

HOLY COMMUNION
Fourth Sunday in Advent

December 22, 2024

8:00 am and 10:30 am

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

Cradle and cross are inextricably connected on the fourth Sunday of Advent. Between a lovely tribute to the little town of Bethlehem and Mary's magnificent song of praise, the letter to the Hebrews reminds us in no uncertain terms that Christ's advent is for "the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all." It is the kind of tension in which the church always lives as when in holy communion—with high delight—"we proclaim the Lord's death."

SILENT PRAYER

PRELUDE: *Savior of the Nations Come*

Bach

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING (ENTRANCE RITE)

Stand

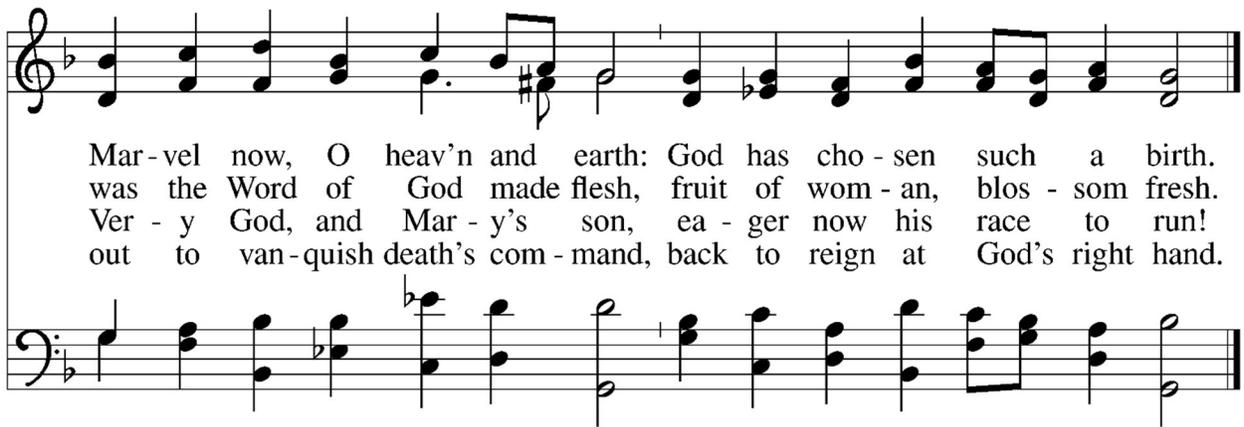
HYMN: *Savior of the Nations Come*

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Savior of the Nations, Come



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!

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CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (ABSOLUTION)

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism.

P In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hid:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you
and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

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

Kneel/Stand

P Most merciful God,

C **we confess that we are captive to sin
and cannot free ourselves.**

**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.**

**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** In the mercy of almighty God,
Jesus Christ was given to die for us,
and for his sake God forgives us all our sins.
As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ,
and by his authority,
I therefore declare to you
the entire forgiveness of all your sins,
in the name of the Father,
and of the ✝ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

Stand

GREETING

- P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C** **And also with you.**

KYRIE



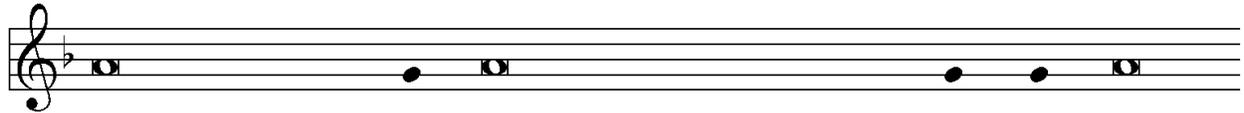
A In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **G** Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - va - tion, let us pray to the Lord.



G Lord, have mer - cy.



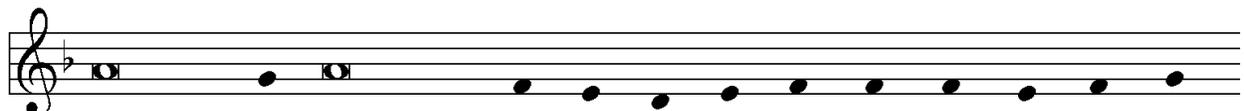
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



G Lord, have mer - cy.



A For this ho - ly house, and for all who of - fer here their wor - ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **G** Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord. **G** A - men

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- ☐ Let us pray.
Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Take away the hindrance of our sins and make us ready for the celebration of your birth, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.
- ☑ Amen.

Sit

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

*Use this blessing when lighting **four** candles.*

- ☐ Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe.
In your Son, Emmanuel,
you have shown us your light
and saved us from the power of sin.
Bless us as we light the candles on this wreath.
Increase our longing for your presence,
that at the celebration of your Son's birth
his Spirit might dwell anew in our midst,
for he is our light and our salvation.
Blessed be God forever.
- ☑ Amen.

HYMN: *Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel* (Stanza(s) All)
Printed on the next page.



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
3 Oh, come, strong Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's
4 Oh, come, blest Day - spring, come and cheer our spir - its by your
5 Oh, come, O Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen wide our



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
Si - nai's height in an - cient times once gave the law
tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save
ad - vent here; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night,
heav'n - ly home; make safe the way that leads on high,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.
and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave. Re - joice! Re - joice!
and death's dark shad - ows put to flight.
and close the path to mis - er - y.



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

Later service only:

CHILDREN'S SERMON

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Sit

FIRST READING

Micah 5:2-5a

The prophet Micah, having pronounced judgment upon Judah, speaks of a future shepherd-king who, like David, will come from the small town of Bethlehem. (Ephrathah refers to the area around Bethlehem.) This king will restore Israel and bring peace. New Testament writers understood this passage to be referring to Jesus.

A A reading from Micah.

²But 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.

³Therefore 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.

⁴And 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;

^{5a}and he shall be the one of peace.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Later service only:

PSALM Luke 1:46b-55 *(The congregation's verses are printed in bold font.)*

¹My soul proclaims the greatness | of the Lord;*
my spirit rejoices in | God my savior,

²**for he has | looked with favor***
on his | lowly servant.

³From this day all | generations*
will | call me blessed.

⁴**The Almighty has done great | things for me,***
and holy | is his name.

⁵He has mercy on | those who fear him*
in every | generation.

⁶He has shown the strength | of his arm;*
he has scattered the proud in | their conceit.

⁷He has cast down the mighty | from their thrones,*
and has lifted | up the lowly.

⁸He has filled the hungry | with good things,*
and the rich he has sent | away empty.

⁹He has come to the help of his | servant Israel,*
for he has remembered his prom- | ise of mercy,

¹⁰The promise he made | to our fathers,*
to Abraham and his chil- | dren forever.

Glory to the Father, and | to the Son,*
and to the | Holy Spirit;

as it was in the begin- | ning, is now,*
and will be forev- | er. Amen

SECOND READING

Hebrews 10:5-10

The author of Hebrews uses the image of religious sacrifice to convey the significance of Christ's coming. Through obedient acceptance of God's will, Christ allows his own body to become the greatest sacrifice of all, one through which we are made a holy people.

A A reading from Hebrews.

⁵Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said,

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

⁶in burnt offerings and sin offerings
you have taken no pleasure.

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

⁸When 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), ⁹then he added, “See, I have come to do your will.” He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. ¹⁰And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The congregation sings the Acclamation.



The choir sings the Verse.



The congregation repeats the Acclamation.



GOSPEL

Luke 1:39-45

Elizabeth, John's mother, and Mary, the mother of Jesus, are two women filled with the Holy Spirit and with faith. In Elizabeth's inspired greeting and Mary's song of praise we hear of a saving God who remembers, scatters, lifts up, and fulfills all things.

P The holy gospel according to Luke.

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

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

P The gospel of the Lord.

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

Sit
SERMON

Pastor Weleck

Stand
Later service only:

HYMN OF THE DAY: *The Angel Gabriel*



1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from heav - en came,
2 "For know a bless - ed moth - er thou shalt be,
3 Then gen - tle Mar - y meek - ly bowed her head;
4 Of her, Em-man - u - el, the Christ, was born



with wings as drift - ed snow, with eyes as flame:
all gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee;
"To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said.
in Beth - le - hem all on a Christ - mas morn,



"All hail to thee, O low - ly maid - en Mar - y,
thy son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,
"My soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy God's ho - ly name."
and Chris - tian folk through-out the world will ev - er say:



most high - ly fa - vored la - dy."
most high - ly fa - vored la - dy." Glo - ri - a!
Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy,
"Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy."

Stand

The Nicene Creed is appropriate during Advent, Christmas, Easter, and on festival days; the Apostles' Creed during Lent and at other times.

NICENE CREED

P With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

C 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

- A** With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus,
let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.
- A** We pray for the church, for its pastors and other ministers, for the newly
baptized, for all the faithful, for this congregation here gathered, and for our
growth in grace.
Lord, in your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**
- A** We pray for all nations, for all rulers, legislators, and judges, for an increase
of justice in our lands, and for all who work for peace among nations and
among peoples.
Lord, in your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**
- A** We pray for all in any need, for the hungry and the homeless, for victims of
war and injustice, for prisoners, for all who suffer in mind, body, or spirit,
for the sick and infirm, for all with incurable illness, and for all who this day
will die. We pray especially for those we name in the silence of our hearts...
Lord, in your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**
- A** We pray for the members of our armed forces wherever they serve, and
especially when they serve in harm's way, that they might speedily complete
their mission and be safely reunited with their loved ones.
Lord, in your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**
- P** Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray,
trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
C **Amen.**

PEACE

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C **And also with you.**

Worshippers do not greet one another. The service continues with the Offertory.

LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT OF THE ALTAR

The Offering will be collected in the Narthex as you leave the church.

OFFERTORY



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right

spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your

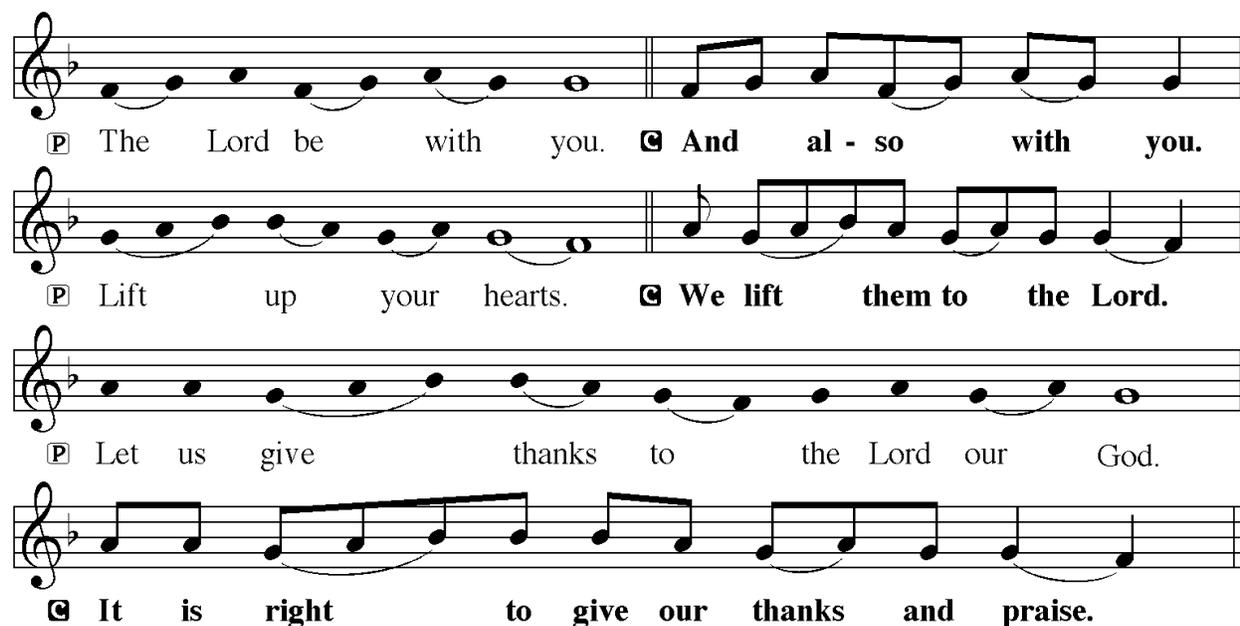
pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -

store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,

and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to give thanks:



P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

P Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.

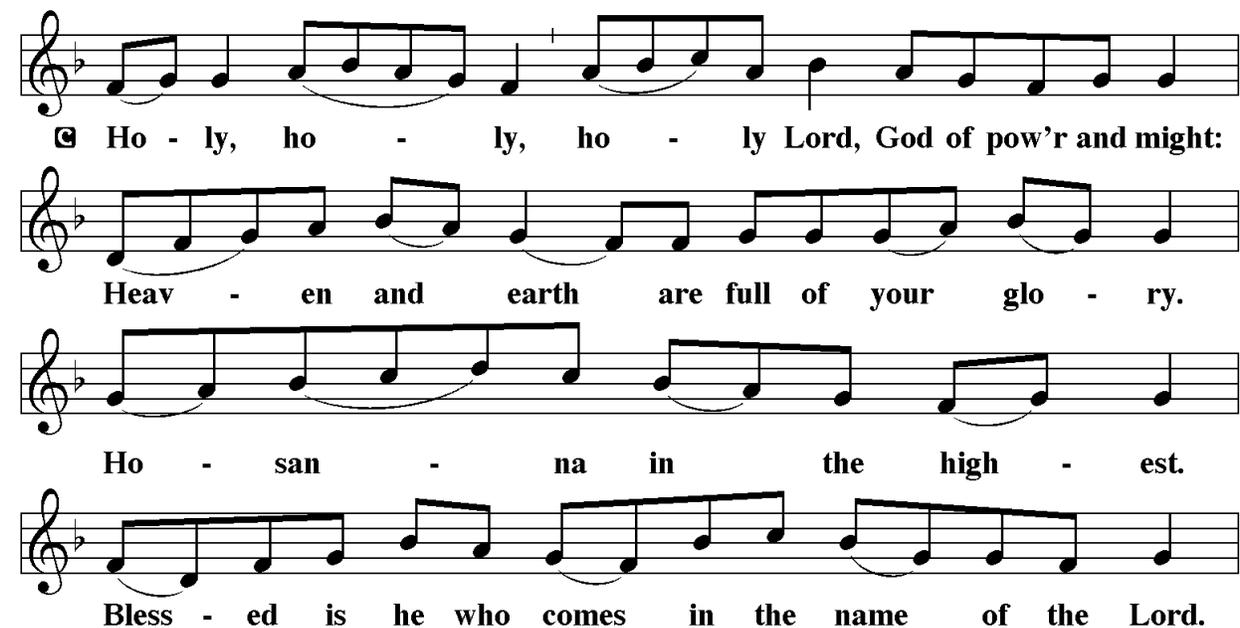
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The minister continues with the PROPER PREFACE:

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy... *Here the minister continues with the preface for the day, concluding:* ...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

The assembly continues with the SANCTUS:

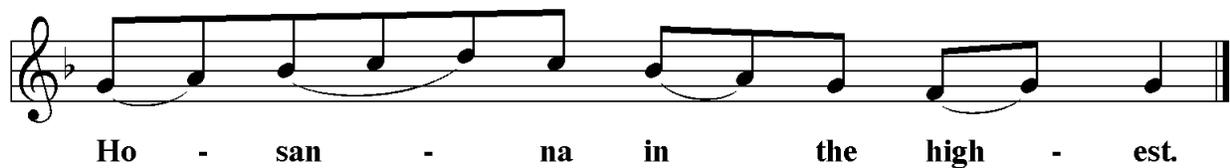


C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:

Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.

Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

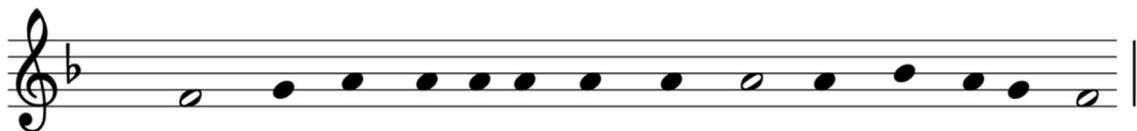


The WORDS OF INSTITUTION are sung to the music Blessed Martin Luther himself composed specifically for this purpose.

☐ 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.

LORD'S PRAYER



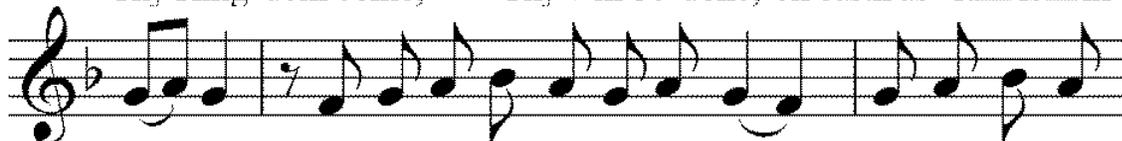
P Lord, re-mem-ber us in your king-dom and teach us to pray.



C Our Fa ther, who art in heav en, Hal low - ed be thy Name,



Thy King-dom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in



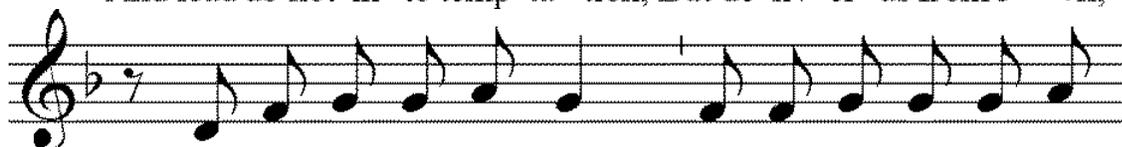
heaven. Give us this day our dai-ly bread; And for-give us



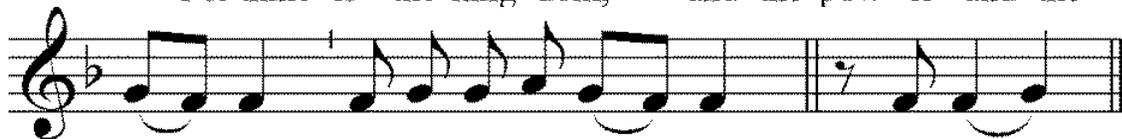
our tres-pass-es, as we for-give those who trespass a-gainst us;



And lead us not in -to temp-ta - tion, But de-liv-er us from e - vil,



For thine is the king-dom, and the pow-er and the



glo - ry, for ev er and ev - er. A- men

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Behold the Lamb of God,
behold him who takes away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

C **Lord, I am not worthy
that you should enter under my roof,
but only say the word
and my soul shall be healed.**

Sit

COMMUNION

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say

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

and each person may respond

R Amen.

We Lutherans believe that the Body and Blood of Christ are “truly and substantially” present “in, with, and under” the forms of bread and wine. We invite to the communion all who are baptized and communing in this or another Christian denomination. We welcome children and others who are not communing to come forward for a blessing.

Music during Communion:

LAMB OF GOD (AGNUS DEI)

Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace. A - men

Later service only:

ANTHEM: *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*

arr. Leavitt

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming, from tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming as men of old have sung
It came, a flow'ret bright amid the cold of winter
When half-spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the rose I have in mind.
With Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind.
To show God's love aright, she bore to us a savior
When half-spent was the night.

This flower whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air
Dispels with glorious splendor the darkness everywhere.
True man, yet very God, from sin and death he saves us
And lightens every load.

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Stand

BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

- P** The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- C** Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- A** Let us pray.
We give you thanks, almighty God,
that you have refreshed us
through the healing power of this gift of life.
In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift,
in faith toward you
and in fervent love toward one another;
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C** Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING (BENEDICTION)



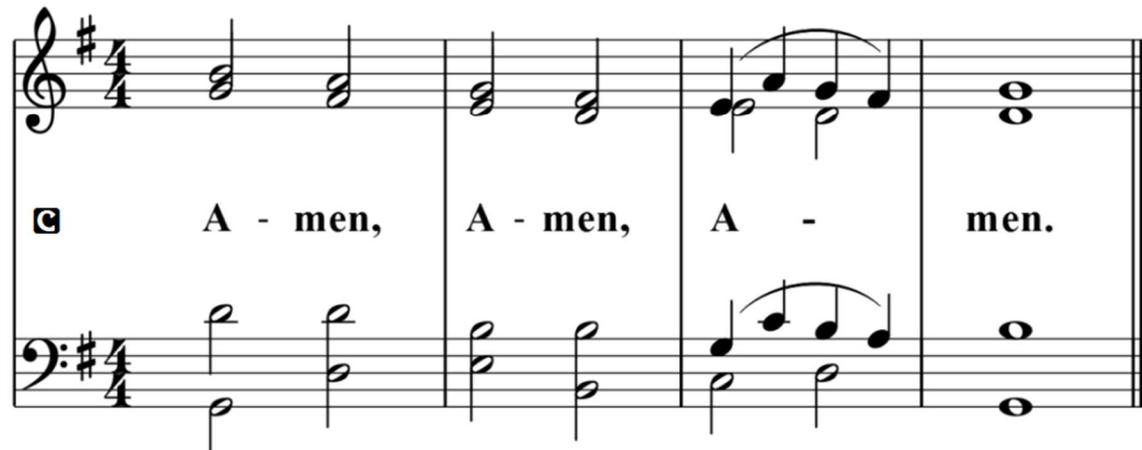
P The Lord bless you and keep you.



The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.



The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.



C A - men, A - men, A - men.

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN: *Joy to the World*

Printed on the next page.

Joy to the World

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their
 3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the

ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -

room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
 plains re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
 flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

and heav'n and na - ture sing, and

sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heav'n and na - ture sing,

OFFERING

The offering will be collected as you leave the Church.

POSTLUDE: *Joy to the World*

Limbaugh



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The Christmas Cycle celebrates the events surrounding Christ's coming — the prophecies, his birth, his manifestation (epiphany) to the Gentiles, and his baptism — through the Advent season, the Christmas season, and the Epiphany season.

A Hymn of Praise is not appropriate during Advent because of the season's preparatory nature.

The liturgical color blue, symbolic of hope, is used for the Advent season.



Worship Assistants

Ushers: Dick Allebach, Scott Halteman, David Halteman, and Gary Halteman

Elevator Attendant: Mike Taylor

Lectors: Lessons: Cheryl Camuso Prayers: Connor Elison

Communion Assistant: Gary Wessner

Altar Guild: Linda Romano & Carol Gerhart

Offering Tabulation: John Kochel, Alison Fishell, and Shane Elison

The Flowers that Adorn the Altar are given to the glory of God by James and Sally Lorah in memory of their parents the Lorahs and the Kunkels.

The Sanctuary Candle is given to the glory of God by Karen McClain in honor of Laurie Mueller and all the members of the wonderful music program at Augustus.

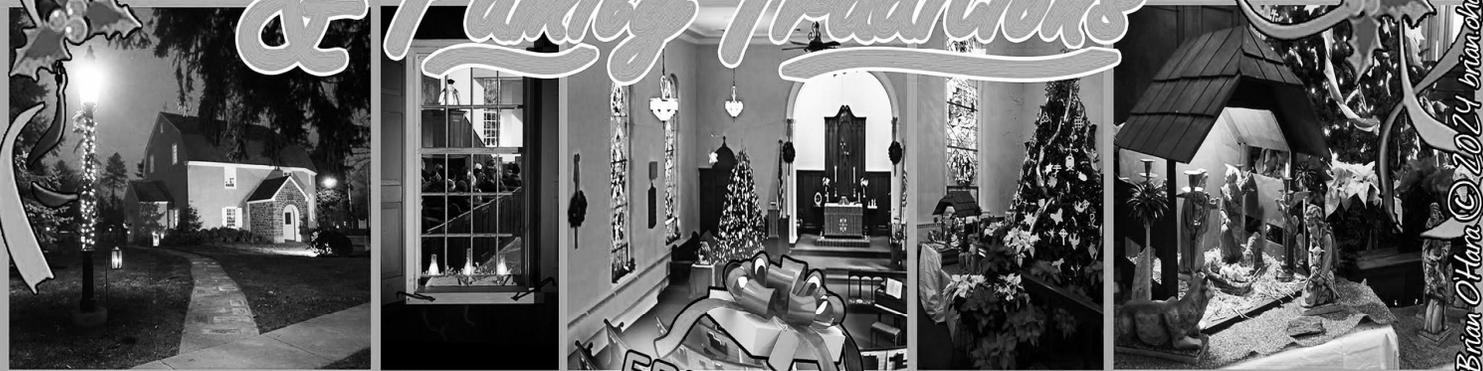
The Worship Bulletins are given to the glory of God by Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Schiller in memory of grandmothers Elizabeth Love and Mary Schlichter.

The Wreaths that adorn the Chapel Doors are given to the glory of God in memory of loved ones by Debra Augustine and Sally Sweeney.

The Wreaths that adorn the outside doors on our campus are given to the glory of God by the Holcombe Family.

WELCA wishes to thank our Augustus Family for their many donations to Gemma Services to help their residents this Christmas. These items mean so much to the children and young people who receive them at Christmas and throughout the year. As always, we are thankful for your generosity toward our neighbors in need.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services & Family Traditions



Brian O'Hara © 2024 brianohara24@gmail.com

HISTORIC OLD TRAPPE CHURCH
December 24, 5:00 PM Candlelight Living Nativity
Candlelit pathways, Lessons & Carols
December 24, 7:00 PM Candlelight Family Service
Candlelit pathways, Lessons & Carols

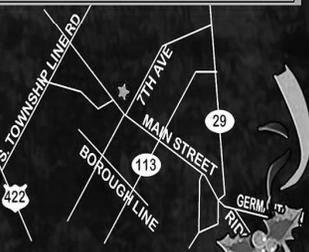
FREE GIFT!!!
for all attendees

HEATED BRICK CHURCH
December 24, 9:00 PM Candlelight, Lessons, Carols, & Communion
Traditionally decorated main Sanctuary

Step back in time with our candlelit pathways, gas lamps wrapped in greens, and candlelight Christmas Eve Services in Historic Old Trappe Church! All services in Old Trappe Church are in a 1743 unheated and unelectrified Colonial Church.

Please dress accordingly and remember your flashlights!

Enjoy a traditional Christmas Eve Holy Communion Service in the heated Brick Church with lessons, carols, and special music





Poinsettias

2024

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Allebach in memory of loved ones.

Augustus Women of the ELCA given to the Glory of God in loving memory and in honor of all its members.

Mike and Laurel Beattie in memory of family and friends. Merry Christmas!

The Bergs to the Glory of God in honor of our children: Alisha, Lindsey, Emily, Michael, Julieann, and Justin.

Remembering SGT John T. Bubeck, KIA December 26, 2006, with love from the Bubeck family.

Donna and Joe Cooney

Elaine Johnston in loving memory of my husband and parents.

John and Marie Kochel in memory of our parents; Joseph and Elizabeth Julia, and Donald and Joan Kochel.

Pastors Martha and Howard Kriebel in gratitude for the musical ministry of Laurie Mueller.

Karen Lachenmayer in loving memory of my parents, Tom and Anne Lachenmayer.

Karen Lachenmayer in loving memory of Dorothy E. Keffer and Miriam Bennett.

Rosaria Lehman in memory of Stanley and Jeannette Lehman.

Rosaria Lehman in memory of Carlo and Rosina Riccitelli.

Heather and Stan Lilienthal in memory of loved ones.

Heather and Stan Lilienthal in honor of our grandchildren.

Pat and Tony Mancuso and Noi Tapunoi in memory of our parents.

Karen McClain in memory of grandparents Robert and Margeret Van Hee for their Christmas wedding anniversary.

Cathy Menendez in loving memory of parents Catherine and Robert Engel.

Bill and Minetta O'Boyle in memory of loved ones.

Dale, Patrick, and Brian O'Hara given to the Glory of God in loving memory of family and friends.

Richard and Dorothy Opperman in memory of the Opperman and Ramsey Families.

In loving memory of family from the Redeyoff Family.

Helen Schad in memory of our loved ones.

Deborah Scholl in loving memory of Nevin Scholl.

Susan Snow and Barry Amole in honor of our children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Sonya Sowards in thanksgiving for Sunday School teachers and youth leaders.

Michael Van Blaricum in loving memory of Doris and Herb Van Blaricum.

John and Charlotte Wentworth and family in loving memory of Leon and Leona Linsenbigler and John and Mary Wentworth.

