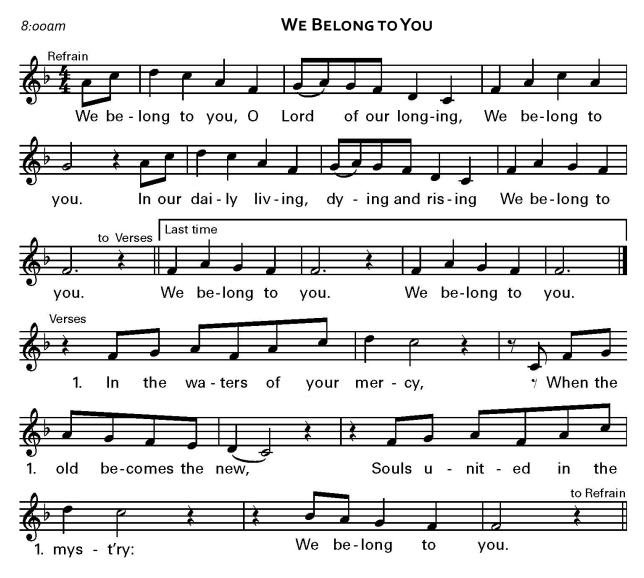
St. Francis' Episcopal Church Sunday, August 25, 2024

Service begins here at both 8am and 10:30am.

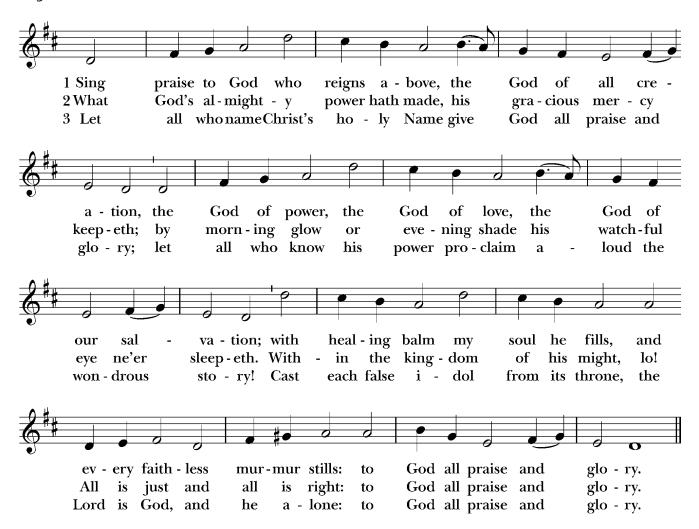
PRELUDE 10:30am only

REVELATION SONG

GATHERING SONG We begin by praising God through song and prayer. Stand.



SING PRAISE TO GOD WHO REIGNS ABOVE



GREETING

Standing before the assembly, the Presider welcomes the community to worship.

Presider Blessed be the One, Holy and Living God.

People Glory to God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Presider 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.

People Amen.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

As we enter in to worship we ask God's forgiveness for things done and things left undone and things done on our behalf so that we may be reconciled to each other and to God.

Deacon Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence is kept for a time.

People God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you,

opposing your will in our lives.

We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves,

and in the world you have created.

We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done,

and the evil done on our behalf.

Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ,

that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

Presider 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.

People Amen.

Song of Praise: Glory to God 8am + 10:30am



THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The collect is written to go along with both the season of the church year and the readings for the day. It summarizes the attributes of God as revealed in the scripture for the day.

Presider The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Let us pray.

Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered together in unity by your Holy Spirit, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever

and ever.

People Amen.

WE HEAR THE SACRED STORIES Sit.

We hear the stories of the experience of God from our spiritual ancestors. Reading and commenting on scripture goes back to the earliest services of Christianity. Following the pattern of Jewish synagogue worship, readings follow a set pattern for what will be read when.

THE FIRST LESSON: A READING FROM HEBREW SCRIPTURES

Reader A reading from the first book of Kings. 8:1, 6, 10-11, 22-30, 41-43

Solomon assembled the elders of Israel and all the heads of the tribes, the leaders of the ancestral houses of the Israelites, before King Solomon in Jerusalem, to bring up the ark of the covenant of the Lord out of the city of David, which is Zion. Then the priests brought the ark of the covenant of the Lord to its place, in the inner sanctuary of the house, in the most holy place, underneath the wings of the cherubim. And when the priests came out of the holy place, a cloud filled the house of the Lord, so that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud; for the glory of the Lord filled the house of the Lord.

Then Solomon stood before the altar of the Lord in the presence of all the assembly of Israel, and spread out his hands to heaven. He said, "O Lord, God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth beneath, keeping covenant and steadfast love for your servants who walk before you with all their heart, the covenant that you kept for your servant my father David as you declared to him; you promised with your mouth and have this day fulfilled with your hand. Therefore, O Lord, God of Israel, keep for your servant my father David that which you promised him, saying, 'There shall never fail you a successor before me to sit on the throne of Israel, if only your children look to their way, to walk before me as you have walked before me.' Therefore, O God of Israel, let your word be confirmed, which you promised to your servant my father David.

"But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Even heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain you, much less this house that I have built! Regard your servant's prayer and his plea, O Lord my God, heeding the cry and the prayer that your servant prays to you today; that your eyes may be open night and day toward this house, the place of which you said, 'My name shall be there,' that you may heed the prayer that your servant prays toward this place. Hear the plea of your servant and of your people Israel when they pray toward this place; O hear in heaven your dwelling place; heed and forgive.

"Likewise when a foreigner, who is not of your people Israel, comes from a distant land because of your name —for they shall hear of your great name, your mighty hand, and your outstretched arm—when a foreigner comes and prays toward this house, then hear in heaven your dwelling place, and do according to all that the foreigner calls to you, so that all the peoples of the earth may know your name and fear you, as do your people Israel, and so that they may know that your name has been invoked on this house that I have built.

Hear what the Holy Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God.

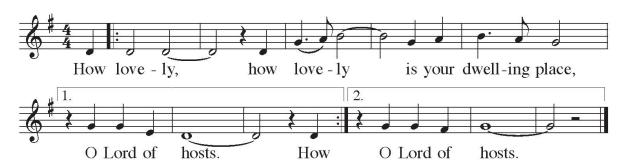
PSALM OF THE DAY

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The psalms are a part of the poetry of the Hebrew people. They express joy and sadness; loneliness and thanksgiving as part of the human longing to be united with God.

At 8am, the congregation reads the antiphon together. At 10:30, the congregation sings the antiphon together.

ANTIPHON:



My soul is longing and yearning, is yearning for the courts of the Lord.

My heart and my soul ring out their joy to God, the living God. ANTIPHON

They are happy, who dwell in your house, forever singing your praise.

They walk with ever growing strength; they will see the God of gods in Zion. ANTIPHON

Turn your eyes, O God, our shield. Look on the face of your anointed.

One day within your house is better, better than a thousand, a thousand elsewhere. ANTIPHON

Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

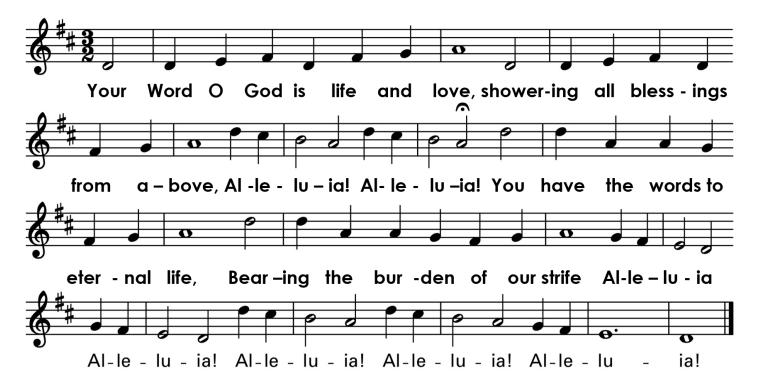
Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

Hear what the Holy Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL HYMN: PREPARING TO HEAR THE GOSPEL Stand.

We stand, as we are able, for the Gospel reading to show the particular importance we place on Jesus' words and actions, and sing the Gospel Hymn.



THE PROCLAMATION OF THE GOSPEL

Deacon God is with you.

People And also with you.

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John. 6:56-69

People Glory to you, O Christ.

Jesus said, "Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever." He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?" But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, "Does this offend you? Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But among you there are some who do not believe." For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. And he said, "For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father."

Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. So Jesus asked the twelve, "Do you also wish to go away?" Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God."

At the end of the Gospel the Deacon says

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, O Christ.

GOSPEL HYMN The music on the previous page is sung one time through.

THE SERMON Sit.

We remain seated for the sermon. Having someone comment on the scriptures read goes back to the earliest days of Christianity and to the Jewish Synagogue worship which preceded it.

THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Stand.

Deacon Please stand, as you are able, as we affirm our faith.

Silence is kept for a time.

Deacon We are not alone; we live in God's world.

People We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word

made flesh, to reconcile and make anew, who works in us and others by the Spirit.

Deacon We trust in God.

People We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in

Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God

is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Prayer changes people. Prayer is not about changing God but about changing us more into the likeness of God. Collectively and individually we offer the hopes and desires of our hearts to God. The Deacon offers the prayers for those who are sick or have asked our prayers.

Deacon: God of heaven and earth, through Jesus Christ you promise to hear us when we pray to

you in faith with thanksgiving. Therefore we come to you with grateful hearts asking you,

God of Love, grant our prayer.

After each prayer, the people reply, "grant our prayer."

Presider: Merciful God, you look with compassion on all who turn to you. Hear the prayers of your

people. Grant that what we have asked in faith we may by your grace receive; through

Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

THE EXCHANGE OF THE PEACE

As we enter the most sacred portion of our worship we exchange a sign of God's promised peace. There are no set words to use in greeting each other, but "Peace be with you," "God's peace," and "Shalom" are all commonly used.

Presider The Peace of Christ be always with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Let us offer each a sign of Christ's peace.

As a community of reconciliation and peace, we greet each other with a sign of our desire for peace.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Sit.

GATHERING AT CHRIST'S TABLE

Having been nourished from the richness of God's love in sacred story and reconciled to each other through prayer and peace, we gather at Christ's table to offer ourselves to be transformed for service in the world. We listen to or sing a hymn to continue to prepare our hearts and minds for the Eucharistic Prayers to come.

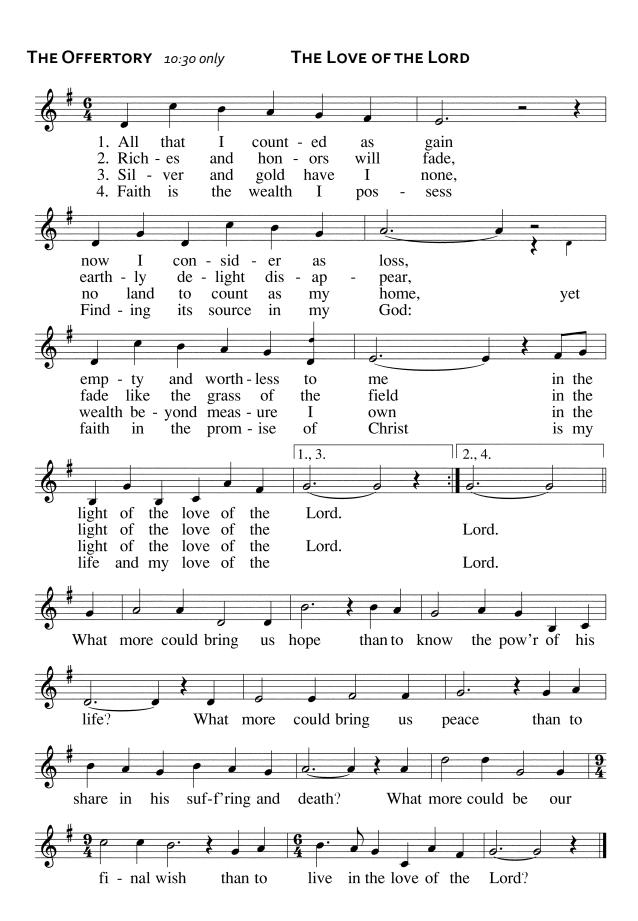
*THE OFFERTORY 10:30 only

The gifts of bread, wine, money and other gifts are offered by the assembly to be set apart or consecrated as a reminder of Christ's sacrificial love and life. Once the Holy Table or Altar is prepared, the Presider and people give thanks to God for the many gifts we have been given by standing and singing our praise.

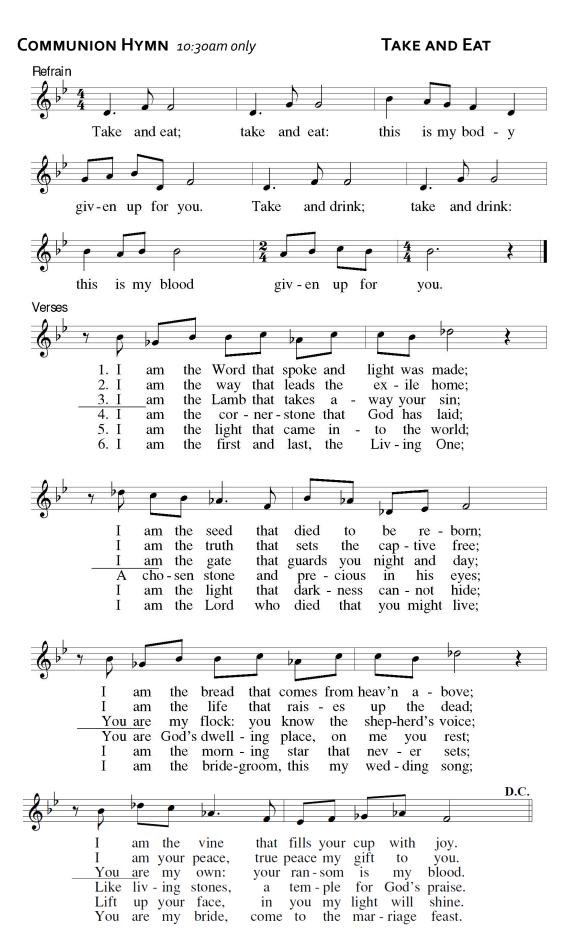
MEDITATION HYMN 8am only

BLESSED ASSURANCE

ALAN JACKSON



From here, continue to the yellow bulletin labelled "An Order for The Celebration of The Holy Eucharist," page 4, and return to this green insert for Communion Hymn and Sending Hymn.



From here, continue to the yellow bulletin labelled "An Order for The Celebration of The Holy Eucharist," page 10, for the Post-Communion Prayer.

