



She will bear
a **SON**, and
you are to name him
Jesus

MATTHEW 1:21



The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 17, 2022—5:00 pm

Sunday, December 18, 2022—9:00 am

Today Isaiah prophesies that a young woman will bear a son and name him Emmanuel. The gospel is Matthew's account of the annunciation and birth of the one named Emmanuel, God-with-us. During these final days of Advent we pray, "O come, O come, Emmanuel," a beloved hymn based on the O Antiphons, ancient prayers appointed for the seven days preceding Christmas. On this final Sunday of Advent we prepare to celebrate the birth of the one born to save us from the power of sin and death.

GATHERING

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.

Blessed be God's name forever.

Amen.

Beloved, now is the time to wake from sleep. Let us confront our sins, and confess them to the one who is merciful and just.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of new beginnings,
we confess that we have not welcomed your holy reign. We have strayed from your paths. We prepare for war instead of peace. We dishonor one another and your creation. Purify us with your refining fire and set us again on your way of love, that we may bear fruit worthy of repentance, and welcome your coming among us.

Amen.

People of God, a new thing is growing in our midst, a tender branch, a living sign. By water and the Spirit you are joined to this wonder. You have put on ☩ Christ, and your sins have been washed away. Rejoice in the way of the Lord.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG "Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah"

ELW #240

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.

FOURTH SUNDAY - *The Wonder of the Message*

Candle Lighting

Today we light four candles. The **first candle** calls us to behold the glory of the season with renewed wonder. Advent is a time to be awed by God's redeeming love for the lost and broken. The **second candle** calls us to reclaim the promises of God spoken in ages past. As the light fills this room, so the Word of God fills our world with hope for the hurting, peace for the restless, and joy for the heavy hearted. The **third candle** is an invitation to wait patiently upon the Lord. In a world where we often lack for patience, Advent reminds us to rest in God's timing and trust God's plan. The **fourth candle** challenges us to grow in faithful expectation. As people who faith often becomes tamed to the miraculous, Advent is a time to remember afresh a God in whom all things are possible.

Responsive Litany

During Advent, we ignite the wonder of expectation.

Open our eyes, O Lord, to behold your glory.

During Advent, we look for the light that shines in the darkness.

Open our eyes, O Lord, to behold your glory.

During Advent, we embrace the hope that enlivens the soul.

Open our eyes, O Lord, to behold your glory.

During Advent, we welcome the Savior who beckons the world.

Open our eyes, O Lord, to behold your glory.

During Advent, we rejoice in the One who has reclaimed the lost.

Open our eyes, O Lord, to behold your glory.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that hinders our faith, that eagerly we may receive your promises, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

ANTHEM (9 am)

“Come, Emmanuel, Come”

People of Praise

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

FIRST READING: Isaiah 7:10-16

A reading from Isaiah.

¹⁰The LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, ¹¹Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. ¹²But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. ¹³Then Isaiah said: “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. ¹⁵He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. ¹⁶For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

¹Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon 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?**

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.**

¹⁸And so will we never turn away from you;
give us life, that we may call upon your name.

¹⁹Restore us, O LORD God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

SECOND READING: Romans 1:1-7

A reading from Romans.

¹Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God,
²which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, ³the gospel
concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh ⁴and was declared
to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the
dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, ⁵through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring
about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, ⁶including
yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

⁷To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints:

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

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

"Celtic Alleluia"



GOSPEL Matthew 1:18-25

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. ²⁰But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."

²²All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

²³"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel,"

which means, "God is with us."²⁴When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the

Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, ²⁵but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”
(vs. 1, 2, 4, & 6)

ELW #257

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.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

SHARING OF THE PEACE

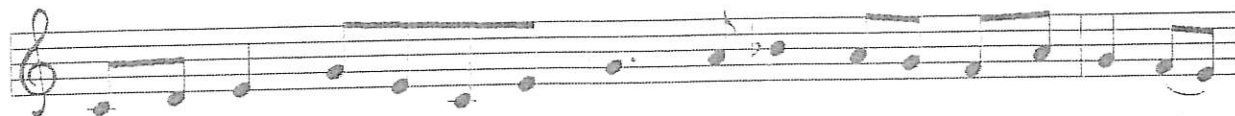
OFFERING

“Great Light”

People of Praise

OFFERING SONG

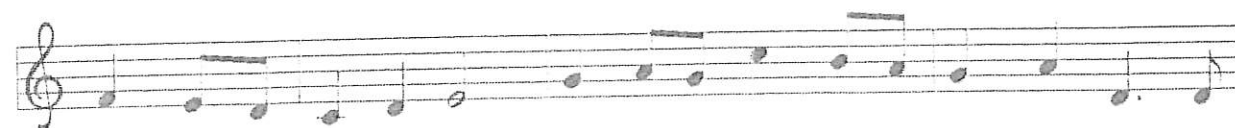
“Let the Vineyards”



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be



fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -



nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your



pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

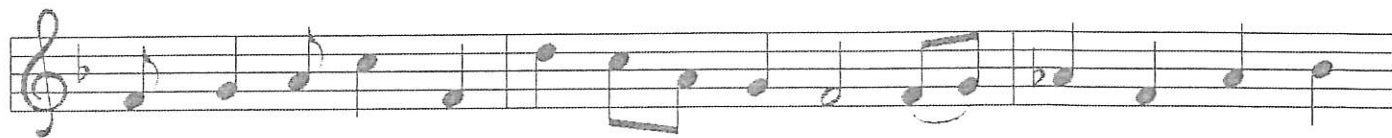
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,



heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the



high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



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

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

COMMUNION SONG



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.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS

Believing in the real presence of Christ, we invite all present to participate in the Sacrament of Holy Communion. All who are baptized and believe that Jesus Christ is present in the gifts of bread and wine are welcome at the Lord's table. Please follow the directions of the pastors to receive communion. Both wine and grape juice are available for communion. The grape juice is the darker color in the middle of the tray. Those who do not wish to receive communion and children who are not yet receiving communion will receive a blessing. Those who are worshipping with us online are invited to have bread and wine or juice available for worship, and we will commune you at the end of communion.

COMMUNION HYMN

"Come Now, O Prince of Peace"

ELW #247

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

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

BLESSING

SENDING SONG

“The King Shall Come”

ELW #260

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is near.
Thanks be to God.

THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO SHARE IN OUR WORSHIP THIS WEEKEND

SATURDAY	5:00 pm Worship Service
Ushers	Rita Smith
Reader	Carolyn Hulsen
Communion Assistant	Rita Smith
Counters	Mike & Rita Smith

SUNDAY	9:00 am Worship Service
Ushers	Allen & Carolyn Lewis
Reader	Carolyn Lewis
Communion Assistant	Sally Hamann
Counters	Dan & Mary Ann Anderson

Choir Director	Susan Becker
Organists	Teri Wittkowski and Susan Becker



Messenger in the Night

What did you dream about last night? Is there really any meaning in these vivid storylines that our brains assemble while we sleep? If you think dreams are essentially random firings of our neurons, you might just laugh them off. If you think they do tap into something real, you might try to unpack them. But almost no one makes *important life decisions* based solely on their dreams, right?

The stakes couldn't have been higher for Joseph and his dream, in which an angel tells him about Mary's unexpected pregnancy by the Holy Spirit. If he stays, he's got a story to tell that nobody is going to believe. But if he goes, if he "dismisses her quietly" as the gospel writer puts it, *what's going to happen to her?* What's going to happen to the baby?

It might seem that a message in a dream would be the *worst* possible way to make a decision as consequential as this. But if the purpose of our dreams is to put us in touch with what we already know, if it's to help us sort out our tangled-up emotions and give us some clarity, then perhaps a dream whose message is "Do not be afraid" is exactly what Joseph needs.

The dream-angel, in quoting the prophet Isaiah, helps Joseph connect his present reality with God's past faithfulness and promises. The angel reminds him that even in this terrifying situation, *God is with him*. We need such assurances as well when it feels like our world is falling apart: messengers to remind us who we really are and to whom we belong. Today we celebrate that Joseph trusted that message, and Mary before him. In them we see that God is faithful, and fear is cast out by the birth of this child.

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah



- 1 Light one can-dle to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 2 Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 3 Light three can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 4 Light four can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra-el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.
He shall feed the flock like a shep-herd, gent - ly lead them home-ward.
Lift your heads and lift high the gate-way for the King of glo - ry.
He is com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your lights be shin - ing!

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954

Music: TIF IN VELDELE, Yiddish folk tune

Text © 1984 Fortress Press, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
 2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things
 3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on
 4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
 far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;
 Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law
 tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joice! Re-joice!
 in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.
 and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.

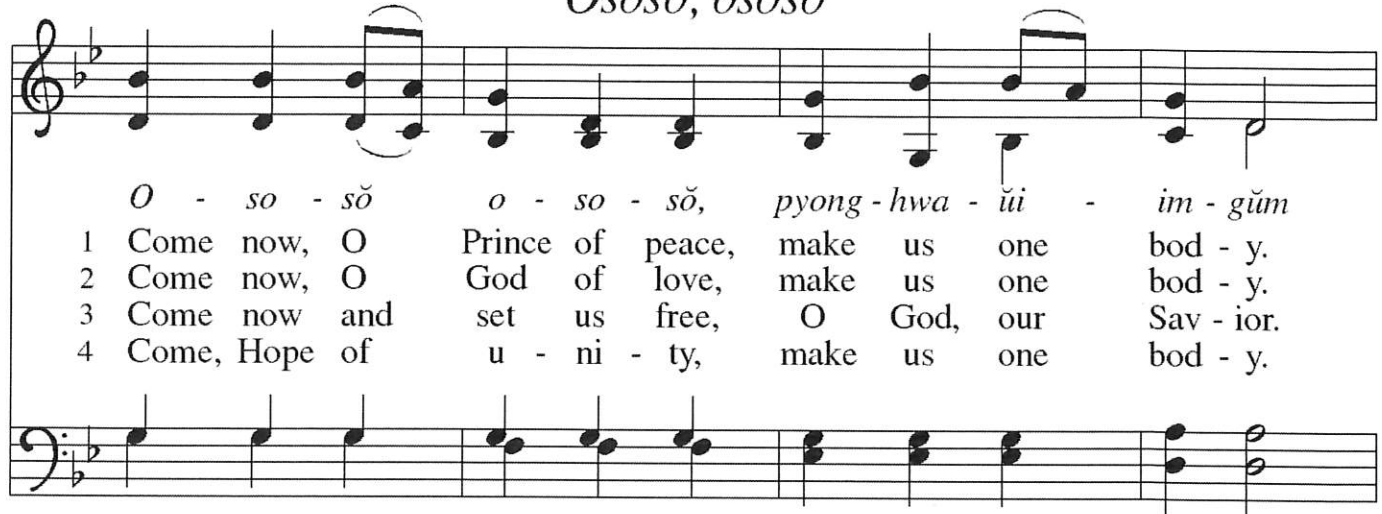


Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

- 5 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*
- 6 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*
- 7 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*
- 8 O come, O come, Emmanuel,
 and ransom captive Israel,
 that mourns in lonely exile here
 until the Son of God appear. *Refrain*

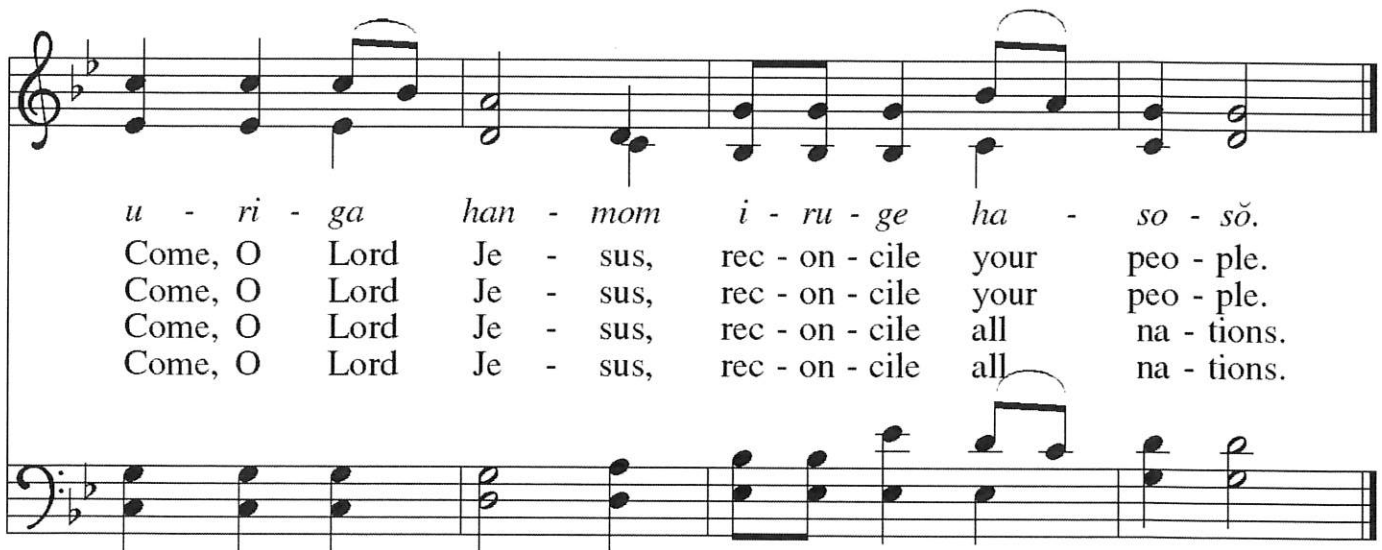
Come Now, O Prince of Peace

Ososŏ, ososŏ



O - so - sŏ o - so - sŏ, pyong - hwa - ŭi - im - gŭm

1 Come now, O Prince of peace, make us one bod - y.
 2 Come now, O God of love, make us one bod - y.
 3 Come now and set us free, O God, our Sav - ior.
 4 Come, Hope of u - ni - ty, make us one bod - y.



u - ri - ga han - mom i - ru - ge ha - so - sŏ.

Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.
 Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.
 Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.
 Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.

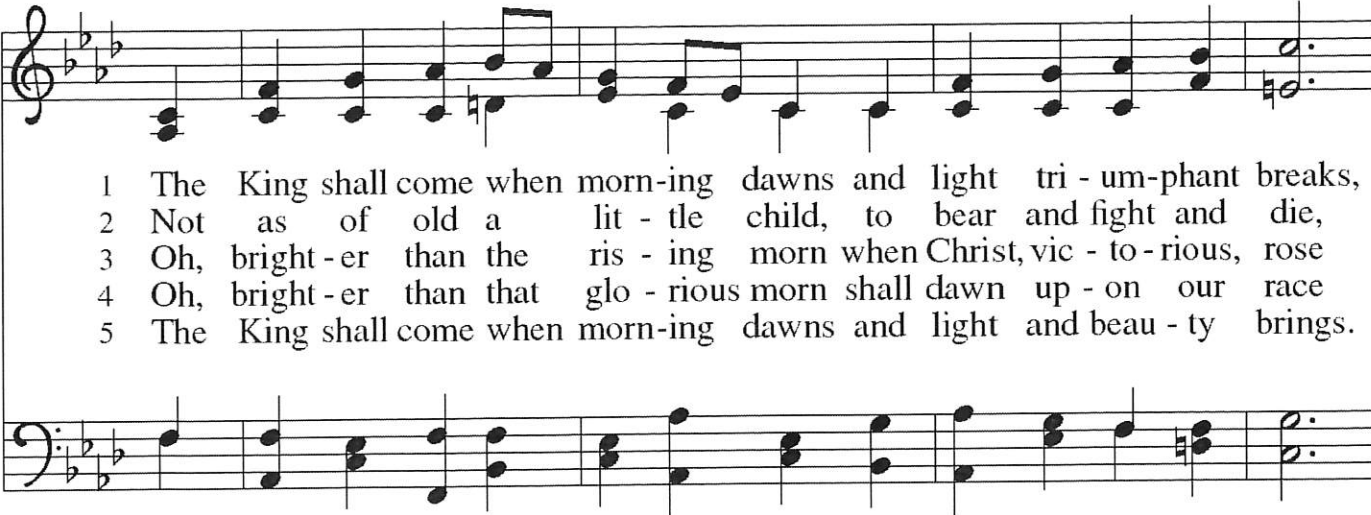
Text: Geonyong Lee, b. 1947; tr. Marion Pope

Music: OSOSŎ, Geonyong Lee, b. 1947

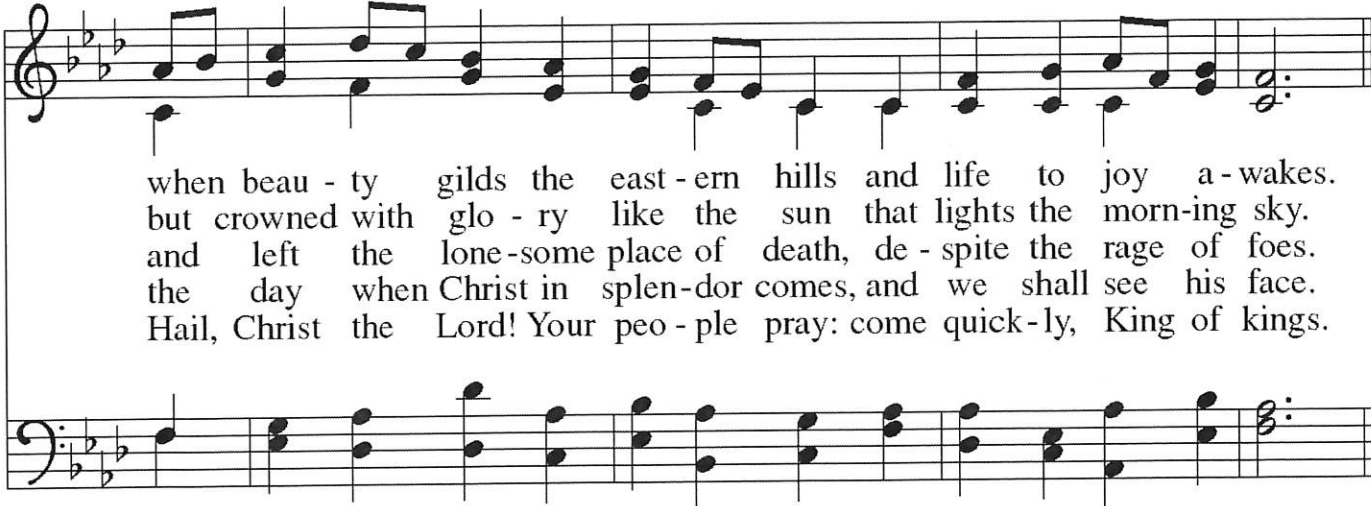
Text and music © Geonyong Lee.

Used with permission of OneLicense.net A-731185.

The King Shall Come



1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light tri - um-phant breaks,
2 Not as of old a lit - tle child, to bear and fight and die,
3 Oh, bright-er than the ris - ing morn when Christ, vic - to - rious, rose
4 Oh, bright-er than that glo - rious morn shall dawn up - on our race
5 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light and beau - ty brings.



when beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills and life to joy a - wakes.
but crowned with glo - ry like the sun that lights the morn-ing sky.
and left the lone-some place of death, de - spite the rage of foes.
the day when Christ in splen-dor comes, and we shall see his face.
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your peo - ple pray: come quick-ly, King of kings.

Text: John Brownlie, 1859-1925

Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davisson, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816; arr. Theodore A. Beck, 1929-2003

Arr. © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission.

Used with permission of OneLicense.net A-731185.

FAITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Senior Pastor Carrie La Plante Pastor Heather Geest

Worship: Saturday 5 pm Sunday 9 am

Telephone: (563) 285-4501 Email: faitheldridge@netins.net



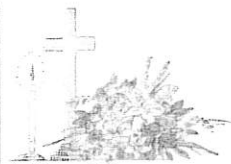
GRACE - GIFTED FAITH - LIFTED
CALLED TO SHARE, SEEK AND SERVE CHRIST.

Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 17 & 18, 2022

WELCOME TO WORSHIP Today we gather to celebrate God's love and grace as revealed to us through Jesus Christ. For those that might be interested in knowing more about the ministries and activities of the congregation there are some printed materials available for you to take. The materials are located on the counter just inside the east entrance of this building. You can also find more information through the church website at faithlutheraneldridge.com.

CHILDREN are always welcome in worship. Special children's bulletins are available for their use.

VISITOR? CHANGE OF ADDRESS? INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES? HAVE A PRAYER REQUEST? Please feel free to complete the information card located in front of you next to the hymnals and pass the card to the outer aisle during announcements and an usher will pick them up during the call to worship.



Altar Flowers

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are given by Mary Moore In loving memory of Dale.

If you are interested in providing altar flowers, please sign up on the bulletin board in the narthex, or by using the link on our web site, www.faithlutheraneldridge.com



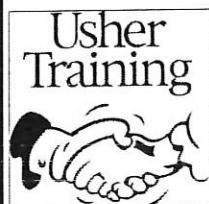
Trusting that God hears our prayers, we keep these people and all who are in need in our prayers.

Ron McFate	Janet Bowman	Sue Vogel	Glen
H.O. Nelson	Kathy Stoltz	Andrew Arp	Mary
Sheila Baustian	Gary King	Norman Harms	Kelly
Sally Puls	Roger Lewis	Kim Pierce	Mike
Jensen Spencer	Ed Stoltz	Jeanette Myers	Vaughn
Ann Kuehl	Judy Knoer	Bill Lind	
Carol Judge	Jan Kluever	Lincoln Regnier	
Carolyn Scheibe	Bob Morehead	Ed Precht	
Madison Russo	Melissa Alden	Hugh Lickiss	



An Opportunity to Spread Christmas Cheer

The Salvation Army is looking for volunteers to help the recipients of the Christmas toys to shop for the toys and to carry food boxes out to people's cars, at JB Young at Locust and Brady in Davenport. The dates when help is needed are Monday, December 19, Tuesday, December 20, and Wednesday, December 21. There are three shifts each day: 8:00 am - 11:00 am, 11:00 am - 2:00 pm, and 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm. The first shift on Monday will be setting everything up. The rest of the shifts will be shopping and carrying food boxes. If you have questions or are interested in helping, please contact Patty Mixdorf, Volunteer Coordinator for the Salvation Army and member of Faith, at 563-570-2072 or 309-273-0350.



Ushers and those interested in becoming Ushers...

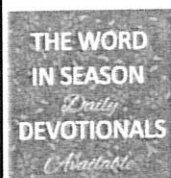
The Ushers have a important role in the safety and security of our church. Part of our safety plan requires quarterly training for the Ushers. Quarterly training will be held on **Sunday, December 18, @ 10:15 am** in the Sanctuary. Please plan to attend! **Contact Tom Bauer for more information.**



We are looking for Ushers, Readers and Communion assistants to serve during Christmas Eve and Christmas Day worship services. Please check the sign up sheet on the bulletin board or on our website to sign up. **Thank you for helping with worship!**



If you wish to contribute toward Christmas poinsettias that will decorate the altar area this year, please list your name and the name(s) of those you wish to honor on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the narthex area. We are asking for a contribution of \$10.00 to help offset the cost of the plants. **Please indicate 'flowers' on your envelope so we know how to allocate the funds.** Names will be published in the Christmas Eve worship bulletin. ***This is the last weekend to sign up.***

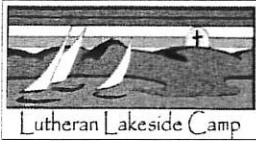


Please note—we are no longer mailing The Word in Season devotion books. They are available for pick up at the church, inside as well as in the bulletin boxes outside. If you are in need of a copy of The Word in Season book and unable to come to the church, please call the church office at 563-285-4501 to make arrangements to get one to you. Thank you for your understanding.



Our Christmas Special Offering this year will be split equally between Humble Dwellings and Lutheran Lakeside Camp.

Humble Dwellings is an Eldridge based non-profit with the mission "To restore dignity and hope to those less fortunate by transforming their living space into a warm and inviting home, using gently donated furniture and household items."



Faith has been associated with Lutheran Lakeside Camp since its founding in 1960. Hundreds of our children, youth, and adults have experienced God presence and growth in faith through Lutheran Lakeside.

Give something unexpected this Christmas!

Thank you for your support of the ELCA Good Gifts program. It is a fun, meaningful way to honor friends and family with gifts that make a difference in the world. Choose from more than 50 gift-giving options, each with the ability to make real, lasting change in the life of someone in need. You may give on-line using this link goodgifts.elca.org or in-person at Faith Lutheran Church.

In-person giving is easy:

1. Select an ornament with a symbol of the item you wish to purchase, write your names on it and place it on the tree.
2. Place your donation in the drop box, please make checks payable to Faith Lutheran Church.
3. Select a card to let friends and loved ones know about the ELCA Good Gifts that have been given in their honor.

ELCA
GOOD
GIFTS
CATALOG



Thank you for your generosity during the holidays to help abate world hunger!



Stewardship Gifts

Thank you for your generous giving to Faith Lutheran Church throughout 2022. You have helped make all the ministry in and through this place possible. As you consider your end of year gifts, please note that all contributions that you wish to have counted for 2022 must be received in the office by **noon on December 30th**. Thank you!

THIS WEEK AT FAITH

Saturday, December 17	9:00 am	Food Pantry Basket Distribution
	5:00 pm	Worship
Sunday, December 18	9:00 am	Worship
	10:00 am	Fellowship Hour
	10:15 am	Usher Training
Monday, December 19	<i>Office Closed</i>	
Tuesday, December 20	1:00 pm	Bible Study
	5:30 pm	Food Pantry
Wednesday, December 21	6:15 pm	People of Praise
	7:15 pm	Resounding Joy
Thursday, December 22		
Friday, December 23	9:30 am	Food Pantry
Saturday, December 24	2:00 pm	Worship
	4:00 pm	Worship
	9:00 pm	Worship
Sunday, December 25	9:00 am	Worship



We are raising funds to replace our aging roof over Fellowship Hall and the Education Wing. Our goal is \$50,000.

Please contact a Council Member with any questions regarding our campaign. More information will be in the December Ambassador.

Thank you for helping us Replace the Roof!



5 pm: 52, 9 am: 115, Online: 46 , Total: 213