



**Gethsemane Lutheran Church**  
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<https://www.facebook.com/gethsemaneportland>  
Interim Pastor Rev. Elizabeth Durant

First Sunday of Advent  
**November 28, 2021**

*Raise up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.*  
*Luke 21:28b*

**GATHERING**

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

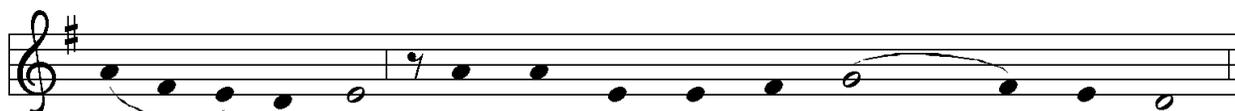
### Let us pray:

We praise you, O God, for this evergreen circle  
that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent.  
As we light the first candle on this wreath,  
rouse us from sleep, that we may be awake to read the signs of your coming.  
Sustain our hope and prepare our hearts to welcome you with joy.  
Grant this through Christ our Savior,  
whose coming is certain and whose day draws near.  
**Amen.**

## LIGHTING HYMN, *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*, ELW 257, v1



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,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!  
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.

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
who lifts up the lowly,  
who fulfills his promise,  
who becomes one of us, for the sake of our salvation.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin, trusting in the tender mercy of our God.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God for whom we wait,

**in the presence of one another,**

**we confess our sin before you.**

**We struggle to believe your promises.**

**We falter in your call to tend creation.**

**We find our sense of self in material goods.**

**We fear those different from ourselves.**

**We turn away from your love.**

**Forgive us, Blessed One,**

**and assure us again of your saving grace.**

**Amen.**

God, in Christ Jesus, looks with favor upon you!

Through the power of the Holy Spirit,

† your sins are forgiven.

You are children of the Most High,

claimed by God and sustained in grace.

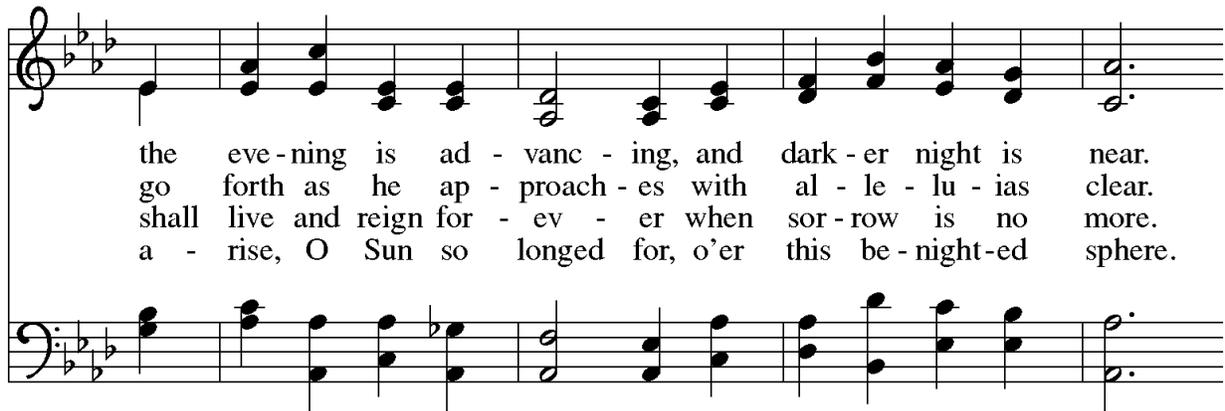
God strengthens you anew to follow the way of peace.

**Amen.**

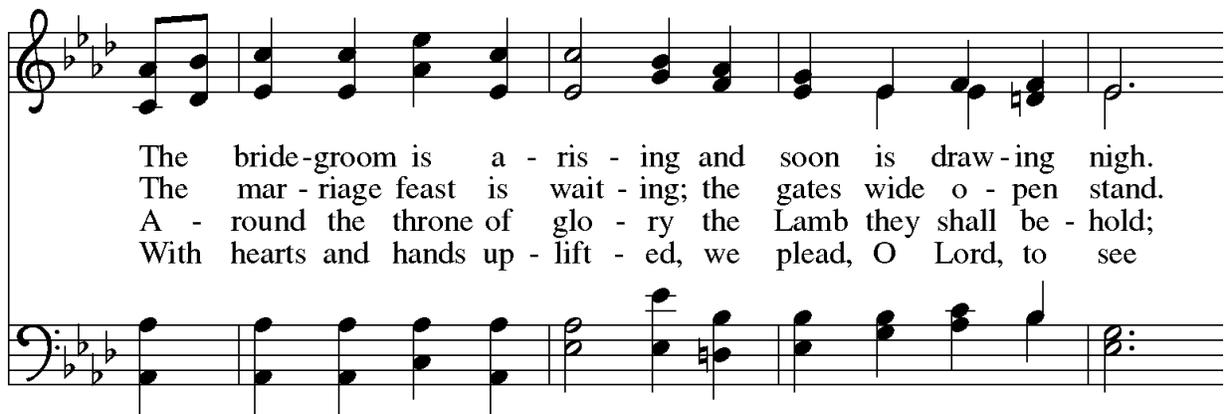
# GATHERING HYMN, *Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers* (ELW 244), v1-2



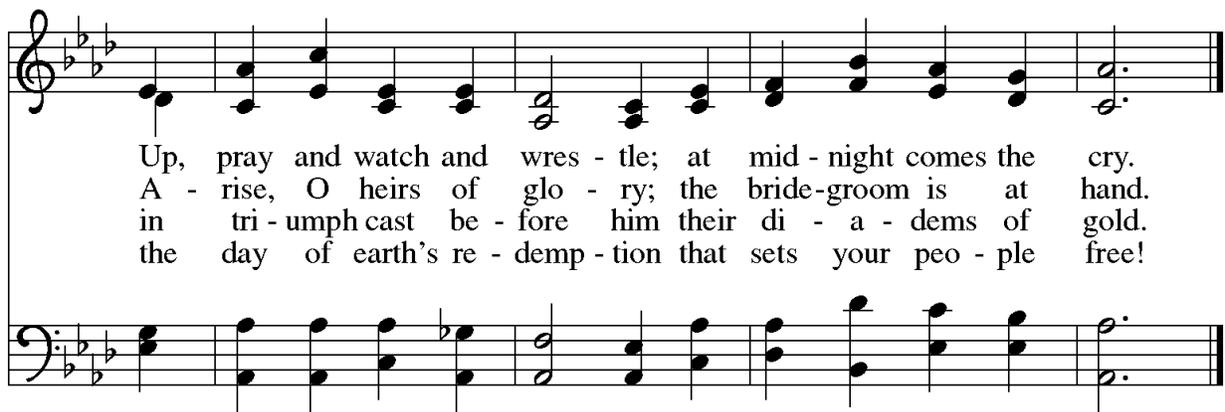
1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear;  
2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain pro - claim the bride - groom near;  
3 The saints, who here in pa - tience their cross and suf - f'ings bore,  
4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



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!

## 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

**Assistant: In peace, in peace, REFRAIN**

*Assistant:* Let us pray to the Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have  
*Congregation:* mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy. *to Verses*

A For the reign of God, and for peace throughout the world,  
for the unity of all . . . (Refrain)

A For your people here who have come to give you praise,  
for the strength to live your Word . . . (Refrain)

*Assistant:* Help, save and de - fend us, O  
*Congregation:* God. A - men.

## HYMN of PRAISE

**Refrain**

*Congregation:* Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion,

all of cre - a - tion sings for joy

to the God of life and love and

free-dom: praise and glo - ry for ev -

er - more!

**Verse 1**

*Congregation or Congregation 1:*

1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once

slain, whose blood has freed and u -

nit-ed us to be one great peo - ple of

God. *to Refrain*

**Verse 2**

*Congregation or Congregation 2:*

2. Pow - er and rich-es, wis - dom and

might, all hon - or and glo - ry to Christ

for ev - er. *to Refrain*

**Verse 3**  
*Congregation:*

3. For God has come to dwell with us, to

make us peo - ple of God; to make

all things new. *to Refrain*

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray,

Stir up your power, Jesus our Savior, and come. Awaken us to the small but telling signs that you are in our midst, bringing forth something new. Help us to trust that in the midst of chaos, uncertainty and transition, your Holy Spirit is transforming our hearts and lives, to the glory of your holy name.

**Amen.**

## CHILDREN'S BLESSING

*The children are invited to come forward for a special blessing from Pr. Elizabeth.*

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## WORD

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### FIRST READING: Jeremiah 33:14-16

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. 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. 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."

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 25:1-10**

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame,  
nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

Let none who look to you be put to shame;  
rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

**Show me your ways, O Lord,  
and teach me your paths.**

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.

**Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love,  
for they are from everlasting.**

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.

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

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

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

**SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13**

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

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. 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. 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.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

### ALLELUIA VERSE

*Congregation*

Al- le- lu- ia Al- le- lu- ia Lord, to whom shall we  
go You have the words of e- ter- nal life  
Al- le- lu- ia!

*Repeat optional*

### THE HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 21:25-36

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

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

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

“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, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. 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**

*Share a story of a time when you experienced hope.*

# HYMN OF THE DAY, *People, Look East*, ELW 248

1 Peo - ple, look east. The time is near of the crown - ing  
 2 Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is  
 3 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the  
 4 An - gels an - nounce with shouts of mirth him who brings new

of the year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble,  
 plant - ed there. Give up your strength the seed to nour - ish,  
 bowl shall brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er,  
 life to earth. Set ev - 'ry peak and val - ley hum - ming

trim the hearth and set the ta - ble. Peo - ple, look  
 that in course the flow'r may flour - ish. Peo - ple, look  
 bright as sun and moon to - geth - er. Peo - ple, look  
 with the word, the Lord is com - ing. Peo - ple, look

east, and sing to - day— Love, the Guest, is on the way.  
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Rose, is on the way.  
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Star, is on the way.  
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881–1965

Music: BESANÇON, French carol; arr. Barry Rose, b. 1934

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## **CREED**

Let us confess our faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed...

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

In this season of watching and waiting, let us pray for all people and places that yearn for God's presence.

God of promises kept and new dreams awakened, strengthen your church to proclaim the hope we find in you. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of mighty redwoods and microscopic plants, fields and city parks, the wind and the waves, be a healing balm to our wounded planet. May we nurture what you have lovingly created. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of equity and compassion, give discernment and integrity to community leaders and elected officials. Show us how we can help our neighbors. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of comfort and care, be present with those who watch and wait. Come to all who await births, deaths, divorces, new unions, new jobs, retirements, healing, and life transitions of every kind. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of presence and peace, bring hope to all who wait for healing. Strengthen those who are ill and bring them wholeness in mind, body and spirit. Comfort all who we remember now in heart and with voice... Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of companionship and community, we give you thanks for the saints who journeyed with us and now abide in you. Make us confident that your promises endure forever. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of new life, you come among us in the places we least expect. Receive these prayers and those of our hearts, in the name of Jesus.

**Amen.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## **THE OFFERING**

*Thank you for your generous gifts to sustain the mission and ministry of Gethsemane Lutheran Church. You may give online at*

*[www.glcportland.org/give](http://www.glcportland.org/give) or with Venmo.*

## OFFERTORY, *Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow*, ELW #884

The image shows a musical score for an offertory. It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost." The music is a simple, homophonic setting with a steady rhythm.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711  
Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510–1561

### THE 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.**

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*All are welcome to celebrate communion! If you are joining us via livestream, you may commune from home. Any bread and wine, water or juice may be used. Please follow along with Pastor Elizabeth in holding up your bread and cup.*

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 God thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everliving God. 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 again to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## HOLY

*Congregation:*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and  
 might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your  
 glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est!  
 Bless - ed is the One who comes in your name. Ho -  
 san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

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

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;

broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

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

**Come, Lord Jesus.**

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

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

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

**Amen.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Make us bold, O merciful God, to address you as our Abba as we 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.**

## LAMB OF GOD

*Congregation:*                      *Congregation or Assistant:*



Lamb of God,                      you take a - way the sin of the  
 \* you break the chains of ha - tred and  
 you are the way of jus - tice and  
 you are the way of mer - cy and

*Congregation:*



world:  
 fear:                      have mer - cy on us,                      mer - cy on us,  
 peace:  
 love:

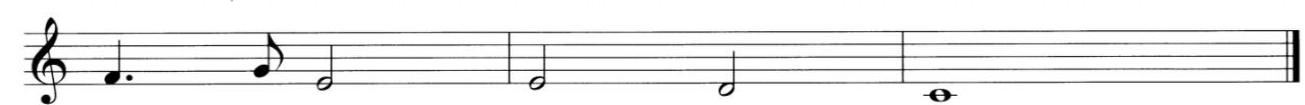


mer - cy on us.                      Lamb of God,                      you

*Congregation:*



take a - way the sins of the world:                      grant us peace,



grant us peace,                      grant us peace.

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

*If you did not pick up a communion cup as you entered, please see an usher.  
 Please dispose of your cup as you exit the sanctuary today.*

## COMMUNION HYMN, *Ubi Caritas et Amor*, ELW #642

The musical score is written for a single voice part, using a soprano clef (C1) and a bass clef (C2). The key signature has one flat (Bb) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is primarily composed of eighth and quarter notes, with some rests. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes. The first system covers the first two lines of the hymn, and the second system covers the last two lines. A triplet of eighth notes is marked with a '3' above it in the second system.

U - bi ca - ri - tas et a - mor,  
Where true char - i - ty and love a - bide,

u - bi ca - ri - tas, De - us i - bi est.  
God is dwell - ing there; God is dwell - ing there.

Text: Latin antiphon, 9th cent.; Taizé Community; tr. *With One Voice*

Music: TAIZÉ UBI CARITAS, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994

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## POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us, now and forever. **Amen.**

# POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

# Thanks Be to You

*Congregation:*

1. Praise to you, O God of mer - cy:  
2. From of old you loved and sought us:

Thanks be to you for ev - er! Rais - ing high the  
Thanks be to you for ev - er! Truth and jus - tice

weak and low - ly: Thanks be to you for ev - er!  
you have taught us: Thanks be to you for ev - er!

Strong is your faith - ful-ness, strong is your  
love, re - mem - b'ring your cov-e-nant of  
life with us. 3. Praise to you, O  
God of mer - cy: Thanks be to you for ev - er!  
Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly: Thanks be to you for  
ev - er! Thanks be to you for ev - er!

## **THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

Let us pray,

Most High God, you have come among us at this table. By the Spirit's power, form us to be bearers of your word, sharing gifts of mercy and grace with all, through Christ Jesus, our host and our guest. **Amen.**

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## **SENDING**

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## **THE BLESSING**

The God of hope  
fill us 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.**

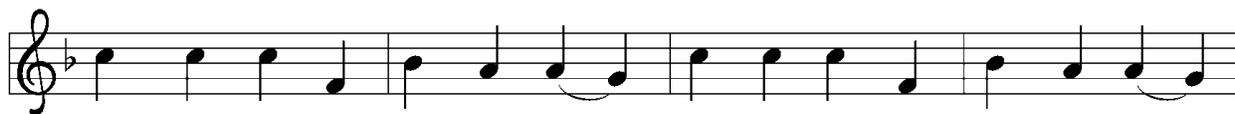
## SENDING SONG, *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*, ELW 270



1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born king;  
2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,  
3 Hail the heav'n - born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righ - teous - ness!



peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled."  
late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.  
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.



Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph of the skies;  
Veiled in flesh the God - head see! Hail, in - car - nate de - i - ty!  
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



with an - gel - ic hosts pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"  
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!  
born to raise each child of earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.



*Refrain*  
Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born king!"

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.

Music: MENDELSSOHN, Felix Mendelssohn, 1809–1847; arr. William H. Cummings, 1831–1915

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is near.

**Thanks be to God!**

## POSTLUDE

*Please leave the sanctuary quietly so that those who wish may remain to listen without interruption. Thank you!*

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

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Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.  
Music: MENDELSSOHN, Felix Mendelssohn, 1809–1847; arr. William H. Cummings, 1831–1915

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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- Join us for **Bible study on Tuesday, November 30th at 10am** in the conference room and on Zoom. We will study the book of Ruth, Chapter 1.
- **Holiday closures:** The office will be closed for Thanksgiving this Thursday, November 25. Anna will also be out of the office on Monday, November 29 for a funeral, but working this coming Saturday instead.
- Pr. Elizabeth will offer a “sacred pause” online gathering on Wednesdays at noon during Advent. This is an opportunity to take a breath and refocus on the holiness of the holidays. Join on December 1st at Noon on Zoom. Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87225860404>
- Come shop at the **Holiday Sale** in the Narthex hallway. Cash only (change not available).
- Mark your calendars for our **annual congregational meeting** on Sunday, **December 5th**, immediately **after the second service (around 11:30am)**. We will adopt an annual budget and elect our Church Council officers for 2022.
- Pick up an **Advent devotional** in the narthex! We have two options this year, and you are welcome to use both. “Traveling with Our Ancestors” provides a **daily** scripture and reflection on diverse ancestors who inspire and encourage us in our faith. A **weekly** devotional from ELCA World Hunger is also available, along with Advent calendars.



- Volunteer to usher, read scripture, cantor or help with communion. Sign up online at: <https://signup.com/Group/1125944192029/> or email Brandee Leibrand, Worship Chair, at [bplmbld@gmail.com](mailto:bplmbld@gmail.com).
- **Can you offer a ride** to church once a month (or once in a while)? **Do you need a ride?** Sign up on Rachel's List in the narthex. Be sure to list what part of town you live in.
- The COVID Team has decided to do a trial run of **reopening the coffee bar**. Please be mindful of others and maintain social distancing. It is essential that we keep masks on for the safety of our church family. Thank you for being a community of care and grace!
- Worship with us on Zoom at <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81476436505> To join by phone, call (253) 215 8782 and enter Meeting ID: 814 7643 6505. Or find us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/gethsemaneportland>.

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**venmo**