The First Sunday of Advent

November 29, 2026



Shepherd of the Hills LC

The Rev. Richard T. Egtvedt

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WELCOME

PRELUDE:

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

C: Amen.

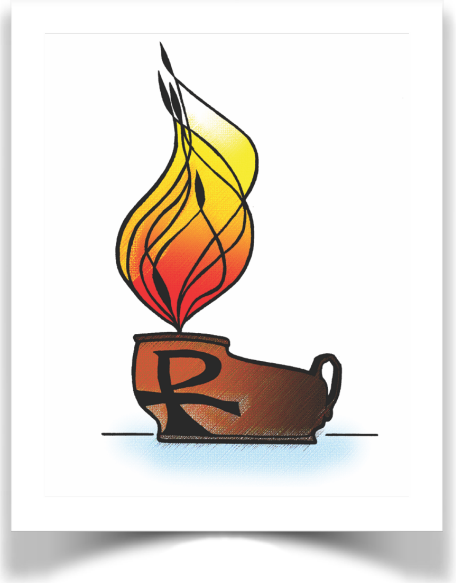
P:A voice cries out in the wilderness, “Make straight the way of the Lord!” We are called to confess our sin and turn back toward God’s love.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: 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.

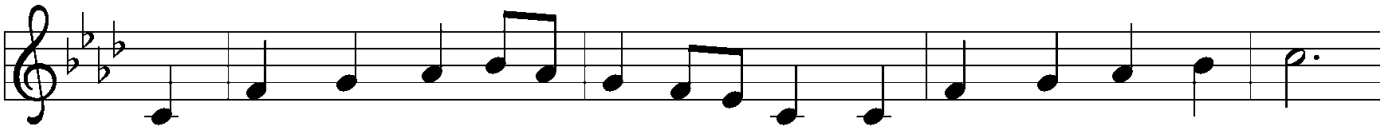
P: “Comfort, comfort my people!” says your God, who has clothed you with the garments of salvation and wrapped you in the robe of righteousness. God has given you a mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. In the name of ☩ Christ, your sins are forgiven: Rejoice in the Lord! Rejoice in the Lord!

C: Amen. Thanks be to God!

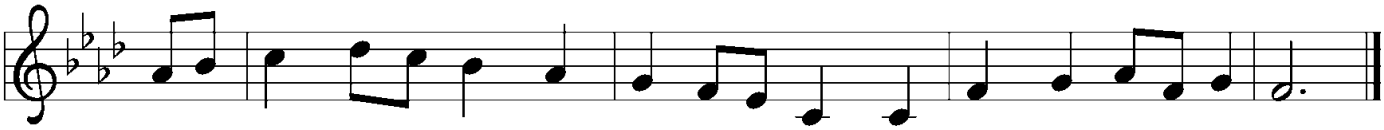


GATHERING HYMN:

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

GREETING:
P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
C: And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" Beth Mankin

O come, O come, Emmanuel
And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear

Refrain:
Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel

O come, O Wisdom from on high
And cheer us by Your drawing nigh
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night
And death's dark shadows put to flight

(Guitar interlude, scripture is read)

Refrain x2

O come, O come Emmanuel, Emmanuel
O come, O come, Emmanuel, Emmanuel

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

A: Let us pray. Praise to you, O God, our salvation who is near. You hold us in our waiting and keep us awake to the world. You show up in our lives at unexpected times. Bless us as we light this candle to keep vigil for your arrival. We trust that even though we do not know the day or the hour, you hurry to gather all people to your peace.

C: Amen. *(The first candle is lit.)*

The refrain of O come, O come, Emmanuel is sung:
Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel
Shall come to you, O Israel.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

WORD

THE FIRST READING: Isaiah 64:1-9

This lament comes from a people who have had their hopes shattered. The visions of a rebuilt Jerusalem and a renewed people of God, spoken of in Isaiah 40–55, have not been realized. Instead, the people experience ruin, conflict, and famine. This lament calls God to account—to be the God who has brought deliverance in the past.

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.

A: The Word of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19 *(Read responsively)*

1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon 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.

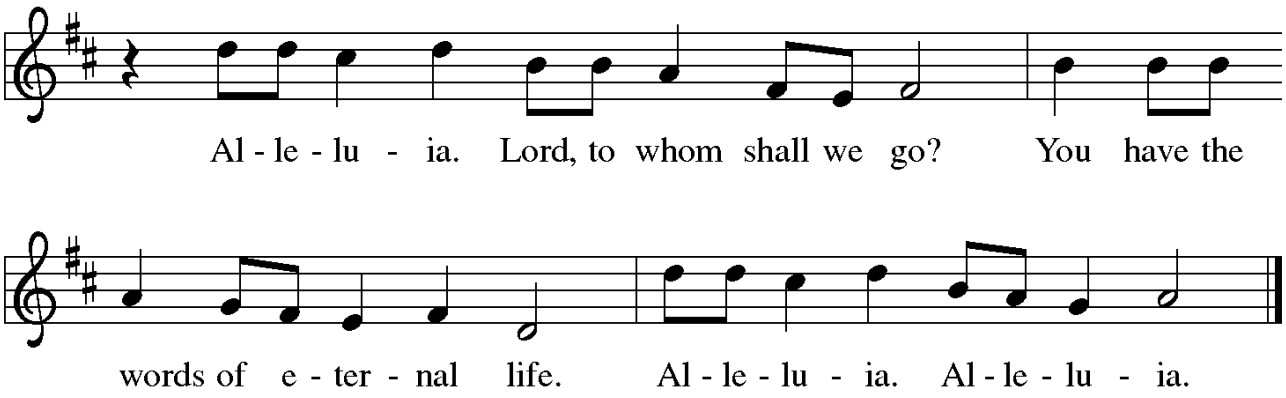
THE SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:4-9

As the Christians in Corinth await the advent of Jesus, Paul reminds them how the Lord has already enriched them through spiritual gifts and will continue to strengthen them until the coming day of the Lord.

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.

A: The Word of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:



THE GOSPEL READING: Mark 13:24-37

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 24th chapter.
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.

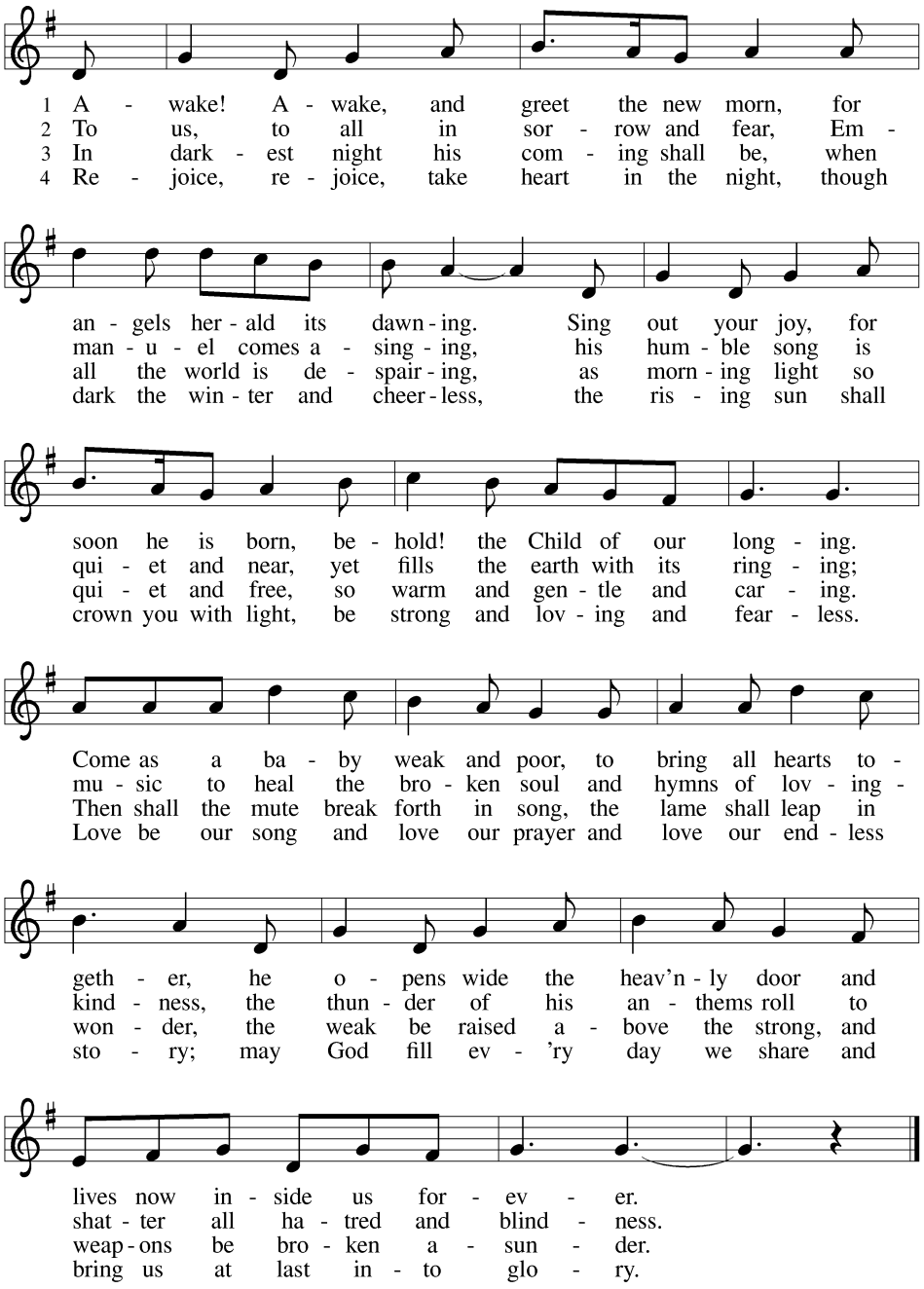
32 "But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven nor the Son, but only the Father. 33 Beware, keep alert, for you do not know when the time will come. 34 It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the 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."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.
C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON: Pastor Jim Luedeke

HYMN OF THE DAY:

Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn



Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
Music: REJOICE, REJOICE, Marty Haugen
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THE CREED
P: Let us confess our faith 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

A: God, in your mercy, **C: receive our prayer.**
P: We entrust these …. **C. Amen.**

Prayer Concern List:

Sam	Randy	Susie	Chris	Mary	Patsy	Bob & Pam
Mike	George	Jerry	Dan	Steve	Greg	Donna
Willard	Scott.	Jack	Leslie	Amanda	Reid	Beth
Steve	Mary					

THE PEACE:

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

OFFERING: *(**DONATIONS** can either be mailed to Shepherd of the Hills, P.O. Box 374, McHenry, MD 21541 or you may donate online using this link:* **https://www.paypal.com/donate/?cmd=_s-xclick&hosted_button_id=YXL6294BDZ82E***)*

OFFERING PRAYER:

P: 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.

MEAL

DIALOG:

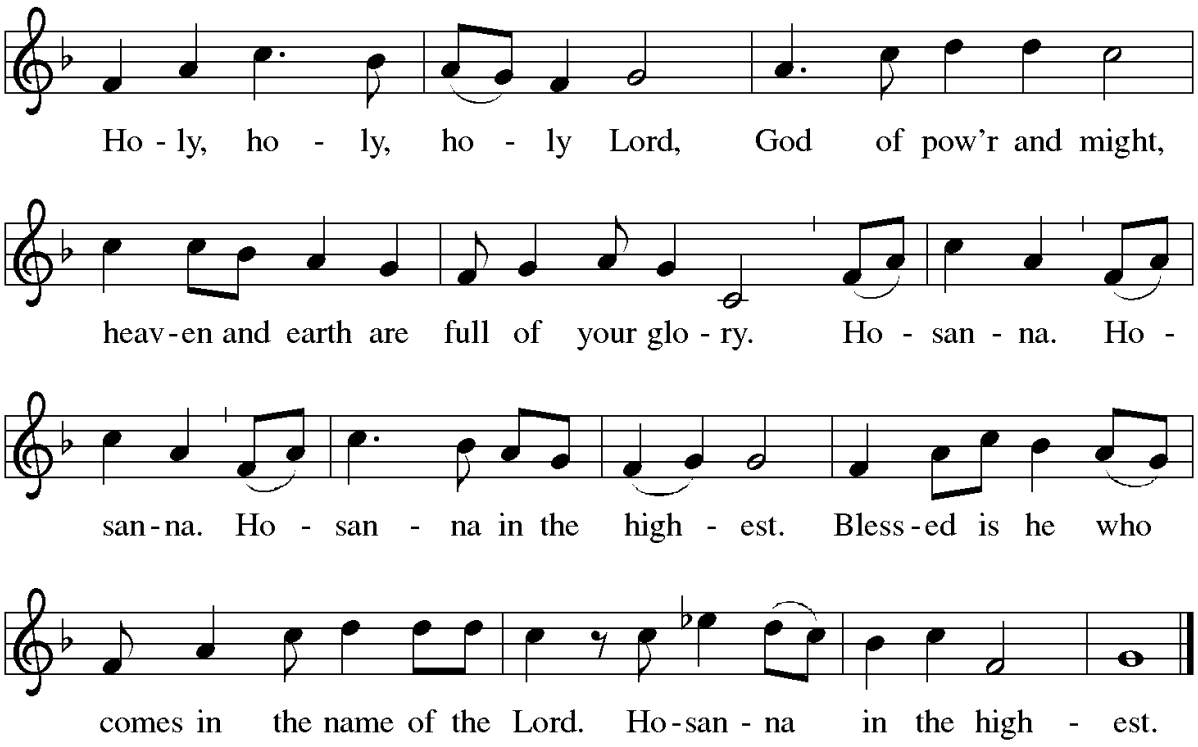
P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

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:

P: 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. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. 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:



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER:

P: Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:
C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.
C: Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.
C: Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.
C: Amen.

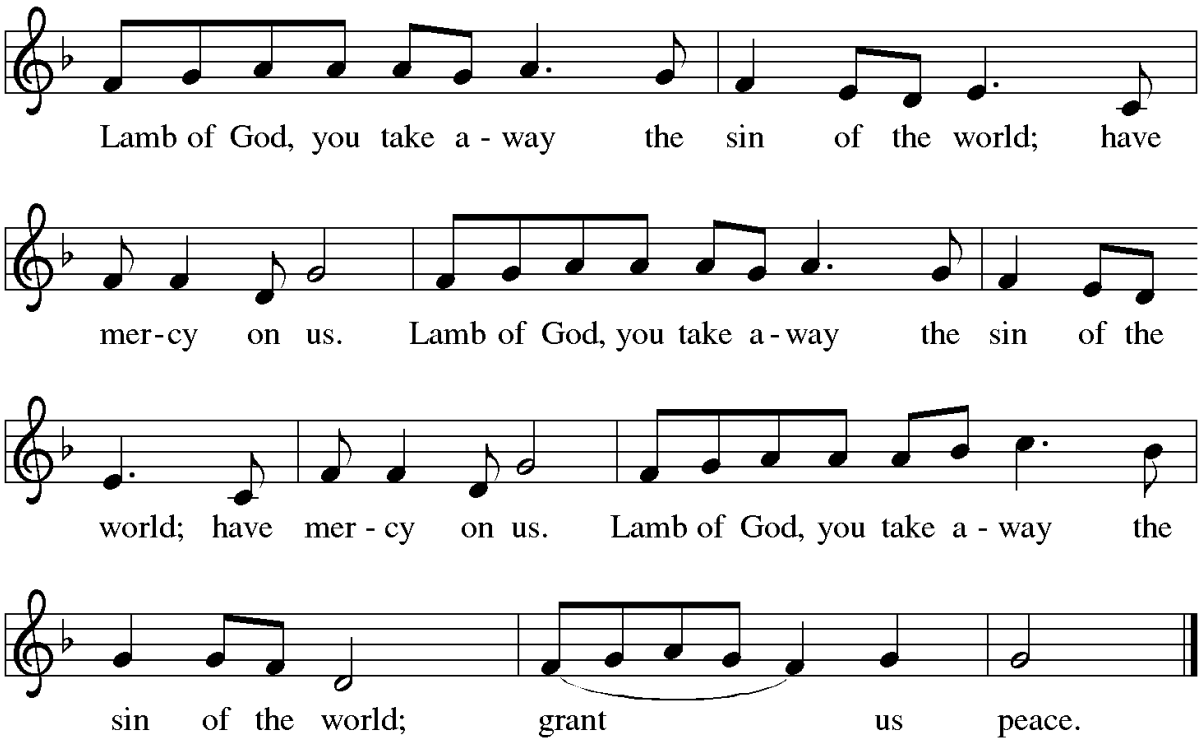
P: Let us pray in confidence with the words our Lord taught us:

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:

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

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION





MUSIC DURING COMMUNION: "Jesus Messiah" Beth Mankin

He became sin
Who knew no sin
That we might become His Righteousness
He humbled himself and carried the cross
Love so amazing
Love so amazing

Chorus:
Jesus Messiah
Name above all names
Blessed Redeemer
Emmanuel
The rescue for sinners
The ransom from Heaven
Jesus Messiah
Lord of all

His body the bread
His blood the wine
Broken and poured out all for love
The whole earth trembled
And the veil was torn
Love so amazing
Love so amazing, yeah

Chorus

Bridge:
All our hope is in You
All our hope is in You
All the glory to You, God
The light of the world

Jesus Messiah
Name above all names
Blessed Redeemer
Emmanuel
The rescue for sinners
The ransom from Heaven

Tag:
Jesus Messiah
Lord of all
Jesus Messiah
Lord of all
You're the Lord of all!
The Lord of all

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:

A: 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.

BLESSING

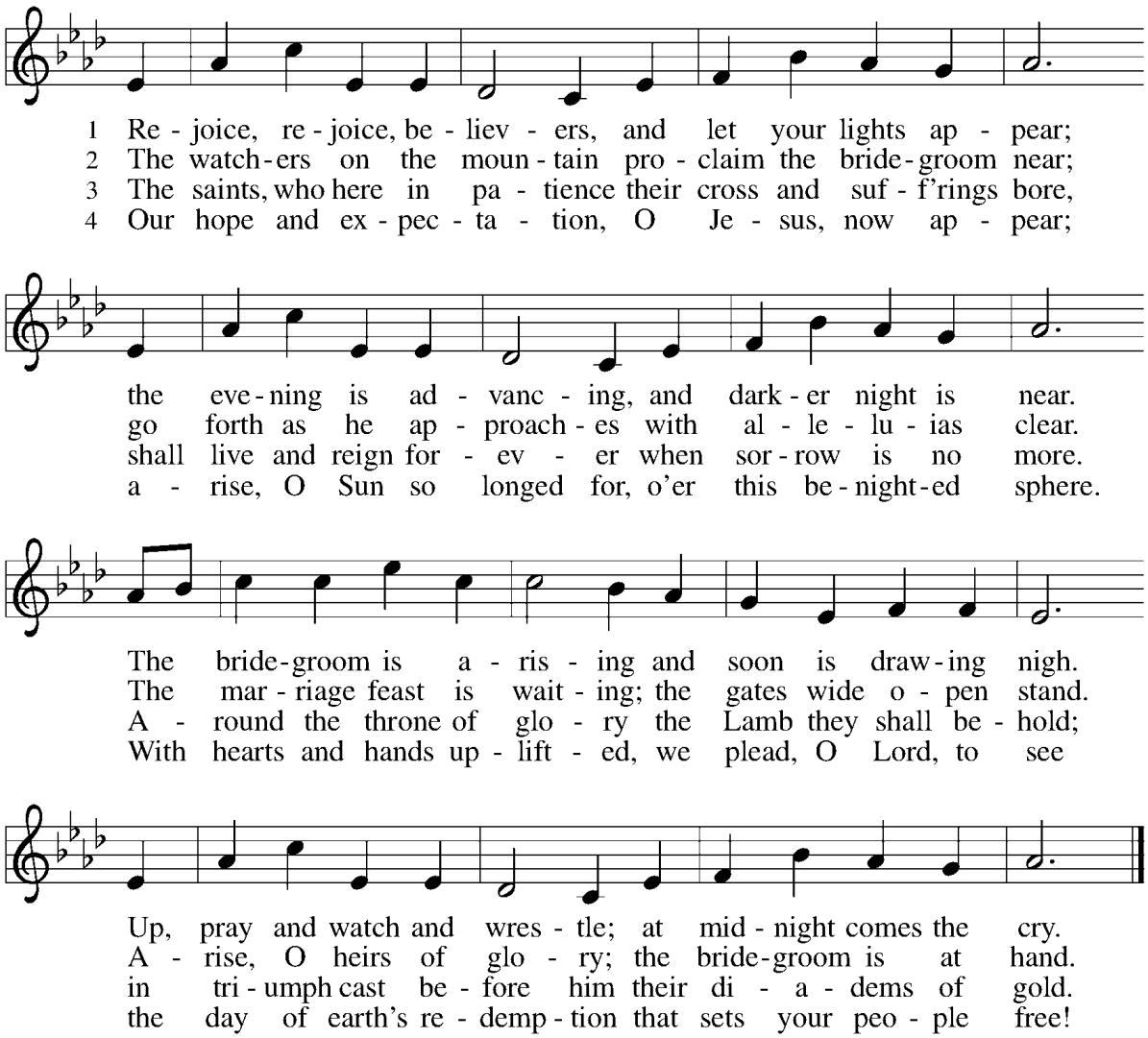
P: God our provider, God our feast, God our companion, ☩ bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.



SENDING HYMN:

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers



Text: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660–1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823–1907
Music: HAF TRONES LAMPA FÄRDIG, Swedish folk tune

A: Let us remind ourselves of Shepherd of the Hills' Statement of Purpose:

C: God's purpose for Shepherd of the Hills is to live in witness to Jesus Christ, helping one another to experience God's life-changing love, proclaiming the Gospel, and welcoming the diverse community at Deep Creek Lake.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL:

A: Go in peace. Keep awake!

C: Thanks be to God!

