Welcome Home!

* - please join us in congregational singing

FIRST UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH
DeRidder, LA

*Processional Hymn

Once in Royal David's City

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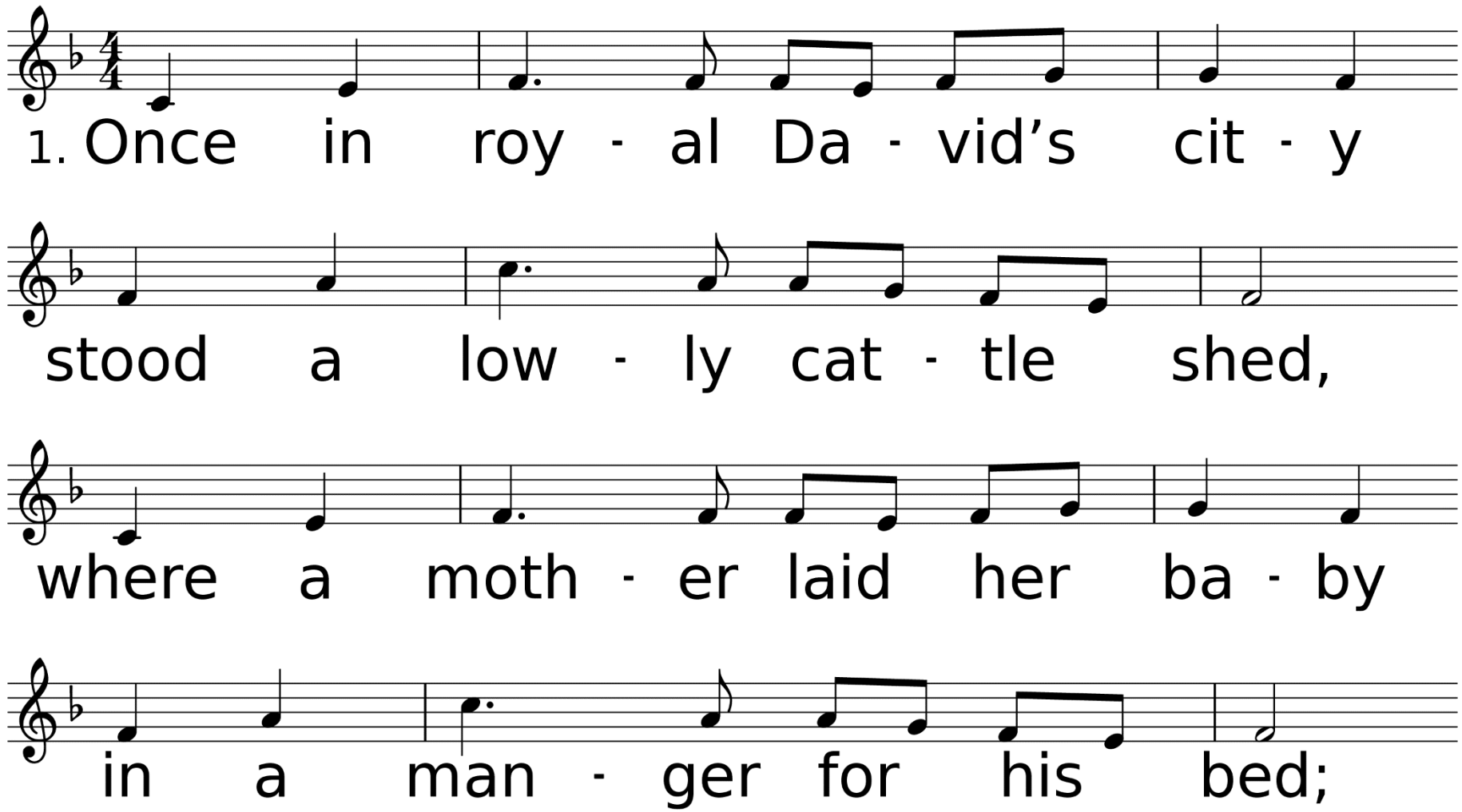
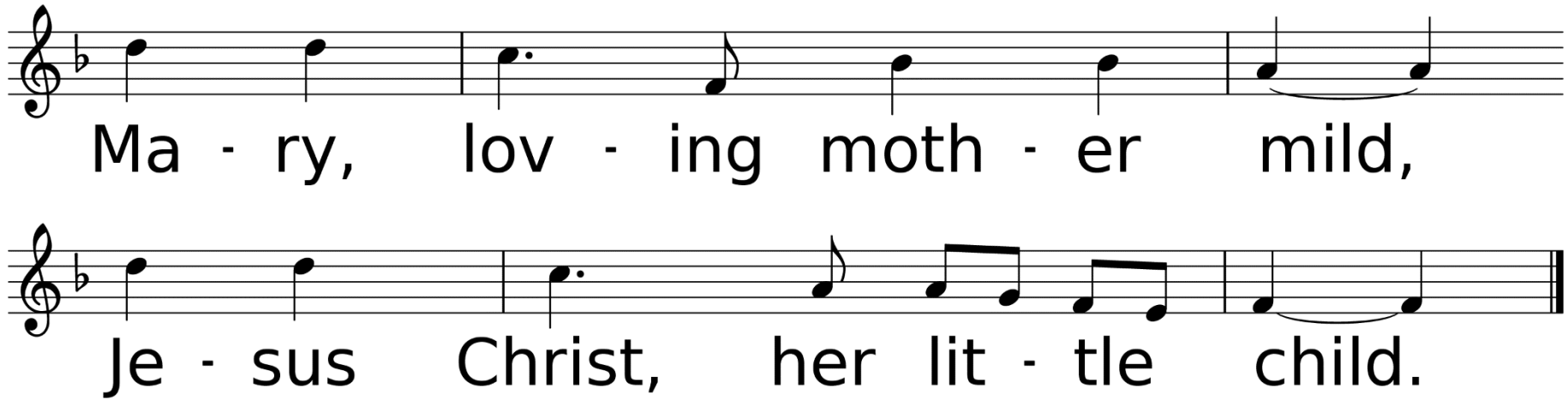
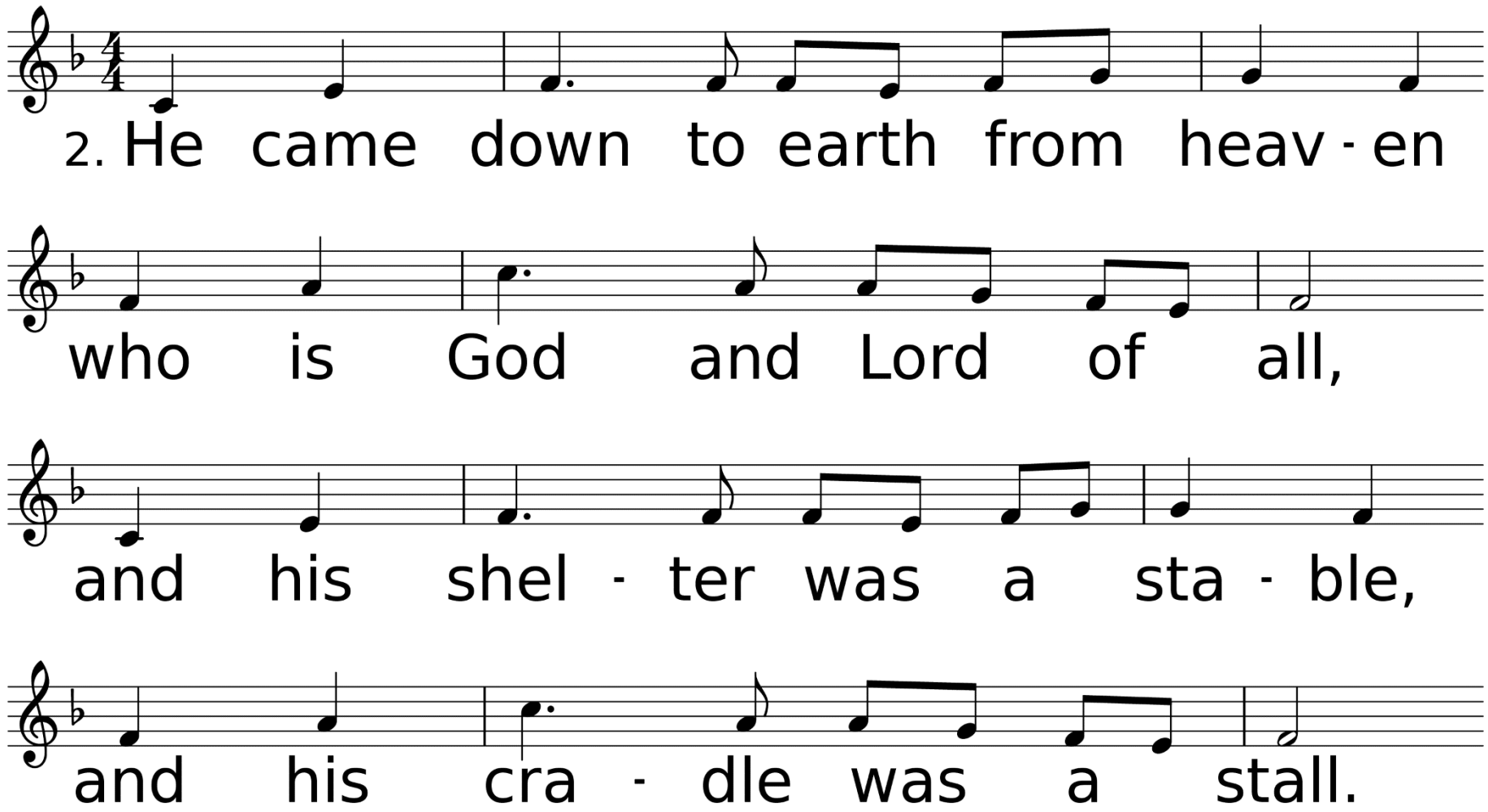
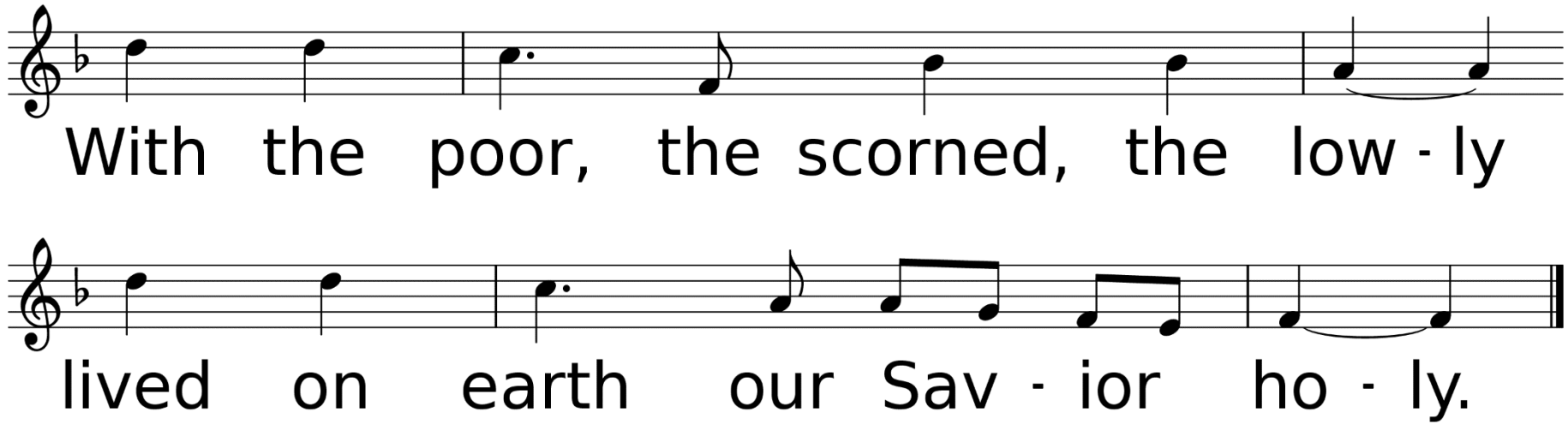
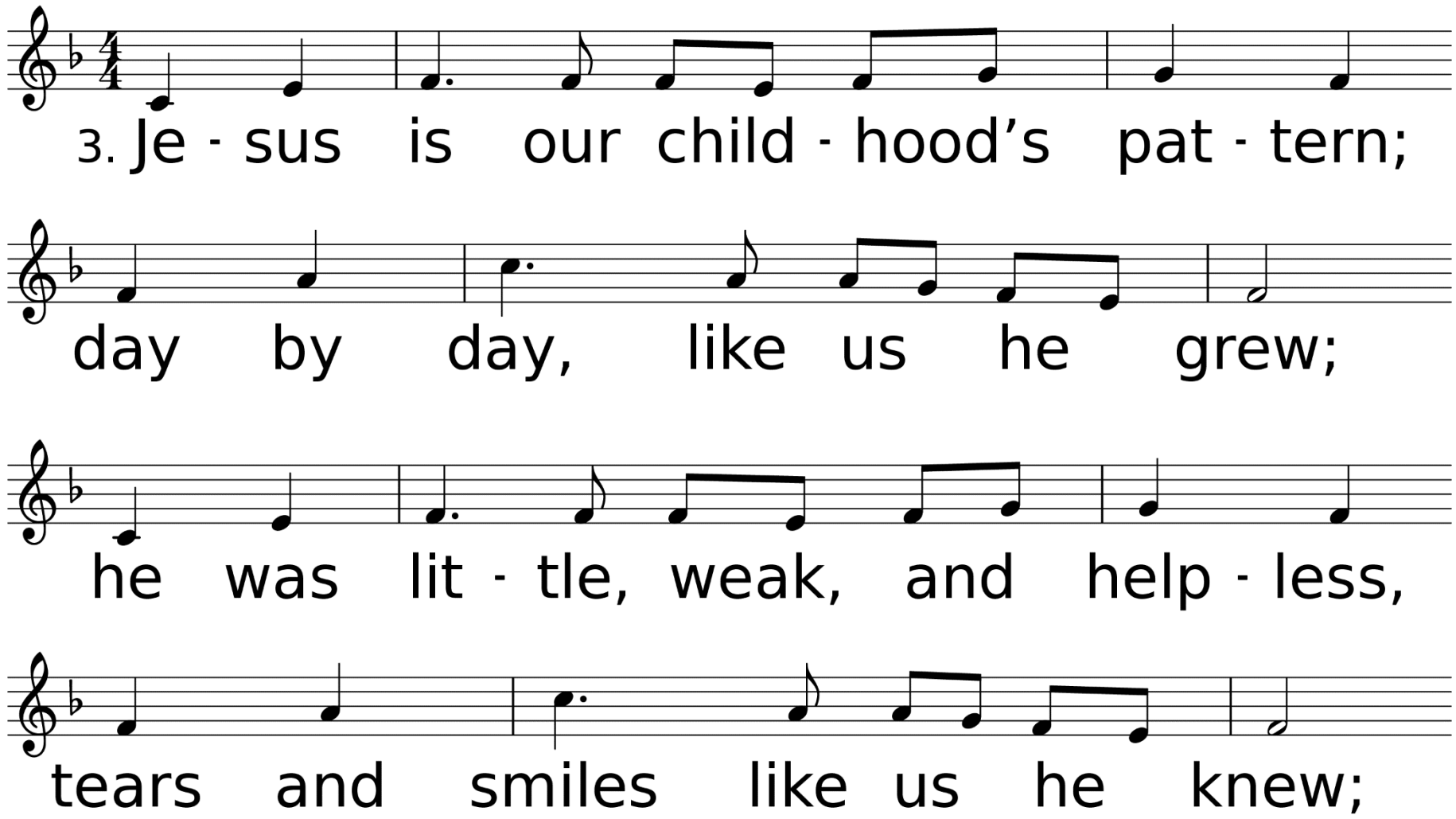


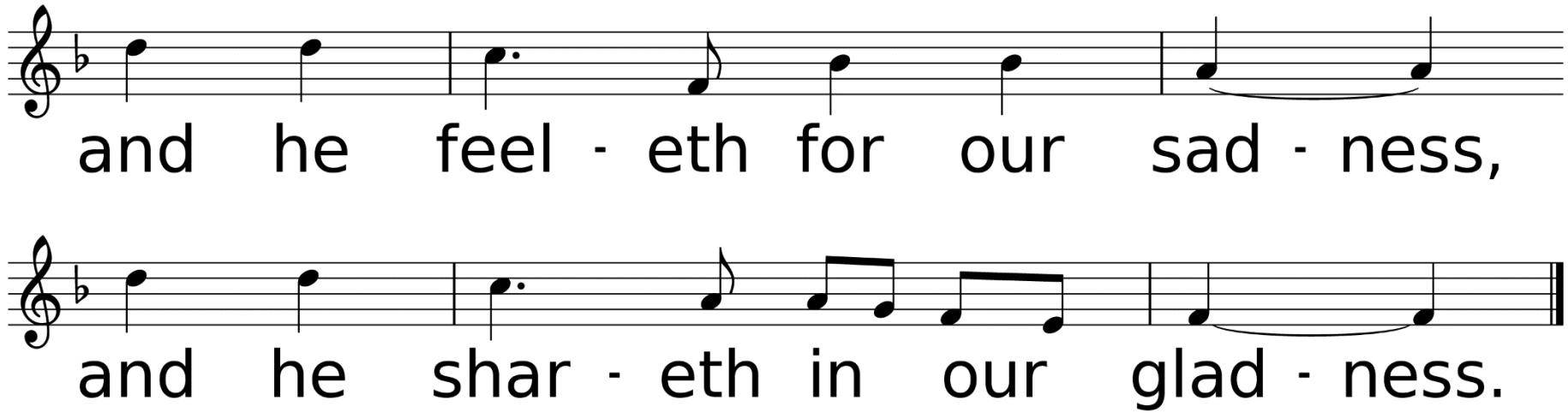
WORDS: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1848 (Lk. 2:7)
MUSIC (IRBY 87.87.77): Henry J. Gauntlett, 1849

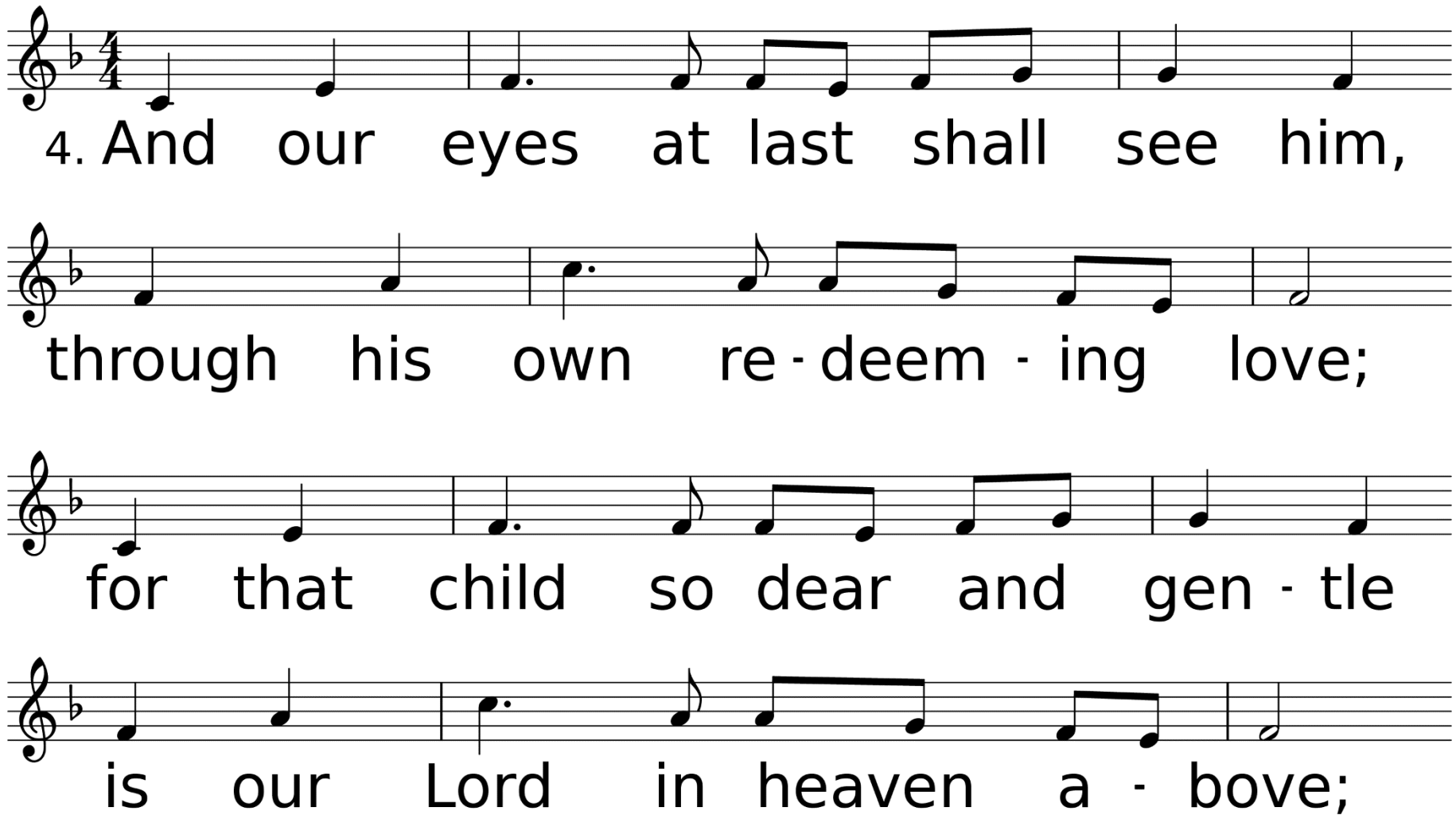

Ma - ry, lov - ing moth - er mild,
Je - sus Christ, her lit - tle child.

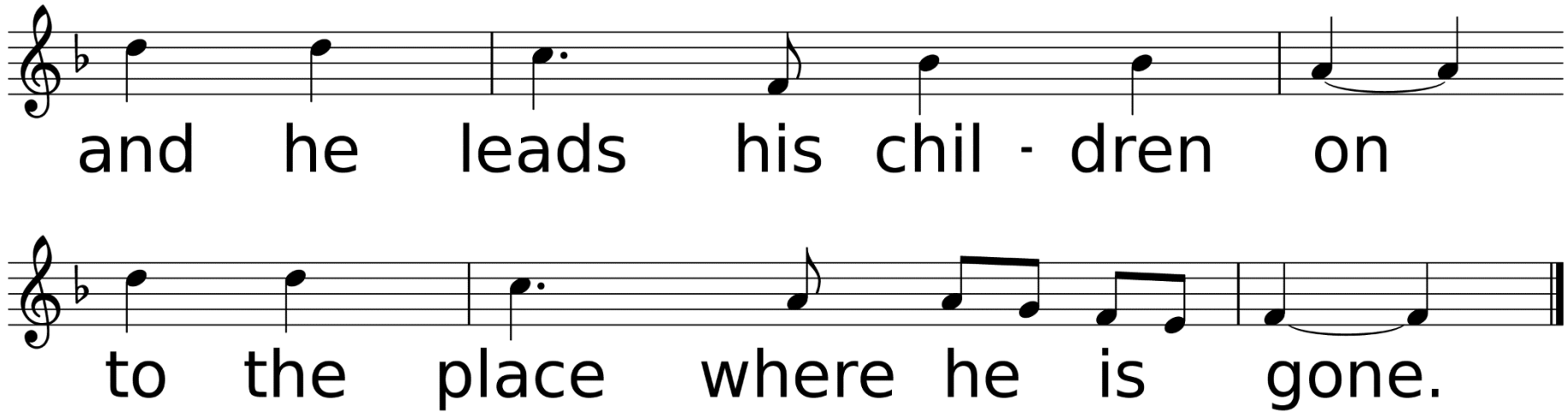

2. He came down to earth from heav - en
who is God and Lord of all,
and his shel - ter was a sta - ble,
and his cra - dle was a stall.


With the poor, the scorned, the low - ly
lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.


3. Je - sus is our child - hood's pat - tern;
day by day, like us he grew;
he was lit - tle, weak, and help - less,
tears and smiles like us he knew;


and he feel - eth for our sad - ness,
and he shar - eth in our glad - ness.


4. And our eyes at last shall see him,
through his own re - deem - ing love;
for that child so dear and gen - tle
is our Lord in heaven a - bove;


and he leads his chil - dren on
to the place where he is gone.

The Bidding Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Congregation:

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. Amen.

Blessing

Leader:

The almighty God bless us with divine grace, Christ give us the joys of everlasting life, and unto the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all.

Congregation:

Amen.

Lesson 1
Genesis 3:8-19

And they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God amongst the trees of the garden. And the Lord God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou?

And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself. And he said, Who told thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat?

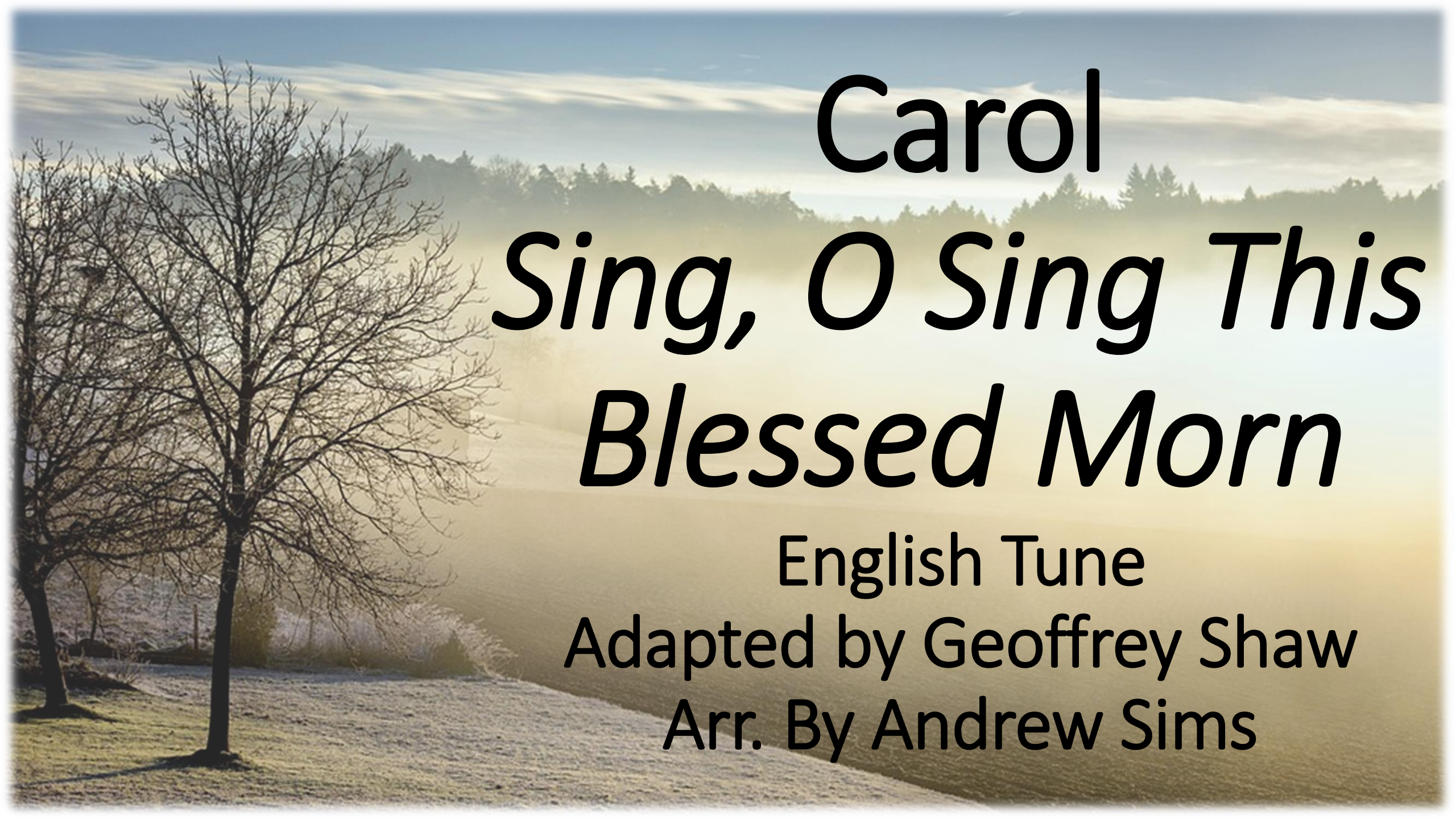
And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat. And the Lord God said unto the woman, What is this that thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat.

And the Lord God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life:

And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel. And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying,

Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life; Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field;

In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.


Carol
Sing, O Sing This Blessed Morn
English Tune
Adapted by Geoffrey Shaw
Arr. By Andrew Sims

Lesson 2
Genesis 22:15-18

And the angel of the Lord called unto Abraham out of heaven the second time, And said, By myself have I sworn, saith the Lord, for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son:

That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies; And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice.

*Carol

Blessed Be the God of Israel

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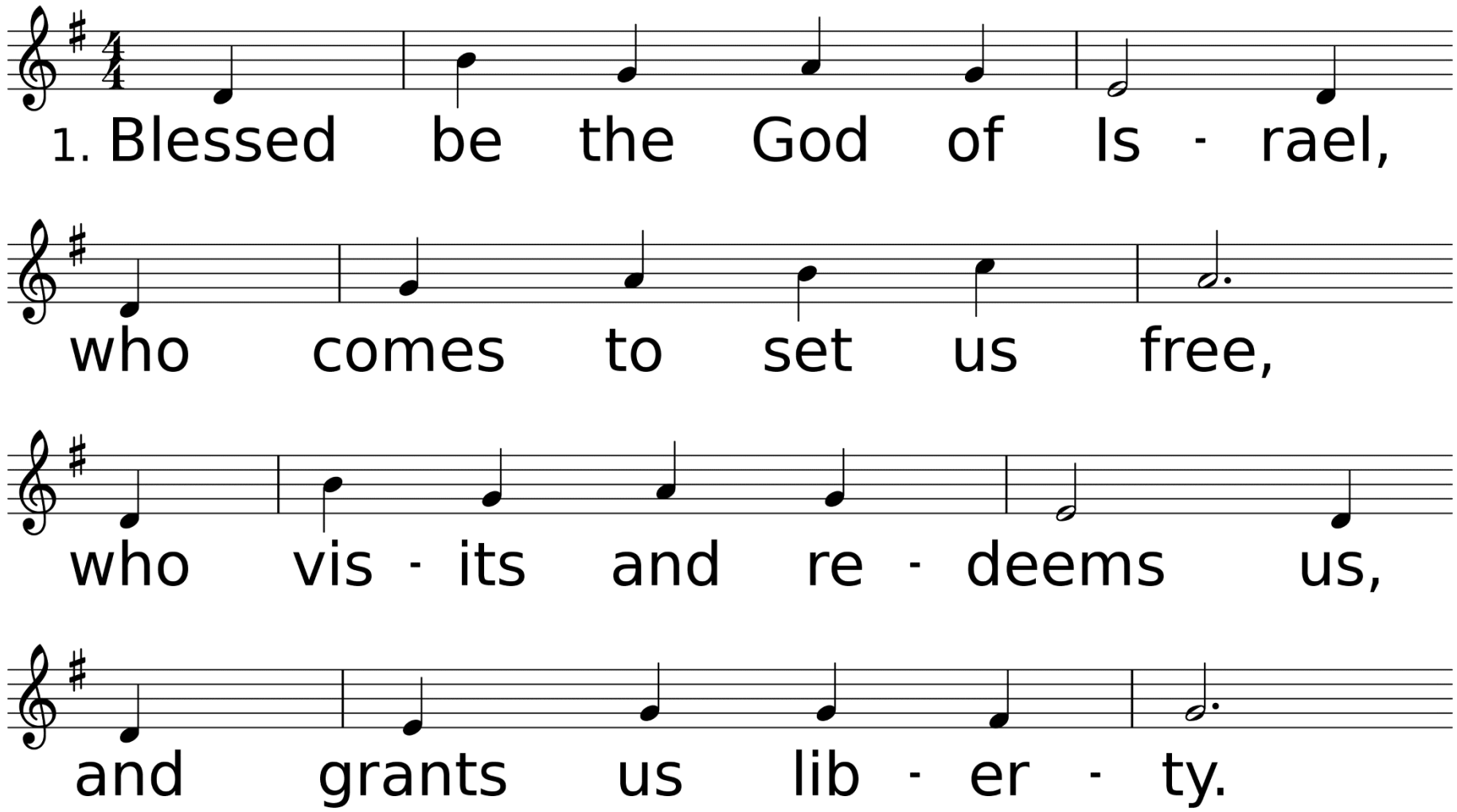
Blessed Be the God of Israel *United Methodist Hymnal* #209



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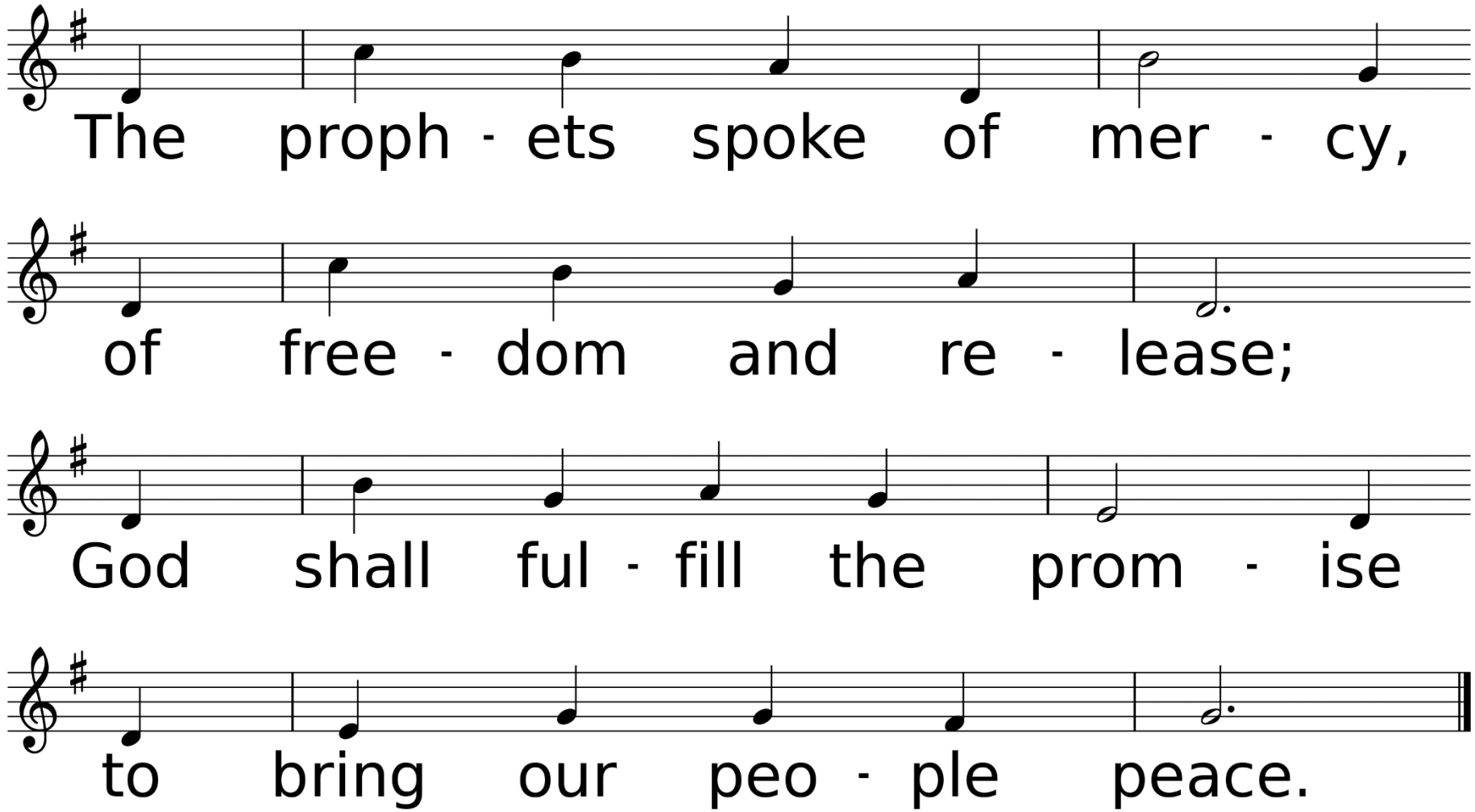
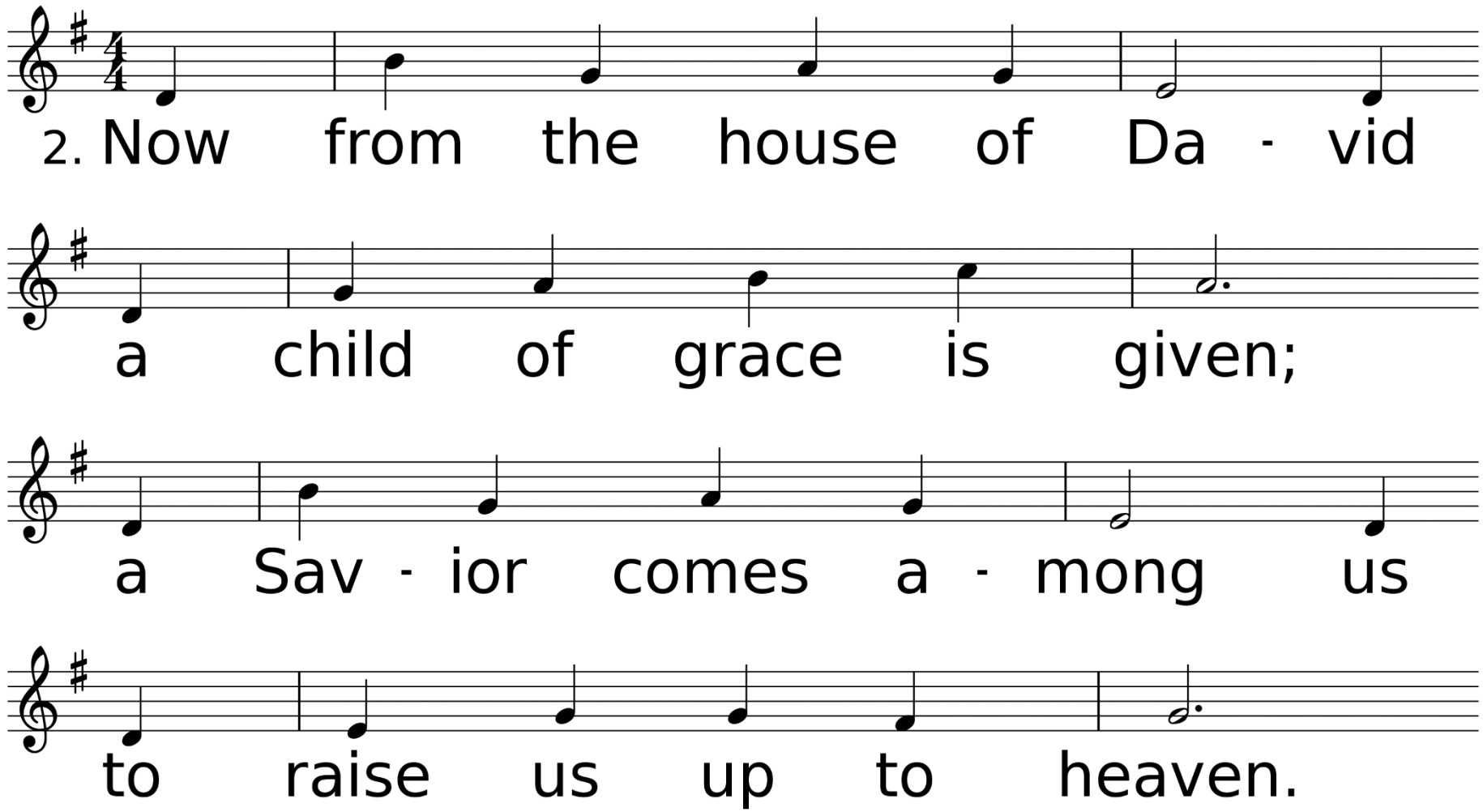
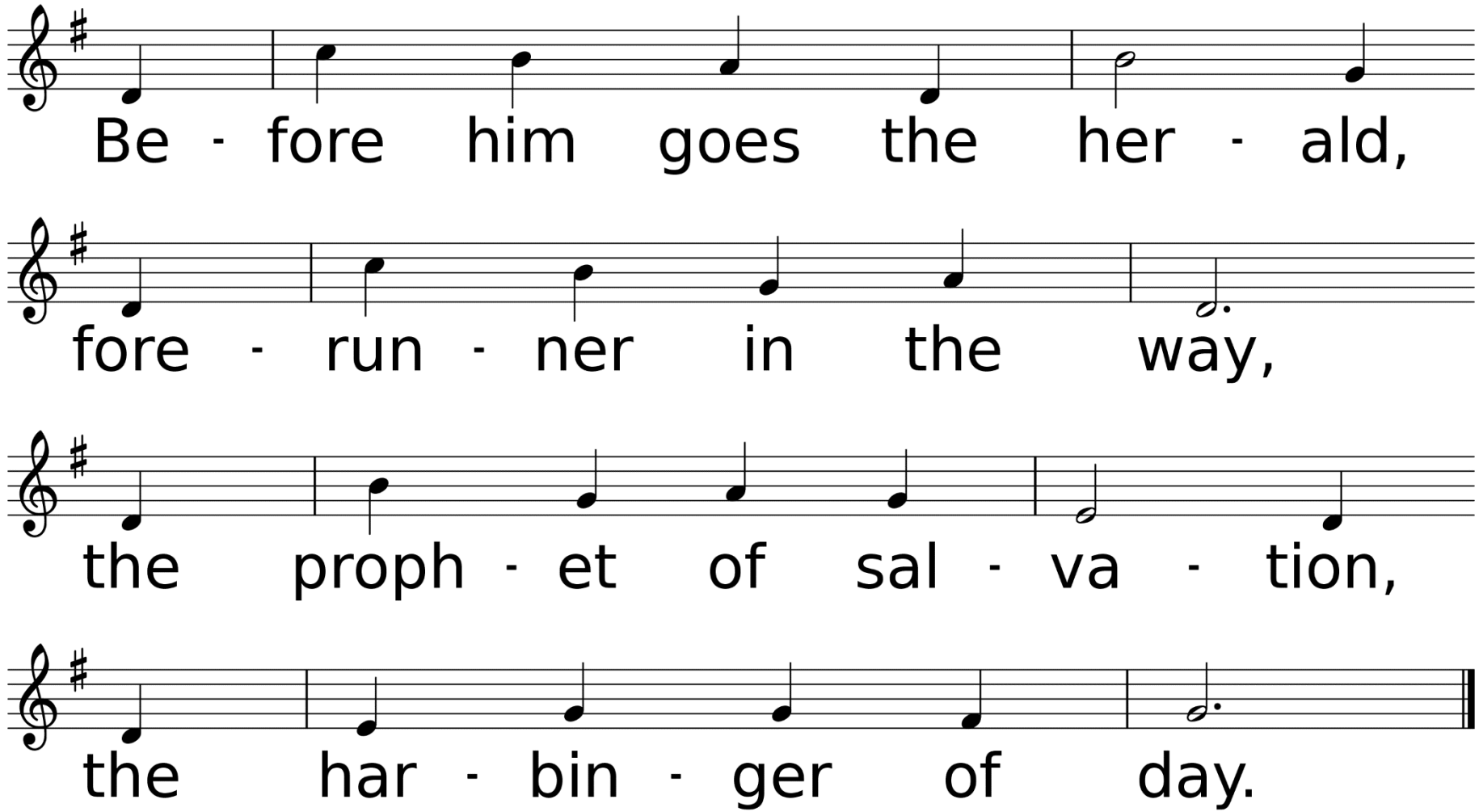
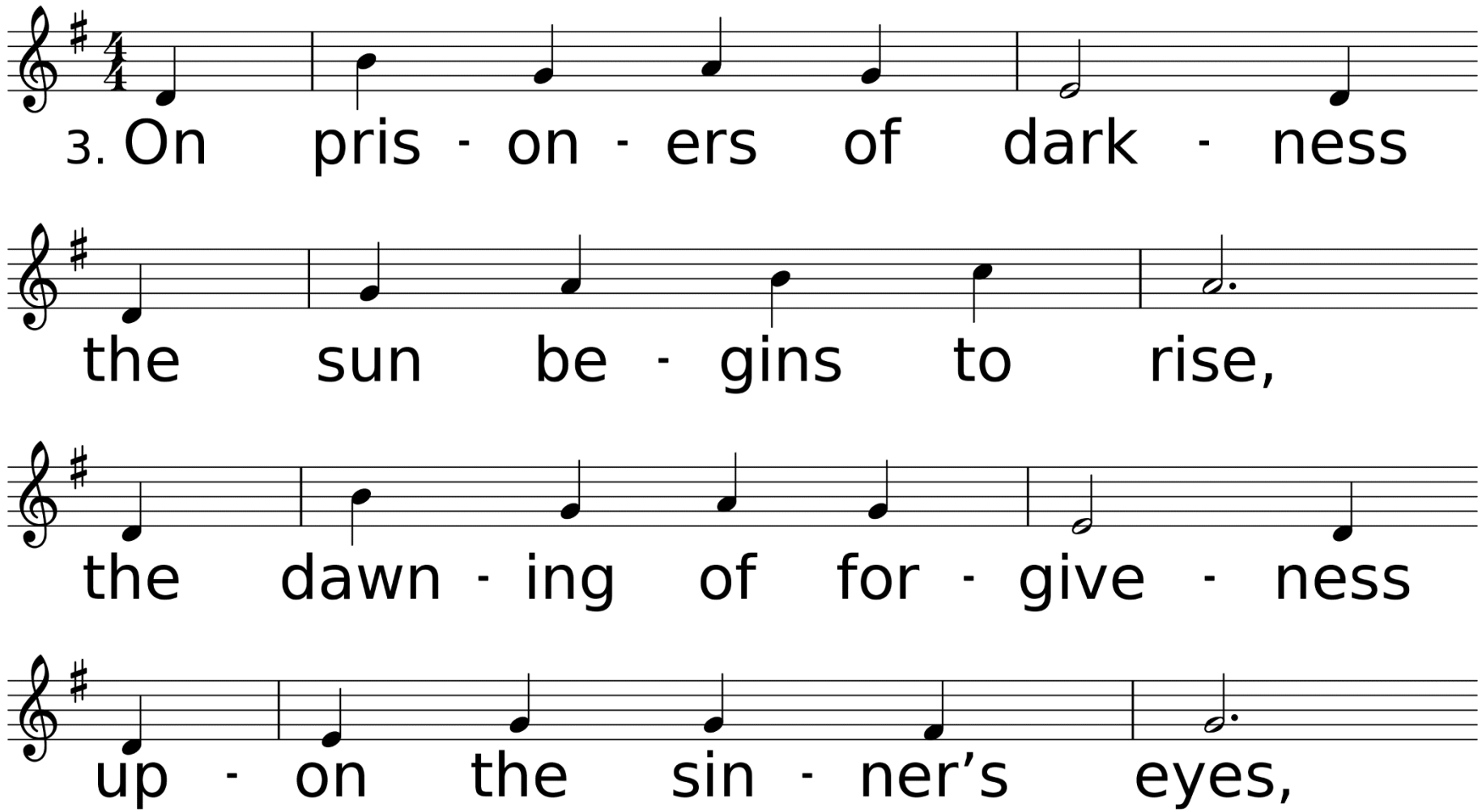
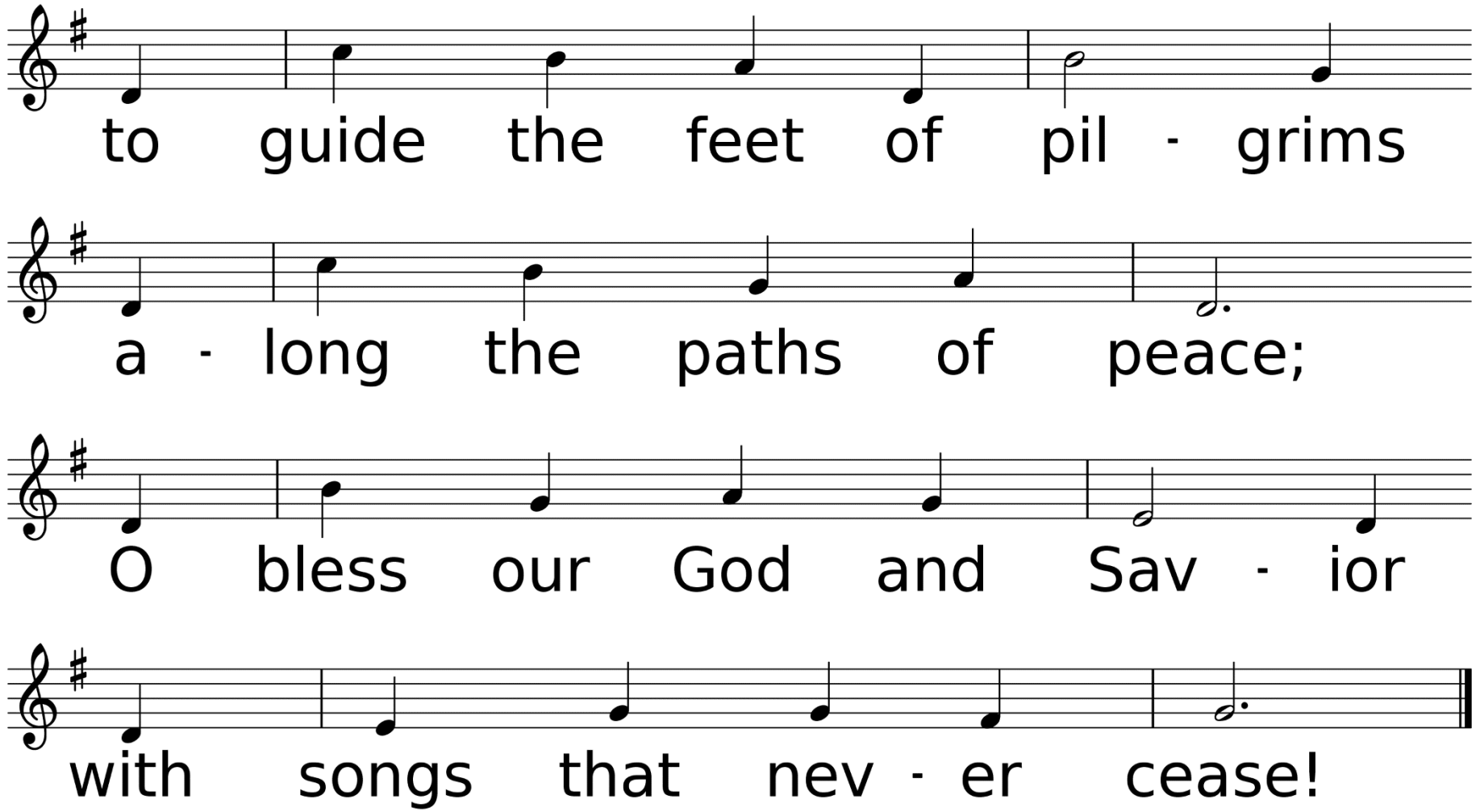

The proph - ets spoke of mer - cy,
of free - dom and re - lease;
God shall ful - fill the prom - ise
to bring our peo - ple peace.


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.


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. On pris - on - ers of dark - ness
the sun be - gins to rise,
the dawn - ing of for - give - ness
up - on the sin - ner's eyes,


to guide the feet of pil - grims
a - long the paths of peace;
O bless our God and Sav - ior
with songs that nev - er cease!

Lesson 3
Isaiah 9:2-7

The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined. For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

Carol

Prepare!

Allen Pote

Lesson 4
Isaiah 11:1-9

And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots: And the spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord; And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the Lord.

But with righteousness shall he judge the poor and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth. The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them.

And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together: and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice' den.

They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.

*Carol

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

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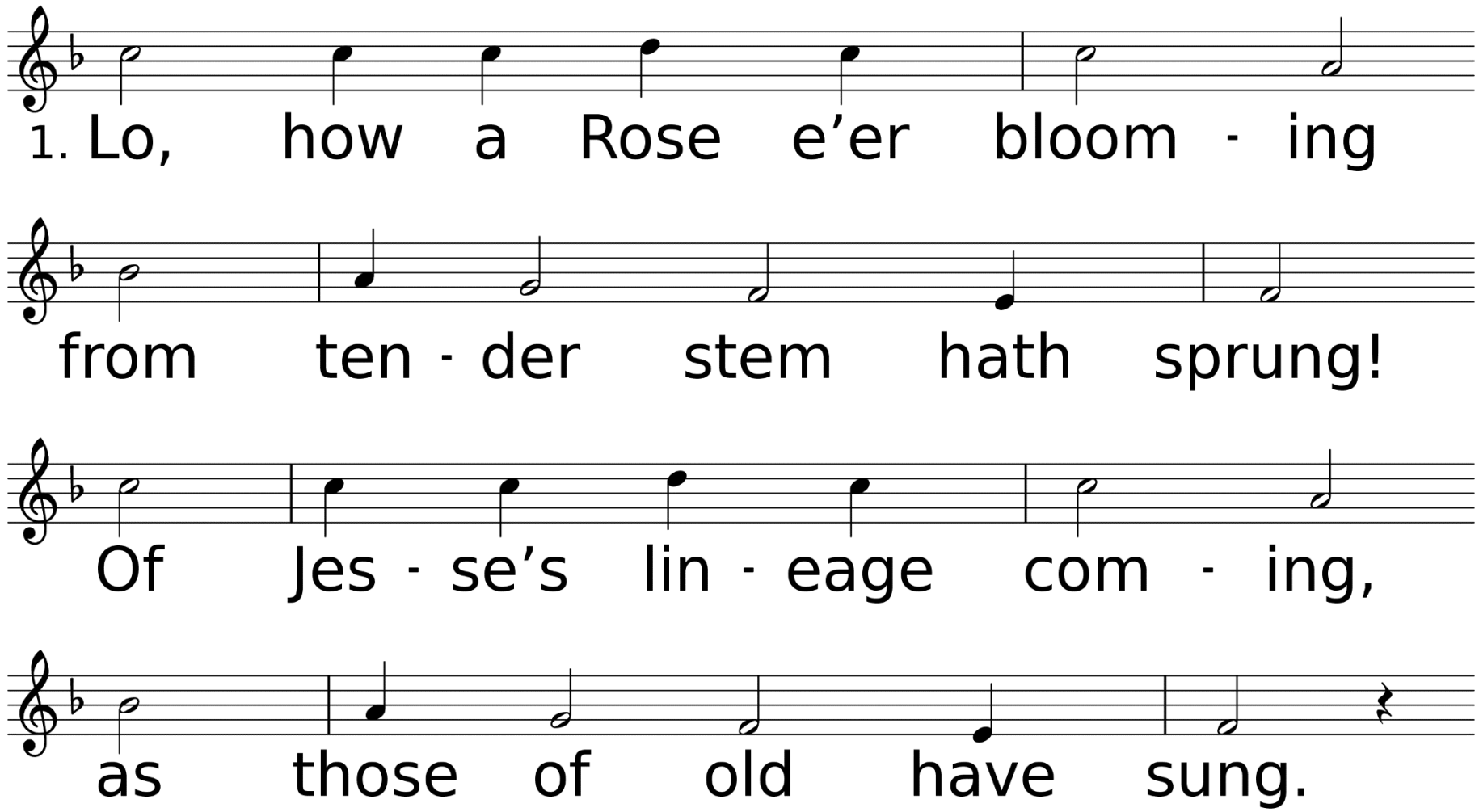

WORDS: Sts. 1-2, 15th cent. German; trans. by Theodore Baker, 1894; st. 3 from The Hymnal, 1940 (Is. 35:1-2); St. 3 © 1940, 1943, renewed 1971 The Church Pension Fund
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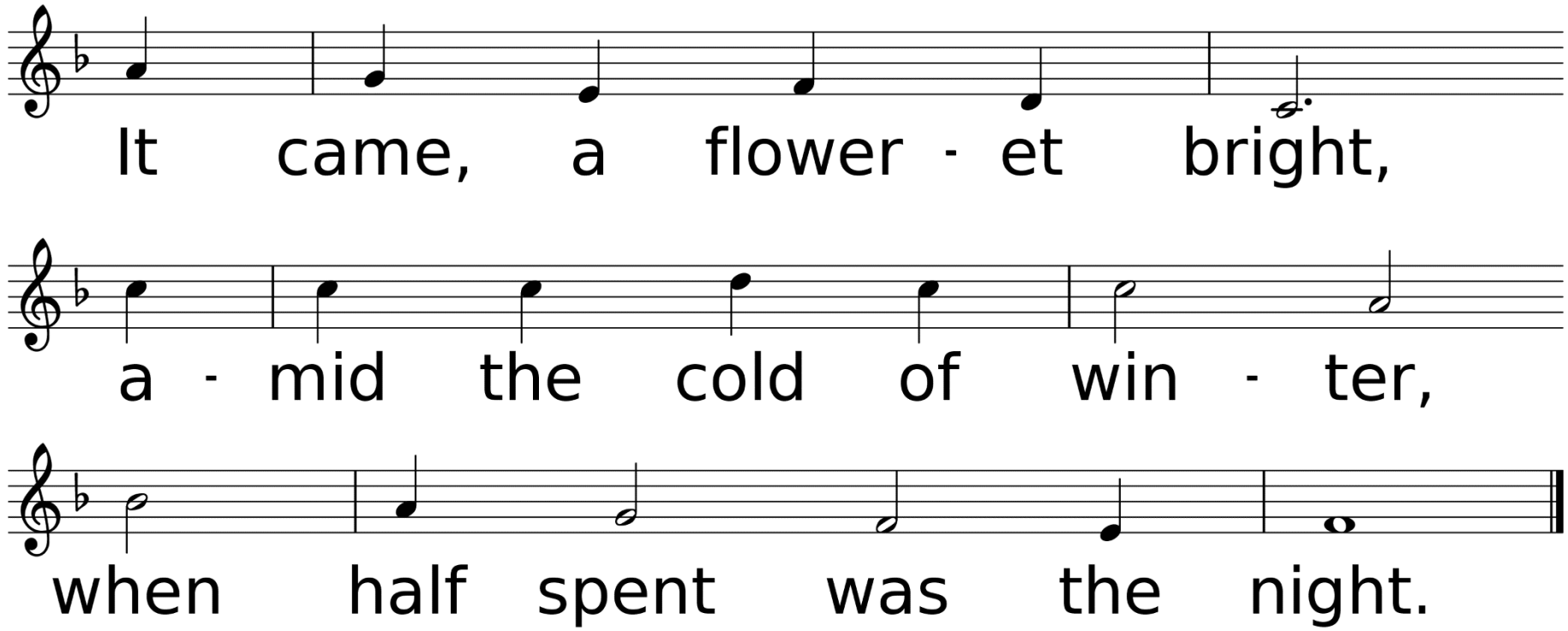
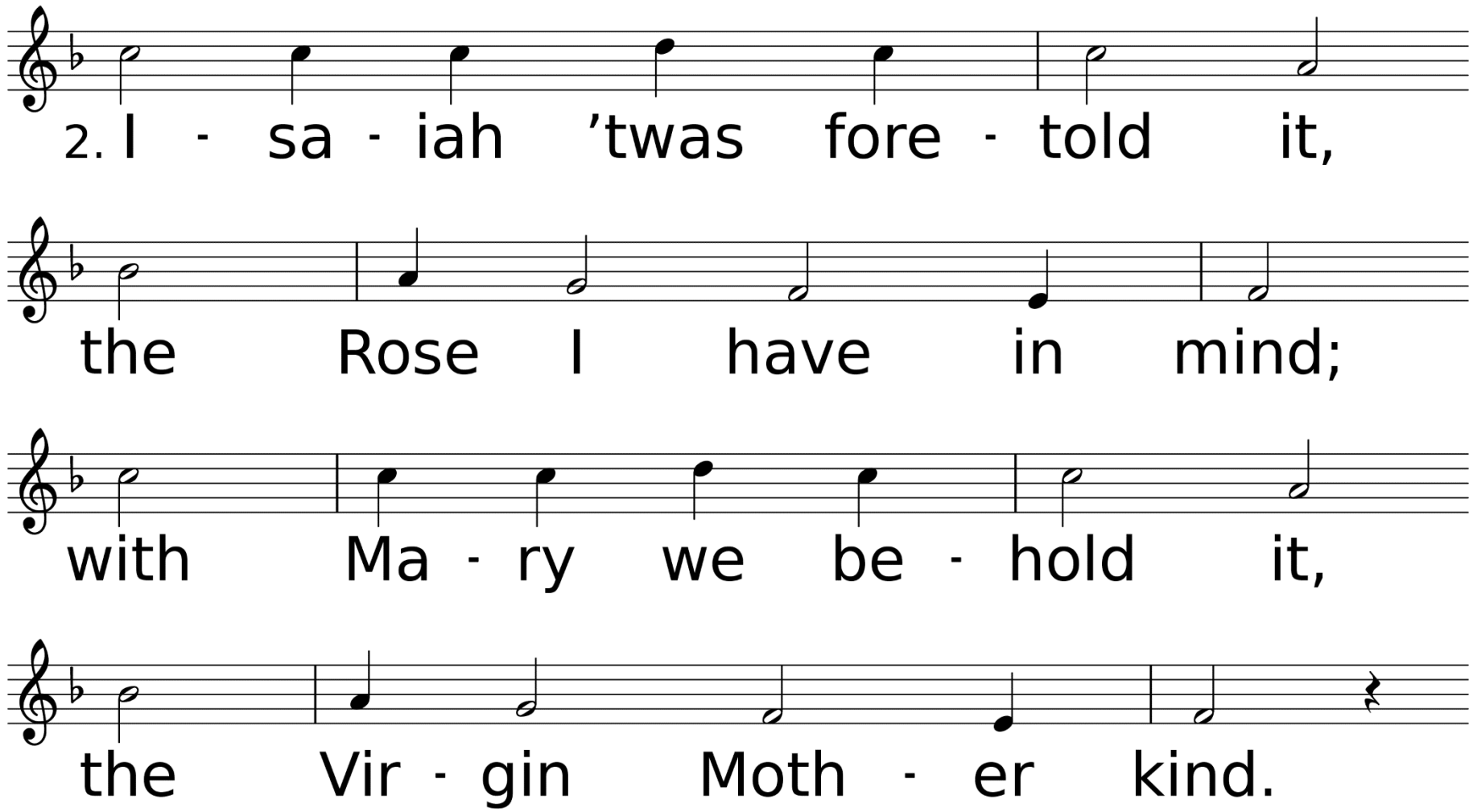
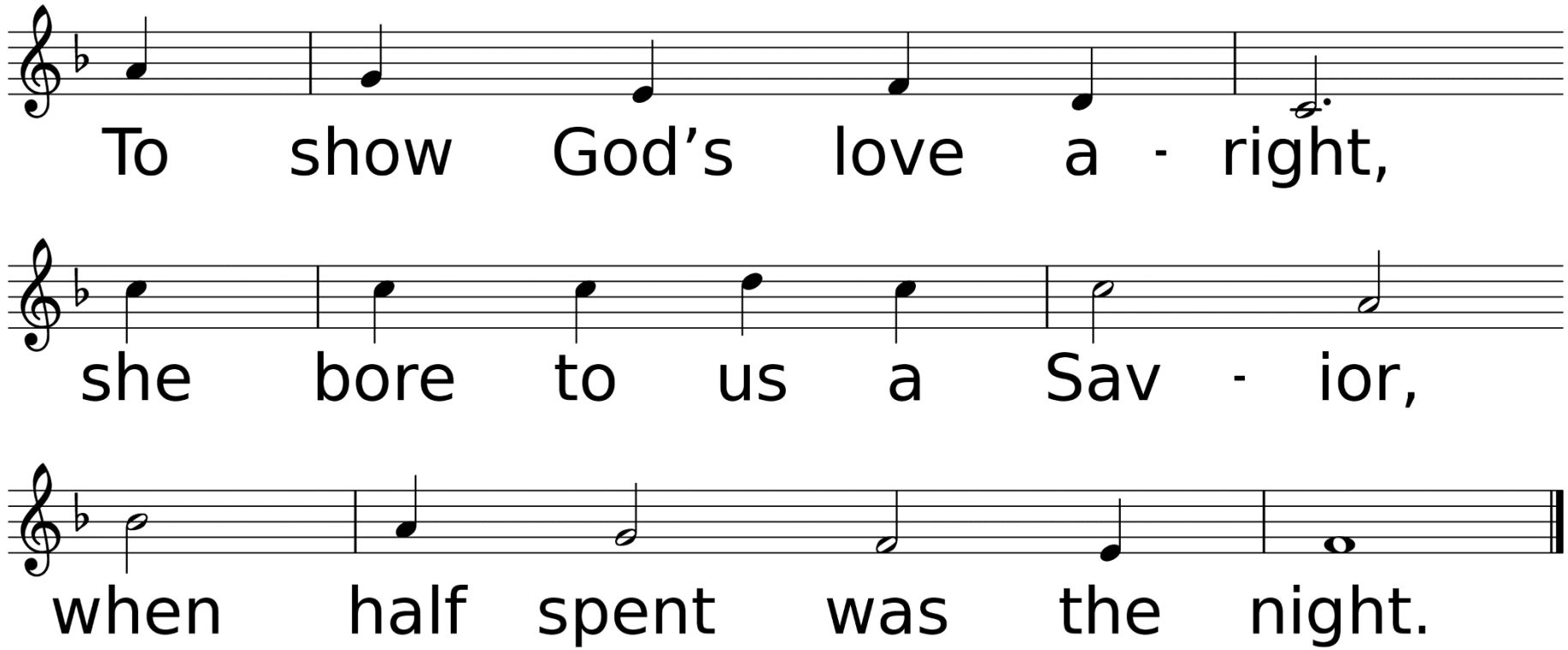
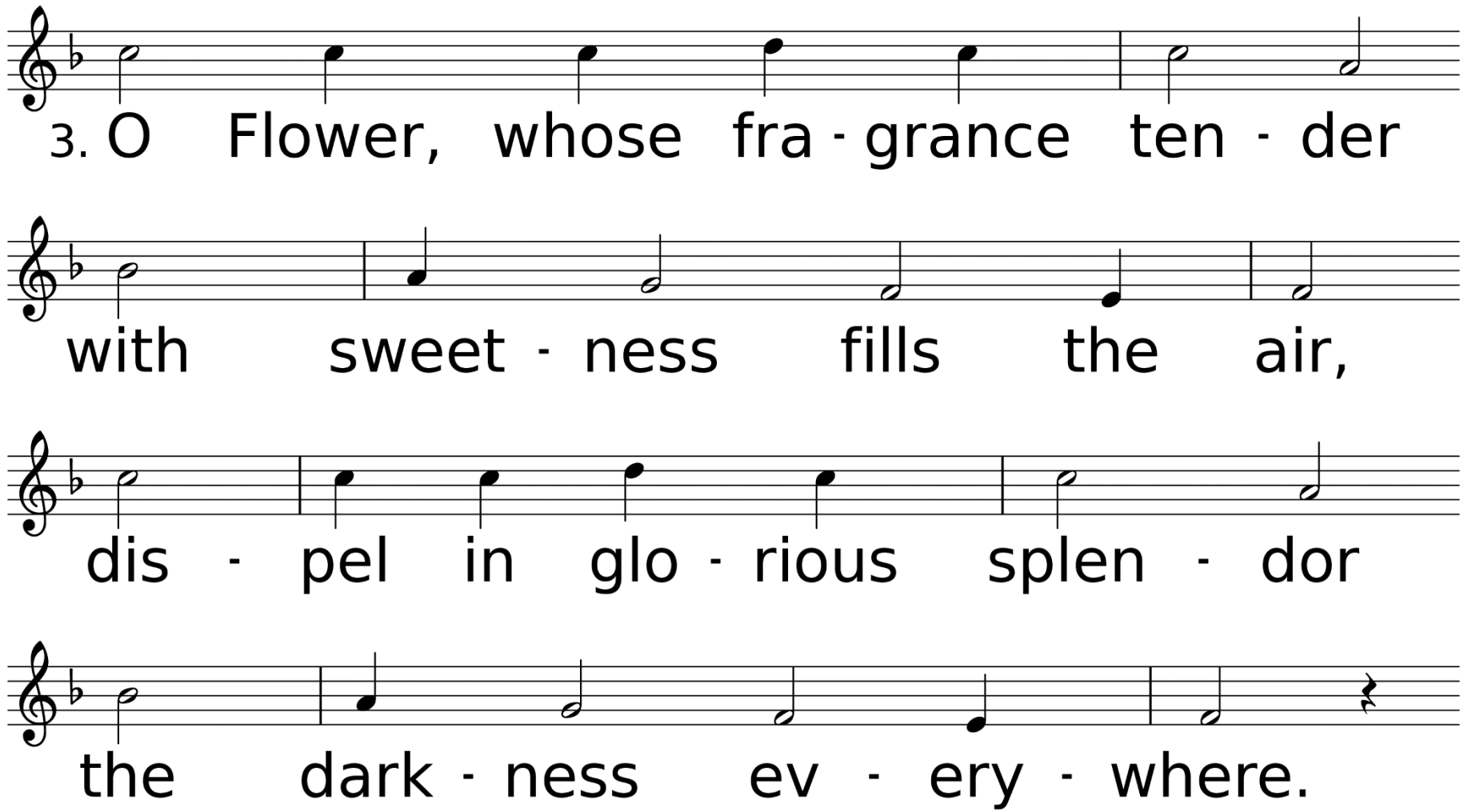
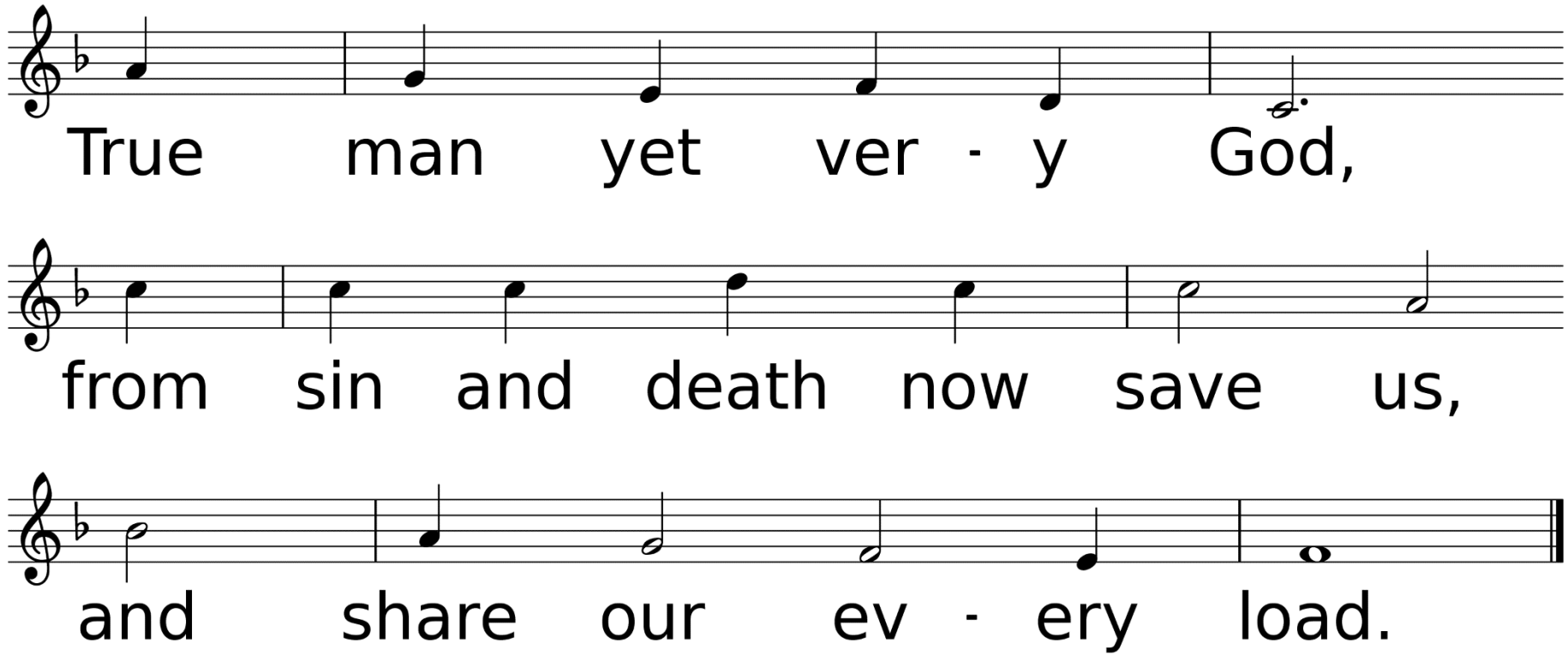

It came, a flower - et bright,
a - mid the cold of win - ter,
when half spent was the night.


2. I - sa - iah ’twas fore - told it,
the Rose I have in mind;
with Ma - ry we be - hold it,
the Vir - gin Moth - er kind.


To show God’s love a - right,
she bore to us a Sav - ior,
when half spent was the night.


3. O Flower, whose fra - grance ten - der
with sweet - ness fills the air,
dis - pel in glo - rious splen - dor
the dark - ness ev - ery - where.


True man yet ver - y God,
from sin and death now save us,
and share our ev - ery load.

Lesson 5
Luke 1:26-38

And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women.

And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be. And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God. And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name Jesus.

He shall be great and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.

Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man? And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore, also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.

And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her.

*Carol

To a Maid Engaged to Joseph

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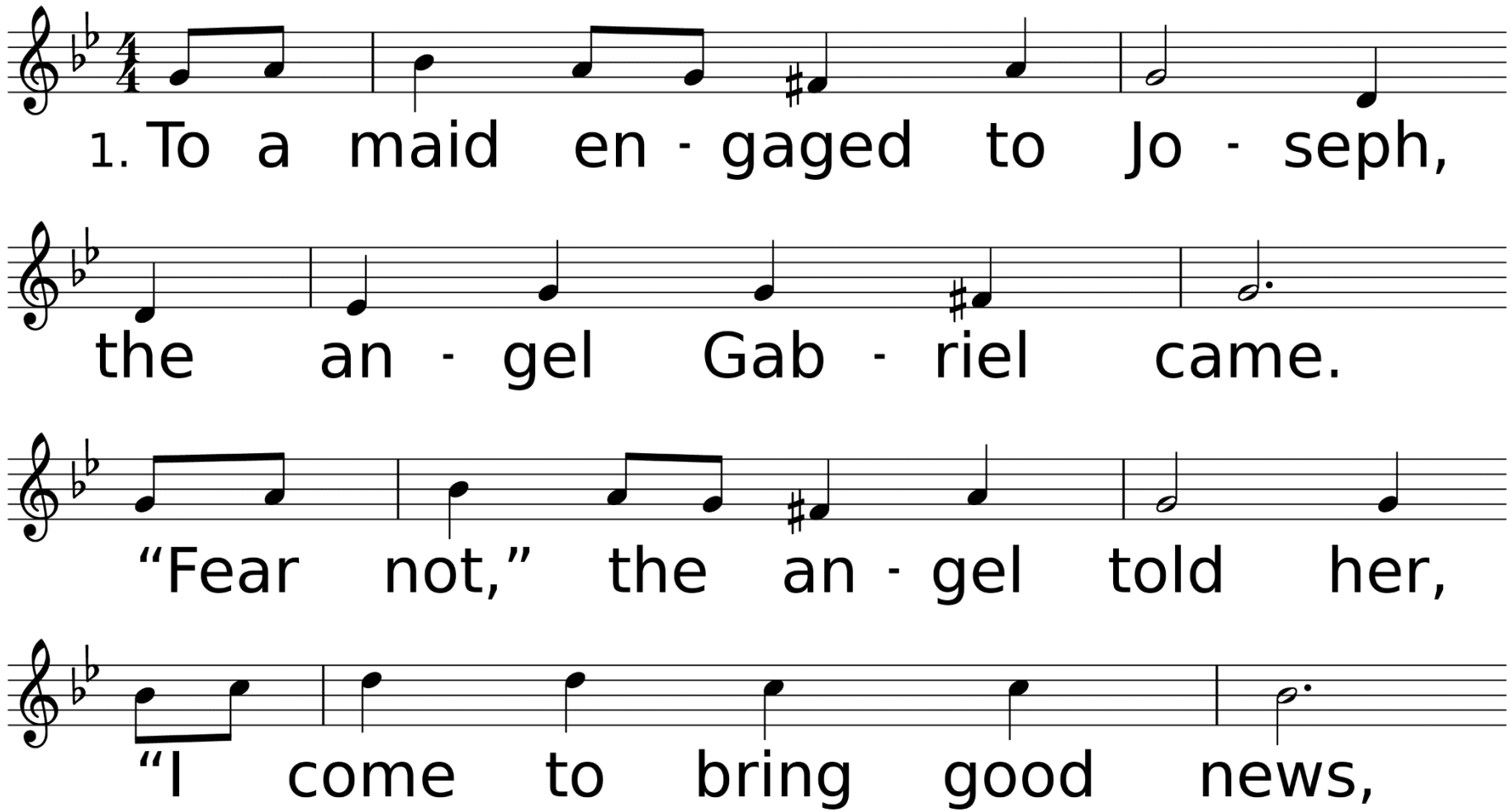

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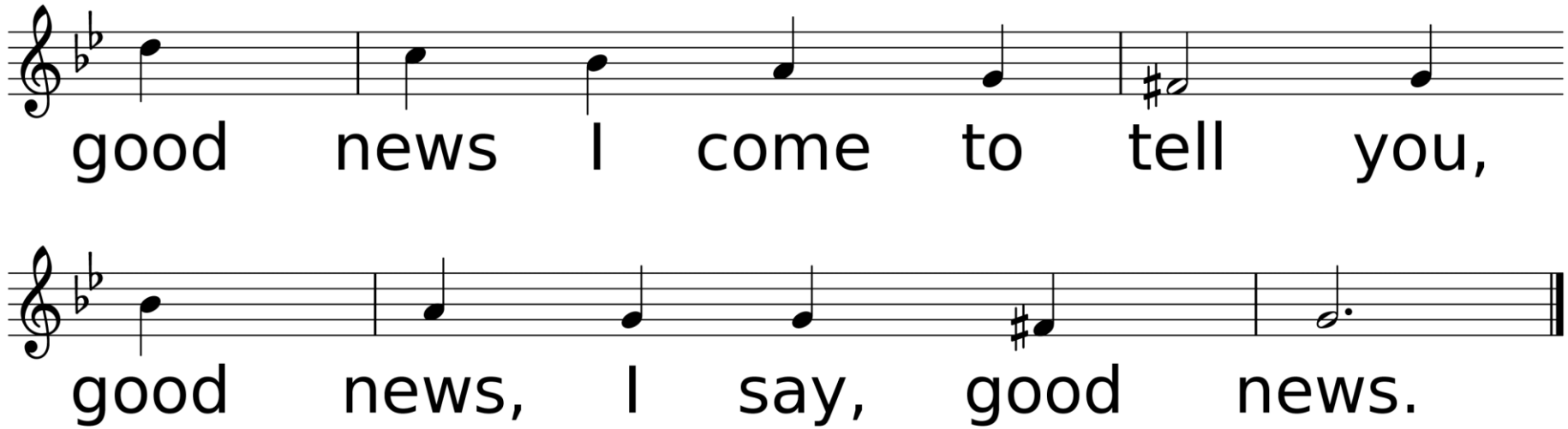
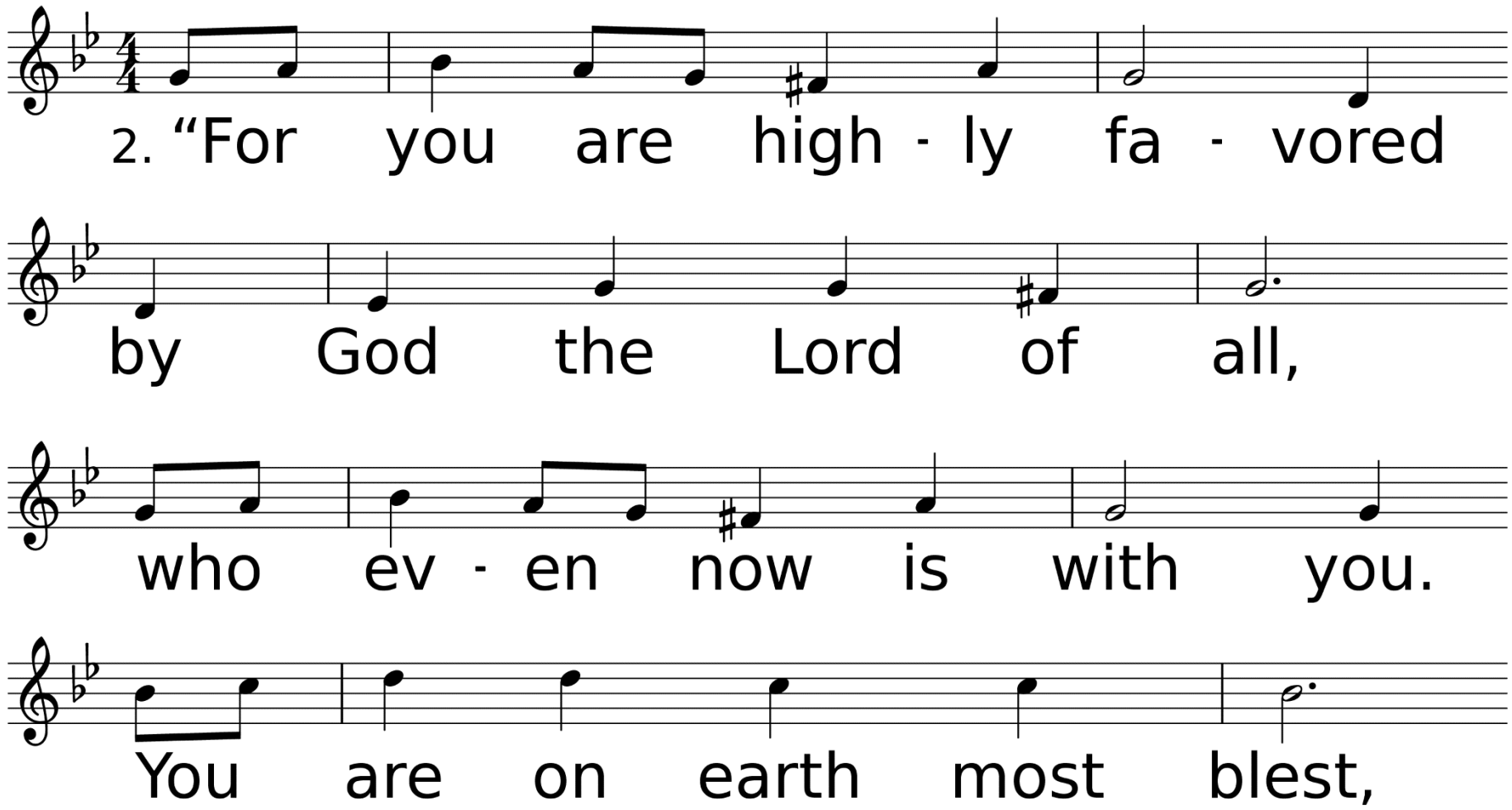
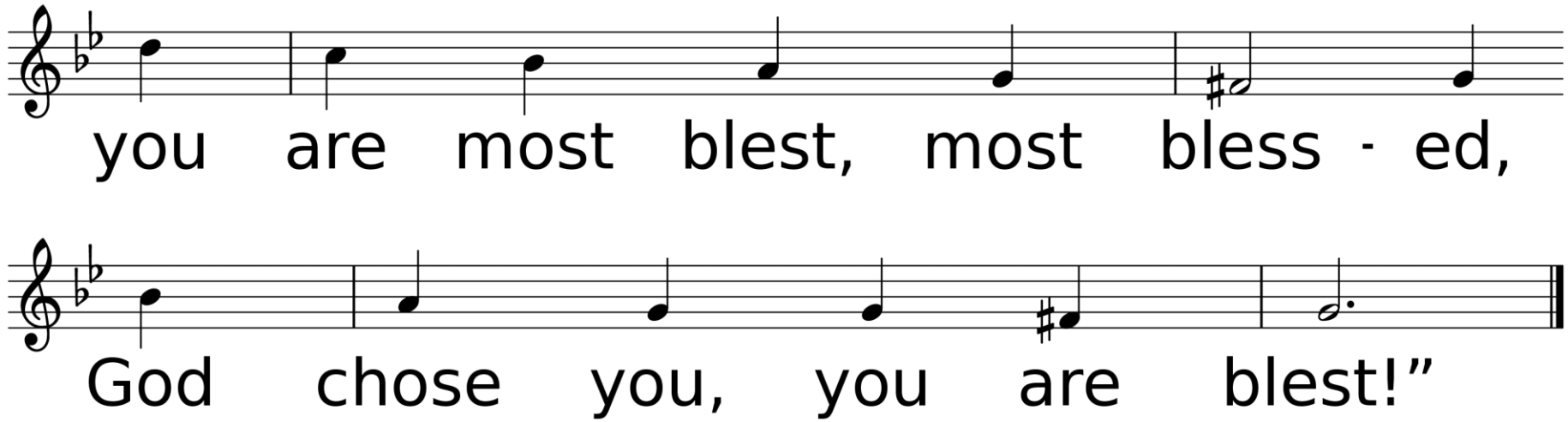
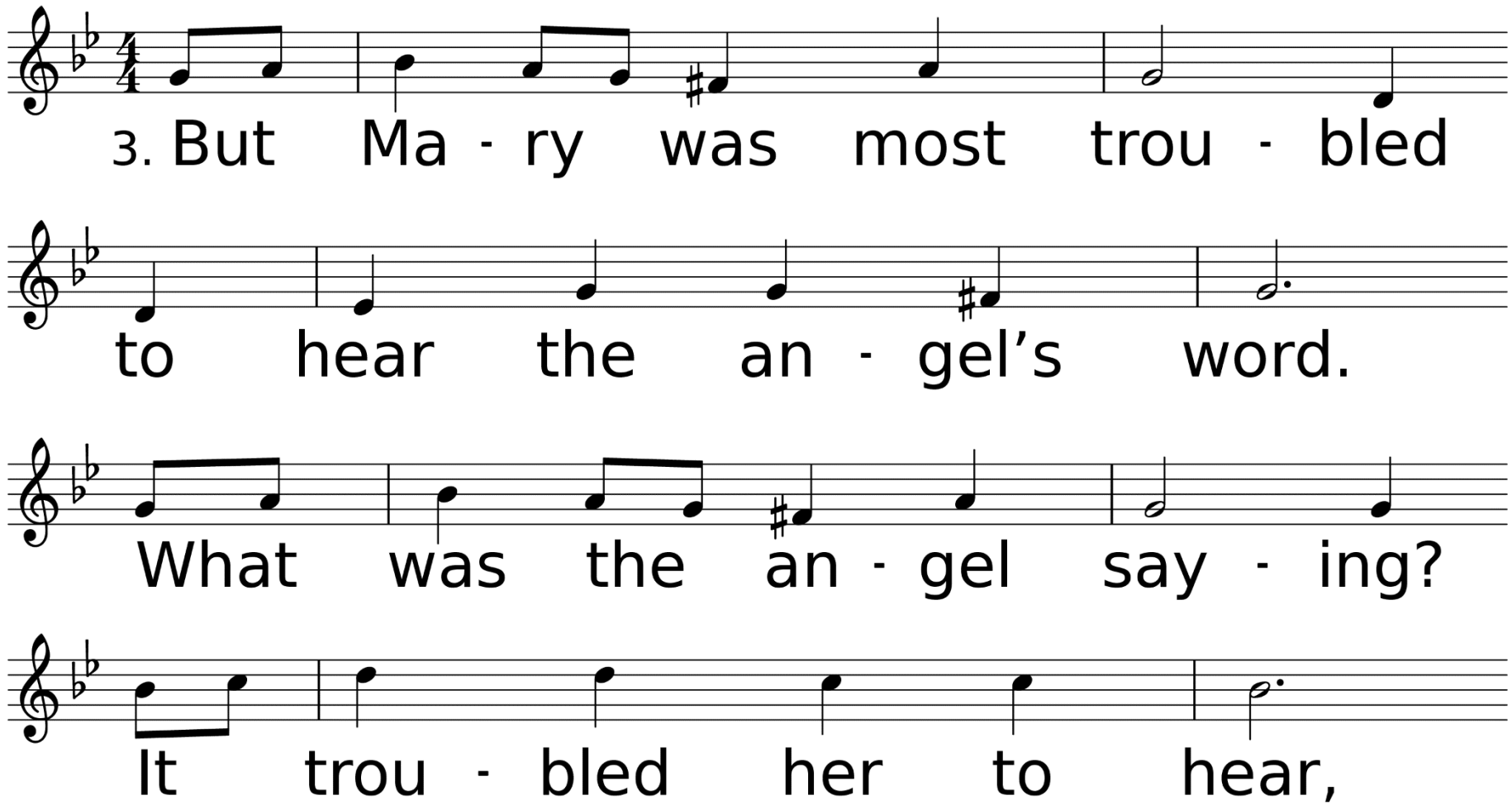
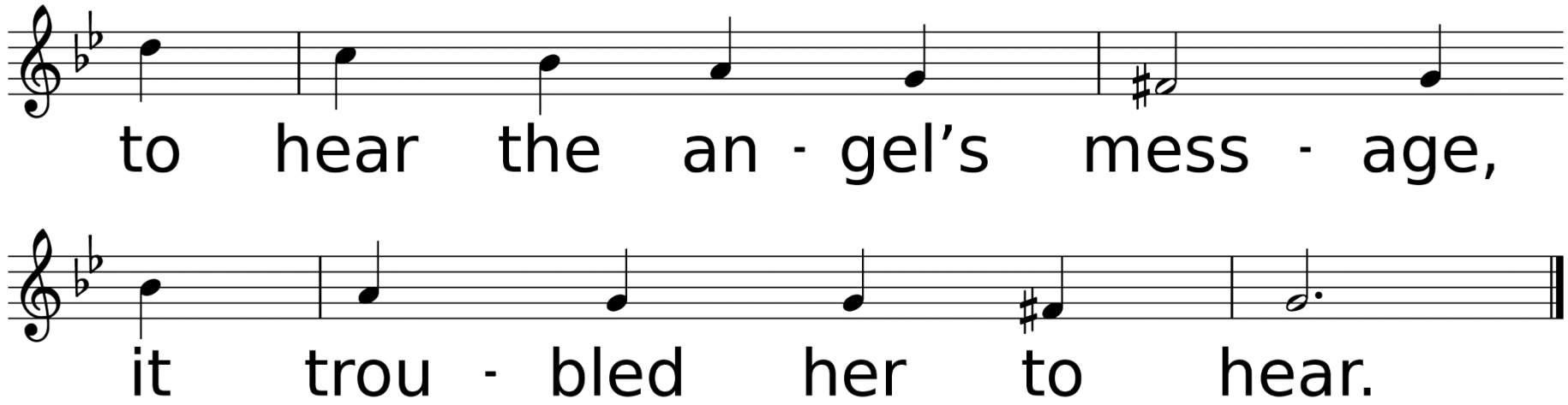
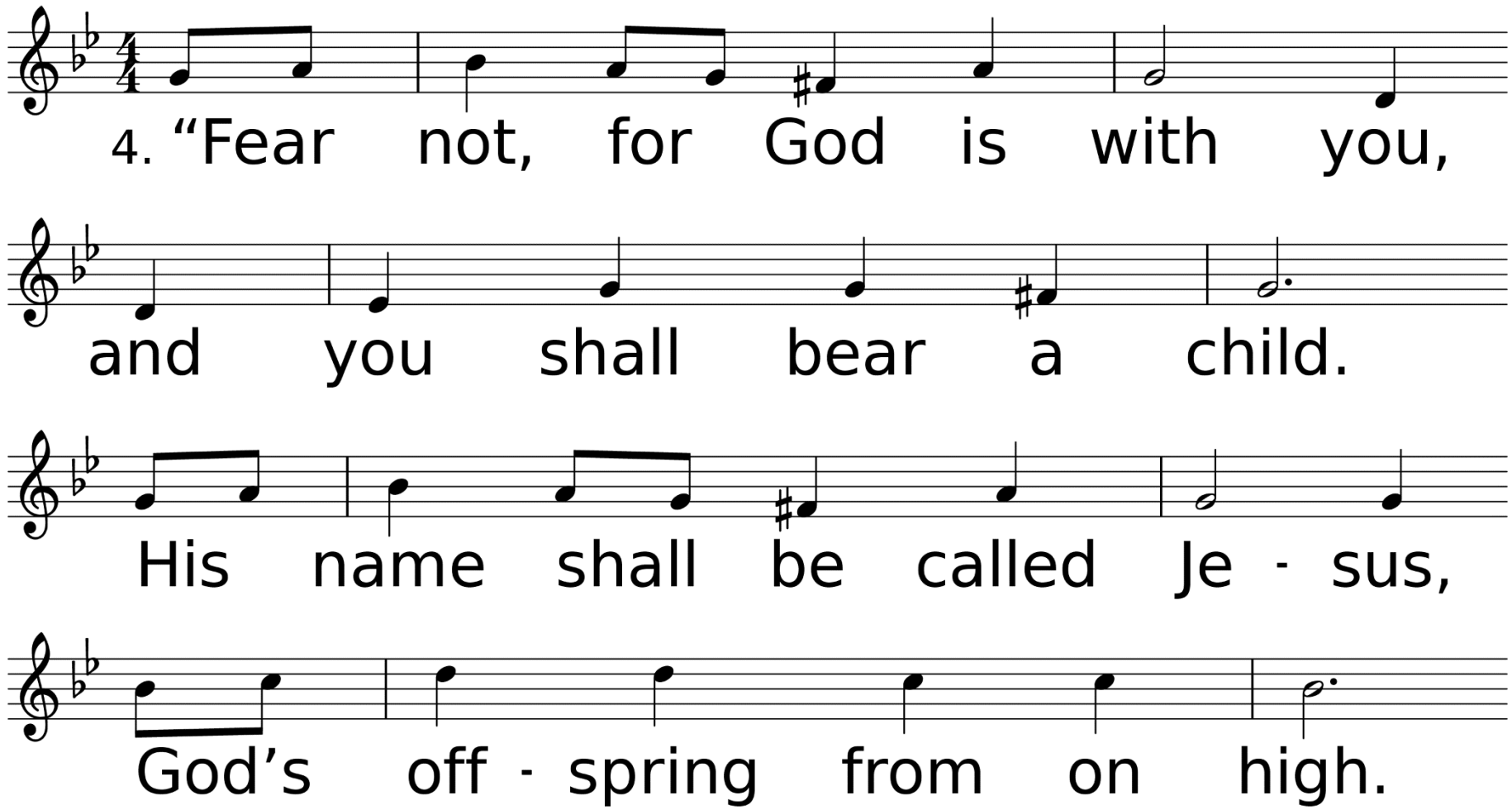

good news I come to tell you,
good news, I say, good news.

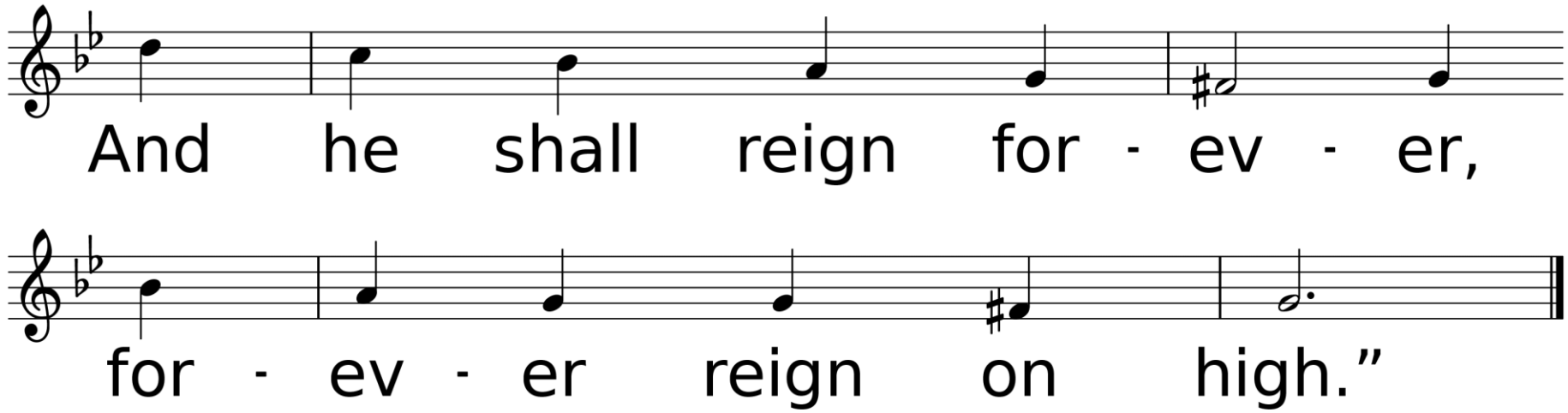

2. “For you are high - ly fa - vored
by God the Lord of all,
who ev - en now is with you.
You are on earth most blest,

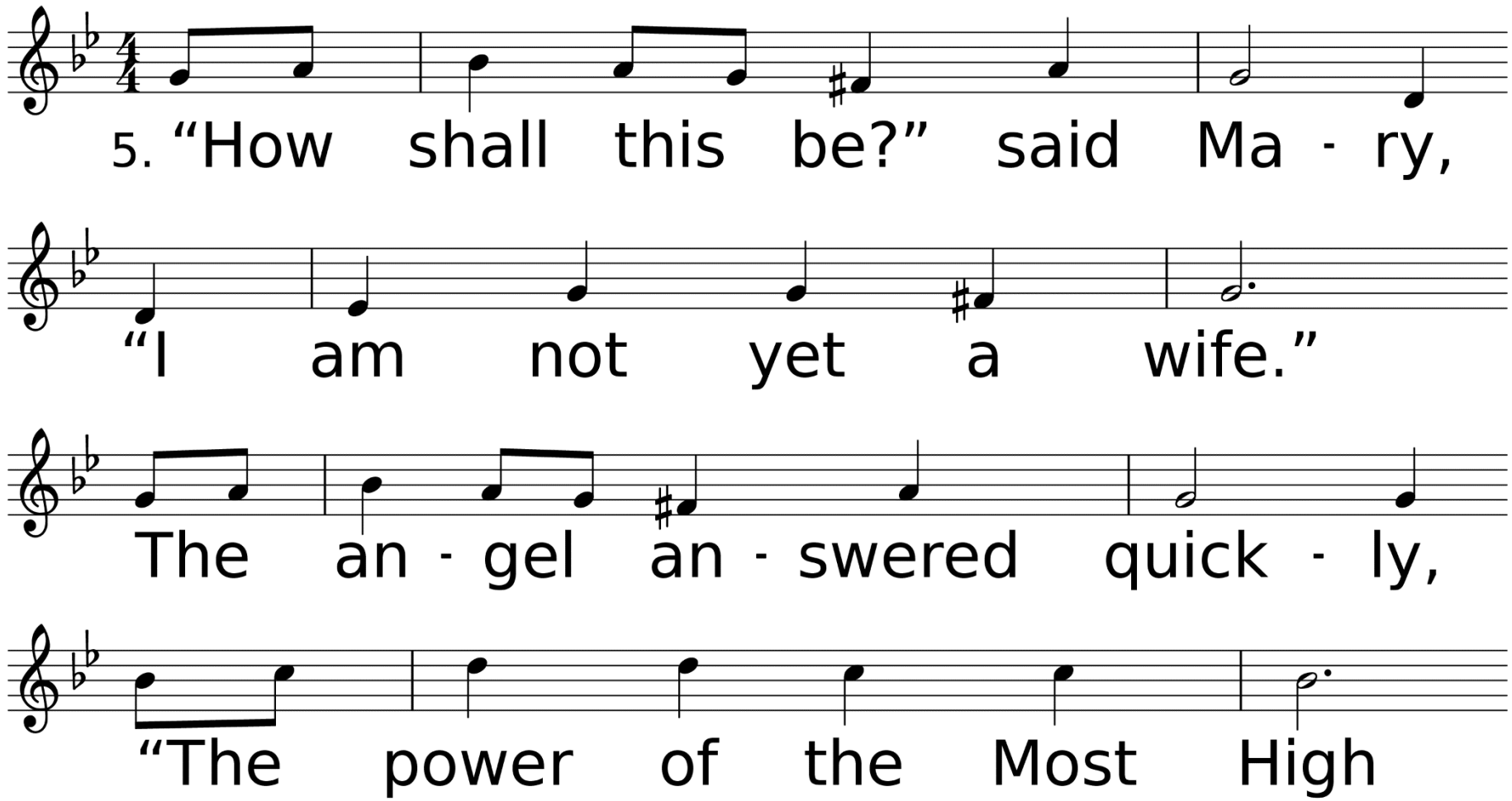

you are most blest, most bless - ed,
God chose you, you are blest!”

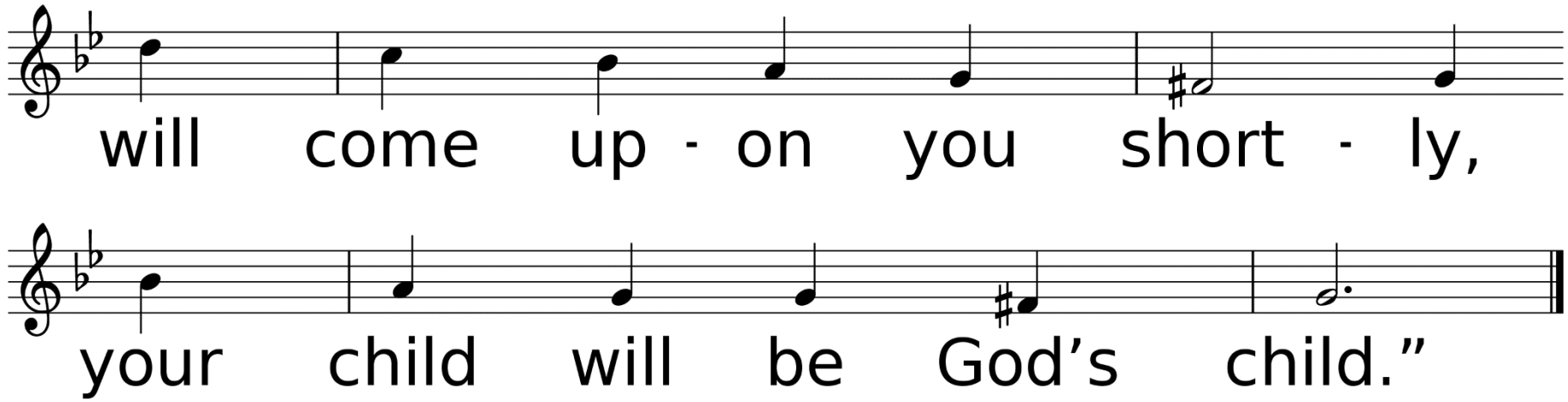

3. But Ma - ry was most trou - bled
to hear the an - gel's word.
What was the an - gel say - ing?
It trou - bled her to hear,

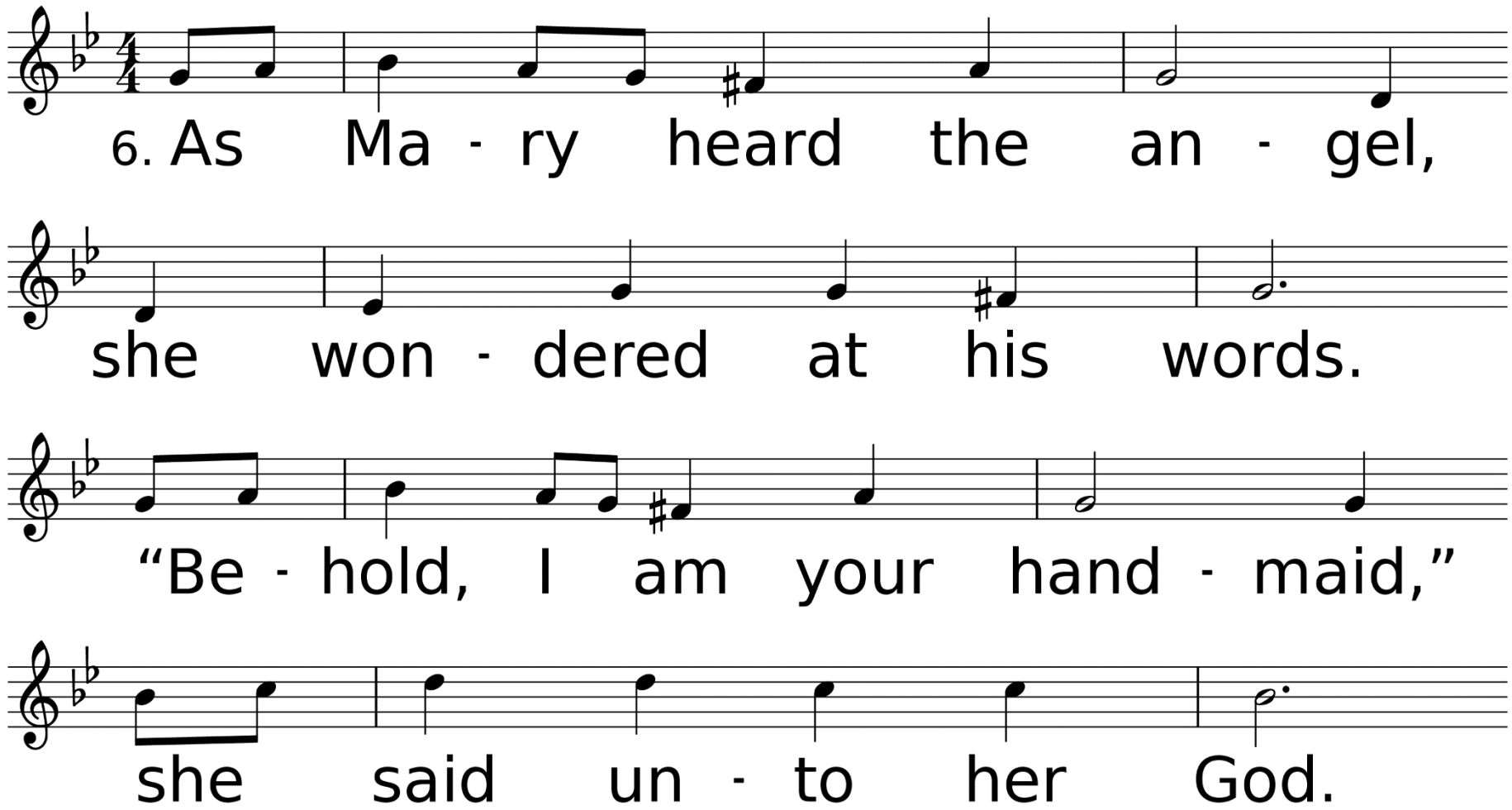

to hear the an - gel's mess - age,
it trou - bled her to hear.

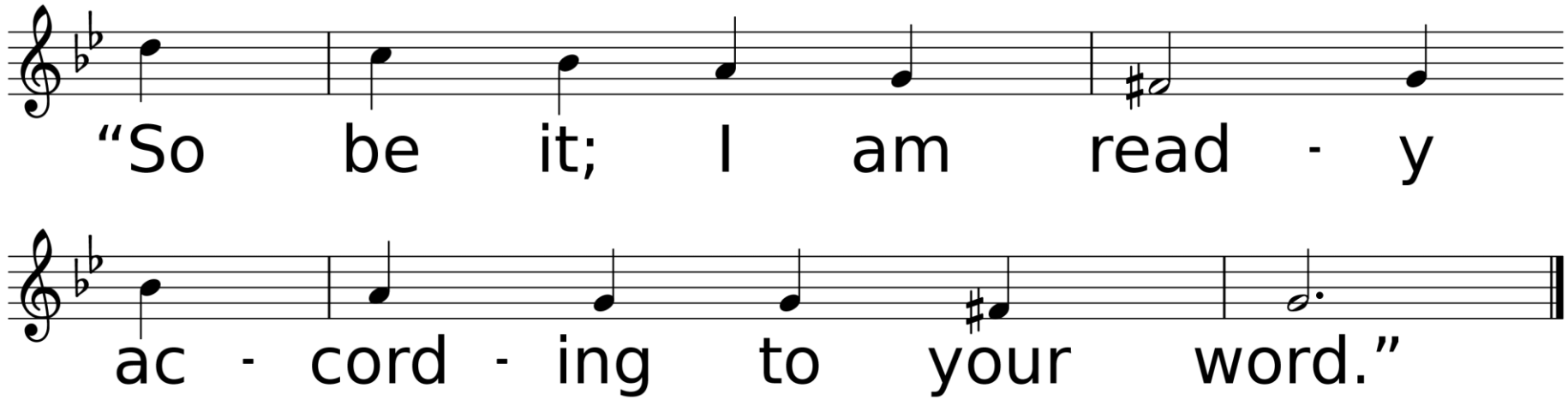

4. "Fear not, for God is with you,
and you shall bear a child.
His name shall be called Je - sus,
God's off - spring from on high.


And he shall reign for - ev - er,
for - ev - er reign on high.”


5. “How shall this be?” said Ma - ry,
“I am not yet a wife.”
The an - gel an - swered quick - ly,
“The power of the Most High


will come up - on you short - ly,
your child will be God's child."


6. As Ma - ry heard the an - gel,
she won - dered at his words.
"Be - hold, I am your hand - maid,"
she said un - to her God.


“So be it; I am read - y
ac - cord - ing to your word.”

Lesson 6
Luke 2:1-5

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed. And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

Carol

Bethlehem of Noblest Cities

English Folk Song
Arr. by Alan Bullard

Luke 2:6 & 7

And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

Carol

A La Nanita Nana

Spanish Carol

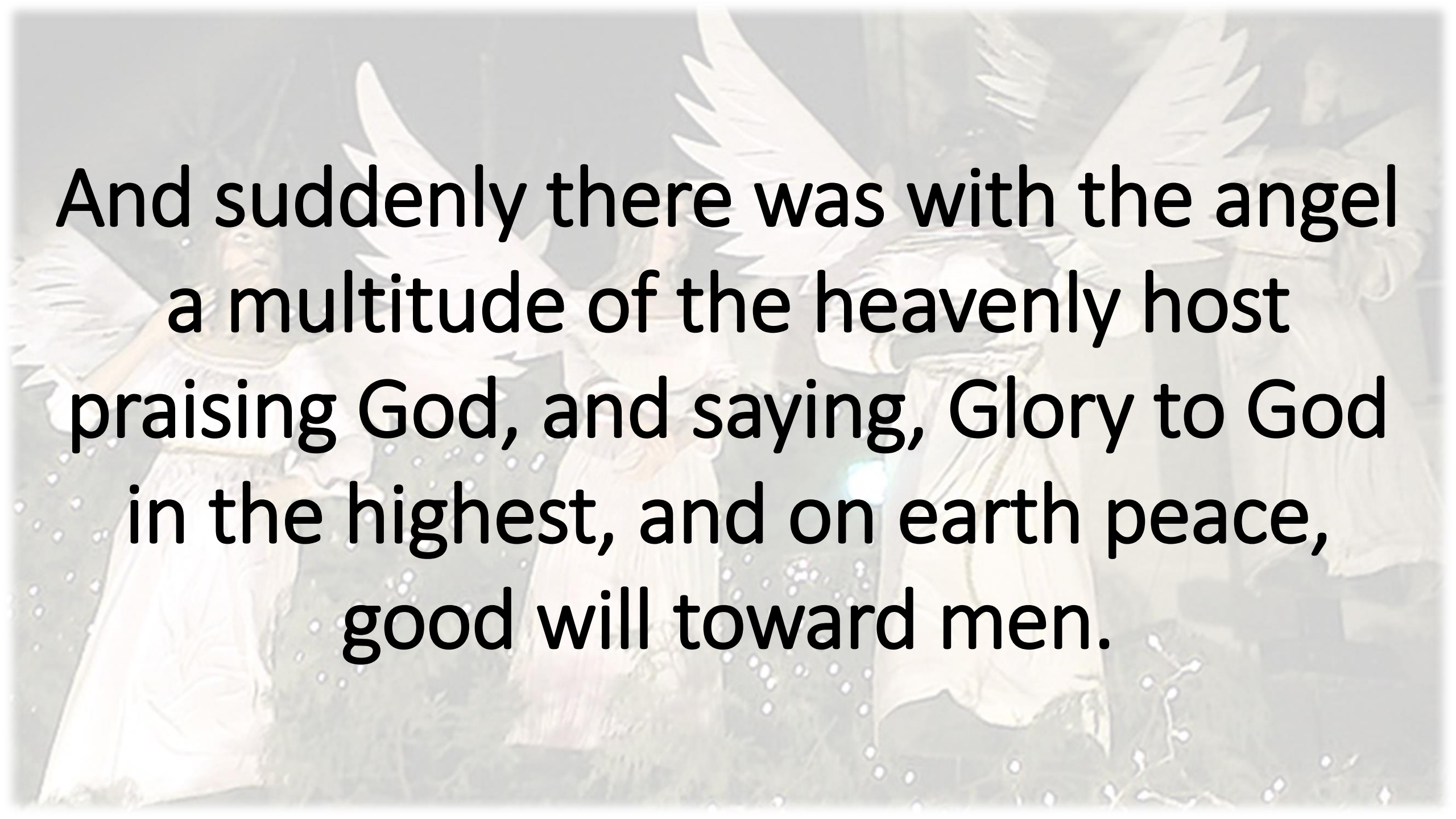
Arr. by Ruth Elaine Schram

Lesson 7
Luke 2:8-16

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them,

Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is

Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.



And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us. And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.

Carol

Were You There on That Christmas Night

Natalie Sleeth

Lesson 8
Matthew 2:1-12

Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him. When Herod the king had heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him.

And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born. And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judaea: for thus it is written by the prophet,

And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel. Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, enquired of them diligently what time the star appeared.

And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found him, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also. When they had heard the king, they departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was.

When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense and myrrh.

And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way.

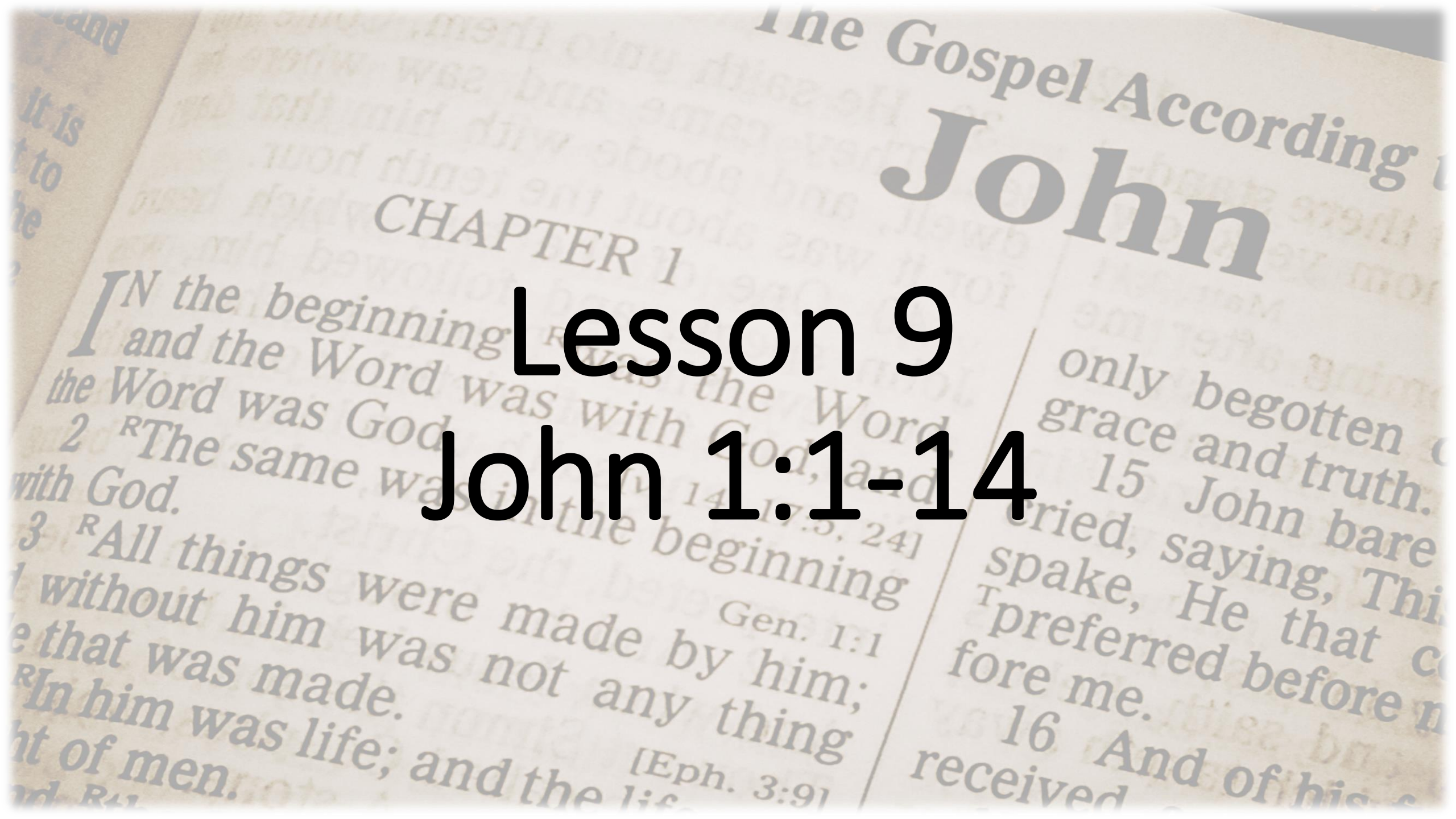
Carol

Trinity Carol

Hand Bell Ensemble

Tom Lough & Joseph Martin

Lesson 9
John 1:1-14



In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.

The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe. He was not that Light but was sent to bear witness of that Light. That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not.

He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

Carol

Royal David's City

Children's Choir

Joel Rainey

*Hymn of Invitation

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

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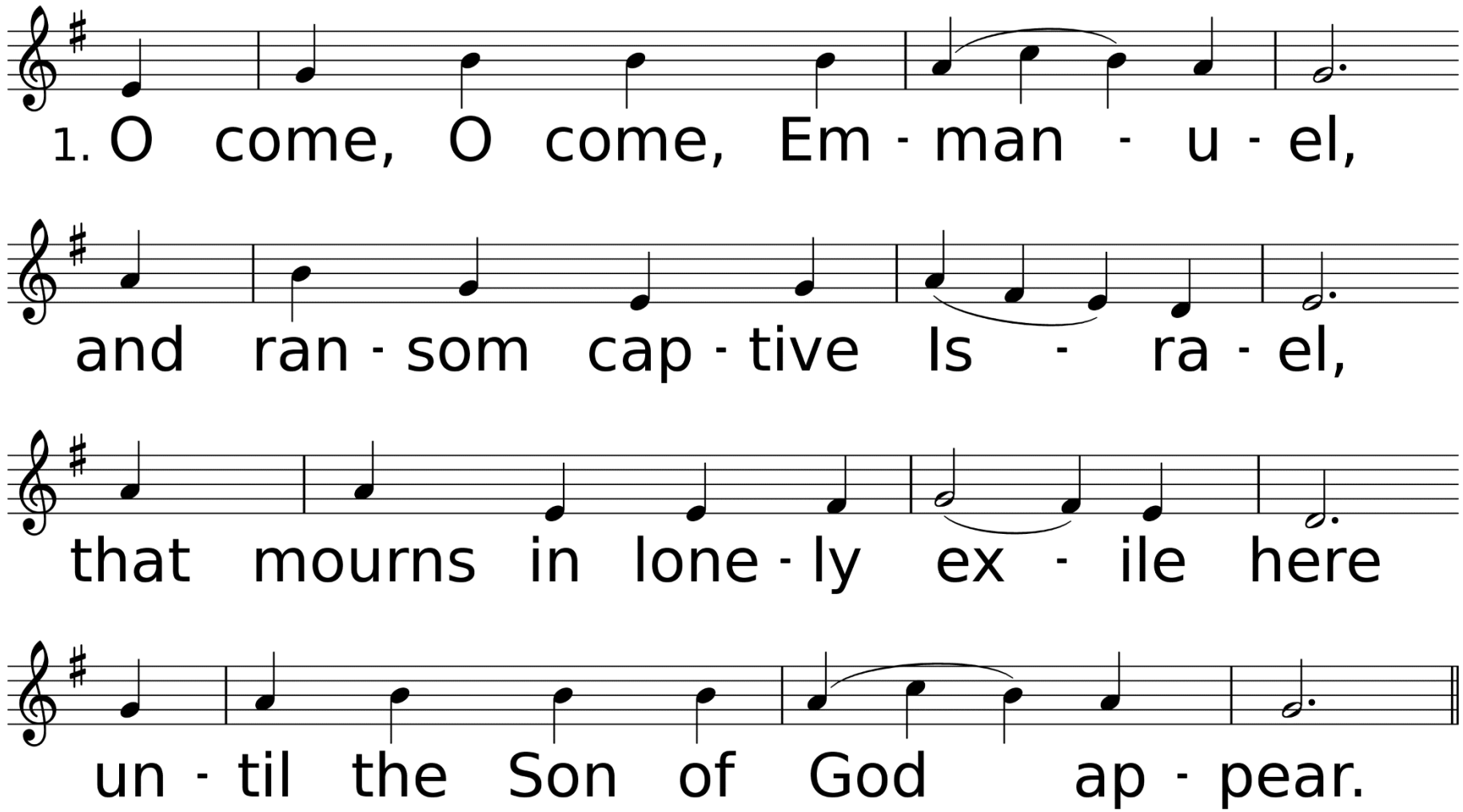
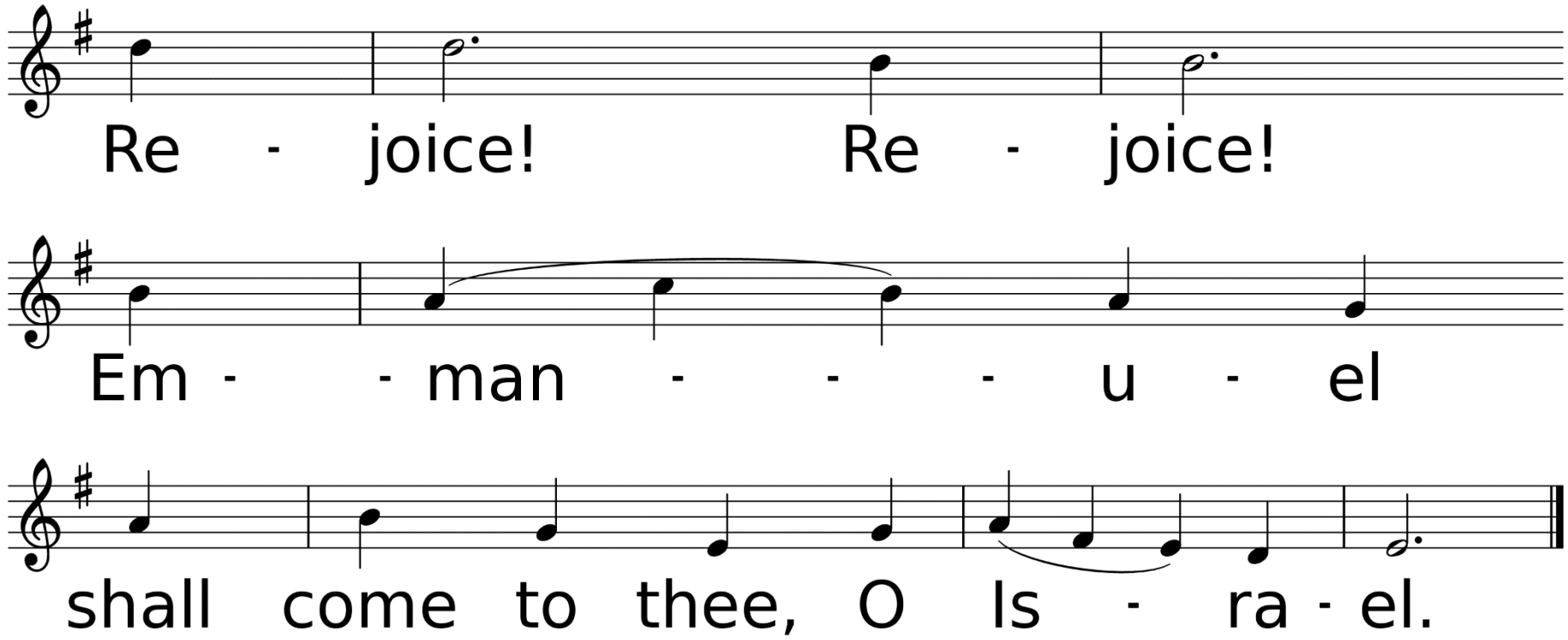
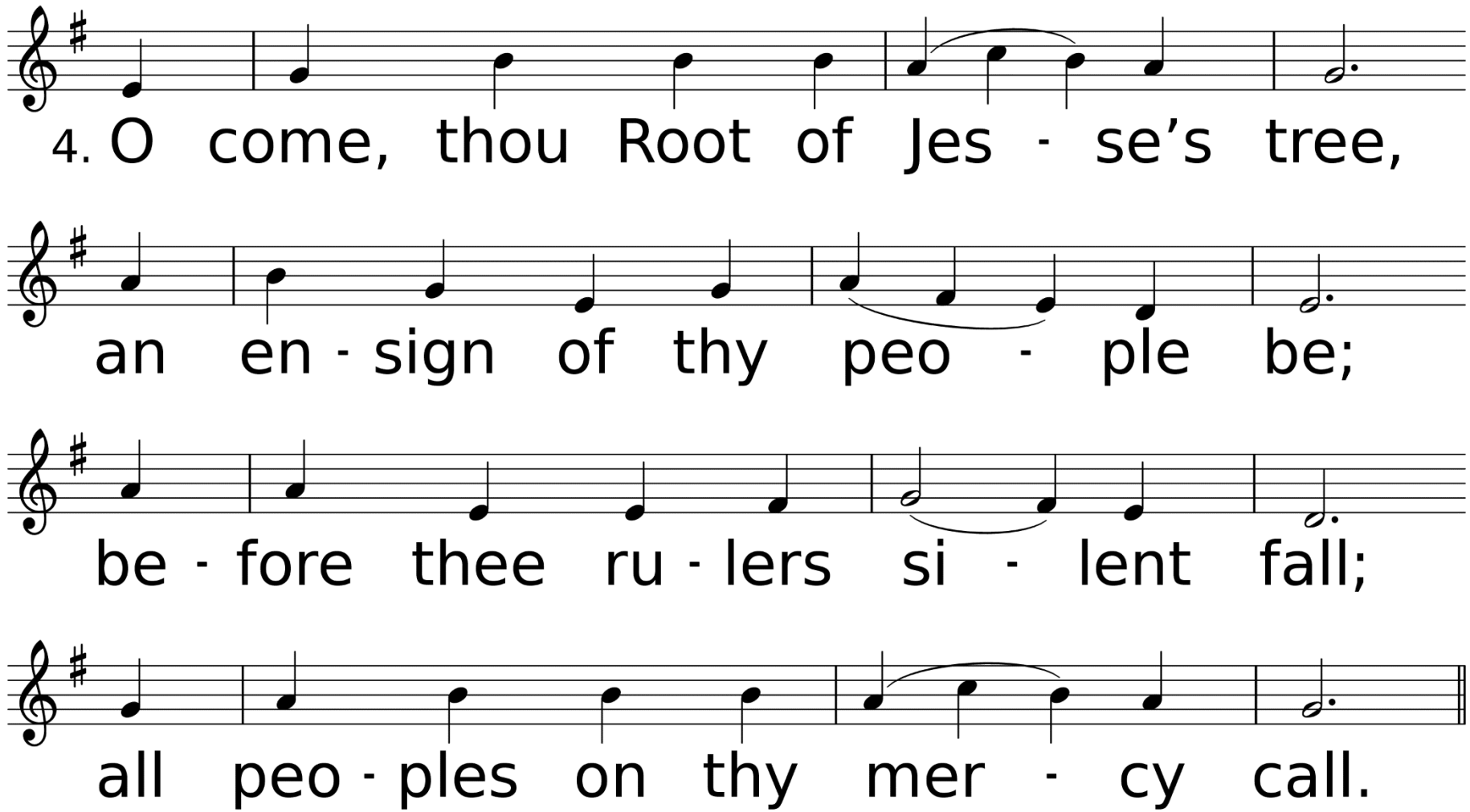
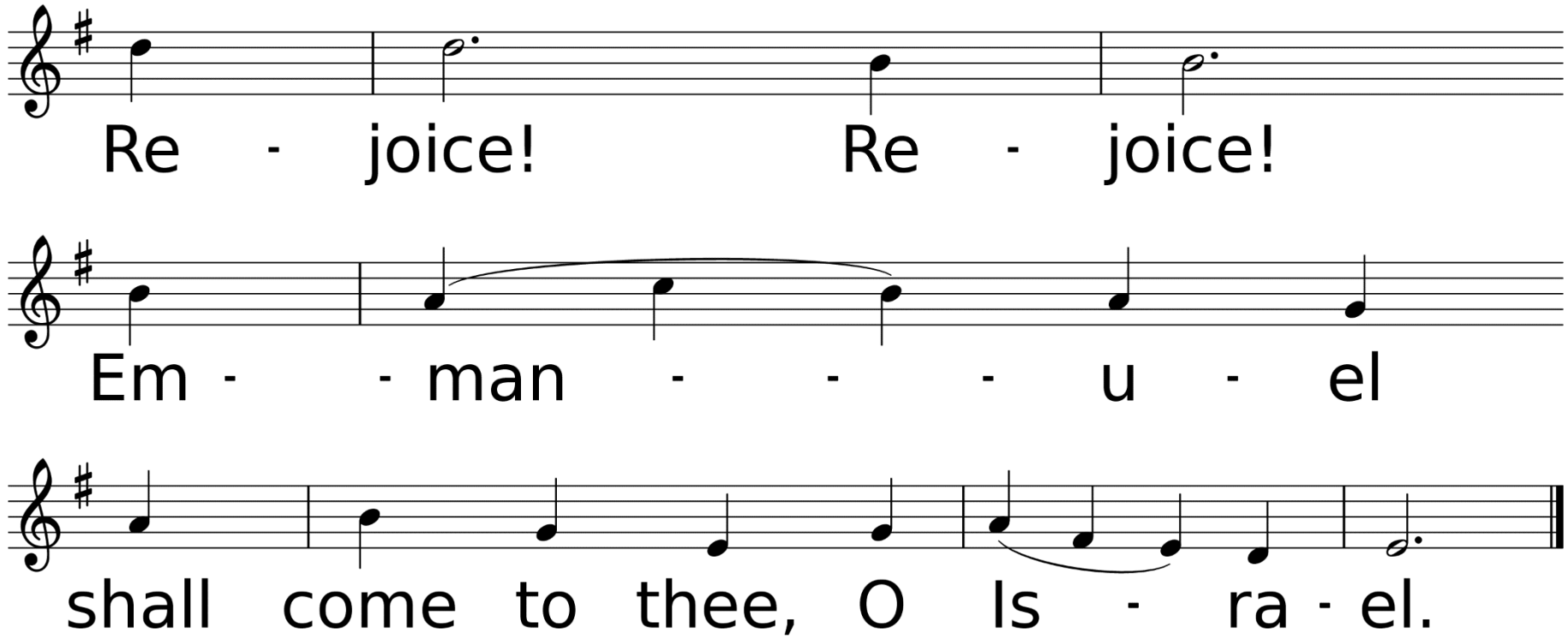


WORDS: 9th cent. Latin; trans. st. 1, 3, 5ab, 6cd, 7ab The Hymnal, 1940; © 1940, 1943, renewed 1981 The Church Pension Fund; st. 2, Henry Sloane Coffin, 1916; st. 4, 5cd, 6ab, 7cd, Laurence Hull Stookey, 1986; © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House
MUSIC (VENI EMMANUEL, LM with Refrain): 15th cent. French; arr. and harm. by Thomas Helmore, 1854


Re - joice! Re - joice!
Em - - man - - - u - el
shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.


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.


Re - joice! Re - joice!
Em - - man - - - u - el
shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

*Dismissal with Blessing

Leader: May the Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into One, things earthly and heavenly, fill you with the sweetness of inward peace and goodwill; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.

Congregation: Amen.

Leader: Go forth in peace and joy.

Congregation: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Thank you for joining us.
We invite you to attend our
Sunday Advent Worship Services at 10:00 AM
Christmas Eve Candlelight & Communion Service
Saturday, December 24th at 5:30 PM
Christmas Day Worship Service
Sunday, December 25th at 10:00 AM

Merry Christmas!