Welcome to St. James!
Scan the QR code to fill out a newcomer form, give online, or learn more about the events below.

St. James
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

We are a community anchored in Christ, seeking God, sharing His love, and serving others.

First Sunday of Advent

Hope

November 29, 2026

7:30 AM • 8:30 AM • 10:30 AM
Holy Eucharist: Rite II

HAPPENING TODAY

Family Forum	Lectionary Class	Children & Youth Formation	No Mah Jongg Today
9:40 AM in Vestry Room	9:40 AM in Commons Conference Room	9:40 AM	

UPCOMING AT ST. JAMES

December 6	**Advent Lessons & Carols** - 8:30 & 10:30 services **St. Nicholas Visit** in Green Hall between the 8:30 & 10:30 services **Wiggles Book Signing** - with author and parishioner Bob Douglass
December 13	**Children's Christmas Pageant Practice** following the 10:30 service **Christmas Open House** - 5:00 PM in Green Hall Please RSVP to info@stjamesfairhope.org
December 14	**Women's Christmas Party** 6:00-8:00 PM in the Vestry Room. Bring a dish to share, and a gift ($15 or less)
December 20	**Children's Christmas Pageant Practice** following the 10:30 service
December 22	**Service of the Longest Night** 6:00 PM in the Chapel
December 23	**Cookie Decorating for Santa** 2:00-3:00 PM in Green Hall
December 24	**Christmas Eve Services** 3:00 PM - Children's Christmas Pageant with Children's Choir 6:00 PM with Adult Choir and Brass 10:00 PM with Choral Ensemble and Brass
December 25	**Christmas Day Service** at 10:30 AM
December 27	**Christmas Lessons & Carols** at the 8:30 and 10:30 services
December 28-Jan. 1	**Church office closed**

Holy Eucharist, Rite II - The First Sunday of Advent

Hymns and service music can be found at the back of the bulletin.

PRELUDE O Come, O Come, Emmanuel arr. John Ferguson

PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 616 Hail to the Lord's anointed *Es flog ein kleins Waldvögelein*

OPENING SENTENCES

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People: **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

The Celebrant may say

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

TRISAGION S-100 David Hurd

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, Have mercy upon us.
Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, Have mercy upon us.
Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, Have mercy upon us.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you.**
Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**.

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF ISAIAH Isaiah 64:1-9

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence– as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil--to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

The Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

S-248 The Song of Zechariah, Canticle 16 Plainsong, Tone 8

(Read in unison at 7:30)

In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us.

1 Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel;
he has come to his people and set them free.

2 He has raised up for us a mighty savior,
born of the house of his servant David.

3 Through his holy prophets he promised of old,
that he would save us from our enemies,
from the hands of all who hate us.

4 He promised to show mercy to our fathers
and to remember his holy covenant.

5 This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham,
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

6 Free to worship him without fear,
holy and righteous in his sight
all the days of our life.

7 You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,

8 To give his people knowledge of salvation
by the forgiveness of their sins.

9 In the tender compassion of our God
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

10 To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us.

A READING FROM THE FIRST LETTER OF PAUL TO THE CORINTHIANS 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind-- just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you-- so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SEQUENCE HYMN NO. 56 O come, O come, Emmanuel *Veni, veni Emanuel*
(stanzas 1 – 2)

1 O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

2 O come, thou Wisdom from on high, who orderest all things mightily;
to us the path of knowledge show, and teach us in her ways to go.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO MARK

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Mark 13:24-37

Jesus said, "In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. "From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. "But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

The Gospel of the Lord.
People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON The Reverend Amanda Dosher

THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Form IV

Let us pray for the church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. *Silence.*

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. *Silence.*

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory. *Silence.*

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. *Silence.*

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. *Silence.*

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. *Silence.*

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

A PRAYER FOR GENEROSITY IN STEWARDSHIP

Gracious and loving God, giver of every good gift: we give you thanks for this parish and school, and for the many blessings you have entrusted to us. Give us grateful and generous hearts, that we may offer our time, our talents, and our treasure for the building up of your kingdom. Bless our stewardship, strengthen our common life, and guide us to give with faith and joy. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE CONFESSION

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Celebrant and people

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

THE ABSOLUTION

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE PEACE *The people stand.*

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People: **And also with you.**

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY

8:30	I Want to Be Ready	Spiritual
10:30	I Want to Be Ready Frank Stabler, solist	Moses Hogan

PRESENTATION HYMN No. 65 Prepare the way, O Zion *Bereden väg för Herran*

Prepare the way, O Zion, your Christ is drawing near!
Let every hill and valley a level way appear.
Greet One who comes in glory, foretold in sacred story.
Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most holy name.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING Eucharistic Prayer B

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you.**
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.
People: **We lift them to the Lord.**
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS S-124 David Hurd

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

The people kneel or stand as they are able.
Then the Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with James and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. AMEN.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

FRACTION

7:30 Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

8:30/10:30 S-161 David Hurd

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.

THE INVITATION AND MINISTRATION

All are welcome and encouraged to receive the sacrament of Holy Eucharist. To receive the host (bread), place your hands together. You may immediately eat the host, or wait to dip it into the wine (intinction). To receive from the chalice, help the minister guide the chalice to your lips. If you do not wish to receive the wine, please cross your arms over your chest after you receive the host. Receiving the host or wine alone is considered full communion. Gluten-free hosts are available upon request.

COMMUNION MUSIC

HYMN. NO. 61	"Sleepers, wake!" A voice astounds us	*Wachet auf*
HYMN NO. 51	We the Lord's people, heart and voice uniting	*Decatur Place*

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

BENEDICTION

Friends, our time on Earth is short and we have not much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel the road with us, so be quick to love and make haste to be kind. Remember that God is infinitely more concerned with your future than with your past. May the blessing of God Almighty; Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you this day and always.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN NO. 73 The King shall come when morning dawns *St. Stephen*

DISMISSAL

People: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

POSTLUDE People, Look East arr. Jerry Westenkuehler

SERVANTS

7:30 AM
Ushers: Chuck Wilson, Teddy Faust **Chalice Bearer:** Frances Patton
Lector: Frances Patton **Intercessor:** Gil Wright

8:30 AM
Ushers: Jonathan Burton, Matt Havard, Paul Miller, Glendon Farquhar
Chalice Bearers: Gary Garner, Bill Dowdle, Mary Pilcher, Tiffany Dye
Lector: Matt Havard **Intercessor**: Ed Shell
Acolyte: Ella Gray Lambert **Welcome Ministry:** Misty Campbell
Coffee: Jo Patton, Babs Stapleton

10:30 AM
Ushers: Inge Johnson, Bob Ford, Elaine Estefan, J.D. West
Chalice Bearers: Pel Henry, Tabb Fonde, Nancy Dennis, Nigel Glenday
Lector: Kaci Sims Johnson **Intercessor**: Lynn Russell **Acolytes**: Margaret Conyers, Emily Waters, Brady White, Ida Mae Myrick, Francis Smith
Welcome Ministry: Nancy Bush **Children's Chapel:** Meg Willett

Clergy:
The Reverend De Freeman, *Rector*
The Reverend Amanda Dosher, *Associate Rector*
The Reverend Ellen Huckabay, *Associate Priest*
Director of Music/Organist: Mary Katherine Kilgore
Altar Guild: 11/29: Elmore **12/6:** Stabler/Webb

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I Want to Be Ready - *Hal Leonard Corporation*



THE ST. JAMES PRAYER LIST

Please keep these parishioners in your prayers:

Jayce Adams, Susan Bridges, Evan Brock, Eileen Burke, Jeanelle Clark, Lynne Clarke, Maite Clyatt, Cole/Laurence families, Ashley Conyers, DJ Elmore, Ann Fargason, Pam Wilson Foreman, Denson Freeman, Sr., Mary Freeman, Connie Gebbia, Sarah Matheny Gordon and family, Glenda Gravlee, Mary Henderson, Riva Jackson Gregory, Ilse Hall, Andrea Hawkins, Jack Hoffman, Terri Kennedy, Maggie MacKellar, Judy Macoit, Bill May, Pam Miller, Patti Miller, Annie Mosley, Judy Oxford, Susan Palmer, Shannon Parker, Brenda Pisarkiewicz, Henry Richeson, Joan Rice, Nancy Rowe, Gillian Smith, Ron Stevens, Tommy Thomasson, Cynthia Wallace, John Wallace, Lauren Whitehead, Ron Wilhelm, Robin Williams, Randal Wright, Ben Yancey, Jean Yancey, and those who care for them.

Let us also pray for the needs of others:

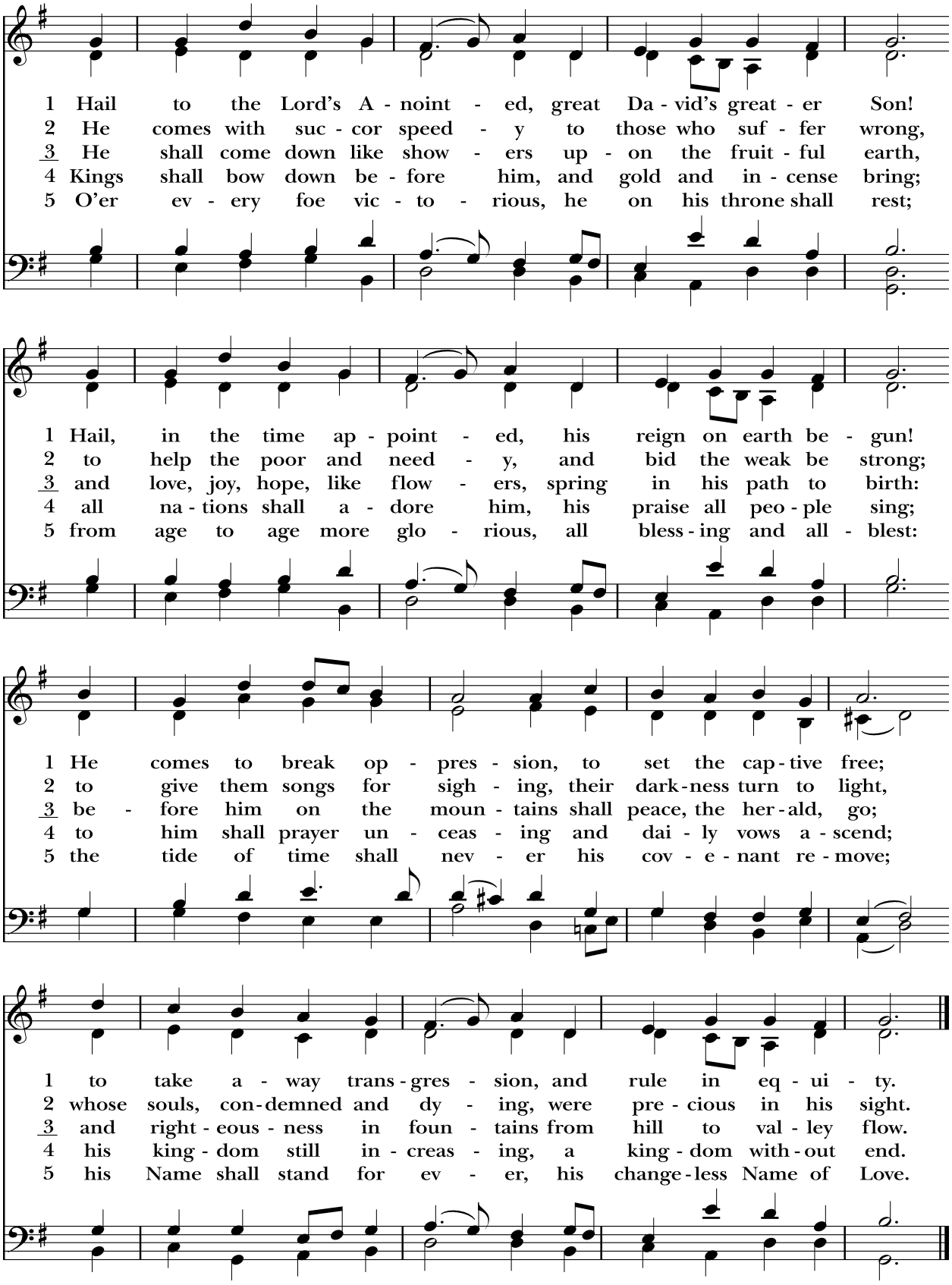
Michael Alexander, Robert Bauer, Colin Beall, Lowery Beall, Rosemary Broadway, Karl Brown, Sherri Browning, Lee Burford, Fred Chesbro, Leland Chesbro, Robert Chesbro, Sidney Cordova, Charlotte Coward, Mary Alice Cherry, Sonja Crawford, Dick Dansereau, Jane Davidson, Lizzy Dickens, Liam Doran, Bowen Dorr, Curren Foose Jr., Ty Freeman, Bill Graston, Michael Gredell, Hayden, Janet Hein, Morgan Henderson, Myra Herndon, Glenn Heveran, Richard Kidwell, Carol Knight, Clayton Ladd, Earl Lambert, John Daniel Landrum, Kay Laubenthal, Peg Lawrence, Moreno Lundy, Heather Maberry, Daniel (Plug) McCants, Ed McNeill, Rebecca Merritt, William "Billy" Miller, John Charles Moore, Murray family, Steve Noe, Stan Norman, Helen Northmore, Brooke & Paul Odell, Ann Parker, Romie Perez, Anne Pilcher, Rebecca Poire, Whitney Rajkovic, Reagan Reynolds, Robbi Rooney, Anna Sawyer, Leslie Sawyer, Lana Schiefer, Porter Sue Simpson, Mimi Sisk, Kim Smith, Margaret Spence, Frances Stanton, Bennett Strenger, Daryl Stephenson, Tracy Taylor, Carol Scott Thayer, Kathy Thurber, Glenda Turner, Rosie Ulmer, Stacy Vail, Brandon Webb, William, Rick Wilkson, Helen Wilson, and those who care for them.

Military Prayer Requests:

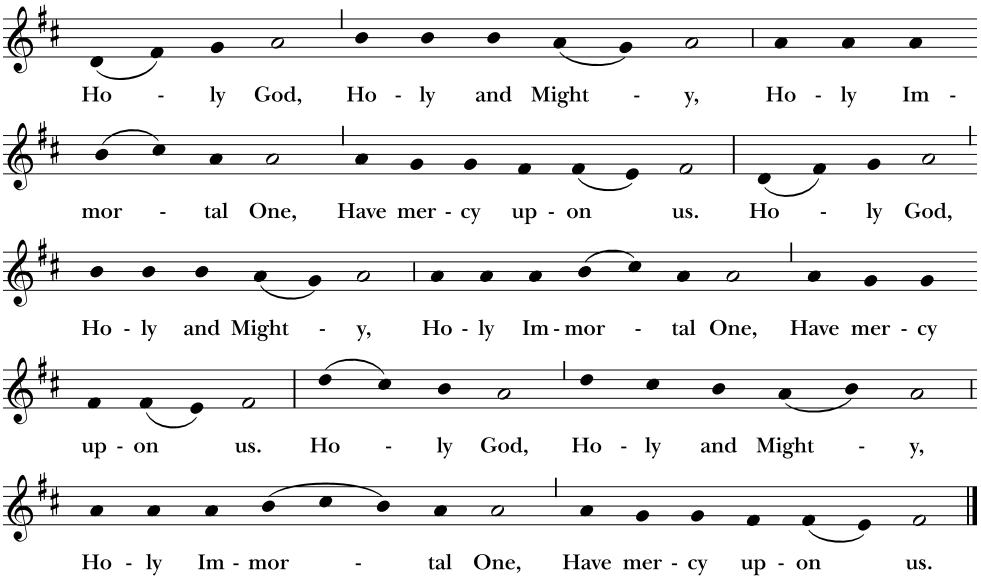
Grayson Armbrecht, Brewer Ayres, Marlin Brutkiewicz, Casey Callister, Chase Carlton, James Cassebaum, Chris Conklin, Jake Cunningham, Jack Y. Dodson, Hayden Freeman, Hunter Freeman, Jace Freeman, Bobby Glover, John Heeren, Daniel Keyser, Josh Leaf, Charles Lewis, Caleb McCory, Mike Mikoff, Stephenie Mikoff, Walter Miller, Grant Phyfer, Robert Pinckard, Kyle Price, Stephen Prugh, Bryan Quinn, Neil Quinn, Celeste Ramming, James Ramming, Lexi Rohrer, Gary Spencer, and Harrison Wilhelm.

To place a name on the prayer list, fill out one of the prayer cards in the Narthex of the church or parish office, or call the parish office at 251-928-2912. Names are listed for 2 months.

Processional Hymn No. 616 Hail to the Lord's Anointed

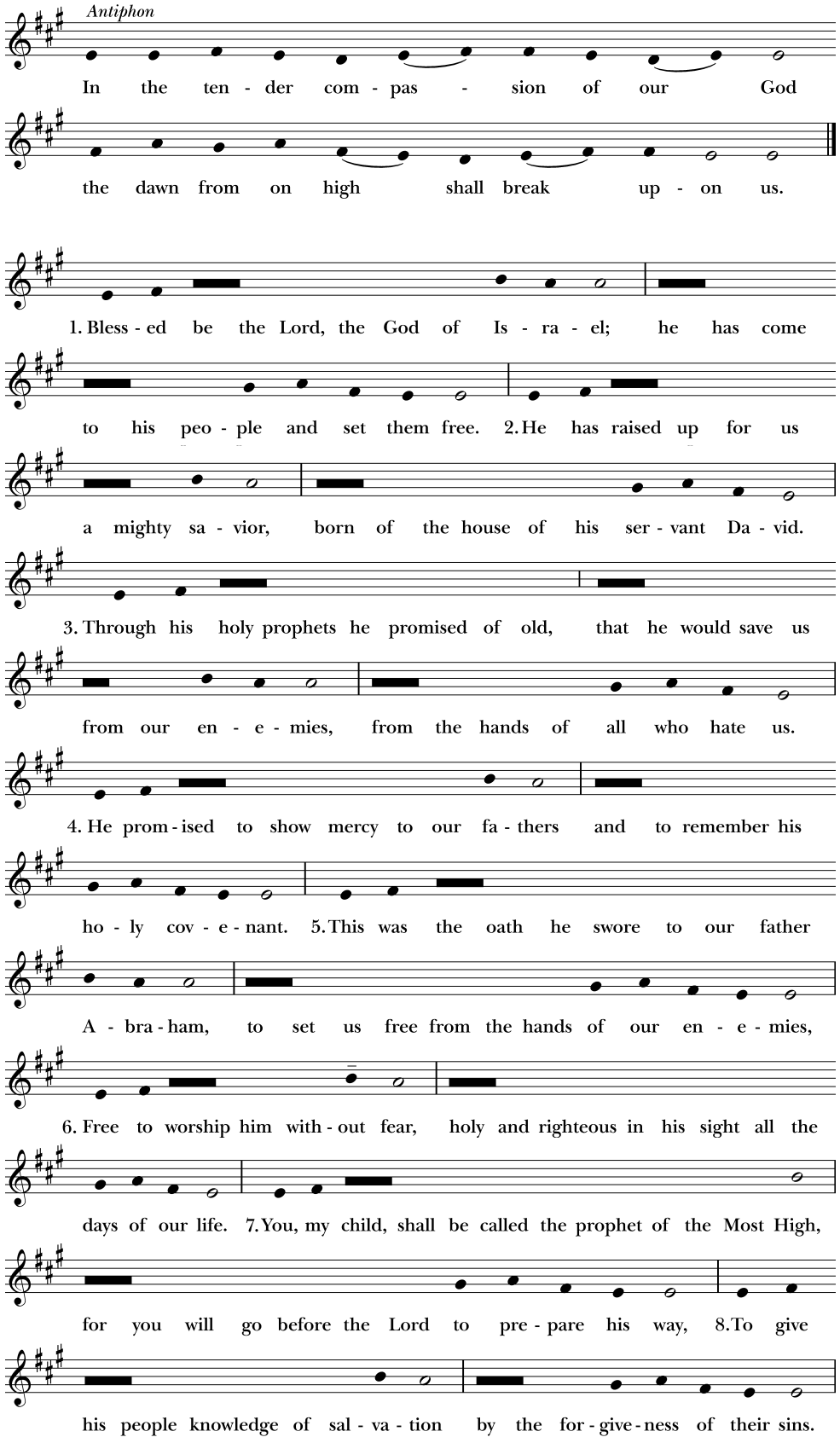


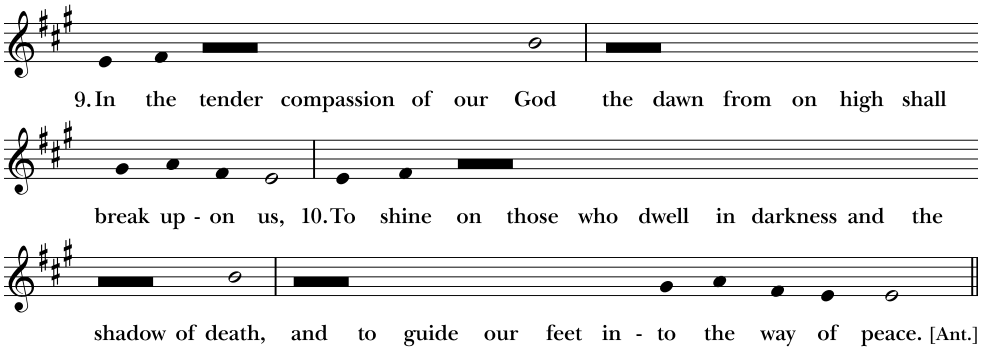
Trisagion S-100



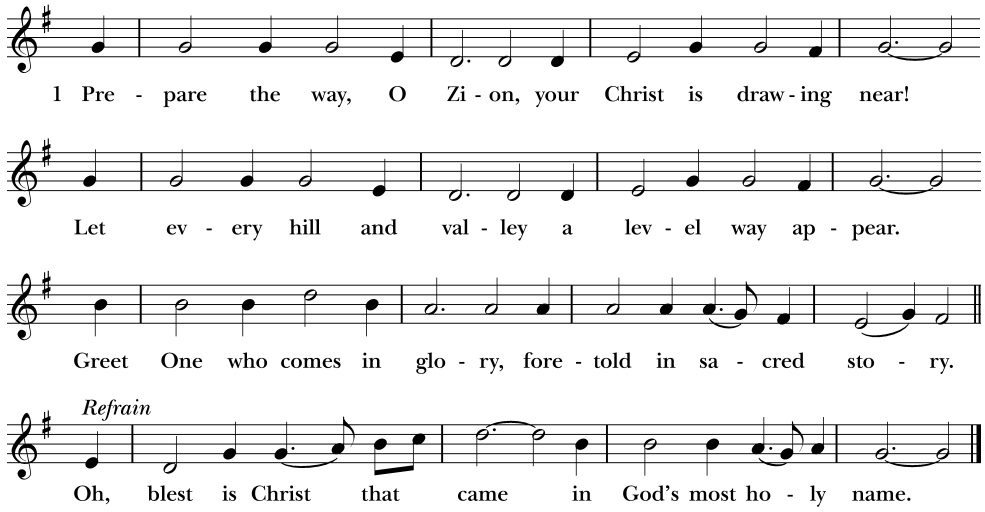
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The Song of Zechariah S-248

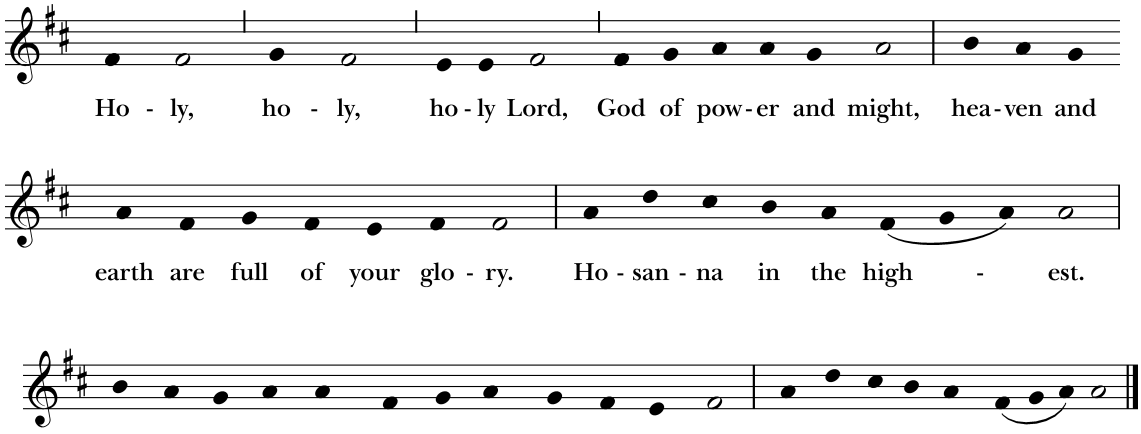



9. In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall
break up - on us, 10. To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the
shadow of death, and to guide our feet in - to the way of peace. [Ant.]

Presentation Hymn No. 65 Prepare the way, O Zion

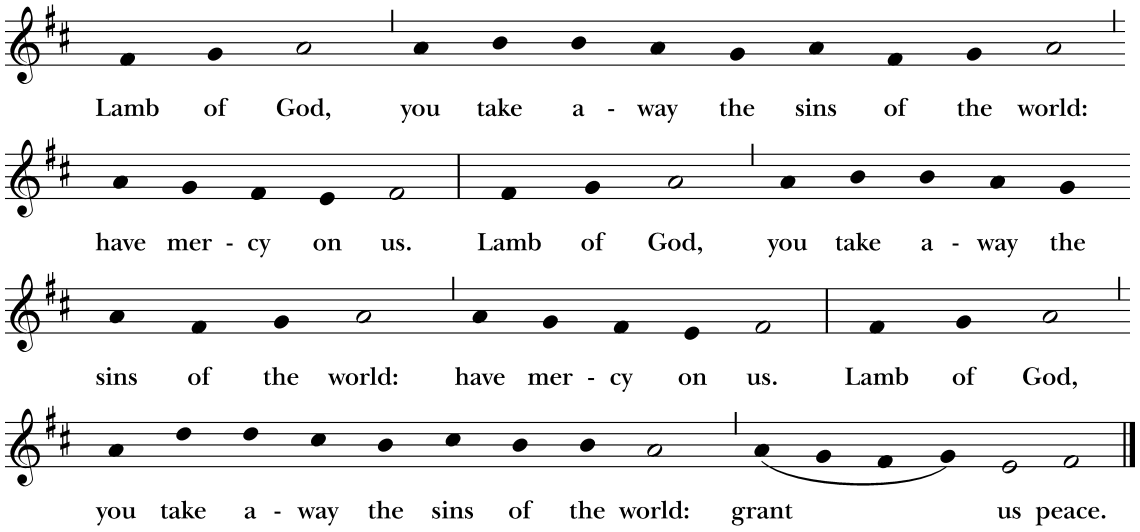


Sanctus S-124



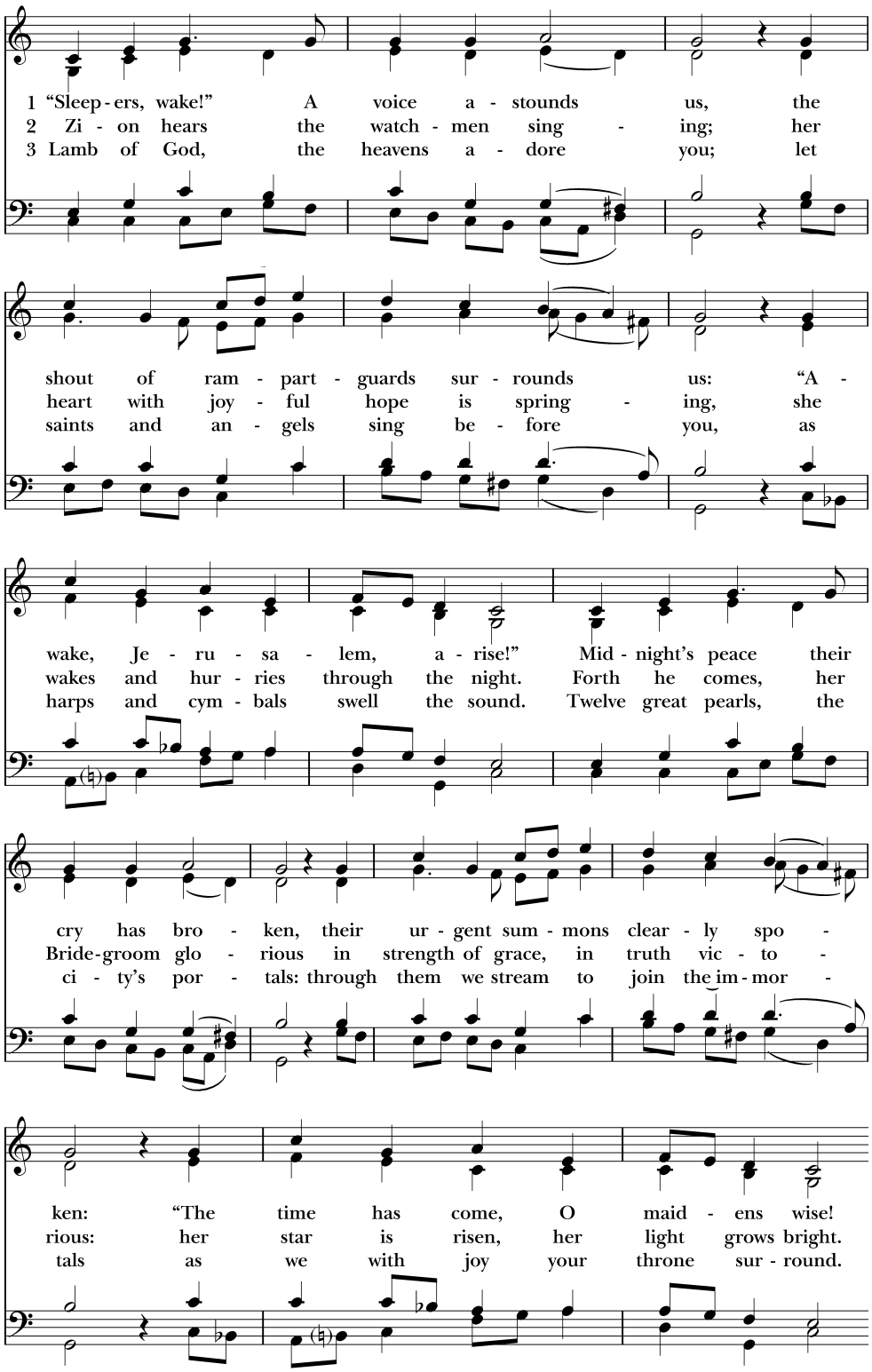
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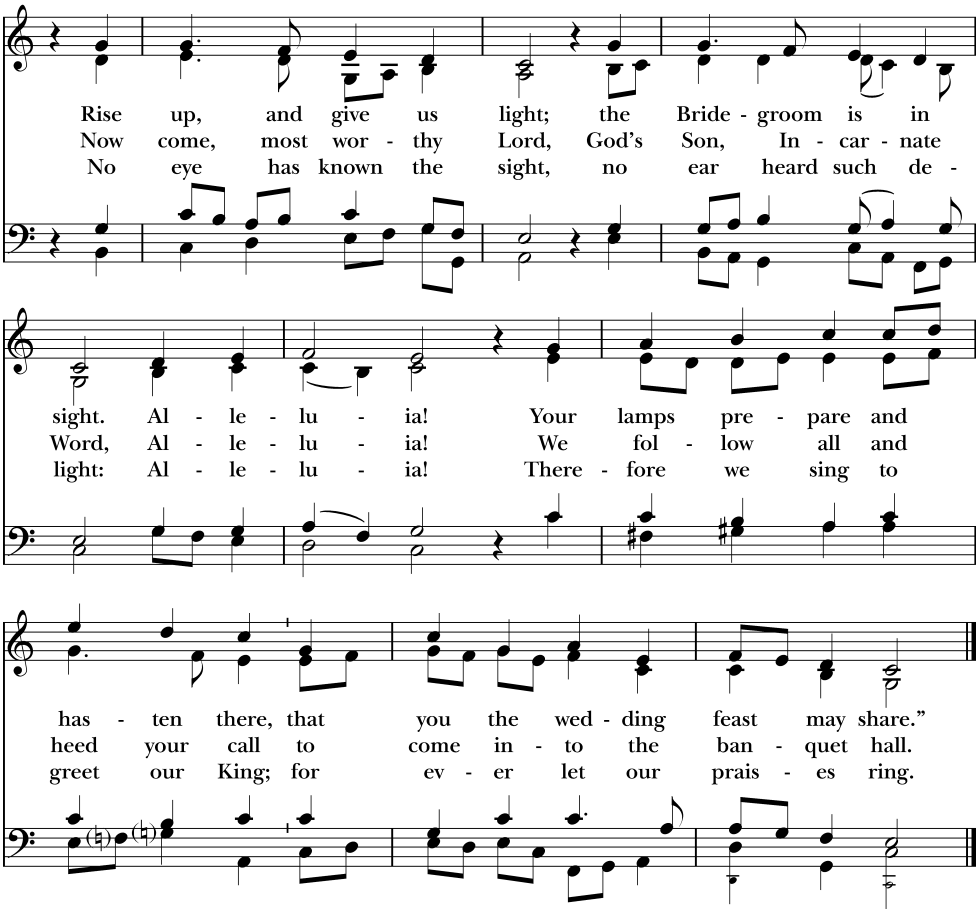
Fraction Anthem: Lamb of God: *Agnus Dei* S-161



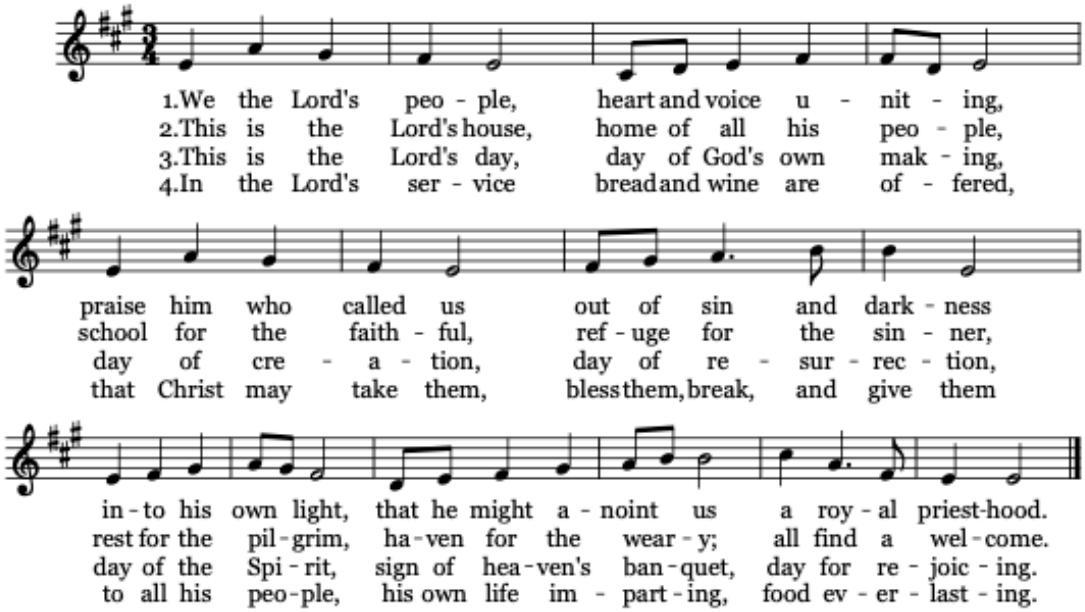
Communion Music

Hymn No. 61 "Sleepers, wake!" A voice astounds us

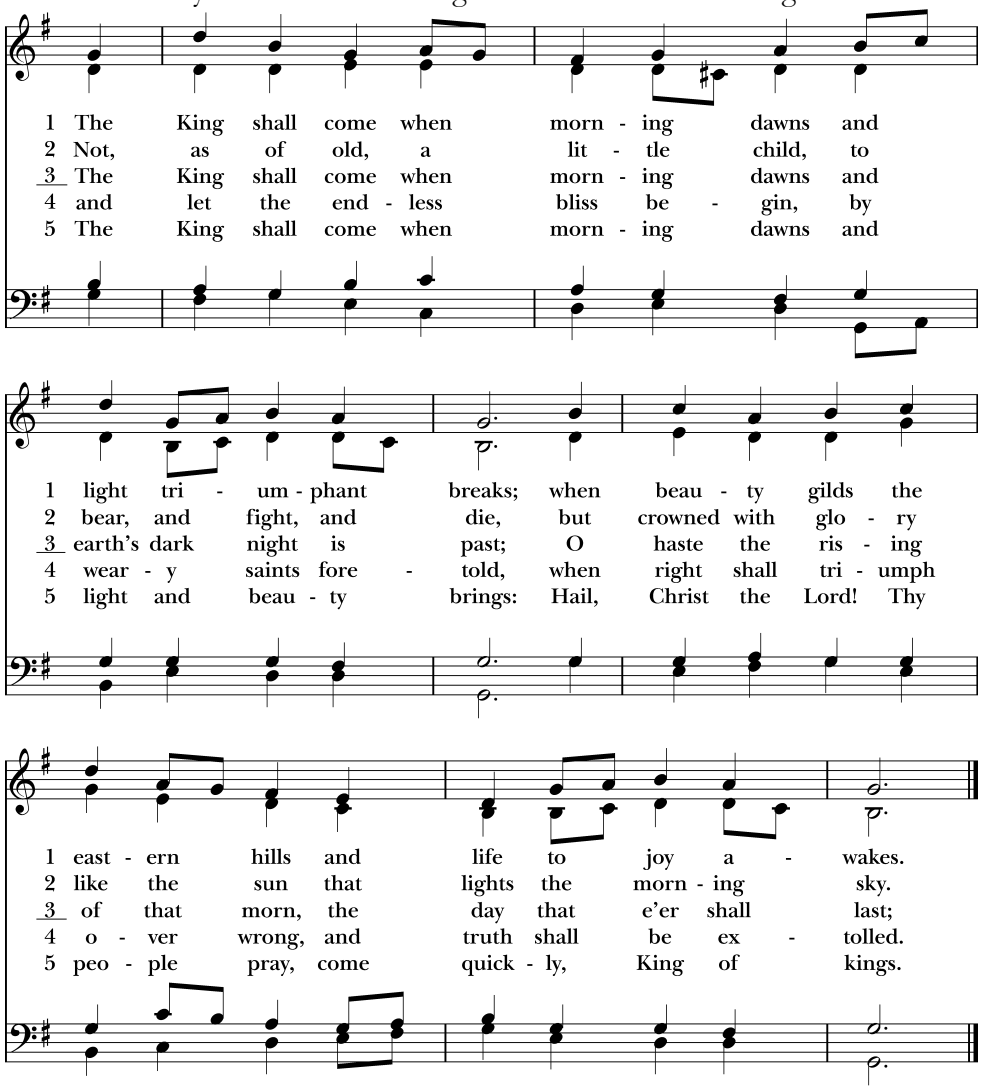




Hymn No. 51 We the Lord's people, heart and voice uniting



Processional Hymn No. 73 The King shall come when morning dawns



St. James Episcopal Church

We are a community anchored in Christ, seeking God, sharing His love and serving others.

The Reverend De Freeman, *Rector*
The Reverend Amanda Dosher, *Associate Rector*
The Reverend Ellen Huckabay, *Associate Priest*

860 North Section Street, Fairhope, AL 36532 251-928-2912 www.stjamesfairhope.org