

# Lessons & Carols

## Holy Name of Jesus



December 28, 2025



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**Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.



a Reconciling in Christ  
Congregation

# Gathering

## Welcome & Announcements

### Prelude

### \*Gathering Hymn: Angels from the Realms of Glory

1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
2 Shep - herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your flocks by night,  
3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, bright - er vi - sions beam a - far;  
4 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son,

once you sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:  
God with us is now re - sid - ing, yon - der shines the in - fant light.  
seek the great de - sire of na - tions, you have seen his na - tal star.  
ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing to the e - ter - nal Three in One.

*Refrain*

Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born king.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Angels from the Realms of Glory'. It consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are provided below each system of music. The first system contains the first four lines of the hymn. The second system contains the next four lines. The third system is labeled 'Refrain' and contains the final line of the hymn. The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with block chords and simple melodic lines.

### \*Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

### \*Prayer of the Day

## Word

### I AM: Exodus 3:7-14a

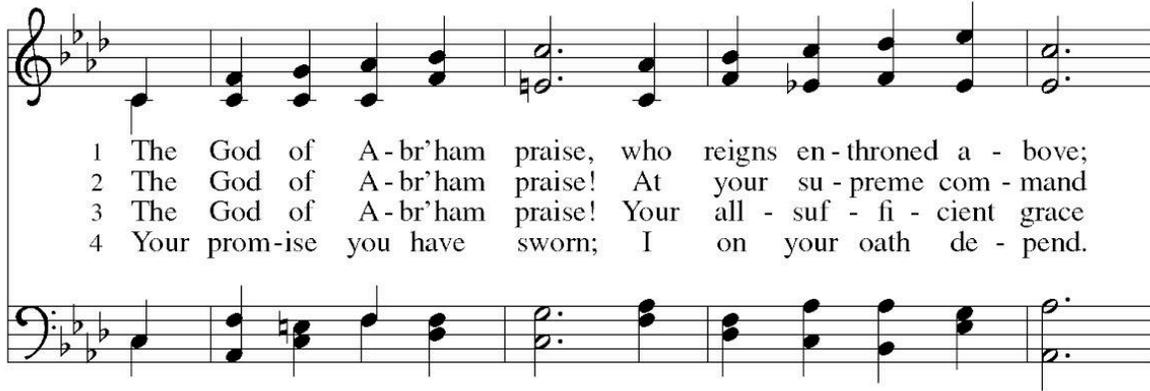
Then the LORD said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, <sup>8</sup> and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a good and spacious land, to a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. <sup>9</sup> The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. <sup>10</sup> Now go, I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." <sup>11</sup> But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" <sup>12</sup> He said, "I will be with you, and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain."

<sup>13</sup> But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" <sup>14</sup> God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I AM has sent me to you.' "

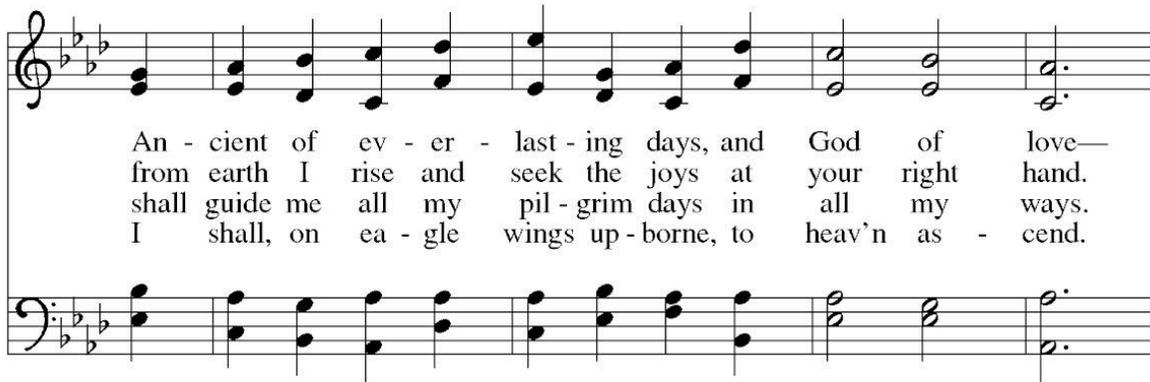
Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

Response: The God of Abr'ham Praise (ELW 831, vv 1-3)



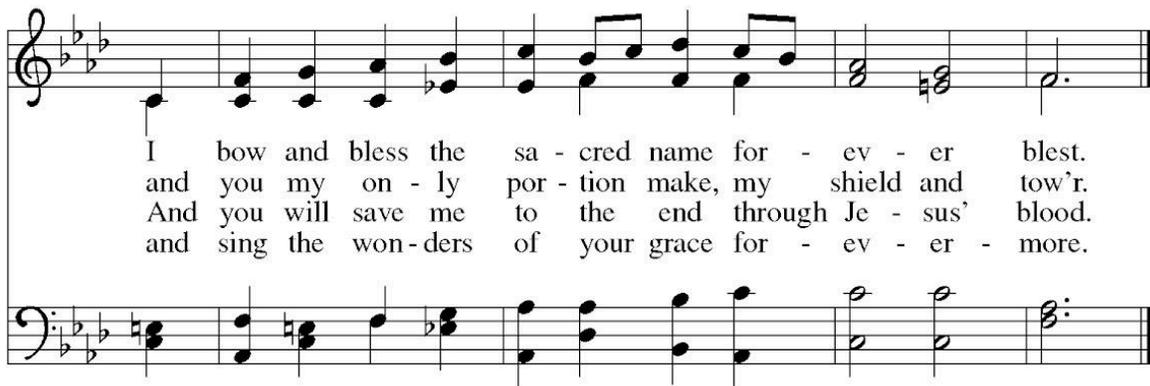
1 The God of A-br'ham praise, who reigns en-throned a - bove;  
2 The God of A-br'ham praise! At your su-preme com-mand  
3 The God of A-br'ham praise! Your all-suf-fi-cient grace  
4 Your prom-ise you have sworn; I on your oath de-pend.



An-cient of ev-er-last-ing days, and God of love—  
from earth I rise and seek the joys at your right hand.  
shall guide me all my pil-grim days in all my ways.  
I shall, on ea-gle wings up-borne, to heav'n as-cend.



“I Am the One I Am”—by earth and heav'n con-fessed;  
I all on earth for-sake—its wis-dom, fame, and pow'r—  
You deign to call me friend; you call your-self my God!  
I shall be-hold your face; I shall your pow'r a-dore,



I bow and bless the sa-cred name for-ev-er blest.  
and you my on-ly por-tion make, my shield and tow'r.  
And you will save me to the end through Je-sus' blood.  
and sing the won-ders of your grace for-ev-er-more.

## Immanuel—God with Us: Isaiah 7:13-15

Then Isaiah said, "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals that you weary my God also? <sup>14</sup>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. <sup>15</sup>He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Response: He came down (ELW 253)

1 He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love;  
2 He came down that we may have light; he came down that we may have light;  
3 He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace;  
4 He came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy;

he came down that we may have love;  
he came down that we may have light; hal-le-lu-jah for-ev-er-more.  
he came down that we may have peace;  
he came down that we may have joy;

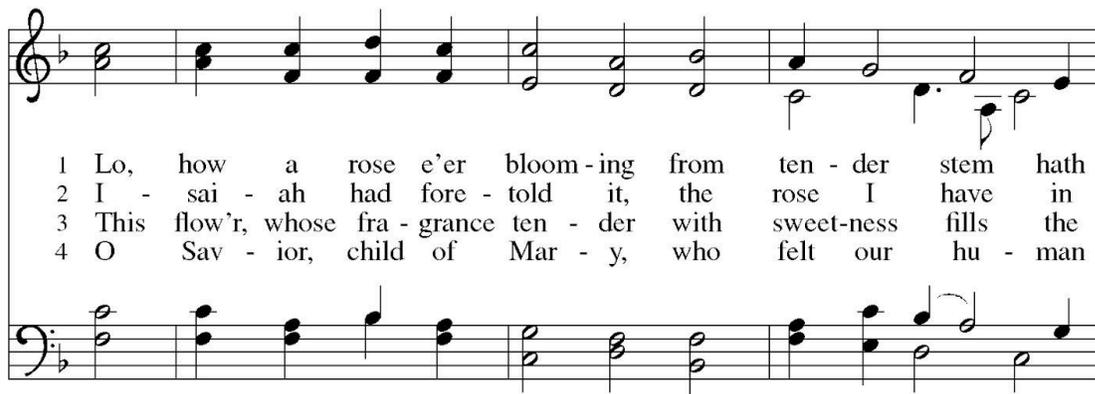
### A Son Given for Us: Isaiah 9:2-7

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. <sup>3</sup>You have multiplied exultation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. <sup>4</sup>For the yoke of their burden and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. <sup>5</sup>For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. <sup>6</sup>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. <sup>7</sup>Great will be his authority, 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 onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

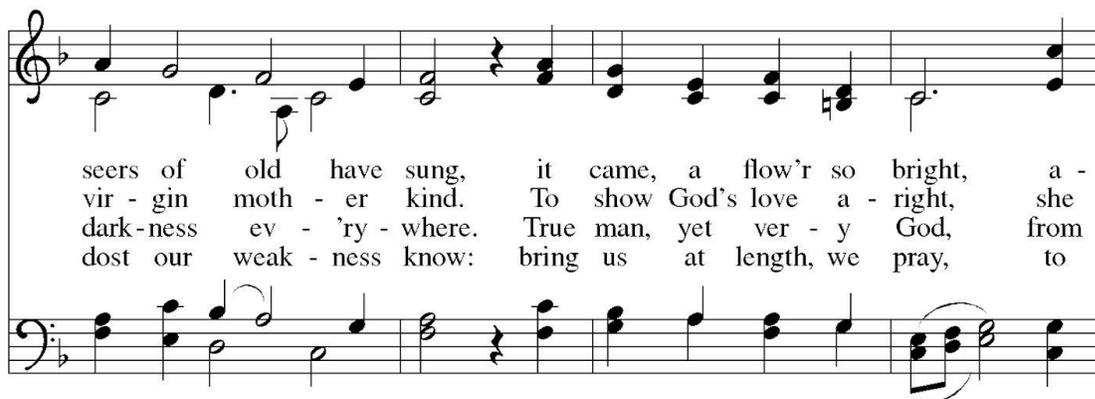
## Response: Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming (ELW 272)



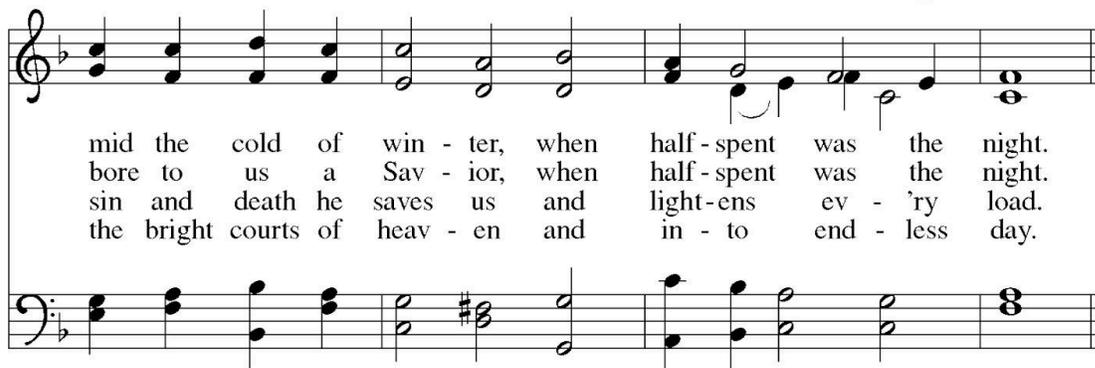
1 Lo, how a rose e'er bloom - ing from ten - der stem hath  
 2 I - sai - ah had fore - told it, the rose I have in  
 3 This flow'r, whose fra - grance ten - der with sweet-ness fills the  
 4 O Sav - ior, child of Mar - y, who felt our hu - man



sprung! Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing as  
 mind; with Mar - y we be - hold it, the  
 air, dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor the  
 woe; O Sav - ior, king of glo - ry, who



seers of old have sung, it came, a flow'r so bright, a -  
 vir - gin moth - er kind. To show God's love a - right, she  
 dark - ness ev - 'ry - where. True man, yet ver - y God, from  
 dost our weak - ness know: bring us at length, we pray, to



mid the cold of win - ter, when half - spent was the night.  
 bore to us a Sav - ior, when half - spent was the night.  
 sin and death he saves us and light - ens ev - 'ry load.  
 the bright courts of heav - en and in - to end - less day.

## Branch of Jesse: Matthew 1:1-17

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

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

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

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

<sup>17</sup> 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.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

Response: Of the Father's Love Begotten (ELW 279, vv 1, 3, 4)



1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten ere the worlds be -  
 2 Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, when the vir - gin,  
 3 This is he whom seers in old time chant - ed of with  
 4 Let the heights of heav'n a - dore him; an - gel hosts, his  
 5 Christ, to thee, with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly



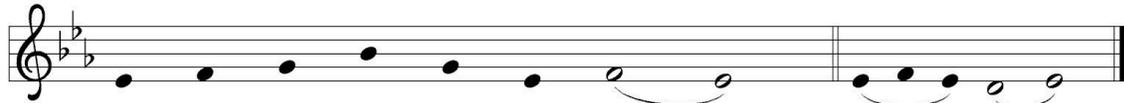
gan to be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga,  
 full of grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,  
 one ac - cord, whom the voic - es of the proph - ets  
 prais - es sing; pow'rs, do - min - ions, bow be - fore him  
 Ghost, to thee, hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing



he the source, the end - ing he, of the things that are, that  
 bore the Sav - ior of our race, and the babe, the world's re -  
 prom - ised in their faith - ful word; now he shines, the long - ex -  
 and ex - tol our God and King; let no tongue on earth be  
 and un - wea - ried prais - es be: hon - or, glo - ry, and do -



have been, and that fu - ture years shall see,  
 deem - er, first re - vealed his sa - cred face,  
 pect - ed; let cre - a - tion praise its Lord  
 si - lent, ev - 'ry voice in con - cert ring  
 min - ion, and e - ter - nal vic - to - ry



ev - er - more and ev - er - more.  
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more.  
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more.  
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more.  
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more! A - men.

## Jesus: Matthew 1:18-25

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be pregnant from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup> Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to divorce her quietly. <sup>20</sup> But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup> She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." <sup>22</sup> All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

<sup>23</sup> "Look, the virgin shall become pregnant and give birth to a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,"

which means, "God is with us." <sup>24</sup> When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife <sup>25</sup> but had no marital relations with her until she had given birth to a son, and he named him Jesus.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

Response: O Little Town of Bethlehem (ELW 279, v1 & 4)

1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!  
2 For Christ is born of Mar - y, and, gath - ered all a - bove  
3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly the won - drous gift is giv'n!  
4 O ho - ly child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;

A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep the si - lent stars go by;  
while mor-tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won-d'ring love.  
So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heav'n.  
cast out our sin, and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.

yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing light.  
O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth,  
No ear may hear his com - ing; but, in this world of sin,  
We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;

The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.  
and prais - es sing to God the king, and peace to all the earth!  
where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.  
oh, come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Im - man - u - el!

\* Son of Mary, Son of God: Luke 1:26-35

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, <sup>27</sup> to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup> And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." <sup>29</sup> But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup> The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup> And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. <sup>32</sup> He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. <sup>33</sup> He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." <sup>34</sup> Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" <sup>35</sup> The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

\* Response: Once in Royal David's City (ELW 269, vv 1&2)



1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y stood a low - ly cat - tle shed,  
2 He came down to earth from heav-en who is God and Lord of all,  
3 And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own re - deem - ing love;  
4 Not in that poor low - ly sta - ble, with the ox - en stand - ing by,



where a moth-er laid her ba - by in a man - ger for his bed:  
and his shel - ter was a sta - ble, and his cra - dle was a stall;  
for that child so dear and gen - tle is our Lord in heav'n a - bove;  
we shall see him; but in heav - en, set at God's right hand on high;



Mar - y was that moth-er mild, Je - sus Christ, her lit - tle child.  
with the poor and meek and low-ly, lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.  
and he leads his chil - dren on to the place where he is gone.  
there his chil - dren gath - er round, bright like stars, with glo - ry crowned.



### Highly Exalted: Philippians 2:5-11

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup> who, though he existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be grasped, <sup>7</sup> but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, assuming human likeness. And being found in appearance as a human, <sup>8</sup> he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross. <sup>9</sup> Therefore God exalted him even more highly and gave him the name that is above every other name, <sup>10</sup> so that at the name given to Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup> and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Response: At the Name of Jesus (ELW 416, vv1-3)



1 At the name of Je - sus ev - 'ry knee shall bow,  
2 At his voice cre - a - tion sprang at once to sight,  
3 Hum - bled for a sea - son, to re - ceive a name  
4 In your hearts en - throne him; there let him sub - due  
5 Chris - tians, this Lord Je - sus shall re - turn a - gain



ev - 'ry tongue con - fess him king of glo - ry now.  
all the an - gel fac - es, all the hosts of light,  
from the lips of sin - ners un - to whom he came,  
all that is not ho - ly, all that is not true.  
on the clouds of glo - ry, with his an - gel train;



It is God's good plea - sure we should call him Lord,  
thrones and dom - i - na - tions, stars up - on their way,  
faith - ful - ly he bore it spot - less to the last;  
Crown him as your cap - tain in temp - ta - tion's hour;  
for all wreaths of em - pire meet up - on his brow,



who from the be - gin - ning was the might - y Word.  
all the heav'n - ly or - ders in their great ar - ray.  
brought it back vic - to - rious when from death he passed.  
let his will en - fold you in its light and pow'r.  
and our hearts con - fess him king of glo - ry now.

Text: Caroline M. Noel, 1817-1877

Music: KING'S WESTON, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958

Music from *Songs of Praise*, © Oxford University Press 1925.

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\* Incarnate Word: John 1:1-5, 14-18

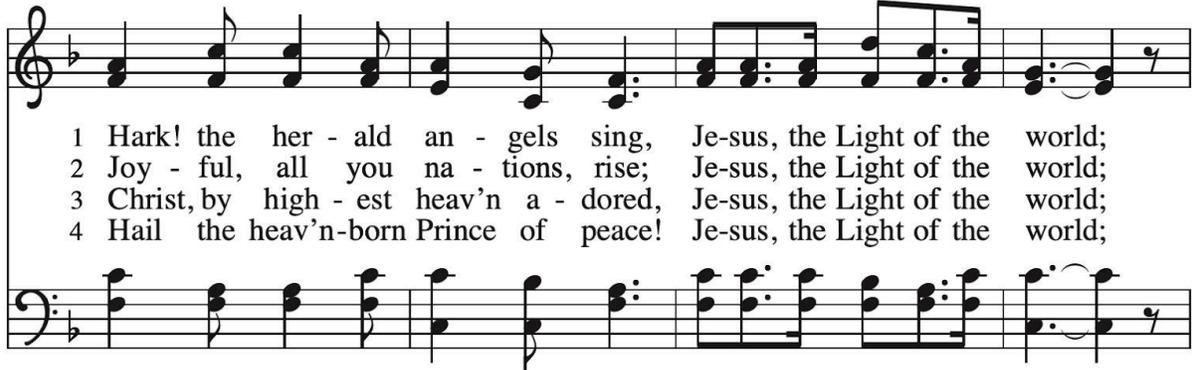
In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup> All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being <sup>4</sup> in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. <sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it.

<sup>14</sup> 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. <sup>15</sup> (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.' ") <sup>16</sup> From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. <sup>17</sup> The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup> No one has ever seen God. It is the only Son, himself God, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

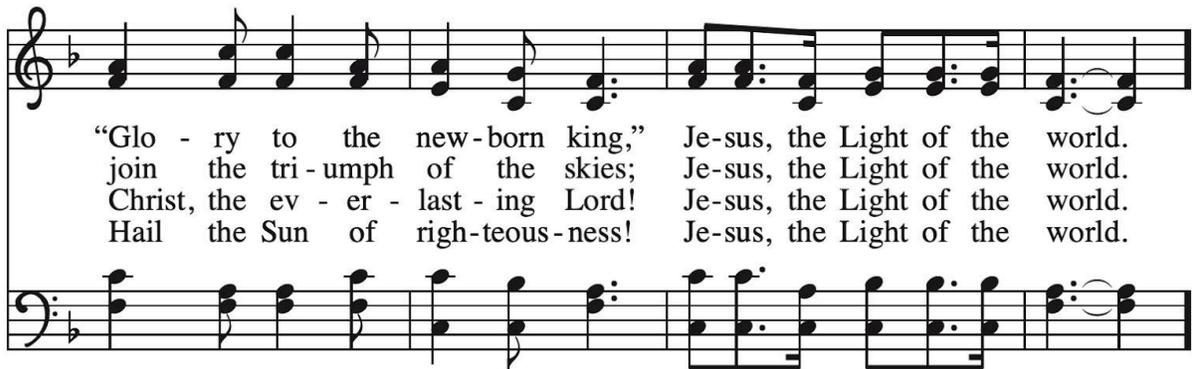
Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

\* Response: Jesus the Light of the World (ACS 914)



1 Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, Je-sus, the Light of the world;  
2 Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; Je-sus, the Light of the world;  
3 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Je-sus, the Light of the world;  
4 Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace! Je-sus, the Light of the world;

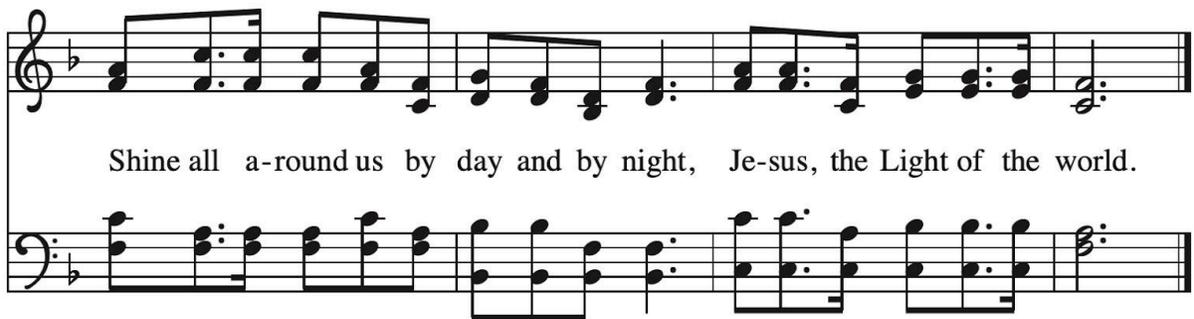


“Glo - ry to the new-born king,” Je-sus, the Light of the world.  
join the tri-umph of the skies; Je-sus, the Light of the world.  
Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord! Je-sus, the Light of the world.  
Hail the Sun of righ-teous-ness! Je-sus, the Light of the world.

*Refrain*



We'll walk in the light, beau-ti-ful light, come where the dew-drops of mer-cy are bright.



Shine all a-round us by day and by night, Je-sus, the Light of the world.

\*Prayers

...hear us O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

\*Peace

**Meal**

Musical Offering

\*Offering Prayer

\*Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

\*Eucharistic Prayer

\*Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as 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.**

Communion Distribution

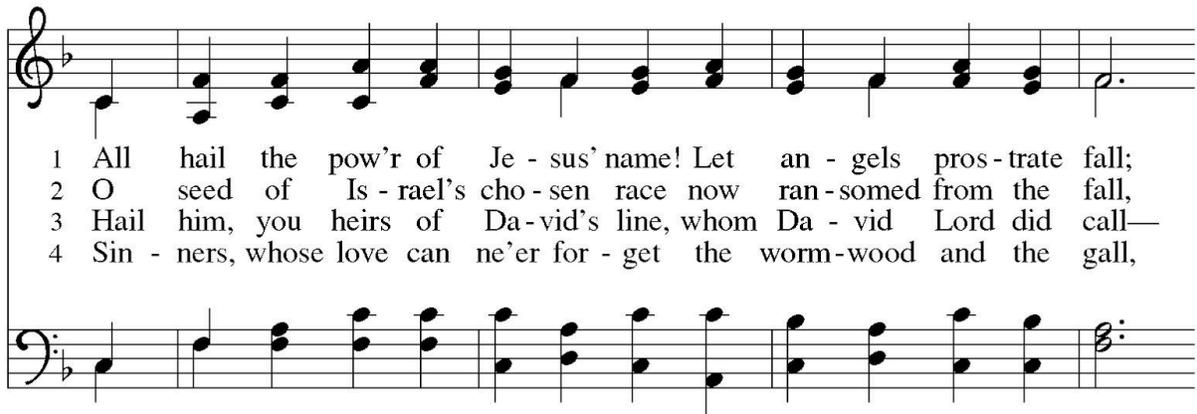
\*Post-communion prayer

### **Sending**

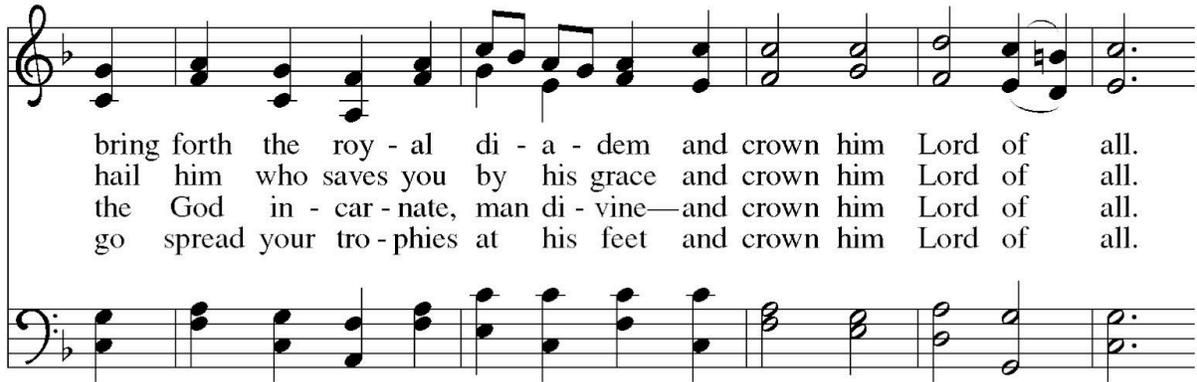
\*Blessing

The triune God,  
glorious Mystery,  
holy Incarnate One,  
abiding Comforter,  
‡ bless you with endless grace, peace, and joy.  
**Amen.**

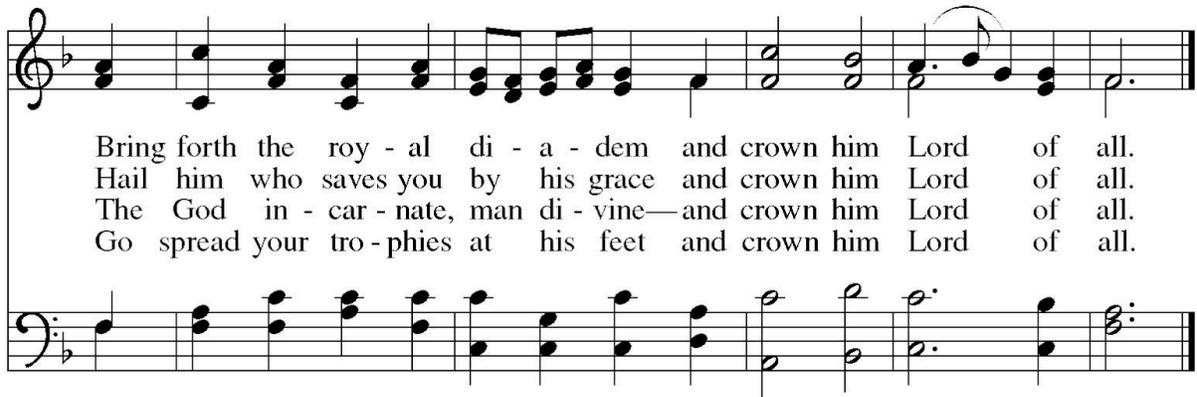
\*Sending hymn: All Hail the Pow'r of Jesus' Name (ELW 634,  
vv 1-2, 6)



1 All hail the pow'r of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros - trate fall;  
2 O seed of Is - rael's cho - sen race now ran - somed from the fall,  
3 Hail him, you heirs of Da - vid's line, whom Da - vid Lord did call—  
4 Sin - ners, whose love can ne'er for - get the worm - wood and the gall,



bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem and crown him Lord of all.  
hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him Lord of all.  
the God in - car - nate, man di - vine—and crown him Lord of all.  
go spread your tro - phies at his feet and crown him Lord of all.



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem and crown him Lord of all.  
Hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him Lord of all.  
The God in - car - nate, man di - vine—and crown him Lord of all.  
Go spread your tro - phies at his feet and crown him Lord of all.

5 Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe  
on this terrestrial ball  
to him all majesty ascribe  
and crown him Lord of all.

6 Oh, that with yonder sacred throng  
we at his feet may fall!  
We'll join the everlasting song  
and crown him Lord of all.

\*Dismissal

P: Go in joy. Christ the Savior is born!

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Postlude