

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.

*Instructions for in-person worship.* 

- ) Keep your mask on at all times, except when receiving communion.
- Enjoy the presence of one another as we "speak the peace," wave, smile, make the sign of the Cross. Please do not embrace, hug, kiss, or elbowbump anyone but for immediate family members you are seated with.
- ) Please do not attend worship if you are currently sick with any of the following symptoms: fever, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, nausea, or diarrhea.
- ) Please do not attend worship if you had close personal contact with anyone who has been diagnosed or is awaiting test results for COVID-19 in the past 14 days.
- Notify the Church Office if you receive a positive COVID-19 test result within 7 days of attending a worship service. Your name will be kept anonymous unless required for reporting to the Department of Health.

# FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sunday, December 19, 2021 • 8:15 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.

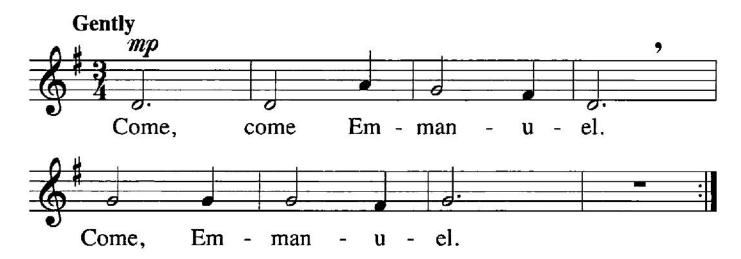
Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

# **Gathering Song** • "Advent Gathering Song"

GIA Editions #G-4131

Cantor sings refrain; **then all repeat.** Cantor sings verses; **congregation sings refrain.** 



For the Lord of creation will... Refrain.

Oh the son of Mary will... Refrain.

See God's marvelous deeds and... Refrain.

For God chose us, and so we will... *Refrain*.

For the angel proclaims he will... *Refrain*.

As the servants of God we... *Refrain*.

# Confession and Forgiveness

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

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.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God for whom we wait,

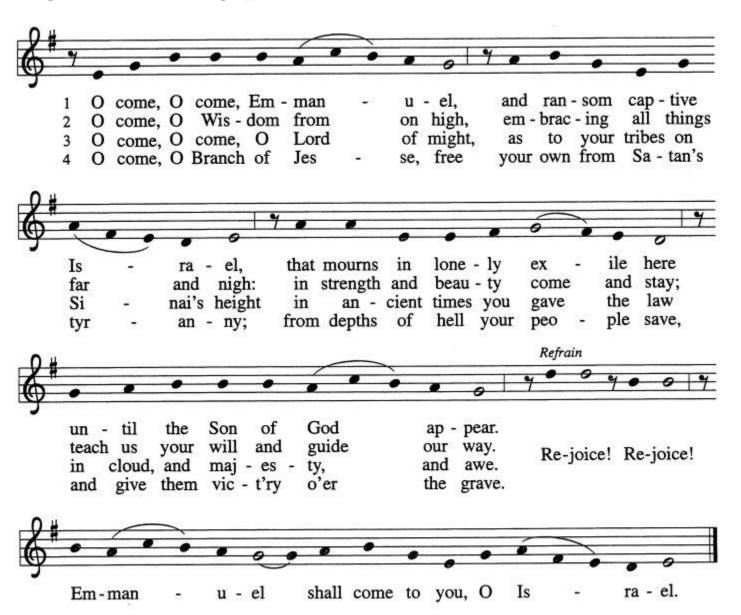
in the presence of one another, we confess our sin before you.
We fail in believing that your good news is for us. We falter in our call to tend your creation.
We find our sense of self in material wealth.
We fear those different from ourselves.
We forget that we are your children and turn away from 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.

# **Hymn of Praise** • "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 257



O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer; O Sun of justice, now draw near. Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadow put to flight. *Refrain.* 

# Greeting

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

An also with you.

# 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.

# **Advent Wreath Reading**

One of the most familiar customs of Advent is the lighting of the candles on an evergreen wreath. The glowing and growing light in the midst of growing darkness draws on biblical images. The unbroken circle of "forever greens" is seen as an image of everlasting life, as victory over death, as the crown of Jesus Christ, as the wheel of time itself. Christians make use of the wreath as a sign that Christ breaks into our time to lead us into the light of everlasting life.

The four candles mark the four weeks of Advent and the growth of life amid growing darkness that cannot and will not overcome the light. In many homes, families gather for prayer around the wreath's lit candles.

Blessed are you, God of all creation, for your promise to send a Son, Emmanuel, who brings your presence among us, and for your promise to heal our brokenness and save us from our sin.

As we light these four candles, turn us again towards mercy, strengthen our faith by your spoken Word, restore us and gift us with such new life that we become servants of all.

O house of David, of Joseph, of Mary, come,

rejoice, for Jesus Christ, Son of God, Emmanuel, comes to be with us, now and forevermore. Amen.

# Reading Response • "He Came Down"

This Far by Faith 37



1 He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love;



he came down that we may have love;

hal-le-lu-jah for-ev-er-more.

# First Reading

A reading from the prophet Micah.

#### Micah 5:2-5a

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. 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. 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; and he shall be the one of peace.

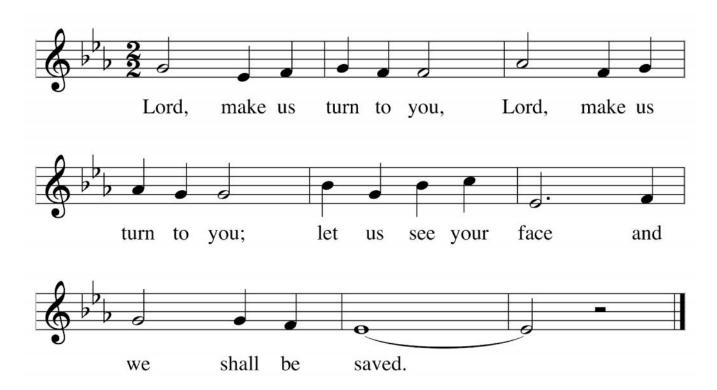
The Word of the Lord.

#### Thanks be to God.

# Psalm 80 • "Lord, Make Us Turn to You"

Lyric Psalter, Year C

Cantor sings refrain; **then all repeat.** Cantor sings verses; **congregation sings refrain.** 



O shepherd of Israel, hear us, enthroned on the cherubim, shine forth. Rouse up your might and come to save us. *Refrain*.

God of hosts, turn again, we implore; look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it, the vine your right hand has planted, the son of man you have claimed for yourself. *Refrain*.

May your hand be on the man at your right hand, the son of man you have confirmed as your own. And we shall never forsake you again; give us life that we may call upon your name. *Refrain*.

# Second Reading

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

Hebrews 10:5-10

Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said,

"Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. 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)."

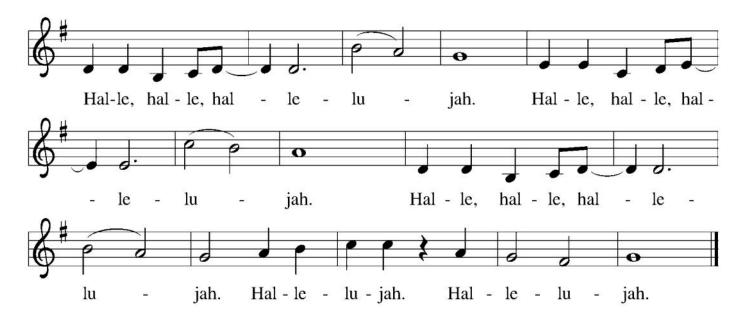
When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's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

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

# Gospel Acclamation • "Halle, Halle, Hallelujah"

This Far by Faith 25



# Gospel

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Luke 1:39-55

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His 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. He 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. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

The Gospel of our Lord.

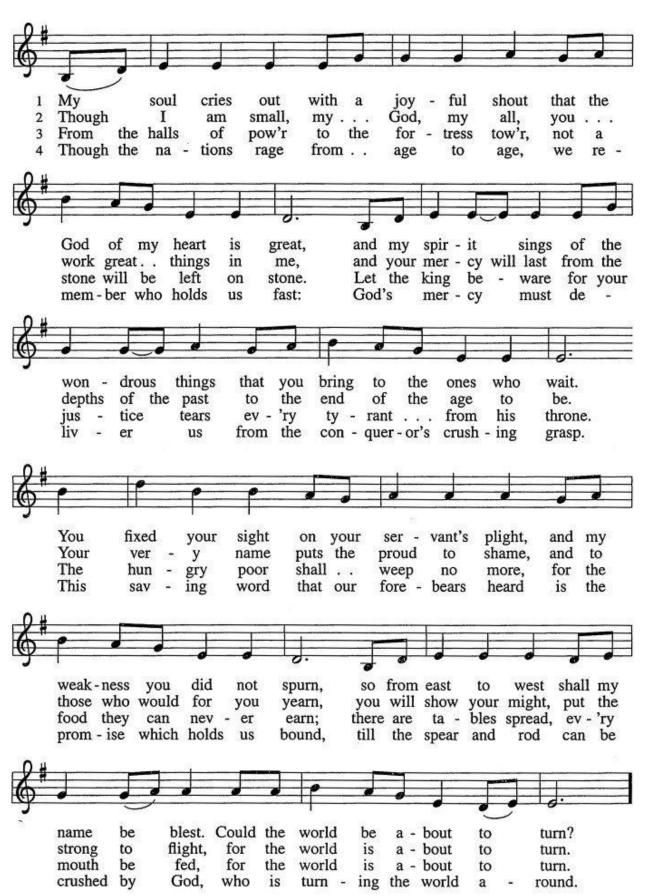
Praise to you, O Christ.

## Sermon

Pastor Briana R. Merkle.

# **Hymn of the Day •** "Canticle of the Turning"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 723





My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus-tice burn.



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a-bout to turn.

# Apostles' Creed

Together, we confess our faith.

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 power of 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 the Church

In this season of watching and waiting, let us pray for all people and places that yearn for God's presence.

A brief silence.

At the conclusion of each petition:

Hear us, O God.

Look with mercy and favor upon your servants.

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.

# Sharing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

# 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

You can give electronically:

#### ONLINE via the MVLC WEBSITE

- *y* 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.
- 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."

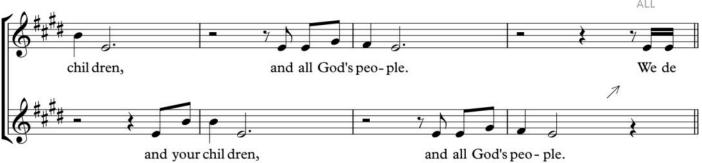
For those worshiping in person, you are invited to leave your offering in the offering plates located in the side aisles as you come forward for Holy Communion.

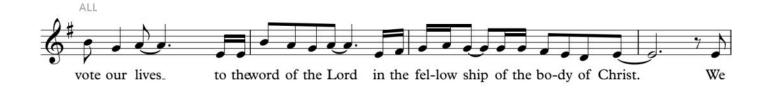
# Offertory • "The Promise"

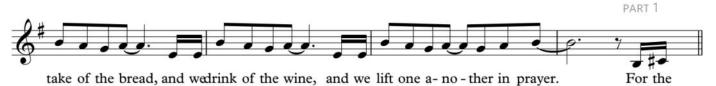
Don Neptun

## Part 1: cantor; part 2: congregation.











# Offering Prayer

Together, we pray.

God of our waiting and watching, we offer the gifts of our hearts and our lives to the service of all your people. Prepare the way before us as we meet you in this simple meal, through Christ Jesus, our pathway and our peace. Amen.

# **Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** 

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

We give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and good that we should everywhere and always 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.

# Sanctus • "Holy, Holy, Holy" Lead Me, Guide Me 475



## Words of Institution

# Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

## Communion

Come to Christ's banquet. Feast on God's gift of grace.

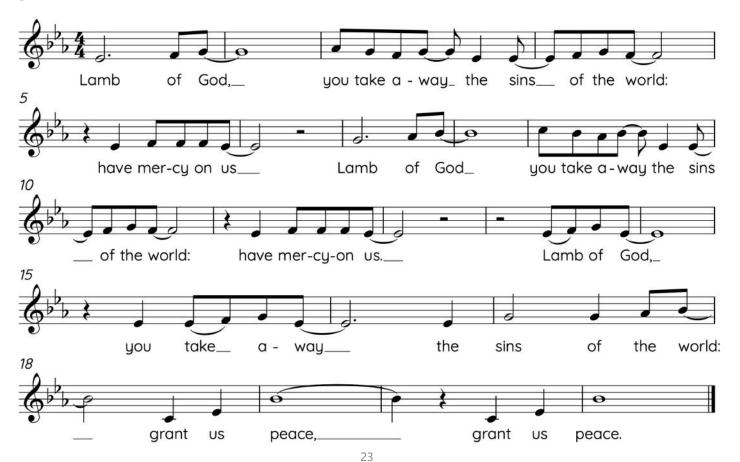
## Distribution

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive the body and blood of Jesus Christ. If you are unable to come forward for communion, then please let an usher know and you will be served where you are seated.

If gluten-free wafers are required for health reasons, then please ask the pastor serving communion for a wafer.

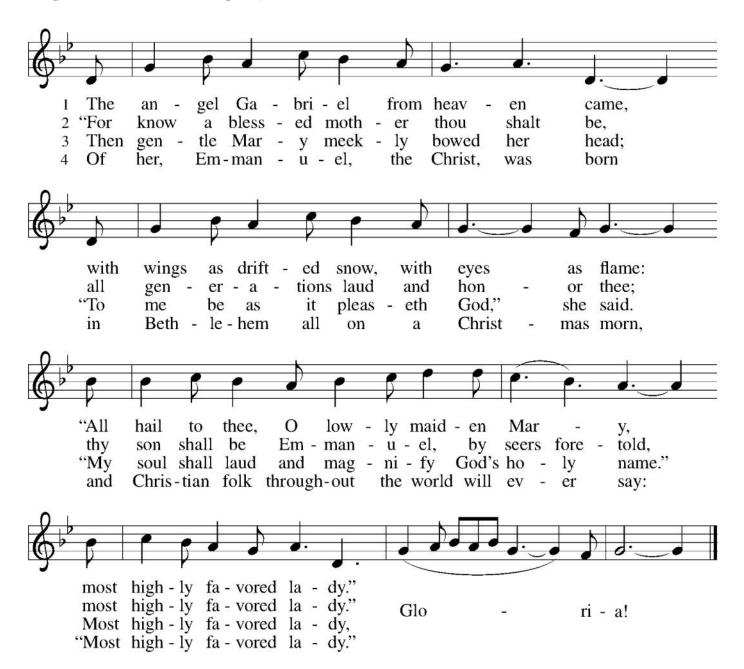
## Lamb of God • "Lamb of God"

by Tillis Butler



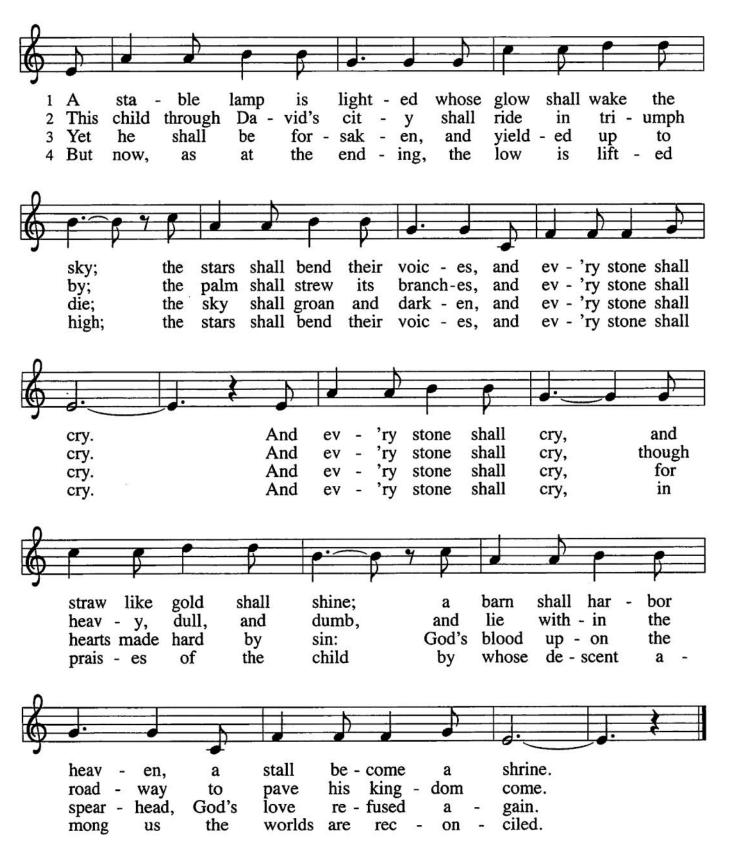
# **Communion Song** • "The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 265



# **Communion Song** • "A Stable Lamp Is Lighted"

All Creation Sings 910



# 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.

# **Deacon Sending**

Deacons are called to "make Christ and his redemptive love known by word and example."

Such love is expressed in the extension of Holy Communion to those who are homebound or hospitalized, and often lonely as well.

Gracious God.

in your love and care, nourish and strengthen those to whom we bring this communion, that through the body and blood of your Son we may all know the hope of your promised coming in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

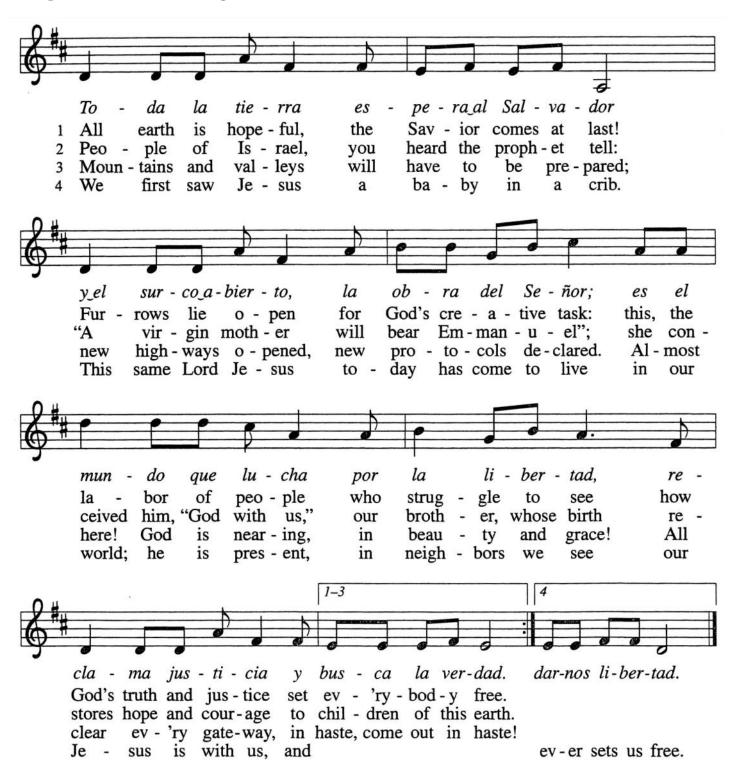
# Blessing

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.

# Sending Hymn • "All Earth Is Hopeful"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 266



# Sending

Go in peace. Christ is near.

Thanks be to God.

## Postlude

# Worship Attendance

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

## Worship Notes

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#### Worship leaders include:

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Both services
    PREACHER and PRESIDER: Pastor Briana Merkle.
    WORSHIP ASSISTANT: Ken Swanson.
    DIRECTOR of MUSIC MINISTRIES: Brenna Sage.
    VIDEOGRAPHER: David Burch.
    ALTAR GUILD: Flora Larson, Diane Nelson, Karen Slavens.
    USHERS: Gary Larson, Chris Ray.
    GREETER: Sandi Swanson.
    COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: Flora Larson, Genie Lennon.
    LECTOR: Jeanne Anderson.
    CANTOR: Todd Kellev.
    SOUND: Karen Fink.
    USHERS: Mark Cantrell (head usher), Diane Nelson, Lindy Nelson.
    GREETER: Ellen Leapaldt.
    ACOLYTES: Alison Hutton, Colin Hutton.
    COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: Carolee Berntsen, Terry Jensen.
    LECTOR: John Dahle.
    CANTOR: Debbie Hushagen.
    SOUND: Megan Hutton.
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#### **MOUNTAIN VIEW LUTHERAN CHURCH**

3505 - 122nd Avenue East, Edgewood WA 98372 www.mtviewlutheran.org • 253-863-5171

## Season of Christmas

## **Worship • Christmas Eve**

Friday, December 24, 2021 • 7:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. • Sanctuary Join us as we celebrate the Nativity and Incarnation of Our Lord with prayers, proclamation, Christmas hymns, and Holy Communion.

### **Worship • First Sunday of Christmas**

Sunday, December 26, 2021 • 9:30 a.m. • Sanctuary

Join us for in-person and online worship for the First Sunday of Christmas. Please note there is only one worship service on this particular Sunday.

### **Worship • Second Sunday of Christmas**

Sunday, January 2, 2022 • 9:30 a.m. • Sanctuary

Join us for in-person and online worship for the First Sunday of Christmas. Please note there is only one worship service on this particular Sunday.

# Lifelong Faith Formation

#### **Adult Education**

Sunday, January 9, 2022 • 9:30 a.m. • Life Together Hall

Join us each Sunday morning (resuming on 1/9) for Adult Education led by MVLC pastors, PLU professors, ministry partners/benevolence recipients, and/or members of various MVLC ministry groups.

### **Rock Ministry**

Sunday, January 9, 2022 • 9:30 a.m. • Education Building

Kids from age two through youth in twelfth grade gather with peers and mentors to learn Bible stories and engage topics important to our daily lives and faith journeys.