

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP SERVICE

DECEMBER 10, 2023 • 9AM

2nd Sunday of Advent • Now the Feast & Celebration Liturgy

INTRODUCTION

Today's lessons invite people to repent, to clear the decks, to completely reorder their lives so that nothing gets in the way of the Lord's coming. The reading from Isaiah gives the context for this radical call: the assurance of forgiveness that encourages us to repent; the promise that the coming one will be gentle with the little ones. Isaiah calls us all to lift up our voices fearlessly and say, "See, your God is coming!" We say it to one another in worship, in order to say it with our lives in a world in need of justice and peace.

PRELUDE

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling Michael Burkhardt

CALL TO WORSHIP & CONFESSION FOR THE ADVENT SEASON

Pastor: It is Advent, the holy season of preparation.

Congregation: Prepare the way of the Lord!

P: Blessed be the One God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit + who comes to wake us from sleep, from spiritual darkness, to lead us into the light of grace.

Silence for confession.

P: God of all time,

C: we confess that we have not prepared for your merciful reign among us. We ignore our neighbors in need and fail in the labor of justice and peace. In your mercy forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your light and to seek the things that will endure until Christ comes again in glory. Amen.

P: Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. In † Jesus Christ your sins are forgiven and all things are made new. Rejoice in this good news!

C: Come Lord Jesus. Amen.

OUR VISION

To be an inspired body of Christ.



OUR MISSION

Love God. Love Others. Serve.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN hymnal #239, *stand*

Hark, the Glad Sound!



1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior
2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's
3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing



prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -
bond - age held. The gates of brass be -
soul to cure, and with the trea - sures



pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.
fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.
of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.

GREETING

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

Congregation: And also with you.

KYRIE

Pastor Bob Stelter

Assistant:



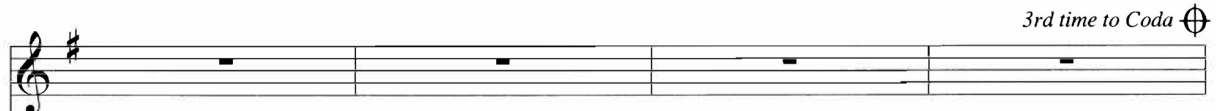
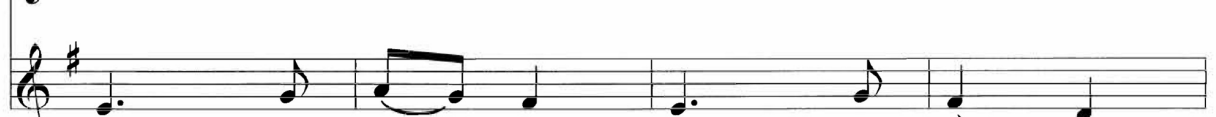
In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Congregation:




Lord, have mer - cy.

3rd time to Coda ⊕

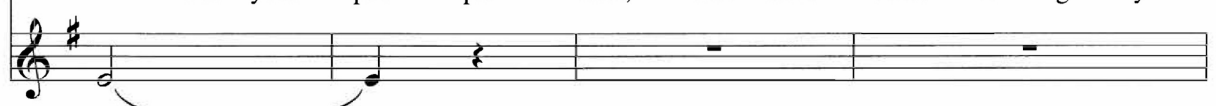



Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer -


Assistant:



For the Reign of God, and for peace through - out the
For your peo - ple here, who have come to give you




cy.

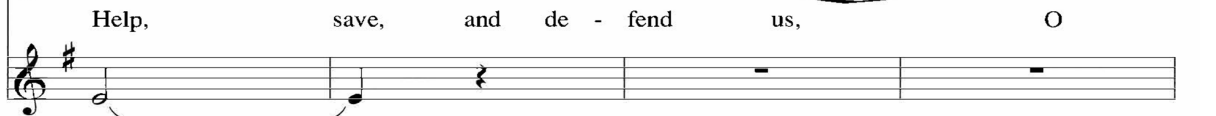


world, for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the
praise, for the strength to live your Word, let us pray to the

⊕ Coda




Help, save, and de - fend us, O




cy.

* *Ending for Kyrie*



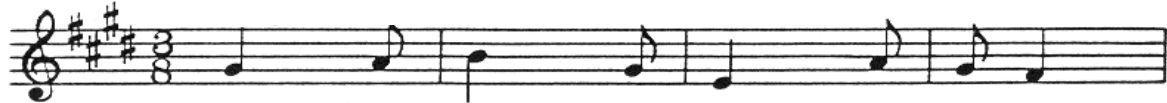
God.



A - men.

NOW THE FEAST

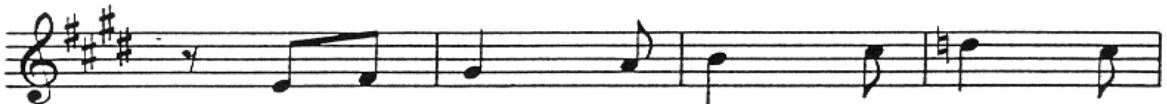
Refrain



Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion,



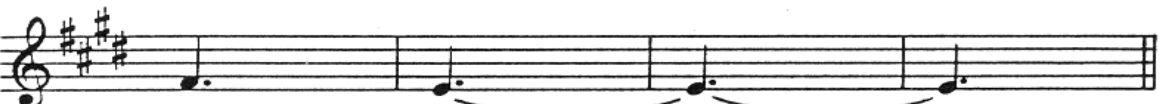
all of cre - a - tion sings for joy



to the God of life and love and



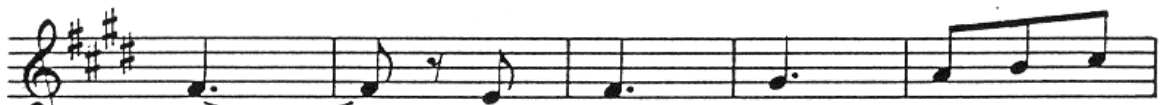
free - dom: praise and glo - ry for - ev -



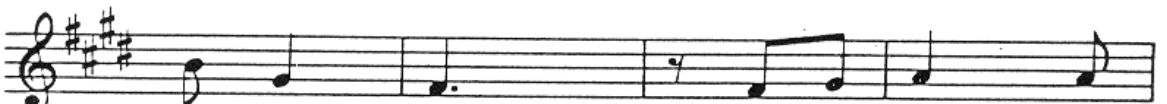
er - more!



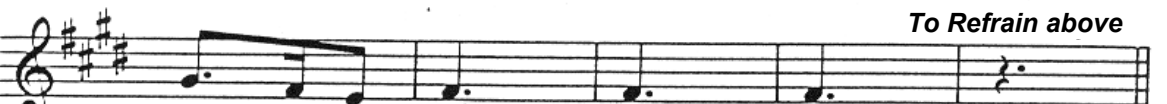
1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once



slain, whose blood has freed and u -

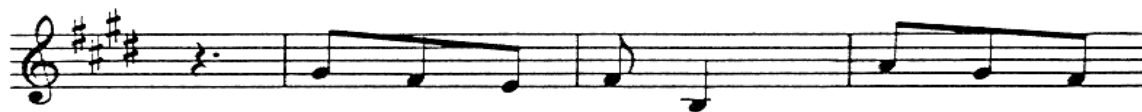


nit - ed us to be one great



peo - ple of God.

To Refrain above



2. Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and



might, all hon - or and glo - ry to Christ _____



_____ for - ev - er. _____



3. For God has come to dwell with us, _____



_____ to make us peo - ple of God; to make



all things new. _____

SALUTATION



The _____ Lord be with you. And _____ al - so with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray,

Congregation: Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

CHILDREN'S TALK

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Oh, come, let us a - dore him, oh, come, let us a - dore him,
oh, come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

ANNOUNCEMENTS & PARISH NEWS

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Laura Beardsley, Lector

FIRST READING: Isaiah 64:1-9 *Pew Bible pg. #680.*

This lament comes from a people who have had their hopes shattered. The visions of a rebuilt Jerusalem and a renewed people of God, spoken of in Isaiah 40–55, have not been realized. Instead, the people experience ruin, conflict, and famine. This lament calls God to account—to be the God who has brought deliverance in the past.

- ¹O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—
²as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil—
to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!
³When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.
⁴From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him.
⁵You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways.
But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed.
⁶We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like
a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
⁷There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have
hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.
⁸Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.
⁹Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity forever.
Now consider, we are all your people.

Lector: The word of our Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

PSALM: Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19 *Pew Bible pg. #529.*

Lector: ¹Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock!
You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth

**Congregation: ²before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh.
Stir up your might, and come to save us!**

L: ³Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

C: ⁴O Lord God of hosts, how long will you be angry with your people's prayers?

L ⁵You have fed them with the bread of tears and given them tears to drink in full measure.

C: ⁶You make us the scorn of our neighbors; our enemies laugh among themselves.

L: ⁷Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

C: ¹⁷But let your hand be upon the one at your right hand,
the one whom you made strong for yourself.

L: ¹⁸Then we will never turn back from you; give us life, and we will call on your name.

C: ¹⁹Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 *Pew Bible pg. #1040.*

As the Christians in Corinth await the advent of Jesus, Paul reminds them how the Lord has already enriched them through spiritual gifts and will continue to strengthen them until the coming day of the Lord.

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—⁶just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL VERSE

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, Lord to whom shall we
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal
life: Al - le - lu - ia!

GOSPEL LESSON Mark 13:24-37 *Pew Bible pg. #927.*

Jesus encourages his followers to look forward to the day when he returns in power and glory to end all suffering.

Lector: The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 13th chapter.

Congregation: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ²⁴In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, ²⁵and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. ²⁶Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. ²⁷Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

²⁸From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. ³¹Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³²But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. ³⁵Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, ³⁶or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. ³⁷And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.
Congregation: Praise to you, O Christ!

GOSPEL VERSE

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, Lord to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life: Al - le - lu - ia!

SERMON

Pastor Bob Stelter

Watch with Hope

A manuscript of this sermon is available on our website: faithloves.org.

HYMN OF THE DAY *hymnal, #257, stand*

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
 2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things
 3 O come. O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on
 Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
 far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;
 Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law
 un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!
 in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.
 Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

NICENE CREED FOR ADVENT

Pastor: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us proclaim our faith.

**All: 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; by the power
of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary
and was made man.**

**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. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped
and glorified. He 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.**

THE PRAYERS *stand or kneel*

Assistant: With hope and expectation, we offer our prayers for the church, the world,
and all who await God's day of restoration.

A brief silence.

Assistant: Send forth your faithful people with words of promise and forgiveness.
Teach your church to be bold in revealing your good news in word
and in deed. Merciful God,

Congregation: **receive our prayer.**

A: Reveal your majesty in mountain peaks, flowing rivers, and blossoming wilderness
roads. Heal the earth where it longs for renewal. Bring wholeness to the earth and
all its creatures. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Turn the hearts of the nations toward righteousness and peace. Increase cooperation
for justice between countries, commonwealths, political parties, and diplomatic
leaders. In times of prosperity, direct leaders to be generous for the sake of all.
Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Comfort your people with tender words of love and healing. Surround all who are
grieving, all who know depression or anxiety, or all who feel lonely or forgotten.
Be a steadfast presence when all else feels uncertain. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Grant holy patience to all who are waiting this season. Give hope to those seeking
employment. Bring reassurance to people awaiting new diagnoses or treatments.
Protect expectant parents. Watch with those who keep bedside vigil. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: With you a thousand years is like a day. Bless the memory of the saints from ages past and the anticipation of saints yet to be born. Inspire us to live with faith as we await your new heaven and new earth. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

Silence for individual prayer petitions.

Pastor: Listen to these and all our prayers, O God of hosts, and restore us with your great and everlasting mercy.

Congregation: Amen.

THE PEACE

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Congregation: And also with you.

OFFERING FOR MISSION AND MINISTRY *sit*

OFFERING ANTHEM

His Voice arr. Larry L. Fleming

OFFERING HYMN *stand*

As the Grains of Wheat

Refrain

As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread;
so may all your peo-ple from all the ends of earth be
gath-ered in - to one in you.

To Verses below

1. As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst, —
2. Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when

To Refrain

may we share the pres-ence of your love.
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

OFFERING PRAYER

Assistant: Let us pray. Merciful God,

Congregation: everything in heaven and earth belongs to you. We joyfully release what you have entrusted to us. May these gifts be signs of our whole lives returned to you, dedicated to the healing and unity of all creation, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of five staves of music. The first staff is for the Pastor, starting with the lyrics 'The Lord be with you. And also with'. The second staff continues the Pastor's part with 'you. Lift up your hearts. We'. The third staff continues with 'lift them to the Lord. Let us give'. The fourth staff is for the Congregation, starting with 'thanks to the Lord our God. It is'. The fifth staff concludes with 'right to give God thanks and praise.'

THE PREFACE

Pastor: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn

Holy, Holy, Holy

The musical score is written on five staves in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and might;_ Heav - en and earth are filled with your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est! Bless - ed is the One who comes in your name._ Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!" The score includes various musical notations such as eighth notes, quarter notes, and rests, with a 3/8 time signature appearing in the second staff.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Pastor: You are indeed holy, gracious and merciful God, creator of heaven and earth; everything, everywhere is filled with your glory. You sent Jesus, who in word and deed announced your rule of justice and peace. He was obedient unto death, even death on a cross. We remember how on the night of his betrayal 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."

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."

Remembering his command that we love one another, his life and death, and his glorious resurrection, we look for his coming again.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: With one will and one voice, we pray:

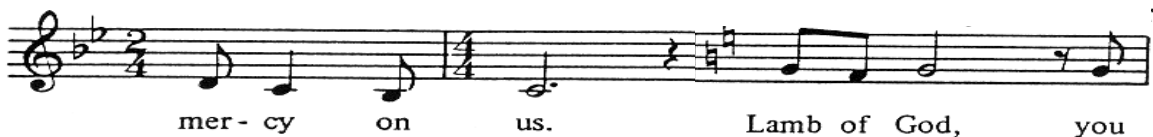
**All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

**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

Pastor: Jesus says, "I am the resurrection and the life. If you believe in me,
though you die, yet shall you live." This meal is a foretaste of the feast to come!

Lamb of God



DISTRIBUTION HYMN

The Meeting in the Air

1. There is soon to be a meet-ing With our Sav-ior in the air, For He's
2. See the pa-tri-archs and pro-phets Com-ing forth from burst-ing tombs, They are
3. There is Mo-ses from Mount Ne-bo, There is Dan-iel from the Cave, They are
4. Still they ga-ther, see them com-ing, From the mis-sion fields a-far, With the
5. Are you rea-dy for the meet-ing With our Sav-ior in the air? If your

gone to realms of glo-ry, There our man-sions to pre-pare; He is
com-ing to this meet-ing, And they're com-ing ve-ry soon; There is
march-ing in the fore-front, While the hosts their ban-ners wave; O what
pil-grims from all na-tions, And the mar-tyrs in the war; See St.
heart is pure and ho-ly, You will be no strang-er there; He is

com-ing back to meet us, With a host of an-gels fair, And there's
A-bra-ham and I-saac, With their kin-dred ev-ery-where, There is
joy to see them com-ing, To the meet-ing in the air! There is
Paul, the great a-pos-tle, In his robes made white and fair, I am
com-ing soon, my bro-ther, With a host of an-gels fair, And I'm

Refrain

sure to be some shout-ing When we all meet there.
sure to be some shout-ing When we all get there.
sure to be some shout-ing When they all get there. When we all meet there, At the
sure there'll be some shout-ing When they all get there.
sure there'll be some shout-ing When we all meet there.

1. meet-ing in the air, There is sure to be some shout-ing When we all meet there; when we all meet there.
2.

COMMUNION BLESSING *stand*

Pastor: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us, now and forever.

Congregation: **Amen.**

COMMUNION CANTICLE

Thanks Be to You

1. Praise to you, O God of mer - cy,
2. From of old you loved and sought us,
Thanks be to you for - ev - er! Rais - ing high the
Thanks be to you for - ev - er! Truth and jus - tice
weak and low - ly: Thanks be to you for - ev - er!
you have taught us: Thanks be to you for - ev - er!
Strong is your faith - ful - ness, strong is your love, re -
mem - b'ring your cov - e - nant of life with us.
3. Praise to you, O God of mer - cy, Thanks be to you for -
ev - er! Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly:
Thanks be to you for - ev - er, Thanks be to you for - ev - er!

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

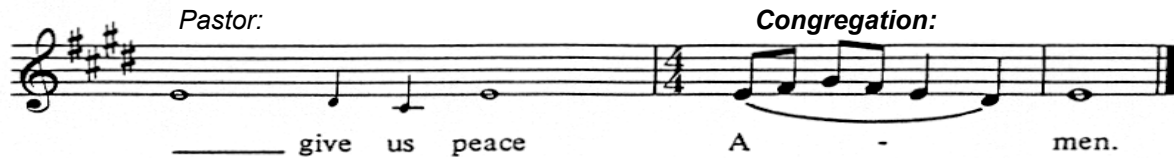
Assistant: Let us pray.

All: Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Silence for reflection.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: May God bless us and keep us. May God's face shine on us
and be gracious. May God look on us with favor and † give us peace.

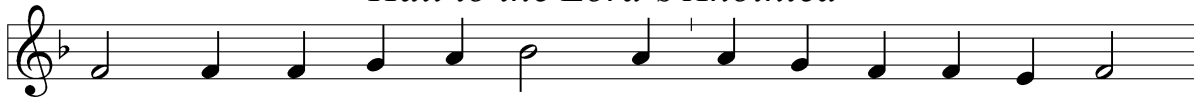


Pastor: _____ give us peace

Congregation: A - men.

SENDING HYMN hymnal, #311

Hail to the Lord's Anointed



1 Hail to the Lord's a - noint - ed, great Da - vid's great - er Son!
2 He comes with res - cue speed - y to those who suf - fer wrong,
3 He shall come down like show - ers up - on the fruit - ful earth;



Hail, in the time ap - point - ed, his reign on earth be - gun!
to help the poor and need - y, and bid the weak be strong;
and love, joy, hope, like flow - ers, spring in his path to birth.



He comes to break op - pres - sion, to set the cap - tive free,
to give them songs for sigh - ing, their dark - ness turn to light,
Be - fore him on the moun - tains shall peace, the her - ald, go;



to take a - way trans - gres - sion and rule in eq - ui - ty.
whose souls, con - demned and dy - ing, were pre - cious in his sight.
and righ - teous - ness in foun - tains from hill to val - ley flow.

DISMISSAL

Leader: Our mission calls us from this place

Congregation: to love God, love others, serve!

L: Go in peace.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Prelude and Fugue in F Major J. S. Bach

Poinsettias are given in honor or memory of loved ones.

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

225 Jamestowne Boulevard, Farragut, TN 37934

865.966.9626

www.faithloves.org

Evangelical Lutheran Churches in America

Founding Congregation of Shepherd of the Lake Lutheran Church, Tellico Village

Founding Congregation of Shepherd of Hope Food Pantry ▪ Stephen Ministry Congregation

Traditional Worship, 9am ♦ Contemporary Worship, 11:11am

Dr. Bob Stelter — *Pastor*

Greg Bohlken — *Ministry Associate*

Lynn Rognsvoog — *Organist*

Collin Kasefang — *Choir Director*

Lisa Stelter — *Worship Graphics*

Members of Faith Lutheran Church — Ministers

Sandra Bohlken — *Contemporary Worship Leader*

Trace Taylor — *Sound Technician*

Tiffany Bryson — *Nursery Caregiver*

Kim Frasch — *Quiet Music Ministry*

Mary Boring — *Office Manager*

Phylis Garrison — *Publications*

Barbara Birkholz — *Financial Secretary*

Mildred Fenske — *Prayer Chain Coordinator*

Alicia & David Brondos — *Missionaries*

WELCOME! *As followers of Jesus, we rejoice in God's plan for a just, loving and peaceful world. We commit ourselves to making it a reality for all people everywhere. Just as all are welcome at the Lord's table during holy communion, all are welcome to this family of faith. People of all races, ages, social status, sexual orientations and gender identity are united here in our mission to love God, love others and serve. Please sign a Worship Card and place it in the offering plate.*

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME!

Want to know more about Lutheranism, our ministries and considering membership? Contact Greg Bohlken at greg@faithloves.org.

Sunday Worship 9 & 11:11am

Live in the sanctuary or online at:

[YouTube.com/@FaithLutheranKnoxville/stream](https://www.youtube.com/@FaithLutheranKnoxville/stream)

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES TODAY — 10:15AM

Adult Sunday School, led by John Woods.

Confirmation Class

Children's Sunday School grades 5 & under

Teen Sunday School grades 6-12. youth room

WEDNESDAY MUSIC REHEARSALS

HANDBELLS, 5:30pm ♦ CHANCEL CHOIR, 6:30pm

PRAISE TEAM REHEARSALS

Thursdays, 6pm & Sundays, 10:15am

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR FAYE PARSONS December 14, 1pm. Veteran's National Cemetery on Northshore. Pastor Stelter leads the service.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS will adorn our sanctuary during Christmas! To remember or honor a loved one place your \$15 donation in an envelope and remember to note your loved one's name on your envelope.

2024 FLOWER CHART has been posted by the library.

COLUMBARIUM NICHES are available to our members for \$1,800 and to non-members at \$2,500. Application forms are found in our *Columbarium Booklet* located in the narthex.

WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY	
9am Traditional	
Altar Guild	Lois Simmons
Assisting Minister	Pastor Bob Stelter
Lector	Laura Beardsley
Communion Ministers	Mary Bales, Doug Bales, Dee Bumpers, David Mabry
Greeter	Jane Dakolios
Ushers	Brad Nelson, Craig Runger
Offering Stewards	Gary Dakolios, George Herbold

SHEPHERD OF HOPE FOOD PANTRY

Open Monday, December 18, 3-6pm.

CURRENT NEEDS

Brownie Mix, Vegetable Oil, (32oz), Coffee (1lb ground)

Tea bags (20—48 count), Canned Green Beans,

Canned Corn, Cranberry Sauce, Yams,

Jiffy Cornbread Mix, Stuffing Mix

Monetary donations for a ham or turkey.

Shepherd of Hope donation envelopes are in the narthex.

Contact: Reneé Stone, 865-599-7424.

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY, 1:30pm led by John Woods.

HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER Wednesdays during Advent
December 13, 20 at 6:30pm.

SALVATION ARMY SHELTER VISITS Tuesday, December 19.

We'll make an early Christmas visit to the men's & women's shelters to bring cheer, sing carols and distribute your gifts of treats and needed L-XXL men's boxer briefs & women's sizes 8-11 briefs. Contact Michael Lee at 865-405-6585 or Debbie Ragucci, 865-567-1945.

CHRISTMAS EVE, DECEMBER 24 WORSHIP:

- 5pm contemporary service
- 7pm traditional service

Both worship services include holy communion, carols, children's talk and singing *Silent Night* in candlelight.

Sermon: "Have Yourself a Messy Little Christmas!"

Share our Christmas invitation video!

[TINYURL.COM/FAITHCHRISTMAS 2023](https://tinyurl.com/faithchristmas2023)

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

- **YOUTH 3RD SUNDAYS OF THE MONTH** We'll meet with youth groups **December 17 at 6pm** for St. John Lutheran Church's Christmas Program.
- **College Care Packages** Thank you for everyone who wrote notes of encouragement and brought gift cards to send to our college students. If you have someone to include next semester, please email greg@faithloves.org.

Giving: 12.3.2023

Offerings last Sunday: 20,506

Offerings Year to Date 584,946

Walk by Faith as of October 31 754,570



Scan this QR code with your phone camera to donate now on our secure webpage.



PRAYER CONCERNS

MEMBERS: Shannon Allred, Shaun Allred, Arlene Aring, Doug Bales, Mary Blackburn, Rebecca Calderone, Amy Canapa, Leon Cole, Myles Cooper, Chuck Crosby, Mac Curtis, Patsy Elmore, Kim Fransch, Pat & Nick Gary, Green family, Leo Hebert, Eric Johnson, Carmen Larsen, Bonnie Legako, Kris Lehman, Anne Loyacano, Patricia Mabry, Heather McDonald, Lin & Mike McKinley, Bob Moore, Joe Morelli, Joe Poole, Lynda Primka, Toby Rosenbaum, Ken Savitz, Donnie & Lisa Smith & family, Pamela Spaar, Bobbie Steele, Paul Turner, Jim Van Deusen, Susan Vanacore, Nick Vanacore, Danny Willis, Maurice and Rebecca.

This column will start anew on the first Sunday of each month.

FRIENDS: Caroline Beavers, David Berdal, Valborg Berdal, Marsha Bode, Sharon Brokenshire, Noah Bryant, Michael Carfi, Harold Chapel, Jack Cleve, Jan Colangelo, Jenna Cormany, Pam Covington, Sarah Covington, Bill Crain, Nancy Crain, Damico family, the Darling family, Brandy & Brian Duke, Edington family, Vader Ernst, Alanna & Arnie Fenske, Jim Ford family, Jordan & Tyler Fordiani, Sandra & Joel Garber, Gregory Goodall, Gutelius family, Rita Heavner, Allyn Hildebrand, Linda Holtz, Joy Hymer, Matt Kilgore, Sandra Kilgore, Donna Knick, Junior Koontz, Anthony Koran, Barb Korsmo, Alexis & Taylor Lee, Nicole & Dalton Light, Loyacano family, David Matthews, Paul Miller, Audra Tyler Moore, Becky Moore Larsen, Bob Moore, Julie Moore, Salles families, Marilyn Savilisky, Jessica Savitz, Scaglione family, Terry Serrano, Victor Serrano, Jim Shea, Donna Smith, Austin Stephens, Mark Syler, Paul Travis, Frank Tyler, Brigette Williams, Virginia Williams, Mya, Ro & Haven Wolfe, Carley, Darcy, Jodi, Sue *and those we name to You.*

JOY: First Wednesday gatherings each month!

BLESSINGS: Holden Evening Prayer services on Wednesdays, 12/13 & 20.

COMFORT IN THE MIDST OF DEATH FOR FAMILY & FRIENDS:

Jo Watson, Stephen O'Connor, Milton Creighton, Paul Hearnberger, Jim Kilgore, Audrey Meland, Teresa Rozanski.

SALVATION ARMY FRIENDS: Denisha, Tara, Leila, Larissa, Katricia, Sierra, Stephanie, Brittany, Genesis, Robert, C.J., Shane, John, Gibby, Josh, Roy, J.R., Scott, Ty, Reggie, John.

PRAYERS, CONCERN & ASSISTANCE: The people of Israel, Palestine, Ukraine, Russia. Mentally & physically challenged. Veterans.

LEARNING & PASTORAL DEVELOPMENT: William Bales at Concordia Seminary.

PARTNERSHIPS: Bishop Pro-Tem Michael Burk the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; Bishop Strickland & the Southeastern Synod; Alicia & David Brondos, Missionaries in Mexico; Shepherd of Hope Food Pantry; Quiet Music Ministry; Tyson House; Deacon Ministry; Knox Area Rescue Ministry; Via de Cristo Ministry; Salvation Army Women's & Men's Homeless Shelters; Community Coalition Against Human Trafficking; Cole Center Caregivers and Parkinson Band, Mercy Ships, Iglesia Luterano Augustana de Guatemala & Milagro Women's Education Center, AL-ANON, Narcotics Anonymous.

PEACE: Protection for all armed forces, especially: Jacob Cole, Andrew Chovancek, Nathan Goodall, Tyler Hitter, H.M., Anthony Hu, Julianne LeFevre-Kerr, Chase Linell, Olivia Parrott, Alex Primka, Christine Russ, Alex Serrano, Sam Thompson, Mitchell Yount, Greg Zager.



COUNCIL

Ted Primka
President

Laura Beardsley

Doug Goins
Vice President

Ritchie Case

Alan Berdal
Treasurer

Adam Edwards

Alice Pigott

Rick Smenner

WEEK OF DECEMBER 10-17, 2023

Sunday, December 10 2nd Sunday in Advent

9:00am Traditional Worship Sanctuary
Fellowship *The Cup*
10:15am Children's Sunday School 5th Grades & under
Teen Sunday School Grades 6-12
Confirmation
Adult Sunday School
Praise Team Rehearsal
11:11am Contemporary Worship
5:00pm AL-ANON meeting Zoom

Monday, December 11

Noon Via de Cristo Reunion Group library
6:30pm Property Team Meeting

Tuesday, December 12

1:30pm Bible Study Small Group *The Cup*
6:00pm MOPS *Nursery*
6:00pm AL-ANON meeting zoom
7:30pm Narcotics Anonymous *The Cup*

Wednesday, December 13

11:00am AL-ANON meeting *Community Room*
4:00pm Staff meeting
5:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal
6:30pm Holden Evening Prayer
6:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, December 14

1:00pm Committal Service for Faye Parsons
6:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal
7:30pm Narcotics Anonymous *The Cup*

Friday, December 15

12:15pm Cole Center Caregivers & Band
7:00pm Narcotics Anonymous Group *The Cup*

Saturday, December 16

11:00am AL-ANON meeting Zoom

Sunday, December 17 3rd Sunday in Advent

9:00am Traditional Worship Sanctuary
10:00am Fellowship *The Cup*
10:15am Children's Sunday School 5th Grades & under
Teen Sunday School Grades 6-12
Confirmation
Adult Sunday School
Praise Team Rehearsal
6:00pm Youth Event at St. John Lutheran Church
5:00pm AL-ANON meeting Zoom

PREPARING FOR NEXT WEEK

Monday: Psalm 27; Isaiah 26:7-15; Acts 2:37-42. • **Tuesday:** Psalm 27; Isaiah 4:2-6; Acts 11:1-18.

Wednesday: Psalm 27; Malachi 2:10-3:1; Luke 1:5-17. • **Thursday:** Psalm 126; Habakkuk 2:1-5; Philippians 3:7-11.

Friday: Psalm 126; Habakkuk 3:2-6; Philippians 3:12-16. • **Saturday:** Psalm 126; Habakkuk 3:2-6; Philippians 3:12-16.

3rd Sunday in Advent: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11, Psalm 126 or Luke 1:46b-55, 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24, John 1:6-8, 19-28.

WORSHIP THIS MONTH

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 6:30pm Holden Evening Prayer

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17 **Sunday Morning Services**
9am, Traditional
11:11am, Contemporary

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 6:30pm Holden Evening Prayer

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, 10am **Sunday Morning Service**
1 Combined Service

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24 **Christmas Eve Services**
5pm, Contemporary
7pm, Traditional

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31, 10am **Sunday Morning Service**
1 Combined Service followed by
11am, Breakfast in *The Cup*

Advent



PREPARING FOR JESUS

- Advent week 1 – **Hope**: Prophecy Candle
- Advent week 2 – **Peace**: Bethlehem Candle
- Advent week 3 – **Joy**: Shepherd's Candle
- Advent week 4 – **Love**: Angel's Candle
- Christmas Eve – **Jesus**: Christ Candle