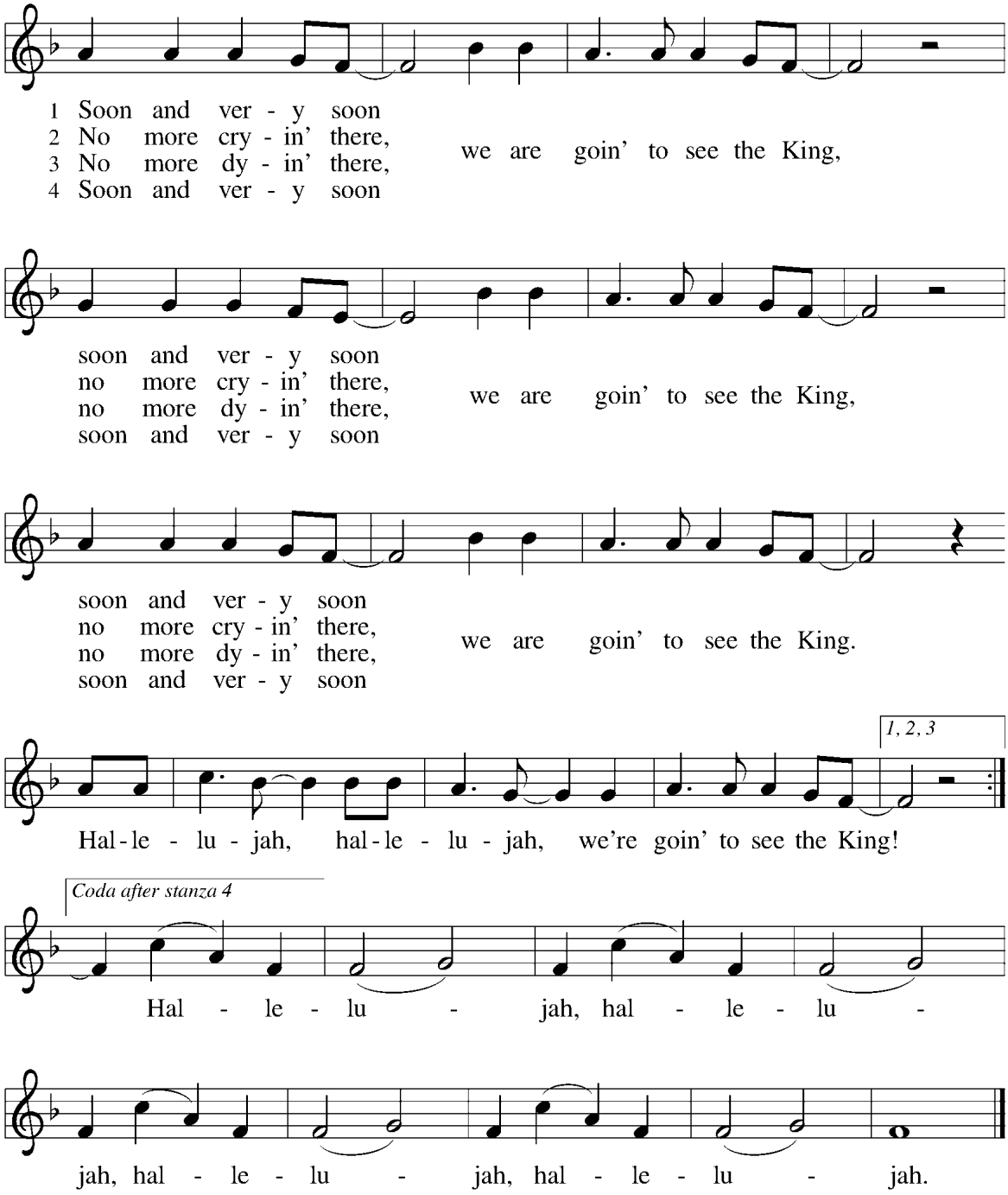
‡ SENDING ‡

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

+ BLESSING

The holy Trinity, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you with wisdom to welcome the reign of God,
today and always. **Amen.**

+ SENDING HYMN WOV 744 “Soon and Very Soon”



Text: Andraé Crouch, b. 1945
Music: VERY SOON, Andraé Crouch
Text and music © 1976 Bud John Songs, Inc./Crouch Music, admin. EMI Christian Music Publishing

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+Dismissal

Go in peace. Encourage one another.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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