

FROM FEAR

to Love



December 20, 2020

10 am

Prelude

Partita on The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came
Lynn Liepold, organ

Kevin J. Sadowski, arr.
(1955-2003)

The prelude is a time for quiet reflection.

Call to Worship

Rev Adam Blons

Hymn

Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates

see back of bulletin

Prayer of Invocation

Response

In excelsis Deo

GLORIA

Glo - - - - -

- - - - - ri-a, in ex-cel-sis De-o! Glo - - - - -

- - - - - ri-a, in ex-cel-sis De - - - o!

Passing of the Peace

Children's Message

Rev. Corinne Freedman Ellis

Response

From Heaven Above
Chapel Choir

Nancy Lancaster

From heaven above to earth He comes, Alleluia.
To bring good news to everyone, Alleluia.

Lighting of the Fourth Advent Candle: Love

Connie Lindberg

Scripture Readings

Luke 1:39-45

Christine Ford

One: May these words be to us our light and our life.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Hymn

Mary, Woman of the Promise

see back of bulletin

Welcome

Gathering Our Prayers

Lord's Prayer

Our Father/Creator, 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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Offertory

Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day
Lynn Liepold, organ

James Biery
(b. 1956)

Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God all creatures here below,
Praise God above, ye heavenly host,
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Hymn

Watcher, Tell Us of the Night

see back of bulletin

Benediction

Response

While We are Waiting, Come

WAITING

While we are wait - ting come;
while we are wait - ing come. Je - sus, our Lord, Em -
man - u - el, while we are wait - ing, come. A - men.

Postlude

Advent Medley
Lynn Liepold, organ

Rebecca K. Owens



Notes About Our Service

We affirm many words and images to talk about God. Feel free to change the words as you speak or sing to those you prefer.

Support people growing in love of God and neighbor through Macalester Plymouth United Church! To give to the church, text GIVE2MPUC to 73256 and follow the prompts, send a check to the church address below, or [click here](#). We've found Sunday mornings to be a time of heavy traffic for online giving overall. You may find it easier to give online later in the day or another day. Thank you for your patience and flexibility.

Church Staff

Adam Blons, Lead Minister

Corinne Freedman Ellis, Minister of
Congregational Life

Christine Ford, Seminary Intern

Brad Bradshaw, Director of Music

Ginger Schneider, Office Administrator

Meegan Hall, Communications Specialist

Lauren Dickinson, Youth Faith Formation
Coordinator

Lynn Liepold, Interim Organist

Penny Heubach, Wedding Coordinator

Ellen Hedrick, 55+ Director

Cassie Sawyer and Mike Jenkins, Student
Residents

Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates

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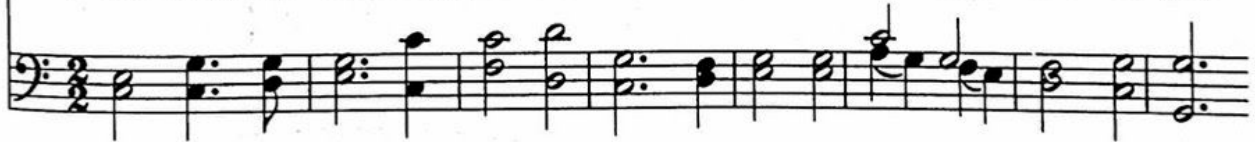
Georg Weissel, 1641

Ps. 24:7-10

Transl. Catherine Winkworth, 1865; alt.



1 Lift up your heads, O might-y gates; be-hold the glo - rious Rul - er waits!
2 Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a tem - ple, set a - part
3 Re - deem - er, come! I o - pen wide my heart to you; here, Christ, a - bide!
4 So come, my Sov - ereign; en - ter in! Let new and no - bler life be - gin;



The Sov - ereign One is draw - ing near; the Sav - ior of the world is here.
From earth - ly use for heaven's em - ploy, a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.
Let me your in - ner pres - ence feel; your grace and love in me re - veal.
Your Ho - ly Spir - it guide us on, un - til the glo - rious crown be won.



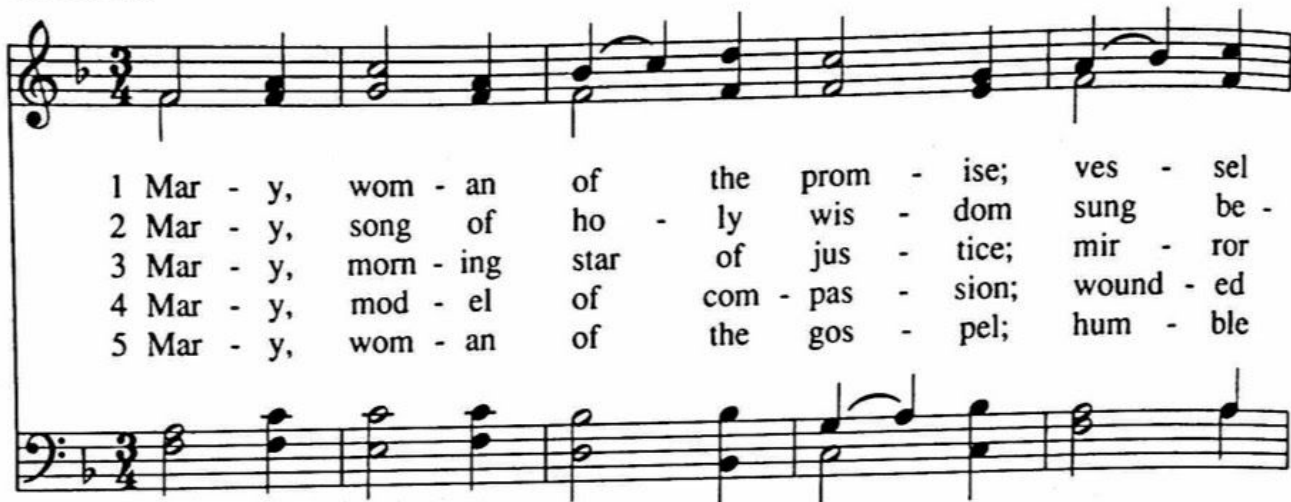
Georg Weissel, a Lutheran pastor, served a church in Königsberg, East Prussia. He wrote some twenty hymns, most of them for the great festivals of the church year. This hymn was written for Advent.

Tune: TRURO L.M.
Thomas Williams' Psalmodia Evangelica, 1789

Mary, Woman of the Promise

Luke 1:39-55

Mary Frances Fleischaker, 1988



1 Mar - y, wom - an of the prom - ise; ves - sel
 2 Mar - y, song of ho - ly wis - dom sung be -
 3 Mar - y, morn - ing star of jus - tice; mir - ror
 4 Mar - y, mod - el of com - pas - sion; wound - ed
 5 Mar - y, wom - an of the gos - pel; hum - ble



of your peo - ple's dreams: Through your o - pen,
 fore the world be - gan: Faith - ful to the
 of the Ra - diant Light: In the shad - ows
 by your off - spring's pain: When our hearts are
 home for trea - sured seed: Help us to be



will - ing spir - it wa - ters of God's good - ness streamed.
 Word with - in you, as you bore God's won - drous plan.
 of life's jour - ney, be a bea - con for our sight.
 torn by sor - row, teach us how to love a - gain.
 true dis - ci - ples, bear - ing fruit in word and deed.

Watcher, Tell Us of the Night

*Isa. 21:11-12**John Bowring, 1825; alt.*

1 Watch-er, tell us of the night, what its signs of prom-ise are.
 2 Watch-er, tell us of the night, high-er yet that star as-cends.
 3 Watch-er, tell us of the night, for the morn-ing seems to dawn.

Trav - eler, O a won-drous sight! See that glo-ry - beam-ing star!
 Trav - eler, bless-ed - ness and light, peace and truth its course por - tends.
 Trav - eler, shad-ows take their flight, doubt and ter-ror are with-drawn.

Watch-er, does its beau - teous ray news of joy or hope fore - tell?
 Watch-er, will its beams a - lone gild the spot that gave them birth?
 Watch-er, you may go your way; has - ten to your qui - et home.

Trav-eler, yes; it brings the day, prom - ised day of Is - ra - el!
 Trav-eler, a - ges are its own; see, it bursts o'er all the earth!
 Trav-eler, I re - joice to-day, for Em - man - u - el has come!

This hymn, a dialogue between watcher and traveler, was suggested by the dialogue in Isaiah 21:11-12. John Bowring was a gifted linguist, worker for political and social reform, member of Parliament, and governor of Hong Kong.

Tune: ABERYSTWYTH 7.7.7.7.D.

Joseph Parry, 1879

Alternate tune: ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR