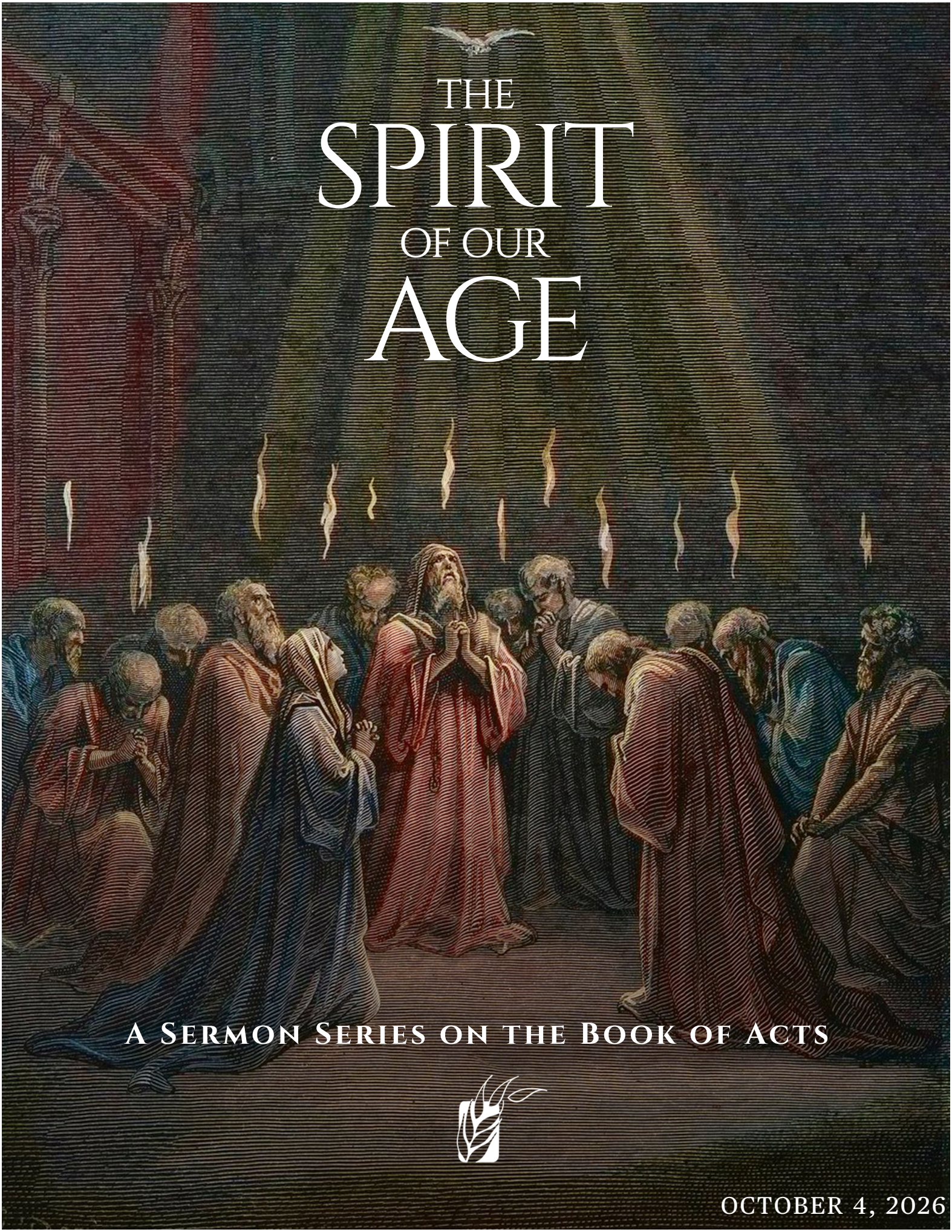


THE SPIRIT OF OUR AGE

A Sermon Series on the Book of Acts

OCTOBER 4, 2026

Beverly Heights Church

Welcome and Greeting — Rev. Dr. Nathanael Devlin, Senior Pastor

Announcements — Amy Lucas, Church Administrator

THE LORD GATHERS US FOR WORSHIP

Prelude — *Holy, Holy, Holy* — Hughes

Jinna Park, *Organist and Accompanist*

The first note of the prelude marks the beginning of worship. Please use this brief period of time for prayer and preparation while keeping conversation at a low volume and to a minimum. ***Please refrain from clapping unless led to do so.***

Call to Worship

Leader: Let us worship God in Spirit and in truth

People: Teach us Your ways in this hour of worship.

Choral Introit: Psalm 122 — *I Was Filled with Joy and Gladness*

I was filled with joy and gladness when they said with one accord,
"Let us make our pilgrim journey to the house of God the LORD."
O Jerusalem, O Jerusalem, we are standing in your gates; we are standing in your gates.

Prayer of Invocation

Opening Hymn of Praise **No. 76** — vv. 1-3 — *Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven*

Responsive Reading Psalm 138 — Pastor Devlin

Leader: I give You thanks, O LORD, with my whole heart; before the gods I sing Your praise; I bow down toward Your holy temple and give thanks to Your name for Your steadfast love and Your faithfulness, for You have exalted above all things Your name and Your word. On the day I called, You answered me; my strength of soul You increased.

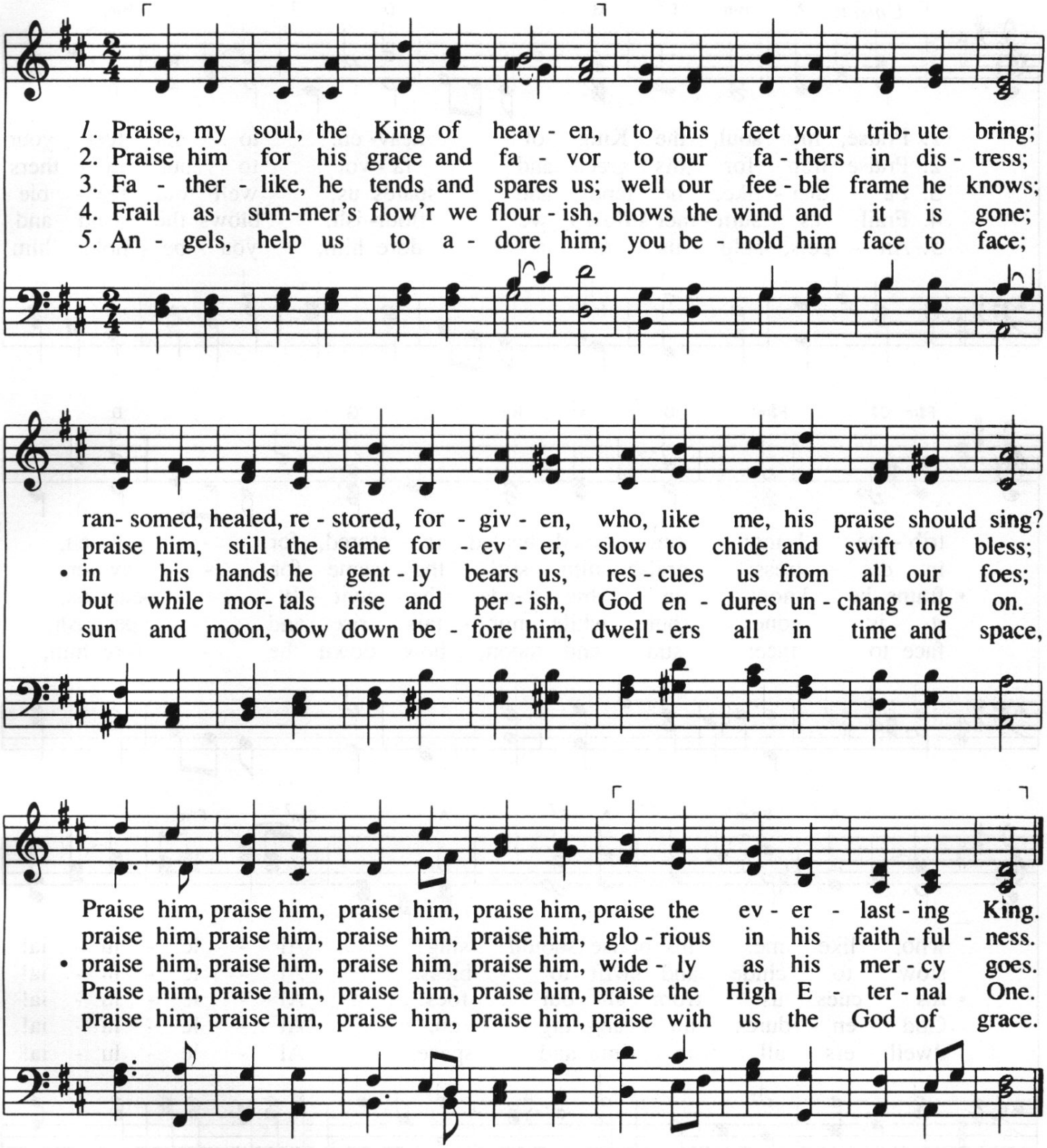
People: All the kings of the earth shall give You thanks, O LORD, for they have heard the words of Your mouth, and they shall sing of the ways of the LORD, for great is the glory of the LORD. For though the LORD is high, He regards the lowly, but the haughty He knows from afar.

Leader: Though I walk in the midst of trouble, You preserve my life; You stretch out Your hand against the wrath of my enemies, and Your right hand delivers me.

People: The LORD will fulfill His purpose for me; Your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever. Do not forsake the work of Your hands.

Responsive Hymn **No. 76** — vv. 4, 5 — *Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven*

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven 76

Praise the LORD, all his works everywhere in his dominion. Praise the LORD, O my soul. Ps. 103:22

From Psalm 103
Henry F. Lyte, 1834; mod.

LAUDA ANIMA 8.7.8.7.8.7.
John Goss, 1869

THE LORD CLEANSES OUR SIN

Unison Prayer of Confession, Followed by Silent Confession of Sin

Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a humble heart and confess our sins to God, our Father, imploring Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Leader: Blessed is the man against whom the Lord counts no iniquity!

People: And in whose spirit there is no deceit.

Leader: I said, I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,

People: And You forgave the guilt of my sin.

Heavenly Father, we confess that we have elevated the things of this world above You. We have made idols of possessions and people and used Your name for causes that are not consistent with You and Your purposes. We have permitted our schedules to come first and have not taken the time to worship You. We have not always honored those who guided us in life. We have participated in systems that take life instead of give it. We have been unfaithful in our covenant relationships. We have yearned for, and sometimes taken, that which is not ours, and we have misrepresented others' intentions. Forgive us, O God, for the many ways we fall short of Your glory. Help us to learn to live together according to Your ways through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Please bow your head. For those who are able, you are invited to kneel during the confession of sin.

Assurance of Pardon

Hear the good news of the gospel: God has said, "I will cleanse them from all the guilt of their sin against me, and I will forgive all the guilt of their sin and rebellion against me."
In Christ Jesus, your sins are forgiven.

Unison Confession of Faith — The 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, and born of the virgin Mary.
He 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.

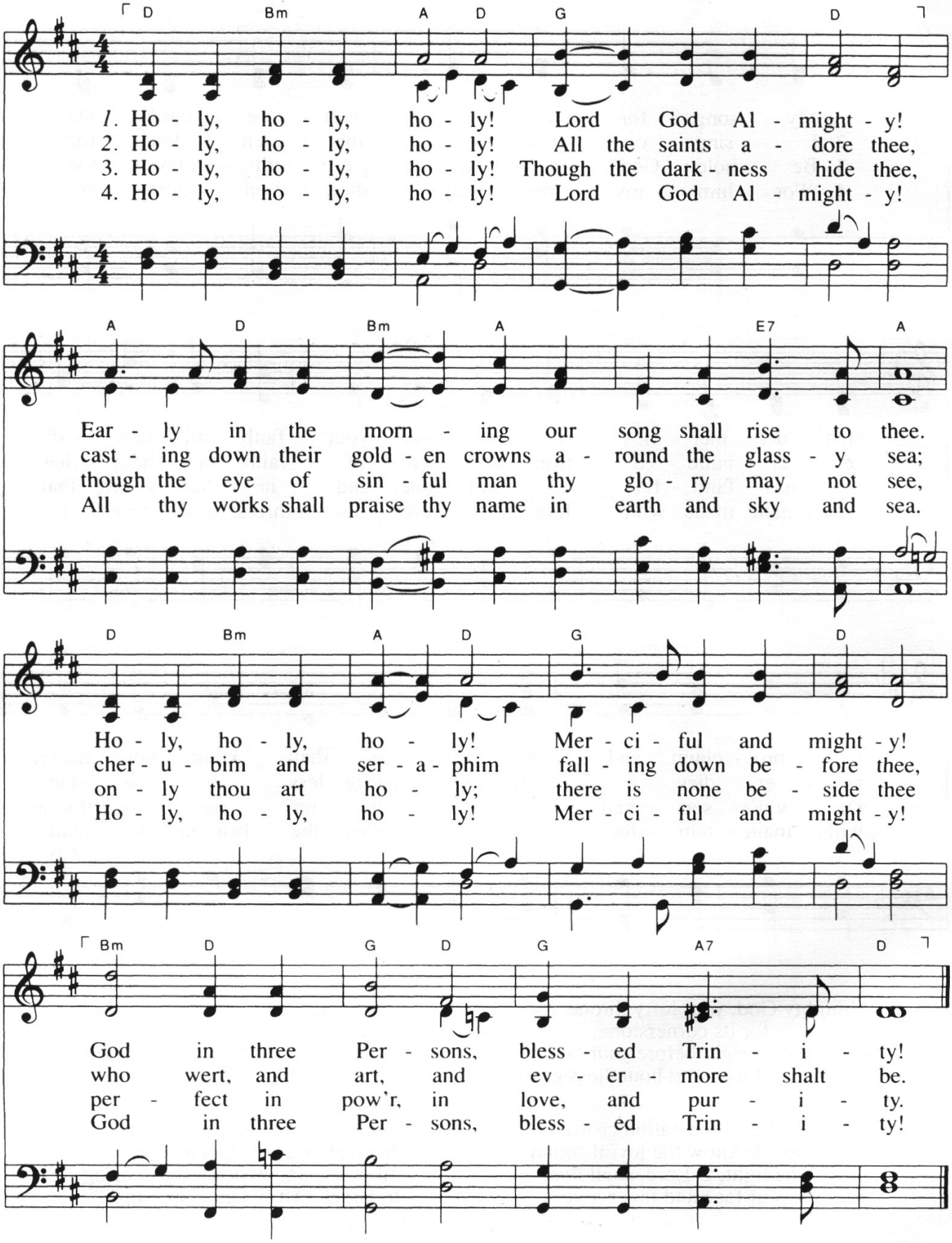
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE LORD SANCTIFIES OUR LIVES

Old Testament Lesson: Micah 7:8-20

Hymn of Praise **No. 100** vv. 1-4 *Holy, Holy, Holy*

100 Holy, Holy, Holy!

Day and night they never stop saying: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was, and is, and is to come." Rev. 4:8

Reginald Heber, 1783–1826

NICAEA 11.12.12.10.
John B. Dykes, 1861

Choral Anthem *I Will Sing* arr. Murphy

O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise,
The glories of my God and King, the triumphs of His grace.

I will sing of my Savior; I will tell of His grace. I will shout out His mercy to every race.
I will give my life to Him as an offering. As long as I have breath, I will sing!

He breaks the power of darkest sin, He sets the prisoner free;
His blood can make the foulest clean; His blood has rescued me.

So now, Your blessed name I love, Your will I make my own.
Had I a thousand hearts to give, they would be Yours alone!

Congregational Response **No. 731** *Doxology*

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

All children remain in worship with their families.
The Reformation room and Nursery are open for use but are not staffed.
Please use the back sanctuary exits to access the stairs to these rooms.

Scripture Reading Acts 11:19-30

Sermon Rev. Peter A. Chace, Assistant Pastor

The Spirit of Our Age
Mission in Antioch

THE LORD RECEIVES OUR GIFTS AND HEARTS

Call for the Offering and Offertory *How Great Thou Art* Hamlin

Pastoral Prayer Prayer for the Mission of God Pastor Devlin

Congregational Response **No. 734** *Gloria Patri*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

THE LORD MEETS US AT THE TABLE

Words of Institution and Examination of Conscience (*See bottom of next page)

Invitation and Coming to the Table

Please note: we will eat together in the pew.
Those who are unable to come to the table will be served in the pew.
The Elders are serving bread and wine.
To better serve those with restrictions, please see Pastor Devlin for gluten-free bread and/or grape juice.

Communion Hymn *Come, Bless the Lord*

Come, O my soul, bless the Lord your Maker, and all within me praise His holy name;
Come, bless the Lord, forget not all His mercies, His pard'ning grace and saving love proclaim.

Good is the Lord and full of kind compassion, slow unto anger, plenteous in love;
Rich is His grace to all that humbly seek Him, boundless, unending, as the heav'ns above.

Refrain: Come, bless the Lord, wondrous in might, steadfast in love, upholder of right.
He is our Savior, He is our delight. Come, bless the Lord, my soul.

His love is like a father's to his children, tender and kind to all who fear His name;
For He knows well, our weakness and our frailty, He knows that we are dust, He knows our frame.

We fade and die like flow'rs that grow in beauty, like tender grass that soon will disappear,
But evermore the love of God is changeless, still shown to those who worship Him in fear.

Refrain

High in the heavens His throne is fixed forever, His kingdom rules over all from pole to pole;
Come, bless the Lord, through all His wide dominion, bless His holy name, O my soul.

Refrain

Prayer of Thanksgiving followed by the Threefold Amen **No. 740** *Trinity Hymnal*

THE LORD SCATTERS US TO ADVANCE HIS KINGDOM

Closing **Psalm No. 96** *(See Bulletin)* vv. 5, 8 *Ascribe Unto the Lord*

Benediction

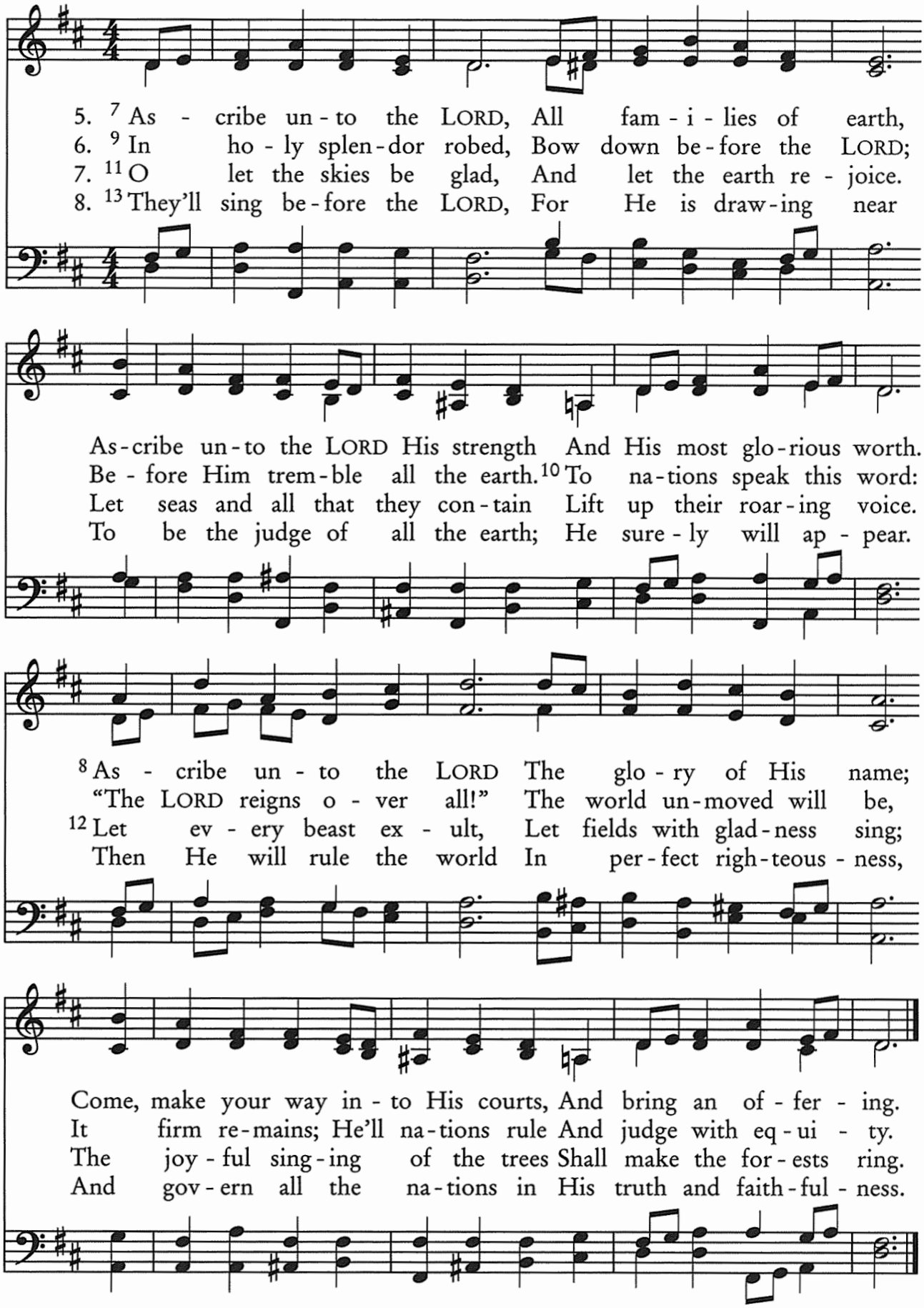
Postlude *I Need Thee Every Hour* Vogt

**May I Come to the Lord's Table?*

We warmly invite all baptized believers who trust in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, including those from other congregations, to partake in the Lord's Supper. As we come to the table, we rejoice as we remember our need to trust in Jesus Christ as Lord, to repent of sin, and to covenant once more to live as followers of Jesus. By eating the bread and drinking the wine with us as a visitor, you are acknowledging that you are a sinner, without hope except in the sovereign mercy of God, and that you are trusting in Jesus Christ alone for salvation. Those who are ignorant in their knowledge of Christ or who are living ungodly and unrepentant lives should refrain from the table. Baptized children may be admitted to the Lord's Supper provided their parents have appeared before the Pastor or Session to share their child's profession of faith, in a manner acceptable to the Session.

Ascribe Unto the LORD

"Yes, I am coming soon." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.
—Revelation 22:20

96D
Psalm 96:7-13

Franklin L. Sheppard, 1915; arr. Edward Shippen Barnes, 1926

TERRA BEATA SMD

Worship at a Glance

A Brief Overview of our Worship Service and How to Participate

A Note to Parents
Children are encouraged to be in the sanctuary because we believe the Bible commands us to include children in the worship service. Parents have the privilege of training their children for worship every Lord's Day. We are happy to partner with you in that training. To assist in training, we encourage families with children to sit closer to the front with their kids and make use of the children's worship bags in the sanctuary. Childcare rooms are also available when additional training or discipline is necessary. For more information, feel free to contact Pastor Nate.

What is a Bulletin?
The bulletin contains our order of worship and includes all the information you need to worship with us on Sundays. The bulletin is not something we simply "work through" but a guide that helps us in our worship of God. **Our worship services are approximately 90 minutes.**

Announcements
Announcements about the ministry are given before the worship service begins. In the summer, we include a time of musical instruction as part of the announcements.

Prelude
The prelude is a musical selection that is played at the beginning of the worship service. During that time, worshipers are encouraged to pray and prepare their hearts and minds for worship. The prelude ends with the "ringing of the hour," which includes the Westminster Chime, followed by a Trinitarian bell.

Congregational Responses
Worship at Beverly Heights is "dialogical," meaning it is a dialogue between God and His people. The Pastor calls and the congregation responds throughout the service. All responsive readings for the congregation are in **bold**. The congregation also responds by kneeling for confession, standing for the reading of God's word before the sermon, and declaring "Amen" after prayer and song.

Confessions of Sin and Faith
Each Sunday, the congregation is invited to confess their sins. We first confess corporately, followed by a time of silent and private confession. Everyone is invited to bow their heads and, for those who are able, to kneel for confession. Following the confession of sin, the pastor offers assurance of your forgiveness. The congregation then joins in a unison confession of faith through one of the ecumenical creeds (Apostles' Creed, Nicene Creed, Definition of Chalcedon).

Music
Our worship service includes weekly special music. Normally, the choir (which is the "first-fruit" of the voice) sings an anthem on behalf of the congregation. When the choir is in recess, special music is offered by soloists or ensembles. We refrain from clapping for these musical offerings but respond as a congregation by lifting up our hands and singing the Doxology *a cappella*. All congregational music for the service can be found in the bulletin, the Trinity Hymnbook, or the Summer Psalter. Our Director of Music cantors to assist the congregation in singing.

Scripture Readings
There are two scripture lessons during the worship service, normally one from the Old Testament and one from the New Testament. We always stand for the reading before the sermon in keeping with the model found in Nehemiah 8:5.

Sermon
The preaching of the word is understood as a direct address by God through the preacher to the congregation. Our sermons are predominantly exegetical (derived from the text) but sometimes topical. Most sermons will include an introduction, an explanation of the text, an application, and a takeaway (call to action).

Offering
Every Lord's Day includes the opportunity to present an offering to the Lord in the form of gifts, tithes, offerings, and prayers. (A "tithe" is defined by the scriptures as a tenth of our income.)

Pastoral Prayer
Following the offering, a pastoral prayer is made on behalf of the congregation. The subject of the prayer varies weekly, and worshipers are encouraged to join in the prayer by faith.

Communion
We practice weekly communion in worship. All baptized believers who trust in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior are invited to partake in the Lord's Supper (See additional note in bulletin). Worshipers come to the front of the sanctuary to receive the bread and wine, but all partake of the elements together in the pews. As you receive the elements, the congregation is invited to sing. After communion, there is a "Eucharistic" (thanksgiving) prayer, followed by the singing of the threefold "Amen."

Closing
After communion, the congregation sings a closing hymn or Psalm, followed by the benediction. The benediction is a blessing given by God to the congregation by the pastor. All worshipers are encouraged to stretch out their hands as a gesture of receptivity as they receive the benediction.

Postlude
The service ends with the playing of a postlude.

THIS WEEK AT BEVERLY HEIGHTS

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4
9:00 AM Christian Education
10:00 AM Worship Service

MONDAY, OCTOBER 5
Church Offices Closed

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7
8:00 AM Men's Study Group
10:00 AM Staff Meeting
6:30 PM Fusion: MS & HS Students

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8
1:00 PM Women's Book Study
7:15 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10
8:00 AM Men's Study Group

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11
9:00 AM Christian Education
10:00 AM Worship Service

The Spirit of Our Age

A Sermon Series on the Book of Acts

September 13	Acts 10:1-23a
September 20	Acts 10:23b-48
September 27	Acts 11:1-18
October 4	Acts 11:19-30
October 11	Acts 12:1-25
October 18	Acts 13:1-12
October 25	Acts 13:13-35
November 1	Acts 13:36-52
November 8	Acts 14:1-7
November 15	Acts 14:8-20
November 22	Acts 14:21-28