

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates 93

1 Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates; be - hold the
 2 Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a
 3 Re - deem - er, come! I o - pen wide my heart to

King of glo - ry waits; the King of kings is
 tem - ple, set a - part from earth - ly use for
 thee; here, Lord, a - bide. Let me thy in - ner

draw - ing near; the Sav - ior of the world is here.
 heaven's em - ploy, a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.
 pres - ence feel; thy grace and love in me re - veal.

Beginning as a paraphrase of Psalm 24:7–10, this text then applies the door imagery to the singer's heart, and concludes with the individual's welcome of the approaching Savior. It is set to a very effective anonymous 18th-century English tune that has served many texts.

JESUS CHRIST: ADVENT

94 Now the Heavens Start to Whisper

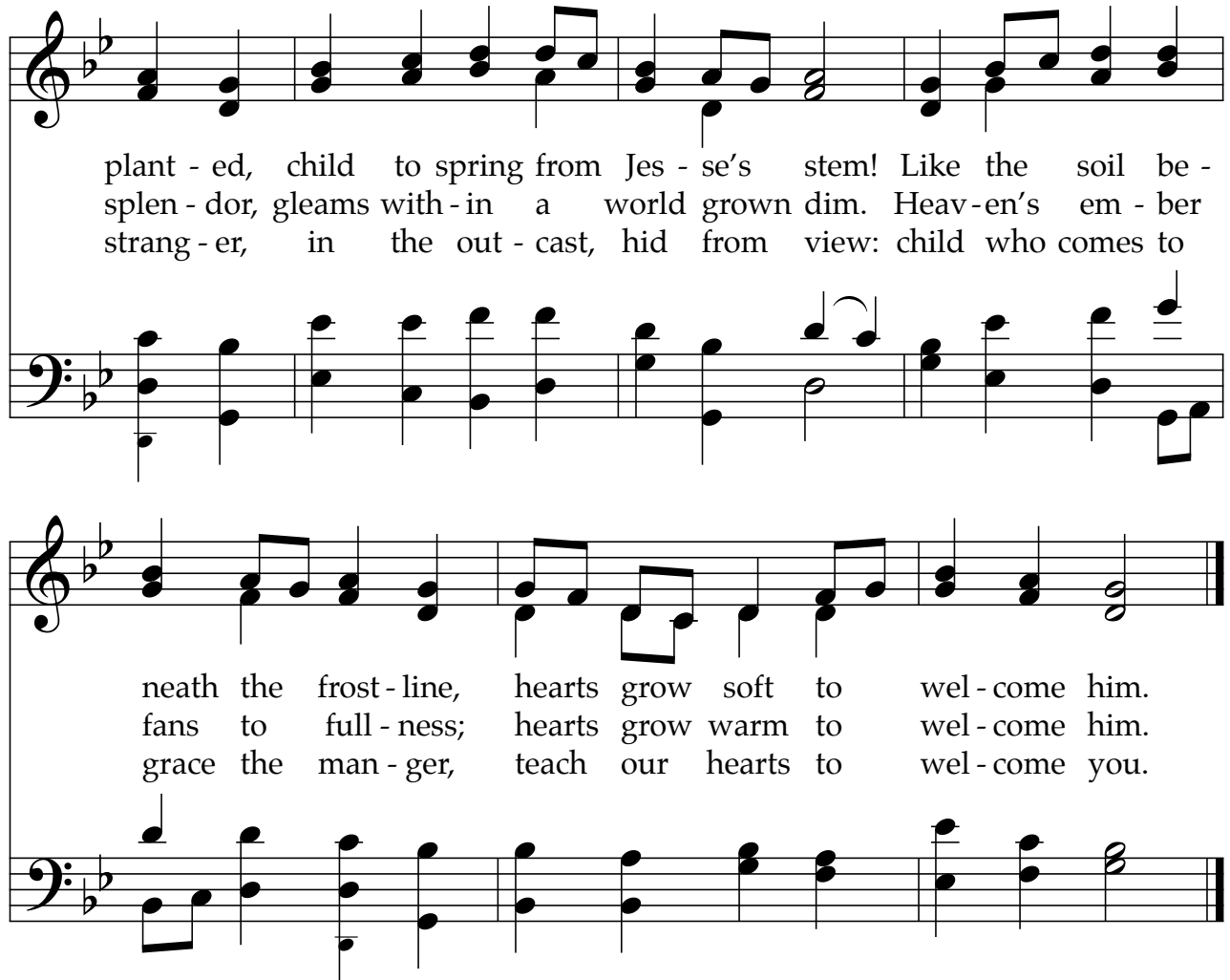
1 Now the heav - ens start to whis - per, as the veil is
 2 Heav - y clouds that block the moon - light now be - gin to
 3 Christ, e - ter - nal Sun of jus - tice, Christ, the rose of

grow - ing thin. Earth from slum - ber wakes to lis - ten
 drift a - way. Dia - mond bril - liance through the dark - ness
 wis - dom's seed, come to bless with fire and fra - grance

to the stir - ring, faint with - in: seed of prom - ise, deep - ly
 shines the hope of com - ing day. Christ, the morn - ing star of
 hours of yearn - ing, hurt, and need. In the lone - ly, in the

This Advent text artfully interweaves what is hidden and what is revealed, primarily in the coming of the long-awaited Messiah. But Christ himself taught us about another hidden truth, his presence in the "least of these" (Matthew 25:40, 45), whom we are also called to welcome.

JESUS CHRIST: ADVENT



plant - ed, child to spring from Jes - se's stem! Like the soil be -
splen - dor, gleams with - in a world grown dim. Heav - en's em - ber
strang - er, in the out - cast, hid from view: child who comes to

neath the frost - line, hearts grow soft to wel - come him.
fans to full - ness; hearts grow warm to wel - come him.
grace the man - ger, teach our hearts to wel - come you.

348 Lo, He Comes with Clouds

Descending

1 Lo, he comes with clouds de - scend - ing,
 2 Now re - demp - tion, long ex - pect - ed,
 3 Yea, a - men, let all a - dore thee,

once for our sal - va - tion slain; thou - sand,
 comes in sol - emn splen - dor near; all the
 high on thine e - ter - nal throne; Sav - ior,

thou - sand saints at - tend - ing join to
 saints this world re - ject - ed thrill the
 take the power and glo - ry; claim the

Despite unclear musical origins, the result here is a characteristic early Methodist hymn tune, notable for its breadth and range. It effectively sets a text of similarly mixed sources, one that Charles Wesley regarded as related to "Thy kingdom come" in the Lord's Prayer.

CHRIST'S RETURN AND JUDGMENT

sing the glad re - frain: Al - le -
 trum - pet sound to hear: Al - le -
 king - dom as thine own. Come, Lord

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
 Je - sus; come, Lord Je - sus; come, Lord

lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.
 lu - ia! See the day of God ap - pear!
 Je - sus. Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone!