

First Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 3, 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

Denni Arrup

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 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior
 2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's
 3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing
 4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of peace, your wel - come



prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -
 bond - age held. The gates of brass be -
 soul to cure, and with the trea - sures
 shall pro - claim, and heav'n's e - ter - nal



pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.
 fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.
 of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.
 arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.

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 - 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.

P *The Lord be with you.*

C **And also with you.**

P *Let us pray. Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come.*

C **By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Please be seated.

✦ THE WORD ✦

Psalm

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

Read responsively.

L *¹Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel,
you who lead Joseph like a flock!*

C **You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth
²before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh.**

L *Stir up your might,
and come to save us!*

C **³Restore us, O God;
let your face shine, that we may be saved.**

L *⁴O Lord GOD of hosts,
how long will you be angry with your people's prayers?*

C **⁵You have fed them with the bread of tears,
and given them tears to drink in full measure.**

L *⁶You make us the scorn of our neighbors;
our enemies laugh among themselves.*

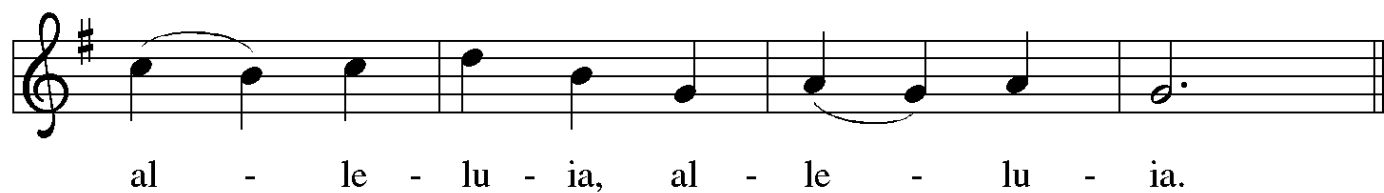
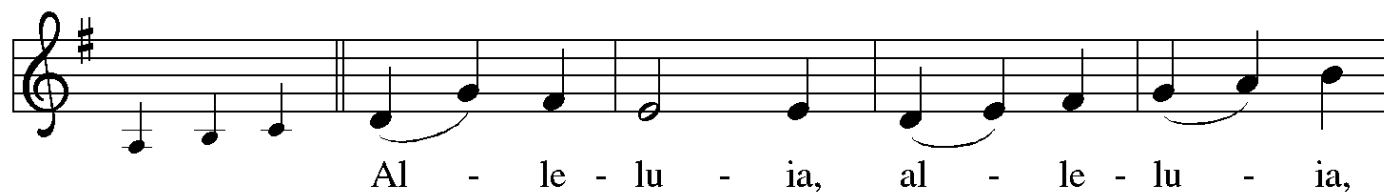
C **⁷Restore us, O God of hosts;
let your face shine, that we may be saved.**

L ¹⁷*But let your hand be upon the one at your right hand,
the one whom you made strong for yourself.*

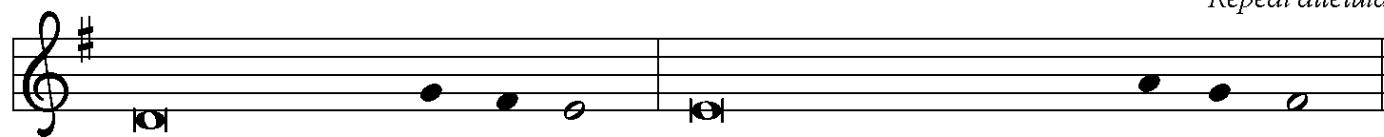
C ¹⁸**Then we will never turn back from you;
give us life, and we will call on your name.**

¹⁹**Restore us, O LORD God of hosts;
let your face shine, that we may be saved.**

Please stand, as you are able.



Repeat alleluia



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

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

[Jesus said:] ²⁴“In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, ²⁵and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

²⁶Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. ²⁷Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

²⁸“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. ³¹Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³²“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. ³⁵Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, ³⁶or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. ³⁷And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”


P *The Gospel of the Lord.*

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

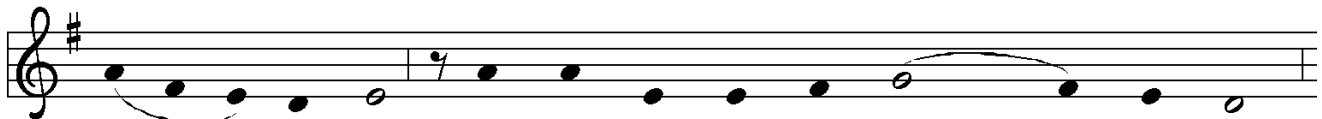
Please be seated.

Advent Wreath Lighting


One candle of the Advent Wreath is lit as stanza 1 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. Alejandro Mejía

Please stand as you are able.



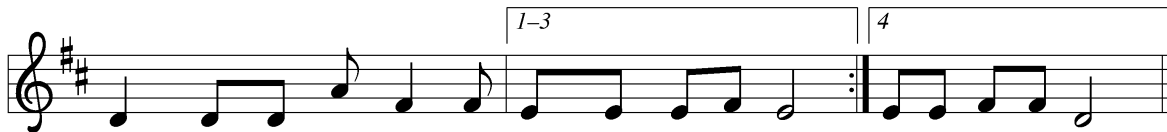
To - da la tie - rra es - pe - ra al Sal - va - dor
 1 All earth is hope - ful, the Sav - ior comes at last!
 2 Peo - ple of Is - rael, you heard the proph - et tell;
 3 Moun - tains and val - leys will have to be pre - pared;
 4 We first saw Je - sus a ba - by in a crib.



y el sur - co_a - bier - to, la ob - ra del Se - ñor; es el
 Fur - rows lie o - pen for God's cre - a - tive task: this, the
 "A vir - gin moth - er will bear Em - man - u - el"; she con -
 new high - ways o - pened, new pro - to - cols de - clared. Al - most
 This same Lord Je - sus to - day has come to live in our



mun - do que lu - cha por la li - ber - tad, re -
 la - bor of peo - ple who strug - gle to see how
 ceived him, "God with us," our broth - er, whose birth re -
 here! God is near - ing, in beau - ty and grace! All
 world; he is pres - ent, in neigh - bors we see our



cla - ma jus - ti - cia y bus - ca la ver - dad. dar - nos li - ber - tad.
 God's truth and jus - tice set ev - 'ry - bod - y free.
 stores hope and cour - age to chil - dren of this earth.
 clear ev - 'ry gate - way, in haste, come out in haste!
 Je - sus is with us, and ev - er sets us free.

Council Installation

P *Let us begin in the name of the Parent, and the Son and the Holy Spirit. The following people have been elected and appointed by the congregation to positions of leadership. We give thanks for their willingness to serve. In baptism we are welcomed into the body of Christ and sent to share in the mission of God; we rejoice now that these sisters and brothers will lead us in our common life and our mutual mission as a congregation.*

A *Connie Charitonuk, Gail Fricke, Daneene Lucas, David Poust,
Linda Ruese, Steve Starbuck, Deb Smeton, Daisy Shook,
Ruthann Sutherland, and Tina Zimmerman*

P *A reading from First Corinthians: There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. (1 Corinthians 12:4-7)*

P *You have been elected and appointed to positions of leadership and trust in this congregation.*

You are to see that the words and deeds of this household of faith bear witness to God, who gathers us into one together with the whole church.

You are to seek to involve all members of this congregation in worship, learning, witness, service, and support, so that the mission of Christ is carried out in this congregation, in the wider church, in this community, and in the whole world.

You are to be faithful in your specific area of serving, that the Spirit who empowers you may be glorified.

You are to be examples of faith active in love, fostering peace, harmony, and mutual understanding in this congregation.

On behalf of your siblings in Christ, I ask you:

Will you accept and faithfully carry out the duties of the offices to which you have been elected?

Response: I will, and I ask God to help me.

Please stand, as you are able.

P *People of God, I ask you: Will you support these, your elected leaders, and will you share in the mutual ministry that Christ has given to all who are baptized?*

C **We will, and we ask God to help us.**

P *I now declare you installed as council members and officers of this congregation. Almighty God bless you, and direct your days and your deeds in peace, that you may be faithful servants of Christ.*

C **Amen.**

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.**

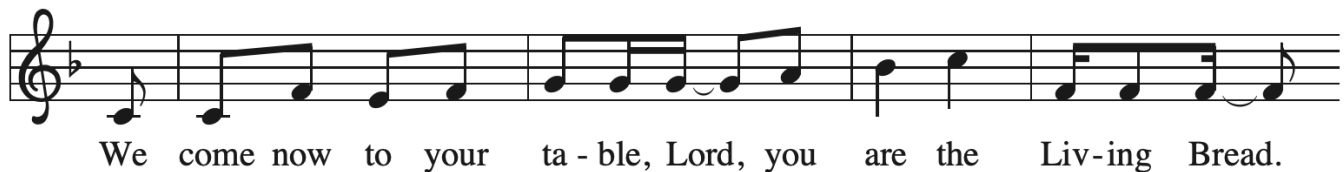
P *The peace of the Lord be with you always.*

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.



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✦

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.

The thanksgiving continues with the preface for the season; the congregation responds:



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.



²
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:



*Cor - de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;
O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .*



*ten pie-dad de no - so-tros, ten pie-dad de no - so-tros.
have . . mer-cy up - on us, have . . mer-cy up - on us.*



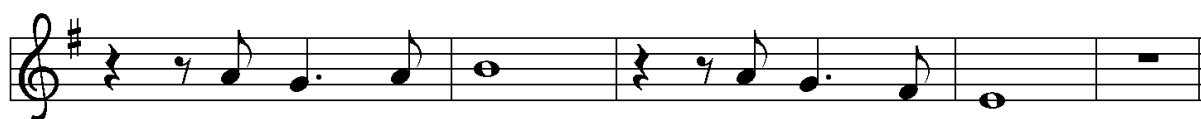
*Cor-de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;
O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .*



*ten pie-dad de no - so-tros, ten pie-dad de no - so-tros.
have . . mer-cy up - on us, have . . mer-cy up - on us.*



*Cor-de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;
O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .*



*da - nos tu paz, da - nos tu paz.
grant us your peace, grant us your peace.*

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

No. 631



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-nings;
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!

Blessed Assurance

No. 638



- 1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!
- 2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;
- 3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blest,



Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God, born of his Spir-it, washed in his blood.
an-gels de-scend-ing bring from a-bove ech-oes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love.
watch-ing and wait-ing, look-ing a-bove, filled with his good-ness, lost in his love.

Refrain



This is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long:



this is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long.

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.**

We are blessed to have Lay Eucharistic Ministers serving here at LCGS. On the first Sunday of each month, the bread and the wine they carry in their home communion kits are consecrated during our service. Home communion is then offered throughout the month to those who are unable to join us here. If you would like to join this ministry, know of someone who would like to receive home communion, or want more information, please contact the church office.

P *Let us pray. Compassionate God, as Jesus called disciples to follow him, bless those who go forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are sick and homebound. May these gifts be signs of our love and prayers, that through the sharing of the body and blood of Christ, all may know your grace and healing revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord.*

C **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

Christ, Be Our Light

No. 715



1	Long - ing	for	light,	we wait	in	dark - ness.	Long - ing	for
2	Long - ing	for	peace,	our world	is	trou - bled.	Long - ing	for
3	Long - ing	for	food,	man - y	are	hun - gry.	Long - ing	for
4	Long - ing	for	shel - ter,	man - y	are	home - less.	Long - ing	for
5	Man - y	the	gifts,	man - y	the	peo - ple,	man - y	the



truth,	we turn	to	you.	Make us	your	own,
hope,	man - y	de -	spair.	Your word	a -	lone
wa - ter,	man - y	still	thirst.	Make us	your	bread,
warmth,	man - y	are	cold.	Make us	your	build - ing,
hearts that	yearn to	be -	long.	Let us	be	ser - vants



your ho - ly	peo - ple,	light for	the world	to	see.
has pow'r	to save us.	Make us	your liv - ing	voice.	
bro - ken	for oth - ers,	shared un - til	all are	fed.	
shel - ter - ing	oth - ers,	walls made	of liv - ing	stone.	
to one	an - oth - er,	signs of	your king - dom	come.	



A *Go in peace. Keep awake.*

C **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

*We welcome and thank Denni Arrup for leading our music
during worship this morning!*

The Flowers are Given to the Glory of God by

Dick Hoffman in loving memory of Bonnie on her birthday, December 7th

And by

Geoff and Janet DeVinney in Honor of Kalani DeVinney's birthday

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*

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