

*As a community following Christ,
we **LOVE** with an open heart
GROW with a curious mind
and **SHARE** with a generous spirit.*

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.

NARRATIVE LECTIONARY 215

REBUILDING the TEMPLE

Third Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 17, 2023 • 8:15 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stand.

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 opens the heavens
and draws near to us with salvation.

Amen.

God is patient and merciful, desiring all to come to repentance.
Trusting this promise of grace, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Everlasting God,

you love justice and you hate wrongdoing.

**We confess the fear, greed, and self-centeredness
that make us reluctant to work against oppression.**

We are complicit in systems of exploitation.

We choose comfort over courage.

We are careless with creation's bounty.

Look upon us with mercy.

Turn our hearts again to you.

**Make us glad to do your will and to walk in your ways
for the sake of our waiting world.**

Amen.

Hear these words of assurance:

God clothes you with garments of salvation
and covers you with robes of righteousness.

In the tender compassion of + Jesus Christ,
your sins are forgiven.

God's covenant is eternal,
and God's blessing rests upon us all.

Amen.

KYRIE • "KYRIE"

Behold, I Make All Things New

Cantor sings verses; congregation sings refrain.

In peace, in peace let us pray to the Lord. **Refrain.**

REFRAIN: ALL

Ky-ri-e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer -
- cy up - on us.
Chri - ste e - lei - son. Christ, have mer -
- cy up - on us.

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

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. **Refrain.**

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

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **To Amen.**

ALL:

A - men, 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.

HYMN OF PRAISE • "WHEN A STAR IS SHINING"

All Creation Sings 915



1 When a star is shin-ing o - ver east - ern hills,
2 Where the world is wait-ing for an un - known day,
3 Lead us on, O Day-star, in the qui - et night;



when the air is si - lent, and the clam - or stills,
where a voice for - got - ten cries, "Pre - pare the way!"
guide us through the shad - ow with your gen - tle light;



when the night is wait-ing, and the old hopes rise,
Where an earth - ly pow - er makes the heart turn cold,
show us in a man - ger our re - demp - tion's sign;



then the time has rip - ened and the heart grows wise.
there the gifts are of - fered— in - cense, myrrh, and gold.
bring us to a morn-ing where the prom - ise shines.



Lead us on, lead us on, to a morn-ing where the



prom-ise shines. Lead us on, lead us on,



to a morn - ing where the prom - ise shines.

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING • "O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 257



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.

Refrain

Re-joice! Re-joice!



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

① *leader 1* ② *leader 2* ㉟ *congregation*

① At every beginning, there is a yearning for the one who is coming.
O Emmanuel,

㉟ **open us up to your coming.**

② We gather together to allow our deeply held hopes
to be reshaped by God's promises. O Emmanuel,

㉟ **open us up to your coming.**

① We wait for the day when God will make for us a future that is no
longer predicated on our fear. O Emmanuel,

㉟ **open us up to your coming.**

② We will find a new receptivity within us that desires God's will
over our own will and relies on God's justice and mercy
to accomplish it. O Emmanuel,

㉟ **open us up to your coming.**

① Jesus, we welcome your presence now with the lighting of these
candles, whose flames brings warmth to winter
and fills this place with the glow of hope.

㉟ **Amen.**

Light three candles.

The congregation sings verse 4 of "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel."

**O come, O Branch of Jesse, free
your own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell your people save,
and give them vict'ry o'er the grave.**

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

God of restoration,
you brought your people home from exile
and in their joy
they rebuilt your temple.

Deliver us from our personal
and communal exiles,
and help us
to build up your church.

Amen.

Sit.

ACCLAMATION OF SCRIPTURE

Behold, I Make All Things New

Leader:

Al-le-lu-ia! Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e-ter-nal life. —

5 ALL:

Al-le - lu - ia! — Al-le - lu - ia! — Al-le - lu - ia —

10

Al-le - lu - ia! — Al-le - lu - ia! — Al-le - lu - ia —

READING

A reading from the book of Ezra.

Ezra 1:1-4; 3:1-4, 10-13

1 ¹In the first year of King Cyrus of Persia, in order that the word of the Lord by the mouth of Jeremiah might be accomplished, the Lord stirred up the spirit of King Cyrus of Persia so that he sent a herald throughout all his kingdom, and also in a written edict declared: ²“Thus says King Cyrus of Persia: The Lord, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth, and he has charged me to build him a house at Jerusalem in Judah. ³Any of those among you who are of his people—may their God be with them! —are now permitted to go up to Jerusalem in Judah, and rebuild the house of the Lord, the God of Israel—he is the God who is in Jerusalem; ⁴and let all survivors, in whatever place they reside, be assisted by the people of their place with silver and gold, with goods and with animals, besides freewill offerings for the house of God in Jerusalem.”

3 ¹When the seventh month came, and the Israelites were in the towns, the people gathered together in Jerusalem. ²Then Jeshua son of Jozadak, with his fellow priests, and Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel with his kin set out to build the altar of the God of Israel, to offer burnt offerings on it, as prescribed in the law of Moses the man of God. ³They set up the altar on its foundation, because they were in dread of the neighboring peoples, and they offered burnt offerings upon it to the Lord, morning and evening. ⁴And they kept the festival of booths, as prescribed, and offered the daily burnt offerings by number according to the ordinance, as required for each day.

¹⁰When the builders laid the foundation of the temple of the Lord, the priests in their vestments were stationed to praise the Lord with trumpets, and the Levites, the sons of Asaph, with cymbals, according to the directions of King David of Israel; ¹¹and they sang responsively, praising and giving thanks to the Lord, “For he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever toward Israel.” And all the people responded with a great shout when they praised the Lord, because the foundation of the house of the Lord was laid. ¹²But many of the priests and Levites and heads of families, old people who had seen the first house on its foundations, wept with a loud voice when they saw this house, though many shouted aloud for joy, ¹³so that the people could not distinguish the sound of the joyful shout from the sound of the people’s weeping, for the people shouted so loudly that the sound was heard far away.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN’S SERMON + SERMON

Pastor Eric Bostrom.

Stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY • "SOON AND VERY SOON"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 439



1 Soon and ver - y soon
2 No more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,
3 No more dy - in' there,
4 Soon and ver - y soon



soon and ver - y soon
no more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,
no more dy - in' there,
soon and ver - y soon

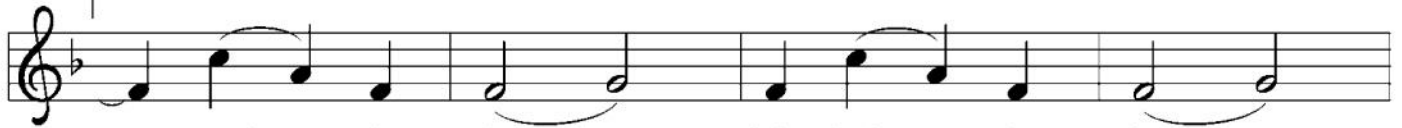


soon and ver - y soon
no more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King.
no more dy - in' there,
soon and ver - y soon



Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, we're goin' to see the King!

Coda after stanza 4



Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu -



jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah.

CREED

Together, let us confess our faith.

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

With hope and expectation,
we offer our prayers for the church, the world,
and all who await God's day of restoration.

At the conclusion of each petition:

Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Listen to these and all our prayers,
O God of hosts,
and restore us with your great and everlasting mercy.

Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Sit.

OFFERING

During this season of Advent,
our most important preparations will happen here in our hearts
when we make a way for God to come into our lives,
when we "prepare the way of the Lord."

In the midst of preparations, we bring gifts to share
so that God's love will shine brightly through the ministry
of this church and in our own lives as well.

*You can participate in the Offering electronically
by scanning the QR code and filling out the online form.*



OFFERTORY

*“Mary, Did You Know?”
Ellen Leapaldt*

Stand.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

God our provider,
by your merciful hand
abundance springs up from the earth.
Receive and bless these gifts of your own bounty.

Let them be a sign of your steadfast love
and faithfulness for all people,
through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Behold, I Make All Things New

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a 4/4 time signature. It consists of four staves. The first staff is for the Leader, with lyrics: "The Lord be with you. — And al - so with you. Lift up your hearts." The second staff is for ALL, with lyrics: "We lift them to the Lord. — Let us give thanks to the Lord our — God. —". The third staff is also for ALL, with lyrics: "It is — right — to give our thanks — and praise. —". The fourth staff is a piano accompaniment consisting of chords and melodic lines, with "Mmmm" written below the notes. The score includes various musical notations such as rests, beams, slurs, and a triplet in the first staff.

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 God,
through our Savior, Jesus Christ,

who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection
opened to us the way of everlasting life.

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"

Behold, I Make All Things New

Sing each line once.



1. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r___ and might_____



2. Heav'n and earth___ are full___ of your glo - ry, Ho-san - na in the high - est_____



3. Bless'd is he_____ who comes___ in the name of the Lord_____

*To conclude, we will sing all three lines at the same time;
doing such twice.*

You choose which line (1, 2, or 3) you want to sing each time.

(So you will sing line 1, line 2, line 3, line 1/2/3, line 1/2/3.)

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

In this meal, righteousness and peace meet together.
Come, take your place at the table.

Sit.

DISTRIBUTION

At Mountain View Lutheran Church we practice an open communion table, which means that everyone is welcome to receive the body and blood of Jesus Christ. (You don't have to be a member of MVLC.)

If you need an alcohol-free element or a gluten-free element, then please let your server know.

If you are unable to come forward for communion, then please let an usher know and you will be served where you are seated.

This is the table, not of the Church, but of Jesus Christ.
It is made ready for those who are loved by God,
whether you feel loved or not.

It is for those who desire to grow in love with God.

So come, you who have much faith and you who have little.

You who have been here often
and you who have not been for a long time or ever before.

Come, you who have tried to follow
and you who live with a sense of failure in your following.

Come, not because the Church invites you;
it is Christ who invites you to be known and fed and loved here.

Please come. Receive the gifts of God for all the people of God.

LAMB OF GOD • "LAMB OF GOD"

Behold, I Make All Things New



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,



grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN • "GOD IS HERE"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 526



1 God is here! As we your peo - ple meet to of - fer
2 Here are sym - bols to re - mind us of our life - long
3 Here our chil - dren find a wel - come in the Shep - herd's
4 Lord of all, of church and king - dom, in an age of



praise and prayer, may we find in full - er mea - sure
need of grace; here are ta - ble, font, and pul - pit;
flock and fold; here as bread and wine are tak - en,
change and doubt, keep us faith - ful to the gos - pel;



what it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the
here the cross has cen - tral place. Here in hon - es -
Christ sus - tains us as of old. Here the ser - vants
help us work your pur - pose out. Here, in this day's



world a - round us, all our var - ied skills and arts
ty of preach - ing, here in si - lence, as in speech,
of the Ser - vant seek in wor - ship to ex - plore
ded - i - ca - tion, all we have to give, re - ceive;



wait the com - ing of the Spir - it in - to o - pen minds and hearts.
here, in new - ness and re - new - al, God the Spir - it comes to each.
what it means in dai - ly liv - ing to be - lieve and to a - dore.
we, who can - not live with - out you, we a - dore you! We be - lieve!

COMMUNION HYMN • "O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 279



O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
For Christ is born of Mar - y, and, gath - ered all a - bove
How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly the won - drous gift is giv'n!
O ho - ly child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;



A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep the si - lent stars go by;
while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - d'ring love.
So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heav'n.
cast out our sin, and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.



yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing light.
O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth,
No ear may hear his com - ing; but, in this world of sin,
We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;

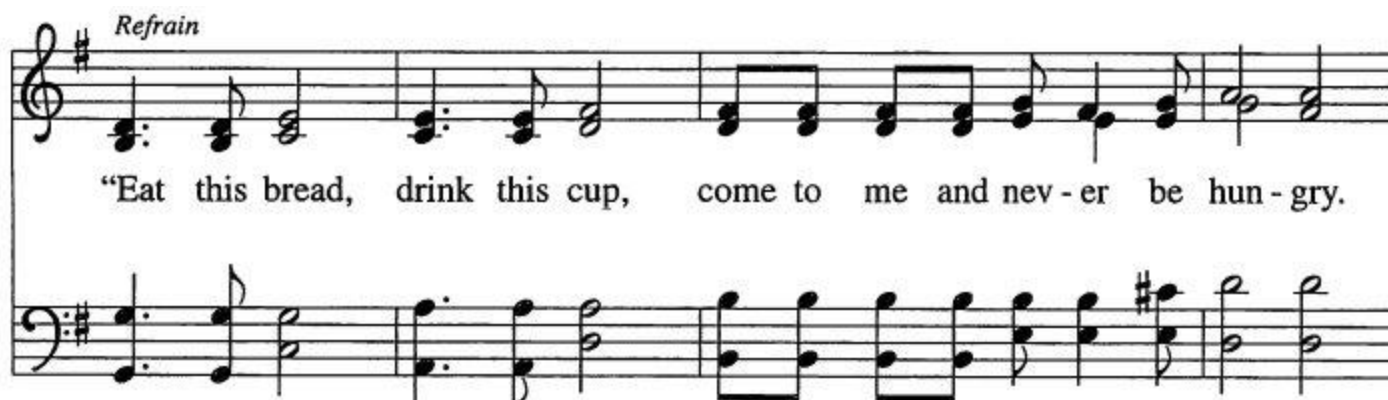


The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
and prais - es sing to God the king, and peace to all the earth!
where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.
oh, come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Im - man - u - el!


COMMUNION HYMN • "EAT THIS BREAD"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 472

Refrain



"Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and nev-er be hun-gry.



Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst."

Stand.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Generous God,

**in bread and cup you have revealed your glory
for all people to see together.**

**Nourished by this meal, send us
to be a community following Christ:
to LOVE with an open heart, GROW with a curious mind,
and SHARE with a generous spirit.**

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

The God of peace bless you,
the love of Christ sustain you in hope,
and the anointing of the Spirit + remain upon you
now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN • "IT CAME UPON THE MIDNIGHT CLEAR"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 282



1 It came up - on the mid - night clear, that glo - rious song of old,
2 Still through the clo - ven skies they come with peace - ful wings un - furled,
3 And you, be - neath life's crush - ing load, whose forms are bend - ing low,
4 For lo! The days are has - t'ning on, by proph - ets seen of old,



from an - gels bend - ing near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
and still their heav'n - ly mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world.
who toil a - long the climb - ing way with pain - ful steps and slow:
when with the ev - er - cir - cling years shall come the time fore - told,



"Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heav'n's all - gra - cious king."
A - bove its sad and low - ly plains they bend on hov - 'ring wing,
look now, for glad and gold - en hours come swift - ly on the wing;
when peace shall o - ver all the earth its an - cient splen - dors fling,



The world in sol - emn still - ness lay to hear the an - gels sing.
and ev - er o'er its ba - bel sounds the bless - ed an - gels sing.
oh, rest be - side the wea - ry road and hear the an - gels sing!
and all the world give back the song which now the an - gels sing.

SENDING

Go in peace. Keep awake.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“Soon and Very Soon”

Christmas Eve

CANDLELIGHT WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday, December 24, 2023 • 7:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.

Join us as we celebrate the Nativity of Our Lord with Christmas carols, sermon, prayers, Holy Communion, and candlelight “Silent Night.”

WORSHIP NOTES

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Worship leaders include:

Both services

- J PREACHER: Pastor Eric Bostrom.
- J PRESIDERS: Pastor Briana Merkle.
- J ASSISTING MINISTER: Tristan Cornell.
- J DIRECTOR of MUSIC MINISTRIES: Brenna Sage.
- J VIDEOGRAPHER: David Burch.
- J ALTAR GUILD: Flora Larson, Diane Nelson, Karen Slavens.

8:15 a.m.

- J USHERS: Janice Harrison, Skip Harrison (head usher), Eileen Newton, Karen Slavens.
- J GREETERS: Carol Powers, Michelle Schweikl.
- J LECTOR: Jeanne Anderson.
- J ACOLYTES: Brian Grayum, Ezra Holden.
- J COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: Jenny Grayum, Ellen Leapaltd.
- J SOUND: Beth Ann Johnson.

10:45 a.m.

- J USHERS: John Dahle, Emily Thompson, Bob Yost (head usher).
- J GREETER: Ken Edmonds.
- J LECTOR: Amy Lewis.
- J ACOLYTE: Dutcher Adams.
- J COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: Ellen Leapaltd, Bob Linden.
- J SOUND: Megan Hutton.

MOUNTAIN VIEW LUTHERAN CHURCH

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