

9:30 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE

SHEPHERD OF THE GLADES LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Lutheran Community of Christian Believers - ELCA

6020 Rattlesnake Hammock Road, Naples, FL 34113-2913

Pastor Jeff Unga (641) 529-2479 Office Phone: (239) 775-0696

Every valley
shall be FILLED,



and every mountain and hill
shall be MADE LOW.

Luke 3:5

DECEMBER 8, 2024
SECOND SUNDAY IN
ADVENT

All Are Welcome!

All who have come to worship are heartily welcomed. Let us joyfully open our hearts to God and to one another.

You are encouraged to participate in all that Shepherd of the Glades has to offer and to make Shepherd of the Glades your spiritual home.

All are invited and welcome to partake of the sacrament of Holy Communion by kneeling or standing at the altar rail. For your safety and convenience, you will have a choice of coming to the altar rail or taking communion in your pew in an individually sealed container. If, for any reason, you are not comfortable receiving communion, but would like to receive a blessing, please come forward and cross your arms, indicating you wish to receive a blessing. The Eucharist is celebrated by intinction. Our Altar Guild at all communion services offers grape juice (lighter color), as well as wine (darker color), for intinction, the dipping of wafer into the wine or juice. One chalice will hold both wine and grape juice. Communion is continuous with kneeling or standing. Note: Gluten free wafers are now offered as well.

If you have an offering for the church, the offering plates are located at the entrance of the church.

If Shepherd of the Glades can be of service to you or if you would like Pastor Jeff to contact you, please so indicate on the pew welcome sheet. The office phone number and Pastor Jeff's cell phone number are on the cover of the bulletin.

Ministries for Today

Altar Assistants: Pastor Bob & Colleen Hoffman,
& Lester Larrabee

Lector: Betty Sauer

Altar Guild: Lynn Karle

Ushers: 9:30 a.m. Carolyn Fee, Scott Krenz,
& Lester Larrabee

AV Technicians: Abraham Unga
Kelli Unga

SHEPHERD OF THE GLADES LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Lutheran Community of Christian Believers

Second Sunday in Advent

December 8, 2024, 9:30 A.M. Worship

+ Indicates Please Stand

Bold Indicates Congregation Joins In

PRELUDE

“I Have Loved You”

Sung by: Church Folk Group

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

+ CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, alive in the world, reviving creation, arriving soon.

C **Amen.**

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

P God of mercy,

C **we confess that we have sinned. We trust earthly powers and human authority alone. We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.**

P God of might,

C **we confess that we have sinned. We have turned away from our neighbors. We have trusted false promises.**

P God in our midst,

C **we confess that we have sinned. We plead: come to us. Bring your mercy to birth in us.**

P A righteous branch springs forth: it is Christ the Lord, our Savior, in whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy. By the power of the Holy Spirit, receive the grace and forgiveness of God through + Christ Jesus, whose day draws near.

C **Amen.**

+ **OPENING HYMN “Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding” ELW 246**

+ LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

(Rachael Harvey)

P As we light the candle on the Advent Wreath, let us pray.

C **Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe. John the Baptist calls all people to prepare the Lord’s way for the kingdom of heaven is near. Bless us as we light the candles on this wreath. Baptize us with the fire of your Spirit, that we may be a light shining in the darkness welcoming others as Christ has welcomed us, for he is our light and our salvation. Blessed be God forever. Amen.**

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

C **And also with you.**

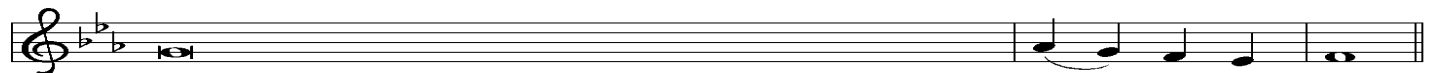
Kyrie



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



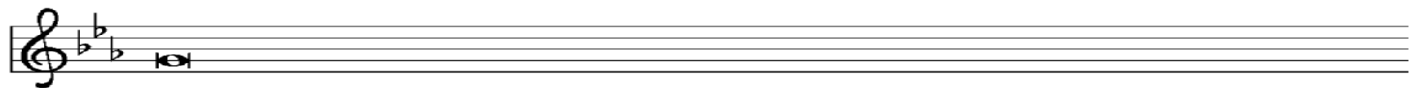
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



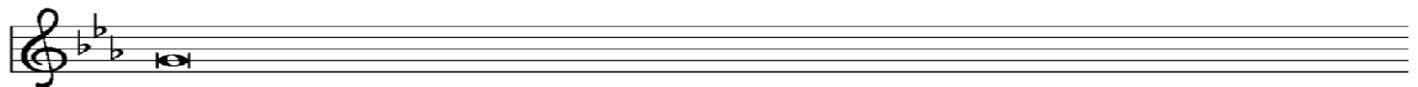
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



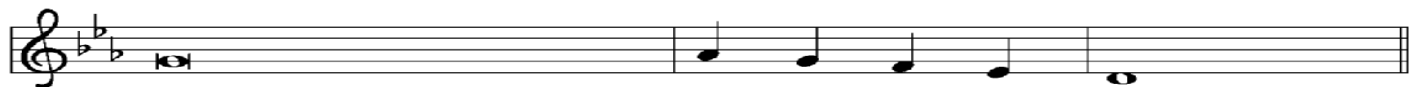
For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

+ **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P Let us pray.

C **Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming give to all the people of the world knowledge of your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

FIRST READING: Malachi 3: 1-4

¹ See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. ² But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; ³ he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. ⁴ Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm Luke 1: 68-79 (Read responsively)

⁶⁸ Blessed are you, Lord, the God of Israel,
you have come to your people and set them free.

⁶⁹ **You have raised up for us a mighty Savior,
born of the house of your servant David.**

⁷⁰ Through your holy prophets, you promised of old to save us from our enemies,
⁷¹ from the hands of all who hate us,

⁷² **to show mercy to our forebears,
and to remember your holy covenant.**

⁷³ This was the oath you swore to our father Abraham:

⁷⁴ to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
free to worship you without fear,

⁷⁵ **holy and righteous before you, all the days of our life.**

⁷⁶ And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,
for you will go before the Lord to prepare the way,

⁷⁷ **to give God's people knowledge of salvation
by the forgiveness of their sins.**

⁷⁸ In the tender compassion of our God

the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

⁷⁹ **to shine on those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

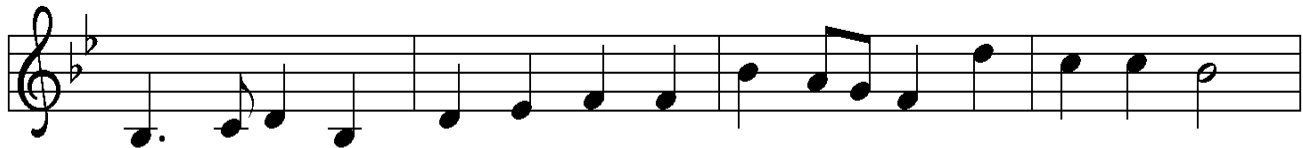
SECOND READING: Philippians 1: 3-11

³ I thank my God every time I remember you, ⁴ constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, ⁵ because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶ I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. ⁷ It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. ⁸ For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. ⁹ And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight ¹⁰ to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, ¹¹ having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

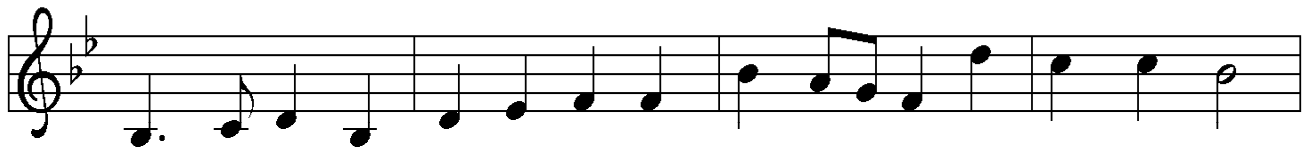
The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

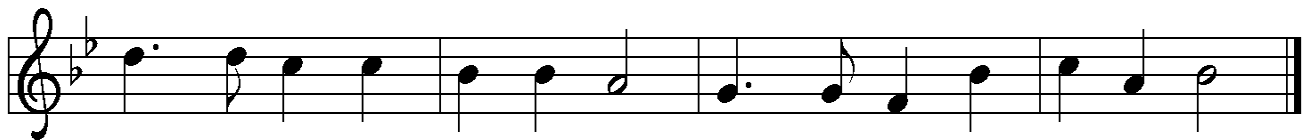
+ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

1372432

THE HOLY GOSPEL according to: **Luke 3: 1-6**

C Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, ² during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³ He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, ⁴ as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.

⁵ Every valley shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,
and the crooked shall be made straight,
and the rough ways made smooth;

⁶ and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’ ”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ

SERMON

Pastor Jeff Ungs

+ HYMN OF THE DAY “On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry” ELW 249

A Let us proclaim our trust in the presence and power of God in our lives with the words of the Apostles’ Creed.

+ APOSTLES’ CREED

ELW 105

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**

**born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
And he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting.
Amen.**

+ THE PRAYERS

A As we prepare for Emmanuel, God-with-us, let us pray for all people and places that long for God's presence.

A brief silence.

A Refining God, move through your church. Root out practices that harm your people, and kindle a fire for sharing the gospel among bishops, pastors, deacons, and all the baptized. Lord, in your mercy,

C **receive our prayer.**

A Renewing God, transform your creation. Steer us from habits that harm what you have made, and guide us in practices that preserve and restore creatures and habitats. Lord, in your mercy,

C **receive our prayer.**

A Ruling God, teach the nations your ways. Strengthen organizations and communities that broker peace and care for refugees, immigrants, and all caught in the center of conflict. Lord, in your mercy,

C **receive our prayer.**

A Rescuing God, restore your people who are in any need. Heal all who are suffering. Today we pray for: the family of Nola Halverson, the family of Leila Sellman, Jim Shaw, Beverly Adams, Barbara Gega, Marilyn Day, Cornelia Setzkorn, Susie Espersen, Vernon Rasmussen, Ron Blasig, Sandy & Doc Lofthouse, Ryan Smith, Pastor Carl Kelly, Gale, John Simmons, Joe, Michelle Wessler, Peter Newell, Rod Barikmo, Nick & Anita Lehr, and Micah Smith. Provide comfort and strength, and nurture sustained wholeness for the future. Lord, in your mercy,

Lord, in your mercy,

C **receive our prayer.**

A Reforming God, fill this congregation with your presence. Enrich our seasonal preparations, and bless the efforts by worship committees, music ensembles, staff, clergy, and lay leaders as they work in the weeks ahead. Lord, in your mercy,

C **receive our prayer.**

A God of mercy, you are our resurrection. We give you thanks, oh God, for the celebration of birthdays within our faith community. Today we pray for Lisa McGarity, Dorothy MacKenzie, Alice Bassett, Harlo (Pete) Peterson, George Giacometti, and Myrka Gonzalez they celebrate their birthdays.

Lord in your mercy,

C receive our prayer.

A Reassuring God, we remember those who have died and rest in you. Guide us in deep gratitude for their life, and allow us to learn from their faithful witness.

Lord, in your mercy,

C receive our prayer.

A Savior of the nations, come, and receive these prayers and the pleas of our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

+ SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

P The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

+ OFFERTORY

+ OFFERTORY PRAYER

ELW 107

A Let us pray.

C God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

+ GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with all the choirs of angles, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise y our name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might:
heav'n 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: LAND OF REST, American folk tune
Text: "Sanctus," tr. English Language Liturgical Consultation

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

+ **THE LORD'S PRAYER** *(Spoken)*

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

C **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.**

+ **DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION**

+ **COMMUNION BLESSING**

P Generous God, we thank you for the gift of life, for the bread of salvation. We thank you for coming among us, for leading us into peace. We thank you for showering us with mercy, for sending us into the world. Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us as we feed the hungry in your name.

C **Amen.**

Now, Lord, you let your ser- vant go in peace: your word has been ful -
 filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre- pared in the
 sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: a light to re- veal you to the na - tions
 and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.
 Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace.

+ THE BLESSING

P God of endings and beginnings, God in the darkness and the light, God, our hope for the journey, + bless and keep you now and forever.

C Amen.

+ SENDING HYMN "Hark! The Glad Sound" ELW 239

+ DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.

C Thanks be to God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The flowers on the chancel this morning are given by Marvin Thor in loving memory of his wife, Norma Thor.

HOSPITALIZATIONS

Local hospitals are no longer calling church offices to advise of the hospitalizations of parishioners. If you are hospitalized, or know of someone that is hospitalized, please let the church office know so that we may keep you/them in our prayers and provide pastoral support.

ANNUAL BAKE SALE - DECEMBER 8, 2024

Everyone is invited to participate in the Annual Bake Sale being held today. We will be selling our SOTG Cookbooks (Feeding the Flock) for \$15. Proceeds of the sale and cookbooks will be donated to Lutheran Disaster Response.

PLEASE BAKE AND BUY GENEROUSLY!

ANNUAL MEETING

This years annual meeting will be held on Sunday, December 15, 2024 immediately following the worship service. We will be voting on the 2025 budget, Church Council members, nominating committee members, and voting on a representatives for Synod Assembly.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

This year the candlelight Christmas Eve services will be held at 5:00 and 7:00 p.m. Plan to join us for a beautiful faith-filled service including special music.

THE 2024 GIVING TREE

Thank you so much for your participation in our “Giving Tree” project!

Please make sure that the name tag is attached to the gift when bringing it to church on or before Monday, December 16th.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

Please help us beautify our sanctuary in praise to our Savior this Christmas! Poinsettias will be placed around the altar for Christmas. You may take your poinsettia(s) home after Christmas Eve worship. The order forms will be available in the Narthex and the cost is still \$20 per poinsettia. The deadline for ordering is Monday, December 16, 2024. Please place your order form in the offering plate, leave in the basket in the narthex, or deliver to the Church office.

THIS WEEK AT SHEPHERD OF THE GLADES:

The office is open from 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday thru Friday.

Pastor Jeff is available in the office by appointment.

Monday, December 9th & Wednesday, December 11th , Bone Builders meet from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, December 10th, Sew-Sew’s meet from 8:30 to 11:00 a.m.

Tuesday, December 10th, Church Council meeting beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 11th, Pastor Jeff ‘s Bible study beginning at 10:00 a.m.

Sunday, December 15, 2024, Third Sunday in Advent - 9:30 a.m., public worship with Pastor Jeff Unga. Worship will also be live streamed on YouTube, or you can access on our website. See website for details -www.sotgweb.org.

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A Lutheran Congregation of Christian Believers

6020 Rattlesnake Hammock Road

Naples, Florida 34113-2913

Telephone: 239.775.0696 Fax: 239.793.2465

Email: sotg6020@gmail.com Web Page: <http://www.sotgweb.org>

Our Mission is “Transforming lives through the Living Word of God.”

Pastor

Rev. Jeffrey T. Unga

Director of Music

Megan Cianflone

Congregational President

Bonny Dery

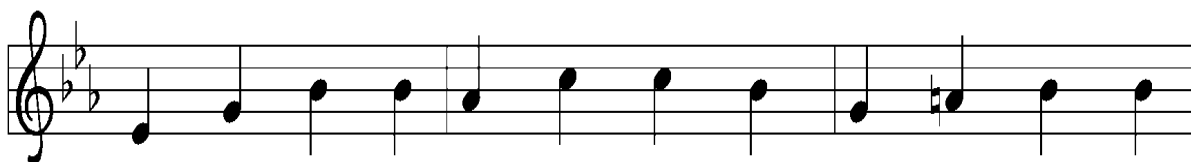
Administrative Assistants to the Pastor

Lynn Dickerman and Linda Tidmore

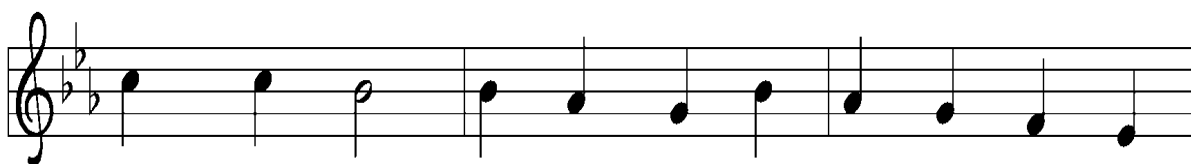
Pastor Emeritus

Rev. H. Peter Lyberg

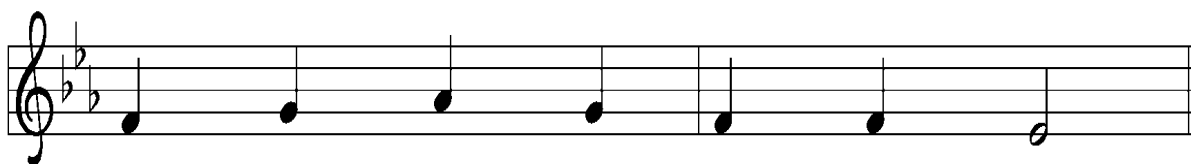
Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding!



1 Hark! a thrill - ing voice is sound - ing! "Christ is near," we
2 Wak - ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth's bond - age
3 See the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, come with par - don
4 So, when next he comes in glo - ry and the world is
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther

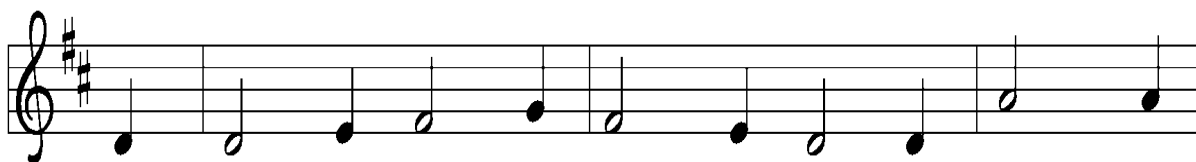


hear it say. "Cast a - way the works of dark - ness,
let us rise; Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling,
down from heav'n. Let us haste, with tears of sor - row,
wrapped in fear, he will shield us with his mer - cy
and the Son with the ev - er - last - ing Spir - it

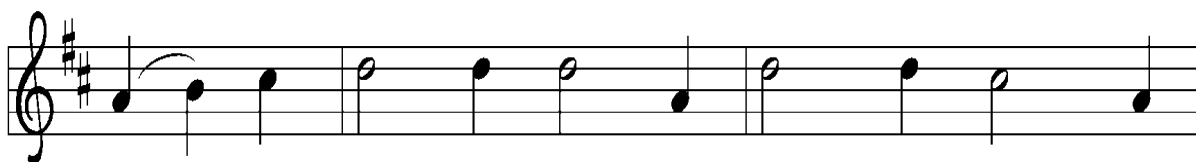


all you chil - dren of the day!"
shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
one and all, to be for - giv'n;
and with words of love draw near.
while un - end - ing a - ges run!

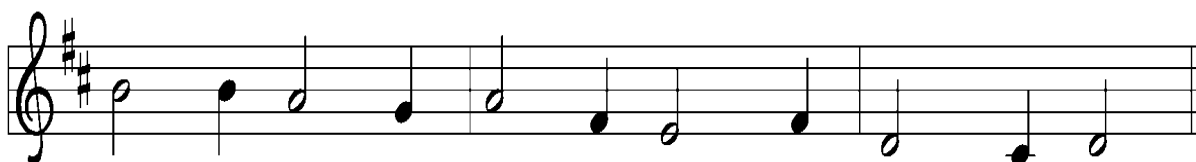
On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an - nounc - es
2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; make straight the
3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, our ref - uge
4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, and make us
5 All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,
way for God with - in, and let us all our
and our great re - ward; with - out your grace we
rise to fall no more; oh, let your face up -
has our free - dom won, whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings!
hearts pre - pare for Christ to come and en - ter there.
waste a - way like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
on us shine and fill the world with love di - vine.
we a - dore, and Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er - more.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676-1749; tr. composite

Music: PUER NOBIS, European tune, adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571-1621

Hark, the Glad Sound!



1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior
2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's
3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of peace, your wel - come



prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -
bond - age held. The gates of brass be -
soul to cure, and with the trea - sures
shall pro - claim, and heav'n's e - ter - nal



pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.
fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.
of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.
arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702-1751

Music: CHESTERFIELD, Thomas Haweis, 1734-1820