



*Welcome Home!*

November 27, 2022

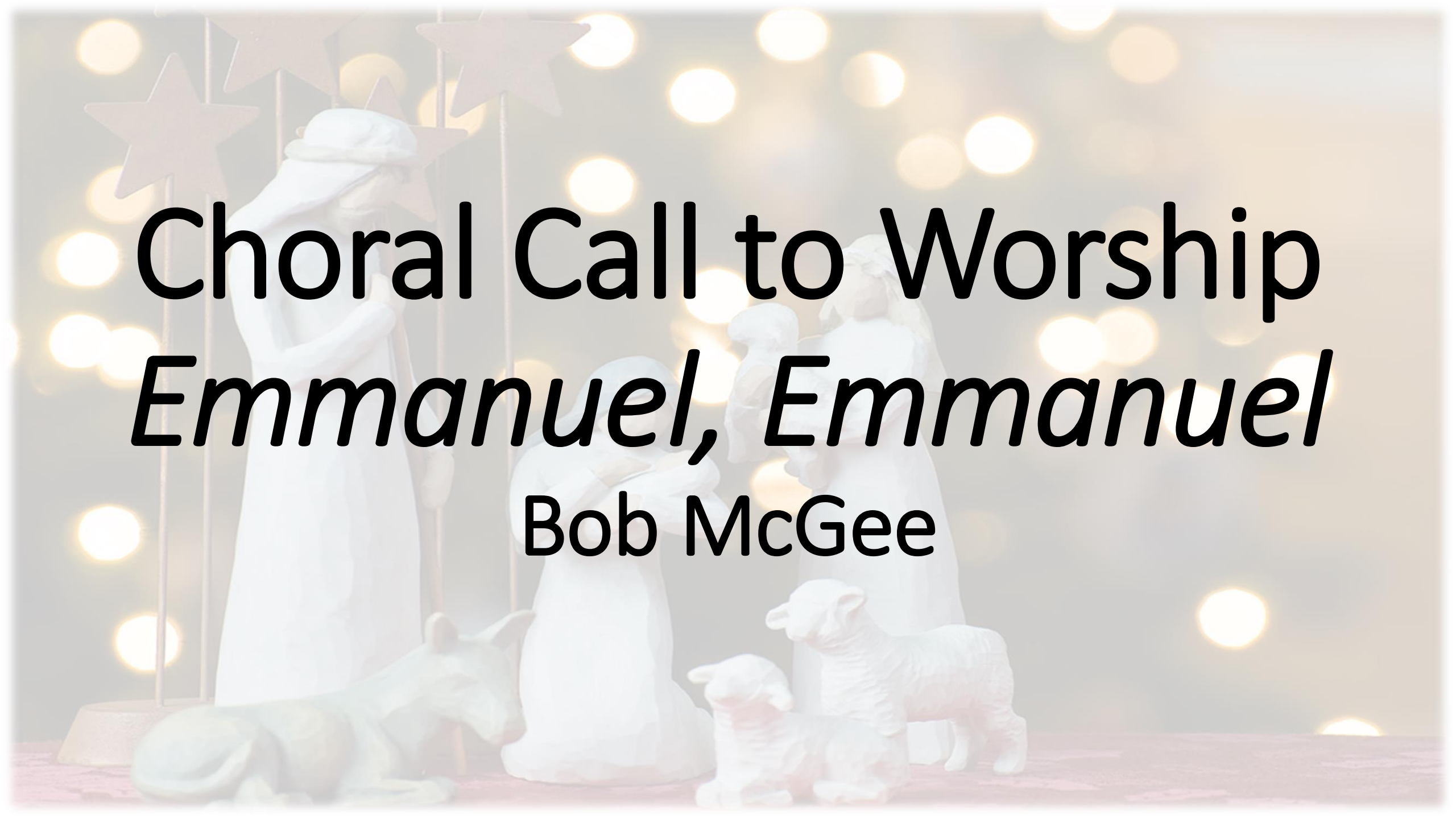
Hanging of the Greens Service

Sanctuary & Online

10:00 AM



***Announcements!***

A soft-focus background image of a nativity scene. It features several white figurines: a standing figure on the left, a kneeling figure in the center, and two standing figures on the right. In the foreground, there are two white sheep and a white cow. The background is filled with warm, out-of-focus lights and several gold stars hanging from thin poles.

# Choral Call to Worship

## *Emmanuel, Emmanuel*

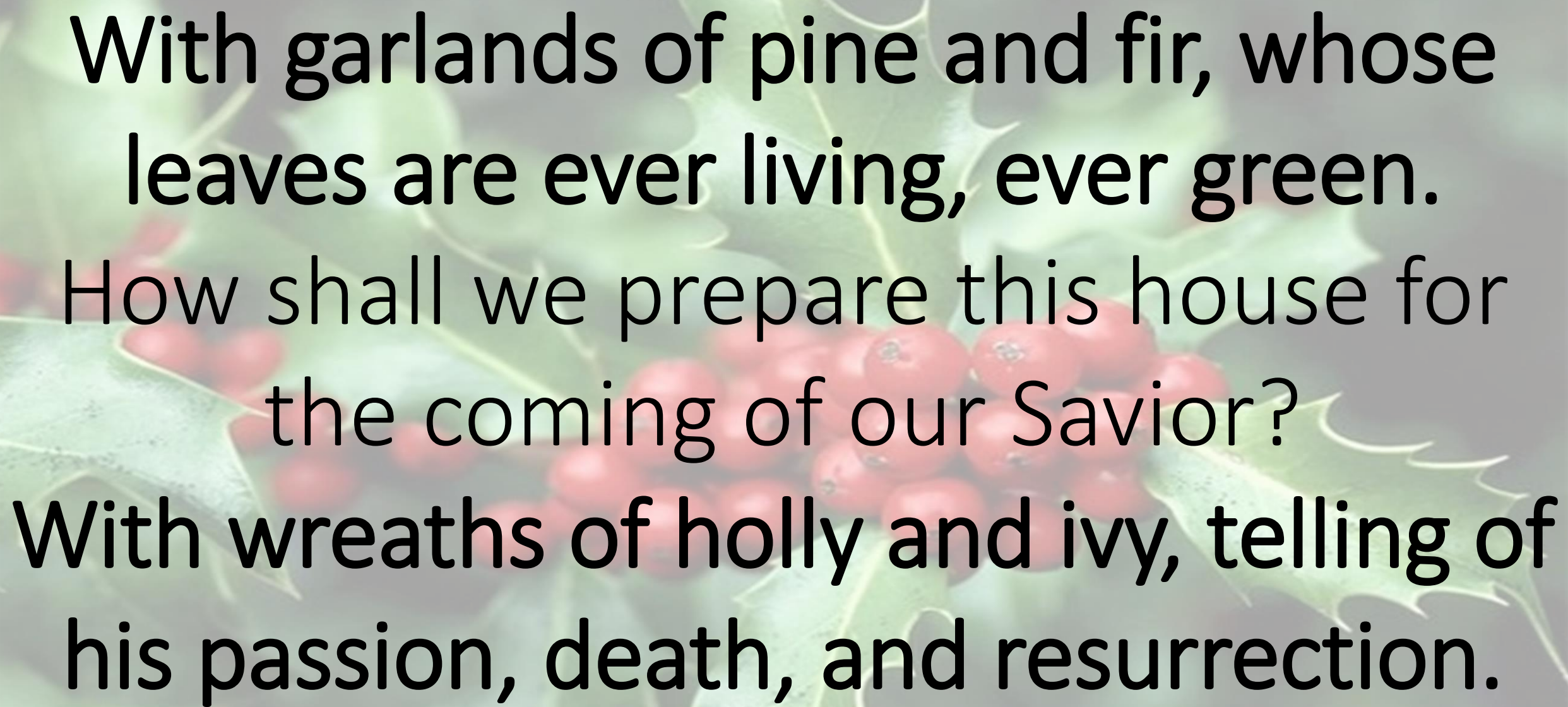
Bob McGee

# **\*Call to Worship**

Leader: How shall we prepare this house for  
the coming of the King?

**Congregation: With branches of cedar,  
the tree of royalty.**

How shall we prepare this house for the  
coming of the eternal Christ?

A close-up photograph of holly leaves and red berries, which serves as the background for the text. The leaves are dark green with prominent white veins and sharp, pointed edges. The berries are small, round, and a vibrant red color.

With garlands of pine and fir, whose  
leaves are ever living, ever green.  
How shall we prepare this house for  
the coming of our Savior?  
With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of  
his passion, death, and resurrection.



How shall we prepare our hearts for the  
coming of the Son of God?

**By hearing again the words of the prophets,  
who foretold the saving work of God.**

For God did not send the Son into the  
world to condemn the world, but that the  
world through him might be saved.

**Glory to the God in the highest!**



# Lighting of the Advent Wreath

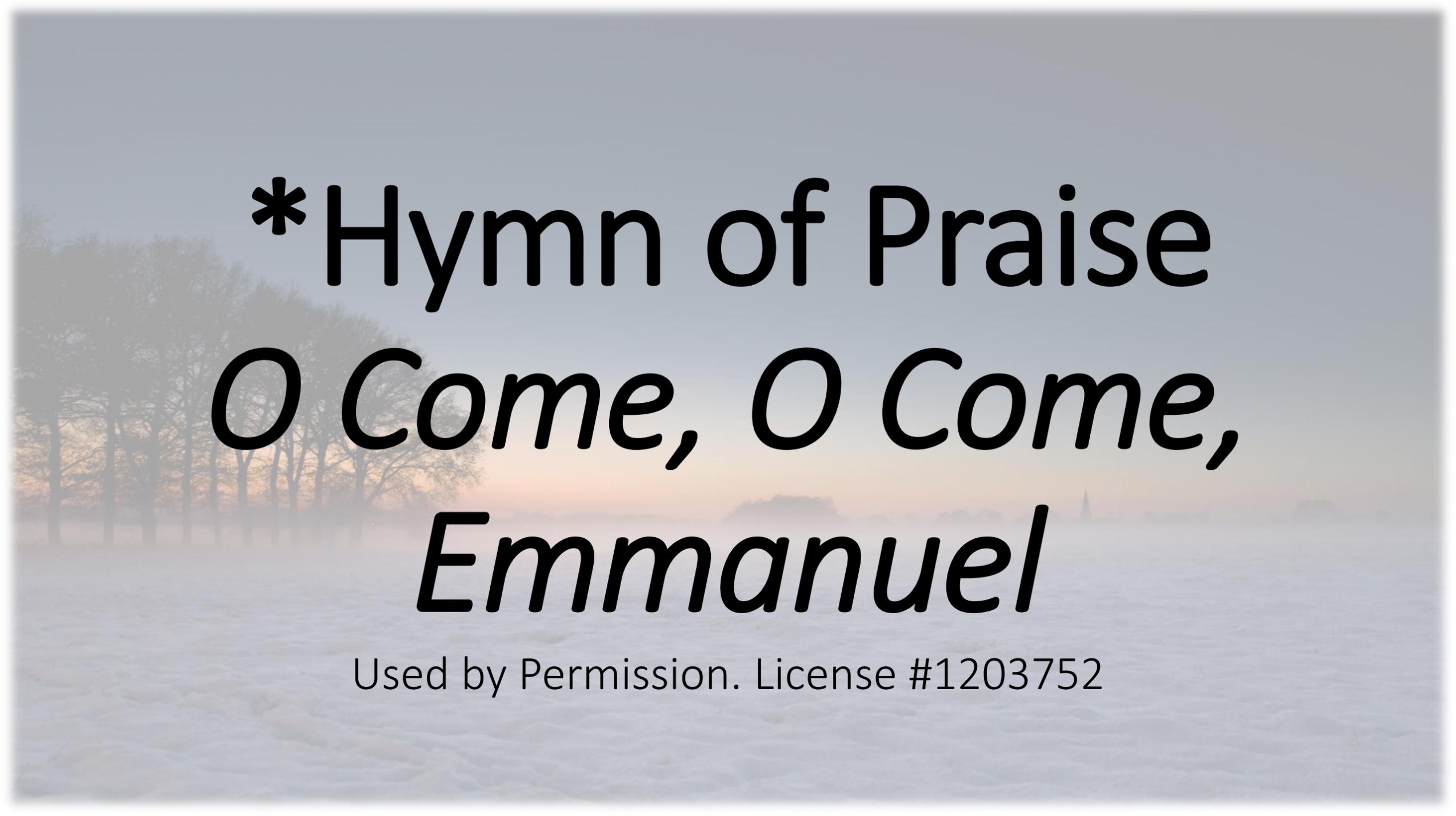
## Stephanie & Richard Chavez

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*

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1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el,  
and ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el,  
that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here  
un - til the Son of God ap - pear.

*WORDS:* 9th cent. Latin; trans. st. 1, 3, 5ab, 6cd, 7ab *The Hymnal*, 1940; © 1940, 1943, renewed 1981 *The Church Pension Fund*; st. 2, Henry Sloane Coffin, 1916; st. 4, 5cd, 6ab, 7cd, Laurence Hull Stookey, 1986; © 1989 *The United Methodist Publishing House*

*MUSIC (VENI EMMANUEL, LM with Refrain):* 15th cent. French; arr. and harm. by Thomas Helmore, 1854

Re - joice! Re - joice!

Em - man - u - el

shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

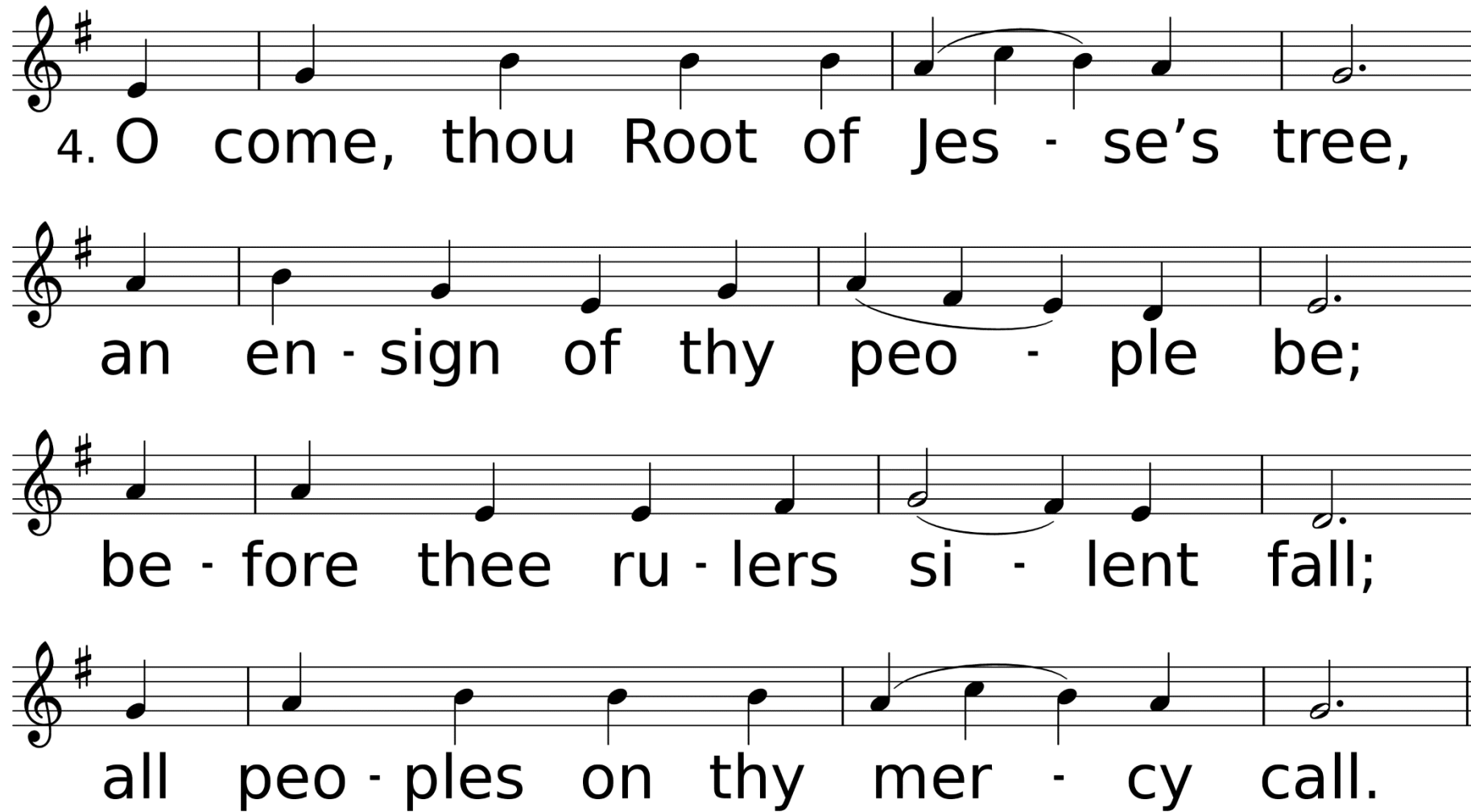
2. O come, thou Wis-dom from on high,  
and or-der all things far and nigh;  
to us the path of knowl-edge show  
and cause us in her ways to go.

The image displays a musical score for the hymn "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel". It consists of four staves of music, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a "2." indicating a second ending. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with some phrases spanning across bar lines. The final staff ends with a double bar line.

Re - joice! Re - joice!

Em - man - u - el

shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.



4. O come, thou Root of Jes - se's tree,  
an en - sign of thy peo - ple be;  
be - fore thee ru - lers si - lent fall;  
all peo - ples on thy mer - cy call.

The image displays a musical score for the hymn "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (United Methodist Hymnal #211). The score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a measure rest followed by the number "4.", indicating the start of the fourth part of the hymn. The lyrics are: "O come, thou Root of Jes - se's tree,". The second staff continues with "an en - sign of thy peo - ple be;". The third staff continues with "be - fore thee ru - lers si - lent fall;". The fourth staff concludes with "all peo - ples on thy mer - cy call." and ends with a double bar line. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a mix of quarter and eighth notes, and some phrases are connected by slurs.

Re - joice! Re - joice!

Em - man - u - el

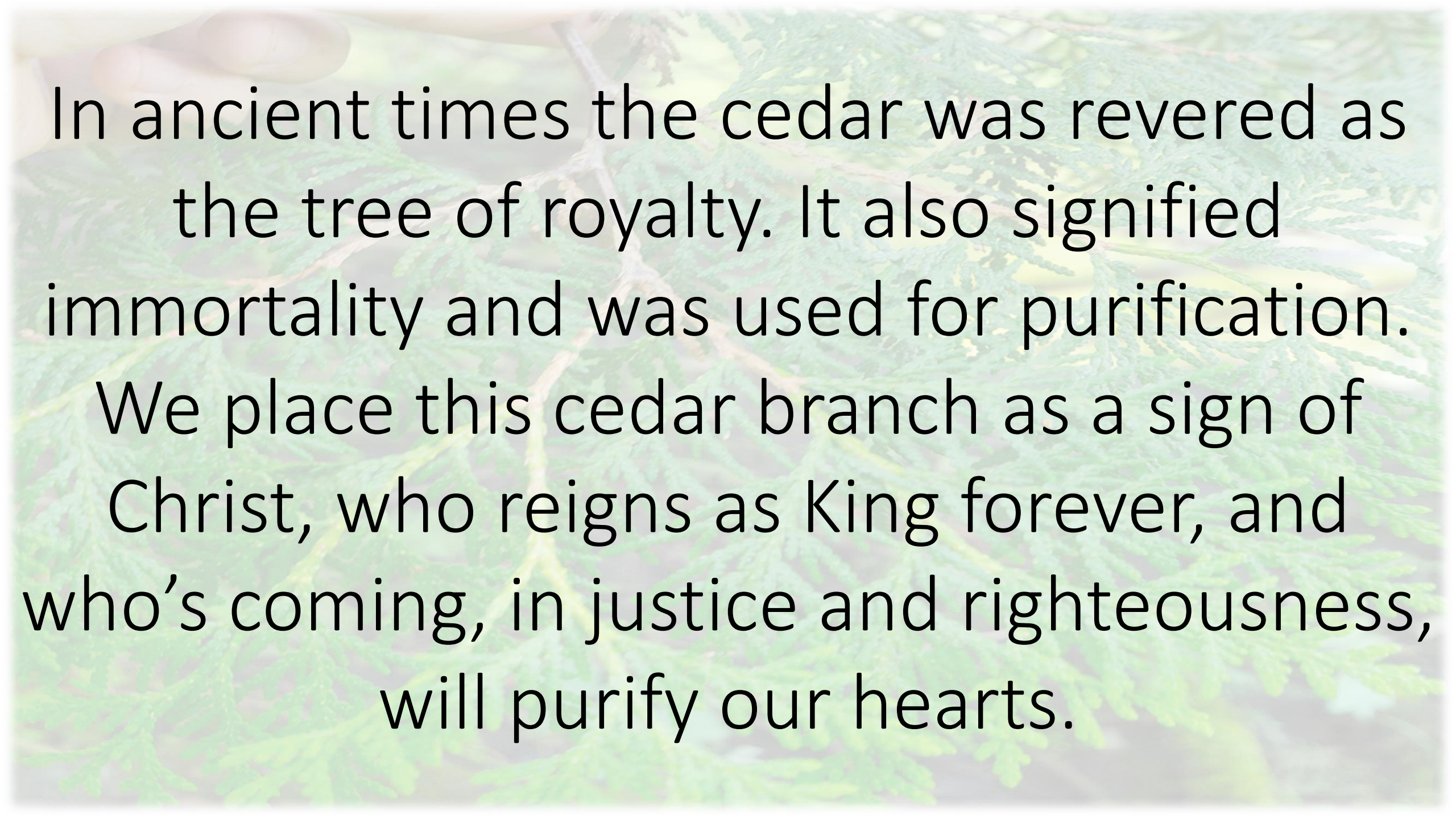
shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

# 1. Scripture Reading – Susan Hill

Jeremiah 23: 5-6

“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 Our Joys and Concerns

Angel Mulero	Libby C.	Linda Lewis Franki	Margaret Ward	Brenda Penney
Cathy Scott	John Sandlin	Rodney Faris	Lorri Woodward	Barbara Senters
Frances Jouban	Carol Minchew	Everett Brister	Sarah Biggs	Billy Blancet
Walter &	Sarah Cooley	Eva Bebe	Neely Biggs	Bob Baldares, Sr.
Amanda Smith	JoAnna Tanner	Lizzie Simmons	Todd Hicks	Eleanor Marcello
Deborah Kern	Bobby Jarrell	Jade	Gail Hicks	Jones
Bill & Marilyn	Glynn Bergeron	Jimmy Markle	Bart Fazio	Grace Cooley
Kenney	Lydia Murray	Sandy Blakeway	Sharon Dukes	Ruth Wells
Charles Simpson	Ellie Lunsford	Jared Jones	Derek Townsend	Amie Biggs Lewis
Bob Evans	Marcia & Roy	Elizabeth Brown	Brandon Brister	John Nelson
Natalie Ruano	Ades	Hilborn	Rita Brewer	MaryAnn Greer
Anna Wiggins	Jana Fransen	Jerry Noland	Landon Clark	Carol Baldares
Janice Vinyard	Phyllis Blanton	Glen Reichley	Kimberly Marshall	Charlene Blevins
Edison Doyle	Mary Allen	Kelly Bailey Family	Joan Mays	Alex Baker

*Ukraine, Hurricane Recovery Efforts, All Emergency Personnel, The Military, City of DeRidder, State of Louisiana, The United States of America, Our World, Our Enemies, Our Church, & Those Who Have Hurt Us*

A scenic winter landscape featuring a small church with a steeple perched atop a snow-covered hill. The foreground is filled with snow and evergreen trees. In the background, majestic mountains are partially covered in snow and shrouded in a layer of clouds. The sky is a mix of blue and white, suggesting a bright but slightly overcast day. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and serene.

# Congregational Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

# Call To Prayer *Savior of the Nations*

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1. Sav - ior of the na - tions, come;



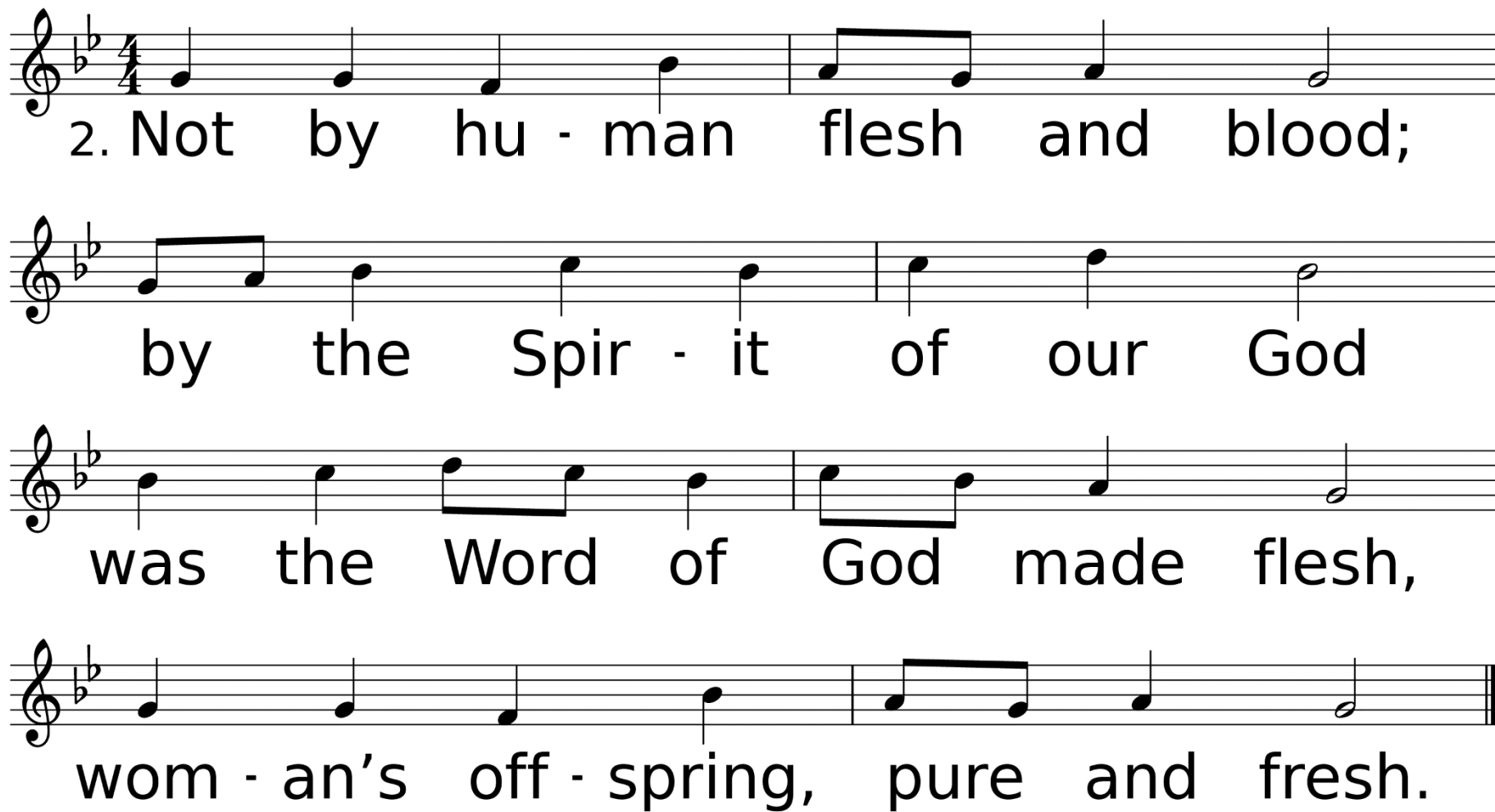
Vir - gin's Son, here make thy home!



Mar - vel now, O heaven and earth,



that the Lord chose such a birth.




2. Not by hu - man flesh and blood;

by the Spir - it of our God

was the Word of God made flesh,

wom - an's off - spring, pure and fresh.

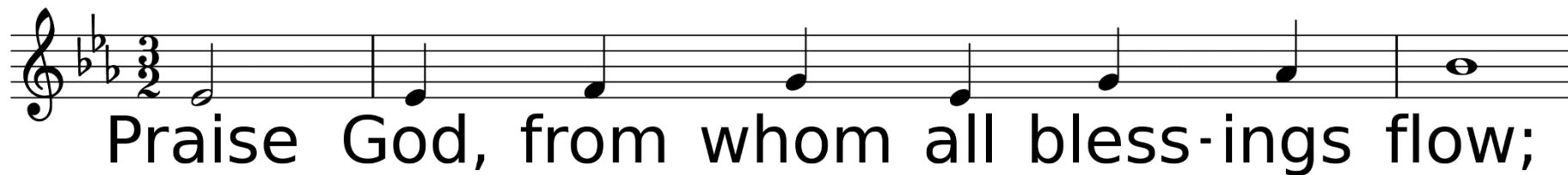


# Offering Prayer & Return of God's Tithes & Gifts



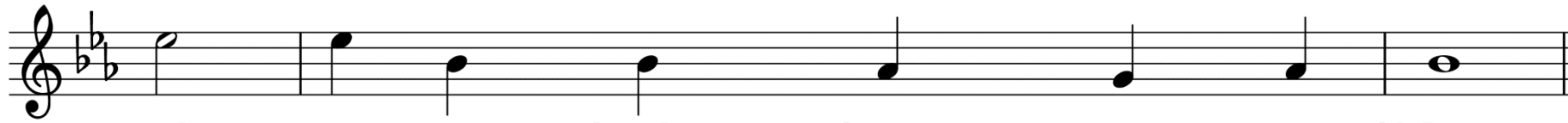
*\*Doxology  
Praise God, From  
Whom All  
Blessings Flow*

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Praise God, the source of all our gifts!



Praise Je-sus Christ, whose power up-lifts!



Praise the Spir-it, Ho-ly Spir-it! Al-le-lu-ia!

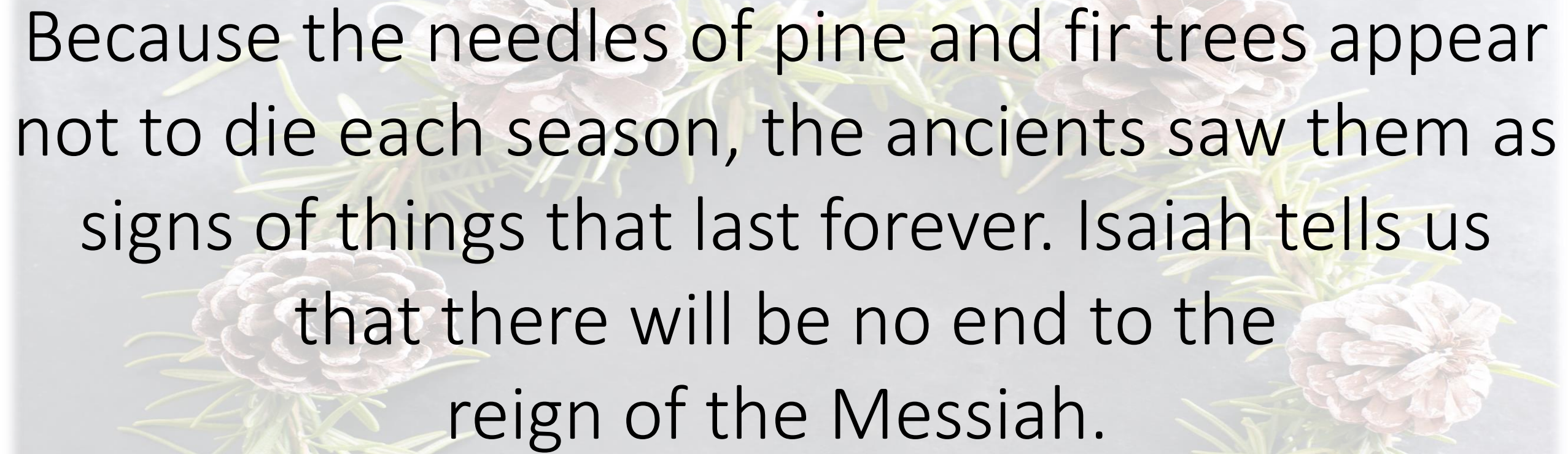


Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

## 2. Scripture Reading - Barbara Haynes

Isaiah 9: 2, 6-7

"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.

# \*Affirmation of Faith

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.



# Hymn of Faith *Blessed Be the God of Israel*

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1. Blessed be the God of Is - rael,  
who comes to set us free,  
who vis - its and re - deems us,  
and grants us lib - er - ty.

The musical score is written on four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody consists of quarter and half notes. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes. The final note of the fourth staff is a half note followed by a double bar line.

The proph - ets spoke of mer - cy,  
of free - dom and re - lease;  
God shall ful - fill the prom - ise  
to bring our peo - ple peace.

2. Now from the house of Da - vid  
a child of grace is given;  
a Sav - ior comes a - mong us  
to raise us up to heaven.

The image displays a musical score for the hymn 'Blessed Be the God of Israel'. It consists of four staves of music, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a '2.' indicating a second ending. The notes are mostly quarter notes, with a half note at the end of the first line and the final line. The lyrics are: '2. Now from the house of Da - vid', 'a child of grace is given;', 'a Sav - ior comes a - mong us', and 'to raise us up to heaven.'.

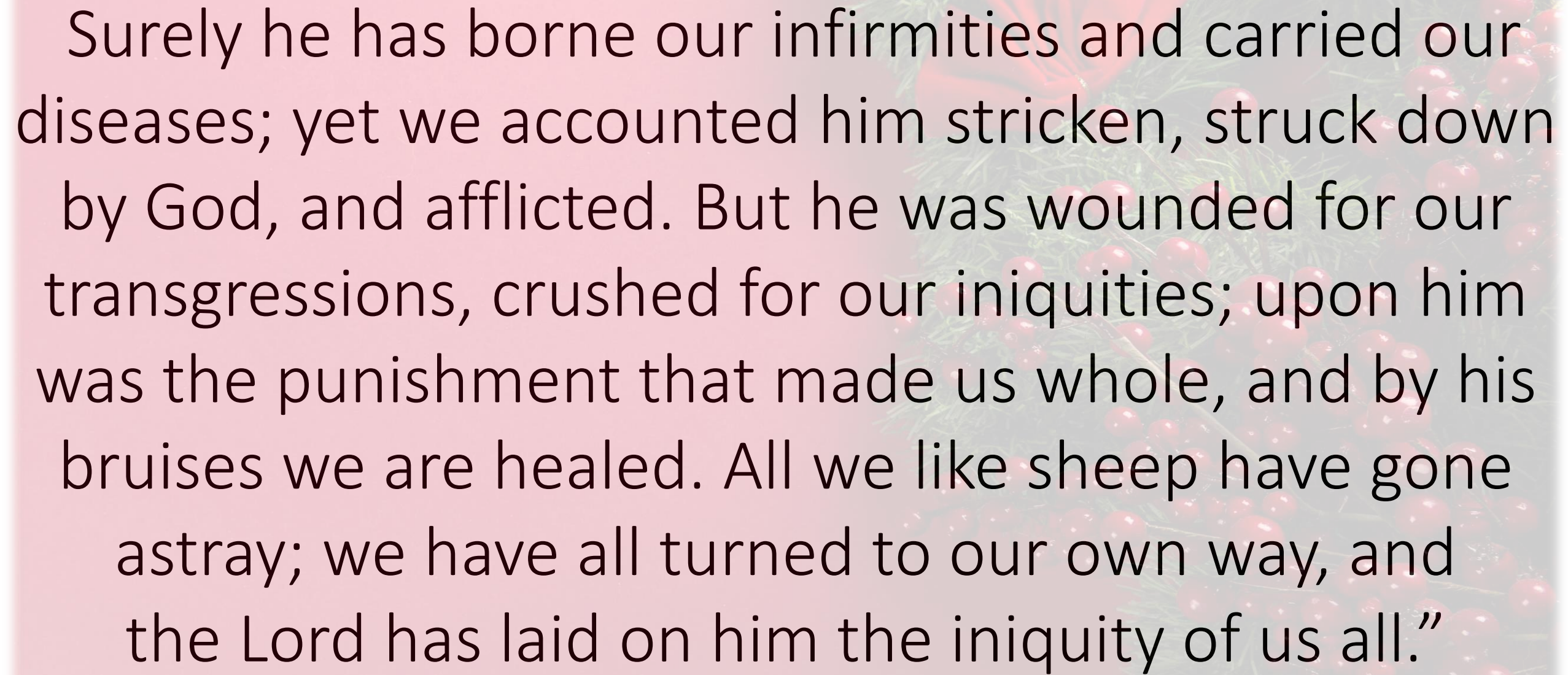
The image displays a musical score for the hymn 'Blessed Be the God of Israel'. It consists of four staves of music, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is written in a simple, accessible style using quarter and half notes. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The text is as follows:

Be - fore him goes the her - ald,  
fore - run - ner in the way,  
the proph - et of sal - va - tion,  
the har - bin - ger of day.

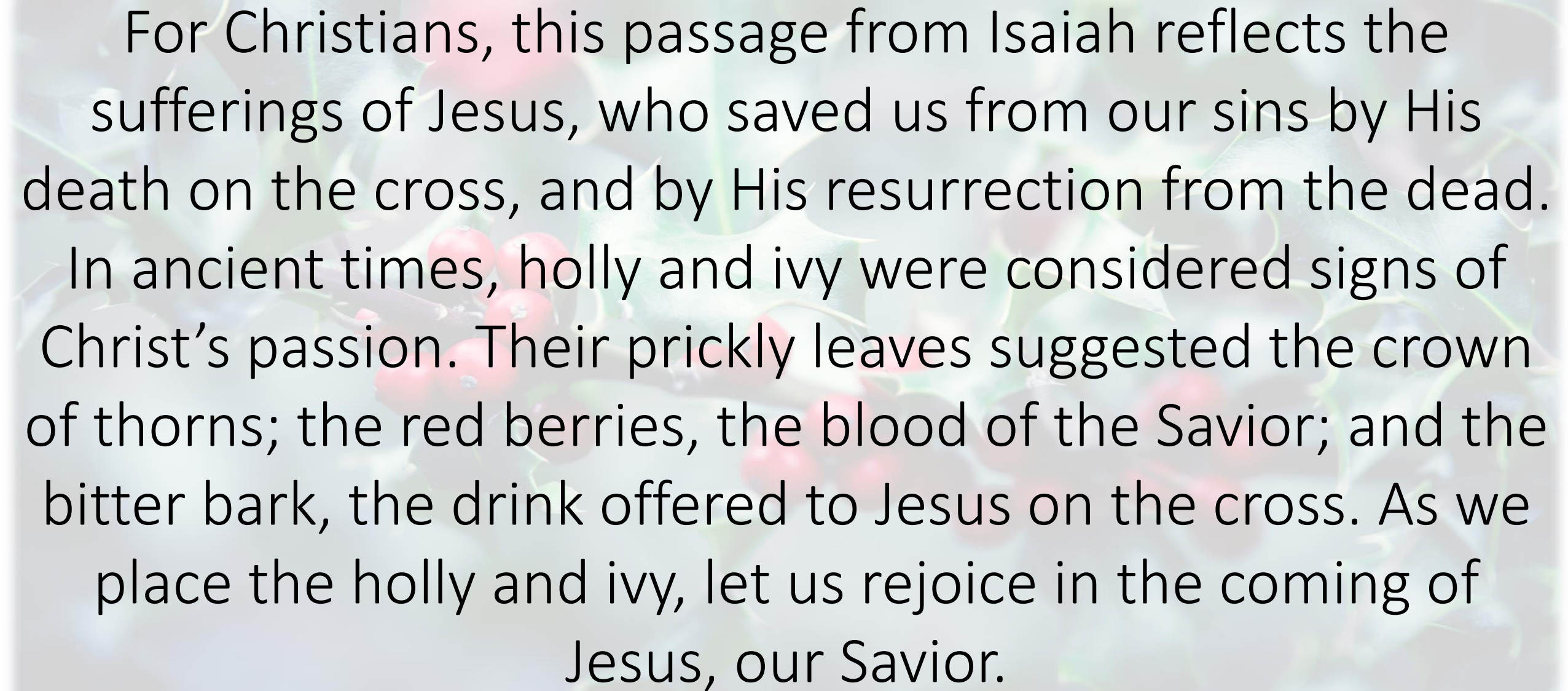
# 3. Scripture Reading - Frances Cole

Isaiah 53: 1-6

“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.

A photograph of a bird's nest made of dry sticks and straw, resting on a dark wooden stand. The nest is filled with a thick layer of straw bedding. The background is a soft, out-of-focus landscape with a warm, golden light, suggesting a sunrise or sunset. The text is overlaid on the center of the image.

# Anthem

## *Prepare!*

Allen Pote



# Scripture Reading

## Isaiah 7:13 & 14

22 Dei kristne  
kjende meg ikkje  
23 Dei hadde ikkje  
sagt: Han som ligg  
forkynner  
rydja ut.  
24 Og dei lova Gud

Paulus brev til Galatarane  
2. kapittel  
1. Og som Jesus Kristus  
2. som han har gitt oss  
3. seg selv som en  
4. for oss alle som  
5. som vi alle er  
6. som vi alle er  
7. som vi alle er  
8. som vi alle er  
9. som vi alle er  
10. som vi alle er

Then Isaiah said, "Hear now, you house of David! Is it not enough to try the patience of humans? Will you try the patience of my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.

A green Christmas tree branch with a clear glass ornament containing warm white lights.

*“Sign of the Times ”*  
*First Sunday of Advent*

Sermon

Rev. Laraine Waughtal

# 4. Scripture Reading - Joyce Everett

John 1: 1-5, 9-14

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it...The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as a father's only son, full of grace and truth."

# Blessing of the Chrismon Tree:

As we prepare for the coming of Jesus, the Light of the World, we light the Christmas (Chrismon) tree. During this Advent, wherever we see a lighted Christmas tree, let it call to mind the One who brings light to our darkness, healing to our brokenness, and peace to all who receive Him.

# Prayer

Congregation: Holy Lord, we come with joy to celebrate the birth of your Son, who rescued us from the darkness of sin by making the cross a tree of life and light. May this tree arrayed in splendor, remind us of the life-giving cross of Christ that we may always rejoice in the new life that shines our hearts. We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

# Blessing of the Nativity Scene

Congregation: Merciful God, you sent your messenger, the prophets, to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation. Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may celebrate anew the commemoration of the nativity and may await with joy the coming in glory of Jesus Christ our Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, forever and ever.

**\*Hymn of  
Invitation  
*Come, Thou  
Long-Expected  
Jesus***

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1. Come, thou long - ex - spect - ed Je - sus,  
born to set thy peo - ple free;  
from our fears and sins re - lease us,  
let us find our rest in thee.

The image displays a musical score for the hymn "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus". It consists of four staves of music, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The time signature is 3/4. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat, followed by a 3/4 time signature. The notes are: a quarter note on G4, a quarter note on A4, a dotted half note on Bb4, a quarter note on A4, a quarter note on G4, a half note on F4, a quarter note on E4, and a quarter note on D4. The second staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat, followed by a 3/4 time signature. The notes are: a half note on D4, a quarter note on E4, a quarter note on F4, a half note on G4, a quarter note on A4, a quarter note on Bb4, a quarter note on A4, and a quarter note on G4. The third staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat, followed by a 3/4 time signature. The notes are: a quarter note on G4, a quarter note on A4, a dotted half note on Bb4, a quarter note on A4, a quarter note on G4, a half note on F4, a quarter note on E4, and a quarter note on D4. The fourth staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat, followed by a 3/4 time signature. The notes are: a half note on D4, a quarter note on E4, a quarter note on F4, a half note on G4, a quarter note on A4, a quarter note on Bb4, a quarter note on A4, and a quarter note on G4.

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.

The image displays a musical score for the hymn "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" from the United Methodist Hymnal #196. The score is written on four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff contains the lyrics "Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion,". The second staff contains "hope of all the earth thou art;". The third staff contains "dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion,". The fourth staff contains "joy of ev - ery long - ing heart." and ends with a double bar line. The melody is composed of eighth and quarter notes, with some phrases spanning across bar lines.

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.

The image displays a musical score for the hymn "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" (United Methodist Hymnal #196). The score is written in G major (one flat) and 3/4 time. It consists of four staves of music, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The first staff begins with a "2." indicating a second ending or a specific version of the hymn. The lyrics are: "2. Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er,". The second staff continues with "born a child and yet a King,". The third staff continues with "born to reign in us for - ev - er,". The fourth staff concludes with "now thy gra - cious king - dom bring." The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a mix of quarter, eighth, and half notes, and some rests.

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.

The image displays a musical score for the hymn "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" from the United Methodist Hymnal #196. The score is written on four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff contains the lyrics "By thine own e - ter - nal spir - it". The second staff contains "rule in all our hearts a - lone;". The third staff contains "by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it,". The fourth staff contains "raise us to thy glo - rious throne." and ends with a double bar line. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with various note values including quarter, eighth, and half notes, and rests. Phrasing slurs are used to group notes across measures.

A photograph of a blue pickup truck parked in a snowy field. The truck's bed is filled with a large, snow-laden evergreen Christmas tree. The background shows a line of bare trees and a white 'ONE WAY' street sign pointing left. The entire scene is covered in a layer of snow under a pale sky.

**\*Benediction**



# **\*Sending Forth** ***People Look East***

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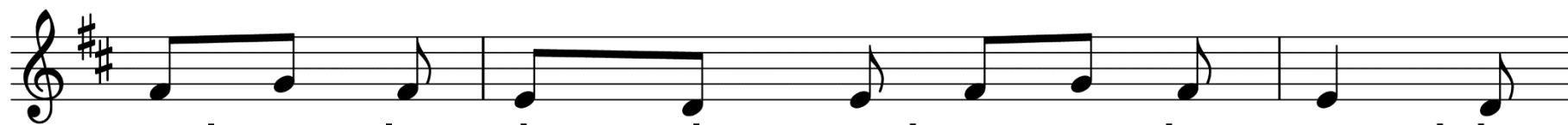
1. Peo - ple, look east. The time is near



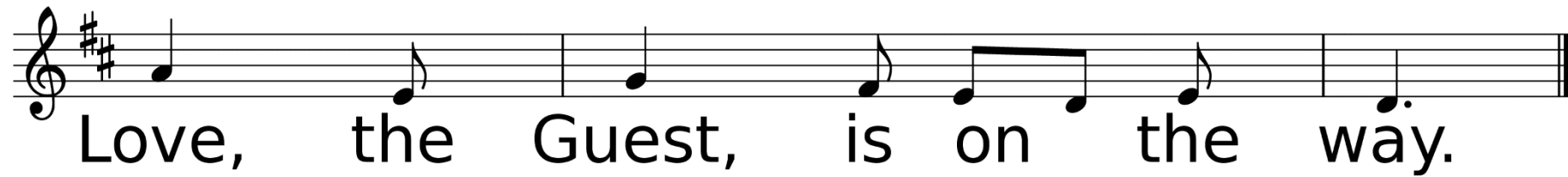
of the crown - ing of the year.

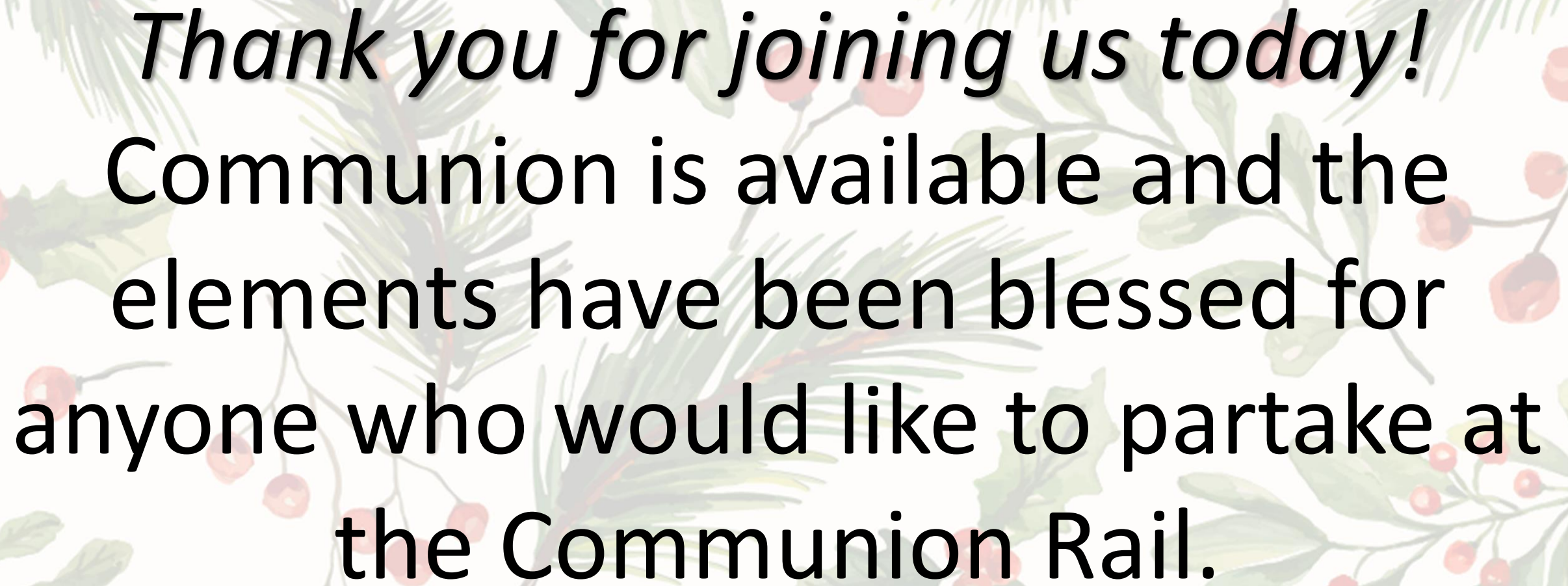


Make your house fair as you are a - ble,



trim the hearth and set the ta - ble.





*Thank you for joining us today!*  
Communion is available and the  
elements have been blessed for  
anyone who would like to partake at  
the Communion Rail.