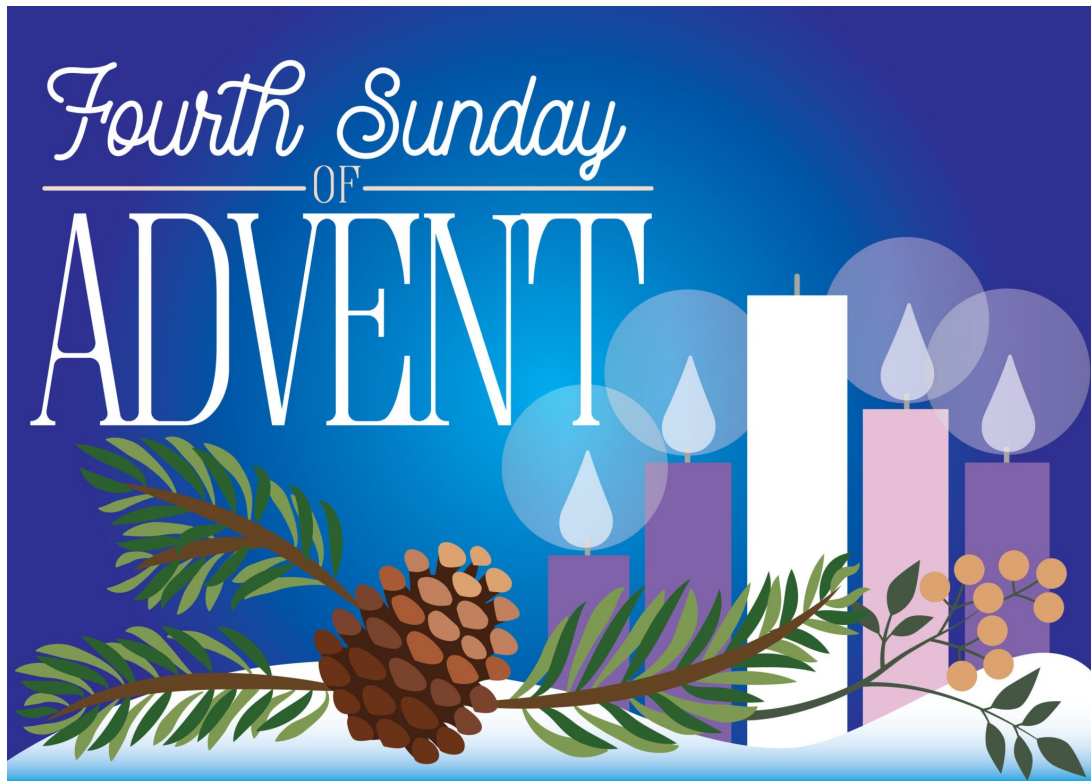


# ***LUTHERAN CHAPEL***



**REVELATION 14:1-5, 12-13 AND LUKE 1:39-55**

***"SONG OF MARY, MOTHER OF OUR LORD"***

*"The Virgin sings for the ages magnifying the Lord now and forever."*

**ANTE COMMUNION  
4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
DECEMBER 22, 2024**

**[lutheranchapelchurch.org](http://lutheranchapelchurch.org)  
(704) 864-6491**



**All:** O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear.

*All Refrain:*

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to you, O Israel.**

**Men:** O come, O Wisdom from on high,  
embracing all things far and nigh:  
in strength and beauty come and stay;  
teach us your will and guide our way. *Refrain*

**Women:** O come, O come, O Lord of might,  
as to your tribes on Sinai's height  
in ancient times you gave the law  
in cloud, and majesty, and awe. *Refrain*

**All:** O come, O Branch of Jesse, free  
your own from Satan's tyranny;  
from depths of hell your people save,  
and give them vict'ry o'er the grave. *Refrain*

**All:** O come, O Key of David, come,  
and open wide our heav'nly home;  
make safe the way that leads on high,  
and close the path to misery. *Refrain*

**Men:** O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer;  
O Sun of justice, now draw near.  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
and death's dark shadow put to flight. *Refrain*

**Women:** O come, O King of nations, come,  
O Cornerstone that binds in one:  
refresh the hearts that long for you;  
restore the broken, make us new. *Refrain*

**All:** O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear. *Refrain*

**\*THE APOSTOLIC GREETING**

*2 Corinthians 13:13*

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

**\*THE KYRIE**

**ELW pg. 138**

*Mark 10:47*

**\*GLORY TO GOD**

**ELW pg. 139**

*Luke 2:14, John 1:29*

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

*(In Unison)*

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

**C: Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the preaching of John, that, rejoicing in your salvation, we may bring forth the fruits of repentance; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**WORD**

**ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING**

*“Light a Candle for all to See”*

**LEADER**

Alex Berghello

**Light a Candle for All to See**

Congregation ~ Joy

Words and Music by Lloyd Larson

*(Please sing when directed, sing the echo)*

Light a candle for all to see. **(Light a candle for all to see.)**

The King shall come for you and me. **(The King shall come for you and me.)**

Boundless joy: Emmanuel. **(Boundless joy: Emmanuel.)**

And with us He shall ever dwell. **(And with us He shall ever dwell.)**

Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness, come before Him with joyful songs. (Psalm 100:1-2)

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you. He is Christ the Lord” (Luke 2:8-11)

**MESSAGE FOR ALL OF GOD’S PEOPLE**

*All who want to come forward for the Message are welcome to do so.*

**FIRST LESSON**

**MICAH 5:2-5A**

<sup>2</sup> But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,  
who are one of the little clans of Judah,

from you shall come forth for me  
one who is to rule in Israel,  
whose origin is from of old,  
from ancient days.

<sup>3</sup> Therefore he shall give them up until the time  
when she who is in labor has brought forth;  
then the rest of his kindred shall return  
to the people of Israel.

<sup>4</sup> And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD,  
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.  
And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great  
to the ends of the earth;

<sup>5a</sup> and he shall be the one of peace.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

### PSALM 80:1-7



Hear O thou Shepherd of Israel, thou that leadest Joseph / like a / flock; \*  
show thyself also, thou that / sittest · up- / on the / Cherubim.

Before Ephraim Benjamin / and Ma- / nasseh, \*  
stir up thy / strength and / come, and / help us.

Turn us a- / gain, O / God; \*  
show the light of thy countenance / and we / shall be / whole.

O / Lord God · of / hosts, \*  
how long wilt thou be angry / with thy / people · that / prayeth?

Thou feedest them with the / bread of / tears, \*  
and givest them / plenteousness · of / tears to / drink.

Thou hast made us a very strife / unto · our / neighbours, \*  
and our / ene · mies / laugh us · to / scorn.

Turn us again thou / God of / hosts; \*  
show the light of thy countenance, / and we / shall be / whole.

Glory be to the Father and / to the / Son, \*  
And / to the / Ho-ly / Ghost.  
As it was in the beginning, is now and / ev-er / shall be; \*  
World without / **end** / **A-** / men.

<sup>1</sup>Then I looked, and there was the Lamb, standing on Mount Zion! And with him were one hundred forty-four thousand who had his name and his Father's name written on their foreheads. <sup>2</sup>And I heard a voice from heaven like the sound of many waters and like the sound of loud thunder; the voice I heard was like the sound of harpists playing on their harps, <sup>3</sup>and they sing a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and before the elders. No one could learn that song except the one hundred forty-four thousand who have been redeemed from the earth. <sup>4</sup>It is these who have not defiled themselves with women, for they are virgins; these follow the Lamb wherever he goes. They have been redeemed from humankind as first fruits for God and the Lamb, <sup>5</sup>and in their mouth no lie was found; they are blameless.

**<sup>12</sup>Here is a call for the endurance of the saints, those who keep the commandments of God and hold fast to the faith of Jesus.**

<sup>13</sup>And I heard a voice from heaven saying, "Write this: Blessed are the dead who from now on die in the Lord." "Yes," says the Spirit, "they will rest from their labors, for their deeds follow them."

L: The Word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God**

### STORY OF SALVATION TIMELINE

The timeline below offers an overview of the Story of Salvation lesson from Genesis to Revelation. The + marks where we are now. The memory verse is in bold.

*Creation: Fall : Promise : Exodus : Conquest : Judges: + Kings and Prophets : Exile :  
Restoration : 2<sup>nd</sup> Temple : JESUS : +Apostles : **Last Day** : New Creation*

### \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*John 6:68*

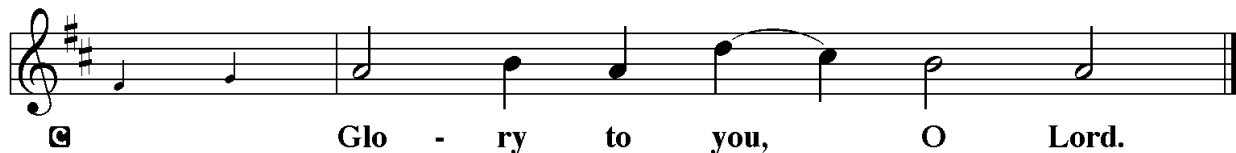
**C: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

### \*GOSPEL

**LUKE 1:39-55**

*Those who are able may stand to honor Christ during the reading of the Gospel.*

Response after the announcement:



<sup>39</sup>In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, <sup>40</sup>where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. <sup>41</sup>When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit <sup>42</sup>and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. <sup>43</sup>And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? <sup>44</sup>For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. <sup>45</sup>And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

<sup>46</sup>And Mary said,

"My soul magnifies the Lord,

<sup>47</sup>and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

<sup>48</sup>for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.

Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;  
<sup>49</sup>for the Mighty One has done great things for me,  
and holy is his name.

<sup>50</sup>His mercy is for those who fear him  
from generation to generation.

<sup>51</sup>He has shown strength with his arm;  
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.

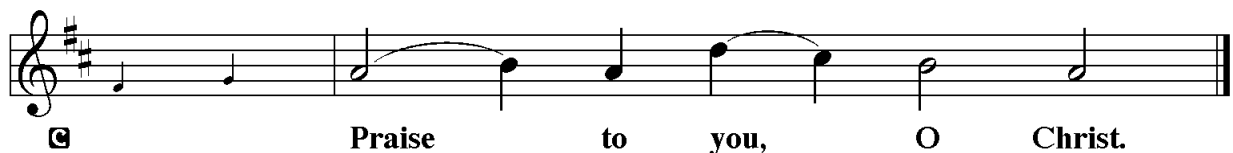
<sup>52</sup>He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,  
and lifted up the lowly;

<sup>53</sup>he has filled the hungry with good things,  
and sent the rich away empty.

<sup>54</sup>He has helped his servant Israel,  
in remembrance of his mercy,

<sup>55</sup>according to the promise he made to our ancestors,  
to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.



**MESSAGE**

*“Song of Mary, Mother of our Lord”*

**On Endurance  
The Visitation**

**The Law** is an aspect in the Word that shows our brokenness, sin and need for Jesus’ saving power: All of the world – the proud, the rich, and the powerful – will be judged. How worldly am I?

**The Gospel** is an aspect in the Word that gives strength, wisdom and hope in Jesus’ ultimate saving power: The LORD blesses those who receive His Word, Jesus Christ, who alone can set all things right.

**So What?:** Magnify the Lord. Sing the Song of Mary in your evening prayers. Remember the promise – God will turn the world upside down and the humble will be exalted.

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY**      *“The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came”*

**ELW# 265**

**\*THE APOSTLES’ CREED**

*All are invited to confess our faith in God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. If you have not received the gift of baptism or would like to affirm your faith in Jesus and join His mission here, please indicate on the attendance registry and talk to an usher or the pastor.*

**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 Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,**

was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven and  
sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body  
and the life + everlasting. Amen.

**\*THE SHARING OF THE PEACE**

*Philippians 4:7*

P: The peace of the God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

**TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

*Malachi 3:10, Matthew 23:23, 2 Corinthians 9:7-8*

**MUSICAL OFFERING**

*"One Small Flame"*

John Purifoy

**\*OFFERTORY**

*"Create in Me a Clean Heart"*

*Psalms 51:10-12*

**Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.**

**\*THE OFFERTORY PRAYER**

*(In Unison)*

**C: Blessed are You, O God, maker of all things. Through Your goodness You have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered in feeding the world with Your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

*1 Timothy 2:1-4*

AM: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

*A brief silence may be kept. Each prayer will conclude: Lord in Your mercy, and the congregation may respond* **Hear our prayers.**

*Prayers are commended in Jesus' Name.*

AM: All these prayers and whatever else You see that we need we ask in the Name of Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**



**\*THE LORD’S PRAYER**

*Matthew 6:9-13*

P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**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,  
forever and ever.  
Amen.**

**SENDING**

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*RECESSIONAL HYMN**

*“Soon and Very Soon“*

**ELW #439**

**\*DISMISSAL**

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord!

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

*“Watchman, Tell Us of the Night ”*

Arr. Gilbert M. Martin



**THOSE SERVING AT LUTHERAN CHAPEL TODAY**

Ministers.....	People of Lutheran Chapel
Pastor.....	Michael Comer
Administrative Assistant.....	Susan Hibschi
Director of Music Ministries.....	Kathie Riebe
Choir Accompanist.....	Anna Gilreath
Assistant Minister.....	Chris Lowe
Lector.....	Pam Overcash
Acolyte.....	Corbin Brown
Crucifer.....	Bram Comer
Head Ushers.....	Steve Clark and Ervin Hoffman
First Aid/AED/CPR.....	Mark Thornburg
Council Members of the Month.....	Crown Hoffman and Jason Sanders

# Upcoming EVENTS

**GENERAL INFORMATION:** If your family is in need of a **nursery** attendant during the 10:00 service, please let our ushers know and they will contact one of our attendants. **Restrooms** are located on the bottom floor of the Sanctuary. Additional restrooms are located in the Educational Building and *do not require the use of stairs*. If needed, please see an usher for assistance in locating them.

**TO GIVE TITHES AND OFFERINGS ONLINE:** This QR code goes straight to the “Easy Tithe” page on the website that accepts tithes and offerings electronically.



**CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLE LIGHT SERVICE:** Music begins at 7:00 followed by service at 7:30.

**2024 CONTRIBUTIONS:** It’s time to get your 2024 pledges up-to-date. All donations to the church must be turned in by **Tuesday, December 31st** to be properly credited to your account for the year.

**2025 OFFERING ENVELOPES:** You can now pick up your 2025 offering envelopes on the table entering the preschool area. If you are a regular visitor and would like assigned envelopes, please contact the church office.

**2025 ALTAR FLOWER CALENDAR:** **June 29, July 27, Nov. 9 and Nov. 23** are open dates for Alter flower. Please contact Susan Lewis at 704-914-8451 or email [sudalewi@gmail.com](mailto:sudalewi@gmail.com) if you would like to provide flowers on those dates.

**ESTHER CIRCLE:** Esther Circle will meet in the Fellowship Hall on **Monday, January 6th** at **10 am**.

**REBECCA CIRCLE:** Rebecca Circle will gather for dinner at Tino’s in Lincolnton **Monday, January 6th** at **6 pm**.

**OWLS:** Our next *OWL-standing* time of fellowship will be held at BBQ King in Lincolnton on **Thursday, January 16th** at 11:00 am. For those wanting a ride, the bus will leave at 10:30 am from the church

**LOVE OFFERING:** The love offering for January will be given to Cancer Services of Gaston County. This agency has an active presence in our community for 47 years. Cancer Services provides education about cancer prevention and detection, assists cancer patients, and funds cancer research. The mission of Cancer Services is to serve the community by actively promoting healthy lifestyles and providing support and services needed by people living with cancer. They provide cancer patients with limited financial and medication assistance and medical equipment is loaned free of charge. Also, they provide transportation assistance, nutritional supplements, wigs, diapers, bed pads, etc. to cancer patients. Educational programs and free cancer screening clinics are provided to promote public awareness of cancer. Everyone is personally affected by cancer at some time in their life. By supporting agencies such as Cancer Services, you are helping people who are suffering from this disease. Your donation can help make a difference in their battle against cancer. Thank you, the Social Ministry.

# *Weekly* **CALENDAR**



**Sunday, Dec. 22**  
*4th Sunday of Advent*

8:30 am Fellowship  
9:00 am Sunday School  
10:00 am Worship (Sanctuary)  
11:30 am Chancel Choir (Sanctuary)  
8:00 pm Faith Group (Fellowship Hall)

**Monday, Dec. 23**

**Tuesday, Dec. 24**

Office Closed  
CHRISTMAS EVE  
5:30 pm I.E. Warmup  
6:00 pm Chapel Ringers Warmup  
6:30 pm Choir Warmup  
7:00 pm Music Begins  
7:30 pm Holy Communion and Candlelight Service

**Wednesday, Dec. 25**

Office Closed  
CHRISTMAS DAY

**Thursday, Dec. 26**

**Friday, Dec. 27**

**Saturday, Dec. 28**

9:30 am Hungry Peeps in (Fellowship Hall)



**DAILY PRAYER - A HOME ALTAR ALTERS THE HOME!:** Sunrise, sunset and at meals are times for daily prayer (*Psalm 1 55:17*). *May God bless you as you turn to Him day by day.*

**THE BIBLE IN A YEAR - Week 50 December 22 to December 29, 2024**

- 12/22 Morning Reading: Revelation 13—Evening Reading: Micah 6, 7
- 12/23 Morning Reading: Revelation 14—Evening Reading: Nahum
- 12/24 Morning Reading: Revelation 15—Evening Reading: Habakkuk
- 12/25 Morning Reading: Revelation 16—Evening Reading: Zephaniah
- 12/26 Morning Reading: Revelation 17—Evening Reading: Haggai
- 12/27 Morning Reading: Revelation 18—Evening Reading: Zechariah 1, 2, 3, 4
- 12/28 Morning Reading: Revelation 19—Evening Reading: Zechariah 5, 6, 7, 8
- 12/29 Morning Reading: Revelation 20—Evening Reading: Zechariah 9, 10, 11, 12

**This QR** code goes straight to the Daily prayers page on the website that lists the commemorations and Psalms appointments for the week.



**PRAYER LIST FOR FELLOWSHIP:** Wanda Anthony, Braylon Beam, Ron Behringer, Steve Bell, Pauline Bradley, Shirley Bradley, Buddy Carothers, Miles Carpenter, **George Cashion**, Renee Dockery, Kathy Finch, Baker Hampton, Barbara Peacock, Doug Rhyne, Kay Robinson, Pat Robinson, Barbara Robinson, Joe Veale, and Gene & Myra Weaver.

**FRIENDS OF THE FELLOWSHIP:** John Austin, Kyle Banes, Rick Belton, Kathy Bradley, Peggy Button, Deborah Carpenter, Jeff Cobb, Doris Coggins, Tucker Doyne, Jameson Franklin, Jennifer Hart, Bob Hice, Mary Jordan, **Taylor Jordan**, Vesta Lankford, for the family of Suzanne Kendrick Ledford, Bobby Myers, Paul Nordberg, Rita Pasour, Josie Putnam, Joye Rankin, Randy Reel, Morgan Rosser, Doris Sellers, Dorothy Slessman, Christy Carpenter Smith, Charlene Sorenson, Judy Turner, Becky Van Dyke, Jimmy Watlington, and Anthony Wynn

*To share concerns, prayer list updates, and any questions about the Bible in a Year readings contact the church office (704-864-6491) or call/text Pastor Comer (704-787-6439).*

**NEXT WEEK'S LESSONS**

**Wednesday, December 25 ~ Christmas Day**

**Sunday, December 29 ~ Ante Communion**

Revelation 20:1-3,11-15,1:1-8 and Luke 2:41-52 “Increasing in Wisdom and Stature”

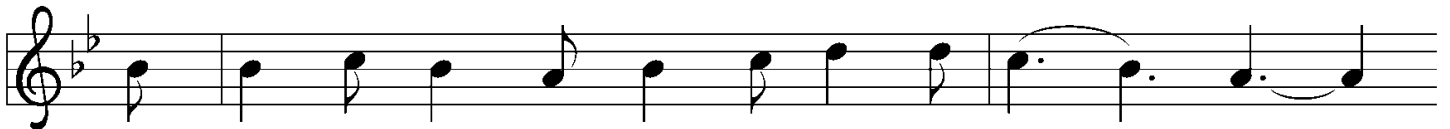
## The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came



1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from heav - en came,  
 2 "For know a bless - ed moth - er thou shalt be,  
 3 Then gen - tle Mar - y meek - ly bowed her head;  
 4 Of her, Em-man - u - el, the Christ, was born



with wings as drift - ed snow, with eyes as flame:  
 all gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee;  
 "To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said.  
 in Beth - le - hem all on a Christ - mas morn,



"All hail to thee, O low - ly maid - en Mar - y,  
 thy son shall be Em-man - u - el, by seers fore - told,  
 "My soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy God's ho - ly name."  
 and Chris-tian folk through-out the world will ev - er say:



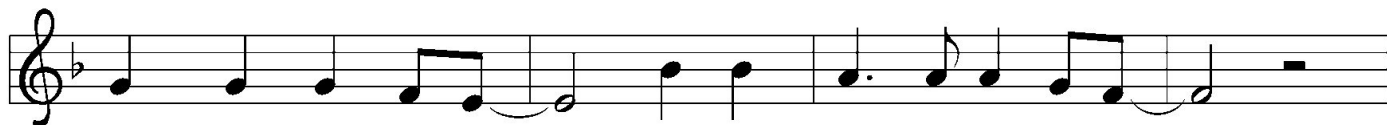
most high - ly fa - vored la - dy."  
 most high - ly fa - vored la - dy."      Glo - ri - a!  
 Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy,  
 "Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy."

Text: Basque carol; para. Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834–1924  
 Music: GABRIEL'S MESSAGE, Basque carol

# Soon and Very Soon



1 Soon and ver - y soon  
 2 No more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,  
 3 No more dy - in' there,  
 4 Soon and ver - y soon



soon and ver - y soon  
 no more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,  
 no more dy - in' there,  
 soon and ver - y soon



soon and ver - y soon  
 no more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King.  
 no more dy - in' there,  
 soon and ver - y soon



Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, we're goin' to see the King!

*Coda after stanza 4*



Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu -



jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah.

Text: Andraé Crouch, b. 1945

Music: VERY SOON, Andraé Crouch

Text and music © 1976 Bud John Songs, Inc./Crouch Music, admin. EMI Christian Music Publishing

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.