

**Welcome**  
**to**  
**Kirkwood!**

# **Sharing the Peace of Christ**

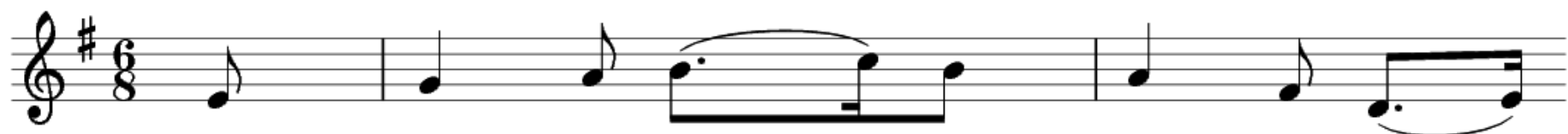
*Glory to God #145*

# **Opening Hymn**

## **“What Child Is This”**

*TEXT: William Chatterton Dix, 1871*

*MUSIC (GREENSLEEVES 8.7.8.7.6.8.6.7): English ballad, 16th cent.; arr. Christmas Carols New and Old, 1871*



1. What child is this, who, laid to rest,



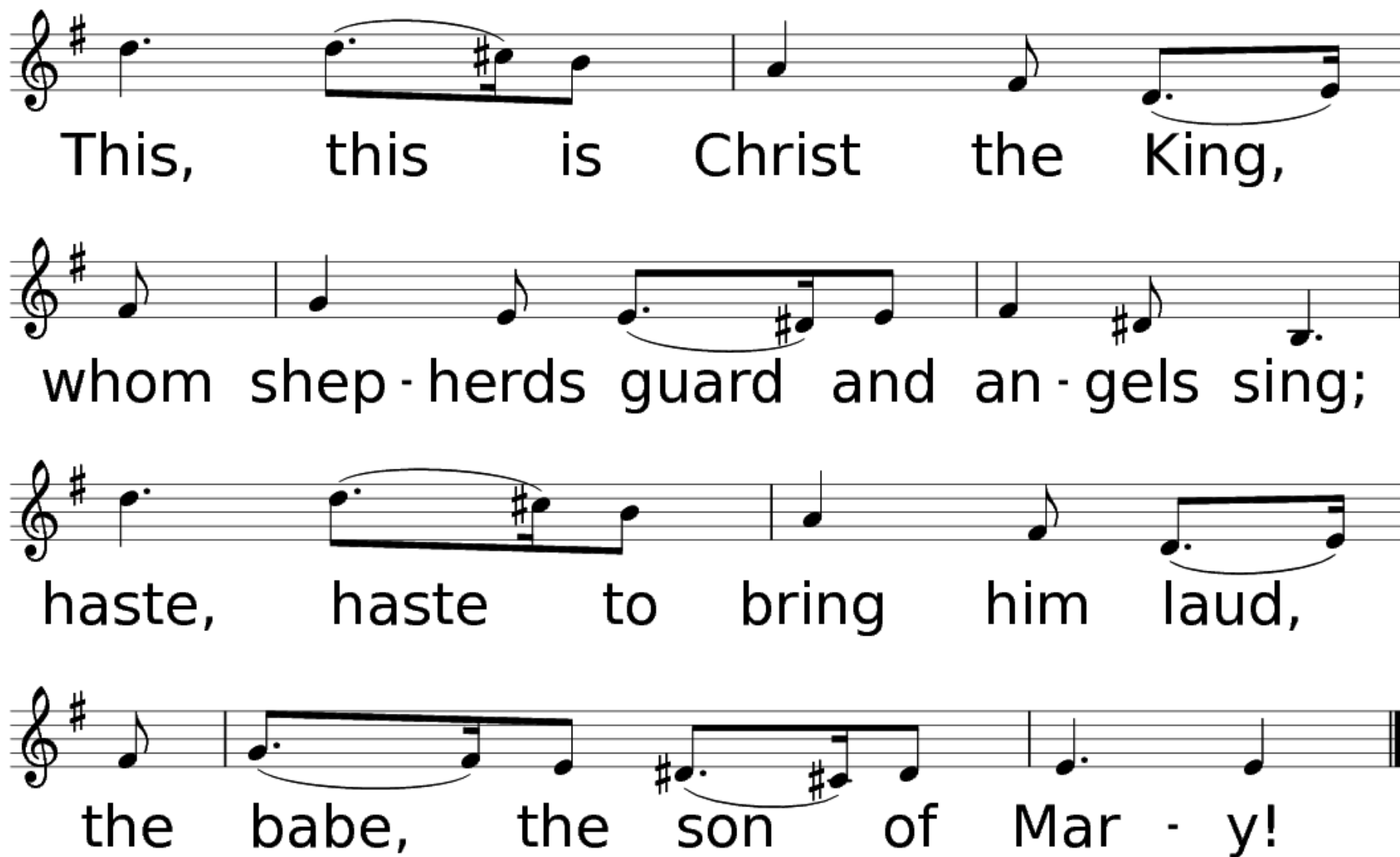
on Mar - y's lap is sleep - ing?



Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet



while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?



This, this is Christ the King,

whom shep-herds guard and an-gels sing;

haste, haste to bring him laud,

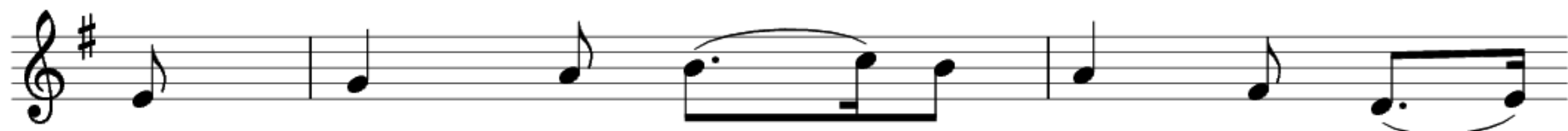
the babe, the son of Mar - y!



2. Why lies he in such mean es - tate



where ox and ass are feed - ing?



Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here



the si - lent Word is plead - ing.



Nails, spear, shall pierce him through;



the cross be borne for me, for you.



Hail, hail, the Word made flesh,



the babe, the son of Mar - y!



3. So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh;



come, one and all, to own him.

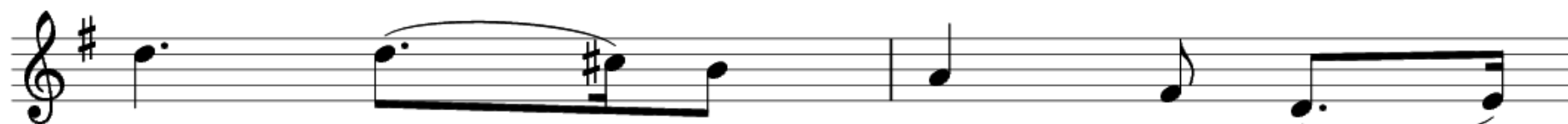


The King of kings sal - va - tion brings;

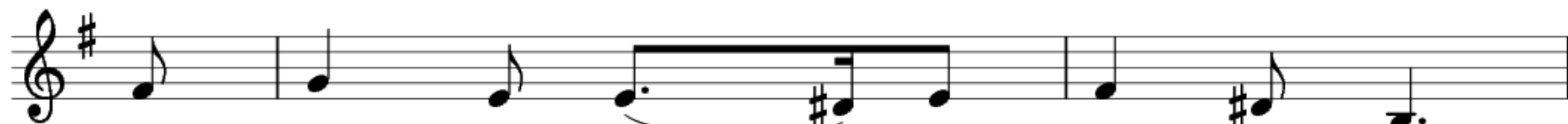


let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.

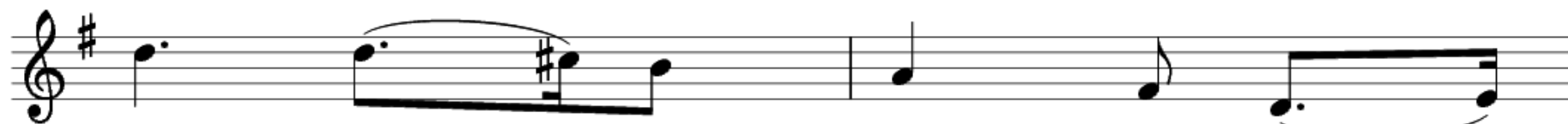




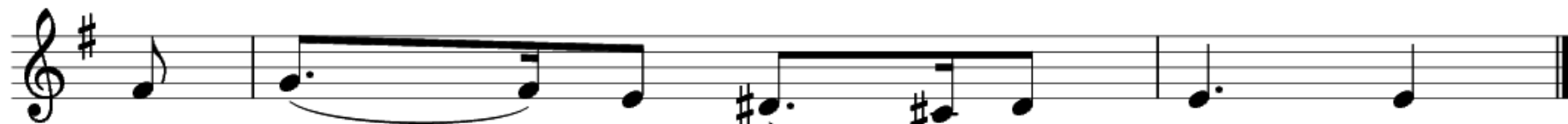
Raise, raise the song on high.



The vir - gin sings her lul - la - by.



Joy, joy, for Christ is born,



the babe, the son of Mar - y.

# **Call To Worship**

(based on Isaiah 11)

Leader: A shoot shall come forth from  
Jesse's stump,

**People: And the spirit of the Lord shall  
rest upon him.**

Leader: He will judge the poor with righteousness, and the meek with equity;

**People: He will be clothed with righteousness and faithfulness.**

Leader: The wolf and the lamb will live peacefully together,

**People: The leopard and the kid will lie down side by side.**

Leader: The cow and the bear will graze together; the lion will eat straw like the ox,

**People: And a little child will lead them all.**

Leader: They will neither hurt nor destroy on God's holy mountain,

**All: For the earth will be full of the knowledge of God, as the waters fill the sea.**

# **Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

**“Peace”**

Reader: We watch and wait for Christ's coming! We light candles of hope, peace, joy, and love, remembering the promises of God with prayer.

We light this candle in hope. *[Light the first candle.]*

We light this candle for peace. *[Light the second candle.]*

Hear Zechariah's song of hope for peace to the Christ child in Luke 1:76-79:

“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.”

Let us pray:

**People: God of hope, Prince of Peace,  
You speak peace into the world in the  
Way of the Christ child.**

**Help us embody your peace and live  
as peacemakers that we may called  
children of God. God of hope, God of  
peace, into our darkness come. Amen.**

**A Time for Children**

# **Gathering Prayer**

# **Call to Confession**

# **Prayer of Confession**

**People: 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 bold new ways of  
being disciples.**



**Humble us, O God, and teach us to do the work of repentance so that, fully relying on your grace, we may know a restored relationship with you and with each other.**

Leader: Please continue in silent confession....Amen.

# **Assurance of Pardon**

Leader: Friends, hear the good news:

**People: God's mercy is from  
everlasting to everlasting.**

Leader: Before we repent and change our ways, God's love has already claimed us as his own.

**All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

# **Old Testament Lesson**

**Isaiah 11:1-10**

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.  
He shall not judge by what his eyes see,  
or decide by what his ears hear; but with  
righteousness he shall judge the poor,  
and decide with equity for the meek of  
the earth;

he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb, the  
leopard shall lie down with the kid, the  
calf and the lion and the fatling together,  
and a little child shall lead them.



The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

They will not hurt or destroy on all my  
holy mountain; for the earth will be full  
of the knowledge of the Lord as the  
waters cover the sea.

On that day the root of Jesse shall stand  
as a signal to the peoples; the nations  
shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall  
be glorious.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

# **New Testament Lesson**

**Matthew 3:1-12**

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight.’”

Now John wore clothing of camel's hair  
with a leather belt around his waist, and  
his food was locusts and wild honey.

Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.



But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?

Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham.

Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

“I baptize you with water for repentance,  
but one who is more powerful than I is  
coming after me; I am not worthy to carry  
his sandals. He will baptize you with the  
Holy Spirit and fire.

His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

Reader: The word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Clearing the Way

*Advent*











# The Strength To Be Humble







A close-up photograph of two hands, palms up, holding a small, rectangular piece of torn, off-white paper. The paper has a rough, deckled edge. In the center of the paper, the words "I AM SORRY" are printed in a bold, dark red, sans-serif font. The hands are light-skinned and positioned symmetrically around the paper. The background is a solid, dark blue-grey color.

**I AM SORRY**

# PRINCE OF PEACE



**Middle Hymn**

**“Cannons”**

**Prayers of the People/**

**The Lord's Prayer**

**The Lord's Supper**



**Giving Thanks to God  
with Our Tithes and  
Offerings**

**Offertory Song**

# **Doxology**

**Praise God, from whom  
all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures  
here below;**

**Praise God above,  
ye heav'nly host;  
Praise Father, Son  
and Holy Ghost.**

**Amen.**

**(repeat Amen 6 times)**

# **Prayer of Dedication**

**People: What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a wise man, I would do my part; yet what I can I give him: I give him my heart. Amen.**

*Glory to God #115*

# **Closing Hymn**

## **“Away in a Manger”**

*TEXT: Stanzas 1–2, Little Children’s Book for Schools and Families, c. 1885; stanza 3, Gabriel’s Vineyard Songs, 1892  
MUSIC (MUELLER 11.11.11.11): James R. Murray, 1887*

1. A - way in a man - ger,  
no crib for his bed,  
the lit - tle Lord Je - sus  
laid down his sweet head.

The image displays a musical score for the hymn 'Away in a Manger'. It consists of four staves of music, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The time signature is 3/4. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a '1.' indicating the first stanza. The notes are simple, mostly quarter and half notes, with some rests. The lyrics are: '1. A - way in a man - ger,'. The second staff continues with 'no crib for his bed,'. The third staff continues with 'the lit - tle Lord Je - sus'. The fourth staff concludes with 'laid down his sweet head.'.



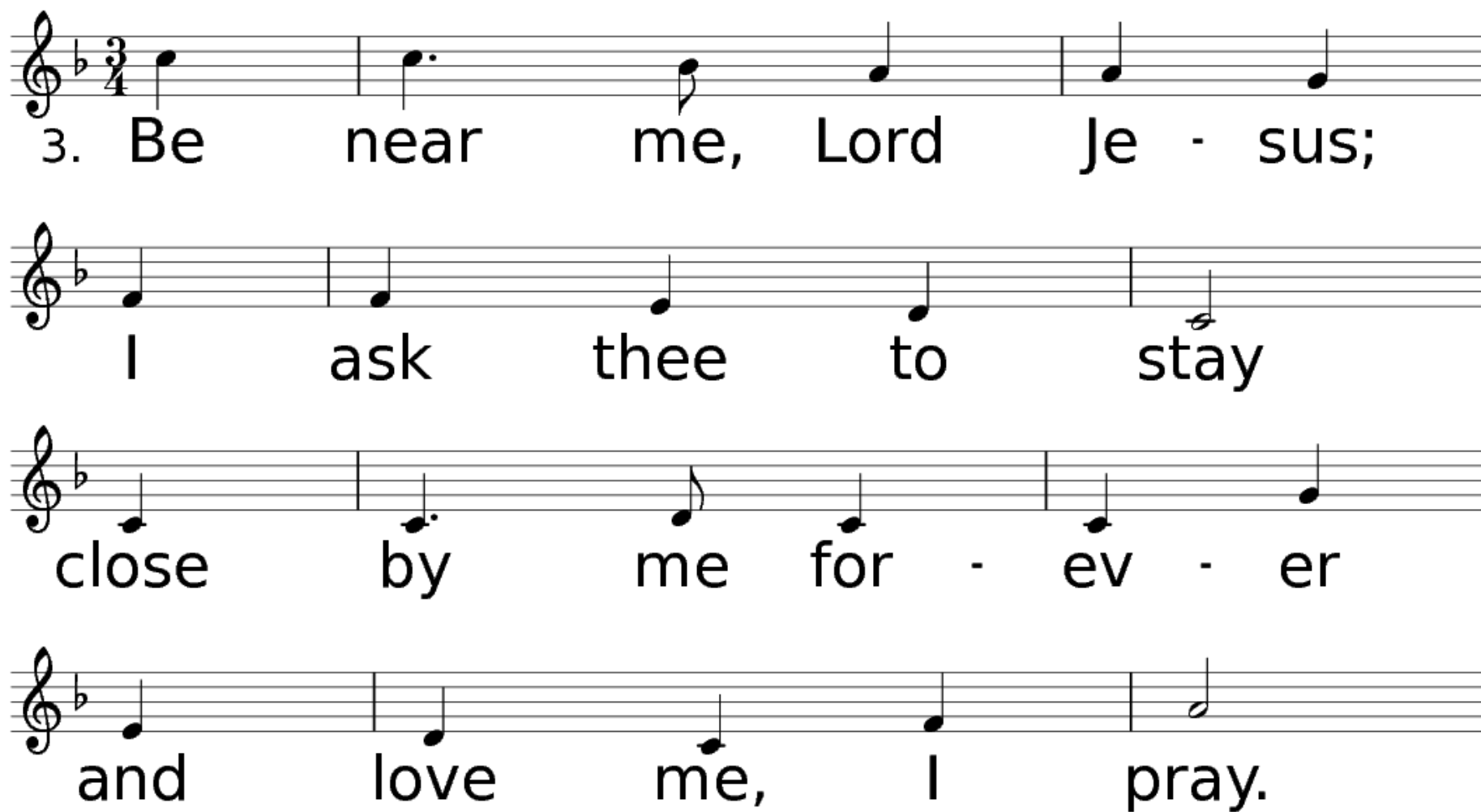


2. The cat - tle are low - ing;  
the poor ba - by wakes,  
but lit - tle Lord Je - sus,  
no cry - ing he makes.

The image displays a musical score for the hymn 'Away in a Manger'. It consists of four staves of music, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The time signature is 3/4. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a '2.' indicating a second ending. The notes are: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), Bb4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), Bb4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter). The second staff notes are: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), Bb4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), Bb4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter). The third staff notes are: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), Bb4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), Bb4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter). The fourth staff notes are: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), Bb4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), Bb4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter). The lyrics are: '2. The cat - tle are low - ing;' on the first staff, 'the poor ba - by wakes,' on the second, 'but lit - tle Lord Je - sus,' on the third, and 'no cry - ing he makes.' on the fourth.

The image displays a musical score for the hymn 'Away in a Manger'. It consists of four staves of music, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff contains the lyrics 'I love thee, Lord Je - sus;'. The second staff contains 'look down from the sky,'. The third staff contains 'and stay by my side un -'. The fourth staff contains 'til morn - ing is nigh.' and ends with a double bar line. The melody is simple and gentle, with a mix of quarter, eighth, and dotted notes.

I love thee, Lord Je - sus;  
look down from the sky,  
and stay by my side un -  
til morn - ing is nigh.



3. Be near me, Lord Je - sus;

I ask thee to stay

close by me for - ev - er

and love me, I pray.

The image displays a musical score for the hymn 'Away in a Manger'. It consists of four staves of music, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff contains the lyrics 'Bless all the dear chil - dren'. The second staff contains 'in thy ten - der care,'. The third staff contains 'and fit us for heav - en'. The fourth staff contains 'to live with thee there.' and ends with a double bar line. The notes are primarily quarter and eighth notes, with some dotted notes and rests.

Bless all the dear chil - dren

in thy ten - der care,

and fit us for heav - en

to live with thee there.

# **Charge and Blessing**

