

**8:45 A.M. ORDER OF WORSHIP**  
**December 5, 2021**  
**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE:** “Once He Came in Blessing” – M. Burkhardt

P. We prepare our hearts and minds for worship, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C. Amen.**

**BRIEF ORDER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:**

*You may either stand or kneel.*

P: Holy and loving God,  
 here, in public worship, we confess  
 our sins We fall short of your  
 intentions for us.

**C: We find it hard to believe your good news  
 is for us. We fail to care for all the gifts  
 you give us—our time, our talent, and  
 our possessions. We fall short of your  
 intentions for us.**

P: We fail to truly see our neighbors.  
 We look past the stranger.

**C: We find it convenient to be self-righteous  
 when it comes to politics and ethics.**

P: Forgive us Lord God! Help us to do  
 better—to be better. We ask through  
 Jesus Christ, your Son our Lord, the  
 One who emptied himself just to be  
 with us and save us.

**C: Amen.**

**DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS:**

P: Paul teaches us in Romans chapter 5: If in Adam and Eve all have died—so now--in Jesus Christ--all are made alive. Let us rejoice in the lifegiving power of God's unconditional love. Our sins are forgiven for Jesus' sake.

**C: Amen.**

## GATHERING HYMN: "Prepare the Royal Highway"



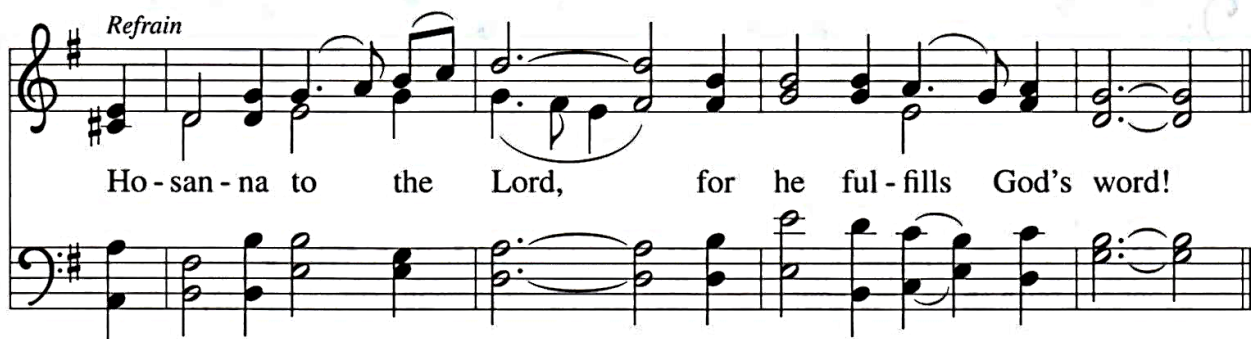
1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!  
 2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing: your own e - ter - nal king!  
 3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom - ised king!  
 4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heav'n a - bove.



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!  
 Palm branch - es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!  
 Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion its trib - ute too may bring.  
 His rule is peace and free - dom and jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:  
 God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!  
 All lands will bow be - fore him; their voic - es join your sing - ing:  
 So let your praise be sound - ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:



*Refrain*  
 Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!

**APOSTOLIC GREETING:**

P. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C. And also with you.

**HYMN OF PRAISE:**

**A** Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his peo-ple on earth.



**B** Lord God, heav-en - ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:



We wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your



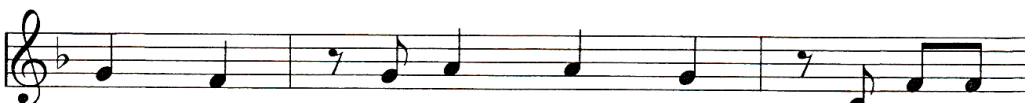
glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa-ther,



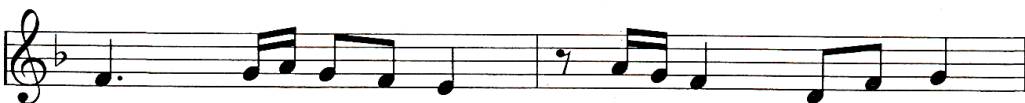
Lord God, Lamb of God: You take a - way the sin of the world;



have mer-cy on us. You are seat-ed at the right hand of the



Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer. For you a -



lone are the Ho - ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



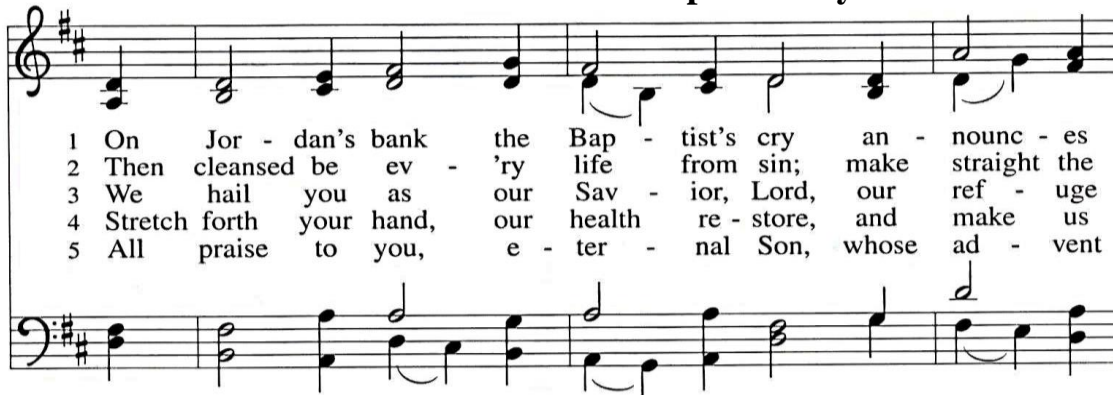
in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men

**PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

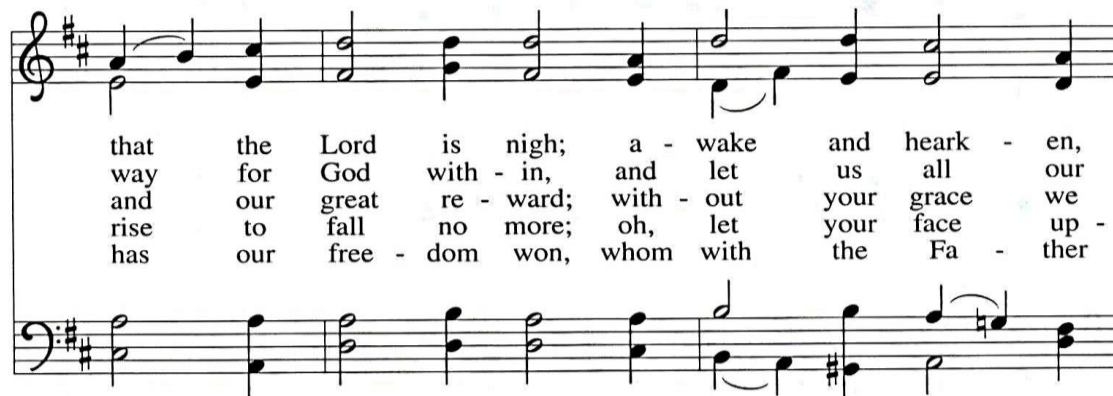
**Creative God, the gift of Jesus brings us here. Change our hearts and hands through this gift. Help us to be the change we want to see. Amen.**

**BIBLE READINGS***See back of bulletin**After the reading of the Gospel:*

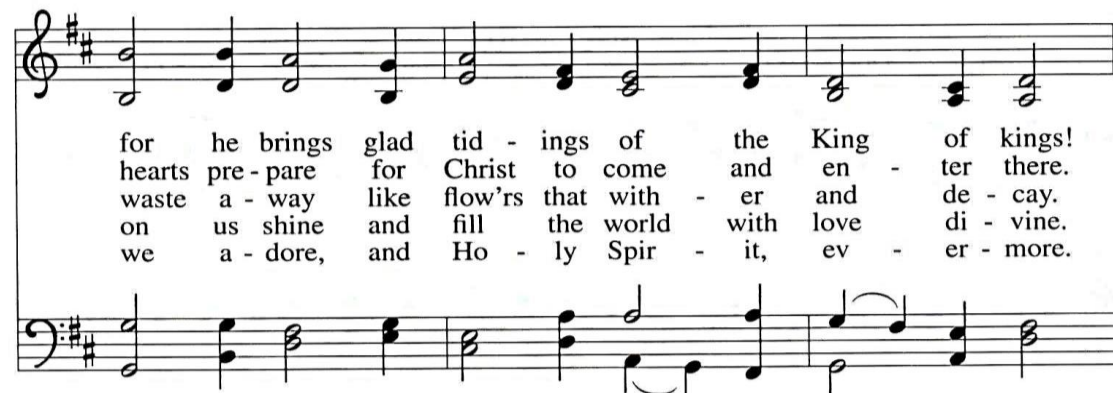
P. The Gospel of the Lord”

**C. Praise to you O Christ.****SERMON: “God’s Infrastructure Plan”****Pastor Larry Isbell****HYMN OF THE DAY: “On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”**


1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an - nounc - es  
 2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; make straight the  
 3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, our ref - uge  
 4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, and make us  
 5 All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,  
 way for God with - in, and let us all our  
 and our great re - ward; with - out your grace we  
 rise to fall no more; oh, let your face up -  
 has our free - dom won, whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings!  
 hearts pre - pare for Christ to come and en - ter there.  
 waste a - way like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.  
 on us shine and fill the world with love di - vine.  
 we a - dore, and Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er - more.

**APOSTLES' CREED:**

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.**

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again 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**

**CHOIR ANTHEM: "Keep Your Lamps!" – arranged by Andre Thomas**

*Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,*

*keep your lamps trimmed and burning,*

*keep your lamps trimmed and burning, the time is drawing nigh. (repeat)*

*Children, don't get weary.*

*Children, don't get weary.*

*Children, don't get weary till your work is done. (repeat)*

*Christian, journey soon be over.*

*Christian, journey soon be over.*

*Christian, journey soon be over, the time is drawing night. (repeat)*

*Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,*

*keep your lamps trimmed and burning,*

*keep your lamps trimmed and burning, the time is drawing nigh. (repeat)*

**THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH:**

*(At the end of each petition, the leader will say "Lord, in your mercy." Feel free to respond with "Hear our prayer.")*

**THE BLESSING OF THE OFFERING****COMMUNION LITURGY**

**P.** 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:**

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.**

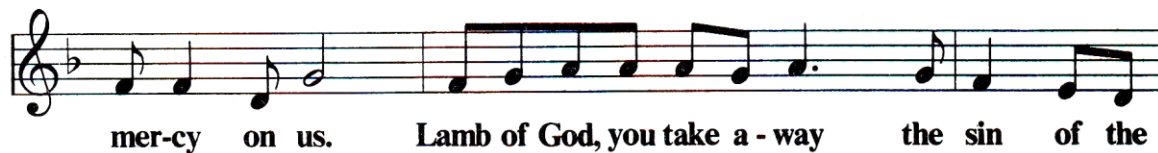
**Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

**HOLY COMMUNION:**

*All are welcome to receive Holy Communion. We trust and teach the "real presence" of Jesus, in, with, and under the elements of bread and wine.*

*As you approach the altar rail, please keep a good space between yourself and others. The floor is marked where you may stand or kneel.*

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER:**

**P.** Let us pray. We give you thanks almighty God that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift – in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C:** Amen

**BENEDICTION:**

P. Now may God, who has loved us with a love beyond all telling, send us forth to care for the world around us and to share the good news of that love, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C. Amen.

**SENDING HYMN: "Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus"**

1 Come, thou long-ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;  
2 Born thy peo-ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king;



from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.  
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra-cious king-dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art,  
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir-it rule in all our hearts a - lone;



dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long-ing heart.  
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer-it raise us to thy glo-rious throne.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788  
Music: W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

JEFFERSON  
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**DISMISSAL:**

P. Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

C. Thanks be to God.

**POSTLUDE: "Savior of the Nations, Come" – J. S. Bach**

**Today's altar flowers are given by Mark & Linda Pillar in honor of their 47<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.**