

Christ Memorial
Presbyterian Church

First Sunday of Advent
November 29, 2026

GATHERING

Prelude "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" Fifteenth Century Melody
arranged by Raluca Bojor
Raclua Bojor, 2022

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Prayer Liturgist Tom Engle

Call to Worship/Lighting of the Advent Candles Jenkins Family

Prayer in Song - **# 89, v. 1,3 "For You, O Lord, My Soul in Stillness Waits"**

Call to Confession, with Silence for Reflection and Prayer

Shared Prayer of Confession (bolded parts to be read by all)

L: Merciful God, always with us, always coming:
You are a God of possibility,
promising a future we can't yet imagine,
calling us forward when we are paralyzed by fear and self-interest.

All: We confess we do not know how to prepare for your Advent.

L: We have forgotten how to hope in miracles;
We have ignored the promise of your kingdom;
We lose sight of your faithfulness and mistrust your goodness.

All: We hardly know how to hope.
Come to us anew.
By your grace and Spirit at work in us assist us to receive you and learn from you.
Merciful God, always with us, always coming—
we give thanks for your promises and possibilities. Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness
L: Hear this Good News: .....through the grace of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.
All: Trusting in the peace Christ offers, we go forward into new life. Thanks be to God!

Response - # 110, v.3 "Love Has Come "

Love has come and never will leave us! Love is life everlasting and free.
Love is Jesus within and among us. Love is the peace our hearts are seeking.
Love! Love! Love is the gift of Christmas.
Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

GROWING IN GOD'S WORD

Word in Music "An Advent Prayer" Dale Peterson
arranged by Lloyd Larson
The Lorden Corporation, 2004

Time for All God's Children Liz Perraud
Please note that any children who come forward to the chancel will likely be seen on the worship livestream.

Sacrament of Baptism — See insert

Hymn of Celebration- # 547 "Go, My Children with my Blessing"

Children ages preschool—third grade are dismissed to Sunday Experience.

Prayer for Illumination Liturgist Tom Engle

Psalm Text for the Day Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

This Psalm will be read responsively:
It is printed in the bulletin with congregational responses in bold print.

New Testament Text for the Day Romans 8:22-28 Pastor Janna

L: The word of the Lord.
P: Thanks be to God.

Sermon Pastor Janna

Hymn of Response **# # 177, v. 1, 2 "I Will Come to You (You are Mine)"**

Today the refrain will be sung after both verse 1 and 2.

Prayers of the People (concluding with the Lord's Prayer, page 35 hymnal)

EUCHARIST—OUR GRATITUDE AND TRUST IN GOD'S PROMISES

Invitation to the Offering and Discipleship — Liturgist Tom Engle

On this final "Fifth Sunday" of the calendar year, you are encouraged to contribute to "Save the Children" in Ukraine, per Dr. Newman's suggestion and in honor and appreciation of his service to Christ Memorial. Your offerings may be brought forward during the offertory.

Offertory — "Prayer for Peace" — Paul Fey
Paul Fey, 2022

We invite you to use the time of the Offertory to reflect and to pray silently, offering thanks for God's goodness, and commitment of ourselves for declaring that the God who creates also re-creates. making all things new.

Offering Song **# 113 **"God of Great and God of Small, with Gloria" (sung to "Angels We Have Heard on High")**

God of great, and God of small; God of one and God of all
God of weak and God of strong; God to whom all things belong:
Glo---ria, in excelsis Deo; Glo---ria, in excelsis Deo.

**Prayer of Dedication and Discipleship — Liturgist Tom Engle

SENDING

Hymn – **# 765** **"May the God of Hope Go with Us Everyday"**

Blessing and Charge

Postlude — "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"
W. A. Mozart and Rowland H. Prichard
arranged by Raluca Bojor
Raluca Bojor, 2022

There are numerous ways to give to the work of CMPC. Offering plates will be passed through the pews during the offertory for checks or cash to be left today. Cards with a QR code that will direct you to our online giving page are located in the pew racks. Donations can always be mailed to the church at any time using the address on the back page of the bulletin. Thank you for your support!

Thank you to Neil Danzig and Zoe Kim for providing audio support this week!
Thank you to John Kim for operating the sanctuary cameras this week!

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Texts for the Week

Romans 8:22-28 (CEB)

22 We know that the whole creation is
groaning together and suffering labor
pains up until now. 23 And it's not only
the creation. We ourselves who have the
Spirit as the first crop of the harvest also
groan inside as we wait to be adopted
and for our bodies to be set free. 24 We
were saved in hope. If we see what we
hope for, that isn't hope. Who hopes for
what they already see? 25 But if we hope
for what we don't see, we wait for it with
patience.

26 In the same way, the Spirit comes to
help our weakness. We don't know what
we should pray, but the Spirit himself
pleads our case with unexpressed
groans. 27 The one who searches hearts
knows how the Spirit thinks, because he
pleads for the saints, consistent with
God's will.

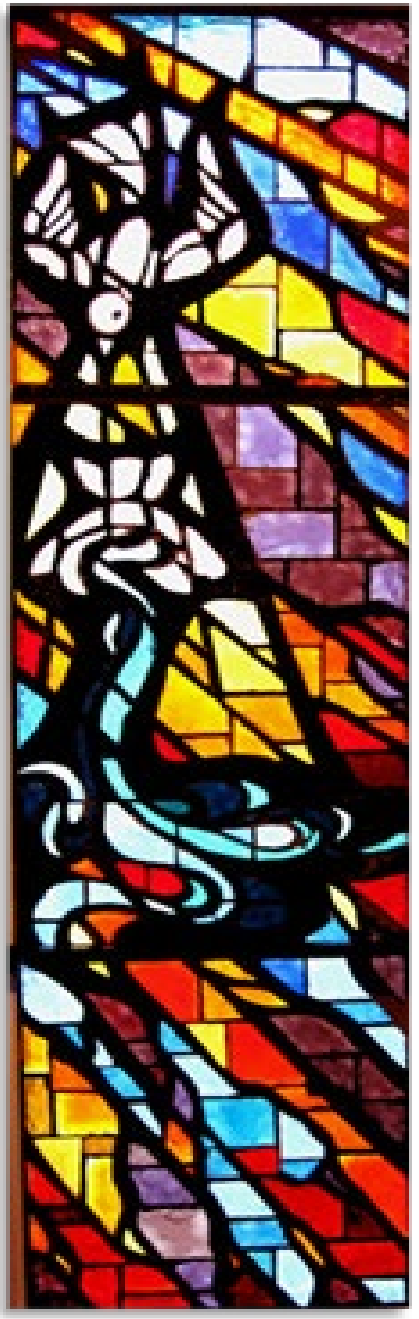
28 We know that God works all things together for good for the ones who love God, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

Shepherd of Israel, listen!
You, the one who leads Joseph as if he were a sheep.
You, who are enthroned upon the winged heavenly creatures.
Show yourself 2 before Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh!
Wake up your power! Come to save us!
3 **Restore us, God!**
Make your face shine so that we can be saved!
4 LORD God of heavenly forces,
how long will you fume against your people's prayer?
5 You've fed them bread made of tears;
you've given them tears to drink three times over!
6 You've put us at odds with our neighbors;
our enemies make fun of us.
7 **Restore us, God of heavenly forces!**
Make your face shine so that we can be saved!
17 Let your hand be with the one on your right side—
with the one whom you secured as your own—
18 then we will not turn away from you!
Revive us so that we can call on your name.
19 **Restore us, LORD God of heavenly forces!**
Make your face shine so that we can be saved!

Materials for our Advent season are partly drawn from "Have a Beautiful, Terrible Advent" in Dr. Kate Bowler's book of meditations *Have a Beautiful, Terrible Day*. On this first Sunday of Advent, we consider:

***Hope** is one of the most powerful words we have. It has so many synonyms (faith, trust, belief) but none are quite right. How do you define hope? And where do you see it? What hope might you carry from this place?*



The Sacrament Of Baptism

Anne Rose Barham

NOVEMBER 29, 2026

Christ Memorial Presbyterian Church
10600 Shaker Dr. Columbia, MD 21046

Jesus said to them, "Let the children come to me; do not stop them, for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

Mark 10:14-16

Words of Presentation *Rev. VanderWoude and Elder Deb O'Neal*

Presentation of Anne Rose Barham.

Questions

Questions to the Parents *Rev. Janna VanderWoude*

Questions to the Children *Haley Barham*

Today we celebrate that Anne is becoming part of the whole church. We are all God's children.

These questions are for the children of Christ Memorial Presbyterian Church. When we say "We will", we make a promise to God, and to Anne.

Remembering Anne, will we recall that she and all children are God's children, and treat them that way? **We will.**

Will we share stories of Jesus with Anne and other children, as we grow together, play together, and worship together in this place? **We will.**

Questions to the Congregation *Rev. Janna VanderWoude*

Do you, as members of the church of Jesus Christ, promise to hold Anne and her parents in your prayers, to encourage Anne's family among us, and to welcome Anne with the love of Christ whenever she returns to this place? *Congregation:* **We do.**

Will you encourage Anne to know and follow Christ and to be faithful members of his church, and work to make Christ Memorial a place of welcome to all children? *Congregation:* **We will.**

** Profession of Faith

For all gathered—those presenting children, along with all those who would remember and re-affirm their own.

Affirming our Faith with the Baptismal Questions

Trusting in the gracious mercy of God,
do you turn from the ways of sin
and renounce evil and its power in the world?
I renounce them.

Who is your Lord and Savior?
Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.

Will you be Christ's faithful disciple,
obeying his word and showing his love?
I will, with God's help.

Affirming our Faith with the Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary;
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of God the Father Almighty---from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost;
the holy catholic church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving over the Water

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God:
It is right to give our thanks and praise…
…To you be all praise, honor, and glory; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns forever.

The Baptism *Dr. Howard Newman*

Words of Charge and Welcome

The Sacrament of Baptism

The act of baptism is deceptively simple—but in a handful of water, there is a deep well of mystery and meaning. In baptism, we are called to a new way of life as Christ's disciples, sharing the good news of the gospel with all the world. Presbyterians describe baptism as a sign and seal of the covenant of grace made by God through Jesus and extended to us: In baptism, God claims us as beloved children and members of Christ's body, the church, washing us clean from sin as we renounce the power of evil and seek the will and way of God.

Infant baptism expresses that it is God who chooses us for faith, discipleship, and salvation; without God, we have no power to claim these things for ourselves. However, we affirm that people come to faith at different stages in life, and recognize the baptism of older believers as an equally valid expression of the sacrament. Presbyterians also allow for baptism by immersion. Whatever the method, the deep significance of baptism demands a visible and generous use of water, conveying the lavish outpouring of God's grace, filling believers with the gifts of the Spirit, and overflowing in lives of faithfulness, service, and love.

A congregation's session authorizes baptisms and provides for the spiritual growth and nurture of members. That's why a ruling elder of the church always presents the candidate for baptism. In turn, both the family and the congregation promise to contribute to the baptized person's Christian formation.

Christ's gracious invitation is open to all, and the PC(USA) recognizes all baptisms with water in the name of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit administered by other Christian churches.

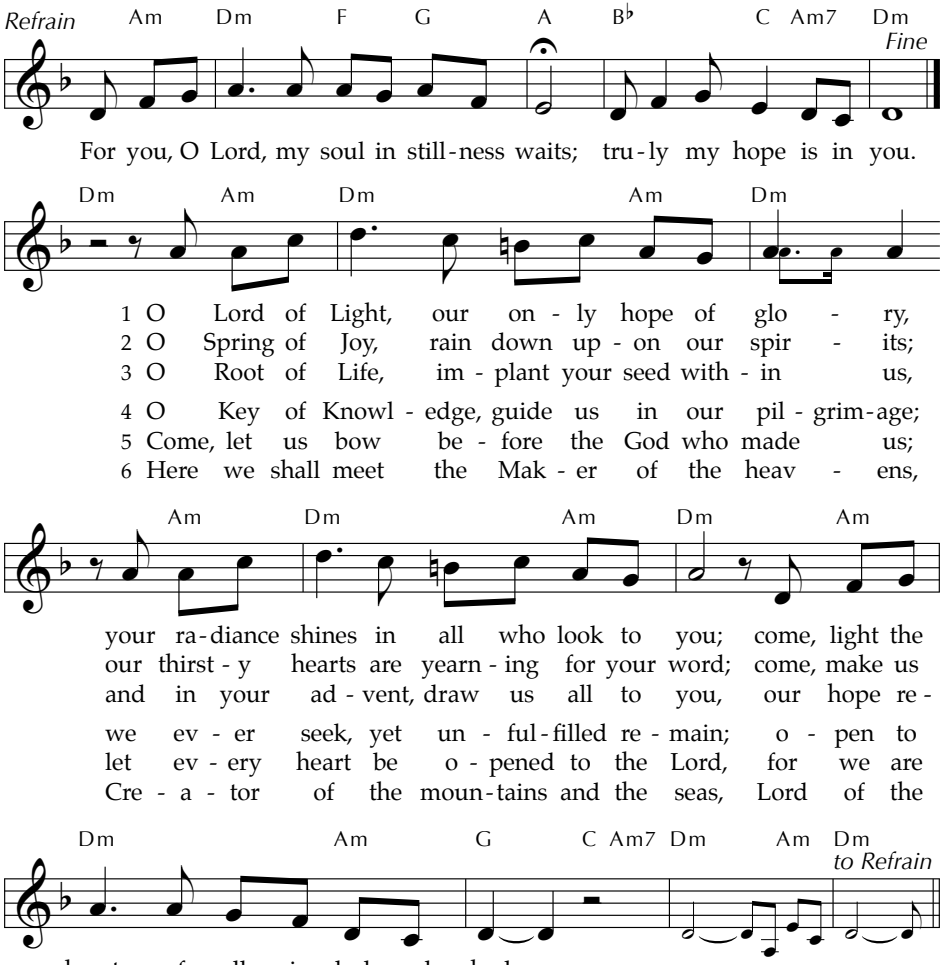
But baptism is only the beginning of a lifelong process of formation in the faith.

So remember your baptism and be thankful! In the sacrament of baptism—our inclusion in the covenant of grace, incorporation into the life of Christ, and anointing with the gifts of the Spirit—we have countless reasons to give God thanks and praise. As Jesus said, "Out of the believer's heart shall flow rivers of living water" (John 7:38). Filled with the never-failing grace of Jesus Christ poured out for us, our hearts overflow with gratitude and joy, spilling out into the world in lives of service and love for God and neighbor. As those who ourselves have been baptized in the name of the God who created us, Jesus who redeemed us, and the Spirit who sustains us, we join together in welcoming, by her baptism, Anne Barham into the life and ministry of the Risen Christ.

For You, O Lord, My Soul in Stillness Waits

89

My Soul in Stillness Waits

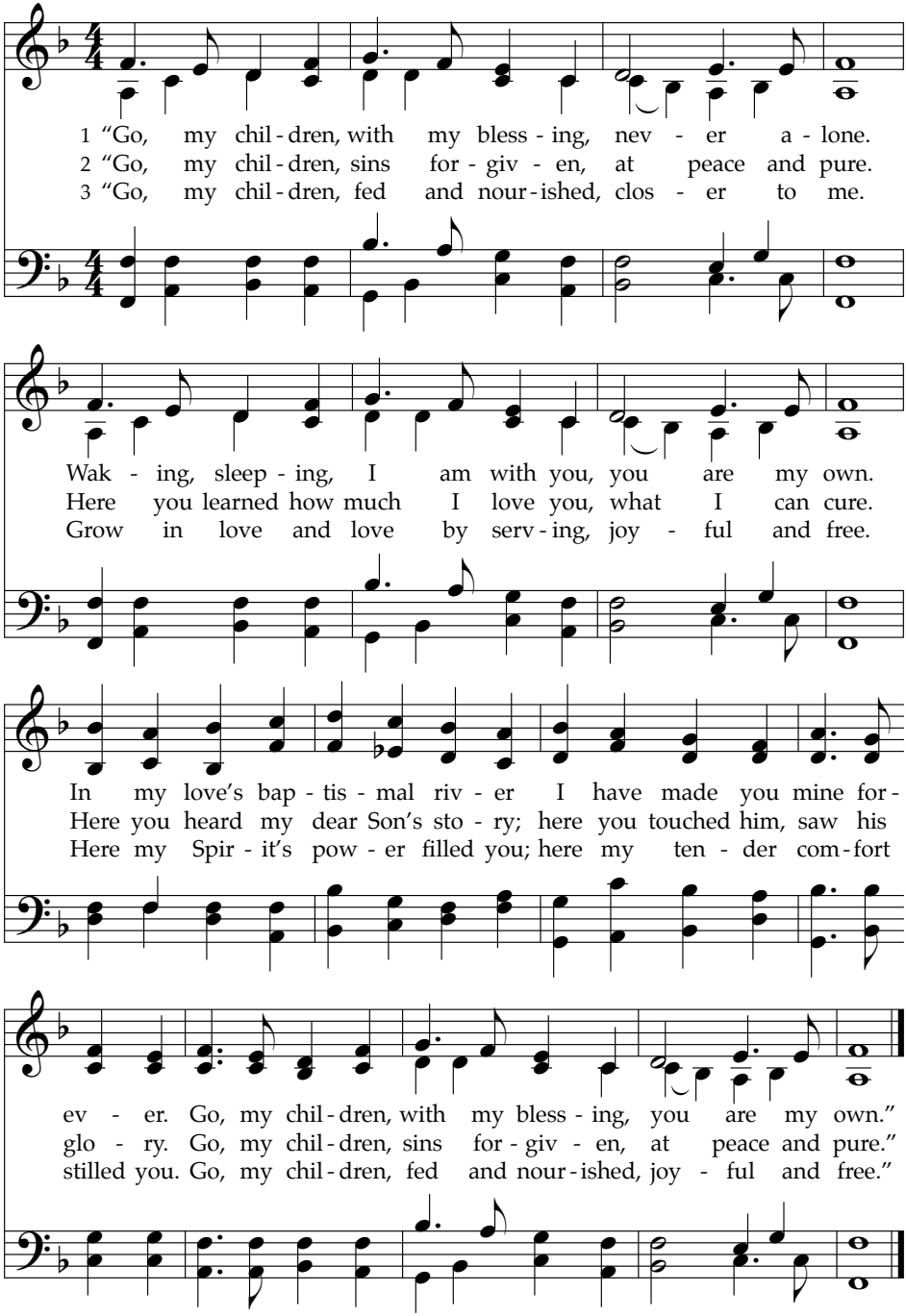


With a paraphrase of Psalm 62:5 as a refrain, this Advent text adapts four of the "Great O" antiphons (all of which can be seen in no. 88), combining them with a paraphrase of Psalm 95:6–7 and an echo of a medieval hymn. This rich blend yields a wealth of imagery and meaning.

TEXT and MUSIC: Marty Haugen, 1982
Text and Music © 1982 GIA Publications, Inc.

MY SOUL IN STILLNESS WAITS
Irregular

Go, My Children, with My Blessing 547



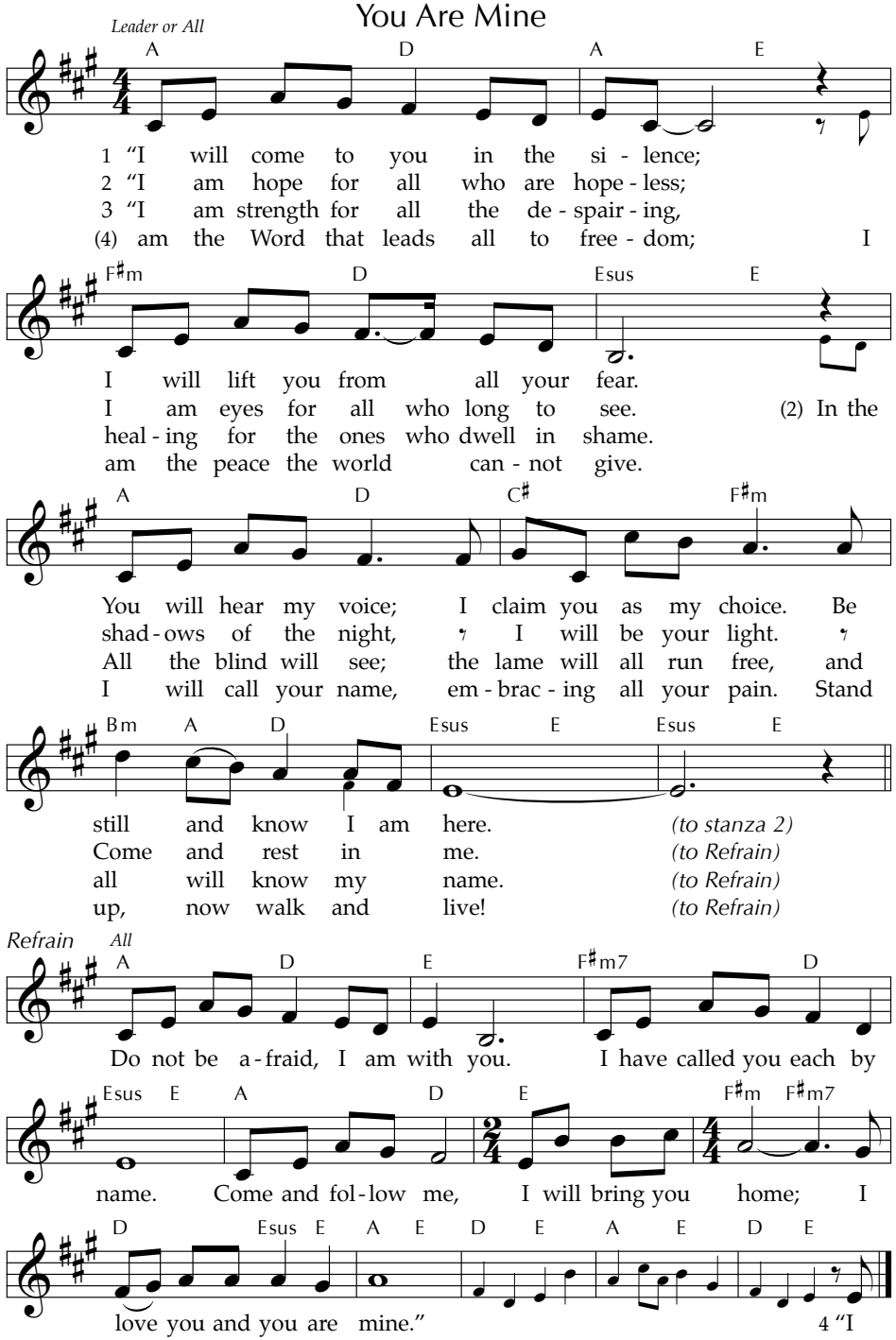
Because this Welsh melody usually sets evening texts, the author was asked to create one for use in daytime. His recasting of the Aaronic blessing in Numbers 6:22–27 imagines that passage as a benediction that might be spoken by God at the conclusion of a worship service.

TEXT: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1983
MUSIC: Welsh melody
Text © 1983 Concordia Publishing House

AR HYD Y NOS
8.4.8.4.8.8.8.4

177 I Will Come to You

You Are Mine



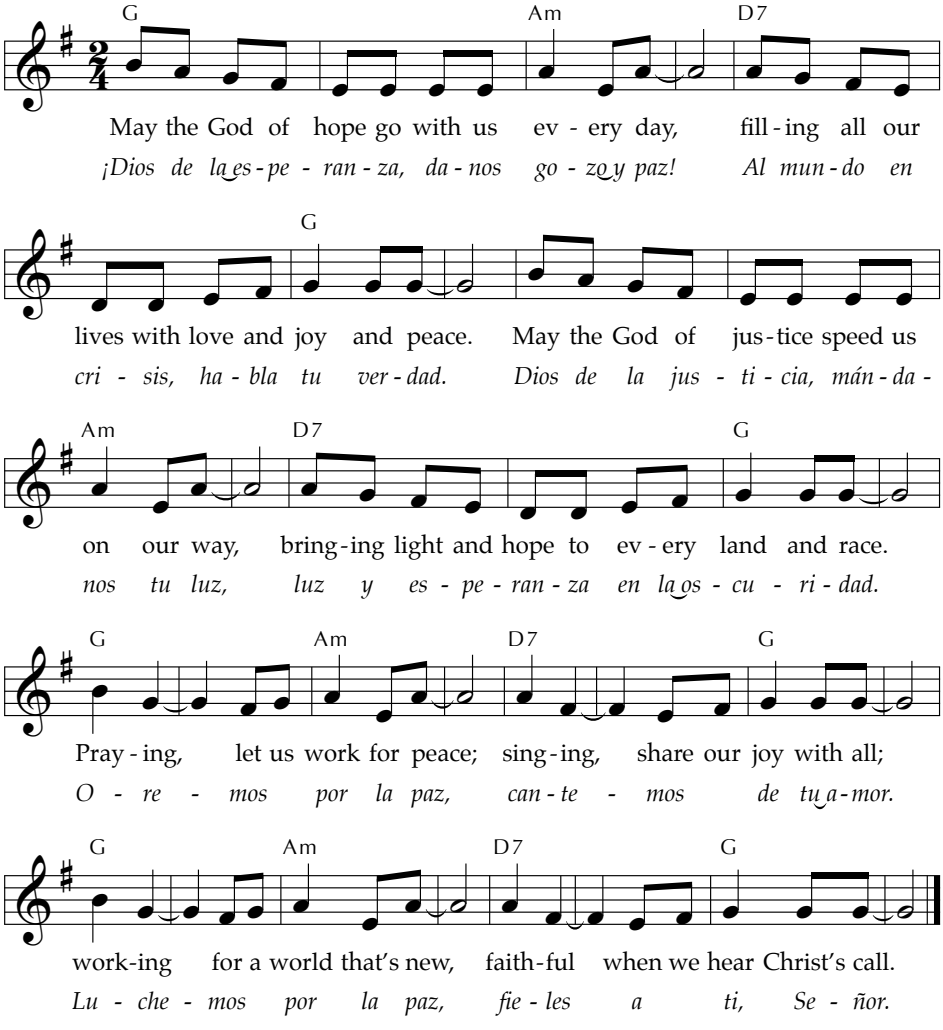
Presuming to speak in the voice of God, as this song does, can only be done with integrity if the singers understand their words as an expression of what they believe about God's nature and God's intentions. It is an occasion for affirming faith, not for wishful thinking.

TEXT and MUSIC: David Haas, 1991
Text and Music © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc.

YOU ARE MINE
Irregular

May the God of Hope Go with Us 765

Song of Hope / *Canto de esperanza*



This Argentine folk melody sets Spanish and English words, both created by a PC(USA) missionary with much Latin American experience. The two versions complement each other: the Spanish text offering a prayer to God, and the English one providing inspiration for the singers.

TEXT: Alvin Schutmaat, 1984
MUSIC: Argentine folk melody

ARGENTINA
11.11.11.11 with refrain