First Sunday of Advent



Bausman Memorial United Church of Christ

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

1064 Penn Avenue, Wyomissing, PA 19610
office@bausmanucc.org | 610-375-9790 | bausmanucc.org
www.facebook.com/bausmanucc

November 29, 2026 **9:30am Worship**

WELCOME TO BAUSMAN!

1ST TIME GUESTS: Most everything you need is found in this bulletin. Plus, those around you are glad to help and an usher is always available at the main rear entrance. If there are ways we can better extend God's hospitality, leave us a note on the Welcome Card. Your insights are essential as we continue to grow into the community God is calling us to be. Thank you!

HOW TO PARTICIPATE: Congregational readings are in bold with an *All*, *People*, or *Unison* designation. Songs are in the bulletin or pew hymnal. Times for standing and sitting are listed, with it always being okay to remain seated.

"BUSY BAGS': Coloring books and crayons are available in the north narthex (lobby) for use during worship. Please return all items following the service for others to use the following week. See an usher for assistance.

NURSERY CARE: Available during worship for children birth-kindergarten. The nursery is past the office, to the right. See an usher for assistance.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Is held during worship for 1st – 7th graders, except the first Sunday of the month. Youth meet their teachers after the children's message in the sanctuary. Parents, please pick up your child from the 2nd floor classrooms immediately following worship. Follow signs for the office.

RESTROOMS: Ladies and a unisex/accessible bathroom (with wall mounted baby changing table) are available through the doors at the front of the sanctuary. Follow the signs to the office. Bathrooms are on the left.

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS: Contain printed scripture and music, in addition to being in a larger font. Ask an usher for a copy.

HEARING ASSISTANCE: Ask an usher at the rear entrance to the sanctuary who will provide you with a device directly tied into the sanctuary sound system. Please return the device to an usher at the conclusion of worship.

GET CONNECTED: Use the pew holder Welcome Card to register your attendance, share contact information, ask questions, and more. Once completed, place it in the offering plates during the offering time.

WIFI & DEVICES: Thank you for silencing all your devices during worship. Bausman's guest wifi is accessible with the passcode: "gladurhere!"

ORDER OF WORSHIP

WE GATHER TO BE GOD'S PEOPLE

Centering Thoughts: "A prison cell, in which one waits, hopes ... and is completely dependent on the fact that the door of freedom has to be opened from the outside, is not a bad picture of Advent." - Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Opening Chimes

Welcome & Announcements

Sharing of Christ's Peace

(Rise in body or spirit to share Christ's peace using customary forms of greeting or by using a peace sign. Please be seated once the prelude begins.)

Prelude: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"- 15th Century Chant, Veni Emmanuel
Arr. By Michael McCabe

(The acolyte carries the light of Christ into our presence, calling us to worship)

Call to Worship

Liturgist: Today, we stand at a new beginning.
We stand peering into the invitation of God
for hope to be rekindled anew.

People: We stand as those who have journeyed the paths of darkness, wondering if the dawn will arise anew.

Liturgist: We are tempted to believe in the power of this world's darkness.
We are tempted to believe there is no reason to truly hope.

People: Yet God tells us to fear not, for the hope of this world comes near.

Liturgist: As God has come to God's people before with justice and truth,

People: God will come again!

Liturgist: Thus, we shut not our eyes to the darkness,

People: But we open our eyes in witness to the radiance of God's hope.

Liturgist: And so, with the faith of children we light one small flame,
one candle of hope, believing it to be the sign that it is:

**People: Through the mystery of God, and the wonder of the Christ,
the hope of God comes, casting out darkness,
lighting the path of our way for God's redemption of the world.**

(Lighting of the Candle of Hope)

Liturgist: Let us pray.

All: Eternal God, of everlasting hope,
as this flame shines before us this day,
awaken us from our slumber to the radiance of your hope
that shines forth among us now.
Give us eyes to see, ears to hear, minds to know,
and hearts to believe the advent of your hope.
Come Lord Jesus, come into our hearts to stay,
as you set us and this world ablaze with your hope. Amen.

(Please rise in body or spirit)

Processional Hymn: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (p. #116)
(verses 1,2,6,7)

WE CONFESS OUR NEED FOR HEALING & GRACE

Call to Confession

Corporate Confession

Pastor: O that you, Holy One, would tear our hearts open and come down,
that you would tear our lives open
and expose all that decays our hope.

People: We see enormous, systemic challenges,
and we struggle with our response.

Pastor: We might work toward a more just future,
but the energy required to change entrenched hearts, lives,
and patterns decays our hope.

(hold quiet for reflection)

All: We might dwell in spaces of privilege
where discrimination and bias are unseen
and the learning needed to change our perception decays our hope.

(hold quiet for reflection)

Pastor: We might ignore the challenges,
preferring to stay in safe spaces of apathy,
and yet that very apathy toward injustice decays all creation's hope.

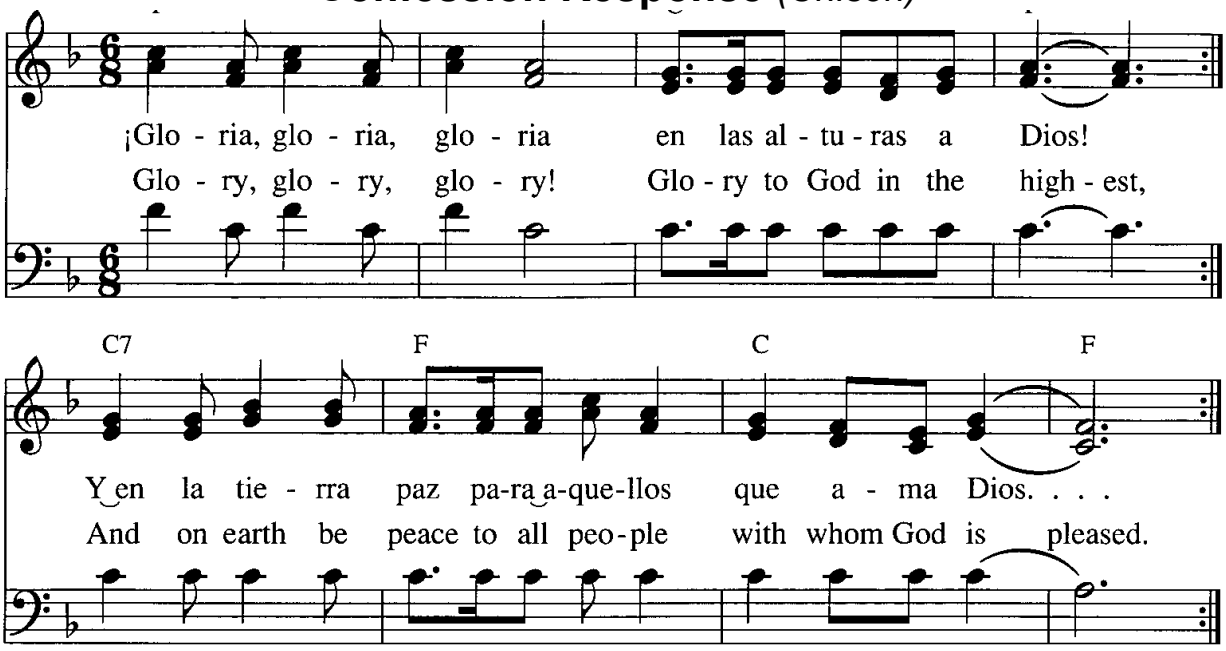
(hold quiet for reflection)

All: Holy God Almighty,
when our hope has burned out and despair sets in,
we ask forgiveness for our cynicism and bitterness.
When our hope has yet to be sparked,
even more, we ask forgiveness for our apathy
and the consequences of our indifference.
Wake us up, O God, to your creation-shattering power
that shakes mountains, rends the heavens,
and demands we respond to your stunning righteousness. Amen.

Assurance of Grace

Pastor: …We are forgiven and given hope to begin again.
People: Thanks be to God!

Confession Response *(Unison)*



(Please be seated)

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S LIVING WORD

Message for the Young & Young at Heart

(All youth are invited to come forward to the front steps.)

Hymn: "Come Thou Long - Expected Jesus" (p. #122)

(Those in 1st-7th grades are dismissed to Sunday School or back to their guardians following the decorating of the Christmas tree.)

Prayer of Illumination

All: O God, in you is the wisdom of ages past
and the hope of new beginnings.
Come anew to us this day in the proclaiming of your Word,
that we may be inspired through your wisdom
and share the hope you birth now within this world.
Come, O Come, Immanuel. Amen.

Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 64:1-9 (p. #694)

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence— as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil— to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence!

When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down; the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed.

We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name or attempts to take hold of you, for you have hidden your face from us and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.

Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

Gospel Lesson: Mark 13:24-37 (p. #50)

"But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

"Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels and gather the elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

"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 these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert, for you do not know when the time will come. 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."

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

Chancel Choir Anthem: "Sing for Joy, Ye People of Zion" - Joseph Martin

WE RESPOND TO GOD

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer (sins)

All: 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

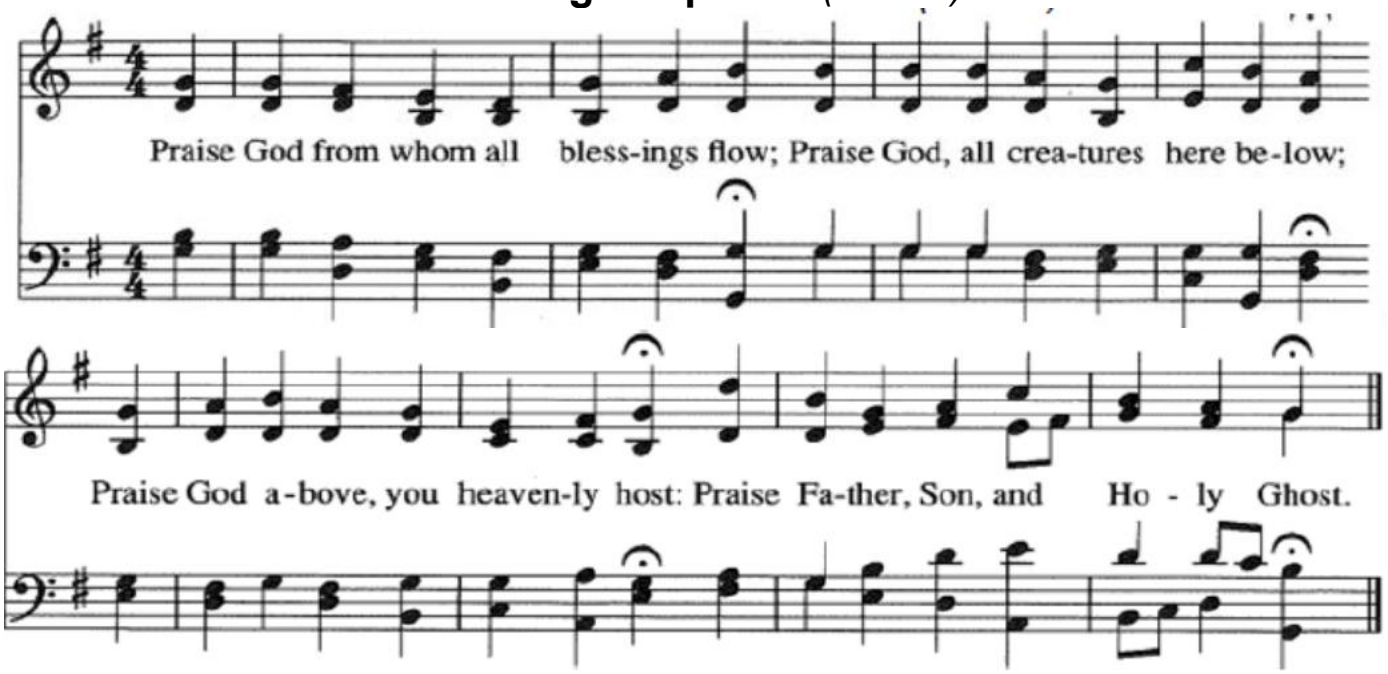
Receiving of Tithes and Offerings

(Electronic & physical giving options are available through the pew envelope. Register your attendance with a Welcome Card or using Realm's mobile check-in.)

Offertory: "Savior, So Long Expected" - David Paxton

(Please rise in body or spirit)

Offering Response *(Unison)*

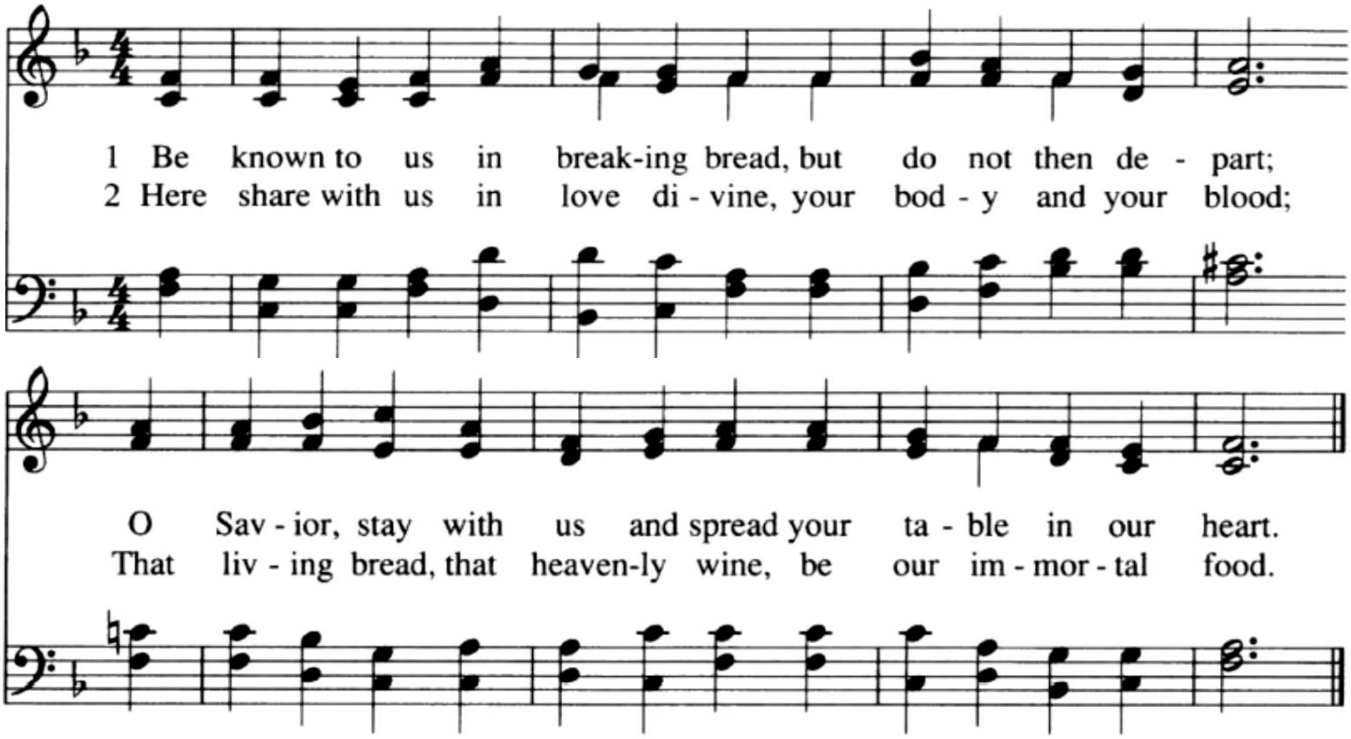


Prayer of Dedication

All: Glorious God of hope,
we look to unite ourselves to you in the giving of our prayers,
our offerings, our service, and ourselves.
Bless the fullness of our gifts to the fulfilment of your hope,
so that in our labor, we do not labor alone,
but always in the majesty of your presence,
the faithfulness of your Spirit,
and the companionship of your Word.
Glory be to you, O God of everlasting hope. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Communion Hymn: "Be Known to Us in Breaking Bread" (p. #342)



Invitation

Pastor: Hope is a dangerous thing.
People: With hope we believe life can change
and good can be worked from the worst circumstances.
Pastor: Hope is borne from God.
People: Because the Holy One's two great specialties are change
and redemption.
Pastor: …Come, for Christ invites us and bids us join him.

Great Communion Prayer

Pastor: God be with you.
People: And also with you.
Pastor: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them up to God.
Pastor: Let us give thanks to God Most High.
People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.
Pastor: …so you teach us the language of prayer and praise
as we join our voices singing our hope in you

Seraphic Hymn *(Sung in Unison)*

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth.
Heaven and earth are full, are full of the majesty of thy glory.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Words of Institution

Prayer of Consecration

(Please be seated)

Sharing of Elements – Pew Communion

(All who seek to unite their lives in discipleship to Christ are welcome to receive communion. Ushers will serve the bread – gluten free option in the center. Then the trays of red wine and white grape juice. Hold each element until invited to consume that we may be united as one body in our receiving. Place empty cups in the pew holders.)

(Please rise in body or spirit)

Prayer of Thanksgiving

All: Holy One, we thank you for meeting us at this table
and providing for us as we continue to journey after you.
Help us to follow your light,
even through places of despair and brokenness,
for salvation without struggle isn't truly salvation.
Hold us in the strength of your presence
so that we may bring hope into every corner of the world. Amen.

WE GO WITH GOD'S CALLING

Recessional Hymn: " Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates " (p. #117)

(The acolyte carries the light of Christ into the world, as the choir leads us in the way.)

Commissioning & Benediction

Chimes

Postlude: "Variations on PUER NOBIS NASCITUR" - Nicholas Lebegue

(As the postlude concludes, go in peace to love and serve at the calling of God.)

THIS WEEK AT BAUSMAN

Sunday, November 29
- 8:30 AM Chancel Choir
- 9:30AM Worship, Sunday School, Nursery

Monday, November 30
- 8:15 AM Morning Meeting – Fellowship Hall
- 9:00 AM Exercise Group – Room 22
- 11:30 AM Turning Point Group – Fellowship Hall
- 6:30 PM Reading Community Players – Room 22

Tuesday, December 1
- 8:15 AM Morning Meeting – Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, December 2
- 8:15 AM Morning Meeting – Fellowship Hall
- 9:00 AM Exercise Group – Room 22
- 11:30 AM Turning Point Group – Fellowship Hall
- 6:30 PM Reading Community Players – Room 22

Thursday, December 3
- 8:15 AM Morning Meeting – Fellowship Hall
- 11:00 AM Women's Recovery Group - Fellowship Hall
- 6:30 PM Reading Community Players – Room 22
- 6:30 PM Bell Choir - Sanctuary
- 7:30 PM Chancel Choir - Sanctuary

Friday, December 4
- 8:15 AM Morning Meeting – Fellowship Hall
- 11:30 AM Turning Point Group – Fellowship Hall

Sunday, December 6
- 8:30 AM Chancel Choir
- 9:30AM Worship, Christmas Cantata, Nursery, First Sunday Fellowship
- 11:00AM Congregational Meeting – Sanctuary
- 4:00 PM Girl Scouts 1159 – Room 22
- 4:30 PM Girl Scouts 192 – Fellowship Hall

PRAYERS & CARES

Congregational Cards of Care

God invites us to share life-giving love through our faith. One way to do this is to weekly join in our "Cards of Care" ministry. This week we are uplifting Linda Shultz, who now lives far from Bausman. Stop by the table in the front left corner of the sanctuary to add your name and care to this week's card. Thank you!

Prayer Requests

Thank you for joining in the joy and care of others by including the following prayers in your prayer times. Submit your prayer requests by using a Prayer Card, contacting the church office, or the prayer chain coordinator (Mary Moll). Prayer requests are maintained for up to four weeks and can be resubmitted an unlimited number of times. When possible, please check with the person before submitting their name.

Healing & Strengthening: Elise Kiefer; Peggy Riley; Dave Riley; Drew Warner

Care & Support: Allegheny UCC an Rev. Mark Stryjak; Erin; Finalizing of 2027 Budget

Comfort In Time of Loss: The Family of Tom Reitz; The Family of Margaret Wagaman (mother to Cindra Payne); The Family of Gil Solis

Birthdays Celebrated this Week

11/30 Scott Sulzer
12/2 Chris Warner
12/6 Carrie Spayd
12/6 Nancy Reuter

Worship Information

Sponsorships

Bulletins: To the Glory of God by Nancy Helbig

Today's Worship Leaders

Ministers: All Members
Head Usher: Nevin Hollinger
Ushers: Jodi Reardon, Max Spayd, TBD, Shelby Brunner
Acolyte: TBD
Reader: Lori Moser
Welcome: Bob Showalter
Advent Liturgists: Robin Brennan & Family
Minister of Music: Sharon Luyben

Guest Preacher: Rev. Rebecca Hoover
Livestream: Kyla Andre
Sound: Rod Baer
Nursery: Joan Kellenberger & Emma Stone
Altar Guild: Mary Moll
Elders: *Jodi Reardon, *Max Spayd, TBD, Shelby Brunner, Michele Wolfskill (choir) (*These Elders uncover and cover the elements.)

Welcome Rev. Rebecca Hoover

Pastor Becky lives in the Reading area with her family. After serving full-time pastorates in Maryland and Pennsylvania, Pastor Becky now teaches 2nd grade full-time and enjoys serving as a supply pastor. She is a graduate of Heidelberg College (now University) in Ohio, Lancaster Theological Seminary, and Kutztown University. The red thread connecting her two vocations of Elementary School Teacher and Ordained Minister is a passion for education and helping people grow into the fullness of who they are made to be.

Copyright & Acknowledgements

Copyrighted music is reprinted and streamed with permission under One License #A-740932. All rights reserved.

Last Week's Worship

Worship Attendance: In Person: 92 Online: 5

Offerings Received for God's Ministry:

General Fund: In person $2562 Online: $1294

"LOOK AND SEE"
WHAT IS HAPPENING AT BAUSMAN!
NOVEMBER 29, 2026

(*Visit bausmanucc.org and sign up for the weekly e-blasts as well)*

Poinsettias - *Help Support the Music Ministry* - The first order for poinsettias is **due today for delivery on December 6**. The final order is due on **December 13 with delivery of December 24 (Christmas Eve). Poinsettias come in 5 colors and are $11 each ~ from Penny Hill Farm**.
The Christmas Eve delivery will be used to decorate the sanctuary for the Christmas Eve service and may be taken after the service or left in the sanctuary to be delivered to our sick and shut-in members. Lori Moser lmoser928@gmail.com and Bonnie Shiner blshiner@comcast.net will be collecting orders forms, or you can drop your form at the church office. Payment should accompany your order. Proceeds benefit the Music Ministry Fund.

Next Sunday - Congregational Meeting - December 6, 2026 - The annual congregational meeting will be held following worship next Sunday, December 6, beginning at 11am. Members will be able to participate in-person and online through a private YouTube Channel. Current meeting topics include 2027 Budget Proposal, Consistory Elections, Update on Site Assessment and Accessibility Findings, Update on Constitution & Bylaws, Update on the HVAC Systems. The official call letter, agenda, advance material, and instructions for accessing the meeting link online were mailed and emailed, last week.

Bausman Chancel Choir Christmas Cantata – Next Sunday, December 6, 2026 / 9:30am *"Night of Wonders"*

Christmas with Keystone Brass - Sunday, December 13 - We will welcome the Keystone Brass Quintet to perform special music along with the Bausman Chancel Choir. The prelude will begin at 9:15 AM. 2026 marks the 50th year for the Keystone Brass Quintet. The ensemble was founded in 1976 and has more than 350 performances in 50 years. The current members are Peter Johnson (trumpet), Doug Winemiller (trumpet), Steve Burg (horn), Mike Hartman (trombone), and George DeMars (tuba). Their musical style ranges from Renaissance to contemporary music and everything in between. Be sure to invite a friend! This will be a wonderful addition to the worship service. Keystone Brass is sponsored by the Bausman Luyben Music Endowment Fund.

Christmas Eve Pre-service Recital Performers - Interested in Performing for our Pre-Service Recital on Christmas Eve? We are looking for singers and instrumentalists of any age to perform before our Christmas Eve Service Thursday, December 24, 2026 / Pre-service Recital begins at 6:00 PM / Worship begins at 6:30 PM. Contact Sharon Luyben @ 610-334-6479 if you are interested in singing or playing an instrument!

Salvation Army Angel Tree - The Angel Tree is in the East Narthex and decorated with tags for Children, Senior Citizen's and Veteran's. These tags list the items each individual really wants/needs for Christmas. Please restrict your spending to $75.00 and under. When you choose your tag(s) please make sure to sign the sheet next to the tree with your name and phone number. All gifts should be put into **gift bags only** (NO WRAPPED BOXES) with the **original tag securely attached** and **returned to the Angel Tree no later than Sunday December 6, 2026**. If you have any questions, please contact Cece Wagner at cawyo@aol.com and thank you in advance for making Christmas special to those less fortunate than us.

Mary's Shelter Baby & Household Item Drive - Bausman UCC's older Sunday School class has organized a household & baby items drive for Mary's Shelter, through Dec 20. Mary's Shelter is an organization committed to empowering homeless youth by providing housing, education, and social service programs, as well as maternity and family services. A Wishlist of items for Mary's Shelter is on the side table in the sanctuary.

Save the Date – Christmas Pageant, December 20 - Join us for a little Christmas joy and laughter at our annual Christmas pageant on December 20! This year, our youth will present "Not Another Nativity Play," adapted

from Raise Up Faith. This delightful and heartwarming retelling of the Christmas story follows a reluctant child who unexpectedly becomes the heart of the good news of Jesus' birth.
We are excited to see our young performers share their talents and bring this special story to life. Be sure to mark your calendars and join us for a meaningful and joy-filled celebration of the Christmas season!

Reading Choral Society Upcoming Concerts - "A Messiah Community Sing", a free concert, will be held by the Reading Choral Society at the Scottish Rite Cathedral on December 6 at 5:30pm.
"A Ceremony of Carols" concert will be held at St. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church on December 12, 2026 at 4:00pm. Tickets are $20 in advance; $25 at the door. Fred Schwerdt, a member of the RCS, has tickets.

First Sunday Fellowship Hosts Needed - We are coming to the end of the year, and with that comes the need for volunteers to sign up for a First Sunday Fellowship date in 2027. These times of fellowship and refreshments are consistently held the first Sunday of each month and have become welcome times of gathering that are looked forward to and appreciated by all. Please consider choosing a Sunday in 2027 to serve as host(s) by providing refreshments for fellowship time following the service, as designated on the sign-up list currently in the sanctuary. (Reimbursement funds are available.)
This list will be moved to the hallway bulletin board following our December First Sunday Fellowship and will remain posted there for all of 2027. Thank you for your willingness to serve in this way!

Join the Head Usher Team - Volunteers Needed – Are you looking for a small but significant way to serve the church? We are looking to add 6-8 additional volunteers to our current team of Head Ushers. The Head Usher responsibilities include opening the church building for worship, directing the Ushers for the day's service, and ensuring that the church building is closed after worship. Interested members will be trained on the appropriate procedures and would serve approximately every 6-8 weeks ~ depending on the number of respondents. If you are interested, please contact Mike Ritter (610) 781-5946.

Redner's Receipts - Thank you for submitting your Redner's receipts and those of family, friends, and neighbors. As we approach the holiday season, here are a few quick reminders:
- Scan your Redner's Rewards Card with each purchase for the receipt to count
- Submit receipts to the office, in the office drop box or the east narthex collection box, or in the offering plate
- Redner's gas receipts do not earn the church rewards

Sauerkraut Available – If you are interested in purchasing sauerkraut, they are $7/quart and $4/pint. We ask that you do not buy more than 4 in total so that others may have an opportunity to make a purchase. Thank you.

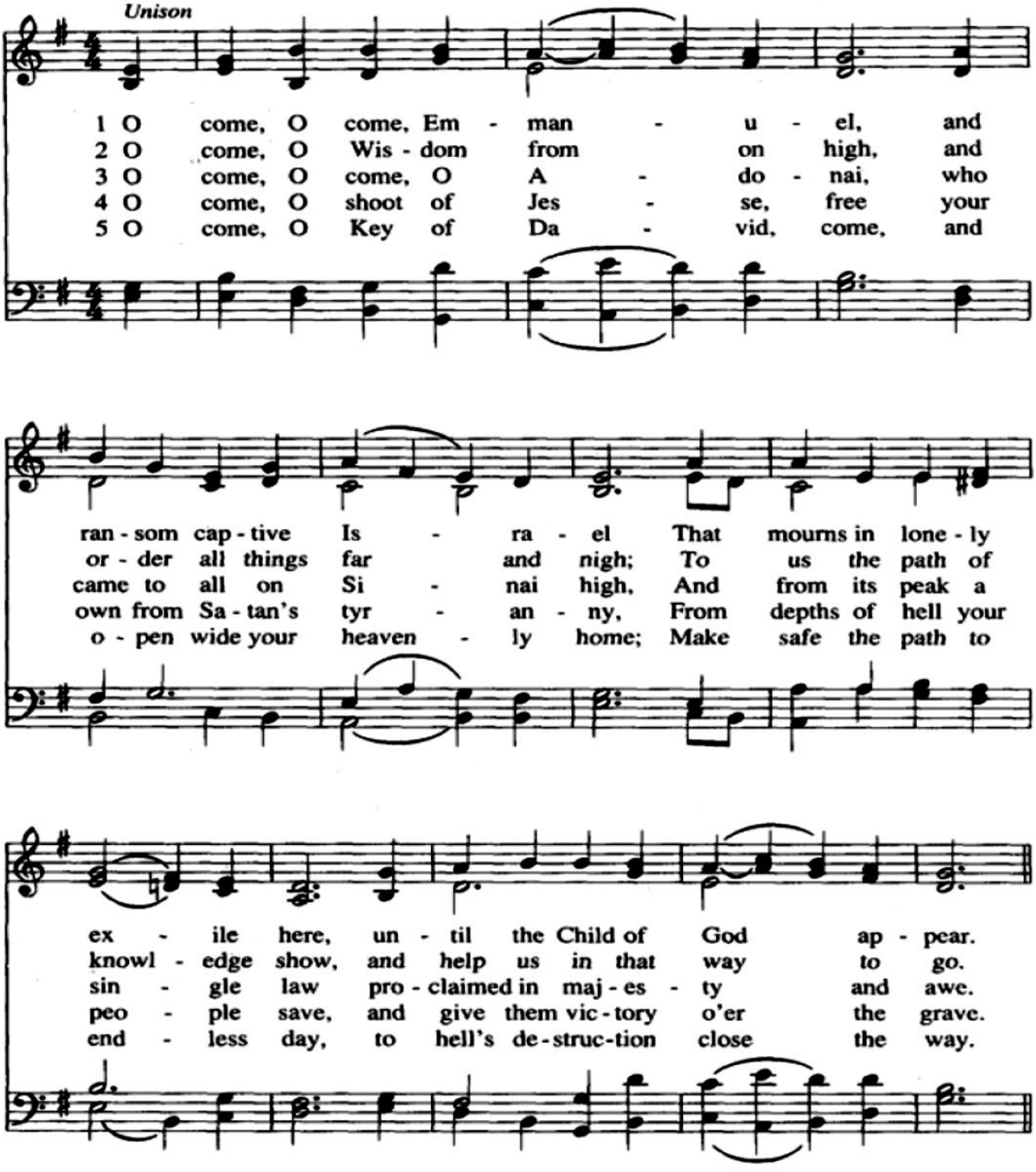
2027 Calendars - Do you need a calendar for 2027? Before you go out and buy one, please check out the free ones on the table in the front of the sanctuary. Also, if you know of anyone that might need one or two, please take them.

Cancellation of Worship In Case of Inclement Weather - In the case of winter weather and there is a need to cancel worship due to poor conditions, cancellation information will be posted on the following platforms:
- The church answering machine message
- Facebook - Bausman's Facebook page
- Email sent out through Realm and posted on the Newsfeed
- WFMZ.com - Under Business and School Closings

116 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

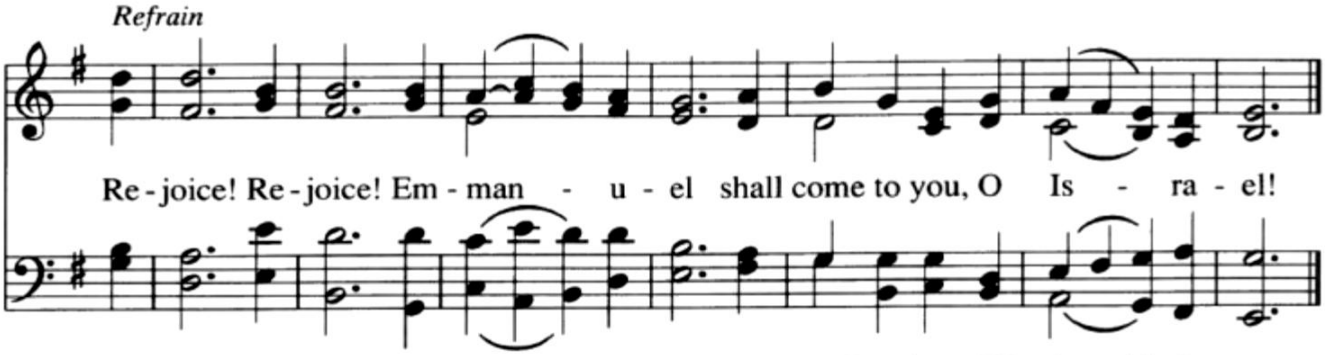
Isa. 11:1–12; Exod. 19–20:17

Psalteriolum Cantionum Catholicarum, *1710*
Based on ancient antiphons from Advent Vespers
Transl. John Mason Neale, 1851, and others; alt.
St. 2, 7, transl. Henry Sloane Coffin, 1916; alt.



In the medieval Western church, seven "Great O" antiphons, the basis for this hymn, were sung consecutively on the seven days before Christmas, ending with what appears above as the first stanza.

Tune: VENI EMMANUEL L.M. with refrain
Melody from a 15th-century French "Processional"
Arr. Thomas Helmore, 1854

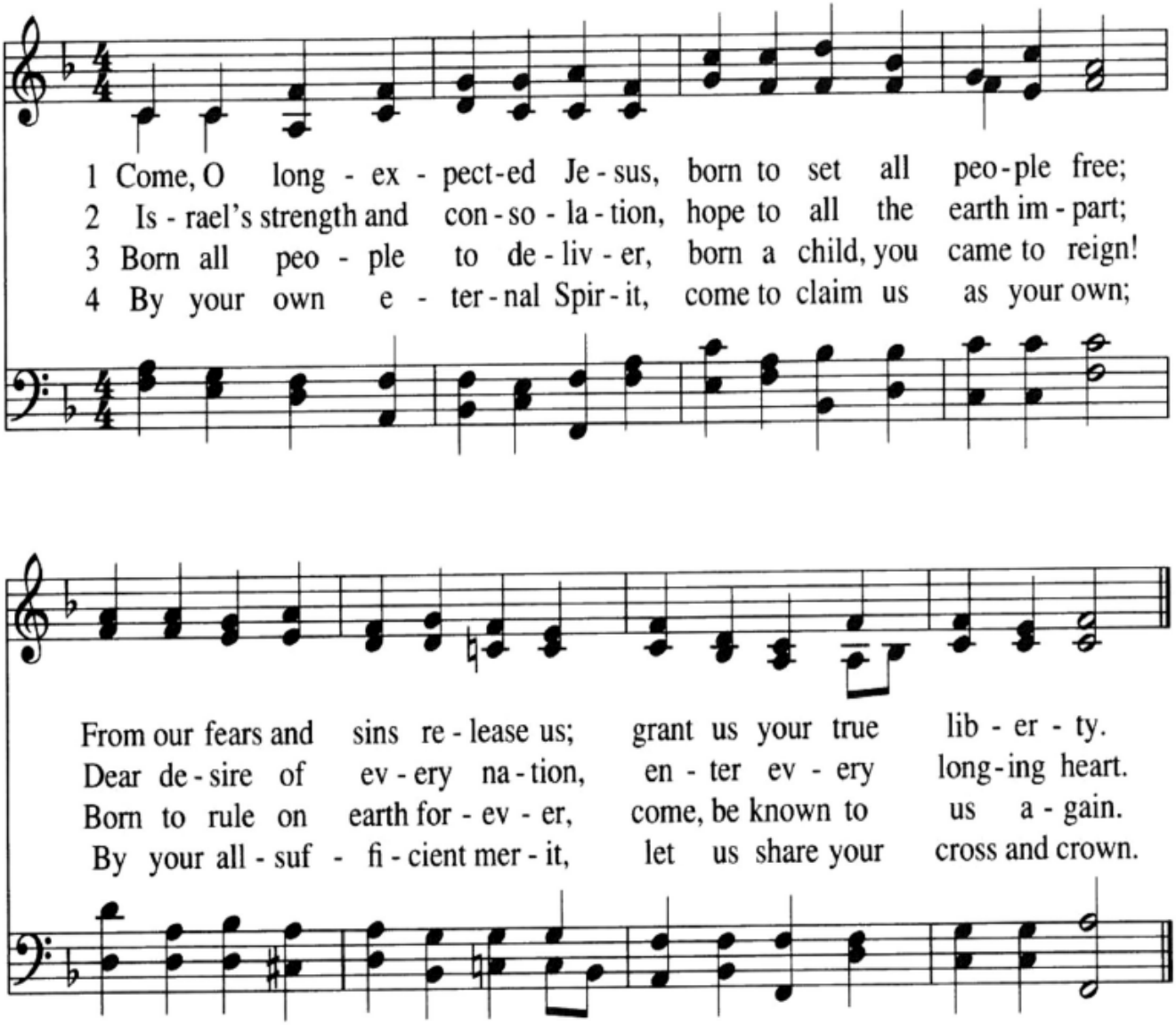


6 O come, O Day-spring, come and cheer
our spir-its by your ad-vent here;
Love stir with-in the womb of night,
and death's own shad-ows put to flight.
(Refrain)

7 O come, De-sire of Na-tions, bind
all peo-ples in one heart and mind;
Make en-vy, strife, and quar-rels cease;
fill the whole world with heav-en's peace.
(Refrain)

Come, O Long-Expected Jesus

Charles Wesley, 1744; alt.



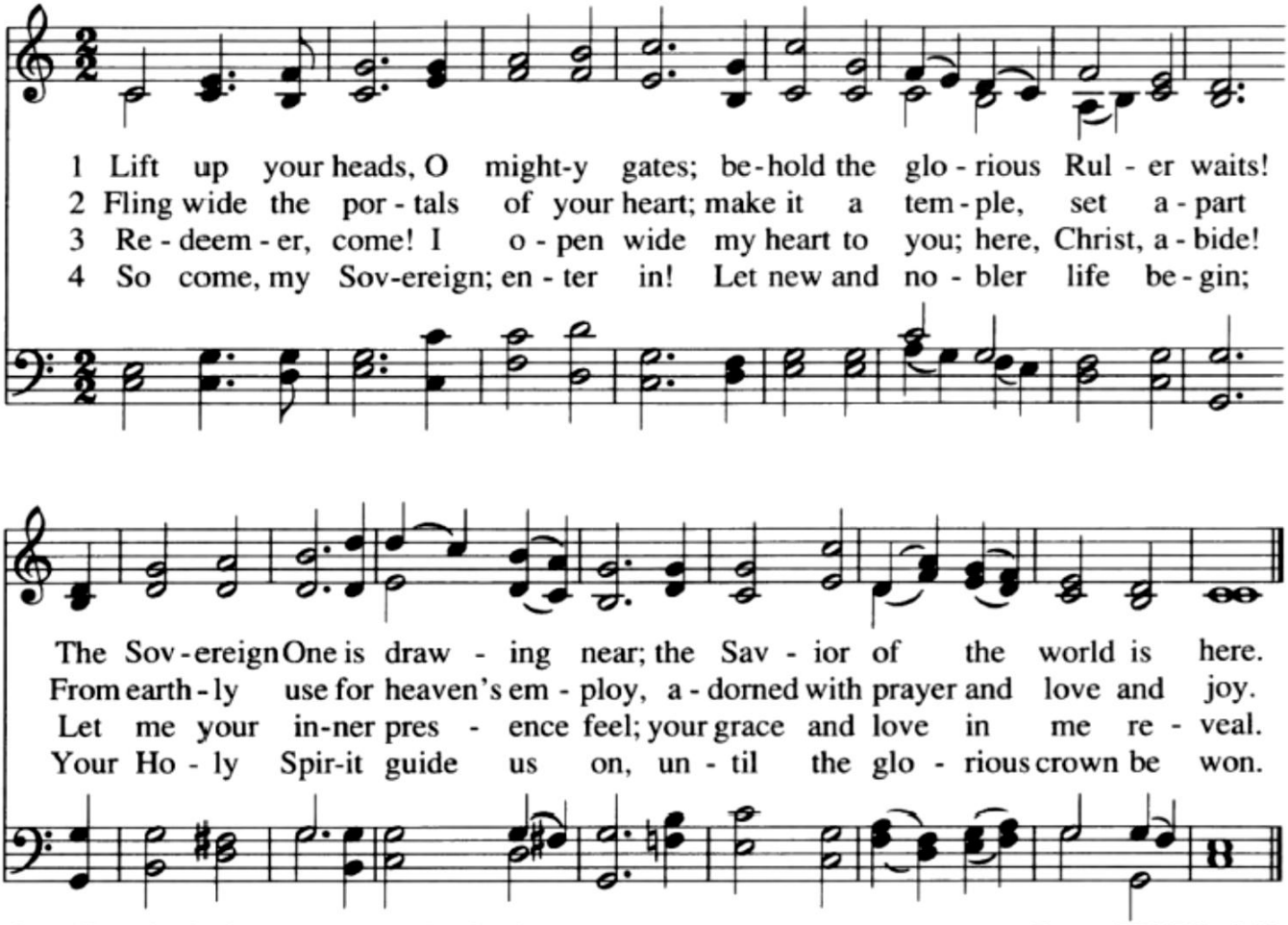
Charles Wesley, the brother of John, was one of the students known as "Methodists" at Oxford University. He wrote hymns for every occasion. This is from his small collection Hymns for the Nativity.

Tune: STUTTGART 8.7.8.7.
Melody attrib. to Christian F. Witt (1660–1716)
from Psalmodia Sacra, *Gotha, 1715*
Alternate tune: IN BABILONE

Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates 117

Georg Weissel, 1641
Transl. Catherine Winkworth, 1865; alt.

Ps. 24:7–10



Georg Weissel, a Lutheran pastor, served a church in Königsberg, East Prussia. He wrote some twenty hymns, most of them for the great festivals of the church year. This hymn was written for Advent.

Tune: TRURO L.M.
Thomas Williams' Psalmodia Evangelica, *1789*