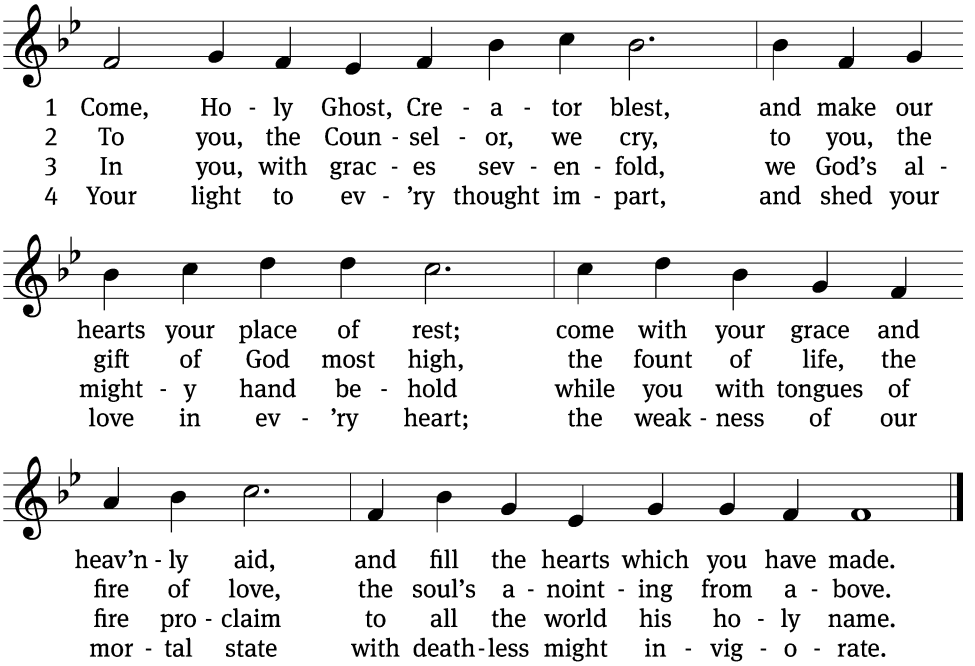
Opening Hymn 586 Come, Holy Ghost, Creator Blest



5 Drive far away our wily foe,
and your abiding peace bestow;
with you as our protecting guide,
no evil can with us abide.

6 Teach us to know the Father, Son,
and you, from both, as Three in One
that we your name may ever bless
and in our lives the truth confess.

7 Praise we the Father and the Son
and Holy Spirit, with them One,
and may the Son on us bestow
the gifts that from the Spirit flow!

Text: attr. Rhabanus Maurus, 776–856; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–1878, alt.; Tune: Geistliche lieder auffs new gebessert, Wittenberg, 1533, ed. Joseph Klug; Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Confession

CW 172

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.
If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just
and will forgive us our sins
and purify us from all unrighteousness.

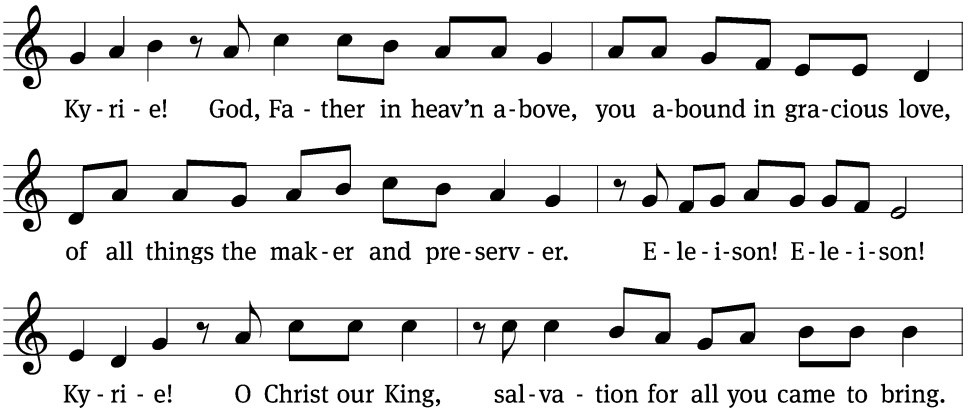
Let us confess our sins to the Lord.
Holy God, gracious Father,
I am sinful by nature
and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.
I have not loved you with my whole heart;
I have not loved others as I should.
I deserve your punishment both now and forever.
But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins
with his innocent suffering and death.
Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.
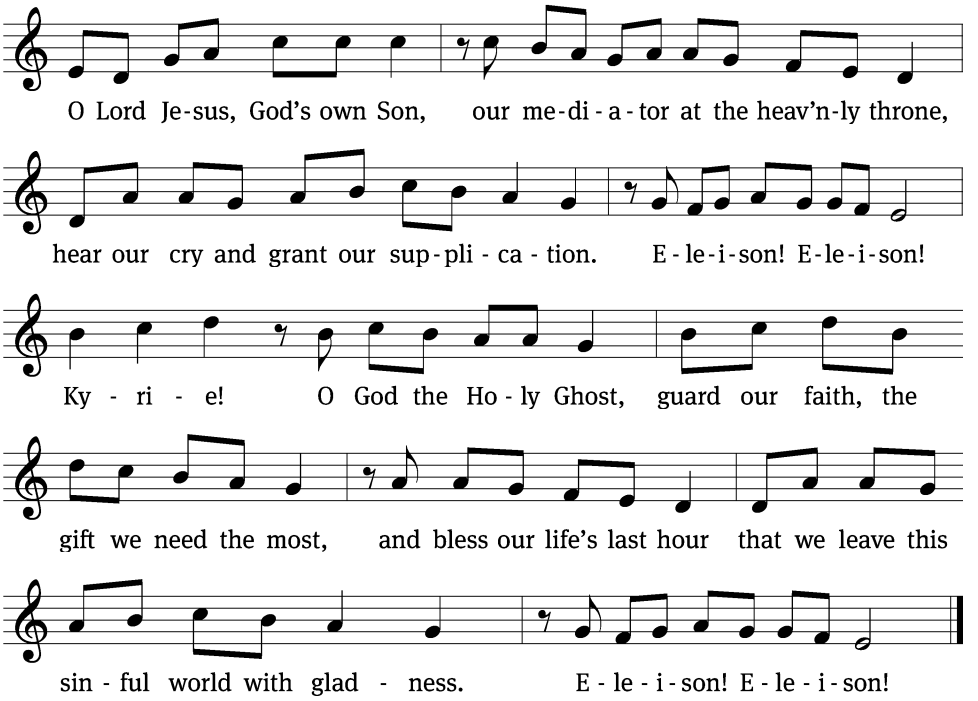
Silence for meditation and reflection

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Kyrie! God, Father

CW 934

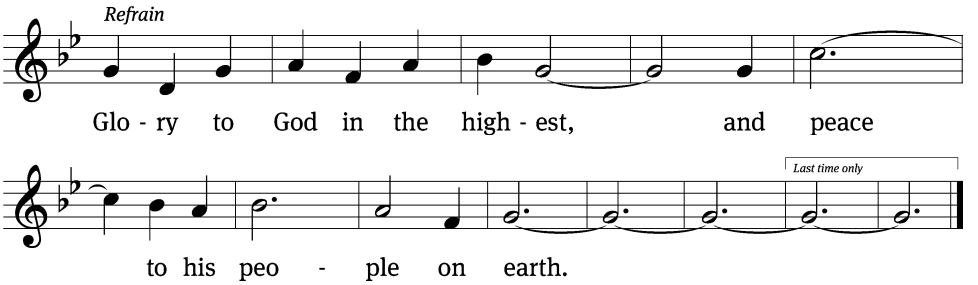




Text: Latin, 9th cent.; German version, Ordenung der ceremonien, Naumburg, 1537/1538; tr. W. Gustave Polack, 1890–1950, alt.
Tune: Latin, 9th cent.; adapt. Kirchen ampt Deutsch, Erfurt, 1525
Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 726254; Tune: Public domain

Glory to God in the Highest

CW 176



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. Amen. *Refrain*

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The Word

Salutation

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Lord God Almighty, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit that we may always look forward to the end of this present evil age and the day of your righteous judgment. Keep us steadfast in true and living faith, and present us at last holy and blameless before you; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Be seated

First Reading

Isaiah 1:10–18

10 Hear the word of the LORD, you rulers of Sodom!
Listen to the law of our God, you people of Gomorrah!

11 What do your many sacrifices mean to me? says the LORD.
I have more than enough rams as burnt offerings
and enough fat from well-fed animals.
I am not pleased with the blood of bulls
or the blood of lambs and male goats.
12 When you come to appear before me,
who has asked for this from your hands:
this trampling on my courts?
13 Stop bringing worthless offerings!
Your incense is an abomination to me.

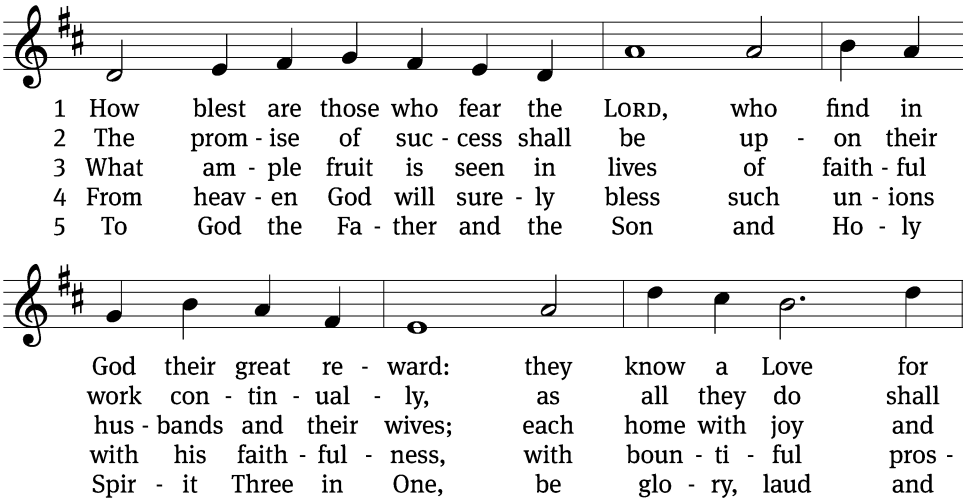
I cannot stand your sinful assemblies
on the new moons, Sabbaths, and holy days.
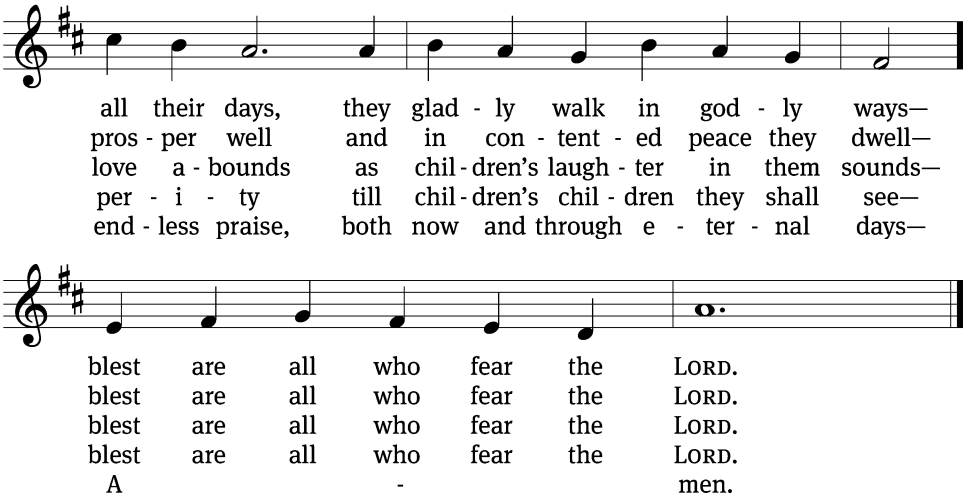
14 Deep in my soul I hate your new moons and your appointed feasts.
They have become a burden to me.
I am tired of putting up with them.
15 When you spread out your hands, I will hide my eyes from you.
Indeed, even though you make many prayers, I will not hear.
Your hands are full of blood.
16 Wash yourselves. Purify yourselves.
Remove your evil deeds from my sight.
Stop doing evil. 17 Learn to do good.
Seek justice. Relieve the oppressed.
Seek justice for the fatherless. Plead for the widow.

18 Come now, and let us reason together, says the LORD.
Though your sins are like scarlet, they will be as white as snow.
Though they are as red as crimson, they will be like wool.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 128 — Blest Are All Who Fear the LORD





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Second Reading

Romans 12:1–8

[1]Therefore I urge you, brothers, by the mercies of God, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice—holy and pleasing to God—which is your appropriate worship. [2]Also, do not continue to conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, so that you test and approve what is the will of God—what is good, pleasing, and perfect.

[3]So by the grace given to me, I tell everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought, but think in a way that results in sound judgment, as God distributed a measure of faith to each of you. [4]For we have many members in one body, and not all the members have the same function. [5]In the same way, though we are many, we are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another.
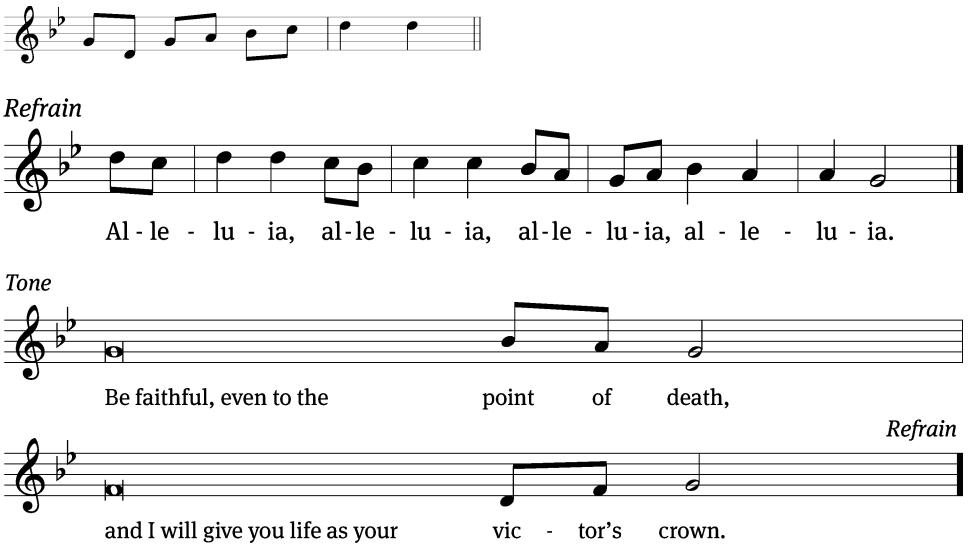
[6]We have different gifts, according to the grace God has given us. If the gift is prophecy, do it in complete agreement with the faith. [7]If it is serving, then serve. If it is teaching, then teach. [8]If it is encouraging, then encourage. If it is contributing, be generous. If it is leadership, be diligent. If it is showing mercy, do it cheerfully.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

Revelation 2:10



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Gospel

Matthew 25:14–30

14"You see, the kingdom of heaven is like a man going on a journey. He
called his servants and entrusted his possessions to them. 15To one he gave five
talents, to another two talents, and to still another one talent, each according
to his own ability. Then he went on his journey. 16The servant who had
received the five talents immediately put them to work and gained five more
talents. 17In the same way, the servant who had received the two talents gained
two more. 18But the servant who had received one talent went away, dug a hole
in the ground, and hid his master's money.

19"After a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts
with them. 20The servant who received the five talents came and brought five
more talents. He said, 'Master, you entrusted five talents to me. See, I have
gained five more talents.'

21"His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You were
faithful with a few things. I will put you in charge of many things. Enter into
the joy of your master.'

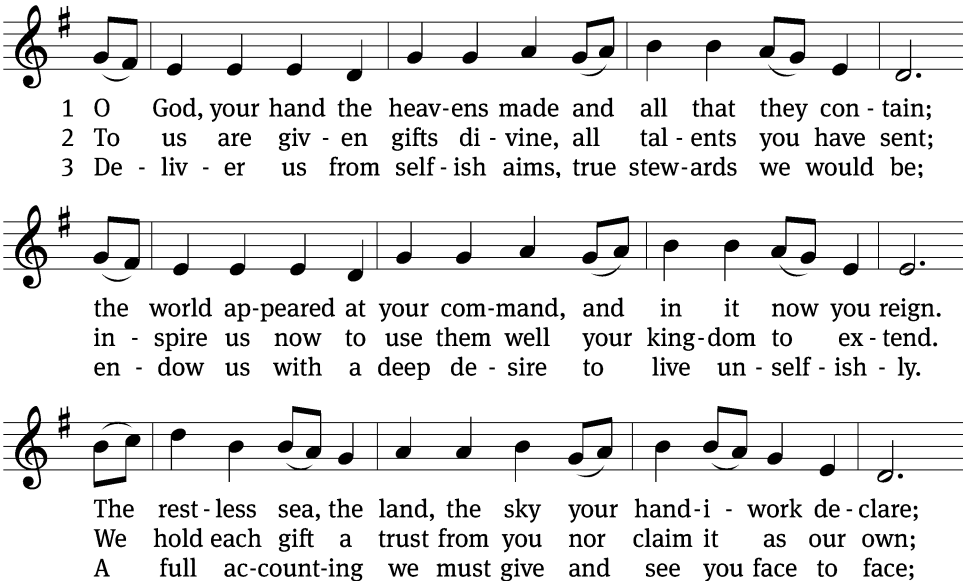
22"The servant who received the two talents came and said, 'Master, you
entrusted me with two talents. See, I have gained two more talents.'
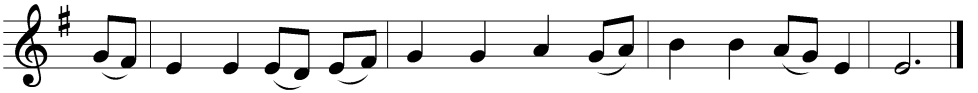
23"His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You were
faithful with a few things. I will put you in charge of many things. Enter into
the joy of your master.'
24"Then the servant who received one talent came and said, 'Master, I knew
that you are a hard man, reaping where you did not plant and gathering where
you did not scatter seed. 25Since I was afraid, I went away and hid your talent
in the ground. See, you have what is yours.'
26"His master answered him, 'You wicked and lazy servant! You knew that I
reap where I did not plant and gather where I did not scatter seed? 27Well
then, you should have deposited my money with the bankers so that when I
came I would get my money back with interest. 28Take the talent away from
him and give it to the servant who has the ten talents. 29Because everyone who
has will be given more, and he will have an abundance. But the one who does
not have, even what he has will be taken away from him. 30Throw that
worthless servant into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and
gnashing of teeth.'

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

Hymn of the Day — 751 O God, Your Hand the Heavens Made





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Sermon

Romans 12:1–8

"The Master Is Coming: Don't Bury the Life He Redeemed"

Stand

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

Be seated

Offering

May be left in the offering box in the entryway or given online

Prayer of the Church

Gracious Lord, you sent your Son into our world to destroy the power of Satan and restore the human race as your children and heirs. Work in us so that we may rejoice in the return of our Savior to judge the living and the dead.
Make us eager to meet the King who is coming to take us home.

Use the preaching of your holy law to rid us of all delusions that we can gain your love with our own efforts. Move us to realize how far short we fall because of sin and lead us to feel sorrow for all we have failed to faithfully do.
Lead us to be honest about our sinful status in your sight.

Lift up our hearts to see the King who came to save. Reveal to us his willingness to take on our human form and stand in our place. Show us the power he extends in his Word and sacraments to make us your children and keep us in faith. Thrill us with his promise to come again and take us to our eternal home to live with you forever.
Open our eyes to see and believe the wonders of the Savior's love.

As we live with Christ and trust in him, move us to turn away from sin day after day with the strength your Holy Spirit provides. When we fall, forgive us and renew us to love and serve you and all people. Move us to faithfully use all the gifts and talents you have given us. Fill us with your Spirit that we willingly offer our lives to you as a thank offering.
Empower us present our whole selves to you in faith and gratefulness.

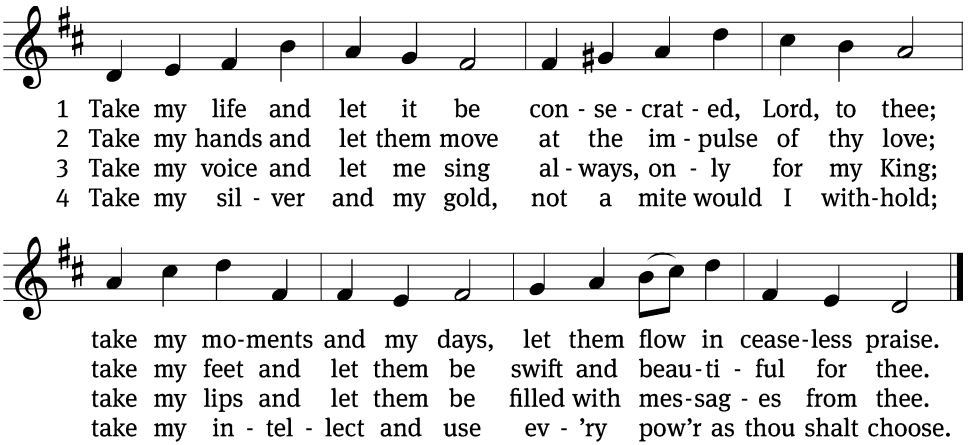
Lead us to pray for those whose faith us tested by sickness, pain, or loss [*especially….*] Grant us opportunities to provide help to those in need.
May others see the love of Christ in our words and actions.

Hear us, Lord, as we bring to you our personal petitions.

Silent prayer

Dearest Savior, work in and through us as we await your return in glory and speed your Kingdom coming.
Come, Lord Jesus. Amen.

Hymn 695 Take My Life and Let It Be



5 Take my will and make it thine,
it shall be no longer mine;
take my heart, it is thine own,
it shall be thy royal throne.

6 Take my love, my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879; Tune: William H. Havergal, 1793–1870; Text and tune: Public domain

Prayer

171

Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

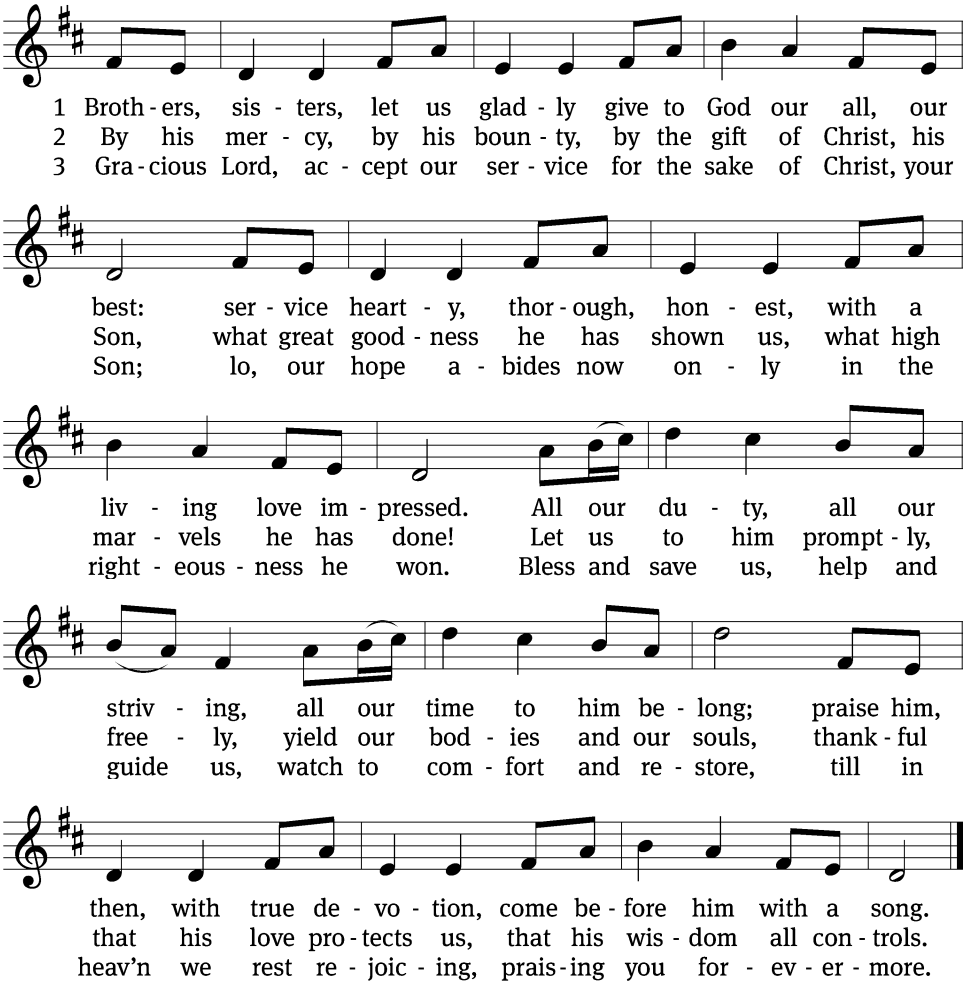
Lord's Prayer

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.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and ✝ give you peace.
Amen.

Closing Hymn — 748 Brothers, Sisters, Let Us Gladly



Text: Henry Bateman, 1802–1872; Tune: Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second, Harrisburg, 1813, ed. John Wyeth; Text and tune: Public domain

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