Christmas Eve

Pageant & Eucharist

December 24, 2025 at 5:00pm

Participants in the Liturgy

Officiant
The Rev. Robert C. Hooper, III, Rector

Assisting Clergy
The Rev. Dr. Molly F. James

Organist
Michelle Horsley

St. James's Children's Choir & Choristers

Soloists
Anya Fisher, Camden Jacobs, Ryder Morton, Laurel Raissian, Louisa Smith

Chalice Bearers
Jennifer Otto & Priscilla Thomas

Intercessor
McAllister Raissian

Acolytes
McAllister Raissian, Camden Jacobs, Walter Bowman, Wesley Otto

Ushers
Doug & Ann Cooke

Livestream Director
Jerrod Bowman

Cover Art
Jackie Allen-Doucet

Pageant Participants

Narrators: Calvin Meyer, Lyla Fisher, Caroline Bowman

Mary – Anya Fisher
Joseph – Ryder Morton
Jesus – Elizabeth Gooley
Gabriel – Maryn Bowman
Star – Charlotte Racine

Kings – Camden Jacobs, Laurel Raissian, Louisa Smith

Pages – Walter Bowman, Julia Jane Bowman, Wesson Bowman, Wesley Otto, Rory Raissian, Vaughn Smith

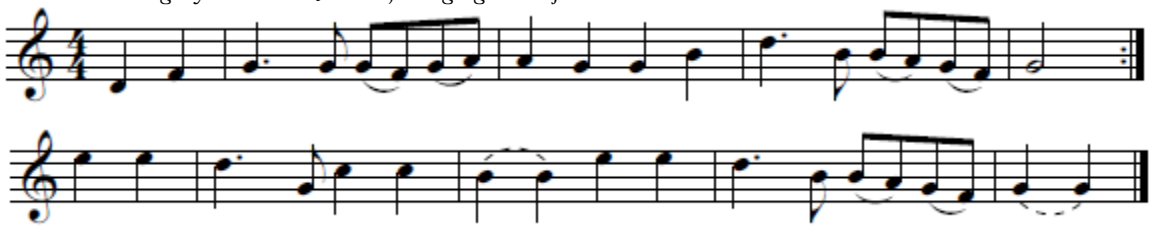
& The Children of St. James's

MUSIC PRELUDE *Alfred Burt Carol Medley* arr. Mark Hayes
Sing Noel, Sing Noel! Liberian Traditional

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION *The Rev. Robert C. Hooper III, Rector*

PROCESSIONAL HYMN ONCE IN ROYAL DAVID'S CITY

First verse sung by Camden Jacobs, congregation joins on the second verse



1. *Once in royal David's city,*
Stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby
In a manger for His bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little child.

2. He came down to earth from heaven
Who is God and Lord of all,
And His shelter was a stable,
And His cradle was a stall;
With the poor and meek and lowly,
Lived on earth our Savior holy.

3. And through all
His wondrous childhood,
He would honor and obey,
Love and watch the lowly mother,
In whose gentle arms He lay.
Christian children all should be,
Mild, obedient, good as He.

4. For He is our child-hood's pattern
Day by day like us He grew,
He was little, weak, and helpless,
Tears and smiles like us He knew,
And He feeleth for our sadness,
And He shareth in our gladness.

5. And our eyes at last shall see Him,
Through His own redeeming love;
For that child so dear and gentle,
Is our Lord in heaven above,
And He leads His children on,
To the place where He is gone.

6. Not in that poor lowly stable,
With the oxen standing by,
We shall see Him, but in heaven,
Set at God's right hand on high;
When like stars His children crowned,
All in white shall be around.

Introit

Behold, I bring you good news of great joy, which will come to all the people. For to you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. Glory to God for ever and ever! And peace to God's people on earth.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray.

Good and gracious God, on this holy night you have given us your Son, the Lord of the universe, wrapped in swaddling clothes; the Savior of all, lying in a manger. On this holy night, draw us into the mystery of your love. Join our voices with heaven's angels, that we

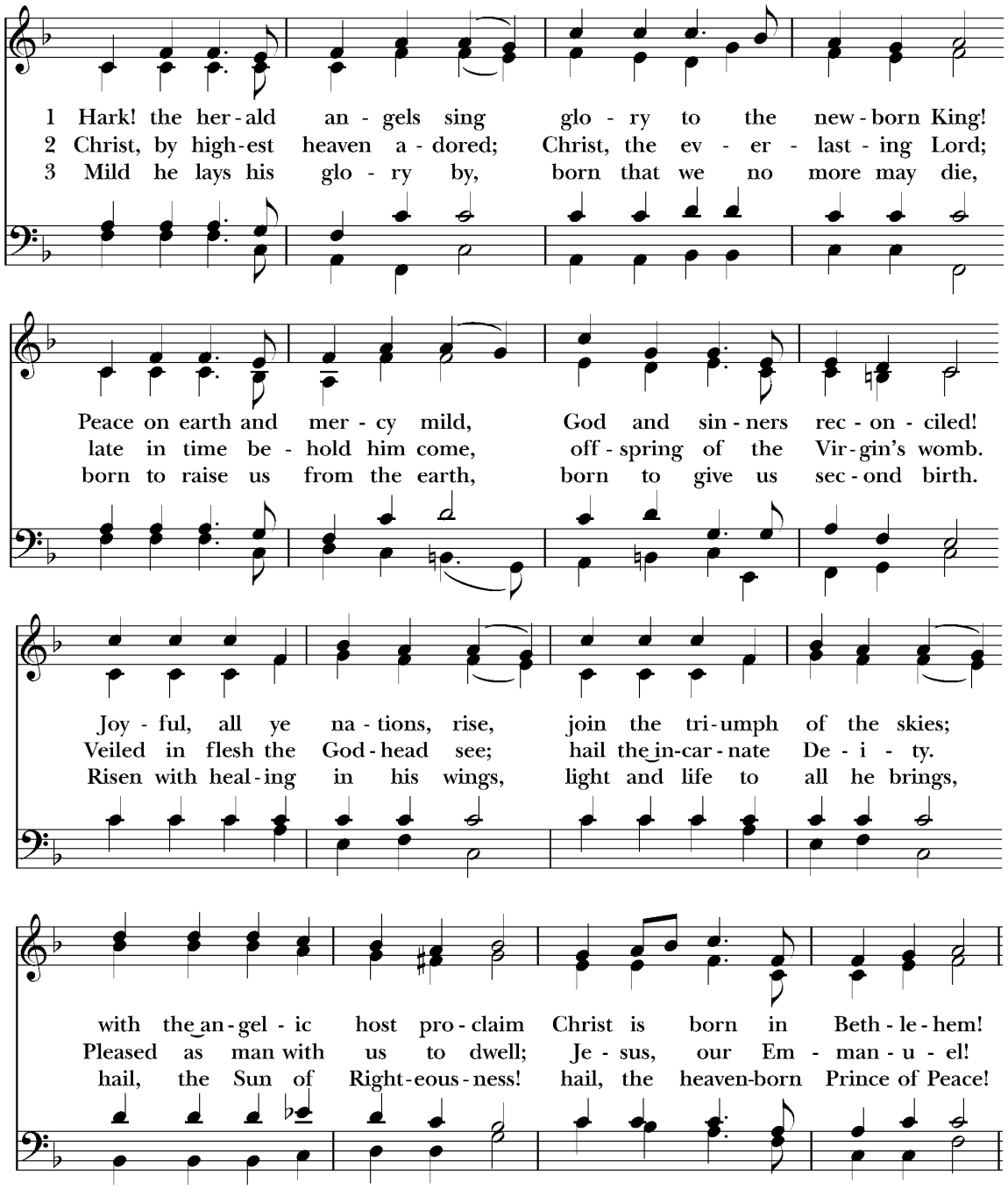
may sing your glory on high. Give us a place among the shepherds, that we may find the one for whom we have waited: Jesus Christ, your Word made flesh, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, in the splendor of eternal light, one God forever and ever. Amen.

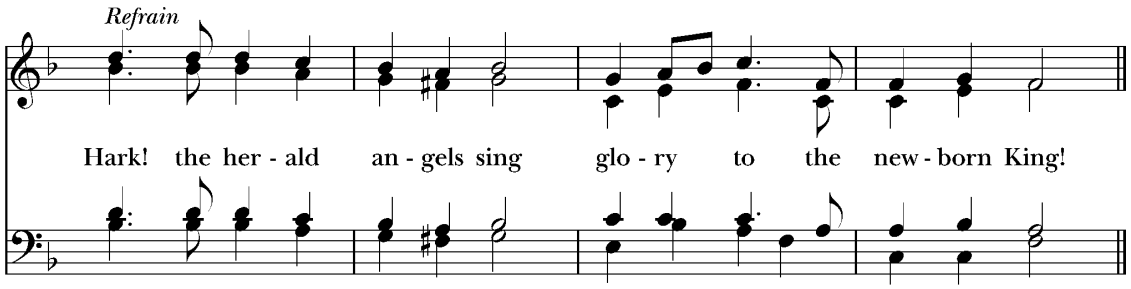
LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE CHRISTMAS STORY: During the pageant, all join in singing the hymns.

HARK THE HERALD ANGELS SING

VERSES 1 & 2





Title: Hark! the herald angels sing Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt.
Music: Mendelssohn, Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847); adapt. William H. Cummings (1831-1915)
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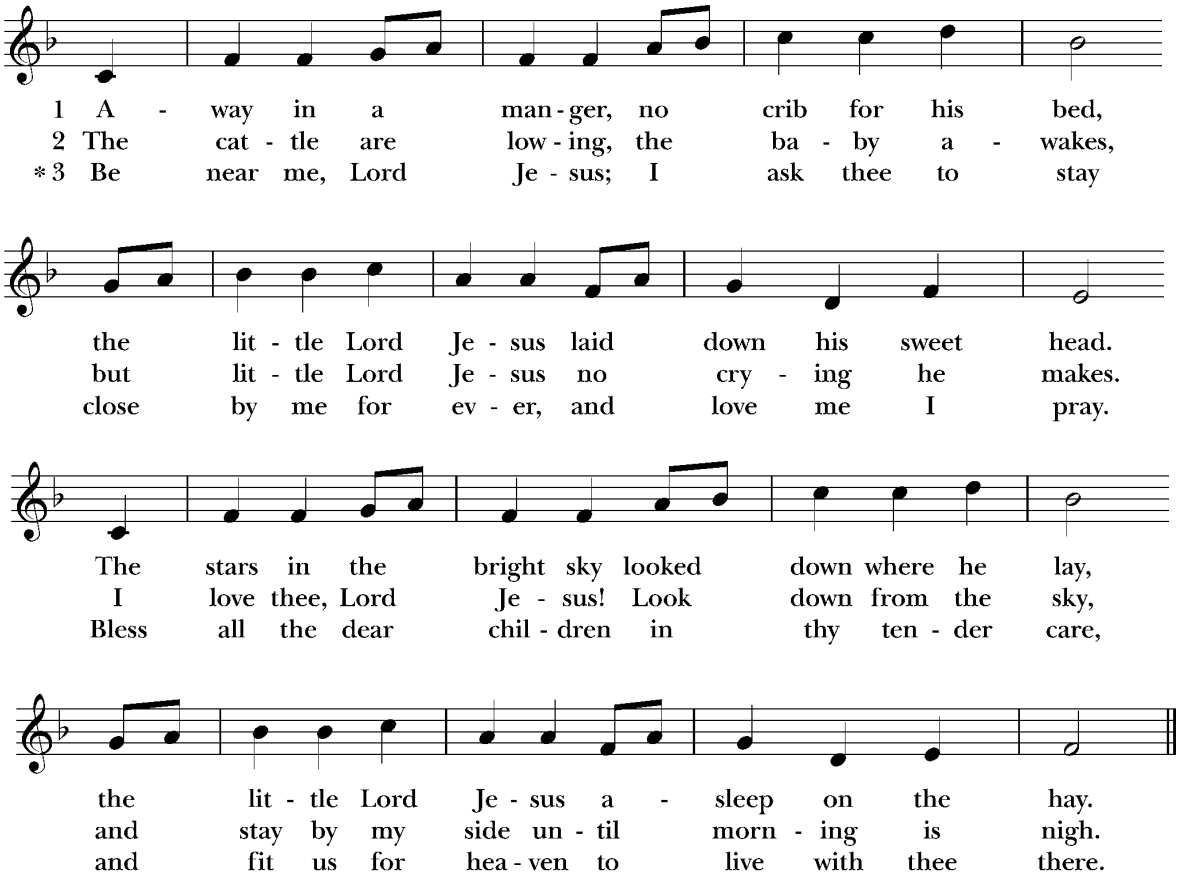
JOSEPH DEAREST, JOSEPH MINE - GERMAN TRAD., ADPT. M. HORSLEY

SUNG BY ANYA FISHER & RYDER MORTON

AWAY IN A MANGER



Title: Away in a manger Words: Traditional carol
Music: Cradle Song, melody William James Kirkpatrick (1838-1921)
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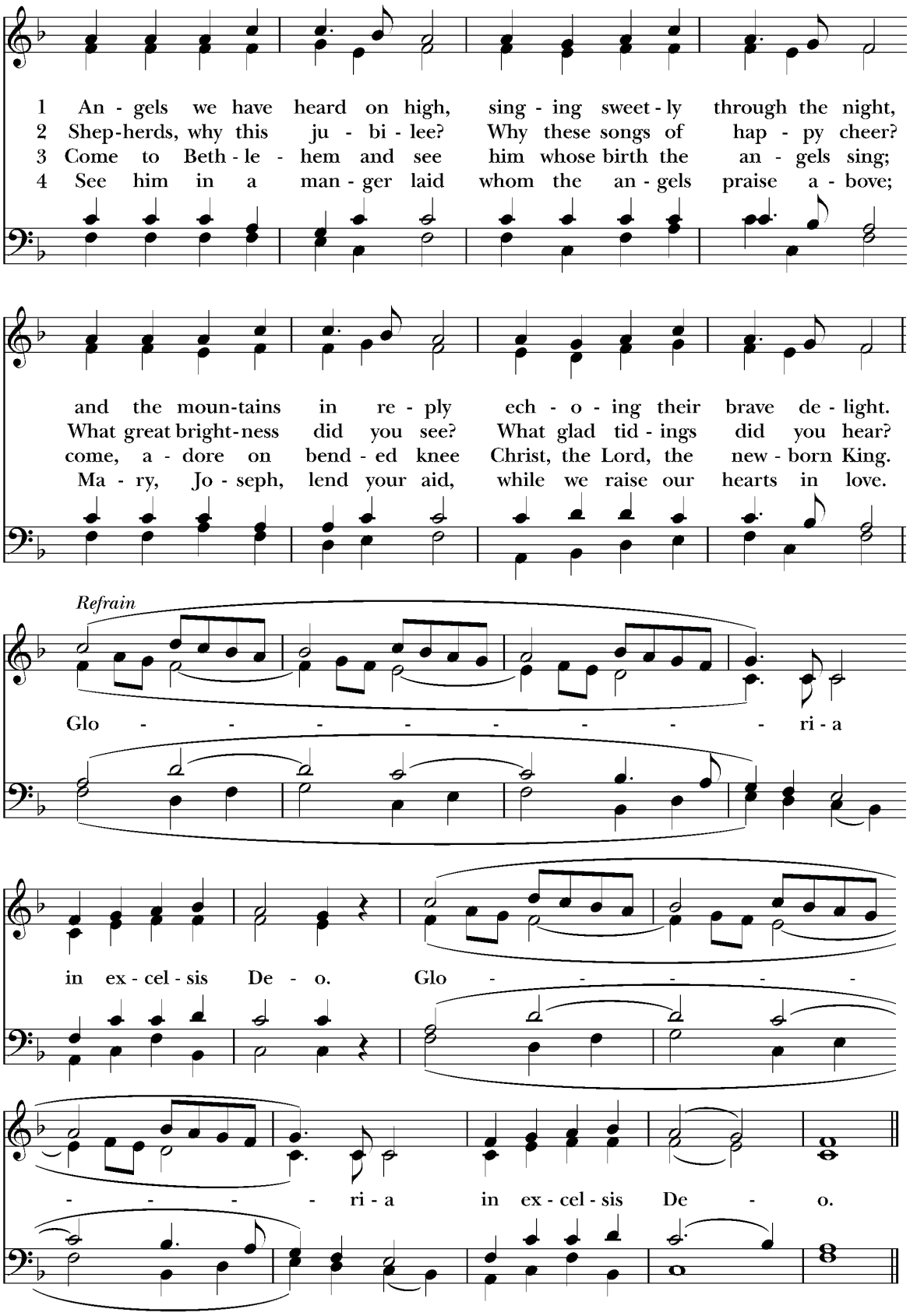
ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH

VERSE 1



Title: *Angels we have heard on high* *Words:* *Traditional carol*
Music: *French carol; tr. James Chadwick (1813-1882), alt.* *Tune:* *Gloria*
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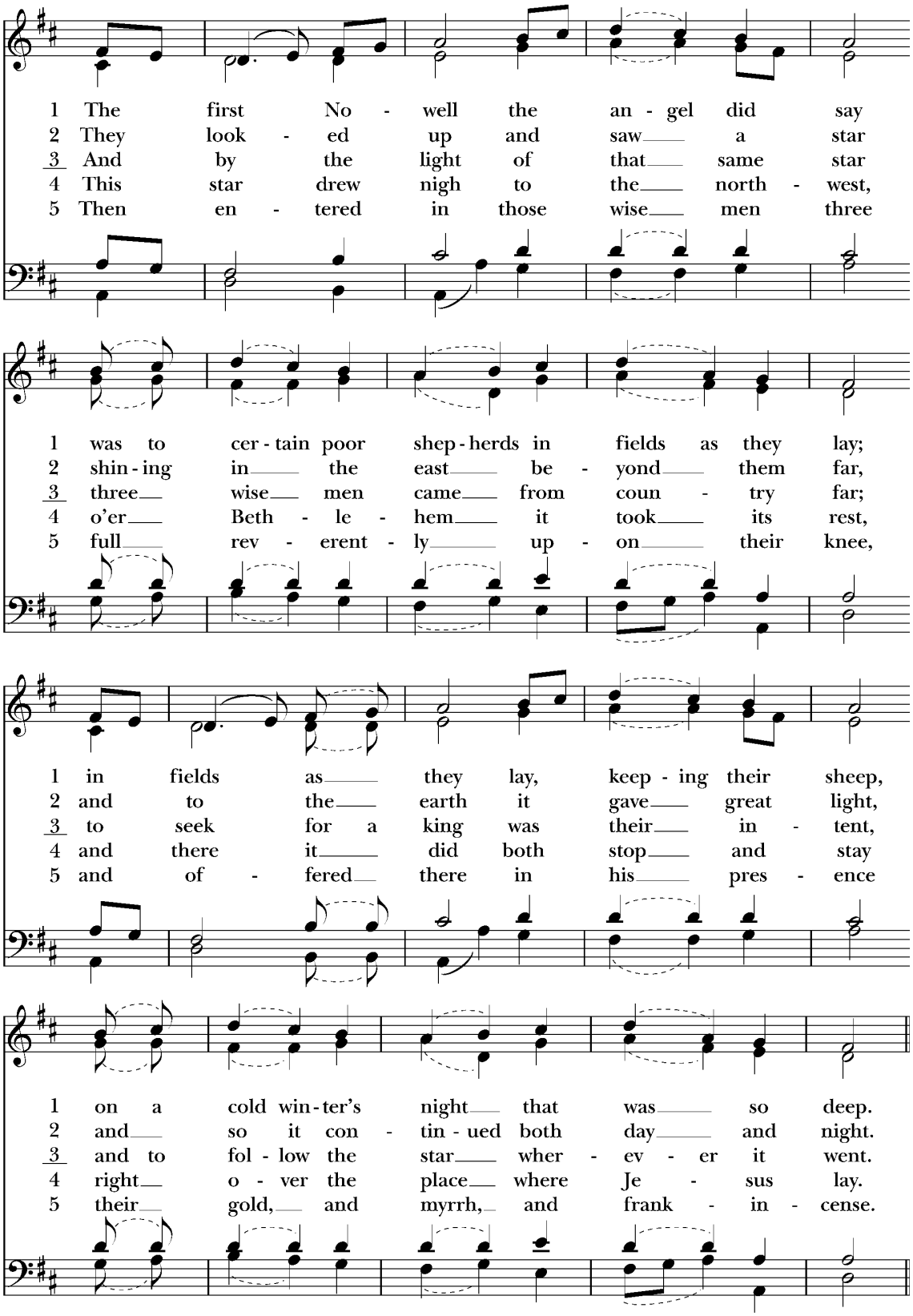
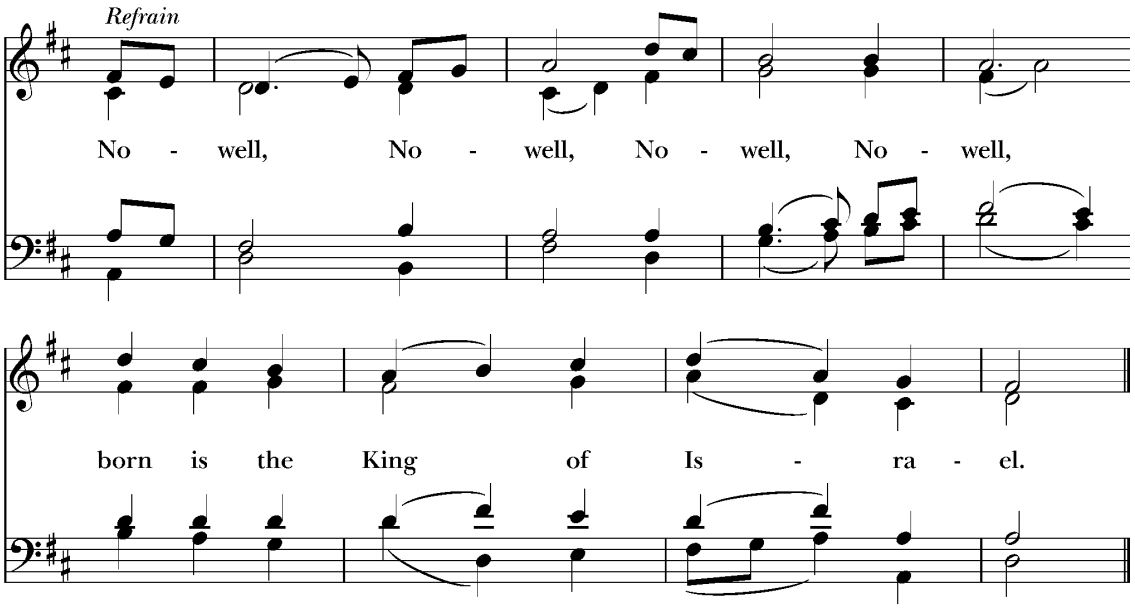
The First Nowell

VERSE 1





Title: The first Nowell the angel did say Music: English Carol, 18th cent. Tune: The first Nowell
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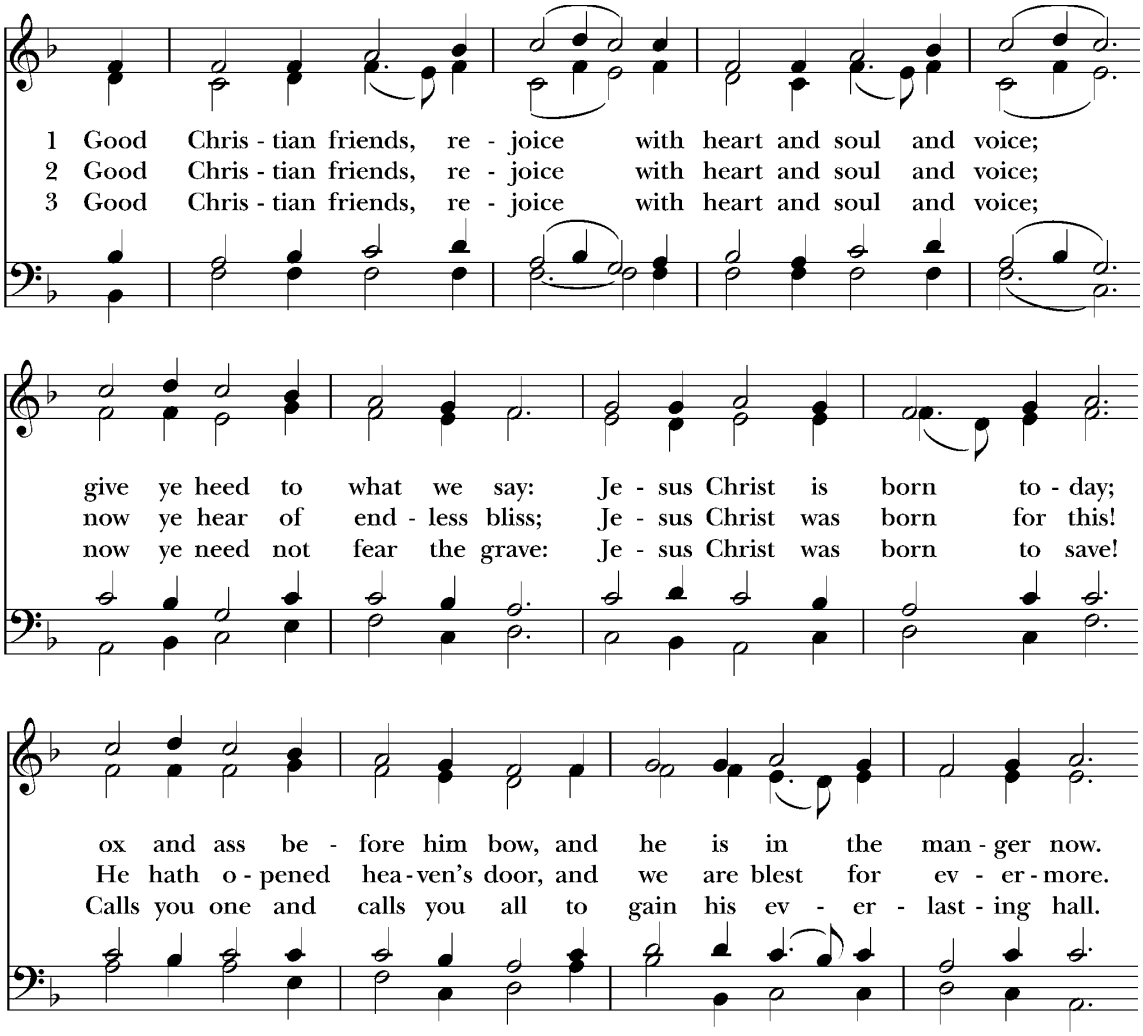
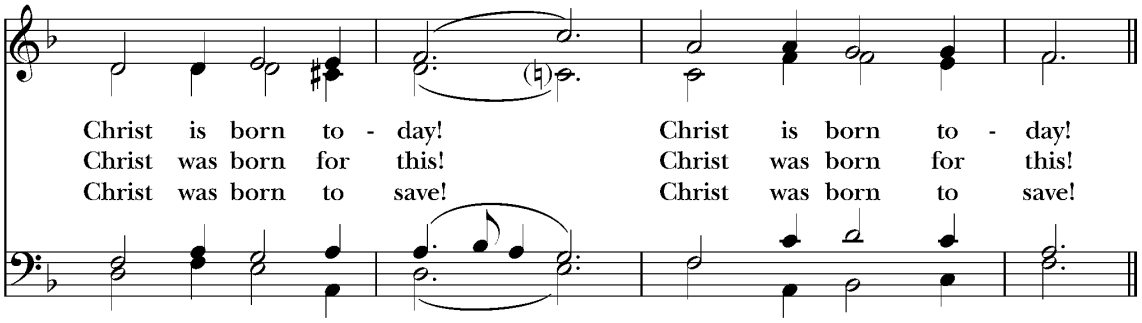
GOOD CHRISTIAN FRIENDS, REJOICE

VERSE 1





Title: Good Christian friends, rejoice Music: John Mason Neale (1818-1866), alt. Tune: In dulci jubilo
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Litany for Christmas Eve
All stand as you are able

Let us pray for the world Jesus Christ was born to save.
Jesus was born homeless with only a manger for his bed, so let us pray for those who have no homes.
Hear our prayer, O God of love.

Jesus was held close by his mother and father, so let us pray for children everywhere who need to be held and loved and celebrated.
Hear our prayer, O God of love.

Jesus depended on others to give him food and clothes, so let us pray for those who need both, and we ask you to help us to care for others when we can.
Hear our prayer, O God of love.

Jesus was born to bring healing to the world, so let us pray for those who are sick or in need.
Hear our prayer, O God of love.

Jesus and his family fled Bethlehem to escape Herod's violence and rage.
Let us pray for lives lost to violence, and for the safety of all in the coming year.
Hear our prayer, O God of love.

Jesus promised eternal life to those who believed he was the Word, so let us pray for those who have died.
Hear our prayer, O God of love.

Jesus shared God's love with all, so let us pray for all the people of the world.
Hear our prayer, O God of love.

O God of love, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of your Love: Let the Light of Christ shine on us and through us, that we and the whole world may be made radiant with your glory.
Amen.

THE PEACE

Celebrant The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

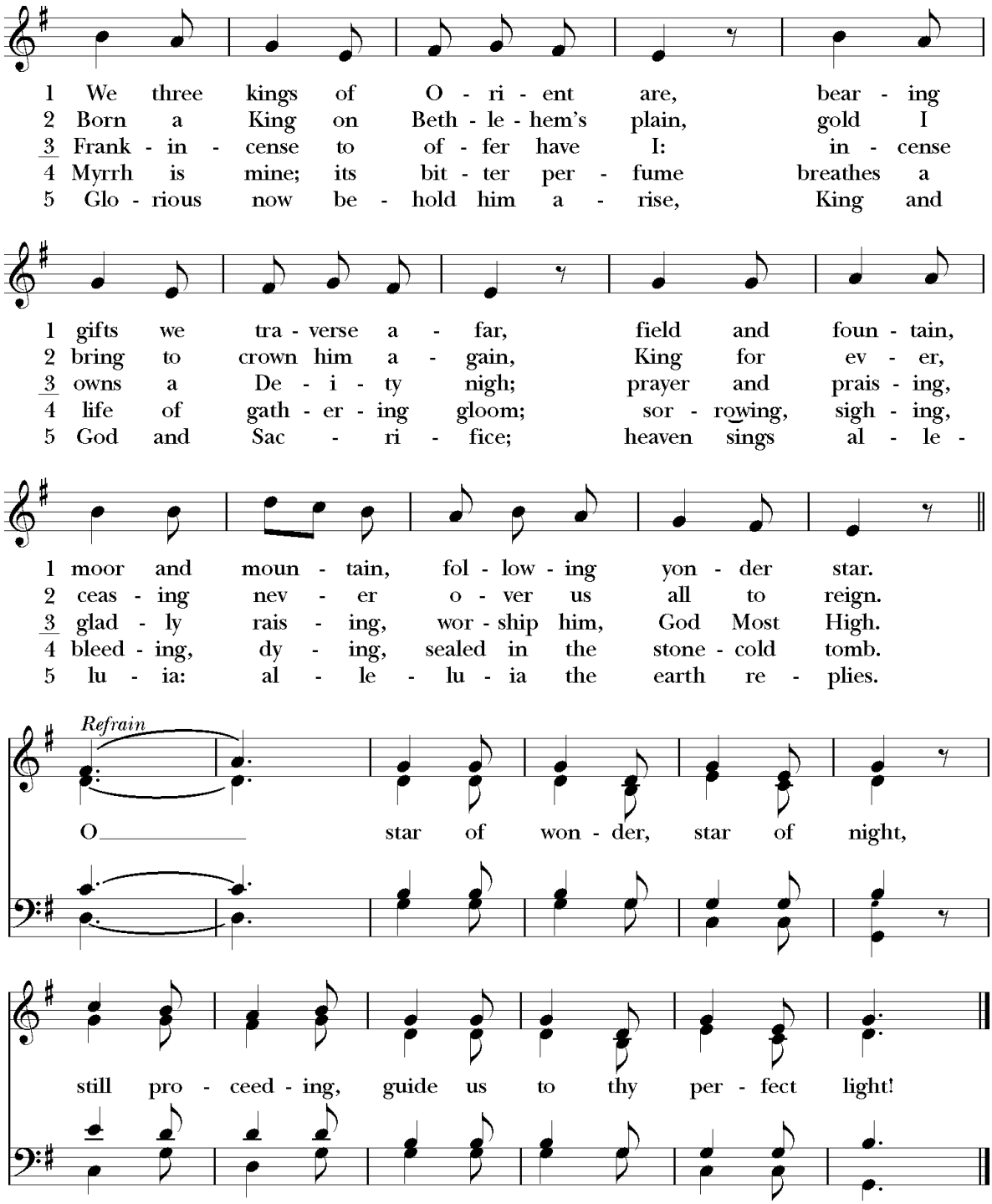
People **And also with you.**

WELCOME

OFFERTORY HYMN WE THREE KINGS

(VS 1, CAMDEN JACOBS; VS 2, LOUISA SMITH; VS 3, LAUREL RAISSIAN)

PLEASE SING VERSES 4 AND 5 AND ALL REFRAINS



Title: *We three kings of Orient are* *Words:* *John Henry Hopkins, Jr. (1820-1891), alt.*

Music: *Three Kings of Orient, John Henry Hopkins, Jr. (1820-1891)*

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THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Everyone is invited to receive the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist.

All standing

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

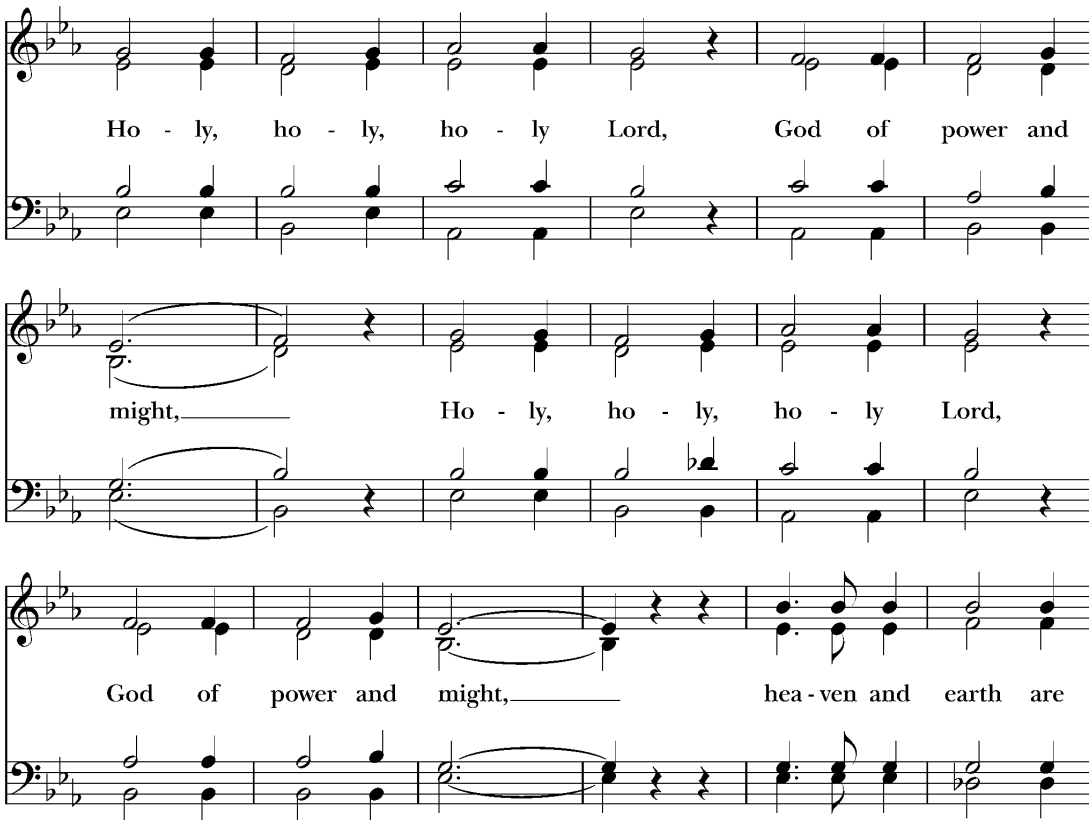
The Celebrant continues

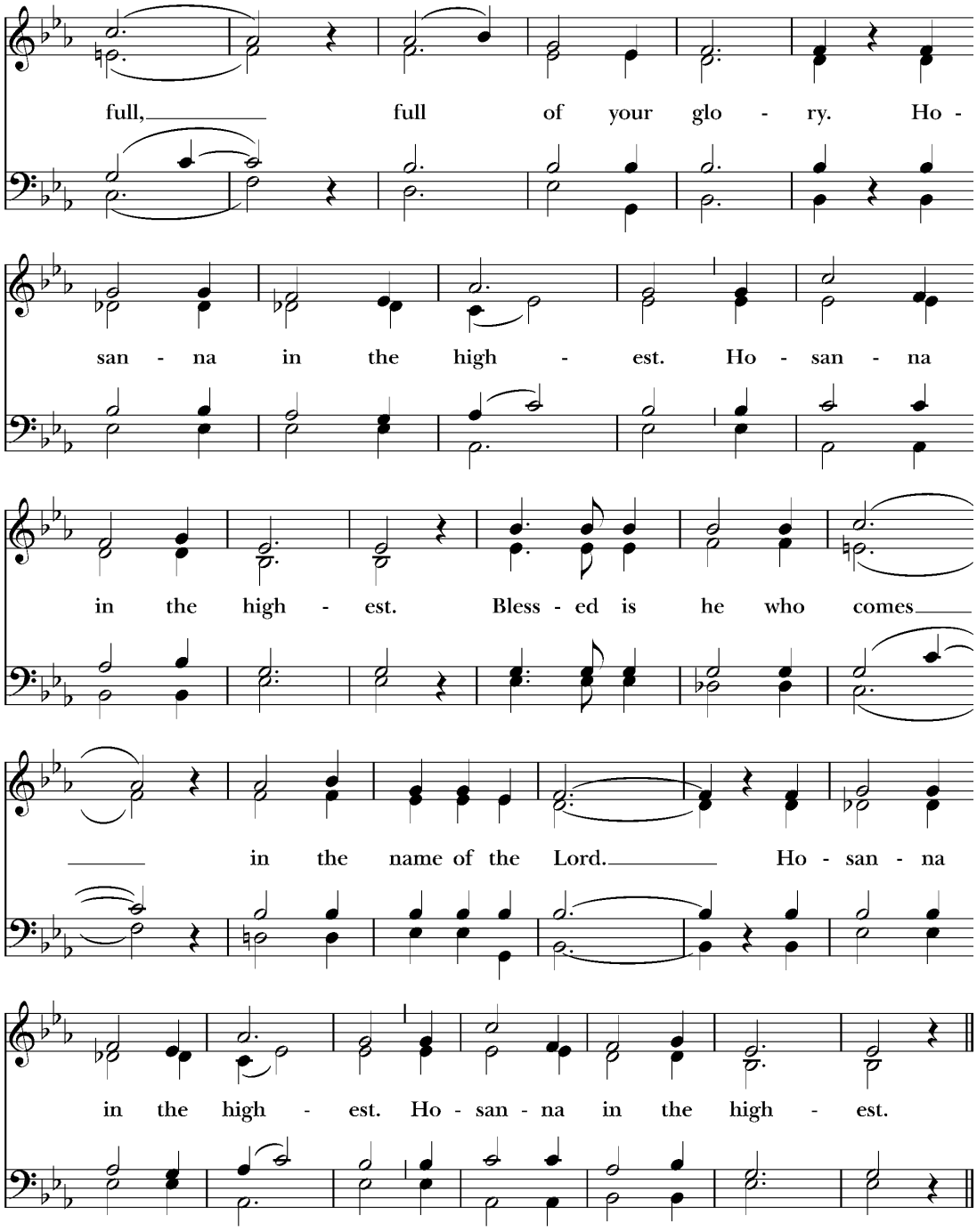
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, God Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS

Celebrant and People





Title: *Holy, holy, holy, from Deutsche Messe*
Music: *Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (1937-2010)*
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The Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command,

Celebrant and People
We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues
And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Mary and Joseph and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Celebrant and People
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, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Celebrant
The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

COMMUNION MUSIC *The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy* West Indies / Trinidadian Trad.
Jesus, Jesus, Oh What a Wonderful Child Spiritual
St. James's Children's Choir & Choristers

All standing as you are able

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant

Let us pray.

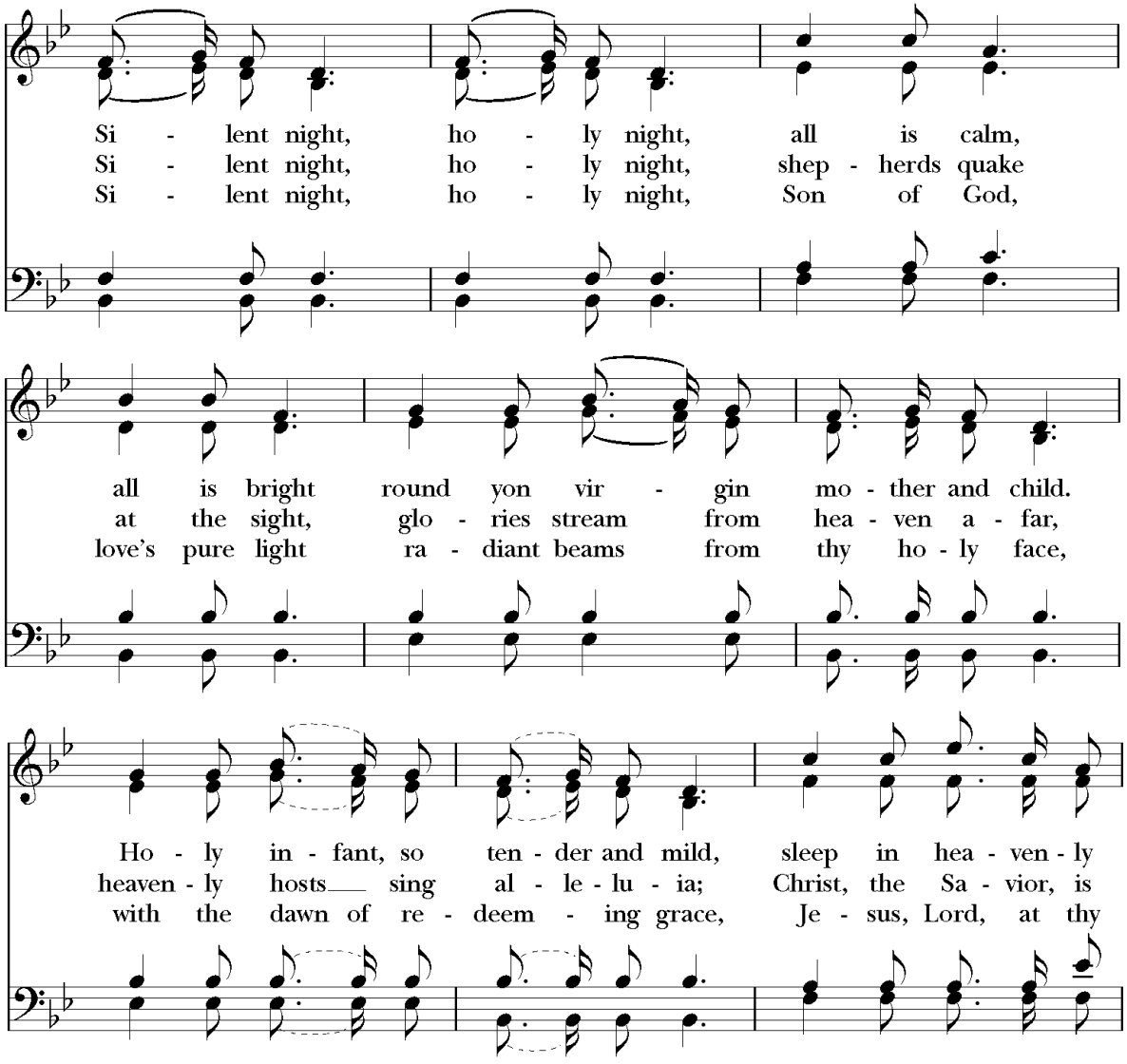
Celebrant and People

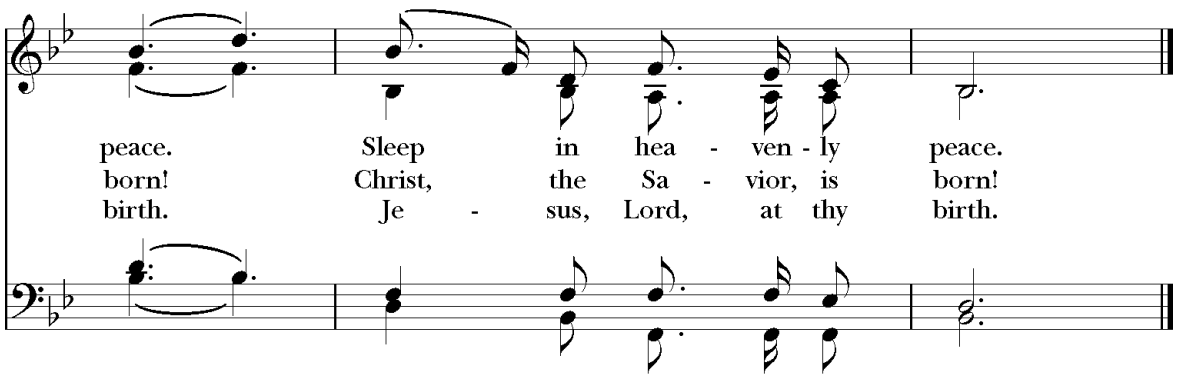
Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food

Celebrant and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

SILENT NIGHT





Title: *Silent night, holy night* *Words: Joseph Mohr (1792-1848); tr. John Freeman Young (1820-1885)*
Music: *Stille Nacht, melody Franz Xaver Gruber (1787-1863); harm. Carl H. Reinecke (1824-1910)*
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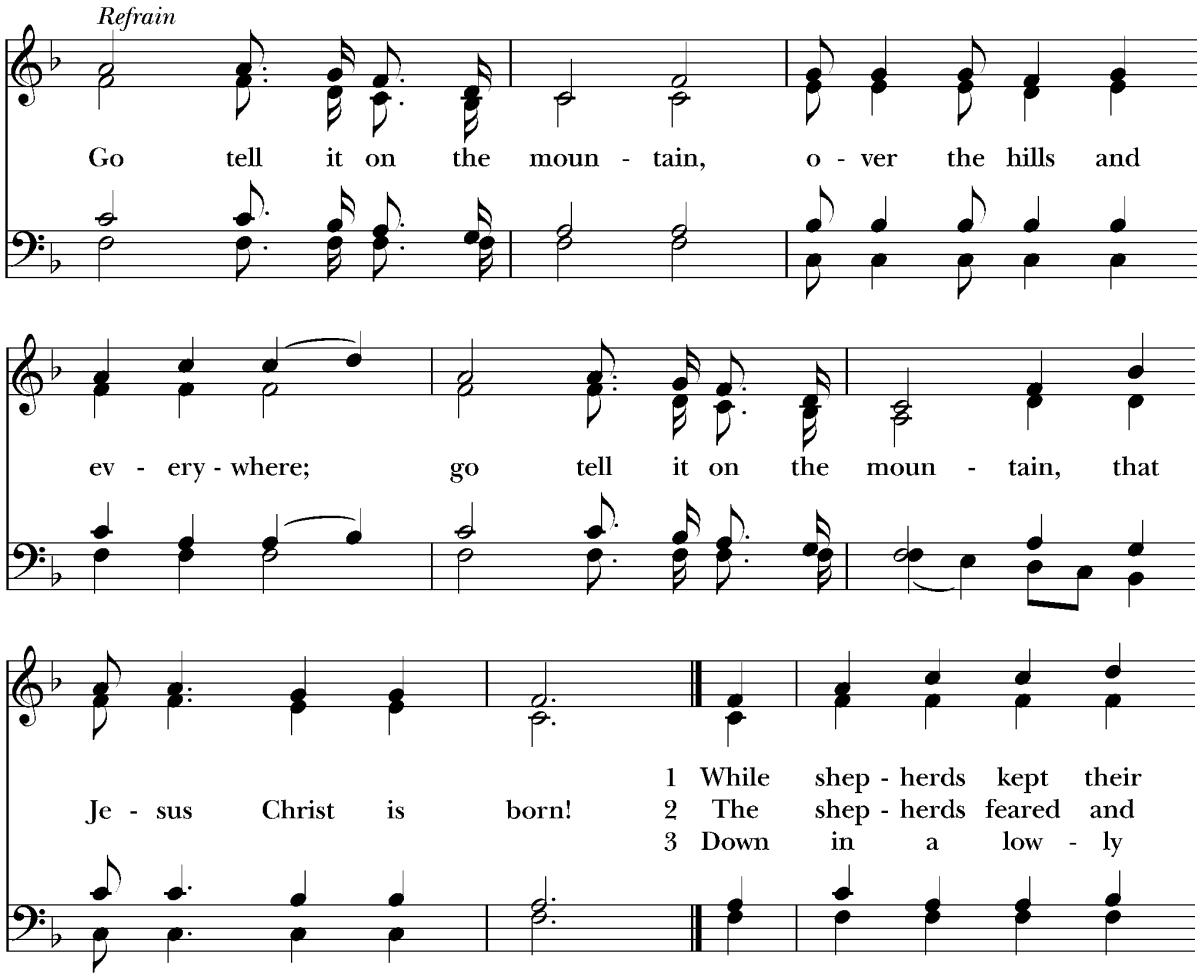
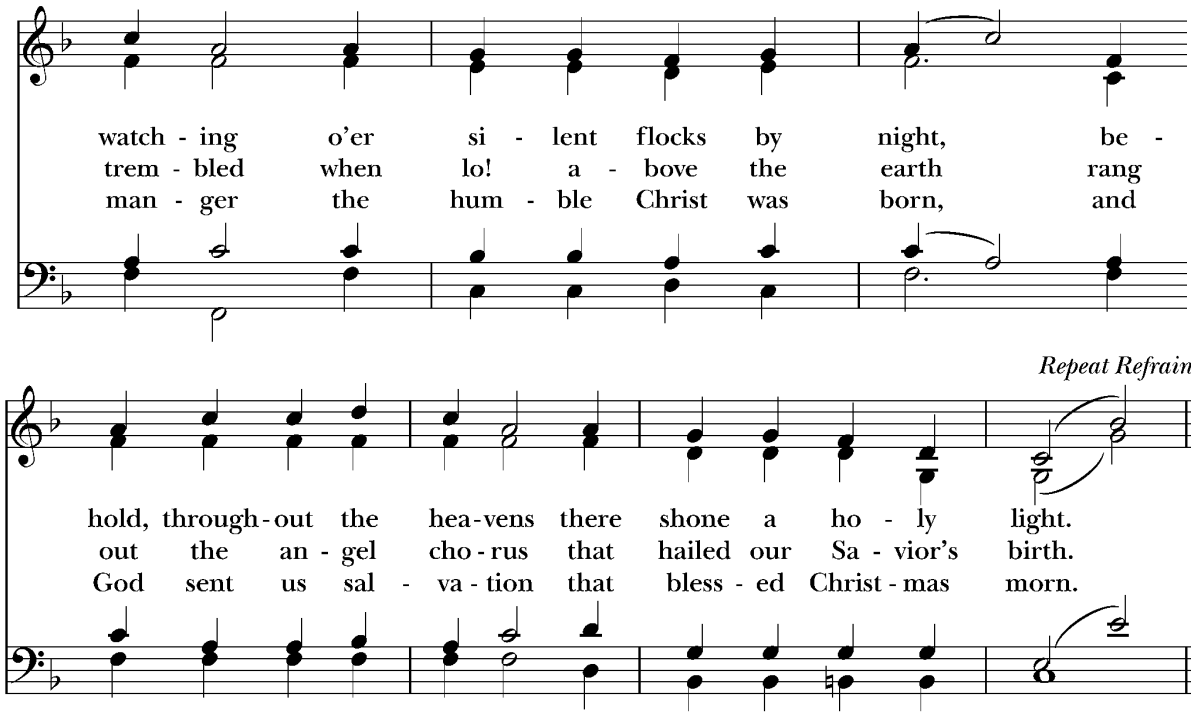
The Blessing

Hymn in Procession

Go Tell It On the Mountain





Title: *Go tell it on the mountain* *Words: Afro-American spiritual, 19th cent.; adapt. John W. Work (b. 1901)*
Music: *Go Tell It on the Mountain, Afro-American spiritual, 19th cent.; arr. Horace Clarence Boyer (b. 1935)*
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THE DISMISSAL

Priest Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia, alleluia!
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!**

POSTLUDE *Komm, sag'es allen weiter (Go Tell It)* John Behnke (b. 1952)

Christmas flowers have been given to the Glory of God and in thanksgiving for

Brayden, Kylie, & Jessie
the St. James's Congregation
the Sweeney grandchildren
Millie & Channing Hooper
the marriage of granddaughter Ivy Mitman to Drew Bailey

In Loving Memory of

Douglass & Eugenie Compton, Eugenie French, Charles A. Borda III,
Mary Mack & Selma Scott, William & Nellie Thompson,
Robert & Eleanor Mix, Diane Thompson, Marilyn Stapleton,
Pamela Ludford, Anne, Ken & Scott Moyle, Howard & Alice Goddard,
Tom Desmond, Herbert & Julia Nelson, David D. Thomas,
Theodora & William Holman, Jean & John Thomas, Jan Hooper,
James Sharp, Jim Cordeira, Hugh I. MacGillis, Charles G. Fisher,
Kenneth Kalva, Robert Kelly, Mary Meyer, Jan Bonner, Daniel Keegan,
Margaret & Ernest Mercer, Anna & Morris Lewis, Michael A. Lamy,
Earl & Joan Keesling, Louise Keesling, Norman & Florence Madore,
Charles Sherrill, William & Carol Teasdale, Ken & Liz Cloud,
Bill Nellen, William F. Duva, Sr., Gary Lattanzio, Lucy & Tom Welch,
Anson & Veronica Duncan, Charles & Virginia Kinney,
John Clement & Helen Haar, Francesca Haar Nixon,
James & Barbara Cooper.

Thank You

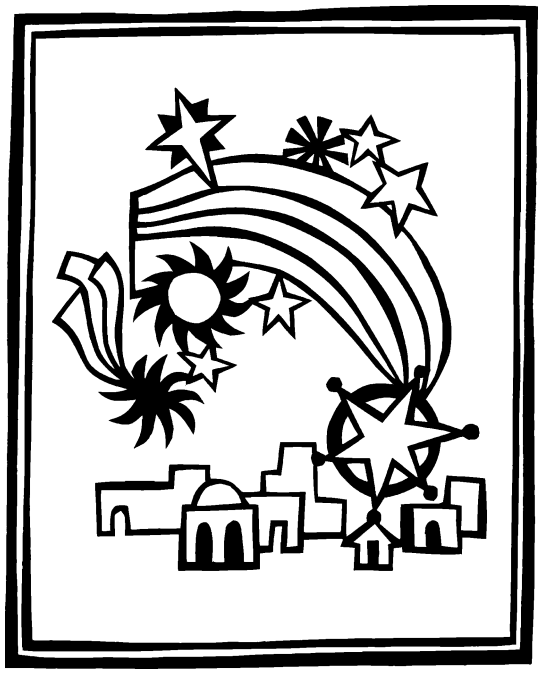
Thank you to all who helped make this pageant possible.

Thank you to Michelle Horsley and Louise Strillacci who
make Mondays Music & More possible.
Thanks to Bob Hooper who encourages
my crazy visions.

A special thank you to Elizabeth Cloud who encouraged me to develop a more Interactive Family Pageant.

And most especially, thank you to the children of this parish community who help make this night so magical.

Merry Christmas!
Priscilla Hooper, Director of Family Ministries



Music Opportunities at St. James's

Adult Choir: ages 14+ **Wednesday 7:00-8:30pm**

Our adult choir is a skilled and welcoming ensemble ranging from teenagers to retirees, with professional and volunteer musicians alike, singing a variety of repertoire, with a focus on the Anglican tradition. We sing motets, anthems, service and hymns nearly every Sunday throughout the season, often in collaboration with soloists or instrumentalists. We also offer a variety of concerts including a yearly Christmas program, as well as services of Choral Evensong, an annual Jazz Mass, and a choir fundraiser dinner party.

Choristers: ages 9-13 **Monday 5:30-6:30pm**

The chorister program is for dedicated young singers looking to develop a musical foundation in a learning environment focused on collaboration and one-on-one mentorship. Rehearsals include sight-reading, composition, aural training, & vocal pedagogy in addition to learning repertoire which is sung frequently in Sunday worship and special events. Choristers earn small monetary stipends, which increase with their musical progress. Previous seasons have included trips to the UK and the White House.

Monday Music & More: ages 3-8 **Monday 4:00-5:15pm**

Led collaboratively by Priscilla Hooper and Michelle Horsley, this program is designed for children ages 3-8 (split into 3-5y/o's and 6-8y/o's), with each group taking turns either learning music through simple songs, circle-singing, and improvisation with Michelle (Children's Choir) or doing reading, crafts, and discussions with Priscilla. A snack break is included and all children are welcome. For more information or to register your child, contact Priscilla Hooper at: education@stjameswh.org.

SERVICE SCHEDULE

SUNDAY EUCHARIST
8 a.m. in the chapel
9:30 a.m. in the church

WEDNESDAY EUCHARIST
7 a.m. in the chapel
(Breakfast served in the parish room following the service)

CLERGY

The Rev'd Robert C. Hooper III ..... ***Rector***
The Rev'd Canon Douglas T. Cooke ..... *Priest Associate*
The Rev'd Doctor Molly F. James..... *Priest Associate*
The Rev'd John L.C. Mitman ..... *Priest Associate*
The Rev'd Doctor Borden W. Painter Jr. ..... *Priest Associate*
The Rev'd Joan P. Phelps. ..... *Priest Associate*
The Rev'd Jean R. Smith. ..... *Priest Associate*

STAFF

Mrs. Cheryl C. Batter ..... *Parish Administrator*
Mr. Leon Fraser..... *Sexton*
Mrs. Priscilla Hooper..... *Director of Family Ministries*
Ms. Michelle Horsley..... *Organist & Director of Music*
Mrs. Stephanie Latif ..... *Financial Secretary*

VOLUNTEER STAFF

Mr. Harry Meyer ..... *Assistant Treasurer*

VESTRY

Mr. Greg Jacobs ..... *Senior Warden*
Mr. Tyler Smith ..... *Junior Warden*
Mr. Chuck Kinney..... *Clerk*
Mr. Michael Sherrill ..... *Treasurer*

2026	2027	2028
Chuck Kinney	Doug Compton	Susan Gutierrez
Ruth Mitman	Joey Meyer	David Kramer
Bill Thompson	Liz Normand	Jonathan Lewis
	Marilyn Tomlinson	Susan Ritz

We are a vibrant, inclusive, fun-loving, child-friendly community of faith.
No matter where you are in your journey, we welcome you to join us on ours...

CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS WITH US!

CHRISTMAS EVE
9:30 p.m. Music Prelude
10:00 p.m. Choral Eucharist

CHRISTMAS DAY
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist with Carols

Tel 860.521.9620
Info@stjameswh.org
@stjameswh

ST. JAMES'S EPISCOPAL CHURC
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www.stjameswh.org