

WAUWATOSA
PRESBYTERIAN

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
NOVEMBER 29, 2026

ALL ARE *ALWAYS* WELCOME!

Wauwatosa Presbyterian Church
First Sunday of Advent

November 29, 2026 10:00am

Bold text: Spoken by all people +Please rise in body or spirit

We Gather Together Before God

Please prepare your hearts for worship.

Prelude *Three Advent Preludes* Jayne Latva
Gerald Near
Chantworks, Set 1. Aureole © 1997

Welcome & Call to Worship Rev. Dr. Brett Swanson

We gather longing for God to draw near.
Let your face shine upon us, and restore our hope.
God comes in ways we do not expect -
in quiet, in weakness, in love.
Open our hearts to your presence,
and keep us alert to your coming.
We are God's people, held in hands that make us new.
Together we watch, together we hope,
together we worship.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Jesus, you have promised to come among us.
When the world around us trembles,
help us hold on to your word
and keep watch for you together.

+Opening Hymn *My Lord! What a Morning* #352

Seeking God's Grace Heidi Sjostrom

+Unison Prayer of Confession

God-with-us, even in Advent,
we confess that you can seem far away.
You are hidden when we need you near.
In our hurt, doubt, and fear, we do not try to draw closer to you;
instead, we lash out - against you, our neighbor, even those we love.
Forgive us, we pray, and come to save us!
Let your face shine until our tears are dried,
our sins are faded, and our hope is restored.
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Moment for Silent Confession

Response *Prepare the Way of the Lord* #95

+God's Grace & Peace to Share Rev. Dr. Brett Swanson

May the Peace of Christ be with you all.
And also with you.

+Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below,
Praise Holy Spirit evermore,
Praise Triune God whom we adore. Amen.

We Listen to God's Word

Prayer for Openness Heidi Sjostrom

First Reading Isaiah 64:1-9

Worship through Music *Soon and Very Soon* Chancel Choir
by Andraé Crouch, Copyright 1994 Bud John Songs, Inc. (ASCAP)

Second Reading Mark 13:24-37 Rev. Dr. Brett Swanson

Homily What I Say to You I Say to All

We Respond To God's Word

Hymn of Response *While We Are Waiting, Come* #92

Prayers of the People Rev. Dr. Brett Swanson

Lord, in your mercy:
Hear our prayer.

The Lord's Prayer

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever.
Amen.

Our Lives Together

+Closing Hymn *People, Look East* #105

+Benediction Rev. Dr. Brett Swanson

Postlude *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* Jayne Latva
Craig Phillips
Wondrous Love. Broadman Press © 1987

Care Card & Flowers

Please sign the Care Card for Lola Nelson.

Today's flowers are given to the glory of God by Sharon and Mark Polakowski in gratitude for our church family at WPC.

Thank you for serving today!

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Brett Swanson
Liturgist: Heidi Sjostrom
Deacon: Jen Knapp
Musicians: Nicole McCarty, Jayne Latva, Chancel Choir, Praise Band
Technical Team: Jim Crump, Mike Flanders, Grant Geyer, Brian Hakes, Jim Halverson, Larry Hanlon, Stephen Hudson-Mairet, Bridget Lovell, Brian Lukecart, Austin Melrose, Steve Trower, Mark VanderKinter, Kathryn Wagner.

The dedicated folks in the AV booth, led by Jim Halverson, manage in-person and livestream services for worship. Thank you for sharing your gifts! If you are interested in joining the team, please talk to Jim or email him at jim@tosapres.com.

We are grateful for your offerings!
You can place them in the wooden box near the Sanctuary entrance or mail them to the office. To give online, go to tosapres.com/give or scan the QR code on the pew card. To set up ACH withdrawals, please contact the office. Thank you!

Welcome to Wauwatosa Presbyterian Church

We're so happy you are here!

ACCESSIBILITY
An ASL interpreter is in worship with us every first Sunday of the month. If you need assistance hearing better in the sanctuary, please ask one of the Deacons to get you a listening device.

COMMUNION
We celebrate the Lord's Supper on the first Sunday of each month. The bread is gluten free and the cup is grape juice.

CHILDREN
We welcome children of all ages to worship with us in the sanctuary. Child Care is provided each Sunday morning in our Crib Room. A friendly staff member is in the room from 9:30am -11:30am if you would like to drop off your little ones. The **PrayGround** near the Chancel is open Sundays for children who want to be in worship. We encourage parents to sit in the front rows. **Busy bags** are available (ask the Deacons for help) for children who prefer to sit with their parents during worship, and there is a **Cry Room** at the back of the sanctuary where you can comfortably follow the worship service if your little one gets restless.

PEW PADS
Pew pads are located at the end of the pews and we encourage you to sign them, to update your contact info and to subscribe to the newsletter and weekly emails. Pass them down the row and back again to get to know your neighbors!

Pastor Brett would love to meet you!
Contact him with questions or just to introduce yourself:
Rev. Dr. Brett Swanson, Pastor:
brett@tosapres.com

Grow

Bible Study & Classes

Adult Enrichment

December 6
A special presentation on the history of a family through Holocaust and Civil Rights Movement by the Simon Sisters.

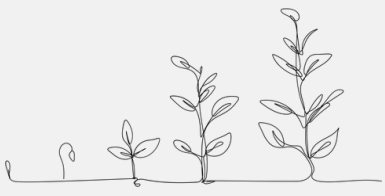
Sundays

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES
9am

SECOND SUNDAYS FOR TEENS
Every 2nd Sunday in the Calvin Room following worship

Wednesdays

ONLINE BIBLE STUDY
10am & 7pm with Rev. Dr. Brett Swanson
(Zoom) Meeting ID: 890 4113 7566



Announcements

Upcoming Events

DECEMBER 2 - OVER 55'S: CHILI LUNCH & CHRISTMAS GAMES
Get in the mood for the holidays and join us on Wednesday, December 2 at 1:00PM in the Fellowship Hall. Admission is 2 cans of food or a toy to donate. Questions? Call Diane Lukeart at 414-745-1091.

DECEMBER 3 - THURSDAY NIGHT LIVE
Let's come together for dinner and Advent fun for all ages at 6pm. Suggested donation: $7/adults, $5/kids, $20/family
All proceeds to benefit our Ten Tons Together project! Menu for December 3: 'Oodles of Noodles' Pasta Bar

DECEMBER 6 - ADULT ENRICHMENT
Join us for a special presentation on the history of a family through Holocaust and Civil Rights Movement by the Simon Sisters. Lunch included and ASL Interpretation available. Please sign up in the Gathering Space or let the church office know you'll be coming.



Join the Collegium Ladyes women's choral ensemble as we welcome the Christmas season with ancient chants, carols from Germany and Poland, and Jan Wilke's "Wonderful Mystery," contemporary settings of English poems from the 15th and 16th centuries.

7 pm Friday, December 11
Wauwatosa Presbyterian Church
2366 N. 80th St., Wauwatosa

3 pm Sunday, December 13
St. Christopher's Episcopal Church
7845 N. River Rd., River Hills

No tickets required; suggested donation $20

2027 FLOWER CHART IS NOW AVAILABLE
Sign up to sponsor Sunday flowers for 2027.

Volunteer

EXTENDING THE TABLE:
Support the Tosa Food Pantry - in November we are collecting **canned fruits and Thanksgiving staples** per request from the Tosa Food Pantry! Thank you!



MITTEN TREE 2026
We are collecting mittens, hats, and new toys until Sunday, December 6, 2026! Leave your gifts of warmth and joy underneath the Mitten Tree in the Gathering Space. Thank you!

WANTED: TGIF HOSTS
TGIF is going strong and looking for hosts for the coming months! A heartfelt thank you to all who opened their homes so far.
We are now looking for hosts for 2027. Contact Sharon Polakowski at spolakowski@gmail.com to claim a date!

SERVING IN WORSHIP
Our worship services are brought to life by the dedication of our church members. Sign up online at www.tosapres.com/worship/serving-in-worship or contact Heidi Hudson-Mairet at hhudsonmairet@wi.rr.com for info about serving as **liturgist and/or communion server**. Interested in serving as a **Deacon**? Contact Jen Knapp at jen@infercabulary.com.

Prayer List

Do you have prayer requests?

During "Prayers of the People" in the worship service, feel free to voice whatever prayer is on your mind and heart. You may also use the prayer box in the back of the Sanctuary. As a community, we pray for those experiencing life's transitions, residents of care facilities, those affected by illness, our students, support groups, medical professionals, those struggling with addiction, those incarcerated, the requests in our community prayer box, and the members and friends of this congregation.

Members

Jay Costello
Penny Cotton
Katherine Dummer
Norma Jean Fernhaber
Audrey Gilg
Brian Hakes
Doug Hamsher
Paul Malmstrom
Sarilee Maney
Bill Nelson
Lola Nelson
Mike Nelson
The Pagels Family
Marge Wangemann

Family Concerns

Cory
(Kim Christianson's son)
Barbara Johnston
(Joyce Kolda's niece)
Pauline & Jesse Kilhefner
(Susan Kilhefner's parents)
James Lawrence
(Mike Nelson's brother-in-law)
Irene Marconnet
(Ilene Marconnet's sister)
May Nicolaisen
(Fiona Nicolaisen's mother)
Bill Reynolds
(brother-in-law of the Wehnes family)

Friends of WPC

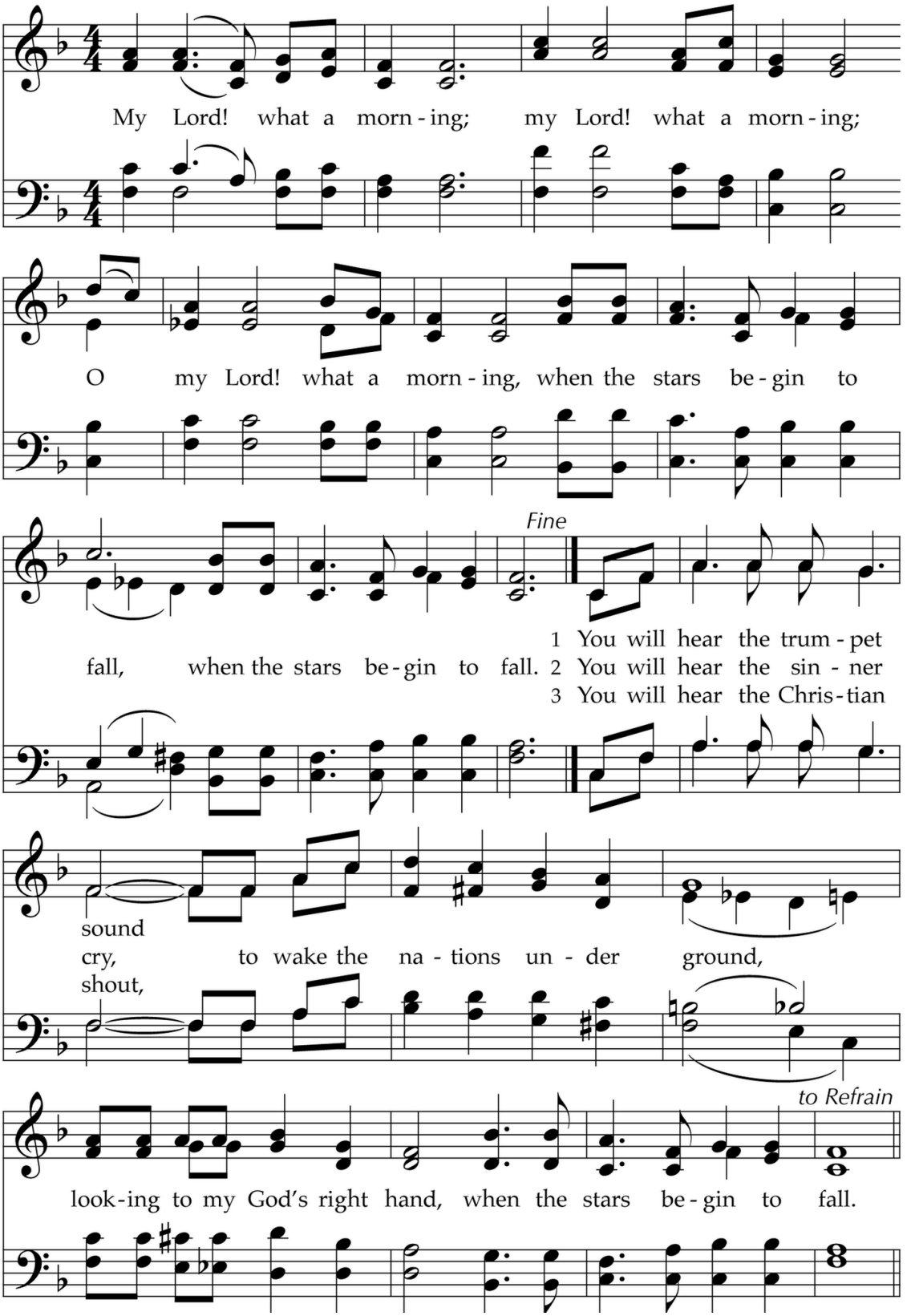
Brian, Maria & Jeff
(friends of Mark & Leigh Anne Fraley)
Gerlinde
(Petra Kolo's friend)
Barb Blazek
(Lucia Bravo-Bakemeyer's friend)
Cynthia Gebhardt & son Austin
(*WPC Crib Room staff member)*
Jonathan, Ali & Stella
(friends of Julie Guckenberg)
Jody Jossie
(Cathy Caughey's friend)
Katie Kison
(Forward Scholars staff member)
Eric McCaffee
(friend of the Bakemeyers)
Chad Mateske
(Joyce Kolda's friend)
Rita Nelson and family
(Kristen Shaw's friend)
Patricia
(friend of Deb Bergeson-Graham)
Karl Prohaska
(Julie Badciong's father)
Gerald & Brigitte Seidel
(Micha Gibbons' parents)
Vanessa
(Penny Cotton's caregiver)



To add or remove someone from the list, please contact the church office.

352 My Lord! What a Morning

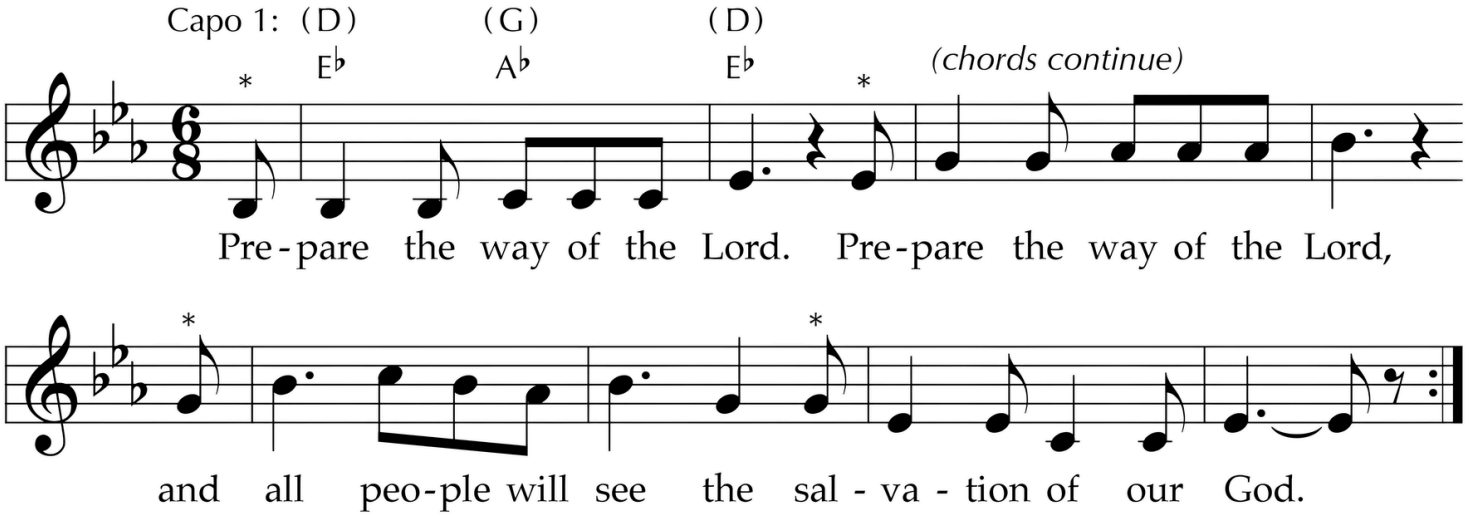
Refrain



TEXT: African American spiritual
MUSIC: African American spiritual; arr. Melva Wilson Costen, 1989
Music Arr. © 1990 Melva W. Costen

MY LORD, WHAT A MORNING
Irregular

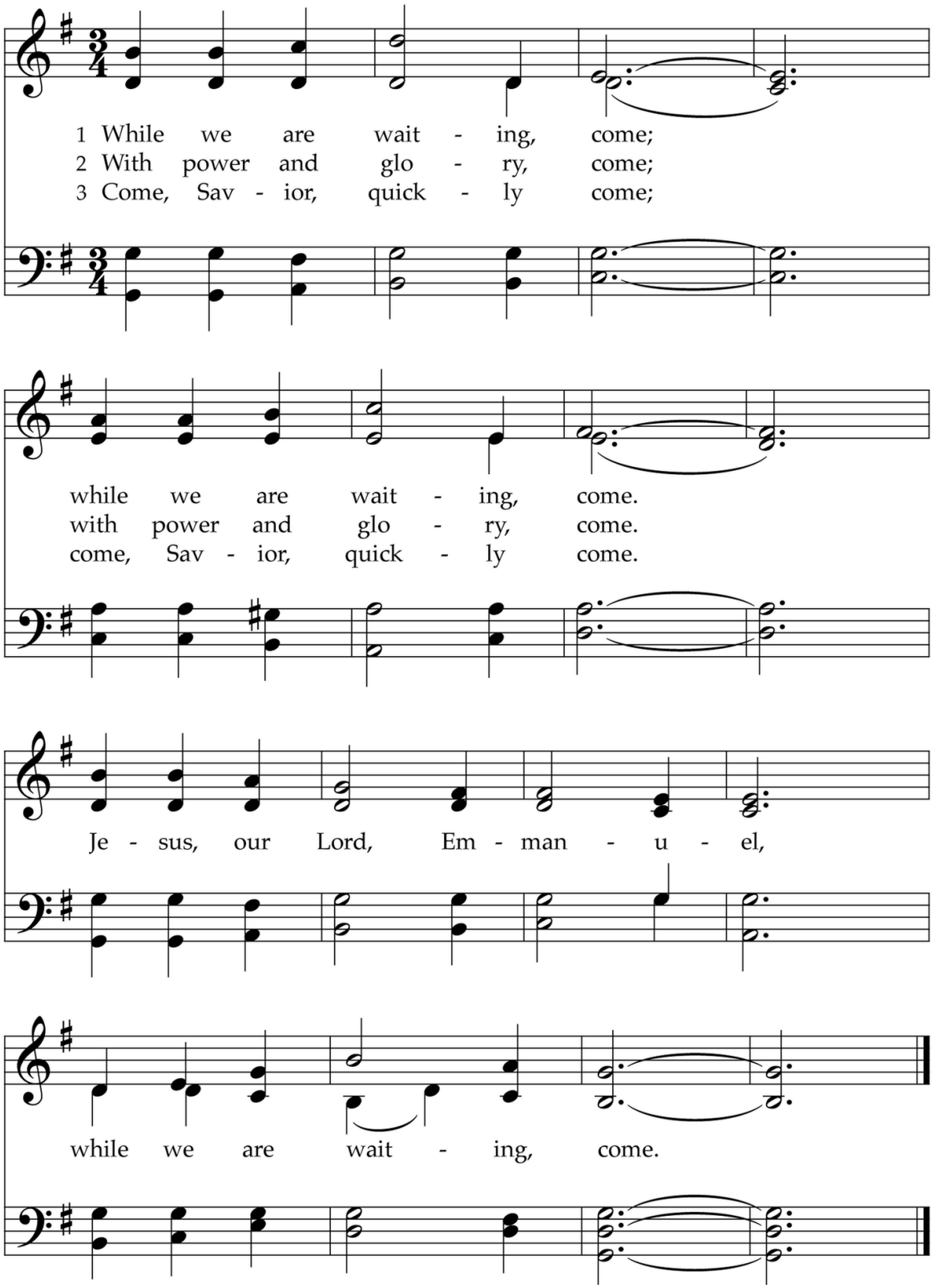
Prepare the Way of the Lord



TEXT: Taizé Community, 1984
MUSIC: Jacques Berthier, 1984
Text and Music © 1984 Les Presses de Taizé (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

PREPARE THE WAY
7.7.6.7

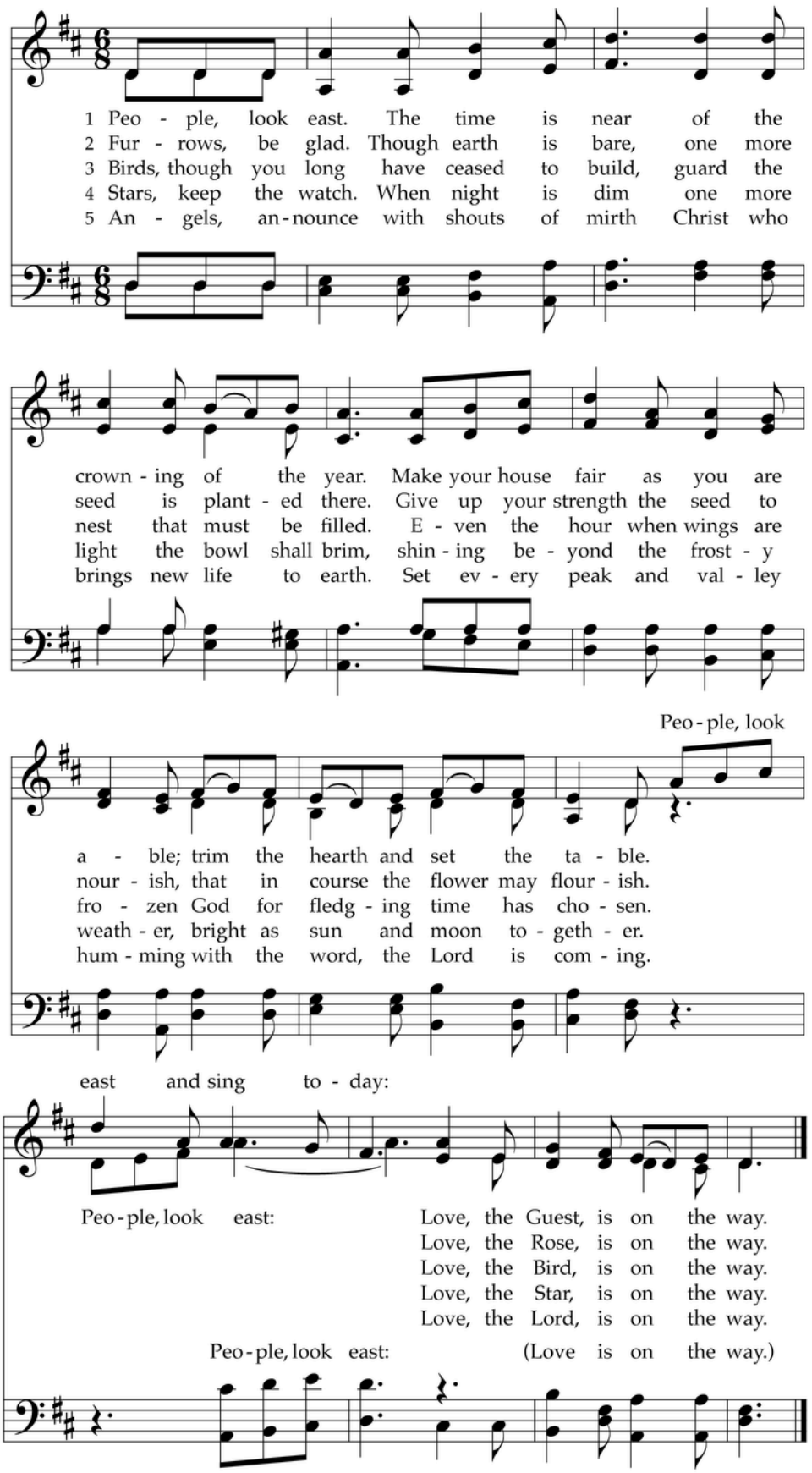
92 While We Are Waiting, Come



TEXT: Claire Cloninger, 1986
MUSIC: Don Cason, 1986
Text and Music © 1986 Word Music, LLC

WAITING (Cason)
SM

105 People, Look East



Wauwatosa Presbyterian Church

2366 N 80th St. Wauwatosa, WI 53213
www.tosapres.com | tosapres@tosapres.com | 414-774-5005

We are a community through Christ and in Christ
reaching out to the greater Milwaukee community and God's world.
We open our doors to all persons
to join in worship, fellowship, educational programs, service, and justice.
We welcome into membership all who profess faith in Jesus Christ,
without regard to race, ethnicity, ability, gender identity,
sexual orientation, or any worldly condition.
We elect and ordain persons who are called by God
and committed to serve the Lord Jesus Christ in the Church.

Staff

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Brett Swanson (ext. 102, brett@tosapres.com)
Office Manager: Micha Gibbons (ext. 101, micha@tosapres.com)
Office Associate: Mark Wojta (ext. 100, mark@tosapres.com, Tues-Thurs 8:30am-3:30pm)
Director of Music: Nicole McCarty (nicole@tosapres.com)
Organist: Jayne Latva
AV Lead Technician: Jim Halverson (jim@tosapres.com)
Custodian: Gary Hodel (gary@tosapres.com)
Crib Room Staff: Cynthia Gebhardt & Amanda Miller
Curiosity Corner PreSchool (ccnstosa.com): Jane Pfaff (ext. 108, ccnstosa2366@gmail.com)

Session

Adult Enrichment: Pam Weisser
Building & Grounds: Steve Trower & Mike Harvey
Christian Education: Mary Pluta
Fellowship: Sharon Polakowski
Finance: Brian Hakes & Vince Racioppo
Memorial: Jennifer Good
Clerk of Session: Susan Kilhefner
Mission: Angela Madison
Nominating: Kevin Sjostrom
Personnel: Don Weinberg
Stewardship: Denise Fried
Worship: Heidi Hudson-Mairet
Treasurer: Scott Bentley
Safety & Security: Nancy Bentley

Deacons

Kim Christianson, Anne Coulling, Barb Guyer, Joyce Hakes, Colman Hanlon (Youth), Jen Knapp (Moderator), Bob Krick, Andrew Luke, Olivia Luke, Anthony Madison, Diane Melrose, Marc Raygoza, Kristen Shaw, Anne Trower, Mark VanderKinter, Sue Westby, Beth Wilkinson

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PCUSA Earth Care Congregation

Sign Language Interpreter (1st Sunday of each month)

Listening System Available

Accessible