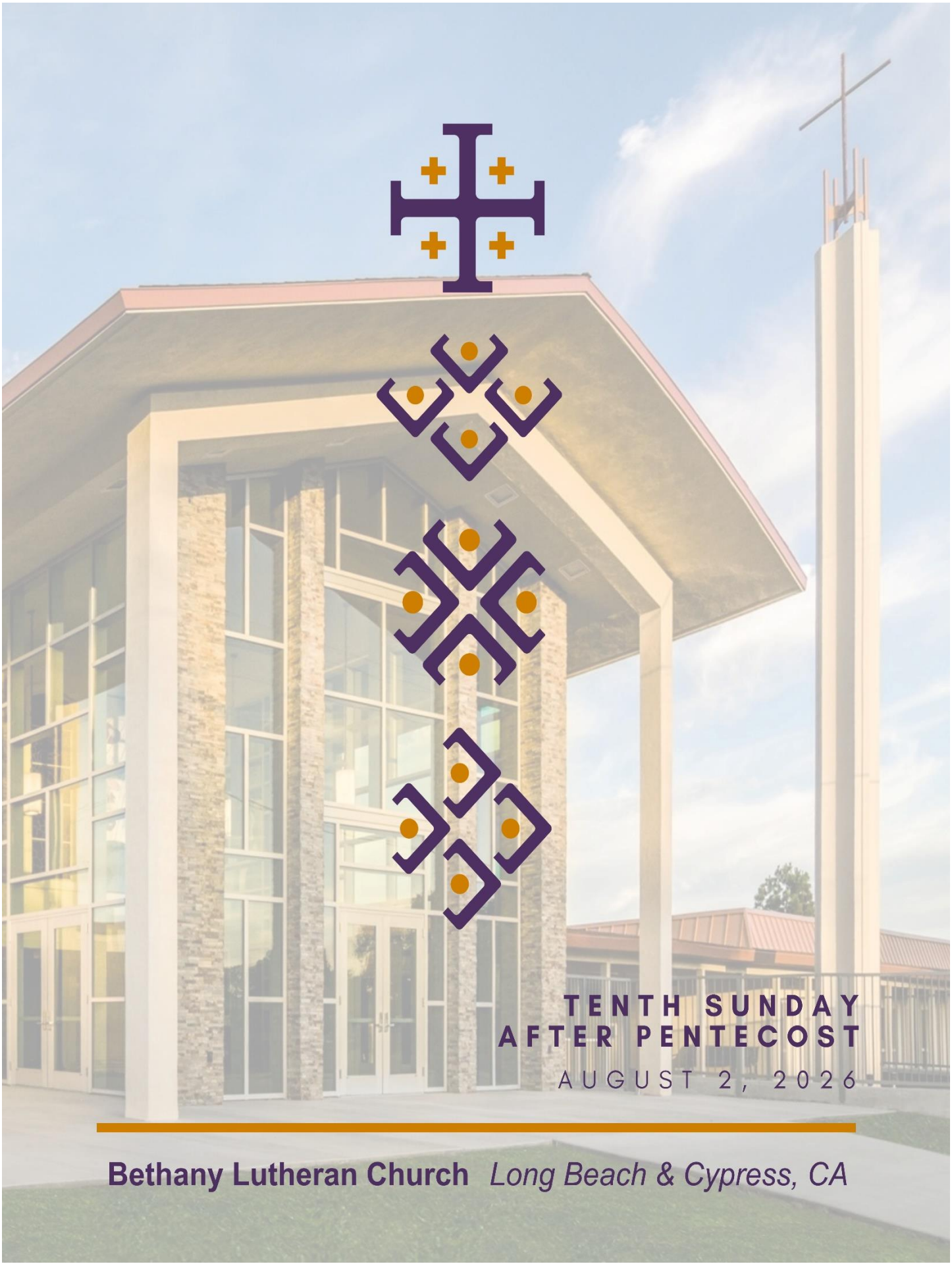


TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

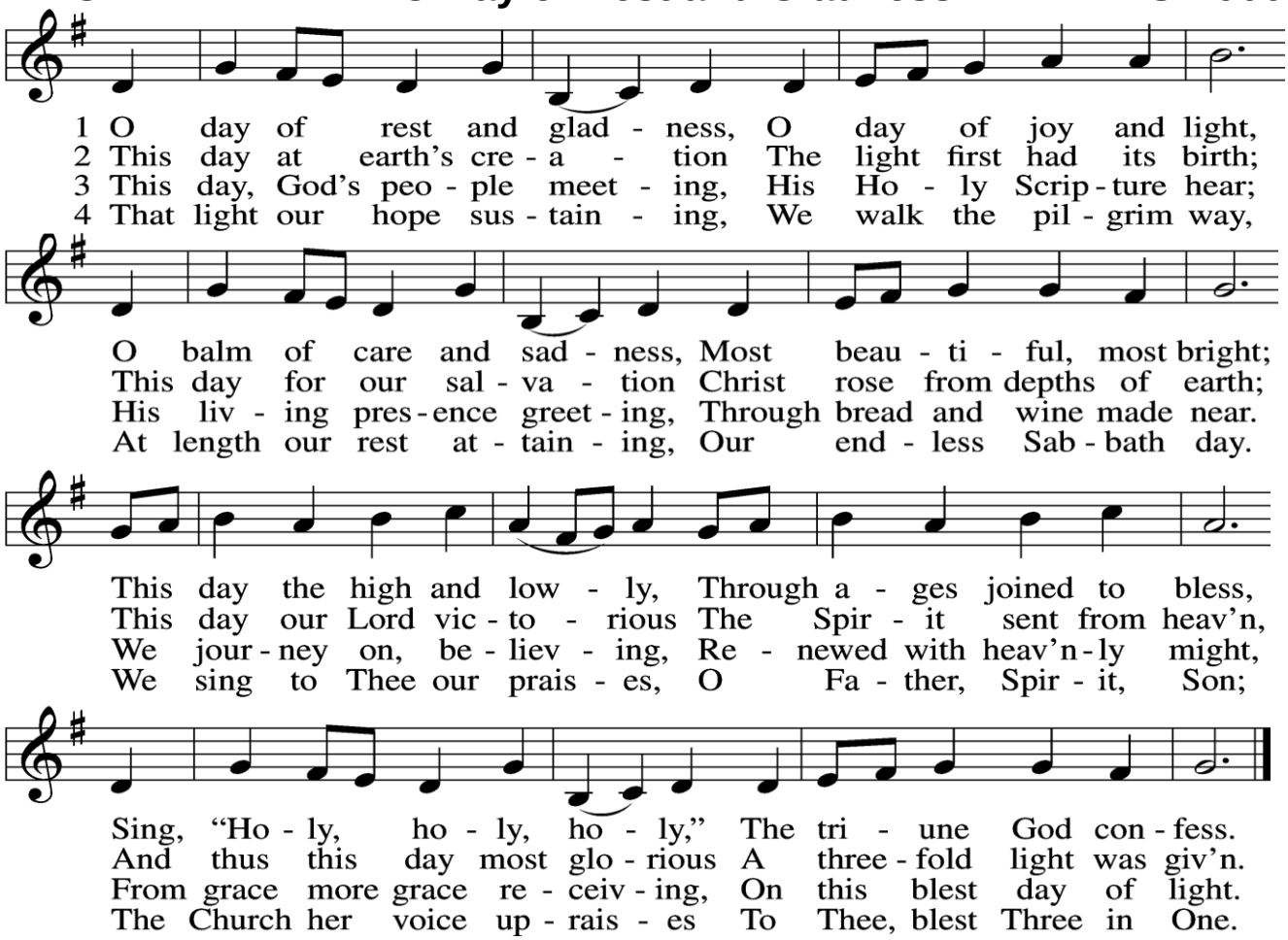
AUGUST 2, 2026

Bethany Lutheran Church *Long Beach & Cypress, CA*

PRELUDE

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN: "O Day of Rest and Gladness" LSB 906



INVOCATION:

L: Grace and peace to you from God our Father, from the Lord Jesus Christ and from the Holy Spirit, who proceeds from both. *(Romans 1:7)*

P: **Amen.**

CALL TO WORSHIP:

L: All of you who were baptized into Christ Jesus have been united with Him in His death and resurrection. *(Romans 6:3)*

P: **That we might live a new life.** *(Romans 6:4)*

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:

L: Let us confess our sins to God, for all of us have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. *(Romans 3:23)*

P: **I confess Lord, that I am no better than anyone else. No one really understands You as they should. No one truly seeks You in a way that is**

pure. At some point, all of us have turned away from You, Lord. No one constantly does the right thing. In fact, oftentimes when I have done the right thing, it has been with a hidden agenda, rather than from a pure heart.

L: I confess Lord, that my talk has been foul, my speech has contained cursing and bitterness; I've opened my mouth and polluted the air.

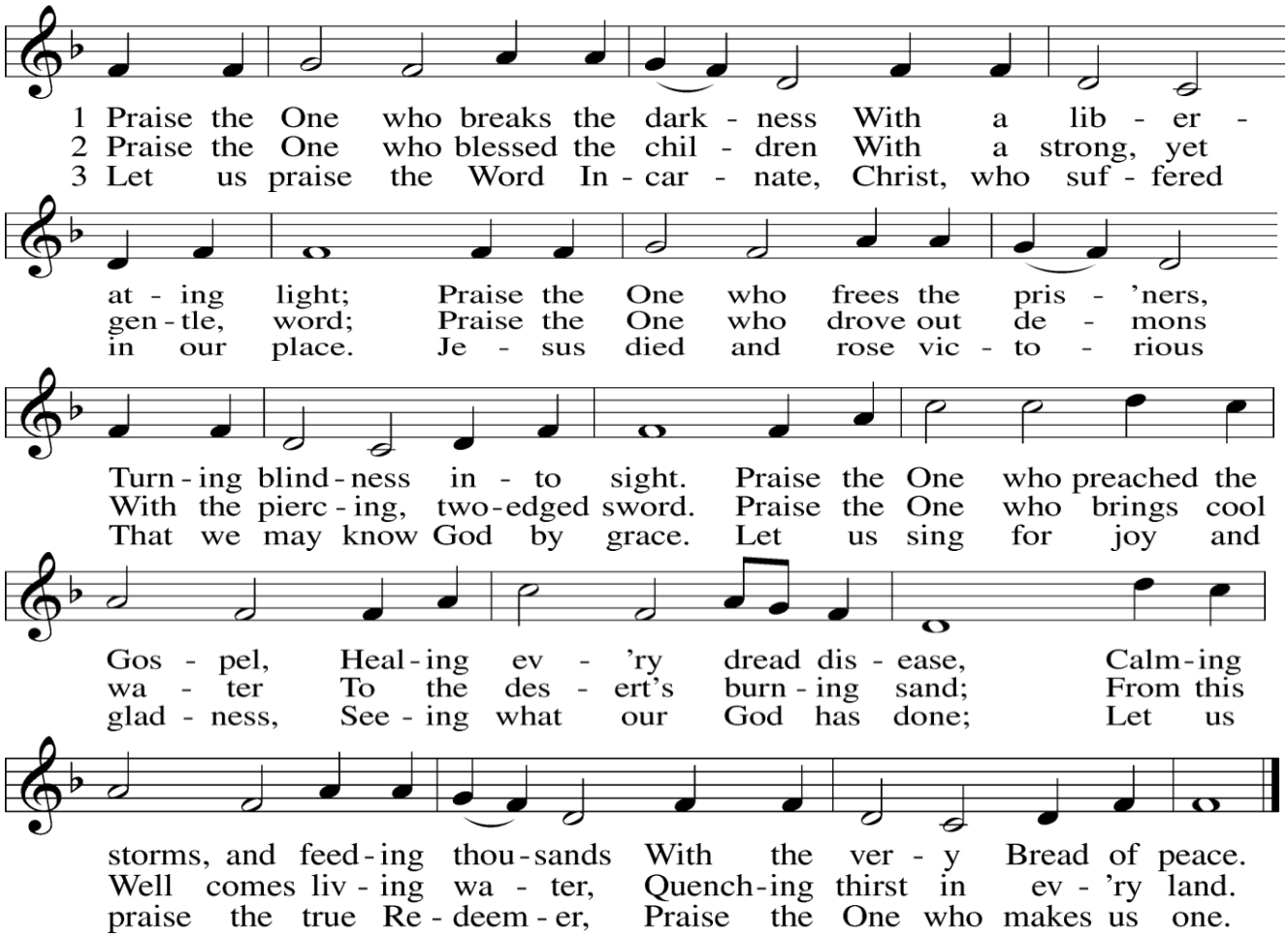
P: **I have sought revenge, tried to get even, and have been quick to defend myself or my cause to get my way - regardless of who is hurt in the process.**

L: Heartbreak and ruin have littered the lives of many as a result of my actions.

P: **For the sake of Jesus Christ, who was delivered over to death for my sins and raised to life for my justification, forgive me and restore me. Amen.**
(Romans 3:10-17 & 4:25)

L: God has demonstrated His love for you in this: while yet a sinner, Christ died for you! Now that you have been set right with God by the sacrificial death of Christ, there is no longer a question of being at odds with God in any way. If you were restored to friendship with God by the death of His Son while you were His enemy, you will certainly be delivered from eternal punishment by His life. *(Romans 12)*

HYMN OF PRAISE: "Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"LSB 849



PRAYER OF THE DAY:

L: In mercy, God, send us Your Spirit that we might offer You ourselves as living sacrifices, Holy and pleasing to You.

P: **Transform us by the Spirit's presence, that we no longer conform to the pattern of this world, but are renewed into Your image, O Lord, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.** *(Romans 12)*

FIRST READING: *Isaiah 55:10-13*

"Rain and snow come down from the sky.
They do not go back again until they water the earth.
They make it sprout and grow
so that it produces seed for farmers
and food for people to eat.
My word, which comes from my mouth, is like the rain and snow.
It will not come back to me without results.
It will accomplish whatever I want
and achieve whatever I send it to do."

You will go out with joy and be led out in peace.
The mountains and the hills
will break into songs of joy in your presence,
and all the trees will clap their hands.
Cypress trees will grow where thornbushes grew.
Myrtle trees will grow where briars grew.
This will be a reminder of the Lord's name
and an everlasting sign that will never be destroyed. —GW®

SECOND READING: *Romans 9:1-5*

As a Christian, I'm telling you the truth. I'm not lying. The Holy Spirit, along with my own thoughts, supports me in this. I have deep sorrow and endless heartache. I wish I could be condemned and cut off from Christ for the sake of others who, like me, are Jewish by birth. They are Israelites, God's adopted children. They have the Lord's glory, the pledges, Moses' Teachings, the true worship, and the promises. The Messiah is descended from their ancestors according to His human nature. The Messiah is God over everything, forever blessed. Amen. —GW®

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HOLY GOSPEL: *Matthew 14:13-21*

When Jesus heard about John, He left in a boat and went to a place where He could be alone. The crowds heard about this and followed Him on foot from the cities. When Jesus got out of the boat, He saw a large crowd. He felt sorry for them and cured their sick people.

In the evening the disciples came to Him. They said, “No one lives around here, and it’s already late. Send the crowds to the villages to buy food for themselves.”

Jesus said to them, “They don’t need to go away. You give them something to eat.”

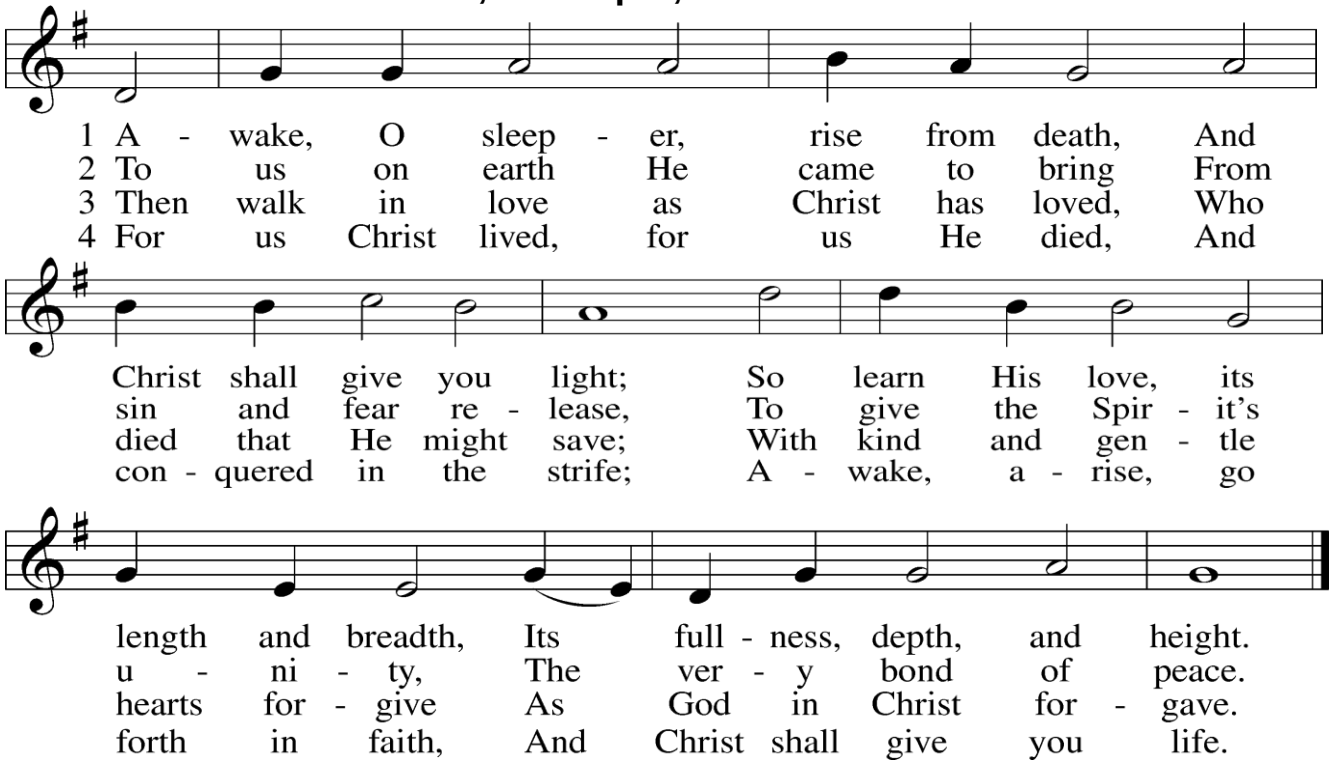
They told Him, “All we have here are five loaves of bread and two fish.”

Jesus said, “Bring them to me.”

Then He ordered the people to sit down on the grass. After He took the five loaves and the two fish, He looked up to heaven and blessed the food. He broke the loaves apart, gave them to the disciples, and they gave them to the people. All of them ate as much as they wanted. When they picked up the leftover pieces, they filled twelve baskets.

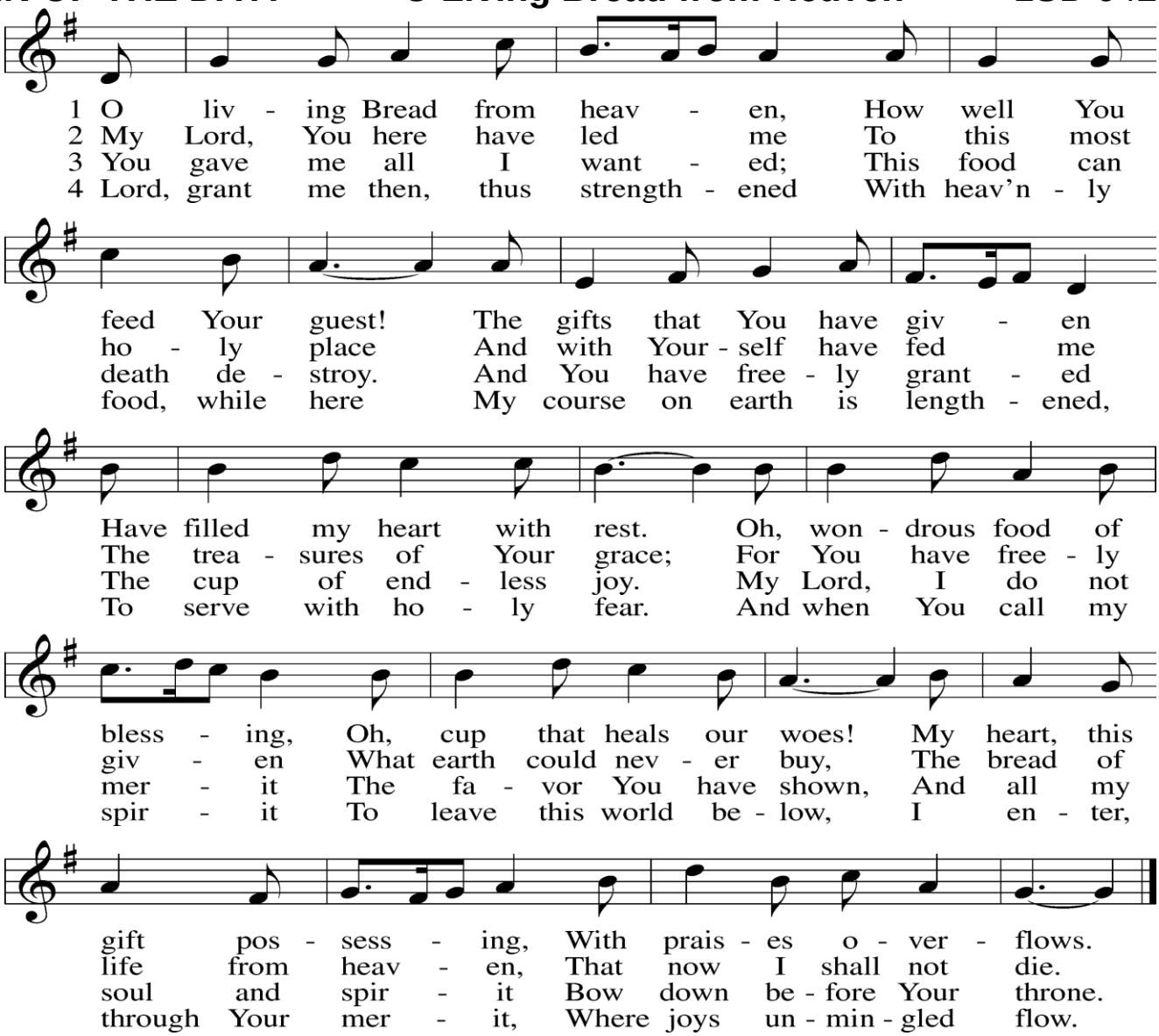
About five thousand men had eaten. (This number does not include the women and children who had eaten.) –GW®

SERMON HYMN: **“Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death”** LSB 697



MESSAGE: ***Romans 9:1-5***

HYMN OF THE DAY: **"O Living Bread from Heaven"** LSB 642



CONFESSION OF FAITH: THE NICENE CREED: *(*catholic means the universal Christian Church)*

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;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
He became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man.
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.
With the Father and the Son, He is worshiped and glorified.
He 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.

OFFERING: *The Offering Box is located in the center aisle. If you so desire, Text Giving is now available by texting GIVE to 562-210-0463. For On-line Giving information, contact Andria at arosas@bethanylutheran.org or call 562-421-4711, ext. 21. Thank you!*

CONSECRATING THE GIFTS:

L: We praise You, O God, our Redeemer, Creator; in grateful devotion our tribute we bring.

P: **We lay it before You, we kneel and adore You; we bless Your holy name, glad praises we sing.** *(LSB 785 stz. 1)*

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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.

✢ Service of the Sacrament ✢

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at Bethany in the joyful confession that our Lord gives us His very Body and Blood for the forgiveness of sins in this sacrament. God intends this gift for His children who recognize their sin, trust in Christ as their Savior, desire to live for Him alone and join in this joyful confession.

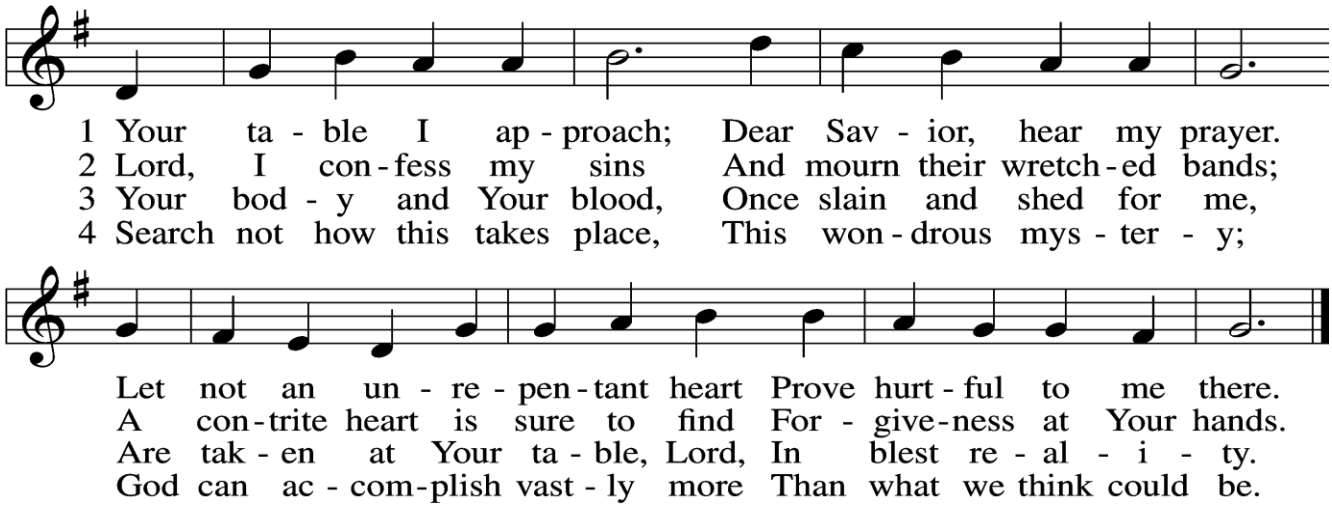
To prepare for communion you can find prayer prompts on the front page of the Lutheran Service Book. Or simply pray: "Dear Lord Jesus, at Your gracious invitation, You invite me to come to You; to eat and drink Your holy body and blood as You Yourself have promised to give in this sacred meal. Forgive me of my sin, through this Your meal of Forgiveness. Let me experience the fullness of Your love, through this Your meal of love. Strengthen my faith, through this meal of Yours that calls for and bestows faith. Empower me to live for You, through this Your meal that promises life everlasting and equips me for daily living as one who has received You and Your gifts. Amen."

*For those communing, who so desire, the center cups in each tray are **alcohol free**.*
*The wafers on the stand next to the pillar pulpit side (when kneeling for communion) or on the stand in front of the baptismal font (when processing for communion) are **gluten free**.*

In our 9:30 am service, we will practice the Easter tradition of continuous communion. We will not kneel at the altar, rather we will join the procession of saints and come forward and remain standing as we receive the bread and wine. After receiving the elements, you are invited to return to your seat and continue in meditation, prayer and song.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

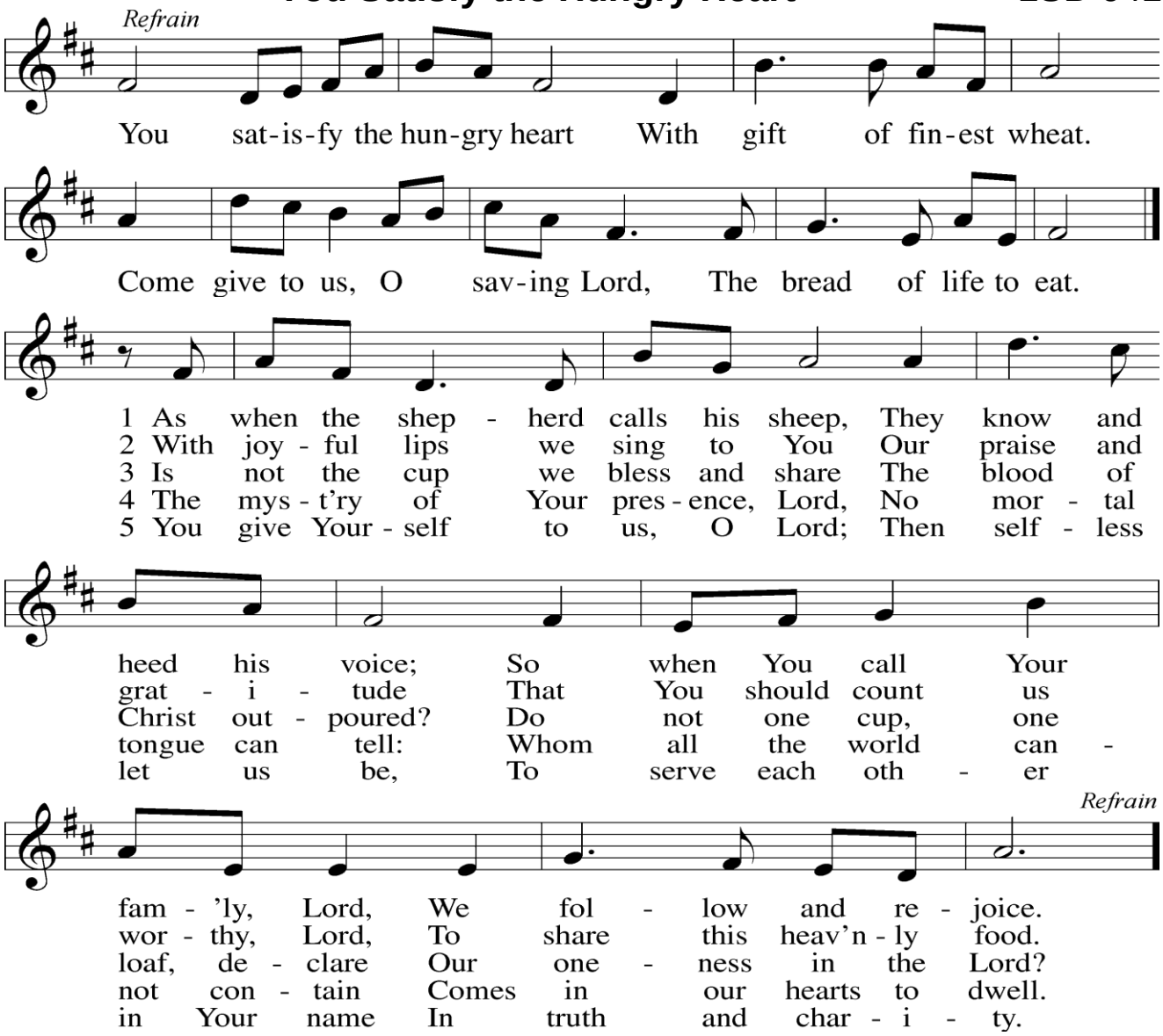
DISTRIBUTION: **“Your Table I Approach”** LSB 628



5 O grant, most blessèd Lord,
That earth and hell combined
May not about this sacrament
Raise doubt within my mind.

6 Oh, may I never fail
To thank You day and night
For Your true body and true blood,
O God, my peace and light.

“You Satisfy the Hungry Heart” LSB 641



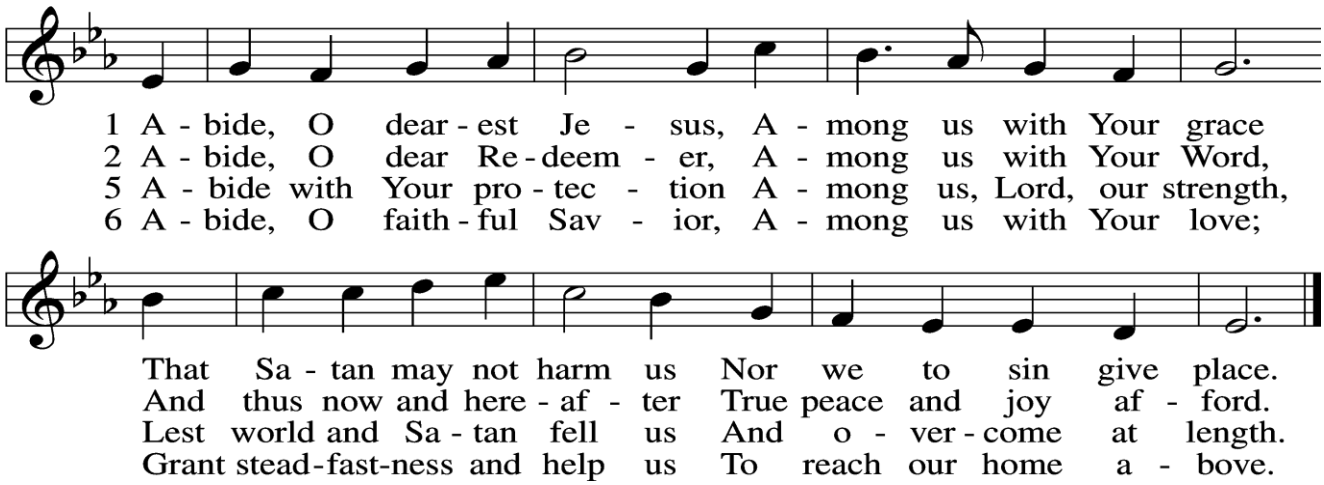
POST COMMUNION PRAYER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION:

L: May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity. So that with one heart and one mouth you may give God glory as you follow the Lord Jesus Christ. *(Romans 15:5-6)*

CLOSING HYMN: "Abide, O Dearest Jesus" LSB 919



POSTLUDE:

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"O Day of Rest and Gladness" LSB 906
Text: Christopher Wordsworth, 1807-85, sts. 1-2, alt.; Charles P. Price, 1920-99, st. 3; *The Hymnal 1982*, st. 4.
Tune: *Gesangbuch der Herzogl. Hofkapelle*, Württemberg, 1784; setting: *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941. Text: (sts.1-2) and music: Public domain.
Text (st. 3): © 1982 Charles P. Price; (st. 4): © 1985 Church Publishing, Inc. All rights reserved. Reprinted under ONELICENSE #A-706149.

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness" LSB 849
Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955. Tune: *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844.
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"Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death" LSB 697
Text: F. Bland Tucker, 1895-1984
Tune: Carl G. Gläser, 1784-1829; setting: Lowell Mason, 1792-1872.
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"O Living Bread from Heaven" LSB 642
Text: Johann Rist; tr. Catherine Winkworth. Tune: *Musae Siomiae*, vol. 7, Wolfenbüttel, 1609, ed. Michael Praetorius. Text and tune: Public domain.

"Your Table I Approach" LSB 628
Text: Gerhard Wolter Molanus, 1633-1722; tr. Matthias Loy, 1828-1915, alt.
Tune: *Trente quatre Pseaumes de David*, Geneva, 1551, ed. Louis Bourgeois; Setting: *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941. Text and tune: Public domain.

"You Satisfy the Hungry Heart" LSB 641
Text: Omer E. Westendorf, 1916-97
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"Abide, O Dearest Jesus" LSB 919
Text: Josua Stegmann; tr. August Crull.
Tune: Melchior Vulpius; setting: *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941. Text and music: Public domain.

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SERVING GOD'S HOUSE TODAY:

Lector 8:00…Ruth Lopez 9:30…Steve Albers
Liturgist…Karl Fink Preacher...Pastor Kevin Kritzer
Organist…Robert Bottoms Children's Message…Kayleigh Lopez
Sound and Production…Felix Rivera, Jon Widmann

✢ ✢ ✢



Today's Flowers are given to the glory of God:

~ Celebrating 46 years of marriage for

Kristen and Vince Bunting ~

~by The Bunting Family



✢ ✢ ✢



Today's Flowers are given to the glory of God:

~ Celebrating 39 years of marriage for Neal and Barbara Hasty ~

~ by Neal and Barbara



✢ ✢ ✢

If You're a Visitor, WELCOME! We are so glad you have joined us for worship today. If you would like more information about Bethany and its ministries, please scan the QR code to the right. You will be directed to Bethany's fillable information form.

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Parents of Young Children: We are so glad you and your children are here! Children are a joyful part of worship—after all, God created them with curiosity, energy, and yes, a few wiggles. Please don't feel pressure to keep them perfectly still in God's house. Their presence is truly a gift to our church family.

Worship is where we learn, together, how to listen and speak to God alongside our brothers and sisters in faith. You are welcome to quietly explain parts of the service and what our worship leaders are doing—children learn how to worship by watching and imitating you.

If it would be helpful, "worship bags" are available in the Narthex with items designed to support children and families during worship. Childcare is also available in our Nursery for children from birth through age five. Our caring and qualified staff look forward to welcoming your little one into a safe and loving environment.

Bethany's Nursery is located across the courtyard. Please feel free to ask an usher if you need directions—we're happy to help.