



Church of the Savior

L U T H E R A N

January 5, 2025

Second Sunday of Christmas



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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: Let Us Unite to Celebrate God's Coming to Humankind

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, whose steadfast love is everlasting. **Amen.**

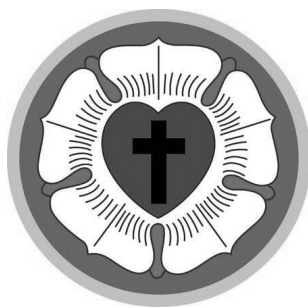
Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God-with-us,

we confess that we have turned away those seeking shelter, claiming there is no room when we have plenty. We have made power and wealth our idols, while you show us true glory: a baby in a manger. We have overlooked the shepherds, expecting good news in prettier packaging. Too often, we have valued violence instead of your peace. Turn us from our ways to your ways. Grant us the grace to begin again. Free us from all that keeps us bound, and forgive our sin, through Jesus Christ, who gives himself for us. Amen.

Hear the good news and rejoice! You are God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, ✠ forgiven in Christ, and freed to respond in joy. **Amen.**



PROCESSIONAL HYMN: The First Noel



1 The first No - el the an - gel did say was to
2 They look - ed up and saw . . . a star shin - ing
3 And by the light of that . . . same star three . .
4 This star drew near to the . . . north-west, o'er . .
5 Then en - tered in those wise . . . men three, full . .



cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay; in fields where
in . . . the east . . . be - yond . . . them far; and to the
wise . . . men came . . . from coun - try far; to seek for a
Beth - le - hem . . . it took . . . its rest; and there it
rev - 'rent - ly . . . up - on . . . their knee, and of - fered



they lay, keep - ing their sheep, on a cold win - ter's
earth it gave . . . great light, and . . . so it con -
king was their . . . in - tent, and to fol - low the
did both stop . . . and stay right . . . o - ver the
there in his . . . pres - ence their . . . gold, and



Refrain

night that was so deep.
tin-ued both day and night.
star wher - ev - er it went. No - el, No - el, No -
place where Je - sus lay.
myrrh, and frank - in - cense.



el, No - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

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.**

THE KYRIE

Refrain E A E F#m Bsus B

Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.

E A B E B E

Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.

A C#m G#m B

- 1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
- 2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the
- 3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for
- 4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the

A Bsus E E7

u - ni - ty of all; for
 hun - gry and the poor; that
 friends and fam - i - ly; for
 wa - ter and the word; that you

A C#m G#m B

this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
 we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,
 life and for love, for our work and our play,
 nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,

F#m A Bsus B F#m A Bsus B *Refrain*

let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

THE GLORIA

Refrain F (ped) Gm/F F Eb/F F Eb/F Dm/F Eb/F Dm/F C/F

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and

Dm/F Cm/F Bb/F C/F Bb/F Gm/F F Eb/F F

peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

F Cm/F Bb/F Ab/F F Eb Db Ab Eb/G

1 Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,

Eb Ab Bb7 Eb Cm Ab

we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you

Fm Ab Bb *Refrain* F (ped) Gm/F F Eb/F

for your glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high -

F Eb/F Dm/F Eb/F Dm/F C/F Dm/F Cm/F Bb/F C/F Bb/F Gm/F F Eb/F F

est, the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

F Eb Ab Eb Ab

2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God,

Cm Bb2 Bb F Eb Ab

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

Bb Db Cm Fm/Db Eb

world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the

Ab Bb7 Eb Cm Db Bbm/Db Fsus/C C

right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

Refrain F(ped) Gm/F F Eb/F F Eb/F Dm/F Eb/F Dm/F C/F

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and

Dm/F Cm/F Bb/F C/F Bb/F Gm/F F Eb/F F Ab

peace to God's peo - ple on earth. 3 For you a -

Fm Eb Cm Db Bbm C

lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,

single Eb Db/Eb Eb Ab Db Eb Fm Db

you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the

Bbm C Ab Fm/Db Eb/C Eb

Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.

Db Bbm Eb Cm Db Fm/Bb Bb/C C

A - men. A - men. A - men.

F2 *Final refrain* Bb/F F Bb/F F

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and peace to God's

Bb/F F Bb/C C F Gm

peo - ple on earth. Glo - ry to God in the high -

F/A Bb Amaj Dm Gm Bb Gm/C F2

est, the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, 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: Jeremiah 31:7-14

⁷ Thus says the LORD: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, “Save, O LORD, your people, the remnant of Israel.”

⁸ See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here.

⁹ With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.

¹⁰ Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, “He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock.”

¹¹ For the LORD has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.

¹² They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again.

¹³ Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow.

¹⁴ I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty,
says the LORD.

Lector: Word of God, Word of Life

People: Thanks Be to God

PSALM: Psalm 147:12-20

¹²Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem; praise your God, O Zion,

¹³**who has strengthened the bars of your gates and has
blessed your children within you.**

¹⁴God has established peace on your borders and satisfies you with the finest wheat.

¹⁵**God sends out a command to the earth, a word that runs very swiftly.**

¹⁶God gives snow like wool, scattering frost like ashes.

¹⁷**God scatters hail like bread crumbs. Who can stand against God's cold?**

¹⁸The LORD sends forth the word and melts them; the wind blows, and the waters flow.

¹⁹**God declares the word to Jacob, statutes and judgments to Israel.**

²⁰The LORD has not done so to any other nation;
they do not know God's judgments. Hallelujah!



SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:3-14

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight ⁹he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹²so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

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

THE HOLY GOSPEL: John 1:[1-9] 10-18

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

[¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴ in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

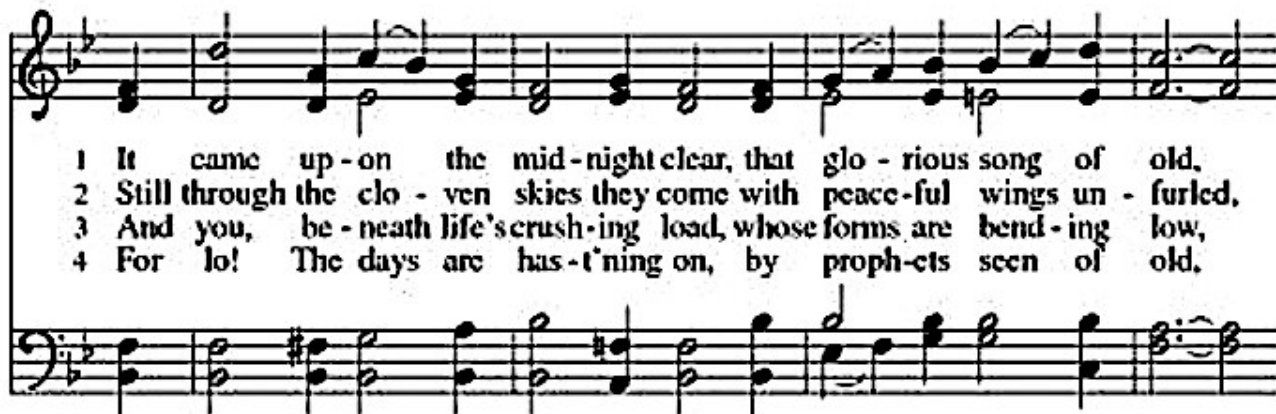
⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸ He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹ The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.]

¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹² But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

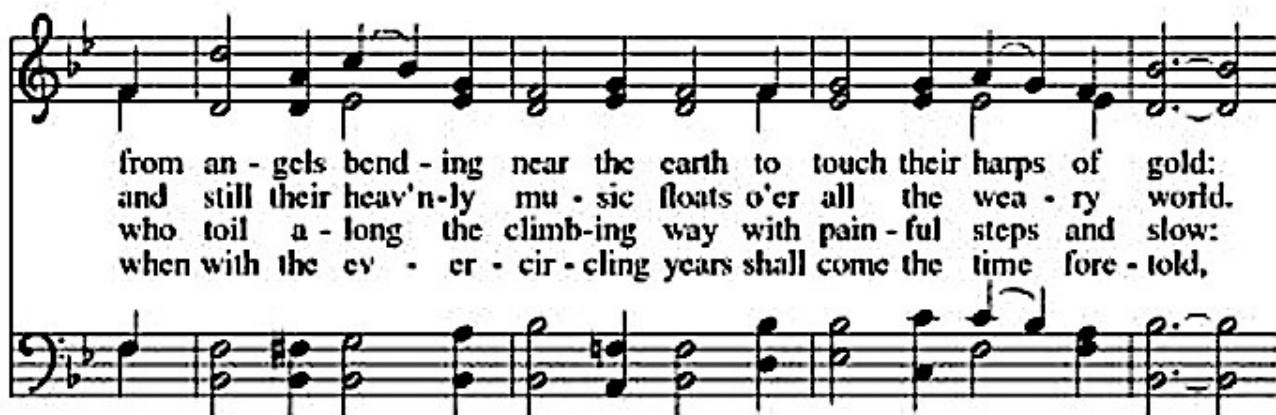
¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵ (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") ¹⁶ From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷ The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

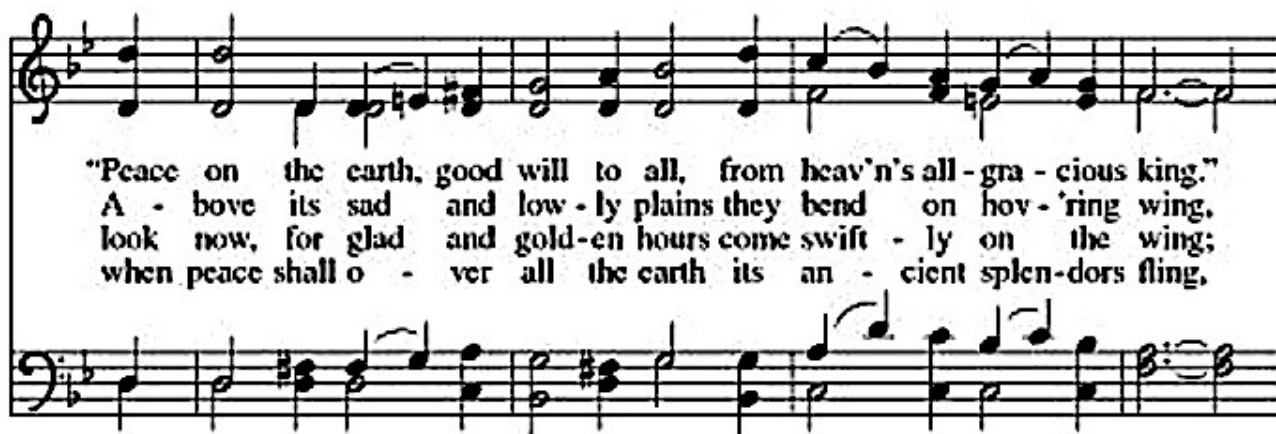
HYMN OF THE DAY: It Came upon the Midnight Clear



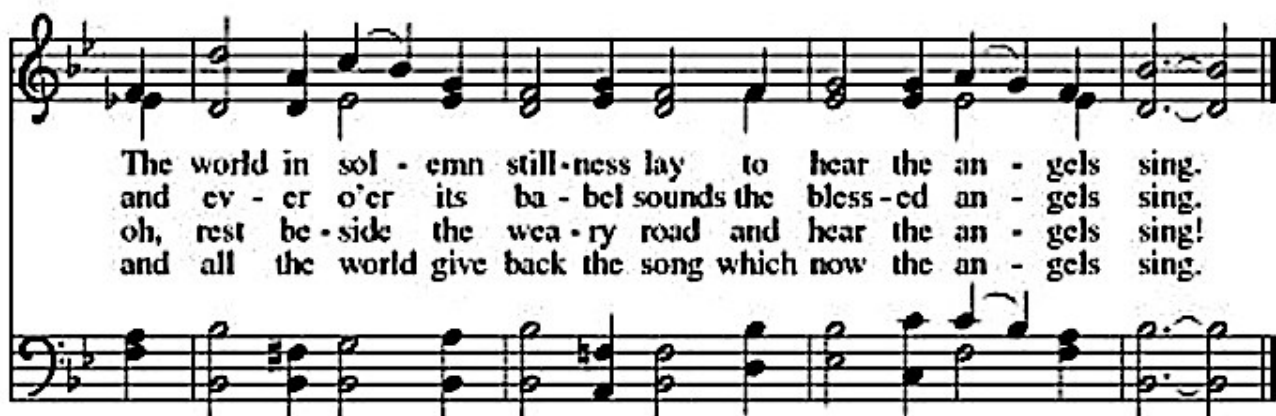
1 It came up - on the mid - night clear, that glo - rious song of old,
2 Still through the clo - ven skies they come with peace - ful wings un - furled,
3 And you, be - neath life's crush - ing load, whose forms are bend - ing low,
4 For lo! The days are has - t'ning on, by proph - ets seen of old,



from an - gels bend - ing near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
and still their heav'n - ly mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world.
who toil a - long the climb - ing way with pain - ful steps and slow:
when with the ev - er - cir - cling years shall come the time fore - told,



"Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heav'n's all - gra - cious king."
A - bove its sad and low - ly plains they bend on hov - 'ring wing,
look now, for glad and gold - en hours come swift - ly on the wing;
when peace shall o - ver all the earth its an - cient splen - dors fling,



The world in sol - emn still - ness lay to hear the an - gels sing.
and ev - er o'er its ba - bel sounds the bless - ed an - gels sing.
oh, rest be - side the wea - ry road and hear the an - gels sing!
and all the world give back the song which now the an - gels sing.

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.

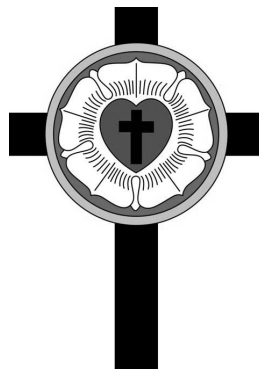
PRAYER OF THE CHURCH: Response: Receive our prayer.

SHARING OF THE PEACE:

SPECIAL MUSIC: Choir: Carol of the Bells

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.**



C Am Em Bb/F Dm

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our

G C Em Am

cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the

Bb Dm G Dm F/G G C

seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.

Em Am Em Amaj D G Amaj

Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the

D Am D G Am Em

prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your

Bb/F Dm G C Em F C/G Bm Emaj

pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.



ALL: God of heaven and earth, from the beginning, you have called forth life, in which you take delight. The trees, the fields, and the seas sing for joy. Bless now these gifts, received from your bounty, that we may join the chorus of creation to tell of your salvation from day to day. 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:



Chorus: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, 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, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The melody is supported by a series of chords: E, B/D#, C#m, E/B, A, F#m, B, E/G#, C#m, A, F#m, B, B7, E/G#, C#m, E/B, B7, E, F#m, E/G#, E7/G#, A, F#m, G#m, A2, E/B, E/G#, C#m, A, F#m, E/G#, C#m, E/B, B7, E.

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

The musical score for "The Lord's Prayer" is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "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, Lamb of God." The chords are indicated above the notes.

A Em G D A Em

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have

C G A Em G D

mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the

A Em C G A Em G D

world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the

F#sus F#m Esus E G D A

world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION



COMMUNION HYMN: What Feast of Love



What feast of love is of-fered here, what ban-quet come from heav - en?

What wine of love is of-fered here, what crim-son drink from heav - en?



What food of ev - er - last-ing life, what gra - cious gift is giv - en?

What stream of ev - er - last-ing life, what pre - cious blood is giv - en?



This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heav - en.

This, this is Christ the king, the sweet - est wine of heav - en.



Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the man - na giv - en!

Oh, taste and see and sing! The Son of God is giv - en!



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

Merciful God, we thank you for Jesus, who is our heavenly food. Strengthened by this goodness, send us forth to announce your peace, comfort the afflicted, and share the good news of great joy. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

The God of love, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, lavish you with grace, illumine your path, and increase your joy, today and always. **Amen.**

RECESSIONAL HYMN: Let Us Unite to Celebrate God's Coming to Humankind

Cuban Folksong



1. The hills re - sound! The trum - pets sound, the Word has en - tered the
 2. To Jew and Greek, to slave and free, to young and old — now
 3. The man - ger boy, the Christ of joy, has come to fin - ish what



hu - man mind. So let us u - nite to cel - e - brate God's com - ing to hu - man -
 all com - bined.
 God de - signed.



kind! The world has wait - ed long. Now the an - gels have sung their song. So



let us u - nite to cel - e - brate God's com - ing to hu - man - kind! The



world has wait - ed long. Now the an - gels have sung their song. So



let us u - nite to cel - e - brate God's com - ing to hu - man - kind!

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. The Word of God dwells in you richly.

Thanks be to God.

*Go Now
 in Peace*

SERVING TODAY

DATE	LECTOR	WORSHIP ASST.	USHER
Jan 5	Susan Conrad	Maggie Harrer	Ed Moderacki
Jan 12	Dave Johnsrud	Laurie Feingold	Rick Henly
Jan 19	Maggie Harrer	Rick Henly	Antoinette Walder

FLOWERS

Jan 5	For: Rick Henly's Birthday From: Maggie Harrer
Jan 12	For: Bea Wing's Birthday From: Moderacki Family
Jan 19	For: Love for the Conrad Grandchildren From: Susan Conrad

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Jan 5	Sunday School
Jan 19	Sunday School Congregational Meeting
Jan 20	Martin Luther King Day—Church & School Closed
Jan 21	Council Meeting: 6pm
Jan 27-31	Theme Week and Art Show

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