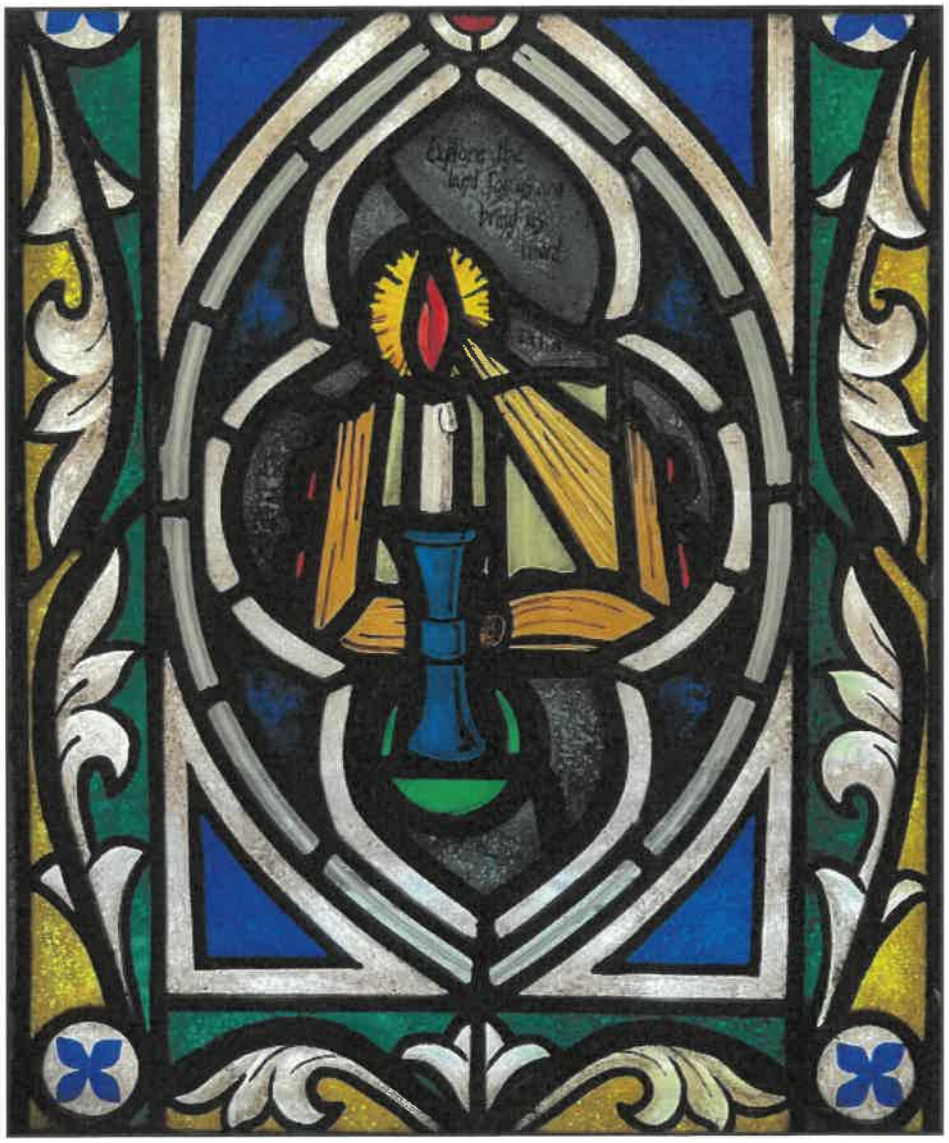
THE HOUSE OF HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



"Embracing the depths of life, in which are mingled the depths of divinity itself, we participate in an open-ended creativity."

– Catherine Keller

First Sunday of Advent | November 29, 2026 10 a.m.

Welcome!

We are delighted you have joined House of Hope for worship.
Our open and affirming, caring active community welcomes people of all ages & backgrounds.

Please join us for a time of Faith Formation on Sunday Mornings:
8:30 a.m. Breakfast – Kirk Parlour | 9:10 a.m. Education Time/Sunday School – East Wing

Our regular Sunday Worship time is 10 a.m., followed by refreshments, social hour, and enrichment opportunities. If you have any questions, our ushers will be glad to help you.
We invite you to join us for refreshments, today served in the **Kirk Parlour** following the service.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated today. All are welcome to share in The Lord's Supper. Elements served are gluten free bread and grape juice.

Sunday Morning Family Resources:
All children need to be registered before leaving their guardians for programming.
If your child is not registered, use this form: **https://bit.ly/CFMregistration or QR code:**

- **Worship:** Following the Time for Children, children are invited to either stay in the service with their guardians, or walk with staff and volunteers to the chapel for a children's worship service. They will return to worship to sit with their families to celebrate communion together.
- **A Wiggle Space** for children is available in the Bridal Room near the chapel with books and toys for your use, as well as a livestream of the service. Feel free to come in and out of the Sanctuary as needed.
- **Worship bags** are available at sanctuary entrances. Children's Bibles are located in the pews.
- **Nursery** in the East Wing is open for children age four and younger. A parent/guardian must sign children in and out of the nursery. Bring a photo ID with you.
- **Nursing** Parents are welcome to nurse their children wherever they feel comfortable. Feel free to ask an usher if you would feel more comfortable in a more private area.
- **Alleluia Choir** Rehearsal 11:15 a.m. - 12 p.m. ages 3 through Kindergarten welcome to come sing, dance, and read books together. Jessica Bandelin, Choir School Director: JessicaB@hohchurch.org
- **Need help?** Ask an usher or staff member any time!

Dr. Jimmy Hoke, Director of Christian Education: JimmyH@hohchurch.org
Sign up for Jimmy's CFM Updates here: bit.ly/CFMUpdates
Elsa Kendig, Director of Youth, Family, and Justice Ministries: ElsaK@hohchurch.org

Christmas Memorials. You may purchase a poinsettia ($15) or make a donation in any amount in memory of or in honor of loved ones for publication in the December 20 bulletin. If you purchased a poinsettia, you may take it home on December 20. Your donation will support the ministries of House of Hope. Visit or call the church office, or sign up online at: https://bit.ly/2026ChristmasMemorials

The deadline for reserving Christmas Memorials is Sunday, December 15.

House of Hope's sanctuary is equipped with telecoil technology.
To access the Hearing Loop, please sit in the
long pews in the center of the sanctuary.

+ Stand as you are able

THE APPROACH TO GOD

Prelude

Chorale Prelude on *Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme,* BWV 645 — J. S. Bach
Aaron David Miller, Organist

Introit

Keep Awake — Aaron David Miller
The Motet Choir; Matthew Culloton, Choirmaster

+Processional Hymn 13

Prepare the Way — BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN

+Advent Antiphon — House of Hope Choir School

From Heaven above, to Earth, he comes! Alleluia, Alleluia!
To bear good news to everyone! Alleluia, Alleluia!

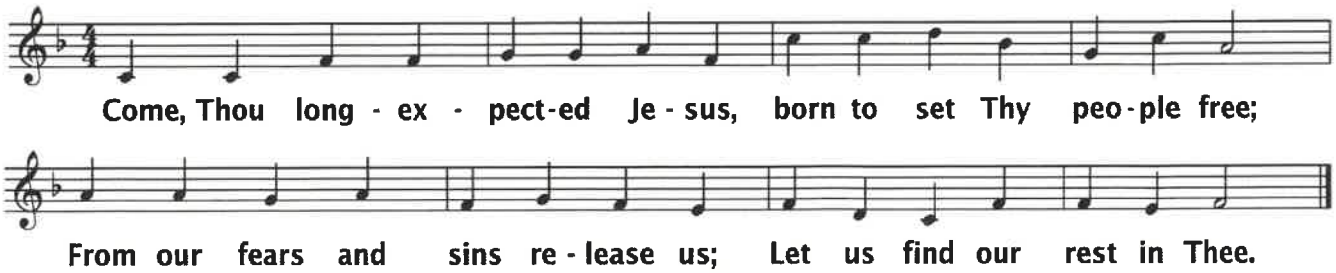
+Lighting of the First Advent Candle — Rev. James D. Cochrane

(The congregation reads the text in bold)

Rich black soil brings forth abundant life.
The deep dark of the ocean holds more life than has even been discovered.
We are reminded of the size of God's creation through the boundless beauty of outer space.
Creation is God's work done in holy darkness.
Even as we light this candle of hope,
We name the beauty, goodness, and holiness present in the darkness.

+The Peace *(The Peace of the Lord is shared with those around you.)*

+Sung Response



Anthem

A Glorious Day is Dawning — Aaron David Miller

A glorious day is dawning,
And o'er the waking earth
The heralds of the morning
Are springing into birth.
In dark and hidden places
There shines the blessèd light;
The beam of truth displaces
The darkness of the night.

It rings from hill and valley,
It breaks oppression's chain.
A thousand faithful rally,
And swell the mighty strain.

The watchword has been spoken,
The light has broken forth,
Far shines the blessèd token
Upon the startled earth,
To hearts and homes benighted,
The blessèd Truth is given,
And peace and love, united,
Point upward unto Heav'n.

Welcome and Announcements

THE WORD OF GOD

Anthem

Now Tell Us, Gentle Mary — arr. Judy Hunnicutt
St. Nicholas Choir; Jessica Bandelin, Director; Tim Short, Piano

Now tell us, gentle Mary, what did Gabriel say to thee?
Now tell us of the tidings that he brought to Galilee.
He told me I was favored, that I would be the one
God chose to be the Mother of Jesus, his own Son

Now tell us, gentle Mary, was He to all man-kind sent?
Now tell us, we beseech thee, was Jesus for us meant?
Yes, God so loved all man-kind that He did send his Son
To be the friend and teacher, the hope of ev'ryone!

Time for Children — Rev. Phillip Romine

Following the Time for Children, children are invited to either stay in the service with their guardians, or walk with staff and volunteers to the chapel for a special children's worship service. They will return to worship to sit with their families to celebrate communion together.

Scripture Lesson

Genesis 1:1-5 (OT, p. 1 in pew Bible)

For the Word of God in scripture, For the Word of God within us,
For the Word of God among us,
Thanks be to God.

Sermon Rev. Dr. E. Scott Jones

Spirit Moving in the Dark

THE RESPONSE TO GOD

+Hymn 20

Watchman, Tell Us of the Night ABERYSTWYTH

+Affirmation of Faith — *Apostles' Creed* Rev. Phillip J. Romine

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Offering — There are four ways to give an offering:

- **In-Person.** Offering plates will be passed throughout the congregation at this time.
- **Website.** On the homepage, click "Support House of Hope", then click on "Make a Gift"
- **Mail.** Mail a check to 797 Summit Ave. Saint Paul, MN 55105
- **QR Code.** Please see insert.

Offertory Anthem

Christ in the Stranger's Guise David Ashley White

I saw a stranger yester-e'en, I put food in the eating place,
drink in the drinking place, music in the listening place,
and in the sacred name of the Triune,
He blessed me and my house,
my cattle and my dear ones.
And the lark said in her song: "Often, Often,
Often, goes the Christ in the stranger's guise."

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to the Lord's Table

The Great Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord is with you.

People:



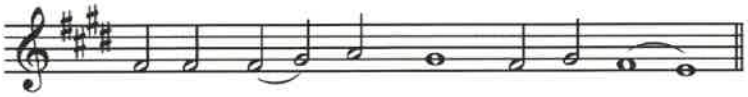
Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People:



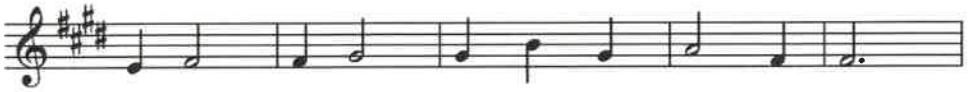
Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People:

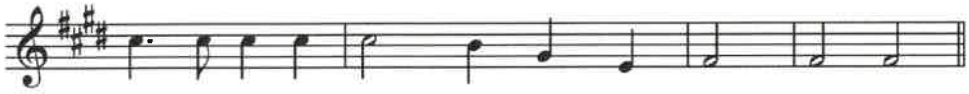


Leader: Blessed are you, O Lord our God.... Therefore we praise you, joining the song of the universal church and the heavenly choir:

People:







Leader: Blessed is Jesus Christ, our Savior . . . .we are bold to say together the words Jesus taught:

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.

Words of Institution

All who desire to partake will be dismissed from the back to the front by an usher. Please come down the center aisle to receive an individual cup of grape juice and piece of gluten free bread and return to your seats by the side aisles. Those unable to come forward will be served in the pew.

Prayer after Communion

Bless the Lord, O my soul;
and all that is within me, bless God's holy name!
Bless the Lord, O my soul;
and forget not all God's benefits.

**God our Maker, we give you thanks for this foretaste of your beloved community.
Make us aware of others who cannot rest, and strengthen us to build a world
in which all might sense your spirit: moving in the dark, working for the healing of all.
Following the example of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.**

+Recessional Hymn 8

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates TRURO

+Benediction

Postlude

Improvisation on *Bereden Väg För Herran*

Carillon Postlude

Timothy Short, Carillonneur

Peace Candle. The single candle near the pulpit is our Peace Candle, lighted as a reminder of the ongoing need for our prayer for peace in the world.

Cover Art: This depiction is from the Jackson window outside the Kirk Parlour. If you view the window up close, the words inscribed on this panel are: "Make a joyful noise unto the Lord."

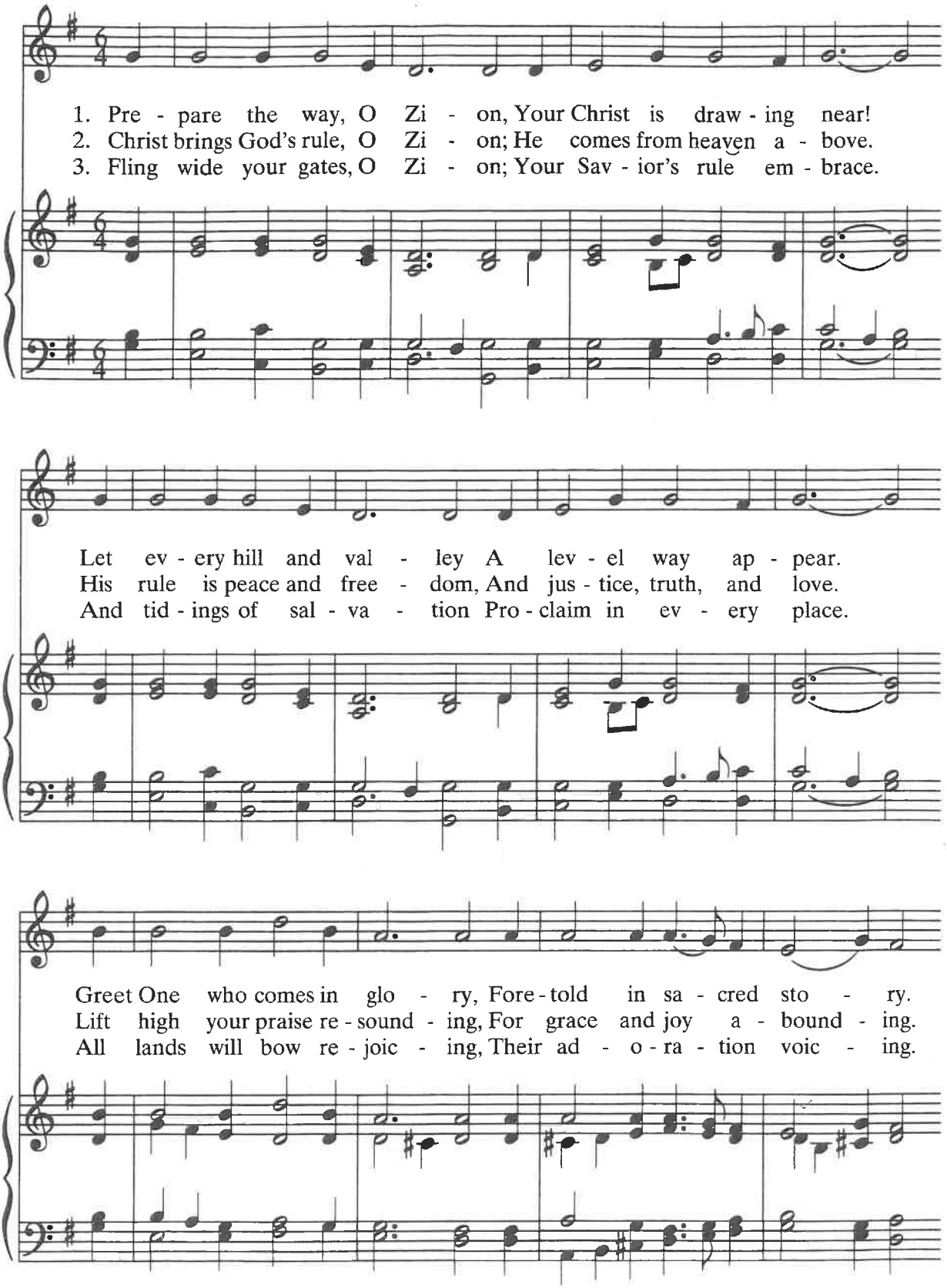
24/7 Pastoral Care Voicemail. House of Hope has reestablished an on-call phone number for pastoral emergencies: **651-223-7559.** Calls go straight to voicemail. After you leave a message and hang up, it is forwarded to a member of the House of Hope clergy, who will respond as soon as possible.

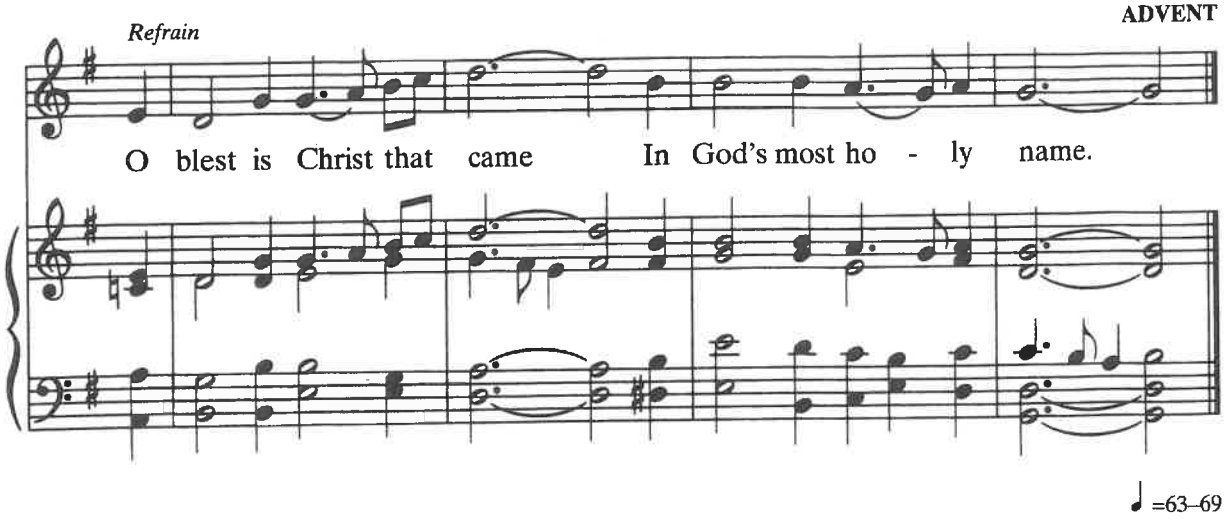
13 Prepare the Way

BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN 7.6.7.6.7.7 with refrain

Frans Mikael Franzen (1771–1847)
Adapt. Charles P. Price, 1980; alt. 1989

Then Swenska Psalmboken, 1697
Arr. *American Lutheran Hymnal,* 1930



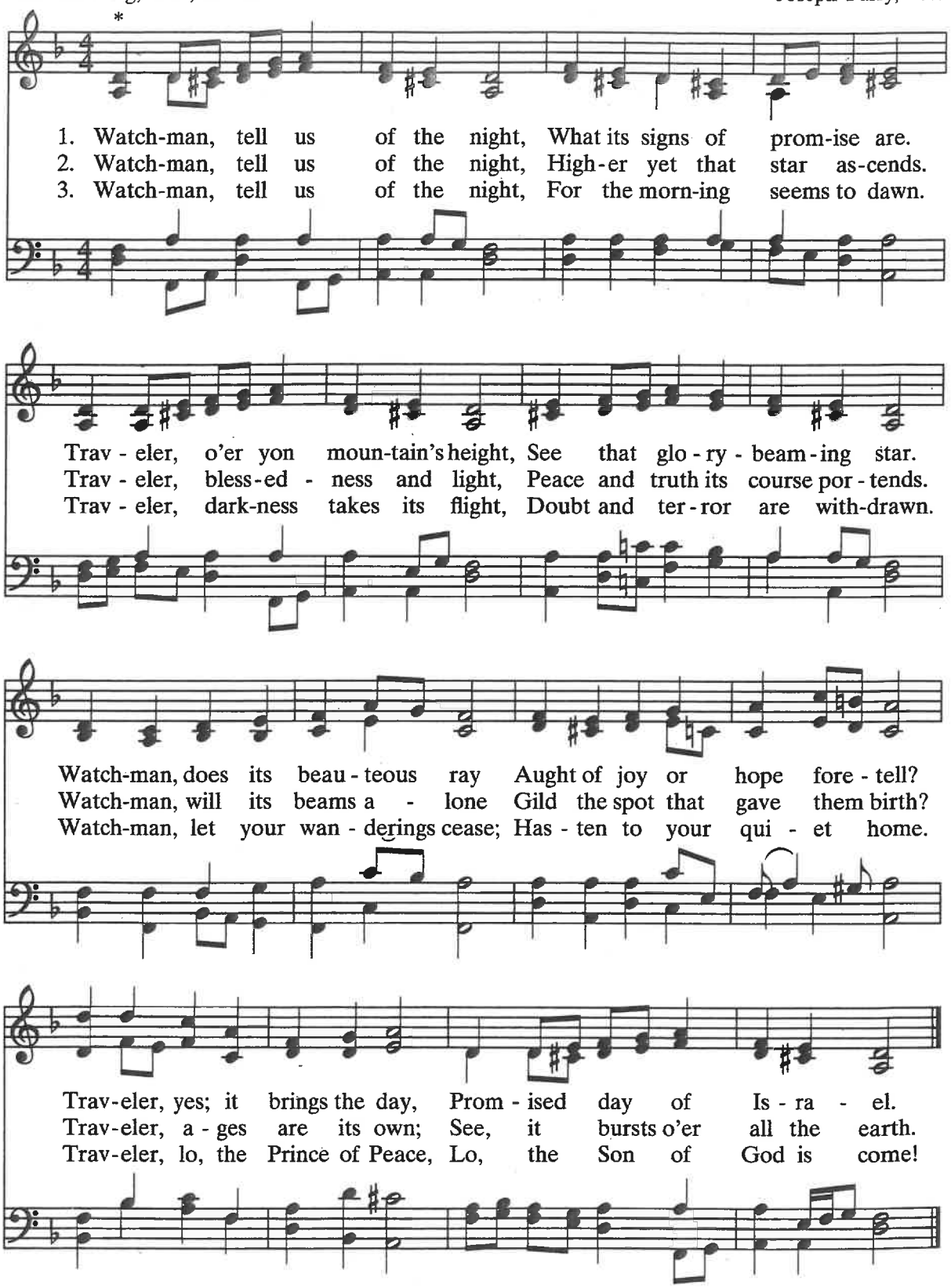


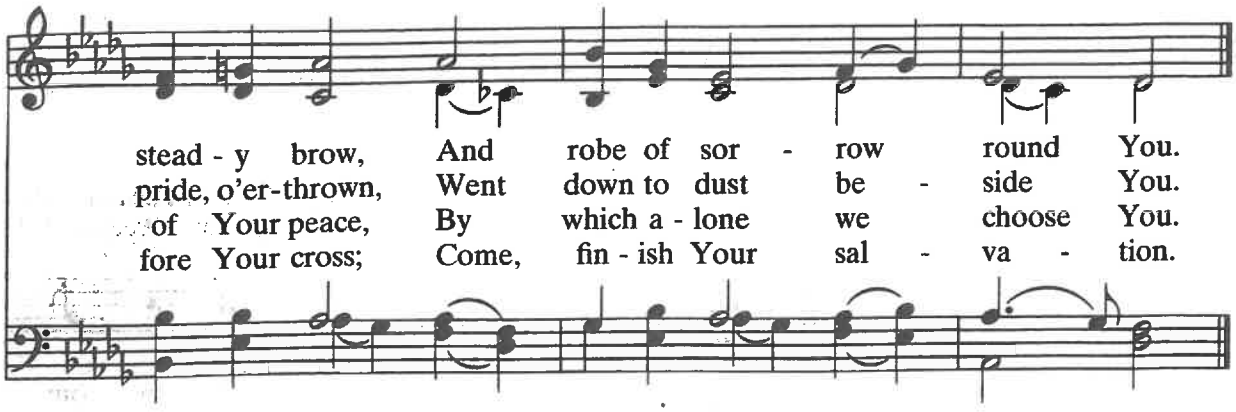
♩ =63–69

20 Watchman, Tell Us of the Night

ABERYSTWYTH 7.7.7.7 D

John Bowring, 1825; alt. 1972 — Joseph Parry, 1879





This tune in a higher key, 483

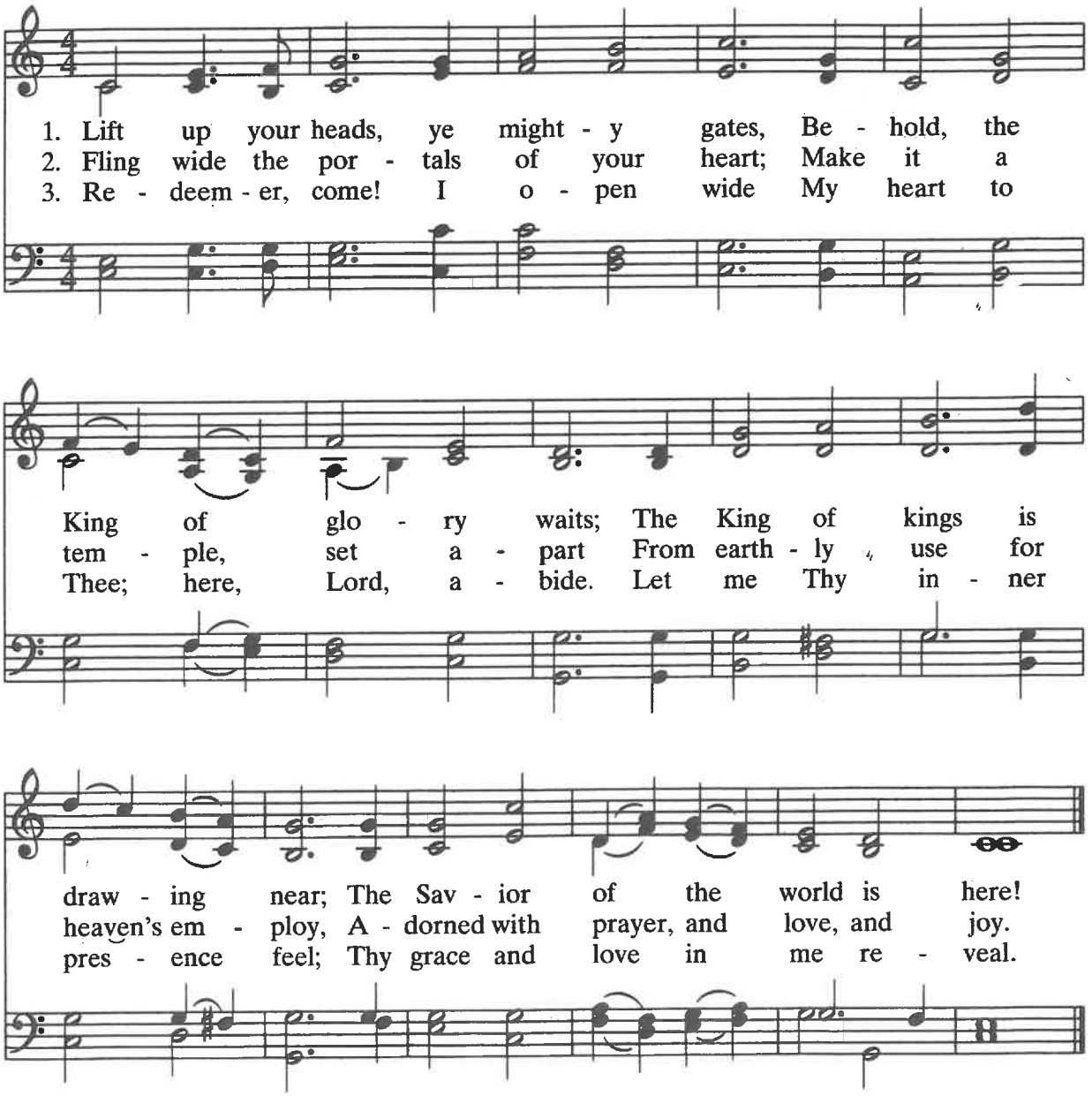
Psalm 24:7–10

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates 8

TRURO LM

Georg Weissel, 1642
Trans. Catherine Winkworth, 1855

Thomas Williams, 1789
Harm. Lowell Mason (1792–1872)



HOUSE OF HOPE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

News & Opportunities

November 29 – December 6, 2026

Today's Enrichment Hour | 11:15 a.m.
Assembly Room. ***A.I. and Christian Ethics.*** Artificial intelligence has been in the news a lot lately. House of Hope member Erik Vorhes will show how A.I. works, introduce the people and worldviews behind these technologies, and discuss some of the ethical implications of using A.I., including how Christians can think about and engage with these technologies.

Matthew 25 Art Exhibit and Fundraiser. The Matthew 25 Team will be presenting an exhibit *Human Toll: A Public History of 35W* for January and February in the HOH Art Gallery. This exhibit will be enhanced by additional presentations about the displacement of thriving African American communities. To offset the costs we are selling HOH Matthew 25 t-shirts (long and short sleeve) and sweatshirts today at tables outside of the Kirk Parlour. To order online, please see our website. Your support in helping fund an exhibit that will benefit both HOH and the wider community is greatly appreciated!

HOH Great Advent Cookie Bake-Off!



Calling all bakers, of all ages: The third annual Great Advent Cookie Bake-Off is coming up on **December 6**, after worship. Do you think you have the confectionary skills to win a coveted grand prize?

If so, the sign-up is officially open:
bit.ly/AdventCookieBakeOff

Questions: email Jimmy (JimmyH@hohchurch.org) or Elsa (ElsaK@hohchurch.org).

Choir School Plant Pick-up. If you ordered plants or wreaths, please pick them up at the Porte Cochere on Wednesday, December 3, from 3 - 6 p.m. or contact Jessica Bandelin, JessicaB@hohchurch.org with questions.



2026 Christmas Sponsor-A-Family

Our faith reminds us the Christmas season is about sharing with those most in need. We plan to spread Christmas joy by providing gifts for 60 families in partnership with mission partners. Visit the church website under **Things to Know** to find the link for information on families. A family wish list with instructions will be emailed to you. For assistance in signing up, contact the church.

Don't like to shop?
- Donate to help purchase grocery store gift cards for each family. Mail or drop off donations with a notation of Sponsor A Family.

- **Let us shop for you.** Contact Stacy Paleen for details at spaleen@yahoo.com

Beacon Convening. December 3 Creekside UCC | 7-9 p.m. The HOH congregation has a long history of working with Beacon Interfaith Housing Network toward the shared goal that everyone has a home. At the Beacon convening we will gather as our entire collaborative to ground ourselves in the reality of supportive housing. After, there will be a night-long vigil. For those who wish to join the vigil, you can sign up for an in person or virtual shift.

Convening and Vigil Schedule:
•Doors open for registration, refreshments, and fellowship 7-8 p.m.
•Interactive regional breakout sessions, programming 8-9 p.m.
•Public launch of *Losing Sleep, Losing Homes* Vigil 9 p.m. (Thurs.) – 7 a.m. (Fri.) -Losing Sleep, Losing Homes virtual and In-person vigil shifts. You can learn more and sign up for the Convening here: www.beaconinterfaith.org/event/congregational-convening-faith-in-home

For a full listing of events and activities, please visit our website www.hohchurch.org.



Save the Date and kick off the Christmas Season: Saturday, December 5 at 7 p.m.

Members of the Minnesota Music Hall of Fame, Monroe Crossing has been entertaining audiences for over 25 years. Whether appearing in an intimate room, community theater, major venue or outdoor festival, Monroe Crossing presents a highly entertaining show making them favorites among bluegrass connoisseurs and non-bluegrass audiences alike!

Join us for a special Bluegrass Christmas concert, hosted by Hope Arts Center and House of Hope.

Tickets: hohchurch.org/tickets

Week Beginning November 29, 2026

First Sunday of Advent, November 29, 2026

8:30 a.m.	Breakfast Time, Kirk Parlour
9:10 a.m.	Education Time, East Wing
9:15 a.m.	Choir School, Choir School Room
10 a.m.	Worship Service, Sanctuary
10:15 a.m.	Children's Worship, Chapel
11:15 a.m.	Social Hour, Kirk Parlour
11:15 a.m.	Enrichment Hour, Assembly Room
11:15 a.m.	Alleluia Choir, Choir School Room

Monday, November 30, 2026

6 p.m.	AA, Assembly Room
6 p.m.	Al-Anon, Room 1

Tuesday, December 1, 2026

7 a.m.	Men's Breakfast, Day by Day Cafe/Zoom
9:30 a.m.	Centering Prayer, Chapel/Zoom
1:30 p.m.	Library Committee, Library
4 p.m.	House and Property Meeting, Rm 1/Zoom

Wednesday, December 2, 2026

9:30 a.m.	Bible Study, Room 1/Zoom
12 p.m.	Stephen Ministry Supervision, Zoom
12:15 p.m.	Midweek Prayer Service, Elizabeth Chapel
3 p.m.	Choir School Holiday Plant Pick-up, Porte Cochere
4:30 p.m.	Choir School Rehearsal, Sanctuary
6:15 p.m.	Confirmation Youth Group, Youth Room
6:45 p.m.	Bells of Hope Rehearsal, Room 5
6:45 p.m.	Nominating Committee, Kirby Lounge
7 p.m.	Motet Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

Thursday, December 3, 2026

7 a.m.	Men's Breakfast, Day by Day Cafe/Zoom
9:30 a.m.	Mission Sewing, Dining A&B
10 a.m.	House of Hope Writing Group, Room 1
1 p.m.	Drop-in Knitting and Crafting, Library
5:30 p.m.	Capital City Grief Coalition, Lumen Christi Catholic Community

Friday, December 4, 2026

8 a.m.	Women's Book Group, Zoom
9:30 a.m.	Centering Prayer, Zoom

Saturday, December 5, 2026

7 p.m.	Hope Arts Center: Monroe Crossing, Sanctuary

Second Sunday of Advent, December 6, 2026

8:30 a.m.	Breakfast Time, Kirk Parlour
9:10 a.m.	Education Time, East Wing
9:15 a.m.	Choir School, Choir School Room
10 a.m.	Worship Service, Sanctuary
10:15 a.m.	Children's Worship, Chapel
11 a.m.	Great Advent Bake-off, Great Hall
11:15 a.m.	Social Hour, Kirk Parlour
11:15 a.m.	Alleluia Choir, Choir School Room
6:00 p.m.	Youth Group, Youth Room

To support House of Hope, please Text HOH to 73256 and follow link, or use this QR code:



Clergy

Rev. Dr. E. Scott Jones, Senior Pastor and Head of Staff
Rev. Phillip J. Romine, Associate Pastor for Spiritual and Community Care
Rev. James D. Cochrane, Transitional Executive Associate Pastor

24/7 Pastoral Care Voicemail (651) 223-7559

House of Hope is a Stephen Ministry Church.

Care Pastors:

Rev. Dix W. Brachlow ..... DWBrachlow@gmail.com
Rev. Dr. J. Michael Anderson ..... MikeA@pobox.com

COVENANT NETWORK OF PRESBYTERIANS

Program, Administrative, and Facility Staff

Ivan Agbonlahor, Director of Facilities ..... IvanA@hohchurch.org
Jessica Bandelin, Choir School Director ..... JessicaB@hohchurch.org
Shelley Baumgart, Facility Staff ..... ShelleyB@hohchurch.org
Madeline Cieslak, Hope Arts Center Executive Director ..... MadelineC@hohchurch.org
Preston Conley, Facility Staff ..... PrestonC@hohchurch.org
Matthew Culloton, Motet Choir Director ..... MatthewC@hohchurch.org
Janice Dickinson, Wedding Coordinator ..... hoh@hohchurch.org
Christopher Freeze, Director of Development ..... ChristopherF@hohchurch.org
Mike Gibson, Director of Finance ..... MikeG@hohchurch.org
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