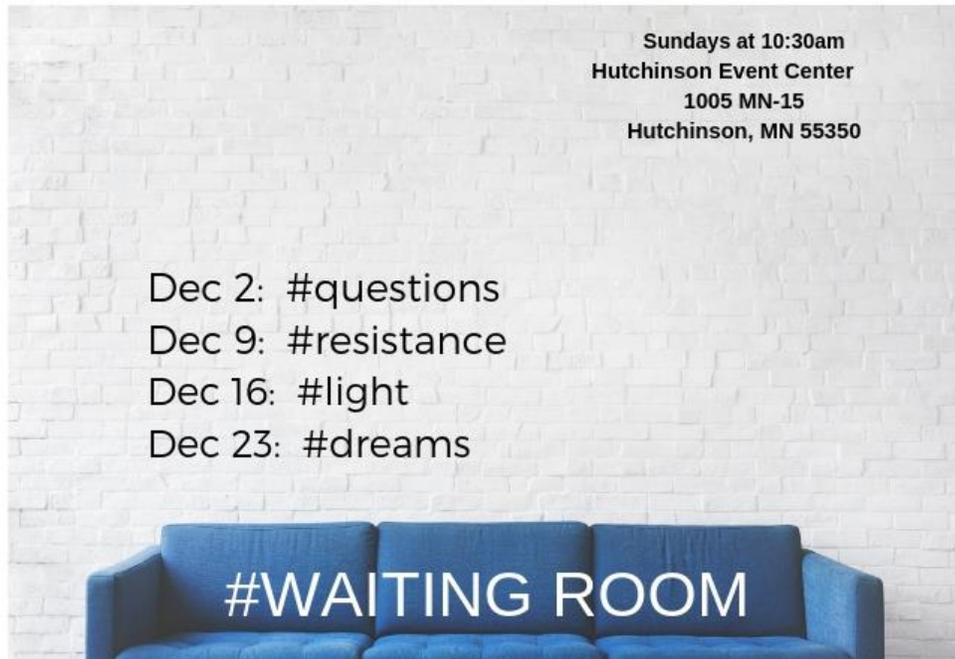


Bummer seat Bulletin and/or Music-Reader Bulletin:

This seat is NOT reserved. Go ahead – sit here!

You may have a partially blocked seat, so use this bulletin if you can't see the screen.

You're welcome. 😊



1st Sunday of Advent
December 2, 2018
Sunday Worship at 10:30am

#WAITING ROOM
#questions
Holden Evening Prayer



www.riverofhopehutchinson.org

GATHERING

Music to Prepare Us For Worship

Gathering Songs "Messiah & Love Come Down"

MESSIAH

Larry Olson

$\bullet = 110$

Someone's shouting from the des-ert. Someone's shouting from the sea.
Someone's shouting from the cit-y. I am young,— I am cold.
Someone's shouting I am brok-en. Someone's shouting make me whole.

Someone's shouting from the mountain. Someone's shouting from the val-ley. Mes-
Someone's shouting from the country. I am lone-ly, I am old.
Someone's shouting come and change me. Someone's shouting save my soul.

si ah, come and be our King.

Mes - si ah, come and be our

King.

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Love Come Down

Words and Music by
Todd Fields, Casey Darnell
and Heath Balltzglier

♩ = 118

CHORUS 1a

N.C.



I will sing for - ev - er of Your love come down. With my hands to heav-en, shout Your

4



prais - es loud. I was lost in dark-ness when You pulled me out. I will sing for - ev - er of Your

INSTRUMENTAL

8

B \flat F C Dm



love come down.

12

B \flat F C F



1. I
(2. Now)
(3. Well)

VERSE

16

F C Dm B \flat F C



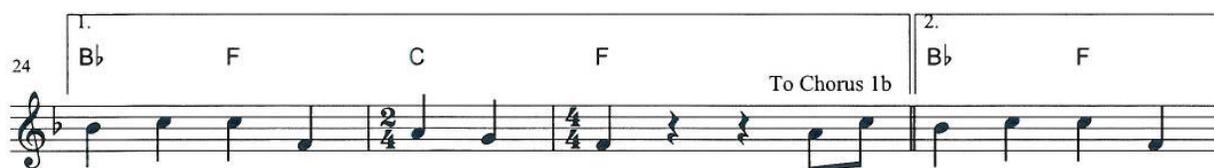
once was blind, I could not see; Chains of sin had shack - led me. But
grace so sweet, it floods my soul, and hope e - ter - nal won't let go. My
there's a home be - yond the sky, a song we'll sing for all of time. The

20 F C Dm B♭ F C F



God in heav - en heard my plea: Je - sus, Je - sus res - cued me.
 debt e - rased at Cal - va - ry, Je - sus, Je - sus res - cued me.
 grave is emp - ty; I am free. Je - sus, Je - sus res - cued me.

24 1. B♭ F C F 2. B♭ F



Je - sus, Je - sus res - cued me. I will Je - sus, Je - sus

Introduce the Theme with Kids

Welcome, River Source, Connection Cards

No Longer Strangers Prayer

God of the Stranger, **You come to us in the most unexpected ways – as a baby, as a refugee. Help us to make room for you, too see you and to reach for you when you surprise us in strangers and friends. Amen.**

Meet Someone New

Now is the time to practice this very dangerous prayer we just prayed – there are no strangers because of the love we know in Jesus. We simply can't afford to be afraid of each other, especially in this place of worship of the God who brings us together. Visitors, stay right where you are. It's our job, as River of Hope, to make ourselves a little bit uncomfortable and to come and say hello to you. So go and say hi to someone you don't know very well or at all.

“Love Come Down” to bring people back together.

Welcome New Hope-ers

Now is the time to practice this very dangerous prayer we just prayed – there are no strangers because of the love we know in Jesus. We simply

Christian community sends us into the lives of other people. It is why River of Hope prays and then practices the No Longer Strangers prayer each week. We are certain that the powerful, wily ways of the Holy Spirit brought you into the community of River of Hope. And for this action and for you, we thank God. Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a Lutheran theologian, says this about community: “We must be ready to allow ourselves to be interrupted by God. God will be constantly crossing our paths and canceling our plans by sending us people with claims and petitions.”

Welcome to a life of interruption after interruption after interruption. It is the way of the cross. It is the way of Jesus.

Louis + Angie Bedard; Celia and Ellie (Eliana) - introduced by Kris Hartman

Each petition of blessing is followed by a Vision or River Table member making the sign of the cross on or over the person as directed.

Receive the sign of the cross on your shoulders that you may bear the gentle yoke of Christ. +

Receive the sign of the cross on your eyes, that you may see the light of Christ, illumination for the world. +

Receive the sign of the cross on your feet, that you may walk in the way of Christ, inspired by God’s Holy Spirit. +

Receive the sign of the cross on your ears, that you may listen for Christ in your neighbor. +

Receive the sign of the cross on your hands, that you may do the work of Christ in your daily life. +

Receive the sign of the cross on your heart, that God may dwell there by faith. +

Welcome to the River of Hope and the purpose we share: we go out to transform lives through Jesus Christ. We join with you in this walk of faith, no matter the twists and turns, and celebrate with you this life of following Jesus together. Thanks be to God!

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

The first candle on the Advent wreath is lit as the congregation sings “Service of Light” and Evening Hymn” (pp2-3) from Holden Evening Prayer

Jesus Christ, you are the light of the world.

The light no darkness can overcome.

Stay with us now, for it is evening,

and the day is almost over.

Let your light scatter the darkness,

and shine within your people here.

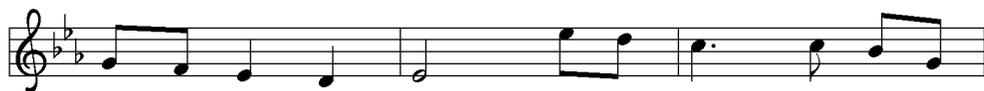
Joyous Light of Heavenly Glory



1 Joy - ous light of heav'n-ly glo - ry, lov-ing glow of God's own
2 In the stars that grace the dark - ness, in the blaz - ing sun of
3 You who made the heav-en's splen - dor, ev - 'ry danc - ing star of



face, you who sing cre - a - tion's sto - ry, shine on
dawn, in the light of peace and wis - dom, we can
night, make us shine with gen - tle jus - tice, let us



ev - 'ry land and race. Now as eve - ning falls a -
hear your qui - et song. Love that fills the night with
each re - flect your light. Might - y God of all cre -



round us, we shall raise our songs to you. God of day - break,
won - der, love that warms the wea - ry soul, love that bursts all
a - tion, gen - tle Christ who lights our way, lov - ing Spir - it



God of shad - ows, come and light our hearts a - new.
chains a - sun - der, set us free and make us whole.
of sal - va - tion, lead us on to end - less day.

Text: Greek hymn, 3rd cent., para. Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: JOYOUS LIGHT, Marty Haugen

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Greeting

Wherever you are on your journey of faith, we believe that God meets you here. We gather in the name of the Triune God – God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. God is with you!

And also with you.

Let us confess that God is God and we are not.

Silence for reflection.

Creator God, we admit we are not always loving and kind. Forgive us for the words we say and things we do that hurt other people. It feels impossible to fathom, but we know you love everyone. Everyone. Even the ones who hurt us. Make room in us for your forgiveness. Show us how to forgive those who are mean to us. Give us your power to forgive the ones who hurt us. Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.

Silence for reflection.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF FORGIVENESS

God, who is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love – loves you as you are. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ and by his authority, I declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sin in the name of the Holy Trinity – God, Jesus, Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Magnificat (*p. 8-9 in Holden Evening Prayer booklet.*)

**My soul proclaims your greatness, O God,
And my spirit rejoices in you.
You have looked with love on your servant here, And blessed me all my life through.
Great and mighty are you, O Holy One,
Strong is your kindness evermore.
How you favor the weak and lowly one, Humbling the proud of heart.**

**You have cast the mighty down from their thrones, And uplifted the humble of heart,
You have filled the hungry with wondrous things, And left the wealthy no part.**

Great and mighty are you, O Faithful One, Strong is your justice, strong your love. As you promised to Sarah and Abraham, Kindness for evermore.

**My soul proclaims your greatness, O God,
And my spirit rejoices in you.
You have looked with love on your servant here, And blessed me all my life through.**

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. **Faithful God, you proved your faithfulness to your people when they cried out to you. Be present in our questions, in our hard times, and remind us that you are with us. We pray these things in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

THE STORY

Note to the reader: the scripture won't be projected on the power point during Advent.

We are making room this Advent season and so, we will encounter scripture in a new way together these next 4 weeks. You are invited to get out your River Source paper and a pen and follow along as I read. Circle or underline phrases that jump out at you. Or simply sit back and close your eyes and listen. What do you hear? I am going to read the scripture two times through. Today, let the word #question accompany you as you listen.

NARRATOR: Our story and God's story continues today, with a reading from Habakkuk 1:1-7; 2:1-4; 3:17-19 from The Message version of the Bible.

ALL: Glory to you O Lord.

The problem as God gave Habakkuk to see it:
God, how long do I have to cry out for help
before you listen?
How many times do I have to yell, "Help! Murder! Police!"
before you come to the rescue?
Why do you force me to look at evil,
stare trouble in the face day after day?

Anarchy and violence break out,
quarrels and fights all over the place.
Law and order fall to pieces.
Justice is a joke.
The wicked have the righteous hamstrung
and stand justice on its head.
God Says, "Look!"
"Look around at the godless nations.
Look long and hard. Brace yourself for a shock.
Something's about to take place
and you're going to find it hard to believe.
I'm about to raise up Babylonians to punish you,
Babylonians, fierce and ferocious—
World-conquering Babylon,
grabbing up nations right and left,
A dreadful and terrible people,
making up its own rules as it goes.
Their horses run like the wind,
attack like bloodthirsty wolves.
A stampede of galloping horses
thunders out of nowhere.
They descend like vultures
circling in on carrion.
They're out to kill. Death is on their minds.
They collect victims like squirrels gathering nuts.
They mock kings,
poke fun at generals,
Spit on forts,
and leave them in the dust.
They'll all be blown away by the wind.
Brazen in sin, they call strength their god."

What's God going to say to my questions? I'm braced for the worst.
I'll climb to the lookout tower and scan the horizon.
I'll wait to see what God says,
how he'll answer my complaint.
And then God answered: "Write this.
Write what you see.
Write it out in big block letters
so that it can be read on the run.
This vision-message is a witness
pointing to what's coming.
It aches for the coming—it can hardly wait!
And it doesn't lie.
If it seems slow in coming, wait.
It's on its way. It will come right on time.
"Look at that man, bloated by self-importance—
full of himself but soul-empty.
But the person in right standing before God
through loyal and steady believing
is fully alive, really alive.

Though the cherry trees don't blossom
and the strawberries don't ripen,
Though the apples are worm-eaten
and the wheat fields stunted,
Though the sheep pens are sheepless
and the cattle barns empty,
I'm singing joyful praise to God.
I'm turning cartwheels of joy to my Savior God.
Counting on God's Rule to prevail,
I take heart and gain strength.
I run like a deer.
I feel like I'm king of the mountain!
(For congregational use, with a full orchestra.)
Stay tuned for the continuing story that is our story and God's story.

ALL: Praise to you O Christ.

Wade in the Word

Sermon

Praying Songs "Let My Prayer Rise Up" and "Litany and Prayers" (pp. 4-7 and 10-11 in Holden Evening Prayer booklet.) *As we sing our prayers, you are invited to write your prayers on the small piece of paper given to you and then place them in the in-box in the waiting room. These prayers will not be prayed out loud.*

What are prayers around this week's theme of #questions? What are your questions for God?

Let My Prayer Rise Up

All

Let my prayer rise up like in - cense be - fore you, the
lift - ing up of my hands as an of - fer - ing to you.

Leader or Group One

O God, I call to you, come to me now; oh, hear my
All or Group Two
O God, I call to you, come to me

voice when I cry to you. Let my prayer rise up like
now; oh, hear my voice when I cry to you. Let my prayer rise

in - cense be - fore you, the lift - ing up of my hands as an
up like in - cense be - fore you, the lift - ing up of my

of - fer - ing to you. Keep watch with - in me, God;
hands as an of - fer - ing to you. Keep

deep in my heart may the light of your love be burn - ing
watch with - in me, God; deep in my heart may the light of your

bright. Let my prayer rise up like in-cense be -
love be burn - ing bright. Let my prayer rise up like

fore you, the lift-ing up of my hands as an of-fer-ing to
in - cense be - fore you, the lift-ing up of my hands as an

you. All praise to the God of all— Cre - a - tor of
of-fer-ing to you. All praise to the

life; all praise be to Christ and the Spir - it of love.
God of all— Cre - a - tor of life; all praise be to Christ and the

Let my prayer rise up like in-cense be - fore you, the
Spir-it of love. Let my prayer rise up like in-cense be -

lift-ing up of my hands as an of-fer-ing to you.
fore you, the lift-ing up of my hands as an of-fer-ing to you.

Text: *Holden Evening Prayer*, Marty Haugen, b. 1950, based on Psalm 141
 Music: Marty Haugen
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3. LITANY AND PRAYERS

A *All:*
Repeat continuously

(Hmmm)

B

God of mer - cy, hold us in love.

Leader: **A** **B**

1. In peace, in peace, we pray to you:

Leader: **A** **B**

2. For peace and sal-va-tion, we pray to you:

Leader: **A** **B**

3. For peace be-tween na-tions, for peace be-tween peo-ples:
4. For us who are gath-ered to wor-ship and praise you:
5. For all of your ser-vants who live out your gos-pel:
6. For all those who gov-ern, that jus-tice might guide them:
7. For all those who la-bor in ser-vice to oth-ers:
8. Grant weath-er that nour-ish - es all of cre - a - tion:
9. Keep watch on our loved ones and keep us from dan-ger:
10. For all the be - lov - ed who rest in your mer-cy:

Leader:

Help us, com-fort us, all of our days:

All:

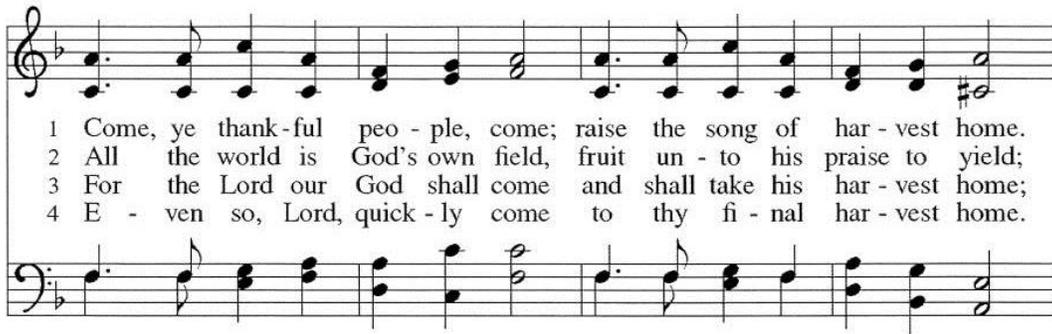
Keep — us, hold — us, gra - cious God.

Offering

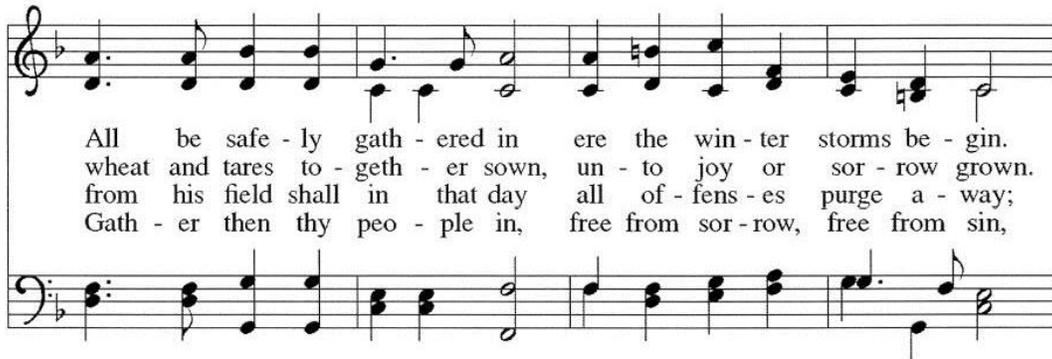
We are grateful for your financial gifts; it's the only way churches are churches. Set up automatic giving by using the green folded paper you were given on your way in or go to our website, riverofhopebutchinson.org click "give" and go from there.

Offering Song "Come Ye Thankful People Come" (verse 1 only)

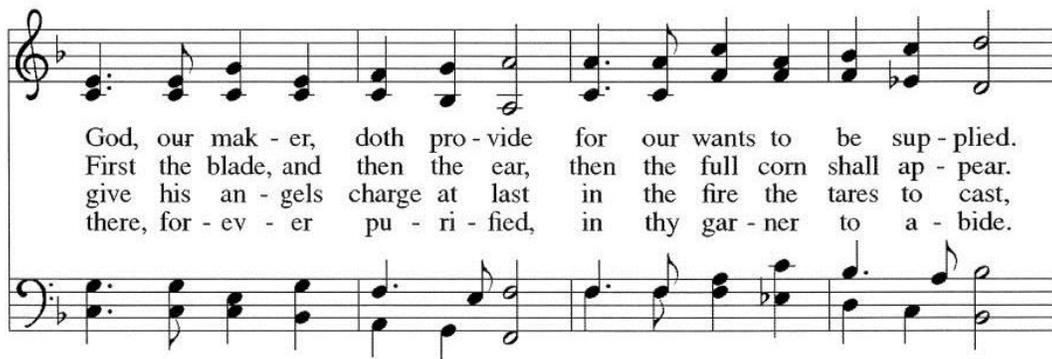
Come, Ye Thankful People, Come



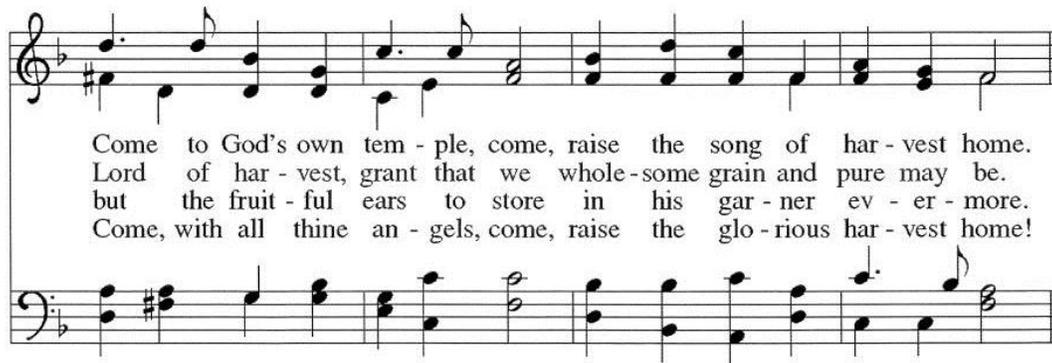
1 Come, ye thank-ful peo-ple, come; raise the song of har-vest home.
2 All the world is God's own field, fruit un-to his praise to yield;
3 For the Lord our God shall come and shall take his har-vest home;
4 E-ven so, Lord, quick-ly come to thy fi-nal har-vest home.



All be safe-ly gath-ered in ere the win-ter storms be-gin.
wheat and tares to-gether sown, un-to joy or sor-row grown.
from his field shall in that day all of-fens-es purge a-way;
Gath-er then thy peo-ple in, free from sor-row, free from sin,



God, our mak-er, doth pro-vide for our wants to be sup-plied.
First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall ap-pear.
give his an-gels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,
there, for-ev-er pu-ri-fied, in thy gar-ner to a-bide.



Come to God's own tem-ple, come, raise the song of har-vest home.
Lord of har-vest, grant that we whole-some grain and pure may be.
but the fruit-ful ears to store in his gar-ner ev-er-more.
Come, with all thine an-gels, come, raise the glo-rious har-vest home!

Text: Henry Alford, 1810-1871, alt.
Music: ST. GEORGE'S, WINDSOR, George J. Elvey, 1816-1893

THE FEAST

Setting the Table

As the kids help set the table, make a circle around the table and lead the congregation in the table prayer written by Martin Luther:

Let's pray: **Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest. And let these gifts to us be blest. Blest be God who is our bread, may all the world be clothed and fed. Amen.**

Let us pray: **We offer these small gifts to our great God like children approaching a loving parent. Crudely wrapped in love and decorated with our worship. God smiles and says, "It's just what I have always wanted!" Receive these gifts, loving God, and by your divine touch, turn them into joy for your world. Amen.**

Invitation to Communion

The table of bread and wine is now to be 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.

There is room for you at this table. So come, 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. There is room for you.

It is Christ who invites us to meet him here.

In the night when Jesus was betrayed by his best friends, he took bread. He blessed it and broke it and gave it to these same friends saying, "Take and eat. This is my body given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup, blessed it and gave it for all to drink saying, "This is the new covenant, the new promise, for the forgiveness of sins. Do this for the remembrance of me."

The Lord's Prayer

You are invited to join hands with those around you in prayer. If you are not the hand-holding type, then simply fold your hands in front of you or hang onto this bulletin as you pray.

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, forever and ever. Amen.

Invitation to the Meal

You are welcome to this meal. It is free and it is for you. If you hunger and thirst for grace and mercy that comes through Jesus Christ, then Christ has set this table just for you.

Communion Songs "Thy Holy Wings & Rejoice Ye Pure in Heart"

Thy Holy Wings

1 Thy ho - ly wings, O Sav - ior, spread gent - ly o - ver me,
2 Oh, let me nes - tle near thee, with - in thy down - y breast
3 Oh, wash me in the wa - ters of No - ah's cleans - ing flood.

and let me rest se - cure - ly through good and ill in thee.
where I will find sweet com - fort and peace with - in thy nest.
Give me a will - ing spir - it, a heart both clean and good.

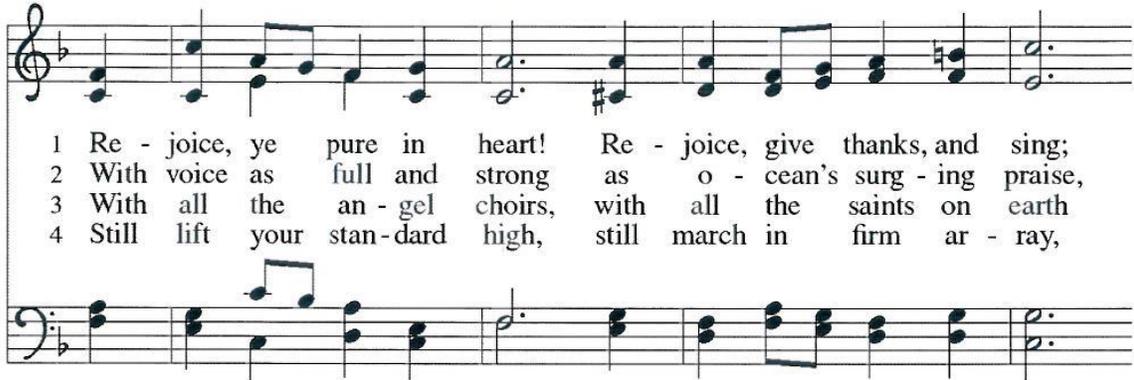
Oh, be my strength and por - tion, my rock and hid - ing place,
Oh, close thy wings a - round me and keep me safe - ly there,
Oh, take in - to thy keep - ing thy chil - dren great and small,

and let my ev - 'ry mo - ment be lived with - in thy grace.
for I am but a new - born and need thy ten - der care.
and while we sweet - ly slum - ber, en - fold us one and all.

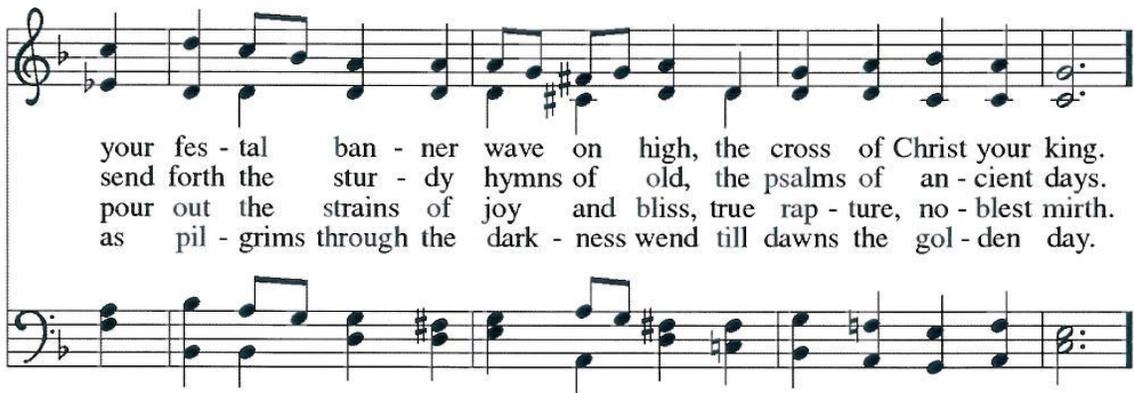
Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832-1903, sts. 1, 3; Gracia Grindal, b. 1943, st. 2; tr. composite
Music: BRED DINA VIDA VINGAR, Swedish folk tune; arr. hymnal version
Text © 1983 Gracia Grindal, Selah Publishing Co., Inc., agent. www.selahpub.com.
Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

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Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!

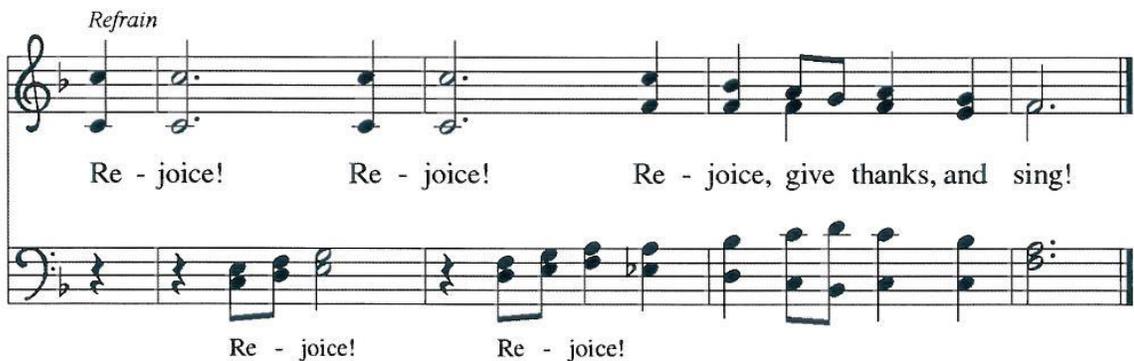


1 Re - joice, ye pure in heart! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing;
 2 With voice as full and strong as o - cean's surg - ing praise,
 3 With all the an - gel choirs, with all the saints on earth
 4 Still lift your stan - dard high, still march in firm ar - ray,



your fes - tal ban - ner wave on high, the cross of Christ your king.
 send forth the stur - dy hymns of old, the psalms of an - cient days.
 pour out the strains of joy and bliss, true rap - ture, no - blest mirth.
 as pil - grims through the dark - ness wend till dawns the gol - den day.

Refrain



Re - joice! Re - joice! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing!
 Re - joice! Re - joice!

5 At last the march shall end;
 the wearied ones shall rest;
 the pilgrims find their home at last,
 Jerusalem the blest. *Refrain*

6 Praise God who reigns on high,
 the Lord whom we adore:
 the Father, Son, and Spirit blest,
 one God forevermore. *Refrain*

Text: Edward H. Plumptre, 1821–1891, alt.
 Music: MARION, Arthur H. Messiter, 1834–1916

THE SENDING

Blessing after Communion

May the body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his peace. **Amen.**

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray, **in response to your promise of faithfulness and life, we offer our lives. In response to your promise of love, we offer our love. In response to all of your promises, we offer our gifts. Amen.**

Why does our church exist? What is our purpose? **We go out to transform lives through Jesus Christ.**

[Please be seated] Purpose Sightings

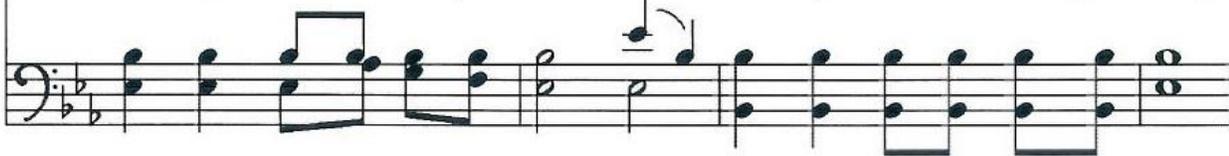
[Pic on power point] Don't forget to grab your copy of the Weekly River News on your way home today. There are lots of opportunities to live into our purpose listed in the Weekly. *And*, one of the most important things included in these pages are the invitation to pray and to read scripture during the week.

MILESTONES! "Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us" *The congregation will sing before Milestones – verse 1 only*). If you've got a good or hard milestone in your life and can share it in a few sentences, meet me at the baptismal font and throw a water drop in as you share your milestone.

Savior, like A Shepherd Lead Us



1 Sav - ior like a shep-herd lead us; much we need your ten - der care.
 2 We are yours; in love be - friend us, be the guard-ian of our way;
 3 You have prom-ised to re - ceive us, poor and sin - ful though we be;
 4 Ear - ly let us seek your fa - vor, ear - ly let us do your will;



In your pleas-ant pas-tures feed us, for our use your fold pre-pare.
 keep your flock, from sin de - fend us, seek us when we go a - stray.
 you have mer - cy to re - lieve us, grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.
 bless - ed Lord and on - ly Sav - ior, with your love our spir - its fill.



Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have bought us; we are yours.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, hear us chil - dren when we pray.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still.



Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have bought us; we are yours.
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, hear us chil - dren when we pray.
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still.



Final Blessing (Sung together from p.12 of Holden Evening Prayer)

Pastor Laura: Let us bless our God: **praise and thanks to you.**

May God, Creator bless us and keep us, may Christ be ever light for our lives, may the Spirit of Love be our guide and path, for all of our days. Amen.

Sending Song "Bethlehem Highway"

(Kids are invited to come up and play an instrument)

BETHLEHEM HIGHWAY

David Lee Brown
James Hersch

The musical score for "Bethlehem Highway" is written in G major and common time (C). It features a tempo marking of quarter note = 110. The score is arranged in four systems, each with a vocal line and a bass line. Chord symbols are placed above the vocal line. The lyrics are written below the vocal line.

System 1: Chords: G, C, G, C D G. Lyrics: There is hope on Bethlehem high-way for the ones who will journey there. And the

System 2: Chords: G, C, G, C, D, G, C. Lyrics: hope is the child in a man-ger bringing us love be-yond compare. It's a lifeline for the need-
Let the angels go be-fore

System 3: Chords: G, C, G, C. Lyrics: y. It's— sight— to those who can't see. It's a free - dom for the faith-
us. Let the dark - ness be-come— light. Now the Sav - ior lives a-mong

System 4: Chords: G, Am7, D, \emptyset , D, G. Lyrics: ful in a Child of proph - e - cy. There is com- pare.
us. Now— truth has come to life.

Go in peace – serve the Lord! **Thanks be to God**

Music to Send You Out

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