

WEDNESDAY IN HOLY WEEK

March 31, 2021

The Moravian tradition is a harmony of the Gospels. The goal is to read the events of Holy Week on the days that they occurred – and in a sense, to walk with Jesus through the last week of his earthly ministry. At first it was a private devotional, and then hymns were added to it as well as prayers, to make it suitable for corporate worship. I have added some traditional Anglican prayers, as well as a homily. Let's walk through this week together and ponder anew the love our Lord has for us.

~ The Rev. Michael Gray ~

OPENING HYMN – “The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns”

73, Hymnal 1982
Jamie & Janet Adams

The musical score is written for five voices (Soprano, Alto, Tenor 1, Tenor 2, Bass) and piano accompaniment. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line with five staves and a piano line with two staves. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are arranged in five lines, corresponding to the five voices. The first system covers the first line of lyrics, the second system covers the second line, and the third system covers the third line. The piano accompaniment provides a harmonic foundation for the vocal parts.

1 The King shall come when morn - ing dawns and
2 Not, as of old, a lit - tle child, to
3 The King shall come when morn - ing dawns and
4 and let the end - less bliss be - gin, by
5 The King shall come when morn - ing dawns and

1 light tri - um - phant breaks; when beau - ty gilds the
2 bear, and fight, and die, but crowned with glo - ry
3 earth's dark night is past; O haste the ris - ing
4 wear - y saints fore - told, when right shall tri - umph
5 light and beau - ty brings: Hail, Christ the Lord! Thy

1 east - ern hills and life to joy a - wakes.
2 like the sun that lights the morn - ing sky.
3 of that morn, the day that e'er shall last;
4 o - ver wrong, and truth shall be ex - tolled.
5 peo - ple pray, come quick - ly, King of kings.

Officiant: Let us pray.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Officiant:

Assist us mercifully with your help, O Lord God of our salvation, that we may enter with joy upon the contemplation of those mighty acts, whereby you have given us life and immortality; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE FIRST LESSON

Lina Frank, reader

As Jesus came out of the temple and was going away, his disciples came to point out to him the buildings of the temple. Then he asked them, “You see all these, do you not? Truly I tell you, not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down.” When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately, saying, “Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?”

Jesus answered them, “Beware that no one leads you astray. For many will come in my name, saying, ‘I am the Messiah!’ and they will lead many astray. And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars; see that you are not alarmed; for this must take place, but the end is not yet. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and there will be famines and earthquakes in various places: all this is but the beginning of the birth pangs.

~ *Matthew 24:1-8*

This will give you an opportunity to testify. So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance; for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. You will be hated by all because of my name. But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your souls.

~ *Luke 21:13-19*

“Then they will hand you over to be tortured and will put you to death, and you will be hated by all nations because of my name. Then many will fall away, and they will betray one another and hate one another. And many false prophets will arise and lead many astray. And because of the increase of lawlessness, the love of many will grow cold. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. And this good news of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the world, as a testimony to all the nations; and then the end will come. “So when you see the desolating sacrilege standing in the holy place, as was spoken of by the prophet Daniel (let the reader understand), then those in Judea must flee to the mountains; the one on the housetop must not go down to take what is in the house; the one in the field must not turn back to get a coat. Woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing infants in those days! Pray that your flight may not be in winter or on a sabbath. For at that time there will be great suffering, such as has not been from the beginning of the world until now, no, and never will be. And if those days had not been cut short, no one would be saved; but for the sake of the elect those days will be cut short. Then if anyone says to you, ‘Look! Here is the Messiah!’ or ‘There he is!’ — do not believe it. For false messiahs and false prophets will appear and produce great signs and omens, to lead astray, if possible, even the elect. Take note, I have told you beforehand. So, if they say to you, ‘Look! He is in the wilderness,’ do not go out. If they say, ‘Look! He is in the inner rooms,’ do not believe it. For as the lightning comes from the east and flashes as far as the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. Wherever the corpse is, there the vultures will gather. ~ *Matthew 24: 9-28*

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

1. I have de - cid - ed _____ to fol - low Je - sus, _____
 2. Though no one join me, _____ still I will fol - low, _____
 3. The world be - hind me, _____ the cross be - fore me, _____

1. _____ I have de - cid - ed _____ to fol - low Je - sus, _____
 2. _____ Though no one join me, _____ still I will fol - low, _____
 3. _____ The world be - hind me, _____ the cross be - fore me, _____

1. _____ I have de - cid - ed _____ to fol - low Je - sus, _____
 2. _____ Though no one join me, _____ still I will fol - low, _____
 3. _____ The world be - hind me, _____ the cross be - fore me, _____

_____ No turn - ing back, _____ no turn - ing back! _____
 (no turn - ing back,)

THE SECOND LESSON*Jaynie Jackson, reader*

“Immediately after the suffering of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of heaven will be shaken. Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see ‘the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven’ with power and great glory. And he will send out his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

“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 all these things, you know that he is near, at the very gates.

~ Matthew 24:29-33

Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”
~ Luke 21:28

“But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour. ~ Matthew 24:36-44

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

HYMN – “My Lord, What a Morning”

13, LEVAS Hymnal

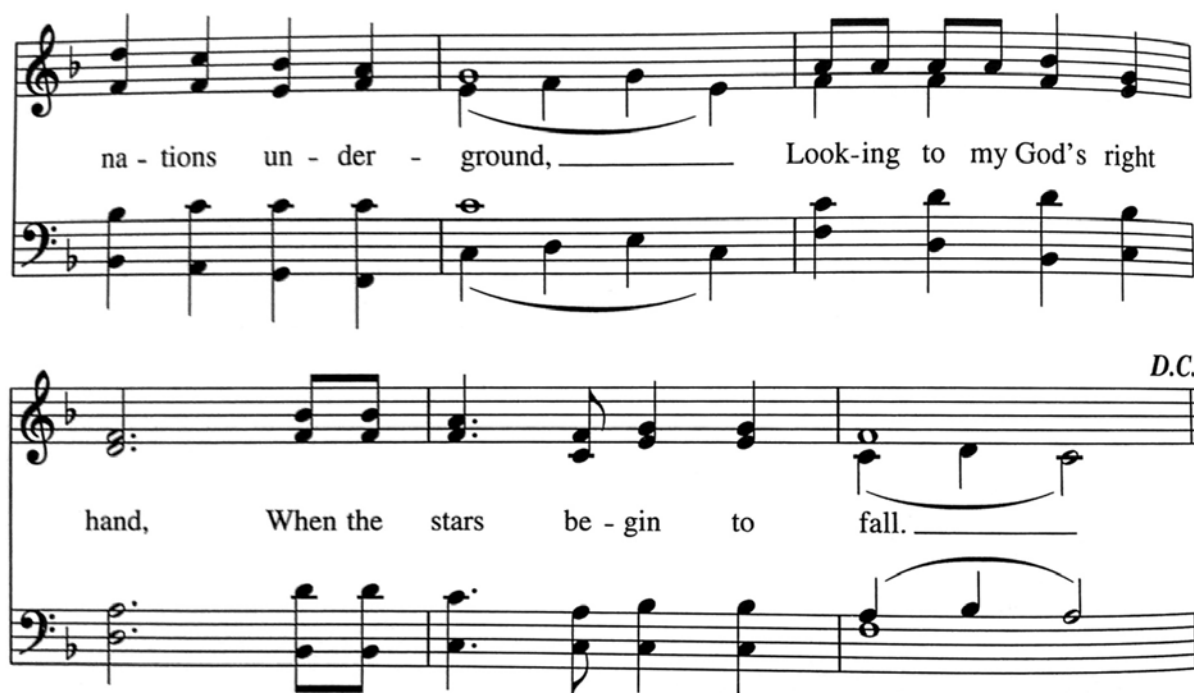
Harmony

My Lord, what a morn - ing, My Lord, what a morn - ing, O

my Lord, what a morn - ing, When the stars be - gin to fall. **Fine**

Unison

1. You'll hear the trum - pet sound,
2. You'll hear the sin - ner mourn,
3. You'll hear the Chris - tian shout, To wake the



THE THIRD LESSON

Marty Moon, reader

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.” ~ *Mark 13:34-37*

“Who then is the faithful and wise slave, whom his master has put in charge of his household, to give the other slaves their allowance of food at the proper time? Blessed is that slave whom his master will find at work when he arrives. Truly I tell you, he will put that one in charge of all his possessions. But if that wicked slave says to himself, ‘My master is delayed,’ and he begins to beat his fellow slaves, and eats and drinks with drunkards, the master of that slave will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour that he does not know. He will cut him in pieces and put him with the hypocrites, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ~ *Matthew 24:45-51*

“Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, ‘Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ But the wise replied, ‘No! There will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.’ And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I do not know you.’ Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

“For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and

trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.' Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life." ~ *Matthew 25:1-46*

Reader: The Word of the Lord

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

HYMN – “God is Love”

577, *Hymnal 1982*

Brad & Jaynie Jackson, duet

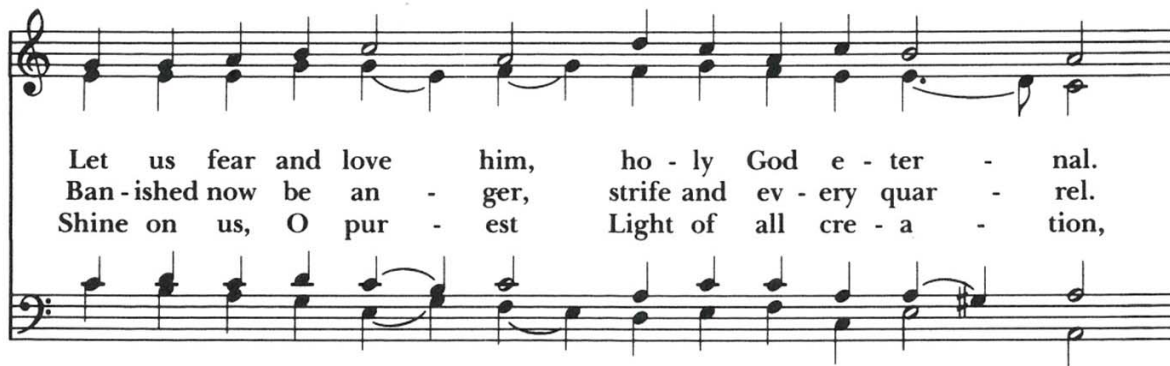
Refrain

God is love, and where true love is God him - self is there.

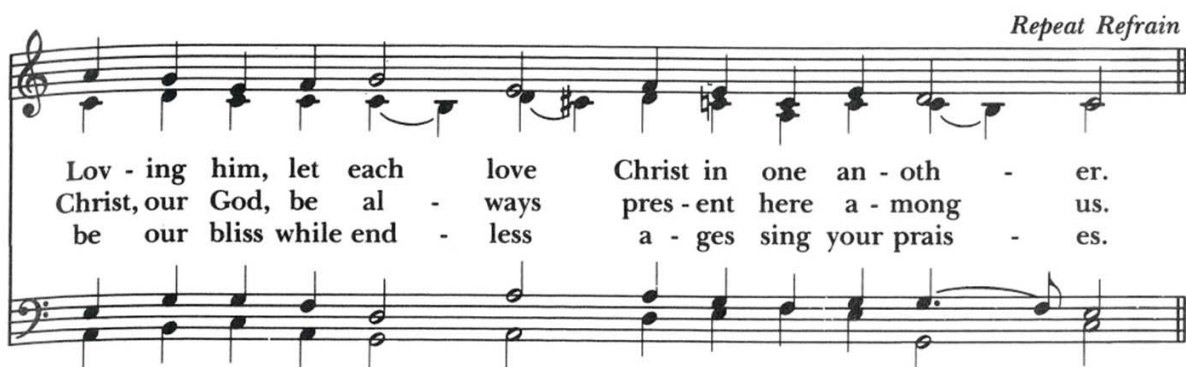
1 Here in Christ we gath - er, love of Christ our call - ing.
 2 When we Chris-tians gath - er, mem-bers of one Bo - dy,
 3 Grant us love's ful - fill - ment, joy with all the bless - ed,



Christ, our love, is with us, glad-ness be his greet - ing.
 let there be in us no dis - cord but one spi - rit.
 when we see your face, O Sa - vior, in its glo - ry.



Let us fear and love him, ho - ly God e - ter - nal.
 Ban - ished now be an - ger, strife and ev - ery quar - rel.
 Shine on us, O pur - est Light of all cre - a - tion,



Repeat Refrain

Lov - ing him, let each love Christ in one an - oth - er.
 Christ, our God, be al - ways pres - ent here a - mong us.
 be our bliss while end - less a - ges sing your prais - es.

THE FOURTH LESSON

The Rev. Deacon Emmetri Beane

When Jesus had finished saying all these things, he said to his disciples, “You know that after two days the Passover is coming, and the Son of Man will be handed over to be crucified.” ~ *Matthew 26:1-2*

It was two days before the Passover and the festival of Unleavened Bread. The chief priests and the scribes were looking for a way to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him; for they said, “Not during the festival, or there may be a riot among the people.” ~ *Mark 14:1-2*

Then Satan entered into Judas called Iscariot, who was one of the twelve; he went away and conferred with the chief priests and officers of the temple police about how he might betray him to them. They were greatly pleased and agreed to give him money. So he consented and began to look for an opportunity to betray him to them when no crowd was present. ~ *Luke 22:3-6*

Deacon: The Word of the Lord.

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

SONG – “Instigator”

by The Rev. Michael Gray

He was a danger to society, a filthy soul of notoriety
He was a threat to all we are and he must die.

An instigator, he tried to change our way.
A perpetrator of a life that doesn't pay.
And such a man must die.

If any other man tries to change the status quo,
He'll get the same. Let everyone around here know,
'cause we don't and to die we only want to live real well.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Michael Gray

Officiant: Let us pray.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Officiant and People:

*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.*

A PRAYER

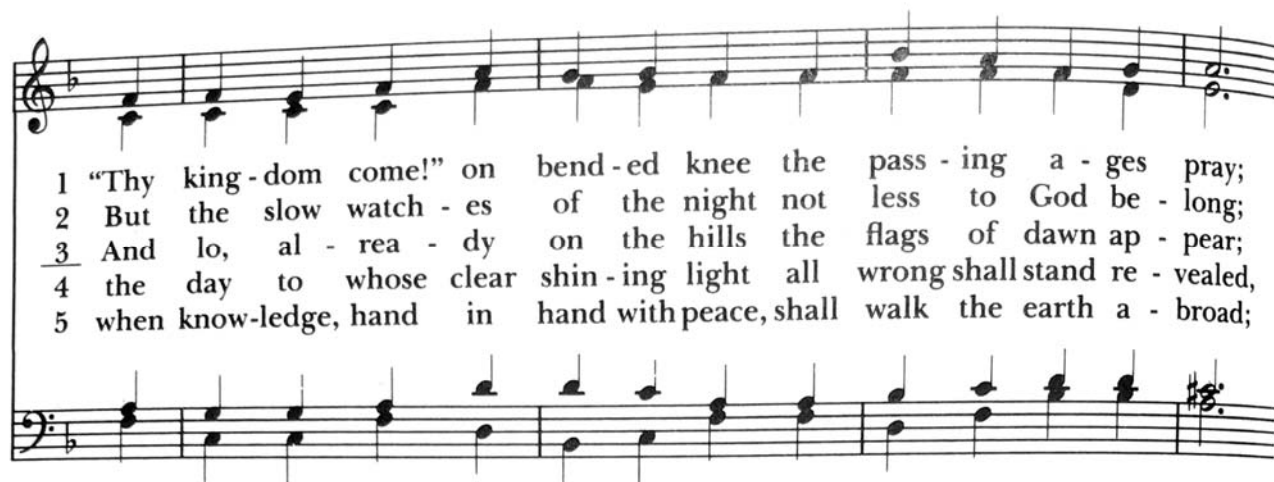
Officiant:

Most loving Father, whose will it is for us to give thanks for all things, to fear nothing but the loss of you, and to cast all our care on you who care for us: Preserve us from faithless fears and worldly anxieties, that no clouds of this mortal life may hide from us the light of that love which is immortal, and which you have manifested to us in your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

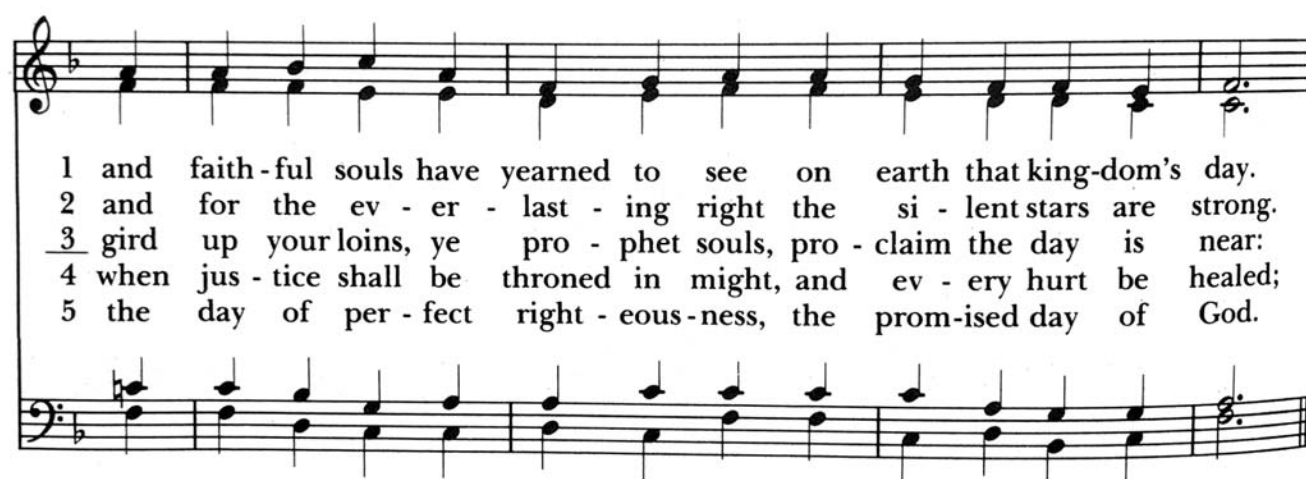
THE BLESSING

Officiant:

The Lord bless you and keep you;
the Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you;
the Lord lift His countenance upon and give you peace.
Now and forever. *Amen.*



1 “Thy king - dom come!” on bend - ed knee the pass - ing a - ges pray;
 2 But the slow watch - es of the night not less to God be - long;
 3 And lo, al - rea - dy on the hills the flags of dawn ap - pear;
 4 the day to whose clear shin - ing light all wrong shall stand re - vealed,
 5 when know - ledge, hand in hand with peace, shall walk the earth a - broad;



1 and faith - ful souls have yearned to see on earth that king - dom's day.
 2 and for the ev - er - last - ing right the si - lent stars are strong.
 3 gird up your loins, ye pro - phet souls, pro - claim the day is near;
 4 when jus - tice shall be throned in might, and ev - ery hurt be healed;
 5 the day of per - fect right - eous - ness, the prom - ised day of God.

We offer our thanks for those who contribute to our service videos.

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 The Rev. Deacon Emmetri Beane - Deacon

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