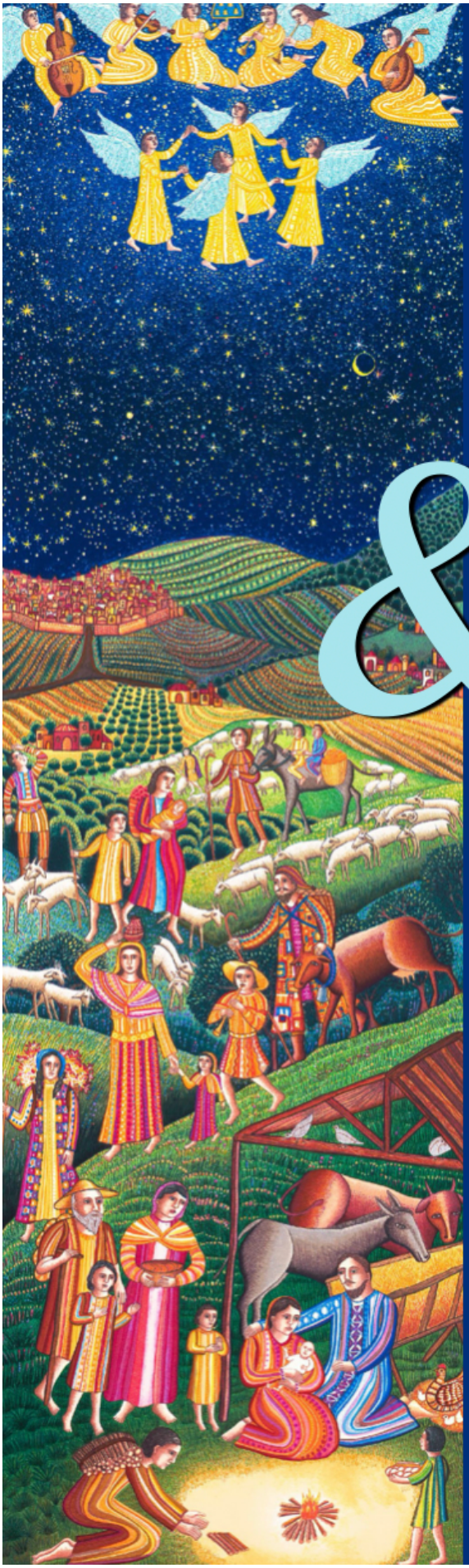


ADVENT & LESSONS & CAROLS

Featuring singers from the Thiel College choir and Mercer County Lutheran Churches

SUNDAY, NOV. 22, 2026
HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
GREENVILLE
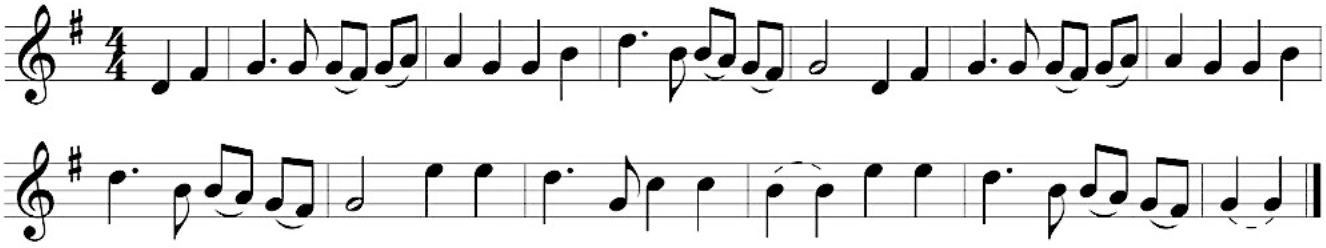
PART OF THE
FRIENDS OF MUSIC SERIES

Order *of* Service

Organ Voluntaries: Rhapsody on *Conditor Alme Siderum* — Karen Beaumont
Prelude on *Besançon: People look east* — Wayne L. Wold

Processional Hymn

§ *All stand*



§ ***The choirs alone sing verse 1 & 2.***

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.

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 mean and lowly
lived on earth our Savior holy.

§ *All sing:* **And through all his wondrous childhood
he would honor and obey,
love and watch the lowly maiden,
in whose gentle arms he lay;
Christian children all must be
mild, obedient, good as he.**

**For he is our childhood'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.**

**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.**

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 wait around.

Words: Cecil Frances Alexander
Music: *Irby*, Henry John Gauntlett, arr. by David Wilcocks

§ R*emain standing.*

Welcome & Bidding Prayer from the Pastor

The Lord's Prayer

ALL **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.

Collect § ***Response*: Amen.**

§ ***The congregation sits.***

Choir anthem: *Advent* from Advents Och Julsånger, op. 33

Zion's daughters lift your eyes as heaven's kingdom now is near.
Shout Hosanna in the highest! Lo, your king is coming here.
God, His son to earth has sent. Sing with joy, this Advent.

Spread His path with palms and flowers, open wide your heart to Him.
Trust in Him whose love empowers light and life in every limb.
Blessed day of His descent, sing for joy, this Advent.

Never cease this jubilation, like the roaring of the sea.
We will shout with every nation: Hosanna David's Son!
King of Glory heaven sent. Sing for joy, this Advent!

Words: Paul Nilsson; trans. Birgit Jacobson
Music: Otto Olsson

FIRST LESSON Genesis 2:4b-9, 15-22

The Vice President for Enrollment, Student Life & Athletics & parish member reads the lesson.

God creates man and woman to live in obedience to Him in the Garden of Eden.

Choir carol: I wonder as I wander

I wonder as I wander out under the sky,
How Jesus, the Savior, did come for to die
For poor orn'ry people like you and like I;
I wonder as I wander out under the sky.

When Mary birthed Jesus, 'twas in a cow's stall,
With wisemen and farmers and shepherds and all,
But high from the heaven a star's light did fall,
And the promise of ages, it then did recall.
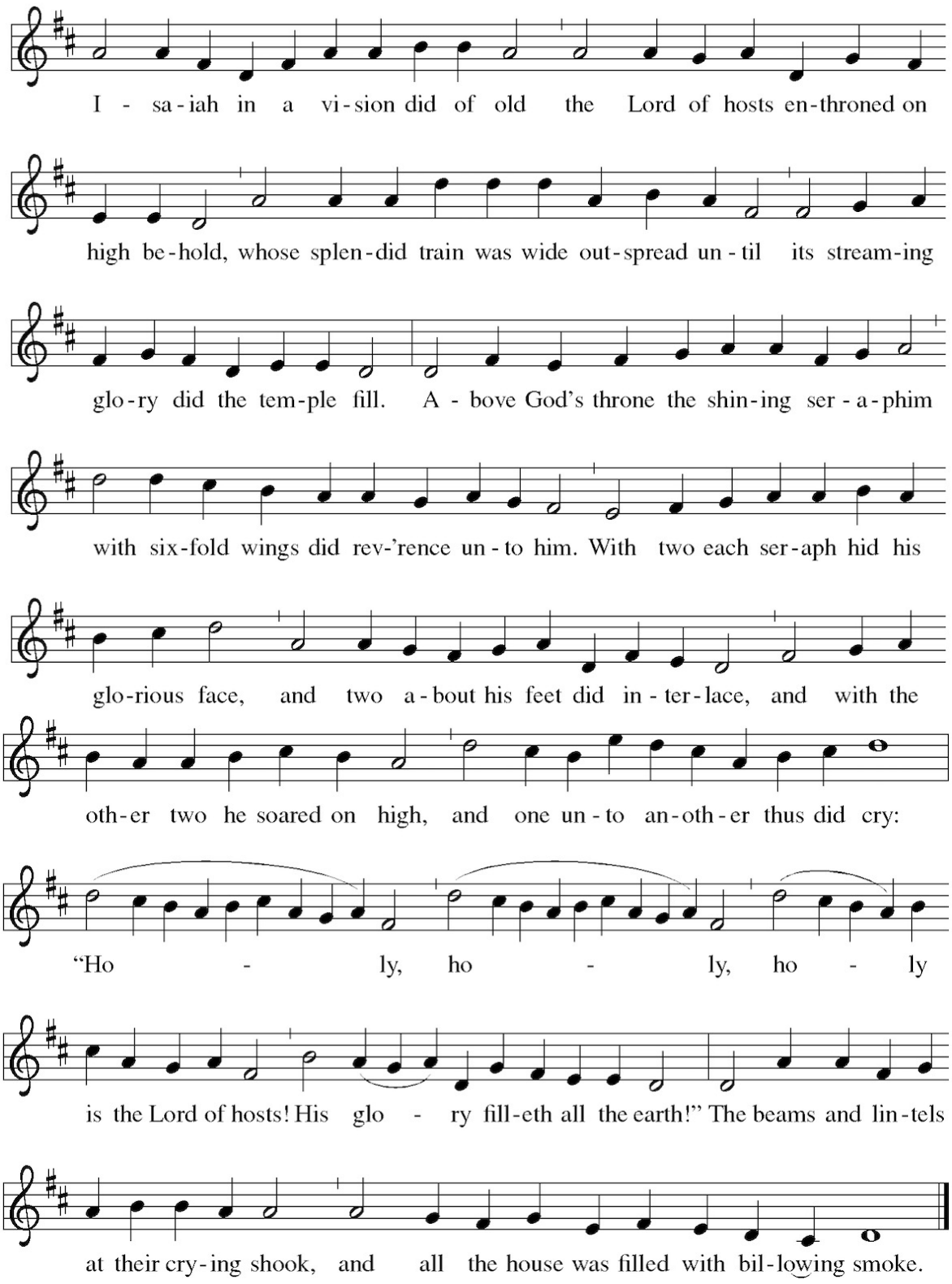
If Jesus had wanted for any wee thing,
A star in the sky or a bird on the wing,
Or all of god's angels in heaven for to sing,
He surely could have it, 'cause he was the King.

I wonder as I wander out under the sky
How Jesus, the savior, had come for to die
For poor orn'ry people like you and like I;
I wonder as I wander out under the sky.

Words & Music: collected and written by John Jacob Niles
Appalachian Carol: arr. by Leo Nestor

Hymn

§ ***Sung by all, standing.***



Words: Martin Luther; tr. Martin H. Franzmann
Music: *Jesaia, dem Propheten,* Martin Luther
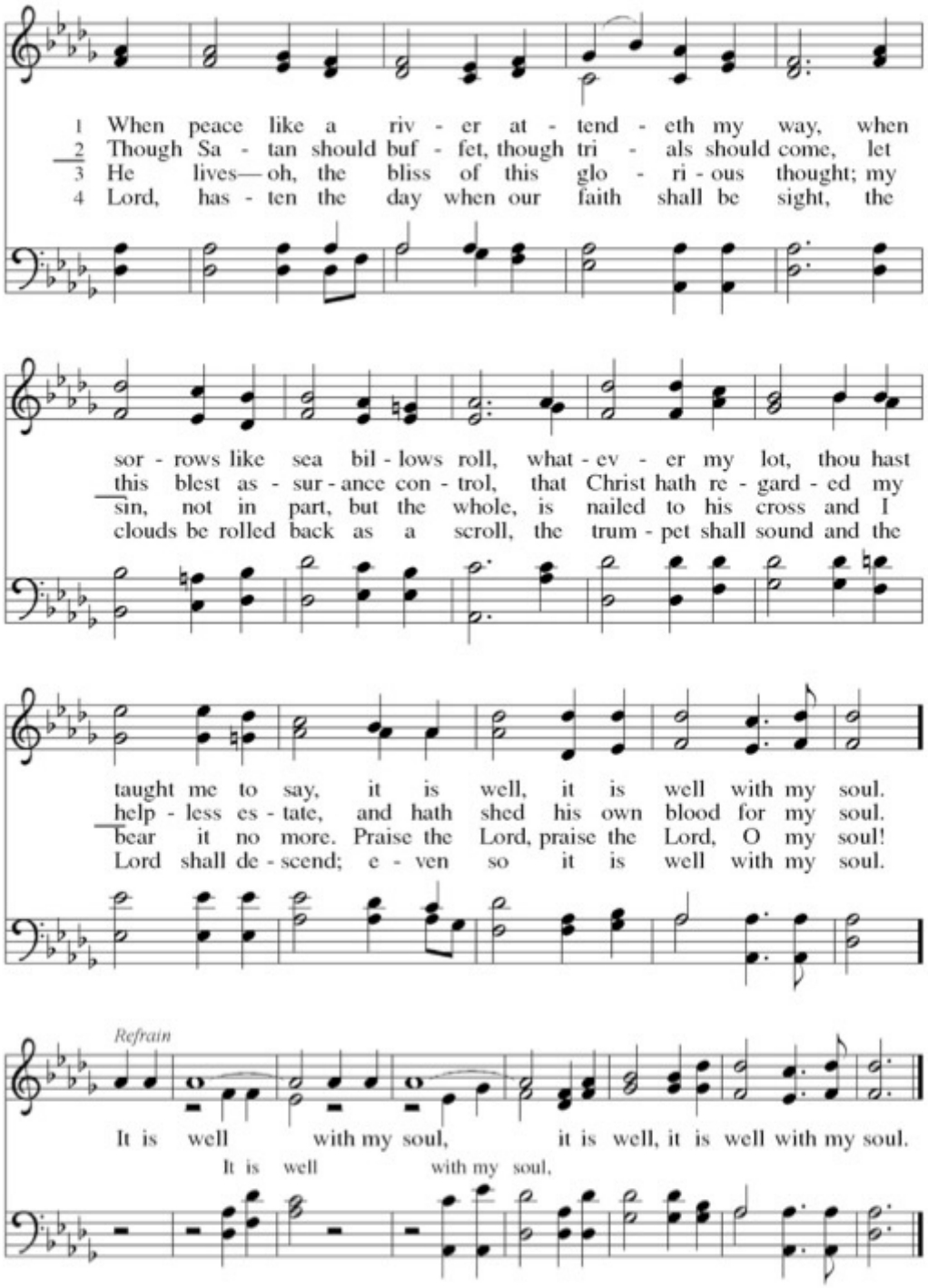
§ ***The congregation sits.***

SECOND LESSON

The Director of Parish Ministry reads the lesson.

The story of the hymn, It is well with my soul.

Hymn § ***Remain seated for singing the first two stanzas. Stand and sing the last two stanzas at the end of the reciting.***



Words: Horatio G. Spafford
Music: *Ville de Haurve,* Philip P. Bliss

§ ***The congregation sits.***

THIRD LESSON Isaiah 40:1-11

The 18th President of Thiel College & parish member reads the lesson.

God comforts his people and calls on them to prepare for redemption.

Choir anthem: E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come

Peace be to you and grace from Him
who freed us from our sins,
who loved us all and shed his blood
that we might saved be.

Sing Holy, Holy to our Lord,
the Lord, Almighty God,
who was and is and is to come;
sing Holy, Holy Lord!

Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell therein,
rejoice on earth, ye saints below,
for Christ is coming soon!

E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come,
and night shall be no more;
they need no light nor lamp nor sun,
for Christ will be their All!

Words: Revelation 22:5, adapt. Ruth Manz
Music: *E'en so Lord Jesus quickly come*, Paul Manz
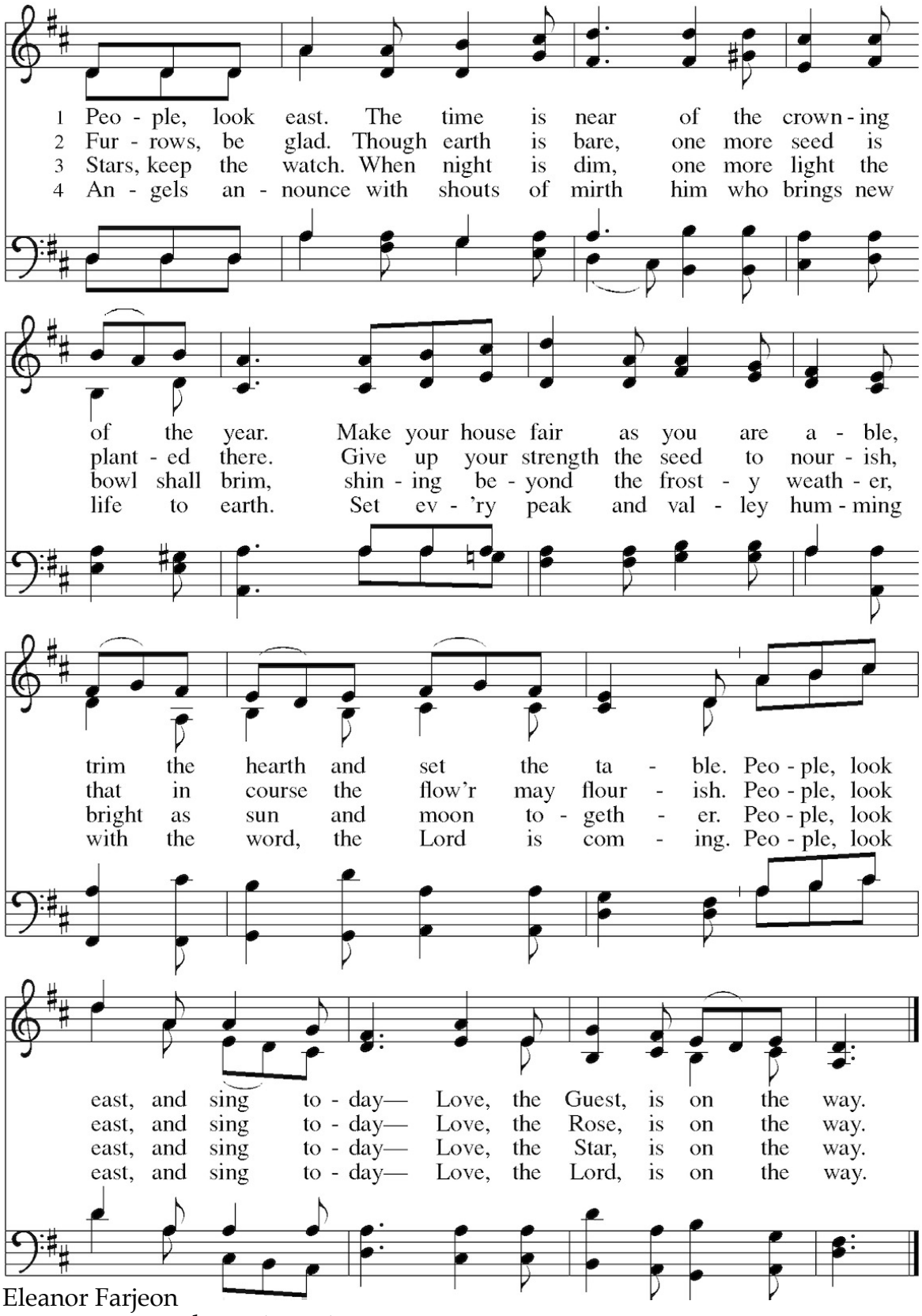
FOURTH LESSON Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

A Professor Emeritus of Religion; Inaugural Director of the Dietrich Honors Institute; choir & parish member reads the lesson.

The prophet foretells the coming of the savior.

Hymn

§ ***Sung by all, standing.***



Text: Eleanor Farjeon
Music: *Besançon,* French carol; arr. by Barry Rose

§ ***The congregation sits.***

FIFTH LESSON Isaiah 11:1-9

An Organist at St. John's Lutheran Church & St. John's parish member reads the lesson.

The Spirit of the Lord rests upon the Holy One.

Choir carol: The Wexford Carol

1. Good people all, this Christmas time,
Consider well and bear in mind
What our good God for us has done,
In sending His belovèd Son.
With Mary holy we should pray
To God with love this Christmas Day;
In Bethlehem upon the morn
There was a blest Messiah born.

2. The night before that happy tide
The noble virgin and her guide
Were long time seeking up and down
To find a lodging in the town.
But mark how all things came to pass:
From every door repelled, alas!
As long foretold, their refuge all
Was but a humble oxen stall.

3. Near Bethlehem did shepherds keep
Their flocks of lambs and feeding sheep;
To whom God's angels did appear
Which put the shepherds in great fear.
Prepare and go, the angels said,
To Bethlehem, be not afraid;
For there you'll find, this happy morn,
A princely babe, sweet Jesus born.

4. With thankful heart and joyful mind,
The shepherds went the babe to find,
And as God's angel has foretold,
They did our Savior Christ behold.
Within a manger He was laid,
And by His side the virgin maid
Attending to the Lord of Life,
Who came on earth to end all strife.

Words & Music: trad. Irish Carol; arr. by Dale Warland
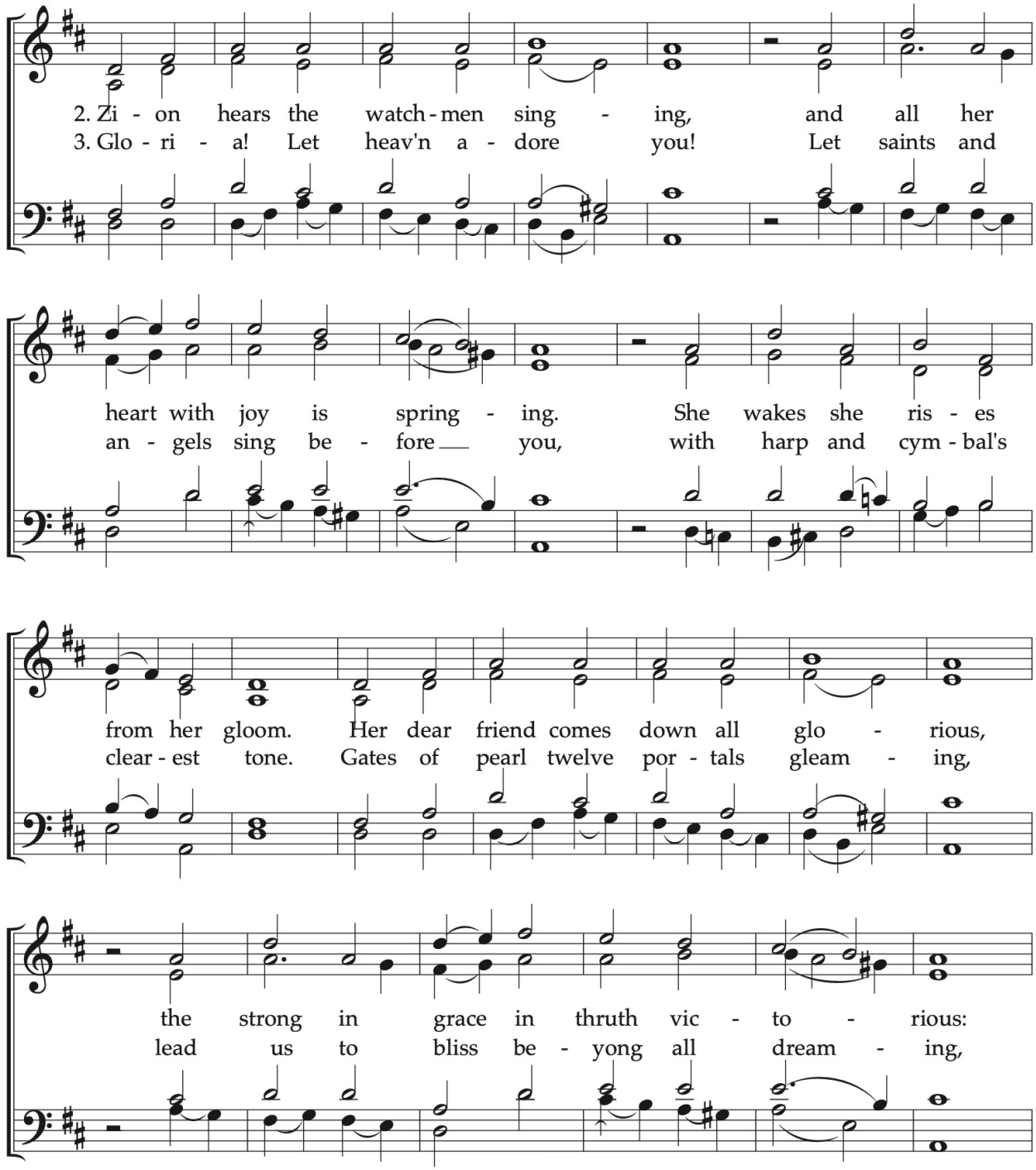
An Offering is taken to benefit the Thiel College Choir.
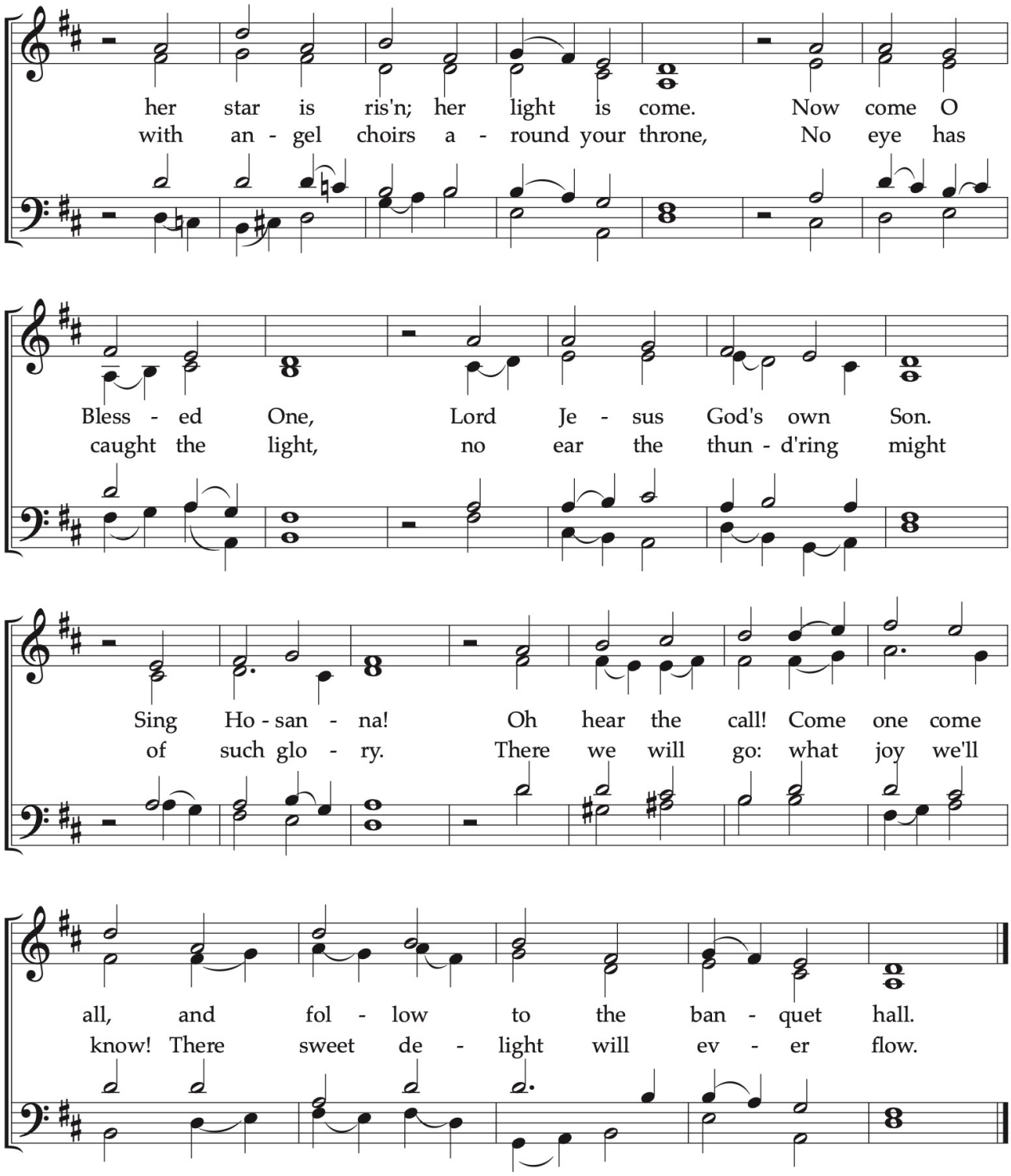
HYMN

Verse 1 sung by the choirs. from Cantata 140, Johann Sebastian Bach

Wake, awake, for night is flying, the watchmen on the heights are crying;
Awake, Jerusalem, at last. Midnight hears the welcome voices,
And at the thrilling cry rejoices: "Come forth, you maidens! Night is past.
The bridegroom comes! Awake; your lamps with gladness take! Alleluia!
Rise and prepare the feast to share; Go, meet the bridegroom, who draws near.

§ **Verses 2 & 3** ***Sung by all, standing.***





Text: Philipp Nicolai
Music: *Wachet auf*, Philipp Nicolai

§ ***The congregation sits.***

SIXTH LESSON Luke 1:26-58

A Former Music Teacher; choir & parish member reads the lesson.

The angel Gabriel announces to the Virgin Mary that she will bear the Son of the Most High.

Choir anthem: Salvation is created

Спасение соделал еси посреде земли, Боже. Аллилуия
Salvation is created in midst of the earth, O God. Alleluia.

Words: Liturgy of St. James, para. by Gerard Moultrie
Music: *Picardy*, arr. Gustav Holst

SEVENTH LESSON Luke 2:1-20

A Lecturer of English & parish member reads the lesson.

Jesus is born at Bethlehem and is worshiped by angels and shepherds.

Choir anthem: Still, still, still

Still, still, still,
One can hear the falling snow.
For all is hushed,
The world is sleeping,
Holy Star its vigil keeping.
Still, still, still,
One can hear the falling snow.
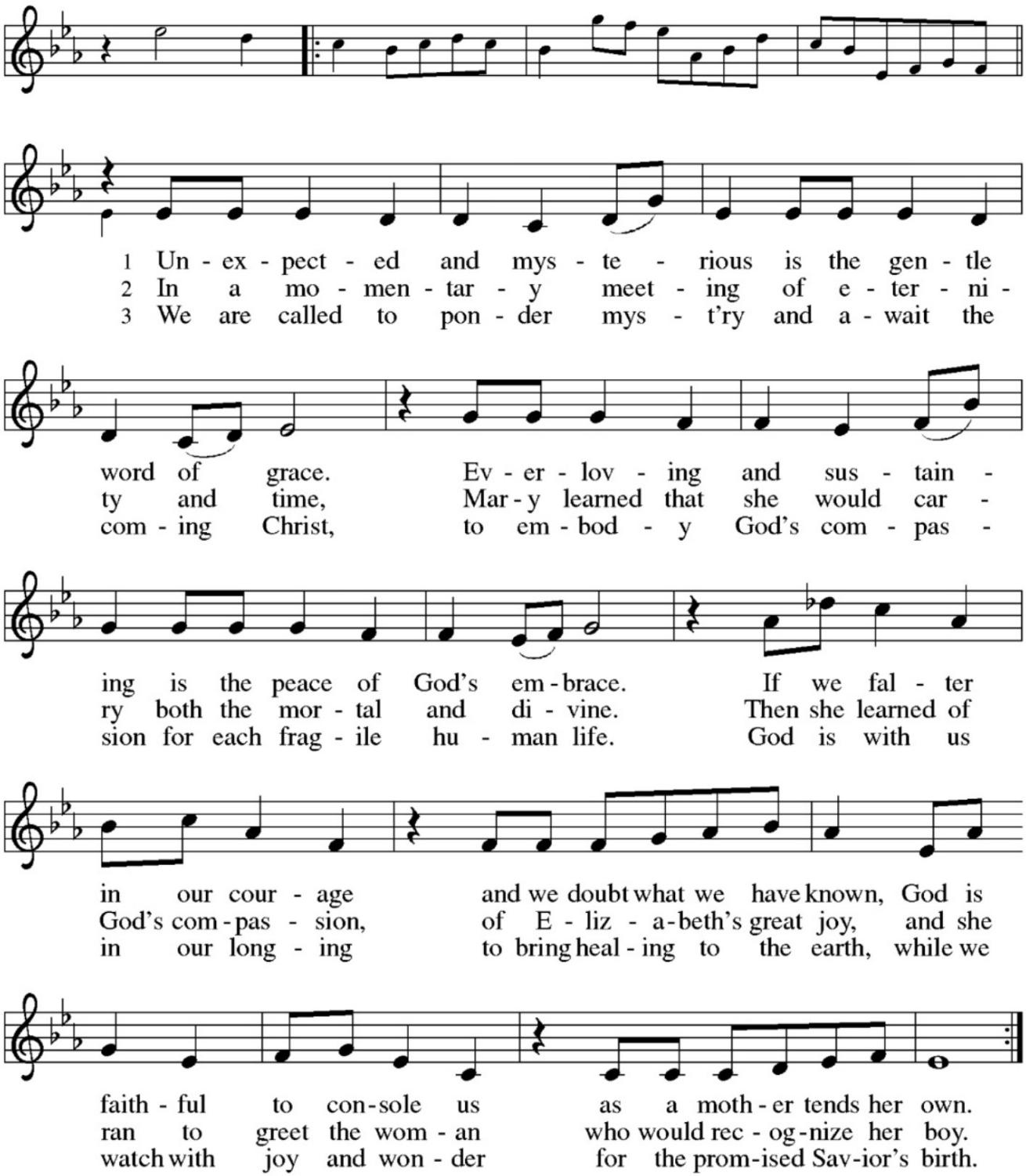
Sleep, sleep, sleep,
'Tis the eve of our Saviour's birth.
The night is peaceful all around you,
Close your eyes,
Let sleep surround you.
Sleep, sleep, sleep,
'Tis the eve of our Saviour's birth.

Dream, dream, dream,
Of the joyous day to come.
While guardian angels without number,
Watch you as you sweetly slumber.
Dream, dream, dream,
Of the joyous day to come.

Text: Georg Götsch: trans. by Marilyn Keith and Alan Bergman
Music: Austrian Carol arr. by Norman Luboff

Hymn

§ ***Sung by all, standing.***



Words: Jeannette M. Lindholm
Music: *St. Helena,* Calvin Hampton

EIGHTH LESSON Matthew 2:1-12

A Member of the ELCA Church Council & parish member reads the lesson.

The wisemen are led by the star
to Jesus.

Choir anthem: A Gallery Carol

Rejoice and be merry in song and in mirth!
O praise our Redeemer, all mortals on earth!
for this is the birthday of Jesus our King,
who brought us salvation, His praises we sing.

A heavenly vision appeared in the sky;
vast numbers of angels the shepherds did spy,
proclaiming the birthday of Jesus our King,
who brought us salvation: his praises we'll sing.

A very bright star in the sky did appear,
which led the wise men from the East to draw near.
they found the Messiah, sweet Jesus our King,
who brought us salvation, his praises we'll sing.

And when they were come, they their treasures unfold,
and unto him offered myrrh, incense and gold.
so blessed forever be Jesus our King,
who brought us salvation, His praises we'll sing!

Words: Old Dorset Church-gallery Book
Music: *Gallery Carol*, arr. Marlowe Johnson

Candle Lighting



§ ***The congregation stands.***

NINTH LESSON John 1:1-18

The Campus & Parish Pastor reads the lesson.

St. John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.

Carol: O Jesus so sweet

O Jesus so sweet, O Jesus so mild!
For sinners You became a child.
You came from heaven down to earth
In human flesh through human birth.
O Jesus so sweet, O Jesus so mild!
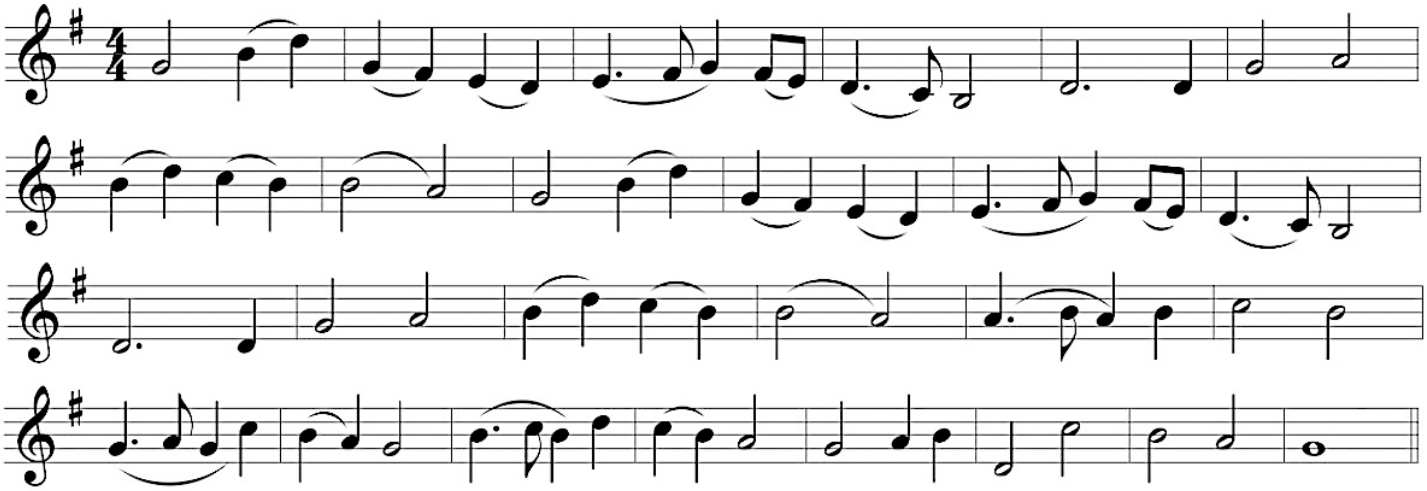
O Jesus so sweet, O Jesus so mild!
With God we now are reconciled.
You have for all the ransom paid,
Your Father's righteous anger stayed.
O Jesus so sweet, O Jesus so mild!

3 O Jesus so sweet, O Jesus so mild!
Joy fills the world which sin defiled.
Whate'er we have belongs to You;
O keep us faithful, strong, and true.
O Jesus so sweet, O Jesus so mild!

Text: Valentin Thilo; trans. G. W. Daisley
Music: *O Jesulein süss,* Johann Sebastian Bach

Hymn

§ *Sung by all, standing.*



Lo! he comes, with clouds descending,
once for our salvation slain;
Thousand, thousand saints attending
swell the triumph of his train:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Christ the Lord returns to reign.

Every eye shall now behold him,
robed in dreadful majesty;
Those who set at nought and sold him,
pierced, and nailed him to the tree,
Deeply wailing, deeply wailing, deeply wailing,
shall the true Messiah see.

Those dear tokens of his passion
still his dazzling body bears,
Cause of endless exultation
to his ransomed worshipers;
With what rapture, with what rapture, with what rapture,
gaze we on those glorious scars!

Yea! Amen! let all adore thee,
high on thine eternal throne!
Savior, take the power and glory;
claim the kingdom for thine own:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
thou shalt reign and thou alone.

Words: Charles Wesley
Music: *Helmsley,* Augustine Arne

§ R*emain standing.*

The Pastor: The Lord be with you.
All: **And also with you.**

Collects
§ ***Response:*** **Amen.**

Recessional: Lead by the Crucifer, the Pastor and The Thiel College Choir leave the chancel.

§ **Please r*emain standing as they pass.***

Postlude: Præludium & Fugue in G minor Dieterich Buxtehude

Everyone is invited to a catered reception in Brath Hall
located in the basement.



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The Pastor
The Reverend Brenda Martin

The Crucifer
Sean Oros

The Readers
1st Lesson – Dr. Michael McKinney
2nd Lesson – Don Achenbach
3rd Lesson, Dr. Robert Olson
4th Lesson – The Rev. Dr. Curtis Thompson
5th Lesson – Andy Joos
6th Lesson – Billie Hollenbaugh
7th Lesson – Sean Oros
8th Lesson – Olivia Martin-Call
9th Lesson – The Rev. Brenda Martin

The Music Director
Steve Repasky

The Thiel College Singers Choir Director
Brianne Samson

The Thiel College Singers

Dom Baker	Kyleigh Coy	Kaden Drew	Jacob Fraley
Maggie McDermott	Isabelle Meka	Perihan Oguz	Ryan Pacious
	Kaylee Reynolds	Dwayne Simpkins	

The Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Choir

Sue Achenbach	Fran Black	Mary Beth Bradley	Billie Hollenbaugh *
Dave Hollenbaugh *	Liz Lewis	Marie Lineman	Lisa Lockmeyer
John Myers	Don Rasely	Curtis Thompson	Kathryn Thompson

** Thiel College alumnus/a*

The Ushers
Mike Bradley Barry Oman

The Hospitality Committee
Bonnie Massing Catherine Richardson Michelle Wentling

Cover art: A portion of the Central *Nativity* panel of the Advent Triptych
2025 by John August Swanson, 1985-1988
Nativity © used by permission from the Eyekons Gallery



Advent Triptych : Epiphany – Nativity – Shepherds
by John August Swanson