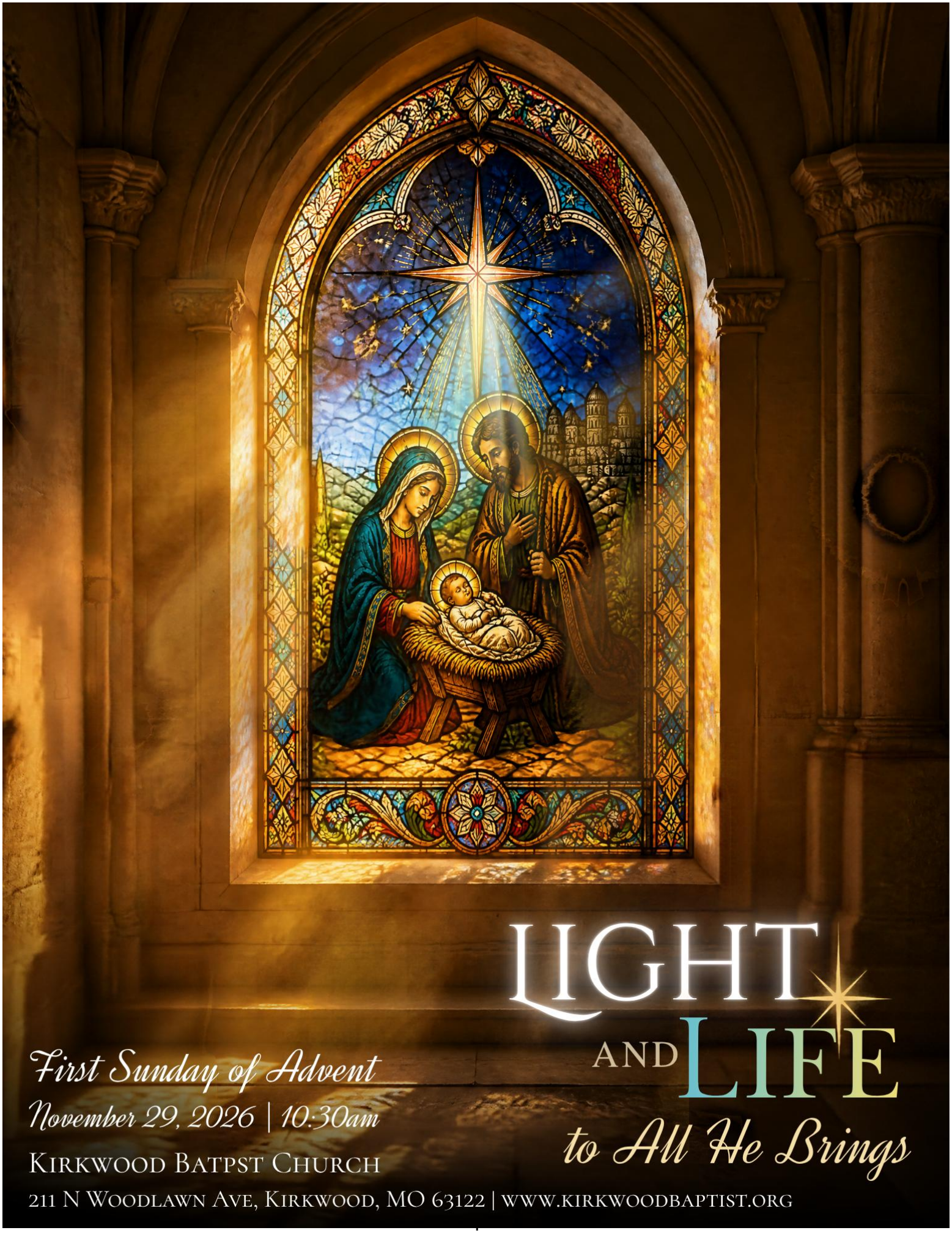

LIGHT
AND LIFE
to All He Brings
First Sunday of Advent
November 29, 2026 | 10:30am
Kirkwood Batpst Church
211 N Woodlawn Ave, Kirkwood, MO 63122 | www.kirkwoodbaptist.org

+ This symbol invites you to rise in body as you are able, or in spirit.

Chiming of the Hour — Julia Matthews

Welcome and Life of the Church — Krissi Vandagriff

Global Missions Moment — Cindy Midgett

Gathering Prayer — Krissi Vandagriff

Voluntary — **O Come, O Come Emmanuel** arr. John Ines — Julia Matthews, organ; Trish Jackson, piano

Opening of the Bible and Lighting of the Altar Candles — Carolyn and Helen Mae Vandagriff

+ Opening Sentences (adapted from Isaiah 11) — Sara Klawiter

A tree stump left to rot puts forth new shoots.
Could it be that heaven is near at hand?
A wolf slinks toward sheep and joins their fold.
Could it be that heaven is near at hand?
A child plays while serpents slumber.
Could it be that heaven is near at hand?
A prophet cries out from the wild places:
Prepare the way! For heaven is near at hand.

The Processional and the Poinsettias

The desert and parched lands will be glad; the wilderness will rejoice and blossom.
Like the crocus, it will burst into bloom; it will rejoice greatly and shout for joy.
Isaiah 35:1-2

+ Hymn — **Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn** — REJOICE, REJOICE
(See p. 7)

The Advent Wreath

Candlelighting Litany — Jenny Petty, Carolyn Vandagriff, Pete Hastings

When the nights are long and the roads are hard,
we turn our eyes to the stars.
When the work is demanding and injustice unending,
we stand together, arm in arm.
When fear looms large and grief weighs heavy,
we cry out to God without holding back.
And when the dawn of tomorrow feels far away,
we gather together to light the candle of hope.

Lighting of the Advent Candle - Hope

Like the stars above, may this light shine bright.
May it guide our path. May it inspire deeper hope.
Until God's promised day, when light and life shall fill all creation, may it be so.
Amen.

Candlelighting Song **We Light a Candle to Resist** DETROIT
Stanza 1 (See p. 8)

Choral Music **People, Look East** Sanctuary Choir
John Leavitt

People, look east! The time is near of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table.
People, look east and sing today: Love, the Guest is on the way.
Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the bowl shall brim.
Shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together.
People, look east and sing today: Love, the Star, is on the way.
Angels announce with shouts of mirth Him who brings new life to earth.
Set ev'ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming.
People, look east and sing today: Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Call to Confession Thomas Vandagriff

We hear the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
"Prepare the way of the Lord and make God's paths straight."
Let us prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ as we confess our sin together:

Prayer of Confession

God of Grace,
we confess that we are not ready for you to come into our world — not quite yet.
We cling to the known and familiar,
afraid of the transformation your grace will bring.
Yet you are always a step ahead of us, a voice crying out in the wilderness,
inviting us into to bold new ways of being disciples.
Humble us, O God, and teach us to do the work of repentance
so that, fully reliant on your grace,
we may know the richness of restored relationship with you and one another.
Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Friends, hear the good news:
God's mercy is from everlasting to everlasting.
Before we repent and change our ways,
God's love has already claimed us as God's own.
Proclaim with me the good news of the gospel:
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!
Thanks be to God!

+ Hymn 136 **On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry** PUER NOBIS

The Word

Old Testament Reading Isaiah 12:1-5 Pete Hastings

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

+ Gospel Reading Mark 1:1-13 James Hastings

The Gospel of our Lord.
Praise be to Christ!

Sermon Matt Vandagriff

The Offerings

Offertory Prayer Kyle Damron

Offering our Gifts and Tithes

Offertory **Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming** Julia Matthews, organ
Brahms/Mitchell-Wallace & Head Dallas Blair, Trumpet

+ Hymn **Praise God, whose dawn transfigures night;** OLD HUNDREDTH
Whose Daystar shines with faithful light;
To God all honor, glory be;
Both now and for eternity. Amen.
(*NOTE: alternative text by Mary Scifres)*

The Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving Trish Ordelheide, Krissi Vandagriff, Matt Vandagriff

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

How can we thank you, O God!
For sun and moon and stars,
for breath and life and all things good,
for your steadfast promise and your faithful love,

for the day that is surely coming
when all things will be made new.

With saints, with angels, and with the whole creation,
we join the ancient and eternal hymn:
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

We give thanks, Holy God, for Jesus,
Who came to be your living Word…
…With thanks and praise we offer ourselves to you,
sharing this holy meal, remembering Christ's dying and rising,
and praying: Come, Lord Jesus!
Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us, gathered here out of love for you…
…Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever.
Amen.

Words of Institution — Matt Vandagriff

Invitation to the Table

The Ordinance of the Lord's Supper

KBC welcomes all to participate in the celebration of the Lord's Supper.
We walk to the table to emphasize that we are on a common journey—a journey where we are encouraged and strengthened by the love we find in Christ and the support we find in our community of faith. If you cannot come to the table, you may receive the elements from a deacon in the aisle.
Please hold the elements so that all may partake together.

Communion Music — **Coventry Carol** — arr. Patti Drennan — Julia Matthews, Trish Jackson

In the Bleak Midwinter
Holst | arr. Patti Drennan

The Bread and the Cup

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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen

+ The Passing of the Peace — Matt Vandagriff

May the peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

(We invite you to also pass the peace via text to someone not here today or to whomever needs encouragement.)

Sending Forth

+ Hymn — **Lord of the Coming Glorious Day** — LASST UNS ERFREUEN
Paul Duke, Pastor 1986-1995
(See p. 9)

Benediction — Matt Vandagriff

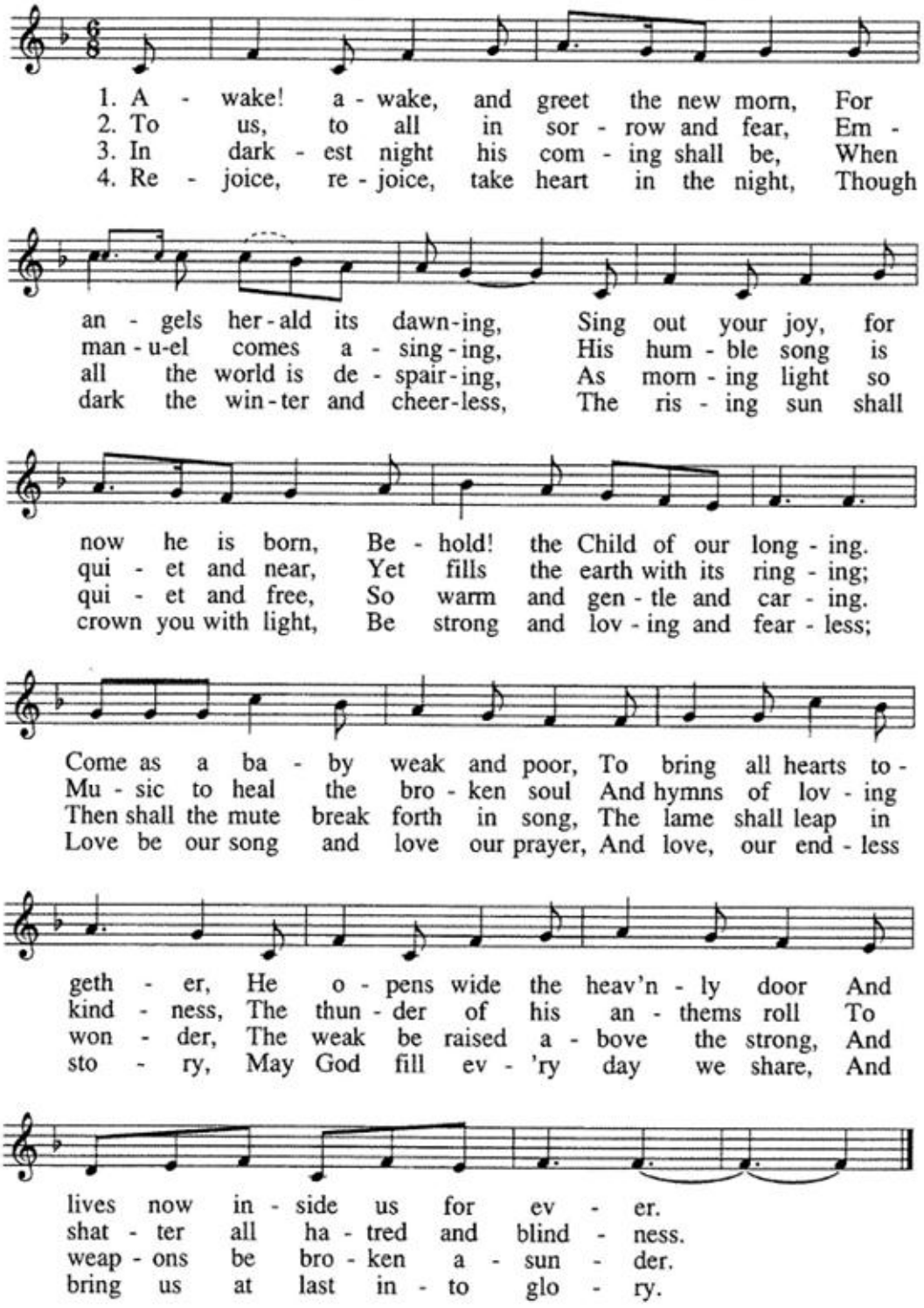
Postlude — **Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying** — Julia Matthews
Johann Gottfried Walther

Our deacons will be collecting a benevolence offering as you exit the sanctuary. This offering is received each time we observe communion and is used to help individuals in crisis in our community.



A quiet gathering of prayer, music, and reflection for all who carry grief, longing, or struggle during the holidays—a contemplative space to find comfort and renewed hope.

Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn

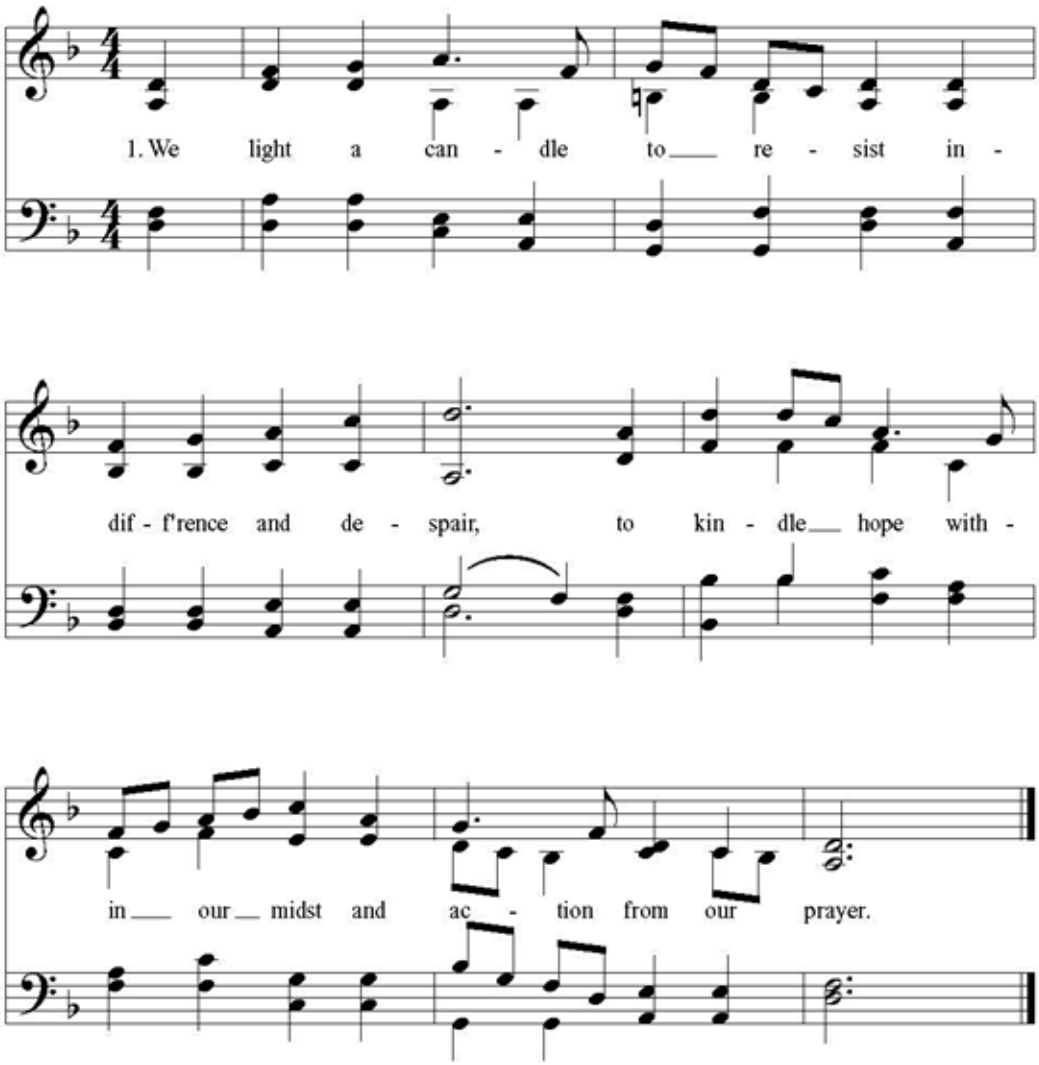


Text: Marty Haugen, b.1950
Tune: REJOICE, REJOICE, 9 8 9 8 8 7 8 9; Marty Haugen, b 1950
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WE LIGHT A CANDLE

DETROIT
Supplement to *Kentucky Harmony*
Harm. by D. L. Gill (2026)

David Bjorlin

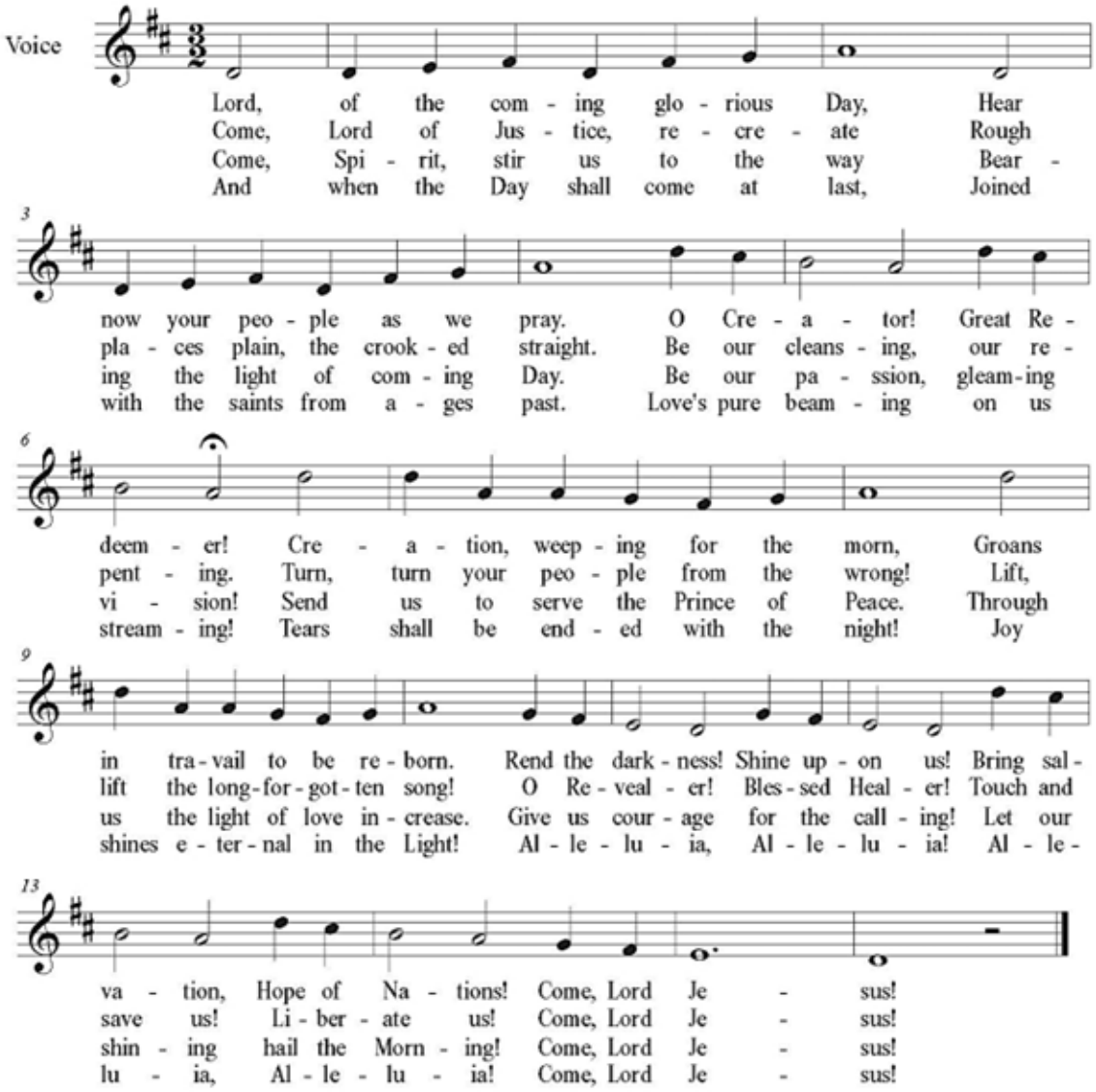


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Lord of the Coming Glorious Day

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Text: Paul Duke



Our Beautiful Poinsettias were Provided by:

NAME	IN MEMORY OF / IN HONOR OF
The Beabout Family	In memory of Bonnie & Jerry Eichman.
Beth Bee & Anne Serkin	In honor of Tracy Slezak and the Worship Care volunteers.
Beth & Don Bee (2)	In honor of the KBC Staff. In honor of the Bee Family.
Ann & David Coleman	In memory of Kelly Margaret Hoppe.
Douglas Copeland (2)	In memory of Bill & Peg Copeland. In memory of Alex Moore.
Tara Crane (2)	In memory of Donald & Lyla Crane. In honor of the KBC youth.
The Felker Family (2)	In memory of Robert & Laura Felker. In memory of Noble & Virginia Gillahan.
The Matt Forbis Family	In memory of Daniel Huddleston.
The Jeep Family (2)	In memory of our parents. In honor of our grandchildren.
Pat & Alton Lacey (5)	In honor of the Aaron Lacey Family. In honor of Brenna Lacey. In honor of Alton & Pat Lacey.
Joyce McComb	In memory of parents, Clarence & Lela Lowe.
Betty McCoy	In memory of husband, Terry McCoy, parents, Rayma & Daddy Collier, and in-laws, Walter & Jean McCoy.
Elise Nutt	In memory of Jesse Nutt.
Trish Ordelheide	In memory of Harvey Ordelheide.
Paula & Rodger Riney (2)	In memory of Paul & Barbara Fauks. In memory of Rodger & Leanna Riney.
Thomas & Nancy Ross	In memory of parents and grandparents.
Anne Serkin	In memory of June Harter and O.K. Shellhammer.
Dean & Wendy Shaw	In honor of Avery & Graham Palagallo and Calvin Clarkin.
Rae Sneed	In memory of Ralph Sneed.
The Street Family	In memory of Lucille Tait.



Guests, welcome! We would love to know you.

You are invited to complete the Welcome Card in the pew rack in front and place it in the offering plate or you can scan the QR code on the card to respond electronically. There is no pressure - this is simply a way for us to connect. **We are glad you are here**.

Scan to view our *On Mission* guide and learn all about KBC!

Whether you are worshipping with us online or in-person, welcome! We are happy you are here. If you have questions about the church, we encourage you to go to www.kirkwoodbaptist.org where you might find some answers or where you can contact a pastor or staff member.

A nursery is available for birth - Pre-K children.
Hearing devices are available upon request. Please see an usher for help.

Scan to easily access online giving.

Opening Sentences – Written by Avery Arden, Atlanta, GA. From *Call to Worship: Liturgy, Music, Preaching, and the Arts*, published by the Office of Theology and Worship and the Presbyterian Association of Musicians of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). © 2025.

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Worship Leaders

Deacon for the Week/Reader	Trish Ordelheide
Candle Lighter/Bible Opener/Reader	Carolyn and Helen Mae Vandagriff
Readers	Sara Klawiter, Jenny Petty, Carolyn Vandagriff, Pete Hastings, Thomas Vandagriff, James Hastings
Camera Operator & Videographer	Ian Blaylock
Sound Operator	Bob Church
Trumpet	Dallas Blair
Piano	Trish Jackson
Keyboards	Julia Matthews
Sanctuary Choir	

Sunday Staff

Senior Pastor	Rev. Dr. Matthew Vandagriff
Associate Pastor, Music and Worship	Rev. Kyle Damron
Minister for Education and Spiritual Formation	Krissi Vandagriff
Youth Minister	Rev. Aaron Huffman
Worship Care	Tracy Slezak