In this week's Steeple >>>

- Message from Senior Warden
- Stewardship Deadline Reminder
- Poinsettia Giveaway
- COVID-19 Vaccination Info.
- Sunday Bulletin

The Steeple



Dec. 30, 2020

The Weekly Newsletter of St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Christmas Thanksgiving



So many reasons to give thanks this week...

- For the wonderful Christmas Eve service created with the help of our youth, coordinated by Keeli, supported by Dolores, and conducted by Fr.
 Mark Wood. And yes, the technical issues on the virtual broadcast have been resolved for future services.
- For the beautiful adornment of the nave provided by our hard-working Altar Guild and all those members who contributed poinsettias. Those poinsettias, by the way, may be picked up after this Sunday's service and taken home or gifted to others.
- For the impending arrival of Fr. Nick Phares in just a few weeks, when he will be introduced to the congregation on January 17 with his first service as officiant on January 24. Teresa and family will arrive shortly thereafter.
- For the beginning of public COVID vaccinations, starting next week in Washington County a beacon of hope for the end of this long ordeal.

But most of all...thanks be to God for the Light That Has Come into the World.

Give thanks and embrace the peace.

Dan Droege, Sr. Warden On behalf of the Vestry



Thanks to all of you who have made a financial commitment to support St. Luke's in 2021. St. Luke's only exists because of the regular, predictable giving from our congregational family. It's vitally important that – with our new rector and his family coming soon – we move into 2021 with the strong financial foundation that will help secure a bright future for St. Luke's.

If you've not yet returned your pledge card, please do so soon. If you've misplaced your card of didn't receive one, please contact Roseanne at the church office: 918-336-1212 or office@episcopalbartlesville.org.

Because of the restrictions on Sunday attendance, you're encouraged to mail back your card. If you're attending services in person, please drop your card in the offering plate or slip it into the locked mailbox outside the north door.

The parish has provisions for receiving **gifts of stocks and bonds** for both pledging and as special gifts beyond the annual budget. Special gifts may be made for a particular purpose or undesignated to meet future needs. Estate gifts, including donations of physical property, are also possible. For assistance with these options, please contact Dennis Mueggenborg of the vestry finance committee at 918-440-5649 or mdrmuegg@gmail.com.

Poinsettias will be available for the taking after Sunday's 10 a.m. service in Metcalf Hall while they last!





COVID PRECAUTION REMINDERS

When in the St. Luke's Building...

- 1) Wear your face mask
- Exercise the 6-foot social distance rule.
- 3) Follow the pew seating guidelines.
- 4) Wash/sanitize your hands frequently.
- 5) Avoid coming if you feel ill or "not quite right."

Scam Alert

Be aware of a false email claiming to be from Father Gates in which the sender asks for donations to surprise the office staff. He did not send the email. Don't fall for this scam.



Information from Roseanne, Office Manager:

Roseanne's Updated **Office Hours 9:30 – 1:30 Monday - Thursday.**

Note that church offices will be closed for holidays on Dec. 24 & 25 and Jan. 1.

Please note that even during office hours, the doors are locked per COVID-19 protocol. If you need to come in, just ring the north entrance bell or call the office at 918-336-1212 or Roseanne's cell 918-287-8784.

Agape Mission Volunteer Schedule

Thursday, Jan. 14:

9-11 am: Jeanne Julstrom, Becky Liehr 10:45 am – 1 pm: Kris Bonner, Rita Childers, Becky Liehr, Kathy Zervas, Dolores McCreary 1:00 – 2:45 p.m.: Peter Julstrom, Miriam Petrovich, Wendy Hall

Thursday, Jan. 28:

9-11am: Jim Liehr 10:45am – 1pm: Jeff Birk, Dean Zervas Glenda Garrison, Darian Kedy, Jen Peterson, 1:00 – 2:45pm: Carol Murphy, Radomir Petrovich, Becky Olsen



St. Luke's Prayer List

Please keep the following persons in your prayers: Milton, Elizabeth, Georgia, Suzanne, Linda, Terry, Leaona, Connie, Tracy, Michelle, Catherine, Sydney, Ed, Cheri, Rhonda, Liz, Evan, Joseph, Emily, Madelyn, Maxwell, Bruce, Clara, Juanita, Lynetta, Shellie, Peggy, Joe, Dale, Robin, Matt, Lysa, Donn, Helen, and all of our armed forces and their families. Call or email our office with prayer requests at 918-336-1212 or office@episcopalbartlesville.org.

Bereavement Team 1

Susie Clark, Nancy Woods, Sally Lindsey, Georgia Gates, Jeanne Julstrom.

Online & Mobile Giving Available

Online giving application is now available to St. Luke's members through the Tithe.ly mobile application or directly online from your home device. You can utilize either method of giving by going to this <u>Tithe.ly web page</u> (https://get.tithe.ly/download-tithely-app). Complete instructions for using this convenience are provided on the home page of the <u>St. Luke's website</u> (http://episcopalbartlesville.org) or by picking Online Giving in the right-side menu.

Regardless of whether you can manage all or some of your normal giving, please continue to support our community of faith. And if you're not comfortable with virtual giving, you can always mail a check to the church office: St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 210 E 9th St, Bartlesville, OK 74003 *or* drop a check into our locked mail slot near north entrance.

Alert on solicitations...

 Be aware – No one from St. Luke's will request gift cards or other monetary support through email. If you receive such a message in your email, it is spam. All financial requests/special appeals at St. Luke's go through normal channels and any special requests will be made by phone or in person.

Sign up on-line for the COVID-19 vaccination at Washington County Health Department if you are over 65, a first responder or a healthcare worker by calling 918-335-3005 or if you are viewing the Steeple Newsletter online click orange phone image below:



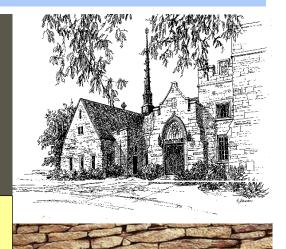
Birthdays and Anniversaries Dec. 30 – Jan. 10

Birthdays

David Miller, Dec. 31 Kyle Peterson, Jan. 5 Joey Hough, Jan. 8 Gene Holland, Jan. 10

Anniversaries

Travis & Erin Perry, Dec. 31 Mark & Mary Jo Peterson, Dec. 31 Mike & Lauri Watkins, Jan. 1 Bryan & Nancy Megee, Jan. 3 Rob & Heather Boyle, Jan. 6



St. Luke's Episcopal Church contacts:
Senior Warden, Dan Droege,
dbdcomm.2@gmail.com.
Doug McIver, Jr. Warden
(dmciver@susandickcpa.com)
Roseanne McKee, Office Manager/Asst. to
Rector (office@episcopalbartlesville.org)
Office Phone: 918-336-1212
Dolores McCreary, Organist/Choir Director
(dolores@episcopalbartlesville.org)

St. Luke's Episcopal Church 210 East 9th St. Bartlesville, OK 74003

St. Luke's Vestry Members

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- o Katherine Powell <u>kmpbmp@cableone.net</u>
- o Monica Martin Rhett36@juno.com

Connecting with St. Luke's

To learn various ways to connect at St. Luke's, visit our website at: http://episcopalbartlesville.org/

The Epiphany of Our Lord Jesus Christ

January 3, 2021

10:00 a.m.



St. Luke's Episcopal Church

210 Southeast Ninth Street Bartlesville, Oklahoma

THE HOLY EUCHARIST - RITE II

The Rev. Noel Doherty, celebrant

Organ Prelude

Opening Hymn #119 "As With Gladness"

See page 16

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Collect for Purity

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*.

Gloria

Glory to God in the highest,

And peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,

Almighty God and Father,

We worship you, we give you thanks,

We praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,

Lord God, Lamb of God,

You take away the sin of the world:

Have mercy on us;

You are seated at the right hand of the Father:

Receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,

You alone are the Lord,

You alone are the Most High,

Jesus Christ,

With the Holy Spirit,

In the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Collect of the Day

O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen*.

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah (60:1-6)

Arise, shine; for your light has come,

and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

For darkness shall cover the earth,

and thick darkness the peoples;

but the LORD will arise upon you,

and his glory will appear over you.

Nations shall come to your light,

and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

Lift up your eyes and look around;

they all gather together, they come to you;

your sons shall come from far away,

and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.

Then you shall see and be radiant;

your heart shall thrill and rejoice,

because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you,

the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

A multitude of camels shall cover you,

the young camels of Midian and Ephah;

all those from Sheba shall come.

They shall bring gold and frankincense,

and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

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

Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

1 Give the King your justice, O God, *

and your righteousness to the King's Son;

2 That he may rule your people righteously * and the poor with justice;

3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, * and the little hills bring righteousness.

4 He shall defend the needy among the people; * he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.

- 5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, * from one generation to another.
- 6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, * like showers that water the earth.
- 7 In his time shall the righteous flourish; * there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.
- 10 The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute, * and the kings of Arabia and Saba offer gifts.
- 11 All kings shall bow down before him, * and all the nations do him service.
- 12 For he shall deliver the poor who cries out in distress, * and the oppressed who has no helper.
- 13 He shall have pity on the lowly and poor; * he shall preserve the lives of the needy.
- 14 He shall redeem their lives from oppression and violence, * and dear shall their blood be in his sight.

Second Lesson: A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Ephesians 3:1-12

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles-- for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

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

A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to Saint Matthew 2:1-12

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew. People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

`And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Sermon The Reverend Noel Doherty

The Nicene Creed

(Please stand as you are able)

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.

One 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.

The Prayers of the People Form III

Lay Reader and People pray responsively

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest;

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others especially: Milton, Elizabeth, Georgia, Suzanne, Linda, Terry, Leaona, Connie, Tracy, Michelle, Catherine, Sydney, Ed, Cheri, Rhonda, Liz, Evan, Joseph, Emily, Madelyn, Maxwell, Bruce, Clara, Juanita, Lynetta, Shellie, Peggy, Joe, Dale, Robin, Matt, Lysa, Donn and Helen.

Prayer for First Responders and Caregivers

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son came not to be served but to serve, bless all first responders and caregivers who, following the example of Christ, are giving themselves to the care and needs of others. Bless them with wisdom, patience, skill and courage so that they may minister your love to the suffering, the friendless, and the needy. Embrace them with your loving mercy so they know they are not alone in the unrelenting challenges they are facing. Bless them with times of rest for the renewing of their physical and spiritual strength. Comfort them when they are burdened with sorrow. And always may your Spirit speak words of encouraging, sustaining love to their hearts.

We offer our prayer in the name of your blessed son, Jesus.

We pray for our new Rector, Father Nick Phares and his family. We give you all the glory, thanks and praise for how you so graciously wove the threads of our lives together and set us on this new journey for St. Luke's. Help us all to be of one body and mind and to continue to keep our eyes on you, Father, in all we do.

May your word be our light, and may we hold fast to your promise that whoever believes in you ... rivers of living water will flow from within them. *Amen*.

Confession

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept

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.

Celebrant

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

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Announcements: Dan Droege, Senior Warden

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

Hymn: #124 "What Star is This"

See page 18

The Great Thanksgiving (Prayer A)

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 in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. 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:

Celebrant and People

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 stand or kneel.

Celebrant

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive his holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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,

Celebrant 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*.

Invitation to Communion

Celebrant [Alleluia.] Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; People Therefore let us keep the feast. [Alleluia.]

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for You, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, With thanksgiving.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the people will receive the bread only.

Post Communion Prayer

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray

Celebrant and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

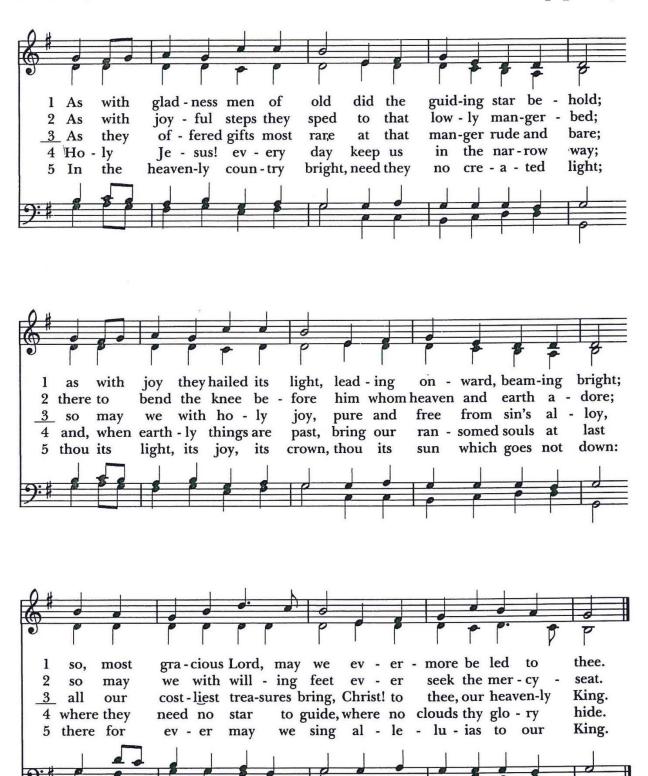
Blessing

Dismissal Hymn: #117 "Brightest and Best"

See page 19

Dismissal

Usher: Jim Liehr
Layreader: Tom Droege
St. Luke's Episcopal Church
918-336-1212
www.episcopalbartlesville.org



Music: William Chatterton Dix (1837-1898)

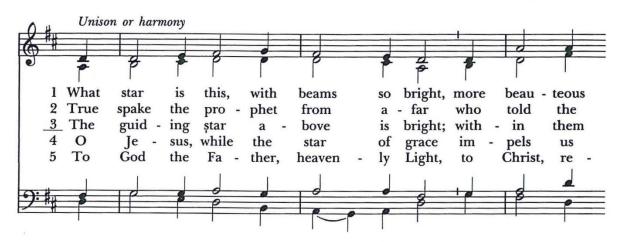
Music: Dix, melody Conrad Kocher (1786-1872); arr. William Henry Monk (1823-1889); harm. The English Hymnal, 1906



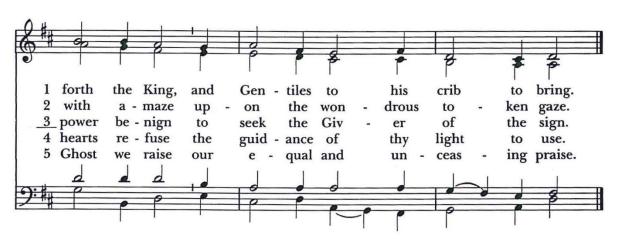
Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Music: Ratisbon, melody from Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn, 1524; adapt. att. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870); harm. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870), alt.

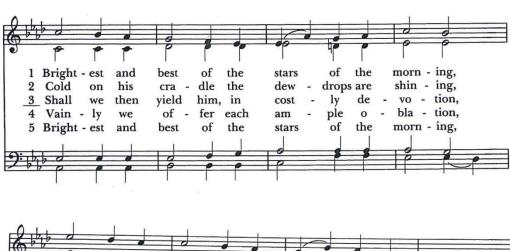
77. 77. 77

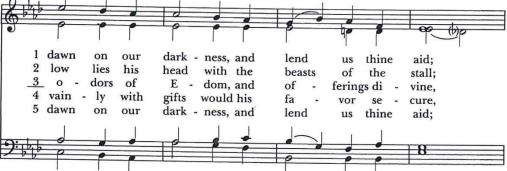


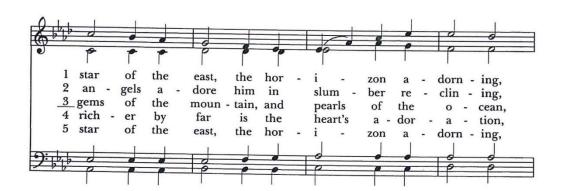


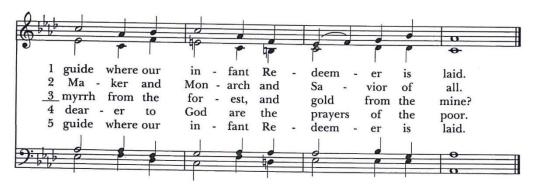


Words: Charles Coffin (1676-1749); tr. Hymns Ancient and Modern, 1861, after John Chandler (1807-1876), alt. Music: Puer nobis, melody from Trier MS., 15th cent.; adapt. Michael Praetorius (1571-1621); harm. Hymns Ancient and Modern, Revised









Words: Reginald Heber (1783-1826), alt.

Music: Morning Star, James Proctor Harding (1850-1911)