

Welcome
to
Kirkwood!

Sharing the Peace of Christ

Glory to God #115

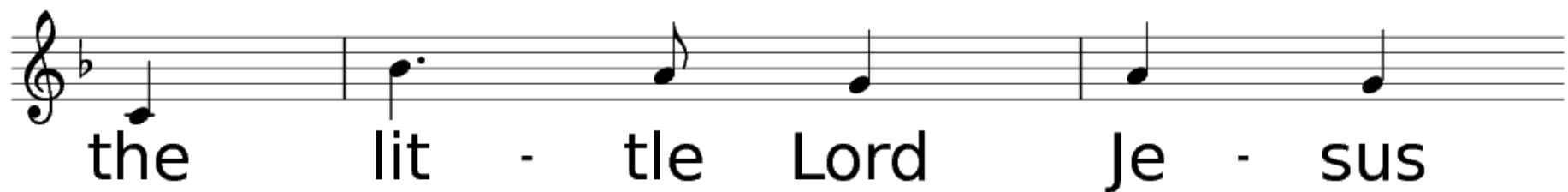
Opening Hymn

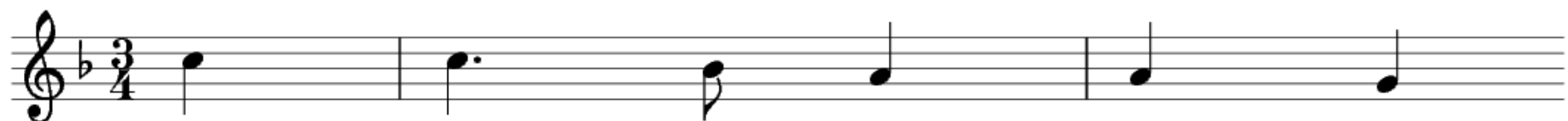
“Away in a Manger”

*TEXT: Stanzas 1–2, Little Children’s Book for Schools and Families, c. 1885; stanza 3, Gabriel’s Vineyard Songs, 1892
MUSIC (MUELLER 11.11.11.11): James R. Murray, 1887*

1. A - way in a man - ger,
no crib for his bed,
the lit - tle Lord Je - sus
laid down his sweet head.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Away in a Manger'. It consists of four staves of music, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The time signature is 3/4. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a '1.' indicating the start of the first stanza. The notes are simple, using quarter and eighth notes with stems pointing up.





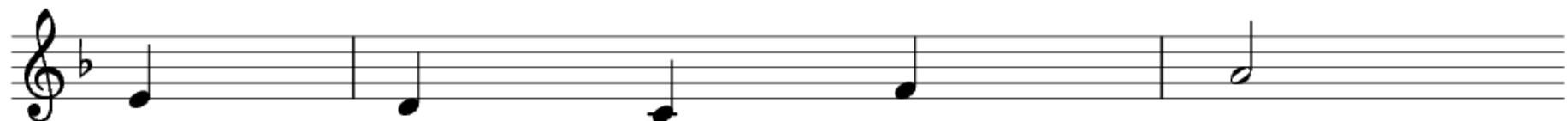
2. The cat - tle are low - ing;



the poor ba - by wakes,



but lit - tle Lord Je - sus,



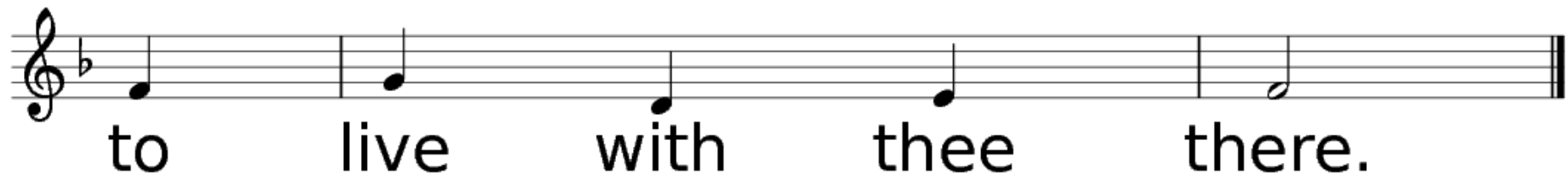
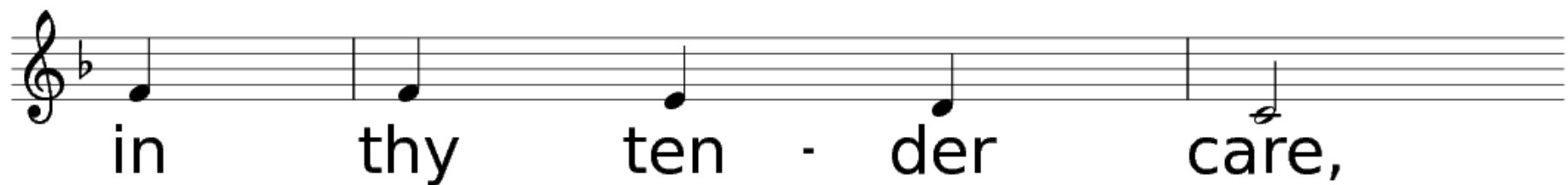
no cry - ing he makes.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Away in a Manger'. It consists of four staves of music, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff contains the lyrics 'I love thee, Lord Je - sus;'. The second staff contains 'look down from the sky,'. The third staff contains 'and stay by my side un -'. The fourth staff contains 'til morn - ing is nigh.' and ends with a double bar line. The melody is simple and consists of quarter and half notes.

I love thee, Lord Je - sus;
look down from the sky,
and stay by my side un -
til morn - ing is nigh.



3. Be near me, Lord Je - sus;
I ask thee to stay
close by me for - ev - er
and love me, I pray.



CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus
Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Get the road ready for the royal visit. Make a straight path for Christ to travel!

People: The winding roads must be made straight and the rough places smooth. All humanity shall see God's salvation.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

“Peace”

Reader: On this day we bear witness to the light of Christ with all the faithful of every time and place: With Isaiah and Jeremiah, prophets of Israel, we await the promised salvation of the Lord, and look for the coming of the one who will bring justice and righteousness to the earth.

With John the Baptist, calling from the wilderness, we cry: “Prepare the way of the Lord! Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

We light this candle in hope. *[Light the first purple candle.]*

We light this candle for peace. *[Light the second purple candle.]*

People: The Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory. Alleluia!

Gathering Prayer

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

People: Holy God, we confess that we are sinners and cannot worship you unless we are purified and cleansed of our sins.

Let your Spirit refine our character and not merely our appearance, so that we can be purged of our deepest faults and the evil that corrupts us.

**Help us to fill this house of God with
purity of worship through the Holy
Spirit.**

Leader: Please continue in silent
confession....Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Friends, hear the Good News!

The one who started the good work in you

**People: will bring it to completion in
the day of Christ.**

Leader: Friends, believe the Good News!

**People: In Jesus Christ, we are
forgiven. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

A Time for Children

Old Testament Reading

Malachi 3:1-4

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight - indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts.

But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness.

Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem
will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days
of old and as in former years.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

New Testament Reading

Luke 3:1-6

In the fifteenth year of the reign of
Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate
was governor of Judea, and Herod was
ruler of Galilee,

and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness.

He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth;

and all flesh shall see the salvation
of God.”

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Does It Matter?



















Credit: ABC 7 News



Middle Hymn

“Touch The Sky”

Affirmation of Faith

(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 sitteth 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.**

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

**Giving Thanks to God
with Our Tithes and
Offerings**

Offertory Song

Doxology

**Praise God, from whom
all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures
here below;**

**Praise God above,
ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son
and Holy Ghost.**

Amen.

(repeat Amen 6 times)

Prayer of Dedication

People: Receive our offerings, O God, as money that enables the sowing of the seed of the Word in this place and to the ends of the earth. Use us as your hired hands in sowing and in harvesting, for the sake of Christ's church. Amen.

Glory to God #147

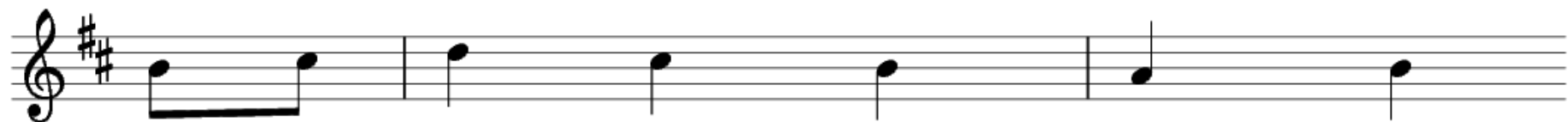
Closing Hymn

“The First Nowell”

*TEXT: English carol; Some Ancient Christmas Carols, 2nd ed., 1823, alt.
MUSIC (THE FIRST NOWELL, Irregular): English carol; Sandys' Christmas Carols, 1833*



1. The first Now - ell the an - gel did say



was to cer - tain poor shep - herds



in fields as they lay,



in fields where they lay keep - ing their sheep,



on a cold win-ter's night that was so deep.

The first line of musical notation is in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). It consists of six measures. The notes are: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4-G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (half). The lyrics "on a cold win-ter's night that was so deep." are written below the staff.



Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell,

The second line of musical notation is in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps. It consists of six measures. The notes are: E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (quarter), B3 (quarter), A3 (quarter), G3 (quarter), F#3 (half), E3 (half). The lyrics "Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell," are written below the staff.



born is the King of Is - ra - el.

The third line of musical notation is in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps. It consists of six measures. The notes are: G3 (quarter), F#3 (quarter), E3 (quarter), D3 (quarter), C3 (quarter), B2 (quarter), A2 (half), G2 (half). The lyrics "born is the King of Is - ra - el." are written below the staff.



2. They look - ed up and saw a star



shin-ing in the east be - yond them far;



and to the earth it gave great light,



and so it con-tin-ued both day and night.

Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell,
born is the King of Is - ra - el.



3. And by the light of that same star



three wise men came from coun-try far;



to seek for a king was their in-tent,



and to fol-low the star wher-ev-er it went.

Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell,
born is the King of Is - ra - el.



4. This star drew nigh to the north-west;



o'er Beth - le - hem it took its rest,



and there it did both stop and stay,



right o-ver the place where Je - sus lay.

Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell,
born is the King of Is - ra - el.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'The First Nowell'. It consists of two staves of music in the key of D major (two sharps) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the hymn: 'Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell,'. The second staff contains the melody for the second line: 'born is the King of Is - ra - el.' The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The music is written in a simple, clear style suitable for a hymn book.



Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell,
born is the King of Is - ra - el.



6. Then let us all with one ac - cord



sing prais - es to our heaven - ly Lord,



that hath made heaven and earth of nought,



and with his blood our life hath bought.

Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell,
born is the King of Is - ra - el.

Charge and Blessing

