LUTHERAN CHAPEL



HEBREWS 11:1-16, 12:1-2 AND LUKE 21:25-36

"KEEP WATCH"

"Praying the Vigil, one looks for the sunrise. Praying Thy Kingdom come, one looks for the Last Day. Are we watching at all?"

HOLY COMMUNION 1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT DECEMBER 1, 2024

lutheranchapelchurch.org (704) 864-6491

LUTHERAN CHAPEL **SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION**

BOLD indicates congregational responses -* Indicates that all who are able should stand to honor God.

GATHER

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCMENTS

PRELUDE

arr. By Gilbert M. Martin "Come, Thou Lone-Expected Jesus"

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Matthew 28:19b C: Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

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. P: Let us recite the gift of the Ten Commandments and the Great Commandment and use these teachings to examine our lives.

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

- 1. You shall have no other gods.
- 2. You shall not make wrongful use of the Name of the LORD your God.
- 3. Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.
- 4. Honor your father and mother.
- 5. You shall not murder.
- 6. You shall not commit adultery.
- 7. You shall not steal.
- 8. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
- 9. You shall not covet your neighbor's house.
- 10. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife or (husband).

THE GREAT COMMANDMENT

You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength...you shall love your neighbor as yourself.

P: Let us kneel or sit for a time of silent confession and self-examination.

P: Most merciful God.

C: we confess that we are captive 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: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God 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.

2

C: Amen.

1 John 1:8-9

Exodus 20.1-17

Mark 12:28-31

3

"The King Shall Come" *PROCESSIONAL HYMN

***THE APOSTOLIC 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.

***THE KYRIE**

*GLORY TO GOD

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

LEADER

C: Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

(In Unison)

WORD

ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING

Light a Candle for All to See

Congregation ~ Hope Words and Music by Lloyd Larson (Please sing when directed, sing the echo)

Light a candle for all to see. (Light a candle for all to see.) The King shall come for you and me. (The King shall come for you and me.) Endless hope: Emmanual. (Endless hope: Emmanual.) And with us He shall ever dwell. (And with us He shall ever dwell.)

(All Sing)

Emmanuel: God with us, King of kings and Lord of lords! Come fill our hearts with Your hope and reign forevermore.

"I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11

Put your hope in the Lord, for with the Lord is unfailing love, and with Him is full redemption. Psalm 130:7

Blessed is the one whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth – the Lord, who remains faithful forever. Psalm 146:5-6

Mark 10:47

Luke 2:14, John 1:29

"Light a Candle for all to See"

Olivia Berghello

ELW #260

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2 Corinthians 13:13

MESSAGE FOR ALL OF GOD'S PEOPLE

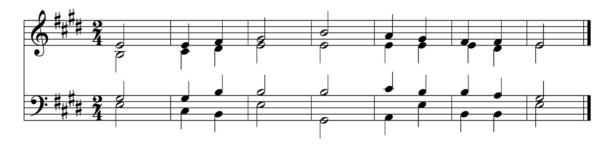
All who want to come forward for the Message are welcome to do so.

FIRST LESSON

JEREMIAH 33:14-16

¹⁴The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

PSALM 25:1-10



- 1. Unto thee, O Lord, will I lift up my soul; my God I have put my / trust in / thee; * O let me not be confounded, neither let mine / ene · mies / tri-umph / over me.
- 2. For all they that hope in thee shall not / be a- / shamed;
 *but such as transgress without a cause / shall be / put to · con- / fusion.
- 3. Show me thy / ways, O / Lord, * and / **teach** / me thy / paths
- 4. Lead me forth in thy / truth and / learn me: * for thou art the God of my salvation; in thee hath been my / **hope**/ all the · day / long.
- 5. Call to remembrance O Lord thy / ten-der / mercies, * and thy loving-kindness which / have been / ever · of / old.
- 6. O remember not the sins and offences / of my / youth; * but according to thy mercy, think thou upon me O / Lord, / for thy / goodness.
- 7. Gracious and righteous / is the / Lord; * therefore will he teach / sin-ners / in the / way.
- 8. Them that are meek shall he / guide in / judgement; * And such as are gentle them / shall he / learn his / way.
- 9. All the paths of the Lord are / mercy · and / truth, * unto such as keep his / co-ve · nant / and his / testemonies.
- 10. For thy Name's / sake O / Lord, *
 be merciful unto my / sin for / it is / great.
 Glory be to the Father and / to the / Son, *
 And / to the / Ho-ly / Ghost.
 As it was in the beginning, is now and / ev-er / shall be; *
 World without / end / A- / men.

STORY OF SALVATION LESSON

HEBREW 11:1-16; 12:1-2

¹Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. ²Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. ³By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

⁴By faith Abel offered to God a more acceptable sacrifice than Cain's. Through this he received approval as righteous, God himself giving approval to his gifts; he died, but through his faith he still speaks. ⁵By faith Enoch was taken so that he did not experience death; and "he was not found, because God had taken him." For it was attested before he was taken away that "he had pleased God." ⁶And without faith it is impossible to please God, for whoever would approach him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him. ⁷By faith Noah, warned by God about events as yet unseen, respected the warning and built an ark to save his household; by this he condemned the world and became an heir to the righteousness that is in accordance with faith. ⁸By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. ¹¹By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old — and Sarah herself was barren — because he considered him faithful who had promised. ¹²Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."

¹³All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, ¹⁴for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. ¹⁵If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

¹Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, ²looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

L: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

STORY OF SALVATION TIMELINE

The timeline below offers an overview of the Story of Salvation lesson from Genesis to Revelation. <u>The + marks where we are now</u>. The memory verse is in bold.

Creation: Fall : Promise : Exodus : Conquest : Judges: + Kings and Prophets : Exile : Restoration : 2nd Temple : JESUS : +Apostles : Last Day : New Creation

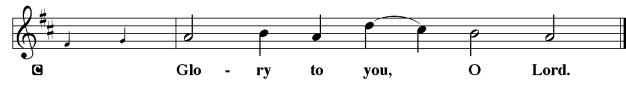
*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*GOSPEL

LUKE 21:25-36

John 6:68

Those who are able may stand to honor Christ during the reading of the Gospel. Response after the announcement:



²⁵There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. ²⁶People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. ²⁸Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

²⁹Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³²Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³⁴Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, ³⁵like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man." P: The Gospel of the Lord.



MESSAGE

"The Second Coming"

On the Great Cloud of Witnesses The Vigil of the Christian Church Age to Age

The Law is an aspect in the Word that shows our brokenness, sin and need for Jesus' saving *power:* So often I forget God in the rush of busyness and worldly demands. I am too often drowsy in the world and not alert.

The Gospel is an aspect in the Word that gives strength, wisdom and hope in Jesus 'ultimate saving power: The LORD keeps His promises. Let us trust in Jesus and His word that will not pass away.

So What?: Put the words of Jesus in your heart and in your home. Choose to keep a Vigil in your personal prayer time one night. Keep a personal prayer list to keep watch on all needs known to you among those in your sphere of influence.

***THE APOSTLES' CREED**

All are invited to confess our faith in God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. If you have not received the gift of baptism or would like to affirm your faith in Jesus and join His mission here, please indicate on the attendance registry and talk to an usher or the pastor.

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life + everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

1 Timothy 2:1-4

AM: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

A brief silence may be kept. Each prayer will conclude: Lord in Your mercy, and the congregation may respond **Hear our prayers**.

Prayers are commended in Jesus 'Name.

AM: All these prayers and whatever else You see that we need we ask in the Name of Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

***THE SHARING OF THE PEACE**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always. C: And also with you.

THE MEAL

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Malachi 3:10, Matthew 23:23, 2 Corinthians 9:7-8

MUSICAL OFFERING

"Advent Adoration"

Arr. by Chuck Bridwell

Matthew 5:22-24: Ephesians 4:1-3

***OFFERTORY**

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.

***THE OFFERTORY PRAYER**

C: Blessed are You, O God, maker of all things. Through Your goodness You have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered in feeding the world with Your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

"Create in Me a Clean Heart"

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING	2 Timothy 4:22, Colossians 3:1, Psalm 136
P. The Lord be with you.	C. And also with you.
P. Lift up your hearts.	C. We lift them to the Lord.
P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.	C. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

***PREFACE FOR THE DAY AND THE HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

Isaiah 6:3, Matthew 21:9

Matthew 26, Mark 14, Luke 22, 1 Corinthians 11

***THE 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.

***THE LORD'S PRAYER**

P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

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. Psalm 51:10-12

(In Unison)

Matthew 6:9-13

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***DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION**

All baptized Christians are welcome to Holy Communion. Here we receive forgiveness, the gift of abiding in Jesus, the remembrance of His sacrificial love for us on the Cross, and the promise of eternal life (Luke 24:13-35, John 6:22-59, 1 Cor. 11:23-26). Please request grape juice or gluten free bread if needed. (Please take your communion cup as you leave and discard in trashcan.)

P: This is the body of Christ given for you. This is the blood of Christ shed for you.

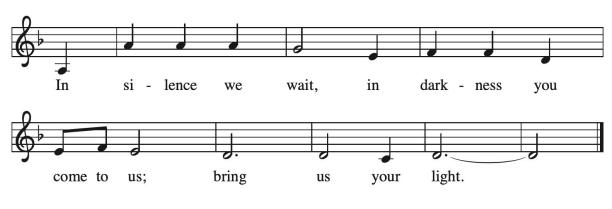
"Come, Now O God"

ACS #902



Text: David Bjorlin, b. 1984 Music: LOST IN THE NIGHT, Finnish folk tune Text © 2018 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

Luke 2:29-32



Text: Susan Masters, b. 1957 Music: IN SILENCE WE WAIT, Susan Masters Text and music © 2009 Augsburg Fortress

SENDING

***THE BLESSING**

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

***SONG OF SIMEON**

Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace: your word has been fulfilled. My own eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared in the sight of every people: A light to reveal you to the nations and the glory of your people Israel. Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace.

***POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

AM: Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever.

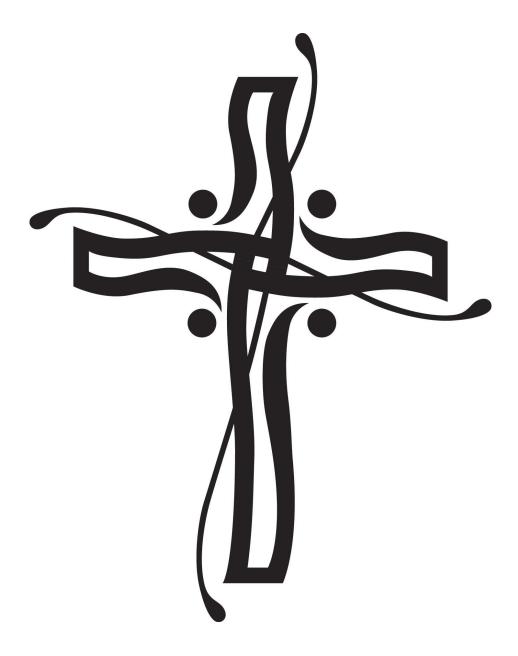
C: Amen.

***RENEDICTION**

*RECESSIONAL HYMN	"Lo! He Comes"	ELW #435
*DISMISSAL		
P: Go in peace, serve the Lord!		
C: Thanks be to God.		
POSTLUDE	"The King Shall Come"	Arr. By David N. Johnson
	† † † † † † † †	

THOSE SERVING AT LUTHERAN CHAPEL TODAY

Ministers	People of Lutheran Chapel
Pastor	Michael Comer
Administrative Assistant	Susan Hibsch
Director of Music Ministries	Kathie Riebe
Choir Accompanist	Anna Gilreath
Assistant Minister	
Lector	
Acolyte	Hunter Clark
Crucifer	Will Clark
Head Ushers	Steve Clark and Ervin Hoffman
First Aid/AED/CPR	Crown Hoffman
Council Members of the Month	Crown Hoffman and Jason Sanders





GENERAL INFORMATION: If your family is in need of a **nursery** attendant during the 10:00 service, please let our ushers know and they will contact one of our attendants. **Restrooms** are located on the bottom floor of the Sanctuary. Additional restrooms are located in the Educational Building and *do not require the use of stairs*. If needed, please see an usher for assistance in locating them.

TO GIVE TITHES AND OFFERINGS ONLINE: This QR code goes straight to the "Easy Tithe" page on the website that accepts tithes and offerings electronically.



CHRISTMAS TEA PARTY: For those with reservations, the Tea Party and Parade is on **Saturday, December 7th** @ 12:00 pm. This is a "High Tea", so hats and classy clothing are welcome! Prizes will be awarded for the best hat, best outfit and prettiest table!

A CHRISTMAS CANTATA: Come join us on Sunday, December 8th as we tell the story of God's dwelling with us through music, scripture and poetry. Following worship there will be a Santa Lunch and Birthday Celebration for Jesus. We will have a yummy lunch, birthday cake and even a special guest. We hope everyone will join the Lutheran Chapel family as we celebrate Jesus' birth!

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: Please mark your calendars to attend the congregational meeting on Sunday, **December 8th** during the 10:00 am worship service. At this meeting, our objective is to approve the proposed budget for 2025 as well as the nominated slate of new Church Council members.

ANGEL TREE: The Outreach Committee will be hosting the annual Boys and Girls Club of Bessemer City Christmas party on **Friday, December 13th**. The angel tree in the narthex is now available. Please take angel(s) and sign the sheet. You do not need to buy everything on their list and if you would rather donate funds instead of shopping, please designate club party on your check/giving. Gifts need to be returned by **Sunday, December 8th**, with the angel tag attached to the shopping bag(s). We will do the wrapping.

ANNUAL LADIES NIGHT CELEBRATION: Please plan to attend our Ladies Night Celebration on **Saturday, December 14th**, at 6:00 pm in the Family Life Center. A wonderful meal, as well as excellent entertainment has been planned. Door prizes will be given to the lucky ladies in attendance. Back by popular demand, Terry Ratchford will MC this annual event. Charles Edwards, Steve Clark, Rick Peak, Terry Ratchford, and Fred Ward will be selling tickets. Cost of the ticket is \$18. Anyone wishing to donate a door prize would be graciously appreciated.

STAFF GIFT: Traditionally we present our dedicated Church Staff with a monetary "thank you" gift during the holiday season. If you feel so inclined to participate, there are several ways you can give your gift: You can drop your gift in the offering plate; you can mail it or drop it by the Church office; or you can hand it to one of the Executive Council members – Jason Sanders, Jenny Williamson, Crown Hoffman, Debra Hoffman, or James Hovis. Please note "Staff Gift" with your contribution. The cut-off for contributions is **Sunday, December 15th** to allow for presentation to staff on Sunday, December 22nd. Thank you for your prayerful consideration as we honor and remember our staff members who work so diligently to serve Christ and our congregation.

2024 CONTRIBUTIONS: It's time to get your 2024 pledges up-to-date. All donations to the church must be turned in by Tuesday, December 31st to be properly credited to your account for the year.

2025 OFFERING ENVELOPES: 2025 offering envelopes for members of the church will be available this week and can be found on the table entering the preschool area.

2025 ALTAR FLOWER CALENDAR: If you'd like to sign up for a Sunday in 2025, please contact Susan Lewis at 704-914-8451 or email sudalewi@gmail.com.

ristmas





Sunday, Dec. 1 1st Sunday of Advent	8:30 am 9:00 am 10:00 am 11:30 am 8:00 pm	Fellowship Sunday School Worship (Sanctuary) Chancel Choir (Sanctuary) Faith Group (Fellowship Hall)
Monday, Dec. 2	8:30 am	Preschool
Tuesday, Dec. 3	8:30 am 10:00 am 5:30 pm	Preschool Clothing Closet Workday Chapel Ringers (Sanctuary)
Wednesday, Dec. 4	8:30 am 7:00 pm	Preschool Advent Evening Prayer (Sanctuary)
Thursday, Dec. 5	8:30 am 11:00 am	Preschool Bible Study (Library)
Friday, Dec. 6	9:00 am	Men's Community Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)
Saturday, Dec. 7	9:30 am 12:00 pm	Hungry Peeps in (Fellowship Hall) Christmas Tea



DAILY PRAYER - A HOME ALTAR ALTERS THE HOME!: Each morning and evening, pray to the LORD. Sunrise, sunset and at meals are times for daily prayer (*Psalm 1*). Claim the gift of God for yourself.

THE BIBLE IN A YEAR - Week 47 December 1 to December 8, 2024

12/01 Morning Reading: 2 Peter 3—Evening Reading: Ezekiel 40, 41

12/02 Morning Reading: 1 John 1—Evening Reading: Ezekiel 42, 43, 44

12/03 Morning Reading: 1 John 2—Evening Reading: Ezekiel 45, 46

12/04 Morning Reading: 1 John 3—Evening Reading: Ezekiel 47, 48

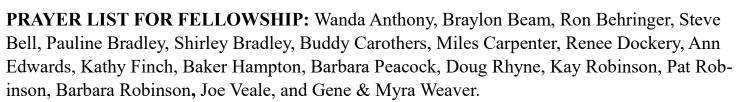
12/05 Morning Reading: 1 John 4—Evening Reading: Daniel 1, 2

12/06 Morning Reading: 1 John 5—Evening Reading: Daniel 3, 4

12/07 Morning Reading: 2 John—Evening Reading: Daniel 5, 6, 7

12/08 Morning Reading: 3 John—Evening Reading: Daniel 8, 9, 10

This QR code goes straight to the Daily prayers page on the website that lists the commemorations and Psalms appointments for the week.



FRIENDS OF THE FELLOWSHIP: John Austin, Kyle Banes, Rick Belton, Kathy Bradley, Peggy Button, Deborah Carpenter, Peter Cleveland, Jeff Cobb, Doris Coggins, Tucker Doyne, Jameson Franklin, Jennifer Hart, Bob Hice, Rick Knowles, Bobby Myers, **Paul Nordberg**, Rita Pasour, Josie Putnam, Joye Rankin, Randy Reel, Morgan Rosser, Harold and Doris Sellers, Dorothy Slessman, Christy Carpenter Smith, Charlene Sorenson, Judy Turner, Becky Van Dyke, Jimmy Watlington, Anthony Wynn and the People affected by the hurricane.

To share concerns and updates for the prayer list you can contact the church office (704-864-6491) or call/text Pastor Comer (704-787-6439)

NEXT WEEK'S LESSONS

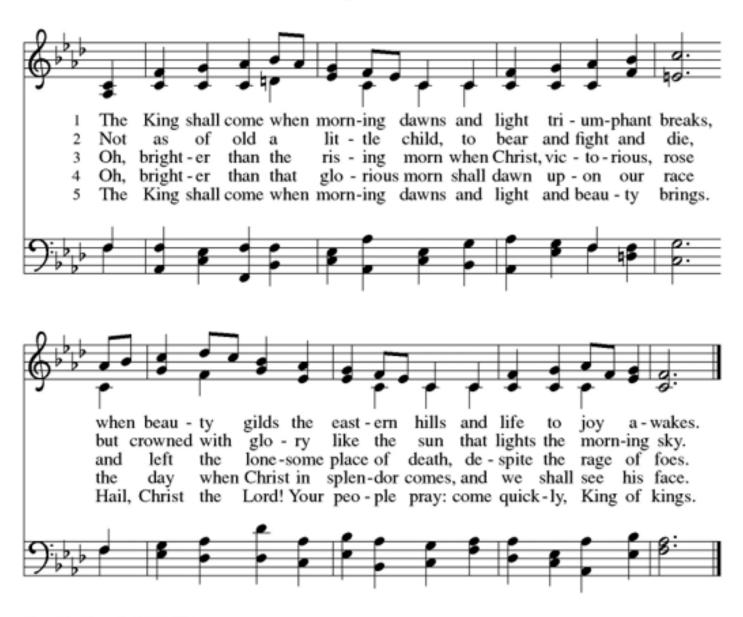
Wednesday, December 4 ~ Evening Prayer Service Psalm 50 "God is the Judge" Thursday, December 5 ~ Story of Salvation Bible Study Hebrews 11:1-16;12:1-2 "Keep Watch" Sunday, December 8 ~ Ante communion Cantata



Hymns for Sunday, December 1st

ELW #260

The King Shall Come

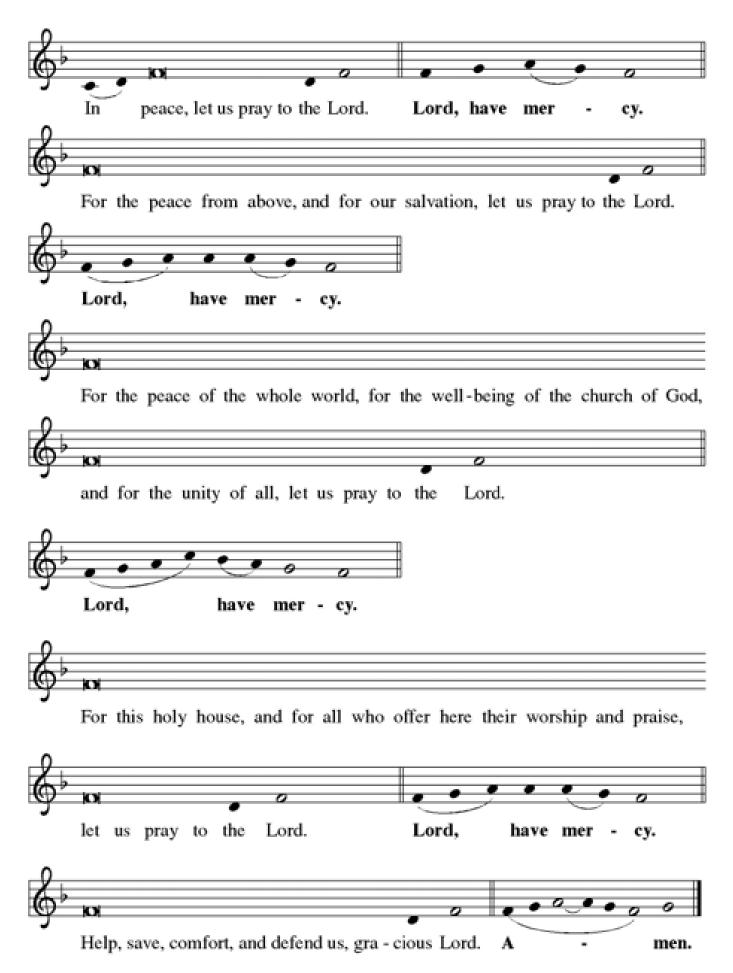


Text: John Brownlie, 1859-1925

Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davisson, Kentucky Harmony, 1816; arr. Theodore A. Beck, 1929-2003 Arr. © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission.

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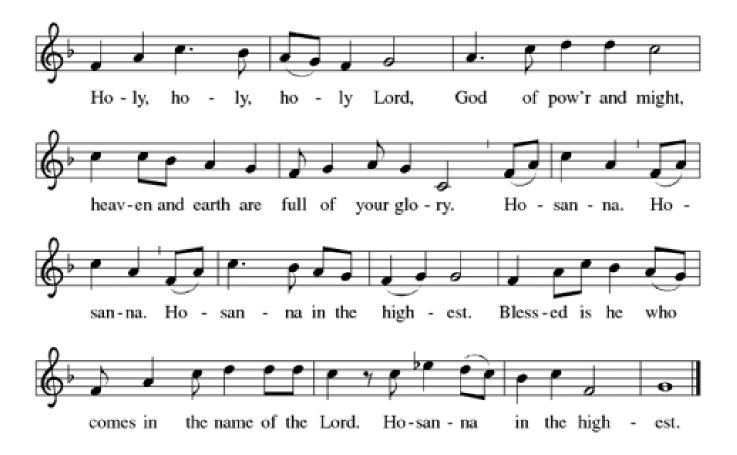
ELW #438

My Lord, What a Morning

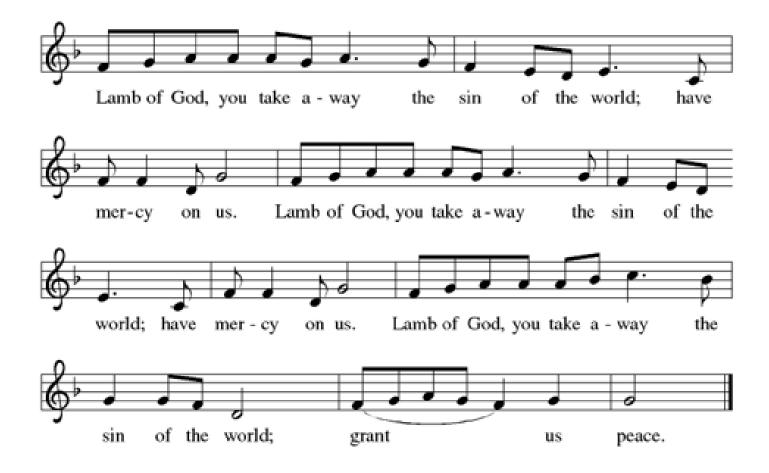


Text: African American spiritual Music: BURLEIGH, African American spiritual

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ELW #435



Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending

continued on next page

ELW #435 continued



Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt. Music: HELMSLEY, Thomas Olivers, 1725–1799