

Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 22, 2024



"He measured six measures of barley." — *Amos* iii. 15.



www.riverofhopehutchinson.org
Worship on Facebook Premiere, Sundays at 10:30am

Gathering

Music to Prepare Us For Worship

Gathering Song "Messiah"

MESSIAH

Larry Olson

$\text{♩} = 110$

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.

Welcome * Welcome Pads * Post it Notes *

Wherever you are on your journey of faith, we believe God meets you right where you are, and you are welcome here.

Explanation of Christmas Trees – Jim and Lisa

Greeting

L: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the community of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

C: And also with you.

CRY MERCY

Larry Olson
Hans Peterson

Em Am D Em

Eyes of want and depths of need. Creeds of hate and piles of greed.
Worlds of hun - ger, miles of waste. Hearts of stone and lives of haste.
From the hurt we can't es - cape. We're con - nect - ed, bound by grace.

Em Am D B7₁.

Loss of truth and groans of pain. Voices cry for change.
Crimes of war and tears of grief. Voices of be -
Ev - 'ry col - or, young and old. Voices on the

B7 2. 3. Em Cmaj7 F#m7

lief. Cry mer - cy, your touch I need. Cry
road.

Em Cmaj7 F#m7 Em

mer - cy, oh, hear my plea. Cry mer - cy,

Cmaj7 F#m7 Am7 B9 Em 1. 3. Fine

oh, oh, oh, oh. Cry mer - cy.

2. D G D/F# Em7 D

We need your love, now is the time. We

Cmaj7 F#m7 B9 D.S. al Fine

need your bread, your liv - ing wine. Cry

Contemporary Gathering Words

(inspired by Ruth 1 and Mark 12)

Pastor: Here in this place, there are no foreigners,

All: for all are welcome in God's house.

Pastor: Here in this worship, there is only acceptance,

All: for love is the language of faith.

Pastor: Here in our lives, there are no divisions,

All: for God dwells in each of us.

Come, let us worship in unity and love.

*~ Adapted from The Abingdon Worship Annual 2012, © 2011 Abingdon Press. Posted on the **Ministry Matters** website. <http://www.ministrymatters.com/>*

Greet Someone New

Music to Bring Us Back Together: "Messiah" chorus

Children's Time / Lighting of the Advent Candle

Song Leaders: Change words of the next song to:

1. "He came down that we may have **Hope**"
2. "He came down that we may have **Love**"
3. "He came down that we may have **Joy**"
4. "He came down that we may have **Peace**"

He Came Down

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;

Text: Cameroon traditional

Music: HE CAME DOWN, Cameroon traditional; arr. John L. Bell, b. 1949

Arr. © 1986 Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.

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THE STORY

Narrator One: *You are invited to follow along in your Bibles as we hear our story and God's story continue today with a reading from the book of Ruth chapter 4.*

(Narrator): No sooner had Boaz gone up to the gate and sat down there than the next-of-kin of whom Boaz had spoken came passing by. So Boaz said,

(Boaz): "Come over; sit down here."

(Narrator): And he went over and sat down. Then Boaz took ten men of the elders of the town and said,

(Boaz): "Sit down here,"

(Narrator): so they sat down. He then said to the next-of-kin,

(Boaz): "Naomi, who has come back from the country of Moab, is selling the parcel of land that belonged to our kinsman Elimelech. So I thought I would tell you of it and say: Buy it in the presence of those sitting here and in the presence of the elders of my people. If you will redeem it, redeem it; but if you will not, tell me, so that I may know; for there is no one prior to you to redeem it, and I come after you."

(Narrator): So he said, "I will redeem it." Then Boaz said,

(Boaz): "The day you acquire the field from the hand of Naomi, you are also acquiring Ruth the Moabite, the widow of the dead man, to maintain the dead man's name on his inheritance."

(Narrator): At this, the next-of-kin said,

(Reader 3): "I cannot redeem it for myself without damaging my own inheritance. Take my right of redemption yourself, for I cannot redeem it."

(Narrator): Now this was the custom in former times in Israel concerning redeeming and exchanging to confirm a transaction: the

one took off a sandal and gave it to the other; this was the manner of attesting in Israel. So when the next-of-kin said to Boaz, "Acquire it for yourself," he took off his sandal. Then Boaz said to the elders and all the people,

(Boaz): "You are witnesses today that I have acquired from the hand of Naomi all that belonged to Elimelech and all that belonged to Chilion and Mahlon. I have also acquired Ruth the Moabite, the wife of Mahlon, to be my wife, to maintain the dead man's name on his inheritance, in order that the name of the dead may not be cut off from his kindred and from the gate of his native place; today you are witnesses."

(Narrator): Then all the people who were at the gate, along with the elders, said,

(Reader 3): "We are witnesses. May the Lord make the woman who is coming into your house like Rachel and Leah, who together built up the house of Israel. May you produce children in Ephrathah and bestow a name in Bethlehem; and, through the children that the Lord will give you by this young woman, may your house be like the house of Perez, whom Tamar bore to Judah."

(Narrator): So Boaz took Ruth, and she became his wife. When they came together, the Lord made her conceive, and she bore a son. Then the women said to Naomi,

(Reader 4): "Blessed be the Lord, who has not left you this day without next-of-kin, and may his name be renowned in Israel! He shall be to you a restorer of life and a nourisher of your old age, for your daughter-in-law who loves you, who is more to you than seven sons, has borne him."

(Narrator): Then Naomi took the child and laid him in her bosom and became his nurse. The women of the neighborhood gave him a name, saying,

(Reader 4): "A son has been born to Naomi."

(Narrator): They named him Obed; he became the father of Jesse, the father of David. Now these are the descendants of Perez: Perez

became the father of Hezron, Hezron of Ram, Ram of Amminadab, Amminadab of Nahshon, Nahshon of Salmon, Salmon of Boaz, Boaz of Obed, Obed of Jesse, and Jesse of David.

(Narrator): Stay tuned for the continuing saga that is our story and God's story.

(ALL): Thanks be to God.

SERMON - Pastor Andy Evenson

Song of the Day – “Joyous Light of Heavenly Glory”

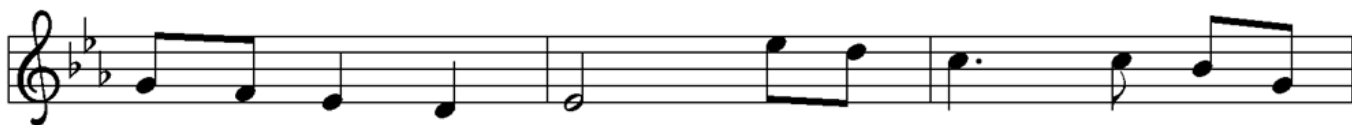
Joyous Light of Heavenly Glory



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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Prayers for the World

Together we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need. Congregational response: Sing...

Hope in the Lord Prayer Response

Hans Peterson & Larry Olson
with members of
Faith Lutheran, Glen Ellyn, IL

Dm C Bb C Gm7 Am7 Dm

Hope in the Lord! Be strong, take cour - age. We find our hope in you.

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Hope in the Lord! Be strong, take cour - age. We
find our hope in you.

THE OFFERING

Thank you for your continued generosity and for all the ways you support God's ministry here at River of Hope. You can contact the church office and sign up for simply giving or give online or drop a check off at the church office. The watering can during December is "Operation Hope". Any children willing to help are Invited to meet Pastor Hans in the back to bring forth the Communion elements.

Offering special Music: Piano students
(Joy to the World – Hilde Evenson)

Offering Song "Come Thou Long Expected Jesus"

Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

Words by
Charles Wesley

Music by
Rowland Hugh Prichard

VERSE

$\text{♩} = 90$ F C F B \flat /F F C Dm C F/A C7/G F F/A B \flat C

1. Come, Thou long - ex - spect - ed Je - sus, born to set Thy peo - ple
2. Born Thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and yet a

8 F F C F B \flat /F F C Dm C F/A C7/G F F/A

free; From our fears and sins re - lease us, let us find our
King; Born to reign in us for - ev - er, now Thy gra - cious

15 B \flat C F Am Dm Gm C

rest in Thee. Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion,
king - dom bring. By Thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it

21 F Dm Gm Csus C F/A F B \flat /F C/E F G7/D

hope of all the earth Thou art; Dear de - sire of ev' - ry
rule in all our hearts a - lone; By Thine all - suf - fi - cient

28 C/E F F/A B \flat F/C C7 F

na - tion, joy of ev' - ry long - ing heart.
mer - it, raise us to Thy glo - rious throne.

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The Feast

(Pastor Hans): Setting the Table

the children lead us as we say together:

**Gracious God, we thank you for the food before us;
the family beside us; the love between us;
and your presence among us.
Amen.**

Thanksgiving at the Table

The Lord is with you

And also with you

Lift up your hearts!

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

As we gather in this place, we remember, that 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." Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray;

The Lord's Prayer

(Leader): *Our Creator, our Mother,*

(ALL): 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. Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us...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.

This is Christ's table. It's a table of love and welcome. It's a table of fellowship with the poor and communion with the earth.

So, come, those of you with great faith and those of you who wish you had more. Come, those of you who have tried to follow Jesus and those of you who have failed. Come, those of you who depend on this meal for your lives, and those of you for whom it is a strange thing.

The gifts of God are...

(ALL): Free

Free indeed. And all are welcome to receive the sacrament.

Communion Songs: "I Wonder as I Wander" and "In the Bleak Midwinter"

I Wonder As I Wander

642

The musical score is presented in four systems, each with a treble and bass staff. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major/D minor). The lyrics are as follows:

1 I won - der as I wan - der, out un - der the sky, how
 2 When Mar - y birthed . . . Je - sus, all in a cow's stall, came
 3 If Je - sus had . . . want - ed for an - y wee thing, a
 4 I won - der as I wan - der, out un - der the sky, how

Je - sus the Sav - ior did come for to die for poor ord' - n'ry peo - ple like
 wise men and farm - ers and shep - herds and all, and high from the heav - ens a
 star in the sky or a bird on the wing, or all of God's an - gels in
 Je - sus the Sav - ior did come for to die for poor ord' - n'ry peo - ple like

you and like I. I won - der as I wan - der, out un - der the sky.
 star's light did fall; the prom - ise of the a - ges it then did re - call.
 heav'n for to sing, he sure - ly could have had it, 'cause he was the king.
 you and like I. I won - der as I wan - der, out un - der the sky.

Chords indicated above the treble staff include: Gm, Cm, Gm7, D7, Gm, Gm, Cm, Gm7, G7, Gm, Cm9, Gm, Cm.

In the Bleak Midwinter

1 In the bleak mid - win - ter, frost - y wind made moan,
 2 Heav - en can - not hold him, nor . . . earth sus - tain;
 3 What . . . can I give him, poor . . . as I am?

earth stood hard as i - ron, wa - ter like a stone;
 heav'n and earth shall flee a - way when he comes to reign;
 If I were a shep - herd I would bring a lamb;

snow had fall - en, snow on snow, snow on snow,
 in the bleak mid - win - ter a sta - ble place suf - ficed
 if I were a wise . . . man I would do my part;

in the bleak mid - win - ter, long a - go.
 the Lord . . . God al - might - y, Je - sus Christ.
 yet what I can I give him— give my heart.

Blessing after Communion

Now may the body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in God's grace. **Amen.**

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray: Gracious God,
in this meal you have drawn us
to your heart, and nourished us at your table.

By your Holy Spirit, enliven us to be your body in the world, that we may show Christ's love to all people. Amen.

The Sending

Why does our church exist? What is our purpose?

We go out to transform lives through Jesus Christ.

Purpose Sightings

MILESTONES! Sing "Light of the World" vs. 1

It's time for sharing milestones - a time where we join together as a community to share the big, small, good, and hard milestones in our life.

E^b A^b E^b A^b E^b

You are the light _____ of the world. _____
 You are a cit - y on a hill. _____
 You are a can - dle in the dark. _____

You are the light
 You are a cit -
 You are a can _____

6 A^b B^b sus4 B^b E^b A^b

_____ of the world _____
 - y on a hill _____
 - dle in the dark _____

so shine, shine,
 so shine, shine,
 so shine, shine,

11 E^b B^b/D C m E^b A^b E^b A^b

shine where you are. _____
 shine where you are. _____
 shine where you are. _____

You are the light _____ of the world. _____
 You are a cit - y on a hill. _____
 You are a can - dle in the dark. _____

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BLESSING

“Prayer of Good Courage”

Text adapted from the Lutheran Book of Worship © 1978 Augsburg Fortress Press

Music by Kent Gustavson © 2002 Kent Gustavson www.kentgustavson.com

Taken from "Mountain Vespers", an evening prayer service dedicated to Holden Village www.holdenvillage.org

first time through **L:**
cond time through **C:**

O God, You have called us to ventures where we can not see the

end, By paths ne-ver yet tak en, Through per ils un known.

Give us good cour-age Not know ing where we go, To

know that your hand is lead-ing us Wher ever we might go.

A - - - men.

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a common time signature (C). It consists of five staves of music. Above the first staff are three guitar chord diagrams for A, D, and A. Above the second staff are five diagrams for D, A, D, Bm, and E, with a triplet bracket over the second D. Above the third staff are four diagrams for F#m, D, A, and E. Above the fourth staff are four diagrams for F#m, D, A, and E. Above the fifth staff are three diagrams for G, D, and A. The lyrics are placed below the notes of each staff. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

Sending Song: “Soon and Very Soon”

(Invite children of all ages to come forward and play percussion during the Sending Song)

Soon and Very Soon



1 Soon and ver - y soon
2 No more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,
3 No more dy - in' there,
4 Soon and ver - y soon



soon and ver - y soon
no more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,
no more dy - in' there,
soon and ver - y soon



soon and ver - y soon
no more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King.
no more dy - in' there,
soon and ver - y soon

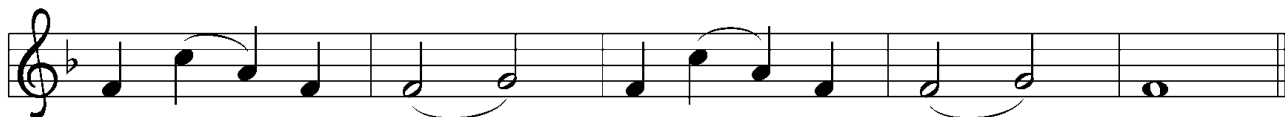


Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, we're goin' to see the King!

Coda after stanza 4



Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu -



jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah.

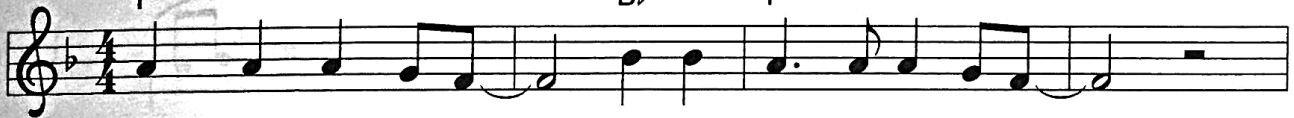
Text: Andraé Crouch, b. 1945

Music: VERY SOON, Andraé Crouch

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Capo 3: D
F



1 Soon and ver - y soon
2 No more cry - in' there,
3 No more dy - in' there,
4 Soon and ver - y soon

G B♭ D F
we are goin' to see the King,

A C



soon and ver - y soon
no more cry - in' there,
no more dy - in' there,
soon and ver - y soon

D F
we are goin' to see the King,

G B♭ D F



soon and ver - y soon
no more cry - in' there,
no more dy - in' there,
soon and ver - y soon

we are goin' to see the King.

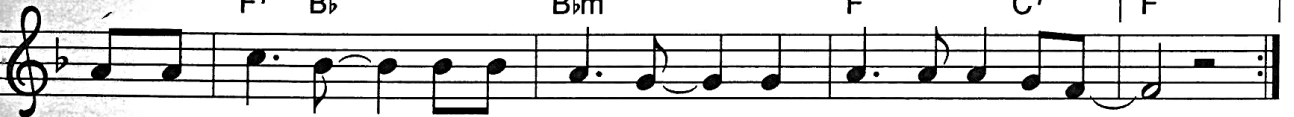
D7 G F7 B♭

Gm B♭m

D F

A7 C7

1, 2, 3
D F



Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, we're goin' to see the King!

Coda after stanza 4

D F

E G

A7 C7

D F

E G

A7 C7



Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu -

D F

E G

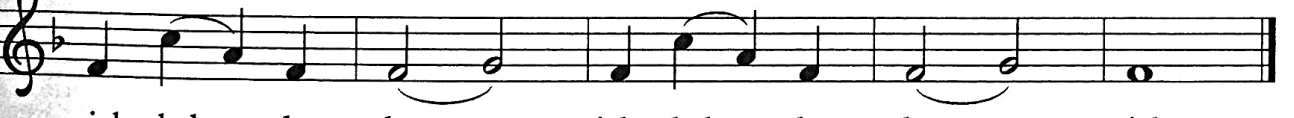
A7 C7

D F

E G

A7 C7

D F



jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah.

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God

Music to Send You Out

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