

# **New Jerusalem Lutheran Church**



"Comfort, Comfort  
my people,"  
says your God.  
--Isaiah 40:1--

**Second Sunday of Advent  
December 10, 2023  
Worship Service**

*Announcements for December 10, 2023*

**PRAYERS FOR OUR NJLC COMMUNITY**

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

**Prayer Requests:** Shirley Onderdonk (Leah Onderdonk); Wayne Dunkley (NJLC member); Mack Keister (NJLC members); Dean Fox and Peggy Glascock (Judy Fox)

**WASHINGTON SÄNGERBUND ADVENT CONCERT – TODAY, DECEMBER 10, 4:00 p.m.:** Join us for a holiday concert with the Washington Sängerbund, the oldest continually operating chorus in the DC Metro area. The program will feature both English and German selections, and 100% of the offering will be given to the Western Loudoun Food Pantry.

**COOKIE DECORATING – DECEMBER 17:** Join us after church service for fellowship decorating holiday cookies. The cookies and decorating supplies will be here, so bring your creativity and let's have fun!

**THANKS TO THE DECORATORS:** Thank you Pastor Phil, Don and Robert Bloom, Linda Heffern, George and Joyce Hoopengardner, Jean Karmen, Joel and Soledad Lemp, Sherry Whipple, Mike and Diana Zapf, and Stephen, Amanda and Max Zlato for sharing your time to decorate for Advent and Christmas. Beautiful job, folks!

**HOLIDAY LUNCHEON:** Any and all are invited to enjoy holiday fellowship over lunch at noon on Wednesday, December 27 at Magnolia's at the Mill in Purcellville. If you wish to attend, please let Wanda English (540 668-5246) know before Wednesday, December 20.

**2024 FLOWER CHART:** Thanks for all the faithful servants who provided altar flowers during 2023. The sign-up chart for the New Year is posted downstairs in the hall next to the fellowship hall.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

December 17: Cookie Decorating

December 24: Children's Christmas Pageant (10:00 am) & Christmas Eve Service (7:00 pm)

**LIFTERS FOR NOVEMBER:**

	<u>Readers</u>		<u>Altar Flowers</u>
December 17	Matt Jorgenson	Jim Freeman	Muhlenberg
	Linda Heffern	Kate Freeman	
	Cooper Barlow	Barbara Tobler	
	Toni Chancellor-Adams	Rob Legard	
	Lighting of three candles on the Advent wreath: Muhlenberg family		
December 24 am	Jennifer Barlow		NJLC Council
	Lighting of four candles on the Advent wreath: Bloom Family		
December 24 pm	Garland Cooper		NJLC Council
December 31	Sarah Stillman		TBD



# New Jerusalem Lutheran Church

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www.njlclovettsville.org

Church Office  
Pastor

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officenjlc@gmail.com  
pastor.njlc@gmail.com

**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 flowers on the alter are given to the Glory of God and in the memory of loved ones by the Heffern family.

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

## Introduction

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

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## GATHERING

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### READER FOR TODAY

Curtis Adams

### PRELUDE

"God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen"  
Traditional English Carol

Mark A. Fletcher

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

### WELCOME

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Please stand as you are able.

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

**Most merciful God, we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Please stand as you are able.

### GATHERING HYMN

"Prepare the Royal Highway"  
(see music on next page)

ELW 264

# Prepare the Royal Highway

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 may 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 will bow be - fore him; their voic - es join your sing - ing:  
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!

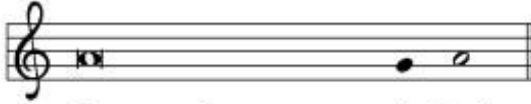
Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*  
Music: BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN, Swedish folk tune, 17th cent.  
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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## 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.**

# Kyrie



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



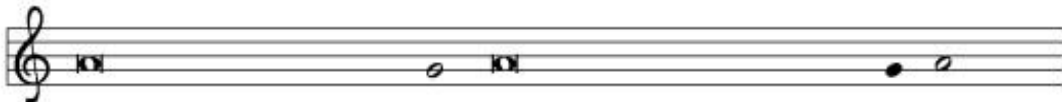
**☪** Lord, have mer - cy.



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.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray...

**People: Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming strengthen us to serve you with purified lives; 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.

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## THE WORD

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### FIRST READING

Isaiah 40:1-11

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

<sup>1</sup>Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. <sup>2</sup>Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. <sup>3</sup>A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. <sup>4</sup>Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. <sup>5</sup>Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken." <sup>6</sup>A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. <sup>7</sup>The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. <sup>8</sup>The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever. <sup>9</sup>Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" <sup>10</sup>See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. <sup>11</sup>He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

Reader: Word of God. Word of life.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

"We Light the Advent Candles "  
(see music next page, verse 1)

LS 9

### PRAYER

### THE LIGHTING OF THE FIRST CANDLE

Zlato Family

"We Light the Advent Candles "  
(see music next page, verse 3)

LS 9

# We Light the Advent Candles

1 We light the Ad-vent can - dles a - gainst the win - ter night  
2 The first one will re - mind us that Christ will soon re - turn.  
3 We light the sec - ond can - dle, and hear God's ho - ly word.  
4 Three can - dles now are gleam - ing and show us the true way.  
5 Four can - dles burn - ing bright - ly an - nounce that Christ has come.

to wel - come our Lord Je - sus, who is the world's true light;  
We light it in the dark - ness and watch it gleam and burn.  
It tells us, cling to Je - sus, pre - pare to meet your Lord.  
Re - joice, the Bap - tist cries out: your Lord has come to - day!  
Pre - pare, my heart, be - lieve it, and give the Christ child room!

to wel - come our Lord Je - sus, who is the world's true light.  
We light it in the dark - ness and watch it gleam and burn.  
It tells us, cling to Je - sus, pre - pare to meet your Lord.  
Re - joice, the Bap - tist cries out: your Lord has come to - day!  
Pre - pare, my heart, be - lieve it, and give the Christ child room!

Text: Gracia Grindal

Music: WIR HATTEN GEBAUET. German folk tune, 1823

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## SECOND READING

2 Peter 3:8-15a

Reader: The second reading for today is recorded in the book of 2 Peter ...  
<sup>8</sup>Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. <sup>9</sup>The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. <sup>10</sup>But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed. <sup>11</sup>Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, <sup>12</sup>waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? <sup>13</sup>But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. <sup>14</sup>Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; <sup>15a</sup>and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

Reader: Word of God. Word of Life.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

### O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive  
Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here  
un - til the Son of God ap - pear.

## GOSPEL READING

Mark 1:1-8

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the first chapter.

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

<sup>1</sup>The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. <sup>2</sup>As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; <sup>3</sup>the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'" <sup>4</sup>John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup>And people from the whole Judean


countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>6</sup>Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup>He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. <sup>8</sup>I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

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

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

## O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

*Refrain*



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

Please be seated.

**Children's Message**

Pastor Phil Carl

**Sermon**

Pastor Phil Carl

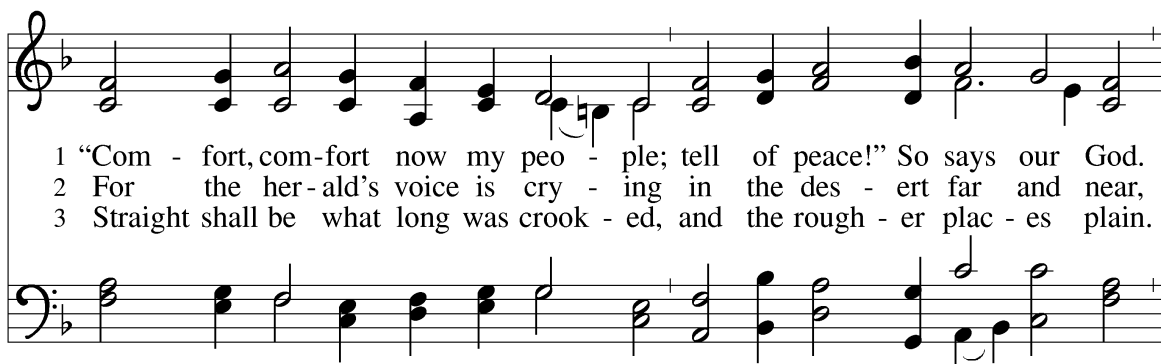
Please stand as you are able.

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

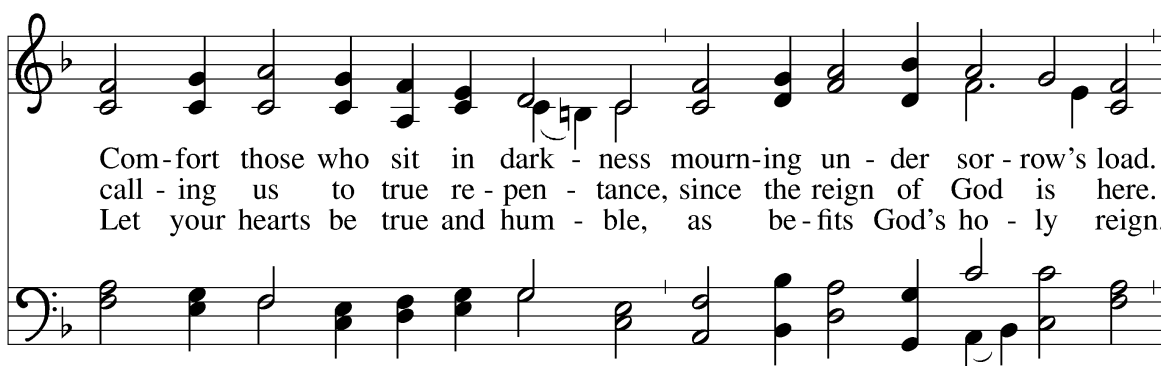
"Comfort, Comfort, Now My People"  
(see music on next page)

ELW 256

# Comfort, Comfort Now My People



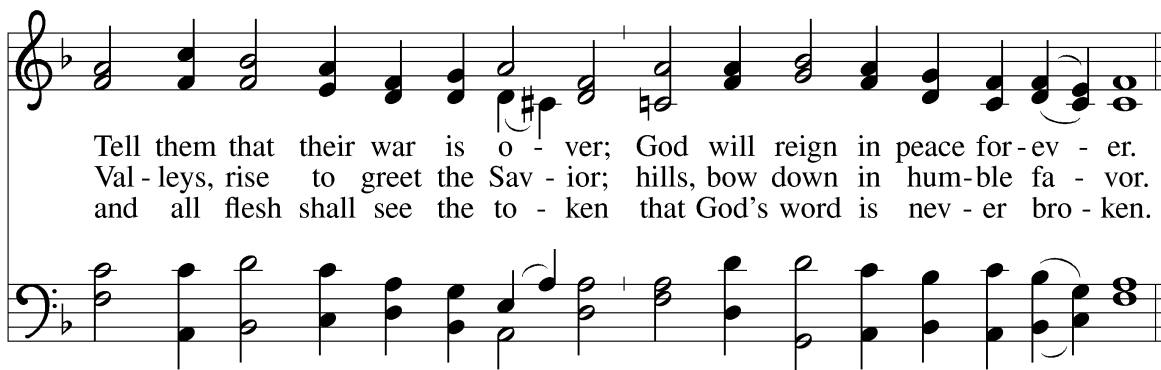
1 “Com - fort, com-fort now my peo - ple; tell of peace!” So says our God.  
2 For the her - ald’s voice is cry - ing in the des - ert far and near,  
3 Straight shall be what long was crook - ed, and the rough - er plac - es plain.



Com-fort those who sit in dark - ness mourn-ing un - der sor - row’s load.  
call - ing us to true re - pen - tance, since the reign of God is here.  
Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, as be-fits God’s ho - ly reign.



To God’s peo - ple now pro-claim that God’s par - don waits for them!  
Oh, that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way.  
For the glo - ry of the Lord now on earth is shed a - broad,



Tell them that their war is o - ver; God will reign in peace for - ev - er.  
Val - leys, rise to greet the Sav - ior; hills, bow down in hum-ble fa - vor.  
and all flesh shall see the to - ken that God’s word is nev - er bro - ken.

Text: Johann G. Olearius, 1635–1711; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.  
Music: FREU DICH SEHR, *Trente quatre pseumes de David*, Geneva, 1551

## **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: With hope and expectation, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who await God's day of restoration. Send forth your faithful people with words of promise and forgiveness. Teach your church to be bold in revealing your good news in word and in deed. Merciful God,

**People: receive our prayer.**

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

**People: receive our prayer.**

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

**People: receive our prayer.**

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

**People: receive our prayer.**

Reader: Grant holy patience to all who are waiting this season (*especially Shirley Onderdonk, Wayne Dunkley, Mack Keister, Dean Fox and Peggy Glascock*). Give hope to those seeking employment. Bring reassurance to people awaiting new diagnoses or treatments. Protect expectant parents. Watch with those who keep bedside vigil. Merciful God,

**People: receive our prayer.**

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. Merciful God,

**People: receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

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

**People: receive our prayer.**

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

**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.

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## MEAL

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### OFFERTORY

### 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



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. 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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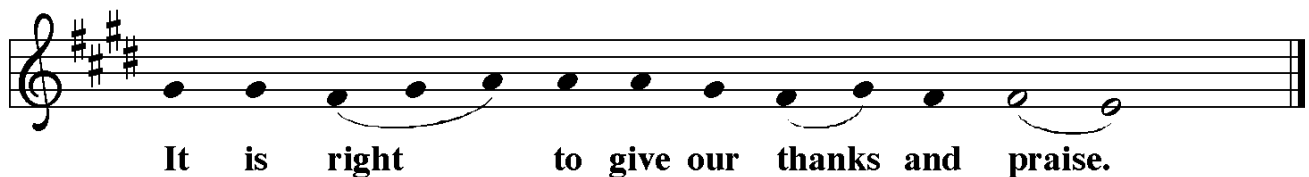
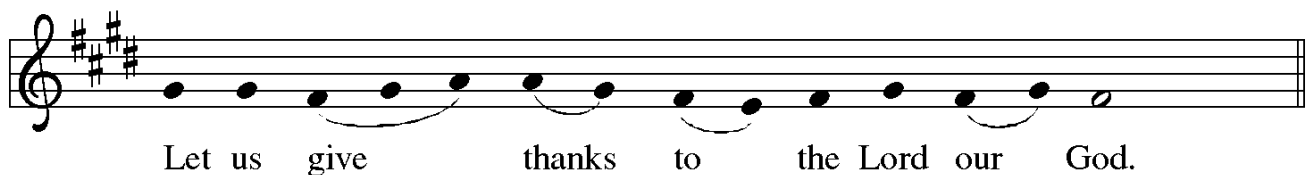
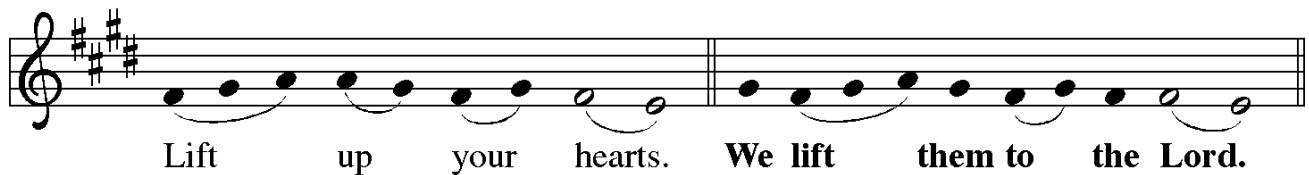
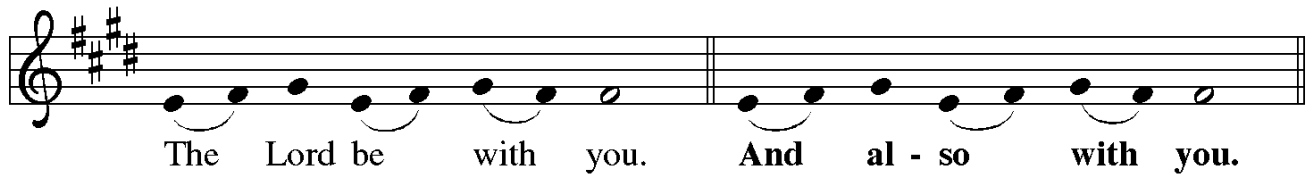
Please stand as you are able.

## OFFERING PRAYER

Pastor: Generous God,

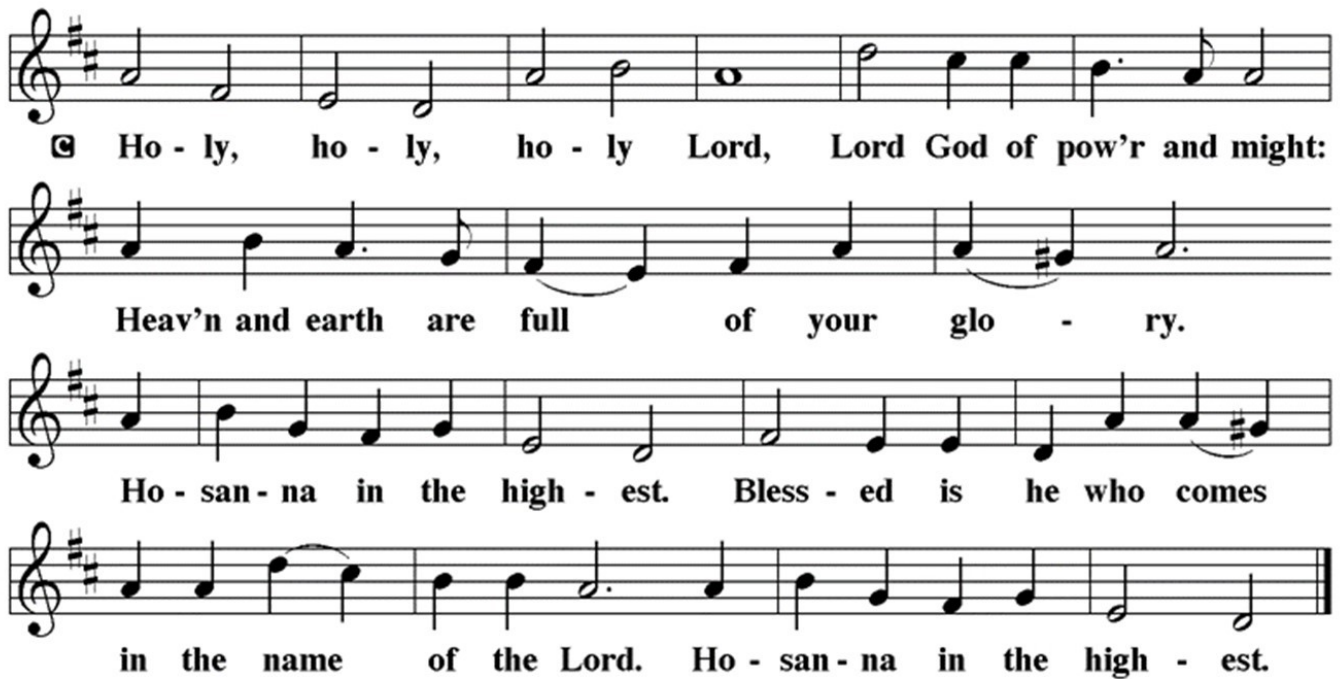
People: **God our provider, by your merciful hand abundance springs up from the earth. Receive and bless these gifts of your own bounty. Let them be a sign of your steadfast love and faithfulness for all people, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

## 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.

## 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.



☒ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let ev-'ry-one who seeks the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re-calls his prom-is-es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**Pastor:** Generous God, in bread and cup you have revealed your glory for all people to see together. Nourished by this meal, send us out to proclaim your good news of liberation and release, brought to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior.

**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**

“O Lord, How Shall I Meet You”  
*(see music on next page)*

ELW 241

### **DISMISSAL**

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

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

### **POSTLUDE**

“Ding, Dong, Merrily on High”  
Arr. by Larry Shackley

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.*

# O Lord, How Shall I Meet You



1 O Lord, how shall I meet you, how wel - come you a - right?  
 2 I lay in fet - ters, groan - ing; you came to set me free.  
 3 Love caused your in - car - na - tion; love brought you down to me.  
 4 Re - joice, then, you sad - heart - ed, who sit in deep - est gloom,



Your peo - ple long to greet you, my hope, my heart's de - light!  
 I stood, my shame be - moan - ing; you came to hon - or me.  
 Your thirst for my sal - va - tion pro - cured my lib - er - ty.  
 who mourn your joys de - part - ed and trem - ble at your doom.



Oh, kin - dle, Lord most ho - ly, your lamp with - in my breast  
 A glo - rious crown you give me, a trea - sure safe on high  
 Oh, love be - yond all tell - ing, that led you to em - brace  
 All hail the Lord's ap - pear - ing! O glo - rious Sun, now come,



to do in spir - it low - ly all that may please you best.  
 that will not fail or leave me as earth - ly rich - es fly.  
 in love, all love ex - cel - ling, our lost and fall - en race.  
 send forth your beams so cheer - ing and guide us safe - ly home.



Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607-1676; tr. composite  
 Music: WIE SOLL ICH DICH EMPFANGEN, Johann Crüger, 1598-1662



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**PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 85:1-2,8-13**

*(not read during today's service)*

<sup>11</sup>You have been gracious to your land, O LORD; you have restored the good fortune of Jacob. <sup>2</sup>You have forgiven the iniquity of your people and blotted out all their sins. <sup>8</sup>I will listen to what the LORD God is saying; for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to you. <sup>9</sup>Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you, that your glory may dwell <sup>1</sup> in our land. <sup>10</sup>Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other. <sup>11</sup>Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth, and righteousness shall look down from heaven.

<sup>12</sup>The LORD will indeed grant prosperity, and our land will yield its increase.

<sup>13</sup>Righteousness shall go before the LORD and shall prepare for God a pathway.