Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church *First Sunday of Advent*

10:00 AM Worship Service • December 1, 2024 ACS Setting 12



Advent is about the "coming days." God's people have always lived in great expectation, but that expectation finds specific, repeated enunciation in the texts appointed for these four weeks. The ancients anticipated a "righteous Branch to spring up for David." The Thessalonians awaited "the coming of our Lord Jesus with all the saints." Jesus' contemporaries hoped for the time "to stand before the Son of Man." With them we eagerly await the coming days: another Christmas celebration, a second coming, and the advent of Christ in word and supper.

Welcome members and guests to our worship service today. If you are visiting, we encourage you to sign the guest register located in the narthex; or, if you are online during our worship service, drop us a line to say hello or that you and your family are attending, so that we know you have joined us for worship. For those who come in person, please include your home address, email address and phone number. In each pew, there is a card that you can fill out if you wish to have a consult with the pastor and/or leave us more information about you. Sunday School begins at 8:45 followed by a worship service at 10:00 AM on Sunday mornings.

A nursery room is available during the service. The nursery is located off the hallway on the Huntington Avenue side of the church building. At this time, there are no nursery attendants. We also have "activity binders" available for older children to enjoy during the service. Please ask an usher about using one.

Trinity offers an induction loop for the benefit of hearing impaired worshippers. To use, please switch your hearing aid to "T."

TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

6812 River Road, Newport News, VA 23607 (757) 245-7861 — http://trinitylutheran-nn.com Church Office Hours: M-Th 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.



REV. TINA MELUSKY—Pastor (tina.melusky@gmail.com)

GEOFFREY BELL – Director of Music Ministries (music@trinitynn.org)

SHARON MATHISON – Administrative Assistant (admin@trinitynn.org)

CAROL BESSOM – Treasurer (cbessom@trinitynn.com)

THE CONGREGATION OF TRINITY LUTHERAN — Ministers of the Word FACEBOOK & WORSHIP LIVESTREAMS: http://facebook.com/TrinityNN TRINITY LUTHERAN SCHOOL WEBSITE: http://trinitynn.org

PASTOR MELUSKY'S OFFICE HOURS

Monday 9am-12pm; Tuesday 9-10:30am, 11:30am-12:15pm; Wednesday 9:30am-12pm; Thursday 9am-12pm Times are flexible with monthly meetings, but feel free to call for an appointment or drop in.

Pastor's Cell: (734) 239-4013

Trinity is a partner church with Peninsula Pastoral Counseling Center, LINK, THRIVE, and The Simple Sunflower.

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CARILLON CALL TO WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Reflections on "E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come"

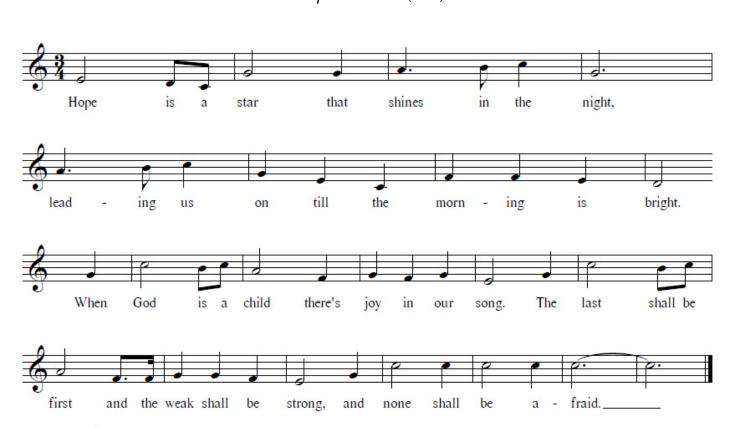
Paul Manz

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

The Wessler Family

RESPONSE

Hope Is a Star (v. 1)



WORDS: Brian Wren, 1985 MUSIC: Jean Collier Fogg, 1987 © 1989 Hope Publishing Company

GATHERING

The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, \pm one God, alive in the world, reviving creation,

arriving soon.

Amen

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of mercy,

we confess that we have sinned.

We trust earthly powers and human authority alone.

We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.

God of might,

we confess that we have sinned.

We have turned away from our neighbors.

We have trusted false promises.

God in our midst,

we confess that we have sinned.

We plead: come to us.

Bring your mercy to birth in us.

A righteous branch springs forth: it is Christ the Lord, our Savior, in whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy. By the power of the Holy Spirit, receive the grace and forgiveness of God through + Christ Jesus, whose day draws near.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

The King Shall Come CONSOLATION

ELW 260

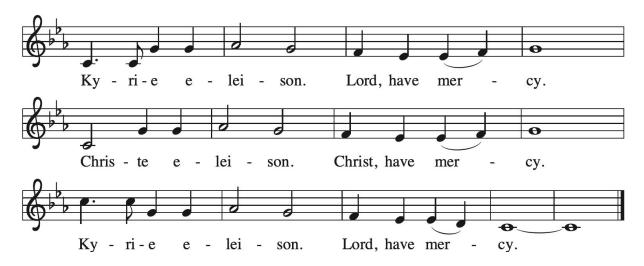
The congregation turns to face the processing cross.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

KYRIE



PRAYER OF THE DAY

The assembly is seated.

WORD

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 33: 4-16

In the Old Testament, "righteousness" often has to do with being faithful in relationship. God acts righteously both in punishing Israel for its sin and in having mercy. In today's reading, Jerusalem's future name — "The Lord is our righteousness" — proclaims that God is even now working salvation for Israel.

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David, and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.

PSALM 25.1-10 (all sing the response before the reading and when directed.)



Psalm 25:1

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To you, O Lord,

I lift up my soul.

My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me.

Let none who look to you be put to shame;

rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

Show me your ways, O Lord, and teach me your paths. R

Lead me in your truth and teach me,

for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love,

for they are from everlasting. R

Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.

You are gracious and upright, O Lord; therefore you teach sinners in your way.

You lead the lowly in justice and teach the lowly your way.

All your paths, O Lord, are steadfast love and faithfulness to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Upon Timothy's report from the congregation at Thessalonica, Paul is exuberant with gratitude for them. In this passage from his letter, Paul voices overflowing thanks, joy, and blessings for the people of this growing church.

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may God so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.

The assembly stands.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Stand up and | raise your heads — your redemption is | drawing near.

GOSPEL: Luke 21:25-36

God will fulfill God's purposes and, already, hidden signs of that fulfillment abound. On that great day there will be dismay, perplexity, confusion, and terror, but God's people shall be given strength to stand boldly and receive God's promised redemption.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 21st chapter. Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place and to stand before the Son of Man."

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

CHILDREN'S CHAT Pastor Tina Melusky
SERMON Pastor Tina Melusky

The assembly stands.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Come Now, O God
LOST IN THE NIGHT

ACS 902

APOSTLE'S 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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Lord in your mercy, receive our prayer.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. And also with you.

The assembly is seated.

RECEIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

arr. Gustav Holst

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand; Ponder nothing earthly minded, for with blessing in his hand Christ our Lord to earth descendeth our full homage to demand.

King of Kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth He stood, Lord of Lords, in human vesture in the Body and the Blood. He will give to all the faithful his own self for heavenly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way, As the light of light descendeth from the realms of endless day, That the powers of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away.

At his feet the six-winged seraph; cherubim with sleepless eye, Veil their faces to the Presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry, "Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord most High!"

Amen! Amen!

The assembly stands.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Creator God,
you made the whole world,
even the farthest stars,
and you draw near to feed us.
We praise you for these gifts of bread and wine.
Strengthen us with this food
that we may live in expectation
for the advent of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

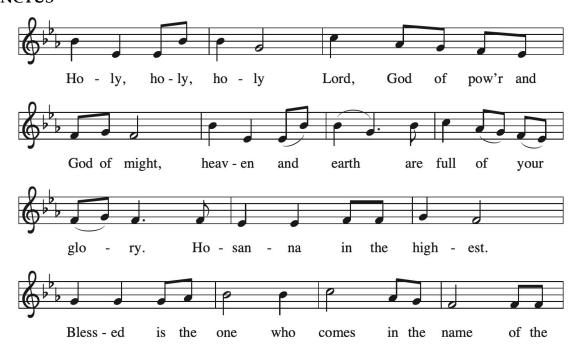
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

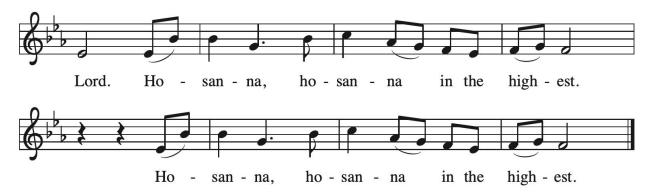
PROPER PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise...

...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS





THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life: Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,
the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.
Come among us.
Bless this meal.
May your Word take flesh in us.
Awaken your people.
Fill us with your light.
Bring the gift of peace on earth.
Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

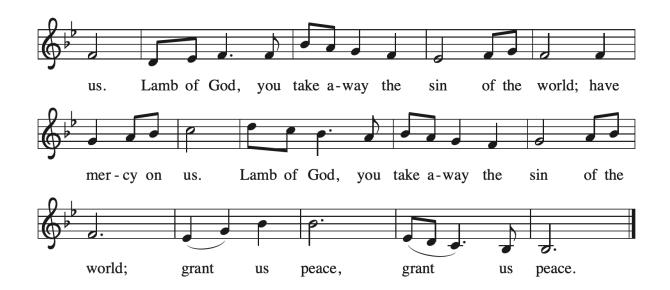
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

The assembly is seated.

AGNUS DEI



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



COMMUNION

Communion will be held around the table. The bread will be handed to you by the pastor. Please take a communion cup with wine from the outside edge of the tray or a grape juice cup from the center of the tray. Recycle baskets are located outside of the sanctuary doors for your plastic cups.

MUSIC DURING THE DISTRIBUTION

Christ, Be Our Light CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT

ELW 715

The assembly stands.

SENDING

TABLE BLESSING

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE

Now, Lord

ELW 200

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BLESSING

God of endings and beginnings, God in the darkness and the light, God, our hope for the journey, + bless and keep you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending HELMSLEY

ELW 435

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.

Thanks be to God.

SERVING THE ASSEMBLY

CRUCIFER — Karina Stevens

ACOLYTES — Luke and Sam Harry

LECTOR — Kathleen Pietrasanta

USHERS/GREETERS — Dave Roselius and Anne Obara

CAMERA/LIVESTREAM — Cliff Obara

ANNOUNCEMENTS

<u>Poinsettias</u>: We are now taking donations for poinsettias up until December 8. Each 6.5" pot is \$15. A poinsettia form was sent out via Constant Contact email this past week. More forms are available in the narthex. Please note — we ask that you pick up your poinsettia immediately following worship on 12/29. We will not be donating them to Simple Sunflowers.

CHURCH COUNCIL

We are looking for members interested in taking a more active role in church envisioning and spiritual growth as a member of Church Council. If you are interested or you know of a member who would be a great candidate, please reach out to any current member of Council for more information to our 2025 Nominating Committee: Wendy Mynoymany, Diane Roselius, or Shawn Murphy. Nominations are due December 1.

RED FOOD BOX Thank you so much for your donations to the Red Box! We will always need water and food donations. A reminder that if you donate fruit cups, please be sure they are applesauce cups only– other fruit cups attract critters! This is an important ministry for our community members, receiving a gift that reminds them that they are valued children of God! Canned goods and items that need to be cooked can be placed in the Thrive baskets next to the red food box table and outside sacristy kitchen.

GREENING OF THE CHURCH: Join us for Greening of the Sanctuary on Sunday, December 8, 2024, after worship. We are in need of folks who are willing and able to safely climb ladders to help hang greenery and wreaths in and around the windows. Youth will be setting up and decorating the Chrismon trees. This is always a good time for fellowship and we hope to see you there as we prepare our church sanctuary for Advent and the Christmas season. Thank you!

EVERYTHING I LEARNED IN CONFIRMATION...I ALREADY FORGOT...

Have you ever asked, "Why do we do that?" while sitting in church? Have you ever wondered how we got to where we are? Has the Bible ever confused you? Join the club! This fall we are tackling all the things we probably learned in Confirmation and then promptly forgot! Our next meeting is December 5th at 6:30 PM. We will gather every other Thursday throughout the fall and winter, from 6:30-8 PM for discussion and to dive into the ins and outs of faith. If you'd like to join us, there is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board. We will be meeting in person and on Zoom.

<u>THE VIRGINIA CHORAL SOCIETY CONCERTS</u> December 14th at 4pm Trinity Lutheran Church and December 15th at 4 pm Temple Baptist Church, Newport News.

THE VIRGINIA HANDBELL CONSORT

St Mark Lutheran Church and Sine Nomine presents The Virginia Handbell Consort under the direction of Mr. Al Reese on Sunday, December 1, 2024 at 5:00 PM. St Mark Lutheran Church is located at 118 Old York-Hampton Highway, Yorktown, VA 23692.

RING IN THE SEASON

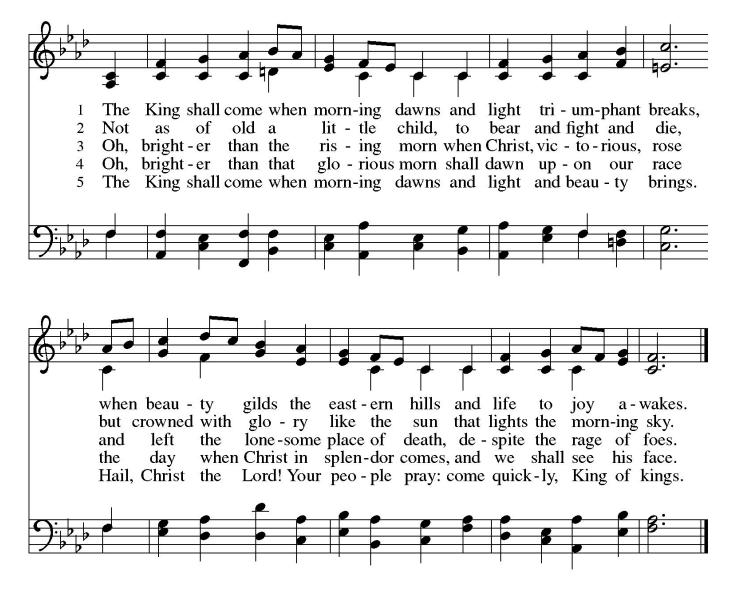
Hello! This is First United Church of Christ on Todds Lane in Hampton inviting you and your congregation to our 39th annual Ring in the Season concert on Saturday, December 7th at 4pm. This concert is free and will feature the Williamsburg A Cappella Singers. A free-will offering will be collected to benefit Habitat for Humanity Peninsula and Greater Williamsburg. A reception will follow. Please share the attached flyer with your congregation. We hope to see you there! God Bless.

HELP WANTED

It is time once again to make a request for volunteers to help with ushering during the worship services. The same core group has been serving for over a year now and we would love to have some new folks join the usher crew. The work required is to open the church in the morning, hand out bulletins, collect offerings, send folks to communion, and close the church following the service. Training will only take an hour or less at your convenience. We are especially in need of ushers for the additional Christmas Eve services. Please contact Clifford Obara if you would like to volunteer.

PRAYER REQUESTS: Harlan Hamby, requested by Pastor Tina; Nancy Sumpter, Tricia Wessler's Mom, requested by Pastor Tina; Mary Best, a friend of Connie Hoover, requested by Connie Hoover; Charlie Edmonson, friend of Sandy and Jerry Cobb, requested by Sandy Cobb; Nancy Allerding, who works with the Costa Rica mission trip, requested by Tricia Wessler; Sherry Johnston, former member and sister of Donna Owens, requested by Judy Hunt; Harlan Hamby, requested by Katherine Harry; The family of Carole Knopp, by Wendy Mynoymany; Scully, Pastor Tina's dog, requested by Tricia Wessler; Janet Stephan, requested by the Dail Family; Amanda Griegos and her family, requested by Diane and Dave Roselius; Karen Admano and her husband Matt requested by Patricia Fielding; the Ahlen family, requested by Kathy Stevens; Beth Eisdorfer, daughter of Terri Hoffeditz; Jean Wimmer--friend of Jeannette Dail.

THOSE WHO SERVE, MILITARY AND CIVILIAN DUTY: James Fielding, in Tokyo, Japan, Bryan Hunt, State Dept., Sierra Leone.; Tyler Obara, Virginia Air National guard, LAFB; Michael Titus, US Navy, Naval Shipyard, Washington, DC and wife, Elisabeth Bruce.



Text: John Brownlie, 1859-1925

Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davisson, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816; arr. Theodore A. Beck, 1929-2003 Arr. © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission.

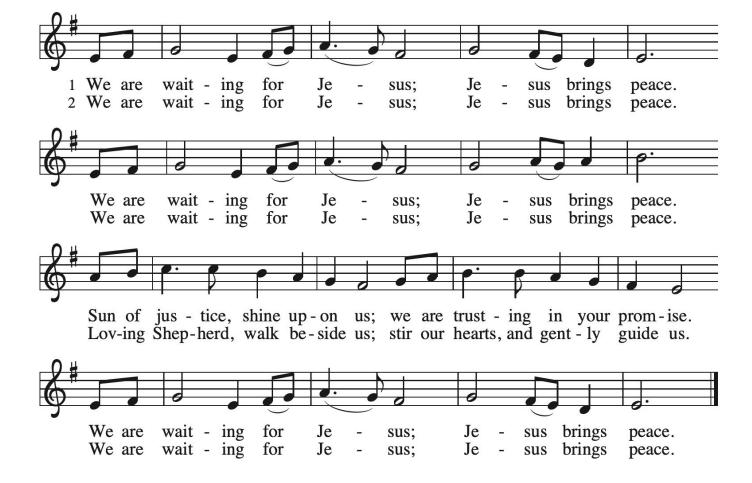
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Text: David Bjorlin, b. 1984

Music: LOST IN THE NIGHT, Finnish folk tune

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Text: John Helgen, b. 1957

Music: JESUS BRINGS PEACE, John Helgen

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Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957 Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell Text and music © 1993 Bernadette Farrell.Published by OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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Music: Detroit Folk Mass, Tillis Butler, d. 2002, and James Harris Music © 1986 Fortress Press, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt. Music: HELMSLEY, Thomas Olivers, 1725–1799