

Peacham Congregational Church
56 Church St., Peacham, VT 05862
802-592-3330



Baptism of Jesus

Interim Pastor, Nicole Klosterman

We are an Open and Affirming Church

*No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here.*

Order of Worship
January 11 2026
Rick Witt, Lay Leader

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude: Come unto Me, Ye weary – Victor Hildner

Lighting of the Candles

Responsive Call to Worship¹

Come! Let us follow Jesus to the edge of the Jordan River to be baptized.

We come to be cleansed and made whole.

Come! Let us witness John's confusion and Jesus' insistence that John baptize God Incarnate.

We come to join Jesus in choosing life in the kingdom of God.

Come! Let us hear God declare the truth of Jesus' identity and the truth of our identity as baptized people.

We come to remember and embody who we are as beloved children of God.

Come! Let us worship God who leads us into the baptismal waters and salvation life.

We come to worship God who empowers us through divine presence to live together as the family of God.

Opening Hymn 327 - *"I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry"*

Passing of the Peace

Leader: As Christ welcomed everyone, no matter what their background, no matter what their social status; as Christ welcomed enemies and friends, outcasts and leaders, foreigners and neighbors, let us open our hearts and homes and lives. Let us be Christ to everyone we meet.

One: The Peace of Jesus Christ be with you.

All: And also, with You

One: Now share in a sign of peace with one another.

¹ Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, July 2025.

Joys and Concerns followed by Time of Silence

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors)

Response

Hear our prayer O God. Hear our prayer O god.

Incline Your ear to us and grant us Your peace. Amen

Offering & Mission (Hunger Free Vermont)

Doxology #46 Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God for all that love has done;

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.

Unison Prayer of Dedication

Holy One, Source of Living Water,

You have gathered us in, washed us in grace,

and reminded us that we are your Beloved.

Bless these gifts, and bless the lives from which they come.

Amen.

Hymn 175 "*O Sing A Song of Bethlehem*" verses 1-3

Scripture:: Mark 1:4-11

Message: Baptism, A New Beginning by Rev. Dr. Marlayna Schmidt

Renewal of Baptism Ceremony²

Please come forward where noted.**

Beloved of God, today we remember that we are a people formed in water and Spirit.

We remember that Jesus stepped into the waters of the Jordan,

not because he needed to be cleansed,

but to show us what it means to be fully human—

to say yes to God and yes to belovedness.

Today we step into that yes again.

All: We long to begin again.

The One who stretches out the heavens is still stretching us—

stretching our courage,

stretching our compassion,

stretching our capacity to love and to be loved.

All: We open ourselves to be stretched into new life.

Hear the good news:

Nothing is sealed.

Nothing is beyond mending.

The story is not over.

It has only just begun.

² Adapted from Rev. Michael Anthony Howard, UCC Worship Ways.

Blessing of the Water

All: Amen.

Affirmation of Calling

Leader: I now invite you to dip your hand into the bowl of water and take a stone to keep as a reminder of your baptism. Let us pray...

Closing Hymn 281 *"Spirit of the Living God"*

Benediction³

Go in peace; love and care for one another in the name of Christ;
and may the Spirit of God, which filled John and Jesus,
fill your hearts, souls, and minds;
**may the power of God, which upheld them,
strengthen us each day;**
and may the love of God, which directed their every action,
be your guiding light and your shining star,
both now and forevermore. Amen.

Response #345– God Be with You Til We Meet Again, vs. 1

Postlude: Celtic Melody – Mark Andrews

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<sup>3</sup> Written by Rev. Richard J. Fairchild and posted on his Kir-shalom website. Re-posted on the re:Worship blog at <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2011/12/benediction-epiphany-1-b.html>.

**Announcements**  
**January 11, 2026**

Our 1st quarter mission is. If you would like to donate to please indicate on your check in the memo line “.

1/11/26 9:30 a.m. Lay Service

Renewal of Baptism

1/18/26 9:30 a.m. Nicole Klosterman

Communion with Carol Fox

1/25/26 9:30 a.m. Nicole Klosterman

From the Mission Committee: This week we are asking for **BUTTER**. The following will be the regular rotation going forward:

1st Sunday Bread

2nd Sunday Butter

3rd Sunday Cheese (8-oz blocks)

4th Sunday Eggs

[5th Sunday Cheese]

The Mission for 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter (Jan.-Feb.-Mar.) is **Hunger Free Vermont**.

**IMPORTANT:**

We have begun using coffee hour, following worship on the third Sunday of each month, to provide the membership with updates on and answer questions about what's happening at the Church. On Sunday January 18, coffee hour will focus on The Third Century Fund capital campaign. In the meantime (or if you cannot attend), you can ask questions or comment by request at this link: [www.peachammeetinghouse.org/contact](http://www.peachammeetinghouse.org/contact)

**Information about Peacham Congregational Church**

Weekly Worship – Sunday @ 9:30 a.m.

*Interim Pastor.....Nicole Klosterman (802)-227-4956*

*Email: [peachamchurchpastor@gmail.com](mailto:peachamchurchpastor@gmail.com)*

*Please contact Nicole to schedule a visit or call.*

*Mon - availability varies*

*Tues 11 am - 2:30 pm*

*Weds - unavailable*

*Thurs - availability varies*

*Fri 9-11 am*

*Here is a link to schedule a pastoral care visit with*

*Nicole: <https://calendly.com/peachamchurchpastor/30min>*

Email: [peachamchurchinformation@gmail.com](mailto:peachamchurchinformation@gmail.com) for general inquiries

Church Admin.....Patty Gardner    Treasurer.....Bruce Westcott

Collector.....Ann Goss            Accompanist .....Bruce Westcott

Sexton.....Jeff Lane            Web Ministry .....Jonathan R. Potter

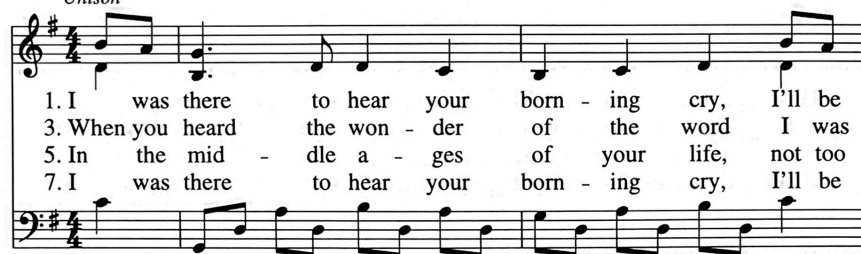
Church Council President & Moderator .....John Marshall

**Deacons:**

Susan Chandler, Chris Danielson, Carolyn Deasy, Patty Gardner,  
Anita Vann, Rick Witt, Bruce Maclean, Deacon Emeritus

# 327 I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry

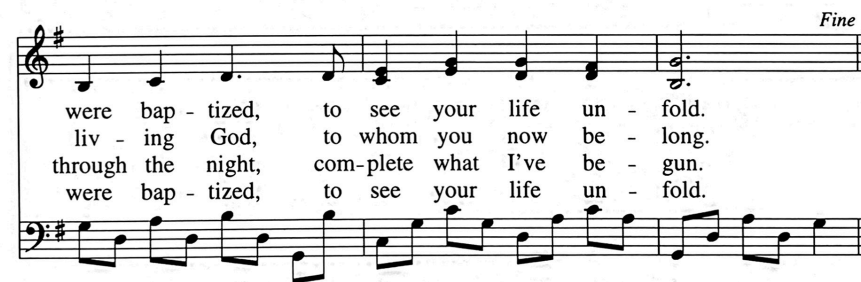
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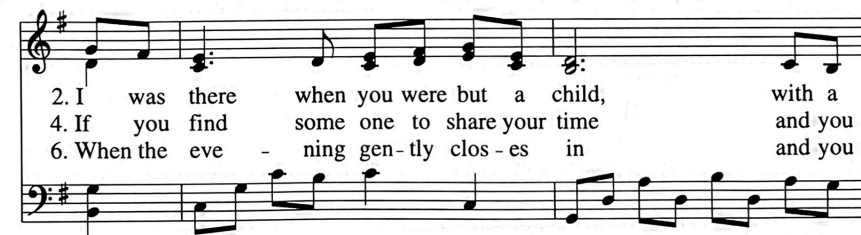
1. I was there to hear your born - ing cry, I'll be  
 3. When you heard the won - der of the word I was  
 5. In the mid - dle a - ges of your life, not too  
 7. I was there to hear your born - ing cry, I'll be



there when you are old. I re - joiced the day you  
 there to cheer you on; you were raised to praise the  
 old, no long - er young, I'll be there to guide you  
 there when you are old. I re - joiced the day you



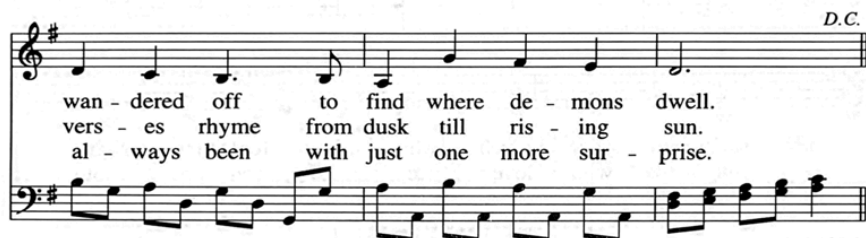
were bap - tized, to see your life un - fold.  
 liv - ing God, to whom you now be - long.  
 through the night, com - plete what I've be - gun.  
 were bap - tized, to see your life un - fold.



2. I was there when you were but a child, with a  
 4. If you find some one to share your time and you  
 6. When the eve - ning gen - tly clos - es in and you



faith to suit you well; in a blaze of light you  
 join your hearts as one, I'll be there to make your  
 shut your wea - ry eyes, I'll be there as I have



wan - dered off to find where de - mons dwell.  
 vers - es rhyme from dusk till ris - ing sun.  
 al - ways been with just one more sur - prise.

## Spirit of the Living God

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me; Spir - it of the

liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me. Melt me, mold me, fill me,

use me. Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me.

WORDS and MUSIC: Daniel Iverson, 1926

Daniel Iverson was a North Carolina Presbyterian minister who was moved to create this response while attending a revival service.

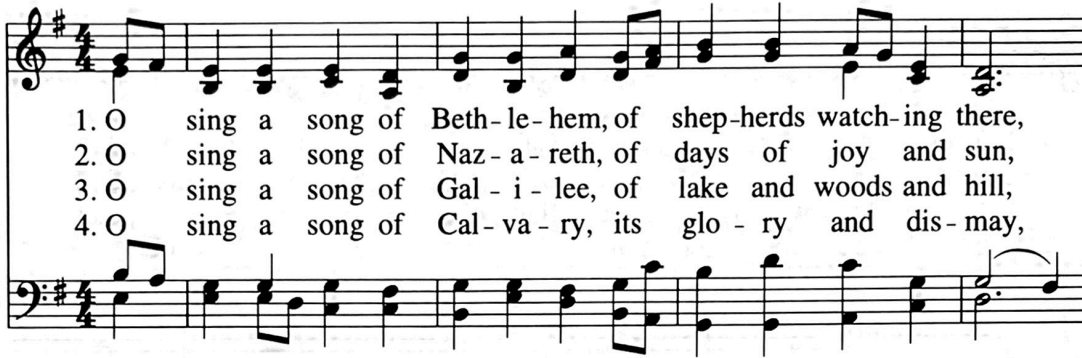
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Christian Music Publishing

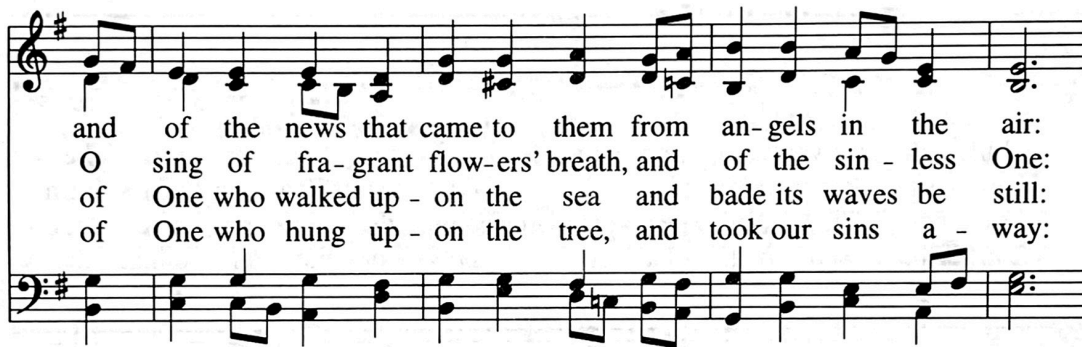


# O Sing a Song of Bethlehem

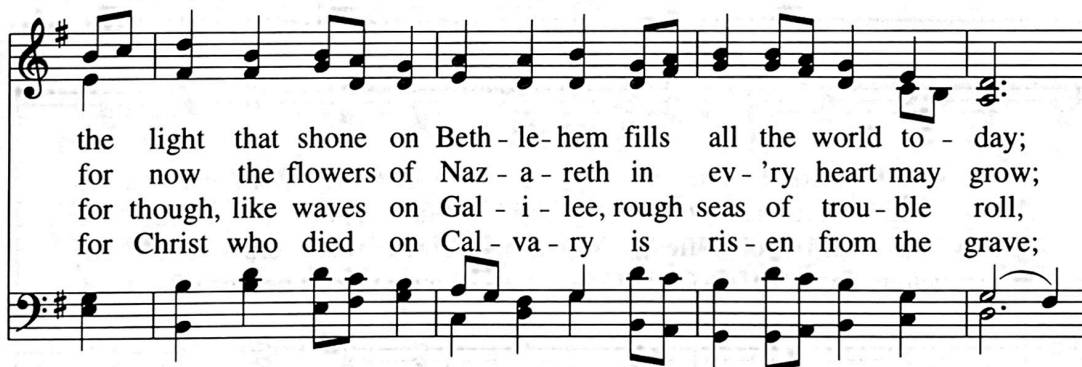
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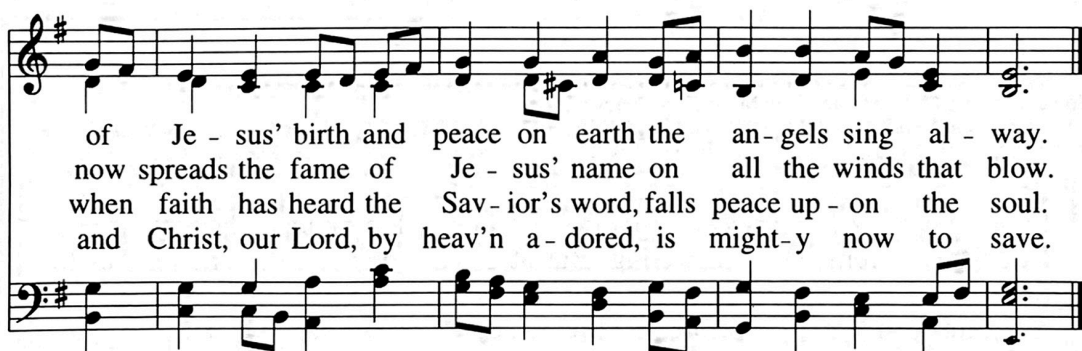
1. O sing a song of Beth-le-hem, of shep-herds watch-ing there,  
 2. O sing a song of Naz-a-reth, of days of joy and sun,  
 3. O sing a song of Gal-i-lee, of lake and woods and hill,  
 4. O sing a song of Cal-va-ry, its glo-ry and dis-may,



and of the news that came to them from an-gels in the air:  
 O sing of fra-grant flow-ers' breath, and of the sin-less One:  
 of One who walked up-on the sea and bade its waves be still:  
 of One who hung up-on the tree, and took our sins a-way:



the light that shone on Beth-le-hem fills all the world to-day;  
 for now the flowers of Naz-a-reth in ev-'ry heart may grow;  
 for though, like waves on Gal-i-lee, rough seas of trou-ble roll,  
 for Christ who died on Cal-va-ry is ris-en from the grave;



of Je-sus' birth and peace on earth the an-gels sing al-way.  
 now spreads the fame of Je-sus' name on all the winds that blow.  
 when faith has heard the Sav-ior's word, falls peace up-on the soul.  
 and Christ, our Lord, by heav'n a-dored, is might-y now to save.

WORDS: Louis F. Benson, 1899; alt.  
 MUSIC: Traditional English melody; coll. Lucy Broadwood;  
 arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, *The English Hymnal*, 1906

KINGSFOLD  
 CMD

Louis Fitzgerald Benson elevated hymn standards when he  
 edited the major 1895 revision of the Presbyterian hymnal.

LIFE AND MINISTRY