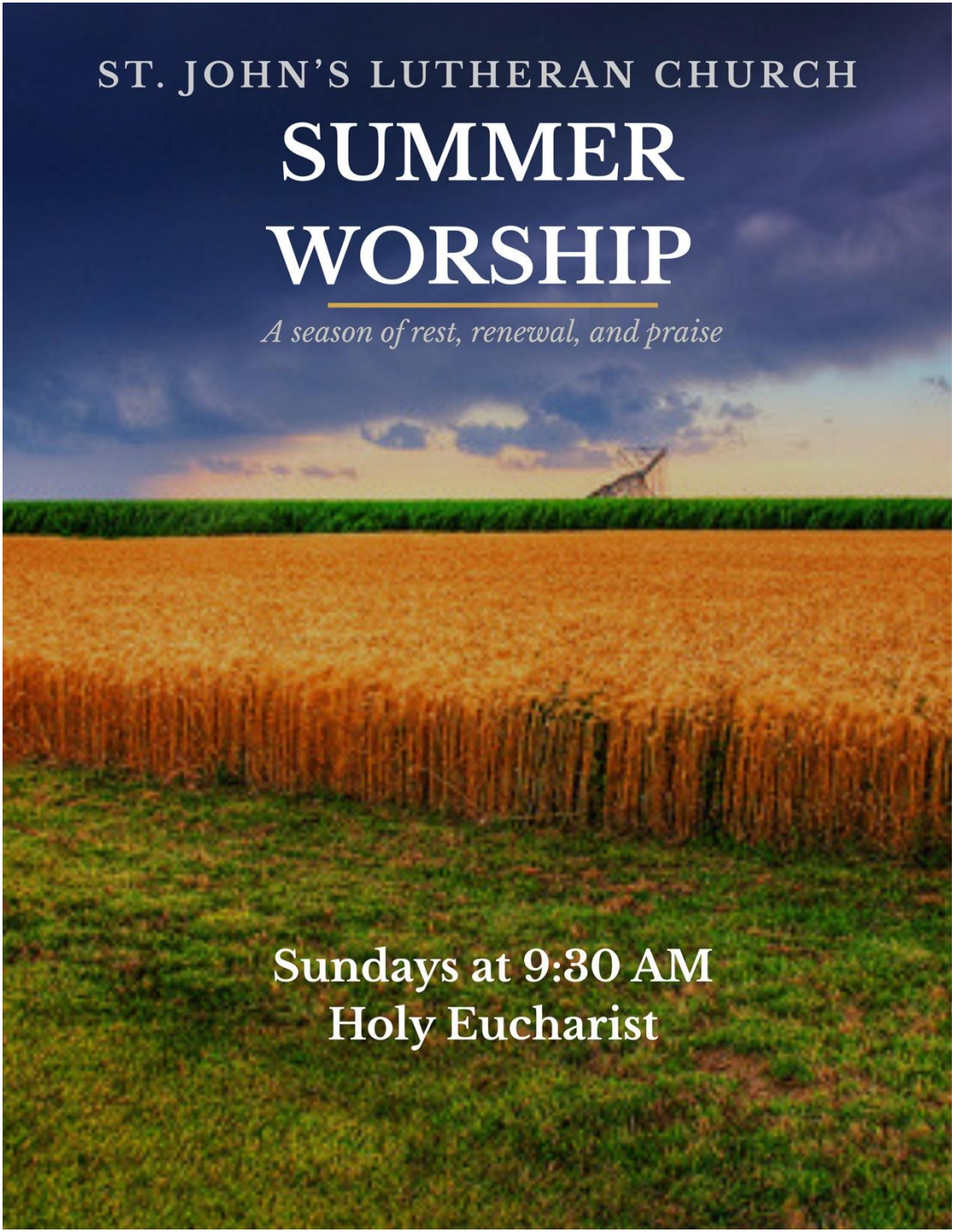

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
SUMMER WORSHIP
A season of rest, renewal, and praise
Sundays at 9:30 AM
Holy Eucharist

Parish Office:
parishoffice@sjlcstamford.com
Pastor Martha:
MMcCreight@sjlcstamford.com
Cantor Nathan:
NLivelyGreyling@sjlcstamford.com
Finance:
finance@sjlcstamford.com

We are delighted to have you with us today! To help us keep track of our cherished visitors, we kindly ask that you sign the visitor book located in the Narthex. This small gesture allows us to connect with you and offer any assistance you may need. Additionally, our ushers are more than happy to provide guidance and answer any questions you might have during worship. Whether you're here for the first time or returning, we hope you feel welcomed.

Busy bags are in the Narthex for your little ones to enjoy. These bags are thoughtfully prepared to keep children engaged during the service. Additionally, we invite you to explore and make use of the Godly Play area at the back of the Nave, designed to provide a welcoming and enriching environment for our young attendees. We hope these resources help create a meaningful and enjoyable experience for your family.

Mission Statement

All are welcome! We share Christ's love, grow in faith, and serve others.

PRELUDE

We stand.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

In the name of the Father,
and of the ☩ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom 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 Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

We kneel or stand.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

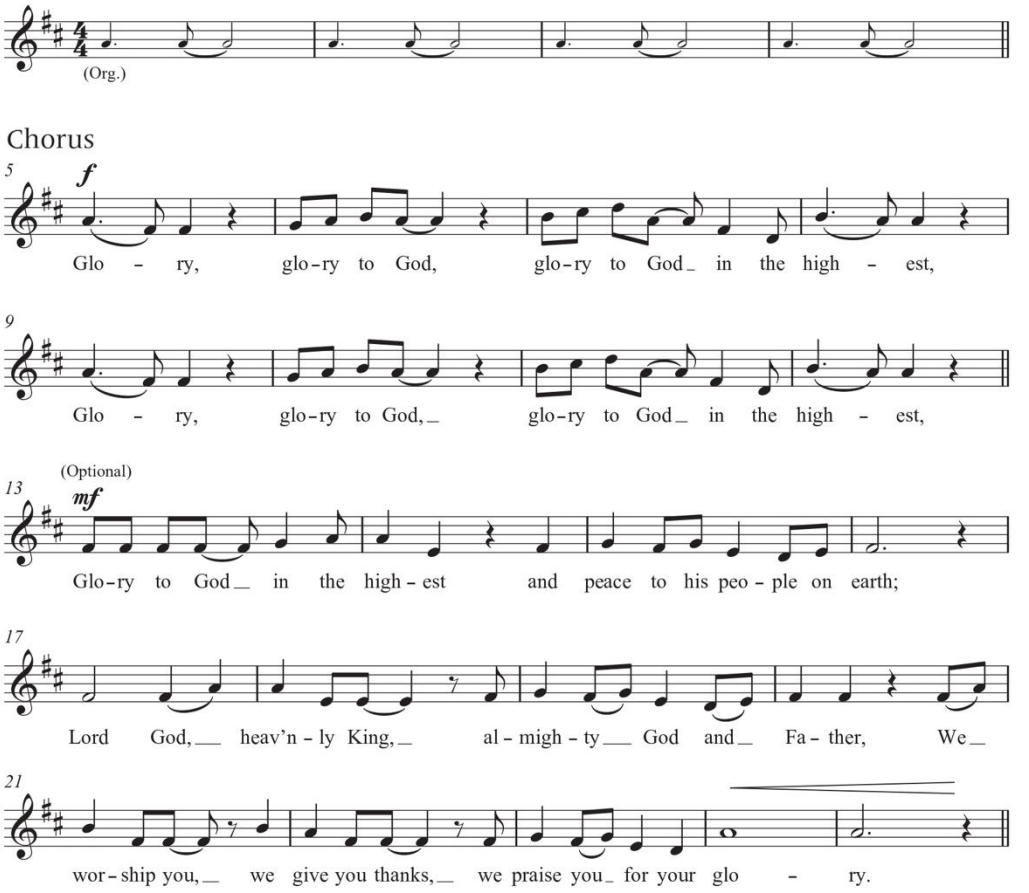
Most merciful God,
we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen

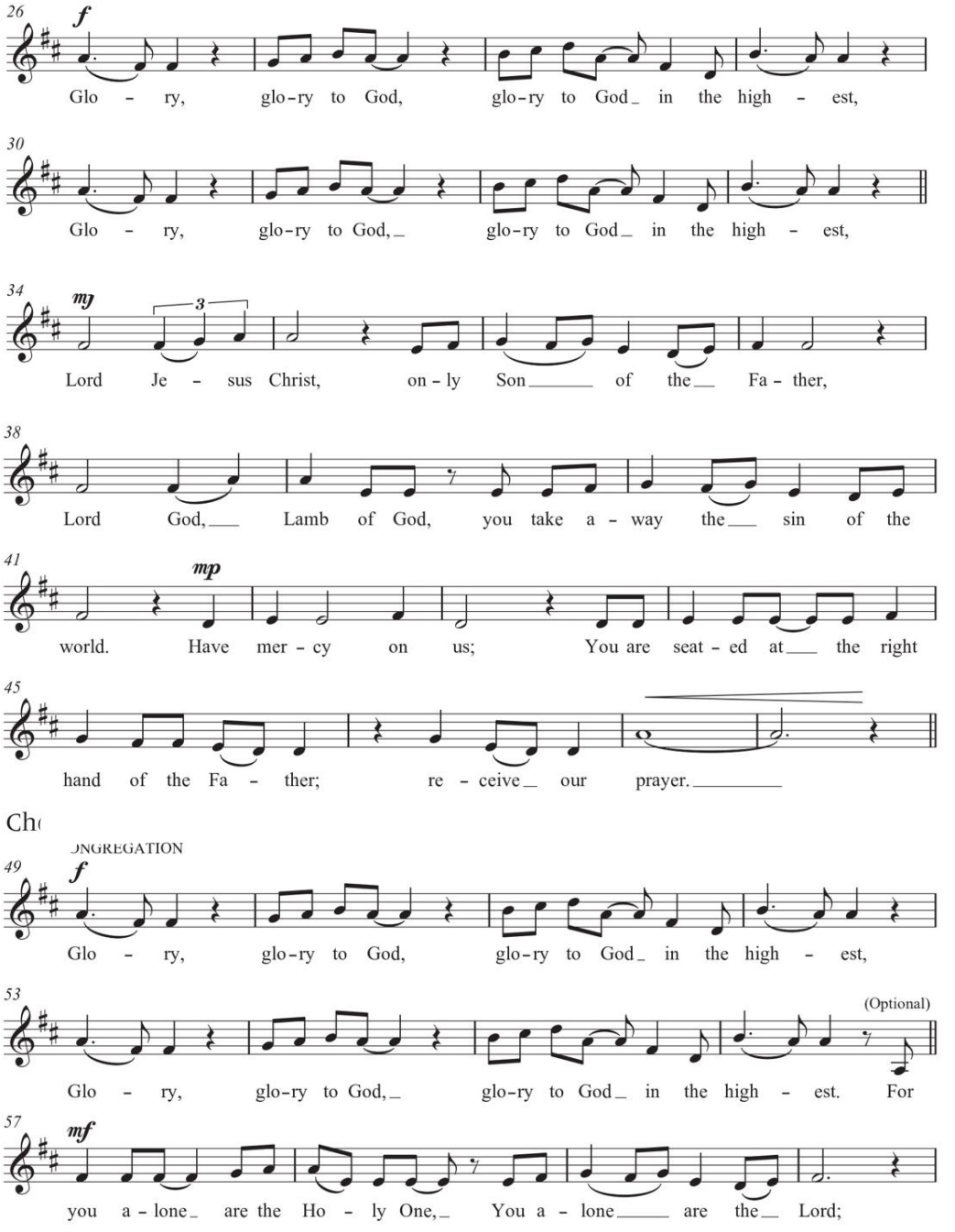
Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen

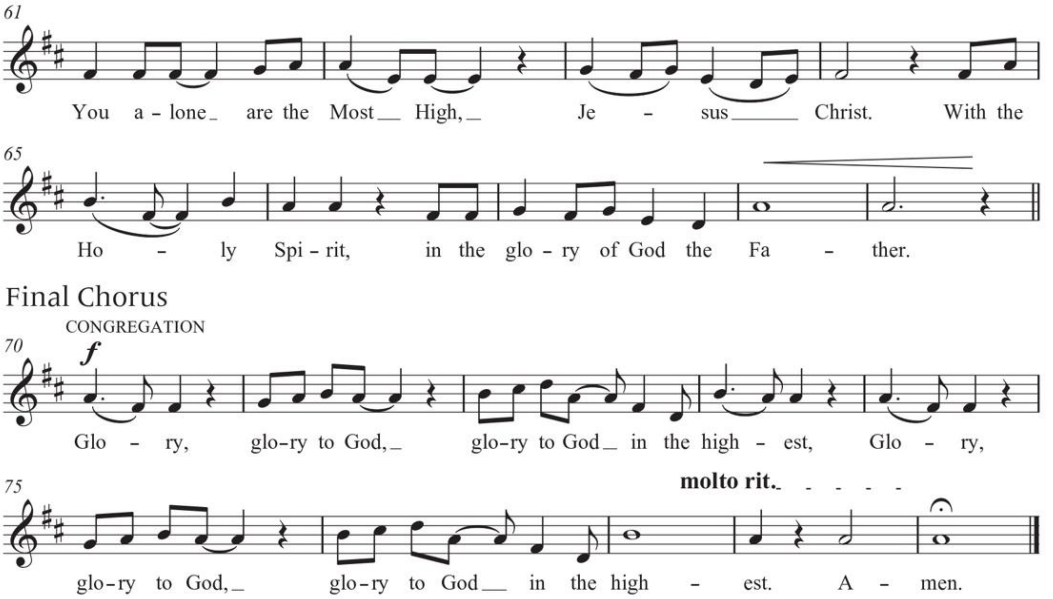
GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

GLORIA




26
f
Glo - ry, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est,
30
Glo - ry, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est,
34
mf
3
Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,
38
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
41
mp
world. Have mer - cy on us; You are seat - ed at the right
45
hand of the Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer.
Ch
CONGREGATION
49
f
Glo - ry, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est,
53
(Optional)
Glo - ry, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est. For
57
mf
you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, You a - lone are the Lord;



PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray. . . .

We sit.

WORD

FIRST LESSON FOUND IN THE INSERT

PSALM *Said responsively by verse.* FOUND IN THE INSERT

SECOND LESSON FOUND IN THE INSERT

We stand.

GOSPEL FOUND IN THE INSERT

We sit.

SERMON

We stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY FOUND IN THE INSERT

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.* **Or*, He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen

We kneel or sit for the prayers.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each intercession ends with these words:
Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

We stand.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

We sit.

GREETINGS

MEAL

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *Sung by the St. John's Summer Choir*

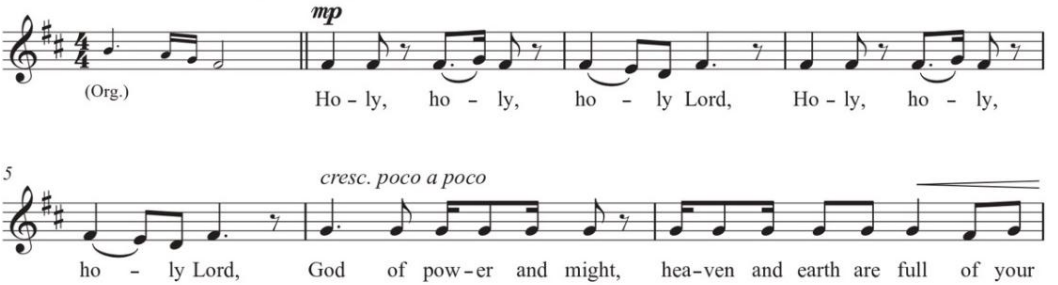
We stand.

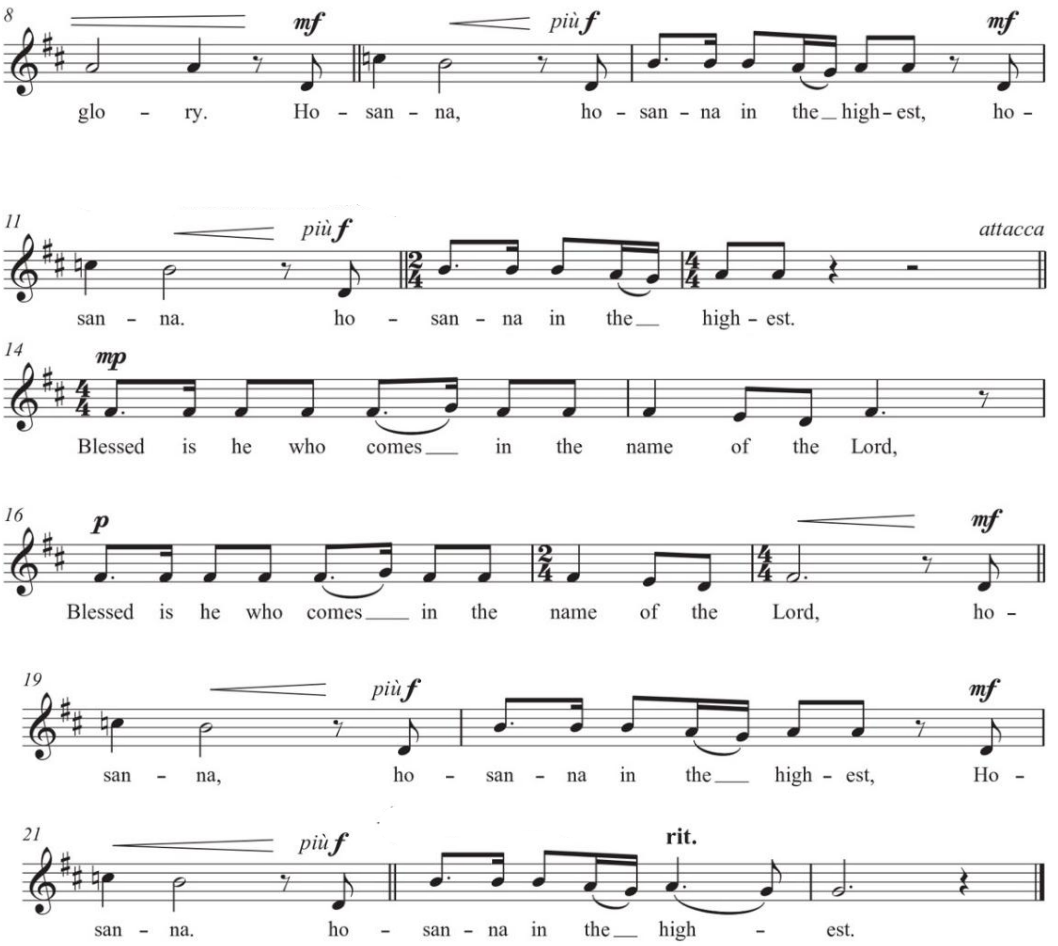
HYMN AT THE PRESENTATION WE GIVE THEE BUT THINE OWN

We give thee but thine own,
whate'er the gift may be;
all that we have is thine alone,
a trust, O Lord, from thee.
Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give him thanks and praise.
It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

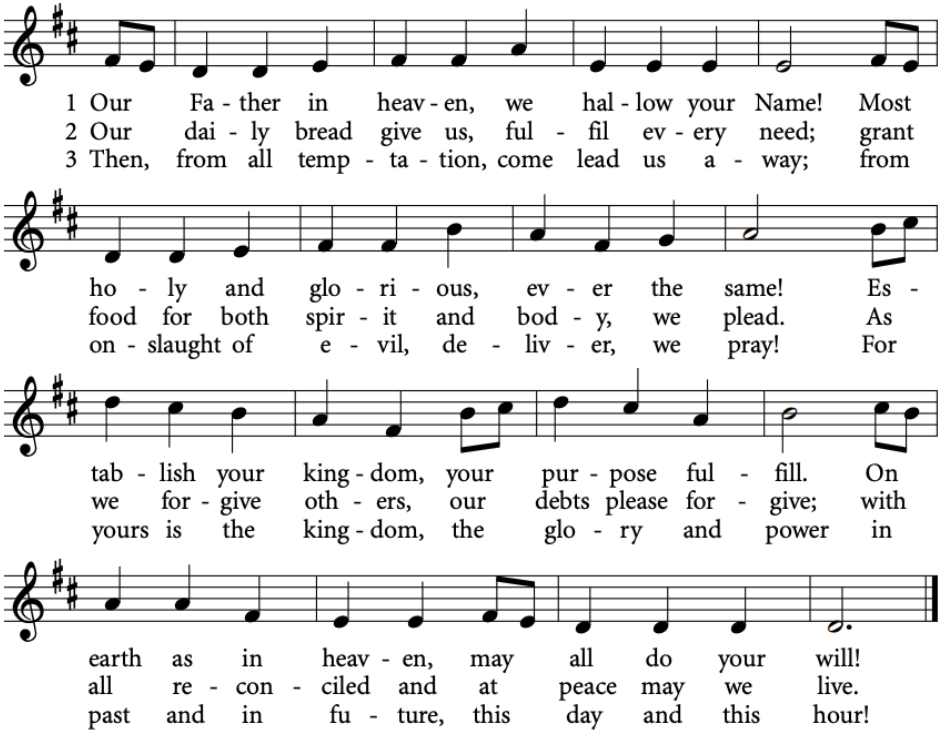




In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

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.

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.



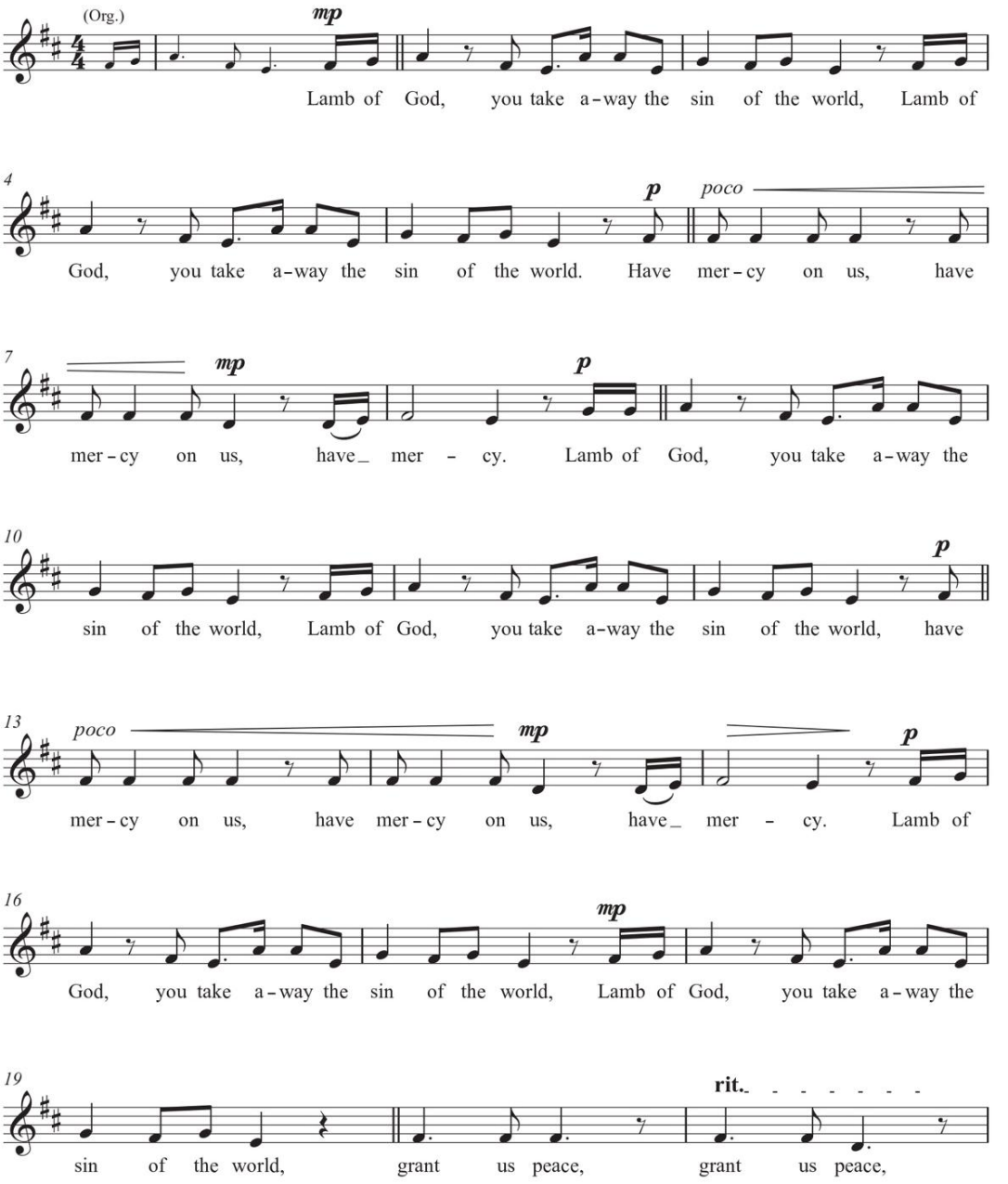
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

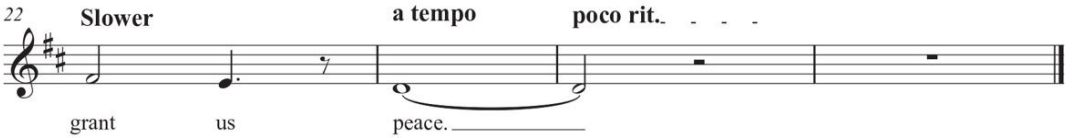
Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

All who believe that Jesus is present in the bread and wine, forgiving sin and promising eternal life, are welcome to the Table of the Lord. Gluten-free wafers are available if requested.

We sit.

LAMB OF GOD





MUSIC AT THE DISTRIBUTION

HYMN FOUND IN INSERT

We stand.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, **almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

HYMN AT THE PROCESSION FOUND IN INSERT

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SEPTEMBER 13

Rally Sunday

Return to 2 services

5:00pm Evensong

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 30| 9:30am

Hymn of the Day: We Come to the Hungry Feast ELW 479
Communion Hymn: Great Is Thy Faithfulness ELW 733
Closing Hymn: Praise to the Lord, the Almighty ELW 858

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. ***Amen.***

FIRST READING Jeremiah 15:15-21

A reading from Jeremiah

O Lord, you know;
remember me and visit me,
and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors.
In your forbearance do not take me away;
know that on your account I suffer insult.
Your words were found, and I ate them,
and your words became to me a joy
and the delight of my heart;
for I am called by your name,
O Lord, God of hosts.
I did not sit in the company of merrymakers,
nor did I rejoice;
under the weight of your hand I sat alone,
for you had filled me with indignation.
Why is my pain unceasing,
my wound incurable,
refusing to be healed?
Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook,
like waters that fail.

Therefore, thus says the Lord:
If you turn back, I will take you back,
and you shall stand before me.
If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless,
you shall serve as my mouth.
It is they who will turn to you,
not you who will turn to them.
And I will make you to this people
a fortified wall of bronze;
they will fight against you,
but they shall not prevail over you,
for I am with you
to save you and deliver you,
says the Lord.
I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked,
and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 26: 1-8

[1] Give judgment for me, O LORD,
for I have lived with integrity; *
I have trusted in the Lord and have not faltered.

[2] Test me, O LORD, and try me; *
examine my heart and my mind.

[3] For your love is before my eyes; *
I have walked faithfully with you.

[4] I have not sat with the worthless, *
nor do I consort with the deceitful.

[5] I have hated the company of evildoers; *
I will not sit down with the wicked.

[6] I will wash my hands in innocence, O LORD, *
that I may go in procession round your altar,

[7] Singing aloud a song of thanksgiving *
and recounting all your wonderful deeds.

[8] LORD, I love the house in which you dwell *
and the place where your glory abides.

SECOND READING Romans 12:9-21

A reading from Romans

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL Matthew 16:21-28

The holy gospel according to Matthew
Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

"For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ

Worship Leaders Today

Celebrant	The Rev Martha McCreight
Organist & Musicians	Jan Lucie
Worship Assistant	Cheryl Milukas
Reader	Cheryl Milukas
Communion Assistant	Marie Sweglar
Altar Committee	Pam Bartlett, Cathy Mahler
Counters	J. Geils, Janet Halpin, Cathy Mahler
Fellowship Time	
Little Free Pantry	Cathy & Mike Mahler

Weekly Calendar

Wednesday, September 2

12:00 noon Weekly Eucharist - Chapel

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, September 6

9:30 am Worship

Wednesday, September 9

12:00 noon Weekly Eucharist - Chapel

Rally Sunday, September 13

Return to 8:30 & 10:30 am Worship

Sunday School Begins - 9:30 am

GIVING AT ST. JOHN'S

As summer takes us to new places, our faith travels with us! A gentle reminder - whether you're enjoying a vacation with family or exploring somewhere new, your continued generosity keeps St. John's strong and our ministry thriving.

Did you know you can give anytime, anywhere? Online giving via our Vanco portal makes it easy to stay connected to God's work here at home — even when you're miles away. Not on Vanco? a check mailed to the church office works just as well! Or, use this QR code.

Every gift, large or small, is a seed of faithfulness that blooms in our community.

"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." — 2 Corinthians 9:7

Thank you for your faithful partnership in ministry. May God richly bless your summer adventures!

Altar flowers are given by Andrea Budner for Charlotte Anne - Happy Birthday, Love Mimi

WE'LL MEET YOU WHERE YOU ARE…
AND BRING YOU WHERE YOU BELONG

Need a ride to Sunday worship? St. John's Lutheran wants to make sure that getting here is never a reason to miss out on gathering together in God's presence. Our volunteer drivers are happy to pick you up and bring you home - free of charge, with a friendly face along the way. This is a trial program at this time to determine how much interest and need there is for transportation. To request a ride for Sunday worship, please contact the church office no later than Wednesday at 10:00 AM. For rides to special services (such as holidays), please give us at least 5 days advance notice.

Call the office at (203) 322-0066 or email stjohnelcaoffice@gmail.com.

"And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another." - Hebrews 10:25

It's that time of year again. If you would like to contribute to helping local students with their school supplies, please drop them off at the church office Monday-Thursday between 8:00 am - Noon or leave them in the narthex on Sunday morning. All contributions are greatly appreciated. We will be putting these in the Little Free Pantry for families in need. Thank you.