

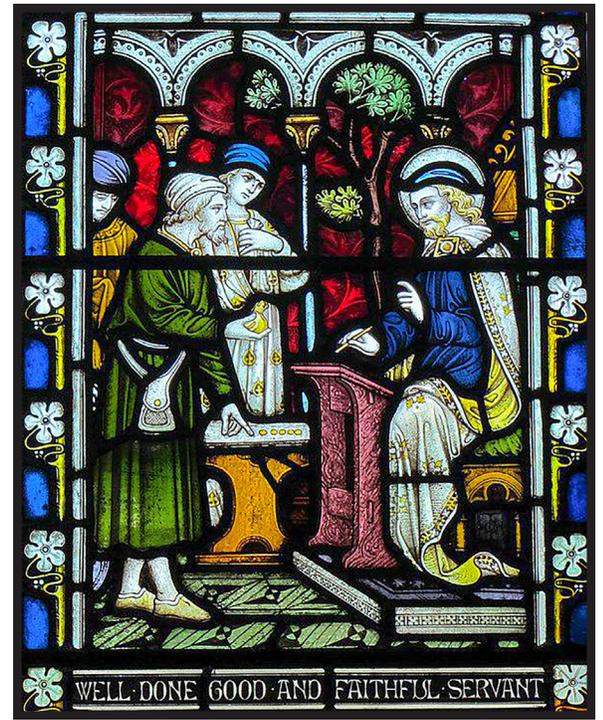
THE *Episcopal* CHURCH   
 OF *St. John the Baptist*

*"Where All Are Welcome . . . No Exceptions!"*

**The Twenty-Fourth Sunday  
after Pentecost**

*Proper 28  
November 15, 2020*

**The Holy Eucharist  
The Word of God**



**Prelude** *'Always Remember Me'* Richard Blake

**Processional Hymn** (*Please stand as able*) *Please see pages 8*

#551 | *"Rise Up, Ye Saints of God!"*

**Children's Chat** - *Robert Freeman*

*Celebrant* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People* ***And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.***

*Celebrant* Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

**Canticle of Praise:** *Glory to God*

*Hymnal S280*

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and  
 peace to God's peo-ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly  
 King, Al - mighty God and Fa - ther, we wor - shipyou, we give you thanks, we  
 praiseyou for your glo - ry. 3. LordJe - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord

God, Lamb of God, 4. you take away the sin of the world: have mer - cy  
 on us; 5. you are seat-ed at the righ t hand of the Fa-ther: re - ceive our prayer. 6. For  
 you alone are the Ho-ly One, you alone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most  
 High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the  
 glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

**The Collect of the Day**

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* ***And also with you.***

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*The Celebrant prays the Collect*

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

*People* ***Amen.***

**First Reading** *(Please be seated)*

*Reader* A Reading from Zephaniah:

***Introduction to the First Reading***

*Like the prophet Amos in last Sunday's First Reading, Zephaniah presents the day of the Lord as one of judgment and wrath. Yet God works actively to ensure that there will be an ongoing relationship between God and God's people.*

***Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18***

Be silent before the LORD GOD! For the day of the LORD is at hand; the LORD has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests. At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts, "The LORD will not do good, nor will he do harm." Their wealth shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them. The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there. That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements. I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind; because they have sinned against the LORD, their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung. Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the LORD's wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed; for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* ***Thanks be to God.***

## Psalm of the Day

## Psalm 90:1-8,12



We shall re - joice all the days of our life.

Lord, you have been our refuge  
from one generation to another.

Before the mountains were brought forth,  
or the land and the earth were born,  
from age to age you are God. [ANT.]

You turn us back to the dust and say,  
"Go back, O child of earth."

For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday  
when it is past  
and like a watch in the night. [ANT.]

You sweep us away like a dream;  
we fade away suddenly like the grass.

In the morning it is green and flourishes;  
in the evening it is dried up and withered. [ANT.]

For we consume away in your displeasure;  
we are afraid because of your wrathful indignation.

Our iniquities you have set before you,  
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.

So teach us to number our days  
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom. [ANT.]

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## Second Reading

*Reader* A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians:

### *Introduction to the Second Reading*

*In this reading Paul counsels that, although we do not know the day of Christ's return, we are to live faithfully in the here and now as we anticipate that day when God will give us eternal salvation through the Lord Jesus Christ.*

### *1 Thessalonians 5:1-11*

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**Sequence Hymn** (*Please stand as able*) - *Please see page 9*

#680 | "O God, Our Help in Ages Past"

*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Matthew:

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

**The Holy Gospel** (*The Gospel is carried into the congregation so that we remember it is our Good News to hear and to share.*)

### *Matthew 25:14-30*

Jesus said, "It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in

a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

*Celebrant*        The Gospel of the Lord.

*People*            ***Praise to you, Lord Christ.***

## THE SERMON

**The Nicene Creed** *(Please stand as able)*

*We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.*

*We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.*

*For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.*

*For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.*

*We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the Prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.*

**The Prayers of the People** *The Leader and People pray responsively.*

Longing for Christ's reign to come among us, we pray for the outpouring of God's power on the church, the world, and all in need.

Lord of the church, ignite your people with the passion of your love. By the fire of your Holy Spirit, unify us across ministries, congregations, and denominations, and refine us to participate in your activity throughout the world. Hear us, O God.

***Your mercy is great.***

Lord of creation, we stand in awe at the works of your hands and praise you for the beauty of nature. Bless the earth for your glory and restore its integrity where exploitation has caused ruin. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Lord of the nations, sound forth your justice in the ears of all leaders. Increase concern for those who are most vulnerable, especially as international leaders forge trade agreements and cooperate to end human rights abuses. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Lord of all in need, search out all who cry to you in distress. Scatter the heavy clouds of depression, chronic illness, unemployment, and loneliness with your radiant light. Send us as encouragement and signs of your healing. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Lord of the stranger, stir up holy restlessness in us to extend love to those at the margins. Release our desire for control and open us to learn from the perspectives of others. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Lord of the living and the dead, we give you thanks for all the saints at rest from their labors, especially St. John the Baptist. Rouse us to live by their example, that saints yet to come may also know your love. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Receive our prayers in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior, until that day when you gather all creation around your throne where you will reign forever and ever, especially remembering those on our parish prayer list and those we name in our hearts.

*(The congregation may add their own petitions either silently or aloud after the prayer list is read.)*

*(The Celebrant may add a concluding Collect.)*

### **The Confession of Sin** *(Please kneel as able or be seated)*

*Reader* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *(Silence may be kept)*

*People* **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

### **The Absolution**

*Celebrant* Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

### **The Peace** *(Please stand as able)*

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

## **The Holy Communion**

*Being seated, we begin with a time of offering, giving money as a sign that our life serves God's purposes and showing our gratitude for God's many blessings.*

*Your faithful tithes and offerings are much needed and can be sent to:  
The Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist, PO Box 441, Milton, DE 19968 OR  
Securely online through our website - <https://www.stjohnthebaptistmilton.org/give.html>*

### **Offertory Sentence & Interlude**

**Doxology** *(The offering is presented as the Doxology is sung.  
Please stand as able)*

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow;  
Praise him, all crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye  
heaven - ly host: praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

WORDS: Isaac Watts (1674-1748). Music: Louis Bourgeois, c. 1510-1561.

### **Offertory Hymn**

*Please see page 10*

**#574 | "Before Thy Throne, O God, We Kneel"**

# The Great Thanksgiving

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

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, through Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**Sanctus:** *Holy, holy, holy Lord*

Ho - ly ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Ho - San - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*Music: Land of Rest, American folk melody; arr. Marcia Pruner, harm. Annabel Morris Buchanan (1889-1983)*

*The people may kneel as able, or be seated. The Celebrant continues.*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

*At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.*

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

***We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;***

*The Celebrant continues.*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by

the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with [ and] all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.  
*Amen.*

*Celebrant* And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,  
*People* *Our Father, who art in heaven,* *And forgive us our trespasses,*  
*hallowed be thy Name,* *as we forgive those*  
*thy kingdom come,* *who trespass against us.*  
*thy will be done,* *And lead us not into temptation,*  
*on earth as it is in heaven.* *but deliver us from evil.*  
*Give us this day our daily bread.* *For thine is the kingdom,*  
*and the power, and the glory,*  
*for ever and ever. Amen.*

### The Breaking of the Bread

*Celebrant* Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
*People* *Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!*

### A Prayer for Spiritual Communion

*Lord Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart and my soul. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you, my Lord and my God! Amen.*

**Distribution Anthem - "On Eagle's Wings" Text & Music: Michael Joncas**  
**Guitar & Vocals: Robert Freeman**

### Post Communion Prayer (Please kneel or be seated)

*Celebrant* Let us pray.  
*People* *Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving kindness to us and to all whom you have made.*  
*We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.*  
*And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your presence, that as we lament our separation from one another, we may continually show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.*

### Benediction

**Recessional Hymn (Please stand as able)** *Please see page 11* #632 | "O Christ, the Word Incarnate"

### The Dismissal

*Celebrant* Let us go forth, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.  
*People* *Thanks be to God.*

**Postlude** *Pieza al Organo* Felix Maximo Lopez

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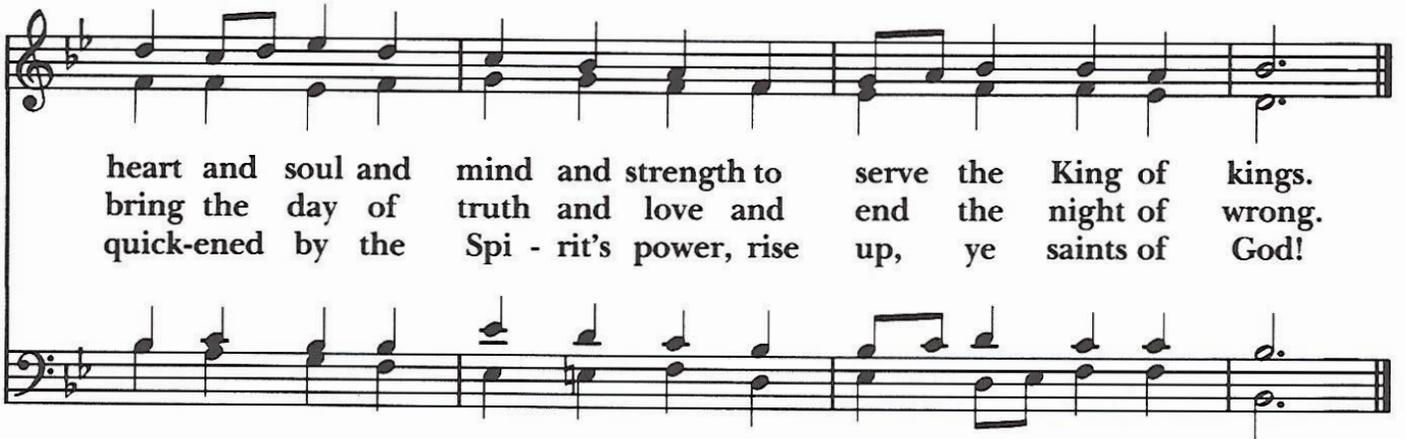
*The Rev. Thomas M. White, Rector*  
*J. Edwin Stout, Acolyte*  
*Scott Kresge, Organist/Videography/Streaming*  
*Robert Freeman, Cantor/Soloist*  
*Elizabeth Scheer, Videography/Streaming*

551

Christian Vocation and Pilgrimage



1 Rise up, ye saints of God! Have done with less - er things, give  
2 Rise up, ye saints of God! His king - dom tar - ries long: Lord,  
3 Lift high the cross of Christ! Tread where his feet have trod; and



heart and soul and mind and strength to serve the King of kings.  
bring the day of truth and love and end the night of wrong.  
quick-ened by the Spi - rit's power, rise up, ye saints of God!

Words: William Pierson Merrill (1867-1954), alt.  
Music: *Festal Song*, William H. Walter (1825-1893)

SM

The Christian Life

680

1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,  
 2 un - der the sha - dow of thy throne thy saints have dwelt se - cure;  
 3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood, or earth re - ceived her frame,  
 4 A thou - sand a - ges in thy sight are like an eve - ning gone;  
 5 Time, like an ev - er - roll - ing stream, bears all our years a - way;

1 our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:  
 2 suf - fi - cient is thine arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.  
 3 from ev - er - last - ing thou art God, to end - less years the same.  
 4 short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.  
 5 they fly, for - got - ten, as a dream dies at the o - pening day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,                      be thou our guide while life shall last,  
 our hope for years to come,                              and our eternal home.

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt.; para. of Psalm 90:1-5

Music: *St. Anne*, melody att. William Croft (1678-1727), alt.; harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889)

CM

Christian Responsibility

574

1 Be - fore thy throne, O God, we kneel: give us a con - science  
 2 Search out our hearts and make us true; help us to give to  
 3 For sins of heed - less word and deed, for pride am - bi - tious  
 4 Let the fierce fires which burn and try, our in - most spi - rits

quick to feel, a rea - dy mind to un - der - stand the  
 all their due. From love of plea - sure, lust of gold, from  
 to suc - ceed, for craft - y trade and sub - tle snare to  
 pu - ri - fy: con - sume the ill; purge out the shame; O

mean - ing of thy chas - tening hand; what - e'er the pain and  
 sins which make the heart grow cold, wean us and train us  
 catch the sim - ple un - a - ware, for lives be - rept of  
 God, be with us in the flame; a new-born peo - ple

shame may be, bring us, O Fa - ther, near - er thee.  
 with thy rod; teach us to know our faults, O God,  
 pur - pose high, for - give, for - give, O Lord, we cry.  
 may we rise, more pure, more true, more no - bly wise.

Words: William Boyd Carpenter (1841-1918), alt.  
 Music: St. Petersburg, Dimitri S. Bortniansky (1751-1825)

Holy Scripture

632

1 O Christ, the Word In - car - nate, O Wis - dom from on high,  
 2 The Church from our dear Mas - ter re - ceived the word di - vine,  
 3 O make thy Church, dear Sa - vior, a lamp of pur - est gold,

O Truth, un - changed, un - chang - ing, O Light of our dark sky;  
 and still that light is lift - ed o'er all the earth to shine.  
 to bear be - fore the na - tions thy true light as of old;

we praise thee for the ra - diance that from the scrip - ture's page,  
 It is the chart and com - pass that o'er life's surg - ing sea,  
 O teach thy wan - dering pil - grims by this their path to trace,

a lan - tern to our foot - steps, shines on from age to age.  
 mid mists and rocks and quick - sands, still guides, O Christ, to thee.  
 till, clouds and dark - ness end - ed, they see thee face to face.

Words: William Walsham How (1823-1897), alt.

Music: Munich, melody from *Neu-vermehrtes und zu Übung Christl. Gottseligkeit eingerichtetes Meiningisches Gesangbuch*, 1693; adapt. and harm. Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

76. 76. D