



*Welcome to Worship at
Zion Lutheran Church*

*Wednesday, December 3, 2025
5:45 pm*

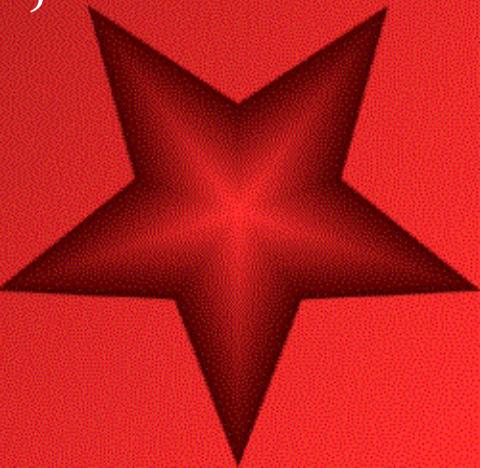
Photo by Gretta Brunelle

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

ELW #254

Text: Cameroon traditional. Music: Cameroon traditional; arr. John L. Bell, b. 1949. Arr. © 1986 Iona Community, admin. GIZ Publications, Inc.
Reprinted with permission under OneLicense #731814-A. All rights reserved.

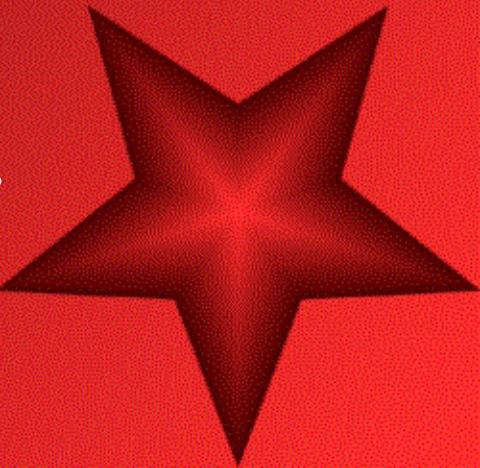
1. **Come, thou long expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us;
let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art,
dear desire of ev'ry nation,
joy of ev'ry longing heart.**



2.

**Born thy people to deliver,
born a child, and yet a king;
born to reign in us forever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.

By thine own eternal Spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all sufficient merit
raise us to thy glorious throne.**



Living Hope

CCLI Song # 7106807 Brian Johnson | Phil Wickham © 2017 Phil Wickham Music (Fair Trade Music Publishing [c/o Essential Music Publishing LLC]) Simply Global Songs (Fair Trade Music Publishing [c/o Essential Music Publishing LLC]) Sing My Songs (Fair Trade Music Publishing [c/o Essential Music Publishing LLC]) Bethel Music Publishing
For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License # 1943036

**How great the chasm that lay between us.
How high the mountain I could not climb.
In desperation I turned to heaven
and spoke your name into the night.
Then through the darkness your loving-kindness
tore through the shadows of my soul.
The work is finished, the end is written.
Jesus Christ, my living hope.**

**Who could imagine so great a mercy?
What heart could fathom such boundless grace?
The God of ages stepped down from glory
to wear my sin and bear my shame.
The cross has spoken; I am forgiven.
The King of kings calls me his own.
Beautiful Savior, I'm yours forever.
Jesus Christ, my living hope.**

Hallelujah, praise the One who set me free!
Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me!
You have broken every chain.
There's salvation in your name.
Jesus Christ, my living hope.

**Then came the morning that sealed the promise,
your buried body began to breathe.
Out of the silence, the Roaring Lion
declared the grave has no claim on me.**

**Then came the morning that sealed the promise,
your buried body began to breathe.
Out of the silence, the Roaring Lion
declared the grave has no claim on me.**

Jesus, yours is the victory!

**Hallelujah, praise the One who set me free!
Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me!
You have broken every chain.
There's salvation in your name.
Jesus Christ, my living hope.**

**Hallelujah, praise the One who set me free!
Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me!
You have broken every chain.
There's salvation in your name.
Jesus Christ, my living hope.**

Hear Our Praises

CCLI Song # 2543402

Reuben Morgan © 1998 Hillsong Music Publishing Australia (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)
For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License # 1943036

**May our homes be filled with dancing,
may our streets be filled with joy;
may injustice bow to Jesus,
as the people turn and pray.**

**From the mountain to the valley,
hear our praises rise to you;
from the heavens to the nations,
hear the singing fill the air.**

**May our light shine in the darkness,
as we walk before the cross;
may your glory fill the whole earth,
as the water over seas.**

**From the mountain to the valley,
hear our praises rise to you;
from the heavens to the nations,
hear the singing fill the air.**

Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

**From the mountain to the valley,
hear our praises rise to you;
from the heavens to the nations,
hear the singing fill the air.**



Welcome & Announcements

Help us decorate our Christmas tree at the Senior Living Center tomorrow, December 4, at 5:00 pm. Our tree is in the Independent Living Room (room with the pool table).

You are welcome to bring a snack to share as well!



Do you want to help with WeCare?

There are 2 opportunities to help these upcoming weeks.

Wednesday, December 10, at 9:00 am they will be meeting to wrap gifts and address cards for the memorial bags.

Wednesday, December 17, at 8:00 am they will be packing the memory bags and delivering them.

Everyone is welcome to come help!

Are you interested in learning more about serving communion?

A communion server training
will be taking place on
Wednesday, December 10, at 5:00 pm.
All are welcome!





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

You are
invited to bring
a framed picture
of a loved
one to be
on display.

Blue Christmas Service

at Zion Lutheran Church

Thursday, December 11

6:30 pm

Refreshments following service

Sponsored by the Congregational Care Committee



Beautify Zion's sanctuary with Poinsettias for Christmas

**Order forms for Zion's Christmas
worship services are available in the
Gathering Space.**

Orders are due by December 15.

Sanctuary Seating Survey

Now is the time to share your thoughts!

An **online** survey form is available:

- Click the link in the e-Messenger
- Scan the QR code with your phone's camera to complete the online survey

or

Pick up a **paper** survey
in the Gathering Space



Survey responses are due by January 5.



Lighting the Advent Wreath

L: Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe.

C: **You call all nations to walk in your light and to seek your ways of justice and peace, for the night is past, and the dawn of your coming is near.**



L: Bless us as we light the first candle of this Advent wreath, the candle of hope.

C: **Rouse us from sleep, that we may be ready to greet our Lord when he comes and welcome him into our hearts and homes,**

L: for he is our light and our salvation.

C: **Blessed be God forever.**
Amen.





Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah

ELW #240 v. 1

Text © 1984 Fortress Press, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted with permission under OneLicense #731814-A. All rights reserved.

1.

**Light one candle to watch for Messiah:
Let the light banish darkness.
He shall bring salvation to Isreal,
God fulfills the promise.**

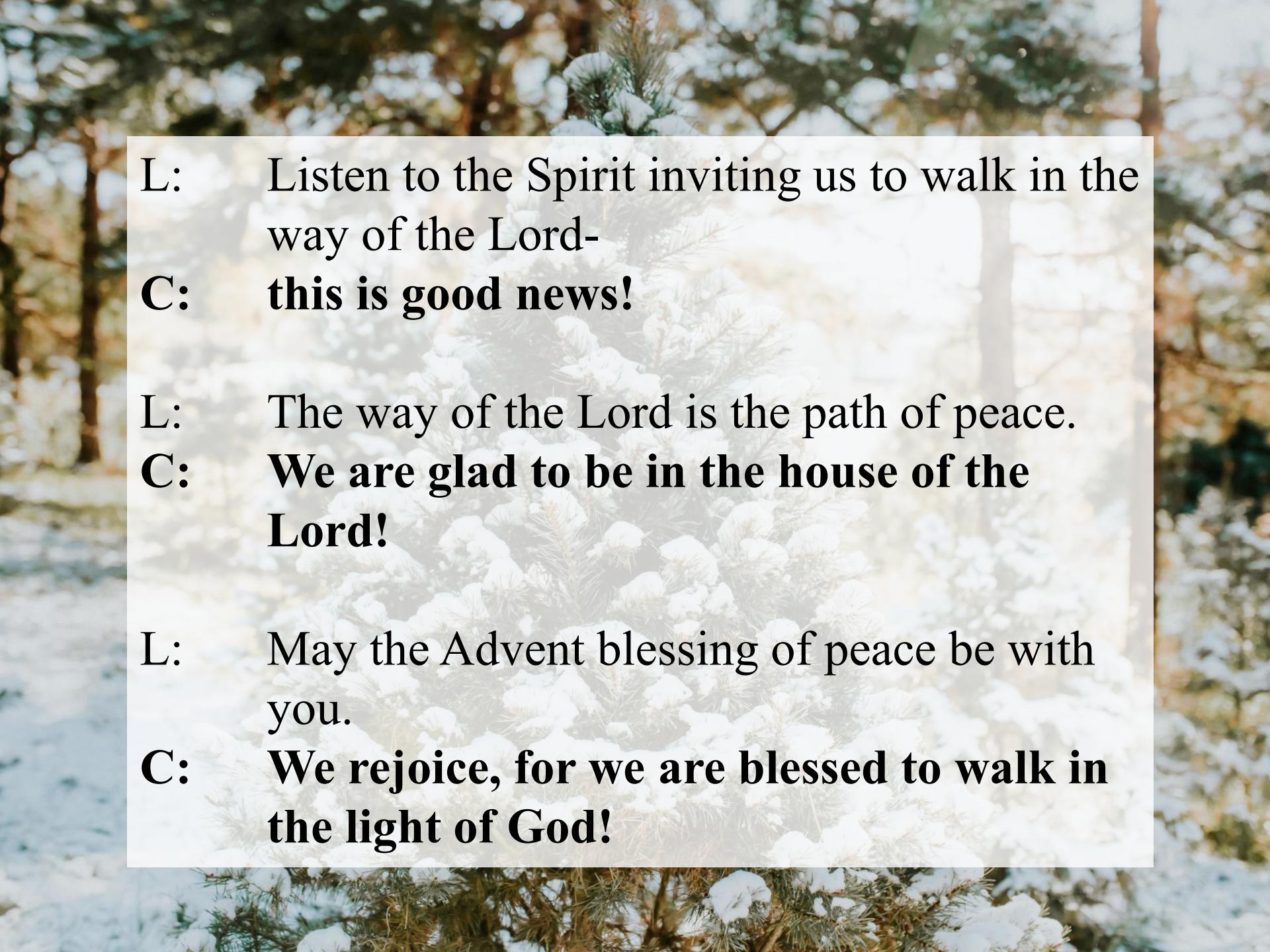
Sharing the Peace



Call to Worship

L: Listen to the Spirit urging us to get ready-
C: **our calendars are full of plans and events.**

L: Listen to the Spirit calling us to wait-
C: **we've already been waiting; there's a line everywhere we go.**



L: Listen to the Spirit inviting us to walk in the way of the Lord-

C: this is good news!

L: The way of the Lord is the path of peace.

C: We are glad to be in the house of the Lord!

L: May the Advent blessing of peace be with you.

C: We rejoice, for we are blessed to walk in the light of God!

Light of the World

CCLI Song # 7163734 Andrew Bergthold | Ed Cash | Franni Cash | Martin Cash | Scott Cash © 2020 Angie Feel Good Songs (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) Bay19 (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) Capitol CMG Genesis (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) Capitol CMG Paragon (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) We The Kingdom Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License # 1943036

**Light of the world, treasure of Heaven,
brilliant like the stars in the wintery sky.
Joy of the Father, reach through the darkness,
Shine across the earth, send the shadows to flight.**

**Light of the world, from the beginning;
the tragedies of time were no match for your love.
From great heights of glory, you saw my story.
God, you entered in and became one of us.**

**Sing hallelujah,
Sing hallelujah.**

Sing hallelujah for the things he has done!

**Come and adore him,
bow down before him.**

Sing hallelujah to the light of the world.

**Light of the world, crown in a manger,
born for the cross, to suffer, to save.
High King of heaven, death is the poorer.
We are the richer by the price that he paid.**

**Sing hallelujah,
Sing hallelujah.**

Sing hallelujah for the things he has done!

**Come and adore him,
bow down before him.**

Sing hallelujah to the light of the world.

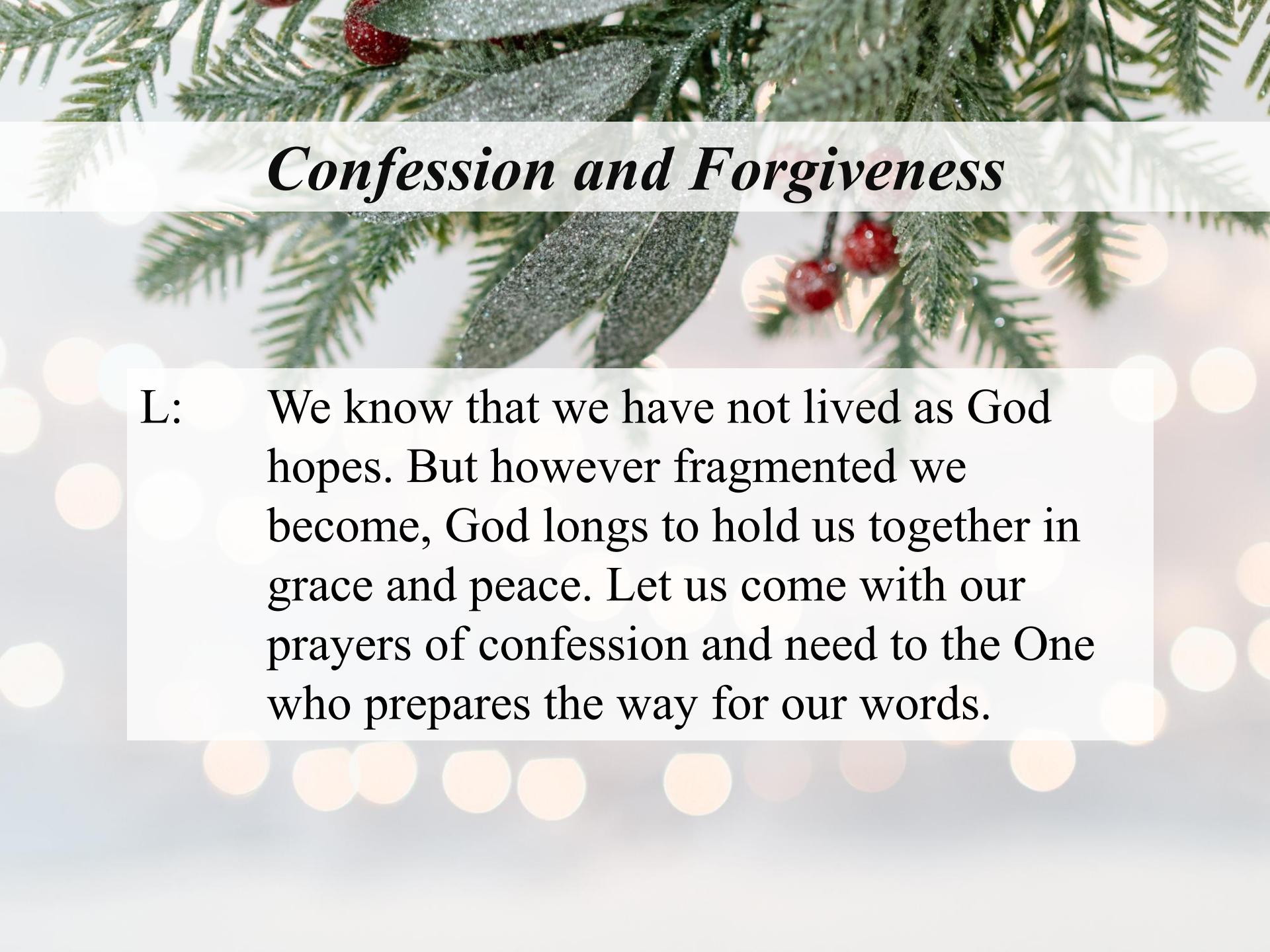
**Light of the world soon will be coming,
with fire in his eyes, he will ransom his own.
Through clouds he will lead us straight into glory,
and there he shall reign forevermore, forevermore.**

**Sing hallelujah,
Sing hallelujah.**

Sing hallelujah for the things he has done!

**Come and adore him,
bow down before him.**

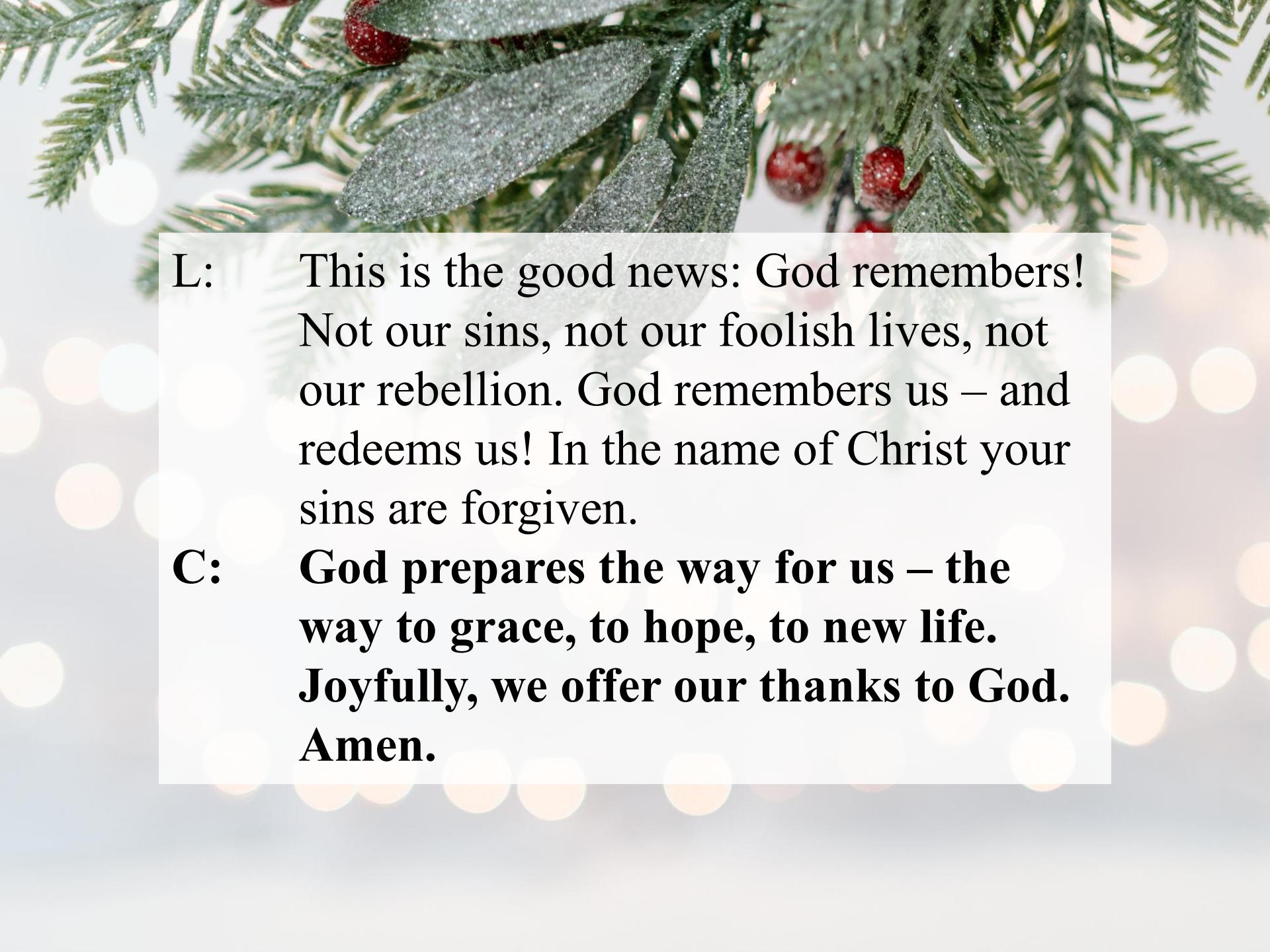
Sing hallelujah to the light of the world.



Confession and Forgiveness

L: We know that we have not lived as God hopes. But however fragmented we become, God longs to hold us together in grace and peace. Let us come with our prayers of confession and need to the One who prepares the way for our words.

C: Holy Father, in these moments, we bring to you all the ways we have not lived as your people: we stand by watching while those in need struggle to survive; we cast our lots with those who worship power and success; we offer insults rather than words of grace to those who care for us; we scoff at your words which call us to your way. Forgive us, God of Mercy, for not knowing what we do to you, to others, to ourselves. Let us be still and hear your voice as we go forth, following your prompts to care for your people.



L: This is the good news: God remembers! Not our sins, not our foolish lives, not our rebellion. God remembers us – and redeems us! In the name of Christ your sins are forgiven.

C: **God prepares the way for us – the way to grace, to hope, to new life. Joyfully, we offer our thanks to God. Amen.**

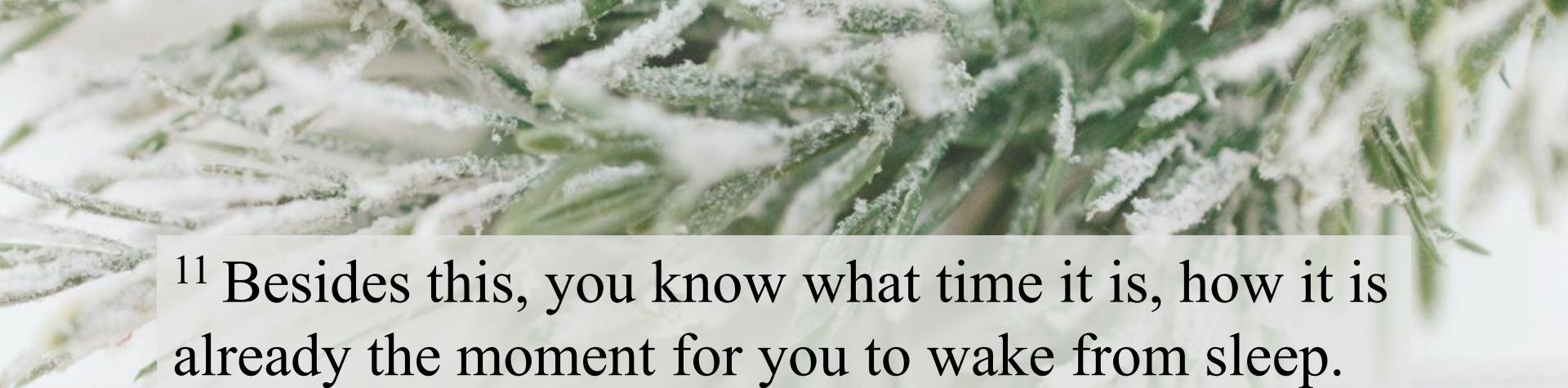
A Message for All God's Children





Scripture Reading: Romans 13:11-14

Paul compares the advent of Christ to the coming of dawn. We live our lives today in light of Christ's coming in the future.



¹¹ Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹² the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³ let us walk decently as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴ Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.



L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Message

Hope Was Born This Night

CCLI Song # 5873296

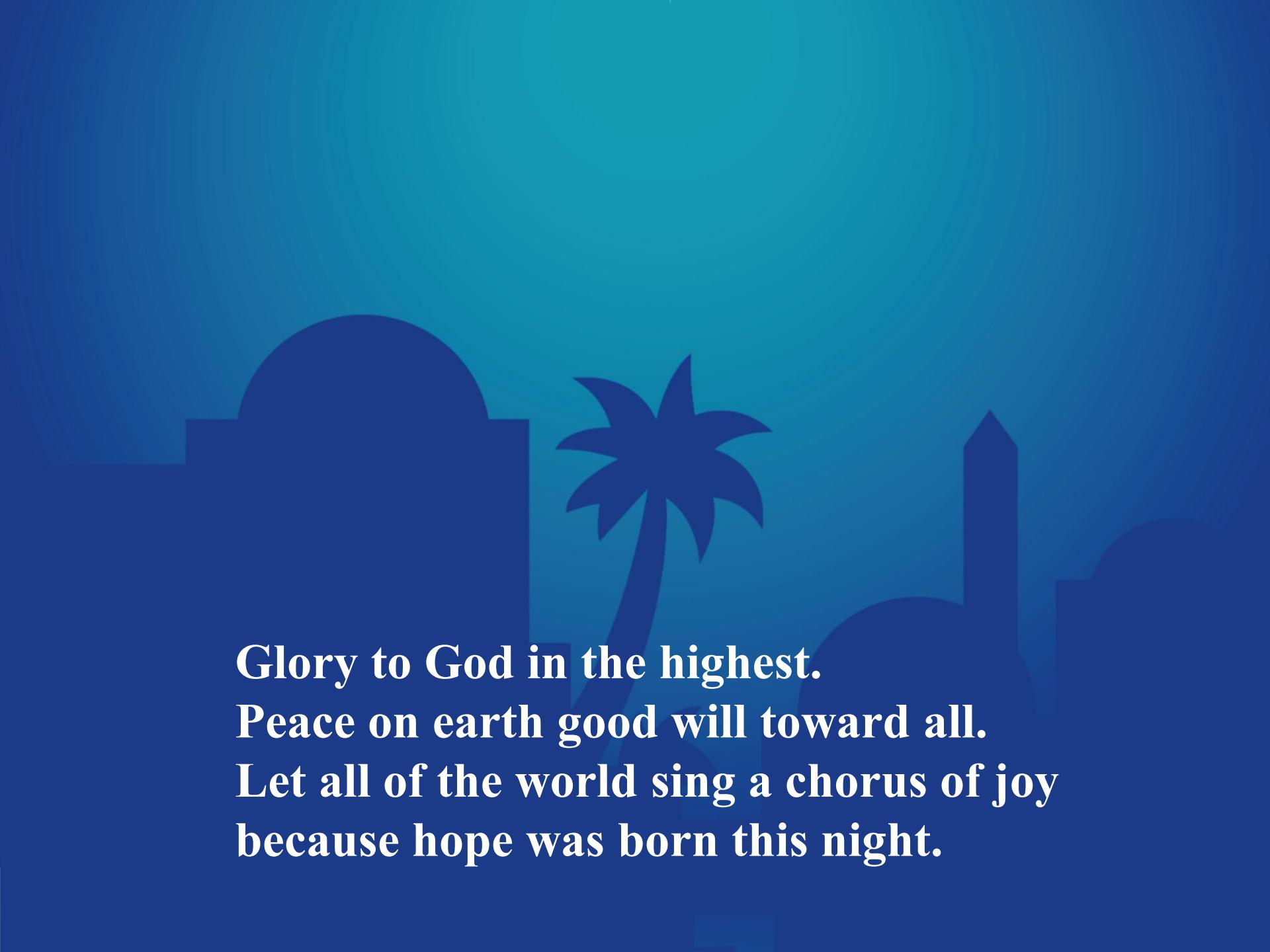
Ben McDonald | David Frey

© 2010 Mike Curb Music; Pencil Prophet Publishing; Run Run Milo

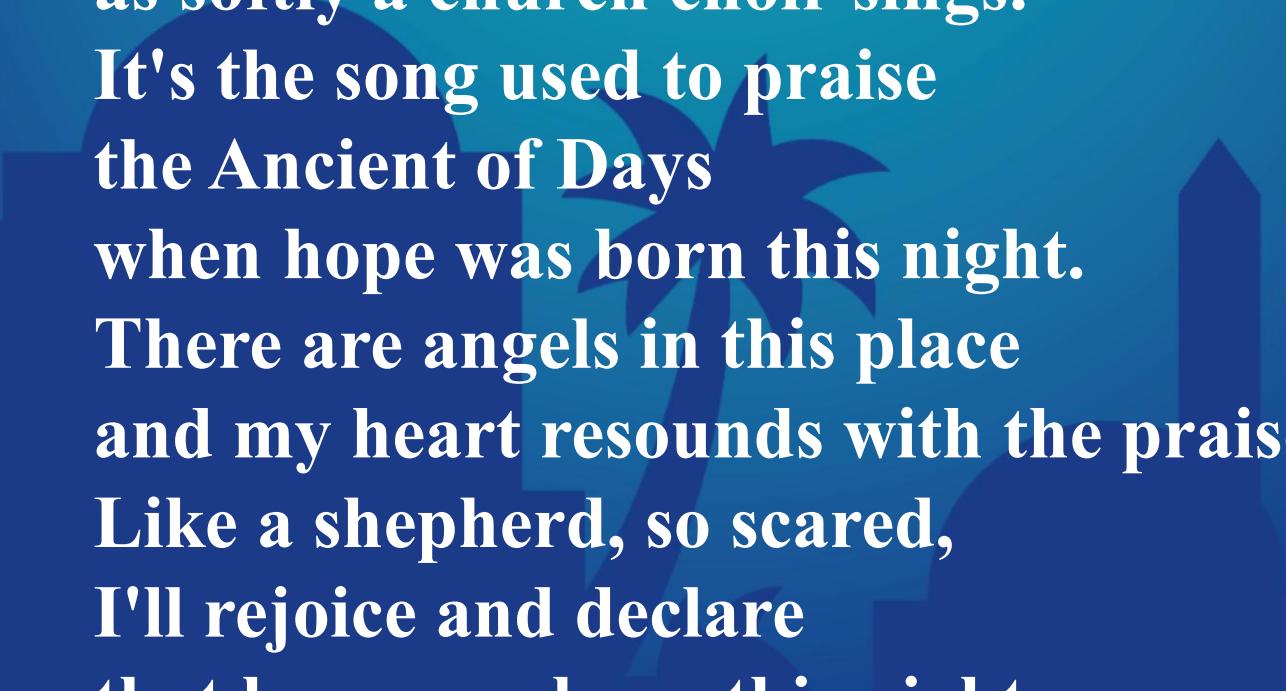
For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com

CCLI License # 1943036

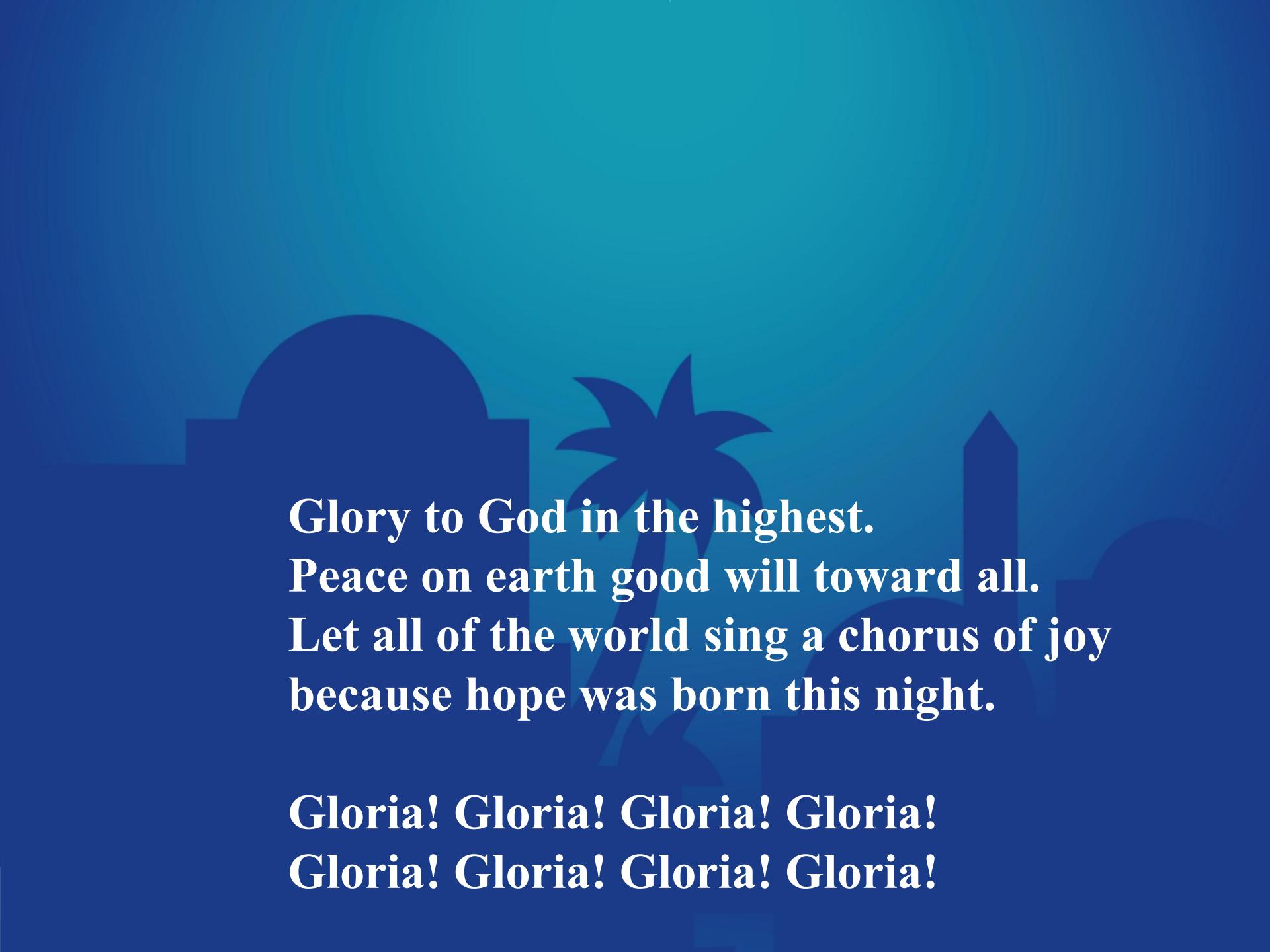
**Tonight I can see a star shine
and its splendor fills up the sky.
It's the same that appeared
and the wise men revered
when hope was born this night.
Out upon the snowy fields
there's a silent peace that heals.
And it echoes the grace
of our Savior's embrace
because hope was born this night.**



**Glory to God in the highest.
Peace on earth good will toward all.
Let all of the world sing a chorus of joy
because hope was born this night.**

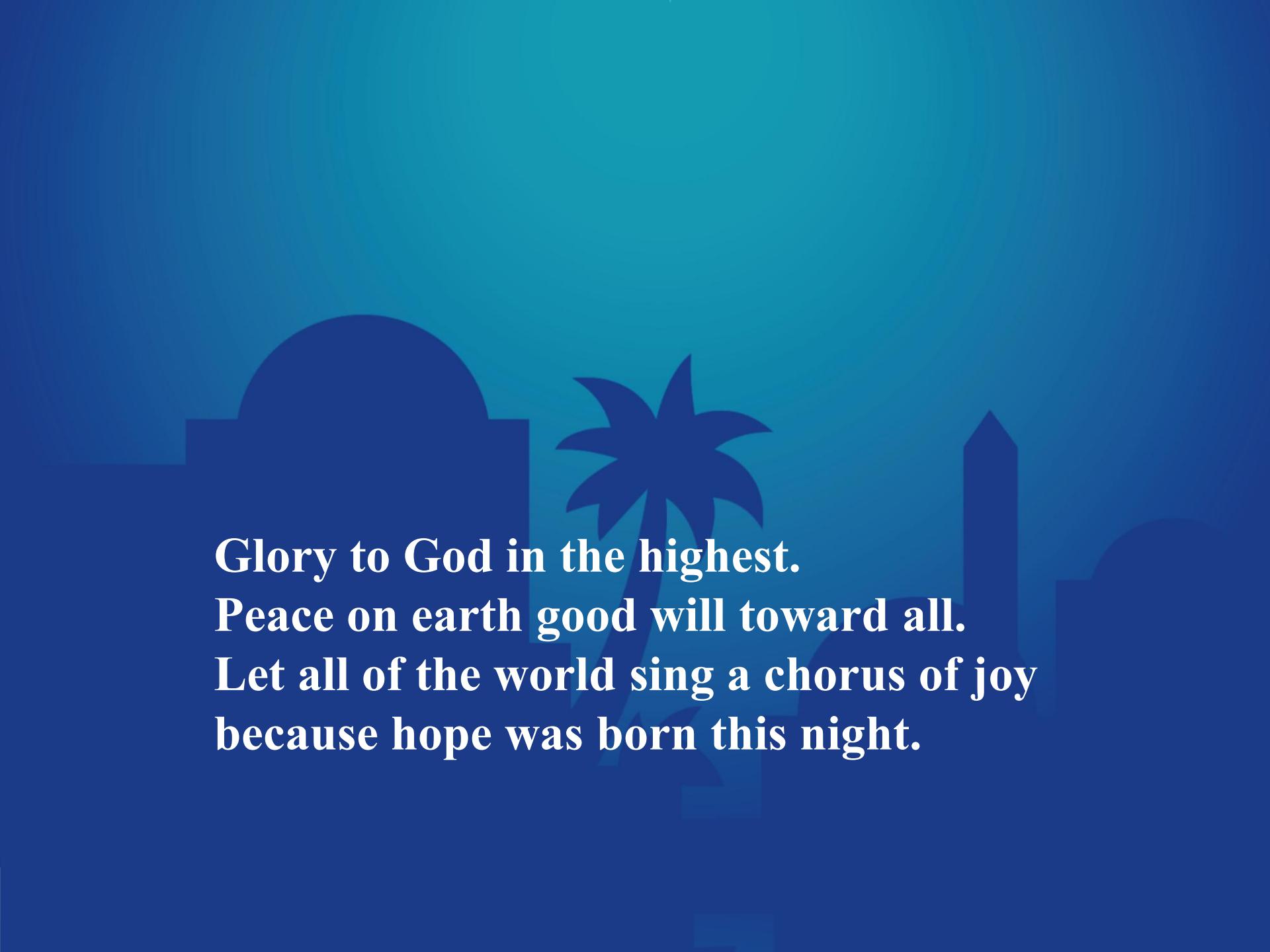


**I can hear the Christmas bells ring
as softly a church choir sings.
It's the song used to praise
the Ancient of Days
when hope was born this night.
There are angels in this place
and my heart resounds with the praise.
Like a shepherd, so scared,
I'll rejoice and declare
that hope was born this night.**



**Glory to God in the highest.
Peace on earth good will toward all.
Let all of the world sing a chorus of joy
because hope was born this night.**

**Gloria! Gloria! Gloria! Gloria!
Gloria! Gloria! Gloria! Gloria!**



**Glory to God in the highest.
Peace on earth good will toward all.
Let all of the world sing a chorus of joy
because hope was born this night.**

**Glory to God in the highest.
Peace on earth good will toward all.
Let all of the world sing a chorus of joy
because hope was born this night.
I know hope was born this night
because Christ was born this night.**

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
with
Special Music
**“Christ Our Hope in
Life and Death”**

Offering Prayer

L: By these gifts, Gracious God, may those who have so little be clothed with your abundant grace; may the hungry be fed with food that strengthens them and hope which gives them new life; may all who are searching find that they are your beloved children. In Jesus' name we pray.

C: **Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession



The Lord's Prayer (It's Yours)

CCLI Song # 7200544

Bryan Fowler | Jacob Sooter | Matt Maher

© Be Essential Songs; bryanfowlersongs; Caroco Songs; Just When Publishing; So Essential Tunes
For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com

CCLI License # 1943036

**Father, let your kingdom come.
Father, let your will be done
on earth as in heaven,
right here in my heart.**

**Father, let your kingdom come.
Father, let your will be done
on earth as in heaven,
right here in my heart.**

**Give us this day our daily bread.
Forgive us; forgive us
as we forgive the ones who sinned
against us; forgive them.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from the evil one.
Let your kingdom come.**

**Father, let your kingdom come.
Father, let your will be done
on earth as in heaven,
right here in my heart.**

**Father, let your kingdom come.
Father, let your will be done
on earth as in heaven,
right here in my heart.**

**Give us this day our daily bread.
Forgive us; forgive us
as we forgive the ones who sinned
against us; forgive them.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from the evil one.
Let your kingdom come.**

**It's yours, it's yours, all yours, all yours.
The kingdom, the power, the glory are yours.
It's yours, it's yours, all yours, all yours.
Forever and ever the kingdom is yours.**

**It's yours, it's yours, all yours, all yours.
The kingdom, the power, the glory are yours.
It's yours, it's yours, all yours, all yours.
Forever and ever the kingdom is yours.**

**Father, let your kingdom come.
Father, let your will be done
on earth as in heaven,
right here in my heart.**

**Father, let your kingdom come.
Father, let your will be done
on earth as in heaven,
right here in my heart.
On earth as in heaven
right here in my heart.**

Blessing

L: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C: **Amen!**

Emmanuel (Hallowed Manger Ground)

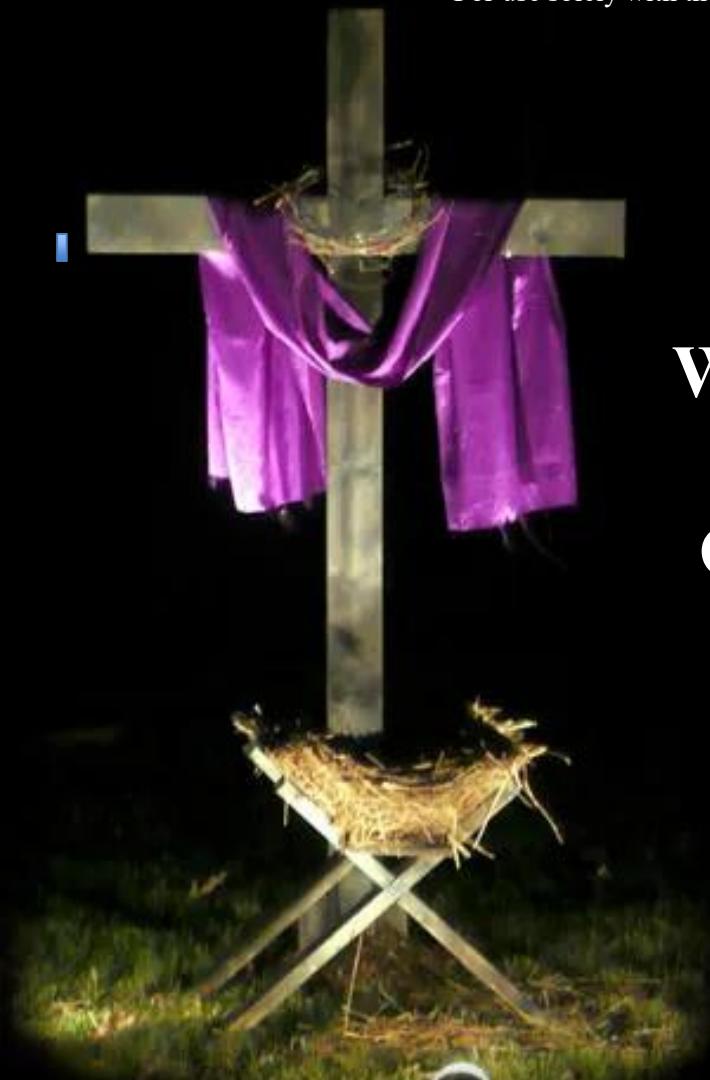
CCLI Song # 5601640

Chris Tomlin | Ed Cash

© 2009 Rising Springs Music; Vamos Publishing; worshiptogether.com songs; Wondrously Made Songs

For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com

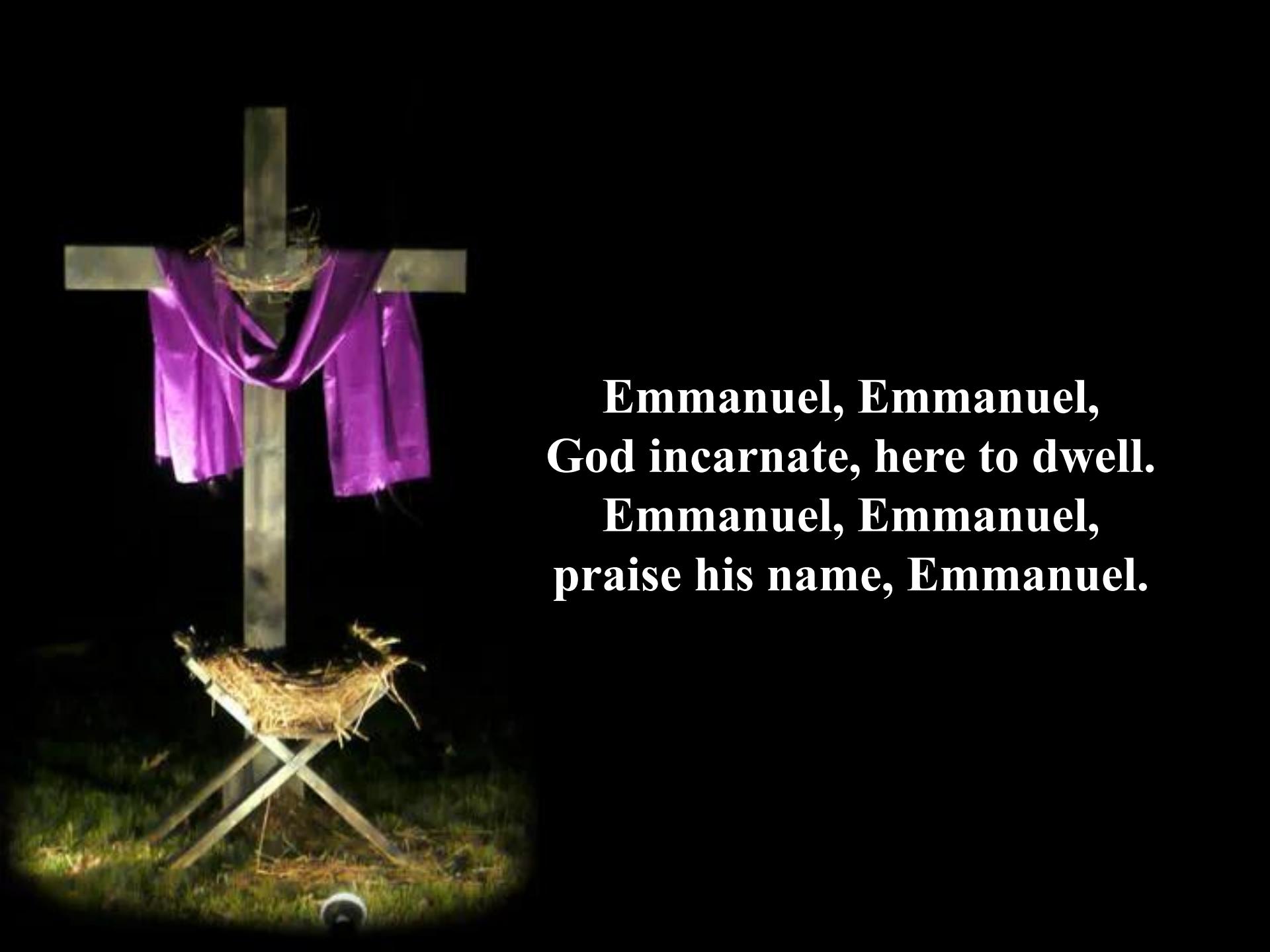
CCLI License # 1943036



**What hope we hold this starlit night:
A King is born in Bethlehem.
Our journey long, we seek the light
that leads to the hallowed
manger ground.**



**What fear we felt in the silent age,
four-hundred years
can he be found?
But broken by a baby's cry;
rejoice in the hallowed
manger ground.**



**Emmanuel, Emmanuel,
God incarnate, here to dwell.
Emmanuel, Emmanuel,
praise his name, Emmanuel.**



**The Son of God, here, born to bleed;
a crown of thorns would
pierce his brow.
And we beheld this offering,
exalted now, the King of kings,
praise God for the hallowed
manger ground.**



**Emmanuel, Emmanuel,
God incarnate here to dwell.
Emmanuel, Emmanuel,
praise his name, Emmanuel.
Praise his name, Emmanuel.**

Dismissal

L: Go into the world filled with
the peace of God,
activated by the light of Jesus Christ,
stimulated by the insight of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Thanks be to God!**



*Thank you
for worshipping
with us!*

God bless you!