

## Third Sunday of Advent



The untold melody of a World War I Christmas Truce, Christmas Eve night, 1914,  
Western Front.

**December 15, 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.*

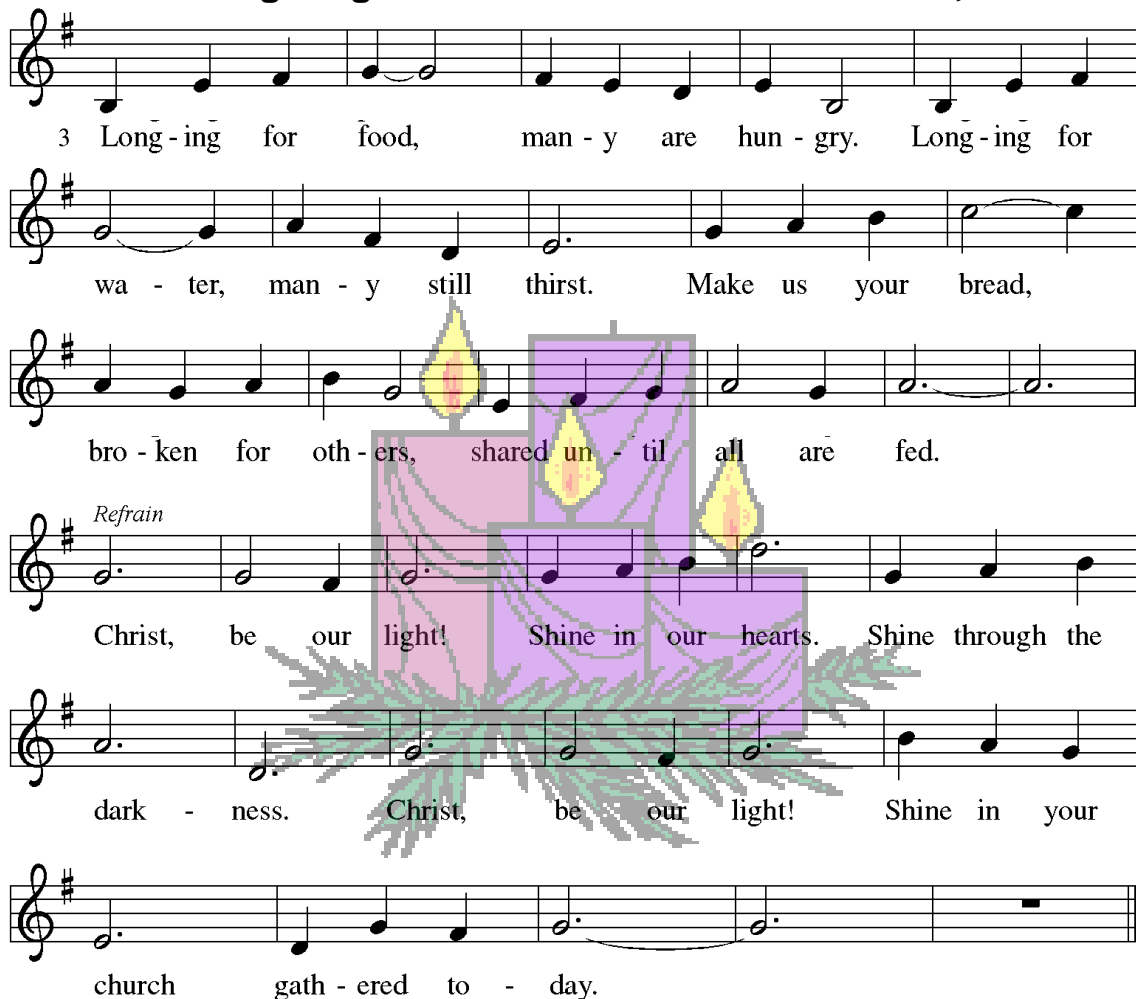
Prelude

*Veni Emmanuel*

arr. Penny Rodriguez

Advent Candle Lighting

*Christ, Be Our Light*



3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for  
wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,  
bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.  
*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

## 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

Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here  
far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;

un - til the Son of God ap - pear. Re-joice! Re-joice!  
teach us your will and guide our way. *Refrain*

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

5 O come, O Key of David, come,  
and open wide our heav'nly home;  
make safe the way that leads on high,  
and close the path to misery. *Refrain*

7 O come, O King of nations, come,  
O Cornerstone that binds in one:  
refresh the hearts that long for you;  
restore the broken, make us new. *Refrain*

Text: *Psalterium Canticum Catholicarum*, Köln, 1710; tr. composite  
Music: VENI, EMMANUEL, French processional, 15th cent.  
Text sts. 2, 6, 7 © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

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## 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 - t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. 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



*Refrain*



hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. This is the feast of



vic - t'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al -



le - lu - ia. 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.

*Final refrain*

This is the feast of vic - t'ry for our God, for the  
Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

## Prayer of the Day

Stir up the wills of your people, Lord God, and open our hearts to the preaching of John, that, rejoicing in your grace, we may bring forth the fruits of justice; 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

**Zephaniah 3:14-20**

(Contemporary English Version, inclusivized)

A reading from the prophet Zephaniah

Everyone in Jerusalem and Judah,  
celebrate and shout  
with all your heart!

Zion, your punishment is over.

The Lord has forced your enemies  
to turn and retreat.

Your Lord is Ruler over Israel  
and stands at your side;  
you don't have to worry  
about any more troubles.

Jerusalem, the time is coming,  
when it will be said to you:

"Don't be discouraged  
or grow weak from fear!

The Lord your God  
wins victory after victory  
and is always with you.

The Lord celebrates and sings  
because of you,

and will refresh your life with love."

The Lord has promised:

Your sorrow has ended,

and you can celebrate.  
 I will punish those  
 who mistreat you.  
 I will bring together the lame  
 and the outcasts,  
 then they will be praised,  
 instead of despised,  
 in every country on earth.  
 I will lead you home,  
 and with your own eyes  
 you will see me bless you  
 with all you once owned.  
 Then you will be famous  
 everywhere on this earth.  
 I, the Lord, have spoken!

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

### Canticle: Isaiah 12:2-6

*[Congregation sings the refrain before the first verse and after each verse]*

Refrain

With joy you shall draw wa - ter from the springs of end - less

life; With joy you shall draw wa - ter from the liv - ing well of God.

#### Verses

1. God indeed is my Savior, I will never be afraid,  
 my strength and courage is the Lord, my Savior and my song.
2. Give thanks and praise the name of God, sing out to all the earth  
 the wondrous deeds that God has done, our Savior and our song.
3. Shout with joy, O Zion, for dwelling in your midst  
 is the Holy One of Israel, your Savior and your song.

Text: Isaiah 12:2-3, 4, 6; Marty Haugen  
 Music: Marty Haugen  
 © 1988, GIA Publications, Inc.

*Please stand in body or spirit*

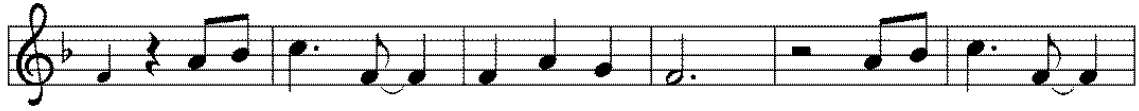
## Gospel Acclamation



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



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



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



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



**Gospel**                      **Luke 3:7-20** (The Message, adapted and inclusivized)  
The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke                      **Glory to you, O Lord.**

When crowds of people came out for baptism because it was the popular thing to do, John [the Baptizer] exploded: “Brood of snakes! What do you think you’re doing slithering down here to the river? Do you think a little water on your snakeskins is going to deflect God’s judgment? It’s your life that must change, not your skin. And don’t think you can pull rank by claiming Abraham as ‘father.’ Being a child of Abraham is neither here nor there—children of Abraham are a dime a dozen. God can make children from stones if God wants. What counts is your life. Is it green and flourishing? Because if it’s deadwood, it goes on the fire.”

The crowd asked him, “Then what are we supposed to do?”

“If you have two coats, give one away,” he said. “Do the same with your food.”

Tax collectors also came to be baptized and said, “Teacher, what should we do?”

He told them, “No more extortion—collect only what is required by law.”

Soldiers asked him, “And what should we do?”

He told them, “No harassment, no blackmail—and be content with your rations.”

The interest of the people by now was building. They were all beginning to wonder, “Could this John be the Messiah?”

But John intervened: “I’m baptizing you here in the river. There is One coming Who is greater than I. I am not good enough to get down and help Him take off His shoes. He will ignite the kingdom life, a fire, the Holy Spirit within you, changing you from the inside out. The Spirit is going to clean house—make a clean sweep of your lives. The Spirit will place everything true in its proper place before God; everything false will be put out with the trash to be burned.”

There was a lot more of this—words that gave strength to the people, words that put heart in them. The Message!

The Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated*



***“I Will Sing a New Song”***

by Howard Thurman

I will sing a new song.  
I must learn the new song for the new needs  
I must fashion new words born of all the new growth in my life—of my  
mind—of my spirit.  
I must prepare for new melodies that have never been mine before,  
That all that is within me may lift my voice unto God.

How I love the old familiarity of the wearied melody,  
How I shrink from the harsh discords of the new untried harmonies.

Teach me, my Father, that I might learn with the abandonment and  
enthusiasm of Jesus,  
The fresh new accent, the untried melody,  
to meet the need of the untried morrow.

**Musical Reflection**

***Advent Prayer***

Dale Peterson  
*Senior Choir*

***VERSE***

As the star shone brightly on that Christmas night,  
As the angels sang to all the earth;  
May the light of these Advent candles set our hearts aglow  
As we prepare for Jesus' birth.

***REFRAIN***

Hope for those in despair, peace for those in conflict,  
Joy for those who have no joy,  
And God's great love for all the world.

*Repeat VERSE, repeat REFRAIN; Repeat VERSE*

Amen, amen.

## 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, Ruth Murray's daughter Ellen Rose, Kathie Ehrich, John Huber, Dottie and Larry Bird, Karen Kent, Ruth Boys, Al Debelak, Barbara Hairston and family, Jon Disbro  
For the people of Faith Lutheran Church in Columbus  
For Redeemer community members Karen Riccio and Al Debelak

## 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.*

*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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## 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.**

It is indeed right for us to come to this table of Emmanuel -- God-with-us.

This is the place where bread and wine remind us how to live and love

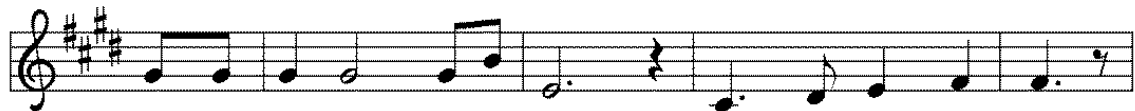
as those who inhabit God's time, and work to build God's Beloved

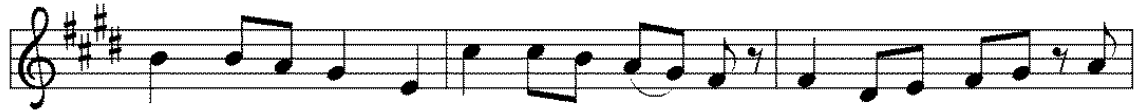
Community. This is the place where we recognize that the one for whom we wait is also the one who is already, and always, here with us.


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, God of pow'r and might,


  
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho-


  
 san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -


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


  
 san - na, ho - san - na, 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

Let Us Break Bread Together

1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees;  
2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees;  
3 Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees;

let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.  
let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.  
let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.

*Refrain*

When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing

sun, O Lord, have mer - cy on me.

Text: African American spiritual  
Music: BREAK BREAD TOGETHER, African American spiritual

Hymn

Bread of Life from Heaven

*Refrain*

Bread of life from heav-en, your blood and bod - y giv - en,

we eat this bread and drink this cup un - til you come a - gain.

- 1 Break now the bread of Christ's sac - ri - fice; giv - ing
- 2 Seek not the food that will pass a - way; set your
- 3 Love as the one who, in love for you, gave him -
- 4 Dwell in the one who now dwells in you; make your
- 5 Drink of this cup and de - clare his death; eat this

thanks, hun - gry ones, gath - er round. Eat, all of you, and be  
 hearts on the food that en - dures. Come, learn the true and the  
 self for the life of the world. Come to the one who is  
 home in the life - giv - ing Word. Know on - ly Christ, Ho - ly  
 bread and be - lieve Eas - ter morn; trust his re - turn and, with

sat - is - fied; in Christ's pres - ence the loaves will a - bound.  
 liv - ing way, that the full - ness of life may be yours.  
 food for you, that your hun - ger and thirst be no more.  
 One of God, and be - lieve in the truth you have heard.  
 ev - 'ry breath, praise the one in whom you are re - born.

Text: Susan R. Briebl, b. 1952  
 Music: ARGENTINE SANTO | BREAK NOW THE BREAD, Argentine traditional, refrain; Marty Haugen, b. 1950, stanzas  
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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 these uncertain times to be courageous in our acts of love. So may our watching and waiting join with that of Emmanuel to make real your beloved community here on earth.

**Amen.**



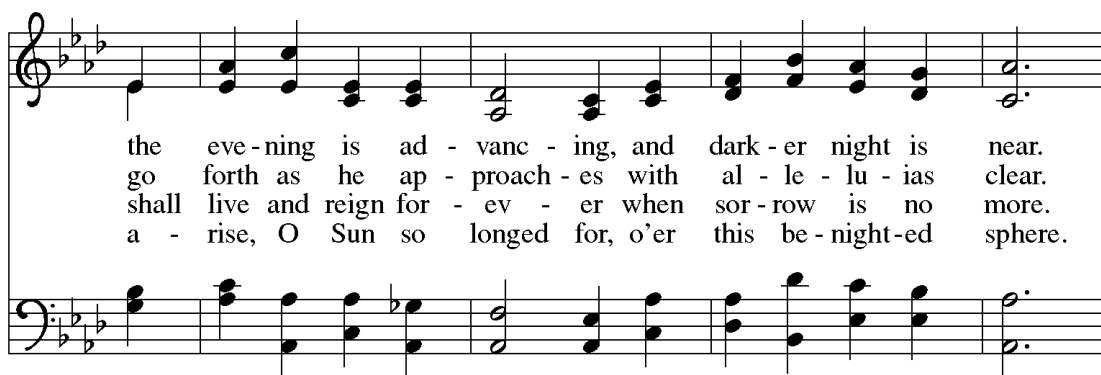
# WE ARE SENT

## Hymn

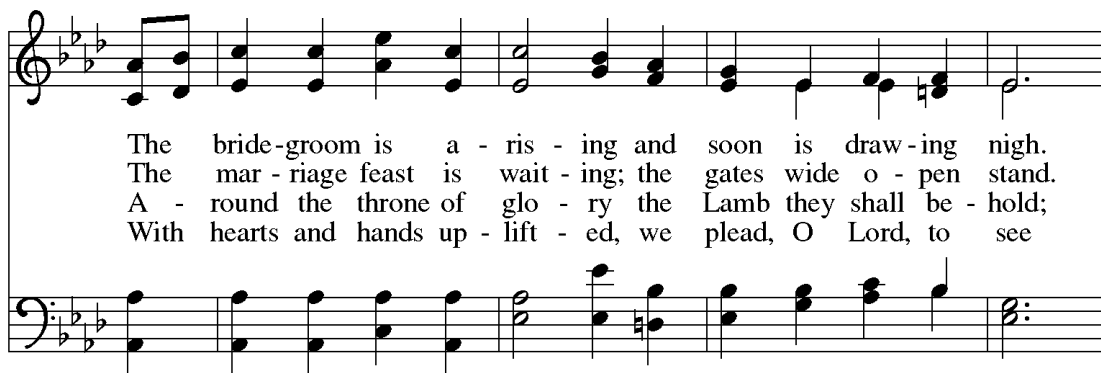
## Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers



1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear;  
2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain pro - claim the bride - groom near;  
3 The saints, who here in pa - tience their cross and suf - f'ings bore,  
4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



the eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.  
go forth as he ap - proach - es with al - le - lu - ias clear.  
shall live and reign for - ev - er when sor - row is no more.  
a - rise, O Sun so longed for, o'er this be - night - ed sphere.



The bride - groom is a - ris - ing and soon is draw - ing nigh.  
The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; the gates wide o - pen stand.  
A - round the throne of glo - ry the Lamb they shall be - hold;  
With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see



Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; at mid - night comes the cry.  
A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; the bride - groom is at hand.  
in tri - umph cast be - fore him their di - a - dems of gold.  
the day of earth's re - demp - tion that sets your peo - ple free!

Text: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660–1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823–1907  
Music: HAF TRONES LAMPA FÄRDIG, Swedish folk tune

Blessing

Amen.

Announcements

Postlude

***Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers!***

arr. John Carter

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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

### **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 - Donna Voelkel*

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

## **Christmas Is...**

**Sunday School Christmas Program**

***December 22 during Worship***



***Kids and Adults***

**share Christmas stories and memories.**



## Tuesday Bible Study Exploring Advent and Christmas Stories

*What do the Gospel stories about the coming of Jesus really say? What would a "manger" scene based on Matthew and Luke look like? A spoiler alert: one of them wouldn't even have a manger! So celebrate the coming seasons of Advent and Christmas by joining us for our weekly Bible study. You can participate in-person or on Zoom.*

*Tuesdays + 1:00pm*

*In-Person and Zoom:*

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86259497992?pwd=zbqyreRTMc2DXXPiJD5mQRc5UlxjdA.1>

Meeting ID: 862 5949 7992

Passcode: 830218

Phone only: 1-312-626-6799

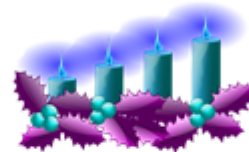


## Coffee and Conversation

Wednesday, December 18

10:00 AM-11:30 AM – Narthex

Honest exploration of questions about faith and life



Advent Wednesday evening

December 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



Birthdays this week:

15 – Mindy Eakin

19 – Joe Darst

19 – Novella Hinkle

## OUR WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY

Presiding Minister	David Shull, Pastor
Assisting Minister	Lynn Belhorn
Reader	Kathleen Zwanziger
Cantor	Wendy Stoica
ASL Interpreter	Bryan Neal
Organist & Senior Choir Director	Kathy Rapp
Pianist & Chime Choir Director	Karen Kent
Usher	Mike Benis
Vergers	Michelle Clemence / Wendy Stoica
Communion Prep	Misato In, Diane Brobeck, Karen Rider
Producers	Toshi Phillips, Sachio Phillips
Hospitality	Karen Rider

*Flowers are given by **the Steiner family** in honor of  
**David Steiner and Rhianna's birthdays.**  
Noisy Offering will go to B.R.E.A.D.*

## THIS WEEK AT REDEEMER DECEMBER 15 – 22

<b>Today</b>	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
<b>Tuesday</b>	1:00 pm	IN-PERSON and ZOOM Bible Study
	6:30 pm	Congregational Council
<b>Wednesday</b>	10:00 am	Coffee and Conversation
	6:30 pm	Advent Desserts
	7:00 pm	IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Holden Evening Prayer
<b>Saturday</b>	10:00 am	Chime Choir Rehearsal
<b>Next Sunday</b>	8:45 am	Senior Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 am	IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Worship with Holy Communion and <b>Sunday School Christmas Program</b>
	11:15 am	IN-PERSON and ZOOM Adult Education

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Office hours –9am-1pm, Mon-Wed; 9am-noon Thu  
A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America