



December 17, 2023

# Gathering

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

*Today we continue the season of Advent, four weeks of preparation for Christmas. We will celebrate the four Sundays of Advent by lighting the candles on our advent wreath.*

## Welcome & Announcements

### Gathering Hymn

### "Angels We Have Heard on High"

ELW #289

1 Angels we have heard on high,  
sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
and the mountains in reply,  
echoing their joyous strains.

#### *Refrain*

Gloria in excelsis Deo;  
gloria in excelsis Deo.

2 Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be  
which inspire your heav'nly song?

#### *Refrain*

3 Come to Bethlehem and see  
him whose birth the angels sing;  
come, adore on bended knee  
Christ the Lord, the newborn king.

#### *Refrain*

Text: French carol; tr. H. F. Hemy, *The Crown of Jesus Music*, 1864

## Confession

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

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: God for whom we wait,

**C: in the presence of one another, we confess our sin before you. We fail in believing that your good news is for us. We falter in our call to tend your creation. We find our sense of self in material possessions. We fear those different from ourselves. We forget that we are your children and turn away from your love. Forgive us, Blessed One, and assure us again of your saving grace. Amen.**

## Forgiveness

P: Beloved in Christ, God has looked with favor upon you! Through the power of the Holy Spirit, ✠ your sins are forgiven. You are children of the Most High, inheritors of God's loving promise, and recipients of divine mercy. God strengthens you anew to follow the way of peace. **C: Amen.**

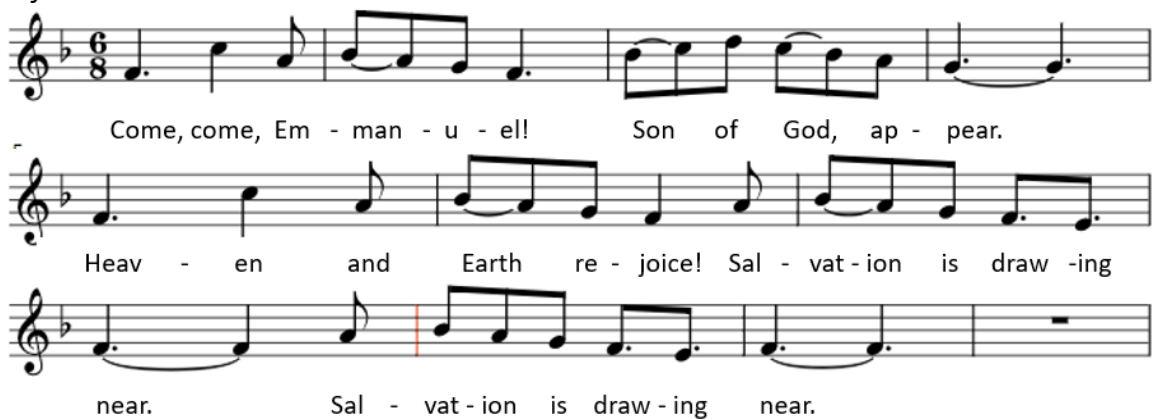
## Lighting of the Advent Candle

P: We enter into our third week of waiting for the promised Savior. We look for the love of God to enter into all areas of our lives. We wait to see people respond to hate with love, fear with hope, anger with peace, vengeance with mercy. We trust that as we wait, God's love changes everything around us. Let us wait for our salvation with the light of God. We pray together:

**C: As we light the third Advent candle, we give you thanks, O God, for your love in human form, Jesus Christ, our Savior. We wait as Salvation is drawing near.**

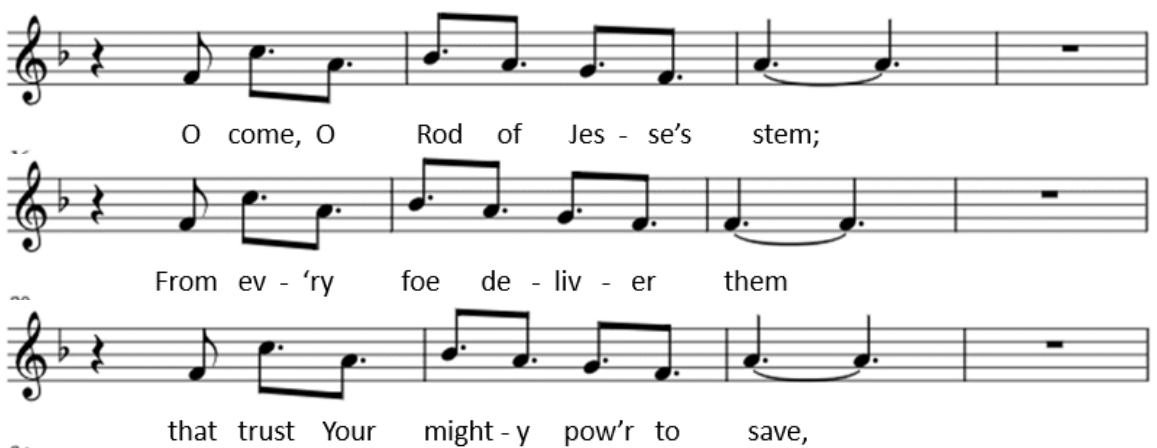
### "Emmanuel"

#### Refrain



Come, come, Em - man - u - el! Son of God, ap - pear.  
Heav - en and Earth re - joice! Sal - vat - ion is draw - ing  
near. Sal - vat - ion is draw - ing near.

#### Verse 3



O come, O Rod of Jes - se's stem;  
From ev - 'ry foe de - liv - er them  
that trust Your might - y pow'r to save,



*Refrain*

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray,

**C: Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the words of your prophets, that, anointed by your Spirit, we may testify to your light; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## **“Sing Joy to All the World!”**

**Cantata by Lloyd Larson**

Narrators: Deb and Tom Kaehler

Tidings of Comfort and Joy!

Prepare the Way!

David’s Royal City

Joy of Every Longing Heart

Worship Christ, the Newborn King

### **Joy to the World**

- 1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her king;  
let ev'ry heart prepare him room  
and heav'n and nature sing,  
and heav'n and nature sing,  
and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.
- 4 He rules the world with truth and grace  
and makes the nations prove  
the glories of his righteousness  
and wonders of his love,  
and wonders of his love,  
and wonders, wonders of his love.

Prayers of the People

P: Lord, in your mercy,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

Sharing God's Peace

Offertory – The *Noisy Offering* benefits ELCA Good Gifts.

**Offertory Song**

**“Your Little Ones, Dear Lord”**

**ELW #286 vs 3**

Oh, draw us wholly to you, Lord  
And to us all your grace accord;  
True faith and love to us impart,  
That we may hold you in our heart.

Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE # A-704206. All rights reserved.

Offertory Prayer

P: Let us pray.

**C: God our provider, by your merciful hand, abundance springs up from the earth. Receive and bless these gifts that we return to you. Let them be a sign of your steadfast love and faithfulness for all people, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

## **Holy Communion**

*Today we celebrate Holy Communion: If you are a guest, please know you are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Jesus said that the body and blood are given “for you and for all people.” For gluten-free wafers, ask the pastors. If you desire to commune while seated, please sit near an aisle and let an usher know. We will bring communion to you. Children not yet communing are invited forward to receive a blessing. If you would like to have grape juice instead of wine, please hold up your index finger when you reach a communion server.*

P: The Lord be with you,

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts,

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God,

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

**C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from**

**evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

**Communion Hymn**

**“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”**

**ELW #282**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>1 It came upon the midnight clear,<br/>that glorious song of old,<br/>from angels bending near the earth<br/>to touch their harps of gold:<br/>"Peace on the earth, good will to all,<br/>from heav'n's all-gracious king."<br/>The world in solemn stillness lay<br/>to hear the angels sing.</p> <p>3 And you, beneath life's crushing load,<br/>whose forms are bending low,<br/>who toil along the climbing way<br/>with painful steps and slow:<br/>look now, for glad and golden hours<br/>come swiftly on the wing;<br/>oh, rest beside the weary road<br/>and hear the angels sing!</p> | <p>2 Still through the cloven skies they come<br/>with peaceful wings unfurled,<br/>and still their heav'nly music floats<br/>o'er all the weary world.<br/>Above its sad and lowly plains<br/>they bend on hov'ring wing,<br/>and ever o'er its babel sounds<br/>the blessed angels sing.</p> <p>4 For lo! The days are hast'ning on,<br/>by prophets seen of old,<br/>when with the ever-circling years<br/>shall come the time foretold,<br/>when peace shall over all the earth<br/>its ancient splendors fling,<br/>and all the world give back the song<br/>which now the angels sing.</p> |
|--|--|

Text: Edmund H. Sears, 1810-1876

**Communion Hymn**

**“Silent Night”**

**ELW #281**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>1 Silent night, holy night!<br/>All is calm, all is bright<br/>round yon virgin mother and child.<br/>Holy Infant, so tender and mild,<br/>sleep in heavenly peace,<br/>sleep in heavenly peace.</p> <p>3 Silent night, holy night!<br/>Son of God, love's pure light<br/>radiant beams from your holy face,<br/>with the dawn of redeeming grace,<br/>Jesus, Lord, at your birth,<br/>Jesus, Lord, at your birth.</p> | <p>2 Silent night, holy night!<br/>Shepherds quake at the sight;<br/>glories stream from heaven afar,<br/>heav'nly hosts sing, alleluia!<br/>Christ, the Savior, is born!<br/>Christ, the Savior, is born!</p> |
|---|--|

Text: Joseph Mohr, 1792-1849; tr. John  
F. Young, 1820-1885

## Communion Blessing and Prayer

### Benediction

#### Sending Hymn

#### “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

ELW #270

1 Hark! The herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn king;  
peace on earth, and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled."  
Joyful, all you nations, rise;  
join the triumph of the skies;  
with angelic hosts proclaim,  
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

#### *Refrain*

Hark! The herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn king!"

2 Christ, by highest heav'n adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
late in time behold him come,  
offspring of a virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see!  
Hail, incarnate deity!  
Pleased as man with us to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel! *Refrain*

3 Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace!  
Hail the Sun of righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings,  
ris'n with healing in his wings.  
Mild he lays his glory by,  
born that we no more may die,  
born to raise each child of earth,  
born to give us second birth. *Refrain*

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.

#### Dismissal

P: Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

#### ***In Our Prayers This Week:***

Audrey Broste, Russ Brown, Eloise Finstad, Dixie Flitter, Marj Frederickson,  
Xavier Gieseke, Brenda Gruenhagen, Brad Haynes, Nicole Hubert, Marilyn Hudson,  
Sharon Hulke, Joyce Jobe, Ken Johnson, Lyndon Jones, Mavis Jones, Dave Marsh,  
Treacy Meyer, George Putnam, Karyl Putnam, Pam Riebe, Sharon Riser, Gabrielle Rolloff,  
JoAnn Saffert, Marge Schmidt, Ruth Skoglund



<b>Senior Pastor:</b> Kathleen Ulland-Klinkner	<b>Associate Pastor:</b> Dave Nissen
<b>Education Ministries Coordinator:</b> Lindsay Medina	<b>Office Administrator:</b> Jen Geiger
<b>Business Administrator:</b> Lois Aufderheide	<b>Facilities Manager:</b> Scott Kathman
<b>Director of Music Ministries:</b> Tom Maidl	<b>Handbell Director:</b> Sarah Berger
<b>Choir Director:</b> Madeline Cacciatore-Warta	
<b>Pianist:</b> Tom Maidl	<b>A/V:</b> Jeff Julien
<b>Deacon:</b> (8:30) Linda Postel	(10:30) Darlene Meier
<b>Acolytes:</b> (8:30) Bristol Hacker, Lili Waloch	
(10:30) Addley Berg, Vayda Melzer	
<b>Communion Server:</b> (8:30) Bob Gruenhagen	(10:30) Joan Krikava
<b>Ushers:</b> (8:30) Jim Schmidt, Jeremy Robinson	(10:30)
<b>Greeters:</b> (8:30) Karen Brandel	(10:30)
<b>P/P:</b> (8:30) Dyan Miller	(10:30)

**Adult Choir:** Jeff Anderson, Deb Bastian, Holly Beranek, Deb Egeland, Lynnae Flatau, Kitty Hietala, John Ingebritson, Marlene Ingebritson, Deb Kaehler, Tom Kaehler, Nancy Knakmuhs, Joan Krikava, Jenny Krosch, Shaun Luker, Scott Nelson, Alyssa Nissen, Harold Remme, Barb Reilly, Sarah Steffl, Joey Warta, Kevin Wieland, Heidi Wilker, Marlys Zetah

Copyright © 2023 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.  
Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS004049.

New Revised Standard Version Bible, Copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2023 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

	Weekly Offering	YTD Offering	YTD Budget
<b>12/10 General Offering</b>	\$ 12,265.50	\$ 421,333.23	\$ 508,003.00
<b>12/10 Building Fund</b>	\$ 1,715.00	\$ 60,117.99	\$ 52,884.50
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$ 13,980.50</b>	<b>\$ 481,451.22</b>	<b>\$ 560,887.50</b>
<b>12/10 World Hunger</b>	\$ 190.00	\$ 6,467.00	

ATTENDANCE	8:30AM Sun.	10:30AM Sun.	7:30PM Wed.
12/10/23	62	433	75