

In the order of service, the words that are spoken by a leader are in regular type.

Words spoken by the assembly are in boldface type.

For music, the words in regular type are sung by all, unless otherwise noted.

The Lord's mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.

The Lord has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty.

MAGNIFICAT Luke 1:50-53

Prelude

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" • arr. Lani Smith Debbie Hushagen, piano; Susan Bloomfield, organ

Welcome / Announcements

Confession

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

We confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

When our spirits despair and we deny our blessedness, when we ignore the mighty things you have done, **forgive us, O God.**

When we doubt your mercy, when we are proud in the thoughts of our hearts, **forgive us, O God.**

When our power rests on the oppression of others, when our wealth causes others to go hungry, **forgive us, O God.**

Silence is kept for reflection.

Help us, your servants, according to the promises you have made.

Absolution

The ancient promises of God are fulfilled. God forgives us and does not forget us. God's mercy extends from generation to generation. Oh how our souls rejoice in God! Amen.

Opening Hymn • "Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 244



- 1 Re joice, re joice, be liev ers, and let your lights ap pear;
- 3 The saints, who here in pa tience their cross and suf f'rings bore,
- 4 Our hope and ex pec ta tion, O Je sus, now ap pear;



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.

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.

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!

Greeting

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

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the words of your prophets, that, anointed by your Spirit, we may testify to your light; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Advent Wreath Reading based upon "The Magnificat"

Blessed are you, God of Mary, God of might and mercy, for your promise to make deserts rejoice in blossom, to watch over strangers, to set prisoners free.

As we light three candles, satisfy our hungers with your good gifts, open our eyes to the great and gracious things you have done for us and for all, and fill us with patient expectation until the coming again of our Lord Jesus Christ.

O ransomed of the Lord, O people set free, come

as we journey into God's holy and compassionate way and enter into New Jerusalem with singing and celebration! Amen.

Reading Response • "Canticle of the Turning"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 723



First Reading

A reading from Isaiah.

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion— to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory.

They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.

For I the Lord love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed.

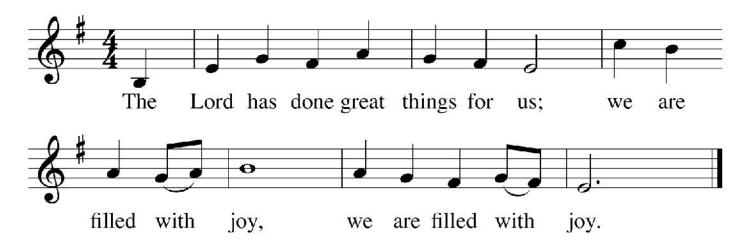
I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 126 • "The Lord Has Done Great Things for Us"

Lyric Psalter B • OneLicense #92945 Cantor sings the refrain first, **then all repeat.** Cantor sings verses; **congregation sings refrain.**



When the LORD brought back the exiles of Zion, we thought we were dreaming.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter; on our tongues, songs of joy.

Refrain.

Then the nations themselves said,
"What great deeds the LORD worked for them!"
What great deeds the LORD worked for us!
Indeed, we are glad.

Refrain.

Bring back our exiles, O LORD, as streams in the south.
Those who are sowing in tears will sing when they reap.

Refrain.

They go out, they go out, full of tears, bearing seed for the sowing; they come back, they come back, with a song, bearing their sheaves. **Refrain.**

Second Reading

A reading from First Thessalonians.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil.

May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

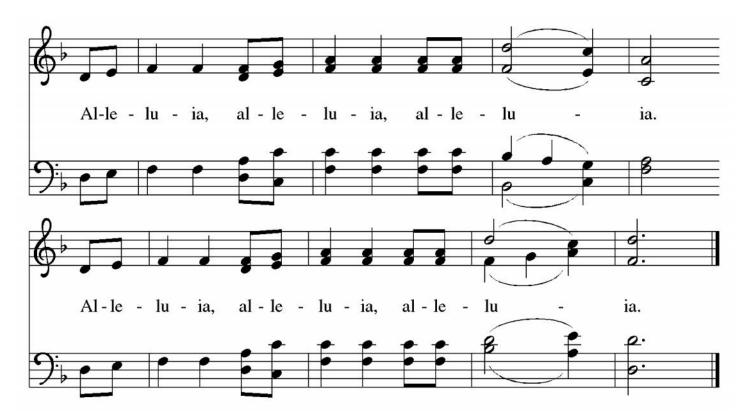
The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 175

Congregation: refrain; cantor: verse.



O come, O Wisdom, mind and heart divine, help us restore a world we've let decline. Enlighten us; your way we would know and show us where new seeds of hope to sow. **Refrain.**

Gospel

The Holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

John 1:6-8, 19-28

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord," as the prophet Isaiah said.

Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Rev. Mike Greenwalt.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.



Hymn of the Day • "On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry" Evangelical Lutheran Worship 249



Apostles' Creed

Together, we confess our faith.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell.

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

God of power and might, tear open the heavens and come quickly to this weary world. Hear our prayers for everyone in need.

A brief silence.

At the conclusion of each petition:

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Draw near to us, O God, and receive our prayers for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Sharing the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Offering Prayer

Dear God, you blessed Mary by making her the mother of your only Son, Jesus Christ.

You have blessed us, as well, with the gift of your Son, and indeed, with the gift of life itself.

Out of all these blessings, we give back our offerings to you this day.

Knowing that your promises will be fulfilled, we pledge our lives to you in anticipation of the coming of the one who brings peace to all.

Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

God is with us.

We are not alone.

Christ is present here. **The Spirit moves within us.**

We give thanks to God. **In memory and in hope.**

Blessings be to you, Creator God, for in the beginning you brought light and life to the world and you continue to bring it love and light everlasting.

You came to a young woman named Mary and laid out the promise in a new way: promising her a son, who would be called Jesus; promising her that in her son the world would be changed.

And now as we prepare for that child to be born, we echo the ancient cry: **O come**, **O come Emmanuel**.

And we lift our voices together with the praise of the ages:

Sanctus

cyberhymnal.org



Thanksgiving at the Table

Gathering the disciples together in an upper room to share the story of liberation, he prepared them for liberation anew. At the end of the meal Jesus took bread, blessed and broke it, then passed it to them saying:

Take and eat.
This bread is my body of Life,
broken by the world.
Eat it in remembrance of me.

After that Jesus took the cup, blessed it, and passed it to them saying:

This cup is the sign of the New Covenant. Whenever you drink it remember me, for I shall not eat or drink of it again until the time of the heavenly banquet.

We remember how he poured his love out on all he met and look forward to his return and the coming reign of peace, love, and justice.

God, you poured our your Spirit upon Mary and she sang words of defiance and hope. Pour out your Spirit upon us gathered here. Strengthen us in our time of waiting and working for peace and justice. Gift us with courage to make the Christmas promise a reality. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

And now, as beloved children of a loving Parent, we 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.

Invitation to Communion

The Bread we break is the Bread of Life. The Cup we share is the Cup of Promise. These are the gifts of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Come and eat, the banquet is ready.

Communion

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.



Open Wafer

The cup has a clear film top that noticeably reveals the wafer compartment. Lift the film to open and receive your wafer. (Hint: Bending the tab downward to snap will release the air tight seal on the film and make the edge very easy to find and open.)

Open Cup

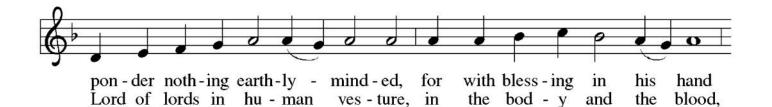
Open the cup by pealing back the pre-cut tab on the foil seal to drink the juice.

Communion Song • "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silent"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 490



- 1 Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence, and with fear and trem - bling stand;
- 2 King of kings, yet born of of old on earth he Mar - y, as



ves - ture, in

and

the



Communion Sending Prayer

We pray:

O God of pregnant expectations, O God of Christmas promise, we have eaten and drunk from your table. Fill us with hope in a world of despair. Make us beacons of hope as we wait for the day when the world will be changed. Grant that this taste of your banquet which is to come will give us the hunger for peace and justice in our community and around the world. Amen.

Blessing

The mercy of God, which extends from generation to generation, be with you now and forever.

Amen.

The illumination of the Holy Spirit, prepare you for the coming of our Lord.

Amen.

The peace of the Christ child, who comes to partner with us, bring forth through you the kingdom that will never end.

Amen.

Sending Hymn • "Light Dawns on a Weary World"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 726



Dismissal

Go in peace, strive for peace, for Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

For those participating in worship from home, please register your worship attendance online at www.mtviewlutheran.org/worshipattendance

Please submit prayer requests online at www.mtviewlutheran.org/prayerrequest

Offering

We give to the Lord of our tithes and offerings.

You can mail an offering to:

Mountain View Lutheran Church 3505 - 122nd Ave E Edgewood WA 98372

Ways that you can give electronically:

TEXT

- J Text "Give" to 253-292-9599.
- You will be sent a message to (a) text your giving amount and/or (b) set up recurring giving.

ONLINE via the MVLC WEBSITE

-) Visit www.mtviewlutheran.org.
- Hover over the "GIVE" dropbox.
- Choose "Make a Donation via Bank Account" or "Make a Donation via Credit/Debit Card."
- Fill out all information on the page and then click the blue "GIVE" button.
- J If you want it to remember your information, visit "SIGN IN" and create an account.
- NOTE: Online giving is a one-time gift unless you check "Make this Gift Recurring."

Worship Leaders

PREACHER/PRESIDER Pastor Mike Greenwalt

DIRECTOR of MUSIC MINISTRIES Susan Bloomfield

LECTOR Lynn Nichols

VIDEOGRAPHER David Burch

VIDEO OVERLAY Marlene Wright

SOUND Beth Ann Johnson

ALTAR GUILD Flora Larson, Diane Nelson

Mountain View Lutheran Church

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Mountain View Lutheran Church

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Mountain View Community Center

-) website: www.mtviewcommunitycenter.org
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- Great Thanksgiving: "The Great Thanksgiving," "The Story Remembered," "The Spirit Transforms." Invitation to Communion: "The Pouring and Breaking and Serving." Post-Communion Prayer: "Prayer Following Communion." All, 2008, by Rev. Gord Waldie, via worshipofferings.blogspot.com [CC BY 2.5 CA (creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.5/ca)].

Advent and Christmas at MVLC

Wednesday, December 16, 2020 • 7:00 p.m.

Advent Midweek #3 online worship service, with Holden Evening Prayer.

Sunday, December 20, 2020 • 10:45 a.m.

Fourth Sunday of Advent online worship service, with Holy Communion.

Wednesday, December 23, 2020 • 7:00 p.m.

CAROLS in CARS, a "Park and Praise"-style/drive-in "lessons and carols" worship service. In the MVLC parking lot. Bring your favorite non-alcoholic beverage in your Thermos and be ready to sing some Christmas carols, while hearing readings from the story of Christ's birth and Incarnation. Decorate your car in its finest holiday trimmings!

Thursday, December 24, 2020 • 5:00 p.m.

Nativity of Our Lord/Christmas Eve online worship service, with Holy Communion.

Sunday, December 27, 2020 • 10:45 a.m.

First Sunday of Christmas online worship service, with Holy Communion.