



A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church In America



THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 3, 2023 - 10:00 AM - in the Gym



Welcome to Trinity Lutheran Church

As disciples of Christ seeking peace and justice in the world, we welcome, affirm, and include all people into the fullness of God's love. We celebrate people of all races, cultures, ages, sexual orientations, gender identities, physical or mental abilities, socioeconomic statuses, appearances, family status and citizenship as equally loved and valued in the eyes of God and in this place. All are invited to join this community as we worship God, grow in faith, and strive to love and serve one another. All, without exception, are welcome in this place.

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God as we begin this Advent Season.

SERVING TODAY

Presiding Minister and Preaching	Susan Crowell
Assisting Minister	Patrick Preacher
Pianist and Choir Director	Jim Parham
Lector	Calvin Harmon
Prayers	Jonathan Preacher
Communion Assistant	Lindsay Hawkins
Cantor	Donna Potts
Acolytes	Jenna Mast Harper Roth
Children's Worship Activity Leaders	Debbie Farstad Zerle Hubbard Terry Morgan
Praying for Possibilities	Terri Sullivan
Greeters	Mark Allen Amanda Mast Chris Mast Kylee Mast Tara Miller Suzanne Rudisill Vicki Rubenstein
Ushers	Steve Boguski Bonnie Farmer Teresa Harrington David Potts
Video	Henry Wilcox
Audio	Gregg Alley

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Awake, Awake and Greet the New Morn
arranged by Anne Krentz Organ (Jo Lewis, flute)

WORDS OF WELCOME AND AFFIRMATION

HOLY BAPTISM

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

Amen.

In baptism our gracious heavenly parent frees us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; by water and the Holy Spirit we are reborn children of God and made members of the church, the body of Christ. Living with Christ and in the communion of saints, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God.

Presentation

On behalf of the Trinity family, we present Del, Jess, Lexi, Dan, Cesar, and Niko for Baptism.

Dean, Bethany, and Nate, do you promise to support this family in their new life in Christ?

Response

We do.

Del and Jess, called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have these children baptized in Christ?

Response:

We do.

Del/ Jess/ Lexi/ Dan/ Cesar/ Niko, do you wish to be baptized?

Response

I do

Jess and Del, as you come to be baptized and as you bring your children Lexi, Dan, Cesar, and Niko to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

to live with them among God's faithful people,

bring them to the word of God and the holy supper,

teach them the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments,

place in their hands the holy scriptures,

and nurture them in faith and prayer,

so that they may learn to trust God,

proclaim Christ through word and deed,

care for others and the world God made,

and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help your children grow in the Christian faith and life?

Response:

We do.

People of God, do you promise to support Del, Jess, Lexi, Dan, Cesar, and Niko and pray for them in their new life in Christ?

We do.

Please stand as able

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

I renounce them.

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, O God, maker and ruler of all things. Your voice thundered over the waters at creation. You water the mountains and send springs into the valleys to refresh and satisfy all living things.

Through the waters of the flood you carried those in the ark to safety. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery to freedom. In the wilderness you nourished them with water from the rock, and you brought them across the river Jordan to the promised land.

By the baptism of his death and resurrection, your Son Jesus has carried us to safety and freedom. The floods shall not overwhelm us, and the deep shall not swallow us up, for Christ has brought us over to the land of promise. He sends us to make disciples, baptizing in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Pour out your Holy Spirit; wash away sin in this cleansing water; clothe the baptized with Christ; and claim your children, no longer slave and free, no longer lonely and isolated, but one with all the baptized in Christ Jesus, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Water is poured on the head, as the presiding minister says:

Del William/ Jess Hope/ Alexia Jaeda/ Dan Marley/ Nikkai Cesar/ Niko Xander

I baptize you in the name of the Father,

and of the Son,

and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

BAPTISMAL ACCLAMATION

You be - long to Christ, in whom you have been bap - tized.

al - le - lu - ia.

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

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your children new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

Sustain Del/ Jess/ Lexi/ Dan/ Cesar/ Niko with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

Amen.

The presiding minister marks the sign of the cross on the forehead of the baptized. As the sign of the cross is made, the minister says:

Del William Harewood/ Jess Hope Thomas-Harewood/ Alexia Jaeda Thomas-Harewood/ Dan Marley Thomas-Harewood/ Nikkai Cesar Thomas-Harewood/ Niko Xander Thomas-Harewood, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

Amen.

Let us welcome Del, Jess, Lexi, Dan, Cesar, and Niko into our church family.

**We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share:
join us in giving thanks and praise to God
and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.**

Those who have gathered at the font may share the peace before returning to their places.

**We are people created, chosen by God.
Then we're washed, ever gently, in mercy and love.
Sin has power no more. Jesus opened the door
to a fountain bringing healing, and wholeness and more.**

**We are fed and we're nourished, filled and refreshed.
Then our hunger returns and again we are blessed.
For whatever the need, God is greater indeed:
endless ocean, always deeper than all of our need.**

**We are nourished by water, all living things,
and by life that the Spirit abundantly brings.
As we journey toward home, may your presence be known:
precious river, ever-flowing, now carry us home.**

**Now with praise and thanksgiving, we join the song.
All are welcome! We gather to sing loud and strong.
Not enslaved, but set free! From now on, all will be
one in Jesus, one in water, baptized and set free!**

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.

BLESSING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

We praise you, O God, for this evergreen crown
that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent.
As we light the first candle on this wreath,
rouse us from sleep, that we may be ready to greet our Lord
when he comes with all the saints and angels.
Enlighten us with your grace,
and prepare our hearts to welcome him with joy.
Grant this through Christ our Lord,
whose coming is certain and whose day draws near.
Amen.

**Prepare the royal highway; the King of kings is near!
 Let ev'ry hill and valley a level road appear!
 Then greet the King of glory, foretold in sacred story:**

Refrain

Hosanna to the Lord, for he fulfills God's word!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated

WORD

FIRST READING

Isaiah 64:1-9

A reading from Isaiah.

- ¹O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
 so that the mountains would quake at your presence—
²as 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!
³When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
 you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.
⁴From 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 you.
⁵You 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.
⁶We 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.
⁷There 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.
⁸Yet, O GOD, you are our parent; we are the clay, and you are our potter;
 we are all the work of your hand.
⁹Do not be exceedingly angry, O GOD, and do not remember iniquity forever.
 Now consider, we are all your people.

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

*The refrain is introduced by the cantor.
Thereafter, the congregation is invited to sing without introduction.*

*Psalm
Refrain*

Let your face shine up - on us and
we shall be saved, and we shall be saved.

*Psalm
Tone*

- ¹Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph | like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned up- | on the cherubim.
- ²**In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, | and Manasseh,
stir up your strength and | come to help us.**
- ³Restore | us, O God;
let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved.
- ⁴**O LORD | God of hosts,
how long will your anger fume when your | people pray? R**
- ⁵You have fed them with the | bread of tears;
you have given them bowls of | tears to drink.
- ⁶**You have made us the derision | of our neighbors,
and our enemies laugh | us to scorn.**
- ⁷Restore us, O | God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved.
- ¹⁷**Let your hand be upon the one at | your right hand,
the one you have made so strong | for yourself. R**
- ¹⁸And so will we never turn a- | way from you;
give us life, that we may call up- | on your name.
- ¹⁹**Restore us, O LORD | God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved. R**

A reading from first Corinthians.

³Grace to you and peace from the God who parents us and from the Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵for in every way you have been enriched in Christ, in speech and knowledge of every kind—⁶just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful and has called us into the fellowship of God's Only Begotten, Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Advent - A Time to Say Something

Please stand as able

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Hark, the Glad Sound!
(verses 1 and 4)*

#239

**Hark, the glad sound! The Savior comes, the Savior
promised long; let ev'ry heart prepare
a throne and ev'ry voice a song.**

**Our glad hosannas, Prince of peace, your welcome
shall proclaim, and heav'n's eternal
arches ring with your beloved name.**

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark the thirteenth chapter.

Glorify to you, O Lord.

²⁴ “But in those days, after that time of distress, the sun will be darkened, the moon will lose its brightness, ²⁵ the stars will fall from the sky and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. ²⁶ Then they will see the Promised One coming in the clouds with great power and glory; ²⁷ then the angels will be sent to gather the chosen from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. ²⁸ “Take the fig tree as a parable: as soon as its twigs grow supple and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. ²⁹ In the same way, when you see these things happening, know that the Promised One is near, right at the door. ³⁰ The truth is, before this generation has passed away, all these things will have taken place. ³¹ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. ³² “But as for that day or hour, nobody knows it—neither the angels of heaven, nor the Only Begotten—no one but Abba God. ³³ Be constantly on the watch! Stay awake! You do not know when the appointed time will come. ³⁴ “It is like people traveling abroad. They leave their home and put the workers in charge, each with a certain task, and those who watch at the front gate are ordered to stay on the alert. ³⁵ So stay alert! You do not know when the owner of the house is coming, whether at dusk, at midnight, when the cock crows or at early dawn. ³⁶ Do not let the owner come suddenly and catch you asleep. ³⁷ What I say to you, I say to all: stay alert!”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

SERMON

Strengthening the Safety Net

Please stand as able

**Rejoice rejoice, believers, and let your lights appear;
the evening is advancing, and darker night is near.
The bridegroom is arising and soon is drawing nigh.
Up, pray and watch and wrestle; at midnight comes the cry.**

**The watchers on the mountain proclaim the bridegroom near;
go forth as he approaches with alleluias clear.
The marriage feast is waiting; the gates wide open stand.
Arise, O heirs of glory; the bridegroom is at hand.**

**The saints, who here in patience their cross and suff'rings bore,
shall live and reign forever when sorrow is no more.
Around the throne of glory the Lamb they shall behold;
in triumph cast before him their diadems of gold.**

**Our hope and expectation, O Jesus, now appear;
arise, O Sun so longed for, o'er this benighted sphere.
With hearts and hands uplifted, we plead, O Lord, to see
the day of earth's redemption that sets your people free!**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

With hope and expectation, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who await God's day of restoration.

A brief silence.

Call your church into holy fellowship as we await the restoration of all things. Reenergize your faithful people to live with hope and compassion, learning new ways to see you in all people. Center us on your promise to come among us and redeem all things. As we watch and we wait,

hear our prayer.

All creation signals your presence, O God. The vastness of the cosmos hum with your presence. The turn of the seasons are filled with your whispers. Living things that both rest and flourish during this time echo the melodies of your love. Rekindle our commitment to care for this beautiful earth you have asked us to steward. Help us to conserve energy where possible and bring warmth and comfort to those struggling in the cold. As we watch and we wait,

hear our prayer.

Let the nations tremble at your holy presence, that justice and liberation prevail in all corners of the earth. Restore peace to nations in conflict, teach righteousness to corrupt leaders and systems, and bring stability to areas facing uncertain futures. As we await your coming, deliver us from evil, helping us to see that people often do evil but people are not fundamentally evil for you call us good. As we watch and we wait,

hear our prayer.

We give you thanks for the baptism of Del, Jess, Lexie, Dan, Cesar, and Niko. Having passed through your waters, they each begin their lifelong journeys as followers of Jesus. We pray that they may never go a day without feeling the power of your radical love. As you have clothed each of them in Christ, so clothe them in abundant grace to share with the world. Strengthen family, chosen family, and friends who strive to walk with them in the faith. Bless and strengthen Jess and Dell as parents, so that their family might bear witness to your inclusive love for all people. As we watch and we wait,

hear our prayer.

Enrich the spirits of all who feel hopeless, fearful, or despairing. Grant a calm and peaceful holiday season to those who face grief or anxiety this time of year. Stay close to those who await healing or relief. We pray especially for those we name now on our lips or silently in our hearts. . . . Deliver all in any need. As we watch and we wait,

hear our prayer.

Be with those who keep awake at night. Bless nurses working overnight shifts and caregivers of newborns and aging adults. Inspire stargazers with your creation, comfort those who cannot sleep, and grant safety to those who are traveling at night. Sustain and strengthen parents who find themselves lacking sleep due to their responsibilities or worries, no matter the age of their children. Reveal to all that the dark night can be a place of calm and comfort filled with your presence. As we watch and we wait,

hear our prayer.

Fill us with sure and faithful Christian hope this first Sunday of Advent. We give you thanks for the promises you have already fulfilled through the birth of Jesus. We look ahead to the promises of justice, peace, equity, and inclusion that are yet to be fully realized, yet we know you will deliver. Aid us as we, your people, work to share these promises with the world, especially with the LGBTQIA+ community and all others who often find themselves excluded or left out of the church. As we watch and we wait,

hear our prayer.

You call us to do your work in the world. As this congregation meets today to elect council members and approve a budget for 2024, bring understanding where there is disagreement and hope where there is anxiety. Equip us to do your good work. We trust in you to guide and walk alongside as we use our resources for the good of the world inside and outside these walls. As we watch and we wait,

hear our prayer.

You have sent out your angels and gathered your faithful people from every time and place, calling them into one fellowship of saints. Bless the witness of those who dwell in your eternal presence. As we watch and we wait,

hear our prayer.

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

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ is with you always.

And also with you.

Please share with one another a sign of Christ's peace.

Please be seated

MEAL

ANTHEM

Song of Advents

Adult Choir

Music by Russell Schultz-Widmar

Text by Godfrey Thring

Jesus came, adored by angels, came with peace from realms on high;
Jesus came for our redemption, lowly came on earth to die:
Alleluia, alleluia! Came in deep humanity.

Jesus comes again in mercy, when our hearts are bowed with care;
Jesus comes again in answer to our earnest heartfelt prayer:
Alleluia, alleluia! Comes to save us from despair.

Jesus comes to hearts rejoicing, bringing news of sins forgiven;
Jesus comes in sounds of gladness, leading souls redeemed to heaven;
Alleluia, alleluia! Now the gate of heaven is riven.

Jesus comes in clouds triumphant, when the heavens shall pass away;
Jesus comes again in glory; let us then our homage pay:
Alleluia, alleluia! till the dawn of endless day.

Please stand as able

OFFERING HYMN

Soon and Very Soon

#439

(verses 1-3)

**Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King,
soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King,
soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, we are goin' to see the King!**

**No more cryin' there, we are goin' to see the King,
no more cryin' there, we are goin' to see the King,
no more cryin' there, we are goin' to see the King.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, we are goin' to see the King!**

**No more dyin' there, we are goin' to see the King,
no more dyin' there, we are goin' to see the King,
no more dyin' there, we are goin' to see the King.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, we are goin' to see the King!
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah.**

Let us pray. 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.

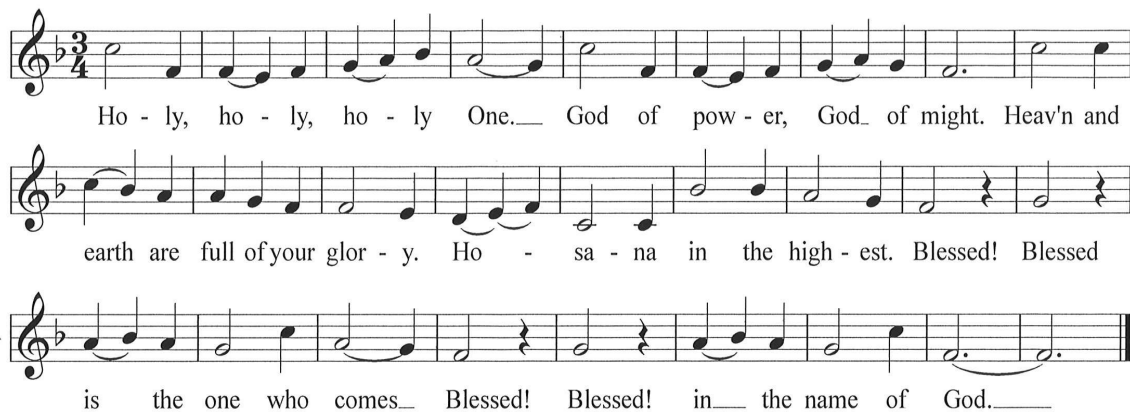
GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord is with you.
And also 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.

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.
You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer,
through whom you will also make all things new
in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness.
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:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly One God of pow - er, God of might. Heav'n and
earth are full of your glor - y. Ho - sa - na in the high - est. Blessed! Blessed
is the one who comes Blessed! Blessed! in the name of God.

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.

LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God!

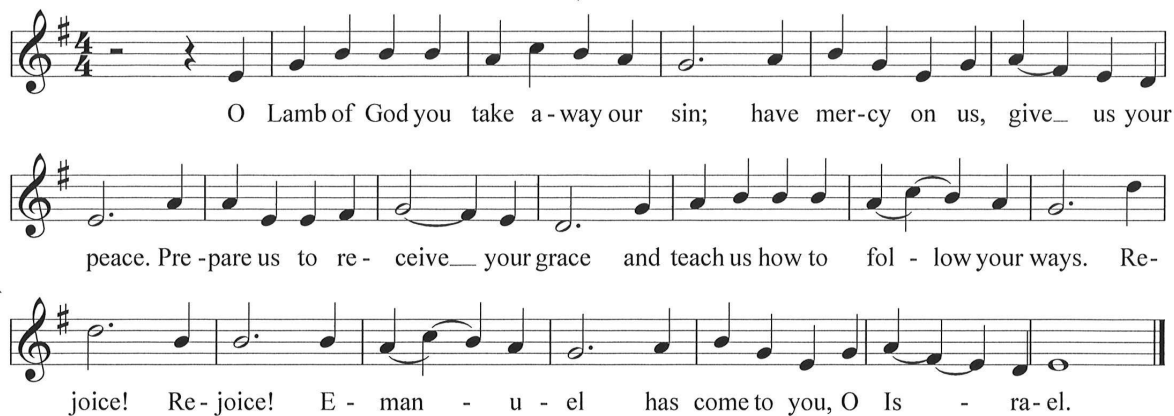
Please be seated

COMMUNION

All, without exception, are welcome at the table of God's grace and love. Anyone preferring not to receive the wine may receive only the bread, completely trusting that the full benefit of communion — Christ's grace and forgiveness — may be found in either the bread or wine. Gluten free wafers are available.

At the direction of the ushers, worshippers are invited to move to the front of the center aisle to dip the bread into the wine to receive Communion by intinction.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION



O Lamb of God you take a - way our sin; have mer - cy on us, give_ us your
peace. Pre - pare us to re - ceive_ your grace and teach us how to fol - low your ways. Re -
joice! Re - joice! E - man - u - el has come to you, O Is - ra - el.

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers
arranged by Mark Sedio
(Jo Lewis, flute)

**Awake! Awake, and greet the new morn, for
angels herald its dawning. Sing out your joy, for
soon he is born, behold! the Child of our longing.
Come as a baby weak and poor, to bring all hearts
together, he opens wide the heav'nly door and
lives now inside us forever.**

**To us, to all in sorrow and fear,
Emmanuel comes a singing, his humble song is
quiet and near, yet fills the earth with its ringing;
music to heal the broken soul and hymns of loving
kindness, the thunder of his anthems roll to
shatter all hatred and blindness.**

**In darkest night his coming shall be, when
all the world is despairing, as morning light so
quiet and free, so warm and gentle and caring.
Then shall the mute break forth in song, the lame shall leap
in wonder, the weak be raised above the strong, and
weapons be broken asunder.**

**Rejoice, rejoice, take heart in the night, though
dark the winter and cheerless, the rising sun shall
crown you with light, be strong and loving and fearless.
Love be our song and love our prayer and love our endless
story; may God fill ev'ry day we share and
bring us at last into glory.**

CHOIR ANTHEM

Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning
African American Spiritual
arranged by Andre Thomas

Longing for light, we wait in darkness. Longing for truth, we turn to you. Make us your own, your holy people, light for the world to see.

Refrain

Christ be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.

Longing for peace, our world is troubled. Longing for hope, many despair. Your word alone has power to save us. Make us your living voice. *Refrain*

Longing for food, many are hungry. Longing for water, many still thirst. Make us your bread, broken for others, shared until all are fed. *Refrain*

Longing for shelter, many are homeless. Longing for warmth, many are cold. Make us your building, sheltering others, walls made of living stone. *Refrain*

Many the gifts, many the people, many the hearts that yearn to belong. Let us be servants to one another, signs of your kingdom come. *Refrain*

**O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.**

Refrain

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

**O come, O Wisdom from on high, embracing all things far and nigh:
in strength and beauty come and stay; teach us your will and guide our way. *Refrain***

**O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times you gave the law in cloud, and majesty, and awe. *Refrain***

**O come, O Branch of Jesse, free your own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell your people save, and give them vict'ry o'er the grave. *Refrain***

**O come, O Key of David, come, and open wide our heav'nly home;
make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery. *Refrain***

**O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer; O Sun of justice, now draw near
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadow put to flight. *Refrain***

**O come, O King of nations, come, O Cornerstone that binds in one:
refresh the hearts that long for you; restore the broken, make us new. *Refrain***

**O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. *Refrain***

**Lo! he comes with clouds descending,
once for our salvation slain;
thousand thousand saints attending
join to sing the glad refrain:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Christ the Lord returns to reign.**

**Now redemption, long expected,
comes in solemn splendor near;
all the saints this world rejected
thrill the trumpet sound to hear:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
See the day of God appear!**

**Yea, amen, let all adore thee,
high on thine eternal throne;
Savior, take the pow'r and glory,
claim the kingdom as thine own.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Thou shalt reign, and thou alone!**

Please stand as able

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

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

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.
Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

The God of peace bless you,
the love of Christ sustain you in hope,
and the anointing of the Spirit ✝ remain upon you
now and forever.

Amen

SENDING HYMN

Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

#246

**Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding! "Christ is near," we hear it say.
"Cast away the works of darkness, all you children of the day!"**

**Wakened by the solemn warning, from earth's bondage let us rise;
Christ, our sun all sloth dispelling, shines upon the morning skies.**

**See the Lamb, so long expected, come with pardon down from heav'n.
Let us haste, with tears of sorrow, one and all, to be forgiv'n;**

**So, when next he comes in glory and the world is wrapped in fear,
he will shield us with his mercy and with words of love draw near.**

**Honor, glory, might, and blessing to the Father and the Son
with the everlasting Spirit while unending ages run!**

DISMISSAL

Beloved of God,
May the season of Advent be a time to
strengthen the safety net of community.
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation will begin 5 minutes after the conclusion of worship.

*Everyone is invited to enjoy refreshments
when the meeting is in recess*

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Associate Pastor for Worship and Music

Amy R. Brown, Deacon
Director of
Educational Ministries

Patrick D. Preacher
Queer and Justice Ministry Coordinator

Angie H. McCormack
Youth and Children's Ministry Coordinator

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Digital Media Manager

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