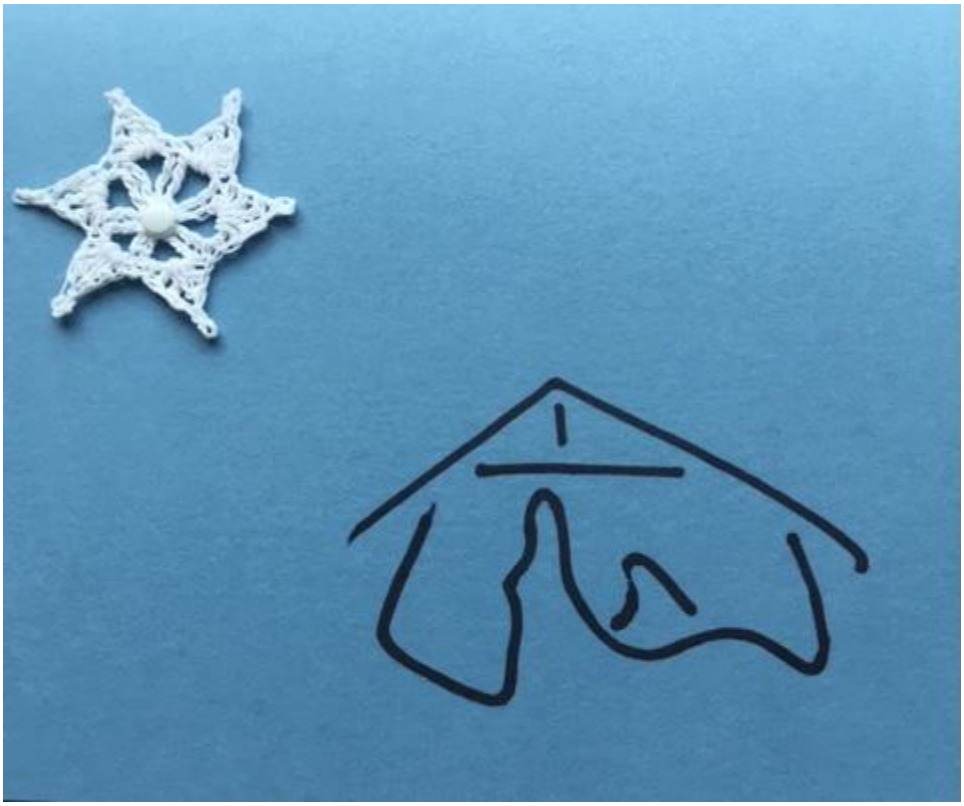


ST. BRENDAN THE NAVIGATOR

Deer Isle Maine

Our **Mission** is to **love, praise**, **welcome,** and **serve**:
· to **love** one another as Christ loves us,
· to **praise** God in all things,
· to **welcome** and affirm all persons,
· to **serve** the needs of one another and of those
on the island, the peninsula, and throughout the world.

Pastor Elaine Hewes, preaching
Connie Mayo, Music Director

Christmas Eve
December 24, 2020

Prelude

Opening Hymn 83: *O Come all Ye Faithful*

Leader: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.
Congregation: **The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.**
Leader: Those who dwelt in the land of deep darkness, on them the light has shined.
Congregation: **We have beheld Christ's glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.**
Leader: For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given.
Congregation: **In him was life, and the life was the light of all people.**

Christ Candle is lit

Leader: We light this candle for the newborn Christ, reawakening hope and faith – the Word embodied for our time.

Congregation: **God, as we receive your promise, you are light, you are hope.**

Collect of the Day

Leader: God everlasting and ever-near, the coming of your light into our world brightened weary hearts with peace. Call us out of darkness, and empower us by the Spirit of your incarnate love to bear witness to the light of Christ in word and in deed. Make of our hearts a manger for the Christ child, and make of our lives a sign of your presence in the world. We pray in the name of Jesus, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever.

Congregation: **Amen.**

Scripture reading: Isaiah 9:1-7

But there will be no gloom for those who were in anguish.
In the former time he brought into contempt
the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea,
the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.
The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined.
You have multiplied the nation,
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.
For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.
For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.
For a child has been born for us, a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty God, Everlasting Father,
Prince of Peace.
His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.
He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Piano Interlude: "Lo How a Rose e'er Blooming"

Christmas Gospel: Luke 2:1-7
In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Hymn 79: *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

Christmas Gospel: Luke 2: 8-20
In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Hymn 96: *Angels we Have Heard on High*

Sermon Pastor Elaine Hewes

Hymn 112: *In the Bleak Mid-winter*

Sharing of the Peace

Prayers of the People:
Joining our voices with the songs of the angels, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those who are in need.

The Shepherds sing, "Jesus Christ is born!" Let your church throughout the world proclaim this good news, over the hills and everywhere. Unite the voices of all your faithful people in songs of praise and rejoicing. Hear us, O God,
Your mercy is great.

Heaven and nature sing "Joy to the World!" Give respite to flocks, fields, and those who tend them. Come near to us in the beauty of the nighttime, the shining of the stars, and the hush of the world at rest. May our wonder at your creation rouse our care for all the earth. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

The angels sing, "Peace on Earth." Ignite us with passion on behalf of your kingdom of justice and peace. Help us to hush the noise of war and violence in places of unrest. Inspire leaders of nations to heal divisions and to care for the most vulnerable among us. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Mary sings melodies of comfort to her newborn child. Bring rest and reassurance to those facing struggles this night. Expand our hearts to make room for those without a place to lay their head. Console those who lie awake due to pain or anxiety. With your healing presence, strengthen those who are ill in mind, body and spirit, especially…. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Love sings through the sound of a new baby's cry. Bless parents as they seek to create a safe and nurturing home for their children, especially those who have to make hard choices during this Covid pandemic. Enhance our resolve to work for policies that value families of every shape and size, and help us to see in every family the Holy Family in whose love we rejoice this night. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Please add your own prayers

Here other intercessions may be offered.

The heavenly chorus sings "Glory to God in the highest!" We give you thanks for all the saints who have proclaimed your glory in word and in deed. Let us join them this night in joyful praise for your love which is both everlasting and ever-with-us. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

God of mercy, come quickly to us with grace upon grace as we lift these and all our prayers to you, in the name of Jesus.
Amen.

Candles are lit in everyone's homes while we sing **Hymn 111***: Silent Night*

Prayer for Christmas: Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

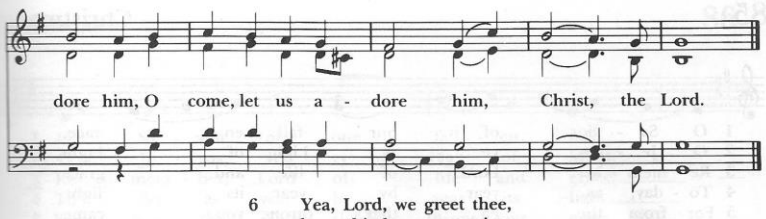
Blessing

Sending Hymn 100: *Joy to the World*

Postlude

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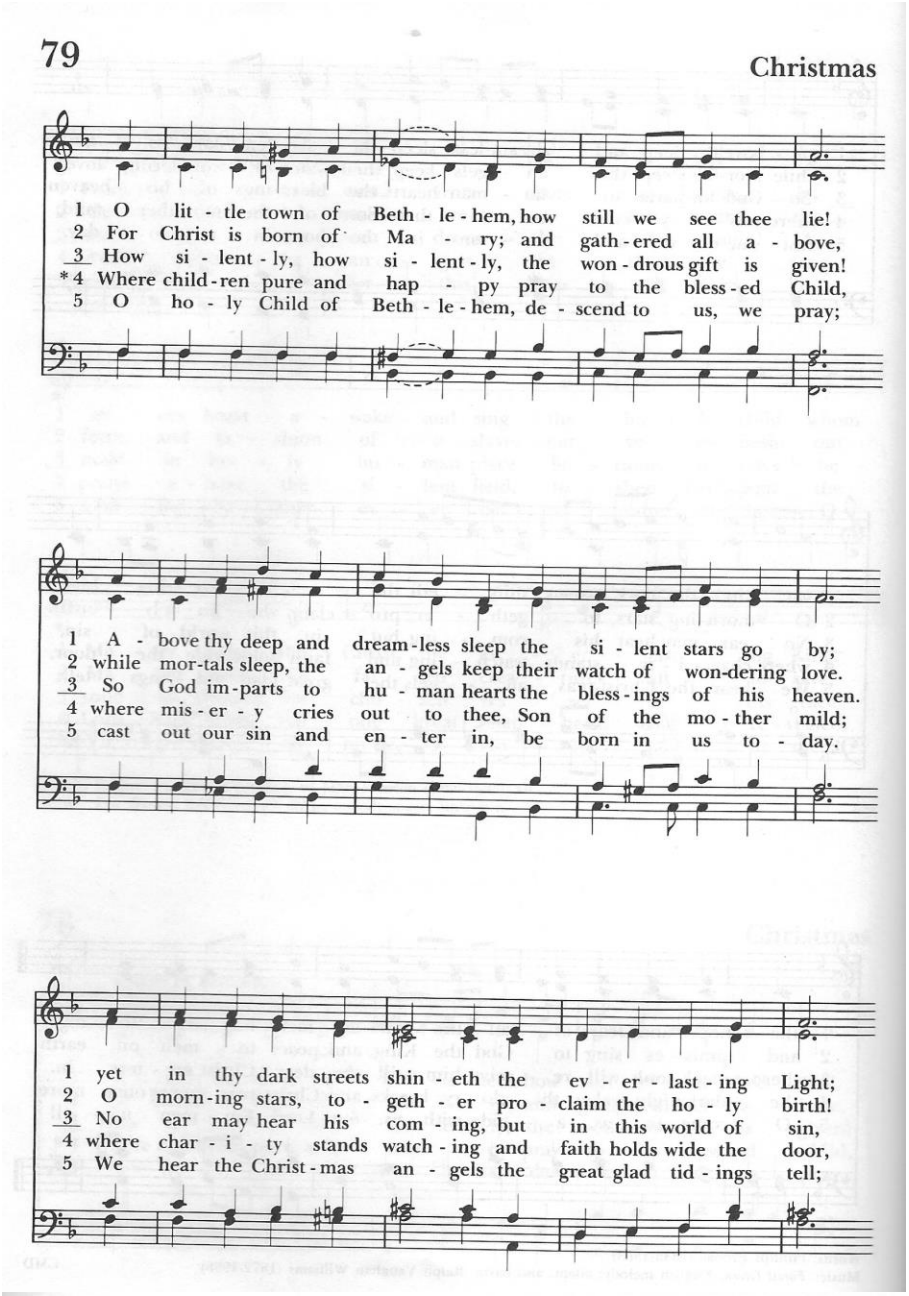




6 Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father,
now in flesh appearing;

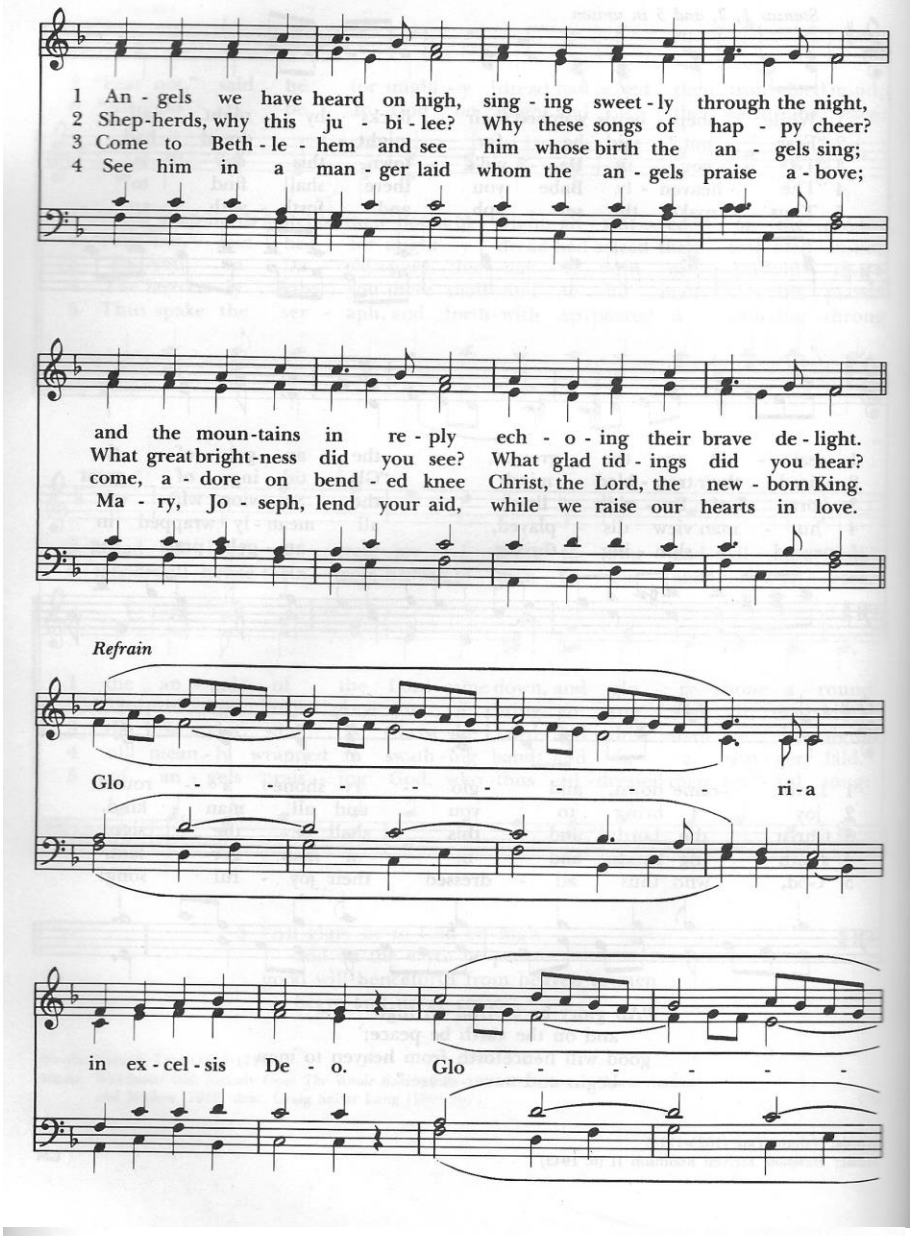
Refrain

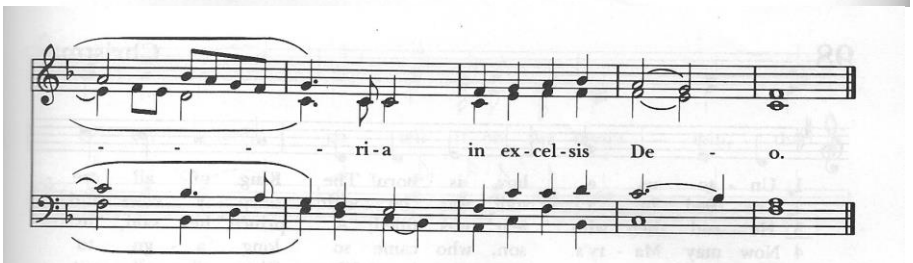
Words: John Francis Wade (1711-1786); tr. Frederick Oakeley (1802-1880) and others
Music: *Adeste fideles,* present form of melody att. John Francis Wade (1711-1786); harm. *The English Hymnal,* 1906 Irr.



Words: Phillips Brooks (1835-1893)
Music: *St. Louis*, Lewis H. Redner (1831-1908)

CMD





Words: French carol; tr. James Chadwick (1813-1882), alt.
Music: *Gloria*, French carol; arr. Edward Shippen Barnes (1887-1958)

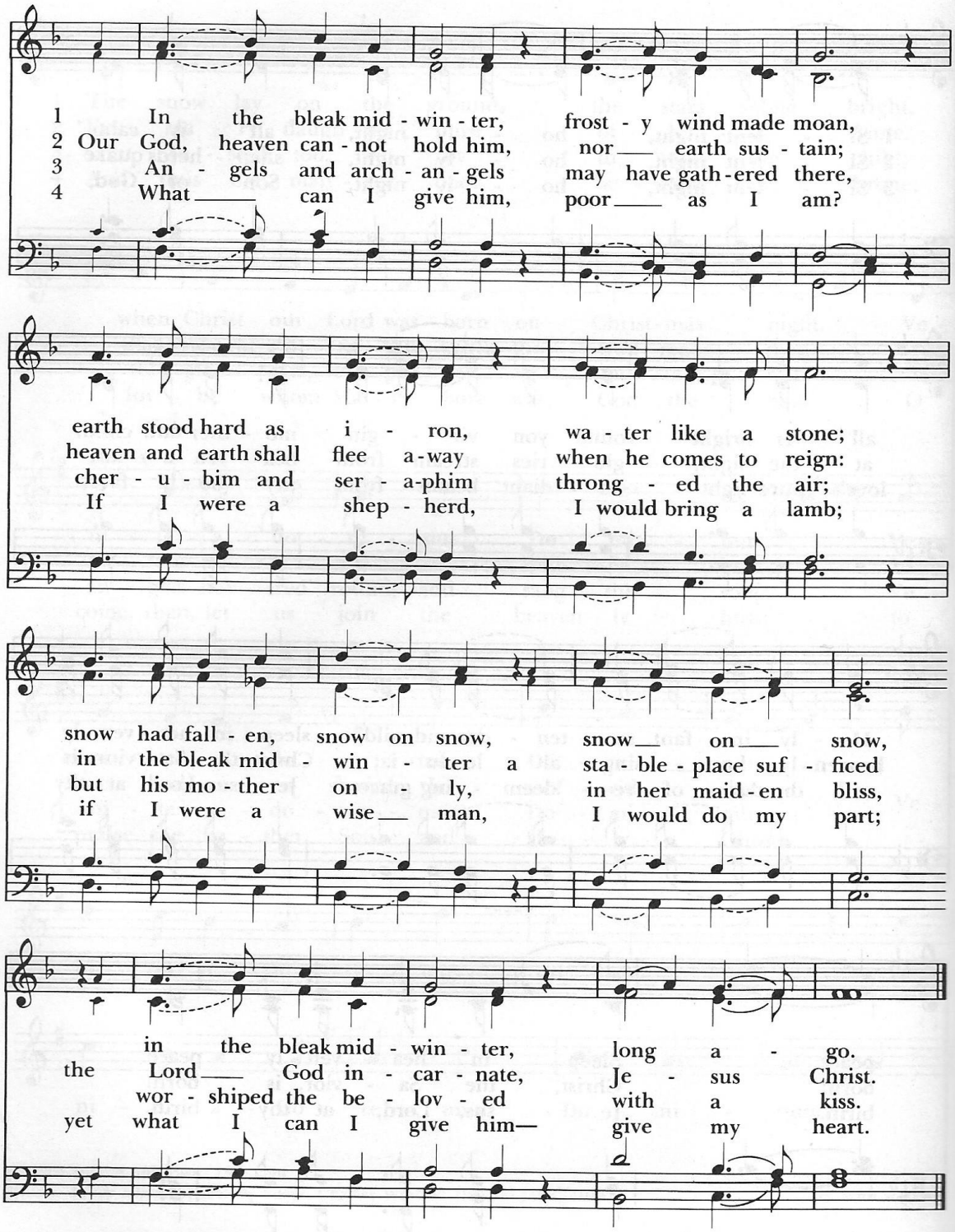
77. 77 with Refrain



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) Irr.

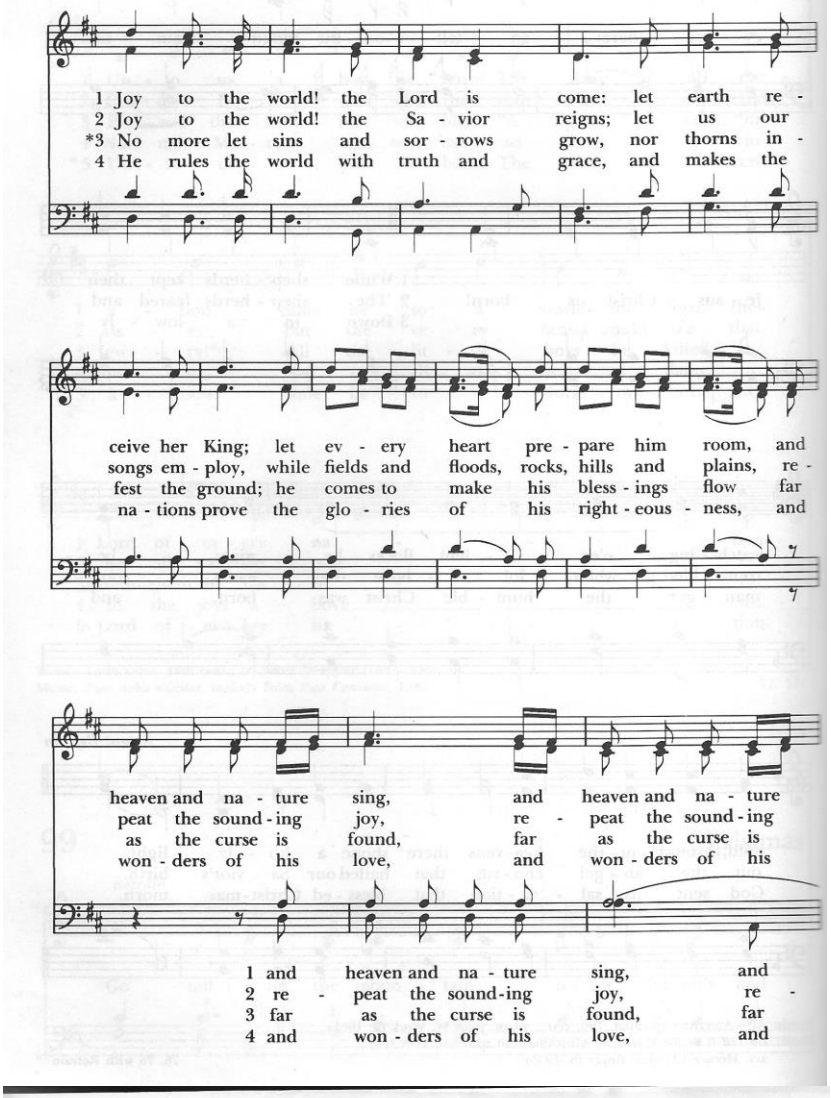
112

Christmas



Words: Christina Rossetti (1830-1894)
Music: *Cranham*, Gustav Theodore Holst (1874-1934)

Irr.





Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt.
Music: *Antioch*, George Frideric Handel (1685-1759); adapt. and arr. Lowell Mason (1792-1872) CM with Repeat