

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

Director for Discipleship, Mary Winsor - marywinsorsotg@gmail.com



JANUARY 4, 2026
SECOND SUNDAY
OF CHRISTMAS &
EPIPHANY OF OUR
LORD

SHEPHERD OF THE GLADES LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Lutheran Community of Christian Believers

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.

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.

Second Sunday of Christmas/Epiphany of Our Lord

January 4, 2026, 9:30 A.M. Worship

+ Indicates Please Stand

Bold Indicates Congregation Joins In

PRELUDE

Megan Cianflone, Director of Music

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

+ **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, Wonderful Counselor, Mighty Savior, Prince of Peace.

C **Amen.**

P Trusting in God's steadfast love and faithfulness, let us confess our sin.
Silence is kept for reflection.

A Reconciling God,

C **we yearn for your presence to transform our grief, pain, and despair. We confess that we have not always prepared room in our hearts for your love; we have not always recognized your presence among us; we have not always embraced your message of peace. We cry out, weary with the burden of violence, oppression, and fear. We confess our failure to make room for those seeking refuge; our participation in violent systems that harm your innocent ones; our reluctance to embody your good news. Be born in us today and teach us to sing the joyful song of your salvation. Amen.**

P God's grace upon grace flows over you. † Christ's presence redeems the whole creation. Your sins are forgiven. Let the earth rejoice and be glad!

C **Amen.**

+ **GATHERING HYMN** ***"Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies"*** ELW #553

A 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.**

+ **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

A Let us pray.

C **O God, on this day you revealed your Son to the nations by the leading of a star. Lead us now by faith to know your presence in our lives, and bring us at last to the full vision of your glory, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

First Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

¹ Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

² For darkness shall cover the earth and thick darkness the peoples, but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you.

³ Nations shall come to your light and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

⁴ Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together; they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried in their nurses' arms.

⁵ Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you; the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

⁶ A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

Psalm: Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14 (*read responsively*)

¹ Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the king's son;

² **that he may rule your people righteously and the poor with justice;**

³ that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, and the hills, in righteousness.

⁴ **Let him defend the needy among the people, rescue the poor, and crush the oppressor.**

⁵ May he live as long as the sun and moon endure, from one generation to another.

⁶ **Let him come down like rain upon the mown field, like showers that water the earth.**

⁷ In his time may the righteous flourish; and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.

¹⁰ **May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles pay tribute, and the kings of Sheba and Seba offer gifts.**

¹¹ May all kings bow down before him, and all the nations do him service.

¹² **For the king delivers the poor who cry out in distress, the oppressed, and those who have no helper.**

¹³ He has compassion on the lowly and poor, and preserves the lives of the needy.

¹⁴ **From oppression and violence he redeems their lives, and precious is their blood in his sight.**

Second Reading: Ephesians 3:1-12

¹ This is the reason that I, Paul, am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you gentiles, ² for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you ³ and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, ⁴ a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. ⁵ In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: ⁶ that is, the gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

⁷ Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. ⁸ Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ ⁹ and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things, ¹⁰ so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹ This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹² in whom we have access in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

A The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL according to: **Matthew 2:1-12**

C Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, magi from the east came to Jerusalem, ² asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star in the east and have come to pay him homage.” ³ When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him, ⁴ and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵ They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it has been written by the prophet:

⁶ ‘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.’ ”

⁷ Then Herod secretly called for the magi and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸ 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.” ⁹ When they had heard the king, they set out, and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen in the east, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹ 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. ¹² And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

+ **SERMON**

Pastor Jeff Ungs

+ **HYMN OF THE DAY** “*Bright and Glorious Is the Sky*” ELW #301 v 1-4

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.**

INSTALLATION OF 2026 CHURCH COUNCIL

+ **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

A Empowered by the news of Christ’s birth, let us pray boldly for the church, creation, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

A Repairer of the breach, you separate us from our sin and unite us with one another. Heal the animosity in our hearts, and bind us together in love. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Author of life, you sent your spirit over the waters, your breath into your children, and guiding stars across the sky. Awaken us to the plight of the planet and send us to care for your creation. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Light that leads the way, you make yourself known to the nations. Illuminate just paths and guide leaders in the church and the world in your holy will. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Voice of the silenced, you cast the mighty from their thrones and fill the hungry with good things. Grant those in need the courage to demand equality and those with abundance the wisdom to share. Respond to any who call out in need this day, especially Susan Schacht, Dean Welch, Kai, Brenda Charleston, Lily Braumoeller, Craig, Nikki Wykstra, Carey Yaros, Erick DelReal, Aloise Olson, Barbara Carey, Patricia Lussky, Janice, Alan Holm, Colleen Glackin, Nadine Kelly, Patty Musielak, Vernon Rasmussen, Nick & Anita Lehr, Dick Ford and others we name in our hearts or out loud. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A Proclaimer of promises, you raise up prophets and messengers in the places we least expect. Equip us to listen well to those who bring both good news and painful truths. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A We pray for Barb Keller, John Sherman and Roger Burtchin as they celebrate birthdays this week. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

P Redeemer of the saints, you gift us with many people throughout our lives who point the way to you. We give you thanks for the recently departed and all who have loved us. We pray especially for the families of Barb Balster, John Krentz, Marilyn Malinowski, Martha Jepsen, Gail Fesnak and Janet Connell. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

P With the joy of Christ's birth in our hearts, we commend our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your boundless mercy and eternal love; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C **Amen.**

+ **SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

A The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

+ OFFERTORY

We give an offering to show thanks for God's blessings, and to support the ministries of God's Church, near and far. Offering collection plates are available upon entry to the sanctuary before worship or as you leave after its conclusion. To give electronically just scan this code with your phone or visit our website home page: <http://www.sotgweb.org>.



OFFERING PRAYER

A Let us pray.

C **God of glory, great are your wonders among us and many are the blessings you bestow. Use us and these your gifts for the needs of the world, that all the ends of the earth may rejoice in your saving grace, through Christ our Savior. Amen.**

+ GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

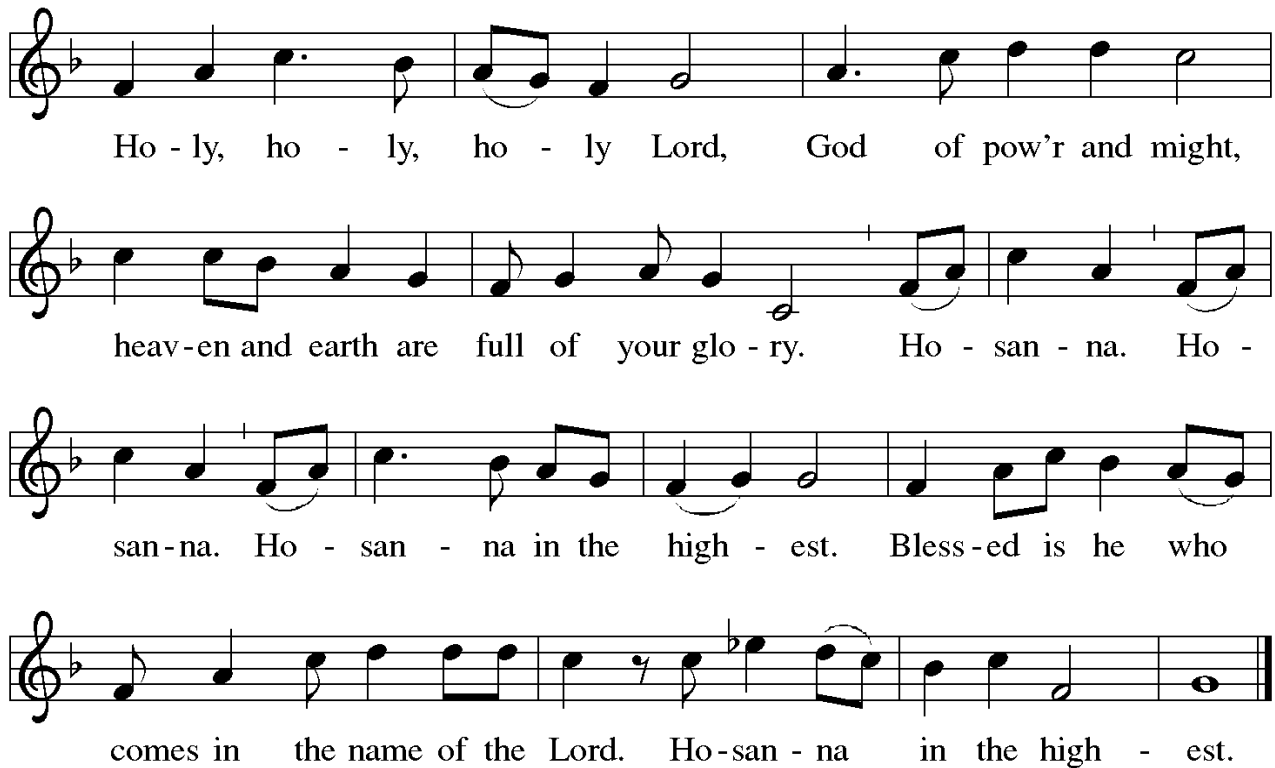
P Lift up your hearts.

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.**

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; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
 san-na. 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.

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**

All are invited and welcome to come forward to partake of the sacrament of Holy Communion. If you would like communion brought to you in your pew, please notify an usher. 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. Note: Gluten free wafers are offered, as well, in the Narthex or as you come forward.

God is now in flesh appearing. Come to the feast of joy!

+ **COMMUNION BLESSING**

A Incarnate God, you are among us at this table. May we treasure this gift and ponder in our hearts the mystery of your presence. Move us to discover the wonders of your love in the everyday moments of our lives, through Christ born in us.

C **Amen.**

+ **THE BLESSING**

P The triune God, glorious Mystery, holy Incarnate One, abiding Comforter,
✠ bless you with endless grace, peace, and joy.

C **Amen.**

+ **SENDING HYMN** *“Arise, Your Light Has Come”* *ELW #314*

+ **DISMISSAL**

P Glory to God in the highest!

C **And peace to God’s people on earth!**

P Go in joy. Embody God’s redeeming grace.

C **Thanks be to God.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

BLESSING BAGS

Blessing Bags are now available in the Narthex. Be sure to take at least one to be a blessing to someone who could use one!

THIS WEEK AT SHEPHERD OF THE GLADES:

The office is open 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Pastor Jeff is available by appointment in the office or by cell phone.

Monday January 5

9:00 a.m. Bone Builders in Hanson Hall

Tuesday January 6

8:30 a.m. Sew-Sews

Wednesday January 7

9:00 a.m. Embroidery Group in the choir room

9:00 a.m. Bone Builders in Hanson Hall

10:00 a.m. Bible Study with Pastor Jeff

Sunday January 11 Baptism of Our Lord

9:30 a.m. Worship Service with Pastor Jeff

The service is also live streamed on YouTube or can be accessed on our website. See www.sotgweb.org for details.

Ministries for Today

Altar Assistants: Mary Winsor, Gail Fitch and Bonny Dery

Lector: Sandy Lacefield

Altar Guild: Barb Modjeska

Ushers: Gail Fitch, Liz McGuire, Betty Sauer and Bonny Dery

AV Technicians: Kelli Ungs and Abraham Ungs

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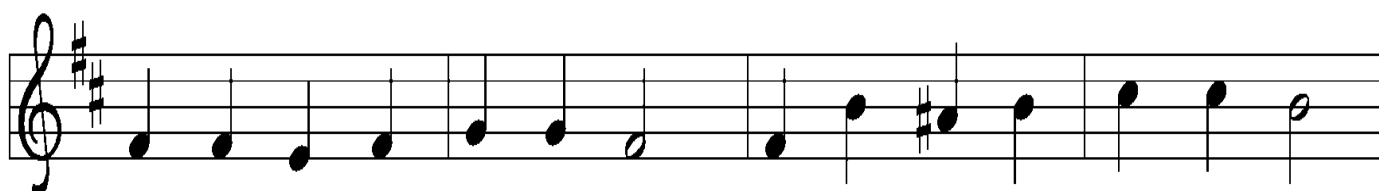
Our Mission is "Transforming lives through the Living Word of God."

Pastor	Rev. Jeffrey T. Ungs
Director for Discipleship	Mary Winsor
Director of Music	Megan Cianflone
Congregational President	Penny Morken
Administrative Assistants to the Pastor	Deanna Colbert & Lynn Dickerman

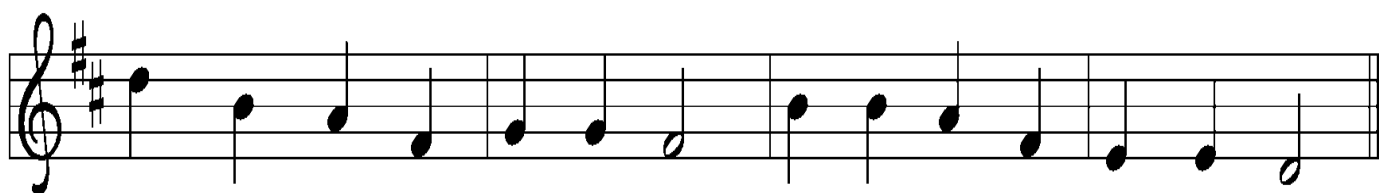
Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies



1 Christ, whose glo - ry fills the skies, Christ, the true and on - ly light,
2 Dark and cheer-less is the morn un - ac - com - pa - nied by thee;
3 Vis - it then this soul of mine, pierce the gloom of sin and grief;



Sun of righ-teous-ness, a - rise, tri-umph o'er the shades of night;
joy-less is the day's re - turn, till thy mer-cy's beams I see,
fill me, ra - dian - cy di - vine, scat - ter all my un - be - lief;



Day-spring from on high, be near; Day-star, in my heart ap - pear.
till they in - ward light im - part, glad my eyes, and warm my heart.
more and more thy - self dis - play, shin - ing to the per - fect day.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788

Music: RATISBON, J. G. Werner, *Choralbuch*, 1815

Bright and Glorious Is the Sky



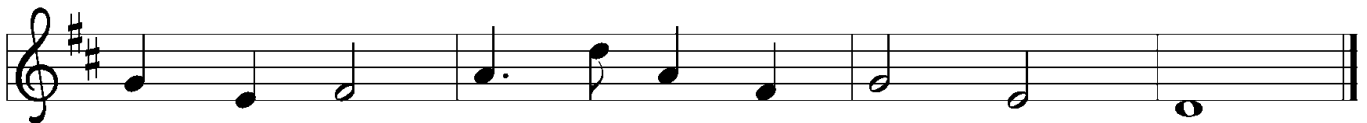
1 Bright and glo - rious is the sky, ra - diant are the
 2 On that ho - ly Christ - mas night through the dark - ness
 3 Sa - ges from the east a - far, when they saw this
 4 Him they found in Beth - le - hem, yet he wore no



heav - ens high where the gold - en stars are shin - ing.
 beamed a light; all the stars a - bove were pal - ing,
 won - drous star, went to find the king of na - tions
 di - a - dem; there they saw a maid - en low - ly



All their rays to earth in - clin - ing beck - on us to
 all their lus - ter slow - ly fail - ing as the won - drous
 and to of - fer their ob - la - tions to the child, the
 with an in - fant pure and ho - ly rest - ing in her



heav'n a - bove, beck - on us to heav'n a - bove.
 star drew nigh, as the won - drous star drew nigh.
 new - born king, to the child, the new - born king.
 lov - ing arms, rest - ing in her lov - ing arms.

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.

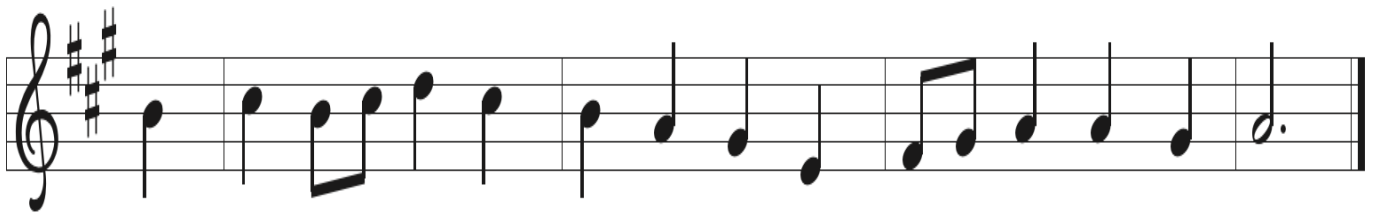
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Arise, Your Light Has Come!



- 1 A - rise, your light has come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;
- 2 A - rise, your light has come! Fling wide the pris - on door;
- 3 A - rise, your light has come! All you in sor - row born,
- 4 A - rise, your light has come! The moun - tains burst in song!



show forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to - day.
pro - claim the cap - tive's lib - er - ty, good tid - ings to the poor.
bind up the bro - ken - heart - ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.
Rise up like ea - gles on the wing, God's pow'r will make us strong.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825–1893

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