Trinity Lutheran Church
Created to Praise
November 15, 2026
The Twenty Fifth 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

"A kind gesture can reach a wound that only compassion can heal." ***- Steve Maraboli***

"If you want to lift yourself up, lift up someone else." ***-Booker T. Washington***

"May your choices reflect your hopes, not your fears." ***-Nelson Mandela***

CALL TO WORSHIP *(stand)*
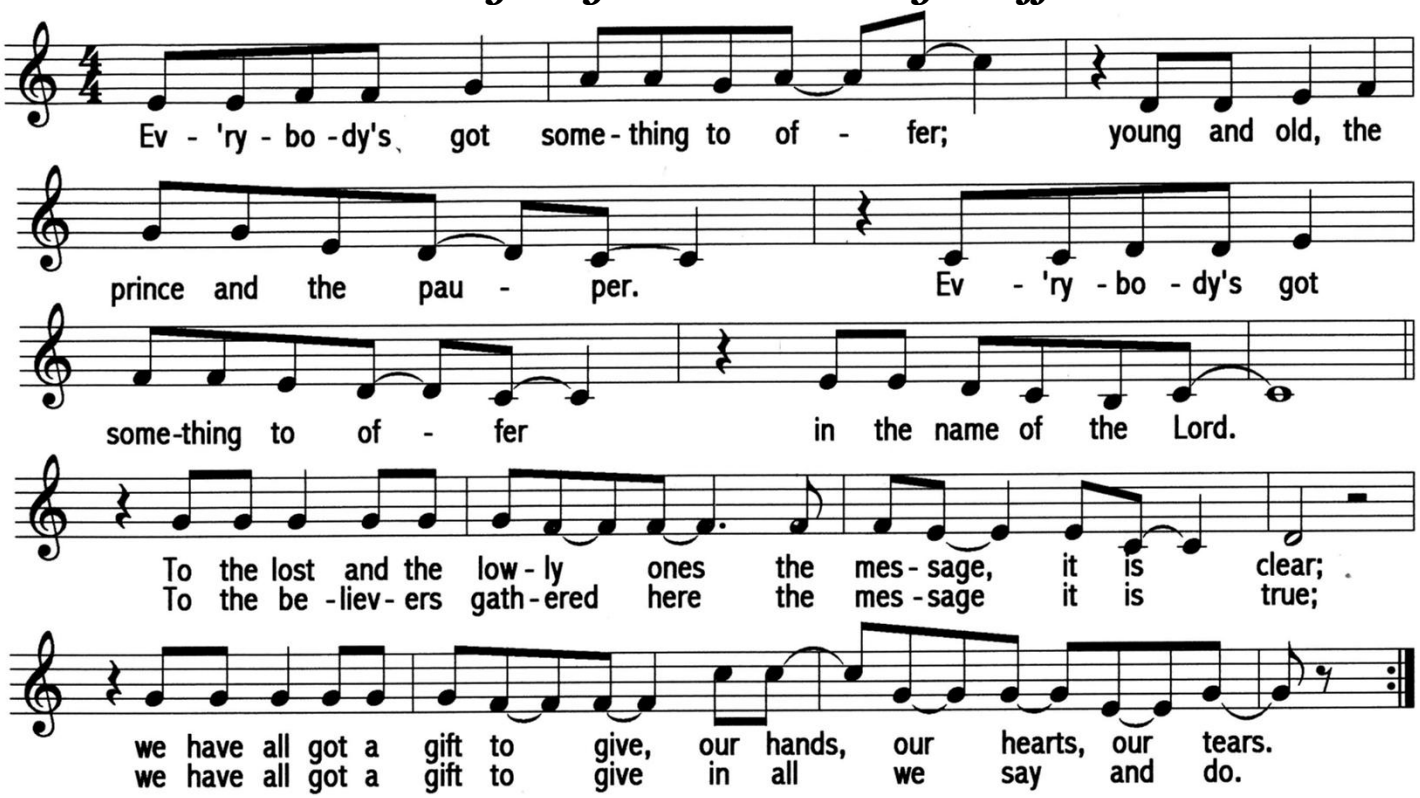
L: God has blessed each of us with gifts to share and opportunities to make a difference.
C: We give thanks for the gifts God has placed in each of us.

L: No gift is too small, no act of kindness insignificant, and no offering of love wasted.
C: Help us recognize the gifts in ourselves and in one another.

L: When others doubt their abilities, may we offer encouragement. When others are weary, may we offer support.
C: May we be a community that lifts one another up and celebrates what each person brings.

L: God calls us to encourage one another, to lift one another up, and to celebrate the gifts we see in others.
C: Together, we will grow in faith, share God's love, and encourage one another along the way

PRAISE SONG ***"Everybody's Got Something to Offer"***



CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: Gracious and Generous God,
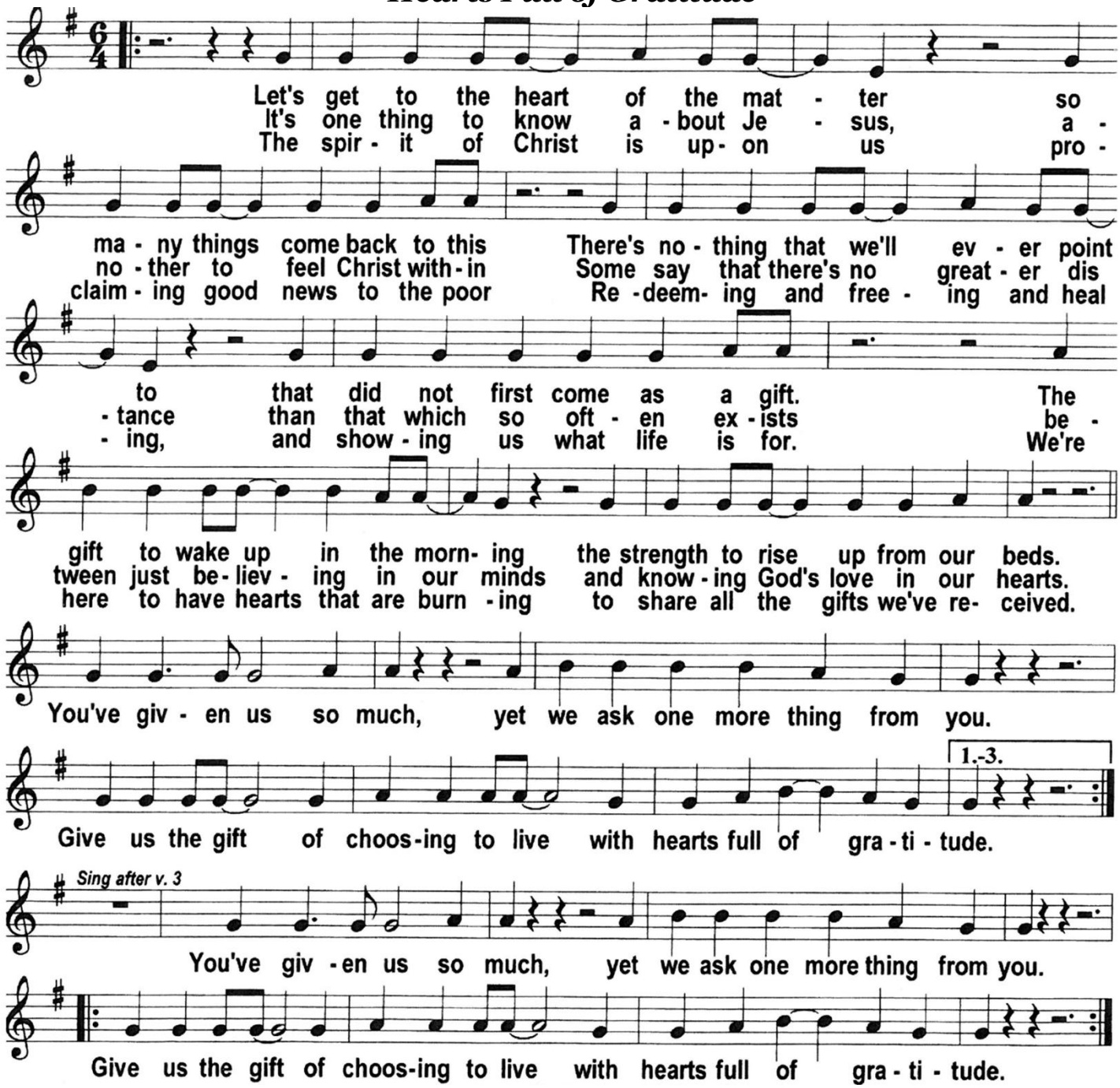
C: You have blessed us with so much—our time, talents, resources, relationships, and opportunities to make a difference. Yet too often, we take these gifts for granted, worry that we don't have enough, or hold back instead of sharing what we have. Forgive us when we choose fear over faith, scarcity over gratitude, and selfishness over generosity. Open our hearts to see the many ways you bless us and help us share our gifts with courage and joy, bringing your love to our neighbors and the world. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

L: Hear the good news: God's grace is a gift freely given through Jesus Christ. In Christ, we are forgiven, renewed, and set free to live with hearts full of gratitude and spirits ready to give generously. We are called to live by faith, share what we have, and reflect God's love in the world. In Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God! **Amen.**

CONFESSION RESPONSE

"Hearts Full of Gratitude"



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

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

First Reading
The first reading is Judges 4:1-7
4 After Ehud died, the Israelites once again did what was evil in the sight of the Lord. **2** So the Lord handed them over to the power of Jabin. He was a king in Canaan. He ruled in Hazor. The commander of his army was Sisera. He lived in Harosheth Haggoyim. **3** Jabin used 900 chariots that had some iron parts. He treated the Israelites very badly for 20 years. So they cried out to the Lord for help.**4** Deborah was a prophet. She was the wife of Lappidoth. She was leading Israel at that time. **5** Under the Palm Tree of Deborah she served the people as their judge. That place was between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim. The Israelites went up to her there. They came to have her decide cases for them. She settled matters between them. **6** Deborah sent for Barak. He was the son of Abinoam. Barak was from Kedesh in the land of Naphtali. Deborah said to Barak, "The Lord, the God of Israel, is giving you a command. He says, 'Go! Take 10,000 men from the tribes of Naphtali and Zebulun with you. Then lead them up to Mount Tabor. **7** I will lead Sisera into a trap. He is the commander of Jabin's army. I will bring him, his chariots and his troops to the Kishon River. There I will hand him over to you.' "

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Second Reading
The second reading is 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
5 Brothers and sisters, we don't have to write to you about times and dates. **2** You know very well how the day of the Lord will come. It will come like a thief in the night. **3** People will be saying that everything is peaceful and safe. Then suddenly they will be destroyed. It will happen like birth pains coming on a pregnant woman. None of the people will escape.
4 Brothers and sisters, you are not in darkness. So that day should not surprise you as a thief would. **5** All of you are children of the light. You are children of the day. We don't belong to the night. We don't belong to the darkness. **6** So let us not be like the others. They are asleep. Instead, let us be wide awake and in full control of ourselves. **7** Those who sleep, sleep at night. Those who get drunk, get drunk at night. **8** But we belong to the day. So let us control ourselves. Let us put on our chest the armor of faith and love. Let us put on the hope of salvation like a helmet. **9** God didn't choose us to receive his anger. He chose us to receive salvation because of what our Lord Jesus Christ has done. **10** Jesus died for us. Some will be alive when he comes. Others will be dead. Either way, we will live together with him. **11** So encourage one another with the hope you have. Build each other up. In fact, that's what you are doing.

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 25:14-30**

P: The holy gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty fifth chapter.
C: Glory to you, O Lord.

The Story of Three Slaves

14 "Again, here is what the kingdom of heaven will be like. A man was going on a journey.
He sent for his slaves and put them in charge of his money. 15 He gave five bags of gold to
one. He gave two bags to another. And he gave one bag to the third. The man gave each
slave the amount of money he knew the slave could take care of. Then he went on his
journey. 16 The slave who had received five bags of gold went at once and put his money to
work. He earned five bags more. 17 The one with the two bags of gold earned two more.
18 But the man who had received one bag went and dug a hole in the ground. He hid his
master's money in it.
19 "After a long time the master of those slaves returned. He wanted to collect all the
money they had earned. 20 The man who had received five bags of gold brought the other
five. 'Master,' he said, 'you trusted me with five bags of gold. See, I have earned five
more.'
21 "His master replied, 'You have done well, good and faithful slave! You have been
faithful with a few things. I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your
master's happiness!'
22 "The man with two bags of gold also came. 'Master,' he said, 'you trusted me with two
bags of gold. See, I have earned two more.'
23 "His master replied, 'You have done well, good and faithful slave! You have been
faithful with a few things. I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your
master's happiness!'
24 "Then the man who had received one bag of gold came. 'Master,' he said, 'I knew that
you are a hard man. You harvest where you have not planted. You gather crops where you
have not scattered seed. 25 So I was afraid. I went out and hid your gold in the ground.
See, here is what belongs to you.'
26 "His master replied, 'You evil, lazy slave! So you knew that I harvest where I have not
planted? You knew that I gather crops where I have not scattered seed? 27 Well then, you
should have put my money in the bank. When I returned, I would have received it back
with interest.'
28 "Then his master commanded the other slaves, 'Take the bag of gold from him. Give it
to the one who has ten bags. 29 Everyone who has will be given more. They will have more
than enough. And what about anyone who doesn't have? Even what they have will be
taken away from them. 30 Throw that worthless slave outside. There in the darkness,
people will weep and grind their teeth.'

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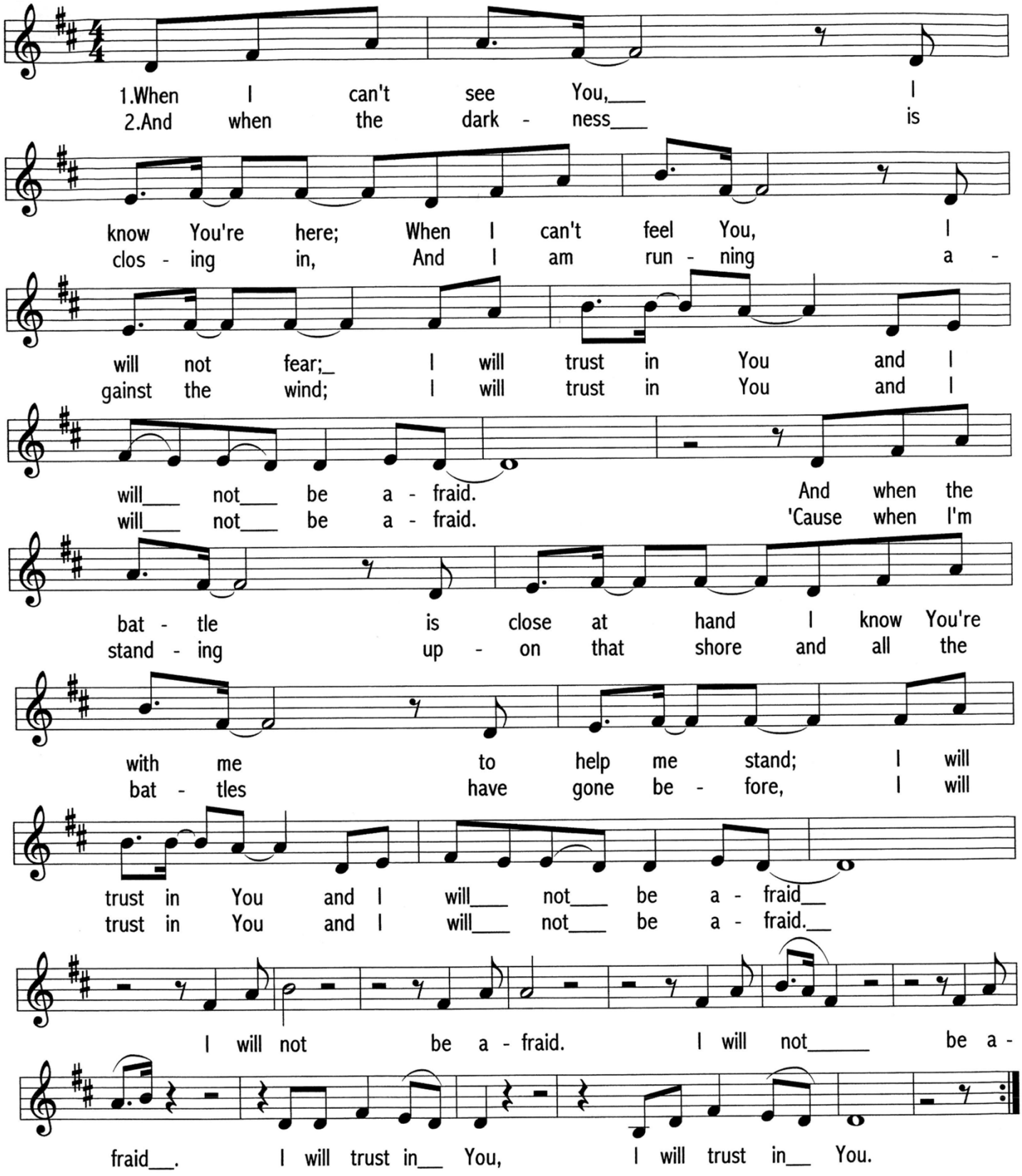
P: The gospel of the Lord.
C: Praise to you, O Christ.

(You may be seated)

MESSAGE ***Pastor Robb Kosky***

MESSAGE RESPONSE

(Please Stand) ***"I Will Trust in You"***



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.

Special Music "I Will Offer Up My Life" CTP Singers

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: God calls us to live boldly in faith, hope, and love.

C: May we live boldly and generously, encouraging one another, and giving hope to the world.

P: Come to Christ's table, where everyone is welcome and everyone is invited.

C: Here we find grace, belonging, and hope for tomorrow

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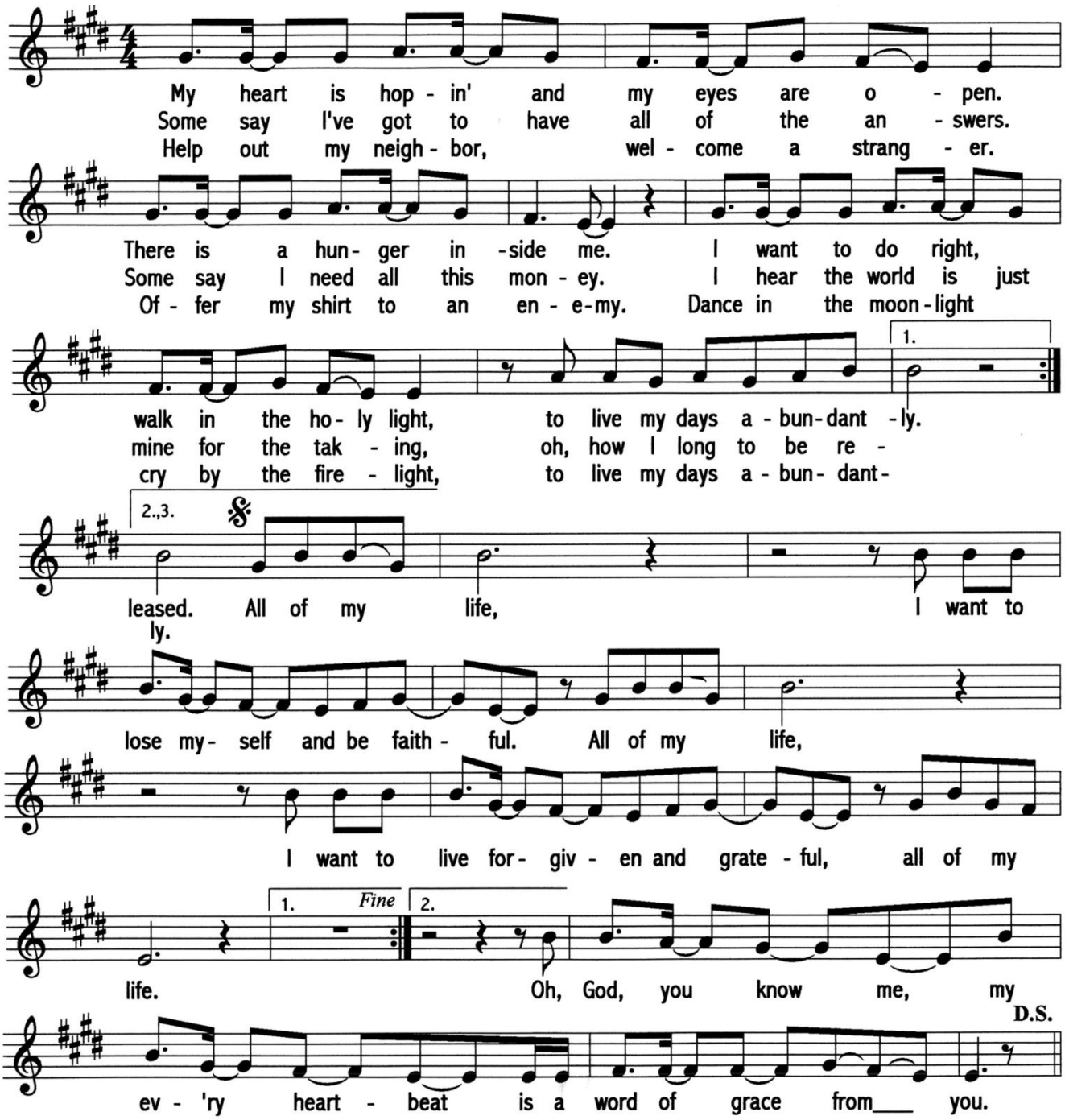
All: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory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

INVITATION TO COMMUNION
P: Come to the table. Feast on God's goodness and mercy. All are welcome.

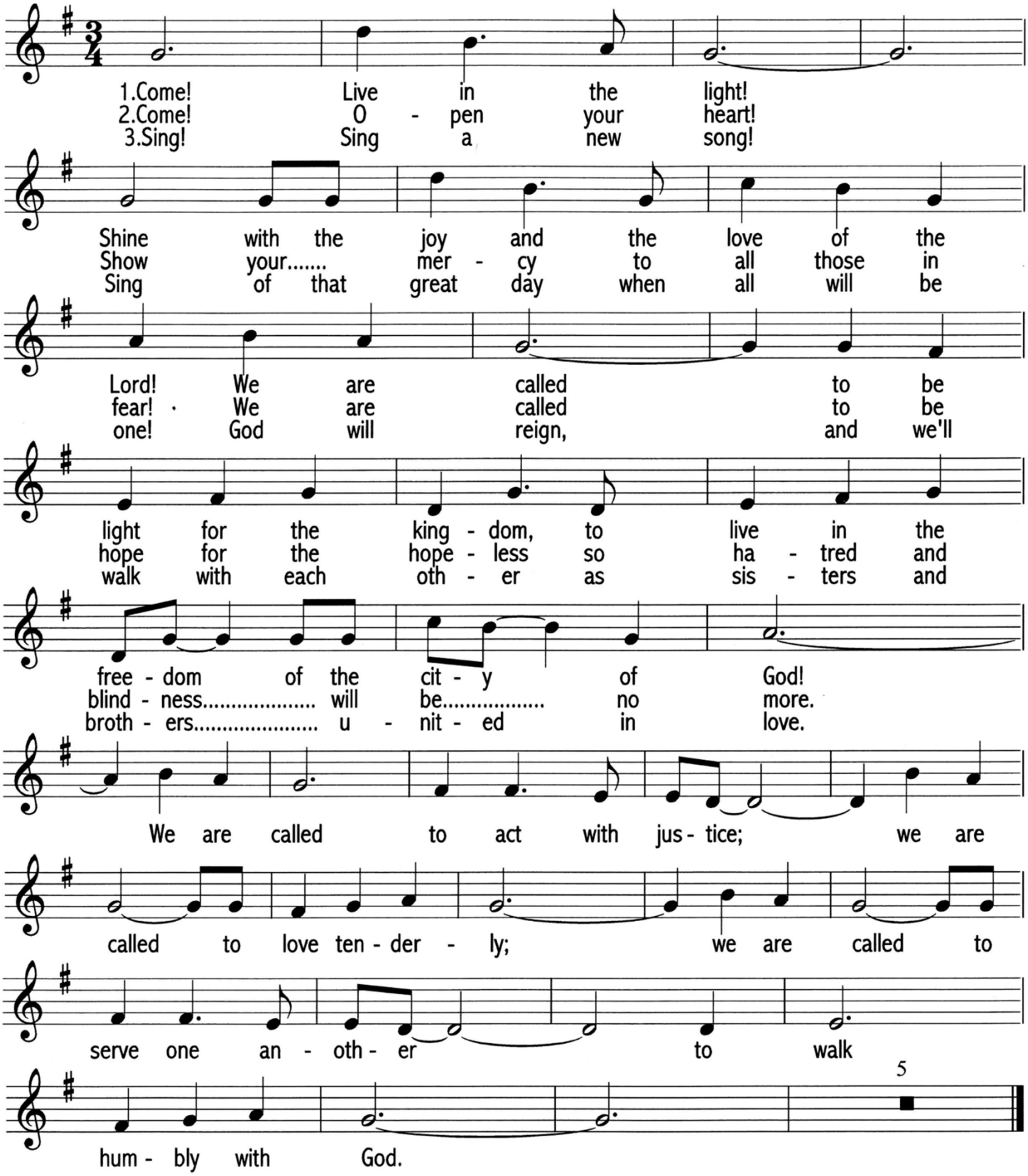
THE DISTRIBUTION *(You may be seated)*

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.)

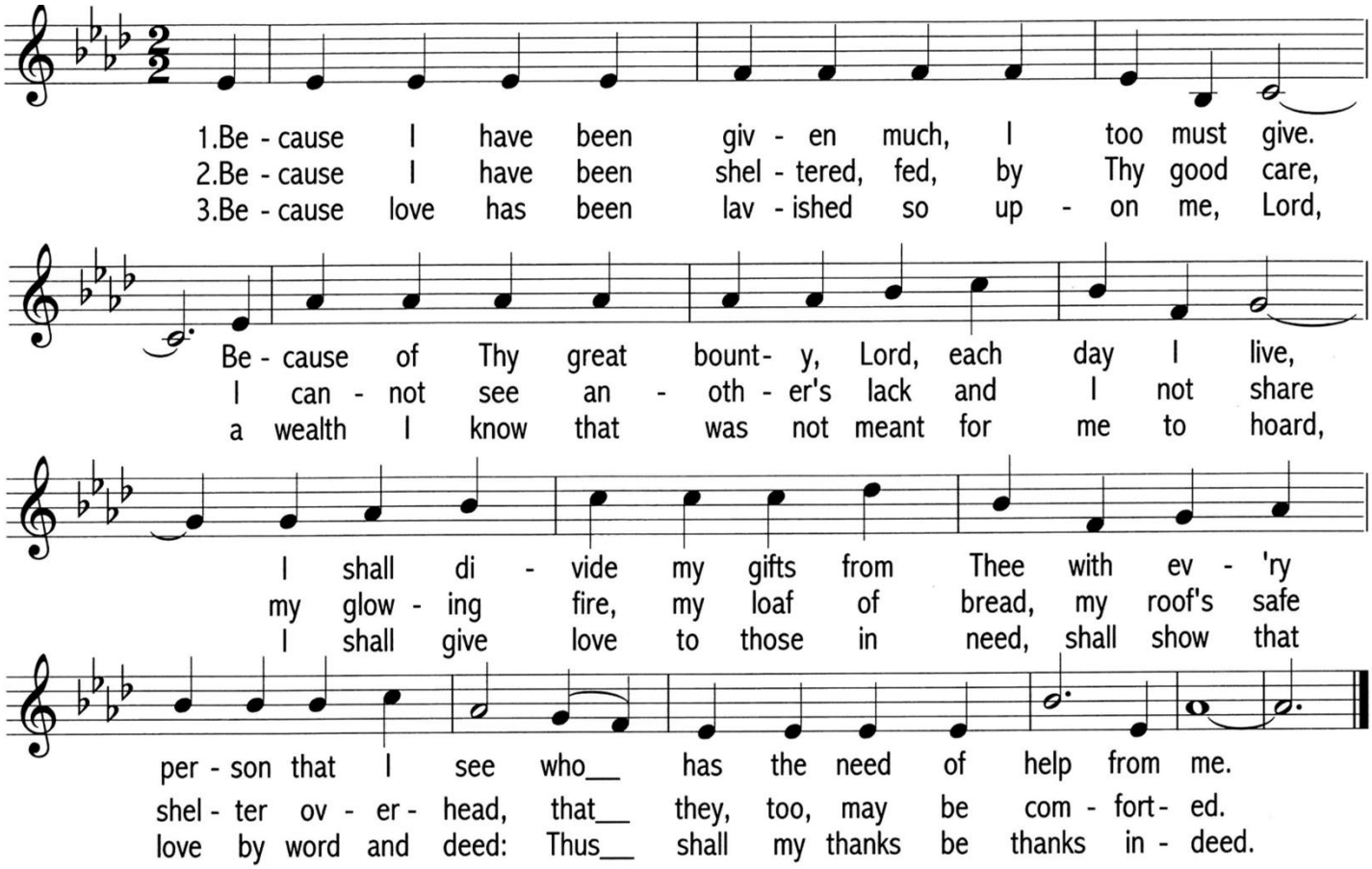
COMMUNION SONGS ***"All of My Life"***



"We Are Called"



"Because I Have Been Given Much"



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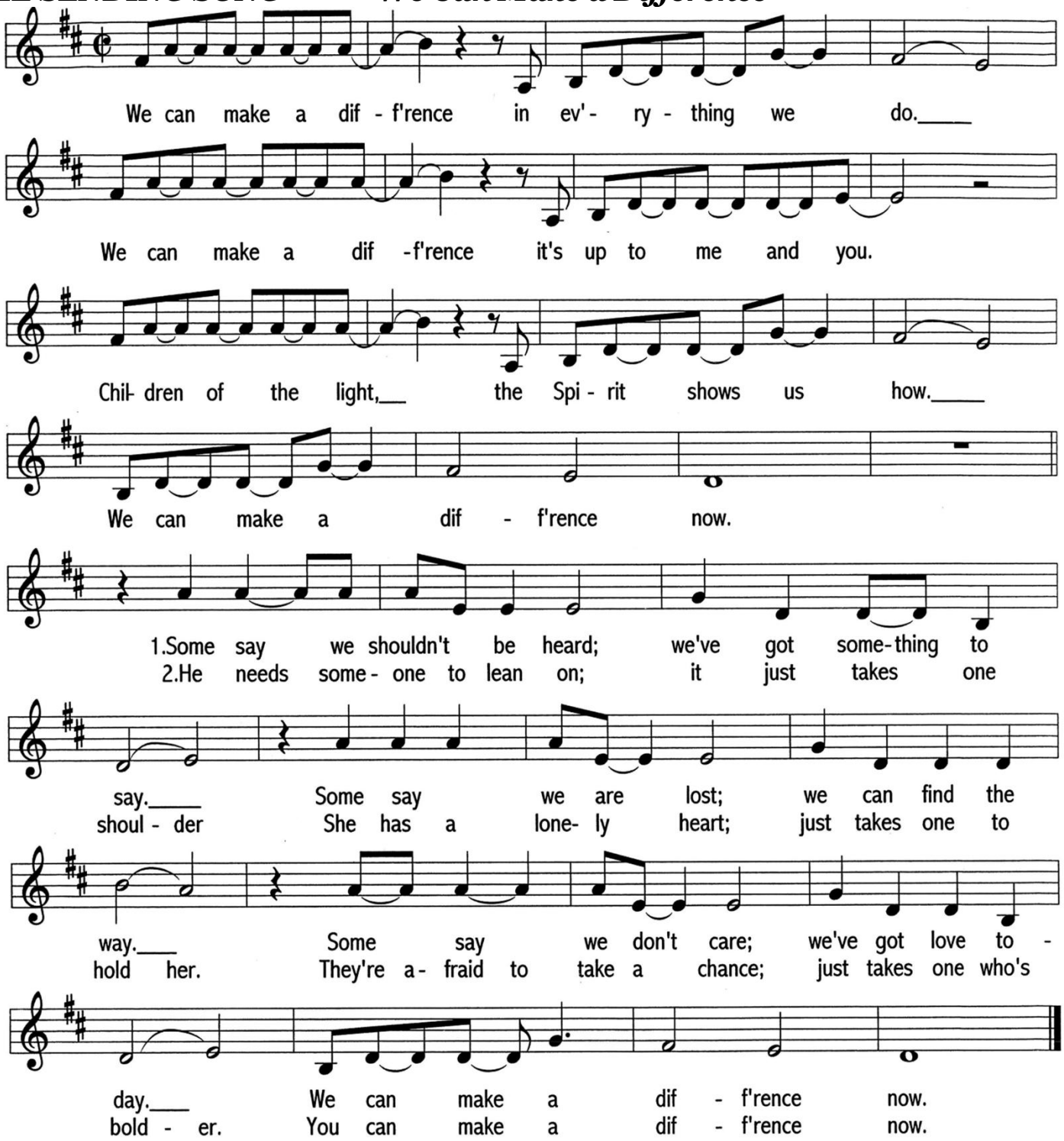
C: we have received your never-ending mercy in this meal. You continuously seek the lost, bind the injured, and feed your people abundantly. Now send us out, awake to your presence, now and forever. Amen.

SENDING

P: Go in peace and carry hope into a world that needs it. Share kindness, offer encouragement, and be a light to those who may be struggling. May your words bring comfort, your actions show compassion, and your life reflect the hope we have in Christ. Go and make a difference!

C: Amen.

THE SENDING SONG ***"We Can Make a Difference"***



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: Marcia Vrankin
Reader: Pat Hanvey
Communion Set Up: Mary Immekus
Communion Servers:
Communion Baker: Sandy Poenitsch
Vocalists: Cyndee Bruder, Elle Doerr, Rick Gilbertson, Phil Pierce
Keyboard: Darci Ketter
Bass: Elle Doerr
Ushers: Dan Pawlowski, Jim Klatt
Video: Cheryl Scaffidi **Audio:** Sue Gilbertson
Counters: CarlEda Skinkis, Ron Hinzpeter
Coffee Hour: Cindy Tikusis, Sue Walker

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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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