FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Missouri Synod

First Sunday in Advent

November 30, 2025
Divine Service, Setting One – LSB 151
8:00 & 10:30*am, 5:00 pm
*livestreamed on Facebook and YouTube

AS WE GATHER

The Lord Comes in Meekness and Humility to Save Us Now

The Lord Jesus enters Jerusalem "humble, and mounted on a donkey," riding on "a beast of burden" (Matt. 21:5), as He Himself bears the sins of the world in His body. Now He comes by the ministry of the Gospel to save us from sin, death, the devil and hell. Therefore, we sing, "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" (Matt. 21:9). For we are called "to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob," His Holy Church, "that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths" (Is. 2:3). By His Word, we "walk in the light of the LORD" (Is. 2:5). That is to live in love, which "does no wrong to a neighbor" (Rom. 13:10). We "cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light," for "salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed" (Rom. 13:11, 12). Hence, the entire Christian life is a time to wake and watch, "for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming" (Matt. 24:42).

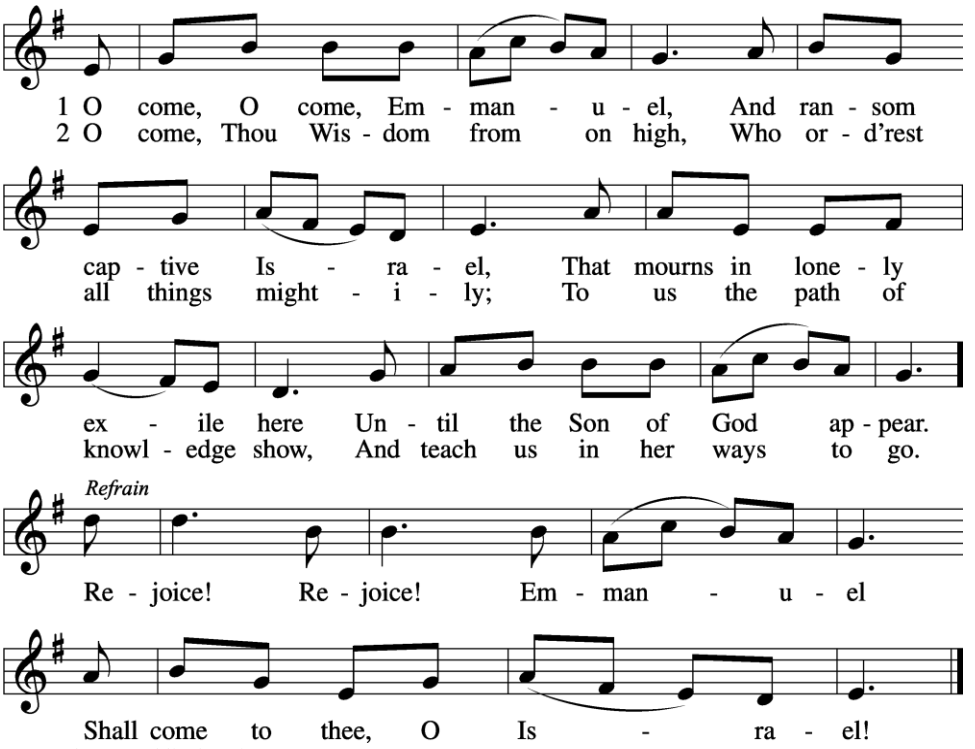
Rev. Eric J. Edwards ✢ ***Rev. Liwei Sui*** ✢ *Dr. Priscilla Gabriel, Director of Parish Music*
2200 S. High Street, Bloomington, IN ✢ 812-332-1668 ✢ office@faithbtown.org

✢ ✢ ✢ GATHERING ✢ ✢ ✢

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC – *Savior of the Nations, Come* (arr. Walter L. Pelz)

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

HYMN OF INVOCATION – LSB 357 – O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (vv. 1-2)



Text and tune: Public domain

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✢ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P In the season of Advent, we prepare for Jesus to come. We await the celebration of His birth at Christmas. We remember His arrival in Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. We long for His glorious return. As we wait, we consider how unworthy we are to have Jesus in our presence.

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

For parents with young children: *It is our joy to serve you in this hour of worship!*

A special reminder of some resources available to help you in guiding your child through worship:

***Children's activities/resources** to engage them in the service (near the sanctuary doors),

***Cry room** in the preschool wing when a personal space is needed,

***Library** with books to read and calm your child,

*Hand-held **vacuum cleaner** in the ushers' stand, for use as needed *after* the service.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

(silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination)

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

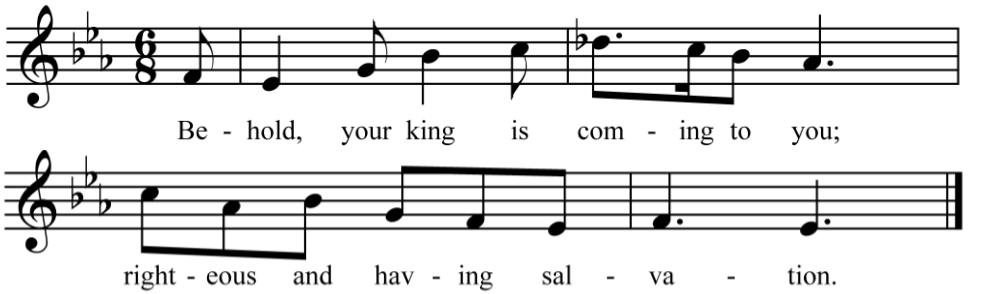
P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✢ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen**.

✢ ✢ ✢ WORD ✢ ✢ ✢

INTROIT – **Psalm 118:25-28; antiphon: Zechariah 9:9b**

The choir/cantor sings the antiphon once and the congregation repeats it.
The congregation then repeats the antiphon after the chanted Psalm verses.



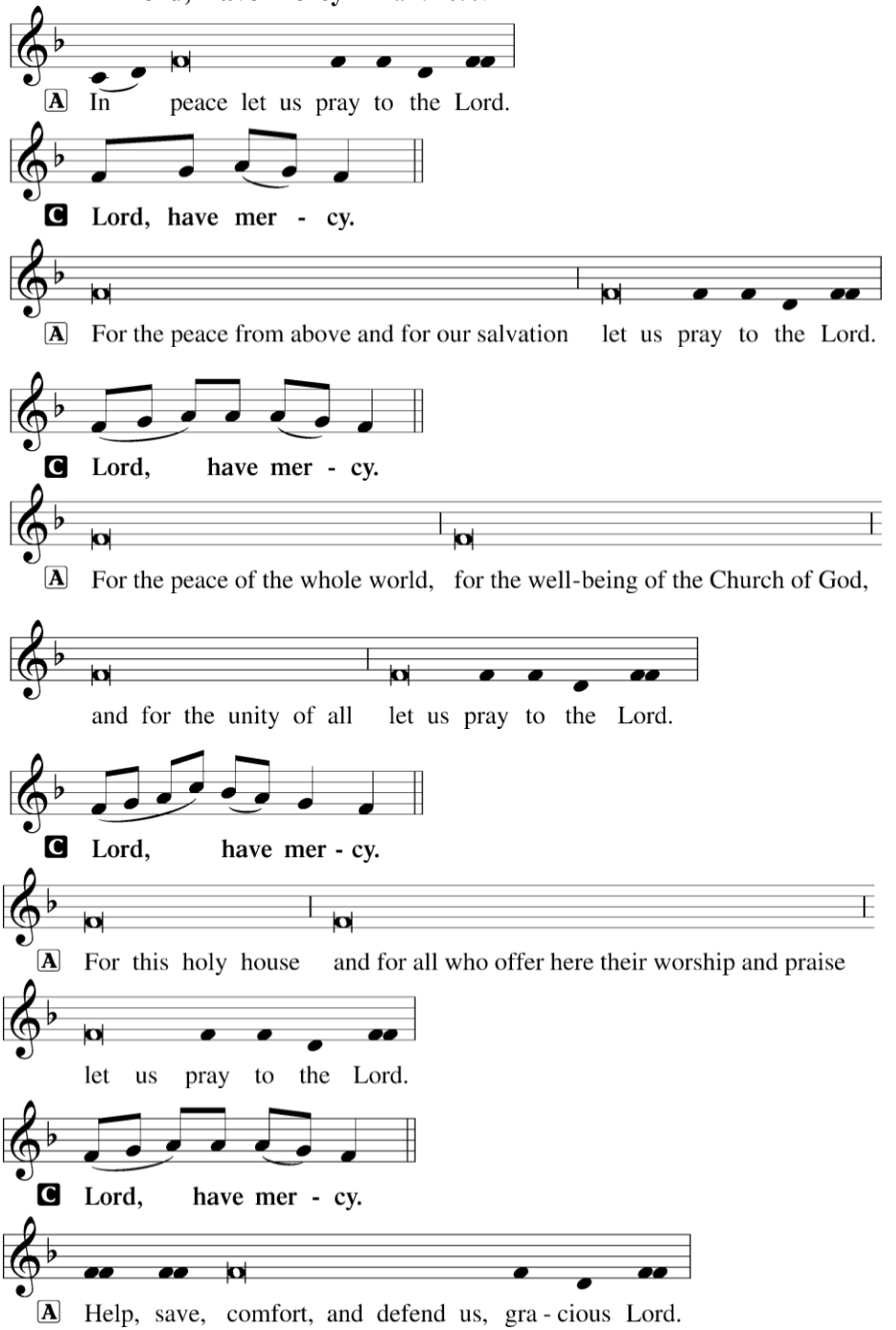
Save us, we pray, O LORD,
O LORD, we pray, give us success.

Blessèd is he who comes in the name of the LORD!
We bless you from the house of the LORD.

The LORD is God, and he has made his light to shine upon us.
Bind the festal sacrifice with cords, up to the horns of the altar!

You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;
You are my God; I will extol you. **(Antiphon)**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen. **(Antiphon)**

KYRIE – Lord, Have Mercy – *Mark 10:47*

SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray… one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

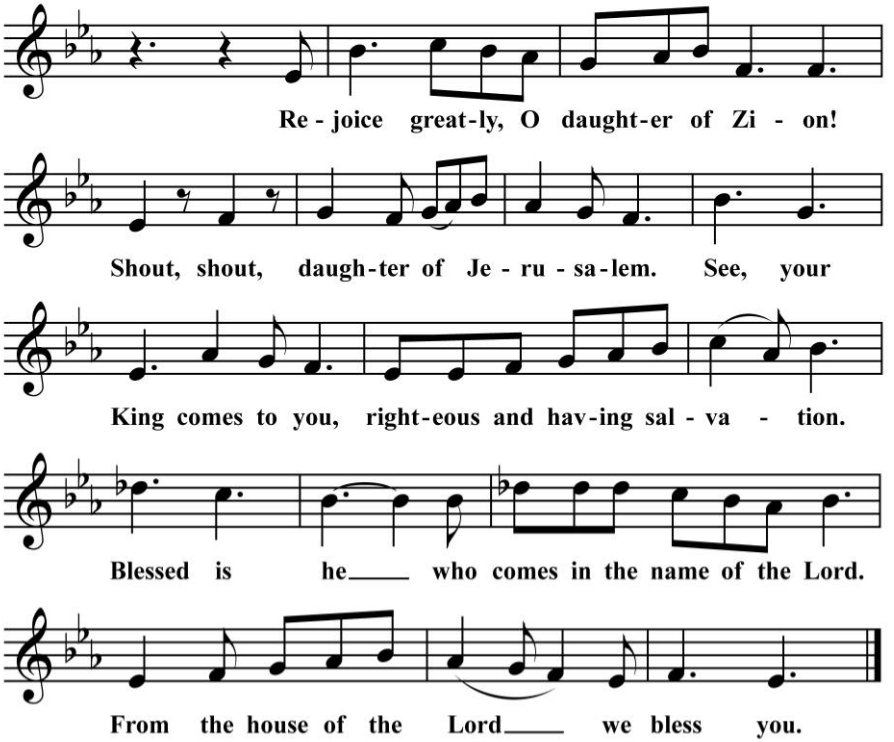
FIRST LESSON – Isaiah 2:1-5 – Lasting peace with God will flow from Zion.

[1]The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.
[2]It shall come to pass in the latter days
that the mountain of the house of the Lord
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be lifted up above the hills;
and all the nations shall flow to it,
[3]and many peoples shall come, and say:
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,
to the house of the God of Jacob,
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths."
For out of Zion shall go the law,
and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.
[4]He shall judge between the nations,
and shall decide disputes for many peoples;
and they shall beat their swords into plowshares,
and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war anymore.
[5]O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk
in the light of the Lord.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL – Zechariah 9:9; Psalm 118:26, alt.
The congregation sings all.



The **Gradual** for Advent uses passages from Zechariah and the Book of Psalms to focus our attention on our King who came once "born of the Virgin Mary," comes today in Word and Sacrament, and "will come again with glory to judge the living and the dead."

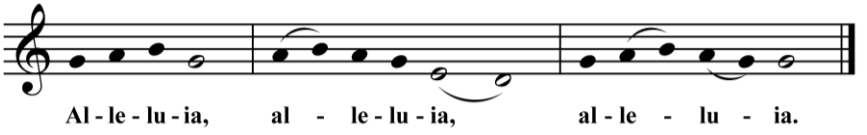
Setting: Jonathan Mueller

SECOND LESSON – Romans 13:8-14 – Love does no wrong to a neighbor.

[8]Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. [9]The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." [10]Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

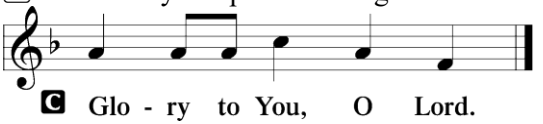
[11]Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. [12]The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. [13]Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. [14]But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

A This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

ALLELUIA and VERSE – Psalm 24:7
The choir/cantor sings the Alleluias and the congregation repeats them.
The congregation then repeats the Alleluias after the verse.

Lift up your heads, O gates!
And be lifted up O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.

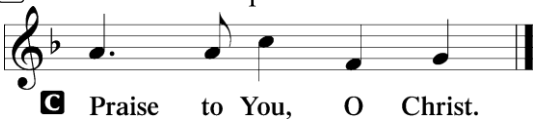
HOLY GOSPEL – Matthew 24:36-44 – The Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

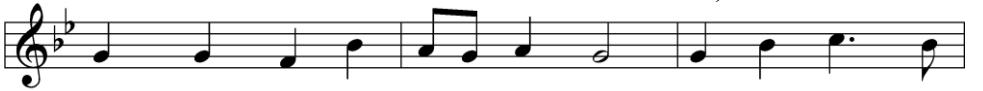
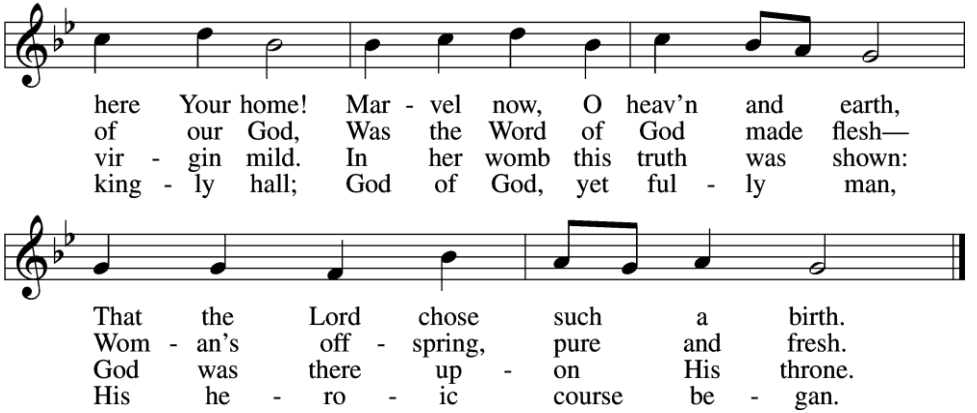
P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fourth chapter.



[36][Jesus said:] "But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only. [37]As were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. [38]For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, [39]and they were unaware until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. [40]Then two men will be in the field; one will be taken and one left. [41]Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one left. [42]Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. [43]But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. [44]Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



HYMN OF THE DAY – LSB 332 – Savior of the Nations, Come



5 God the Father was His source,
Back to God He ran His course.
Into hell His road went down,
Back then to His throne and crown.

6 For You are the Father's Son
Who in flesh the vict'ry won.
By Your mighty pow'r make whole
All our ills of flesh and soul.

7 From the manger newborn light
Shines in glory through the night.
Darkness there no more resides;
In this light faith now abides.

△ 8 Glory to the Father sing,
Glory to the Son, our king,
Glory to the Spirit be
Now and through eternity.

Text (sts. 3, 6–7): © 2006 Concordia Publishing House; (sts. 4–5, 8): © 1978 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001557
Text (sts. 1–2) and tune: Public domain

SERMON – *Expecting the Unexpected* – Matthew 24:36-44

NICENE CREED

C **I believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.**

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one

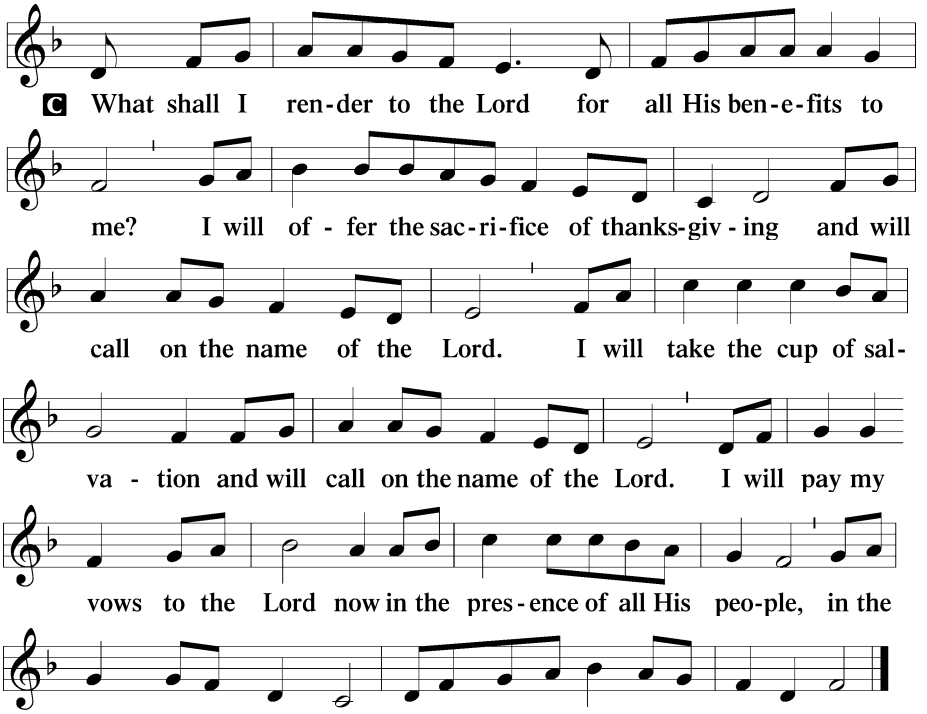
Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life ✢ of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

A Lord in Your mercy, **C** **Hear our prayer.**

A …one God, now and forever. **C** **Amen.**

OFFERING – *Veni Emmanuel* (arr. David A. deSilva)

OFFERTORY – *Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19*

✢ ✢ ✢ SACRAMENT ✢ ✢ ✢

beginning at LSB 160

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

For Guests and Visitors Desiring the Sacrament

As a congregation of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, we confess, in accord with the Scriptures, that **in this sacred meal Jesus Himself is *truly* present to forgive our sin and strengthen our faith.**

Participation in this meal indicates that you **believe, have been baptized, and have been taught** according to our Lord's command **and are in doctrinal agreement** with this confession.

- **If you are visiting from outside the Lutheran Church or are new to the faith**, we welcome you to come to the altar with arms crossed to receive a blessing.
- **If you desire to receive instruction for the Lord's Supper**, please speak with one of our pastors.

P Lift up your hearts.

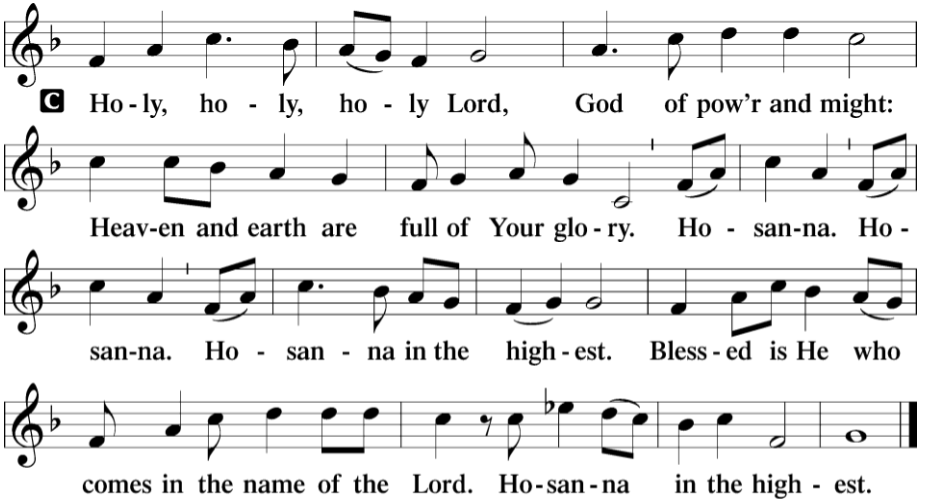
C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary …evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS – *Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9*



PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P …one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

C **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name,**
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

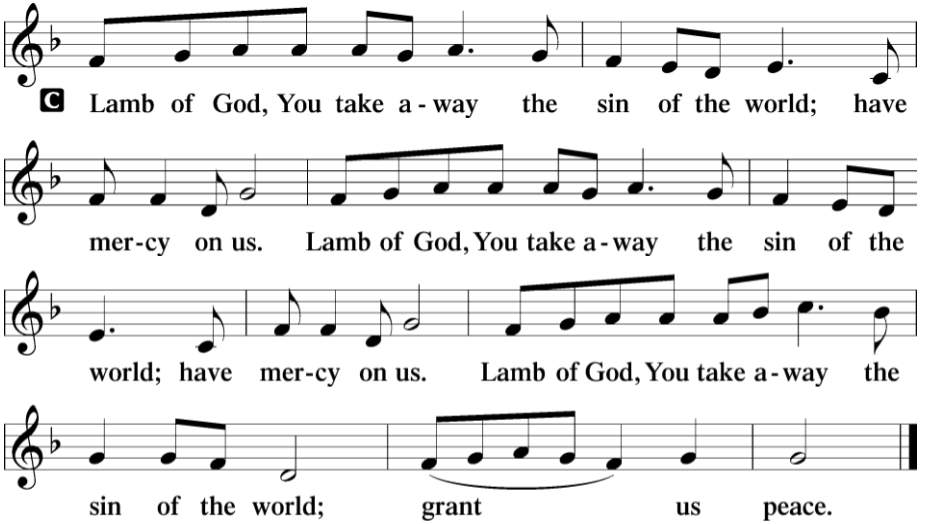
WORDS OF OUR LORD

PAX DOMINI – The Peace of the Lord – *John 20:19*

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **Amen.**

AGNUS DEI – Lamb of God – *John 1:29*



DISTRIBUTION

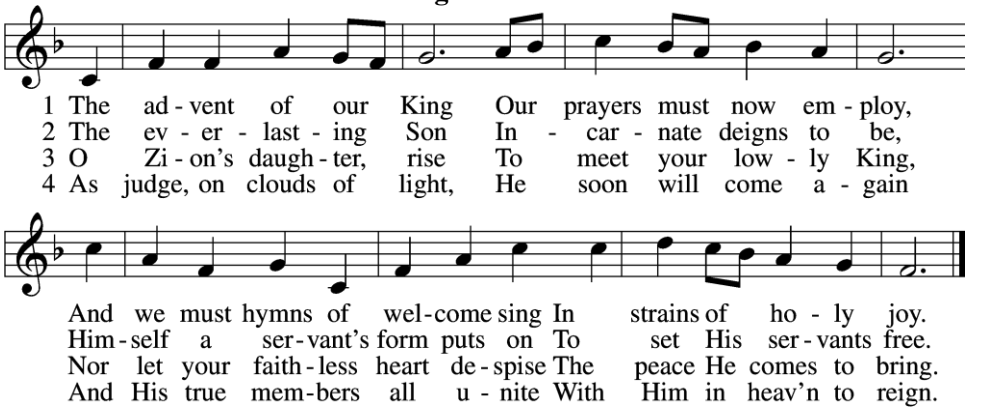
Distribution Notes:

If you need **gluten-free wafers**, please let one of the pastors know.

Non-alcoholic grape juice, containing *a trace amount of wine*, is available in the center of the tray.

Anthem (10:30 am) – *Once He Came in Blessing* (arr. Jacob B. Weber)
Text at LSB 333

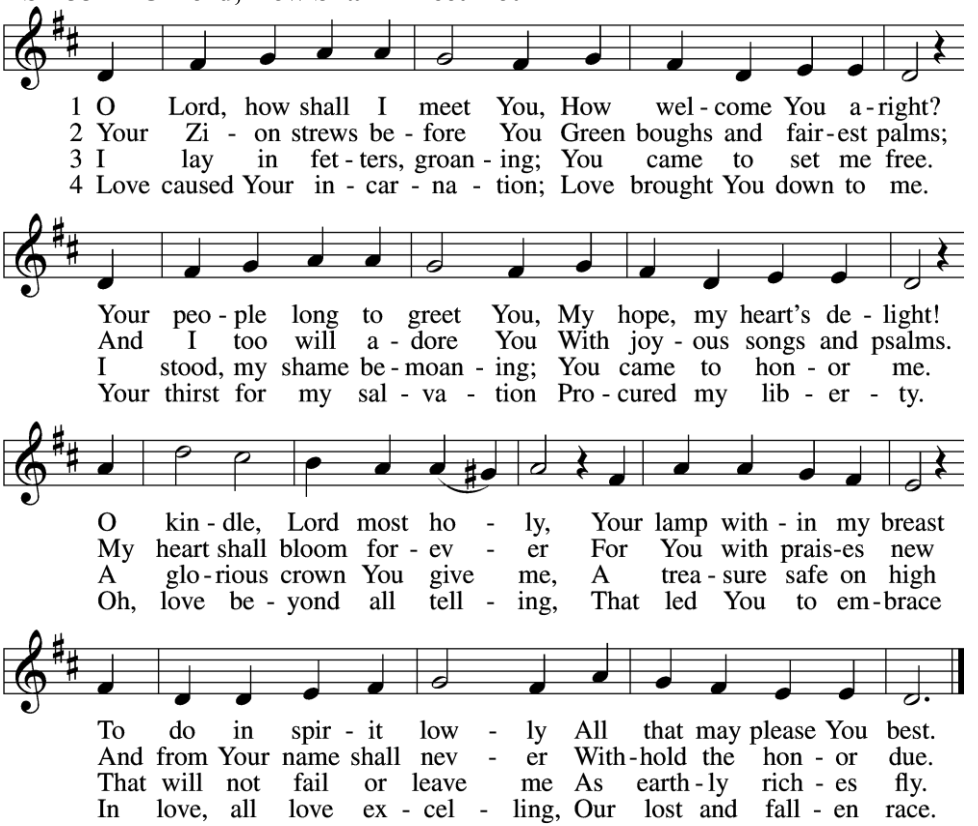
LSB 331 – The Advent of Our King



5 Before the dawning day
Let sin's dark deeds be gone,
The sinful self be put away,
The new self now put on.

△ 6 All glory to the Son,
Who comes to set us free,
With Father, Spirit, ever one
Through all eternity.

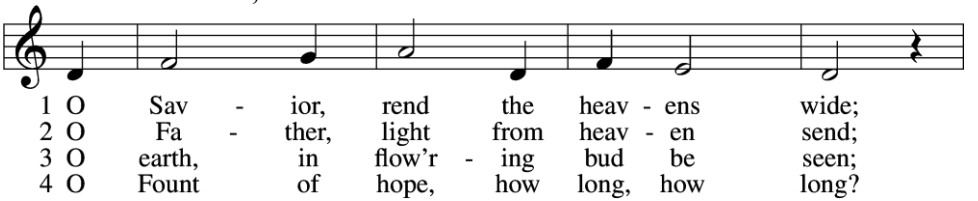
Text and tune: Public domain

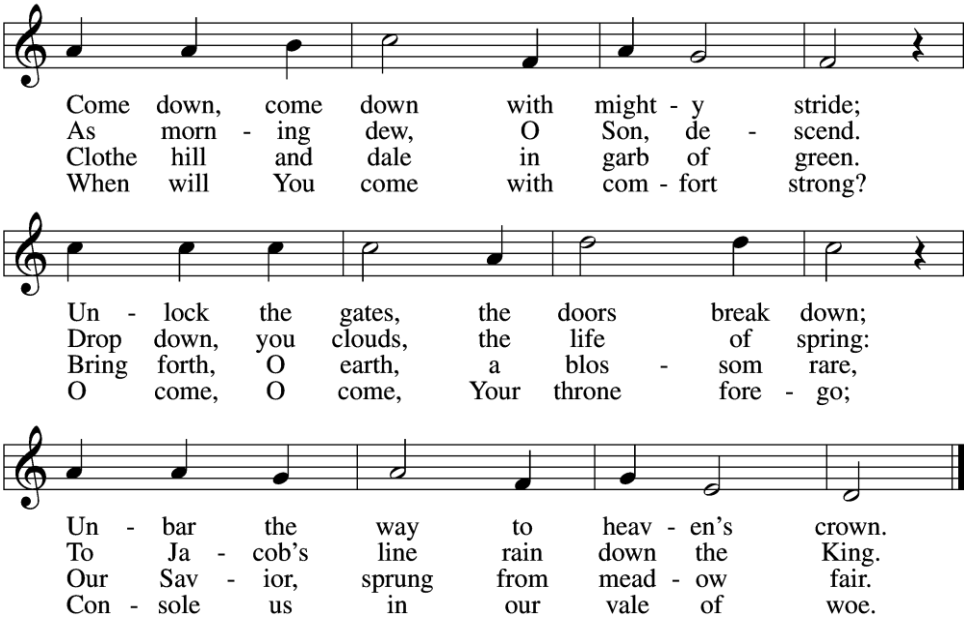
LSB 334 – O Lord, How Shall I Meet You

5 Sin's debt, that fearful burden,
Cannot His love erase;
Your guilt the Lord will pardon
And cover by His grace.
He comes, for you procuring
The peace of sin forgiv'n,
His children thus securing
Eternal life in heav'n.

6 He comes to judge the nations,
A terror to His foes,
A light of consolations
And blessèd hope to those
Who love the Lord's appearing.
O glorious Sun, now come,
Send forth Your beams so cheering,
And guide us safely home.

Text and tune: Public domain

LSB 355 – O Savior, Rend the Heavens Wide





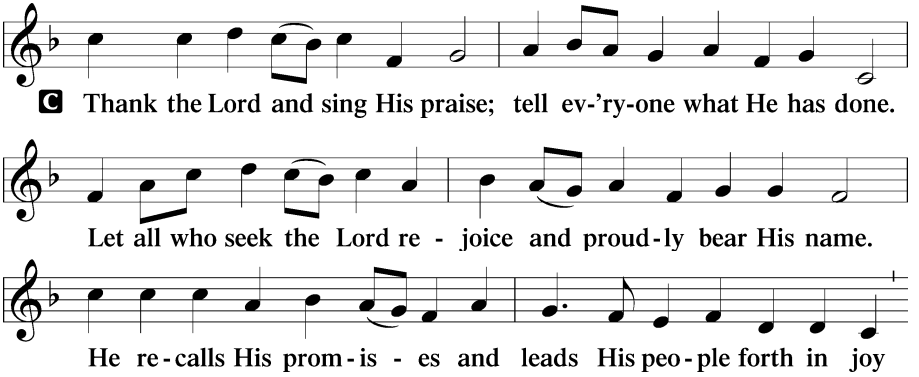
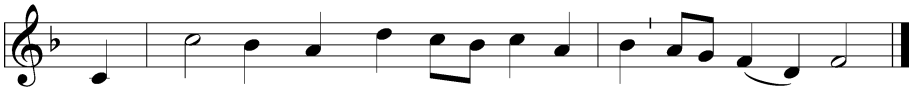
5 O Morning Star, O radiant Sun,
When will our hearts behold Your dawn?
O Sun, arise; without Your light
We grope in gloom and dark of night.

6 Sin's dreadful doom upon us lies;
Grim death looms fierce before our eyes.
O come, lead us with mighty hand
From exile to our promised land.

7 There shall we all our praises bring
And sing to You, our Savior King;
There shall we laud You and adore
Forever and forevermore.

Text: © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001557
Tune: Public domain

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE – Thank the Lord



POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

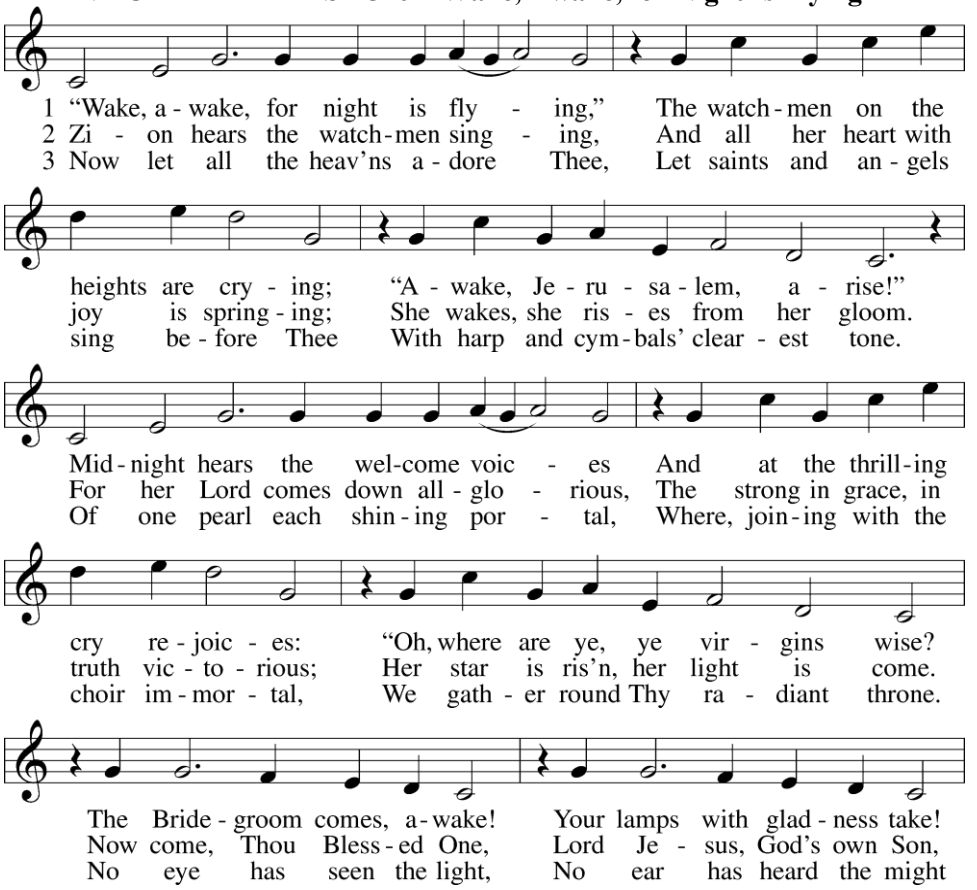
℗ We give thanks to You, almighty God … one God, now and forever.

ℂ **Amen.**

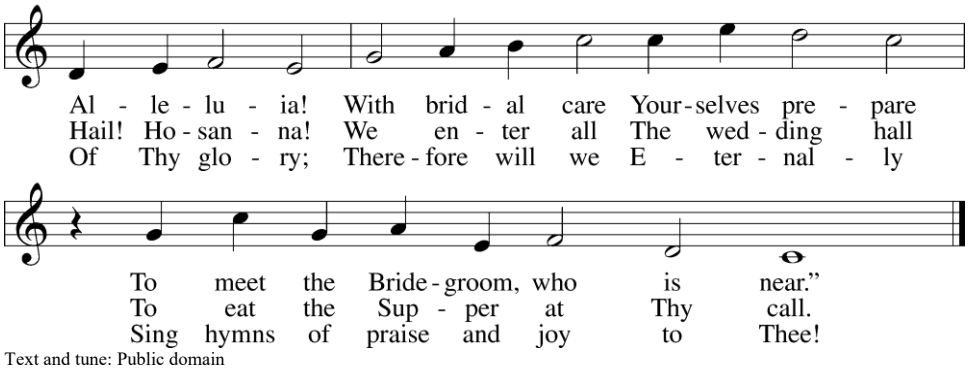
BENEDICTION – *Numbers 6:24-26*

℗ The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✢ give you peace.

ℂ **Amen.**

HYMN TO DEPART – LSB 516 – Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying

Liturgy and Hymns reprinted from Lutheran Service Builder and used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001557.

Scripture – from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.



Text and tune: Public domain

Today's flowers are given to the glory of God by **Bill and Deanie Bently** in loving memory of their parents, *George & Orpha Jean Bently* and *John & Ruth Niederhaus*.

SILENT PRAYER / ANNOUNCEMENTS

POST-SERVICE MUSIC – *Savior of the Nations, Come* (arr. Paul Siefert)

✢ ✢ ✢

Tuesday, December 2
9:00am **Playgroup**
1:00pm **Fellowship Ministry Team**
5:15pm **First Steps in Music**

Tuesdays: December 2, 9, 16, 23
Salvation Army Bell-ringing
Ring with us for Salvation Army at *Kroger East* any Tuesday between Thanksgiving and Christmas. **A few shifts still need at least one person** ringing *(thank you to all who have already signed up!)* and **more volunteers will enable us to ring at both doors**.
Visit faithbtown.org – or contact *Janet Hitzeman* – to sign up.

NEXT Sunday, December 7
4:00pm **Lessons and Carols** *(ULu)* led by Faith's and ULu's choirs
6:00pm **FLY** (Christmas movie night)

Deadlines:

- **Sign up for Caroling**: Contact Dr. Gabriel (music@faithbtown.org)
- **Return Angel Tree gifts**: Contact Janet Hitzeman with questions.

Sunday, December 21
10:30am **Lessons and Carols** led by our Sunday School children and youth

✢ ✢ ✢

Do you receive our weekly announcements?
Subscribe to **FaithBtown News** for
weekly announcements and updates.