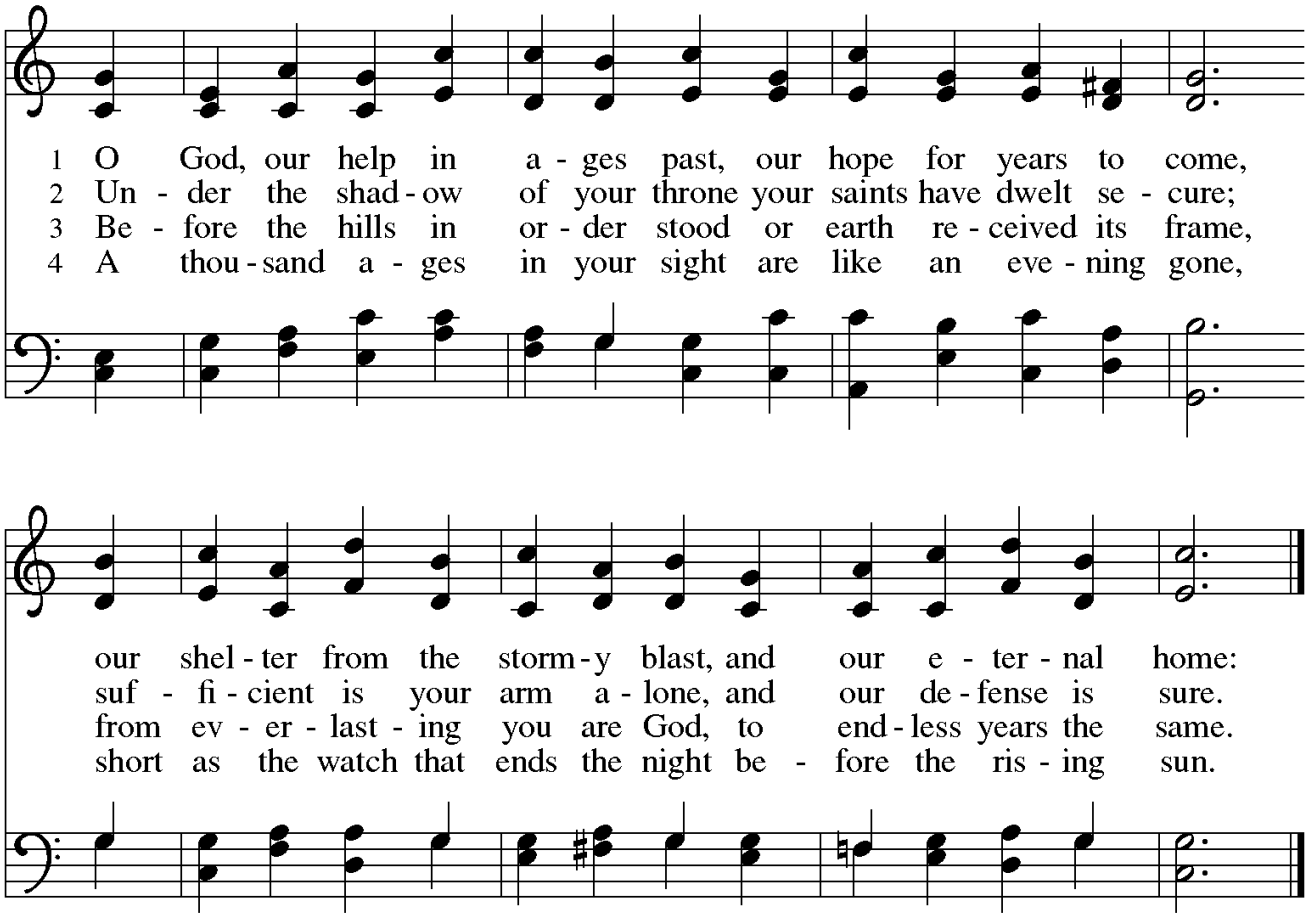
November 19, 2023—25th Sunday after Pentecost

Opening Hymn **ELW #632 "*O God, Our Help in Ages Past*"**



5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
bears all our years away;
we fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the op'ning day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
still be our guard while troubles last
and our eternal home!

Prayer of the Day:
Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

First Reading **Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18**

7 Be silent before the Lord GOD! For the day of the LORD is at hand; the LORD has prepared a
sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests.
12 At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who rest
complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts, "The LORD will not do good, nor will
he do harm." 13 Their wealth shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build
houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from
them.
14 The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the LORD is
bitter, the warrior cries aloud there. 15 That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and
anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick
darkness, 16 a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty
battlements.
17 I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind; because they have
sinned against the LORD, their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung.
18 Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the LORD's wrath; in
the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed; for a full, a terrible end he will make of
all the inhabitants of the earth.

L: Word of God. Word of Life.
C: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading **1 John 3:1-3**

1 Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have
anything written to you. 2 For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come
like a thief in the night. 3 When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction
will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape!
4 But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; 5 for you are all
children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. 6 So then let us
not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; 7 for those who sleep sleep at
night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. 8 But since we belong to the day, let us be
sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation.

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[9]For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, [10]who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. [11]Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing. Through the testing of this ministry you glorify God by your obedience to the confession of the gospel of Christ and by the generosity of your sharing with them and with all others, while they long for you and pray for you because of the surpassing grace of God that he has given you. Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!
L: Word of God. Word of Life.
C: Thanks be to God.

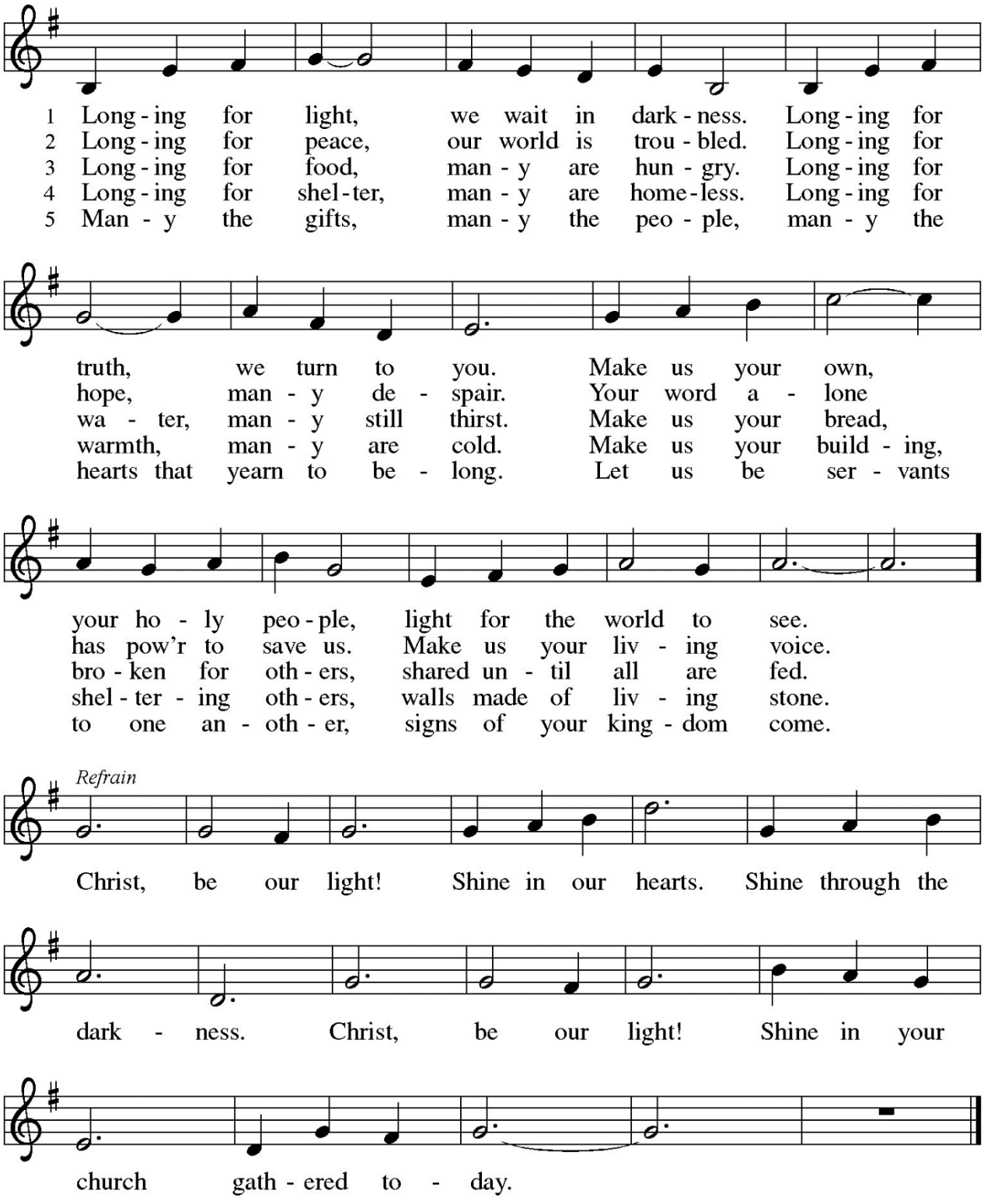
Gospel Matthew 25:14-30

[Jesus said to the disciples:] [14]"For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; [15]to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. [16]The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. [17]In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. [18]But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. [19]After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. [20]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.' [21]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.' [22]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.' [23]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.' [24]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; [25]so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' [26]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? [27]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. [28]So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. [29]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. [30]As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"
P: The Gospel of the Lord.
C: Praise to you, O Christ.
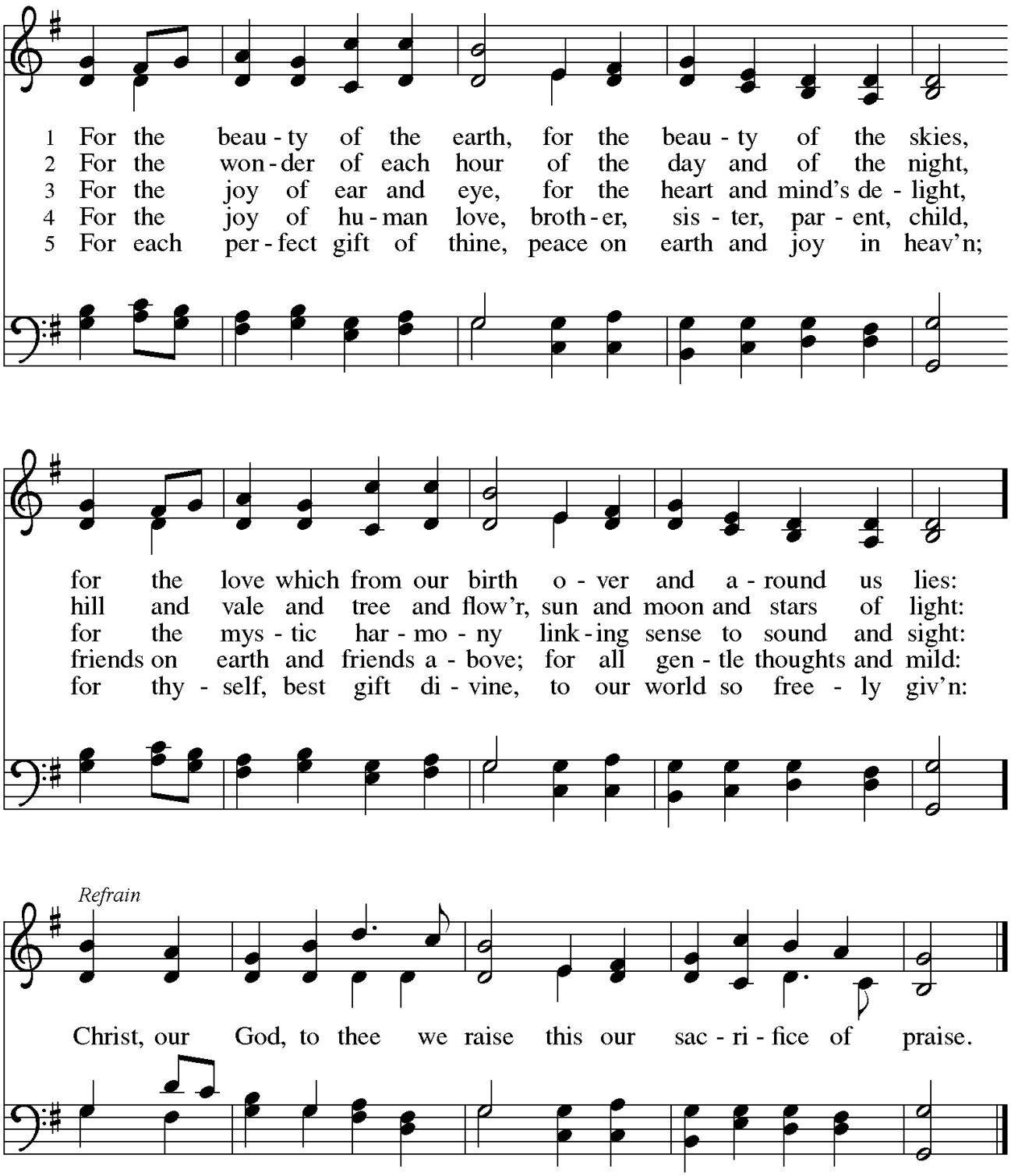
Hymn of the Day

ELW #715 "*Christ, Be Our Light*"
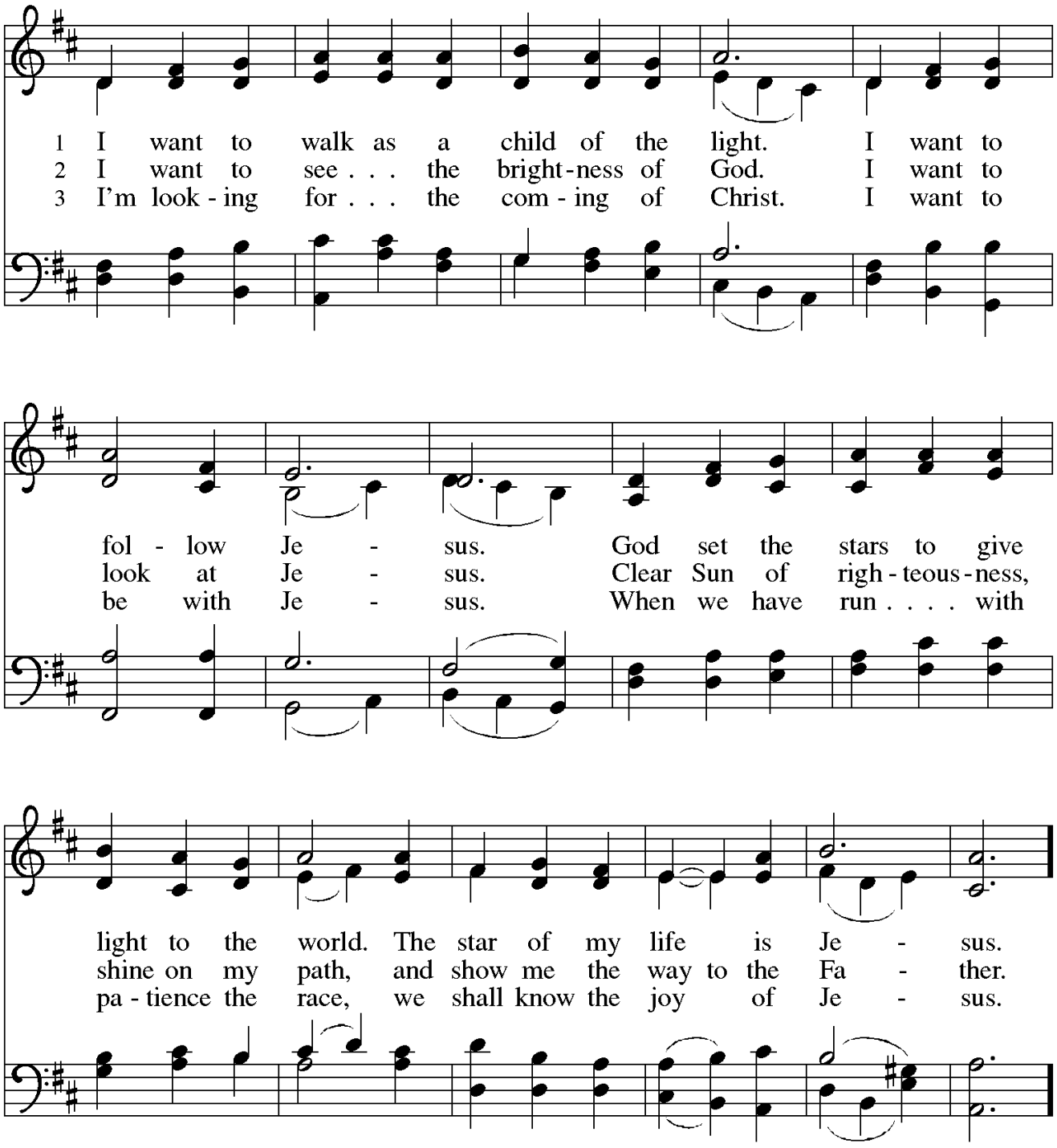
Verses 1, 2, 5
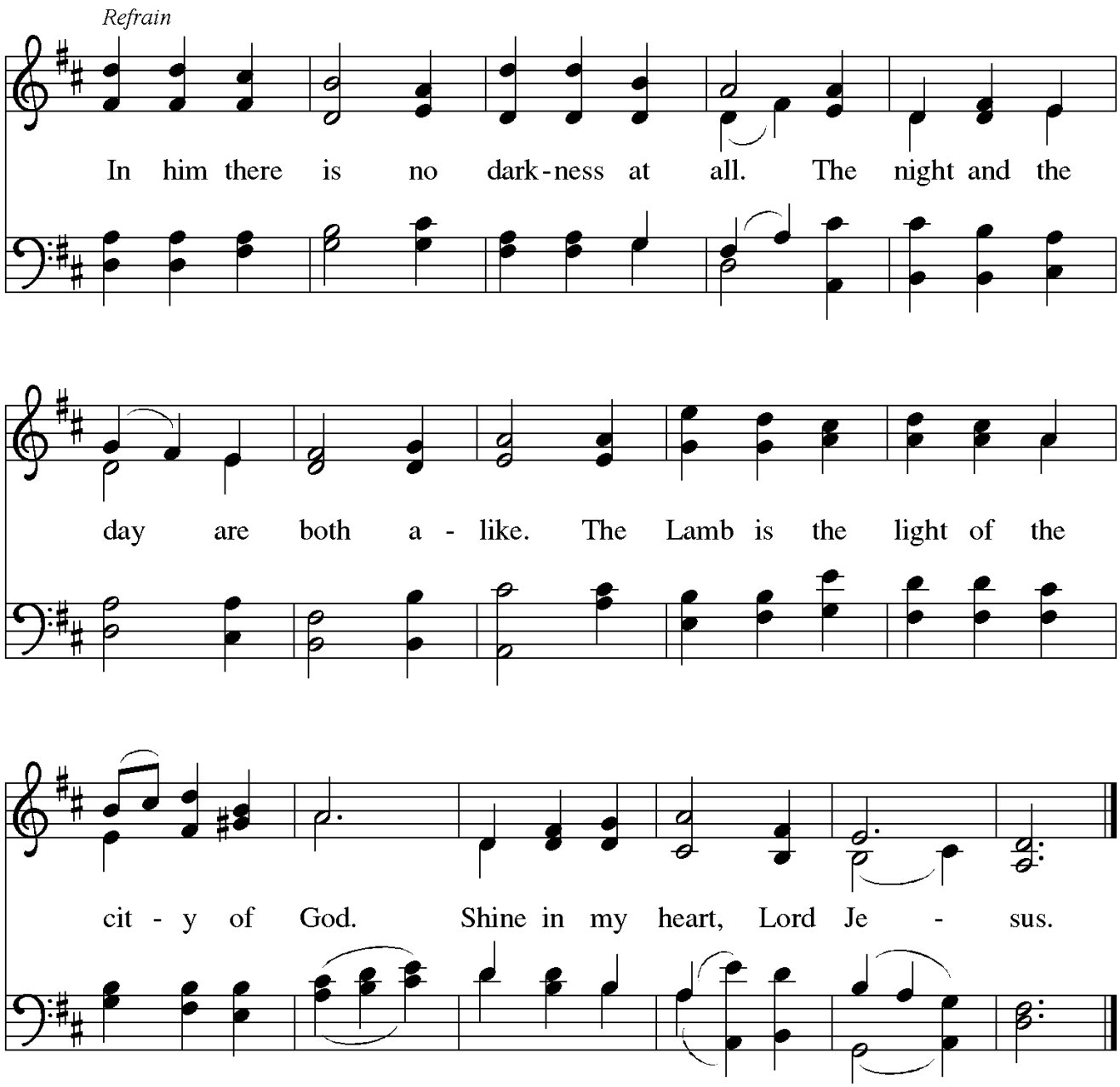


Communion Hymn ELW #789 "*For the Beauty of the Earth*"



Closing Hymn ELW #815 *"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"*



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Refrain
In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the
day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the
cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Announcements

Adult Study TODAY

On Sunday, November 19th, Pastor Zook will lead an Adult Study following worship. This study will focus on the Sermon on the Mount. From Pastor Zook:

The Sermon on the Mount is the longest discourse of Jesus's teachings gathered in one place. It is intended as a manual on discipleship—the guide to what it means to live the Christian life. Read the Sermon on the Mount in the Gospel of Matthew and as you do, consider these guiding questions:

- Which passage speaks to you as the "heart" of Christian practice? Why?
- What do you consider the most challenging of Jesus' teaching? The most difficult (if not impossible)?
- I don't understand what Jesus means by this saying….?
- I didn't know that Jesus taught….

November 26th – Christ the King Sunday

We will celebrate Christ the King Sunday on November 26th. The last Sunday of the Church Year is the feast day of our future king—Christ returns as Lord of all and the reign of God's peace, grace and love will be complete on that day in the life of the whole world. Wear something "gold" to commemorate the promise of the future King.

Children's Christmas Sale

The Children's Christmas sale will take place on Sunday, December 10th following the worship service in the two-year old room downstairs (off the kitchen). Children will be able to shop for their family members with all items being sold for $1. We are looking for donations of wrapping paper and tape from church members to help with this event. Please bring any donations of paper or tape to church by the morning of December 10th.

Christmas Bazaar

The first-ever Christmas Bazaar and Bake Sale will be held on Sunday, December 10th in the gym in conjunction with fellowship hour. This is a great opportunity to purchase platters of baked goods for all your holiday parties and other functions, as well as shop for Christmas gifts for your family and friends – or even for yourself! We are looking for donations of handmade items, arts and crafts, or services (like a photography session, skill lesson, etc.). If you are interested in donating an item or service, please reach out to Desirae at dcontreras@concordiafaith.org.

December Schedule of Events

Sunday, December 3rd: First Sunday of Advent Worship at 10:00am

Sunday 'Fun Day' for kids 9:30am-1:30pm

Council Meeting 11:15am

Wednesday, December 6th: Advent midweek vespers begin; released every Wednesday of Advent on concordiafaith.org/christmas at 7pm

Sunday, December 10th: Second Sunday of Advent Worship at 10:00am

Greening of the church following worship

Christmas Bazaar& Bake Sale and Children's Christmas Sale

Friday, December 15th: Christmas Spectacular Concert with Lakeshore Brass at 7pm

Sunday, December 17th: Third Sunday of Advent Worship at 10:00am

Sunday, December 24th: Fourth Sunday of Advent Worship (pre-recorded; available on YouTube and concordiafaith.org/worship at 10:00am)

Christmas Eve Concert 4:30pm

Christmas Eve Worship 5:00pm

Monday, December 25th: Christmas Day Worship 10:00am

Sunday, December 31st: First Sunday of Christmas Worship (pre-recorded; available on YouTube and concordiafaith.org/worship at 10:00am)