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NARRATIVE LECTIONARY 114

ESTHER

Second Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 4, 2022 • 8:15 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Please turn off all cell phones.

If you are visiting with us today, we extend to you a particular welcome and invite your questions and comments.

Our entire worship service is printed in this worship folder for your convenience.

Hearing assistance devices are available in the Narthex.

Child care is available for children ages 5 years and under in the Child Care Area, across from the Life Together Hall.

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.

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stand.

GATHERING SONG • "CREATOR OF THE STARS OF NIGHT"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 245



1 Cre - a - tor of the stars of night, your peo - ple's ev - er -
2 When this old world drew on toward night, you came; but not in
3 At your great name, O Je - sus, now all knees must bend, all
4 Come in your ho - ly might, we pray, re - deem us for e -
5 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son, and God the Spir - it,



last - ing light, O Christ, re - deem - er of us all,
splen - dor bright, not as a mon - arch, but the child
hearts must bow: all things on earth with one ac - cord,
ter - nal day; de - fend us while we dwell be - low
Three in One, praise, hon - or, might, and glo - ry be



we pray you hear us when we call.
of Mar - y, bless - ed moth - er mild.
like those in heav'n, shall call you Lord.
from all as - saults of our dread foe.
from age to age e - ter - nal - ly. A - men.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,
who alone does wondrous things.

Blessed be God's name forever.

Amen.

Beloved, now is the time to wake from sleep.

Let us confront our sins,
and confess them to the one who is merciful and just.

Kneel or stand. Silence is kept for reflection.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of new beginnings,

we confess that we have not welcomed your holy reign.

We have strayed from your paths.

We prepare for war instead of peace.

We dishonor one another and your creation.

**Purify us with your refining fire
and set us again on your way of love,
that we may bear fruit worthy of repentance,
and welcome your coming among us.**

Amen.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

People of God,
a new thing is growing in our midst,
a tender branch,
a living sign.

By water and the Spirit you are joined to this wonder.

You have put on + Christ,
and your sins have been washed away.

Rejoice in the way of the Lord.

Amen.

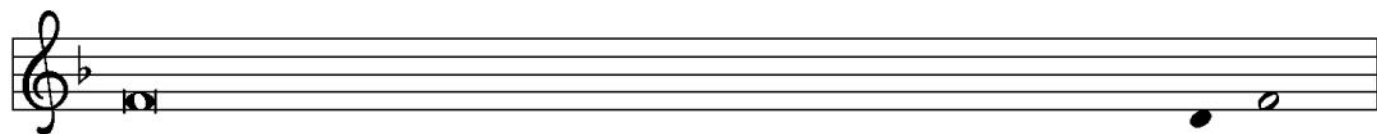
Stand.

KYRIE • "KYRIE"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Holy Communion Setting Three



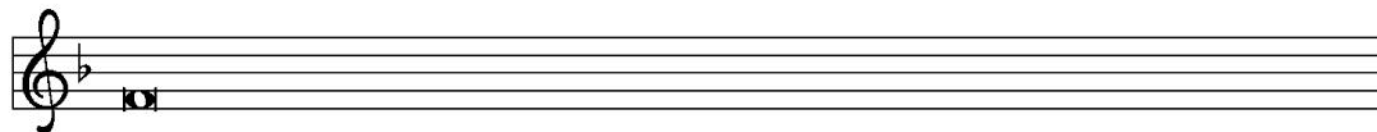
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



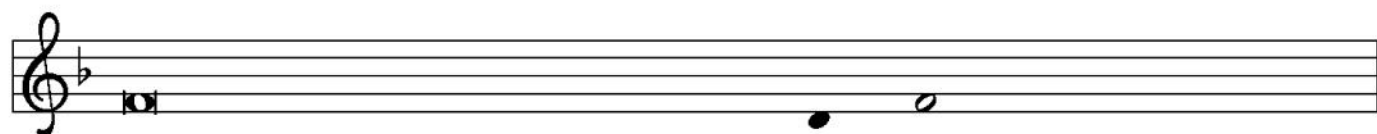
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



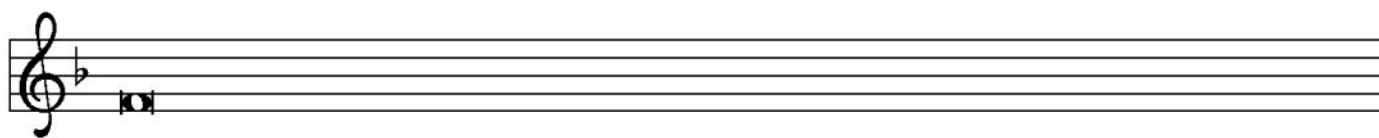
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



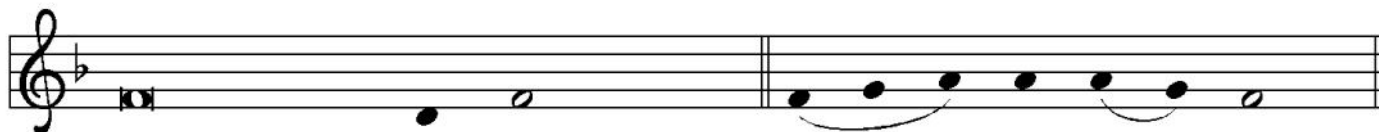
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

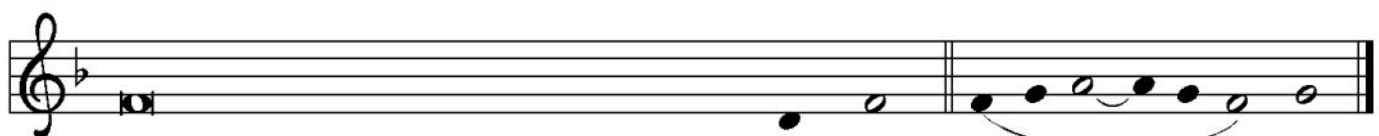


For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.

A - men.

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.

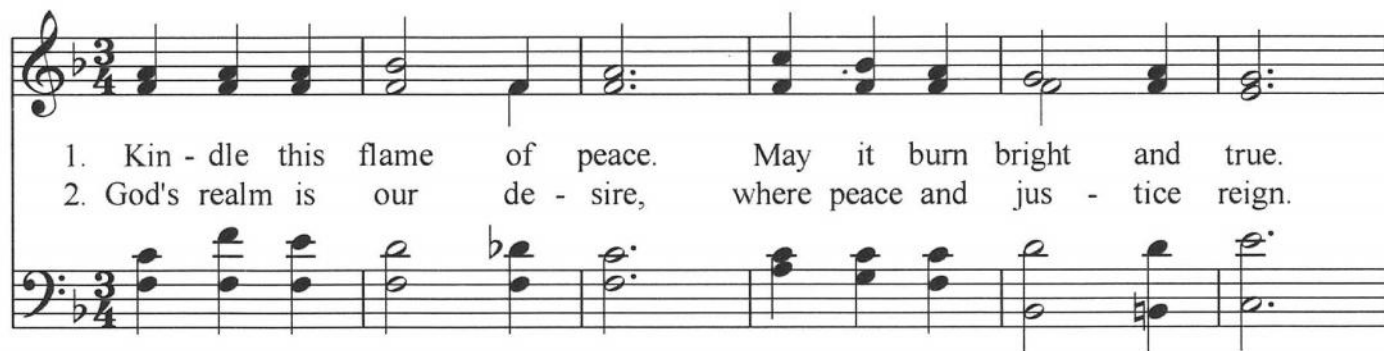
ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING • "ADVENT 2"

The United Methodist Church

Congregation sings verse 1.

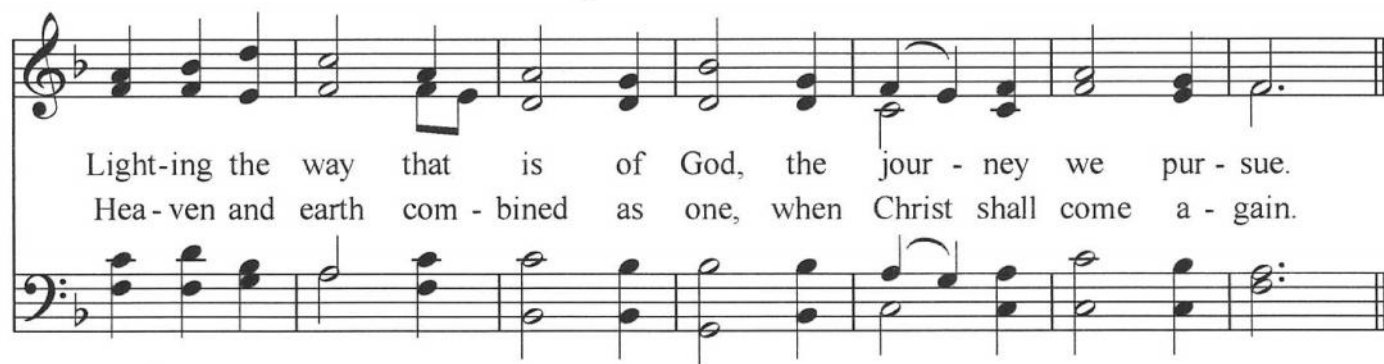
Candle lighters light the second Advent candle and read the prayer.

Congregation sings verse 2.



1. Kin - dle this flame of peace. May it burn bright and true.
2. God's realm is our de - sire, where peace and jus - tice reign.

The musical notation is for a hymn in 3/4 time, key of B-flat major. It features a treble and bass staff. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a repeat sign at the end of the first line.



Light-ing the way that is of God, the jour - ney we pur - sue.
Hea - ven and earth com - bined as one, when Christ shall come a - gain.

The musical notation continues the hymn in 3/4 time, key of B-flat major. It features a treble and bass staff. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a repeat sign at the end of the second line.

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of justice,
you sent your servant Esther
into a life of privilege so that those without
would be taken care of.

In our privilege,
show us how to advocate
for those who have less,
so that your world might be peaceful and just.

We light this candle as a beacon of that peace,
in the name of Jesus Christ,
our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Sit.

READING

A reading from the book of Esther.

Esther 4:1-17

¹When Mordecai learned all that had been done, Mordecai tore his clothes and put on sackcloth and ashes, and went through the city, wailing with a loud and bitter cry; ²he went up to the entrance of the king's gate, for no one might enter the king's gate clothed with sackcloth. ³In every province, wherever the king's command and his decree came, there was great mourning among the Jews, with fasting and weeping and lamenting, and most of them lay in sackcloth and ashes.

⁴When Esther's maids and her eunuchs came and told her, the queen was deeply distressed; she sent garments to clothe Mordecai, so that he might take off his sackcloth; but he would not accept them. ⁵Then Esther called for Hathach, one of the king's eunuchs, who had been appointed to attend her, and ordered him to go to Mordecai to learn what was happening and why. ⁶Hathach went out to Mordecai in the open square of the city in front of the king's gate, ⁷and Mordecai told him all that had happened to him, and the exact sum of money that Haman had promised to pay into the king's treasuries for the destruction of the Jews. ⁸Mordecai also gave him a copy of the written decree issued in Susa for their destruction, that he might show it to Esther, explain it to her, and charge her to go to the king to make supplication to him and entreat him for her people.

⁹Hathach went and told Esther what Mordecai had said. ¹⁰Then Esther spoke to Hathach and gave him a message for Mordecai, saying, ¹¹“All the king’s servants and the people of the king’s provinces know that if any man or woman goes to the king inside the inner court without being called, there is but one law—all alike are to be put to death. Only if the king holds out the golden scepter to someone, may that person live. I myself have not been called to come in to the king for thirty days.” ¹²When they told Mordecai what Esther had said, ¹³Mordecai told them to reply to Esther, “Do not think that in the king’s palace you will escape any more than all the other Jews. ¹⁴For if you keep silence at such a time as this, relief and deliverance will rise for the Jews from another quarter, but you and your father’s family will perish. Who knows? Perhaps you have come to royal dignity for just such a time as this.” ¹⁵Then Esther said in reply to Mordecai, ¹⁶“Go, gather all the Jews to be found in Susa, and hold a fast on my behalf, and neither eat nor drink for three days, night or day. I and my maids will also fast as you do. After that I will go to the king, though it is against the law; and if I perish, I perish.” ¹⁷Mordecai then went away and did everything as Esther had ordered him.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN’S SERMON + SERMON

Pastor Eric Bostrom.

Stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY • "ASHES"

Gather, Third Edition 962



1. We rise a - gain from ash - es, from the
 2. We of - fer you our fail - ures, we
 3. Then rise a - gain from ash - es, let
 4. & Thanks be to the Fa - ther, who



good we've failed to do. We rise a - gain from
 of - fer you at - tempts, The gifts not ful - ly
 heal - ing come to pain, Though spring has turned to
 made us like him - self. Thanks be to the



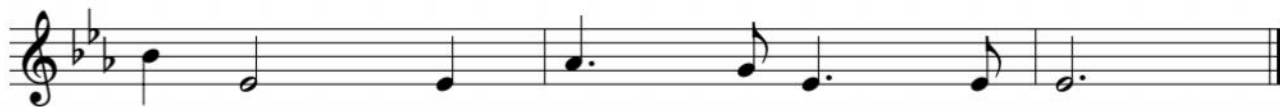
ash - es, to cre - ate our - selves a - new. If
 giv - en, the dreams not ful - ly dreamt. Give our
 win - ter, and sun - shine turned to rain. The
 Son, who saved us by his death.



all our world is ash - es, then
 stum - bl - ings di - rec - tion, give our
 rain we'll use for grow - ing, and cre -
 Thanks be to the Spir - it, who cre -



must our lives be true, An of - fer - ing of
 vi - sions wid - er view, An of - fer - ing of
 ate the world a - new From an of - fer - ing of
 ates the world a - new From an of - fer - ing of



ash - es, an of - fer - ing to you.
 ash - es, an of - fer - ing to you.
 ash - es, an of - fer - ing to you.
 ash - es, an of - fer - ing to you.

CREED • “WE ALL BELIEVE IN ONE TRUE GOD”

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 411 / Martin Luther

Together, let us confess our faith.

**We all believe in one true God,
who created earth and heaven,
the Father, who to us in love
has the right of children given.
God in soul and body feeds us;
all we need God’s hand provides us;
through all snares and perils leads us,
watching that no harm betide us.
God cares for us day and night;
all things are governed by God’s might.**

**We all believe in Jesus Christ,
God’s own Son, our Lord, possessing
an equal Godhead, throne, and might,
source of ev’ry grace and blessing;
born of Mary, virgin mother,
by the power of the Spirit,
Word made flesh, our elder brother;
that the lost might life inherit,
was put to death on the cross,
and raised by God victorious.**

**We all confess the Holy Ghost
who, in highest heaven dwelling
with God the Father and the Son,
comforts us beyond all telling;
who the church, Spirit’s creation,
keeps in unity of spirit.
Here forgiveness and salvation
daily come through Jesus’ merit.
All flesh shall rise; we shall be
in bliss with God eternally. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

As we prepare for the fullness of Christ's presence,
let us pray for a world that yearns for new hope.

A brief silence.

At the conclusion of each petition:

God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of our longing,
you know our deepest needs.

By your Spirit, gather our prayers
and join them with the prayers of all your children.

In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Sit.

OFFERING

Generosity is a powerful spirit. Once it enters in, the momentum builds. Like light, it touches all who stand within its range. Over the last month, we have been practicing being generous people in the image of a generous God. This morning, we give of ourselves and our money so that the generosity of this congregation reaches far and touches the lives of many.

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

-) 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."

OFFERTORY

“Peace Like a River”

Stand.

OFFERING PRAYER

Together, we pray.

**Eternal God,
you make the desert bloom
and send springs of water to thirsty ground.**

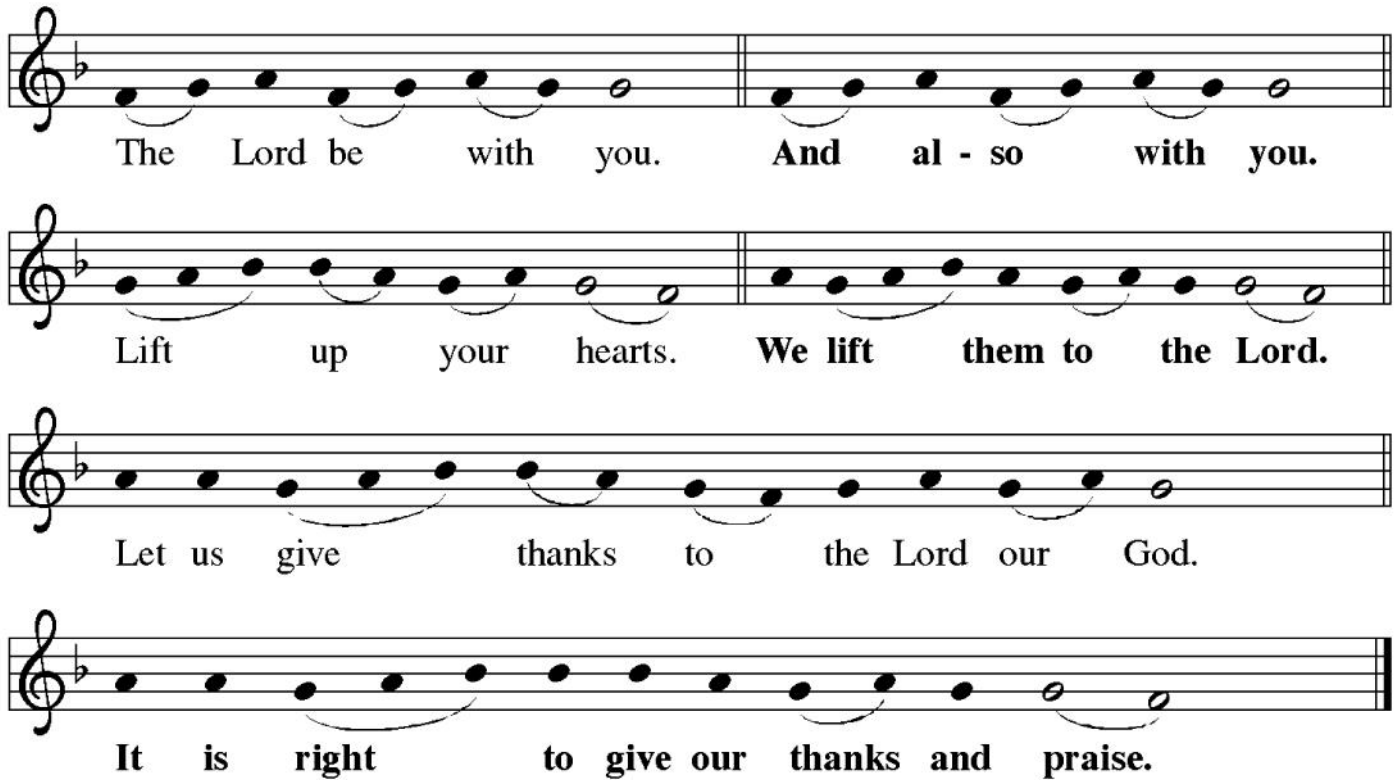
**Receive these simple gifts of bread, wine, and money,
and make us messengers of your mercy and love
for all in need of your healing and justice.**

We ask this through Christ our Savior.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Holy Communion Setting Three



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 first staff has two measures: 'The Lord be with you.' and 'And al - so with you.' The second staff also has two measures: 'Lift up your hearts.' and 'We lift them to the Lord.' The third staff has one measure: 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.' The fourth staff has one measure: 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.'

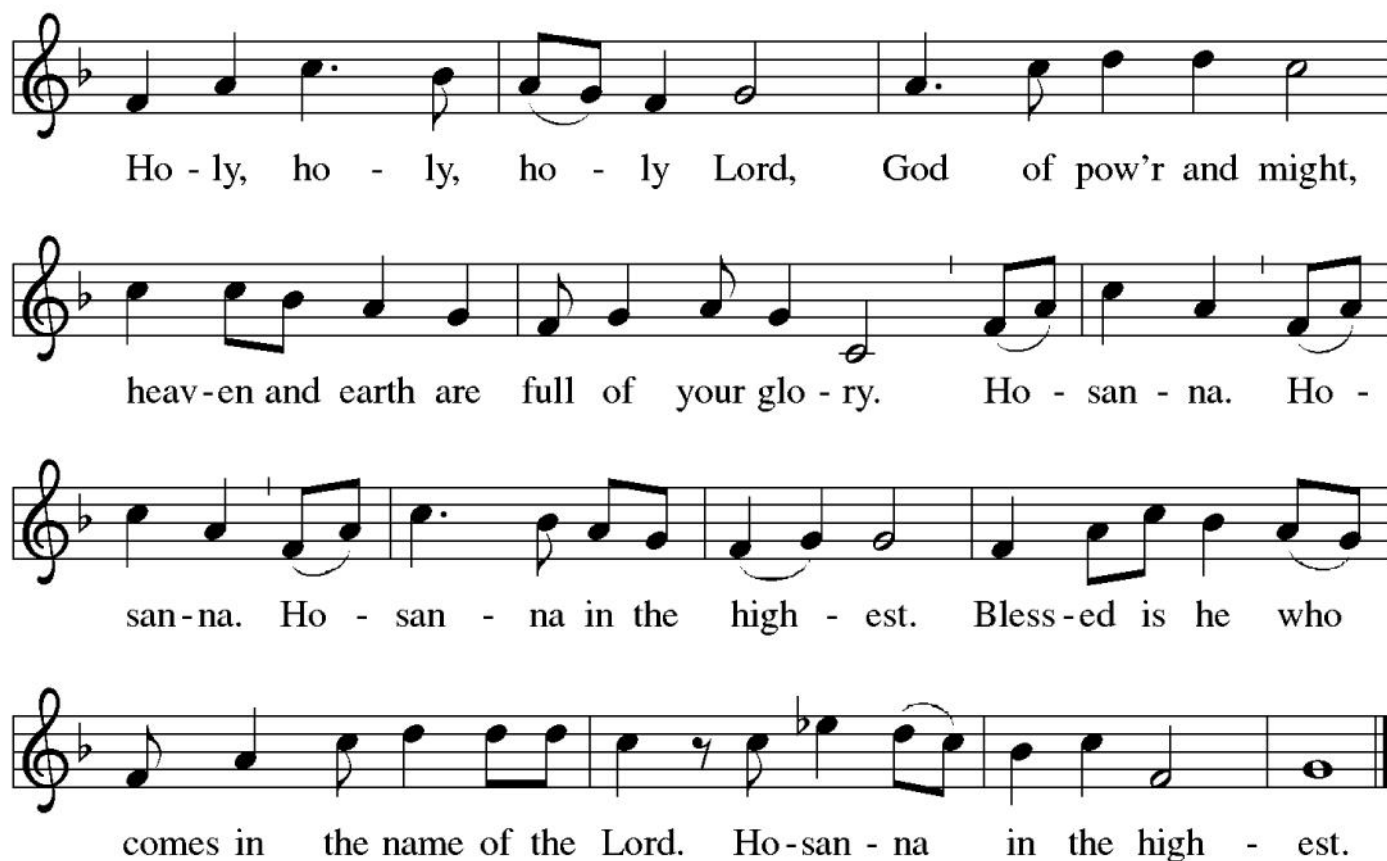
It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you,
almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

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:

SANCTUS • "HOLY, HOLY, HOLY"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Holy Communion Setting Three



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The first staff ends with a comma, the second with a period, the third with a period, and the fourth with a double bar line.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE 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

Be strong, do not fear!
Here is your God, who has come to save you.

Sit.

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"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Holy Communion Setting Three

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have

mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the

sin of the world; grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN • "O BREAD OF LIFE FROM HEAVEN"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 480



1 O bread of life from heav - en, O food to pil - grims
2 O fount of grace re - deem - ing, O riv - er ev - er
3 We love you, Je - sus, ten - der, in all your hid - den



giv - en, O man - na from a - bove: feed
stream - ing from Je - sus' wound - ed side: come
splen - dor with - in these means of grace. Oh,



with the bless - ed sweet - ness of your di - vine com -
now, your love be - stow - ing on thirst - ing souls, and
let the veil be riv - en, and our clear eye in



plete - ness the souls that want and need your love.
flow - ing till all are ful - ly sat - is - fied.
heav - en be - hold your glo - ry face to face.

COMMUNION HYMN • "WHAT FEAST OF LOVE"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 487



- 1 What feast of love is of - fered here, what ban-quet come from heav - en?
- 2 What light of truth is of - fered here, what cov - e - nant from heav - en?
- 3 What wine of love is of - fered here, what crim-son drink from heav - en?



What food of ev - er - last-ing life, what gra - cious gift is giv - en?
What hope of ev - er - last-ing life, what won-drous word is giv - en?
What stream of ev - er - last-ing life, what pre - cious blood is giv - en?



This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heav - en.
This, this is Christ the king, the sun come down from heav - en.
This, this is Christ the king, the sweet - est wine of heav - en.



Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the man - na giv - en!
Oh, see and hear and sing! The Word of God is giv - en!
Oh, taste and see and sing! The Son of God is giv - en!

Stand.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Faithful God,

**in this meal you have remembered your mercy,
bringing heaven to earth in the body and blood of Christ.**

**As we wait for the day when all your promises will be fulfilled,
sustain us and strengthen us by this holy mystery.**

**Guide us toward your promised future,
coming to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.**

Amen.

DEACON SENDING

Deacons are called to “make Christ
and his redemptive love known by word and example.” (1 Timothy)

Such love is expressed in the extension of Holy Communion
to those who are homebound or hospitalized.

Gracious God,

**as Mary set out to visit Elizabeth before she gave birth to her son,
bless those who go forth to share your word and sacrament with
our sisters and brothers who are sick or homebound. In your
love and care, nourish 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

God the eternal Word,
who dwells with us in Jesus,
and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit,
+bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN • "REJOICE, REJOICE, BELIEVERS"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 244



- 1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear;
- 2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain pro - claim the bride - groom near;
- 3 The saints, who here in pa - tience their cross and suf - f'ring bore,
- 4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



the eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.
go forth as he ap - proach - es with al - le - lu - ias clear.
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.
The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; the gates wide o - pen stand.
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.
A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; the bride - groom is at hand.
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!

SENDING

Go in peace. Christ is near.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Upcoming stories from the Bible:

DECEMBER 11

Light to the Nations • Isaiah 42:1-9

DECEMBER 18

Jesus as Immanuel • Matthew 1:18-25

JANUARY 1

Genealogy of Jesus • Matthew 1:1-17

DECEMBER 8

Jesus' Baptism: Matthew • Matthew 3:1-17

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Worship leaders include:

Both services

- J PREACHER: Pastor Eric Bostrom.
- J PRESIDER: Pastor Briana Merkle.
- J ASSISTING MINISTER: Karin Weberg.
- J DIRECTOR of MUSIC MINISTRIES: Brenna Sage.
- J VIDEOGRAPHER: David Burch.
- J ALTAR GUILD: Flora Larson, Diane Nelson, Marie Philipsen, Karen Slavens.

8:15 a.m.

- J USHERS: Karen Slavens, Ken Swanson (head usher), Terry Wolfe.
- J GREETER: George Rowe.
- J ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTERS: Michelle Schweikl.
- J COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: Genie Lennon, Sandi Swanson.
- J LECTOR: Pat Clement.
- J SOUND: Gene Quandt.

10:45 a.m.

- J USHERS: Julie Kibler, Mark Kibler, Diksha Knierim, Erik Knierim (head usher).
- J GREETER: Mary Beth Dahl.
- J ACOLYTES: Dutcher Adams.
- J ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTERS: Bob and Cathy Kostelecky.
- J COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: Barb Edmonds, Bob Linden.
- J LECTOR: Carol Petersen.
- J SOUND: Beth Ann Johnson.

MOUNTAIN VIEW LUTHERAN CHURCH

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