



**A WARM WELCOME TO ADVENT LUTHERAN CHURCH
ON THIS CHRISTMAS EVE @7:00PM!**

**ADVENT LUTHERAN CHURCH
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STAFF & CONGREGATION SUPPORT: BETH PITTMAN
COUNCIL PRESIDENT: BRENT WELCH**

CHRISTMAS EVE

7:00 P.M.

DECEMBER 24, 2025

INTRODUCTION

In winter's deepest night, we welcome the light of the Christ child. Isaiah declares that the light of the long-promised king will illumine the world and bring endless peace and justice. Paul reminds us that the grace of God through Jesus Christ brings salvation to all people. The angels declare that Jesus' birth is good and joyful news for everyone, including lowly shepherds. Filled with the light that shines in our lives, we go forth to share the light of Christ with the whole world.

PRELUDE

"Joy to the World"

Handel/arr. Dobrinski

Advent Bell Choir

You may remain seated or stand.

CALL TO WORSHIP

A Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord

C **Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!**

A I will hear what the Lord God has to say

C **A voice that speaks for peace.**

A Peace for all the faithful people

C **and those who turn to him in their hearts.**

A God's help is near for those who fear him,

C **that his glory may dwell in our land**

A Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord

C **Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, Wonderful Counselor, Mighty Savior,
Prince of Peace.

C **Amen.**

P Trusting in God's steadfast love and faithfulness, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Reconciling God,
 C we yearn for your presence to transform our grief, pain, and despair. We confess that we have not always prepared room in our hearts for your love; we have not always recognized your presence among us; we have not always embraced your message of peace. We cry out, weary with the burden of violence, oppression, and fear. We confess our failure to make room for those seeking refuge; our participation in violent systems that harm your innocent ones; our reluctance to embody your good news. Be born in us today and teach us to sing the joyful song of your salvation. Amen.

P God's grace upon grace flows over you. ✝ Christ's presence redeems the whole creation. Your sins are forgiven. Let the earth rejoice and be glad!
 C Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

"Oh Come, All Ye Faithful"

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
 2 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal,
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;

come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
 born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes;
 sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!
 Je - sus, to thee be . . . glo - ry giv'n!

come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:
 Son of the Fa - ther now in flesh ap - pear - ing!
 Glo - ry to God . . . in . . . the . . . high - est:
 Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:

Refrain

O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,

O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

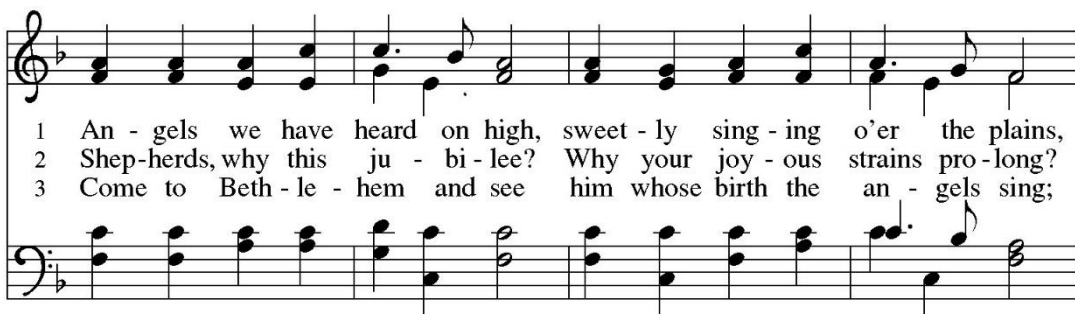
GREETING

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

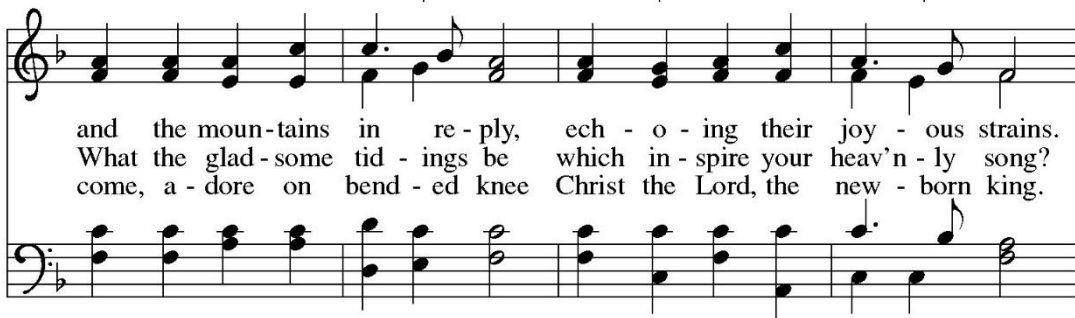
C And is also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE

"Angels We Have Heard on High"



1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
 2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;

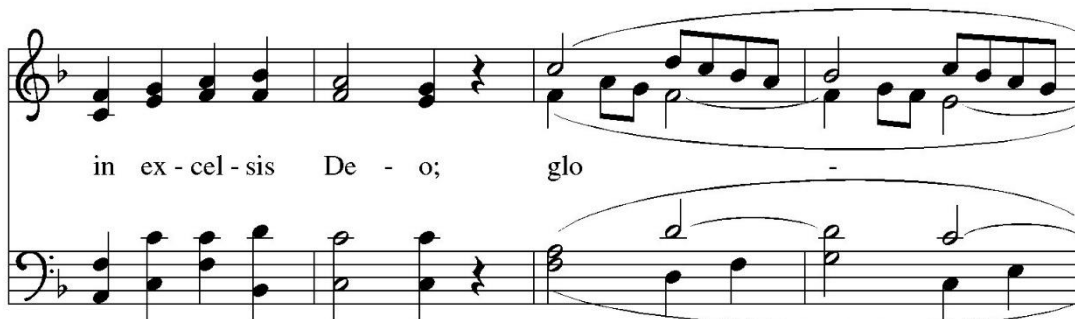


and the moun-tains in re - ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
 What the glad - some tid - ings be which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
 come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.



Refrain

Glo - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo -



PEACE

- P The peace of Christ is with you always.
C **And is also with you.**

Please take a moment to share the peace

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P Let us pray together the prayer of the day.
C **Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Sit

WE HEAR THE WORD

The pericopes readings for this evening are: Isaiah 9:2-7; Psalm 96; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-14[15-20]

FIRST READING: Isaiah 9:2-7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. You have multiplied exultation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests

upon his shoulders, and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Great will be his authority, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

After the reading:

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 96

“Of the Father’s Love Begotten”
Charlie Pforsich, *piano*

arr. Buda

Please remain seated.


GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The musical score is written for piano and voice. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, 'Glo - ry to the new-born king; peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled.'" The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note bass line and chords in the right hand.

1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, “Glo - ry to the new-born king;
peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled.”



Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph of the skies;



with an - gel - ic hosts pro-claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"

Refrain



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

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 2nd chapter.
C Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Luke 2:1-20

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no place in the guest room.

Now in that same region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid, for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them, and Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, just as it had been told them.

After the reading:

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

MESSAGE

“Sure on this Shining Night”

by Lauridsen

Small Group from choir

Christmas Reflections

Pastor David Hinkelman and Anna Layne

SPECIAL MUSIC

“The Christmas Gift”

by McDonald

Advent Adult Choir

Offering is taken and the offering plates will be passed. You may put your donation in one of the pew envelopes and put in the offering plates, or use the “Online Donator” card, found in the pew rack. You can also support Advent’s Ministries by using this QR code:



You may remain seated or stand as the offering is brought forward.

OFFERTORY

“What Child is This?” vs. 3



3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas-ant, king, to own him.



The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en-throne him.



Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!



PRAYER OF PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

A We bless and thank the Lord.

C **All we have is from God.**

A O Lord, receive our offerings.

C **Our love, devotion, joy and goods.**

A Blessed are you Prince of Peace. You rule the earth with truth and justice.

C **Send your gift of peace to all nations of the world.**

A Blessed are you, Son of Mary. You share our humanity.

C **Have mercy on the sick, the dying, and all who suffer this night.**

A Blessed are you Son of God. You dwell among us as the Word made flesh.

C **Reveal yourself to us in word and sacrament that we may bear your light to all the world. Amen.**

“O Magnum Mysterium”

by Ramos

Advent Adult Choir

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

LORD’S PRAYER

A Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

C **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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P God is now in flesh appearing. Come to the feast of joy!

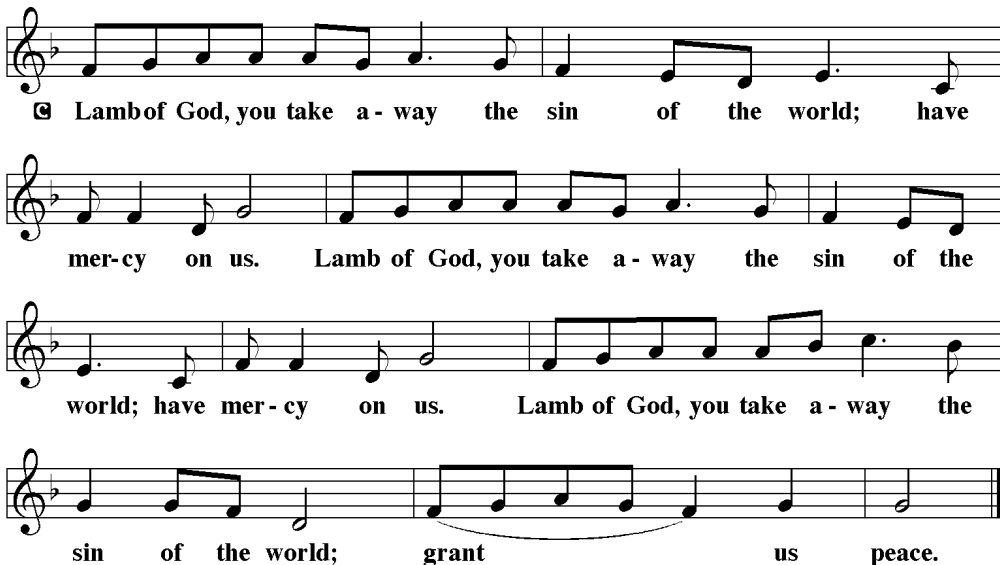
DISTRIBUTION

This communion bread is free from: Gluten, Dairy, Nuts, Egg and Yeast.

Grape juice is available by request at the chancel rail.

*Please place your empty communion cup in the baskets
provided on the first row of chairs.*

*If you would like to receive communion at your seat,
please let an usher know.*



☐ 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.

You may remain seated or stand.

POST COMMUNION

P And now may the body of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and His most holy and precious blood, strengthen you and preserve you and keep you to true faith unto life everlasting. May we depart in peace and may the Lord be with you.

C **Amen**

CANDLE LITANY

P The world turns from darkness to light.

C **We have seen His glory!**

P See the radiance of a newborn child.

C **Light and life come through Him alone.**

P He is Alpha and Omega.

C **For the Word was with God and the Word was God.**

P He is the Promised One of old.

C **The source of life and hope and joy.**

P Christ the Savior is born.

C **We have seen His glory!**

P God blesses us with light.

C **The light of the Child of Bethlehem.**

THE CANDLE LIGHTING

*We sing “Silent Night” **after all the candles are lit:** The person taking flame from a candle shall tilt his or her candle toward the lighted candle. Once you have a flame, hold your candle upright so that the next person may light from yours.*

HYMN

"Silent Night"

1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm,
 2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake
 3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God,

all is bright round yon vir - gin moth - er and child.
 at the sight; glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far,
 love's pure light ra - diant beams from your ho - ly face,

Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in heav - en - ly
 heav'n - ly hosts . . . sing, al - le - lu - ia! Christ, the Sav - ior, is
 with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at your

peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
 born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!
 birth, Je - sus, Lord, at your birth.

WE ARE SENT OUT TO SERVE

BENEDICTION

P The triune God, glorious Mystery, holy Incarnate One, abiding Comforter, ✝
bless you with endless grace, peace, and joy.

C Amen.

SENDING HYMN

“Go Tell It On the Mountain”

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,
2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when, lo, a - bove the earth
3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born;



Refrain



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



DISMISSAL

- A Go in peace. Worship God, Follow Jesus, Serve Others, and Make Disciples, and Merry Christmas.
- C **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

	7:00 pm
ACOLYTE	ANDRENA SAMUEL
ASSISTING MINISTER	CRAIG FORSYTHE
PASTOR	INTERIM PASTOR DAVID HINKELMAN

Thanks to the following people for donating the beautiful poinsettias adorning the chancel area today:

- Betty Appell*

Joe & Stacy Bolzenius

Karin & Craig Forsyth

Bob & Bev Goldie

Dolores Gross

Roy & Jane Hart

The Hinkelmans

Marilyn & Mike Knilans

Donna Krivak

Jane Moore

Marilyn Ollanketo
- Allison Ollanketo*

Carter Olson

Craig Orlady

Norma Pitts

Marti Schorr

Madison Schroer

Waid & Carol Spidell

Bob & Dee Swinehart

Brenda Wheeler

Jean Yarleetts