



## Preparation for Worship

*Defenseless under the night  
Our world in stupor lies;  
Yet, dotted everywhere,  
Ironic points of light  
Flash out wherever the Just  
Exchange their messages:  
May I, composed like them  
Of Eros and of dust,  
Beleaguered by the same  
Negation and despair,  
Show an affirming flame.*

—W.H. Auden

## Voluntary

Chorale Fantasie on *Freu dich sehr, o meine Seele*

Johann Ludwig Krebs  
(1713–1780)

## Greeting

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

## Lighting of the Advent Candle

### Handbell Introit

*Savior of the Nations, Come*

NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND  
arr. Cathy Moglebust  
(b. 1958)

## ✦ Opening Sentences

### ✦ Hymn 94 ([see page 10](#))

*Now the Heavens Start to Whisper*

JEFFERSON

## ✠ Prayer of Confession

Patient God,

We hear the voice of the prophet, announcing good news for the oppressed,  
but we listen with tolerance to the lies of oppressors.

We hear the song of Mary, lauding the lowly and humble,  
but we listen to a culture that values pride, possessions, and power.

We hear the eternal promise of your gospel, proclaiming the salvation of the world,  
but we listen to an endless news cycle, reporting the desolation of the world.

Open our ears, O Gracious God,  
and give us the wisdom to distinguish  
if what we hear is worthy of our listening.

Forgive our waywardness,  
and teach us the wisdom of your ways,  
until our ears hear and our hearts trust your gospel alone.

*silent prayer*

## ✠ Response

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord; be strong; take heart!

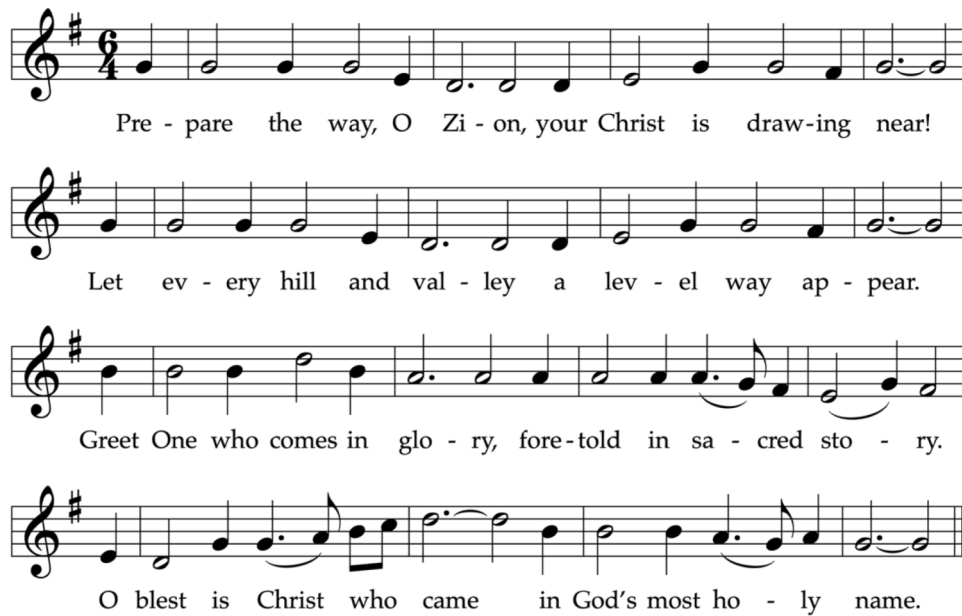
TEXT Ref. Taizé Community, 1984  
MUSIC: Jacques Berthier, 1984  
Text and Music © 1984 Les Presses de Taizé (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

WAIT FOR THE LORD  
8.8

## ✠ Declaration of Forgiveness

Believe the Good News. **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

## ✦ Response



Pre - pare the way, O Zi - on, your Christ is draw-ing near!

Let ev - ery hill and val - ley a lev - el way ap - pear.

Greet One who comes in glo - ry, fore-told in sa - cred sto - ry.

O blest is Christ who came in God's most ho - ly name.

TEXT: Frans Mikael Franzen, 1812, rev. 1819; translated by Augustus Nelson, 1958;  
adapted by Charles P. Price, 1980, alt. © 1982 Hope Publishing Company  
MUSIC: *Then Svenska Psalmboken*, 1697; arr. *American Lutheran Hymnal*, 1930

BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN  
7.6.7.6.7.7.6.6

## ✦ The Peace

Peace be with you. **Peace be with all.**

### Conversation with Children

### Prayer for Illumination

### First Reading

Isaiah 2:1-5

O.T. pgs. 631-632

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

### Anthem

*My Lord, What a Mornin'*

Harry T. Burleigh (1866-1949)  
adapted by Albert Blackwell, 2012

My Lord, what a mornin',  
my Lord, what a mornin',  
oh, my Lord, what a morning',  
when the stars begin to fall,  
when the stars begin to fall.

Done quit all my worldly ways,  
joined that heavenly band.

— African American spiritual

### Gospel Reading

Matthew 3:1-12

N.T. pgs. 2-3

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

### Sermon

The Larynx

Keatan King

*silence and stillness*

## ✦ Hymn 163 ([see page 12](#))

*Wild and Lone the Prophet's Voice*

ABERYSTWYTH

## ✦ Affirmation of Faith

In a broken and fearful world  
 the Spirit gives us courage  
     to pray without ceasing,  
     to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,  
     to unmask idolatries in church and culture,  
     to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,  
     and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

In gratitude to God,  
 empowered by the Spirit,  
     we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks  
     and to live holy and joyful lives,  
     even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,  
     praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

## Prayers of the People

### 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.  
 And lead us not into temptation,  
     but deliver us from evil;  
 for Thine is the Kingdom,  
     and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

## Offering

### Offertory Anthem

*There's a Voice in the Wilderness Crying*

ASCENSION

H. Hugh Bancroft (1904–1988)  
arranged by Craig Phillips (b. 1961)

There's a voice in the wilderness crying,  
a call from the ways untrod:  
Prepare in the desert a highway,  
a highway for our God!  
The valleys shall be exalted,  
the lofty hills brought low;  
make straight all the crooked places,  
where the Lord our God may go!

O Zion, that bringest good tidings,  
get thee up to the heights and sing!  
Proclaim to a desolate people  
the coming of their King.  
Like the flowers of the field they perish,  
like grass our works decay,  
the power and pomp of nations  
shall pass like a dream away.

But the word of our God endureth,  
the arm of the Lord is strong;  
he stands in the midst of nations,  
and he will right the wrong.  
He shall feed His flock like a shepherd,  
the lambs he'll gently hold;  
to pastures of peace he'll lead them,  
and bring them safe to his fold.

— words by James Lewis Milligan (1876–1961)

### ✦ Prayer of Thanksgiving

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

O Lord our God, we give you thanks  
for the hope and longing you instill in us through baptism.

**By the power of your Holy Spirit,  
keep us awake and make us ready  
for the coming of your glorious realm  
of righteousness, justice, and peace;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### ✦ Hymn 96 [\(see page 13\)](#)

*On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry*

WINCHESTER NEW

### ✦ Charge and Blessing

*Please be seated in silence for the closing voluntary, or kindly depart quietly.*

### Voluntary

Chorale Verset on *Freu dich sehr*

Georg Böhm  
(1661–1733)

## SERVING TODAY

### Pastors

John W. Wurster | Keatan King

### Liturgist

Roderick James

### Musicians

Bell Canto | Jane Malczewskyj, handbell conductor | St. Philip Staff Singers | Matthew Dirst, organist

## WORSHIP NOTES

Today's worship service includes traditional Negro Spiritual music. The Black composers of this music are unknown to history and therefore unable to receive royalties directed to their estates for the use of their songs. To remedy this inequity, a fund has been created and approved by the Session where we will collect voluntary "royalties" for using this music. Anyone may donate to the fund by going to the [saintphilip.net](http://saintphilip.net) homepage and selecting *Make a Contribution*, then selecting Negro Spirituals as the fund. (For temporary administrative reasons only, this fund displays as Negro Spirituals/UNICEF.) Members can also access this page on the MyStPhilip app (also linked to from the homepage). You may also contribute by writing a check with *Negro Spirituals* in the memo line and placing it in the offering plate or mailing it to the church office. This small gesture of reparation seeks to help heal the long history of injury to Black persons. Contributions received over the course of the year will be donated annually to a local organization supporting Black musical traditions.

### Today's Lectionary readings:

- Isaiah 2:1-5 Turn swords into plowshares; walk in the light of the Lord.
- Psalm 122 I was glad when they said, "Let us go to the house of the Lord!"
- Romans 13:11-14 Salvation is near: wake up; live honorably; put on Jesus Christ.
- Matthew 24:36-44 The Lord is coming; keep awake; no one knows the day or hour.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Cover art by Micah Meyers.

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## IN OUR PRAYERS

*Albert Federico Atkinson-Soria was born on September 7, 2022. Parents are Edward Atkinson and Ana Cristina Alonso Soria and proud grandmother is Beth Atkinson.*

*Miles Drew Barrios was born on September 25, 2022. Parents are Carolyn and Paul Barrios, and proud grandmother is Cathy Herrera.*

*St. Philipians and their families—Susan Huffman; Mary Benson; Mary Sinderson; Eleanor Grant; Sondra Sullivan; Judy Nunn; Molly Boren-Whitney; Carolyn Vestal; Lane Fletcher; Renee Wright; Austin Lippincott; Richard Johnson; Don Padgett; Steve Adger; Judith Crane; Shirley Coffman; Ellen MacDonald; Arlette Keene; CJ Miller; Mezgebe Gebray; Betsy Johnson – mother of Pat Lindsay; Robert Kirtley – father of Amanda Kirtley; Jann Everhart – sister-in-law of Nancy Everhart Johnson; Warren Cash – brother of Kay Cash; Ann Perenyi – mother of Lad Perenyi; Donna Harris – sister of Joyce Fugit; Alma Fonseca- mother of Angelina Fonseca; Darryl Cazes – brother of Pam Taylor; Ann Perkins Cloud – cousin of Stephen Paine; Carol Paine Kendrick – sister of Stephen Paine; John Anderson – brother of Tom Anderson; Mac Wilson – father of Butch Wilson; Shirley Boggus – grandmother of Omi Ford; Alan Rowe – father of William Rowe; and Elizabeth Carlton Lithio – granddaughter of Jeanie Flowers.*

*Homebound – John Bobbitt; Kitty Curry; George Helland; Jean Nelson; Joyce Randolph; George and Lorraine Scott; Marion Takehara; and Jody Tomforde.*

*Friends of St. Philipians—Sharla Hotchkiss, Delores Wheeler, and Kevin Address – friends of Jacqueline Hamilton Taylor; Betsy Shear Lewis – friend of Laney Miller; Shirley Stubblefield – friend of Barbara Runge; Clayton Amacker – friend of Peg Palisin and Gary Gardner.*

If you have a pastoral care need or a prayer request you would like to share, please email:

[deacons@saintphilip.net](mailto:deacons@saintphilip.net).

## Music Notes

### Organ Music

Today's organ voluntaries are settings of the German chorale melody *Freu dich sehr, o meine Seele* (Rejoice, O My Soul), a tune that also appears in the Calvinist tradition as GENEVAN 42, to which we sing the words of the hymn "Comfort, Comfort Now My People." Bach student Johann Ludwig Krebs made a name for himself as an organ virtuoso in the mid 18th century, with chorale fantasies and free works that give free reign to galant-style counterpoint. His fantasy on *Freu dich sehr* frames its highly decorated melody with an elaborate ritornello. The chorale-based works of Georg Böhm, by contrast, represent an older style of organ composition, one less concerned with elegant turns of phrase and more devoted to motivically based counterpoint.

### Handbell Music

Today's handbell introit is an arrangement of the well-known Advent hymn tune NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND. The arrangement is by South Dakota handbell specialist, composer, and music educator Cathy Moglebust, composed in 1996 for the Hosanna Ringers of Nativity Lutheran Church in St. Anthony, Minnesota. In the composer's own words, "*Savior of the Nations, Come* illustrates the quiet anticipation characterizing the Advent season; anticipation of the arrival of a Savior who came to earth in human form to reclaim us from sin. This mysterious and melancholy music reminds us not only of the events of 2,000

years ago surrounding the birth of Our Lord, but the continued, patient anticipation of yet another Coming."\*

### Choral Music

This morning's **first anthem** is one of the many beautiful settings of African American spirituals by Harry T. Burleigh, who in his day was instrumental in bringing Black music into the mainstream of the time by arranging it in more classical forms. Burleigh himself was a classical composer and world-renowned baritone. His setting of *My Lord, What a Mornin'* originated in a 1918 arrangement for solo voice and piano — the great Black artists Marian Anderson (1897–1993) and Paul Robeson (1898–1976) both performed this arrangement. Burleigh subsequently made a cappella arrangements of this spiritual for SSA and SAATTBB choruses. The adaptation by Albert Blackwell heard this morning calls for SATB voices and uses the piano accompaniment from Burleigh's original solo-voice version.

Today's **offertory anthem** is an arrangement by Craig Phillips of the hymn tune ASCENSION by H. Hugh Bancroft. Phillips is director of music and organist at All Saints Episcopal Church in Beverly Hills, CA, and is a prolific and highly regarded composer, primarily of church music.

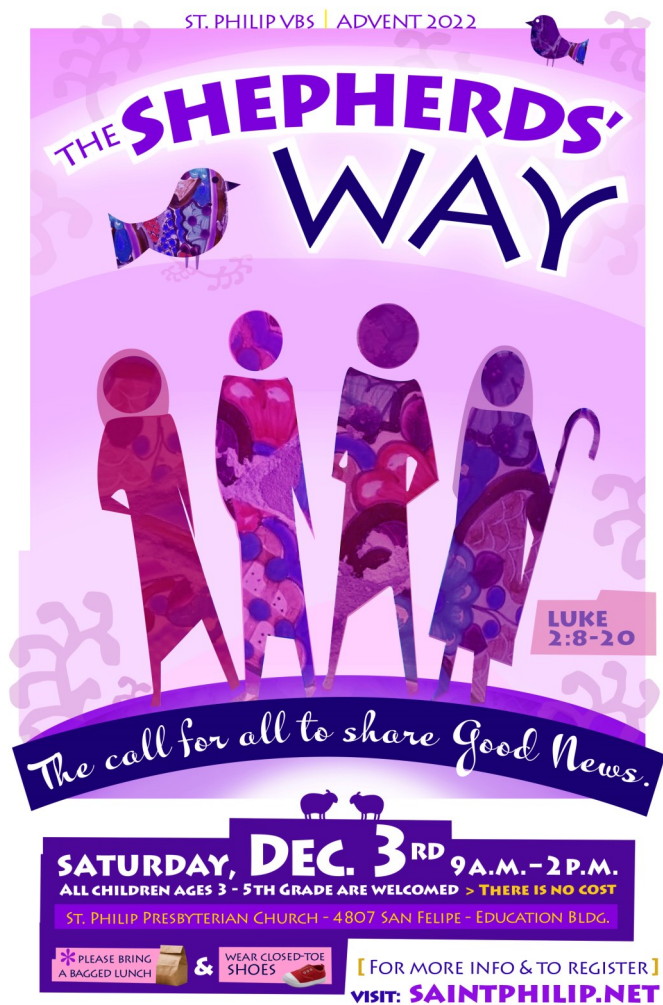
— Matthew Dirst, Randall Swanson  
and \*Cathy Moglebust

## ADVENT AT ST. PHILIP

Everyone is invited to attend **midweek Advent services**, beginning on Wednesday, **November 30**, and continuing on **December 7, 14, and 21**. The service begins at 11 am in the Sanctuary. Lunch is available in the Gathering Area at 11:30. These services of scripture and song are grounded in the Advent themes of hope and expectation. The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will also be celebrated. Prepare the way of the Lord!

Our annual service of **Lessons and Carols for Advent** is next Sunday, **December 4**, at 11 am. Led by the St. Philip Choir, this service moves us from the words of the prophets to the promise of salvation in Jesus Christ. The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will also be celebrated. There is no 9 a.m. service on December 4.





## OPPORTUNITIES FOR LEARNING

### SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL AGES AT 9:45 A.M.

**GODLY PLAY** (Age 3-Kindergarten) – Room 104 – Omi Ford, Joyce Fox and Ruthie Waldrop

**ELEMENTARY** (Grades 1-5) – Room 105 – Linda Bevill and Jon Martin

**YOUTH** (Grades 6-12) – Room 206 – Melissa and Guy Aldrich

**SPa** (St. Philip Adults) – Room 200 – rotating leadership – We are using the adult resources from the new Follow Me curriculum to guide our informal weekly discussion about biblical practices such as hospitality, forgiveness and honoring sabbath. All adults of any age are welcomed to participate. There is no need to prepare or purchase materials for class, so come as you are able!

**CHURCH & SOCIETY** – Room 201 – Church and Society regularly features speakers and presentations on a variety of contemporary and historical matters of faith and practice. This class meets from **9:40 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.** with presentations in person and some by Zoom, projected in the classroom. **Dec. 4** - Telling the Story With Liturgical Year Banners - The banners in the St. Philip sanctuary tell the story of our faith by illustrating the Bible stories to be found in each of the seven liturgical seasons of the church calendar. Marcia James leads

us in examining the banners, how they were made, and the themes portrayed in their symbols to mark the stations of time in the church year. Marcia is a member of the St. Philip Stickers. Email Mickey Meyers if you would like to join any of the classes:

[churchsociety\\_stphilip@comcast.net](mailto:churchsociety_stphilip@comcast.net).

**ADULT BIBLE STUDY** – Room 204 – We have resumed our study of the Kingdoms of Israel and Judah in 1-2 Kings with the story of Elijah's confrontation with Ahab and Jezebel in Dr. Robert Alter's Ancient Israel, The Former Prophets (2013). Join us from **9:30 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.** to deepen our understanding of God's faithfulness to God's people from Dr. Alter's translation and commentary on the Biblical Hebrew. All are welcome.

**MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY** – Wednesday Bible study with John Wurster has returned. The morning class, meeting at 9:30 a.m., is a hybrid format with an in-person option in the Office Conference Room and also a Zoom option. The afternoon class, meeting at 3:30 p.m., is Zoom only. To get on the list for the Zoom links, send a note to [john@saintphilip.net](mailto:john@saintphilip.net). Bible novices, Bible experts, and everyone in between is welcome!

**WOMEN'S MONTHLY BOOK CLUB** – This self-led, interactive group produces lively discussions and wonderful fellowship. The next meeting is **Dec. 8** and it will be a social. Watch your email for details of the next meeting. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Nina Lambright at: [nnl@lambrightlaw.com](mailto:nnl@lambrightlaw.com).

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN BIBLE STUDY** – All women of the church are invited to join any of the meetings of Presbyterian Women. If you are not a member of a circle, you are welcome to participate; to be directed to a group leader please email [welcome@saintphilip.net](mailto:welcome@saintphilip.net). All circles meet in the Dining Room in the Administration Building.

*Monday Morning Saints*

Second Monday of each month @ 10:00 a.m.

*Sunday Circle*

Third Sunday of each month @ 12:30 p.m.

*Thursday Evening Circle*

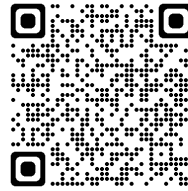
First Thursday of each month @ 7:00 p.m.

### PRESBYTERIAN MEN'S WEEKLY FELLOWSHIP

Men of all ages are welcome to participate in this self-led group. The Men's Weekly Fellowship meets each Friday **in person in the office conference room and via Zoom** at **11:45 a.m.** Please contact Gary Gardner at [ggardne148@aol.com](mailto:ggardne148@aol.com) if you would like to join them.

**SECOND SUNDAY** – Join us on **Dec. 11** at 9:45 a.m. for a festive morning at the Education Committee's monthly intergenerational Second Sundays. We will wrap Seafarers' Christmas boxes, decorate a tree with our prayers, and make ornaments to take home. You are invited to bring your favorite recipe - with samples! - to share. All ages welcome, in the Gathering Area.





#### Welcome to Worship at St. Philip

Please register your attendance by scanning the QR code or by visiting the Guest Book tab at [saintphilip.net](http://saintphilip.net).

**AS FOLLOWERS OF JESUS CHRIST,**  
**we seek to be an inclusive,**  
**grace-filled community,**  
**engaging the world with open minds,**  
**willing hands and generous hearts.**

**WE LONG**  
**for deeper faith,**  
**vibrant hope**  
**and boundless love**  
**for everyone, every day, everywhere.**

**Thank you for joining us today!** We hope that you find our worship together to be joyous, meaningful, and thought-provoking. **Children of all ages** are welcome to worship with their families. Activity bags containing worship aids for children are available in the narthex on the way into the sanctuary.

**Nursery care** is available throughout the morning from 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Infants to age 4 are invited to our Nursery which is staffed by professional childcare providers. Please find our Nursery in Room 106 of the Education Building along the Sunday School Classroom hallway on the first floor. An usher or a greeter will be happy to direct you there.

**A Hearing Loop** is installed within the sanctuary. If you have a hearing aid equipped with a telecoil, please activate your "T switch" to hear the worship service most clearly. If you need assistance with hearing the service clearly and do not have a t-coil equipped hearing aid, please ask an usher for wireless headphones. **LARGE PRINT COPIES OF TODAY'S HYMNS ARE IN THE NARTHEX.**

**Connect with St. Philip** through [saintphilip.net](http://saintphilip.net) and our social media. To join our e-mail list for regular news updates, send a note to [lorrie@saintphilip.net](mailto:lorrie@saintphilip.net).

**If you are interested in joining St. Philip Presbyterian Church** by profession of faith, by reaffirming your faith, or by transferring your membership, please speak with one of the ministers today or call the church office during the week. **The Session meets the third Sunday of each month after the 11:00 worship service in Room 100 for the purpose of receiving new members.**

**Worship with us, whenever, wherever.** Our 11:00 a.m. Sunday service is live-streamed at [saintphilip.net](http://saintphilip.net). We also live-stream a midweek prayer on Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m. Services can be viewed live or later in our video archives.

**Contributions**, pledge payments, communion gifts and other donations to support the Church can be made anytime through our website, text "SPPC" to 73256 and follow the prompts, or sent to the Church Office at 4807 San Felipe, Houston, TX 77056.

### FINANCIAL UPDATE

Our church is facing a significant financial deficit as we move into December. 2022 pledge payments and additional gifts will help bring us into balance by year's end. Questions about pledges can be directed to our bookkeeper, Denise Ferrell ([denise@saintphilip.net](mailto:denise@saintphilip.net)) Updated giving statements will be mailed soon.

Thank you for what you give to sustain the community of St. Philip.

## Hymn 94

## Now the Heavens Start to Whisper

JEFFERSON

1 Now the heav - ens start to whis - per, as the veil is  
 2 Heav - y clouds that block the moon - light now be - gin to  
 3 Christ, e - ter - nal Sun of jus - tice, Christ, the rose of

grow - ing thin. Earth from slum - ber wakes to lis - ten  
 drift a - way. Dia - mond bril - liance through the dark - ness  
 wis - dom's seed, come to bless with fire and fra - grance

to the stir - ring, faint with - in: seed of prom - ise, deep - ly  
 shines the hope of com - ing day. Christ, the morn - ing star of  
 hours of yearn - ing, hurt, and need. In the lone - ly, in the

This Advent text artfully interweaves what is hidden and what is revealed, primarily in the coming of the long-awaited Messiah. But Christ himself taught us about another hidden truth, his presence in the "least of these" (Matthew 25:40, 45), whom we are also called to welcome.

TEXT: Mary Louise Bringle, 2005

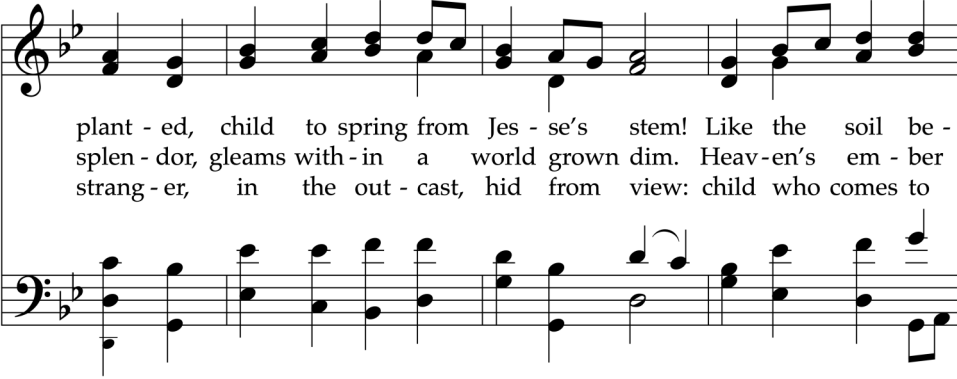
MUSIC: Alexander Johnson's *Tennessee Harmony*, 1818; harm. *Lutheran Book of Worship*, 1978

Text © 2006 GIA Publications, Inc.

Music Harm. © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship (admin. Augsburg Fortress)

JEFFERSON

8.7.8.7.D



plant - ed, child to spring from Jes - se's stem! Like the soil be -  
splen - dor, gleams with - in a world grown dim. Heav - en's em - ber  
strang - er, in the out - cast, hid from view: child who comes to



neath the frost - line, hearts grow soft to wel - come him.  
fans to full - ness; hearts grow warm to wel - come him.  
grace the man - ger, teach our hearts to wel - come you.

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## Hymn 163

## Wild and Lone the Prophet's Voice

ABERYSTWYTH

1 Wild and lone the proph-et's voice ech-oes through the des - ert still,  
 2 "Bear the fruit re - pen-tance sows: lives of jus - tice, truth, and love.  
 3 With such preach-ing, stark and bold, John pro-claimed sal - va - tion near,

call - ing us to make a choice, bid - ding us to do God's will:  
 Trust no oth - er claim than those; set your heart on things a - bove.  
 and his time-less warn-ings hold words of hope to all who hear.

"Turn from sin and be bap-tized; cleanse your heart and mind and soul.  
 Soon the Lord will come in power, burn-ing clean the thresh-ing floor:  
 So we dare to jour - ney on, led by faith through ways un - trod,

Quit-ting all the sins you prized, yield your life to God's con - trol.  
 then will flames the chaff de - vour; wheat a - lone shall fill God's store."  
 till we come at last like John to be - hold the Lamb of God.

While all four gospels identify John the Baptist with the prophecy of Isaiah 40:3, this text (well set to a vigorous Welsh tune) draws on the report of his preaching in Matthew 3:1-12. The final lines recall that he was the first to name Jesus "the Lamb of God" (John 1:29, 36).

TEXT: Carl P. Daw Jr., 1985  
 MUSIC: Joseph Parry, 1876  
 Text © 1989 Hope Publishing Company

ABERYSTWYTH  
 7.7.7.7.D

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## Hymn 96

## On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

WINCHESTER NEW

1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an -  
 2 Then cleansed be ev - ery life from sin; make  
 3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, our  
 4 Stretch forth your hand; our health re - store, and

nounc - es that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,  
 straight the way for God with - in, and let us all our  
 ref - uge and our great re - ward; with - out your grace we  
 make us rise to fall no more. O let your face up -

for he brings glad ti - dings of the King of kings!  
 hearts pre - pare for Christ to come and en - ter there.  
 waste a - way like flowers that with - er and de - cay.  
 on us shine and fill the world with love di - vine.

This hymn shows how once-unconnected parts can work together. The text about John the Baptist was written in Latin in the 18th century and translated into English in the 19th century. Similarly, the 17th-century melody was adapted to its present form in the 19th century.

TEXT: Charles Coffin, 1736; trans. John Chandler, 1837, alt.  
 MUSIC: *Musikalisches Handbuch*, 1690; harm. William Henry Monk, 1847, alt.

WINCHESTER NEW  
 LM

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