Emmanuel Episcopal Church



Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 26, 2026

We are glad that you are here today — to worship God, renew your spirit, deepen your faith, meet new friends, and find new ways to serve.

Children are very welcome in worship:
in the pews, in the chapel Prayground, or in the parish hall!
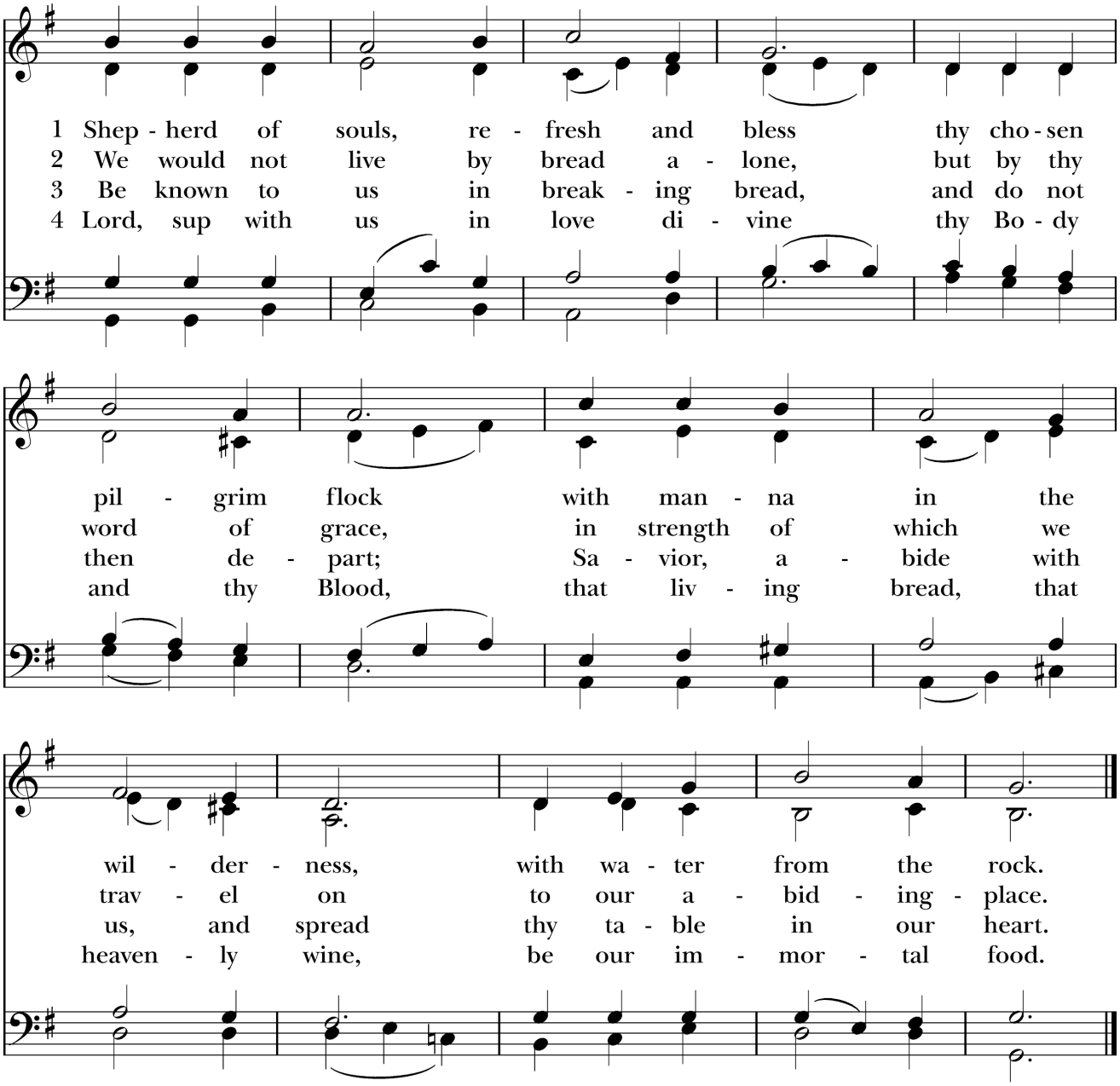
If you are a visitor or newcomer, we welcome you! We invite you to sign the guest register or scan the QR code at the back of the bulletin so we can let you know of upcoming services and events.

Full-service bulletins are available on our website along with the weekly announcements:
www.emmanuelepiscopal.org. Wi-Fi: Emmanuel Guest - Password: Behold961

We respectfully recognize that we are on traditional, ancestral lands of the Kaskaskia, Kiikaapoi (Kickapoo), Myaamia, Očhéthi, Šakówin, O-ga-xpa Ma-zho^{n} (O-ga-xpa) and Osage Nations. We acknowledge our complicity in the process of colonization that removed these people from their ancestral lands and affirm our commitment to stand with Indigenous communities today as we all work toward racial justice, equity, and liberation for all people.

Prelude: “Alcina” Overture G. F. Handel/trans. Harvey B. Gaul

Opening Hymn: Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless Hymnal 343
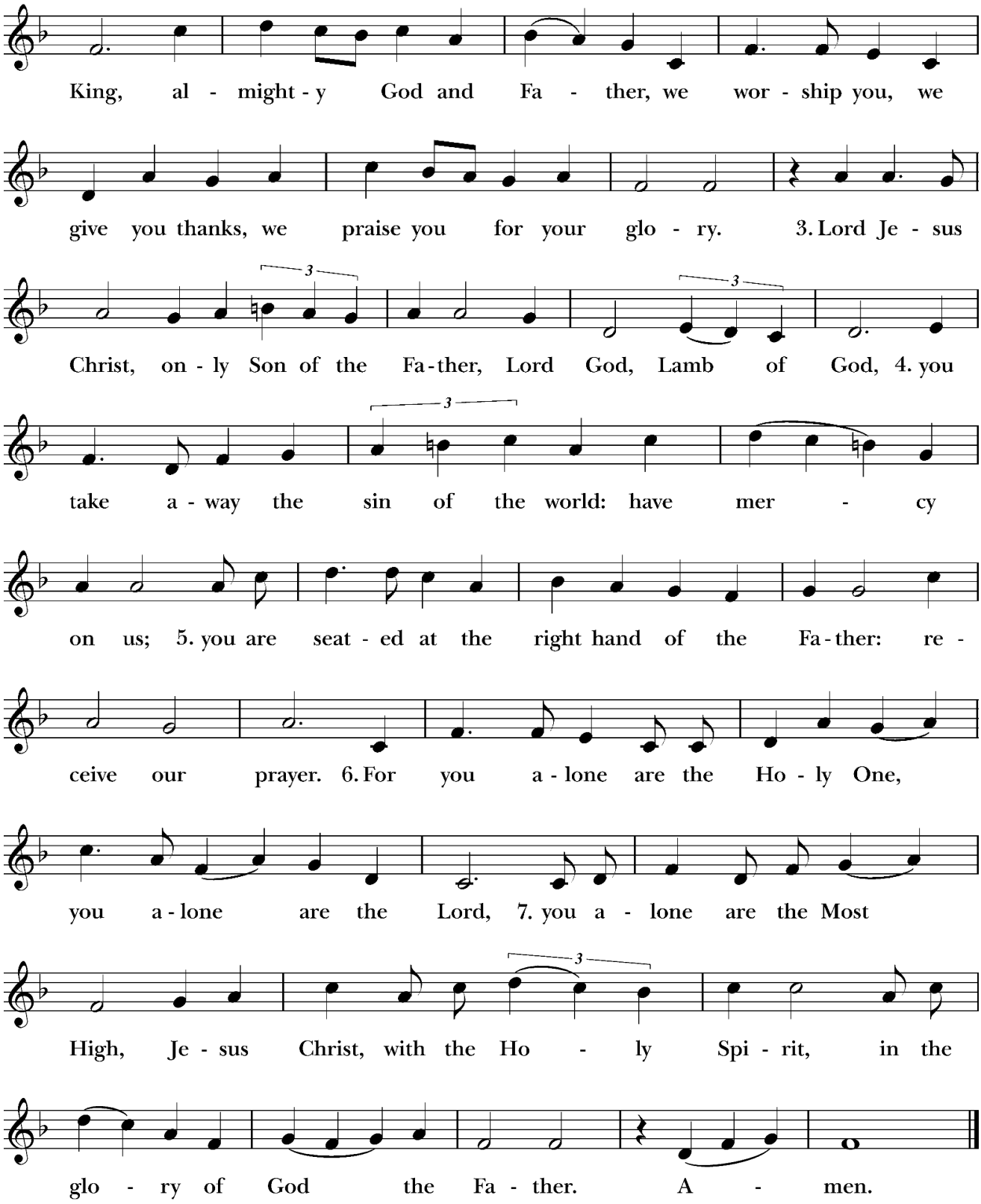


Words: James Montgomery (1771-1845), alt. Music: *St. Agnes*, melody John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876); harm. Richard Proulx (b. 1937), after John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876). Copyright © 1985, G.I.A. Publications.

The Word of God

Priest: Alleluia. Christ is risen.
People: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

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.**

The Gloria, S 280



Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932), rev. Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: God be with you.
People: And also with you.
Celebrant: Let us pray.

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen**.

The children are led to Children's Chapel.

The Lessons

A reading from the book of Acts.

Those who had been baptized devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved. (2:42-47)

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

Psalm 23 Dominus regit me BCP p. 612

1 The Lord is my shepherd; *
I shall not be in want.

2 He makes me lie down in green pastures *
and leads me beside still waters.

3 He revives my soul *
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; *
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; *
you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, *
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

A reading from the first letter to Peter.

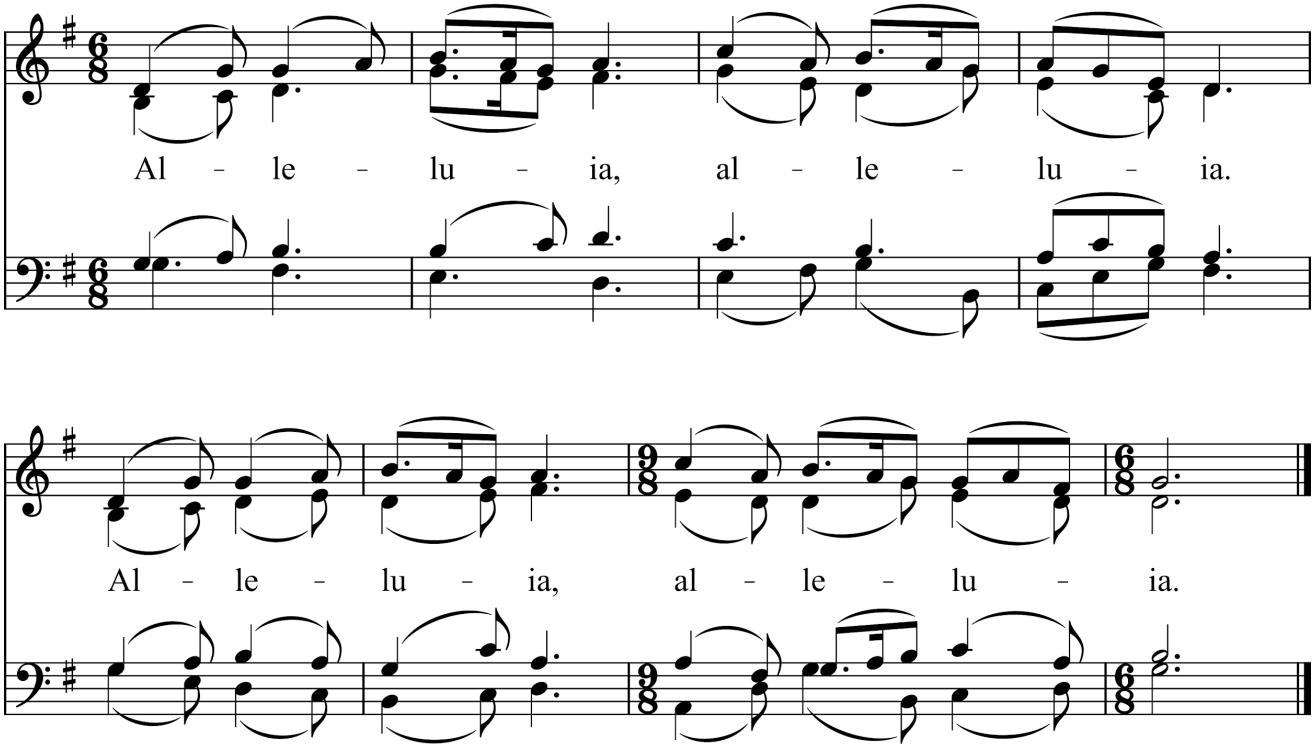
It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps. “He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.”

When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls. (2:19-25)

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.
People: Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn: Celtic Alleluia My Heart Sings Out 20

Before the Gospel: Sing twice (1st time in unison; 2nd time in harmony).
After the Gospel: Sing once (in harmony).



Music: Celtic Mass; Fintan O’Carroll, 1922-1981, and Christopher Walker, © 1985, 1996, Fintan O’Carroll and Christopher Walker. Published by OCP. All rights reserved.

Deacon/Priest: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly." (10:1-10)

Deacon/Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.
People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

A meditative moment of silence is kept after the sermon to allow time for the Holy Spirit to carry the Word deep into our hearts.

The Prayers of the People:

Leader: Gathered in the care of the Good Shepherd and guardian of our souls, let us, in trust, pray for the church and the world, praying, Risen Lord, …

People: **Hear our prayer.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to God for the many blessings God showers upon us:
For our lives, our families, our companions, and all those we love,
For the splendor of this earthly home God created for our enjoyment and care; for the flowering of springtime.
Let us give thanks to the God of Life, praying, Risen Lord, …

People: **Hear our prayer.**

Leader: Let us pray for the Church, that we may devote ourselves to the apostles' teaching with glad and generous hearts:

- For Sean our Presiding Bishop, for Deon our Bishop, for Valori, Susanna, Jerre, Mandi, Paul, Warren, and Susie our clergy, and for all the lay people who minister in the Church and lovingly serve the world as the community of the Church;
- In the Diocesan Cycle, we pray for the Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration in Lake St. Louis; we pray for our Connections partner The Faith Christian Church of India;
- In the Anglican Communion, we pray for Sarah the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Anglican Communion of The Church of Nigeria;
- In our companion Diocese of Puerto Rico, we pray for Nuestra Senora De Guadalupe;
- In our parish family, we pray in thanksgiving for our Christian formation for children, youth, and adults and for our outreach ministry of the Emmanuel Pre-School and Parents Day Out;

- For those in our parish family celebrating birthdays and anniversaries this week**;**

praying, Risen Lord,…

People: **Hear our prayer.**

Leader: Let us pray for all nations, leaders, and people of this wide earth, especially the people of Ukraine, Sudan, Cuba, and the Middle East that all may be delivered from human devices of oppression and from false idols and futile ways; praying, Risen Lord,…

People: **Hear our prayer.**

Leader: Let us pray for all who are sick or homeless, all who suffer, those in prison, all immigrants and refugees, and all who live in fear of separation of home and family. We pray for those who struggle with addiction or difficult demands of daily life and those serving in the armed forces; praying, Risen Lord,…

People: **Hear our prayer.**

Leader: We pray for our deliverance from all affliction, strife, and need; in our parish family, we pray for those we name either silently or aloud [pause], that the hope born of Easter may give them peace, acceptance, and renewal and closer communion with the God who redeems and restores; praying, Risen Lord,…

People: **Hear our prayer.**

Leader: We pray for those who have died, Robert Feldmann, that they be welcomed to new and eternal life, embraced by God and the communion of saints; praying, Risen Lord,…

People: **Hear our prayer.**

The Celebrant adds a Concluding Collect.

The Peace

La paz de Cristo sea siempre con ustedes.	***Y con tu espiritu.***
Christu shanti meetho ellapudu undunnugaka.	***Neetho kooda.***
The peace of Christ be always with you.	**And also with you.**

Birthday and Anniversary Blessings

Those with birthdays or anniversaries are invited to come forward for a blessing.

Announcements

The Holy Communion

Offertory Sentence

Offertory Anthem: Brother James's Air (Psalm 23) arr. Gordon Jacob
Emmanuel Choir

The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want, He makes me down to lie
in pastures green, He leadeth me the quiet waters by.
My soul He doth restore again and me to walk doth make
within the Paths of Blessedness, e'en for His own Name's sake.
Yea, though I pass thro' shadowed vale, yet will I fear no ill;
For Thou art with me, and Thy Rod and Staff me comfort still.
My table Thou hast furnished in presence of my foes;
My head with oil Thou dost anoint, and my cup overflows.
Goodness and mercy all my days will surely follow me;
And in my Father's heart alway my dwelling place shall be.

The Doxology
The offerings are brought forward as the congregation sings the Doxology to the tune of Old Hundredth

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures high and low
Praise God in Jesus fully known; Creator, Word, and Spirit One. Amen.

At 8:00 a.m.

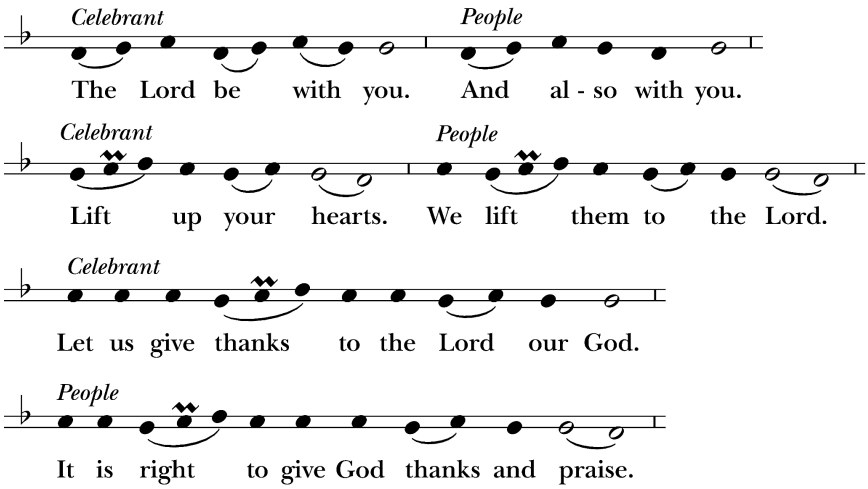
Celebrant: God be with you.
People: And also with you.

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.

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At 9:30 am
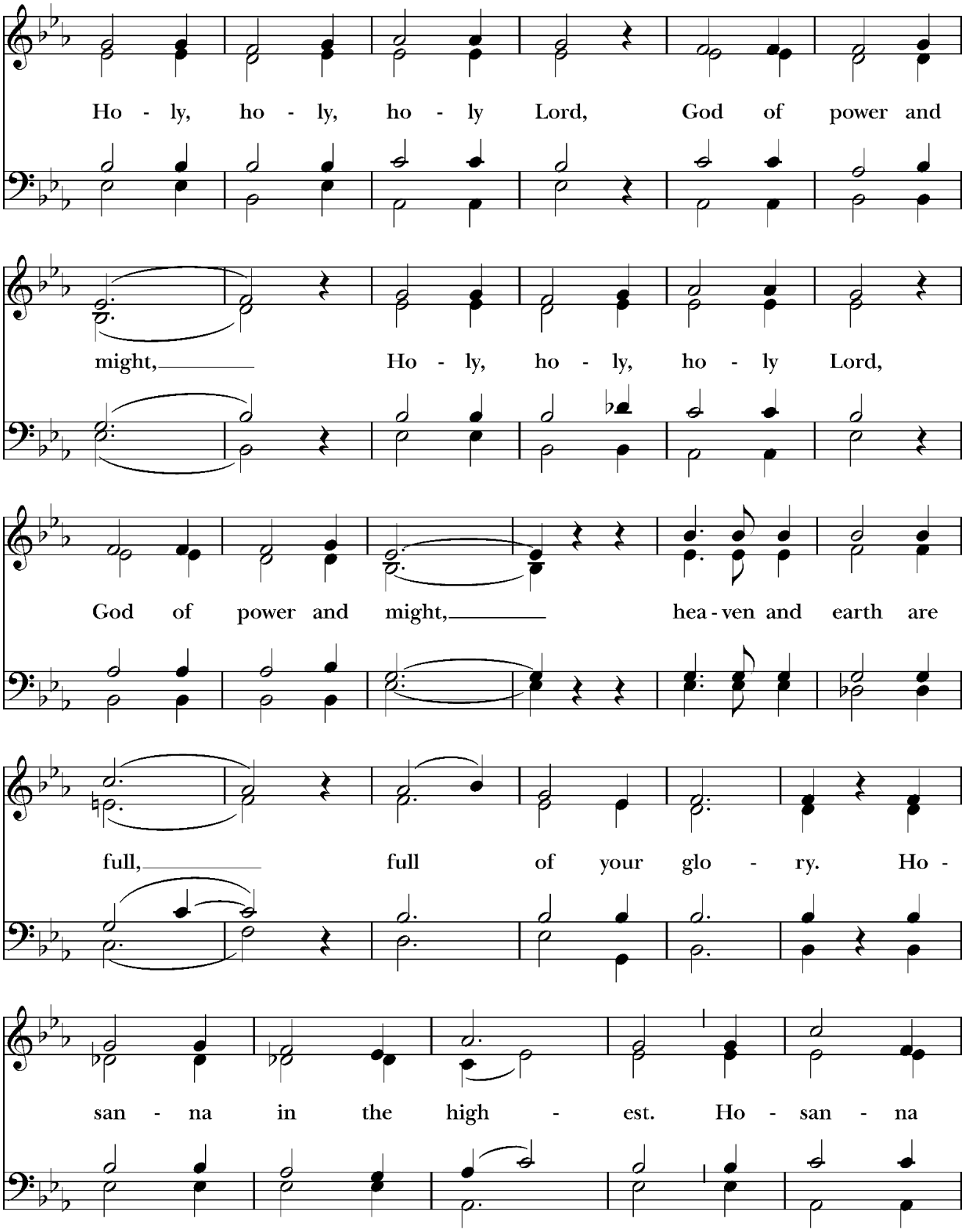


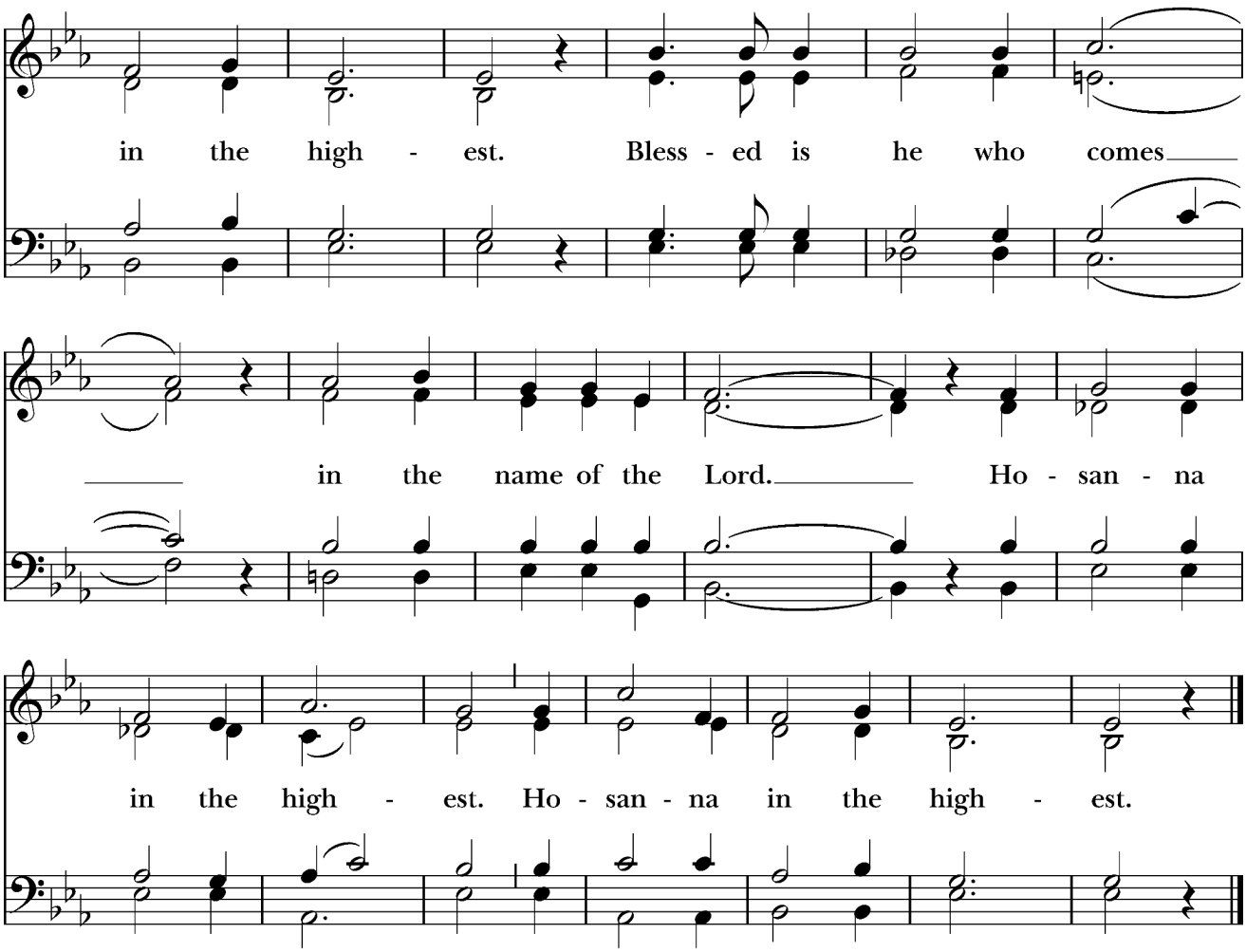
Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, God Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

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, Hymnal S-130





Music: From *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.

The Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious God: 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, O God, Creator 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:

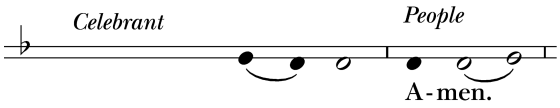
People: **Christ has died;**
Christ is risen;
Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O God, 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 Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God, now and for ever.



Celebrant: And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say in the language of our hearts,

Our Father, who are 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.

Padre nuestro, que estas en el cielo
santificado sea tu Nombre,
venga tu reino,
hágase tu voluntad,
en la tierra como en el cielo.
Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día.
Perdona nuestras ofensas,
como también nosotros perdonamos
a los que nos ofenden.
No nos dejes caer en tentación
y líbranos del mal.
Porque tuyo es el reino,
tuyo es el poder, y tuya es la gloria,
ahora y por siempre. Amén.

The Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

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

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.

This is God's table, where all are welcome to receive communion. So come to this table, you who have much faith and you who would like to have more; you who have been here often and you who have not been for a while or ever before; you who have tried to follow Jesus, and you who have failed; Come. It is Christ who invites us to meet him here. ~ Adapted from the Iona Community invitation

About receiving Communion at Emmanuel:

The fullness of this sacrament is received by taking one or both kinds (bread and wine).
The ushers will guide you to Communion.
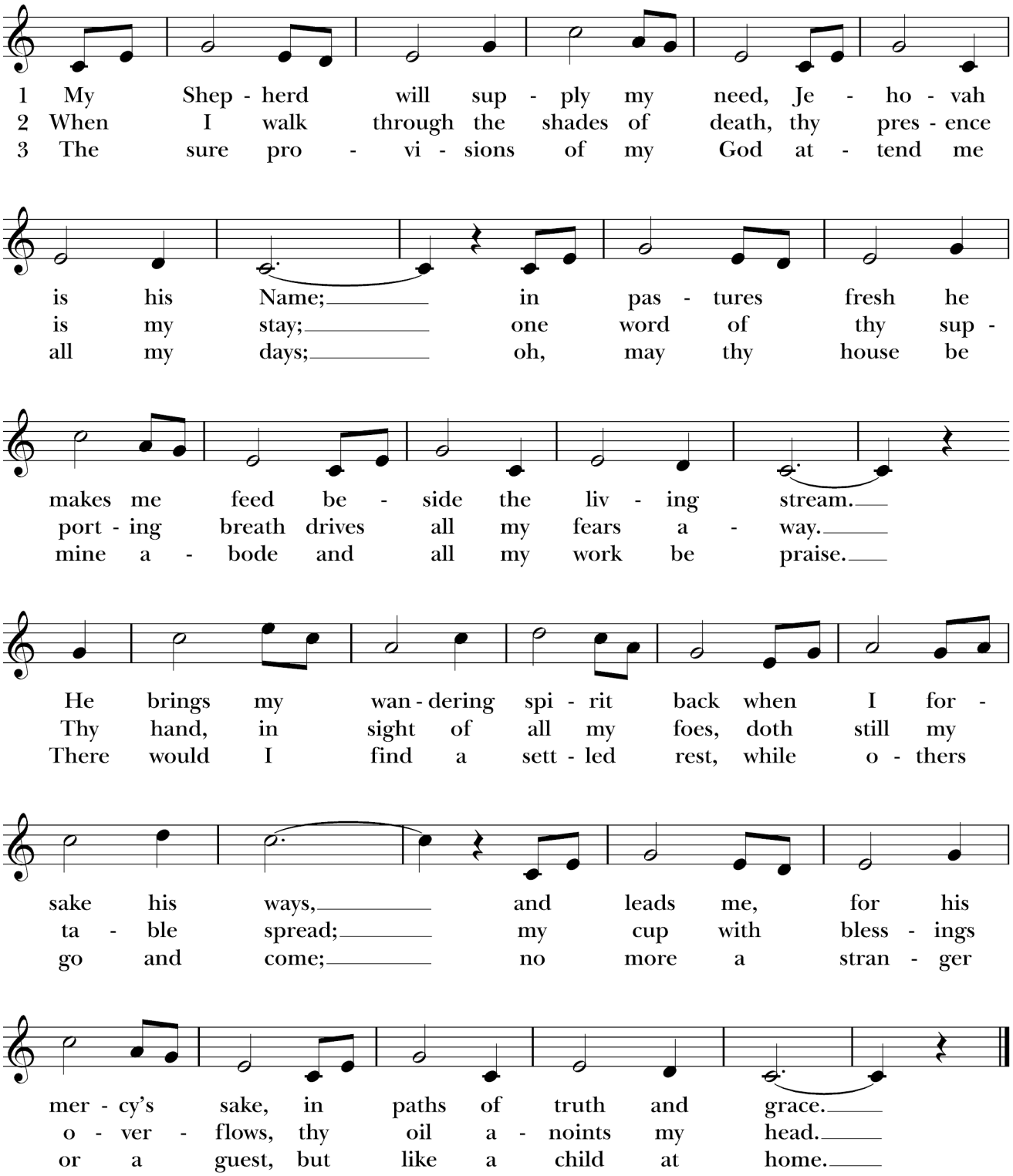
Bread: All of our communion bread is gluten-free, nut-free, soy-free, vegan, and dairy-free. The communion bread will be offered into your hands, not your mouth.

Wine: You may choose intinction (the clergy will dip the Communion bread into wine). Please do not reach into the cup of wine.

OR you may choose to drink from the common cup offered by the Eucharistic Minister.

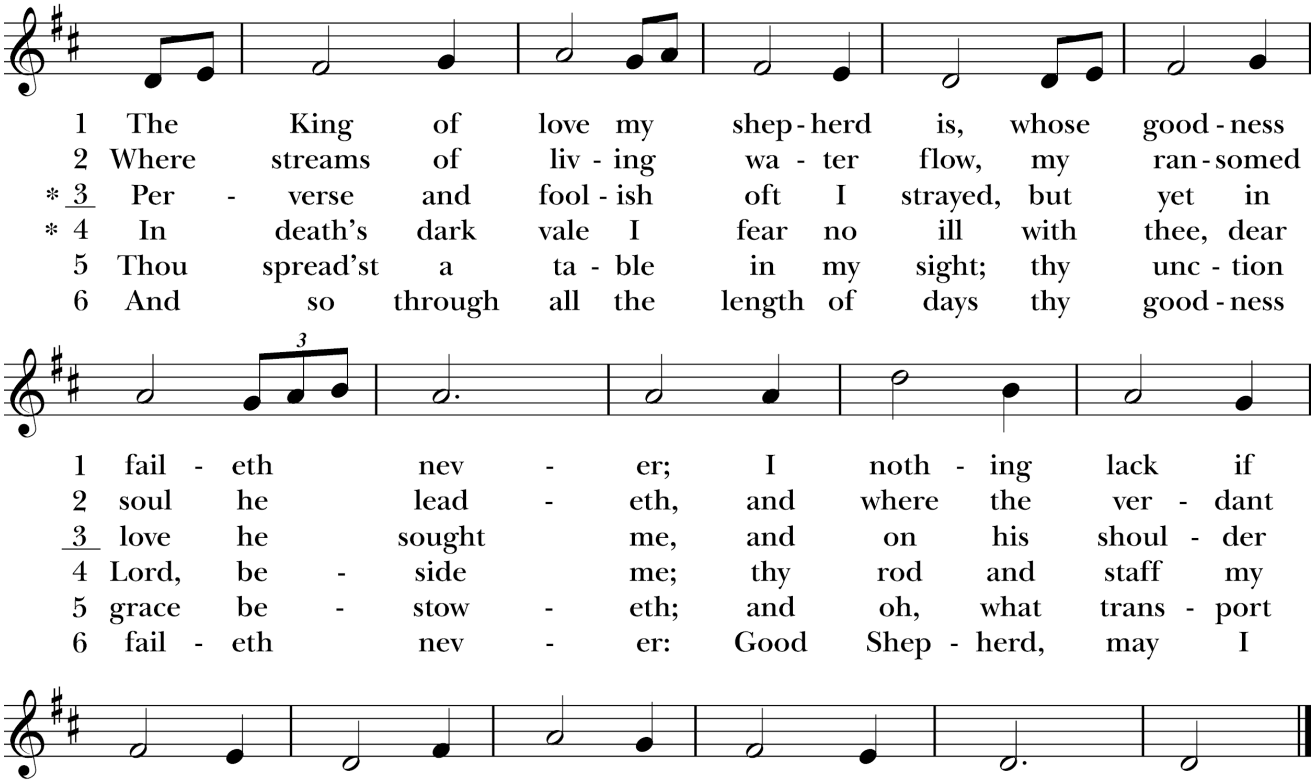
Blessing: If you prefer not to receive the bread or wine, cross your arms over your chest to receive a blessing.

Communion Hymns: My Shepherd will supply my need Hymnal 664



Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748); para. of Psalm 23. Music: *Resignation*, American folk melody, acc. David Hurd (b. 1950).

Communion Hymn:The King of love my shepherd is Hymnal 645



Words: Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877); para. Psalm 23. Music: *St. Columba*, Irish melody, harm. *Hymnal 1982*.
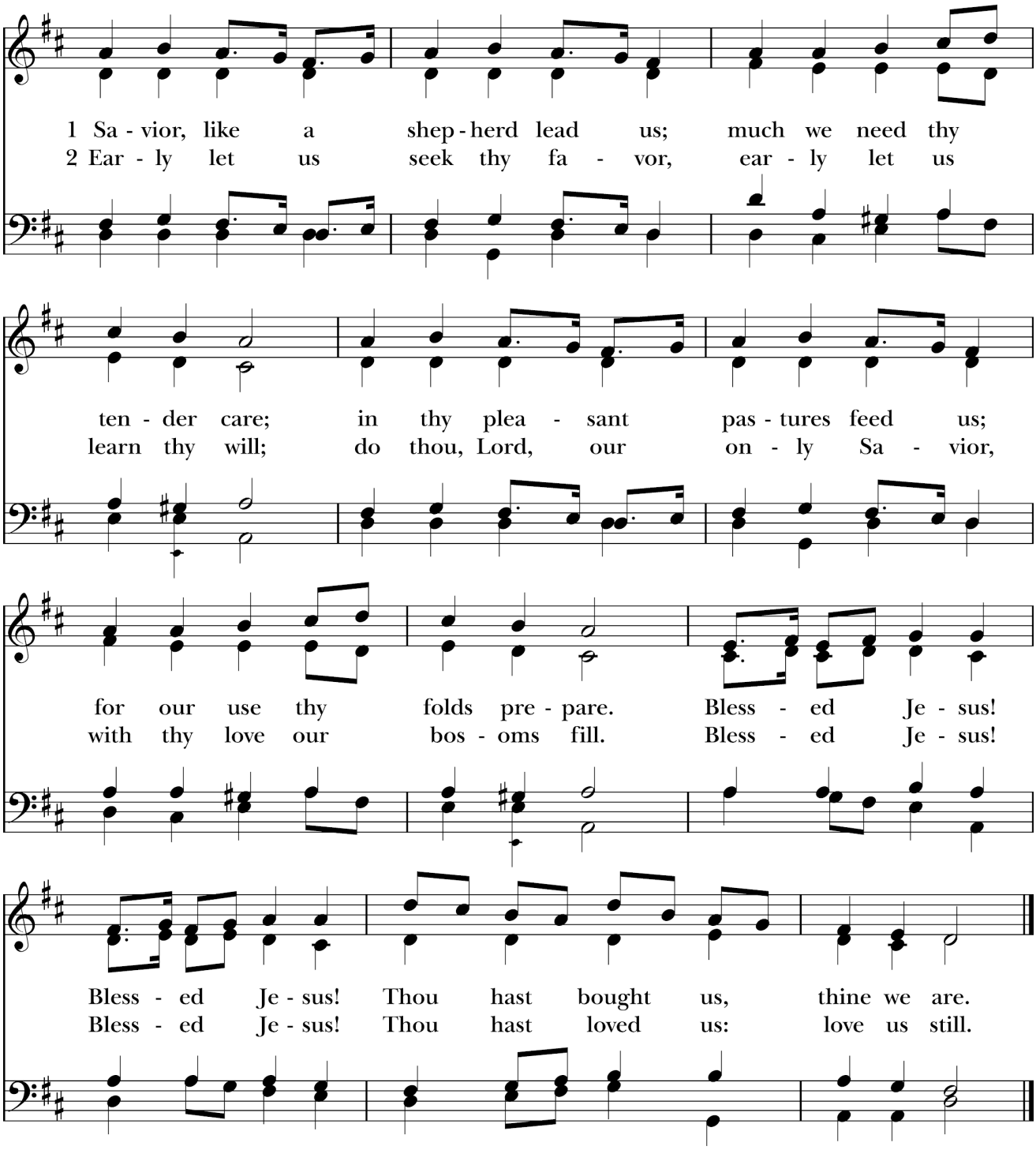
The Commendation of the Eucharistic Visitors

Celebrant: Let us pray.

People: **Eternal God, 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

Closing Hymn: Savior, like a shepherd lead us Hymnal 708



Words: *Hymns for the Young*, ca. 1830, alt. Music: *Sicilian Mariners*, Sicilian melody, from *The European Magazine and London Review*, 1792.

The Dismissal

Deacon: Go into the broken places of this world to sow the compassion of Christ. Go into the hurting places of this world to share the healing of Christ. Go into the lonely places of this world to be the love of Christ. Go in peace. Go in hope. Go in love. Go with God!

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude: Air *(Water Music)* G. F. Handel/trans. Carl McKinley

Our guest organist this morning is April Mok,
and Lauren Romano conducts the adult choir at the offertory anthem. Thank you, April and Lauren.

The flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of
The Rev. Robert Skinner

By his family

A LOOK AT THE WEEK AHEAD AT EMMANUEL - from our online Calendar.

26 APR, SUN	All day	Easter 4
	All day	Rise Against Hunger
	8 – 9am	Holy Eucharist, Rite II
	9:30 – 10:30am	Holy Eucharist, Rite II
	10am – 5:30pm	Rise Against Hunger 2026
	10:30 – 10:45am	Coffee & Biscuits
27 APR, MON	1 – 2pm	Prayer Shawl Group Tree Top Room
	6 – 7pm	Women's Book Club
	6:30 – 8pm	Vestry on Zoom
28 APR, TUE	11:30am – 12:30pm	WOE lunch at Sunny Street Cafe Sunny Street Cafe, 11692 Manc...
29 APR, WED	All day	No Adult Choir Tonight
	8 – 9am	Bible Study via Zoom
	4 – 5pm	WU Int'l Students Dinner
	5:30 – 7pm	Fellowship Dinner
	6:30 – 7pm	Children's Choir Rehearsal
30 APR, THU	11:30am – 12:30pm	Book Club (Behold Room)
1 MAY, FRI	6 – 6:30pm	BLM Vigil

Please check the online calendar for the most updated schedule of events. Thank you!

OUR DIVINE PURPOSE STATEMENT

WE BELIEVE that we are called to live in service to others following the example of Jesus Christ, our Savior, helping to heal a broken world and preserve God's creation. We believe God calls us to accept and celebrate everyone - LGBTQIA2S+, race/ethnicity, status, age, or ability - no exceptions.

WE WORSHIP in community, in-person and online. Grounded in the Book of Common Prayer, our prayer and music embraces diversity of spiritual life. All are invited to receive Holy Eucharist at God's table and to participate in worship. Children are a valued presence and contribute to worship.

WE SERVE all of God's people in partnership with our local, national, and international neighbors, learning from them and working with them toward true justice and equitable access to God's abundance.



EMMANUEL
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Webster Groves, MO

The Rt. Rev. Deon K. Johnson, Bishop of Missouri
The Rev. Dr. Valori Mulvey Sherer, Rector
The Rev. Susanna Clive, Associate Priest
The Rev. Jerre Birdsong, Deacon
The Rev. Dr. Warren E. Crews, Priest Affiliate
The Rev. Paul A. Metzler, Priest Affiliate
The Rev. Mandi Rice, Priest Affiliate

NINE SOUTH BOMPART, WEBSTER GROVES, MISSOURI 63119, TELEPHONE 314-961-2393

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