

## First Sunday of Advent



**December 3, 2023**

**Followers of Jesus, sharing God's love with all...**  
*an adventure for life!*

# THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

## In Preparation for Worship

- Within the sanctuary please remember that some people use this time of silence to prepare for worship.
- Whenever the cross is carried in procession through the congregation, we turn to face the cross to signify our way of life as followers of Jesus.
- Large-print bulletins and copies of the worship order are available; ask an usher for assistance.
- Assistive hearing devices are available from the ushers.
- Please silence your cell phone.

## WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

*Please be respectful of people who use this time to prepare for worship.*

Prelude

*Veni, Immanuel*

arr. John Dressler

Advent Candle Lighting

*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.



He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra - el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954

Music: TIF IN VELDELE, Yiddish folk tune

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Welcome

Please stand in body or spirit

## Hymn 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-joyce! Re-joyce!  
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.

Text: *Psalterium Cantionum Catholicarum*, Köln, 1710; tr. composite  
Music: VENI, EMMANUEL, French processional, 15th cent.  
Text sts. 2, 6, 7 © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

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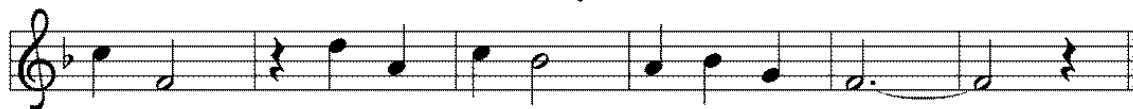
## Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the friendship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

## Hymn of Praise



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -



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

1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us  
 free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er, rich-es, wis-dom, and  
 strength, and hon-or, bless-ing, and glo-ry are his.

*Refrain*  
 This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-  
 lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

2 Sing with all the peo-ple of God, and join in the  
 hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing, hon-or, glo-ry, and  
 might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.

*Final refrain*  
 This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God,  
 for the Lamb who was slain has be-gun his reign.  
 Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

*Please be seated*

## WE PROCLAIM THE WORD

**Reading**                    **Isaiah 64:1-9** (New Living Translation, inclusivized)

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

God, that you would burst from the heavens and come down!

How the mountains would quake in your presence!

As fire causes wood to burn

and water to boil,

your coming would make the nations tremble.

Then your enemies would learn the reason for your fame!

When you came down long ago,

you did awesome deeds beyond our highest expectations.

And oh, how the mountains quaked!

For since the world began,

no ear has heard

and no eye has seen a God like you,

who works for those who wait!

You welcome those who gladly do good,

who follow godly ways.

But you have been very angry with us,

for we are not godly.

We are constant sinners;

how can people like us be saved?

We are all infected and impure with sin.

When we display our righteous deeds,

they are nothing but filthy rags.

Like autumn leaves, we wither and fall,

and our sins sweep us away like the wind.

Yet no one calls on your name

or pleads with you for mercy.

Therefore, you have turned away from us

and turned us over to our sins.

And yet, O Lord, you are our Abba.

We are the clay, and you are the potter.

We all are formed by your hand.

Don't be so angry with us, Lord.

Please don't remember our sins forever.

Look at us, we pray,

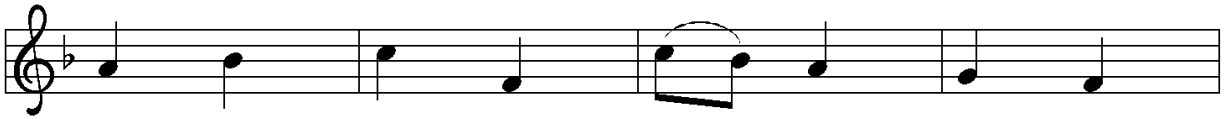
and see that we are all your people.

May we open ourselves to what the Spirit is saying to the church.     **Amen.**

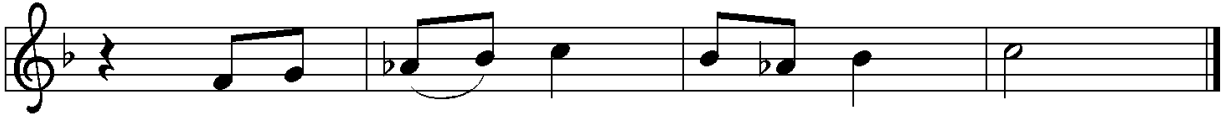


Please stand in body or spirit

## Gospel Acclamation



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



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

*Repeat alleluia*



Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

## Gospel

**Mark 13:24-37** (The Inclusive New Testament)

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Sitting on the Mount of Olives, facing the Temple, Jesus said to his disciples], “After a time of distress, the sun will be darkened, the moon will lose its brightness, the stars will fall from the sky and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then the people will see the Promised One coming in the clouds with great power and glory; 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.

“Take the fig tree as a parable: as soon as the twigs grow supple and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. In the same way, when you see these things happening, know that the Promised One is near, right at the door. The truth is, before this generation has passed away, all these things will have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

“But as for that day or hour, nobody knows it – neither the angels of heaven, nor the Only Begotten – no one but Abba God. Be constantly on the watch! Stay awake! You do not know when the appointed time will come.

“It is like people traveling abroad. They leave their home and put the employees in charge, each with a certain task, and those who watch at the front gate are ordered to stay on the alert. 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. Do not let the owner come suddenly and catch you asleep. What I say to you, I say to all: stay alert!”

The Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Spoken Reflection

## CHOOSING TO WRITE A CROSS-SHAPED STORY

### Gethsemane

by Mary Oliver

The grass never sleeps.  
Or the roses.  
Nor does the lily have a secret eye that shuts until morning.

Jesus said, wait with me. But the disciples slept.

The cricket has such splendid fringe on its feet,  
and it sings, have you noticed, with its whole body,  
and heaven knows if it ever sleeps.

Jesus said, wait with me. And maybe the stars did,  
maybe the wind wound itself into a silver tree, and didn't move, maybe  
the lake far away, where once he walked as on a  
blue pavement,  
lay still and waited, wild awake.

Oh the dear bodies, slumped and eye-shut, that could not  
keep that vigil, how they must have wept,  
so utterly human, knowing this too  
must be a part of the story.

## Musical Reflection

### *We Are Waiting for Jesus*

John Helgen  
Senior Choir

We are waiting for Jesus; Jesus brings peace.  
We are waiting for Jesus; Jesus brings peace.  
Sun of justice, shine upon us;  
we are trusting in your promise.  
We are waiting for Jesus; Jesus brings peace.

We are waiting for Jesus; Jesus brings peace.  
We are waiting for Jesus; Jesus brings peace.  
Loving Shepherd, walk beside us;  
stir our hearts, and gently guide us.  
We are waiting for Jesus; Jesus brings peace.

*Text: John Helgen, b. 1957; Text © 2013 Augsburg Fortress*



## **Apostles' Creed**

Let us confess our faith in the Triune God as expressed in these historic words:

**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.**

## **Community Prayers**

Let us pray....

After each petition: "Receive our prayer,"

**Your mercy is great.  
Amen.**

*Included in our daily prayers are those with special needs or concerns:*

Bebe McCoy, Robin Stokes, Bonnie Hegreiness, Heidi Carman, Mary Kennedy,  
Kevin Bailey's sister Kleta Childs, Kathie and Nancy Ehrich and their sister Betty Weaver,  
Jeremy Davis, Bebe McCoy's brother-in-law Walt and her sister Jan, Brittany Parsons,  
Mary Bowling's sister Val, John Kennedy's niece Michele Wolfe, Maddie Sutphin,  
Skye Andree, Julie Larson and husband Eli, Kathleen Zwanziger, Carolyn Moehring,  
Kris Kauffman, Mary Watts, Emily Ott's aunt Kathy Richter, family and friends of  
Becky Fisher's stepmother Deanie Schmidt

The people of African International Lutheran Mission in Canal Winchester; Redeemer  
community members Kathy and Rich Pautsch

## **Time with the Young People**

### **Sharing the peace**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*Members are encouraged to move around the sanctuary to greet each with a hearty handshake or a hug.  
For those who have special concerns or who do not wish close contact, please offer a sign of blessing to let  
others know you are more comfortable greeting them from a distance.*

*We will continue to take a moment to greet those who are worshiping via livestream before greeting those  
in the sanctuary.*

## WE SHARE HOLY COMMUNION

*Jesus invited all who were hungry for food, healing, justice, and joy to share this communion meal.*

*Since this is his meal, and he is present to us in it, all are welcome.*

*In body or spirit, please stand*

### **Offertory      All the Music Sung and Played Here**

Bless the talents we are bringing, for we offer you our best.

If our gifts are not in singing, may our joyful noise be blest.

If our world is ever silent, may we sign to you above.

Touched by grace, may each one present offer back your song of love.

SONGS OF GRACE: New Hymns for God and Neighbor. © 2009 Discipleship Resources. All rights reserved. Purchasers of this volume are granted permission to use the texts included in public worship. Acknowledgement of the author and source is required with each use.

### **Great Thanksgiving**

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.

This is the table of Emmanuel -- God-with-us. This is the place where bread and wine remind us how to live and love as those who inhabit God's time, and work to build God's Beloved Community. This is the place where we recognize that the one for whom we wait is also the one who is already, and always, here with us.

So come! Whether you are watching for the dawn, or dreading first light, whether you are waiting with hope, or hiding your face, come with quiet confidence. Here Emmanuel watches for our coming, and waits with love and joy to welcome us in.

The story of Emmanuel is the story of God – waiting to inhabit time, who took on flesh and form, and lived among us, so that we might re-imagine life. It is the story of Jesus – waiting to be betrayed, who shared supper with his friends, where he took bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take this and eat. This is my body, broken for you. Do this to remember me.” And after supper he took the cup and gave it to them, saying, “This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood. It is shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this to remember me.”

And so, taking this bread and wine, we remember and celebrate the waiting which began to change the world; and we join our voices with all who still wait and work for that change to come to completion:

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.

God of grace, as we follow the example of Jesus, send your Holy Spirit upon us, and on these gifts of bread and wine. May we find the imagination, the courage, and the strength to use our waiting times to build your Beloved Community of joy, justice, and peace, for which we now pray:

### 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.**

## Sharing the Meal

The gifts of God, for the people of God. Jesus welcomed all to this meal.  
So do we.

*Please be seated*

*You may come forward to receive the elements, remain seated and use the pre-filled communion cups available at the door, or let an usher know you'd like to be served in your seat. Wine is in the outer rings of the tray, grape-apple juice in the inner ring. Gluten-free wafers are available on request, ask Pastor.*



# Hymn

## Each Winter as the Year Grows Older



1 Each win - ter as the year grows old - er, we each grow old - er,  
2 When race and class cry out for trea - son, when si - rens call for  
3 Yet I be - lieve be - yond be - liev - ing that life can spring from  
4 So e - ven as the sun is turn - ing to jour - ney to the  
5 O Child of ec - sta - sy and sor - rows, O Prince of peace and



too. The chill sets in a lit - tle cold - er; the  
war, they o - ver - shout the voice of rea - son and  
death, that growth can flow - er from our griev - ing, that  
north, the liv - ing flame, in se - cret burn - ing, can  
pain, bright - en to - day's world by to - mor - row's, re -



ver - i - ties we knew seem shak - en and un - true.  
scream till we ig - nore all we held dear be - fore.  
we can catch our breath and turn trans - fixed by faith.  
kin - dle on the earth and bring God's love to birth.  
new our lives a - gain; Lord Je - sus, come and reign!

Text: William Gay, b. 1920, alt.  
Music: CAROL OF HOPE, Annabeth Gay, b. 1925  
Text and music © 1971 United Church Press.

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Hymn

**Come Now, O Prince of Peace**

*O - so - sŏ o - so - sŏ, pyong - hwa - ũi - 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.

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*Please stand in body or spirit*

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

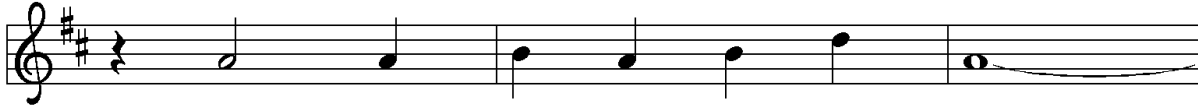
Holy Mystery, the earth still waits for its healing. May we who are part of that waiting take and use the waiting times to re-imagine how we can be healers of creation. Open our hands and hearts to embrace and use the uncertain times to learn how to live and love. So may our watching and waiting join with that of Emmanuel to realize your beloved community here on earth.

**Amen.**

# WE ARE SENT

## Hymn

## As the Dark Awaits the Dawn



1 As the dark a - waits the dawn,  
2 As the blue ex - pec - tant hour  
3 As the moon re - flects the sun  
4 Shine your fu - ture on this place,



so we a - wait your light. O Star of  
be - fore the sil - v'ring skies, we long to  
un - til the night's de - crease, may we your  
en - light - en ev - 'ry guest, that through us



prom - ise, scat - ter night, lov - ing bright, lov - ing  
see your day a - rise, whole and wise, whole and  
heal - ing light re - lease, liv - ing peace, liv - ing  
stream your ho - li - ness, bright and blest, bright and



bright, till shades of fear are gone.  
wise, O lu - cent Morn - ing Star.  
peace, un - to your ho - ly dawn.  
blest; come dawn, O Sun of grace.

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, b. 1953  
Music: LUCENT, Carl F. Schalk, b. 1929  
Text © 1996 Susan Palo Cherwien, admin. Augsburg Fortress.  
Music © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

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## Blessing

**Amen.**

## Announcements

## Postlude

## *Sleepers, Wake*

arr. Alec Wyton

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The communion liturgy is adapted from "Enter with Joy," by Pat Bennett, published by Wild Goose Publications.

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Birthdays this week:

- 3 - Julija Volfa
- 3 - Walton Wolfe
- 4 - Hitoshi Phillips
- 6 - Isabella Skoog
- 6 - Sophia Skoog
- 8 - Payton Friederich
- 8 - Bob Rapp



Adult Ed Class

*December 3 - 11:15 am*

**Bishop Nicholas will chat with us about gift-giving traditions**

In-Person and Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88957366923?pwd=TnV6cFB4ZUpET25USTgzZ0dZlhnQT09>

Meeting ID: 889 5736 6923 = Passcode: 383835  
Phone only: 1-312-626-6799

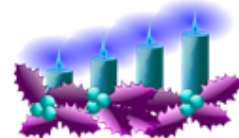
## Sunday School Christmas Program

*December 17 during Worship*



*Kids and Adults*

share Christmas traditions,  
cherished memories, and beloved  
hymns and songs.



**Advent Wednesday evenings**

**December 6, 13, 20**

**6:15 Advent Desserts**

**7:00 pm Holden Evening Prayer**

Sign up on the bulletin board outside  
the library to *serve as cantor* or to  
*provide dessert* at 6:15



Monthly Sunday School for all ages!  
Sunday, December 10 == 11:15 am





**Bible Study**  
**Tuesdays + 1:00 pm**

In-Person and Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82259660622?pwd=R2p>

[HTW11bHR0N1FHbFRZdStqbk9Bdz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82259660622?pwd=R2p)

Meeting ID: 822 5966 0622 = Passcode: 435549

Phone only: 1-301 715 8592



**Readers Wanted**  
**Christmas Eve 7pm**

Sign-ups are on the bulletin board for volunteers to read the lessons at Christmas Eve worship.

The assigned lessons are on the bulletin board, and will also be emailed to you the week before, so you may review before reading.



**LSS Food Pantry**

**First Wednesdays**  
**12:30-3:30 pm**

**Contact Kathleen Zwanziger**  
**to volunteer**



**Wednesday, January 17**  
**7-8:30 pm**

***This Land Is Our Land:***  
***An Immigrant's Manifesto***

*by Suketu Mehta*

Copies are available in public libraries.

**IN-PERSON and ZOOM**

<https://us02zoom.us/j/86581504887?pwd=ZkFSV2tKM2xE d3dyK1RvSURJY1FuZz09>

Meeting ID: **865 8150 4887** +++ Passcode **274918**

Phone Only: **312-626-6799**

## OUR WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY

<b>Presiding Minister</b>	David Shull, Pastor
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Michele Disbro
<b>Cantor</b>	Connie Criswell
<b>ASL Interpreter</b>	Bryan Neal
<b>Organist &amp; Senior Choir Director</b>	Kathy Rapp
<b>Pianist &amp; Chime Choir Director</b>	Karen Kent
<b>Usher</b>	Ruth Murray
<b>Verger</b>	Michelle Clemence / Wendy Stoica
<b>Communion Prep</b>	Wendy Stoica
<b>Producers</b>	Toshi Phillips, Sachio Phillips
<b>Hospitality</b>	Michelle Clemence

*Flowers are given by **the Reinoehl family** in memory of **Dave Reinoehl**.  
Noisy Offering will go to LSS CHOICES for Victims of Domestic Violence*

## THIS WEEK AT REDEEMER DECEMBER 3 - 10

<b>Today</b>	8:45 am	Senior Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 am	IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Worship with Holy Communion
	11:15 am	IN-PERSON and ZOOM Adult Education
	12:30 pm	Confirmation Class
<b>Monday</b>	5:30 pm	ZOOM Executive Team
<b>Tuesday</b>	1:00 pm	IN-PERSON and ZOOM Bible Study
<b>Wednesday</b>	12:30 pm	<b>RLC at LSS Food Pantry</b>
	6:15 pm	Advent Desserts
	7:00 pm	IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Holden Evening Prayer
<b>Saturday</b>	10:00 am	Chime Choir Rehearsal
<b>Next Sunday</b>	8:45 am	Senior Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 am	IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Worship with Holy Communion
	11:15 am	Sunday School for all ages
	11:15 am	IN-PERSON and ZOOM Adult Education
	12:30 pm	Youth Gathering

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614.237.1263 + [info@RedeemerLuth.com](mailto:info@RedeemerLuth.com) + [www.RedeemerLuth.com](http://www.RedeemerLuth.com)  
Office hours –9am-1pm, Mon-Wed; 9am-noon Thu  
A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America