



THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD
WITH RITE OF COMMITMENT TO CHRISTIAN SERVICE
FOR SOPHIE SCHAEFFER AND BILL THOMPSON
SUNDAY, JANUARY 12, 2025
ENRICHING OUR WORSHIP 3



Go forth and scatter the darkness

TODAY WE CELEBRATE THE FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD!

Each year on this First Sunday after the Epiphany, we celebrate the Baptism of Our Lord.

This Feast is one of four occasions in the year designated by the Prayer Book as a baptismal day. (The other three are Easter, Pentecost, and All Saints' Day.) Each of the four days has its particular theme, which enhances our understanding of one aspect of the primary Christian sacrament, Holy Baptism.

Jesus' baptism was for all the Gospel writers and in the apostolic preaching of the Gospel, the event that initiated the redemptive ministry of the Messiah. It was in that event that Jesus was revealed as Messiah (Christ). God designated him as the beloved Son and he was anointed by the Holy Spirit. We renew our baptismal vows today in the context of this theme.

In Holy Baptism, each Christian is adopted as the child of God. Each Christian becomes a "messianic" person, anointed by the Holy Spirit. We do not simply become passive recipients of the benefits of Christ; we are "christed" or christened. We become sharers in his life and in his redemptive ministry.

WE ALSO CELEBRATE A RITE OF COMMITMENT TO CHRISTIAN SERVICE

The Book of Common Prayer contains several Rites, or expressions of the church's relationship with God through word, symbol and action. One of those Rites is called a Commitment to Christian Service. "This form may be used when a person wishes to make or renew a commitment to the service of Christ in the world, either in general terms, or upon undertaking some special responsibility" (Book of Common Prayer, 420).

Today two St. Francis parishioners, Sophie Schaffer and Bill Thompson, will make a Commitment to Christian Service. Each of them have been in preparation and prayer for this day. Sophie is recommitting herself generally to her faith in Jesus Christ while Bill makes a particular commitment to serve as a Lay Pastoral Minister in our congregation. Both will each make an Act of Commitment during the Rite which articulates their intentions. They will then reaffirm their baptismal promises along with each of us. Finally, we will pray that we, too, may strengthen ourselves in our Christian vocation and in service to others.

PRELUDE

WELCOME

GATHERING HYMN

SONGS OF THANKFULNESS AND PRAISE

H 135

At 8am, sing verses 1 and 2. At 10:30am, sing all printed verses.



1 Songs of thank-ful - ness and praise, Jes - us, Lord, to thee we raise,
2 Man - i - fest at Jor - dan's stream, Pro-phet, Priest, and King su - preme;
3 Man - i - fest in mak - ing whole pal - sied limbs and faint - ing soul;



man - i - fest - ed by the star to the sa - ges from a - far;
and at Ca - na, wed - ding-guest, in thy God-head man - i - fest;
man - i - fest in val - iant fight, quell - ing all the dev - il's might;



branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem in thy birth at Beth - le - hem;
man - i - fest in power di - vine, chang - ing wa - ter in - to wine;
man - i - fest in gra - cious will, ev - er bring - ing good from ill;



an - thems be to thee ad - dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.
an - thems be to thee ad - dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.
an - thems be to thee ad - dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.

OPENING ACCLAMATIONS *Stand*

Presider Blessed be God: Creator, Redeemer and Spirit.

People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

COLLECT FOR PURITY

Presider Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may truly love you, and worthily praise your holy name; through our Savior Jesus Christ.

People **Amen.**

GLORIA 8am. Stand.

Leader Arise, shine out, for your light has come;
People **the glory of the Lord is rising upon you.**

Leader The nations will come to your light,
People **and rulers to your dawning brightness.**

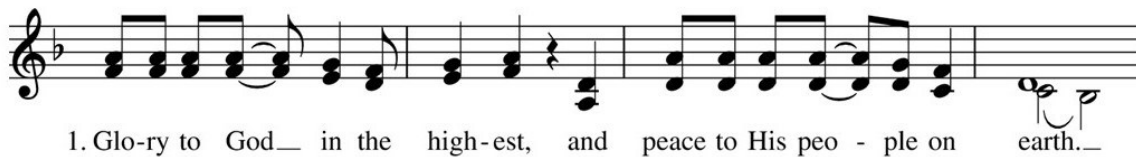
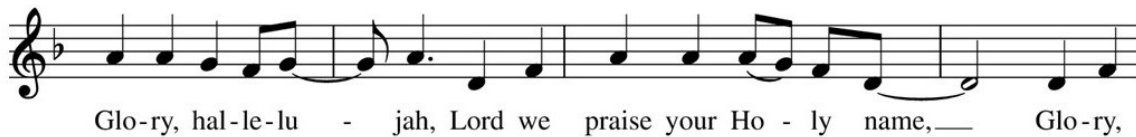
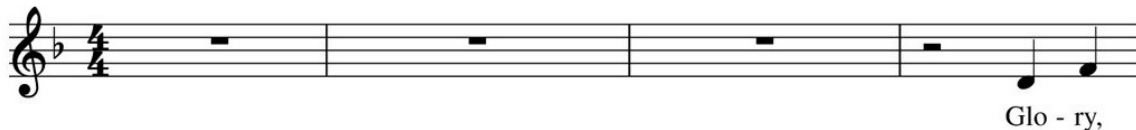
Leader They shall bring gold and frankincense,
People **and proclaim the praise of the Lord.**

Leader Your gates will lie open continually,
People **shut neither by day nor by night.**

Leader No more will the sun give you daylight,
People **nor moonlight shine upon you.**

Leader But the Lord will be your everlasting light,
People **your God will be your splendor. Amen.**

GLORIA 10:30am. Stand.





3. Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, Glo-ry,



Glo-ry, hal-le-lu - jah, Lord we praise your Ho - ly name, — Glo-ry,



Glo-ry hal-le-lu - jah, Lord we praise your Ho - ly name. — 4. You



take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us, 5. You are



seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive_ our_ prayer. 6. For



you a - lone_ are the Ho - ly One, You a - lone are_ the Lord,



7. You a - lone_ are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir-it, in the



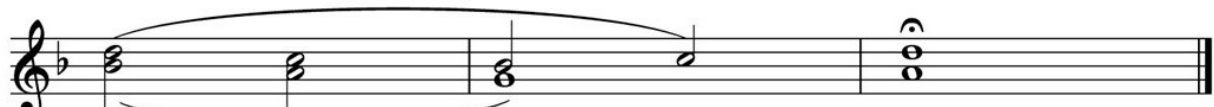
glo-ry of the Fa - ther. Glo-ry, Glo-ry, hal - le - lu - jah, Lord we



praise your Ho - ly name, — Glo-ry, Glo-ry hal-le-lu - jah, Lord we



Praise your Ho - ly name.



A - - - men.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting.

People **Amen.**

WE HEAR THE SACRED STORIES *Seated*

THE FIRST LESSON

Reader A reading from the Book of Isaiah.

43:1-7

Thus says the Lord,

 he who created you, O Jacob,

he who formed you, O Israel:

Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;

 I have called you by name, you are mine.

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;

 and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;

when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,

 and the flame shall not consume you.

For I am the Lord your God,

 the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

I give Egypt as your ransom,

 Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.

Because you are precious in my sight,

 and honored, and I love you,

I give people in return for you,

 nations in exchange for your life.

Do not fear, for I am with you;

 I will bring your offspring from the east,

 and from the west I will gather you;

I will say to the north, "Give them up,"

and to the south, "Do not withhold;
bring my sons from far away
and my daughters from the end of the earth--
everyone who is called by my name,
whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made."

The Word of the Lord.

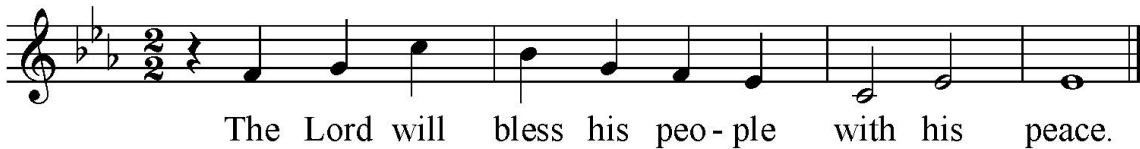
People

Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM OF THE DAY *10:30am*

29

At 8am, the congregation reads the antiphon together. At 10:30, the congregation sings the antiphon together.



Give to the LORD, you sons of God,
give to the LORD glory and praise,
give to the LORD the glory due his name;
adore the LORD in holy attire. *℟.*

The voice of the LORD is over the waters,
the LORD, over vast waters.

The voice of the LORD is mighty;
the voice of the LORD is majestic. *℟.*

The God of glory thunders,
and in his temple all say, "Glory!"
The LORD is enthroned above the flood;
the LORD is enthroned as king
forever. *℟.*

THE SECOND LESSON

Reader

A reading from the book of Acts.

8:14-17

When the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

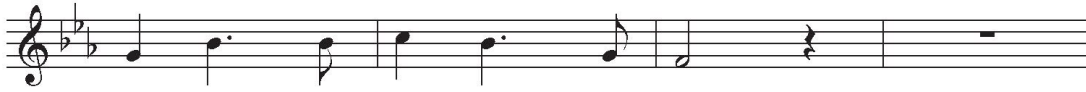
GOSPEL ANTIPHON

JESUS, THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

At 8am, sing verse 1. At 10:30am, sing verses 1 and 2. After reading, sing verse 3.



1. Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing.
2. Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise.
3. Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored.



Je - sus, the light of the world.



Glo - ry to the new - born King,
Join the tri - umph of the skies.
Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,



Je - sus, the light of the world. We'll walk in the



light, beau - ti - ful light. Come where the



dew - drops of mer - cy shine bright. Oh, shine all a -



round us by day and by night. Je - sus, the light of the world.

THE GOSPEL

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

3:15-17, 21-22

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

GOSPEL ANTIPHON JESUS, THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

At 10:30am, sing verse 3 on previous page.

SERMON

THE REV. LAURIE ANZILOTTI

After the sermon, silence is kept for a time.

RITE OF COMMITMENT TO CHRISTIAN SERVICE

The Presider calls forward those seeking to renew their commitment to Christ. Standing before the congregation, they make an Act of Commitment. The Presider then prays:

Presider May the Holy Spirit guide and strengthen you, that in this, and in all things, you may do God's will in the service of the kingdom of his Christ.

People **Amen.**

Presider In the name of this congregation I commend you to this work, and pledge you our prayers, encouragement, and support.

Those making an Act of Commitment move to the baptismal font with the Presider to renew their baptismal vows.

RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL COVENANT

Deacon My siblings in Christ, through the Paschal mystery, we are buried with Christ by Baptism into his death, and raised with him to newness of life. I call upon you, therefore, on this feast of the Baptism of our Lord, to renew the sacred promises and vows of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced evil and promised to serve God faithfully through God's holy Church.

Deacon Do you believe and trust in God?

People **I believe and trust in God, creator of heaven and earth.**

Deacon Do you believe and trust in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People **I believe and trust in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.
He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Deacon Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit?

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

Presider How will you connect to Christ in community?

People **With God's help I will continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers.**

Presider How will you resist evil and turn to Christ?

People **With God's help I will persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever I fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord.**

Presider How will you show Christ in your life?

People **With God's help I will proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ.**

Presider How will you seek and serve Christ in your life?

People **With God's help I will seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving my neighbor as myself.**

Presider How will you work for the reign of God?

People **With God's help I will strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being.**

Presider How will you preserve God's creation?

People **With God's help I will cherish the wondrous works of God, and protect and restore the beauty and integrity of all creation.**

Presider May Almighty God, the Eternal, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord.

People **Amen.**

The Presider sprinkles the people with holy water as a reminder of their baptism.

Presider Let us pray.

Almighty God, look with favor upon Sophie and Bill who have now reaffirmed their commitment to follow Christ and to serve in his name. Give them courage, patience, and vision; and strengthen us all in our Christian vocation of witness to the world, and of service to others; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us share with one another a sign of Christ's peace.

We invite you to extend the peace of God to those in the congregation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS *Seated*

BIRTHDAY BLESSING

Presider Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their heart may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

GATHERING AT CHRIST'S TABLE

We return with thanksgiving the gifts God has given us. This includes bread and wine of the earth and financial offerings from our labor.

OFFERTORY *8am*

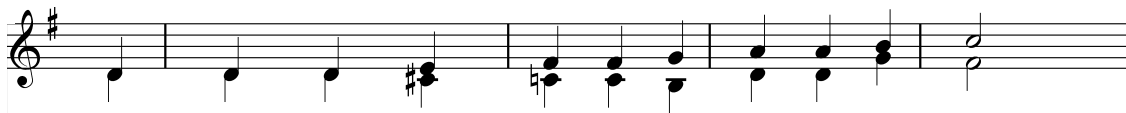
**HOW FIRM A FOUNDATION
GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH**



1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,
 2 "Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dis - mayed!
 3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,



1 is laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent word!
 2 For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
 3 the riv - ers of woe shall not thee o - ver - flow;



1 What more can he say than to you he hath said,
 2 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
 3 for I will be with thee, thy trou - bles to bless,



1 to you that for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?
 2 up - held by my right - eous, om - ni - po - tent hand.
 3 and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING *Stand*

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Presider All thanks and praise
 are yours at all times and in all places,
 our true and loving God;
 through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word,
 the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things.
 You laid the foundations of the world
 and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb;
 You brought forth all creatures of the earth
 and gave breath to humankind.

Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing,
 all you create is a sign of hope for our journey;
 And so as the morning stars sing your praises
 we join the heavenly beings and all creation
 as we shout with joy:

Say at 8am:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Sing at 10:30am:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly

ho - ly Lord God of hosts.

Heav-en and earth are filled with your glo -

ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless-ed is He who comes in the name

of the Lord, of the Lord.

Ho - san - na in the high -

est, ho - san - na in the high - est

Presider Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all,
 your Word has never been silent;
 you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations,
 you delivered them from bondage
 and led them to a land of promise.
 Of your grace, you gave Jesus
 to be human, to share our life,
 to proclaim the coming of your holy reign
 and give himself for us, a fragrant offering.

 Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer,
 you have freed us from sin,
 brought us into your life,
 reconciled us to you,
 and restored us to the glory you intend for us.
 We thank you that on the night before he died for us
 Jesus took bread,
 and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it,
 gave it to his friends and said:
 "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you.
 Do this for the remembrance of me."

 After supper Jesus took the cup of wine,
 said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said:
 "Drink this, all of you:
 this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood,
 poured out for you and for all
 for the forgiveness of sin.
 Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, remembering all that was done for us:
 the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension,
 longing for Christ's coming in glory,
 and presenting to you these gifts
 your earth has formed and human hands have made,
 we acclaim you, O Christ:

People **Dying, you destroyed our death.
 Rising, you restored our life.
 Christ Jesus, come in glory!**

Presider Send your Holy Spirit upon us
 and upon these gifts of bread and wine
 that they may be to us
 the Body and Blood of your Christ.
 Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power,
 may be a people of hope, justice and love.
 Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ,
 and in the fullness of time gather us
 with St. Francis, St. Clare, and all your people
 into the joy of our true eternal home.
 Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ,
 by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
 we worship you our God and Creator
 in voices of unending praise.

AMEN

A - men, A - men,

A - men, A - men, A - men.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Presider And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People **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,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Presider Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

FRACTION ANTHEM

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:
grant us peace. _____

Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Our bread is gluten-, dairy- and nut-free. This Eucharistic table does not belong to the Episcopal Church or to St. Francis'. This is God's table, and all are welcome. In the Episcopal Church, we receive both the bread and wine, the Body and Blood of Jesus. If you choose not to receive communion, please come forward and cross your arms over your heart to receive a blessing.

COMMUNION HYMN YOU SHALL CROSS THE BARREN DESERT

- 1 You shall cross the barren desert,
 but you shall not die of thirst.
You shall wander far in safety
 though you do not know the way.
You shall speak your words in foreign lands
 and all will understand.
You shall see the face of God and live.

*Refrain Be not afraid. I go before you always.
 Come, follow me, and I will give you rest.*

- 2 If you pass through raging waters in the sea,
 you shall not drown,
If you walk amid the burning flames,
 you shall not be harmed.
If you stand before the pow'r of hell
 and death is at your side,
 know that I am with you through it all. *Refrain*

- 3 Blessed are your poor,
 for the kingdom shall be theirs.
Blest are you that weep and mourn,
 for one day you shall laugh.
And if wicked men insult and hate you
 all because of me,
 blessed, blessed are you!

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER *Stand*

After all have received communion the Presider says

Presider Let us pray.

People **Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

BLESSING

Presider May Almighty God, who led the Wise Men by the shining of a star to find the Christ, the Light from Light, lead you also, in your pilgrimage, to find the Lord.

People **Amen.**

Presider May God, who sent the Holy Spirit to rest upon the Only-begotten at his baptism in the Jordan, pour out that Spirit on you who have come to the waters of new birth.

People **Amen.**

Presider May God, by the power that turned water into wine at the wedding feast at Cana, transform your lives and make glad your hearts.

People **Amen.**

Presider And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you forever.

People **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN *8am* **I WANT TO WALK AS A CHILD OF THE LIGHT**

H 490

1 I want to walk as a child of the light.

I want to fol - low Je - sus.

God set the stars to give light to the world. The

star of my life — is Je - sus.

Refrain

In him there is no dark - ness at all. The

night and the day are both a - like. The

Lamb is the light of the ci - ty of God.

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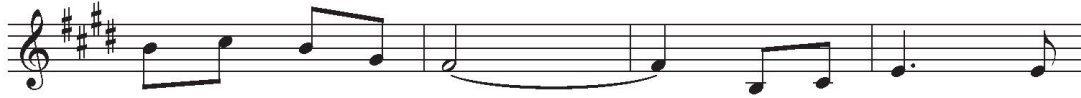
Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.



1. When a star is shin - ing o - ver east - ern
 2. Where the world is wait - ing for an un - known
 3. Lead us on, O Day - star, in the qui - et



hills, When the air is si - lent,
 day, Where a voice for - got - ten
 night; Guide us through the shad - ow



and the clam - or stills, When the night is
 cries, "Pre - pare the way!" Where an earth - ly
 with your gen - tle light; Show us in a



wait - ing, and the old hopes rise,
 pow - er makes the heart turn cold,
 man - ger our re - demp - tion's sign;



Then the time has rip - ened and the heart grows
 There the gifts are of - fered— in - cense, myrrh, and
 Bring us to a morn - ing where the prom - ise



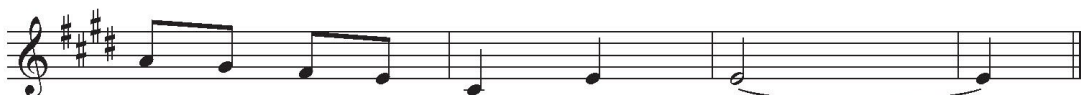
wise.
 gold. Lead us on, lead us on,
 shines.



to a morn - ing where the prom - ise shines.



Lead us on, lead us on, to a



morn - ing where the prom - ise shines.

DISMISSAL

Deacon The Lord says, 'Go into all the world and make disciples of all the nations.' Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People In the name of Christ. Amen.

POSTLUDE