Resurrection Lutheran Church

The Reverend Karen Perkins, Pastor

People of Resurrection, Ministers of God

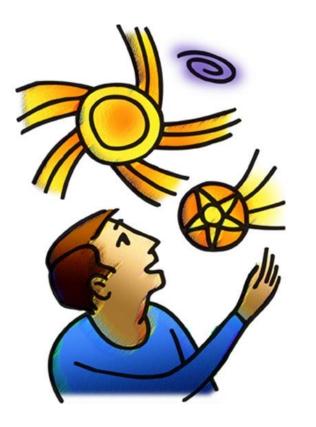


INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

Within the gospel reading's profound words lies the simple message that God is revealed in a human person. Though we may try to understand how the Word existed with God from the beginning of time, the wonder we celebrate at Christmas is that the Word continues to dwell among us. Christ comes among us in the gathered assembly, the scriptures, the waters of new birth, and the bread and the wine. Through these ordinary gifts we receive the fullness of God's grace and truth.

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE



GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

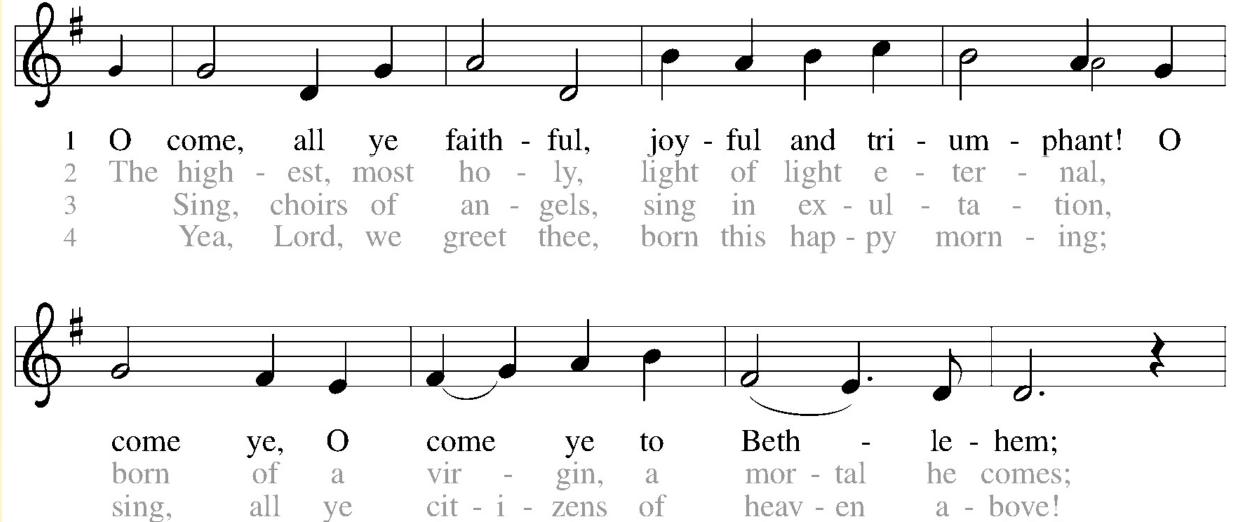
Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who sends the word with angels, who is made flesh among all peoples, and who breathes peace on all the earth.
Amen.

In Christ, we are bold to name our sin and cry out for peace.

Holy God, we confess our sin before you. We replace compassion with competition. We seek what is mighty while ignoring the meek. We are quick to anger but slow to forgive. We have not put on love in harmony with you. Wrap us in the grace of your powerful Word. Swaddle our hearts with your peace, that all we do, in word or deed, may reflect your love born among us. Amen.



GATHERING SONG: O Come, All Ye Faithful

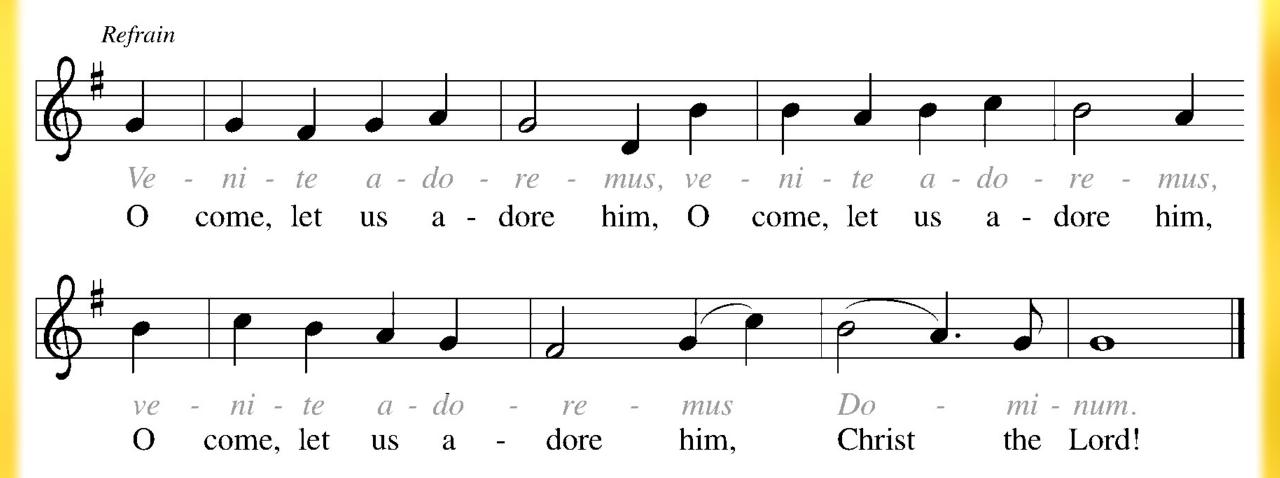


Je - sus, to thee be...

glo - ry giv'n!



come	and	be	-	hold	him,	born	the	king	of		an -	-	gels:
Son	of	the		Fa -	ther	now	in	flesh	ap	-	pear	-	ing!
Glo -	ry	to		God .	al a al	in .		the.			high	-	est:
Word	of	the		Fa -	ther,	now	in	flesh	ap	-	pear	-	ing:



Text: attr. John Francis Wade, 1711–1786; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802–1880, sts. 1, 3–4; tr. unknown, st. 2 Music: ADESTE FIDELES, attr. John Francis Wade



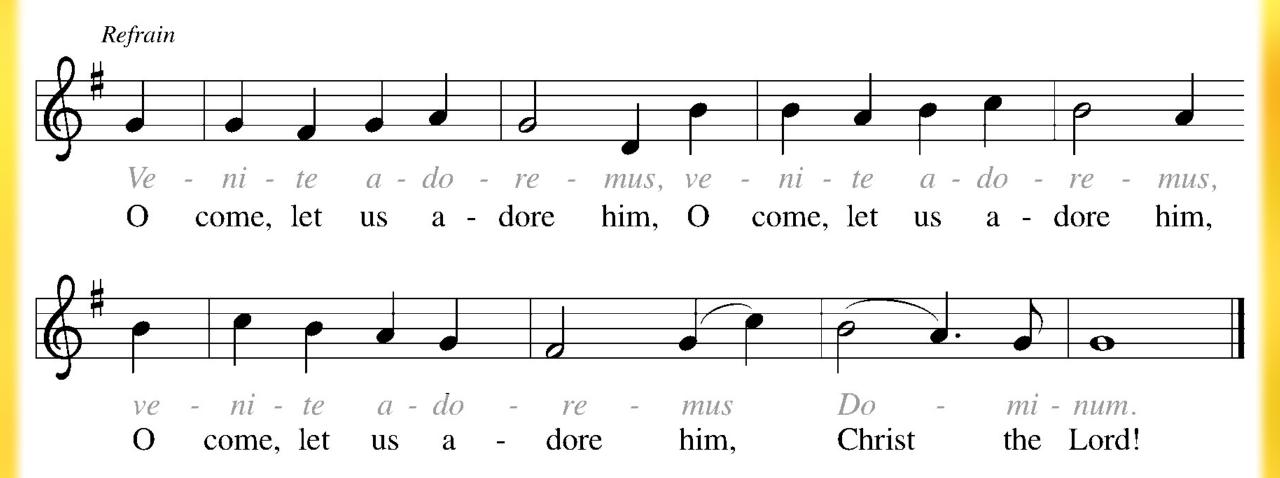
1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O 2 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal, 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion, 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;





comeandbe-holdhim,SonoftheFa-therGlo-rytoGod..WordoftheFa-ther,

born	the	king	of		an	-	gels:
now	in	flesh	ap	-	pear	-	ing!
		the .					
now	in	flesh	ap	-	pear	-	ing:

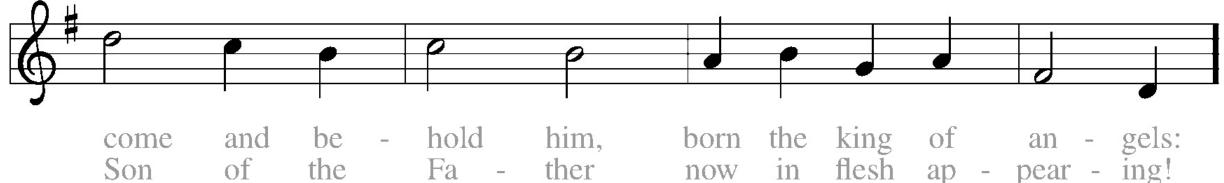


Text: attr. John Francis Wade, 1711–1786; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802–1880, sts. 1, 3–4; tr. unknown, st. 2 Music: ADESTE FIDELES, attr. John Francis Wade



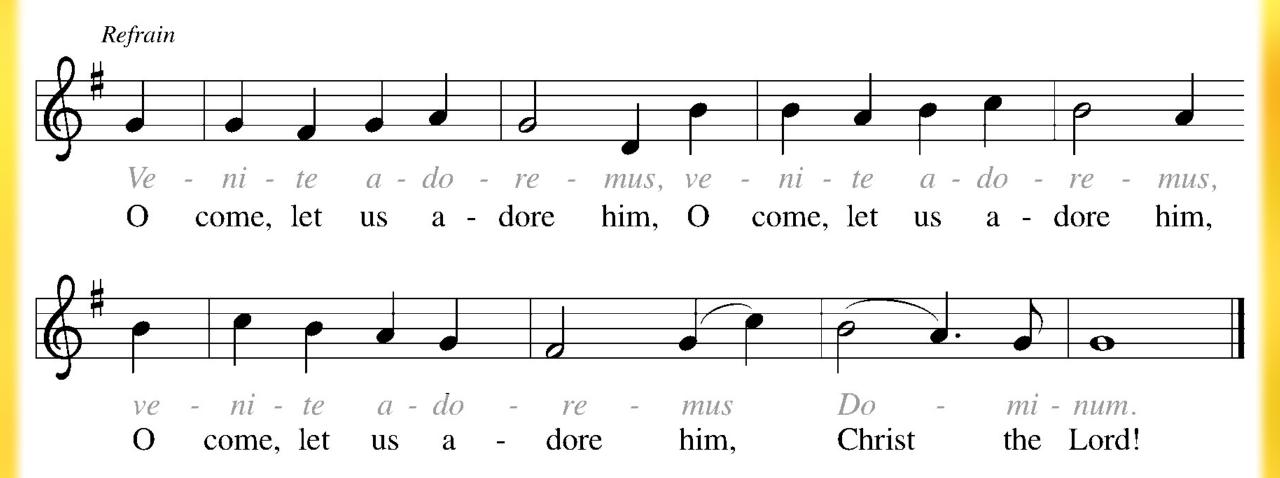
O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal,
 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;





Word of the Fa - ther, now in

now in flesh ap - pear - ing! Glo - ry to God . . . in . . . the . . . high - est: flesh ap - pear - ing:



Text: attr. John Francis Wade, 1711–1786; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802–1880, sts. 1, 3–4; tr. unknown, st. 2 Music: ADESTE FIDELES, attr. John Francis Wade

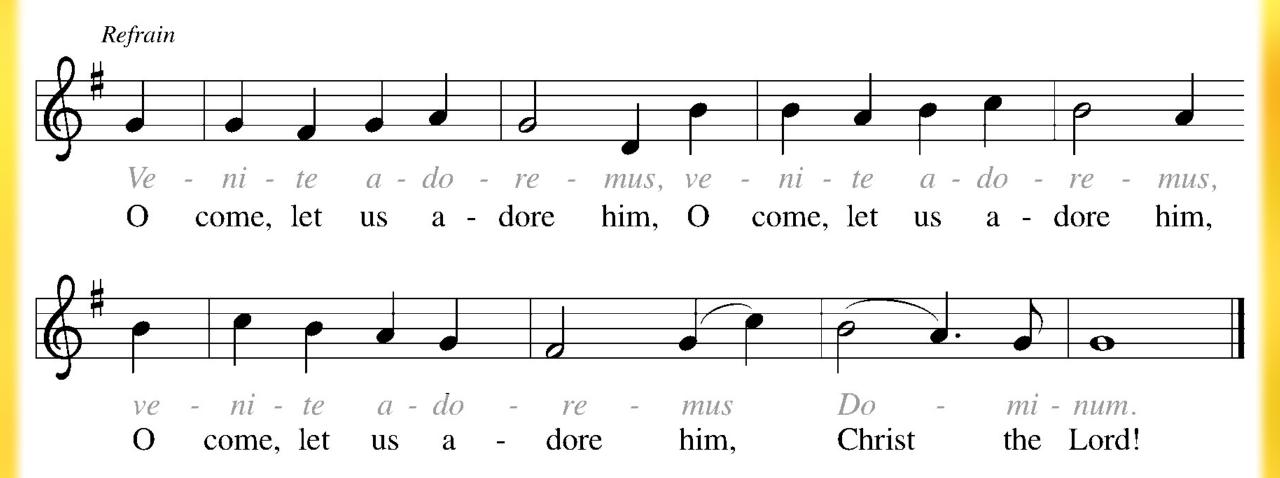


2 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal,
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;





now in flesh ap - pear - ing:



Text: attr. John Francis Wade, 1711–1786; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802–1880, sts. 1, 3–4; tr. unknown, st. 2 Music: ADESTE FIDELES, attr. John Francis Wade

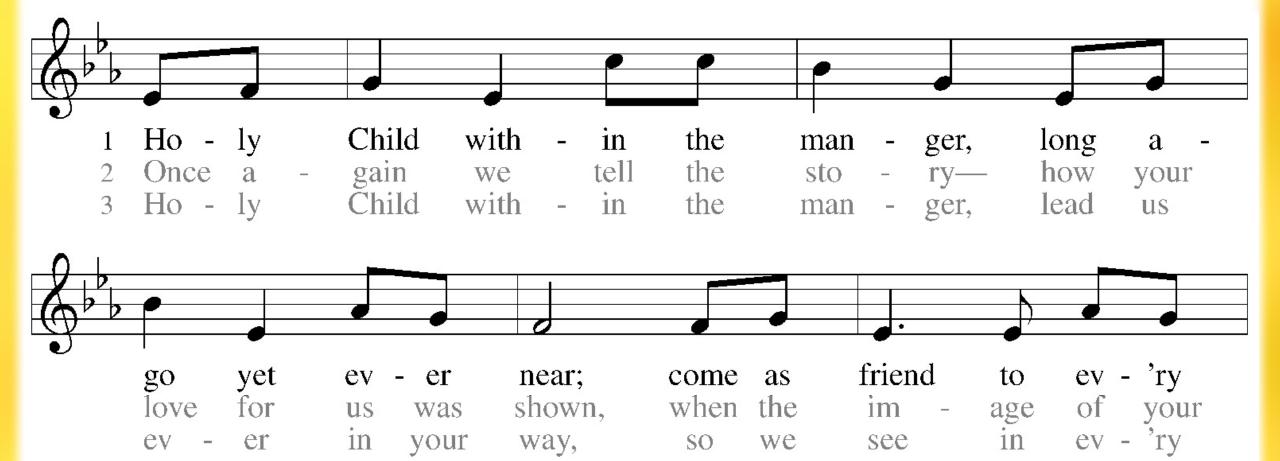
GREETING

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.



CHRISTMAS CANTICLE: Holy Child within the Manger





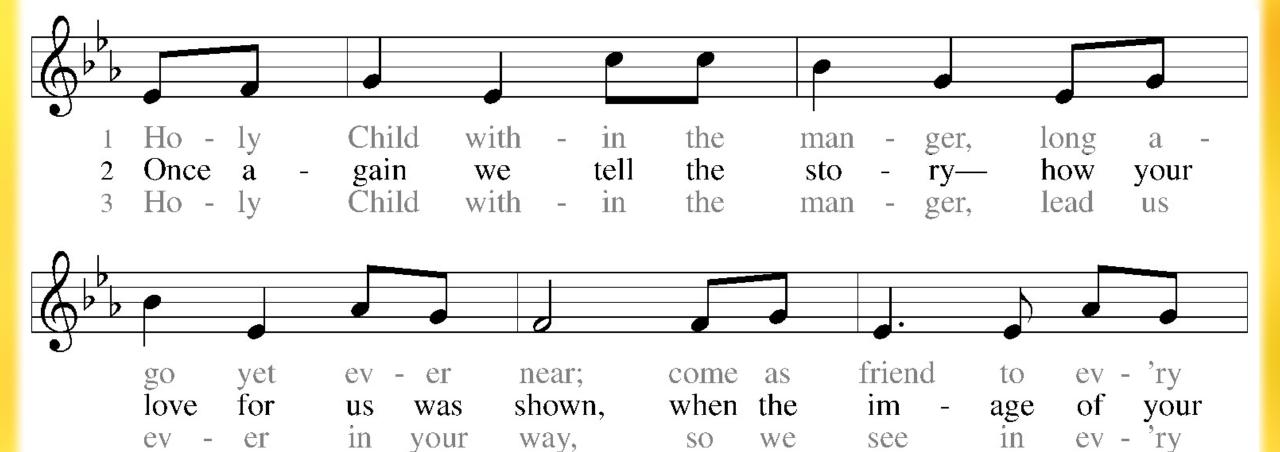








Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950 Music: JOYOUS LIGHT, Marty Haugen, b. 1950

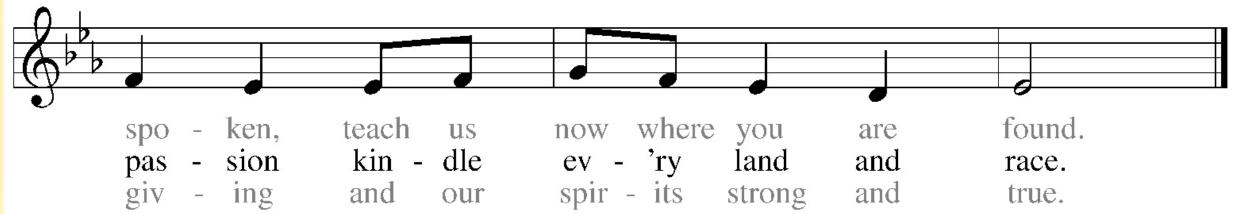


your

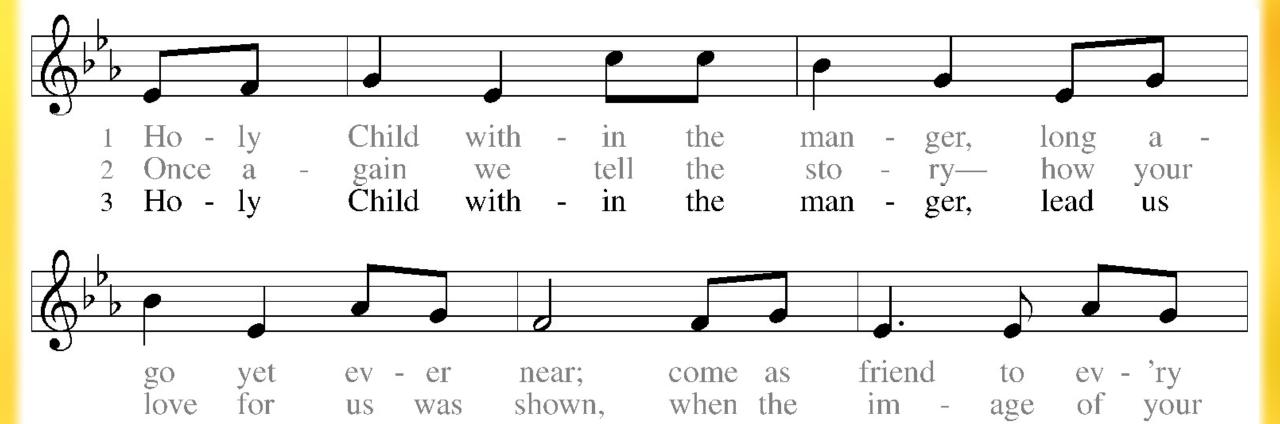








Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950 Music: JOYOUS LIGHT, Marty Haugen, b. 1950



SO

we

see

way,

in

your

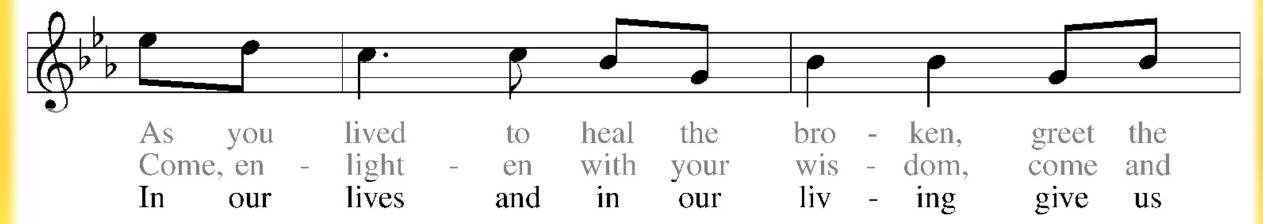
ev -

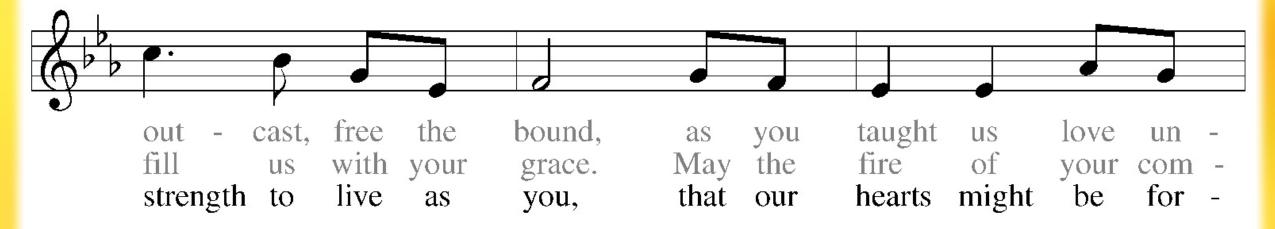
er

in

ev - 'ry









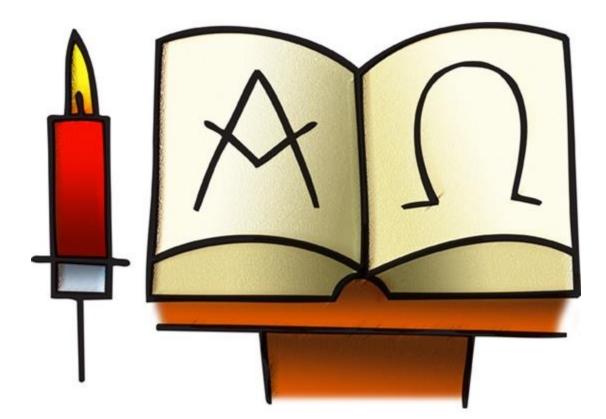
Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950 Music: JOYOUS LIGHT, Marty Haugen, b. 1950

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.



WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING:

Jeremiah 31:7-14

God promises to bring Israel back to its land from the most remote parts of exile. In Zion Israel will rejoice over God's gift of food and livestock. Young women will express their joy in dancing; God will give gladness instead of sorrow.

A reading from Jeremiah.

⁷Thus says the LORD: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O LORD, your people, the remnant of Israel."

⁸See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame,

those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here.

⁹With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back,
I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble;
for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.

¹⁰Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock."

¹¹For the LORD has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. ¹²They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again.

¹³Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. ¹⁴I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the LORD.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 147:12-20

Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem; praise your God, O Zion. (Ps. 147:12)

¹²Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem; praise your God, O Zion, ¹³who has strengthened the bars of your gates and has blessed your children within you. ¹⁴God has established peace on your borders and satisfies you with the finest wheat. ¹⁵God sends out a command to the earth, a word that runs very swiftly.

¹⁶God gives snow like wool, scattering frost like ashes. ¹⁷God scatters hail like bread crumbs. Who can stand against God's cold? ¹⁸The LORD sends forth the word and melts them; the wind blows, and the waters flow. ¹⁹God declares the word to Jacob, statutes and judgments to Israel. ²⁰The LORD has not done so to any other nation; they do not know God's judgments. Hallelujah!

SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:3-14

In Jesus, all of God's plans and purposes have been made known as heaven and earth are united in Christ. Through Jesus, we have been chosen as God's children and have been promised eternal salvation.

A reading from Ephesians.

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴ just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight ⁹he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will,

¹²so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

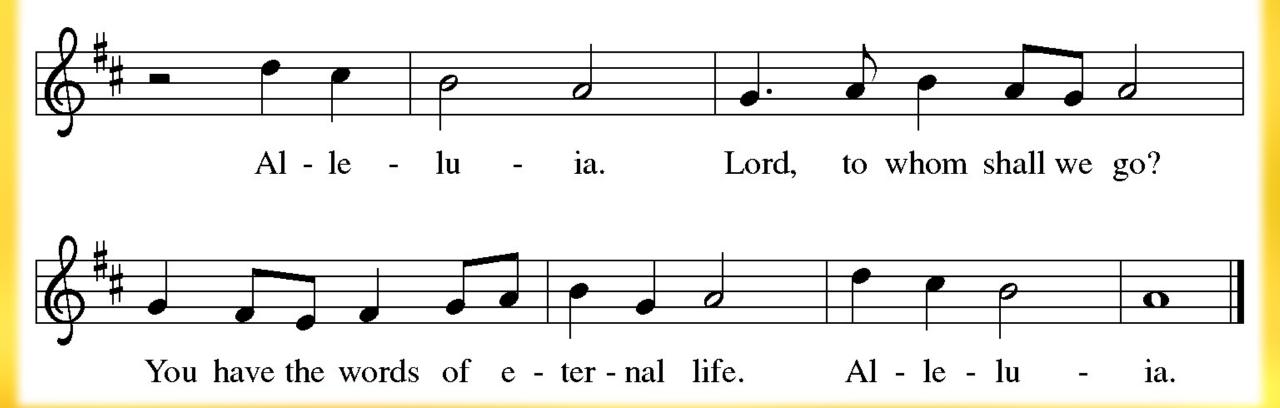
The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.



CHILDREN'S TIME

Amanda Beebe-Bay

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: John 1:[1-9] 10-18

John begins his gospel with this prologue: a hymn to the Word through whom all things were created. This Word became flesh and brought grace and truth to the world.

The holy gospel according to John. Glory to you, O Lord. ^{[1}In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴ in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.]

¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵(John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") ¹⁶From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

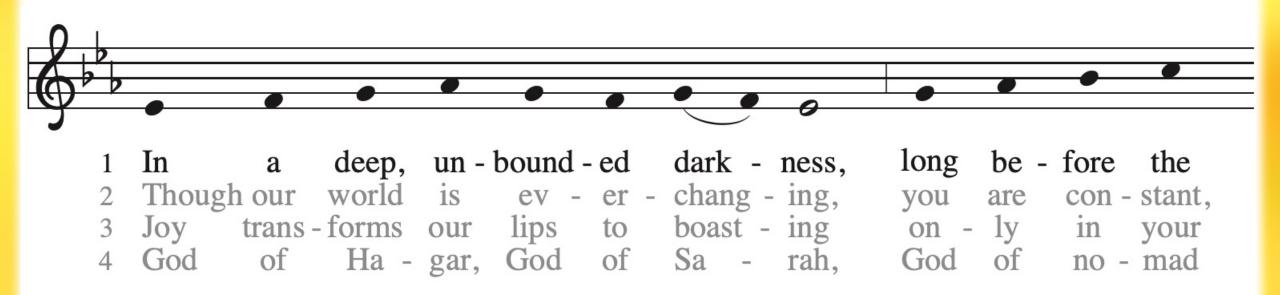
The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

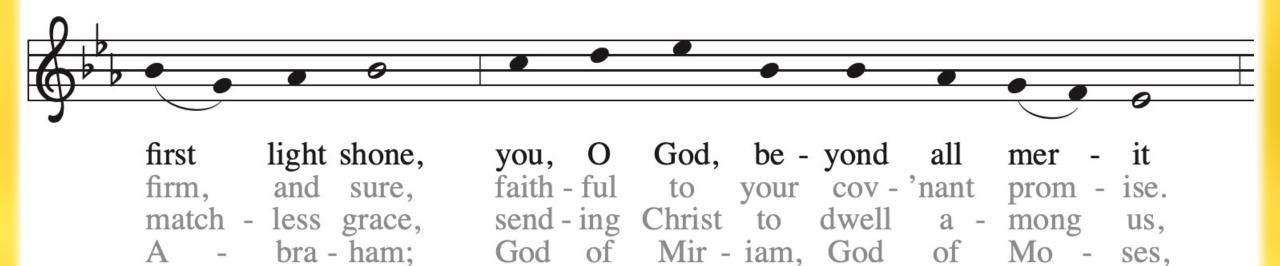
SERMON

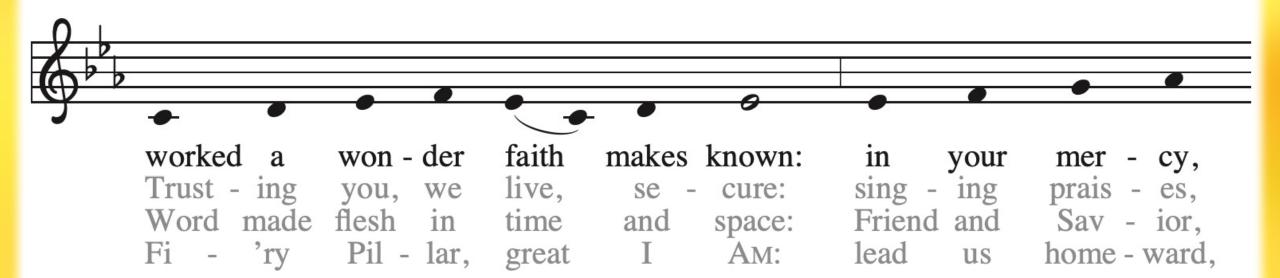
Rev. Karen Perkins

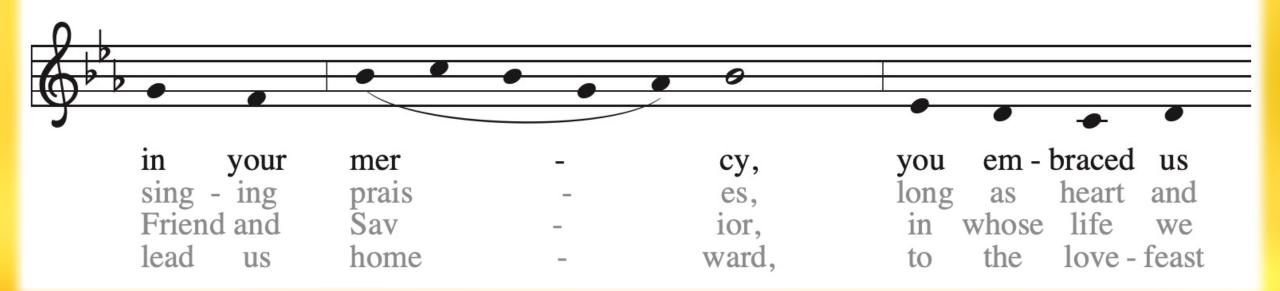


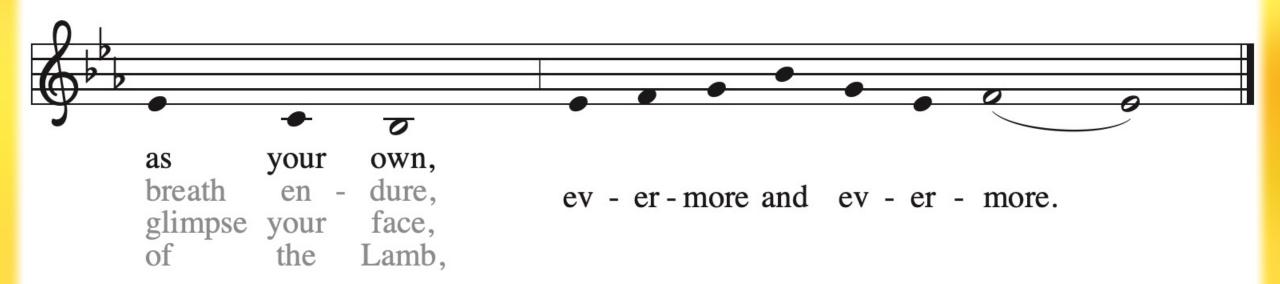
HYMN OF THE DAY: In a Deep, Unbounded Darkness

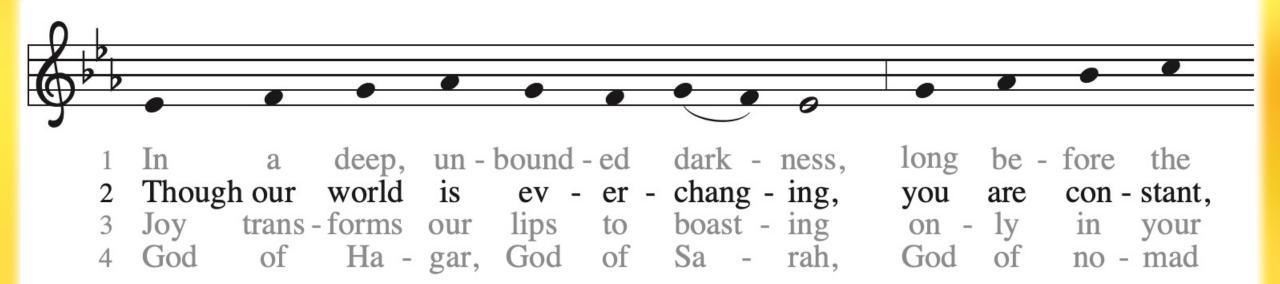


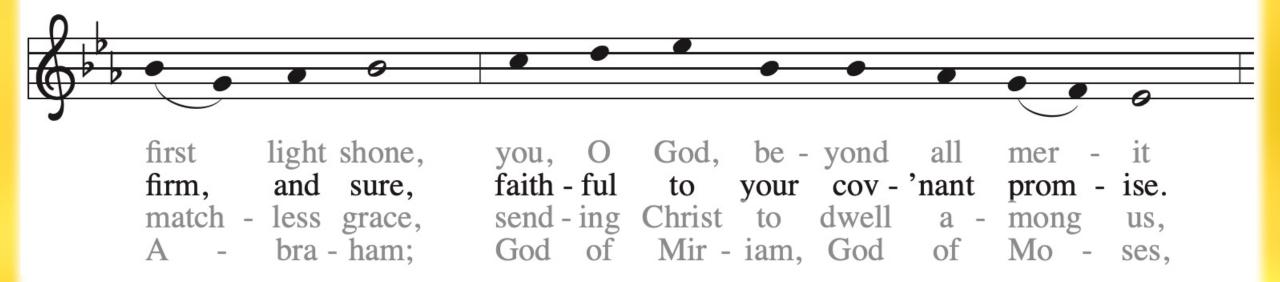


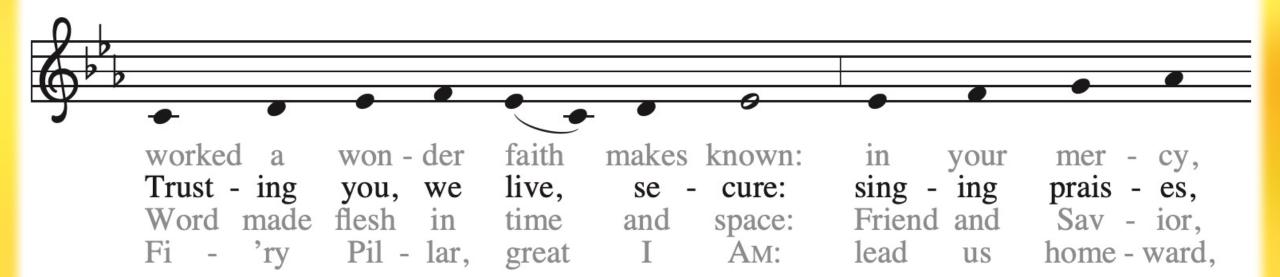


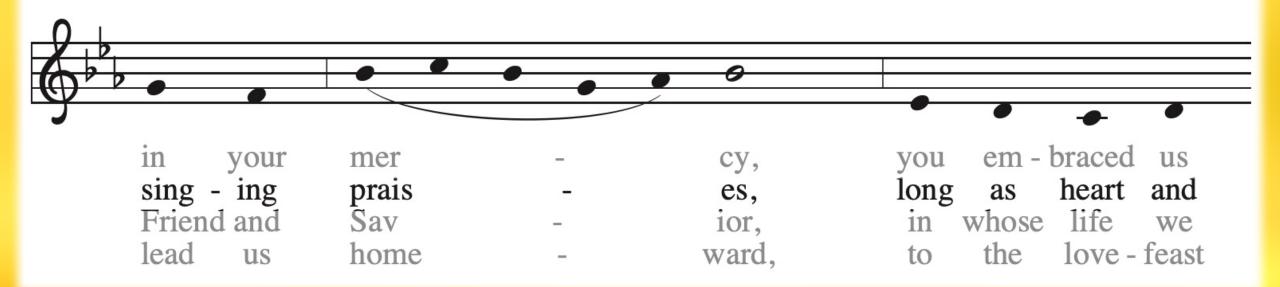


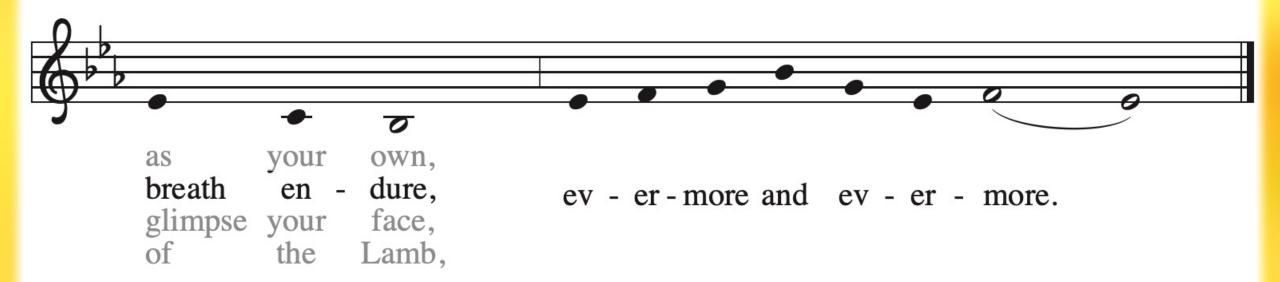


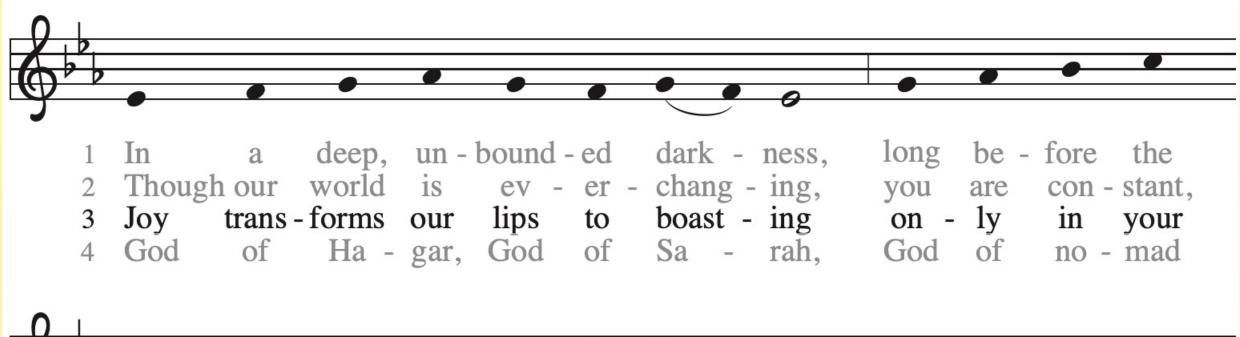


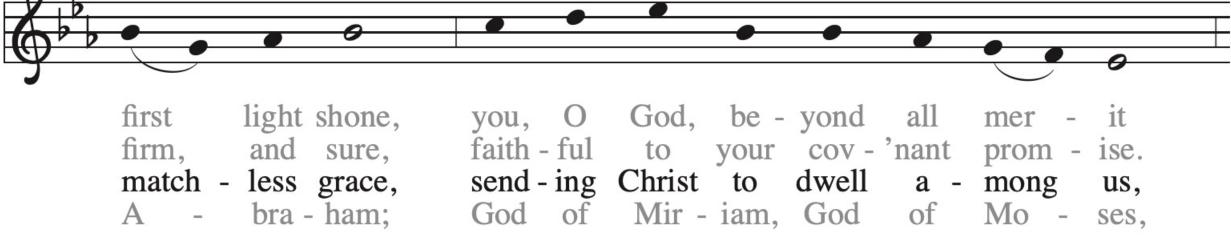


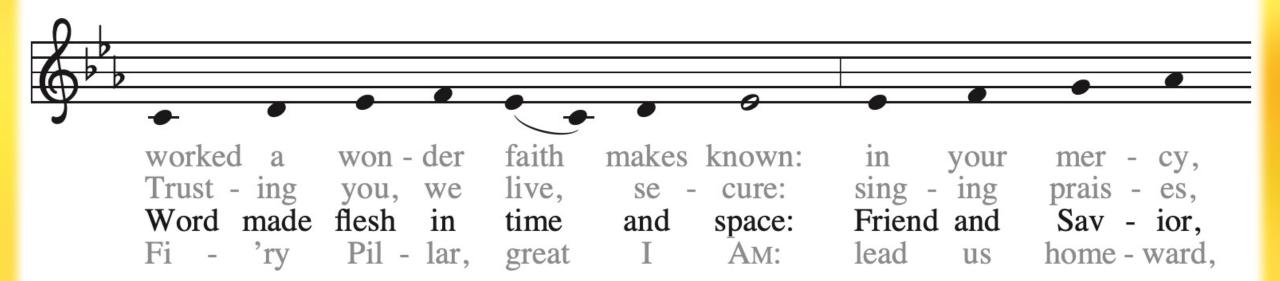


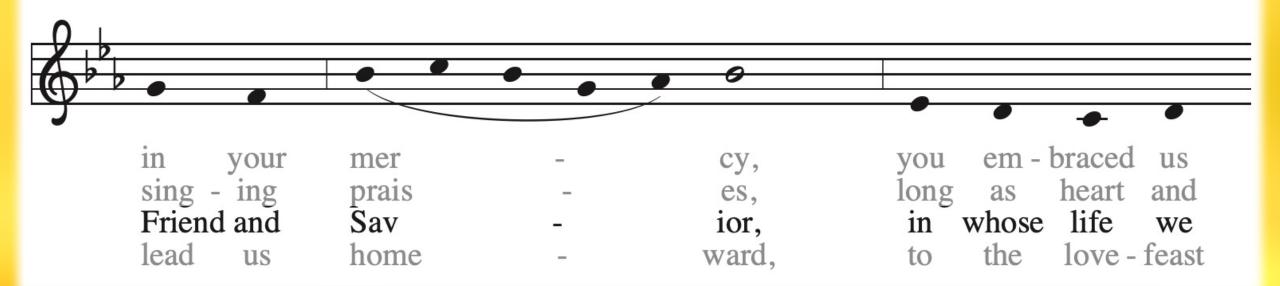


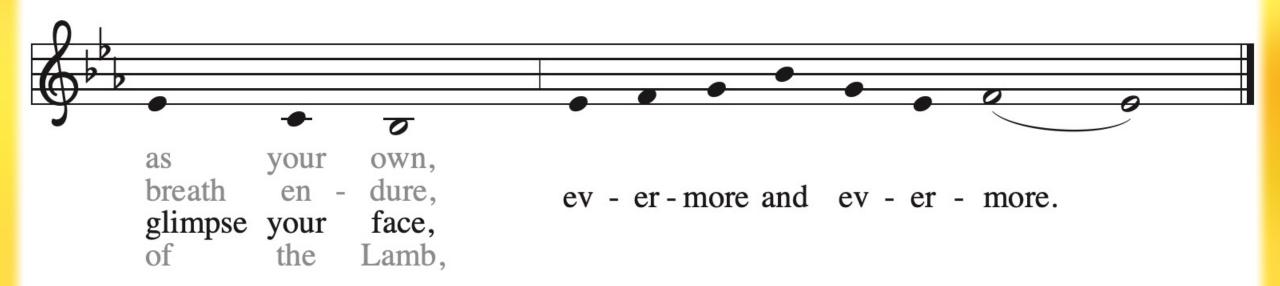


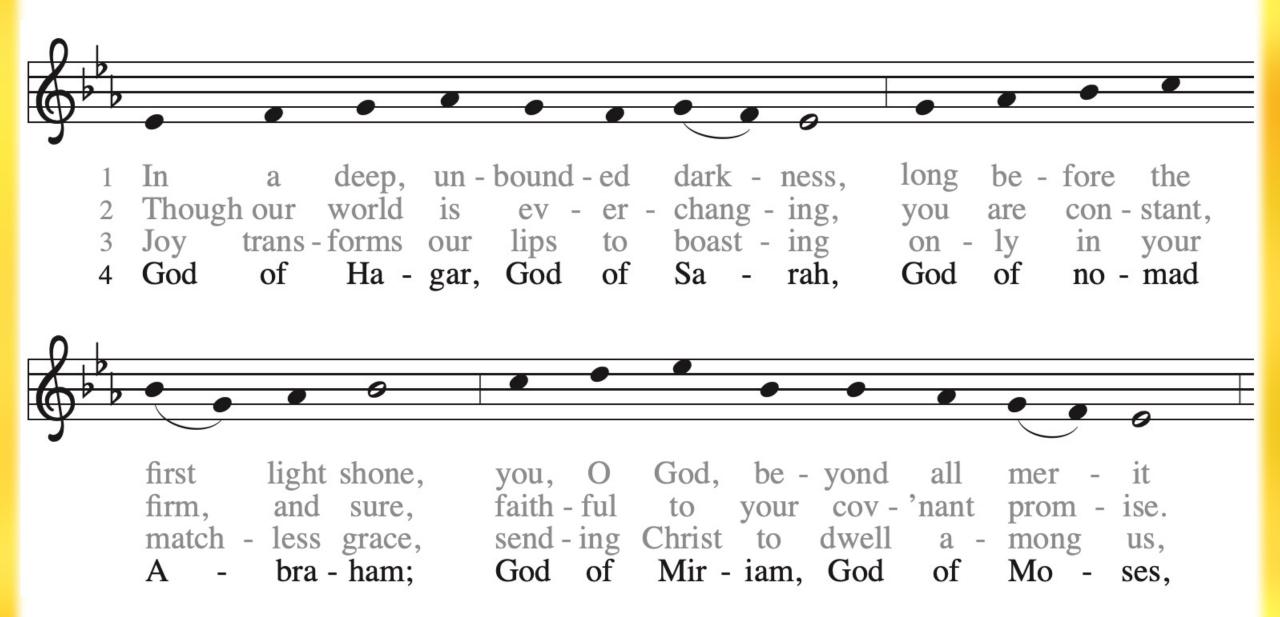


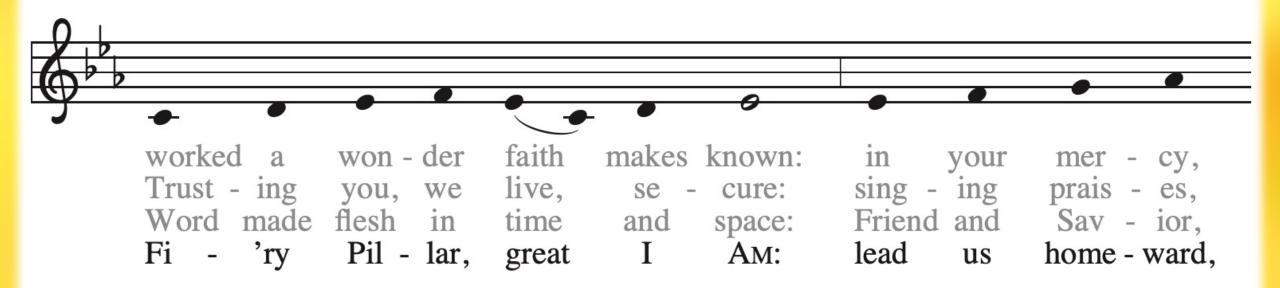


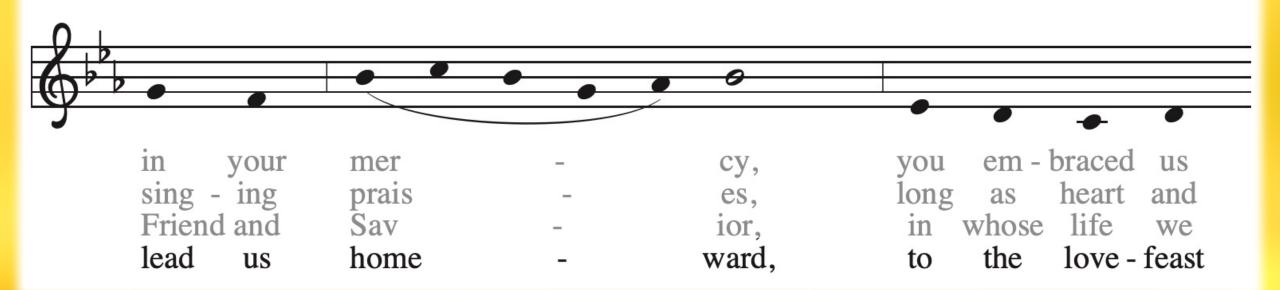


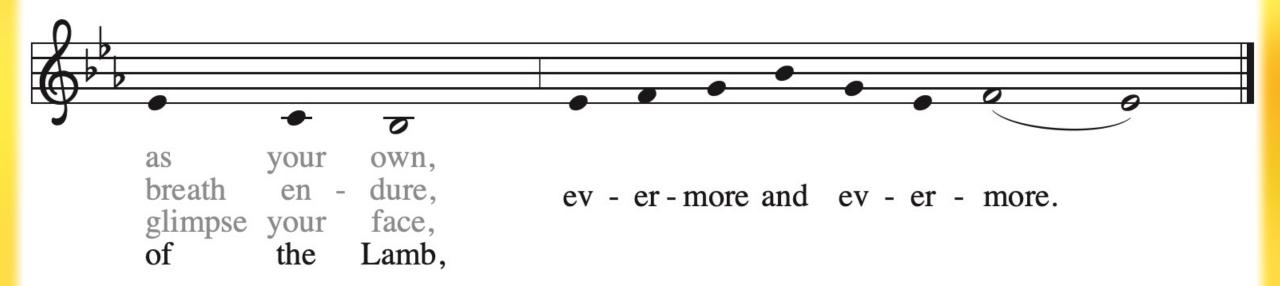












NICENE CREED

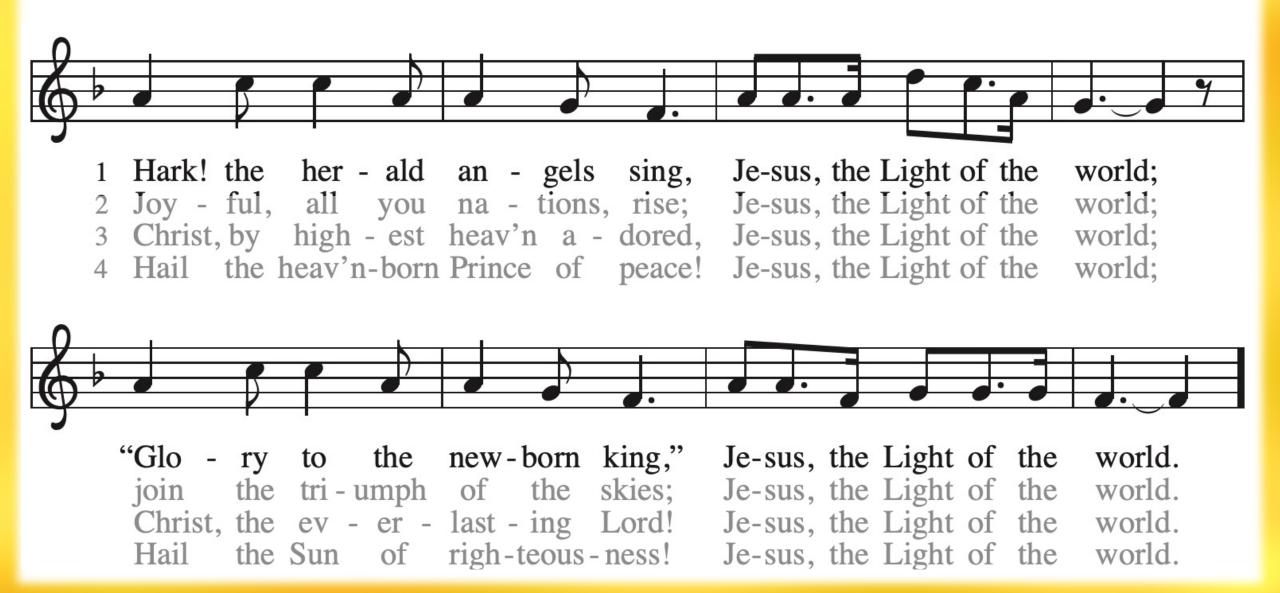
We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

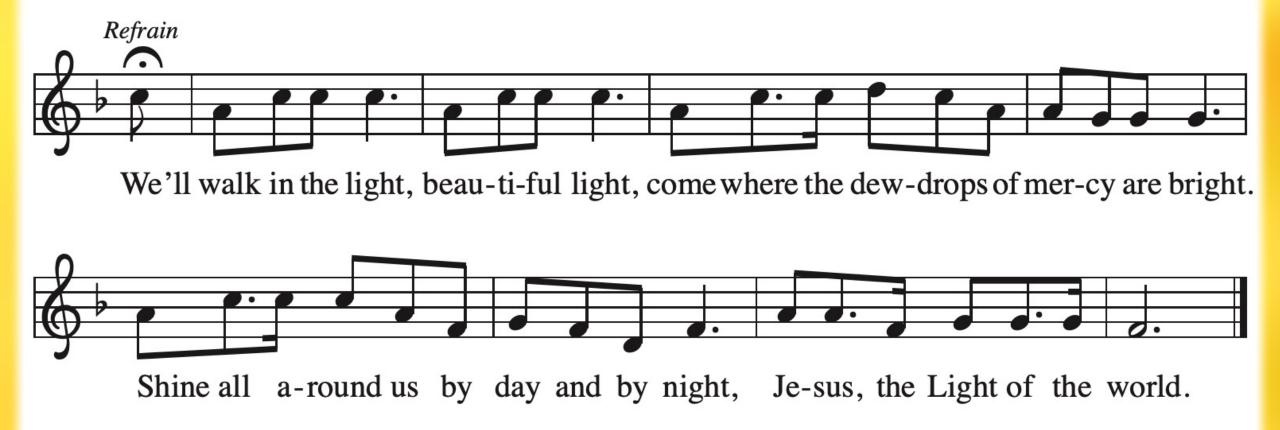
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into 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. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

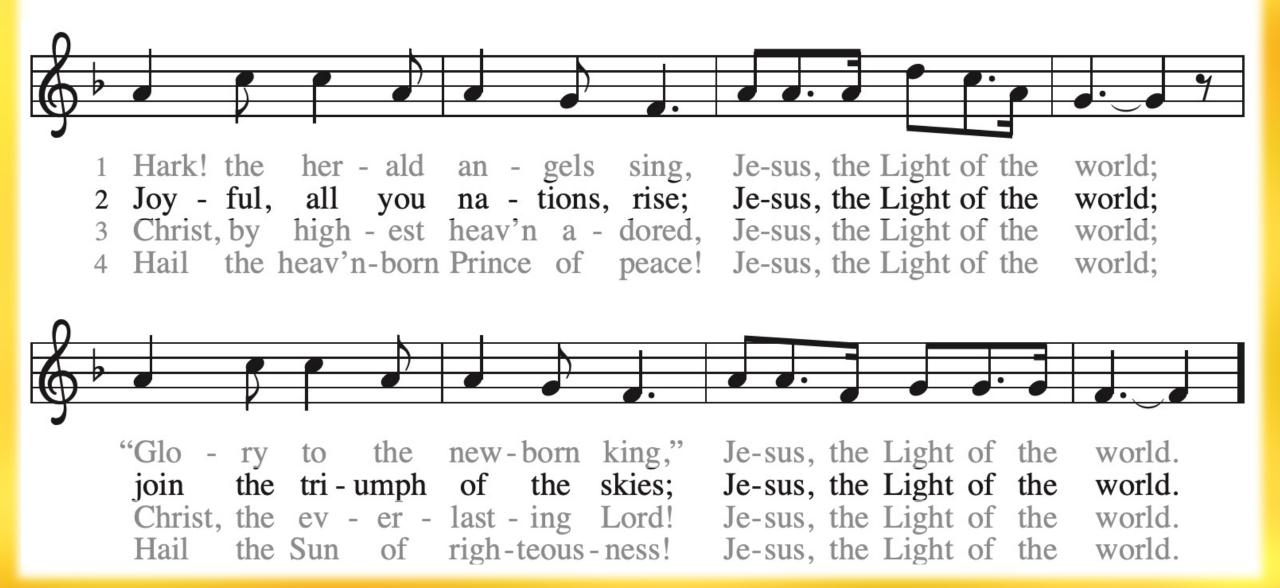


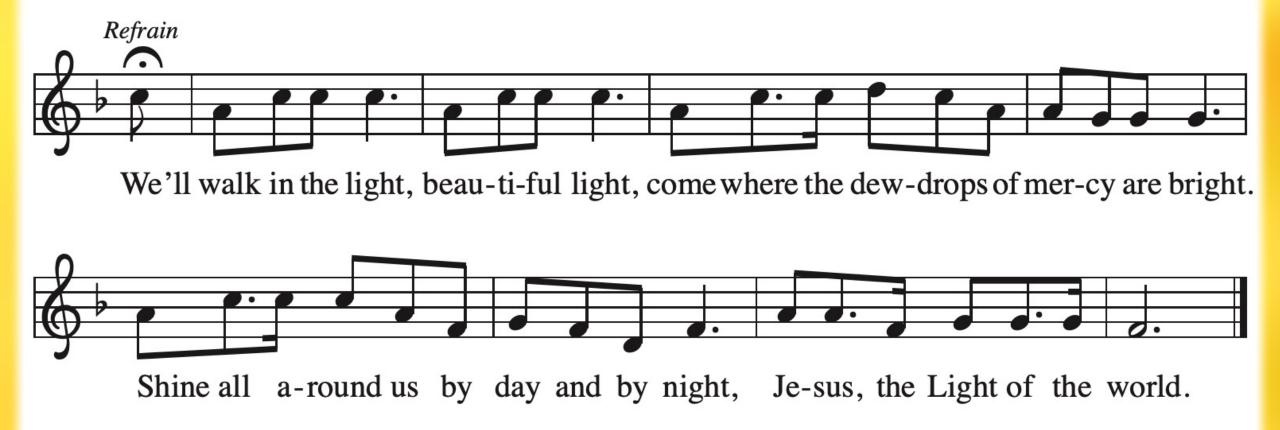
PRAYER CANTICLE: Jesus, the Light of the World

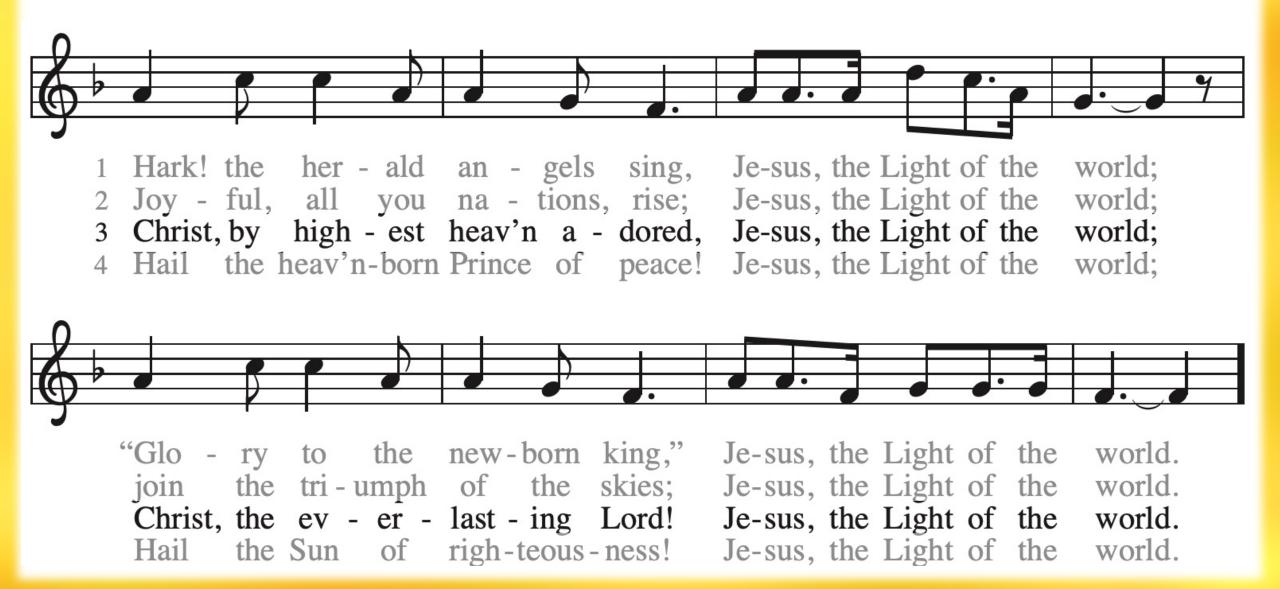


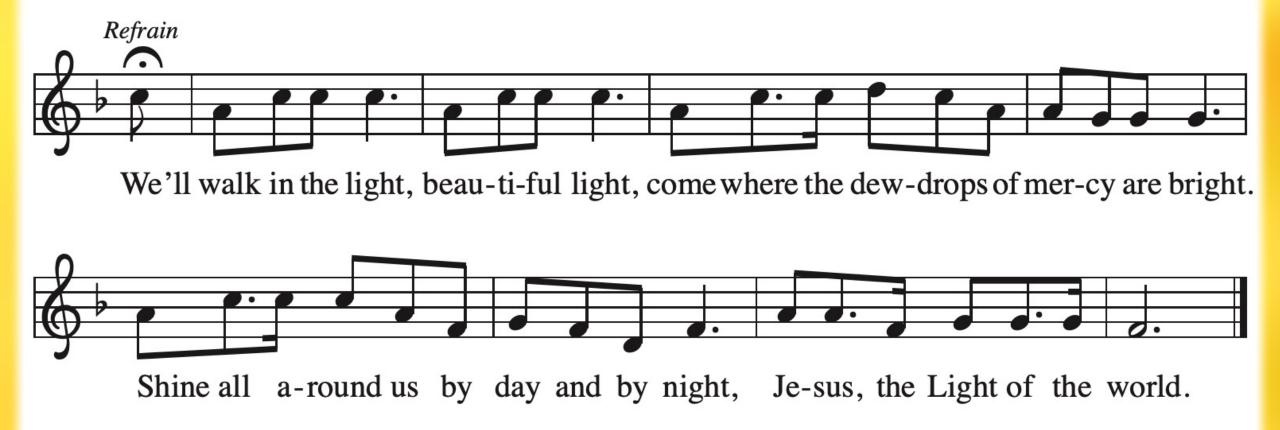


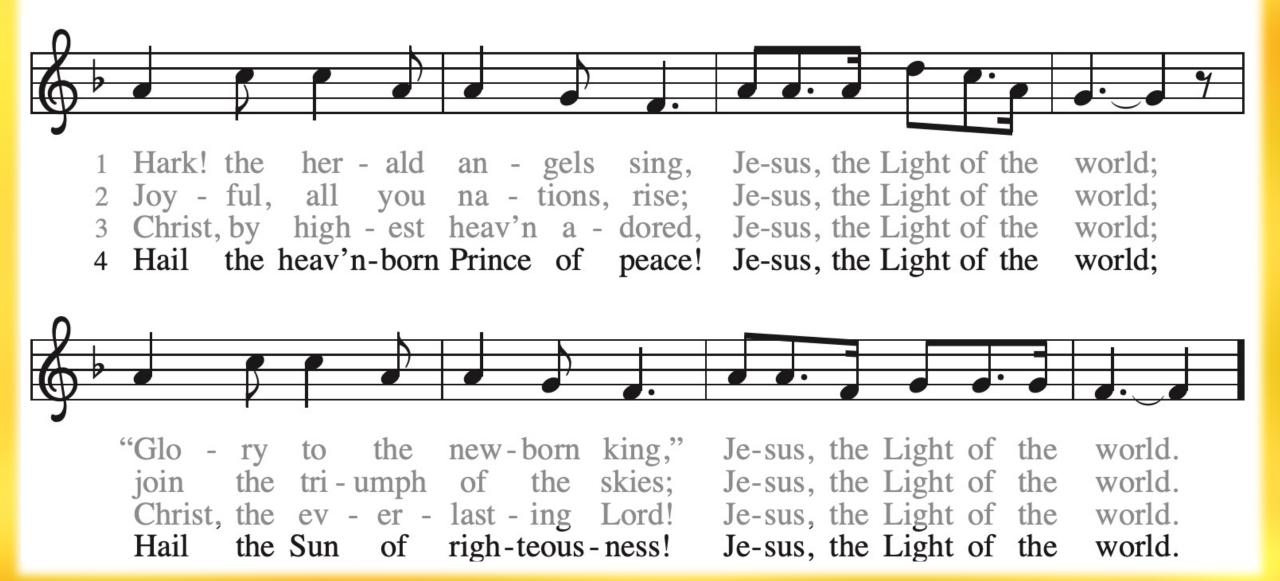
Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, stanzas; George D. Elderkin, 1845–1928, refrain Music: WE'LL WALK IN THE LIGHT, Traditional; arr. George D. Elderkin

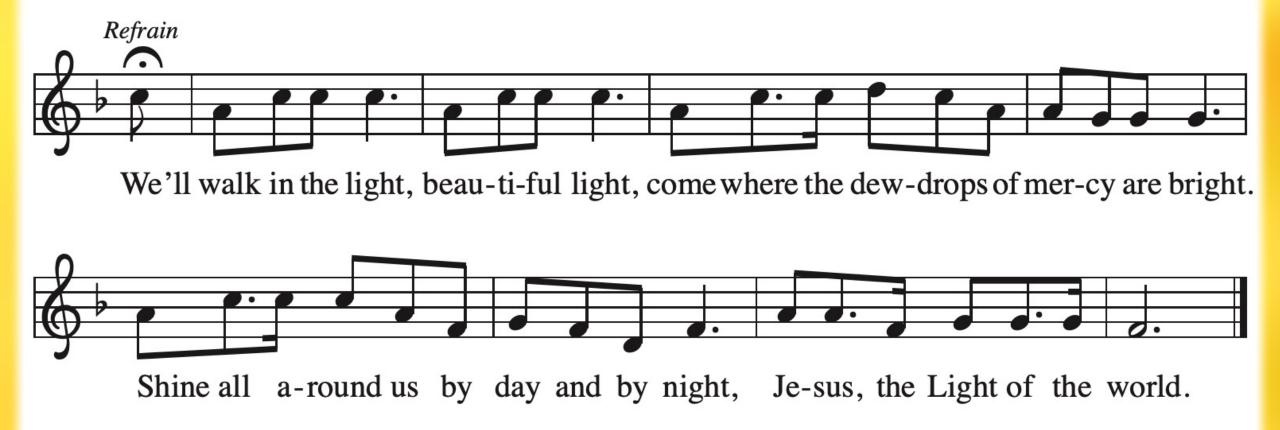














PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Joining our voices with the heavenly host and Christians throughout time and space, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need. You make yourself known in the gift of language in diverse forms. Draw our attention to those who communicate through sign, braille, and technology. Make your church a place where all methods of communication are celebrated. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.** Creating God, the sun greets us anew each morning. Thank you for waking us up today to witness and share your abundance. Awaken us always to your wisdom and deepen our care for your natural world. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Emmanuel, in your name we are assured that you are with us. Train nations and peoples to honor and respect one another, especially those whose names and identities have been mistreated, neglected, or oppressed. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.** You adopt us as your beloved ones. Accompany parents and children navigating the adoption process, especially those in the foster system. Sustain those struggling with infertility or pregnancy loss. Tenderly embrace all in need. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.** You journey with us through change. Guide those assuming new roles in this congregation or making transitions in their families, workplaces, or communities. As the seasons and the calendar change, equip us for unexpected challenges. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

You come to us through those you call to positions of leadership. We pray for Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, Alaska Synod Bishop Shelly Wickstrom, Bishop Tessa Moon Leiseth of our sister synod; the Alaska Southeast Cluster, Pastor Karen Perkins, and Teller Lutheran Church, Teller. Grant wisdom to inform all ministries. Merciful God, receive our prayer.

For what else do the people of God pray?

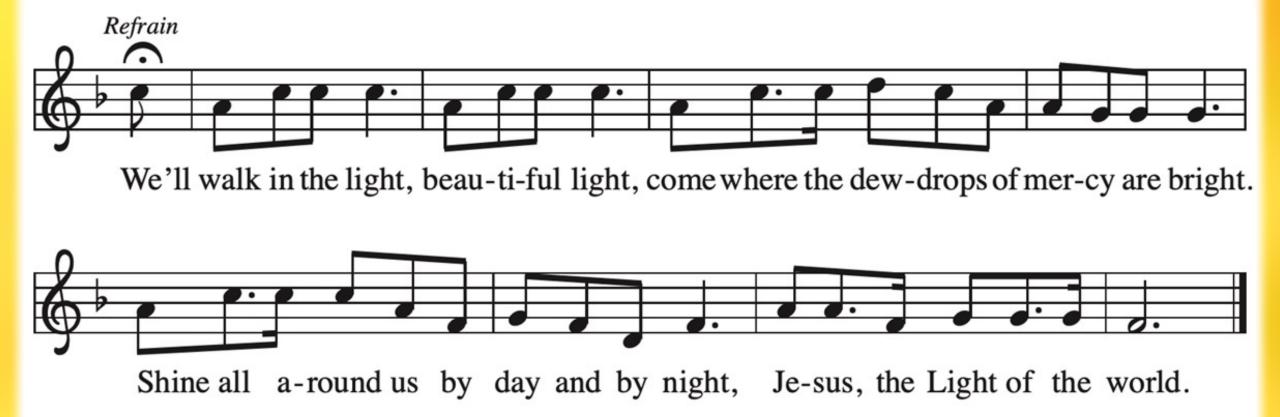
We give you thanks for all who modeled lives of loving service. Lead us in your grace until, with all your saints, we enter the fullness of your glory. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Rejoicing in your Word made flesh among us, we commend these prayers to you, confident of your grace and love made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

PRAYER REFRAIN

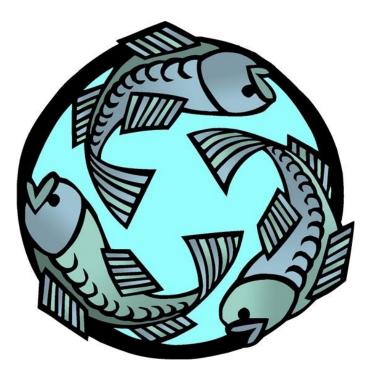


SHARING THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. And also with you.

The congregation may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Peace be with you. **Peace be with you.**

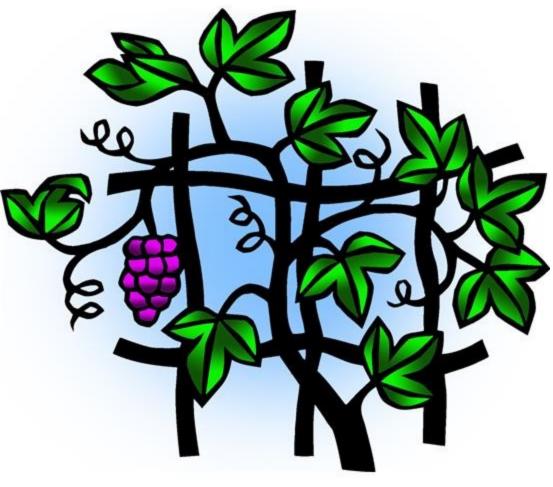


MEAL

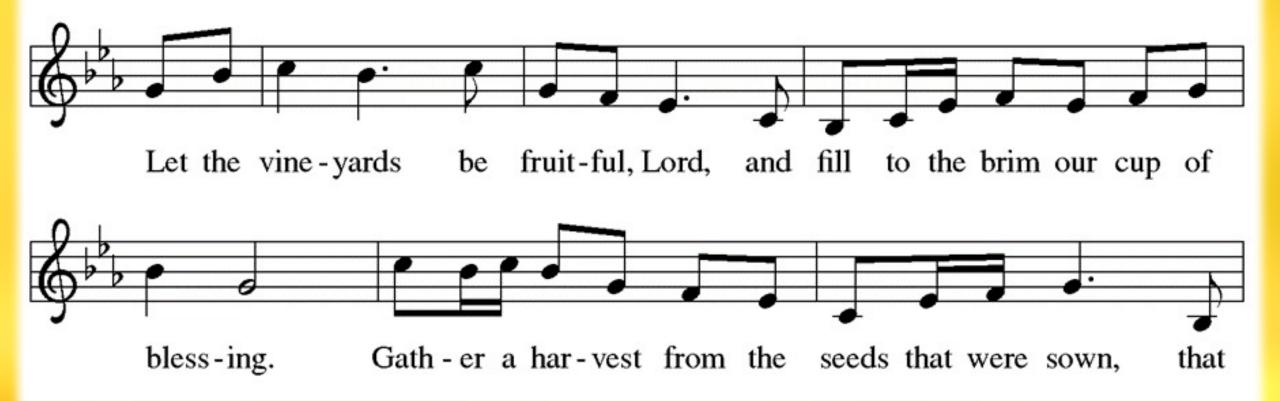
God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

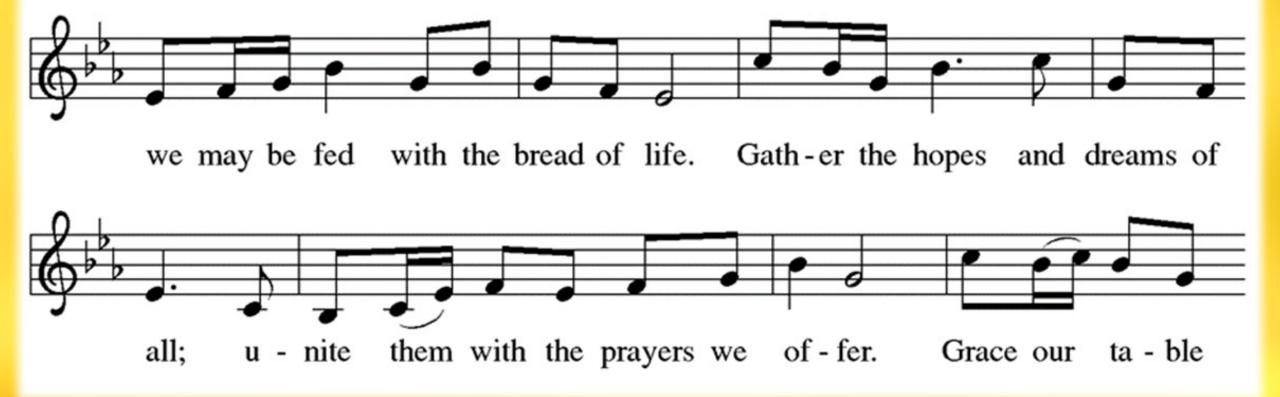
OFFERING

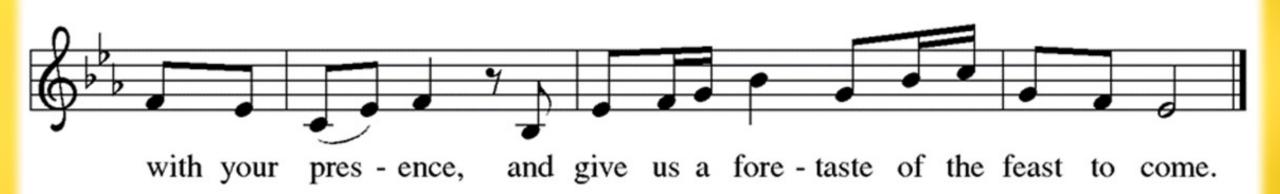
OFFERING



OFFERTORY: Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful







Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980 Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927 Text and music © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

OFFERING PRAYER

Gracious God,

your Word-made-flesh brings harmony to the earth. As we offer ourselves and these your gifts, prepare us to receive the grace and truth you offer at this table and renew in us the song of your salvation, in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

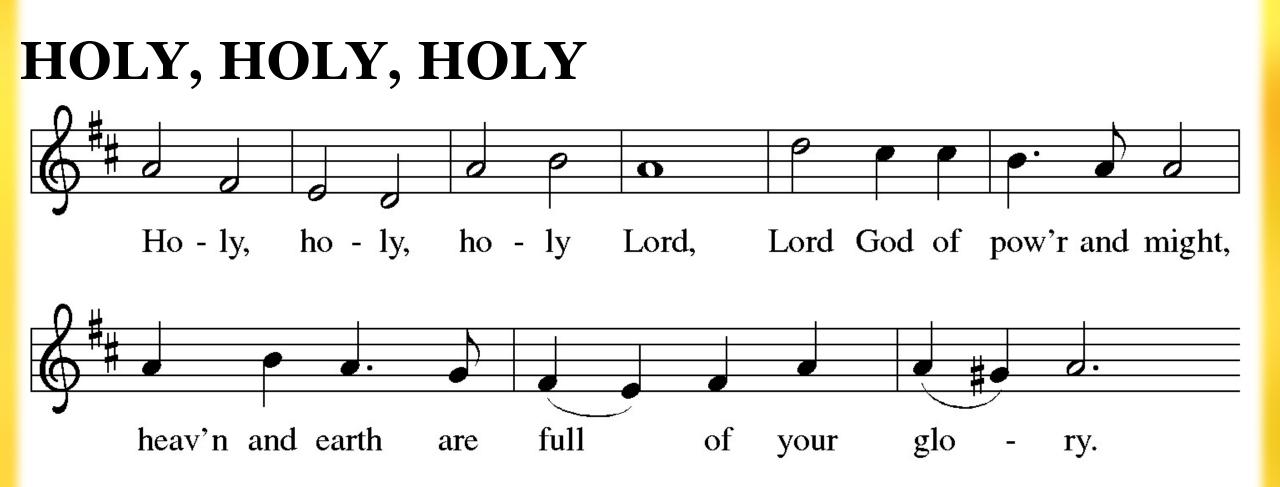
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

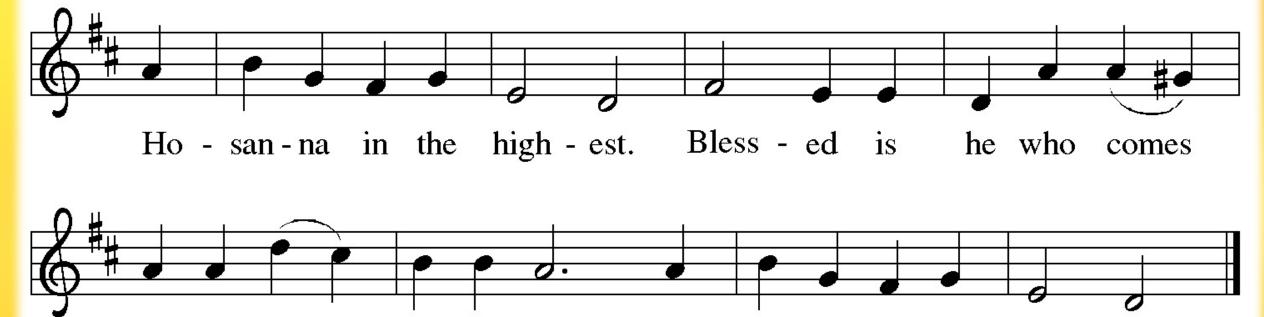
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see.

And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:





in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, Creator of all and Source of life, at the birth of time your word brought light into the world.

In the fullness of time,

you sent your Word, born of Mary, to shine in our darkness and to make us your daughters and sons. 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. Remembering, therefore, his birth and life among us, his death and resurrection, we await his coming again when all things will be restored in him.

By your Spirit bless us and this bread and cup, that, held and nourished by you, we may live as your children, shining with the light of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

Amen

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

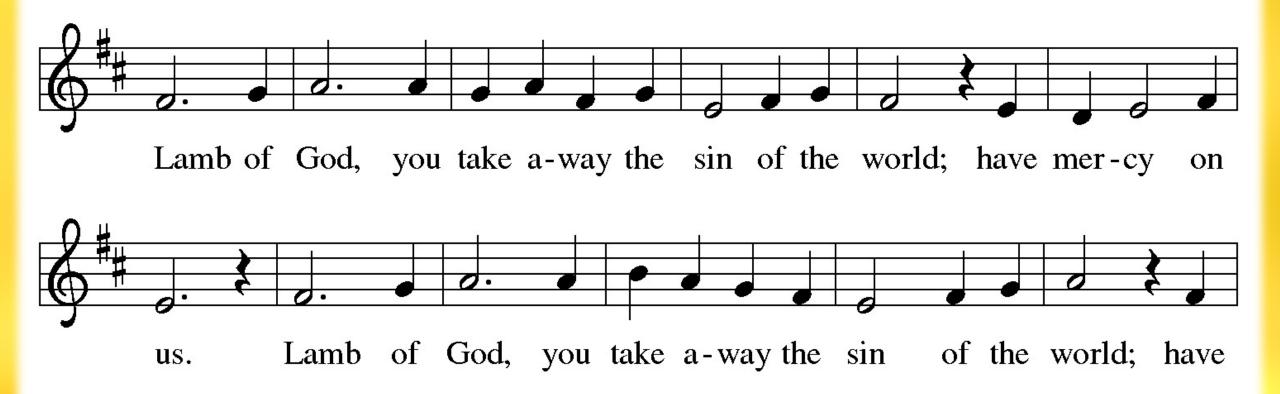
Amen.

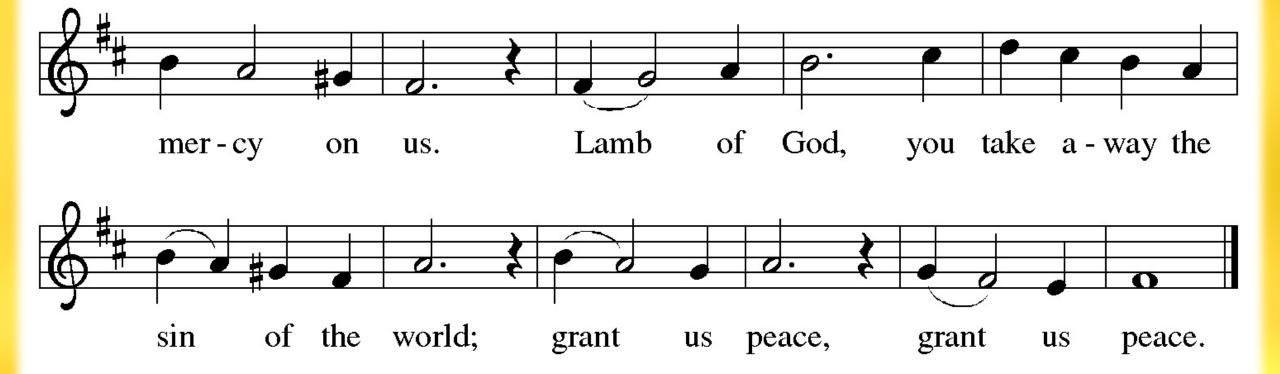
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to Christ's banquet. Feast on God's gift of grace.



COMMUNION SONG



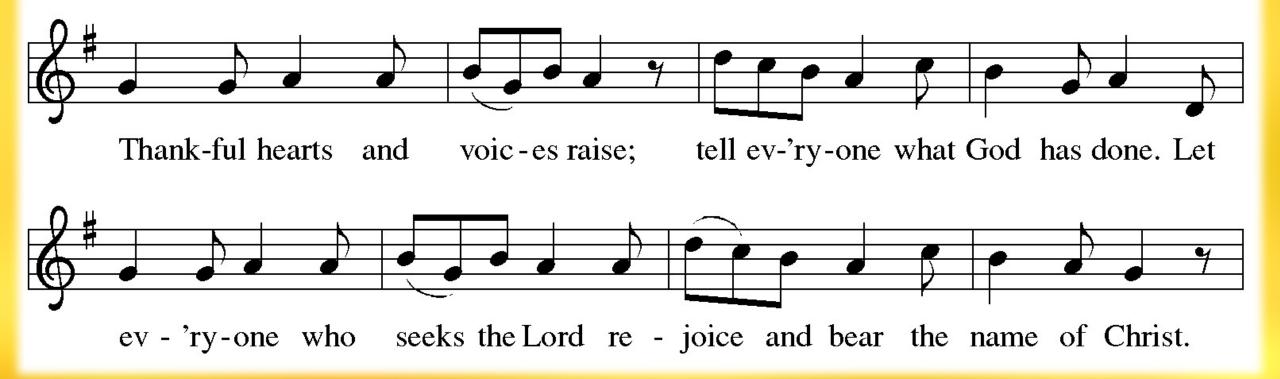


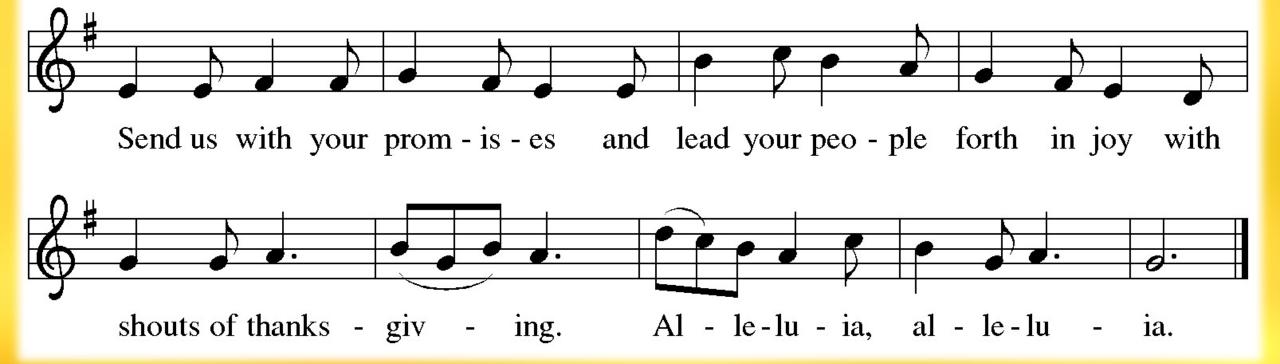
POST COMMUNION BLESSING

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



SONG AFTER COMMUNION: Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise





PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We thank you, wondrous God, for Jesus,
God with us, in these gifts of bread and wine.
As we have shared this feast of love,
strengthen us to share your love with all the world.
In Jesus' name we pray.
Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

MISSION STATEMENT

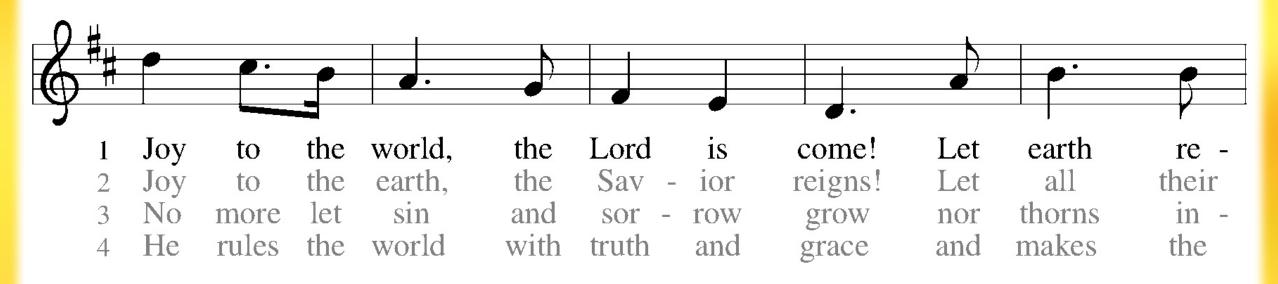
- Let us announce together,
- The mission of Resurrection Lutheran Church is
 - to promote spiritual growth in Christ and service to all people.

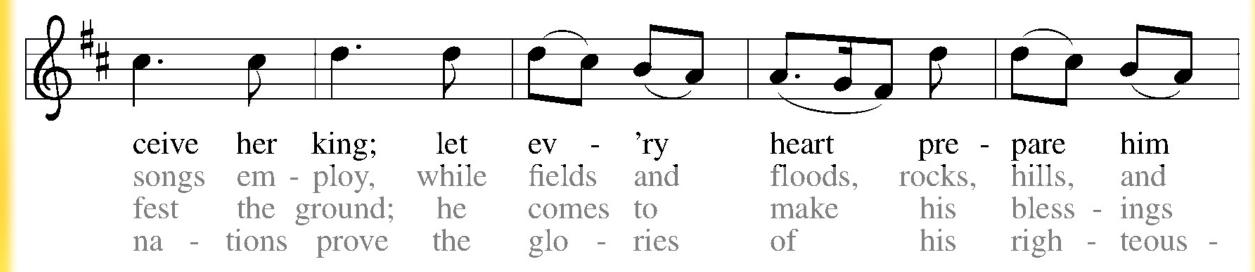
BLESSING

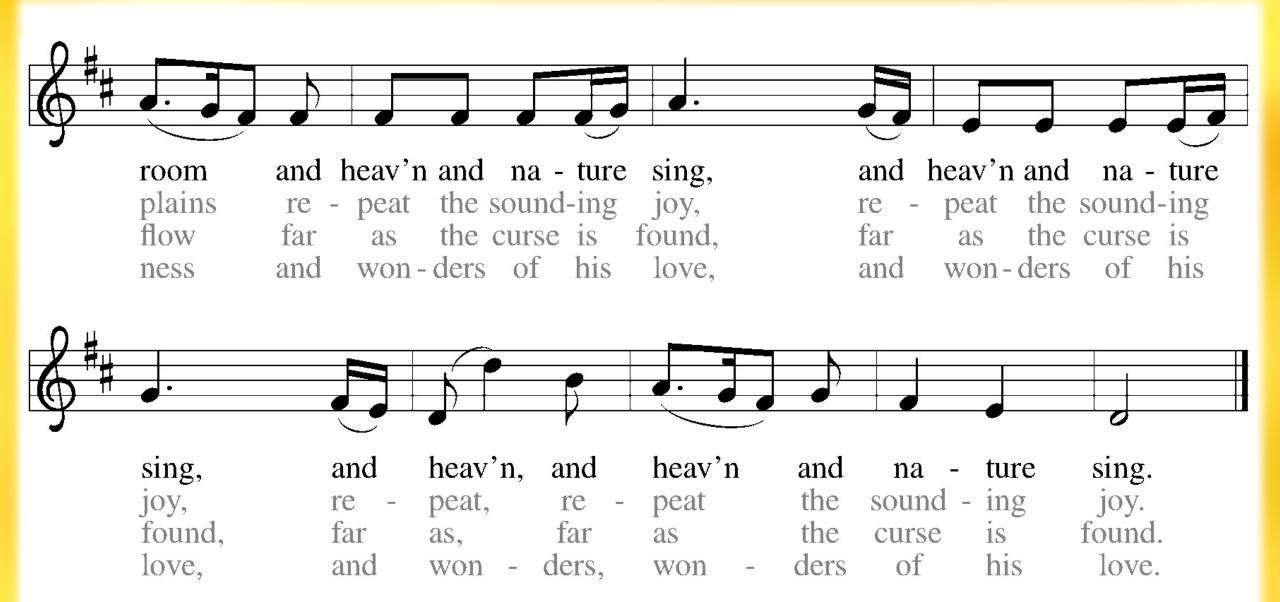
The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ Jesus, the Word made flesh. **Amen.**

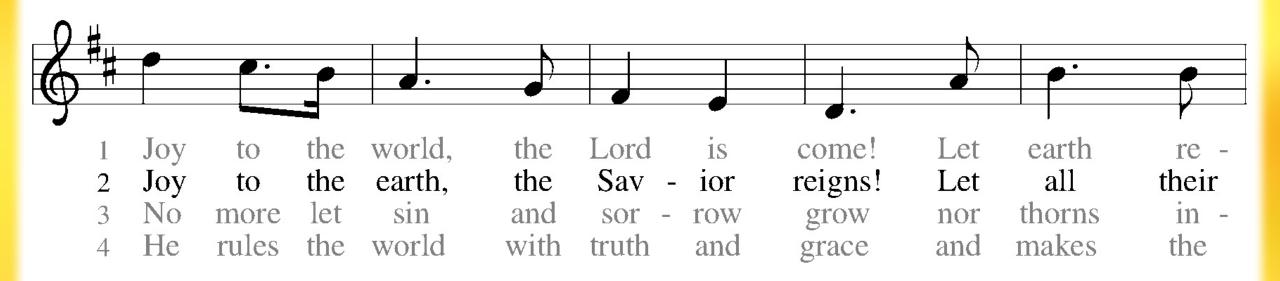


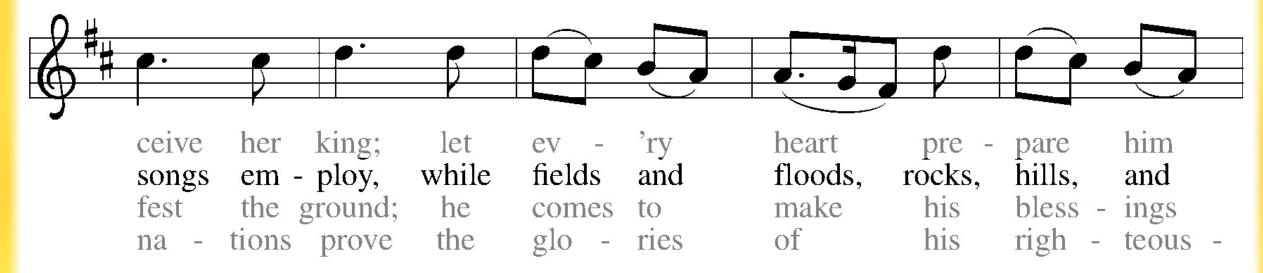
SENDING SONG: Joy to the World

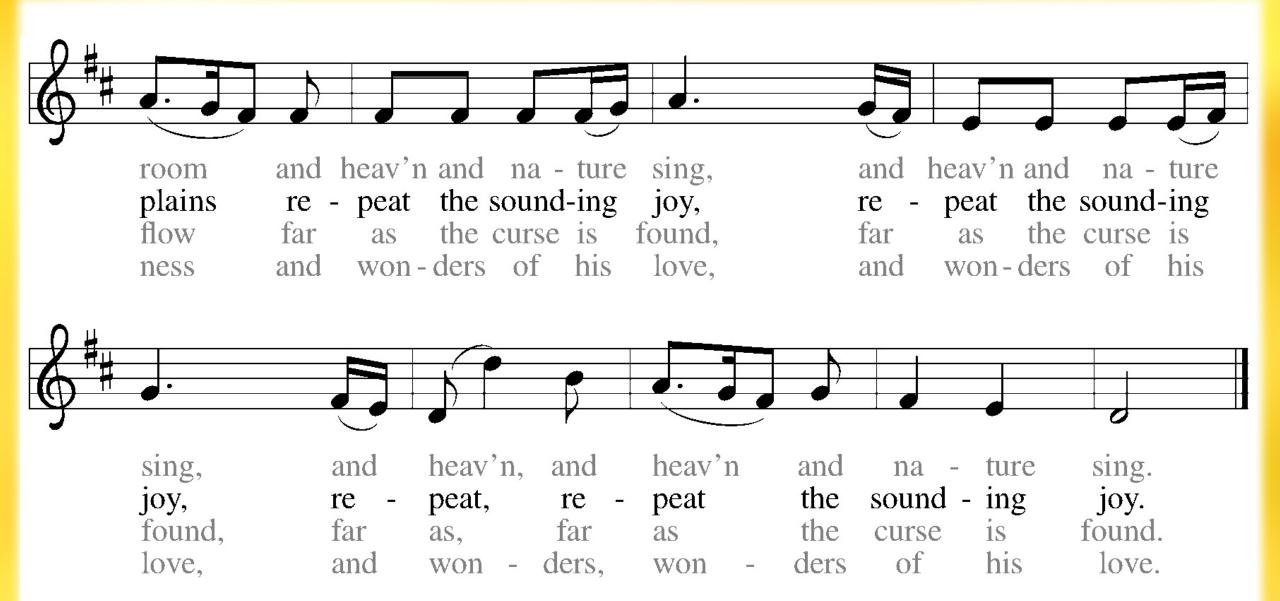


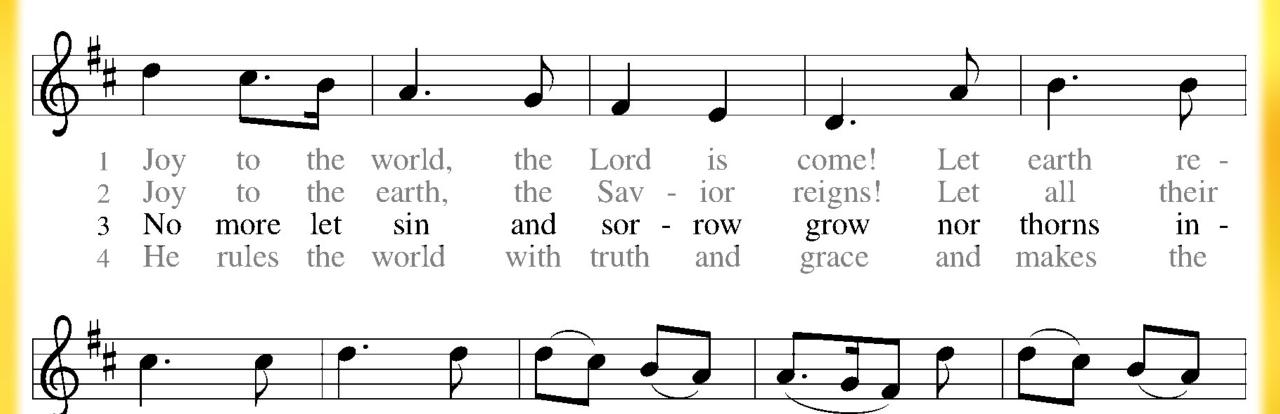




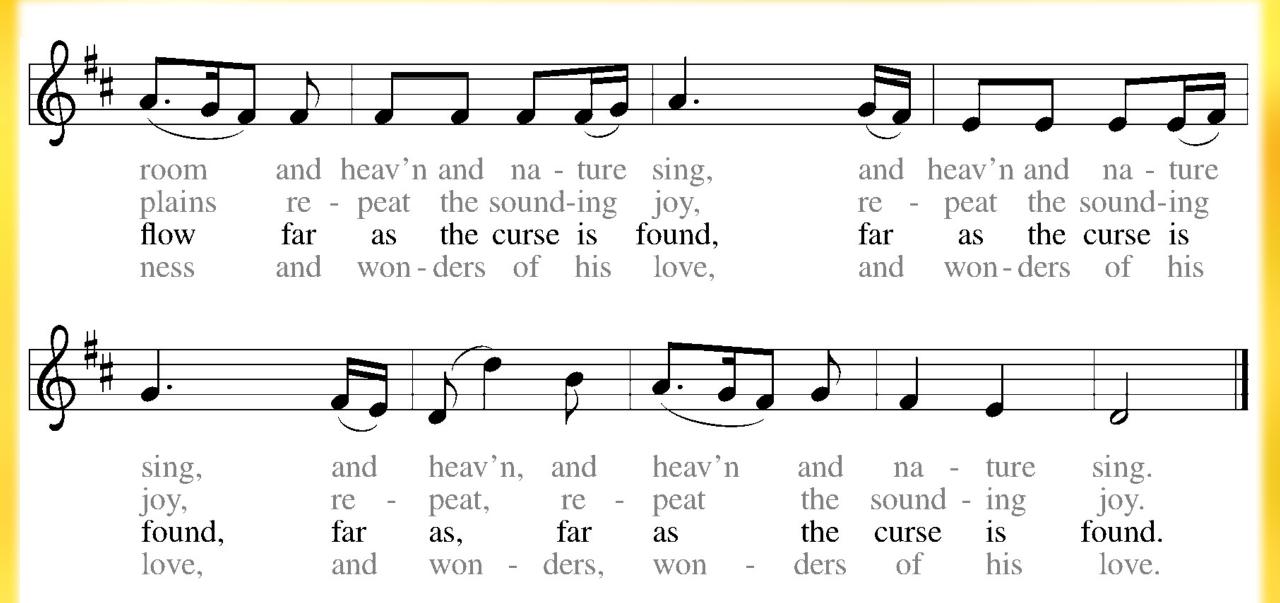


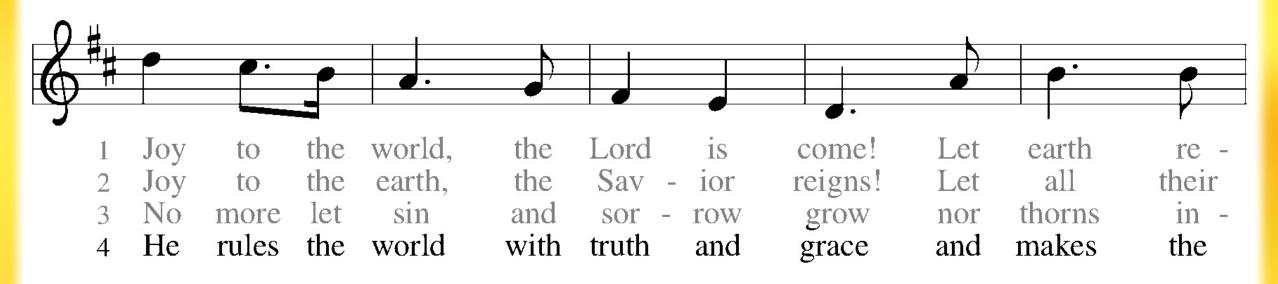


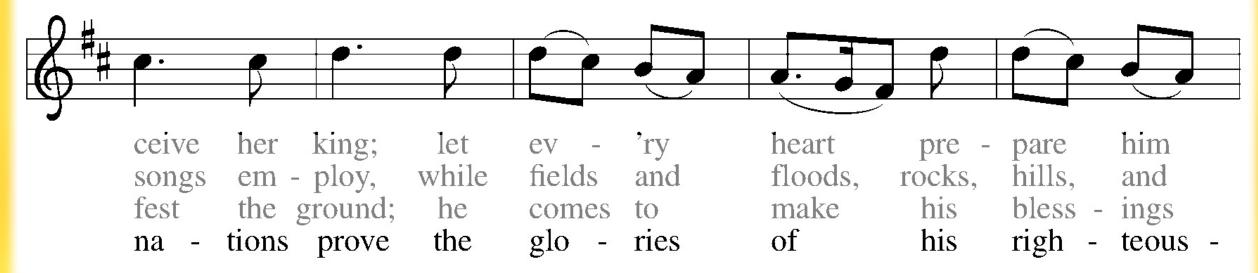


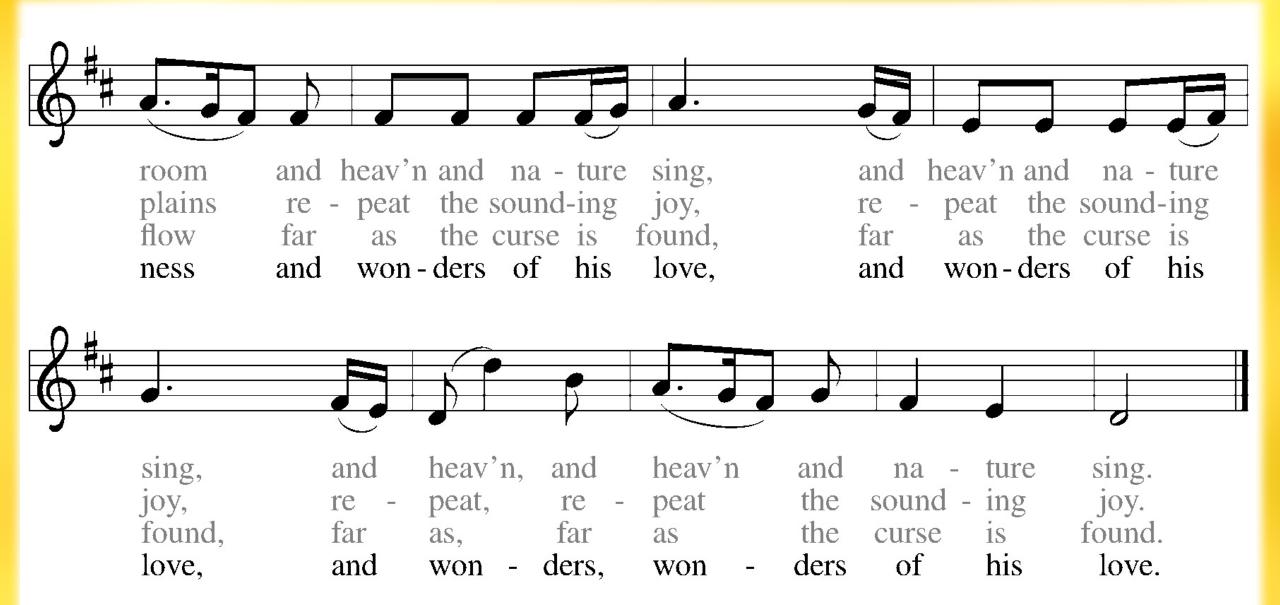


king; him ceive let her ev -'ry heart pre pare rocks, em - ploy, fields hills, while and floods, and songs bless - ings the ground; he make his fest to comes his tions prove of righ the - teous glo ries na









DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Rejoice in Christ our Savior. Thanks be to God.



Resurrection Lutheran Church

The Reverend Karen Perkins, Pastor

People of Resurrection, Ministers of God

