St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church

A Family Connecting in Christ

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WELCOME TO ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

To Our Guests

- We pray you receive a warm welcome and are blessed by the message of God's Word in our lessons and hymns. If you have questions, please ask us!
- Our service is designed to focus us on Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. The Holy Spirit does that by exposing our need for Christ and by showing us the wonders of God's grace in Christ – forgiveness and peace, help, and hope for life in this world, and life forever with God in heaven.
- Please join us after Sunday service for fellowship and Family Bible Hour.

Our Communion Practice

We practice close communion, the Biblical and ancient practice of the church. We invite our congregation members and visitors from sister WELS or ELS congregations to join us, but ask Christians from other denominations to kindly respect our practice. Further explanation is in the pew racks or from our pastor.

We Care about Your Children

- We love to have children with us in worship. Children's "church bags" (with paper, colors, and Bible story books) are available in the Narthex Gathering Area.
- If your children are crying loudly, our nursery, Gathering Area (back of church), and downstairs Fellowship Hall are audio-equipped for you and your young children. When your children are ready, come back so we can worship together.

We Care about Your Special Needs

- **Large Print** Service Folders are available from an usher.
- **Hearing Assistance** for those with hearing aids is provided through our Hearing Loop or personal hearing devices available at the "sound table."
- A **wheelchair lift** is available for your assistance; please ask an usher.

Our Facilities

Restrooms are in our Fellowship Hall, downstairs and to the right of the kitchen.

Our Ministry

St. John offers an excellent preschool-8th grade school program. We are members of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) - www.wels.net.

The Service

In Our World Today … it can seem as if those who dedicate and sacrifice themselves for Christ and His Church are left behind those who are wrapped up in their own lives.

In Our Worship Today … we hear Jesus' wonderful promise for those who dedicate self and sacrifice for Christ and His Church - we are blessed!

Hymn: Gracious God, You Send Great Blessings *CW 752*

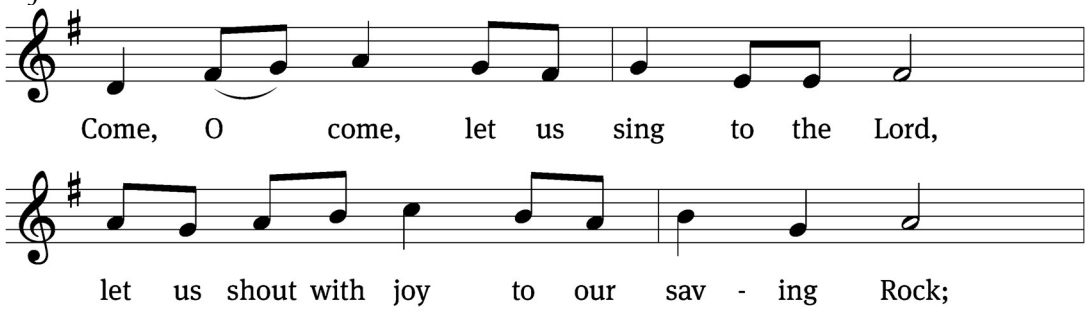
Opening Sentences

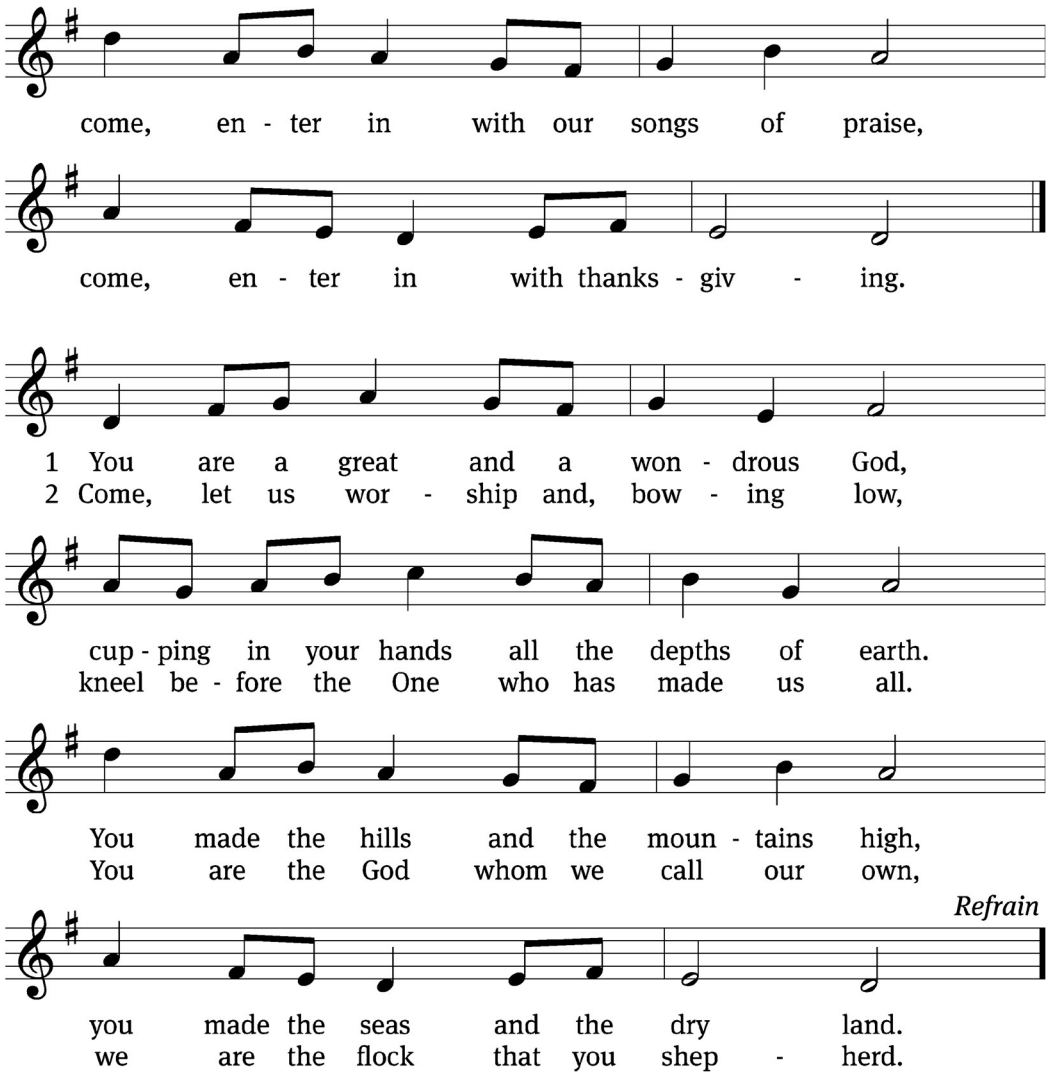
We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.
Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.
Amen.

Come, O Come, Let Us Sing to the Lord

refrain




come, en - ter in with our songs of praise,
come, en - ter in with thanks - giv - ing.
1 You are a great and a won - drous God,
2 Come, let us wor - ship and, bow - ing low,
cup - ping in your hands all the depths of earth.
kneel be - fore the One who has made us all.
You made the hills and the moun - tains high,
You are the God whom we call our own,
Refrain
you made the seas and the dry land.
we are the flock that you shep - herd.

First Reading *2 Corinthians 9:6–11, 15*

6 Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever
sows generously will also reap generously. 7 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. 8 And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all
times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. 9 As it is
written:

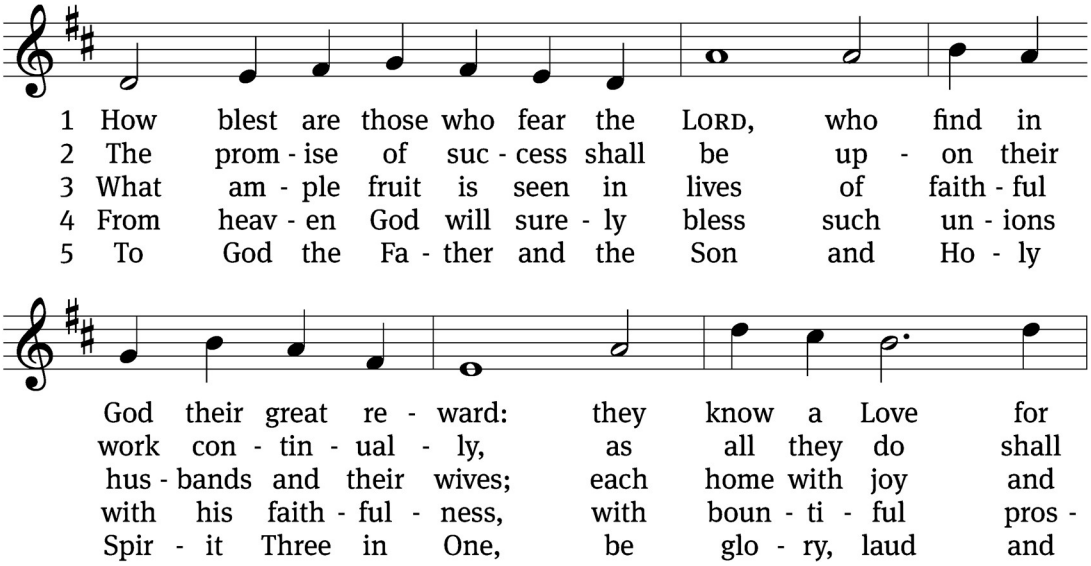
> "They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor;
> their righteousness endures forever."

10 Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and
increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. 11 You
will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and
through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.

15 Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm *Psalm 128A*



Gospel Acclimation

Alleluia. For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works. Alleluia.

Acknowledgments

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752 Gracious God, You Send Great Blessings *CW 752* Text: Gregory J. Wismar, b. 1946 Text: © 2004 Gregory J. Wismar. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 712373; Psalm ***128A*** Text: Stephen P. Starke Text: © 2004 Stephen P. Starke, admin. Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 712373; 558 Salvation unto Us Has Come ***sts. 1–3, 5–6*** Text: Paul Speratus, 1484–1551, abr., alt.; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt. Text: Public domain 582 Not unto Us Text: Kurt J. Eggert, 1923–1993, alt. Text: © 1975 Kurt J. Eggert, admin. Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 712373; 576 Amazing Grace Text (sts. 1–3): John Newton, 1725–1807, alt.; (st. 4): A Collection of Sacred Ballads, Richmond, 1790 Text: Public domain

Gospel ***Matthew 19:23 - 20:16***

[23]Then Jesus said to his disciples, "Truly I tell you, it is hard for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of heaven. [24]Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God."

[25]When the disciples heard this, they were greatly astonished and asked, "Who then can be saved?"

[26]Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

[27]Peter answered him, "We have left everything to follow you! What then will there be for us?"

[28]Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, at the renewal of all things, when the Son of Man sits on his glorious throne, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. [29]And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or fields for my sake will receive a hundred times as much and will inherit eternal life. [30]But many who are first will be last, and many who are last will be first.

[1]"For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. [2]He agreed to pay them a denarius for the day and sent them into his vineyard.

[3]"About nine in the morning he went out and saw others standing in the marketplace doing nothing. [4]He told them, 'You also go and work in my vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' [5]So they went.

"He went out again about noon and about three in the afternoon and did the same thing. [6]About five in the afternoon he went out and found still others standing around. He asked them, 'Why have you been standing here all day long doing nothing?'

[7]" 'Because no one has hired us,' they answered.

"He said to them, 'You also go and work in my vineyard.'

[8]"When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Call the workers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last ones hired and going on to the first.'

[9]"The workers who were hired about five in the afternoon came and each received a denarius. [10]So when those came who were hired first, they expected to receive more. But each one of them also received a denarius. [11]When they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner. [12]'These who were hired last worked only one hour,' they said, 'and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the work and the heat of the day.'

13 "But he answered one of them, 'I am not being unfair to you, friend. Didn't you
agree to work for a denarius? 14 Take your pay and go. I want to give the one who
was hired last the same as I gave you. 15 Don't I have the right to do what I want
with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?'
16 "So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

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

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.

Hymn: Salvation unto Us Has Come *CW 558 sts. 1–3, 5–6*

Sermon *Matthew 19:23 - 20:16*

Hymn: Not unto Us *CW 582*

Offering

If you prefer to give online, the code at the right will take you to our Online Giving page. We invite our online givers to join in our offering with an "I Give Online" card in the pew racks.

Prayer *127*

O Lord, our God, you are wise and powerful, good and gracious. Your mercies are new every morning. Each day you open your hand and provide for the needs of your children on earth.
We praise you for every grace and blessing.

Strengthen your Church in all the world. Let your comforting message of salvation in Christ Jesus be proclaimed to troubled souls everywhere.
Use our ministries and offerings to extend your healing and your hope.

We bring you our requests for the various structures of our society. Bless our national, state, and local governments.
Grant us civil servants who are worthy of honor and respect.

Grant prosperity to our businesses and industries. Give employers a sense of fairness toward their workers, and employees a feeling of joy and pride in their workmanship.
Help us find satisfaction in all work well done.

Invigorate the schools of our land. Give success to every effort that helps students read, think, and communicate in ways that will promote an informed and responsible citizenry. Arouse curious minds to discover the wonders of your created order.
Give us teachers and students who pursue excellence.

Strengthen the families of our country. Give fathers and mothers a renewed commitment to be good parents. Give children and young people the wisdom to regard their parents as your representatives.
Lead us to love one another as you have loved us.

Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Gracious Father, we pray boldly as Jesus taught, with the confidence that you will hear and with the faith that you will respond for our welfare.
Amen.

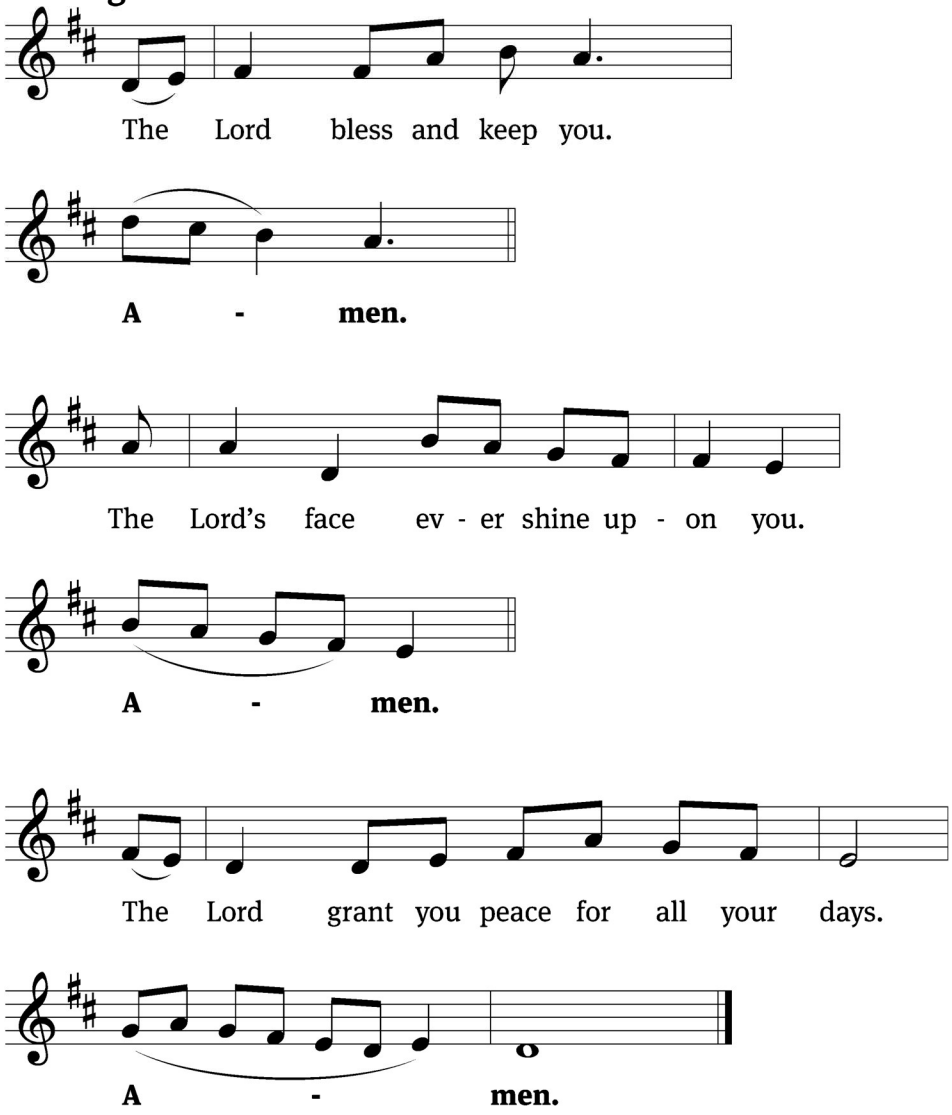
Lord's Prayer

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.

Prayer for Grace

O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us safely to this new day. Defend us with your mighty power, and grant that this day we neither fall into sin nor run into any kind of danger. And in all we do, direct us to what is right in your sight; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.
Amen.

Blessing



Hymn: Amazing Grace *CW 576*

Then the Minister and the Congregation shall say:

O almighty God, merciful Father, g, a poor, miserable sin•er, confess unto Thee nll zuy sins and iniquities wlth whlcli I have ever offended Thee and jusfly deserved 'fhF tetnparal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sin• ceeetr -pent of tbeos, a›uI 1 pray 3'Itee of Mtp boundless zriercjr aod for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death ct Thy beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be graclous and merciful to me, o poor sinful being.

Then the Minister shall pronounce the Absolution:

Upon tAis your confession, I, by virtue of- my office, as a called au4 ordamed servant of the Word, aMounce tote grace oI God unto all o£ you, and in the stead and by the cormnand of my Lord fesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Fathet and of the hon end of the Holy Ghost.

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The Introit

The Introit (page 54) may be chanted by the Choir. If the Antiphon and Psalm are said @ the 3flni8ter, the Calorie Potri sholI he •eid ‹›r chanted 6y tfte C'‹mgregetien

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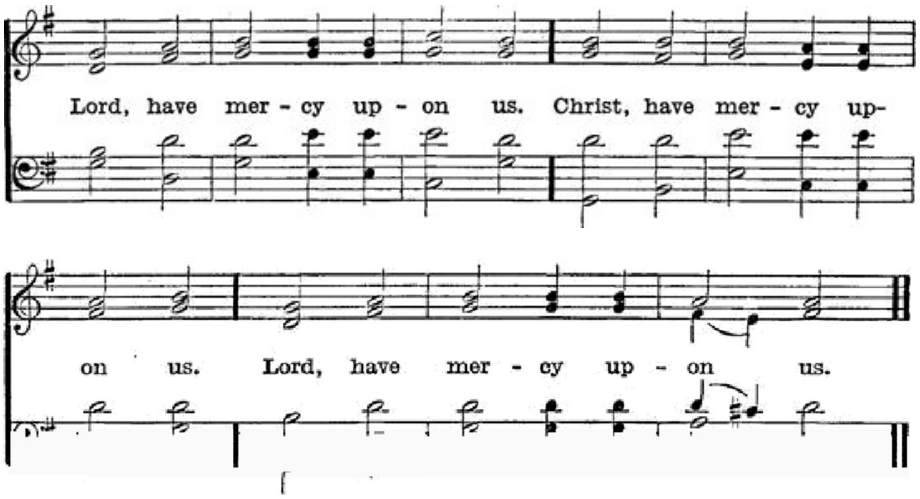
The Kyrie



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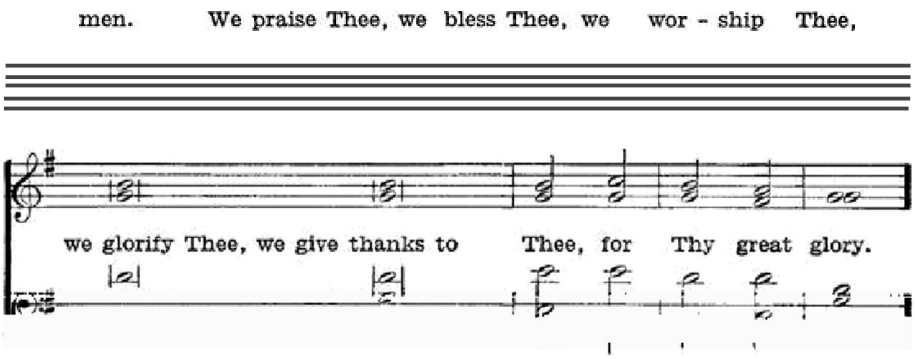

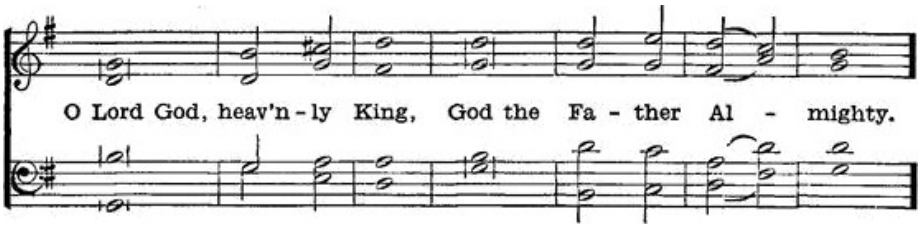

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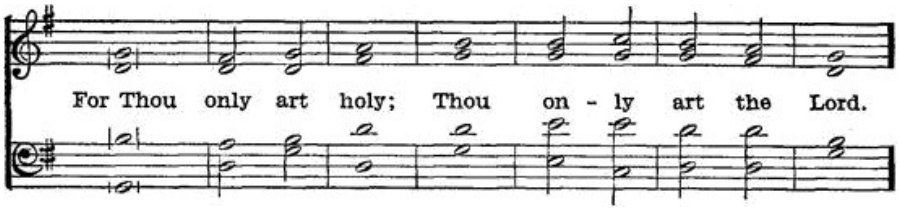
0 Lord trod, Lømb oł ‹aoa, fion of tbe Z'otAer.

That takest away Inc 9in of the world, have mercy up - on us.

you tbat tøt‹est øanw the stn at the wozlü, ze - ¢etv8 ouz proper.

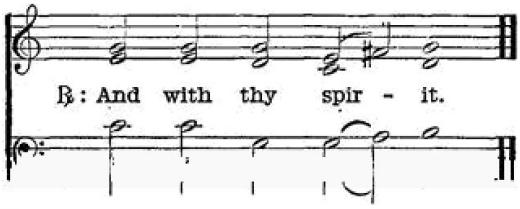
Thou tBst sttteet at the right Dana oł Cíot the bather, have mercy up•on us.



Then shall be said or chanted

The Salutation

The Lord be with you.



℣: Let us pray:

Then shall the Minister say or chant

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