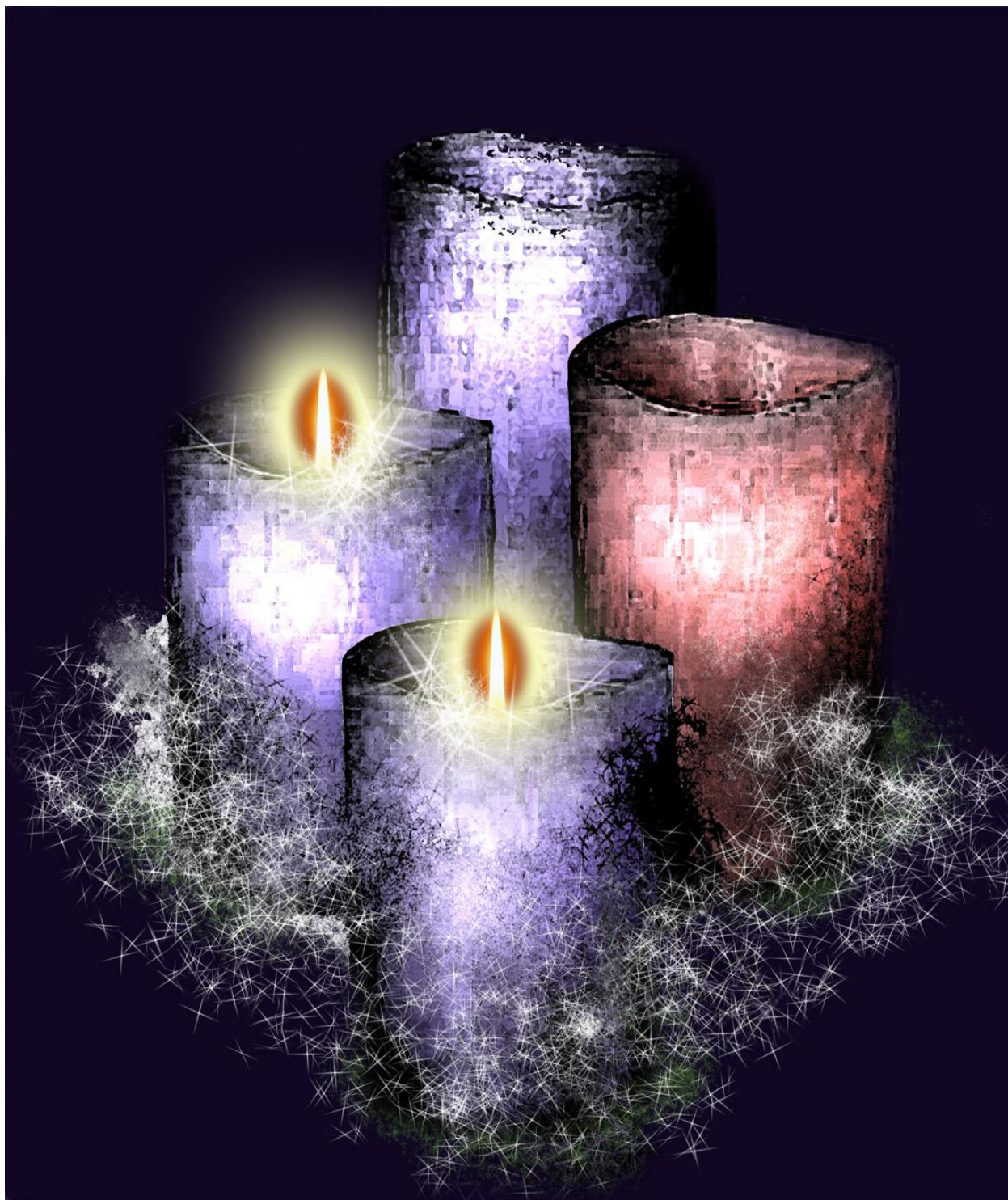


ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
Belleville, PA



Second Sunday of Advent
December 6, 2020

PRELUDE

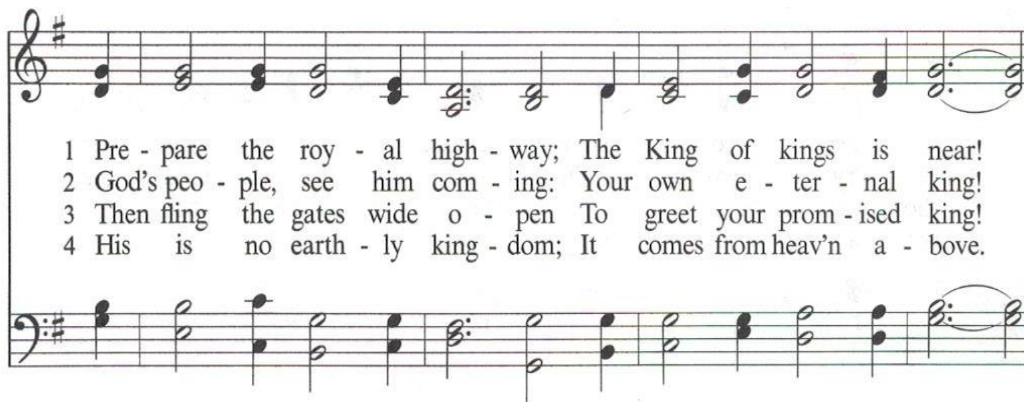
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Again today and through Advent we will be delving into the rich source of advent hymns in the first twenty or so pages of the LBW. The reformed faith sets these hymns aside specifically for Advent intending to hold off on the traditional Christmas hymns until Christmas comes. In the last fifty years many of these beautiful Advent hymns have been neglected or forgotten as we give into pushing the Christmas season into Thanksgiving. They shouldn't be though for they convey the deep need in the human condition for the messiah, the expectant hope, the promise of peace, the experience of joy in all the love that God gives through Christ incarnate.

So whether you sing along to familiar carols or just listen as you follow the words of songs you've never heard before I hope you will take this opportunity to appreciate the faithful heritage of advent hymns in our denominations. Through them we prepare the way for Christ's advent into the world and into our lives.

Prepare the Royal Highway

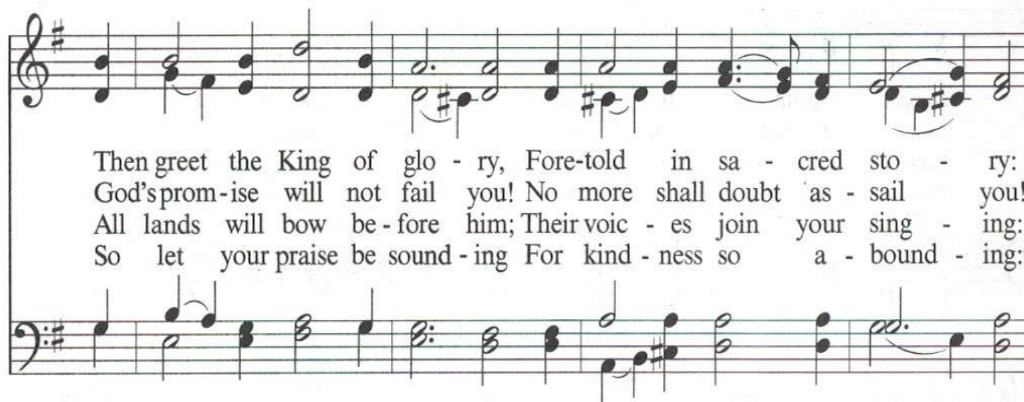
26



1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; The King of kings is near!
2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing: Your own e - ter - nal king!
3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen To greet your prom - ised king!
4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; It comes from heav'n a - bove.



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley A lev - el road ap - pear!
Palm branch - es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!
Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion Its trib - ute too may bring.
His rule is peace and free - dom And jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of glo - ry, Fore-told in sa - cred sto - ry:
God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!
All lands will bow be - fore him; Their voic - es join your sing - ing:
So let your praise be sound - ing For kind - ness so a - bound - ing:



Refrain
Ho-san - na to the Lord, For he ful - fills God's Word!

***CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS**

P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen**

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P Most merciful God,

C **we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen**

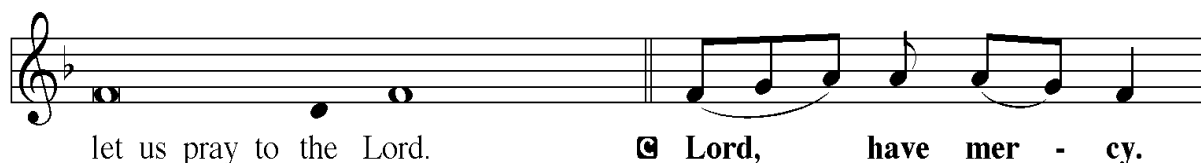
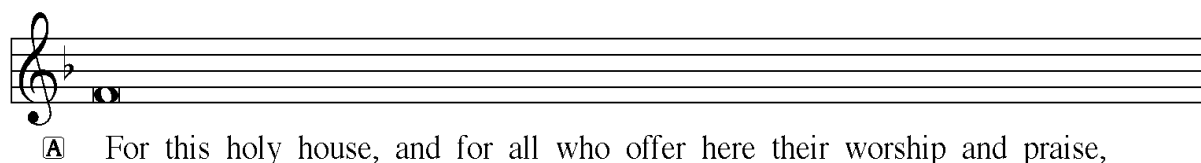
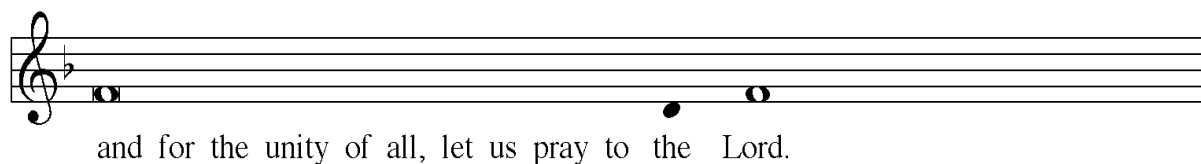
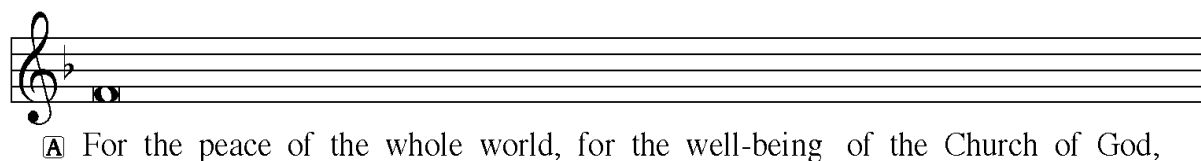
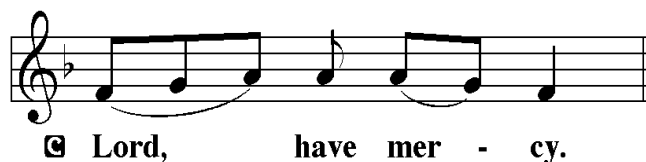
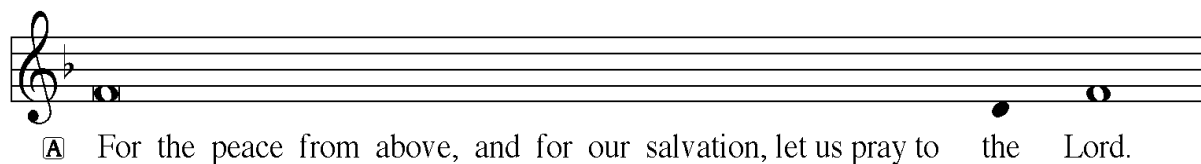
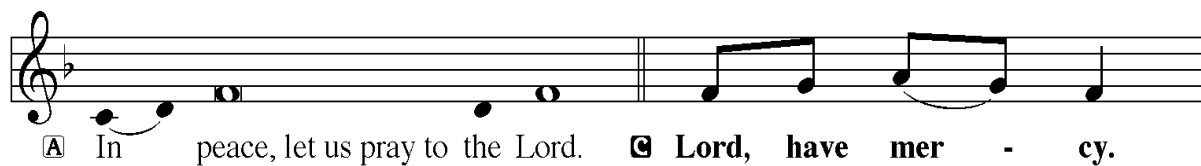
P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen**

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

***KYRIE**



HYMN of PRAISE - spoken

***PRAYER of the DAY** ~ (*in unison*)



P Let us pray...

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming strengthen us to serve you with purified lives; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

LESSONS

***First Lesson** ~ A reading from Isaiah 40:1-11

after the reading

R The word of the Lord. **C Thanks be to God.**

***Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13** ~ *with response*

***Second Lesson** ~ A reading from 2 Peter 3:8-15

after the reading

R The word of the Lord. **C Thanks be to God.**

LIGHTING the ADVENT CANDLES

Heavenly Father, You are the God who gives us peace. This second week of Advent causes us to remember that because of Jesus, regardless of our circumstances or our situations, you offer us peace that passes understanding. Keep us in perfect peace as we stay alert to Hope and the truth of your powerful love.

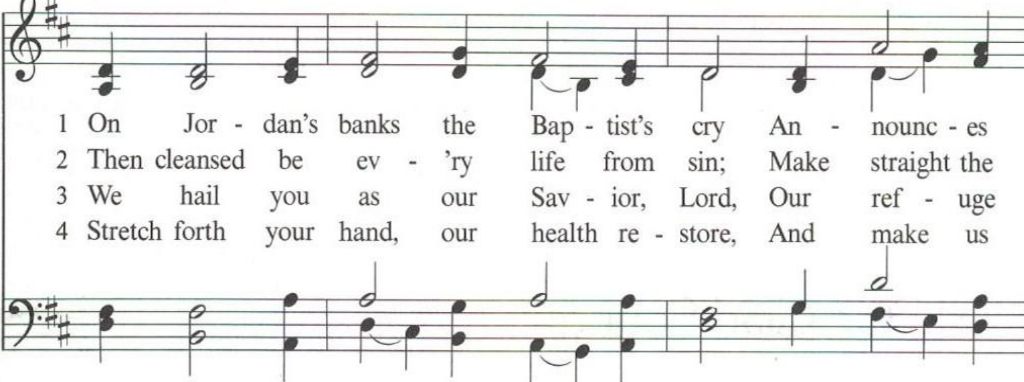
We lift the light of Hope

We lift the light of Peace.

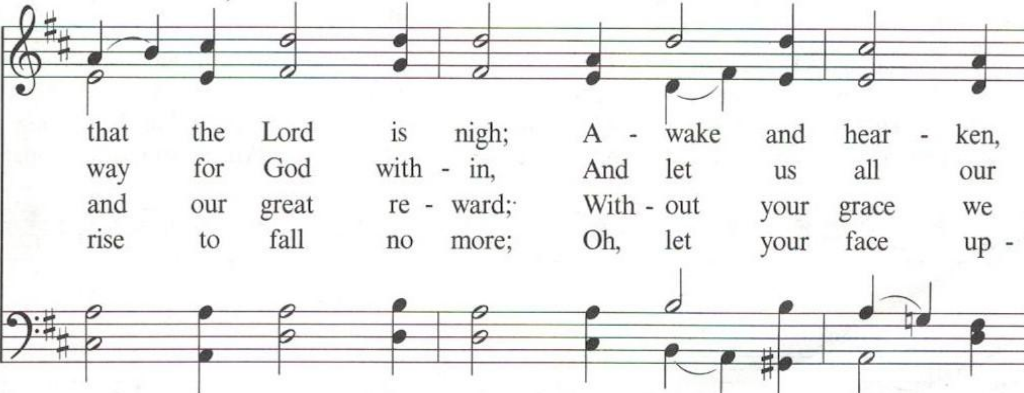
(If you are lighting candles of an Advent Wreath at home you will light the second purple candle today.)

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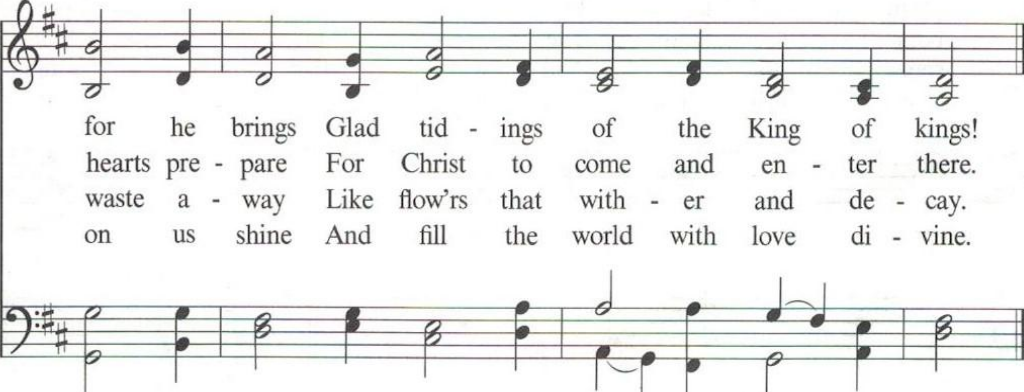
On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry



1 On Jor - dan's banks the Bap - tist's cry An - nounc - es
 2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; Make straight the
 3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, Our ref - uge
 4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, And make us



that the Lord is nigh; A - wake and hear - ken,
 way for God with - in, And let us all our
 and our great re - ward; With - out your grace we
 rise to fall no more; Oh, let your face up -



for he brings Glad tid - ings of the King of kings!
 hearts pre - pare For Christ to come and en - ter there.
 waste a - way Like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
 on us shine And fill the world with love di - vine.

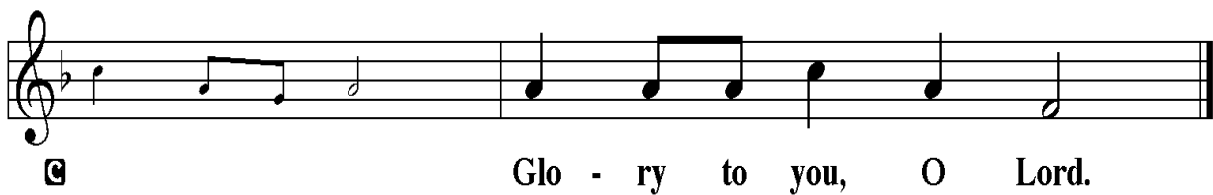
- 5 All praise to you, eternal Son,
 Whose advent has our freedom won,
 Whom with the Father we adore,
 And Holy Spirit, evermore.

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.

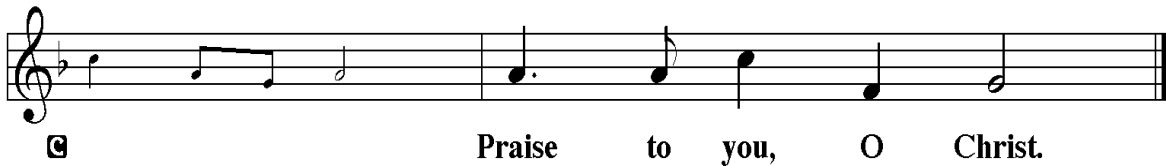
Gospel Reading ~ P The Holy Gospel according to Mark the 1st chapter.



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

The Gospel is read. After the reading

P The Gospel of the Lord



Praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE

Go Tell It on the Mountain

70

Refrain

Go tell it on the moun - tain, O-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;

Go tell it on the moun - tain That Je - sus Christ is born!

1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing O'er si - lent flocks by night, Be -
2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled When, lo, a - bove the earth Rang
3 Down in a lone - ly man-ger The hum - ble Christ was born; And

Refrain

hold, through-out the heav-ens There shone a ho - ly light.
out the an - gel cho - rus That hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
God sent us sal - va - tion That bless - ed Christ-mas morn.

***APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.*
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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 the PEOPLE ~ See Celebrate**

P God of power and might, comfort your people and come quickly to this weary world. Hear our prayers for everyone in need.
A brief silence.

***PEACE**

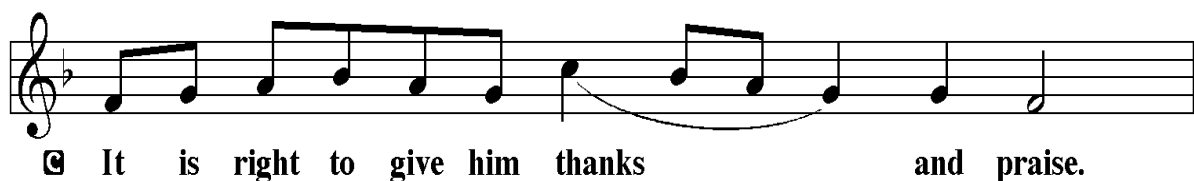
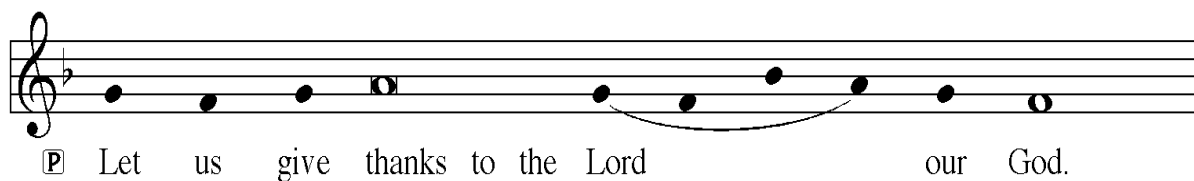
P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C **And also with you.**
The peace is shared

OFFERING ~ Your gifts may given to the volunteers or mailed to the church office.

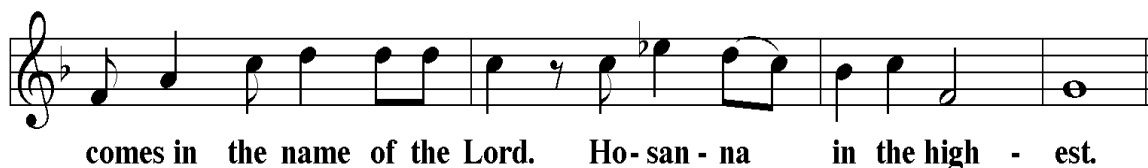
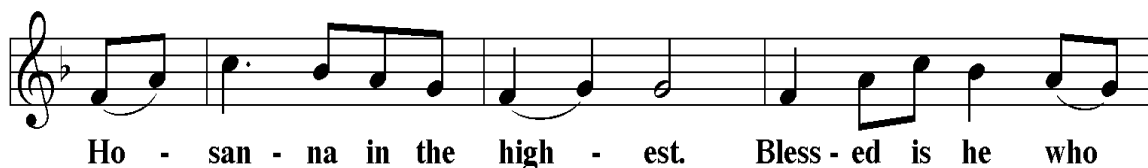
***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

P Let us pray. Merciful Father,
C **we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us--ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

***GREAT THANKSGIVING** *(spoken)*



The Preface for Advent



P 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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Jesus taught us:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom
come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day
our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who
trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from
evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever
and ever. Amen

COMMUNION PRAYER

P Let us pray.

P We give you thanks, almighty God, that you refresh us through
the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy
you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in
fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

COMMUNION.

**Please open and take the Bread and Wine provided for you. We will conclude with
our Advent Communion Hymn.**

P The Bread of Life: the body of Christ, given for you; The Cup of the Covenant: the blood of
Christ, shed for you.

P May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you
and keep you in his grace.

C Amen.

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

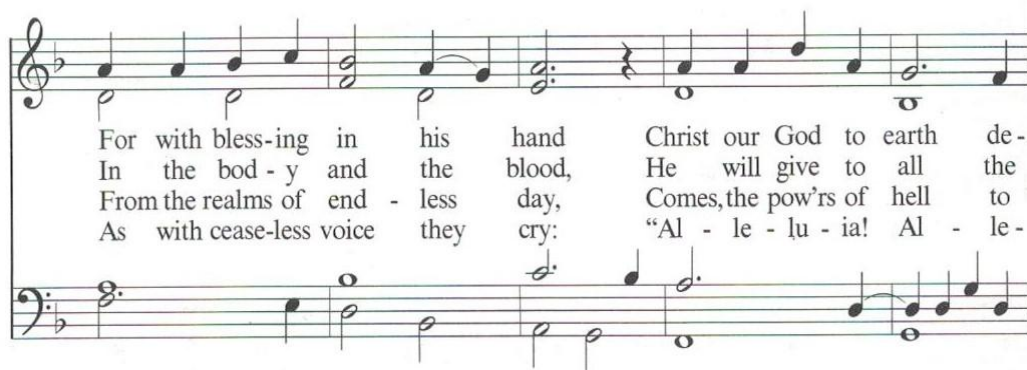
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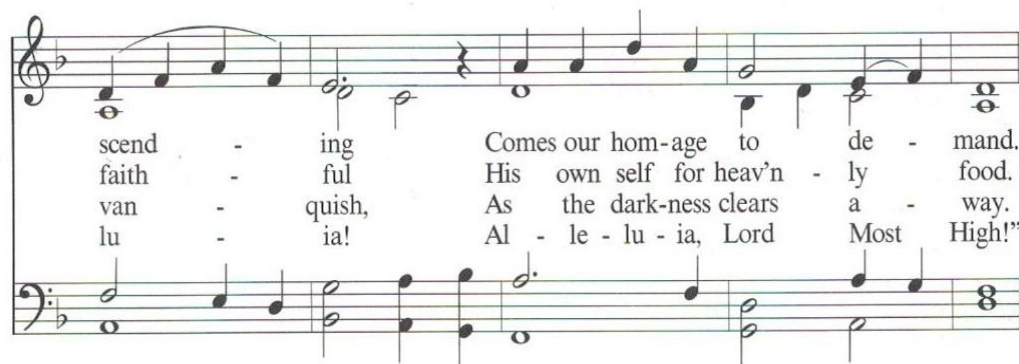
1 Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence, And with fear and
 2 King of kings, yet born of Mar - y, As of old on
 3 Rank on rank the host of heav - en Spreads its van-guard
 4 At his feet the six - winged ser - aph, Cher - u - bim with



trem - bling stand; Pon - der noth - ing earth - ly - mind - ed,
 earth he stood, Lord of lords in hu - man ves - ture,
 on the way; As the Light of light, de - scend - ing
 sleep - less eye, Veil their fac - es to the pres - ence,



For with bless - ing in his hand Christ our God to earth de -
 In the bod - y and the blood, He will give to all the
 From the realms of end - less day, Comes, the pow'rs of hell to
 As with cease - less voice they cry: "Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -



scend - ing Comes our hom - age to de - mand.
 faith - ful His own self for heav'n - ly food.
 van - quish, As the dark - ness clears a - way.
 lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High!"

***BLESSING**

P Almighty God, Father, +Son and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C Amen

DISMISSAL

P Go in Peace. Serve the Lord

R Thanks be to God

POSTLUDE: Carols

If you have favorite carols you would like to hear or sing along with during our prelude and postlude please let Pastor Ela and Susie know; you may leave a note with the greeters or let Kelly know during the week.

Pastor: Reverend Ela J. Robertson Phone 740-338-7123

Organist: Seulki Susie Yoo

Church Office: 935-2032 Email us at stjohnco@embarqmail.com

St. John's Christian Day Care: 935-2959

Our Mission Statement

We, the members of St. John's congregation, promise to share the good news of Jesus Christ, to worship and to love one another in our homes, church, community and the world.

Our Vision Statement

To be people who are welcoming and encourage God's love in our community through our prayer, devotion, benevolence and deeds.

Today

Greeter: Volunteer Needed; Lay Reader: Jami Zook

Next Sunday, December 6

Greeter: Jim Buchanan; **Lay Reader:** Jim Buchanan

The Altar Flowers in St. John's are given to the Glory of God by Jami Zook and family in loving memory of John P. Zook.

Please remember in prayer ~ Vivian Plank, Fred Hagemeyer, Kim Aumiller, Ev Young, Samantha Smith, our members ~ Betty Harmon (Elmcroft), Carol Yoder and Betty Smith.

Announcements

Council will be meeting this week to decide on how to move forward with upcoming worship services. The *Good Shepherds* will be contacting members with updates.

St. John's has Meals on Wheels the first 2 weeks in January. The following desserts are needed: Tuesday, January 5th 4 ~ 9x12 pans of Apple Crisp; Thursday, January 7th 4 ~ Angel Food cakes; Tuesday, January 12th Money to purchase pies and Thursday, January 14th 4 ~ chocolate cakes with peanut butter icing. If you can help provide any of these, please contact Sue Lynch 935-2013, the church office (2032) or sign-up in the narthex.

The Advent devotionals can be found in the narthex. Please feel free to take for another who may enjoy using them as part of their daily meditation. **Anyone who would like one mailed, please contact the church office.**

There are still quite a few dates left to place altar flowers for next year. Please contact the church office or sign-up in the narthex if you are interested.

January thru December

Last week's parking lot attendance ~ 14 Offering ~ \$ 640.00

St. John's ~ Income \$ 398,357.16 Expense \$ 220,836.44

Net Income \$ 177,520.72

Daycare ~ Income \$ 267,144.73 Expense \$ 225,834.62

Net Income \$ 41,310.11