

Second Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 10, 2023 8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Livestream at 11:00 a.m.



Icon 1, Advent 1B, Sundays and Seasons

FAITH . DISCIPLESHIP . COMMUNITY
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

The Rev. Alejandro Mejia, Interim Senior Pastor
The Rev. William (Bill) Gohl, Jr., Interim Associate Pastor

At The Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, we embrace the uniqueness of every individual and respect their dignity and worth, for all are created in the image of God. We strive to welcome everyone in the fullness of who they are.

Let us call together for reconciliation, and live out God's vision of love for people of every sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, socio-economic status, age, physical or mental ability, political persuasion, race, ethnicity, and personal history. Let us walk together to strive for racial equity, as Jesus calls us to do.

All people are welcome here to worship, build community, and grow together as Jesus 'disciples at this place.

Enter Reverently. Meditate Quietly. Worship Joyfully. Serve Christ Faithfully.

✦ GATHERING ✦

Prelude

Barbara Skillman

Please stand, as you are able.

Confession and Forgiveness

P *Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who opens the heavens and draws near to us with salvation.*

C **Amen.**

P *God is patient and merciful, desiring all to come to repentance. Trusting this promise of grace, let us confess our sin.*

C **Amen.**

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P *Everlasting God,*

C **you love justice and you hate wrongdoing. We confess the fear, greed, and self-centeredness that make us reluctant to work against oppression. We are complicit in systems of exploitation. We choose comfort over courage. We are careless with creation's bounty. Look upon us with mercy. Turn our hearts again to you. Make us glad to do your will and to walk in your ways for the sake of our waiting world. Amen.**

P *Hear these words of assurance: God clothes you with garments of salvation and covers you with robes of righteousness. In the tender compassion of ☩ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. God's covenant is eternal, and God's blessing rests upon us all.*

C **Amen.**



1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heav'n, to
 2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - 'ry
 3 Come, Al-might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy
 4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and spot - less



earth come down! Fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy
 trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us
 life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
 let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -



faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,
 find thy prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,
 ly re - stored in thee! Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,



pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
 Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
 serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
 till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.
 its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise!

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

C **And also with you.**



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.

P *The Lord be with you.*

C **And also with you.**

P *Let us pray. Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son.*

C **By his coming strengthen us to serve you with purified lives; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Please be seated.

✦ THE WORD ✦

First Reading

Isaiah 40:1-11

A *A reading from Isaiah. ¹Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. ²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.*

³A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴Every valley

*shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.
⁵Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.”*

⁶A voice says, “Cry out!” And I said, “What shall I cry?” All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. ⁷The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. ⁸The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever. ⁹Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, “Here is your God!” ¹⁰See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. ¹¹He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

A *The word of the Lord.*

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

Read responsively.

A *¹You have been gracious to your land, O Lord;
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.*

C **²You have forgiven the iniquity of your people
and blotted out all their sins.**

A *⁸I will listen to what the Lord God is saying;
for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn
their hearts to you.*

C **⁹Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you,
that your glory may dwell in our land.**

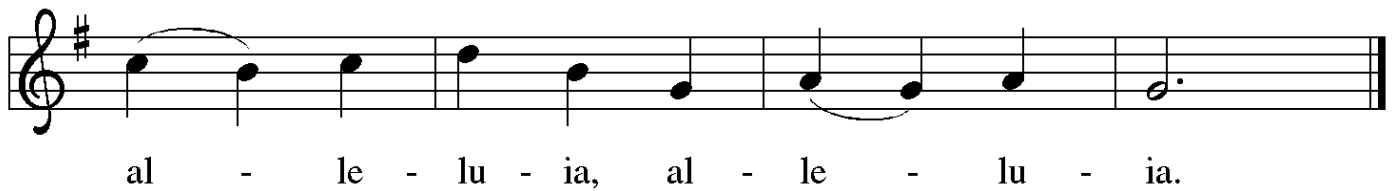
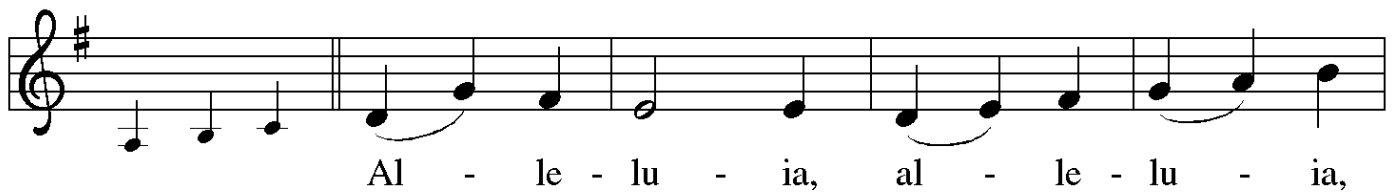
A ¹⁰*Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together;
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.*

C ¹¹**Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth,
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.**

A ¹²*The Lord will indeed grant prosperity,
and our land will yield its increase.*

C ¹³**Righteousness shall go before the Lord
and shall prepare for God a pathway.**

Please stand, as you are able.



Repeat alleluia



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

Holy Gospel

Mark 1:1-8

P *The Holy Gospel according to Mark the first chapter.*

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹*The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.*

²*As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,*

*“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way;*

³*the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:*

*‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight,’ ”*

⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

P *The Gospel of the Lord.*
C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

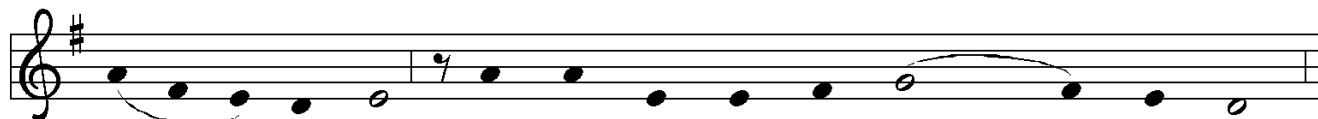
Please be seated.

Advent Wreath Lighting

One candle of the Advent Wreath is lit as stanza 2 of "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" is sung.



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.

Sermon

The Rev. Kelsey Green
 Pastor, Lutheran Episcopal Campus
 Ministry in Baltimore

Please stand as you are able.



1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to
 2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to
 3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to



fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give
 look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous-ness,
 be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with



light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.
 shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.
 pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain



In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the



day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the



cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

A *Let us confess our faith using the words of the Nicene Creed.*
C **We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of
 heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
 eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from**

Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

A *With hope and expectation, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who await God's day of restoration.*

A brief silence.

After each portion of the prayers:

A *Merciful God,*

C **receive our prayer.**

The prayers conclude:

P *Listen to these and all our prayers, O God of hosts, and restore us with your great and everlasting mercy.*

C **Amen.**

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

C **And also with you.**

After sharing the peace, please be seated.

Offering and Offertory

As the gifts are presented, please stand as you are able.



We come now to your ta - ble, Lord, you are the Liv - ing Bread.



We come now to your ta - ble, Lord, let ev - 'ry soul be fed.



You are the Liv - ing Bread, let ev - 'ry soul be fed:



and now may ev - 'ry soul be fed with Liv - ing Bread.

- A** *Let us pray. God our provider,*
C **by your merciful hand abundance springs up from the earth.
Receive and bless these gifts of your own bounty. Let them be a
sign of your steadfast love and faithfulness for all people, through
Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

✦THE EUCHARIST✦

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 God thanks and praise.**

P *At the beginning of creation God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. In ancient times God also led the Israelites through the desert with a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. The priests of old also kept a perpetual fire burning in the Temple to remind us that God is a light who cannot be extinguished. Finally Jesus, the Word, who was with God since the beginning of creation, became flesh and lived among us. With our lights burning brightly, we now join the saints and angels in a hymn of praise to God, the Everlasting Light.*



Du är he - lig, du är hel. Du är all - tid myck-et mer
You are ho - ly, you are whole. You are al - ways ev - er more



än vi nån - sin kan för - stå, du är nä - ra än - då.
than we ev - er un - der - stand. You are al - ways at hand.



Väl - sig - nad va - re du som kom - mer hit just nu,
Bless - ed are you com - ing near. Bless - ed are you com - ing here



väl - sig - na - de vår jord, blir till bröd på vår jord.
to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised from dead.



Du är he - lig, du är hel - het,
You are ho - ly, you are whole - ness,



du är när - het he - la kos - mos lo - var dig!
you are pres - ent. Let the cos - mos praise you, Lord!



Ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na,
Sing ho - san - na in the high - est!



ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na vår Gud.
Sing ho - san - na! Sing ho - san - na to our God!

P *Holy God, mighty and merciful, your people praise you, saying:
Your mercy endures forever.*

C **Your mercy endures forever.**

P *By your promise you bound yourself to earth and all its creatures,
granting them life and calling them to flourish, setting the sign of
your bow in the clouds, the colors of your love and faithfulness.
Your mercy endures forever.*

C **Your mercy endures forever.**

P *By your promise you bound yourself to your people of old, blessing
them with family outnumbering the stars and calling them to be a
blessing to others, showing them steadfast love in every generation
and calling them to be a light to the nations. Your mercy endures
forever.*

C **Your mercy endures forever.**

P *By your promise you joined us to Jesus, your Beloved, grafting us
into your living Vine, and calling us to bear the fruit of your self-
giving love.*

In the night in which he was betrayed....

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,...

P *With this bread and cup we remember his life laid down and lifted up
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.*

C **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

P *Send your Holy Spirit upon us and these gifts of bread and wine. Bless us to be a blessing. Make us a sign of your faithfulness. Send us to tend and cherish the earth and to serve the world with mercy and love.*

With all the saints in light, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, through Christ Jesus, in your Spirit, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

P *Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior taught us:*

C **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.

P *In this meal, righteousness and peace meet together. Come, take your place at the table.*

C **Thanks be to God.**

Please be seated.

We welcome to the table all who proclaim with us that Jesus Christ is truly present in the bread and the wine. (Note: should you prefer, we also offer gluten free wafers and grape juice. Just let the Pastor or Assistants know.)

If you require communion to be brought to you in the pew, please alert an usher.

During the distribution of communion, the following is sung:



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

For All the Faithful Women

No. 419



1 For all the faith - ful wom - en who served in days of old,
2 We hon - or faith - ful Mar - y, fair maid - en, full of grace.
3 All praise to God the Fa - ther! All praise to Christ the Son!



to you shall thanks be giv - en; to all, their stor - y told.
She bore the Christ, our broth - er, who came to save our race.
All praise to God the Spir - it, who binds the church as one!



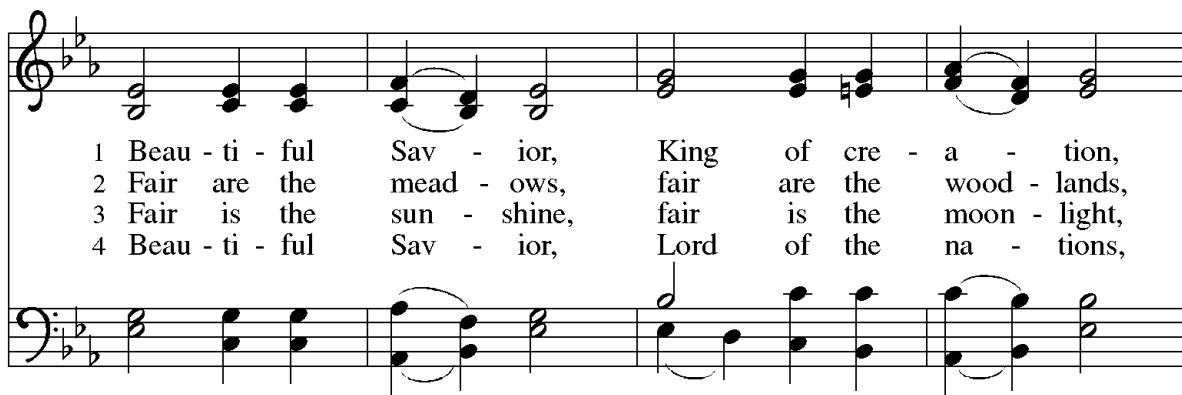
They served with strength and glad - ness in tasks your wis - dom gave.
May we, with her, sur - ren - der our-selves to your com-mand
With saints who went be - fore us, with saints who wit - ness still,



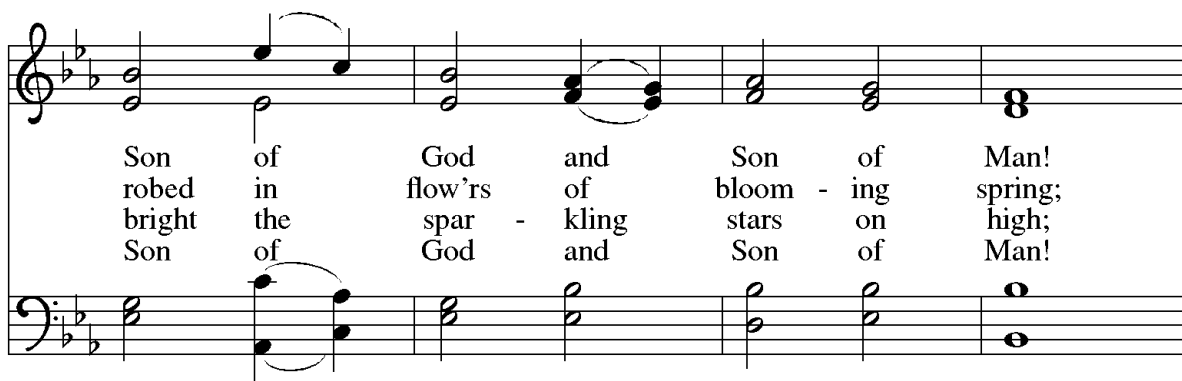
To you their lives bore wit - ness, pro - claimed your pow'r to save.
and lay up - on your al - tar our gifts of heart and hand.
we sing glad al - le - lu - ias and strive to do your will.

Beautiful Savior

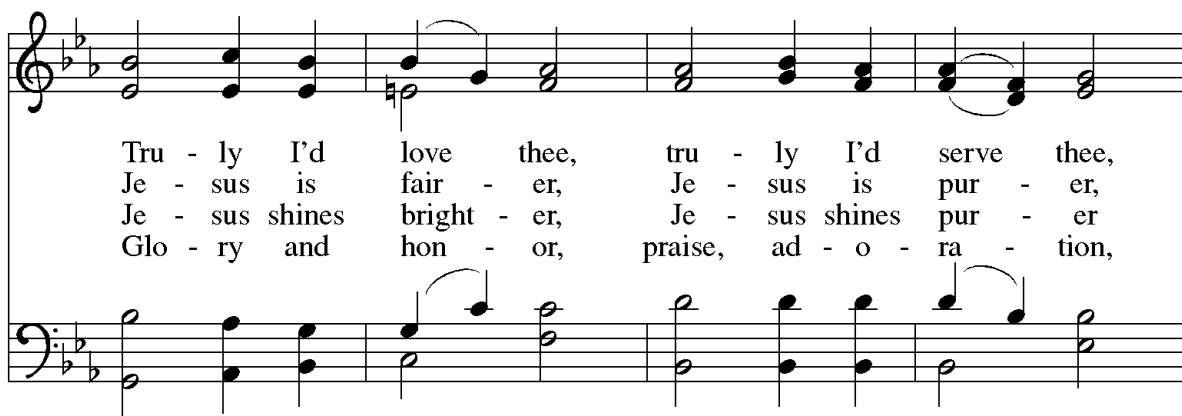
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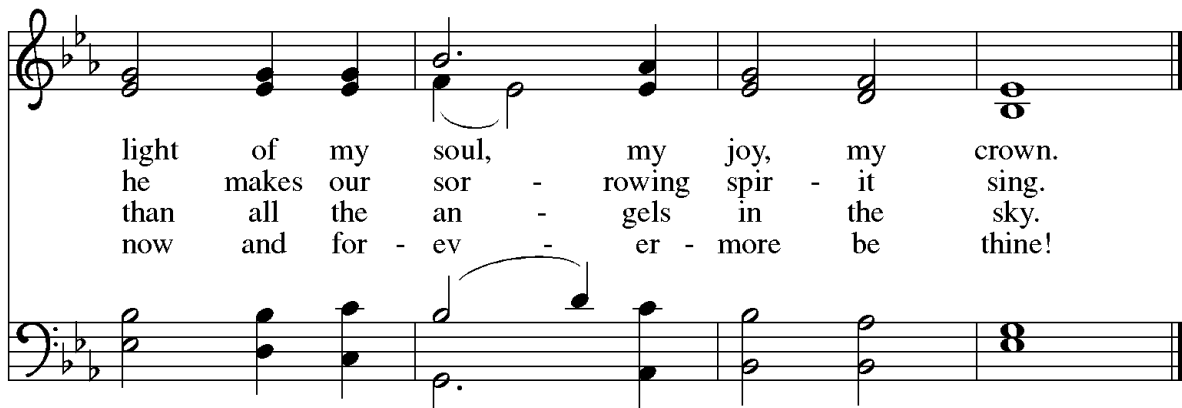
1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,
 2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,
 4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,



Son of God and Son of Man!
 robed in the flow'rs of spring;
 bright in the spar - kling stars on high;
 Son of God and Son of Man!



Tru - ly I'd love thee, tru - ly I'd serve thee,
 Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er,
 Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er,
 Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion,



light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
 he makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing.
 than all the an - gels in the sky.
 now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

After all have communed, please stand, as you are able.

P *The body and blood of our risen Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.*
C **Amen.**

A *Let us pray. Generous God,*
C **in bread and cup you have revealed your glory for all people to see together. Nourished by this meal, send us out to proclaim your good news of liberation and release, brought to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

✦ SENDING ✦

P *The God of peace bless you, the love of Christ sustain you in hope, and the anointing of the Spirit ✠ remain upon you now and forever.*
C **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!

No. 634



1 All hail the pow'r of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros - trate fall;
 2 O seed of Is - rael's cho - sen race now ran - somed from the fall,
 3 Hail him, you heirs of Da - vid's line, whom Da - vid Lord did call—
 4 Sin - ners, whose love can ne'er for - get the worm-wood and the gall,



bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem and crown him Lord of all.
 hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him Lord of all.
 the God in - car - nate, man di - vine—and crown him Lord of all.
 go spread your tro - phies at his feet and crown him Lord of all.



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem and crown him Lord of all.
 Hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him Lord of all.
 The God in - car - nate, man di - vine—and crown him Lord of all.
 Go spread your tro - phies at his feet and crown him Lord of all.

A *Go in peace. Keep awake.*

C **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

*We welcome and thank Barbara Skillman for leading our music
during worship this morning!*

The Flowers are Given to the Glory of God by

John Verbillis in loving memory of Deb Verbillis

Pray for Those That Need God's Healing

*Ray, Darius, Lynn, Donald, Al, Donna, Lind, Joan, Ed, Marion, Betty,
Doris, Theresa, Elaine, Georgeann, Jean, Marge, Nicholas, Lois,
Barbara & Bruce*

Announcements

Cookies! We need bakers to provide 3 dozen home made cookies for the Youth Cookie Walk Fundraiser on December 17th. Signup using the link in the Epistle or call the church office if you can help!

Christmas Basket sort and delivery is next weekend. Meet in Celebration Hall at 5:30 to sort food and build baskets. Then, delivery is Saturday morning. Sign up in the Narthex or on Sign-Up Genius linked in Epistle.

Advent Midweek worship and dinner continues this Wednesday. Potluck dinner at 5:30 in Celebration Hall and worship after at 6:45.
Sign-up in the Narthex.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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SERVING TODAY

Greeters

8:30 a.m.

Assisting Minister

Tina Zimmerman

11:00 a.m.

Sherman Canapp, OSSD

Communion Assistants

Sue Quinn
Tricia Horst

Janet DeVinney

Ushers

Doyle McCracken
Sherman Canapp, OSSD

Monica Thayer
Weston Shook

Acolytes

Livestream

Joel Raedeke