



DECEMBER 18-19, 2021  
THE 4TH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

**PRAYER AS WE GATHER:**

We praise you, O God, for you come to us in the midst of our everyday lives. You surprise us with your presence in the midst of all the turmoil and craziness around us. Help us to look for you with hope and anticipation every day. Amen.

**SONG FOR ADVENT MEDITATION: "If In Your Heart"**

**PASTORAL WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY:**

- ❖ The world is a great stage on which God displays his many wonders.  
- Francis of Assisi
- ❖ Butterflies prove that God gives second chances. Because a butterfly spends most of its life as a caterpillar, scooting along on the ground, barely getting by. When a caterpillar sees a butterfly he thinks how wonderful it would be to fly. And then one day he gets tired. Very tired. He builds a little room, curls up inside, and takes a nap. Deep in his heart he wonders if maybe that's all. Maybe life is over. But one day the caterpillar wakes up, and God has done an amazing thing. The caterpillar shakes off the little room and feels something on his back. This time when he goes a bit down the tree branch he doesn't scoot like before. He flies!  
- Karen Kingsbury
- ❖ We look for wonders and the unseen reality-the hand of God- in things extraordinary, when more often his presence is to be found in the unheralded, familiar, everyday events of which life is woven.  
- David G. Myers

**PRAISE SONG: "I Wonder as I Wander" (music at end of bulletin)**

**CALL TO WORSHIP:**

One: Come into the place of wonder where God listens and is at work!

**All: Where you need no money, no status, no fine clothes.**

One: Come as you are,

**All: Broken or whole,**

One: Sick or well,

**All: Satisfied or with deep needs.**

One: Come to sing,

**All: Come to cry,**

One: Come to hear,

**All: Come to see,**

One: Come and be ready or

**All: Come to be made ready,**

One: We are here,

**All: God is here, too.**

***OUR CONFESSION PRAYER:***

**All: God of Wonder, your works are mighty and your promises never failing. Yet we turn from you, wanting the promise to come more quickly. Not understanding the depth of your mystery, we become impatient and demand everything now.**

**We ask your forgiveness for our impatience as we wait for your Son, who will be our wonder-filled counselor.**

**We pray to behold your glory, steadfast and true. Please open our eyes and hearts and let your peace enter them. For you have done wonderful things.**

**Emmanuel; come and forgive us once again. Come and let us stand in awe before you. Amen.**

***THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON***

***THE CONFESSION RESPONSE:***

***“The Christmas Child Is A Troublesome Child” (music at end of bulletin)***

***THE LIGHTING OF THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE***

***SONG: “Messiah” (music at end of bulletin)***

***MESSAGE IN WORD AND SONG:***

***WONDER***

***“O Come, All You Unfaithful”***

***“There is No Child So Small”***

***“Somewhere in Your Silent Night”***

***“Star-Child”***

## ***THE PRAYERS***

### ***THE LORD'S PRAYER:***

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours now and forever. Amen.**

### ***THE SENDING OUT:***

One: May the awe of Mary, the joy of the shepherds, and the wonder of the Wise Men be yours now and forevermore. The blessing of God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be upon you.

**ALL: Amen.**

### ***THE SENDING SONG: "Joy to the World" (Advent lyrics)***

Joy to the World the Lord will come! The earth awaits its King!  
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n and nature sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, for He will reign; Let all their songs employ,  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

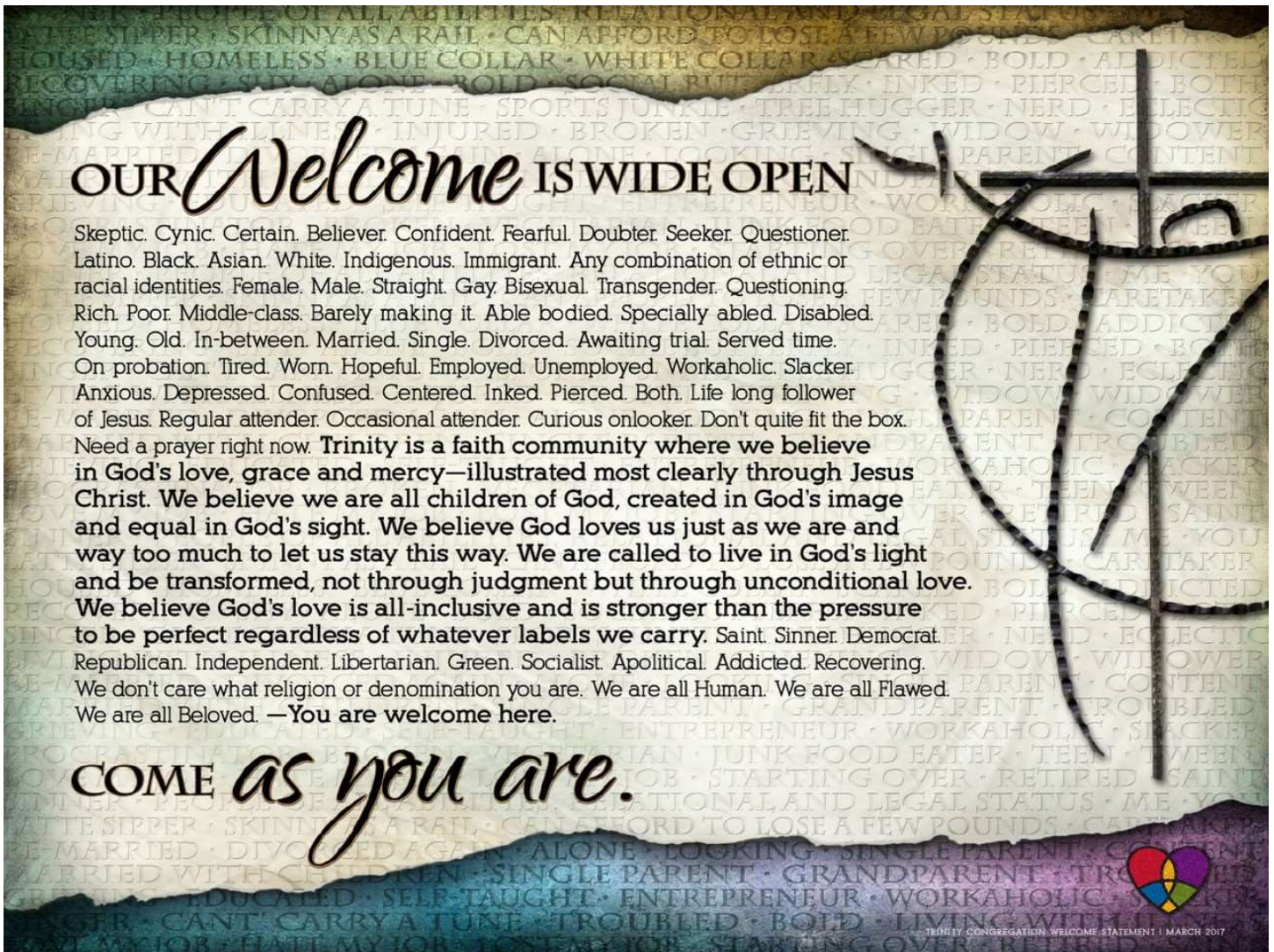
No more let sin and sorrow grow Nor thorns infest the ground  
He'll come to make his blessings flow Far as the curse is found,  
Far as the curse is found, Far as, far as the curse is found.

He'll rule the world with truth and grace And make the nations prove  
The glories of his righteousness And wonders of his love  
And wonders of his love, And wonders, wonders of his love.

### ***THE DISMISSAL:***

Leader: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**



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*I Wonder as I Wander*



1. I won - der as I wan - der, out un - der the sky, how  
2. When Mar - y birthed Je - sus, 'twas in a cow's stall, with  
3. If Je - sus had want - ed for an - y wee thing, a  
4. I won - der as I wan - der, out un - der the sky, how



Je - sus the Sav - ior did come for to die for  
wise men and farm - ers and shep - herds and all, but  
star in the sky or a bird on the wing, or  
Je - sus the Sav - ior did come for to die for



poor ordi - n'ry peo - ple like you and like I; I  
high from God's heav - en a star's light did fall, the  
all of God's an - gels in heav'n for to sing, he  
poor ordi - n'ry peo - ple like you and like I; I



won - der as I wan - der, out un - der the sky.  
prom - ise of a - ges it then did re - call.  
sure - ly could have it, 'cause he was the King.  
won - der as I wan - der, out un - der the sky. Out un - der the sky.

*The Christmas Child Is a Troublesome Child*



1.The Christ - mas child is a trou - ble - some child, as  
2.The Christ - mas child is a gen - er - ous child, ex -  
3,The Christ - mas child is a trou - ble - some child, as



trou - ble - some as the Word that stirred the wa\_\_ - ters  
trav - a - gant in ex - cess, who spends the coin\_\_ of  
trou - ble - some as the Word that stirred the wa\_\_ - ters



from\_\_ the deep and let God's voice\_\_ be heard. The  
life\_\_ and hope to re - cre - ate\_\_ and bless. The  
from\_\_ the deep and let God's voice\_\_ be heard. The



Christ - mas child is a spir - it - ed child who  
Christ - mas child is a dan - ger - ous child when  
Christ - mas child is a lu - mi - nous child whose

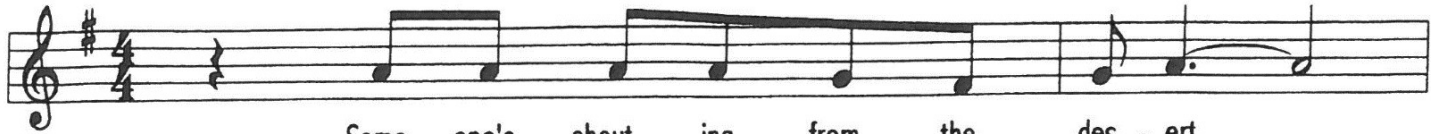


ques - tions giv - en rule, who flouts con - ven\_\_ - tion's  
to a proph - et grown, whose vi - sion takes\_\_ a  
peace the an - gels sing, whose star no dark\_\_ - ness

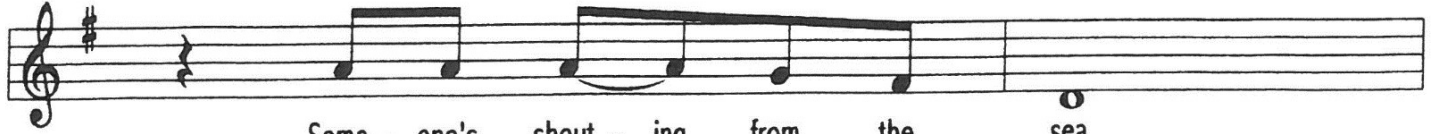


pi\_\_ - ous face, who laughs and plays\_\_ the fool.  
thorn\_\_ - y path, whose cross may be\_\_ our own.  
o\_\_ - ver - comes, whose life lights ev\_\_ - 'ry - thing.

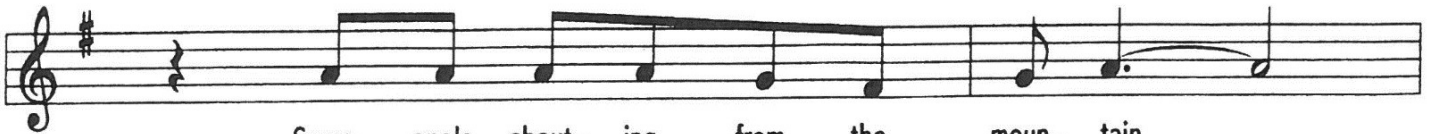
Messiah



Some - one's shout - ing from the des - ert.  
Some - one's shout - ing from the ci - ty  
Some - one's shout - ing I am brok - en



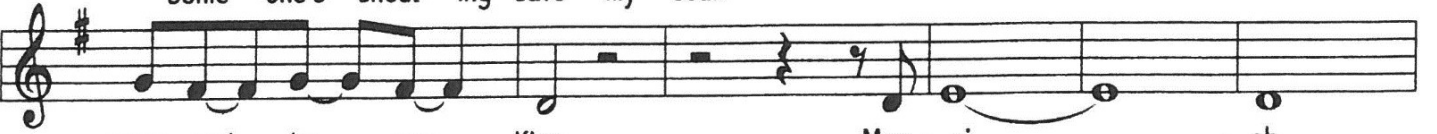
Some - one's shout - ing from the sea  
I am young I am cold  
Some - one's shout - ing make me whole



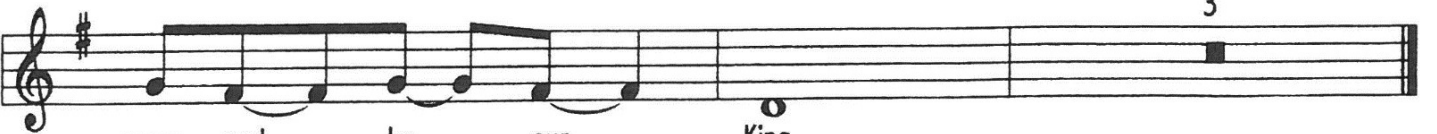
Some - one's shout - ing from the moun - tain  
Some - one's shout - ing from the coun - try  
Some - one's shout - ing come and change me



Some - one's shout - ing from the val - ley Mes - si - ah,  
I am lone - ly I am old  
Some - one's shout - ing save my soul.



come and be our King. Mes - si - ah,



come and be our King.