



# Fourth Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 23, 2018  
Mt. Hermon Lutheran Church  
West Columbia, SC  
9:00am Worship

# WELCOME

*We welcome you to Mt. Hermon Lutheran Church!*

*If you are worshipping with us for the first time, WELCOME,*

*If you are worshipping again, WELCOME BACK.*

*Worship is much more joyful when we add our voices to offer praise and thanksgiving. If you need anything, just ask one of the ushers or greeters. A nursery is provided for younger children should you want to use it at any time. If you would like to discuss discipleship at Mt. Hermon, Pastor Gina would love to speak with you!*

**Again welcome...**

**PRE-SERVICE**

*Sussex Carol*

Dale Wood

## **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Please see the Community Announcements in the back section of the bulletin.*

*Please note that all the congregation responses are printed in **Bold and Italics**.*

**PRELUDE**

*Prepare the Royal Highway*

Arr. Jacob B. Weber

*We are silent as we prepare our hearts for worship.*

## **THE GATHERING**

*We stand and face the baptismal font. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
the Lord of Israel who comes to set us free,  
the mighty Savior who comes to show mercy,  
the Dawn from on high who guides us into peace.

**Amen.**

*Please turn to face the cross at the entrance of the sanctuary. As broken children, we begin worship by acknowledging our sinfulness and asking for God's forgiveness.*

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Let us come before God in confession.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

To you, O God,

***we lift up our souls.***

***You know us through and through;***

***we confess our sins to you.***

***Remember not our sins;***

***remember us with your steadfast love.***

***Show us your ways;***

***teach us your paths;***

***and lead us in justice and truth,***

***for the sake of your goodness***

***in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.***

Children of God, come with joy

and draw water from the well of salvation.

Remember the gift of baptism:

your sin is washed away in the name of † Jesus;

you belong to Christ;

you are anointed to serve.

Stand up and raise your heads!

The reign of God is near.

***Amen.***

*As the cross passes your pew, please turn your bodies and worship attention to the front of the sanctuary.*



1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come; vir - gin's son, make here your home.  
 2 Not by hu - man flesh and blood, but the mys - tic Breath of God,  
 3 Won - drous birth—oh, won - drous child—from his throne, a vir - gin mild!  
 4 From God's heart the Sav - ior speeds, back to God his path - way leads;



Mar - vel now, O heav'n and earth: God has cho - sen such a birth.  
 was the Word of God made flesh, fruit of wom - an, blos - som fresh.  
 Ver - y God, and Mar - y's son, ea - ger now his race to run!  
 out to van - quish death's com - mand, back to reign at God's right hand.

5 Now your manger, shining bright,  
 hallows night with newborn light.  
 Night cannot this light subdue;  
 let our faith shine ever new.

6 Praise we sing to Christ the Lord,  
 virgin's son, incarnate Word!  
 To the holy Trinity  
 praise we sing eternally!

**GREETING**

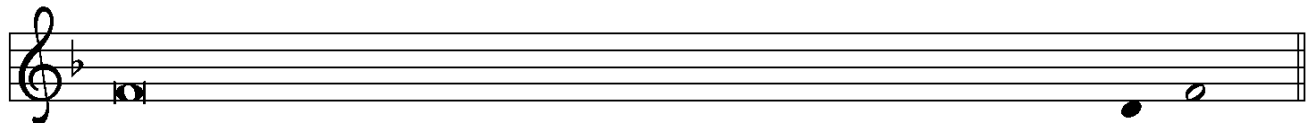
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

*And also with you.*

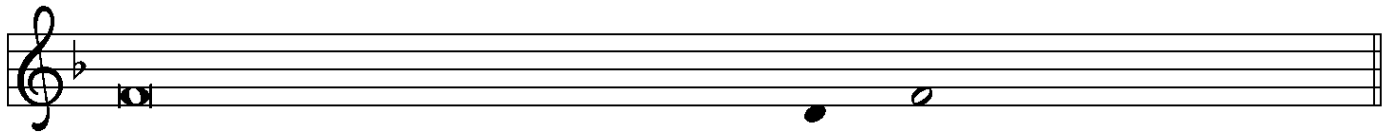
**KYRIE**



In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



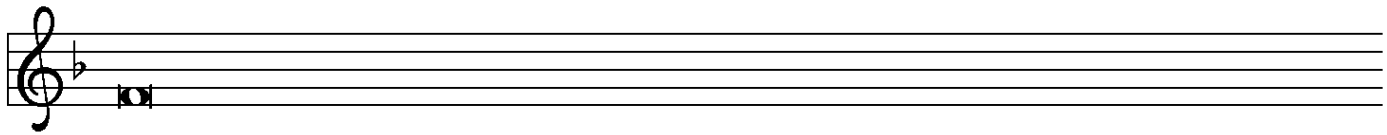
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



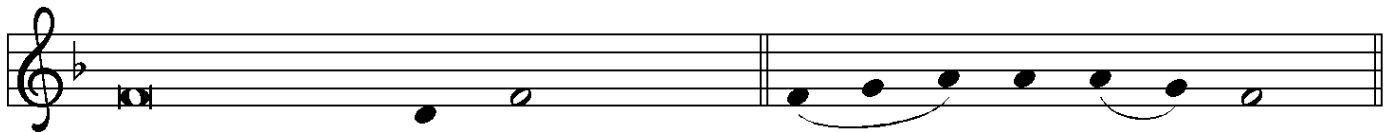
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

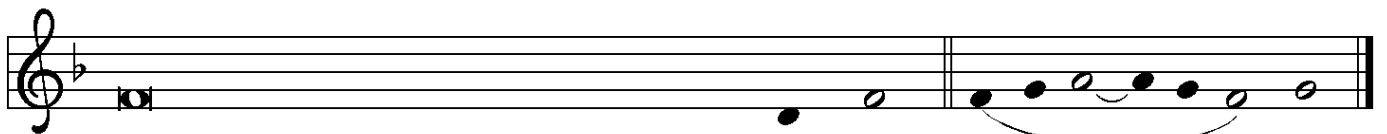


For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.

A - men.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

*We pray together.*

***Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that binds us, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.***

***Amen.***

*We sit.*

# THE WORD

## **READING: Micah 5:2-5a**

*A reading from Micah.*

<sup>2</sup>But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,  
who are one of the little clans of Judah,  
from you shall come forth for me  
one who is to rule in Israel,  
whose origin is from of old,  
from ancient days.

<sup>3</sup>Therefore he shall give them up until the time  
when she who is in labor has brought forth;  
then the rest of his kindred shall return  
to the people of Israel.

<sup>4</sup>And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD,  
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.  
And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great  
to the ends of the earth;

<sup>5a</sup>and he shall be the one of peace.

The Word of the Lord.

***Thanks be to God.***

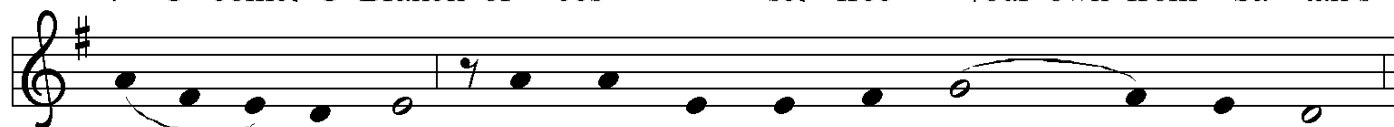
## **LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE**

*O Come O Come Emmanuel*

ELW 257



4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,

and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave. Re-joice! Re-joice!

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

**READING: Hebrews 10:5-10**

*A reading from Hebrews.*

<sup>5</sup>Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said,

“Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,  
but a body you have prepared for me;

<sup>6</sup>in burnt offerings and sin offerings  
you have taken no pleasure.

<sup>7</sup>Then I said, ‘See, God, I have come to do your will, O God’  
(in the scroll of the book it is written of me).”

<sup>8</sup>When he said above, “You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings” (these are offered according to the law), <sup>9</sup>then he added, “See, I have come to do your will.” He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. <sup>10</sup>And it is by God’s will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

The Word of the Lord.

***Thanks be to God.***

*We stand.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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



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

## GOSPEL: Luke 1:39-55

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter

***Glory to you, O Lord.***

<sup>39</sup>In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, <sup>40</sup>where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. <sup>41</sup>When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit <sup>42</sup>and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. <sup>43</sup>And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? <sup>44</sup>For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. <sup>45</sup>And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

<sup>46</sup>And Mary said,

*The Magnificat from Holden Evening Pray*

Marty Haugen

The gospel of the Lord.

***Praise to you, O Christ.***

*We sit.*



# CHILDREN'S SERMON

We all have a role

## PRAYER OF PREPARATION

*Please pray with me the prayer of preparation.*

***Holy God, you have a word for me today. Make my heart soft and plant your word in me in order that it may bear fruit in your kingdom. Amen.***

## MESSAGE

Leap for Joy

*We stand.*

## HYMN

*Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming*

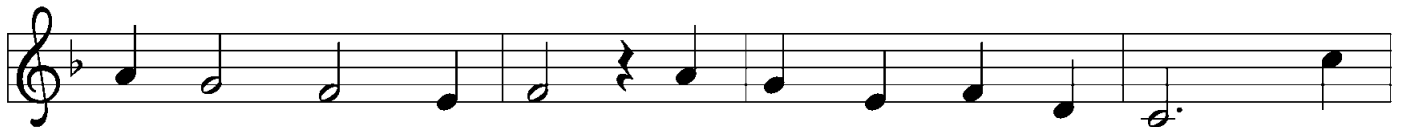
ELW 272



1 Lo, how a rose e'er bloom - ing from ten - der stem hath  
2 I - sai - ah had fore - told it, the rose I have in  
3 This flow'r, whose fra - grance ten - der with sweet-ness fills the  
4 O Sav - ior, child of Mar - y, who felt our hu - man



sprung! Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing as  
mind; with Mar - y we be - hold it, the  
air, dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor the  
woe; O Sav - ior, king of glo - ry, who



seers of old have sung, it came, a flow'r so bright, a -  
vir - gin moth - er kind. To show God's love a - right, she  
dark-ness ev - 'ry - where. True man, yet ver - y God, from  
dost our weak - ness know: bring us at length, we pray, to



mid the cold of win - ter, when half - spent was the night.  
bore to us a Sav - ior, when half - spent was the night.  
sin and death he saves us and light - ens ev - 'ry load.  
the bright courts of heav - en and in - to end - less day.

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

*Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith with the words of the Apostles' Creed.*

***I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.***

***I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.***

***On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.***

***I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.***

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

As we await the coming of Christ, we pray in hope for the church, the world, and all of creation.

*After each petition: Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.***

*The Prayers conclude:*

Confident that the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we bring to you these prayers and those unspoken, in the name of Christ, our Savior and Lord.

***Amen.***

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.  
***And also with you.***

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace,  
and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.*

*We sit.*

## THE MEAL

### OFFERING

*We give our monetary offering to support Christ's mission in this place and around the world in gratitude of God's amazing grace. You may make a contribution any time by visiting [www.mthlc.org](http://www.mthlc.org) and click on "On-line Giving." Thank you for your gifts and your stewardship.*

*Please also take this time in worship to complete the pew registers.*

### OFFERING

*Comfort, Comfort*

Arr. John Ferguson  
(Chancel Choir)

### OFFERTORY

*Praise the Name of Jesus*

W&P 117

D G D G D

Praise the name of Je - sus, praise the name of Je - sus.

5 G D G D Em/D D G D/F# A7/E D

He's my Rock, He's my For - tress, He's my De - liv - er - er, in

8 E7 D/E E7 A D Dmaj7 G D/A A7 D

Him will I trust. Praise the name of Je - sus.

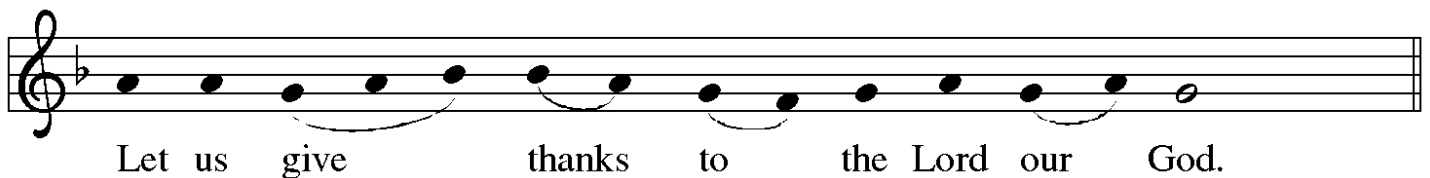
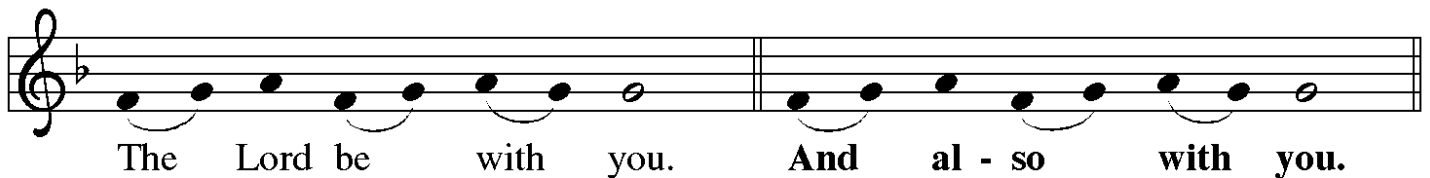
## OFFERING PRAYER

*We give thanks for these gifts and we pray together.*

***God of abundance,***

***we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation,  
and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope  
as we care for all those in need until the coming of your  
Son, our Savior and Lord. Amen.***

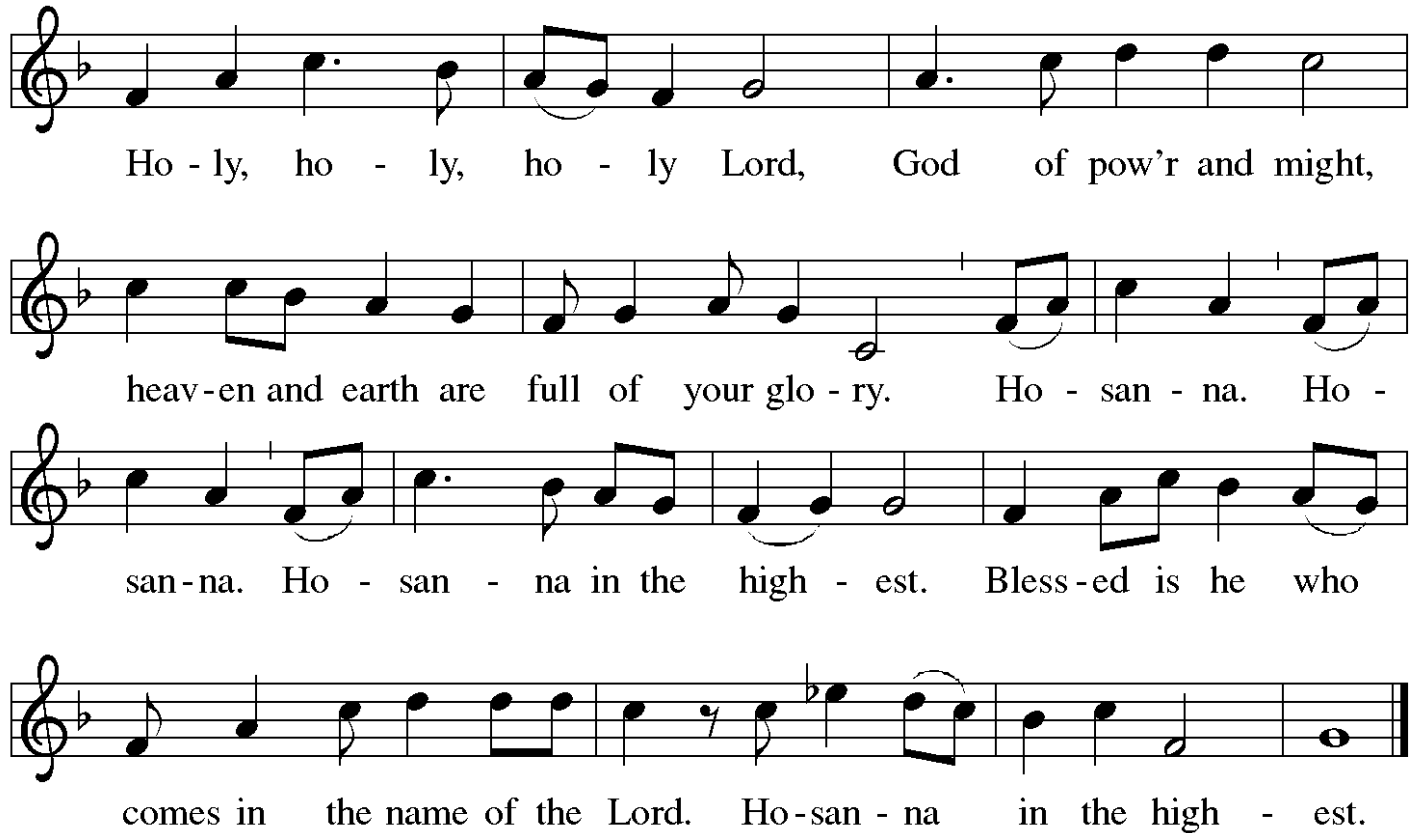
## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE



## 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. You reveal your glory as the glory of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit: equal in majesty, undivided in splendor, one Lord, one God, ever to be adored in your eternal glory. 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'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
san-na. 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.

## **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

In the night in which he was betrayed...

...With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's Passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith: ***Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.***

O God of resurrection and new life. Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence. ***Come, Holy Spirit.***

Reveal yourself in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth,

burning with justice, peace, and love. ***Come, Holy Spirit.***

All praise and glory are yours, Holy Father, Eternal Word, Spirit of Peace, one God, now and forever. ***Amen.***

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

*Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:*

***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 fills the hungry with good things.

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

*We sit.*

### **DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION**

*All are welcome to this Meal. Come down the center aisle to receive the bread. (gluten free wafers are also available.) Then move to the chalice (cup) of wine, dip the bread in the wine. Return to your pew by the side aisle. Those not communing, may cross their arms across their chest and come forward for a blessing. Those who desire communion but who are not able to come forward will be communed first in their pew.*

# MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

## *Christ, Lamb of God*

ELW 196

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;  
have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take  
a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy up - on us.  
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;  
grant us your peace. A - - men.

The musical score is written on five staves in a single system. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and homophonic, with lyrics printed below the notes. The first line of music ends with a fermata over the final note. The second line of music has a fermata over the first note of the second phrase. The third line of music has a fermata over the first note of the second phrase. The fourth line of music has a fermata over the first note of the second phrase. The fifth line of music has a fermata over the first note of the second phrase. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

*Welcome to Our World*

Chris Rice (Soloist Ryan Price)

# Step by Step

W&P 132

The musical score is written in G major and 4/4 time. It consists of five staves of music with lyrics underneath. Chord symbols are placed above the notes. The lyrics are: "O God, You are my God, and I will ever praise You. O God, You are my God, and I will ever praise You. I will seek You in the morning, and I will learn to walk in Your ways; And step by step You'll lead me, and I will follow You all of my days."

4

8

12

14

G D C C/D

G D C C/D

G Em D C

Am G

D C C/D G

O God, You are my God, and I will ev - er praise -

You. O God, You are my God, and I will ev - er praise -

You. I will seek You in the morn - ing, and I will learn to walk in Your -

ways; \_\_\_\_\_ And step by step You'll lead \_\_\_\_\_

me, and I will fol - low You all of my \_\_\_\_\_ days.

*We stand.*

## **BLESSING**

May the Body and Blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in His grace. ***Amen.***



## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

*We pray together.*

*Holy One, we give you thanks*

*that in this bread and cup*

*we have feasted again on your endless love.*

*Let that love overflow more and more in our lives,*

*that we may be messengers to prepare your way,*

*harvesters of justice and righteousness,*

*and bearers of your eternal Word,*

*our Savior Jesus Christ.*

*Amen.*

## **THE SENDING**

### **BLESSING**

May God direct your ways in peace,

make you abound in love for one another and for all,

and strengthen your hearts

until the coming of our Lord Jesus.

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,

bless you now and forever.

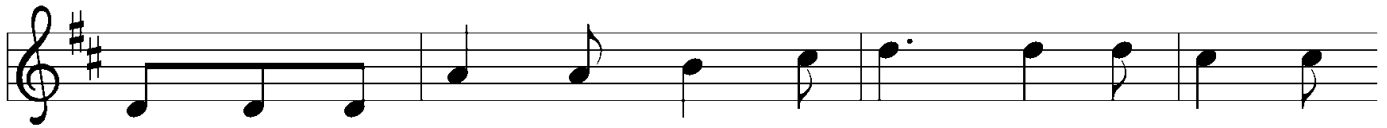
*Amen.*

*As the cross passes your pew, please turn and face the entrance of the sanctuary.*

**HYMN**

*People Look East*

ELW 248



1 Peo - ple, look east. The time is near of the crown - ing  
2 Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is  
3 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the  
4 An - gels an - nounce with shouts of mirth him who brings new



of the year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble,  
plant - ed there. Give up your strength the seed to nour - ish,  
bowl shall brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er,  
life to earth. Set ev - 'ry peak and val - ley hum - ming



trim the hearth and set the ta - ble. Peo - ple, look  
that in course the flow'r may flour - ish. Peo - ple, look  
bright as sun and moon to - geth - er. Peo - ple, look  
with the word, the Lord is com - ing. Peo - ple, look



east, and sing to - day— Love, the Guest, is on the way.  
east, and sing to - day— Love, the Rose, is on the way.  
east, and sing to - day— Love, the Star, is on the way.  
east, and sing to - day— Love, the Lord, is on the way.

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

***Thanks be to God.***

**POSTLUDE**

*Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*

Arr. Jacob B. Weber

## COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

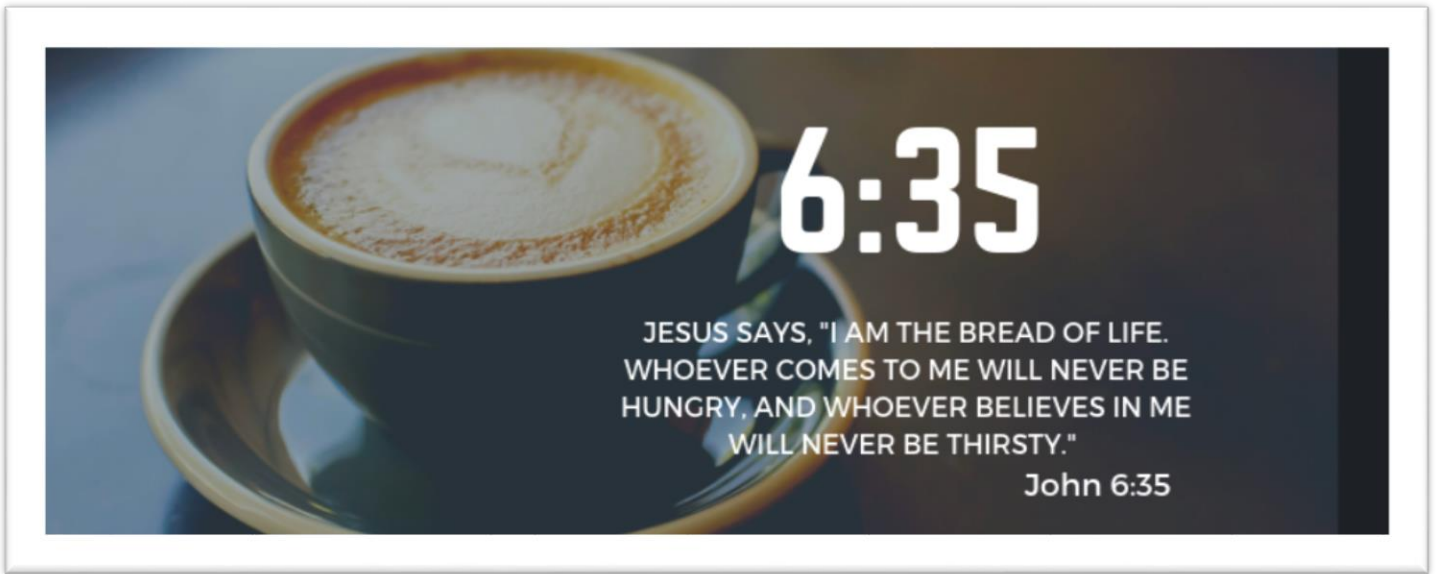
**FLOWERS** that beautify our sanctuary today are given to the Glory of God and in honor of Stephen Price. Love, Joel and Devona Price, Nichole and Thomas McDonald, Sheila and Wayne Eargle, Kim Fulmer and Rodney Oswald.

# Christmas Eve

COME AND WORSHIP  
DECEMBER 24

6:30 MUSIC  
7:00 CANDLELIGHT WORSHIP





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	<b>Serving Today*</b>	<b>Serving December 30th*</b>
<b>Greeter:</b>	Cindy Price	Doris Carver
<b>Crucifer:</b>	Jackson Price	Bryce Addy
<b>Acolytes:</b>	Mitch Stevens	Ainsley Allen
	Tanner Addy	Brayden Rutherford
<b>Lector:</b>	Jamie Addison	Ronnie Fulmer
<b>Communion Asst.</b>		
	Bryce Addy	Emily Morris
	Wynne Price	Joel Price Sr.
	Angie Hydrick	Perry Bouknight
<b>Children's Sermon:</b>		
	Pastor Gina	Daryl Leigh Anthony
<b>Nursery:</b>	Grace Roof, Larry Amick & Kay Bryant	Grace Roof, Emily & Moises Arroyo
<b>Food Pantry:</b>	<u>Dec. 26</u>	<u>Jan. 2</u>
	Angie Hydrick	Annette Price

### **Serving in December\***

**Council Representative:** Alyson Price

**Altar Guild:** Angie Hydrick, Jennifer Price, Linda Waters-Hamilton

**Tabulators:** Larry Amick, Kay Bryant, Doris Carver, Jane Sexton,  
Mary Frances Sease

**Ushers:** Ronnie Fulmer, Fran Bouknight, Ricky Bouknight, Cindy Price

*\* If you are unable to serve, please ask someone to cover for you and notify the church office of the change. If you have a responsibility in worship, please arrive no later than 8:45am*

## OUR CHURCH AT PRAYER

### ***Homebound and Care Facilities***

Nell Buff, *Lexington Place*                      Margie Hook, *Home*  
Pearl Dennis, *HarborChase*                      Lib Swygert, *Lowman Home*  
Lynwood Crout, *Home*                              Lois Watson, *Lexington Place*  
Lena Wessinger, *Presby. Home*                  Patricia Bachman, *Carolina Gardens*  
Hazel Bockus, *Home*

### ***Members in Special Need of Prayer***

Alberta Berry                      Clifton Addy                      Mary Frances Hamilton  
Connie Bucknam                  Mary Frances Sease              Perry Bouknight  
Georgianna Gray                  Lila Catt

### ***Family and Friends Who Have Requested Our Prayers***

Kathryn & Don Bergeron, (Bucknam)  
Iris Wellborn, *sister of Earl Sease*  
Scott Coleman (Thurman)  
Jim & Vickie Burcham (Thurman)  
W.A. "Buddy" Keller (Marion & Cyndi)  
Nellie Gantt (Mary Price)  
Ben Nicholson (Karen Nicholson)  
Jimmy Mills (Tommy Mills)  
Tressa Oswalt (Angie Hydrick)  
Sue Reeves (Thurman)  
Linda Rea (Marion & Cyndi)  
Jason Thurman (Thurman)  
Richie Tallent (Danny Scott)  
Todd Hewitt (Missy Addy)  
Evelyn Newman, *friend of Ricky and Fran Bouknight*  
Charlotte Martindle, *family of Kelli Mills*  
Kaiden Robinson (Kelli Mills)  
Rose Little, *daughter of Marie Kleckley*  
Mandy McLemore *friend of Amanda Boyd, Kim Addy and Allyson Price*  
Megan Sease, *granddaughter of Earl & Mary Frances*



3011 Leaphart Road, West Columbia, SC 29169  
office@mthlc.org 803.794.6430  
Monday – Friday 9:00 am-1:00 pm

Rev. Gina D. Metze, *Pastor* 803.951.3784  
Ruthie Brannen, *Cantor*  
Brittany Mailleue, *Parish Administrator*

*PastorGinaMetze@gmail.com*  
*ruthiebrannen@gmail.com*  
*office@mthlc.org*

#### CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS

President, *Danny Scott*  
Secretary, *Alyson Price*  
Financial Secretary, *Annette Price*

Vice President, *Terry Swygert*  
Treasurer, *Emily Morris*  
Sextons, *Ricky Bouknight,*  
*Allison & Terry Swygert*

### **Sunday, December 23** **Fourth Sunday of Advent**

9:00 am Worship Service  
10:15 am Sunday School  
6:35 pm Pray

### **Monday, December 24**

6:30pm Christmas Eve Music  
6:35pm Pray  
7:00pm Christmas Eve Service

### **Wednesday, December 25**

Merry Christmas

### **Thursday, December 27**

1:00pm Arthritis Chair Class  
2:00pm MAT/ Pilates Class

