



**December 3, 2023
First Sunday of Advent**

8:00 a.m. Worship Service w/Holy Communion

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Welcome Pastor Gade!

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Our Mission

CELEBRATING

GOD

CONNECTING

PEOPLE



Stir up your power, and come! The psalmist's plea in Psalm 80:2 has become familiar to us in the Advent prayers. Isaiah wants God to rip the heavens open. Both cry out for an apparently distant, angry God to show up, to save, to restore. When we hear Jesus describing the coming of the Son of Man with stars falling from heaven, it can sound dire and horrible, not like anything we would ever hope for. But when we really look at the suffering of people God loves, we can share the hope that God would tear open the heavens and come.

GATHERING

[congregation reads bold]

Bell

Announcements

Prelude: *Veni, Emmanuel*

-arr. Marilyn Biery, Charles Callahan

All who are able are invited to stand

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who opens the heavens and draws near to us with salvation.

Amen.

God is patient and merciful, desiring all to come to repentance. Trusting this promise of grace, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Everlasting God,

you love justice and you hate wrongdoing. We confess the fear, greed, and self-centeredness that make us reluctant to work against oppression. We are complicit in systems of exploitation. We choose comfort over courage. We are careless with creation's bounty. Look upon us with mercy. Turn our hearts again to you. Make us glad to do your will and to walk in your ways for the sake of our waiting world.

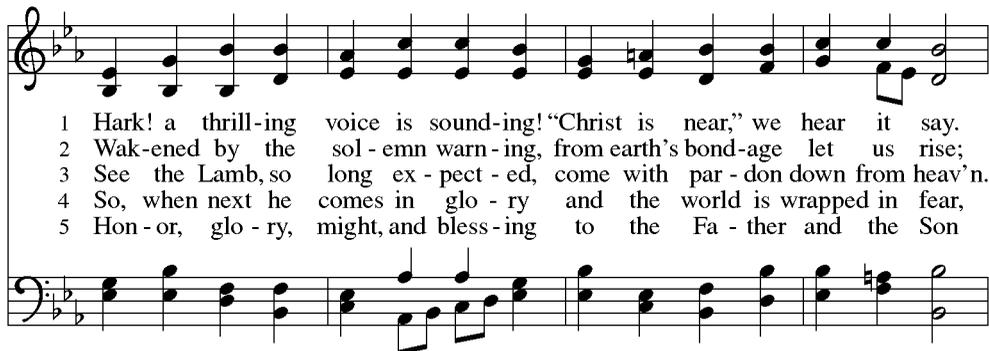
Amen.

Hear these words of assurance: God clothes you with garments of salvation and covers you with robes of righteousness. In the tender compassion of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. God's covenant is eternal, and God's blessing rests upon us all.

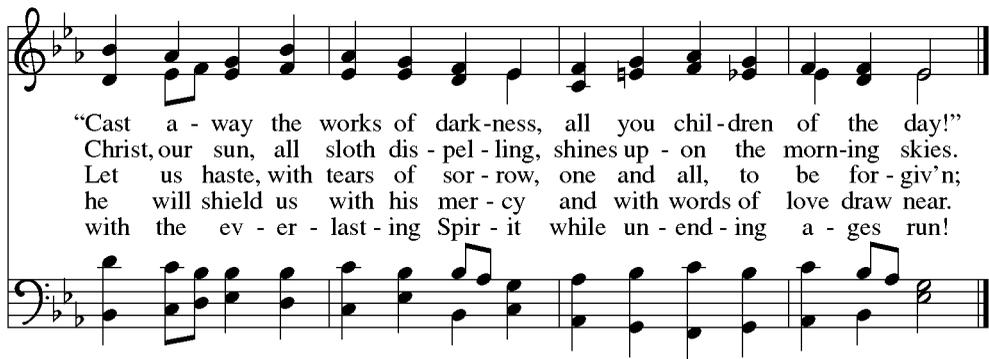
Amen.

Gathering Hymn

Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding!



1 Hark! a thrill-ing voice is sound-ing! "Christ is near," we hear it say.
2 Wak-ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth's bond-age let us rise;
3 See the Lamb, so long ex - spect - ed, come with par - don down from heav'n.
4 So, when next he comes in glo - ry and the world is wrapped in fear,
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther and the Son



"Cast a - way the works of dark-ness, all you chil-dren of the day!"
Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling, shines up - on the morn-ing skies.
Let us haste, with tears of sor - row, one and all, to be for - giv'n;
he will shield us with his mer - cy and with words of love draw near.
with the ev - er - last - ing Spir - it while un - end - ing a - ges run!

Advent Wreath

Praise to you, O God, our salvation who is near.

You hold us in our waiting and keep us awake to the world.

You show up in our lives at unexpected times.

Bless us as we light this candle to keep vigil for your arrival.

We trust that even though we do not know the day or the hour,
you hurry to gather all people to your peace.

Amen.

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah



1 Light one can-dle to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



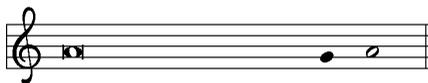
He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra-el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Kyrie



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



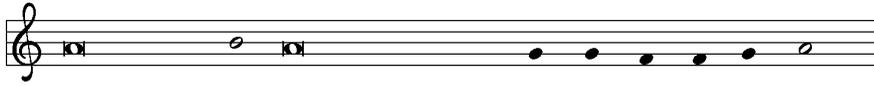
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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 wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



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

Glory to God



Assisting minister

Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



All

Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al - might-y God and Fa - ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



Prayer of the Day

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.
All may be seated*

First Reading: Isaiah 64:1-9

This lament comes from a people who have had their hopes shattered. The visions of a rebuilt Jerusalem and a renewed people of God, spoken of in Isaiah 40–55, have not been realized. Instead, the people experience ruin, conflict, and famine. This lament calls God to account—to be the God who has brought deliverance in the past.

¹O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—

²as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil—

to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!

³When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,

you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.
⁴From ages past no one has heard,
no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you,
who works for those who wait for him.
⁵You meet those who gladly do right,
those who remember you in your ways.
But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed.
⁶We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.
We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
⁷There is no one who calls on your name,
or attempts to take hold of you;
for you have hidden your face from us,
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.
⁸Yet, O LORD, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.
⁹Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD,
and do not remember iniquity forever.
Now consider, we are all your people.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19 (read responsively – congregation reads bold)

Let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved. (Ps. 80:7)

¹Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph ¹ like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned up- ¹ on the cherubim.
²**In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, ¹ and Manasseh,**
stir up your strength and ¹ come to help us.
³Restore ¹ us, O God;
let your face shine upon us, and we ¹ shall be saved.

**⁴O LORD¹ God of hosts,
how long will your anger fume when your ¹ people pray?**

⁵You have fed them with the ¹ bread of tears;
you have given them bowls of ¹ tears to drink.

**⁶You have made us the derision ¹ of our neighbors,
and our enemies laugh ¹ us to scorn.**

⁷Restore us, O ¹ God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we ¹ shall be saved.

**¹⁷Let your hand be upon the one at ¹ your right hand,
the one you have made so strong ¹ for yourself.**

¹⁸And so will we never turn a- ¹ way from you;
give us life, that we may call up- ¹ on your name.

**¹⁹Restore us, O LORD¹ God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we ¹ shall be saved.**

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

As the Christians in Corinth await the advent of Jesus, Paul reminds them how the Lord has already enriched them through spiritual gifts and will continue to strengthen them until the coming day of the Lord.

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—⁶just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. *The word of the Lord.*

Thanks be to God.

All who are able are invited to stand

The Gospel Verse

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

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

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 25th chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

The Holy Gospel: Mark 25:24-37

Jesus encourages his followers to look forward to the day when he returns in power and glory to end all suffering.

[Jesus said:] ²⁴“In those days, after that suffering,
the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light,
²⁵and the stars will be falling from heaven,
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

²⁶Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. ²⁷Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

²⁸“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. ³¹Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³²“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. ³⁵Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, ³⁶or else he may

find you asleep when he comes suddenly. ³⁷And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake." *The Gospel of the Lord.*

Praise to you, O Christ.

All may be seated

Children's Sermon

Miss Stephanie

Sermon

Pastor Jerel Gade

Time of Silent Reflection *(remain seated)*

All who are able are invited to stand

Hymn of the Day

Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending

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 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 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 God ap - pear!
 lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone!

Nicene Creed

In the words of the Creed, let us confess our faith:

**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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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.**

Prayers of Intercession

With hope and expectation, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who await God's day of restoration.

A brief silence.

Call your church into holy fellowship as we await the restoration of all things. Reenergize your faithful people to live with hope and compassion, especially those who serve as missionaries near and far. Center us on your promise to come among us and make all things new. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

All creation signals your presence, O God: the vastness of the cosmos, the turn of the seasons, and living things that both rest and flourish. Rekindle our commitment to care for the earth. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Let the nations tremble at your holy presence, that justice and liberation prevail in all corners of the earth. Restore peace to nations in conflict, teach righteousness to corrupt leaders and systems, and bring stability to areas facing uncertain futures. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Be with those who keep awake at night: nurses working overnight shifts, caregivers of newborns and aging adults, stargazers, those who are anxious, or those who are traveling. Reveal to all that the dark can be a place of calm and comfort filled with your presence. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

You have sent out your angels and gathered your faithful people from every time and place, calling them into one fellowship of saints. Bless the witness of those who dwell in your eternal presence. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Enrich the spirits of all who feel hopeless, fearful, or despairing. Stay close to those who await healing or relief *especially Helen, Susan, Gladys, Kim, Dean, Lester, Nat, Lori, Lisa, Kim, Bethany, Jon, Barry, Rumpun, Ted, Donna, Nancy, Kathy, Jim, Carolyn, Robin, Roger, Carol, Glenn, Karen, Hope Marie Grace & family, Jenan*. Deliver all in any need. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

For those celebrating birthdays this week. May they continue to grow in faith as they grow in years, *Patrick, David, Rumpun, Brighton, Kurt, Roger, Sandy, Lori, Denise, Carol, Andrew, Ed, Anthony, Anna*. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

For those celebrating anniversaries this week. May they be bound together by your love, now and forever, *Durward & Sandra, Ira & Ann, Patrick & Leslie, James & Mary, David & Kay*. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We pray for our sisters and brothers in Christ in neighboring congregations. May your light shine brightly for all, sharing in your love and your peace that surpasses all understanding. We pray especially for the Residents, Chaplain and Staff of LutherCrest.

Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Listen to these and all our prayers, O God of hosts, and restore us with your great and everlasting mercy.

Amen.

The Peace – *Please share the peace in any manner comfortable to you.*

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

[10:30 service continues on p. 18 with The Lord's Prayer]

THE MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

All may be seated

Offertory : *Of the Father's Love*

-arr. Wilbur Held

Offering

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

After the offering is gathered, all who are able are invited to stand.

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right

spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your

pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -

store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,

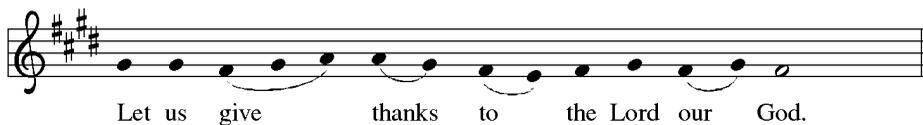
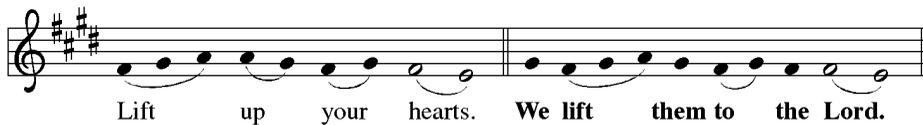
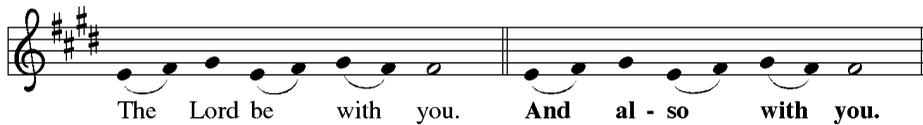
and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Offering Prayer

Let us pray. God our provider,

by your merciful hand abundance springs up from the earth. Receive and bless these gifts of your own bounty. Let them be a sign of your steadfast love and faithfulness for all people, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

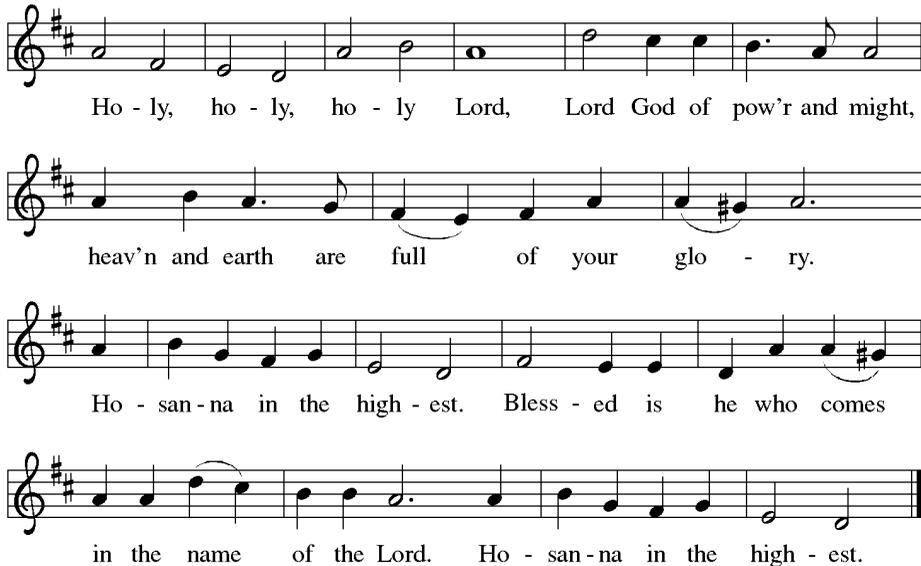
Great Thanksgiving



Preface

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. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. 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:

Holy Holy



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
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.

Thanksgiving at the Table

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life: Blessed are you for the birth of creation. Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light. Blessed are you for your promise to your people. Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams. Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will. Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.
Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

[10:30 service continues here]

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray as our Lord taught us:

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.

[10:30 service continues on p. 22 with The Sending]

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

In this meal, righteousness and peace meet together.

Come, take your place at the table.

All may be seated

Communion

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say "The body of Christ, given for you." "The blood of Christ, shed for you." And each person may respond, "Amen."

Lamb of God



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.

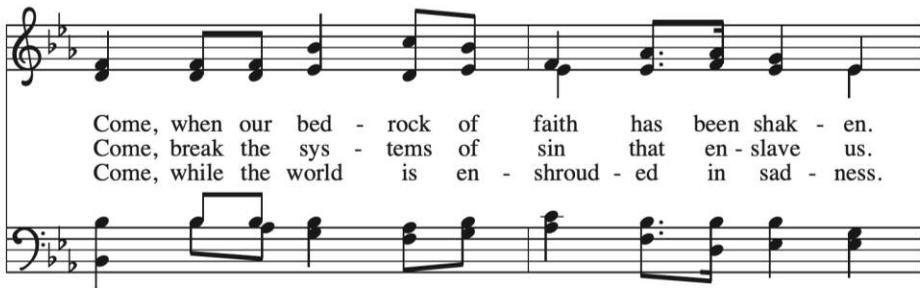
The Distribution (Altar Rail Distribution)

Communion Hymns

Come, Now, O God



1 Come now, O God, when our love is for - sak - en.
2 Come, when we squan - der the free - dom you gave us.
3 Come, put an end to our self - serv - ing mad - ness.



Come, when our bed - rock of faith has been shak - en.
Come, break the sys - tems of sin that en - slave us.
Come, while the world is en - shroud - ed in sad - ness.



Come, when our deep - est of hopes are mis - tak - en.
Come, though we won - der if you can still save us.
Come, turn the tears of our mourn - ing to glad - ness.



Come, Em - man - u - el. Come, Em - man - u - el.

Text: David Bjorlin, b. 1984
Music: LOST IN THE NIGHT, Finnish folk tune
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My Lord, What a Morning

Refrain

My Lord, what a morn-ing; my Lord, what a morn-ing; oh,

my Lord, what a morn-ing, when the stars be-gin to fall.

1 You will hear the trum-pet sound,
2 You will hear the sin-ner cry, to wake the na-tions un-der - ground,
3 You will hear the Chris-tian shout,

Refrain

look-ing to my God's right hand, when the stars be-gin to fall.

Text: African American spiritual
Music: BURLEIGH, African American spiritual

After all have returned to their places

All who are able are invited to stand

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us, now and forever.

Amen.

Song after Communion



Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let



ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - joice and bear the name of Christ.



Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia.

Prayer after Communion

Generous God, in bread and cup you have revealed your glory for all people to see together. Nourished by this meal, send us out to proclaim your good news of liberation and release, brought to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

[10:30 service continues here]

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Blessing

The God of peace bless you, the love of Christ sustain you in hope, and the anointing of the Spirit ✠ remain upon you now and forever.

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 image shows a musical score for the hymn 'The King Shall Come'. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment line in the bass clef. The key signature is three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line, with five numbered lines of text corresponding to the first system and a continuation of the lyrics for the second system.

Text: John Brownlie, 1859-1925

Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davison, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816; arr. Theodore A. Beck, 1929-2003

Arr. © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Keep awake.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude: *Hark, a Thrilling Voice is Sounding!*

-arr. Malcolm Archer

The Lord's Table at Jordan Church is an open table. If you are a baptized Christian of any church, believe in the Lord's presence in the sacrament and have received the sacrament before, you are welcome to receive with us. If you are not able to receive, please come forward for a pastoral blessing. To come forward, simply follow the direction of the ushers.

Distribution method is noted in the order for worship.

ALTAR RAIL DISTRIBUTION: As you come forward, please take an empty cup with you to the altar rail. If you choose not to consume wine, grape juice is available. Come to the altar rail without a glass and a communion assistant will offer you the grape juice in a pre-filled glass.

INTINCTION DISTRIBUTION: Come forward and receive a wafer. Then dip it into either the wine (the cup in the center of the bread plate) or the grape juice (in the separate cup held by the second assistant). If you want additional time at the altar, please step to center of the altar rail out of the flow of other worshippers. You are invited to kneel if you wish.

Gluten-free wafers are available – please indicate your need to the communion assistant.

You are asked to fill out **communion cards** clearly and completely, one card per person. Visitors are asked to fill out the address of their home church (if you identify with one) so we may forward the card there. Take a moment also before leaving to sign our guest book, located in the entrance area.

If it is necessary to **leave the sanctuary** during worship, please refrain, if possible, from doing so during the reading of scripture or the Eucharistic prayers so as not to distract other worshippers.

The use of **electronic devices** during worship is discouraged. Please turn off cell phones or place on vibrate before the start of the service.

Hearing assistance is available for members and visitors to Jordan. Please see an usher to arrange to use a receiver. A Koala Bear **baby changing station** is located in the handicapped restroom across from the church offices (in the new section). Children's welcome bags and bulletins are located in the narthex. Please ask ushers for help.

Restrooms are located through the left side doors of the chancel; then left through the french doors; restrooms located in the foyer on the right.

Children in grade 9 and younger are asked to remain in the Memory Room when consuming refreshments during the fellowship hours.

Please be sensitive to the fact that many people are allergic to or bothered by **strong scents** (perfume, aftershave, etc.), particularly when many people are gathered closely together, as for **worship services**.

For Parents of young children: We are grateful that God has blessed Jordan with so many young children. Worshiping with young children is a special privilege and joy for all of us. We enjoy the sounds of children in our worship. However, if you sense the need for a "calming break" feel free to take him/her to the Memory Room or Nursery (located through the doors on the left side of the altar) where you can continue to hear and be involved in the worship.

If you are interested in **becoming a member of Jordan**, please speak with the pastor following the service or call the church office (610-395-5912).

Announcements for the Sunday bulletin are due in the church office before 10:00 a.m. on Thursday. Deadline for the monthly newsletter is the 15th of the month.

JELC NEWS for the Week of Dec. 3 - 9

THIS WEEK (Dec. 3 - 9)

TODAY (3)

- 8:50am, Cherub Choir
- 9:15am, Sunday School & Adult Circle of Faith
- 11:30am, Ornament Making, Social Hall
- 6:30pm, AA Meeting, Social Hall

MON (4) PANTRY 9-10 AM

- 6:30pm, Jordanians Bowlers
- 7:00pm, Boy Scouts
- 7:30pm, Allentown Band Concert, Family Ctr.

TUES (5)

- 1:00pm, Game Day, M6/8
- 5:30pm, Basketball, Family Ctr.
- 7:30pm, Volleyball, Family Ctr.

WED (6) PANTRY 6-7 PM

- 1:30 pm, Staff Meeting
- 6:15pm, Friendship Ringers
- 6:30pm, Canon Choir
- 6:30pm, GSA Service Unit mtg., Social Hall
- 7:00pm, Badminton, Family Ctr.

THU (7) *Rising Roots Homeschool*

- 7:00pm, PA Dutch Class, Social Hall
- 7:00pm, Volleyball, Family Ctr.

FRI (8)

- 5:00pm, Junior Gyros
- 4:00pm, Youth Badminton, Family Ctr.
- 9:30pm, Volleyball, Family Ctr.

SAT (9)

- 3:00-6:00pm, Volleyball, Family Ctr.

Attendance

11/26/23
8:00-49 10:30-58

Sponsors

No sponsors today.

2024 OFFERING ENVELOPES

Please stop by the Memory Room to pick up your/your family's boxed offering envelopes at your earliest convenience. We also welcome help from those who are able to deliver additional boxes to friends or shut ins.

Copies of the 2024 Proposed Budget are available in the foyer (gold paper). It is also included in the Dec. newsletter for your review prior to the Dec. 10th congregational meeting.

Say a Prayer ☞ Send a Card ☞ Pay a Visit

Fellowship Community: Lillian Semmel, Donald Laudenslager

Lehigh Commons: Janet Stettler

Parkland Manor: Paulette Bassler, Shirley Wertman

Heather Glen: Sonny Laudenslager, Herb & Anna Bieber

Home: Margaret Smith, Reed Klotz, Dale Gogel, Richard Seltzer

Please keep these people in your prayers: Helen Shollenberger, Susan Mancino, Gladys Harkins, Kim Demarest, Dean Shollenberger, Lester Knipe, Nat Hager, Lori Kocher, Lisa Williams, Kim Friend, Bethany Friend, Jon Conrad, Barry Dorney, Rumpun Heller, Ted DuBois, Donna Stark, Nancy Troutman, Kathy Attieh, Jim Siegfried, Carolyn Flemish, Robin, Roger Schoemaker, Carol Kuhns, Glenn Hahn, Karen Hahn, Hope Marie Grace & family, Jenan

Birthdays this week: Dennis Patrick, David Godshall, Rumpun Heller, Brighton Brezack, Kurt Oertner, Roger Hamm, Sandy Knotts, Lori Dreisbach, Denise Klinefelter, Carol A. Kuhns, Andrew Budlong, Ed McDevitt, Anthony DiMaggio, Anna Benner

Anniversaries this week: Durward & Sandie Hamil (40), Ira & Ann Van Scyoc (57), Patrick & Leslie Dennis (25), James & Mary Rock (54), David & Kay Mancke (48)

Average weekly expenses:	
\$8,331	
Weekly collections	
Nov 5-11	\$18,483
Nov 12-18	\$7,129
Nov 19-25	\$7,462
Nov 26-Dec 2	\$4,813



BLUE CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERVICE -- Sunday, December 17, 2023 at 4:00 p.m.

If you have recently undergone a difficult loss, transition, or life change, the church cares about you and invites you to a special time of music and worship, a time when we can, with others, acknowledge the "blue" feelings we have at Christmas time, the reasons for them, and offer them to God. *We pray that you will find hope and comfort in knowing that you are not alone.*

Please call the church office by Dec. 10th if you plan to attend the fellowship meal following the Blue Christmas Service.

Help to set up, clean up and provide a light meal (soup, salad, sandwiches) would be appreciated. Contact the church office.

SPONSORSHIPS

Altar Flowers: Dec. 10, 17, 31; Jan. 7, 14, 28; Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25; Mar. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

Altar flowers may be sponsored for \$40/2 vase, or *\$20/1 vase*; Bulletins for \$20.

HOW TO RESERVE YOUR SPONSORSHIPS: Contact Donna Hahn at 610-295-9148 or dhahn16@gmail.com with your choice of dates(s) and sponsorships(s). Please indicate when reserving your date whether you wish to pick up the flowers after the last service or want them taken to shut-ins. If no preference is given, flowers will be taken to shut-ins.

Checks may be made payable to JELC and either mailed or dropped in the offering plate.

SPONSORSHIP POLICY: Flowers and other sponsorships may be reserved no earlier than one year from the chosen date. If you wish to reserve the same weekend for the following year, you may do so the day after the current year's sponsorship. No dates will be held; the first request for a date (within the one year limit) will be taken regardless of the previous year's sponsor.

Worship Assistants

DATE	12/3	12/10	12/17	12/24
Altar Guild	8:00-L Daniels 10:30-I & G Martz	9:15-C Rabenold	9:15-K Leonard	9:15-S Wagaman 4:00-C Rabenold 7:00-L Stettler
Lector	8:00-C Dorney 10:30-K Boardman	9:15-J Boscia	9:15-SS Program	9:15-C Flemish 4:00- 7:00-C Nagle
Acolyte	8:00-L Epting 10:30-N Heckman	9:15-O Wozniak	9:15-D Dreisbach	9:15-N Heckman 4:00-N Heckman 7:00-O Wozniak
Ushers	8:00- 10:30-Stettler family	9:15-Stettler family	9:15-Stettler family	9:15-Stettler Family 4:00- 7:00- Stettler family
Bell Toller	8:00-D Stark 10:30-B Stettler	9:15-B Lutterschmidt	9:15-S Hamil	9:15-B Stettler 4:00-D Stark 7:00-B Stettler
SAT	8:00-D & K Mancke 10:30-D Clark	9:15-	9:15-	
Video	10:30-D Clark	9:15-	9:15-	9:15- 7:00-D Dreisbach

Please look at the dates we have no one scheduled and give a call to the name listed below for the area(s) you can help with!

Altar Guild/Lynn Daniels ljd2137@aol.com // **Lectors**/Julie Boscia Julie.boscia@gmail.com // **Acolytes**/Stephany Heckman sgarboglio@yahoo.com // **Ushers** /John Weremedic miner70@ptd.net // **Bell Toller**/Sandie Hamil hamilsre@gmail.com // **SAT**/Doug Clark d.clark854@gmail.com // **Video**/Tom Daniels tkdaniels@ptd.net

First Congregational Meeting – December 10th

Following the 9:15 am service (one service this day)

The agenda will be limited to the approval of the 2024 budget (proposed budget will be available in your December newsletter) and election of council members (see the form to the right to make a nomination) Your attendance at this meeting is important!

Allentown Band Christmas Concert – Dec. 4th

Please note: previous time was incorrect – concert is at 7:30 pm

Kick off your holiday season with an evening of Christmas music by America's oldest civilian concert band, the renowned ALLENTOWN BAND, under the direction of Ronald Demkee. Join us in the the Family Center on Monday, **December 4th, at 7:30 p.m.** The concert is free and open to the public – bring your friends!

SOS

is in need of postage stamps. SOS anticipates sending out over 289 cards to shut-ins and for special anniversaries (50 + years) and birthdays (80 + years) during 2023. We are very thankful for the generosity of Jordan members in making this a self-funding ministry.

Please pick up some Christmas cards and a list of shut-ins from the Memory Room and send some cards!

Cemetery Grave Prices

are due to increase January 1, 2024. If you would like to purchase one or more graves, please contact Bruce Stettler at 610-730-8228 or brulou9@gmail.com.

Christmas Caroling

Family and friends are invited to come along Christmas caroling through Parkland Manor and Heather Glen. Time: 2 – 4 pm. Those interested will meet in the church parking lot (front of the building) at 1:45 pm. We will return for refreshments at church served in the Memory Room.

Help to Decorate for Christmas

Please remain after the 9:15 service and congregational meeting on December 10th and help us hang wreaths, decorate the tree and place poinsettias!

<p>CHRISTMAS TRIBUTE FORMS CAN BE FOUND IN THE LITERATURE RACKS, IN THE FOYER, IN THE DECEMBER NEWSLETTER AND ON THE WEBSITE.</p>
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