FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Missouri Synod

Second Sunday in Advent

December 7, 2025
Divine Service, Setting One – LSB 151
8:00 & 10:30*am, 5:00 pm
*livestreamed on Facebook and YouTube

AS WE GATHER

By the Preaching of Repentance, We Are Prepared for the Coming of the Lord

"John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, 'Repent'" (Matt. 3:1–2). His preaching of repentance for the forgiveness of sins prepared people for the coming of Christ into the world. St. John's work was historically complete with the incarnate advent of Jesus, but his vital ministry continues in preaching Law and Gospel. The Son of God has come in the flesh, "a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots" (Is. 11:1), and continues to bear the fruits of righteousness. His good tree of the cross is "a signal for the peoples" (Is. 11:10), by which He calls the nations to repentance. "With the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips" (Is. 11:4), He slays the wicked and brings the dead to life, making sons of Abraham out of lifeless stones. So also the "root of Jesse" comes to us, "even he who arises to rule the Gentiles" (Rom. 15:12), that "we might have hope" and be filled "with all joy and peace in believing" (Rom. 15:4, 13).

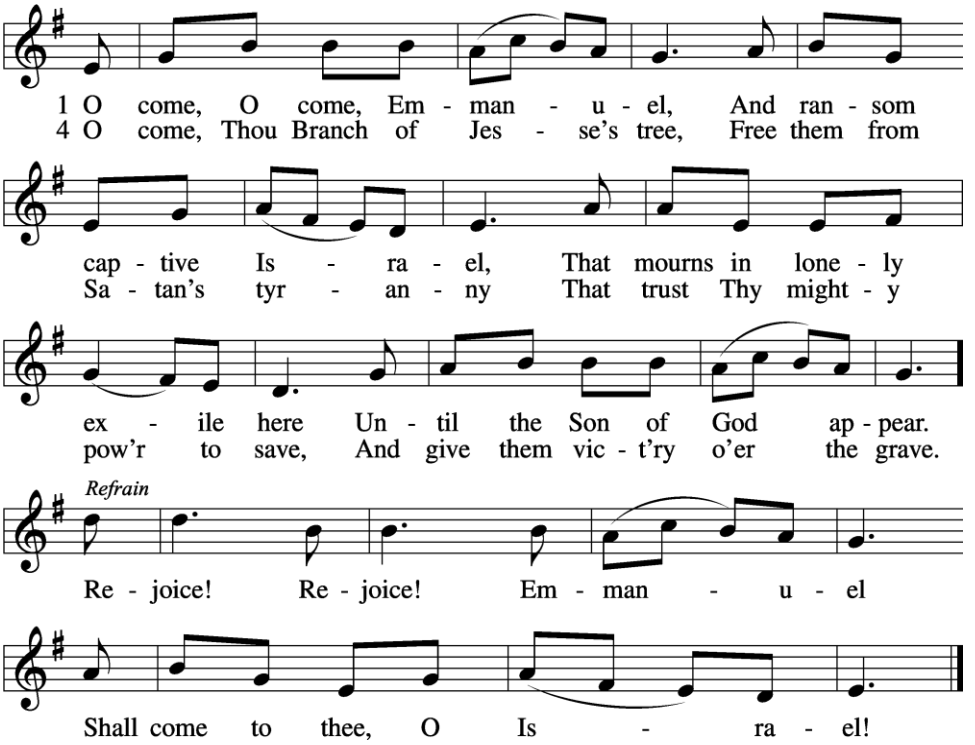
Rev. Eric J. Edwards ✢ ***Rev. Liwei Sui*** ✢ *Dr. Priscilla Gabriel, Director of Parish Music*
2200 S. High Street, Bloomington, IN ✢ 812-332-1668 ✢ office@faithbtown.org

✢ ✢ ✢ GATHERING ✢ ✢ ✢

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC – *Variations on* On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry
(arr. Franklin D. Ashdown)

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

HYMN OF INVOCATION – LSB 357 – O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (vv. 1, 4)



Text and tune: Public domain

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.

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 long for His glorious return. As we prepare and wait, we confess our sins and trust that Jesus delivers His gift of forgiveness, through His Word and Sacraments.

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

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.

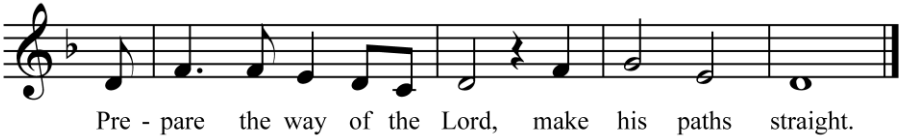
C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present 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 ✢ ✢ ✢

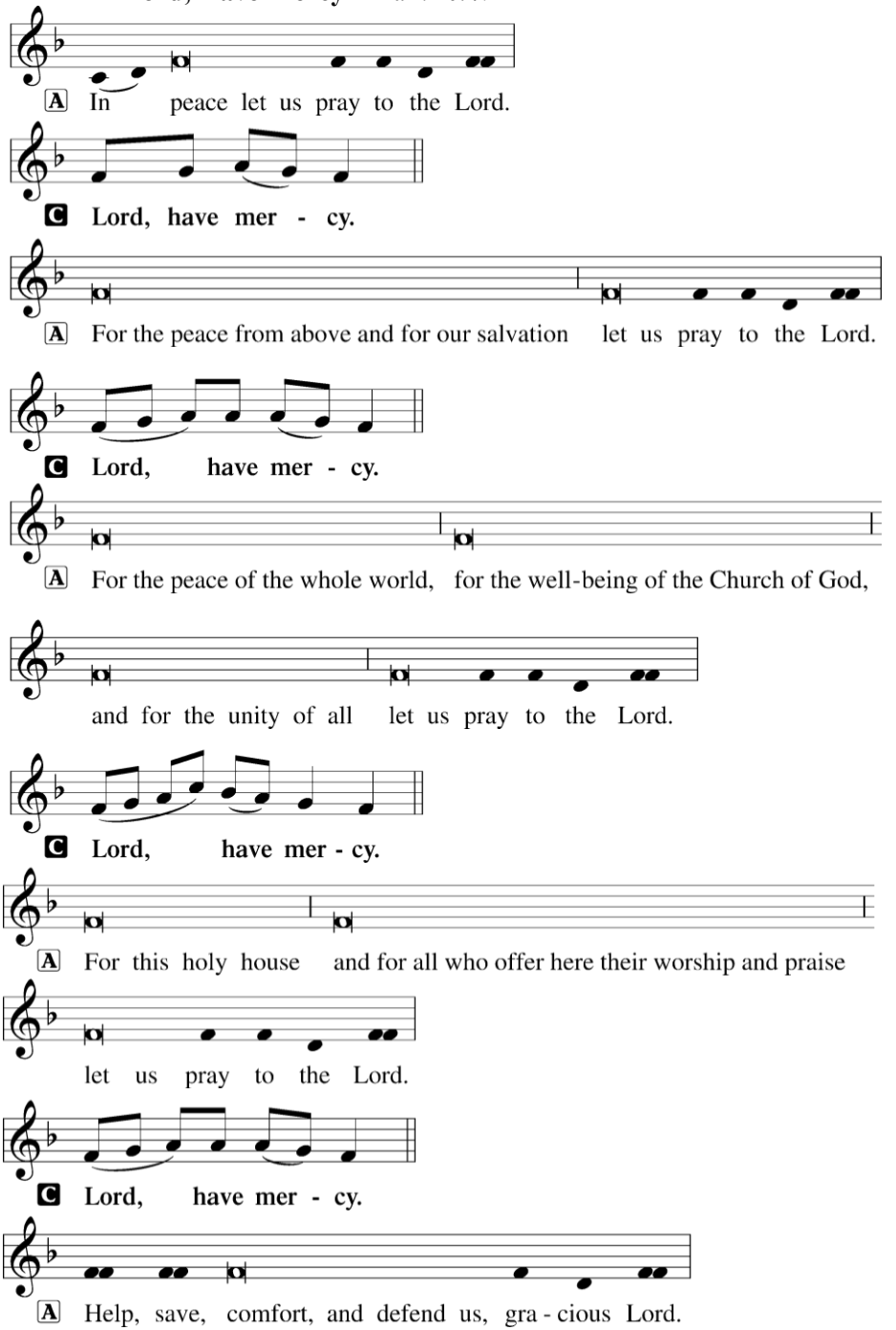
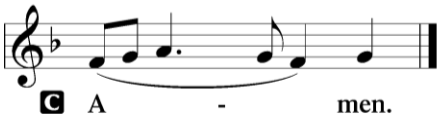
INTROIT – **Psalm 105:4-8; antiphon: Isaiah 40:3b**

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

Seek the LORD and his strength;
seek his presence continually!
Remember the wondrous works that he has done,
his miracles, and the judgments he uttered,

O offspring of Abraham, his servant,
children of Jacob, his chosen ones!
He is the LORD our God;
his judgments are in all the earth.

He remembers his covenant forever,
the word that he commanded, for a thousand generations. **(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 11:1-10 – "There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse."

[1]There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.
[2]And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him,
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the Spirit of counsel and might,
the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.
[3]And his delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.
He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide disputes by what his ears hear,
[4]but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
[5]Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist,
and faithfulness the belt of his loins.
[6]The wolf shall dwell with the lamb,
and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat,
and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together;
and a little child shall lead them.
[7]The cow and the bear shall graze;
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
[8]The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra,
and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den.
[9]They shall not hurt or destroy
in all my holy mountain;
for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord
as the waters cover the sea.

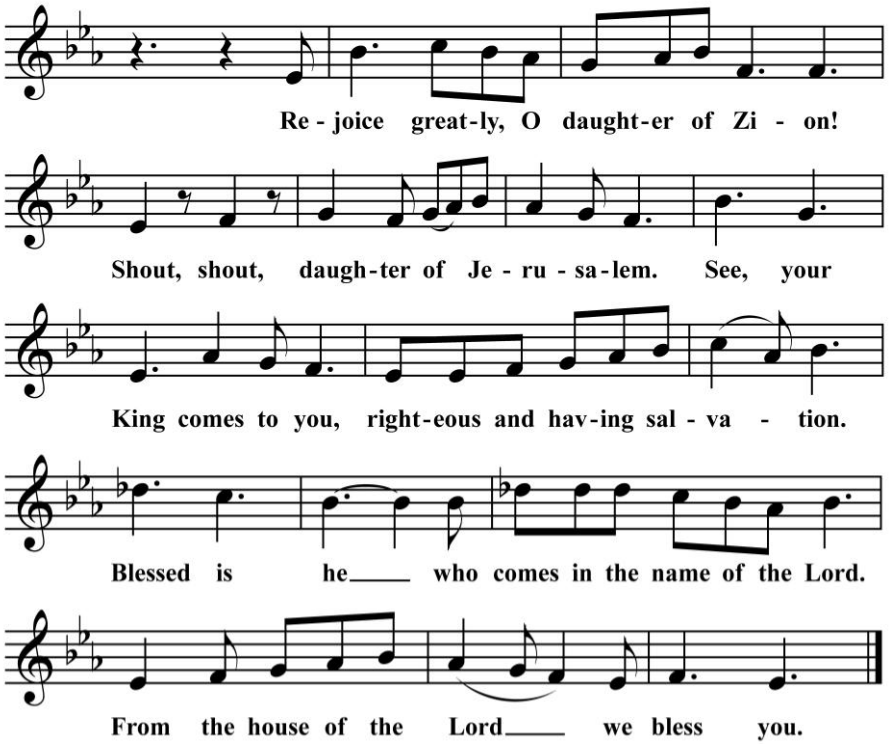
[10]In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.

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

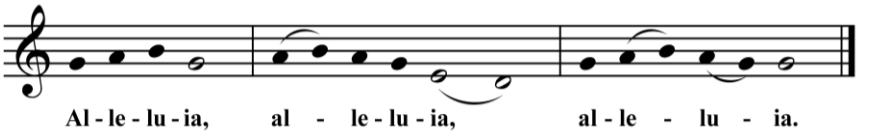
SECOND LESSON – Romans 15:4-13 – "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing."

[4]Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. [5]May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, [6]that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. [7]Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

[8]For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, [9]and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

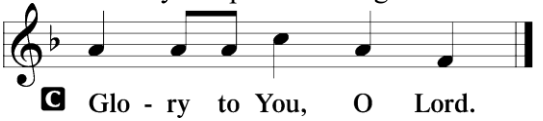
“Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles,
and sing to your name.”
10And again it is said,
“Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people.”
11And again,
“Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,
and let all the peoples extol him.”
12And again Isaiah says,
“The root of Jesse will come,
even he who arises to rule the Gentiles;
in him will the Gentiles hope.”
13May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

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

ALLELUIA and VERSE – Isaiah 40:3, 5
The choir/cantor sings the Alleluias and the congregation repeats them.
The congregation then repeats the Alleluias after the verse.

Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight;
All flesh shall see the salvation of God.

HOLY GOSPEL – Matthew 3:1-12 – “The voice of one crying in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord.’”

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the third chapter.



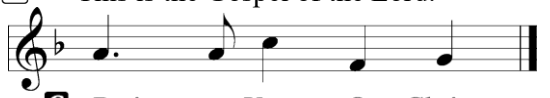
1In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, 2“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” 3For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said,
“The voice of one crying in the wilderness:
‘Prepare the way of the Lord;
make his paths straight.’”

[4]Now John wore a garment of camel's hair and a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. [5]Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, [6]and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

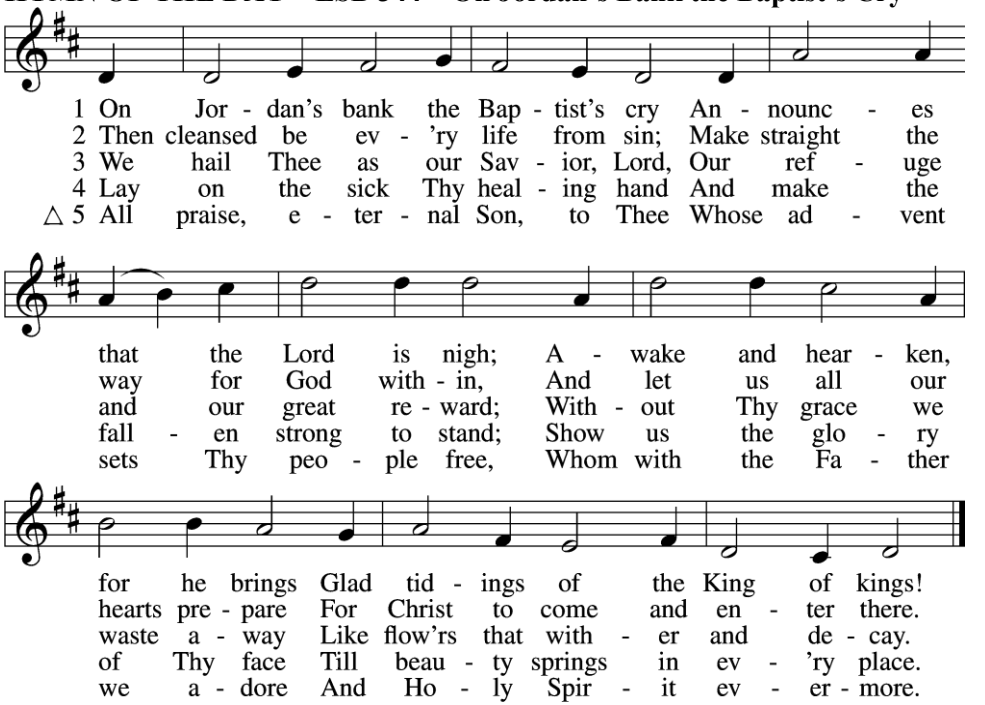
[7]But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? [8]Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. [9]And do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father,' for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. [10]Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

[11]"I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. [12]His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

HYMN OF THE DAY – LSB 344 – On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

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SERMON – *The Sounds of Advent* – Matthew 3:1-12

8:00 am – 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.

10:30 am & 5:00 pm – APOSTLES' CREED

C **I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

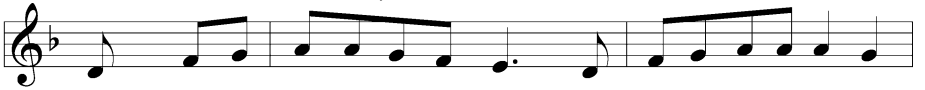
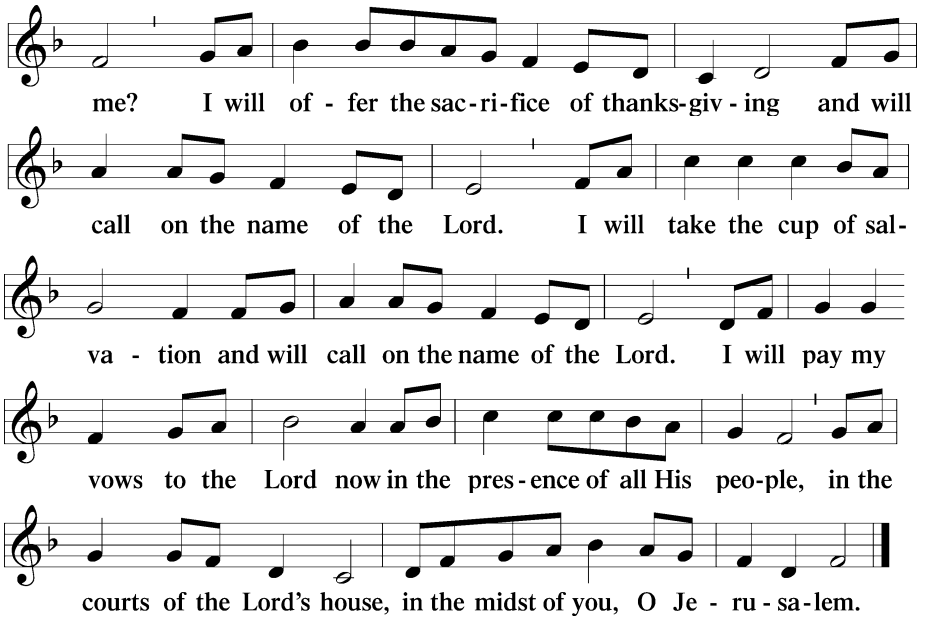
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life ✢ everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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

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

OFFERING – *Comfort, Comfort, Ye My People* (arr. Egil Hovland)

OFFERTORY – *Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19*



10:30 am & 5:00 pm – Continue with the **Lord's Prayer** *(page 11)* and conclude with the **Benediction and Hymn to Depart** *(pages 14-15)*.

✢ ✢ ✢ SACRAMENT ✢ ✢ ✢

beginning at LSB 160

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

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:

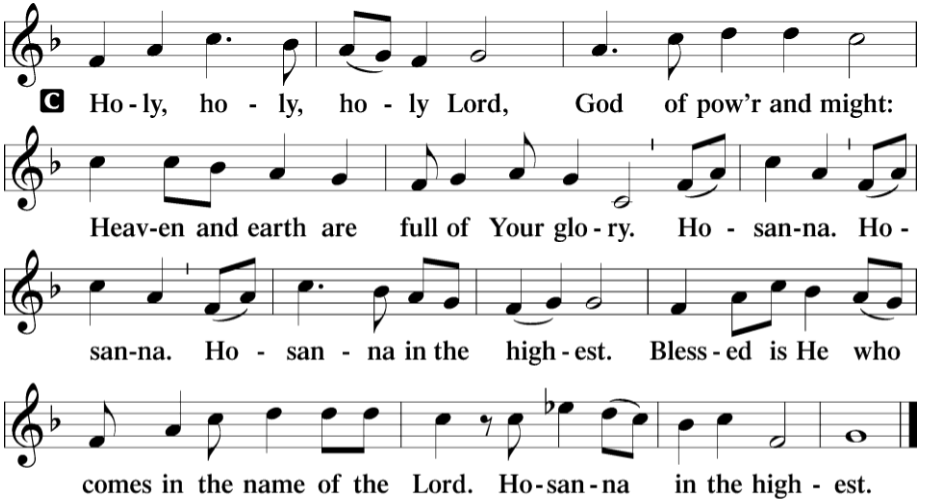
For Guests and Visitors Desiring the Sacrament

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.

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.

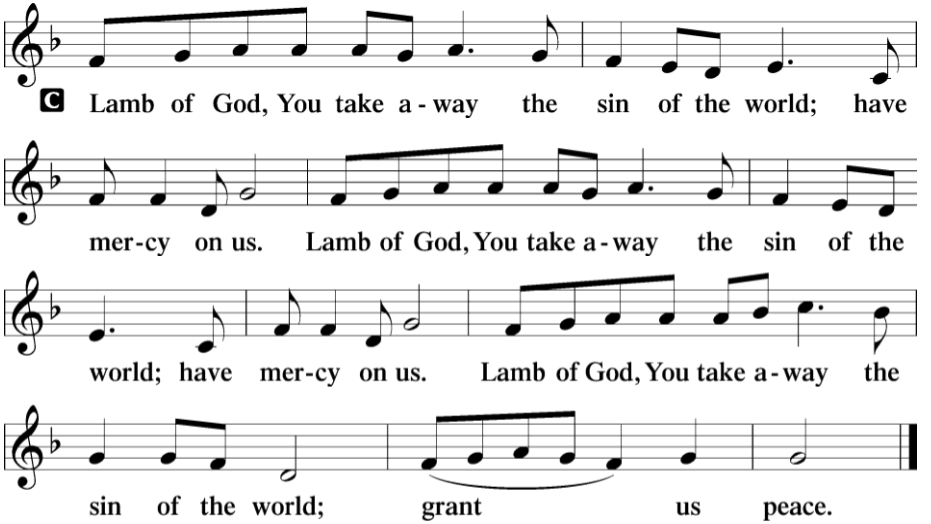
WORDS OF OUR LORD

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 Notes:

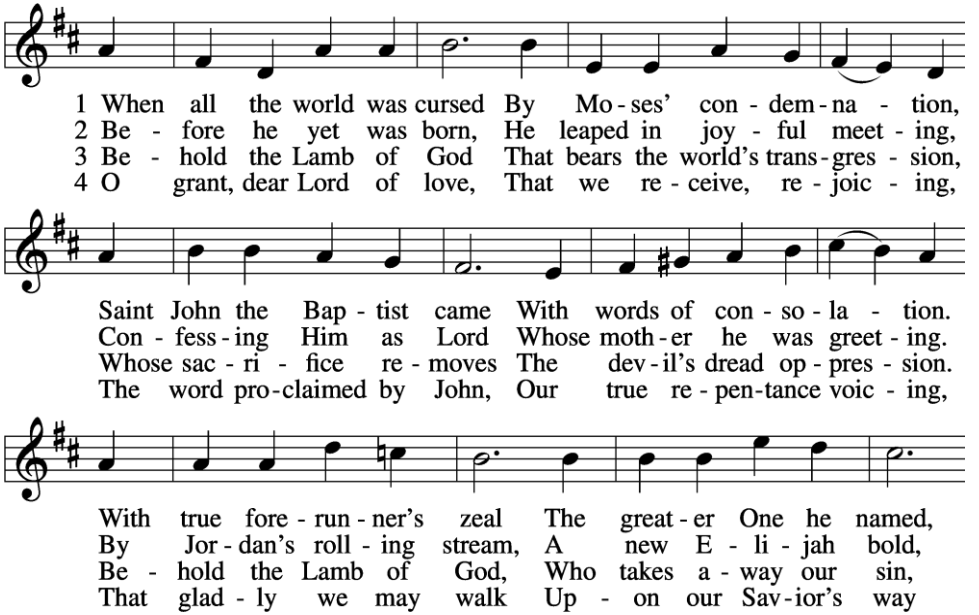
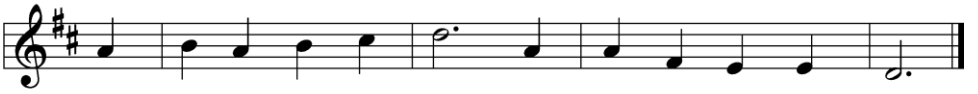
If you need **gluten-free wafers**, please let one of the pastors know.

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

DISTRIBUTION

Anthem – *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming* (arr. M. Praetorious & M. Vulpius)
Text at LSB 359

LSB 346 – When All the World Was Cursed



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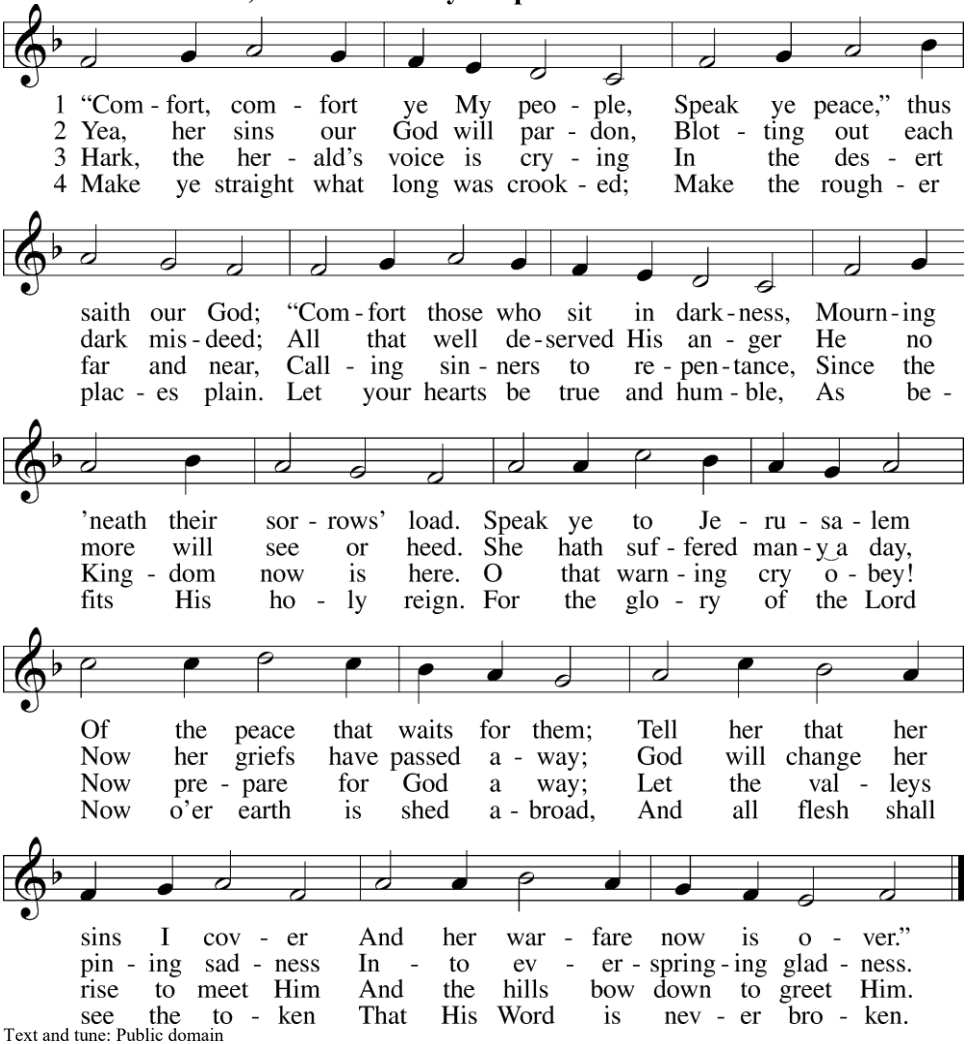
LSB 347 – Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

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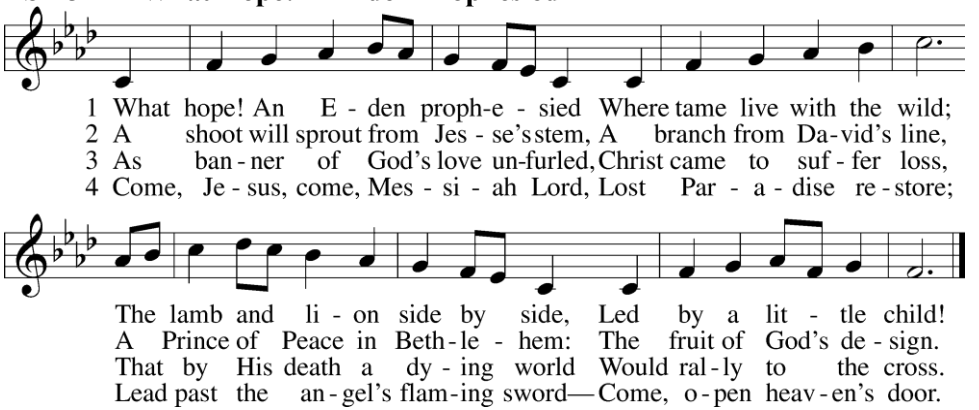
LSB 342 – What Hope! An Eden Prophesied



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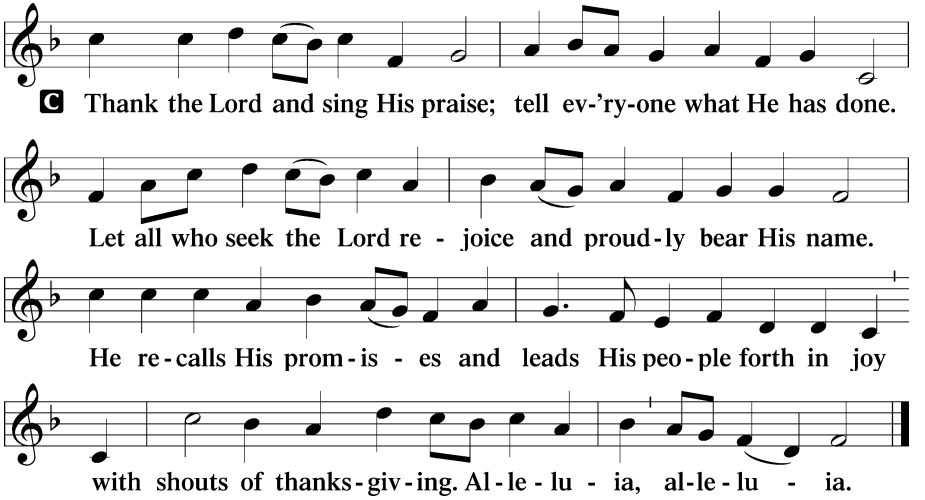
POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE – Thank the Lord



POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

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

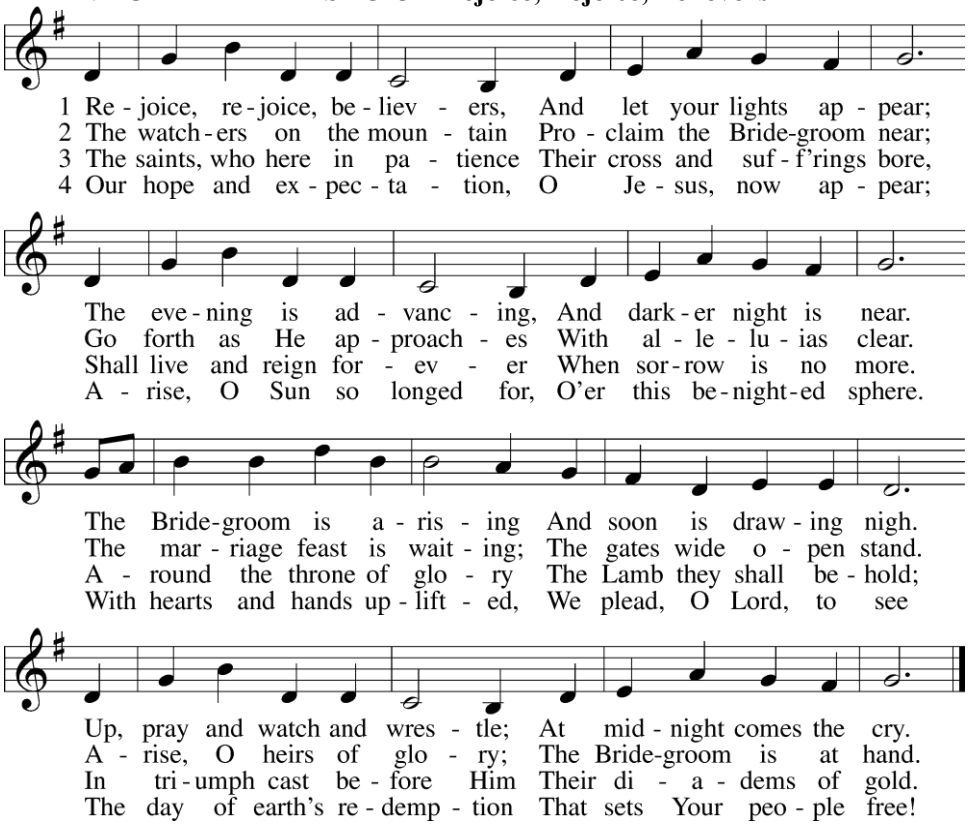
C **Amen.**

BENEDICTION – *Numbers 6:24-26*

P 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 515 – Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers



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SILENT PRAYER / ANNOUNCEMENTS

POST-SERVICE MUSIC – *On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry* (arr. Jacob B. Weber)

✢ ✢ ✢

TODAY

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.

Monday, December 8
5:30pm **School Board**
6:30pm **Stewardship Ministry Team**

Tuesday, December 9
Circuit pastors meet (St. John's, Whitecreek)
10am-8pm **Salvation Army Bell-ringing** Sign up at faithbtown.org – or contact *Janet Hitzeman*.
5:15pm **First Steps in Music**

Wednesday, December 9
11:45am **Preschool Christmas Music Program** ***Preview***

7:45pm **Senior Choir**

Thursday, December 11
11:30am **Preschool Christmas Music Program**

Friday, December 12
6:30pm **Ladies' Night Out** (home of Janet Hitzeman)

Thursday, December 18
12:00pm **JOY Group Christmas Gathering** (home of Becky Marks)

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

✢ ✢ ✢

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weekly announcements and updates.