

ORDER OF WORSHIP

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT HANGING OF THE GREENS

Is your device muted? Thanks for checking.

DECEMBER 7, 2025

10:00 A.M.

With doors wide open, we welcome all to come and discover how
God's love in Christ connects us more deeply with each other,
our community, the world and with God.

With arms wide open, we welcome all who are looking for something more,
who have questions, who want to make a difference as
they learn, serve and reach out in word and deed.

With hearts wide open, we welcome you.

PREPARING TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

PRELUDE

INTROIT: "People Look East"

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: A voice cries, "In the wilderness prepare the way for the Lord;
make straight in the desert a highway for our God."

**People: We are preparing our hearts for the God of love to come into
the world.**

*HYMN # 2 "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*God of our light and salvation, the bright Morning Star, we confess that we have
grown accustomed to darkness.*

*In your light we see challenges to our stability and comfort. We look at ourselves
and into our own hearts and deepest thoughts, and we do not like what you show us.
Forgive us our many sins. In this season of Advent and beyond, teach us to walk in
your light, in the power of your Holy Spirit, as disciples of Jesus Christ our Lord.*

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*RESPONSE: #579 "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.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANTHEM: "The People That Walked in Darkness" from *Messiah*

G. F. Handel

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

HANGING OF THE GREENS /LIGHTING OF THE TREE – "The Holy & the Ivy" *Insert*

A TIME TO GREET ONE ANOTHER

HEARING GOD'S WORD

OLD TESTAMENT:	Isaiah 9:1-2	Pew Bible Page 671
NEW TESTAMENT:	Matthew 4:12-17	Pew Bible Page 935
SERMON:	"The People that Walked in Darkness"	Jeff Prey

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

*HYMN #13 "Prepare the Way"

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER (debts/debtors)

PRAYER RESPONSE: Hymn #25 "Away in a Manger"

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask Thee to stay

Close by me forever and love me, I pray.

Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,

And fit us for heaven to live with Thee there.

DEDICATION OF OUR PLEDGES AND OFFERING OF GIFTS AND TITHES

OFFERTORY: "On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry"

*DOXOLOGY:

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures

Here below; Praise Him above ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION

TAKING GOD'S WORD TO THE WORLD

*HYMN #20 "Watchman Tell Us of the Night"

*THE BENEDICTION

PASSING THE PEACE: "May God's peace be with you"

CHORAL AMEN

POSTLUDE

Worship has ended; let Service begin.

*We thank the soloist this morning, Daniel Klein for
sharing his musical talent.*

* Please stand in body or in spirit.

The Lay Reader this morning is Jennifer Newitt.

~ Open Doors - Open Arms - Open Hearts ~

Thank you for worshiping with us. Please join us again next Sunday.

Children's Christmas Pageant

Scripture Readings: Luke 1:46-49

DECEMBER 7, 2025... During the musical prelude we ask that you prepare for worship by quiet prayer and reflection. If you are visiting our virtual worship service, we extend a special welcome. Chancel flowers are a great opportunity to honor, or remember loved ones and to celebrate special occasions. If you like to sign up, the flower chart is located in the office hallway or call the church office to make arrangements. Welcome Packets can be found at either door and are available for visitors, also available to take and share with your neighbors or anyone else, so as to introduce them to the church. Please feel free to visit our website www.oysterbaypresbyterian.org, or call the church office if you have any questions.

OUR SPECIAL MINISTRY OF PRAYER ... Please keep the following people in your prayers: Sylvie, Darrell, Anne, Jen, Cindy, Dick, and all those suffering from cancer, special prayers for those suffering from the wars in Ukraine, the Mideast, and other areas where conflict reigns, for the veterans and military personnel returning from service wounded in body, mind or spirit, and all those going through difficult times.

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS ... are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Maureen and Darrell Albers' parents, Dorothy & James Clifford and Fanna & Ted Albers by Maureen Albers.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY ...

December 9	Holly R.	12	Catherine T.
12	Glenn N.	13	Alex H.

COFFEE HOUR ...

Today:	Advent Brunch
Next Week:	Caroline, Scott H & May & Don McD.

CIRCLE OF PRAYER ... If you have need for special prayers, concerns or thanksgivings, please call the church office 922-5477 or Kristine L. 922-3126.

This week...

Today	Sunday Worship & Sunday School	10:00 a.m.
	Advent Brunch	11:00 a.m.
	Pageant Practice	11:30 a.m.
Sat 12/13	Pageant Practice	9:45 - 12:00 p.m.
	Community Dinner	5:00 - 7:00 p.m.
Sun 12/14	Pageant Practice - Final Run	8:45 a.m.
	Christmas Pageant Worship	10:00 a.m.
	Christmas Flower Requests due	

Coming Up...	What Presbyterians Believe	December 15
	Session Meeting	December 16
	Holiday Sharing Program due	December 21
	Christmas Eve Services	December 24
	at 5:00 and 9:30 p.m.	

SERMON OUTLINE

"THE PEOPLE THAT WALKED IN DARKNESS"

- Introduction: Solstice
- I. Darkness & Distress
 - A. invasion
 - B. hope
- II. The Greatness of the light
 - A. imagination
 - B. the illuminated path

FOOD PANTRY

The Food Pantry donations will be collected by the Sunday School children before the Children's Message on Sundays. Please place the Blue Bags with your donation at the end of the pew. Blue Bags are available in vestibule. Your donations are greatly appreciated, Thank you!



Community Meal

Meals are provided free of charge to guests of the Senior Center and People Loving People Food Pantry.

Contact Jerry Lalonde:

Email galalonde@aol.com

Text or call cell 516-297-7773

or

December 13, 2025

5:00 p.m.

Contact Selina Collier:

Email Selina_collier@fa.org

Call 516-759-1168



A Gift from the Heart

Pageant rehearsal schedule:

Sunday	12/7	After Brunch	11:30
Saturday	12/13	Dress Rehearsal	9:45 – 12:00
Pageant Sunday	12/14	Final Rehearsal	8:45

THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

The holly and the ivy,
when they are both full grown,
of all the trees that are in the wood,
the holly bears the crown:

*Refrain: The rising of the sun
and the running of the deer,
the playing of the merry organ,
sweet singing in the choir.*

The holly bears a blossom,
as white as lily flow'r,
and Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ,
to be our dear Savior:

(Refrain)

The holly bears a berry,
as red as any blood,
and Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ
to do poor sinners good:

(Refrain)

The holly bears a prickly,
as sharp as any thorn,
and Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ,
on Christmas day in the morn:

(Refrain)

The holly bears a bark,
as bitter as the gall,
and Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ,
for to redeem us all:

(Refrain)

O Chrismon Tree

In 1957, Francis Kipps Spencer created the first Chrismon tree. She coined the term *Chrismon* as a combination of Christ + monogram to reflect her desire to create decorations for Christmas trees that "proclaim the name, the life, and the saving acts of Jesus the Christ." The purpose was to make homemade ornaments to show central symbols of the Christian faith. Chrismons are traditionally white and gold to reflect the colors of the Christmas season. The symbols can include historic symbols of the faith. Crosses are often prominent on Chrismon trees. (The *Book of Common Worship* includes a variety of styles of crosses on page 1107.) Other historic symbols are often included, such as Trinitarian symbols or the Chi-Rho abbreviation for the name of Christ in Greek (Xristos or Christos). New symbols are also created to illustrate biblical texts and to point to central elements of the Christian faith. The Chrismon tree is one way in which churches try to avoid the commercialization of the Christmas season by pointing to the message of the Christmas season.

Crosses



Cross Botonnée
(Preparation for worship)



Celtic Cross
(Service for the Lord's day)



Cross Patée
(Pastoral liturgies)



Jerusalem Cross
(Resources for the liturgical year)



Anchored Cross
(Baptism and reaffirmation of the baptismal covenant)



Cross Crosslet
(Daily Prayer)



Chi Rho
(Abbreviation for the name of Christ)



Maltese Cross
(The psalms)

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Charles Wesley, 1744

HYFRYDOL 8.7.8.7 D

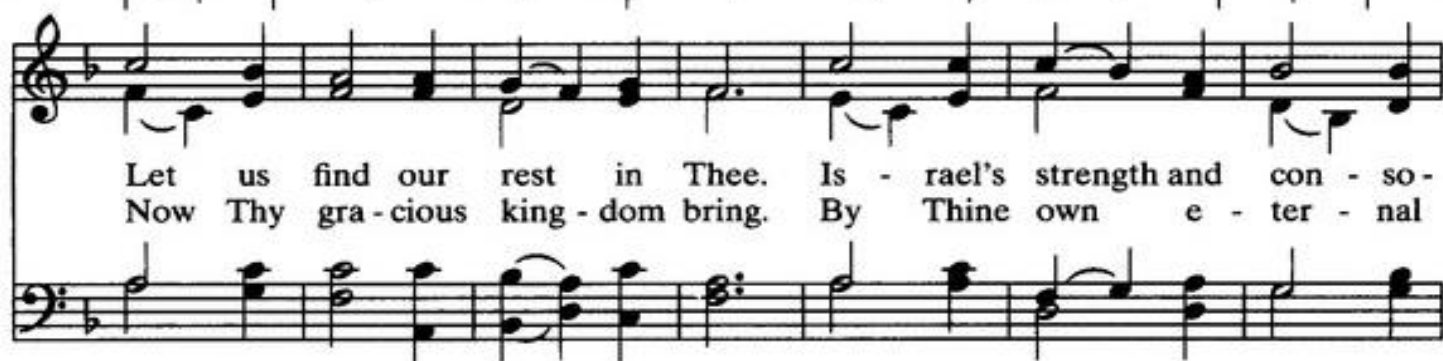
Rowland Hugh Prichard, 1831



1. Come, Thou long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus, Born to set Thy
2. Born Thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, Born a child and



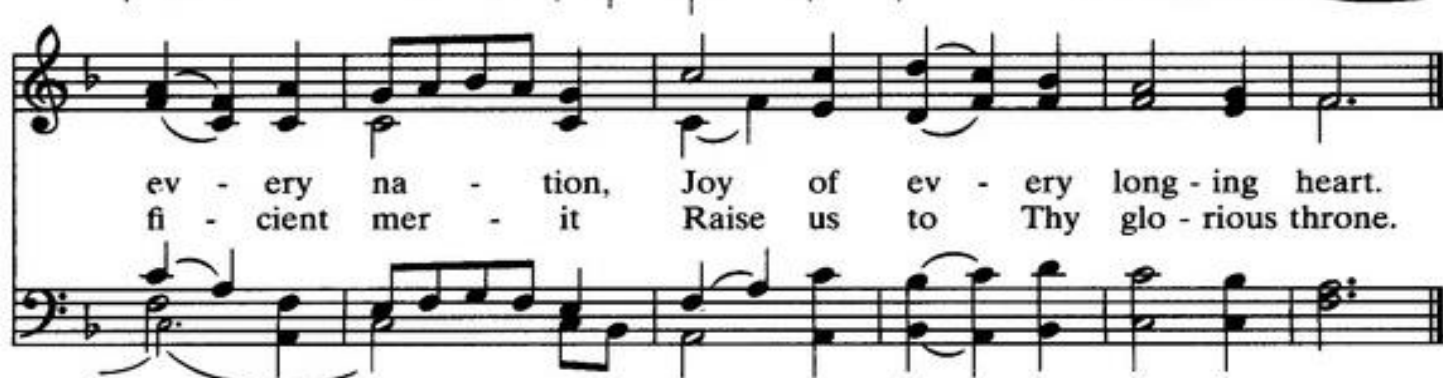
peo - ple free; From our fears and sins re - lease us;
yet a King, Born to reign in us for - ev - er,



Let us find our rest in Thee. Is - rael's strength and con - so -
Now Thy gra - cious king - dom bring. By Thine own e - ter - nal



la - tion, Hope of all the earth Thou art; Dear de - sire of
Spir - it Rule in all our hearts a - lone; By Thine all - suf -



ev - ery na - tion, Joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.
fi - cient mer - it Raise us to Thy glo - rious throne.

Prepare the Way

BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN 7.6.7.6.7.7 with refrain

Frans Mikael Franzen (1771-1847)
Adapt. Charles P. Price, 1980; alt. 1989Then Svenska Psalmboken, 1697
Arr. American Lutheran Hymnal, 1930

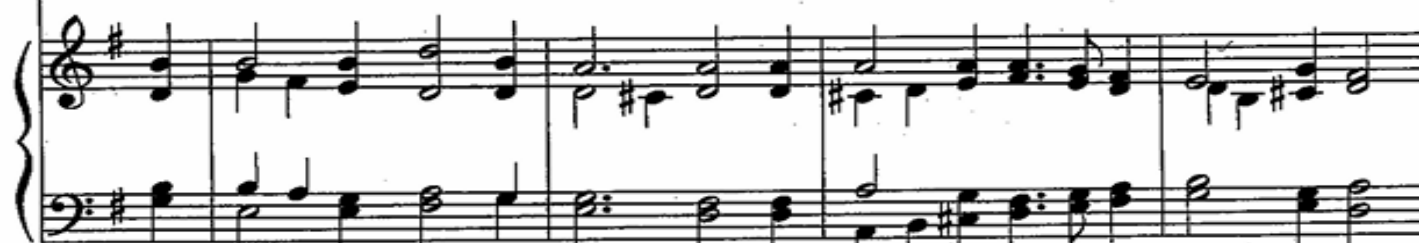
1. Pre - pare the way, O Zi - on, Your Christ is draw - ing near!
2. Christ brings God's rule, O Zi - on; He comes from heaven a - bove.
3. Fling wide your gates, O Zi - on; Your Sav - ior's rule em - brace.



Let ev - ery hill and val - ley A lev - el way ap - pear.
His rule is peace and free - dom, And jus - tice, truth, and love.
And tid - ings of sal - va - tion Pro - claim in ev - ery place.



Greet One who comes in glo - ry, Fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry.
Lift high your praise re - sound - ing, For grace and joy a - bound - ing.
All lands will bow re - joic - ing, Their ad - o - ra - tion voic - ing.



Refrain



O blest is Christ that came In God's most ho - ly name.

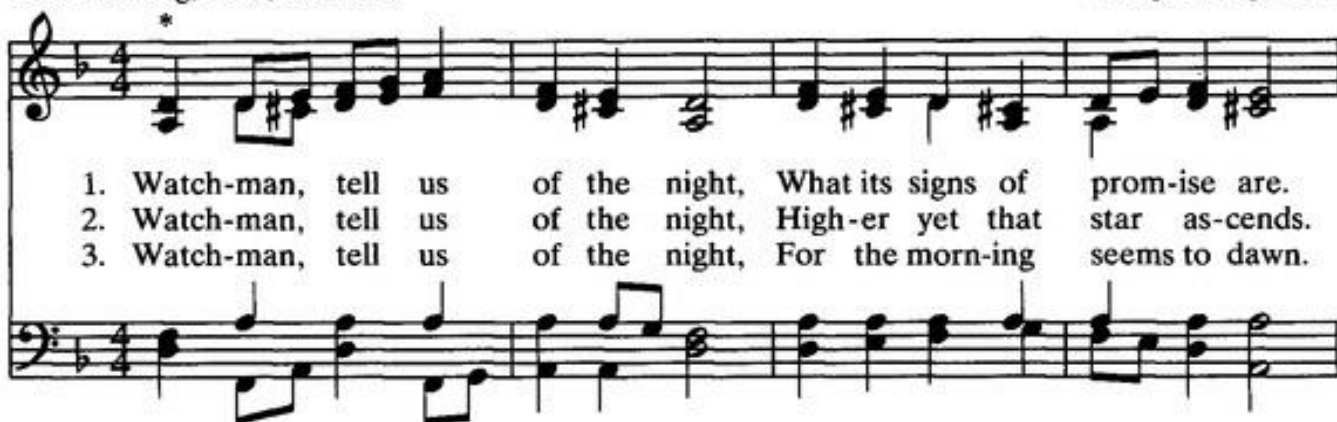


Watchman, Tell Us of the Night

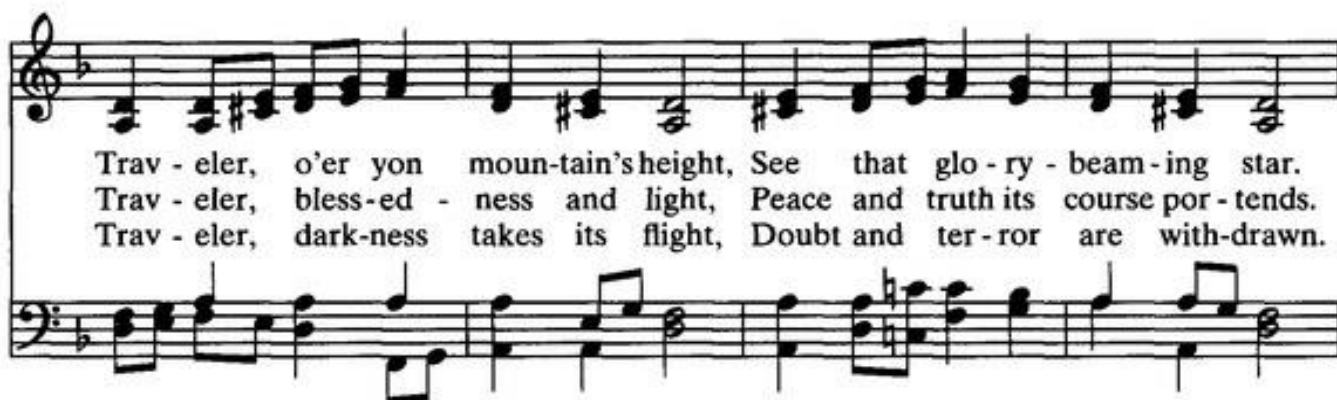
ABERYSTWYTH 7.7.7.7 D

John Bowring, 1825; alt. 1972

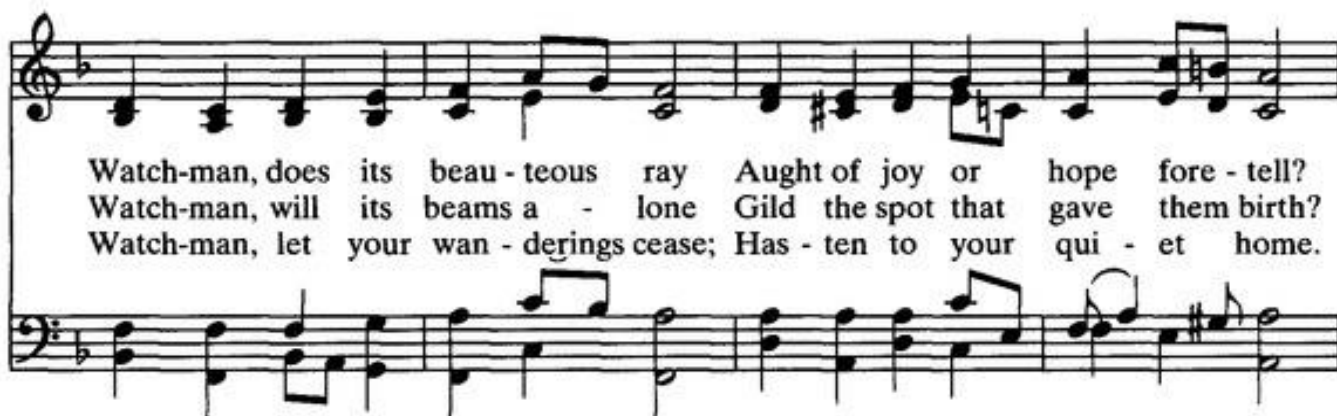
Joseph Parry, 1879

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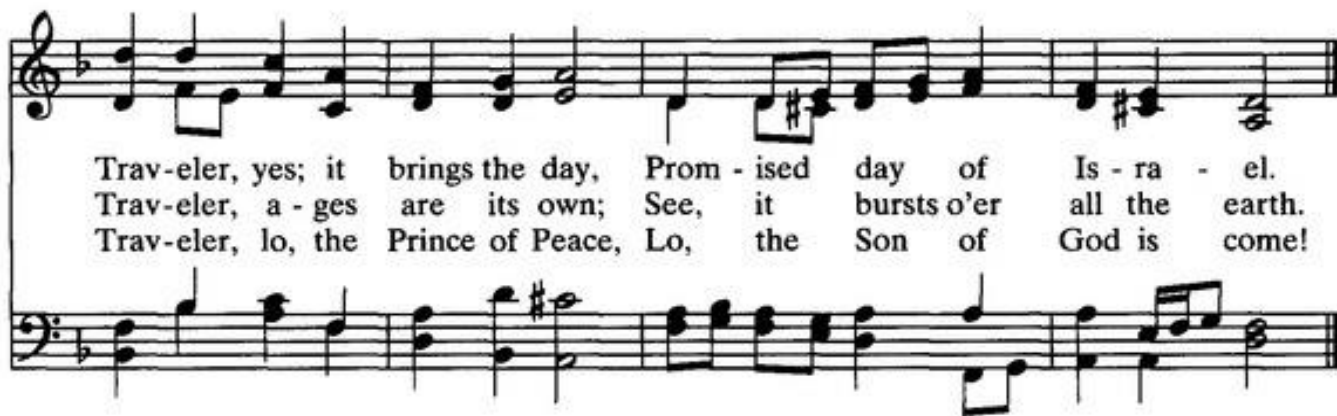
1. Watch-man, tell us of the night, What its signs of prom-ise are.
 2. Watch-man, tell us of the night, High-er yet that star as-cends.
 3. Watch-man, tell us of the night, For the morn-ing seems to dawn.



Trav - eler, o'er yon moun-tain's height, See that glo - ry - beam - ing star.
 Trav - eler, bless - ed - ness and light, Peace and truth its course por - tends.
 Trav - eler, 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!