

# SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 4, 2022



**St. Paul's Lutheran Church**  
**28 Lincoln Avenue**  
**Pittsford, NY 14534**  
[www.stpaulspittsford.org](http://www.stpaulspittsford.org)

*The Rev. Johanna Rehbaum, Pastor*  
*Jonathan Madden, Minister of Music*

**WELCOME** in the name of our risen Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, to St. Paul's Lutheran Church! We are glad you are here.

*As Christ promises to be in our midst, may he bless you during our time together and throughout the week. If you are a guest, please fill out a welcome card from the pews and put it in the offering plate and sign our Guest Register as you leave.*

~\*~

*To accommodate the needs of those attending service, large print bulletins are available. The church is also equipped with a hearing loop; use the T-switch on your hearing aid.*

**Please note:** *This service is live streamed. Cameras are all in back and will not see your face.*



**OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS** are with Susan Brainard, Maddie Bryan, Chester & Connie Frederick, Laura Patchen, Anne Schweinfurth, Louis & Priscilla Shuba, & military/first responders: Jennifer Foti, Matt Gibbs, Clint Pearson, Justin Powell, Michael Rehbaum, Nicholas Robinson, Jaymen Thompson, Kelly Voorhees, Paul Voorhees, & Zachary Zeiner. (Please renew each name monthly.)

**Communion bread ingredients (all gluten-free):** Water, sourdough (rice flour, water), rice starch, corn starch, agave syrup, psyllium seed husk (vegetable fiber), sunflower oil, modified cellulose, soy protein, yeast, millet flour, citrus fiber, rice flour, sugar, quinoa flour, salt, guar gum, corn flour, honey, calcium citrate, niacin, iron, thiamin, riboflavin.

### **Announcements:**

**Volunteers Needed:** We are in need of lay ministers for Christmas Eve (5:30pm worship) and Christmas Day (10am lessons & carols). Please sign up in the lobby or at [tinyurl.com/stpaulspittsfordsignup](http://tinyurl.com/stpaulspittsfordsignup).

### **Join Us Today After Worship!**

Creche Blessing in the foyer  
The last Advent Bible study is today after coffee hour  
Pageant Rehearsal & Children's Choir Rehearsal

## PRELUDE

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*  
Performed by the Bell Choir

Veni Emmanuel  
arr. Lloyd Larson

## WELCOME

*Congregation stands.*

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Peace to you and welcome,  
from the God who fills life with resilience,  
the Savior who rushes to offer forgiveness,  
the Spirit who supports us with endurance.  
**Amen.**

God is here,  
and God sees through every defense  
that fools the world.  
Since we cannot hide from God, there is nothing left to do  
but to be honest with each other and humble before God.  
So, in humility, let us confess our sins.

*Silence is kept for self reflection...*

Merciful God,  
**we have acted helpless,  
even when you called us to action.  
We have resisted your truth,  
even when our lies were exhausting.  
We have behaved as though we were alone,  
even when you were beside us.  
We have believed we were dying,  
even when you helped us grow.  
Forgive us, O God of grace, and set us on the path of your will.**

God knows we can never undo our sins.  
We cannot ignore painful history  
as though it does not affect us today.  
Yet before our first mistake,

God perfected the plan for salvation,  
And that salvation comes to each of us today.  
Receive God's forgiveness.  
This forgiveness is total.  
No sign of your old life remains, in God's eyes,  
and if God has moved beyond your sin,  
you have no reason to return to it again.

**We are healed.**  
**No blemish remains.**  
**Thanks be to God.**

**GATHERING HYMN**      *On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry*      #249

### **GREETING**

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

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming nurture our growth as people of repentance and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

### **LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

When deep blue darkness steps aside for  
softly spreading flame, we take comfort  
from the warmth of living light.

This candle on our Advent wreath  
represents the joy of life,  
which spreads as we share it.  
Godly cheer can comfort us,  
even when our surroundings remain a mystery.  
In time every person will know the warmth of God's love.  
But not yet,  
not fully.

1. God of the star-light and moon, mys-ter-y God of the  
2. Beau-ty be-yond what we know, shap-ing a world that we  
3. Out of the blue you ar-rive, weav-ing our lives with your

mid-night blue skies. Love draw-ing near, dream-ing new  
can-not quite see. Form of a child, reach-ing to  
con-stant sur-prise. Flick-er-ing flame, spark-ling with

fu-tures: fire of our hearts, a-rise.  
greet us: time in e-ter-ni-ty.  
prom-ise: God of the star-lit skies.

*Congregation is seated.*

## INTRODUCTION TO READINGS

The Rev. Johanna Rehbaum

### FIRST READING: Isaiah 11:1-10

*Isaiah describes the coming of a future, ideal ruler who will renew David's royal line (the stump of Jesse). Gifted by the spirit of God, this ruler will reign with perfect justice. Enmity and danger will be restored to harmony and peaceful coexistence.*

<sup>1</sup>A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,  
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

<sup>2</sup>The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,  
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the spirit of counsel and might,  
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

<sup>3</sup>His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,  
or decide by what his ears hear;

*...Continued on next page.*

<sup>4</sup>but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,  
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;  
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,  
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

<sup>5</sup>Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,  
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

<sup>6</sup>The wolf shall live with the lamb,  
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,  
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,  
and a little child shall lead them.

<sup>7</sup>The cow and the bear shall graze,  
their young shall lie down together;  
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

<sup>8</sup>The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,  
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

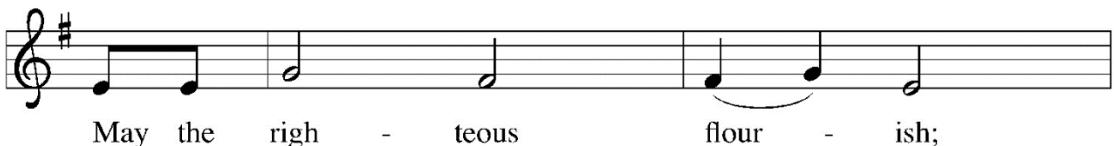
<sup>9</sup>They will not hurt or destroy  
on all my holy mountain;  
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD  
as the waters cover the sea.

<sup>10</sup>On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall  
inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 72:1-7, 18-19**

*Refrain will be sung by the choir, and repeated by the congregation. Congregation sings  
all the bold verses, and sings the refrain once at each "R."*





- <sup>1</sup>Give the king your jus- | tice, O God,  
and your righteousness to | the king's son;  
<sup>2</sup>**that he may rule your | people righteously  
and the | poor with justice;**  
<sup>3</sup>that the mountains may bring prosperity | to the people,  
and the | hills, in righteousness.  
<sup>4</sup>**Let him defend the needy a- | mong the people,  
rescue the poor, and crush | the oppressor. R**  
<sup>5</sup>May he live as long as the sun and | moon endure,  
from one generation | to another.  
<sup>6</sup>**Let him come down like rain upon | the mown field,  
like showers that wa- | ter the earth.**  
<sup>7</sup>In his time may the | righteous flourish;  
and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall | be no more.  
<sup>18</sup>**Blessed are you, LORD God, the | God of Israel;  
you alone do | wondrous deeds!**  
<sup>19</sup>And blessed be your glorious | name forever,  
and may all the earth be filled with your glory. A- | men. Amen. **R**

## **SECOND READING: Romans 15:4-13**

*God's promise to include Gentiles within the circle of God's blessed people has been fulfilled in Jesus Christ. Christians live out their unity by welcoming and encouraging each other just as Christ has welcomed them into God's family.*

<sup>4</sup>Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. <sup>5</sup>May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

*...Continued on next page.*

<sup>7</sup>Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. <sup>8</sup>For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, <sup>9</sup>and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

“Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles,  
and sing praises to your name”;

<sup>10</sup>and again he says,

“Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people”;

<sup>11</sup>and again,

“Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,  
and let all the peoples praise him”;

<sup>12</sup>and again Isaiah says,

“The root of Jesse shall come,  
the one who rises to rule the Gentiles;  
in him the Gentiles shall hope.”

<sup>13</sup>May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## **CHILDREN’S SERMON**

The Rev. Johanna Rehbaum

*The children are invited to come forward.  
Please note, they will be seen on the livestream.*

*Congregation stands.*

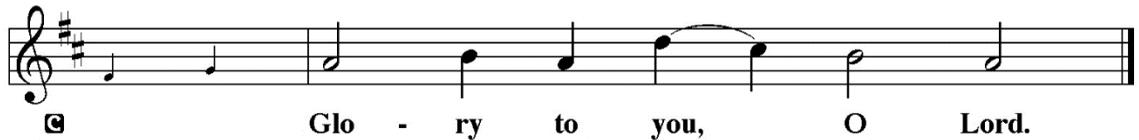
## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Alleluia.* Prepare the way of the Lord. All flesh shall see the salvation of God. *Alleluia.*  
(Luke 3:4,6)

## GOSPEL READING: Matthew 3:1-12

*Just before Jesus begins his public ministry, John the Baptist appears, calling people to mend their ways and speaking of a powerful one who is to come.*

The holy gospel according to Matthew.



<sup>1</sup>In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, <sup>2</sup>“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” <sup>3</sup>This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

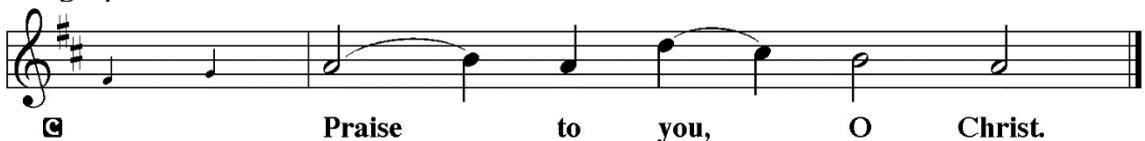
‘Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight.’”

<sup>4</sup>Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. <sup>5</sup>Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, <sup>6</sup>and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

<sup>7</sup>But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? <sup>8</sup>Bear fruit worthy of repentance. <sup>9</sup>Do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. <sup>10</sup>Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

<sup>11</sup>“I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>12</sup>His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

The gospel of the Lord.



*Congregation is seated.*

*Congregation stands.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

*Comfort, Comfort, Now My People*

#256

**APOSTLES' CREED**

**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 power of 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**

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

*We pray together for the church, the world, and all people according to their need.*

*Response:* Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

*Final petition:* God of our longing, you know our deepest needs. By your Spirit, gather our prayers and join them with the prayers of all your children. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

**PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

*The congregation shares signs of peace with one another.*

*Congregation is seated.*

## MOMENTS FOR MISSION

*We hear about the ways we can serve the world through this congregation.*

### OFFERING

*To sustain the ministries of the Church, this time may be used to make a gift either online ([www.stpaulspittsford.org](http://www.stpaulspittsford.org)), through the neighboring QR code which takes you directly to our Simply Giving page, or you may mail a check directly to St. Paul's or leave your donation in the offering plate during service.*



### OFFERTORY MUSIC

*Let All Mortal Flesh*

Picardy, 17th cent. French tune  
arr. John Ferguson (b. 1941)

*Let all mortal flesh keep silence,  
And with fear and trembling stand;  
Ponder nothing earthly-minded,  
For with blessing in his hand  
Christ our God to earth descending  
Comes our homage to demand.*

*Rank on rank the host of heaven  
Spreads its vanguard on the way;  
As the light of light descending  
From the realms of endless day,  
That the powers of hell may vanish  
As the darkness clears away.*

*King of kings, yet born of Mary,  
As of old on earth he stood,  
Lord of lords in human vesture,  
In the body and the blood,  
He will give to all the faithful  
His own self for heavenly food.*

*At his feet the six-winged seraph,  
Cherubim with sleepless eye,  
Veil their faces to the presence,  
As with ceaseless voice they cry:  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia Lord most high!  
-Liturgy of St. James, tr. Gerard Moultrie*

*Congregation stands.*



3 O come, O come, O Lord of might,  
as to your tribes on Sinai's height  
in ancient times you gave the law  
in cloud, and majesty, and awe. *Refrain*

*Refrain*

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to you, O Israel.

4 O come, O Branch of Jesse, free  
your own from Satan's tyranny;  
from depths of hell your people save,  
and give them vict'ry o'er the grave. *Refrain*

**OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray.

God, we have labored and toiled  
for our money, and our time,  
and our families, and our freedom.

**We have cherished what we thought was ours.**

Yet in a moment, we recognize  
that every truly good thing  
was a treasure we had taken  
from your open hand.

**We give you these gifts  
as a sign of your love and faithfulness.**

**Use them to grow more hope in this world. Amen.**

## 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.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. Each staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: '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.', and 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.' The music uses quarter and eighth notes with various phrasing slurs.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy... [*Presider continues with the Proper Preface*]  
...and join their unending hymn:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

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 in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The image shows five staves of musical notation in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. Each staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: '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 in the high - est.', 'Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.', and 'Ho - san - na in the high - est.' The music uses quarter and eighth notes with various phrasing slurs.

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:  
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.  
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.  
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.  
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.  
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.  
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

In the night...  
Again after supper...

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:  
**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us,  
full of grace and truth.  
We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.  
We look with hope for his coming.  
**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.  
Come among us. Bless this meal.  
May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people.  
Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.  
**Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel,  
Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High,  
one God, now and forever.  
**Amen.**



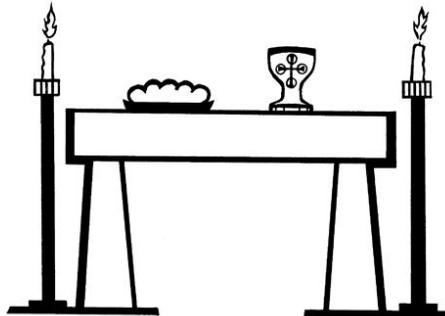
## **LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

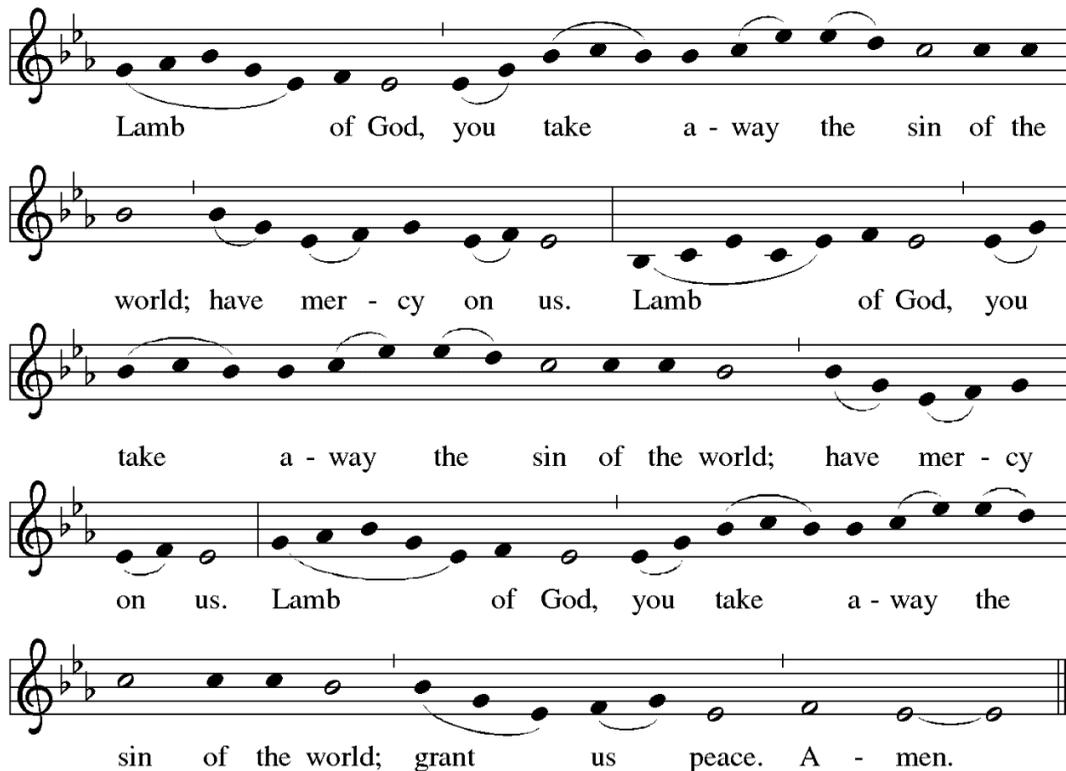
**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

People of God, come to the table  
and encounter the God who comes to you in love.



## LAMB OF GOD



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. A - men.

## DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

*Holy Communion is by invitation of the Lord, and open to all baptized believers who believe that Christ is truly present in this meal. Come forward by the center aisle. Those not communing, whether children or adults, may come forward to receive a blessing; cross your arms over your chest to indicate this preference. Receive the bread from pastor. Glasses are prefilled – red is wine, white is grape juice. Please be cautious not to touch other glasses as you take yours out. Return your empty glass to the tray on the table. Return to your seat by the side aisle. We will commune first the pulpit side, then the piano side.*

*If you are unable to approach for communion, inform an usher and communion will be brought to you.*

## DISTRIBUTION MUSIC

*The Lamb*

Elizabeth Poston (1905-1987)

Laura O'Neill, *soloist*

*Little Lamb who made thee  
Dost thou know who made thee  
Gave thee life & bid thee feed.  
By the stream & o'er the mead;  
Gave thee clothing of delight,  
Softest clothing wooly bright;  
Gave thee such a tender voice,  
Making all the vales rejoice!*

*Little Lamb who made thee  
Dost thou know who made thee*

*Little Lamb I'll tell thee,  
Little Lamb I'll tell thee!  
He is called by thy name,  
For he calls himself a Lamb:  
He is meek & he is mild,  
He became a little child:  
I a child & thou a lamb,  
We are called by his name.*

*Little Lamb God bless thee.  
Little Lamb God bless thee.  
William Blake (1757-1827)*

## POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

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

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray:

You have called us. We have listened.  
You invited us. We took our place at the table.  
You have sat with us so we might follow you.  
Now there is nowhere else we can go,  
because you alone have the words of life. **Amen.**

## BLESSING

God the eternal Word,  
who dwells with us in Jesus,  
and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit,  
✠ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN

*Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

#254

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is near.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Thank you to the following:**

**Choir Members:**

Josh Bassette\*  
David Falterman\*  
Fred Haynes  
Grant Krafft  
Ann Menendez  
Laura O’Neill\*  
Helena Webster\*  
Wes Wyatt  
(\* Section Leader)

**Bell Choir Members:**

Alice DeLorenze  
Theo Haynes  
Marilyn Larson  
Bryn Tayman  
Lucia Vega

**Lay Ministers:**

Acolyte:  
Lector/Prayers Reader:  
Communion Assistant:  
Communion Setup/Cleanup:  
Altar Linens:  
Altar Care:  
Ushers:  
Counters:  
Flower Delivery:  
Food Cupboard:  
Run Livestream:

Zach Bingemann  
Andrea & Otto Sauer  
Jamie Foster  
Jamie Foster  
Mara Berndt  
Mara Berndt  
Paul & Leisa North  
N/A  
Jamie Foster  
Jim & Mara Berndt  
Scott Conderman

From Sundays and Seasons. Copyright © 2022 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License # SB135903.  
Annual License w/Podcasting Renewal, Category B average weekly attendance 26 to 100. A-731251 for March 31, 2022 - March 31, 2023, Annual License with podcasting | B, 26 to 100 average weekend attendance.

**Just for Kids (or kids at heart!)**

**Welcome to worship.**

Do you see an Advent wreath in your church?

How many candles are there? \_\_\_\_\_

How many candles are lit today? \_\_\_\_\_

Evergreen branches are often used on an Advent wreath. The branches never change from their green color. They remind us that God's love for us never changes.



**Draw more evergreen branches on this wreath.  
Draw flames on two of the candles.**

## NOTES & DOODLES

