First Sunday of Advent

November 29,2026



ELW SETTING 4

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Rev. Timothy C. Linstrom, Pastor

30 Riverwoods Road

Lincolnshire, IL 60069

847-945-1550 www.holyspirit-elca.org



We are glad you are with us today.

We are a family of faith living and growing together in Christ.

This bulletin is filled with information about the life of the church, you are invited to take it home for reference and further reflection during the week. Various updates and additional church information, along with Pastor Tim's sermons, are posted each week on our website — www.holyspirit-elca.org. Welcome cards/envelopes are located in the pew rack. Please take a moment to fill out the information and return it to the offering plate.

Our sound system includes a T-system hearing loop, which allows worshipers with T-system compatible hearing aids to tune in directly to the worship leaders' microphones for clearer sound. There are two hearing unit headsets available in the narthex for use. Additionally, large print bulletins are available at the sanctuary door.

As we worship and celebrate communion this morning we remind you that this is the Lord's table. Jesus is the host. We are his guests. God welcomes everyone to come and eat and be nourished, fed and forgiven. Come and eat and live! Please extend your hand to receive the bread, then take a cup from the tray. Please indicate if you prefer to receive a gluten-free wafer. Those not receiving communion are welcome to receive a blessing.

If you are interested in becoming a member of Holy Spirit, please see Pastor Tim. Membership comes through baptism or affirmation of faith.

Please let us know if we can be of service to you in any way!

Welcome visitors to LCHS! Please scan this QR code to share your info with us.

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THE SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

PRELUDE "Oh Come, Oh Come Emmanuel" Thomas Keesecker

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God,
alive in the world,
reviving creation,
arriving soon

C Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection

P Long-expected God,

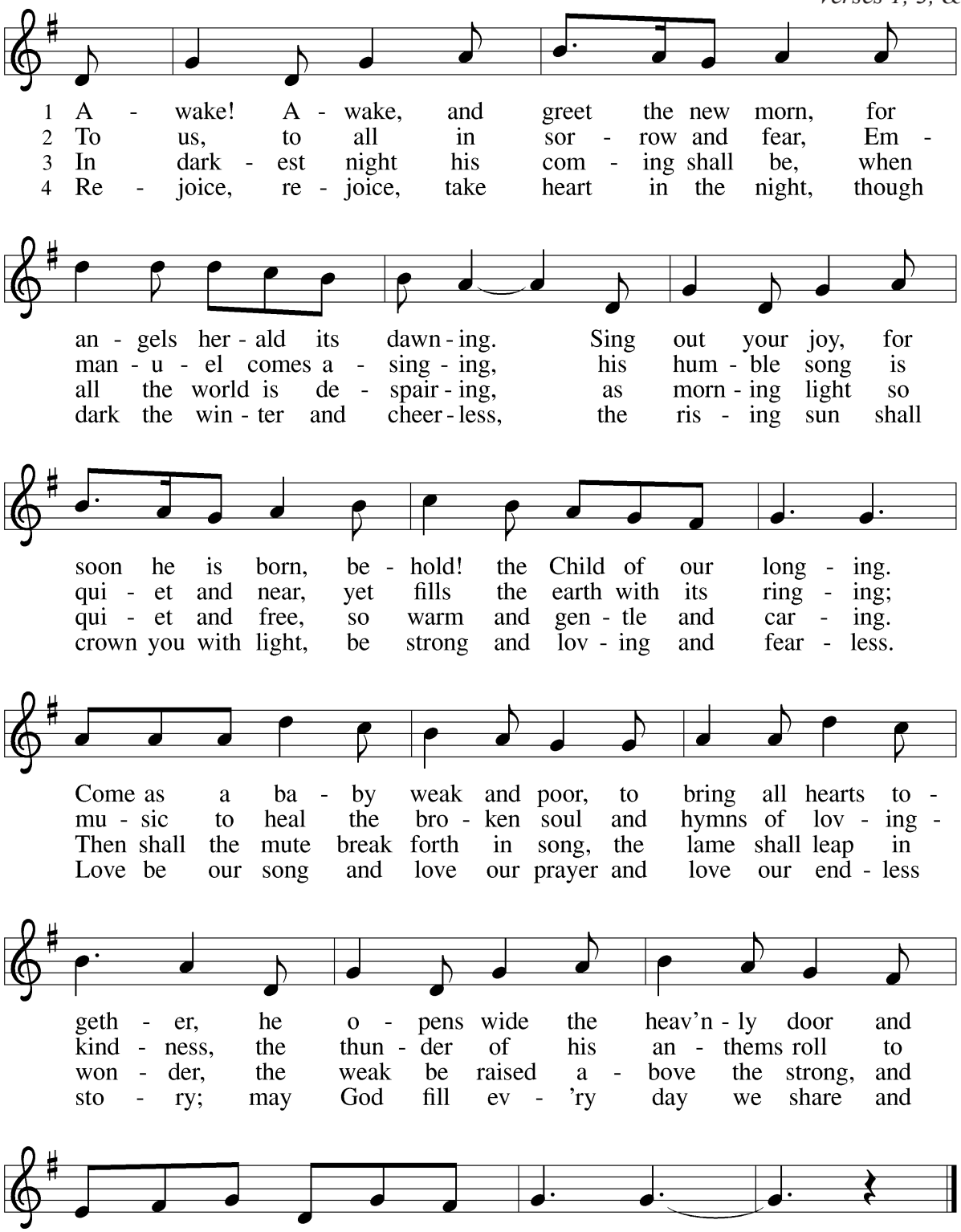
C we confess that we look to ourselves
for the peace and security only you can provide.
We reach for swords and spears,
reluctant to release our grip on the ways of war.
We become impatient while waiting
and weary of keeping awake.

P Free us from self-reliance,,

C and teach us to live in harmony with our neighbors.
Increase our trust in God's timing,
and awaken us to your advent among us,
that we may abound in the hope you have promised.
Amen.

GATHERING HYMN "Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Moon" ELW 242

Verses 1, 3, &4



Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
Music: REJOICE, REJOICE, Marty Haugen
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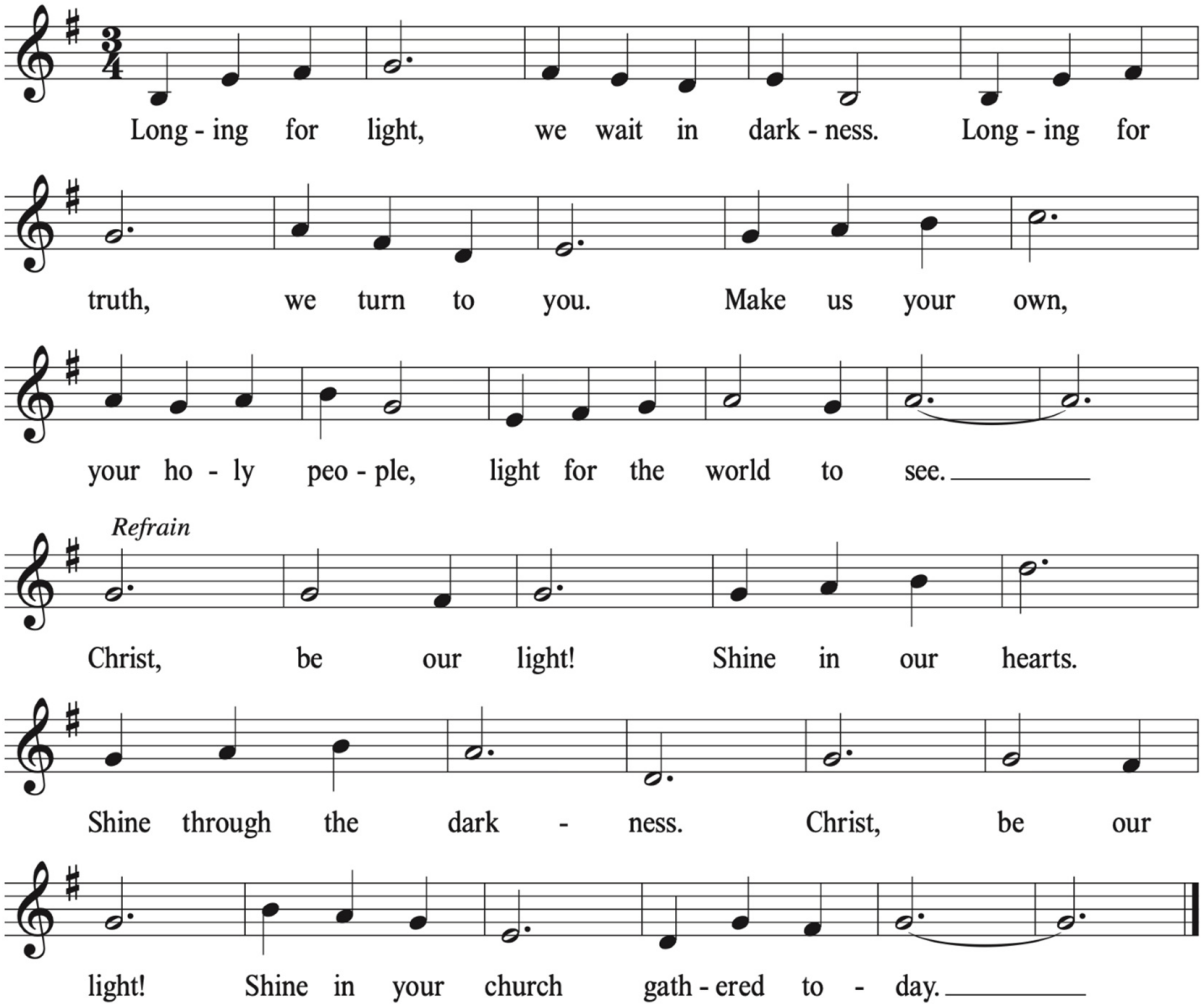
GREETING

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

C And also with you.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Hope for Those Who Wait



Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957
Music: CHRIST BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell
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P Advent is a time for the human heart to wait, while trusting God's eternal time.

C How long, O Lord, how long?

P For those waiting for answered prayer:

C Grant your steadfast patience.

P For those waiting in the face of uncertainty:

C Grant unshakable confidence in your sovereign provision.

P For those waiting for justice and mercy to reign:

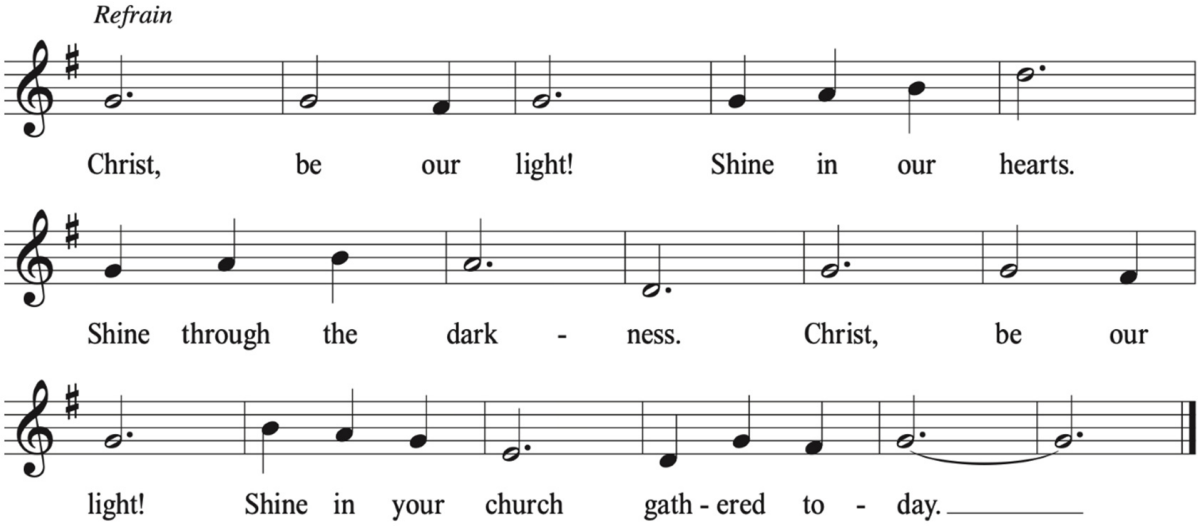
C Grant a glimpse of your glory in our wounded world.

P For all of us waiting for God's kingdom to come:

C Grant that we might have the peace of Christ as we wait, the love of Christ as we act, and the grace of Christ as we speak.

Candle Lighting

P This morning we light the first candle which reminds us that throughout history, God's people have spent time waiting, wandering and wondering about the timing of God's eternal plan. Like the people of old, we long for God's presence to illuminate the areas of life where we are called to wait. This morning we echo the words of the Psalmist, "Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!" (Psalm 27:14)



P God of all creation, we declare that you are the Eternal One. We confess to you, O Lord, that we easily grow impatient, when your word to us is to wait. Ignite within us a new and everlasting hope. We pray this in the name of Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Please be seated.

CHILDREN'S SERMON **Pastor Tim Linstrom**

SPECIAL MUSIC **"The Wick is Ready"** **LYFE Choir**

The wick is ready
To receive the flame!
To be enlightened by the promise
When our Savior has a name!

The wand is burning
And the wax is poured
Awaiting our Messiah
Who has been sent down by the Lord.

Here arrives the prophecy
Isaiah's words, our destiny
From the least of shepherds
Soon for all the world to see.

Something stirs on Gabriel's wings
Hear the choir of angels sing!
On a donkey Mary brings
The now and future King……..

A wreath of ivy
Four candles around
For hope and peace and joy and love
When the Son of God is found!

A fire Eternal
A light that's Divine
Illuminates my spirit
In the dark of Wintertime……..

_____

I'm the kid who kindles the candle
For the King who comes again!
The disciple of December
When my beacon light begins!
I'm the Lamplighter! Illuminator!
Torchbearer and Candlemaker!
I'm just a child with a birthday candle
For the newborn King……

The wind can-not blow out
The ember in my heart
No icy hand in the Holy land
Can tear my faith apart

No hurricane or tempest
No tornado, nor a gale
Can dim the light of Jesus
For my flame will never fail…
My flame will never fail…
My flame will never fail…

_____

My wick is ready
To receive the flame
To be enlightened by the promise
When Advent comes again!
The singing of the carols

The Hanging of the Greens!
The sweet anticipation
Of that someone still unseen.

Four more weeks and you will see
All the way from Galilee
Joe and Mary's journey
That we all are blessed to see

Underneath December sky
In a manger He shall lie
Surrounded by the shepherds
Yes, the time has now arrived…….

And I'll be ready
To illuminate the way!
I'll light the streets of Bethlehem
For that child born in the hay!

Just one more candle,
And we'll know His name!
And soon we'll come to Jesus,
Just like a candle to a flame.

Yes, soon we'll come to Jesus
Just like a candle to a flame!

Words and music by Bill Vaananen 2026

FIRST READING **Isaiah 64:1-9**

[1] O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—
[2] as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil—
to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!
[3] When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down; the mountains quaked at your presence.
[4] From ages past no one has heard,
no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you,
who works for those who wait for him.
[5] You meet those who gladly do right,
those who remember you in your ways.
But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed.
[6] We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.
We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
[7] There is no one who calls on your name
or attempts to take hold of you,
for you have hidden your face from us
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.
[8] Yet, O Lord, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.
[9] Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord,
and do not remember iniquity forever.
Now consider, we are all your people.
The word of the Lord

C **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING **1 Corinthians 1:3-9**

[3] Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

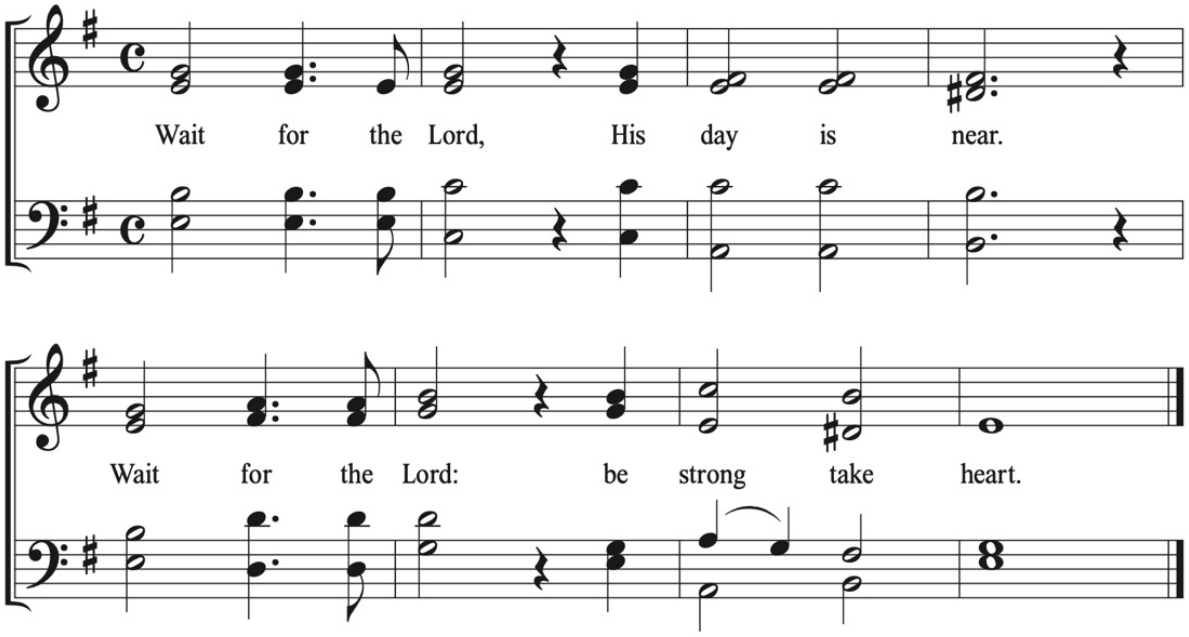
[4] I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, [5] for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—[6] just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—[7] so that you are not lacking in any gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. [8] He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. [9] God is faithful, by whom you were called into the partnership of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Please Stand.

ADVENT GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

REFRAIN



C **REFRAIN**

A The glory of the Lord shall be revealed.

C **REFRAIN**

GOSPEL **Mark 13:24-37**

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the thirteenth chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

P [Jesus said:] 24 "In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light,25 and the stars will be falling from
heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.
26 "Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power
and glory. 27 Then he will send out the angels and gather the elect from the
four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

28 "From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender
and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. 29 So also, when you
see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. 30
Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have
taken place. 31 Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass
away.

32 "But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven nor
the Son, but only the Father. 33 Beware, keep alert, for you do not know
when the time will come. 34 It is like a man going on a journey, when he
leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and
commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. 35 Therefore, keep awake, for
you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening or
at midnight or at cockcrow or at dawn, 36 or else he may find you asleep
when he comes suddenly. 37 And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."
The Gospel of the Lord.

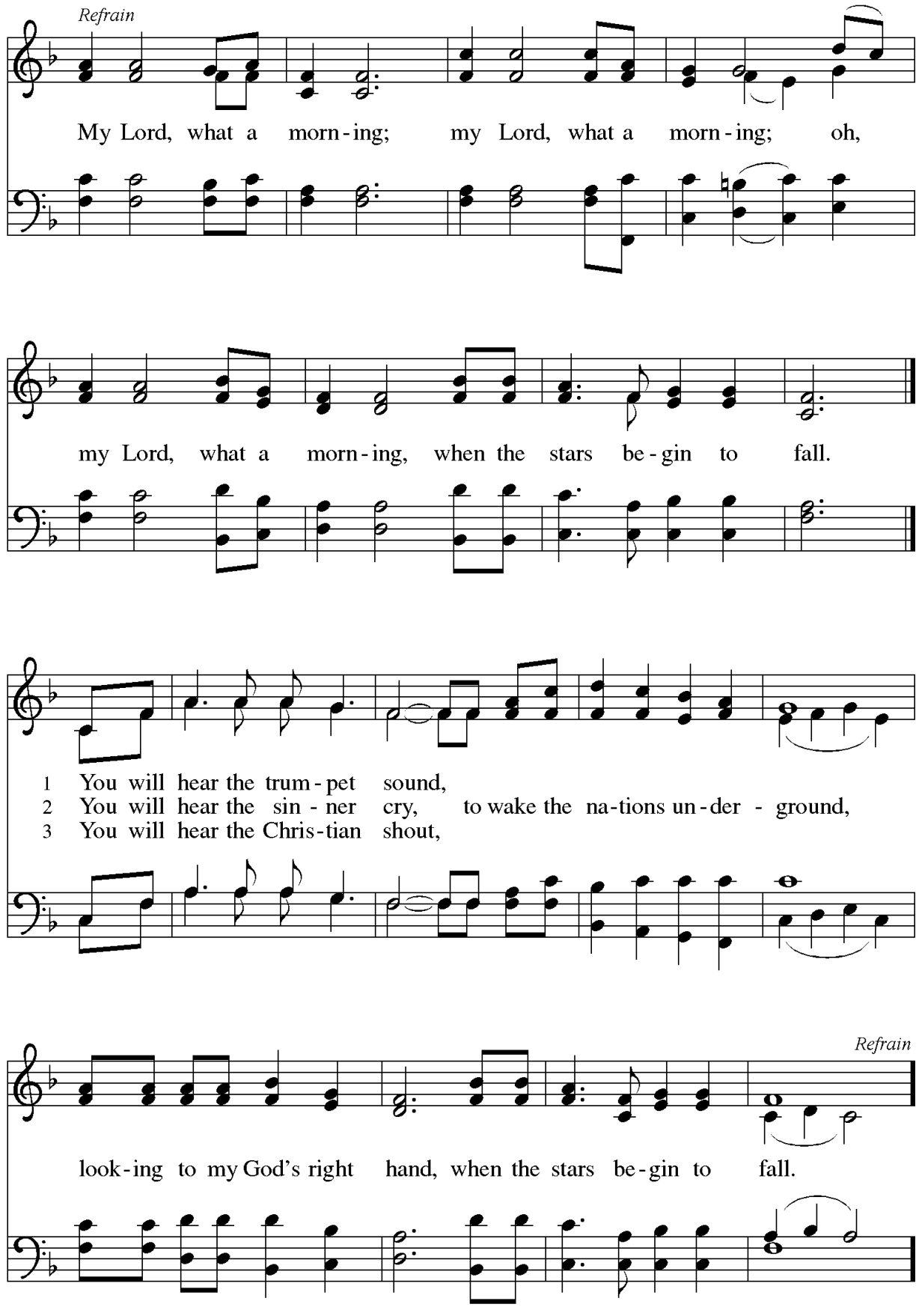
C Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON **Pastor Tim Linstrom**

Please Stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY **"My Lord What a Morning"** **ELW 438**



APOSTLES' CREED

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.

Please be seated.

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

A In hope and expectation, we bring to God our prayers for the church, the world, and all in need.

A Strengthen your church in this season of anticipation. Nourish all people who gather around word and water, bread and cup. Reassure any whose faith feels dry that you are always near. God, in your mercy,

C receive our prayer.

A Come and restore the earth. Give rest to weary lands and renewed life to species at risk. Make us wise stewards of the places we call home. God, in your mercy,

C receive our prayer.

A Bring peace among all nations and communities. Embolden leaders to seek creative and sustainable resolutions to war and conflict. Show us new possibilities in places where peace has been elusive. We pray for those serving in the military and their families, especially **Amelia Eastman, Thomas Menter** (grandson of Louise), **Dylan Utterback** (son of Julie & Joel), **Dylan Glenner, Hannah Best** (son and daughter of Anne-Marie and Jonathan Glenner), **Luke Livingston** (grand-nephew of Scott and Jan Schwanke), **and Nicholas Gawor** (friend of the Weglarz's).
God, in your mercy,

C receive our prayer.

A Sustain all who are heavy with weariness, grief, illness, or worry. Comfort families who are estranged from one another and any who are separated from loved ones. We especially pray for **Carol Bertrand, Ruth Berman, Gordy Duprey, Elizabeth Falato, Marian McBride, Chris Miller, Cathy Nathan, Tom Weglarz, Allison Wittich, Paul Stortz** (uncle of Kelly Wittich), **Sharon Currier** (sister of Eileen Weglarz), **Deb Fedro** (friend of Robin Saydak), **Mick Garrison** (family friend of the Fencls), **Sheryl Hartman** (cousin of Daaron Dohler), **Laura Hansel, Lucy Hansel** (sister and extended family member of Mary Detjen), **Larry and Lorraine Mulvaney** (Friends of the Weglarzs), **the Chase Petersen family** (friends of Amy Dohler), **Kari, Sydney, and Luke Stocks** (daughter in-law and grandchildren of Dorothy and Ron Stocks), **Michael Ungari, Lenita and Reggie Spears** (relative & friends of the Labellarte family), **Coco & Lukas** (grandchildren of JoAnne Schwarcz). Surround all with care and consolation. God, in your mercy,

C **receive our prayer.**

A Inspire liturgists, preachers, musicians, and all who lead our worship and prayer. May we be prepared as we await Christ's coming this Advent season. God, in your mercy,

C **receive our prayer.**

A You embrace all the saints from the far reaches of the earth. We remember with care all who have died and now abide in their eternal home. God, in your mercy,

C **receive our prayer.**

A We entrust these and the prayers of our hearts to you, most holy God, in the name of Christ Jesus our Savior.

C **Amen.**

Please stand.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always

C **and also with you.**

All the people greet one another through the sharing of the peace.

Please be seated.

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY **"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"** **Robert Hobby**

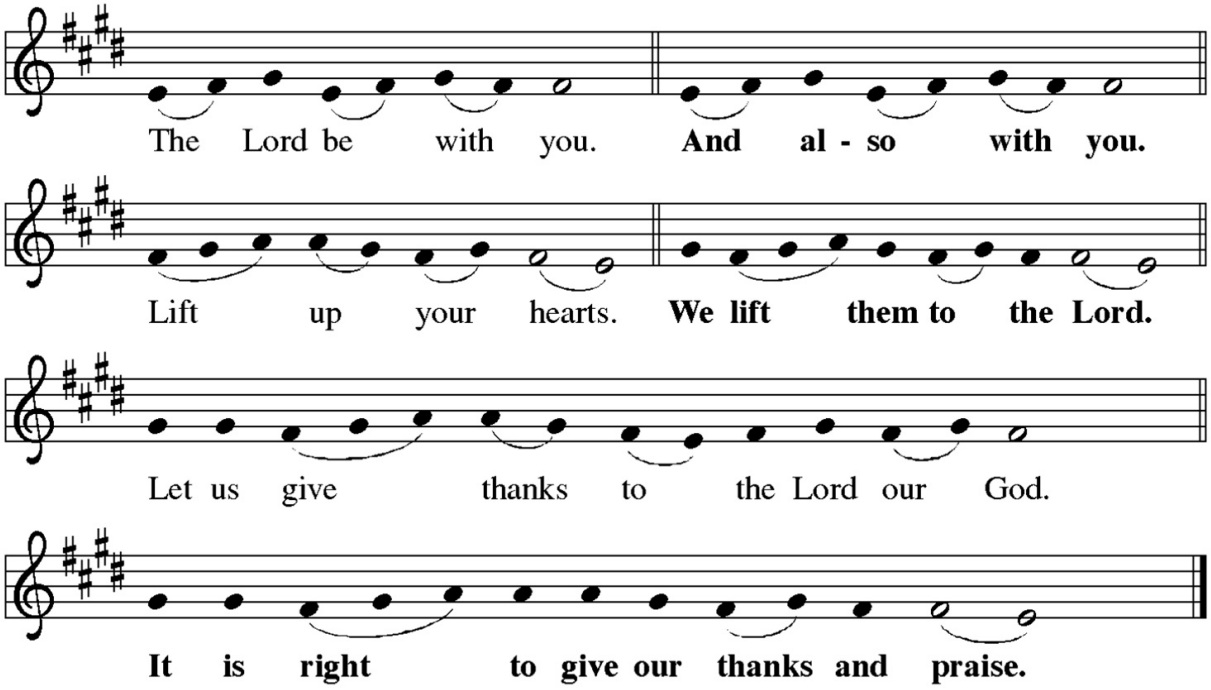
Please stand as the offering is brought forward.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

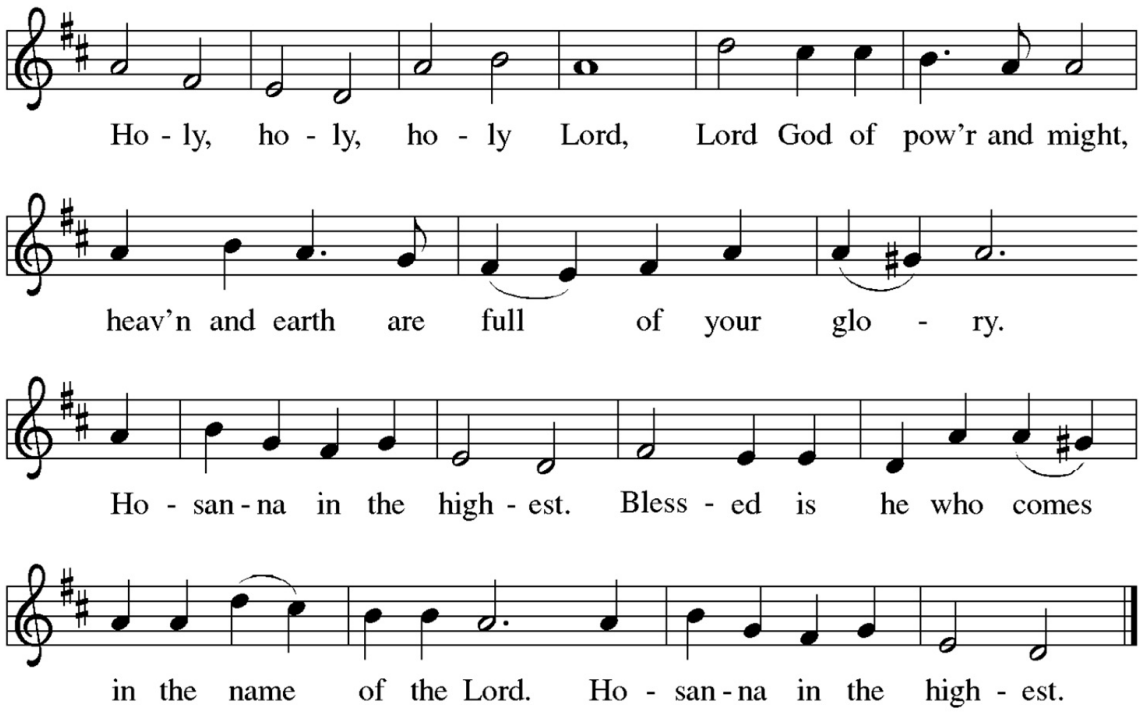
A Holy Creator,
we are the clay and you are the potter;
we are all the work of your hand.
Receive these gifts shape them and our lives for your purpose,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



P 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 earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



P Holy God, our Bread of life, our Table, and our Food,
you created a world in which all might be satisfied by your abundance. You dined with Abraham and Sarah, promising them life, and fed your people Israel with manna from heaven. You sent your Son to eat with sinners and to become food for the world. 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.
Remembering, therefore, his life given for us and his rising from the grave, we await his coming again to share with us the everlasting feast. By your Spirit nurture and sustain us with this meal: strengthen us to serve all in hunger and want, and by this bread and cup make of us the body of your Son. Through him all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

C Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P All who believe in our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, are welcome at the table of the Lord. Let us pray together as our Lord taught us.

C 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.

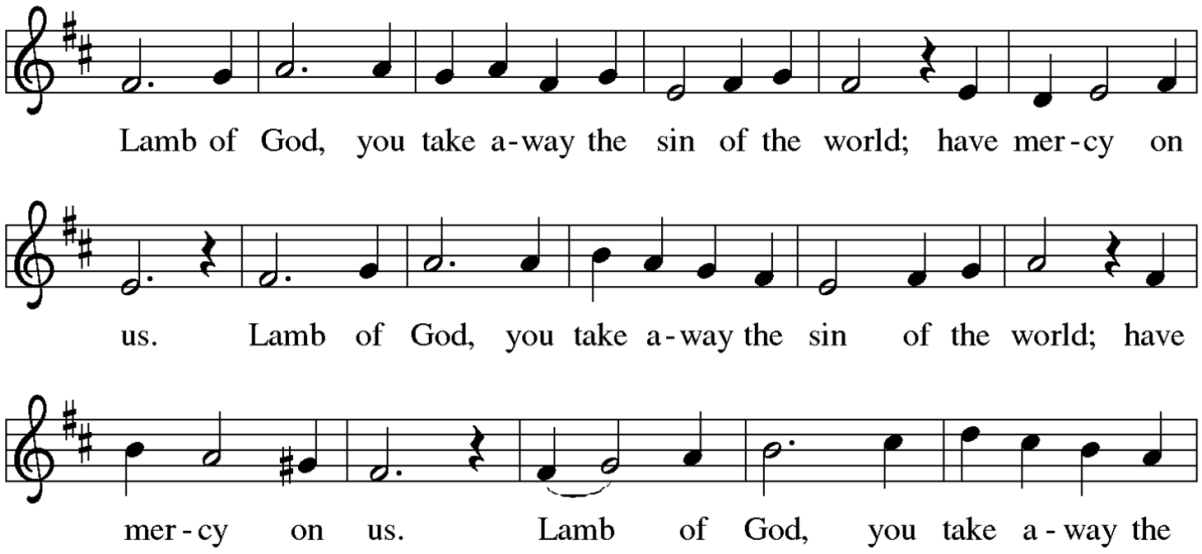
Please be seated.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

P The glory of the Lord is revealed!
Come and taste God's presence.

C Amen.

COMMUNION CANTICLE

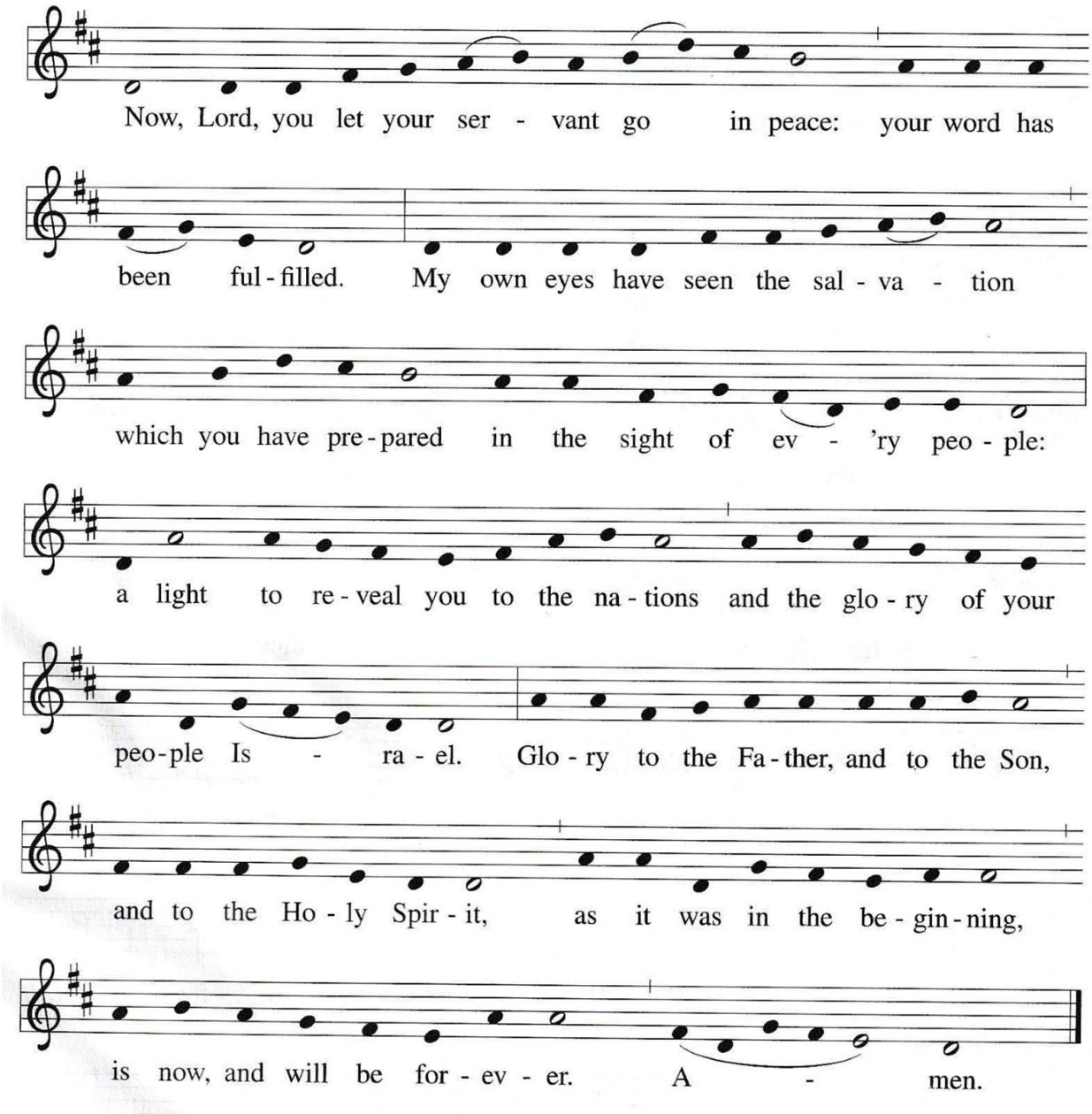


P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen.

Stand after all have been communed

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE





POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A Providing God,
you feed your flock like a shepherd
and gather your people in your arms.
We praise you for the care and sustenance
you give at this meal and always.
As we leave your table, carry us near your heart,
and send us with confidence in the way
of Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C Amen.

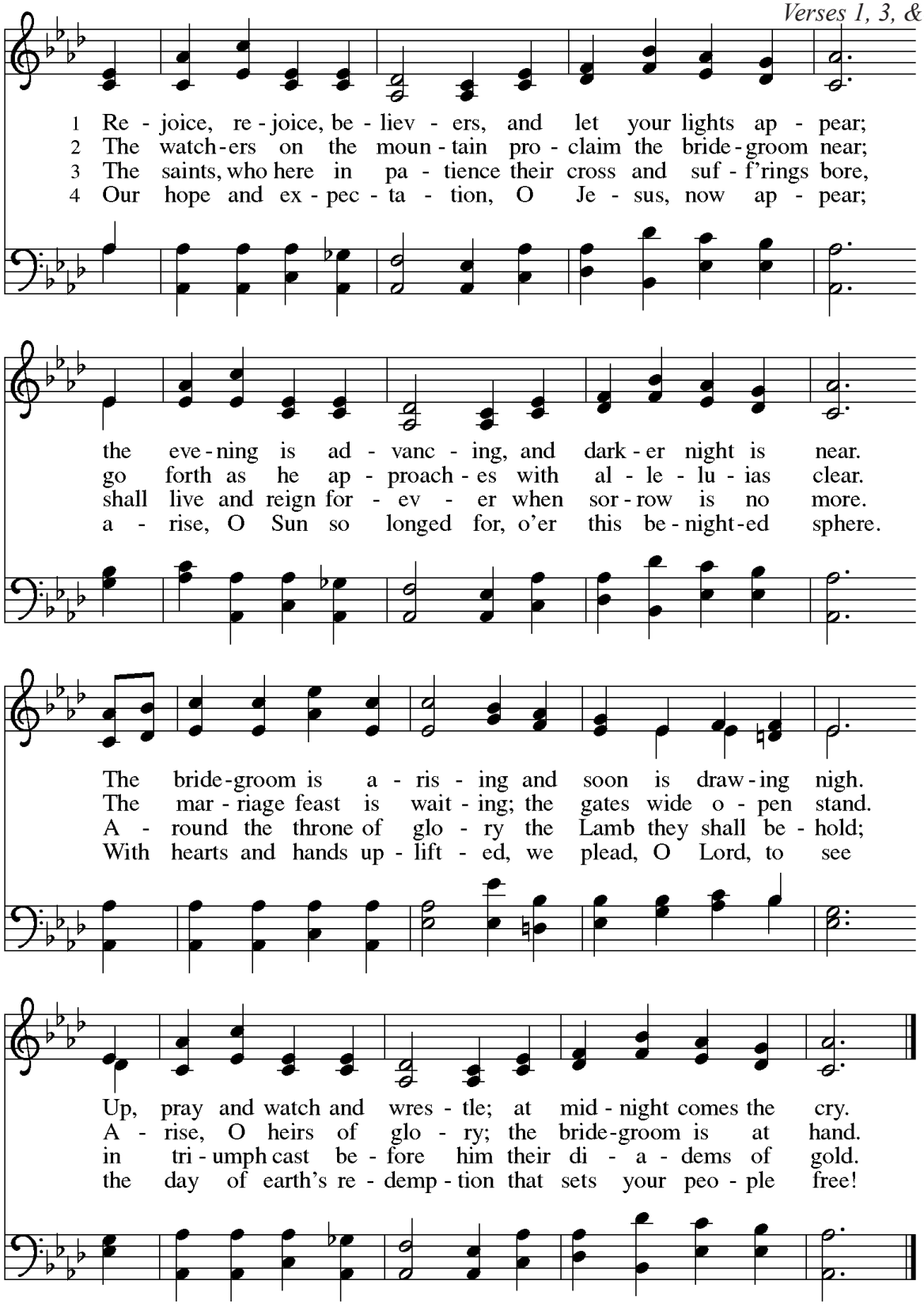
BENEDICTION

P God our provider,
God our feast,
God our companion,
☩ bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

SENDING HYMN **"Rejoice, Rejoice Believers"** **ELW 244**

Verses 1, 3, &4



ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL
A Go in peace. Keep awake
C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE "The King Shall Come" Michael Burkhardt

Sanctuary flowers were donated by Carolyn Raymond in memory of her parents.

HANGING OF THE GREENS — Today November 29th.
After our 9:30 worship service, we will be preparing the church for the Advent and Christmas seasons by putting up the Christmas tree and decorating the church. This will be a fun event for your whole family to enjoy and participate in. Please join us as we all work together to make our worship space festive and beautiful for the holidays.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM — Sunday Dec. 13th.
Join us after service for this year's Christmas program, "The Sound Of Christmas." This Christmas story takes the characters and songs from the 1965 film The Sound of Music and weaves them into a new Christmas tale.

CHRISTMAS ENSEMBLE — Carrying on the wonderful tradition started by Nancy Fencl, we will again be putting together a Christmas Ensemble to play prelude at the 5:30 Christmas Eve service. We will have one rehearsal on Sunday, December 20th at 10:45. A link to sign up is on the music page of the church website at www.holyspirit-elca.org/music and a physical sign up sheet is in the Church Gathering Space. Please contact Jim Garbrecht or Patrick Cantagallo with any questions.

ADVENT BANNER —We have a new Advent banner hanging in our sanctuary that represents the themes of this season which include: Waiting, Preparing, and Hope. The color for the season of Advent is blue, representing The prophet, Isaiah (c700 BCE) who lived during a trying time and prayed "O That you would tear open the heavens and come down" (Isaiah 64:1). God heard that plea and responded by "coming down" with the birth of his son, Jesus. During Advent we celebrate that Christ has come, but we also look forward to when Christ will come down again to bring an end to all that is contrary to God. The color for the Advent season is blue symbolizing hope.

STEWARDSHIP — Thank you to all who have made a financial commitment to our church for the coming year. As of now, we have received 33 pledges totaling $205,760, and we anticipate more to come in. If you have not had time to prayerfully consider how you will respond to God's blessing this year, please do so. There are "Estimate of Giving" pledge forms available in the gathering area of the church, or you can submit your pledge online through the church's website. Our ministry depends on the response of our members and friends with commitments of time, talents, and treasures. Every commitment is important for we are all connected to one another as one body in Christ. Send in your pledge today!

ANGEL TREE — One of the most rewarding Christmas activities around Holy Spirit is the sharing of gifts with inner city children. Each year, we receive the names of children from Lutheran Day Nursery/After School Program for whom we purchase gifts at Christmas. These children have come to be called our "angels."

Sign Up: There are two ways to sign up for a child.

1. Pick a name off the tree in the Gathering Space.
   Be sure to sign your name and information on the clipboard.
2. Link to the Sign-up-Genius is on the church website holyspirit-elca.org/#angels or by scanning this QR code

Appropriate Items: We strive to provide each child with an age-appropriate toy, an article of warm clothing (like a shirt, pants, sweatsuit etc.) and a new or gently used book. However, if there is ever a time to spoil a child, this is one of those times that it's okay.

Wrapped & Labelled gifts are due to the church by Sunday, December 13th. Please be sure to properly label all your gifts with the child's name when you return them so that they are delivered to the right child. You can drop off during office hours or on Sundays during services.

If you have any questions or need help wrapping your gifts, please contact Kari Davenport, karikdavenport@yahoo.com or 773-844-7542.

PRAYER GROUP — Our prayer group meets at 9:30a.m. on Thursday mornings in room 3. If you'd like to pray with us, please come! We'd love for you to join us.

THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY — Join us on Thursday mornings from 10:15 to 11:30 for a time of Biblical reflection and spirited conversation. In December we will have an Advent-oriented study in the weeks leading up to Christmas. Your thoughts and opinions are valued as we learn from the experts and from each other, so don't miss this opportunity to grow in understanding and faith. And we always close our time together in prayer.

QUILTERS — The Quilting Ministry meets on the third Tuesday of the month at 10:00 a.m.

ON-LINE GIVING AND TEXT TO GIVE — Our secure online giving option makes it more convenient for members and visitors to donate. Giving is also as easy as sending a text with our text-to-give feature. Text the amount you want to donate to 844-573-1379. A registration link will be texted back for you to enter your information. Tap "Process" to complete your donation. Please scan this code with your phone to donate using our secure online giving page.

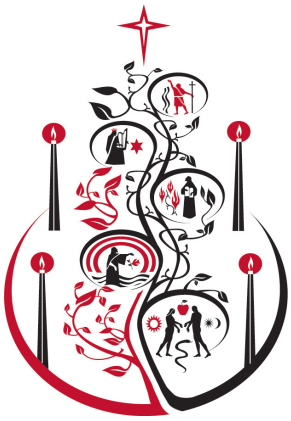
LIVE STREAM — Our services are live-streamed and archived on our Holy Spirit YouTube Channel. www.youtube.com/@churchinthewoods-holyspirit6256 or scan the QR code. Please reach out to Daaron Dohler or Ryan Hathaway if you have any questions.

Without exception,

Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit welcomes YOU today!

Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit welcomes
all to worship, to hear the Good News, to celebrate
the sacraments, and to share in fellowship and service.

We welcome new visitors, old friends, and our members;
We welcome single, married, widowed and divorced;
We welcome all regardless of age, sex, race, or national origin;
We welcome all people of any sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression;
We welcome all people of any ability or challenge;
We welcome all regardless of socioeconomic status;
We welcome all who are happy, sad, rejoicing, grieving, celebrating or recovering;
We welcome all who are seeking justice and peace among all peoples and nations;
We welcome all who are seeking God's love and God's grace.



Christmas Program and Sing-Along — Sunday Dec. 13th. "The Sound Of Christmas" takes the characters and songs from the 1965 film The Sound of Music and weaves them into a new Christmas tale. Sunday, December 14 at 10:45 AM.

Christmas Eve Worship Schedule —

3:30 PM - Service of Candles and Communion with special music.

5:30 PM - Family worship with Candles and Communion; the Christmas Orchestra, Youth and Cherub Choirs.

Poinsettias for Christmas

Help us decorate the altar for Christmas Eve services by donating poinsettias to the glory of God, in honor or memory of someone special. Cost is $20.00 per plant. Checks may be made payable to Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit. Please complete the form below and return it along with your check to the church office by Dec. 14.



Name_____

Phone _____

Number of Poinsettias _____@ $20 each _____

Given to the Glory of God and in memory / honor of:

_____

Poinsettias may be picked up following the 5:00 PM Christmas Eve service or any time during the following week.

HOLY SPIRIT HAPPENINGS

Sunday November 29	8:30 am	Adult Choir
	9:30 am	Service of Holy Communion
	10:45am	Hanging of the Greens
Tuesday, December 1st	4:15 pm	LYFE
	4:30 pm	Confirmation
	4:30 pm	Adult Choir
Thursday December 3	9:30 am	Prayer Group
	10:15 am	Bible Study
Sunday December 6	8:30 am	Adult Choir
	9:30 am	Service of Holy Communion
	10:45am	Bell Choir

Pastor	Rev. Timothy Linstrom
Office Manager	Ciara Crews
Youth Choir Director:	Bill Vaananen,
Adult Choir Director and Organist	Karen M. Jirsa
Children's Ministry Director	Jennifer Williams
Assistant Minister	Andy Eastmond
Ushers	Rachel Lambrecht, Amy Lambrecht
Greeters	
Communion Deacons	Trudy Bettiker
Live Streaming	Jeanne Nelson
Church Office Summer Hours:	
	Monday— Friday 8:30 a.m.- 2:30 p.m.
Church email:	lutheranholyspirit@gmail.com
Church Phone number:	847-945-1550