



FIRST SUNDAY OF
ADVENT

DECEMBER 1, 2024

8:30 AM AND 10:30 AM

CHRIST LUTHERAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

A RECONCILING IN CHRIST CONGREGATION

PASTOR W. ROGER RANDOLPH III, STS, PREACHING

GATHERING **The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.**

PRELUDE

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father,
and of the † Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

BLESSING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Our help is in the Name of the Lord,
Who made heaven and earth. [Ps. 124:8]

The Lord will come and all his holy ones with him;
And in that day the light will be great. [Zech. 14:5]

Behold, the Name of the Lord comes from afar, [Isa. 30:27]
And the whole earth will be filled with his glory. [Ps.72:19]

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray.

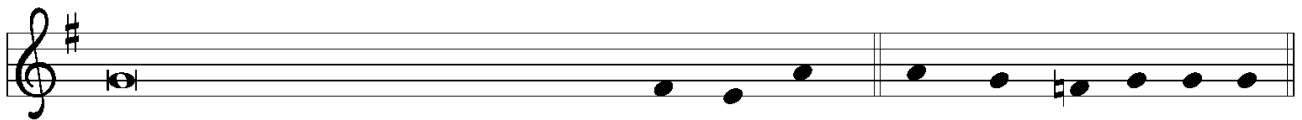
O God our King, receive, we pray, this crown of green which we offer to you for service in your house, and grant that all who look at it may more and more be enlightened by him who is the true light, and eagerly look for his return, that with joyful hearts we may welcome him when he comes in the fullness of his glory; your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Let us cast off the works of darkness,
and let us put on the armor of light. [Rom. 13:12]
The first candle is lighted.

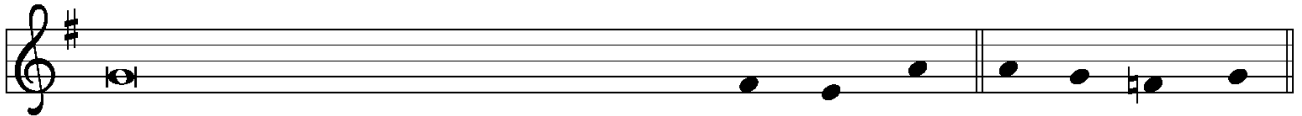
HYMN

The Great Litany



From war, bloodshed, and violence;
from corrupt and unjust government;
from sedi - tion and treason: **Good Lord, de - liv - er us.**

From epidemic, drought, and famine;
from fire and flood, earthquake,
lightning, and storm,
and from ever - last - ing death: **Good Lord, de - liv - er us.**



By the mystery of your incarnation; by your ho - ly birth: **Help us, good Lord.**

By your baptism, fasting, and temptation;
by your agony and bloody sweat;
by your cross and suffering; by your death and burial: **Help us, good Lord.**

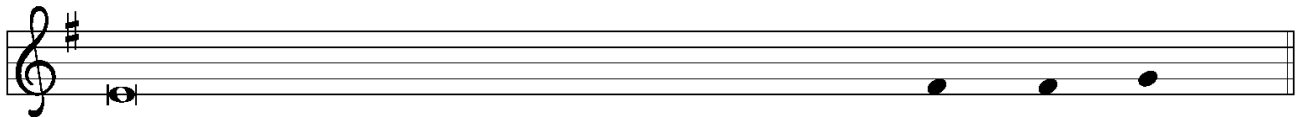
By your resurrection and ascension;
by the gift of the Ho - ly Spirit: **Help us, good Lord.**



In all time of our tribulation;
in all time of our prosperity;
in the hour of death; and in the day of judg - ment: **Save us, good Lord.**



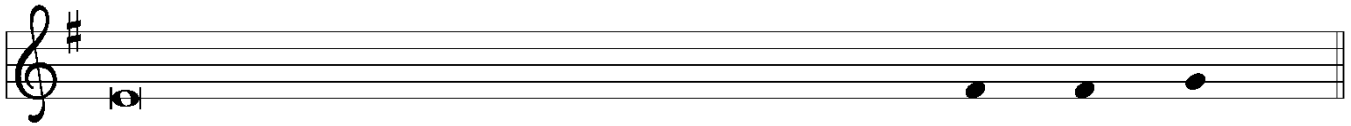
Though unworthy, we im - plore you to hear us, Lord our God.



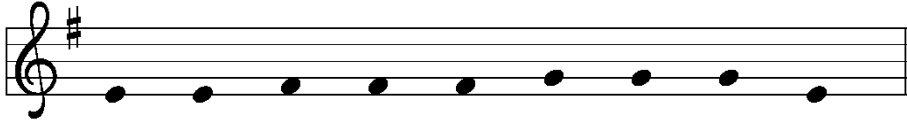
To rule and govern your holy catholic church;
to guide all servants of your church
in the love of your word and in holiness of life;
to put an end to all schisms
and causes of offense to those who would believe;
and to bring into the way of truth all who have gone a - stray:



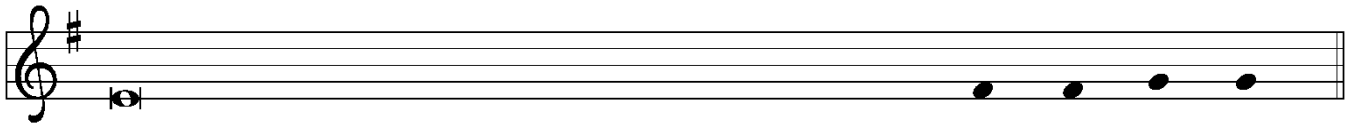
We im - plore you to hear us, good Lord.



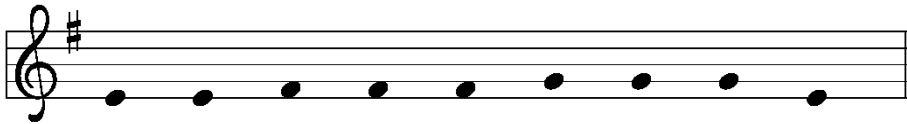
To beat down Satan under our feet;
to send faithful workers into your harvest;
to accompany your word with your Spirit and power;
to raise up those who fall
and to strengthen those who stand;
and to comfort and help the fainthearted and the dis - tressed:



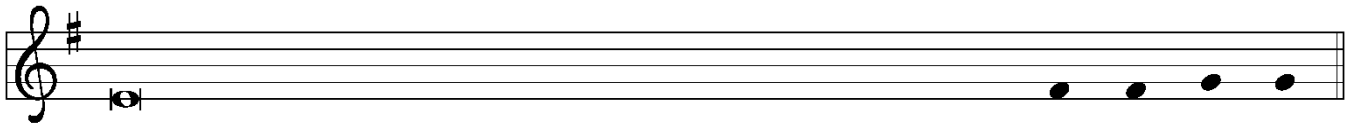
We im - plore you to hear us, good Lord.



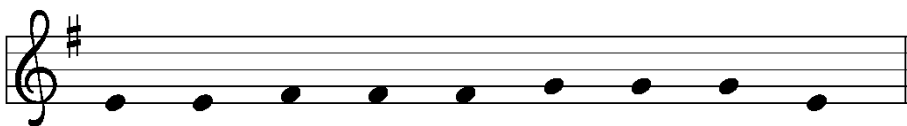
To give to all nations justice and peace;
to preserve our country from discord and strife;
to direct and guard those who have civil authority;
and to bless and guide all our peo - ple:



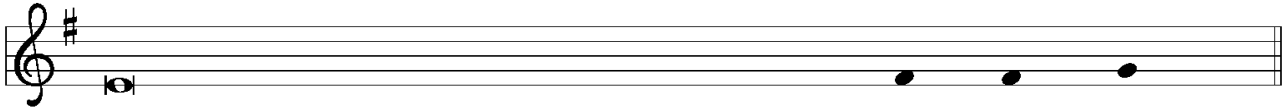
We im - plore you to hear us, good Lord.



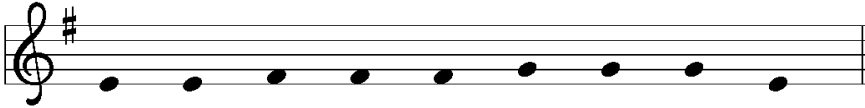
To behold and help all who are in danger, need, or tribulation;
to protect and guide all who travel;
to preserve and provide for all women in childbirth;
to watch over children and to guide the young;
to heal the sick and to strengthen their families and friends;
to bring reconciliation to families in discord;
to provide for the unemployed and for all in need;
to be merciful to all who are imprisoned;
to support, comfort, and guide
all orphans, widowers, and widows;
and to have mercy on all your peo - ple:



We im - plore you to hear us, good Lord.



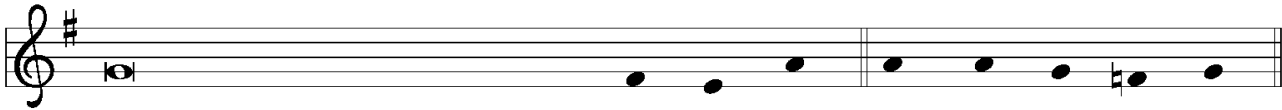
To forgive our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers,
and to reconcile us to them;
to help us use wisely the fruits and treasures
of the earth, the sea, and the air;
and graciously to hear our prayers:



We im - plore you to hear us, good Lord.



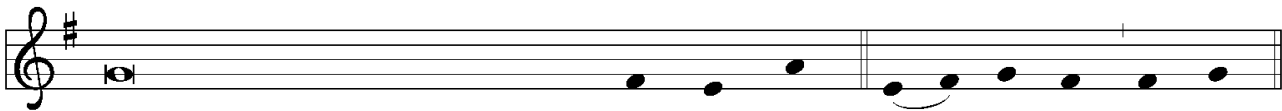
Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, we im - plore you to hear us.



Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; give us peace. A - men.



O Christ, hear us. In mer - cy hear us.



Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.



Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. 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.

WORD God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 33:14-16

A Reading from the Book of Jeremiah

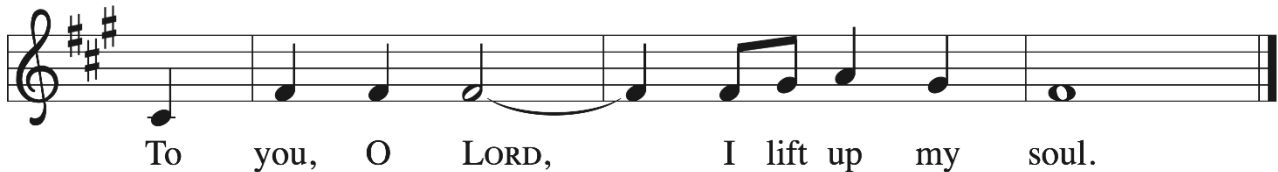
¹⁴ The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵ In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶ In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 25:1-10



Psalm 25:1

Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

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- ¹ To | you, O LORD,
I lift | up my soul.
- ² **My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be | put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph | over me.**
- ³ Let none who look to you be | put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame | who are treacherous.
- ⁴ **Show me your | ways, O LORD,
and teach | me your paths. R**
- ⁵ Lead me in your | truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all | the day long.
- ⁶ **Remember, O LORD, your compas- | sion and love,
for they are from | everlasting. R**
- ⁷ Remember not the sins of my youth and | my transgressions;

remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness,
O LORD.

**⁸ You are gracious and upright, O LORD;
therefore you teach sinners in your way.**

⁹ You lead the lowly in justice
and teach the lowly your way.

**¹⁰ All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast love and faithfulness
to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies. R**

SECOND READING:

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

A Reading from the I Thessalonians

⁹ How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? ¹⁰ Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

¹¹ Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. ¹² And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. ¹³ And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to you, O Israel

GOSPEL:

Luke 21:25-36

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke
Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ²⁵ “There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. ²⁶ People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷ Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with

power and great glory. ²⁸ Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

²⁹ Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰ as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹ So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³² Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³⁴ “Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, ³⁵ like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶ Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

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

SERMON



1 Wake, a - wake, for night is fly - ing, the watch-men
 2 Zi - on hears the watch-men sing - ing, and all her
 3 Glo - ri - a! Let heav'n a - dore you! Let saints and



on the heights are cry - ing; a - wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, at last.
 heart with joy is spring-ing. She wakes, she ris - es from her gloom.
 an - gels sing be - fore you, with harp and cym-bal's clear-est tone.



Mid - night hears the wel - come voic - es, and at the
 Her dear friend comes down, all glo - rious, the strong in
 Gates of pearl, twelve por - tals gleam - ing, lead us to



thrill-ing cry re - joic - es: "Come forth, you maid-ens! Night is past.
 grace, in truth vic - to - rious: her star is ris'n; her light is come.
 bliss be - yond all dream - ing, with an - gel choirs a - round your throne.



The bride - groom comes! A - wake; your lamps with glad - ness take!"
 Now come, O Bless - ed One, Lord Je - sus, God's own Son.
 No eye has caught the light, no ear the thun-d'ring might



Al - le - lu - ia! Rise and pre - pare the feast to share;
 Sing ho - san - na! Oh, hear the call! Come one, come all,
 of such glo - ry. There we will go: what joy we'll know!



go, meet the bride - groom, who draws near.
 and fol - low to the ban - quet hall.
 There sweet de - light will ev - er flow.

Nicene Creed

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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

We pray for all in particular need, especially Nettie, Penny, Tom, Daryl, Penny, Marian, Darlene, Toni, the family of Damon Bolden, Claude, Travis, Lauren, Gracie, Charles, Ron, Pat, Ben, Kenaé, Sherrell and her family, Carlos, Barbara, Marie Josie, Carolyn, Maria, Nisha, Sal, Colleen, Peggy, and Dianne. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Bless Ziah Bey, Atiya Hunt-Bacon, Pastor Randolph, Chantelle Hairston, Jayme Worthington, Elizabeth Fuglio and Paul Harris, who are celebrating their birthday this week. Lord, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

God of memory, we give you thanks for faithful ones who have died. Tend to our grief and sorrow with renewed trust in your promise of abundant and eternal life. Lord, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

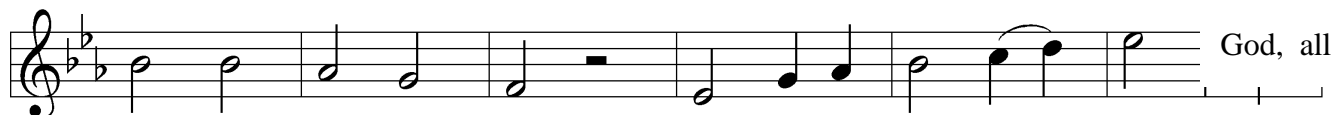
ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING

OFFERING HYMN Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow TFF 276



1 Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise him, all



crea-tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye heav - en - ly



host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

OFFERING PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

MEAL GOD FEEDS US WITH THE PRESENCE OF JESUS CHRIST

Sharing the Lord's Supper is how we celebrate the presence of the risen Christ among us. Christ shared this meal with his disciples before laying down his life for them. After Christ's resurrection, his disciples have continued to break bread and share the cup as a way of receiving Christ and participating in his Body.

GREAT THANKSGIVING AND LORD'S PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also 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.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer,
through whom you will also make all things new
in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
 might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est, 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: endless is your mercy and eternal your reign. You have filled all creation with light and life; heaven and earth are full of your glory...

...For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us. And, believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, that we who share in Christ's body and blood may live to the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

Amen.

After the pastor has recounted God's saving acts, all are invited to pray:

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.

FRACTION

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;


Therefore let us keep the feast.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION


The Gifts of God for the People of God. Taste and see that the Lord is good.

All those who have been baptized and trust that Christ is truly present the Eucharist are invited to come forward and receive the Blessed Sacrament. When receiving the Sacrament, extend both of your hands, palm up, to receive the wafer of bread; to receive the wine (through intinction) dip the wafer into the chalice.

If you choose to receive the Sacrament under the form of bread alone for any reason, you may be assured that in so doing, you receive the whole Christ. If you choose not to receive communion and would like to receive a blessing instead, approach the altar with your arms crossed over your chest. After receiving communion (or a blessing), you may return to your seat by the side aisles.




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.



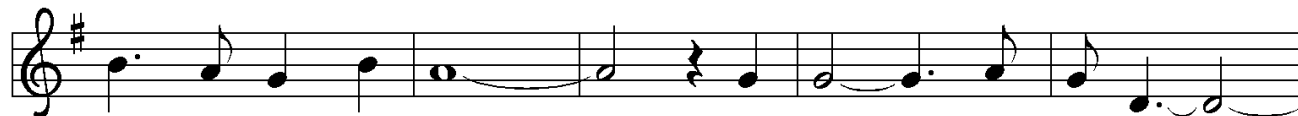
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; grant us peace, grant us peace.



One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all; one cup of



bless-ing which we bless, and we, though man-y



through-out the earth, we are one bod - y in this one Lord.



1	Gen - tile	or	Jew,	ser - vant	or	free,
2	Man - y	the	gifts,	man - y	the	works,
3	Grain for	the	fields,	scat-tered	and	grown,



wom - an	or	man,	no	more.
one	in	the	of	all.
gath - ered	to	one	for	all.

Refrain

Text: John Foley, SJ, b. 1939

Music: ONE BREAD, ONE BODY, John Foley, SJ

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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.



Refrain
 Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957
 Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell
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POST COMMUNION BLESSING

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

O God, we give you thanks that you have set before us this feast, the body and blood of your Son. By your Spirit strengthen us to serve all in need and to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

SENDING **God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.**

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG (next page): Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers ELW 244

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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**The Flowers on the Altar are given by Daisy Johnson
in memory of her grandparents, Carter and Duncan.**

CHRIST LUTHERAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

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Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers ELW 244



- 1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear;
- 2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain pro - claim the bride - groom near;
- 3 The saints, who here in pa - tience their cross and suf - f'ings bore,
- 4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



the eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.
go forth as he ap - proach - es with al - le - lu - ias clear.
shall live and reign for - ev - er when sor - row is no more.
a - rise, O Sun so longed for, o'er this be - night - ed sphere.



The bride - groom is a - ris - ing and soon is draw - ing nigh.
The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; the gates wide o - pen stand.
A - round the throne of glo - ry the Lamb they shall be - hold;
With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see



Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; at mid - night comes the cry.
A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; the bride - groom is at hand.
in tri - umph cast be - fore him their di - a - dems of gold.
the day of earth's re - demp - tion that sets your peo - ple free!