

8:45 A.M. ORDER OF WORSHIP

November 30, 2025

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

PRELUDE: “Savior of the Nations, Come” – Andreas Vetter

GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH:

All Sing

Light one candle to watch for Messiah: let the light banish darkness.

He shall bring salvation to Israel, God fulfills the promise.

BRIEF ORDER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:

During the Confession you may either stand or kneel as you are able.

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

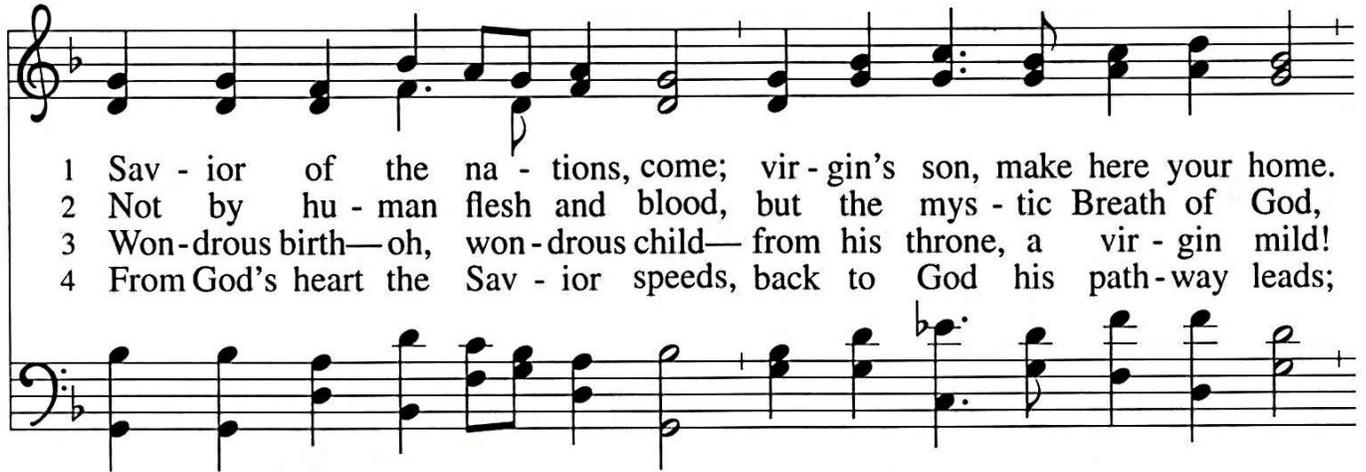
P: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart: we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen

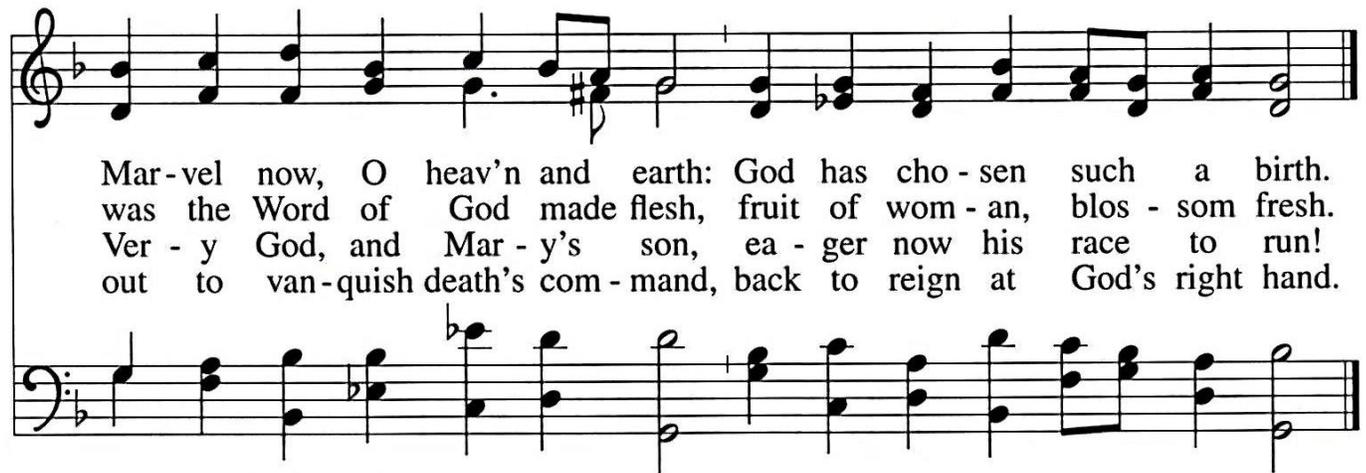
P: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: AMEN.

GATHERING HYMN: "Savior of the Nations, Come"



1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come; vir - gin's son, make here your home.
2 Not by hu - man flesh and blood, but the mys - tic Breath of God,
3 Won - drous birth—oh, won - drous child— from his throne, a vir - gin mild!
4 From God's heart the Sav - ior speeds, back to God his path - way leads;



Mar - vel now, O heav'n and earth: God has cho - sen such a birth.
was the Word of God made flesh, fruit of wom - an, blos - som fresh.
Ver - y God, and Mar - y's son, ea - ger now his race to run!
out to van - quish death's com - mand, back to reign at God's right hand.

5 Now your manger, shining bright,
hallows night with newborn light.
Night cannot this light subdue;
let our faith shine ever new.

6 Praise we sing to Christ the Lord,
virgin's son, incarnate Word!
To the holy Trinity
praise we sing eternally!

Text: attr. Ambrose of Milan, 340–397; Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. hymnal version

Music: J. Walter, *Geistliche Gesangbüchlein*, 1524

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NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND

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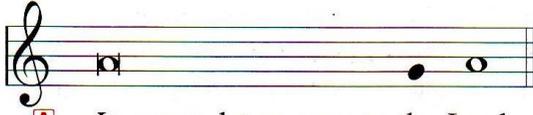
APOSTOLIC GREETING:

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.

KYRIE:

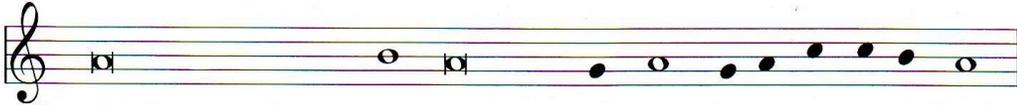
May be spoken or sung.



A In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



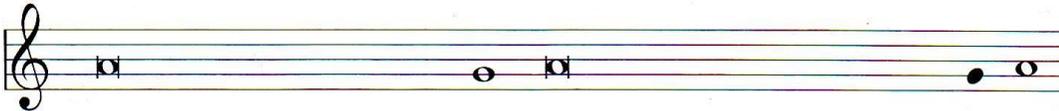
C Lord, have mer - cy.



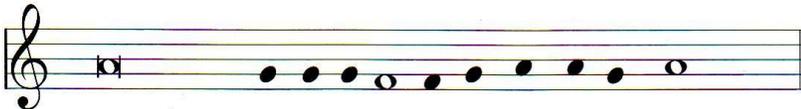
A For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal-vation, let us pray to the Lord.



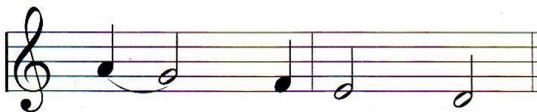
C Lord, have mer - cy.



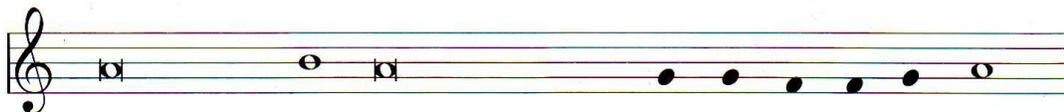
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



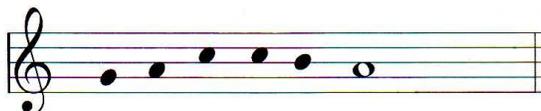
and for the uni-ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



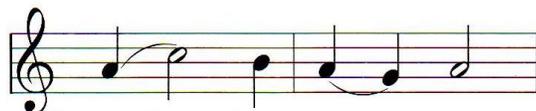
C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord.



C A - men

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:

P. The Lord be with you.

C. And also with you.

P. Let us pray.

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated

CHILDREN'S SERMON

READINGS FOR TODAY

FIRST READING: Isaiah 2:1-5

see back of bulletin

PSALM 122

*Spoken responsively, the Lector speaks the verses in regular print and congregation speaks the verses in **bold print**.*

¹ I was glad when they said to me,
"Let us go to the house of the LORD."

² **Now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem.**

³ Jerusalem is built as a city
that is at unity with itself;

⁴ **to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD,
the assembly of Israel, to praise the name of the LORD.**

⁵ For there are the thrones of judgment,
the thrones of the house of David.

⁶ **Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:
"May they prosper who love you.**

⁷ Peace be with-in your walls
and quietness with-in your towers.

⁸ **For the sake of my kindred and companions,
I pray for your prosperity.**

⁹ Because of the house of the LORD our God,
I will seek to do you good."

SECOND READING: Romans 13:11-14

see back of bulletin

Please stand as you are able.

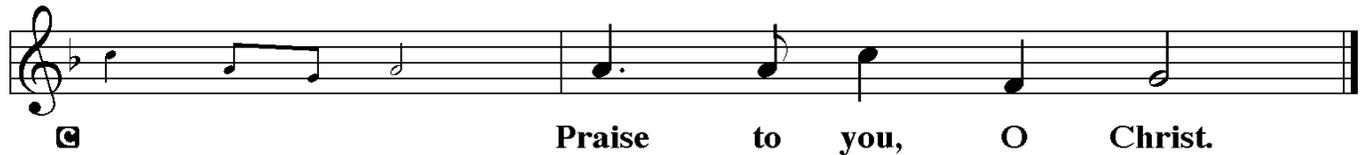


GOSPEL: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew 24:36-44

see back of bulletin



After the reading the minister says: "The Gospel of the Lord"



Please be seated

SERMON: "God's Promise is Near"

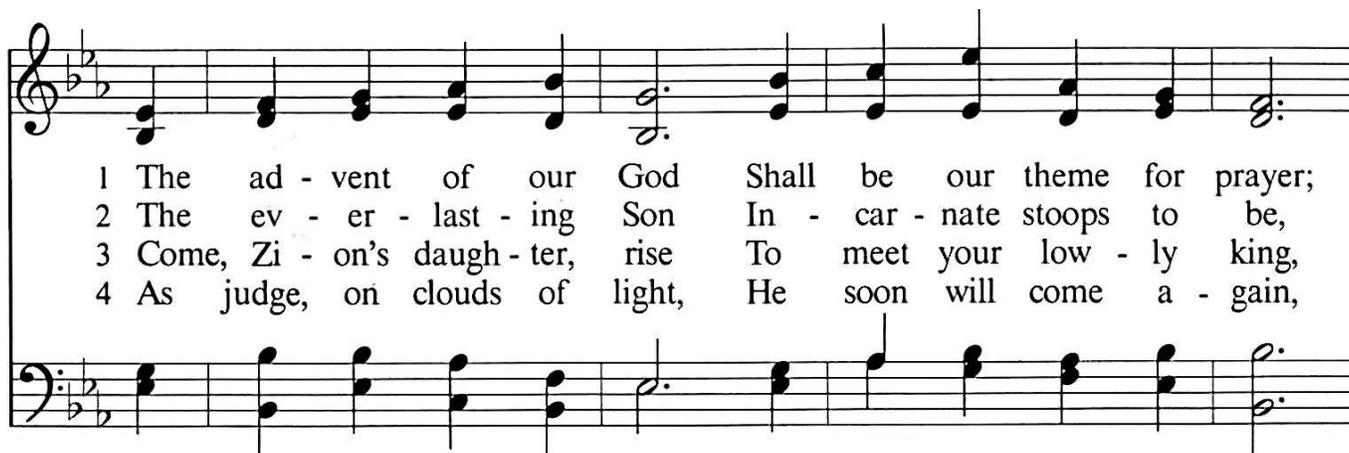
Pastor Amy Bartleson Balcam



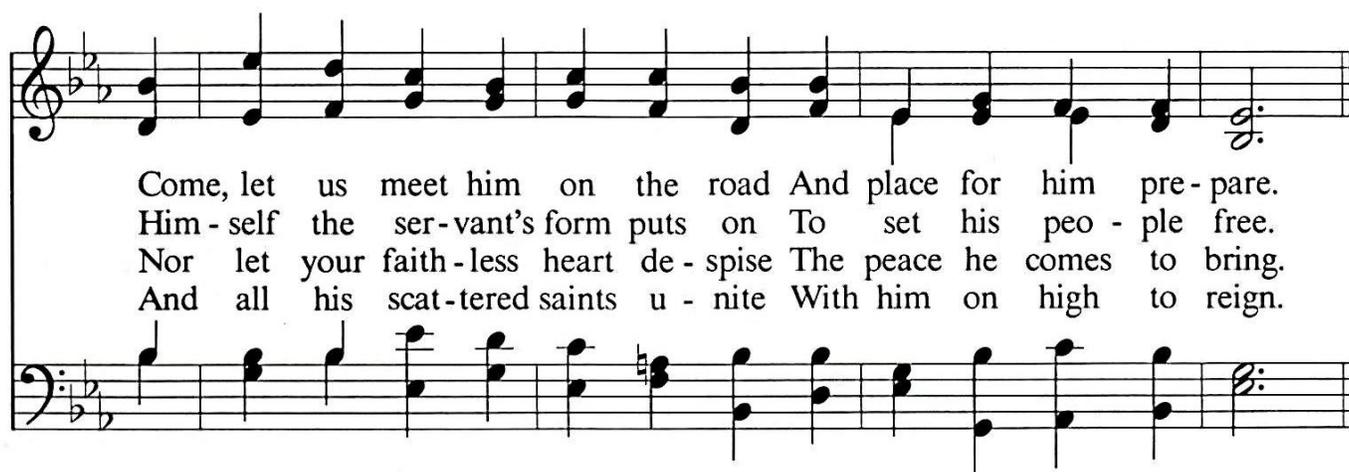
**TODAY'S
SERMON**

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY: "The Advent of Our God"



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.

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**

Please be seated.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION:

A. In our waiting and watching, we come to you in prayer, O God, trusting your promise to renew the church, the nations, and the whole creation.

A brief silence.

A: Lord in your mercy.

C: Hear our prayer.

P: Draw near to us, O God, as we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ, Emmanuel.

C: Amen.

Please stand as you are able.

SHARING OF THE PEACE:

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Please share the PEACE of the Lord with one another.



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)*

PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING:



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.

OFFERTORY PRAYER:

A. Merciful Father,

C. we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING:

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.**

P: 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'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.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER:

C. Amen

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.

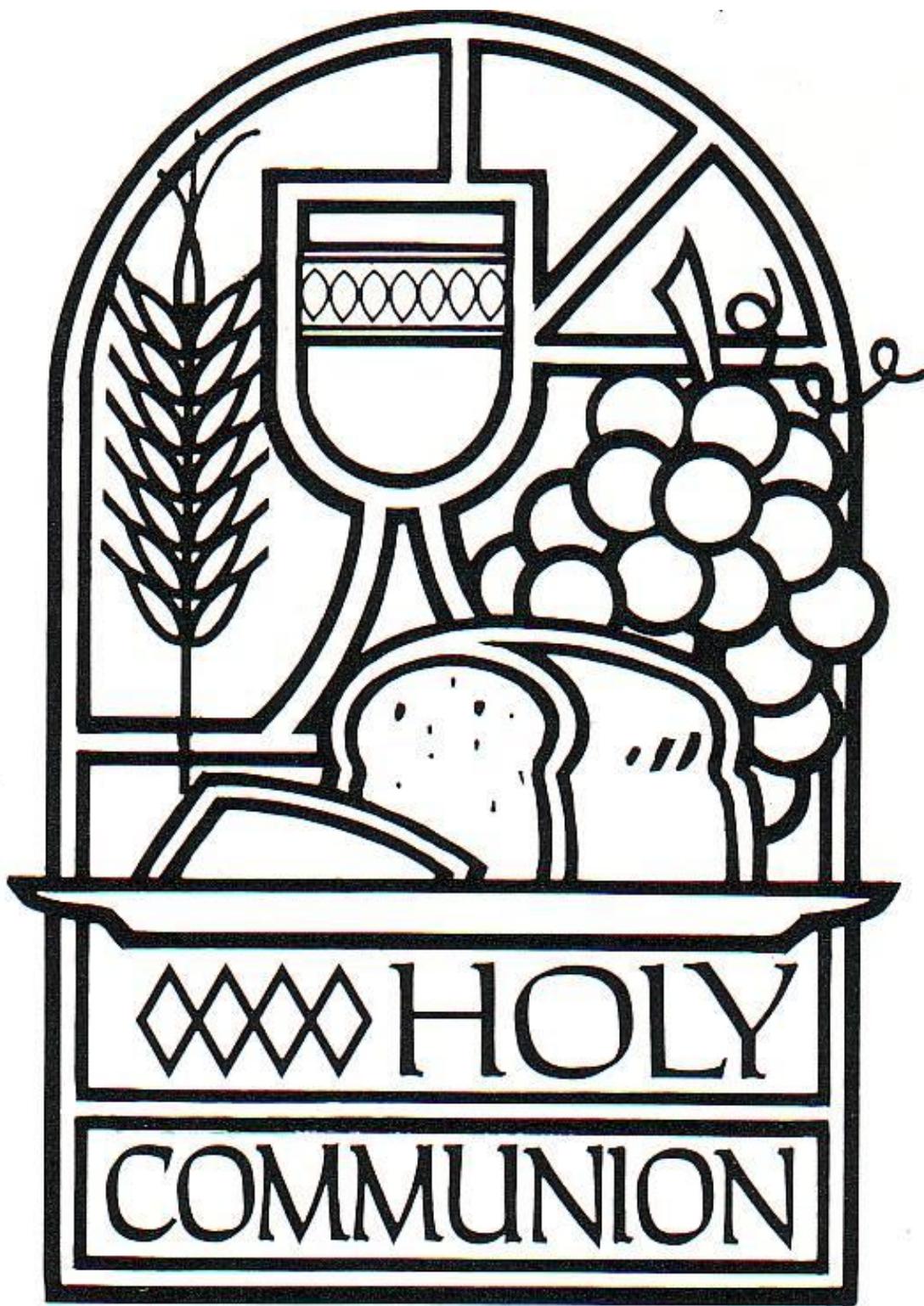
For thine is the kingdom,

and the power, and the glory,

forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION:

P. Come to God's table. There is a place for you and enough for all.



◆◆◆ HOLY

COMMUNION

Sit

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.

AGNUS DEI:



□ 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 stand as you are able

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

C: Amen.

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:

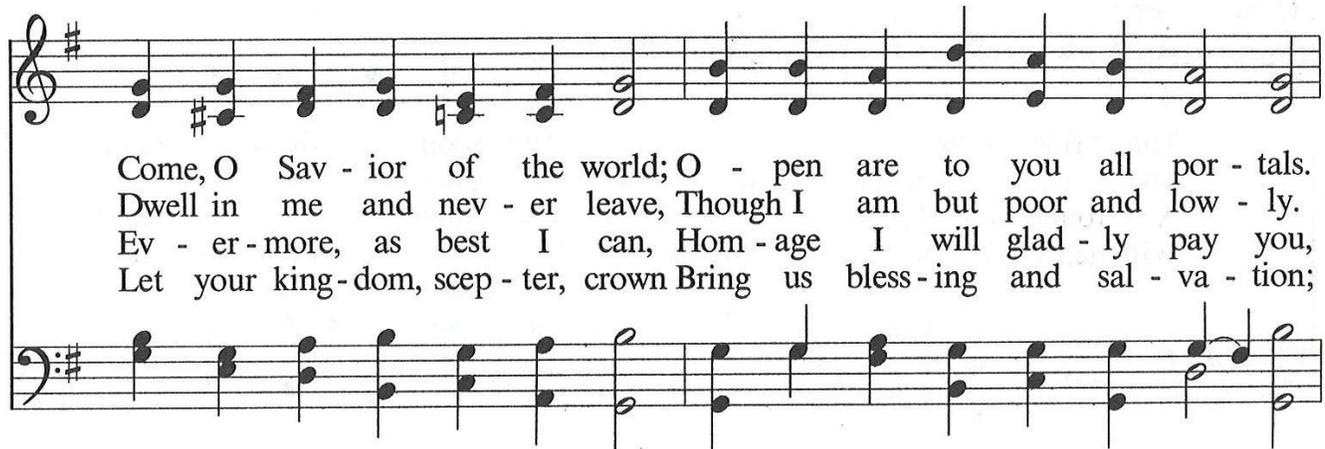
P. The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine upon you, and be gracious to you; the Lord look upon you with favor, and give you peace.

C. Amen.

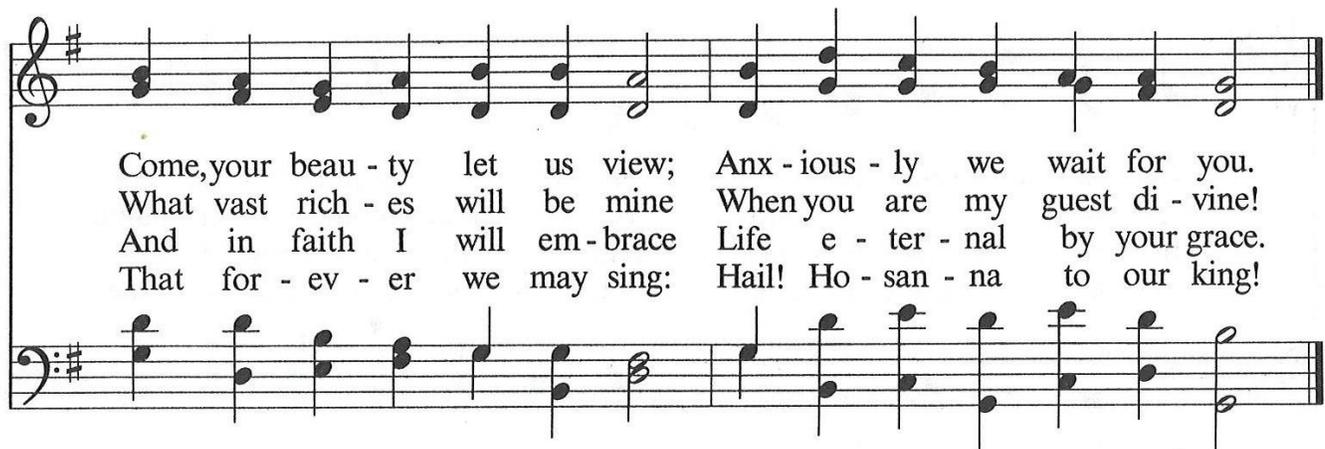
SENDING HYMN: "Come, O Precious Ransom"



1 Come, O pre-cious Ran-som, come, On - ly hope for sin - ful mor - tals!
 2 En - ter now my wait - ing heart, Glo-rious King and Lord most ho - ly.
 3 My ho - san - nas and my palms Gra-cious - ly re - ceive, I pray you;
 4 Hail! Ho - san - na! Da - vid's Son! Je - sus, hear our sup - pli - ca - tion!



Come, O Sav - ior of the world; O - pen are to you all por - tals.
 Dwell in me and nev - er leave, Though I am but poor and low - ly.
 Ev - er - more, as best I can, Hom - age I will glad - ly pay you,
 Let your king - dom, scep - ter, crown Bring us bless - ing and sal - va - tion;



Come, your beau - ty let us view; Anx - ious - ly we wait for you.
 What vast rich - es will be mine When you are my guest di - vine!
 And in faith I will em - brace Life e - ter - nal by your grace.
 That for - ev - er we may sing: Hail! Ho - san - na to our king!

*Text: Johann G. Olearius, 1611-1684; tr. August Crull, 1846-1923, alt.
 Tune: Neuverfertigtes Gesangbuch, Darmstadt, 1699*

MEINEN JESUM LASS ICH NICHT
 78 78 77

DISMISSAL:

A. Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

C. Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE: “Savior of the Nations, Come” – Paul Manz

Today’s altar flowers are offered to the glory of God!

