

# New Jerusalem Lutheran Church



Epiphany of Our Lord  
January 7th, 2024  
Worship Service  
ELW Setting 4

## *Announcements for January 7, 2024*

### **PRAYERS FOR OUR NJLC COMMUNITY**

*\*\*new names added this week (NJLC connection)*

Prayer Requests: \*\*Mary Thompson (George Hoopengardner); Wayne Dunkley (NJLC member); Mack Keister (NJLC member); Dean Fox and Peggy Glascock (Judy Fox); Evelyn Bowman (NJLC member); Anna Adler (Leah Onderdonk); Cecelia Cole (NJLC member)

**WELCA MEETING:** NJ Women of the ELCA will meet on Saturday, January 6, at 10:00 in the church parlor.

**FOOD PANTRY DONATION SUNDAY:** Food donations will be collected during the children's message this Sunday, January 7.

**PRAYGROUND SUNDAY:** Children begin worship with us and, following the children's message, will go as a group with Mrs. Barlow to the Prayground for Bible study activities. Prayground meets every month on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sunday.

**TAKING DOWN THE GREENS:** Saturday, January 13th, starting at 9:30am. Please join us for taking down the Christmas decorations.

**NEW MEMBER SUNDAY — TODAY:** .Welcome Nancy Morey, Barbara Tobler, and the Legas family, New Jerusalem's newest members!

### **THE 2024 FLOWER SIGNUP CHART IS HERE!**

The sign-up chart for the New Year is posted downstairs on the bulletin board next to the fellowship hall. Lots of Sundays available for the year.

### **NJLC INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY**

Winter is officially here, and that can mean dangerous roads. In general, if the schools are closed due to inclement weather then the church is also closed. Similarly if evening activities at schools are canceled then evening activities at the church are also canceled. Please think safety first, though, and if the driving conditions where you live seem dangerous then please do not venture out simply because the schools are not closed. We will miss you, but want you to be safe this winter.

### **SCRIPTURE/PRAYER READERS FOR JANUARY:**

January 7 – Joyce Hoopengardner

January 14 – Bill George

January 21 – Joel Lemp

January 28 – Amanda Zlato



## New Jerusalem Lutheran Church

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Pastor Phillip Carl

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**OUR MISSION:** *Responding to God's grace, we are a welcoming congregation growing in Christian faith through worship, learning, serving, and fellowship.*

**OUR VISION:** *NJLC is a compassionate community of disciples that values everyone & expresses faith by connecting with God, the Gospel of Jesus Christ, & all creation.*

### WELCOME TO NEW JERUSALEM

*A few items of note to help you in your time here today:*

**MASKS** — Masks are optional for worship and events at New Jerusalem, though we encourage mask wearing for anyone who chooses to do so.

**NEWCOMERS** — Visitors are always welcome and we invite you to sign our guestbook located in the entryway or fill out a pew card from the pew rack in front of you.

**COMMUNION** — Welcome to the table of Christ where we believe Christ is fully present to us in, with, and under these elements of bread and wine. You are invited to participate whether a member here or come to us from any other denominational tradition. Those not ready to receive Christ in body and blood, may still come forward to receive Christ in blessing. Follow the directions of the ushers who will dismiss each pew. As you come to the top of the center aisle, the pastor will place a wafer in your hands and invite you to step to the side to take an individual cup of wine (first tray) or grape juice (second). Please receive and then discard cups in the receptacle along the altar rail. If you cannot come forward, communion can be brought to you after all have communed at the front.

**CHILDREN** — We seek to be a family-friendly congregation who enjoys having children among us, including the littler ones. We have a Cherub's Corner in the fellowship hall downstairs with age appropriate toys, books, etc. and the worship service can be heard over the speakers. Should you have the need/desire to utilize our staffed Sunday Morning Nursery, it is located in the end room of the education building.

**HANDICAP ACCESSABILITY** — Handicap accessible restrooms are located downstairs at the back of our Fellowship Hall or across in our Education Building. Someone is available to run the lift should you need to get up and down between levels.

We hope that in your time among us, you will encounter the love of God in Spirit!



The altar flowers are a beautiful and meaningful addition to the worship service each week and a joyful way to give glory to God and honor our family and friends.

*To provide altar flowers for an upcoming Sunday, sign-up on the 2024 Flower Chart located in the church hallway or contact the church office.*

## Introduction

The feast of Epiphany (“manifestation”) concludes the Christmas season with a celebration of God’s glory revealed in the person of Jesus Christ. In Isaiah and Ephesians, that glory is proclaimed for all nations and people. Like the light of the star that guided the magi to Jesus, the light of Christ reveals who we are: children of God who are claimed and washed in the waters of baptism. We are sent out to be beacons of the light of Christ, sharing the good news of God’s love to all people.

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## GATHERING

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### READER FOR TODAY

Joyce Hoopengardner

### PRELUDE

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear  
Arr. by Mark Hayes

Mark A. Fletcher

*We prepare our hearts and minds for worship during the prelude.*

### WELCOME

*Please stand as you are able.*

### GATHERING HYMN

“Arise, Your Light Has Come!”  
(see music on next page)

ELW 314

### GREETING

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

# Arise, Your Light Has Come!

1 A - rise, your light has come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;  
2 A - rise, your light has come! Fling wide the pris - on door;  
3 A - rise, your light has come! All you in sor - row born,  
4 A - rise, your light has come! The moun - tains burst in song!

The first system of music consists of a treble and bass staff in the key of D major (two sharps). The treble staff contains a melody with eighth and quarter notes, while the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes.

show forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to - day.  
pro - claim the cap - tive's lib - er - ty, good tid - ings to the poor.  
bind up the bro - ken - heart - ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.  
Rise up like ea - gles on the wing, God's pow'r will make us strong.

The second system of music continues the melody and accompaniment from the first system. It concludes with a double bar line in both staves.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

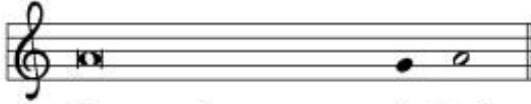
Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825-1893

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# Kyrie



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



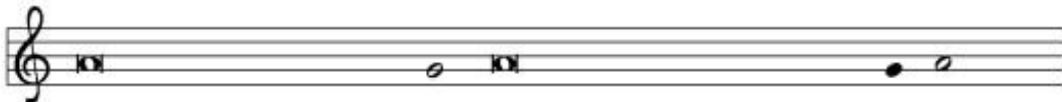
**☪** Lord, have mer - cy.



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



**☪** Lord, have mer - cy.



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



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



**☪** Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



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



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

# Canticle of Praise

Pastor: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.



## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray...

People: **O God, on this day you revealed your Son to the nations by the leading of a star. Lead us now by faith to know your presence in our lives, and bring us at last to the full vision of your glory, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

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## THE WORD

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### FIRST READING

Isaiah 60:1-6

Reader: The first reading for today is recorded in the book of Isaiah...

<sup>1</sup>Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. <sup>2</sup>For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. <sup>3</sup>Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. <sup>4</sup>Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. <sup>5</sup>Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. <sup>6</sup>A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

Reader: Word of God. Word of life.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

### SECOND READING

Ephesians 3:1-12

Reader: The second reading for today is recorded in the book of Ephesians ...

<sup>1</sup>This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles—<sup>2</sup>for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, <sup>3</sup>and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, <sup>4</sup>a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. <sup>5</sup>In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: <sup>6</sup>that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. <sup>7</sup>Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of



God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. <sup>8</sup>Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, <sup>9</sup>and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; <sup>10</sup>so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. <sup>11</sup>This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, <sup>12</sup>in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

Reader: Word of God. Word of Life.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

### Alleluia. Lord, to Whom Shall We Go?

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.

Text: John 6:68, adapt. *Lutheran Book of Worship*

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923

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## GOSPEL READING

Matthew 2:1-12

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the second chapter.

People: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup>asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." <sup>3</sup>When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup>and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. <sup>5</sup>They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: <sup>6</sup>'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler

who is to shepherd my people Israel.’”<sup>7</sup> Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared.<sup>8</sup> Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.”<sup>9</sup> When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was.<sup>10</sup> When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy.<sup>11</sup> On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.<sup>12</sup> And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

**Pastor:** The Gospel of the Lord.

**People:** Praise to you, O Christ.

*Please be seated.*

**Children’s Message**

Pastor Phil Carl

## **THE PRAYGROUND**

*Children are invited to The Prayground for Bible lessons, activities, crafts and prayers.*

**Sermon**

Pastor Phil Carl

*Please stand as you are able.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

“Shine, Jesus, Shine”  
(see music on next page)

ELW 671

# Shine, Jesus, Shine

671



Shine, Je - sus, shine, fill this land with the Fa - ther's glo - ry;



blaze, Spir - it, blaze, set our hearts on fire.



Flow, riv - er, flow, flood the na - tions with grace and mer - cy;



send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!



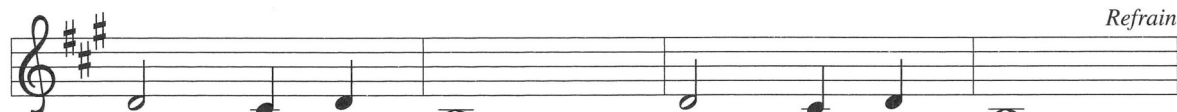
1 Lord, the light of your love is shin - ing, in the midst of the  
2 As we gaze on your king - ly bright-ness, so our fac - es dis -



dark - ness, shin - ing; Je - sus, light of the world, shine up - on us,  
play your like - ness, ev - er chang - ing from glo - ry to glo - ry,



set us free by the truth you now bring us.  
mir - rored here, may our lives tell your sto - ry.



Shine on me, shine on me:  
Shine on me, shine on me:

*Refrain*

## **APOSTLE'S CREED**

**People: 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.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Reader: Trusting in God's good news of great joy for all people, we offer our prayers for ourselves, our neighbors, and the world God loves. Humble the hearts of your faithful people, that we seek to be servants of your gospel and witnesses to your mysteries. Give us boldness in faith, that we make the good news of Christ's birth known to all people. Hear us, O God.

**People: Your mercy is great.**

Reader: Establish justice on earth for all its inhabitants. Lead us to protect fragile ecosystems and endangered species. Empower the work of all who research, engineer, and make accessible alternative and renewable sources of energy. Make us careful stewards of your creation. Hear us, O God.

**People: Your mercy is great.**

Reader: Nations shall come to your light and kings to your dawning. Remove corruption and fear from the hearts of leaders and authorities. Lead governments to expand policies and resources that care for refugees and all migrants. Strengthen the work of resettlement agencies. Hear us, O God.

**People: Your mercy is great.**

Reader: Defend the cause of all who are in need, all facing poverty, and all who are oppressed. Come quickly to those who feel that their lives and livelihoods are fragile. Be with those facing illness, especially Mary Thompson, Wayne Dunkley, Mack Keister, Dean Fox and Peggy Glascock, Evelyn Bowman, Anna Adler, Cecelia Cole. Give them strength and lead them forth with hope. Hear us, O God.

**People: Your mercy is great.**

Reader: As the magi offered gifts to the Christ child, empower us to give generously. Prosper the work of ministry partnerships in our community. Together, help us share what we have to ensure that our neighbors have enough food, resources, and opportunities. Hear us, O God.

**People: Your mercy is great.**

Reader: As we strive to call a new pastor for this congregation, send your Spirit to guide our decisions and those of all others in that process, so the outcome reflects your will for our future. God of grace,

**People: Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Reader: You have redeemed the lives of your faithful departed. Through the love of Christ, gather us into one body with them, and reveal to us the mystery hidden for ages in the One who created all things. Hear us, O God.

**People: Your mercy is great.**

Reader: Abide with us, O God of mercy, and receive our prayers according to your abundant grace.

**People: Amen.**

## GREETING & PEACE

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you always.

People: **And also with you.**

*We invite you to turn and share a sign of peace with your neighbors.*

Please be seated.

## RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

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### MEAL

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## OFFERTORY

“Brightest and Best”  
Arr. by Doug Wagner

Mark A. Fletcher

## OFFERTORY RESPONSE

### Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful *Offering Song*



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles-sing. 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. Grace our ta-ble



with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927

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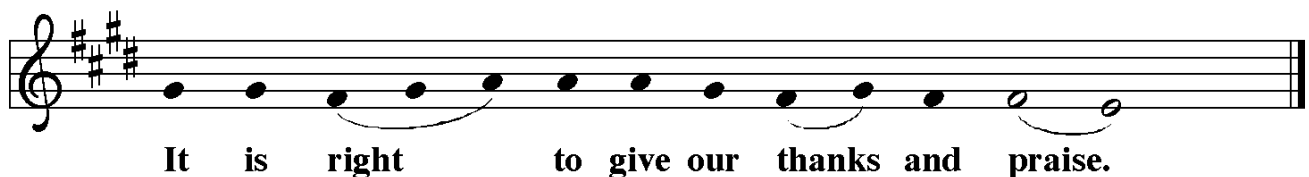
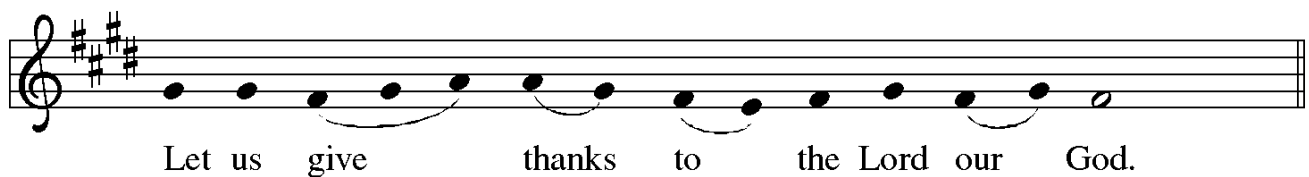
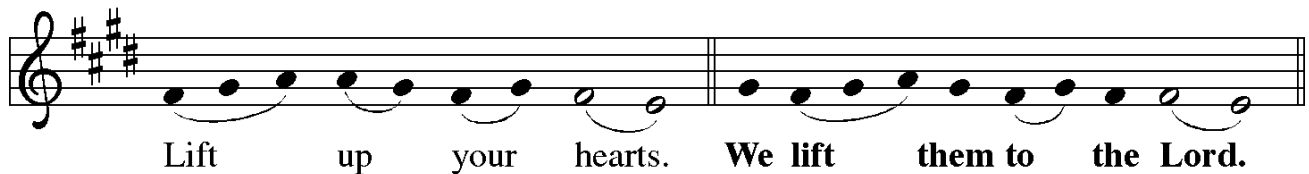
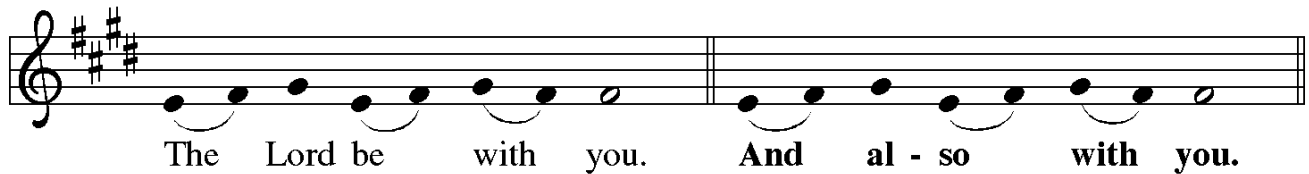
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Please stand as you are able.

## OFFERING PRAYER

Pastor: Generous God,

People: **God of abundance, receive and bless these gifts we have offered. Join our hearts with the song of the angels, and gather us at your table of celebration. Strengthen us to share with all the world the abundance of your grace upon grace, poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. Amen.**



## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on the earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:  
Heav'n 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.

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics printed below each staff. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might: Heav'n 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."

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Pastor: You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God; you are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, that whoever believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. Having come into the world, he fulfilled for us your holy will and accomplished our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: Let us pray as the Lord has taught us:

**People: 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 TO COMMUNION

Pastor: Come to the banquet, for now all is ready.

*Please be seated.*



## HOLY COMMUNION



☞ 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.

*Please stand as you are able.*

## POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

Pastor: The body of our Lord Jesus Christ and his precious blood strengthen you unto life eternal.

People: Amen.



☞ Lord, now you let your ser-vant go in peace; your word has been ful -



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre -



pared in the sight of ev-'ry peo-ple: A light to re-veal you to the



na - tions and the glo-ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**Pastor:** God our redeemer, you have fed us at this table with gifts of grace, truth, and life. As you have gathered us in joy, send us forth as messengers of your peace. Make us shine with the good news of your glory, born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**People:** **Amen.**

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## SENDING

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### BLESSING

**Pastor:** Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**People:** **Amen.**

### SENDING SONG

“Jesus, the Light of the World”  
*(see music on next page)*

ACS 914

### DISMISSAL

**Pastor:** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

### POSTLUDE

“Alegria”  
Traditional Puerto Rican Carol

Mark A. Fletcher

*Renewed and strengthened by our worship together, go forth in peace to serve to the world.*

*Following today’s Service, we invite you to find fellowship downstairs in the fellowship hall.*

# Jesus, the Light of the World

1 Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, Je - sus, the Light of the world;  
 2 Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; Je - sus, the Light of the world;  
 3 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Je - sus, the Light of the world;  
 4 Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace! Je - sus, the Light of the world;

“Glo - ry to the new-born king,” Je - sus, the Light of the world.  
 join the tri - umph of the skies; Je - sus, the Light of the world.  
 Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord! Je - sus, the Light of the world.  
 Hail the Sun of right - eous - ness! Je - sus, the Light of the world.

## Refrain

We'll walk in the light, beau-ti-ful light, come where the dew-drops of mer-cy are bright.

Shine all a-round us by day and by night, Je - sus, the Light of the world.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, stanzas; George D. Elderkin, 1845–1928, refrain  
 Music: WE'LL WALK IN THE LIGHT, Traditional; arr. George D. Elderkin



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**PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 172:1-7, 10-14**

*(not read during today's service)*

<sup>1</sup>Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the king's son; <sup>2</sup>that he may rule your people righteously and the poor with justice; <sup>3</sup>that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, and the hills, in righteousness. <sup>4</sup>Let him defend the needy among the people, rescue the poor, and crush the oppressor. <sup>5</sup>May he live as long as the sun and moon endure, from one generation to another. <sup>6</sup>Let him come down like rain upon the mown field, like showers that water the earth. <sup>7</sup>In his time may the righteous flourish; and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more. <sup>10</sup>May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles pay tribute, and the kings of Sheba and Seba offer gifts. <sup>11</sup>May all kings bow down before him, and all the nations do him service. <sup>12</sup>For the king delivers the poor who cry out in distress, the oppressed, and those who have no helper. <sup>13</sup>He has compassion on the lowly and poor, and preserves the lives of the needy. <sup>14</sup>From oppression and violence he redeems their lives, and precious is their blood in his sight.