

January 5, 2020 Sunday Worship at 10:30am



www.riverofhopehutchinson.org

Gathering

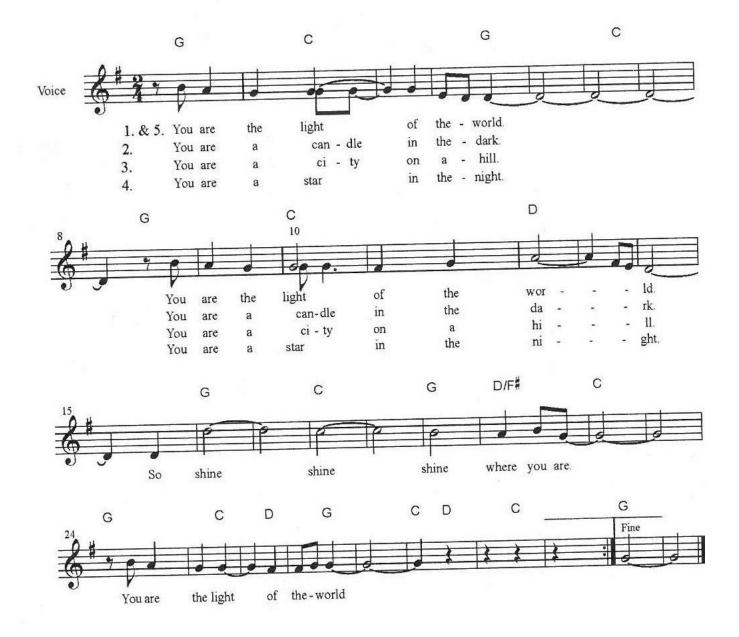
Music to Prepare Us For Worship

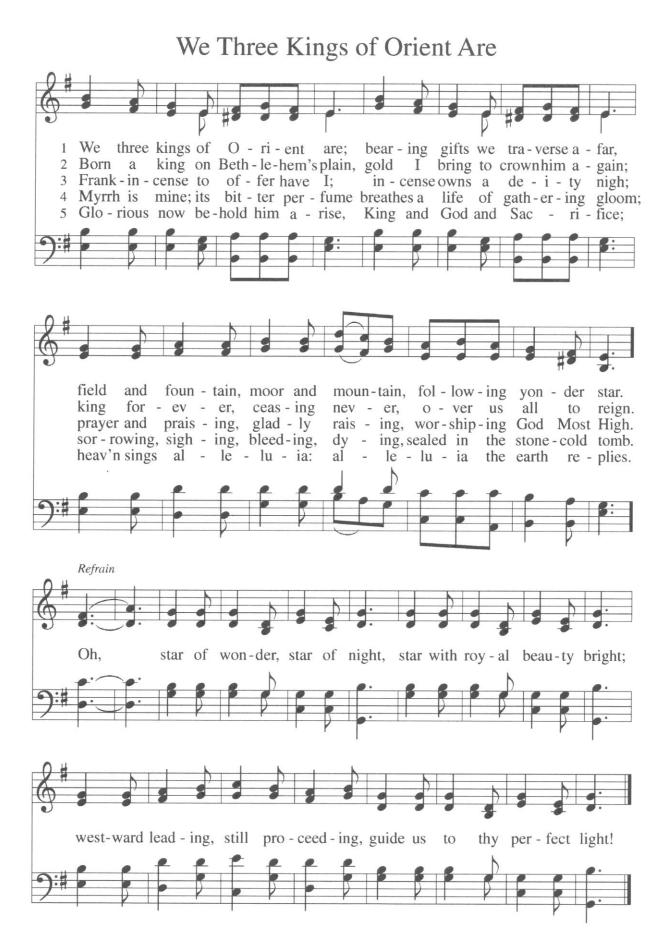
Gathering Songs "You Are the Light of the World" & "We Three Kings"

450

You Are the Light of the World

Author Unknown Arranged by: Mitch Weinzetl 1





Text: John Henry Hopkins Jr., 1820–1891, alt. Music: THREE KINGS OF ORIENT. John Henry Hopkins Jr., 1820–1891 Introduce the Theme with Kids

Welcome, River Source, Clipboards

No Longer Strangers Prayer

God of the Stranger, You created us and the world good. You created people in your image. Help us to see the miracle of your love and presence in strangers and friends. Amen.

Meet Someone New

Worship Leader: 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.

"We Three Kings of Orient Are" to bring people back together.

Greeting

Wherever you are on your journey of faith, we believe that God meets you here. We gather in the name of the infinite giving and receiving 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.

Dear faithful God,

We have not loved you with all of our hearts.

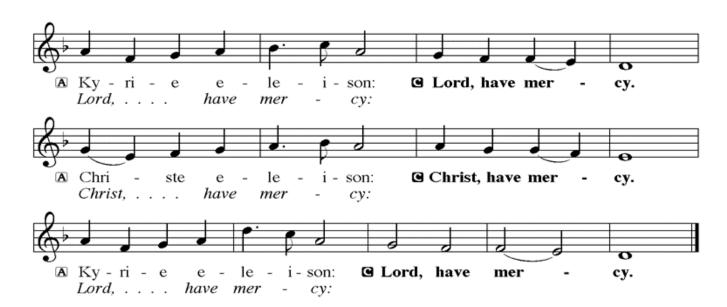
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We deny your goodness, your presence, your light in others and ourselves.

We put distance between us when we fail to respond to someone who is hurting.

We pretend that love is weak and that the little things don't matter. We are sure that someone else knows better or will take care of it. We don't treat creation as good but as something to use and abuse. We destroy your created beauty out of ignorance and greed. We act as if we are not responsible. We fail to respond to your call to do justice. We seek our own comfort. We live like your teaching doesn't matter compared to what the world teaches us. We are certain that we can save ourselves. Dear Sisters and Brothers,

We believe in a God who is good and who created us good. Jesus Christ, the light of the world, is the one who makes us new, reminds us of our goodness from God. Children of God, you are loved, you are forgiven, today and every day. Let us rejoice in this good news! **Thank you, God!**



KYRIE ELEISON - "Lord, Have Mercy"





Prayer of the Day

O Lord,

Even when crowds were pressing upon you, you still sought time to pray. Bring us back to the silence of our hearts, so that we too may be refreshed by your spirit. Amen.

THE STORY

Narrator: Our story and God's story continues today, with a reading from Matthew 2:1-12

ALL: Glory to you, O Lord.

- Narrator: In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage."
- Side 1: When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him,
- Side 2: "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel."
- Side 1: Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage."
- Side 2: When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped they were overwhelmed with joy.
- **Narrator:** On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.
- Narrator: Stay tuned for the continuing story that is our story and God's story. The Word of God.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Sermon –

Hymn – "Bright and Glorious Is the Sky"

Bright and Glorious Is the Sky



- 5 Guided by the star, they found him whose praise the ages sound. We too have a star to guide us, which forever will provide us with the light to find our Lord, with the light to find our Lord.
- 6 And this star, as bright as day, that will never lead astray with its message so appealing, is the Word of God, revealing Christ, the way, the truth, the life, Christ, the way, the truth, the life.

Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. Jens Christian Aaberg, 1877–1970, alt. Music: DEJLIG ER DEN HIMMEL BLÅ, Danish, 19th cent. Text © 1958 Service Book and Hymnal, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

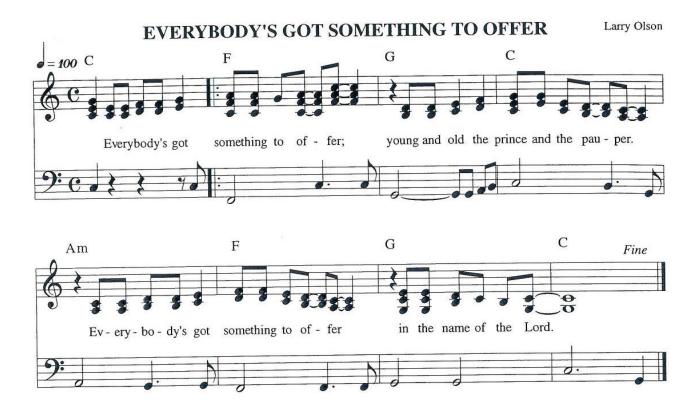
Prayers of the People

Reader: Lord, we are in need of your mercy. All: hear our prayer

Offering

Worship Leader: We are grateful for your financial gifts; it's the only way churches are churches. Set up automatic giving by going to our website, riverofhopehutchinson.org click "give" & go from there.

Offering Song "Everybody's Got Something to Offer"



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.

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 that 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;

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.

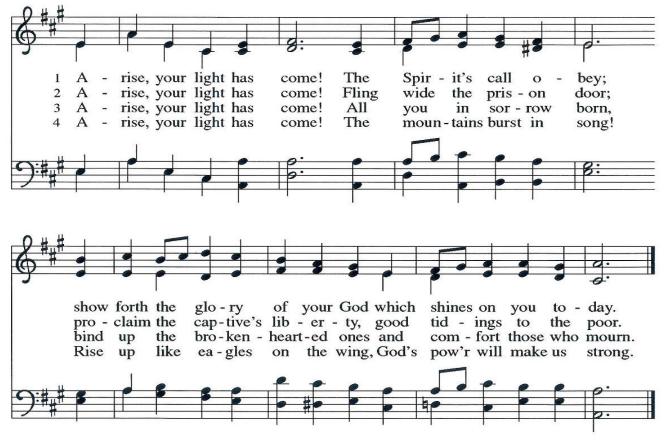
God so holy, full of grace, make the world a better place. Give us the food we need for today. Forgive us our wrongs when we go astray. Help us always to do good, and love others, like we should. God we love you; we are yours. Swing wide open heaven's doors. Amen.

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 "Arise, Your Light Has Come!" "What Star Is This"

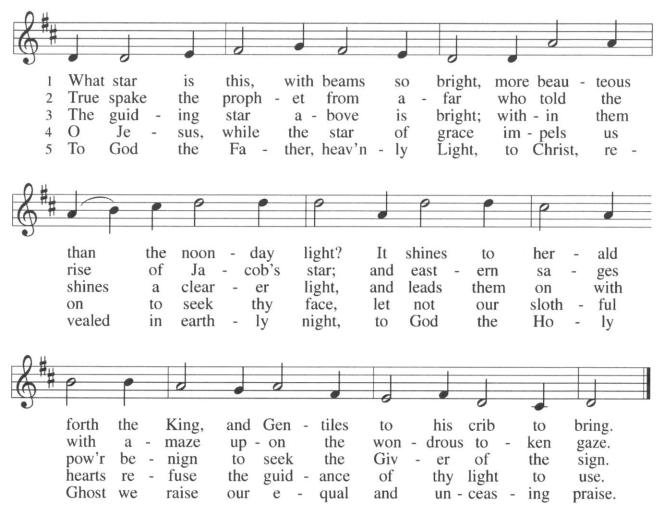
Arise, Your Light Has Come!



Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947 Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825–1893 Text © 1992 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638, www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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What Star Is This



Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1861, after John Chandler, 1807–1876, alt. Music: PUER NOBIS, adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621

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, My past, O Lord, I entrust to your mercy. My presence to your love. My future to your faithfulness. Thank you for this good gift of life. Amen.

THE SENDING

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

<mark>(Please Be Seated)</mark>

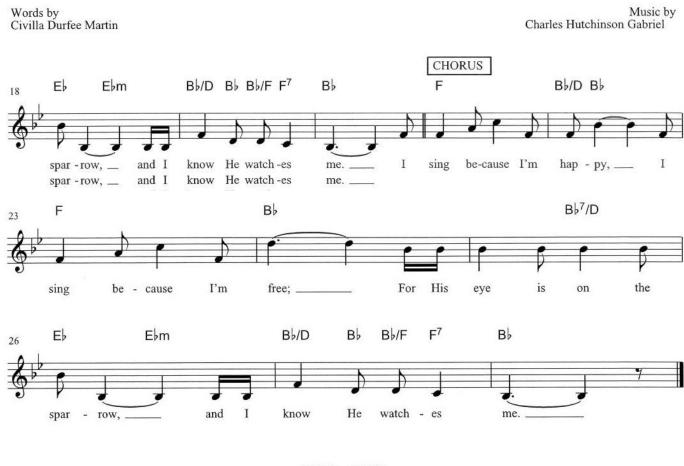
Purpose Sightings

Worship Leader: There are many opportunities to serve God and our neighbor – this is the time to lift those up!

MILESTONES! "His Eye Is On The Sparrow"

The congregation will sing before Milestones – CHORUS 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.



His Eye Is On The Sparrow

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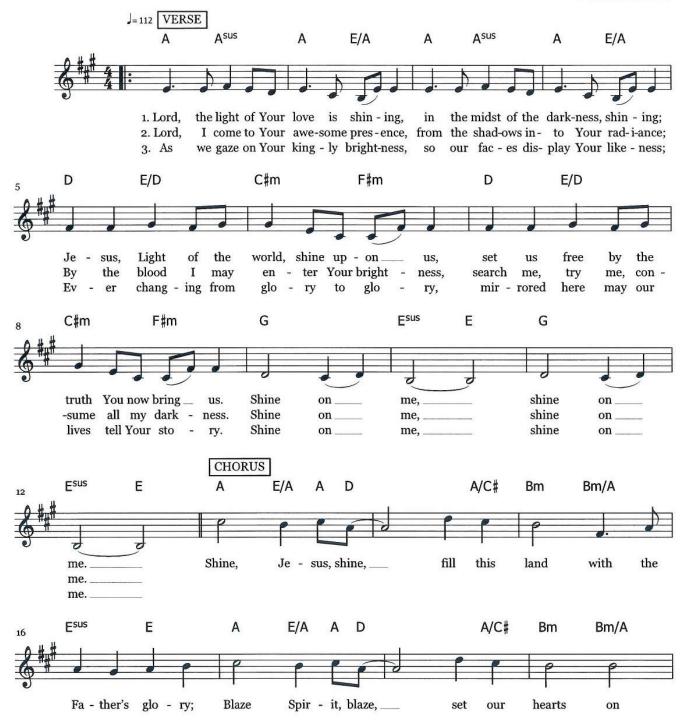
Final Blessing

May the light of Jesus show you the way; may the goodness of God be found every step of the way, and may God's Holy Spirit renew and inspire you. Remember, you are loved. Live in the promise of this never-ending love.

Sending Song "Shine Jesus Shine" (Kids are invited to come up and play an instrument)

Shine Jesus Shine

Words and Music by Graham Kendrick



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Music to Send You Out

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