



*Welcome to
Worship at
Zion Lutheran Church*

*Sunday, December 3, 2023
9:00 am*

Photo by Susan Hagen



Welcome and Announcements



*Prepare
the Way
of the
Lord*



Advent

Sunday
December 3
2:00 pm
Women of Zion

The Women of Zion
*would like to cordially
invite you to an
afternoon of sweets
and treats, music,
fellowship and
reflection on the
season of Advent.*
(Optional \$5 gift exchange)

Women of
ELCA

Secret Pal
Drawing

Red Stocking
Project

We Care
Project

For anyone who has lost someone or
feels sad or lonely during the holidays...

*Blue
Christmas Service*

at Zion Lutheran Church

December 7

6:30 pm

Refreshments following service

You are invited to bring a framed picture
of a loved one to place on the altar.

Sponsored by the Congregational Care Committee

Online Photo Directory



- Submit your own picture to the church office
- Have a photo taken at the church. Sign up in the Gathering Space.
- More information is in the eMessenger.



WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20

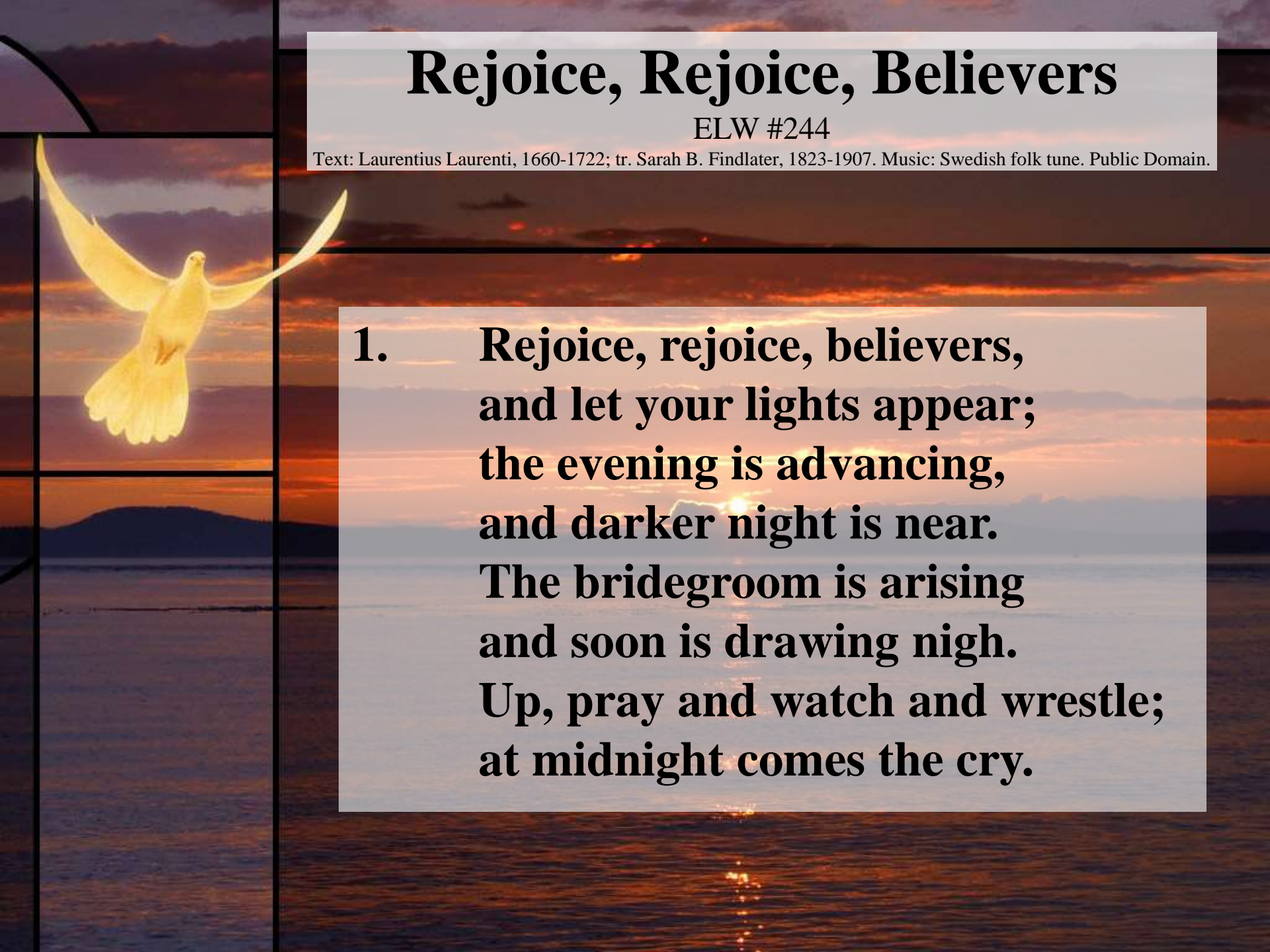
5:30 pm During worship

If any of the students wish to perform their Christmas recital pieces as Prelude that night, please notify Shelley Galle

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

ELW #244

Text: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660-1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823-1907. Music: Swedish folk tune. Public Domain.

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- A white dove is shown in flight, wings spread wide, against a dramatic sunset sky. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm glow over the water and sky. The dove is positioned on the left side of the frame, flying towards the right. The water in the foreground is dark and reflects the light from the sky.
1. **Rejoice, rejoice, believers,
and let your lights appear;
the evening is advancing,
and darker night is near.
The bridegroom is arising
and soon is drawing nigh.
Up, pray and watch and wrestle;
at midnight comes the cry.**



**2. The watchers on the mountain
proclaim the bridegroom near;
go forth as he approaches
with alleluias clear.
The marriage feast is waiting;
the gates wide open stand.
Arise, O heirs of glory;
the bridegroom is at hand.**



**3. The saints, who here in patience
their cross and suff'rings bore,
shall live and reign forever
when sorrow is no more.
Around the throne of glory
the Lamb they shall behold;
in triumph cast before him
their diadems of gold.**



**4. Our hope and expectation,
O Jesus, now appear;
arise, O Sun so longed for,
o'er this benighted sphere.
With hearts and hands uplifted,
we plead, O Lord, to see
the day of earth's redemption
that sets your people free!**

Confession and Forgiveness

L: In the name of the Father,
and of the + Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

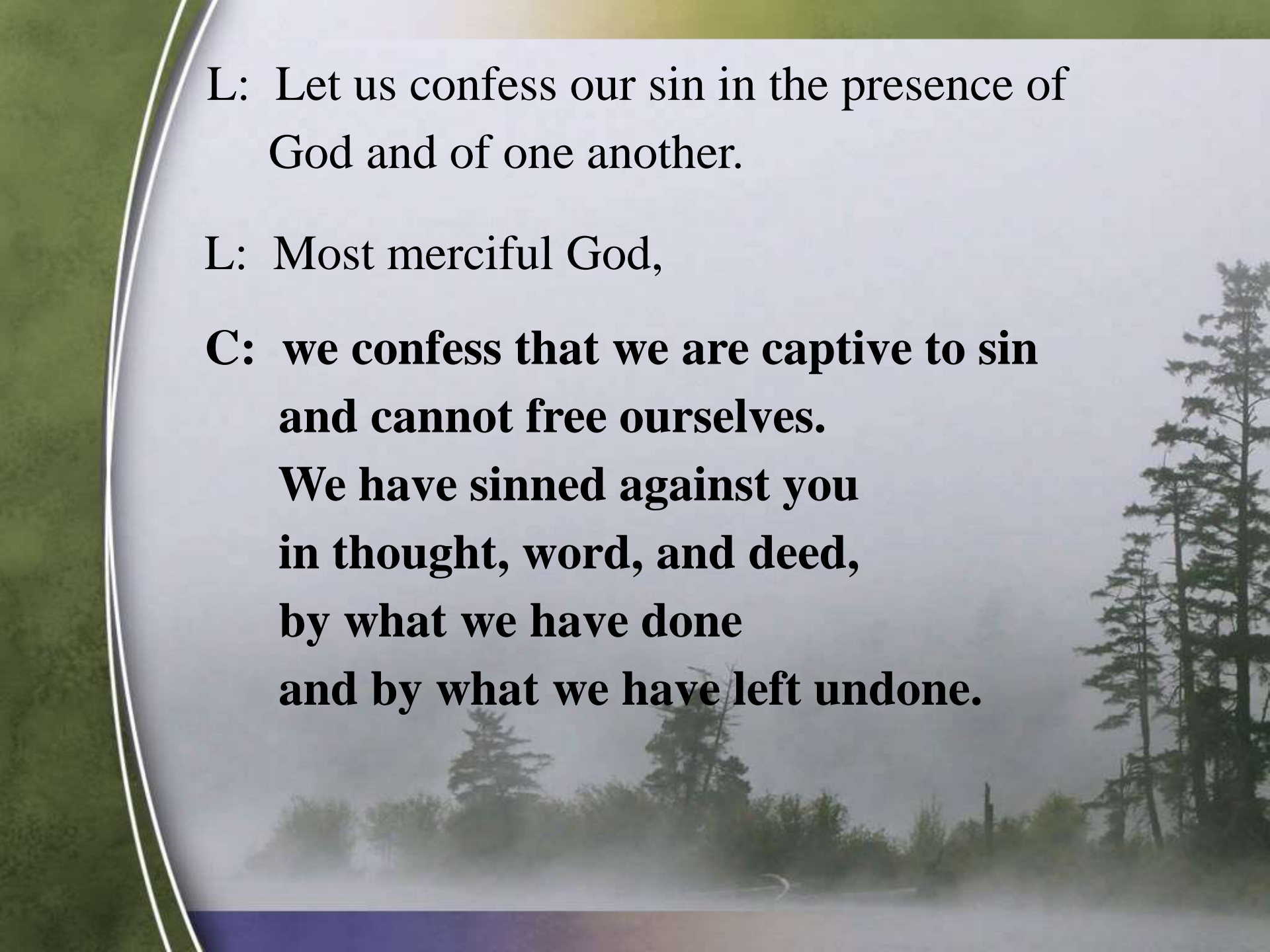
C: Amen.

L: God of all mercy and consolation,
come to the help of your people,
turning us from our sin
to live for you alone.

Give us the power of your Holy Spirit
that we may confess our sin,
receive your forgiveness,
and grow into the fullness
of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Silence is kept for reflection

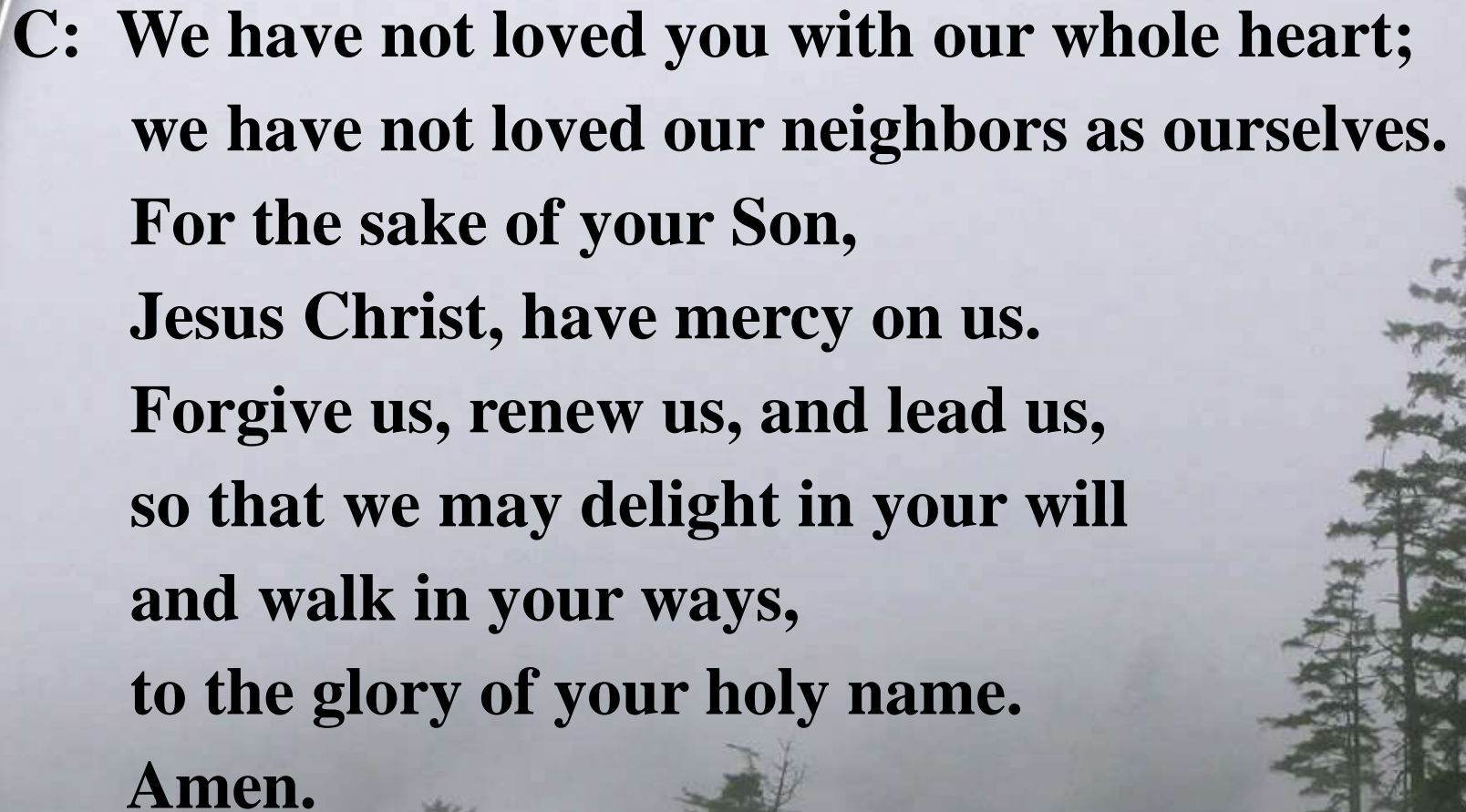
The background of the slide is a photograph of a misty or foggy forest. Tall, dark evergreen trees are visible through the white fog. The scene is serene and atmospheric. On the left side of the slide, there is a decorative white curved line that starts from the bottom and curves upwards towards the top left corner.

L: Let us confess our sin in the presence of
God and of one another.

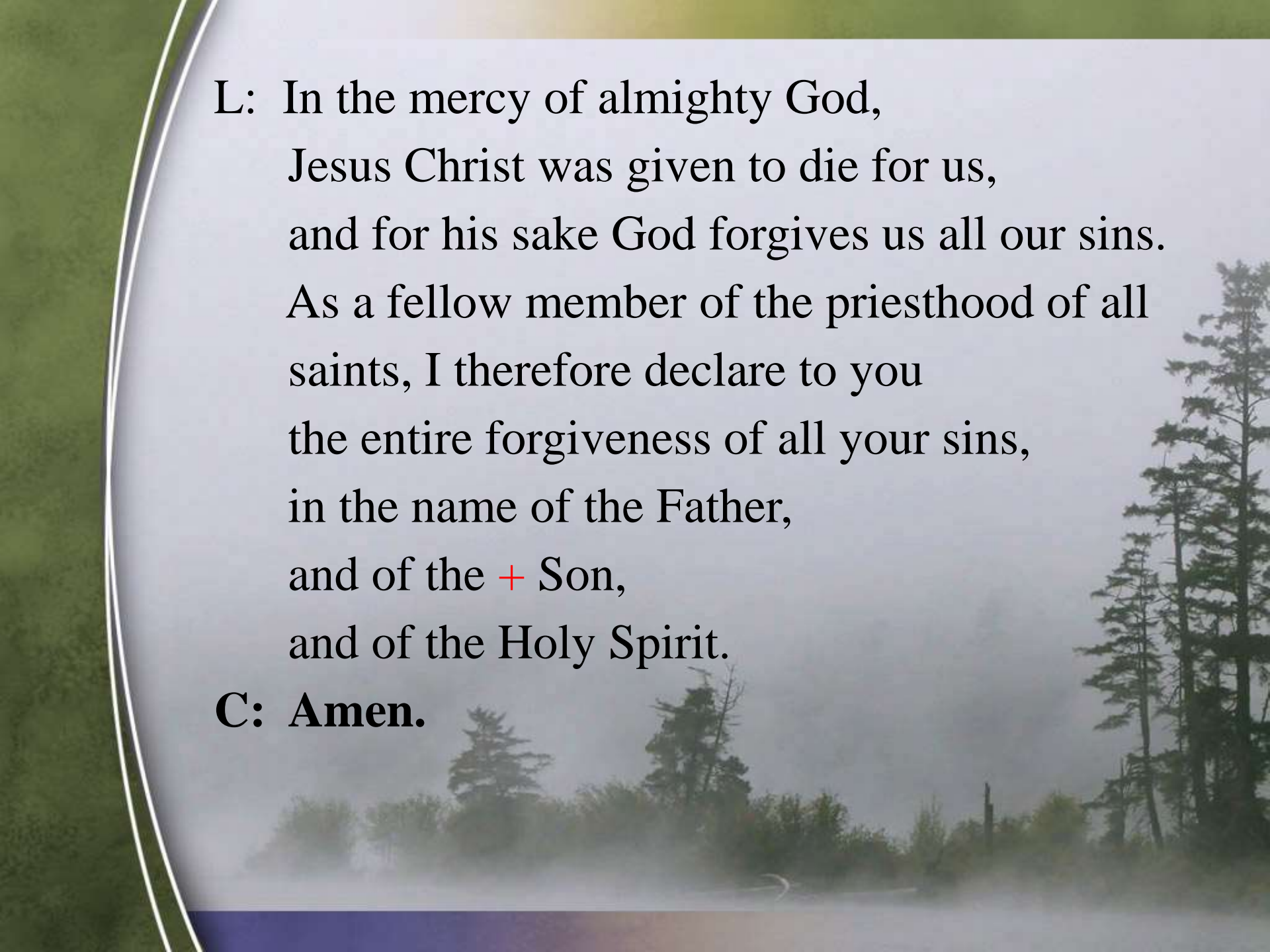
L: Most merciful God,

**C: we confess that we are captive to sin
and cannot free ourselves.**

**We have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done
and by what we have left undone.**



**C: We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
For the sake of your Son,
Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.
Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,
so that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name.
Amen.**

The background of the slide is a photograph of a misty or foggy forest. Tall, dark evergreen trees are visible in the background, partially obscured by a thick layer of white fog or mist that hangs low over the ground. The lighting is soft and diffused, creating a serene and somewhat somber atmosphere. On the left side of the slide, there is a decorative white curved line that starts from the top and curves downwards, separating the text area from the left edge.

L: In the mercy of almighty God,
Jesus Christ was given to die for us,
and for his sake God forgives us all our sins.
As a fellow member of the priesthood of all
saints, I therefore declare to you
the entire forgiveness of all your sins,
in the name of the Father,
and of the + Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.



Greeting

L: 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.

Kyrie

p. 165

L: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For the peace from above,
and for our salvation,
let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord have mercy.

L: For the peace of the whole world,
for the well-being of the church of God,
and the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For this holy house,
and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

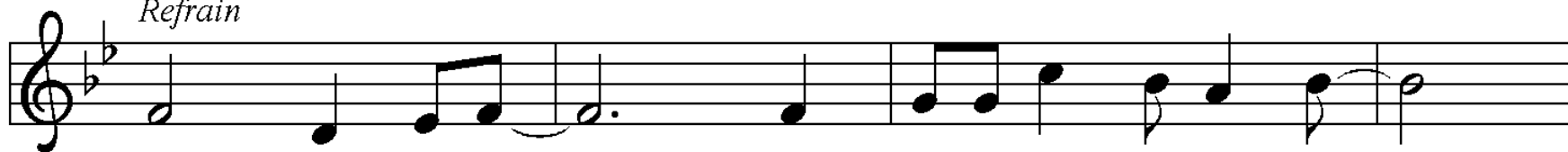
L: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

Hymn of Praise

p. 169

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

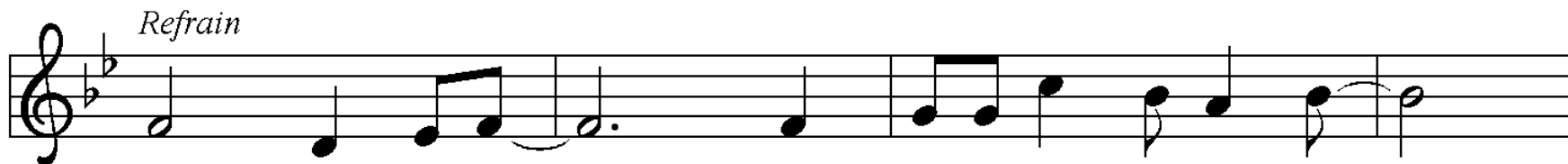


Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and



Refrain

hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.



Refrain

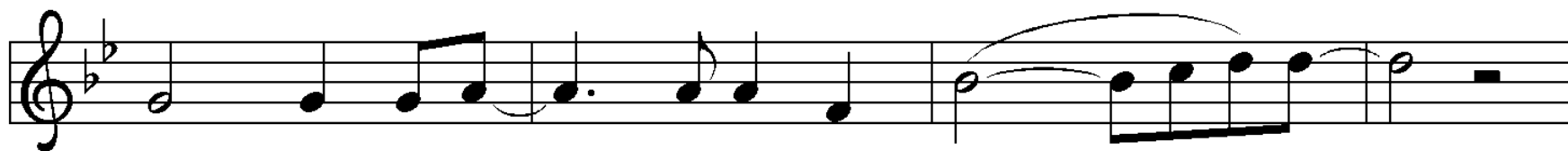
This is the feast of vic-to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



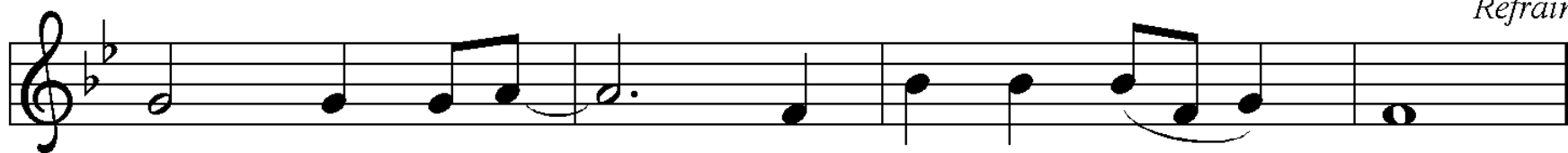
2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and



join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



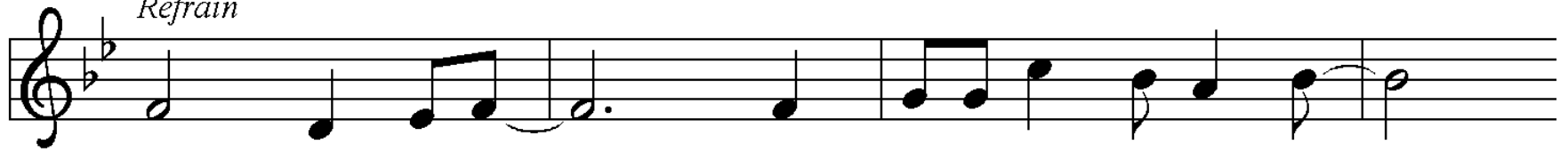
Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to



God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Refrain

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

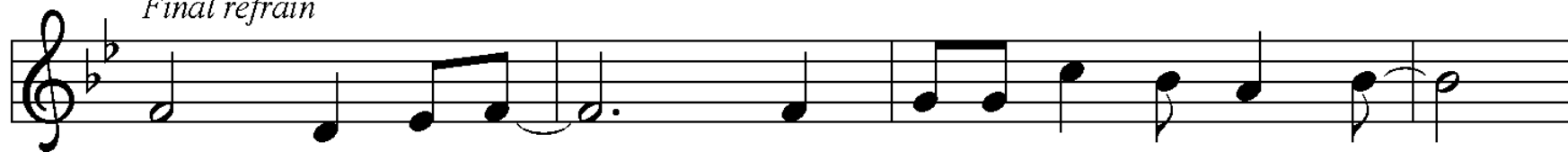


3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -

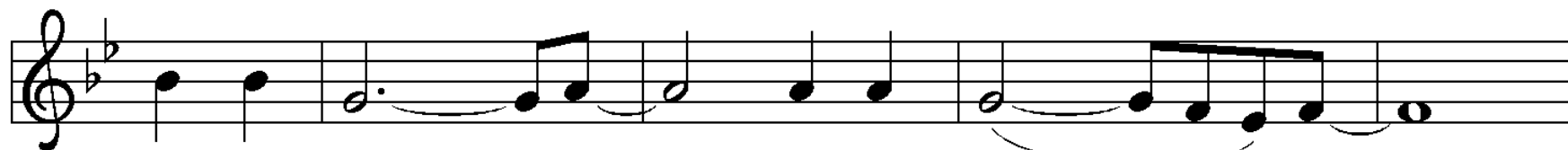


gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

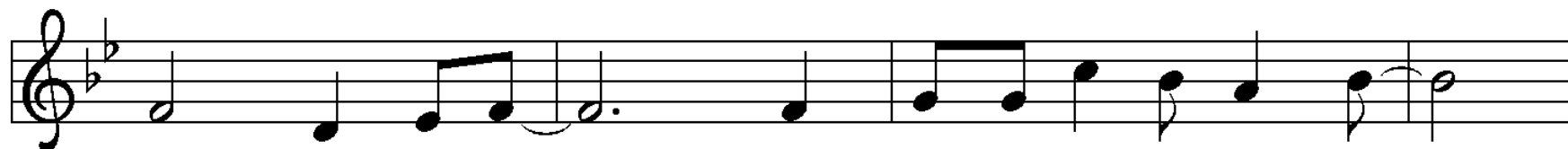
Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.



L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

L: Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come.
By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

First Reading: Isaiah 64:1-9

This lament comes from a people who have had their hopes shattered. The visions of a rebuilt Jerusalem and a renewed people of God, spoken of in Isaiah 40–55, have not been realized. Instead, the people experience ruin, conflict, and famine. This lament calls God to account—to be the God who has brought deliverance in the past.

¹O that you would tear open the heavens and
come down, so that the mountains would
quake at your presence—

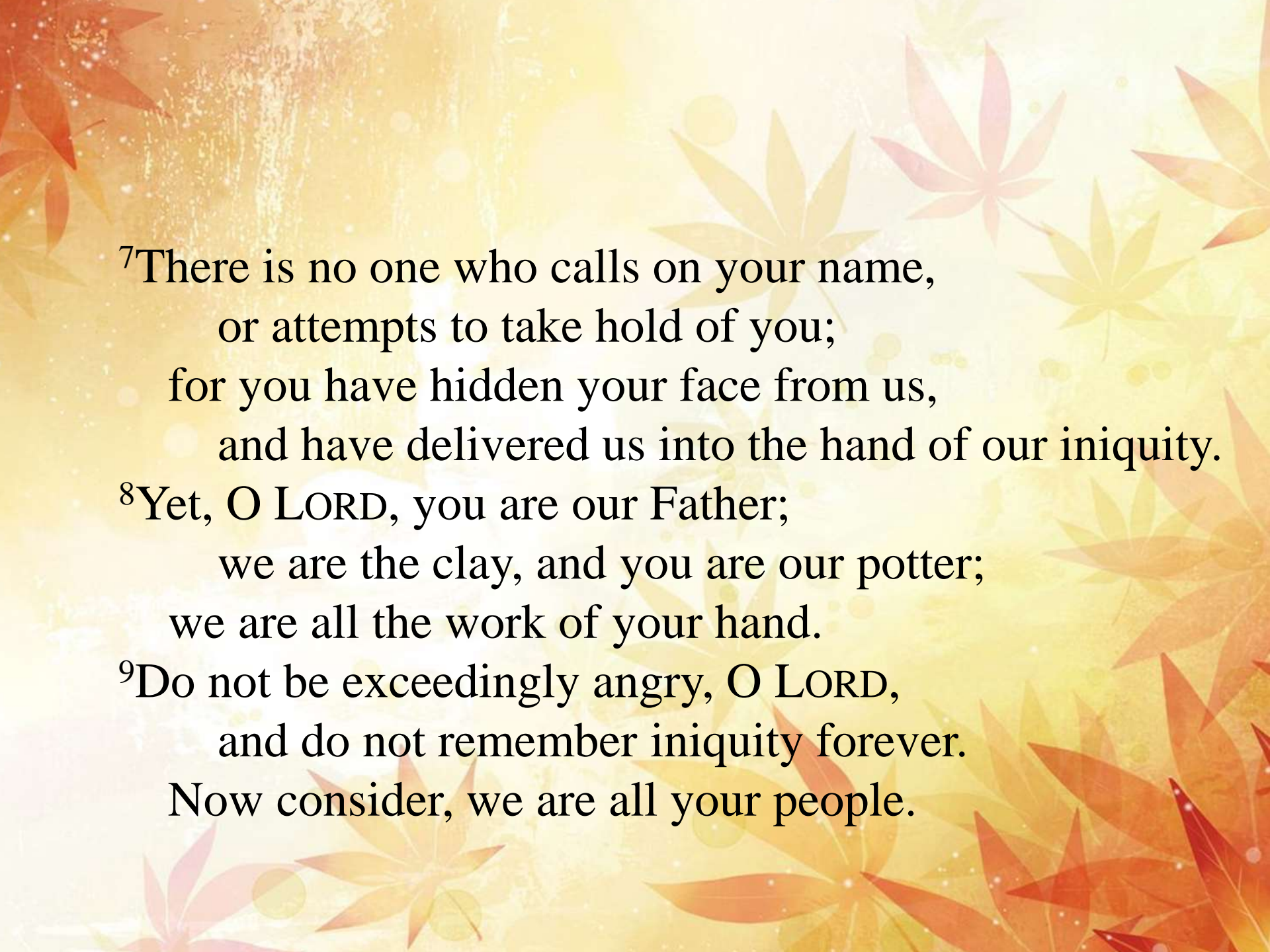
²as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil—to make
your name known to your adversaries, so that
the nations might tremble at your presence!

³When you did awesome deeds that we did not
expect, you came down, the mountains
quaked at your presence.

⁴From ages past no one has heard,
no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you,
who works for those who wait for him.

⁵You meet those who gladly do right,
those who remember you in your ways.
But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed.

⁶We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.
We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.

The background of the image is a warm, golden-yellow color with a soft, bokeh-like texture. Scattered throughout are various autumn leaves in shades of orange, red, and pink, some appearing as faint silhouettes and others with more detail. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

⁷There is no one who calls on your name,
or attempts to take hold of you;
for you have hidden your face from us,
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.

⁸Yet, O LORD, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.

⁹Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD,
and do not remember iniquity forever.
Now consider, we are all your people.



L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

L: ¹Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

C: ²**In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, stir up your strength and come to help us.**

L: ³Restore us, O God;
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

C: ⁴**O LORD God of hosts,
how long will your anger fume when your people pray?**

L: ⁵Look upon the LORD and be radiant,
and let not your faces be ashamed.

C: ⁶**I called in my affliction, and the LORD heard
me and saved me from all my troubles.**

L: ⁷The angel of the LORD encamps around those
who fear the LORD and delivers them.

C: ⁸**Taste and see that the LORD is good;
happy are they who take refuge in God!**

L: ⁵You have fed them with the bread of tears;
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

C: ⁶**You have made us the derision of our
neighbors, and our enemies laugh us to scorn.**

L: ⁷Restore us, O God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be
saved.

C: ¹⁷**Let your hand be upon the one at your right
hand, the one you have made so strong for
yourself.**

The background of the slide is a warm, golden-yellow color with a soft, painterly texture. It is decorated with several stylized autumn leaves in shades of orange, red, and pink, scattered across the frame. There are also small, out-of-focus circular bokeh lights in yellow and white, adding to the ethereal and seasonal feel.

L: ¹⁸And so will we never turn away from you;
 give us life, that we may call upon your name.

C: ¹⁹**Restore us, O LORD God of hosts;
 let your face shine upon us, and we shall be
 saved.**

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

As the Christians in Corinth await the advent of Jesus, Paul reminds them how the Lord has already enriched them through spiritual gifts and will continue to strengthen them until the coming day of the Lord.

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—⁶just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

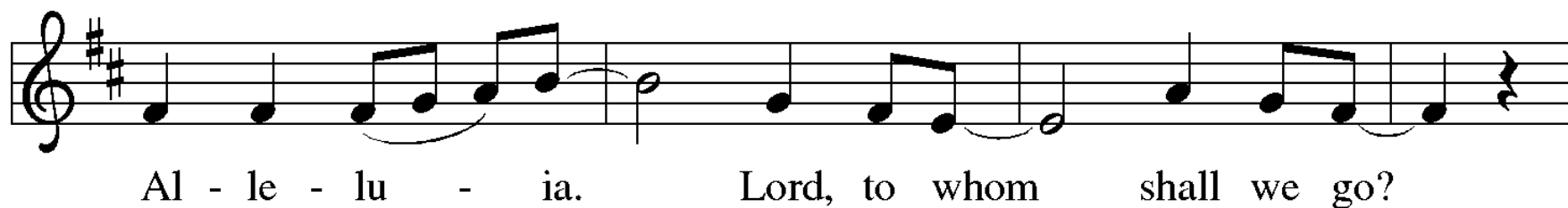


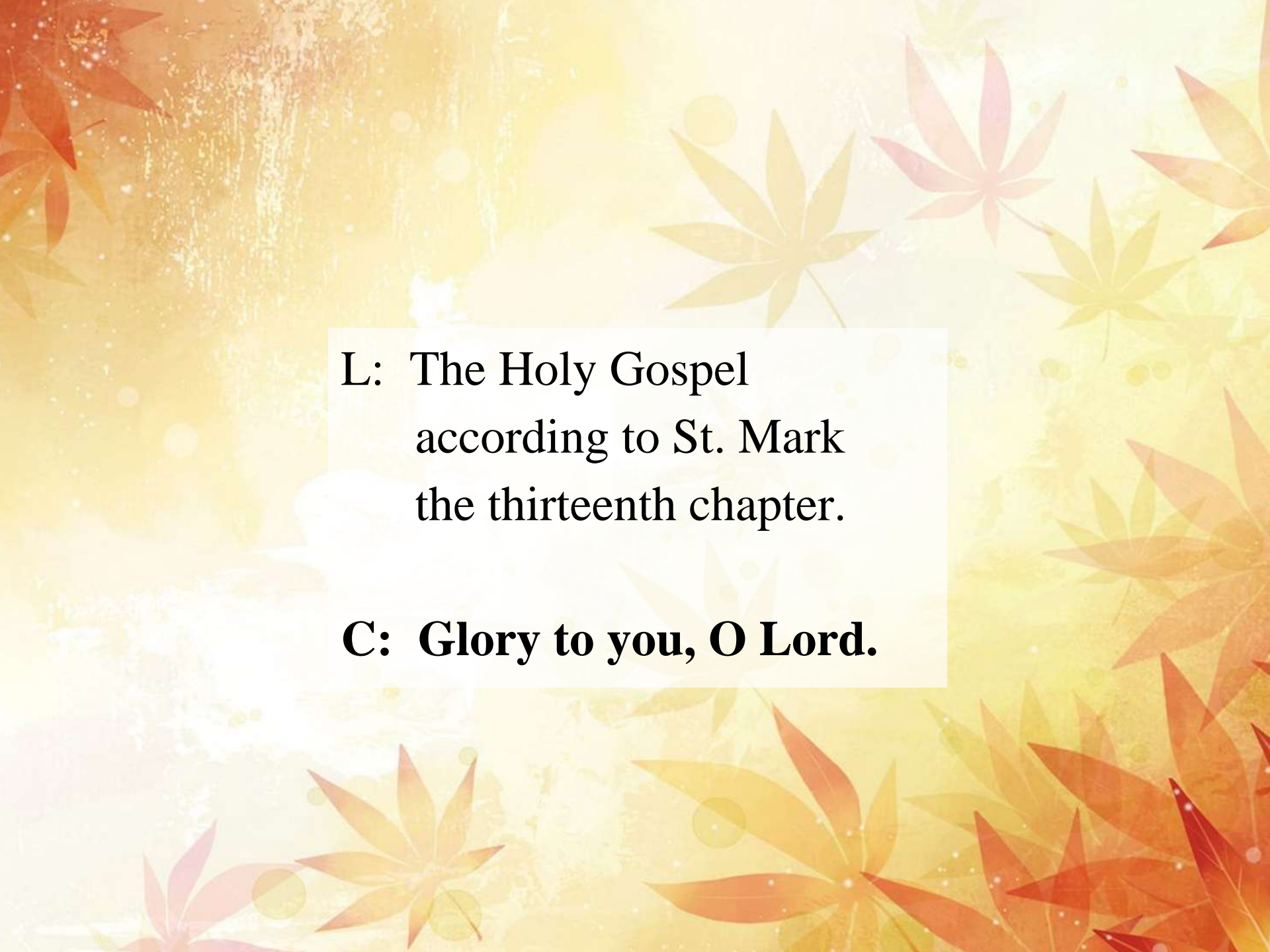
L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

p. 171



The background of the slide is a warm, golden-yellow color with a soft, painterly texture. It is decorated with several stylized autumn leaves in shades of orange, red, and pink, scattered across the frame. There are also small, out-of-focus circular bokeh lights in white and yellow, adding a dreamy, ethereal quality to the design.

L: The Holy Gospel
according to St. Mark
the thirteenth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Mark 13:24-37

Jesus encourages his followers to look forward to the day when he returns in power and glory to end all suffering.

Jesus said: ²⁴“In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light,
²⁵and the stars will be falling from heaven,
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

²⁶Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. ²⁷Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

²⁸“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. ³¹Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³²“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. ³⁵Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, ³⁶or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. ³⁷And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”



L: The Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Message

“Longingly Waiting in Hope”

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

#257

Text: Psalterium Canticum Catholicarum, Koln, 1710; tr. Composite.

Music is a 15th cent. French processional. Text: sts. 2, 6, 7 © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

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- O come, O come, Emmanuel
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.**

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.**



**2. O come, O Wisdom
 from on high,
embracing all things far and nigh:
 in strength and beauty
 come and stay;
 teach us your will
 and guide our way.**

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.**



**3. O come, O come,
 O Lord of might,
 as to your tribes on
 Sinai's height
 in ancient times you
 gave the law
in cloud, and majesty, and awe.**

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.**



**4. O come, O Branch of Jesse,
free your own
from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell
your people save,
and give them vict'ry
o'er the grave.**

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.**



**5. O come, O Key of David, come,
and open wide our heav'nly home;
make safe the way that
leads on high,
and close the path of misery.**

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.**



**6. Oh come, O Dayspring,
 come and cheer;
O Sun of justice, now draw near.
 Disperse the gloomy
 clouds of night,
 and death's dark shadows
 put to flight.**

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.**



**7. O come, O King of nations, come,
O Cornerstone
that binds in one:
refresh the hearts that
long for you;
restore the broken, make us new.**

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.**



**8. O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely
exile here until the
Son of God appear.**

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.**





Apostles' Creed

**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 the life everlasting.**

Amen.

Offering



Praise and Thanksgiving

ELW #689 vv. 1, 2

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901-1984, alt. Music: Gaelic tune; are. Hymnal version. Text © Oxford University Press. Reprinted with permission under OneLicense #731814-A and CCLI #1943036. All rights reserved. Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted with permission under OneLicense #731814-A. All rights reserved.

- 1. Praise and thanksgiving,
God, we would offer
for all things living,
you have made good:
harvest of sown fields,
fruits of the orchard,
hay from the mown fields,
blossom and wood.**

2.

**God, bless the labor
we bring to serve you,
that with our neighbor
we may be fed.**

**Sowing or tilling,
we would work with you,
harvesting, milling
for daily bread.**

Offering Prayer

L: God our provider,
by your merciful hand
abundance springs up from the earth.
Receive and bless these gifts of your own
bounty. Let them be a sign of your
steadfast love and faithfulness for all
people, through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C: **Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

Response after each petition:

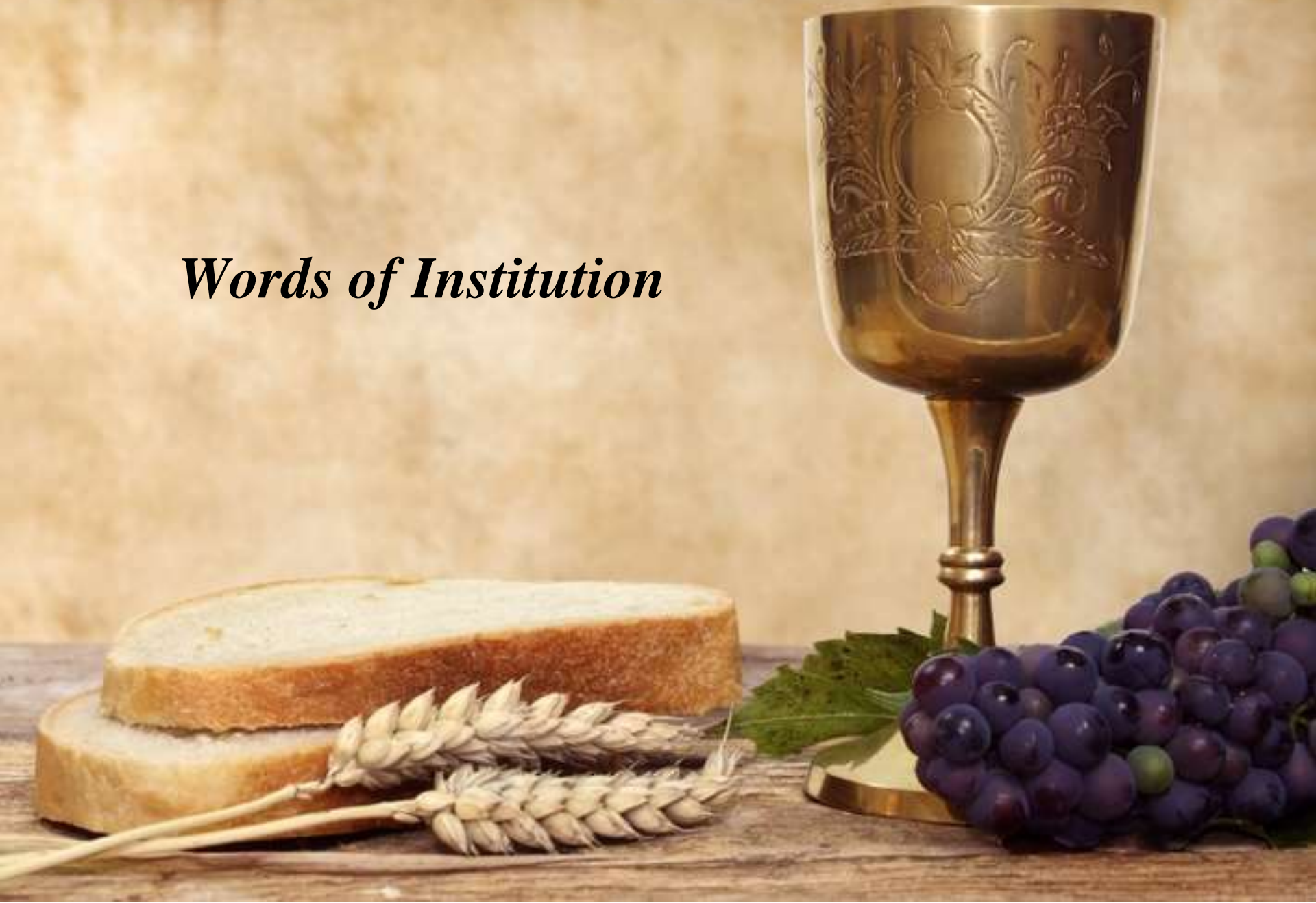
L: Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

L: Listen to these and all our prayers, O God of hosts, and restore us with your great and everlasting mercy.

C: Amen.

Words of Institution



The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

**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.**

Holy Communion

An usher will guide you forward. Wafers or gluten free bread and wine or juice will be offered. You will be served a wafer unless you indicate otherwise. Please take the wine or juice from the tray yourself.



What Feast of Love

#487

Text: Delores Dufner, osb, b. 1939. Music: English ballad, 16th cent. Text © 1993 Delores Dufner, admin. ODP Publications.
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- 1. What feast of love is offered here,
what banquet come from heaven?
What food of everlasting life,
what gracious gift is given?
This, this is Christ the King,
the bread come down from heaven.
Oh, taste and see and sing!
How sweet the manna given!**



2.

**What light of truth is offered here,
what covenant from heaven?
What hope of everlasting life,
what wondrous word is given?
This, this is Christ the King,
the sun come down from heaven.
Oh, see and hear and sing!
The Word of God is given!**



3.

**What wine of love is offered here,
what holy drink from heaven?
What stream of everlasting life,
what precious blood is given?
This, this is Christ the King,
the sweetest wine of heaven.
Oh, taste and see and sing!
The Son of God is given!**

Christ, Be Our Light

#715

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957. Music: Bernadette Farrell. Text and music © 1993 Bernadette Farrell, admin. OCP Publications.
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**1. Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
light for the world to see.**

**Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.**

**2. Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has power to save us.
Make us your living voice.**

**Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.**

**3. Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us Your bread, broken for others,
shared until all are fed.**

**Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.**

**4. Longing for shelter, many are homeless.
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others,
walls made of living stone.**

**Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine
through the darkness.**

**Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.**

**5. Many the gifts, many the people,
many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
signs of your kingdom come.**


**Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.**

Joy to the World

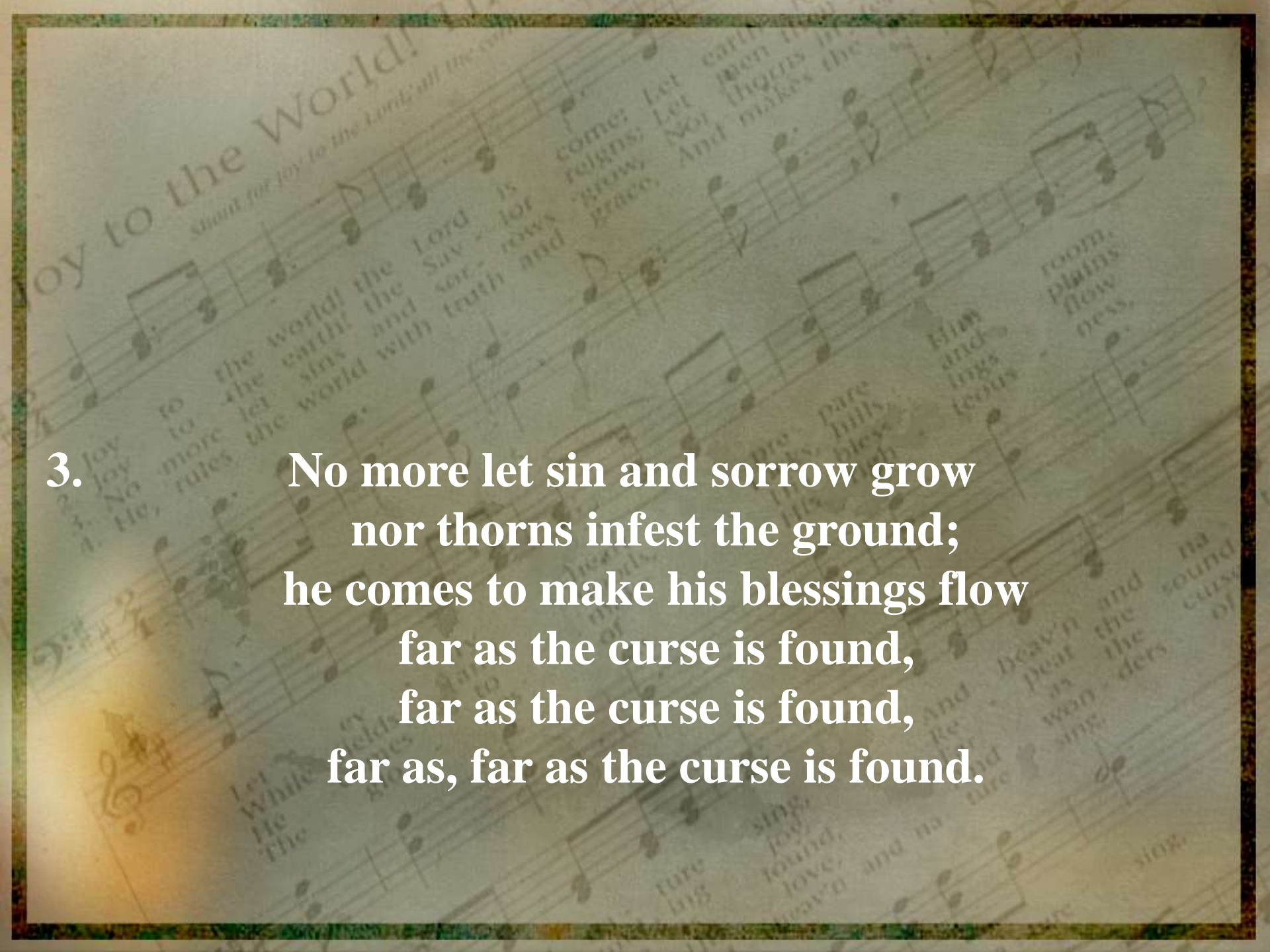
ELW #267

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748. Music: English melody, 18th cent.; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792-1872. Public Domain.

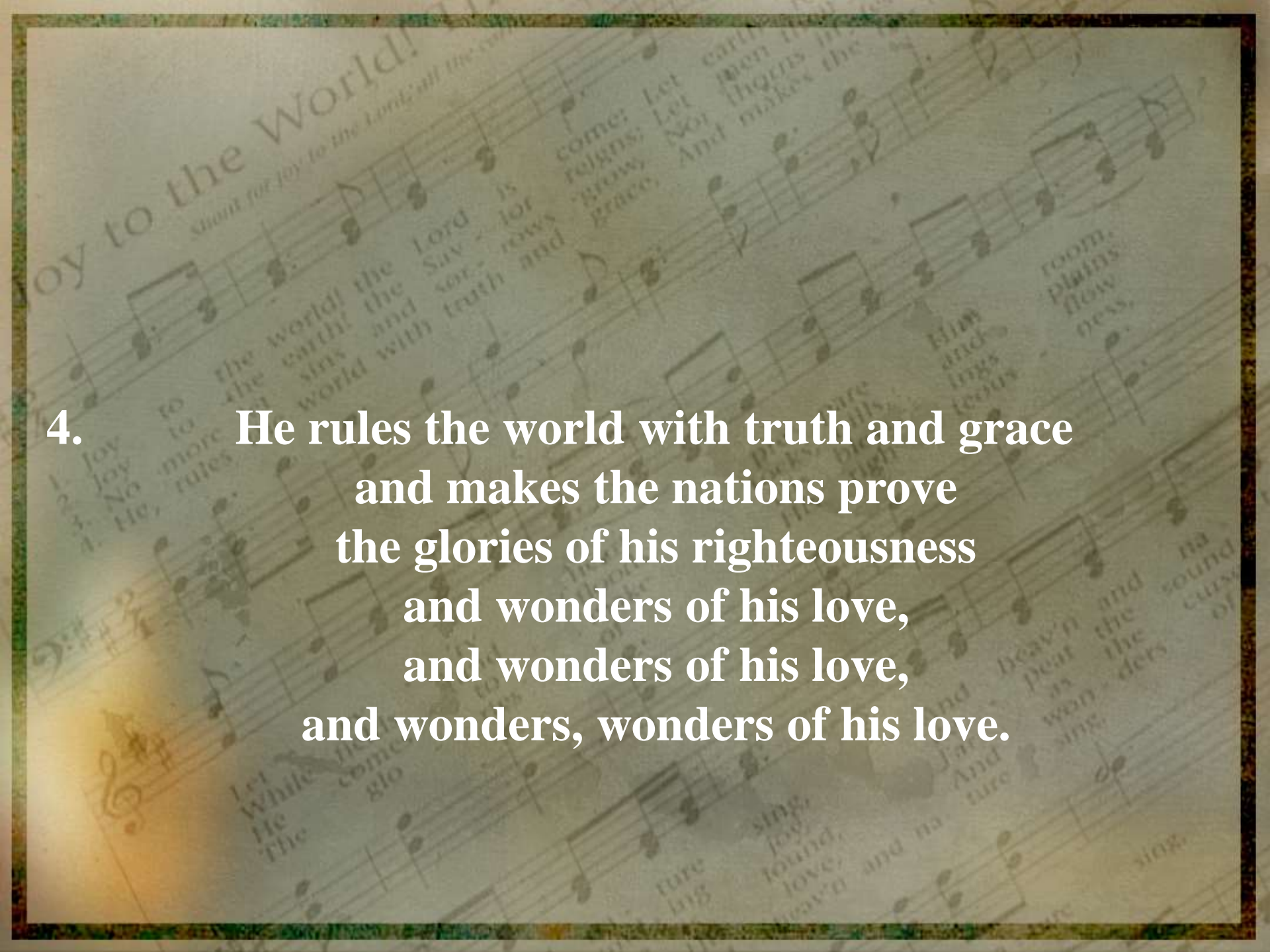
1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her king;
let ev'ry heart prepare him room
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.



2. Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let all their songs employ,
while fields and floods,
rocks, hills, and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.



3. No more let sin and sorrow grow
nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow
far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found,
far as, far as the curse is found.



4. He rules the world with truth and grace
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.

Communion Blessing



Prayer after Communion

L: Generous God,
in bread and cup you have revealed your
glory for all people to see together.
Nourished by this meal, send us out to
proclaim your good news of liberation and
release, brought to birth in Jesus Christ
our Savior.

C: Amen.

Blessing

L: The God of peace bless you,
the love of Christ sustain you in hope,
and the anointing of the Spirit ✝ remain
upon you now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

O Come, All Ye Faithful

ELW #283

Text: attr. John Francis Wade, 1711-1786; tr. Fredrick Oakley, 1802-1880, sts. 1, 3-4: tr. Unknown, st. 2.

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1.

**O, come, all ye faithful,
joyful and triumphant!**

**O, come ye, oh, come ye to Bethlehem;
come and behold him born the king of angels:**

**O, come, let us adore him,
O, come, let us adore him,
O, come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!**



**2. The highest, most holy, light of light eternal,
born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;
Son of the Father
now in flesh appearing!
O, come, let us adore him,
O, come, let us adore him,
O, come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!**



**3. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God... in the highest:
O, come, let us adore him,
O, come, let us adore him,
O, come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!**



**4. Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
 born this happy morning;
 Jesus, to thee be glory giv'n!
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing;
 O, come, let us adore him,
 O, come, let us adore him,
 O, come, let us adore him,
 Christ the Lord!**



Dismissal

L: Go in peace. Keep awake.

C: In the name of Christ. Amen.



*Thank you
for worshipping
with us!*

God bless you!

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