

***Advent, December 4, 2025***



***St. Columba's  
Evensong Candle  
Light Evening  
Prayer Circle***

***Céad Mìle Fàilte!  
Welcome!***

You are invited to  
light a candle and  
please join in all of  
the songs.

Please remain  
muted except when  
you are reading  
or voicing a prayer.



***Amber:*** *Seek him who made the Pleiades and Orion, and turns deep  
darkness into the morning, and darkens the day into night;  
who calls for the waters of the sea and pours them out upon  
the surface of the earth: The LORD is his name.*

***Amos 5:8***

*For you alone, O LORD, my soul in silence waits; truly, my hope is in you.*

***Amen.***

***Psalm 62:6***

**Ann:** The Holy One is in our midst.

**(All)** O come, let us worship.

**Ann:** Make haste, O God, to deliver us!

*Psalm 70:1, 4*

**(All)** O God, make haste to help me!

May all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you!

May those who love your salvation say evermore, "God is great!"

Let our prayer be set forth in your sight as incense, the lifting  
up of our hands as the evening sacrifice. *Psalm 141:2*

**(All)** *O Gracious Light ~ Phos hilaron*

1. O gra - cious Light, pure bright-ness of the ev - er - liv - ing  
Fa - ther in heaven, O Je - sus Christ, ho - ly and  
bless - ed! 2. Now as we come to the set - ting of the  
sun, and our eyes be - hold the ves - per light, we sing your  
prais - es, O God: Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit.

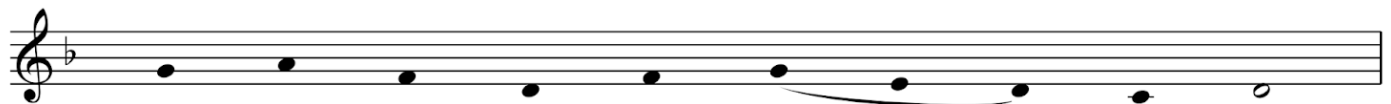
The musical score is written on five staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is composed of eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes. The second staff continues the melody and lyrics. The third staff introduces a second verse, marked with a '2.'. The fourth staff continues the melody and lyrics. The fifth staff concludes the piece with the words 'prais - es, O God: Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit.'.

*Music setting: McNeil Robinson II, The Hymnal 1982*

**(All)** O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



1. O come, O come, Em - man - - - u - el,  
2. O come, thou Wis - dom from \_\_\_\_\_ on high,  
3. O come, O come thou Lord \_\_\_\_\_ of might,  
4. O come, thou branch of Jes - - - se's tree,



1. and ran - son cap - tive Is - - - ra - el,  
2. who or - derest all things might - - - i - ly;  
3. who to thy tribes on Si - - - nai's height  
4. free them from Sa - tan's ty - - - ran - ny



1. that mourns in lone - ly ex - - - ile here  
2. to us the path of know - - - ledge show,  
3. in an - cient times didst give \_\_\_\_\_ the law,  
4. that trust thy might - y power \_\_\_\_\_ to save,



1. un - til the Son of God \_\_\_\_\_ ap - pear.  
2. and teach us in her ways \_\_\_\_\_ to go.  
3. in cloud, and ma - jes - ty, \_\_\_\_\_ and awe.  
4. and give them vic - tory o'er \_\_\_\_\_ the grave.



Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - - - u - el



shall come to thee, O Is - - - ra - el!

*From traditional 9th C. Latin text, plainsong*



*Pause in silent examen:*

- 1 Give thanks. Spend a few moments in gratitude for the gifts and blessings of the day.
- 2 Ask for light. ...
- 3 Examine the day. ...
- 4 Seek forgiveness. ...
- 5 Resolve to change.

*Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius Loyola*

**John:** LORD God, we thank you for showing us your mercy today;  
may that mercy extend to all those whom you entrust to our prayer;  
and may it bring your peace to all people,  
through Jesus Christ, our LORD. **Amen.**

**John:** LORD Jesus, support the sick, the dying,  
and all for whom this coming night will be a trial.  
Lead us with all our brothers and sisters  
from darkness into your own wonderful light,  
which shines for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*A Celtic Primer*

**(All)**



5. O come, thou Key of Da - - - vid, come,  
6. O come, thou Day - spring from \_\_\_\_\_ on high,  
7. O come, De - sire of na - - - tions, bind  
8. O come, O come, Em - man - - - u - el,



5. and o - pen wide our heaven - - - ly home;  
6. and cheer us by thy draw - - - ing nigh;  
7. in one the hearts of all \_\_\_\_\_ man - kind;  
8. and ran - son cap - tive Is - - - ra - el,



5. make safe the way that leads \_\_\_\_\_ on high,  
6. dis - perse the gloom - y clouds \_\_\_\_\_ of night,  
7. bid thou our sad di - vi - - - sions cease,  
8. that mourns in lone - ly ex - - - ile here



5. and close the path to mis - - - er - y.  
6. and death's dark shad - ow put \_\_\_\_\_ to flight.  
7. and be thy - self our King \_\_\_\_\_ of Peace.  
8. un - til the Son of God \_\_\_\_\_ ap - pear.



Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - - - u - el



shall come to thee, O Is - - - ra - el!

*From traditional 9th C. Latin text, plainsong*

**Meg:** First light and then first lines along the east

To touch and brush a sheen of light on water  
As though behind the sky itself they traced

The shift and shimmer of another river  
Flowing unbidden from its hidden source;  
The Day-Spring, the eternal Prima Vera.

Blake saw it too. Dante and Beatrice  
Are bathing in it now, away upstream...  
So every trace of light begins a grace

In me, a beckoning. The smallest gleam  
Is somehow a beginning and a calling;  
“Sleeper awake, the darkness was a dream

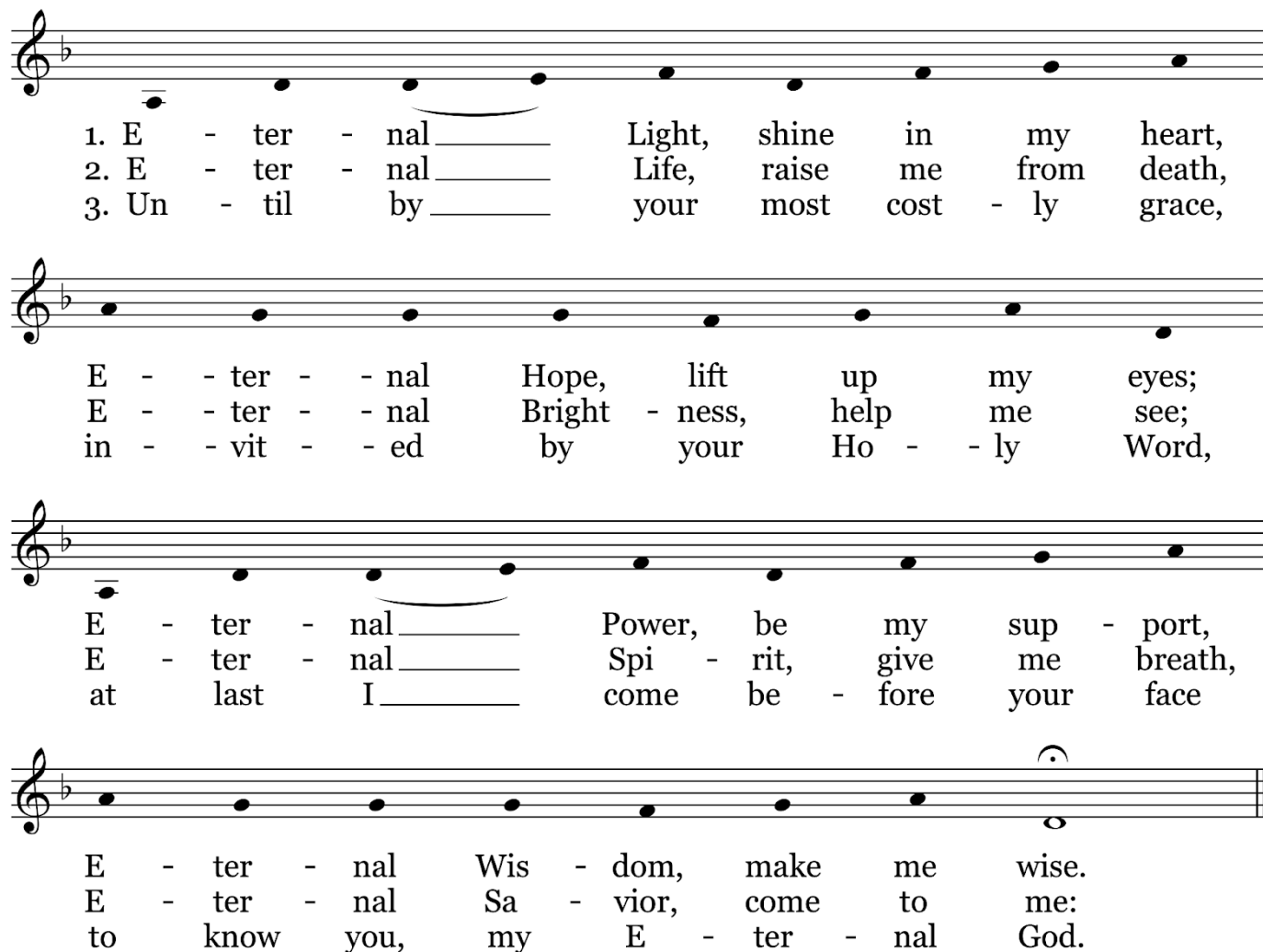
For you will see the Dayspring at your waking,  
Beyond your long last line the dawn is breaking.”

O Oriens: *E vidi lume in forme de riviera Paradiso XXX; 61, Waiting on the Word,*  
Malcolm Guite



*Pause in silence.*

**(All)** *Eternal Light, Shine in My Heart*



1. E - ter - nal \_\_\_\_\_ Light, shine in my heart,  
 2. E - ter - nal \_\_\_\_\_ Life, raise me from death,  
 3. Un - til by \_\_\_\_\_ your most cost - ly grace,

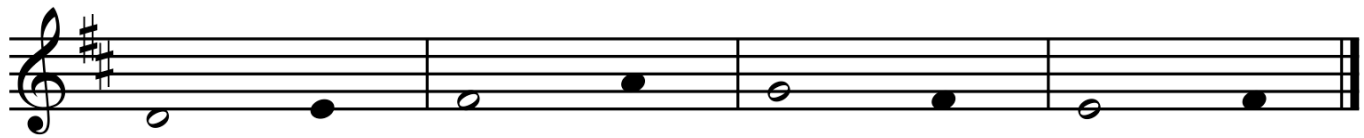
E - - ter - - nal Hope, lift up my eyes;  
 E - - ter - - nal Bright - ness, help me see;  
 in - - vit - - ed by your Ho - - ly Word,

E - ter - nal \_\_\_\_\_ Power, be my sup - port,  
 E - ter - nal \_\_\_\_\_ Spi - rit, give me breath,  
 at last I \_\_\_\_\_ come be - fore your face

E - ter - nal Wis - dom, make me wise.  
 E - ter - nal Sa - vior, come to me:  
 to know you, my E - ter - nal God.

Words: Christopher Idle (b.1938), from a prayer of Alcuin (735?-804), Chant: Ann McChesney-Young

**(All) Psalm 126 (1-6), 62 (6-9)**

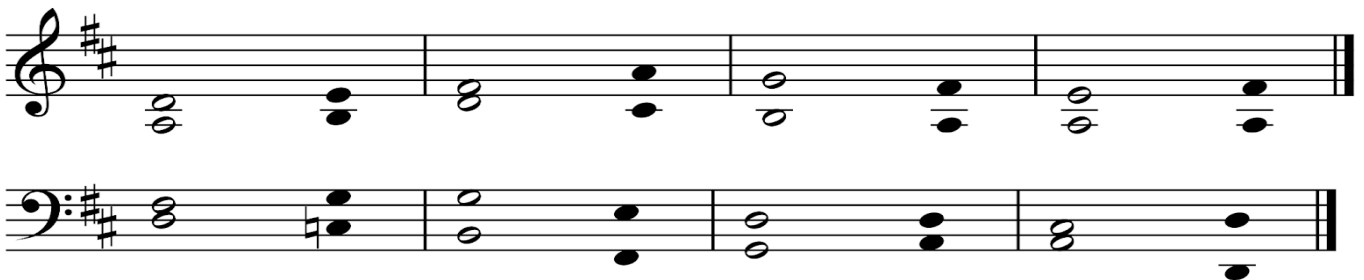


1 When the LORD restored the fortunes of / Zion, \*  
then were we like those who / dream.

2 Then was our mouth filled with / laughter, \*  
and our tongue with shouts of / joy.

3 Then they said among the / nations, \*  
"The LORD has done great things for / them."

4 The LORD has done great things / for us, \*  
and we are very glad in/deed.



5 Those who sowed with / tears \*  
will reap with songs of / joy.

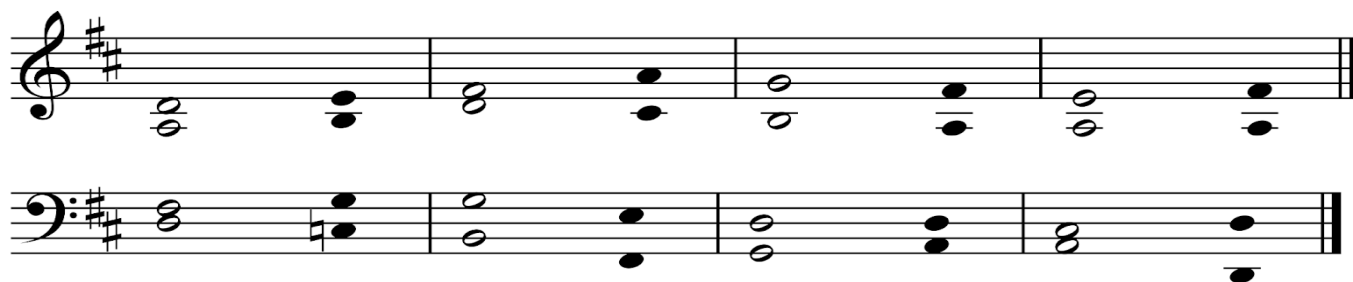
6 Those who go out weeping, carrying the / seed, \*  
will come again with joy, shouldering their / sheaves.

6 For God alone my soul in silence / waits; \*  
truly, my hope is in / him.

7 He alone is my rock and my sal/vation, \*  
my stronghold, so that I shall not be / shaken.

*Continue →*





- 8 In God is my safety and my / honor; \*  
God is my strong rock and my / refuge.
- 9 Put your trust in him always, O / people, \*  
pour out your hearts before him, for God is our / refuge.

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Chant tone: Robert Knox Kennedy

**Bill:** *The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ,*  
*according to John. (John 1:1-14)*  
**(All)** *Glory to you, Lord Christ*

**Bill:** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

**Meredith:** There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

**Bill:** He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

**Meredith:** And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

May the Words of the Gospel be made flesh in us.

**(All) Praise to you, Lord Christ.**



*Silent contemplative prayer ~ 9 minutes  
in memory of George Floyd,  
and all who cry out for mercy, truth, justice, and peace;  
for light and healing in our lives and for the earth.  
Let us pray for our nation and for the nations of the world:  
for wisdom and peace among all people,  
for cooperation, understanding, compassion;  
for an end to hatred, war, and genocide.*



**Ann:** Let us share our own prayers and thanksgivings,  
and pray for the needs of the world.

***All are invited to voice your own prayers (unmuted).***

***Our response: “O Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.”***

**Amber ( All ):** Eternal Spirit,  
Life-giver, Pain-bearer, Love-maker,  
Source of all that is and that shall be,  
Father and Mother of us all,  
Loving God in whom is heaven:

May the hallowing of your name echo throughout the universe!

The way of your justice be followed by all the people of the world!

Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!

May your commonwealth of peace and freedom  
sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need for today, feed us.

In the harm we cause one another, forgive us.

In times of temptation and stress, strengthen us.

From trials too great to endure, spare us.

From the grip of all that is evil, free us.

For you reign in the glory of the power that is Love,

now and forever. **Amen.**

*New Zealand Lord's Prayer, Jim Cotter*

**(All)** *O Lord, Hear My Prayer*

O, Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer:

The first system of musical notation is in 4/4 time, key of B-flat major. The melody is written on a treble clef staff, and the accompaniment is on a bass clef staff. The melody consists of a series of chords and single notes, with a repeat sign at the end of the first phrase. The lyrics are 'O, Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer:'.

when I call an - swer me. O Lord, hear my prayer, O

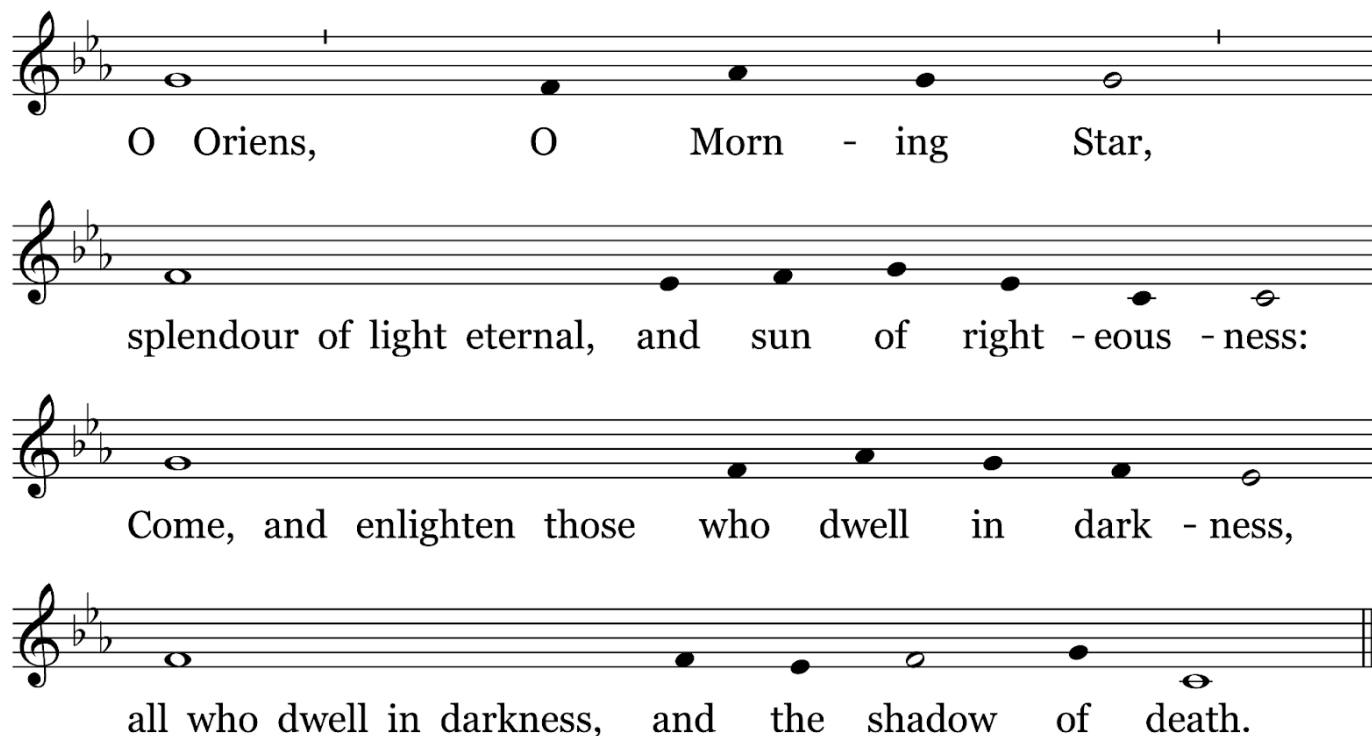
The second system of musical notation continues the melody and accompaniment. The melody includes a sharp sign (F#) in the second measure of the second phrase. The lyrics are 'when I call an - swer me. O Lord, hear my prayer, O'.

Lord, hear my prayer. Come and lis - ten to me.

The third system of musical notation concludes the piece. The melody ends with a double bar line and repeat sign. The lyrics are 'Lord, hear my prayer. Come and lis - ten to me.'

*Jacques Berthier, Taizé Community*

**(All)**



O Oriens, O Morn - ing Star,  
splendour of light eternal, and sun of right - eous - ness:  
Come, and enlighten those who dwell in dark - ness,  
all who dwell in darkness, and the shadow of death.

*O' Antiphons/AMCY*

**Katherine:** *A Reading from the Book of Isaiah (35:1-10)*

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,  
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;  
like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly,  
and rejoice with joy and singing.

**John:** The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,  
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.  
They shall see the glory of the Lord,  
the majesty of our God.

**Bev:** Strengthen the weak hands,  
and make firm the feeble knees.  
Say to those who are of a fearful heart,  
"Be strong, do not fear!  
Here is your God; he will come and save you."

**Amber:** Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,  
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;  
then the lame shall leap like a deer,  
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

**Meg:** For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,  
and streams in the desert;  
the burning sand shall become a pool,  
and the thirsty ground springs of water;  
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp,  
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

**Bill:** A highway shall be there,  
and it shall be called the Holy Way;  
the unclean shall not travel on it,  
but it shall be for God's people; no traveler,  
not even fools, shall go astray.

**Meredith:** No lion shall be there,  
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;  
they shall not be found there,  
but the redeemed shall walk there.

**Bev:** And the ransomed of the Lord shall return,  
and come to Zion with singing;  
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;  
they shall obtain joy and gladness,  
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

**Hear what the Spirit is saying. All: Thanks be to God!**

**(All)** *In the Lord*

In the Lord I'll be ev - er thank - ful,  
in the Lord I will re - - joice!  
Look to God, do not be a - - fraid;  
lift up your voic - - es, the Lord is near;  
lift up your voic - - es, the Lord is near.

Taizé Community, Jacques Berthier (1923-1994)

**Katherine:** Unnamable God, I feel you  
with me at every moment.  
You are my food, my drink,  
my sunlight, and the air I breathe.  
You are the ground I have built on  
and the beauty that rejoices my heart.  
I give thanks to you at all times  
for lifting me from my confusion,  
for teaching me in the dark  
and showing me the path of life.  
I have come to the center of the universe;  
I rest in your perfect love.  
In your presence there is fullness of joy  
and blessedness for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*Psalm 16, A Book of Psalms, Stephen Mitchell*



**(All)** *Be Still and Know*

Be still and know that I

The first system of musical notation for the song 'Be Still and Know'. It consists of a treble and a bass staff, both in the key of D major (indicated by two sharps). The melody is written in the treble staff, and the accompaniment is in the bass staff. The lyrics 'Be still and know that I' are written below the treble staff. The music features a mix of half notes, quarter notes, and eighth notes, with some notes beamed together. There are also some rests and a fermata over the final note of the first phrase.

am God. Be still and

The second system of musical notation. It continues the melody and accompaniment from the first system. The lyrics 'am God. Be still and' are written below the treble staff. The music features a mix of half notes, quarter notes, and eighth notes, with some notes beamed together. There are also some rests and a fermata over the final note of the first phrase.

know that I am God.

The third system of musical notation. It concludes the melody and accompaniment for the song. The lyrics 'know that I am God.' are written below the treble staff. The music features a mix of half notes, quarter notes, and eighth notes, with some notes beamed together. There are also some rests and a fermata over the final note of the first phrase.

Ana Hernández

**Bev:** Now to him who is able to keep you from falling and to make you stand without blemish in the presence of his glory with rejoicing, to the only God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, power, and authority, before all time and now and forever. **Amen.**

*Jude 1:24-25*

**Amber:** O Lord, support us all the day long,  
until the shadows lengthen, and the evening comes,  
and the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over,  
and our work is done.  
Then, in your great mercy, grant us a safe lodging,  
and a holy rest, and peace at the last. **Amen.**

*Cardinal John Henry Newman*

**(All) Nunc Dimittis**

*Suzanne Toolan*

Now in peace, O God, let your ser - vant go.

Al - - le - - lu - - ia, Al - - le - - lu - - ia!

For my eyes have seen your sal - va - - tion;

Al - - le - - lu - - ia, Al - le - lu - - ia!

**(All) Dismissal ~**

*And now, may God's deep blessing abide upon us,  
as we go forth in the peace of Christ,  
carrying Christ's light, love, and hope into the world.*

*Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Amen!*

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*Thank you for coming together in prayer tonight!*

*We will meet again next month on Thursday, **January 1, 2026.***

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***Ann McChesney-Young ~ annmccy@gmail.com***

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