

First Sunday of Advent

November 28, 2021 | 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 St. John's

Clergy & Staff

The Rev. Blake A. Scalet, Pastor

Donna Garzinsky, Director of Music

Carolyn Rothman, Church Administrator

Jessica Damrow Sherman, Communications Coordinator

Deacon Linda Walker, Minister of Children's Faith Formation

Harold Wyss, Weekday Sexton

Anne Ryan Dello Russo, Nursery

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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

Holy One, you have promised us that the day of our salvation is near.
Keep us faithful in love and watchful in prayer,
so that we may stand with confidence and joy at the coming of Christ,
our redeemer and Lord. Amen.

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

Gathering

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

PRELUDE Praeludium on *Veni, Emmanuel*

By Marilyn Biery

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.

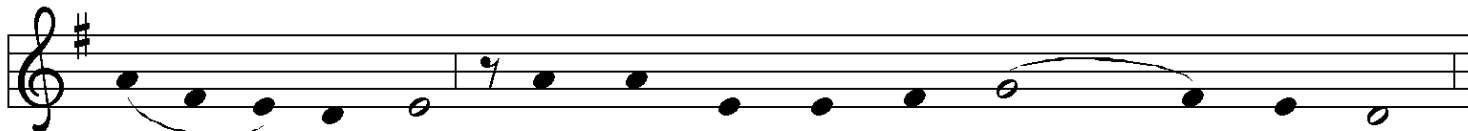
Almighty God, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you † in eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

GATHERING HYMN ELW 257 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

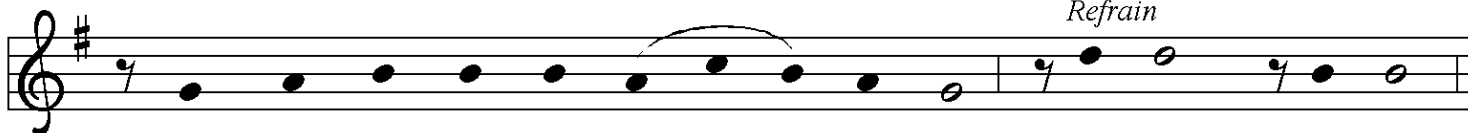
Verses 1-4



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things
3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on
4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;
Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law
tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



Refrain

un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joice! Re-joice!
in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.
and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

Text: *Psalterium Cantionum Catholicarum*, Köln, 1710; tr. composite
Music: VENI, EMMANUEL, French processional, 15th cent.
Text sts. 2, 6, 7 © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

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.**

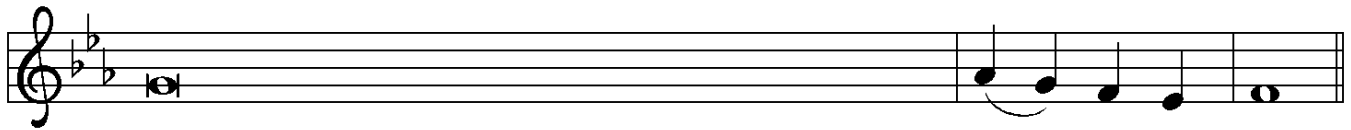
KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



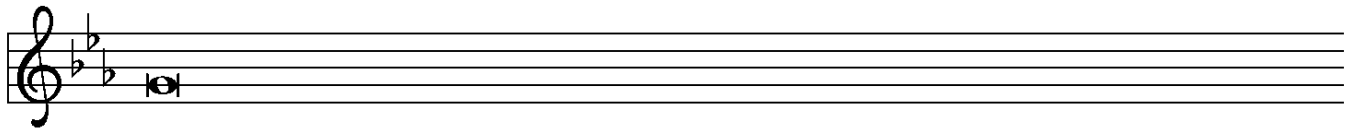
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



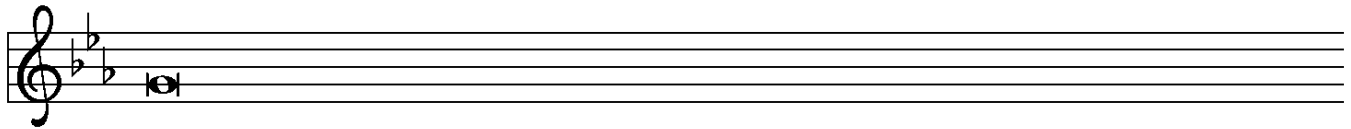
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



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



A - men, a - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, 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 Jeremiah 33:14–16

¹⁴The 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. ¹⁵In 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. ¹⁶In 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 reader concludes: The word of the Lord. *The assembly responds:* **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 25:1–8

Spoken responsively.

¹To 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.

³Let 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.

⁵Lead 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 compassion and love,**

for they are from everlasting.

⁷Remember 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.

SECOND READING 1 Thessalonians 3:9–13

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

¹¹Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. ¹²And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. ¹³And 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 reader concludes: The word of the Lord. *The assembly responds:* **Thanks be to God.**



Please stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

GOSPEL Luke 21:25–36

The Holy Gospel 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. ²⁶People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. ²⁸Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

²⁹Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³²Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³Heaven 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, ³⁵like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶Be 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 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.

Text: Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608; tr. composite
Music: WACHET AUF, Philipp Nicolai
Text © 1999 Augsburg Fortress

NICENE CREED

Living together in trust and hope, we 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

Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.** *Response at the conclusion of the prayer: Amen.*

PEACE

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

Please be seated.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR MISSION

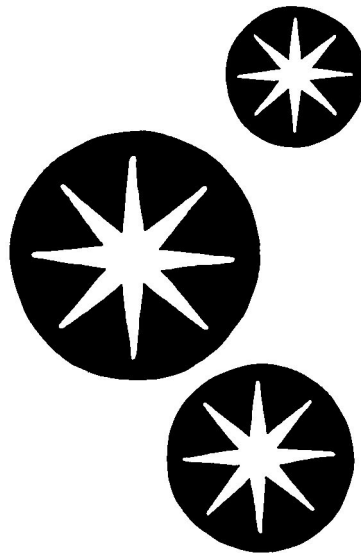
GATHERING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

We present monetary, food, and other offerings for God's mission and this congregation's ministry. Both visitors and members alike may use the pew envelope to make a contribution. If you would like to make a one-time or recurring electronic contribution, or want information about mailing checks, you may visit www.stjohnssummit.org/giving or scan this code.



OFFERING MUSIC Setting of *Veni, Emmanuel*

By Flor Peeters



OFFERING HYMN ACS 901 Now the Heavens Start to Whisper

Verse 3



3 Christ, e - ter - nal Sun of jus - tice, Christ, the rose of wis-dom's seed,



come to bless with fire and fra-grance hours of yearn-ing, hurt, and need.



In the lone - ly, in the strang - er, in the out - cast, hid from view;



Child who comes to grace the man-ger, teach our hearts to wel-come you.

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953
Music: SUO GAN, Welsh melody
Text © 2006 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

Please stand.

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 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.

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

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

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

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

You may pick up your personal cup, being careful to only touch that cup.

Step aside and drink the wine, placing the used cup in the return tray.

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

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

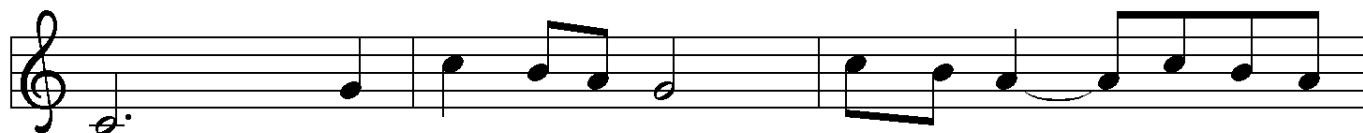
LAMB OF GOD



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 438 My Lord, What a Morning



My Lord, what a morn-ing; my Lord, what a morn - ing; oh,



my Lord, what a morn-ing, when the stars be - gin to fall.



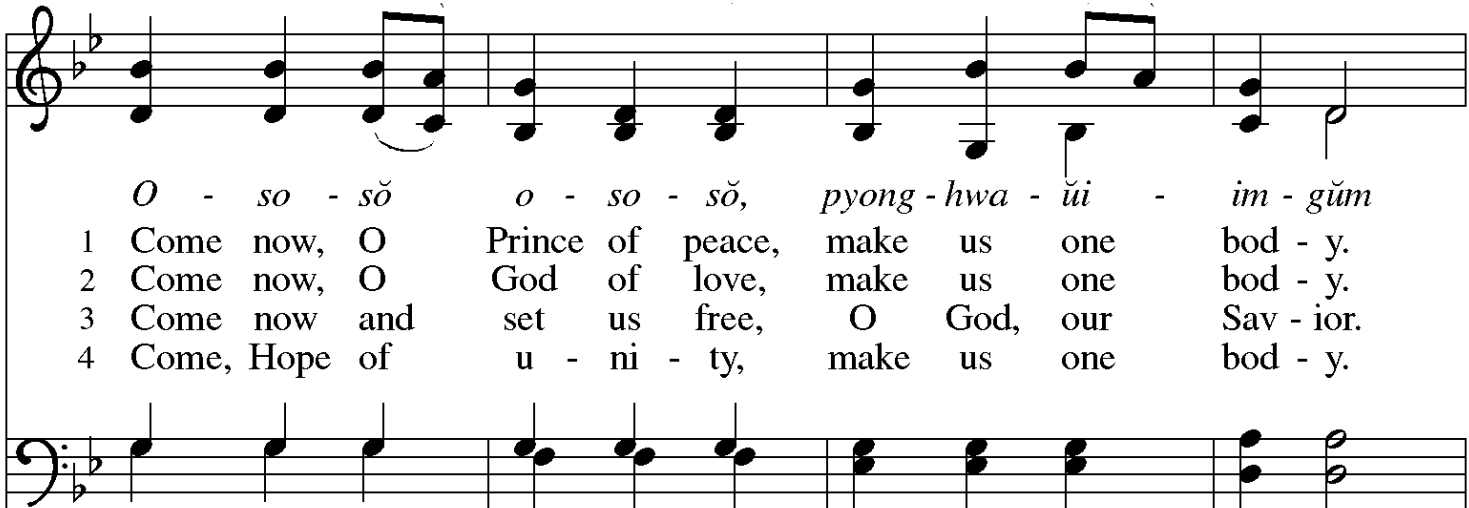
- 1 You will hear the trum - pet sound,
- 2 You will hear the sin - ner cry, to wake the na-tions un - der - ground,
- 3 You will hear the Chris-tian shout,



look-ing to my God's right hand, when the stars be - gin to fall.

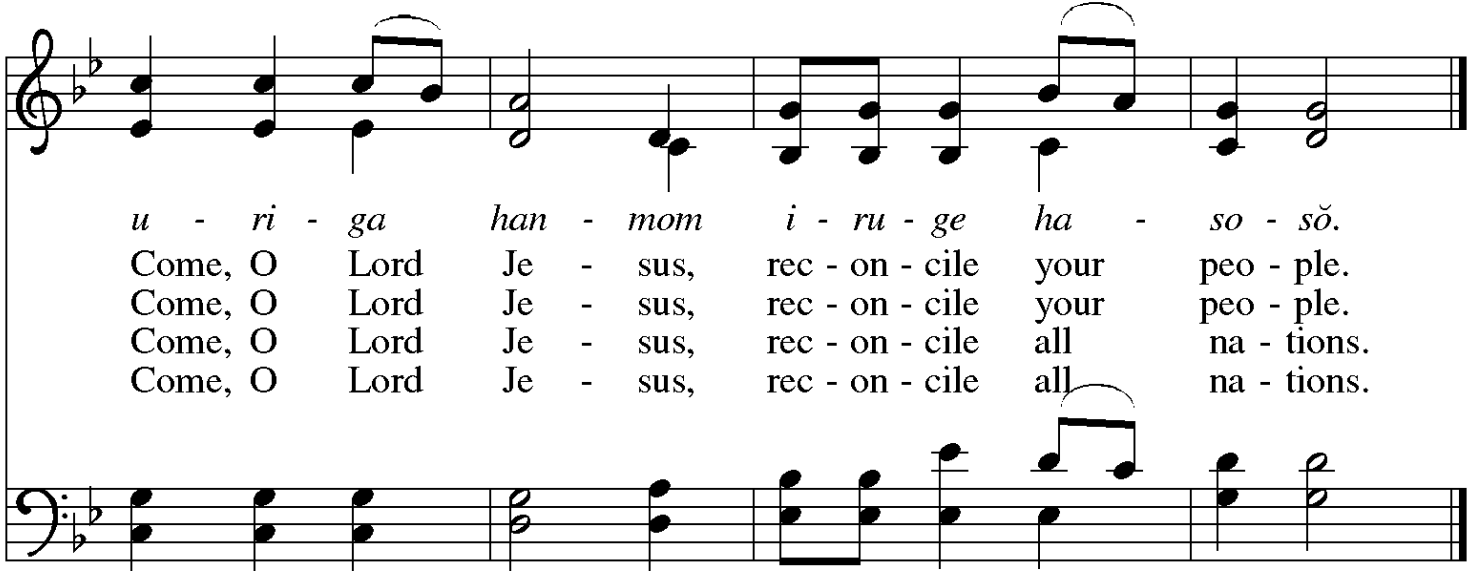
Text: African American spiritual
Music: BURLEIGH, African American spiritual

COMMUNION HYMN ELW 247 Come Now, O Prince of Peace



O - so - sŏ o - so - sŏ, pyong - hwa - ũi - im - gŭm

1 Come now, O Prince of peace, make us one bod - y.
2 Come now, O God of love, make us one bod - y.
3 Come now and set us free, O God, our Sav - ior.
4 Come, Hope of u - ni - ty, make us one bod - y.



u - ri - ga han - mom i - ru - ge ha - so - sŏ.

Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.

Text: Geonyong Lee, b. 1947; tr. Marion Pope
Music: OSOSŎ, Geonyong Lee, b. 1947
Text and music © Geonyong Lee.

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 260 The King Shall Come



- 1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light tri - um-phant breaks,
- 2 Not as of old a lit - tle child, to bear and fight and die,
- 3 Oh, bright - er than the ris - ing morn when Christ, vic - to - rious, rose
- 4 Oh, bright - er than that glo - rious morn shall dawn up - on our race
- 5 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light and beau - ty brings.



when beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills and life to joy a - wakes.
but crowned with glo - ry like the sun that lights the morn-ing sky.
and left the lone - some place of death, de - spite the rage of foes.
the day when Christ in splen - dor comes, and we shall see his face.
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your peo - ple pray: come quick - ly, King of kings.

Text: John Brownlie, 1859–1925

Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davisson, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is coming soon!

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE Postlude on *Consolation*

By David N. Johnson

November 28, 2021

Today's altar flowers are given to the glory of God, and in memory of George Montague by the Sherman and Montague families, by Bev and Mike Kaczmarek in honor of their anniversary, and in memory of Millie Connelly's birthday by her family.

2022 Pledge Update To date, we have received 73 pledges totaling \$382,950 toward our goal of \$450,000. Please be sure to submit your 2022 pledge card to the church office or online.

Churches Beyond Borders Joint Devotions: The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, The Episcopal Church, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, and the Anglican Church in Canada have jointly produced a devotion for use from November 25–December 10 for the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence. Copies are available in the narthex.

Advent begins TODAY! Join us for Advent intergenerational activities for children and adults, **every Sunday in Advent at 9:00AM** in Hinman Hall. There are Advent devotions, and Christmas brochures available in the narthex. Check out our online Advent calendar on our [Facebook](#) page, where we will post each day of Advent through Epiphany, recipes, memories, fun facts and more.

Advent Lessons & Carols, Next Sunday, December 5 at the 10:30 service!

Confirmation Class, Sunday December 5 at 5:30 PM.

Christmas Chancel Decorations: Suggested donations of \$25– \$100 may be made to decorate our church for Christmas. Please sign up in the rear entryway by **December 12** to be listed in the Christmas bulletins.

The Advent Sale, November 28–December 19 in the chapel. We are feeling nostalgic this Advent Season so our theme for this year is “Awaiting with Nostalgia,” bringing back memories of the past. We will have items from the past, handmade crafts, a few traditional things, and ELCA Good Gifts will also be available. All proceeds will go toward local food ministries.

LSMNJ Christmas Gifts: Support children and seniors this Christmas through Lutheran Social Ministries NJ (LSMNJ). How you can help: Purchase gift cards from Walmart or Target and **bring to church by December 5**. Purchase gifts from LSMNJ's Amazon Smiles Christmas Gift List by clicking [here](#). Ship to LSMNJ, 3 Manhattan Drive, Burlington, NJ 08016, **with delivery by December 15**. Contact Helen Dachowicz or Hans Calis with questions.

Bridges Outreach: We will be preparing sustainable lunches to give to the homeless on **Sunday, December 12, at 9:00 AM**, and doing a run to Newark on **Saturday, December 18**. Sign-ups are posted in the rear entryway.

Church Decorating is planned for **Sunday, December 19**. Sign up in the narthex for the many tasks that need to be completed to ready St. John's for Christmas Eve. Pizza will be served!

Caroling, December 19 at 4:00 PM! All are welcome to join us as we carol through town.

Appalachia Service Project July 2–9, 2022 Update: Youth AND adults can still sign up for this awesome service opportunity. The need in Appalachia is so great, ASP is permitting some all-adults teams for the summer program usually geared to youth. This is a unique year and a great opportunity for adults to try ASP. Contact Laura Snyder ASAP: njsnyders5@verizon.net.



Advent & Christmas Schedule

| | |
|-------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| December 5 | 2 nd Sunday in Advent 8:00 & 10:30 AM Advent Lessons & Carols at 10:30 service |
| December 12 | 3 rd Sunday in Advent (Gaudete) 8:00 & 10:30 AM |
| December 19 | 4 th Sunday in Advent 8:00 & 10:30 AM Decorating the Church Caroling at 4:00 PM |
| December 24 | Christmas Eve 3:00 PM Children's Service 5:00 PM Candlelight Communion with Brass 10:00 PM Candlelight Communion with Brass |
| December 25 | Christmas Day 10:30 AM |
| December 26 | Christmas 1 8:00 & 10:30 AM Christmas Lessons & Carols at both services |
| January 2 | Epiphany of Our Lord (Transferred) 8:00 & 10:30 AM |

All Sunday services at 10:30 AM are livestreamed as will the Christmas Eve 5:00 PM service.
To watch the services, visit St. John's YouTube channel at
www.youtube.com/StJohnsSummitNJ