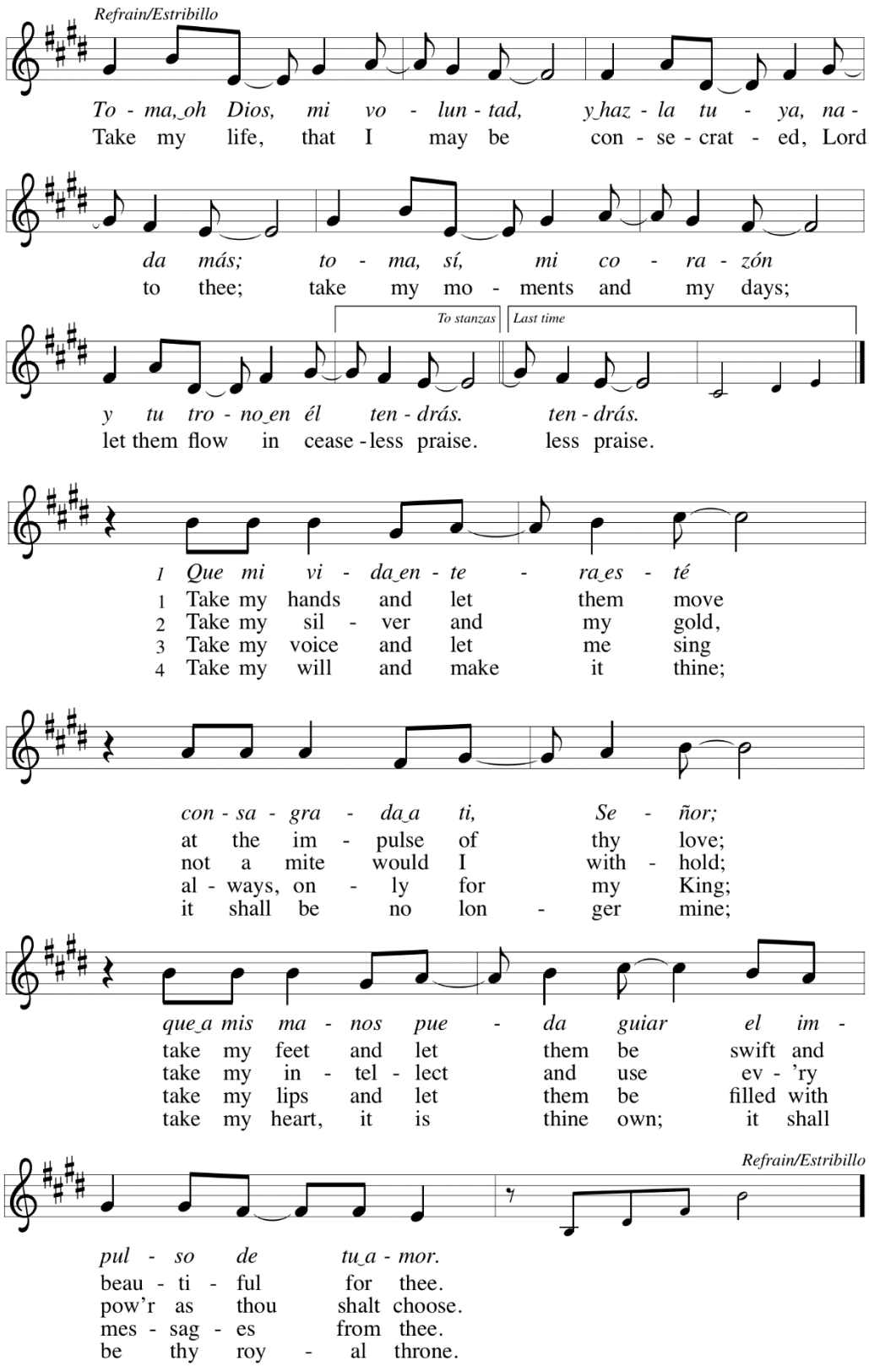# *October 22, 2023—21st Sunday after Pentecost*

**Opening Hymn** **ELW #582 "*Take My Life, That I May Be*"**



**Prayer of the Day**:
Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
**C: Amen.**

**First Reading** **Isaiah 45:1-7**

1 Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped to subdue nations
before him and strip kings of their robes, to open doors before him— and the gates shall not be
2 closed: I will go before you and level the mountains, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze
3 and cut through the bars of iron, I will give you the treasures of darkness and riches hidden in
secret places, so that you may know that it is I, the LORD, the God of Israel, who call you by your
4 name. For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name, I
surname you, though you do not know me. 5 I am the LORD, and there is no other; besides me
there is no god. I arm you, though you do not know me, 6 so that they may know, from the rising
of the sun and from the west, that there is no one besides me; I am the LORD, and there is no
7 other, I form light and create darkness, I make weal and create woe; I the LORD do all these
things.
L: Word of God. Word of Life.
**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Second Reading** **1 Thessalonians 1:1-10**

1 Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord
Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. 2 We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention
you in our prayers, constantly 3 remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and
labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. 4 For we know, brothers and
sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, 5 because our message of the gospel came to you
not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you
know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. 6 And you became
imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy
7 inspired by the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and
8 in Achaia. For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and
Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to
9 speak about it. For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had
among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, 10 and to wait
for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath
that is coming.
L: Word of God. Word of Life.
**C: Thanks be to God.**
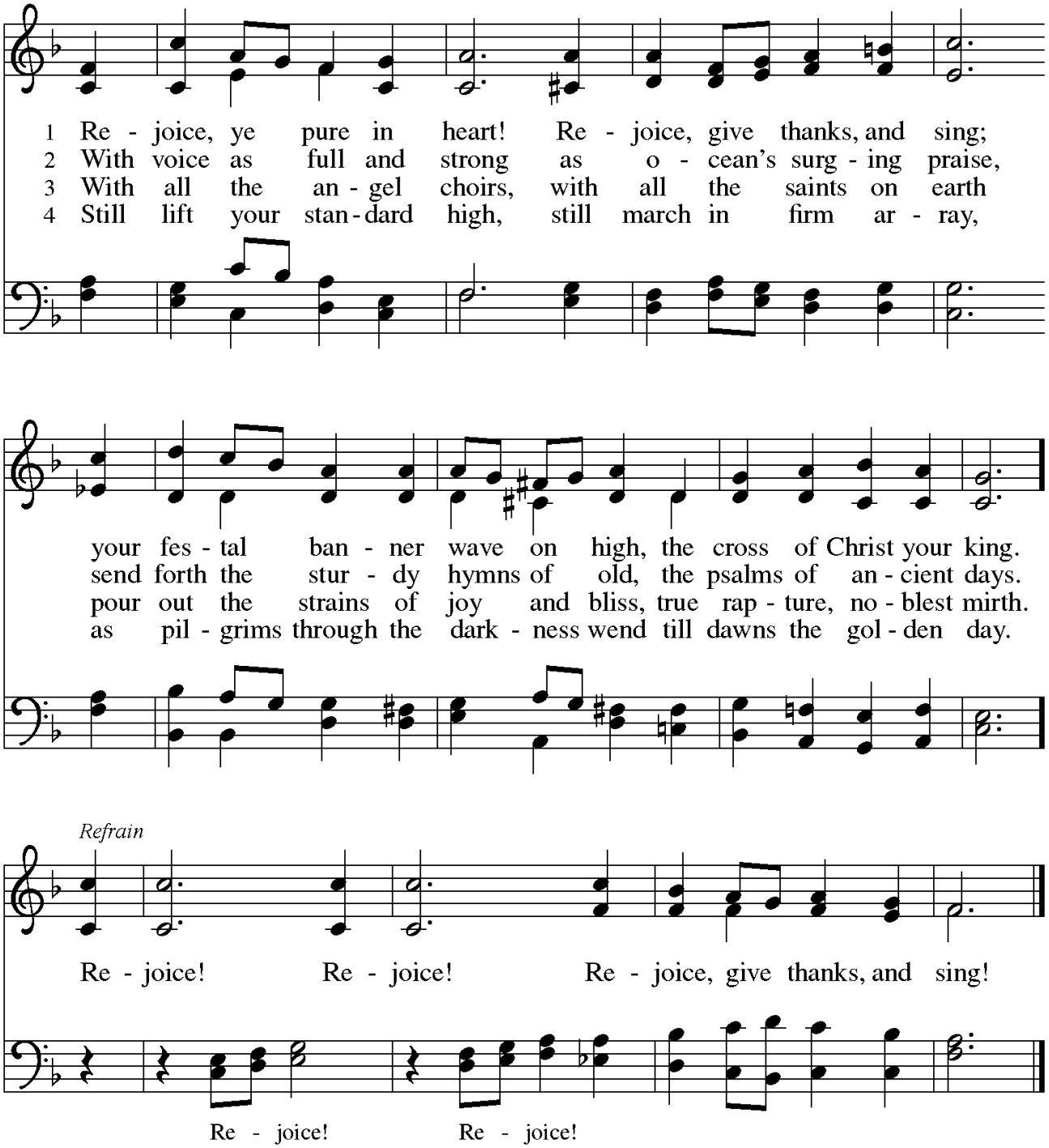
## Gospel Matthew 22:15-22

15 Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. 16 So they sent their
disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and
teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not
regard people with partiality. 17 Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the
emperor, or not?” 18 But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test,
you hypocrites? 19 Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. 20 Then he
said to them, “Whose head is this, and whose title?” 21 They answered, “The emperor’s.” Then he
said to them, “Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the
things that are God’s.” 22 When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went
away.
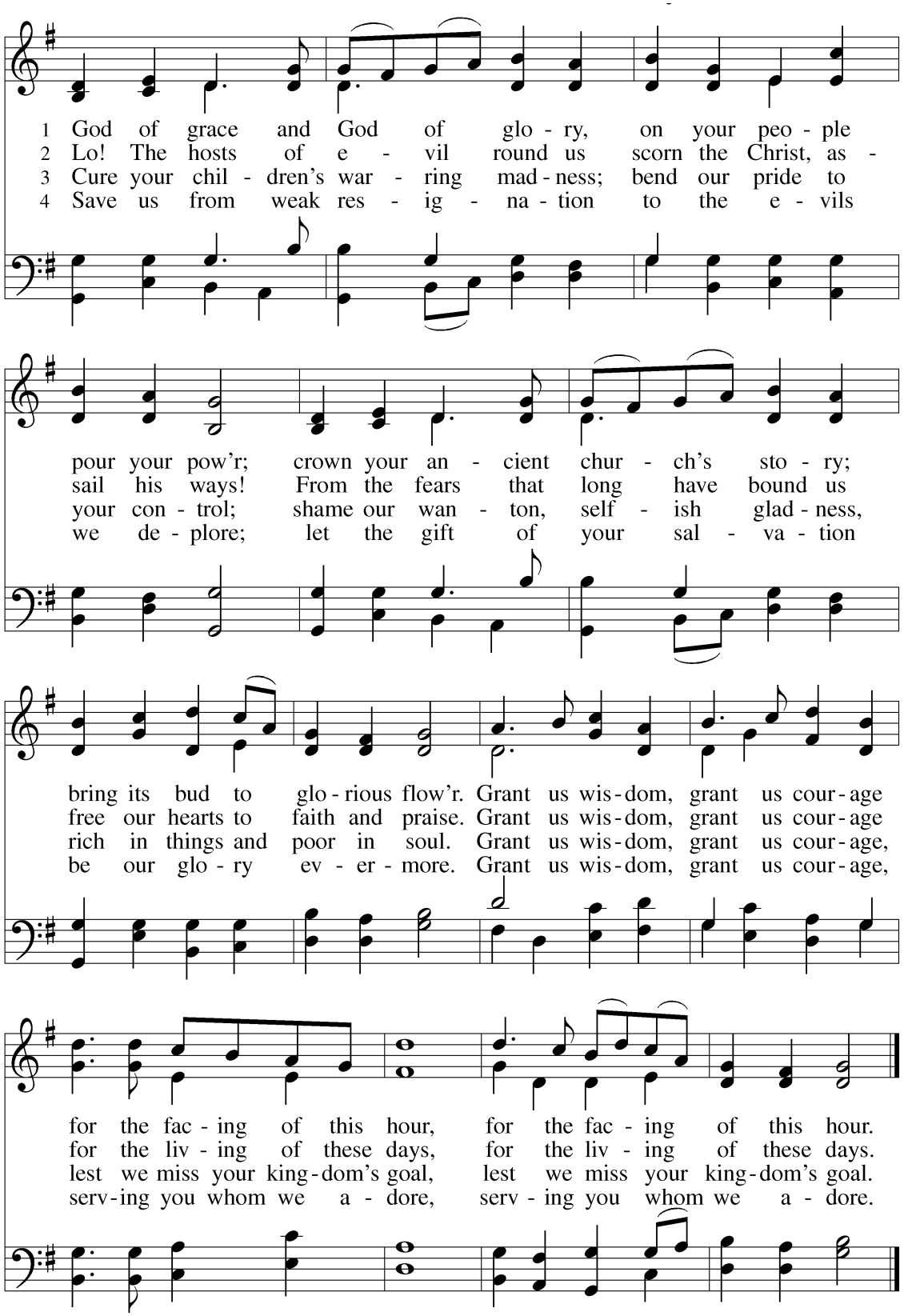
P: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Hymn of the Day ELW #873 "*Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!*"



**Closing Hymn** **ELW #705 "*God of Grace, and God of Glory*"**



# Announcements

Register at concordiafaith.org/concerts

