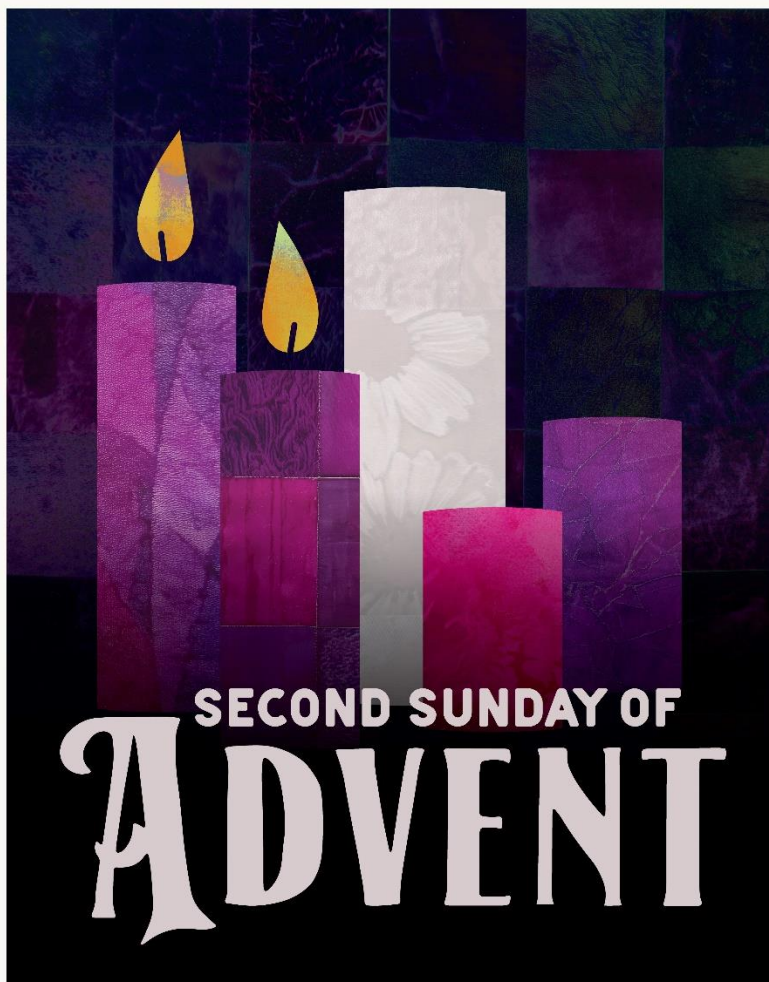


**Second Sunday of Advent**  
**December 7, 2025**  
**10:30 a.m.**



*"Christ- Students- Community Coming Together"*

444 Abbot Road | East Lansing, MI 48823 | (517) 332-0778  
[www.martinlutherchapel.org](http://www.martinlutherchapel.org)

*In the scripture, prayers, and hymns of Advent, John the Baptist brings us to the Jordan River and the waters of baptism. He calls us to repent, for the reign of God is near. He calls us to the font of new birth where we have been grafted into God's branch, the root of Jesse. He calls us to the holy supper where we receive forgiveness in the life-giving fruit of Christ's body and blood. From the celebration of word and sacrament--from the center of our worship--we are called to go forth as a people whose mission is the proclamation of God's mercy for our suffering world.*

## WELCOME

## PRELUDE

## INVOCATION

*Stand*

**P** In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C** Amen.

## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

*John 1:5, 9*

**P** Each week in Advent we light a candle as we prepare for the arrival of the Savior, who would come to His people in human flesh and who promises to come again.

In a world of darkness, a light shines.

**C** Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

**P** The light shines in the darkness,

**C** and the darkness has not overcome it.

## HYMN “Light One Candle”

1 Light one can-dle to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.  
2 Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.

He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra - el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.  
He shall feed the flock like a shep-herd. gent - ly lead them home - ward.

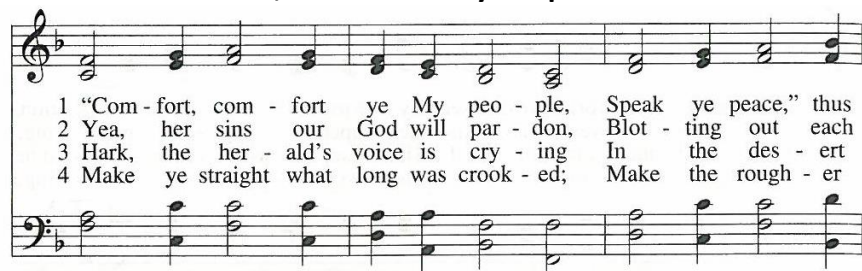
The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two systems of music. The first system has two vocal parts (1 and 2) and a piano accompaniment. The second system also has two vocal parts and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the vocal staves. The music is in a key with one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The piano part features a steady bass line and chords that support the melody.

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954  
Music: Yiddish folk tune, arr. Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954  
Text & Arr. © 1984 Fortress Press

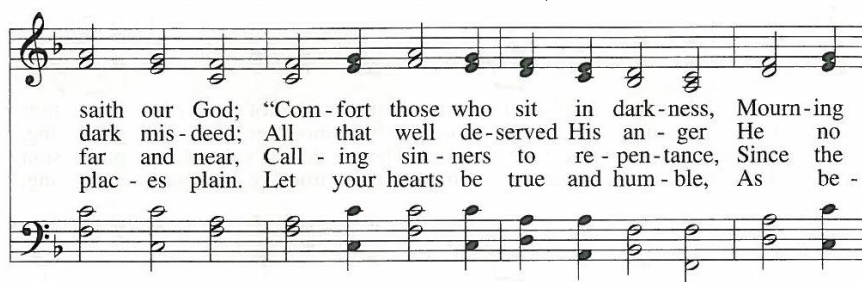
TIF IN VELDELE  
10 79 6

**GREETING OF PEACE** *Share a greeting of peace with those around you.*

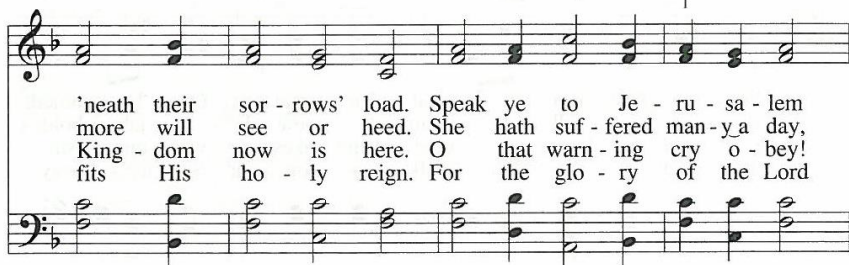
## SERVICE OF THE WORD



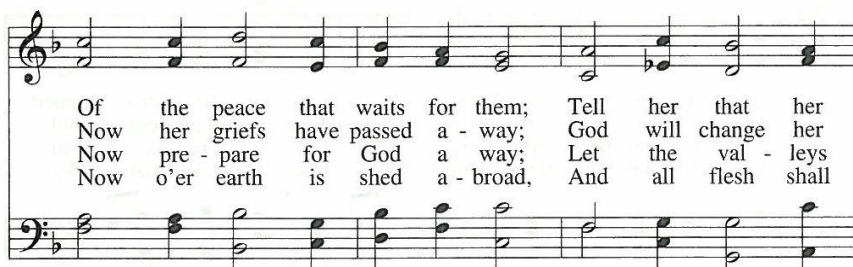
1 "Com - fort, com - fort ye My peo - ple, Speak ye peace," thus  
 2 Yea, her sins our God will par - don, Blot - ting out each  
 3 Hark, the her - ald's voice is cry - ing In the des - ert  
 4 Make ye straight what long was crook - ed; Make the rough - er



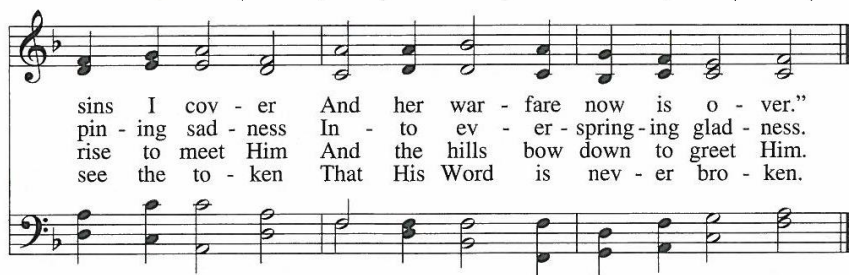
saith our God; "Com - fort those who sit in dark - ness, Mourn - ing  
 dark mis - deed; All that well de - served His an - ger He no  
 far and near, Call - ing sin - ners to re - pen - tance, Since the  
 plac - es plain. Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, As be -



'neath their sor - rows' load. Speak ye to Je - ru - sa - lem  
 more will see or heed. She hath suf - fered man - y a day,  
 King - dom now is here. O that warn - ing cry o - bey!  
 fits His ho - ly reign. For the glo - ry of the Lord



Of the peace that waits for them; Tell her that her  
 Now her griefs have passed a - way; God will change her  
 Now pre - pare for God a way; Let the val - leys shall  
 Now o'er earth is shed a - broad, And all flesh shall



sins I cov - er And her war - fare now is o - ver."  
 pin - ing sad - ness In - to ev - er - spring - ing glad - ness.  
 rise to meet Him And the hills bow down to greet Him.  
 see the to - ken That His Word is nev - er bro - ken.

Text: Johann Olearius, 1611–84; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.

Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, Geneva, 1551, ed. Louis Bourgeois; setting: The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941

FREU DICH SEHR

87 87 77 88

**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.**

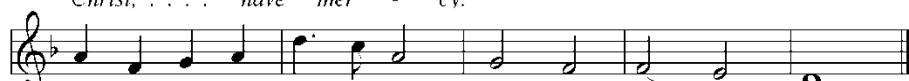
# KYRIE *(Congregation sings "c" parts)*



**A** Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **C** Lord, have mer - cy.  
*Lord, . . . . have mer - cy:*



**A** Chri - ste e - le - i - son: **C** Christ, have mer - cy.  
*Christ, . . . . have mer - cy:*



**A** Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **C** Lord, have mer - cy.  
*Lord, . . . . have mer - cy:*

# HYMN OF PRAISE



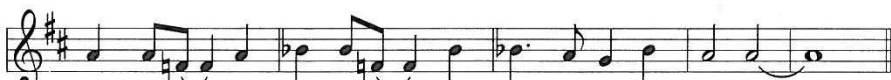
**C** Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



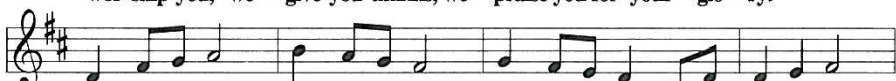
glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



Lord God, heav-en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,  
 Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
 world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the  
 right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.  
 Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;  
 glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.  
 For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,  
 you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,  
 in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.  
 Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;  
 glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth,  
 and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**[P]** The Lord be with you. **[C]** **And also with you.**

**[P]** Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to prepare the way for your only Son. By his coming give us strength in our conflicts and shed light on our path through the darkness of this world; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **[C]** **Amen.**

*Sit*

*Children are invited to the meet by the Cross for the Children's Lesson.*

## FIRST LESSON Isaiah 11:1-10

*In the previous chapter Isaiah portrays God's judgment as the felling of a great forest. In today's reading the prophet describes the ideal ruler who will come in the future as a green shoot springing from the dead stump (David's royal line) of Jesse (David's father). The reign of this monarch will be experienced as paradise regained.*

**[P]** A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,  
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,  
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the spirit of counsel and might,  
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,  
or decide by what his ears hear;  
but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,  
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;  
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,  
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,  
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb,  
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,  
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,  
and a little child shall lead them.

The cow and the bear shall graze,  
their young shall lie down together;  
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,  
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

They will not hurt or destroy  
on all my holy mountain;  
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD  
as the waters cover the sea.

On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

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

## SECOND LESSON Romans 15:4-13

*Paul encourages Christians to welcome diversity and live in harmony with one another. In particular, the writings of the Hebrew Scriptures promise that Gentiles will be welcome among God's people.*

**P** Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

"Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles,  
and sing praises to your name";

and again he says,

"Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people"; and again,

"Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him";

and again Isaiah says,

"The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope."

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

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

## ALLELUIA





**GOSPEL** [P] The Holy Gospel of Matthew, chapter 3, starting at verse 1.

**[C] Glory to You, O Lord.**

*Just before Jesus began his public ministry, John the Baptist appeared, calling people to live in accordance with their words and speaking of the powerful one who was to come.*

[P] In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'"

Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

"I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

[P] This is the Gospel of the Lord. **[C] Praise be to You, O Christ.**

**MESSAGE**

## HYMN

## "On Jordan's Bank the Baptist Cry" LSB 344

1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry An - nounc - es  
 2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; Make straight the  
 3 We hail Thee as our Sav - ior, Lord, Our ref - uge  
 4 Lay on the sick Thy heal - ing hand And make the  
 Δ 5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to Thee Whose ad - vent

that the Lord is nigh; A - wake and hear - ken,  
 our way for God with - in, And let us all our  
 and our great re - ward; With - out Thy grace we  
 fall - en strong to stand; Show us the glo - ry  
 sets Thy peo - ple free, Whom with the Fa - ther

for he brings Glad tid - ings of the King of kings!  
 hearts pre - pare For Christ to come and en - ter there.  
 waste a - way Like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.  
 of Thy face Till beau - ty springs in ev - 'ry place.  
 we a - dore And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

## RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

## APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator 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 again 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 THE CHURCH

**[P]** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

*Other prayers are inserted here. Each petition ends with "Lord, in your mercy," to which the congregation responds, "hear our prayer." The prayers conclude:*

**[P]** Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **[C]** **Amen.**

*Sit*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### SERVICE OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

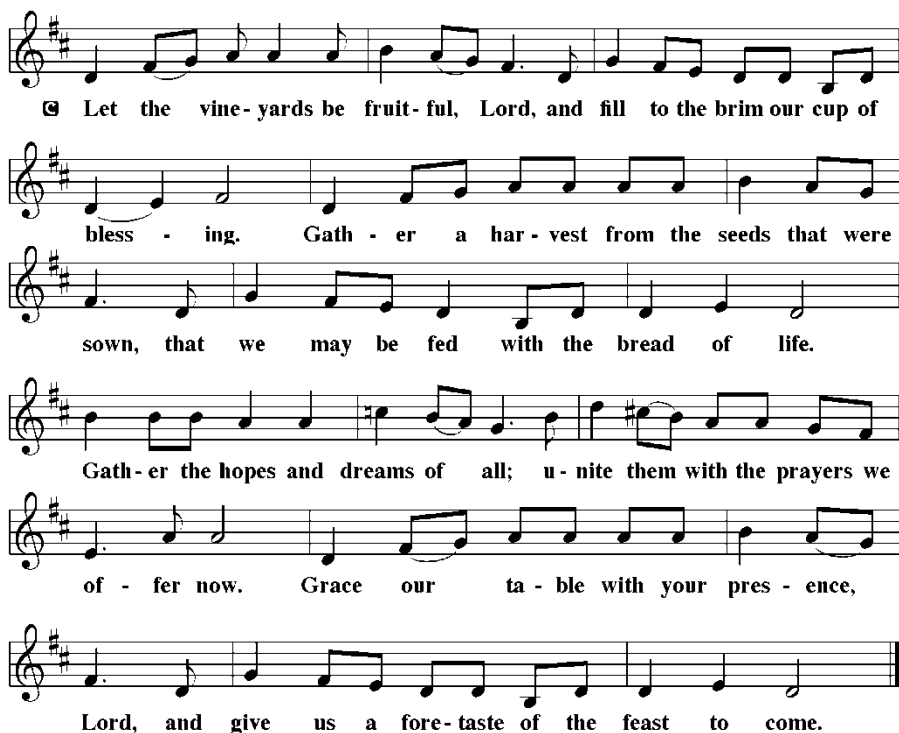
#### OFFERING

*You may contribute online using the QR code or place a gift in offering plate at the door along with the interest sheet.*



## OFFERTORY SONG AND PRAYER

*Stand*



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were  
sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.  
Gath - er the hopes and dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we  
of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,  
Lord, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

[P] Let us pray. Merciful Father,

**[C] we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## THE 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 our thanks and praise.**

[P] It is indeed right ...

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er 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. Ho - san - na in the  
high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

**P** 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.

**P** 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

*Recognizing that the church, and this congregation, are comprised of people from many cultures, languages, and backgrounds, please speak this prayer in the language or version closest to your heart.*

**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.

THE LAMB OF GOD

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, grant us peace.

Sit

**THE DISTRIBUTION** *You are invited to approach the altar to receive communion elements along with an individual cup of wine or grape juice. Gluten-free available.*

## HYMN

## "O Come O Come Emmanuel" LSB 357

1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som cap - tive  
 2 O come, Thou Wis - dom from on high, Who or - d' rest all things  
 3 O come, O come, Thou Lord of might, Who to Thy tribes on  
 4 O come, Thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, Free them from Sa - tan's  
 5 O come, Thou Key of Da - vid, come, And o - pen wide our

Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here  
 might - i - ly; To us the path of knowl - edge show,  
 Si - nai's height In an - cient times didst give the Law  
 tyr - an - ny That trust Thy might - y pow'r to save,  
 heav'n - ly home; Make safe the way that leads on high,

*Refrain*  
 Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
 And teach us in her ways to go.  
 In cloud and maj - es - ty and awe. Re-joice! Re-joice!  
 And give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.  
 And close the path to mis - er - y.

Em - man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

Text and Music: Public Domain, Text: John Mason Neale, Setting: C. Winfred Douglas

## Stand

**P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **C** Amen.



## POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE AND PRAYER

☐ Thank - ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev - 'ry -  
one what God has done. Let all who seek the  
Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.  
Send us with your prom - is - es, O God, and  
lead us forth in joy with shouts of thanks -  
giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia.

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

## BENEDICTION

☐ 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. ☐ **Amen.**

☐ Go in peace; serve the Lord. ☐ **Thanks be to God.**

# CLOSING HYMN "Prepare the Royal Highway" LSB 343

1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; The King of kings is near!  
 2 God's peo - ple, see Him com - ing: Your own e - ter - nal king!  
 3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen To greet your prom - ised king!  
 4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; It comes from heav'n a - bove.

Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley A lev - el road ap - pear!  
 Palm branch - es strew be - fore Him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!  
 Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion Its trib - ute too should bring.  
 His rule is peace and free - dom And jus - tice, truth, and love.

Then greet the King of Glo - ry Fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:  
 God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!  
 All lands, bow down be - fore Him! All na - tions, now a - dore Him!  
 So let your praise be sound - ing For kind - ness so a - bound - ing:

*Refrain*  
 Ho - san - na to the Lord, For He ful - fills God's Word!

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*, 1978, alt.  
 Tune: Swedish, 17th cent.; setting: Henry V. Gerike, b. 1948

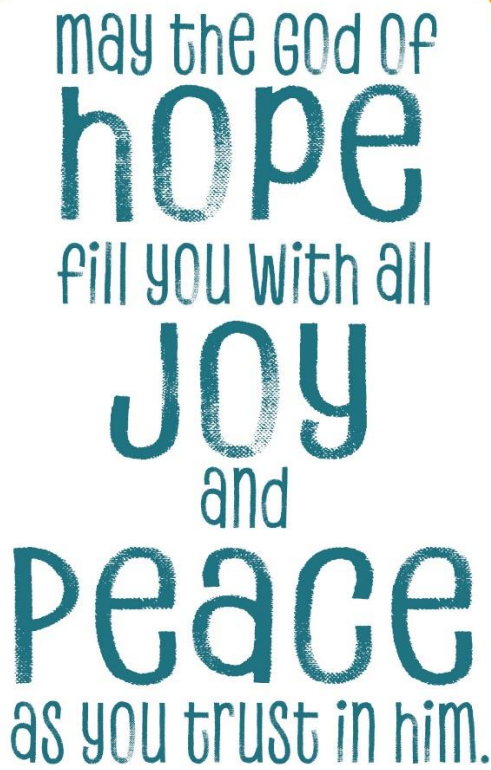
Text: © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*  
 Tune: Public domain; setting: © 2006 Concordia Publishing House

BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN  
 76 76 77 and refrain

Ls. 40:3–5; Matt. 21:1–11; Ps. 24:7–10; Ls. 9:6–7

## POSTLUDE

***Thank you for worshiping with us!***



may the God of  
**hope**  
fill you with all  
**JOY**  
and  
**Peace**  
as you trust in him.

ROMANS 15:13, niv

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### Our Confession about Communion

1. Holy Communion is a divinely instituted act in which Jesus Christ gives His true (real) body and blood under the forms of bread and wine. We thus hold that the bread and wine are not mere symbols of Jesus' body and blood. When we receive the bread and wine, we receive in fact the body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of sins.

2. We believe that Communion is a celebration of this forgiveness which comes to us through faith as we eat and drink. In communion we remember our Lord's passion and death, His resurrection and ascension, and the promise of His coming again. Communion is truly the Gospel made visible and is offered for those who "hunger and thirst after righteousness."

3. We believe that as we eat and drink this Supper we are strengthened in our faith in Jesus Christ and in our love for one another.

Therefore, we invite to the Lord's Table all who:

a. has been instructed in the meaning of Communion; have been baptized in the name of the Triune God; have received Jesus Christ as their own personal and living Savior and Lord and concur in our confession.

b. is not living in open rebellion against the Word of God, and do not hold willful and persistent form of hatred, resentment or anger against any other person.

Those who have questions about communion are welcome to talk to one of the Pastors.

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