



ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

**The First Sunday of Advent
November 29 and 30, 2025**



Our Mission: To know Christ and to make Christ known.

Our Vision: To follow Christ's teaching in an atmosphere of love, joy, and healing.

All are welcome!

***We are so glad you are here today to
celebrate with us the day of the Lord!***

Please respect those who seek time for quiet reflection before worship begins and while listening to the prelude.

Guests, friends, and family, we would like to know you. Please fill out a Let's Get Acquainted card to introduce yourself to us. Let us know how the people of St. Luke's can serve you and your family. Flyers about St. Luke's are available in the entry hall.

Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that we are on the ancestral and unceded lands of the Indigenous peoples of this region. This includes the Yavapai people, specifically the Yavapai-Prescott Indian Tribe and the Yavapai-Apache Nation, as well as the Hualapai Tribe, whose historical and cultural ties to this territory are enduring. We honor the original stewards of this land, who have resided here, and their deep connection to the earth, the water, and all living things. We pledge to honor Indigenous sovereignty, listen to Indigenous voices, and work toward a more just and equitable future in partnership with Native peoples.

The First Sunday of Advent

The Bell

Calls us to Worship

Prelude

Gathering H74

Blest be the King

Blest be the King whose coming

The Hymnal 1982, #74

Descant

3 Blest be the King whose com - ing is in the name of

1 Blest be the King whose com - ing is in the name of
 2 Blest be the King whose com - ing is in the name of
 3 Blest be the King whose com - ing is in the name of
 4 Blest be the King whose com - ing is in the name of

God! He on - ly to the hum - ble re - veals the face of

God! For him let doors be o - pened, no hearts a - gainst him
 By those who tru - ly lis - ten his voice is tru - ly
 God! He on - ly to the hum - ble re - veals the face of
 God! He of - fers to the bur - dened the rest and grace they

God. All power is his, all glo - ry! All

barred! Not robed in roy - al splen - dor, in
 heard; pi - ty the proud and haugh - ty, who
 God. All power is his, all glo - ry! All
 need. Gen - tle is he and hum - ble! And

things are in his hand, all a - ges and all

power and pomp, comes he; but clad as are the
have not learned to heed the Christ who is the
things are in his hand, all a - ges and all
light his yoke shall be, for he would have us

peo - ples, till time it - self shall end!

poor - est, such his hu - mil - i - ty!
Prom - ise, who has a - tone - ment made.
peo - ples, till time it - self shall end!
bear it so he can make us free!

Words: Federico J. Pagura (b. 1923); tr. Fred Pratt Green (1903-2000), alt. Copyright © 1974, by Hope Publishing company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission. Harmonization Copyright © 1984, Ronald Arnatt. Music: *Valet will ich dir geben*, melody Melchior Teschner (1584-1635) alt.; harm. and desc. Ronald Arnatt (b. 1930).

Acclamation

Celebrant Blessed are you, holy and living One.

People You come to you people and set them free.

WE CONFESS & RECEIVE ABSOLUTION

Celebrant Jesus said, "The first command is this: "Hear, O Israel: The Lord your God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these." (Mark 12:29-31) Therefore, let us confess our sins to God.

All **God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.**

Celebrant Almighty God, have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

KYRIE ELEISON

Sing 3 times

Lord, have mercy: *Kyrie - Threefold*

Enriching Our Music, #58



Setting: William Bradley Roberts, from *Mass for St. Philip's*, © 1995 William Bradley Roberts.
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Please be seated

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

First Sunday In Advent

Celebrant The Gospel of John speaks of Christ as the true light coming into the world. In commemoration of that coming, we light candles for the four weeks leading to Christmas and reflect on the coming of Christ. It is significant that the church has always used that language--the *coming* of Christ--because it speaks to a deep truth. Christ IS coming. Christ IS ALWAYS coming, always entering a troubled world, a wounded heart. And so we light the first candle, the candle of HOPE, and dare to express our longing for peace, for healing and the well-being of all creation.

People **Loving God, as we enter this Advent season we open all the dark places in our lives and memories to the healing light of Christ. Show us the power of HOPE. Prepare our hearts to be transformed by you that we may walk in the light of Christ.**

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

The First Lesson

Isaiah 2:1-5

Lector Our first lesson is from the Prophet Isaiah

In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.' For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

People Thanks be to God!

Psalm 122

Let us read Psalm 122 together responsively by half verse.

1 I was glad when they said to me, *

"Let us go to the house of the Lord."

2 Now our feet are standing *

within your gates, O Jerusalem.

3 Jerusalem is built as a city *

that is at unity with itself;

4 To which the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, *

the assembly of Israel, to praise the Name of the Lord.

5 For there are the thrones of judgment, *
the thrones of the house of David.

6 Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: *
"May they prosper who love you.

7 Peace be within your walls *
and quietness within your towers.

8 For my brethren and companions' sake, *
I pray for your prosperity.

9 Because of the house of the Lord our God, *
I will seek to do you good."

The Second Lesson

Romans 13:11-14

Lector Our second lesson is from the Letter of Paul to
the Romans

You know what time it is, how it is now the moment for
you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us
now than when we became believers; the night is far
gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works
of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live
honorably as in the day, not in reveling and
drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not
in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord
Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to
gratify its desires.

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

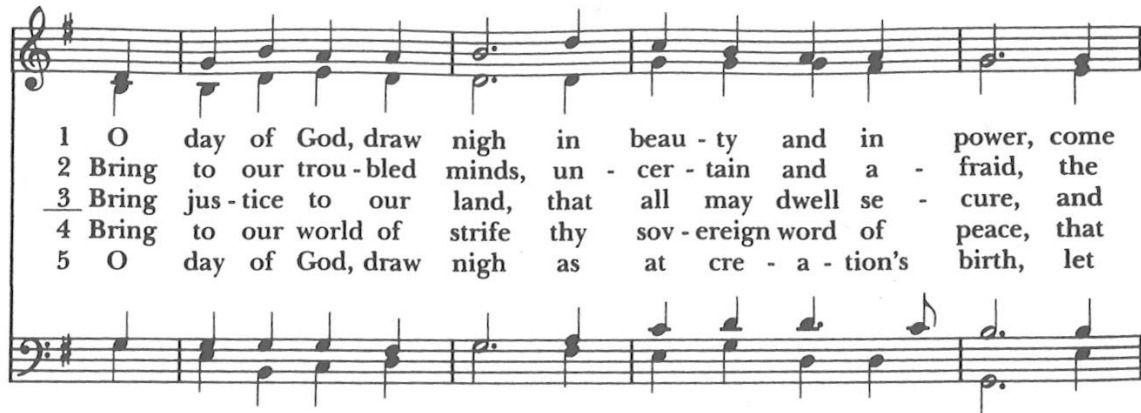
People Thanks be to God

Gospel Hymn H601 vs 1-2

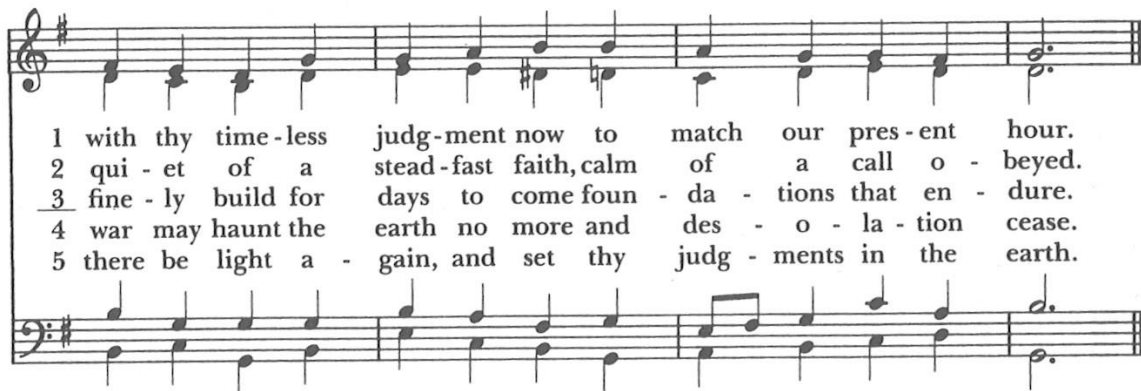
O day of God

601

Christian Responsibility



1 O day of God, draw nigh in beau - ty and in power, come
2 Bring to our trou - bled minds, un - cer - tain and a - fraid, the
3 Bring jus - tice to our land, that all may dwell se - cure, and
4 Bring to our world of strife thy sov - ereign word of peace, that
5 O day of God, draw nigh as at cre - a - tion's birth, let



1 with thy time - less judg - ment now to match our pres - ent hour.
2 qui - et of a stead - fast faith, calm of a call o - beyed.
3 fine - ly build for days to come foun - da - tions that en - dure.
4 war may haunt the earth no more and des - o - la - tion cease.
5 there be light a - gain, and set thy judg - ments in the earth.

Words: Robert Balgarnie Young Scott (b. 1899)

Music: *St. Michael*, Louis Bourgeois (1510?-1561?); harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889)

SM

Gospel

Matthew 24:36-44

Deacon

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

People**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said to the disciples, "But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

Reader

The Gospel of the Lord.

People**Praise to you, Lord Christ.****Gospel Hymn H601 v 5***O day of God***Homily**

Fr. Marc McDonald

Nicene Creed

All stand.

Celebrant I bid you remember that it is only when we love one another that we can truly say:

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven: *(Bow)*
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again *(Rise)*
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the
dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who
proceeds from the Father and the Son.**

**With the Father and the Son he is worshiped *(Bow)*
and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of
sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead, +
and the life of the world to come. Amen**

Please remain standing or kneel as you are able.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lector Let us offer our prayers to God, who clothes us in the armor of light and offers us the gift of immortal life, responding, "O come, O come, Emmanuel."

For peace throughout the world, that swords of destruction may become tools for industry, and spears of war the word that pierces every heart with the light of hope; let us pray.

People O come, O come, Emmanuel.

Lector For the grace to choose the path that leads to eternal life, generously giving toward the relief of poverty and despair, homelessness and fear, so that through our actions the saving love of Christ may be revealed; let us pray.

People O come, O come, Emmanuel.

Lector For the leaders of the nations of the world, that power be tempered by wisdom, and the quest for money be seen as a false strength; let us pray.

People O come, O come, Emmanuel.

Lector For Christians throughout the world, especially those who endure religious persecution and the prejudice of unfriendly governments, that our prayers may empower them in their time of need; let us pray.

People O come, O come, Emmanuel.

Lector That we may hunger for the teachings of the Lord, seeking opportunities for education, bible study, and fellowship with those who follow the way of Jesus; let us pray.

People O come, O come, Emmanuel.

Lector In thanksgiving for those who stay awake in the dark corners of human experience, abiding faithfully with those whose faith is shallow and whose fears are great; let us pray.

People O come, O come, Emmanuel.

Lector In thanksgiving for the life-giving gifts of those who have died, leaving us a harvest of love from which to eat for years to come; let us pray.

People O come, O come, Emmanuel.

Lector In anticipation of Jesus' dwelling amongst us, let us continue the offering of our prayers.

Celebrant Lord, you have called us to serve you. Grant that we may walk in your presence: your love in our hearts, your truth in our minds, your strength in our wills; until, at the end of our journey, we know the joy of our homecoming and the welcome of your embrace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace

All stand.

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.

People And also with you.

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Birthday and Anniversary Prayer

O God, our times are in your hands: look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace. Send your blessings upon them, that their homes may be a haven of peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MISSION MOMENT

The Liturgy of Holy Communion

Offertory Sentence

Celebrant Be imitators of God and walk in love as Christ loves us and gave himself for us an offering and sacrifice to God. (Ephesians 5:1-2)

Offertory Anthem *How Can I Keep from Singing* Courtney

Presentation Hymn H380 v 3

(Spoken at 5:30pm and 8:00am, sung at 10:00am)

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

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER B

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to our loving God.

People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Then facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

Celebrant

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name.

Celebrant and People

Sanctus S-128 *(Spoken at 5:30 pm, sung at 8:00 am and 10:00 am)*

**All Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
 heaven and earth are full of your glory.
 Hosanna in the highest.
 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
 Hosanna in the highest.**

Ho - ly, ho - ly,

ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,

heaven 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.

The people stand or kneel.

Then the Celebrant continues

Celebrant

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

Celebrant

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being + sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with St. Luke and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the

Church, and the author of our salvation. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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. 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, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

(Spoken at 5:30 and sung at 8:00 and 10:00)

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us!

People Therefore let us keep the feast.

Invitation

Celebrant

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

The Table is ready and ALL are invited. 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, because it is Christ who invites you to meet God here. You are welcome to receive just the Body of Christ or to cross your arms in front of you to receive a blessing from the clergy. (Gluten-free option available, just let your server know.)

The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words:

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. **Amen.**

The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. **Amen**

Communion H59

Hark a thrilling voice

59

Advent

Descant

2 Wak - ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth's bond - age let us rise;
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther and the Son,
1 Hark! a thrill - ing voice is sound - ing. "Christ is nigh," it seems to say;
2 Wak - ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth's bond - age let us rise;
3 Lo! the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, comes with par - don down from heaven;
4 so when next he comes with glo - ry, and the world is wrapped in fear,
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther and the Son,

2 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling, shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
5 with the ev - er - last - ing Spi - rit while un - end - ing a - ges run.
1 "Cast a - way the works of dark - ness, O ye chil - dren of the day."
2 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling, shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
3 let us haste, with tears of sor - row, one and all to be for - given;
4 may he with his mer - cy shield us, and with words of love draw near.
5 with the ev - er - last - ing Spi - rit while un - end - ing a - ges run.

SENDING FORTH TO SERVE

EUCHARIST VISITOR COMMISSIONING

Deacon In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood.

People **We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.**

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

All **O Lord our God, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of your Son our Lord; that, when he shall appear he may not find us sleeping in sin but active in God's service and joyful in God's praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

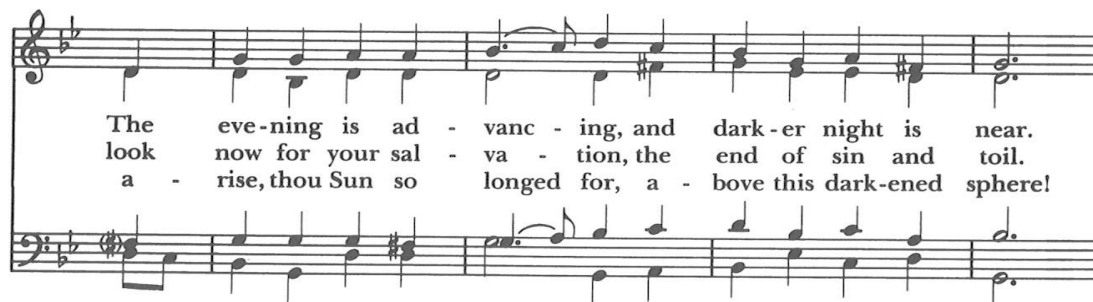
THE BLESSING

CLOSING H68

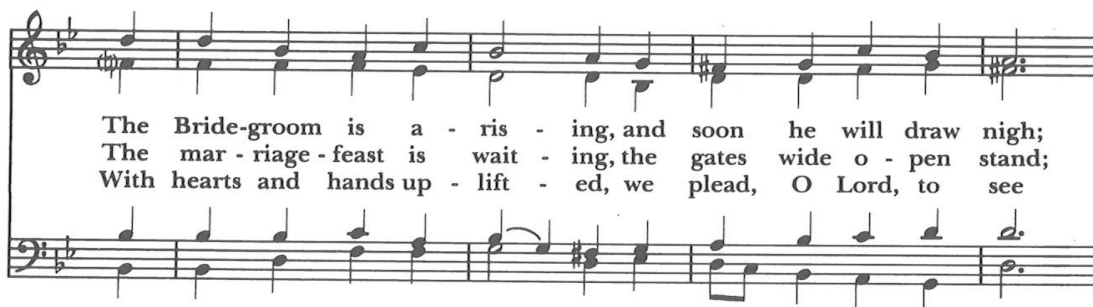
Rejoice! Rejoice, believers



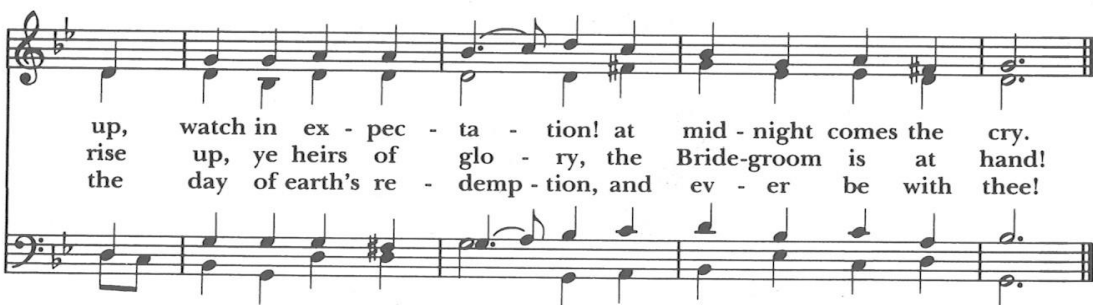
1 Re - joice! re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear!
 2 See that your lamps are burn - ing, re - ple - nish them with oil;
 3 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



The eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.
 look now for your sal - va - tion, the end of sin and toil.
 a - rise, thou Sun so longed for, a - bove this dark - ened sphere!



The Bride - groom is a - ris - ing, and soon he will draw nigh;
 The mar - riage - feast is wait - ing, the gates wide o - pen stand;
 With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see



up, watch in ex - pec - ta - tion! at mid - night comes the cry.
 rise up, ye heirs of glo - ry, the Bride - groom is at hand!
 the day of earth's re - demp - tion, and ev - er be with thee!

Words: Laurentius Laurenti (1660-1722); tr. Sarah B. Findlater (1823-1907), alt.

Music: Llangloffan, melody from *Hymnau a Thonau er Gwasanaeth yr Eglwys yng Nghymru*, 1865

76. 76 D

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon As we await our coming Savior, go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

People Thanks be to God!

Postlude