

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



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 3, 2023

PRELUDE

Please gather in silence to prepare for worship

Stand

GATHERING HYMN

O Come, All Ye Faithful



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
2 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal,
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes;
sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!
Je - sus, to thee be . . . glo - ry giv'n!



come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:
Son of the Fa - ther now in flesh ap - pear - ing!
Glo - ry to God . . . in . . . the . . . high - est:
Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:

Refrain

Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,
O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,

ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.
O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

Text: attr. John Francis Wade, 1711–1786; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802–1880, sts. 1, 3–4; tr. unknown, st. 2
Music: ADESTE FIDELES, attr. John Francis Wade



BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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.

P God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

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

Please kneel, sit or stand

P Most Merciful God,

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

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Stand

GREETING

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.

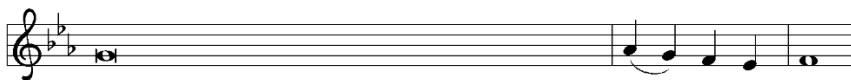
KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



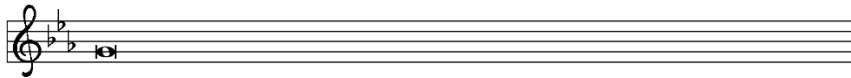
Lord, have mer - cy.



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



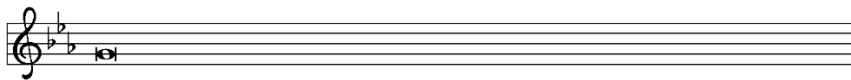
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



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



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



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



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to



hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Be seated

LIGHTING RITE

Anne Burke & Steve Hedlund

R In view of God's mercy, today we light the *hope* candle. The Spirit declares through the psalmist, "Put your *hope* in the Lord, for with the Lord is unfailing love, and with him is full redemption." (Psalm 130:7)

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Advent Carol



Hope, hope! Hear the good news:
Je - sus our Sav - ior brings hope — to you.
Hope, hope! Hear the good news:
Je - sus our Sav - ior brings hope — to you.

2. Faith, faith!
3. Joy, joy!
4. Peace, peace!

From: *Advent Carol* (CGA1704).
Text: Beth Kenreich.
Music: Beth Kenreich.
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Stand

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.
P Pastoral Prayer
C Amen.



Be seated

INSTALLATION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS FOR 2024

- P The following people have been elected to serve on church council in 2024. We give thanks for their willingness to serve. In baptism we are welcomed into the body of Christ and sent to share in the mission of God; we rejoice now that these sisters and brothers will lead us in our common life and our mutual mission as a congregation.
- P A reading from 1 Corinthians: There are varieties of gifts, but the same spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the spirit for the common good. (1 Corinthians 12:4-7)
- P You have been elected to positions of leadership and trust in this congregation.
- P You are to see that the words and deeds of this household of faith bear witness to God, who gathers us into one together with the whole church. You are to seek to involve all members of this congregation in worship, learning, witness, service, and support, so that the mission of Christ is carried out in this congregation, in the wider church, in this community, and in the whole world. You are to be faithful in your specific area of serving, that the spirit who empowers you may be glorified. You are to be examples of faith active in love, fostering peace, harmony, and mutual understanding in this congregation.
- P On behalf of your sisters and brothers in Christ, I ask you: will you accept and faithfully carry out the duties of the offices to which you have been elected?
Council members' response: Yes, and I ask God to help me.

The assembly stands. Those being installed face the assembly. The presiding minister addresses the assembly.

- P People of God, I ask you: will you support these, your elected leaders, and will you share in the mutual ministry that Christ has given to all who are baptized?
- C We will, and we ask God to help us.**

Those being installed face the presiding minister, who addresses them.

- P I now declare you installed as council members of this congregation. Almighty God bless you, and direct your days and your deeds in peace, that you may be faithful servants of Christ.

FIRST READING: II SAMUEL 7:1-11, 16

Now when the king lived in his house and the LORD had given him rest from all his surrounding enemies, ² the king said to Nathan the prophet, “See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells in a tent.” ³ And Nathan said to the king, “Go, do all that is in your heart, for the LORD is with you.”

⁴ But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan, ⁵ “Go and tell my servant David, ‘Thus says the LORD: Would you build me a house to dwell in?’ ⁶ I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent for my dwelling. ⁷ In all places where I have moved with all the people of Israel, did I speak a word with any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, ‘Why have you not built me a house of cedar?’” ⁸ Now, therefore, thus you shall say to my servant David, ‘Thus says the LORD of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over my people Israel. ⁹ And I have been with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies from before you. And I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. ¹⁰ And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may dwell in their own place and be disturbed no more. And violent men shall afflict them no more, as formerly, ¹¹ from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel. And I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house.

¹⁶ And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever.’”

R The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.



PSALM 89:1-5

R ¹I will sing of the steadfast love of the LORD, forever;
with my mouth I will make known your faithfulness to all generations.

C ²**For I said, “Steadfast love will be built up forever;
in the heavens you will establish your faithfulness.”**

³You have said, “I have made a covenant with my chosen one;
I have sworn to David my servant:

⁴**‘I will establish your offspring forever,
and build your throne for all generations.’” *Selah***

⁵Let the heavens praise your wonders, O LORD,
your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones!

SECOND READING: ROMANS 16:25-27

²⁵Now to him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages ²⁶but has now been disclosed and through the prophetic writings has been made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith— ²⁷to the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ! Amen.

R The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN’S MOMENT



Stand

GOSPEL PROCESSIONAL



GOSPEL: LUKE 1:26-38

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

C Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁶ In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷ to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" ²⁹ But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰ And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹ And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. ³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, ³³ and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

³⁴ And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

³⁵ And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be

called holy—the Son of God. ³⁶ And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. ³⁷ For nothing will be impossible with God.” ³⁸ And Mary said, “Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her.

P The Gospel of the Lord.
C Praise to you, O Christ.

GOSPEL RECESSIONAL

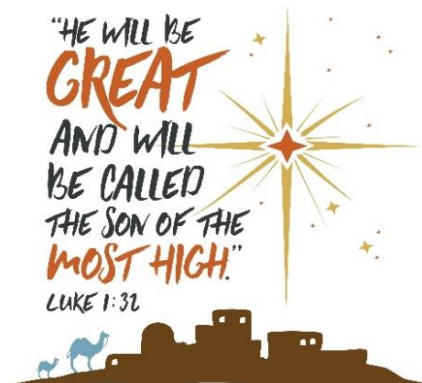


Be seated

SERMON “The Annunciation”

Moment of silent reflection after sermon

Pastor Phil Hohulin



HYMN OF THE DAY

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel 245

The virgin will give birth to a Son, and will call Him Immanuel. Isaiah 7:14

1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el And ran - som cap - tive
 2. O come, Thou Day - spring, come and cheer Our spir - its by Thine
 3. O come, Thou Wis - dom from on high And or - der all things,
 4. O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind All peo - ples in one

Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here,
 ad - vent here; Dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night,
 far and nigh; To us the path of knowl - edge show
 heart and mind. Bid en - vy, strife, and quar - rels cease;

Refrain

Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 And death's dark shad - ows put to flight. Re - joice! Re - joice!
 And cause us in her ways to go.
 Fill the whole world with heav - en's peace.

Em - man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

TEXT: Latin Hymn, *Psalterium Canticum Catholicarum*, 1710;
 translated by John M. Neale, stanzas 1,2, altered;
 Henry S. Coffin, stanzas 3,4 altered
 MUSIC: Adapted from Plainsong by Thomas Helmore, altered

VENI EMMANUEL
 L. M. with Refrain

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 Gracious God, the Alpha and Omega, our beginning and our end, may your Spirit kindle in us patience and peace as we wait for the coming of your Son. Grant us also the humility and boldness to proclaim his reign. Kindle in your church and particularly this congregation a desire and ability to carry the torch of faithful witness to a world in need of your message of hope and salvation. Lord in your mercy.

C **Hear our prayer.**

Sustaining God, provide for all those in need this advent season. Help us to see your face in the need of others. Grant us courage and wisdom as we seek to be the hands, face, and feet of Christ to others. Particularly we pray for our ministry partner Helping Hands Food Pantry. May all they serve find satisfaction of physical and spiritual hunger. Lord in your mercy.

C **Hear our prayer.**

God of healing and wholeness, grant the light of your healing presence to all who suffer illness, loss, grief, or anxiety this season. Give to all in any kind of need the assurance of your life-giving presence during trials. [We pray particularly for ...] Remind all who are facing troubles that you are God-with-us and that your promises of new life, here and now and in eternity, are trustworthy and true. Lord in your mercy.

C Hear our prayer.

Sovereign One, bestow your wisdom, strength, protection, and courage upon all who serve in our armed forces. Grant also these virtues to all elected representatives of our republic. Guard them from corruption and temptation. Conform their wills to your will and enable them to lead according to your statutes. Assist 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.

Lord of the Church, bless the leaders of our denomination: our bishop Dan Selbo; his assistants Amy, Gemechis, Phillip, Andrew, Eric; and the staff and faculty of our North American Lutheran Seminary. Raise 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.

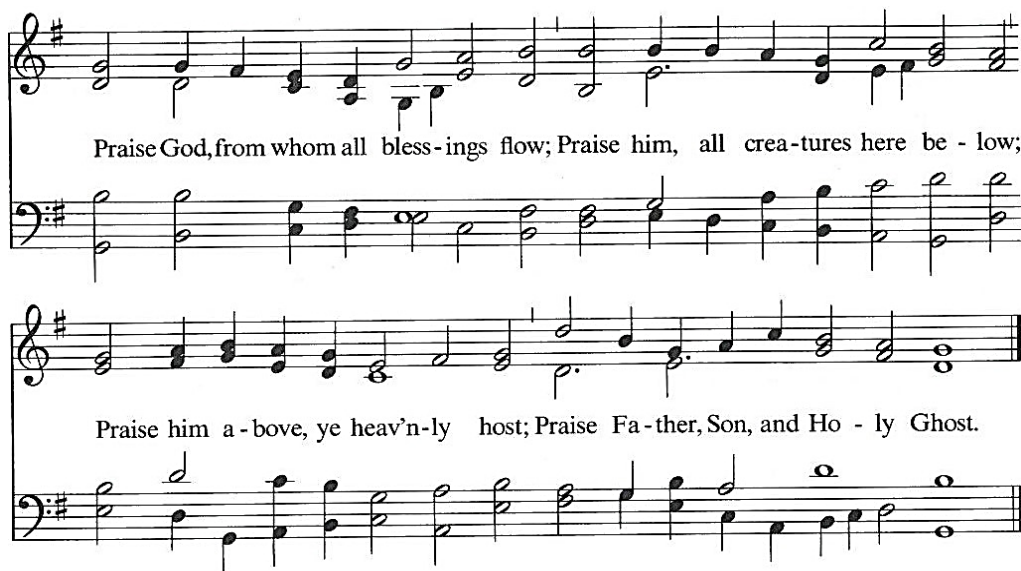
P Let us share a sign of Christ's peace.



Be seated
OFFERING

Special Music

Stand
OFFERTORY



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise him, all crea - tures here be - low;

Praise him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host; Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

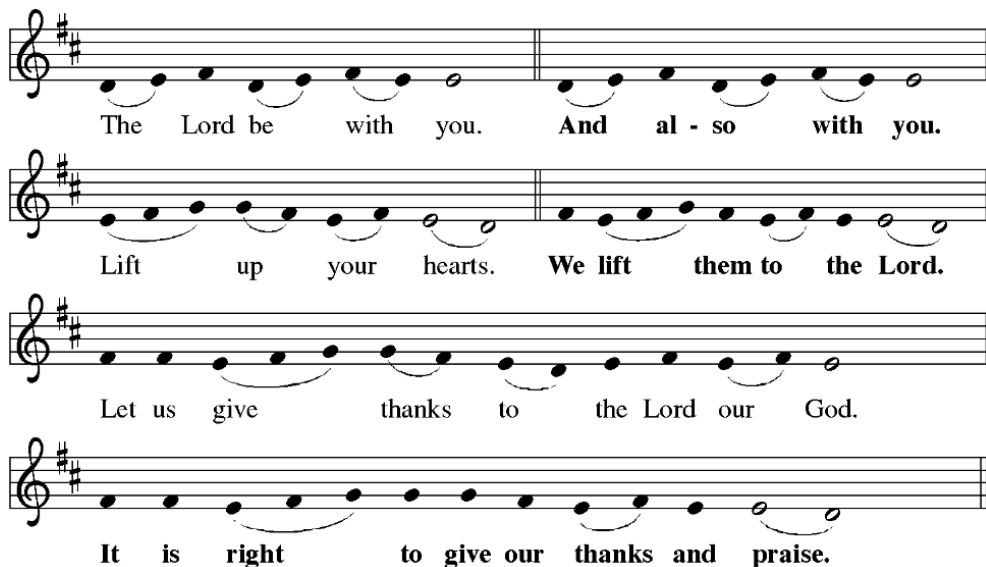
Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711
Tune: Louis Bourgeois, c. 1510-1561

OLD HUNDREDTH
L.M.

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



PREFACE

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. Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. 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 in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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.**

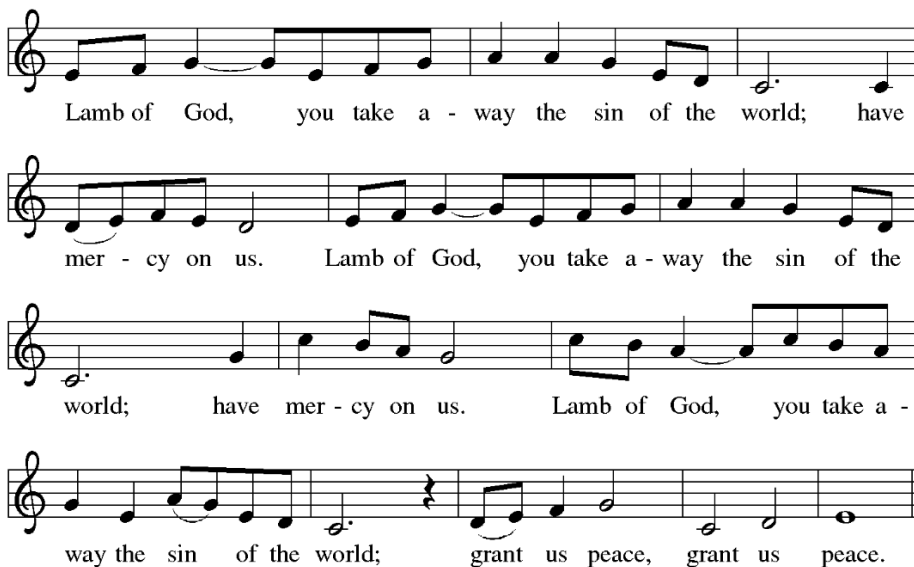
**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,**

**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



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, grant us 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.

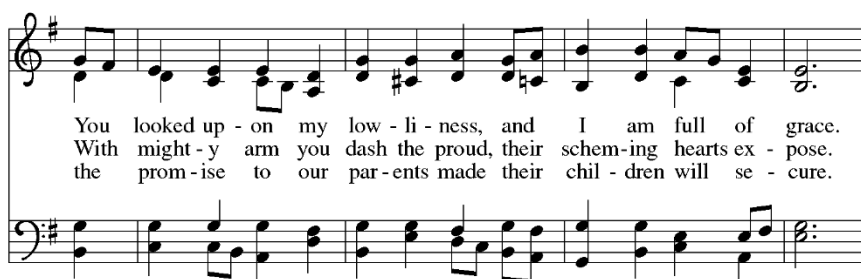
C God for whom we wait, in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

HYMN OF THANKSGIVING (Vs 1 Only)

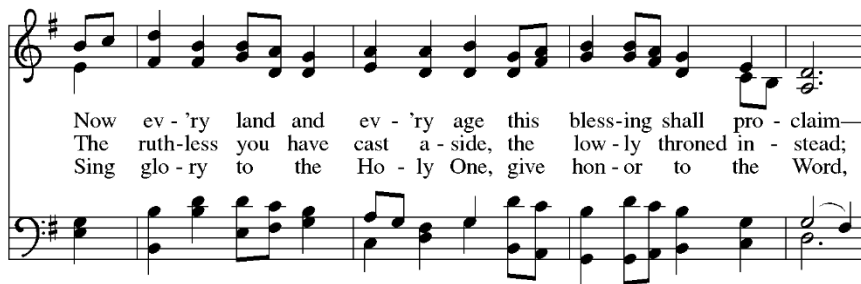
My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness



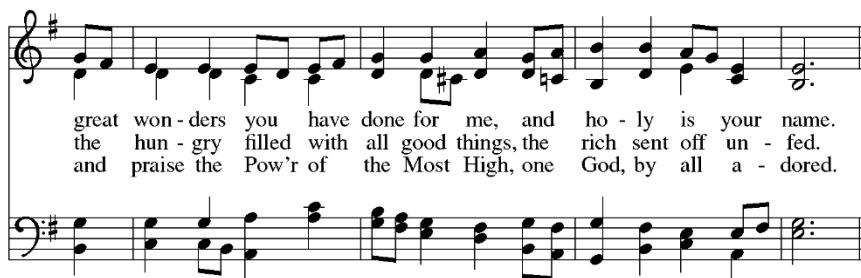
1 My soul pro-claims your great-ness, Lord; I sing my Sav - ior's praise!
2 To all who live in ho - ly fear your mer - cy ev - er flows.
3 To Is - ra - el, your ser - vant blest, your help is ev - er sure;



You looked up - on my low - li - ness, and I am full of grace.
With might - y arm you dash the proud, their schem-ing hearts ex - pose.
the prom - ise to our par - ents made their chil - dren will se - cure.



Now ev - 'ry land and ev - 'ry age this bless-ing shall pro - claim—
The ruth-less you have cast a - side, the low - ly throned in - stead;
Sing glo - ry to the Ho - ly One, give hon - or to the Word,



great won - ders you have done for me, and ho - ly is your name.
the hun - gry filled with all good things, the rich sent off un - fed.
and praise the Pow'r of the Most High, one God, by all a - dored.

Text: *With One Voice*, 1995, based on the Magnificat

Music: KINGSFOLD, English folk tune; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

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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. Amen.

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.

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano accompaniment. It is in the key of B-flat major (two flats) and 4/4 time. The melody is primarily in the Soprano and Alto parts, with the piano providing harmonic support. The lyrics are printed below the vocal staves.

Text: John Brownlie, 1859-1925

Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davison, *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.

Prepare the Way of the Lord



Join Us as We Celebrate the Season

Wednesday Evenings 7:00pm

Luther Sermon Series

11/29 The Annunciation

12/6 The Nativity

12/13 The Shepherds

12/20 The Wise Men

Lessons and Carols Sunday 12/17 10:30am

Christmas Eve Morning 10:30am

Christmas Eve 7:00pm

FOR TO US A CHILD IS BORN,
TO US A SON IS GIVEN,
AND THE GOVERNMENT
WILL BE ON HIS SHOULDERS.
AND HE WILL BE CALLED

WONDERFUL
Counselor,
MIGHTY
God,
EVERLASTING
Father,
PRINCE OF
Peace.

ISAIAH 9:6, NIV



Servant Schedule

Communion Servers

Roseann & Joe Costantino

Assistant Minister

Dec 3 Sandy Rice
Dec 10 N'Anne Knight
Dec 17 Shirley Schryver
Dec 24/am N'Anne Knight
Dec 24/pm Joe Costantino
Dec 31 Sandy Rice

Lector

Lauren Gleason
Steve Hedlund
(Lessons and Carols)
Becky Reinhart
Chris and Alice Rondeau
Shirley Schryver

Sunday School

Young Learners (Prek—K)

Dec 3 Pam & N'Anne
Dec 10 Pam & Sandy

Disciples (Early Elementary)

Julie
Lea

Sunday School Classes Resume Jan 7





Officers

Deborah Ross~President

Joe Costantino~Vice President

Steve Gross~Treasurer

Jim Wattrick~Secretary

Team Liaisons

Gary Petticrew~Outreach

Pam Mehlhorn~Christian Education

Linda Hooghe~Connections

Nathan Pfeiffer~Worship & Music

John Jackson~Administration & Finance

Lauren Gleason~Property



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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