WELCOME TO
ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
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CAPITOL HILL

ST. MARK'S MISSION STATEMENT

St. Mark's is an open community, welcoming people wherever they are on their faith journey. We celebrate the gifts of God that empower us to engage boldly in the struggles of life and to care for others with love, justice, and compassion.

THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

December 27, 2020

9:50 AM GATHER

10:00 AM CHRISTMAS LESSONS & CAROLS

Rector
The Reverend Michele H. Morgan

Deacon
The Reverend Cindy Dopp

Director of Youth & Family Ministries
Caleb Nelson Amaker

Director of Music
Jeff Kempskie

Welcome to St. Mark's Episcopal Church ✠ Capitol Hill

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To view the **parish calendar online**, go to our homepage www.stmarks.net and click "Calendar" at the top of the page.

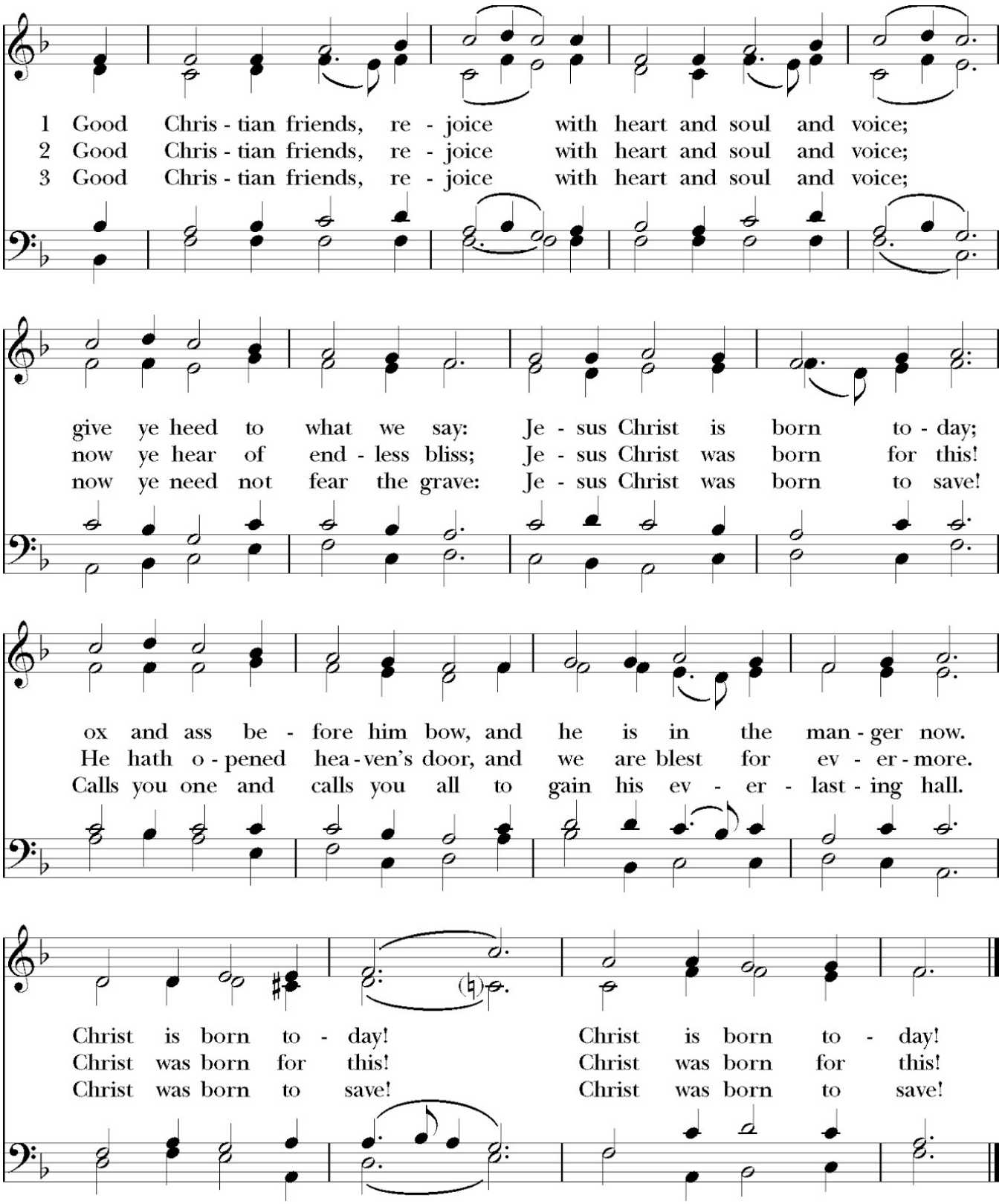
Worship lies at the heart of the Christian life. It is in worship that we express our theology and define our identity. It is through encountering God within worship that we are formed and transformed as the people of God. One of the glories of the Episcopal Church is its liturgical worship. Liturgy refers to the patterns, forms, words, and actions through which public worship is conducted.

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THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

PRELUDE Contemplation on *St. Louis* Aaron David Miller (b. 1972)

OPENING HYMN 107 Good Christian friends, rejoice *In dulci jubilo*



OPENING SENTENCES

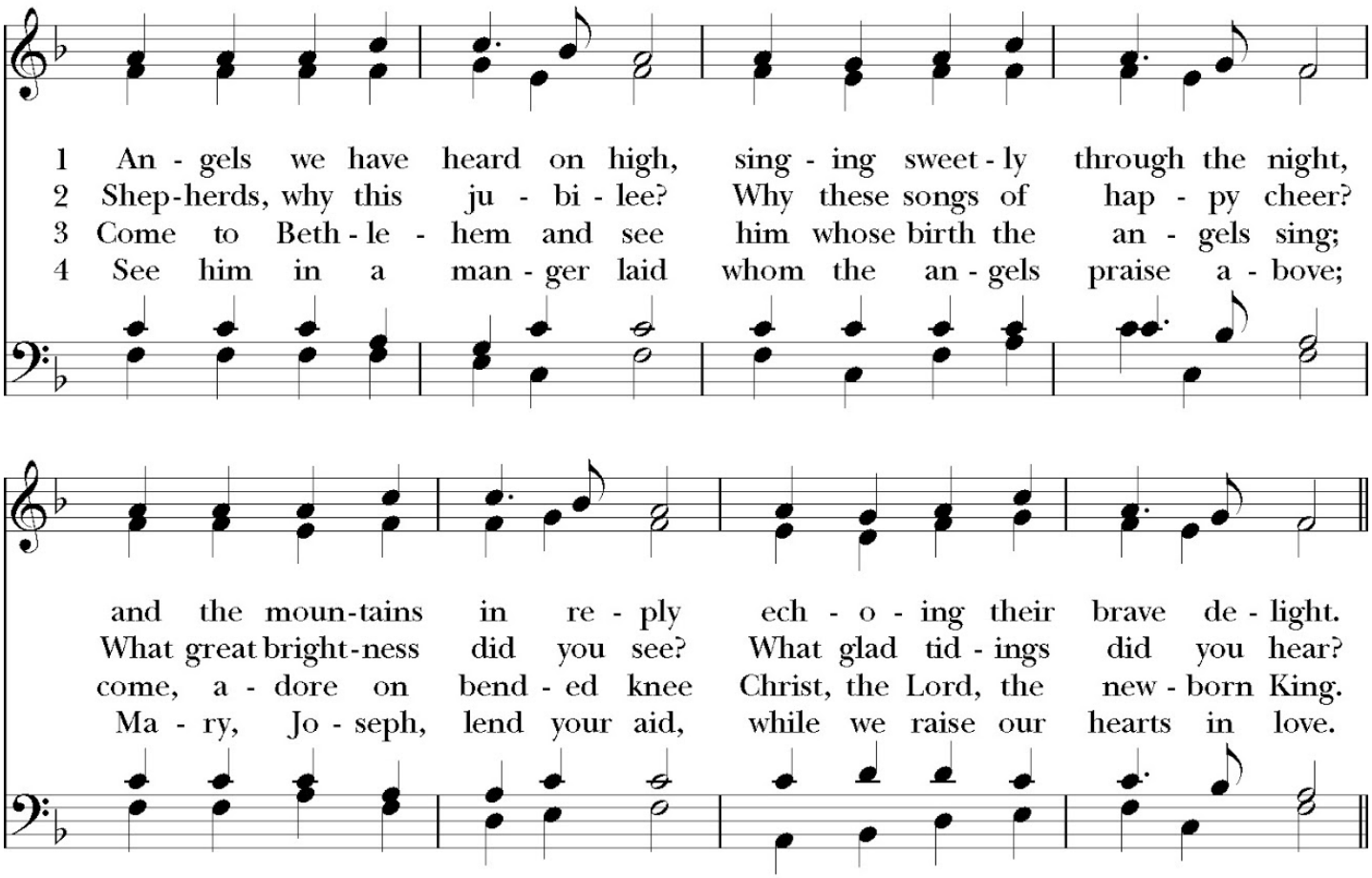
The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light.

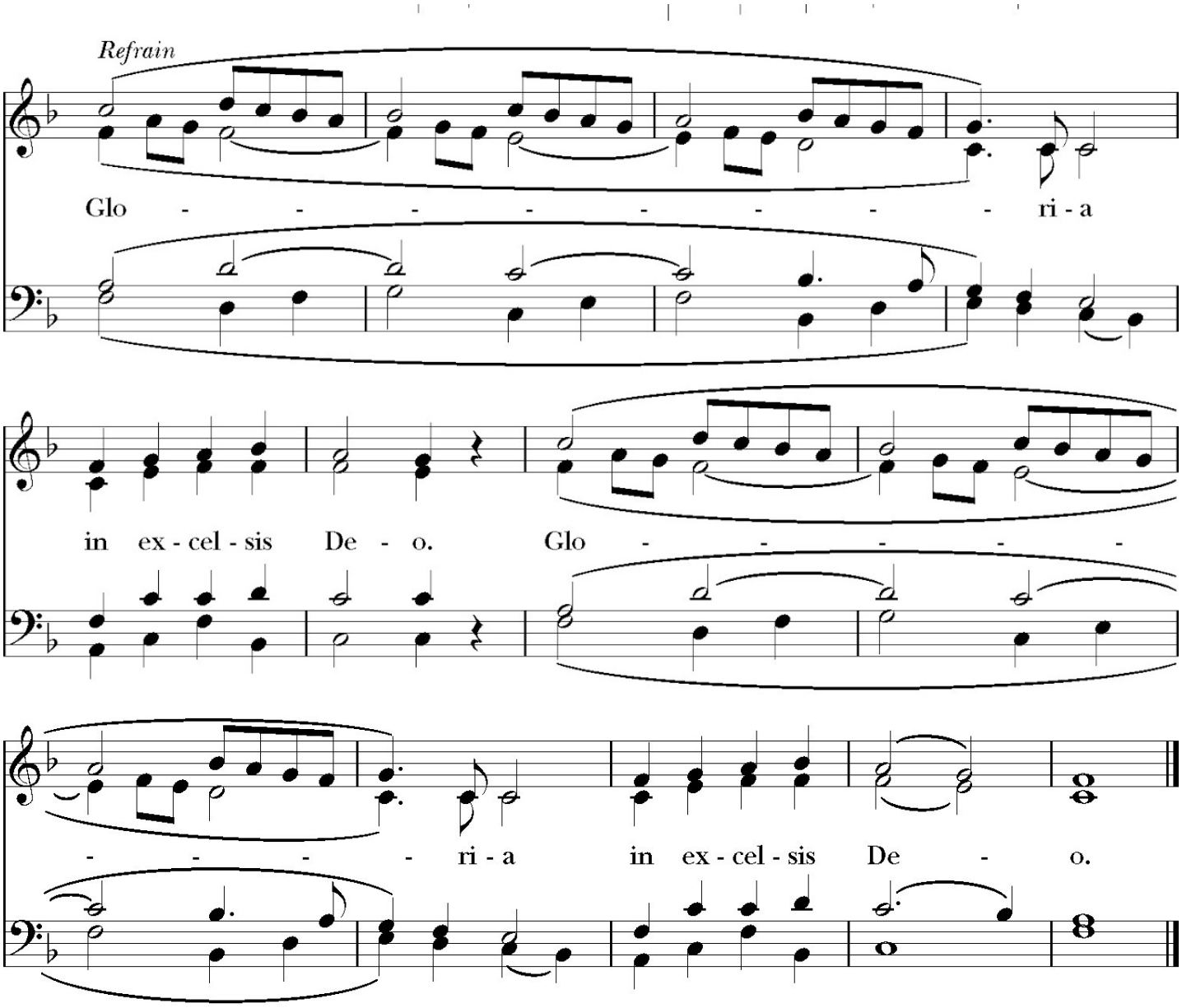
For to us a child is born,
to us a Son is given.

His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.

Glory to God in the highest,
And Peace to God's people on earth.

SONG OF PRAISE *96* Angels we have heard on high, vv. 1 & 3 *Gloria*





BIDDING PRAYER

Dear People of God: In this Christmas Season, let it be our duty and delight to hear once more the message of the Angels, to go to Bethlehem and see the Son of God lying in a manger. Let us hear and heed in Holy Scripture the story of God's loving purpose from the time of our rebellion against God until the glorious redemption brought to us by the holy Child Jesus, and let us make this Church Community glad with our carols of praise.

But first, let us pray for the needs of the whole world, for peace and justice on earth, for the unity and mission of the Church, and especially for this Church in our country and in this city of Washington. And because God particularly loves them, let us remember in the Creator's name the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry and the oppressed, the sick and those who mourn, the lonely and unloved, the aged and little children.

Finally, let us remember before God his pure and lowly Mother, and that whole multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in Jesus, we are one for evermore.
Come now, O God of love. Reconcile your people and make us one body.

THE LORD'S PRAYER Video by Hayley Gray-Hoehn

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.

THE FIRST LESSON *The Creation* by James Weldon Johnson (adapted)

And God stepped out on space, and looked around and said: I'm lonely—I'll make me a world. And far as the eye of God could see darkness covered everything, blacker than a hundred midnights down in a cypress swamp.

Then God smiled, and the light broke, and the darkness rolled up on one side, and the light stood shining on the other, and God said: That's good! Then God reached out and took the light in God's hands, and God rolled the light around until the sun was made; and set that sun a-blazing in the heavens. And the light that was left from making the sun God gathered it up in a shining ball and flung it against the darkness, spangling the night with the moon and stars. Then down between the darkness and the light God hurled the world; and God said: That's good!

Then Godself stepped down—and the sun was on God's right hand, and the moon was on the left; the stars were clustered about God's head, and the earth was under God's feet. And God walked, and where God trod God's footsteps hollowed the valleys out and bulged the mountains up.

God stopped and looked and saw that the earth was hot and barren. So God stepped over to the edge of the world and spat out the seven seas—God batted her eyes, and the lightnings flashed—She clapped her hands, and the thunders rolled—and the waters above the earth came down, the cooling waters came down.

Then the green grass sprouted, and the little red flowers blossomed, the pine tree pointed his finger to the sky, and the oak spread out his arms, the lakes cuddled down in the hollows of the ground, and the rivers ran down to the sea; And God smiled again, and the rainbow appeared, and curled itself around her shoulder.

Then God raised his arm and he waved his hand over the sea and over the land, and she said: Bring forth! Bring forth! And quicker than God could drop his hand, fishes and

fowls and beasts and birds swam the rivers and the seas, roamed the forests and the woods, and split the air with their wings. And God said: That's good!

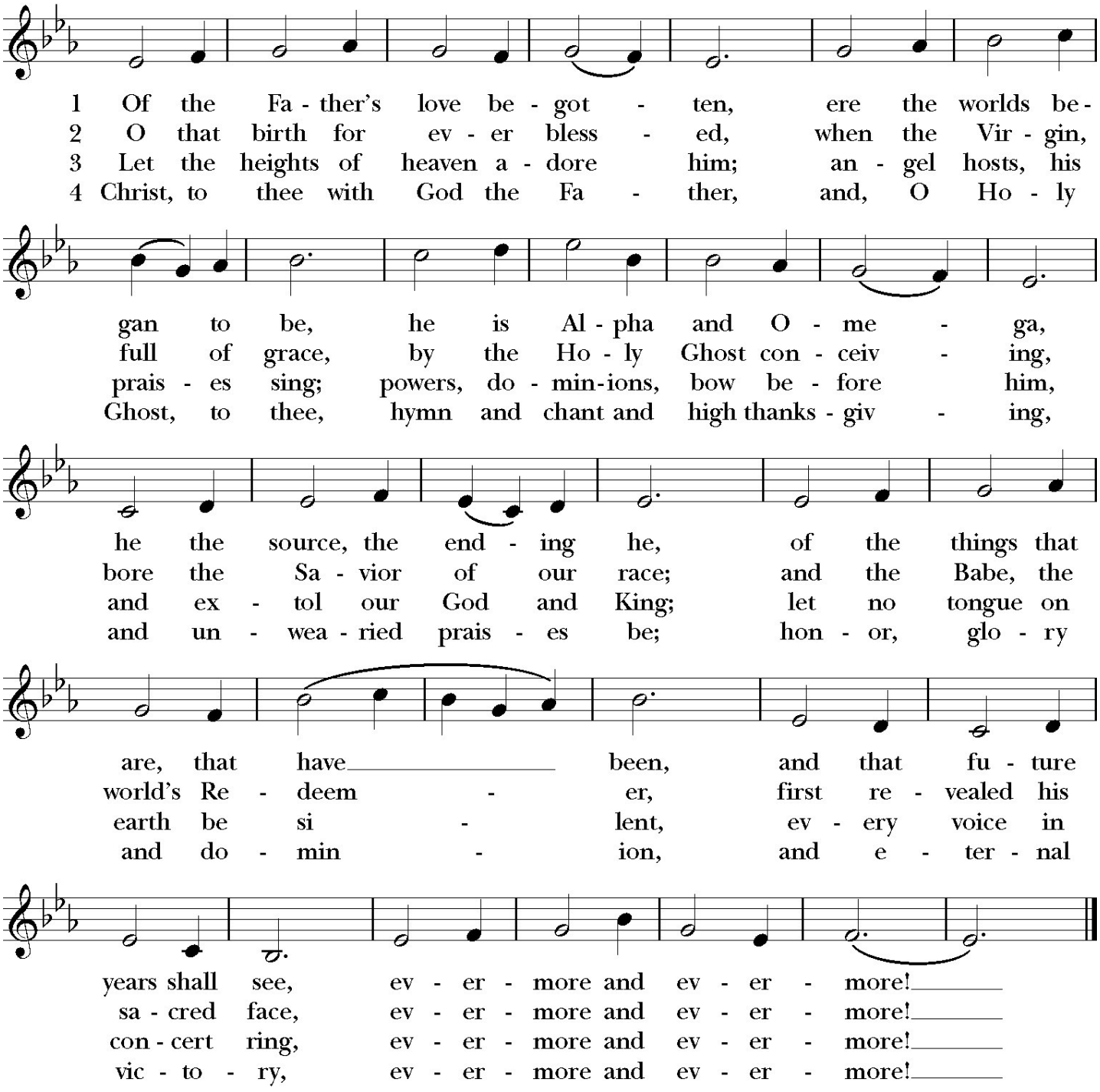
Then God walked around, and God looked around on all that she had made. He looked at his sun, and she looked at her moon, and she looked at her little stars; He looked on his world with all its living things, and God said: I'm lonely still.

Then God sat down—on the side of a hill where she could think; by a deep, wide river he sat down; with her head in her hands, God thought and thought, till he thought: I'll make me a man! Up from the bed of the river God scooped the clay; and by the bank of the river she kneeled her down; and there the great God Almighty Who lit the sun and fixed it in the sky, Who flung the stars to the most far corner of the night, Who rounded the earth in the middle of his hand; this great God, like a mother bending over her baby, kneeled down in the dust toiling over a lump of clay till he shaped it in is his own image;

Then into it he blew the breath of life, and human became a living soul.

Amen. Amen.

HYMN AFTER LESSON 1 82 Of the Father's love begotten *Divinum mysterium*

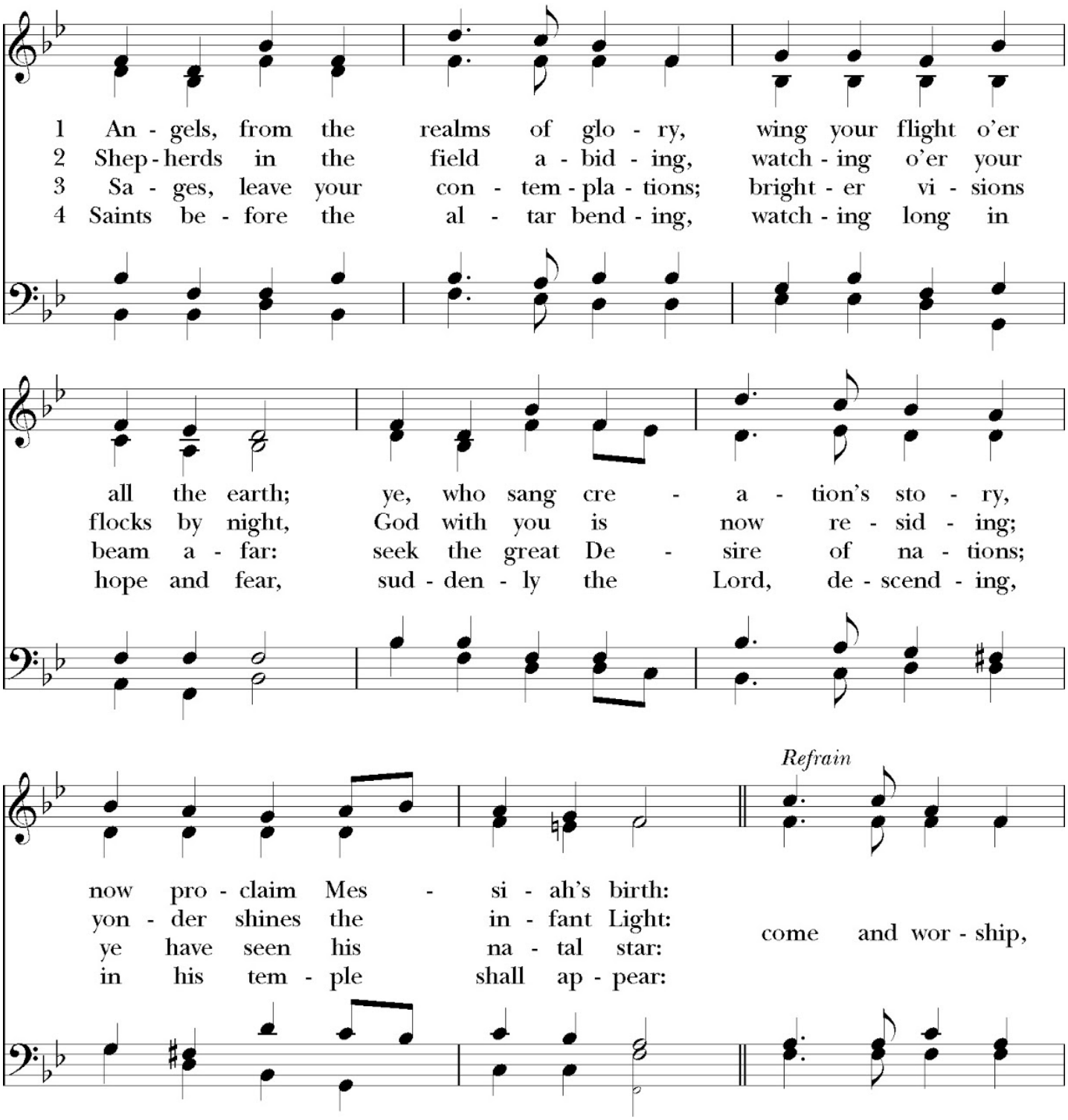


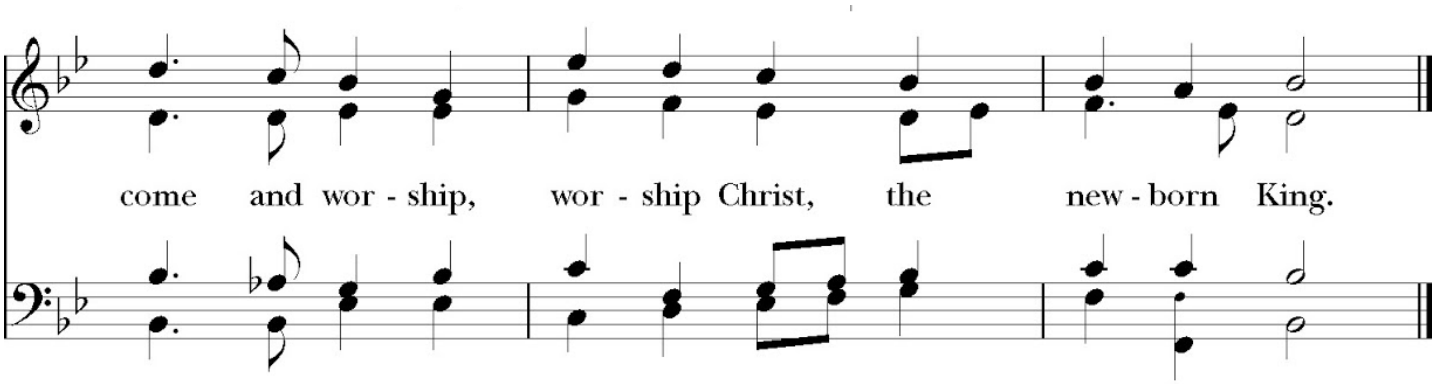
THE SECOND LESSON Isaiah 7:10-15

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. Then Isaiah said: 'Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign.

Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good.

HYMN AFTER LESSON II 93 Angels, from the realms of glory *Regent Square*

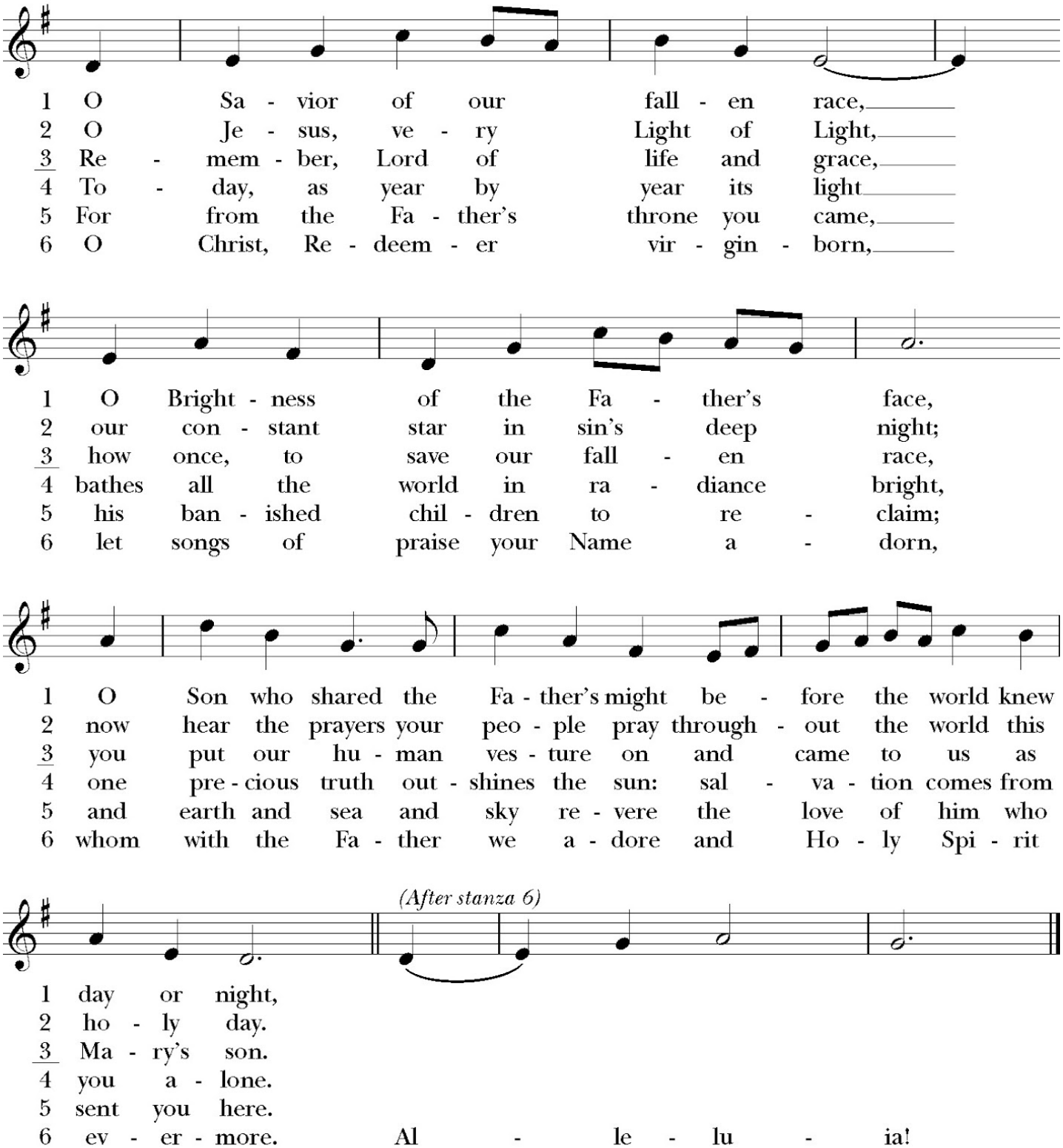




THE THIRD LESSON Isaiah 9:2, 6–7

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. 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 onwards and for evermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

HYMN AFTER LESSON III 86 O Savior of our fallen race *Gonfalon Royal*



THE FOURTH LESSON 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.

SOLO AFTER THE LESSON IV

Lo! How a Rose e'er blooming *Es ist ein Ros*, arr. Mark Hayes

Charmian Crawford, soloist

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming, from tender stem hath sprung.
Of Jesse's lineage coming, as men of old have sung;
It came, a flow'ret bright, amid the cold of winter,
When half-spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the Rose I have in mind,
With Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind;
To show God's love aright, she bore to men a Savior,
When half-spent was the night.

This Flower, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air,
Dispel with glorious splendor the darkness everywhere;
True man, yet very God, from sin and death He saves us
And lightens every load.

THE FIFTH LESSON Luke 2:8–20

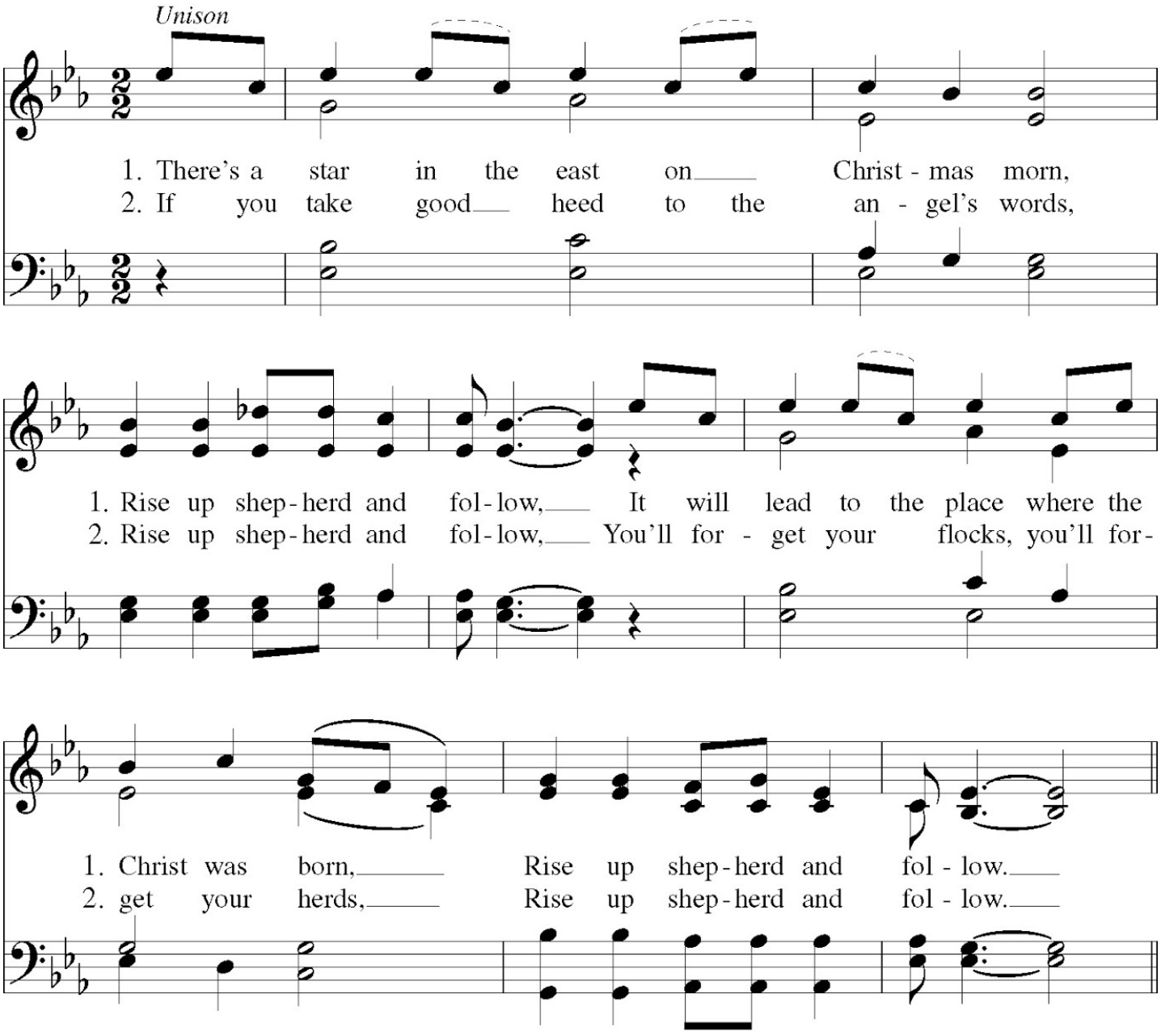
In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great 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."

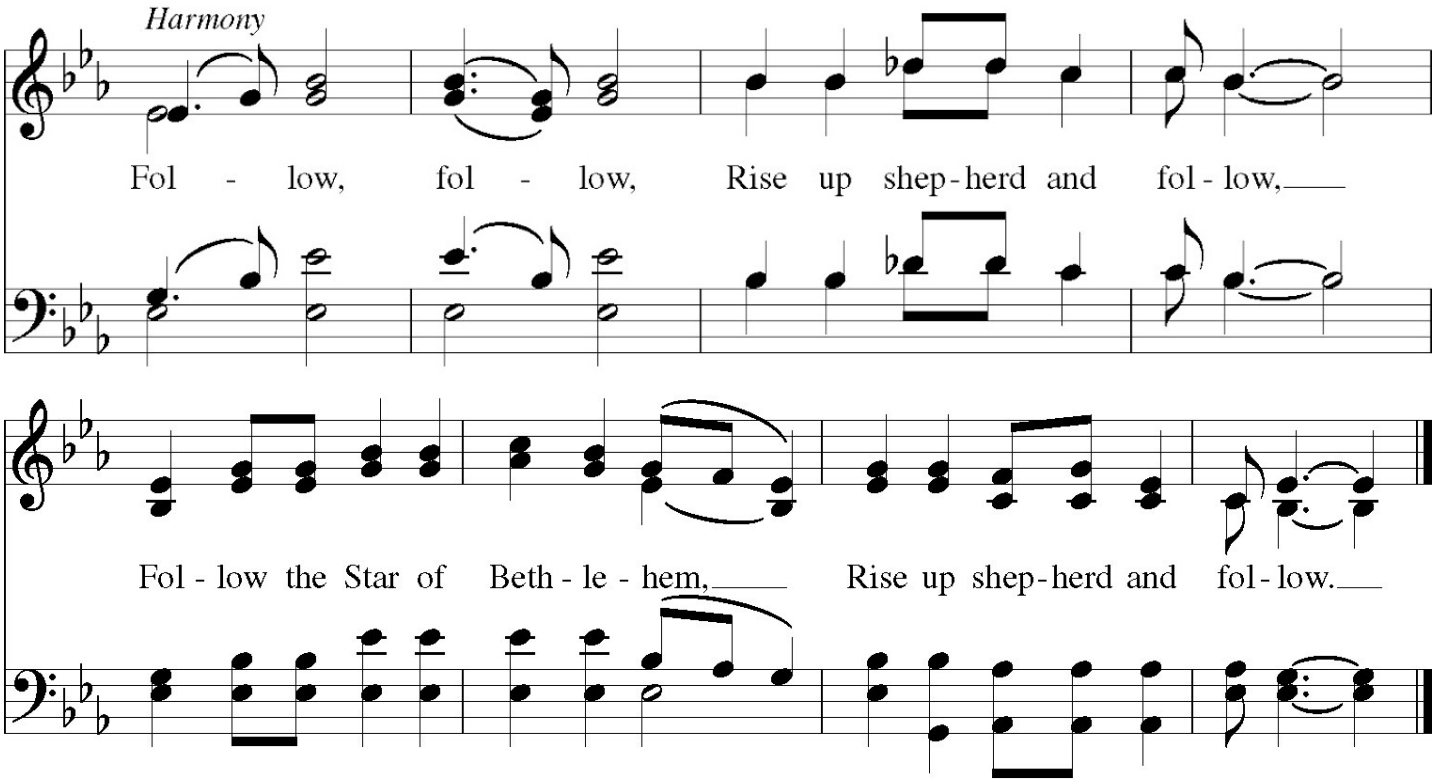
And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those

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 AFTER LESSON V

LEVAS 26 Rise up, shepherd, and follow — African American Spiritual





THE SIXTH READING John 1:1-18

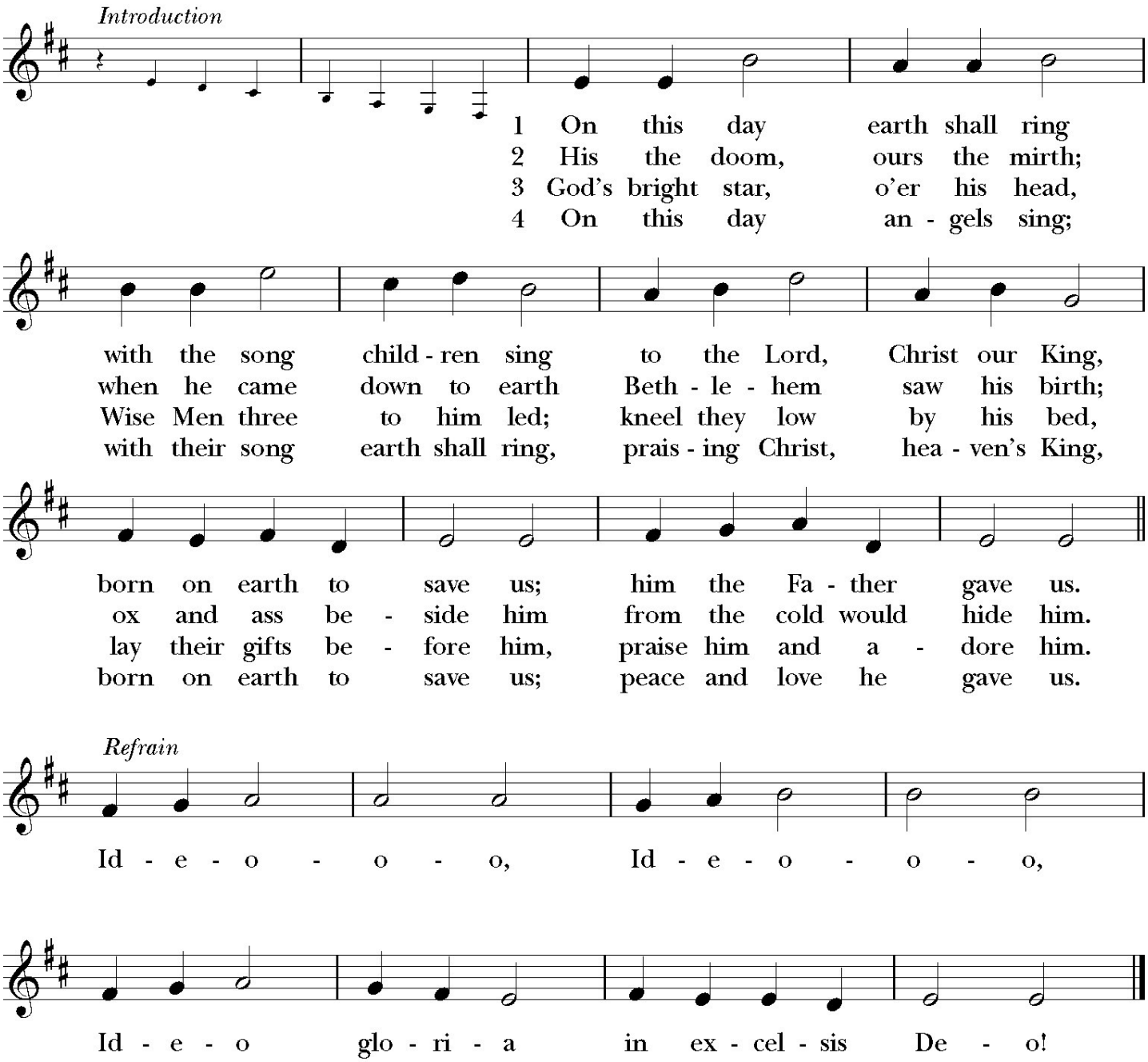
In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

HYMN AFTER LESSON VI 92 On this day earth shall ring *Personet hodie*



"Ideo gloria in excelsis Deo!" is Latin for "Therefore, glory to God in the highest!"

HOMILY The Reverend R. Justice Schunior

CLERGY GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

ELECTRONIC OFFERING

To support the work of the church, make an online gift now or learn about the other ways to give.

Pledges to support the church in the future and online gifts can also be made through the St. Mark's website stmarks.net by choosing "Donate or Pledge" at the top.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM In Wintertime, Op. 103 Words by Betty Askwith
Music by Lennox Berkeley

Virtual Chamber Ensemble

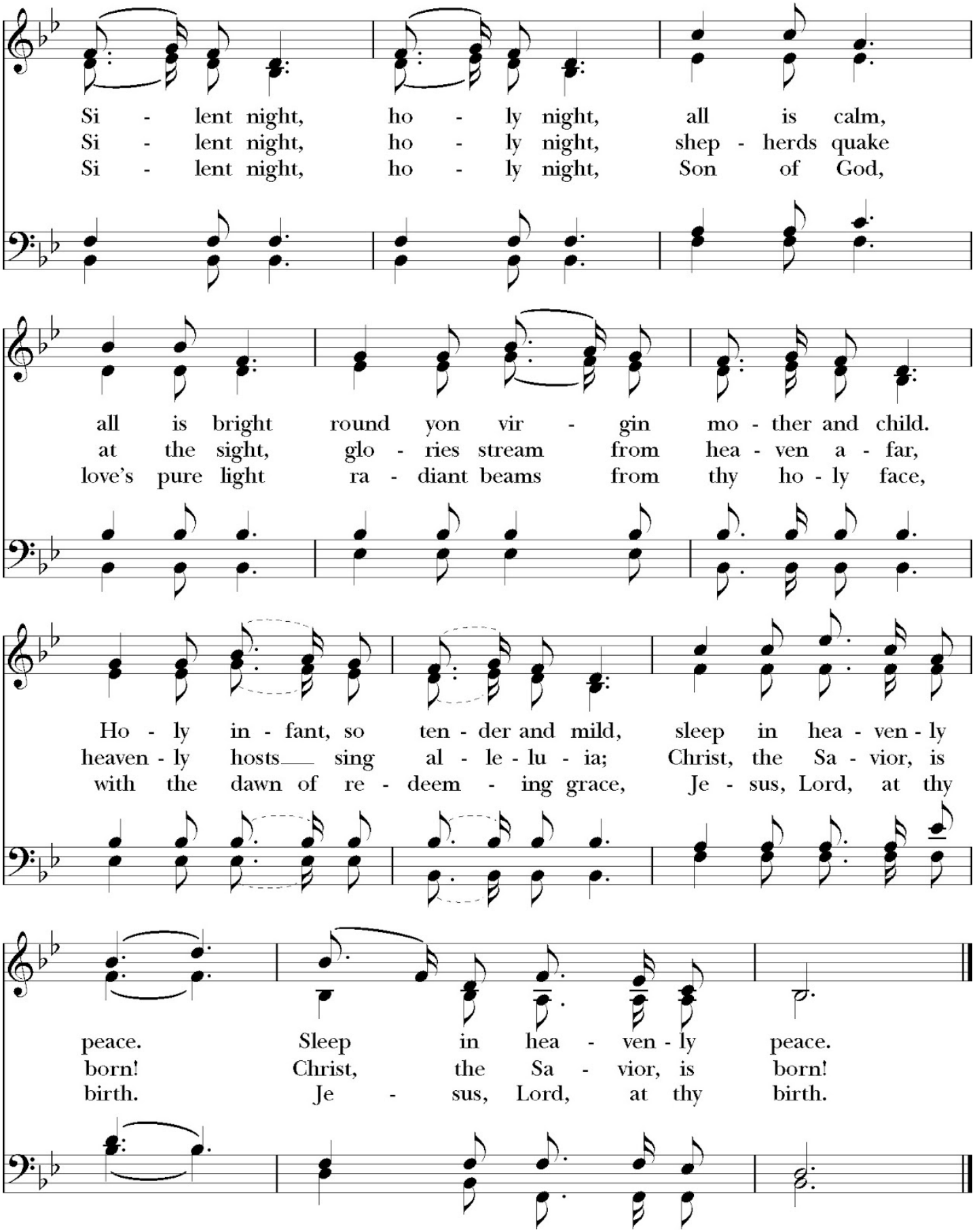
When Thou wast born in wintertime, the Saviour of mankind to be,
Came men of ev'ry sort and clime: to worship Thee.

The Three Wise Men who from afar drew near the wond'rous Babe to see,
And in their wisdom found Thy star: these worshipp'd Thee.

And those who waited in Thy courts, who sought from earthly things to flee,
Who serv'd by pray'r and quiet thoughts: these worshipp'd Thee.

And shepherds who say watching then, their flocks about the hills dispersed,
Unlearn'd, unletter'd, humble men: These found Thee first.

HYMN 111 Silent night, holy night *Stille Nacht*



COLLECT

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

BLESSING

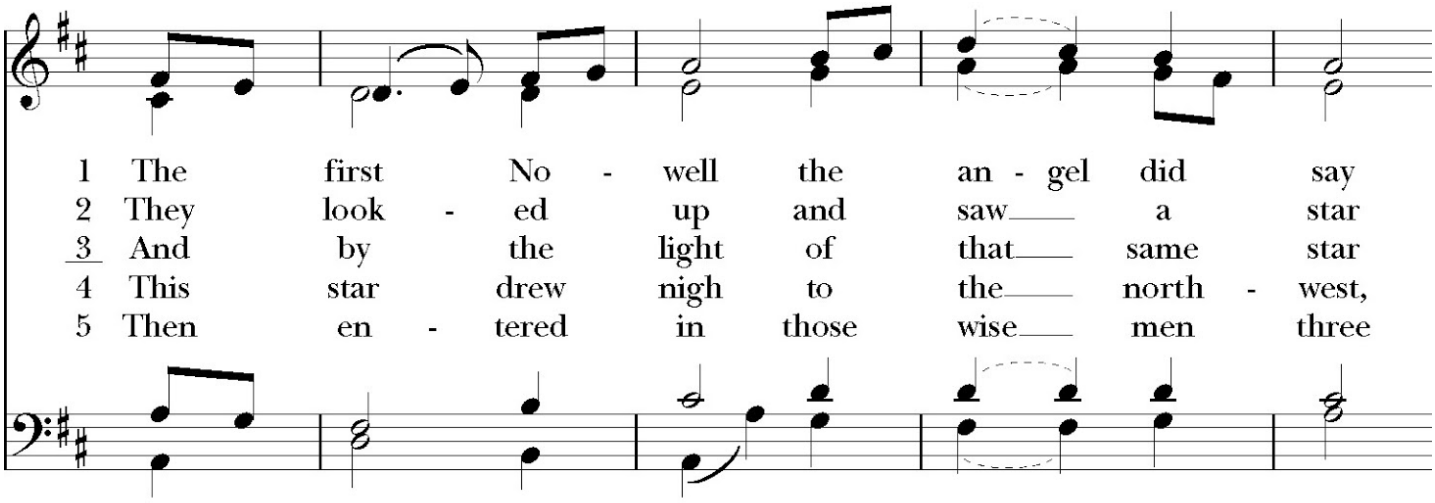
May Almighty God, who sent his Son to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of his holiness. **Amen.**

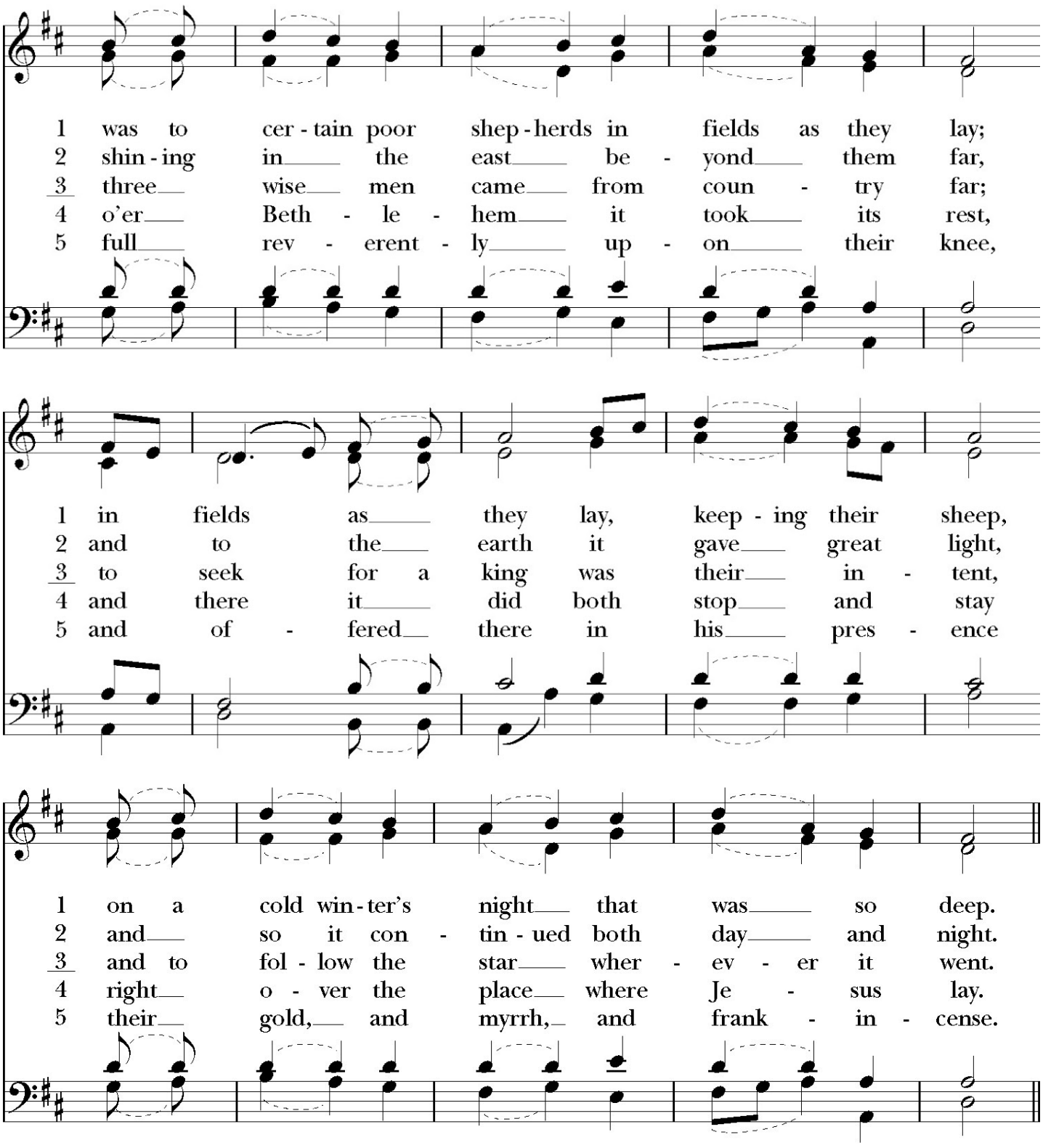
May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel. **Amen.**

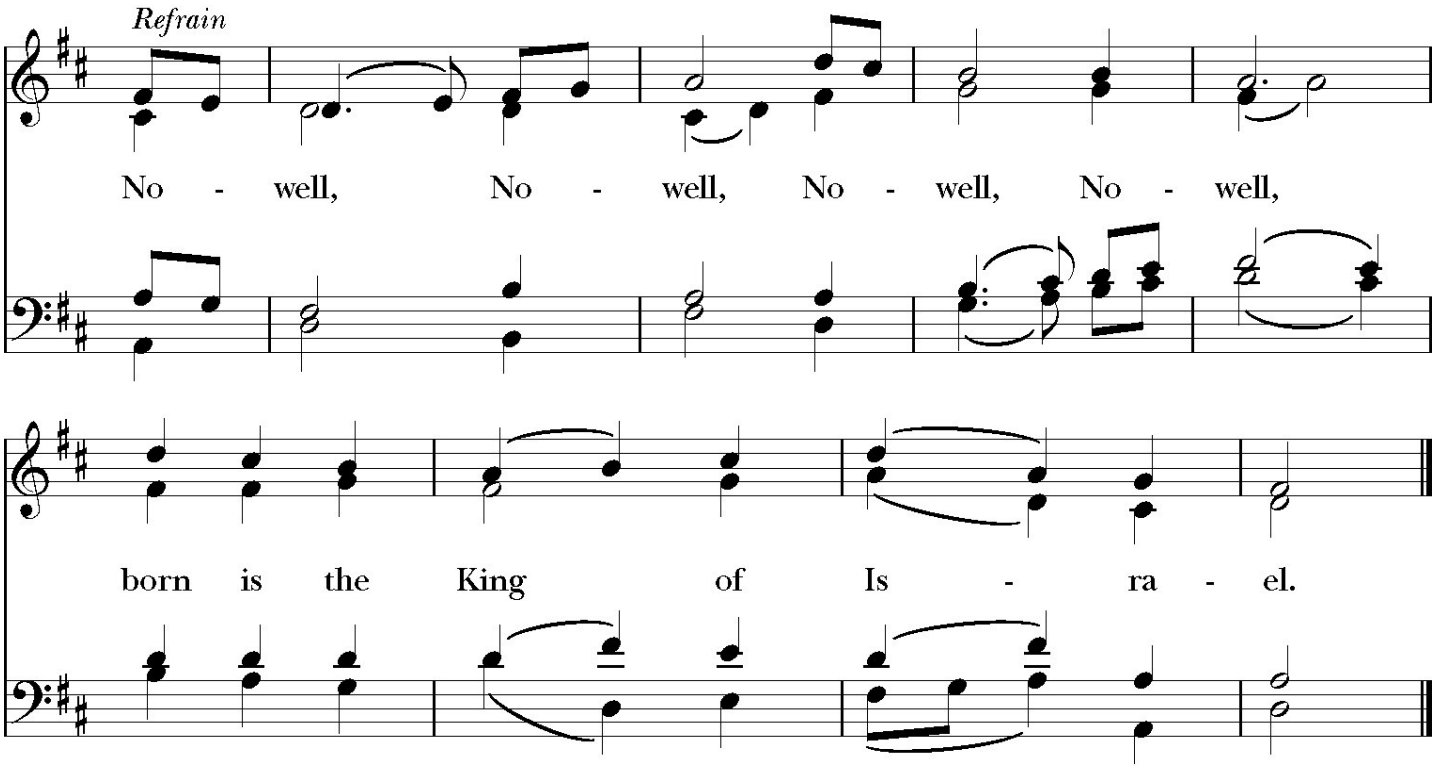
May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN 109 The First Nowell *First Nowell*




1 was to cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay;
2 shin - ing in the east be - yond them far,
3 three wise men came from coun - try far;
4 o'er Beth - le - hem it took its rest,
5 full rev - erent - ly up - on their knee,
1 in fields as they lay, keep - ing their sheep,
2 and to the earth it gave great light,
3 to seek for a king was their in - tent,
4 and there it did both stop and stay
5 and of - fered there in his pres - ence
1 on a cold win - ter's night that was so deep.
2 and so it con - tin - ued both day and night.
3 and to fol - low the star wher - ev - er it went.
4 right o - ver the place where Je - sus lay.
5 their gold, and myrrh, and frank - in - cense.



6 Then let us all with one accord
sing praises to our heavenly Lord;
that hath made heaven and earth of nought,
and with his blood our life hath bought.

Refrain

POSTLUDE In dulci jubilo arr. Dale Wood (1934-2003)

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Welcome Newcomers!

We hope you feel a sense of connection as we share this time together online.
There are many other opportunities to get involved with St. Mark's, even remotely.

If you are a newcomer and want us to get to know you better, please fill out this form. If you have questions, you can also contact the staff listed on the last page.
We will be happy to help you in any way we can.

Epiphany Sermon Series

Adding a Voice: Radical Acts of Love

January 10	Introduction: What does Lending your voice mean?	Michele Morgan
January 17	Listening to the change.	Cindy Dopp
January 24	Seeing the world anew.	Justice Schunior
January 31	Teaching and learning	Joe Hubbard
February 7	In it for the long haul	Patricia Catalano
February 14	Of change and being changed	Michele Morgan

✠ Service Participants ✠

Officiant	The Reverend Michele H. Morgan
Preacher	The Reverend R. Justice Schunior
Director of Music & Organist	Jeff Kempskie
Verger	Josie Jordan
Soloist	Charmian Crawford
Virtual Chancel Choir	Mark Allen, Susanne Allen, Lou Bayard, Hayley Brandt, Katherine Buchanan, Logan Clark, Tracy Councill, Charmian Crawford, Anjuli Das, Martha Connor Donnelly, Ann Eilers, Laura Gladstone, Cecilie Jones, Nadine Hathaway, Christina Herman, Jeff Kempskie, Robin Kern, Marika Klein, Pam Lacey, Jordan Meyer, Sandy Padgett, David Perry, Meg Platt, Kathryn Powers, Jim Prunty, Nick Rogers, JT Spivy, Doris Summey, Aaron Tucker, Dave Wellman, Marjorie Coombs Wellman, Karen Wiedemann
Virtual Chamber Ensemble	Katherine Buchanan, Logan Clark, Anjuli Das, Jeff Kempskie, Marika Klein, Sandy Padgett, David Perry, Jim Prunty, Nick Rogers, JT Spivey, Aaron Tucker, Karen Wiedemann
Readers	Linell Grundman, J. David Willson, James Steed, Kathy Tatko, Maureen Shea, The Reverend Cindy Dopp
Vestry Greeter	Christina Herman
Producer	Jeff Kempskie
Video Director	David Deutsch
Technical Director	Charlie Rupp
Associate Director	JT Spivy
Camera	Elizabeth Godec

Permissions

Good Christian friends, rejoice. Words: John Mason Neale (1818-1866), alt. Music: *In dulci jubilo*, German carol, 14th cent.; harm. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944). *Angels we have heard on high*. Words: French carol; tr. James Chadwick (1813-1882), alt. Music: *Gloria*, French carol; arr. Edward Shippen Barnes (1887-1958). *Of the Father's love begotten*. Words: Marcus Aurelius Clemens Prudentius (348-410?); tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866) and Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877), alt. Music: *Divinum mysterium*, Sanctus trope, 11th cent.; adapt. Piae Cantiones, 1582; acc. Bruce Neswick (b. 1956). *Angels, from the realms of glory*. Words: James Montgomery (1771-1854), alt. Music: *Regent Square*, Henry Thomas Smart (1813-1879). *O Savior of our fallen race*. Words: Latin, ca. 6th cent.; tr. Gilbert E. Doan (b. 1930). Music: *Gonfalon Royal*, Percy Carter Buck (1871-1947). Copyright: Words: Copyright © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission. Music: By permission of Oxford University Press. *Lo! How a rose e'er blooming*. Words & Music: Traditional German, arr. Mark Hayes © 1999 Alfred Publishing Co. *On this day earth shall ring*. Words: Piae Cantiones, 1582; tr. Jane M. Joseph (1894-1929). Music: *Personent hodie*, melody from Piae Cantiones, 1582; harm. Gustav Theodore Holst (1874-1934) Copyright: Words: G. Schirmer, Inc. Reprinted by permission. Music: By permission of Oxford University Press. *Silent night, holy night*. 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). *The first Nowell the angel did say*. Meter: Irr. with Refrain. Words: English Carol, 18th cent. Music: *The First Nowell*, English carol, 17th cent.; harm. John Stainer (1841-1901); alt. Refrain harm. and desc. Healey Willan (1880-1968). Copyright: Music: Alternative setting with descant, © 1926, by Oxford University Press, Inc. All selections: All rights reserved. Reprinted and livestreamed under OneLicense.net A-718991.

St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Capitol Hill

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The Reverend Joe Hubbard, Seminarian	seminarian@stmarks.net

The Vestry

Senior Warden	Ryan Baugh	seniorwarden@stmarks.net
Junior Warden	Jim Pittman	juniorwarden@stmarks.net
Class of '21	Christina Herman, Brandon Dunn Knight, & Amber Macdonald	
Class of '22	Andrew Stafford, Shay Waye, & Kit Arrington	
Class of '23	Brent Bickley, Linell Grundman, & Fritz Henn	
Officers	John Edwards, *Treasurer*	
	Kim Bayliss, *Register*	
	Mary Thuell, *Counsel*	

Diocesan Delegates

Peter Nye Caitlin Frazier Sandy Padgett

Cycle of Prayer

In the Diocese of Washington

St. John's Church, Olney
St. John's Episcopal School, Olney
St. John's Church, Zion Parish
St. John's Church, Broad Creek
St. John's Church, Mt. Rainier

Anglican Communion

Pray for Christians in other denominations and the work of the ecumenical movement
His Holiness Pope Francis, Bishop of Rome
His All Holiness Archbishop Bartholomew of Constantinople,
New Rome and Ecumenical Patriarch
The General Secretary of the World Council of Churches
Bishop Ivan M Abrahams, General Secretary World Methodist Council
The Reverend Chris Ferguson,
General Secretary of the World Communion of Reformed Churches

Parish Prayer List

Louise Abbot • Collie Agle • Ben Alquiros • William Aycock
Bernard • John Barton • Robert Baugh • Sean Bishop
Pamela Blumgart • Joseph Boone • Fairfield Butt
Norman Choiniere • Taylor Emerson • Jean Eveleth
Elizabeth Fowler • Gale Johnson • Jocelyn Kovalenko
Carol Lewis • Phyllis Love • Barbara Marks • Nat Marks
The Massey-Padgett Family • Jane Miller • Don Mosher
Joan Pierotti • Rick Rutherford • Mary Welker • Nell Whitman

Parishioners and Family Members serving in the military

Chase Allen Ammon • Clint Billings • Jason Earnest

Please send any names you would like to add to bulletin@stmarks.net.

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The Reverend Patricia Catalano, Adjunct Priest	adjunct@stmarks.net
The Reverend Joe Hubbard, Seminarian	seminarian@stmarks.net

The Vestry

Senior Warden	Ryan Baugh	seniorwarden@stmarks.net
Junior Warden	Jim Pittman	juniorwarden@stmarks.net
Class of '21	Christina Herman, Brandon Dunn Knight, & Amber Macdonald	
Class of '22	Andrew Stafford, Shay Waye, & Kit Arrington	
Class of '23	Brent Bickley, Linell Grundman, & Fritz Henn	
Officers	John Edwards, *Treasurer*	
	Kim Bayliss, *Register*	
	Mary Thuell, *Counsel*	

Diocesan Delegates

Peter Nye Caitlin Frazier Sandy Padgett