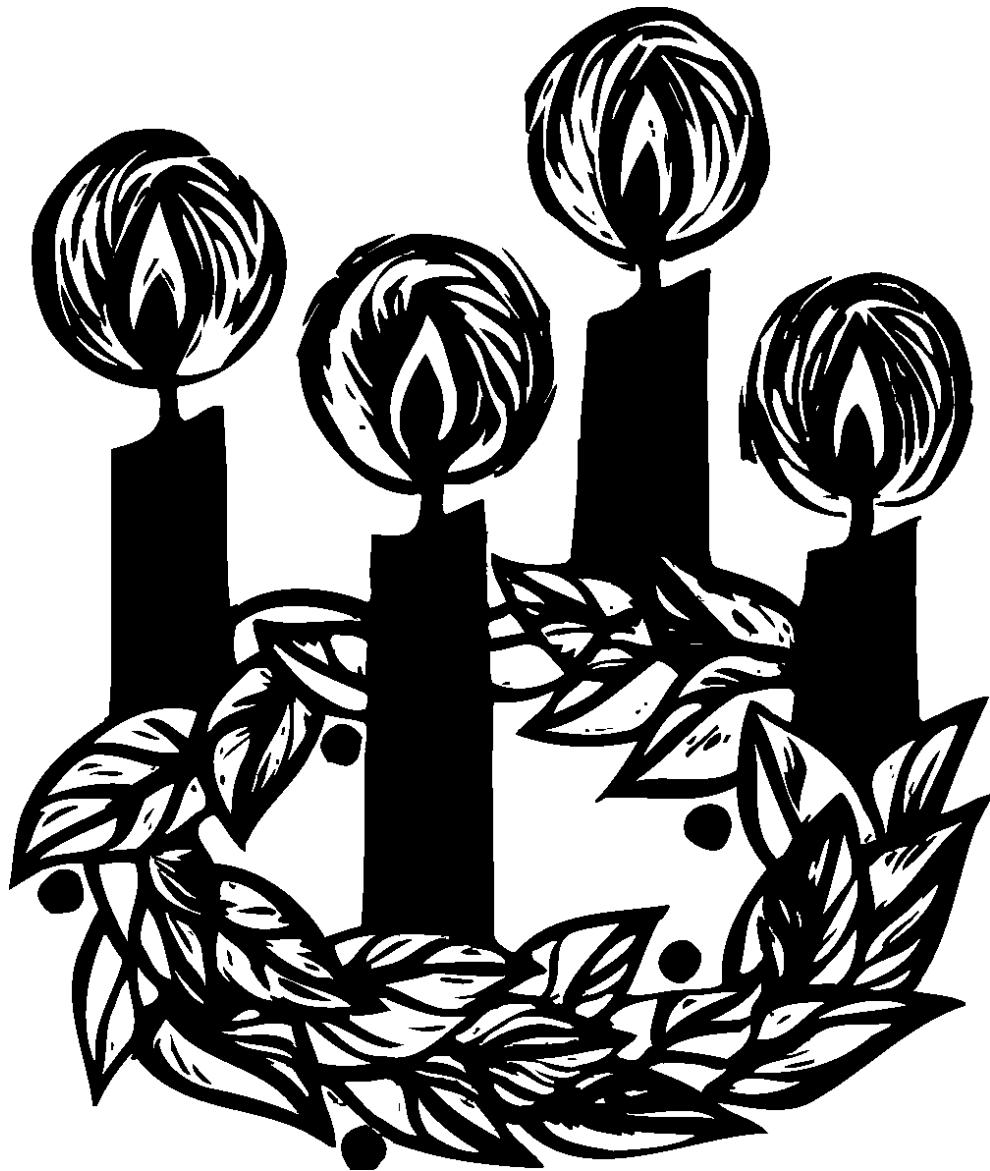


# The Third Sunday of Advent

## Worship Service



*Emmanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church*

*10:15 AM, Sanctuary  
December 14, 2025*

## **Visitors & Saints of Emmanuel:**

Welcome! You'll find announcements, contact information, and more on the back of this bulletin. If you'd like to speak with Pastor Justin and/or request prayer, fill out a Contact Card and place it in the offering.

The liturgy (our worship service) comes from Scripture. The whole service is ordered and designed to use God's Word to bring praise and thanks and glory to God. The earliest Christian churches gathered to pray, to hear teaching, and to partake in the bread and the wine of Holy Communion.

*All who are baptized in the name of the Triune God, believe in the real presence of Jesus in the bread and the wine of Holy Communion, and are repentant of their sins are welcome at the Lord's Table.*

## **A Message on this Third Sunday of Advent from Pastor Justin Baker**

*"Are you the one who is to come or shall we seek another?"*

What a strange question that John's messengers send Jesus! John, the same one who called Jesus "the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world" -- his own cousin! -- now seems to have doubts.

Jesus response outlines his ministry: *"the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them."*

Why is this his response? Because this is what Jesus promised to do at the beginning of his ministry. Immediately after the Temptation, Jesus enters a synagogue, picks up the scroll of Isaiah, and tells the people that *he* is the one whom Isaiah foretold. Jesus' ministry and mission is singularly focused on *undoing death* – on undoing the death of sight and sound and skin and body and favor. All that blights the body and soul will come to an end. Jesus will destroy death.

Jesus turns next to the ministry of John, reinforcing and reminding the people that John is the one who was to come to prepare his way. John's ministry – which is at the heart of his question to Jesus – has not been a failure, because he has prepared the way for the Christ.

*Most Holy God, allot to us each a portion of ministry, and enable us to be faithful to you and fruitful in our work, to the glory of your Holy Name, in the Name of Jesus, Amen.*

*Confession will be led from the altar and there will be no procession during advent.*

## ✠ *Lutheran Book of Worship, Setting One* ✠

### **Prelude**

WOODWIND QUINTET

*Lo! He Comes With Clouds Descending*

*Setting* Thomas Olivers (1725-1799)

*Prepare the Royal Highway*

*Setting* Henry Gerike (1948-2025)

*The Advent of Our King*

*Setting* Aaron Williams (1731-1776)

### **Invocation & Order of Confession**

**P** In the Name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen

**P** Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C** Amen

**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence follows for confession.*

**P** Most merciful God,

**C** We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen

**P** Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen

# Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Carol McDowell

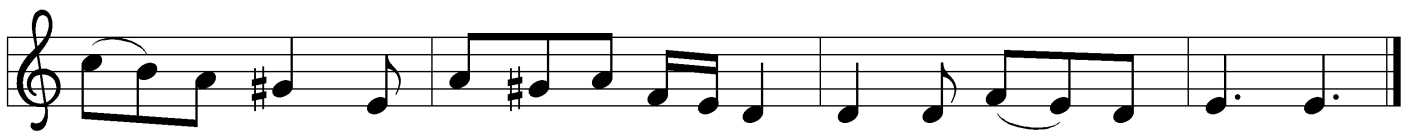
*The designated family comes forward for the lighting of the advent candle and the reading.*

## The Hymn

ELW 240



- 1 Light one can-dle to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.  
2 Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.  
3 Light three can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra-el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.  
He shall feed the flock like a shep-herd, gent - ly lead them home-ward.  
Lift your heads and lift high the gate-way for the King of glo - ry.

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954

Music: TIF IN VELDELE, Yiddish folk tune

Text © 1984 Fortress Press, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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## The Reading

- ❑ We first lit the Prophet's Candle of Hope. Next we lit the Bethlehem Candle of Peace.
- ❑ Today we light the Shepherd's Candle of Joy, for the Lord looked with favor upon the shepherds, who were among the first to hear the joyous news.
- ❑ A reading from Luke: "And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. And the angel said to them, 'Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great **joy** that will be for all the people.'" (Luke 2:8-10)
- ❑ **May the joy of the Lord be with us all! Amen**

# Opening Hymn | Oh Come, Oh Come... (Verses 1, 2, 3)

LH 62

Is. 59: 20

8. 8. 8. 8. 8. 8.

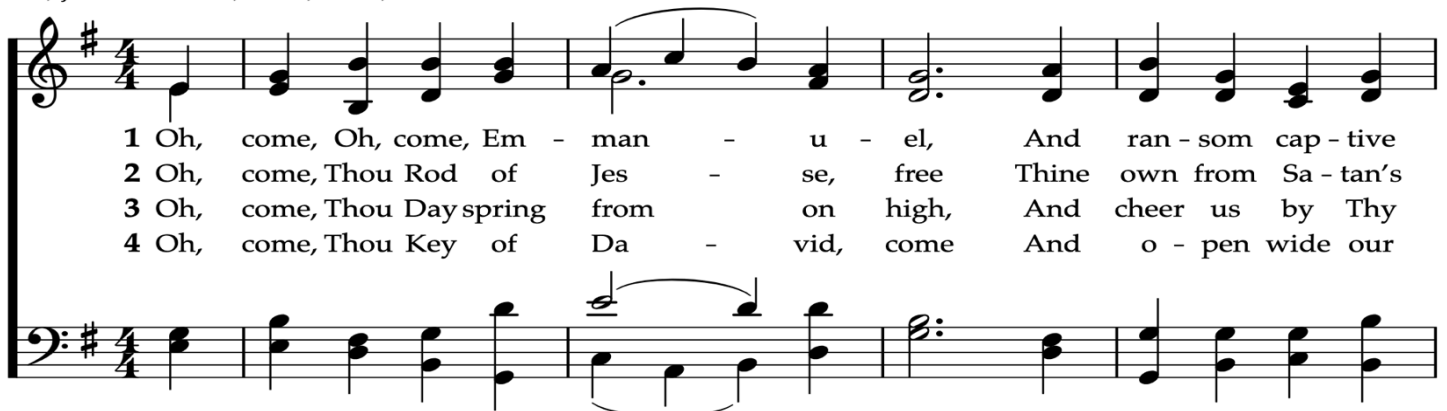
Veni, veni, Emmanuel

Latin author unknown, c. 1100

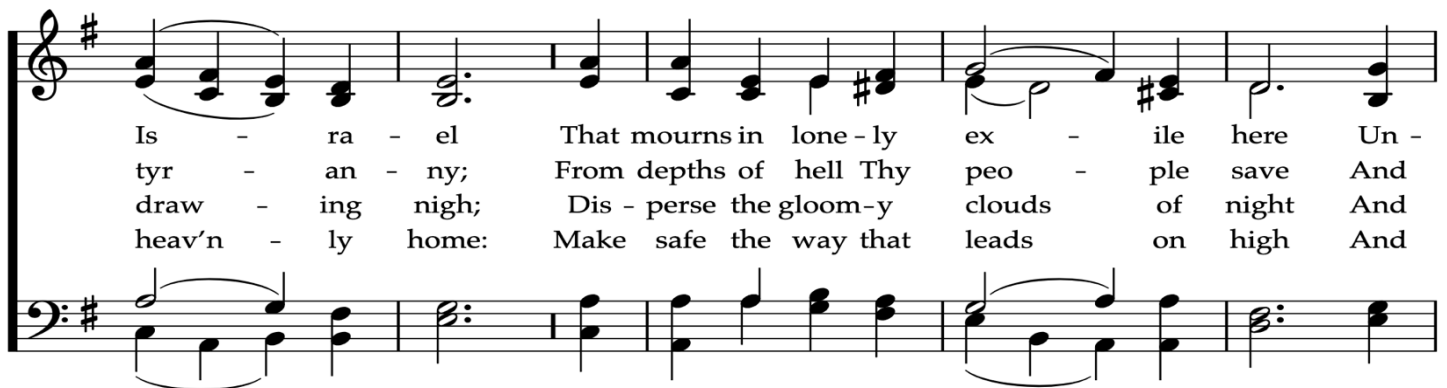
Tr., John M. Neale, 1851, 1859, ab.

**Veni, Emmanuel**

Plain-song melody, c. 1200



1 Oh, come, Oh, come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som cap - tive  
 2 Oh, come, Thou Rod of Jes - se, free Thine own from Sa - tan's  
 3 Oh, come, Thou Day spring from on high, And cheer us by Thy  
 4 Oh, come, Thou Key of Da - vid, come And o - pen wide our



Is - ra - el That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here Un -  
 tyr - an - ny; From depths of hell Thy peo - ple save And  
 draw - ing nigh; Dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night And  
 heav'n - ly home: Make safe the way that leads on high And



til the Son of God ap - pear. Re - joice! Re - joice! Em -  
 give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave. Re - joice! Re - joice! Em -  
 death's dark shad - ows put to flight. Re - joice! Re - joice! Em -  
 close the path to mis - er - y. Re - joice! Re - joice! Em -

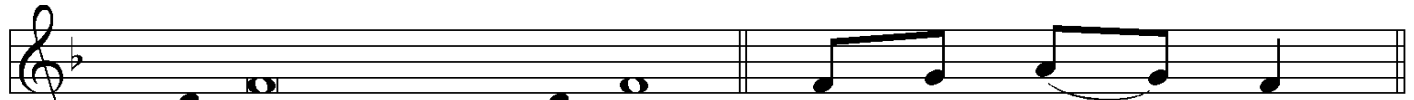


man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.  
 man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.  
 man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.  
 man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el. A - men.

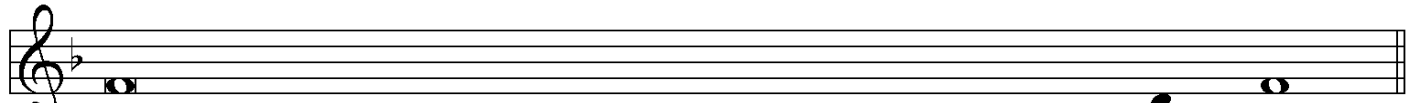
## Apostolic Greeting & Kyrie

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


**C** And also with you.



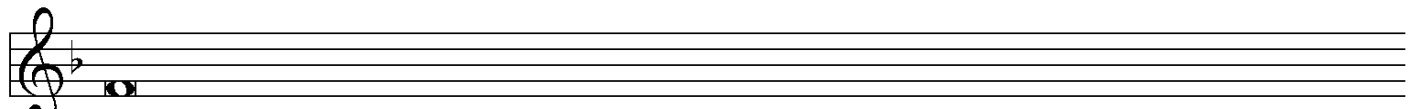
**A** In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



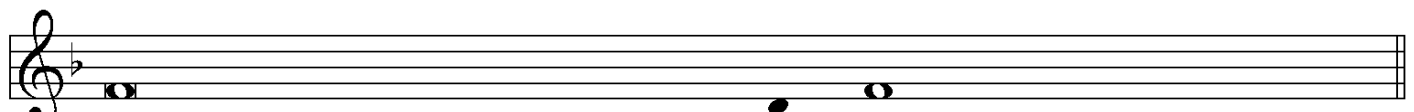
**A** For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



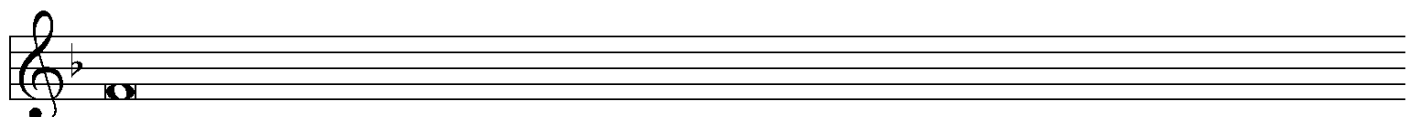
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



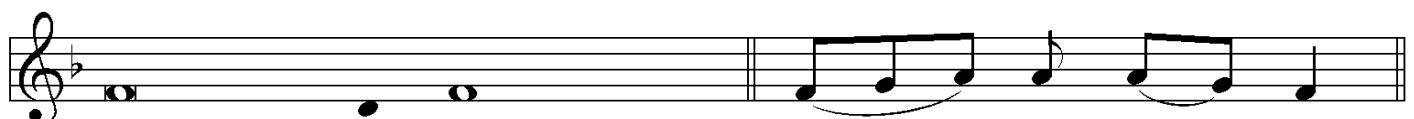
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



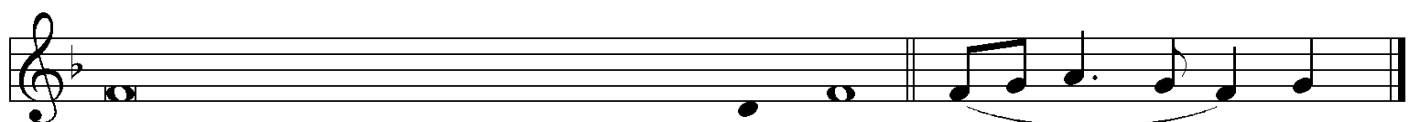
**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **C** A - men

## Salutation & Prayer of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray,

**C** O Lord Jesu Christ, who at thy first coming didst send thy messenger to prepare thy way before thee: Grant that the ministers and stewards of thy mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready thy way, by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at thy second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in thy sight, who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

### The First Lesson

**Isaiah 40:1-8**

*A reading from Isaiah, beginning with the fortieth chapter.*

<sup>1</sup>Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.

<sup>2</sup>Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,

and cry to her

that her warfare is ended,

that her iniquity is pardoned,

that she has received from the LORD's hand

double for all her sins.

<sup>3</sup>A voice cries:

"In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD;

make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

<sup>4</sup>Every valley shall be lifted up,

and every mountain and hill be made low;

the uneven ground shall become level,

and the rough places a plain.

<sup>5</sup>And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,

and all flesh shall see it together,  
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

<sup>6</sup> A voice says, “Cry!”

And I said, “What shall I cry?”

All flesh is grass,

and all its beauty is like the flower of the field.

<sup>7</sup> The grass withers, the flower fades

when the breath of the LORD blows on it;

surely the people are grass.

<sup>8</sup> The grass withers, the flower fades,

but the word of our God will stand forever.

**A** The Word of the Lord.

**G** Thanks be to God.

## **Psalm 85 (congregation responds with the bold text)**

<sup>1</sup> LORD, you were favorable to your land;

you restored the fortunes of Jacob.

<sup>2</sup> **You forgave the iniquity of your people;**

**you covered all their sin. *Selah***

<sup>3</sup> You withdrew all your wrath;

you turned from your hot anger.

<sup>4</sup> **Restore us again, O God of our salvation,**

**and put away your indignation toward us!**

<sup>5</sup> Will you be angry with us forever?

Will you prolong your anger to all generations?

<sup>6</sup> **Will you not revive us again,**

**that your people may rejoice in you?**

<sup>7</sup> Show us your steadfast love, O LORD,

and grant us your salvation.

<sup>8</sup> **Let me hear what God the LORD will speak,**

**for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints;**

**but let them not turn back to folly.**



<sup>9</sup> Surely his salvation is near to those who fear him,  
that glory may dwell in our land.

<sup>10</sup> **Steadfast love and faithfulness meet;  
righteousness and peace kiss each other.**

<sup>11</sup> Faithfulness springs up from the ground,  
and righteousness looks down from the sky.

<sup>12</sup> **Yes, the LORD will give what is good,  
and our land will yield its increase.**

<sup>13</sup> **Righteousness will go before him  
and make his footsteps a way.**

## **The Second Lesson**

## **1 Corinthians 4:1-5**

*A reading from First Corinthians, beginning with the fourth chapter.*

<sup>1</sup>This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. <sup>2</sup>Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found faithful. <sup>3</sup>But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by any human court. In fact, I do not even judge myself. <sup>4</sup>For I am not aware of anything against myself, but I am not thereby acquitted. It is the Lord who judges me. <sup>5</sup>Therefore do not pronounce judgment before the time, before the Lord comes, who will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Then each one will receive his commendation from God.

**A** The Word of the Lord.

**G** Thanks be to God.

## **Children's Sermon**

**P** Matthew records this about the greatest in the kingdom of heaven:

**18** At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" <sup>2</sup> And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them <sup>3</sup> and said, "Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. <sup>4</sup> Whoever humbles himself like this child

is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>5</sup>Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, <sup>6</sup>but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea.”

All little ones – and any others – are invited forward for a message and for prayer.

*When the children’s sermon is concluded, the people stand for the hymn and remain standing for the Holy Gospel.*



## The Holy Gospel

Matthew 11:2-10

**P** The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew, the 11<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**C** Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>2</sup>Now when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples <sup>3</sup>and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” <sup>4</sup>And Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: <sup>5</sup>the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. <sup>6</sup>And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

<sup>7</sup>As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? <sup>8</sup>What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing?

Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses. <sup>9</sup>What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet.

<sup>10</sup>This is he of whom it is written,

*“Behold, I send my messenger before your face,  
who will prepare your way before you.”*

**P** The Gospel of our Lord.

**C** Praise to you, O Christ.

## Sermon

Pastor Justin Baker

*A large print copy of this sermon is available from the ushers.*

## Hymn of the Day | Hail to the Lord's Anointed

LBW 87



1 Hail to the Lord's a - noint - ed, great Da - vid's great - er Son!  
2 He comes with res - cue speed - y to those who suf - fer wrong,  
3 He shall come down like show - ers up - on the fruit - ful earth;  
4 Kings shall fall down be - fore him, and gold and in - cense bring;



Hail, in the time ap - point - ed, his reign on earth be - gun!  
to help the poor and need - y, and bid the weak be strong;  
and love, joy, hope, like flow - ers, spring in his path to birth.  
all na - tions shall a - dore him, his praise all peo - ple sing.



He comes to break op - pres - sion, to set the cap - tive free,  
to give them songs for sigh - ing, their dark - ness turn to light,  
Be - fore him on the moun - tains shall peace, the her - ald, go;  
To him shall prayer un - ceas - ing and dai - ly vows as - cend;



to take a - way trans - gres - sion and rule in eq - ui - ty.  
whose souls, con - demned and dy - ing, were pre - cious in his sight.  
and righ - teous - ness in foun - tains from hill to val - ley flow.  
his king - dom still in - creas - ing, a king - dom with - out end.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854

Music: FREUT EUCH, IHR LIEBEN, Leonhart Schröter, 1540–1602

# The Nicene Creed

**P** People of God, in whom do you believe?

**C** We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.  
Through Him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven;  
By the power of the Holy Spirit  
He became incarnate of the virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
He suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
And his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world  
to come. Amen

## The Prayers

- P** As we await the coming of Jesus in majesty, let us pray for the Church, the world, and for all people according to their need.

*A brief silence is kept.*

- A** “Yes, the LORD will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase.”

O Holy God, we come to you in prayer, asking for you to give us what is good. We thank you for always listening to us, especially these ways we know you heard us and answered us:

*A sufficient pause is kept that thanksgiving for answered prayers may be offered.*

Lord, in your mercy,

- C** **hear our prayer.**

- A** Heavenly Father, we long for the coming of our Lord Jesus, to raise the dead, judge the world, make all things right, and bring us with him into life and glory forevermore. Bless us with this faith in your Son. Lord, in your mercy,

- C** **hear our prayer.**

- A** Guide all Christians gathered here: give us grace to listen, ponder, and obey your Word. In all we do, help us prepare your way into the hearts of others, especially those who walk in the darkness of doubt or despair. Pour out your favor upon our congregation, upon fellow area congregations, for Salem Lutheran Church of Smicksburg, for Reverend Joyce Dix-Weiers, and for Reverend Matthew Vatalare. Lord, in your mercy,

- C** **hear our prayer.**

- A** Come quickly, Savior. Vindicate those who are persecuted on account of Your holy Name. Decide with equity on their behalf. Lay low the wicked who refuse to repent. And hasten the day when no one shall hurt or destroy on Your holy mountain. Lord, in your mercy,

- C** **hear our prayer.**

**A** Bless seminarians and all who are called into holy ministry. Grant them right judgment, godly actions, and joy in Your presence. Bless also those missionaries whom we have come to know together with their families: the Rev. Dan Omar, the Rev. Thomas Thorstad, Dure Negassa, and the Rev. Dagaga Gemachu. Lord, in your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**A** Continue to bless Faith Palmer with faith. Remember also all those who have been baptized and confirmed in this congregation. Stir up in those who have left the faith an urge to return to You. Lord, in your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**A** Come quickly, Lord Jesus. Banish those things which trouble Your people in body, mind, heart or soul. We lift before You especially:

*George and Donna Campagna, Linda Casper, Suzanne & Ernesto Carns & family, May Hill, Jim Troxell, David Weihe, Vince Berardinelli, Gayle Wertz, June Ugen, Addison, Sandra, Zachary, Kevin, David, Kathy, Asa, Jerry, Jack, Al & family, Beth, Colleen, Rachael, Leila, Darin, Les & Cathy, Tony, Sarah, and Harry*

We also lift up the names of those for whom we now pray, silently or aloud. *A pause is kept that other names and supplications may be offered.*

Pour out your Spirit upon them, that they may be granted the faith to endure. Lord, in your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**A** Come quickly, Lord of Life. Reunite us with all the saints who from their labors rest. We ask especially that you watch over *the family of Debbie Pritts, the family of Cathy, the family of Rosalie, the family of Ray, the and the family of Tom.* Fill all families who mourn with the strength to grieve, the comfort of your presence, and faith unto life everlasting. Help us also withstand the bitter challenges we face and support one another along our pilgrim road to you. Lord, in your mercy.

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Fill this congregation with the faith that endures unto life eternal. Make us one people united in prayer. Send families, children, widows & widowers, the elderly, and any others into our midst, that they may also be filled with faith, encourage this congregation, and bring honor and glory and praise to your name. Lord, in your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C** **Amen**

## THE CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

- ☐ *Then people will come from east and west, from north and south, and will eat in the kingdom of God. Blessed is the one who will eat bread in the kingdom of God! (Luke 13:29; 14:15)*

### **The Peace & Offertory**

- ☐ The peace of the Lord be with you always.

- ☑ **And also with you.**

### WOODWIND QUINTET

*The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns*                      Setting Paul J. Grime, 1936

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*                      Setting Winfred Douglas (1867-1944)

### ***Prayer for the Laying on of Hands***

*Anyone who desires healing for the sick through the anointing of oil may request this from Pastor Justin.*



# Offering of Praise | Come, Ye Thankful People (Vs. 1, 4) LH 574

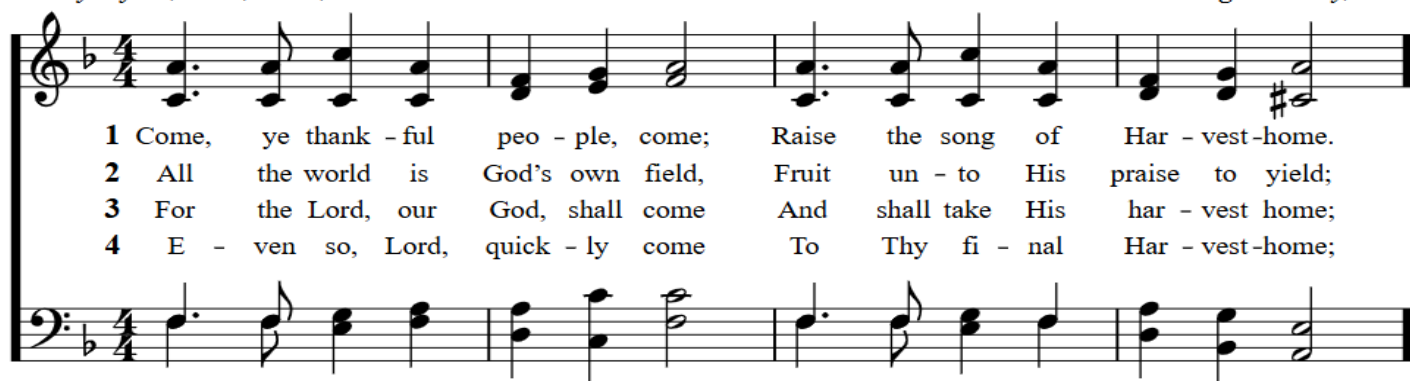
Is. 9: 3

Henry Alford, 1844, cento, alt.

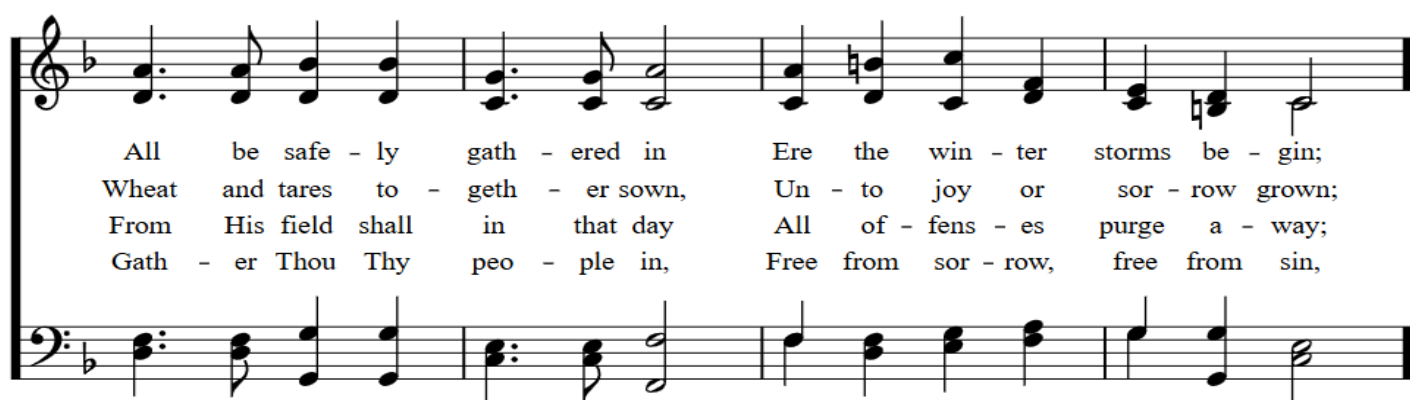
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St. George

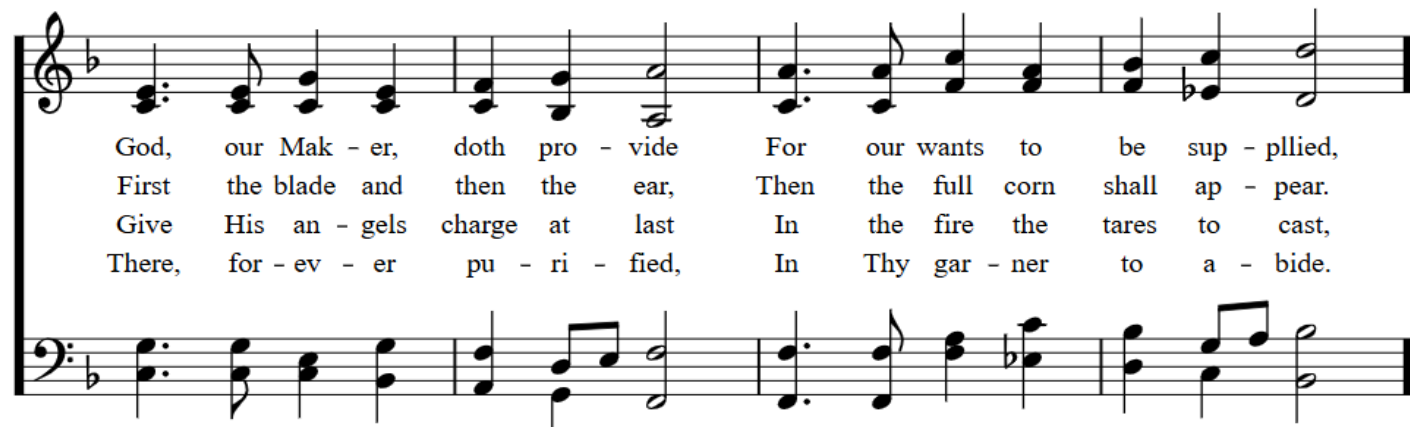
George J. Elvey, 1858



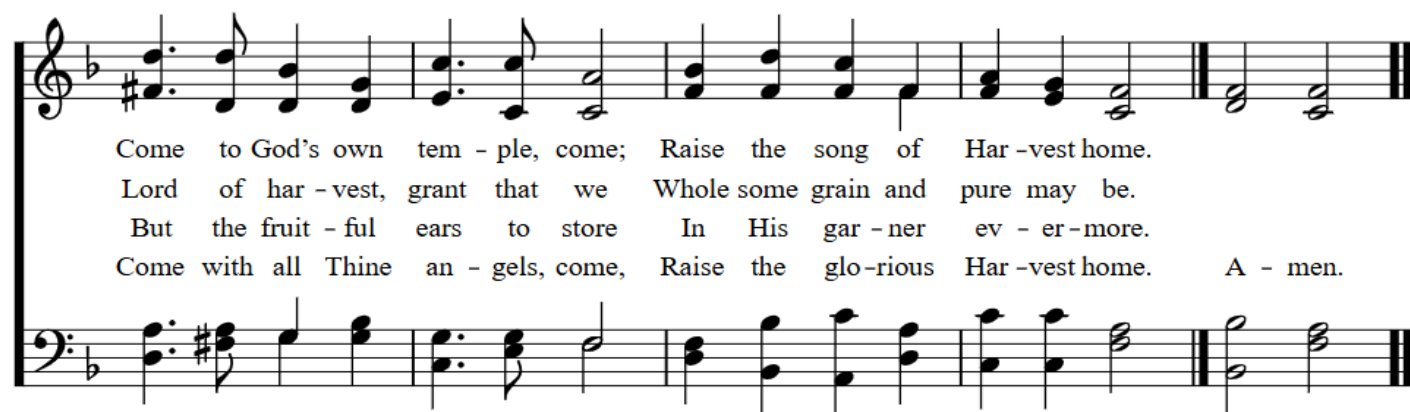
1 Come, ye thank - ful peo - ple, come; Raise the song of Har - vest-home.  
 2 All the world is God's own field, Fruit un - to His praise to yield;  
 3 For the Lord, our God, shall come And shall take His har - vest home;  
 4 E - ven so, Lord, quick - ly come To Thy fi - nal Har - vest-home;



All be safe - ly gath - ered in Ere the win - ter storms be - gin;  
 Wheat and tares to - geth - er sown, Un - to joy or sor - row grown;  
 From His field shall in that day All of - fens - es purge a - way;  
 Gath - er Thou Thy peo - ple in, Free from sor - row, free from sin,



God, our Mak - er, doth pro - vide For our wants to be sup - plied,  
 First the blade and then the ear, Then the full corn shall ap - pear.  
 Give His an - gels charge at last In the fire the tares to cast,  
 There, for - ev - er pu - ri - fied, In Thy gar - ner to a - bide.

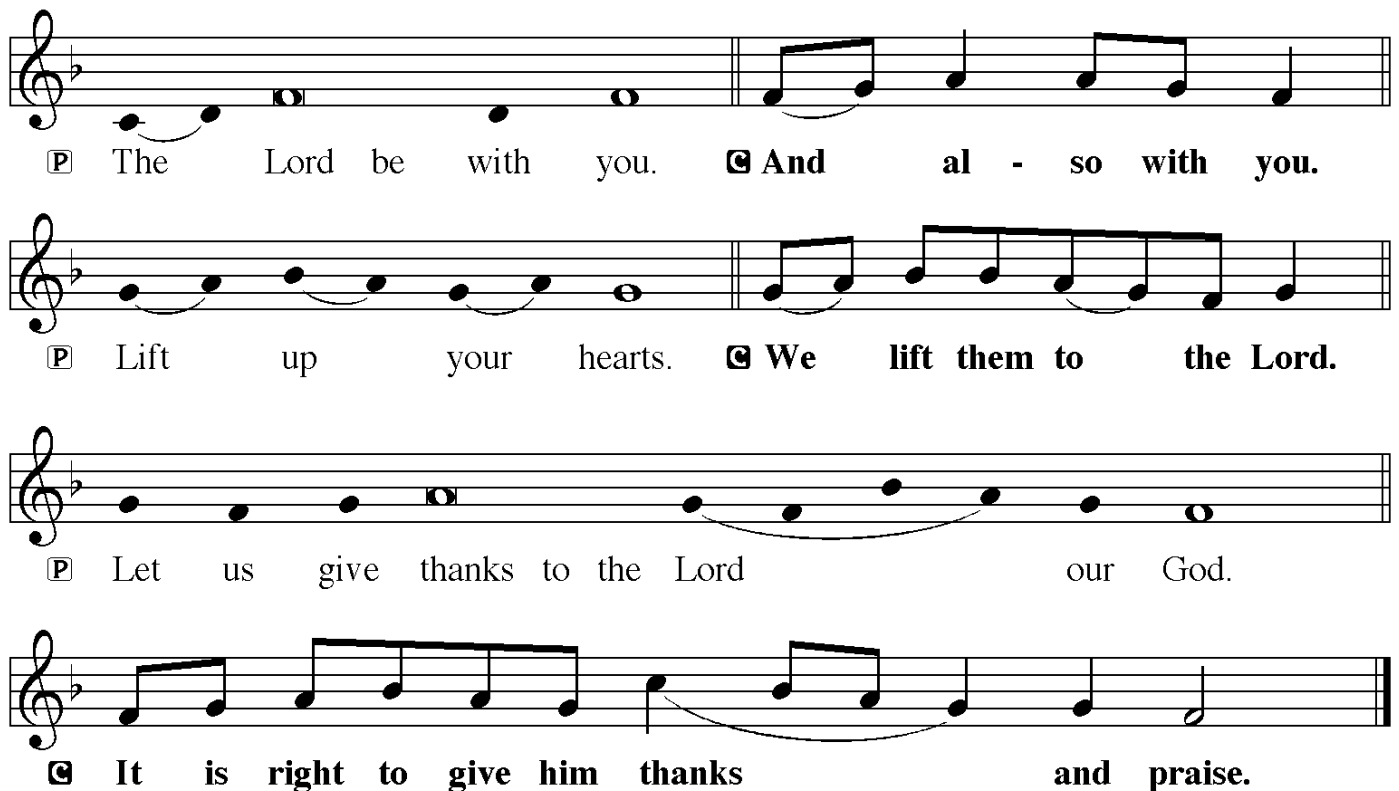


Come to God's own tem - ple, come; Raise the song of Har - vest home.  
 Lord of har - vest, grant that we Whole some grain and pure may be.  
 But the fruit - ful ears to store In His gar - ner ev - er-more.  
 Come with all Thine an - gels, come, Raise the glo - rious Har - vest home. A - men.

## Offertory Prayer

- A** Let us pray. Merciful Father,  
**C** We offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

## The Great Thanksgiving



The musical notation consists of four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The first staff contains two measures: the first measure has a whole note G4, and the second measure has a whole note F4. The second staff contains two measures: the first measure has a whole note E4, and the second measure has a whole note D4. The third staff contains two measures: the first measure has a whole note C4, and the second measure has a whole note B3. The fourth staff contains two measures: the first measure has a whole note A3, and the second measure has a whole note G3. The lyrics are written below the notes, with a 'P' (Piano) marking at the beginning of each line and a 'C' (Crescendo) marking at the beginning of the second line.

**P** The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

**P** Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** It is right to give him thanks and praise.

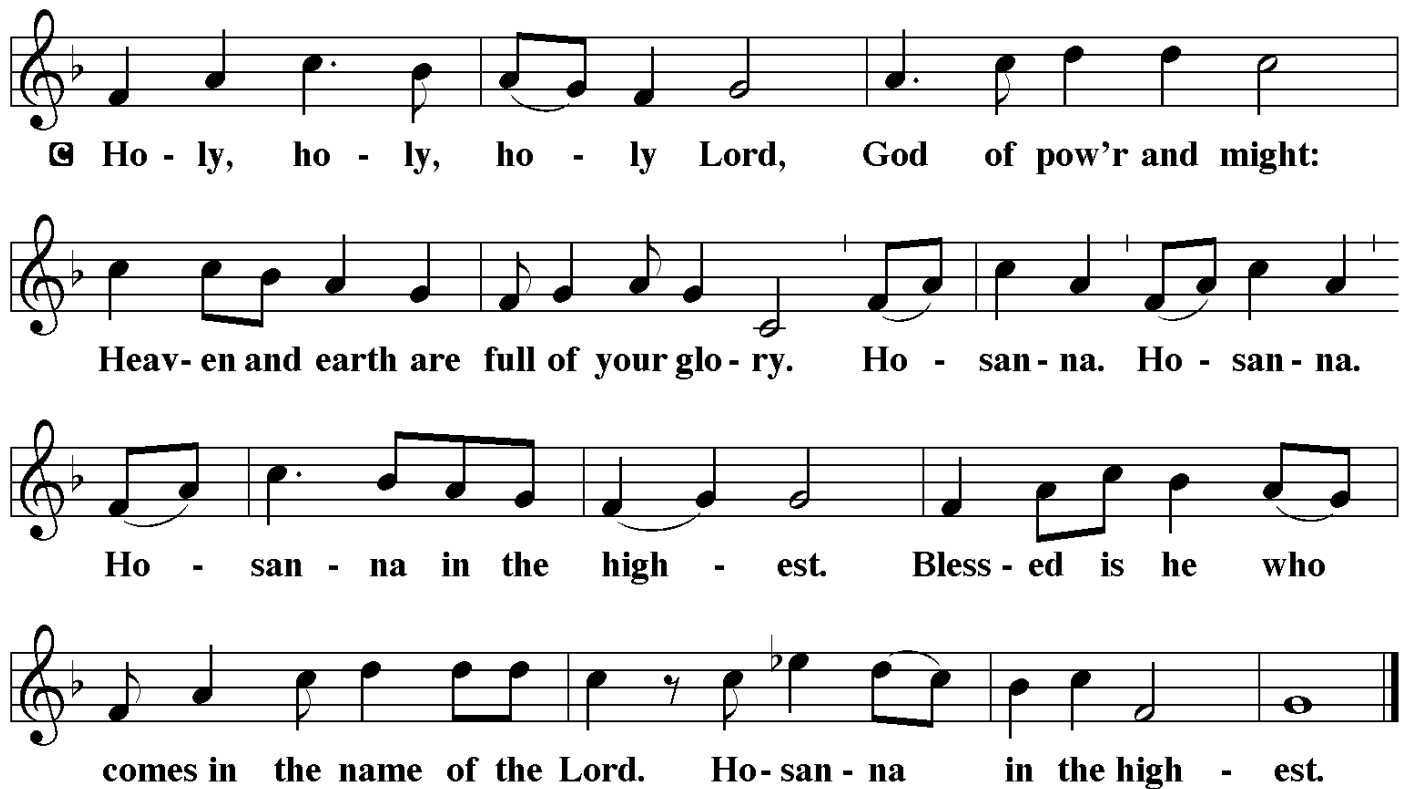
## Preface for Sundays in Advent

- P** It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and ever-living God.

You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes again to judge the world in righteousness.

And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## The Sanctus



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:  
Heav- en and earth are full of your glo- ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho- san - na in the high - est.

## Eucharistic Canon

**P** Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father:

Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign. You have filled all creation with light and life; heaven and earth are full of your glory. Through Abraham you promised to bless all nations. You rescued Israel, your chosen people.

Through the prophets you renewed your promise; and, at this end of all the ages, you sent your Son, who in words and deeds proclaimed your kingdom and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

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.*

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

**C Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

**P** Therefore, gracious Father, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us. And, believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast.

**C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

**P** Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, the spirit of our Lord and of his resurrection, that we who receive the Lord's body and blood may live to the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

**C Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

**P** Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all.

**C Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. Amen**

**P** Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**C 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**

## The Breaking of the Bread

**P** Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

**C** Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

## Agnus Dei

**C** Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

## Our Practice of Holy Communion

St. Paul writes: "Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup." (1 Corinthians 11:27–28, ESV)

Not one of us is worthy *on our own merit* to receive our Lord Jesus. Nevertheless, he bids us to come to him all the same (Matthew 11:28-30). And so, trusting his great mercy, anyone may come to him in faith, having examined oneself according to this confession:

*All who are baptized in the name of the Triune God, believe in the real presence of Jesus in the bread and the wine of Holy Communion, and are repentant of their sins are welcome at the Lord's Table.*

All others may come forward for a blessing, signaling this by crossing your arms over your chest.

# Communion Hymn | Day By Day

ELW 790



1 Day by day, your mer - cies, Lord, at - tend me, bring - ing com - fort  
 2 Day by day, I know you will pro - vide me strength to serve and  
 3 Oh, what joy to know that you are near me when my bur - dens



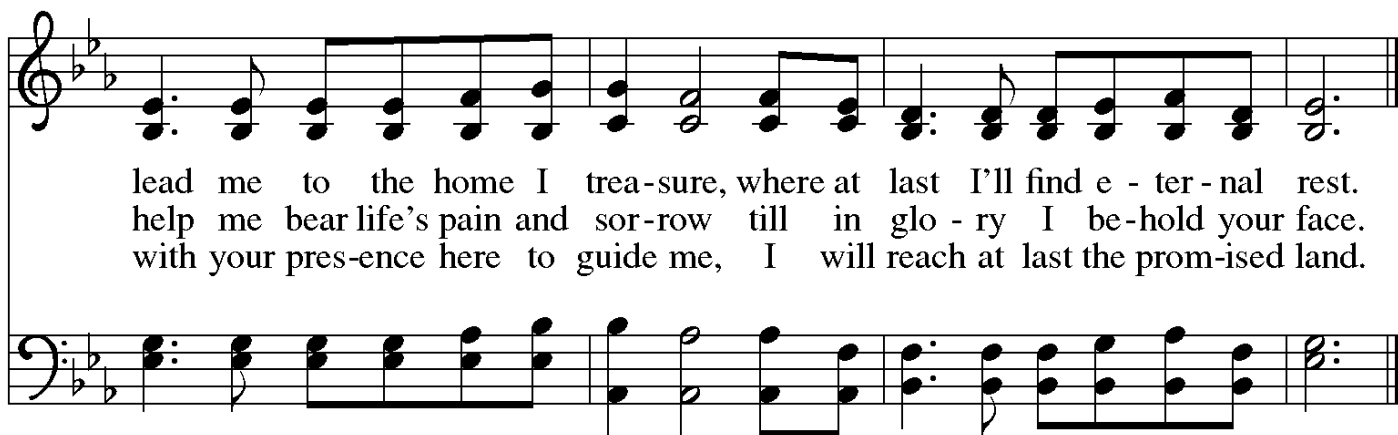
to my anx - ious soul. Day by day, the bless - ings, Lord, you send me  
 wis - dom to o - bey; I will seek your lov - ing will to guide me  
 grow too great to bear; oh, what joy to know that you will hear me



draw me near - er to my heav'n - ly goal. Love di - vine, be - yond all  
 o'er the paths I strug - gle day by day. I will fear no e - vil  
 when I come, O Lord, to you in prayer. Day by day, no mat - ter



mor - tal mea - sure, brings to naught the bur - dens of my quest; Sav - ior,  
 of the mor - row, I will trust in your en - dur - ing grace. Sav - ior,  
 what be - tide me, you will hold me ev - er in your hand. Sav - ior,



lead me to the home I trea-sure, where at last I'll find e - ter - nal rest.  
 help me bear life's pain and sor-row till in glo - ry I be-hold your face.  
 with your pres-ence here to guide me, I will reach at last the prom-ised land.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903; tr. Robert Leaf, 1936–2005  
 Music: BLOTT EN DAG, Oskar Ahnfelt, 1813–1882  
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## Communion Hymn | The King Shall Come

ELW 260



1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light tri - um-phunt breaks,  
 2 Not as of old a lit - tle child, to bear and fight and die,  
 3 Oh, bright - er than the ris - ing morn when Christ, vic - to - rious, rose  
 4 Oh, bright - er than that glo - rious morn shall dawn up - on our race  
 5 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light and beau - ty brings.

when beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills and life to joy a - wakes.  
 but crowned with glo - ry like the sun that lights the morn-ing sky.  
 and left the lone-some place of death, de - spite the rage of foes.  
 the day when Christ in splen-dor comes, and we shall see his face.  
 Hail, Christ the Lord! Your peo - ple pray: come quick - ly, King of kings.

Text: John Brownlie, 1859-1925  
 Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davison, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816; arr. Theodore A. Beck, 1929-2003  
 Arr. © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission.

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## Post-Communion Blessing & Hymn

**P** May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

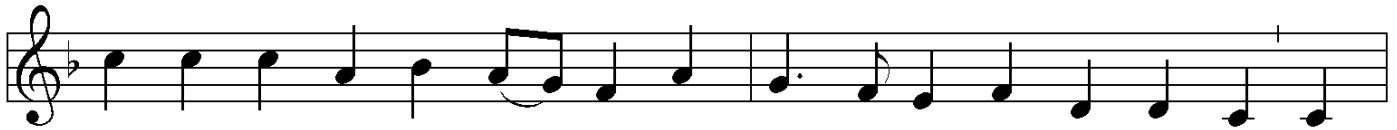
**C** Amen



**C** Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re - calls his prom - is - es and leads his peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## Post-Communion Prayer and Benediction

**A** Let us pray. Almighty God, you gave your Son both as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the godly life. Enable us to receive him always with thanksgiving, and to conform our lives to his; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C** Amen

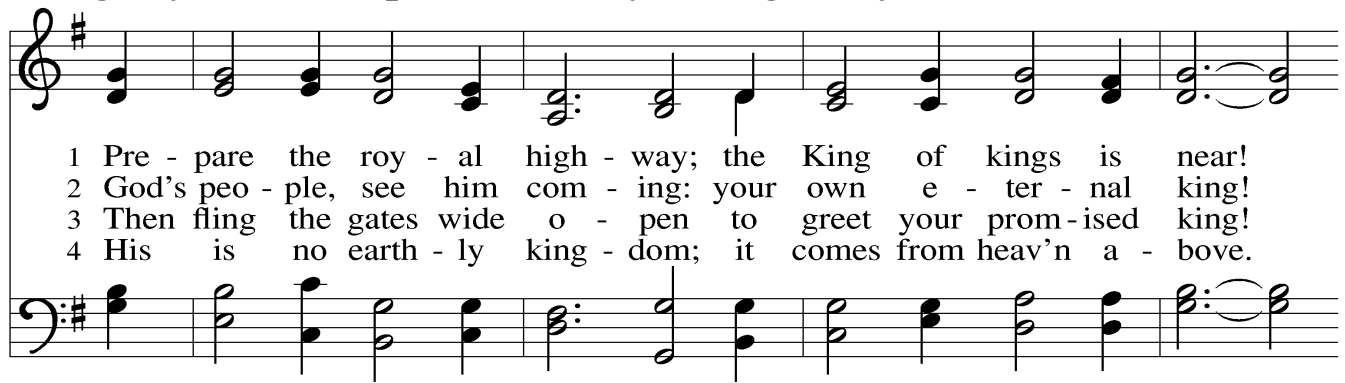
**P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace, in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen



# Closing Hymn | Prepare the Royal Highway


LBW 26



1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!  
 2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing: your own e - ter - nal king!  
 3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom - ised king!  
 4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heav'n a - bove.

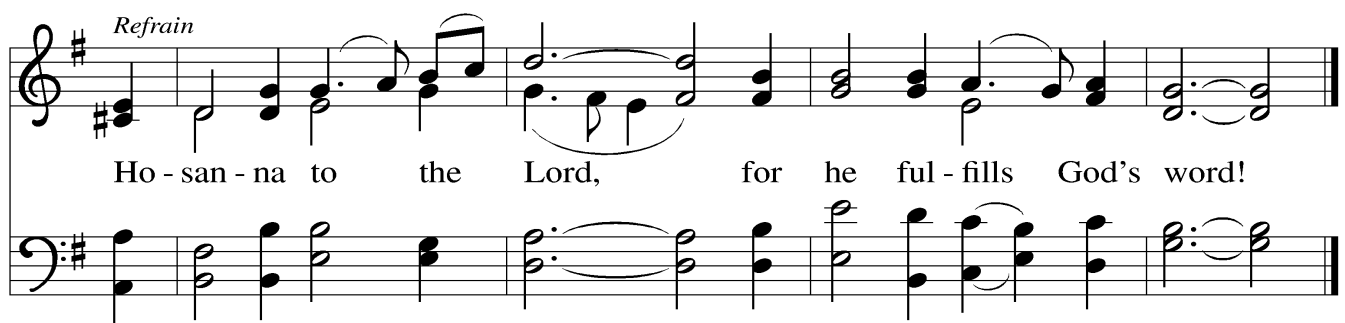


Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!  
 Palm branch - es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!  
 Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion its trib - ute too may bring.  
 His rule is peace and free - dom and jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:  
 God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!  
 All lands will bow be - fore him; their voic - es join your sing - ing:  
 So let your praise be sound - ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:

*Refrain*



Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*  
 Music: BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN, Swedish folk tune, 17th cent.  
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## Dismissal

**A** Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**C** Amen

## Postlude

ORGAN

*Lord Jesus Christ My Sovereign God*

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)



*The Altar Flowers are Given  
In Honor of Faith and Donna's birthdays:  
May God Continue to Bless You Through  
The Next Year  
~With Love, Dana Sadler*

*Thank you to the Woodwind Quintet for the special music today!*

*Ilana Aronovich: Violin*

*Elsa Bandli: Flute*

*Ethan Grindle: Clarinet*

*Jennifer Kist: Violin*

*Homer Adams: Oboe d'Amor*

<b>LITURGICAL DAY</b>	<b>The Third Sunday in Advent</b>	<b>The Third Wednesday in Advent</b>	<b>The Fourth Sunday in Advent</b>
<b>DATE</b>	12/14/2025 10:15AM	12/17/2025 7:00PM	12/21/2025 10:15AM
<b>ORGANIST</b>	Homer Adams	Homer Adams	Homer Adams
<b>PASTOR</b>	Pastor Justin Baker	Pastor Justin Baker	Pastor Justin Baker
<b>ASSISTING MINISTERS</b>	Sally Seidling		Danette Hunter & Lou Hiener
<b>COUNTER TEAM</b>	MaryAnn Sinwell & Donna Ugen		Bob Jordan & Donna Ugen
<b>GREETERS</b>	Dana Sadler & Faith		Irv Pritts
<b>USHERS</b>	Mack and Karen Flood & Serenity Wee		Dave and Mary Whipkey & Serenity Wee
<b>ACOLYTE</b>	Debbie Weigold		Karla Gustafson
<b>CRUCIFER</b>			
<b>ALTAR GUILD</b>	MaryAnn Sinwell & Bob Jordan		Dan & Danette Hunter
<b>ALTAR FLOWERS</b>	Dana Sadler		Ron and Susan Smith
<b>COMMUNION BREAD BAKERS</b>	Dorothy Datemasch		Dorothy Datemasch

# This Week at Emmanuel

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**Office Hours:** Monday-Thursday 9AM-2PM

**Church Phone:** (724) 327-2190

**Pastor:** [pastor@elcnalc.org](mailto:pastor@elcnalc.org) | **Office (Caroline):** [office@elcnalc.org](mailto:office@elcnalc.org)

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Sunday, Dec 14	<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>Sunday School</b>	<b>Luther Hall</b>
	<b>10:15 AM</b>	<b>Worship on The Third Sunday of Advent</b>	<b>Sanctuary</b>
Monday, Dec 15	<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>Fellowship/Evang. Meeting</b>	<b>Luther Hall</b>
	<b>1:00 PM</b>	<b>Daniel Bible Study</b>	<b>Luther Hall</b>
	<b>2:00 PM</b>	<b>Quilting</b>	<b>Heritage Hall</b>
	<b>6:30 PM</b>	<b>Daniel Bible Study</b>	<b>Music Room</b>
	<b>6:30 PM</b>	<b>AA  Start The Week</b>	<b>Luther Hall</b>
Tuesday, Dec 16	<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>Bell Choir</b>	<b>Sanctuary</b>
	<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>Bell Choir Subset</b>	<b>Sanctuary</b>
	<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>Champion Cheerleading</b>	<b>Heritage Hall</b>
	<b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>Boy Scouts</b>	<b>Luther Hall</b>
Wednesday, Dec 17	<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>Discipleship Meeting</b>	<b>Music Room</b>
	<b>2:00 PM</b>	<b>Council Meeting</b>	<b>Music Room</b>
	<b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>Midweek Worship</b>	<b>Sanctuary</b>
	<b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>AA  Steps and Stories</b>	<b>Luther Hall</b>
Thursday, Dec 18	<b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>Boy Scouts</b>	<b>Luther Hall</b>
	<b>7:30 PM</b>	<b>Al-Anon</b>	<b>Heritage Hall</b>
Friday, Dec 19	<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>Worship at Brookdale</b>	<b>Brookdale</b>
	<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>Girl Scouts (2 troops)</b>	<b>Luther and Heritage</b>
Saturday, Dec 20			
Sunday, Dec 21	<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>Sunday School</b>	<b>Luther Hall</b>
	<b>10:15 AM</b>	<b>Worship on The Fourth Sunday of Advent</b>	<b>Sanctuary</b>

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