

# MAYFLOWER

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

CHRISTMAS EVE

December 24, 2024 - 10pm



**WE BELIEVE:** Faith is a journey, God is good, Jesus saves, and the Spirit leads us to faith, hope, and love as we honor the dignity of all God's people.

## **ORDER OF WORSHIP**

\*Indicates *please stand if you are able*.

Bolded text or music score indicates congregational response. Please sign the friendship register located in your pew. Prayer request cards may be placed in the offering and will be added to our prayer list.

***As you enter the sanctuary, we invite you to prepare your hearts for worship.***

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### **PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP**

*The Word that took root in the darkness of Mary's womb, that took flesh and walked around in this world, that emerged not only in the laboring of a woman but also in the laboring of generations to follow, the ancient Word that springs forth anew—this Word seeks to dwell deeply in us, to be born into the world through us in this and every season.*

-Jan Richardson, "The Luminous Word: Living the Advent Hours," in *The Other Side*, November/December 2003

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### **PRELUDE**

*Huron Carol*

Beth Colpean, Harp

arr. Jeff Parsons

*Short Fantasy on a Catalan Carol*

arr. Carlos Salzedo

*Interlude from Ceremony of Carols*

by Benjamin Britten

### **WELCOME**

Rev. Ruth Bell Olsson

### **LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE**

Rev. Bell Olsson

In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The Word was in the beginning with God. Through the Word all things came into being, and nothing that has come into being came into being apart from the Word. What came into being in the Word was life, and that life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness cannot overcome it... 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 1: 1-5, 14)

## INTROIT

*This is the Truth Sent from Above*

Ryan Potts &

Ralph Vaughan Williams

Scott Bosscher

This is the truth sent from above, the truth of God, the God of love.  
Therefore don't turn me from your door, but hearken all both rich and poor.

And at the season of the year our blest redeemer did appear;  
He here did live, and here did preach, and many thousands he did teach.

Thus he in love to us behaved, to show us how we must be saved;  
And if you want to know the way, be pleas'd to hear what he did say.

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Zinnia Olsson

Leader: The Advent candles blaze. As the Christ candle shines, may it remind us that Christ is the true center of our lives. Come, all that are faithful, and all that seek faith.

**ALL: It is the season to sing and rejoice!**

Leader: Here is good news of great joy, for all people:

**ALL: The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness cannot overcome it.**

## PROCESSIONAL CAROL 100\* *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

ADESTE FIDELIS

## PRAYER FOR CHRISTMAS EVE\*

Zinnia Olsson

Leader: O Lord Christ, born into our world this day:

**People: Bring joy to our hearts that we would make room for your grace.**

Leader: Place your song on our lips, that we would proclaim good news for all to hear.

**People: Give clear vision to our eyes, that we would see your blessings flow all around us.**

Leader: Create peace among all nations, that we would dwell in harmony as brothers and sisters.

**People: Grant hope to our souls, that we would experience your kingdom in our lives.**

Leader: We receive you now, who comes to us as purest love, in awe and wonder.

**ANTHEM***On Christmas Night*

Chancel Choir

Ralph Vaughan Williams

Brandon Harris, baritone

On Christmas night all Christians sing to hear the news the angels bring;  
 News of great joy, news of great mirth, news of our merciful King's birth.

When sin departs before thy grace, then life and health come in its place.  
 Angels and men with joy may sing, all for to see the newborn King.

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Psalm 96:11-13

Jackson Cooley

*A Song of Rejoicing*

Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea roar, and the fullness thereof. Let the field be joyful, and all that is therein: then shall all the trees of the wood rejoice before the Lord: for he cometh, for he cometh to judge the earth: he shall judge the world with righteousness, and the people with his truth.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God!****CAROL 107\* vs. 1, 2, 4***Joy to the World*

ANTIOCH

**READING**

Isaiah 11:1-3a, 4a, 6-9

Sidney Timmer

*The reign of the prince of peace and justice*

A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him—the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of might, the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the Lord—and he will delight in the fear of the Lord.

He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears with his ears; but with righteousness he will judge the needy, with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth.

The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and a little child will lead them. The cow will feed with the bear, their young will lie down together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox. The infant will play near the cobra's den, and the young child will put its hand into the viper's nest. They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain, or the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God!****CAROL 133\****Lo How a Rose*

ES IST EIN ROS

**READING**

Micah 5:2-5

Jackson Cooley

*The prophet Micah foretells the glory of little Bethlehem*

But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times. Therefore Israel will be abandoned until the time when she who is in labor gives birth and the rest of his brothers return to join the Israelites. He will stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they will live securely, for then his greatness will reach to the ends of the earth. And he will be their peace.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God!****CAROL 112\* vs. 1, 2, 4***O Little Town of Bethlehem*

FOREST GREEN

**READING**

Luke 1: 46-55

Sidney Timmer

*Mary's Song*

And Mary said:

“My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant. From now on all generations will call me blessed, for the Mighty One has done great things for me—holy is his name. His mercy extends to those who fear him, from generation to generation. He has performed mighty deeds with his arm; he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts. He has brought down rulers from their thrones but has lifted up the humble. He has filled the hungry with good things but has sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, remembering to be merciful to Abraham and his descendants forever, just as he promised our ancestors.”

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God!****ANTHEM***Christmas Lullaby*

Chancel Choir

by John Rutter

Clear in the darkness a light shines in Bethlehem: Angels are singing, their sound fills the air.  
Wise men have journeyed to greet their Messiah; But only a mother and baby lie there.

Ave Maria: Hear the soft lullaby the angel hosts sing. Ave Maria, Maiden, and mother of Jesus our King.

Where are his courtiers, and who are his people? Why does he bear neither scepter nor crown?  
Shepherds his courtiers, the poor for his people, With peace as his scepter and love for his crown.

What though your treasures are not gold or incense? Lay them before him with hearts full of love.  
Praise to the Christ child, and praise to his mother Who bore us a Savior by grace from above.

**READING**

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Virginia Trost

*A child is born, who shall have authority*

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God!****CAROL 132 & 131\****Away in a Manger*

AWAY IN A MANGER

(verse 2 is sung to alternate tune #131)

&amp; CRADLE SONG

**READING**

Luke 2:1-7

Virginia Trost

*Luke tells of the birth of Jesus*

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.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God!****ANTHEM***Jesu Parvule*

Chancel Choir

by Alfred Burt

Jesu parvule, On Thy couch of hay, greet we Thee today, Sweet Son of Mary.  
Be Thy slumber deep, while fair angels keep vigil o'er Thy sleep, Blest Babe of Mary.

'Tis Thy joy to see Kings on bended knee, off'ring gifts to Thee, Sweet Son of Mary.  
But Thou may'st not know, what these gifts foreshow of Thy future woe, Blest Babe of Mary.

Let this gold the while with its glint beguile, Thy dear lips to smile, Sweet Son of Mary.  
May no shadow tray, cloud one happy day of Thine infant play, Blest Babe of Mary.

## READING

Luke 2: 8-20

Corbin DeVilbiss

### *The shepherds go to the manger*

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

## ANTHEM

*Wexford Carol*

Chancel Choir

by Richard Lakey

Erin Gilbert, soprano

Good people all, this Christmas time, consider well and bear in mind

What our good God for us has done, in sending his beloved Son. With Mary holy we should pray to God with love this Christmas Day; In Bethlehem upon that morn there was a blessed Messiah born.

Near Bethlehem did shepherds keep their flocks of lambs and feeding sheep; To whom God's angels did appear, which put the shepherds in great fear. "Prepare and go," the angels said, "To Bethlehem, be not afraid; for there you'll find, this happy morn, a princely babe, sweet Jesus born."

With thankful heart and joyful mind, the shepherds went the babe to find,  
And as God's angel had foretold, they did our Savior Christ behold. Within a manger he was laid, and by his side the virgin maid, Attending on the Lord of life, who came on earth to end all strife.

## MEDITATION

*Come in the Midst of Darkness and Bring Light*

Rev. Bell Olsson

**CAROL 123\* vs 1 & 3**

*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

MENDELSSOHN

**CALL TO OFFERING**

Corbin DeVilbiss

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

*Christmastide*  
by Donald Fraser

Combined Choirs

Green and silver, red and gold, and a story born of old.  
Truth and love and hope abide this Christmastide.  
Holly, ivy, mistletoe, and the gently falling snow  
From a simple ox's stall came the greatest gift of all.  
Children sing of peace and joy at the birth of one small boy.  
Let the bells ring loud and clear, ring out now for all to hear.  
Trumpets sound and voices raise in an endless stream of praise.  
Green and silver, red and gold, and a story born of old.  
Peace and love and hope abide this Christmastide.

**SENDING PRAYER**

Rev. Bell Olsson

We come to your manger, each of us, in the stillness of this night, Here we know our profound powerlessness, and here you are – a fragile powerless newborn, yet the newborn child in whom we recognize the ruler of the universe.

We hear your newborn cry, the cry we have been waiting for – “Make room! Make room for me!”

Fragile God, born in the night – Meet us here at your manger. Meet us as a newborn child meets new parents, come to change our lives forever.

Meet us as the newborn who insists that we make room for you, who requires that we reorder our lives to pay attention to you, who demands that we be re-centered on the very center of life.

Fragile God, born in the night – You come as a tiny light in a vast darkness yet that fragile and flickering light changes the darkness completely.

Fragile God, meet us here in the lighting of our small lights, that we may know your awesome power making room among us as the light that shines in the darkness, the fragile light that the darkness cannot overpower.

Fragile God, there is room in our inn. Be born in our night. Amen.

*Immediately following the sending prayer, light will be brought from the Christ candle and passed down the center aisle to you, lighting the candles of those seated on the center aisle.*

*As you pass the light, lit candles remain upright; candles being lit held at an angle.  
On the final verse of Silent Night each one holds a candle aloft.*



**CAROL 135***Silent Night*

STILLE NACHT

*(The congregation will remain seated during the solo on verse 1 and stand for remaining verses.)*

v. 1 - Becca Moons

Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright,  
round yon Virgin Mother and Child, Holy Infant so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

**Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake at the sight,  
Glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing alleluia;  
Christ, the Savior is born! Christ, the Savior is born!**

**Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light  
Radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace.  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord at thy birth.**

*(Please extinguish candles and keep silence until you reach the Narthex.  
Place your candles in the receptacle as you leave)*

**BENEDICTION\***

Rev. Bell Olsson

**POSTLUDE**

*Silent Night, Holy Night*  
arr. Dale Wood

Beth Colpean, harp  
Julia Brown, organ

## The following people purchased poinsettias to honor and remember loved ones:

**Helen Bell & Family**, in loving memory of Robert Holmes Bell

**Rachel Blair**, in loving memory of Etyl Blair

**Elizabeth Bogo**, in dedication to her family - Holly, Martha, Charlie Bogo

**Eric Britcher**, in loving memory of his wife, Dorothy Britcher

**Dan & Linda Conway**, in loving memory of their parents Edward and Helen Conway and John and Agnes Hancock

**Jim & Sue Defoe**, in memory of Eleanor and Craig Defoe

**Barbara Hohman**, in loving memory of her husband, Russell Hohman

**John and Janyce Huff**, in celebration of Wade, Lilly, Kara, Ben, Iris & Andy

**Perii Hutchings**, in loving memory of Bob and Eileen Brown

**Shely & Tom Kester**, in loving memory of their parents Don & Shirley Gibbs and Gus & Yvonne Kester

**Jeff and Kim Peterson**, in celebration of their family

**Patricia Ruth**

**Patty Sienstra**, in loving memory of her husband, Dale Bensted

**Stiffler Family**, in loving memory of Richard and Thalia Stiffler

**Stiffler Family**, in loving memory of Frank and Lisa Yacopino

**Sue Stoddard** in honor of her sons, David and Mark

## With Thanks for the Special Christmas Decorations:

### **Portico Porch Pots:**

Given by Jean Smith in loving memory of her husband, Al Smith

### **Front and Portico Door Wreaths:**

Given by a Mayflower family

### **Atrium Pointsettias:**

Given by Barbara Gordon in loving memory of her husband, George Gordon

### **Advent Wreath Candles:**

Given by Shirley Mayer in loving memory of her husband, Bob Mayer

### **Parlor Christmas Tree and Crismon Decorations:**

Given and created by the women of Priscilla Circle

### **Narthex Christmas Tree and Angel Ornaments:**

Given and created by the women of the Mayflower Needlepoint Guild

# Announcements and Upcoming Events

Mayflower news and details on upcoming events. Visit [MayflowerChurch.org/events](http://MayflowerChurch.org/events) for more information.

## **MAYFLOWER PRESCHOOL OPEN HOUSE**

**JAN. 9 | 6:30PM**

If you or a family member or friend are considering preschool for a child next year, this is an opportunity to meet the fabulous teachers and see the engaging classrooms. Reach out to Missi or Erica at [mayflowerpreschool@outlook.com](mailto:mayflowerpreschool@outlook.com) or 616.459.7386 with questions.

## **EARLY ENROLLMENT MAYFLOWER**

**PRESCHOOL | JAN. 10 | 8AM**

If you are a member of Mayflower Church, you are invited to enroll with current pre-school families on Jan. 10 through the website ([mayflowerpreschool.org](http://mayflowerpreschool.org)). Please reach out to Missi or Erica at [mayflowerpreschool@outlook.com](mailto:mayflowerpreschool@outlook.com) or 616.459.7386 with questions.

## **BAPTISM SUNDAY | JAN. 12 | 10:30AM**

Join us at morning worship as we celebrate the sacrament of baptism. Contact Rev. Bell Olsson if you are interested in being baptized ([ruth@mayflowerchurch.org](mailto:ruth@mayflowerchurch.org)).

## **PRESENTATION & BOOK DISCUSSION**

**JAN. 16**

Matt Halteman, author, philosopher, and professor will present on his book, *Hungry Beautiful Animals: The Joyful Case for Going Vegan*.

## **CALVIN UNIVERSITY JANUARY SERIES**

**JAN. 20-31 | 12:30PM**

We will livestream the Calvin January Series in the chapel. For a synopsis of each speaker, visit [calvin.edu/january-series/speakers](http://calvin.edu/january-series/speakers)

## **UPCYCLE EVENT: BIKES & BREWERY | JAN. 23**

Mark your calendar, more info coming soon!

## **ALL COMER'S CHOIR | JAN. 26 | 10:30AM**

Join the choir for a day! More information coming soon from Julia and Scott.

## **WORKSHOP | JAN. 26 | 12PM**

*How to Be a Faithful Friend: Caring for Others*, a workshop led by Rev. Dr. Bob Livingston, Rev. Ruth Bell Olsson, Betsy Willey, and the deacons will be Jan. 26. A light lunch will be provided.

## **CONFIRMATION MEETING | FEB. 9**

A Confirmation information meeting will be held on Sunday, Feb. 9 following the service. Students in 8<sup>th</sup> grade and older are invited. Reach out to Rachael Cooley with any questions.

## **NEW MEMBER CLASS**

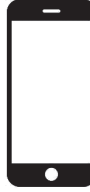
Are you interested in becoming a member of Mayflower in the New Year? Please reach out to [office@mayflowerchurch.org](mailto:office@mayflowerchurch.org) to share your interest.

## ELECTRONIC GIVING OPTIONS



Scan the QR Code with your phone to give/pay directly through E-Zekiel: no sign-up required.

Download the app and create an account for future secure scan-and-go transactions.



### TEXT TO GIVE

On your phone, simply text the word: GIVE To: 6163446255 (no spaces) and then follow the prompts.

## HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

Dec. 24: OPEN 8am-12pm | Dec. 25-27: CLOSED | Dec. 30: OPEN 8am-3pm  
Dec. 31-Jan. 1: CLOSED | Jan. 2-3 : OPEN 8am-3pm

## MAYFLOWER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

2345 Robinson Road SE, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49506  
616-459-6255 [www.MayflowerChurch.org](http://www.MayflowerChurch.org)

Rev. Ruth Bell Olsson, Interim Senior Pastor

Dr. Julia Brown, Director of Music and Organist

Scott Bosscher, Chancel Choir Director | Melia Colwell, Children's Choir Accompanist

Rachael Cooley, Interim Executive Administrator | Murry Idema, Director of Congregational Care

Amy Dunham, Office Manager | Andy Ely, Business Manager

Abby Brooks, Interim Children & Youth Music Director | Kristen Van Stee, Communications Coordinator

Jana DeShane and David Schellenberg, Facilities Team

# THE TRIUNE GOD

## 100

# O Come, All Ye Faithful

Latin by John F. Wade, 1711–1786

John F. Wade's, *Cantus Diversi*, 1751

Trans. by Frederick Oakeley, 1802–1880, and others

1. O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O  
2. † Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion, †  
3. † Child for us sin - ners poor and in the man - ger, †  
4. † Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this hap - py morn - ing, †

come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;  
Sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav'n a - bove!  
We would em - brace Thee, with love and awe;  
Je - sus, to Thee be all glo - ry giv'n;

Come and be - hold Him, born the King of an - gels;  
Glo - ry to God, all glo - ry in the high - est;  
Who would not love Thee, lov - ing us so dear - ly?  
Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing;

O come, let us a - dore Him, O come, let us a - dore Him,

ADESTE FIDELES  
Irregular with Refrain

O come, let us a - dore Him, Christ, the Lord!

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is common time (C). The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass line is in the bass staff. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

## Adeste Fideles

101

John F. Wade, 1711–1786

1. Adeste fideles,  
 Laeti triumphantes,  
 Venite, venite in Bethlehem:  
 Natum videte  
 Regem angelorum:  
 Venite, adoremus, venite, adoremus,  
 Venite, adoremus Dominum.
  
2. Cantet nunc ioc  
 Chorus angelorum,  
 Cantet nunc aula caelestium:  
 Gloria in  
 Excelsis Deo:  
 Venite, adoremus, venite, adoremus,  
 Venite, adoremus Dominum.
  
3. Ergo qui natus  
 Die hodierna,  
 Jesu, tibi sit gloria:  
 Patris aeterni  
 Verbum caro factum:  
 Venite, adoremus, venite, adoremus,  
 Venite, adoremus Dominum.

THE TRIUNE GOD

107

Isaac Watts, 1674-1748

Joy to the World

Attr. to George Frideric Handel, 1685-1759

Arr. by Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

1. Joy to the world! the Lord is come: Let earth re -  
 2. Joy to the world! the Sav - ior reigns: Let men their  
 3. No more let sin and sor - rows grow, Nor thorns in -  
 4. He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the

ceive her King; Let ev - 'ry heart pre -  
 songs em - ploy; While fields and floods, rocks,  
 fest the ground; He comes to make His  
 na - tions prove The glo - ries of His

pare Him room, And heav'n and na - ture  
 hills, and plains Re - peat the sound - ing  
 bless - ings flow Far as the curse is  
 right - eous - ness, And won - ders of His

And  
Re -  
Far  
And

Second verse: "Let all their songs employ"

ANTIOCH  
CM

## THE TRIUNE GOD

sing, And heav'n and na - ture sing, And  
 joy, Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re -  
 found, Far as the curse is found, Far  
 love, And won - ders of His love, And

heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture  
 peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing  
 as the curse is found, Far as the curse is  
 won - ders of His love, And won - ders of His

heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.  
 peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
 as, far as the curse is found.  
 won - ders, won - ders of His love. A - men.

sing, and heav'n and na - ture sing.  
 joy, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
 found, far as the curse is found.  
 love, and won - ders of His love. A - men.

O Lord Christ, born into our world this day:  
 Bring joy to our hearts,  
 that we would make room for Your grace.  
 Place Your song on our lips,  
 that we would proclaim good news for all to hear.  
 Give clear vision to our eyes,  
 that we would see Your blessings flow all around us.  
 Create peace among all nations,  
 that we would dwell in harmony as brothers and sisters.  
 Grant hope to our souls,  
 that we would experience Your kingdom in our lives.  
 We receive You now,  
 who comes to us as purest love, in awe and wonder.  
 Amen.

Rev. Charles A. Packer



THE TRIUNE GOD

133 Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

Speier Gesangbuch, 1599

Geistliche Kirchengesang, Cologne, 1599

Sts. 1, 2, trans. by Theodore Baker, 1851-1934

Arr. by Michael Praetorius, 1571-1621

St. 3, *The Hymnal*, 1940

1. Lo, how a Rose e'er bloom-ing From ten - der stem hath  
 2. I - sa - iah 'twas for - told it, The Rose I have in  
 3. O Flow'r, whose fra - grance ten - der With sweet-ness fills the

sprung! Of Jes-se's lin - eage com - ing As men of old have  
 mind, With Mar - y we be - hold it, The Vir - gin Moth - er  
 air, Dis - pel in glo - rious splen - dor The dark-ness ev - 'ry -

sung. It came, a blos - som bright, A - mid the cold of  
 kind. To show God's love a - right, She bore to men a  
 where; True man, yet ver - y God, From sin and death now

win - ter, When half spent was the night.  
 Sav - ior, When half spent was the night.  
 save us, And share our ev - 'ry load.

ES IST EIN' ROS' ENTSPRUNGEN  
 7.6.7.6.6.7.6

First verse: "As those of old have sung"  
 Second verse: "She bore to us a Savior"

## O Little Town of Bethlehem

Phillips Brooks, 1835-1893

English Melody

Arr. by Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958

1. O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, How  
 2. For Christ is born of Mar - y And  
 3. How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, The  
 4. O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, De -

still we see thee lie! A - bove thy deep and  
 gath - ered all a - bove, While mor - tals sleep, the  
 won - drous gift is giv'n! So God im - parts to  
 scend to us, we pray; Cast out our sin and

dream - less sleep The si - lent stars go by.  
 an - gels keep Their watch of won - d'ring love.  
 hu - man hearts The bless - ings of His heav'n.  
 en - ter in, Be born in us to - day.

Yet in thy dark streets shin - eth The  
 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er Pro -  
 No ear may hear His com - ing, But  
 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels The

"He," "Him," or "His" may be replaced by "God('s)" or "You(r)."

FOREST GREEN  
 8.6.8.6.7.6.8.6

## THE TRIUNE GOD

ev - er - last - ing light; The hopes and fears of  
claim the ho - ly birth! And prais - es sing to  
in this world of sin, Where meek souls will re -  
great glad tid - ings tell; O come to us, a -

all the years Are met in thee to - night.  
God the King, And peace to all on earth.  
ceive Him, still The dear Christ en - ters in.  
bide with us, Our Lord Em - man - u - el!

Heavenly Father, Creator of grace, we praise You for Your many miraculous works of love and mercy seen throughout the world in this season. We thank You for the birth of Your Son, the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, who was born of the Blessed Virgin for the redemption of our sins.

Make real to us this day the hope of the New Covenant that is expressed in Jesus Christ, “the Holy Child of Bethlehem,” by His birth among humankind.

Holy Father, Holy Son, Holy Spirit—Holy Three-in-One—“come to us” and “abide with us” during this special time of year and in the days to come. Amen.

Rev. Robin E. Honaker

## Away in a Manger

132

Anonymous

St. 1-2, anonymous,  
St. 3, John T. McFarland, 1851-1913

*Unison*

1. A - way in a man - ger, no crib for His bed,  
2. The cat - tle are low - ing, the ba - by a - wakes,  
3. Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask You to stay

The lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down His sweet head.  
But lit - tle Lord Je - sus, no cry - ing He makes.  
Close by me for - ev - er, and love me, I pray.

The stars in the sky looked down where He lay,  
I love You, Lord Je - sus, look down from the sky,  
Bless all the dear chil - dren in Your ten - der care,

The lit - tle Lord Je - sus, a - sleep on the hay.  
And stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.  
And fit us for heav - en to live with You there.

AWAY IN A MANGER  
11.11.11.11

## Away in a Manger

St. 1-2, anonymous,

William J. Kirkpatrick, 1838-1921

St. 3, John T. McFarland, 1851-1913

*Unison*

1. A - way in a man - ger, no crib for His  
 2. The cat - tle are low - ing, the ba - by a -  
 3. Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask You to

bed, The lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down His sweet  
 wakes, But lit - tle Lord Je - sus, no cry - ing He  
 stay Close by me for - ev - er, and love me, I

head. The stars in the bright sky looked down where He  
 makes. I love You, Lord Je - sus, look down from the  
 pray. Bless all the dear chil - dren in Your ten - der

lay, The lit - tle Lord Je - sus, a - sleep on the hay.  
 sky, And stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is night.  
 care, And fit us for heav - en to live with You there.

CRADLE SONG

11.11.11.11

# THE TRIUNE GOD

## 123

## Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.

Felix Mendelssohn, 1809–1847

Arr. by William H. Cummings, 1831–1915

1. Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the  
2. Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ the ev - er -  
3. Hail the heav'n - born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of

new - born King; Peace on earth, and mer - cy mild,  
last - ing Lord: Late in time be - hold Him come,  
right-eous-ness! Light and life to all He brings,

God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!" Joy - ful, all ye  
Off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb. Veiled in flesh the  
Ris'n with heal - ing in His wings. Mild He lays His

na - tions, rise, Join the tri - umph of the skies;  
God - head see: Hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty,  
glo - ry by, Born that man no more may die,

MENDELSSOHN

7.7.7 D

Second verse: "Pleased as man with us to dwell"

Third verse: "Born that we no more may die" and

"Born to raise all those on earth" or "Born to raise all children on earth"

THE SON

Nativity

## THE TRIUNE GOD

With the an-gel - ic host pro-claim, "Christ is born in Beth-le-hem!"  
Pleased as man with men to dwell, Je - sus, our Em-man - u - el.  
Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them sec-ond birth.

The first system of musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff contains a melody with lyrics underneath. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4.

Hark! the her-ald an-gels sing, "Glo-ry to the new-born King!" A-men.

Org. Ped.

The second system of musical notation continues the melody and accompaniment from the first system. It includes a double bar line and repeat signs at the end of the system. The instruction "Org. Ped." is written below the bass staff.

Christ Child, God Incarnate,  
Your glory shall shine forever and ever.  
You came that we, whom You created,  
would be reconciled to You and made whole.  
You came that we might have eternity in Your presence  
and may always live in Your love.  
With joyful hearts, we sing glory to Your name.

Rev. Wayne McLeod