



## Sunday, December 19, 2021 Fourth Sunday of Advent

### Announcements

### Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,  
who alone does wonders,  
who lifts up the lowly,  
who fills the hungry with good things.  
**Amen.**

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

God for whom we wait,  
in the presence of one another,  
we confess our sin before you.  
We fail in believing that your good news is for us.  
We falter in our call to tend your creation.  
We find our sense of self in material wealth.  
We fear those different from ourselves.  
We forget that we are your children  
and turn away from your love.  
Forgive us, Blessed One,  
and assure us again of your saving grace.  
**Amen.**

God, in Christ Jesus, has looked with favor upon you!  
Through the power of the Holy Spirit,  
✝ your sins are forgiven.  
You are children of the Most High,  
inheritors of the eternal promise,  
and recipients of divine mercy.  
God strengthens you anew to follow the way of peace.  
**Amen.**

**Opening Hymn: Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus**

**No. 254**

# Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

254



1 Come, thou long-ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;  
2 Born thy peo-ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king;



from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.  
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra-cious king-dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art,  
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir-it rule in all our hearts a - lone;



dear de - sire of ev-'ry na-tion, joy of ev-'ry long-ing heart.  
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer-it raise us to thy glo-rious throne.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788  
Music: W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

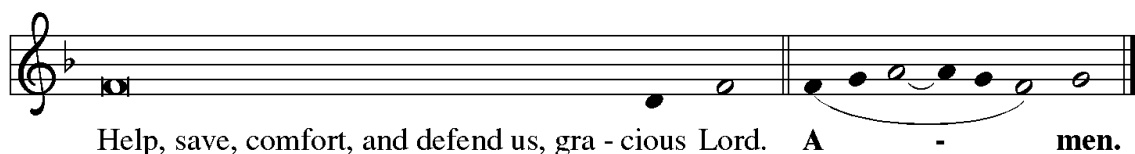
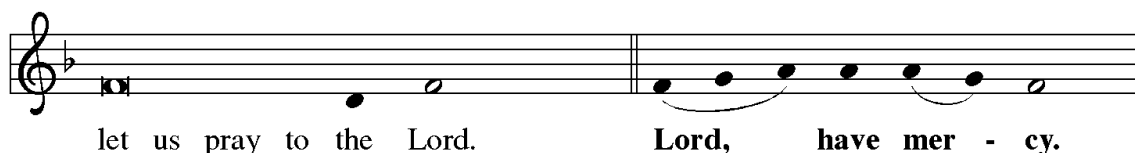
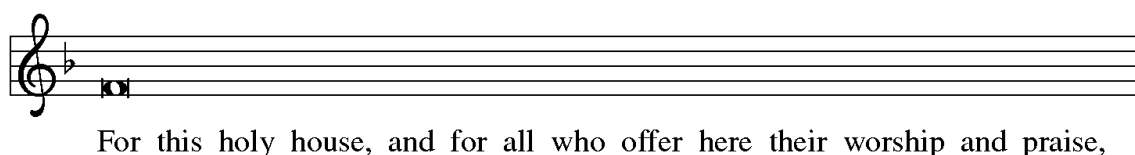
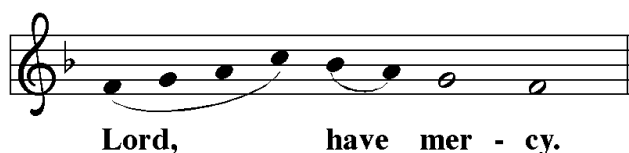
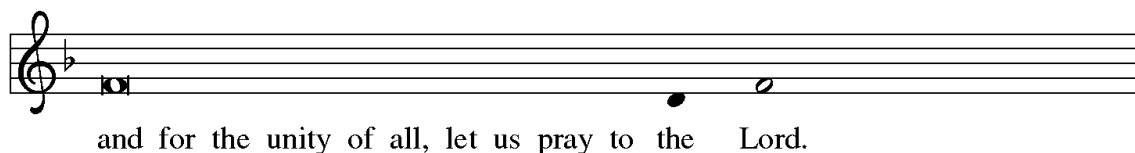
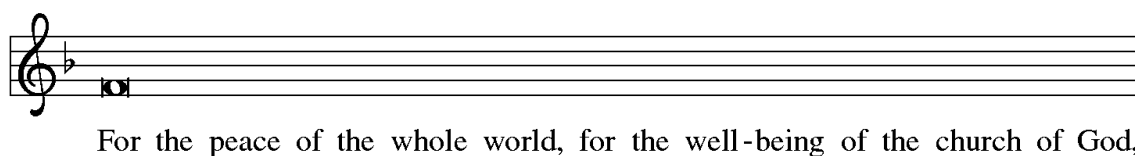
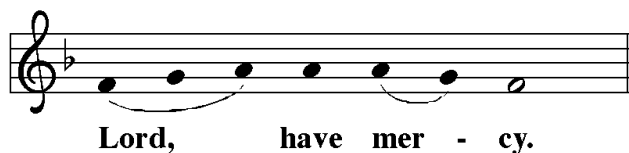
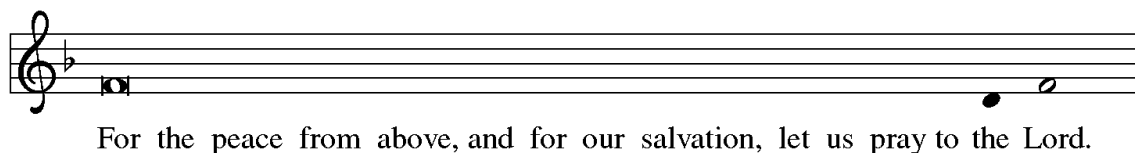
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## Greeting

The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, the love of Christ that guards our hearts and minds, and the joy and consolation of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

# Kyrie



## This is the Feast

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb



who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and



strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of



God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,



glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was



slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



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



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

## Prayer of the Day

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that binds us, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

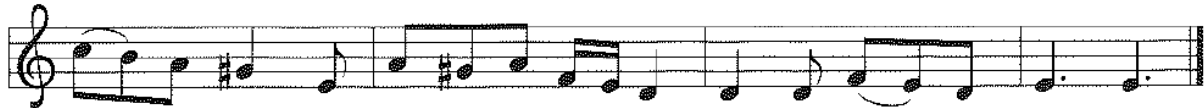
## Lighting of the Advent Wreath

### Hymn: Light One Candle - verse 4

No. 240



- 1 Light one can-dle to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 2 Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 3 Light three can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 4 Light four can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra-el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.  
He shall feed the flock like a shep-herd, gent - ly lead them home-ward.  
Lift your heads and lift high the gate-way for the King of glo - ry.  
He is com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your lights be shin - ing!

Let us pray: **We praise you, O God, for this wheel of time that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent. As we light the candles on this wreath, open our eyes to see your presence in the lowly ones of this earth. Enlighten us with your grace, that we may sing of your advent among us in the Word made flesh. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near.**  
**Amen.**

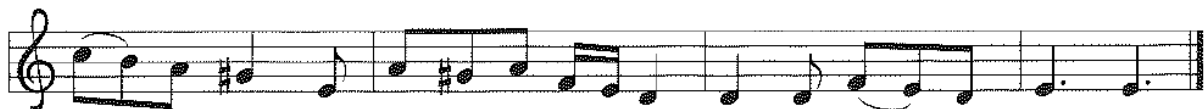
### *We light the fourth candle of Love*

### Hymn: Light One Candle - verse 4

No. 240



- 1 Light one can-dle to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
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He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra-el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.  
He shall feed the flock like a shep-herd, gent - ly lead them home-ward.  
Lift your heads and lift high the gate-way for the King of glo - ry.  
He is com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your lights be shin - ing!

## First Reading: Micah 5:2-5a

<sup>2</sup>But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,  
who are one of the little clans of Judah,  
from you shall come forth for me  
one who is to rule in Israel,  
whose origin is from of old,  
from ancient days.

<sup>3</sup>Therefore he shall give them up until the time  
when she who is in labor has brought forth;  
then the rest of his kindred shall return  
to the people of Israel.

<sup>4</sup>And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD,  
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.  
And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great  
to the ends of the earth;

<sup>5a</sup>and he shall be the one of peace.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm: Luke 1:46b-55

<sup>46b</sup>My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,

<sup>47</sup>my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

<sup>48</sup>**for you, Lord, have looked with favor on your lowly servant.**

**From this day all generations will call me blessed:**

<sup>49</sup>you, the Almighty, have done great things for me  
and holy is your name.

<sup>50</sup>**You have mercy on those who fear you,  
from generation to generation.**

<sup>51</sup>You have shown strength with your arm  
and scattered the proud in their conceit,

<sup>52</sup>**casting down the mighty from their thrones  
and lifting up the lowly.**

<sup>53</sup>You have filled the hungry with good things  
and sent the rich away empty.

<sup>54</sup>**You have come to the aid of your servant Israel,  
to remember the promise of mercy,**

<sup>55</sup>the promise made to our forebears,  
to Abraham and his children forever.

## Second Reading: Hebrews 10:5-10

<sup>5</sup>Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said,

“Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,  
but a body you have prepared for me;

<sup>6</sup>in burnt offerings and sin offerings  
you have taken no pleasure.

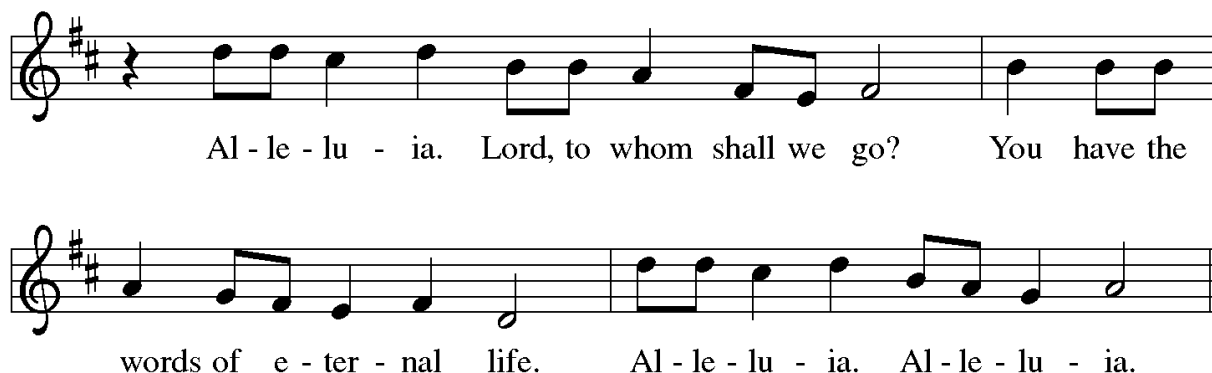
<sup>7</sup>Then I said, ‘See, God, I have come to do your will, O God’  
(in the scroll of the book it is written of me).”

<sup>8</sup>When he said above, “You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings” (these are offered according to the law), <sup>9</sup>then he added, “See, I have come to do your will.” He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. <sup>10</sup>And it is by God’s will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation



## Gospel: Luke 1:39-45

The holy gospel according to Luke.

<sup>39</sup>In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, <sup>40</sup>where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.

<sup>41</sup>When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit <sup>42</sup>and exclaimed with a loud cry, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. <sup>43</sup>And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? <sup>44</sup>For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. <sup>45</sup>And



blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.”

The gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Children’s Message**

**Sermon**

**Hymn of the Day: My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness**

**No. 251**

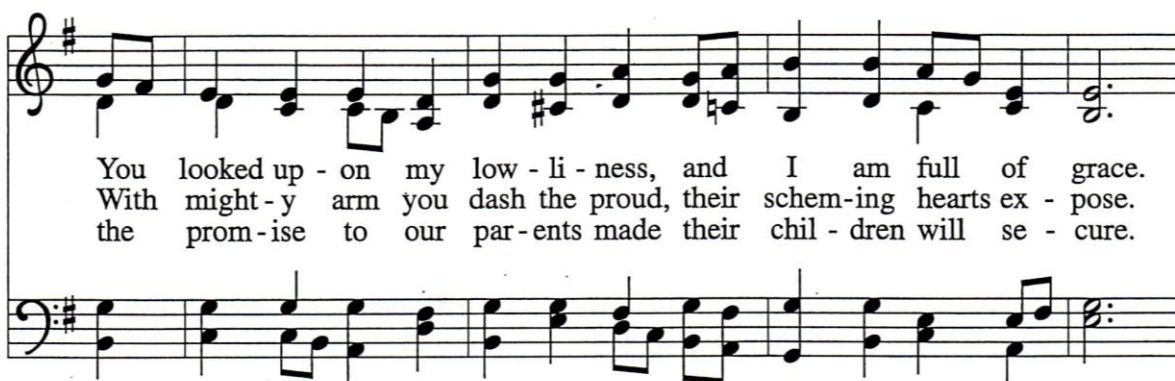


## My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness

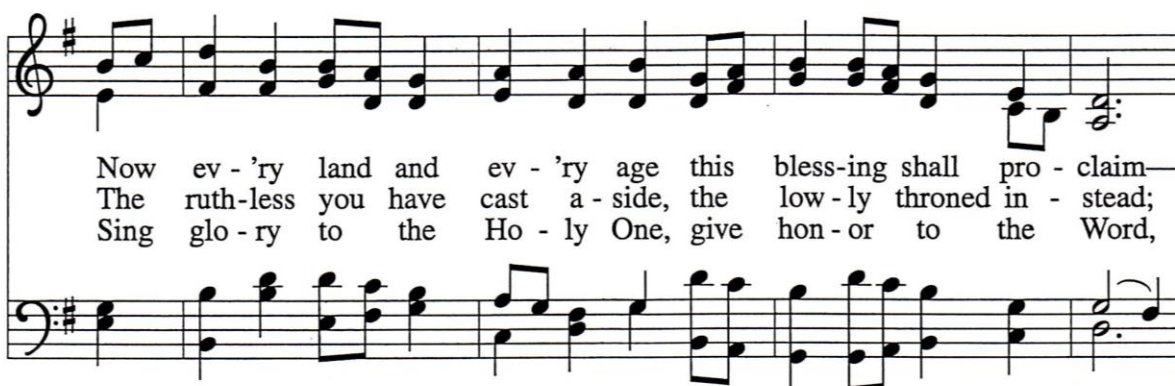
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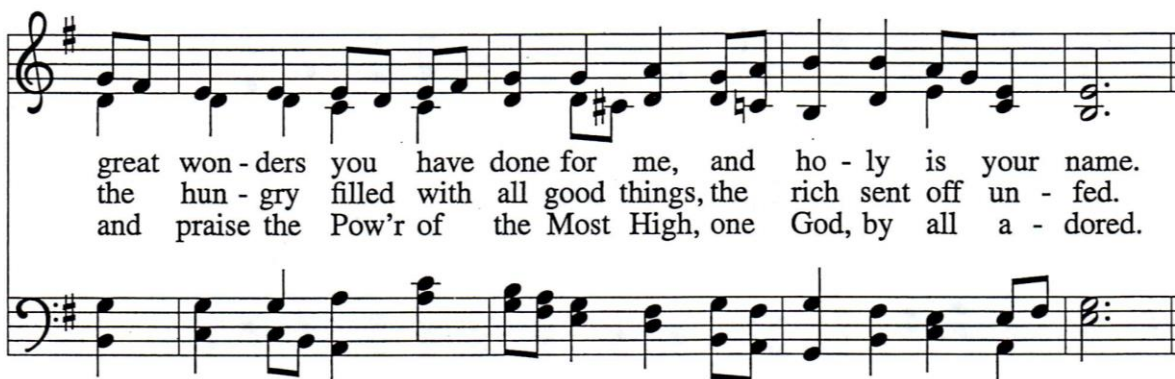
1 My soul pro-claims your great-ness, Lord; I sing my Sav - ior's praise!  
 2 To all who live in ho - ly fear your mer - cy ev - er flows.  
 3 To Is - ra - el, your ser - vant blest, your help is ev - er sure;



You looked up - on my low - li - ness, and I am full of grace.  
 With might - y arm you dash the proud, their schem - ing hearts ex - pose.  
 the prom - ise to our par - ents made their chil - dren will se - cure.



Now ev - 'ry land and ev - 'ry age this bless - ing shall pro - claim—  
 The ruth - less you have cast a - side, the low - ly throned in - stead;  
 Sing glo - ry to the Ho - ly One, give hon - or to the Word,



great won - ders you have done for me, and ho - ly is your name.  
 the hun - gry filled with all good things, the rich sent off un - fed.  
 and praise the Pow'r of the Most High, one God, by all a - dored.

Text: *With One Voice*, 1995, based on the Magnificat  
 Music: English folk tune; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958  
 Text © 1995 Augsburg Fortress

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(8:00) 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 was 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 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.

Nurturing God, you give us life and care for our every need. Use the church's gifts and ministries for your service, bringing your word to all who seek your transforming grace. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Creator God, you proclaim your boundless love for all that you have made. Renew barren lands, polluted waters, and melting ice caps. Make us servants of your creation that brings forth abundant life. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Righteous God, you bring down the mighty and lift up the lowly. Strengthen those who seek justice. Bless the work of community organizers, activists, journalists, and all who call our attention to imbalances of power. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Compassionate God, you proclaim your love and mercy. Show your lovingkindness to teen parents and those who are pregnant. Comfort any struggling with infertility and those who await test results, are in treatment and hospice care, and others in need (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Gracious God, you fill the hungry with good things. Bless the feeding ministries of this congregation and community. Guide us to share your bounty with those who hunger or live in poverty. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Faithful God, you stir up the hearts of those who love you. We give you thanks for those who, like Mary, were courageous in their witness (*especially*). Give us such courage until that day when you fulfill all things. 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.**

## **The Meal**

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 our thanks and praise.**

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, give 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**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as 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.**





## 522

## As We Gather at Your Table

1 As we gath-er at your ta-ble, as we lis-ten to your word,  
 2 Turn our wor-ship in-to wit-ness in the sac-ra-ment of life;  
 3 Gra-cious Spir-it, help us sum-mon oth-er guests to share that feast

help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.  
 send us forth to love and serve you, bring-ing peace where there is strife.  
 where tri-um-phiant Love will wel-come those who had been last and least.

Nour-ish us with sa-cred sto-ry till we claim it as our own;  
 Give us, Christ, your great com-pas-sion to for-give as you for-gave;  
 There no more will en-vy blind us nor will pride our peace de-stroy,

teach us through this ho-ly ban-quet how to make Love's vic-t'ry known.  
 may we still be-hold your im-age in the world you died to save.  
 as we join with saints and an-gels to re-peat the sound-ing joy.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenlities en Contradansen*, 1710; arr. Julius Röntgen, 1855–1932

Text © 1989 Hope Publishing Company

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### **Prayer after Communion**

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.**

### **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.**


**Closing Hymn: Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers**

**No. 244**




# Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers


244




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!



## Dismissal

Go in peace. Christ is near.

**Thanks be to God.**

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**BY THE WATERS OF HOLY BAPTISM**, Declan Loyal Craft, son of Brian and Janet (Miller) Craft is being received into the Kingdom of God at the 10:30 am service. Sponsor for Declan is James Miller. Welcome to all joining us in celebrating this opening milestone in the faith life of this child!

## AT WORSHIP THIS MORNING:

At 8:00...

Interim Pastor:	Pastor Ralph Schibler
Lector:	Guy Miller
Communion Assistant:	Guy Miller
Usher:	Guy Miller

At 10:30...

Interim Pastor:	Pastor Ralph Schibler
Lector:	Jim Bertsch
Communion Assistant:	Jim Bertsch
Usher:	Denny Sessler

December Altar Care: Ann Strean and Sally Warner

**ALTAR FLOWERS** are presented to the glory of God in celebration of Mark Wiedenheft's birthday, December 21, Love Carrie, Tyler, Carlie, and Ryan

## PRAYER CONCERNS

For all directly or indirectly effected by the COVID-19 virus;  
FAITH members, including; Viola Liptok;  
The staff and students of Trinity Lutheran Seminary;  
The ministry of Nehemiah Partners in providing activities and services for  
Sandusky youth and their families.

## ATTENDANCE

December 12: 49 + 26 = 75

**DONATIONS TO OUR “PENNY JUG”** support the global relief and habilitation efforts of ELCA World Hunger, a mission of our Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

**THIS MORNING’S LOOSE CASH OFFERING** (money not in an envelope or given without other designation) benefits our Current Expenses Fund. **LOOSE CHECKS** will support our Current Expenses Fund unless designated otherwise on the check memo line.

**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES** will be at 7:00 and 11:00 pm. If you are coming to the 7:00 pm service, please come early at 6:45 pm and join us at the nativity in front of the church for some Christmas Carol singing before the service.

**REMEMBER THE DECEMBER 26** service will only be at 9:00 am with scripture readings and carols.



**THE SUNDAY SCHOOL CHILDREN** would like to give everyone a Big Thank You for all your support in purchasing the coasters and mug sets. With your support they were able to purchase all the items on their Project Noelle child’s wish list.

**SAVE THOSE CHRISTMAS CARDS** for next year. The kids will be making more coasters for another project.

**A SLIGHT CHANGE TO OUR SOCK & MITTEN TREE THIS YEAR.** Care and Share and Crossroads have a good supply of hats and mittens for the season so this year we are asking for **Seats and Feets, (underwear and socks)**. If you already have hats and mittens, then please feel free to bring them in.

**LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE** is looking for donations to help support the tornado victims of Kentucky and that region. If you would like to support this mission, please note on your check or envelope “Tornados” and we will send that support out to them.

**OUR ELCA GOOD GIFTS TREE** is back again this year also. This is our annual wider church mission support event. Take an ornament and fill out an envelope with your information on it and place your purchase amount inside. Put your envelope in the collection plate and take your ornament with you!



**AS THE END OF THE YEAR DRAWS NEAR**, the Worship and Music committee is asking that you consider joining in and helping with our worship services by participating in any of the following services you can do here at Trinity, Altar Committee, Ushers, Lectors, and Communion Assistant. Please see either Nancy Volmer or Sally Warner if you are willing to be a part of these wonderful ways to serve your church and our Lord.

**ST PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH** would like to invite any and all to join them for their first combined worship with First Presbyterian Church to celebrate The Nativity of Our Lord. Special music will begin at 4:30 pm with the service starting at 5:00 pm on December 24 at 265

Jackson Street, Sandusky. You can then continue the celebration on Sunday, December 26 at 10:00 am.

**NEWSLETTER UPDATE:** Trinity is phasing out our monthly MAILED newsletter by the first of 2022. We are encouraging members to find the newsletter on our new updated website [trinityelca.com](http://trinityelca.com) under the news tab. If you would like to receive a copy via email, please let the church office know by emailing Carol at [trinityelca@bex.net](mailto:trinityelca@bex.net) and she will send you one each month. There will be several paper copies available at the church for you to pick up on Sunday mornings if you would like to do that. If you are unable to access the newsletter by any of these means, please call the church office at 419-626-0204 and let Carol know that you still need a mailed copy, and she will send one out.

### **This Week at Trinity**

TODAY	Communion Services	8:00 am & 10:30 am
WEDNESDAY	"We All Belong" (Narcotics Anon.)	7:00 pm
FRIDAY	Christmas Eve Services Christmas Eve	7:00 pm & 11:00 pm Office Closed
SATURDAY	Christmas Day! "We All Belong" (Narcotics Anon.)	Christ is Born 11:00 am
SUNDAY	Scripture & Carol Service	9:00 am ONLY

## Directing Choice Dollars® and Personal Giving: A How-To Guide

### Direct Choice Dollars Online

1. Visit [thrivent.com/thriventchoice](https://thrivent.com/thriventchoice).
2. Click **Direct Choice Dollars**.
3. Log in by entering your User ID and password.  
(If you haven't yet registered on [thrivent.com](https://thrivent.com), click **Register for account access**.)
4. Choose the organization to which you want to direct Choice Dollars:
  - a. To direct to a previous organization:
    - Click **Direct Now** next to the organization's name, or
    - Click on the **View activity history** link, scroll down and click on the name of the desired organization.
  - b. To direct to a new organization, **enter keyword(s)** like organization name, ZIP code, cause, etc. Click **Search**.
5. Choose **Direct All** or **enter a specific number** and click **Direct Now**. Follow the prompts on the confirmation page to direct Choice Dollars.

### Direct Choice Dollars by Phone

1. Call 800-847-4836 and when prompted, say **Thrivent Choice**.
2. **Press 1** to direct Choice Dollars or **2** to hear Thrivent Choice Dollars program Terms and Conditions.  
(If prompted, say or enter your phone number and date of birth.)
3. A representative will work with you to direct Choice Dollars.

### Want to make an even bigger impact?

Make a personal donation at [thrivent.com/thriventchoice](https://thrivent.com/thriventchoice). Thrivent pays the processing fees so 100% of your donation goes to help.\* Click **Make a personal donation** and search the Thrivent Choice Catalog. Once you locate the organization to which you wish to donate, click **Make a Personal Donation**. You'll then be sent to InFaith Community Foundation to make the donation.

*Thank you to all who participate in this and have designated Trinity as your Choice Dollar recipient.*

\*Thrivent will pay the online processing fees for personal donations made through InFaith Community Foundation up to \$100,000 per calendar year. The Thrivent Choice® charitable grant program engages Thrivent clients with membership and Thrivent Member Networks in providing grants that support charitable activities, furthering Thrivent's mission and its purposes under state law. All grant decisions, including grant recipients and amounts, are made at the sole discretion of Thrivent. Directing Choice Dollars® is subject to the program's Terms and Conditions available at [thrivent.com/thriventchoice](https://thrivent.com/thriventchoice).

