WE are **Christ Lutheran Church (ELCA)**

918 South Litchfield Road, Goodyear, AZ
Office: 623-932-2394
Website: www.christgoodyear.org
Pastor Jeff Hackler (314)378-1330

WELCOME TO ALL WHO WORSHIP WITH US TODAY.
We welcome all visitors this morning to our service of Word and Sacrament. ALL are invited to receive the bread and the wine. Please know that at CELC this common meal is for all who feel moved to receive. This sacrament is God's gift to all, and is not tied to membership, doctrine or creed.

1st Sunday of Advent

November 29, 2026
9:00am

-WE WAIT FOR THE COMING OF OUR LORD-

The Gathering

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

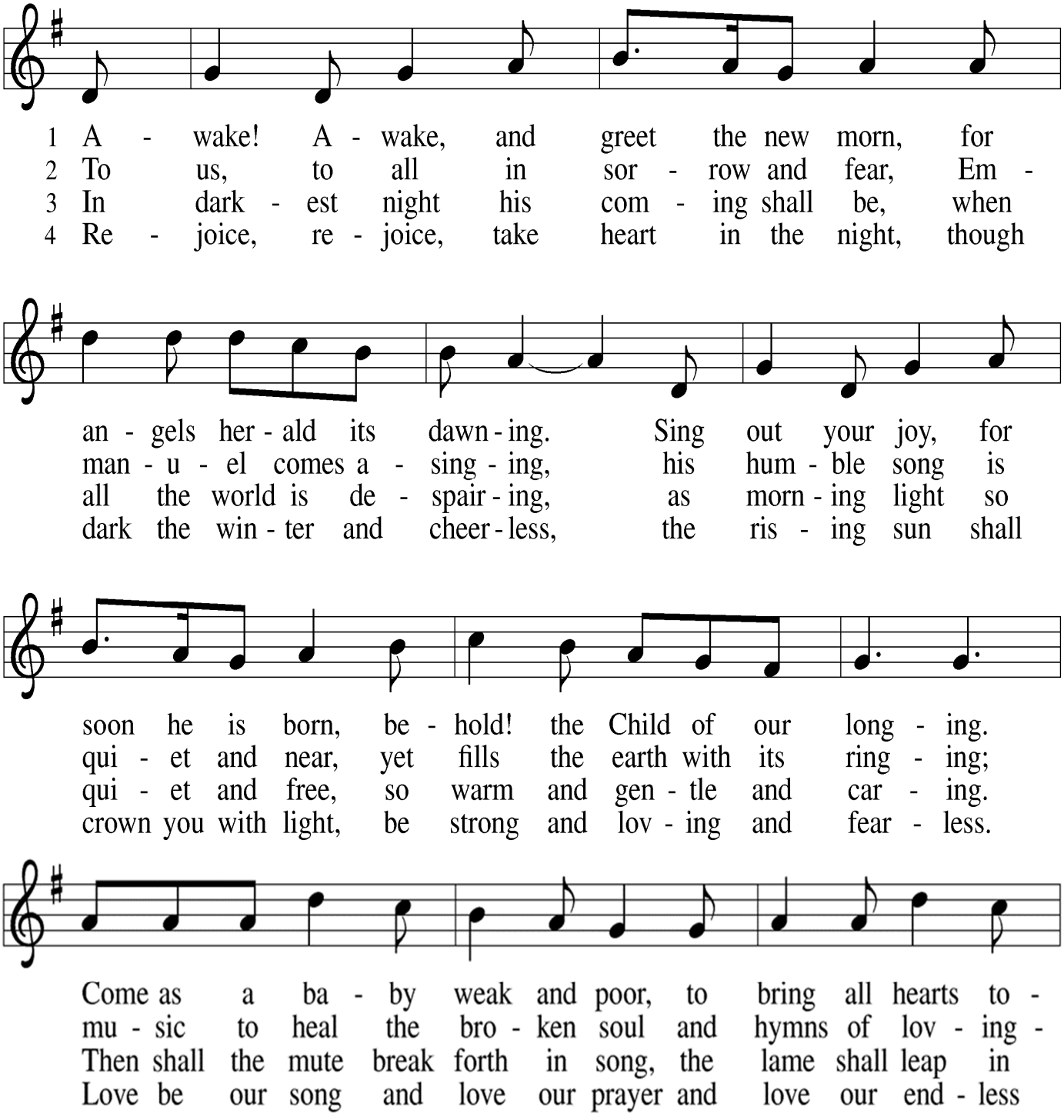
LITANY & LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

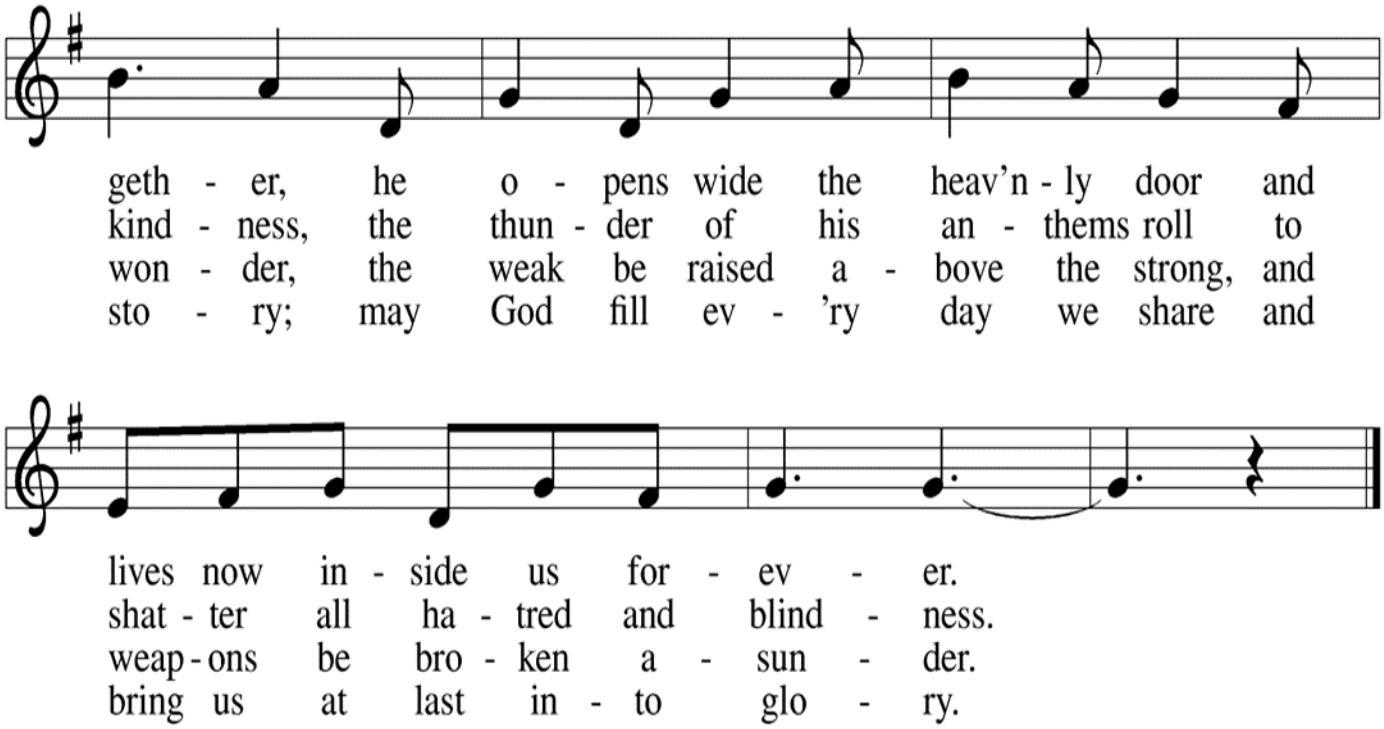
P: We gather on this first Sunday of Advent, carrying our hopes, fears, and longings into the season of waiting.
C: A thirst for joy, a hunger for peace, and a deep yearning for God's promise.
Even in the shadows and uncertainty of the world, a steady light calls us forward. We watch and wait for Christ, trusting in the hope that God makes all things new.
Come, Lord Jesus, prepare our hearts and guide us in your light

*Candle lighting (**Choir sings "Advent's Holy Light")***

A Praise to you, O God, our salvation who is near. You hold us in our waiting and keep us awake to the world. You show up in our lives at unexpected times. Bless us as we light this candle to keep vigil for your arrival. We trust that even though we do not know the day or the hour, hurry to gather all people to your peace**. Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN ELW 242 *"AWAKE! AWAKE, AND GREET THE NEW MORN"* VS. 1, 2, & 4





PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND RESTORATION (excerpt from Iona Abbey Worship)

(All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.)

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
whose home is heaven and earth,
whose salvation is sure. **Amen.**

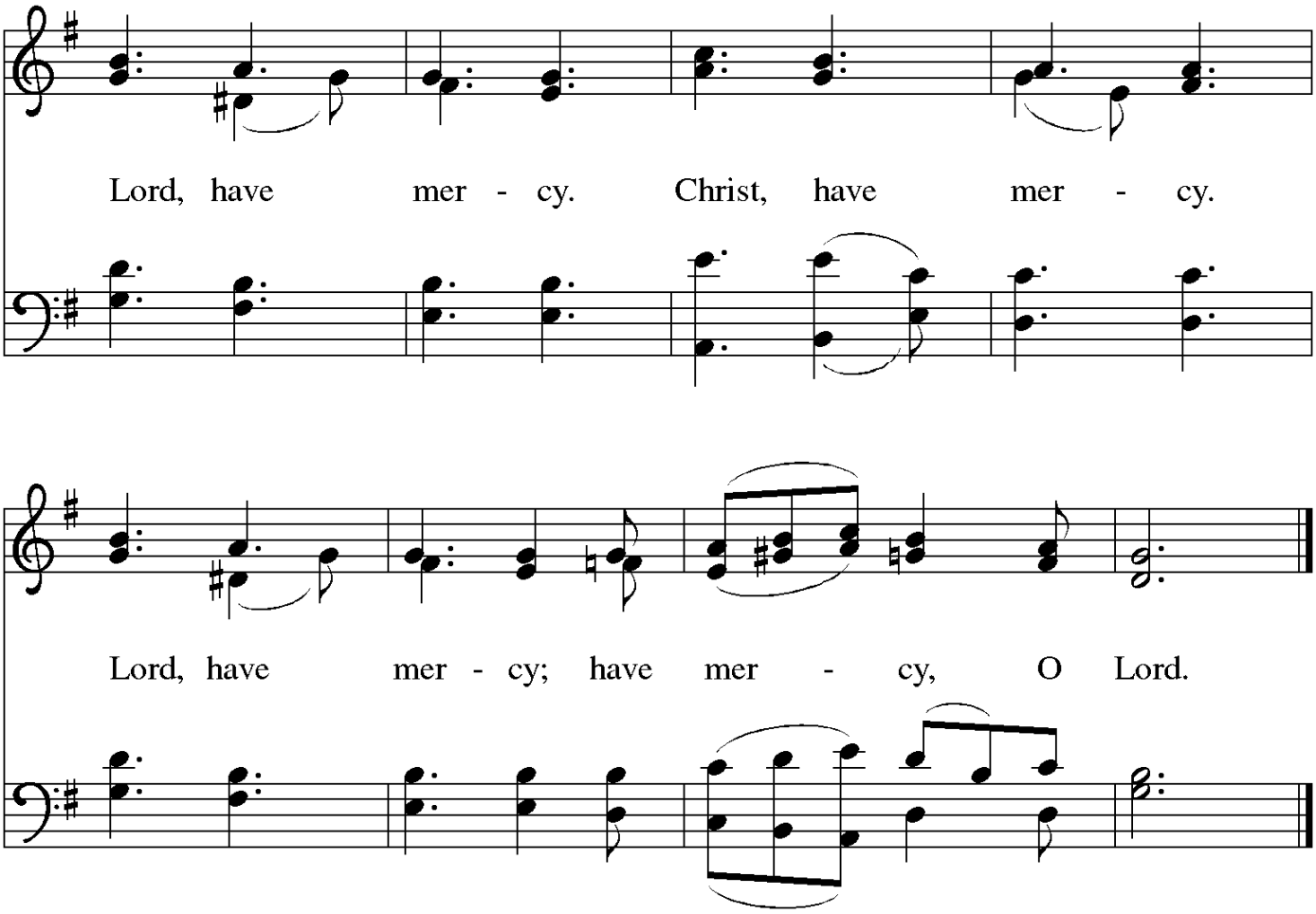
Let us confess our sin in the presence of God
and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection

Comforting God,
we are your people,
but we have neglected to call on your name.
We are your people,
but we have not remembered your ways.
We are your people,
but we have forgotten your hold on us.
We are your people,
but now we fade like a leaf,
and our sins, like the wind, take us away.
Restore us as your people.
Cleanse us from our sin,

and clothe us in your righteousness. Amen.

God judges us not as we deserve,
but according to God's own righteousness.
☩ You are freed and forgiven,
saved by grace,
and ready to welcome the Savior. **Amen.**



PASTORAL GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

Let us pray.
Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

[Congregation is seated.]

The Word

FIRST READING: ISAIAH 64:1-9

This lament comes from a people who have had their hopes shattered. The visions of a rebuilt Jerusalem and a renewed people of God, spoken of in Isaiah 40–55, have not been realized. Instead, the people experience ruin, conflict, and famine. This lament calls God to account—to be the God who has brought deliverance in the past.

1 O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—
2 as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil—
to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!
3 When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down; the mountains quaked at your presence.
4 From ages past no one has heard,
no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you,
who works for those who wait for him.
5 You meet those who gladly do right,
those who remember you in your ways.
But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed.
6 We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.
We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
7 There is no one who calls on your name
or attempts to take hold of you,
for you have hidden your face from us
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.
8 Yet, O Lord, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.
9 Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord,
and do not remember iniquity forever.
Now consider, we are all your people.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: PSALM 80:1-7, 17-19

Let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved. (Ps. 80:7)

1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
2 **In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh,**
stir up your strength and come to help us.
3 Restore us, O God;
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.
4 **O Lord God of hosts,**
how long will your anger fume when your people pray?
5 You have fed them with the bread of tears;
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
6 **You have made us the derision of our neighbors,**
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
7 Restore us, O God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.
17 **Let your hand be upon the one at your right hand,**
the one you have made so strong for yourself.
18 And so will we never turn away from you;
give us life, that we may call upon your name.
19 **Restore us, O Lord God of hosts;**
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

As the Christians in Corinth await the advent of Jesus, Paul reminds them how the Lord has already enriched them through spiritual gifts and will continue to strengthen them until the coming day of the Lord.

3 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

4 I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, 5 for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—6 just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—7 so that you are not lacking in any gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. 8 He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 God is faithful, by whom you were called into the partnership of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *'CAROL OF THE BELLS"*

Refrain: Alleluia! Alleluia!

Verse: Wisdom of God, show us the way,
Come then O Lord, do not delay.
Break ev'ry chain, You are the key.
You are our hope, come set us free.
Lift up your hands, lift up your voice,
Join in the dance, hearts will rejoice.
People of God, silent no more,
Sing out your song: "Jesus is Lord!"

GOSPEL: Mark 13:24-37

Jesus encourages his followers to look forward to the day when he returns in power and glory to end all suffering.

The holy gospel according to St. Mark, the 13th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] 24 "In those days, after that suffering,
the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light,
25 and the stars will be falling from heaven,
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.
26 "Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory.
27 Then he will send out the angels and gather the elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

28 "From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. 29 So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. 30 Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. 31 Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

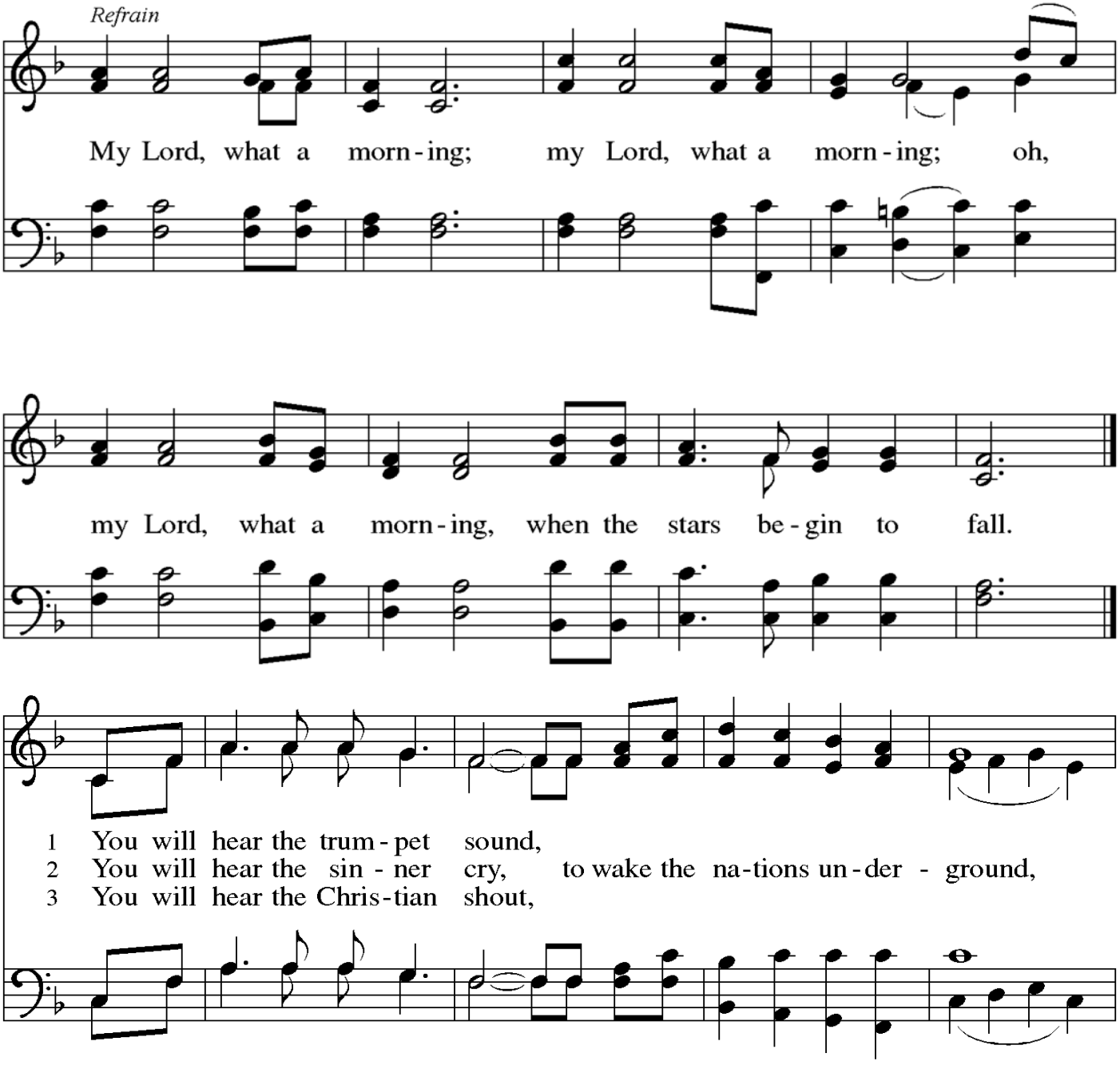
32 "But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven nor the Son, but only the Father. 33 Beware, keep alert, for you do not know when the time will come.

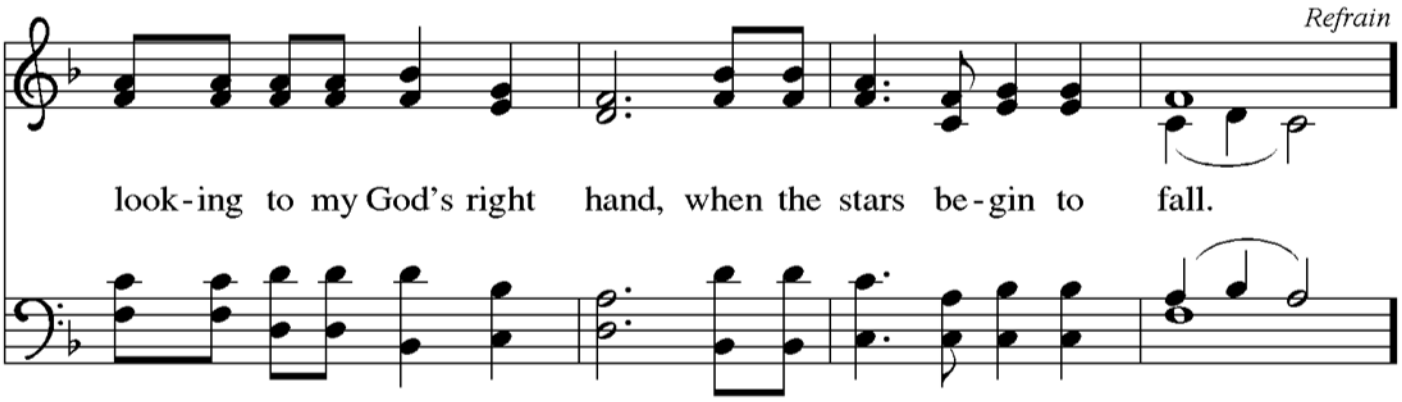
34 It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. 35 Therefore, keep awake, for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening or at midnight or at cockcrow or at dawn, 36 or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. 37 And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON: PASTOR JEFF

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 438 *"MY LORD WHAT A MORNING"*





PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A In hope and expectation, we bring to God our prayers for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Strengthen your church in this season of anticipation. Nourish all people who gather around word and water, bread and cup. Reassure any whose faith feels dry that you are always near. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Come and restore the earth. Give rest to weary lands and renewed life to species at risk. Make us wise stewards of the places we call home. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Bring peace among all nations and communities. Embolden leaders to seek creative and sustainable resolutions to war and conflict. Show us new possibilities in places where peace has been elusive (*especially*). God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Sustain all who are heavy with weariness, grief, illness, or worry (*especially*). Comfort families who are estranged from one another and any who are separated from loved ones. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Inspire liturgists, preachers, musicians, and all who lead our worship and prayer. May we be prepared as we await Christ's coming this Advent season. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

P: We entrust these and the prayers of our hearts to you, most holy God, in the name of Christ Jesus our Savior. **Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The Meal

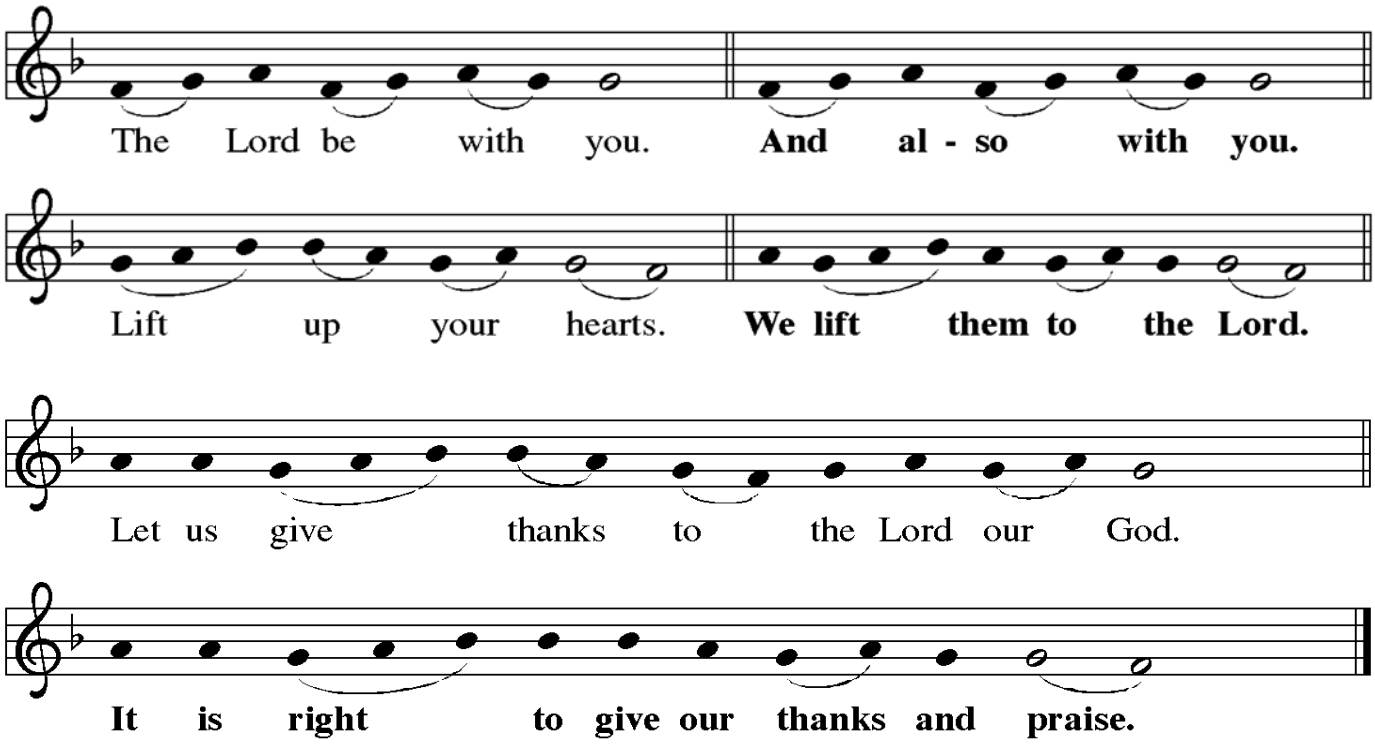
OFFERTORY / OFFERTORY *"CHRIST BE IN MY WAKING"* ARR. BY LARRY SHACKLEY

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Holy Creator,

we are the clay and you are the potter;
we are all the work of your hand.
Receive these gifts, shape them and our lives for your purpose,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, you have brought us this far along the way. In times of bitterness, you did not abandon us but guided us into the path of love and light. In every age you sent prophets to make known your loving will for all humanity. The cry of the poor has become your own cry; our hunger and thirst for justice is your own desire. In the fullness of time, you sent your chosen servant to preach good news to the afflicted, to break bread with the

outcast and despised, and to ransom those in bondage to prejudice and sin.

[THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE]

P on the night before he died…

Again, after supper …

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

Remembering therefore, his death and resurrection, we await the day when Jesus shall return to free all the earth from the bonds of slavery and death. **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Send your Holy Spirit, our advocate, to fill the heats of all who share this bread and cup with courage and wisdom to pursue love and justice in all the world. **Come, Spirit of freedom!**

Join our prayers and praise with your prophets and martyrs if every age, that, rejoicing in the hope of the resurrection, we might live in the freedom and hope of your Son. **Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

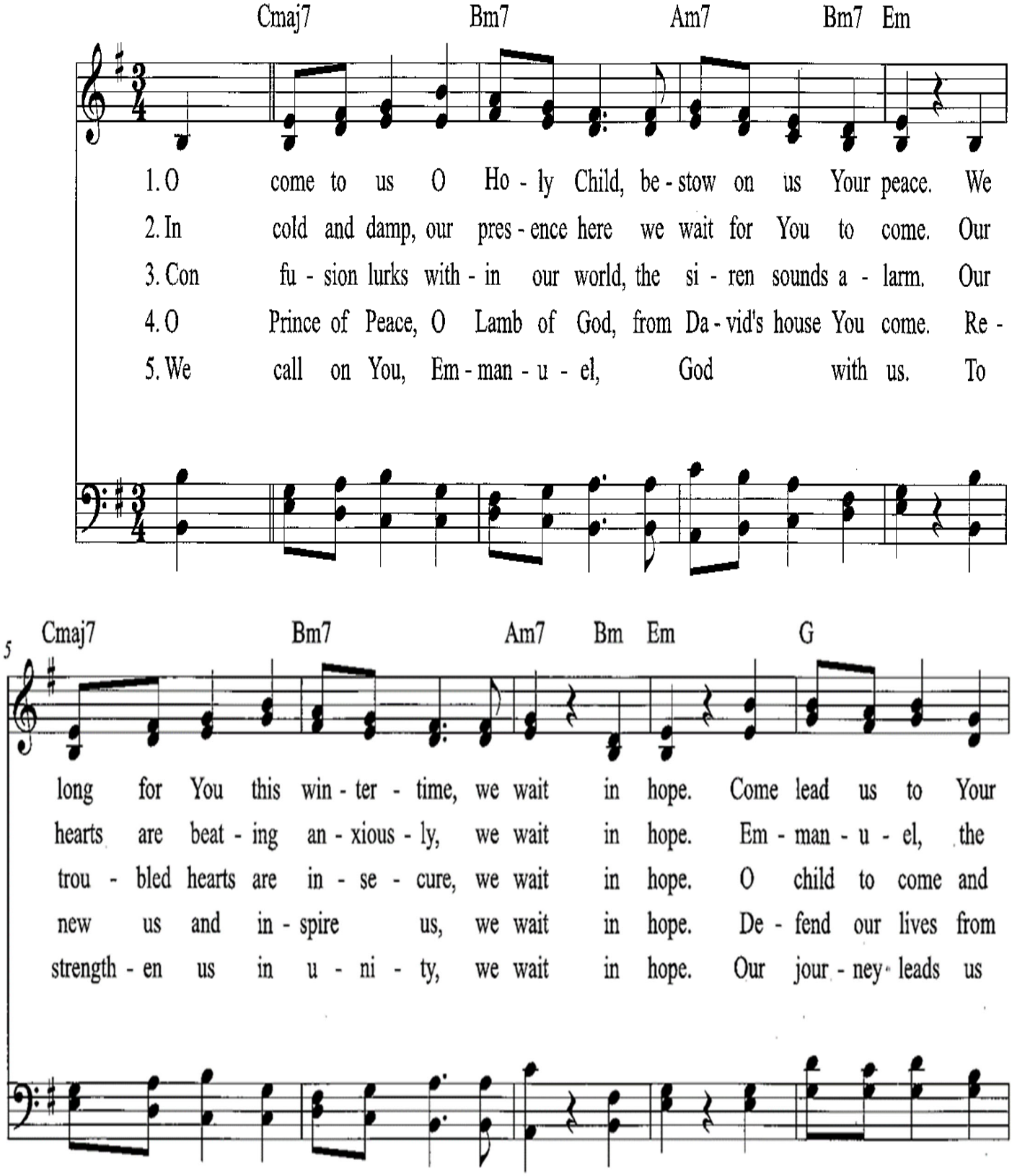
Here is life. God is with us.
Come, receive what God has promised.

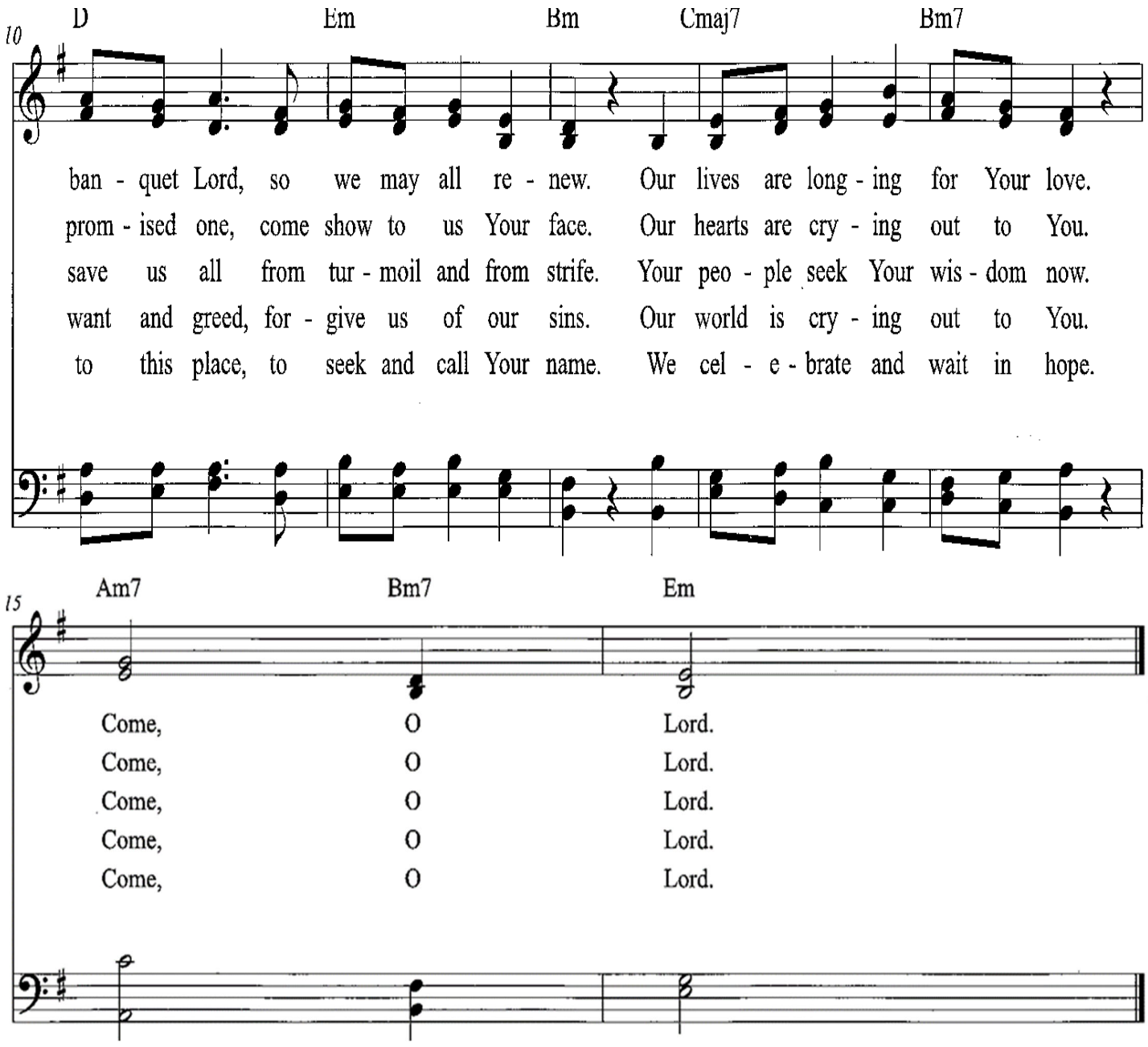
LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
Have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

Grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION SONG : *"O COME TO US O HOLY CHILD"*





PASTORAL BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Providing God,
you feed your flock like a shepherd
and gather your people in your arms.
We praise you for the care and sustenance
you give at this meal and always.
As we leave your table, carry us near your heart,

and send us with confidence in the way
of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

The Sending

BENEDICTION

P May God be with you as you keep watch for the One whose Advent is promised. **Amen**
May God embolden your witness to Christ's coming and so prepare his way. **Amen**
And may God almighty, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen**

SENDING HYMN: ELW 815 *"I WANT TO WALK AS A CHILD OF THE LIGHT"*

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Bring good news to the brokenhearted.
Thanks be to God.

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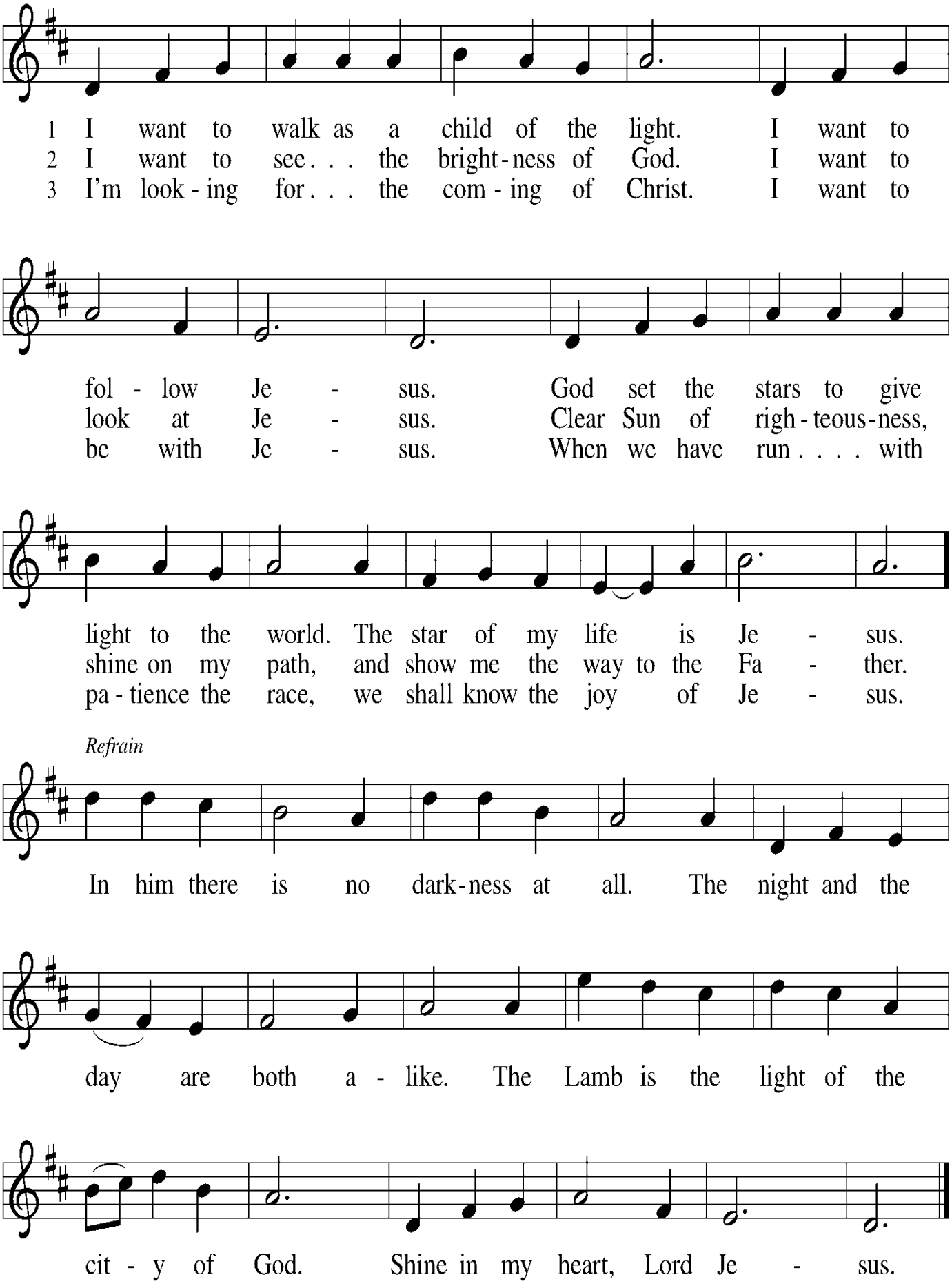
1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to
2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to
3 I'm look-ing for . . . the com-ing of Christ. I want to
fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give
look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ-teous-ness,
be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . . with
light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.
shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.
pa-tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.
Refrain
In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the
day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the
cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.