HANGING OF THE GREENS SERVICE WITH COMMUNION

NOVEMBER 29, 2026

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - DERIDDER

WELCOME HOME!

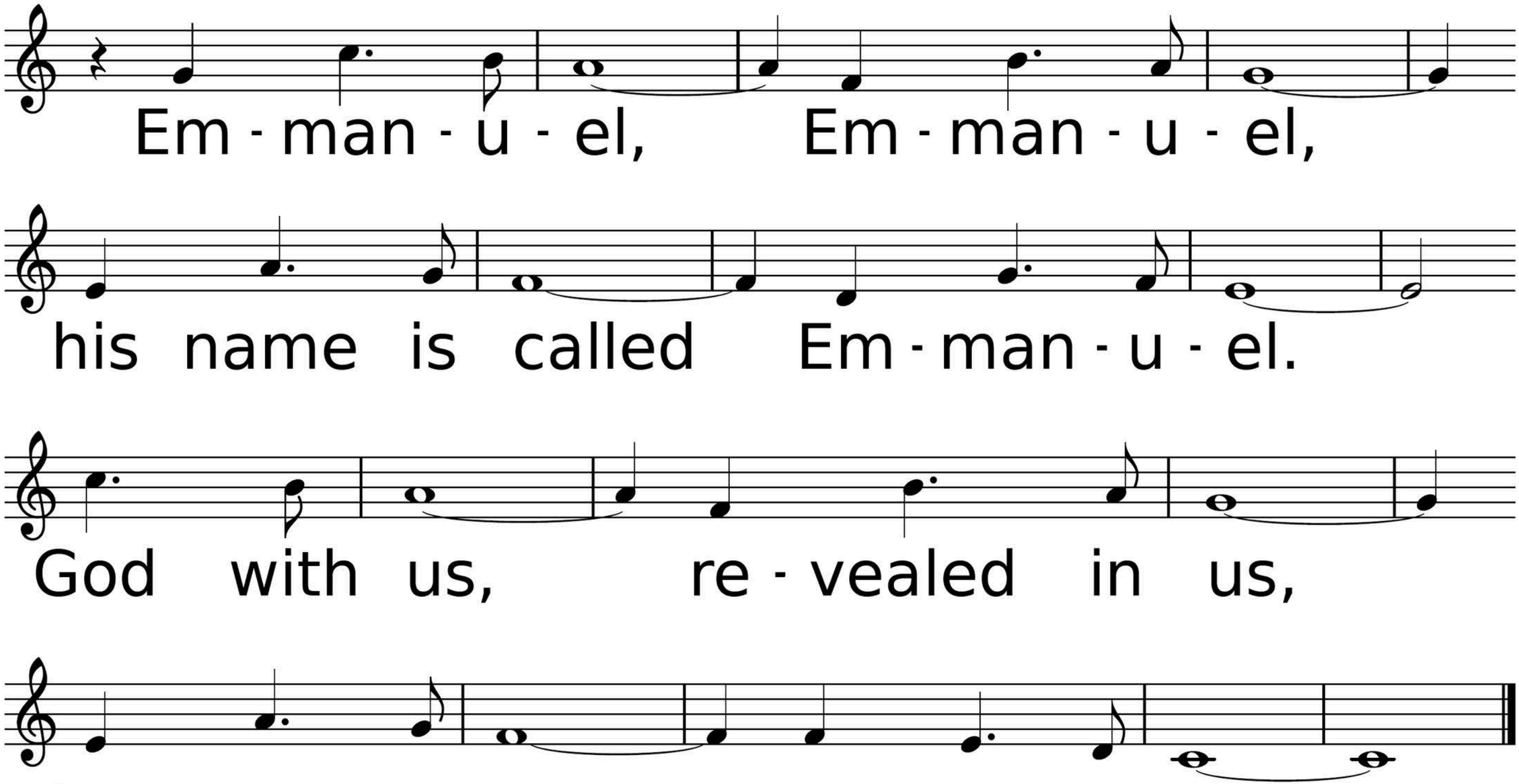
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Greeting One Another to Advent in Christian Love

*Choral Call to Worship
Emmanuel, Emmanuel

UMH #204, v. 1
Words and Music by Jane Marshall

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Em - man - u - el, Em - man - u - el,
his name is called Em - man - u - el.
God with us, re - vealed in us,
his name is called Em - man - u - el.

*Call to Worship

David Hardesty

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations upon the earth.

Let all the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

The earth has brought forth its increase; may God, our own God, bless us.
Let all the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

*Lighting of the Advent Candle
Luttrell Family

ISAIAH 60:2-3

“For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.”



We light this candle as a symbol of Christ, our Hope. May the light sent from God shine in the darkness to show us the way of salvation. O come, O come Emmanuel!

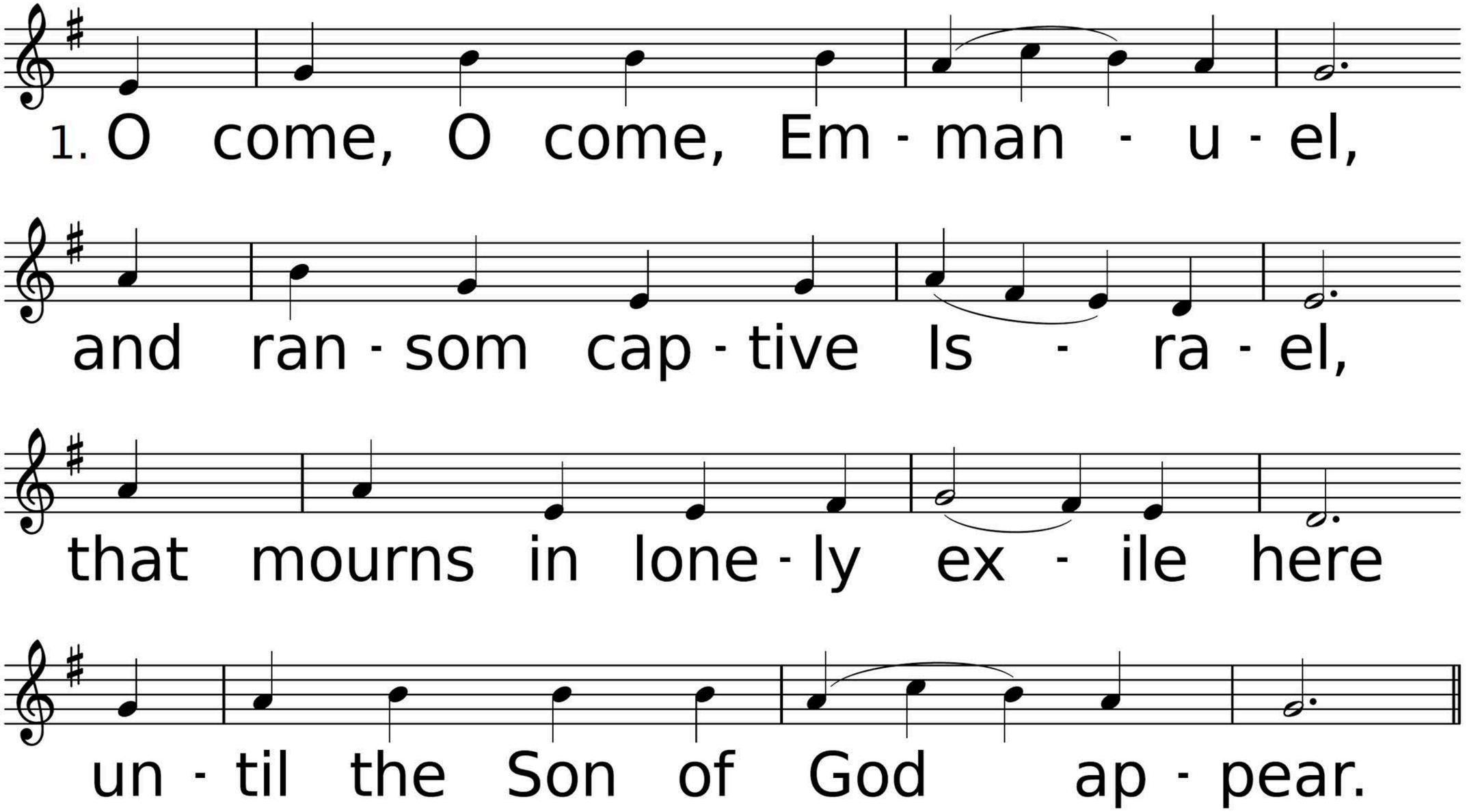
*Hymn of Praise
O Come, O Come Emmanuel

UMH #211, v. 1,2, & 4
Words by Henry Sloane Coffin & Laurence Hill Stookey
Music by Thomas Helmore

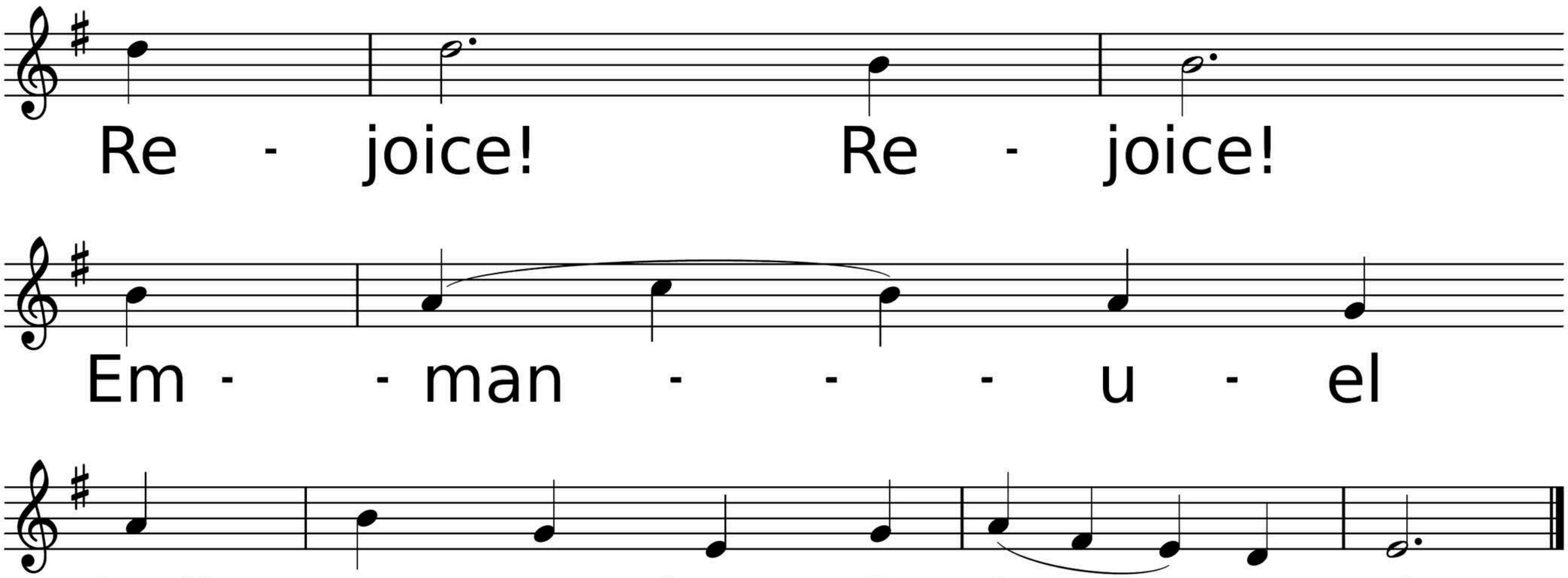


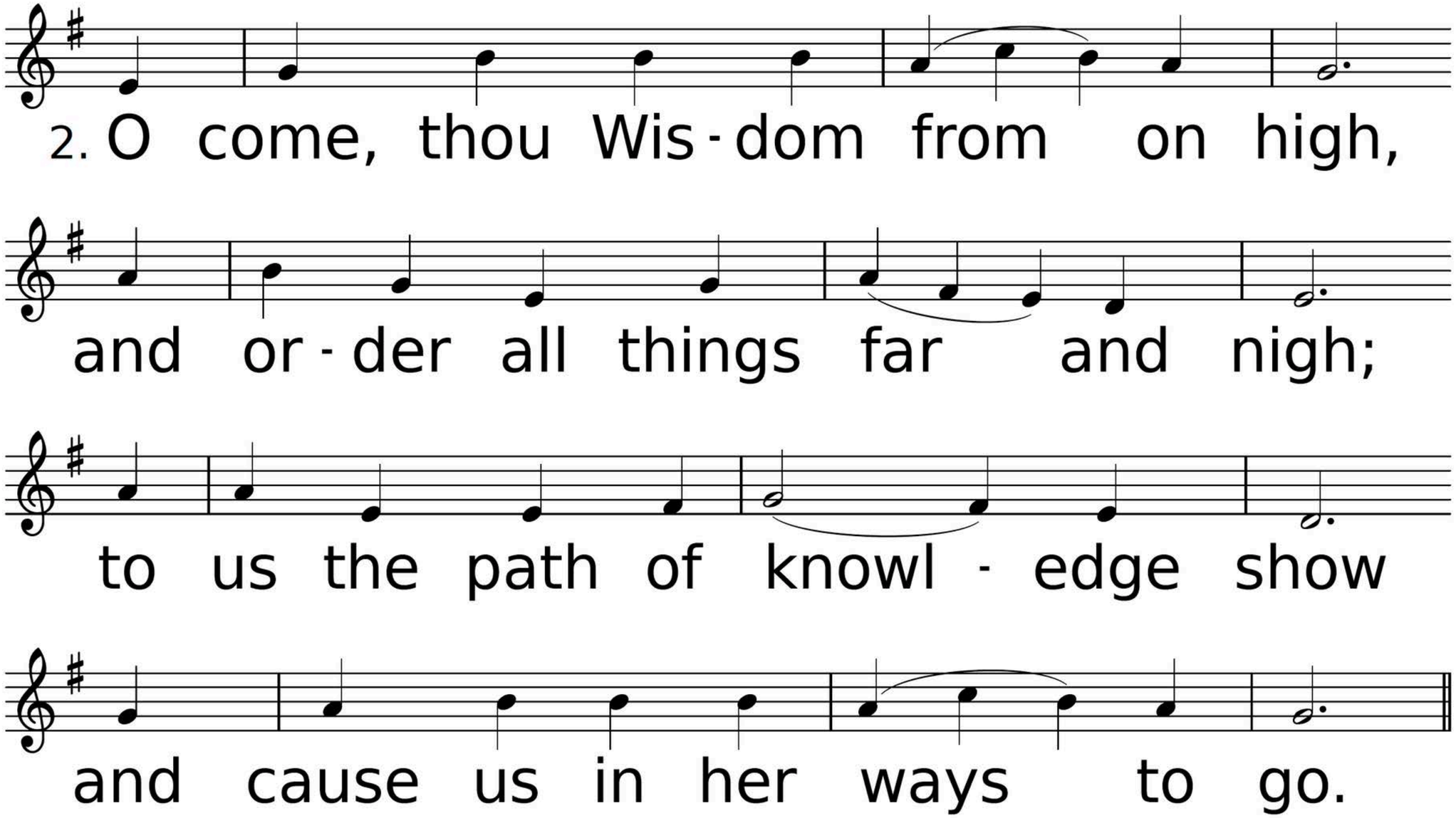
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O Come, O Come, Emmanuel *United Methodist Hymnal* #211

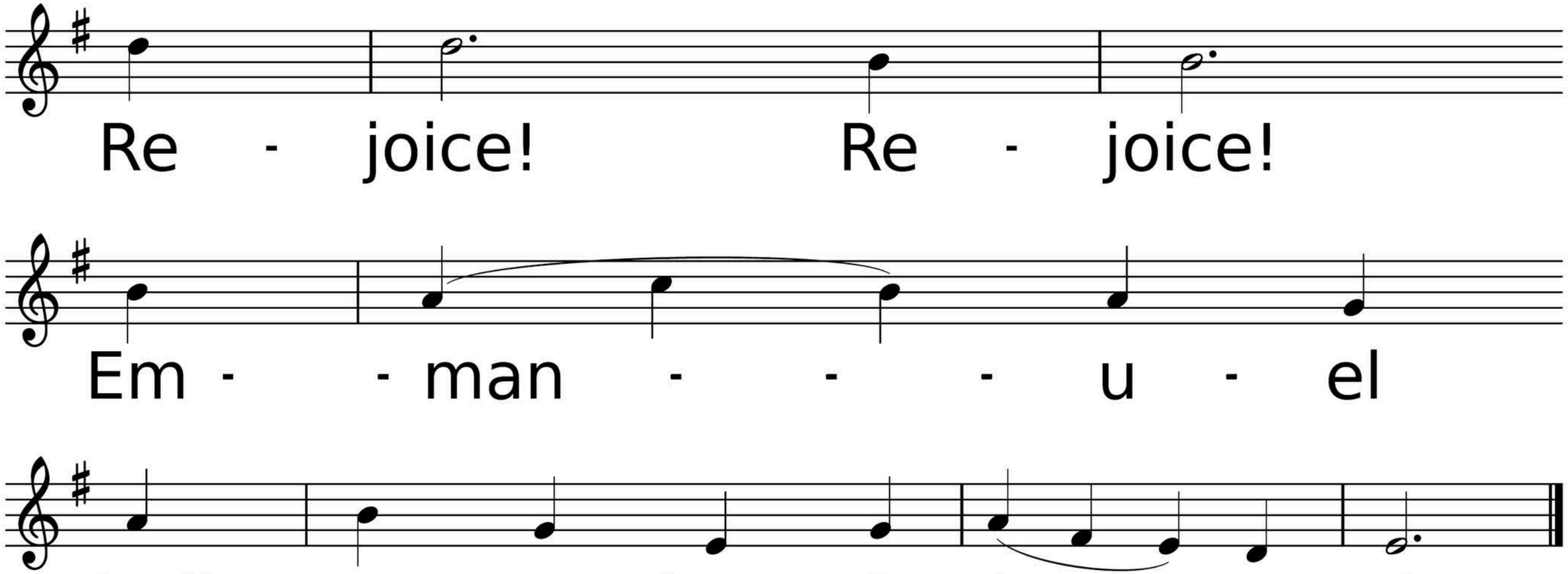


O Come, O Come, Emmanuel *United Methodist Hymnal* #211

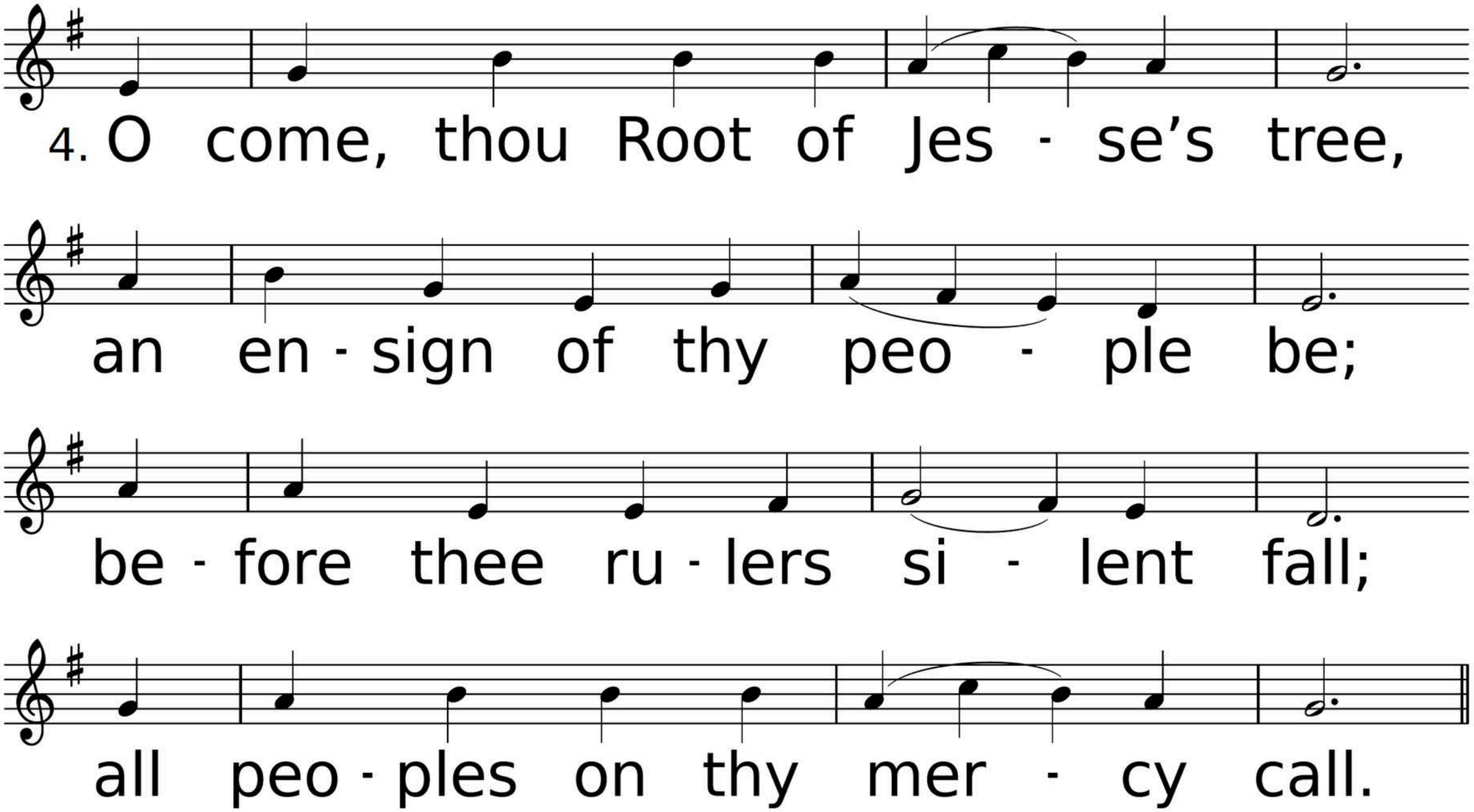



2. O come, thou Wis - dom from on high,
and or - der all things far and nigh;
to us the path of knowl - edge show
and cause us in her ways to go.

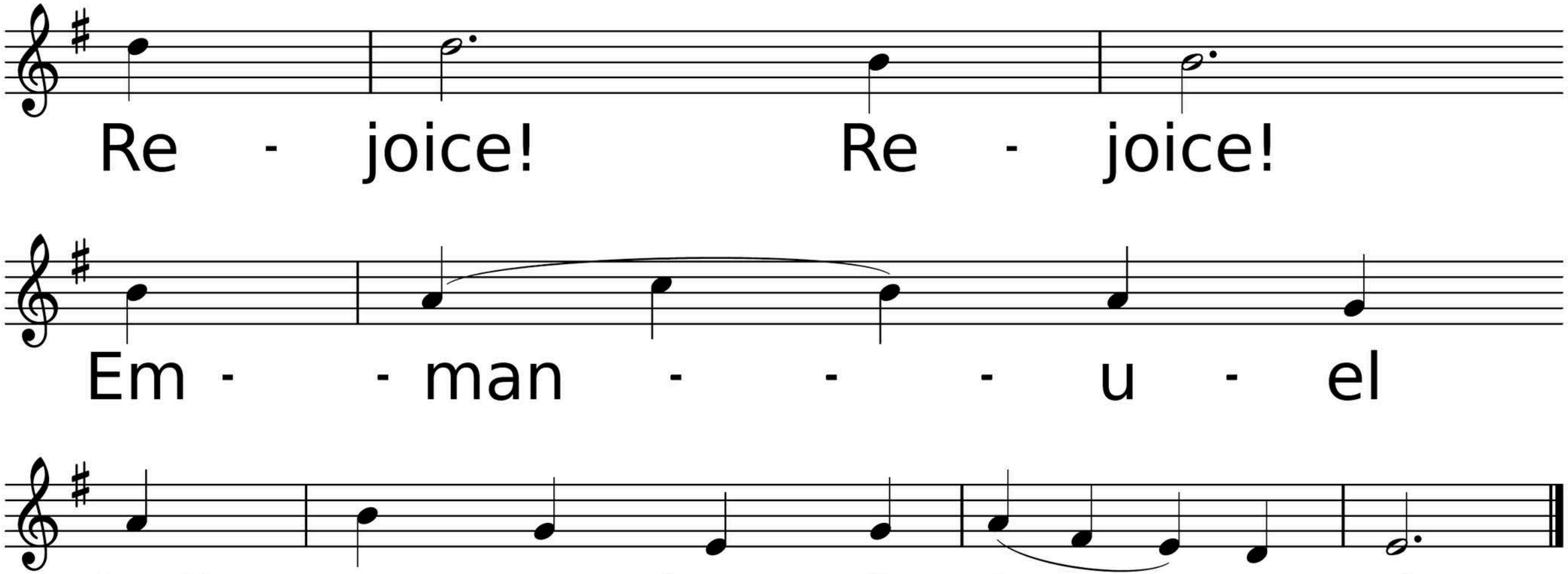
O Come, O Come, Emmanuel *United Methodist Hymnal* #211



O Come, O Come, Emmanuel *United Methodist Hymnal* #211



O Come, O Come, Emmanuel *United Methodist Hymnal* #211



Scripture Reading

Jeremiah 23:5-6

Lexi Bohms with
Phyllis Blanton

“The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called:
“The Lord is our righteousness.”

In ancient times the cedar was revered as the tree of royalty. It also signified immortality and was used for purification. We place this cedar branch as a sign of Christ, who reigns as King forever, and who’s coming, in justice and righteousness, will purify our hearts.



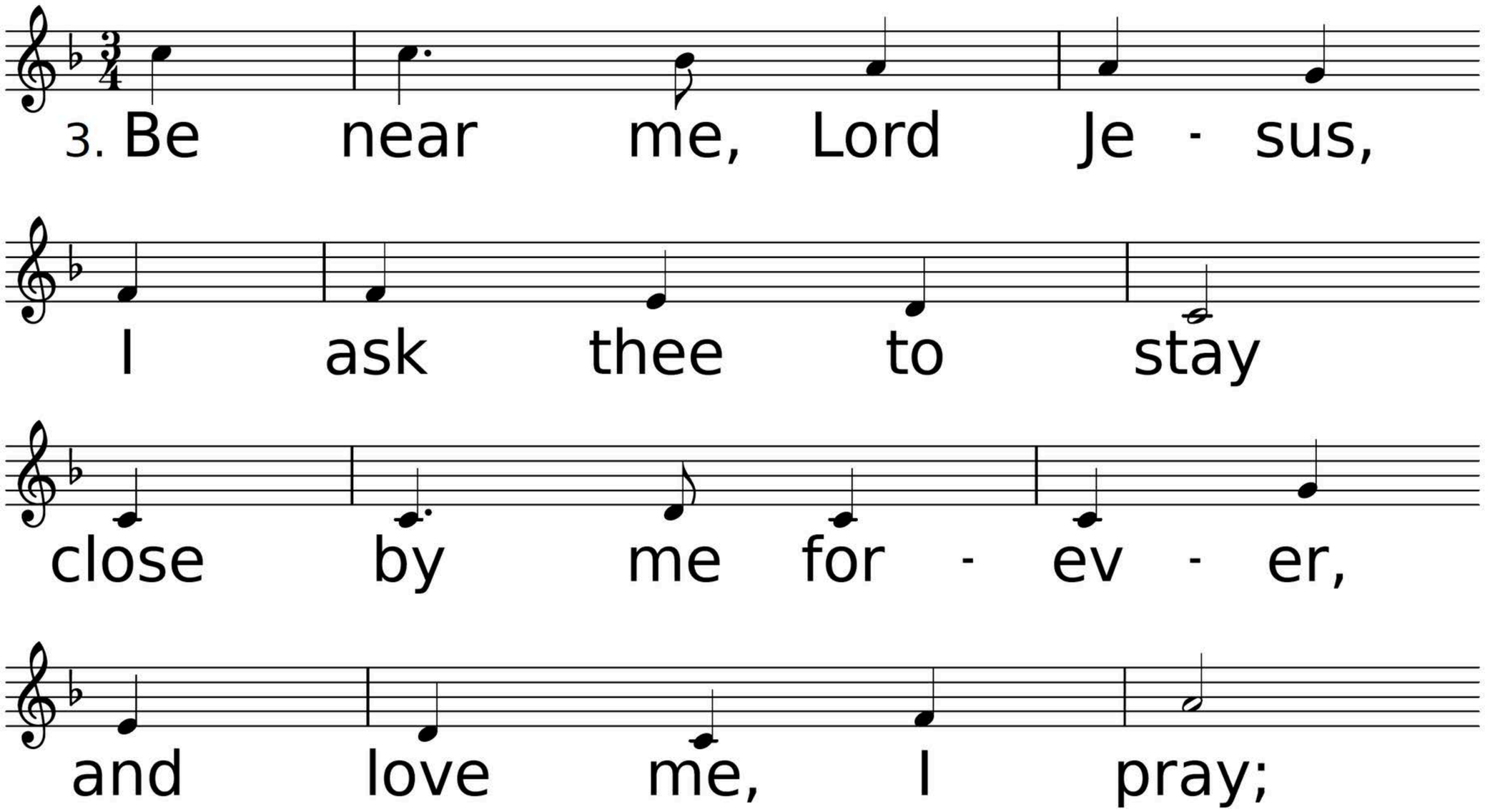
Sharing of our Joys & Concerns

Call to Prayer
Away in a Manger

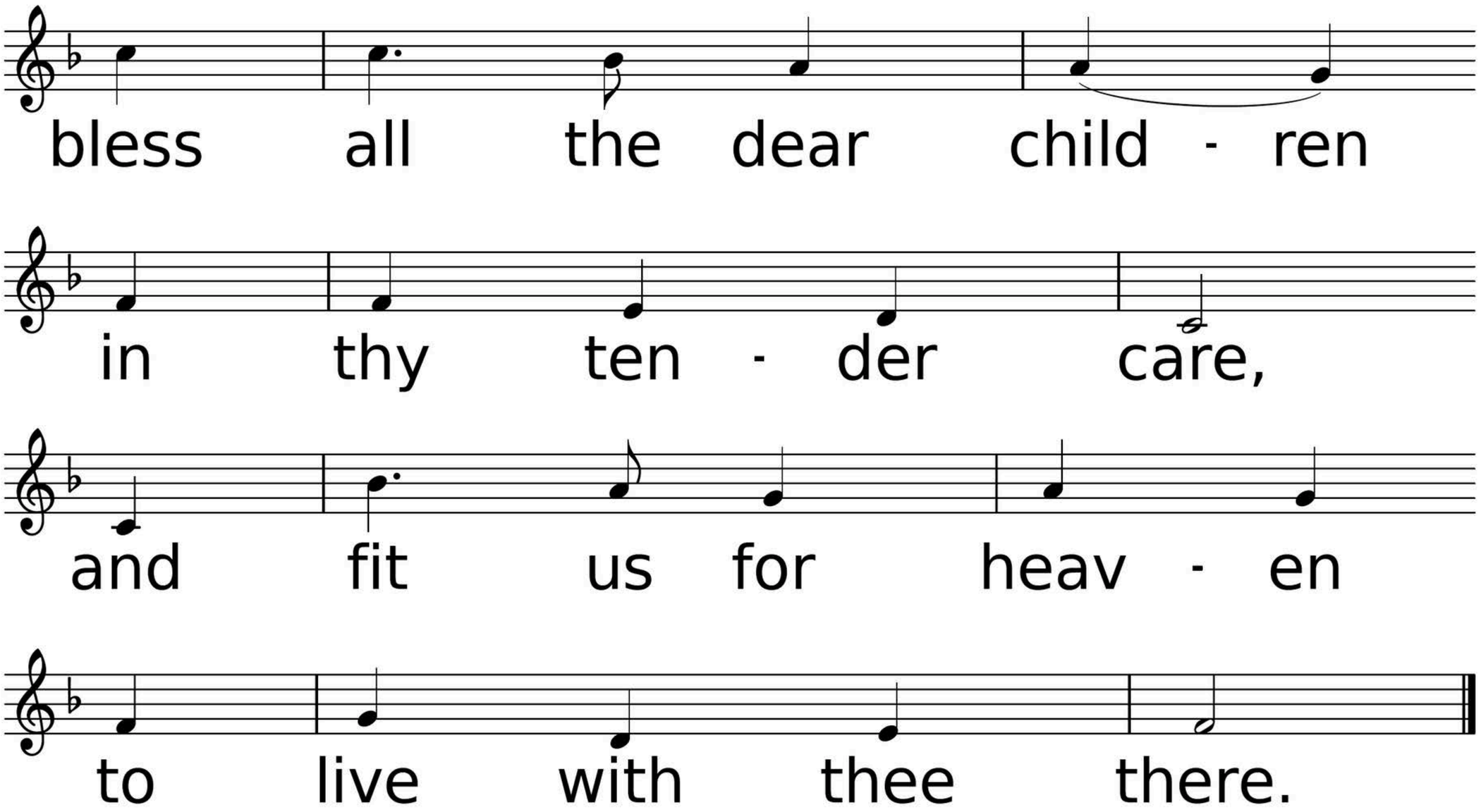
UMH #217, v. 3
Words by Anonymous
Music by James R. Murray

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Away in a Manger *United Methodist Hymnal #217*



Away in a Manger *United Methodist Hymnal #217*



CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING
PRAYER &
RETURN OF GOD'S
TITHES & GIFTS

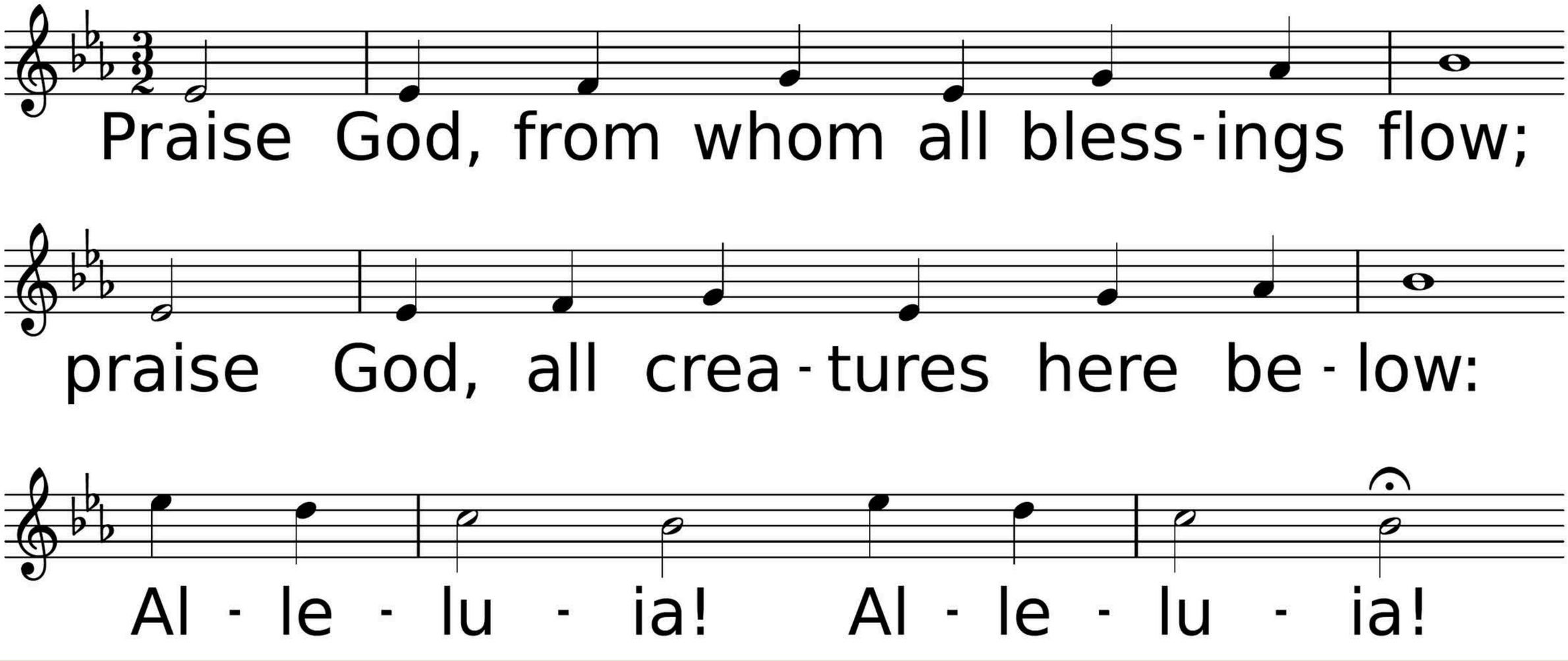


*DOXOLOGY
PRAISE GOD, FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW

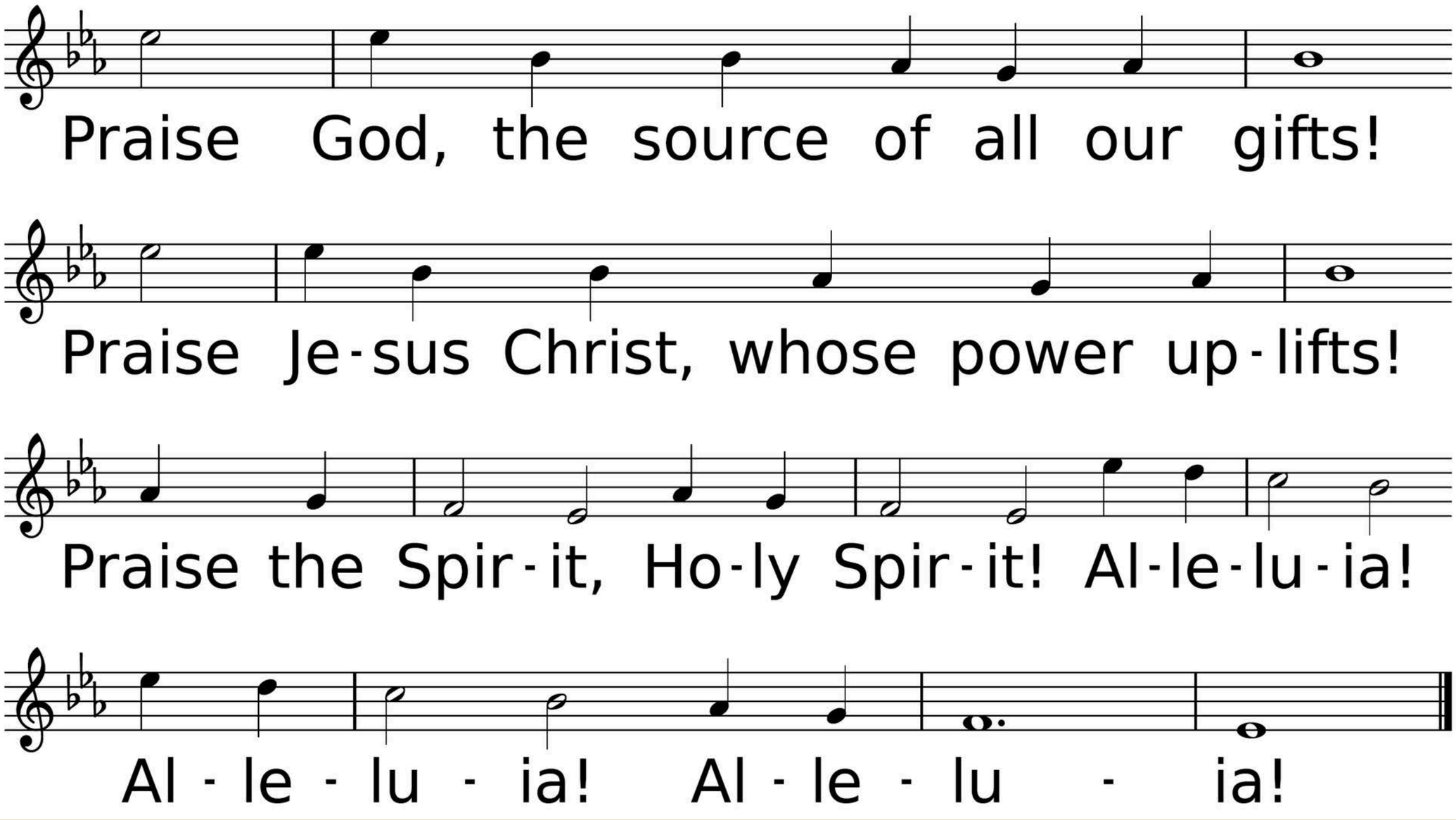
UMH #94
WORDS BY THOMAS KEN
MUSIC FROM GEISTLICHE KIRCHENGESANGE
ARR. BY RALPH VAUGHAN WILLIAMS

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Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow *United Methodist Hymnal* #94



Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow *United Methodist Hymnal #94*



*Affirmation of Faith
David Hardesty

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 Pilot, was crucified, dead, and buried;

the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick 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.

Scripture Reading
Isaiah 9: 2, 6-7
Stephanie Chavez
with larue luttrell
& susan myers

"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined...For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders;

and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom.

He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore.The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.”

Because the needles of pine and fir trees appear not to die each season, the ancients saw them as signs of things that last forever. Isaiah tells us that there will be no end to the reign of the Messiah.

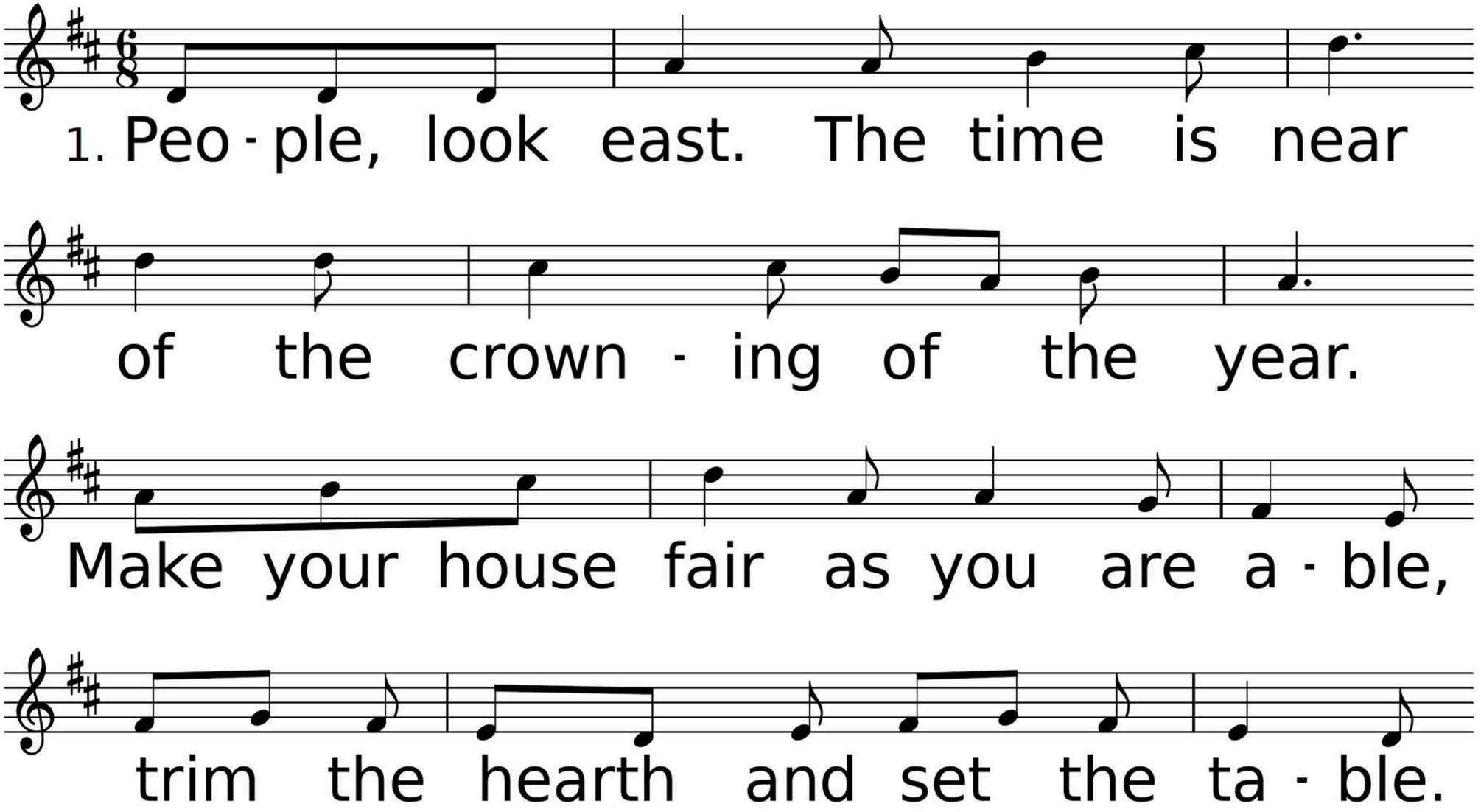
Therefore, we hang these wreaths of evergreens shaped in a circle, which itself has no end, to signify the eternal sign of Jesus, the Christ.

Hymn of Faith
People, Look East

UMH #202
Words by Eleanor Farjeon
Music from Martin Shaw

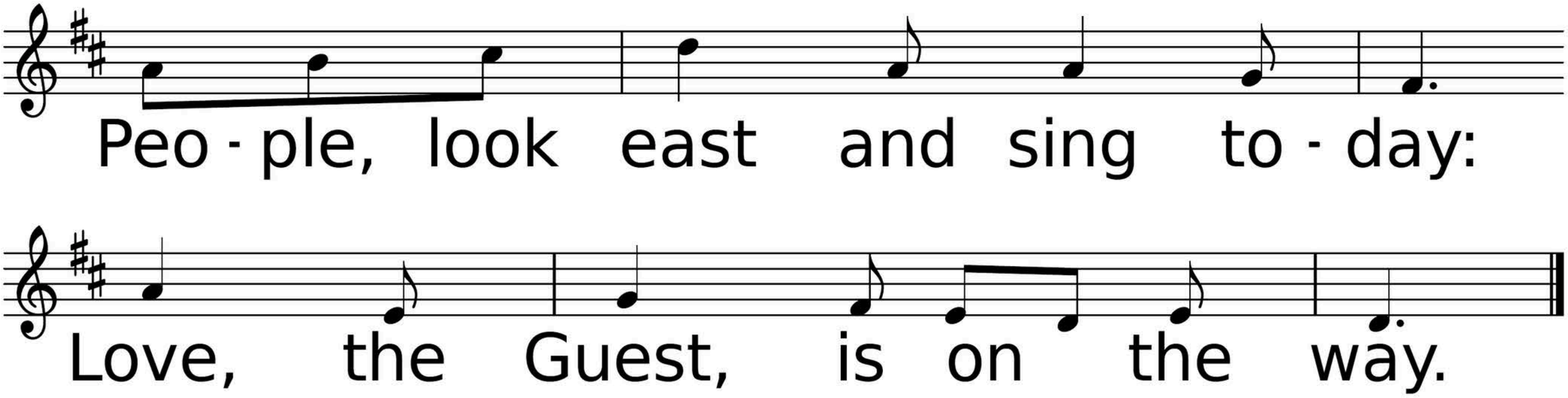
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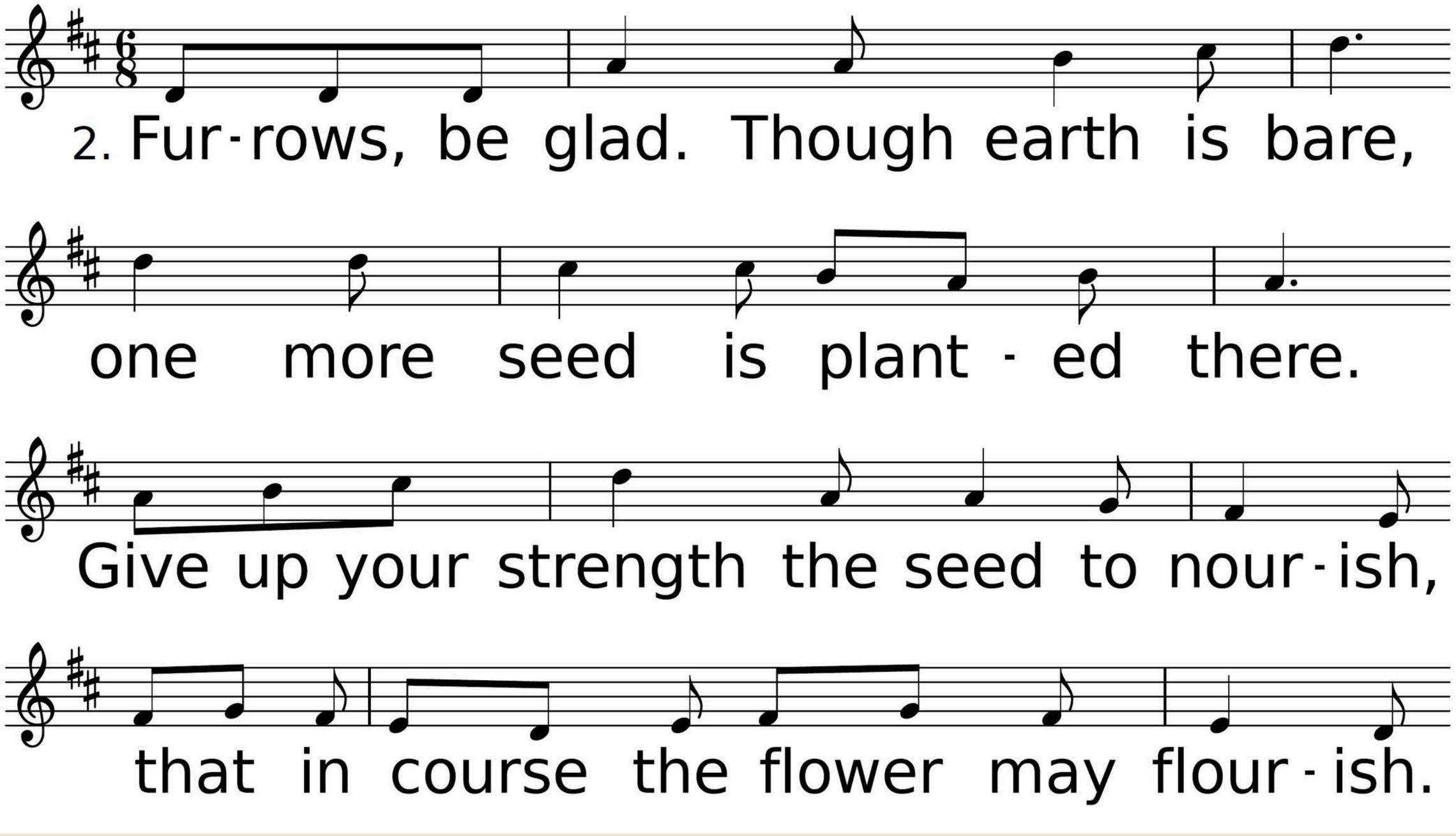
People, Look East *United Methodist Hymnal #202*

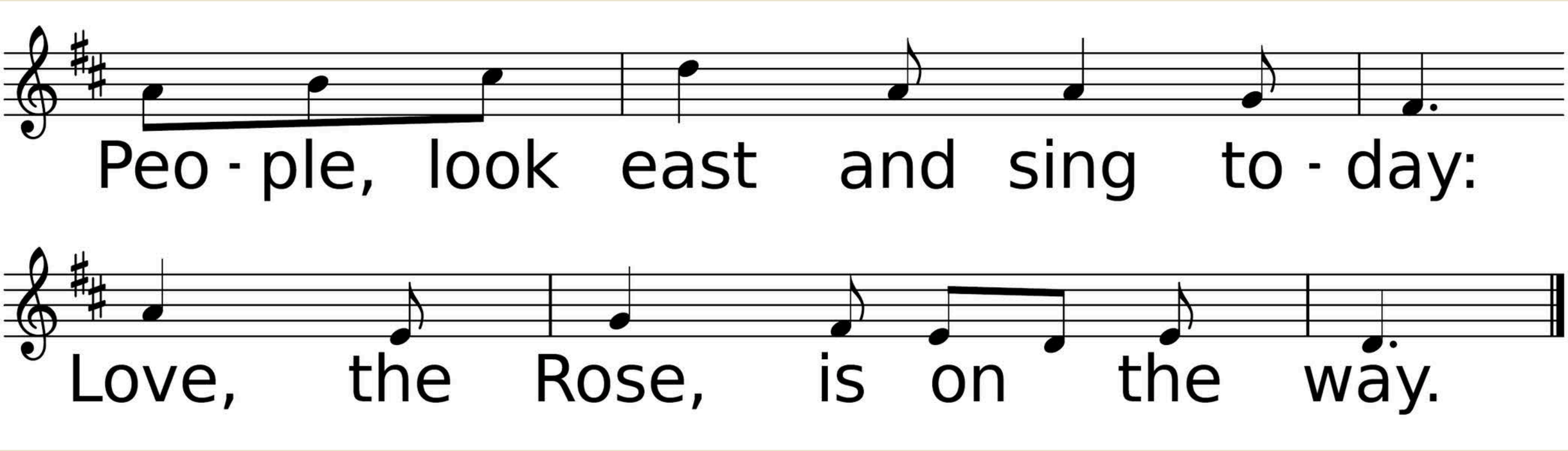


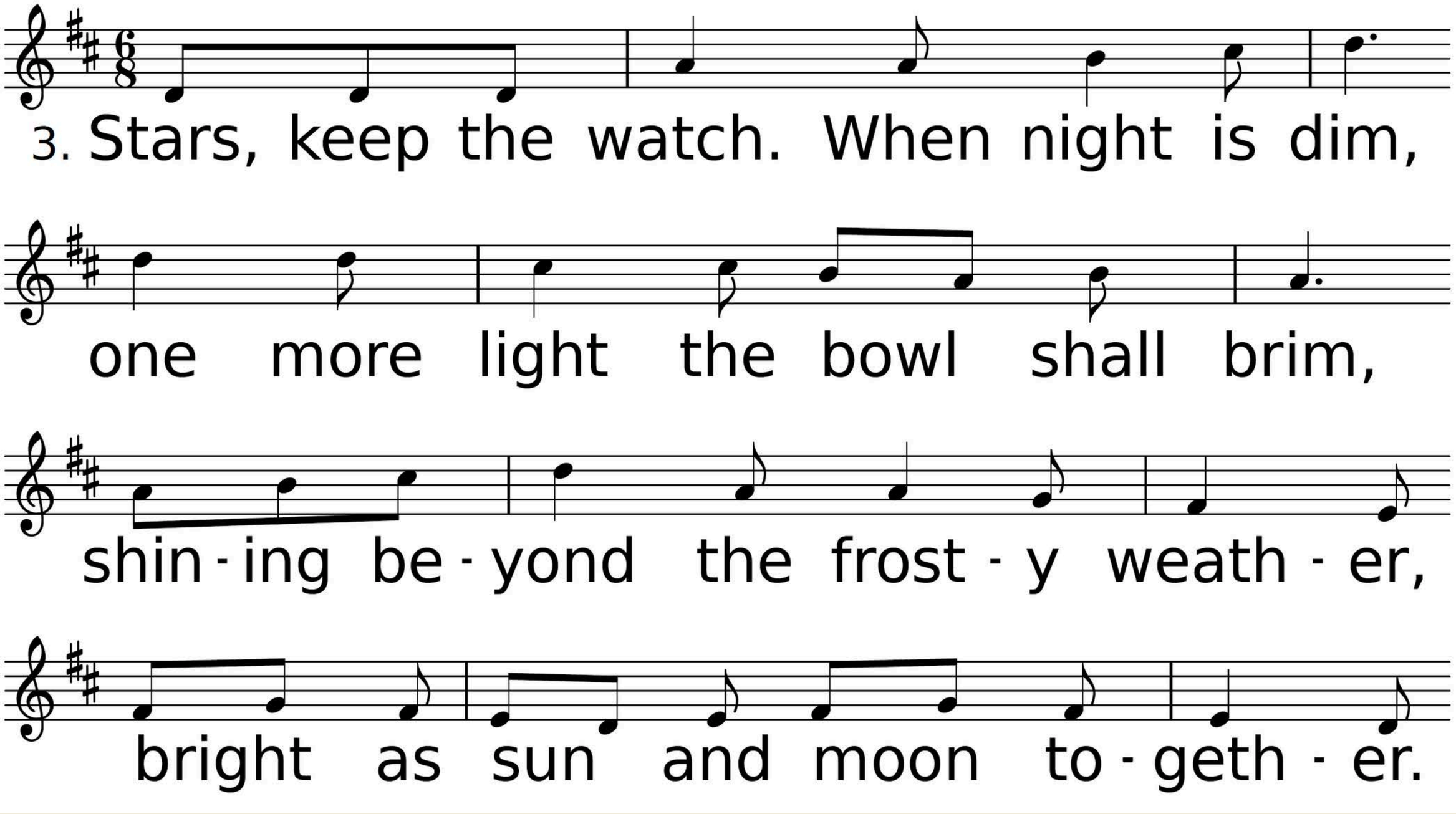
People, Look East

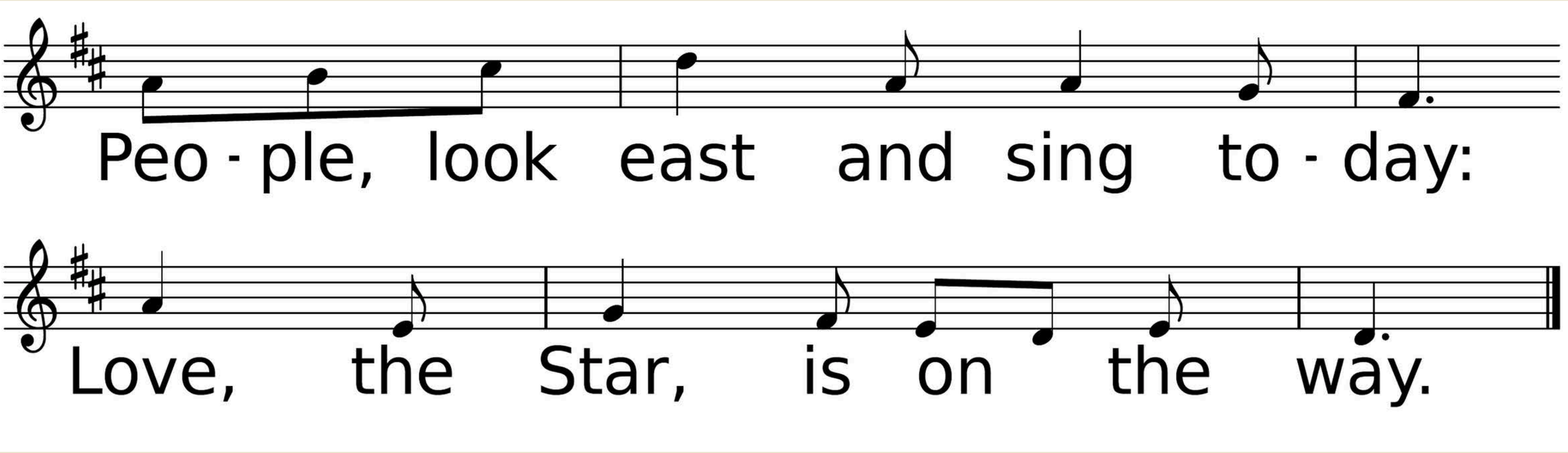
United Methodist Hymnal #202

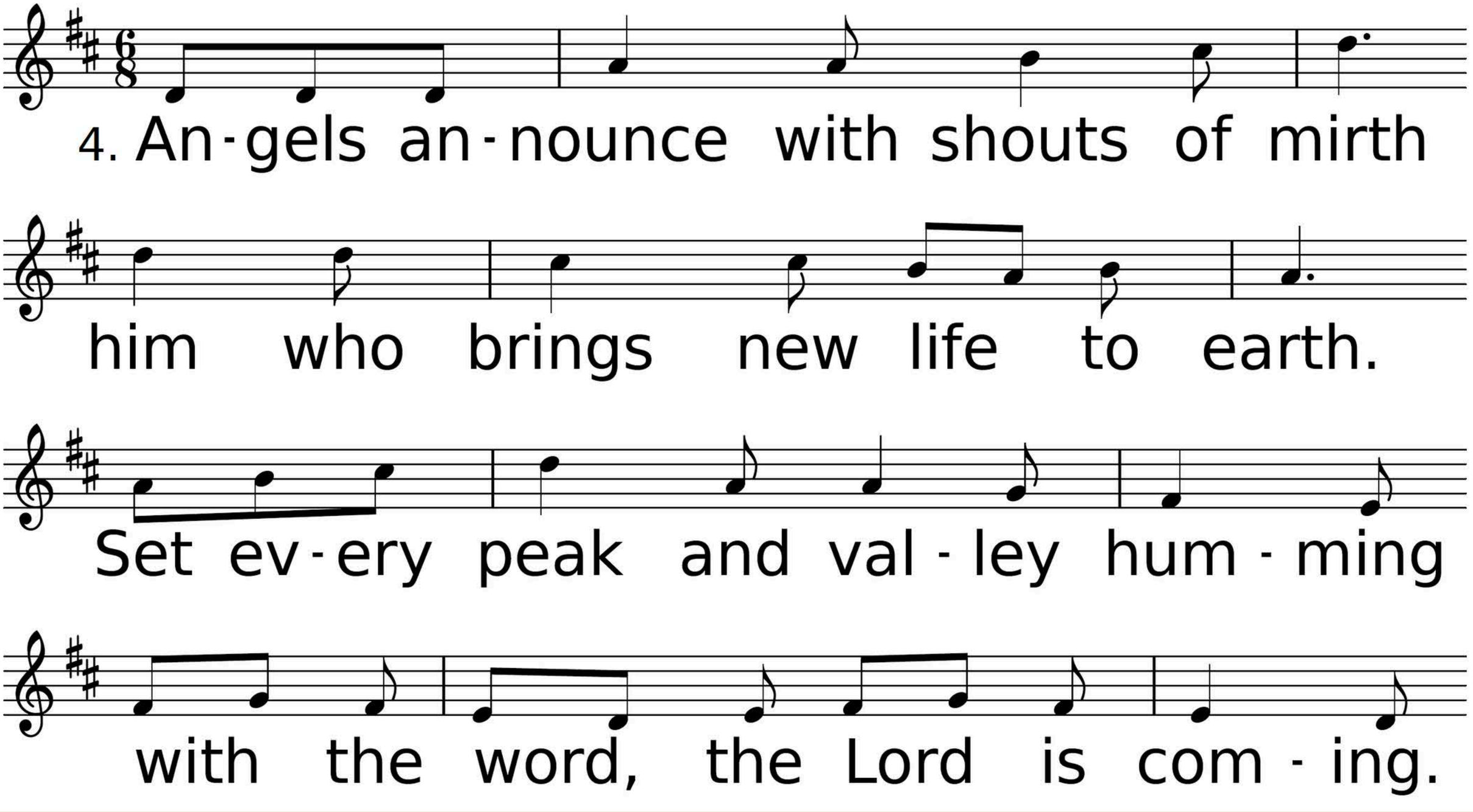


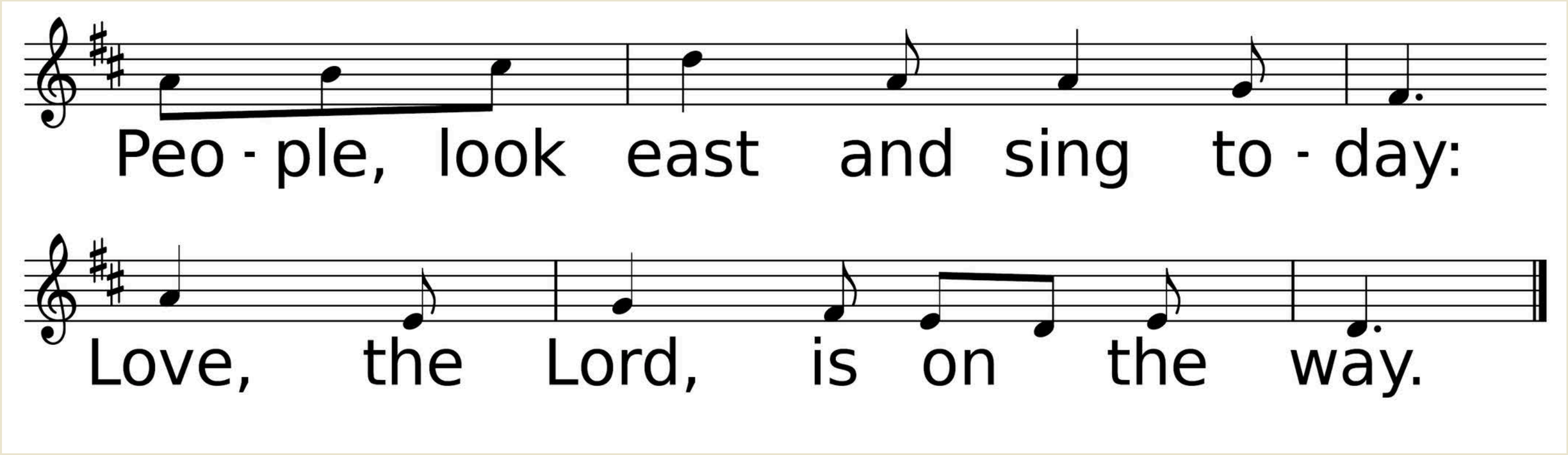

2. Fur-rows, be glad. Though earth is bare,
one more seed is plant-ed there.
Give up your strength the seed to nour-ish,
that in course the flower may flour-ish.


Peo - ple, look east and sing to - day:
Love, the Rose, is on the way.


3. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim,
one more light the bowl shall brim,
shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er,
bright as sun and moon to - geth - er.


Peo - ple, look east and sing to - day:
Love, the Star, is on the way.


4. An-gels an-nounce with shouts of mirth
him who brings new life to earth.
Set ev-ery peak and val-ley hum-ming
with the word, the Lord is com-ing.


Peo - ple, look east and sing to - day:
Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Scripture Reading
Isaiah 53: 1-6
Ryne Robinson with Addy, Reese, & Lilian Robinson

“Who has believed what we have heard? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.

He was despised and rejected by others; a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity; and as one from whom others hide their faces he was despised, and we held him of no account. Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted.

But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.”

For Christians, this passage from Isaiah reflects the sufferings of Jesus, who saved us from our sins by His death on the cross, and by His resurrection from the dead. In ancient times, holly and ivy were considered signs of Christ’s passion.

Their prickly leaves suggested the crown of thorns; the red berries, the blood of the Savior; and the bitter bark, the drink offered to Jesus on the cross. As we place the holly and ivy, let us rejoice in the coming of Jesus, our Savior.

Congregational Hymn
The Holly & the Ivy

English Traditional Carol
Eited & arr. by Reginald Jacques & David Willcocks

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1. The holly and the ivy,
When they are both full grown, Of all the trees that are in the wood, The holly bears the crown.

The rising of the sun,
And the running of the deer,
The playing of the merry organ,
Sweet singing in the choir.

2. The holly bears a blossom,As white as the lily flower; And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ, To be our sweet Saviour.

The rising of the sun,
And the running of the deer,
The playing of the merry organ,
Sweet singing in the choir.

3. The holly bears a berry, As red as any blood, And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ, For to do us sinners good.

The rising of the sun,
And the running of the deer,
The playing of the merry organ,
Sweet singing in the choir.

Scripture Reading

John 1: 1-5, 9-14

Rev. Laraine Waughtal

In the beginning was the Word,
and the Word was with God,
and the Word was God. He
was with God in the beginning.
Through him all things were
made; without him nothing was
made that has been made.

In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God—

children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband’s will, but born of God. The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Devotional

Rev. Laraine Waughtal

Blessing of the Chrisimon Tree





Blessing of the Nativity Scene

Invitation to Holy Communion



Prayer of Confession & Pardon



Merciful God, We confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law,



we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy.



Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!



In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Glory to God. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving



The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the
Lord our God.

It is right to give our
thanks and praise.

Coming & Sharing at the Lord's Table

ANTHEM

COMMUNION MEDLEY

WORDS & MUSIC SELECTED BY CAMERON CRAIG

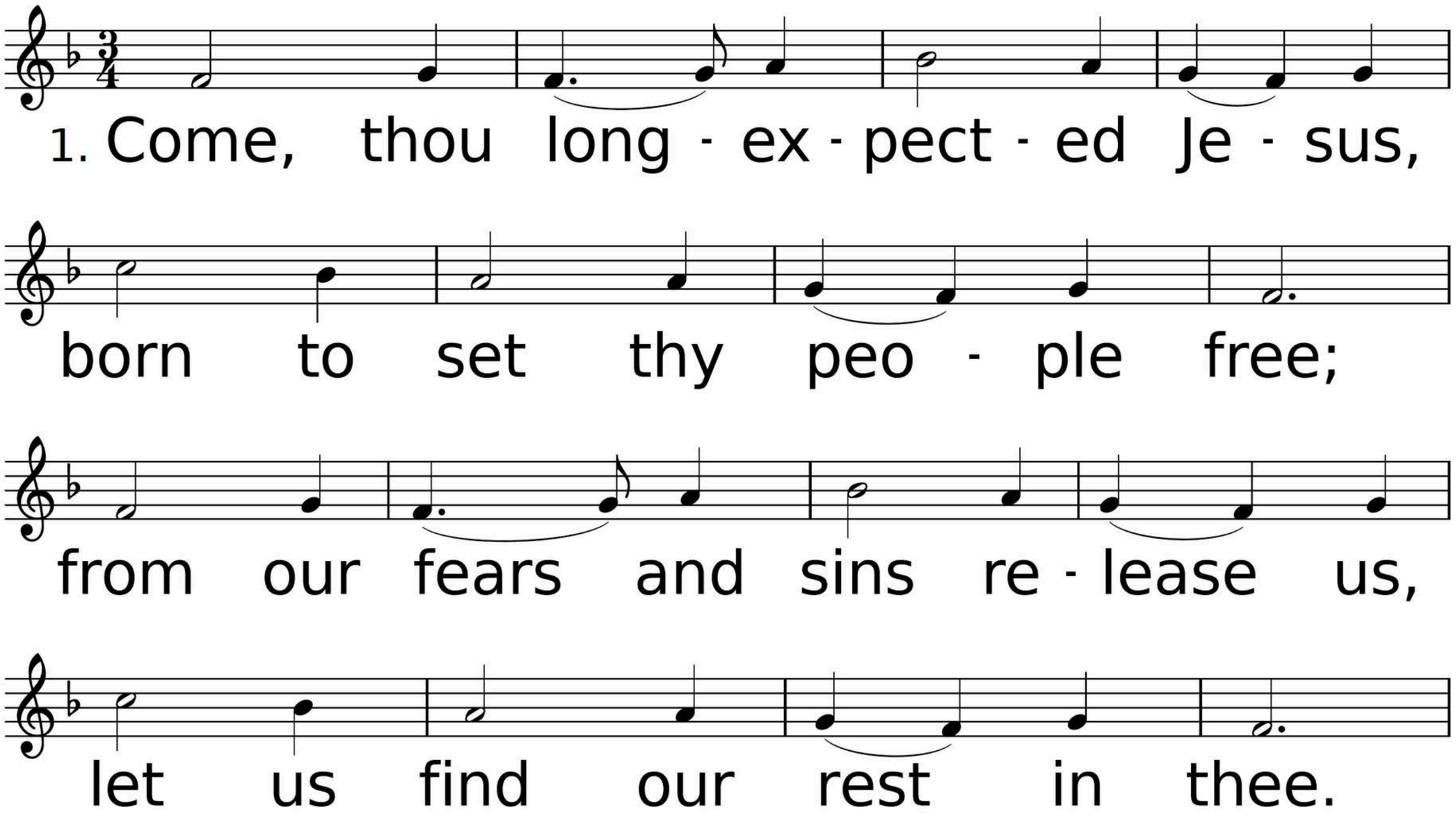
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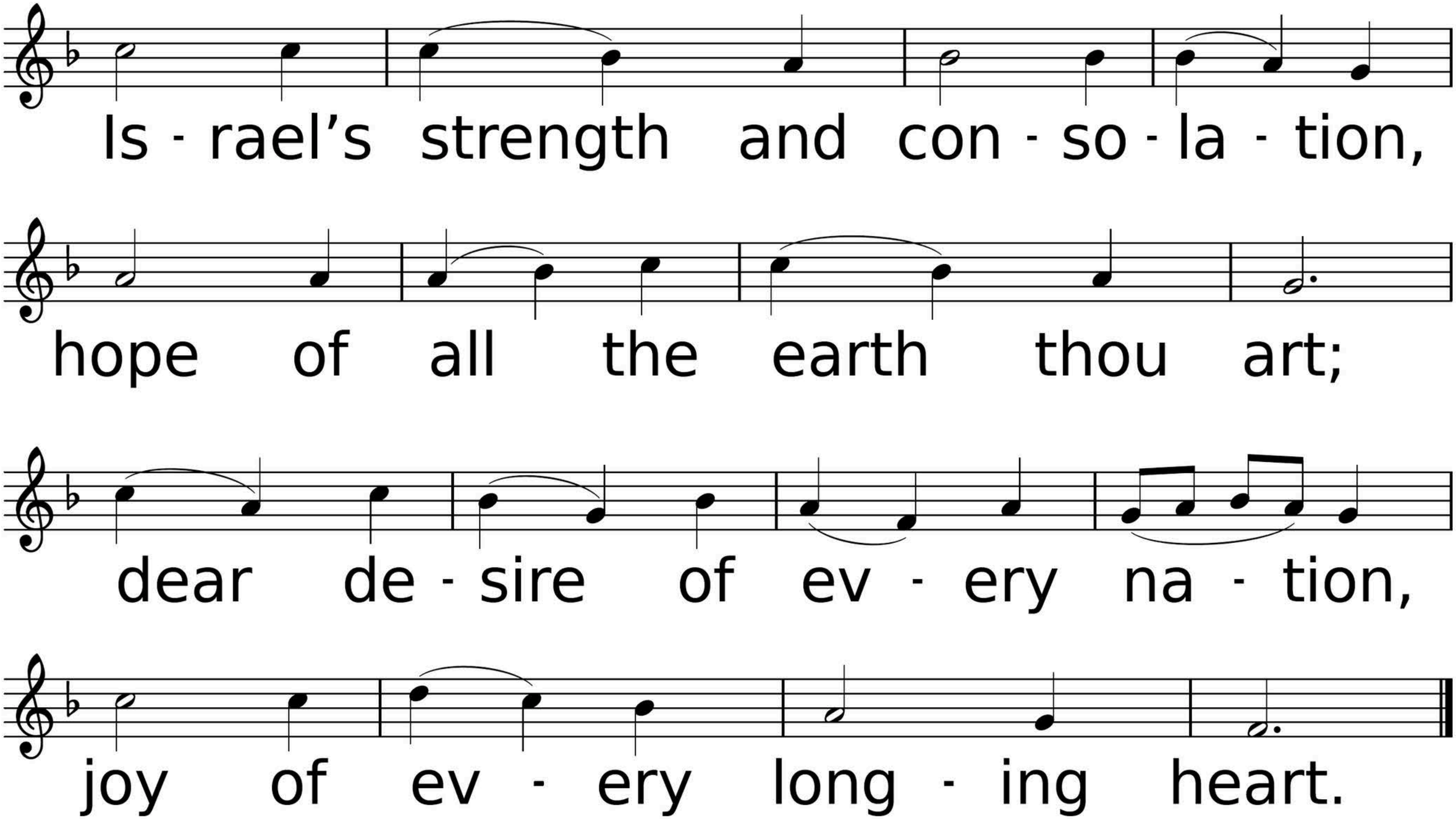
*Hymn of Invitation
Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

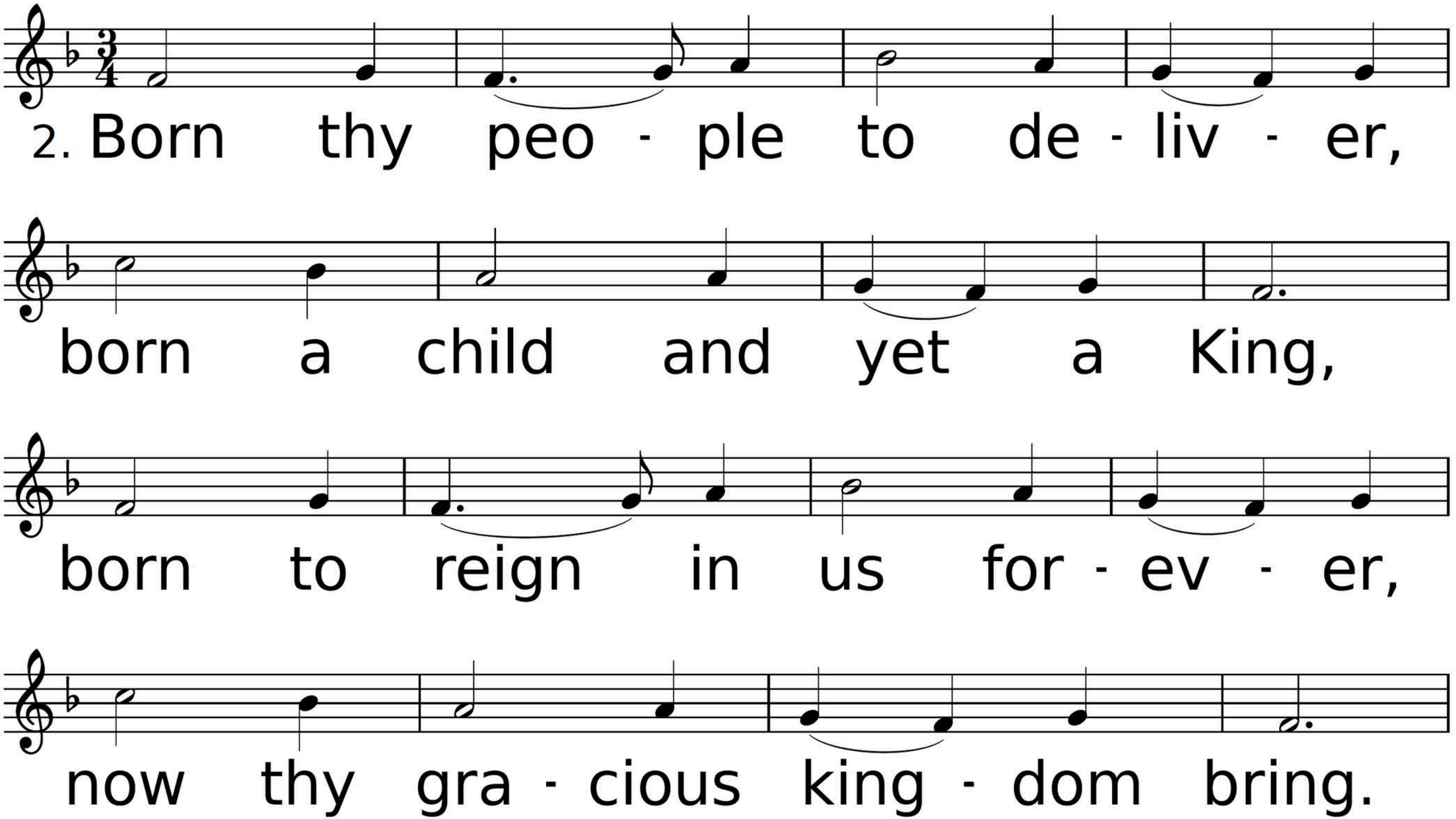
UMH #196
Words BY Charles Wesley
Music BY Rowland H. Prichard

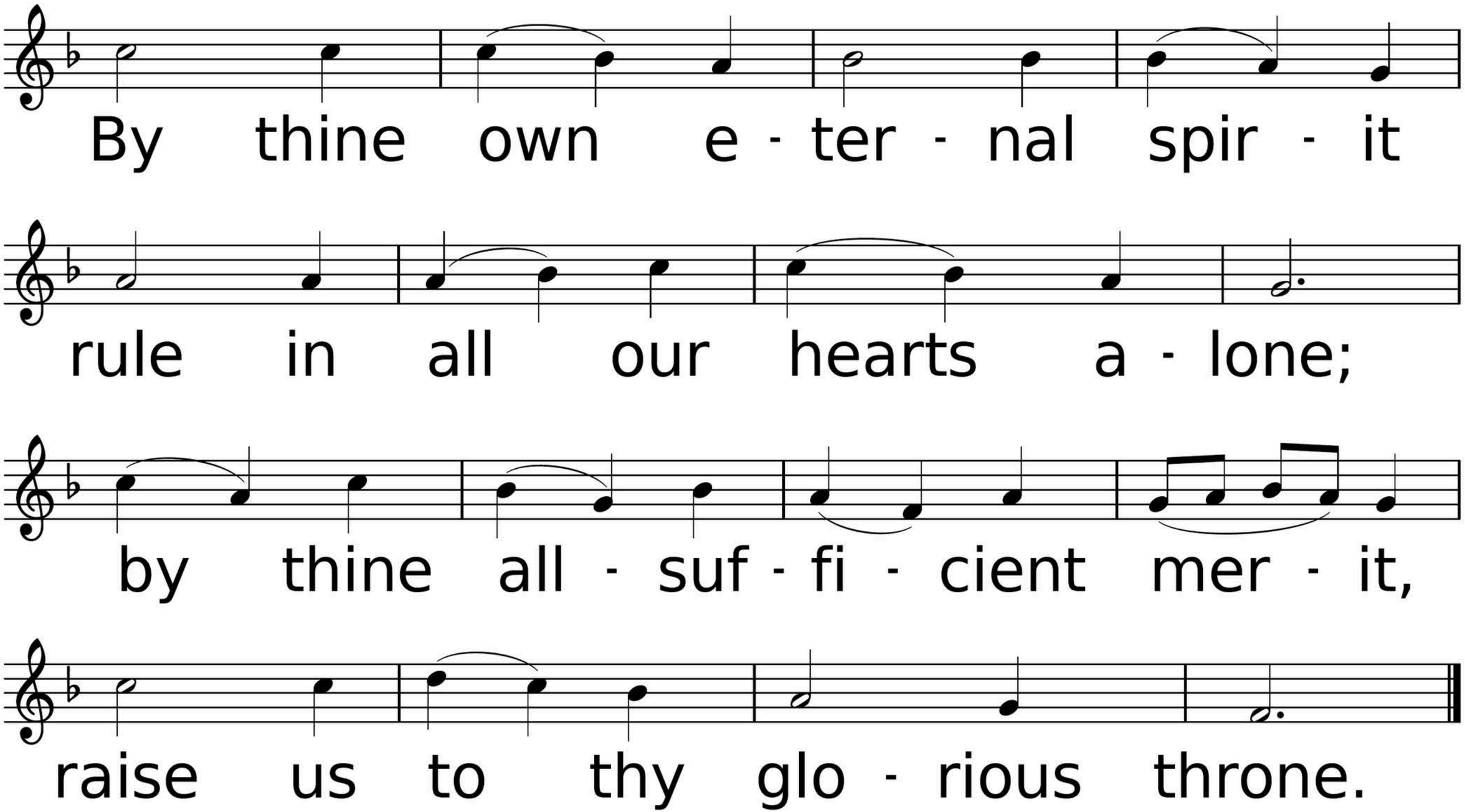
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Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus *United Methodist Hymnal* #196




Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion,
hope of all the earth thou art;
dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion,
joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.


2. Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er,
born a child and yet a King,
born to reign in us for - ev - er,
now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.


By thine own e - ter - nal spir - it
rule in all our hearts a - lone;
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it,
raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

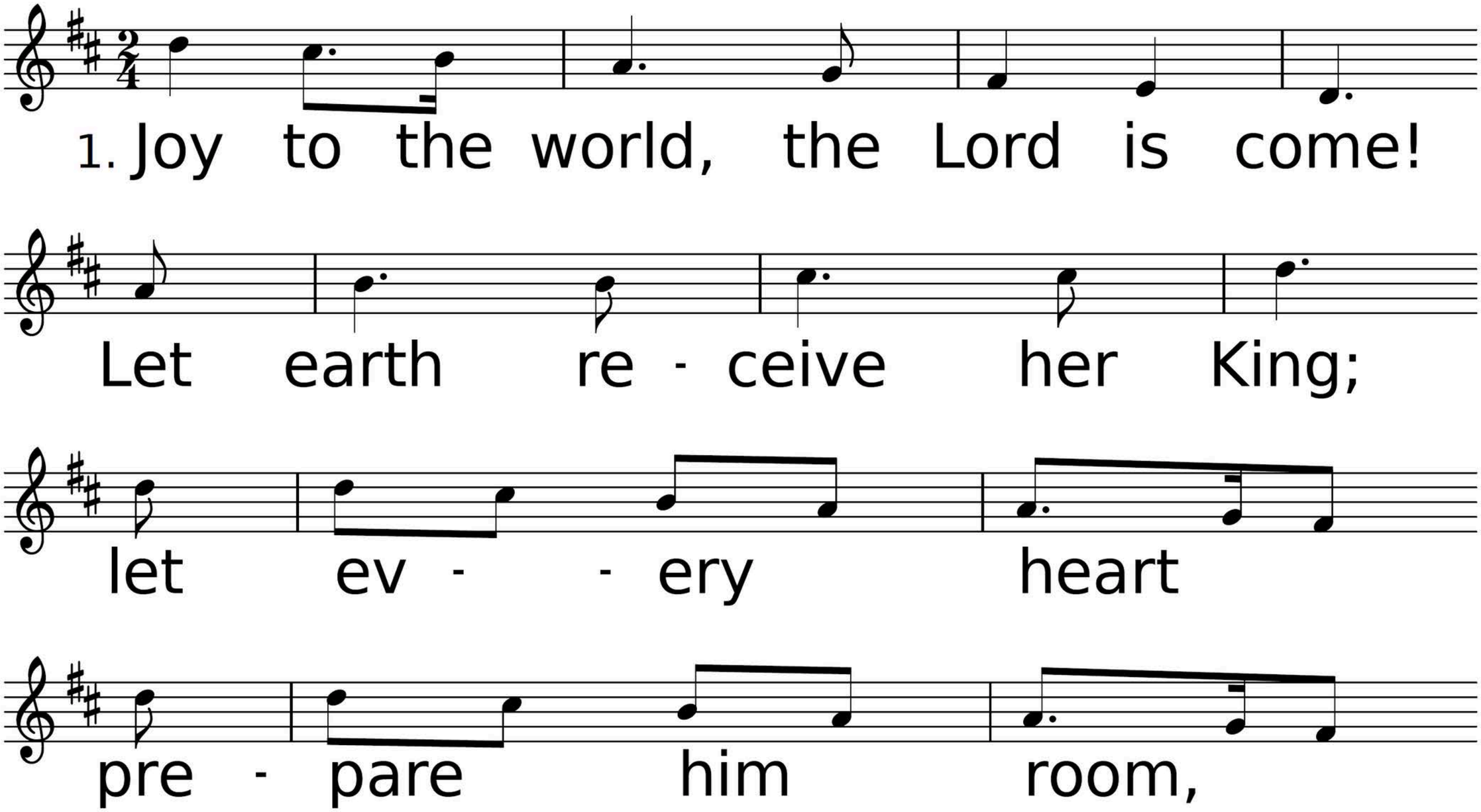
*Benediction

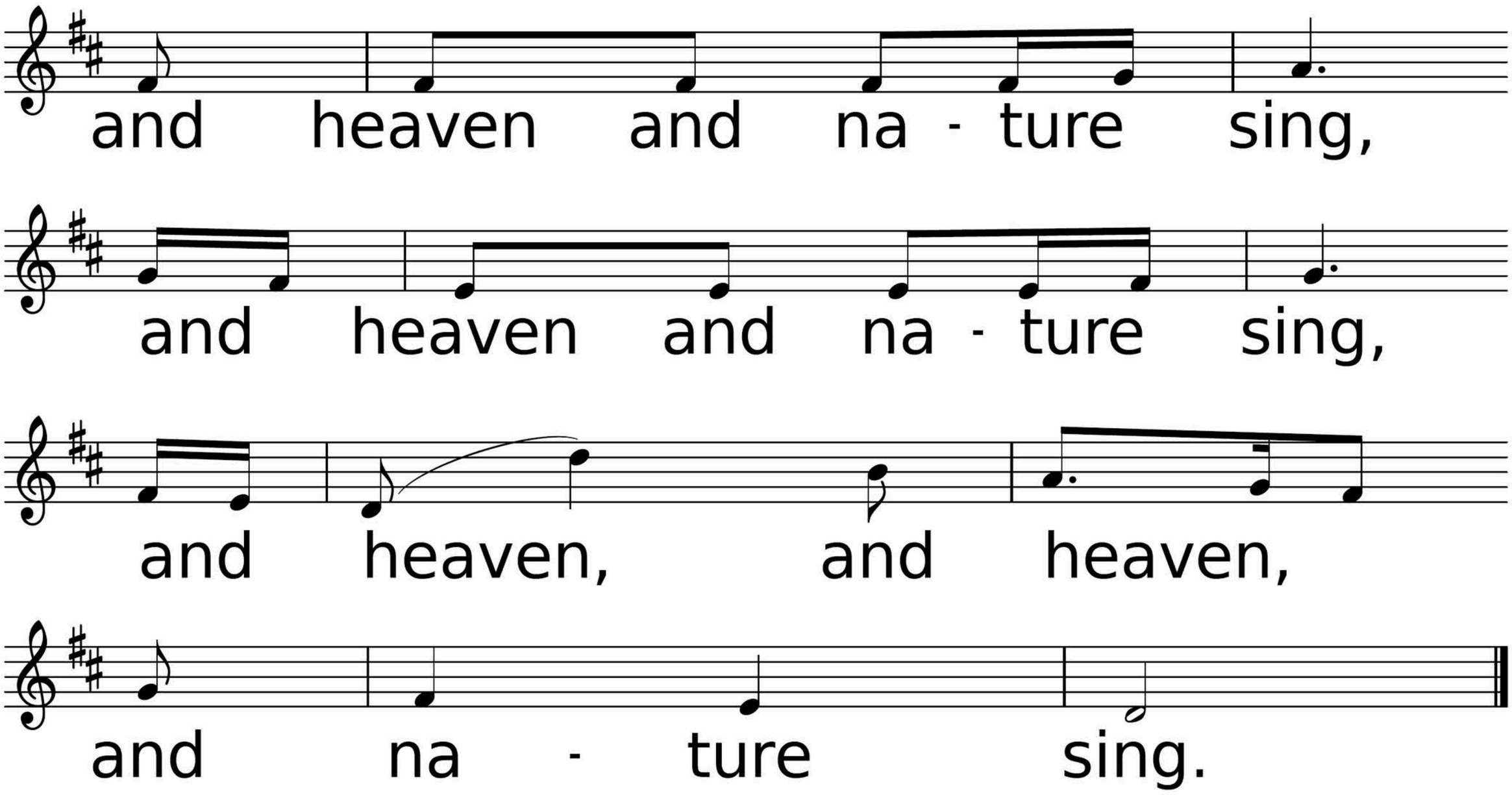


*Sending Forth
Joy to the World

UMH #246, v.1
Words by Isaac Watts
Music arr. by G.F. Handel

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1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth re - ceive her King;
let ev - - ery heart
pre - pare him room,


and heaven and na - ture sing,
and heaven and na - ture sing,
and heaven, and heaven,
and na - ture sing.

Thank you for joning us today

We hope this service gets you prepared for christ's birth and *sparks* your chrsitmas spirit!

