WELCOME TO WORSHIP
Sunday, November 15, 2026



First Evangelical & Holy Cross Churches
2740 Parker Ave.
West Palm Beach, FL 33405
www.felcwpb.com
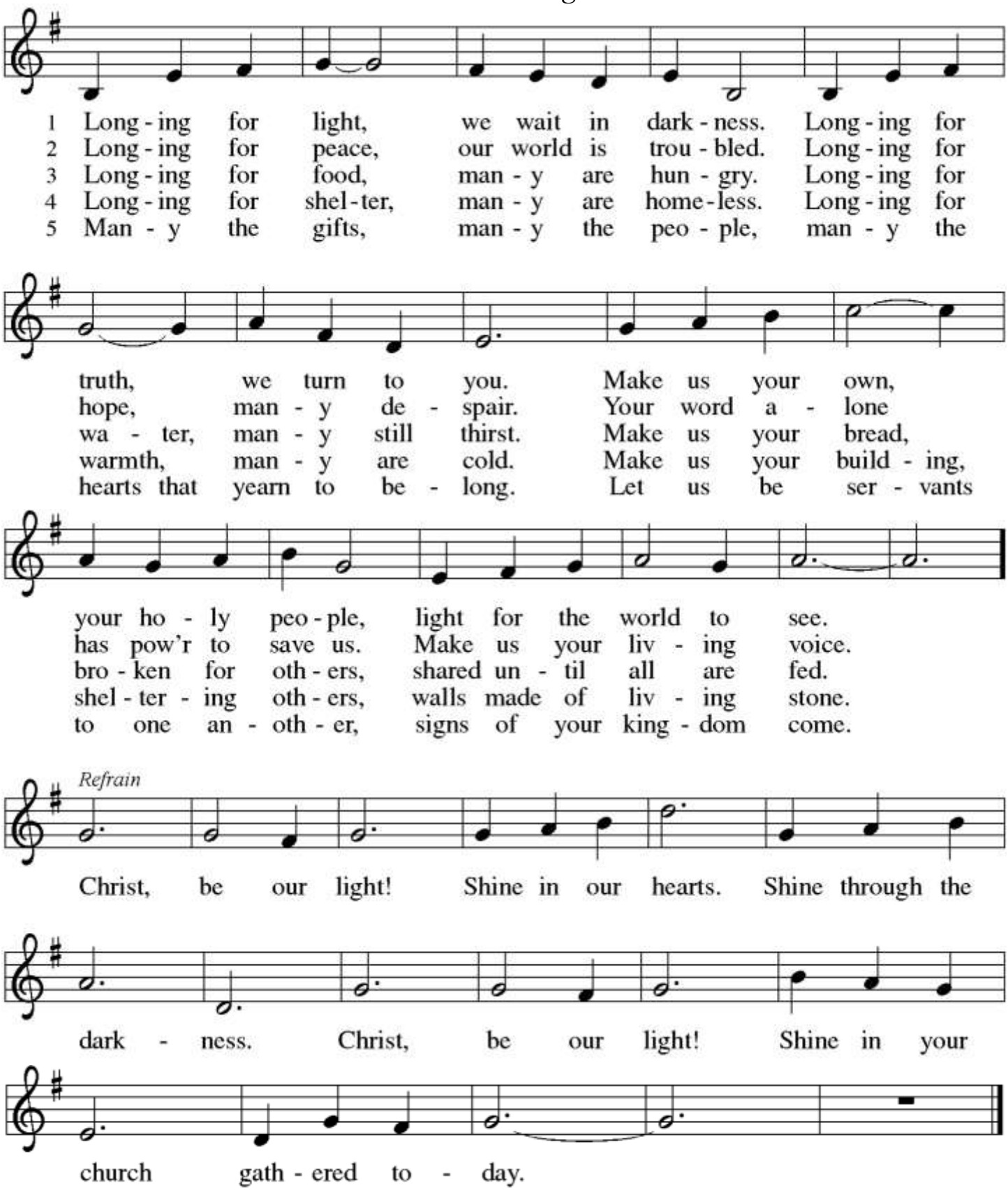
"We are a community of churches and a church to the community."

Welcome to worship with First Evangelical and Holy Cross churches. We come together for worship each Sunday to share in the ministry and mission of our Lord Jesus Christ with our own unique traditions and history. Seven other Christian ministries are located onsite with us.

If you are a guest or visitor and would like to know more about First Evangelical or Holy Cross, please reach out to one of our ushers, pastors, or fill out a welcome card and drop it in the offering boxes. Thank you for joining us in worship this morning. May God bless you.

WELCOME / INVOCATION

PROCESSIONAL SONG: *"Christ Be Our Light"*



CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: With humility and honesty, let us confess our sins to our God
who is slow to anger and quick to forgive.

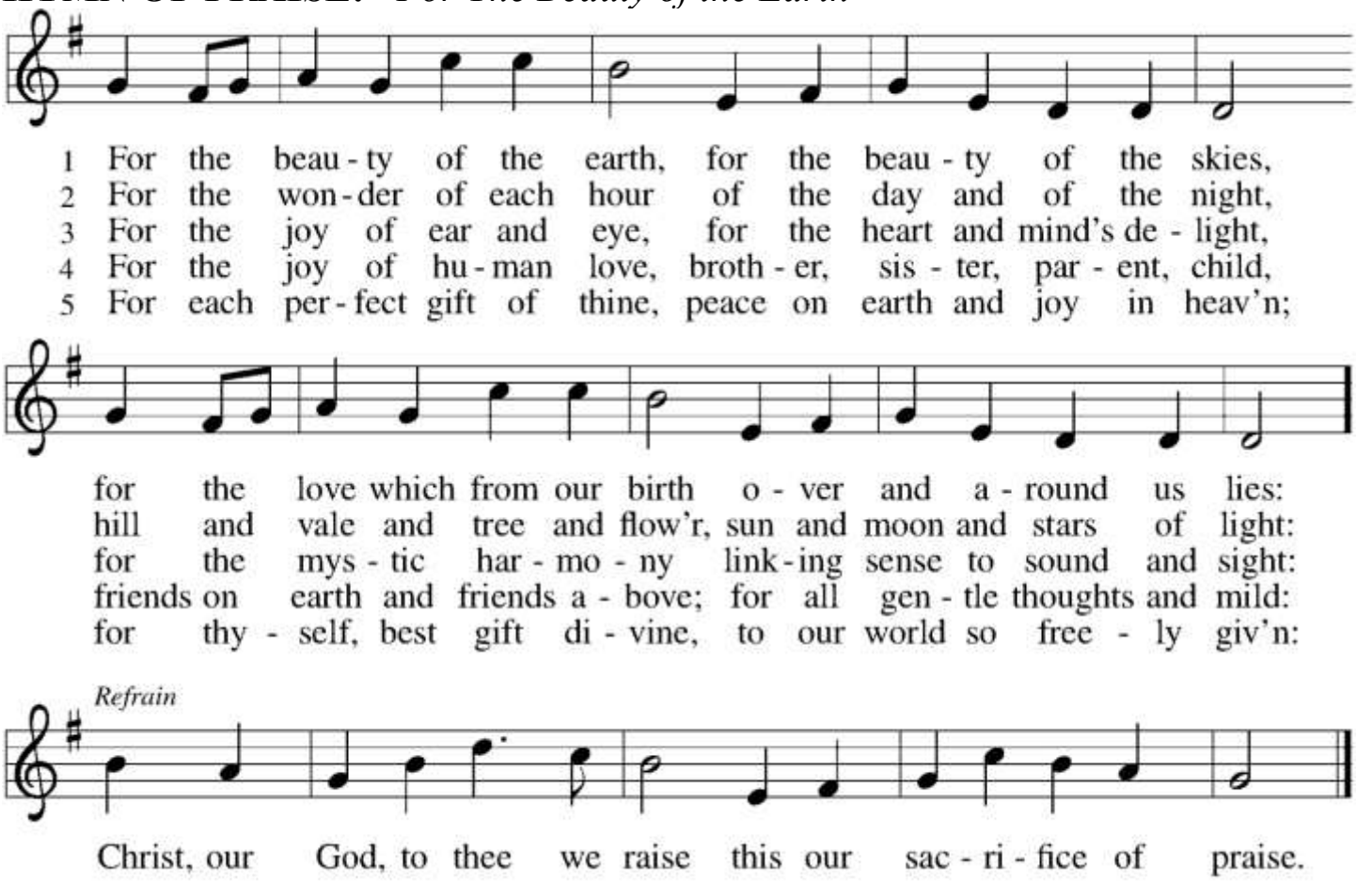
You may stand or kneel

C: Abundant God, so much of our harmful behavior is rooted in our envy. You have given us our manna – our daily bread – but we want more. We have allowed ourselves to be seduced by commercialism, telling ourselves that we are not complete until we have the nicest things. Forgive us when our actions convey that you are not enough for us. Help us to live our lives simply and faithfully, trusting in your steadfast love to provide all that we need. Amen.

P: Friends, our salvation is not something that can be purchased with money or fame. Our salvation comes from Jesus Christ and Jesus Christ alone. I announce to you this day, in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, that sins are forgiven.

ALL: Alleluia! Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE: *"For The Beauty of the Earth"*



PRAYER OF THE DAY
P: The Lord be with you.
C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. . .
Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
C: Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Welcome to worship** with First Evangelical and Holy Cross churches. Join us for a delicious lunch following worship in the Fellowship Hall.

- **Holy Cross Church's Congregational Meeting** will be today after worship and after **Choir Rehearsal**, in the sanctuary. **ALL** Holy Cross members should to attend.

- Join us for a **Thanksgiving Feast** next Sunday after worship. Ham and turkey will be provided. Bring a side dish to pass if you are able. A sign-up at the back of the church, please list number coming and type of food you can bring.

- Help spread the Christmas spirit by taking part in our **Christmas Pageant** this year. It will be a special Christmas musical during worship on December 20th. Sign up at the back of the church if you would like a speaking part in it.

- Are you curious about **Christmas and Hanukkah**? Join us for two special studies, the first is on **December 9th** when we will talk about why we wouldn't have Christmas without Hanukkah. The second is on **December 16th** when we will discover the true date of the very first Christmas in Bethlehem. Gather in the chapel at 6:30 p.m. Bring a friend!

- **First Evangelical** will no longer provide ***numbered offering envelopes*** for members. Please use envelopes provided in pews or by the offering boxes.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE
The elementary-aged children are excused for Flame, our Sunday School class.

FIRST READING: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

7 Be silent before the Sovereign Lord,
for the day of the Lord is near.
The Lord has prepared a sacrifice;
he has consecrated those he has invited.

12 At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps
and punish those who are complacent,
who are like wine left on its dregs,
who think, 'The Lord will do nothing,
either good or bad.'
13 Their wealth will be plundered,
their houses demolished.
Though they build houses,
they will not live in them;
though they plant vineyards,
they will not drink the wine."
14 The great day of the Lord is near—
near and coming quickly.
The cry on the day of the Lord is bitter;
the Mighty Warrior shouts his battle cry.
15 That day will be a day of wrath—
a day of distress and anguish,
a day of trouble and ruin,
a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and blackness—
16 a day of trumpet and battle cry
against the fortified cities
and against the corner towers.
17 "I will bring such distress on all people
that they will grope about like those who are blind,
because they have sinned against the Lord.
Their blood will be poured out like dust
and their entrails like dung.
18 Neither their silver nor their gold
will be able to save them
on the day of the Lord's wrath."

In the fire of his jealousy
    the whole earth will be consumed,
for he will make a sudden end
    of all who live on the earth.

R: Word of God, Word of Life
C: Thanks be to God

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

The Day of the Lord

5 Now, brothers and sisters, about times and dates we do not need to write to you,
[2] for you know very well that the Day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night.
[3] While people are saying, "Peace and safety," destruction will come on them suddenly, as labor pains on a pregnant woman, and they will not escape.

[4] But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness so that this day should surprise you like a thief. [5] You are all children of the light and children of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness. [6] So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be awake and sober. [7] For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, get drunk at night. [8] But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet. [9] For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. [10] He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him. [11] Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

R: Word of God, Word of Life
C: Thanks be to God

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 25:14-30

P: The Holy Gospel, according to Saint Matthew.
C: Glory to you, O Lord.

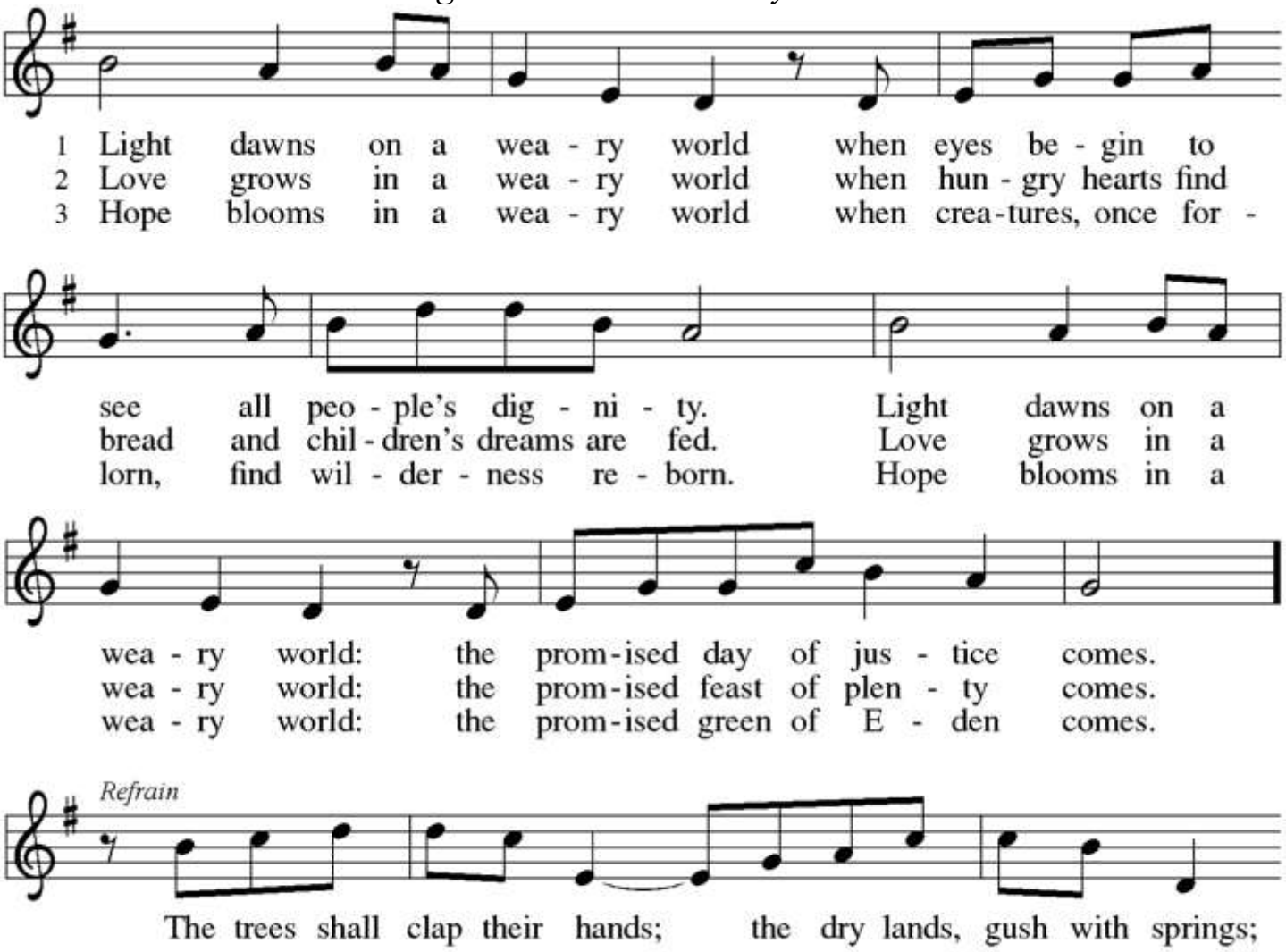
The Parable of the Bags of Gold

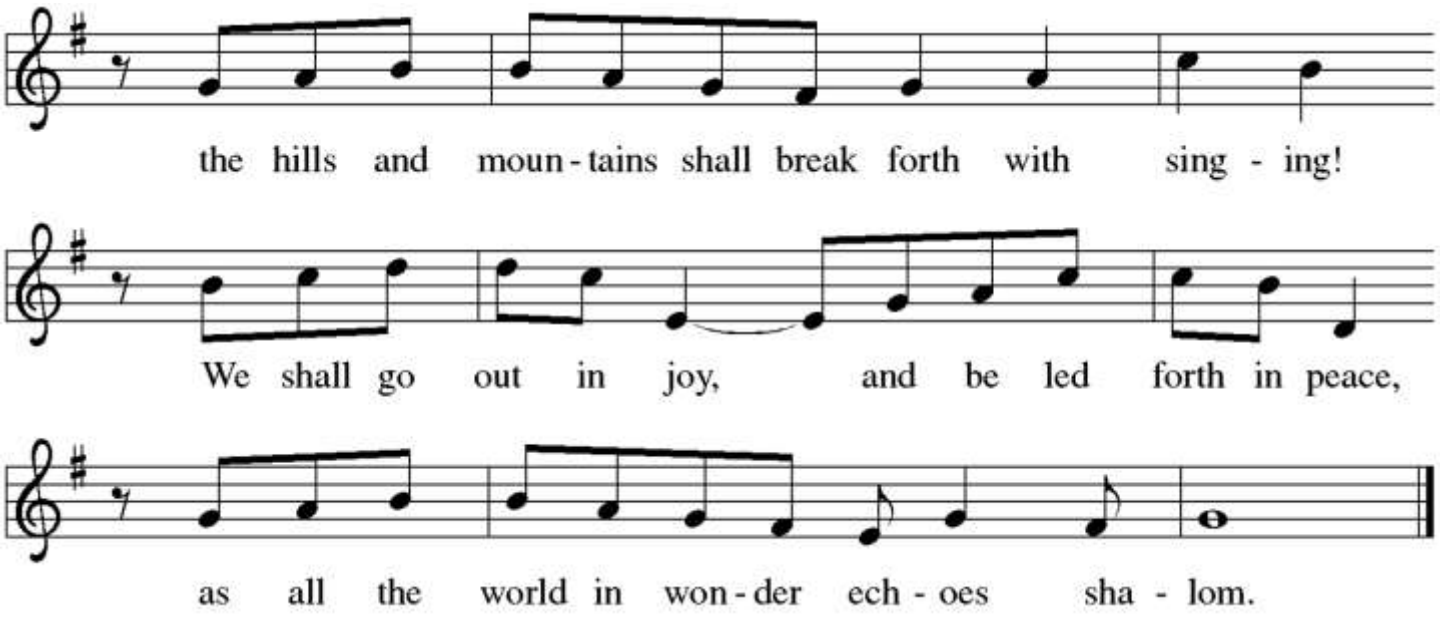
14 "Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and
entrusted his wealth to them. 15 To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two
bags, and to another one bag, each according to his ability. Then he went on his
journey. 16 The man who had received five bags of gold went at once and put his
money to work and gained five bags more. 17 So also, the one with two bags of gold
gained two more. 18 But the man who had received one bag went off, dug a hole in
the ground and hid his master's money.
19 "After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with
them. 20 The man who had received five bags of gold brought the other five.
'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with five bags of gold. See, I have gained five
more.'
21 "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been
faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share
your master's happiness!'
22 "The man with two bags of gold also came. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me
with two bags of gold; see, I have gained two more.'
23 "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been
faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share
your master's happiness!'
24 "Then the man who had received one bag of gold came. 'Master,' he said, 'I
knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering
where you have not scattered seed. 25 So I was afraid and went out and hid your
gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.'
26 "His master replied, 'You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where
I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? 27 Well then, you
should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I
would have received it back with interest.
28 "'So take the bag of gold from him and give it to the one who has ten bags. 29 For
whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does
not have, even what they have will be taken from them. 30 And throw that worthless
servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of
teeth.'

P: The Gospel of the Lord.
C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON **Pastor Daniel Baker**

HYMN OF THE DAY: *"Light Dawns on A Weary World"*





APOSTLES' CREED
I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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



THE OFFERING

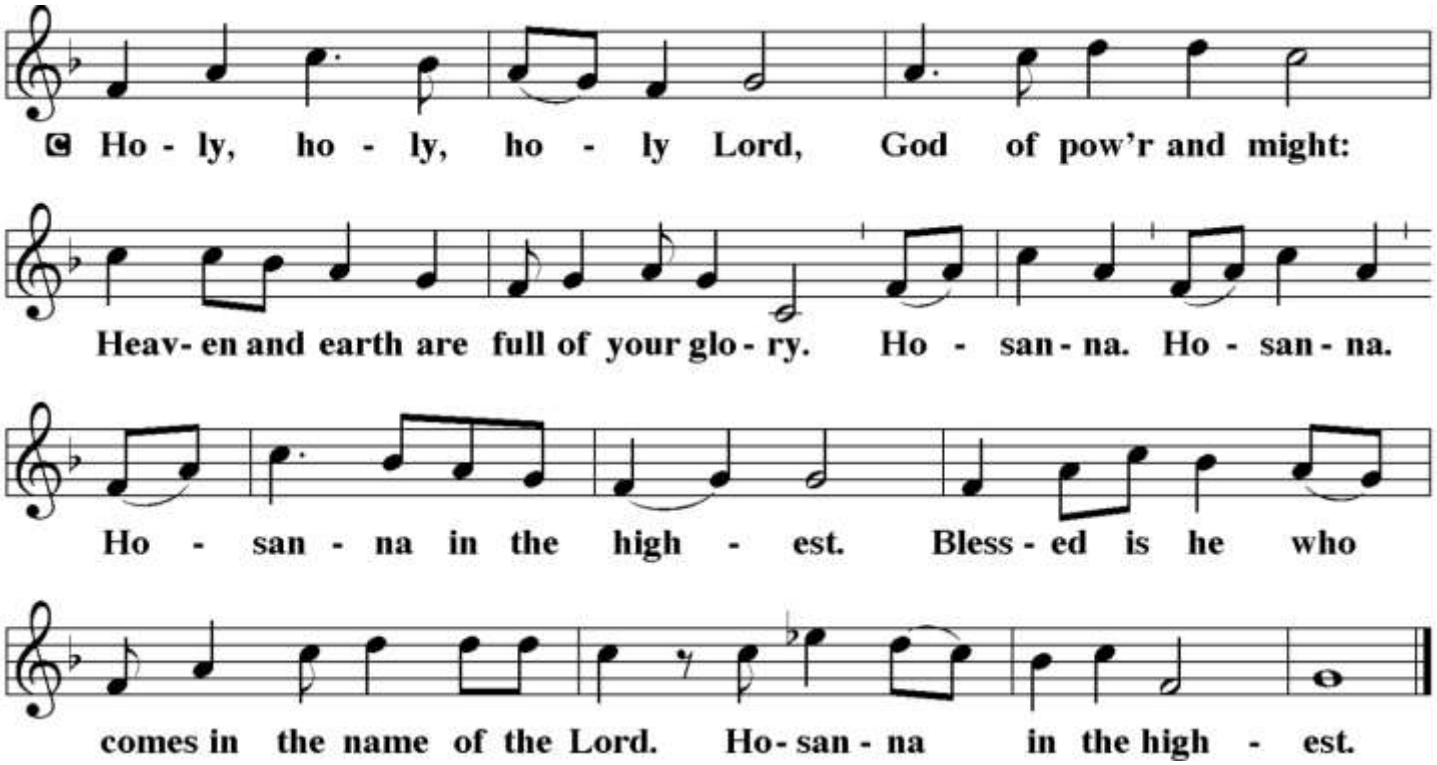
Your OFFERING is received in the back of the church. Separate BOXES are available for both* Holy Cross & First Evangelical *churches.

For First Evangelical only, you can give online at www.felcwpb.com or Text GIVE to 844-504-1678 Or Scan QR Code.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING
P: The Lord be with you.
C: And also with you.
P: Lift up your hearts.
C: We lift them to the Lord.
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C: It is right to give Him thanks and Praise.

SANCTUS: *"Holy, Holy, Holy"*



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER
C: 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.

THE DISTRIBUTION – CONTINUOUS FORMAT *(Silence is appreciated)*
We practice Open Communion at Holy Cross and First Evangelical. If you believe that the Holy Sacrament carries with it the promises of the forgiveness of sins and eternal life and are a **baptized Christian** – you are welcome to receive. We do ask, however, that younger children who have not yet been instructed in the meaning of the sacrament - please come to the chancel for a blessing but refrain from receiving. Grape juice is in the center of the communion trays.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

AARONIC BLESSING IN HEBREW & ENGLISH
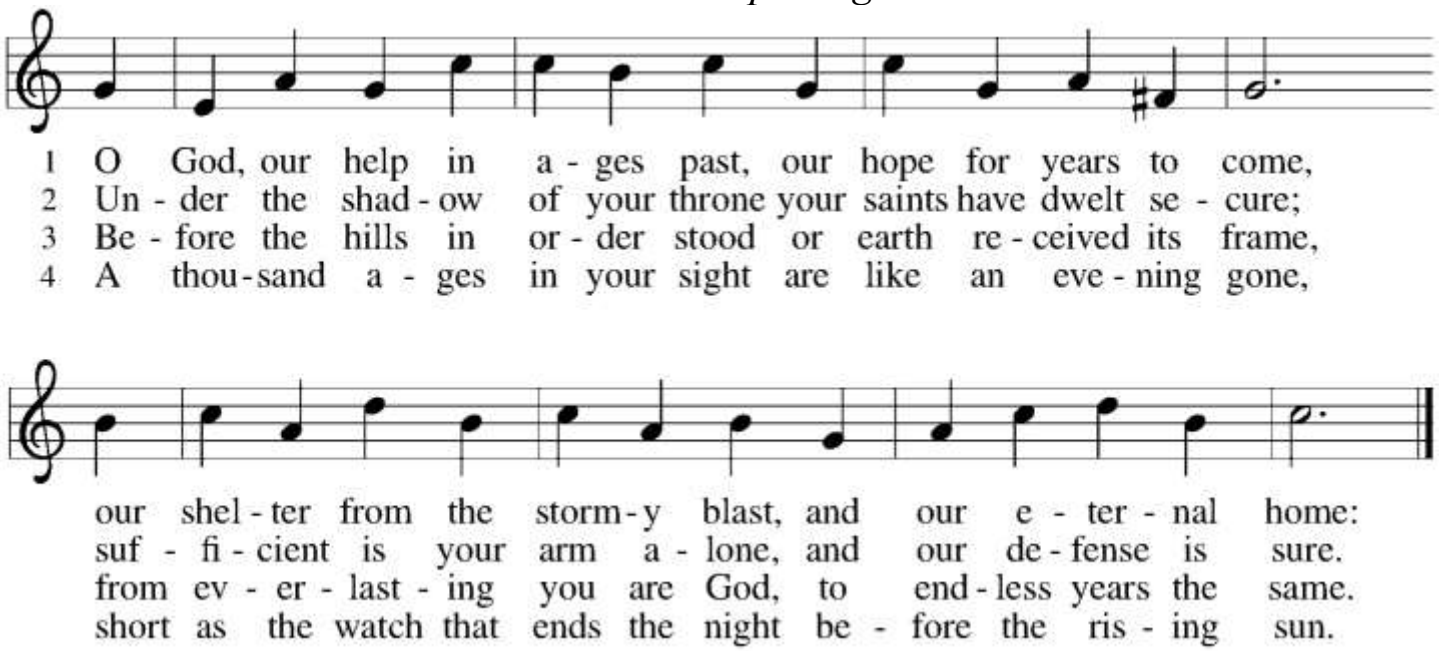
P: "The LORD bless you and keep you,
Y'varech'cha Adonai v'yeesh'm'reicha.

The LORD make His face shine upon you, and be gracious to you;
Yaer Adonai panav eleicha veechooneka.

The LORD lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace."
Yeesa Adonai panav eleicha v'yasem l'cha shalom.

C: Amen.

RECESSIONAL SONG: *"O God Our Help in Ages Past"*



DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Encourage one another. **C: Thanks be to God.**

WELCOME to all and thank you for joining us in worship today as we give thanks and praise to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. We pray that the service will be meaningful and uplifting for you. You are invited to stay for coffee and refreshments following the service.

Serving in Worship

Pastors	- Rev. Daniel D. Baker & Rev. Dr. Michael Breznen
Crucifers	- Tom Kalorgis, Hilkka Schroderus-Rowe
Liturgists	- Dianne Breznen
Communion Assistants	- Dianne Breznen, Hilkka Schroderus-Rowe
Sound/Live Stream	- Ken Burton
Video/Live Stream	- Scot Alexander/Sera Butz

	This Week	**Next Week**
Musicians / Singers	Sandra Baran	Sandra Baran, James Binion, Choir
Lector	Susan Moncher	Christine Webb
Ushers	Katherine S., Judith M.	Katherine S., Judith M.
Greeters	Bob S. & Susan M.	Bob S. & Susan M.

Remember in Prayer

We pray for peace between nations and peoples and for just resolutions to the conflicts throughout the world – especially the people of Israel and fellow believers facing life-threatening persecution; those in war-torn countries; for all members of our armed services and law enforcement personnel; for our country and our nation's leaders; for the Church, Church leaders, for **Youth for Christ**, and all faithful witnesses to the Gospel; for our missionaries – **Anthony** and **Soyoung Sellari** and their work in Egypt. **The Family of Carl Lindstom** may his memory forever be a blessing.

We pray for God's healing presence to be with: **The Vehling Family, especially Emilie, Brodie** and **Maggie Mae**, **Debbie Rowan, Sandra H., Matt B., Matthew, Ken, Addie, Silas, Nick, Jamie, Elihana, Debbie Ann**, **Saul & Martha**, **Dennis, Bill, Cynthia, Dylan, John, Lisa & Don, Raj, Sandy, Trish, Lou, Allan, Carson, David, Gertrude, Holly, Katie, Linda, Marilynn & Patrick**, **Lesley, Linda**, and members of the **Holy Cross and First Evangelical Church families** who are at home and unable to attend.

Visit, like, and follow us on our social media platforms and website.



The musical and liturgical content is licensed through CCLI #2555583 Sunday & Seasons #SB164185.

First Evangelical & Holy Cross Churches

2740 Parker Avenue
West Palm Beach, FL 33405
Ph: 561-833-9653
Website: felcwpb.com
Email: info@felcwpb.com

Church Office Hours
Monday – Wednesday – Friday
9 a.m. until 1 p.m.