Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost



Christ Addressing the Pharisees about the Great Commandment,
Lukas of Cyprus (1594-1596)

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

October 25, 2026 10:00 am

The HOLY EUCHARIST

We seek to love and minister to our neighbors, each other, and our children.

Welcome to St. Stephen's Episcopal Church!

We are a vibrant and inclusive Christian community in the Episcopal tradition, following Jesus into loving, liberating, and life-giving relationships with God, one other, and the earth. Rooted in the Laurelhurst neighborhood and engaged with the wider Seattle community, St. Stephen's has served and celebrated its mission for over 100 years.

Our mission as a people of faith is to *love and minister to our neighbors, each other, and our children*. We live this mission through worship, learning, and service, trusting that God continues to guide us to new expressions of ministry in a changing Seattle and ever-changing church.

We believe that God speaks to us through scripture, tradition, and reason. We engage both heart and mind as we explore our faith and discern how to share God's unconditional love with all people and all of creation.

If you are seeking a place to grow in love of God, serve the world, and gather strength for daily life, you have a place here. Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, you are welcome at St. Stephen's!

Some Ideas for Engaging Worship

- **Come as you are.** Let the liturgy unfold around you. Everything you need to participate is in the bulletin, and the ministers and choir will guide the service.

- **All are welcome at communion**. You may receive the bread and/or wine, or come forward for a blessing by crossing your arms over your chest. Ushers will guide you.

- **We're glad to talk with you.** If you have questions about the service, sermon, or community, Rev. Jennifer would be glad to connect with you after worship, by email at revjennifer@ststephens-seattle.org, or phone at (206) 331-2364. You may also contact Assisting Lay Minister, Dave Baylor, at dbaylor@ststephens-seattle.org (206) 579-0522.

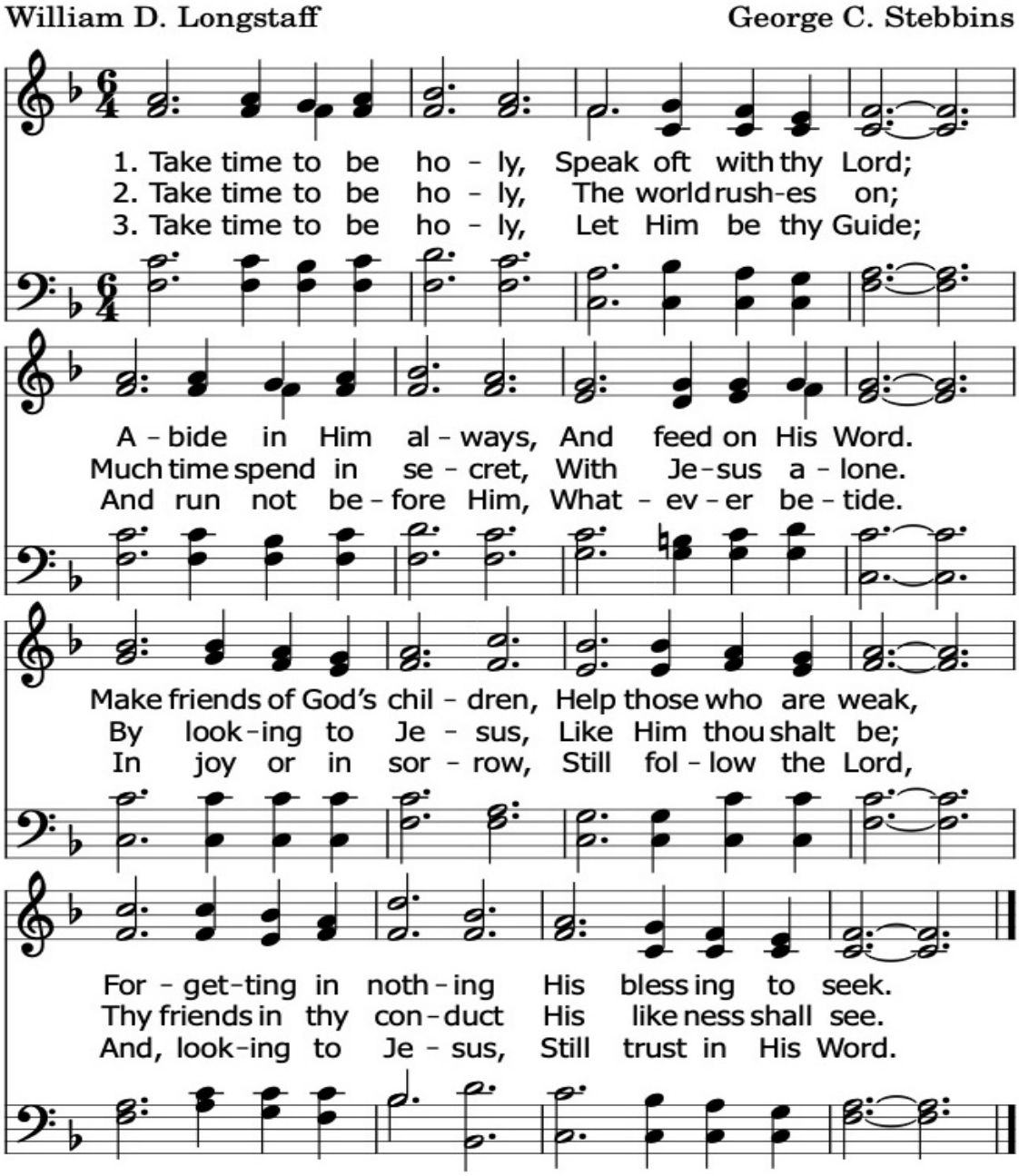
THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The Gathering

Prelude Rhosymedre Ralph Vaughan Williams

At the sound of the bell, all stand as able to sing the opening hymn.

Opening Hymn Take Time to be Holy

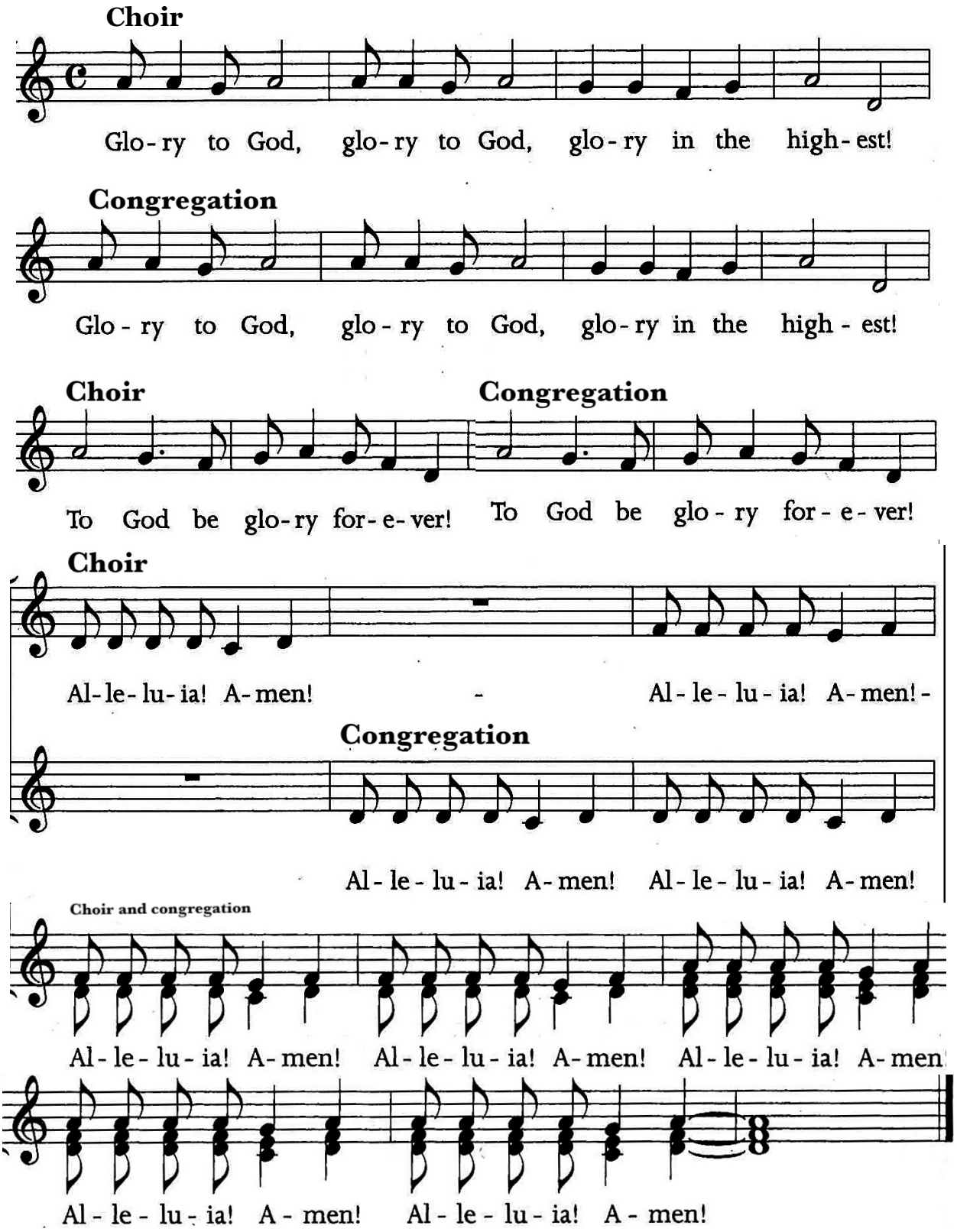


Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever.**
Amen.

Collect for Purity
(prayed by all)

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


Choir
Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry in the high-est!
Congregation
Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo-ry in the high - est!
Choir
Congregation
To God be glo-ry for-e-ver!
To God be glo - ry for - e - ver!
Choir
Al-le-lu-ia! A-men!
Al - le - lu - ia! A-men!
Congregation
Al - le - lu - ia! A-men! Al - le - lu - ia! A-men!
Choir and congregation
Al - le - lu - ia! A-men! Al - le - lu - ia! A-men! Al - le - lu - ia! A-men
Al - le - lu - ia! A - men! Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

Celebrant God be with you.
All **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

All are seated.

First Reading **Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18**

The LORD spoke to Moses, saying:

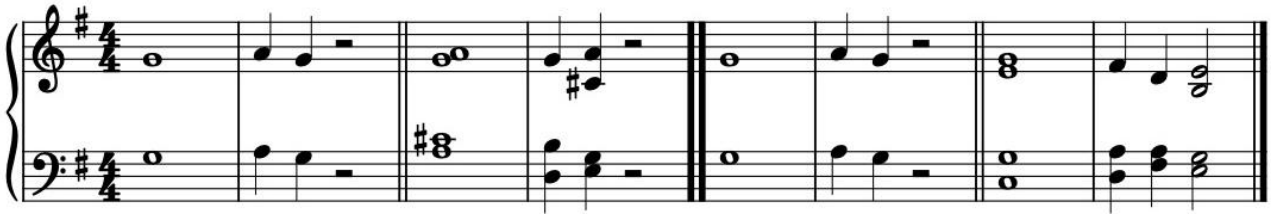
Speak to all the congregation of the people of Israel and say to them: You shall be holy, for I the LORD your God am holy.

You shall not render an unjust judgment; you shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great: with justice you shall judge your neighbor. You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not profit by the blood of your neighbor: I am the LORD.

You shall not hate in your heart anyone of your kin; you shall reprove your neighbor, or you will incur guilt yourself. You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against any of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 1 *Chanted by all.*



Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the | wick-ed,
nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of | the scornful!
Their delight is in the law of the | Ho-ly One,
and they meditate on that law | day and night.

They are like trees planted by streams of water,
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not | wi-ther;
everything they do | shall prosper.
It is not so with the | wi-cked;
they are like chaff which the wind | blows a-way.

Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judg- | ment comes,
nor the sinner in the council of | the righteous;
For the Holy One knows the way of | the righteous,
but the way of the wick- | ed is doomed.

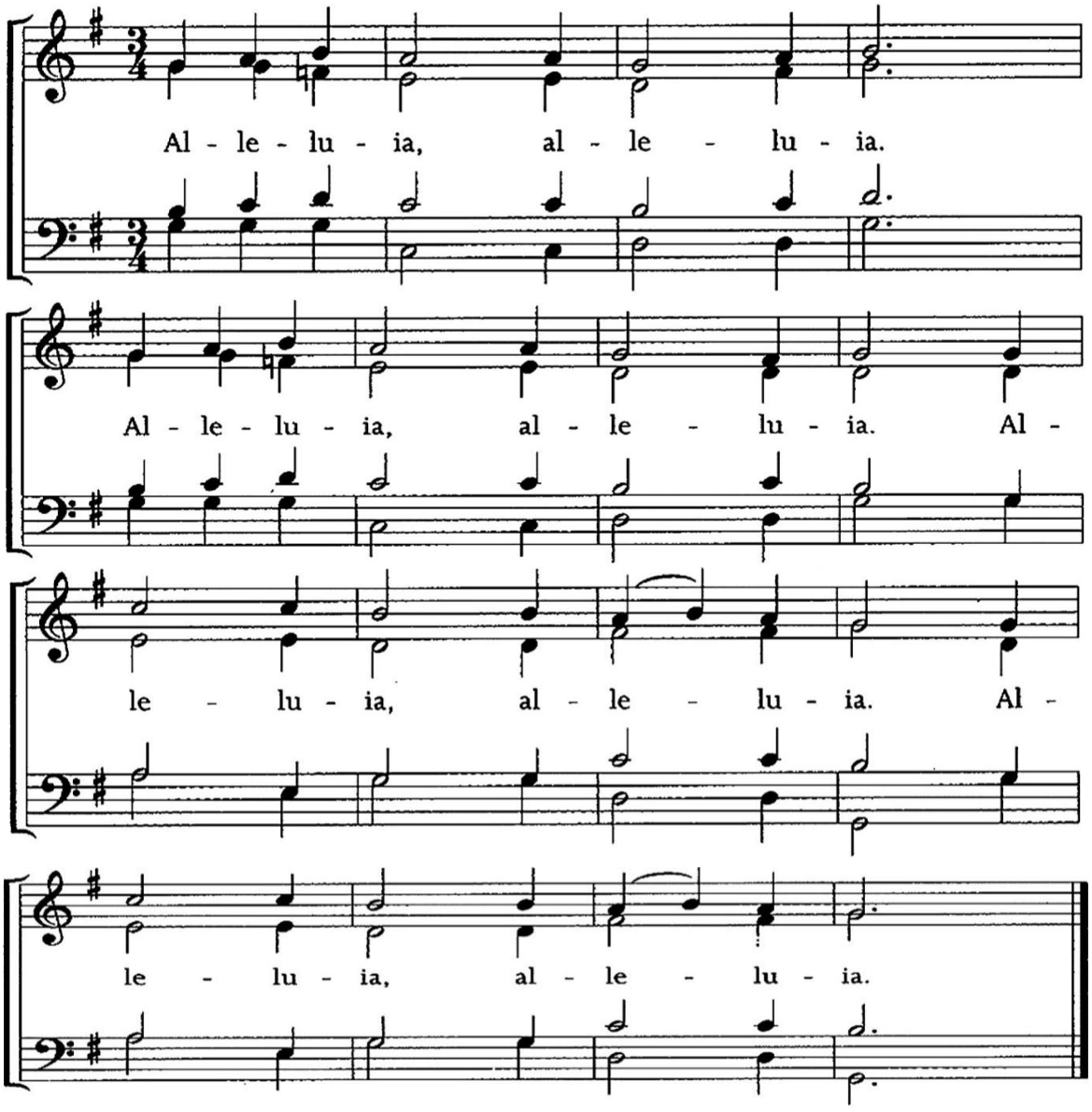
Second Reading **1 Thessalonians 2:1-8**

You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

All stand, as able, for the Gospel procession.

Gospel Acclamation (*sung twice*)



Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ, according to Luke.
People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The Gospel **Matthew 22:34-46**

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: "What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." He said to them, "How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying,

> 'The Lord said to my Lord,
> "Sit at my right hand,
> until I put your enemies under your feet"'?

If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?" No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ

The Gospel Acclamation is sung once more after the Gospel lesson.

Please be seated.

The Sermon **David Baylor**

We pause for a moment of reflection following the sermon.

All stand, as able.

The Nicene Creed

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.

The Prayers of the People

The Leader and People pray responsively

Intercessor Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
All **That we all may be one.**

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest . . . .
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy.
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

We give thanks for all the blessings of our lives, including this community of St. Stephen's.

The People may add their own thanksgivings.

Intercessor Let us pray for our own needs and those of others . . . .
.

Silence. The People may add their own petitions.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

The Confession

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

All **Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;**
In your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown,
things done and left undone;
and so uphold us by your Spirit
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of your Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Absolution

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.
All **And also with you.**

All share a sign of Christ's peace and then are seated.

Announcements

Offertory Sentence

An offering of money is gathered. Everyone participating in worship is invited to make an offering as an expression of gratitude for God's generosity. All our gifts make the life of this community possible. You may use the QR code to the right to visit ststephens-seattle/donations. (Wi-fi: STSTEPHENS2, dontgetstoned) or place money or a check in the offering plate.

Offertory Hymn # 644 How sweet the Name of Jesus sounds *St. Peter*

THE HOLY COMMUNION

All stand as able.

Celebrant All things come of you, O God.
People **And of your own we give you.**

The Great Thanksgiving

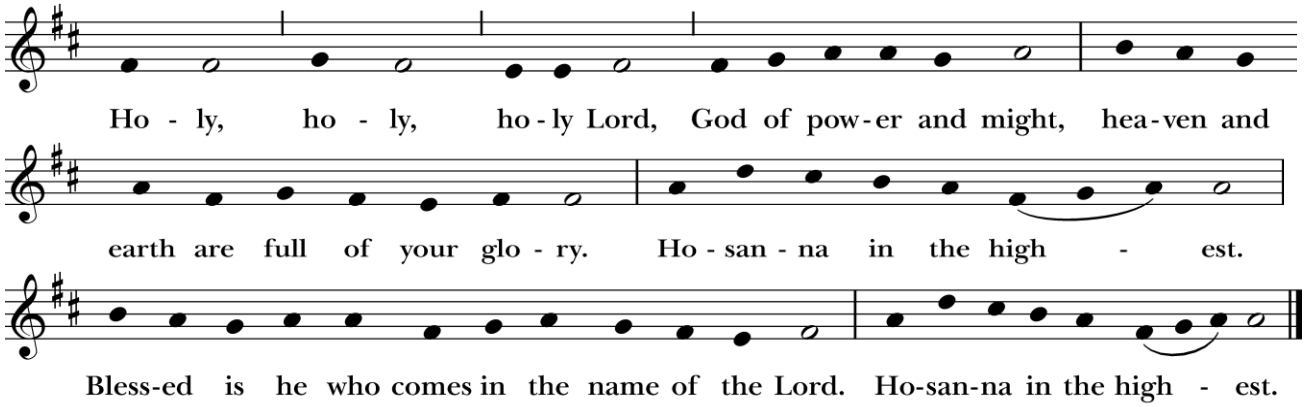
Celebrant God be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**
Celebrant Let us give thanks to God.
People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus Hymn # S124 Holy, holy, holy Lord David Hurd



Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.

Celebrant We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

All **We remember his death,**
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;

Celebrant And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Stephen, Mary, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

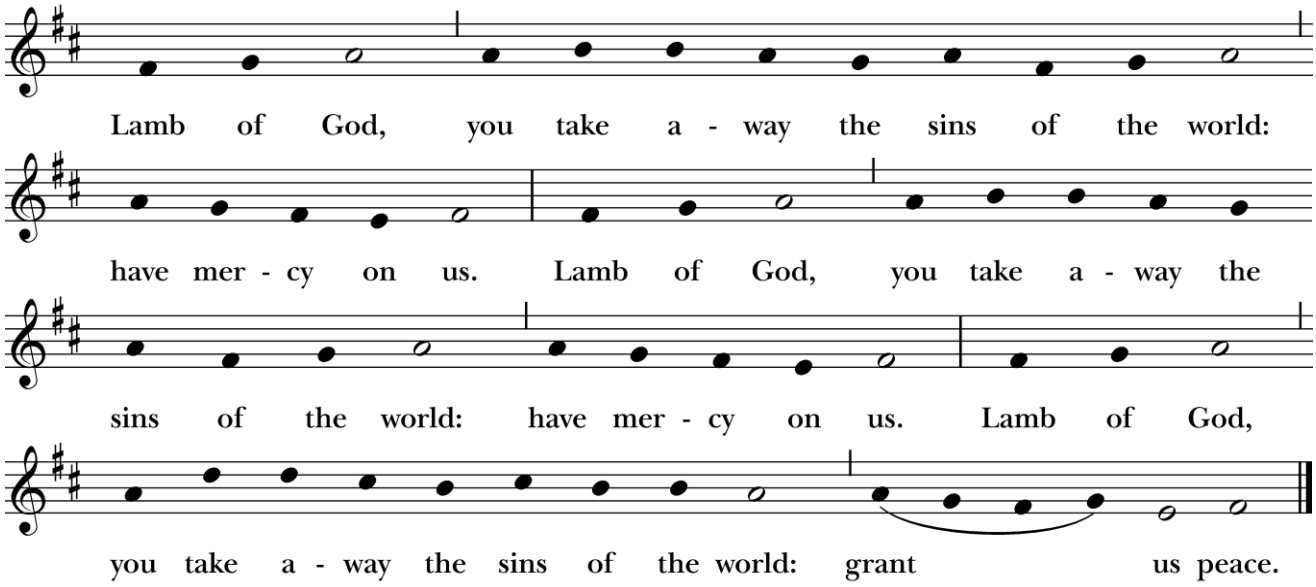
And now, as our Savior Christ had taught us, we pray,

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,
for ever and ever. Amen.

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread.

Fraction Anthem

Hymn # S161



Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.

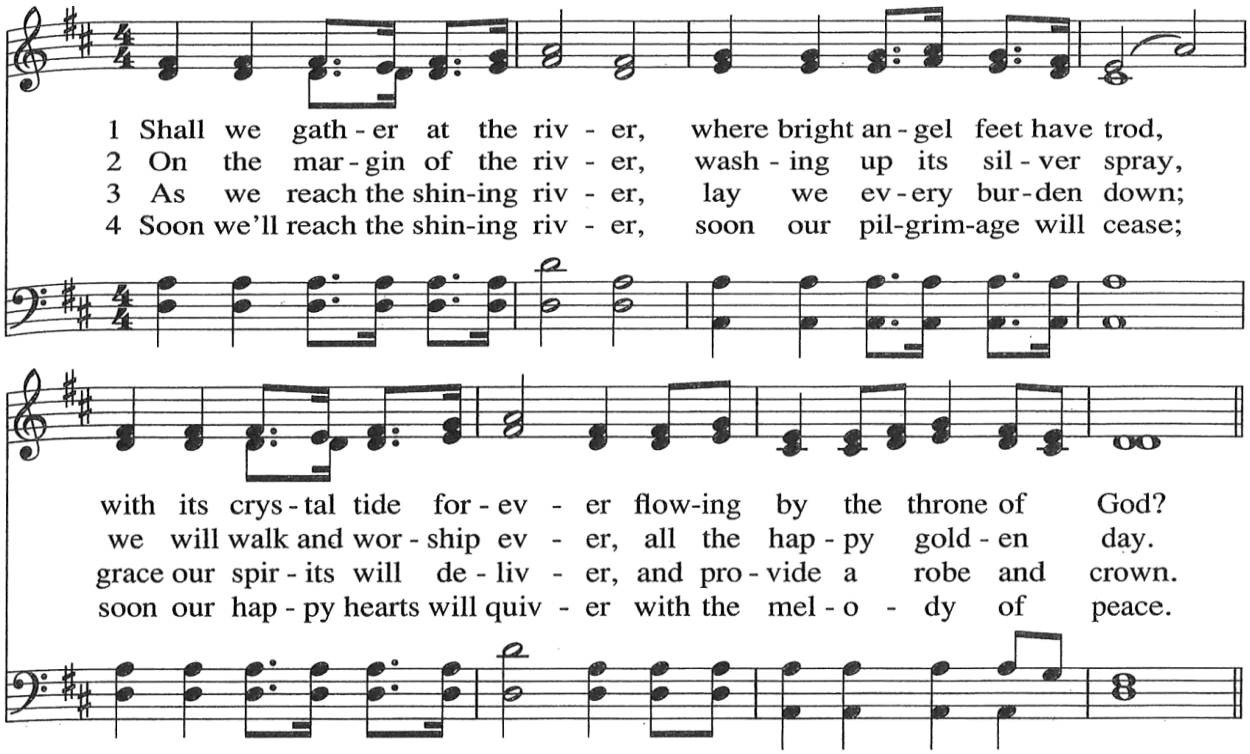
Invitation to Communion

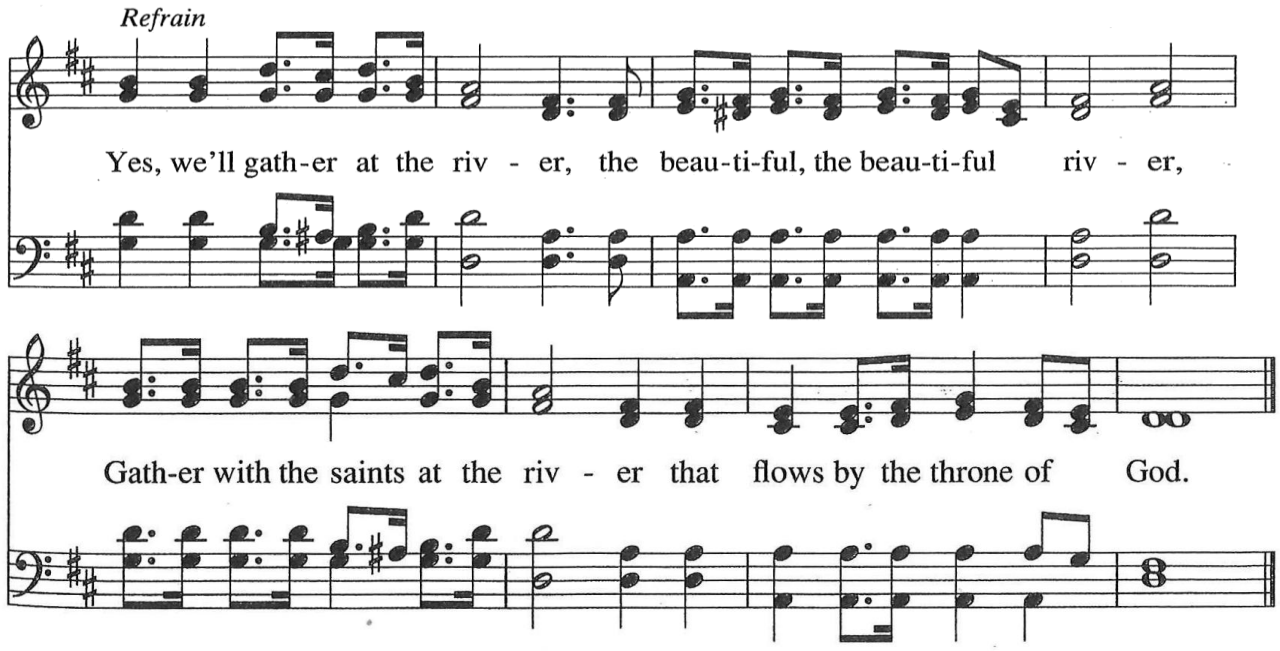
Celebrant The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

All who seek God are welcome at the Lord's Table. Hold out your cupped hands to receive the bread. If you are gluten allergic, please ask for a rice wafer. You may drink directly from the cup. If you would like to receive a blessing instead, cross your arms over your chest and the priest will bless you. All remain seated before and after receiving communion.

Communion Anthem Brethren We Are Met to Worship (Southern Harmony) arr. Alice Parker

Post-Communion Hymn: Shall We Gather at the River *(we are singing verses 1 & 3)*





Written during a time when an epidemic was claiming many lives in New York, Robert Lowry's hymn raised the question "Shall we meet again?" Lowry was pastor at Hanson Place Baptist Church in Brooklyn from 1861 to 1869, and collaborated on numerous hymn collections with William H. Doane.

Tune: HANSON PLACE 8.7.8.7. with refrain
Robert Lowry, 1864

All stand, as able.

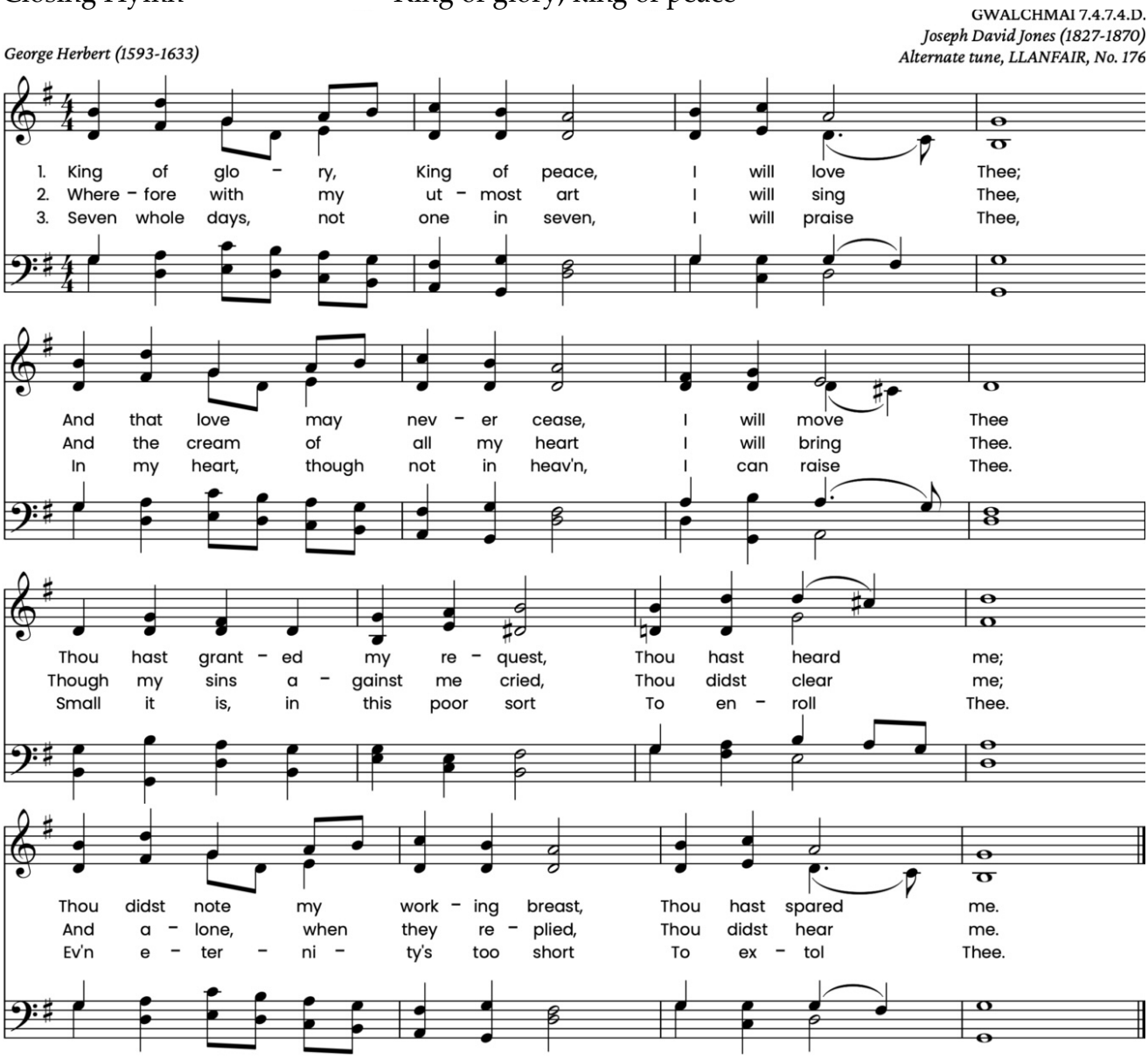
Prayer after Communion

Celebrant Let us pray.

All **Eternal God, heavenly Father,**
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing

Closing Hymn King of glory, king of peace



Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude Voluntary in D Major William Boyce

DATES TO REMEMBER

Sundays	10:00 am	Holy Eucharist (Nave/Church) and Coffee Hour (Parish Hall)
Sundays	3:00 pm	Youth Group Food Program (Great Hall)
Tuesdays	11:00 am	Still Waters Contemplative Prayer Group (Vestry Room)
Wednesdays	6:20 pm	Men's Bible Study (Parish Hall)
	6:30 pm	Women's Bible Study (Vestry Room)
Thursdays	6:30 pm	Choir practice (Chancel)
October 25	11:30 am	Film: *Letter from a Palestinian Prison* (Parish Hall) with David Wild, Executive Producer
October 27	2:00 pm	Inurnment of Inez Swanson (Resurrection Chapel / Columbarium)
	4:00 pm	Celebration of Life event (Broadmoor Golf Club) 2340 Broadmoor Drive E, Seattle, WA 98112
November 1	2:00 pm	10:00 am All Saints Day with Baptism (Nave)
November 14	2:00 pm	Play: "When Chess Pieces Come Alive" by Elizabeth Clark-Stern (Parish Hall)
November 22	11:30 am	Lay Liturgical Minister Training (Nave)

SERVING TODAY

Celebrant	The Rev. Jennifer King Daugherty
Preacher	David Baylor
Assisting Lay Minister	David Baylor
Lector	Temple Jorden
Intercessor	Tom Kintzi
Lay Eucharistic Minister	Jenn Azen
Minister of Music	John Terauds
Altar Guild	Anna Kinney, Faith Gaines, Jenn Azen, Anne Adams, Lisa Clausen, Melissa Minas, Marilyn Anderson
Choir	Kathy Chamberlain, Elizabeth Clark-Stern, John Daugherty, Deborah Donnell, Scott Gary, Nancy George, Kathy Graunke, Temple Jorden, Debby Kearnes, M.E. Kintzi, Monty McGovern, Emma Petersen, Isaiah Ragland, Jaden Ritscher, Maddie Rivera
Acolytes	Ethan Azen, Liam Phillips, Rhys Prober
Communion Bread	Nancy George

PARISH LEADERSHIP

Rector	The Rev. Jennifer King Daugherty – revjennifer@ststephens-seattle.org
Assisting Priest	The Rev. Peter Snow – quareprobasti@gmail.com
Assisting Lay Minister	David Baylor – dbaylor@ststephens-seattle.org; baylordwm@gmail.com
Minister of Music	John Terauds – johnterauds@outlook.com
Communications and Operations Manager	Claudia Basile – cbasile@ststephens-seattle.org
Executive Director of Preschool	Lisa Henderson – lisa@laurelhurstearlylearning.org
Vestry	Chris Dorling, Senior Warden; Anne Adams, Junior Warden; Temple Jorden, Clerk; Michael Bruen, Deborah Donnell, Jennifer Gary, Marla Malone, Monty McGovern, Melissa Minas

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