

**Prelude, Ringing of the Bell, Words of Welcome, Announcements**

**397 As with Gladness Men of Old**

*sts. 1–3*



1 As with glad-ness men of old Did the guid-ing star be-hold;  
2 As with joy-ful steps they sped, Sav-ior, to Thy low-ly bed,  
3 As they of-fered gifts most rare At Thy cra-dle, rude and bare,



As with joy they hailed its light, Lead-ing on-ward, beam-ing bright;  
There to bend the knee be-fore Thee, whom heav'n and earth a-dore;  
So may we with ho-ly joy, Pure and free from sin's al-loy,



So, most gra-cious Lord, may we Ev-er-more be led by Thee.  
So may we with will-ing feet Ev-er seek Thy mer-cy seat.  
All our cost-liest trea-sures bring, Christ, to Thee, our heav'n-ly King.

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–98, alt.  
Tune: Conrad Kocher, 1786–1872  
Text and tune: Public domain

**Invocation**

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** **who made heaven and earth.**

**P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

**C** **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

**P** Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

## Confession of Sins

LSB 203

- C** Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

## Absolution

LSB 203

- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the  $\text{✠}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.

- P** Let us pray.  
Almighty God, You have poured into our hearts the true Light of Your incarnate Word. Grant that this Light may shine forth in our lives; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- C** Amen.

## 397 As with Gladness Men of Old

sts. 4–5



4 Ho - ly Je - sus, ev - 'ry day Keep us in the nar - row way;  
5 In the heav'n - ly coun - try bright Need they no cre - at - ed light;



And when earth - ly things are past, Bring our ran - somed souls at last  
Thou its light, its joy, its crown, Thou its sun which goes not down;



Where they need no star to guide, Where no clouds Thy glo - ry hide.  
There for - ev - er may we sing Al - le - lu - ias to our King.

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–98, alt.  
Tune: Conrad Kocher, 1786–1872  
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<sup>1</sup>Arise, shine, for your light has come,  
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.  
<sup>2</sup>For behold, darkness shall cover the earth,  
and thick darkness the peoples;  
but the LORD will arise upon you,  
and his glory will be seen upon you.  
<sup>3</sup>And nations shall come to your light,  
and kings to the brightness of your rising.  
<sup>4</sup>Lift up your eyes all around, and see;  
they all gather together, they come to you;  
your sons shall come from afar,  
and your daughters shall be carried on the hip.  
<sup>5</sup>Then you shall see and be radiant;  
your heart shall thrill and exult,  
because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you,  
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.  
<sup>6</sup>A multitude of camels shall cover you,  
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;  
all those from Sheba shall come.  
They shall bring gold and frankincense,  
and shall bring good news, the praises of the LORD.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

Epistle

*Ephesians 3:1–12*

<sup>1</sup>For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles—  
<sup>2</sup>assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given  
to me for you, <sup>3</sup>how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have  
written briefly. <sup>4</sup>When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery  
of Christ, <sup>5</sup>which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as  
it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit. <sup>6</sup>This  
mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and  
partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.  
<sup>7</sup>Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God's grace,  
which was given me by the working of his power. <sup>8</sup>To me, though I am the very  
least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the  
unsearchable riches of Christ, <sup>9</sup>and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan  
of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things, <sup>10</sup>so that through  
the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers  
and authorities in the heavenly places. <sup>11</sup>This was according to the eternal

purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, <sup>12</sup>in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### We Three Kings

All: We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar,  
Field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.

#### Refrain:

O star of wonder, star of light, star with royal beauty bright,  
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.

All: Born a King on Bethlehem's plain, gold I bring to crown him again,  
King forever, ceasing never, over us all to reign. **(Refrain)**

Men: Frankincense to offer have I; incense owns a Deity nigh;  
Prayer and praising, all men raising - worship Him, God on high. **(Refrain)**

Women: Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume, breathes a life of gathering gloom;  
Sorr'wing, sighing, bleeding, dying, sealed in the stone-cold tomb. **(Refrain)**

All: Glorious now behold him arise; King and God and Sacrifice:  
Alleluia, Alleluia! Earth to heav'n replies. **(Refrain)**

### Holy Gospel

*Matthew 2:1–12*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the second chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup>saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." <sup>3</sup>When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup>and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. <sup>5</sup>They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

<sup>6</sup>"And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
for from you shall come a ruler  
who will shepherd my people Israel."

<sup>7</sup>Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup>And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him." <sup>9</sup>After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup>When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. <sup>11</sup>And going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. <sup>12</sup>And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

### Nicene Creed

**C** I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried.  
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the  
dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,  
 who spoke by the prophets.  
 And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
 I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
 and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
 and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.

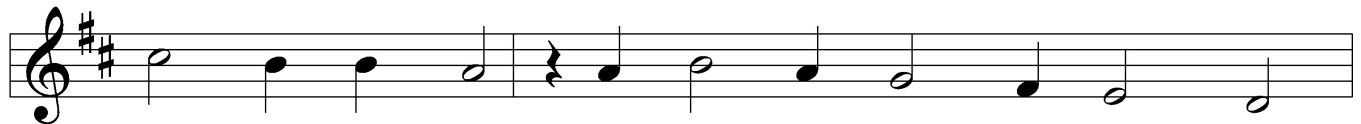
## Trinity Kids Message

### 395 O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright

sts. 1-3



1 O Morn-ing Star, how fair and bright! You shine with God's  
 2 Come, heav'n-ly Bride-groom, Light di-vine, And deep with-in  
 3 Lord, when You look on us in love, At once there falls



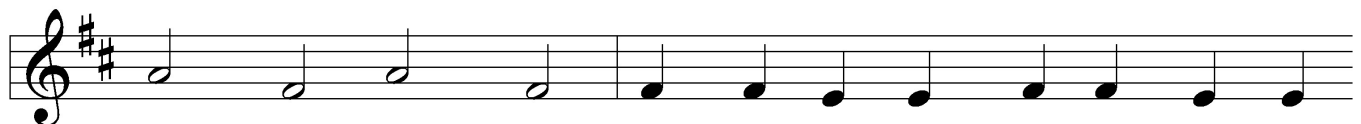
own truth and light, A-glow with grace and mer-cy!  
 our hearts now shine; There light a flame un-dy-ing!  
 from God a-bove A ray of pur-est plea-sure.



Of Ja-cob's race, King Da-vid's son, Our Lord and mas-s  
 In Your one bod-y let us be As liv-ing branch-  
 Your Word and Spir-it, flesh and blood Re-fresh our souls



ter, You have won Our hearts to serve You on-ly!  
 es of a tree, Your life our lives sup-ply-ing.  
 with heav'n-ly food. You are our dear-est trea-sure!



Low-ly, ho-ly! Great and glo-rious, All vic-to-rious,  
 Now, though dai-ly Earth's deep sad-ness May per-plex us  
 Let Your mer-cy Warm and cheer us! O draw near us!



Rich in bless - ing! Rule and might o'er all pos - sess - ing!  
And dis - tress us, Yet with heav'n - ly joy You bless us.  
For You teach us God's own love through You has reached us.

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## Sermon

### Offering Hymn - O Morning Star How Fair and Bright

*sts. 4–6*



4 Al - might - y Fa - ther, in Your Son You loved us when  
5 O let the harps break forth in sound! Our joy be all  
6 What joy to know, when life is past, The Lord we love



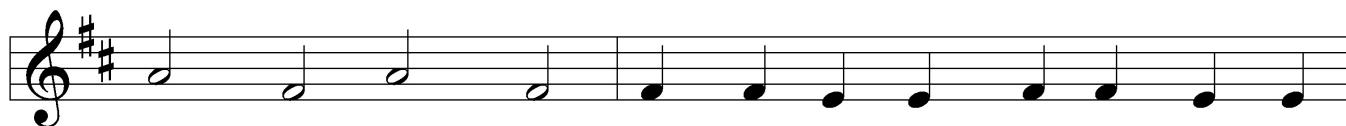
not yet be - gun Was this old earth's foun - da - tion!  
with mu - sic crowned, Our voic - es glad - ly blend - ing!  
is first and last, The end and the be - gin - ning!



Your Son has ran - somed us in love To live in Him  
For Christ goes with us all the way— To - day, to - mor -  
He will one day, oh, glo - rious grace, Trans - port us to



here and a - bove: This is Your great sal - va - tion.  
row, ev - 'ry day! His love is nev - er end - ing!  
that hap - py place Be - yond all tears and sin - ning!



Al - le - lu - ia! Christ the liv - ing, To us giv - ing  
Sing out! Ring out! Ju - bi - la - tion! Ex - ul - ta - tion!  
A - men! A - men! Come, Lord Je - sus! Crown of glad - ness!



Life for - ev - er, Keeps us Yours and fails us nev - er!  
Tell the sto - ry! Great is He, the King of Glo - ry!  
We are yearn - ing For the day of Your re - turn - ing!

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## Prayer of the Church & The Lord's Prayer

### Benediction

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and  $\text{✠}$  give you peace.

**C** Amen.

## 394 Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

*sts. 1, 3, 5*



1 Songs of thank - ful - ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to Thee we raise,  
3 Man - i - fest in mak - ing whole Pal - sied limbs and faint - ing soul;  
5 Grant us grace to see Thee, Lord, Pres - ent in Thy ho - ly Word—



Man - i - fest - ed by the star To the sa - ges from a - far,  
Man - i - fest in val - iant fight, Quell - ing all the dev - il's might;  
Grace to im - i - tate Thee now And be pure, as pure art Thou;



Branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem In Thy birth at Beth - le - hem:  
Man - i - fest in gra - cious will, Ev - er bring - ing good from ill;  
That we might be - come like Thee At Thy great e - piph - a - ny



An - thems be to Thee ad - dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.  
An - thems be to Thee ad - dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.  
And may praise Thee, ev - er blest, God in man made man - i - fest.

Text: Christopher Wordsworth, 1807–85, alt.  
Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816–93  
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## Postlude



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