

ST. PAUL'S

PRESBYTERIAN

For The Glory of God & The Joy of All Peoples

Order for the Worship of God

On the Lord's Day Morning
First Sunday of Advent
November 29, 2026, at 10:30



To all who are weary and seek rest; to all who mourn and long for comfort; to all who struggle and desire hope; to all who sin and need a Savior; to all who are strangers and yearn for fellowship; to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness; and to whoever will come—this church opens wide her doors and offers welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

The sounding of the bells calls us to quiet our hearts before worship.

Welcome

Introit Light the Advent Candles

Words and Music by Mark Clark
Arr. by Brad Nix

Light the Advent candles in a wreath of green.
Let them be an off'ring fit for a King.
One for hope and one for love, one for joy and peace,
Glowing in the darkness, shine for all to see.

Advent means "coming" or "arrival."

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Call to Worship From Psalm 105

Minister: Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name!

People: Make known his deeds among the peoples! Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wondrous works!

Minister: Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice!

† *congregation standing*
¤ *congregation kneeling*

ENTERING GOD'S PRESENCE

† **Hymn of Praise** — O God Beyond All Praising
Hymn A • Trinity Hymnal #660 — THAXTED

† **Prayer of Adoration**

Unison: **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 forever. Amen.**

† **New Testament Reading** — 1 Peter 1
Pew Bible, page 1014

Minister: The Word of the Lord!

People: **Thanks be to God**

¤ **Prayer of Confession**

"Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you" (James 4:10).

Unison: **Almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, in your holy presence we confess our sin. You are the God of all comfort who comforts us in all our afflictions, but we have sought comfort elsewhere. You command us to cast all our cares upon you because you care for us, but we have doubted your love and your power to protect us. You promise to turn our sorrow into joy, but we have questioned your good purpose. You command us to live by faith and listen to your voice, but we have lived more in fear and listened more to other voices. You call us to bring our needs before you in prayer, but we have been prayerless. Forgive us for our sin and give us grace to trust you. We believe, Lord, but help our unbelief, in Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

Please take a moment to silently confess your sin.

¤ **Assurance of Pardon** From Romans 8

Minister: If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. Neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Unison: Thanks be to God!

¤ **Pastoral Prayer**

RENEWING OUR FAITH

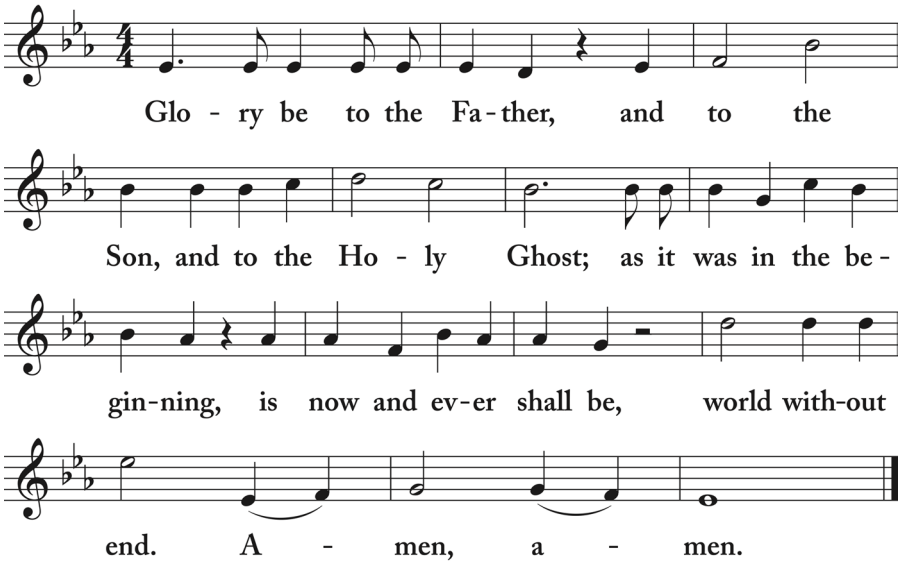
† **Hymn of Consecration** God Moves in a Mysterious Way
Hymn B • Trinity Hymnal #128 DUNDEE

† **Affirmation of Faith** Westminster Confession of Faith
Chapter 5; Section 1

Unison: God the great Creator of all things upholds, directs, disposes, and governs all creatures, actions, and things, from the greatest even to the least, by his most wise and holy providence, according to his infallible foreknowledge, and the free and immutable counsel of his own will, to the praise of the glory of his wisdom, power, justice, goodness, and mercy.

Unison: Thanks be to God!

† **Gloria** GREATOREX



† **Old Testament Lesson** Genesis 37:12-36
Pew Bible, page 31

Minister: The Word of the Lord!
People: Thanks be to God!

Prayer for Illumination

Proclamation of God's Word Rev. Scott Hunt

THE LORD WAS WITH HIM: THE LIFE OF JOSEPH
The Lord of Dreams

RESPONDING IN THANKS

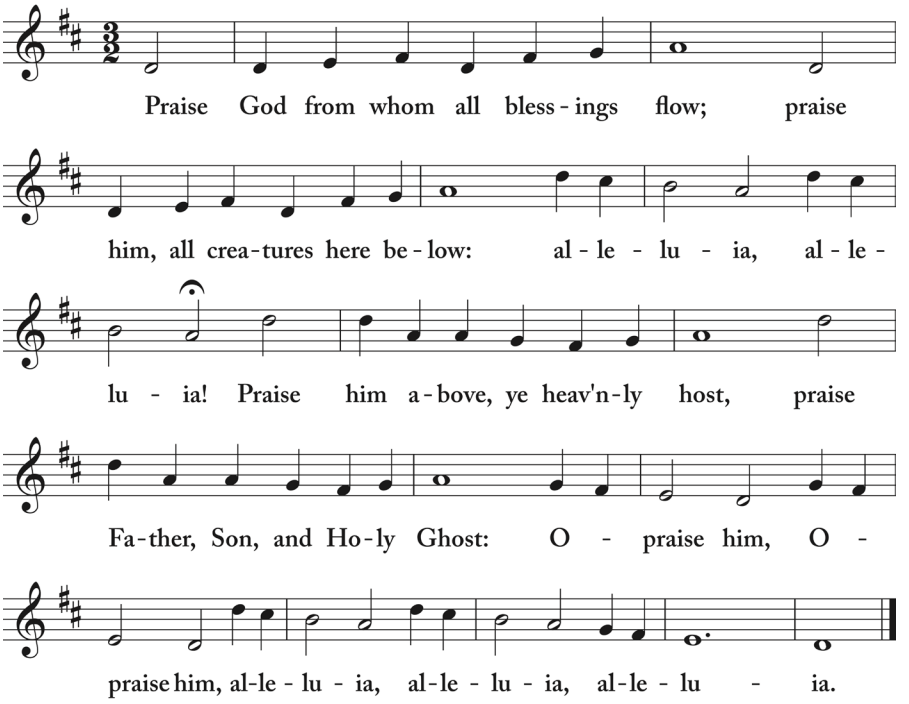
† **Hymn of Response** Where Thou Leadest Me
Hymn C
Words and Music by Bryan Fowler, Ben Shive, and Kristyn Getty

Giving to God & Offertory Processional Jubilee
Anna Laura Page

Children are welcome for our entire service. Following the Gloria, a specifically designed time for children aged four through first grade is also provided. Those interested can meet at the back of the Fellowship Hall.

Faith comes from hearing (Romans 10:17).

† **Doxology #733** LASST UNS ERFREUEN



† **Prayer of Dedication**

† **Benediction**

With the benediction, God places his name upon us as his people (Numbers 6:27). May we bear that name well as we are sent forth to love and to serve our risen Lord.

† **Sending Forth Hymn** Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

Hymn D • Trinity Hymnal #196 *(Verses 1 and 4)* HYFRYDOL

Minister: Go in peace to love and serve the risen Lord Jesus Christ.

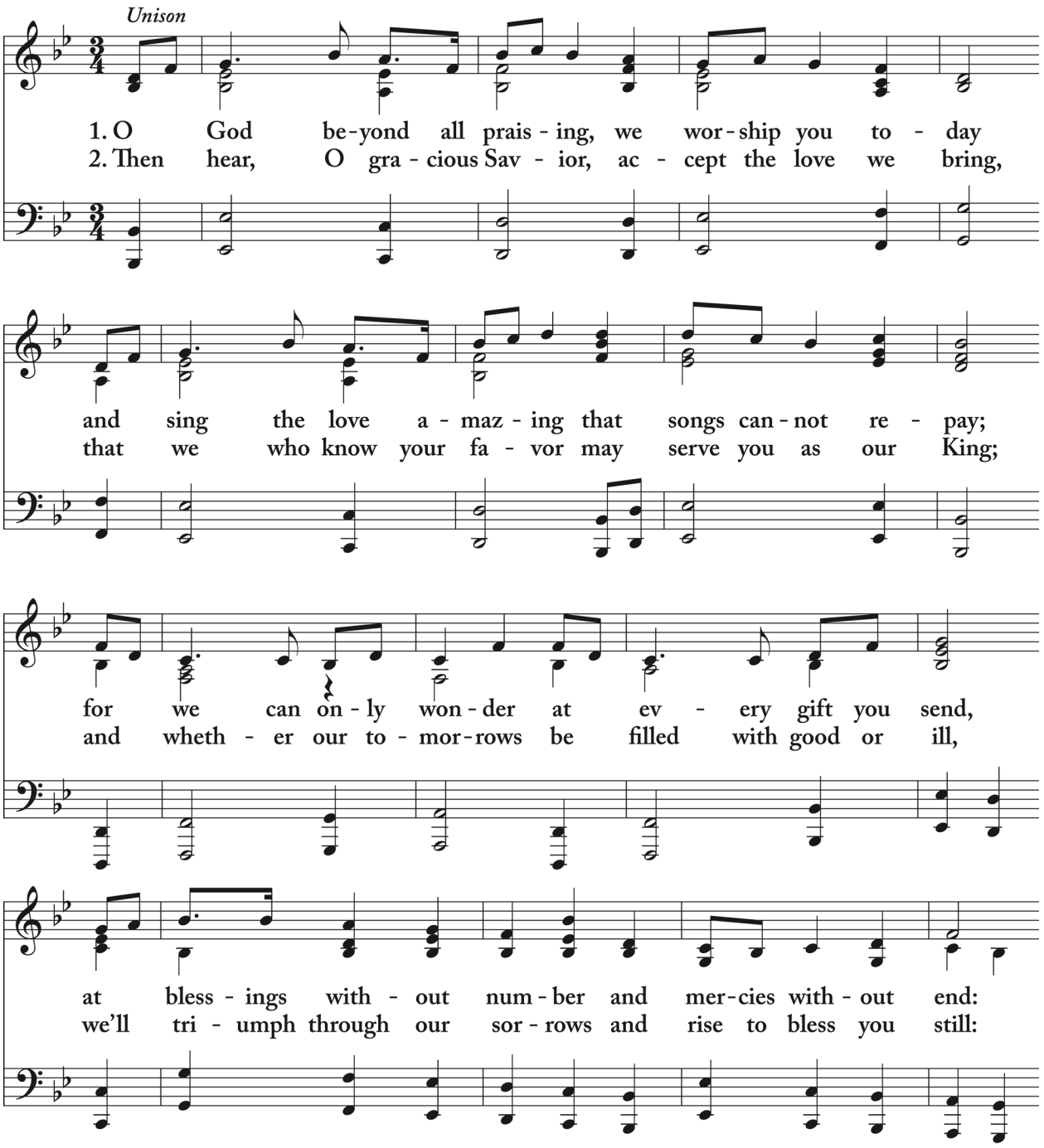
People: Thanks be to God!

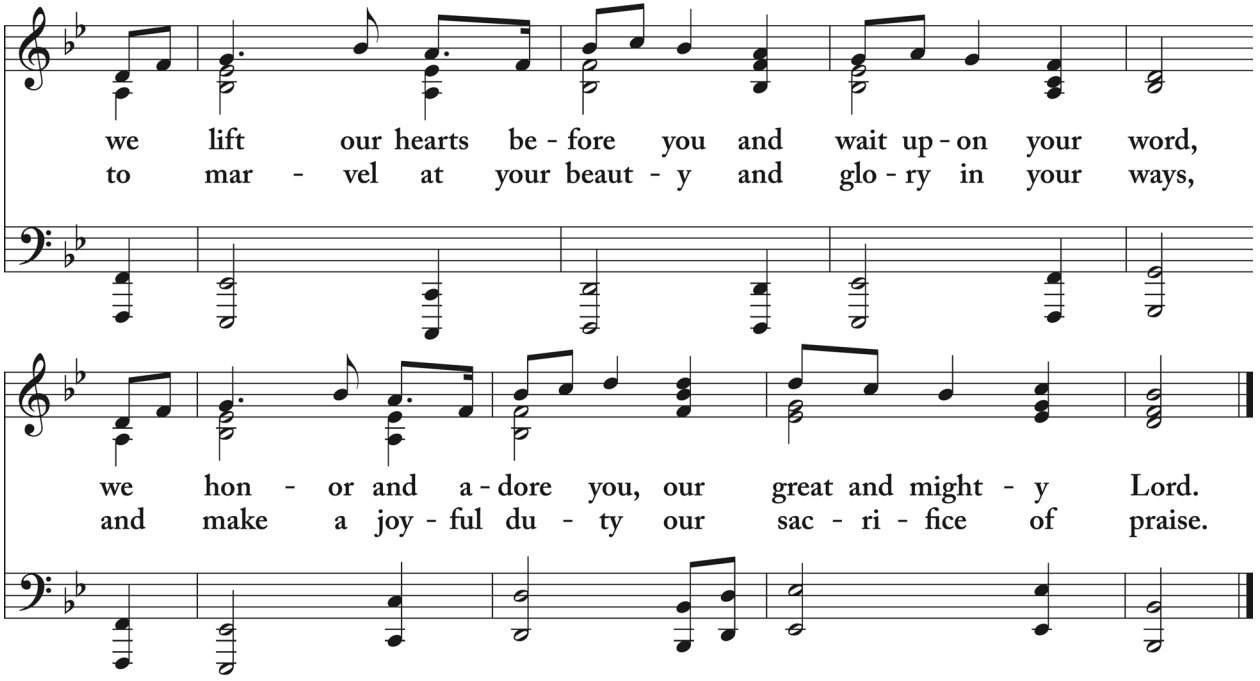
Postlude

Please take a moment to greet those around you.

O God Beyond All Praising

I will praise you, O LORD, with all my heart. Ps. 138:1





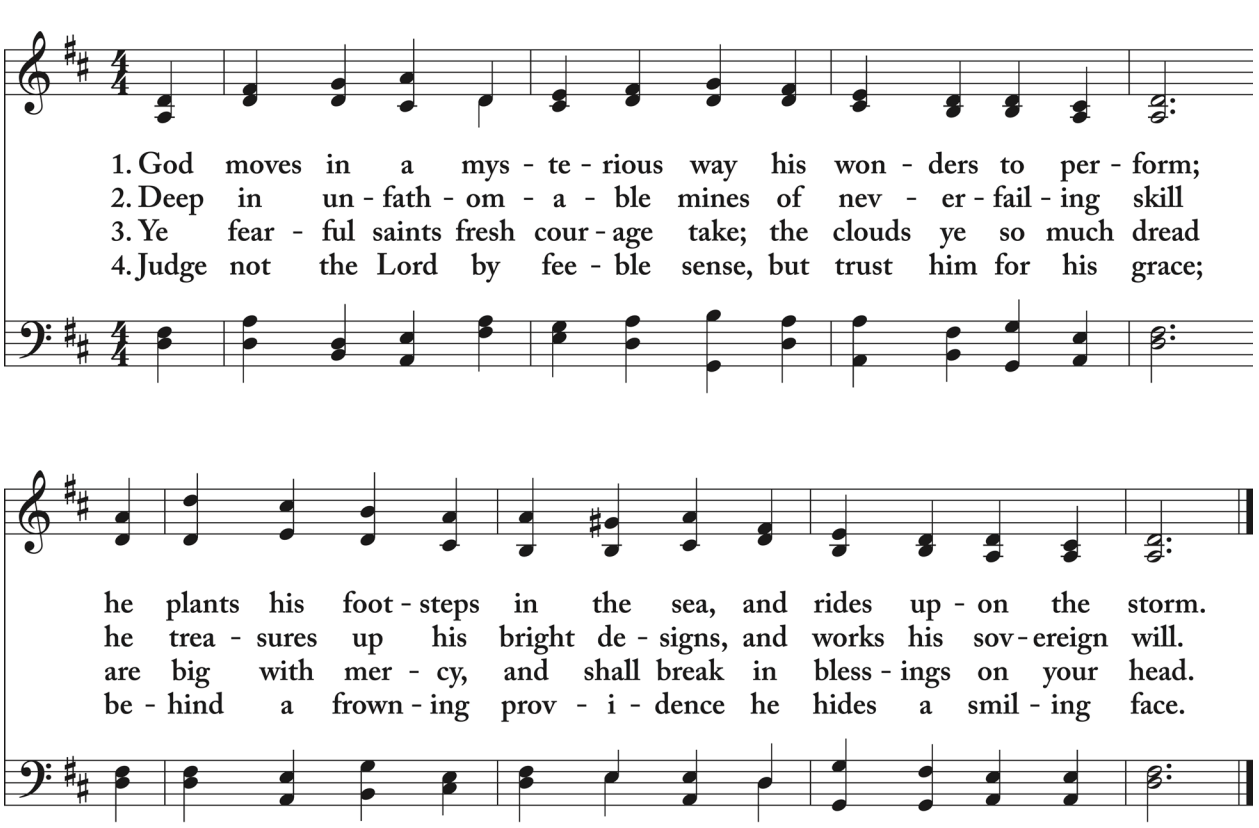
Michael Perry, 1982

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THAXTED 13.13.13.13.13.13.
From Gustav Holst, *The Planets*, 1918

God Moves in a Mysterious Way

I will turn the darkness into light before them and make the rough places smooth.
Is. 42:16



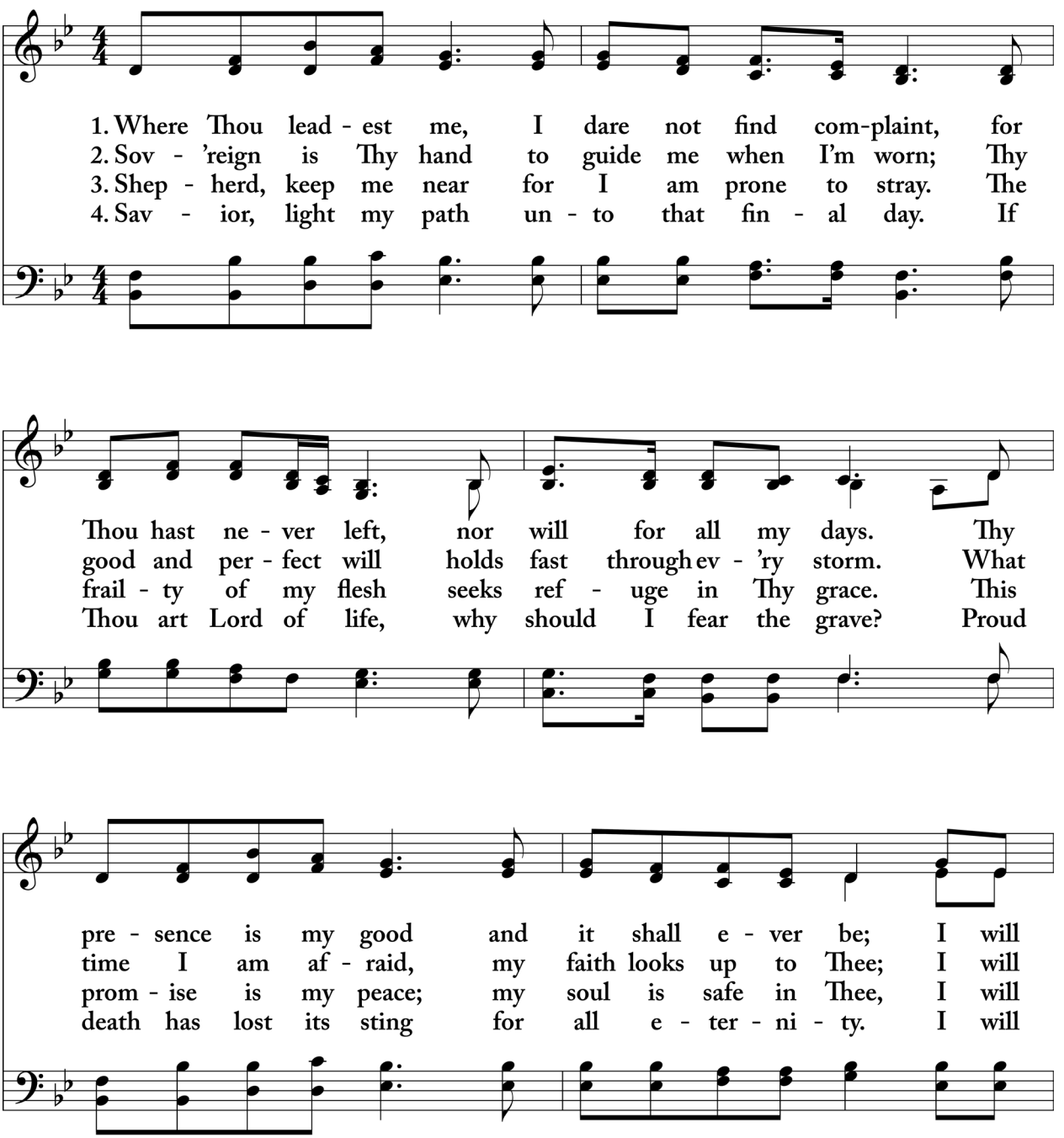
5. His purposes will ripen fast,
unfolding ev'ry hour;
the bud may have a bitter taste,
but sweet will be the flow'r.

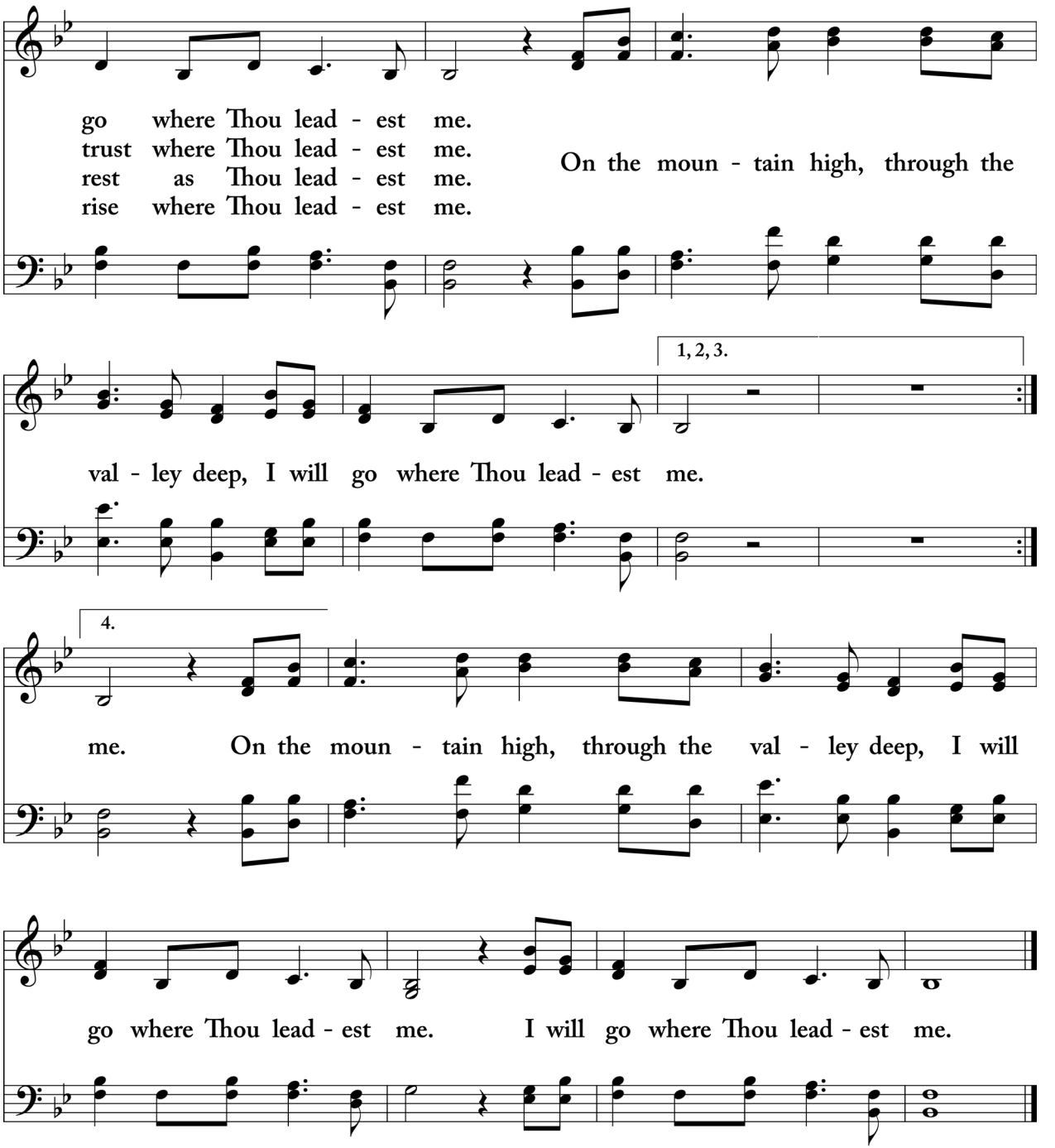
6. Blind unbelief is sure to err,
and scan his work in vain;
God is his own interpreter,
and he will make it plain.

William Cowper, 1774

DUNDEE C.M.
Scottish Psalter, 1615

Where Thou Leadest Me



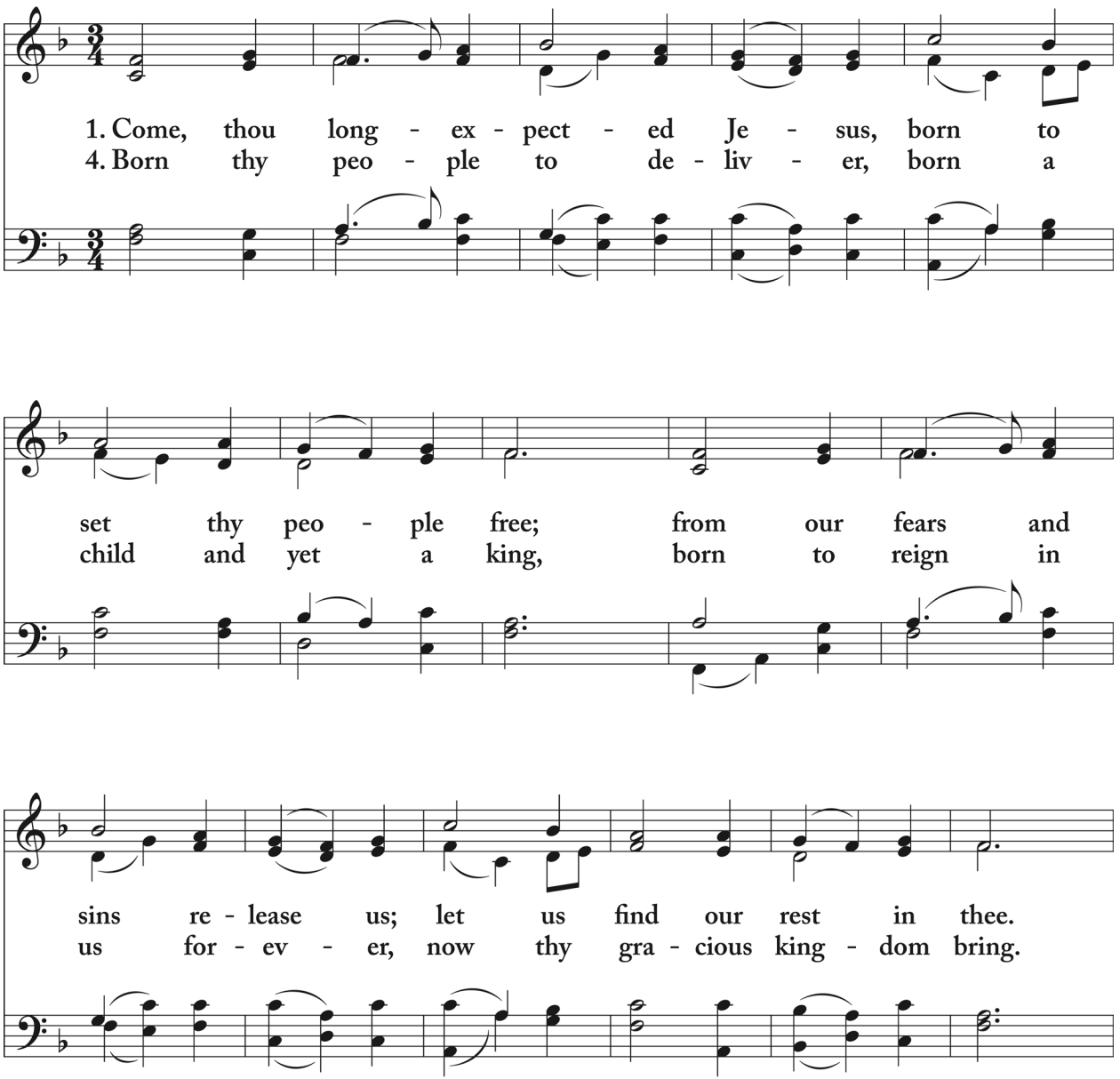


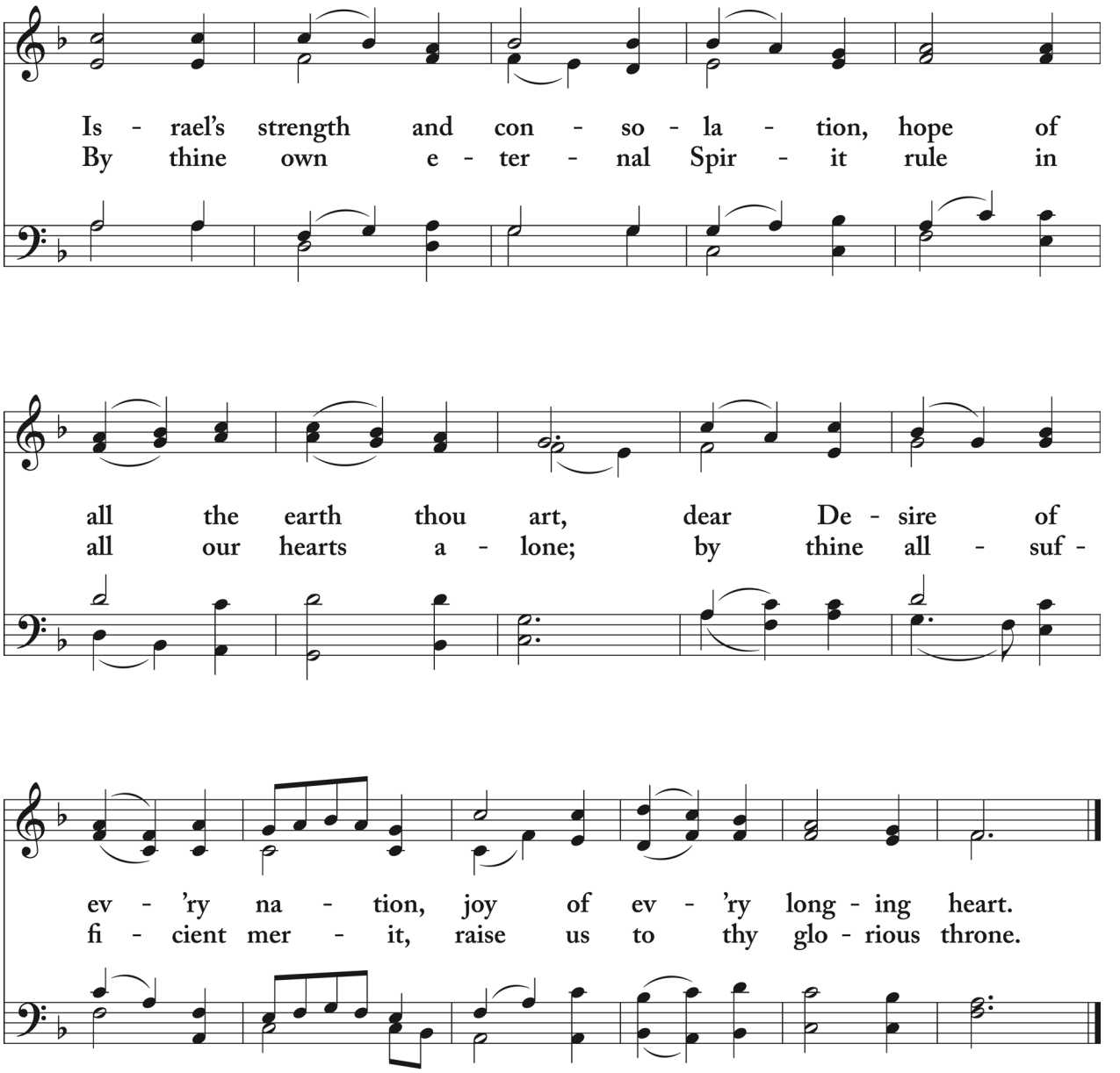
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Bryan Fowler, Ben Shive
and Kristyn Getty

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Waiting for the consolation of Israel. Luke 2:25





St. 1, 4, Charles Wesley, 1744
St. 2-3, Mark E. Hunt, 1978
Text of stanzas 2 & 3 © 1978, InterVarsity Christian Fellowship. Used by permission.

HYFRYDOL 8.7.8.7.D.
Rowland Hugh Pritchard, 1855

The Lord of Dreams

Genesis 37:12-36 | Rev. Scott Hunt

In Genesis 37, the wickedness of man is on full display. God's promises seem threatened not by outsiders but by those most in need of his benefits. What appears to be a chapter merely highlighting the envy of a "dreamer" reveals the power of the Lord of dreams (Gen. 40:8; 41:16). So it is for all those in Christ who are "tested by fire"; even trials at the hands of wicked men will result in "praise and glory and honor" (1 Pet. 1:7) for the God who uses those same hands for our good (1 Peter 1:3–5).

i. The suffering of the righteous

ii. The salvation of the righteous

Daily Bible Reading Plan

Use this plan for your daily Bible reading.

- **Sunday, November 29** Micah 4 • Luke 13
- **Monday, November 30** Micah 5 • Luke 14
- **Tuesday, December 1** Micah 6 • Luke 15
- **Wednesday, December 2** Micah 7 • Luke 16
- **Thursday, December 3** Nahum 1 • Luke 17
- **Friday, December 4** Nahum 2 • Luke 18
- **Saturday, December 5** Nahum 3 • Luke 19
- **Sunday, December 6** Habakkuk 1 • Luke 20

Weekly Sermon Discussion Questions

Use these questions to reflect more deeply on this week's sermon.

1. It is hard to imagine that Joseph would be sold into slavery by his own family. How does this shape your understanding of sin and its depth?

2. How do the brothers' actions, especially those of Reuben and Judah, highlight human responsibility for sin?

3. How does this text demonstrate the providence of God?

4. Does God's providence negate the brothers' culpability? Discuss how this supports a healthy understanding of suffering without despair.

5. How can we discuss divine providence in a way that unintentionally hurts other Christians who are suffering?

Monthly Scripture Memorization

Devote time to memorizing this passage of Scripture throughout the month.

> **"Go, eat your bread with joy, and drink your wine with a merry heart, for God has already approved what you do" (Ecclesiastes 9:7).**

About Worship

In his encounter with the woman of Samaria, Jesus explained that "God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and in truth" (John 4:24). The reason Jesus says true worshipers must worship in this way is because God himself "is spirit." Here we discover the simple yet profound principle that true worship is a response to God as he has personally revealed himself. Thus, conformity to God's character is the key to true worship. "Great is the LORD," as the psalmist puts it, "and greatly to be praised" (Psalm 48:1)! In worship, we seek to reflect this divine reality, declaring with our lips and demonstrating with our lives that God is supremely precious and therefore worthy of all glory and honor and praise.

The Shape of Worship



Entering God's Presence—We gather in response to God's call to worship, joyfully offering praise to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. With reverence and awe, we confess our sins and receive God's forgiveness, which is declared in Jesus' name.



Renewing Our Faith—Worship continues with a focus on God's Word. Our faith is renewed as we publicly confess the truth of God, join our hearts and voices in prayers and hymns of praise to God, and hear the good news of God powerfully proclaimed.



Responding in Thanks—As hearing becomes doing, we respond to the proclamation of God's Word. Songs of praise continue to be raised and the gifts and offerings of God's people are collected. On Communion Sundays we are invited to celebrate the Lord's Supper. With God's blessing upon us, we are sent into the world to love and serve the risen Lord Jesus Christ!

Why Do We Worship in This Way?

Question: What are the colored hangings on the pulpit, and why do they change?

Answer: These hangings are called "paraments" and they change as we celebrate special occasions, especially the five great "evangelical feasts" of the church year: Christmas, Good Friday, Easter, Ascension, and Pentecost. These liturgical colors have an instructive purpose, helping us to mark time, and pointing us to key events in the life of Christ and the great work of redemption that he has accomplished.

Welcome, Visitors!

We are delighted you have joined us for worship. Our hope is that you find our worship service glorifying to God and personally refreshing.

We would love to connect with you. Please stop by our Welcome Kiosk in the Narthex after the service so that we may greet you in person and provide you a *Welcome Bag*. To connect with us, please use the QR code below to fill out a ***Connect Card***.

Use your phone's camera to quickly access the following resources or navigate to the URL below each QR code.

CONNECT CARD
stpaulsorlando.com/connect

CHURCH APP
hub.stpaulsorlando.com

GIVE ONLINE
stpaulsorlando.com/give

Our Vision

To see the invisible kingdom of heaven made visible,
for the glory of God and the joy of all peoples.

Our Mission

To grow in grace and give away our lives
in the following seven major ministry areas:

Worship that exalts God in Christ and promotes unity in the Spirit
Discipleship that is rooted in the Scriptures and centered in the gospel
Community that is characterized by discipleship and care for one another
Local Missions that promotes the common good and evangelizes the lost
Global Missions that participates in church planting and spreading the gospel to the ends of the earth
Children's Ministry that partners with parents to build children up in the faith through loving care and Reformed biblical teaching
Youth Ministry that promotes maturity, joy, and identity in Christ

ST. PAUL'S
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