



**December 1, 2024**  
**First Sunday of Advent**  
*8:00 Worship Service w/Holy Communion*  
*10:30 a.m. Worship Service*  
*Welcome Pastor Tim Boyer!*

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*Advent is about the "coming days." God's people have always lived in great expectation, but that expectation finds specific, repeated enunciation in the texts appointed for these four weeks. The ancients anticipated a "righteous Branch to spring up for David." The Thessalonians awaited "the coming of our Lord Jesus with all the saints." Jesus' contemporaries hoped for the time "to stand before the Son of Man." With them we eagerly await the coming days: another Christmas celebration, a second coming, and the advent of Christ in word and supper.*

# GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

Congregation reads **BOLD**

## **Bell**

## **Announcements**

**Prelude:** *Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending* -Thomas Olivers, setting Anne Krentz Organ

*All who are able are invited to stand*

## **Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, alive in the world, reviving creation, arriving soon.

**Amen.**

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

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God of mercy,

**we confess that we have sinned. We trust earthly powers and human authority alone.  
We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.**

God of might,

**we confess that we have sinned. We have turned away from our neighbors.  
We have trusted false promises.**

God in our midst,

**we confess that we have sinned. We plead: come to us. Bring your mercy to birth in us.**

A righteous branch springs forth: it is Christ the Lord, our Savior, in whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy. By the power of the Holy Spirit, receive the grace and forgiveness of God through † Christ Jesus, whose day draws near.

**Amen.**

# Gathering Song

## 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 - ity 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!

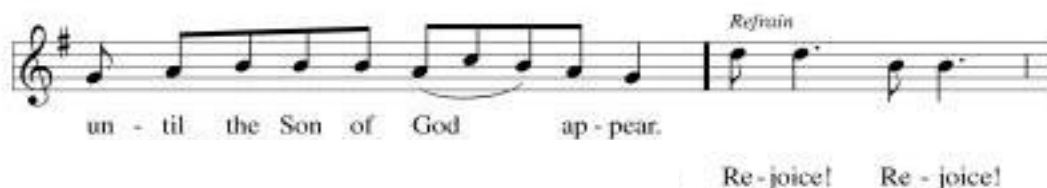
## Advent Wreath - First Candle

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.**

### December 1 – Verse 1

#### Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel



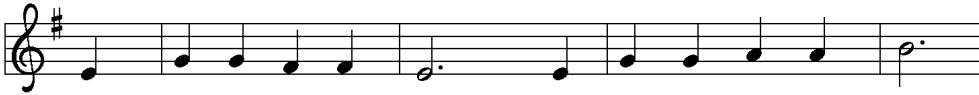
Text: *Psalterium Cantionum Catholicorum*, Köln, 1710; tr. John M. Neale, 1818–1866, alt.  
Music: VENI EMMANUEL, French processional, 15th cent.

## 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



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.  
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.  
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

## Hymn of Praise



- 1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
- 2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
- 3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:  
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;  
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:

Con't on p. 5



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.  
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.  
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.  
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.  
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

## Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

### And also with you.

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, 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: Jeremiah 33:14-16

*In the Old Testament, "righteousness" often has to do with being faithful in relationship. God acts righteously both in punishing Israel for its sin and in having mercy. In today's reading, Jerusalem's future name—"The Lord is our righteousness"—proclaims that God is even now working salvation for Israel.*

<sup>14</sup>The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>15</sup>In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in

the land. <sup>16</sup> In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness." *The word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm: Psalm 25:1-10 (read responsively – congregation reads bold)**

*To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul. (Ps. 25:1)*

<sup>1</sup>To | you, O Lord,  
I lift | up my soul.

<sup>2</sup>**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be | put to shame,  
nor let my enemies triumph | over me.**

<sup>3</sup>Let none who look to you be | put to shame;  
rather let those be put to shame | who are treacherous.

<sup>4</sup>**Show me your | ways, O Lord,  
and teach | me your paths.**

<sup>5</sup>Lead me in your | truth and teach me,  
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all | the day long.

<sup>6</sup>**Remember, O Lord, your compas- | sion and love,  
for they are from | everlasting.**

<sup>7</sup>Remember not the sins of my youth and | my transgressions;  
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your good- | ness,

O Lord.

<sup>8</sup>**You are gracious and up- | right, O Lord;  
therefore you teach sinners | in your way.**

<sup>9</sup>You lead the low- | ly in justice  
and teach the low- | ly your way.

<sup>10</sup>**All your paths, O Lord, are steadfast | love and faithfulness  
to those who keep your covenant and your | testimonies.**

**Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13**

*Upon Timothy's report from the congregation at Thessalonica, Paul is exuberant with gratitude for them. In this passage from his letter, Paul voices overflowing thanks, joy, and blessings for the people of this growing church.*

<sup>9</sup>How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? <sup>10</sup>Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

<sup>11</sup> Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. <sup>12</sup> And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. <sup>13</sup> And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

*The Word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

*All who are able are invited to stand*

## **Gospel Acclamation**



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.

## **Gospel Announcement**

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 21<sup>st</sup> Chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

### **The Holy Gospel: Luke 21:25-36**

*God will fulfill God's purposes and, already, hidden signs of that fulfillment abound. On that great day there will be dismay, perplexity, confusion, and terror, but God's people shall be given strength to stand boldly and receive God's promised redemption.*

[Jesus said:] <sup>25</sup> "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. <sup>26</sup> People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens



will be shaken. <sup>27</sup> Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. <sup>28</sup> Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

<sup>29</sup> Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; <sup>30</sup> as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. <sup>31</sup> So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. <sup>32</sup> Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. <sup>33</sup> Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

<sup>34</sup> “Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, <sup>35</sup> like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. <sup>36</sup> Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.” *The Gospel of the Lord.*

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*All may be seated*

**Children’s Sermon**

Miss Stephanie

**Sermon**

Rev. Tim Boyer

*All who are able are invited to stand*

# Hymn of the Day

## Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying

1 Wake, a - wake, for night is fly - ing, the watch-men  
2 Zi - on hears the watch-men sing - ing, and all her  
3 Glo - ri - a! Let heav'n a - dore you! Let saints and

on the heights are cry - ing; a - wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, at last.  
heart with joy is spring - ing. She wakes, she ris - es from her gloom.  
an - gels sing be - fore you, with harp and cym - bal's clear - est tone.

Mid - night hears the wel - come voic - es, and at the  
Her dear friend comes down, all glo - rious, the strong in  
Gates of pearl, twelve por - tals gleam - ing, lead us to

thrill - ing cry re - joic - es: "Come forth, you maid - ens! Night is past.  
grace, in truth vic - to - rious: her star is ris'n; her light is come.  
bliss be - yond all dream - ing, with an - gel choirs a - round your throne.

The bride - groom comes! A - wake; your lamps with glad - ness take!"  
 Now come, O Bless - ed One, Lord Je - sus, God's own Son.  
 No eye has caught the light, no ear the thun - d'ring might

Al - le - lu - ia! Rise and pre - pare the feast to share;  
 Sing ho - san - na! Oh, hear the call! Come one, come all,  
 of such glo - ry. There we will go: what joy we'll know!

go, meet the bride - groom, who draws near.  
 and fol - low to the ban - quet hall.  
 There sweet de - light will ev - er flow.

Text: Philipp Nicolai, 1556-1608; tr. composite  
 Music: WACHET AUF, Philipp Nicolai  
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## 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**

As we prepare for Emmanuel, God-with-us, let us pray for all people and places that long for God's presence.

*A brief silence.*

God of righteousness, your people live in hopeful expectation of your coming. Fill your church with renewed passion for our shared mission, and deepen our relationships with other Christians and other faith traditions in our local community and across the world. Lord, in your mercy,  
**receive our prayer.**

God of the cosmos, all creation shows that your presence is near. Help us sense your goodness and love in the sun and moon, in sprouting leaves and bare branches, in the roaring sea and quiet breeze. Lord, in your mercy,  
**receive our prayer.**

God of the nations, your reign extends over all principalities and powers. Give leaders and all in authority hearts for justice and peace. Encourage efforts to enact policies that benefit the common good. Lord, in your mercy,  
**receive our prayer.**

God of community, your Spirit holds us together. Sustain our care for one another. Inspire us to seek new ways to live together and to embrace the diversity of thought and identity in our communities. Lord, in your mercy,  
**receive our prayer.**

God of change, you accompany us through life's transitions. Be near to all who are changing jobs, moving, welcoming children, or facing the loss of loved ones. Sustain those who are ill or suffering *especially Lisa, Herb, Madison, Hailey, Ed, Rosie, Shirley, Susan, Radelle, Benson, Kelly*. In times of change, remind us of your steadfast love. Lord, in your mercy,  
**receive our prayer.**

We pray for those celebrating birthdays this week. May they continue to grow in faith as they grow in years, *especially Stacy, Cora, Donald, Patrick, David, Rumpun, Kurt, Roger, Sandy, Lori, Denise, Carol, Megan, Ed*. Lord, in your mercy,  
**receive our prayer.**

We pray for those celebrating anniversaries this week, *especially David & Carol, Durward & Sandra, Ira & Ann, Patrick & Leslie, James & Mary, David & Kay*. May they be bound together by your love, now and forever. Lord, in your mercy,  
**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 Grace, Belfast, and their pastor, Dale Sattizahn. Lord in your mercy,  
**receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

God of memory, we give you thanks for faithful ones who have died. Tend to our grief and sorrow with renewed trust in your promise of abundant and eternal life. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Savior of the nations, come, and receive these prayers and the pleas of our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

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

The peace of Christ be with you always.

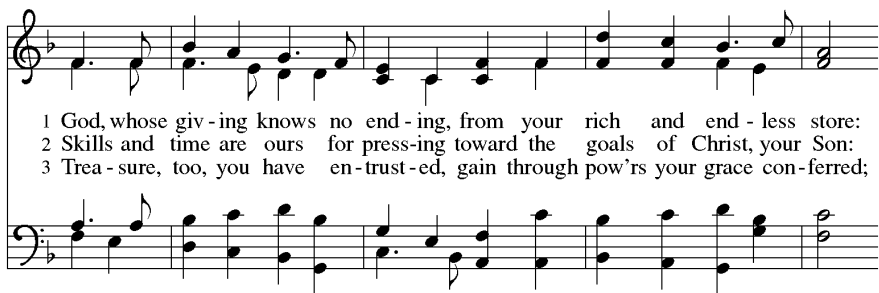
**And also with you.**

**Offering:** (8:00) *The Advent of Our God*  
(10:30) *Savior of the Nations, Come*  
-Jordan Chorale

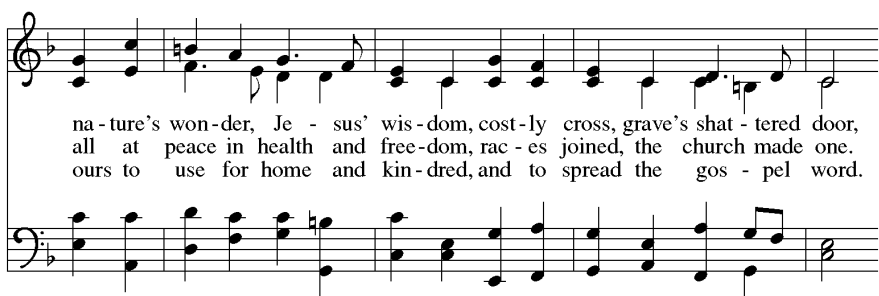
-setting C. S. Lang

-Michael Larkin

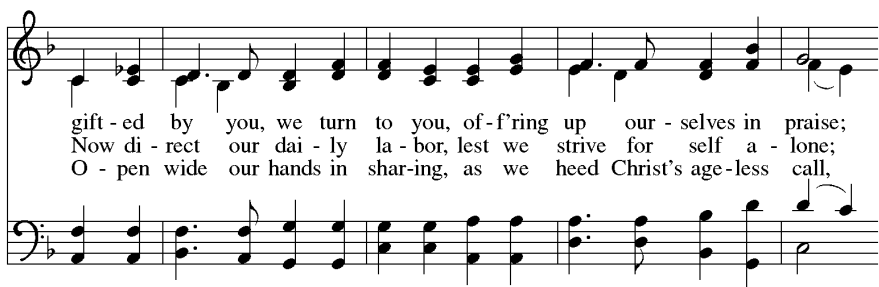
## God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending



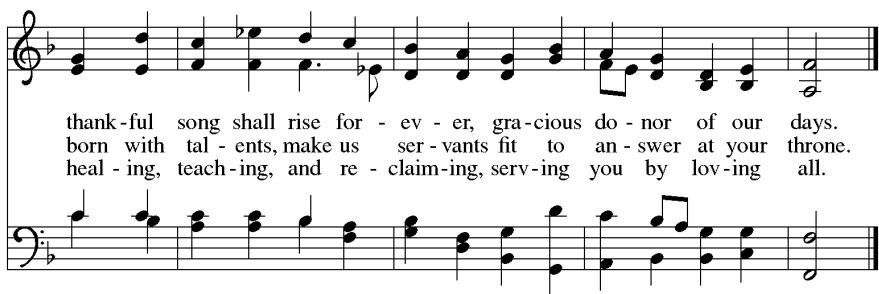
1 God, whose giv - ing knows no end - ing, from your rich and end - less store:  
2 Skills and time are ours for press - ing toward the goals of Christ, your Son:  
3 Trea - sure, too, you have en - trust - ed, gain through pow'rs your grace con - ferred;



na - ture's won - der, Je - sus' wis - dom, cost - ly cross, grave's shat - tered door,  
all at peace in health and free - dom, rac - es joined, the church made one.  
ours to use for home and kin - dred, and to spread the gos - pel word.



gift - ed by you, we turn to you, of - f'ring up our - selves in praise;  
Now di - rect our dai - ly la - bor, lest we strive for self a - lone;  
O - pen wide our hands in shar - ing, as we heed Christ's age - less call,



thank - ful song shall rise for - ev - er, gra - cious do - nor of our days.  
born with tal - ents, make us ser - vants fit to an - swer at your throne.  
heal - ing, teach - ing, and re - claim - ing, serv - ing you by lov - ing all.

Text: Robert L. Edwards, 1915–2006

Music: RUSTINGTON, C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848–1918

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*All who are able are invited to stand*

## **Offertory Prayer**

Let us pray. Creator God,

**you made the whole world, even the farthest stars, and you draw near to feed us. We praise you for these gifts of bread and wine. Strengthen us with this food that we may live in expectation for the advent of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

[10:30 service continues on page 17 with The Lord's Prayer]

## **MEAL**

*Jesus welcomes you to this table. Come, here is your God.*

*All may be seated*

## **Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## **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:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er 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, 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 with confidence in the words our Savior gave 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 page 22 with the Sending]

### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

God feeds us with tender mercy. Come to the table.

## Communion



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

As the ministers give the bread and cup to each communicant, they say these words:

**The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.**

The communicant may say: **Amen**

## The Distribution Communion Hymns

# 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

# Lost in the Night

1 Lost in the night do the peo - ple yet lan - guish,  
 2 Must we be vain - ly a - wait - ing the mor - row?  
 3 Sor - row - ing wan - d'ers, in dark - ness yet dwell - ing,  
 4 Light o'er the land of the need - y is beam - ing;

long - ing for morn - ing the dark - ness to van - quish,  
 Shall those who have light no light let us bor - row,  
 dawned has the day of a ra - diance ex - cel - ling,  
 riv - ers of life through its des - erts are stream - ing,

plain - tive - ly sigh - ing with hearts full of an - guish.  
 giv - ing no heed to our bur - den of sor - row?  
 death's deep - est shad - ows for - ev - er dis - pel - ling.  
 bring - ing all peo - ples a Sav - ior re - deem - ing.

Will not day come soon? Will not day come soon?  
 Will you help us soon? Will you help us soon?  
 Christ is com - ing soon! Christ is com - ing soon!  
 Come and save us soon! Come and save us soon!

Text: Nordic hymn; tr. Olav Lee, 1859-1943, alt.  
 Music: LOST IN THE NIGHT, Finnish folk tune  
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All who are able, please stand

After all have returned to their places:

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.  
Amen.

## Canticle

### For the Bread Which You Have Broken

1 For the bread which you have bro - ken, for the wine which you have poured,  
2 By this prom - ise that you love us, by your gift of peace re - stored,  
3 With the saints who now a - dore you, seat-ed at the heav'n - ly board,  
4 In your ser - vice, Lord, de - fend us; in our hearts keep watch and ward;

for the words which you have spo - ken, now we give you thanks, O Lord.  
by your call to heav'n a - bove us, hal - low all our lives, O Lord.  
may the church still wait - ing for you keep love's tie un - bro - ken, Lord.  
in the world to which you send us let your king - dom come, O Lord.

The musical score consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The first system contains four lines of lyrics. The second system contains four lines of lyrics. The piano accompaniment features chords and moving lines in the bass.

Text: Louis F. Benson, 1855–1930, alt.

Music: OMNI DIE, *Gross Catolisch Gesangbuch*, Nürnberg, 1631; arr. William Smith Rockstro, 1823–1895

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## Prayer After Communion

Generous God, we thank you for the gift of life, for the bread of salvation. We thank you for coming among us, for leading us into peace. We thank you for showering us with mercy, for sending us into the world. Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us as we feed the hungry in your name.

Amen.

[10:30 service continues here]

## SENDING

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


### **Blessing**

God of endings and beginnings, God in the darkness and the light, God, our hope for the journey, † bless and keep you now and forever.

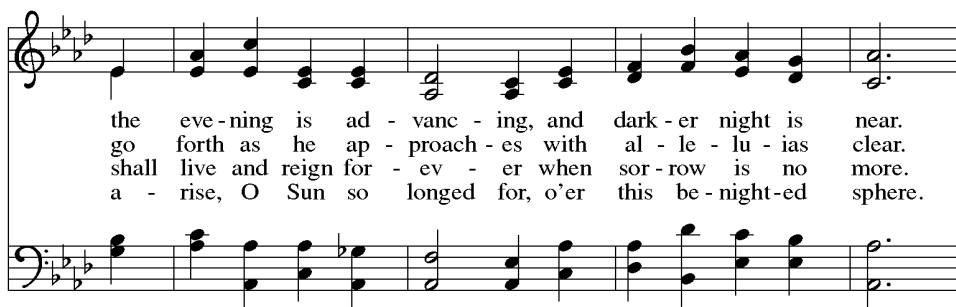
**Amen.**

## Closing Hymn

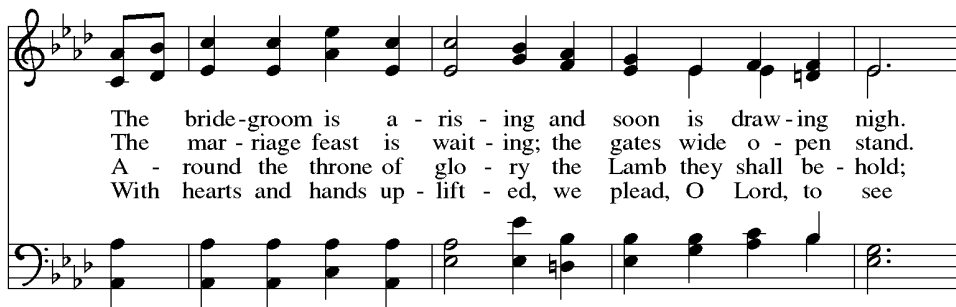
### Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers



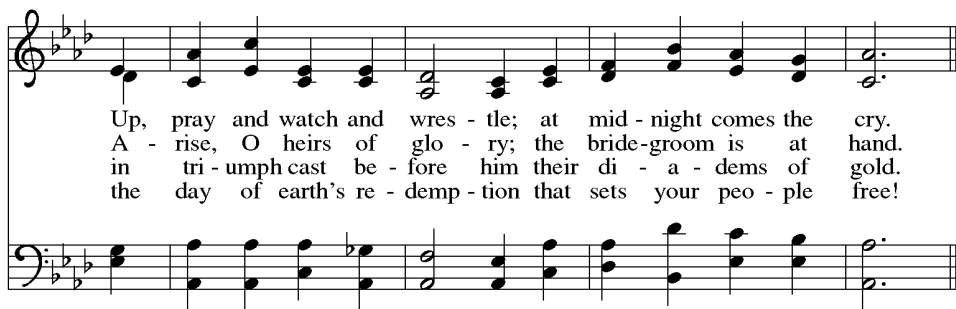
1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear;  
2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain pro - claim the bride - groom near;  
3 The saints, who here in pa - tience their cross and suf - f'ings bore,  
4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



the eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.  
go forth as he ap - proach - es with al - le - lu - ias clear.  
shall live and reign for - ev - er when sor - row is no more.  
a - rise, O Sun so longed for, o'er this be - night - ed sphere.



The bride - groom is a - ris - ing and soon is draw - ing nigh.  
The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; the gates wide o - pen stand.  
A - round the throne of glo - ry the Lamb they shall be - hold;  
With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see



Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; at mid - night comes the cry.  
A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; the bride - groom is at hand.  
in tri - umph cast be - fore him their di - a - dems of gold.  
the day of earth's re - demp - tion that sets your peo - ple free!



## **Dismissal**

Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.

**Thanks be to God!**

**Postlude:** *Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending*

-Thomas Olivers, setting Karl Osterland

*Thank you to the Heckman family (10:30) for participating in the reading of the Advent Prayer and lighting the Advent candle.*



## Jordan Lutheran Church 2024 Christmas Tributes

Several options are available for our members who would like to either honor or remember a loved one at Christmas time. Please complete ONE FORM PER TRIBUTE and return to the church office with your contribution by Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>. (Forms may be copied or additional forms are available in the narthex and/or church office.)

___ <b>Christmas Poinsettia*</b>	\$ _____
\$10.00/plant	
___ <b>Hunger Fund donation</b>	\$ _____
___ <b>Memorial Fund donation</b>	\$ _____
___ <b>Pantry Donation</b>	\$ _____

### Wreaths

Six available – must call the church office to reserve. One per family. \$20/wreath

*\*Poinsettias can be picked up after the LAST service on Christmas Eve or by Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>*

IN HONOR OF  
(living) \_\_\_\_\_

GIVEN BY \_\_\_\_\_ Env. # \_\_\_\_\_

OR

IN MEMORY OF  
(deceased) \_\_\_\_\_

GIVEN BY \_\_\_\_\_ Env. # \_\_\_\_\_

Order deadline  
December 9, 2024

Tributes will be listed in the  
Christmas Eve bulletins

-----  
For office use only – do not detach

### Christmas Tributes

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

NO \_\_\_\_\_

CHECK \$ \_\_\_\_\_ CASH \$ \_\_\_\_\_ ENV. NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Please check: \_\_\_ Poinsettia \_\_\_ Hunger Fund \_\_\_ Memorial Fund \_\_\_ Wreath



## **WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

### ***December***

#### ***First Sunday of Advent (12/1)***

8:00am-Worship Service w/communion

10:30am-Worship Service

#### ***Second Sunday of Advent (12/8)***

9:15am-Worship Service w/communion (no Sunday School)

First Congregational meeting immediately after worship

Stay after the meeting to help decorate for Christmas!

#### ***Third Sunday of Advent (12/15)***

9:15am-Sunday School Christmas Program w/communion (during worship)

#### ***Fourth Sunday of Advent (12/22)***

8:00am Worship Service

10:30am Worship Service w/communion

#### ***Eve of the Nativity of Our Lord (12/24)***

4:00pm & 7:00pm-Candlelight Services w/communion

(7:00 service live streamed)

#### ***First Sunday After Christmas (12/29)***

9:15am-Service of Lessons & Carols (no Sunday School)

**10:30 (or 9:15) service continues to be live-streamed each week**



**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 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.

**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.

**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.

The use of **electronic devices** during worship is discouraged. Please turn off cell phones or set to 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.

**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 15<sup>th</sup> of the month. Persons on the sick list will be listed for 4 weeks, unless otherwise requested.

Please note that the bulletin contains items of interest for the upcoming 1 – 2 weeks. Information for future events, notes of thanks, and other information can be found in the monthly newsletters, or on the website or Facebook page.

# JELC NEWS for the Week of Dec. 1 - 7

## TODAY (1)

-9:00am, Sunday School & Circle of Faith  
 -8:50am, Cherub Choir  
 -9:30am, Chorale  
 -5:00pm, Youth Group  
 -6:30pm, AA Meeting

## MON (2) 9-10AM PANTRY

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

## TUES (3)

-5:30pm, Volleyball, Family Ctr.  
 -7:00pm, Groundhog Mtg., Memory Rm.  
 -7:30pm, Volleyball, Family Ctr.

## WED (4) 6-7 PM PANTRY

-6:30pm, Friendship Ringers  
 -6:30pm, Canon Choir  
 -7:00pm, Badminton, Family Ctr.

## THU (5)

-10:00am, Staff Meeting/Lunch  
 -3:00pm, Executive Com. mtg.  
 -5:30pm, Daisy Troop, Social Hall  
 -7:00pm, Volleyball, Family Ctr.  
 -7:00pm, PA Dutch Class, Social Hall

## FRI (6)

-5:00pm, Youth Badminton, Family Ctr.  
 -7:00pm, Volleyball, Family Ctr.

**Pr. Dody will be back in the office on Dec. 4<sup>th</sup>.**

**Monica is on vacation Nov. 29 – Dec. 4<sup>th</sup>.**

## Attendance

11/24/24  
 8:00 – 39  
 10:30 – 60

## SPONSORS

**Altar flowers** are given in loving memory of Nevin Kistler, by Jan Kistler & David Figner (T1)

The Allentown Band, America's oldest civilian concert band, is once again blessing us with an evening of beautiful Christmas music to start off the holiday season! Join us on **Monday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, at 7:30 p.m.** The concert will be held **here at Jordan** in the Family Center and is free and open to the public. Invite your friends!

*Say a Prayer & Send a Card & Pay a Visit*

**Fellowship Community:** Lillian Semmel, Donald Laudenslager

**Lehigh Commons:** Janet Stettler

**Cedar Crest Post Acute:** Reed Klotz

**Parkland Manor:** Paulette Bassler, Shirley Wertman

**Heather Glen:** Sonny Laudenslager, Anna Bieber

**Complete Care:** Margaret Smith

**Home:** Dale Gogel, Richard Seltzer, Roger Schoemaker

**Please keep these people in your prayers:** Lisa Williams, Herb Hullinger, Madison Dreisbach, Margie Clark, Hailey Gerencher, Shirley Hamm, Rosie Blaukowitz, Susan Jaynes, Radelles Psarsky, Benson Hartney, Kelly Schoch

**Birthdays this week:** Roland Harrier, Judy Huff, Cedella Schenk, Brian Lichtenwalner, Lori Nagy, David Silvonek, Angela Heston, Melissa Richebacher, Hope Strobl

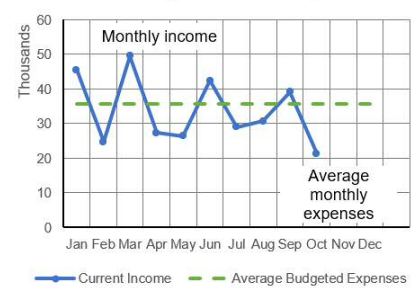
**Anniversaries this week:** Steve & Joy Laudenslager (14), Brian & Melinda Lichtenwalner (33)

*Join us for Fellowship & Refreshments after both worship services. Please check the lectern in the Memory Room to sign up to be a host.*

Average weekly expenses: \$8,259  
 Current annual surplus/(deficit): (\$4,970)

Weekly collections	
Oct 20-26	\$4,072
Oct 27-Nov 2	\$8,559
Nov 3 - 9	\$10,589
Nov 10-16	\$8,167
Nov 17-23	\$7,538

2024 Monthly Income vs Expenses



**Check our website, Facebook page or newsletter for complete information on upcoming events**

## SPONSORSHIPS

**Altar Flowers:** Dec. 8, 15, 22, 29

Altar flowers may be sponsored for \$50/2 vase, or \$25/1 vase; Bulletins for \$20

**HOW TO RESERVE YOUR SPONSORSHIPS:** Contact Donna Hahn at 610-295-9148 or [dhahn16@gmail.com](mailto: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

<b>DATE</b>	<b>12/1</b>	<b>12/8</b>	<b>12/15</b>	<b>12/22</b>
<b>Altar Guild</b>	8:00-L Daniels 10:30-C Nagle	9:15-K Leonard	9:15-S Wagaman	8:00-J Suhocki 10:30-C Heilman
<b>Lector</b>	8:00-D Heckman 10:30-C Nagle	9:15-J Siegfried	9:15-M Peters	8:00- 10:30-I Martz
<b>Acolyte</b>	8:00-P Schafer 10:30-N Heckman	9:15-C Wozniak	9:15-D Dreisbach	8:00-I Strohl 10:30-N Heckman
<b>Ushers</b>	8:00-D Heckman, M Kozy 10:30-G Vrabel, P German	9:15-D Heckman, J Steiner	9:15-Stettler family	8:00-D & D Stark 10:30-J Steiner J Siegfried
<b>Bell Toller</b>	8:00-B Lutterschmidt 10:30-K Gross	9:15-S Hamil	9:15-B Stettler	8:00-J Siegfried 10:30-J Steiner
<b>Video</b>	10:30-T Daniels	9:15-T Daniels	9:15-D Clark	10:30-D Dreisbach
<b>SAT</b>	8:00- 10:30-	9:15-	9:15-	8:00- 10:30-

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 [ljd2167@yahoo.com](mailto:ljd2167@yahoo.com) // **Lectors**/Julie Boscia [Julie.boscia@gmail.com](mailto:Julie.boscia@gmail.com) // **Acolytes**/Stephany Heckman [stephanyheckman@gmail.com](mailto:stephanyheckman@gmail.com) // **Ushers** /Pr. Dody [prdody@gmail.com](mailto:prdody@gmail.com) // **Bell Toller**/Sandie Hamil [hamilsre@gmail.com](mailto:hamilsre@gmail.com)  
**SAT**/Doug Clark [d.clark854@gmail.com](mailto:d.clark854@gmail.com) // **Video**/Tom Daniels [tkdaniels@ptd.net](mailto:tkdaniels@ptd.net)

**OFFERING ENVELOPES:** Please stop by the Memory Room to pick up your/your family's 2025 boxed sets of offering envelopes at your earliest convenience. We also welcome help from those who are able to deliver additional boxes to friends or shut-ins.

#### **First Congregational Meeting – Dec. 8, 2024**

Be here Sunday, 12/8, after the 9:15 am service (one service this day) to approve the 2025 budget and elect church council and Endowment Investment & Disbursement committee members. NO SUNDAY SCHOOL THIS DAY.

**Please remain after the Congregational Meeting to help place wreaths, decorate the tree and prepare the church for Advent and Christmas!**

#### **Family Christmas Caroling – Dec. 14, 2024 – 1:45 p.m.**

An invitation for all ages to join in caroling for the residents at Parkland Manor and Heather Glen, from 2:00-4:00 p.m. Meet on Jordan's church parking lot at 1:45 p.m. to drive to each location.

#### **Sleepover at the Stable/Sunday School Christmas Program – Dec. 15, 2024, at the 9:15 a.m. Worship Service**

Come experience a bit of excitement in a quiet stable the night two humans find there is no room in the inn. Come and hear the animals share their version as they witnessed the birth of baby Jesus. **Program practice will be held Saturday, Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>, at 1:00 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>, at 8:15 a.m. in the Sanctuary**

#### **Special Sunday School Dept. - Deck the Halls Open House – Dec. 15, 2024**

After the Christmas program, Sunday morning, Dec. 15th at 9:15 am, the Sunday School Dept. cordially invites you to stroll through the Sunday School "hall" to see festive decorations and artwork in the children's classroom, confirmation classroom, adult classroom, and the NEWLY designed Youth room. Holiday cookies and punch will be served as you visit the rooms.

#### **3D Youth Painting Party – All Ages Welcome! – Dec. 22, 2024 – 11:30am-3:30 pm in the Social Hall**

Paint an ornament, canvas or board, or bring your own item to paint. Pizza, paint & snacks provided. Question? Contact Stephany Heckman at [stephanyheckman@gmail.com](mailto:stephanyheckman@gmail.com) or 412-860-3618.

#### **Christmas Tributes**

See the green sheets in the literature racks or look in your November and December newsletters to sponsor flowers, wreaths, poinsettias or to make a donations in honor of loved ones at Christmas.