WEEKLY CALENDAR

SUNDAY, 11/23 8:15AM WORSHIP
9:30AM SUNDAY SCHOOL
10:45AM WORSHIP
CHRISTMAS DECORATING INSIDE- ALL HELP IS WELCOME!

MONDAY, 11/24 PRAYER GROUP 6:00рм **BIBLE STUDY** 7:00рм TUESDAY, 11/25 7:00pm Men's Group 7:00PM SCRAPBOOKING 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal WEDNESDAY, 11/26 FELLOWSHIP HALL RSVD. 9AM-1PM **THURSDAY**, 11/27 HAPPY THANKSGIVING! OFFICE CLOSED FRIDAY. 11/28 OFFICE CLOSED **S**ATURDAY, 11/29 11/30 8:15AM WORSHIP SUNDAY, 9:30am Sunday School 10:45AM WORSHIP WITH ASL INTERPRETER

Scrapbooking All are welcome to join us for Scrapbooking in the Miller Parlor- November 25th at 7:00PM

Dedication of the new organ Will take place in the new year, date to be determined.

Decorating for Christmas....Please join us TODAY to decorate INSIDE - after the 10:45 service

Angel Tree Tags Are available on the tree in the Narthex. Please return the gifts by Dec. 5

2026 Church Directory Any updates to addresses or phone numbers can be emailed to office@htlc.church for the new Directory that will be available early 2026.

Welcome Members and Visitors today!

Bible Studies.....

Christmas Carols are a central part of the season. This Advent, we will have multiple different opportunities to learn more about carols and deepen their meaning for us.

Monday Bible Study at 7 pm will look at the history of Christmas carols and how they have developed over time.

Wednesdays at 6 pm there will be an online study of four different carols that will be part of our Christmas Eve services with their history, Biblical references and meaning.

Thursdays at noon will look at Christ in carols. What do we learn about Jesus from our songs?

Sunday, December 28 there will be one service at 10am which will be lessons and carols with communion.

Please join us as we grow in our faith through Christmas carols.

Donate Today—Seton Hill Christmas Gifts!

As part of our social outreach for Christmas, Holy Trinity is sponsoring 5 children and their siblings from the Seton Hill Daycare (this is the daycare located in our building). The Seton Hill Daycare is a Head Start Program which offers childcare services from ages birth to 5 years old for low-income families.

We will be collecting donations through November 30th. We will accept cash or checks (payable to Holy Trinity with "Seton Hill Christmas gifts" written in the memo). There will be a collection box in the narthex to drop your money in (look for it on the table along with the weekly prayer requests). Whatever amount you would like to donate is appreciated!

Then the ladies from our Women's Faith & Friendship group will total the money gathered, divide it between the 5 families, and shop for their gifts.

Youth grades 7-12....

12/5- 4:30-8- helping with the Cookie Tour at the church12/7- noon- meeting at Panera for lunch and shopping forSeton Hill children's Christmas gifts.

12/21- 9:30 am- Youth Christmas Party during Sunday school

Children up through 6th grade will be singing on December 21st at both services. If you worship at 10:45am, please have your child at the church in the Miller Parlor at 9 am to sing at the end of first service. For those who worship at first service, children will be singing at the beginning of second service. Thank you to all who are working with the children to lift their voices in praise of Jesus!

Women's Faith and Fellowship

December 17 will be our Christmas Party! We will meet in the fellowship hall at 6:00pm. If you can, bring a traditional, ethnic, holiday dish from your family to share. Talk to Pastor Sarah or Danielle about the gift exchange. All women are welcome!

Operation Christmas Child Boxes are due TODAY.

Theology on Tap will meet Tuesday, December 9th at 7:00PM at the Manor Grille.

Altar Flowers

After a generous donation from a member for the silk flowers on the altar, Denise Smith, a designer at Belak flowers generously gave her time to make the arrangements.

New Florists: Zanarini's in Jeannette, Lea's in East McKeesport and Logan's in **Madison**. Please note, if you have altar flowers, your florist must schedule flower delivery with Danielle in the office.

ASSISTING IN TODAY'S WORSHIP

	8:15	10:45
Assisting Minister	Tracy McNelly	LeNora Emanuelson
Communion Assistants	Melissa Fox Diane Kowalski Vicki Hillier Jeffrey Horvath	
Lector	Donna Yusko	Colleen Cochenour
Acolyte	Garrett Fennell	Sean Keiser
Greeters		Marcia Kramer Susan Kramer

Altar Guild

Set-up Saturday, Nov. 22		Rochelle Belak	
Sunday, Nov. 23	8:15	Doug and Vicki Hillier	
	10:45	Doug and Nancy Woodring	
Set-up Saturday, Nov. 29		Doug and Nancy Woodring	
Sunday, Nov. 30	8:15	Rochelle Belak	
	10:45	Andrea and Brian Smith	

Food Pantry

2025 Distribution Dates: Dec. 13

Items needed currently, special requests:

Pancake mix Maple Syrup Sugar cookie mix Liquid soap

Canned frosting Candy Laundry detergent

Items always requested:

Oatmeal Paper Towels Peanut butter & Jelly Potato/rice mix Pudding Cups Toilet Paper

Cheese Crackers Cake/muffin/brownie mix

Chef Boyardee Canned Vegetables

Many thanks for the generous donations to date! If you would like to donate money, please mark "food pantry" in the subject line on your check or you may use one of the pew envelopes. Food pantry contact: Jodi Waugaman at 724-516-9680 or waugawoman86@comcast.net

Worship Plan for Sunday, November 23, 2025

Christ the King 24th Sunday after Pentecost ELW Holy Communion Setting Two Sunday, November 23, 2025

Introduction to the day

Jeremiah's promise of the execution of "justice and righteousness in the land" finds ironic fulfillment in the execution of Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews. It appears utterly contradictory that a king should be crucified with a criminal. This victory appears for all the world as humiliating defeat. Yet through the gate of death Jesus opens the door to paradise.

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS Pastor

In the name of the Father, and of the \pm Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

*GATHERING SONG Jesus Shall Reign #434

Jesus Shall Reign



Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt. Music: DUKE STREET, attr. John Hatton, d. 1793

*GREETING

During this time, the presiding minister and the assembly greet each other. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. And also with you.

*CANTICLE OF PRAISE



*PRAYER OF THE DAY

The presiding minister leads the prayer of the day. Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

O God, our true life, to serve you is freedom, and to know you is unending joy. We worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for your great glory. Abide with us, reign in us, and make this world into a fit habitation for your divine majesty, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 23:1-6

Today's reading builds on the common, ancient Near Eastern metaphor of the king as shepherd. Judah's unjust rulers have caused their people, their "flock," to be scattered. Nevertheless, God will raise up a new and righteous shepherd who will rule a restored Judah.

¹ Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD. ² Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD. ³ Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. ⁴ I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall no longer fear or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD.

⁵The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 46

- ¹ God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.
- ² Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;
- ³ though its waters rage and foam, and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.
- ⁴ There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.
- ⁵ God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken;

God shall help it at the break of day.

- ⁶ The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake; God speaks, and the earth melts away.
- ⁷The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.
- ⁸ Come now, regard the works of the LORD, what desolations God has brought upon the earth;
- ⁹ behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world; who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.
- ¹⁰ "Be still, then, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth."
 - ¹¹The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

SECOND READING: Colossians 1:11-20

An early Christian hymn praises the mystery of the political, personal, and mystical Christ, the one who was present at creation and is eternally reigning with God.

¹¹ May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, so that you may have all endurance and patience, joyfully ¹² giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³ He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, ¹⁶ for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷ He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹ For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰ and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

CELTIC ALLELUIA



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*GOSPEL: Luke 23:33-43

The holy gospel according to Luke.



Amid scoffing and slander from those who sarcastically call him Messiah and king, Jesus reveals that to be Messiah and king is to give one's life for others. Here he uses his power to welcome a despised sinner to paradise but puts his own death into God's hands.

Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left.

34 [[Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."]] And they cast lots to divide his clothing.
35 And the people stood by watching, but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!"
36 The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine
37 and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!"
38 There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

³⁹ One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" ⁴⁰ But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?

⁴¹ And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong."
⁴² Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come in your kingdom." ⁴³ He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise."

The gospel of the Lord.

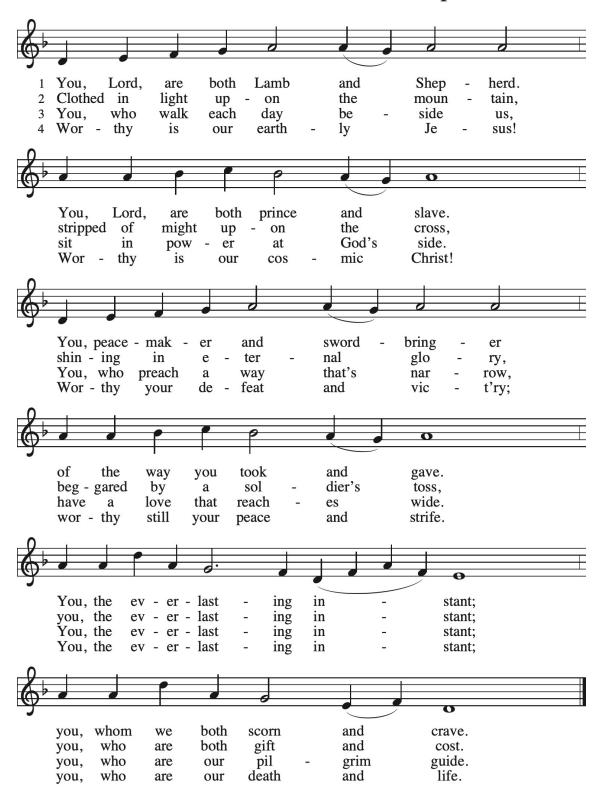


Children's Sermon

SERMON

*HYMN OF THE DAY You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd

You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd



Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993

Music: PICARDY, French folk tune, 17th cent.

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*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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION Assisting Minister

Gathered with one voice, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

We pray for the church in the world, its leaders, and its mission to share the good news of healing and restoration. Inspire us to embody the beloved community in ways that faithfully witness to the Holy Spirit. O God, **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for majestic mountains and glad streams of creation. Preserve and renew your coastlines, deep seas, forests, and grasslands. Guide all who tend flocks or care for creatures of all kinds.

O God,

Your mercy is great.

We pray for leaders and advocates in government, civic life, and public safety. Heal all divisions. O God,

Your mercy is great.

We pray for any who are hungry, living in poverty or desperation, weary in body or spirit, or sick (*especially*). Comfort all in need of your tender care. O God,

Your mercy is great.

We pray for this part of the body of Christ gathered around word and sacrament. Bring us into a loving community where all are valued and experience God's faithfulness together. O God,

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We give thanks for all who have died in faith (*especially*). May we remember them faithfully until we are gathered with you in the paradise you promise. O God,

Your mercy is great.

Pastor

We offer these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your grace and unyielding love; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

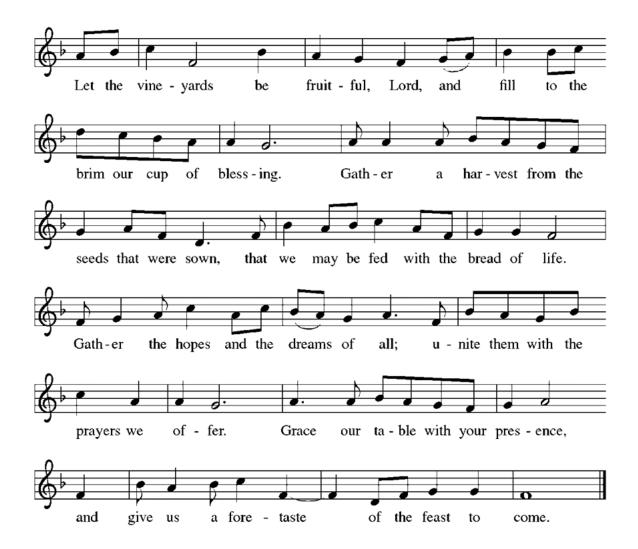
*PEACE

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

OFFERING

Choir Anthem: He is Exalted

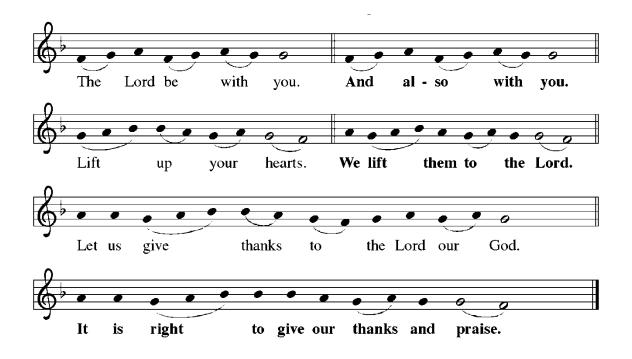
*OFFERTORY RESPONSE



*OFFERING PRAYER

Lord of the harvest, we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are in need, though Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

*DIALOGUE Pastor



*PREFACE



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*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY ho - ly, God of. Ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, and might, pow-er heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Но the san - na in high-est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Но -

Но

high - est.

in

san - na

the

*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

in

san - na

the

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

high - est.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.



Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.



*LORD'S PRAYER Pastor

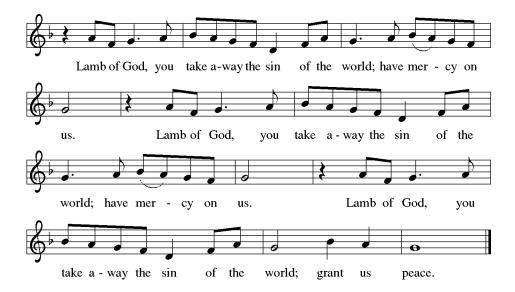
Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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, forever and ever. Amen.

*INVITATION TO COMMUNION Pastor

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

COMMUNION SONG



Communion

Hymn During Communion: Beautiful Savior #838

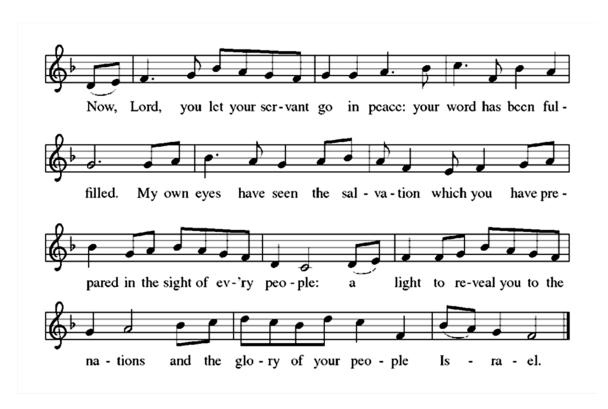
Beautiful Savior



*COMMUNION BLESSING Pastor

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

***SONG AFTER COMMUNION**



*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION assisting minister

Let us pray.

O God, through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need. We ask this in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

*BENEDICTION Pastor

The love of God strengthen you,

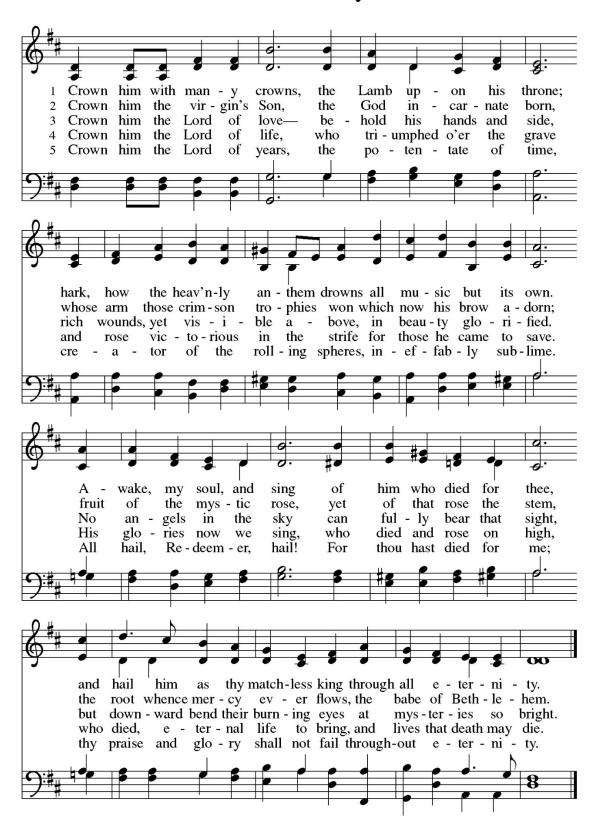
God the Son save you, and

God the Holy Spirit anoint you for the work ahead.

The holy Trinity bless you + and grant you a faithful and courageous heart now and forever. **Amen.**

*SENDING SONG Crown Him with Many Crowns #855

Crown Him with Many Crowns



*DISMISSAL Go in peace. Christ is with you. Thanks be to God.

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