

LUTHERAN CHAPEL



1 JOHN 4:7-21 AND LUKE 3:7-18

"FRUITS WORTHY OF REPENTANCE"

"What does it look like to do repentance?"

It turns out the way of the just consists of very specific actions then and now."

**HOLY COMMUNION
3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 15, 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 ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

“In dulci jubilo”

by J. S. Bach

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

1 John 1:8-9

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

Exodus 20:1-17

- 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

Mark 12:28-31

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.

C: Amen.

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN**

"Hark, the Glad Sound!"

ELW #239

***THE APOSTOLIC GREETING**

2 Corinthians 13:13

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**

ELW pg. 138

Mark 10:47

***GLORY TO GOD**

ELW pg. 139

Luke 2:14, John 1:29

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

(In Unison)

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

C: 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. AMEN.

WORD

ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING

"Light a Candle for all to See"

LEADER

Luke Hoffman

Light a Candle for All to See

Congregation ~ Love

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.)**

Gift of love: Emmanuel. **(Gift of love: Emmanuel.)**

And with us He shall ever dwell. **(And with us He shall ever dwell.)**

I will sing of the Lord's great love forever; with my mouth I will proclaim Your faithfulness to all generations. I will declare that Your steadfast love stands firm forever, that Your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens. (Psalm 89:1-2)

The Lord appeared to us in the past, saying: I have loved you with an everlasting love: I have drawn you with loving-kindness." (Jeremiah 31:3)

"God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him may not perish but may have eternal life" (John 3:16)

MESSAGE FOR ALL OF GOD'S PEOPLE

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

FIRST LESSON

ZEPHANIAH 3:14-20

¹⁴Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem!

¹⁵The LORD has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies.

The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more.

¹⁶On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak.

¹⁷The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing

¹⁸as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it.

¹⁹I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth.

²⁰At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the LORD.

ISAIAH 12:2-6



1. Surely, it is / God who / saves me; *
I will trust in / him and / not be · a- / fraid.
2. Therefore you shall draw / water · with re- / joicing *
from the / springs of / **sal-** / vation
3. And on that / day · you shall / say, *
give thanks to the / Lord and / call up- · on his / Name;
4. Make his deeds known a- / mong to / peoples; *
see that they re- / member · that his / Name is · ex- / alted.
5. Sing the praises of the Lord, for / he has · done / great things, *
and this is / known in / all the / world.
6. Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, /ring out · your / joy, *
for the great one in the midst of your is the / Ho-ly / One of / Israel.
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

JOHN 4:7-21

⁷A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." ⁸(His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) ⁹The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) ¹⁰Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." ¹¹The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? ¹²Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" ¹³Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." ¹⁵The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

¹⁶Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." ¹⁷The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; ¹⁸for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" ¹⁹The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. ²⁰Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." ²¹Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem."

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. The + marks where we are now. 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

John 6:68

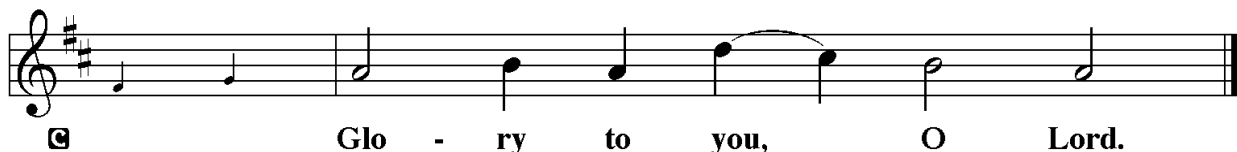
C: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

*GOSPEL

LUKE 3:7-18

Those who are able may stand to honor Christ during the reading of the Gospel.

Response after the announcement:



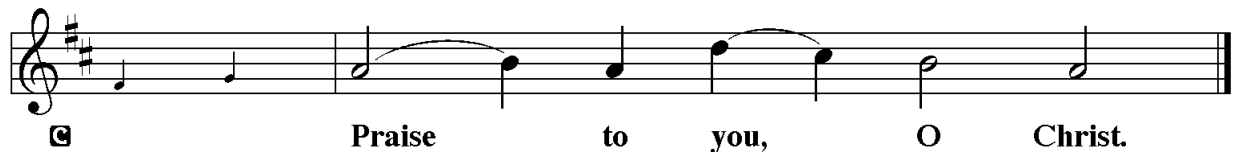
⁷John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ⁹Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

¹⁰And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" ¹¹In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." ¹²Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" ¹³He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." ¹⁴Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

¹⁵As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

¹⁸So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.



MESSAGE

"Fruits Worthy of Repentance"

The Teaching of the Apostle John Do What?

The Law is an aspect in the Word that shows our brokenness, sin and need for Jesus' saving power: I fail to bear fruits of repentance.

The Gospel is an aspect in the Word that gives strength, wisdom and hope in Jesus' ultimate saving power: Hear the good news of purpose for us! John prepares the way. I can act to do what I can out of love for God and neighbor.

So What?: Give. Share. Choose to be content. Trust Christ's love for us and that He will guide and empower us to do what is truly right.

*HYMN OF THE DAY

"People, Look East"

ELW# 248

*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**

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

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

"Waiting"

Thomas Keesecker

***OFFERTORY**

"Create in Me a Clean Heart"

Psalm 51:10-12

**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**

(In Unison)

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.

***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**

ELW pg. 144

Isaiah 6:3, Matthew 21:9

***THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

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

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**

Matthew 6:9-13

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.**

***LAMB OF GOD**

ELW pg. 146

John 1:29

***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.

COMMUNION MUSIC *"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"*

ELW #815

"He Came Down"

ELW #253

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**

Luke 2:29-32

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.

***BENEDICTION**

***RECESSIONAL HYMN**

“Prepare the Royal Highway”

ELW #264

***DISMISSAL**

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

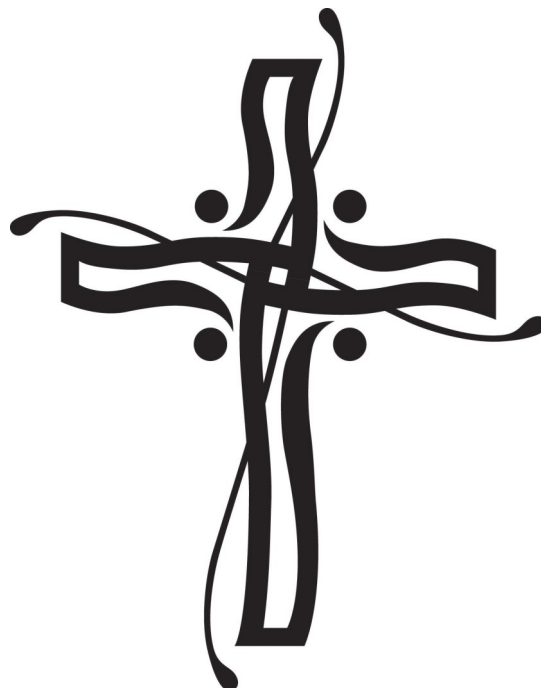
“The King Shall Come”

Arr. By David N. Johnson



THOSE SERVING AT LUTHERAN CHAPEL TODAY

Ministers.....	People of Lutheran Chapel
Pastor.....	Michael Comer
Administrative Assistant.....	Susan Hibschi
Director of Music Ministries.....	Kathie Riebe
Choir Accompanist.....	Anna Gilreath
Assistant Minister.....	Adam DeLuca
Lector.....	Trish Ratchford
Acolyte.....	Cameron Bell
Crucifer.....	Corbin Brown
Head Ushers.....	Steve Clark and Ervin Hoffman
First Aid/AED/CPR.....	Debra Hoffman
Council Members of the Month.....	Crown Hoffman and Jason Sanders



Upcoming EVENTS

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 EVE CANDLE LIGHT SERVICE: Music begins at 7:00 followed by service at 7:30.

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: You can now pick up your 2025 offering envelopes on the table entering the preschool area. If you are a regular visitor and would like assigned envelopes, please contact the church office.

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.

Weekly **CALENDAR**



Sunday, Dec. 15 <i>3rd Sunday of Advent</i>	8:30 am	Fellowship
	9:00 am	Sunday School
	10:00 am	Worship (Sanctuary)
	11:00 am	Confirmation
	11:00 am	Council Meeting
	11:30 am	Chancel Choir (Sanctuary)
	8:00 pm	Faith Group (Fellowship Hall)
Monday, Dec. 16	8:30 am	Preschool
Tuesday, Dec. 17	8:30 am	Preschool
	10:00 am	Clothing Closet Workday
	5:30 pm	Chapel Ringers (Sanctuary)
Wednesday, Dec. 18	8:30 am	Preschool
	7:00 pm	Advent Evening Prayer (Sanctuary)
Thursday, Dec. 19	8:30 am	Preschool
	11:00 am	Bible Study (Library)
Friday, Dec. 20	9:00 am	Men's Community Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)
Saturday, Dec. 21	9:30 am	Hungry Peeps in (Fellowship Hall)



DAILY PRAYER - A HOME ALTAR ALTERS THE HOME!: Sunrise, sunset and at meals are times for daily prayer (*Psalm 1 55:17*). *May God bless you as you turn to Him day by day.*

THE BIBLE IN A YEAR - Week 49 December 15 to December 22, 2024

12/15 Morning Reading: Revelation 6—Evening Reading: Amos 1, 2, 3

12/16 Morning Reading: Revelation 7—Evening Reading: Amos 4, 5, 6

12/17 Morning Reading: Revelation 8—Evening Reading: Amos 7, 8, 9

12/18 Morning Reading: Revelation 9—Evening Reading: Obadiah

12/19 Morning Reading: Revelation 10—Evening Reading: Jonah

12/20 Morning Reading: Revelation 11—Evening Reading: Micah 1, 2, 3

12/21 Morning Reading: Revelation 12—Evening Reading: Micah 4, 5

12/22 Morning Reading: Revelation 13—Evening Reading: Micah 6, 7

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



PRAYER LIST FOR FELLOWSHIP: Wanda Anthony, Braylon Beam, Ron Behringer, Steve Bell, Pauline Bradley, Shirley Bradley, Buddy Carothers, Miles Carpenter, Renee Dockery, Kathy Finch, Baker Hampton, Barbara Peacock, Doug Rhyne, Kay Robinson, Pat Robinson, Barbara Robinson, Joe Veale, and Gene & Myra Weaver.

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, **Mary Jordan, Vesta Lankford, for the family of Suzanne Kendrick Ledford,** Rick Knowles, Bobby Myers, Paul Nordberg, Rita Pasour, Josie Putnam, Joye Rankin, Randy Reel, Morgan Rosser, **for the family of Harold 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, prayer list updates, and any questions about the Bible in a Year readings contact the church office (704-864-6491) or call/text Pastor Comer (704-787-6439).

NEXT WEEK'S LESSONS

Wednesday, December 18 ~ Evening Prayer Service

Psalm 52 "*David on the Run*"

Thursday, December 19 ~ Story of Salvation Bible Study

1 John 3 "Fruits Worthy of Repentance"

Sunday, December 22 ~ Ante communion

Revelation 14:1-5, 12-13 and Luke 1:39-55 "Song of Mary, Mother of our Lord"

Hark, the Glad Sound!

1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior
 2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's
 3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing
 4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of peace, your wel - come

prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -
 bond - age held. The gates of brass be -
 soul to cure, and with the trea - sures
 shall pro - claim, and heav'n's e - ter - nal

pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.
 fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.
 of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.
 arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702-1751
 Music: CHESTERFIELD, Thomas Haweis, 1734-1820

People, Look East

1 Peo - ple, look east. The time is near of the crown - ing
 2 Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is
 3 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the
 4 An - gels an - nounce with shouts of mirth him who brings new

of the year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble,
 plant - ed there. Give up your strength the seed to nour - ish,
 bowl shall brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er,
 life to earth. Set ev - 'ry peak and val - ley hum - ming

trim the hearth and set the ta - ble. Peo - ple, look
 that in course the flow'r may flour - ish. Peo - ple, look
 bright as sun and moon to - geth - er. Peo - ple, look
 with the word, the Lord is com - ing. Peo - ple, look

east, and sing to - day— Love, the Guest, is on the way.
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Rose, is on the way.
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Star, is on the way.
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881–1965

Music: BESANÇON, French carol; arr. Barry Rose, b. 1934

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I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to
 2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to
 3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to

fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give
 look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous - ness,
 be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with

light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.
 shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.
 pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain

In him there is no dark - ness at all. The night and the

day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the

cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934
 Music: HOUSTON, Kathleen Thomerson
 Text and music © 1970, 1975 Celebration.

He Came Down

- 1 He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love;
- 2 He came down that we may have light; he came down that we may have light;
- 3 He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace;
- 4 He came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy;

he came down that we may have love;
 he came down that we may have light; hal - le - lu - jah for - ev - er - more.
 he came down that we may have peace;
 he came down that we may have joy;

Text: Cameroon traditional

Music: HE CAME DOWN, Cameroon traditional; arr. John L. Bell, b. 1949

Arr. © 1986 Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.

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Prepare the Royal Highway

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!

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
Music: BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN, Swedish folk tune, 17th cent.
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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