

# New Jerusalem Lutheran Church



**Fourth Sunday of Advent  
December 24, 2023  
Worship Service  
7:00 p.m.**

*Announcements for December 24, 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); \*\*Evelyn Bowman (NJLC member); \*\*Anna Adler (Leah Onderdonk); \*\*Cecelia Cole (NJLC member)

**DECEMBER 24:** Tonight's Christmas Eve service is the **traditional candlelight service with choir and instrumental music, Christmas hymns and communion at 7:00 pm.**

**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, it's not too late. Let Wanda English (540 668-5246) know immediately.

**2024 FLOWER CHART:** Thanks for all the faithful servants who provided flowers during 2023. The sign-up chart for the new year is posted downstairs on the bulletin board next to the fellowship hall. At this time, no one has signed up for January or February.

**LIFTERS FOR DECEMBER:**

December 24 7:00 PM (Candlelight Service)

Greeters: ..... Tom and Susan Pursel

Acolyte: ..... Wegmeyer

Crucifer: ..... Wegmeyer

Lector/Reader: ..... Garland Cooper

Ushers: ..... George Hoopengardner, Joel Lemp

Communion Assistants: Joyce Hoopengardner, Soledad Lemp, Susan Pursel, Tom Pursel

December 31

Reader: Sarah Stillman

Altar Flowers: Church Council



## New Jerusalem Lutheran Church

12942 Lutheran Church Road, Lovettsville, Virginia 20180

[www.njlclovettsville.org](http://www.njlclovettsville.org)

Church Office

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Pastor Phillip Carl

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[pastor.njlc@gmail.com](mailto: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 altar today are given by the Church Council to the glory of God and in praise and thankfulness for the birth of the Baby Jesus, our Savior and Lord.

*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

In winter's deepest night, we welcome the light of the Christ child. Isaiah declares that the light of the long-promised king will illumine the world and bring endless peace and justice. Paul reminds us that the grace of God through Jesus Christ brings salvation to all people. The angels declare that Jesus' birth is good and joyful news for everyone, including lowly shepherds. Filled with the light that shines in our lives, we go forth to share the light of Christ with the whole world.

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## GATHERING

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Organist: Mark A. Fletcher  
Quintet: Sarah Stillman, Nancy Spannaus, Edward Spannaus, Jim Freeman, Rob Legard  
Flute: Curtis Adams  
Reader: Garland Cooper

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**PRELUDE** "Hallelujah Chorus *from Handel's Messiah*" Donald K. Burgess  
By G.F. Handel Mark A. Fletcher, organ

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

## WELCOME

Please stand as you are able.

## THE PROCLAMATION OF THE BIRTH OF CHRIST

Today, eve of the twenty-fifth day of December,  
unknown ages from the time when God created the heavens and the earth  
and then formed man and woman in his own image.

Several thousand years after the flood,  
when God made the rainbow shine forth  
as a sign of the covenant.

Twenty-one centuries from the time of Abraham and Sarah;  
thirteen centuries after Moses led the people of Israel  
out of Egypt.

Eleven hundred years from the time of Ruth and the Judges;  
one thousand years from the anointing of David as king;  
in the sixty-fifth week according to the prophecy of Daniel.

In the one hundred and ninety-fourth Olympiad;  
the seven hundred and fifty-second year from the foundation  
of the city of Rome.

The forty-second year of the reign of Octavian Augustus;  
the whole world being at peace,  
Jesus Christ, eternal God and Son of the eternal Father,  
desiring to sanctify the world by his most merciful coming,  
being conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
and nine months having passed since his conception,  
was born in Bethlehem of Judea of the Virgin Mary.

Today is the eve of nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the flesh.

## GATHERING HYMN

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"  
(see music on next page)

ELW 283

# O Come, All Ye Faithful

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O  
 2 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal,  
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,  
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;

come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;  
 born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes;  
 sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!  
 Je - sus, to thee be . . . glo - ry giv'n!

come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:  
 Son of the Fa - ther now in flesh ap - pear - ing!  
 Glo - ry to God . . . in . . . the . . . high - est:  
 Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:

*Refrain*

Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,  
 O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,

ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.  
 O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

Text: attr. John Francis Wade, 1711–1786; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802–1880, sts. 1, 3–4; tr. unknown, st. 2  
 Music: ADESTE FIDELES, attr. John Francis Wade

## CONFESSIONS AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,  
the Word made flesh,  
our life and our salvation.

**Amen.**

Trusting the goodness and lovingkindness of God our Savior,  
let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God of life,  
**You promise good news of great joy for all people,  
and call us to be messengers of your peace.  
We confess that too often we hoard our joy,  
our resources, and our security.  
We nurture conflict and build barriers.  
We neglect the needs of our neighbors  
and ignore the groaning of creation.  
Have mercy on us.  
Where we are self-centered, open our hearts.  
Where we are reluctant, give us courage.  
Where we are cynical, restore our trust.  
Renew us with your grace  
and give us again the hope of eternal life in you.  
Amen.**

Hear the good news:  
We are children of God and Heirs of God's promises  
through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.  
In + Jesus we are forgiven and redeemed.  
Sing with joy, for all the ends of the earth  
shall know the salvation of God.  
**Amen.**

**CAROL**

"Joy to the World"  
(see music on next page)

ELW 283

# Joy to the World

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -  
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their  
 3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -  
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the

ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him  
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and  
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings  
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -

room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture  
 plains re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing  
 flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is  
 ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

and heav'n and na - ture sing, and

sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.  
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.  
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heav'n and na - ture sing,

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748  
 Music: ANTIOCH, English melody, 18th cent.; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray...

**People:** **Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his 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 9:2-7

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

<sup>2</sup>The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. <sup>3</sup>You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. <sup>4</sup>For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. <sup>5</sup>For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. <sup>6</sup>For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. <sup>7</sup>His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Reader: Word of God. Word of life.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### SECOND READING

Titus 2:11-14

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

<sup>11</sup>The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, <sup>12</sup>training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, <sup>13</sup>while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. <sup>14</sup>He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Reader: Word of God. Word of Life.

**People: Thanks be to God.**


*Please stand as you are able.*



## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

### Go Tell It on the Mountain

*Refrain*



Go tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;  
go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff is labeled 'Refrain' and contains the melody for the first line of the refrain. The second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

## GOSPEL READING

Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]

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

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

<sup>1</sup>In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>All went to their own towns to be registered. <sup>4</sup>Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. <sup>5</sup>He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup>While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup>And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. <sup>8</sup>In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup>But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: <sup>11</sup>to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup>This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup>"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" <sup>15</sup>When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." <sup>16</sup>So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup>When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; <sup>18</sup>and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds


told them. <sup>19</sup>But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup>The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.]

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## Go Tell It on the Mountain

*Refrain*



Go tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;  
go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff is labeled 'Refrain' and contains the melody for the first line of the refrain. The second staff contains the melody for the second line of the refrain. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Please be seated.

**Sermon**

Pastor Phil Carl

Please stand as you are able.

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

“Angels We Have Heard on High”  
(see music on next page)

ELW 289

# Angels We Have Heard on High

1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,  
 2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?  
 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;

and the moun - tains in re - ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.  
 What the glad - some tid - ings be which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?  
 come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.

*Refrain*

Glo - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo - ri - a

ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Text: French carol; tr. H. F. Hemy, *The Crown of Jesus Music*, 1864  
 Music: GLORIA, French carol; arr. Edward S. Barnes, 1887-1958

## **NICENE CREED**

**People: We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven;  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will  
come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the  
Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. 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. Glory to you, God, for the song of the angels, proclaiming to the world Christ's holy birth. Give your church a joyful song to sing, that we bring the good news of peace and salvation to all people. Hear us, O God.

**People: Your mercy is great.**

Reader: Glory to you, God, for the stars that shine in the depth of the night. Provoke awe in our hearts at the expansive mystery of the cosmos. Open us to find beauty in the clear darkness of night and in the first glimmers of dawn. Hear us, O God.

**People: Your mercy is great.**

Reader: Glory to you, God, for the child born to us who establishes a kingdom of justice and righteousness. Break bonds of oppression, bring reconciliation to warring lands, and establish peace from this time onward and forevermore. Hear us, O God.

**People: Your mercy is great.**

Reader; Glory to you, God, for Mary's loving care. Lead us to tend to one another in time of need. Share the comfort of your presence with all people tonight who are alone or separated from loved ones due to estrangement, incarceration, or illness (*especially Anna Adler, Cecelia Cole, Evelyn Bowman, Wayne Dunkley, Mack Keister, Dean Fox and Peggy Glascock*). Hear us, O God.

**People: Your mercy is great.**

Reader: Glory to you, God, for the faithfulness of the shepherds in their vocation. Grant rest to any who feel exhausted from their work during this season: retail and restaurant workers, church musicians, administrative staff, and clergy, organizers of charitable-giving events, and service workers doing essential tasks. Hear us, O God.

**People: Your mercy is great.**

Reader: Glory to you, God, 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: Glory to you, God, for the multitude of the heavenly host. We rejoice in the zeal of all your saints who have witnessed the appearing of your grace, and who reveal to us your salvation for all. 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.

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## MEAL

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### OFFERTORY

“And The Glory of The Lord”  
*From Handel’s Messiah*

Quintet

### 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

Text and music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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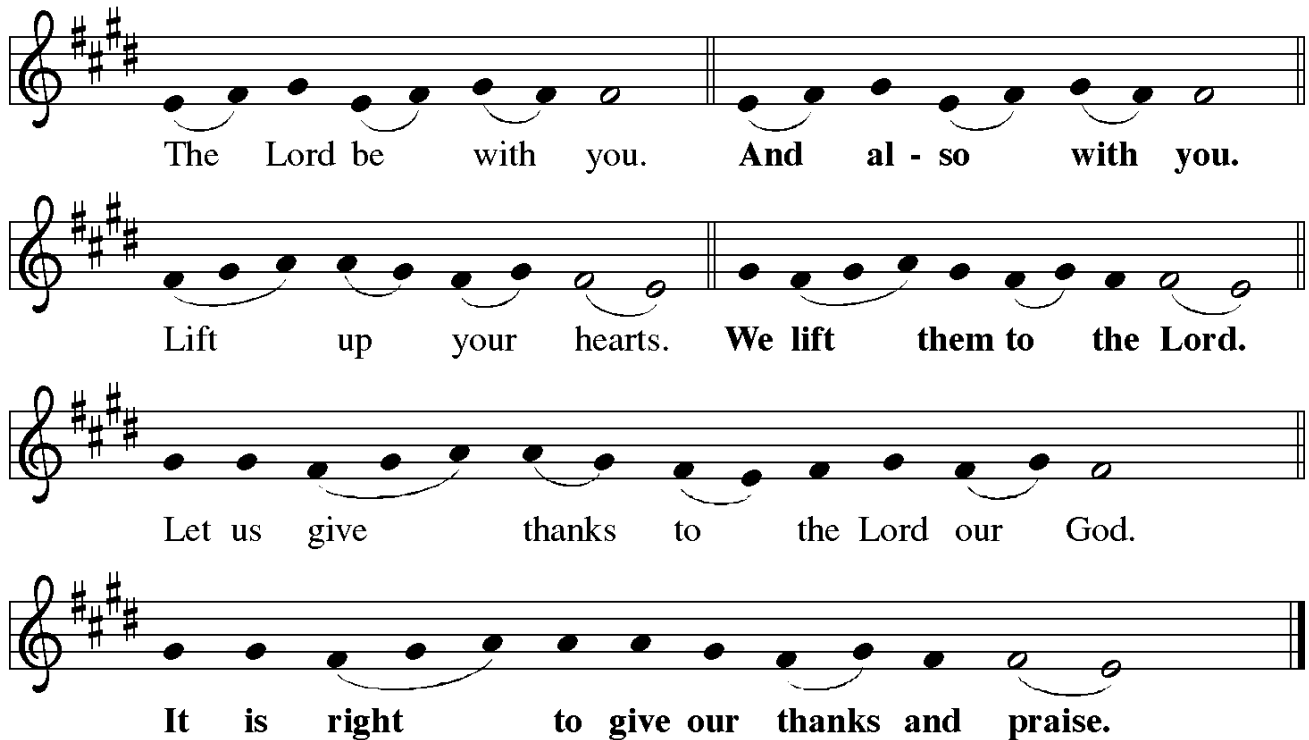
Please stand as you are able.

## 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



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

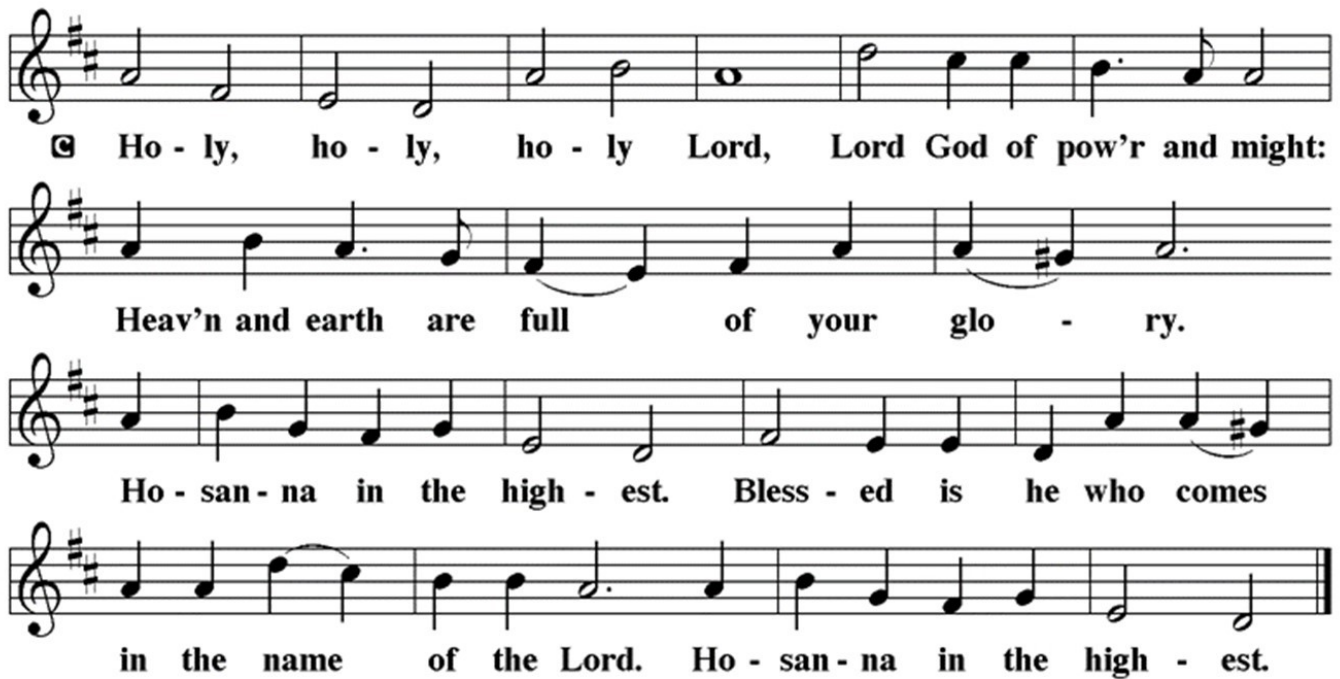
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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:** 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.**

### ANTHEM

“Pass the Advent Light”  
arr. by Patrick M. Liebergen

Quintet

### SENDING SONG

“Silent Night, Holy Night”  
*(see music on next page)*

ELW 281

### DISMISSAL

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

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

*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.*

# Silent Night, Holy Night!

## *Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht!*

*Stil - le Nacht, hei - li - ge Nacht! Al - les schläft,*  
 1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm,  
 2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake  
 3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God,

*ein - sam wacht nur das trau - te, hoch - hei - li - ge Paar.*  
 all is bright round yon vir - gin moth - er and child.  
 at the sight; glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far,  
 love's pure light ra - diant beams from your ho - ly face,

*Hol - der Kna - be im lok - ki - gen Haar, schlaf in himm - li - scher*  
 Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in heav - en - ly  
 heav'n - ly hosts . . . sing, al - le - lu - ia! Christ, the Sav - ior, is  
 with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at your

*Ruh, schlaf in himm - li - scher Ruh.*  
 peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.  
 born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!  
 birth, Je - sus, Lord, at your birth.

Text: Joseph Mohr, 1792–1849; tr. John F. Young, 1820–1885  
 Music: STILLE NACHT, Franz Gruber, 1787–1863



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**PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 96**

*(not read during today's service)*

<sup>1</sup>Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth. <sup>2</sup>Sing to the LORD, bless the name of the LORD; proclaim God's salvation from day to day. <sup>3</sup>Declare God's glory among the nations and God's wonders among all peoples. <sup>4</sup>For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised, more to be feared than all gods. <sup>5</sup>As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; but you, O LORD, have made the heavens. <sup>6</sup>Majesty and magnificence are in your presence; power and splendor are in your sanctuary. <sup>7</sup>Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD honor and power. <sup>8</sup>Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the holy name; bring offerings and enter the courts of the LORD. <sup>9</sup>Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; tremble before the LORD, all the earth. <sup>10</sup>Tell it out among the nations: "The LORD is king! The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will judge the peoples with equity." <sup>11</sup>Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that is therein. <sup>12</sup>Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your coming, O LORD, for you come to judge the earth. <sup>13</sup>You will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with your truth