

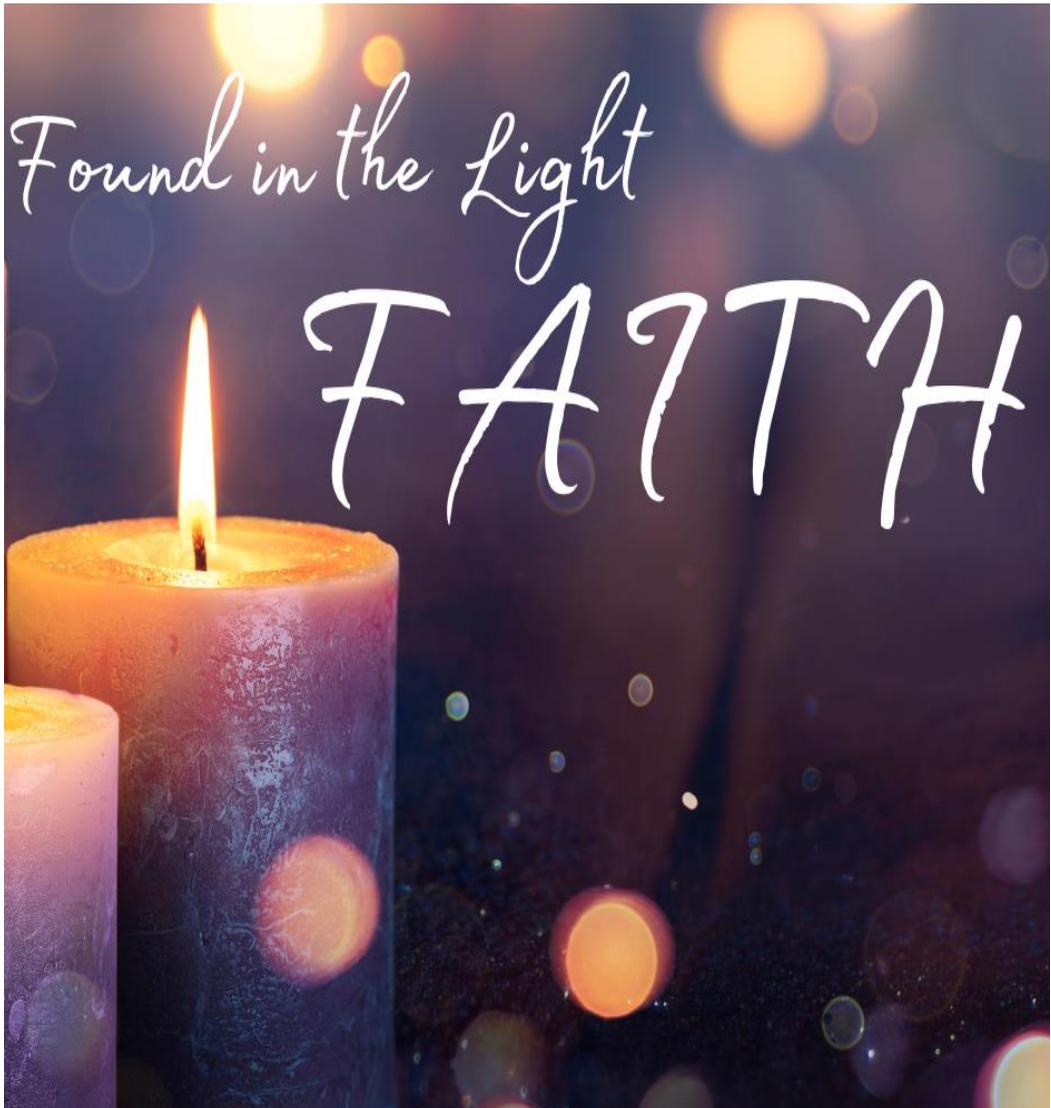
# **Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church**

*A North American Lutheran Church Congregation*

410 East Pease Avenue, West Carrollton, Ohio 45449, Office (937) 859-3941

Pastor Phil Hohulin, phohulin@hotmail.com

gracelutheranwc.org



**Second Sunday of Advent**

December 4, 2022

# PRELUDE

*Please gather in silence to prepare for worship*

*Stand*

## GATHERING HYMN

### People, Look East

1 Peo - ple, look east. The time is near of the crown - ing  
2 Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is  
3 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the  
4 An - gels an - nounce with shouts of mirth him who brings new

of the year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble,  
plant - ed there. Give up your strength the seed to nour - ish,  
bowl shall brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er,  
life to earth. Set ev - 'ry peak and val - ley hum - ming

trim the hearth and set the ta - ble. Peo - ple, look  
that in course the flow'r may flour - ish. Peo - ple, look  
bright as the sun and the moon to - geth - er. Peo - ple, look  
with the word, the Lord is com - ing. Peo - ple, look

east, and sing to - day— Love, the Guest, is on the way.  
east, and sing to - day— Love, the Rose, is on the way.  
east, and sing to - day— Love, the Star, is on the way.  
east, and sing to - day— Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881–1965

Music: BESANÇON, French carol; arr. Barry Rose, b. 1934

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## INVOCATION

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.*

P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

## CONFESSION OF SIN

P When God created the world, he made the crown of his creation-the human race-in his image. Perfect people lived in a perfect world in a perfect relationship with God.

C **But mankind rebelled against God, bringing sin into the world and death to all. God declared the wages of sin to be death. We too are guilty, and we confess our sinful thoughts, words, and actions.**

P However, God-who is Love-did not want to be separated from his children forever. He promised a Savior who would bear the punishment for sin, defeat the devil, and break the bonds of death.

C [sung]                    O, come, O, come, Emmanuel,  
                                  And ransom captive Israel  
                                  That mourns in lonely exile here  
                                  Until the Son of God appear.  
                                  Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
                                  Shall come to you, O Israel!

P When the time had fully come, God sent his Son. Jesus, our Savior, has paid the ransom for your debt; your sins are forgiven.



*Be seated*

## LIGHTING RITE

Kylene and Patrick Terhune

- R In view of God's mercy, today we light the *faith* candle. Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Let us also lay aside every weight and sin, which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us. (Hebrews 11:1; 12:1)
- C We look to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our *faith*, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

[sung]            **O Christ, through Faith you give to me  
Grace undeserved, unending, free.  
Help me to share this gift most rare  
That all, God's hope and peace, may share.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to you, O Israel!**

- P With faith in God we go to the world - to our friends, relatives, acquaintances, and neighbors. We regard no one from a worldly point of view. If anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come. All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation.
- C **God has committed to us the ministry of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. Jesus, who had no sin, became sin for us; in him we have become the righteousness of God.**

[sung]            **Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to you, O Israel!**

*Stand*

## GREETING AND 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 Pastoral Prayer
- C **Amen.**

*Be seated*

**FIRST READING: JEREMIAH 23:16-29**

**16** This is what the LORD Almighty says:

“Do not listen to what the prophets are prophesying to you;  
they fill you with false hopes.

They speak visions from their own minds,  
not from the mouth of the LORD.

**17** They keep saying to those who despise me,  
‘The LORD says: You will have peace.’

And to all who follow the stubbornness of their hearts  
they say, ‘No harm will come to you.’

**18** But which of them has stood in the council of the LORD  
to see or to hear his word?

Who has listened and heard his word?

**19** See, the storm of the LORD  
will burst out in wrath,  
a whirlwind swirling down  
on the heads of the wicked.

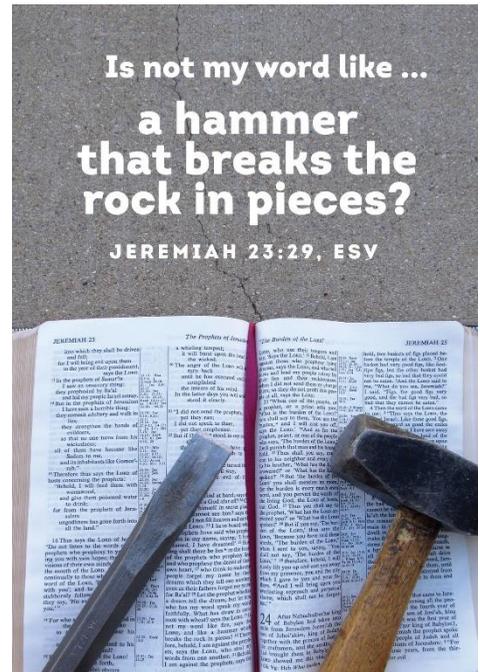
**20** The anger of the LORD will not turn back  
until he fully accomplishes  
the purposes of his heart.

In days to come  
you will understand it clearly.

**21** I did not send these prophets,  
yet they have run with their message;

I did not speak to them,  
yet they have prophesied.

**22** But if they had stood in my council,  
they would have proclaimed my words to my people



and would have turned them from their evil ways  
and from their evil deeds.

<sup>23</sup> “Am I only a God nearby,”

declares the LORD,

“and not a God far away?”

<sup>24</sup> Who can hide in secret places

so that I cannot see them?”

declares the LORD.

“Do not I fill heaven and earth?”

declares the LORD.

<sup>25</sup> “I have heard what the prophets say who prophesy lies in my name. They say, ‘I had a

dream! I had a dream!’ <sup>26</sup> How long will this continue in the hearts of these lying

prophets, who prophesy the delusions of their own minds? <sup>27</sup> They think the dreams they

tell one another will make my people forget my name, just as their ancestors forgot my

name through Baal worship. <sup>28</sup> Let the prophet who has a dream recount the dream, but

let the one who has my word speak it faithfully. For what has straw to do with grain?”

declares the LORD. <sup>29</sup> “Is not my word like fire,” declares the LORD, “and like a

hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?”

R The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## **PSALM 33:12-22**

R <sup>12</sup> Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD,

the people he chose for his inheritance.

C <sup>13</sup> **From heaven the LORD looks down  
and sees all mankind;**

<sup>14</sup> from his dwelling place he watches

all who live on earth—

<sup>15</sup> **he who forms the hearts of all,**

**who considers everything they do.**

<sup>16</sup> No king is saved by the size of his army;  
no warrior escapes by his great strength.

<sup>17</sup> **A horse is a vain hope for deliverance;  
despite all its great strength it cannot save.**

<sup>18</sup> But the eyes of the LORD are on those who fear him,  
on those whose hope is in his unfailing love,

<sup>19</sup> **to deliver them from death  
and keep them alive in famine.**

<sup>20</sup> We wait in hope for the LORD;  
he is our help and our shield.

<sup>21</sup> **In him our hearts rejoice,  
for we trust in his holy name.**

<sup>22</sup> May your unfailing love be with us, LORD,  
even as we put our hope in you.

## **SECOND READING: HEBREWS 11:1-3, 8-12, 17-19, 13-16, 29-40**

Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. <sup>2</sup>This is what the ancients were commended for.

<sup>3</sup>By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.

<sup>8</sup>By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going. <sup>9</sup>By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. <sup>10</sup>For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God. <sup>11</sup>And by faith even Sarah, who was past childbearing age, was enabled to bear children because she considered him faithful who had made the promise. <sup>12</sup>And so from

this one man, and he as good as dead, came descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sand on the seashore.

<sup>17</sup> By faith Abraham, when God tested him, offered Isaac as a sacrifice. He who had embraced the promises was about to sacrifice his one and only son, <sup>18</sup> even though God had said to him, “It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned.” <sup>19</sup> Abraham reasoned that God could even raise the dead, and so in a manner of speaking he did receive Isaac back from death.

<sup>13</sup> All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance, admitting that they were foreigners and strangers on earth. <sup>14</sup> People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own. <sup>15</sup> If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return. <sup>16</sup> Instead, they were longing for a better country—a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.

<sup>29</sup> By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as on dry land; but when the Egyptians tried to do so, they were drowned.

<sup>30</sup> By faith the walls of Jericho fell, after the army had marched around them for seven days.

<sup>31</sup> By faith the prostitute Rahab, because she welcomed the spies, was not killed with those who were disobedient.

<sup>32</sup> And what more shall I say? I do not have time to tell about Gideon, Barak, Samson and Jephthah, about David and Samuel and the prophets, <sup>33</sup> who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, and gained what was promised; who shut the mouths of lions, <sup>34</sup> quenched the fury of the flames, and escaped the edge of the sword; whose weakness was turned to strength; and who became powerful in battle and routed foreign armies. <sup>35</sup> Women received back their dead, raised to life again. There were others who

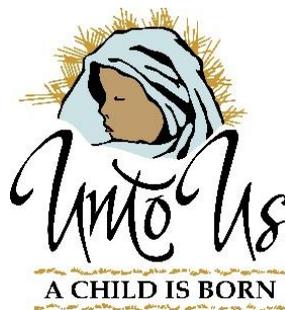
were tortured, refusing to be released so that they might gain an even better resurrection. <sup>36</sup> Some faced jeers and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. <sup>37</sup> They were put to death by stoning; they were sawed in two; they were killed by the sword. They went about in sheepskins and goatskins, destitute, persecuted and mistreated— <sup>38</sup> the world was not worthy of them. They wandered in deserts and mountains, living in caves and in holes in the ground.

<sup>39</sup> These were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had been promised, <sup>40</sup> since God had planned something better for us so that only together with us would they be made perfect.

R The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## CHILDREN'S MOMENT



*Stand*

## GOSPEL PROCESSIONAL



## GOSPEL: LUKE 12:22-31

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 12<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

<sup>22</sup> Then Jesus said to his disciples: “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; or about your body, what you will wear. <sup>23</sup> For life is more than food, and the body more than clothes. <sup>24</sup> Consider the ravens: They do not sow or reap, they have no storeroom or barn; yet God feeds them. And how much more valuable you are than birds! <sup>25</sup> Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to your life? <sup>26</sup> Since you cannot do this very little thing, why do you worry about the rest?

<sup>27</sup> “Consider how the wild flowers grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. <sup>28</sup> If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today, and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, how much more will he clothe you—you of little faith! <sup>29</sup> And do not set your heart on what you will eat or drink; do not worry about it. <sup>30</sup> For the pagan world runs after all such things, and your Father knows that you need them. <sup>31</sup> But seek his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## GOSPEL RECESSIONAL



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

*Be seated*

**SERMON** “Found in the Light: Part II-Faith”

*Moment of silent reflection after sermon*

Pastor Phil Hohulin



Stand

## HYMN OF THE DAY

### Prepare the Royal Highway

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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## **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: APOSTLES' CREED**

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

**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.**

**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.**

*Kneel/sit/stand*

## **THE PRAYERS**

**A** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their need:

**A** Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, may your Spirit kindle in us faith so verdant that your reign of righteousness and peace is made visible through our lives. Help us to live in trust and repentance. Drown the sinner in us each day and give us new life by the work of your Spirit within us. Lord in your mercy.

**C Hear our prayer.**

Holy Father, speak your word through your Church today, and use the proclamation of your Word to call all people to faith and draw them to follow Jesus in obedience and grace. Lord in your mercy.

**C Hear our prayer.**

Loving Father, stretch out your mighty and gentle hand to those who weep because of grief, illness, anxiety, or hardship of any kind [We pray especially for ...]. In your loving-kindness, bring them joy in the morning. Lord in your mercy.

**C Hear our prayer.**

Ruler of all, grant your wisdom to all elected representatives of our republic. Protect them from corruption and temptation. Conform their wills to yours and lend them courage to lead according to your statutes. Enable them to ensure the unalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness to all, from first heartbeat to last. Lord in your mercy.

**C Hear our prayer.**

Head of the church, bless the leaders of our denomination: our bishop Dan Selbo; his assistants Amy, Brad, David, Gemechas, Phillip, Andrew; and the staff and faculty of our North American Lutheran Seminary. Raise up a new generation of pastors to shepherd your flock. Enhance the missional efforts of all congregations that faithfully proclaim your word. 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, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C Amen**

*Stand*

**PEACE**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C And also with you.**

P Let us share a sign of Christ's peace.

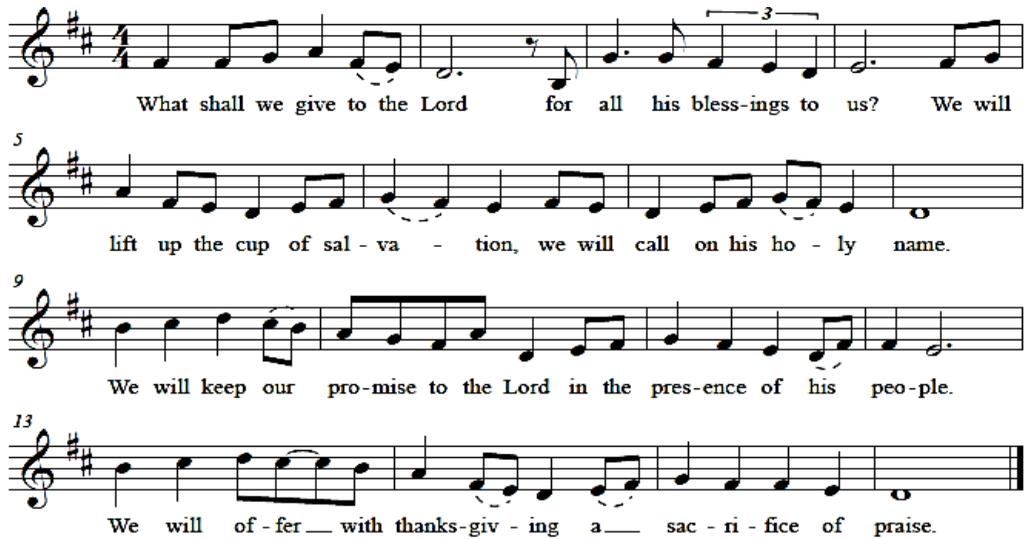
*Be seated*

**OFFERING**

Special Music

Stand

## OFFERTORY



What shall we give to the Lord for all his blessings to us? We will lift up the cup of salvation, we will call on his holy name. We will keep our promise to the Lord in the presence of his people. We will offer with thanksgiving a sacrifice of praise.

The musical score is written on four staves in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The lyrics are placed below the notes. A triplet of eighth notes is marked with a '3' and a slur above it in the first staff. The piece ends with a double bar line in the fourth staff.

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Blessed are you,

C O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen



## DIALOGUE



Presider: Cong:  
The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Presider: Cong:  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Presider:  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Cong:  
It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Music: John Scheusner

## PREFACE

P It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, Almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; whose way John the Baptist prepared and pointed to the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth, and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er 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. Bles - sed is he who comes in the name of the  
Lord Ho - san - na! Ho - san - na! Ho - san - na in the high - est.

© 2009. Music by John Scheusner

## THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth.

In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all those who believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life. We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ.

Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his holy supper.

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

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.

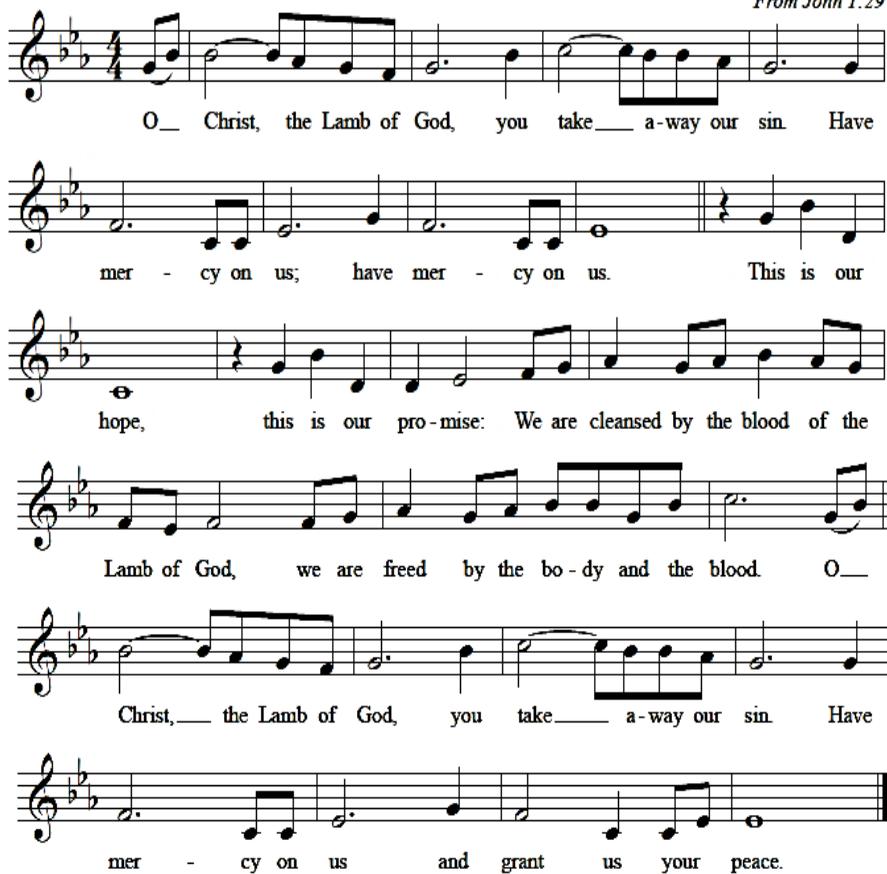
## **LORD'S PRAYER**

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.**

*Be seated*  
**AGNUS DEI**

*From John 1:29*



O\_\_ Christ, the Lamb of God, you take\_\_ a-way our sin. Have  
mer - cy on us; have mer - cy on us. This is our  
hope, this is our pro-mise: We are cleansed by the blood of the  
Lamb of God, we are freed by the bo - dy and the blood. O\_\_  
Christ,\_\_ the Lamb of God, you take\_\_\_\_ a-way our sin. Have  
mer - cy on us and grant us your peace.



## COMMUNION

*\*White grape juice is in the center of each communion tray. Gluten-free wafers available at the rail upon request.*

We believe that Holy Communion is the sacrament of the real presence of Our Lord Jesus Christ. As we partake of the \*bread and the \*wine, we trust Jesus' promise that we receive His Body and Blood for the forgiveness of sin and strength to service in our lives. If you are a baptized and repentant Christian who desires to commune with us, you are thereby publicly declaring your oneness in faith with us, and you too recognize the Lord's Body and Blood as fulfilling God's Covenant of Grace for us.

*The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.  
The communicant may say: Amen.*

*Stand*

### PRAYER

A Let us pray.

**C God for whom we wait, in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

### BLESSING

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

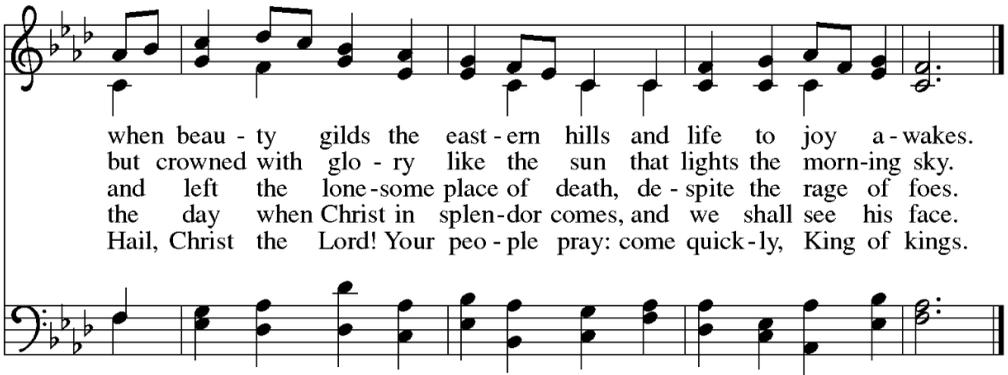
The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

## SENDING HYMN

# The King Shall Come



1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light tri - um-phant 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. Davission, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816; arr. Theodore A. Beck, 1929-2003

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## DISMISSAL

**P** Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God. Alleluia!



Thank you for worshipping with us today. We invite you to come and get to know us at the pace that fits who you are, where you are on your spiritual journey, and to explore with us what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ. If you would like to receive our weekly newsletter, Tidings of Grace, please send an email to our administrative assistant, Brenda, at [gracewcsecretary@yahoo.com](mailto:gracewcsecretary@yahoo.com).



**Communion Servers**

Roseann & Joe Costantino

	<b><u>Assistant Minister</u></b>	<b><u>Lector</u></b>	<b><u>Nursery</u></b>
Dec 4	Shirley Schryver	Donna Tucker	Kylene & Debbie
Dec 11	Sandy Rice	Tom Teague	Rachael & Debbie
Dec 18	Joe Costantino	George Reinhart	Roseann & Debbie
Dec 24/4	N'Anne Knight	Aaron Mood	Wanda & Debbie
Dec 24/7	TBA	Becky Reinhart	& Debbie
Dec 25	N'Anne Knight	Julie Hohulin	& Debbie

**Sunday School**

	<b>Young Learners (Prek—K)</b>	<b>Disciples (Early Elementary)</b>
Dec 4	Wanda & Steve	Jean
Dec 11	Roseann & Susan	Julie
Dec 18	Mechelle & Ava	Lea
Dec 25	No Class	No Class



## Grace 2022 Council

### Officers

John Michael~President

Deb Ross~Vice President

Steve Gross~Treasurer

Jim Wattrick~Secretary

### Team Liaisons

Diane Jergens~Benevolence

Jean Wheeler~Christian Education

Gary Petticrew~Evangelism

Linda Hooghe~Fellowship

Joe Costantino~Worship & Music

Deb Ross~Office & Admin.

Lauren Gleason~Property

Shirley Schryver~Prayer & Shepherding

John Jackson~Council at Large/Admin Apprentice

As a congregation of the  
*North American Lutheran Church*  
we are guided by four core values:

1. Christ Centered
2. Mission Driven
3. Traditionally Grounded
4. Congregationally Focused



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