



**December 8, 2024**  
**Second Sunday of Advent**  
***9:15a.m. Worship Service w/ Holy Communion***  
***First Congregational Meeting following Worship***

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*Forerunners and messengers advance the advent of our God. While John the baptizer's voice in the wilderness may be the principal focus of the day, Malachi's prophecy could as easily herald the coming Christ as forerunner of the Lord of hosts. Finally all the baptized are called to participate in the sharing of the gospel. In so doing we prepare the way for the coming of Jesus and assist all people in capturing a vision of the "salvation of God."*

# GATHERING

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

Congregation reads **BOLD**

## **Bell**

## **Announcements**

**Prelude:** *Prepare the Royal Highway* -Swedish fold tune, 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

## On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an - nounc - es  
2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; make straight the  
3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, our ref - uge  
4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, and make us  
5 All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, whose ad - vent

that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,  
way for God with - in, and let us all our  
and our great re - ward; with - out your grace we  
rise to fall no more; oh, let your face up -  
has our free - dom won, whom with the Fa - ther

for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings!  
hearts pre - pare for Christ to come and en - ter there.  
waste a - way like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.  
on us shine and fill the world with love di - vine.  
we a - dore, and Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er - more.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676-1749; tr. composite  
Music: PUER NOBIS, European tune, adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571-1621

## Advent Wreath - Second Candle

Praise to you, O God, who gives us courage to start again.

You fasten righteousness around your waist

and baptize with the Holy Spirit's fire.

Bless us as we mirror your mighty fire in these simple flames,

and teach us to mirror your justice in the paths we prepare.

We ask that peace abound,

until none hurt or destroy over all the earth.

**Amen.**

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



1 Oh, come, oh, come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive  
2 Oh, come, oh, come, great Lord of might, who to your tribes on



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here  
Si - nai's height in an - cient times once gave the law



un - til the Son of God ap - pear,  
in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.

Re - joi - ce! Re - joi - ce!



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

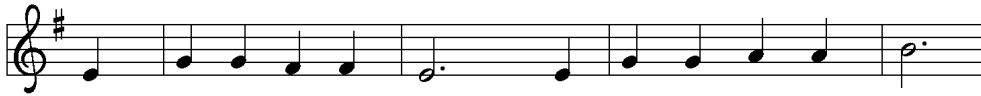
Text: *Psalterium Cantionum Catholicorum*, Köln, 1710; tr. John M. Neale, 1818-1866, alt.  
Music: VENLEMMANUEL, French processional, 15th cent.

## 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 our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming give to all the people of the world knowledge of your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you 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: Malachi 3:1-4

*God announces a covenant with Israel. A messenger like Malachi (his name means "my messenger") will prepare the way for the coming of the Lord by purifying and refining God's people, as silver and gold are refined.*

<sup>1</sup> See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. <sup>2</sup> But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; <sup>3</sup> he will sit as a refiner and purifier of

silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. <sup>4</sup> Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years. *The word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm: Luke 1:68-79 (read responsively – congregation reads bold)**

*In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us. (Lk. 1:78)*

<sup>68</sup> Blessed are you, Lord, the | God of Israel,  
you have come to your people and | set them free.

<sup>69</sup> **You have raised up for us a | mighty Savior,  
born of the house of your | servant David.**

<sup>70</sup> Through your holy prophets, you promised of old to save us | from our enemies,  
<sup>71</sup> from the hands of | all who hate us,

<sup>72</sup> **to show mercy | to our forebears,  
and to remember your | holy covenant.**

<sup>73</sup> This was the oath you swore to our | father Abraham:

<sup>74</sup> to set us free from the hands of our | enemies,  
free to worship you | without fear,

<sup>75</sup> **holy and righteous before you, all the days | of our life.**

<sup>76</sup> And you, child, shall be called the prophet of | the Most High,  
for you will go before the Lord to pre- | pare the way,

<sup>77</sup> **to give God's people knowledge | of salvation  
by the forgiveness | of their sins.**

<sup>78</sup> In the tender compassion | of our God  
the dawn from on high shall | break upon us,

<sup>79</sup> **to shine on those who dwell in darkness and in the shad- | ow of death,  
and to guide our feet into the | way of peace.**

### **Second Reading: Philippians 1:3-11**

*The apostle Paul was the pastor of many new churches. He writes in this letter about his joy to be in partnership with the Christians of Philippi. Listen to how tender-hearted Paul, sometimes a stern preacher, is with his friends as he encourages them to grow in love and knowledge.*

<sup>3</sup> I thank my God every time I remember you, <sup>4</sup> constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, <sup>5</sup> because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. <sup>6</sup> I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup> It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. <sup>8</sup> For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. <sup>9</sup> And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight <sup>10</sup> to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, <sup>11</sup> having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God. *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 3<sup>rd</sup> Chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**



## **The Holy Gospel: Luke 3:1-6**

*John the Baptist is a herald of Jesus, whose way is prepared by “repentance for the forgiveness of sins.” As we hear the careful record of human leaders, we sense the spectrum of political and religious authority that will be challenged by this coming Lord.*

<sup>1</sup> In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, <sup>2</sup> during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. <sup>3</sup> He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, <sup>4</sup> as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight.

<sup>5</sup> Every valley shall be filled,  
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,  
and the crooked shall be made straight,  
and the rough ways made smooth;

<sup>6</sup> and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’”

*The Gospel of the Lord.*

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*All may be seated*

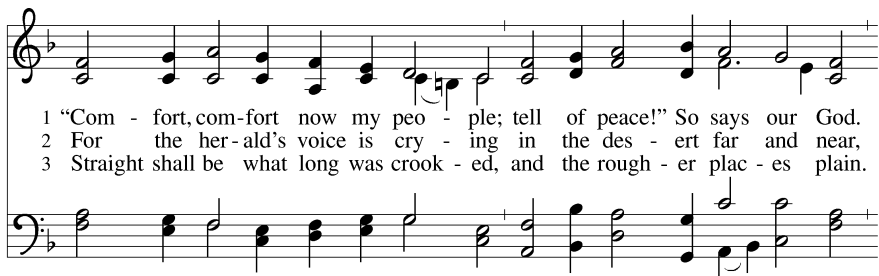
## **Children’s Sermon**

### **Sermon**

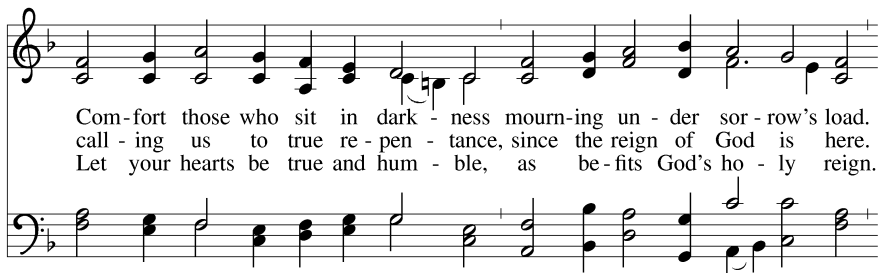
*All who are able are invited to stand*

## Hymn of the Day

### Comfort, Comfort Now My People



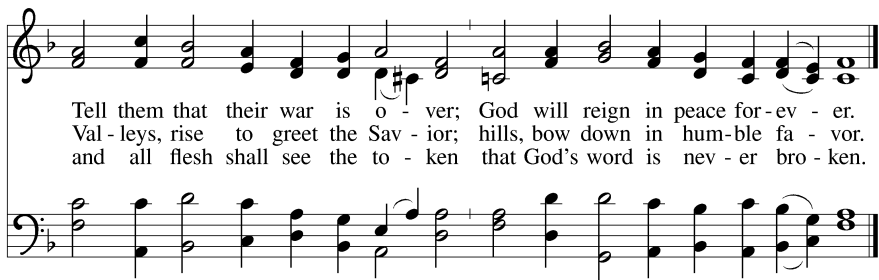
1 “Com - fort, com-fort now my peo - ple; tell of peace!” So says our God.  
2 For the her - ald’s voice is cry - ing in the des - ert far and near,  
3 Straight shall be what long was crook - ed, and the rough - er plac - es plain.



Com-fort those who sit in dark - ness mourn-ing un - der sor - row’s load.  
call - ing us to true re - pen - tance, since the reign of God is here.  
Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, as be - fits God’s ho - ly reign.



To God’s peo - ple now pro-claim that God’s par - don waits for them!  
Oh, that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way.  
For the glo - ry of the Lord now on earth is shed a - broad,



Tell them that their war is o - ver; God will reign in peace for-ev - er.  
Val - leys, rise to greet the Sav - ior; hills, bow down in hum-ble fa - vor.  
and all flesh shall see the to - ken that God’s word is nev - er bro - ken.

Text: Johann G. Olearius, 1635–1711; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.  
Music: FREU DICH SEHR, *Trente quatre psaumes de David*, Geneva, 1551

## **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.*

Refining God, move through your church. Root out practices that harm your people, and kindle a fire for sharing the gospel among bishops, pastors, deacons, and all the baptized. Lord, in your mercy,

**receive our prayer.**

Renewing God, transform your creation. Steer us from habits that harm what you have made, and guide us in practices that preserve and restore creatures and habitats. Lord, in your mercy,

**receive our prayer.**

Ruling God, teach the nations your ways. Strengthen organizations and communities that broker peace and care for refugees, immigrants, and all caught in the center of conflict. Lord, in your mercy,

**receive our prayer.**

Reforming God, fill this congregation with your presence. Enrich our seasonal preparations, and bless the efforts by worship committees, music ensembles, staff, clergy, and lay leaders as they work in the weeks ahead. Lord, in your mercy,

**receive our prayer.**

Rescuing God, restore your people who are in any need. Heal all who are suffering *especially Lisa, Herb, Madison, Hailey, Ed, Rosie, Shirley, Susan, Radelle, Benson, Kelly*. Provide comfort and strength, and nurture sustained wholeness for the future. 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 Anthony, Addyson, Keith, Thomas, Marian, Shirley, Anna, Ray, Amelia, Jace, Grace, Louise*. Lord, in your mercy,

**receive our prayer.**

We pray for those celebrating anniversaries this week, *especially Terry & Beth Ann*. 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 St. John, Fullerton, and their pastor, Lynette Delbridge. Lord in your mercy,

**receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Reassuring God, we remember those who have died and rest in you. Guide us in deep gratitude for their life, and allow us to learn from their faithful witness. 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:** *Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers*

-arr. Michael Larkin

*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.**

## **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.

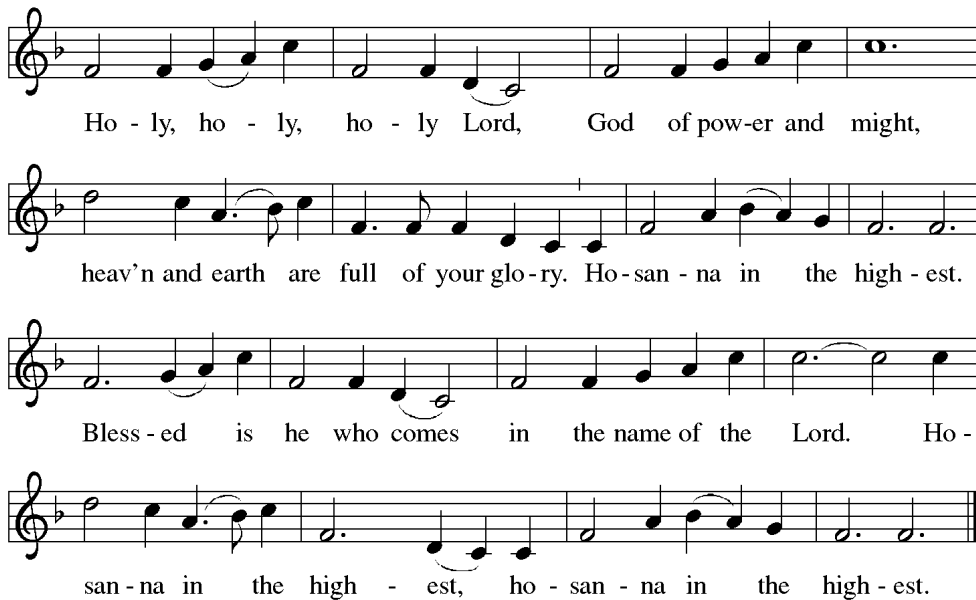
**We lift them to the Lord.**

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.**

## **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.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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

*Please be seated*

### 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



# Hark, the Glad Sound!

1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior  
 2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's  
 3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing  
 4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of peace, your wel - come

prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -  
 bond - age held. The gates of brass be -  
 soul to cure, and with the trea - sures  
 shall pro - claim, and heav'n's e - ter - nal

pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.  
 fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.  
 of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.  
 arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.

## Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus



1 Come, thou long-ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;  
2 Born thy peo-ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king;



from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.  
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king-dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art,  
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir-it rule in all our hearts a - lone;



dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long-ing heart.  
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788

Music: JEFFERSON, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

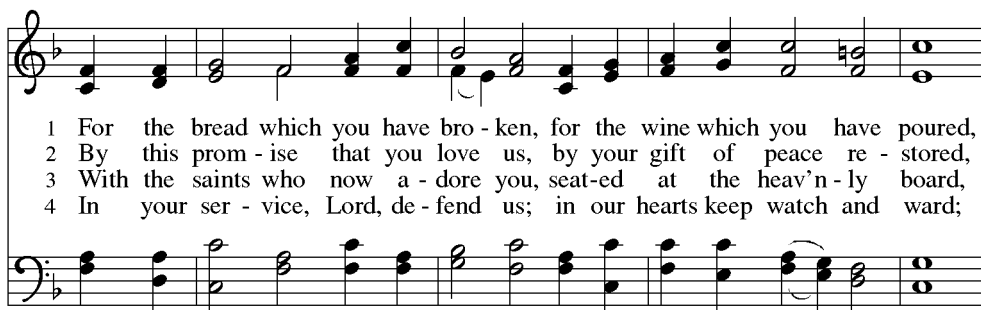
All who are able, please stand

After all have returned to their places:

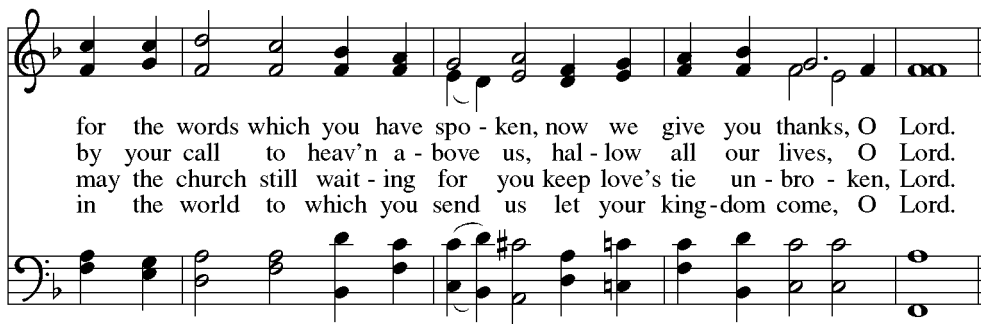
The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.  
Amen.

## 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.

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.**

## **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

### Prepare the Royal Highway

1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!  
2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing: your own e - ter - nal king!  
3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom - ised king!  
4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heav'n a - bove.

Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!  
Palm branch - es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!  
Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion its trib - ute too may bring.  
His rule is peace and free - dom and jus - tice, truth, and love.

Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:  
God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!  
All lands will bow be - fore him; their voic - es join your sing - ing:  
So let your praise be sound - ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:

*Refrain*  
Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*  
Music: BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN, Swedish folk tune, 17th cent.  
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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## **Dismissal**

Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.

**Thanks be to God!**

**Postlude:** *On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry*

-setting Franklin D. Ashdown

*Thank you to the Wozniak family for participating in the reading of the Advent Prayer and lighting the Advent candle.*





## **WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

### *December*

#### *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. 8 - 16

## **TODAY (8)**

-8:30am, Chorale  
 -8:50am, Cherub Choir  
 -10:15am, First Congregational Meeting  
 -6:30pm, AA Meeting

## **MON (9)**

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

## **TUES (10)**

-5:30pm, Volleyball, Family Ctr.  
 -6:30pm, Bible Study  
 -7:30pm, Volleyball, Family Ctr.

## **WED (11)**

-5:00pm, SOS Group, Conference Rm.  
 -6:30pm, Friendship Ringers  
 -6:30pm, Canon Choir  
 -7:00pm, Badminton, Family Ctr.

## **THU (12)**

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

## **FRI (13)**

-5:00pm, Youth Badminton, Family Ctr.  
 -7:00pm, Volleyball, Family Ctr.  
 -9:30pm, Volleyball, Family Ctr.

## **SAT (14)**

-1:00-2:00pm, Sunday School Rehearsal  
 -2:00-4:00pm, Christmas Caroling

## **SUN (15)**

-8:15am, Sunday School Rehearsal  
 -9:15am, Worship & Sunday School Program

## **Attendance**

12/1/24  
 8:00 – 38  
 10:30 – 54

## **NO SPONSORS today**

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!

*Please remain after worship for the First Congregational Meeting. Our purpose: to approve the 2025 budget and elect council & endowment committee members.*

*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, Radelle Psarsky, Benson Hartney, Kelly Schoch, Ed Keller

**Birthdays this week:** Anthony DiMaggio, Addyson Schuler, Keith Young Sr., Tom Daniels, Marian Peifley, Shirley Schneider, Anna Bieber, Ray Hamm, Amelia Jensen, Jace Gill, Grace Keller, Louise Quaintance

**Anniversaries this week:** Terry & Beth Ann Trumbauer (26)

## *A Loss in Our Church Family*

**David M. Daniel**, 78, died on Nov. 24, 2024. His service was held last Friday. He was survived by two sisters, nieces and nephews. Please remember David and his loved ones in your prayers.

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

Weekly collections	
Oct 27-Nov 2	\$8,559
Nov 3 - 9	\$10,589
Nov 10-16	\$8,167
Nov 17-23	\$7,688
Nov 24-30	\$7,103

2024 Monthly Income vs Expenses



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

## **SPONSORSHIPS**

**Altar Flowers:** Dec. 15, 22, 29; Jan. 5, 19, 26; Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23; Mar. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30  
 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

DATE	12/8	12/15	12/22	12/29
<b>Altar Guild</b>	9:15-K Leonard	9:15-S Wagaman	8:00-J Suhocki 10:30-C Heilman	9:15-K Leonard
<b>Lector</b>	9:15-J Siegfried	9:15-M Peters	8:00-M Peters 10:30-I Martz	9:15-K Boardman, M Peters, S Heckman
<b>Acolyte</b>	9:15-C Wozniak	9:15-D Dreisbach	8:00-I Strohl 10:30-N Heckman	9:15-P Shafer
<b>Ushers</b>	9:15-D Heckman, J Steiner	9:15-Stettler family	8:00-D & D Stark 10:30-J Steiner J Siegfried	9:15-B & L Hendricks
<b>Bell Toller</b>	9:15-S Hamil	9:15-B Stettler	8:00-J Siegfried 10:30-J Steiner	9:15-B Lutterschmidt
<b>Video</b>	9:15-T Daniels	9:15-D Clark	10:30-D Dreisbach	9:15-
<b>SAT</b>	9:15-	9:15-	8:00- 10:30-	9:15-

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 - TODAY!!***

***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***

at Parkland Manor and Heather Glen, 2 – 4 pm. Christmas Program Practice and Pizza – 1 pm. and program practice in the sanctuary

#### ***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 an invitation for church members to walk through the Sunday School classrooms and enjoy a Christmas treat. See our brand new 3D Youth space!

#### ***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.

**Other Reminders: December 29<sup>th</sup> – Lessons & Carols Service at 9:15 – NO SUNDAY SCHOOL**

**January 5<sup>th</sup> – Sunday School classes resume**

**January 25<sup>th</sup> – Learning Ministries Day will be held at Jordan**

**February 2<sup>nd</sup> – Second Congregational Meeting – NO SUNDAY SCHOOL**