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

25th Sunday after Pentecost
November 19, 2023

Welcome and Announcements — **Joel Chupp**

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 — **"The King of Love My Shepherd Is"** — ***Irish melody, arr. R. Lau***

Gathering Words** — ***(an adaptation of Psalm 104) — **Candy Relle**

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

How wonderful, O Lord, are the works of your hands.
The heavens declare Your glory, the arch of sky displays Your handiwork.
In Your love You have given us power to behold
the beauty of Your world robed in all its splendor.
The sun and the stars, the valleys and hills, the rivers and lakes all disclose Your presence.
The roaring breakers of the sea tell of Your awesome might; the beasts of the field
and the birds of the air bespeak Your wondrous will.
In Your goodness You have made us able to hear the music of the world.
The voices of loved ones reveal to us that You are in our midst.
A divine voice sings through all creation. Amen.

***Opening Prayer** — **Candy Relle**

You speak words of promise, and we answer.
A thousand times we answer, in a thousand tongues—
We answer in hymns of praise,
We answer in songs of thanksgiving,
We answer in lyrics of gladness,
We answer in candor about hurt,
We answer in abrasive anger,

We answer in deep abandonment.
We answer and draw close to you and in answering we are changed:
Given freedom, come to truth, bound in obedience.
We answer and are yours, all yours, not our own,
Yours, and glad that we belong to you, our faithful savior.

Opening Hymn No. 37 "Let All Things Now Living"** ***Ash Grove

Call to Confession **Ferenc Relle**

When we least expect it, even when we are not ready, God comes to us, calling us to trust, calling us to follow. So come, let us confess the ways we have strayed from God and one another...

Prayer of Confession **Ferenc Relle**

Your counsel is wonderful, O God.
You guide us in your way of loving-kindness with your everlasting care,
and choose to use your power in service of peace.
We confess that we love to talk about peace, but our lives rarely reflect it.
Forgive our tendency toward destructive power.

We confess that we pray for your light to shine,
even as we prefer to keep some things in the shadows.
Forgive our part in obscuring the light of your truth.

We confess that we long for freedom from injustice,
but we are not willing to give up the burden of authority just yet.
Forgive our stubborn insistence that everyone must be like us.

Shed your light on our lives and hearts, our church and nation, this day,
that all that is hidden may be revealed, and so be healed.
Then turn us again to rejoice in your kingdom of justice and peace.
We ask in the name of Christ who reigns now and forever. Amen.

Silent Confession

Musical Response No. 44 **"Like a Mother Who Has Borne Us"** *Austin*

Assurance of Forgiveness **Ferenc Relle**

Listen, my friends!
Just as in ages past,
God is still at work, making things right and good.

Whatever our path, or our struggle, God is not done with us.
We are forgiven. We are loved.
We are made ready to build God's reign of peace.
Thanks be to God. Amen

Musical Offering **"A Celtic Thanksgiving"** *arr. J. Martin & J. Williams*
Westminster Choir; Ken Shafer, 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 **Joel Chupp**

Scripture Reading **Isaiah 11:1-9 (CEB)** **Joel Chupp**

A shoot will grow up from the stump of Jesse; a branch will sprout from his roots.
2 The LORD's spirit will rest upon him, a spirit of wisdom and understanding,
a spirit of planning and strength, a spirit of knowledge and fear of the LORD.
3 He will delight in fearing the LORD. He won't judge by appearances,
nor decide by hearsay. 4 He will judge the needy with righteousness,
and decide with equity for those who suffer in the land. He will strike the violent
with the rod of his mouth; by the breath of his lips he will kill the wicked.
5 Righteousness will be the belt around his hips, and faithfulness the belt around his waist.
6 The wolf will live with the lamb, and the leopard will lie down with the young goat;
the calf and the young lion will feed together, and a little child will lead them.

7 The cow and the bear will graze. Their young will lie down together,
and a lion will eat straw like an ox. 8 A nursing child will play over the snake's hole;
toddlers will reach right over the serpent's den. 9 They won't harm or destroy anywhere on my holy mountain. The earth will surely be filled with the knowledge of the LORD,
just as the water covers the sea.

Reflection	**Roots and Shoots**	**Joel Chupp**
***Hymn No. 378**	**"We Wait the Peaceful Kingdom"**	***Merle's Tune***
Sharing of Joys and Concerns		**Candy and Ferenc Relle**
Prayer of the People		**Candy and Ferenc Relle**

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 kin-dom 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 kin-dom, the power and the glory are yours.
Now and forever. Amen.

***Closing Hymn No. 643**	**"Now Thank We All Our God"**	***Nun Danket Alle Gott***
Benediction		**Joel Chupp**
Postlude	**"For the Beauty of the Earth"**	***adapted by C. Kocher***

The service continues with fellowship.

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*Opening prayer and prayer of confession by Rev. Dr. Walter Brueggeman, "*Prayers for a Privileged People*."

*Hymns are from the Glory to God Hymnal.

*Music: Tom Shaw, organ; Ken Shafer, piano; Westminster Choir

*Sunday Service Assistant/flowers: Candy Relle

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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.

GIVE NOW

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, Nov. 19

- Worship Service – 10 am – Mackey Hall
- Wooster Friends Meeting – 10.30 am – The Meeting Place

Monday, Nov. 20

- Troop 61 – 6 pm – Mackey Hall

Thursday, Nov. 23

- **Thanksgiving Day –** Office is closed.

Friday, Nov. 24: Office is closed.

Sunday, Nov. 26

- Worship Service – 10 am – Mackey Hall
- Wooster Friends Meeting – 10.30 am – The Meeting Place

Westminster Presbyterian Church
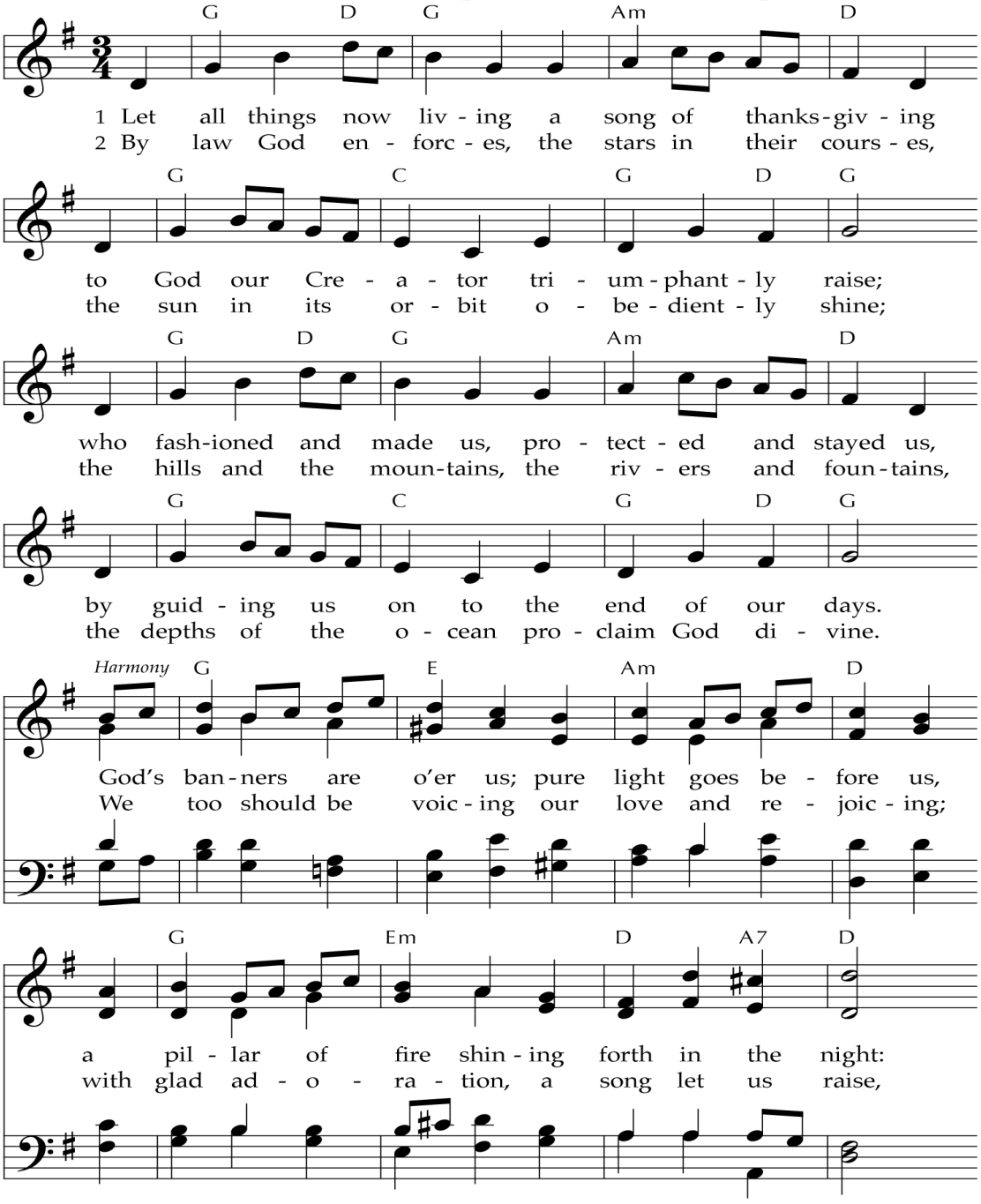
Pastor Rev. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy
Minister of Music Rev. Dr. Thomas Shaw
Office Administrator Rev. Dr. James Henery
AV Assistant/Event Steward Tony Mendiola

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

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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.

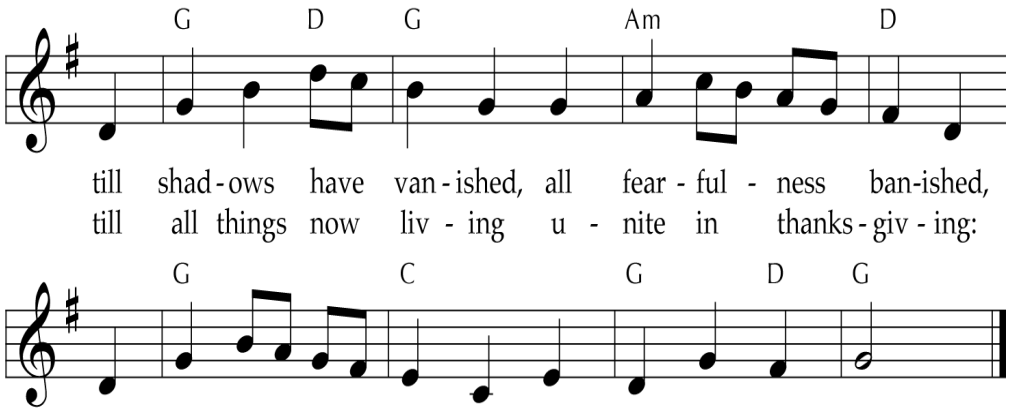
37 Let All Things Now Living



Written for an easy-to-sing folk melody familiar in England as well as Wales, this 20th-century North American text bears many resemblances to both Psalm 148 and the traditional canticle *Benedicite, omnia opera Domini* (Bless the Lord, all you works of the Lord).
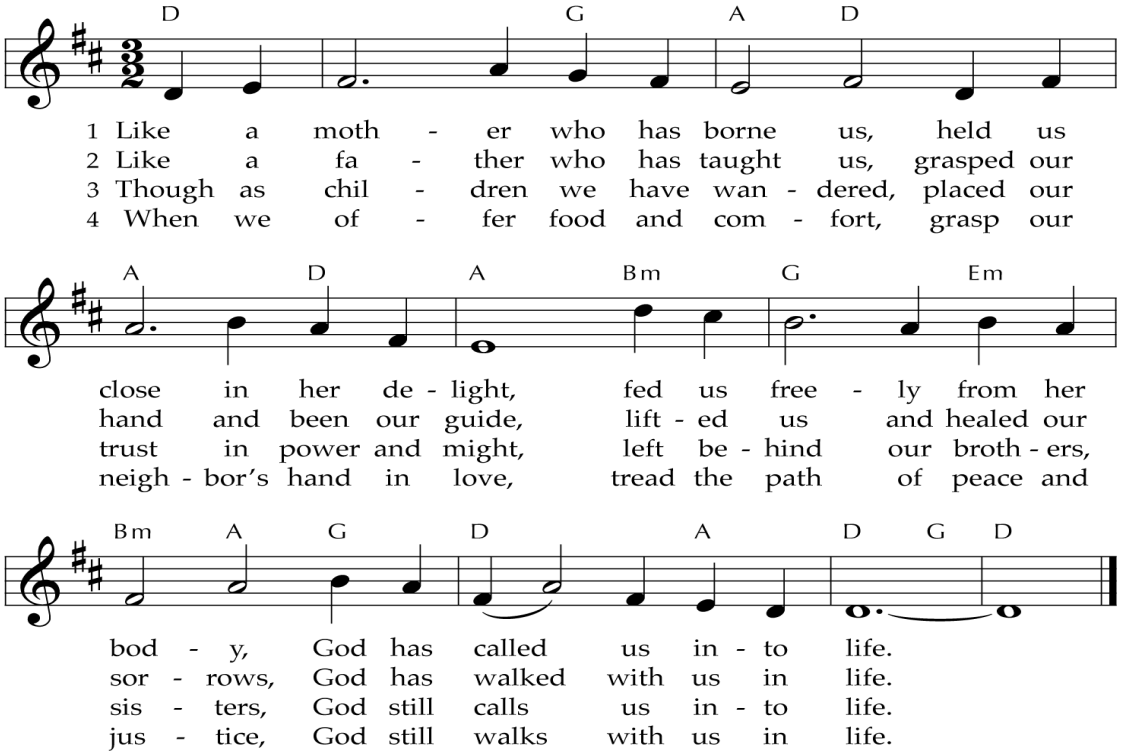
TEXT: Katherine K. Davis, 1939, alt.
MUSIC: Welsh folk melody; harm. Gerald H. Knight, 20th cent.
Text © 1939, 1966 E. C. Schirmer Music Company
Music Harm. © Royal School of Church Music

ASH GROVE
6.6.11.6.6.11.D


G D G Am D
till shad-ows have van-ished, all fear-ful-ness ban-ished,
till all things now liv-ing u-nite in thanks-giv-ing:
G C G D G
as for-ward we trav-el from light in-to light.
to God in the high-est, ho-san-na and praise!

CREATION AND PROVIDENCE

44 Like a Mother Who Has Borne Us
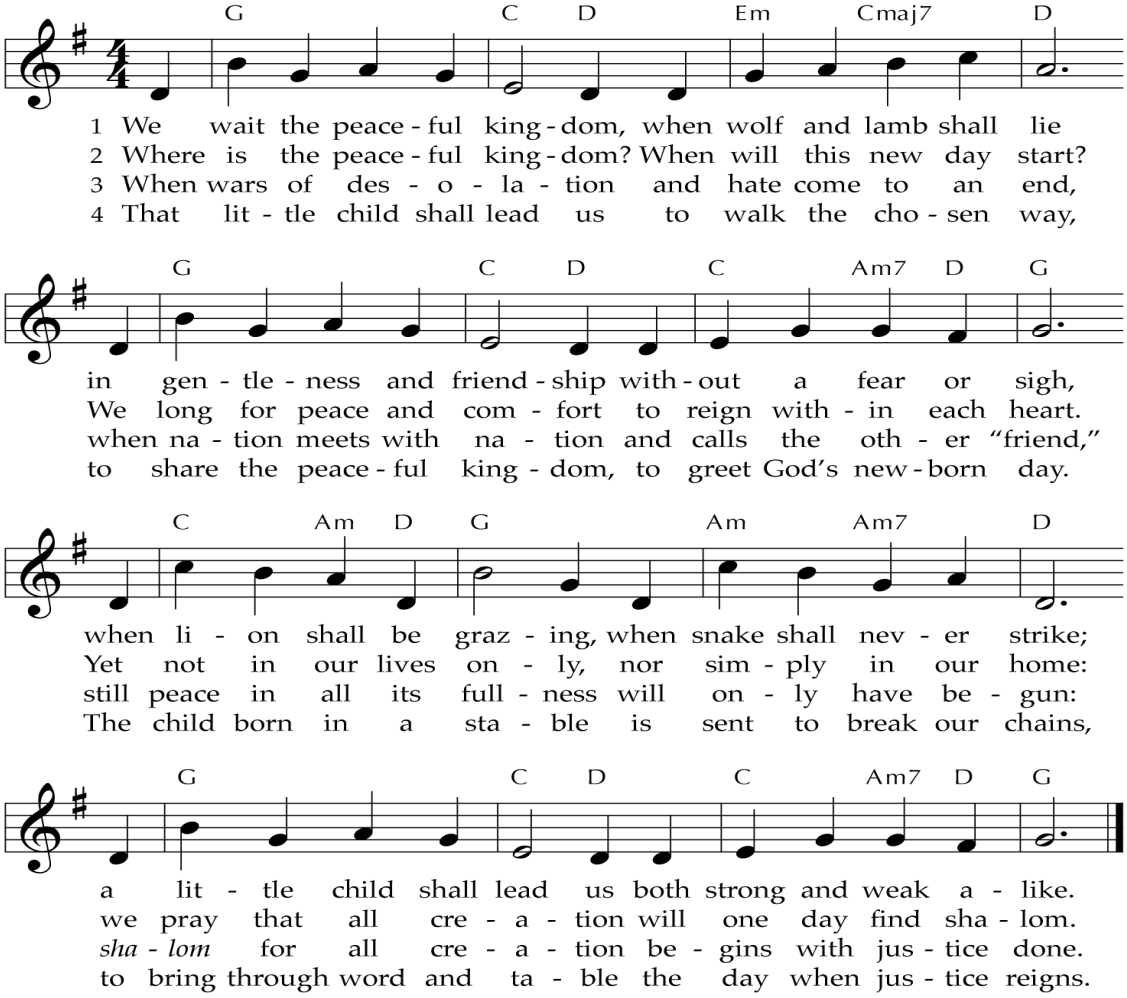


This text was inspired by how the prophet Hosea describes the parental nature of God's relationship with Israel (Hosea 11:1–19). The last stanza echoes Christ's teachings about love of neighbor (Matthew 22:37–40/ Mark 12:29–31) and care for "the least of these" (Matthew 25:31–46).

TEXT: Daniel Bechtel, 1986
MUSIC: William P. Rowan, 1992
Text © 1986 Daniel R. Bechtel
Music © 1993 Selah Publishing Co., Inc.

AUSTIN
8.7.8.7

We Wait the Peaceful Kingdom 378
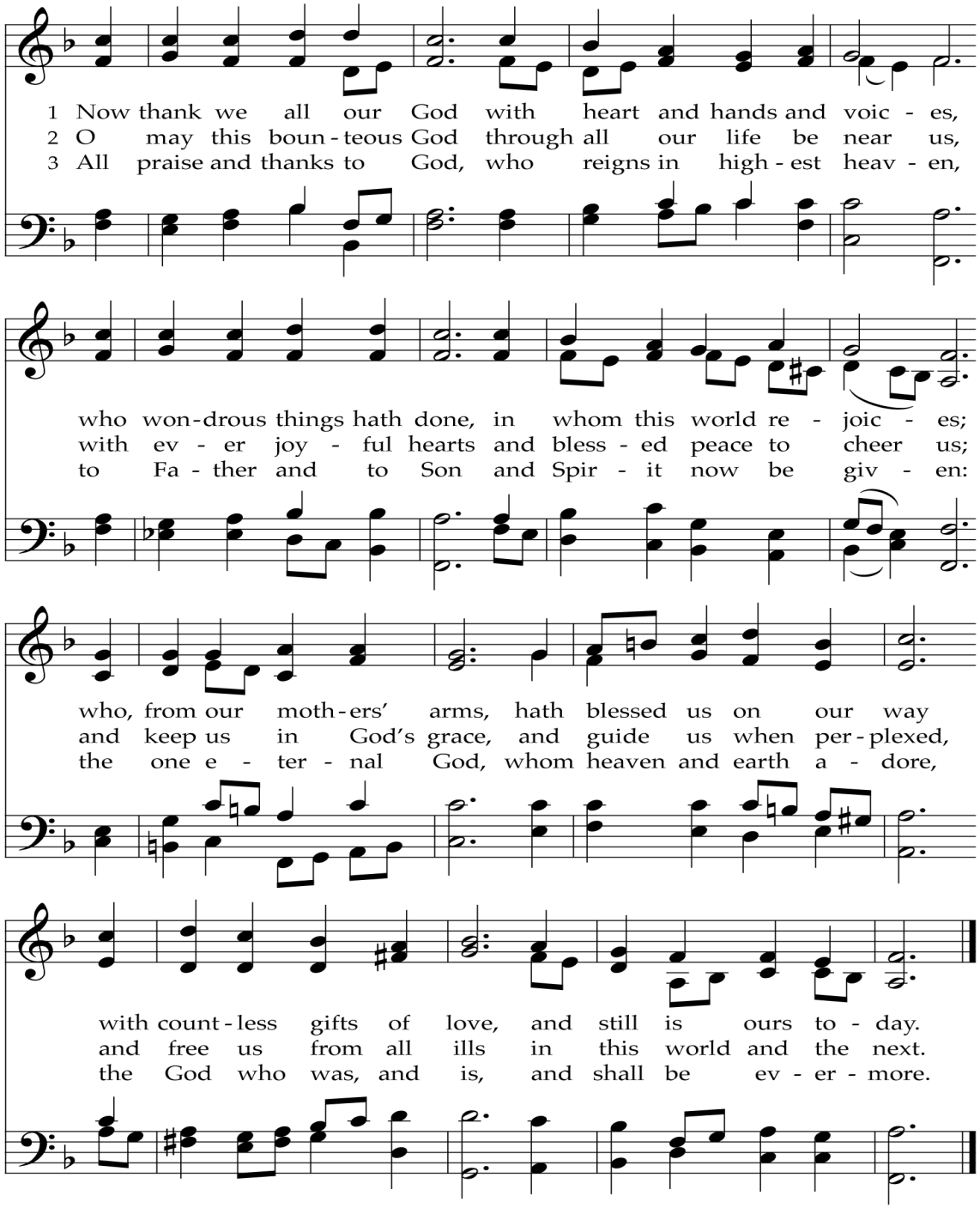


This text paraphrases Isaiah 11:6–9 in the first stanza, then reflects on that passage in widening frames of reference from self to all creation and identifies its "little child" with one born at Bethlehem. The tune is named for the composer's sister, his first piano teacher.

TEXT: Kathleen R. Moore, 2010
MUSIC: Hal H. Hopson, 1983
Text © 2010 The Hymn Society (admin. Hope Publishing Company)
Music © 1983 Hope Publishing Company

MERLE'S TUNE
7.6.7.6.D

THANKSGIVING

643 Now Thank We All Our God



Although this hymn is often used on large and festive occasions, its first two stanzas had much humbler beginnings: they originated as a family table prayer during the Thirty Years' War (1618–1648). These words have been associated with this tune since the mid-17th century.

TEXT: Martin Rinkart, c. 1636; trans. Catherine Winkworth, 1858, alt.
MUSIC: Johann Crüger, 1647; harm. Felix Mendelssohn, 1840

NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT
6.7.6.7.6.6.6.6