

# THE ADVENT OF TRUE POWER

DEVIN SMITH

JOHN 20: 22-23

REFORMATION COVENANT CHURCH  
WORSHIPPING OUR REIGNING SAVIOR  
1201 JQ ADAMS ST. OREGON CITY, OR 97045

2019  
FOURTH ADVENT  
SUNDAY

# WELCOME

## TO REFORMATION COVENANT CHURCH

**WE** ARE GLAD YOU ARE JOINING US TODAY as we worship our great and gracious God, and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. If this is your first time with us, allow us to introduce ourselves.

**Worship Service.** Our weekly service follows a responsive pattern of worship found in Scripture, as a dialogue or conversation between the Lord and His people. Here God meets with us, speaks to us, and blesses us; we speak and respond back to Him in praise, thanksgiving, and renewed commitment.

**Communion.** Each week at RCC we celebrate the Lord's Supper, receiving bread and wine as covenantal tokens of Jesus' body and blood. Christians – young or old – who are baptized, and are in good standing in Christ, are invited to partake.

To facilitate Communion distribution, we encourage a representative of each household or group to come forward using the outer aisles to receive the Communion elements. Gluten-free bread is available on the pulpit side.

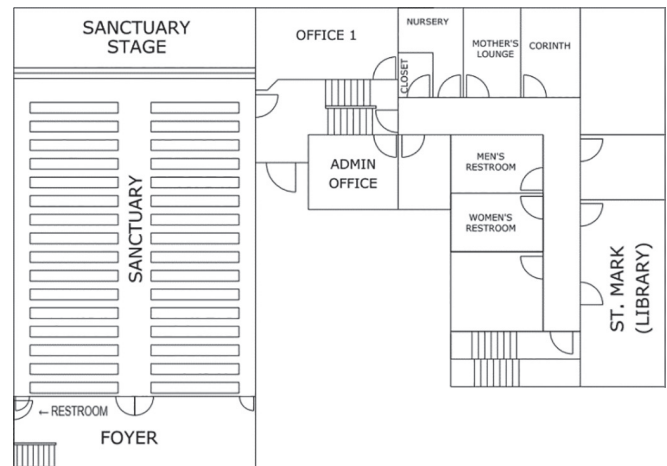
**Nursery.** We love having children involved in the whole service. Please don't worry if someone with you is wiggly – we are glad to have you all worshipping with us! During the sermon, nursery care is available for children two and under. There is a Nursing Mother's

room located adjacent to our Nursery, if you feel you need quiet or privacy. A video feed of the service can be viewed here, as well as in the Fellowship Hall below the sanctuary.

**Restrooms.** Restrooms are located down the stairs from the Foyer and in the educational wing.

**Weekly Meal.** Every week RCC hosts a weekly Agape meal after the service (served as a potluck). We always have plenty of food, and would love for you to join us for fellowship after worship!

**Contact.** If you would like us to contact you this week, please leave your name, phone number, and/or email below, and give this page to one of our Greeters, Deacons, or Elders.



*SOLI DEO GLORIA* ~ TO GOD ALONE BE THE GLORY!

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

**REFORMATION COVENANT CHURCH • [www.ReformationCovenantChurch.org](http://www.ReformationCovenantChurch.org)**

**ELDERS:** Gary Barnard, Bo Cogbill, Matt Dau, Michael Lortz, Roger Payne, George Shubin

**DEACONS:** Jeff Cone, Daniel Forster, Bryan Hangartner, Dave Tooze

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### Angels from the Realms of Glory

Matt. 2: 2

James Montgomery, 1816, 1825, ab.

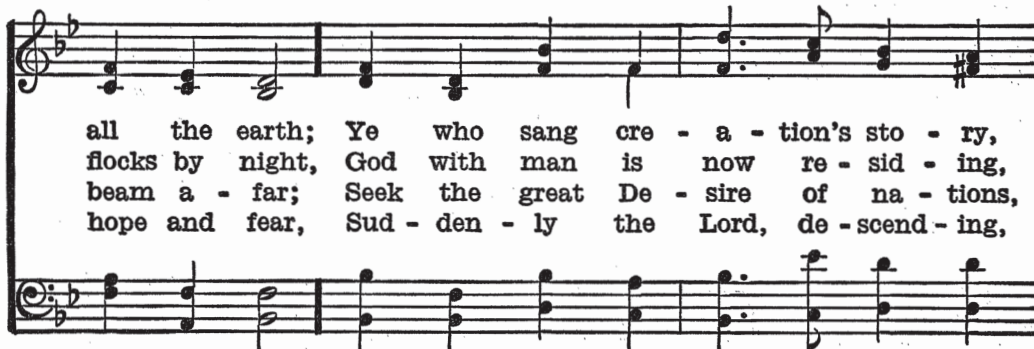
8. 7. 8. 7. 4. 4. 7.

Regent Square

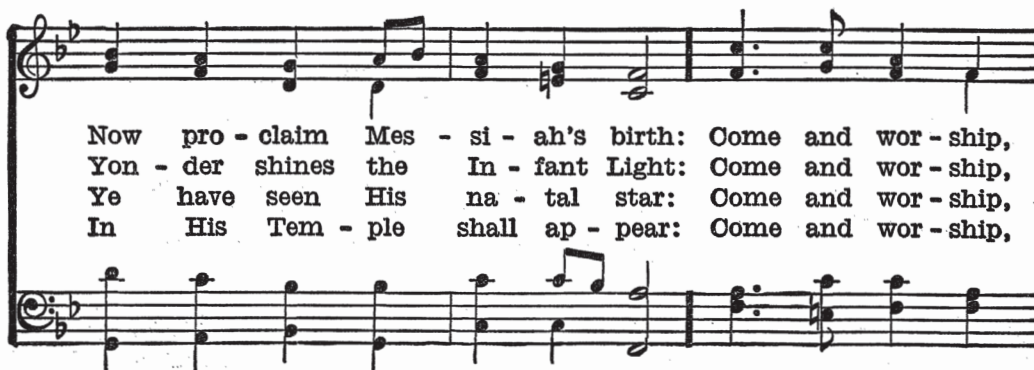
Henry Smart, 1867



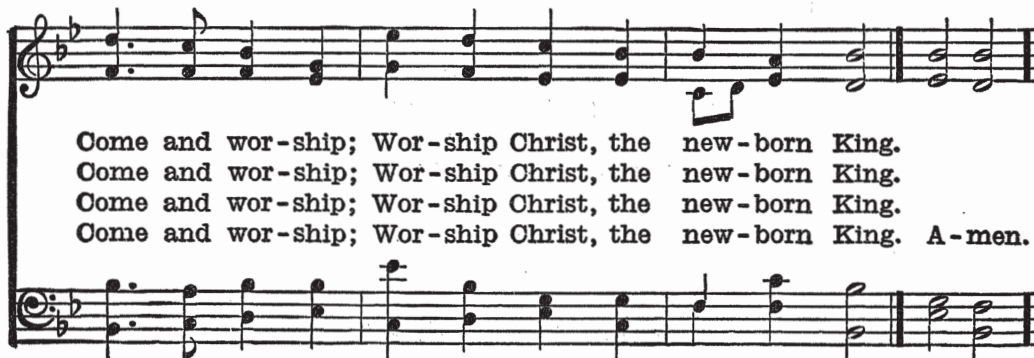
1 An - gels from the realms of glo - ry, Wing your flight o'er  
 2 Shep - herds in the fields a - bid - ing, Watch - ing o'er your  
 3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, Bright - er vi - sions  
 4 Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, Watch - ing long in



all the earth; Ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,  
 flocks by night, God with man is now re - sid - ing,  
 beam a - far; Seek the great De - sire of na - tions,  
 hope and fear, Sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing,



Now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth: Come and wor - ship,  
 Yon - der shines the In - fant Light: Come and wor - ship,  
 Ye have seen His na - tal star: Come and wor - ship,  
 In His Tem - ple shall ap - pear: Come and wor - ship,



Come and wor - ship; Wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.  
 Come and wor - ship; Wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.  
 Come and wor - ship; Wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.  
 Come and wor - ship; Wor - ship Christ, the new - born King. A - men.

Pastor: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit!

☞ Congregation: Amen!

*Matthew 28:19*

The LORD be with you!

*Ruth 2:4*

☞ And also with you!

Unto us a Child is born;

*Isaiah 9:6*

☞ Unto us a Son is given!

And the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called,

☞ Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace!

## THE LORD CLEANSSES US IN CHRIST

*purification offering, gift of glory*

“He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him.”

*John 1:10–11*

Beloved, our Lord has invited us to draw near to him with an honest heart. He has graciously promised to receive all those who come to him with heavy burdens of guilt and shame. Therefore I exhort all who are here today to accompany me with a pure heart and a humble voice, unto the throne of heavenly grace.

SILENT CONFESSION

☞ Most merciful God, I confess to you that I am by nature sinful and unclean, and that I am most miserably helpless before my adversaries. I have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed; not only in outward transgressions, but also in secret thoughts and desires that I am not able to understand, but which are all known to you. For this reason, I flee for refuge to your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring your forgiveness and deliverance, through my Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

JOINT CONFESSION

“But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.”

*John 1:12–14*

Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for your sins and to be raised for your justification; and for His sake forgives you all your sins. This I declare in the name and authority of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. ☞ Amen



Hal - le - lu - yah! Praise to God the Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it!

Glo - ry to You, O Lord, both now and for - ev - er, Hal - le - lu - yah!



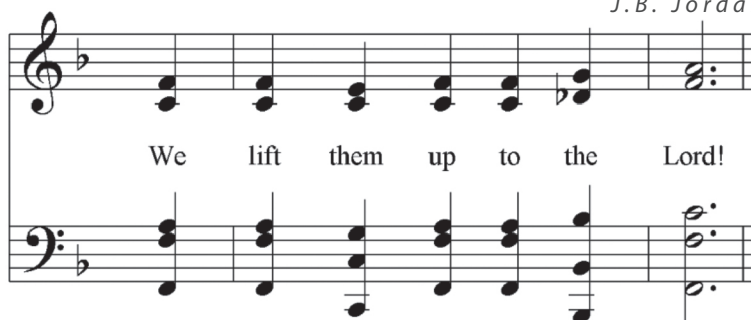
CONSECRATES US BY HIS WORD  
*ascension offering, gift of knowledge*

**SURSUM CORDA** — *lift up your heart*

Lift up your hearts!

*J.B. Jordan*

PASTOR LEADS LIFTING  
 UP OF YOUR HANDS



We lift them up to the Lord!

Let us give thanks to the LORD, our God!

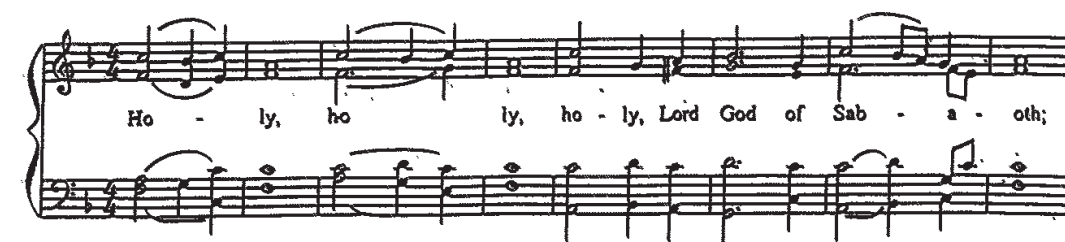


It is pro - per and right to do so.

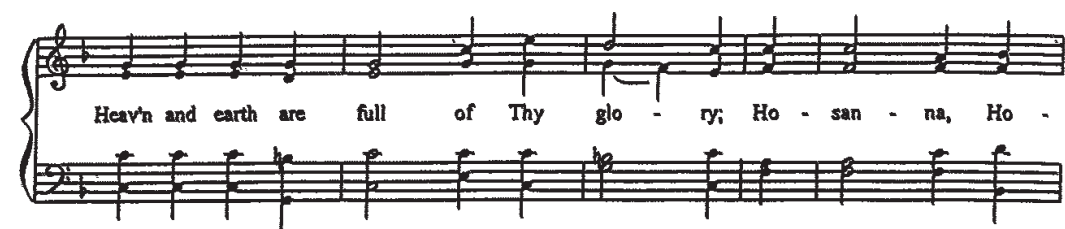
It is truly proper, right, wholesome, and beneficial that we should at all times, and in all places, give praise unto Thee, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God. Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify Thy glorious Name; evermore worshipping Thee!

PASTOR SPEAKS

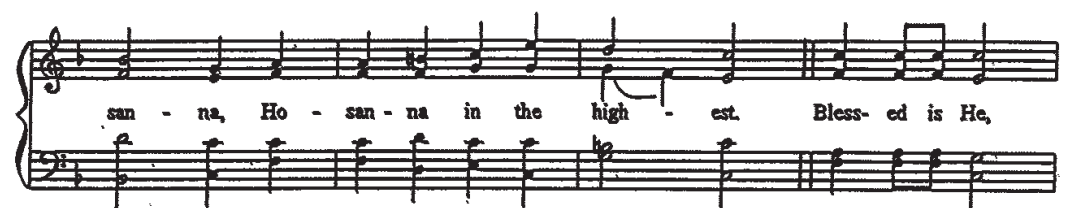
## SANCTUS



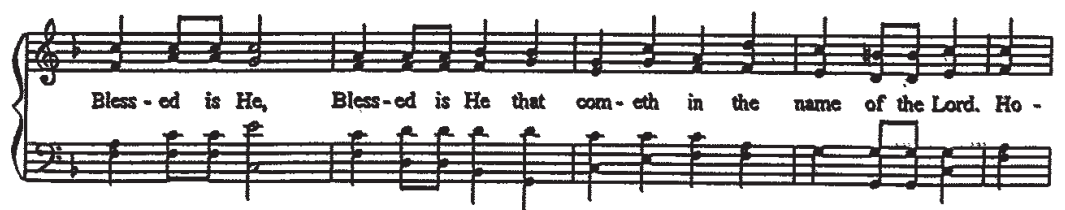
Ho - ly, ho ly, ho - ly, Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



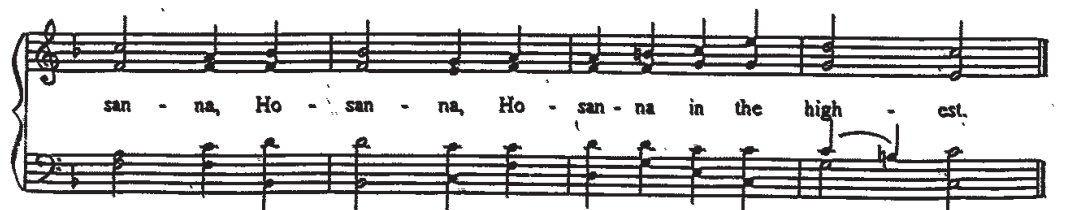
Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry; Ho - san - na, Ho -



san - na, Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



Bless - ed is He, Bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na, Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

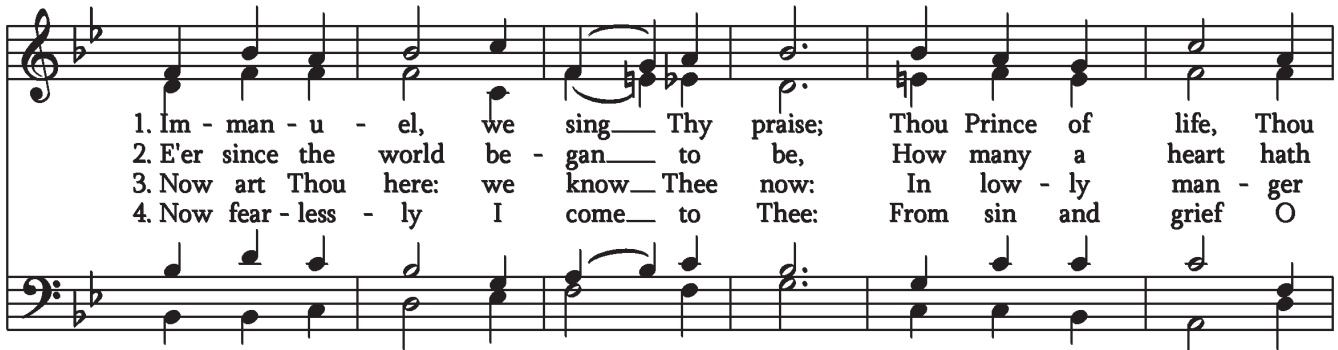
# Immanuel, We Sing Thy Praise

GERMANY (L. M.)

William Gardiner, *Sacred Melodies*, 1815

Paul Gerhardt, 1653

tr. Ludolph E. Schlicht, 1714-1769



1. Im - man - u - el, we sing Thy praise; Thou Prince of life, Thou  
 2. E'er since the world be - gan to be, How many a heart hath  
 3. Now art Thou here: we know Thee now: In low - ly man - ger  
 4. Now fear - less - ly I come to Thee: From sin and grief O



Fount - of grace, With all Thy saints, Thee, Lord, we  
 longed for Thee! And Thou, O long ex - pec - ted things  
 li - est Thou: A Child, yet mak - est all death de -  
 set me free! Turn wrath a - way, dread death de -



sing; Praise, hon - or, thanks, to Thee we bring.  
 guest Hast come at the last to make us blest.  
 great; Poor, yet at the earth Thy robe of state.  
 stroy, And turn my sor - row in to joy.

## PHILIPPIANS 2:5-11

<sup>5</sup> Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus,

☞ <sup>6</sup> Who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped,

<sup>7</sup> But emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant,

☞ Being born in the likeness of men.

<sup>8</sup> And being found in human form, he humbled himself

☞ By becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

<sup>9</sup> Therefore God has highly exalted him

☞ And bestowed on him the name that is above every name,

<sup>10</sup> So that at the name of Jesus

☞ Every knee should bow,

In heaven and on earth

☞ And under the earth,

<sup>11</sup> And every tongue confess

☞ That Jesus Christ is Lord,

☞ ALL: To the glory of God the Father.

PASTOR STARTS

CONGREGATION  
RESPONDS



## Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

MEDELSSOHN (7 7 7 7 . 7 7 7 7 . 7 7)  
Felix Mendelssohn, 1840  
arr. William Hayman Cummings, 1855

Charles Wesley, 1739; alt.

1. Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born King;  
2. Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord;  
3. Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Right - eous - ness!

Peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"  
Late in time, be - hold Him come, Off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.  
Light and life to all He brings, Ris'n with heal - ing in His wings.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions rise, Join the tri - umph of the skies;  
Veiled in flesh the God - head see; Hail th'in - car - nate De - i - ty,  
Mild He lays His glo - ry by, Born that man no more may die,

With th'an - gel - ic host pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"  
Pleased as man with men to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el.  
Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them sec - ond birth.

Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born King!"

## JOHN 20:22–23

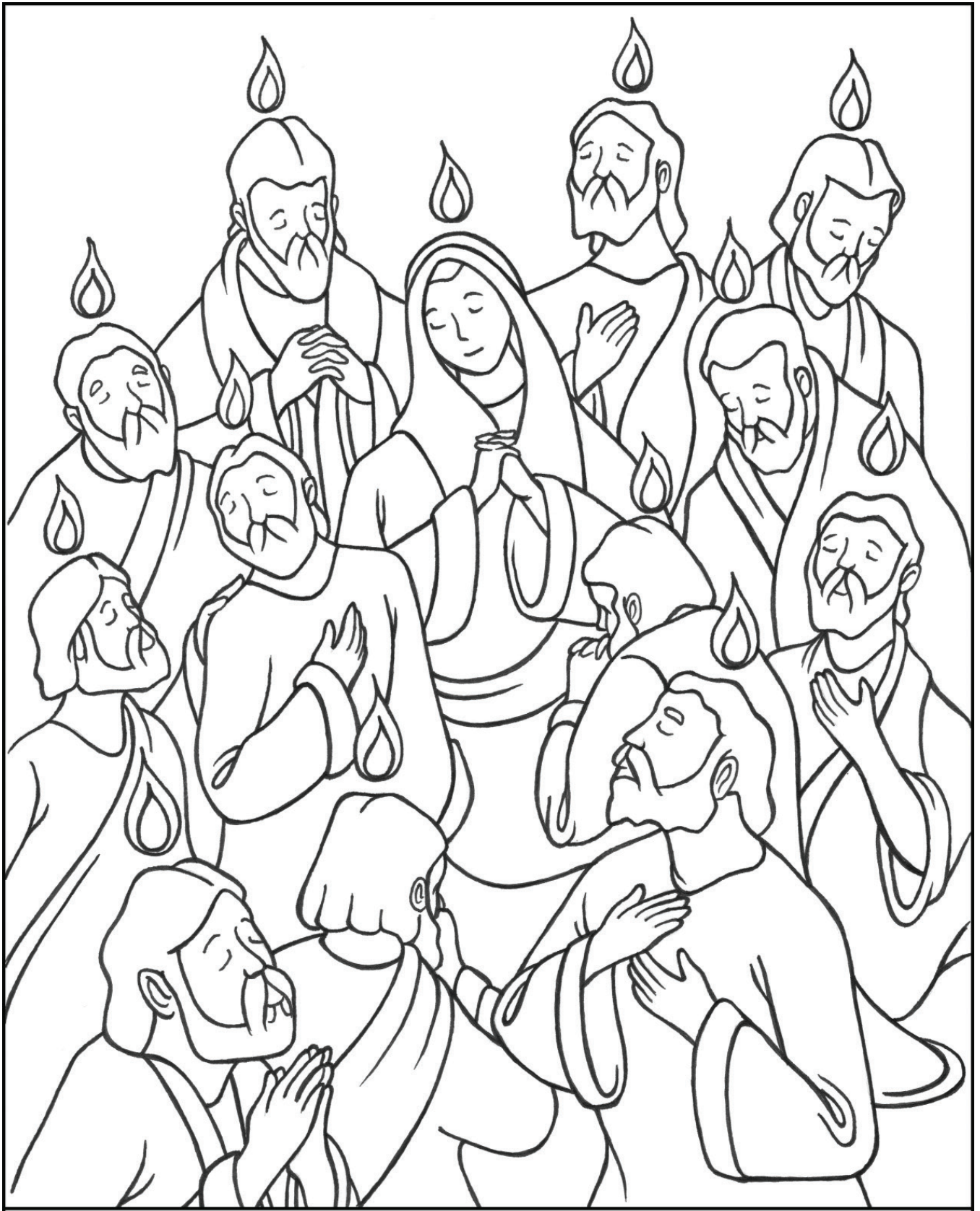
*English Standard Version (ESV)*

<sup>22</sup> And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup> If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld.”

# THE ADVENT OF TRUE POWER

DEVIN SMITH | DECEMBER 29

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## RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD - TRIBUTE OFFERING

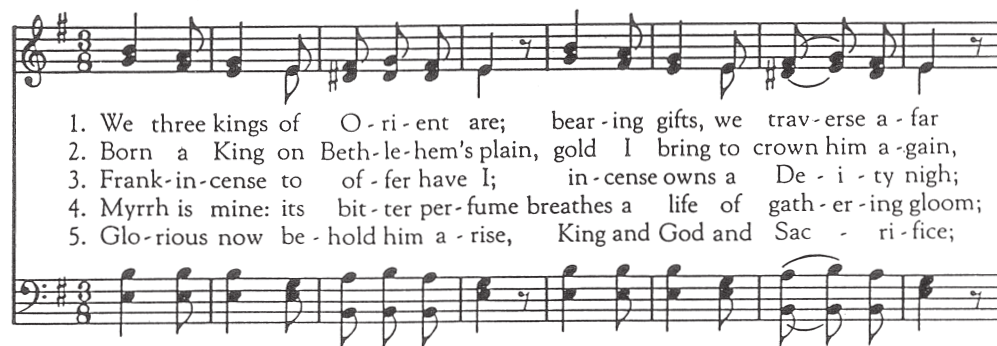
"Give to the LORD the glory due His name; bring an offering, and come into His courts. O, worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness! Tremble before Him, all the earth."

*Psalm 96:8-9*

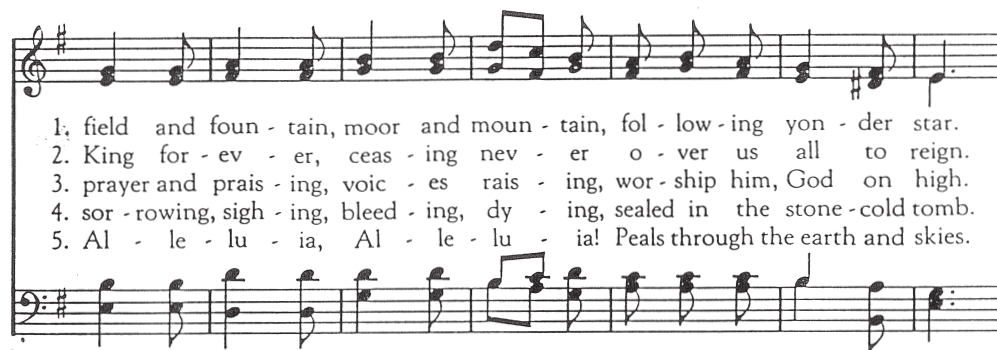
PLEASE BRING  
FORWARD YOUR  
TITHES AND  
OFFERINGS DURING  
THIS SONG

Words and music by John H. Hopkins, 1857 (alt'd)

KINGS OF ORIENT, 88.8.6 with refrain



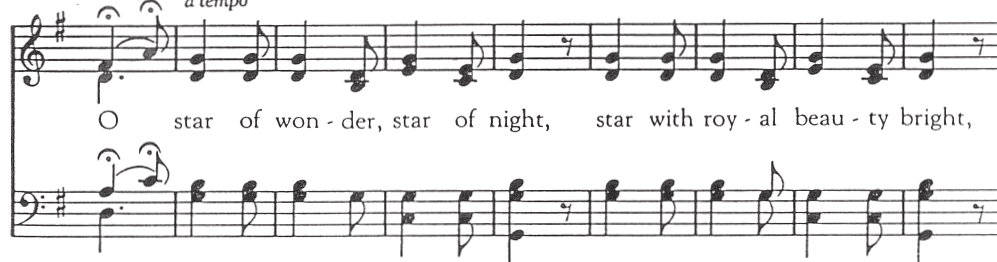
1. We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing gifts, we trav - erse a - far  
2. Born a King on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I bring to crown him a - gain,  
3. Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I; in - cense owns a De - i - ty nigh;  
4. Myrrh is mine: its bit - ter per - fume breathes a life of gath - er - ing gloom;  
5. Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and God and Sac - ri - fice;



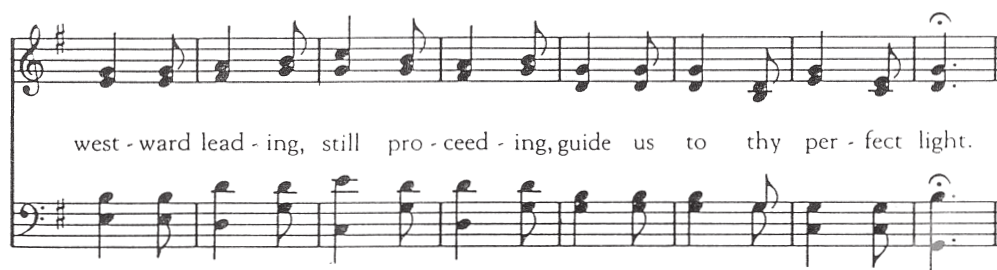
1. field and foun - tain, moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.  
2. King for - ev - er, ceas - ing nev - er o - ver us all to reign.  
3. prayer and prais - ing, voic - es rais - ing, wor - ship him, God on high.  
4. sor - rowing, sigh - ing, bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.  
5. Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! Peals through the earth and skies.

Refrain

*a tempo*



O star of won - der, star of night, star with roy - al beau - ty bright,



west - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light.



## SONG OF SUPPLICATION

If you have a prayer request for the public prayer, please fill out a prayer card and pass it to the center aisle at this time. Someone will collect the cards during this song.

FILL OUT  
& SUBMIT  
PRAYER CARDS

### God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen

GOD REST YE MERRY (8 6. 8 6. 8 6. 8 4 8)  
English melody, 18th century

English carol, 18th century

1. God rest ye mer - ry, gen - tle - men, let noth - ing you dis - may,  
 2. In Beth - le - hem, in Is - ra - el, this bless - ed Babe was born,  
 3. From God our heav'n - ly Fa - ther a bless - ed an - gel came,  
 4. "Fear not, then," said the an - gel, "Let noth - ing you a - fright;  
 5. The shep - herds at those ti - dings re - joic - ed much in mind,  
 6. Now to the Lord sing prais - es all you with - in this place,

Re - mem - ber Christ our Sav - ior was born on Christ - mas Day,  
 And laid with - in a man - ger up - on this bless - ed morn;  
 And un - to cer - tain shep - herds brought ti - dings of the same;  
 This day is born a Sav - ior of a pure vir - gin bright,  
 And left their flocks a - feed - ing in tem - pest, storm and wind,  
 And with true love and broth - er - hood each oth - er now em - brace;

To save us all from Sa - tan's pow'r when we were gone a - stray;  
 The which His moth - er Mar - y did noth - ing take in scorn.  
 How that in Beth - le - hem was born the Son of God by name.  
 To free all those who trust in Him from Sa - tan's pow'r and might."  
 And went to Beth - le - hem straight - way this bless - ed Babe to find.  
 This ho - ly tide of Christ - mas all oth - ers doth de - face.

O ti - dings of com - fort and joy, com - fort and joy;

O ti - dings of com - fort and joy.



## THE GREAT PRAYER

CONCLUDING WITH THE LORD'S PRAYER

- ☛ 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

*Matthew 6:9-13*

CONGREGATION  
PRAYS ALONG  
WITH PASTOR



COMMUNES WITH US AT HIS TABLE

*peace offering, gift of life*

## PREPARATION FOR COMMUNION

Congregation of the Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord has prepared His table for all who love and trust in Him for their salvation. All those who have repented of their sins, have been baptized and are in good standing in the Church of Jesus Christ are welcome at this table. For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call.

Leader: Christian, in Whom do you believe?

LEADER BEGINS

- ☛ 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 Ghost, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hades; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy, catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

*The Apostle's Creed*

CONGREGATION  
RESPONDS

# EUCHARIST DISTRIBUTION SONG

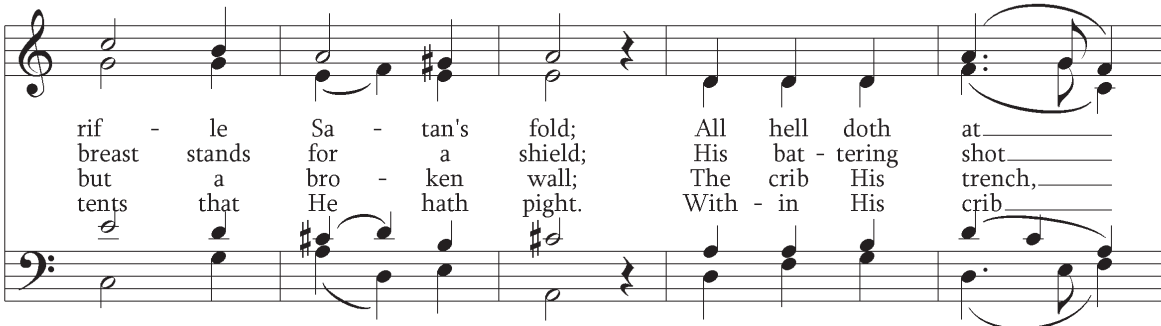
## This Little Babe

Chorale Tune (8 8. 8 8. 8 8)

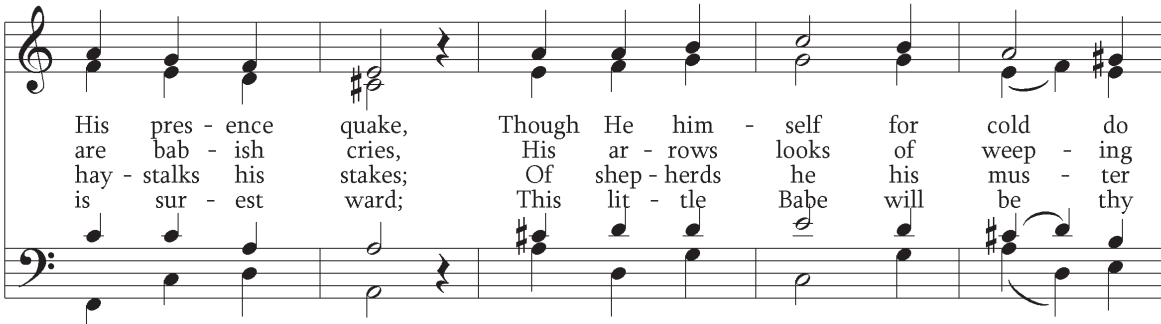
Robert Southwell, c.1661-1695



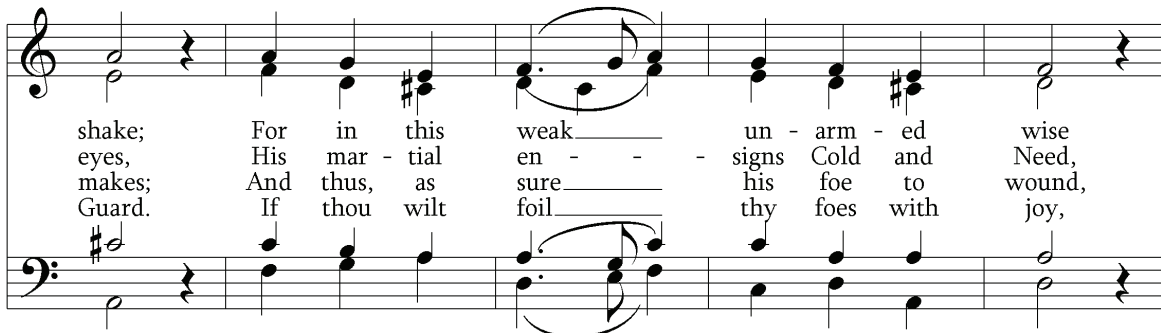
1. This lit - tle Babe so few days the old Is come to  
 2. With tears He fights and wins the field, His nak - ed  
 3. His camp is pitch - stall, His bul - wark  
 4. My soul with Christ join thou in fight; Stick to the



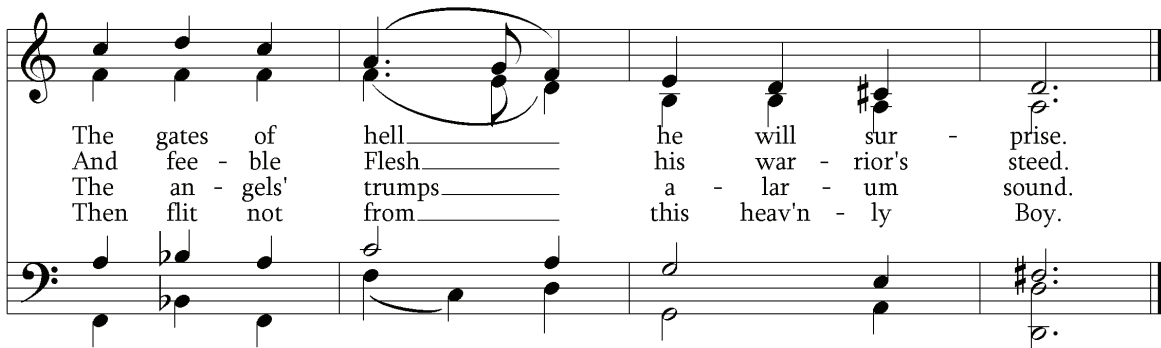
rif - le Sa - tan's fold; All hell doth at  
 breast - stands for a shield; His bat - tering shot  
 but tents a that bro - ken wall; The crib His trench,  
 With - in His crib



His pres - ence quake, Though He him - self for cold do  
 are bab - ish cries, His ar - rows looks of weep - ing  
 hay - stalks his stakes; Of shep - herds he his mus - ter  
 is sur - est ward; This lit - tle Babe will be thy



shake; For in this weak un - arm - ed wise  
 eyes, His mar - tial en - - signs Cold and Need,  
 makes; And thus, as sure his foe to wound,  
 Guard. If thou wilt foil thy foes with joy,



The gates of hell he will sur - prise.  
 And fee - ble Flesh his war - rior's steed.  
 The an - gels' trumps a - lar - um sound.  
 Then flit not from this heav'n - ly Boy.



## COMMISSIONS US AND SENDS US OUT

### FINAL SCRIPTURE READING

CONGREGATION  
STANDS

John Morison, 1781, alt.

ZERAH C. M. with repeat  
Lowell Mason, 1837

1. To us a Child of hope is born, To us a Son is giv'n,  
2. His Name shall be the Prince of Peace, For ev - er-more a - dored,  
3. His pow'r, in-creas-ing, still shall spread, His reign no end shall know;  
4. To us a Child of hope is born, To us a Son is giv'n,

Him shall the tribes of earth o - bey, Him all the hosts of heav'n;  
The Won - der - ful, the Coun - sel - lor, The great and might - y Lord;  
Jus - tice shall guard his throne a - bove, And peace a - bound be - low;  
The Won - der - ful, the Coun - sel - lor, The might - y Lord of heav'n;

Him shall the tribes of earth o - bey, Him all the hosts of heav'n.  
The Won - der - ful, the Coun - sel - lor, The great and might - y Lord.  
Jus - tice shall guard his throne a - bove, And peace a - bound be - low.  
The Won - der - ful, the Coun - sel - lor, The might - y Lord of heav'n. A - MEN.

## BENEDICTION

"Then Aaron lifted his hand toward the people, blessed them, and came down from offering the purification offering, the ascension offering, and peace offerings."

*Leviticus 9:22*

## Nunc Dimittis

Ancient Plainsong  
Based on Psalm Tone 5  
arr. Valerie Lortz

Luke 2:29-32

Lord now let-test Thou Thy servant de - part in— peace, ac - cord-ing to Thy Word, For mine

The first system of musical notation for 'Nunc Dimittis' is written in treble and bass staves. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is common time (C). The melody is a simple, ancient-style tune. The lyrics are: 'Lord now let-test Thou Thy servant de - part in— peace, ac - cord-ing to Thy Word, For mine'.

eyes have seen Thy sal-va-tion; which Thou hast pre-pared be - fore the face of all peo-ple, a Light to

The second system of musical notation continues the melody. The lyrics are: 'eyes have seen Thy sal-va-tion; which Thou hast pre-pared be - fore the face of all peo-ple, a Light to'.

ligh - ten the Gen - tiles and the Glo - ry of Thy peo-ple Is - - - ra - el.

The third system of musical notation continues the melody. The lyrics are: 'ligh - ten the Gen - tiles and the Glo - ry of Thy peo-ple Is - - - ra - el.'

Glo - ry— be to the Fa-ther, and to— the— Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost;

The fourth system of musical notation continues the melody. The lyrics are: 'Glo - ry— be to the Fa-ther, and to— the— Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost;'

As it— was in the be - gin-ning, is now and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A - men.

The fifth system of musical notation concludes the piece. The lyrics are: 'As it— was in the be - gin-ning, is now and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A - men.'