



***Third Sunday in Advent***  
***Children's Christmas Message***  
*December 14, 2025*

***Our Mission...***

*To joyfully share the Abundant Life in Jesus' cross with all people today, embracing His hope for tomorrow.*



# WELCOME to Trinity Lutheran Church!

Jesus gives new life wherever His Gospel is preached! If you are a visitor, we welcome you in Jesus' name. Please come again to join us in worship and become acquainted with our family in Christ.

**Visitors** ~ please sign our Guest Book at the back of the church.

**Sunday school** for three-years-old through High School are held at 8:30 am in the lower level.

**Adult Bible Class** is held in the Fellowship Hall on the lower level at 8:30 am each Sunday.

**Rest rooms (2)** are located on the same floor as the Sanctuary, across from the mailboxes. One is handicapped accessible and has a Baby Changing Station.

**Assistive Hearing Devices** can be found in the back of the Sanctuary. Please ask an Elder or Usher for assistance.

**Hospital visitations** ~ Please let Pastor know if you or a loved one will be in the hospital.



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*Third Sunday in Advent*  
*Children's Christmas Message*  
*December 14, 2025*

*Divine Service – Setting III ~ page 184*

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME**

**HAND BELL CHOIR**

*O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

*Veni Emmanuel; incorporating "Promised One"; arr. by Michale Helman  
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**HYMN of INVOCATION**

*O Come, Little Children*

*Text: German carol. Public domain*

O come, little children, O come, one and all,  
To Bethlehem haste to the manger so small.  
God's Son for a gift has been sent you this night  
To be your Redeemer, your Joy, and Delight.

He's born in a stable for you and for me;  
Draw near by the bright, gleaming starlight to see,  
In swaddling lying, so meek and so mild,  
And purer than angels, the heavenly child.

See Mary and Joseph, with love-beaming eyes,  
Are gazing upon the rude bed where He lies;  
The shepherds are kneeling, with hearts full of love,  
While angels sing loud alleluias above.

Kneel down and adore Him with shepherds today,  
Lift up little hands now and praise Him as they;  
Rejoice that a Savior from sin you can boast,  
And join in the song of the heavenly host.

## INVOCATION

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

**P** In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

*pages 184 ~ 185*

**P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

*Hebrews 10:22*

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** who made heaven and earth.

*Psalms 124:8*

**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

**C** and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

*Psalms 32:5*

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

**P** O almighty God, merciful Father,

**C** I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

**P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

*John 20:19-23*

**C** Amen.

## SERVICE of the WORD

### OPENING SENTENCES

- P** Arise, O Christian people! Prepare yourselves today;
- C** Prepare to greet the Savior, Who takes your sins away.
- P** To us by grace alone
- C** The truth and light were given;
- P** The promised Lord from heaven
- C** To all the world is shown.

### COLLECT of the DAY

- P** Let us pray.
- Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

### OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Isaiah 35:1–10*

<sup>1</sup>The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus; <sup>2</sup>it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God. <sup>3</sup>Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. <sup>4</sup>Say to those who have an anxious heart, “Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you.” <sup>5</sup>Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; <sup>6</sup>then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy. For waters break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; <sup>7</sup>the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down, the grass shall become reeds and

rushes. <sup>8</sup>And a highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Way of Holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it. It shall belong to those who walk on the way; even if they are fools, they shall not go astray. <sup>9</sup>No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. <sup>10</sup>And the ransomed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### GRADUAL

*Zechariah 9:9; Psalm 118:26, alt.*

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion.\*

**Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem.**

Behold, your king is coming to you;\*

**righteous and having salvation.**

Blessèd is he who comes in the name of the Lord.\*

**From the house of the Lord we bless you.**

### EPISTLE READING

*James 5:7–11*

<sup>7</sup>Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. <sup>8</sup>You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. <sup>9</sup>Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. <sup>10</sup>As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

<sup>11</sup>Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## ALLELUIA and VERSE

**Alleluia! Behold, I send my messenger before your face,\*  
who will prepare your way before you. Alleluia!**

*Matthew 11:10b*

## HOLY GOSPEL READING

*Matthew 11:2–15*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.



**C** Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

<sup>2</sup>When John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples <sup>3</sup>and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” <sup>4</sup>And Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: <sup>5</sup>the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. <sup>6</sup>And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

<sup>7</sup>As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? <sup>8</sup>What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ houses. <sup>9</sup>What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. <sup>10</sup>This is he of whom it is written,

“Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.”

<sup>11</sup>Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. <sup>12</sup>From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. <sup>13</sup>For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, <sup>14</sup>and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. <sup>15</sup>He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**C** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

## HYMN of the DAY

*Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding ~ LSB 345*



1 Hark! A thrill - ing voice is sound - ing! "Christ is  
2 Star - tled at the sol - emn warn - ing, Let the  
3 See, the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, Comes with  
4 So, when next He comes in glo - ry And the  
△ 5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, do - min - ion To the



near," we hear it say. "Cast a - way the  
earth - bound soul a - rise; Christ, its sun, all  
par - don down from heav'n. Let us haste, with  
world is wrapped in fear, He will shield us  
Fa - ther and the Son With the ev - er -



works of dark - ness, All you chil - dren of the day!"  
sloth dis - pel - ling, Shines up - on the morn - ing skies.  
tears of sor - row, One and all, to be for - giv'n;  
with His mer - cy And with words of love draw near.  
liv - ing Spir - it While e - ter - nal a - ges run!

*Text: Latin, c. 5th–10th cent.; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–78, alt.; Tune: William H. Monk, 1823–89*

*Text and tune: Public domain*

## THE MESSAGE PRESENTED by the CHILDREN

### CHRISTMAS MEDITATION

*Reverend Jonathan G. Schultz*

### APOSTLES' CREED

*page 192*

**C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.



**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.  
 The third day He rose again from the dead.  
 He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father  
 Almighty.  
 From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
 the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of  
 sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life + everlasting. Amen.**

## **PRAYER of the CHURCH**

*1 Timothy 2:1-4*

## **CHILDREN'S HAND CHIMES**

*Silent Night*

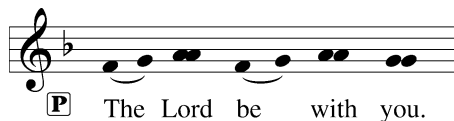
*Text: Franz Joseph Mohr, 1792–1848; tr. John F. Young, 1820–85  
 Tune: Franz Xaver Gruber, 1787–1863; Text and tune: Public domain*

**OFFERING** ~ *As the offerings are gathered, worshippers are kindly asked to fill out the red Friendship Folder found along the center aisle and pass it to the others in your pew. Please be sure to list all the members of your family who are present. Thank you.*

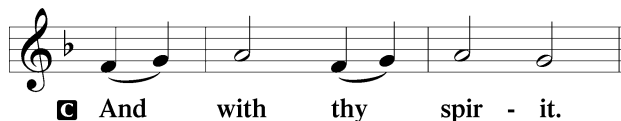
## **SERVICE of the SACRAMENT**

### **PREFACE**

*page 194*



*2 Timothy 4:22*





**P** Lift up your hearts.

*Colossians 3:1*



**C** We lift them up un - to the Lord.



**P** Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.

*Psalms 136*



**C** It is meet and right so to do.

**P** It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

**SANCTUS ~ Holy, Holy, Holy**

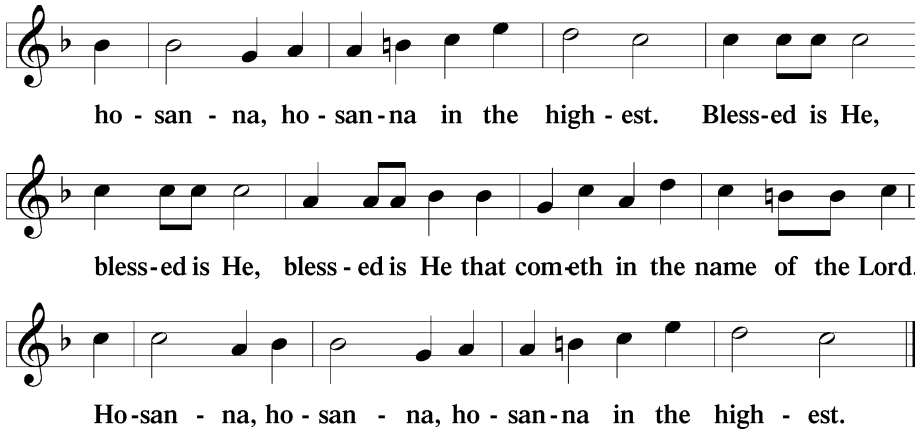
*page 195*



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



## LORD'S PRAYER

*Matthew 6:9-13*

**C** 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 WORDS of OUR LORD

*Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25*

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."  
 In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## PAX DOMINI ~ *The Peace of the Lord*

page 197



**P** The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



**C** A - men.

## AGNUS DEI ~ *Lamb of God*

page 198



**C** O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

# HOLY COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

## DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

*God Loves Me Dearly ~ LSB 392*



1 God loves me dear - ly, Grants me sal -  
 2 I was in slav - 'ry, Sin, death, and  
 3 He sent forth Je - sus, My dear Re -  
 4 Je - sus, my Sav - ior, Him - self did  
 5 Now I will praise You, O Love E -



va - tion, God loves me dear - ly, Loves e - ven me.  
 dark - ness; God's love was work - ing To make me free.  
 deem - er, He sent forth Je - sus And set me free.  
 of - fer; Je - sus, my Sav - ior, Paid all I owed.  
 ter - nal; Now I will praise You All my life long.



There - fore I'll say a - gain: God loves me



dear - ly, God loves me dear - ly, Loves e - ven me.

*Text: August Rische, 1819–1906; tr. Composite; Tune: German*

*Text and tune: Public domain*

*In Thee Is Gladness ~ LSB 818*



1 In Thee is glad - ness A - mid all sad - ness, Je - sus,  
 2 Since He is ours, \_\_\_\_\_ We fear no pow - ers, Not of



sun - shine of my heart. By Thee are giv - en The gifts of  
earth nor sin nor death. He sees and bless - es In worst dis -



heav - en, Thou the true Re - deem - er art. Our souls Thou  
tress - es; He can change them with a breath. Where-fore the



wak - est, Our bonds Thou break - est; Who trusts Thee sure - ly Has built se -  
sto - ry Tell of His glo - ry With hearts and voic - es; All heav'n re -



cure - ly; He stands for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia! Our hearts are  
joic - es In Him for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia! We shout for



pin - ing To see Thy shin - ing, Dy - ing or liv - ing  
glad - ness, Tri - umph o'er sad - ness, Love Him and praise Him



To Thee are cleav - ing; Naught can us sev - er: Al - le - lu - ia!  
And still shall raise Him Glad hymns for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia!

*Text: Johann Lindemann, 1549–1631; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.*

*Tune: Giovanni Giacomo Gastoldi, c. 1556–c. 1622; Text and tune: Public domain*

### *Hark the Glad Sound ~ LSB 349*



1 Hark the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, The Sav - ior  
2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, In Sa - tan's  
3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, The bleed - ing  
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, Thy wel - come



prom - ised long; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare a  
bond - age held. The gates of brass be - fore Him  
soul to cure, And with the trea - sures of His  
shall pro - claim, And heav'n's e - ter - nal arch - es



throne And ev - 'ry voice a song,  
burst, The i - ron fet - ters yield.  
grace To en - rich the hum - ble poor.  
ring With Thy be - lov - ed name.

*Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702–51; Tune: Thomas Haweis, 1734–1820*

*Text and tune: Public domain*

### *Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness ~ LSB 636*



1 Soul, a - dorn your - self with glad - ness, Leave the  
2 Has - ten as a bride to meet Him, And with  
3 He who craves a pre - cious trea - sure Nei - ther  
4 Now in faith I hum - bly pon - der O - ver



gloom - y haunts of sad - ness, Come in - to the day - light's  
lov - ing rev - 'rence greet Him. For with words of life im -  
cost nor pain will mea - sure; But the price - less gifts of  
this sur - pass - ing won - der That the bread of life is



splen - dor, There with joy your prais - es ren - der.  
mor - tal He is knock - ing at your por - tal.  
heav - en God to us has free - ly giv - en.  
bound - less Though the souls it feeds are count - less:



Bless the One whose grace un-bound - ed This a - maz - ing  
O - pen wide the gates be - fore Him, Say - ing, as you  
Though the wealth of earth were prof - fered, None could buy the  
With the choic - est wine of heav - en Christ's own blood to



ban - quet found - ed; He, though heav'n - ly, high, and  
there a - dore Him: Grant, Lord, that I now re -  
gifts here of - fered: Christ's true bod - y, for you  
us is giv - en. Oh, most glo - rious con - so -



ho - ly, Deigns to dwell with you most low - ly.  
ceive You, That I nev - er - more will leave You.  
riv - en, And His blood, for you once giv - en.  
la - tion, Pledge and seal of my sal - va - tion!

*Text: Johann Franck, 1618–77; (sts. 1, 4–5): tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978; (sts. 2–3, 6–8):  
tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.; Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662*

*Text (sts. 1, 4–5): © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003598*

*Tune (sts. 2–3, 6–8) and tune: Public domain*

- 5 Jesus, source of lasting pleasure, Truest friend, and dearest treasure,  
Peace beyond all understanding, Joy into all life expanding:  
Humbly now, I bow before You; Love incarnate, I adore You;  
Worthily let me receive You And, so favored, never leave You.
- 6 Jesus, sun of life, my splendor, Jesus, friend of friends, most tender,  
Jesus, joy of my desiring, Fount of life, my soul inspiring:  
At Your feet I cry, my maker, Let me be a fit partaker  
Of this blessed food from heaven, For our good, Your glory, given.
- 7 Lord, by love and mercy driven, You once left Your throne in heaven  
On the cross for me to languish And to die in bitter anguish,  
To forego all joy and gladness And to shed Your blood in sadness.  
By this blood redeemed and living, Lord, I praise You with thanksgiving.



8 Jesus, bread of life, I pray You, Let me gladly here obey You.  
 By Your love I am invited, Be Your love with love requited;  
 By this Supper let me measure, Lord, how vast and deep love's treasure.  
 Through the gift of grace You give me As Your guest in heav'n receive me.

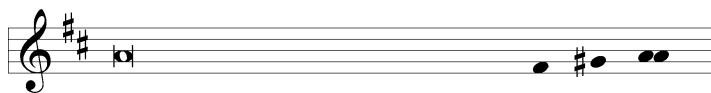
**NUNC DIMITTIS ~ Song of Simeon**

*pages 199 ~ 200*

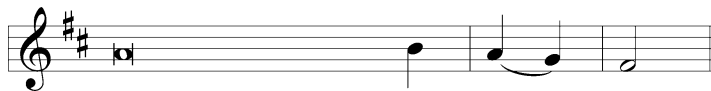
Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-  
 cord-ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,  
 which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,  
 a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy  
 peo-ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and  
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,  
 is now, and ev - er shall be, world without end. A-men.

## THANKSGIVING

page 200



**A** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



**C** and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

**P** Let us pray.



**C** A - men.

## SALUTATION and BENEDICAMUS

pages 201 ~ 202

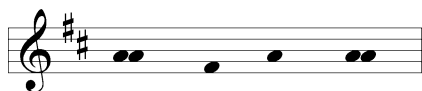


**P** The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22



**C** And with thy spir - it.



**A** Bless we the Lord.

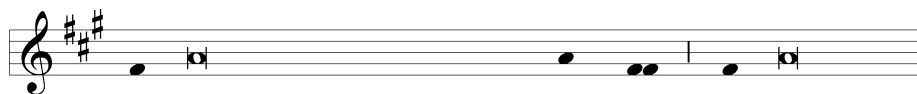
Psalms 103:1



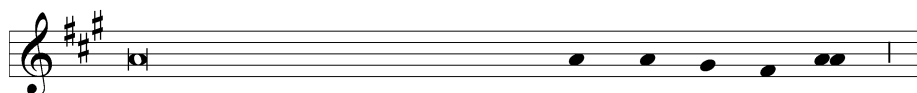
**C** Thanks be to God.

## BENEDICTION

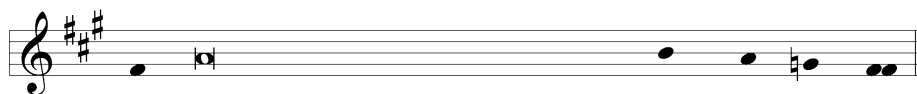
page 202



**P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



**C** A-men, a-men, a - men.

## HYMN to DEPART

*Joy to the World ~ LSB 387*



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive her  
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let men their songs em -  
3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow Nor thorns in - fest the  
4 He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the na - tions



King; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare Him  
ploy, While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and  
ground; He comes to make His bless - ings  
prove The glo - ries of His righ - teous -



room And heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture  
plains Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing  
flow Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is  
ness And won - ders of His love, And won - ders of His



sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.  
joy, Re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
found, Far as, far as the curse is found.  
love, And won - ders, won - ders of His love.

*Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748; Tune: George Frideric Handel, 1685–1759, adapt.*

*Text and tune: Public domain*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## POSTLUDE