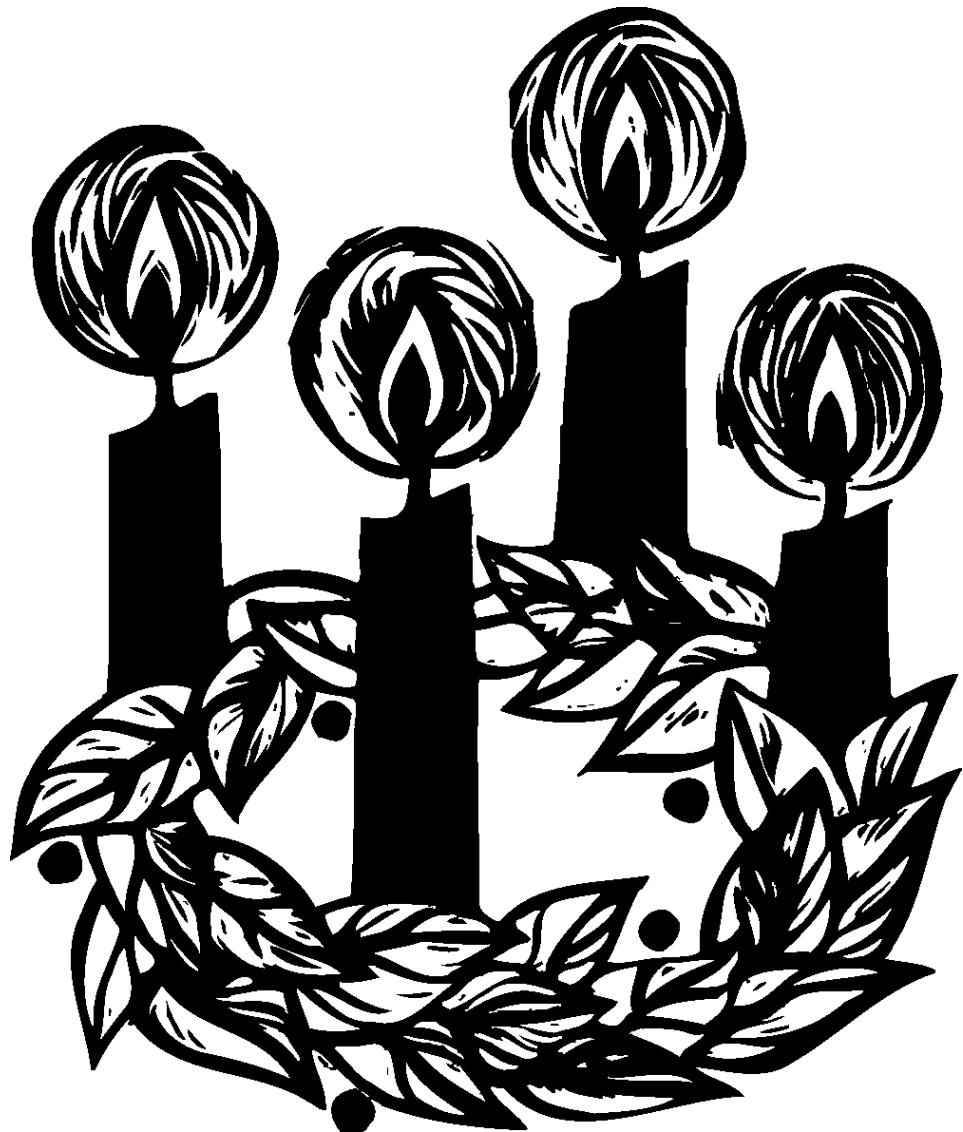


The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Worship Service



Emmanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church

10:15 AM, Sanctuary
December 21, 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 Fourth Sunday of Advent

*"⁴⁴For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears,
the baby in my womb leaped for joy."*

On this fourth Sunday of Advent we hear of Mary's visit (with haste!) to Elizabeth. Both are with child because of God's grace to them and because of God's promise to his people.

Little John was promised 430 years before to prepare the way of the Lord. The little Lord Jesus was promised from the moment that Adam fell. God's promise to his people is being fulfilled. And it is especially beautiful that God's promise begins to be fulfilled from the womb.

Little John leaps with joy in the presence of Jesus, at the sound of Mary's voice, filling Elizabeth with hope in God's promise of the Savior. How remarkable that the Son of God came to us as an infant in the womb of Mary!

Let us pray. *Holy God, bless us with love for your Son, for immeasurable is your love for us; bless us with humility, for humbly your Son came, Amen.*

† Pastor Justin Baker

✚ Lutheran Book of Worship, Setting One ✚

Prelude

The Holly and the Ivy

ORGAN

Setting James Biery, 1956

Invocation

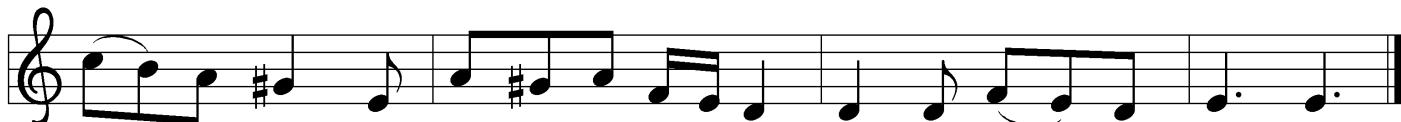
¶ In the Name of the Father, and of the ✚ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
© Amen

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

The Carnes Family



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.
4 Light four 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.
He is com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your lights be shin - ing!

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954

Music: TIF IN VELDELE, Yiddish folk tune

Text © 1984 Fortress Press, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

¶ We lit the Prophet's Candle of Hope; the Bethlehem Candle of Peace; and the Shepherd's Candle of Joy. We come now to the Angel's Candle of Love, for Love Himself came to us as an infant, born to give his life for the world.

¶ "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." ~ *John 3:16*
"We love because he first loved us." ~ *1 John 4:19*

© May the Love of God be with us all! Amen

THE RITE OF HOLY BAPTISM

The congregation turns to face the baptismal font.

- ¶ In Holy Baptism our gracious heavenly Father liberates us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; in the waters of Baptism we are reborn children of God and inheritors of eternal life. By water and the Holy Spirit we are made members of the Church which is the body of Christ. As we live with him and with his people, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God.
- ¶ In the waters of Baptism, our Lord Jesus Christ drowned our sin and breathed into us new life through the Holy Spirit. Returning to these same waters, we confess our sin before the Lord.

A brief silence for confession of sin is kept.

- ¶ Most merciful God,
- ¶ **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**
- ¶ 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.

The families and sponsors make their way to the baptismal font.

Ⓐ And Jesus came and said to the disciples, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”
(Matthew 28:18-20)

We give thanks to God that this morning we are baptizing four disciples into the Name of the Holy Trinity.

The godparents and parents present Sylvia:

⦿ We present Sylvia Lea Sprecker to receive the Sacrament of Holy Baptism.

⦿ In Christian love you have presented this child for Holy Baptism. You should, therefore, faithfully bring Sylvia to the services of God's house, teach her the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments. As she grows in years, you should place in her hands the Holy Scriptures and provide for her instruction in the Christian faith, that, living in the covenant of her Baptism and in communion with the Church, she may lead a godly life until the day of Jesus Christ.

Do you promise to fulfill these obligations?

The godparents and parents respond.

⦿ I do.

The godparents and parents present Dorothy, Harriet, and Crosby:

⦿ We present Dorothy Hope Smith, Harriet Mae Smith, and Crosby Warren Smith, to receive the Sacrament of Holy Baptism.

⦿ In Christian love you have presented these children for Holy Baptism. You should, therefore, faithfully bring Dorothy, Harriet, and Crosby to the services of God's house, teach them the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments. As they grow in years, you should place in their hands the Holy Scriptures and provide for their instruction in

the Christian faith, that, living in the covenant of their Baptism and in communion with the Church, they may lead a godly life until the day of Jesus Christ.

Do you promise to fulfill these obligations?

The godparents and parents respond.

S I do.

P I ask you, the sponsors, and along with them, the whole church, to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the Church, the faith in which we baptize.

P Do you renounce all the forces of evil, the devil, and all his empty promises?

C I do.

P Do you believe in God the Father?

C **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

C **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

P Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

C **I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen**

The pastor baptizes the children by water and the Word. With each invocation of the Name of God, water is poured on the child's head.

- ¶ Sylvia Lea Sprecker, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the **+** Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.
- ¶ Dorothy Hope Smith, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the **+** Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.
- ¶ Harriet Mae Smith, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the **+** Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.
- ¶ Crosby Warren Smith, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the **+** Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.
- ¶ The Lord be with you.
- ¶ **And also with you.**

The pastor lays both hands on the heads of the children and prays for the Holy Spirit:

- ¶ God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we give you thanks for freeing your sons and daughters from the power of sin and for raising them up to a new life through this holy sacrament.

Pour your Holy Spirit upon Sylvia, upon Dorothy, upon Harriet, and upon Crosby: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence.

- ¶ **Amen.**

The pastor marks the sign of the cross on the forehead with anointing oil.

- ¶ Sylvia Lea Sprecker, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.
- ¶ Amen
- ¶ Dorothy Hope Smith, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.
- ¶ Amen

¶ Harriet Mae Smith, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

¶ Crosby Warren Smith, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

¶ Amen

¶ O God, the giver of all life, look with kindness upon these families. Let them ever rejoice in the gift you have given us. Make them teachers and examples of righteousness for their children. Strengthen them in their own Baptism so that they may share eternally with their children the salvation you have given us, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

¶ Amen

¶ Through Baptism God has made these children members of the family of God and fellow heirs of eternal life in Christ Jesus.

¶ **We welcome you into the Lord's family. We receive you as a fellow member of the body of Christ, a child of the same heavenly Father, and a worker with us in the kingdom of God.**

The Peace

¶ The peace of the Lord be with you always.

¶ **And also with you.**

The congregation makes peace with one another, especially with the families of the baptized. Then the hymn is sung.

Baptismal Hymn | Borning Cry

ELW 732



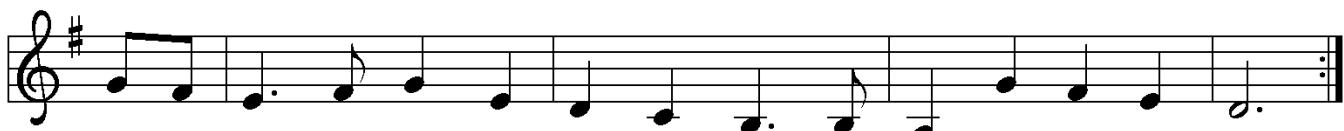
1 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.
 2 "When you heard the won-der of the Word I was there to cheer you on;
 3 "In the mid - dle a - ges of your life, not too old, no lon - ger young,



I re - joiced the day you were bap - tized to see your life un - fold.
 you were raised to praise the liv - ing Lord, to whom you now be - long.
 I'll be there to guide you through the night, com-plete what I've be - gun.



I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well;
 If you find some-one to share your time and you join your hearts as one,
 When the eve - ning gent - ly clos - es in and you shut your wea - ry eyes,



in a blaze of light you wan-dered off to find where de-mons dwell."
 I'll be there to make your vers - es rhyme from dusk till ris - ing sun."
 I'll be there as I have al - ways been, with just one more sur - prise."



4 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.



I re - joiced the day you were bap - tized to see your life un - fold."

Text: John C. Ylvisaker, b. 1937
 Music: WATERLIFE, John C. Ylvisaker
 Text and music © 1985 John Ylvisaker.

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Apostolic Greeting & Collect

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.

P Let us pray,

C **O Lord, raise up thy power, and come among us, and with great might succor us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness, we are sore let and hindered in running the race that is set before us, thy bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through the satisfaction of thy Son our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost be honor and glory, world without end. Amen.**

The hymn is sung. Then the people are seated.

Opening Hymn | Oh Come, Oh Come, Emmanuel

LH 62

Is. 59: 20

Veni, veni, Emmanuel

Latin author unknown, c. 1100

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

8. 8. 8. 8. 8.

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 Dayspring 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.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The First Lesson

Deuteronomy 18:15-19

A reading from Deuteronomy, beginning with the eighteenth chapter.

¹⁵ “The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers—it is to him you shall listen— ¹⁶ just as you desired of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly, when you said, ‘Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God or see this great fire any more, lest I die.’ ¹⁷ And the LORD said to me, ‘They are right in what they have spoken. ¹⁸ I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers. And I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him. ¹⁹ And whoever will not listen to my words that he shall speak in my name, I myself will require it of him.

- A** The Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

Psalm 111 (congregation responds with the bold text)

¹ Praise the LORD!

I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart,
in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

² Great are the works of the LORD,
studied by all who delight in them.

³ Full of splendor and majesty is his work,
and his righteousness endures forever.

⁴ He has caused his wondrous works to be remembered;
the LORD is gracious and merciful.

⁵ He provides food for those who fear him;
he remembers his covenant forever.

⁶ He has shown his people the power of his works,
in giving them the inheritance of the nations.

⁷ The works of his hands are faithful and just;
all his precepts are trustworthy;

⁸they are established forever and ever,
to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.
⁹He sent redemption to his people;
he has commanded his covenant forever.
Holy and awesome is his name!
¹⁰**The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;**
all those who practice it have a good understanding.
His praise endures forever!

The Second Lesson

Philippians 4:4-7

A reading from Philippians, beginning with the fourth chapter.

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. ⁵Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; ⁶do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

- A** The Word of the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

Children's Sermon

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

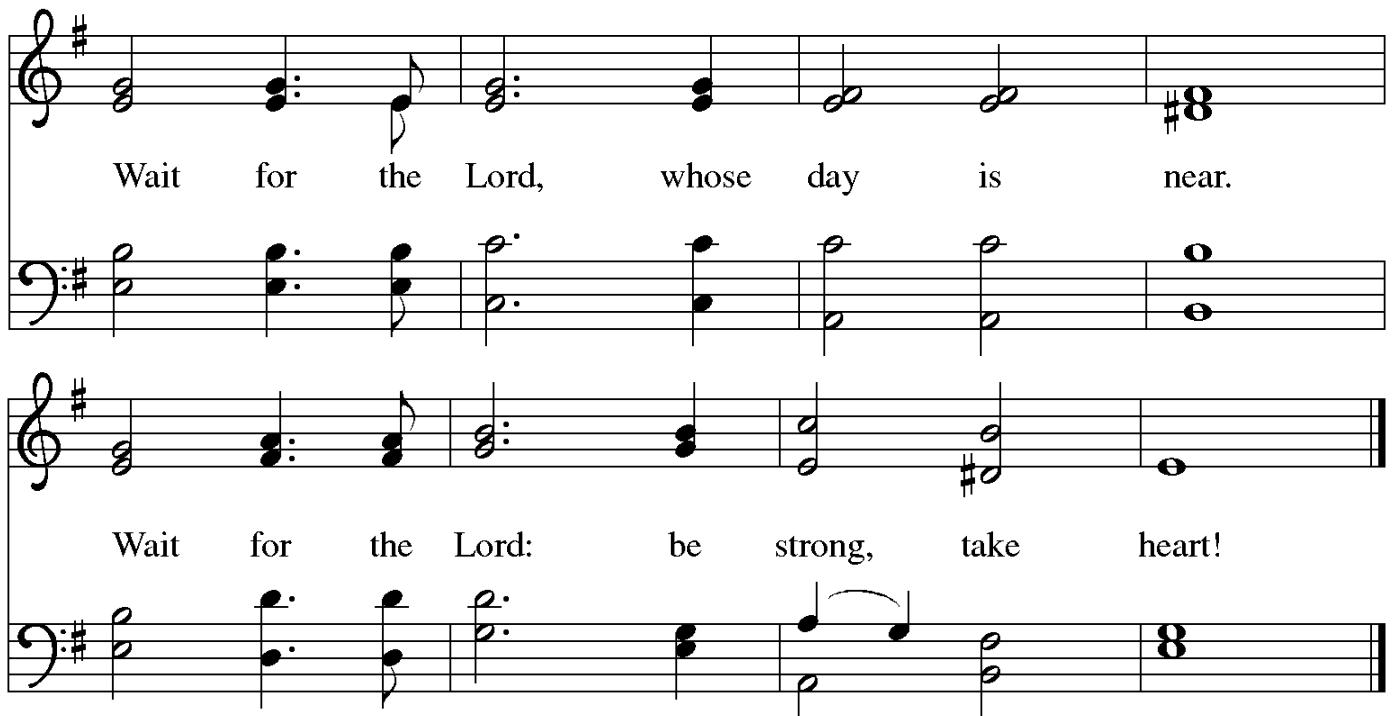
18 At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?” ² And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them ³ and said, “Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. ⁴Whoever humbles himself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

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 acclamation and the reading of the Holy Gospel.

Gospel Acclamation

Wait for the Lord | ELW 262



Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

Text: Taizé Community

Music: WAIT FOR THE LORD, Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994

Text and music © 1984 Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent, 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638.

www.giamusic.com 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

The Holy Gospel

Luke 1:39-56

P The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke, the 1st chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁹ In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, ⁴⁰ and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹ And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, ⁴² and she exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! ⁴³ And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? ⁴⁴ For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵ And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord."

Join together in reading responsively Mary's Song of Praise:

⁴⁶ And Mary said,

"My soul magnifies the Lord,

⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

⁴⁸ for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant.

For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed;

⁴⁹ for he who is mighty has done great things for me,

and holy is his name.

⁵⁰ And his mercy is for those who fear him

from generation to generation.

⁵¹ He has shown strength with his arm;

he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts;

⁵² he has brought down the mighty from their thrones

and exalted those of humble estate;

⁵³ **he has filled the hungry with good things,**

and the rich he has sent away empty.

⁵⁴ He has helped his servant Israel,

in remembrance of his mercy,

⁵⁵ as he spoke to our fathers,

to Abraham and to his offspring forever."

⁵⁶ And Mary remained with her about three months and returned to her home.

P The Gospel of our Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

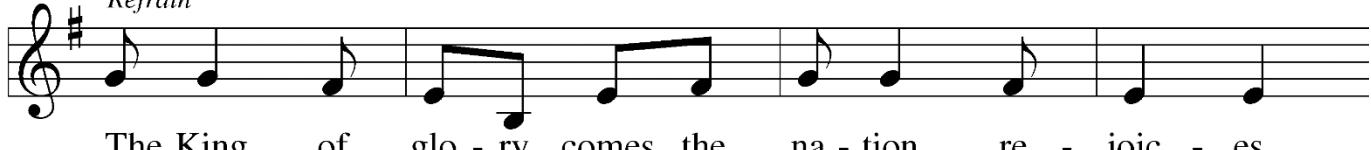
Sermon

Pastor Justin Baker

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

The King of Glory

Refrain



The King of glo - ry comes, the na - tion re - joic - es.



O - pen the gates be - fore him, lift up your voic - es.



1 Who is the King of glo - ry; how shall we call him?

2 In all of Gal - i - lee, in cit - y or vil - lage,

3 Sing then of Da - vid's Son, our Sav - ior and broth - er;

4 He gave his life for us, the pledge of sal - va - tion;

5 He con - quered sin and death; he tru - ly has ris - en,

Refrain



He is Em - man - u - el, the prom - ised of ag - es.

he goes a - mong his peo - ple, cur - ing their ill - ness.

in all of Gal - i - lee was nev - er an - oth - er.

he took up - on him - self the sins of the na - tion.

and he will share with us his heav - en - ly vi - sion.

Text: Willard F. Jabusch

Music: THE KING OF GLORY, Israeli traditional

Text © Willard F. Jabusch, admin. OCP Publications. All rights reserved

The Prayers

P As we long for 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 “I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.” O Holy God, we praise and thank you especially for 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 Establish all those gathered here in thought, word, and deed, making us faithful to you and fruitful for your kingdom. Pour out your favor upon our congregation, upon fellow area congregations, St John’s Lutheran Church of Kittanning, and Reverend Carl Johnson. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A Bless Your persecuted Church, and keep it patient, faithful and steadfast. Teach us to honor their witness and provide for their needs. Bless 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 Conform our earthly rulers to Your holy will. Let them give justice to the oppressed and food to the hungry. Make them set free the unjustly imprisoned and lift up those who are bowed down. Teach them to love the righteous, care for the stranger, sustain the orphan and widow, and frustrate the way of the wicked. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A Bless Sylvia, Dorothy, Harriet, and Crosby with faith in Jesus that endures unto everlasting life. Strengthen all those who were baptized into 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, Brylee, 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. We ask especially that you watch over *the family of Debbie Pritts, the family of Mark, the family of Cathy, the family of Rosalie, 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. 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

¶ Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord, your God, is in your midst; he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. (Zeph. 3:14, 17)

Offertory

Mary's Song of Praise

In Tune With the Spirit

Chorus

My soul magnifies the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices in God my
Savior,
My soul magnifies the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices in God my
Savior.

For he has looked on the humble
estate of his servant.

For behold, from now on all
generations will call me blessed.

For he who is mighty has done
great things for me,
and holy is his name.

Chorus

And his mercy is for those who
fear him
from generation to generation to
generation to generation.

Chorus

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, 3) LH 574

Is. 9: 3
Henry Alford, 1844, cento, alt.

7. 7. 7. 7. D.

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.

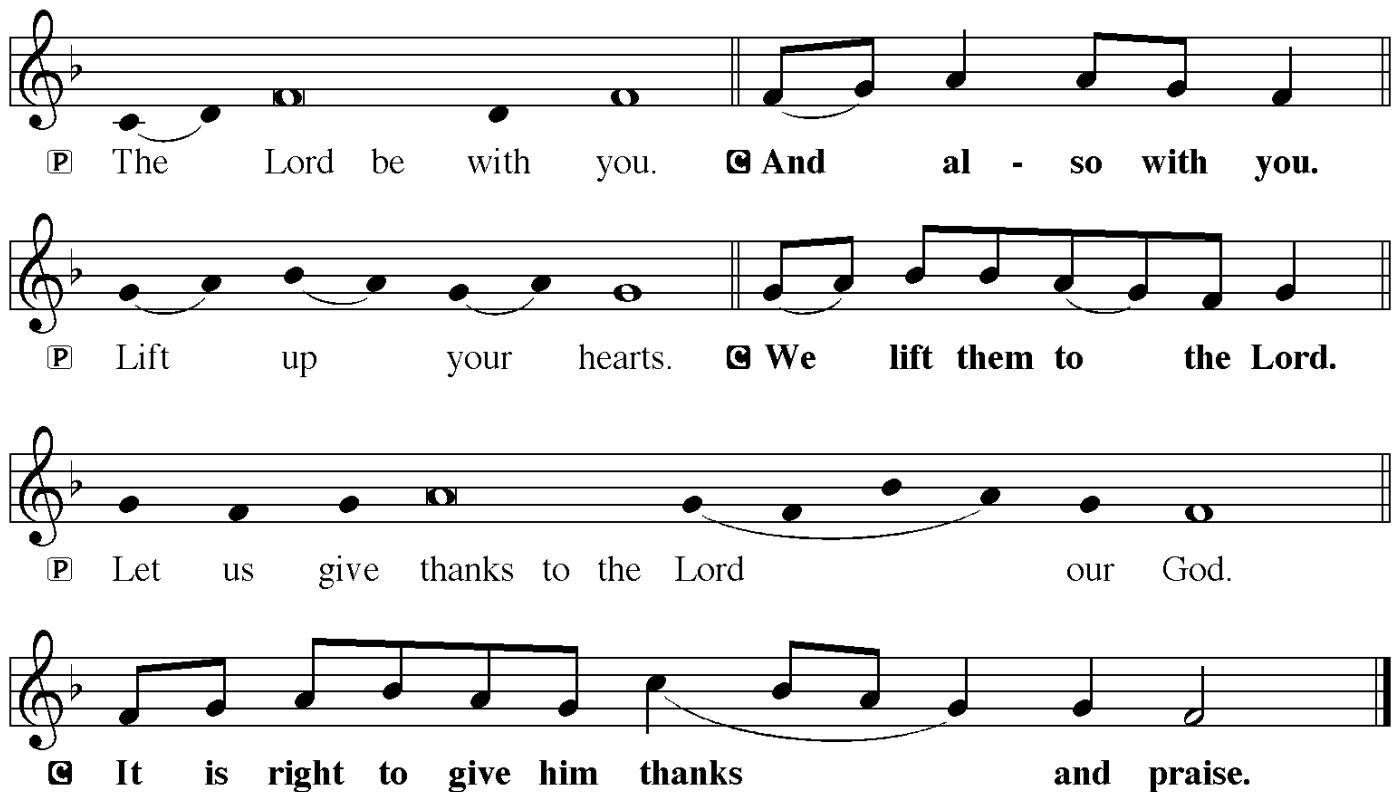
Come to God's own tem - ple, come; Raise the song of Har - vest home.
 Lord of har - vest, grant that we Whole some grain and pure may be.
 But the fruit - ful ears to store In His gar - ner ev - er - more.
 Come with all Thine an - gels, come, Raise the glo - rious Har - vest home. A - men.

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



[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.

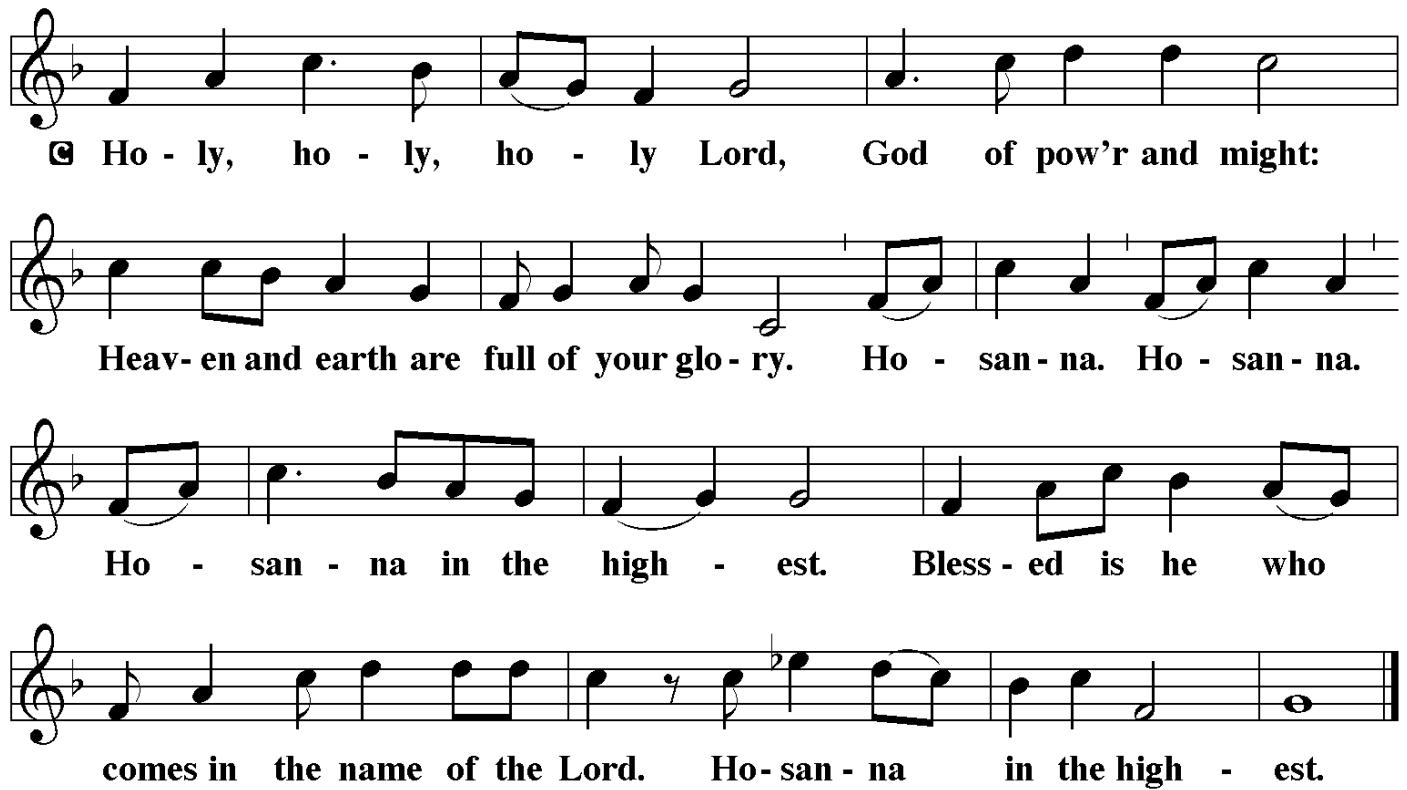
Preface for Sundays in Advent

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



C 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.**

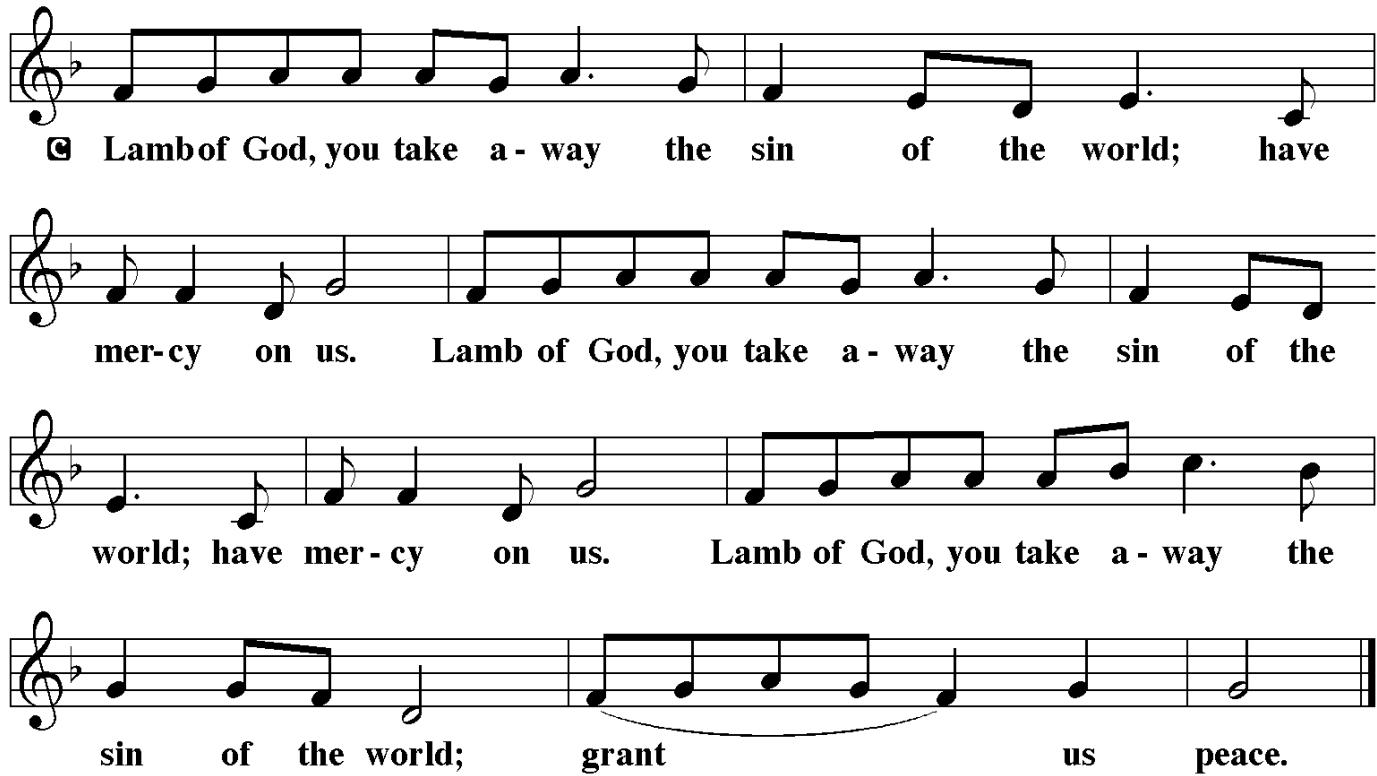
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

The Breaking of the Bread

¶ Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

¶ 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.

Connunction Song | Prepare the Way

Prepare the way of the Lord.

Prepare the way of the Lord,
and all people will see the salvation of our God.

(Repeat 3 times)

In Tune With the Spirit

The Lord Is My Light

Chorus

The Lord is my light and my
salvation

The Lord is the strength of my life

The Lord is my light and my
salvation

The Lord is the strength of my life

So I will not be afraid

No I will not be afraid

Because the Lord is my light

The Lord is my light

The Lord is my light

Chorus

Because the Lord is my light,
The Lord is my light, the Lord is
my light

Because the Lord is my light,
The Lord is my light, the Lord is
my light

Verse 1

In the day of trouble He will hide
me

He will keep me safe

He will guide me through

Chorus

Verse 2

In the darkest hour He will keep
me

Evil has no power

When He shelters me

Come Now, O Prince of Peace

O - so - sō *o - so - sō, pyong - hwa - ūi -* *im - gǔm*
1 Come now, O Prince of peace, make us one bod - y.
2 Come now, O God of love, make us one bod - y.
3 Come now and set us free, O God, our Sav - ior.
4 Come, Hope of u - ni - ty, make us one bod - y.

u - ri - ga *han - mom* *i - ru - ge* *ha - so - sō.*
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.

Text: Geonyong Lee, b. 1947; tr. Marion Pope

Music: OSOSŌ, Geonyong Lee, b. 1947

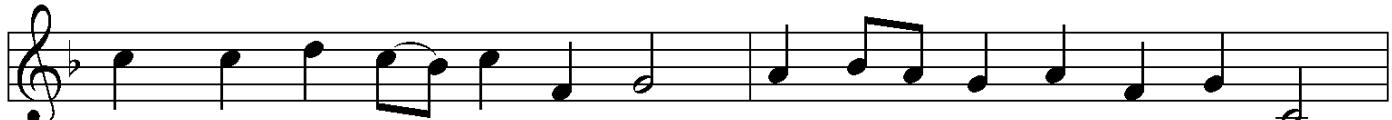
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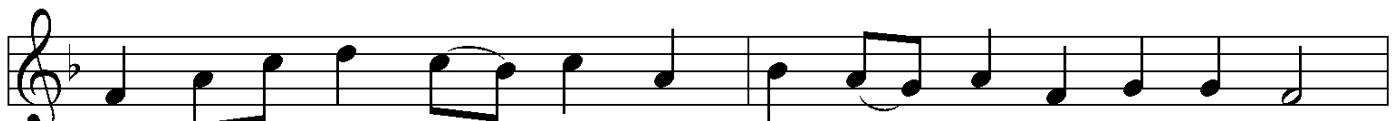
Post-Communion Blessing and Hymn

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 rejoice and proudly 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 \dagger give you peace, in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

Closing Hymn | Gabriel's Message

♩ = 200

The Open Hymnal

1. The an - - gel Ga - - bri - - el from hea - - ven came,
 2. "For know a bless - ed Mo - - ther thou shalt be,
 3. Then gen - - tle Ma - - ry meek - ly bowed her head,
 4. Of her, Em - - man - - u - - el, the Christ was head, born

his wings as drift - - ed snow, his eyes as flame;
 all gen - - er - - a - - tions laud and ho - - - - nor thee,
 "To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said,
 in Beth - - le - - hem, all on a Christ - - - - mas morn,

"All hail," said he, "thou low - - ly mai - den, Ma - - - - ry,
 thy Son shall be Em - - ma - - nu - - el, by seers fore - - told,
 "my soul shall laud and mag - ni - - fy His ho - - ly Name."
 and Christ - - ian folk through - out the world will ev - - er say

most high - ly fa - vored la - - dy," Glo - - - - ri - a!

Dismissal

A Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
C Amen

Postlude

God of Grace and Glory

ORGAN

Paul Manz (1919-2009)



*The Altar Flowers are Given
In Honor of the Baptism of our Grandchildren
~Ron and Susan Smith*

Thank you to In Tune With the Spirit for the special music today!

LITURGICAL DAY	The Fourth Sunday in Advent	Christmas Eve	Christmas Day
DATE	12/21/2025 10:15AM	12/24/2025 7:00PM	12/25/2025 10:15AM
ORGANIST	Homer Adams	Homer Adams	Homer Adams
PASTOR	Pastor Justin Baker	Pastor Justin Baker	Pastor Justin Baker
ASSISTING MINISTER	Lou Hiener	Holly Pelusi	
LECTOR	Danette Hunter		
COUNTER TEAM	Bob Jordan & Donna Ugen	Danette Hunter & MaryAnn Sinwell	Danette Hunter & MaryAnn Sinwell
GREETERS	Irv Pritts	Dan & Danette Hunter	Dave & Mary Whipkey
USHERS	Dave and Mary Whipkey & Serenity Wee	Volunteers & Serenity Wee	Dave and Mary Whipkey & Serenity Wee
ACOLYTE	Karla Gustafson	Faith Palmer	
ALTAR GUILD	Dan & Danette Hunter	Donna Berardinelli and Danette Hunter	Pastor Justin Baker
ALTAR FLOWERS	Ron and Susan Smith	The Visnic-Ford Family	Poinsettias
COMMUNION BREAD BAKERS	Dorothy Datemasch	Dorothy Datemasch	Pastor Justin Baker

This Week at Emmanuel

Office Hours: Monday-Tuesday 9am-2pm, **Wednesday-Thursday Closed**

Church Phone: (724) 327-2190

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

Sunday, Dec 21	9:00 AM	Sunday School	Luther Hall
	10:15 AM	Worship on The Fourth Sunday of Advent	Sanctuary
Monday, Dec 22	1:00 PM	Daniel Bible Study	Luther Hall
	2:00 PM	Quilting	Heritage Hall
	6:30 PM	Daniel Bible Study	Music Room
	6:30 PM	AA Start The Week	Luther Hall
Tuesday, Dec 23	9:00 AM	Bell Choir	Sanctuary
	10:00 AM	Bell Choir Subset	Sanctuary
Wednesday, Dec 24	All Day	Office Closed	
	7:00 PM	Christmas Eve Worship	Sanctuary
Thursday, Dec 25	All Day	Office Closed	
	10:15 AM	Christmas Day Worship	Sanctuary
Friday, Dec 26			
Saturday, Dec 27			
Sunday, Dec 28	9:00 AM	Sunday School	Luther Hall
	10:15 AM	Worship on The Feast of Holy Innocents	Sanctuary

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