TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH, MENASHA, WI
FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2024

DIVINE SERVICE

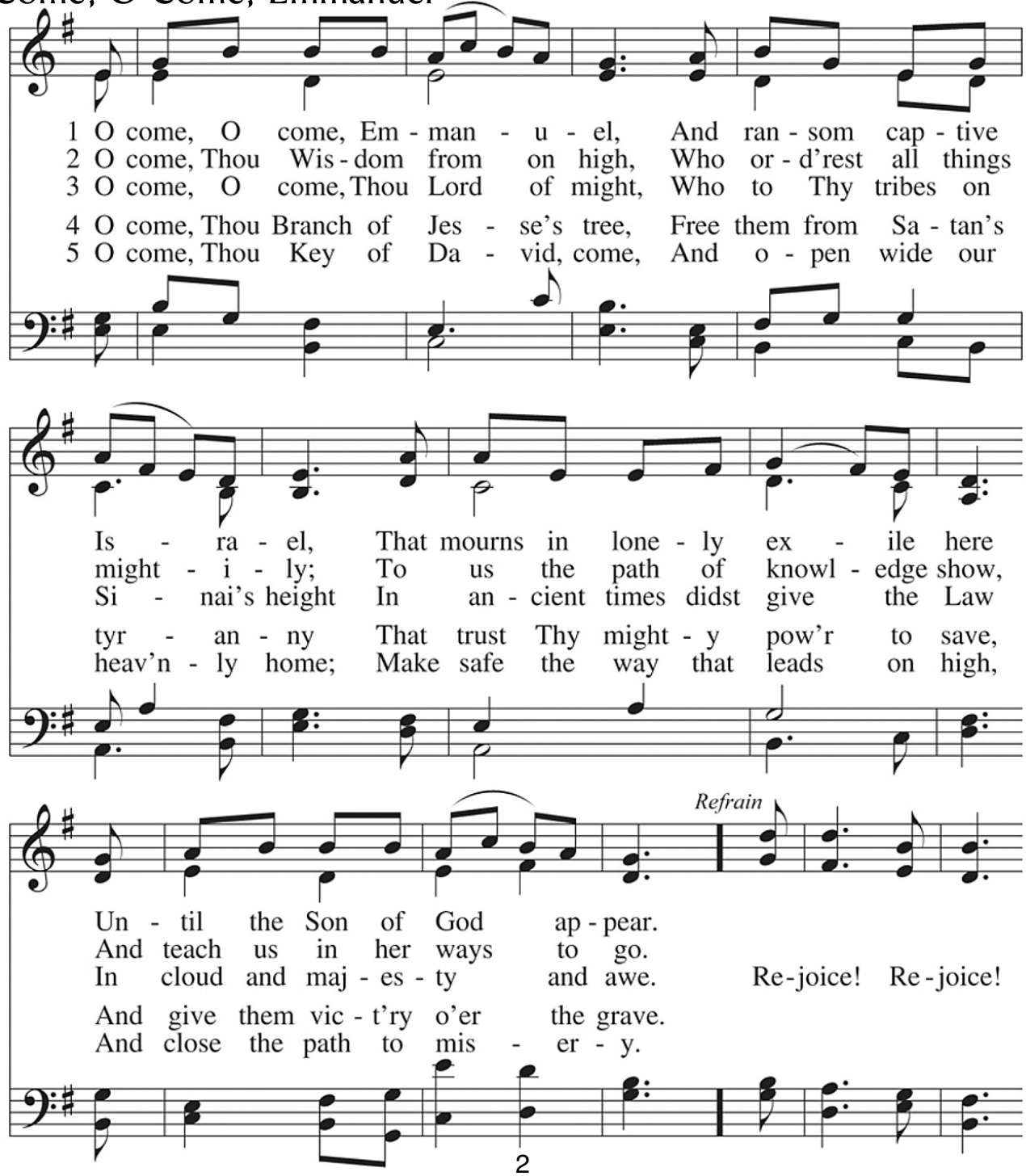
Setting Four

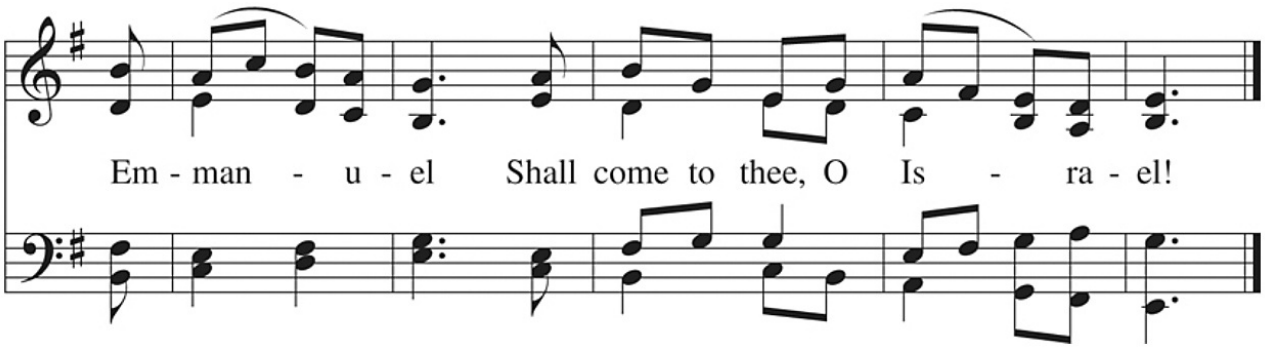
PASTORAL GREETING

Stand

HYMN OF INVOCATION

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel 357





6 O come, Thou Dayspring from on high,
And cheer us by Thy drawing night;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight.
Refrain

7 O come, Desire of nations, bind
In one the hearts of all mankind;
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease,
And be Thyself our King of Peace.
Refrain

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

The sign of the cross ✠ may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

A In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.** *Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]*

A Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C **who made heaven and earth.** *Psalm 124:8*

A If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.** *Psalm 130:3-4*

A Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner. *[Luke 18:13]*
C **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

A Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.** *[John 20:19-23]*

SERVICE OF THE WORD

INTROIT *1 Samuel 2:1b, 2, 5b–7; antiphon: Luke 1:46b–47*

A My soul magnifies the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

C **My mouth derides my enemies,**
because I rejoice in your salvation.

A There is none holy like the Lord;
there is none besides you; there is no rock like our God.

C **The barren has borne seven,**
but she who has many children is forlorn.

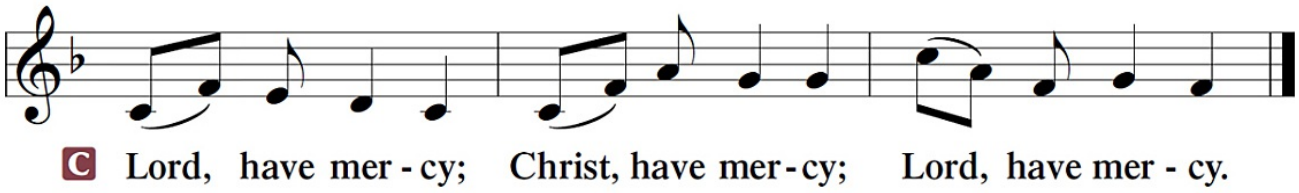
A The Lord kills and brings to life;
he brings down to Sheol and raises up.

C **The Lord makes poor and makes rich;**
he brings low and he exalts.

ALL **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.

A My soul magnifies the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

KYRIE ~ *Lord, Have Mercy* *Mark 10:47*



SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY

A The Lord be with you. *2 Timothy 4:22*
C **And also with you.**
A Let us pray.

The Collect of the Day is spoken.

A Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C **Amen.**

Sit

OLD TESTAMENT ~ *Micah 5:2–5a*

[2] But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is
from of old, from ancient days. [3] Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she
who is in labor has given birth; then the rest of his brothers shall return to the people of
Israel. [4] And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the
majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be
great to the ends of the earth. [5] And he shall be their peace.

A This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL *Zechariah 9:9; Psalm 118:26, alt.*

A Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion.
Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem.
Behold, your king is coming to you;
righteous and having salvation.
Blessèd is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
From the house of the Lord we bless you.

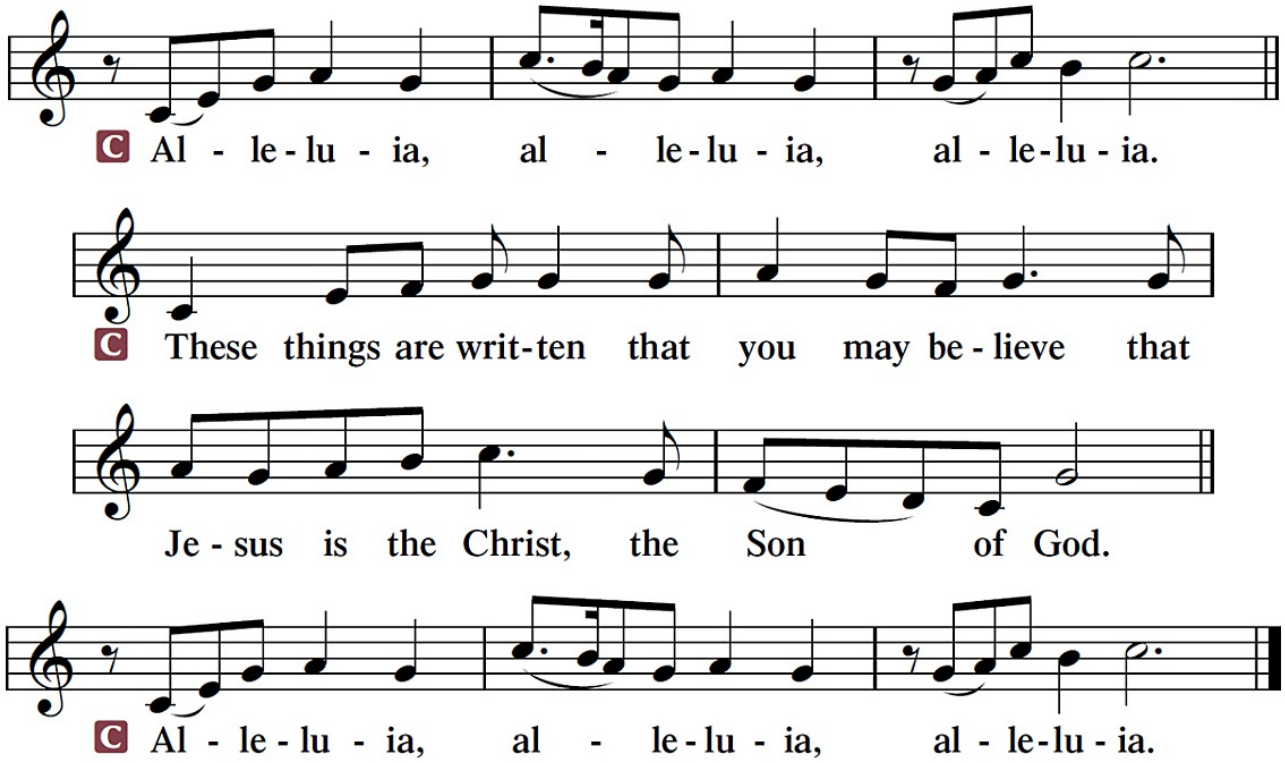
EPISTLE ~ *Hebrews 10:5–10*

5 Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you
have not desired, but a body have you prepared for me; 6 in burnt offerings and sin
offerings you have taken no pleasure. 7 Then I said, 'Behold, I have come to do your will,
O God, as it is written of me in the scroll of the book.' "
8 When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and
offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law),
9 then he added, "Behold, I have come to do your will." He does away with the first in
order to establish the second. 10 And by that will we have been sanctified through the
offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

A This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

ALLELUIA and VERSE



HOLY GOSPEL ~ *Luke 1:39–56*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the first chapter.
C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

39 In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in
Judah, 40 and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. 41 And when
Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was
filled with the Holy Spirit, 42 and she exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among
women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! 43 And why is this granted to me that the
mother of my Lord should come to me? 44 For behold, when the sound of your greeting
came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. 45 And blessed is she who believed
that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord."
46 And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, 47 and my spirit rejoices in God my
Savior, 48 for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant. For behold, from now on
all generations will call me blessed; 49 for he who is mighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his name. 50 And his mercy is for those who fear him from generation to
generation. 51 He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the
thoughts of their hearts; 52 he has brought down the mighty from their thrones and exalted
those of humble estate; 53 he has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent
away empty. 54 He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, 55 as he
spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his offspring forever." 56 And Mary remained with
her about three months and returned to her home.

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

APOSTLES' CREED

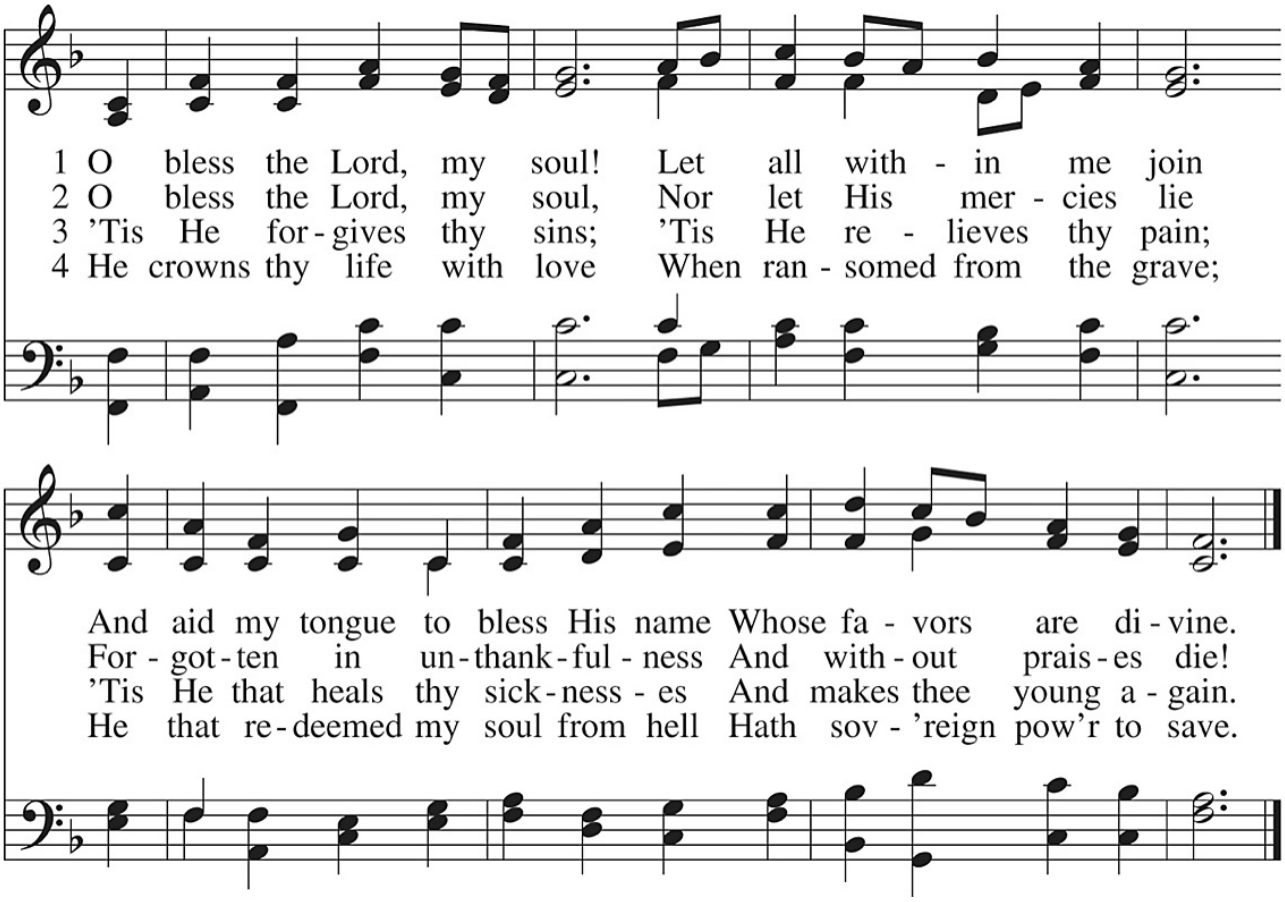
C **I believe in God, the Father Almighty,**
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come 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.

Sit

HYMN OF THE DAY ~ O Bless the Lord, My Soul 814



5 He fills the poor with good;
He gives the suff'rers rest.
The Lord hath judgments for the proud
And justice for th'oppressed.

6 His wondrous works and ways
He made by Moses known,
But sent the world His truth and grace
By His beloved Son.

SERMON ~ "Assurance of Joy" Luke 1:39–56

Stand

P The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. *Philippians 4:7*

C **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

Sit

OFFERING

Stand

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

P The Lord be with you. *2 Timothy 4:22*

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts. *[Colossians 3:1]*

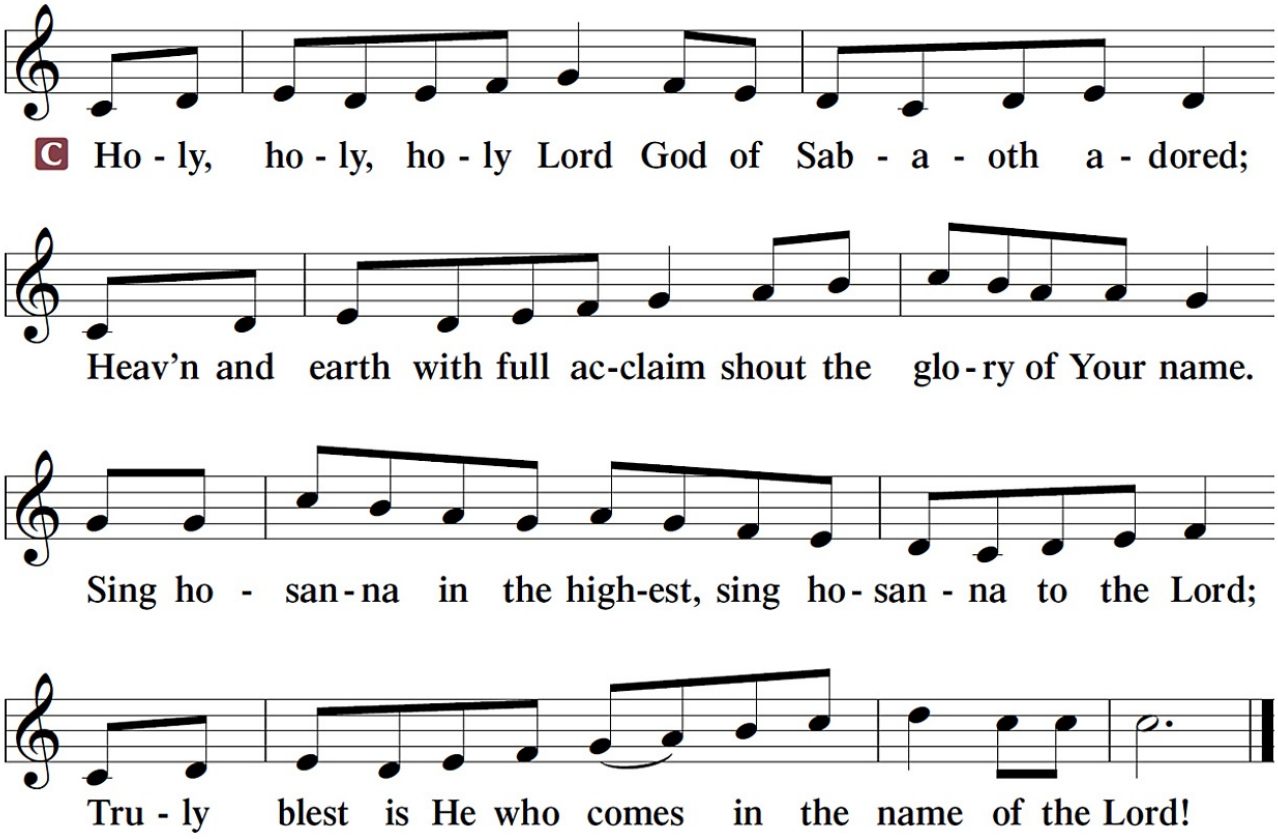
C **We lift them up to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God. *[Psalm 136]*

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS ~ *Holy, Holy, Holy* *Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9*



Sabaoth (SAH-bay-oath) is Hebrew for "heavenly hosts."
Hosanna is a Hebrew word of praise meaning "save us now."

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

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 WORDS OF OUR LORD

Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24
Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

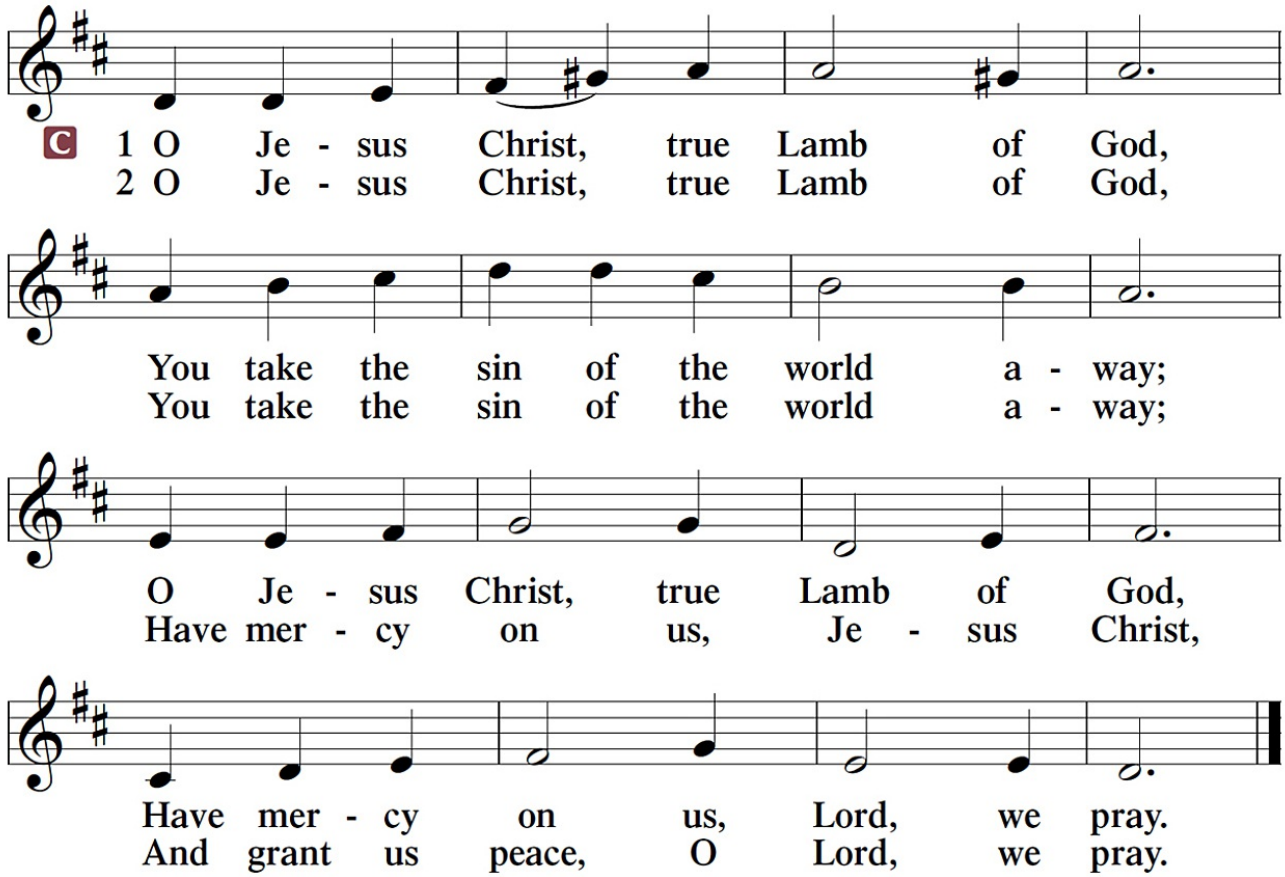
P In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PAX DOMINI ~ *The Peace of the Lord*

John 20:19

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C **Amen**

AGNUS DEI ~ *Lamb of God* *John 1:29*



Sit

DISTRIBUTION

P Take and eat, this is the true body of our Lord Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.

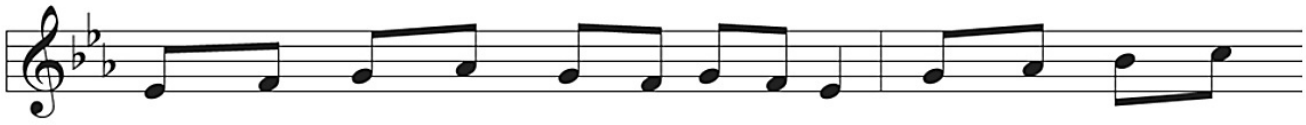
C **Amen.**

P Take and drink, this is the true blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, poured out for you for the forgiveness of your sins.

C **Amen.**

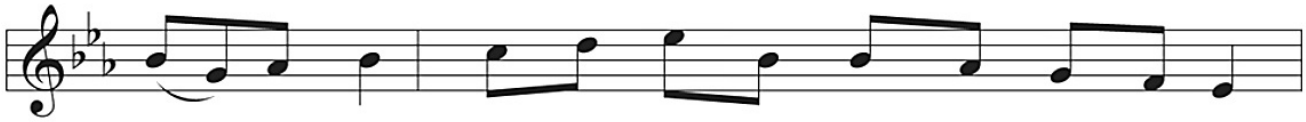
Giving to the church is an act of worship and a privilege of membership.
Those who wish to give online may do so at
http://tiny.cc/TrinityDonate
or simply use the QR code:

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS ~ Of the Father's Love Begotten 384



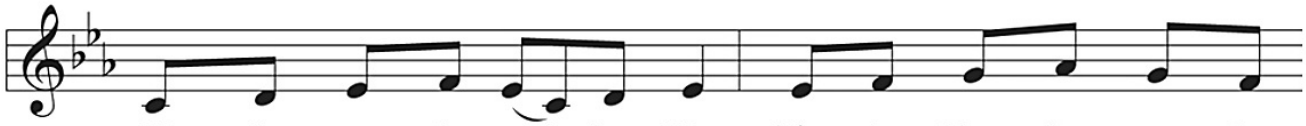
1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten Ere the worlds be -
2 Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, When the vir - gin,
3 This is He whom seers in old time Chant - ed of with

4 O ye heights of heav'n, a - dore Him; An - gel hosts, His
△ 5 Christ, to Thee, with God the Fa - ther, And, O Ho - ly



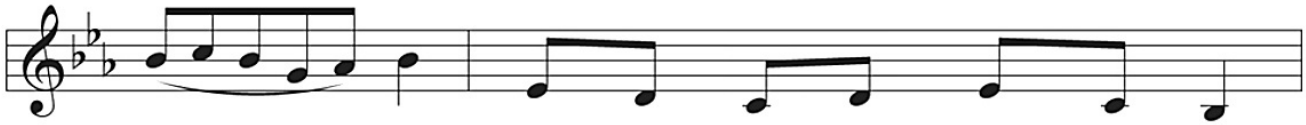
gan to be, He is Al - pha and O - me - ga,
full of grace, By the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,
one ac - cord, Whom the voic - es of the proph - ets

prais - es sing. Pow'rs, do - min - ions, bow be - fore Him
Ghost, to Thee Hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing



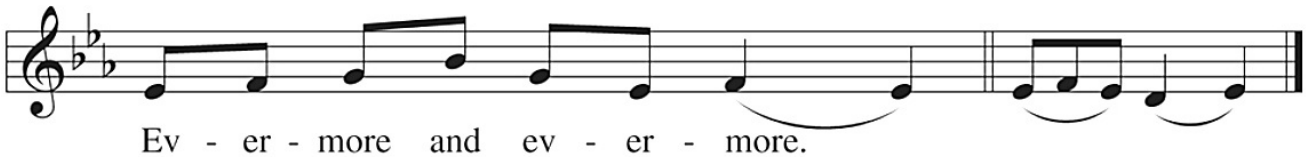
He the source, the end - ing He, Of the things that are, that
Bore the Sav - ior of our race, And the babe, the world's Re -
Prom - ised in their faith - ful word. Now He shines, the long - ex -

And ex - tol our God and King. Let no tongue on earth be
And un - end - ing prais - es be, Hon - or, glo - ry, and do -



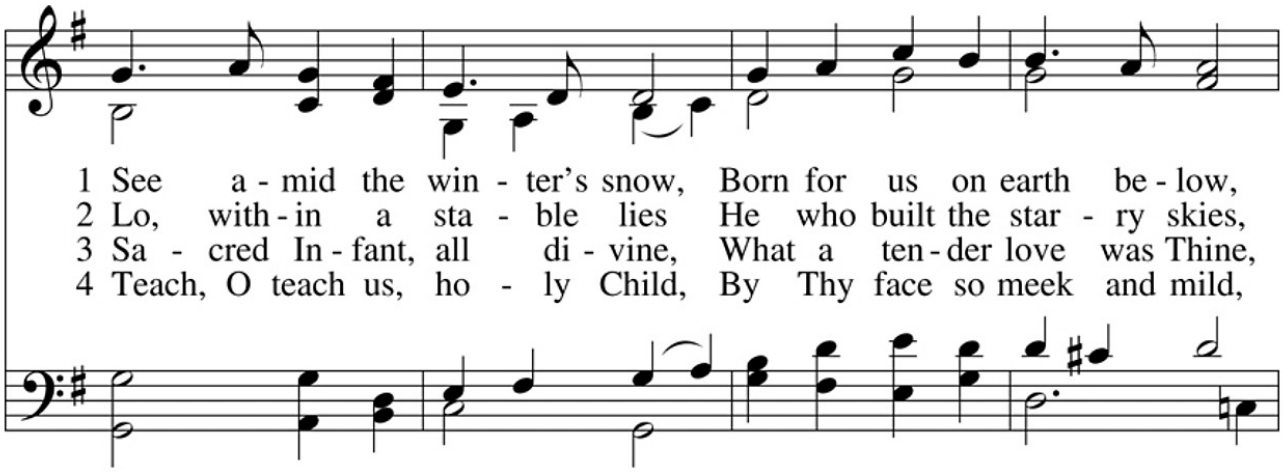
have been, And that fu - ture years shall see
deem - er, First re - vealed His sa - cred face
pect - ed; Let cre - a - tion praise its Lord

si - lent, Ev - 'ry voice in con - cert ring
min - ion, And e - ter - nal vic - to - ry

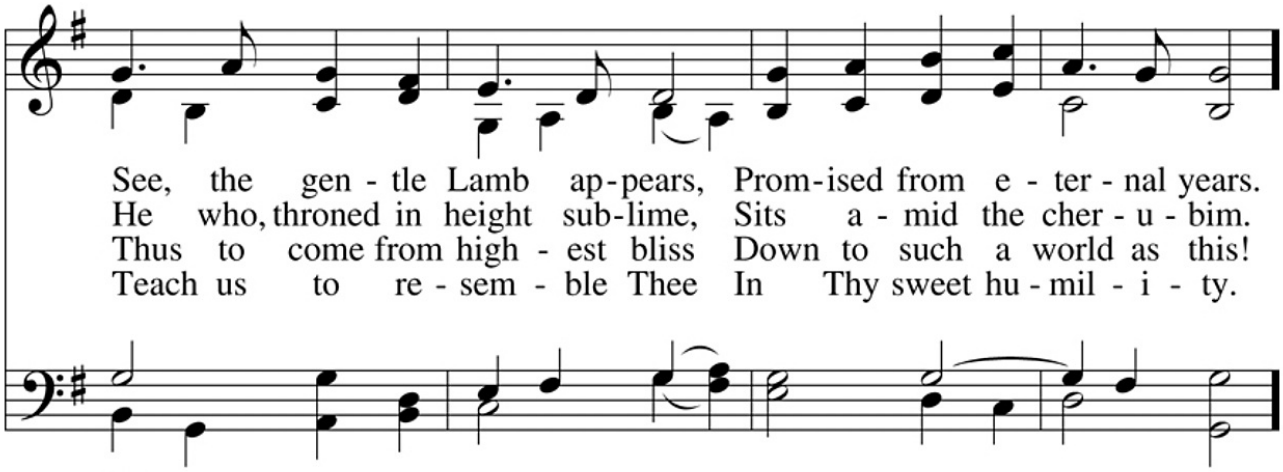


Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.

Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
Ev - er - more and ev - er - more. A - men.

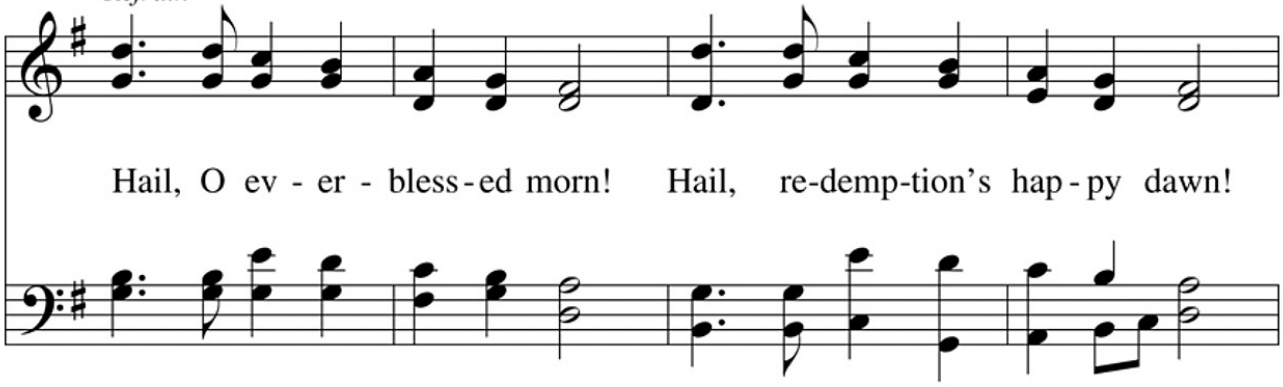


1 See a - mid the win - ter's snow, Born for us on earth be - low,
2 Lo, with - in a sta - ble lies He who built the star - ry skies,
3 Sa - cred In - fant, all di - vine, What a ten - der love was Thine,
4 Teach, O teach us, ho - ly Child, By Thy face so meek and mild,

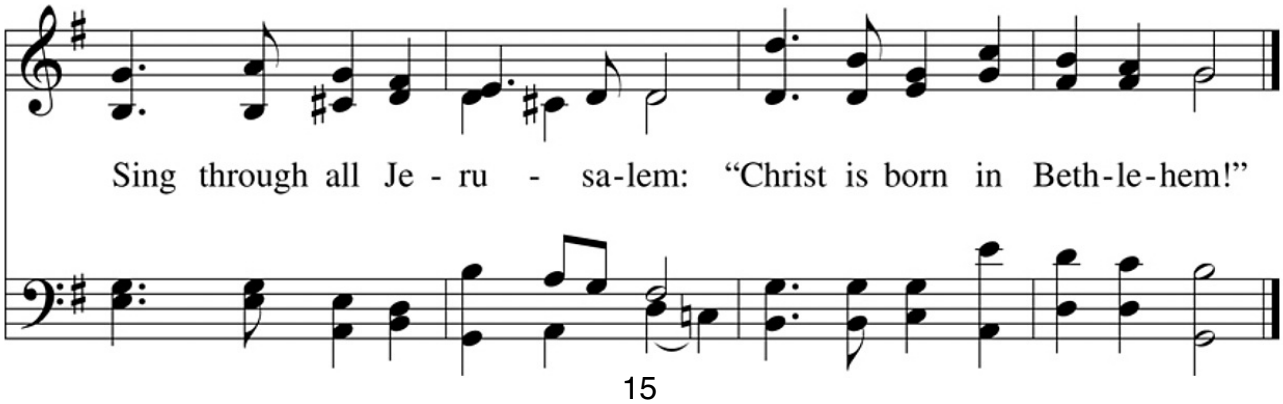


See, the gen - tle Lamb ap - pears, Prom - ised from e - ter - nal years.
He who, throned in height sub - lime, Sits a - mid the cher - u - bim.
Thus to come from high - est bliss Down to such a world as this!
Teach us to re - sem - ble Thee In Thy sweet hu - mil - i - ty.

Refrain

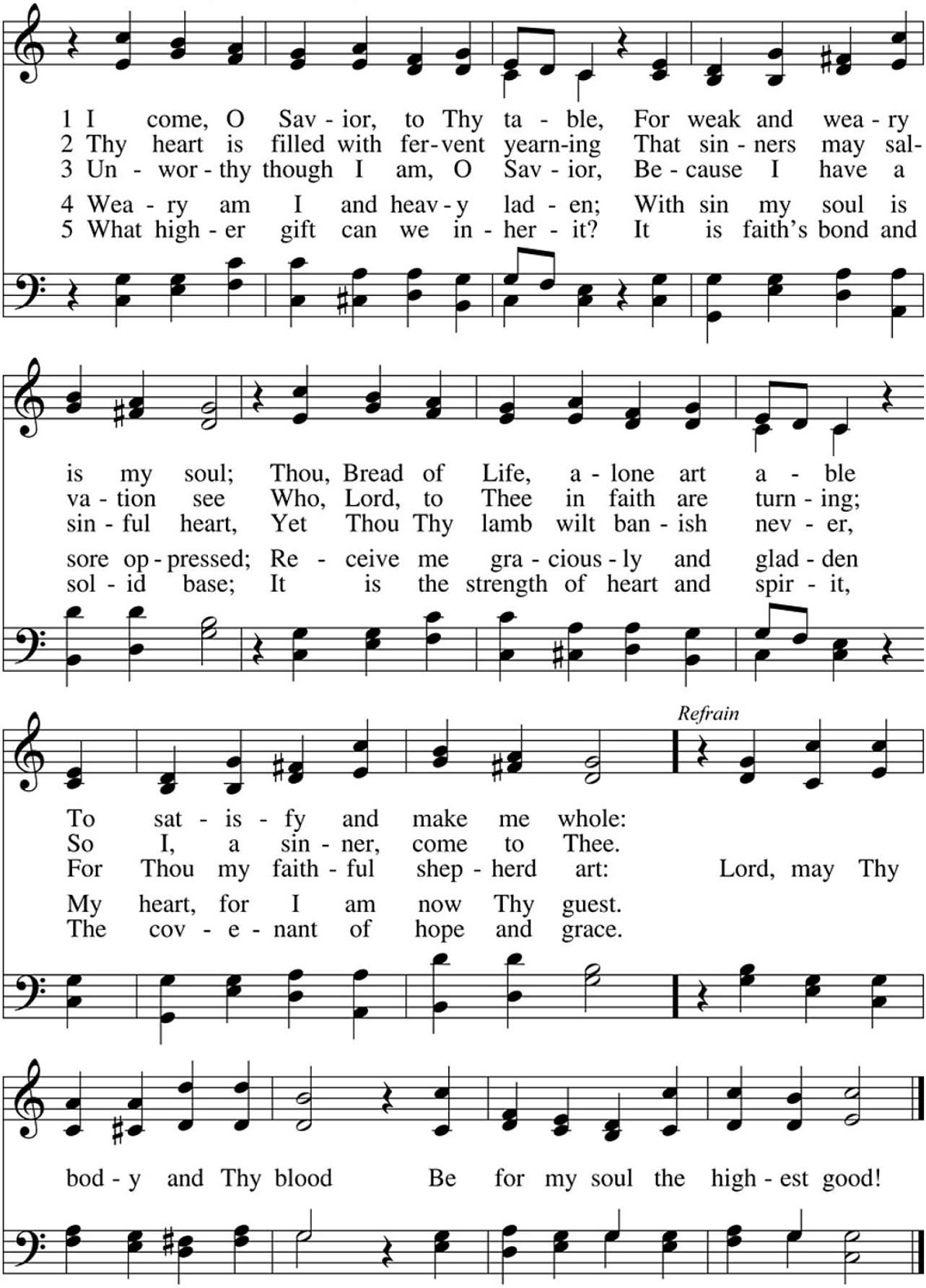


Hail, O ev - er - bless - ed morn! Hail, re - demp - tion's hap - py dawn!



Sing through all Je - ru - sa - lem: "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"

I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table 618



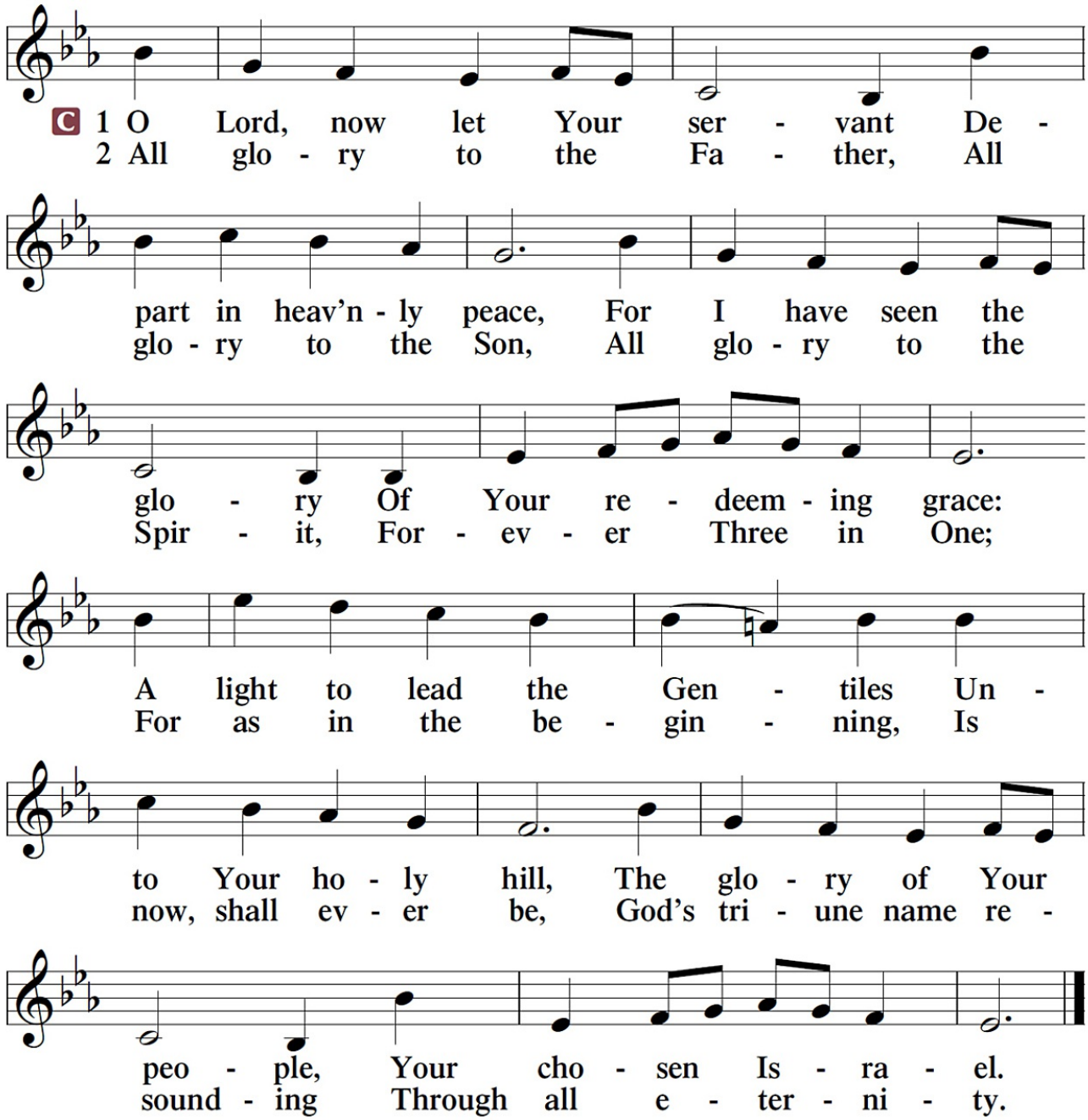
Stand

In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

P The true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you steadfast in the one true Faith unto life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

C **Amen.**

NUNC DIMITTIS ~ *Song of Simeon* *Luke 2:29-32*



POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

A Let us pray.

A O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

BENEDICAMUS and BENEDICTION

A Let us bless the Lord. *[Psalm 103:1]*
C **Thanks be to God.**

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace. *Numbers 6:24-26*
C **Amen.**

Sit

✠ *Soli Deo Gloria* ✠

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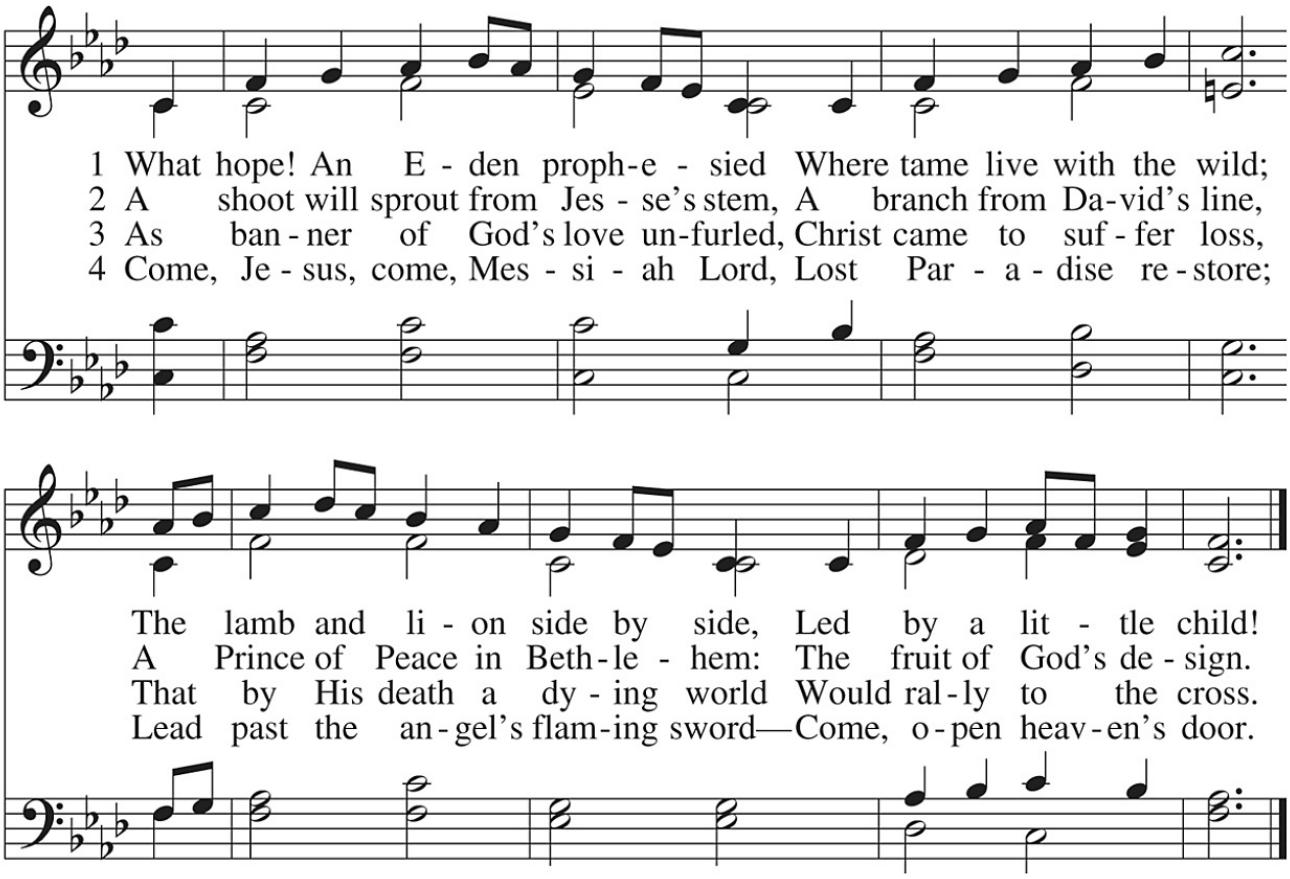
CLOSING HYMN ~ What Hope! An Eden Prophesied 342



FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

(22 December 2024)

Micah 5:2–5a
Hebrews 10:5–10
Luke 1:39–45 (46–56)

The Lord Comes to Visit Us in Peace

The Fourth Sunday in Advent turns our attention toward the nativity of our Lord. With Mary, we await the coming of the Christ, her Son, conceived in her womb by the Spirit of God. As the Lord dealt graciously with her and did great things for her (Luke 1:48–49), so also He manifests Himself and His glory to us in mercy and gentleness. He comes to rule His people in peace, to *"shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord."* He comes forth not from the great capital city of Rome or Jerusalem, but from lowly little Bethlehem (Micah 5:2, 4). He comes to sacrifice Himself, in fulfillment of His Father's will, for the salvation and sanctification of His people (Heb. 10:10). He who once visited Elizabeth while hidden in the womb of Mary (Luke 1:39–45) now comes to visit us today, hidden in the lowliness of simple water, bread and wine.