ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Shawnee, Kansas

The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ

A SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

CHRISTMAS EVE AT 10 P.M.

Welcome!
We're glad you are here, especially on this most holy of nights.
If you are a visitor, please introduce yourself and sign the guest book found by the front door.

Helpful Information
Congregational hymns and responses are in ***Bold italics***.

All are welcome at the Communion rail. Baptized Christians may receive the bread and wine. Alternatively, you may cross your arms over your chest, thereby indicating you wish to receive a blessing.

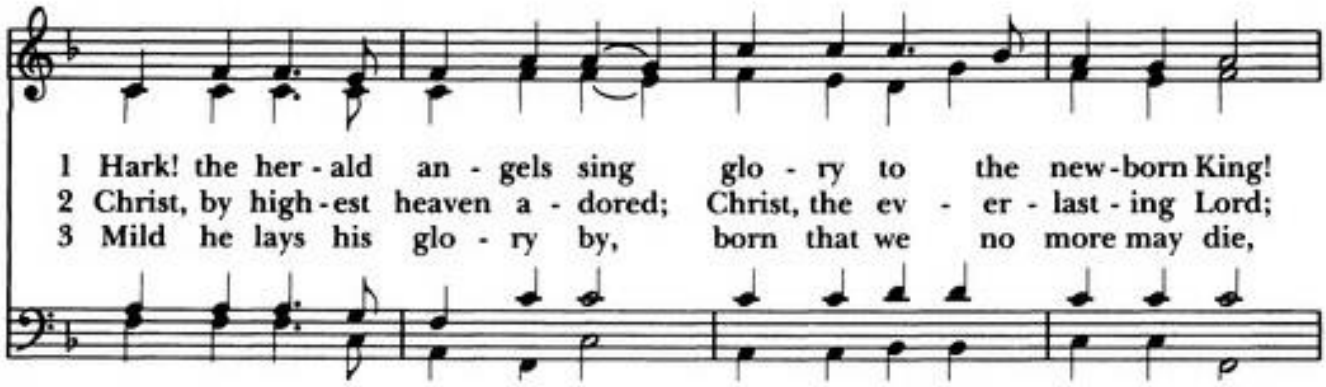
Children are welcome in the service.

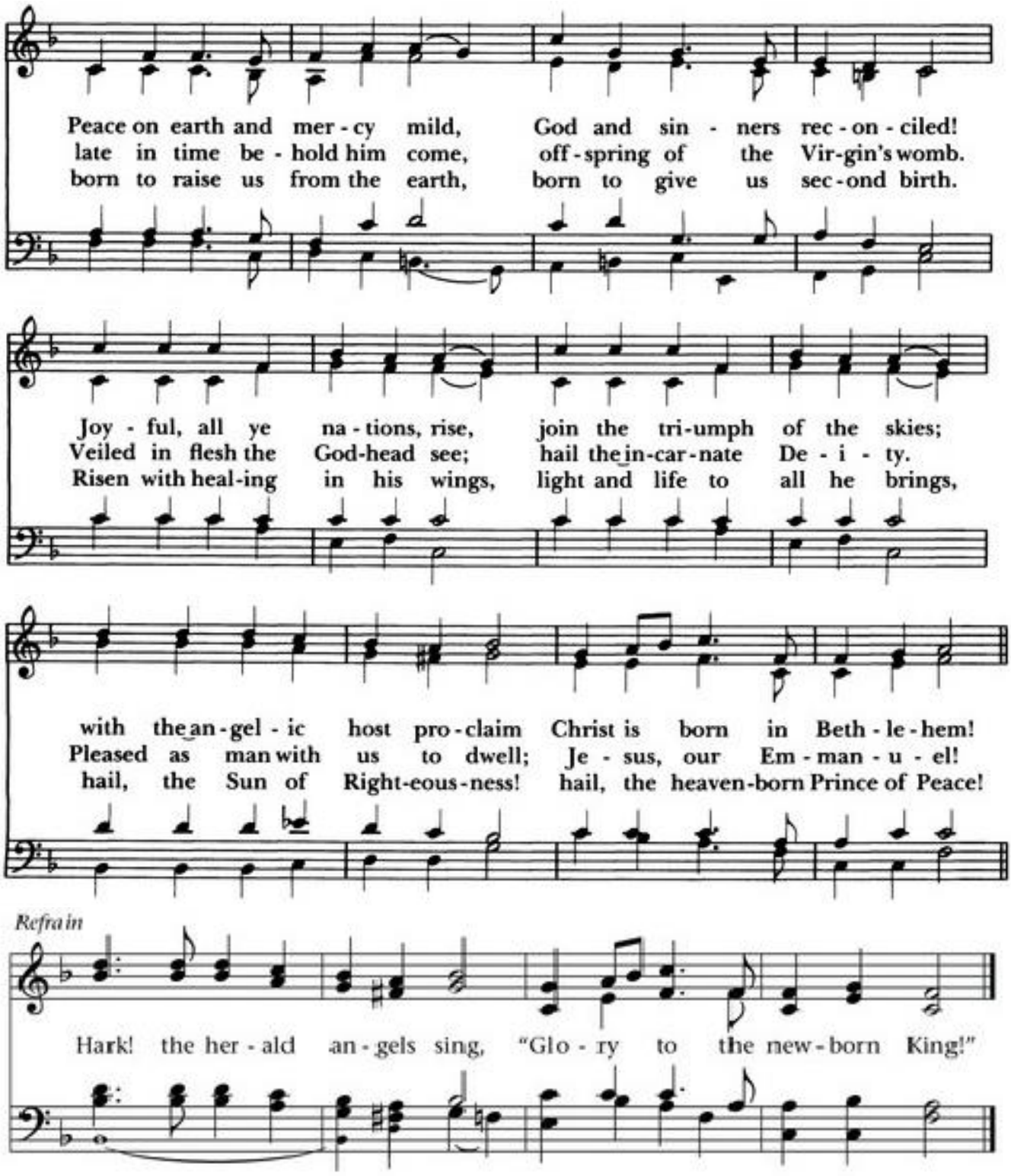
An accessible restroom is off the foyer; additional restrooms are along the southeast corridor.

Please silence your cell phones.

Prelude

Please stand as able.
The Processional Hymn *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*
The Hymnal 1982 #87





All standing, the Celebrant says

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People ***And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen***

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Tonight we relight the candles of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love.

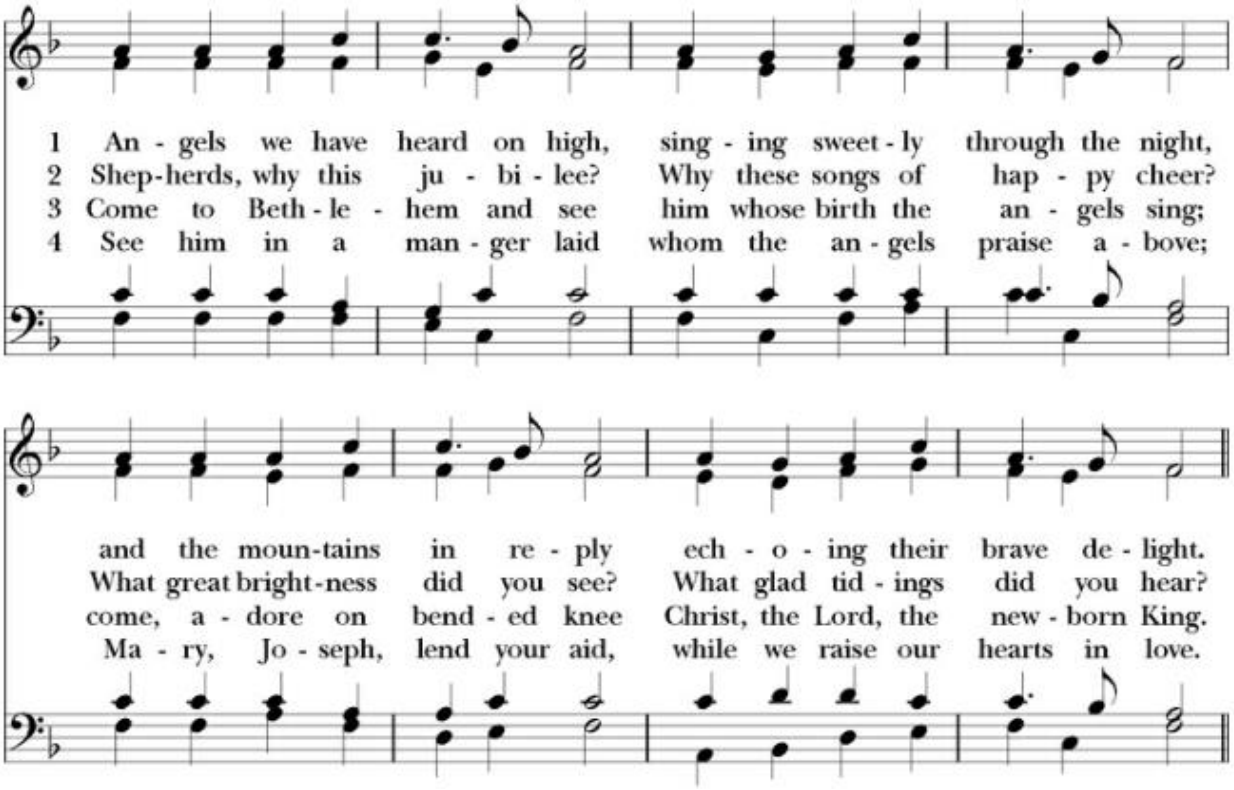
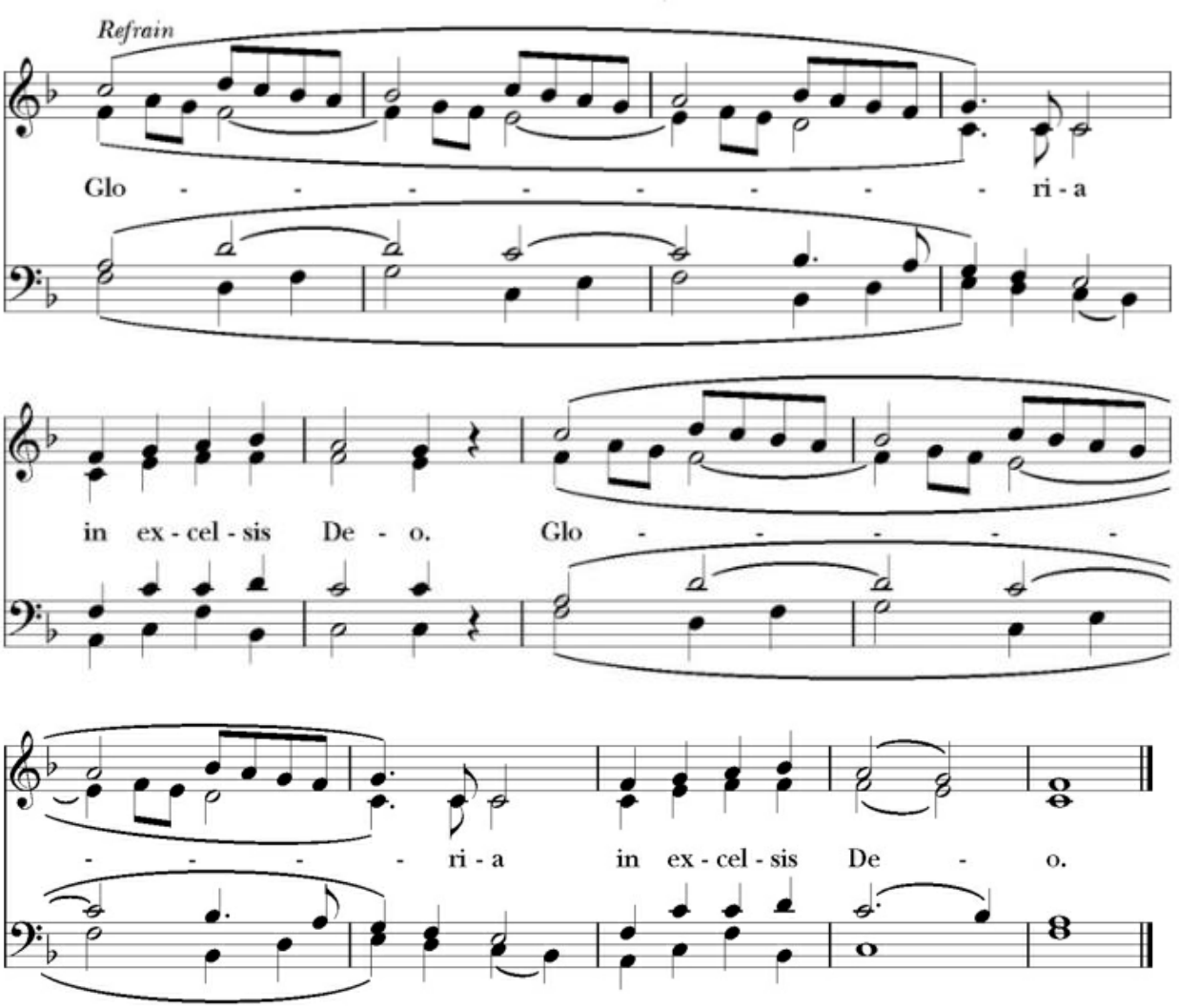
(The candles are lit.)

Tonight the Advent season ends. We wait no longer. That great event for which we waited has happened. God's promise of a Redeemer is fulfilled. Christ Jesus is born. And so we light the Christ candle with praise to our God who brings joy to the world.

In the Gospel of Matthew we hear: All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." *(Matthew 1:22-23)*

Let us pray: Lord, you came as a tiny, fragile baby; yet we know that you are God and you are with us. May the flame of this candle remind us that you are the light of the world and that if we follow you, we will never walk in darkness, but will have the true light of life. ***Amen.***

Song of Praise *Angels We Have Heard On High*
The Hymnal 1982 #96



Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People ***And also with you.***
Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. ***Amen.***

Please be seated.

THE LESSONS

The Old Testament Isaiah 52:7-10

How beautiful upon the mountains
are the feet of the messenger who announces peace,
who brings good news,
who announces salvation,
who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."

Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices,
together they sing for joy;
for in plain sight they see
the return of the LORD to Zion.
Break forth together into singing,
you ruins of Jerusalem;
for the LORD has comforted his people,
he has redeemed Jerusalem.
The LORD has bared his holy arm
before the eyes of all the nations;
and all the ends of the earth shall see
the salvation of our God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People ***Thanks be to God.***

The Response Psalm 98 *Cantante Domino*

1 Sing to the LORD a new song, *
for he has done marvelous things.

2 With his right hand and his holy arm *
has he won for himself the victory.

3 The LORD has made known his victory; *
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.

4 He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, *
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

5 Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; *
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.

6 Sing to the LORD with the harp, *
with the harp and the voice of song.

7 With trumpets and the sound of the horn *
shout with joy before the King, the LORD.

8 Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, *
the lands and those who dwell therein.

9 Let the rivers clap their hands, *
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD,
when he comes to judge the earth.

10 In righteousness shall he judge the world *
and the peoples with equity.

A period of silence is kept.

The Epistle Hebrews 1:1-4

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains

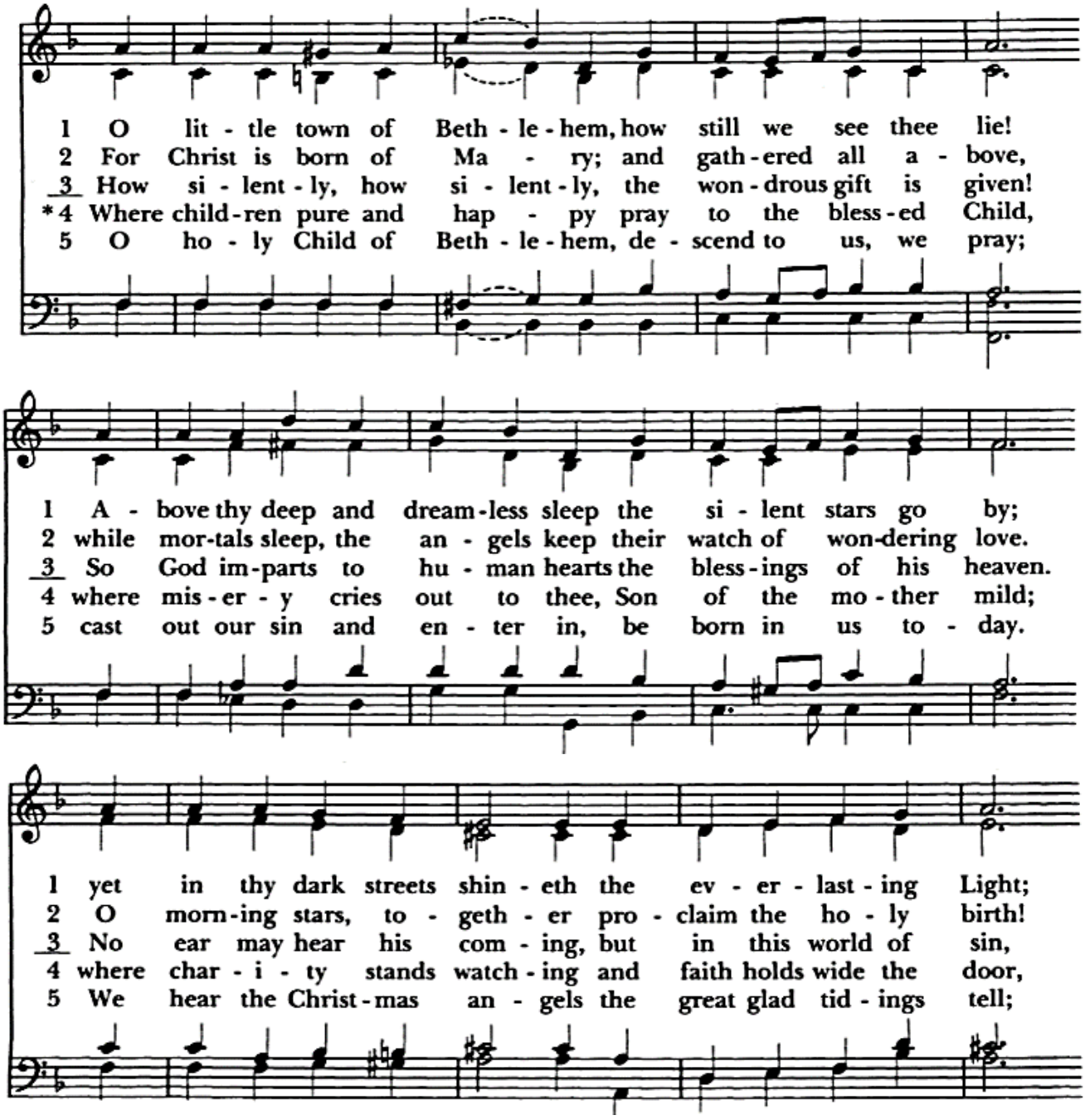
all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

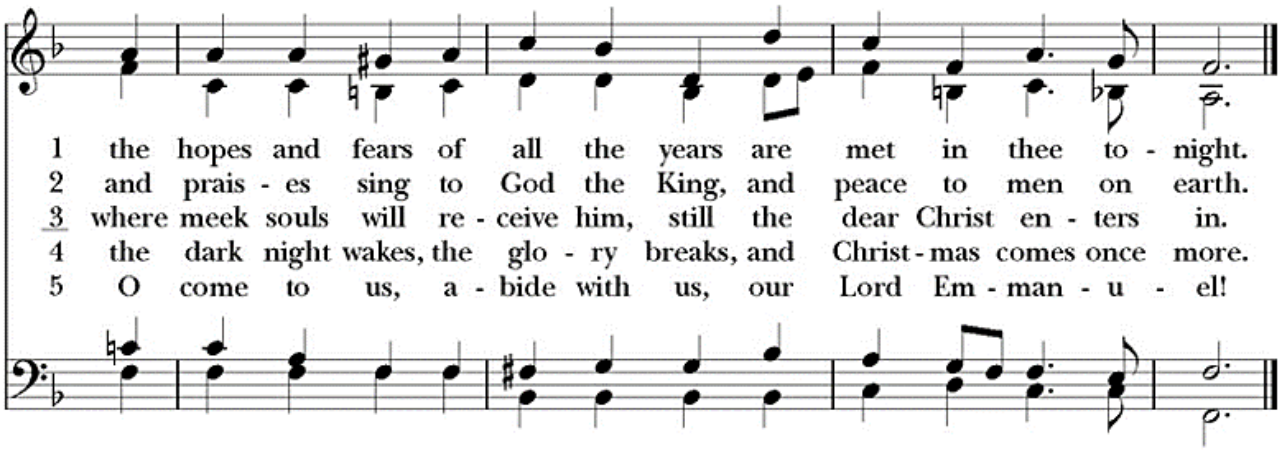
Reader The Word of the Lord.
People ***Thanks be to God.***

All stand as able.

Gospel Anthem

O Little Town of Bethlehem
The Hymnal 1982 #79





All remain standing.

The Gospel **John 1: 1-14**

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
People ***Glory to you, Lord Christ.***

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.

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.
People ***Praise to you, Lord Christ.***

Please be seated.
The Sermon **The Reverend Jonathan Brice**

The Nicene Creed

All stand and say together.

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
And his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen

The people stand or kneel as able.

Prayers of the People

December 24

Christmas Eve

My sisters and brothers in the peace of God, all the gifts we shall give and receive in these days are but small tokens of the gift that shines forth in God's word made flesh this night. From grateful hearts let us intercede for all who find themselves longing for this deepest, truest gift, saying: ***Hear our prayer****.*

That the peace proclaimed by angels in the shepherds' field might be realized on every field of war and on every street of violence, let us pray to the Lord. ***Hear our prayer.***

That the child born to us might find in our hearts warm welcome by our openness to the needs of the homeless and the hungry, let us pray to the Lord. ***Hear our prayer.***

That in this time of gift-giving we might become more responsive to the abandoned, the despairing, and the mourning, let us pray to the Lord. ***Hear our prayer.***

That the rejoicing of this day might be a bond leading us to true communion of life and worship, let us pray to the Lord. ***Hear our prayer.***

That the joy and consolation of the Wonderful Counselor might enliven all who are struck down by disease and illness, let us pray to the Lord. ***Hear our prayer.***

That the blessed hope we celebrate this night might be the fulfillment of all who have gone before us in faith, let us pray to the Lord. ***Hear our prayer.***

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

The People may add their own petitions.

God of darkness and silence, you have pierced the quiet of this night by the utterance of your word in our flesh. May our words of praise and petition be strong echoes of your Christmas word, so that all might come to the peace you promise in Jesus, who is Lord and God this night and forever.
Amen.

A period of silence is kept.

The people kneel as able.
The Confession of Sin

Priest Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Priest and People
Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Priest

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Please stand as able.

The Exchange of Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Please greet each other safely.

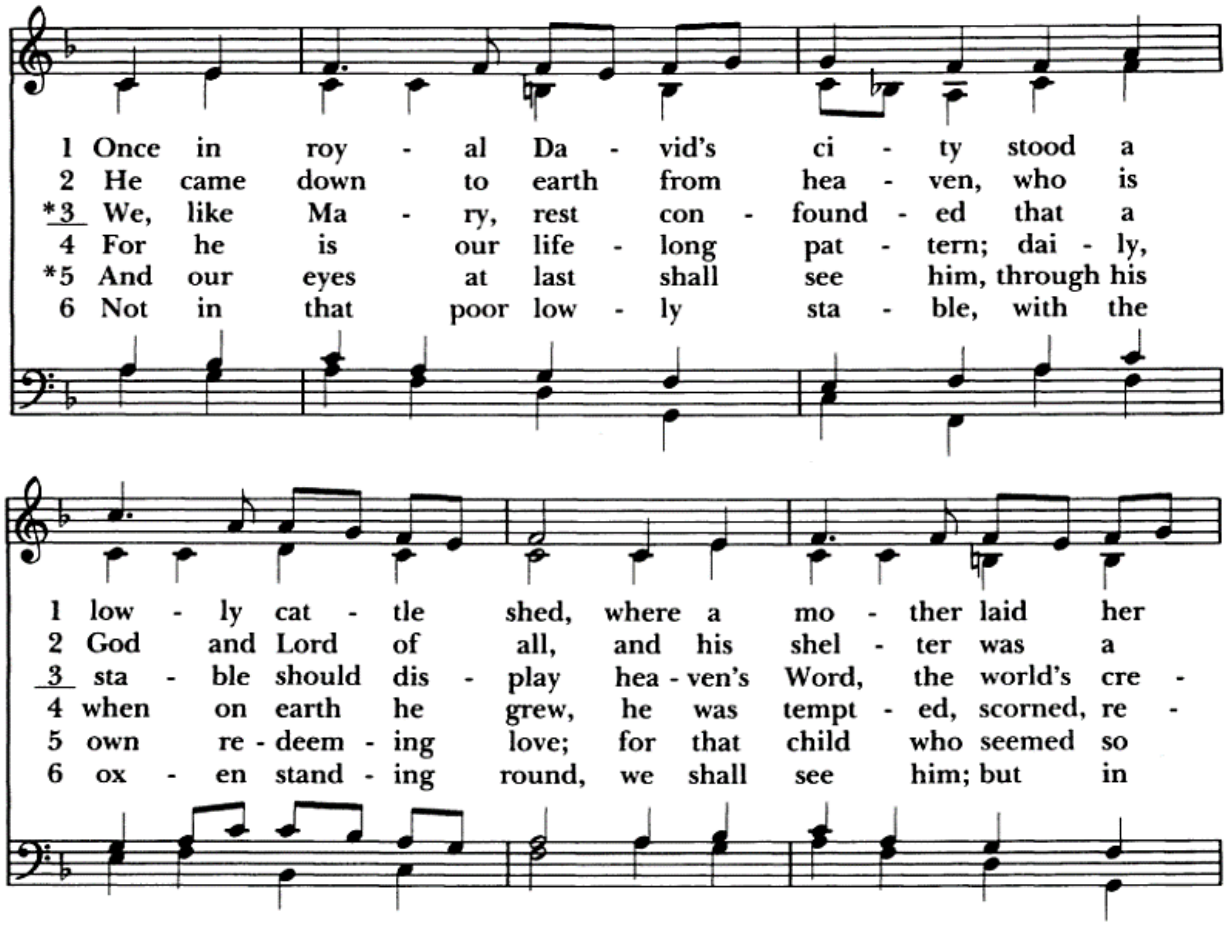
The Offertory Sentence

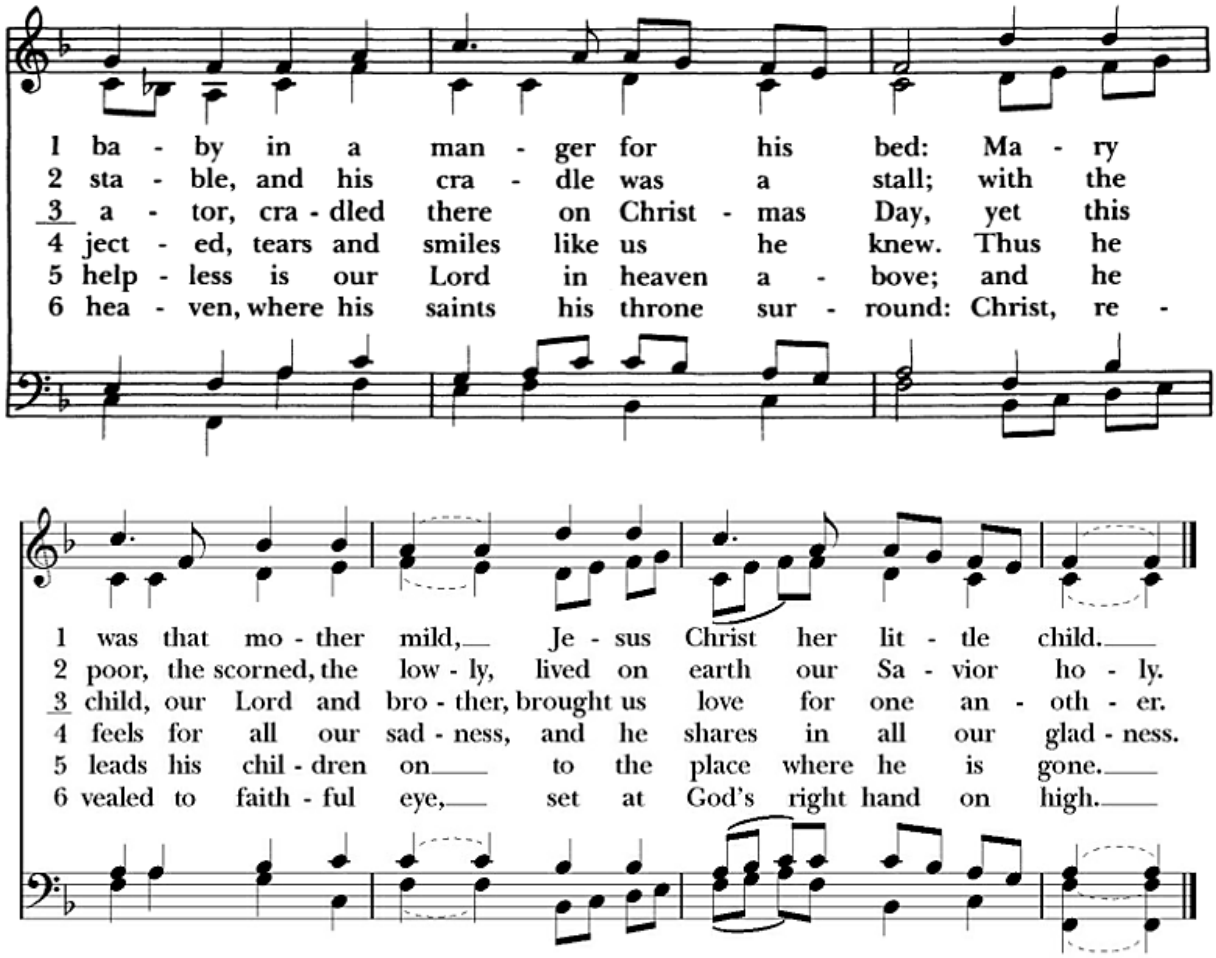
Celebrant

Ascribe to the Lord the honor due His name. Bring gifts and come into His courts.
Psalm 96:8

Please be seated.

Offertory Anthem *Once in Royal David's City*
The Hymnal 1982 #102





The Presentation of Bread

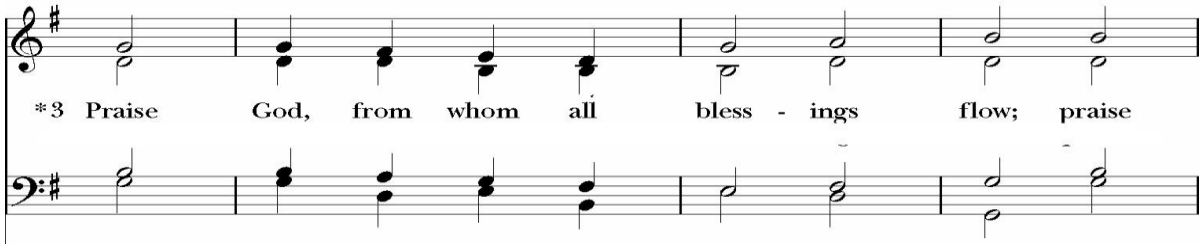
All stand as able.

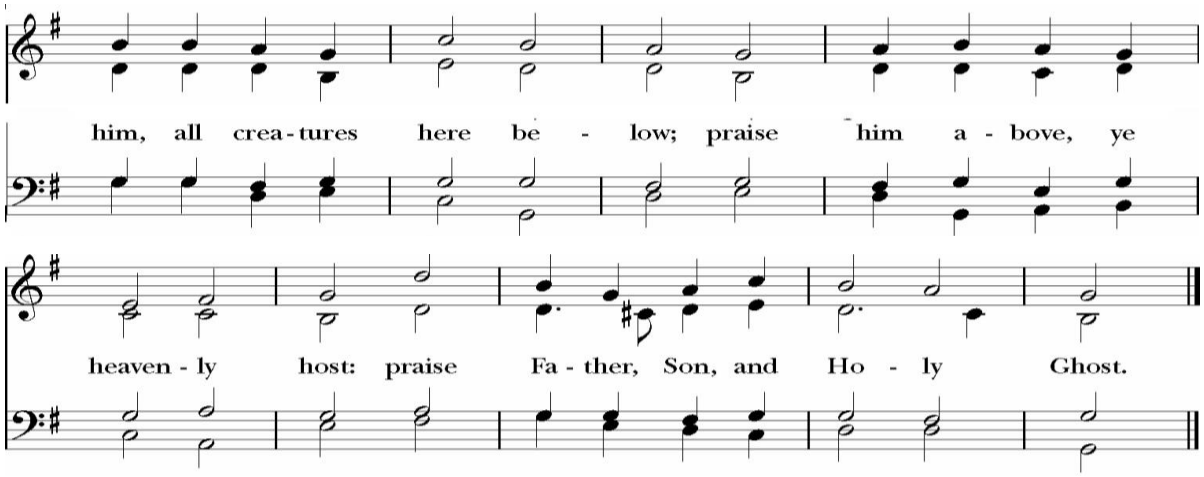
Presentation of Gifts

Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings of bread and wine.

Please stand as able for the Doxology.

Doxology *The Hymnal 1982 #380 v. 3*





Celebrant All things come from you O Lord.
People ***And of your own have we given you.***

THE HOLY COMMUNION FOR CHRISTMAS **Eucharistic Prayer B**

Standing as you are able.

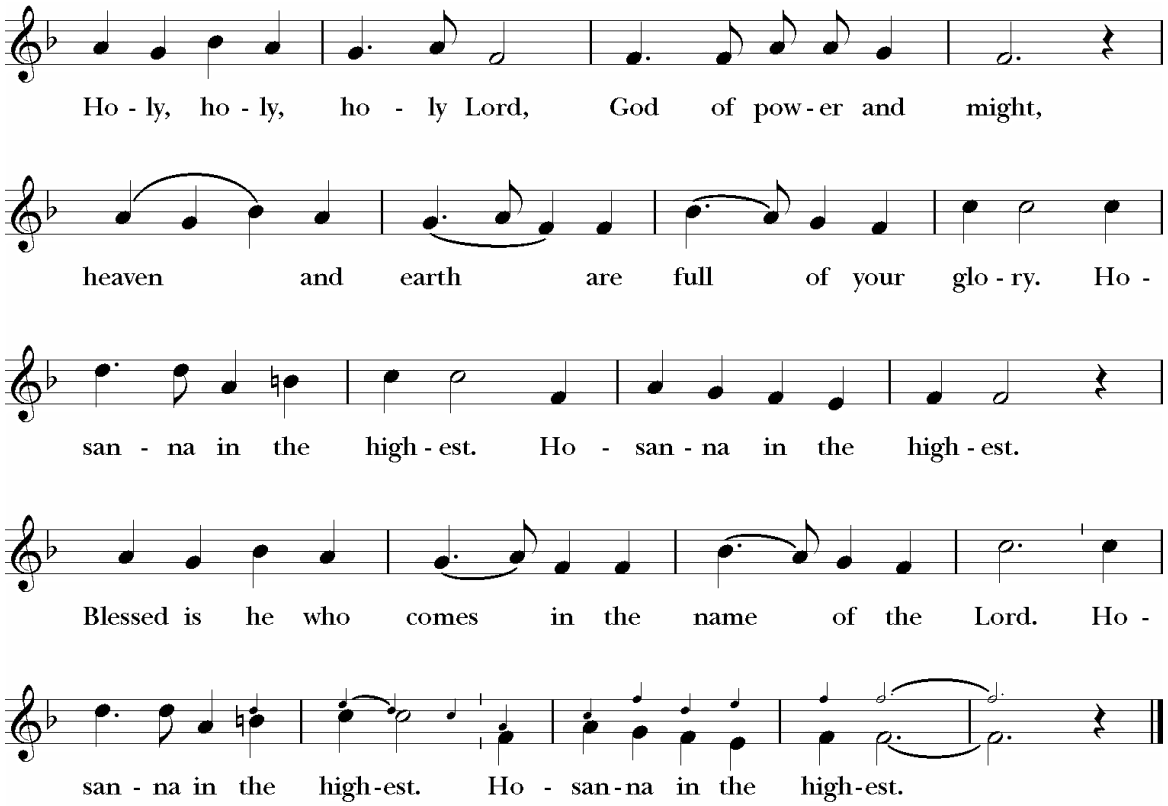
Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People ***And also with you.***
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People ***We lift them to the Lord.***
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People ***It is right to give him thanks and praise.***

Celebrant
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Celebrant and People *The Hymnal 1982 #S-125*



The people stand or kneel.
Celebrant

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory.

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your
Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. ***AMEN.***

Celebrant

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

The Lord's Prayer

(All together)

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 Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People ***Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.***

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Celebrant

The table of bread is now made ready.

It is the table of company with Jesus, and all who love him.

It is the table of sharing with the poor of the world, with whom Jesus identified himself.

It is the table of communion with the earth, in which Christ became incarnate.

So come to this table, you who have much faith, and you who would like to have more;

you who have been here often, and you who have not been for a long time;

you who have tried to follow Jesus, and you who have failed; come.

It is Christ who invites us to meet him here.

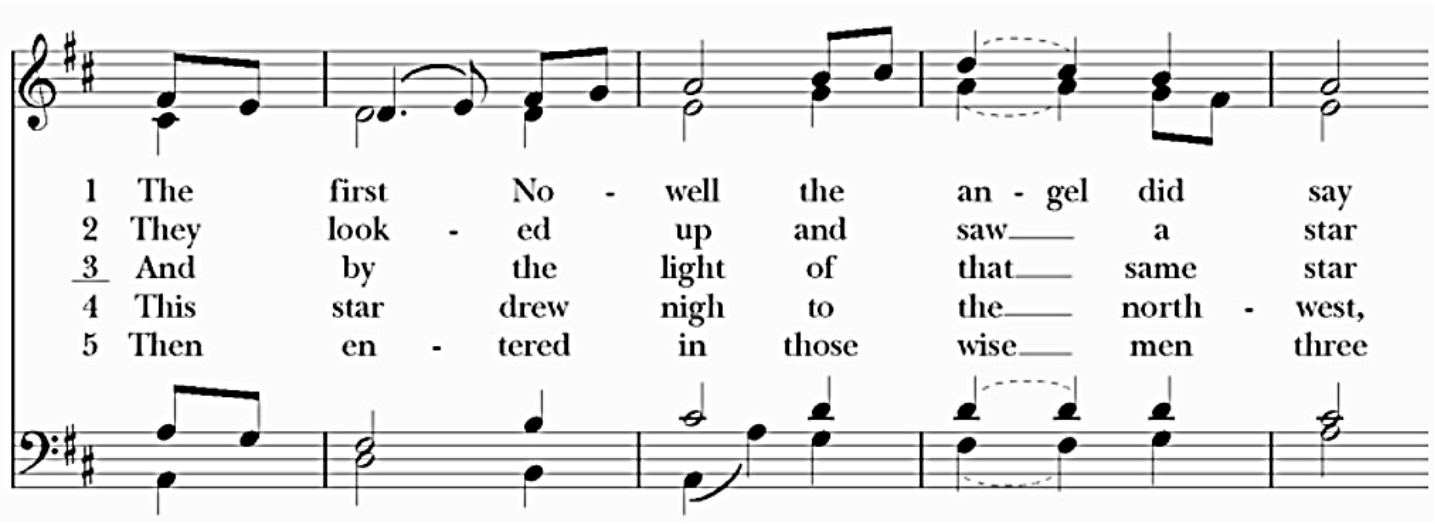
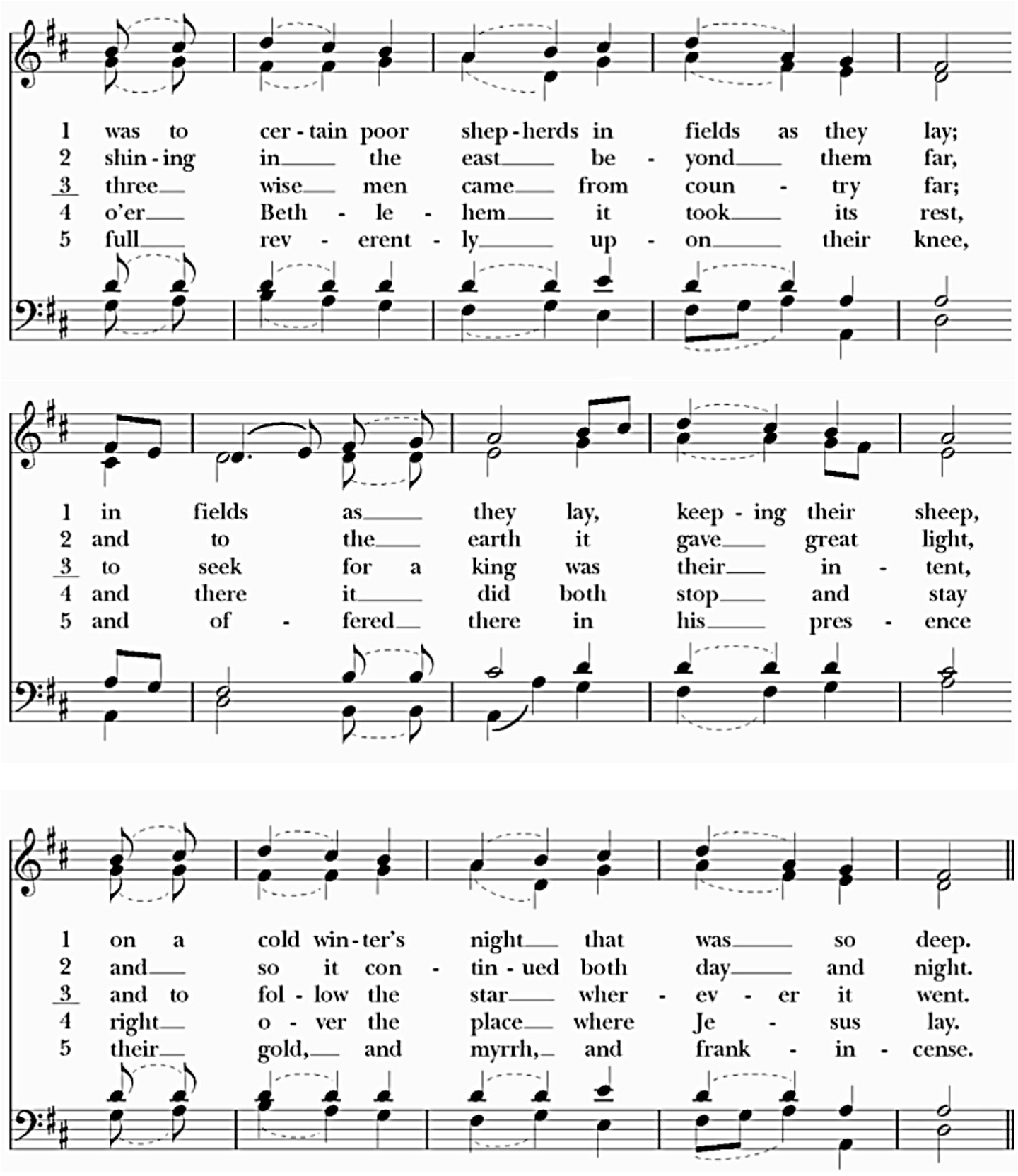
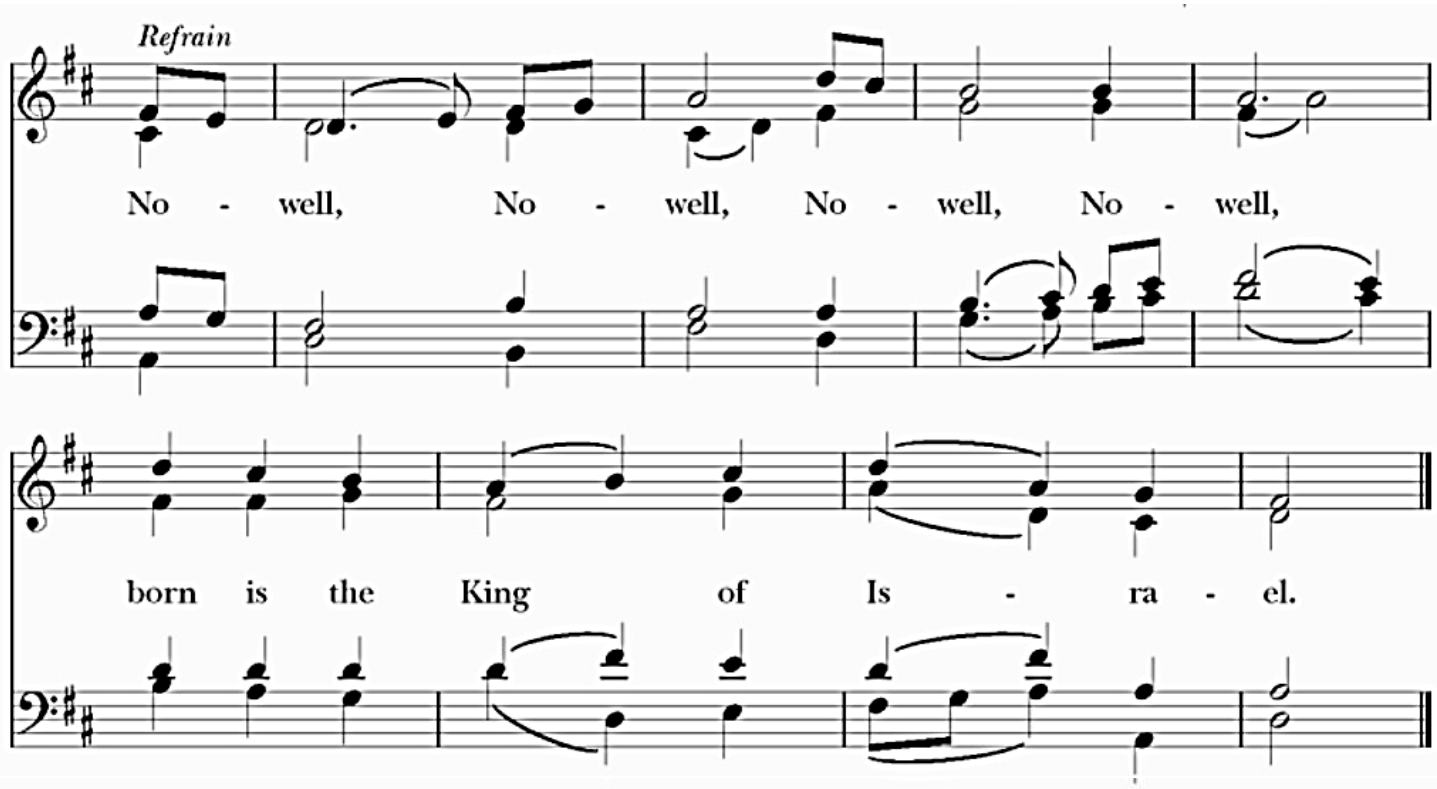
Holy Communion

All are welcome at the altar rail. All baptized persons are welcome to receive Holy Communion. If you are not baptized or if you prefer a blessing only, cross your arms over your chest at the altar.

Gluten-free wafers are available; please make your needs known to the minister.

The choir will receive first. Please wait until the usher releases your pew. You may stand or kneel at the altar rail. Father Jonathan will intinct the wafer in consecrated wine and put it in the palms of your hands. If you do not desire this please make your needs known.

Returning from communion, please take a flameless candle from the baskets for the hymn Silent Night.

Communion Hymn *The First Nowell*
The Hymnal 1982 # 109


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

Stand or kneel as you are able.

Post-Communion Prayer

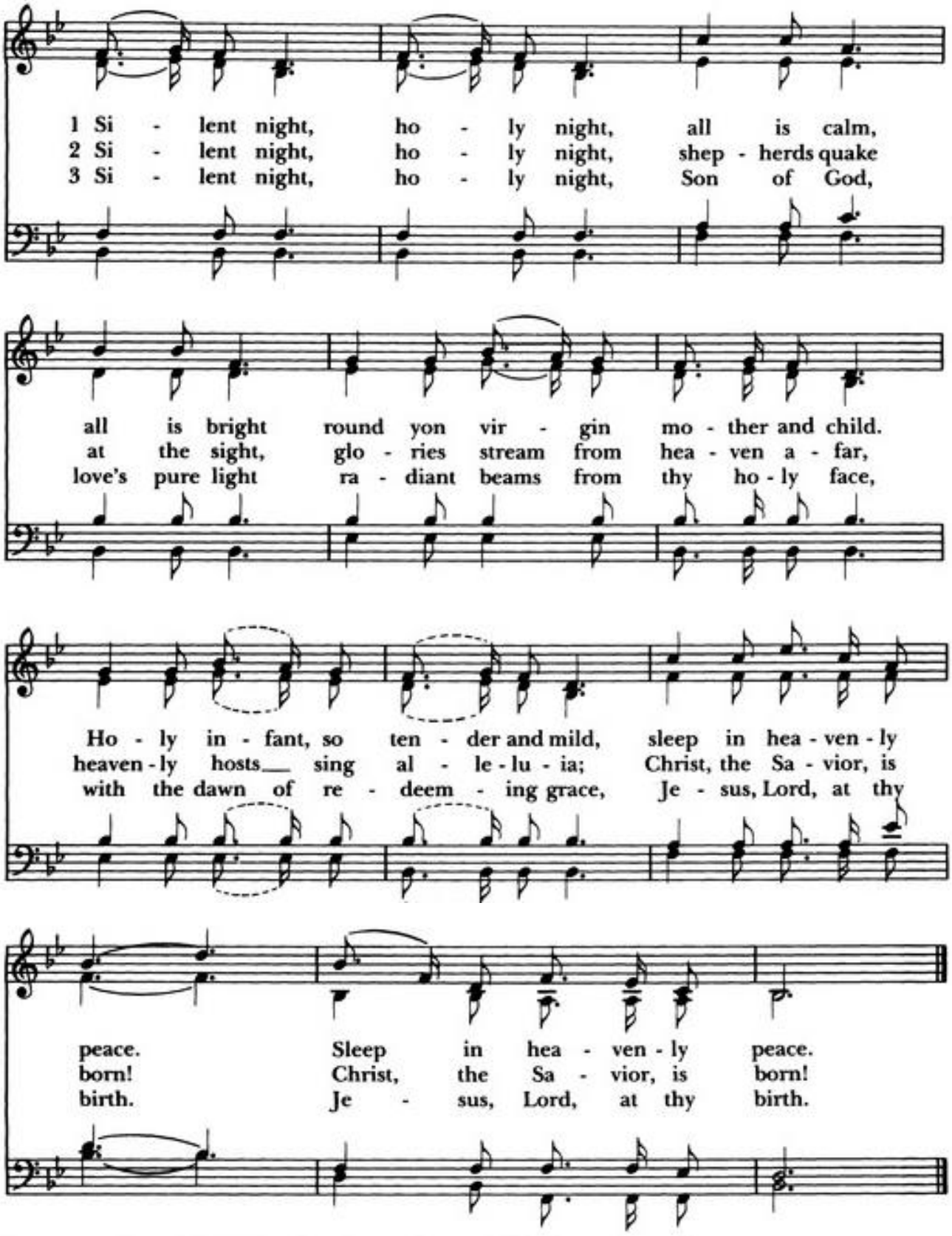
Celebrant Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Lights are dimmed. Please turn on flameless candle.
All kneel as able.

Christmas Hymn

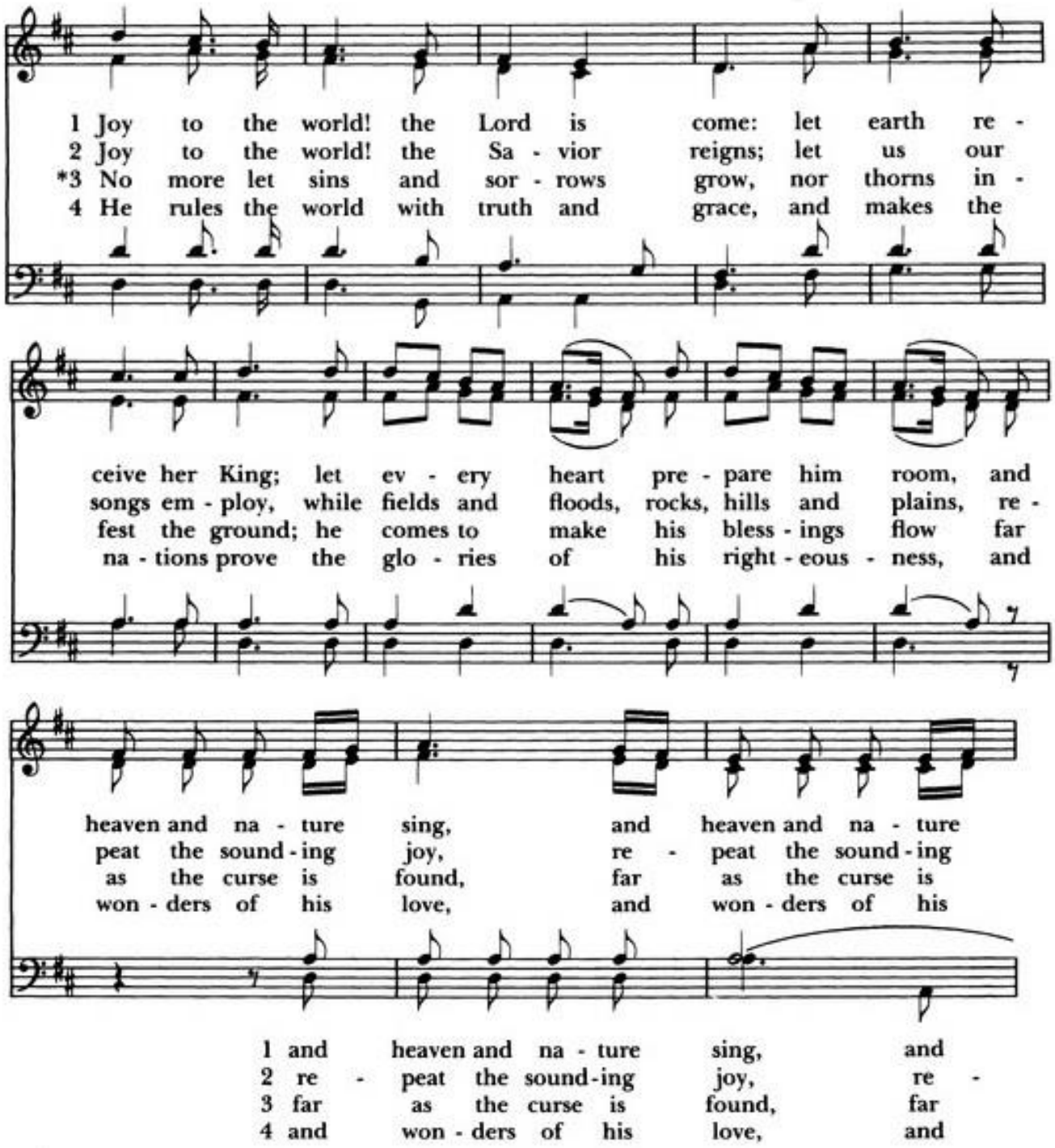
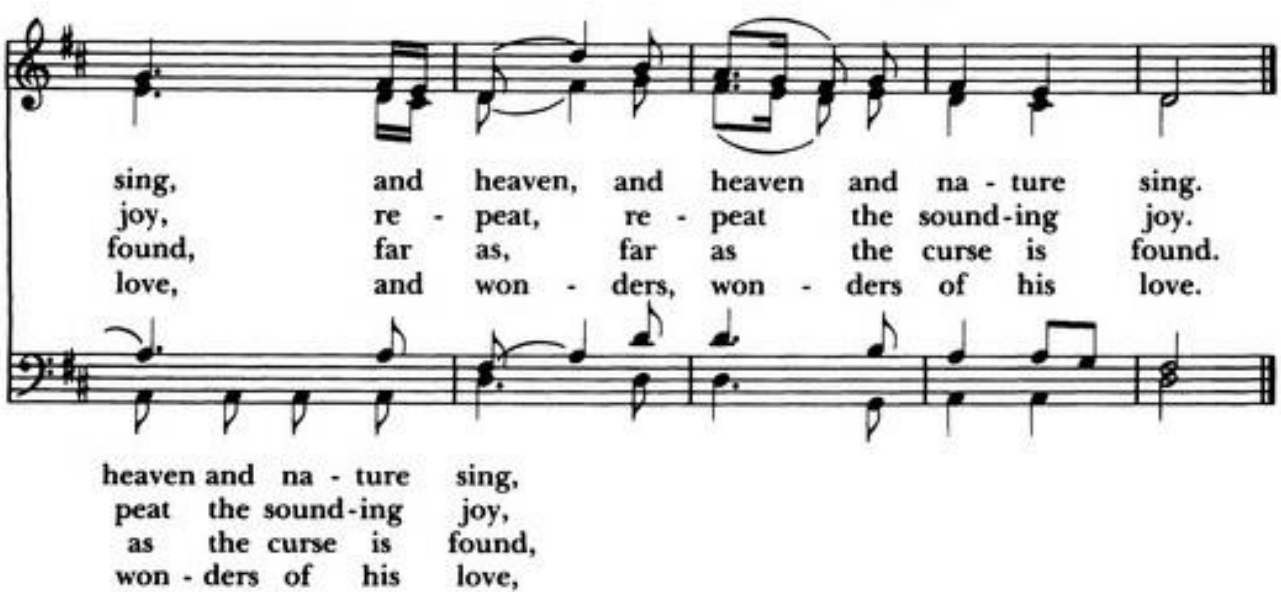
Silent Night
The Hymnal 1982 #111

The Blessing

Priest

May the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the perseverance of the wise men, the obedience of Joseph and Mary, and the peace of the Christ-child be yours this Christmas…and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. ***Amen.***

Please stand as able.

Closing Hymn *Joy to the World*

The Hymnal 1982 # 100

The Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth into the world, proclaiming the birth of the Christ Child.
People ***Thanks be to God.***

Postlude

Christmas flowers provided by:

Robert D. Bee

Fr. Jonathan & Shara Brice; In Memory Of Our Parents' Legacy of Faith, In Thanksgiving For St. Luke's Church

Monica & Victor Clarke; In Memory Of Loved Ones

Karen Craig; In Memory Of All the Departed

Scott & Pam Goodman; In Memory Of Barry Goodman

Mary Hayselden; In Thanksgiving For My Nieces and Nephews Brody, Dacey, Maxwell, Amelia, Hunter, and Hatcher Hayselden

Tom and Nancy Hayselden; In Thanksgiving For Family, Children and Grandchildren

John & Judy Hoffman; In Memory Of Markham, Frank & Beverlee Rowan, Irma & Lindsey Hoffman, In Thanksgiving For Family and Friends

Carol Keeling; In Memory Of My Parents

Jim & Mary Kelly; In Memory Of Maryanna & Bill, Lucille & Frank, In Thanksgiving For Jim and Mary's 51st Anniversary

Ruth Knabel; In Thanksgiving As we experience the presence of God that we share with one another

Rosemary Kniggendorf; In Thanksgiving For Family and Friends

The Pfau Family; In Memory Of Janice A. Haines

Dennis & Candi Phillips; In Thanksgiving For Support and Love From Friends and Family

Bob & Dody Ryan; In Memory Of Del and Ina Cummins and Mary Ryan

Amanda Textor; In Memory Of Emma Jean Ludwig

Rector: The Rev. Jonathan Brice Associate Vicar: The Rev. Shawn Streepy Music Director: Boyd Ahrens
Cantor: Julia Kasten

St. Luke's Episcopal Church
5325 Nieman Road Shawnee, KS 66203 913-631-8597 www.stlukes.net

Thank you for joining us today.

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Music License:
H 87: Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt. Music: Mendelssohn, Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847); adapt. Willam H. Cummings (1831-1915). H 96: Words: French Carol; tr. James Chadwick (1813-1882), alt. Music: Gloria, French carol; arr. Edward Shippen Barnes (1887-1958). Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748, alt. H 79: Words: Phillips Brooks (1835-1893). Music: St. Louis, Lewis H. Redner (1831-1908)). Words: Phillips Brooks (1835-1893). Music: St. Louis, Lewis H. Redner (1831-1908). H 102: Words: Sts. 1-2 and 4-6, Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-1895), alt.; st. 3, James Waring McCrady (b. 1938). Music: Irby, melody Henry John Gauntlett (1805-1876); harm. Arthur Henry Mann (1850-1929). H 380- Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), para. of Psalm 117. St. 3, Thomas Ken (1637-1711). Music: Old 100th, melody from Pseaumes octante trois de David, 1551, alt.; harm. After Louis Bourgeois (1510-1561). H S125- Setting: From A Community Mass. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). H 101- Words: Traditional Carol Music: Cradle Song. melody; William James Kirkpatrick (1838-1921). H 111- Words: Joseph Mohr (1792-1848); tr. John Freeman Young (1820-1885). Music: Stille Nacht, melody Frnaz Xaver Gruber (1787-1863); harm. Carl H. Reinecke (1824-1910) H 100 - Music: *Antioch,* George Frideric Handel (1685-1759); adapt. and arr. Lowell Mason (1792-1872). Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-734492. All rights reserved.