



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 8, 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

CONFESSIONS AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father,
and of the ✝ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

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

Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,

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

Amen.

Almighty God have mercy on you, ✝ forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

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.

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction.

[Rom. 15:4]

To prepare the way for my coming.

The second candle is lighted.

O Jesus, Sun of Righteousness, rise in our hearts and enlighten us with the brightness of your coming, that we who rejoice in the sure word of your promise, may not be put to shame at your coming in glory; through your mercy, O our God, who with the Father and the Holy Spirit live and govern all things now and evermore. **Amen**

[Mozarabic Rite]

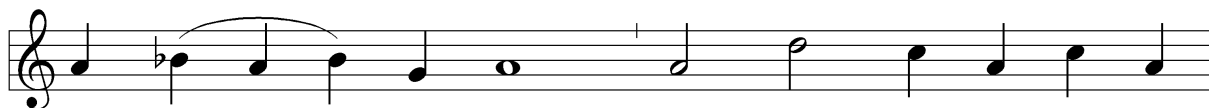
GATHERING SONG “Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding!”

ELW 246

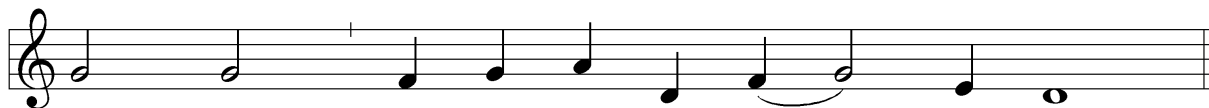
Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding!



1 Hark! A thrill - ing voice is sound - ing! “Christ is near,”
2 Star - tled at the sol - emn warn - ing, let the earth -
3 See the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, comes with par -
4 So, when next he comes in glo - ry and the world
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, do - min - ion to the Fa -



we hear the cry. “Cast a - way the works of
bound soul a - rise; Christ, its sun, all sloth dis -
don down from heav'n. Let us haste, with tears of
is wrapped in fear, he will shield us with his
ther and the Son with the ev - er - liv - ing



dark - ness, all you chil - dren of the day!”
pel - ling, shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
sor - row, one and all, to be for - giv'n;
mer - cy and with words of love draw near.
Spir - it while e - ter - nal a - ges run!

Text: Latin hymn, 1632; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–1878, alt.

Music: FREUEN WIR UNS ALL IN EIN, Michael Weisse, c. 1480–1534

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.

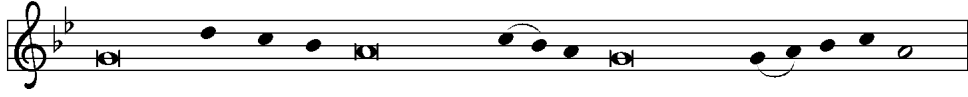
KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well - being of the church of



God, and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



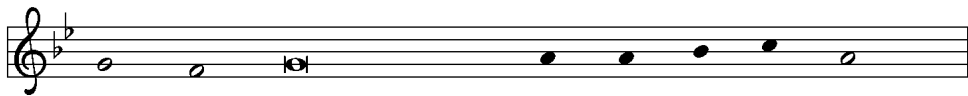
For this ho - ly house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and



praise, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



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



A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming give to all the people of the world knowledge of your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

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

FIRST READING

Malachi 3:1-4

¹ See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. ² But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; ³ he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. ⁴ Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Luke 1:68-79

In the ten - der com - pas - sion of our God
the dawn from on high will break up - on us.

Luke 1:78

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- ⁶⁸ Blessed are you, Lord, the | God of Israel,
you have come to your people and | set them free.
- ⁶⁹ **You have raised up for us a | mighty Savior,
born of the house of your | servant David. R**
- ⁷⁰ Through your holy prophets, you promised of old to save us | from our enemies,
⁷¹ from the hands of | all who hate us,
- ⁷² **to show mercy | to our forebears,
and to remember your | holy covenant.**

⁷³ This was the oath you swore to our | father Abraham:
⁷⁴ to set us free from the hands of our | enemies,
free to worship you | without fear,
⁷⁵ **holy and righteous before you, all the days | of our life. R**
⁷⁶ And you, child, shall be called the prophet of | the Most High,
for you will go before the Lord to pre- | pare the way,
⁷⁷ **to give God's people knowledge | of salvation**
by the forgiveness | of their sins.
⁷⁸ In the tender compassion | of our God
the dawn from on high shall | break upon us,
⁷⁹ **to shine on those who dwell in darkness and in the shad- | ow of death,**
and to guide our feet into the | way of peace. R

SECOND READING:

Philippians 1:3-11

A Reading from the Philippians.

³ I thank my God every time I remember you, ⁴ constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, ⁵ because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶ I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. ⁷ It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. ⁸ For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. ⁹ And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight ¹⁰ to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, ¹¹ having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

O come, O Wisdom from on high,
embracing all things far and nigh:
in strength and beauty come and stay;
teach us your will and guide our way.

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

GOSPEL:

Luke 3:1-6

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

¹In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Iturea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, ²during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, ⁴as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

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

⁵Every valley shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,
and the crooked shall be made straight,
and the rough ways made smooth;

⁶and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY:

“Prepare the Royal Highway”

ELW 264

Prepare the Royal Highway

1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!
2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing: your own e - ter - nal king!
3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom - ised king!
4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heav'n a - bove.

Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!
Palm branch - es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!
Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion its trib - ute too may bring.
His rule is peace and free - dom and jus - tice, truth, and love.

Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:
God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!
All lands will bow be - fore him; their voic - es join your sing - ing:
So let your praise be sound - ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:

Refrain
Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
Music: BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN, Swedish folk tune, 17th cent.
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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 Anestor Seymour, Angela Sharpe, Gwen Morse, Larry Smoose, Johannah Siefa, Carol Easley and Nicole Leadum, who are celebrating their birthday this week. Lord, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

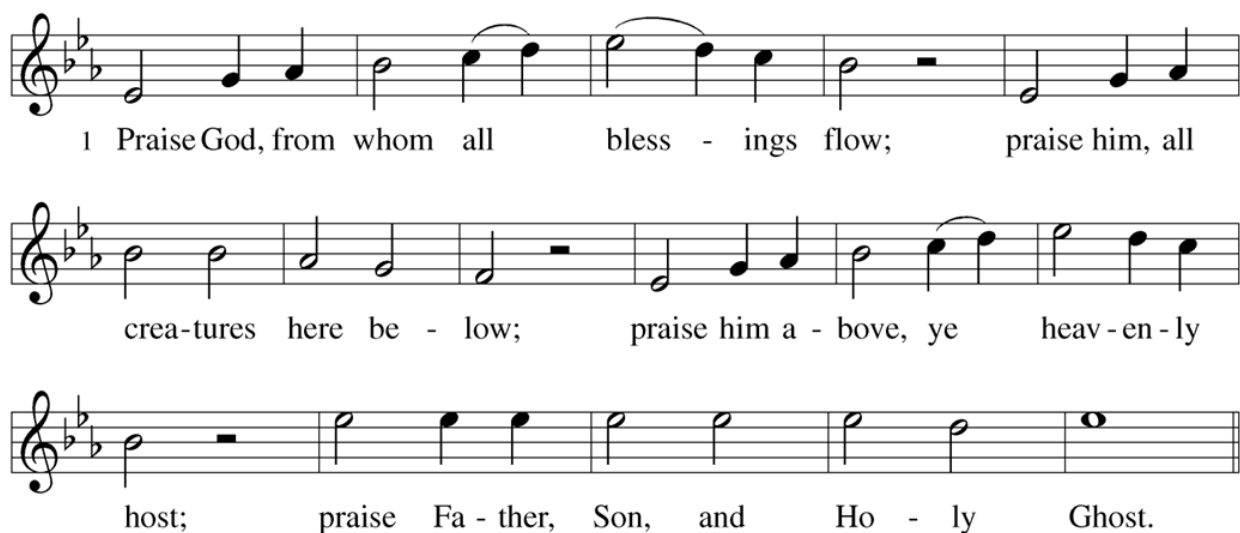
PEACE

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

When we eat this bread, we share the body of Christ. When we drink this cup, we share the blood of Christ.

Reveal yourself to us, O Lord, in the breaking of bread, as once you revealed yourself to your disciples.

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.

COMMUNION HYMN:

One Bread, One Body

ELW 496



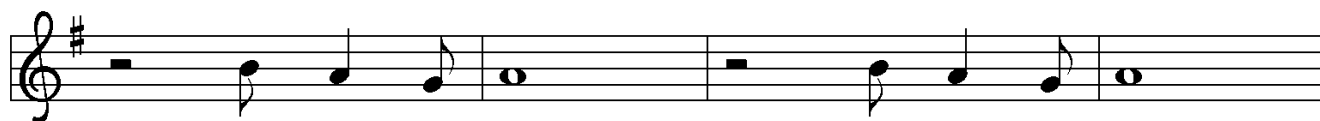
One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all; one cup of



bles-sing 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	Lord	of	all.
gath - ered	to	one	for	all.

Refrain

Text: John Foley, SJ, b. 1939

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

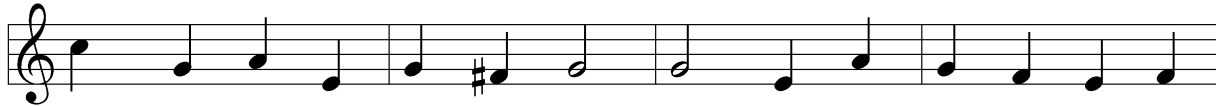
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Here, O My Lord, I See Thee



1 Here, O my Lord, I see thee face to face; here would I
 2 Here would I feed up - on the bread of God, here drink with
 3 This is the hour of ban - quet and of song; this is the
 4 I have no help but thine; nor do I need an - oth - er



touch and han - dle things un - seen; here grasp with firm - er hand the
 thee the roy - al wine of heav'n; here would I lay a - side each
 heav'n - ly ta - ble spread for me; here let me feast and, feast - ing,
 arm save thine to lean up - on; it is e - nough, O Lord, e -



ter - nal grace, and all my wea - ri - ness up - on thee lean.
 earth - ly load, here taste a - fresh the calm of sin for - giv'n.
 still pro - long the brief bright hour of fel - low - ship with thee.
 nough in - deed; my strength is in thy might, thy might a - lone.

- 5 Mine is the sin, but thine the righteousness;
 mine is the guilt, but thine the cleansing blood;
 here is my robe, my refuge, and my peace:
 thy blood, thy righteousness, O Lord, my God.
- 6 Too soon we rise; the vessels disappear;
 the feast, though not the love, is past and gone.
 The bread and wine remove, but thou art here,
 nearer than ever, still my shield and sun.
- 7 Feast after feast thus comes and passes by;
 yet, passing, points to the glad feast above,
 giving sweet foretaste of the festal joy,
 the Lamb's great marriage feast of bliss and love.

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808–1889

Music: FARLEY CASTLE, attr. Henry Lawes, 1596–1662

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): **“Hark, the Glad Sound!”** **ELW 239**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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**The Flowers on the Altar are given by Yassah Moluwoi
in honor of Patrick Kennedy, the best father.**

CHRIST LUTHERAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

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The Rev. W. Roger Randolph III, STS, Pastor
rev.randolph3@gmail.com

Hark, the Glad Sound!

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.

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702-1751

Music: CHESTERFIELD, Thomas Haweis, 1734-1820