

welcome to worship

TIME AFTER PENTECOST

November 19, 2023 ♦ 10:00 am



The assembly's responses are in bold print.

PRELUDE

Now Thank We All Our God

Bach, arr. Fox

WELCOME

Pastor Katie

GATHERING HYMN

ELW 574 Here I Am, Lord – stanzas 1 and 3

HOLY BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation. **Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy and love,... for the life of the world.

We present Sophie Rae Myers for baptism.

Following the individual vows.

People of God, do you promise to support Sophie and pray for her in her new life in Christ? **We do.**

The assembly stands.

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church. Do you renounce the devil, the power of evil, and all the forces that defy God, the powers of this world that rebel against God, and the ways of sin that draw you from God? **I renounce them.**

Do you believe in God the Father? **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God? **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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit? **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.**

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

We give you thanks, O God,... in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Assembly may be seated.

Sophie, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Let us pray. ...both now and forever. **Amen.**

Sophie, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. **Amen.**

Jesus said, I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will have the light of life. Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

Let us welcome the newly baptized. We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

The assembly stands.

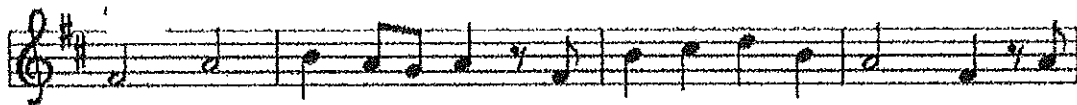
HYMN OF PRAISE

Choir:

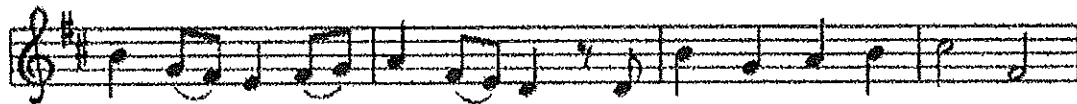


Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

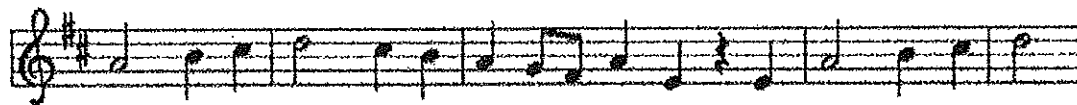
All:



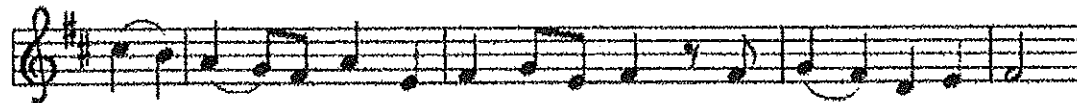
Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we



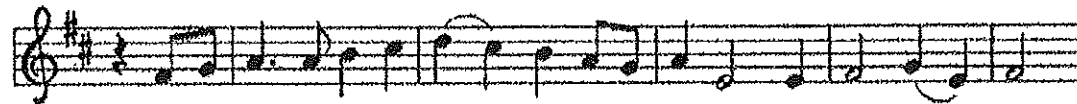
wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



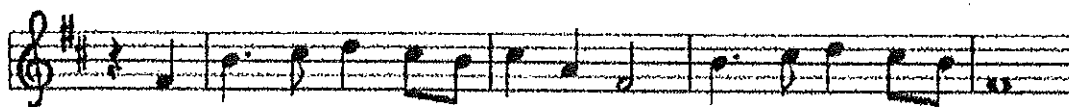
Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



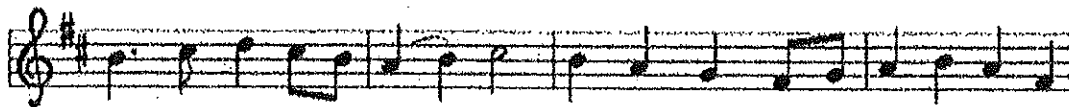
you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;



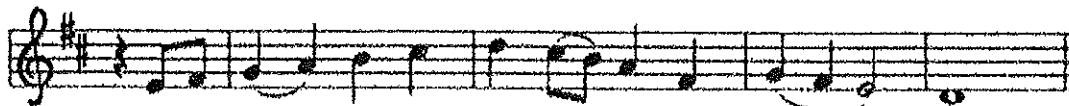
you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.



For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.**

Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Miss Caitlyn

READING

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 (The Message)

5 ¹⁻³I don't think, friends, that I need to deal with the question of when all this is going to happen. You know as well as I that the day of the Master's coming can't be posted on our calendars. He won't call ahead and make an appointment any more than a burglar would. About the time everybody's walking around complacently, congratulating each other—"We've sure got it made! Now we can take it easy!"—suddenly everything will fall apart. It's going to come as suddenly and inescapably as birth pangs to a pregnant woman.

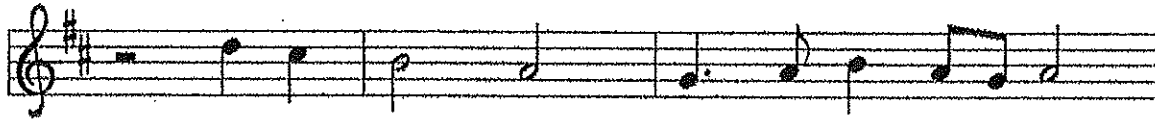
⁴⁻⁸But friends, you're not in the dark, so how could you be taken off guard by any of this? You're sons of Light, daughters of Day. We live under wide open skies and know where we stand. So let's not sleepwalk through life like those others. Let's keep our eyes open and be smart. People sleep at night and get drunk at night. But not us! Since we're creatures of Day, let's act like it. Walk out into the daylight sober, dressed up in faith, love, and the hope of salvation.

⁹⁻¹¹God didn't set us up for an angry rejection but for salvation by our Master, Jesus Christ. He died for us, a death that triggered life. Whether we're awake with the living or asleep with the dead, we're *alive* with him! So speak encouraging words to one another. Build up hope so you'll all be together in this, no one left out, no one left behind. I know you're already doing this; just keep on doing it.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia, Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL

Matthew 25:14-30 (The Message)

The holy gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹⁴⁻¹⁸ “It’s also like a man going off on an extended trip. He called his servants together and delegated responsibilities. To one he gave five thousand dollars, to another two thousand, to a third one thousand, depending on their abilities. Then he left. Right off, the first servant went to work and doubled his master’s investment. The second did the same. But the man with the single thousand dug a hole and carefully buried his master’s money.

¹⁹⁻²¹ “After a long absence, the master of those three servants came back and settled up with them. The one given five thousand dollars showed him how he had doubled his investment. His master commended him: ‘Good work! You did your job well. From now on be my partner.’

²²⁻²³ “The servant with the two thousand showed how he also had doubled his master’s investment. His master commended him: ‘Good work! You did your job well. From now on be my partner.’

²⁴⁻²⁵ “The servant given one thousand said, ‘Master, I know you have high standards and hate careless ways, that you demand the best and make no allowances for error. I was afraid I might disappoint you, so I found a good hiding place and secured your money. Here it is, safe and sound down to the last cent.’

²⁶⁻²⁷ “The master was furious. ‘That’s a terrible way to live! It’s criminal to live cautiously like that! If you knew I was after the best, why did you do less than the least? The least you could have done would have been to invest the sum with the bankers, where at least I would have gotten a little interest.’

²⁸⁻³⁰ “‘Take the thousand and give it to the one who risked the most. And get rid of this “play-it-safe” who won’t go out on a limb. Throw him out into utter darkness.’

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

The assembly is seated.

SERMON

Pastor Katie

The assembly stands.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*Each petition concludes... Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.***

*The prayers conclude.... Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. **Amen.***

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

The assembly is seated.

OFFERING

If you brought an offering or your pledge card today, please place it in an offering plate that ushers will pass at this time. Thank you for your generous gifts! Did you know you can give using a credit card? Text to 610-624-8412 or scan the QR code to the right.



OFFERTORY HYMN

ELW 688 Lord of Light – stanzas 1 and 4

The assembly stands.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

Let us unite in the prayer that Jesus taught us:

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.

INVITATION

There is a place for you at the banquet. Come and feast at Jesus' table.

The assembly is seated.

DISTRIBUTION

Everyone is welcome to receive Holy Communion at Atonement. Follow the directions of the ushers to receive bread and a pre-filled cup of wine or grape juice (in purple cups) from the communion assistants. Deposit your empty cup in the basket at the end of the front pew and return to your seat by the side aisles. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. Children are welcome to receive communion with their parents' permission.

Please take a moment to sign and pass the attendance pads found in the pews, check in to Atonement on your favorite social media platform, share a photo with your digital community, and say something gentle in the spirit of Jesus!

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Lamb of God

- ♪ Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
- Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
- Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace,

Steal Away

African American spiritual

Atonement Choir, Donna Danielski, soprano

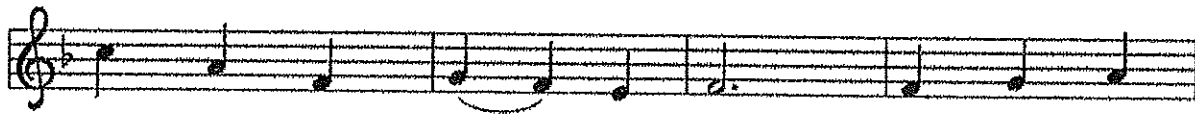
Refrain:

Steal away, steal away, steal away to Jesus!
Steal away, steal away home, I ain't got long to stay here.

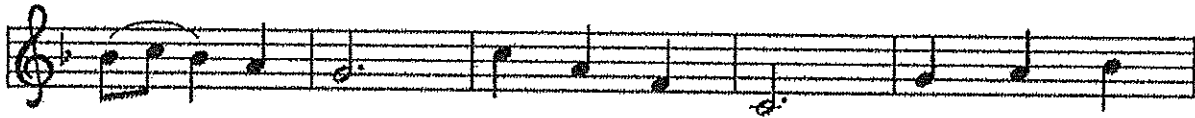
My Lord calls me, he calls me by the thunder;
The trumpet sounds within-a my soul, I ain't got long to stay here. *Refrain*

Green trees are bending, poor sinners stand a-trembling;
The trumpet sounds within-a my soul, I ain't got long to stay here. *Refrain*

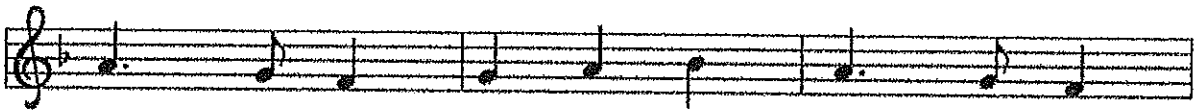
God of the Fertile Fields (all sing)



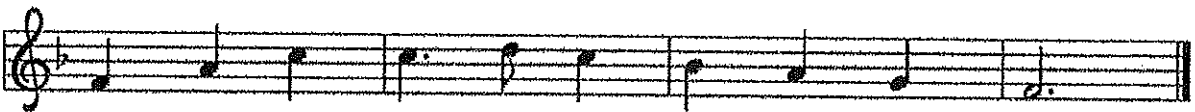
1	God	of	the	fer - tile	fields,	sha - per	of
2	We	would	be	stew - ards	true,	hold - ing	in
3	As	grows	the	hid - den	seed	to	fruit
4	God	of	the	coun - try	- side,	dear	to
							the



earth	that	yields	our	dai - ly	bread:	forth	from	your
trust	from	you	all	that	you	give;	help	us
serves	our	need,	so	your	reign	grows.	Let	all
Christ	who	died	to	make	us	one:	we	pledge
								our



boun - teous	hand	come	gifts	your	love	has	planned,
love	to	share,	teach	us	like	you	to
toil	be	used,	no	gift	of	yours	a - bused,
lives	a - new		in	faith - ful	love		to
							you.



that	all	in	ev - 'ry	land	be	clothed	and	fed.
for	peo - ple	ev - 'ry - where,	that	all	may	live.		
no	hum - ble	task	re - fused	your	love	be - stows.		
Guide	all	we	say	and	do.	Your	will	be
								done.

The assembly stands.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord Jesus, in this simple meal you have set a banquet. Sustain us on the journey, strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children, and give us glad and generous hearts as we meet you on the way. **Amen.**

BLESSING

May the Spirit give you grace never to sell yourself or others short. Grace to risk something big for something good. Grace to remember that the world is now too dangerous for anything but truth, and too small for anything but love. So may the Spirit take your mind and think through it. May the Spirit take your lips and speak through them. May the Spirit take your hands and do good with them. May the Spirit take your heart and set it on fire. In the name of the one who creates, † redeems, and sanctifies. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN *ELW 327 Through the Night of Doubt and Sorrow – stanzas 1 and 4*

DISMISSAL

Beloved of God, go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Now Thank We All Our God

Karg-Elert

Assisting with Worship

MaryLou Hall, greeter ♦ Lou Mehos, head usher
Fran Tieman, lector ♦ April Mulvey, assisting minister
Ellen Bryan, William Long, Diane Melcher, Sally Youngcourt, communion assistants
Matt Shirk, Zoe Shirk, audio/visual ♦ Cathy Durand, Jon Durand, nursery
Linda Lord, altar captain ♦ Sofia Arana Lyon, sexton
Atonement Choir

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WARMEST WELCOME to this congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America! We are a Lutheran church, but we're not just for Lutherans—we belong to our community! Together we are on the journey of discipleship with Jesus, who guides us from worship to formation, from formation to fellowship, and from fellowship to Christ-like servanthood.

CHILDREN are very welcome at Atonement! Activity bags and children's bulletins are available at the entrance to the worship space. Children from 3 years of age to 2nd grade are invited to experience worship geared just for them—follow the CHILDREN'S CHAPEL leader to the privacy room after the Children's Message. Children will return to their families for communion.

THE NURSERY is available for preschool aged children and younger in Room F126 during 10:00 am worship.

RESTROOMS are located in the hall next to the worship space.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS are 10:30 am-2:30 pm Monday through Thursday, or by appointment. The office will be closed Thursday, November 23—Monday, November 27 for the Thanksgiving holiday.

WE'VE BEEN USING THE MESSAGE BIBLE translation in our worship recently. Pastor Tom often uses The Message in Common Ground worship as well. The Message is a reading Bible translated from the original Greek and Hebrew Scriptures by scholar, pastor, author, and poet Eugene Peterson. Thoroughly reviewed and approved by twenty biblical scholars, The Message combines the authority of God's Word with the cadence and energy of conversational English. (www.messagebible.com)

FAITH FORMATION classes for children and adults continue Sunday mornings throughout the school year, 8:45-9:45 a.m.

JOIN US FOR PICKLEBALL in the Atonement gym, Sunday afternoons. Beginners play at 3, more experienced, competitive play begins at 4. All are welcome, no need to register, just show up for fun, exercise, and fellowship.

WOMAN IS SEEKING TO RENT A ROOM in someone's house in the Reading area with use of kitchen and bathroom. Her father was a local Pastor in this area. Will pay rent/utilities. She is easy to get along with and neat! Please contact her at 484-269-0358 or contact Pastor Katie for more info.

COMMON GROUND IS IN NEED of the following items: reusable shopping bags, sample toiletries, men's and women's underwear (sizes M, L, XL; must be new), men's and women's socks. Bring donations to the church during office hours or Sunday morning.

DUE TO ESCALATING CONFLICT IN GAZA AND ISRAEL, a severe humanitarian crisis is rapidly unfolding in the Holy Land. Gifts made payable to Atonement Lutheran Church and designated "Middle East Crisis" in the memo line will be sent to Lutheran Disaster Response, helping to equip them to respond to this tragedy.

ADVENT WORKSHOP will be December 3 during the Faith Formation hour (8:45-9:45 am) in Lundin Hall. Please join us for making an Advent Wreath and other service projects. We will even have a special visitor, St. Nicholas! If you have greens to donate, please drop them off anytime at the church during the week of November 27th - December 2nd. Email Caitlyn at cmarella@atonementwyo.org if you would like to volunteer at one of the stations.

KIDS NIGHT OUT at Atonement will be December 8, 6-8:30 pm. Details are in the November newsletter. Registration forms and waivers can be found in the Narthex.

Here I Am, Lord



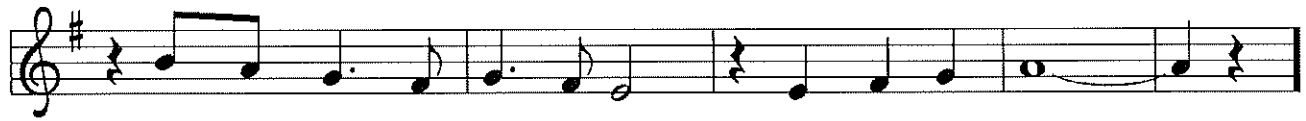
1 "I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.
3 "I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.



All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.



I, who made the stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright.
Fin-est bread I will pro-vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?"
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?"

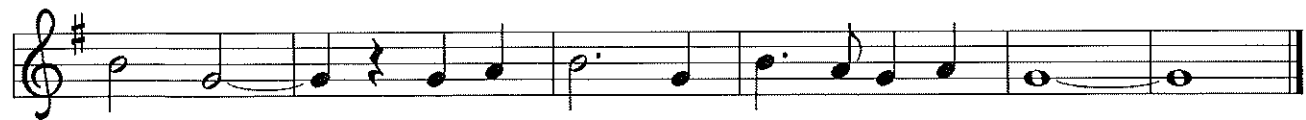
Refrain



Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you

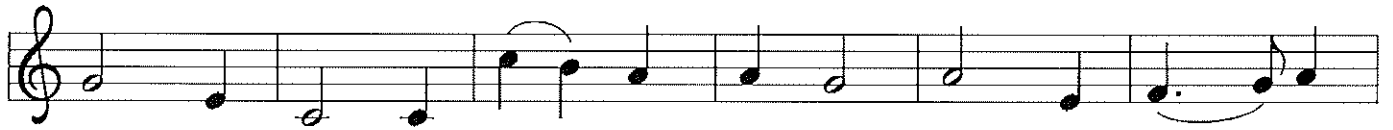


call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you



lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

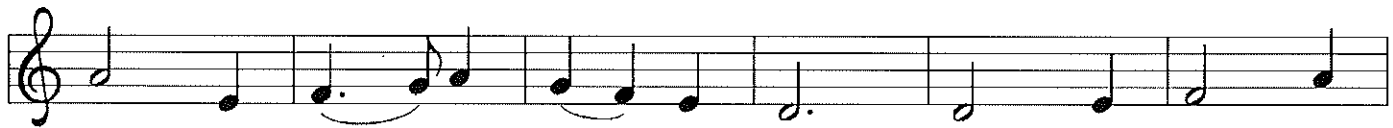
Lord of Light



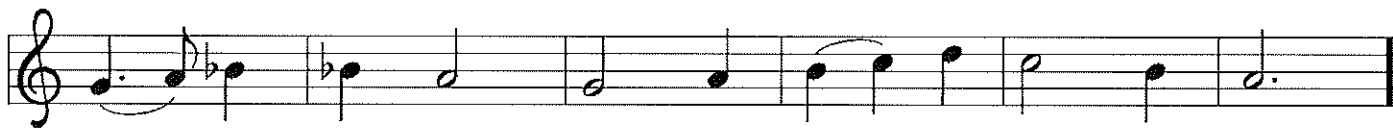
1 Lord of light, your name out - shin - ing all the stars and
 4 By the prayers of faith - ful watch - ers, nev - er si - lent



suns of space, use our tal - ents in your king - dom
 day or night; by the cross of Je - sus, bring - ing

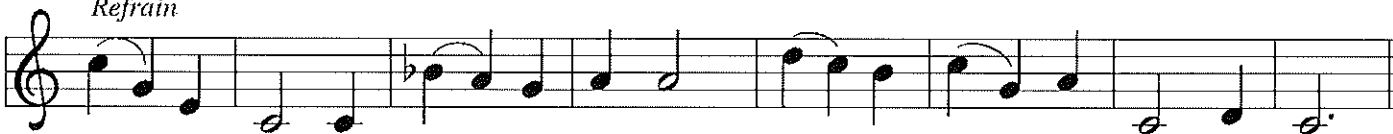


as the ser - vants of your grace; use us to ful -
 peace to all and heal - ing light; by the love that



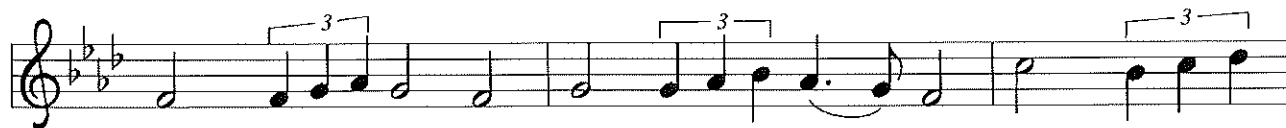
fill your pur - pose in the gift of Christ your Son.
 pass - es knowl - edge, mak - ing all your chil - dren one:

Refrain

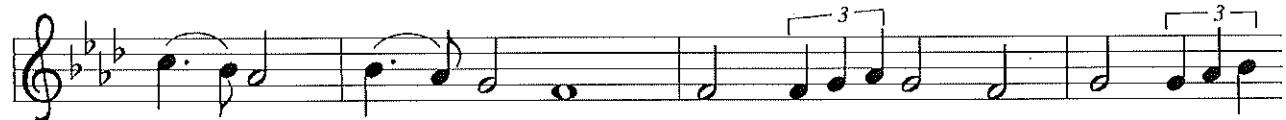


Fa - ther, as in high - est heav - en, so on earth your will be done.

Through the Night of Doubt and Sorrow



1 Through the night of doubt and sor - row, on - ward
 4 On - ward, there - fore, sis - ters, broth - ers; on - ward,



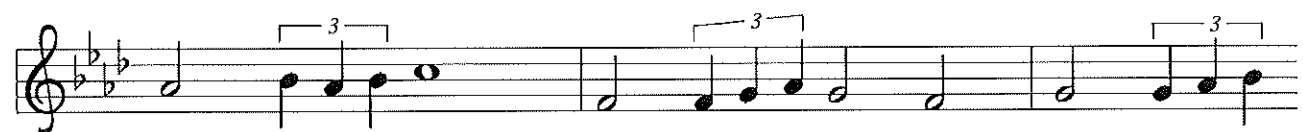
goes the pil - grim band, sing - ing songs of ex - pec -
 with the cross our aid. Bear its shame, and fight its



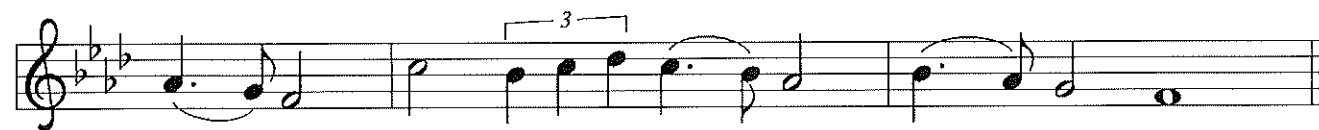
ta - tion, march - ing to the prom - ised land. Clear be -
 bat - tle till we rest be - neath its shade. Soon shall



fore us through the dark - ness gleams and burns the
 come the great a - wak - 'ning; soon the rend - ing



guid - ing light; pil - grim clasps the hand of
 of the tomb! Then the scat - t'ring of all



pil - grim step - ping fear - less through the night.
 shad - ows, and the end of toil and gloom.