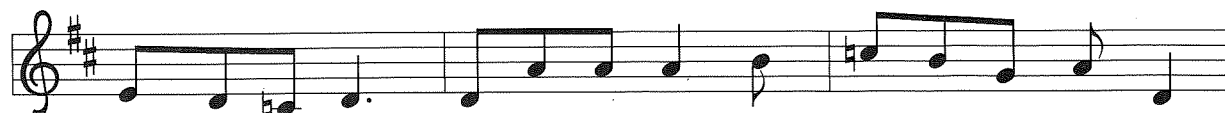


## Gather Us In

532



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark-ness  
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys-t'ry, we are the old who  
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa-ter, here we will take the  
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con-fin-ing, not in some heav-en,



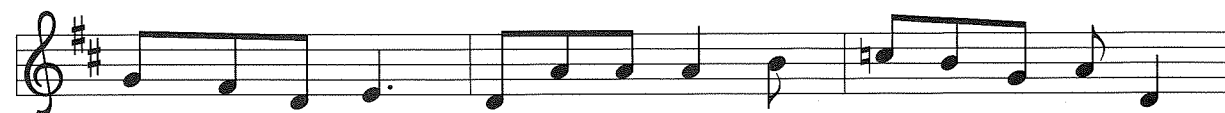
van-ished a-way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings  
 yearn for your face; we have been sung through-out all of his-t'ry,  
 bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,  
 light years a-way— here in this place the new light is shin-ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.  
 called to be light to the whole hu-man race.  
 call us a-new to be salt for the earth.  
 now is the king-dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for-sak-en, gath-er us in, the  
 Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty, gath-er us in, the  
 Give us to drink the wine of com-pas-sion, give us to eat the  
 Gath-er us in and hold us for-ev-er, gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a-wak-en,  
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low-ly,  
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash-ion  
 make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo-ples to-geth-er,



we shall a-rise at the sound of our name.  
 give us the cour-age to en-ter the song.  
 lives that are ho-ly and hearts that are true.  
 fire . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

# Holy Baptism



HOLY BAPTISM

## Presentation

*Candidates for baptism, sponsors, and parents gather with the ministers at the font. The assembly may be seated.*

*The presiding minister may address the assembly in these or similar words.*

God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.

OR

In baptism our gracious heavenly Father frees us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; by water and the Holy Spirit we are reborn children of God and made members of the church, the body of Christ. Living with Christ and in the communion of saints, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God.

*Sponsors for each candidate, in turn, present the candidates.*

**I present** name **for baptism.**

*The presiding minister addresses candidates who are able to answer for themselves.*

Name, called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to be baptized into Christ?

*Each candidate responds: I do.*

*The presiding minister addresses parents or others who bring for baptism children who are not able to answer for themselves.*

Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have your children baptized into Christ?

*Response: I do.*

As you bring your children to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

to live with *them* among God's faithful people,  
bring *them* to the word of God and the holy supper,  
teach *them* the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments,  
place in *their* hands the holy scriptures,  
and nurture *them* in faith and prayer,  
so that *your children* may learn to trust God,  
proclaim Christ through word and deed,  
care for others and the world God made,  
and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help your children grow in the Christian faith and life?

*Response: I do.*

*The presiding minister addresses sponsors.*

Sponsors, do you promise to nurture *these persons* in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help *them* live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

*Response: I do.*

*The presiding minister addresses the assembly.*

People of God, do you promise to support name/s and pray for *them* in *their* new life in Christ?

**We do.**

*The assembly stands.*

## Profession of Faith

*The presiding minister addresses candidates for baptism as well as the parents and sponsors of young children. The assembly may join in the responses.*

**I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.**

**Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?**

*Response:* **I renounce them.**

**Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?**

*Response:* **I renounce them.**

**Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?**

*Response:* **I renounce them.**

*The presiding minister addresses the candidates and the assembly.*

**Do you believe in God the Father?**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.\*  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.**

\*Or, "he descended into hell," another translation of this text in widespread use.

## Thanksgiving at the Font

*The presiding minister leads the following or another form of the thanksgiving.*

**The Lord be with you.**

**And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*The assembly may be seated.*

## Baptism

*The presiding minister baptizes each candidate. The candidate is immersed into the water, or water is poured on the candidate's head, as the presiding minister says:*

      Name      , I baptize you in the name of the Father,\*

*The candidate is immersed or water is poured on the candidate's head a second time:*

**and of the Son,**

*The candidate is immersed or water is poured on the candidate's head a third time:*

**and of the Holy Spirit.**

**Amen.**

*After each baptism, the assembly may respond with one of the following, a sung alleluia, or another acclamation (#209–213).*

**OR**

**Blessed be God, the source of all life,  
the word of salvation,  
the spirit of mercy.**

**You belong to Christ,  
in whom you have been baptized.  
Alleluia.**

\*Or, "Name is baptized in the name of the Father," ...

*Clothed with Christ in baptism, the newly baptized may receive a baptismal garment.*

*The presiding minister continues:*

**Let us pray.**

**We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.**

*Laying both hands on the head of each of the newly baptized, the minister prays for each:*

**Sustain name with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.**

**Amen.**

*The presiding minister marks the sign of the cross on the forehead of each of the baptized.*

*Oil prepared for this purpose may be used. As the sign of the cross is made, the minister says:*

**Name, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.**

**Amen.**

## **Welcome**

*A lighted candle may be given to each of the newly baptized (to a sponsor of a young child) as a representative of the congregation says:*

**OR**

**Jesus said, I am the light of the world.  
Whoever follows me  
will have the light of life.**

**Let your light so shine before others  
that they may see your good works  
and glorify your Father in heaven.**

*The ministers and the baptismal group face the assembly. A representative of the congregation leads the assembly in the welcome.*

**Let us welcome the newly baptized.**

**We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share:  
join us in giving thanks and praise to God  
and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.**

*Those who have gathered at the font may return to their places. An acclamation (#209–215), psalm, or hymn may be sung.*

*The service continues with the prayers of intercession, or, if baptism has taken place in the gathering rite, with the greeting.*



## The Church's One Foundation



1 The church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;  
 2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,  
 3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der this world sees her op - pressed,  
 4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion and tu - mult of her war,  
 5 Yet she on earth has u - nion with God, the Three in One,



she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word.  
 her char - ter of sal - va - tion one Lord, one faith, one birth:  
 by schisms . . . rent a - sund - er, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,  
 she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more;  
 and mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won.



From heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;  
 one ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,  
 yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up: "How long?"  
 till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest,  
 Oh, bless - ed heav'n - ly cho - rus! Lord, save us by your grace,



with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.  
 and to one hope she press - es with ev - 'ry grace en - dued.  
 and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.  
 and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.  
 that we, like saints be - fore us, may see you face to face.



## O God of Every Nation

713

1 O God of ev - 'ry na - tion, of ev - 'ry race and land,  
 2 From search for wealth and pow - er and scorn of truth and right,  
 3 Lord, strength-en all who la - bor that all may find re - lease  
 4 Keep bright in us the vi - sion of days when war shall cease,

re - deem your whole cre - a - tion with your al - might - y hand;  
 from trust in bombs that show - er de - struc-tion through the night,  
 from fear of rat - tling sa - ber, from dread of war's in - crease;  
 when ha - tred and di - vi - sion give way to love and peace,

where hate and fear di - vide us and bit - ter threats are hurled,  
 from pride of race and sta - tion and blind-ness to your way,  
 when hope and cour-age fal - ter, Lord, let your voice be heard;  
 till dawns the morn-ing glo - rious when truth and love shall reign,

in love and mer-cy guide us and heal our strife - torn world.  
 de - liv - er ev - 'ry na - tion, e - ter - nal God, we pray.  
 with faith that none can al - ter, your ser-vants un - der - gird.  
 and Christ shall rule vic - to - rious o'er all the world's do - main.

Text: William W. Reid Jr., b. 1923

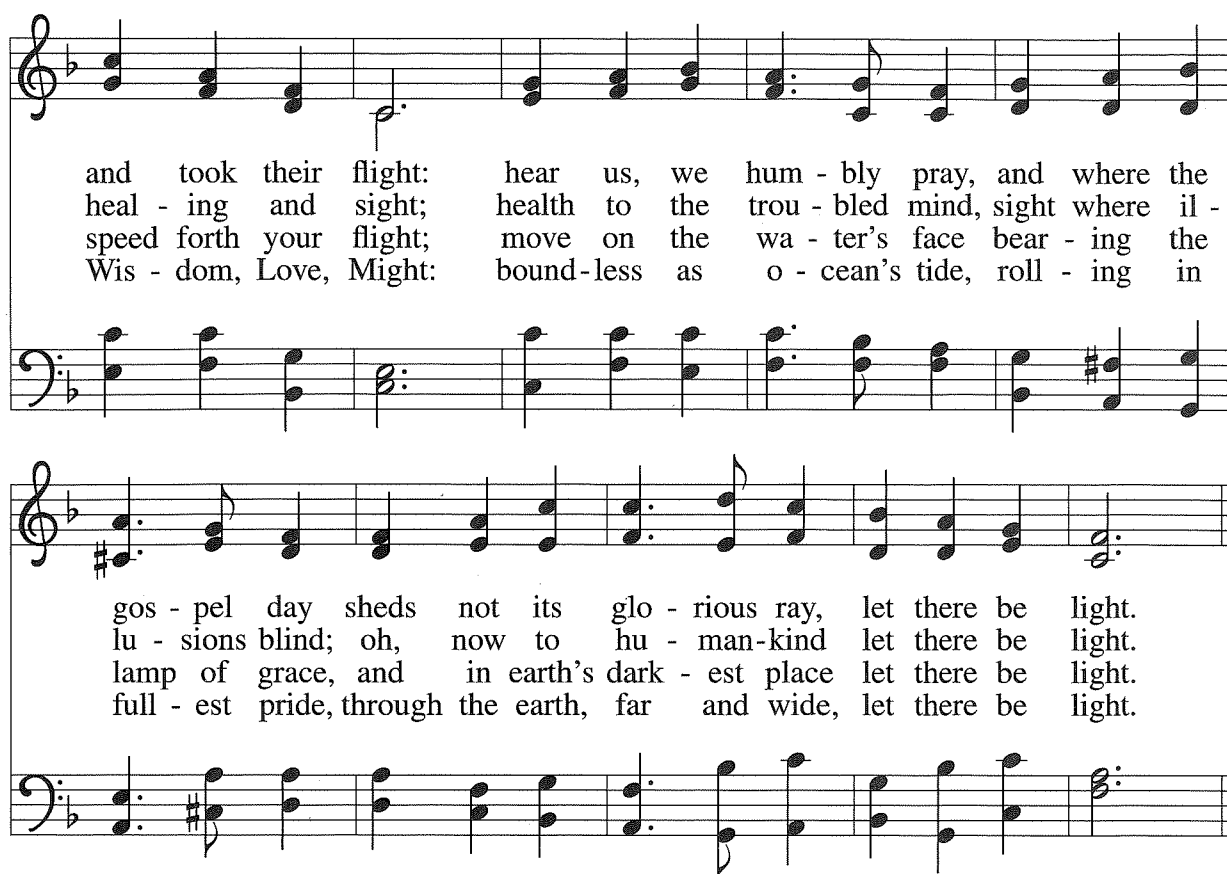
Music: Welsh tune, 19th cent.

Text © 1958, ren. 1986 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Company

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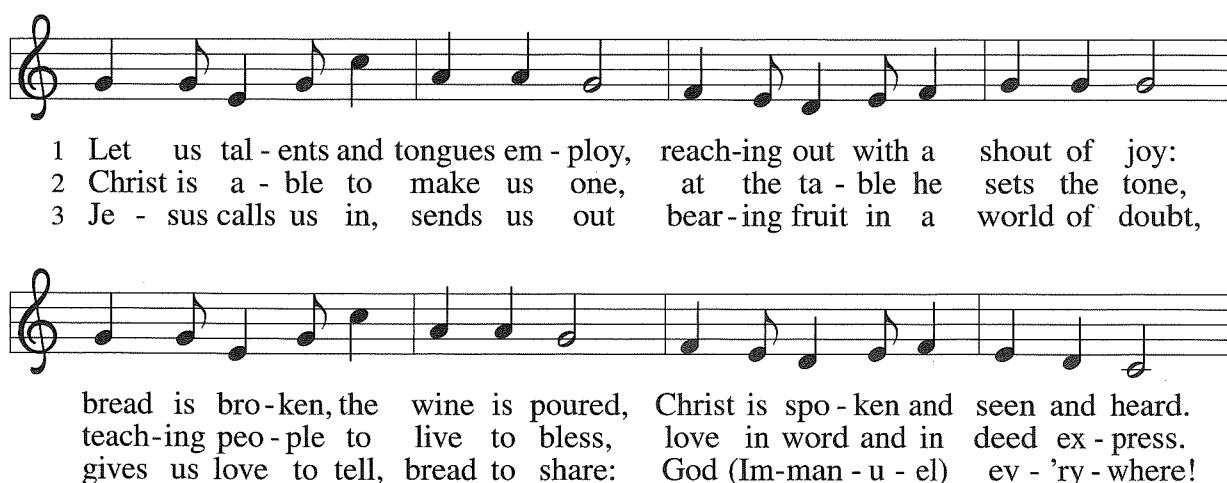


and took their flight: hear us, we hum - bly pray, and where the  
 heal - ing and sight; health to the trou - bled mind, sight where il -  
 speed forth your flight; move on the wa - ter's face bear - ing the  
 Wis - dom, Love, Might: bound - less as o - cean's tide, roll - ing in

gos - pel day sheds not its glo - rious ray, let there be light.  
 lu - sions blind; oh, now to hu - man-kind let there be light.  
 lamp of grace, and in earth's dark - est place let there be light.  
 full - est pride, through the earth, far and wide, let there be light.

## Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

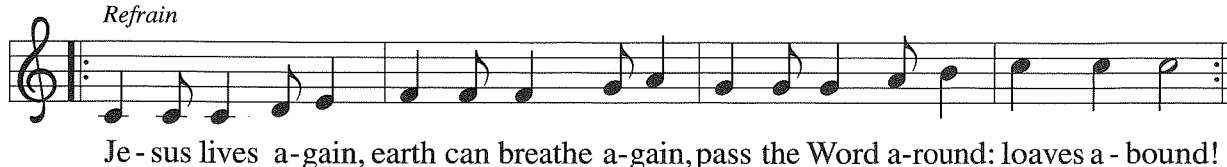
674



1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a shout of joy:  
 2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at the ta - ble he sets the tone,  
 3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a world of doubt,

bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.  
 teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.  
 gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im - man - u - el) ev - 'ry - where!

### Refrain



Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

## Go, My Children, with My Blessing

543

1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.  
 2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.  
 3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.

Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.  
 Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.  
 Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.

In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.  
 Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.  
 Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com - fort stilled you.

Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own."  
 Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."  
 Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free."