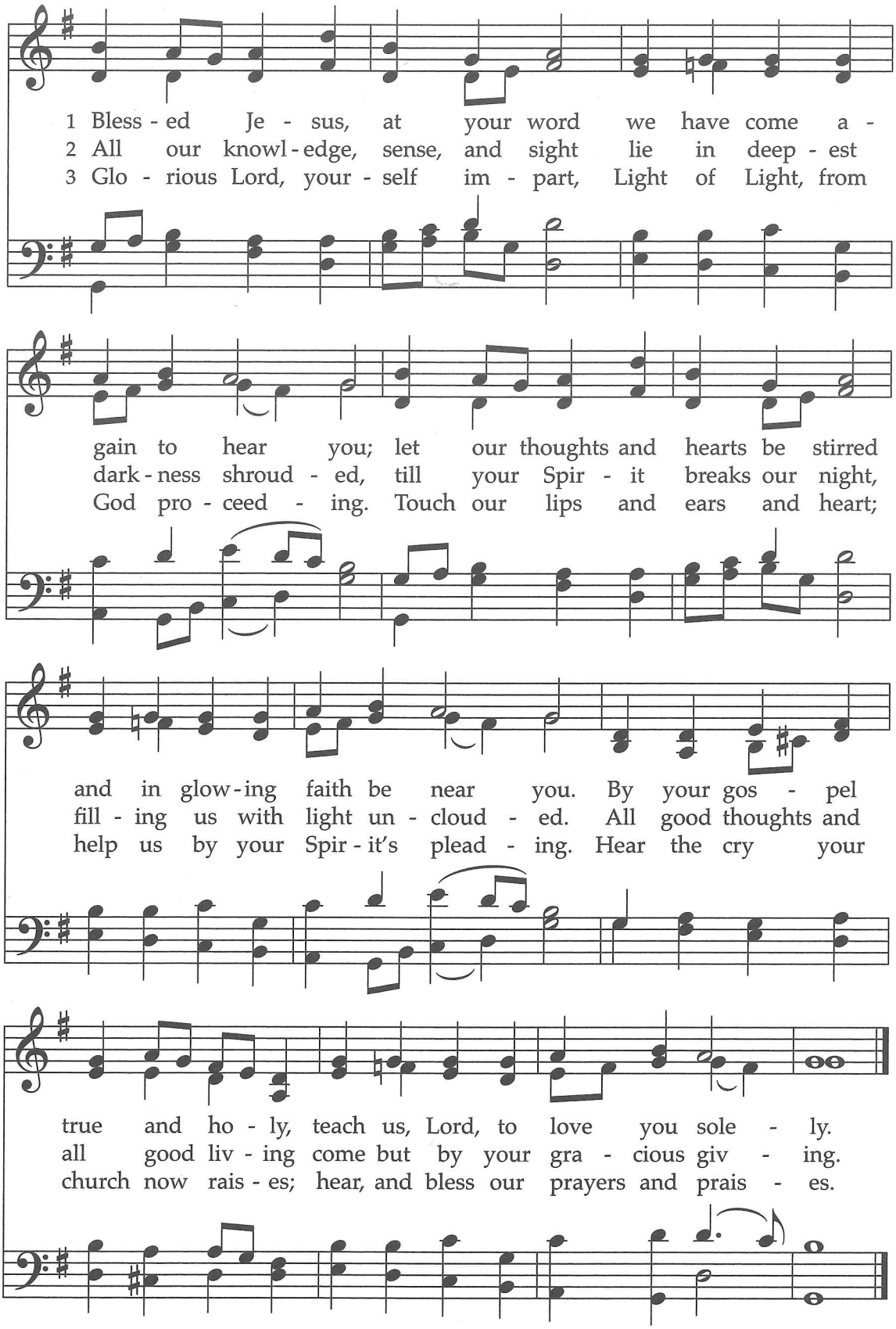
395 Blessed Jesus, at Your Word



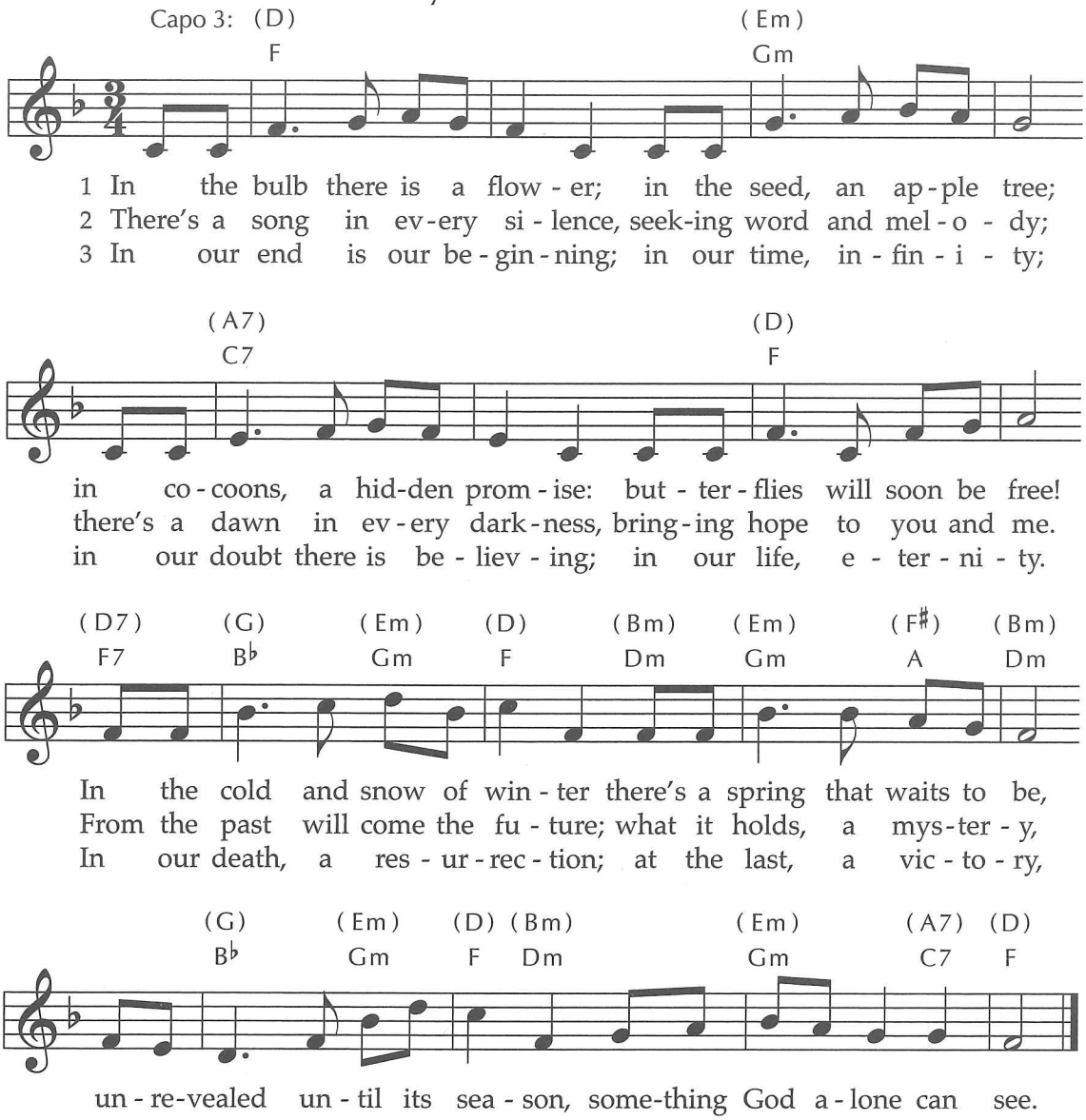
Originally conceived to be sung before the sermon, this hymn assumes a congregation that assembles regularly, and it needs to be placed near the beginning rather than the end of worship. The simple repetitive tune reinforces the text's sense of receptivity and expectation.

TEXT: Tobias Clausnitzer, 1663; trans. Catherine Winkworth, 1858, alt.
MUSIC: Johann Rudolph Ahle, 1664; harm. Johann Sebastian Bach, 18th cent., alt.

LIEBSTER JESU
7.8.7.8.8.8

In the Bulb There Is a Flower 250

Hymn of Promise



The writing of this hymn was spurred by a line from the poet T. S. Eliot: "In my end is my beginning." Shortly after this piece was completed, the author/composer's husband was diagnosed with what proved to be a terminal malignancy, and the original anthem version of this hymn was sung at his funeral.

TEXT and MUSIC: Natalie Sleeth, 1986
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PROMISE
8.7.8.7.D