

# First Sunday of Advent

November 27, 2022 | 10:30 AM



**Everyone is welcome.** As people of God, St. John's welcomes all regardless of age, economic status, ethnic background, gender, physical or mental ability, race or sexual orientation. We affirm that in Christ "there is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female." (Galatians 3:28) This is Christ's church, and Christ has bid you come.

**Guests are welcome.** We are pleased you are worshiping with us today. So that we may be in contact with you, we invite you to sign the guest book in the narthex. Our programs are open to all and you are invited to participate. We hope you will worship with us again soon.

**Children are welcome.** We encourage them to attend worship with their parents—even their noise and restlessness are surely a delight to God. Children's bulletins are available from the ushers and a professionally staffed nursery is available from 7:45 AM to 11:45 AM. Follow the signs or ask any member for directions.

**To assist you during worship:** Large print worship bulletins are available from the ushers. If you are unable to come forward for communion, please inform an usher and the pastors will be happy to commune you at your pew.

**Offerings:** St. John's is a tithing church. We dedicate a percentage of our offerings to the mission of the wider church through the NJ Synod of the ELCA and to many other mission partners. We are able to support these ministries because of your offerings and tithes.

**Assisted Listening:** To access assisted listening, Connect to the StJohnsALS WiFi network. Download the free WaveCast app to your phone. Tap ST\_JOHNS\_ALS to connect. Please use your own headphones to listen. Individual wired devices coming soon!



## Ministers: The People of Saint John's

### Clergy & Staff

The Rev. Blake A. Scalet, Pastor

Vicar Naem Harry, Intern

Christopher Harlow-Jennings, Director of Music

Carolyn Rothman, Church Administrator

Jama Bowman, Communications Coordinator

Andrew Schanstra, Livestream Coordinator

Deacon Linda Walker, Minister of Children's Faith Formation

Harold Wyss, Weekday Sexton

Anne Ryan Dello Russo, Nursery

[pastorbscalet@stjohnssummit.org](mailto:pastorbscalet@stjohnssummit.org)

[vicar@stjohnssummit.org](mailto:vicar@stjohnssummit.org)

[charlowjennings@stjohnssummit.org](mailto:charlowjennings@stjohnssummit.org)

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[wk154linda@gmail.com](mailto:wk154linda@gmail.com)

We're delighted you're worshiping with us. As part of our ongoing outreach, your voice and your image may be videographed and photographed and used by St. John's for ministry purposes. For any questions or concerns, contact the church office.

### **Prayer Before Worship**

God of glory, we know that you are coming at an unexpected hour. Come to us now, in spirit and truth. Take us up into your presence, and make us ready for your reign of peace; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

*From Feasting on the Word Worship Companion, Year A, Vol. 1*

### **Gathering**

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

**ELW** *Evangelical Lutheran Worship: Red Book*

**ACS** *All Creation Sings: Purple Book*

**PRELUDE** Wachtet auf, ruft uns die Stimme, BWV 645

J.S. Bach

### **WELCOME**

*Please stand.*

### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, who was and is and is to come. **Amen.**

Jesus says: I am coming soon.

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!**

A voice is crying in the wilderness: Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.

**Surely God is our salvation. Have faith and do not be afraid.**

Together let us honestly and humbly confess our sin before God.

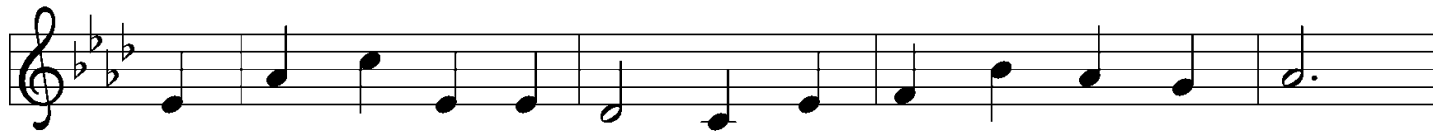
*The assembly stands or kneels. Silence is kept for reflection.*

**God of the future, you are coming in power to bring all nations under your rule. We confess that we have not expected your kingdom, for we live casual lives, ignoring your promised judgement. We accept lies as truth, exploit neighbors, abuse the earth, and refuse your justice and peace. In your mercy, forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your way, and to seek things that will endure when Christ comes to judge the world. Amen.**

Almighty God, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you † in eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

# GATHERING HYMN ELW 244 Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers



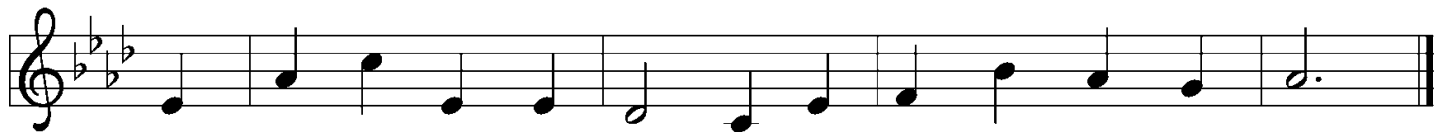
1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear;  
2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain pro - claim the bride - groom near;  
3 The saints, who here in pa - tience their cross and suf - f'ring bore,  
4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



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!

Text: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660–1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823–1907

Music: HAF TRONES LAMPA FÄRDIG, Swedish folk tune

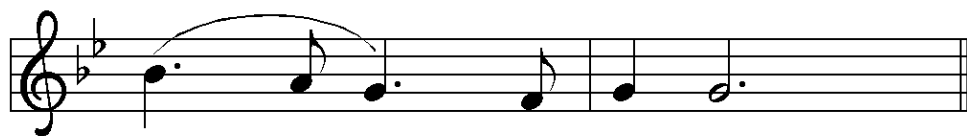
## APOSTOLIC GREETING

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.**

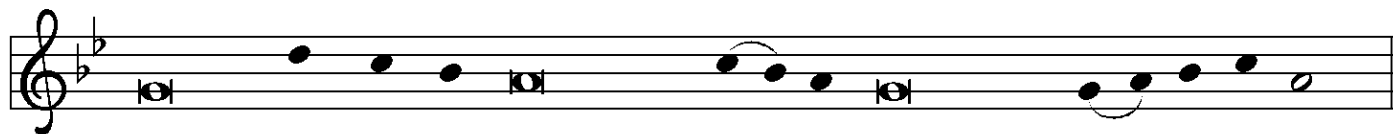
## KYRIE



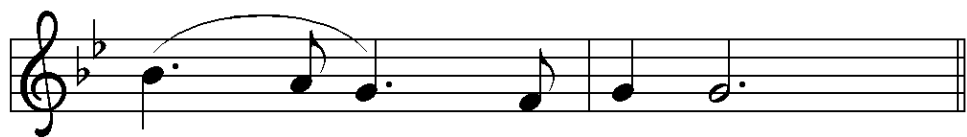
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



**Lord, have mer - cy.**



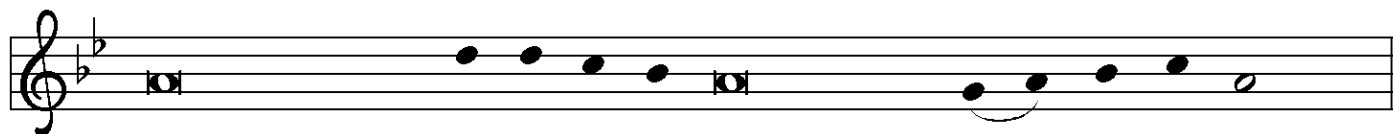
For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



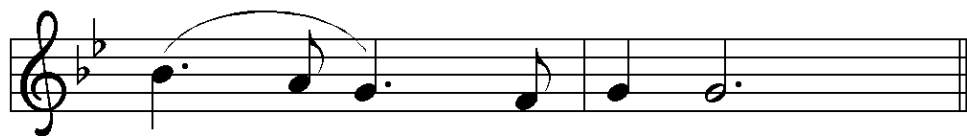
**Lord, have mer - cy.**



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.



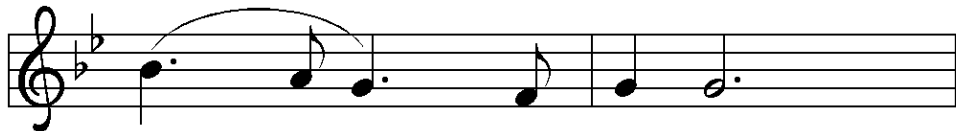
**Lord, have mer - cy.**



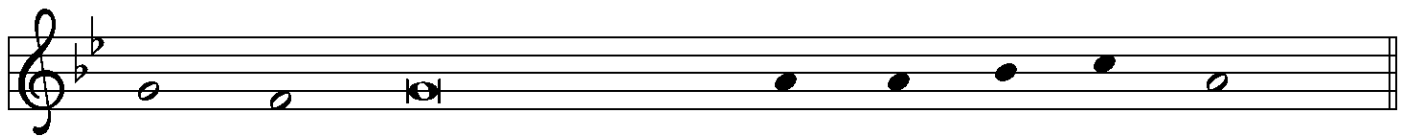
For this ho - ly house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and



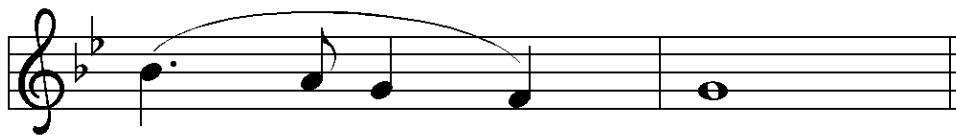
praise, let us pray to the Lord.



**Lord, have mer - cy.**



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

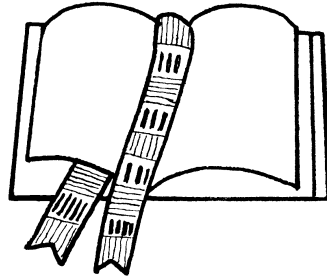


**A - men.**

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, 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.*

*Please be seated.*

**FIRST READING** Isaiah 2:1–5

<sup>1</sup>The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

<sup>2</sup>In days to come

the mountain of the Lord's house  
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,  
and shall be raised above the hills;  
all the nations shall stream to it.

<sup>3</sup>Many peoples shall come and say,  
“Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,  
to the house of the God of Jacob;  
that he may teach us his ways  
and that we may walk in his paths.”

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,  
and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

<sup>4</sup>He shall judge between the nations,  
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;  
they shall beat their swords into plowshares,  
and their spears into pruning hooks;  
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,  
neither shall they learn war any more.

<sup>5</sup>O house of Jacob,  
come, let us walk  
in the light of the Lord!

*The reader concludes:* The word of the Lord. *The assembly responds:* Thanks be to God.

## PSALM 122

*Refrain sung first by choir; all other times by all. Boldface verses sung by all.*



I was glad when they said to me,  
“Let us go to the house of the LORD.”

- <sup>1</sup>I was glad when they <sup>1</sup>said to me,  
“Let us go to the house <sup>1</sup>of the LORD.”
- <sup>2</sup>**Now our <sup>1</sup>feet are standing  
within your gates, <sup>1</sup>O Jerusalem.**
- <sup>3</sup>Jerusalem is built <sup>1</sup>as a city  
that is at unity <sup>1</sup>with itself;
- <sup>4</sup>**to which the tribes go up, the tribes <sup>1</sup>of the LORD,  
the assembly of Israel, to praise the name <sup>1</sup>of the LORD. R**
- <sup>5</sup>For there are the <sup>1</sup>thrones of judgment,  
the thrones of the <sup>1</sup>house of David.
- <sup>6</sup>**Pray for the peace <sup>1</sup>of Jerusalem:  
“May they pros- <sup>1</sup>per who love you.**
- <sup>7</sup>Peace be with- <sup>1</sup>in your walls  
and quietness with- <sup>1</sup>in your towers.
- <sup>8</sup>**For the sake of my kindred <sup>1</sup>and companions,  
I pray for <sup>1</sup>your prosperity.**
- <sup>9</sup>Because of the house of the <sup>1</sup>LORD our God,  
I will seek to <sup>1</sup>do you good.” R

### **SECOND READING** Romans 13:11–14

<sup>11</sup>Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; <sup>12</sup>the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; <sup>13</sup>let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. <sup>14</sup>Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

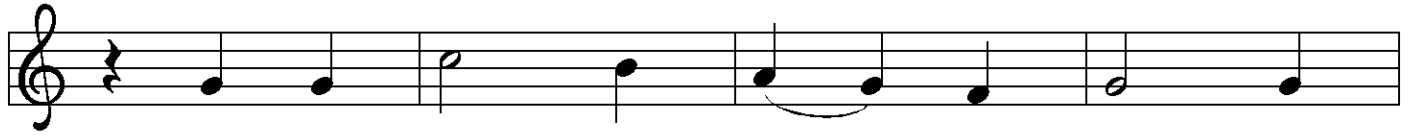
*The reader concludes:* The word of the Lord. *The assembly responds:* Thanks be to God.



*Please stand.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*All sing the acclamation; Choir sings the proper verse.*



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

V. Show us your steadfast <sup>1</sup> love, O Lord,\* and grant us <sup>1</sup> your salvation. (*Ps. 85:7*)

## GOSPEL Matthew 24:36–44

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples,] <sup>36</sup>“About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>37</sup>For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>38</sup>For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, <sup>39</sup>and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>40</sup>Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. <sup>41</sup>Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. <sup>42</sup>Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. <sup>43</sup>But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>44</sup>Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

*The gospel is proclaimed, concluding:* The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

## SERMON

The Rev. Blake A. Scalet

*Please stand.*

## HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 436 Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying



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**

With the whole Church, let us confess our faith:

**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**

God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

*Please be seated.*

## **PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR MISSION**

### **GATHERING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

*You may use the pew envelope to make a contribution. If you would like to make a one-time or recurring electronic contribution, you may visit [www.stjohnssummit.org/giving](http://www.stjohnssummit.org/giving) or scan this code.*



### **OFFERING MUSIC** Keep Your Lamps

St. John's Choir & Drumming Ensemble

André Thomas

Keep your lamps trimmed an burning, for the time is drawing nigh.

Children, don't get weary, 'Til your work is done.

Christian, journey soon be over, for the time is drawing nigh.

Keep your lamps...

African American Spiritual

*Please stand.*

## OFFERING HYMN ELW 258 Unexpected and Mysterious

### Verse 3



3 We are called to pon - der mys - t'ry and a - wait the



com - ing Christ, to em - bod - y God's com - pas -



sion for each frag - ile hu - man life. God is with us



in our long - ing to bring heal - ing to the earth, while we



watch with joy and won - der for the prom - ised Sav - ior's birth.

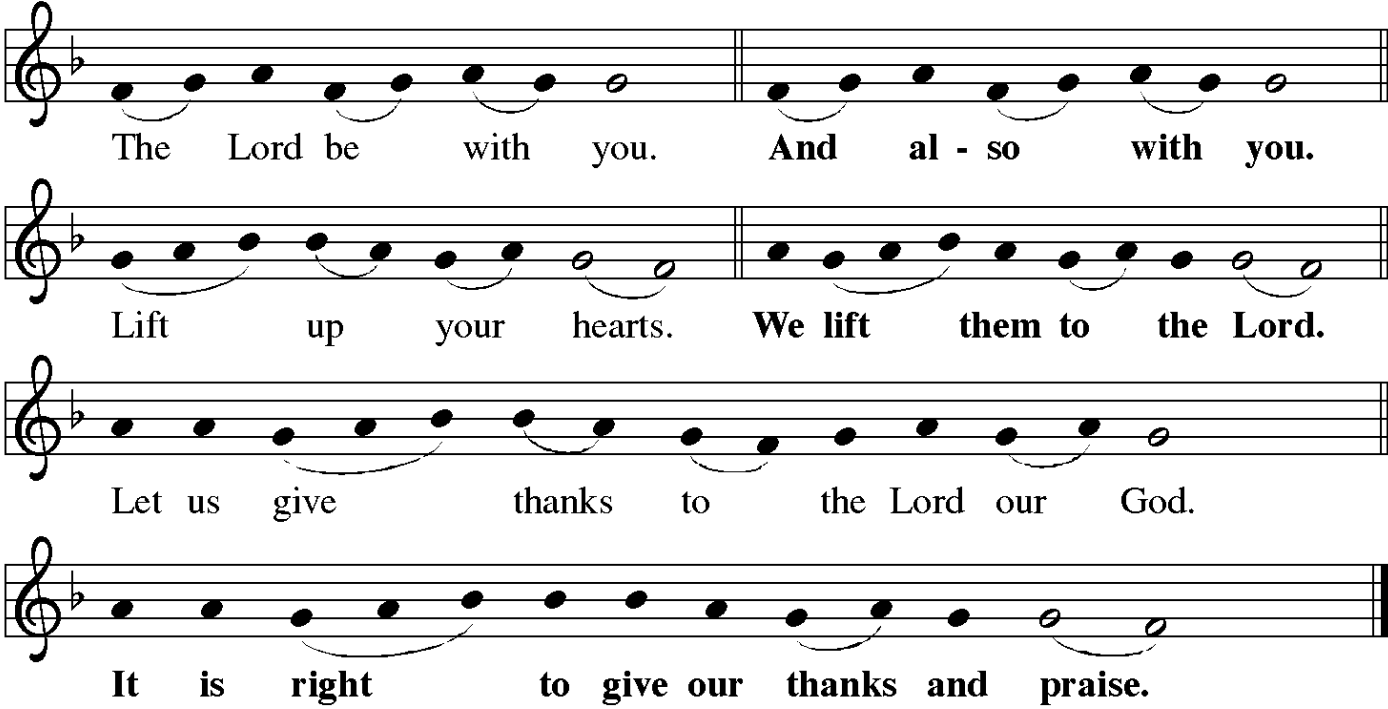
Text: Jeannette M. Lindholm, b. 1961  
Music: ST. HELENA, Calvin Hampton, 1938-1984  
Text © 2002 Jeannette M. Lindholm, admin. Augsburg Fortress.  
Music © 1977 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.  
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## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. **God of our waiting and watching, we offer the gifts of our hearts and our lives to the service of all your people. Prepare the way before us as we meet you in this simple meal, through Christ Jesus, our pathway and our peace. Amen.**

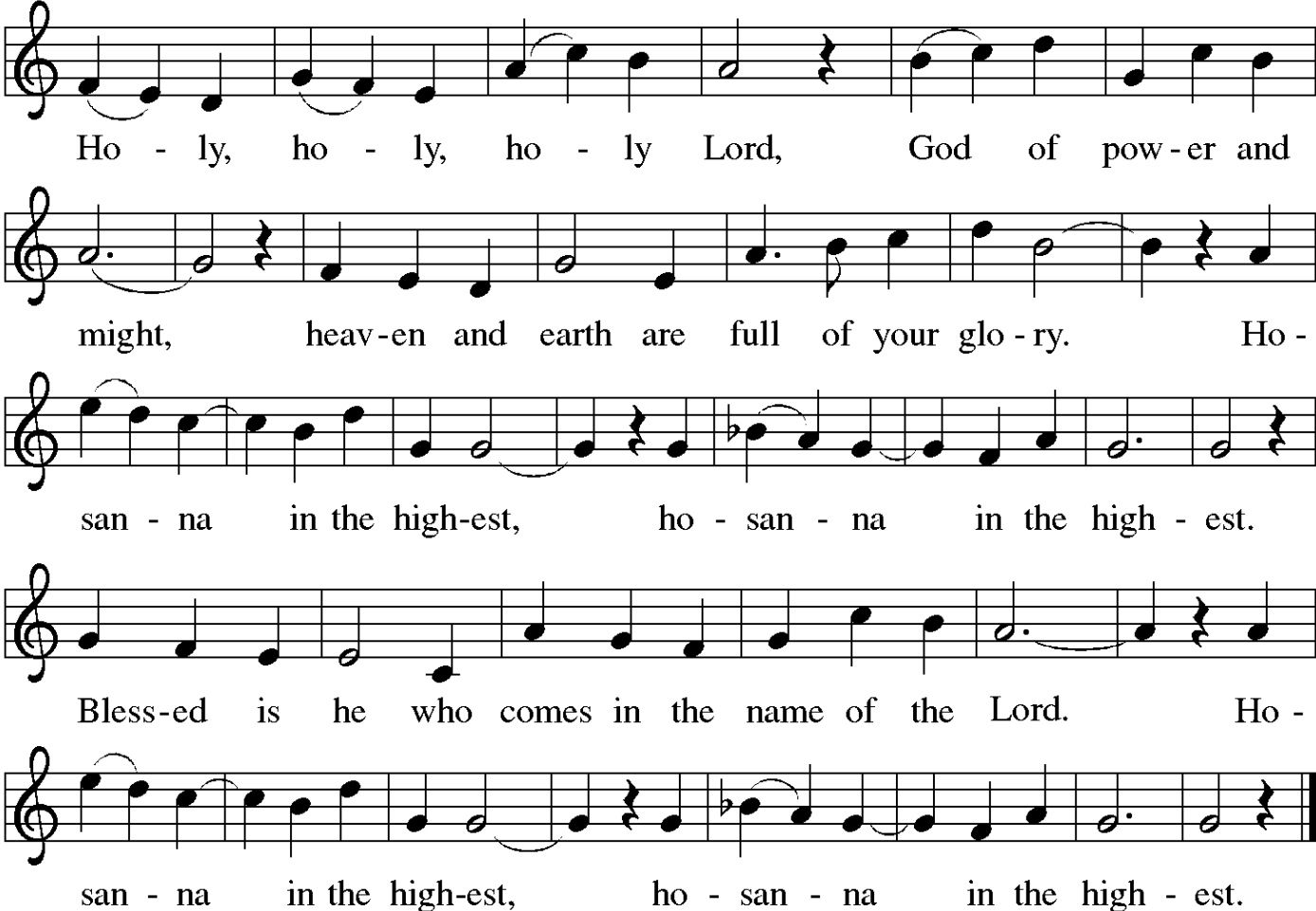
**Meal**  
*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

**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.

**PROPER PREFACE**



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.

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

### LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

### RECEPTION OF COMMUNION

*If you wish to receive communion, please approach the pastor one at a time.*

*The pastor will place a wafer in your open hands. Please indicate if you need a gluten free wafer.*

*The vicar serves the wine from the chalice—either by intinction or drinking from the common cup.*

*The assisting minister serves the wine / grape juice in pre-filled individual cups.*

***All baptized Christians are welcome at the Lord's table.***

***If you do not wish to commune, you may come forward for a blessing.***

### 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.

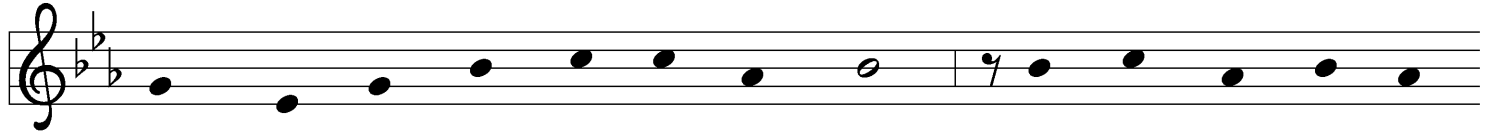


Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

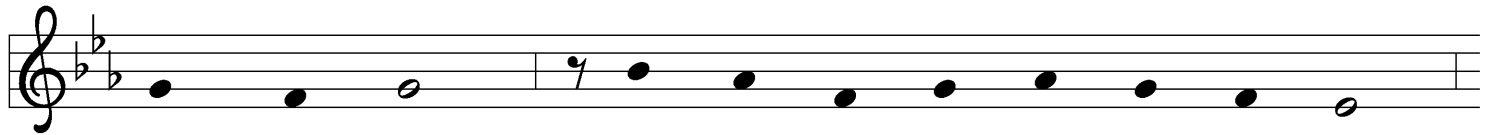


world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

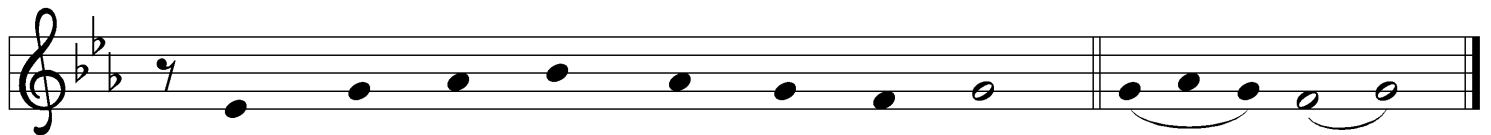
# COMMUNION HYMN ELW 245 Creator of the Stars of Night



1 Cre - a - tor of the stars of night, your peo - ple's ev - er -  
2 When this old world drew on toward night, you came; but not in  
3 At your great name, O Je - sus, now all knees must bend, all  
4 Come in your ho - ly might, we pray, re - deem us for e -  
5 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son, and God the Spir - it,



last - ing light, O Christ, re - deem - er of us all,  
splen - dor bright, not as a mon - arch, but the child  
hearts must bow: all things on earth with one ac - cord,  
ter - nal day; de - fend us while we dwell be - low  
Three in One, praise, hon - or, might, and glo - ry be



we pray you hear us when we call.  
of Mar - y, bless - ed moth - er mild.  
like those in heav'n, shall call you Lord.  
from all as - saults of our dread foe.  
from age to age e - ter - nal - ly. A - men.

Text: Latin hymn, 9th cent.; tr. *Hymnal* 1940, alt.

Music: CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM, plainsong mode IV

Text © 1940 Church Pension Fund, admin. Church Publishing, Inc. All rights reserved.

## COMMUNION HYMN ELW 262 Wait for the Lord

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

Text: Taizé Community

Music: WAIT FOR THE LORD, Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994

Text and music © 1984 Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent, 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638.  
www.giamusic.com, 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

*Please stand.*

### **BLESSING**

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

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray. **God for whom we wait, you come to us in the broken bread and the cup we share. Make us ready always to welcome Christ into our hearts, and send us forth to be your people in the world, announcing your advent among us in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

#### **Sending**

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

### **BLESSING**

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit, † through Christ Jesus for whom we wait. **Amen.**



SENDING HYMN ELW 439 Soon and Very Soon



1 Soon and ver - y soon  
2 No more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,  
3 No more dy - in' there,  
4 Soon and ver - y soon



soon and ver - y soon  
no more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,  
no more dy - in' there,  
soon and ver - y soon



soon and ver - y soon  
no more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King.  
no more dy - in' there,  
soon and ver - y soon



Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, we're goin' to see the King!

*Coda after stanza 4*



Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu -



jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah.

Text: Andraé Crouch, b. 1945

Music: VERY SOON, Andraé Crouch

Text and music © 1976 Bud John Songs, Inc./Crouch Music, admin. EMI Christian Music Publishing

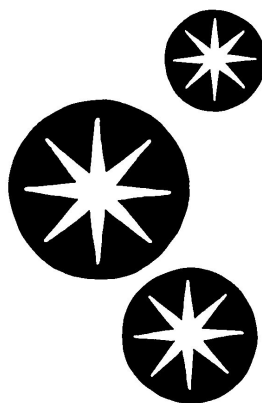
**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Christ is coming soon! **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE** Improvisation

Piano & Drumming Ensemble

Christopher Harlow-Jennings



**November 27, 2022**

**2023 Pledge Update:** We have received **67 pledges** for a total of **\$369,620** toward our goal of **\$480,000**, and World Hunger pledges are **\$14,500**. Please submit your 2023 pledge today!

**Advent Faith Formation, TODAY at 9:00 AM.** It will include singing carols, a short lesson, seasonal crafts, and snacks. All ages are welcome to join in the fun!

**Children's Choir rehearsal TODAY, 9:30 to 10:00 AM** in the Choir Room.

**Advent Devotionals, "Naming Jesus,"** World Hunger devotions, and Advent calendars can be picked up in the narthex.

**Lessons & Carols, December 4 at the 10:30 Service.** This year's service features music from all of our ensembles—the Recorder Choir, Children's Choir, Handbells and Saint John's Adult Choir. We will also sing many wonderful hymns and chorales of the season as well.

**Advent Sale** running **TODAY through December 18** in the chapel.

**The Mitten Tree:** We are collecting hats, mittens, scarves, and winter apparel for St. Stephan's-Grace, Newark. Bring in new/gently-used items to help our neighbors in need.

**LSM Christmas Gifts** We are again partnering with LSMNJ to support children and seniors in affordable housing. Purchase gift cards (Walmart, Target or grocery stores) and bring to church by **December 11**. Suggested amount is \$50, or you may purchase gifts from LSMNJ's Christmas Gift List. Please take a notecard from the bulletin board in the narthex with gift information and print your name on the corresponding gift list. Bring unwrapped gifts to church by **December 11**. For any additional questions, contact Helen Dachowicz.

**Christmas decorations:** Recommended donations of \$25-\$100 are appreciated, but we will receive donations of any amount. To be included in the Christmas worship bulletins, dedications must be received in the church office by **December 11**. Sign up in the rear entryway.

**Christmas Bridges Donations:** On **Sunday, December 18 at 9:00 AM** we will have a fun intergenerational event packing 200 sustainable lunches. Sign up in the narthex or online to donate items, which must be delivered to church by **8:00 AM, December 18**.

**Intergenerational Christmas Choir** will sing at the 5:00 PM Christmas Eve Service. Open to all children (4+), youth, and adults. The choir will rehearse on Christmas Eve at 4:00 PM. We will learn the carol at Faith Formation on Sundays at 9:00 AM.



### **Advent & Christmas Schedule**

December 4	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Advent 8:00 & 10:30 AM Intergenerational Advent Activities at 9:00 AM Advent Lessons & Carols at 10:30 service
December 11	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Advent (Gaudete) 8:00 & 10:30 AM Intergenerational Advent Activities at 9:00 AM Dinner Church at 6:00 PM
December 18	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent 8:00 & 10:30 AM Intergenerational Advent Activities at 9:00 AM Decorating the Church Caroling at 4:00 PM
December 20	Blue Christmas at 7:00 PM
December 24	Christmas Eve 5:00 PM Candlelight Communion with Brass 10:00 PM Candlelight Communion with Brass
December 25	Christmas Day 10:30 AM
January 1	Christmas 1 10:30 AM