

THE HOUSE OF HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Waiting does not diminish us, any more than waiting diminishes a pregnant mother. We are enlarged in the waiting. We, of course, don't see what is enlarging us. But the longer we wait, the larger we become, and the more joyful our expectancy.

Eugene Peterson

Third Sunday of Advent | December 12, 2021 10 a.m.

Welcome

We are delighted you have joined House of Hope for worship.

Our caring and active community welcomes you.

We extend the hospitality of Christ to all.

Regarding Masks for In-Person Worship.

Please know in light of the evolving situation regarding the variant guidelines, we now strongly encourage all those who attend worship to wear a mask. In this fluid situation with changing national, state and local protocols, we will continue to monitor developments and discern how best to respond while keeping in mind the safety of church staff and those attending worship.

Please continue to maintain physical distance from other worshippers not in your household, as children under the age of 5 are not yet able to be vaccinated.

Deacons will provide offering plates at the sanctuary doors.

Our worship service is also livestreamed and can be accessed on the home page of our website (hohchurch.org) and on our Facebook page (The House of Hope Presbyterian Church.)

After the service, please join us for a time of fellowship in the Kirk Parlour.



We invite you to join the over 159 House of Hope members and friends who have already pledged with an overall average pledge increase of 12% .

Pledge cards can be found in the narthex information racks and in the front office.

"If" is one of the most significant words in the Bible. Jesus uses it repeatedly to deepen our understanding of what it looks like to follow him in our lives. Jesus said, for example, "if you listen..." "If you forgive..." "If you believe..."

Our 2022 Stewardship Campaign that seeks to fund our Annual Budget focuses on how the word "if" has shaped the past, present, and future of The House of Hope.

If generations before us had not generously provided the means to build The House of Hope, we would not be able to enjoy our lovely sanctuary and building.

If members and friends had not given to The Houses of Hope Fund, we would not be able to make substantial grants to provide affordable housing in our community.

If members and friends had not contributed generously to our 2021 Stewardship Campaign, we could not have funded Mission Outreach giving from our annual operating budget for the first time in seventeen years.

THE APPROACH TO GOD

Prelude

Meditation on the Nordic Advent Hymn: Lost in the Night

arr. Cathy Moglebust

The Bells of Hope with Emily Hagen, violist; Timothy Short, director

Welcome and Announcements

Lynn Barger Elliott

Choral Antiphon

Lighting of the Third Advent Candle

Henry and Edmund Karre, Ann and Bill Geery

Introit

He is Coming Soon

Matthew Culloton

The Motet Choir; Matthew Culloton, Choirmaster

+ Processional Hymn 9

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Veni Emmanuel

Invitation to Prayer

Julia A. Carlson

Advent is our reminder that when God steps into the world, our lives are never the same. And so this season extends to us an invitation and poses a question, "What will be our next step towards Bethlehem?" Let us pray:

Prayer of Reflection — adapted from Jan Richardson

God of our lives, in Advent you ask us to watch for the signs you place on our paths, yet we cannot always discern their meanings. You call us to move forward, yet we do not always know whether our feet are taking us in the directions you want us to walk. So teach us, we pray, to listen to a restless hope that inspires us to step beyond our weariness and discomfort and brings us into your peaceful and hopeful presence under a Bethlehem star. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness — Luke 1:50

Minister: Let us hear the words of Mary as she proclaims, “The Mighty One has done great things for me—holy is God’s name! Mercy flows from generation to generation upon those who stand in awe before God. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel,

People: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

+ Sung Response

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the sung response. The first staff is a vocal line in G major, 4/4 time, with lyrics: "Glo - - - - - ri-a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!". The second staff is a piano accompaniment line, mirroring the vocal melody. The lyrics are repeated: "Glo - - - - - ri-a, in ex - cel - sis De - - - o!".

Anthem

Gaudete

Traditional English

Gaudete, Gaudete!	<i>Rejoice, Rejoice!</i>	Deus homo factus est,	<i>God was made man,</i>
Christus et natus	<i>Christ is born</i>	Natura mirante;	<i>And nature marvels;</i>
Ex maria virgine,	<i>Of the virgin Mary,</i>	Mundus renovatus est	<i>The world was renewed</i>
Gaudete!	<i>Rejoice!</i>	A Christo regnante.	<i>By Christ who is King.</i>
Tempus ad est gratiae,	<i>It is now the time of grace</i>	Ezechelis porta	<i>The closed gate of Ezechiel</i>
Hoc quod optabamus;	<i>That we have desired;</i>	Clausa pertransitur;	<i>Has been passed through;</i>
Carmina laetitiae,	<i>Let us sing songs of joy,</i>	Unde lux est orta	<i>From where the light rises</i>
Devote redamus.	<i>Let us give devotion.</i>	Salus invenitur.	<i>Salvation is found.</i>

THE WORD OF GOD

First Lesson

Elise Jamison

Luke 1:26-38 (NT, pp. 56-57 in pew Bible)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem

Dormi, Dormi

St Cecilia and St Nicholas Choirs

Sofia Ardan, director; Timothy Short, piano

Italian Carol, arr. Mary Goetze

Dormi, dormi, bel bambin, *Sleep, beautiful child,*
Re divin, Re divin, *King divine,*
Fa la nanna fantolino. *Sleep, my little one.*
Fa-la-la!

Perche piangi, o mio tesoro, *Why do you cry, my treasure,*
Dolce amor, dolce amore, *Sweetest love,*
Fa la nanna, o caro figlio. *Sleep, o dearest son.*
Fa-la-la!

Time for Children

Kiera Stegall

All children and youth, Grades 8 and younger, are invited to walk down the center aisle to meet Kiera Stegall in the Narthex to be led to the Education Wing.

Second Lesson

Luke 1:39-56 (NT, p. 57 in pew Bible)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

An Asemic Advent: New Signposts in a Strange Land — 3

Lynn Barger Elliott

THE RESPONSE TO GOD

+ Hymn 16

The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came

Gabriel's Message

+ **Affirmation of Faith** — adapted from Nathan Nettleton

We believe in God, origin and destiny of us all. We believe in Jesus the Christ, God coming to us in the fragile promise of a baby yet unborn, who emerges as the herald of hope. He is leading the way to the land of promise where justice and peace will flourish. We believe in the Holy Spirit, who implants the seed of truth,

**brings us to birth as the body of Christ, and empowers us to confront and transform our hurting world. For the coming of that day on this day, we work and pray:
Come, Lord Jesus, Come!**

Offering - There are four ways to give an offering:

- **In-Person.** Offering plates will be provided by deacons at the sanctuary doors.
- **Website.** On the homepage, click "Support House of Hope", then click on "Make a Gift"
Members can also sign into MyHOH to give.
- **Mail.** Mail a check to 797 Summit Ave. Saint Paul, MN 55105
- **QR Code.** Please see page 9.

Anthem

To Thee, O Lord, Have I Lifted Up My Soul

Gerald Near

To thee, O Lord, have I lifted up my soul:
O God, in thee have I put my trust;
Let me never be ashamed;
Nor let my enemies laugh at me.
Show me thy ways, O Lord, and teach me thy paths.

+ Offertory Response



O God be-yond all prais-ing, we wor-ship you to - day and sing the love a-maz-ing that
songs can - not re - pay; for we can on - ly won - der at ev - 'ry gift you send, at
bless-ings with-out num-ber and mer-cies with-out end: we lift our hearts be-fore you and
wait u-pon your word, we hon - or and a-dore you, our great and might - y Lord.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Mark Barger Elliott

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

+ Recessional Hymn 13

Prepare the Way

Bereden väg för Herran

+ Benediction

Postlude

Veni Emmanuel

A. D. Miller

Carillon Postlude

David W. Johnson, Carillonneur

Christmas Memorials. You may purchase a poinsettia (\$15) or make a donation in any amount to the Mission Outreach Fund in memory or in honor of loved ones for publication in the December 19 bulletin. Visit or call the church office, or Sign up online at bit.ly/HOHChristmasMemorials The deadline for reserving Christmas Memorials is **TODAY, December 12.**



Children and Family Ministry — Contact Kiera Stegall at KieraS@hohchurch.org

Infants – Toddlers | 9:45 a.m. | Room 8 Our youngest children will take little steps toward big faith through stories and play.

Preschool – Grade 5 | 10:15 a.m. | Room 5 Our preschool and elementary Sunday school classes will Build-a-World for Christmas, as we prepare for the Christmas pageant.

Build-a-World Christmas Pageant | TODAY | 10:15 a.m. | Room 5

Using craft materials and costume supplies, children will create vignettes populated with their creations to retell the stories of Jesus’ birth. The House of Hope community is invited to bear witness to the unfolding narratives as they tour the Education Wing at 11:15 a.m.

Youth and Family Ministry — Contact Dan Miglets-Nelson at DanMN@hohchurch.org

Middle School Sunday School | 10:15 a.m. | Room 1

Sunday School for grades 6-8 will not occur on Communion Sundays. Students are invited to remain in worship to experience the Sacrament.” in the section about Middle School Sunday School.

Sponsor-A-Family Donation Drop-Off | Sunday, December 12 | 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Once again, the House of Hope Youth Group is helping to make Christmas happen for dozens of families across the Twin Cities. On Sundays, December 12, the Youth will meet at 2pm to collect donations for the Sponsor-A-Family event. This collection will include fellowship and service, and will replace the SUMMIT for those weeks. For more information, please contact DanMN@hohchurch.org.

Sponsor-A-Family Truck Loading | Saturday, December 18 | 9:00 a.m.

This year, the Youth will be meeting on Saturday December 18 to load all of the collected donations into a moving truck to be delivered throughout the city. We will meet at 9:00a.m., and donuts will be provided. Please bring layers, as you might be working both inside and outside for the event. Please let Dan know if you have any questions, or would like to sign up.

The SUMMIT: Youth Group Christmas Party | Sunday, December 19 | 7:00 p.m.

Following a busy month of service and fellowship, students are invited to meet on Sunday evening, December 19 for our annual Christmas Party. There will be snacks, games, and lots of silliness. Stay tuned for more information.

House of Hope Choir School — Contact Sofia Ardan at SofiaA@hohchurch.org

Every child can sing! The Choir School offers outstanding music education for all children ages 4-18. Limited registration is open for Spring Session I beginning January 5.

This Week at House of Hope

Sunday, December 12, 2021

- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School Infants - Toddlers, Rm 8
- 10 a.m. Worship Service, Sanctuary
- 10:15 a.m. Sunday School Preschool - Grade 5, Rm 5
- 11:15 a.m. Social Hour, Kirk Parlour
- 11:15 a.m. Children's Christmas Pageant
- 2 p.m. Sponsor-A-Family Collection/Youth Service Project

Monday, December 13, 2021

- 11 a.m. Centering Prayer, Kirk Parlour
- 1 p.m. Tableaux Set-up, Sanctuary
- 6 p.m. AA, Great Hall
- 6:30 p.m. Faith and Fibers, Library

Tuesday, December 14, 2021

- 7 a.m. Men's Breakfast, Zoom
- 6 p.m. Tableaux Set up, Sanctuary
- 7:30 p.m. Youth & Family Ministry Meeting, Zoom

Wednesday, December 15, 2021

- 9:30 a.m. Wednesday Morning Bible Study, Library
- 4 p.m. Choir School Rehearsals
- 5:45 p.m. Choir School Christmas Party, Kirk Parlour
- 6:45 p.m. Bells of Hope Rehearsal, Youth Room
- 7 p.m. Motet Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

Thursday, December 16, 2021

- 7 a.m. Men's Breakfast Group, Louisiana Cafe
- 9 a.m. Thursday Morning Bible Study, Zoom
- 10 a.m. Library Committee, Library
- 5:30 p.m. Capital City Grief Group Coalition
- 5:30 p.m. Budget Committee Meeting, Zoom

Friday, December 17, 2021

- 8 a.m. Women's Breakfast Book Group, Zoom
- 9 a.m. Friday Centering Prayer, Zoom
- 5:30 p.m. Tableaux Rehearsal, Sanctuary

Saturday, December 18, 2021

- 9 a.m. Sponsor/Family Truck Loading
- 5:30 p.m. Traditional Tableaux Service, Sanctuary
(Doors open at 5 p.m.)

Sunday, December 19, 2021

- 10 a.m. Worship Service, Sanctuary
- 11:15 a.m. Social Hour, Kirk Parlour
- 11:15 a.m. Choir School Christmas Concert, Sanctuary
- 7 p.m. The SUMMIT Christmas Party



The Communion Table flowers are given
in loving memory of Delmar E. Bowers

**To support House of Hope
please use this QR code**



Festival of HOPE

“Hope is the last thing ever lost.” The words of this Italian proverb inspire us to scan our horizons to detect places of emerging hope, especially in challenging times. Festival of Hope, our online conference, invites us to find hope in the landscapes of the refugee crisis, faith and science, the writings of William James, racial injustice, the sacred within us, and the American identity.

These conversations will be available on our website, hohchurch.org



Becca Stevens, a “CNN Hero,” is a social entrepreneur, author, priest, and founder of Thistle Farms. Her new book *Practically Divine* is about experiencing the sacred in our lives.



Jess McHugh is a writer and researcher whose work has appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Washington Post*, and *TIME*. Her book, *Americanon*, was published this year.



Dr. John Kaag is an award-winning author and Chair of Philosophy at UMass Lowell. He will speak on his new book, *Sick Souls, Healthy Minds: How William James Can Save Your Life*.



Jessica Goudeau is author of *After the Last Border: Two Families and the Story of Refuge in America*, named a *New York Times* Editors' Choice book. She has written for *The New York Times* and *The Atlantic*.



Greg Cootsona is a professor, author and noted speaker on the intersection between science and faith. He has written for *The Wall Street Journal* and has been interviewed by CNN and the BBC.

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS



TODAY Children's Christmas Pageant

Join us after worship on Sunday, December 12, for a unique retelling of the nativity story. Enjoy a guided tour through the Education Wing, as you witness vignettes about Jesus' birth. Our tour will conclude with caroling in the sanctuary.



Saturday, December 18 Traditional Christmas Tableaux

5:30 p.m. | Sanctuary (Doors open at 5 p.m.)

A tradition at HOH for 100 years, this is the Christmas story as told through the Scriptures, through lovely carols and anthems, and in the adaptation in tableaux ("living pictures") of well-known paintings and familiar scenes of the nativity. Childcare available for ages 4 and under.



Sunday, December 19 Choir School Christmas Concert *Sing Noel!*

Sunday, December 19 at 11:15 a.m. in the sanctuary. This festive, 30-minute program features carols from around the world sung by our choristers PreK-Grade 12. Come celebrate with sounds of the season from the voices of our Choir School!



Friday, December 24 Christmas Eve Services in the Sanctuary

4 p.m. Family Candlelight Service *

3:30, 7, and 9:30 p.m. Carillon Recitals by David Johnson and Timothy Short

7:30 p.m. Candlelight Service *

10 p.m. Candlelight Service

* Childcare available for PreK and younger

Special Music (7:30 and 10 p.m.): Johann Kuhnau's delightful Christmas cantata *Und ist ein Kind geboren* (To Us a Child is Born). The House of Hope Motet Choir and Chamber Orchestra; Aaron David Miller, organ; Rachel Brandwein, harp; Matthew Culloton, conductor.

Candlelight Services include lessons, carols and anthems.

There is no service on Christmas Day.

Sponsor-A-Family

All of our 71 families are sponsored! We are partnering this year with the YWCA, Neighborhood House, Liberty Plaza, and the Wilder Foundation to spread some Christmas joy!

Curbside Drop-Off: **TODAY**, 2-4 p.m.

All gifts should be delivered to HOH by December 12.

Tableaux Set-up and Take-down —The Tableaux set up will be done in two steps this year. On Monday December 13 at 1 p.m. we'll bring all the Tableaux parts up to the sanctuary. On Tuesday, December 14 at 6 p.m., we'll assemble and set up the Tableaux. Take down will be right after the Tableaux service on Saturday, December 18. Many hands make light work. No experience necessary.

Today's cover art is by James Janknegt.

The House of Hope Presbyterian Church

797 Summit Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55105

(651) 227-6311 | hohchurch.org



Clergy

Rev. Lynn Barger Elliott, Co-Pastor Head of Staff

LynnBE@hohchurch.org

Rev. Dr. Mark Barger Elliott, Co-Pastor Head of Staff

MarkBE@hohchurch.org

Rev. Dr. Julia A. Carlson, Associate Pastor

JuliaC@hohchurch.org



The House of Hope
Presbyterian Church is a
Stephen Ministry Church.

Program Staff

Sofia Ardalan, Choir School DirectorSofiaA@hohchurch.org

Matthew Culloton, ChoirmasterMatthewC@hohchurch.org

Dan Miglets-Nelson, Director of Youth and Family Ministry DanMN@hohchurch.org

Aaron David Miller, Director of Music/Organist AaronM@hohchurch.org

Kiera Stegall, Director of Children and Family Ministry KieraS@hohchurch.org

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

VENI EMMANUEL LM with refrain

Latin, c. 12th century

Stanzas 1-2 trans. John Mason Neale, 1851; alt. 1854

Stanza 3 trans. Henry Sloane Coffin, 1916

Adapt. Thomas Helmore, 1854

Accomp. John Weaver, 1988

1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som
 2. O come, Thou Day-spring, come and cheer Our spir - its
 3. O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind All peo - ples

cap - tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile
 by Thine ad - vent here; Dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of
 in one heart and mind; Bid en - vy, strife, and dis - cord

here Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 night, And death's dark shad - ows put to flight. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!
 cease; Fill the whole world with heav - en's peace.

Em - man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came 16

GABRIEL'S MESSAGE 10.10.12.10

Basque carol

Para. Sabine Baring-Gould (1834-1924)

Arr. by Edgar Pettman and John Wickham

1. The an - gel Ga - bri - el from heav - en came, His
 2. "For know a bless - ed moth - er you shall be, All
 3. Then gen - tle Ma - ry meek - ly bowed her head, "To
 4. Of her, Em-man - u - el, the Christ, was born In

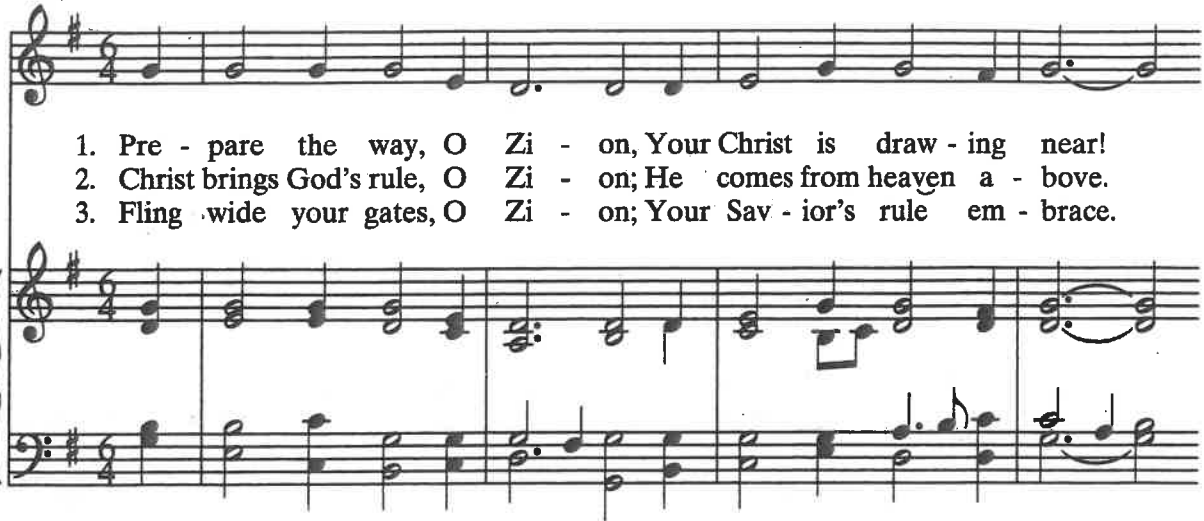
wings as drift - ed snow, his eyes as flame; "All
 gen - er - a - tions praise con - tin - ual - ly, Your
 me be as it pleas - es God," she said, "My
 Beth - le - hem, all on a Christ - mas morn, And

hail," said he, "O low - ly maid - en Ma - ry,"
 Son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told." Most
 soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy God's ho - ly name."
 Chris - tian folk through-out the world will ev - er say:

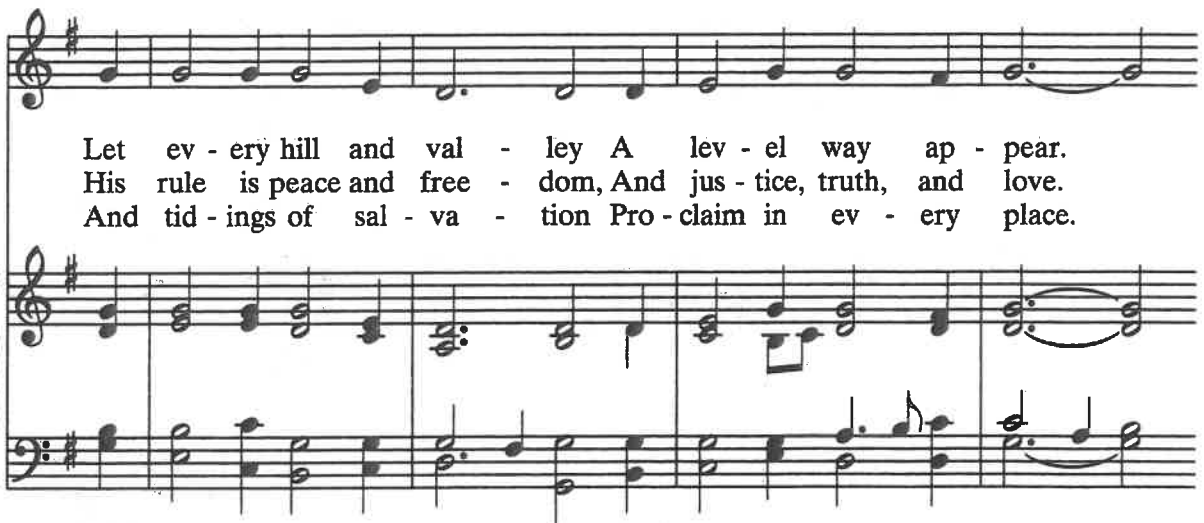
high - ly fa - vored la - dy, Glo - ri - a!

Prepare the Way

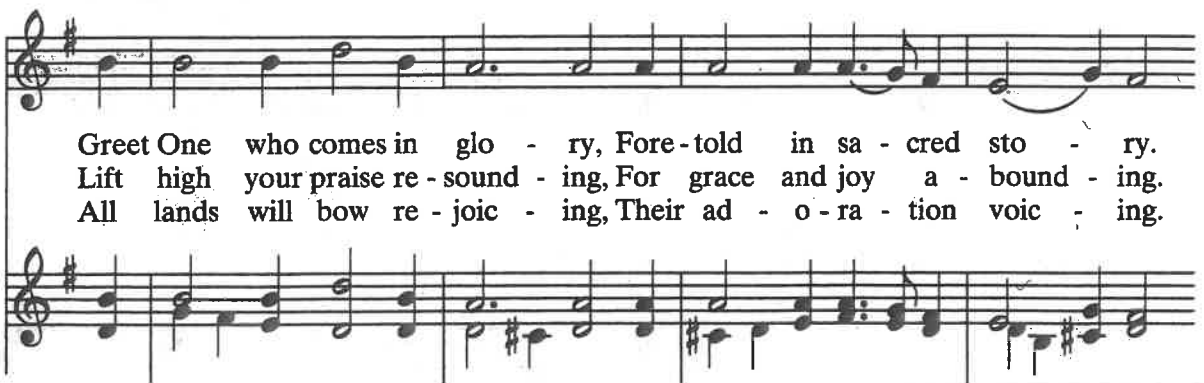
BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN 7.6.7.6.7.7 with refrain

Frans Mikael Franzen (1771-1847)
Adapt. Charles P. Price, 1980; alt. 1989Then Svenska Psalmboken, 1697
Arr. American Lutheran Hymnal, 1930


1. Pre - pare the way, O Zi - on, Your Christ is draw - ing near!
2. Christ brings God's rule, O Zi - on; He comes from heaven a - bove.
3. Fling wide your gates, O Zi - on; Your Sav - ior's rule em - brace.

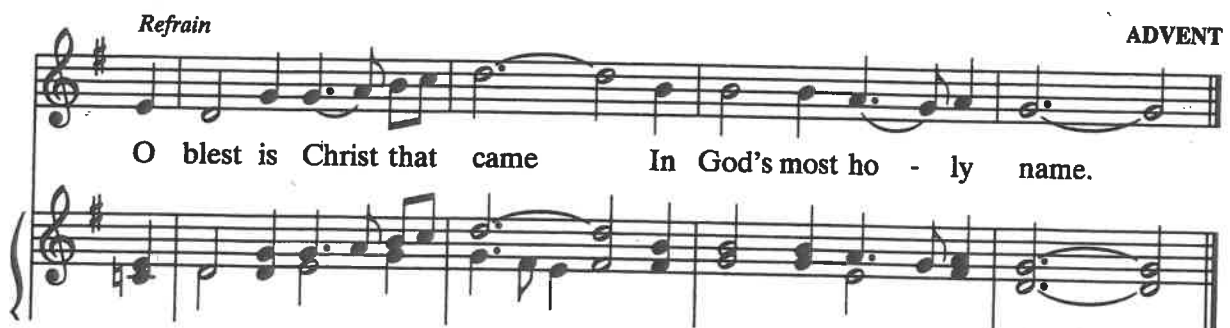


Let ev - ery hill and val - ley A lev - el way ap - pear.
His rule is peace and free - dom, And jus - tice, truth, and love.
And tid - ings of sal - va - tion Pro - claim in ev - ery place.



Greet One who comes in glo - ry, Fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry.
Lift high your praise re - sound - ing, For grace and joy a - bound - ing.
All lands will bow re - joic - ing, Their ad - o - ra - tion voic - ing.

Refrain ADVENT



O blest is Christ that came In God's most ho - ly name.