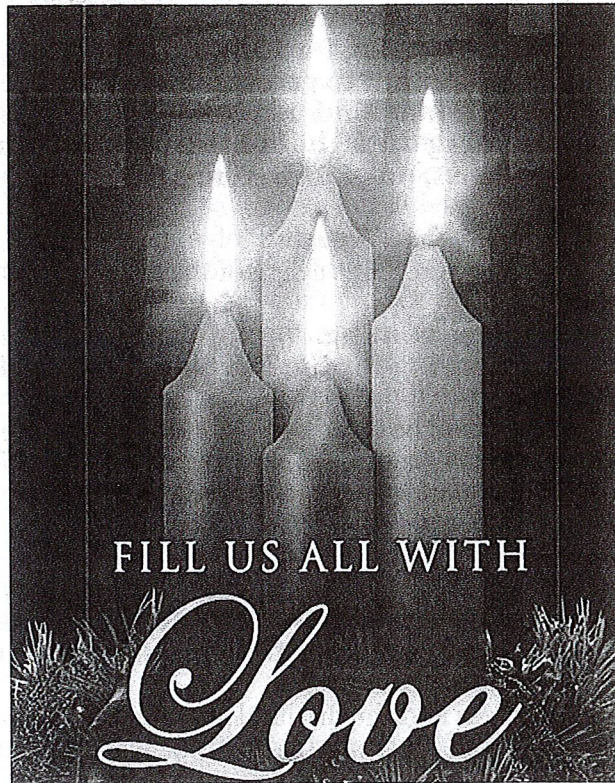


First Presbyterian Church IN VICTOR

WHOEVER YOU ARE.
HOWEVER YOU HAVE COME.
YOU ARE WELCOME HERE.



First Presbyterian Church

70 East Main Street

Victor, NY 14564

585-924-2289

www.victorpres.org

Pastor Nick Dorland

Organist Ayn Patrowicz

Order of Worship **December 18, 2022, 10am**

4th Sunday of Advent

***Please stand if you are able.**

Prelude "In the Bleak Midwinter", arr. by John Purifoy

Welcome & Announcements

Unison Prayer of Invocation

Father in heaven, our hearts desire the warmth of your love, and our minds are searching for the light of your Word.

Increase our longing for Christ, our Savior, and give us the strength to grow in love, that the dawn of his coming may find us rejoicing in his presence and welcoming the light of his truth. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

***Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

We light these candles as a sign of the coming light of Christ.

Advent means coming.

We are preparing for the full coming of God's kingdom:

'The nations shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.'

'The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them.'

'The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing.'

'The Lord will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel.' Let us walk in the light of the Lord.

—selections from Isaiah

***Opening Hymn #48**

"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"

Moment for All Ages

Special Music

"Prepare the Way of the Lord"
arr. by Lloyd Larson, Steve Song, soloist

Unison Prayer for Illumination

O God, our beginning and end, by whose command time runs its course: bless our impatience, perfect our faith, and, while we await the fulfillment of your promises, grant us hope in your Word. Amen.

Scripture

Matthew 1:18-25

The Birth of Jesus the Messiah

18 Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be pregnant from the Holy Spirit. 19 Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to divorce her quietly. 20 But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. 21 She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." 22 All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

23 "Look, the virgin shall become pregnant and give birth to a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." 24 When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife 25 but had no marital relations with her until she had given birth to a son, and he named him Jesus.

Sermon

"God With Us"

Hymn of Response #601

"Song of Zechariah"

Offering

***Doxology**

***Unison Prayer of Dedication**

O Mighty One, you have done and are doing great things for us, and holy is your name. Bless all we offer you—ourselves, our time, and our possessions—that through us your grace and favor may be made known to all the world, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Amen.

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

A voice is crying in the wilderness:

let us prepare the way of the Lord.

God of our salvation, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the church . . . Let us be a sign of your promised realm and make us ready to meet our Savior Christ when he comes again in glory.

God of our salvation, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the world . . . Make a way in the wilderness of this world. Bring justice and equality to every land and let all creatures know your saving love.

God of our salvation, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for this community . . . Send messengers of your way among us to kindle in us a passion for what is right and cleanse us from all corruption.

God of our salvation, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for loved ones . . . Let your tender mercy shine on them. Give light to those who wait in darkness and guide their feet into the path of peace.

God of our salvation, **hear our prayer.**

Prepare your way in us, O Lord, that we may rejoice and be glad when your reign of glory comes; through Jesus Christ our Lord..

***Passing the Peace**

***Closing Song #20**

“Watchman, Tell Us of the Night”

***Benediction**

May Jesus Christ, the sun of righteousness, who comes with healing in his wings, fill you with the joy and peace that passes all understanding. The blessing of God almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Postlude

“Ding Dong! Merrily on High”
arr. by Gordon Young

Thank you to these members who are helping with worship today-

AV: Bill & Samantha Martz

Liturgist: Donna Schake

Greeters & Fellowship: Clay Girouard & Barb Cromwell

48 Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

ES IST EIN' ROS' 7.6.7.6.6.7.6

German carol, 15th century
 Trans. Theodore Baker (1851-1934)
 Alt. *Rejoice in the Lord*, 1985

Alte Catholische Geistliche
 Kirchengesäng, Cologne, 1599
 Arr. Michael Praetorius, 1609

1. Lo, how a rose e'er bloom-ing From ten-der stem hath sprung,
 2. I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, The rose I have in mind.

Of Jes-se's lin-eage com - ing, By faith - ful proph - ets sung,
 With Ma - ry we be - hold it, The vir - gin moth - er kind.

It came a flower - et bright, A - mid the cold of
 To show God's love a - right She bore for us a

win - ter, When half spent was the night.
 Sav - ior, When half spent was the night.

Song of Zechariah

Benedictus
KINGSFOLD CMD*English Country Songs*, 1893
Arr. and harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

James Quinn, 1969; alt. 1985

1. Blest of God of Is - ra - el, The ev - er - liv - ing
 2. Through ho - ly proph - ets did You speak Your word in days of
 3. Of old You gave Your sol - emn oath To fa - ther A - bra -
 4. O ti - ny child, Your name shall be The proph - et of the

Lord. You come in power to save Your own, Your
 old, That You would save us from our foes And
 ham: Whose seed a might - y God You will pre - pare And
 Lord; The way of God You will pre - pare To

peo - ple Is - ra - el. For On You You
 all who bear us - el. On nai set Your
 blest for - ev - er - more. You You shall pro - claim to
 make God's com - ing You You

now raise up Sal - va - tion's tower on high In
 gave to us Your cov - e - nant of love; So
 peo - ple free From fear of ev - ery foe, That
 Is - ra - el Sal - va - tion's dawn - ing day, When

Text: © 1969 James Quinn, S.J. Reprinted by permission of Geoffrey Chapman, a division of Cassell Publishers Ltd., London.
 Music: Arrangement and harmonization from the *English Hymnal*, 1906. Used by permission of Oxford University Press.

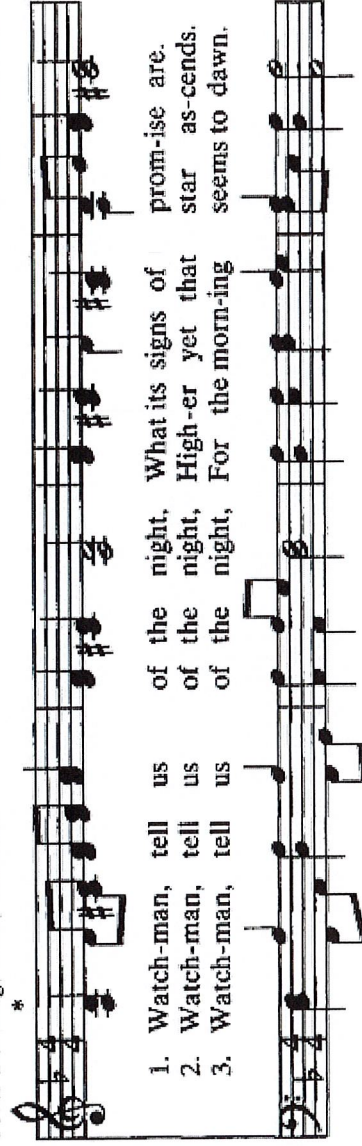
Da - vid's house, who reigned as king And ser - vant of the Lord.
 with us now You keep Your word In love that knows no end.
 we might serve You all our days In good - ness, love, and peace.
 God shall wipe a - way all sins With mer - cy and with love.

20 Watchman, Tell Us of the Night

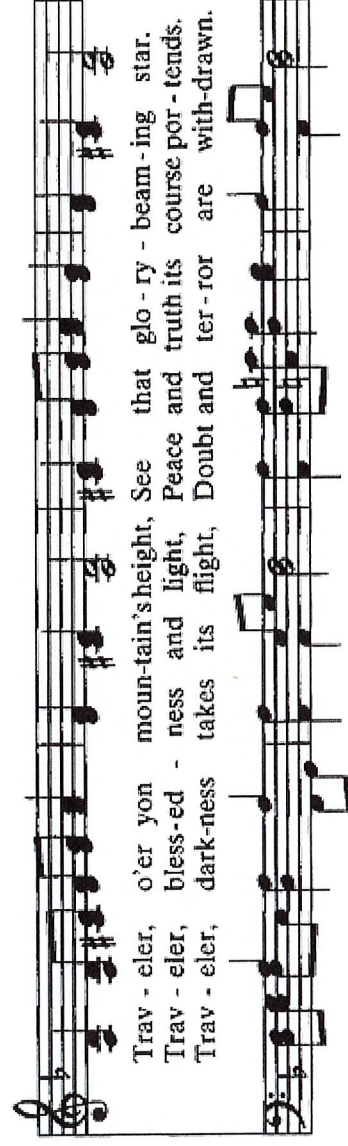
ABERYSTWYTH 7.7.7 D

John Bowring, 1825; alt. 1972

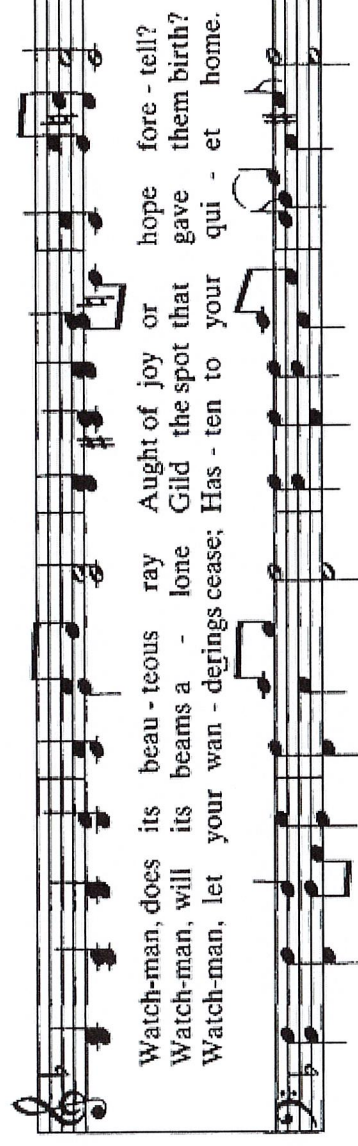
Joseph Parry, 1879

* 

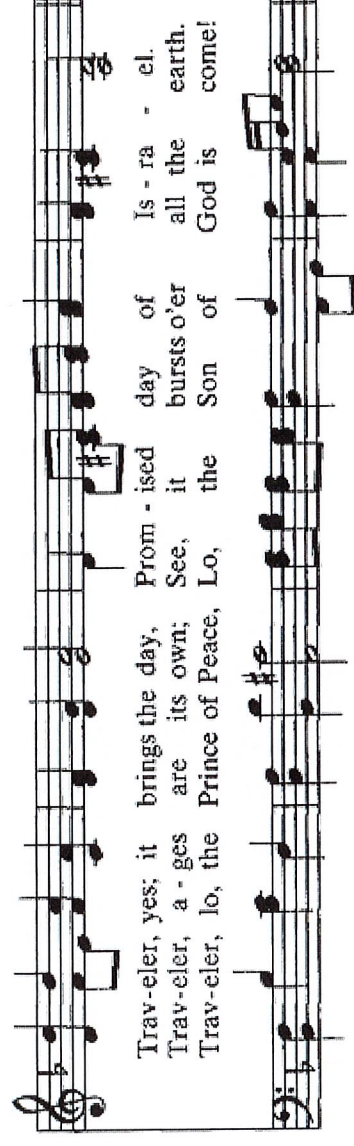
1. Watch-man, tell us of the night, What its signs of prom-ise are.
 2. Watch-man, tell us of the night, High-er yet that star as-cends.
 3. Watch-man, tell us of the night, For the morn-ing seems to dawn.



Trav - e-ler, o'er yon moun-tain's height, See that glo - ry - beam-ing star.
 Trav - e-ler, bless-ed - ness and light, Peace and truth its course por - tends.
 Trav - e-ler, dark-ness takes its flight, Doubt and ter-ror are with-drawn.



Watch-man, does its beau-teous ray Aught of joy or hope fore - tell?
 Watch-man, will its beams a - lone Gild the spot that gave them birth?
 Watch-man, let your wan - derings cease; Has - ten to your qui - et home.



Trav-eler, yes; it brings the day, Prom - ised day of Is - ra - el.
 Trav-eler, a - ges are its own; See, it bursts o'er all the earth.
 Trav-eler, lo, the Prince of Peace, Lo, the Son of God is come!

*May be sung antiphonally.

This tune in a higher key, 303

Alternate tune: ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR. 551