

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



The Festival of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist *Third Sunday After Pentecost*

The Holy Eucharist

The Word of God

Prelude | *Four Variations on "Old Hundreth"* Robert Lau

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

#59 | *"Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding"*

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 - ship you, we give you thanks, we
praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - 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

Almighty God, by whose providence your servant John the Baptist was wonderfully born, and sent to prepare the way of your Son our Savior by preaching repentance: Make us so to follow his teaching and holy life, that we may truly repent according to his preaching; and, following his example, constantly speak the truth, boldly rebuke vice, and patiently suffer for the truth's sake; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, 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 Isaiah:

Introduction to the First Reading

In grand, flowing, poetic lines, the prophet announces that the exile of God's people in Babylon is over. The Lord will care for Israel as a shepherd cares for his sheep. The only enduring reality in life is the word of the Lord.

Isaiah 40:1-11

Comfort, O comfort my people,
 says your God.
 Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
 and cry to her
 that she has served her term,
 that her penalty is paid,
 that she has received from the LORD's hand
 double for all her sins.
 A voice cries out:
 "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD,
 make straight in the desert a highway for our God.
 Every valley shall be lifted up,
 and every mountain and hill be made low;
 the uneven ground shall become level,
 and the rough places a plain.

Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
 and all people shall see it together,
 for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

A voice says, "Cry out!"
 And I said, "What shall I cry?"

All people are grass,
 their constancy is like the flower of the field.

The grass withers, the flower fades,
 when the breath of the LORD blows upon it;
 surely the people are grass.

The grass withers, the flower fades;
 but the word of our God will stand for ever.

Get you up to a high mountain,
 O Zion, herald of good tidings;

lift up your voice with strength,
 O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,
 lift it up, do not fear;
 say to the cities of Judah,
 "Here is your God!"
 See, the Lord GOD comes with might,
 and his arm rules for him;
 his reward is with him,
 and his recompense before him.

He will feed his flock like a shepherd;
 he will gather the lambs in his arms,
 and carry them in his bosom,
 and gently lead the mother sheep.
Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm of the Day **Psalm 85 | Lord, Let Us See Your Kindness**



Lord let us see your kind-ness; Lord, let us see your kind-ness.
 Let us hear what our God proclaims; as the water from the earth,
 Peace to the people of God, justice shall rain from the heavens. [ANT.]
 salvation is near to the ones who fear God. [ANT.] The Lord will come
 and you shall know God's love,
 Kindness and truth, justice and peace; justice shall walk in God's pathways,
 truth shall spring up salvation the gift that God brings. [ANT.]

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Second Reading

Reader A Reading from the The Acts of The Apostles:

Introduction to the Second Reading

In Antioch of Pisidia, Paul preaches in the synagogue and recalls the ministry of St. John the Baptist, showing how John the Baptist was the bridge between the Old Testament and the new acts God was performing in God's Son, Jesus.

Acts 13:14b-26

On the sabbath day they went into the synagogue and sat down. After the reading of the law and the prophets, the officials of the synagogue sent them a message, saying, "Brothers, if you have any word of exhortation for the people, give it."
 So Paul stood up and with a gesture began to speak: "You Israelites, and others who fear God, listen. The God of this people Israel chose our ancestors and made the people great during their stay in the land of Egypt, and with uplifted arm he led them out of it. For about forty years he put up with them in the wilderness. After he had destroyed seven nations in the land of Canaan, he gave them their land as an inheritance for about four hundred fifty years. After that he gave them judges until the time of the prophet Samuel. Then they asked for a king; and God gave them Saul son of Kish, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, who reigned for forty years. When he had removed him, he made David their king. In his testimony about him he said, 'I have found David, son of Jesse, to be a man after my heart, who will carry out all my wishes.' Of this man's posterity God has brought to Israel a Savior, Jesus, as he promised; before his coming John had already proclaimed a baptism of repentance to all the people of Israel. And as John was finishing his work, he said, 'What do you suppose that I am? I am not he. No, but one is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of the sandals on his feet.'"

"My brothers, you descendants of Abraham's family, and others who fear God, to us the message of this salvation has been sent."

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

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

#76 | "On Jordan's Bank The Baptist's Cry"

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke:
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.)

Luke 1:57-80

The time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son. Her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown his great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her. On the eighth day they came to circumcise the child, and they were going to name him Zechariah after his father. But his mother said, "No; he is to be called John." They said to her, "None of your relatives has this name." Then they began motioning to his father to find out what name he wanted to give him. He asked for a writing tablet and wrote, "His name is John." And

all of them were amazed. Immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue freed, and he began to speak to all their neighbors, and all these things were talked about throughout the entire hill country of Judea and said, "What then will this child become?" For, indeed, the hand of the Lord was with him.

Then his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke this prophecy:

"Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,
 for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them.
 He has raised up a mighty savior for us
 in the house of his servant David,
 as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old,
 that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us.
 Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors,
 and has remembered his holy covenant,
 the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham,
 to grant us that we, being rescued from the hands of our enemies,
 might serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness
 before him all our days."
 And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High;
 for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways,
 to give knowledge of salvation to his people
 by the forgiveness of their sins.
 By the tender mercy of our God,
 the dawn from on high will break upon us,
 to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,
 to guide our feet into the way of peace."



The child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the wilderness until the day he appeared publicly to Israel.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.
People ***Praise to you, Lord Christ.***

THE SERMON

The Rev. Martha Kirkpatrick

Canon to the Ordinary, The Episcopal Church in Delaware

Celebrant Dear sisters and brothers in the faith, in Holy Baptism we are buried with Christ into his death and raised with him to newness of life. I call upon you now to renew the solemn promises and vows of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced Satan and all his works and promised to serve God faithfully in his holy Catholic Church.

The Renewal of Baptismal Vows

Celebrant Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?
People ***I do.***

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Father?
People ***I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.***

Celebrant Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?
People ***I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.***

<p><i>He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.</i></p>	<p><i>He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.</i></p>
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Celebrant Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?
People ***I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the holy catholic Church,
 the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body,
 and the life everlasting.***

Celebrant Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?
People ***I will, with God's help.***

Celebrant Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?
People ***I will, with God's help.***

Celebrant Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?
People ***I will, with God's help.***

Celebrant Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?
People ***I will, with God's help.***

Celebrant Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?
People ***I will, with God's help.***

The Celebrant concludes the Renewal of Vows as follows

May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord. ***Amen.***

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

We have been united with Christ in his death, and made one with him in his resurrection. In this newness of life, we raise our hearts in joyful prayer.

That the Church and her peoples may name the crosses that retard their work and ministry, so that they may focus once again upon the sovereignty of Christ, who is the source of all our blessings; let us pray.

Kyrie eleison.

That we may be softened by the remembrance of personal darkness and despair and give generously to the relief of the hungry and fearful, the sick and those who work multiple jobs and still struggle to provide for the basic necessities of life; let us pray.

Kyrie eleison.

For all who hold positions of public trust and responsibility, that they may serve the common good with integrity and sound moral judgment; let us pray.

Kyrie eleison.

For those who are being cast out of their native land through political chaos, religious persecution, war and famine, natural disasters, and reasons that remain unknown, that they may find receptive countries as they search for a new homeland; let us pray.

Kyrie eleison.

For those who have died, that they may join the community of saints, in whose fellowship we will one day reside; let us pray.

Kyrie eleison.

That the gift of God's grace in Jesus may sustain and strengthen us as we share the faith of the saints who have come before; let us pray.

Kyrie eleison.

Let us endure faithfully in the practice of intercession, as we continue our petitions. Let us pray for our own needs and those of others, 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.

#685 | "Take My Life, That I May Be"

"Enriching Our Worship," Prayer 2

Offertory Hymn

Please see page 10

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. For the wonderful grace and virtue declared in all your saints, who have been the chosen vessel of your grace, and the lights of the world in their generation.

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*

Hymnal S129

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord. God of power and might.
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord. God of power and might,
hea - ven and earth are full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high est. 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.

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

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus, the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

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, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with [_____ and] all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever.
Amen.

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

The Breaking of the Bread

<i>Celebrant</i>	Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
<i>People</i>	<i>Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!</i>

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

<i>Celebrant</i>	Let us pray.
<i>People</i>	<i>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.</i>
	<i>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.</i>
	<i>And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your presence, that as we lament our separation from one another during this time of disease, 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.</i>

Benediction

Recessional Hymn <i>(Please stand as able)</i>	<i>Please see page 11</i>	#530 <i>"Spread, O Spread, Thou Mighty Word"</i>
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The Dismissal

<i>Celebrant</i>	Let us go forth, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
<i>People</i>	<i>Thanks be to God.</i>

Postlude	<i>"Air en Echo" from Musiques Royales, 7th Movement</i>	<i>Michel-Richard de La Lande</i>
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The Rev. Thomas M. White, Rector
J. Edwin Stout, Acolyte
Scott Kresge, Organist/Videographer
Robert Freeman, Cantor/Soloist

Descant

2 Wak - ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth's bond-age let us rise;
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther and the Son,

1 Hark! a thrill - ing voice is sound - ing. "Christ is nigh," it seems to say;
2 Wak - ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth's bond-age let us rise;
3 Lo! the Lamb, so long ex - spect - ed, comes with par - don down from heaven;
4 so when next he comes with glo - ry, and the world is wrapped in fear,
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther and the Son,

2 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling, shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
5 with the ev - er - last - ing Spi - rit while un - end - ing a - ges run.

1 "Cast a - way the works of dark - ness, O ye chil - dren of the day."
2 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling, shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
3 let us haste, with tears of sor - row, one and all to be for - given;
4 may he with his mer - cy shield us, and with words of love draw near.
5 with the ev - er - last - ing Spi - rit while un - end - ing a - ges run.

Words: Latin, ca. 6th cent.; tr. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1861, alt.

Music: Merton, William Henry Monk (1823-1889); desc. Alan Gray (1855-1935)

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Advent

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1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an -
 2 Then cleansed be ev - ery breast from sin; make
 3 For thou art our sal - va - tion, Lord, our
 4 To heal the sick stretch out thine hand, and
 5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to thee, whose

1 noun - ces that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,
 2 straight the way for God with - in, and let each heart pre -
 3 ref - uge, and our great re - ward; with - out thy grace we
 4 bid the fall - en sin - ner stand; shine forth, and let thy
 5 ad - vent doth thy peo - ple free; whom with the Fa - ther

1 for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings.
 2 pare a home where such a might - y guest may come.
 3 waste a - way like flowers that with - er and de - cay.
 4 light re - store earth's own true love - li - ness once more.
 5 we a - dore and Ho - ly Spi - rit ev - er - more.

Words: Charles Coffin (1676-1749); tr. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944),
 after John Chandler (1806-1876); alt.

Music: *Winchester New*, melody from *Musicalishes Hand-Buch*, 1690;
 harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889), alt.

LM

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Take My Life, That I May Be



1 Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;
 2 Take my hands and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;
 3 Take my voice and let me sing al - ways, on - ly, for my King;
 4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, not a mite would I with - hold;



take my mo - ments and my days; let them flow in cease - less praise.
 take my feet and let them be swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.
 take my lips and let them be filled with mes - sag - es from thee.
 take my in - tel - lect, and use ev - 'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

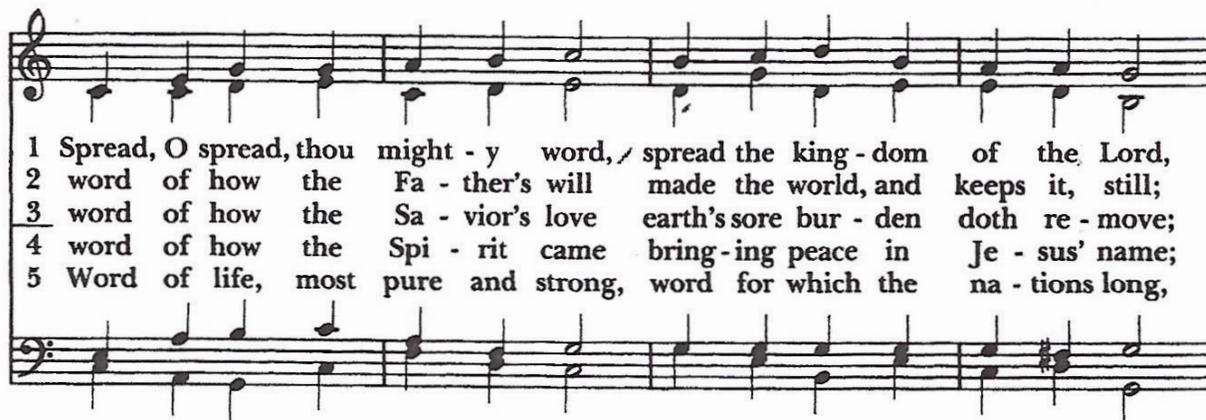


5 Take my will and make it thine;
 it shall be no longer mine.
 Take my heart, it is thine own;
 it shall be thy royal throne.

6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour
 at thy feet its treasure store;
 take myself, and I will be
 ever, only, all for thee.

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The Church's Mission



1 Spread, O spread, thou might - y word, spread the king - dom of the Lord,
 2 word of how the Fa - ther's will made the world, and keeps it, still;
 3 word of how the Sa - vior's love earth's sore bur - den doth re - move;
 4 word of how the Spi - rit came bring - ing peace in Je - sus' name;
 5 Word of life, most pure and strong, word for which the na - tions long,



1 that to earth's re - mot - est bound all may heed the joy - ful sound;
 2 how his on - ly Son he gave, earth from sin and death to save;
 3 how for - ev - er, in its need, through his death the world is freed;
 4 how his nev - er - fail - ing love guides us on to heaven a - bove.
 5 spread a - broad, un - til from night all the world a - wakes to light.

Words: Jonathan Friedrich Bahnmaier (1774-1841); tr. Arthur William Farlander (1898-1952)
 and Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944), alt. St. 4, F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984)

Music: *Gott sei Dank*, melody from *Geistreiches Gesangbuch*, 1704;
 adapt. and harm. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870)

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