



Third Sunday of Advent

12/12/21

Lutheran Book of Worship Holy Communion Setting One

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## **GOD GATHERS US AS HIS HOLY PEOPLE**

### PRELUDE AND ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING

*The cantor or another worship leader sings the words printed in plain font.  
The congregation sings the words printed in bold font as we light the Advent wreath.*

"Rejoice, Rejoice with Music"

Words by Joseph M. Martin

Additional music and arrangement by Stacy Nordmeyer

Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice!  
This is a day for praise!

**Rejoice, rejoice with music; this is a day for praise!  
The Light of Joy is coming; let every heart be raised.  
The morning now is breaking; creation's song awaking.  
This is the dawn of grace. This is a day for praise!**

Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice!  
This is a day for praise!

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

*Please stand as you are able.*

*The congregation reads the words printed in bold font.*

*In remembrance of Baptism, you may sign a cross on your chest or forehead.*

We gather to worship the One true God – the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

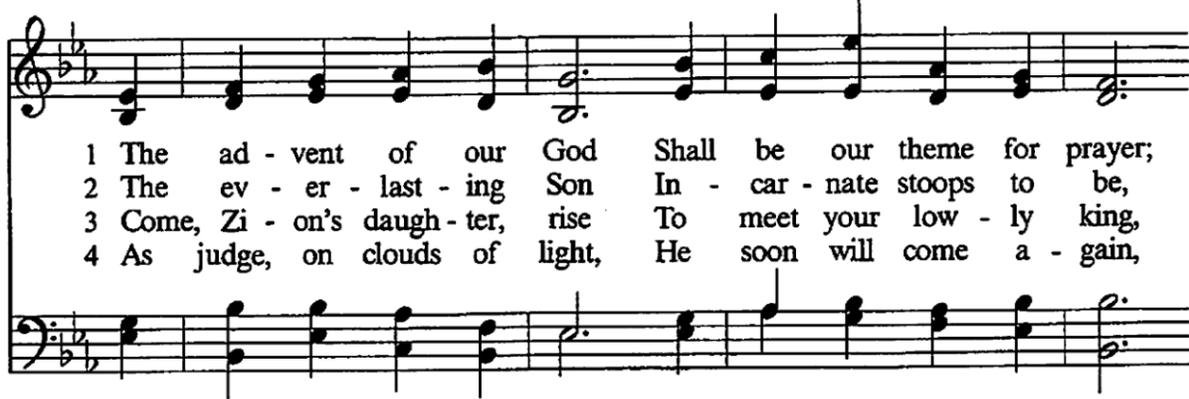
Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer,  
we poor sinners confess to you, that we are by nature sinful and unclean, and that we have sinned  
against you in thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to your infinite mercy,  
seeking and imploring your grace, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

*We keep silence for self-reflection and contrition.*

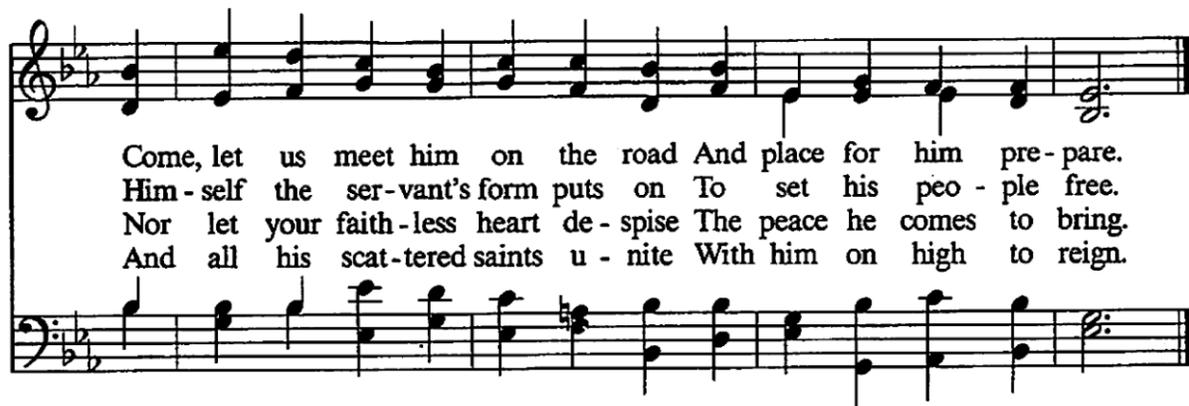
O Most Merciful God,  
**who has given your only-begotten Son to die for us,  
have mercy upon us, and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins.  
By your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of you and of your will,  
and true obedience to your Word, to the end that, by your grace,  
we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us, and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To them who believe on His name, He gives power to become the sons and daughters of God, and bestows upon them His Holy Spirit. All who believe and are baptized shall be saved. Grant this, O Lord, unto us all. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN "The Advent of Our God!" LBW Hymn #22



1 The ad - vent of our God Shall be our theme for prayer;  
 2 The ev - er - last - ing Son In - car - nate stoops to be,  
 3 Come, Zi - on's daugh - ter, rise To meet your low - ly king,  
 4 As judge, on clouds of light, He soon will come a - gain,



Come, let us meet him on the road And place for him pre - pare.  
 Him - self the ser - vant's form puts on To set his peo - ple free.  
 Nor let your faith - less heart de - spise The peace he comes to bring.  
 And all his scat - tered saints u - nite With him on high to reign.

5 Before the dawning day  
 Let sin be put to flight;  
 No longer let the law hold sway,  
 But walk in freedom's light.

6 All glory to the Son,  
 Who comes to set us free,  
 With Father, Spirit, ever one  
 Through all eternity.

*Text: Charles Coffin, 1676-1749; tr. John Chandler, 1806-1876, alt.  
 Tune: Johann B. König, 1691-1758, adapt.*

FRANCONIA  
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**AFFIRMATION OF PURPOSE** *Matthew 28:18-20, 22:36-39; Mark 12:30-31*  
 We are Joy Mission Church, missionary-disciples of Jesus Christ.  
**We love God, love neighbor, and serve with joy in Jesus' name.**

**APOSTOLIC GREETING** (LBW p. 57) *2 Corinthians 13:14*  
 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

KYRIE (“Lord, have mercy...” LBW pp. 57-58) *Matthew 9:27, 15:22; Psalm 51:1*

Ⓐ In peace, let us pray to the Lord. ☩ Lord, have mer - cy.

Ⓐ For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

☩ Lord, have mer - cy.

Ⓐ For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,

and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

☩ Lord, have mer - cy.

Ⓐ For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. ☩ Lord, have mer - cy.

Ⓐ Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra-cious Lord. ☩ A - men

SALUTATION (LBW p. 62) *Ruth 2:4*

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together. **Lord Jesus Christ, give ear to our prayers, and lighten the darkness of our hearts by your gracious visitation; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

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## GOD SPEAKS TO US IN HIS WORD

FIRST READING: Zephaniah 3:14-20

<sup>14</sup>“Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem! <sup>15</sup>The Lord has taken away the judgments against you; he has cleared away your enemies. The King of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall never again fear evil. <sup>16</sup>On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Fear not, O Zion; let not your hands grow weak. <sup>17</sup>The Lord your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing. <sup>18</sup>I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival, so that you will no longer suffer reproach. <sup>19</sup>Behold, at that time I will deal with all your oppressors. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. <sup>20</sup>At that time I will bring you in, at the time when I gather you together; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes,” says the Lord.

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

PSALM 85 - *Sung responsively with the cantor.*

<sup>1</sup>You have been gracious to your | land, O Lord,\*

you have restored the good for- | tune of Jacob.

**<sup>2</sup>You have forgiven the iniquity | of your people\*  
and blotted out | all their sins.**

<sup>3</sup>You have withdrawn | all your fury\*

and turned yourself from your wrathful | indignation.

**<sup>4</sup>Restore us then, O | God our Savior;\*  
let your anger de- | part from us.**

<sup>5</sup>Will you be displeased with | us forever?\*

will you prolong your anger from | age to age?

**<sup>6</sup>Will you not give us | life again,\*  
that your people may re- | joice in you?**

<sup>7</sup>Show us your mer- | cy, O Lord,\*

and grant us | your salvation.

**<sup>8</sup>I will listen to what the Lord | God is saying,\*  
for he is speaking peace to his faithful people  
and to those who turn their | hearts to him.**

<sup>9</sup>Truly, his salvation is very near to | those who fear him,\*  
that his glory may dwell | in our land.

**<sup>10</sup>Mercy and truth have | met together;\*  
righteousness and peace have | kissed each other.**

<sup>11</sup>Truth shall spring up | from the earth,\*

and righteousness shall look | down from heaven.

**<sup>12</sup>The Lord will indeed | grant prosperity,\*  
and our land will | yield its increase.**

<sup>13</sup>Righteousness shall | go before him,\*

and peace shall be a pathway | for his feet.

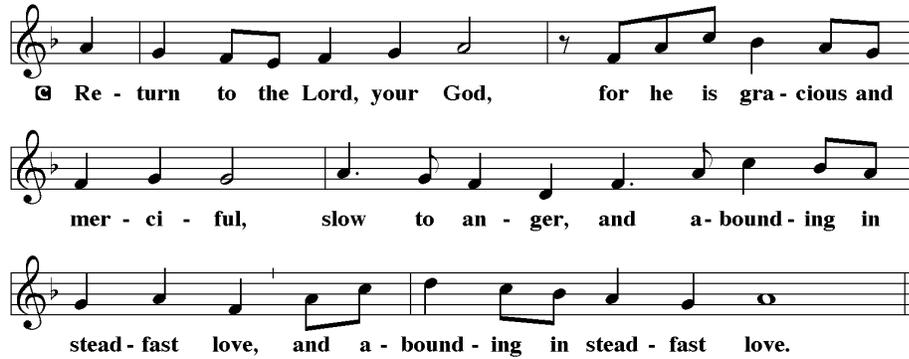
SECOND READING Philippians 4:4-7

<sup>4</sup>Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. <sup>5</sup>Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; <sup>6</sup>do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup>And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus

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

*Please stand as you are able.*

VERSE (LBW p. 62) *John 6:68*



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and  
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in  
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

GOSPEL ANNUNCIATION (LBW p. 63)

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the seventh chapter.



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL READING: Luke 7:18-35

<sup>18</sup>The disciples of John reported all these things to him. And John, <sup>19</sup>calling two of his disciples to him, sent them to the Lord, saying, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” <sup>20</sup>And when the men had come to him, they said, “John the Baptist has sent us to you, saying, ‘Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?’” <sup>21</sup>In that hour he healed many people of diseases and plagues and evil spirits, and on many who were blind he bestowed sight. <sup>22</sup>And he answered them, “Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the poor have good news preached to them. <sup>23</sup>And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.” <sup>24</sup>When John’s messengers had gone, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? <sup>25</sup>What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who are dressed in splendid clothing and live in luxury are in kings’ courts. <sup>26</sup>What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. <sup>27</sup>This is he of whom it is written, ‘Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.’ <sup>28</sup>I tell you, among those born of women none is greater than John. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he.” <sup>29</sup>(When all the people heard this, and the tax collectors too, they declared God just, having been baptized with the baptism of John, <sup>30</sup>but the Pharisees and the lawyers rejected the purpose of God for themselves, not having been baptized by him.) <sup>31</sup>“To what then shall I compare the people of this generation, and what are they like? <sup>32</sup>They are like children sitting in the marketplace and calling to one another, ‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we sang a dirge, and you did not weep.’ <sup>33</sup>For John the Baptist has come eating no bread and drinking no wine, and you say, ‘He has a demon.’ <sup>34</sup>The Son of Man has come eating and drinking, and you say, ‘Look at him! A glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ <sup>35</sup>Yet wisdom is justified by all her children.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

GOSPEL RESPONSE (LBW p. 63)



Praise to you, O Christ.

*Please be seated.*

SERMON - *Following the sermon, we observe a time of silence to contemplate God’s Word.*

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# GOD INVITES US TO RESPOND IN FAITH

*Please stand as you are able.*

HYMN OF THE DAY: "Fling Wide the Door" LBW Hymn #32

1 Fling wide the door, un - bar the gate; The King of glo - ry  
 2 He is the rock of our be - lief, The heart of mer - cy's  
 3 Oh, hap - py towns and bless - ed lands That live by their true  
 4 Come, Lord, our Sav - ior, Je - sus Christ; Our hearts are o - pen

comes in state; The Lord of lords and King of kings, The  
 gen - tle self. His king - ly crown is ho - li - ness; His  
 king's com - mands. And bless - ed be the hearts he rules, The  
 wide in trust. Oh, show us now your love - ly grace, Up -

Sav - ior of the world who brings His great sal - va - tion  
 scep - ter is his love - li - ness; He brings our sor - rows  
 hum - ble plac - es where he dwells. He is the right - ful  
 on our sor - rows shine your face, And let your Ho - ly

to the earth. So raise a shout of ho - ly mirth And  
 to an end. Now glad - ly praise our king and friend, And  
 Son of bliss Who fills our lives and makes us his, Cre -  
 Spir - it guide Our jour - ney in your grace so wide. We

praise our God and Lord, Cre - a - tor, Spir - it, Word.  
 wor - ship him with song For sav - ing us from wrong.  
 a - tor of the world, Our on - ly strength for good.  
 praise your ho - ly name, From age to age the same!

© Text: Georg Weßel, 1590-1635; tr. Gracia Grindal, b. 1943  
Tune: J. A. Freylinghausen, Geistreiches Gesang-Buch, 1704

NICENE CREED (LBW p. 64) *Genesis 1-2; John 3:16; Luke 2; Acts 2*

Living together in the trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**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;**

**by the power of the Holy Spirit**

**he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man.**

**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.**

**With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.**

**He 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.**

#### INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people as they have need...

*Each petition ends with these words:* Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

*The prayers conclude with these words:* ...through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

#### OFFERING OF PEACE *John 20:19-21*

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

*Having been reconciled to God in Christ, we share His peace with others.*

#### OFFERING OF TITHES, ADDITIONAL GIFTS, & SPECIAL MUSIC

*We offer our time, talents, and treasures in gratitude for all of the blessings God has given us.*

*Please stand as you are able.*

OFFERTORY HYMN (LBW p. 67)



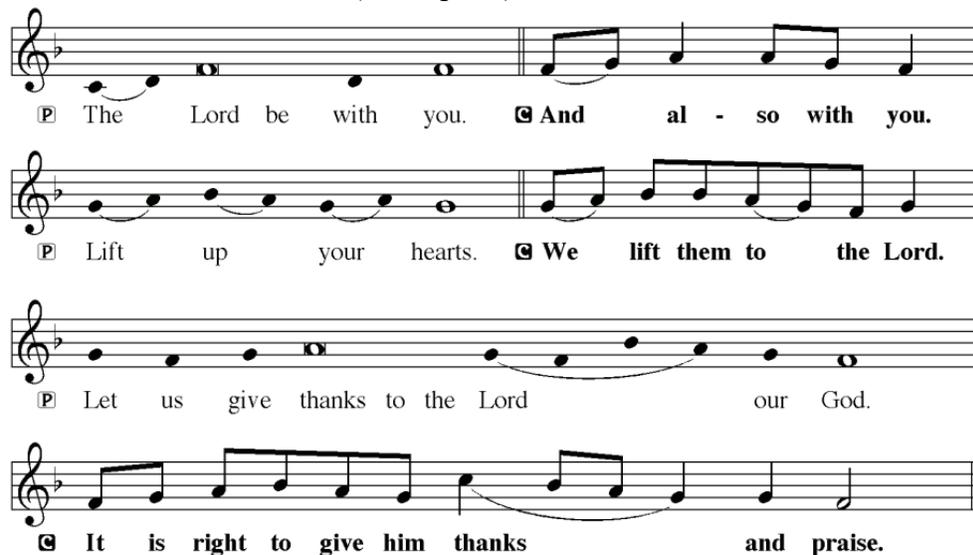
What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all his ben - e - fits to  
me? I will of - fer the sac - ri - fice of thanks-giv - ing and will  
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal -  
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my  
vows to the Lord now in the pres - ence of all his peo - ple, in the  
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

OFFERTORY PRAYER (LBW p. 67)

Let us pray...

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING (LBW p. 68)

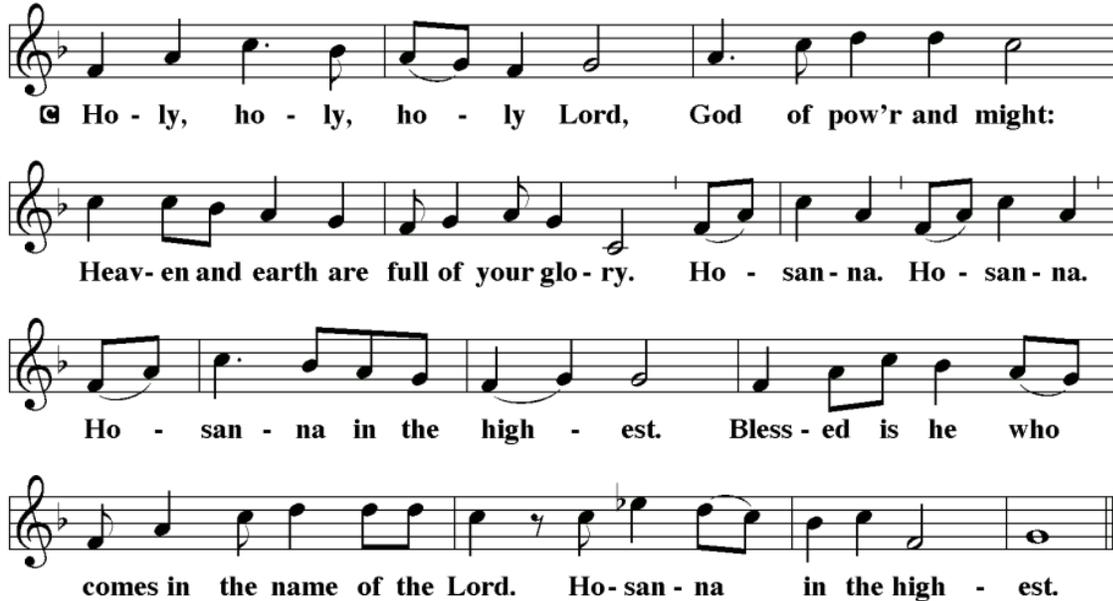


The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

PREFACE (LBW p. 68) *Sung or spoken by the pastor.*

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and ever-living God. 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 again to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS (“Holy” LBW p. 69) *Psalm 118:25-26; Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9; Mark 11:9*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:  
Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.  
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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION (LBW p. 70)

*1 Corinthians 11:23-26; Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20*

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 (LBW p. 71) *Matthew 6:9-13; Luke 11:2-4*

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;**

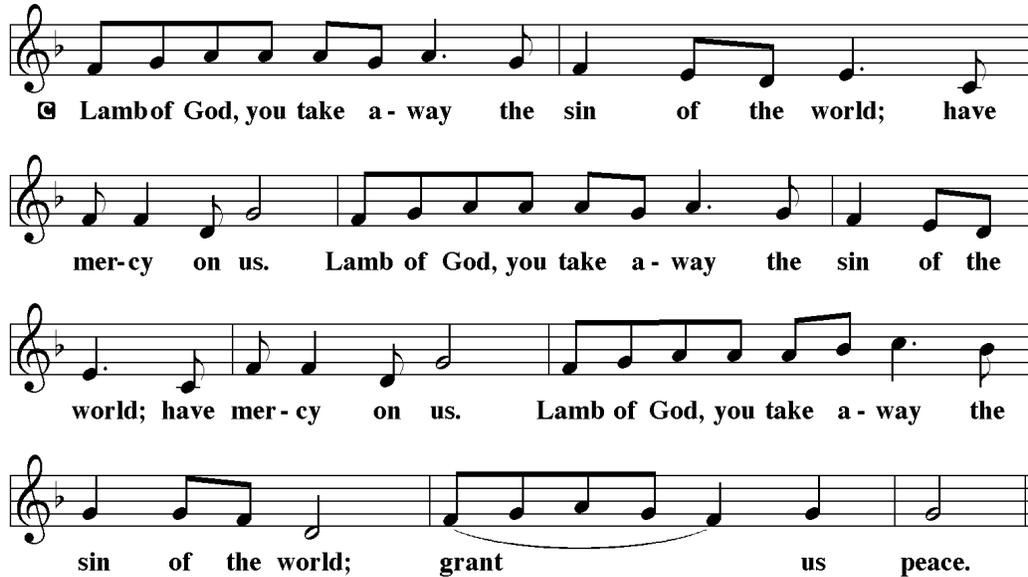
**and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,**

**and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

*Please remain standing as you are able.*

COMMUNION HYMN ("Lamb of God..." LBW p. 72) John 1:29



☒ 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.

*Please be seated.*

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**GOD COMES TO US IN HIS HOLY MEAL**

*All who are baptized and trust that Christ is truly present in, with, and under the bread and wine may commune. The usher will direct you. Use the side aisle to return to your seat.*

- *If you require gluten-free wafers or abstain from wine, indicate so to the pastor.*
- *To receive the Sacrament in your seat, notify the usher and it will be brought to you.*
- *If you abstain from the Sacrament, trust that you have full forgiveness by God's Word alone.*

The body of Christ given for you. **Amen.** The blood of Christ shed for you. **Amen.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING & CANTICLE (LBW pp. 92)

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



☒ Lord, now 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.

Glo- ry to the Fa- ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho- ly Spir - it,  
 as it was in the be- gin - ning, is now, and will be for- ev- er. A - men

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER & BENEDICTION (LBW p. 74)

Let us pray. Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Almighty God, Father, † Son,  
 and Holy Spirit, bless you now . . . and for - ever. **A - men**

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**GOD SENDS US FORTH TO SERVE**

SENDING HYMN:

"Share the Light"

Words by Joseph M. Martin

Additional music and arrangement by Stacy Nordmeyer

**Go in joy and spread the news.  
 Share the Light. Share the Light.  
 Christ the Lord is coming soon.  
 Share the Light. Share the Light.**

**Be a candle in the shadows.  
 Be a star to warm the night.  
 Go in joy and spread the news.  
 Share the Light. Share the Light.  
 Share the Light. Share the Light.**

DISMISSAL

Go in joy to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

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**WELCOME!** We are delighted to have you join us for worship today! Love God. Love neighbor.



Serve with joy in Jesus' name.  
 worship + fellowship + discipleship

**Who We Are -**

As a congregation of the North American Lutheran Church we hold four core values, to be:

**Christ Centered, Mission Driven, Traditionally Grounded, & Congregationally Focused.**



Ministers: Joy Mission Church

Pastor: Rev. Paulette D. McHugh

Organist: Lavenia Hentz

Parish Administrator: Scheri Force

Visit us at [www.joymission.church](http://www.joymission.church)