

Second Sunday of Advent



A Guatemalan child finds beauty amidst the wreckage - and shares it!
Antigua, Guatemala, April 2006

December 8, 2024

Followers of Jesus, sharing God's love with all...
an adventure for life!

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

In Preparation for Worship

- Within the sanctuary please remember that some people use this time of silence to prepare for worship.
- Whenever the cross is carried in procession through the congregation, we turn to face the cross to signify our way of life as followers of Jesus.
- Large-print bulletins are available; ask an usher for assistance.
- Please silence your cell phone.

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Please be respectful of people who use this time to prepare for worship.

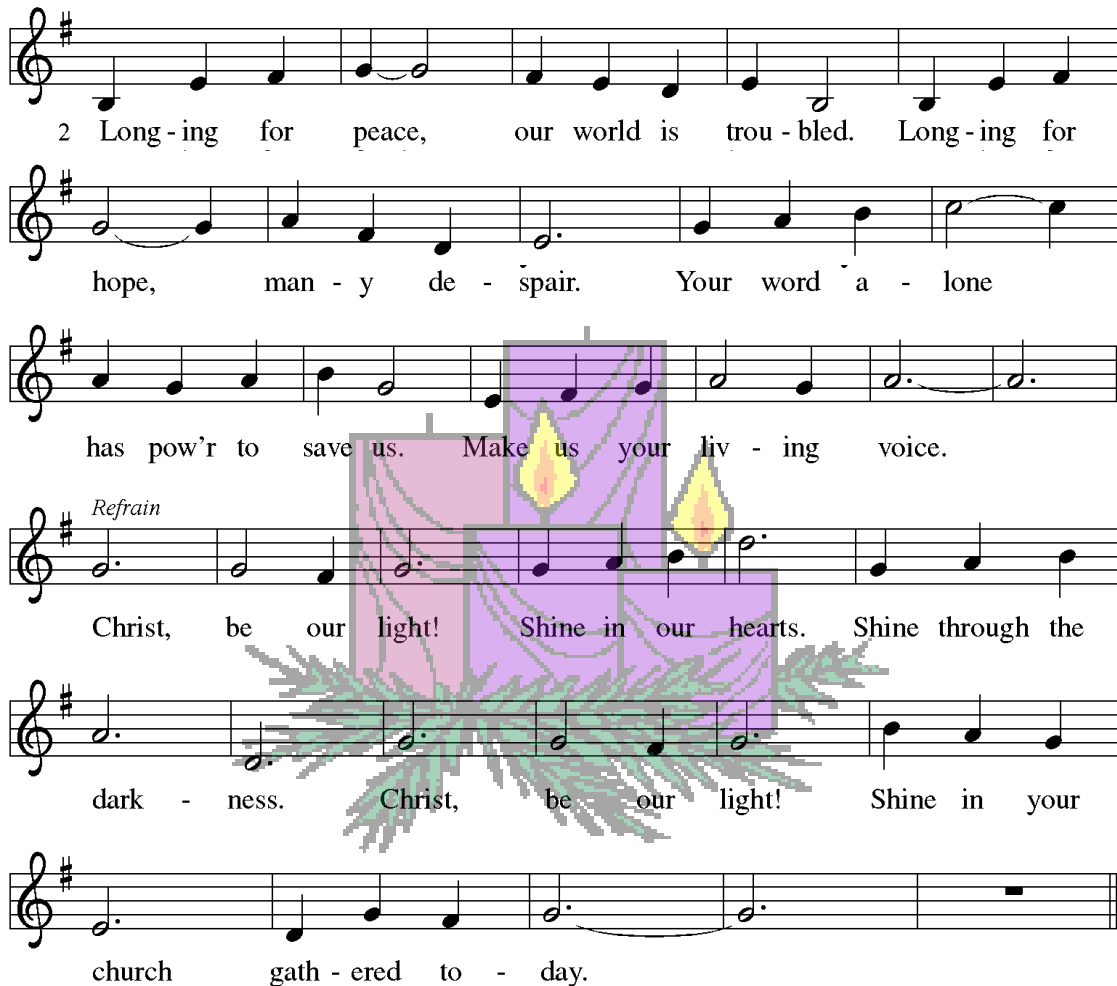
Prelude

Longing for Messiah

Mark Hayes

Advent Candle Lighting

Christ, Be Our Light



2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for
hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone
has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.

Refrain
Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the
dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your
church gath - ered to - day.

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957

Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell

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Welcome

Please stand in body or spirit

Hymn On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

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 you as our Sav - ior, Lord, our ref - uge
4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, and make us
5 All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, whose ad - vent

that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,
way for God with - in, and let us all our
and our great re - ward; with - out your grace we
rise to fall no more; oh, let your face up -
has our free - dom won, 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.
on us shine and fill the world with love di - vine.
we a - dore, and Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er - more.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676-1749; tr. composite
Music: PUER NOBIS, European tune, adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571-1621

Greeting

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

And also with you.

Hymn of Praise

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose

blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and

hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. *Refrain*

2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and

join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:

Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to

God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*

3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -

gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
 This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Prayer of the Day

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of Christ. Open us to receive this gift of love, and become love for this world; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated

WE PROCLAIM THE WORD

Reading **Baruch 5.1-9** (Common English Bible, inclusivized)
A reading from the book of Baruch

These are the last words of David the son of Jesse.

The God of Jacob chose David
and made him a great king.

The Mighty God of Israel loved him.

When God told him to speak, David said:

The Spirit of the Lord has told me what to say.

Our Mighty Rock, the God of Jacob, told me,

“A ruler who obeys God and does right
is like the sunrise on a cloudless day,
or like rain that sparkles on the grass.”

I have ruled this way,

and God will never break God’s promise to me.

God's promise is complete and unchanging;

God will always help me and give me what I hope for.

But evil people are pulled up like thornbushes.

They are not dug up by hand,

but with a sharp spear and are burned on the spot.

May we open ourselves to what the Spirit is saying to the church. **Amen.**

Psalmody: Luke 1:68-79

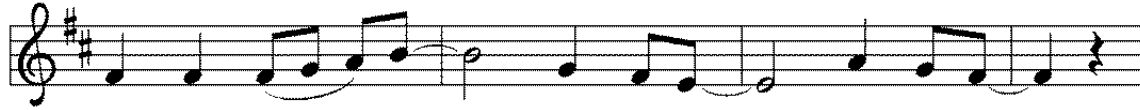


1. Now bless the God of Is - ra - el, Who
2. Re - mem - ber - ing the cov - e - nant, God
3. In ten - der mer - cy, God will send The
comes in love and pow'r, Who rais - es from the
res - cues us from fear, That we might serve in
day - spring from on high, Our ris - ing sun, the
roy - al house De - liv - 'rance in this hour. Through
ho - li - ness And peace from year to year; And
light of life For those who sit and sigh. God
ho - ly proph - ets God has sworn To
you, my child, shall go be - fore To
comes to guide our way to peace, That
free us from a - larm, To save us from the
preach, to proph - e - sy, That all may know the
death shall reign no more. Sing prais - es to the
heav - y hand Of all who wish us harm.
ten - der love, The grace of God most high.
Ho - ly One! O wor - ship and a - dore!

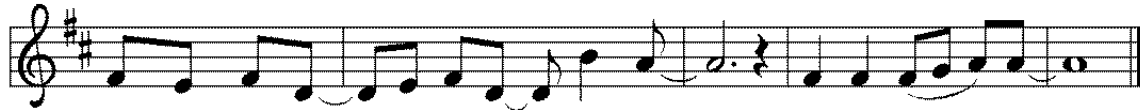
Text: *Benedictus*, Luke 1:68-79; Ruth Duck, © 1992, GIA Publications, Inc.
Music: FOREST GREEN, CMD; English, harm. by Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958

Please stand in body or spirit

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.

Gospel **Luke 3:1-6** (Contemporary English Version)

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke

Glory to you, O Lord.

For fifteen years, Emperor Tiberius had ruled the Empire. Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was the ruler of Galilee. Herod's brother, Philip, was the ruler in the countries of Iturea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias was the ruler of Abilene. Annas and Caiaphas were the Jewish high priests.

At that time God spoke to Zechariah's son, John, who was living in the desert. So John went along the Jordan Valley, telling the people, "Turn back to God and be baptized! Then your sins will be forgiven." Isaiah the prophet wrote about John when he said,

"In the desert someone is shouting,
'Prepare the way of the Lord!
Make a straight path for him.
Fill up every valley and level every mountain and hill.
Straighten the crooked path and smooth out the rough roads.
Then everyone will see the saving power of God.'"

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

Prepare the way of the Holy One, make straight the paths of God.

—Luke 3:4

Mary, waiting for her child, is powerless, patient,
dependent on a greater movement—
not uncertain, but also not in control.
Like waiting for the sunrise.
Waiting for God to appear in a new way.

Yet waiting like Mary is not passive,
but preparing, being transformed.

The “way” of God is not elsewhere,
some road God needs to enter the world.
God enters by the unlikeliest path,
through the least accessible means.
The Mystery will enter as Mystery wills.
So maybe to “prepare” is not so much waiting
for God to appear as changing how we see,
becoming ready to see God in new ways.

And God enters the world through us.
So waiting with Mary, we are waiting
as God transforms within us.

We are the way God is preparing.

How are you preparing yourself
to be the way God enters the world?

Steve Garnaas-Holmes

Musical Reflection

I Shall Know Him When He Comes

Douglas Wagner
Senior Choir

I shall know Him when He comes, not with sound of pipe or drum,
But by the holy harmony which His coming makes in me.
He shall wear no royal robe, or a crown of precious gold,
But He my Lord, my King shall be, always ever there for me.

He shall not in castle warm, live in splendor, safe from harm.
But in a manger, crude He'll sleep, warmed by the breath of cows and
sheep.

Come, Lord Jesus, tarry not. Find in me a resting spot.
My heart is open, come dwell within. Let life be born in me again.

By the holy harmony which His coming makes in me,
I shall know Him, I shall know Him,
I shall know Him when He comes.

Apostles' Creed

Let us confess our faith in the Triune God as expressed in these historic words:

**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.**

Community Prayers

Let us pray....

After each petition: "Receive our prayer,"

**Your mercy is great.
Amen.**

Included in our daily prayers are those with special needs or concerns:

Bebe McCoy, Robin Stokes, Bonnie Hegreness, Mary Kennedy, Kevin Bailey's sister Kleta Childs, Bebe McCoy's brother-in-law Walt and her sister Jan, Brittany Parsons, Mary Bowling's sister Val, John Kennedy's niece Michele Wolfe, Becky Trover's sister Maddie Sutphin, son-in-law Brandon James, and her niece Olivia Theissen, Skye Andree, Kris Kauffman, Kathie Ehrich, John Huber, Dottie and Larry Bird, Karen Kent, Ruth Boys, Al Debelak, Barbara Hairston and family

For the people of Faith Lutheran Church in Mt. Vernon

For Redeemer community members Eileen and Bret Day; Rachel, Andy, Colton, and Casen Day

Time with the Young People

Sharing the peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Members are encouraged to move around the sanctuary to greet each with a hearty handshake or a hug.

For those who have special concerns or who do not wish close contact, please offer a sign of blessing to let others know you are more comfortable greeting them from a distance.

We will continue to take a moment to greet those who are worshiping via livestream before greeting those in the sanctuary.

WE SHARE HOLY COMMUNION

Jesus invited all who were hungry for food, healing, justice, and joy to share this communion meal.

Since this is his meal, and he is present to us in it, all are welcome.

During the Rite of Communion, Prayers and Prayer Assistants will assemble on the steps of the sanctuary to offer a gentle touch and blessing. Those who wish to receive this healing in their pews may let an usher know and the healing team will come to you. Jesus often touched others—blessing children, washing feet, and healing injuries or disease. Such an act is a tangible expression of the presence of the healing Christ, working in and through those who minister in His name.

In body or spirit, please stand

Offertory

You Are Holy

1*

You are ho - ly, you are whole. You are al - ways ev - er more
than we ev - er un - der - stand. You are al - ways at hand.
Bless - ed are you com - ing near. Bless - ed are you com - ing here
to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised from dead.

2

You are ho - ly, you are whole - ness,
you are pres - ent. Let the cos - mos praise you, Lord!
Sing ho - san - na in the high - est!
Sing ho - san - na! Sing ho - san - na to our God!

* *May be sung in canon.*

Text: Per Harling, b. 1945

Music: DU ÅR HELIG, Per Harling

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South America, and Central America, including the Caribbean.

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Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

Lift up your hearts.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

And also with you.

We lift them to the Lord.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

This is the table of Emmanuel -- God-with-us. This is the place where bread and wine remind us how to live and love as those who inhabit God's time, and work to build God's Beloved Community. This is the place where we recognize that the one for whom we wait is also the one who is already, and always, here with us.

So come! Whether you are watching for the dawn, or dreading first light, whether you are waiting with hope, or hiding your face, come with quiet confidence. Here Emmanuel watches for our coming, and waits with love and joy to welcome us in.

The story of Emmanuel is the story of God – waiting to inhabit time, who took on flesh and form, and lived among us, so that we might re-imagine life. It is the story of Jesus – waiting to be betrayed, who shared supper with his friends, where he took bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take this and eat. This is my body, broken for you. Do this to remember me.” And after supper he took the cup and gave it to them, saying, “This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood. It is shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this to remember me.”

And so, taking this bread and wine, we remember and celebrate the waiting which began to change the world; and we join our voices with all who still wait and work for that change to come to completion:

Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, 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.

God of grace, as we follow the example of Jesus, send your Holy Spirit upon us, and on these gifts of bread and wine. May we find the imagination, the courage, and the strength to use our waiting times to build your Beloved Community of joy, justice, and peace, for which we now pray:

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.
 Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
 Give us today our daily bread.
 Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
 Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
 For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
 now and forever. Amen.**

Sharing the Meal

The gifts of God, for the people of God. Jesus welcomed all to this meal.
 So do we.

Please be seated

You may come forward to receive the elements, remain seated and use the pre-filled communion cups available at the door, or let an usher know you'd like to be served in your seat. Wine is in the outer rings of the tray, grape-apple juice in the inner ring. Gluten-free wafers are available on request, ask Pastor.

Hymn

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

1 Draw us in the Spir-it's teth - er, for when hum - bly
 2 As dis - ci - ples used to gath - er in the name of
 3 All our meals and all our liv - ing make as sac - ra -

in your name two or three are met to - geth - er,
 Christ to sup, then with thanks to God the giv - er
 ments of you, that by car - ing, help-ing, giv - ing,

you are in the midst of them. Al - le - lu - ia!
 break the bread and bless the cup, Al - le - lu - ia!
 we may be dis - ci - ples true. Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Touch we now your gar - ment's hem.
 Al - le - lu - ia! so now bind our friend - ship up.
 Al - le - lu - ia! We will serve with faith a - new.

Text: Percy Dearmer, 1867-1936, alt.
 Music: UNION SEMINARY, Harold Friedell, 1905-1958
 Text from *Songs of Praise* Enlarged Edition, © Oxford University Press 1931.
 Music © 1957, 1985 H. W. Gray, admin. CPP/Belwin.

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Hymn For the Bread Which You Have Broken

1 For the bread which you have bro - ken, for the wine which you have poured,
2 By this prom - ise that you love us, by your gift of peace re - stored,
3 With the saints who now a - dore you, seat-ed at the heav'n - ly board,
4 In your ser - vice, Lord, de - fend us; in our hearts keep watch and ward;

for the words which you have spo - ken, now we give you thanks, O Lord.
by your call to heav'n a - bove us, hal - low all our lives, O Lord.
may the church still wait - ing for you keep love's tie un - bro - ken, Lord.
in the world to which you send us let your king - dom come, O Lord.

Text: Louis F. Benson, 1855–1930, alt.

Music: OMNI DIE, *Gross Catolisch Gesangbuch*, Nürnberg, 1631; arr. William Smith Rockstro, 1823–1895

Text © Robert F. Jefferys Jr.

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Please stand in body or spirit

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Holy Mystery, the earth still waits for its healing. May we who are part of that waiting take and use the waiting times to re-imagine how we can be healers of creation. Open our hands and hearts to embrace and use the uncertain times to learn how to live and love. So may our watching and waiting join with that of Emmanuel to realize your beloved community here on earth.

Amen.

WE ARE SENT

Hymn

O Day of Peace



1 O day of peace that dim-ly shines through all our hopes and prayers and dreams,
2 Then shall the wolf dwell with the lamb, nor shall the fierce de-vour the small;



guide us to jus-tice, truth, and love, de-liv-ered from our self-ish schemes.
as beasts and cat-tle calm-ly graze, a lit-tle child shall lead them all.



May swords of hate fall from our hands, our hearts from en-vy find re-lease,
Then en-e-mies shall learn to love, all crea-tures find their true ac-cord;



till by God's grace our war-ring world shall see Christ's prom-ised reign of peace.
the hope of peace shall be ful-filled, for all the earth shall know the Lord.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: JERUSALEM, C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848–1918

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Blessing

Amen.

Announcements

Postlude

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

arr. Mark Hayes

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The communion liturgy is adapted from "Enter with Joy," by Pat Bennett, published by Wild Goose Publications.
Contemporary English Version (CEV) ©1995 American Bible Society

We welcome **Marilyn Floyd** as ASL Interpreter today, and asked her to introduce herself:

“I am a native North Carolinian, and a retired teacher of the Deaf, previously employed by the State of Ohio and Columbus City Schools. Some of the things that I enjoy are reading, writing, watching true-life movies/documentaries, and Deaf Ministry. I am married and we have one daughter.”

Adult Ed

December 8 - 11:15 a.m.

2025 Budget

A chance to review and ask questions about the proposed draft of Redeemer's 2025 budget

In-Person and Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83475541581?pwd=PEyYLFqECnuQBzf9bSbagxGY44GXcU.1>

Meeting ID: 834 7554 1581 = Passcode: 752230
Phone only: 1-312-626-6799

Adult Ed

Sundays - 11:15 a.m.

Getting to Know You

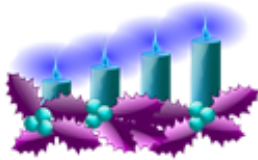
As a way to deepen our relationships with each other by getting to know each other better, Pastor Dave will interview a variety of folks about their lives. And you'll have a chance to ask questions as well.

*December 15 - Julianne Johnson
December 22 - Paula Carson*

In-Person and Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83475541581?pwd=PEyYLFqECnuQBzf9bSbagxGY44GXcU.1>

Meeting ID: 834 7554 1581 = Passcode: 752230
Phone only: 1-312-626-6799



Advent Wednesday evenings
December 4, 11, 18
6:30 Advent Desserts and Coffee
7:00 pm Holden Evening Prayer

With the season of Advent, Redeemer offers you a space to rest in the calmness, beauty, and joy of a darkened sanctuary filled with the sounds of Holden Evening Prayer. Wednesday evenings will be oases in the midst of everything else that is going on in your lives. Let yourself let go of all you might be carrying right now, and receive the gift of this time to be reminded of what life, love, and peace feel like.

Sign up on the bulletin board to provide dessert

Christmas Is...

Sunday School Christmas Program
December 22 during Worship



Kids and Adults
share Christmas stories and memories.



Birthdays this week:
8 - Bob Rapp
10 - Eric Hutton

OUR WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY

Presiding Minister	David Shull, Pastor
Assisting Minister	Emily Ott
Cantor	Jennifer Young
ASL Interpreter	Marilyn Floyd
Organist & Senior Choir Director	Kathy Rapp
Pianist & Chime Choir Director	Karen Kent
Usher	Nate Ott
Verger	Michelle Clemence / Wendy Stoica
Communion Prep	Misato In, Diane Brobeck, Karen Rider
Producers	Judith Bird, April Smith
Hospitality	Katie and Ruby Jacobs

*Flowers are given by **Kathleen Zwanziger** in honor of **Eric Hutton's birthday**.
Noisy Offering will go to B.R.E.A.D.*

THIS WEEK AT REDEEMER DECEMBER 8 – 15

Today	8:45 am	Senior Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 am	IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Worship with Holy Communion
	11:15 am	IN-PERSON and ZOOM Budget Discussion
Monday	7:00 pm	BREAD Research Kickoff Meeting, Church of Christ, Genessee Ave.
Tuesday	10:00 am	Member Care Team
	12:00 pm	David Hairston Memorial Service, Schoedinger East Funeral Home 5360 E. Livingston Avenue
	6:30 pm	ZOOM A Brewing Faith
Wednesday	6:30 pm	Advent Desserts
	7:00 pm	IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Holden Evening Prayer
Next Sunday	8:45 am	Senior Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 am	IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Worship with Holy Communion
	11:15 am	IN-PERSON and ZOOM Adult Education

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A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America