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

# February 19, 2023
# Transfiguration of the Lord Sunday

**Welcome and Announcements** — **Rev. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy**

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

**Prelude** — **"Cantabile" from Organ Sonata No. 7** — ***Alexandre Guilmant***

**Ken Shafer, organ**

***Gathering Words** — **Cheryl Weiss**

*The * in the liturgy indicates that you are invited to stand in body or in spirit.*

We gather in the presence of an Extravagant God—
**who spreads out the lushness of the cosmos,**
and blesses our becoming.

**We gather today changed by moments of Awe—**
the wonder we witness calls us to the work of mutuality,
**for we are siblings on our beautiful, heartbroken planet home.**

Let us praise the God of Transformation—
**It is good to be here, in the presence of the Way-Making Love!**

***Opening Prayer** — **Cheryl Weiss**

*Let us pray…*

Wonderful Mystery,
Ground our bodies in the present moment,
that we might experience your Love in ordinary and extraordinary ways.

We desire not to be cynics, but to nurture the sense of wonder
that was innate to us when we were children.

Soothe the places within us that desire numbing-out
and awaken our senses to the miracle of being alive. Amen.

**Opening Hymn No. 401** **"Here in This Place"** ***Gather Us In***

**Call to Confession** **Bill Weiss**

In the transfiguration story, Jesus' clothes became dazzling white,
a sign of resurrection out of the violence the world inflicted upon him,
reminding us that the sins of the world and of our lives will not have the last word.
God's love, compassion and justice will transform the world.
Let us confess to our God, who waits to surround us with grace and hope,
as we pray together, saying,

**Prayer of Confession** **Bill Weiss**

**Sheltering God, our judgment often becomes clouded by our foolishness,
and so we make all the wrong choices.
We let fancy philosophies draw us away from your grace.
We allow the flowery words of politicians to lead us into valleys of worry and despair.
We let our fears shackle our imagination.**

**Forgive us and take all our foolishness, Creative God.
Make us wise enough to see you among us.
Take the shards of our broken lives and recast us into a faithful people.
Empower us to be formed by the life of Jesus Christ.
Restore in us the confidence to be disciples of Christ.
May we be shaped by your dream of abundant life for all. Amen.**

*Silent Confession*

**Musical Response** "Lord, Jesus Christ, Your Light Shines" *Jésus le Christ*
*(sung multiple times)*

**Assurance of Forgiveness** **Bill Weiss**

Family of faith,
On mountaintops and in valleys, in moments when our lives are shrouded
and as well as when we reflect Christ's light, God is with us, declaring we are the beloved!

**In this moment, in every moment, may we glimpse the grace of God**
**which comes and transfigures our lives.**
**Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen**

**Musical Offering** "Waltz" (from Opus 39) *Dmitry Kabalevsky*
**Bob Iams, piano**

*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** **Rev. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy**

**Scripture Reading** **Matthew 17:1-8** **Rev. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy**
**(New Revised Standard Version)**

17 Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high
mountain, by themselves.[2] And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and
his clothes became bright as light. [3] Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with
him. [4] Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will set up three tents
here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah."

[5] While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud
said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" [6] When the disciples
heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. [7] But Jesus came and touched them,
saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." [8] And when they raised their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus
himself alone.

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| Sermon | Way-making Love | Rev. Dr. Enikö Ferenczy |
| Hymn No. 193 | "Jesus, Take Us to the Mountain" | *Unser Herrscher* |
| Sharing of Joys and Concerns | | **Cheryl and Bill Weiss** |
| Prayer of the People | | **Cheryl and Bill Weiss** |

*We ask these things 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.

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| *Closing Hymn No. 547 | "Go, My Children, with My Blessing" | *Ar Hydy Nos* |
| *Benediction | | Rev. Dr. Enikö Ferenczy |
| Postlude | "Festive Postlude on 'Built on This Rock'" | *G.M. Martin* |

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*The Gathering Words and Opening Prayer were adapted from *Enflesh: Liturgy that Matters.*
The Prayer of Confession was adapted from Thom Shuman.
*Hymns are from the Glory to God Hymnal.
*Music: Organ – Tom Shaw, Ken Shafer; Piano – Bob Iams
*Sunday Service Assistant/Treats – Cheryl and Bill Weiss

**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.

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, February 19

- Choir rehearsal – 9 am – The Meeting Place
- Worship Service – 10 am – Mackey Hall
- Wooster Friends Meeting – 10.30 am – The Meeting Place
- Annual Congregational Meeting following worship

Monday, February 20

- Troop 61 – 6 pm – Mackey Hall

Wednesday, February 22

- Ash Wednesday Service – 7 pm – First Presbyterian Church
  Joint service with Communion and imposition of the ashes

Thursday, February 23

- Dance & Exercise – 8:30 am – The Meeting Place

Sunday, February 26

- 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

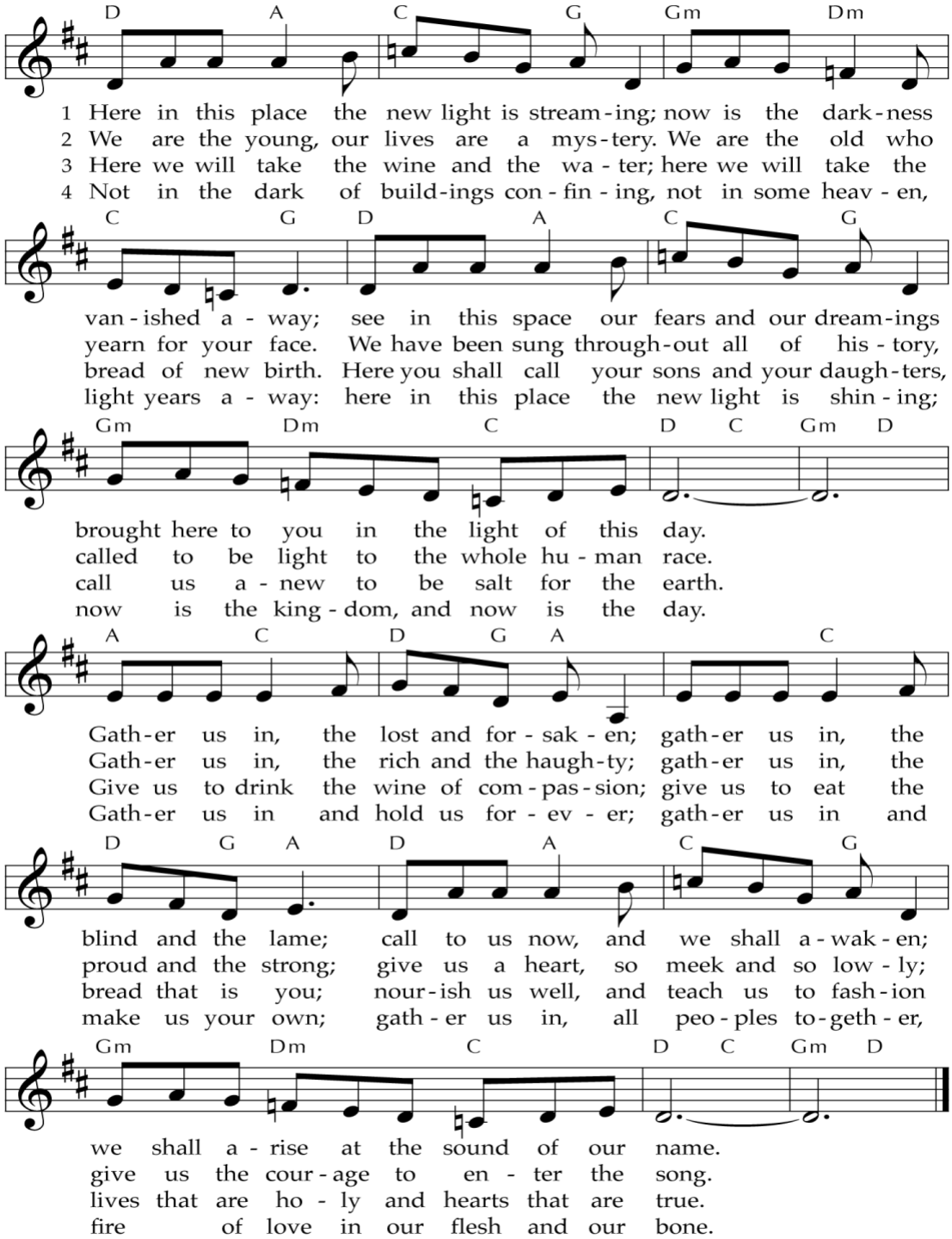
Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 10 a.m.-2.p.m.

*wpcwooster@gmail.com: 330.263.2398*
facebook.com/wpcwooster | instagram.com/wpc_wooster/

*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.*

# Here in This Place 401

## Gather Us In



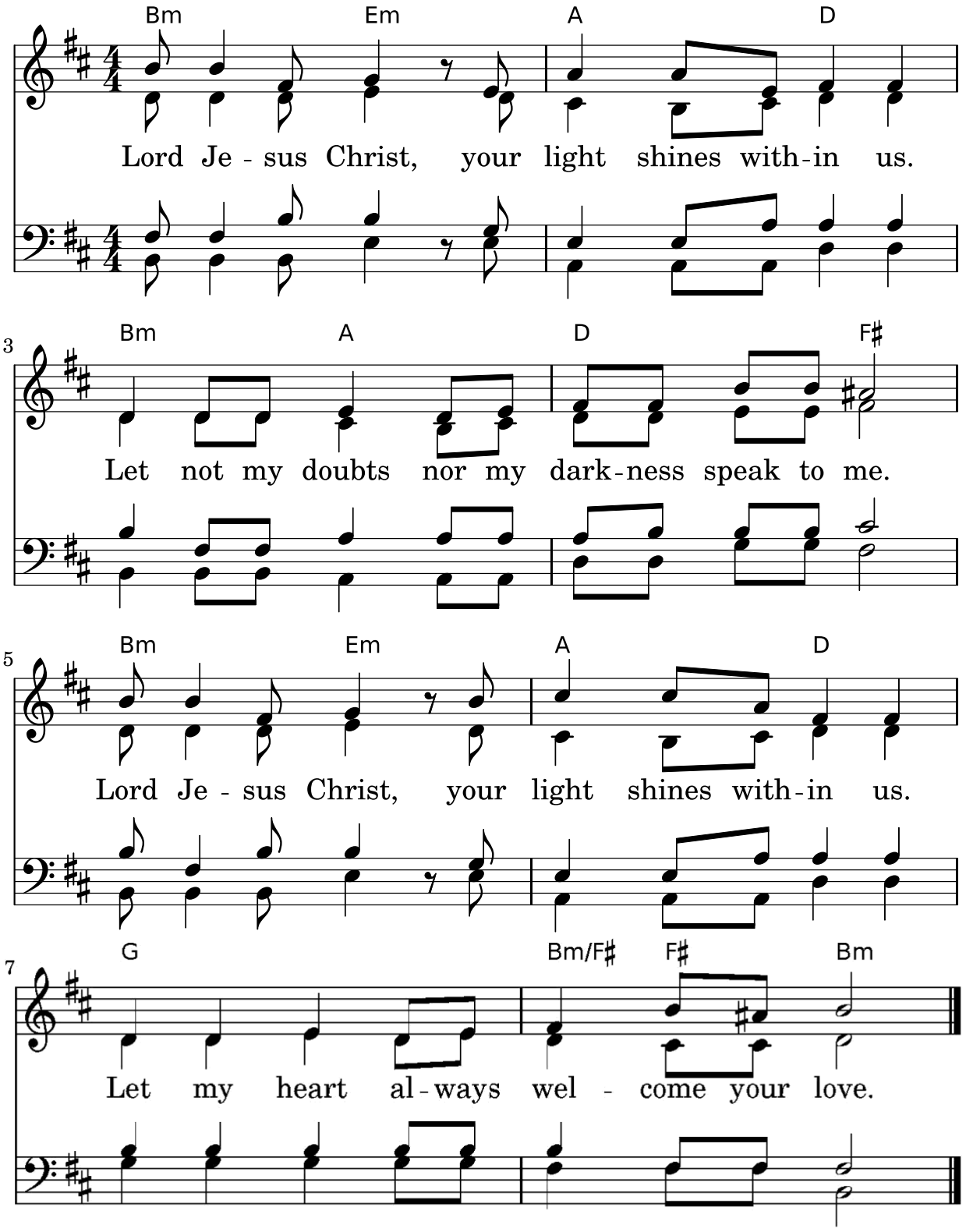

The "you/your" mentioned in every stanza is never identified, but this 1979 hymn is clearly a corporate prayer to God on behalf of the diverse congregation who have assembled for worship, longing to be transformed and used as God's witnesses and for God's purposes.

TEXT and MUSIC: Marty Haugen, 1979
*Text and Music © 1982 GIA Publications, Inc.*
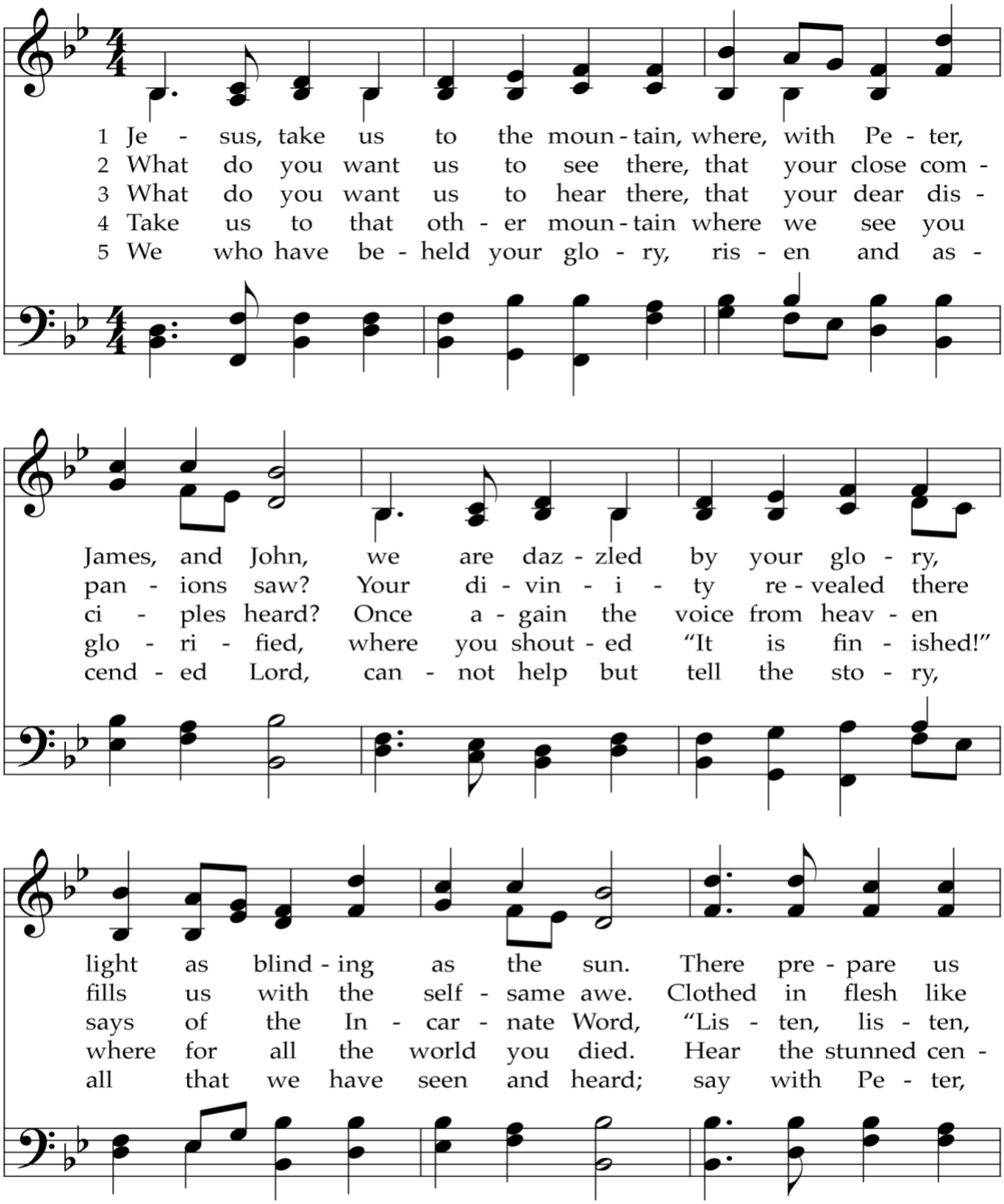
GATHER US IN
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# 3137 Lord Jesus Christ, Your Light Shines

*(Jésus le Christ)*



# 193 Jesus, Take Us to the Mountain
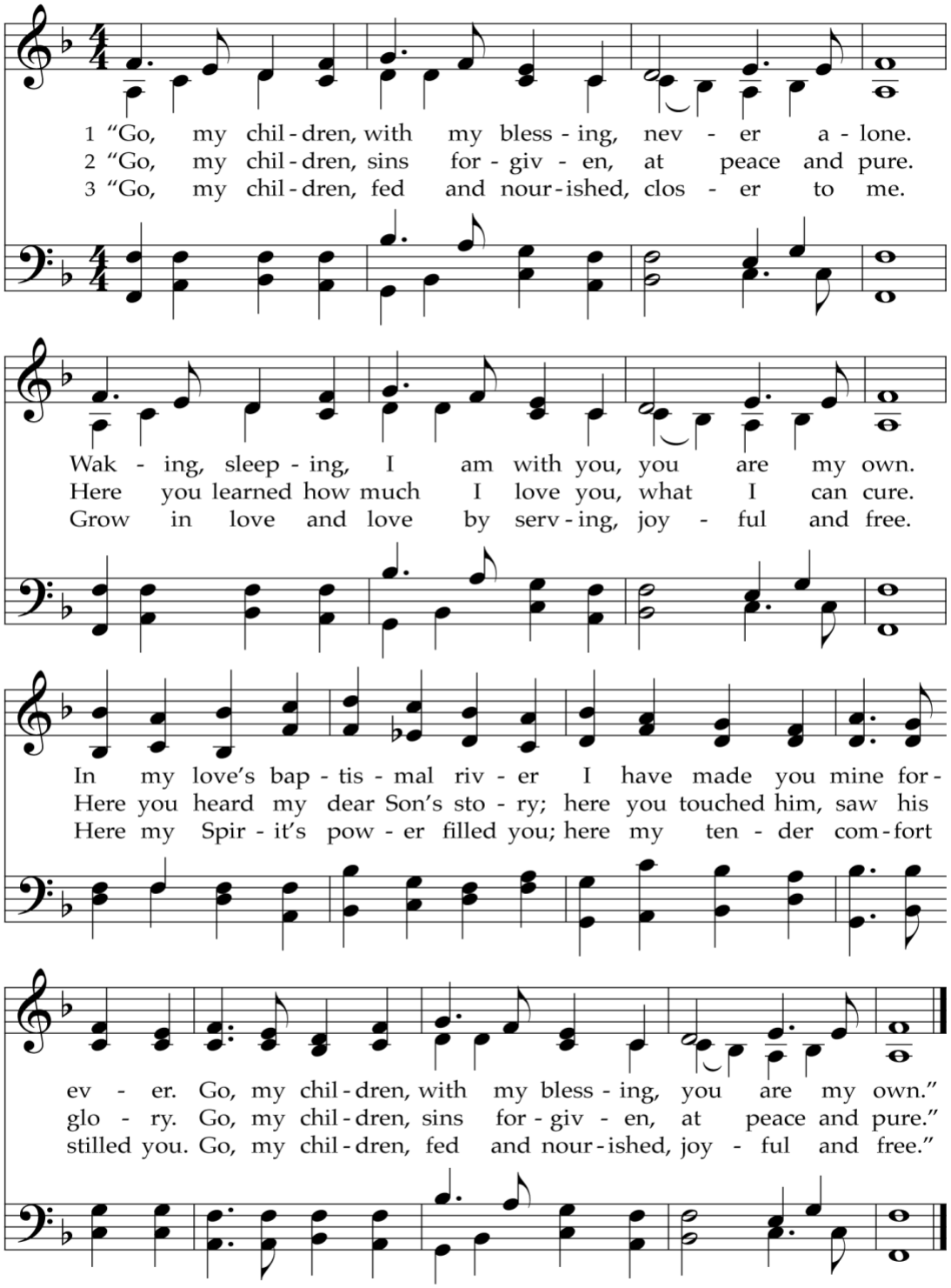



Some version of the Transfiguration (Matthew 17:1–9/Mark 9:2–9/Luke 9:28–36) is always read on the last Sunday after the Epiphany. In this text that foretaste of Christ's glorification helps to prepare Peter, James, and John for their roles as proclaimers of "God's beloved Son."

TEXT: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1991
MUSIC: Joachim Neander, 1680; harm. *The Chorale Book for England,* 1863, alt.
*Text © 1991 Concordia Publishing House*

UNSER HERRSCHER
8.7.8.7.7.7

# Go, My Children, with My Blessing 547




Because this Welsh melody usually sets evening texts, the author was asked to create one for use in daytime. His recasting of the Aaronic blessing in Numbers 6:22–27 imagines that passage as a benediction that might be spoken by God at the conclusion of a worship service.

TEXT: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1983
MUSIC: Welsh melody
*Text © 1983 Concordia Publishing House*

AR HYD Y NOS
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