

# The Feast of Holy Innocents

## Worship Service



*Emmanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church*

*10:15 AM, Sanctuary  
December 28, 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 Feast of Holy Innocents

<sup>13</sup> Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him."

We don't know much about Joseph. And yet, this is now the second recorded time that an angel has appeared to Joseph in a dream. This reminds us of that earlier, ancient Joseph, who also had dreams.

The patriarch Joseph's dreams led him to the position to save his father, Israel. Now, Joseph is the father who saves his son – the promised son of Israel. Without Joseph the patriarch and his dreams, the people of Israel would be lost. Without Joseph the father of Jesus and his dreams, the people of Israel would also be lost.

The murder of the innocents reminds us of that earlier murder – the murder by Pharaoh of the Hebrew infants. The reality is that evil will not go down without a fight, without revealing how evil evil is. But that is why Jesus comes – so that evil puts an end to itself by putting Jesus to death.

*Holy God, protect us and keep us from evil, that we may honor you, Amen.*

+ Pastor Justin Baker

## Prelude

*Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*

ORGAN

*Setting John G. Barr (1938-2024)*

## Invocation & Order of Confession

¶ In the Name of the Father, and of the  $\dagger$  Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

¶ Amen

¶ I bring you good news of great joy: a Savior has been born to us!

¶ **Unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given.**

¶ 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.

¶ Amen

¶ 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.*

¶ 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  $\dagger$  Son, and of the Holy Spirit. ¶ Amen



# Opening Hymn | Your Little Ones, Dear Lord

ELW 286

1 Your lit - tle ones, dear Lord, are we, and  
 2 With songs we has - ten you to greet, and  
 3 Oh, draw us whol - ly to you, Lord, and  
 4 Un - til at last we too pro - claim, with

come your low - ly bed to see; en - light - en ev - 'ry  
 kiss the ground be - fore your feet. Oh, bless - ed hour, oh,  
 to us all your grace ac - cord; true faith and love to  
 all your saints, your glo - rious name; in par - a - dise our

soul and mind, that we the way to you may - find.  
 sweet-est night that gave you birth, our soul's de - light.  
 us im - part, that we may hold you in our heart.  
 songs re - new, and praise you as the an - gels do.

Text: Hans A. Brorson, 1694–1764; tr. Harriet Krauth Spaeth, 1845–1925, alt.  
 Music: HER KOMMER DINE ARME SMAÅ, Johann A. P. Schulz, 1747–1800

## 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, gracious Lord. C A - men

# Hymn of Praise | Angels From the Realms (Verses 1, 6, 7) OH 49

Words: James Montgomery, 1816.

Music: 'Regent Square' Henry Smart, 1867. Setting: "Psalms and Hymns for Divine Worship", 1867.  
copyright: public domain. This score is a part of the Open Hymnal Project, 2007 Revision.

♩ = 100

1. An - - gels from the realms of glo - ry, Wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
 2. Shep - herds, in the field a - - bid - ing, Watch - ing o'er your flocks by night,  
 3. Sa - - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, Bright - er vi - sions beam a - - far;  
 4. Saints, be - - fore the al - tar bend - ing, Watch - ing long in hope and fear;  
 5. Sin - ners, wrung with true re - pen - tance, Doomed for guilt to end - less pains,

Ye who sang cre - - a - tion's stor - y Now pro - - claim Mes - si - ah's birth.  
 God with us is now re - - sid - ing; Yon - der shines the in - fant light:  
 Seek the great De - sire of na - tions; Ye have seen His na - tal star.  
 Sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing, In His tem - ple shall ap - - pear.  
 Jus - tice now re - vokes the sen - tence, Mer - cy calls you; break your chains.

6. Though an Infant now we view Him,  
 He shall fill His Father's throne,  
 Gather all the nations to Him;  
 Every knee shall then bow down:

7. All creation, join in praising  
 God, the Father, Spirit, Son,  
 Evermore your voices raising  
 To th' eternal Three in One.

## Salutation & Prayer of the Day

¶ The Lord be with you.

¶ And also with you.

¶ Let us pray,

¶ **O God, whom the Holy Innocents confessed and proclaimed on this day, not by speaking but by dying, grant, we pray, that the faith in you which we confess with our lips may also speak through our manner of life. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.**

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

### The First Lesson

**Jeremiah 31:15-17**

*A reading from Jeremiah, beginning with the thirty-first chapter.*

<sup>15</sup> Thus says the LORD:

“A voice is heard in Ramah,  
lamentation and bitter weeping.  
Rachel is weeping for her children;  
she refuses to be comforted for her children,  
because they are no more.”

<sup>16</sup> Thus says the LORD:

“Keep your voice from weeping,  
and your eyes from tears,  
for there is a reward for your work,  
declares the LORD,  
and they shall come back from the land of the enemy.

<sup>17</sup> There is hope for your future,  
declares the LORD,

and your children shall come back to their own country.

¶ The Word of the Lord.

¶ Thanks be to God.

## **Psalm 54 (congregation responds with the bold text)**

<sup>1</sup>O God, save me by your name,  
and vindicate me by your might.

**<sup>2</sup>O God, hear my prayer;**  
**give ear to the words of my mouth.**

<sup>3</sup>For strangers have risen against me;  
ruthless men seek my life;  
they do not set God before themselves. *Selah*

**<sup>4</sup>Behold, God is my helper;**  
**the Lord is the upholder of my life.**

<sup>5</sup>He will return the evil to my enemies;  
in your faithfulness put an end to them.

**<sup>6</sup>With a freewill offering I will sacrifice to you;**  
**I will give thanks to your name, O LORD, for it is good.**

**<sup>7</sup>For he has delivered me from every trouble,**  
**and my eye has looked in triumph on my enemies.**

## **The Second Lesson**

## **Revelation 14:1-5**

*A reading from Revelation, beginning with the fourteenth chapter.*

Then I looked, and behold, on Mount Zion stood the Lamb, and with him 144,000 who had his name and his Father's name written on their foreheads.

<sup>2</sup> And I heard a voice from heaven like the roar of many waters and like the sound of loud thunder. The voice I heard was like the sound of harpists playing on their harps, <sup>3</sup> and they were singing a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and before the elders. No one could learn that song except the 144,000 who had been redeemed from the earth.

<sup>4</sup> It is these who have not defiled themselves with women, for they are virgins. It is these who follow the Lamb wherever he goes. These have been redeemed from mankind as firstfruits for God and the Lamb, <sup>5</sup> and in their mouth no lie was found, for they are blameless.

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

## Children's Sermon

¶ 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. 4 Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

5 Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, 6 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.

### The Gospel Acclamation | Sing We Now of Jesus

ELW 262

Christmas: Sing we now of Je - sus, born on Christ-mas day.  
Easter: Sing we now of Je - sus, ris'n on Eas - ter day.

Sing we now of Je - sus, born on bed of hay.  
Sing we now of Je - sus, ris'n from death's dark grave.

Lift up your voice, with all the world re - joice;  
Lift up your voice, with all the world re - joice;

sing we now of Je - sus, born to light our way.  
sing we now of Je - sus, ris'n the world to save.

\*May be sung as a round.

Text: Michael Burkhardt

Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol

Text © 1995 MorningStar Music Publishers. Used by permission.

## The Holy Gospel

Matthew 2:13-18

**P** The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew, the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter.

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

<sup>13</sup> Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” <sup>14</sup> And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt <sup>15</sup> and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, “Out of Egypt I called my son.”

<sup>16</sup> Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, became furious, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had ascertained from the wise men. <sup>17</sup> Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah:

*<sup>18</sup> “A voice was heard in Ramah,  
weeping and loud lamentation,  
Rachel weeping for her children;  
she refused to be comforted, because they are no more.”*

**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 | Coventry Carol

Lul-ly, lul-lay, Thou lit-tle ti.-ny child, By, by, lul-ly, lul-lay.  
 1. O sis-ters too, how may we do, For to pre - serve this day This  
 2. Her - od the king, in his rag - ing, Charged he hath this day His  
 3. That woe is me, poor child for thee! And ev - er mour and may For  
 poor young - ling for whom we sing, By, by, lul - ly, lul - lay?  
 men of might, in his own sight, All young chil - dren to slay.  
 thy part - ing nei-ther say nor sing, By, by, lul - ly, lul - lay.  
 Lul-ly, lul-lay, Thou lit-tle ti - ny child, By, by, lul-ly, lul-lay.

## **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

¶ As we long for the return of Jesus in glory, let us pray for the Church, the world, and for all people according to their need.

*A brief silence is kept.*

¶ “The Lord said to me, ‘You are my Son; today I have begotten you.’” We give you thanks that through Jesus, you have also made us your children. Thank you also for these ways you answered us:

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

Lord, in your mercy,

¶ **hear our prayer.**

¶ Heavenly Father, we give you thanks and praise for sending Jesus, born of the Virgin Mary. We long for his return, 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,

¶ **hear our prayer.**

¶ Pour out your favor upon our congregation and fellow area congregations. Help us prepare your way into the hearts of others, especially those who walk in darkness, doubt, or despair. Lord, in your mercy,

¶ **hear our prayer.**

¶ O Prince of Peace, protect and bless Your persecuted servants, especially during this season of light. Turn their suffering for the sake of Your Name into great joy. 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,

¶ **hear our prayer.**

¶ Bless all the dear children who need your tender care. Keep them safe from every danger. And give childlike faith to the faithless. 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, May Hill, Jim Troxell, David Weihe, Vince Berardinelli, Gayle Wertz, June Ugen, Julie and family, Trudy, Linda, Frances and family, Peggy, Brylee, 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 Harry Yothers, the family of Debbie Pritts, the family of Mark, the family of Cathy, and the family of Rosalie*. 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

**P** *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth. (John 1:1, 14)*

## The Peace & Offertory

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**C** And also with you.

## ORGAN

*What Child Is This*

*Setting* Alex Rowley (1892-1958)

## *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 | Doxology (Tune: It Came Upon a Midnight)

Bb Major: B<sup>♭</sup>      E<sup>♭</sup>      B<sup>♭</sup>      F<sup>7</sup>      B<sup>♭</sup>  
 A Major (Capo 1): A      D      A      E<sup>7</sup>      A

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Words: Thomas Ken, 1674

Music: Richard Storrs Willis, 1850

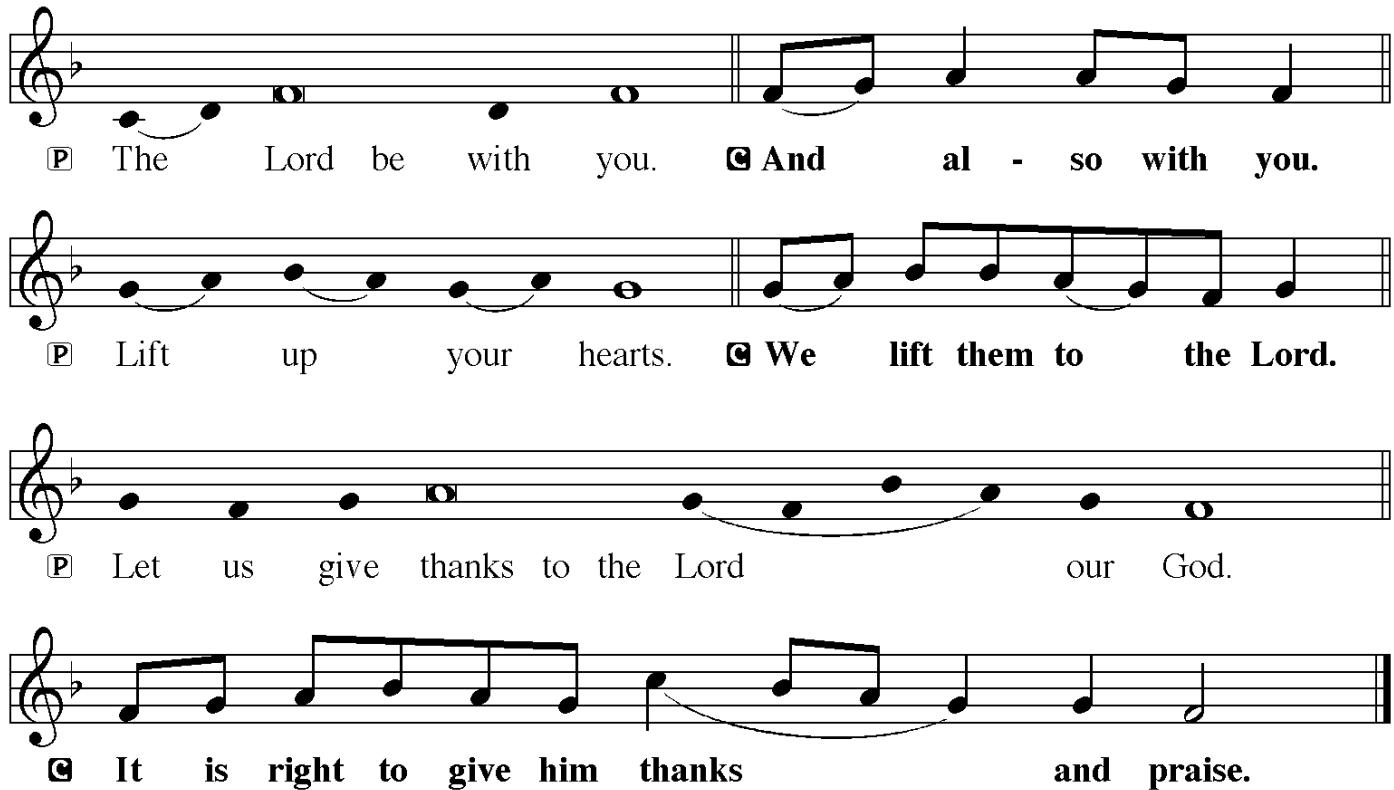
tune, *CAROL*  
CMD

Text and tune adapted by Dean McIntyre, The United Methodist General Board of Discipleship, PO Box 340003, Nashville TN 37203-0003. Telephone 615-340-7073. Website <http://www.umcworship.org>. Email address: [music@gbod.org](mailto:music@gbod.org). Text and tune are public domain.

## 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 of music in G clef, common time. The first staff contains the text "P The Lord be with you. C And al - so with you." The second staff contains "P Lift up your hearts. C We lift them to the Lord." The third staff contains "P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God." The fourth staff contains "C It is right to give him thanks and praise." The notation includes various note values (quarter, eighth, sixteenth) and rests, with some notes connected by beams.

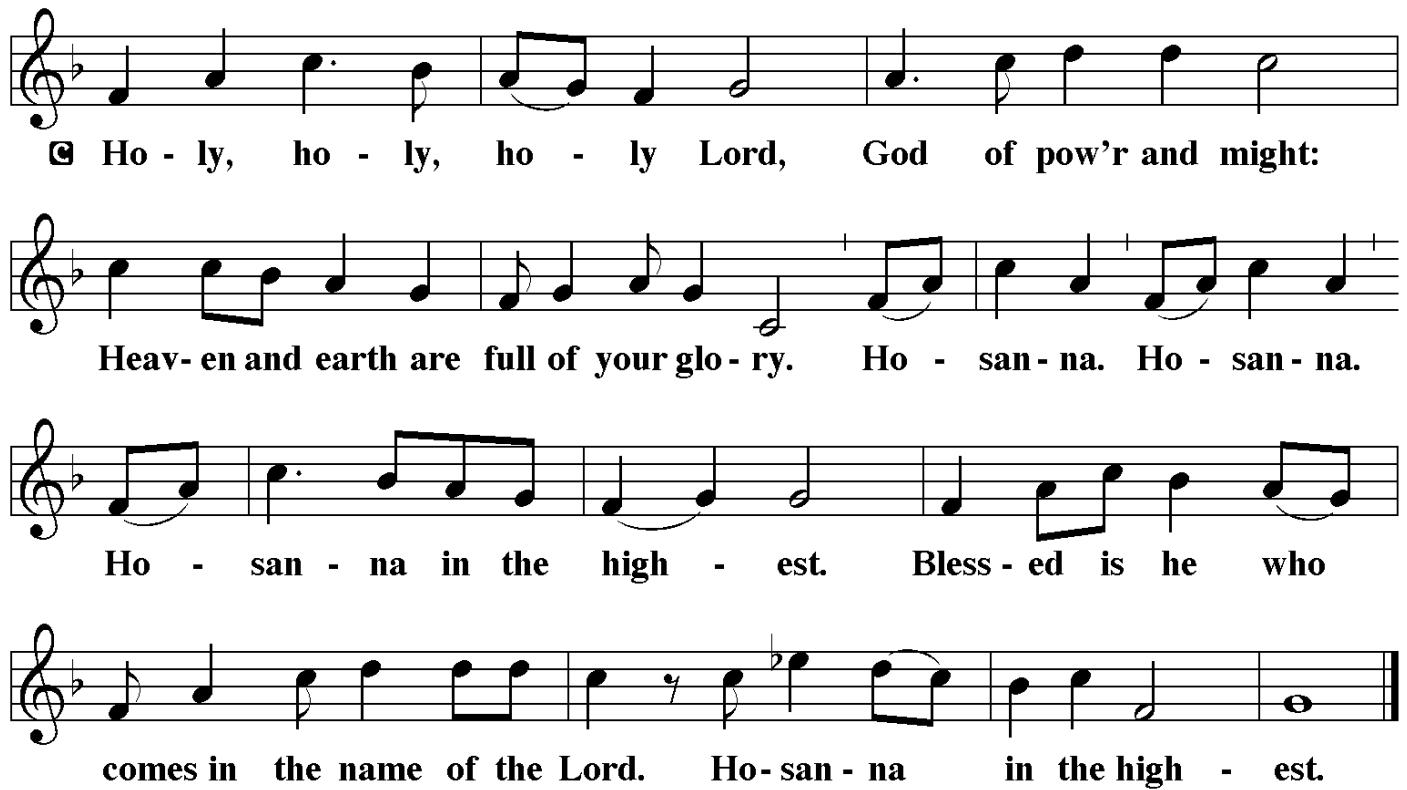
## Preface for Christmas

**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, through Christ our Lord.

In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory; that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see.

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.

## The Eucharistic Prayer of Hippolytus

¶ We give you thanks, Father, through Jesus Christ, your beloved Son, whom you sent in this end of the ages to save and redeem us and to proclaim to us your will. He is your Word, inseparable from you. Through him you created all things, and in him you take delight. He is your Word, sent from heaven to a virgin's womb. He there took on our nature and our lot and was shown forth as your Son, born of the Holy Spirit and of the virgin Mary. It is he, our Lord Jesus, who fulfilled all your will and won for you a holy people; he stretched out his hands in suffering in order to free from suffering those who trust you.

It is he who, handed over to a death he freely accepted, in order to destroy death, to break the bonds of the evil one, to crush hell underfoot, to give light to the righteous, to establish his covenant, and to show forth the resurrection, taking bread and giving thanks to you, said:

Take and eat; this is my body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

In the same way he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This is my blood poured out for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, then, his death and resurrection, we lift this bread and cup before you, giving you thanks that you have made us worthy to stand before you and to serve you as your priestly people.

And we ask you: Send your Spirit upon these gifts of your Church; gather into one all who share this bread and wine; fill us with your Holy Spirit to establish our faith in truth, that we may praise and glorify you through your Son Jesus Christ.

Through him all glory and honor are yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church both now and forever.

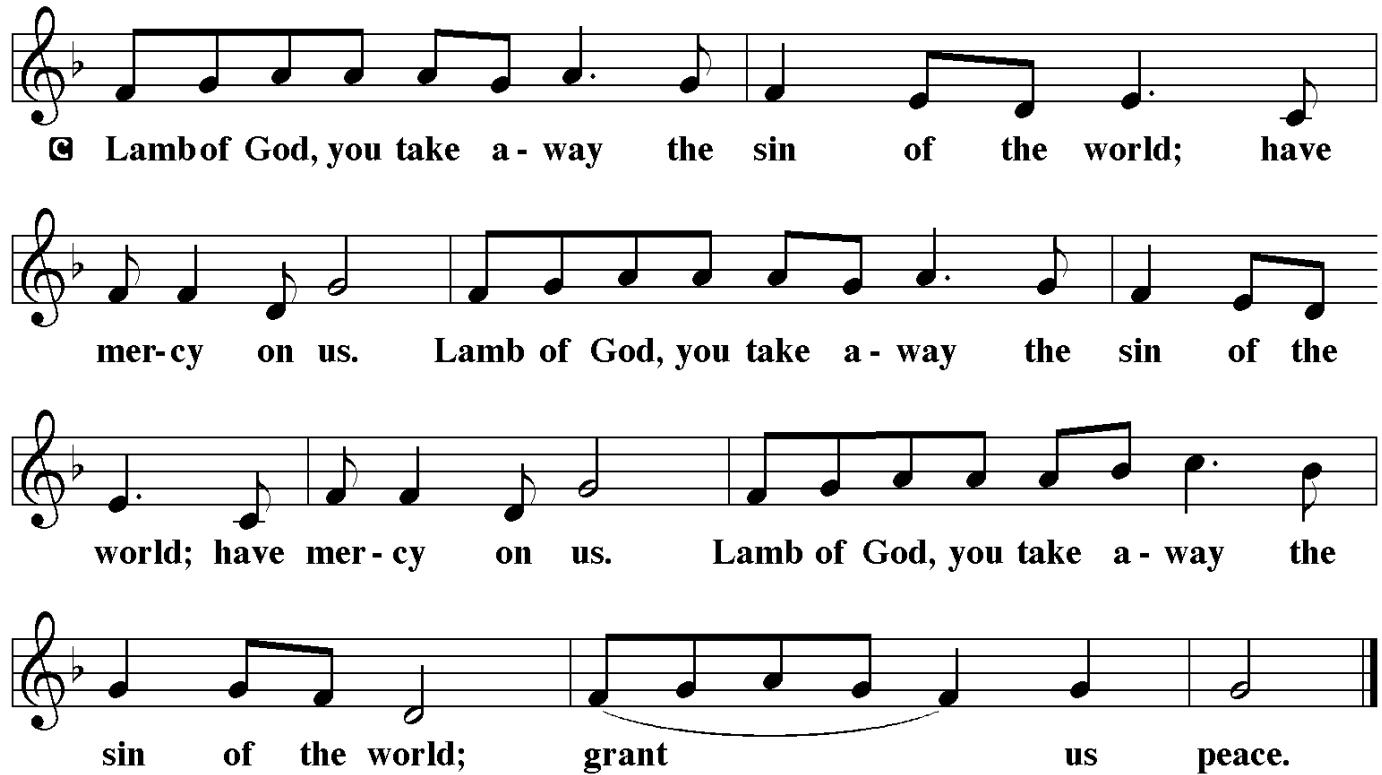
**C** Amen

**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; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the  
sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. 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 | Away In a Manger

ELW 277



1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his bed, the lit - tle Lord  
2 The cat - tle are low - ing; the ba - by a - wakes, but lit - tle Lord  
3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask you to stay close by me for -



Je - sus laid down his sweet head; the stars in the bright sky looked  
Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes. I love you, Lord Je - sus; look  
ev - er and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear chil - dren in



down where he lay, the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.  
down from the sky and stay by my cra - dle till morn-ing is nigh.  
your ten - der care and fit us for heav-en, to live with you there.

Text: North American, 19th cent.  
Music: AWAY IN A MANGER, James R. Murray, 1841–1905

# Communion Hymn | Sweet Flowerets of the Martyr Band LH 273

Rev. 14: 4

Salvete, flores martyrum

*Aurelius C. Prudentius, 413, cento*

*Tr. Henry W. Baker, 1875, alt.*

L. M.

**Das walt' Gott Vater**

*Daniel Vetter, 1713*

The musical score consists of three staves of music in common time (4/4) and F major (indicated by a 'F' with a sharp sign). The top staff is for the soprano voice, the middle staff for the basso continuo, and the bottom staff for the organ. The music is divided into three sections by vertical bar lines. The lyrics are placed below the staves, corresponding to the musical phrases.

**Section 1:**

1 Sweet flow'r - ets of the mar - - tyr band, Plucked  
 2 First vic - - tims for th' in - - car - - nate Lord, A  
 3 Ah, what a - - vailed King Her - - od's wrath? He  
 4 O Lord, the Vir - - gin - - born, to Thee E -

**Section 2:**

by the ty - rant's ruth - less hand Up - - on the thresh - old  
 ten - der flock to feel the sword; Be - - side the ver - - y  
 could not stop the Sav - ior's path. A - - lone, while oth - - ers  
 ter - - nal praise and glo - - ry be, Whom with the Fa - - ther

**Section 3:**

of the morn, Like rose - buds by a tem - pest torn;  
 al - tar gay, With palm and crown, ye seemed to play.  
 mur - dered lay, In safe - ty Christ is borne a - way.  
 we a - dore And Ho - ly Ghost for - - ev - er - more. A - - men.

## Communion Hymn | Oh, Sleep Now, Holy Baby

WOV 639



1 Oh, sleep now, ho - ly ba-by, with your head a - gainst my breast;  
 1 Duér-me-te, ni - ño lin-do, en los bra - zos del a - mor



mean-while the pangs of my sor - row are soothed and put to rest.  
 mien - tras que duer-me y des - can - sa la pe - na de mi do - lor.

*Refrain/Estribillo*

A la ru, a la mé, a la ru, a la mé,



a la ru, a la mé, a la ru, a la ru, a la mé.

2 You need not fear King Herod, he will bring no harm to you;  
 so rest in the arms of your mother who sings you a la ru. *Refrain*

2 *No temas al rey Herodes que nada te ha de hacer;*  
*en los brazos de tu madre y ahi nadie te ha de ofender.* Estribillo

Text: Hispanic folk song; tr. John Donald Robb, 1892–1989

Music: A LA RU. Hispanic folk tune; adapt. John Donald Robb, 1892–1989

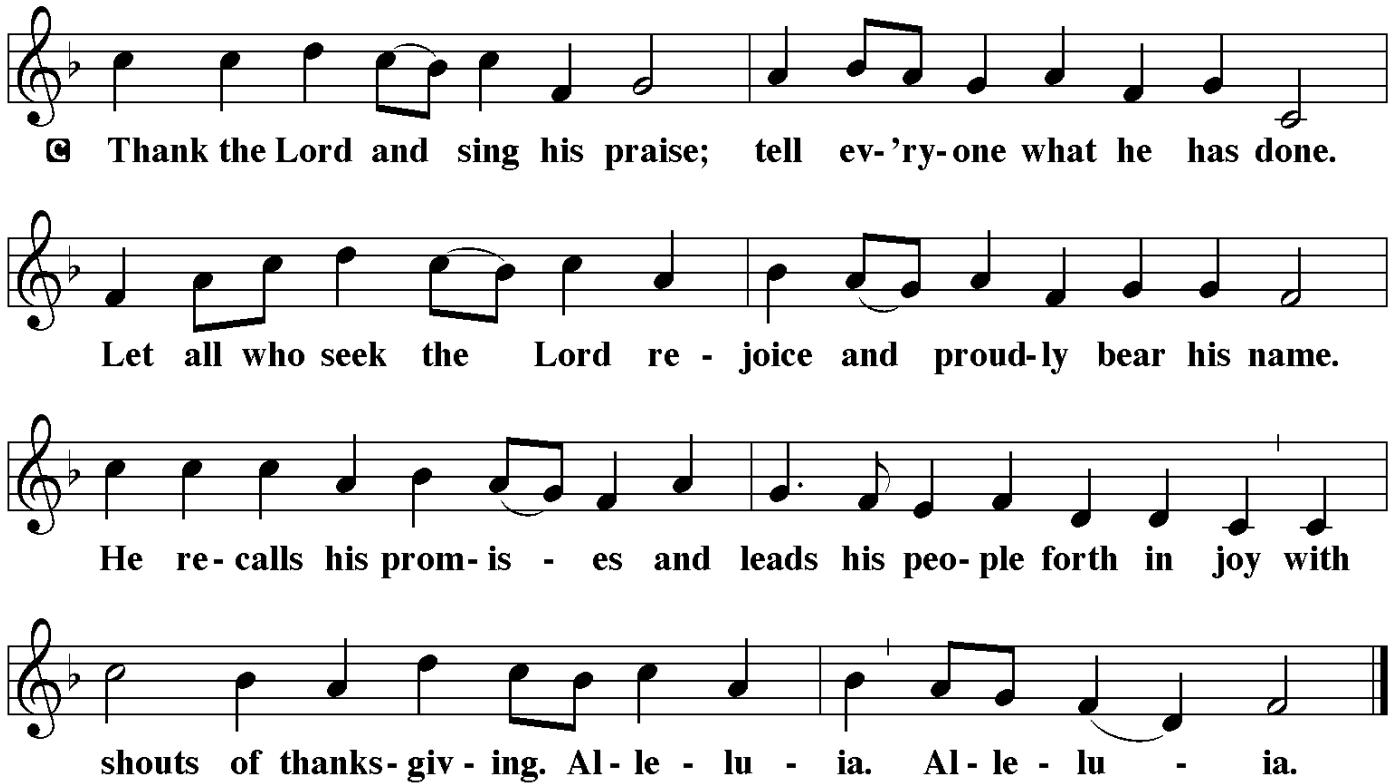
Tr. and adapt. © 1954 University of New Mexico Foundation, admin. J. D. Robb Musical Trust

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## Post-Communion

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

¶ Amen



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

Let all who seek the Lord re - joice 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.

¶ 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.

¶ Amen

¶ 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.

¶ Amen

## Closing Hymn | By All Your Saints

ELW 420



1 By all your saints still striv - ing, for all your saints at rest,  
 2 All praise for in - fant mar - tyrs, whom you with ten-d'rest love  
 3 Give praise to God Al - might - y, and wor - ship God the Son,



your ho - ly name, O Je - sus, for - ev - er - more be blessed!  
 re - ceived from Her - od's blood - shed to share your home a - bove.  
 and sing to God the Spir - it, e - ter - nal Three in One,



For you a - rose vic - to - rious that they might wear the crown  
 O Ra - chel, cease your weep - ing; they rest from earth-bound cares.  
 till all the ran - somed num - ber fall down be - fore the throne,



and share the light of glo - ry re - flect - ed from yourthrone.  
 Lord, grant us hearts as guile - less and crowns as bright as theirs.  
 and hon - or, pow'r, and glo - ry as - ccribe to God a - lone.

Text: Horatio Bolton Nelson, 1823–1913, alt.  
 Music: KING'S LYNN, English folk tune

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

**C** Amen

## Postlude

ORGAN

*Angels From the Realms of Glory*

Setting Anna Page (1932-2016)



*If you ordered poinsettias, please pick them up after worship today.*

# Poinsettia Dedication

*Lou and Michele Hiener:  
To the Glory of God*

*Vince and Donna Berardinelli:  
In Memory of Irv and Gladys  
Rittko, Marcia Endress,  
Ted Rittko, Gen and Sam  
Berardinelli*

*Ed Zinkan:  
As a Gift to Emmanuel's Shut-Ins*

*Ron and Susan Smith:  
In Memory of Weinel, Ethel, and  
Judy Jones  
In Memory of William and Emily  
Smith*

*The Bakers:  
To the Glory of God*

*Scott and Carol Wilson:  
In Memory of Mel and Lois  
Wingard and Dean and Doris  
Wilson*

*Faith Palmer:  
In Memory of my Pap-Pap, Irv  
Rittko*

*The Treloar Family:  
In Memory of Lee "Pop"  
Woodward and  
In Honor of Arlene "Mamma"  
Woodward*

*Arlene Woodward:  
In Memory of Lee and Brian  
Woodward*

*The Viscic-Ford Family:  
In Memory of our parents and In  
Honor of Christmas Blessings*

<b>LITURGICAL DAY</b>	<b>Feast of the Holy Innocents</b>	<b>The Second Sunday After Christmas</b>	<b>Epiphany</b>
<b>DATE</b>	12/28/2025 10:15AM	1/4/2026 10:15 AM	1/6/2026 7:00 PM
<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>	Matthew, Lisa, Hannah, and Elizabeth Yother	Holly Pelusi	Volunteer Needed
<b>COUNTER TEAM</b>		Ed Datemasch and Stan Casper	n/a
<b>GREETERS</b>		Steve Cehovin	n/a
<b>USHERS</b>		Joe Ugen and Debbie Weigold	n/a
<b>ACOLYTE</b>	Hannah Yother	Faith Palmer	Pastor Justin Baker
<b>CRUCIFER</b>			
<b>ALTAR GUILD</b>		Jeanne Yargar and Donna Berardinelli	Pastor Justin Baker
<b>ALTAR FLOWERS</b>	Poinsettias		
<b>COMMUNION BREAD BAKERS</b>	Arlene Woodward	Arlene Woodward	Arlene Woodward

# This Week at Emmanuel

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**Office Hours:** Closed Monday-Thursday.

**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 28	9:00 AM	<b>Fellowship Hour: Nativity Cookies &amp; Christmas Movie</b>	<b>Luther Hall</b>
	10:15 AM	<b>Worship on The Feast of Holy Innocents</b>	<b>Sanctuary</b>
Monday, Dec 29			
Tuesday, Dec 30			
Wednesday, Dec 31			
Thursday, Jan 1			
Friday, Jan 2			
Saturday, Jan 3			
Sunday, Jan 4	9:00 AM	<b>Sunday School</b>	<b>Luther Hall</b>
	10:15 AM	<b>Worship on The First Sunday After Christmas</b>	<b>Sanctuary</b>

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