

MAYFLOWER

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

COMMUNION SUNDAY

FEBRUARY 1, 2026

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Bold text or music score indicates congregational response.

Prayer request cards may be placed in the offering and will be added to our prayer list.

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

Please silence all devices and be present with us.

If you need to step out, the service is live-streamed in the Chapel.

PRELUDE

Kyrie, Gott Vater in Ewigkeit, BWV 669
by J. S. Bach

Dr. Julia Brown

WELCOME & PASSING OF THE PEACE

Rev. Ruth Bell Olsson & Rev. Kent Dobson

Greeting: The peace of Christ be with you.

Response: And also with you.

NEWS OF THE CHURCH

Rachael Cooley

INTROIT

Preces
by Philip Stopford

Chancel Choir

O Lord, open thou our lips. And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

O God, make speed to save us. O Lord, make haste to help us.

Praise ye the Lord. The Lord's Name be praised.

CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 15)

Anna Jane Schutt

Leader: Lord, who may dwell in your sanctuary?

Who may live on your holy hill?

Those who walk blamelessly, who speak truth from the heart, who do no wrong to a neighbor, who honor those who fear you, who keep their promises, even at cost to themselves.

Come, let us enter God's presence with hearts ready to listen, hands ready to serve, and lives offered in faithful worship.

People: Let us enter the House of God.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN 155 (stand as you are able) *Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies*

RATISBON

OPENING PRAYER (spoken by all)

Rev. Dobson

Faithful God, you entrusted Mary with a child whose life would stretch her heart. In the temple, she heard words she could not yet grasp and held them in silence and wonder.

Meet us in our own not-knowing, in the place we still do not fully understand. Teach us how to ponder, how to wait, how to listen. When your call unsettles us, give us the courage to stay close and the patience to trust what is still unfolding.

Through Jesus Christ, who grows beyond our expectations and draws us deeper into your purposes. Amen.

GLORIA PATRI (remain standing)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Rachael Cooley

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 2:41-52
PEW BIBLE, PAGE 725

Rev. Dobson

Leader: The Word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

The Somethings of God

Rev. Bell Olsson

HYMN 64 (stand as you are able)

Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee

ST. AGNES

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Rev. Dobson

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Kyrie from Missa ad Praesepe
by George Malcolm

Chancel Choir

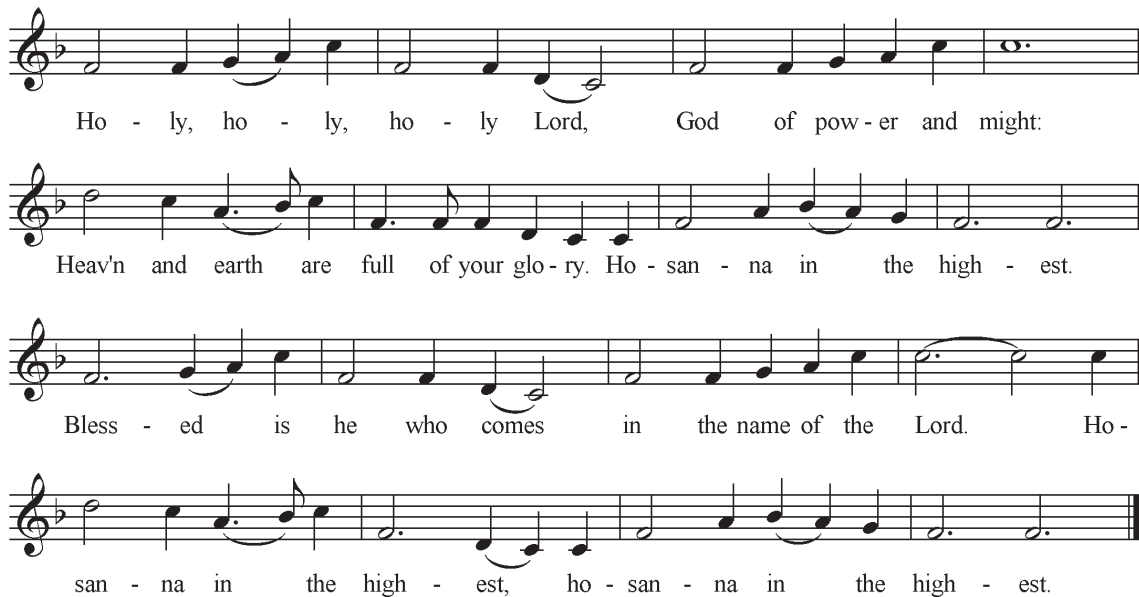
<i>Kyrie eleison</i>	Lord, have mercy
<i>Christe eleison</i>	Christ, have mercy
<i>Kyrie eleison</i>	Lord, have mercy

DOXOLOGY (stand as you are able)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO COMMUNION



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might:
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



Christ has died. Christ is ri - sen. Christ will come a - gain.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION



A - men, a - men, a - - - men.

SHARING COMMUNION

We practice an open table and all are welcome to participate. The feast is for everyone. The ushers will come forward to release you by rows. Take the bread and eat it; take the cup and drink it. You may deposit the cups in the baskets provided. Please return to your seat by the side aisles. You are also welcome to take the elements to your seat and partake when you are ready. If you would like the elements brought to you, signal an usher. Our sacramental elements are gluten free bread and grape juice.

COMMUNION ANTHEM

Ave Verum

Chancel Choir

by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)

*Ave, verum corpus natum de Maria Virgine:
vere passum, immolatum
in cruce pro homine:
cujus latus perforatum fluxit aqua et sanguine:
esto nobis praegustatum, in mortis examine.*

Hail the true body, born of the Virgin Mary:
You who truly suffered and were sacrificed
on the cross for the sake of all.
From whose pierced flank flowed water and blood:
Be a foretaste for us in the trial of death.

LORD'S PRAYER

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

HYMN 145 (stand as you are able)

O Christ, Our Light

AR HYD Y NOS

BENEDICTION (remain standing)

Rev. Bell Olsson

POSTLUDE

Kyrie, Gott heiliger Geist, BWV 671
by J. S. Bach

Dr. Brown

Please join us for coffee in the Atrium after the service. All are Welcome!

If you would like to provide cookies for the Sunday reception,
please email Rachael@MayflowerChurch.org



COMMUNION PREPARERS NEEDED

Are you looking for a way to give back to church? We are looking for two people to join our Communion Preparation Team. This role rotates on the first Sunday of the month. For information, call the church office 616-459-6255.

MAYFLOWER CHURCH PRESENTS:

“Rooted: How to Grow Secure Kids in a Wobbly World”

**Join us at Mayflower on Wednesdays at 4:30pm
as we continue our adult learning series.**



FEB. 4 | Mind, Body, and Spirit Connection
FEB. 11 | Nature and the Art of Growing Up
FEB. 18 | Nurturing Faith and Building a Family Legacy
FEB. 25 | Creating Community for the Journey

Each session will be facilitated by Melissa VanderZyden, LMSW; Pastor Ruth Bell Olsson; Pastor Kent Dobson; and Rachael Cooley. Parents, Grandparents, and all those who care about children and youth are invited to join throughout the series.

Praises and Prayers

If you would like to receive prayer, or make note of someone to be added to the weekly Prayer List, please contact the church office to be included on the list (616.459.6255 or office@mayflowerchurch.org.) Prayer Cards are also in the pews and collected during Sunday morning services.

PRAISE FOR THOSE WHO CELEBRATE

We celebrate with **Ponstein family** on the baptism of Eloise and Bryn on Jan. 11.

PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Please pray for **Mary Newton** as she plans to have knee replacement surgery on Feb. 2. We pray for a quick and smooth recovery. (1/27)

Carol VerMeulen asks for prayers as she is in Emmanuel Hospice Care with stage 4 lung cancer. (1/13)

Jane Henderson is home and in hospice care. (1/6)

Chuck Henry fell on Christmas Day and fractured his hip. Please keep him in your prayers as he recovers. (1/6)

Lindy Crandell is struggling with a lung disease and heart issues. She welcomes our prayers for strength to face the journey ahead. (1/6)

PRAY FOR THOSE WHO MOURN

Leona Naylor passed away on Jan. 3. A memorial service was held at Mayflower on Jan. 31. (1/10)

Eric Britcher passed away on Jan. 1. Keep his family in prayer as they mourn his passing. A memorial service was held at Mayflower on Jan. 10. (1/6)

Mary Crane passed away Dec. 28. Pray for her family and friends as they mourn her death. (1/6)

Ginger Jane Mohney, passed away peacefully on Dec. 26. We pray for her family and friends as they mourn her passing. (1/6)

PRAY FOR OUR COUNTRY & OUR WORLD

We acknowledge that there is a tremendous amount of turmoil here at home and around the world. We pray for courage and wisdom for our leaders - those in our community, state, and nation. We pray for the peace of Christ to reign in our world.



PRAYER, NATURE, and THE SOUL FEB. 28 | 9am-3pm | \$40 | LUNCH PROVIDED

Join Kent Dobson for a **ONE-DAY RETREAT** (9am-3pm) on February 28. This retreat is designed to be a break from ordinary life. We'll explore a deeper spiritual life through the natural world, new approaches to prayer, and some teaching around how the Soul is formed and shaped. The retreat

will be held at the beautiful **Franciscan Life Process Center** in Lowell, MI - a short drive out of town. **Please RSVP by Feb. 23** by contacting the office (616.459.6255 or office@mayflowerchurch.org).



Weekly Calendar

**Words in italics denote community organizations that meet at Mayflower.*

Today, February 1

10:30am | Communion Sunday

4pm | Confirmation Class

5pm | Elevate

THIS WEEK

2 Women's Bible Study | 9:30am
Women's Bible Study | 5pm
Men's Bible Study | 5pm

3 Breakfast Club | 6:30am
Men's Bible Study | 8am
Needlepoint & Stitching | 10am
*Cub Scouts** | 6pm

4 *Garden Club** | 9:30am
Priscilla Circle | 11am
Midweek | 4:30pm
Mayflower Bells | 6:30pm
*Al-Anon** | 7pm
Chancel Choir | 7:30pm

5 *Women's City Club** | 9:30am
Women's Bible Study | 10am
*Boy Scouts** | 6:30pm

6 Men's Bible Study | 7am
Grown Ups Gather | 5pm

8 Confirmation Sunday | 10:30am

RETIREMENT CELEBRATION

Sunday, May 31, 2026



SCOTT BOSSCHER, Chancel Choir Director, to retire at the end of the choir season

Mayflower has been blessed with Scott's expertise, musicianship, and deep spirituality as he led our Chancel Choir for the past seven years. We are grateful for all he has given and taught us during his tenure. Scott and Jane are members at Mayflower and plan to stay and continue to be involved in the life of our church.

We invite you to join us as we celebrate Scott on Sunday, May 31.

Mayflower Small Groups: *Building Community*

Get plugged into Mayflower, consider joining one of the following small groups. To get involved, contact the church office (616-459-6255 or office@MayflowerChurch.org). These groups meet on a regular basis either at the church, or a restaurant, or someone's home, if noted. For up to date information, check the web calendar.

29UP (For ages 29+)

Adults gather for a time of food and fellowship at various locations.

69UP (For ages 69+)

Adults gather for a time of food and fellowship at various locations.

Chancel Choir – Wednesdays | 7:30pm

Doubts on Draft

3rd Thursday of the month | 5pm

Next meeting: Feb 19

Vivant Brewery (925 Cherry St. SE)

Have questions about faith, spirituality, the Bible, your own story? Gather with Pastor Kent Dobson over a pint for informal conversation and community.

Grown-ups Gather & Graze (For ages 49+)

Next meeting: Feb 6 at 5pm

Dan & Marjie Gell's (3579 Hidden Lake Ln.)

Adults gather for a time of food and fellowship. Our fun and fellowship will be Caribbean themed. Please bring an appetizer and beverage of your choice. RSVP: Patty Sienstra (psienstra@gmail.com).

High School Breakfast Club – Tuesdays | 6:30am

High school students meet at Wolfgang's restaurant for breakfast.

Ladies' Luncheon

Women of all ages and stages gather for a time of food and fellowship at various local restaurants.

LGBTQ Support Circle

4th Thursday of the month | 6pm | Library

Next meeting: Feb. 26 at 6pm

Support for parents, grandparents, and friends of LGBTQ. This group is open to any who are seeking community as they support their LGBTQ loved ones.

Mayflower Bells – Wednesdays | 6:30pm

Needlepoint & Stitching – Tuesdays | 10am | Atrium

Priscilla Circle

1st Wednesday of the month | 11am

Next meeting: Feb. 4

The women of Mayflower's Priscilla Circle volunteer and raise funds for causes associated with the church and our community.

Women's Bible Studies

Mondays | 9:30am | Cindy DeBoer

Mondays | 5pm | Helen Bell

Thursdays | 10am | Pastor Steve Armfield

Men's Bible Studies

Mondays | 5pm

Tuesdays | 8am

Fridays | 7am

Partnering Organization Small Groups

These groups meet at Mayflower on a regular basis.

AI-Anon – Wednesdays | 7pm | Parlor

Boy Scout Troop 271 – Thursdays | 7:30pm

Cub Scouts – Tuesdays | 6pm



SCOUT SUNDAY Pancake Breakfast

FEB. 22 | FOLLOWING SERVICE

Pancakes, sausage, eggs, hash browns, fruit, coffee & juice - served by Troop 271.

\$10 per person | or \$30 for a family

All proceeds go towards Gettysburg trip.

Pay on the 22nd, or prepay:
venmo (@Susan-Keil-3, 7929).

**Please RSVP with the QR code
to assist us with planning.**



ELECTRONIC GIVING OPTIONS

Your generous gifts ensure Mayflower's current and future ministry. Thank you.

For your convenience we offer 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.



POP-UP OUTREACH | NOW - FEB. 8

BRING ITEMS TO CHURCH FEBRUARY 1-8

Winter essentials provide more than comfort, they provide hope. Mel Trotter is currently looking for new **underwear, sweatpants, winter boots, deoderant, razors, and lotion**. These simple items help our neighbors in need stay healthy, safe, and dignified during the brutal winter months.



Please consider supporting Mel Trotter by purchasing these items from their **Amazon Wishlist** (see **QR code**) or purchasing and dropping off at church February 1-8.

MAYFLOWER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

2345 Robinson Rd SE, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49506 | 616-459-6255 | MayflowerChurch.org

Rev. Ruth Bell Olsson, Senior Pastor | Rev. Kent Dobson, Interim Associate Pastor

Dr. Julia Brown, Director of Music & Organist

Rachael Cooley, Executive Director of Youth, Outreach, & Operations

Amy Dunham, Office Manager | Andy Ely, Business Manager | Murry Idema, Director of Congregational Care

Kristen Van Stee, Communications Coordinator | David Schellenberg and Kathy Tetzlaff, Facilities

Scott Bosscher, Chancel Choir Director | Dr. Mark Webb and Melia Colwell, Midweek Choir Directors

Brennen Kartes, Director of Midweek Bells | Aaron Wheeler, Children's Choir Accompanist

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.

THE TRIUNE GOD

155

Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies

Charles Wesley, 1707–1788

Johann Werner's *Choralbuch*, 1815



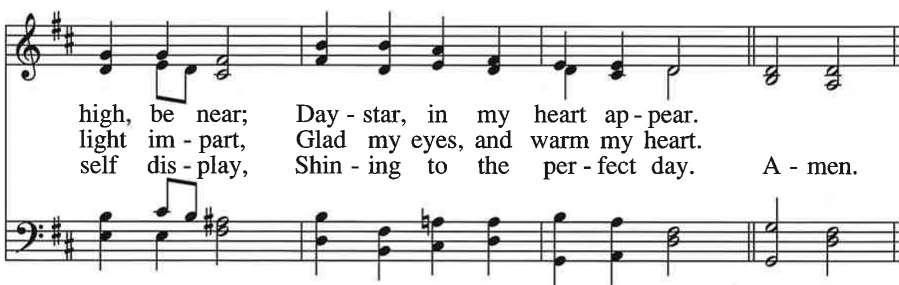
1. Christ, whose glo - ry fills the skies, Christ, the true, the
 2. Dark and cheer - less is the morn Un - ac - com - pa -
 3. Vis - it, then, this soul of mine; Pierce the gloom of



on - ly Light, Sun of Right - eous - ness, a - rise,
 nied by Thee; Joy - less is the day's re - turn,
 sin and grief; Fill me, Ra - dian - cy di - vine,



Tri - umph o'er the shades of night; Day - spring from on
 Till Thy mer - cy's beams I see; Till they in - ward
 Scat - ter all my un - be - lief; More and more Thy -



high, be near; Day - star, in my heart ap - pear.
 light im - part; Glad my eyes, and warm my heart.
 self dis - play, Shin - ing to the per - fect day. A - men.

RATISBON
7.7.7.7.7

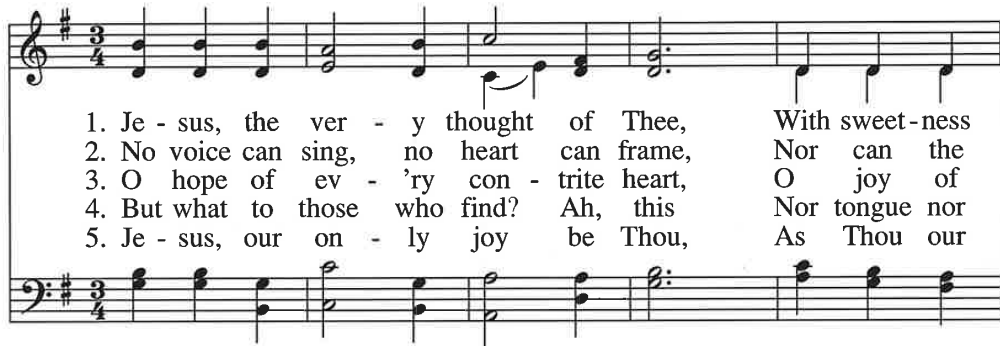
Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee

64

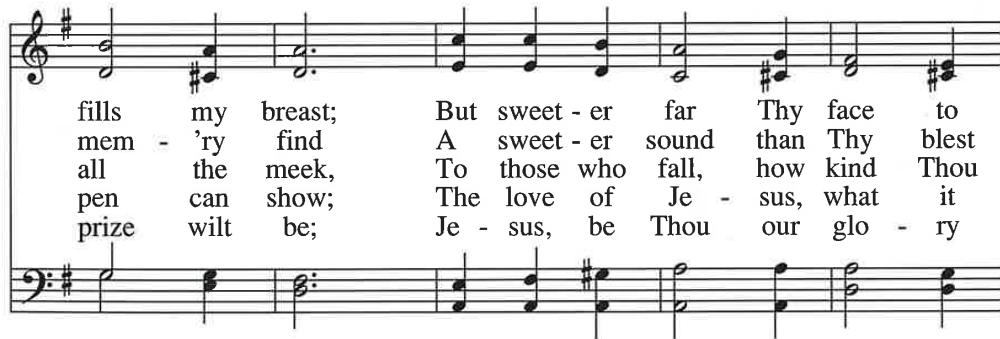
Latin, 12th C.

Trans. by Edward Caswall, 1814–1878, alt.

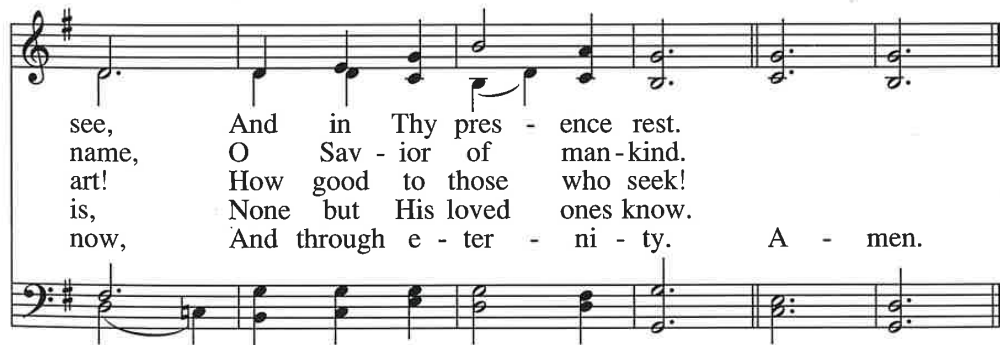
John B. Dykes, 1823–1876



1. Je - sus, the ver - y thought of Thee, With sweet-ness
 2. No voice can sing, no heart can frame, Nor can the
 3. O hope of ev - 'ry con - trite heart, O joy of
 4. But what to those who find? Ah, this Nor tongue nor
 5. Je - sus, our on - ly joy be Thou, As Thou our



fills my breast; But sweet - er far Thy face to
 mem - 'ry find A sweet - er sound than Thy blest
 all the meek, To those who fall, how kind Thou
 pen can show; The love of Je - sus, what it
 prize wilt be; Je - sus, be Thou our glo - ry



see, And in Thy pres - ence rest.
 name, O Sav - ior of man - kind.
 art! How good to those who seek!
 is, None but His loved ones know.
 now, And through e - ter - ni - ty. A - men.

ST. AGNES
CM

Praise to Jesus Christ

THE SON

O Christ, Our Light

Jack Brown

Traditional Welsh Melody

1. Christ, our light and our sal - va - tion, Whom shall we
 2. Dai - ly we will seek Your bless - ing Ex - pect - ant -
 3. Keep us calm with - in Your pres - ence, O Christ, our
 4. Teach us, Lord, the road to fol - low, Grant what we

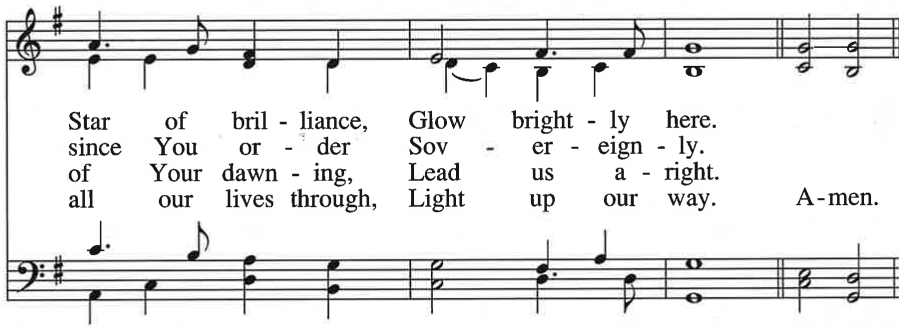
fear? Close be - side to guard and guide us, Lord
 ly, Then re - ly up - on Your good - ness Con -
 Light. Hide us in Your spe - cial fort - ress, Safe
 pray. Lead us up the straight and nar - row, To

al - ways near. Noth - ing now need make us an - xious;
 fi - dent - ly. En - e - mies may try to in - jure,
 in Your sight. Draw us high up on Your moun - tain,
 bright - er day. Shine Your face on all who love You,

You will shine in all our dark - ness. Fie - ry Pil - lar,
 Tri - als grow or pres - sures ling - er, None will tri - umph
 Guard our steps, so prone to fall - ing, By the beau - ty
 Smile on us that we may shine, too. Guide us safe - ly,

AR HYD Y NOS
 8.4.8.4.8.8.8.4

THE TRIUNE GOD



Star of bril - liance, Glow bright - ly here.
since You or - der Sov - er - eign - ly.
of Your dawn - ing, Lead us a - right.
all our lives through, Light up our way. A - men.