



Church of the Savior

L U T H E R A N

December 8, 2024

Second Sunday of Advent



Presider:

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Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

Welcome to Church of the Savior – Lutheran:

We are a community of believers, seekers, and doubters. We affirm all of God's people just as they are. We are a welcoming and inclusive community that does not require you to change in any way to worship with us.

We strive to make love grow both in our congregational life and in our nursery school. We recognize all the love we have is given to us from the Holy Spirit, we are but reflections of God's love. One of the ways we make love grow is by being accepting and existing the way Jesus taught us; living in harmony together no matter one's race, nationality, or gender. We strive to create and ensure the safest and most loving environment for everyone. We look forward to growing in faith with you.

With Regard to Holy Communion:

We celebrate Holy Communion nearly every week at Church of the Savior. Holy Communion is a sacred meal in which Christ comes to us in bread and wine. "This is my body given for you... This is my blood shed for you." We believe those words to be true. Christ is truly present in Holy Communion. When we receive the bread and wine of this meal, we receive his body and blood "in, with, and under the forms" of the consecrated bread and wine. All of God's beautiful children are welcome to our Lord's table — it's our Lord's table, after all, and all are invited. Let's be clear — it is not "my" table, or "our" table or a "Lutheran" table. It is our Lord's table, and he sends out the invitations — to everyone under the sun. This includes you to come forward just as are.

For the bread we provide two types of host, with gluten and without. If you would like gluten free let Pastor Paul know when you come forward. We offer both red wine and white grape juice.

To the Parents of Children:

Relax! God put the wiggle in children; don't feel you have to suppress it in God's house. All are welcome! Sit toward the front where it is easier for children to see and hear what is going on. Little one's tire of seeing the back of others' heads.

Explain the parts of the service and actions of the pastor, ushers, choir, and the people who make worship happen. Sing the hymns, pray, and voice the responses. Children learn liturgical behavior by copying you.

If you have to leave the service with your child, feel free to, but please come back. As Jesus said, "Let the children come to me."

The way we welcome children in church directly affects the way they respond to The Church, to God and to one another. Let them know, and let us show them, that they are at home in their house of worship. The presence of your child is a gift to Church of the Savior. We are blessed to welcome and worship with our children. We know that it took a lot of work to get to this pew today; you are doing a really good job!

PRELUDE: Joy to the World

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, alive in the world, reviving creation, arriving soon.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of mercy, **we confess that we have sinned. We trust earthly powers and human authority alone. We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.** God of might, **we confess that we have sinned. We have turned away from our neighbors. We have trusted false promises.** God in our midst, **we confess that we have sinned. We plead: come to us. Bring your mercy to birth in us.**

A righteous branch springs forth: it is Christ the Lord, our Savior, in whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy. By the power of the Holy Spirit, receive the grace and forgiveness of God through † Christ Jesus, whose day draws near. **Amen.**

PROCESSIONAL HYMN: Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord (Stephen Schwartz)

PREPARE YE THE WAY OF THE LORD

Stephen Schwartz

unaccompanied & slower



repeat three times



faster



GREETING

Pastor: The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

Blessed are you, God of hope, for you promise to bring forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse who will bring justice to the poor, who will deliver the needy and crush the oppressor, who will stand as a signal of hope for all people.

As we light these candles, turn our wills to bear the fruit of repentance, transform our hearts to live in justice and harmony with one another, and fix our eyes on the root of Jesse, Jesus Christ, the hope of all nations.

O people of hope, come, **let us rejoice in the faithfulness of the Lord. Amen.**

Song of the 4 Candles (2nd Sunday)

Watch, pre - pare, re - joice, be - hold! — Watch, pre - pare, re -
joice, be - hold! Light the sec ond can - dle, light the sec ond can - dle, the
sec ond can - dle tells us to pre - pare. Je - sus is com - ing,
Je - sus has come, the Light of the World, our Sav - ior, God's
Son. — Watch, pre - pare, re - joice, be - hold! —
Watch, pre - pare, re - joice, be - hold! — Watch, pre - pare, re -
joice, be - hold! — Watch, pre - pare, re - joice, be - hold! —

Chords: F, C/E, F7/Eb, Bb/D, C/E, F, C/E, F7/Eb, Bb/D, C/E, C2, Bb2, C2, Bb, F, Dmin, Eb, Cmin, F, Dmin, Eb, Dsus, D, F, C/E, F7/Eb, Bb/D, C/E, F, C/E, F7/Eb, Bb/D, C/E, F7/Eb, Bb/D, C/E, F7/Eb, Bb/D, C/E

THE KYRIE

A In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.

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

C Lord, have mer - cy.

A 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.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

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

let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.

A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra-cious Lord. **C** A - men

THIS IS THE FEAST

D D/F# G D G D/A F#7 Bm D
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

Bm G/E A D C Em Asus A
Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

D G D Bm D/A G
Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose

Em F#m/A Bm F#m G Emsus Asus A
blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

D D/F# G D G D/A F#7 Bm D
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

G/E A D C Em Asus A
Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

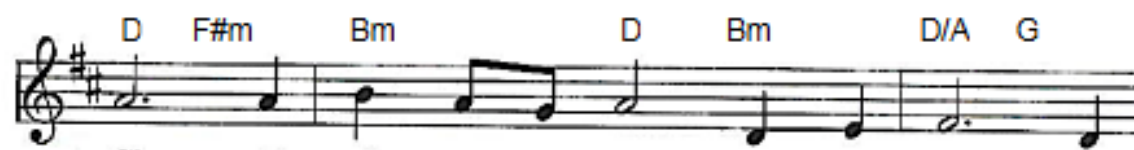
D F#m Bm D Bm D/A G
Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and

Em F#m/A Bm F#m G Emsus Asus A
hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

D D/F# G D G D/A F#7 Bm D
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

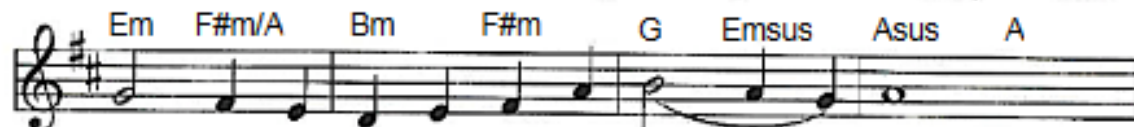
G/E A D C Em Asus A
Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

D F#m Bm D Bm D/A G



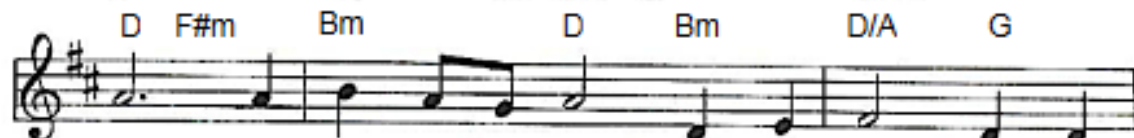
Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and

Em F#m/A Bm F#m G Emsus Asus A



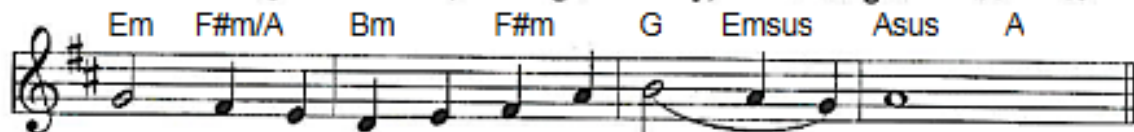
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:

D F#m Bm D Bm D/A G



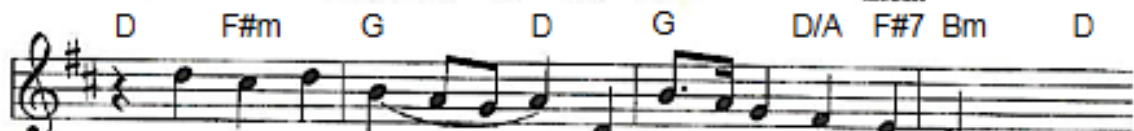
Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to

Em F#m/A Bm F#m G Emsus Asus A




God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

D F#m G D G D/A F#7 Bm D



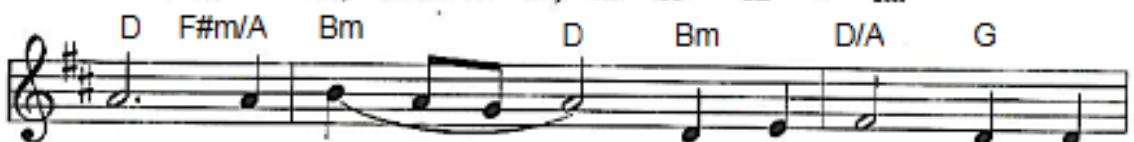
This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

G/E A D C Em Asus A



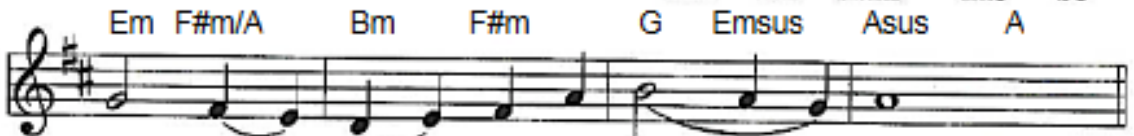
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

D F#m/A Bm D Bm D/A G



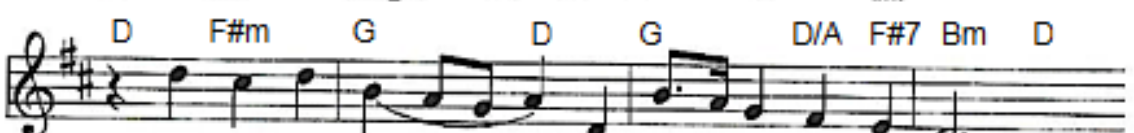
For the Lamb who was slain has be -

Em F#m/A Bm F#m G Emsus Asus A



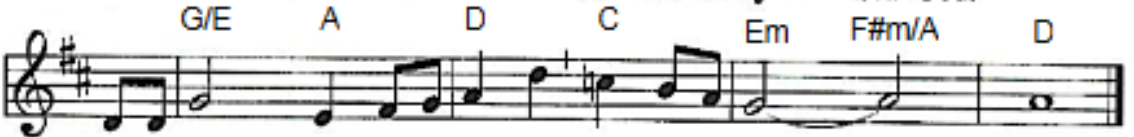
gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

D F#m G D G D/A F#7 Bm D



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

G/E A D C Em F#m/A D



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

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.

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.

Lector: Word of God, Word of Life

People: Thanks Be to God

PSALM: Luke 1:68-79

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.**

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.

⁷⁶ And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,
for you will go before the Lord to prepare 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 shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

SECOND READING: Philippians 1:3-11

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 insight¹⁰ 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 Lector: Word of God, Word of Life

People: Thanks Be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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



THE HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 3:1-6

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ In 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,² during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness.³ He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins,⁴ as 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.

⁵ Every 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;

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

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

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-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.

HOMILY: Pastor Paul

CONFESSION OF FAITH - 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.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH: Response: Receive our prayer.

SHARING OF THE PEACE:

SPECIAL MUSIC: Choir: "Jesus Christ" (Jean-Christophe Rosaz)

OFFERING

Please mail your offering to:
Church of the Savior
643 Forest Avenue - Paramus, NJ 07652 OR Use the
QR code on right for your offertory giving.



Choir: "Jesus Christ" (Jean-Christophe Rosaz)

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right spir - it with -
in me. Cast me not a - way from Your pre - sence, and take not Your
Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Your sal -
va - tion; and up - hold me with Your free Spir - it.

The musical score is written on four staves in a single system. The key signature is three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and the time signature is 3/4. Chord symbols are placed above the notes: Eb, Fm7, Bb, Eb, Cm, F, Bbsus Bb, Bb/Ab, Fm7, Eb/Bb, Bb, Gmaj, Cm, F7, Bb, Bb7, Eb/Bb, Bb, Eb/Bb, Ab, Bb, Eb7, Ab, Fm7, Bb, Ebsus Eb.



ALL: Creator God, you made the whole world, even the farthest stars, and you draw near to feed us. We praise you for these gifts of bread and wine. Strengthen us with this food that we may live in expectation for the advent of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

PREFACE FOR THE SEASON

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places....we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of four staves of music. Above each staff are guitar chords. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff has a common time signature 'C'. The second staff has a common time signature 'C'. The third staff has a common time signature 'C'. The fourth staff has a common time signature 'C'. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might: Heav- en and earth are full of your glo- ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na. 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."

F Am G7 C F G7 C
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:

F Am G7 C F Dm
Heav- en and earth are full of your glo- ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.

Bb G7 C F Gm
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who

F/A G7/B C Ab Bb Dm7 G C
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

....proclaim the Lord's death until he comes:

People: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

At conclusion of Eucharistic Prayer

People: **Amen**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

F **Bb** **G7** **C**
 Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
Dm **G** **C** **F** **Bb** **G7**
 mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
C **Dm** **G** **C** **F** **Am** **Bb**
 world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
Eb **Ab** **Bb** **Dm** **G7** **C**
 sin of the world; grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION



COMMUNION HYMN: Behold the Lamb of God (Stephen Schwartz)

Slow
A **Bm** **A/C#** **A/D** **E**
 Be - hold the Lamb of God,
A **Bm** **A/C#** **D** **E** **A**
 who takes a - way the sin of the world.

COMMUNION BLESSING

Pastor: May the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His Grace! **Amen.**

Thank-ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev - 'ry - one what God has
 done. Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.
 Send us with your prom - is - es, O God, and lead us forth in
 joy with shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia.



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Generous God, we thank you for the gift of life, for the bread of salvation. We thank you for coming among us, for leading us into peace. We thank you for showering us with mercy, for sending us into the world. Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us as we feed the hungry in your name. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

God of endings and beginnings, God in the darkness and the light, God, our hope for the journey, ✠ bless and keep you now and forever. Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN: 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.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.

Thanks be to God.

SERVING TODAY

DATE	LECTOR	WORSHIP ASST.	USHER
Dec 8	Michael Chomin	Maggie Harrer	Antoinette Walder
Dec 15	Vicki Coyle	Rick Henly	Antoinette Walder
Dec 22	Maggie Harrer	Sally Leara	John Leara

FLOWERS

Dec 8	For:	The members of Church of the Savior
Dec 15	For:	In Memory of Carol, Fred and Fred
	From:	Susan Conrad
Dec 22	For:	Rudolph W Heydt, III—Birthday Wishes
	From:	Mom and the Heydt Clan

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Dec 8	Sunday School
Dec 15	Christmas Caroling & Dinner: 5pm
Dec 17	Council Meeting: 6pm
Dec 22	Sunday School
Dec 24	Christmas Eve: 4pm (family Worship)
	Christmas Carol Sing: 7:30pm
	Christmas Eve: 8pm Worship
Dec 25	Christmas Day: 10am Worship
Dec 29	Wee Worship

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