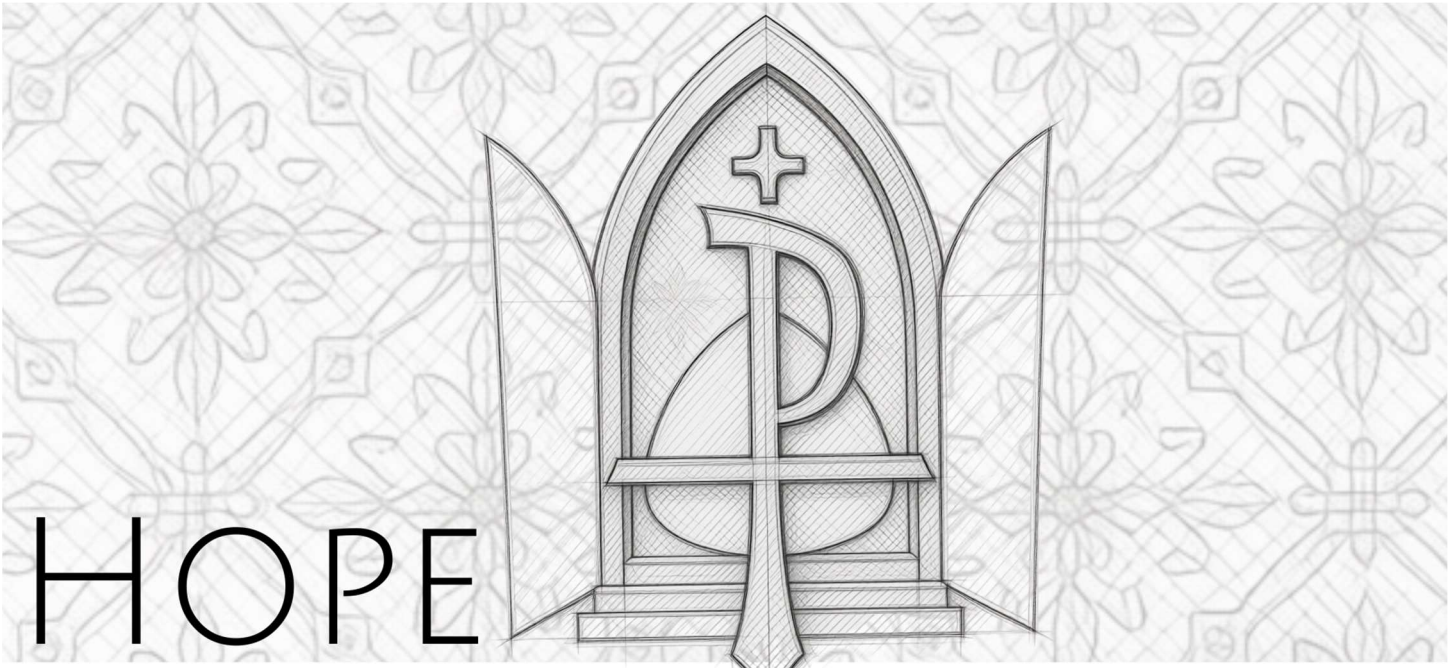


First Sunday of Advent November 29, 2026

Welcome to Emanuel's Lutheran Church!
We eagerly await the coming of Christmas and are glad you are with us today.

PRELUDE

GATHERING *The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God*

GATHERING HYMN "The King Shall Come" ELW 260

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who calls out to the weary, whose word endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: A voice cries out in the wilderness, "Make straight the way of the Lord!" We are called to confess our sin and turn back toward God's love. Comforting God,

C: we are your people, but we have neglected to call on your name. We are your people, but we have not remembered your ways. We are your people, but we have forgotten your hold on us. We are your people, but now we fade like a leaf, and our sins, like the wind, take us away. Restore us as your people. Cleanse us from our sin, and clothe us in your righteousness. Amen.

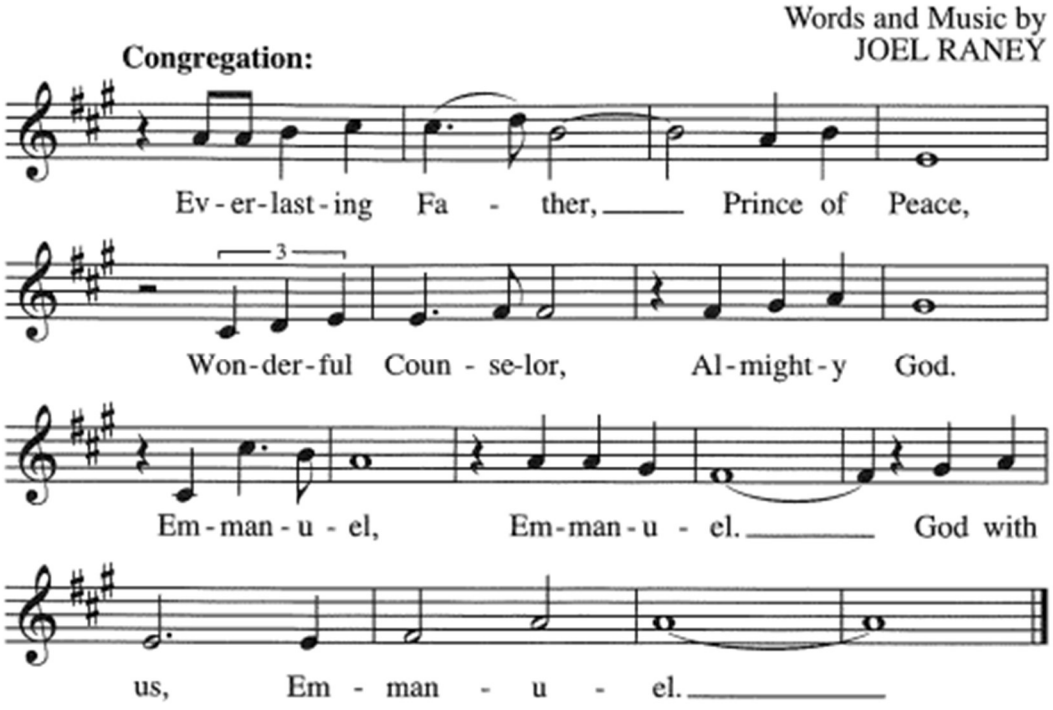
P: "Comfort, comfort my people!" says your God, who has clothed you with the garments of salvation and wrapped you in the robe of righteousness. God has given you a mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. In the name of ☩ Christ, your sins are forgiven:
Rejoice in the Lord!
Rejoice in the Lord!

C: Amen. Thanks be to God!

CANDLE LIGHTING "God With Us, Emmanuel"

The litany begins with the choir and bells.

AM: During Advent we wait for the coming Savior who is our Wonderful Counselor.
C: Cast your care on the Lord and he will sustain you.
AM: We anticipate the One who hears our prayers.
C: Cast your care on the Lord and he will sustain you.
AM: We anticipate the One who heals our infirmities.
C: Cast your care on the Lord and he will sustain you.
AM: We anticipate the One who renews our faith.
C: Cast your care on the Lord and he will sustain you.
AM: We anticipate the One who ignites our hope.
C: Cast your care on the Lord and he will sustain you.
P: Today we light the first candle. The first candle reminds us that Jesus our Wonderful Counselor who brings hope to a hurting world. As our counselor, Jesus brings hope in times of despair, compassion in times of sorrow, and healing in times of brokenness. As we begin the season of Advent, let our hope reside in the One who cares about our needs and sustains our faith.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

AM: Let us pray together.
C: Gracious Lord, we thank you for being our Wonderful Counselor. As we begin our Advent journey, help us to know the abiding hope that comes from knowing you. We pray this in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Children's Church: Kindergarten to 5th Grade gathers in the Chapel.

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

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 64:1-9

L: A reading from Isaiah.

1 O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would
quake at your presence— 2 as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to
boil— to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at
your presence! 3 When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down;
the mountains quaked at your presence. 4 From ages past no one has heard, no ear has
perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him.
5 You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you
were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. 6 We have all
become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all
fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. 7 There is no one who calls
on your name or attempts to take hold of you, for you have hidden your face from us and
have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. 8 Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are
the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. 9 Do not be exceedingly
angry, O LORD, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your
people.

The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 80:1-7, 17-19 *Congregation reads bold text.*

1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph | like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned up- | on the cherubim.
2 **In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, | and Manasseh,**
stir up your strength and | come to help us.
3 Restore | us, O God;
let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved.
4 **O LORD | God of hosts,**
how long will your anger fume when your people pray?
5 You have fed them with the bread of tears;
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
6 **You have made us the derision of our neighbors,**
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
7 Restore us, O God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.
17 **Let your hand be upon the one at your right hand,**
the one you have made so strong for yourself.
18 And so will we never turn away from you;
give us life, that we may call upon your name.
19 **Restore us, O LORD God of hosts;**
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

NEW TESTAMENT READING: Corinthians 1:3-9

L: A reading from Corinthians.

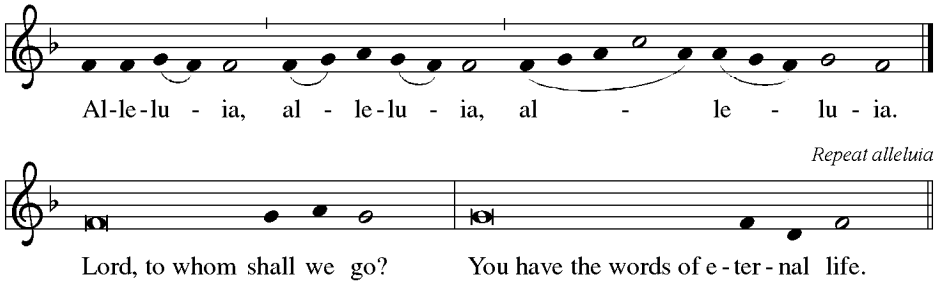
3 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

4 I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, 5 for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—6 just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—7 so that you are not lacking in any gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. 8 He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 God is faithful, by whom you were called into the partnership of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL READING: Mark 13:24-37

P: The holy gospel according to Mark.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] 24 "In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, 25 and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. 26 "Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. 27 Then he will send out the angels and gather the elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. 28 "From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. 29 So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. 30 Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. 31 Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. 32 "But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven nor the Son, but only the Father. 33 Beware, keep alert, for you do not know when the time will come. 34 It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch.
35 Therefore, keep awake, for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening or at midnight or at cockcrow or at dawn, 36 or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. 37 And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON "The God Who Breaks Through" Pastor Marcus

HYMN OF THE DAY "Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn" ELW 242

APOSTLES CREED
AM: Let us confess the faith of the church, using the words of the Apostles Creed.
C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.* On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION
AM: In hope and expectation, we bring to God our prayers for the church, the world, and all in need. Strengthen your church in this season of anticipation. Nourish all people who gather around word and water, bread and cup. Reassure any whose faith feels dry that you are always near.

Response to each petition: AM: God, in your mercy, **C: receive our prayer.**

AM: We entrust these and the prayers of our hearts to you, most holy God, in the name of Christ Jesus our Savior. **C: Amen.**

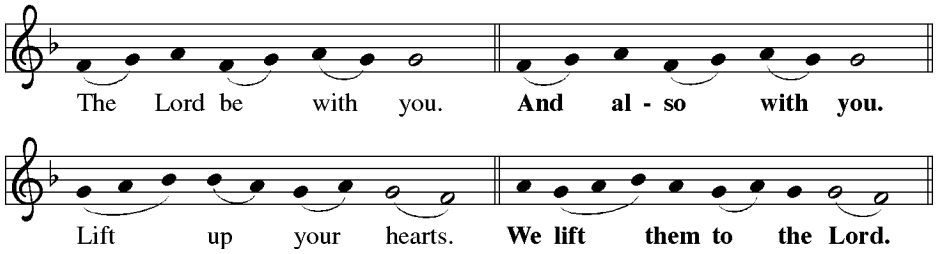
PEACE
P: The peace of Christ be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

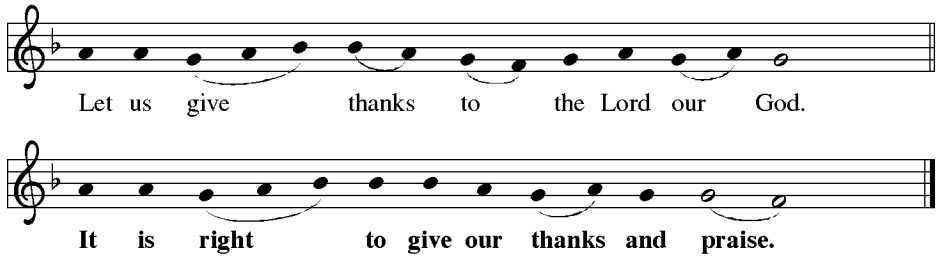
MEAL *God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ*

OFFERING HYMN "Jesus, Still Lead On" ELW 624
Giving information is located on the back of the bulletin.

OFFERING PRAYER
AM: Let us pray.
Holy Creator, we are the clay and you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand. Receive these gifts shape them and our lives for your purpose, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **C: Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING





EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

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

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.

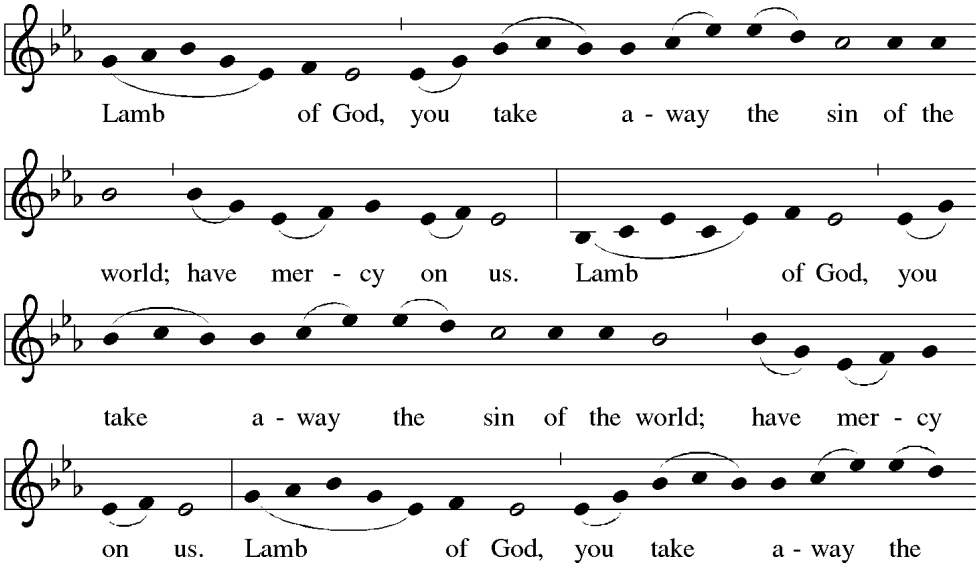
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

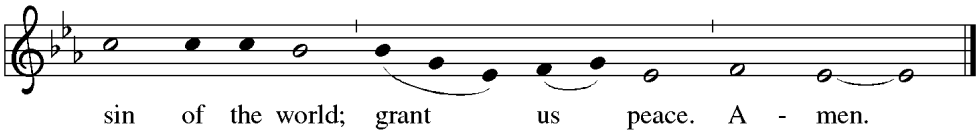
P: The glory of the Lord is revealed! Come and taste God's presence.

COMMUNION
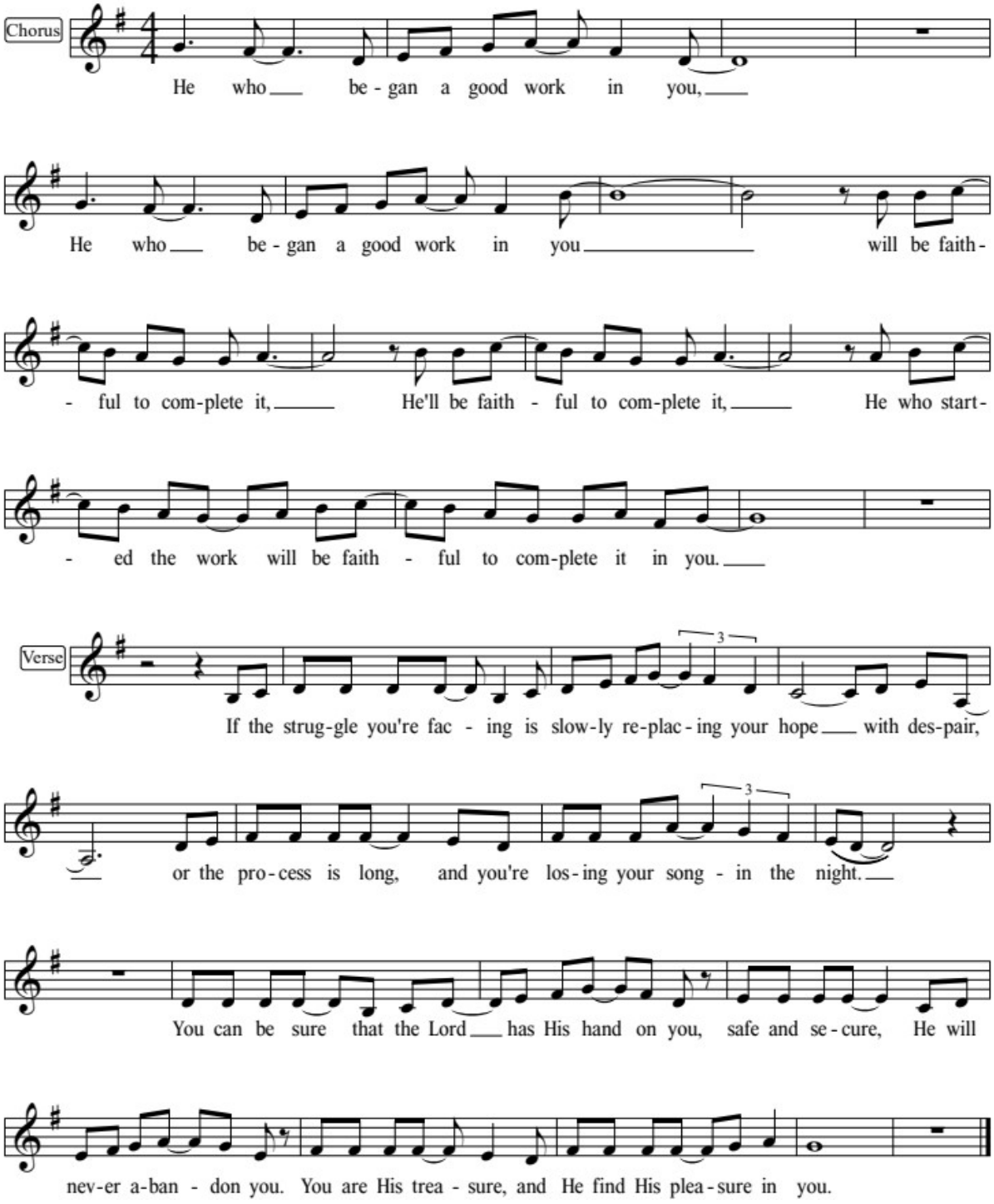
Communion will take place via continuous line (right side) and continuous kneeling (left side). We welcome all baptized persons to the Lord's Table who believe Christ is truly present in the bread and wine. Children are welcome to be brought forward to receive a blessing. Participants to the right will be offered a wafer and invited to eat with these words, "the body of Christ given for you." Gluten free wafers are available. Next, step to the right, to the silver tray that contains glasses of white grape juice at the center and outer empty glasses for wine. Lastly, participants will step to the last assistant who will pour the wine and share these words, "the blood of Christ shed for you." Place your glass in the small silver bowl at the end of the first pew as you return to your seat. If you wish to come forward and not receive either element, simply cross your arms for a blessing.

AGNUS DEI





COMMUNION HYMNS **"He Who Began a Good Work in You"** by Jon Mohr



"God Is the Strength of My Heart" by Eugene Greco
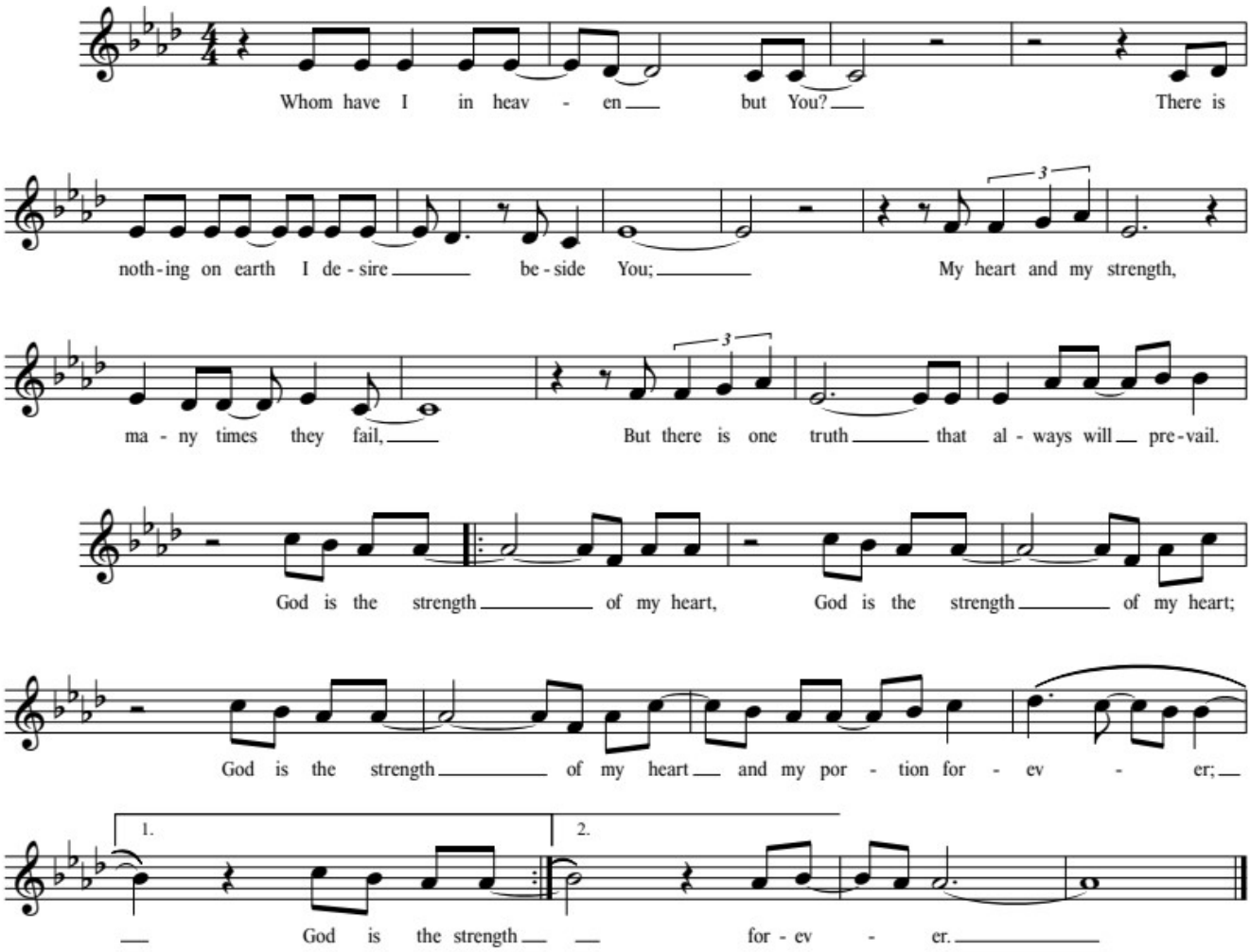


TABLE BLESSING

P: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

AM: Let us pray.

Providing God, you feed your flock like a shepherd and gather your people in your arms. We praise you for the care and sustenance you give at this meal and always. As we leave your table, carry us near your heart, and send us with confidence in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: Amen.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING
P: God our provider, God our feast, God our companion, ☩ bless you now and forever.
C: Amen

SENDING HYMN "Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding!" ELW 246

DISMISSAL
P: Go in peace. Bring good news the brokenhearted.
C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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SANCTUARY FLOWERS and RADIO BROADCASTS are sponsored by Emanuel's members. If you would like to remember or honor a loved one in this way, please call the church office, or sign up on the calendar on the Level 2 hallway. Fees and submission forms are in the narthex, the church office, and online. Thank you to everyone who participates in this meaningful worship ministry.

MUSICIANS: Ed Workmon, organ; Scott Sims, piano

WORSHIP LEADERS for the First Sunday of Advent, November 29, 2026: Preaching and Presiding: Pastor Marcus; **Assisting Minister:** Melissa Barbre; **Communion Assistants:** Marsha Schroeder, Karen Weinstein, Rissa Springs, Elizabeth Jandt; **Reader:** Tom Engler; **Ushers:** Allan Bode, Bill Meier, Ron Schneider, Needed; **Altar Guild:** Sandra Schneider, Nancy Meier, Natalia Almquist; **A/V Tech:** Jonathan Zitelman; **Council Greeter:** Natalia Almquist; **Chapel Greeter:** Drue Pike; **Safety Attendants:** TBD, Brandon May; **Hospitality:** Bev Seidenschwarz, Walt Seidenschwarz

WORSHIP LEADERS for the Second Sunday of Advent, December 6, 2026: Preaching: Pastor Rudy; **Presiding:** Pastor Marcus; **Assisting Minister:** Lory Alves; **Communion Assistants:** Carrie Moseley, Jeannie Hall, Earlene Jarzombek, Jeanne Palmer, Barbara McCall; **Reader:** Cathy Anderson; **Ushers:** Allan Bode, Bill Meier, Ron Schneider, Needed; **Altar Guild:** Carrie Moseley, Jeanne Palmer; **A/V Tech:** Kristen Bigott; **Council Greeter:** Darlene Zies; **Chapel Greeter:** Elaine Giesber; **Safety Attendants:** TBD; **Hospitality:** Nancy Meier, Bill Meier, Ilene Cherry, Pat Cherry

EMANUEL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY WORSHIP is in the sanctuary, online, and aired on KWED AM 1580 radio at 10:30 a.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT TO SHARE? Submit a brief, yet detailed description of your event to *info@elcseguin.org* on Mondays for consideration in the Weekly News and bulletin.

SUNDAY STUDIES:

- **THE HERITAGE CLASS.** Room 307 at 9:15am. Seeking to unlock the wisdom of the Bible through fellowship and robust group discussion. Fall Study: "Faith and Faithfulness"
- **5th SUNDAY STUDY: *How Shall I Receive You*, Lyrics and Tunes of Advent**. Family Life Center at 9:00am on November 29 with presenter Tom Engler.
- **JOY CLASS**: Bible stories and songs for adults with intellectual disabilities. Class meets one Sunday a month in the WMR at 9:00am.
- **CHILDREN'S CHURCH**: During worship Children's Ministry volunteers lead our PK to 5th graders to the Children's Church room, down the hall from the sanctuary, returning as we share the peace.
- **THE COMPASS COOPERATIVE** resumed Sunday gatherings August 30 with our church partners- Emanuel's, St. Andrew's, and Spirit of Joy - at Spirit of Joy campus. Middle School (6-8 grades) from 4-5:30pm, dinner for everyone at 5:30pm, and High School (9-12 grades) from 6-7:30pm. Contact Hannah@elcseguin.org to get on the email list for updates.

WEEKLY AND MONTHLY STUDIES AND PROGRAMS:

Chair Yoga with Gina (Family Life Center): Wednesdays at 9:00am
3C: Community-Connection-Conversation (Church Lawn): Tuesdays at 7:30am
The Wired Word (Family Life Center): on hiatus
Sweet Hour of Prayer (Family Life Center): Thursdays at 10am
Praying in Color (Women's Ministry Room): resumes in 2027
Pathways to Healing Grief Support (Family Life Center): 2nd Sunday at 2:00pm
Caregiver Café (Family Life Center): 3rd Sunday at 2:00pm
Katie's Kitchen (Fellowship Hall): 2nd Wednesdays at 5:00pm
Pub Theology (1916 Bar & Bistro): 3rd Thursday at 5:30pm
Iron & Ember Men's Group (Various places): 2nd Thursdays at 6:30pm
Unwind Women's Group (Windmill Farms): resumes in January
Faith Circle (Women's Ministry Rm):3rd Tuesdays at 2:00pm
Joy Circle (Women's Ministry Rm): 2nd Thursday at 9:30am
Ladies Aid (Women's Ministry Rm): 1st Wednesdays at 2:00pm

COUNCIL LISTENING SESSIONS: In preparation for our **Sunday, December 13, 2026 Annual Meeting** two learning and discussion sessions are scheduled for **Sunday, November 22** and **December 6,** at 9:00am in the Fellowship Hall. Discussion topics include, but are not limited to, the proposed 2027 budget, nominations for church council, and ministry programs for 2027. There will be plenty of time for questions and discussion.

ADVENT HYMN STUDY: "How Shall I Receive You" is a discussion of the lyrics and tunes of Advent on **Sunday, November 29** at 9am in the Engler Music Suites on Level 3 with Thomas Engler, Director of Music and Church Organist Emeritus.

BOTANICAL GARDENS CHRISTMAS LIGHTS! Join your Emanuel's family on **Saturday, December 5**, for a festive evening in San Antonio! We'll gather for dinner at 6:30 p.m. at The Ridge at the Hill (2119 N. IH-35, San Antonio) before heading to the San Antonio Botanical Garden for the Illuminate Light Tour at 8:00 p.m. Tickets are just $15 per person! Sign up in the Church Office, Narthex, or by emailing Pastor Marcus. All are welcome to join us for this wonderful evening of fellowship and holiday lights!

TLU VESPERS SERVICE is presented by the TLU School of Music on **December 4, 5 and 6** in Jackson Auditorium. *Journey to Peace* is a service of music and reflection that moves from the quiet, inward peace of the heart, toward the peace that came into the world at Christmas. Tickets are free but required. www.tlu.edu/vespers

CELEBRATING JENI'S RETIREMENT: At the end of this year, our Director of Finance, Jeni Payton, will retire after faithfully serving our church, day school, and our many ministries. Jeni's dedication, care, and countless contributions have been a tremendous blessing to our congregation, and her impact on our mission will be felt for years to come. While we will certainly miss her, we are deeply grateful for all she has given. Please join us on **Sunday, December 6**, as we celebrate Jeni, express our heartfelt appreciation, and wish her God's richest blessings in retirement!

LUTHERAN LUNCH BUNCH gathers **Sunday, December 6** after worship at El Patron Bar & Grill, 1003 TX Hwy 123, Seguin, TX 78155. With full hearts from the service and empty stomachs ready for fellowship, you're invited to dive into hearty meals, laughter, and lively conversation.

BELL RINGERS NEEDED FOR KETTLE CAMPAIGN. Emanuel's will participate in this year's Salvation Army Kettle Campaign on **Monday, December 7**, from 9am-5pm at the Walmart Home and Pharmacy entrance. Sign-up sheets are in the narthex. Lawn chairs available for those who wish to sit. If you have any questions, please call Frances Vinyard at 830-481-7726. Thank you for volunteering!

SENIOR SOCIAL BUS TRIP TO THE SAN ANTONIO RIVER WALK is **Thursday, December 10.** Our fabulous seniors will enjoy a meal at Casa Rio on the River Walk then continue the festivities on a barge ride to see the beautiful Christmas lights. Bus departs from Emanuel's at 4pm and returns by 9pm. Please contact Donna Simmons at donna@elcseguin.org for sign-up information and details.

BLUE SANTA AT EMANUEL'S! We are excited to once again host The Seguin Police Department Blue Santa giftwrapping in our Fellowship Hall Tuesday and Thursday evenings in December. Toys and gifts are collected throughout the city in November/December and will be wrapped by volunteers before being distributed to children in need by Christmas morning. Sign-up sheets with numerous opportunities to serve are in the Narthex. Details for each position will be emailed the week of your sign-up!

SHARE THE GOOD MOOs!!! With your donations, **poinsettias** will grace the sanctuary of Emanuel's this Christmas and ELCA Good Gifts will make a difference throughout the world. You may honor or remember a loved one by supporting the ELCA Good Gifts Project (any dollar amount or as indicated on the specific ornament) and/or with a red poinsettia ($15 each). Check out the decorated trees in the narthex and by the chapel. Forms and payments may be put in an envelope and placed in the offering basket, given to our advent tree attendants, or delivered to the church office. Online payments accepted. Deadline is Monday, December 14, 2026.



EMANUEL'S CONGREGATION COUNCIL
And Ministry Team Liaisons

President, Bryce Kennedy, *Outreach & Service Team*
Vice President, Sheila English, *Fellowship & Feast Team*
Secretary, Paul Sims, *Education Team*
Treasurer, Sharon Herbold
Natalia Almquist. *Day School Board Liaison*
Charles Jobe*, Safety and Property Team*
Tim Kent, *Fellowship & Feast Team*
Janelle Leon-Weinman, *Gather & Grow Team*
Bill Salt, *Education Team*
Rissa Springs*, Worship Team*
Darlene Zies, *Outreach & Service Team*

ALL TEAM MEETING NIGHT
TUESDAY, December 1
5:30pm in the Women's Ministry Room

All of Emanuel's Ministry Teams gather on a single evening to share a meal, collaborate, plan, and schedule upcoming events and ministry projects.

EMANUEL'S STAFF

Senior Pastor The Rev. Marcus Bigott
pastormarcus@elcseguin.org C: (830) 377-8643
Associate Pastor The Rev. Rudy Salazar, Jr.
pastorrudy@elcseguin.org C: (210) 387-5677
Visitation Pastor - San Antonio
The Rev. Darwin Huartson, *dhuartson@icloud.com*
Day School Director
Tori Ferson, O: (830) 372-0332 *tferson@elcseguin.org*
Office and Campus Administrator
Sherry Hardwick, *sherry@elcseguin.org*
Director of Finance
Jeni Payton, *jeni@elcseguin.org*
Director of Choirs
Scott Sims, *scott@elcseguin.org*
Principal Organist & Accompanist
Edward Workmon, *edward@elcseguin.org*
Director of Community Education & Senior Ministry
Donna Simmons**,** *donna@elcseguin.org*
Compass Cooperative Program Director
Hannah Hansen**,** *hannah@elcseguin.org*
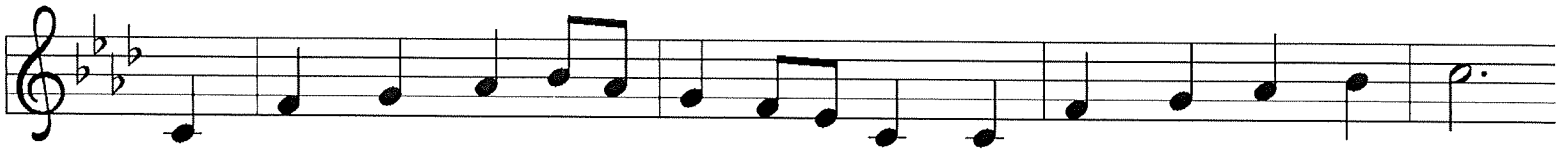
EMANUEL'S MISSION STATEMENT: "To be the church God is calling us to be by declaring God's love, serving others, and embracing all."

GIVE HERE
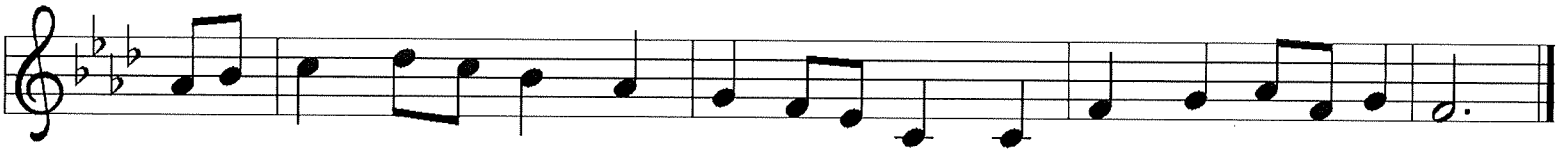
GIVING AT EMANUEL'S: Donations and tithes to the church may be given by envelopes in the pews, mailed to the church, online, or scanned with QR Code.

Emanuel's Lutheran Church
A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
206 North Travis Street | Seguin, Texas 78155
(830) 379-5046 | info@elcseguin.org
Church office is open Monday-Thursday from 8-5
www.EmanuelsLutheranChurch.com

The King Shall Come



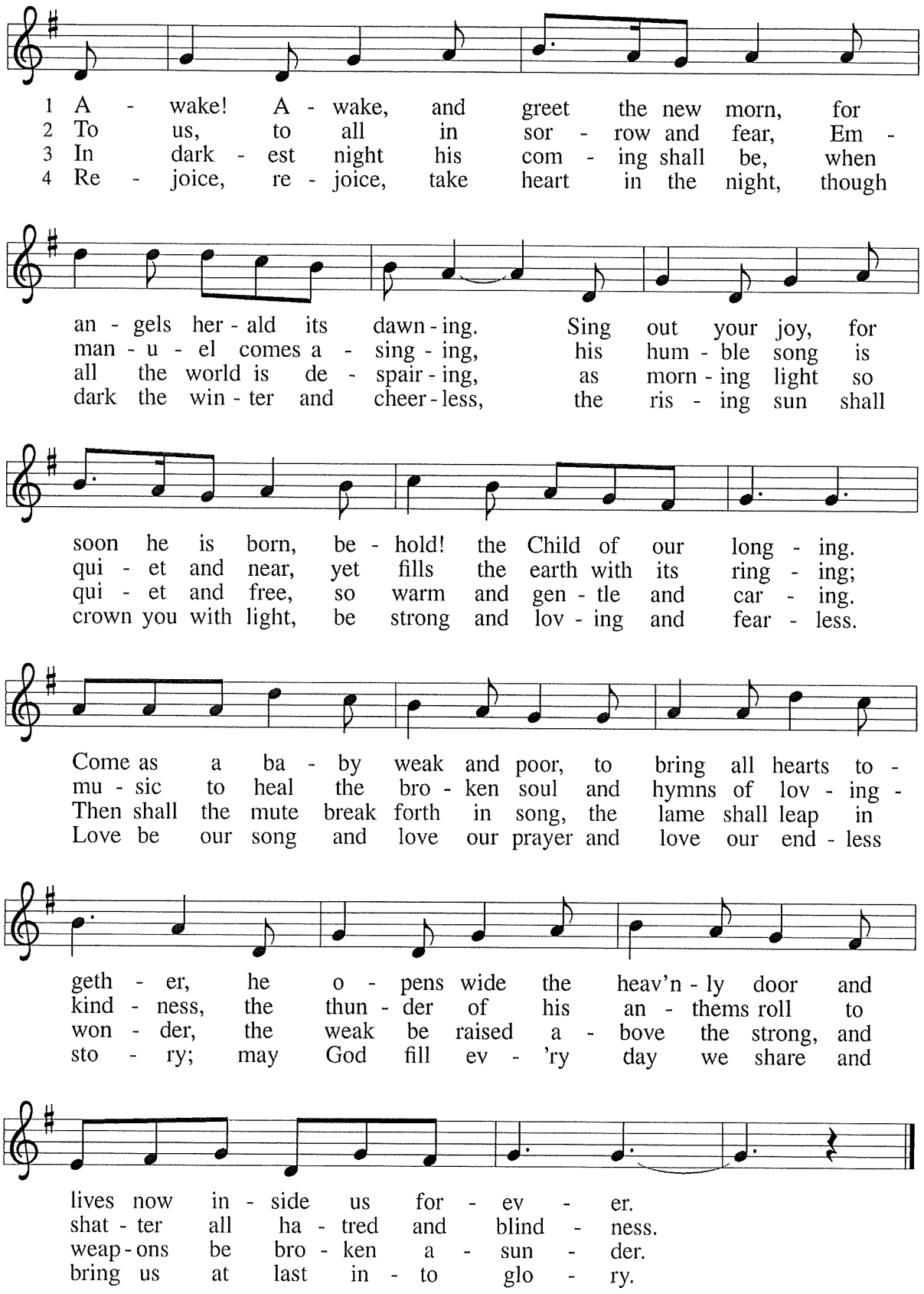
1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light tri - um-phant breaks,
2 Not as of old a lit - tle child, to bear and fight and die,
3 Oh, bright - er than the ris - ing morn when Christ, vic - to - rious, rose
4 Oh, bright - er than that glo - rious morn shall dawn up - on our race
5 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light and beau - ty brings.



when beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills and life to joy a - wakes.
but crowned with glo - ry like the sun that lights the morn-ing sky.
and left the lone-some place of death, de - spite the rage of foes.
the day when Christ in splen-dor comes, and we shall see his face.
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your peo - ple pray: come quick-ly, King of kings.

Text: John Brownlie, 1859–1925
Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davisson, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816
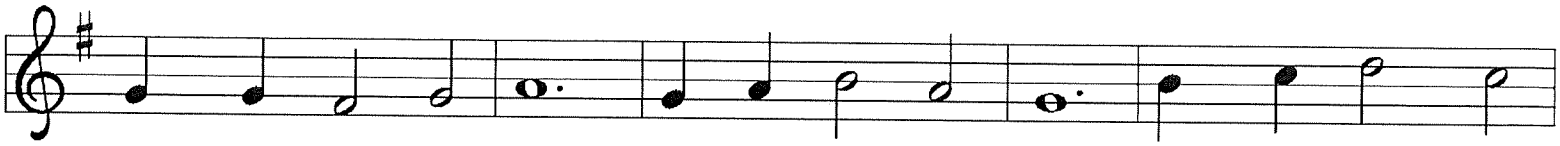
Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn
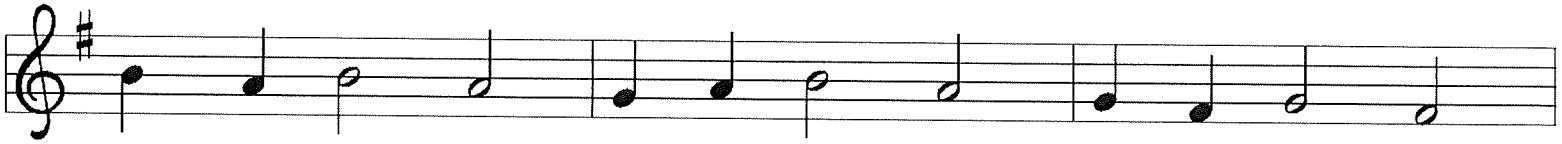


Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
Music: REJOICE, REJOICE, Marty Haugen
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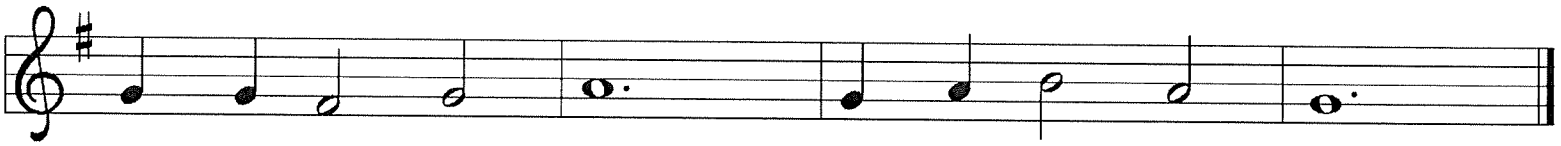
Jesus, Still Lead On



1 Je - sus, still lead on, till our rest be won; and, al - though the
2 If the way be drear, if the foe be near, let no faith - less
3 When we seek re - lief from a long - felt grief, when temp - ta - tions
4 Je - sus, still lead on, till our rest be won; heav'n - ly lead - er,
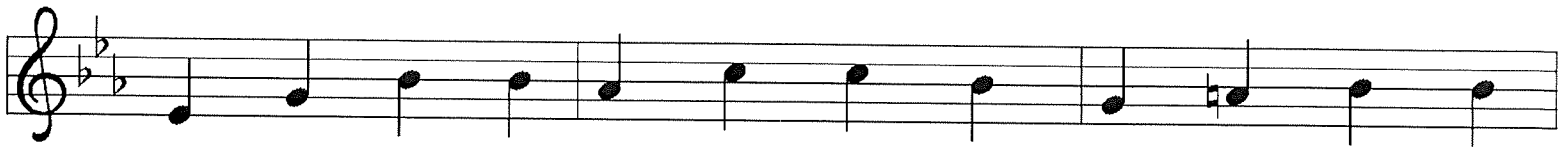


way be cheer - less, we will fol - low, calm and fear - less;
fears o'er - take us, let not faith and hope for - sake us;
come al - lur - ing make us pa - tient and en - dur - ing;
still di - rect us, still sup - port, con - sole, pro - tect us,
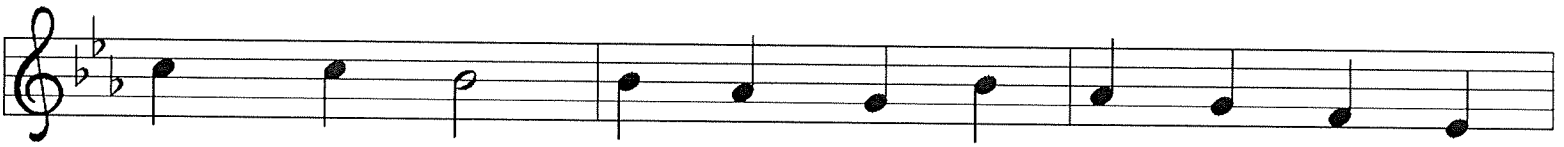


guide us by your hand to the prom - ised land.
safe - ly past the foe to our home we go.
show us that bright shore where we weep no more.
till we safe - ly stand in the prom - ised land.

Text: Nicolaus L. von Zinzendorf, 1700–1760; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813–1897, alt.
Music: SEELENBRÄUTIGAM, Adam Drese, 1620–1701

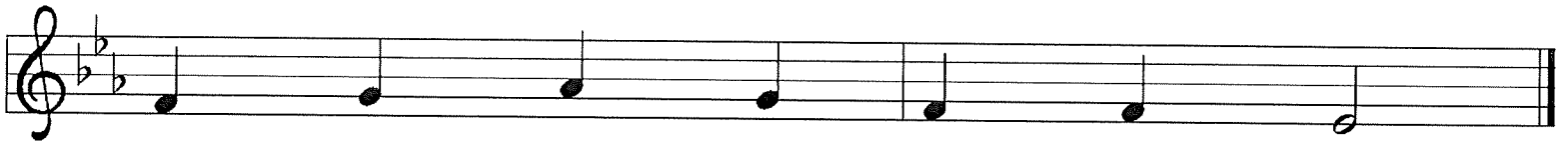
Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding!



1 Hark! a thrill - ing voice is sound - ing! "Christ is near," we
2 Wak - ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth's bond - age
3 See the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, come with par - don
4 So, when next he comes in glo - ry and the world is
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther



hear it say. "Cast a - way the works of dark - ness,
let us rise; Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling,
down from heav'n. Let us haste, with tears of sor - row,
wrapped in fear, he will shield us with his mer - cy
and the Son with the ev - er - last - ing Spir - it



all you chil - dren of the day!"
shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
one and all, to be for - giv'n;
and with words of love draw near.
while un - end - ing a - ges run!

Text: Latin hymn, 1632; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–1878
Music: MERTON , William H. Monk, 1823–1889