

## WEEKLY CALENDAR

**SUNDAY, 12/7** 8:15AM WORSHIP  
 9:30AM SUNDAY SCHOOL  
 MAKING CHRISMONS— ALL ARE WELCOME!  
 10:45AM WORSHIP WITH ASL INTERPRETER  
 5:30 DINNER CHURCH WORSHIP, 6:00 DINNER

---

**MONDAY, 12/8** 6:00PM PRAYER GROUP  
 7:00PM BIBLE STUDY

---

**TUESDAY, 12/9** 6:00PM STEWARDSHIP FOR ALL SEASONS MEETING  
 7:00PM STEWARDSHIP MEETING  
 7:00PM MEN'S GROUP

---

**WEDNESDAY, 12/10** 7:00PM COUNCIL MEETING

---

**THURSDAY, 12/11** NOON BIBLE STUDY  
 7:00PM CHOIR REHEARSAL

---

**FRIDAY, 12/12**

---

**SATURDAY, 12/13** 8AM MEN'S GROUP BREAKFAST AT PENN ZION  
 9AM FOOD PANTRY DISTRIBUTION

---

**SUNDAY, 12/14** 8:15AM WORSHIP  
 9:30AM SUNDAY SCHOOL  
 10:45AM WORSHIP

**Men's Group Breakfast .....** will meet Saturday, Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>  
 at 8:00AM at **Penn Zion in Harrison City.**

**Sunday, December 28<sup>th</sup> one Service at 10:00am** -  
 Carols and Lessons

**December Community Meal...** Monday, Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>  
 Doors open at 5:00 PM. Dinner is served at 6:00 PM.  
 Please sign up if you can help!

**2026 Church Directory ....** Any updates to addresses or  
 phone numbers can be emailed to [office@htlc.church](mailto:office@htlc.church) for  
 the new Directory that will be available early 2026.

**Welcome Members and Visitors today!**

### **Bible Studies.....**

Christmas Carols are a central part of the season. This Advent, we will have multiple different opportunities to learn more about carols and deepen their meaning for us.

Monday Bible Study at 7 pm will look at the history of Christmas carols and how they have developed over time.

Wednesdays at 6 pm there will be an online study of four different carols that will be part of our Christmas Eve services with their history, Biblical references and meaning.

Thursdays at noon will look at Christ in carols. What do we learn about Jesus from our songs?

Sunday, December 28 there will be one service at 10am which will be lessons and carols with communion.

Please join us as we grow in our faith through Christmas carols.

### **Women's Faith and Fellowship .....**

December 17 will be our Christmas Party! We will meet in the fellowship hall at 6:00pm. If you can, bring a traditional, ethnic, holiday dish from your family to share.

Talk to Pastor Sarah or Danielle about the gift exchange.

All women are welcome!



The **Altar Flowers** are  
 presented to the Glory of God  
 and in honor of Pat Walt's birthday  
 by her family.

## Youth grades 7-12....

12/7- noon- meeting at Panera for lunch and shopping for Seton Hill children's Christmas gifts.

12/21- 9:30 am- Youth Christmas Party during Sunday school

**Children up through 6th grade will be singing on Dec. 21<sup>st</sup> at both services.** If you worship at 10:45am, please have your child at the church in the Miller Parlor at 9 am to sing at the end of first service. For those who worship at first service, children will be singing at the beginning of second service. Thank you to all who are working with the children to lift their voices in praise of Jesus!

## Tuesday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> at Noon: Christmas Eve Eve

There will be a service on Tuesday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> at NOON in the Church for anyone who cannot make the Christmas Eve services for any reason. Following the service, lunch will be provided in the Miller Parlor. If you need a ride to this service, please call the office.

## Sunday, Dec. 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 pm: Blue Christmas Service

Blue Christmas (also called the Longest Night) is a day in the [Advent](#) season marking the [longest night of the year](#). Blue Christmas services offer special recognition of the struggles that many people face during this season, while providing a safe place of rest, comfort and healing, with the assurance that Christ, the light of the world is coming.

**4:00PM – FAMILY SERVICE WITH  
CANDLELIGHTING**

**8:00PM- TRADITIONAL SERVICE WITH  
CANDLELIGHTING**

## ASSISTING IN TODAY'S WORSHIP

	8:15	10:45
Assisting Minister	Heather Newell	Jennifer Fitzgerald
Communion Assistants	Doug Hillier Delany Hillier	Diane Kowalski Jeffrey Horvath
Lector	Bob Cessna	Sean Keiser
Acolyte	Landen Hillier	Justin Keiser
Greeters		Eric Keiser Debbie Kunkle
Altar Guild		

Set-up Saturday, Dec. 6		Tom and LouAnne Dawson
Sunday, Dec. 7	8:15	Lois Brown and Debbie Reed
	10:45	Zack and Samantha Tinsley
Set-up Saturday, Dec. 13		Nina Saccamano and Debbie Curtis
Sunday, Dec. 14	8:15	Lori Thomas
	10:45	Nina Saccamano and Debbie Curtis

## **Food Pantry** 2025 Distribution Dates: Dec. 13

2026 Dates: February 21 (Easter distribution), April 11, June 13, August 8, October 17 (Thanksgiving), December 12 (Christmas)

### Items needed currently, special requests:

Pancake mix      Maple Syrup      Sugar cookie mix      Liquid soap  
Canned frosting      Candy      Laundry detergent

### Items always requested:

Mac & cheese/pasta      Applesauce      Baked beans      Canned fruit  
Canned tuna      Cereal      Granola bars      Pasta Sauce  
Oatmeal      Paper Towels      Peanut butter & Jelly  
Potato/rice mix      Pudding Cups      Toilet Paper  
Cheese Crackers      Cake/muffin/brownie mix  
Chef Boyardee      Canned Vegetables

Many thanks for the generous donations to date! If you would like to donate money, please mark "food pantry" in the subject line on your check or you may use one of the pew envelopes. Food pantry contact: Jodi Waugaman at 724-516-9680 or [waugawoman86@comcast.net](mailto:waugawoman86@comcast.net)



## **Worship Plan for Sunday, December 7, 2025**

2 Advent

Second Sunday of Advent

ELW Holy Communion Setting Two

Sunday, December 7, 2025

### **Introduction to the day**

*At the heart of our Advent preparation stands John the Baptist, who calls us to repent and make a new beginning. As the darkness increases we turn toward the approaching light of Christ. For Christians he is the root of Jesse, the righteous judge who welcomes all, especially the poor and meek of the earth. We wait with hope for that day when the wolf will dwell with the lamb, and there will be no more hurt or destruction. From the Lord's table we are sent in the spirit of John the Baptist to proclaim that in Christ the kingdom of God has come near*

### **\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Beloved, we gather to remember who we are, not who the world tells us to be.

**We tell the story together of the day that all the earth awaits.**

We recall the story of God's people, how God has called us to live in peace and righteousness in a world full of conflict and twisted morality.

**We tell the story together of the day that all the earth awaits.**

We recount the story of our journey with God, the moments of God's provision, God's prodding, and God's prophetic guidance.

**We tell the story together of the day that all the earth awaits.**

We gather to repent and return anew to God's story that guides our lives to work for peace and flourishing for all God's creation.

**We gather to tell the story of the day that all the earth awaits.**

**Thanks be to God! Amen.**

*Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, May 2025*

**\*GATHERING SONG    *Warm the Time of Winter***

# WARM THE TIME OF WINTER

Gathering Rite

Ruth Duck

Lori True

## 1. Gathering Song



1. When the wind of win - ter blows, bring - ing times of  
2. When we shiv - er in des - pair, when the chill of  
3. When in days of fall - en snow, change con-founds or



sol - i - tude, fill the si - lent, ic - y night;  
death comes near, hold us, Spir - it, calm our fear,  
love burns low, from the ash - es may there rise



be our hearts' com - pas - sion.  
while the eve - ning deep - ens.  
phoe - nix of our grow - ing.



Ho-ly light, warm our night; warm the time of win-ter.



Ho-ly light, warm our night; warm the time of win-ter.



## \*KYRIE

### Pastor (sing):

As we prepare to celebrate the mystery of Christ's love, let us acknowledge our failures and ask the Lord for pardon and strength. You came as a child of Bethlehem to gather us into the peace of your Kingdom.

## 2. Penitential Rite

Text of verses for Penitential  
Rite and Music: Lori True

*Priest: (spoken over introduction)* As we prepare to celebrate the mystery of Christ's love, let us acknowledge our failures and ask the Lord for pardon and strength.

### Introduction

Em D/E C/E D/E

*C Instrument*

*mf*

*simile*



8

Em D/E A Bm

*Priest/Cantor*

1. You



# Verses

9 Em D/E C/E D/E

came as a child of Beth - le - hem. 7 to  
 (2.) come as the Son of Mar - y, 7 Em-  
 (3.) come in glo - ry as God's own Son, with sal-

*simile*

13 Em D/E A

gath - er us in - to the peace of your king - dom.  
 man - u - el, God with us.  
 va - tion for all your peo - ple.

DAVID  
sings  
verses

17 *f* *Cantor*

Am Em/G D/F# Bm7 D/A A

Ky - ri - e, Ky - ri - e, Ky - ri - e, e - le - i - son.  
Chri - ste, Chri - ste, Chri - ste, e - le - i - son.  
Ky - ri - e, Ky - ri - e, Ky - ri - e, e - le - i - son.

\*ALL,  
join in  
the  
refrain

21 *F* *All*

Cmaj7 D/F# Bm7 Cmaj7

Ky - ri - e, Ky - ri - e, Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.  
Chri - ste, Chri - ste, Chri - ste e - le - i - son.  
Ky - ri - e, Ky - ri - e, Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.



**Pastor (sing):**

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

25 1., 2. 3. Am Em/G  
C Instrument  
2. You— Priest: (spoken) May almighty God have mercy on us,  
3. You will

29 D/F# Cmaj7 rit. D Em  
mf  
forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life. All: Amen.  
mf rit.

**\*ALL: Amen.**

### **\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

*The presiding minister leads the prayer of the day.*

Let us pray.

*A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming nurture our growth as people of repentance and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

### **FIRST READING: Isaiah 11:1-10**

*Isaiah describes the coming of a future, ideal ruler who will renew David's royal line (the stump of Jesse). Gifted by the spirit of God, this ruler will reign with perfect justice. Enmity and danger will be restored to harmony and peaceful coexistence.*

<sup>1</sup> A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. <sup>2</sup> The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. <sup>3</sup> His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see or decide by what his ears hear, <sup>4</sup> but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

<sup>6</sup> The wolf shall live with the lamb; the leopard shall lie down with the kid; the calf and the lion will feed together, and a little child shall lead them.

<sup>7</sup> The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. <sup>8</sup> The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

<sup>9</sup> They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.

<sup>10</sup> On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## **ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING (lector)**

Advent reminds us that we are people who share a story, the story of Jesus, who enacts peace by judging in favor of the poor and deciding with equity for the meek of the earth. We long for the day when "the wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion will feed together, and a little child shall lead them" (*Isaiah 11:6*).

**Today, we choose to live the story of peace, believing that true peace comes when we seek the flourishing of all God's creation.**

We light this candle of peace as a sign of our commitment to bring Light to the places the world seeks to hide until that day when all creation lives together in harmony and abundance.

*Light the second candle of the Advent wreath.*

### **\*SECOND READING: Romans 15:4-13**

*God's promise to include Gentiles within the circle of God's blessed people has been fulfilled in Jesus Christ. Christians live out their unity by welcoming and encouraging each other just as Christ has welcomed them into God's family.*

<sup>4</sup> Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. <sup>5</sup> May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup> so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>7</sup> Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. <sup>8</sup> For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the ancestors <sup>9</sup> and that the gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will confess you among the gentiles and sing praises to your name"; <sup>10</sup> and again he says, "Rejoice, O gentiles, with his people"; <sup>11</sup> and again, "Praise the Lord, all you gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him"; <sup>12</sup> and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the gentiles; in him the gentiles shall hope." <sup>13</sup> May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.  
The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Based on VENI EMMANUEL  
Stephen Pishner

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

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

Copyright © 2000 by GIA Publications, Inc. All Rights Reserved

## \*GOSPEL: Matthew 3:1-12

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

*Just before Jesus begins his public ministry, John the Baptist appears, calling people to mend their ways and speaking of a powerful one who is to come.*

<sup>1</sup> In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, <sup>2</sup>“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

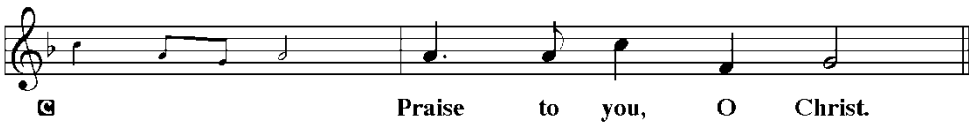
<sup>3</sup> This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,  
“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:  
‘Prepare the way of the Lord;  
make his paths straight.’ ”

<sup>4</sup> Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. <sup>5</sup> Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region around the Jordan were going out to him, <sup>6</sup> and they were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins.

<sup>7</sup> But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for his baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? <sup>8</sup> Therefore, bear fruit worthy of repentance, <sup>9</sup> and do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor,' for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. <sup>10</sup> Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

<sup>11</sup> "I baptize you with water for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is more powerful than I, and I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>12</sup> His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

The gospel of the Lord.



## **CHILDRENS' SERMON**

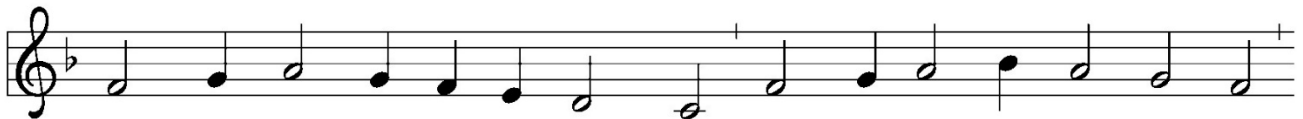
## **SERMON**

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY** *Comfort, Comfort Now My People* (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.

***\*Apostles' Creed***

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 ASST MIN.**

In the hushed anticipation of your coming, O Lord, kindle in us the desire to remain awake; that we might be ready for your coming and eager to pray.

O God, in days to come, the mountain of your house will be established, and your joy shall reign. We pray for the church, that you might teach us your ways and that we might walk in your paths.  
Come, Lord Jesus, **receive our prayer.**

Out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and you, O God, shall judge between the nations. We pray for our nation, and all nations, that your peace would come to every corner of the earth.  
Come, Lord Jesus, **receive our prayer.**

In your Kingdom, O Lord, wolves lie down with lambs and children play with serpents without fear. We pray for the sick, the suffering, and those in distress of any kind (especially...);  
heal all injuries, comfort all grief,  
and settle all wrongs.  
Come, Lord Jesus, **receive our prayer.**

In your Kingdom, O Lord, even the wilderness and dry land are glad and rejoice. We pray for those who rejoice this week as they celebrate their birthday and anniversaries; that they might obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing might flee away.  
Come, Lord Jesus, **receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be added.*

In the fullness of time, O God, you sent your son to be born of our sister Mary. And his name was Emmanuel: God with Us. We thank you for your Presence with us, and we pray that you might be always present with those whom we love but see no longer.  
Come, Lord Jesus, **receive our prayer.**

### **Pastor**

Come among us, O God, and hear our prayers;  
so that when your Son Jesus comes among us  
with great might, and in manner mild,  
we might recognize his face and his voice,  
and come to adore him. Amen.

### **\*PEACE**

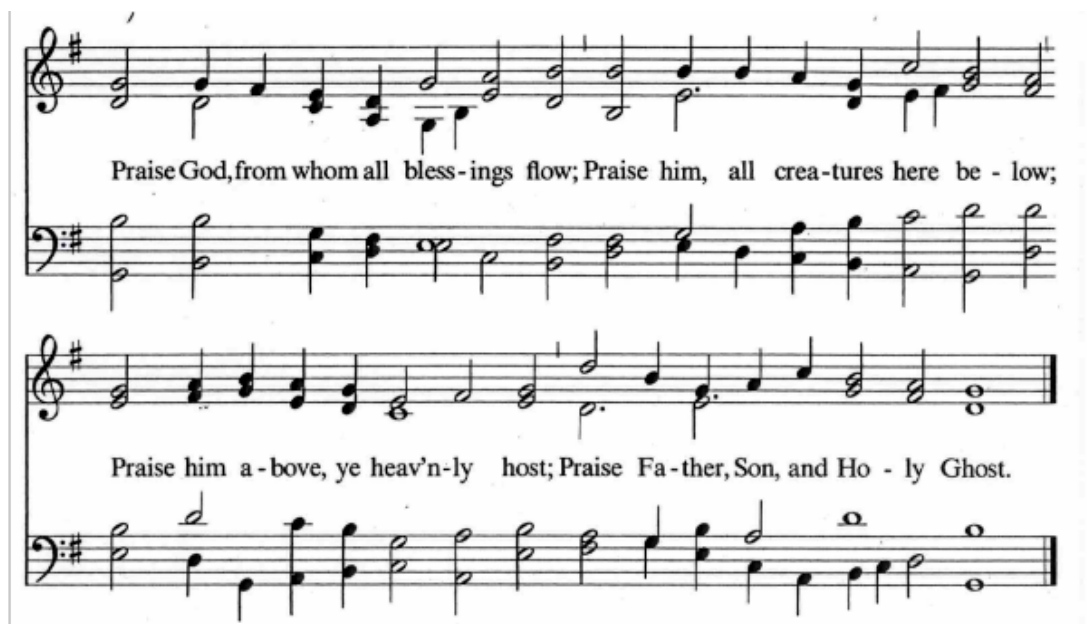
The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

### **OFFERING**

Choir Anthem: *On Jordan's Bank the Baptists Cry*



### \*OFFERTORY RESPONSE



Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; Praise him, all crea-tures here be - low;

Praise him a - bove, ye heav'n-ly host; Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

### \*OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Persistent God of new paths, we have been called to prepare the way. In this season of turning and anticipation, we offer these gifts as signs that we long to live by your story. In the wilderness of fear and want, may this offering clear a path for hope to be seen, known, and shared. In the name of the one who is coming and is already among us—Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

**\*DIALOGUE** Pastor

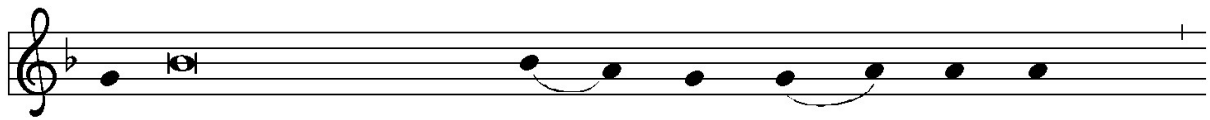
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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

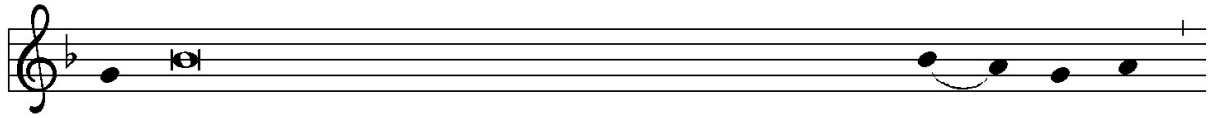
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

**\*PREFACE**



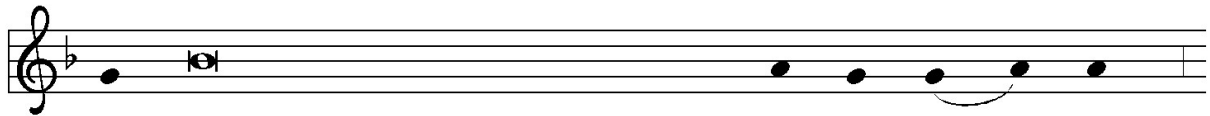
It is indeed right, our du - ty and our joy,



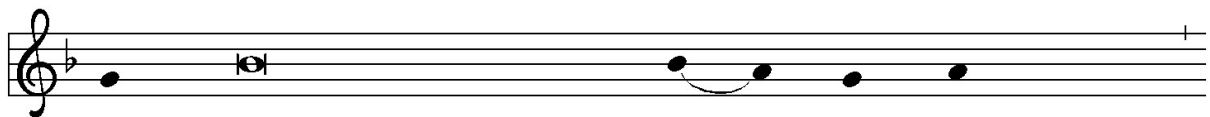
that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you,



al - mighty and merciful God, through our Sav - ior Je - sus Christ.



You comforted your people with the promise of the Re - deem - er,



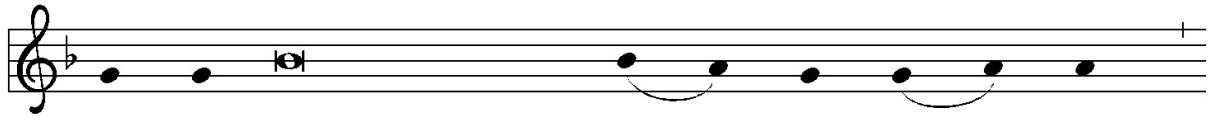
through whom you will also make all things new



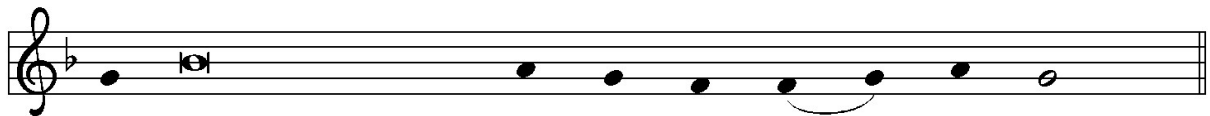
in the day when he comes to judge the world in righ - teous-ness.



And so, with all the choirs of an - gels,



with the church on earth and the hosts of heav - en,



we praise your name and join their un - end - ing hymn:

**\*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

Holy, Holy, Holy  
*Great Thanksgiving*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



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



Ho - san - na in the high - est, 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Schubert, 1797–1828; adapt. Richard Proulx, b. 1937  
Adapt. © 1985, 1989 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638 [www.giamusic.com](http://www.giamusic.com)  
800.442.3358 All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

### **\*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life: Blessed are you for the birth of creation. Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.  
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.  
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.  
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.  
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,  
the Word made flesh.

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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us,  
full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and  
resurrection. We look with hope for his coming. **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal.  
May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light.  
Bring the gift of peace on earth. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate,  
Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

### **\*LORD'S PRAYER** Pastor

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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**

Here is life. God is with us. Come, receive what God has promised

## **COMMUNION SONG**

### Jesus, Lamb of God

Je - sus, Lamb of God, have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins, have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world,

grant us peace, grant us peace.

Music: *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Schubert, 1797–1828; adapt. Richard Proulx, b. 1937  
Adapt. © 1985, 1989 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638 [www.giamusic.com](http://www.giamusic.com)  
800.442.3358 All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

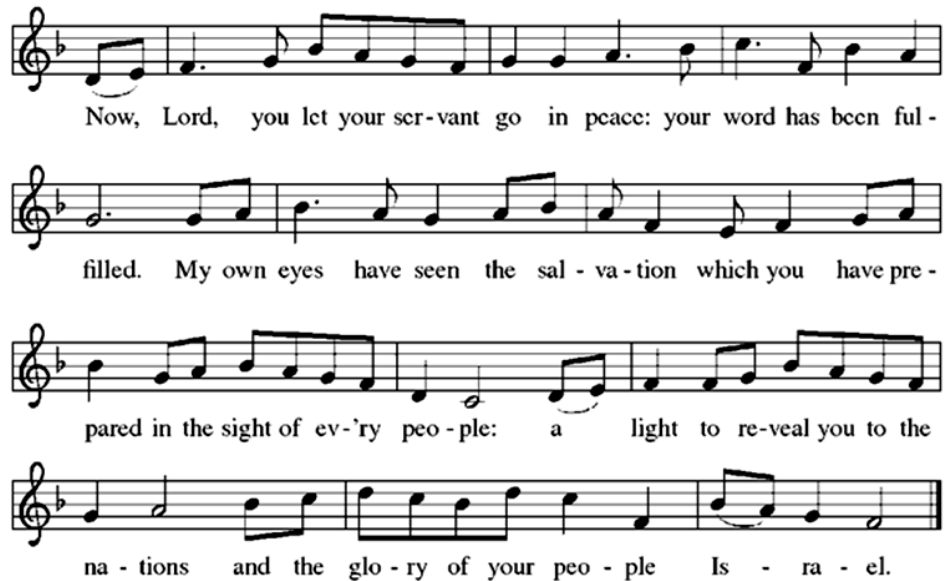
## **COMMUNION**

Hymn During Communion: ***There's A Voice in the Wilderness #255***

## **\*COMMUNION BLESSING** Pastor

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

## \*SONG AFTER COMMUNION



Now, Lord, 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 *assisting minister*

Let us pray.

God our host, at this table you have fed us with joy and gladness. Send us forth, eager to share the feast, welcome the stranger, and bear good fruit in the name of Jesus. **Amen.**

## \*BENEDICTION **Pastor**

Advent people, go now in the blessing and inspiration of God to live God's story wherever you go, that your lives may be an invitation to others to join in the journey to the day that all the earth awaits. **Amen.**

## \*SENDING SONG *Prepare the Royal Highway*

## 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:



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

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

### **\*DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Keep awake.

**Thanks be to God.**