Trinity Lutheran Church
Created to Praise
November 8, 2026
The Twenty Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

140 N 7th Ave
West Bend, WI
262-334-2125

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

TRINITY WELCOME
L: The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY

"Hope is a waking dream." ***-Aristotle***

"The future depends on what you do today." ***-Mahatma Gandhi***

"Great things are done by a series of small things brought together."
- Vincent van Gogh
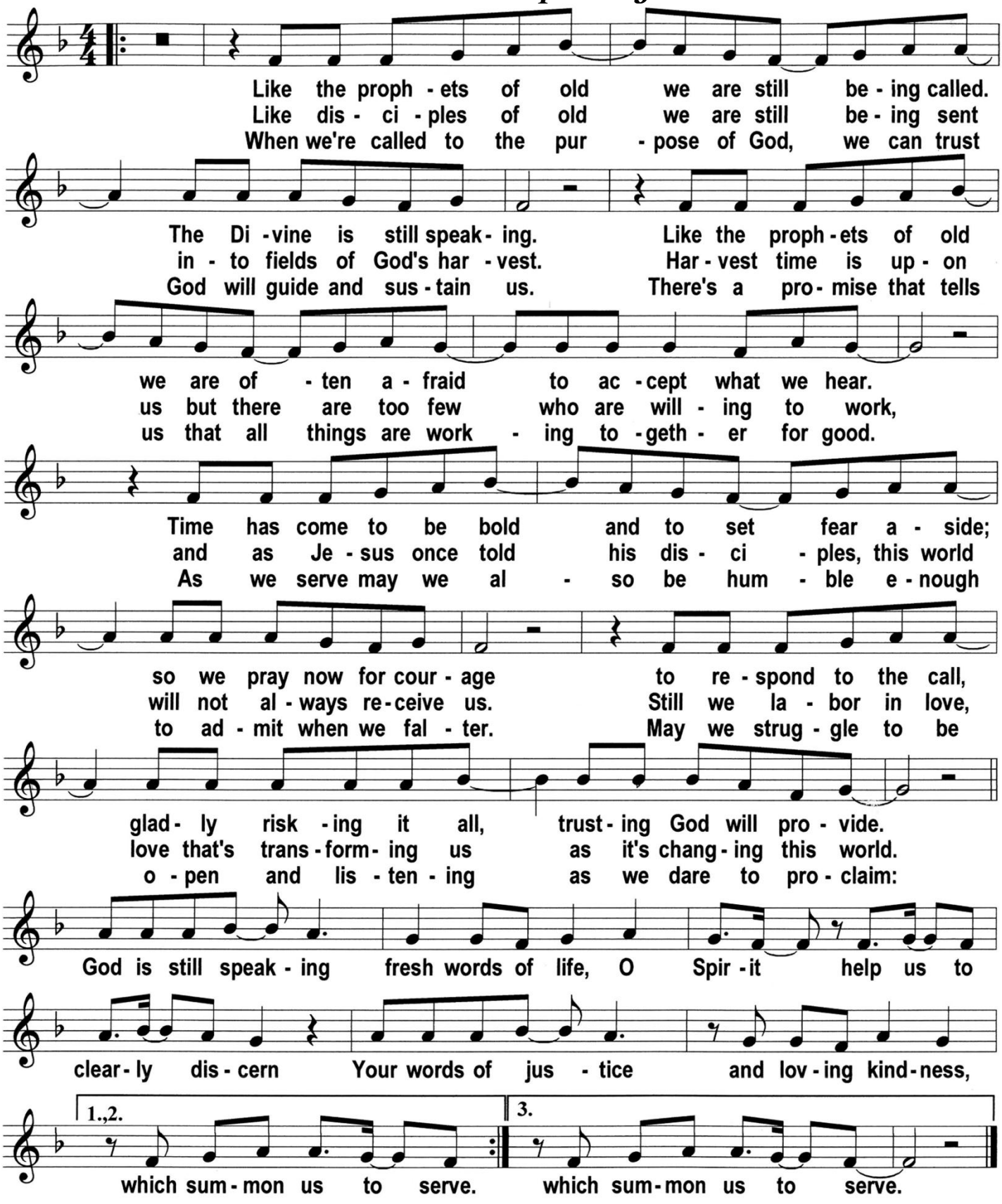
CALL TO WORSHIP *(stand)*

L: God calls us to prepare the way and make room for hope.
C: We place our hope in God's promises and unfailing love.

L: In times of waiting, God gives us strength and courage.
C: We open our hearts to God's presence and peace.

L: Let us quiet our minds and prepare to hear God's word.
C: Speak, Lord, for we are ready to listen.

PRAISE SONG ***"God is Still Speaking"***



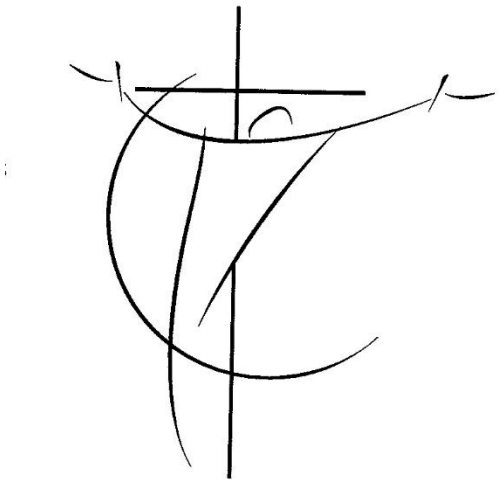
CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: Faithful God,

C: you call us to live with hope and trust in your promises. Yet we often become discouraged, focus on our fears, and miss opportunities to share your love with others. Forgive us, give us courage, renew our hope, and prepare us to serve others and share your light in the world.
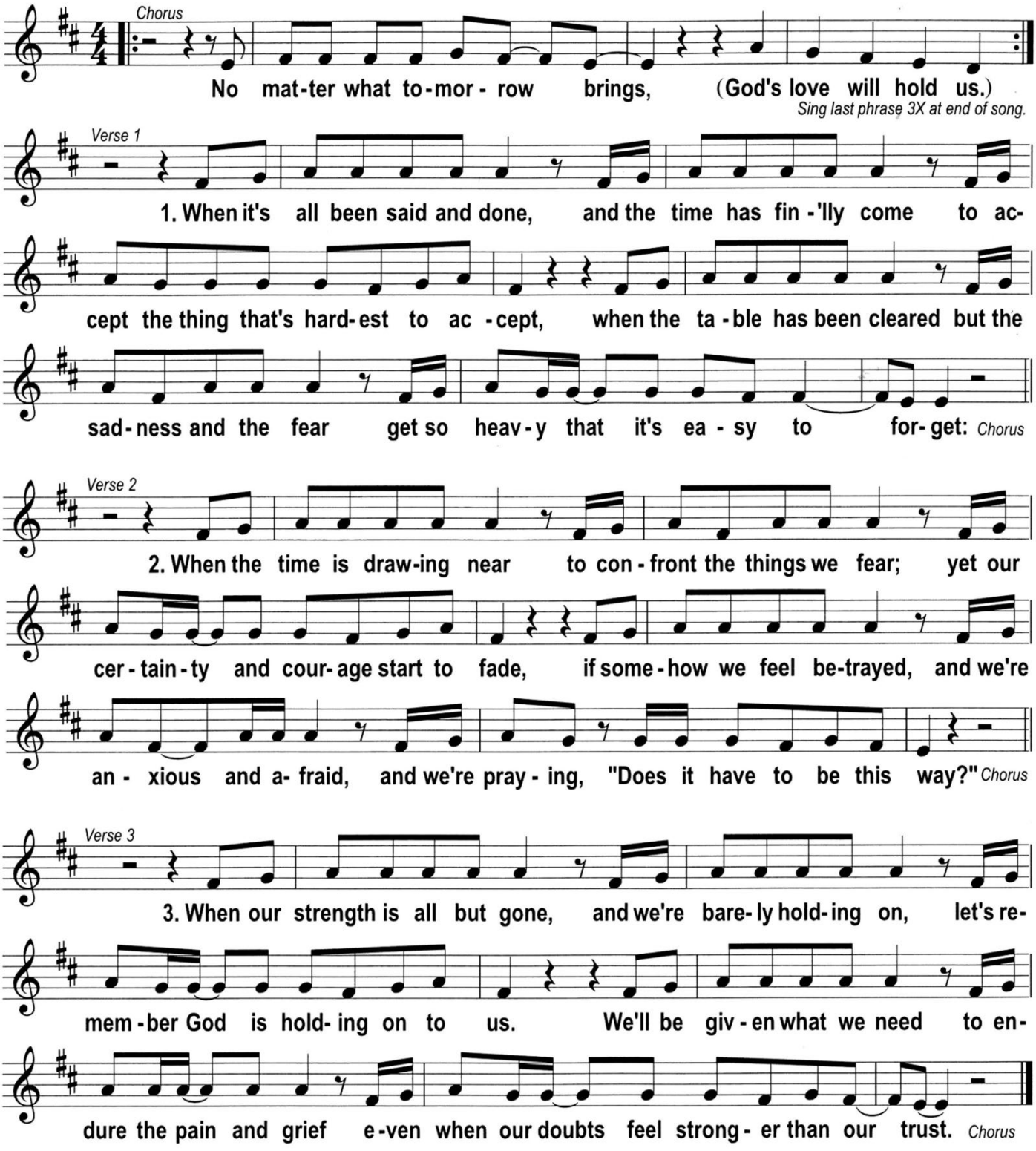
Assurance of Forgiveness

L: God's forgiveness is greater than our failures, God's hope is stronger than our fears, and God's promises are more certain than anything this world can offer. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and made new. So let us go forward with open hearts, ready hands, and hopeful spirits, knowing that nothing in all creation can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. **Amen.**



CONFESSION RESPONSE

"God's Love Will Hold Us"



CHILDREN'S MESSAGE ***Pastor Robb Kosky***

WORD
P: God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading
The first reading is Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25

24 Joshua gathered all Israel's tribes together at Shechem. He sent for the elders, leaders, judges and officials of Israel. They came and stood there in the sight of God.
2 Joshua spoke to all the people. He said, "The Lord is the God of Israel. He says, 'Long ago your people lived east of the Euphrates River. They worshiped other gods there. Your people included Terah. He was the father of Abraham and Nahor. 3 I took your father Abraham from the land east of the Euphrates. I led him all through Canaan. I gave him many children and grandchildren. I gave him Isaac.
14 "So have respect for the Lord. Serve him. Be completely faithful to him. Throw away the gods your people worshiped east of the Euphrates River and in Egypt. Serve the Lord.
15 But suppose you don't want to serve him. Then choose for yourselves right now whom you will serve. You can choose the gods your people served east of the Euphrates River. Or you can serve the gods of the Amorites. After all, you are living in their land. But as for me and my family, we will serve the Lord."
16 Then the people answered Joshua, "We would never desert the Lord! We would never serve other gods! 17 The Lord our God himself brought us and our parents up out of Egypt. He brought us out of that land where we were slaves. With our own eyes, we saw those great signs he did. He kept us safe on our entire journey. He kept us safe as we traveled through all the nations. 18 He drove them out to make room for us. That included the Amorites. They also lived in the land. We too will serve the Lord. That's because he is our God."
19 Joshua said to the people, "You aren't able to serve the Lord. He is a holy God. He is a jealous God. He won't forgive you when you disobey him. He won't forgive you when you sin against him. 20 Suppose you desert the Lord. Suppose you serve the gods that people in other lands serve. If you do, he will turn against you. He will bring trouble on you. He will destroy you, even though he has been good to you."
21 But the people said to Joshua, "No! We will serve the Lord."
22 Then Joshua said, "You are witnesses against yourselves. You have said that you have chosen to serve the Lord."
"Yes. We are witnesses," they replied.
23 "Now then," said Joshua, "throw away the statues of the gods that are among you. People from other lands serve those gods. Give yourselves completely to the Lord. He is the God of Israel."
24 Then the people said to Joshua, "We will serve the Lord our God. We will obey him."
25 On that day Joshua made a covenant for the people. There at Shechem he reminded them of its rules and laws.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Second Reading
The second reading is 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
13 Brothers and sisters, we want you to know what happens to those who die. We don't
want you to mourn, as other people do. They mourn because they don't have any hope.
14 We believe that Jesus died and rose again. When he returns, many who believe in him
will have died already. We believe that God will bring them back with Jesus. 15 This agrees
with what the Lord has said. When the Lord comes, many of us will still be alive. We tell
you that we will certainly not go up before those who have died. 16 The Lord himself will
come down from heaven. We will hear a loud command. We will hear the voice of the
leader of the angels. We will hear a blast from God's trumpet. Many who believe in Christ
will have died already. They will rise first. 17 After that, we who are still alive and are left
will be caught up together with them. We will be taken up in the clouds. We will meet the
Lord in the air. And we will be with him forever. 18 So encourage one another with these
words of comfort.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

P: Please stand as you are able for the reading of the Gospel.

The Gospel **Matthew 25:1-13**

P: The holy gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty fifth chapter.
C: Glory to you, O Lord.
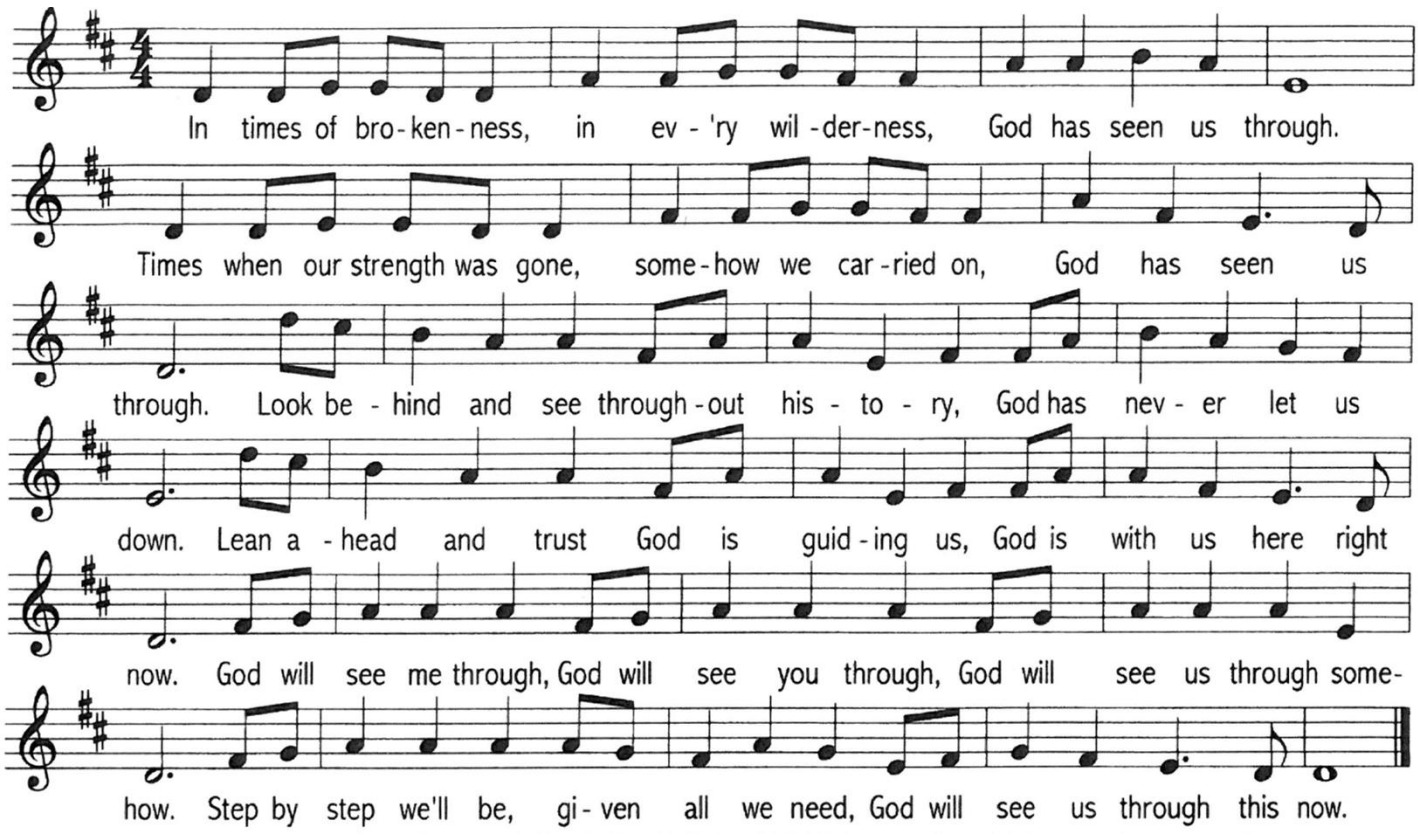
25 "Here is what the kingdom of heaven will be like at that time. Ten bridesmaids took
their lamps and went out to meet the groom. 2 Five of them were foolish. Five were wise.
3 The foolish ones took their lamps but didn't take any olive oil with them. 4 The wise ones
took oil in jars along with their lamps. 5 The groom did not come for a long time. So the
bridesmaids all grew tired and fell asleep.
6 "At midnight someone cried out, 'Here's the groom! Come out to meet him!'
7 "Then all the bridesmaids woke up and got their lamps ready. 8 The foolish ones said to
the wise ones, 'Give us some of your oil. Our lamps are going out.'
9 " 'No,' they replied. 'There may not be enough for all of us. Instead, go to those who sell
oil. Buy some for yourselves.'
10 "So they went to buy the oil. But while they were on their way, the groom arrived. The
bridesmaids who were ready went in with him to the wedding dinner. Then the door was
shut.
11 "Later, the other bridesmaids also came. 'Sir! Sir!' they said. 'Open the door for us!'
12 "But he replied, 'What I'm about to tell you is true. I don't know you.'
13 "So keep watch. You do not know the day or the hour that the groom will come.

The Gospel Response*:*
P: The gospel of the Lord.
C: Praise to you, O Christ.

(You may be seated)

MESSAGE ***Pastor Robb Kosky***

MESSAGE RESPONSE
(Please Stand) ***"God Will See Us Through"***



THE PRAYERS

P: United with the great cloud of witnesses, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.

(Each petition ends: "God in your mercy". The congregation responds: "Hear our prayer")

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

C: Amen.

MEAL

P: God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

THE OFFERING *(You may be seated)*
Please remember that your offerings of money, time and talents enable Trinity to "share the love and promise of God" through its ministries.

Offering Prayer *(Please stand as you are able)*
P: Eternal God,
C: 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.

THE COMMUNION SENTENCES
P: At this table, Christ meets us with forgiveness, love, and hope for tomorrow.
C: We come as God's people, strengthened by Christ's presence and ready to carry hope into the world.
P: In the night in which He was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to His disciples, saying: "Take and eat; this is my body given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."
Again, after supper, He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

THE LORD'S PRAYER

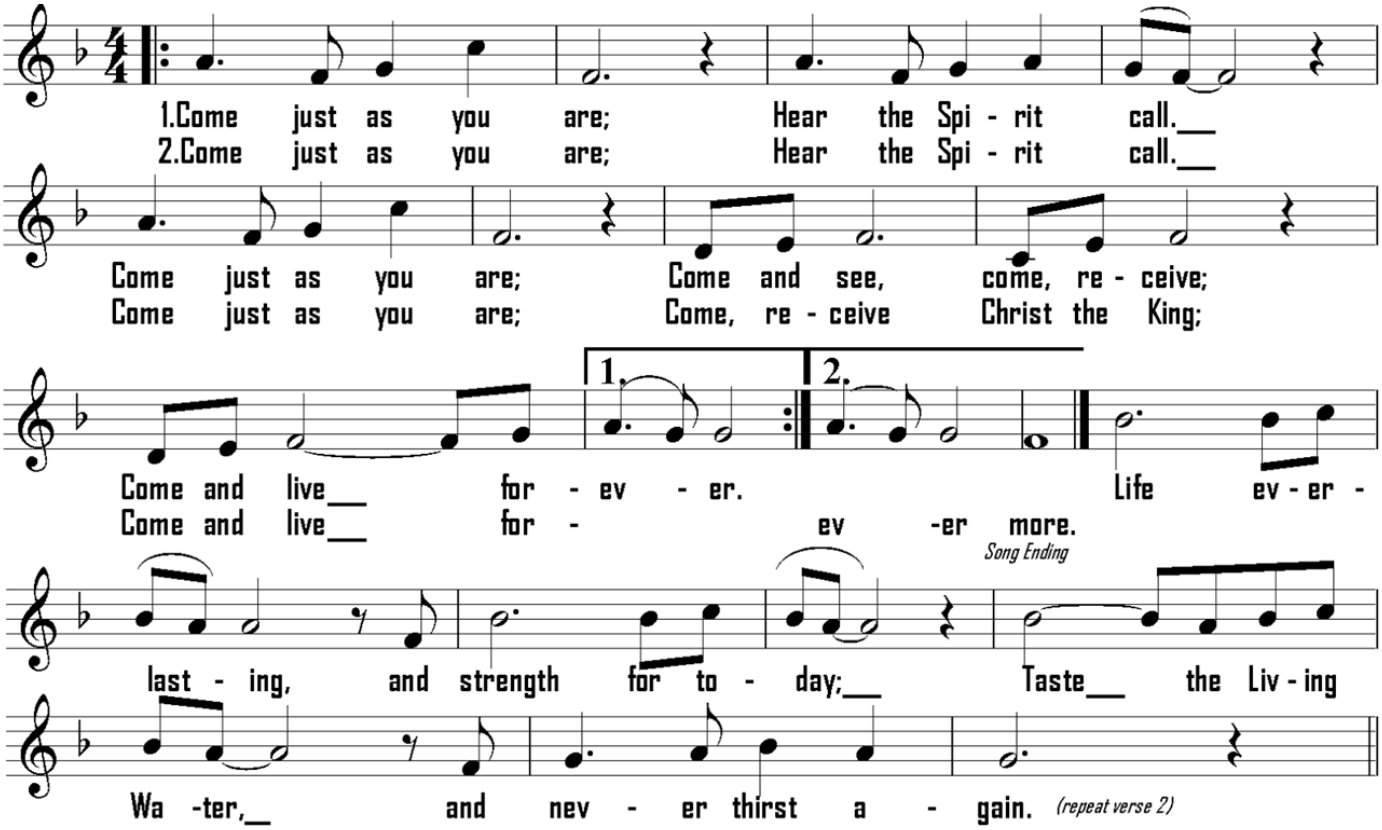
P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.
All: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION
P: Come to the table. Feast on God's goodness and mercy. All are welcome.
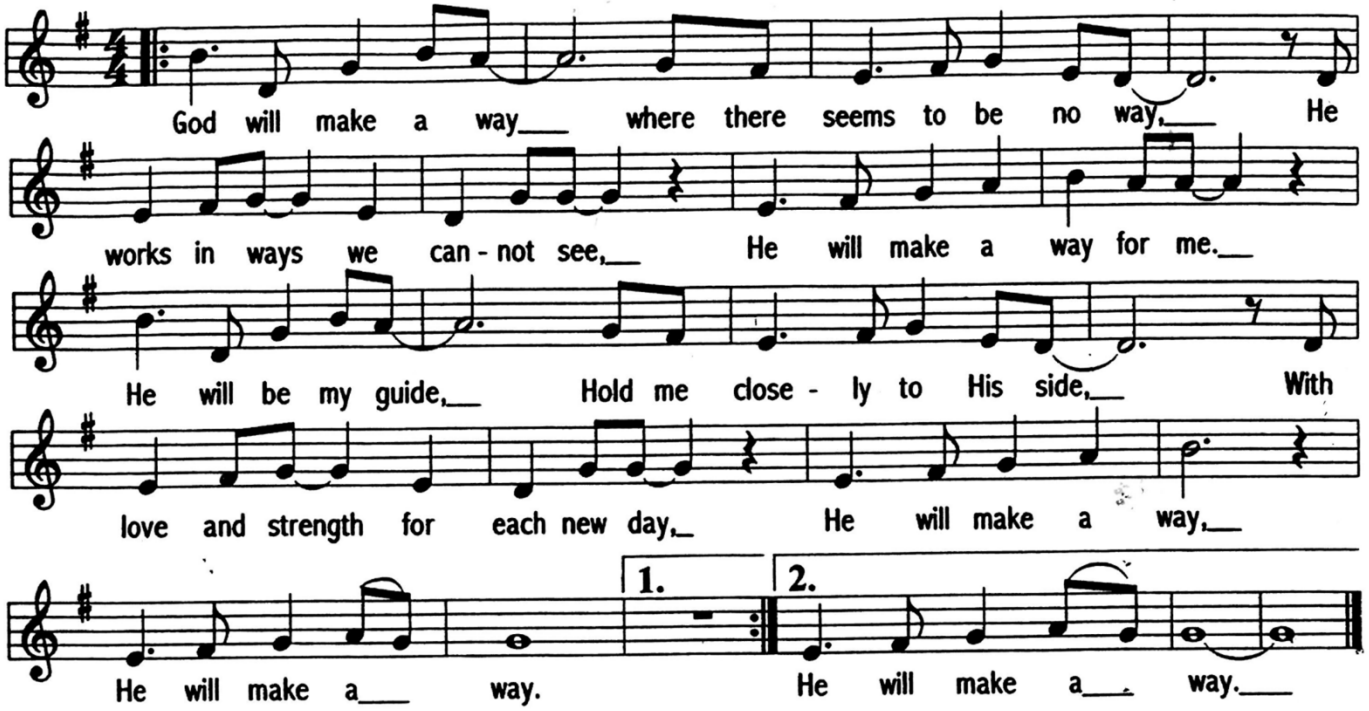
THE DISTRIBUTION *(You may be seated)*

All who celebrate Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior are invited to commune today.
We commune by intinction. When you receive the bread, you may either dip the wafer in the first chalice of wine or the second chalice of grape juice
Please indicate to the pastor if you need a gluten free wafer.
(We also have celiac friendly individually packaged wafer/wine in the first pew.)
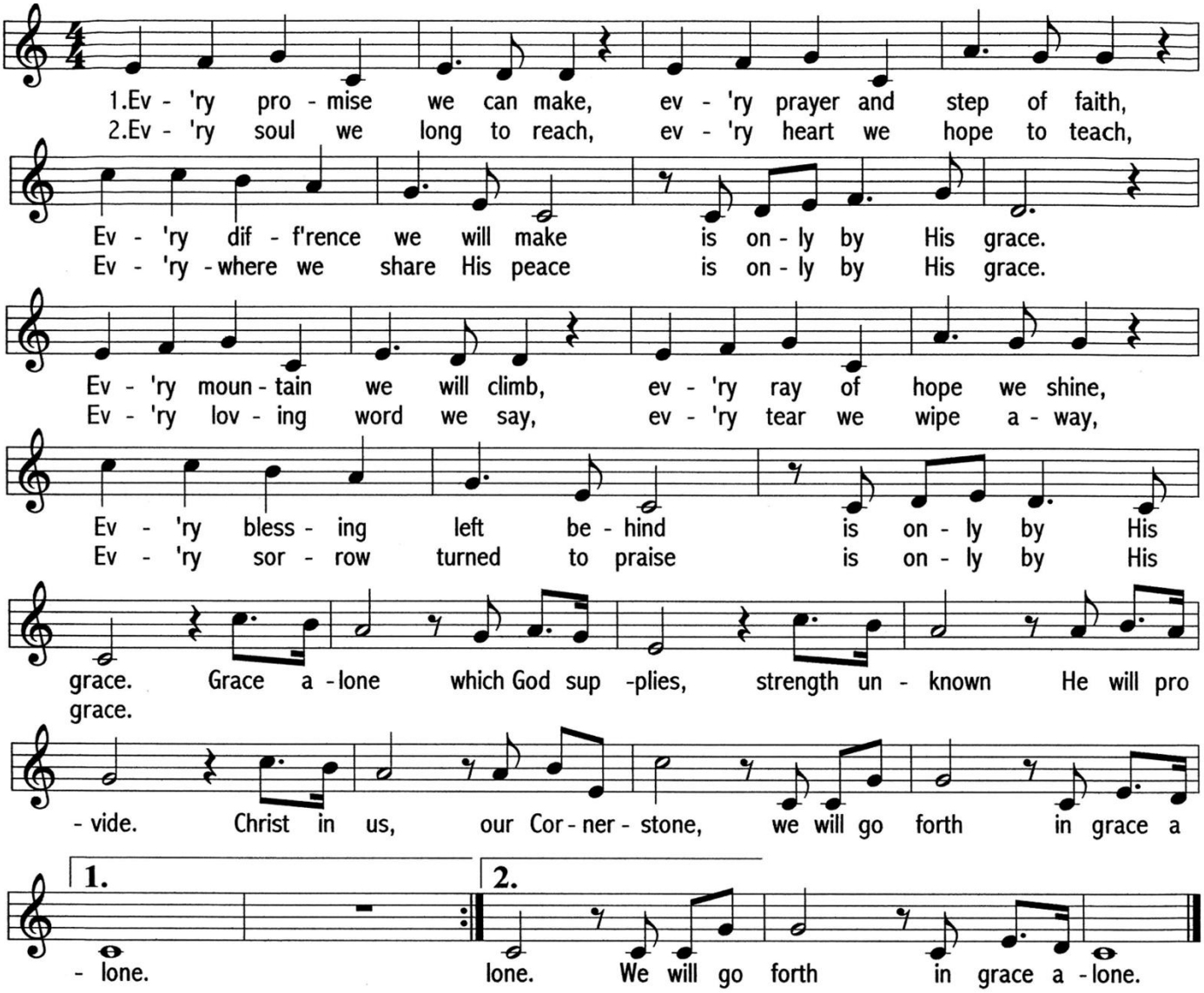
COMMUNION SONGS ***"Come Just As You Are"***



"God Will Make A Way"



"Grace Alone"



THE COMMUNION BLESSING *(please stand as you are able)*

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

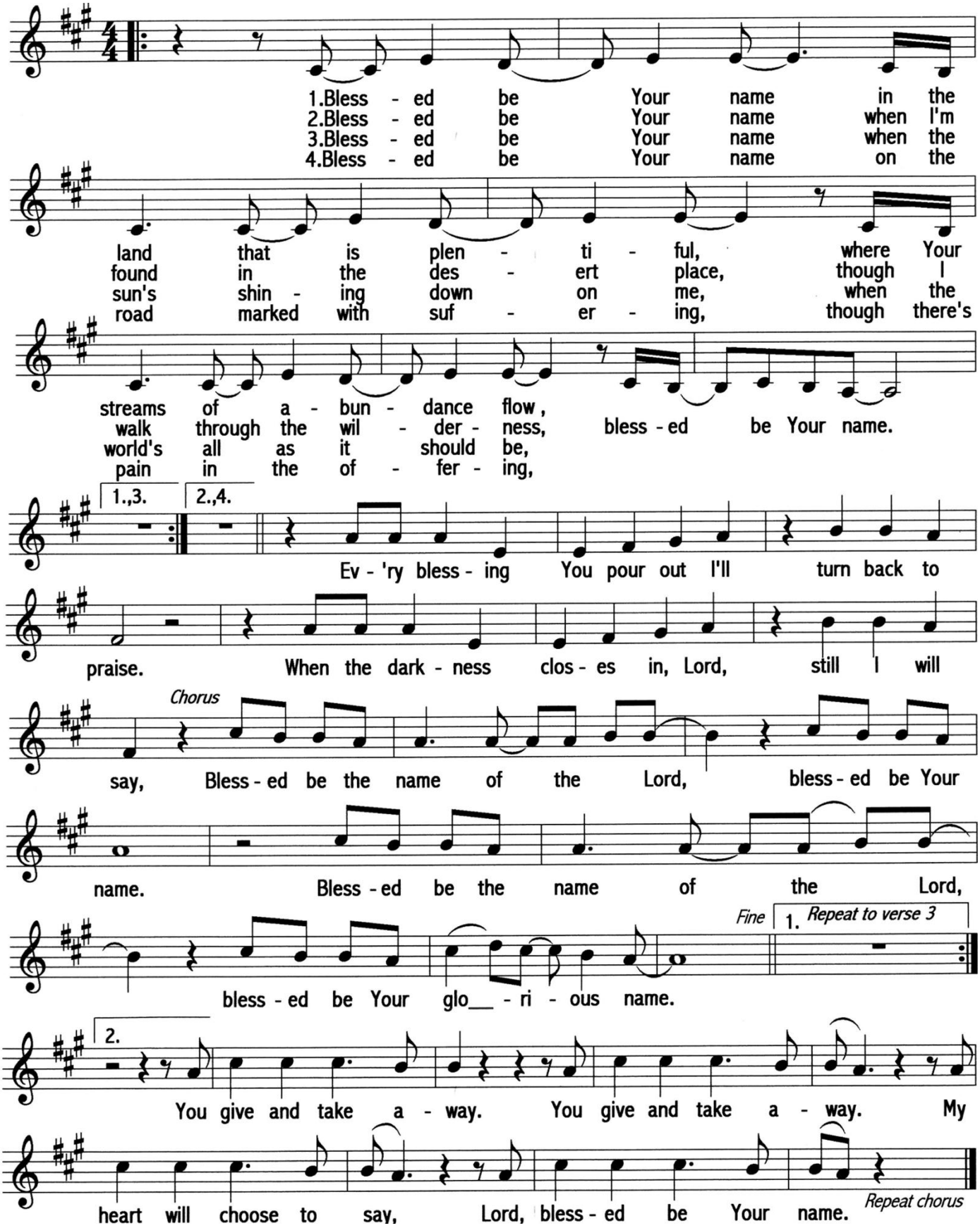
P: Holy God,

C: 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

P: Go in hope, trusting that God is already at work in the world around you. When the road ahead seems uncertain, remember that Christ walks beside you. When the days feel difficult, remember that God's promises are stronger than our fears. Share hope with those who are discouraged, offer kindness to those who are hurting, and be a light to those searching for God's love. **C: Amen.**

THE SENDING SONG ***"Blessed Be Your Name"***



THE DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

WE THANK OUR WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Pastor: Pastor Robb Kosky
Worship Assistant: Vern Hasenstein
Reader: Greg Griffin
Communion Set Up: Sue Kesy
Communion Servers:
Communion Baker: Sue Walker
Vocalists: Patrick Budoff, Ruthann Dorn, Rick Gilbertson, Greg Griffin, Gaytha Hillman
Keyboard: Lori Hassig
Bass: Elle Doerr
Ushers: Tom and Ardi Bergerud
Video: Mike Tikusis **Audio:** Sue Gilbertson
Counters: David Putnam, Richard Hills
Coffee Hour: Sandy Poenitsch, Ardi Bergerud

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Our Online Worship is streamed on our YouTube channel Sundays @ 9:00.
There is a possibility that in person church attendees may be seen on the video stream.

Trinity Lutheran Church is located on the original and ancestral homelands of the Ho-Chunk and Potawatomi people. As such, we wish to give thanks for their presence here since time immemorial. We also recognize and honor all our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this land their home. It is our sincere desire that this acknowledgement initiates an ongoing instructive, and constructive journey toward respect, truth and healing regarding colonialism, the church community, and inclusivity for all children of the Great Spirit. We commit ourselves as God's children to pray for our indigenous siblings, to pray for God's blessings on them and for strength for them and for us as we work together for justice, dignity, respect and peace for all the diverse people of the land.

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