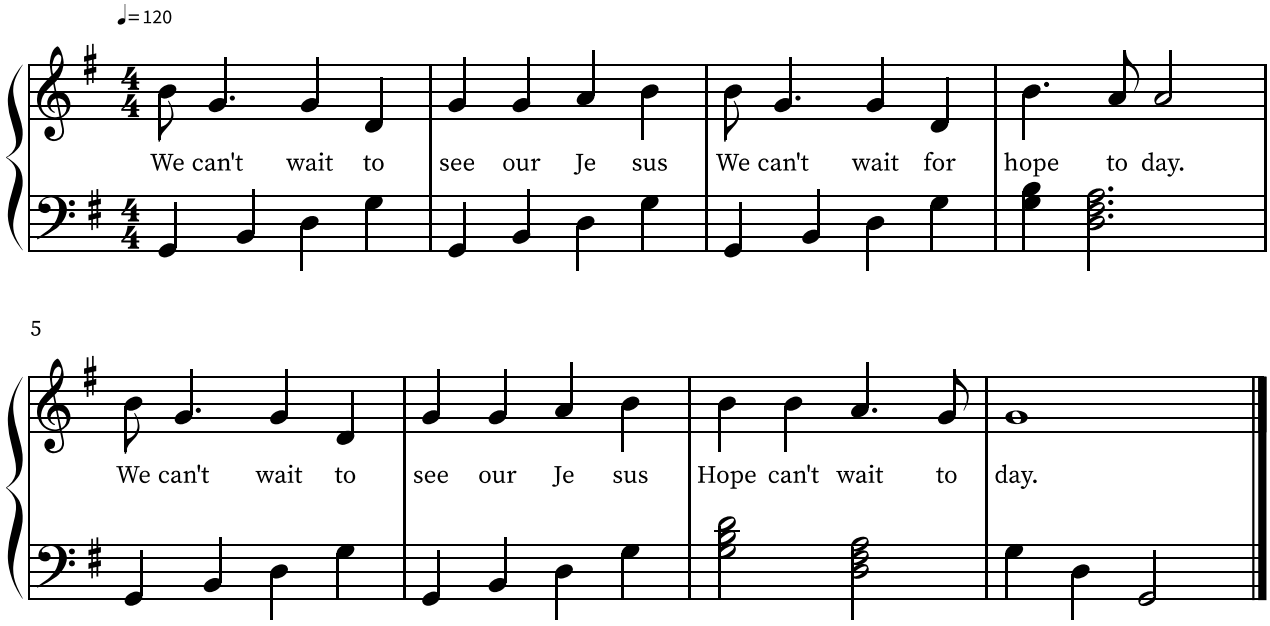
Westminster
Presbyterian Church
353 E. Pine St., Wooster, OH. 44691
330-263-2398 / wpcwooster.org

# November 27, 2022
# First Sunday in Advent

**Welcome and Announcements** **Ferenc Relle**

*Let us open our hearts and minds to the rhythm of the gathering music as it centers us in God's presence for worship.*

**Gathering Song** **"We Can't Wait"** **Pam Funai**




2. Peace
3. Joy
4. Love

**Candle Lighting Litany** **Ferenc and Candy Relle**

What gives you hope?
Hear the answers of different generations from across the country:

**Seeing our grandchildren thrive.**
**Dogs wagging their tails.**
**Kindness of strangers.**
**Time in the park.**
**People working for justice.**
**Friendship with my adult children.**
**Singing together.**
**The sunrise every single morning.**

What gives us hope this morning?
Today we light the candle of hope to remind ourselves that God is at work in this world.

**From generation to generation, God has brought good news of love and compassion, justice and community. Let us rest and abide in that good news. Amen.**

***Gathering Hymn No. 81 "Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken" Austrian Hymn**

**Call to Confession** **Candy Relle**

*In God's house, everyone is welcome—*
*those who seem like they have it all together, and those who feel like their world is falling apart.*
*No matter who we are, there's room for us here.*
*With that confidence, we turn to God in prayer, speaking the truth of our lives.*
*Let us pray our responsive prayer of confession:*

**Prayer of Confession** **Candy Relle**

God of today and God of tomorrow,
you say, "Bring your full self. There's room for you here."
**But we say, "Our lives are too messy."**
You say, "Bring your hopes and your dreams. There's room for you here."
**But we say, "It's too risky to hope."**
You say, "Bring your grief and your prayers. There's room for you here."
**But we say, "Some things are easier to forget."**

God of today and God of tomorrow,
we know in our hearts that there's room for us here.
**Forgive us for withholding our full selves from you.**
**Forgive us for giving only our Sunday best.**
Help us remember, today and tomorrow,
**There's room for every story. Amen.**

*Silent Confession*

**Musical Response No. 698 "Take, O Take Me as I Am" John Bell**

**Assurance of Forgiveness** **Ferenc Relle**

Family of faith,
We who feel scattered are held together.
We who have lost our way are forgiven and found.
And we who are lonely are brought into the fold and are told, "There's room for you here."

**From generation to generation, this is the good news of the gospel.**
**In Jesus Christ we are held, forgiven, found, and welcomed. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

**Musical Offering** **Chorale on "Puer Natus"** **J.S. Bach**

*We offer our gifts of money, talents, time, and energy—the gifts of our lives in gratitude for God's relentless love and grace for all. These gifts represent our commitment to heed God's call and join God in God's mission of healing and transforming our world.*

**Prayer of Illumination** **Dr. Liz Smith**

**Scripture Reading** **Matthew 1:1-17** **Dr. Liz Smith**
**(New Revised Standard Version)**

**1** An account of the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

**2** Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his
brothers, **3** and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the
father of Aram, **4** and Aram the father of Aminadab, and Aminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the
father of Salmon, **5** and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed
the father of Jesse, **6** and Jesse the father of King David.

And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah, **7** and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and
Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asaph, **8** and Asaph the father of Jehoshaphat, and
Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, **9** and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham
the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, **10** and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the
father of Amos, and Amos the father of Josiah, **11** and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time
of the deportation to Babylon.

**12** And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Salathiel, and Salathiel the father of
Zerubbabel, **13** and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of
Azor, **14** and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud, **15** and
Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, **16** and Jacob the
father of Joseph the husband of Mary, who bore Jesus, who is called the Messiah.

**17** So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations; and from David to the deportation to
Babylon, fourteen generations; and from the deportation to Babylon to the Messiah, fourteen generations.

**Sermon** **From Generation to Generation** **Dr. Liz Smith**

***Hymn No. 756** **"O God of Every Nation"** **LLANGLOFFAN**

**Sharing of Joys and Concerns** **Ferenc and Candy Relle**

**Prayer of the People** **Ferenc and Candy Relle**

We ask through the power of your Spirit and in the name of Jesus the Christ,
who taught us to pray, saying:

**Our God in heaven, holy is your name.**
**Your kingdom come,**
**Your will be done, on earth as is in heaven.**
**Give us today our daily bread.**
**Forgive us our sins**
**as we forgive those who sin against us.**
**Save us from the time of trial**
**and deliver us from evil.**
**For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours.**
**Now and forever. Amen.**

***Closing Hymn No. 105** **"People, Look East"** **BESANCON**

***Benediction** **Dr. Liz Smith**

As you leave this place, may you go knowing that from generation to generation,
we have been claimed and loved.
From generation to generation, God has been by our side.
From generation to generation, we are not alone.

The God of yesterday and the God of tomorrow knows you by name,
loves you, and calls you forth, saying,
"Go be the person you are called to be, love wildly, do justice, and come back soon."
May it be so. Amen.

**Postlude** **Postlude on "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" (arrangement by Douglas Wagner)** **W. M. Runyan**

*Hymns are from the Glory to God Hymnal.
*The words for worship were *Adapted from a liturgy by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org."*
*Music: Organ - Tom Shaw
*Dr. Liz Smith is a seminary student at Phillips Theological Seminary. She and her husband just moved to Wooster in July when he took a visiting position at the college in the Department of Communication. Previously, she worked at Plymouth Congregational Church in Lawrence, Kansas as the Welcome and Care Coordinator. Currently, she works as a litigation consultant and online lecturer for the University of Kansas.

**The service continues with fellowship.**




To continue to assure the safety of all, the offering plate is located on a table in the back of the sanctuary. If you are moved to support our ministry, we invite you to place your gifts in the plate.

You may also give online through our website by clicking on the "GIVE NOW" button at the bottom of the home page.

GIVE NOW

Your generosity helps us to fulfill our calling to engage in God's transformative mission in our community.

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# Upcoming Events

Sunday, November 27, First Sunday in Advent
- Worship Service – 10 am – Mackey Hall
- Wooster Friends Meeting – 10:30 am – The Meeting Place

Wednesday, November 30
- First Advent Dinner Conversation - 6 pm - in homes

Thursday, December 1
- Dance and Exercise – 8.30 am – The Meeting Place

Sunday, December 4, Second Sunday in Advent
- Choir Rehearsal – 9 am – The Meeting Place
- Worship Service – 10 am – Mackey Hall
- Wooster Friends Meeting – 10:30 am – The Meeting Place

## Westminster Presbyterian Church

**Pastor** Rev. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy
**Minister of Music** Rev. Dr. Thomas Shaw
**Office Administrator** Rev. Dr. Jim Henery
**AV Assistant/Event Steward** Tony Mendiola
**Custodian** Kara Akers

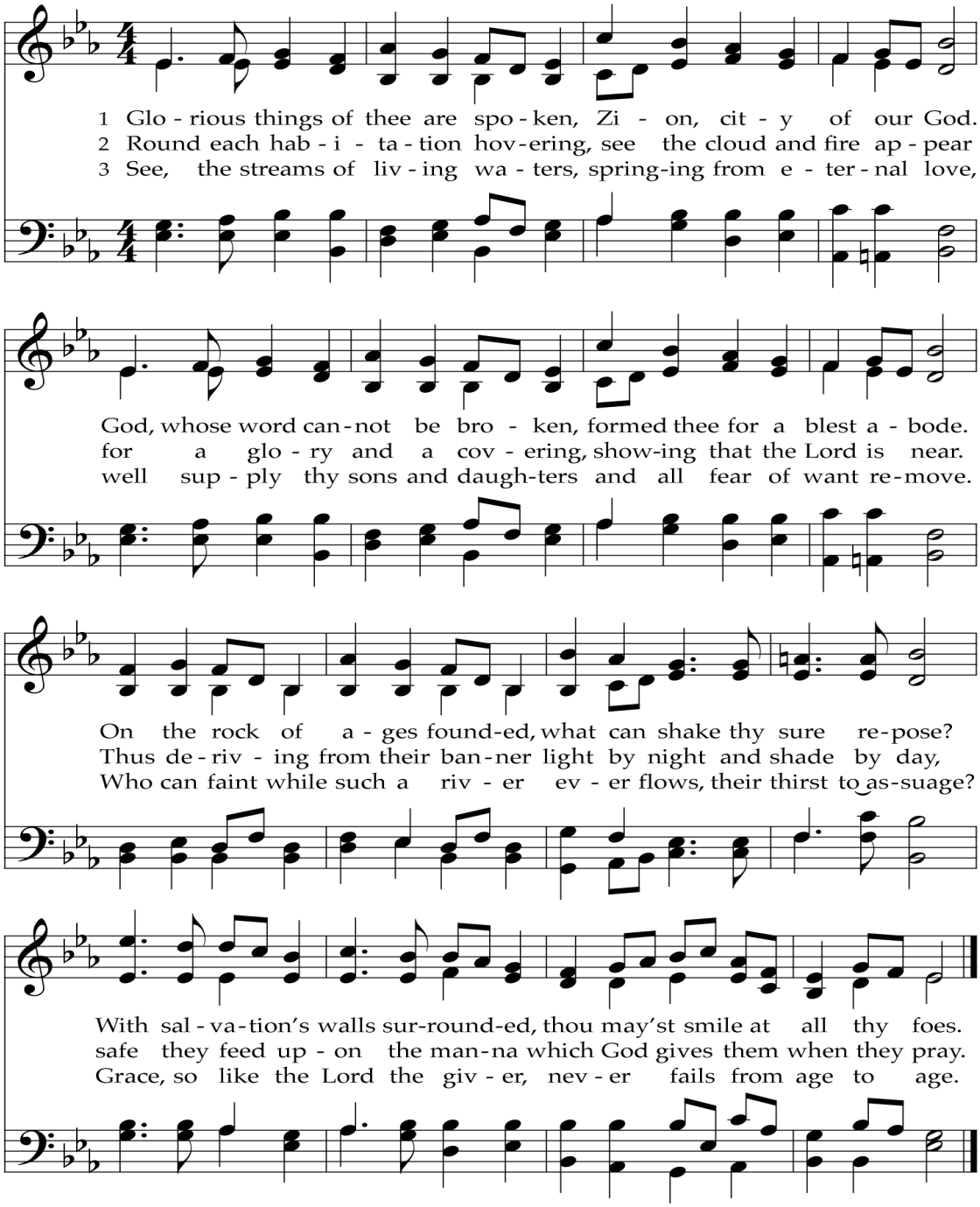
Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 10 a.m.-2.p.m.

*wpcwooster@gmail.com: 330.263.2398*
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*Westminster Presbyterian Church strives to be a safe place for all people to worship regardless of ethnicity, creed, age, cultural background, gender identity, or sexual orientation.*

GOD'S COVENANT WITH ISRAEL

# 81 Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken



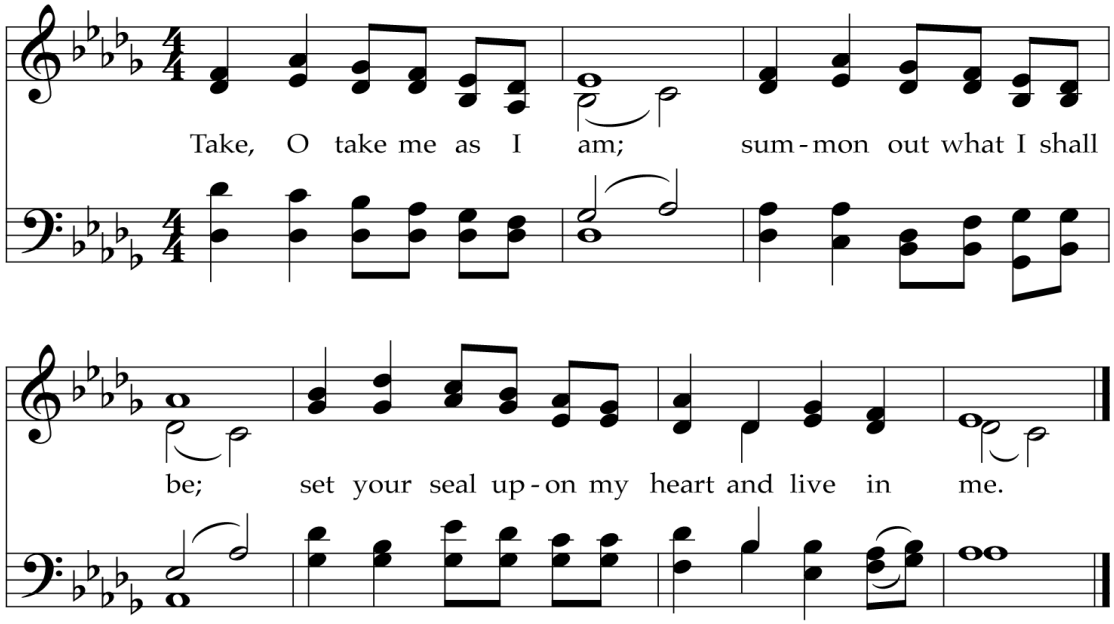

The Nazi appropriation of this tune for propaganda purposes has clouded a noble piece of music first associated with this text in 1889. In a 1779 collection, the author indicated that this hymn is primarily based on Isaiah 33:20–21 with allusions to several other passages.

TEXT: John Newton, 1775, alt.
MUSIC: Franz Joseph Haydn, 1797, alt.

AUSTRIAN HYMN
8.7.8.7.D

DEDICATION AND STEWARDSHIP

# 698 Take, O Take Me as I Am
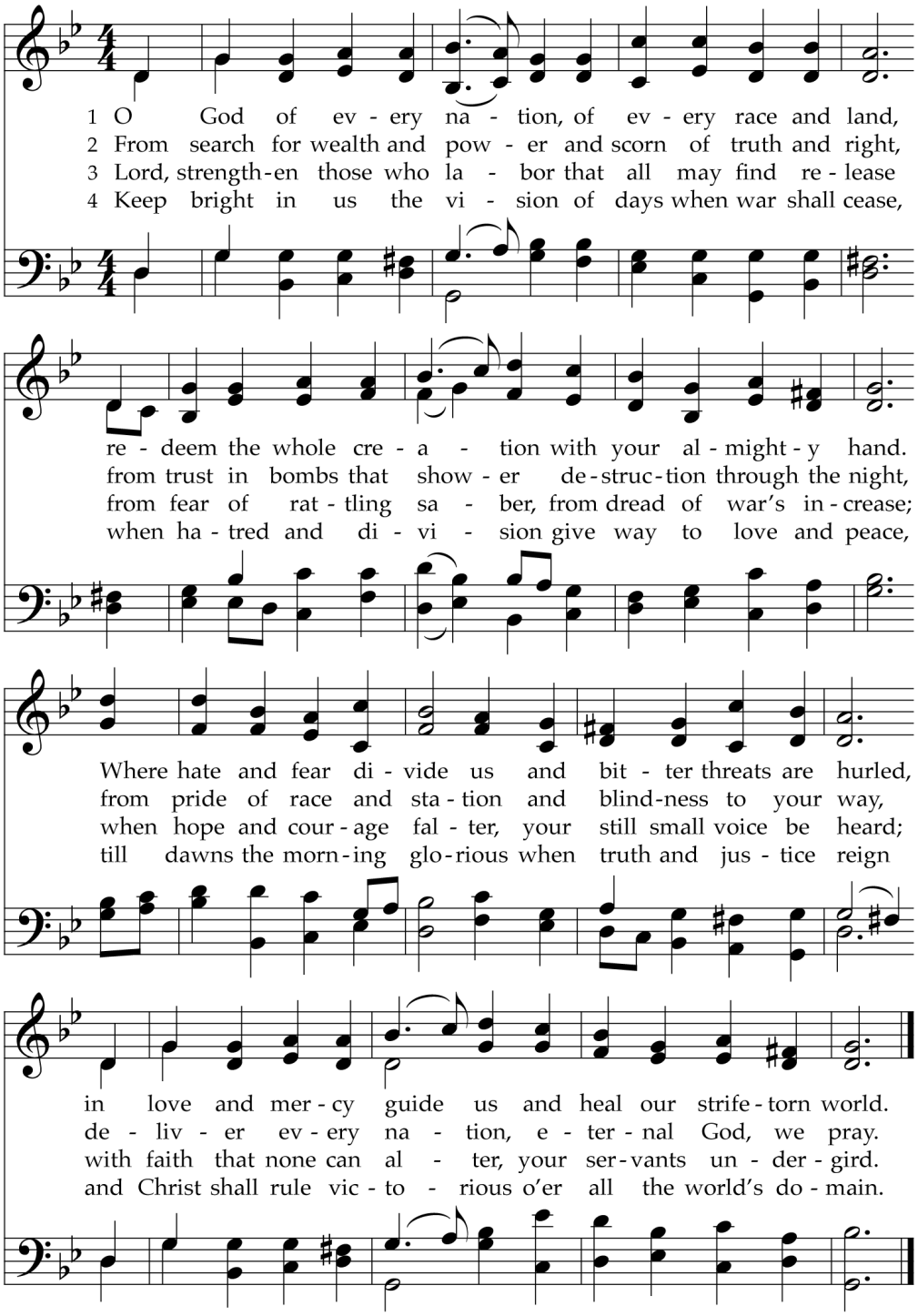



The brevity of this text and tune invite repeated singing, either as a sustained chain of sound or as a sung response in a series of prayers. It offers a more reflective approach to the same theme of self-dedication evident in older hymns such as "Just as I Am" (see no. 442).

TEXT and MUSIC: John L. Bell, 1995
*Text and Music © 1995 WGRG, Iona Community (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)*

TAKE ME AS I AM
7.7.7.4
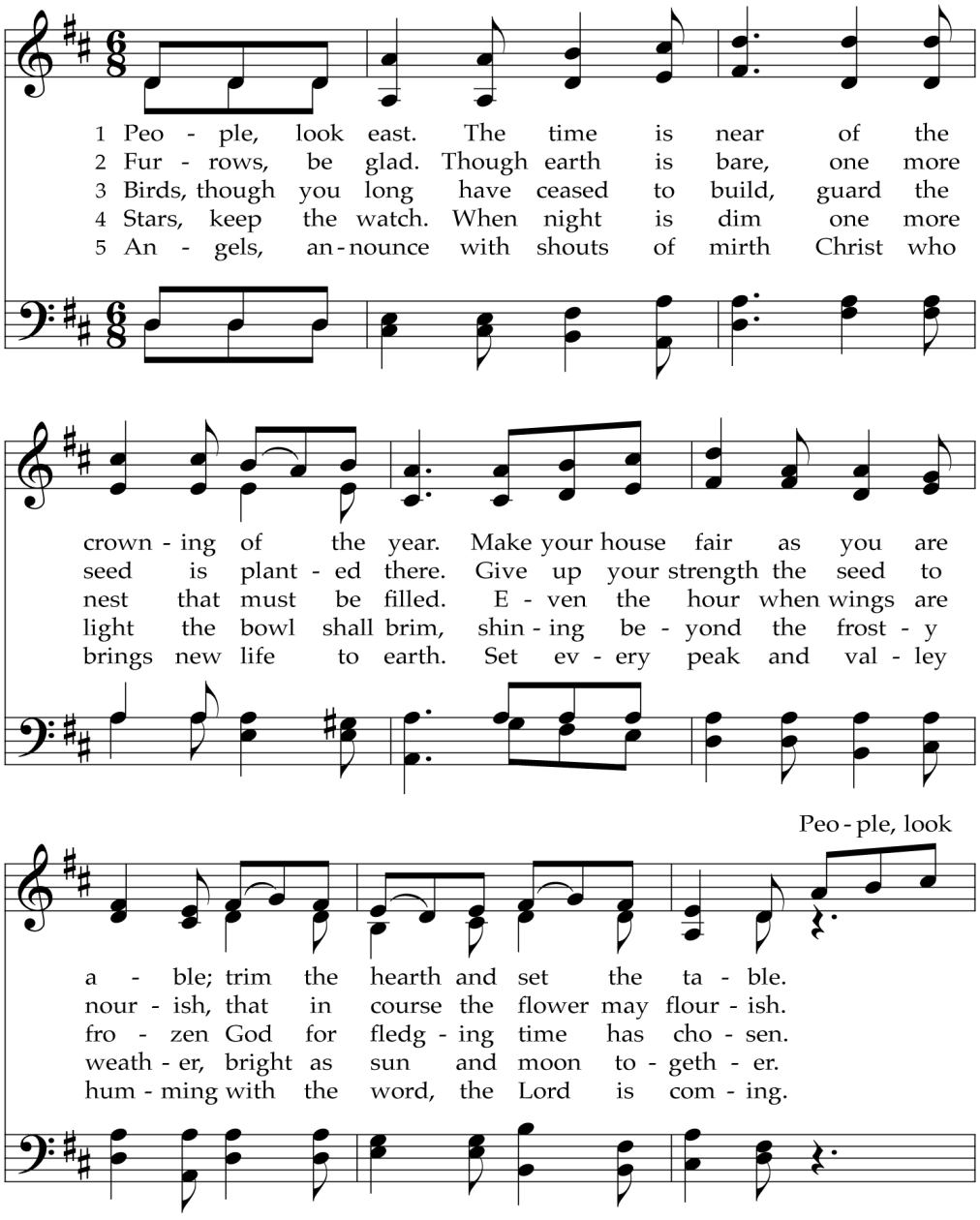
# O God of Every Nation 756




If we truly believe that God cares for all people, we cannot limit our prayers and songs for peace to the welfare of our own nation, no matter how much we may love it. This challenging text is set to a stirring Welsh tune, named for a hamlet with a prominent Baptist chapel.

TEXT: William W. Reid Jr., 1958, alt.
MUSIC: Welsh folk melody; *Llwybrau Moliant,* 1872; harm. *The English Hymnal,* 1906
LLANGLOFFAN
7.6.7.6.D
*Text © 1958, ren. 1986 The Hymn Society (admin. Hope Publishing Company)*

# 105 People, Look East




This text was written to provide a new Advent text for an existing carol tune, here named for the city in eastern France where it originated. The author has imaginatively expressed the cosmic implications of Christ's coming by addressing each stanza to a part of creation.

TEXT: Eleanor Farjeon, 1928, alt.
MUSIC: French folk melody; harm. Martin Shaw, 1928
*Text © 1960 David Higham Associates, Ltd.*
*Music Harm. © 1928 Oxford University Press*

BESANÇON
8.7.9.8.8.7