ROCK PRAIRIE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, November 8, 2026

10:30 a.m.

~~LARGE PRINT~~



8605 East County Road A

Janesville, WI 53546

(608) 752-1172

Office hours Mon–Thu, 8:30am – 2:30pm

Rev. Dr Bruce A. Jones

** Please stand if you are able*

THE CHURCH GATHERS

PRELUDE SYLVIA O'CONNOR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTERLUDE SYLVIA O'CONNOR

***CALL TO WORSHIP** JOSHUA 24

One: God gathers us as a community of faith, reminding us of His saving grace.

All: The Lord invites us to be a covenant people.

One: Come, people of the covenant, Christ calls us to ready.

All: We come and keep our love lamps burning.

One: Let us worship the God who invites us to choose this day.

All: The Lord summons us to choose whom we will serve.

One: Let us worship the God who chooses us and invites us be renewed.

All: Let us worship the living God.

***HYMN #468 + HFG "** *Be Thou My Vision"* *(page 3)*

THE CHURCH CONFESSES AND SEEKS ASSURANCE

CALL TO CONFESSION PHILIPPIANS 4

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION MATTHEW 25

God of Mercy, we bring our whole selves into your presence; our failures, our fears, and our divided loyalties. We come to the One who welcomes us, unconditionally. We confess that our hearts are divided and our devotion is fragile. We cling to idols that cannot save us. We slumber when You call us to diligently watch for You. We neglect your call of faith, hope, and love. Forgive us.

Time for Personal Prayer and Examination

Be Thou My Vision

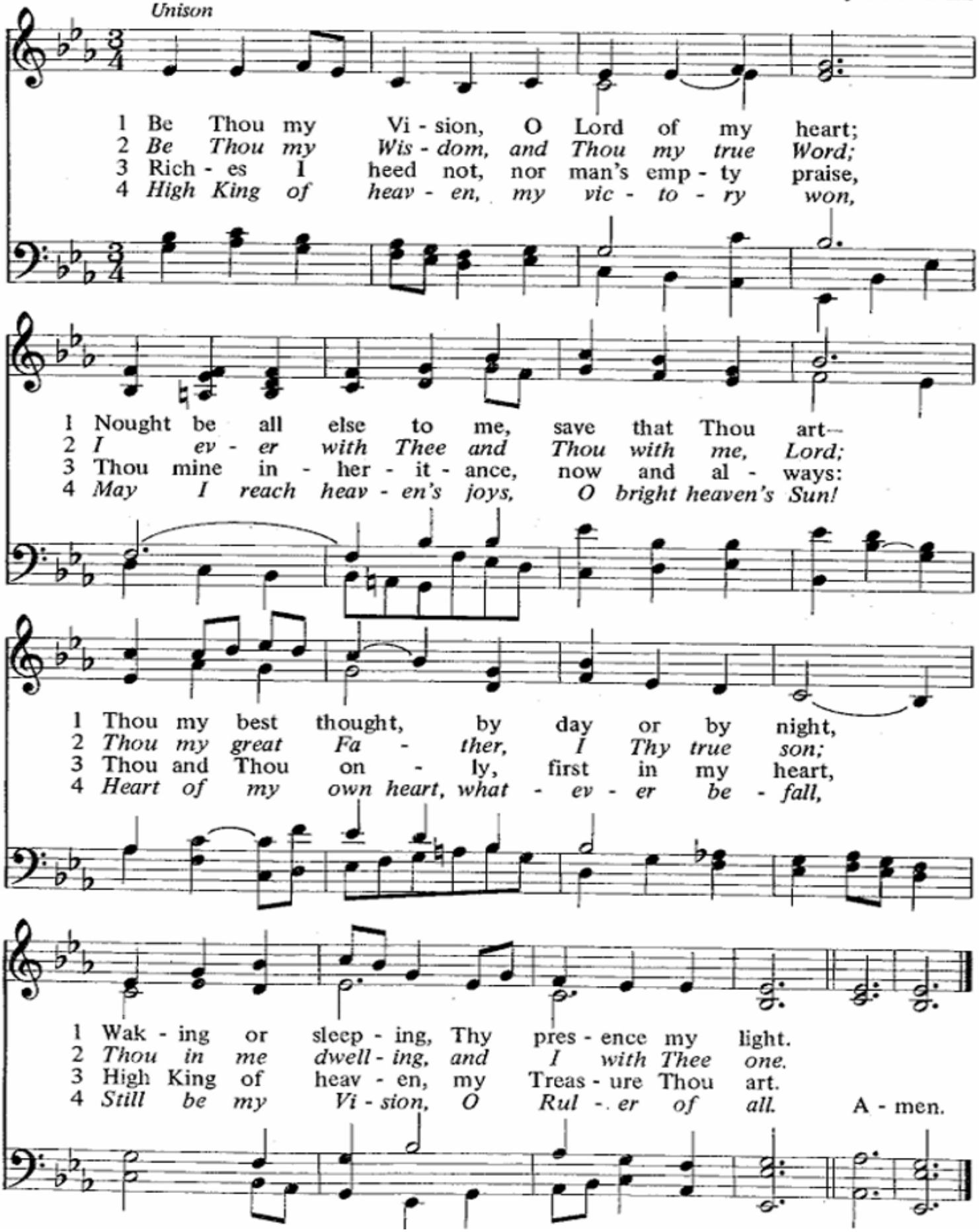
468

Ancient Irish
Tr. by Mary Byrne
Versified by Eleanor Hull

Leave us not I pray thee . . . . and thou mayest be to us instead of eyes.
— Numbers 10:31

SLANE
Traditional Irish Melody
Harmonization by David Evans

Unison



Forgive us, Faithful God, You always lead, love, and continue to sustain us for the journey as your covenant people.

Forgive us. Renew your covenant within us. Fill us with faithfulness, so we may live with readiness and joy. Renew your covenant within us and awaken us to your coming kingdom. Turn our hearts toward You alone. Make us a people prepared to meet Christ with joy. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND PARDON PHILIPPIANS 4

One: Friends, hear the promise: The God who called Israel is the God who still calls us. Jesus Christ comes with grace, to restore, renew, and claim us as His own.
In Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

All: Through Christ, true fellowship with God is offered and received. Thanks be to God. Amen.

PASSING THE PEACE

***GRATEFUL RESPONSE #142 + HFG** *"Gloria Patri"*

"Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen, amen."

THE CHURCH LISTENS FOR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION MATTHEW 22

OLD TESTAMENT JOSHUA 24:1-3A, 14-18

COVENANT RENEWAL

The aging leader Joshua gathered the tribes of Israel at Shechem for a major covenant renewal ceremony. Joshua reminds the people of God's faithfulness; starting with their ancestors (Terah, Abraham, and Nahor) who once served other gods—and how God guided them out of Egypt and into the land. Joshua commands the people to revere the Lord in sincerity and truth, putting away foreign idols. Joshua makes a covenant with the people, establishing the way to live as God's people.

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors—Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor—lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many.

"Now therefore revere the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."

KIDS KIRK KATIE BLIJA

CHILDREN ARE INVITED TO COME UP TO THE CHANCEL

"RISE AND SHINE"

"So rise and shine, and give God the glory, glory.
Rise and shine, and give God the glory, glory.
Rise and shine and (clap) give God the glory,
glory Children of the Lord."

SPECIAL MUSIC *"Be Still and Know"* CHOIR

OLD TESTAMENT JOSHUA 24:19-26

COVENANT RENEWAL

Then the people answered, "Far be it from us to forsake the Lord to serve other gods! It was the Lord our God himself who brought us and our parents up out of Egypt, from that land of slavery, and performed those great signs before our eyes. He protected us on our entire journey and among all the nations through which we traveled. And the Lord drove out before us all the nations, including the Amorites, who lived in the land. We too will serve the Lord, because he is our God."

Joshua said to the people, "You are not able to serve the Lord. He is a holy God; he is a jealous God. He will not forgive your rebellion and your sins. If you forsake the Lord and serve foreign gods, he will turn and bring disaster on you and make an end of you, after he has been good to you."

But the people said to Joshua, "No! We will serve the Lord." Then Joshua said, "You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen to serve the Lord." "Yes, we are witnesses," they replied. "Now then," said Joshua, "throw away the foreign gods that are among you and yield your hearts to the Lord, the God of Israel." And the people said to Joshua, "We will serve the Lord our God and obey him." On that day Joshua made a covenant for the people, and there at Shechem he reaffirmed for them decrees and laws. And Joshua recorded these things in the Book of the Law of God. Then he took a large stone and set it up there under the oak near the holy place of the Lord.

One: This is the Word of the Lord. ***All: Thanks be to God***

SERMON "*Choosing to be Prepared"* REV. DR. BRUCE A. JONES

THE CHURCH RESPONDS IN FAITH

***HYMN** #384 + GG *"Soon and Very Soon"* *(page 8)*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO GIVE AND SERVE

***RESPONSE** #525 vs 3 + HFG *" Now Thank We All Our God"*

"All praise and thanks to God, the Father now
be given, the Son and Him who reigns,
With them in highest heaven,
the one eternal God, Whom earth and heaven adore;
for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore. Amen."

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** MATTHEW 25

God of the Covenant, take what we offer, O God, our gifts, lives, and commitments. Strengthen us to serve You alone, and keep our lamps

burning bright until Christ comes in glory. Receive our gifts and shape our lives into offerings of faithfulness. Keep us steadfast in covenant love until the day we meet Christ, face to face. Set our feet on your path and keep us faithful until Christ returns. Amen.

***HYMN** #402 + HFG *"O Jesus, I Have Promised"* *(page 9)*

***CHARGE & BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE SYLVIA O'CONNOR

****Please remember to wear your name tags****

WORSHIP GUIDE

Bold text said in unison

* Please stand if you are able.

+ GG - Glory to God Presbyterian Hymnal

+ HFG – Hymns for the Family of God

+ SF – Sing the Faith, small blue hymnal

- Audio enhancements, larger print Bibles & bulletins, and children's resources are available

CCLI church license 1555479, and One License A-73845

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Greeters: Gail & Tom Wolfe

Ushers: Dave & Vicki Ott

Liturgist: Karen Johnston

Kids Kirk: Katie Blija

WELCOME VISITORS!

If you are visiting or seeking a church home, we invite you to explore all that happens in the life and ministry of this church. Speak to our pastor or someone next to you for more information. Children are always welcome in worship. Childcare for infants and toddlers is provided in the nursery.

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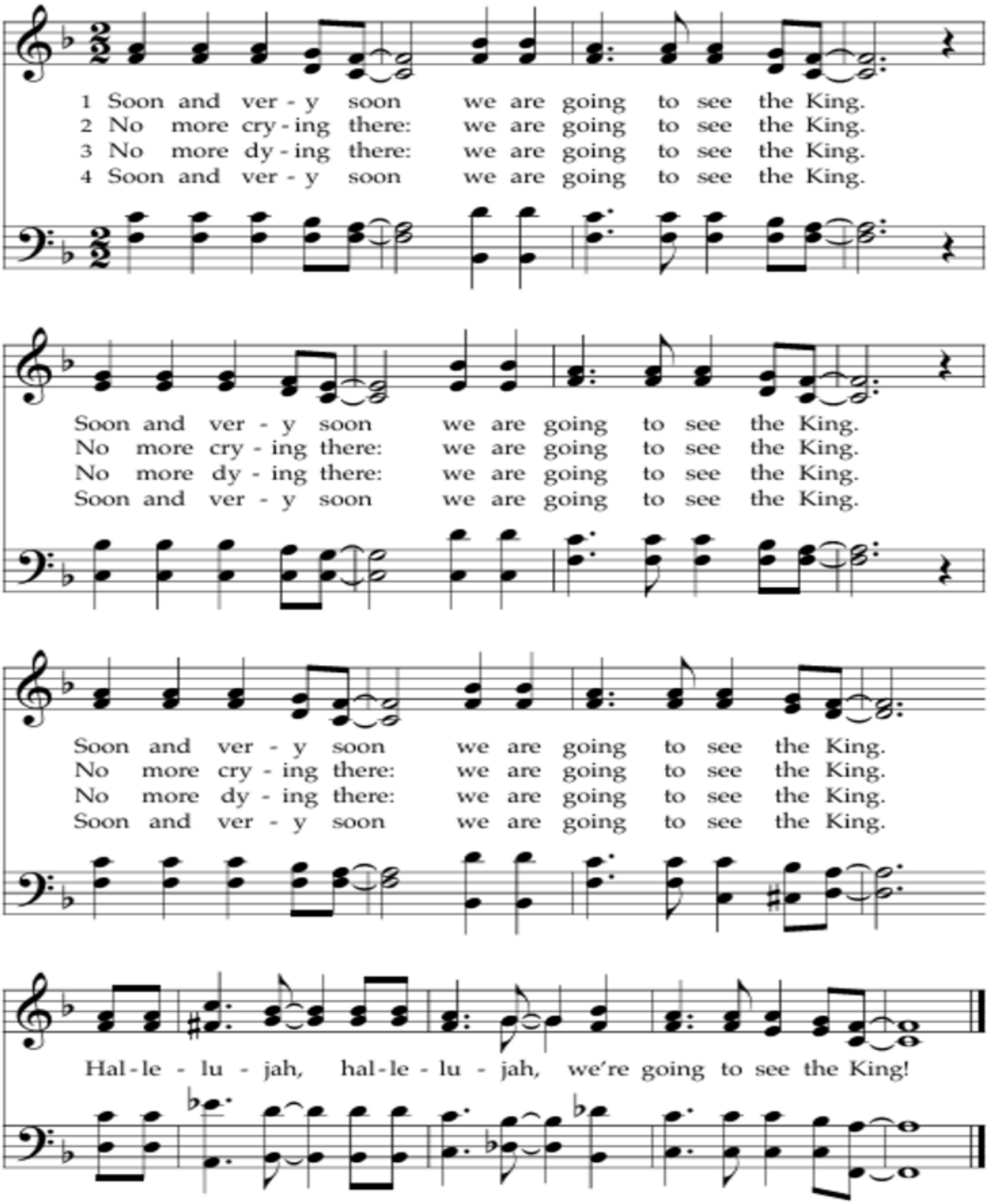
384 Soon and Very Soon



This spirited African American gospel hymn draws on John's vision of the new heaven and the new earth in Revelation 21:3–4, with its wonderful promise that God will wipe away the tears from all eyes, that death will be no longer, and that there will be no more mourning or pain.

TEXT and MUSIC: Andraé Crouch, 1976
Text and Music © 1976 Crouch Music and Bud John Songs (admin. EMICMGPublishing.com)

SOON AND VERY SOON
12.12.12 with refrain

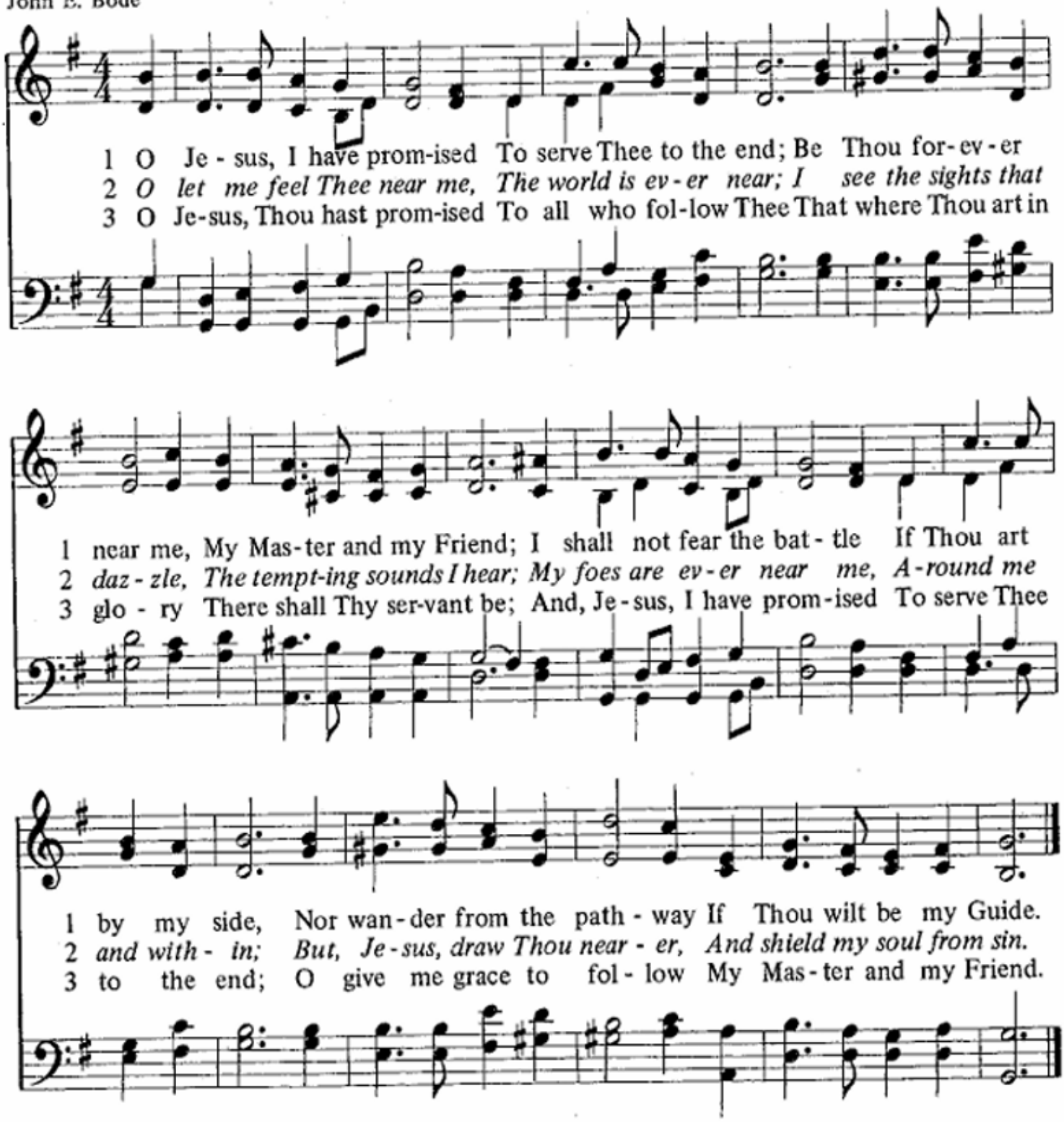
402 O Jesus, I Have Promised

He died for all that they . . . should not henceforth live unto themselves.

— II Corinthians 5:15

ANGEL'S STORY
Arthur H. Mann

John E. Bode



STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Bruce A. Jones
Director of Music: Krista Jones
Piano/Organ Accompanist: Sylvia O'Connor
Administrative Assistant: Sandi Fogle
Bookkeeper: Misha Brawner
Nursery Coordinator: Angela Tyson
Nursery Assistant: Baylee Hernandez
Audio/Video Technician: Matthew Blija
Church Caretaker: Jason Van Meter

2026 SESSION

Clerk of Session – Sharon Krohn rskrohn@litewire.net
(608) 290-3499
B & G Ministry – Ed Hale eddyphale@gmail.com
(608) 774-8603
Christian Ed Ministry – Katie Blija kblija@yahoo.com
(608) 921-2551
Outreach Ministry – Sandi Fogle sandiuf@gmail.com
(608) 921-4454
Fellowship Ministry – Lindi Paull bobandlindipaull@gmail.com
608) 607-1528
Finance Ministry – Tom Wolfe tomwolfe1207@sbcglobal.net
(608) 921-3950
Missions Ministry – Cathy Wagner clw8090@gmail.com
(608) 228-6881
Personnel Ministry – Pam Hatfield hatfield.pamela@yahoo.com
(608) 201-6675
Worship Ministry – Pat Rozeboom pkrozeboom@gmail.com
(608) 201-0959
Youth Ministry – VACANT

2026 DEACONS

Theresa Huber, Eileen Howarth,
Martha Johnson, Sandy Kohls,
Jean Paszkiet, Chris Stried, Kay Ward



Connect with us!

(608) 752-1172

www.rockprairiechurch.org

office@rockprairiechurch.org

Facebook: Rock Prairie Presbyterian