



**Advent Sunday  
December 7, 2025**

**Prince of Peace Lutheran Church**  
2600 Atlantic Avenue  
Fernandina Beach, FL 32034

Church Office: (904) 261-6306  
Church Fax: (904) 261-2034  
Email: [poplc.office@gmail.com](mailto:poplc.office@gmail.com)  
Web site: <http://poplcweb.com>  
Like us on : [www.facebook.com/poplc2](http://www.facebook.com/poplc2)

**Our Mission**

*To strengthen our faith in Jesus Christ through worship  
and fellowship; to be the face of Christ for all.*

Presiding Pastor: Rev. Pat Harris  
Secretary: Terry Smith

**WELCOME!** We are happy to have you with us for worship today. We are in the season of advent in the church and are preparing to celebrate Christmas. Join us in our Carol Liturgy today.

***Prince of Peace Lutheran Church***  
*Faith, Worship, Fellowship*

**Everything you need** to participate in worship is printed in this worship booklet.

**Bold print = Congregational Responses**

**Holy Communion** is a gift of God's grace. This is the table of the Lord. All are welcome.

**Introduction to the day**

The new church year begins with a wake-up call: Christ is coming soon! In today's readings both Paul and Jesus challenge us to wake from sleep, for we know neither the day nor hour of the Lord's coming. Isaiah proclaims the day when God will gather all people on the holy mountain and there will be no more war or suffering. Though we vigilantly watch for the promised day of salvation, we wait for what we already have: Christ comes among us this day as the word and meal that strengthens our faith in the promises of God.

## **GATHERING**

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

### **A TIME OF QUIET REFLECTION**

*A Time for Meditation & Prayer*

### **WELCOME AND MISSION NOTES**

**PRELUDE:** *by the POP Band*

*(We stand as we are able)*

### **P: CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

We confess our sins before God and one another.

*A brief time of silence for self reflection.*

Lord of Life,

**Before the beginning of time, you were. After time is done, you will be. Show compassion and grace to your people when we fail to love you, love our neighbors, and love life. Generously pour out your forgiveness so we might turn back to you, and to all the ways of love.**

**Amen.**

God's love cannot be stopped by anything. No distance, height, depth, or brokenness will impede God's love. God knows you intimately, and will never stop loving you. In the name of Christ our Lord, you are forgiven all your sin. Live in the love of God.

**Amen.**

# Christ, Be Our Light



1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for  
 2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for  
 3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for  
 4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for  
 5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,  
 hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone  
 wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,  
 warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,  
 hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.  
 has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.  
 bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.  
 shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.  
 to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.



*Refrain*  
 Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957

Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell

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(We are seated)

## LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

We praise you, O God, for this victory wreath  
that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent.  
As we light the candles on this wreath,  
strengthen our hearts  
as we await the Lord's coming in glory.  
Enlighten us with your grace,  
that we may serve our neighbors in need.  
Grant this through Christ our Lord,  
whose coming is certain and whose day draws near.  
**Amen.**

## HYMN FOR LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

ELW 240—Vs 2 only

### Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah



- 1 Light one can-dle to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 2 Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 3 Light three can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 4 Light four can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra - el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.  
He shall feed the flock like a shep-herd, gent - ly lead them home - ward.  
Lift your heads and lift high the gate-way for the King of glo - ry.  
He is com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your lights be shin - ing!

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954  
Music: Yiddish folk tune  
Text © 1984 Fortress Press

TIF IN VELDELE  
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## PRAYER OF THE DAY

A: Let us pray.

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming nurture our growth as people of repentance and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## WORD

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

**MESSAGE FOR CHILDREN** *(All children are welcome to come to the front steps of the Altar to hear and interact with the kids sermon. They may receive a treat for coming forward.)*

## FIRST READING: Isaiah 11:1-10

R: A reading from Isaiah.

- <sup>1</sup> A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,  
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.
- <sup>2</sup> The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,  
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the spirit of counsel and might,  
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.
- <sup>3</sup> His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.  
He shall not judge by what his eyes see  
or decide by what his ears hear,
- <sup>4</sup> but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor  
and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth;  
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,  
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
- <sup>5</sup> Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist  
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.
- <sup>6</sup> The wolf shall live with the lamb;  
the leopard shall lie down with the kid;  
the calf and the lion will feed together,  
and a little child shall lead them.
- <sup>7</sup> The cow and the bear shall graze;  
their young shall lie down together;  
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
- <sup>8</sup> The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,  
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.
- <sup>9</sup> They will not hurt or destroy  
on all my holy mountain,  
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD  
as the waters cover the sea.
- <sup>10</sup> On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of  
him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

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



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## PSALM: 72:1-7, 18-19

- <sup>1</sup> Give the king your jus-<sup>1</sup> tice, O God,  
and your righteousness to<sup>1</sup> the king's son;  
<sup>2</sup> **that he may rule your<sup>1</sup> people righteously**  
**and the<sup>1</sup> poor with justice;**  
<sup>3</sup> that the mountains may bring prosperity<sup>1</sup> to the people,  
and the<sup>1</sup> hills, in righteousness.  
<sup>4</sup> **Let him defend the needy a-<sup>1</sup> mong the people,**  
**rescue the poor, and crush<sup>1</sup> the oppressor.**  
<sup>5</sup> May he live as long as the sun and<sup>1</sup> moon endure,  
from one generation<sup>1</sup> to another.  
<sup>6</sup> **Let him come down like rain upon<sup>1</sup> the mown field,**  
**like showers that wa-<sup>1</sup> ter the earth.**  
<sup>7</sup> In his time may the<sup>1</sup> righteous flourish;  
and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall<sup>1</sup> be no more.  
<sup>18</sup> **Blessed are you, LORD God, the<sup>1</sup> God of Israel;**  
**you alone do<sup>1</sup> wondrous deeds!**  
<sup>19</sup> And blessed be your glorious<sup>1</sup> name forever,  
and may all the earth be filled with your glory. A-<sup>1</sup> men. Amen.

## SECOND READING: Romans 15:4-13

R: A reading from Romans.

<sup>4</sup> Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. <sup>5</sup> May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup> so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup> Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. <sup>8</sup> For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the ancestors <sup>9</sup> and that the gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will confess you among the gentiles and sing praises to your name"; <sup>10</sup> and again he says, "Rejoice, O gentiles, with his people"; <sup>11</sup> and again, "Praise the Lord, all you gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him"; <sup>12</sup> and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the gentiles; in him the gentiles shall hope." <sup>13</sup> May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

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

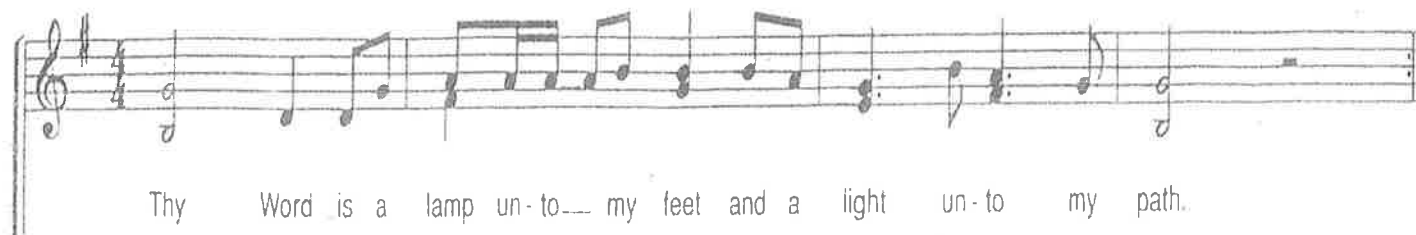
*(We stand as we are able)*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

### Thy Word

Words by Amy Grant  
Music by Michael W. Smith

G D G C D G CCLI#1249345



## GOSPEL: Matthew 3:1-12

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

<sup>1</sup> In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, <sup>2</sup> "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." <sup>3</sup> This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.' " <sup>4</sup> Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. <sup>5</sup> Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region around the Jordan were going out to him, <sup>6</sup> and they were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>7</sup> But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for his baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? <sup>8</sup> Therefore, bear fruit worthy of repentance, <sup>9</sup> and do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor,' for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. <sup>10</sup> Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire. <sup>11</sup> "I baptize you with water for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is more powerful than I, and I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>12</sup> His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

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

**SERMON:** *Rev. Pat Harris*

*(We stand as we are able)*



## Love Divine, All Loves Excelling



1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heav'n, to  
 2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - 'ry  
 3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy  
 4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and spot - less



earth come down! Fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy  
 trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us  
 life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -  
 let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -



faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,  
 find thy prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;  
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,  
 ly re - stored in thee! Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,



pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with  
 Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as  
 serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee  
 till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.  
 its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.  
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.  
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise!

*(We are seated or we kneel)*

**A: PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

In our waiting and watching, we come to you in prayer, O God, trusting your promise to renew the church, the nations, and the whole creation.

*A brief silence.*

With wisdom and understanding, inspire the faithful around the world. Unite hearts and minds in work to address poverty, access to housing, and equity among peoples.

God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

With counsel and might, move us to care for creation. As we dream of the day when all creatures will flourish alongside one another, guide us in ways humanity and all creation will mutually thrive.

God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

With righteousness and faithfulness, encourage nations to live in harmony with one another. We pray for international student and teacher exchanges, for our partner churches, and for the shared mission of Lutheran World Relief and Lutheran Disaster Response.

God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

With steadfastness and encouragement, strengthen those who have lost hope in the face of grief, depression, or disease. Renew the spirits of those recovering from surgery and medical procedures.

God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Lord God, be present to all who are sick, grieving or in any need. Empower all people who wait for change especially pray for those from our prayer list and these we say silently or aloud. *(PAUSE)*

God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

With welcome and hospitality, embolden us in our shared ministry to overcome all that divides. In acts of repentance, reconciliation, and reparation, may we serve in the way of Christ.

God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

With joy and peace, we remember our ancestors in the faith. Fill us with the hope of the Holy Spirit now and into the ages of ages.

God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, you are our sure foundation and rock of salvation. Draw near to all those who put themselves in harms way for the sake of others, especially our military personnel, first responders, and those in the medical field.

God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

P: Draw near to us, O God, as we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ, Emmanuel.

**Amen.**

*(We stand as we greet one another with Christ's blessing of peace)*

**PEACE**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**MEAL**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

**OFFERING** *(Responding to God's grace, we offer our gifts and our tithes)*

**SPECIAL MUSICAL OFFERING:** *by the POP Band*

*(We stand as sing as the gifts are brought forward)*

**OFFERTORY:** *(Sung to the tune of "Away in a Manger")*

Accept, O Lord, the gifts that we bring,  
to place on your table as praises we sing.

Our time and our talents, our lives and our love,  
we offer with thanks for your gifts to us.

**OFFERING PRAYER**

A: Let us pray.

God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You share your gifts with all people. Receive our gifts and offerings of thanks in response to your gracious love. Help us to see the needs in our neighbors as ways for us to share the blessings we first received from you, in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

### **DIALOGUE**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

### **PREFACE**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

### **HOLY, HOLY, HOLY:** *(Sung in the tune of "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing")*

Holy, holy, holy Lord! <sup>1</sup> God of hosts, by all adored!

Heav'n and earth cannot contain <sup>1</sup> all the glory of your name!

Hail hosanna, God most high! <sup>1</sup> Blest is he who now draws nigh

In the name of God the King! <sup>1</sup> Hallelujahs glad we sing:

Hail hosanna! Praises due <sup>1</sup> be forever, Lord, to you!

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,  
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,  
who preached good news to the poor,  
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we claim the Lord's death until he comes again.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,  
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,  
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be all honor and glory, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER** *(Spoken)*

**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 TO COMMUNION**

The table is set and All of God's Children are Welcome.

**COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION** *(Holy communion is a gift of God's grace and is open to all. Please come down the center aisle as directed by the ushers to receive the host from the pastor. Gluten free hosts are available. Receive the wine from the Assisting Minister. Grape juice is available in the center ring. Return to your seats by the side aisle placing empty cups in receptacle.)*

## **COMMUNION CANTICLE:** *(Sung to the tune of "O Little Town of Bethlehem")*

O Lamb of God, the son of God, you take away our sin.  
Cast out the darkness from our lives that you may dwell within.  
Fill us with your compassion. Grant us your peace and grace.  
Draw near to us, come Lord Jesus, within this holy place.

## IN HIS TIME

1. In His time, \_\_\_\_\_ in His time, \_\_\_\_\_ He makes all things beau - ti - ful In His time, \_\_\_\_\_

Lord, please show me ev - 'ry day As you're teach-ing me your way That you do just what you say In your time, \_\_\_\_\_

The musical score is written on two staves. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the first verse, with lyrics: "1. In His time, \_\_\_\_\_ in His time, \_\_\_\_\_ He makes all things beau - ti - ful In His time, \_\_\_\_\_". The second staff contains the melody for the second line of the first verse, with lyrics: "Lord, please show me ev - 'ry day As you're teach-ing me your way That you do just what you say In your time, \_\_\_\_\_". Chord symbols are placed above the notes: C, Dm7, G, C, Dm7, G7, C, C7 on the first staff; F, G7, C, Am, Dm7, G7, C on the second staff.

2. In your time, in your time,  
 You make all things beautiful  
 In your time.  
 Lord, my life to you I bring;  
 May each song I have to sing  
 Be to you a lovely thing  
 In your time.

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## O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive  
 2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things  
 3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on  
 4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's

Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here  
 far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;  
 Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law  
 tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,

*Refrain*  
 un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
 teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joice! Re-joice!  
 in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.  
 and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.

Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

- 5 O come, O Key of David, come,  
 and open wide our heav'nly home;  
 make safe the way that leads on high,  
 and close the path to misery. *Refrain*
- 6 O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer;  
 O Sun of justice, now draw near.  
 Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
 and death's dark shadow put to flight. *Refrain*
- 7 O come, O King of nations, come,  
 O Cornerstone that binds in one:  
 refresh the hearts that long for you;  
 restore the broken, make us new. *Refrain*
- 8 O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
 and ransom captive Israel,  
 that mourns in lonely exile here  
 until the Son of God appear. *Refrain*

Text: *Psalterium Canticum Catholicarum*, Köln, 1710; tr. composite  
 Music: VENI, EMMANUEL, French processional, 15th cent.  
 Text sts. 2, 6, 7 © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

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*(When all who desire have received the sacrament, we stand as we are able)*

**TABLE BLESSING**

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in the faith in his grace.

**Amen.**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

A: Let us pray,

Almighty God, you provide the true bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that we who have received the Sacrament of his body and blood may abide in him and he in us, that we may be filled with the power of his endless life, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**BLESSING**

P: Please receive this blessing.

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

# SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

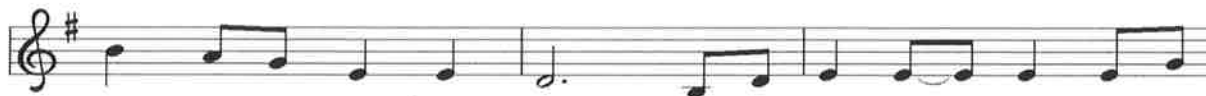
## SENDING SONG

ELW 723

### Canticle of the Turning



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the  
2 Though I am small, my . . . God, my all, you . . .  
3 From the halls of pow'r to the for - tress tow'r, not a  
4 Though the na - tions rage from . . . age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the  
work great . . . things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the  
stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your  
mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.  
depths of the past to the end of the age to be.  
jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant . . . from his throne.  
liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my  
Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to  
The hun - gry poor shall . . . weep no more, for the  
This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my  
those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the  
food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry  
prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?  
strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.



My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn.



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the Good News!  
Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE

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