“Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths. Every valley shall be filled and every mountain and hill shall be made low. The winding roads shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.”
Luke 3:4-6
Entrance Song: On Jordan’s Bank

1. On Jordan’s bank the Baptist’s cry An-
2. Then cleansed be every heart from sin; Make
3. For you are our salvation, Lord, Our
4. To heal the sick stretch out your hand, And
5. All praise the Son eternally, Whose

nourishes that the Lord is nigh; Awake and hearken,
straight the way of God within, And let each heart pre-
refuge, and our great reward; Without your grace we
bid the fallen sinner stand; Shine forth, and let your
advent sets his people free; Whom with the Father

for he brings Glad tidings of the King of kings.
pare a home Where such a mighty guest may come.
light restore Earth’s own true loveliness once more.
we adore And Spirit blest for evermore.

Text: Jordanis oras praevia; Charles Coffin, 1676-1749; tr. by John Chandler, 1806-1876
Tune: WINCHESTER NEW, LM; adapt. from Musikalisches Handbuch, Hamburg, 1690

Psalm:

R. The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

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Music: Owen Alstott, © 1977, 1990, OCP. All rights reserved.
Offertory: Creator of the Stars of Night

Verses

1. Creator of the stars of night, Your
doom to death a universe,
peopl’s everlasting light,
Christ, Redeemer of us all,
pray you hear us when we call.

2. In sorrow that the ancient curse Should
knees must bend, all hearts must bow: All
came; but not in splendor bright, Not
deem us for eternal day; De-
came, O Savior, to set free Your
as a monarch, but the child Like
fend us while we dwell below From
honour, might, and glory be From
own in glorious liberty,
Mary, blameless mother mild.
those in heav’n, shall call you Lord.
all assaults of our dread foe.
age to age eternal.

3. When this old world drew on toward night, You
God the Spirit, Three-in-One, Praise,
people’s everlast light,
God the Spirit, Three-in-One, Praise,
when this old world drew on toward night, You

4. At your great Name, O Jesus, now All
Christ, Redeemer of us all,
God the Spirit, Three-in-One, Praise,
Christ, Redeemer of us all,

5. Come in your holy might, we pray, Re-
God the Spirit, Three-in-One, Praise,
people’s everlast light,
Christ, Redeemer of us all,

6. To God Creator, God the Son, And
Christ, Redeemer of us all,
Christ, Redeemer of us all,
Christ, Redeemer of us all,
Christ, Redeemer of us all,

To next verse*

To refrain

Refrain

Come, O Lord, and bring your light, O radiant

*Hymn may be sung without refrain.
star and heart’s delight. O God-with-us, Em-man-uel, with your love, the dark dispel.
Communion Song 1: Like A Shepherd

Like a shepherd he feeds his flock and gathers the lambs in his arms, holding them carefully close to his heart, leading them home.

Verses 1, 2

1. Say to the cities of Judah: Prepare the way of the Lord. Go to the mountain top, lift your voice; Jerusalem, here is your God.

2. I myself will shepherd them, for others have led them astray. The lost I will rescue and heal their wounds and pasture them, giving them rest.

Verse 3

3. Come unto me if you are heavily burdened, and take my yoke upon your shoulders, I will give you rest.

Text: Isaiah 40:9ff, Ezekiel 34:11, Matthew 11:28ff; Bob Dufford, SJ, b.1943


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Communion Song 2: The Cry of The Poor

John Foley, S.J.

Text: Based on Psalm 34:2–3, 18–19a, 19b–20, 4.
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1. Comfort, comfort, O my people, Speak of peace, now says our God; Comfort those who sit in darkness,
says the Lord! Comfort those who sit in darkness,

2. Hark, the voice of one who’s crying In the desert, far and near, Bid the people to full repentance

3. O make straight what long was crooked, Make the rougher places plain; Let your hearts be true and humble,

   - Mourn ing’neath their sorrow’s load. Speak unto Jerusalem
   - Since the kingdom now is here. O that warning
   - As befits his holy reign. For the glory

   - Ru sa lem Of the peace that waits for them;
   - Cry o bey! Now prepare for God a way;

   - Of the Lord Now o’er earth is shed abroad;

   - Tell of all the sins I cover, And that warfare now is over.
   - Let the valleys rise to meet him And the hills bow down to greet him.
   - And all flesh shall see the token That his word is never broken.

   - Text: Isaiah 40:1-8; Tröstet, tröstet, meine Lieben; Johann Olearius, 1611-1684; tr. by Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt.
   - Tune: GENEVA 42, 8 7 8 7 77 88; Genevan Psalter, 1551; harm. adapt. from Claude Goudimel, 1505-1572

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