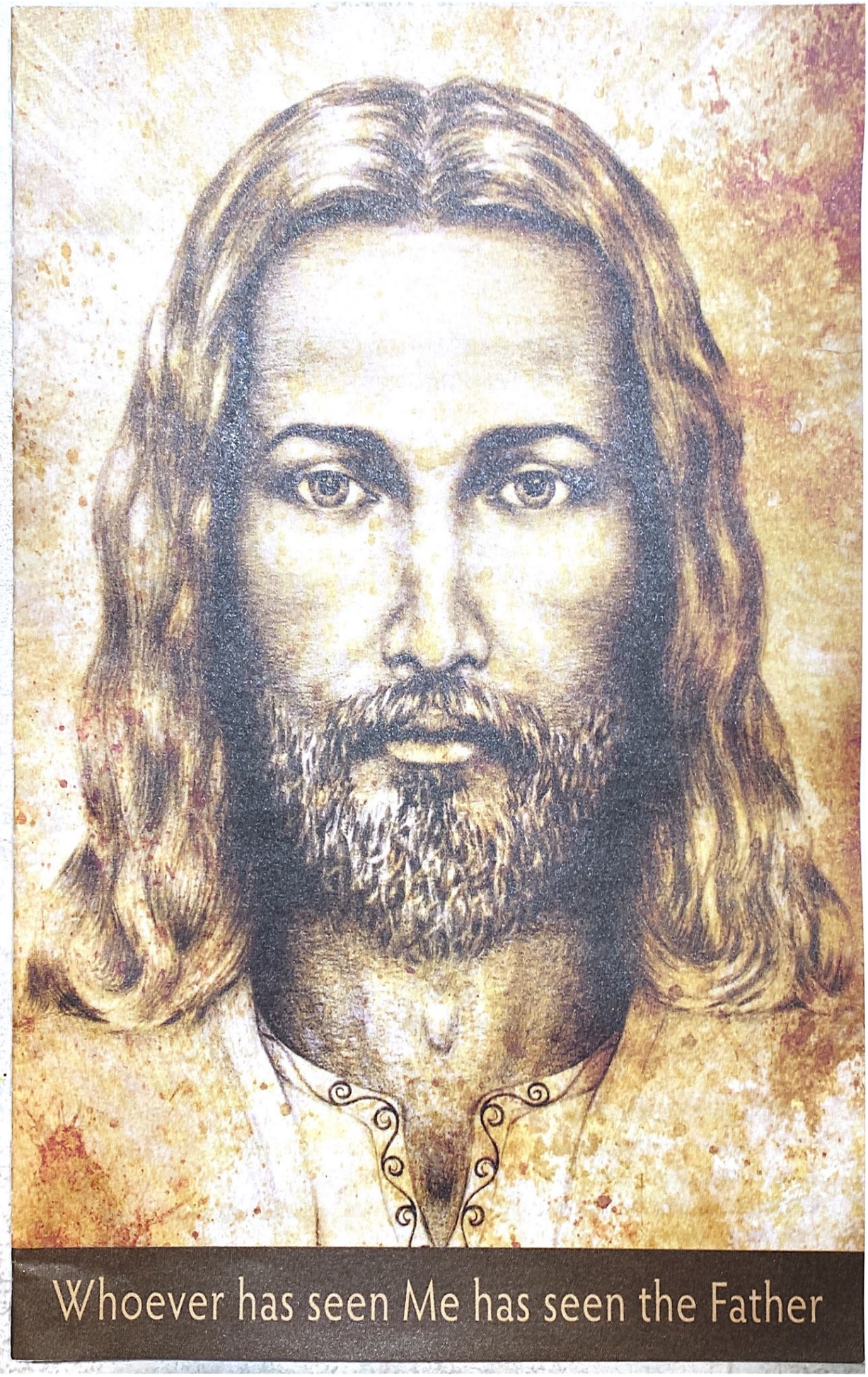
Whoever has seen Me has seen the Father

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Kenesaw, NE

Pastor Paul S. Duffy — 402-752-3421, 3536; cell: 308-216-1254
Guest Organist: Sandra Mack — Bible Class 9:30am/Sunday School 9:00am
Acolyte: Chase Uden — Divine Service 10:00am

Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 10, 2020

As We Gather

During these last few weeks of testing and trial for the church, our country, and the world, God's unchanging grace has still been proclaimed in His Word, encouraging us to remember the waters of Baptism and the sacred bread and wine. God's faithfulness is unwavering for His Church no matter the circumstances; we are grounded firmly in His mercy, relying solely upon the death and resurrection of Christ. Welcome back into His presence, among His people, in His holy house!

A Service of Prayer and Preaching

From CPH Worship Supplement

Opening Hymn p. 677 (vv. 1-3, 7-8) "For All the Saints"

Invocation

P: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C: Amen.

The Sentence for the Service

P: Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. By His great mercy we have been born anew to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.
C: "I am the first and the last, and the living one," says the Lord; "I died and behold, I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades."

An Act of Adoration

P: Almighty God, before whose presence the angels veil their faces, with reverence and love we acknowledge Your glory and worship You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, eternal Trinity.
C: Blessing and honor and glory and power be unto our God forever and ever. Amen.

Silence

An Act of Confession

P: Merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from Your ways like lost sheep. We have too often followed the desires of our own hearts. We have offended against Your laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; we have done those things which we ought not to have done; and there is no health in us.

C: O Lord, have mercy on us. Spare them, O God, who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent, according to Your promises declared to mankind in Christ Jesus, our Lord. And grant, for His sake, that we may live a godly, righteous, and watchful life, to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Psalm 146

Praise the Lord!
Praise the Lord, O my soul!
I will praise the Lord as long as I live;
I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.
Put not your trust in princes,
in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation.
When his breath departs, he returns to the earth;
on that very day his plans perish.
Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the Lord his God,
who made heaven and earth,
the sea, and all that is in them,
who keeps faith forever;
who executes justice for the oppressed,
who gives food to the hungry.
The Lord sets the prisoners free;
the Lord opens the eyes of the blind.
The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;
the Lord loves the righteous.
The Lord watches over the sojourners;
He upholds the widow and the fatherless,
but the way of the wicked He brings to ruin.
The Lord will reign forever,
your God, O Zion, to all generations.
Praise the Lord!

GLORY BE TO THE FATHER AND TO THE SON AND TO THE HOLY SPIRIT; AS IT WAS IN THE BEGINNING, IS NOW, AND WILL BE FOREVER. AMEN.

First Reading Acts 6:1-9; 7:2a, 51-60

Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them.

And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.

And Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people. Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), and of the Cyrenians, and of the Alexandrians, and of those from Cilicia and Asia, rose up and disputed with Stephen.

And Stephen said: "Brothers and fathers, hear me. "You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. Which of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One, whom you have now betrayed and murdered, you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it."

Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth at him. But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. And he said, "Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God." But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him. Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." And falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice,

the Father except through Me. If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also. From now on you do know Him and have seen Him."

Philip said to Him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know Me, Philip? Whoever has seen Me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on My own authority, but the Father who dwells in Me does His works. Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me, or else believe on account of the works themselves.

"Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in Me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. Whatever you ask in My name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask Me anything in My name, I will do it.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C: Praise to You, O Christ.

Hymn of the Day p. 504 "Father Most Holy"

Sermon

The Offering and Musical Offering

An Act of Intercession

All: Our Father...

P: Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good.
C: And His steadfast love endures forever.
ALL: My soul give thanks to the Lord; all my being bless His holy name. My soul, give thanks to the Lord, and never forget His blessings. It is He who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills, who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion, who fills your life with good things, renewing Your youth like an eagle's. Give thanks to the Lord, all His works, in every place where He rules. My soul, give thanks to the Lord! Give praise to the Father almighty, to His Son Jesus Christ the Lord, to the Spirit who dwells in our hearts both now and forever. Amen.

P: Go, and serve the Lord. The almighty and most merciful Father, Son + and Holy Spirit bless and preserve you.
C: Amen.

Recessional Hymn p. 527 "O Savior, Precious Savior"

St. Paul's Mission Calendar

Today – 5th Sunday of Easter
10:00 AM Divine Worship
~~7:00 PM LYF~~
Mon. ~~9:00 AM Bible Study~~
10 AM – 2 PM OGT Sort & Pack Day
~~8:00 PM Fellowship League~~
Thurs. 9 AM – 2 PM Pastor's Conference
6:00 PM Confirmation Questioning

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Confirmation Questioning, Thurs., May 14th 6:00 p.m.

Confirmands 2020: Bridger Kroos & Blake Steer

Confirmation will take place Sunday, May 17th during the Worship Service.

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Congratulations to our 2020 Kenesaw graduates, Jenna Jaeschke, Payton Jameson, Paige Morrow, Payton Morrow, Savannah Williams. May God bless them richly! We will have our annual honoring of the graduates in July, when the school conducts the traditional walk-through, postponed because of the recent circumstances.

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Church Council to meet Tuesday, May 19th 7:00 PM
Church officers and board members please plan to attend. If you have questions, contact Pastor or Greg Adams.

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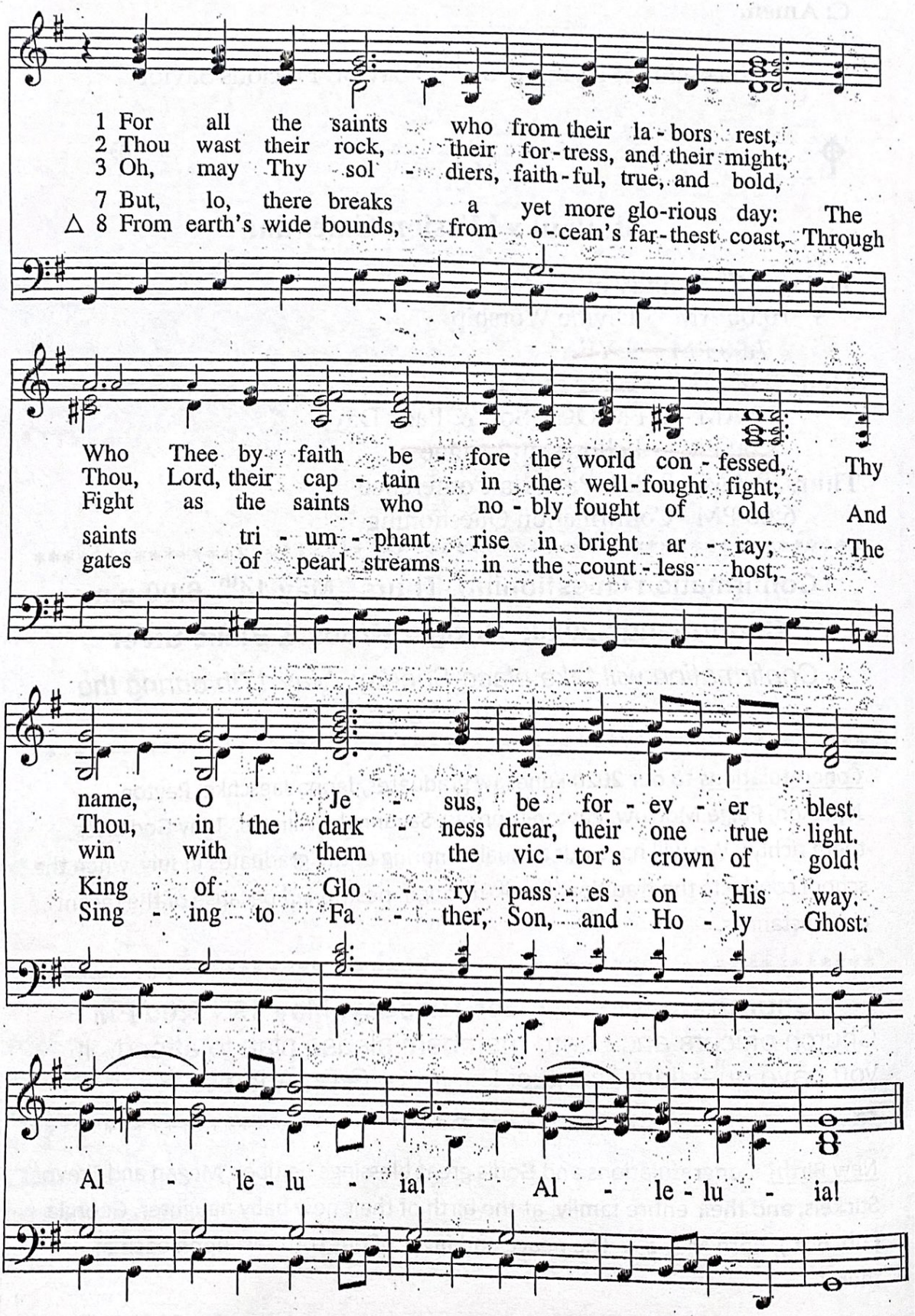
New Birth! Congratulations and God's great blessings be upon Megan and Trevor Stickels, and their entire family, at the birth of their new baby daughter, Georgia (7lb. 6oz.), born May 5th. The peace and favor of our Lord rest upon each of them!

677 For All the Saints



Father Most Holy

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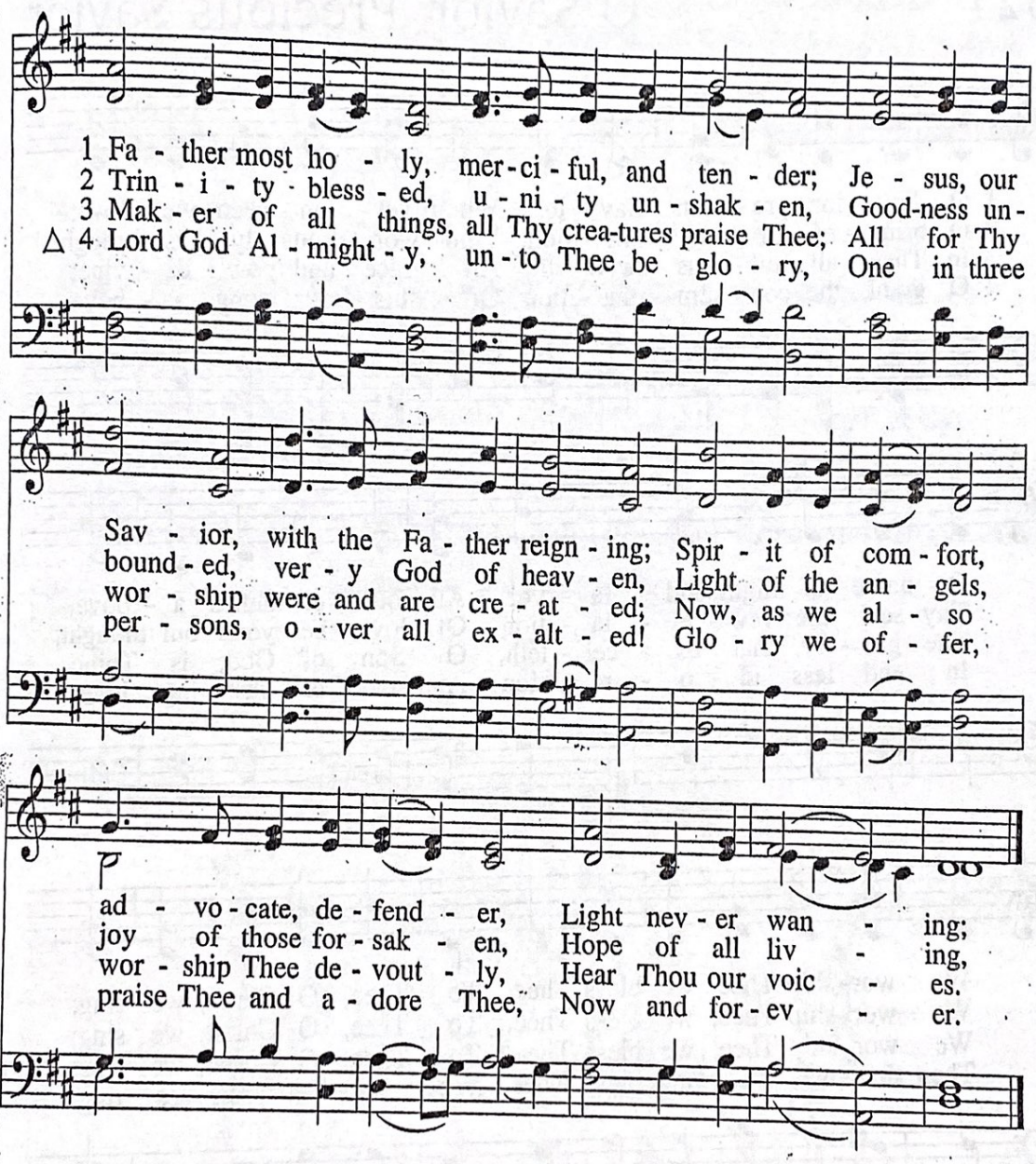

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CHRISTE SANCTORUM
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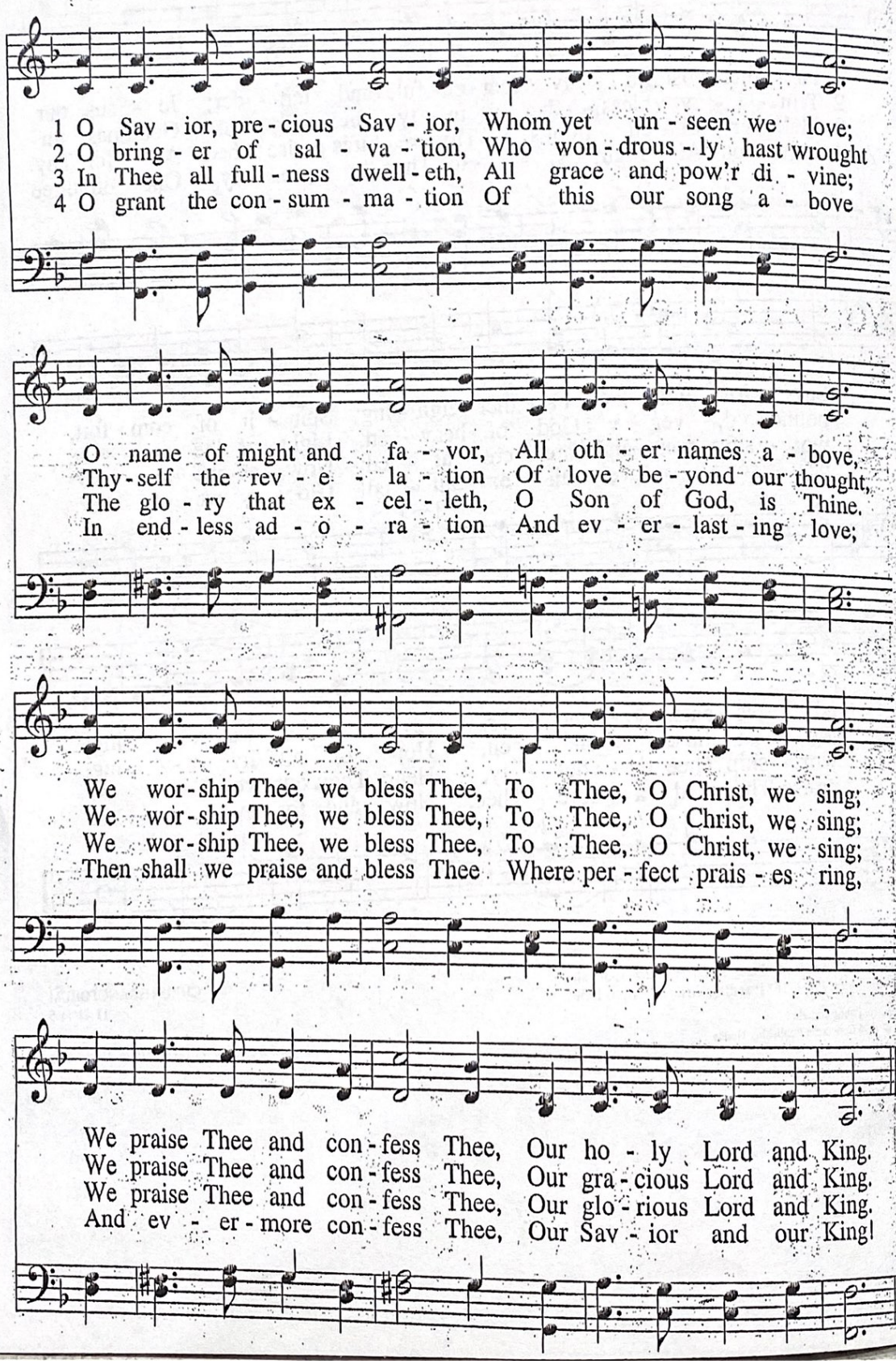
Is. 6:2–3; 2 Cor. 13:14; Ps. 145:10, 21; Ps. 86:12

527 O Savior, Precious Savior

Thank You, Marilyn Fischer! Marilyn, our faithful organist for over 50 years, has decided to retire from her duties. We cannot thank her enough for her dedication to bringing special music to us every service in every season, to aid in our worship and bring glory to our Savior, Jesus! If you would like to send her a thank you for her time as our organist, her address is: 17400 W. 70th St. Kenesaw, 68956. God bless you, Marilyn!

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May 18th (Mon.) **June Newsletter Deadline** I understand that it's hard to plan during this time, but Summer is around the corner, please include any activities, special events or anniversaries and volunteer lists to me by Monday, May 18th. Place the info on the desk in the workroom. Contact Debbie Rasberry if you have questions or miss the deadline.

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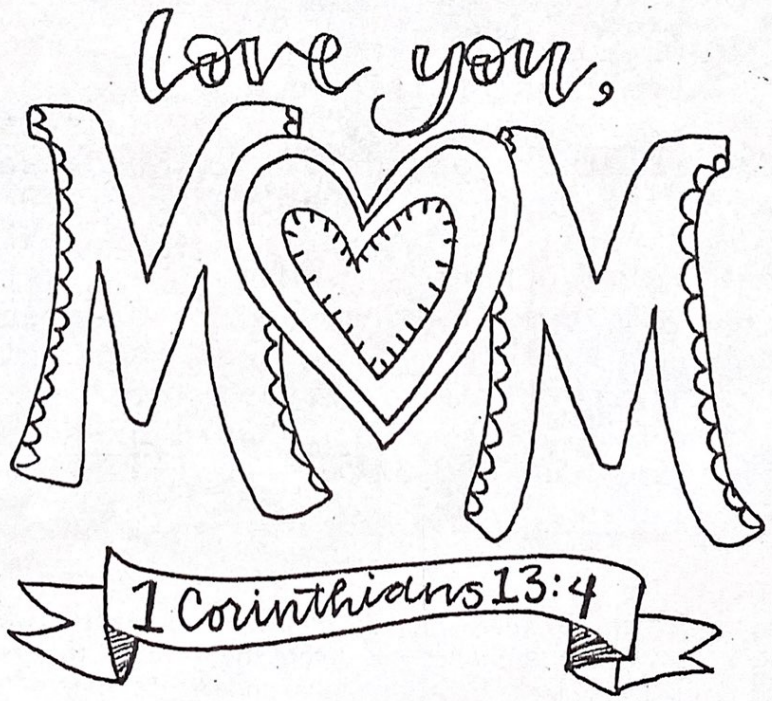
Happy Mother's Day!



Please remember these people in your prayers -
Pastor Paul Duffy and family

Birthdays:
May 12 Chris Powell
14 Joe Bittfield; Sarah Woodman
15 Bill Nabower

In the Service: Austin Applegate, Alec Applegate, Trevor Stickels, Julian Tucker, Hannah Panwitz, Danielle (Burr) Brauner, Darren Woodside

Missionaries: Rev. Brian and Amanda Gauthier, Panama
Rev. Peter Haugen & family, Macau, China

Others: Pray for those who have been affected by the coronavirus pandemic, pray for health and wellbeing. Pray for those working to protect and ensure our health and safety. Pray for our leaders - national, state, county, local and church. Pray for those in our church family that have suffered injuries, illnesses or deaths. Rejoice with those celebrating special events. Let Pastor know if there are any special requests.

A WORD OF HOPE
If celebrations of life and motherhood leave you struggling with feelings of depression, guilt, grief, anger, or regret, because there is an abortion in your past, Word of Hope can help. Word of Hope offers confidential counseling, support, resources, and referrals for anyone dealing with the after effects of an abortion. If you or someone you know is suffering from grief over an abortion, call 888.217.8679 or email info@word-of-hope.org
It's caring and completely confidential.
www.word-of-hope.org

Easter

About the Cover: The disciples wanted more than what was before their eyes. But what was before them was all they ever needed in Jesus. By looking at His humble appearance, they were looking into the eyes of God—the God who intently looks upon us with sacrificial and life-giving love. Though we may find ourselves wanting our idea of a great vision of the Lord's glory, He is patient with us to show us that He is already before us in His Word and Sacrament.

John 14:9; Scripture: ESV®
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May 10, 2020
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