

Evangelical Lutheran Church



December 15, 2024



Welcome to all, especially visitors! It is no accident that you are here! We've been praying for you. We believe God has brought you here and wants to touch your life. You are among friends.

- ◆ If you are visiting, please sign in on our guest sign in sheet in the narthex hallway. For important information regarding our church, please refer to the info sheet in your pew.
- ◆ ***At our 9:30 service:*** words for the hymns are projected on the screens at the front of the sanctuary.
- ◆ ***For the hearing impaired:*** hearing devices are available in the narthex outside the sanctuary.
- ◆ ***Restrooms:*** To locate a restroom, exit the back of the worship area. Take two rights and proceed down the hallway. At the stairs, go left. The women's room is on the left, the men's room is straight ahead.
- ◆ ***Holy Communion at ELC:*** We welcome to the Lord's Table all the baptized people of God. Gluten free options and grape juice are available.
- ◆ ***Nursery:*** We have a fully staffed nursery for infants through children six years of age or children of any age with special needs. The nursery opens at 9:15 AM on Sunday morning for our 9:30 AM worship service. The nursery is equipped with a pager system to help parents feel at ease.
- ◆ ***Photo Release Form:*** Our 9:30 service is live-streamed to our YouTube Channel. All children coming to the front for the children's message or Holy Communion will be visible on the live-feed. If you do not want your child's image online, please do not send them up to the front. If you are ok with it, please fill out a Photo Release Form located on the sign-up table in the Narthex and put it in the offering box.

***Criminal Background Checks have been done for
all of our Nursery & Children's Ministry Volunteers.**

December 15, 2024

Third Sunday in Advent

Christ's presence in our midst in the wonder of the holy supper is cause for singing. The nearness of the God in prayer, in every circumstance, is cause for rejoicing. The coming of one "more powerful" than John, even with a winnowing fork in hand, is good news—and cause for exultation—for us who are being saved. Great joy is the tone for the third Sunday of Advent.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND COMMUNITY SHARING

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

Swope Family

Advent is a time to awaken our spiritual senses.

We stand in awe of your deeds, O Lord, repeat them in our day!

Grant us vision to behold your glory.

We stand in awe of your deeds, O Lord, repeat them in our day!

Quiet us so we may hear your still, soft voice.

We stand in awe of your deeds, O Lord, repeat them in our day!

Make us vessels of your mercy, compassion, and grace.

We stand in awe of your deeds, O Lord, repeat them in our day!

For all of us eagerly watching for your glory in our midst:

Grant that we might have the peace of Christ as we wait, the love of Christ as we act, and the grace of Christ as we speak.

This morning we light three candles. The first candle reminds us of those who find themselves in a season of waiting, resting in hopeful anticipation for God to act. The second candle is for anyone feeling weakened and wearied by the circumstances of life. We echo the cry of scripture to renew their strength and increase their power. The third candle awakens our spiritual senses, challenging us to embrace the glory of God, as we await our Savior's promised coming.

Christ, Be Our Light

3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for
hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone
bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.

Refrain
Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the
dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your
church gath - ered to - day.

The musical score is written on six staves in G major (one sharp). The first three staves contain the main melody with lyrics. The fourth staff is the start of the refrain, marked 'Refrain'. The fifth and sixth staves continue the refrain melody with lyrics. The piece ends with a double bar line.

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Please stand

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

C Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection

P God of mercy,

C we confess that we have sinned. We trust earthly powers and human authority alone. We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.

P God of might,

C we confess that we have sinned. We have turned away from our neighbors. We have trusted false promises.

P God in our midst,

C we confess that we have sinned. We plead: come to us. Bring your mercy to birth in us.

P 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.

C Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

Awake, Awake and Greet the New Morn

ELW 242

GREETING

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray: Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the preaching of John, that, rejoicing in your salvation, we may bring forth the fruits of repentance; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen

Please be seated

Joy Has Dawned
A Christmas Musical
Composed and Arranged by Lloyd Larson

- How Great Our Joy! Arranged with new music by Lloyd Larson
- Joy in the Morning Words and Music by Natalie Sleeth/Arr. Lloyd Larson
- Mary Had a Baby Arranged by Lloyd Larson
MaryBeth Johnson, Soloist
- Gloria in Excelsis Deo! Arranged by Lloyd Larson
- Jesus, Joy of the Highest Heaven Words and Music by Keith and Kristy Getty
Arranged by Lloyd Larson
Hayley Martz and Joshua Brown, Duet
- Brightest and Best of the Stars Arranged with new music by Lloyd Larson
- Joy Has Dawned Words and Music by Keith Getty and Stuart Townsend
Arranged by Lloyd Larson
Featuring the Joyful Noise Children's Choir
- Jesus Christ Is Born Arranged with new music by Lloyd Larson

Please stand

THE 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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION



Members of Our Congregation: Don Cool, Pam Wagaman, and Duke White.

Friends of the Congregation: Anna Batson, Matthew Bohn, the family of Buzz Bussard, Annette Fillmore, Kathy Freese, Wayne Ford, Cullen Gaston, Jim Gleason, Naziha & Abraham Hanna, Ronald Heldibridge, Paula Kline, Tyler Kreiter & Family, MaryAnn Mohr, Fred & Debbie Monet, David & Jannie Moltrup, Jean Rick, Dan Rovelstad, Larry Shaak, John Spagnoletti, Regina Spagnoletti, Susie Spagnoletti, Tony Stoops, Sherry Toomey, Renni Tressler, and Mrs. Viscusi.

(Names will be posted for a month. If you would like to have them on longer, please contact the church office.)

PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

MEAL

Thank you for your continuous support of ELC ministries.

Your generosity is making a difference.

Please place your offering in one of the boxes at the entrance to the Sanctuary.

You are a blessing!

OFFERING PRAYER

P Let us pray. 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.

C Amen

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

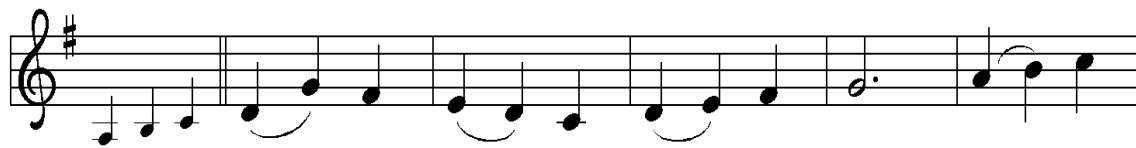
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. Each staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: 'The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.', 'Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.', 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.', and 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.' The music consists of quarter and eighth notes with slurs and ties.

PREFACE

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of



pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-



san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the



name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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

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 feeds us with tender mercy. Come to the table.

Please be seated

COMMUNION SONG

Lamb of God

Please stand

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

C Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Let us pray. 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.

C Amen.

SENDING

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN

Joy to the World

ELW 267

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Cantata Choir

First Soprano

Vivan Hickman
Hayley Martz
Karla Oller
Joyce Van Breemen

Second Soprano

MaryBeth Johnson
Nancy Mace

Alto

Roxanne Cecco
Bonnie Knapp
Sue Mason
Andrea Oslikova

Tenor

Joshua Brown
Dan Cool
Andy Rovelstad

Bass

Gary Biesecker
Wayne Caouette
Kurt Johnson
Jeffrey Mace, Sr.
Bill Martz
Steve Smith
Peter Van Breemen

Narrators

Laura Oslik
Jeff Rock



WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Acolyte	Jayli Robinson
Altar Guild	Pat Radtke & Janey Jenkins
Communion Assistants	Anna Oslikova & Leah McDannell
Flower Delivery	Ellie Bauerle
Greeters	Janey Jenkins (Welcome) Emily Lego (Choir)
Ushers	Team D
Sound Board	Brian Walker
Screens	Karen Walker



*In loving memory
of Brook Richard Tolbert
by Gary & Pat Radtke.*



Evangelical Lutheran Church
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Staff:

Rev. Dennis Beaver: Pastor;
Rev. Drahus Oslik: Associate Pastor
Deborah L. Zacher: Director of Music and Organist
Karen Walker: Contemporary Worship Team Leader
Shelley Baer : Office Manager
Hayley Martz: Office Secretary
Andy Rovelstad: Treasurer
Joyce Manges: Financial Secretary
Cathy Robinson: Housekeeper
Becky McDonald: Children's Ministry Coordinator
Emily Cordell: Nursery Caretaker