

About that
day and hour
no one
knows

MATTHEW 24:36

NOVEMBER 30, 2025



EPIPHANY
LUTHERAN CHURCH

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

The new church year begins with a wake-up call: Christ is coming soon! In today's readings both Paul and Jesus challenge us to wake from sleep, for we know neither the day nor hour of the Lord's coming. Isaiah proclaims the day when God will gather all people on the holy mountain and there will be no more war or suffering. Though we vigilantly watch for the promised day of salvation, we wait for what we already have: Christ comes among us this day as the word and meal that strengthens our faith in the promises of God.

PRELUDE

THE GATHERING

WELCOME

OPENING SONG

Hope Has A Name

Kristian Stanfill, Sean Curran & Jacob Sooter

1. Break-ing through the si - lence
2. A song on the hor - i - zon,

with glo - ry in the high - est.
ring - ing through the heav - ens.

The hope of all cre - a - tion
The long - a - wait - ed Sav - ior,

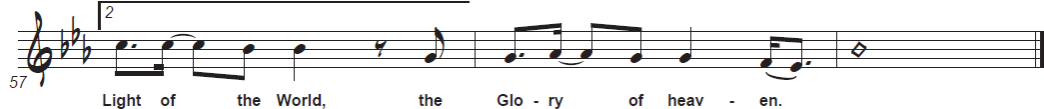
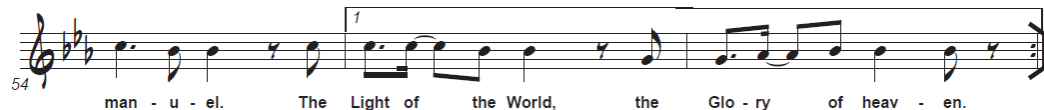
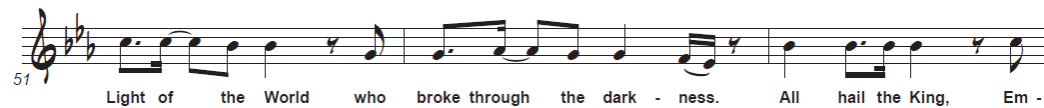
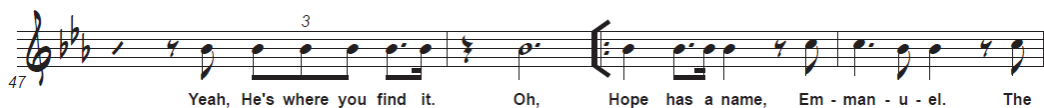
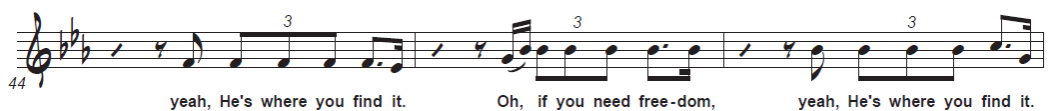
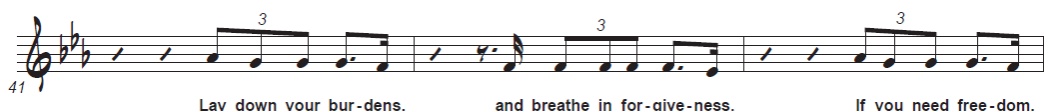
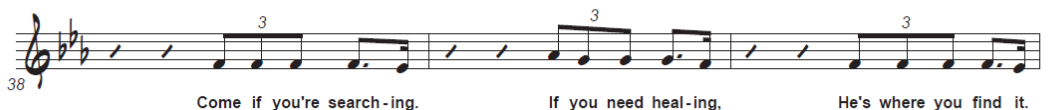
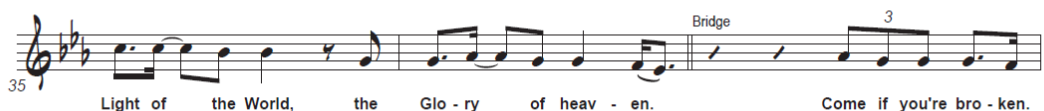
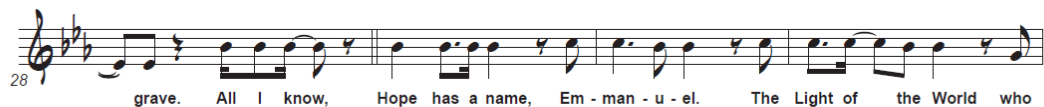
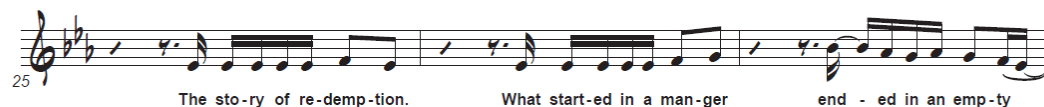
rest - ing in His moth - er's arms.
come to set the cap - tives free.

Come to set the cap - tives free. Come to set us free.

Chorus

Hope has a name, Em - man - u - el. The Light of the World who broke through the dark - ness.

All hail the King, Em - man - u - el. The Light of the World, the Glo - ry of heav - en.



ORDER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

A: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, whose home is heaven and earth, whose salvation is sure.

C: Amen.

A: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence For Reflection

A: Long-expected God,

C: we confess that we look to ourselves for the peace and security only you can provide. We reach for swords and spears, reluctant to release our grip on the ways of war. We become impatient while waiting and weary of keeping awake. Free us from self-reliance, and teach us to live in harmony with our neighbors. Increase our trust in God's timing, and awaken us to your advent among us, that we may abound in the hope you have promised. Amen.

A: God judges us not as we deserve, but according to God's own righteousness. ✠ You are freed and forgiven, saved by grace, and ready to welcome the Savior.

C: Amen.

GREETING & PRAYER OF THE DAY

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 together,

C: Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

THE PEACE

We receive and extend to one another the gift of Christ's peace. You may greet one another and say "peace be with you" or similar words.

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.



THE WORD

Light the Advent Candle

As we light the Advent Candle
with the light of hope burning bright,
faithfully we wait for His coming;
faithfully it shines through the night.
In our humble hearts a fire burns as well;
hear the prayer these flames would tell.

CHILDREN'S SERMON & LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

A READING FROM

ISAIAH 2:1-5

The The visionary message presented in this reading focuses on a future day when God establishes a universal reign of peace. Divine decisions will make war obsolete, and the worshipping community responds: "Let us walk in the light of that Lord now!"

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it.

Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

He shall judge between the nations and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation; neither shall they learn war any more.

O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

A READING FROM

PSALM 122

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord." (Ps. 122:1)

L: I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord."

C: Now our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.

L: Jerusalem is built as a city that is at unity with itself;

C: to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, the assembly of Israel, to praise the name of the Lord.

L: For there are the thrones of judgment, the thrones of the house of David.

C: Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you.

L: Peace be within your walls and quietness within your towers.

C: For the sake of my kindred and companions, I pray for your prosperity.

L: Because of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek to do you good."

L: This is the word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

THE GOSPEL READING

MATTHEW 24:36-44

(Congregation standing)

L: The Holy Gospel of St. Matthew, beginning in the twenty-fourth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples,] “About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in the days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so, too, will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken, and one will be left. Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

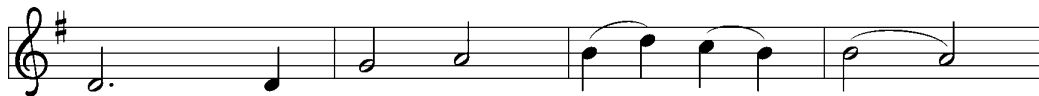
C: Praise to you O Christ.

PREACHING OF THE GOOD NEWS

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION ON THE GOOD NEWS



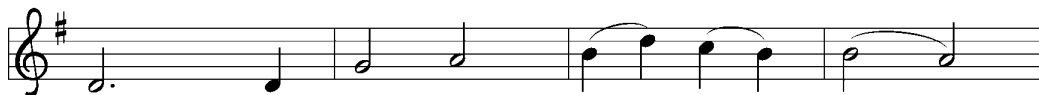
1 Lo! he comes with clouds de - scend - ing,
 2 Now re - demp - tion, long - ex - pect - ed,
 3 Yea, a - men, let all a - dore thee,



once comes for our sal - va - tion slain;
 comes in sol - emn splen - dor near;
 high on thine e - ter - nal throne;



thou - sand thou - sand saints at - tend - ing
 all the saints this world re - ject - ed
 Sav - ior, take the pow'r and glo - ry,



join to sing the glad re - frain:
 thrill to the trum - pet sound to hear:
 claim the king - dom as thine own.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -



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

APOSTLES' CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, 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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

A: In our waiting and watching, we come to you in prayer, O God, trusting your promise to renew the church, the nations, and the whole creation.

Each petition shall conclude with:

A: Lord in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

The Prayers conclude:

A: Draw near to us, O God, as we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ, Emmanuel.

C: Amen.

THE MEAL

THE OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING

THE OFFERTORY

Come, Bring Them to the Table

Leader

Come, bring them to the ta - ble— bring the

gifts of bread and wine, the hopes and dreams of all the

peo - ple, the of - f'ring of our lives.

All
Come, bring them to the ta - ble—

bring the gifts of bread and wine, the

hopes and dreams of all the peo - ple, the of - f'ring of our

lives, the of - f'ring of our lives. (No Repeat)

OFFERING PRAYER

A: Nourishing God,

C: you are water in the wilderness and streams in the desert. Through this meal, satisfy our parched places, that we may rejoice and be for the world signs of your kingdom come. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also 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 our thanks and praise!

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

HOLY COMMUNION

We practice "Open Communion," acknowledging that Jesus welcomes all persons, sinners and saints alike, to the table. All means ALL. Please come forward by the center aisle and receive the Sacrament in a continuous line, exiting by the side aisles.

Communion is by intinction. *We offer a chalice of wine and a chalice of white grape juice in which you may dip the bread. Gluten-free wafers are available; please ask for them at the altar, if needed. The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. The communicant may say: Amen.*

Infants who are not yet ready to receive food will receive a blessing. Parents who have questions about the practice of open communion may instruct their children to receive just a blessing.

Communion can be served to those who are not physically able to join us for worship. Please speak with an usher if you know of someone who would desire communion from Sunday's table brought to them.

COMMUNION MUSIC

Emmanuel
by Vicky Beeching

COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace until life everlasting.

C: Amen.

THE SENDING

THE BENEDICTION

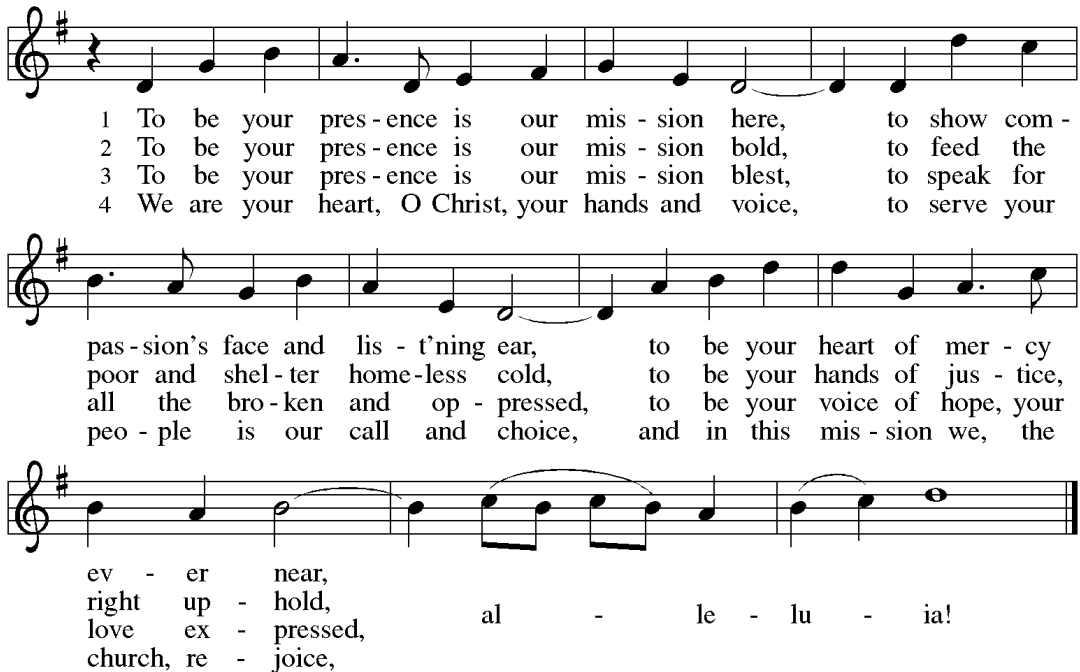
P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face to 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.



1 To be your pres-ence is our mis-sion here, to show com -
 2 To be your pres-ence is our mis-sion bold, to feed the
 3 To be your pres-ence is our mis-sion blest, to speak for
 4 We are your heart, O Christ, your hands and voice, to serve your

pas-sion's face and lis - t'ning ear, to be your heart of mer - cy
 poor and shel-ter home-less cold, to be your hands of jus - tice,
 all the bro-ken and op - pressed, to be your voice of hope, your
 peo - ple is our call and choice, and in this mis - sion we, the

ev - er near,
 right up - hold,
 love ex - pressed,
 church, re - joice,

al - le - lu - ia!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSED AND SENT TO SERVE

A: This little light of mine...

C: I'm gonna let it shine!

A: As the prophet Tom Petty once said, "Waiting is the hardest part." But waiting can also help our faith grow. Waiting can lead to hope if we allow it. In this season of advent, as we anticipate the birth of Jesus, may we also look forward to his return. Not in some doom and gloom sort of way but knowing that God's promises are always kept. For Jesus will return and that will be a great and glorious day. May we share that story so that others discover hope. We do this so that...

C: Everyone knows that God loves them!

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE



EPIPHANY

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday Worship Services

9:00 am & 11:00 am (in-person and online)

Ministers: The People of God

Pastor: Chris Hermansen

Minister of Youth: Kris Perkola

Director of Worship and Music:

Worship Production: Steve Belfield

Worship Accompanist: Anna Keiserman, Ph. D.

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Hope Has A Name

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Light the Advent Candle

Arranged with new words by Ruth Elaine Schram
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Alleluia

ELW Holy Communion Setting Ten
admin. Augsburg Fortress Text & Music: Public Domain

Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.
Music: Thomas Olivers, 1725–1799
Text & Music: Public Domain

Come, Bring Them to the Table

Text: Ray Makeever
Music: Ray Makeever
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Emmanuel

Vicky Beeching
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To Be Your Presence

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939
Music: Charles V. Stanford, 1852–1924
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- ◆ Text EPIPHANYGA to 73256
- ◆ Use your bank's online bill pay feature to set up recurring giving
- ◆ Mail a check to Epiphany
- ◆ Drop it in the offering plate on Sunday

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