

Welcome to worship at
The New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran Church

First Sunday of Christmas
Thanksgiving and Farewell to Pastor Scott
December 28, 2025



Take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt.

Matthew 2:13

As we celebrate the Twelve Days of Christmas, our gospel today confronts us with the death of innocent children at the hands of Herod. The birth of Christ does not remove the power of evil from our world, but its light gives us hope as we walk with all the “holy innocents” of past generations and today who have suffered unjustly. In our gathering around word and meal, God continues to redeem us, lift us up, and carry us as in days of old.

**The Rev. Scott Staub, pastor
Nicole Young, seminarian minister
Patricia Nyce, director of music ministry
Lindsey Waltermeyer, Grace band leader**

We love our neighbors with healing and feeding them!

**All worship can be viewed online at
newhanoverlutheran.org
[facebook.com/NewHanoverLutheranChurch](https://www.facebook.com/NewHanoverLutheranChurch)
and on YouTube.**

**May your worship experience strengthen you
with God's love and grace.**

Welcome Statement

You are always welcome at New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran Church. We are a growing community of believers in Jesus Christ, rooted in God's love and guided by Christ's example. We strive to reach out with compassion, offering a place where you can grow in faith, experience God's grace and feel safe and celebrated. At New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran Church, we want you to gather with us at our table. Rooted in our Lutheran faith and belief that we are all children of God and made in God's image, we welcome all people with dignity and love.

In Romans 15:7, Paul writes, "Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God."

By this belief, we are committed to intentionally following Jesus' example of unconditional hospitality, love and justice. Here, you are not only included, you are respected. We affirm and value people of all races, ethnicities, sexual orientations, gender identities, gender expressions, cultures, ages, abilities, body sizes, relationship statuses and economic or immigration statuses. We are committed to the ongoing work toward racial equity and inclusion in all we do. You are invited to fully participate in our worship, sacraments, leadership positions, gatherings, and ministries. In our identities, we are united by the common faith we hold, and recognize we each offer unique gifts and perspectives. We believe that this transforms lives and deepens the faith of our community.

Christ's door is open to all, so is ours.

Prelude

Soon and Very Soon

Handbell Choir

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Welcome

Pastor Scott

Please rise as you are able.

Gathering Hymn *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* ELW #270
Handbell accompaniment

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Prayer of the Day

Pastor Scott

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O Lord God, you know that we cannot place our trust in our own powers. As you protected the infant Jesus, so defend us and all the needy from harm and adversity, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Centering Song

Trading My Sorrows Kids for Christ Band

Verse 1:

I'm trading my sorrows
I'm trading my shame
I'm laying them down
For the joy of the Lord

Verse 2:

I'm trading my sickness
I'm trading my pain
I'm laying them down
For the joy of the Lord

Chorus:

Yes Lord yes Lord yes yes Lord
Yes Lord yes Lord yes yes Lord
Yes Lord yes Lord yes yes Lord Amen

Bridge:

I am pressed but not crushed
Persecuted not abandoned
Struck down but not destroyed
I am blessed beyond the curse
For His promise will endure
That His joy's gonna be my strength
Though the sorrow may last for the night
His joy comes with the morning

Verse 1

Verse 2

Chorus 2x

"Trading My Sorrows" Words and music by Darrell Evans. © 1998 Integrity's Hosanna! Music.
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#2329082.

Please be seated.

Jesus and Me and Kids for Christ Choir

KFC and JAM

Pastor Scott

Dashing into church
at NHEL
You will not need to search
His work is clear to see.
He dreamed up in his head.
A plan to do God's will.
He keeps our neighbors fed
That mission was fulfilled.

Chorus:

Pastor Scott, Pastor Scott, time to say good-bye.
What a gift you've been to us, you're such a stand-up guy.
Pastor Scott, Pastor Scott, we're sad to see you go.
It is true, without a doubt, we sure will miss you so!

We worshiped from afar
or in the parking lot.
Richard on guitar
Up front with Pastor Scott.
It was a crazy year
One we won't soon forget,
But Pastor Scott was always here,
On him, you sure could bet.

Chorus

Kids Camp every June,
In a costume bright.
Acting like a goon,
It was quite a sight!
Camp Falckner was outside
With heat and bugs galore.
We let his message be our guide,
And will forevermore.

Chorus

Magic tricks were part
Of Children Sermon fun,
Filling every heart,
With the Father and the Son.
You like to dance along
With favorite praise band tunes.
But claim you're not as strong
As you were in 92.

Chorus

You like to joke around,
You make us laugh and cheer.
Your sermons were profound,
Your kindness was sincere.
You did so much for us
We are so very glad.
It's right for us to make a fuss,
You're the best we could have had!

Chorus

First Reading

Isaiah 63:7-9

Stacey Rothermel

A reading from the book of Isaiah

⁷ I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord,
the praiseworthy acts of the Lord,
because of all that the Lord has done for us
and the great favor to the house of Israel
that he has shown them according to his mercy,
according to the abundance of his steadfast love.

⁸ For he said, "Surely they are my people,
children who will not act deceitfully,"
and he became their savior

⁹ in all their distress.

It was no messenger or angel

but his presence that saved them;

in his love and pity it was he who redeemed them;

he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

Here ends the reading.

Please rise as you are able.

Gospel Acclamation *Creator of the Stars of Night* ELW #245
vs. 5

Gospel

Matthew 2:13-23

Pastor Scott

The holy gospel according to Matthew

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³ Now after [the magi] had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." ¹⁴ Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt ¹⁵ and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son."

¹⁶ When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the magi, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time

that he had learned from the magi. ¹⁷ Then what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled:

¹⁸“A voice was heard in Ramah,
wailing and loud lamentation,
Rachel weeping for her children;
she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.”

¹⁹ When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, ²⁰“Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child’s life are dead.” ²¹ Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. ²² But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. ²³ There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, “He will be called a Nazarene.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Message

Pastor Scott

A moment of silence for reflection

Please rise as you are able.

Song of the Day *I Can Only Imagine*

Richard Thomas

I can only imagine
What it will be like
When I walk by Your side
I can only imagine
What my eyes will see
When Your face is before me
I can only imagine

Chorus:

Surrounded by Your glory What will my heart feel?
Will I dance for You Jesus Or in awe of You be still?
Will I stand in Your presence Or to my knees will I fall?
Will I sing hallelujah? Will I be able to speak at all?
I can only imagine I can only imagine

I can only imagine
When that day comes
And I find myself standing in the Son
I can only imagine
When all I will do
Is forever forever worship You
I can only imagine
I can only imagine

Chorus 2x

"I Can Only Imagine" Words and music by Bart Millard. © 2001, 2002 Simpleville Music. Admin. by Essential Music Publishing LLC. All rights reserved. Streamed with permission under CCLI License #2329082.

Confession and Forgiveness

Pastor Scott

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.
Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

Nikki Young

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Thanksgiving at the Table

Pastor Scott

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

The Lord's Prayer

Pastor Scott

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

Please be seated.

Communion

Pastor Scott

Today we celebrate Holy Communion. This is the Lord's Table, open to everyone. The usher will direct you when to come forward. Communion glasses are found on the stand at the front of the line to your right. Take an empty glass if you are choosing to commune with wine or a pre-filled glass (with grape juice) if you will be communing with grape juice. Receive your bread from the pastor, gluten-free bread from the plate, and the wine, or blessing over the grape juice from the lay assistant. There are two wine stations, so please, choose the open station. Persons not communing may receive a personal blessing (simply keep your hands down at your sides or folded across your heart).

The body of Christ, given for you.

Amen.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Amen.

Communion Songs *On Eagle's Wings* Grace Praise Band

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O Come All Ye Faithful (His Name Shall Be)

"O Come All Ye Faithful (His Name Shall Be)" Words and music by J. D. Myers and Kristian Stanfill. © 2020 KPS 1.0; sixsteps Music; worshipttogether.com songs; Thank The Maker Music. Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing, Myers, Jacob. All rights reserved. Streamed with permission under CCLI License #2329082.

Midnight Clear (Love Song)

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Communion Prayer

Pastor Scott

Let us pray.

God for whom we wait, in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please rise as you are able.

Peace

Nikki Young

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Please share a sign of peace with your neighbors.

The people give a sign of peace to each other.

Please be seated.

Offertory

Choir Anthem

Kyrie

Chancel Choir

"Kyrie" by John Leavitt. © 1989 Studio 224, c/o CPP/Belwin, Inc. All rights reserved. Streamed with permission under One License #A-701229.

The offering will be taken at this time.

You can donate to NHELCC's ministry electronically.

Tithe.ly QR Code



Simply Giving QR Code



Please rise as you are able.

Offertory Response *Doxology for Christmas*

Praise God from whom_ all bless - ings flow. Praise
God_ all crea - tures here be - low. Praise
God a - bove,_ ye heaven- ly host. Praise Fa- ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

“Doxology for Advent” Words: Thomas Ken, 1674. Music: CAROL, Richard Storrs Willis, 1850. Text and music are in public domain.

The offering is brought forward for a blessing.

Please be seated.

Announcements

Pastor Scott

Thanksgiving at the Conclusion of a Call Bishop Penman
Pastor Scott Staub, on September 16, 2018, we of The New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran Church called you to be pastor in this place: to proclaim God’s word, to baptize and teach, to announce God’s forgiveness, and to preside at the Lord’s table. With the gospel you have comforted us in times of sickness and trouble, and at the death of our loved ones. Sharing our joys and sorrows, you [and your family] have been important to our life together in the church of Jesus Christ, in our service to this community, and in God’s mission to the whole world. As you leave this community of faith, we say farewell, and we pray for God’s blessing.

People of God, members of The New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran Church, do you release Pastor Scott Staub from service as your pastor?

We do, and we give thanks to God for our ministry together.

Pastor Scott Staub, do you recognize and accept the completion of your ministry with The New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran Church?

I do, and I give thanks to God for our ministry together.

Thanksgiving and Sending

Let us pray.

Almighty God, through your Son Jesus Christ you gave the holy apostles many gifts and commanded them to feed your flock. You equip your people with abilities that differ according to the grace given to them, and you call them to various avenues of service. We give you thanks for the ministry of Pastor Scott Staub among the people of God in this place.

You watch over our going out and our coming in: bless this time of ending and beginning.

You surround your people in every time and place: keep us close in your love.

You accompany your people in times of joy and times of trial: prosper all that has been done to your glory in this time together; heal and forgive all that has fallen short of your will for us. Help Pastor Scott Staub and his family and all of us to live with courage and gladness in the future you give to us.

As they have been a blessing to us, so now send them forth to be a blessing to others; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Your sisters and brothers in the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America give thanks to God for the ministry you have shared. We promise you our continued support and prayer. Rejoicing in the blessings of God in this congregation and in the ministry of The New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran Church, with hope in God's abundant grace in years to come,

I announce that Scott Staub's service as pastor in this congregation is now concluded.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

Amen.

Please rise as you are able.

Sending Hymn *Canticle of the Turning*

ELW #723

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Go get'em!!!

Postlude

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Announcements

Today

We welcome Bishop Bryan Penman to our worship service this morning.

A reception in honor of Pastor Scott and Marsha will be held in the fellowship hall following the worship service this morning. All are invited to join in the celebration of their service to NHELCC.

The bulletin is presented to the glory of God and in honor of her grandson Colvin's tenth birthday by Corrine Bartholomew.

The flowers are presented to the glory of God and in honor of John and Hazel LeVan's 70th wedding anniversary celebrated on Christmas Day by Georgann and Scott Geiser.

The sponsor signups for 2026 have been added to the signuption on the church's website. Click on the link <https://www.signuption.com/go/10C0F4EAFAC2CAAF4C16-61280725-2026> or QR Code to sign up today. Or, contact Church Office Manager Susan Gutshall at 610-326-1335.



The Word in Season devotion booklet is presented to the glory of God; may we harvest acceptance, and give thanks to God for the love of our Lord Jesus that was given to us, by Janet Psota.

Serving Today: Ed Becker, head usher; Monique Becker and Stacey Rothermel, ushers; Stacey Rothermel, lector; Dee Singley, children's sermon; Miller Quigley, acolyte; Bishop Penman and Nikki Young, communion assistants

Next Sunday: Scott Geiser, head usher; Georgann Geiser, usher; Collins Quigley, acolyte

Altar Guild members serving this month: Deb Solazzo, Barb Eisenhart, Corrine Bartholomew and Judy Sloan

The Nursery room is located between the Welcome Center and the Fellowship Hall. Parents are welcome to use the room during worship as needed. The room provides for a comfortable play area in a joyful environment; toys and books are included. The room has access to a changing room and a private nursing room next door.

Doors leading to fellowship hall and the education wing remain locked during the worship service for the safety of all.

This Week

Worship Service – Today, 9:00 AM, sanctuary and online

Food Drop Off – Today, 9:00 – 10:00 AM, kitchen

Food Delivery Pickup – Today, 10:00 AM, kitchen door

Reception – Today, 10:15 AM, room 1

Prayer Ministry – Monday, 1:15 PM, sanctuary

Scouts BSA Troop 367 – Tuesday, 6:30 – 8:15 PM, room 1

Food Drop Off – Wednesday, 1:00 – 2:00 PM, kitchen

Food Delivery Pickup – Wednesday, 1:00 PM, kitchen door
Addiction 12 Step – Wednesday, 6:00 – 7:00 PM, rooms 33-34
Scout Lock-in – Wednesday, 4:00 and 8:00 PM, rooms 1, 4, 11
and 14

Addiction 12 Step – Thursday, 6:30 – 7:30 PM, rooms 33-34

Worship Service – Next Sunday, 9:00 AM, sanctuary and online

Food Drop Off – Next Sunday, 9:00 – 10:00 AM, kitchen

Food Delivery Pickup – Next Sunday, 10:00 AM, kitchen door

Praise Band Rehearsal – Next Sunday, 11:20 AM, sanctuary

Confirmation – Next Sunday, 1:30 – 3:30 PM, rooms 33-34

The church office will be closed Thursday, January 1st for the holiday.

Upcoming Events

The Council will hold a “Coffee with the Council” open informational session on Sunday, January 18th, immediately following the 9 AM worship service in the Fellowship Hall. NHELCC has a lot of activities and projects moving forward in 2026 and the Council would like to share information, listen to feedback, and answer questions. Plan to grab a cup of coffee and join the conversation.

Do you like to read? Readers are needed for the Lessons and Carols service on January 4th. Sign up today to reserve your reading in this festive service. A sign-up sheet is on the desk in the Welcome Center.

New Hanover Memorabilia items collected over the years are available in the Welcome Center. You are invited to take home a piece of New Hanover’s history; your donations will help our ministries to continue. Souvenirs from the 325th anniversary are also on the table.

History Booklets printed for the 325th Anniversary are available in the Welcome Center. If you didn’t get one, pick up a copy today. Please, one booklet per family.

Committee and board 2025 annual reports are due in the church office by Monday, January 5, 2026.

The NHELC Book Club is reading *Summer Sisters* by Judy Blume. Join the club for dinner and book discussion at the WQ Diner in Pottstown on Tuesday, February 3rd, at 6:30 PM. Any questions about this event, contact Sharon Tracey at LBD36@aol.com.

Keystone Fire Company will host a New Year's Eve Matinee Dance, featuring The Directors Big Band on Wednesday, December 31st, 1:00 – 4:00 PM. Tickets are available at \$10 a ticket and can be purchased in advance by email at DirectorsBandBoyertown@gmail.com or at Aunt Nannie's Bake Shop in Bechtelsville. The fire company is located at 240 Walnut Street in Boyertown.

Help Needed

Pottstown Cluster NHELC is collecting non-perishable food items and full-sized personal hygiene items to be distributed to local families through the Pottstown Cluster. Collection boxes are located in the welcome center, fellowship hall, and multi-purpose room for the donations. For a list of items most needed, see the December issue of New Hanover Highlights. Thank you for your contributions that will help those in need.

Mission Service folks need your help! Friends, our church has been helping to feed the hungry at Emmanuel Lutheran Church every month. We discovered their clothes closet needs help. We ask for used, clean, in good condition, warm clothes. Also, hats, gloves, mittens and hoodies are needed too! The ladies at the closet are in need of NEW socks and undergarments. Our junior/senior high Sunday School class decorated a box that is sitting in the welcome center for your donations.

Want to be a member?

Please fill out "Your Voice from the Pew" card, located in the pew rack and place the card in the offering plate. Check off "Interest in Church Membership."

Resources

Are you missing a Moments in Time insert? Extra copies are available. Contact Barb Eisenhart, Lee Wesner or Susan Gutshall. Wrappers for the collection are available in the Welcome Center.

Want to keep up with all the latest news from NHELCC? Subscribe to the bi-weekly Constant Contact communication emails. You will receive a weekly announcement on Monday and a worship reminder on Saturday. If you are not already receiving these emails, you can use this QR code and sign up today using a very simple, secure site.



Do you enjoy the praise band songs? Would you like to get to know them better? This [playlist](#) includes over fifty songs that our praise band has done, and more will be added in the future. You will need to download Spotify (it's free!) to listen to the songs.



Peer Support Information The Ferns Peer Run Respite is a local mental health non-profit resource in Montgomery County. The Ferns provides a supportive and calm environment for individuals in need and not able to interact in other available mental health resources. The Ferns is totally peer-supported and allows individuals at the respite the time they may need to recover or seek additional treatment. If you know an individual who may need this service, contact the church and leave a message for the peer support program.

The Peer Support Ministry webpage on the church's website (newhanoverlutheran.org) offers resources for mental health and wellness. Visit the webpage for information.

Mental Health and Wellness Millions of people across the nation are affected by mental health conditions. National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) has local centers in both Reading and Lansdale. They offer in-person and online support groups. NHELCC has links with helpful information available on our website (newhanoverlutheran.org) or contact NAMI Helpline or PA Addiction Helpline directly.

NAMI Help Line 1-800-950-6242 is available Monday - Friday 10:00 AM to 10:00 PM ET.

Text “Helpline” to 62640 or if in crisis call or text 988.

PA Addiction Helpline 1-800-662-HELP (4357).

Online live chat offered at 1-717-216-0905 or text

You Can Help

Volunteers are needed to help during the church service: Ushers, Lectors, Children’s Sermons, Acolytes and Communion Assistants. Contact Faye Weidner at omiweidner@gmail.com or 484-929-5958 if you can help.

Food Ministry

Nearly a quarter million meals have been delivered! NHEL C’s Loaves & Fishes Food Ministry is changing lives. And, you can be a part of the team. 1.) You can donate food. Drop off your donation on Wednesdays between 1 – 2 PM and Sundays between 9 – 10 AM. **Items most needed include: hamburger, chicken (thighs and breast meat), pasta (ziti, elbows, bowties), cheese (mozzarella, cheddar, parmesan), potatoes, fresh fruit (apples, oranges, bananas) and eggs.** 2.) Donate money through Thrivent Gift Cards. Place monetary donations on the offering plate or mail to the church. 3.) Deliver meals. Sign up at <https://www.newhanoverlutheran.org/loaves-fishes-food-ministry/>.

Reconciling in Christ Serving All and Loving Unconditionally

In case you want any information, enter this link in your web browser:

<https://newhanoverlutheran.org/reconciling-in-christ/> or connect using this QR Code.



Additional Information

Facility Use for Meetings or Events Requests All meeting and event requests by committees, members or non-members are to be communicated to the church office manager. The request will include the date and time, purpose, amount of people attending,

necessary space and equipment of the meeting or event. Given the information the meeting or event will be posted on the church calendar by the church office manager (only). Providing an announcement for the bulletin, newsletter or social media posting does not constitute a request or guarantee a space.

There is a Facility Use policy, and fees do apply in some cases. In no case will fees be waived. Deposits are required to hold the space, date and time. If the meeting or event is not posted on the church calendar or you do not place a deposit if necessary, you do not have permission to use the space. Contact Susan Gutshall, church office manager at (610) 326-1335, or email her at susan.gutshall@newhanoverlutheran.org for requests or information.

Prayer Requests

Military: Shawn Dietz, Kevin Dugan, Jason Bernhard, Craig Geiser, Patrick Mathias, Steven Kane, William Zearfoss, Will Wilson V, Milton Jack Repa, Kyle Woods, Danny Foust

Grieving: Family and friends of Josephine Heck

Peace for violence in our area and nationally

Keeley Staples	Logan Conley	Katy Mahon-Miller
Luann Hanley	Carol Estes	William Trotter
Kathy Kane	Maxwell Girard	Pat Fryer
Jean Renninger	Pr. Kork Moyer	Julia Hauck
Tony Mancini	Raul Castro	Amy LeVan
Jeffrey Kunsch	Wilma Lahr	Melissa
Mary Lou	Doug Weaver	Joan Wagner
Robert Ganovsky	Dorothy Bingaman	Emily Ocelus
Eric & Wendy Hess	Sue Care	Deb Matthews
Marceline	Anne Eshleman	Daniel Johnson
Chris Fatzinger	Hank Droneberg	Pena family
Kim Frain	Jen Perez	Frank D.
Pam Helfrich	Barb & Tom Faust	Andy Van Dyke
Janet	Pam Abbott	Holli Muffler
Louise Karns	Pr. Jennifer Phelps	Verdie Smith
Helen Foulke	Carla Hausmann	Joan Price
Ralph Borneman	Lucille Powell	Joan Scheffey
Arnold Amundsen	Chuck Beck	Rich Freed

Joe	Joe	Casey Flack
Penny Frymoyer	Denton Quick	David Helfrich, Sr.
Tara Hauck	Patricia Kemp	Ron Seasholtz
Penny Garber	Hazel LeVan	Lynn Amundsen
David Gottshall	Paul Knauer	Suzanne Dodge
Dave Pollock	Julia Ghazi	Ray Feick
Jennifer, Brendt, Declan & Conor Budnick	Patty Houseal	Carol Feick
Steve Morriss	Vicki Mutter	John Sander, Candis Peto, Yvonne Peto
Alice Nester	John Sander, Candis Peto, Yvonne Peto	Dennis and Sandy Rothermel
Linda Adams	Dennis and Sandy Rothermel	

The New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran Church

2941 Lutheran Road

Gilbertsville, PA 19525

Office Hours: Mon. – Fri., 9 AM – 2 PM

Call 610-326-1335 for an appointment



Contact Information

Pastor, The Rev. Scott Staub, psstaub@gmail.com

Director of Children, Family & Youth Ministry, Nikki Young

nikki.young@newhanoverlutheran.org

Church Office Manager, Susan Gutshall

susan.gutshall@newhanoverlutheran.org

Director of Music Ministry, Patricia Nyce

patricia.nyce@newhanoverlutheran.org

Food Ministry Director, Chris Fatzinger

Cfatzinger@chris-cooks.com

Educational Director, Jena Marinelli

jena.marinelli@sunshinelc.org

Grace Band Director, Lindsey Waltermyer

goldielw@gmail.com

Handbell Choir Director, Barbara Eisenhart

eisenbarb@aol.com

Peer Support Recovery Ministry Team,

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Do you see anything in the worship space today that you also see at home? Maybe you see windows and candles. Maybe you see flowers and Christmas ornaments.

Draw what you see in the spaces.

At Church

At Home

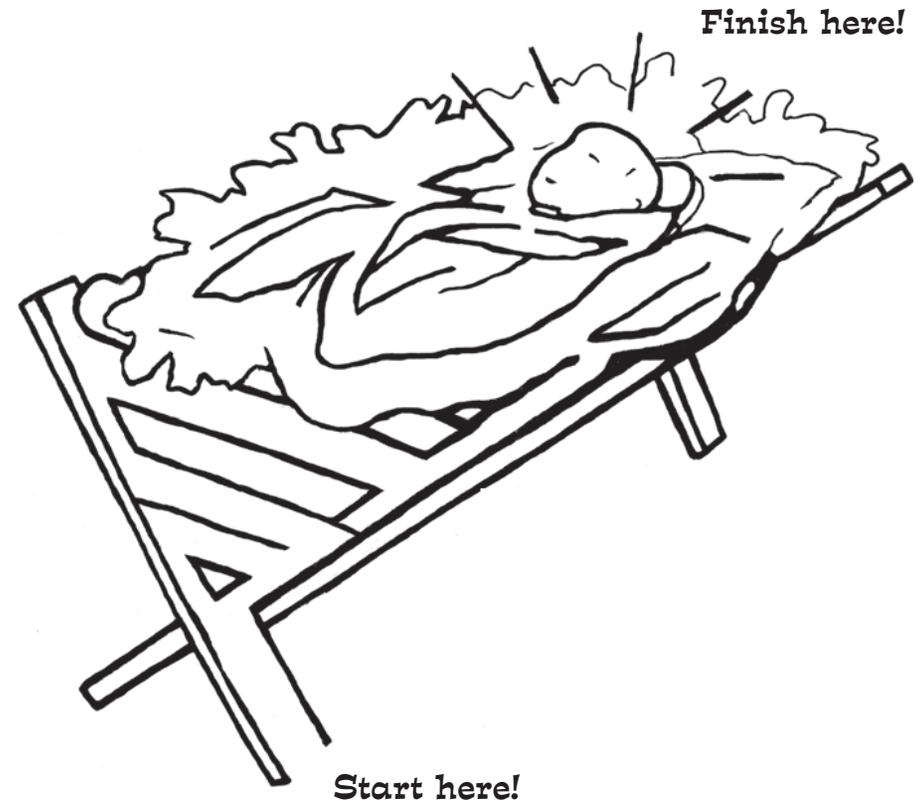


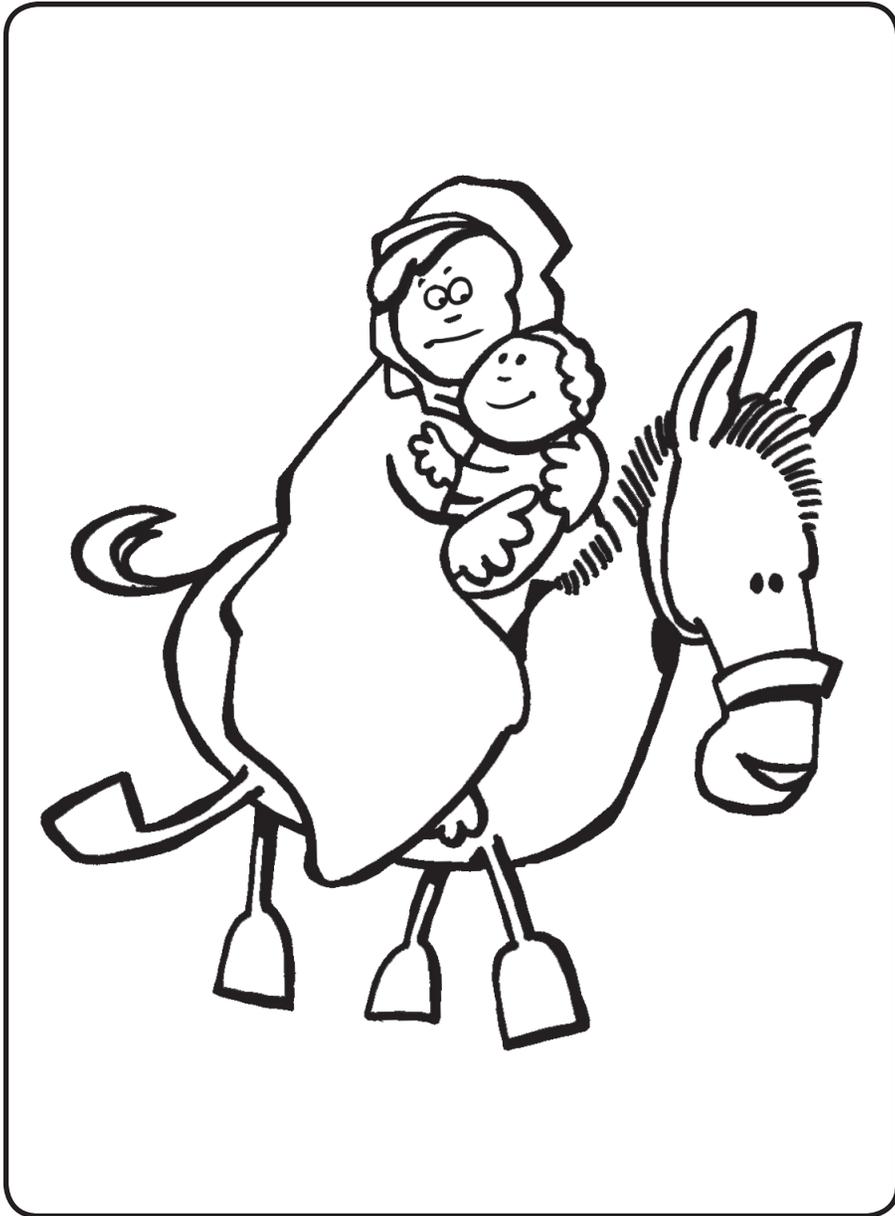
PRE-READER

Christmas 1

- The color of the **Christmas** season is **white**.
- White reminds us of the **light** and **joy** that Jesus brings.

Find your way to baby Jesus in this manger maze!





You must take Jesus and Mary to hide in Egypt.

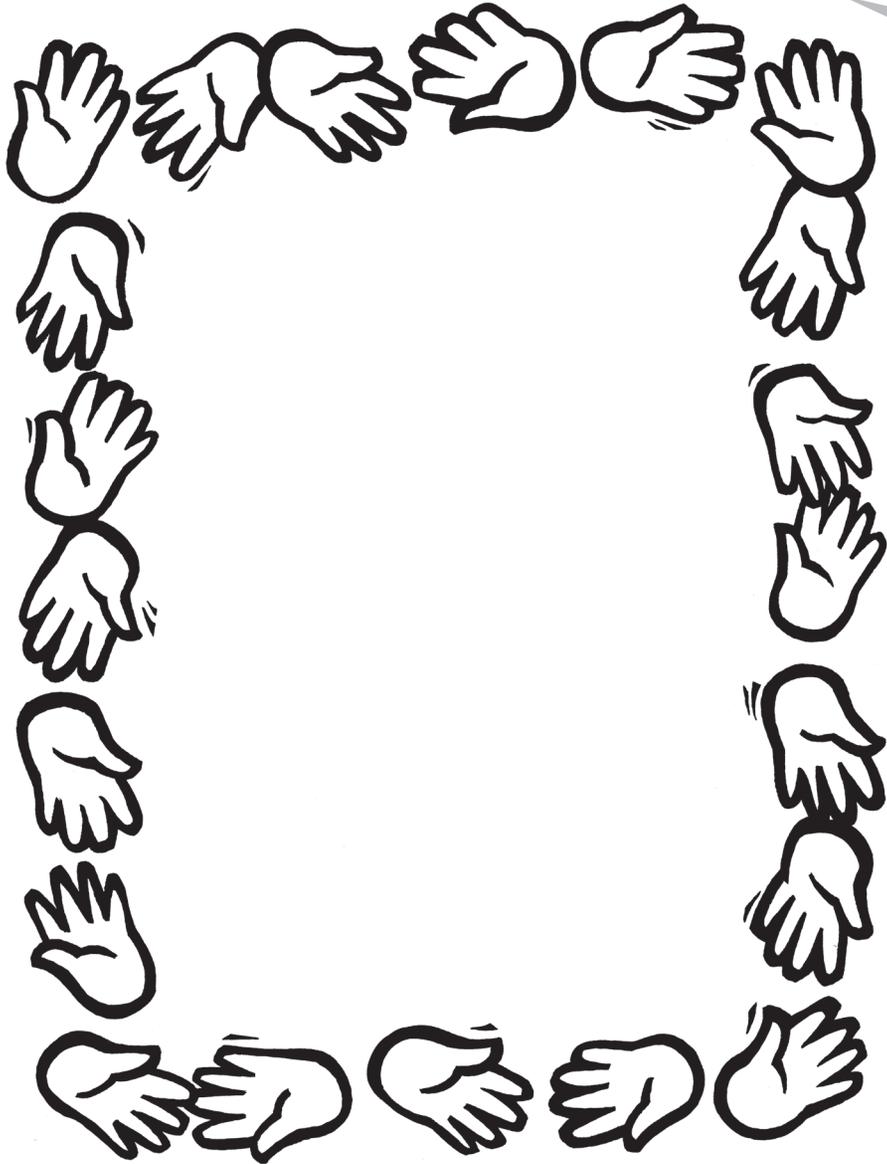
King Herod was afraid of baby **Jesus**.
God told Joseph to hide his family in **Egypt**.
God kept Jesus' family **safe**.

Joseph, Mary, and Jesus had to get out of Bethlehem! Help them find the fastest path to Egypt.



All Are Welcome

Just like Jesus and his family, many people travel from where they were born to live somewhere else. Are there people in church this Sunday who are guests or visitors? Create a welcome note for them. Go with your parents and say hello to them after the worship service.



READER

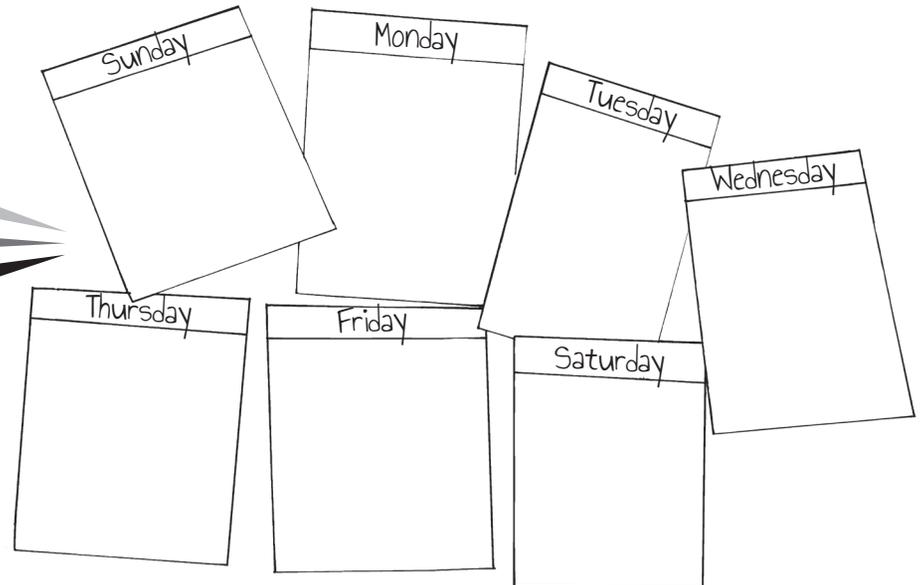
Christmas 1

- Today is the **first** Sunday in the season of **Christmas**.
- The color for the Christmas season is **white**.
- White represents the **purity** of Jesus.
- White is also a symbol for the **light** that Jesus brings to the **world**.



Party Planner

Plan a week-long birthday party for Jesus! Some activities can be just for fun. Try to think of ways to celebrate how we give to others during the Christmas season. **Use this calendar to plan the biggest birthday party ever!**



Try to fill in the missing words. (Hint: 1=A, 2=B, etc.) If you need help, look up Matthew 2:23.



"There he made his home in a town called

14 1 26 1 18 5 20 8

so that what had been spoken through the

16 18 15 16 8 5 20 19

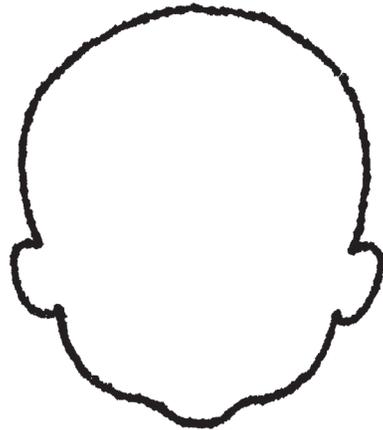
might be fulfilled, "He will be called a

14 1 26 15 18 5 1 14."

Matthew 2:23

Facing a Move

Joseph had a dream telling him to move his family to Egypt. Imagine if God was sending you to a new country to live. Would you be excited? Nervous? Upset? **Draw an expression on the face here that shows how you might feel.**



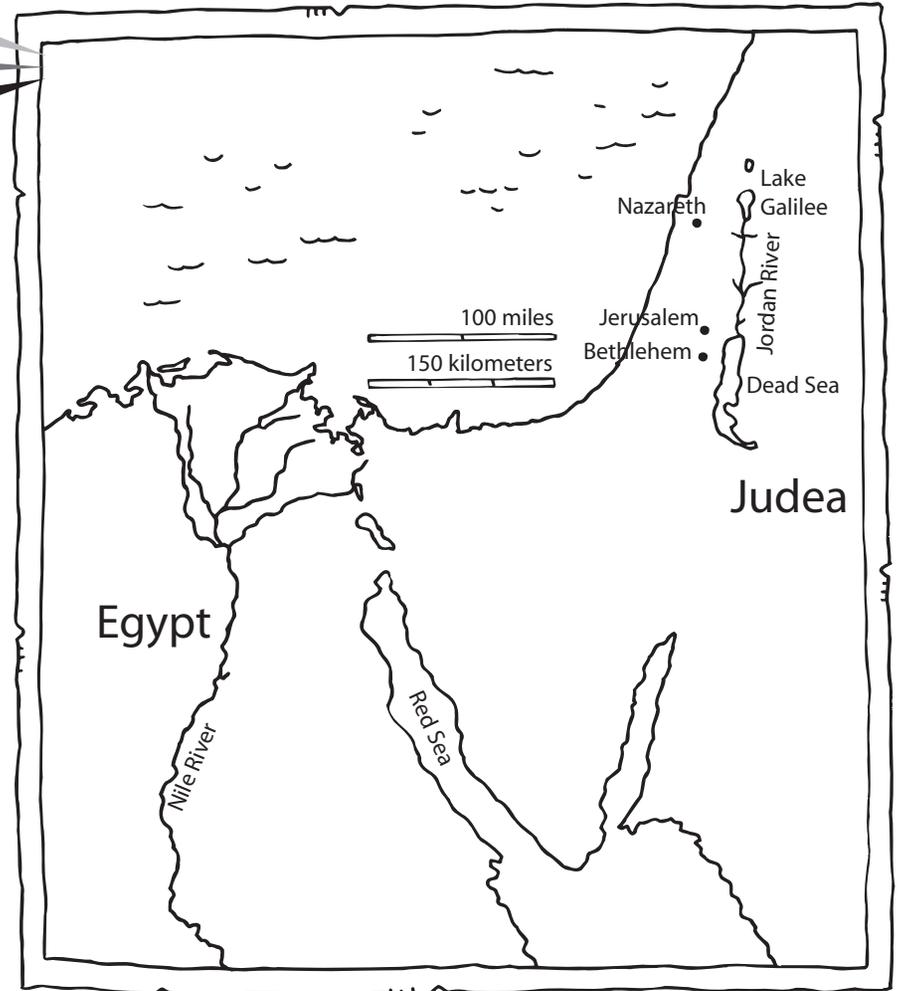
If you were helping Jesus' family get ready for their move, what would you tell them to bring? **Fill out the to-do list below.**

Things To Do

MEMORY VERSE answers: Nazareth, prophets, Nazorean



Many stories in the Bible happen in the same places. Look up some other stories that take place in Egypt. Start in the Book of Exodus with the story of the Hebrews' escaping from Egypt by crossing the Red Sea in chapter 14 of Exodus.



Do people in your neighborhood still have Christmas decorations out? That's because it's still Christmas! Have you heard about the Twelve Days of Christmas? Even though Christmas Day has passed, we celebrate Jesus' birthday for 12 days. The season ends on January 6 on a day called the Epiphany of Our Lord.

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing



1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born king;
2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
3 Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righ - teous - ness!



peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled."
late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.



Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God - head see! Hail, in - car - nate de - i - ty!
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



with an - gel - ic hosts pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!
born to raise each child of earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.



Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king!"

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt. Music: MENDELSSOHN, Felix Mendelssohn, 1809-1847; arr. William H. Cummings, 1831-1915. Text and music are in public domain.

Trading My Sorrows

Words and Music by
Darrell Evans

CHORUS

♩ = 116

A D F#m E A D F#m E/G#

I'm trad - ing my sor - rows, I'm trad - ing my shame,
I'm trad - ing my sick - ness, I'm trad - ing my pain,

VAMP

5

A D F#m E A D F#m E A D

I'm lay - ing them down for the joy of the Lord. Yes, Lord, yes, Lord,
I'm lay - ing them down for the joy of the Lord.

10

F#m E A D F#m E/G# A D F#m E

yes, yes, Lord; Yes, Lord, yes, Lord, yes, yes, Lord; Yes, Lord, yes, Lord, yes, yes, Lord, a - men.

VERSE

15

A D F#m E A D F#m E

I am pressed but not crushed, per - se - cut - ed, not a - ban - doned,

19

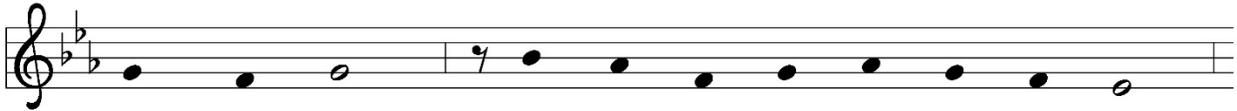
A D F#m E A D

struck down, but not de - stroyed; I am blessed be - yond the curse, for His

Creator of the Stars of Night



1 Cre - a - tor of the stars of night, your peo - ple's ev - er -
2 When this old world drew on toward night, you came; but not in
3 At your great name, O Je - sus, now all knees must bend, all
4 Come in your ho - ly might, we pray, re - deem us for e -
5 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son, and God the Spir - it,



last - ing light, O Christ, re - deem - er of us all,
splen - dor bright, not as a mon - arch, but the child
hearts must bow: all things on earth with one ac - cord,
ter - nal day; de - fend us while we dwell be - low
Three in One, praise, hon - or, might, and glo - ry be



we pray you hear us when we call.
of Mar - y, bless - ed moth - er mild.
like those in heav'n, shall call you Lord.
from all as - saults of our dread foe.
from age to age e - ter - nal - ly. A - men.

“Creator of the Stars of Night” Text: Latin hymn, 9th cent.; tr. Hymnal 1940, alt. Music: CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM, plainsong mode IV. Text © 1940 Church Pension Fund. Admin. by Church Publishing Incorporated and Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted and streamed with permission under One License #A-701229.

I Can Only Imagine

Words and Music by
Bart Millard

VERSE 1

♩ = 80

Dmaj9

Gmaj9



1. I can on - ly im - ag - ine what it will be like when I walk by Your side.

Dmaj9

Gmaj9



I can on - ly im - ag - ine what my eyes will see when Your face is be - fore

Dmaj9

Gmaj9



me. I can on - ly im - ag - ine.

Sur -

CHORUS 1a

G2(no3)
%

A(4)

D2



round - ed by Your glo - ry, what will my heart feel? Will I dance for You, Je - sus, or in

D Dmaj7 G2(no3)

A(4)



awe of You be still? Will I stand in Your pres - ence or to my knees will I fall? Will I sing

D2

D

Dmaj7

G2(no3)

2nd time to Coda ⊕



hal - le - lu - jah? Will I be a - ble to speak at all? I can on - ly im - ag - ine,

CCLI Song # 2978857

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VERSE 2

22 A(4) Dmaj7 Dmaj9

I can on - ly im - ag - ine. 2. I can on - ly im - ag - ine. when that day

26 Gmaj9 A7sus

comes and I find my - self stand - ing in the Son. I can on - ly im -

29 Dmaj9 Gmaj9

ag - ine when all I will do is for - ev - er, for - ev - er wor -

32 A7sus Dmaj9 Gmaj9

ship You. I can on - ly im - ag - ine, I can on - ly im - ag - ine.

36 A7sus *D.S. al Coda*

Sur

37 A(4) Coda Dmaj7

I can on - ly im - ag - ine. Sur - round -

CHORUS 1b

G2(no3) Asus Dmaj7 D

ed by Your glo - ry, what will my heart feel? Will I dance for You, Je - sus, or in

43 Dmaj7 D G2(no3) Asus

awe of You be still? Will I stand in Your pres - ence or to my knees will I fall? Will I sing

46 Dmaj7 D Dmaj7 D G2(no3)

hal - le - lu - jah? Will I be a - ble to speak at all? I can on - ly im - ag - ine, yeah,

49 Asus Dmaj7 D Dmaj7 D G2(no3) **TAG**

I can on - ly im - ag - ine. I can on - ly im - ag - ine, yeah,

53 Asus Dmaj7 D Dmaj7 D G2(no3)

I can on - ly im - ag - ine. I can on - ly im - ag - ine,

57 Asus Bm9

I can on - ly im - ag - ine. I can on - ly im -

ENDING

Gmaj9 A(4) F#m/B Bm Dmaj9

ag - ine when all I will do is for - ev - er, for - ev - er wor - ship You.

65 Gmaj9 A D

I can on - ly im - ag - ine. —

Canticle of the Turning



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the
 2 Though I am small, my . . . God, my all, you . . .
 3 From the halls of pow'r to the for - tress tow'r, not a
 4 Though the na - tions rage from . . age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the
 work great . . things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the
 stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your
 mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
 depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
 jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant . . . from his throne.
 liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
 Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to
 The hun - gry poor shall . . weep no more, for the
 This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my
 those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the
 food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry
 prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
 strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.



Refrain
 My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn.



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.