THE THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST: PROPER 16

THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE TWO

August 23, 2026 · 10:30 A.M.



"The Story of the Exodus: Pharaoh's Daughter and Moses" by Marc Chagall, c. 1966
Source: https://mjdasma.blogspot.com/2020/08/reflection-for-sunday-august-23-twenty.html

THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL IN THE DESERT
125 West El Alameda Palm Springs, CA 92262
760.320.7488 • stpauldesert.church

Find us on Facebook (@stpaulinthedesert) or Instagram (@stpauls_palmsprings)

THE WORD OF GOD

VOLUNTARY "Toccatinas and Tidbits for Organ" *Kevin Norris*
New Britain, Hymn to Joy, Hyfrydol

WELCOME & OUR MISSION/VALUE STATEMENTS

The Church of St. Paul in the Desert:
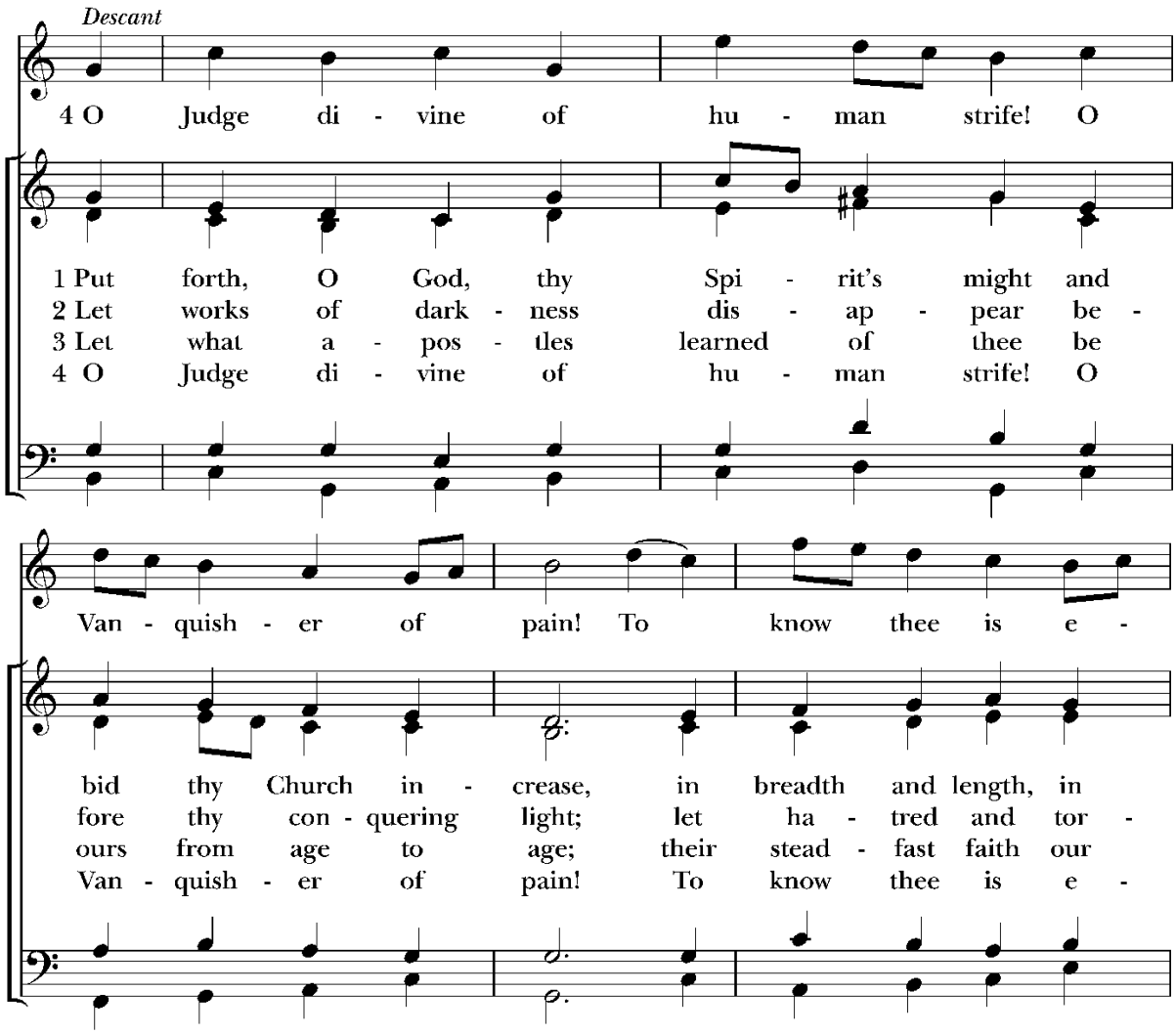
God has invited the Church of St. Paul in the Desert to share the abundant love of Jesus Christ in a caring and diverse community that gathers to worship and give thanks, support and inspire its members, and serve our neighbors.

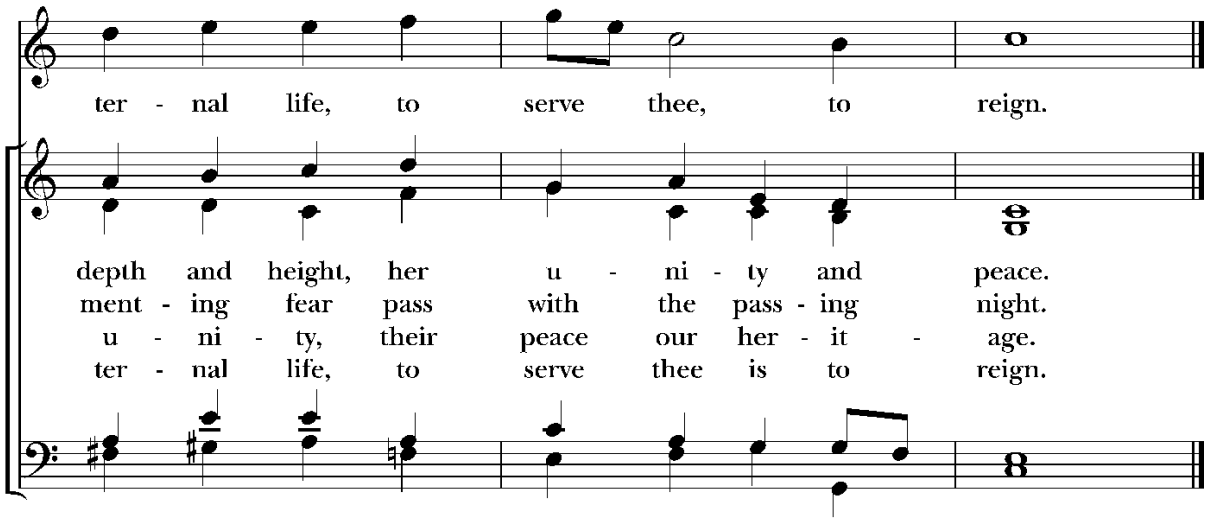
- We are a sacramental, welcoming, empowering, and supportive community.
- We respect the dignity of every human being.
- We seek to be a spiritual oasis in the desert.
- Wherever you are in your spiritual journey, you are welcome.

The Diocese:

The Episcopal Diocese of San Diego is a missionary community that dares to follow Jesus Christ in his life of courageous love for the world.

THE ENTRANCE HYMN 521 "Put forth, O God, thy Spirit's might" *Chelsea Square*





Words: Howard Chandler Robbins (1876-1952). Music: Chelsea Square, Howard Chandler Robbins (1876-1952); harm. Ray Francis Brown (1897-1964); desc. Lois Fyfe (b. 1927). Melody by permission of the Estate of Howard C. Robbins. Harmonization Copyright © 1940, Estate of Ray F. Brown. Used by permission. Descant: Fred Bock Music.

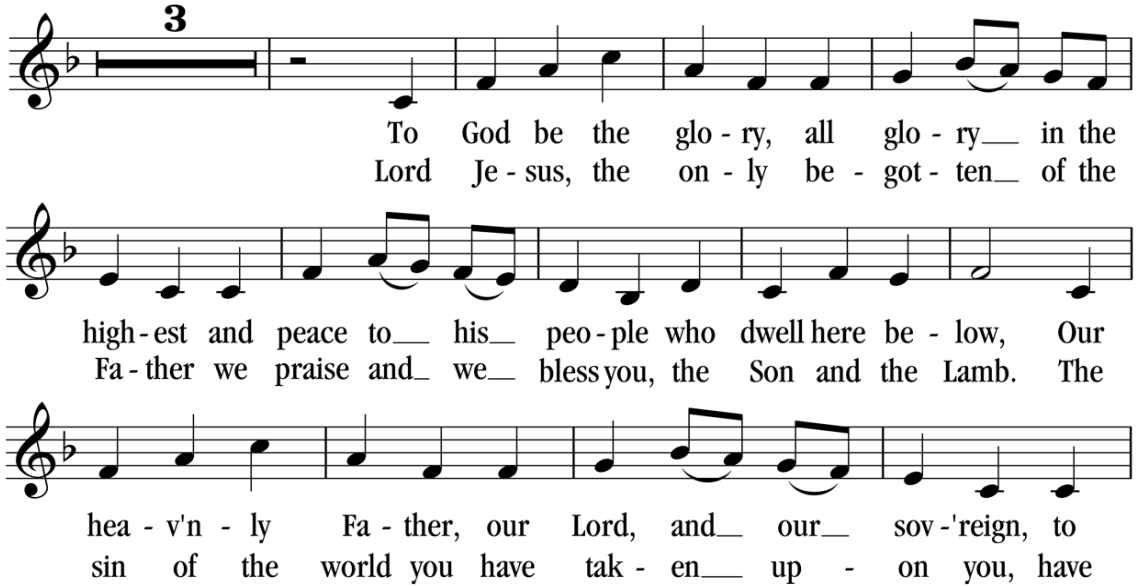
THE OPENING ACCLAMATION
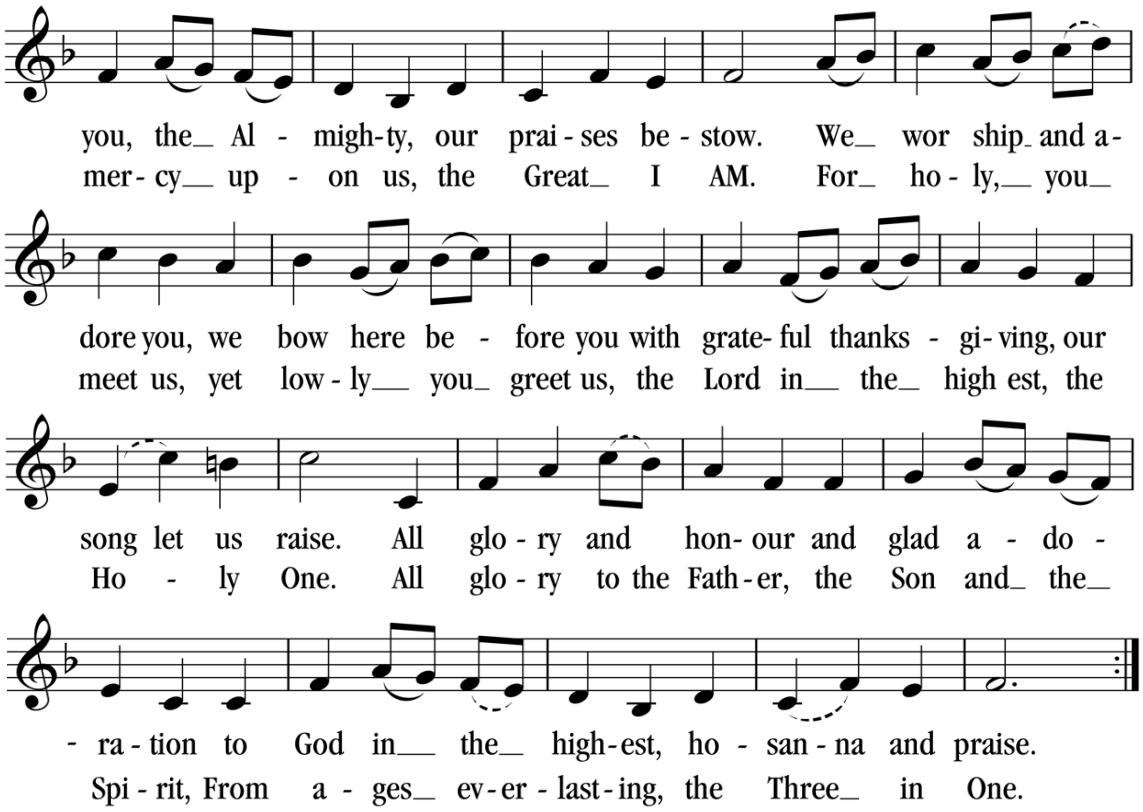
Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

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 HYMN OF PRAISE **To God be the glory** Malcolm Archer, *The Ash Grove*





THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

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

Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered together in unity by your Holy Spirit, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

SUMMER EPISCOPAL MOMENT

THE FIRST LESSON **Exodus 1:8-2:10**

Reader A Reading from the Book of Exodus.

Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. He said to his people, "Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land." Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labor. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. The Egyptians became ruthless in imposing tasks on the Israelites, and made their lives bitter with hard service in mortar

and brick and in every kind of field labor. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them.

The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, "When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, she shall live." But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live. So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, "Why have you done this, and allowed the boys to live?" The midwives said to Pharaoh, "Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them." So God dealt well with the midwives; and the people multiplied and became very strong. And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families. Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, "Every boy that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every girl live."

Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him three months. When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.

The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him, "This must be one of the Hebrews' children," she said. Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?" Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Yes." So the girl went and called the child's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages." So the woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, "because," she said, "I drew him out of the water."

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

THE PSALTER **Psalm 124** *Nisi quia Dominus*

Reader Please join in praying Psalm 124 responsively by half-verse.

1 If the LORD had not been on our side, *
let Israel now say;
2 If the LORD had not been on our side, *
when enemies rose up against us;
3 Then would they have swallowed us up alive *
in their fierce anger toward us;
4 Then would the waters have overwhelmed us *
and the torrent gone over us;
5 Then would the raging waters *
have gone right over us.

6 Blessed be the LORD! *
he has not given us over to be a prey for their teeth.
7 We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler; *
the snare is broken, and we have escaped.
8 Our help is in the Name of the LORD, *
the maker of heaven and earth.

THE SECOND LESSON **Romans 12:1-8**

Reader A Reading from St. Paul's Letter to the Romans.

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God-- what is good and acceptable and perfect.

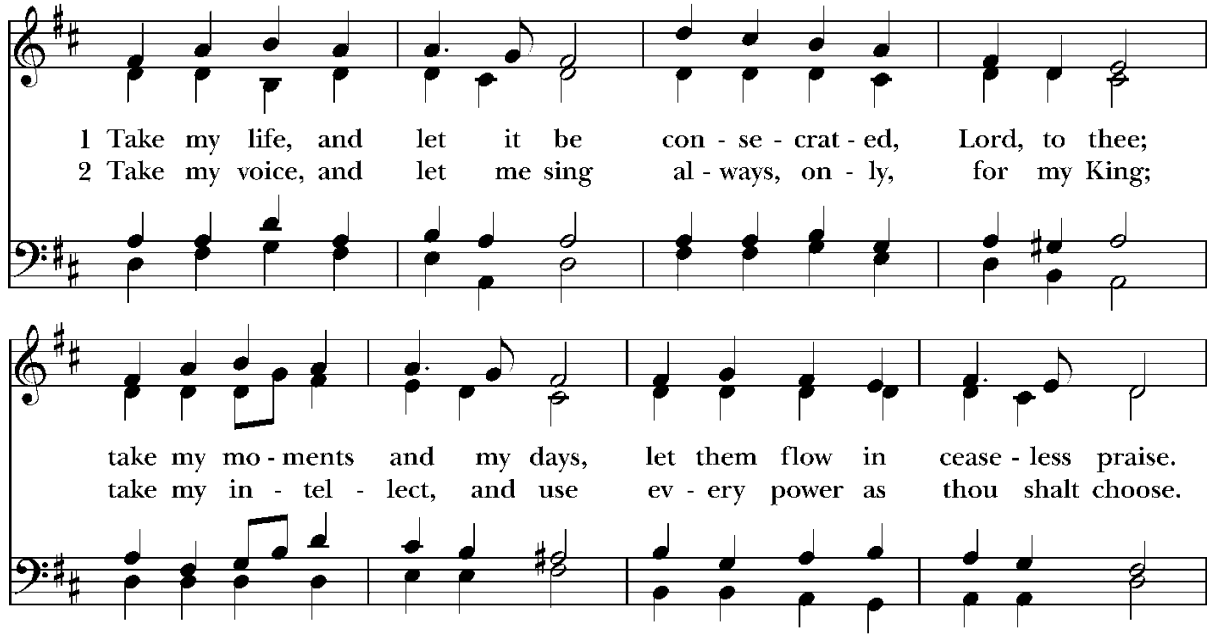
For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

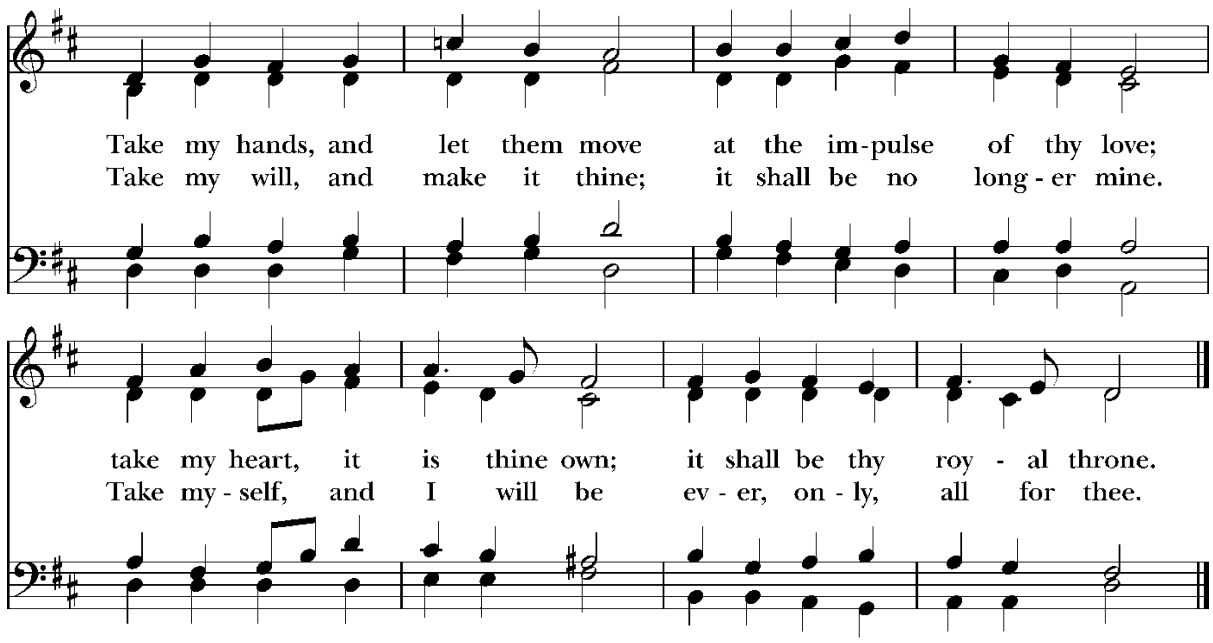
Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand if able and face the Gospel as it arrives in the midst of the gathered.

THE SEQUENCE HYMN 707 "Take my life, and let it be" *Hollingside*

Verse 1





Words: Frances Ridley Havergal (1836-1879), alt. Music: *Hollingside*, John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876).

THE HOLY GOSPEL **Matthew 16:13-20**

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

When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

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

THE SEQUENCE HYMN – Verse 2

THE SERMON Rabbi David Lazar

A time of reflection and silence follows the sermon.

Please stand if able.

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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.
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.
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE **Form VI, BCP**

The Leader and People pray responsively.

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;
For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;
For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;
For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Sean, our Presiding Bishop, and Susan, our Bishop; and for all bishops and other ministers;
For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions

Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence

The People may add their own thanksgivings

We will exalt you, O God our King;
And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

Silence

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

THE CONFESSION

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

Silence may be kept.

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.**

THE ABSOLUTION

This is the formal act of pronouncing God's forgiveness of sins through Jesus Christ, reflecting the ministry of reconciliation committed by Christ to the church.

THE PEACE

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

You are invited to offer a sign of peace to those around you.

BLESSINGS AND GRATITUDE

THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings of bread and wine and money or other gifts to the Table.

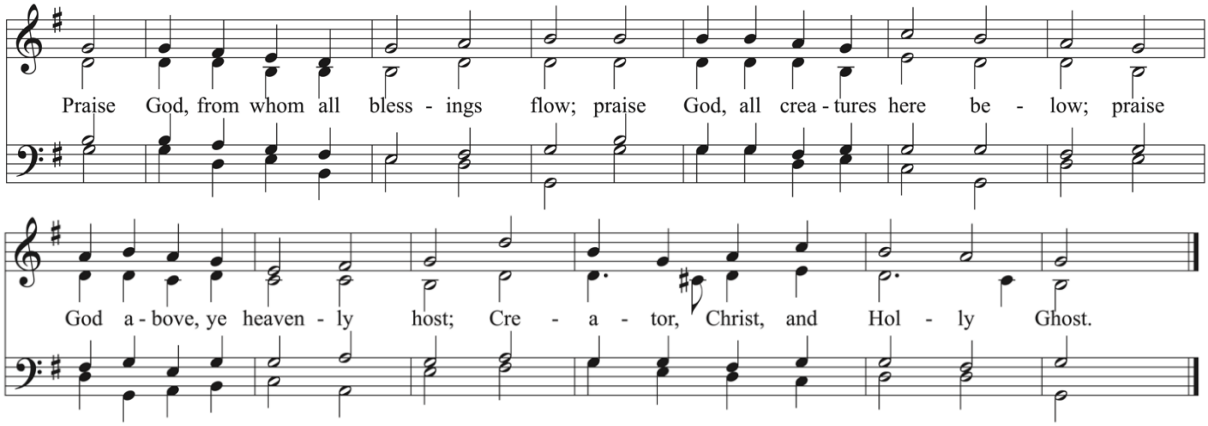
Text "STPAULSPS" to 73256 to give using your mobile device.
Standard text message and data rates may apply

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM "Make Me a Channel of Your Peace" Sebastian Temple
Raul Valenzuela*, baritone*

Please stand if able, while the offerings are presented.

THE PRESENTATION HYMN (Doxology) *Old 100th*



Celebrant All things come of you, O Lord.
People **And of your own have we given you.**

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER *Eucharistic Prayer C*

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 our thanks and praise.**

The Celebrant proceeds.

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.
Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.
By your will they were created and have their being.

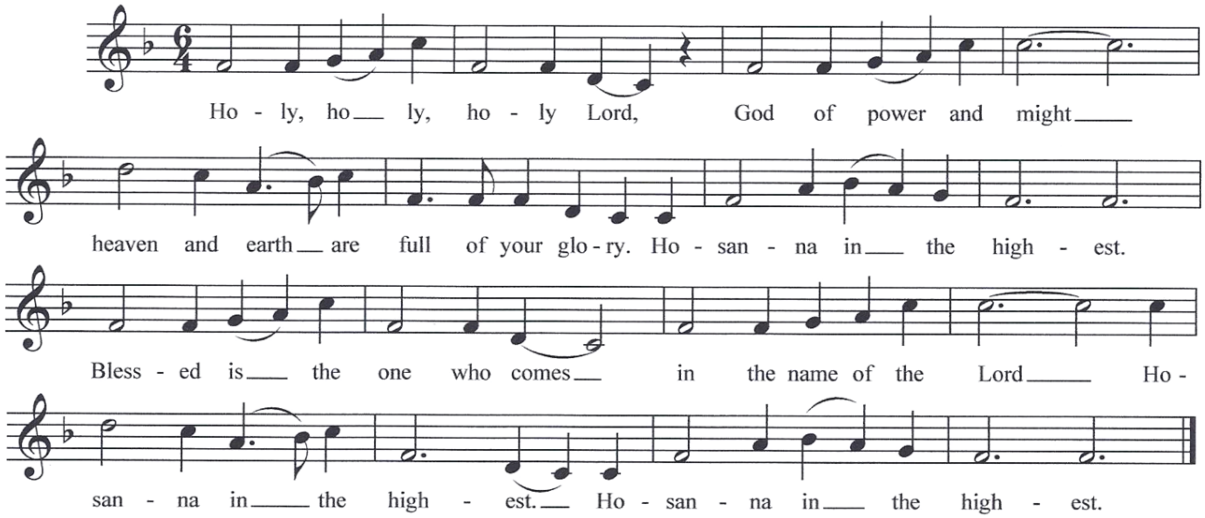
From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.
Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.
By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Celebrant and People

SANCTUS WLP858 **Holy, holy, holy Lord** Marcia Pruner, *Land of Rest*



The people stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues.

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,
We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

Lord God of our Fathers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.
Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. ***AMEN.***

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

People and Celebrant

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as 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 for ever. Amen.

Y ahora, en el idioma de nuestro corazón,
como nuestro Salvador Cristo nos ha
enseñado, somos valientes para orar,

El Pueblo y El Celebrant

Padre nuestro, que estás 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 dia.
Perdona nuestras ofensas,
como también nosotros
perdonamos a los que nos ofenden.
Y 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. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated 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 INVITATION & THE COMMUNION

Ushers will direct you.

If you are watching the service at home and unable to be physically present for in-person worship, you are welcome to pray this prayer for spiritual communion from The Prayer Book for the Armed Services:

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. Since I cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I invite you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you.
May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

NAVIGATING COMMUNION

All are welcome. Please allow the ushers to direct you toward the Table.
Your options for Communion:

- ***Bread and the Common Cup.*** *Receive the Host from the priest and go to the chalice bearer who will guide the Cup to your lips.*
- ***Bread and Intinction.*** *If you wish the bread dipped in wine, put forward one hand with your palm facing up and one hand in the air. The priest will intinct the Host and hand it to you.*
- ***Bread without wine.*** *Place your two hands together, one on top of the other. Know that bread alone is full and complete Communion.*
- ***Blessing instead of Communion.*** *Approach the priest with your arms crossed over your chest.*
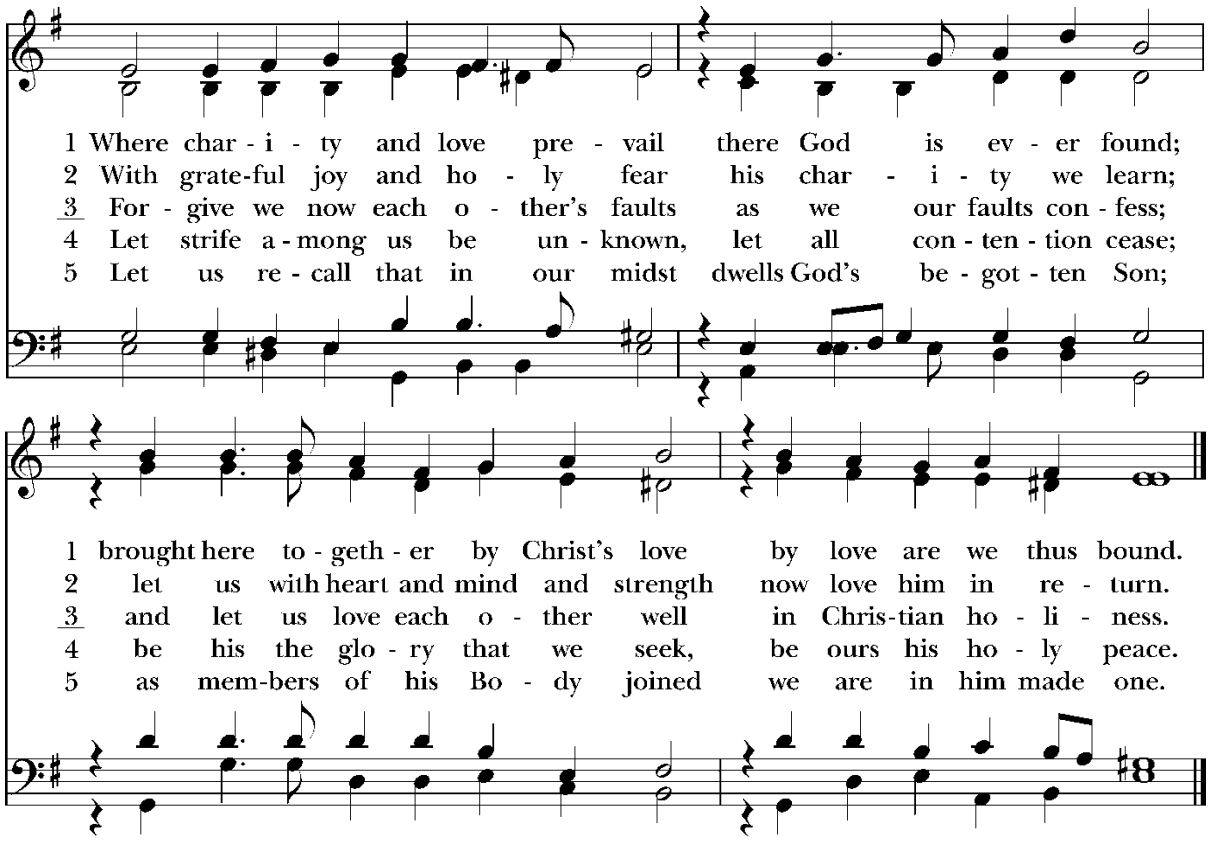
Gluten free wafers and non-alcoholic wine are available; let the priest know your preference and they will assist you.

If mobility issues prohibit you from walking up to the altar, please alert an usher and Communion will be brought to you.

Let nothing hinder you from eating from this Table.



THE COMMUNION HYMN 581 "Where charity and love prevail" *Cheshire*



6 Love can exclude no race or creed
if honored be God's Name;
our common life embraces all
whose Father is the same.

Words: Latin; tr. J. Clifford Evers (b. 1916). Copyright © 1961-2, World Library Publications, 3815 N. Willow Rd. Schiller Park, IL 60176. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Music: *Cheshire*, melody and bass from *The Whole Booke of Psalmes*, 1592, alt.; harm. *Hymns III*, 1979.

The Celebrant blesses any Lay Eucharistic Ministers visiting homebound parishioners.

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER
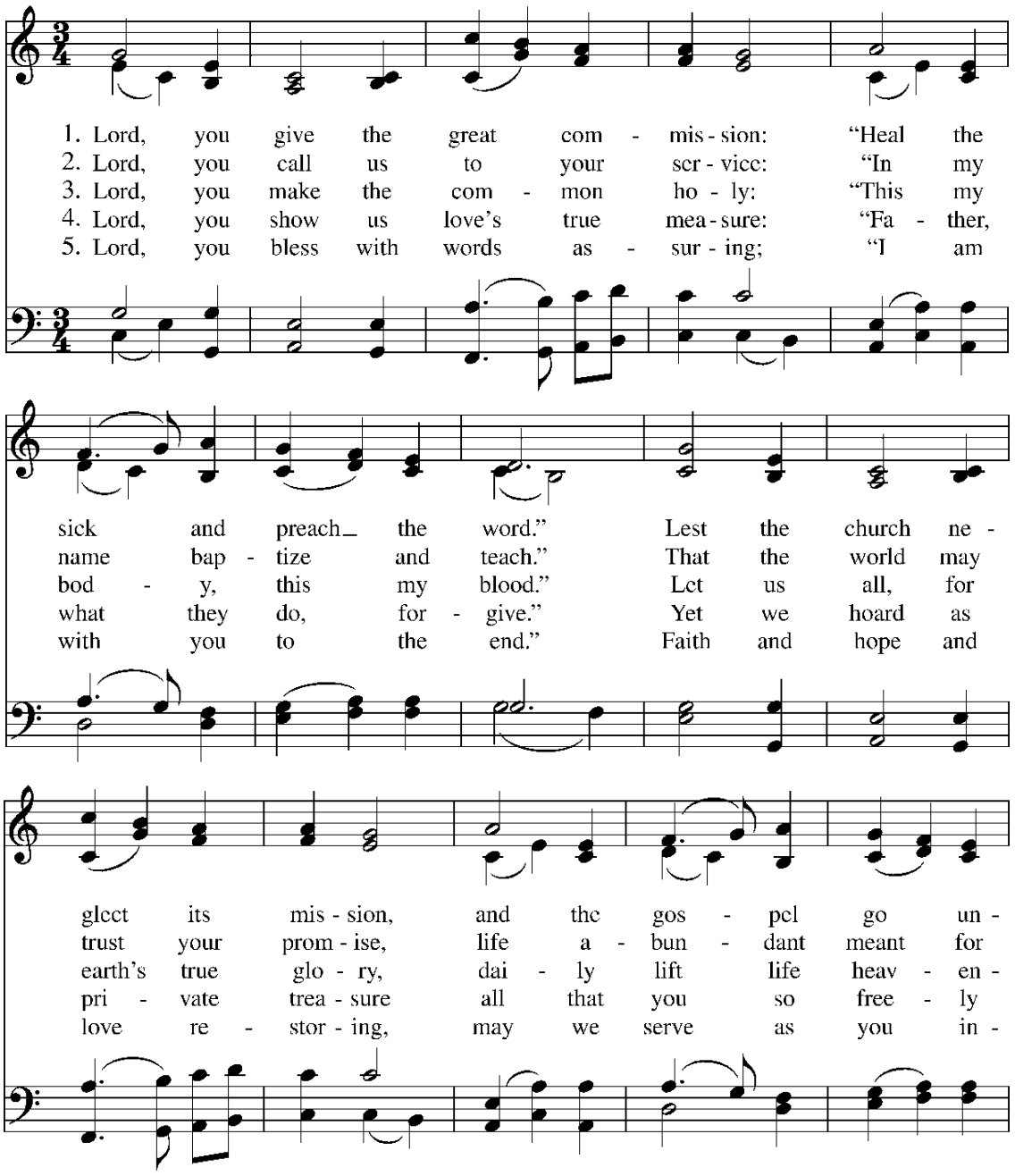
Celebrant Let us pray.
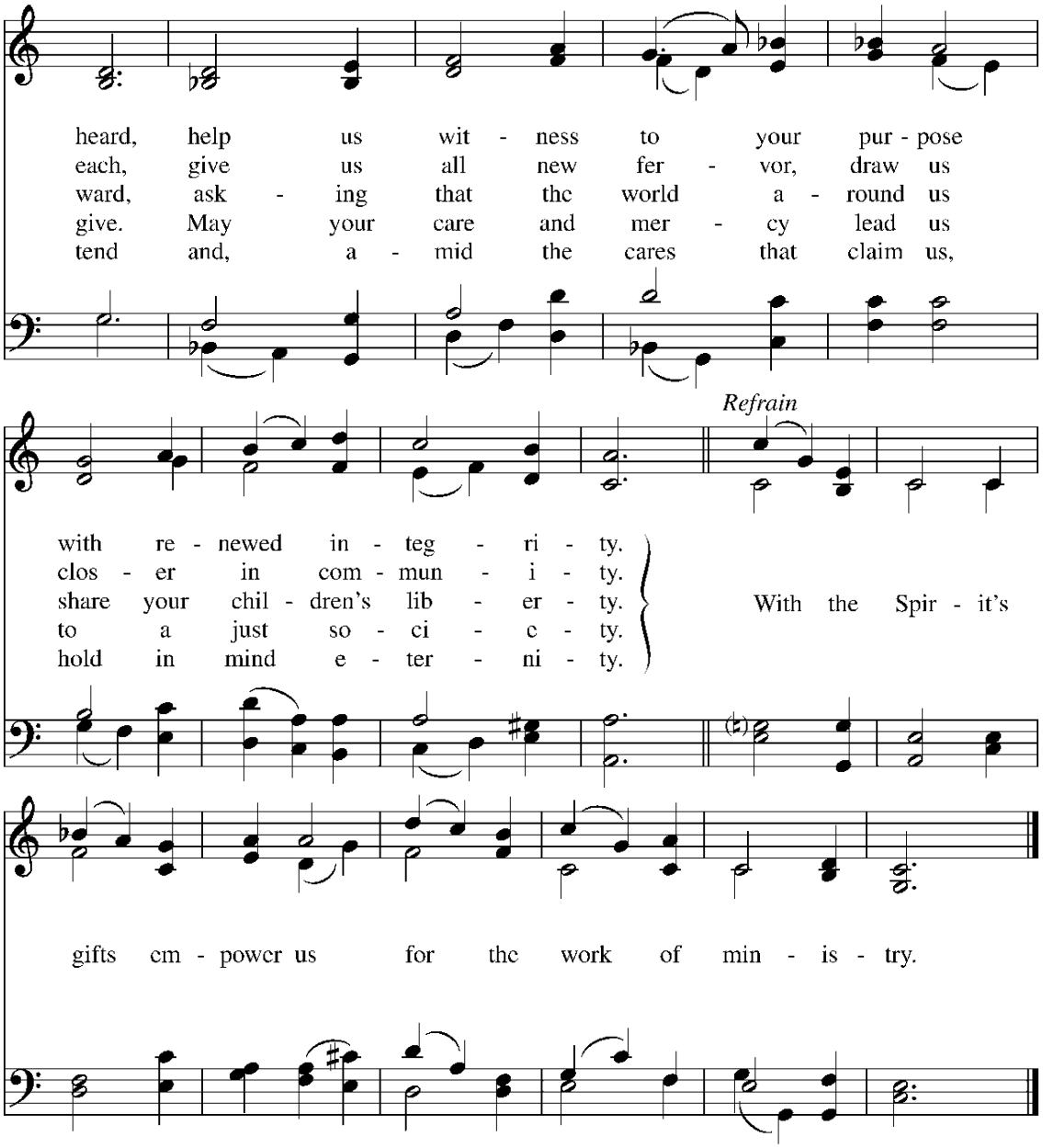
God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

THE BLESSING

This is a sacerdotal pronouncement of God's love and favor, used by a bishop or priest.

THE CLOSING HYMN WLP 780 "Lord, you give the great commission" *Abbot's Leigh*





Words: Jeffery Rowthorn (b. 1934). Music: *Abbot's Leigh*, Cyril Vincent Taylor (1907-1991).

THE DISMISSAL

Priest Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE "St. Anne (Toccatinas and Tidbits)" *Kevin Norris*

You are invited to remain seated and listen to the Postlude, or you can exit through the center aisle door. Our transept doors will remain shut until after the Postlude out of respect for the liturgy. Thank you for worshipping with us today.

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

The Rev. Dan Kline, *Celebrant*, Rabbi David Lazar, *Preacher*
The Rev. Jessie Thompson, *Preacher*
Charles Peery, *Director of Music;* Raul Valenzuela, *baritone*
Steve Moore (WC), Clinton Carbon, Larry Wilson, *Altar Ministers*
Steve Moore, Jon Coates, *Altar Guild*
Megan Goehring, Dan Drinan, *Reader & Intercessor*
Kathy Kilmer, Elizabeth Lester, Steven Tunnell, Nick Falconio, *Ushers*
Mark Berry, Daniel Schmidt, *Welcome Team*
Nick Falconio, *Vestry Welcome*

MUSIC CORNER

Scan this with your phone's camera to read more about the music in today's service.

CLERGY

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Susan Brown Snook, *Bishop*

The Rev. Jessie Thompson, *Rector*
revjessie@stpauldesert.church

The Rev. Dan Kline, *Rector*
revdan@stpauldesert.church

STAFF

Charles Peery, *Director of Music*
musicdirector@stpauldesert.church

Nancy Leal, *Parish Administrator*
parishadmin@stpauldesert.church

Samantha Hirsch, *Diaconal Intern*
intern@stpauldesert.church

Roberto Carrillo, *Sexton*

Cecilia Melero, *Assistant Sexton*

VESTRY 2026

John Raposa, *Senior Warden*; Brooke Wolford, *Junior Warden*;
George Holliday, *Treasurer*; Jack McLean, *Clerk*;
Alex Cherkas; Nick Falconio; John Hampson; Steve Klinkerman;
Dusty Porter; Rick Nauman; Pete Smith; Marian Stinson+

THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL IN THE DESERT
Palm Springs, California

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Standard text message and data rates may apply.

