

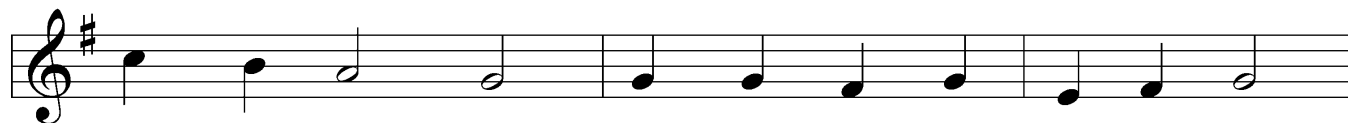
December 3, 2023

First Sunday in Advent

Opening Hymn: Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come LSB 350



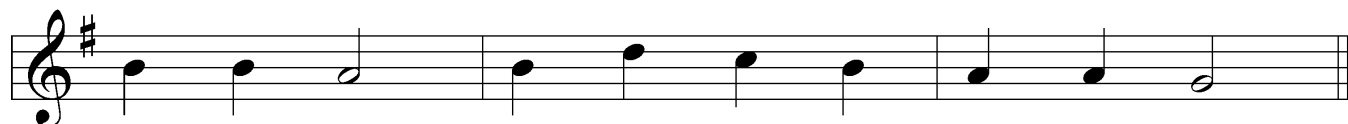
1 Come, Thou pre - cious Ran - som, come, On - ly hope for
2 En - ter now my wait - ing heart, Glo - rious King and
3 My ho - san - nas and my palms Gra - cious - ly re -
4 Hail! Ho - san - na, Da - vid's Son! Je - sus, hear our



sin - ful mor - tals! Come, O Sav - ior of the world!
Lord most ho - ly. Dwell in me and ne'er de - part,
ceive, I pray Thee; Ev - er - more, as best I can,
sup - pli - ca - tion! Let Thy king - dom, scep - ter, crown,



O - pen are to Thee all por - tals. Come, Thy beau - ty
Though I am but poor and low - ly. Ah, what rich - es
Sav - ior, I will hom - age pay Thee, And in faith I
Bring us bless - ing and sal - va - tion, That for - ev - er



let us see; Anx - ious - ly we wait for Thee.
will be mine When Thou art my guest di - vine!
will em - brace, Lord, Thy mer - it through Thy grace.
we may sing: Hail! Ho - san - na to our King.

Text: Johann Gottfried Olearius, 1635–1711; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.
Tune: Neu-verfertigtes Darmstädtisches Gesang-Buch, 1699, Darmstadt
Text and tune: Public domain

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Exhortation

1 John 1:8-9 LSB 151

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Confession of Sins

LSB 151

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.

Absolution

[John 20:19-23] LSB 151

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Advent Hymn of Praise: O Come, O Come Emmanuel

LSB 357 sts. 1, ref

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 thee, O Is - ra - el!

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 64:1-9

¹Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down,
that the mountains might quake at your presence—
²as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil—
to make your name known to your adversaries,
and that the nations might tremble at your presence!
³When you did awesome things that we did not look for,
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.
⁴From of old no one has heard
or perceived by the ear,
no eye has seen a God besides you,
who acts for those who wait for him.
⁵You meet him who joyfully works righteousness,
those who remember you in your ways.
Behold, you were angry, and we sinned;
in our sins we have been a long time, and shall we be saved?
⁶We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment.
We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
⁷There is no one who calls upon your name,
who rouses himself to take hold of you;
for you have hidden your face from us,
and have made us melt in the hand of our iniquities.
⁸But now, O LORD, you are our Father;

we are the clay, and you are our potter;
 we are all the work of your hand.
⁹Be not so terribly angry, O LORD,
 and remember not iniquity forever.
 Behold, please look, we are all your people.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Zechariah 9:9; Psalm 118:26, alt.

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion.
Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem.
 Behold, your king is coming to you;
righteous and having salvation.
 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
From the house of the Lord we bless you.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge—⁶even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you—⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, ⁸who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

*Stand***Common Alleluia and Verse***John 6:68 LSB 156*

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

Holy Gospel*Mark 11:1-10***P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the eleventh chapter.

C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

¹When they drew near to Jerusalem, to Bethphage and Bethany, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples ²and said to them, “Go into the village in front of you, and immediately as you enter it you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever sat. Untie it and bring it. ³If anyone says to you, ‘Why are you doing this?’ say, ‘The Lord has need of it and will send it back here immediately.’” ⁴And they went away and found a colt tied at a door outside in the street, and they untied it. ⁵And some of those standing there said to them, “What are you doing, untying the colt?” ⁶And they told them what Jesus had said, and they let them go. ⁷And they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and he sat on it. ⁸And many spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields. ⁹And those who went before and those who followed were shouting, “Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! ¹⁰Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David! Hosanna in the highest!”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

**☐ I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and
the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.**

Announcements

Hymn of the Day: Savior of the Nations, Come

LSB 332 sts. 1-2, 4, 7-8



1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come, Vir - gin's Son, make
 2 Not by hu - man flesh and blood, By the Spir - it
 4 Then stepped forth the Lord of all From His pure and
 7 From the man - ger new - born light Shines in glo - ry the
 Δ 8 Glo - ry to the Fa - ther sing, Glo - ry to the

here Your home! Mar - vel now, O heav'n and earth,
 of our God, Was the Word of God made flesh—
 king - ly hall; God of God, yet ful - ly man,
 through the night. Dark - ness there no more re - sides;
 Son, our king, Glo - ry to the Spir - it be

That the Lord chose such a birth.
 Wom - an's off - spring, pure and fresh.
 His he - ro - ic course be - gan.
 In this light faith now a - bides.
 Now and through e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: attr. Ambrose of Milan, 340–397; German version, Martin Luther, 1483–1546; (sts. 1–2): tr. William M. Reynolds, 1812–76; (sts. 4, 8): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001; (st. 7): tr. Gifford A. Grobier, 1973
 Tune: Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn, 1524, Wittenberg, ed. Johann Walter
 Text (sts. 4, 8): © 1978 Concordia Publishing House; (st. 7): © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004522
 Text (sts. 1–2) and tune: Public domain

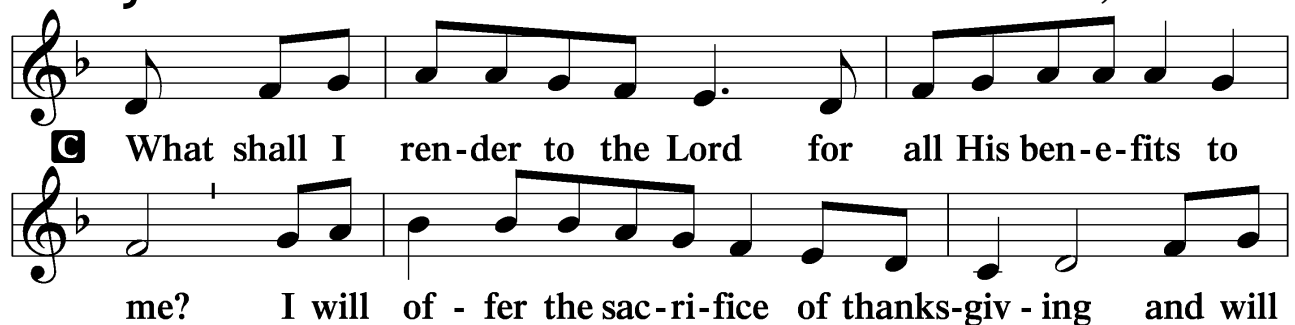
Sermon

Rev. Philip Zielinski

Stand

Offertory

Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19 LSB 159



■ What shall I ren - der to the Lord for all His ben - e - fits to
 me? I will of - fer the sac - ri - fice of thanks - giv - ing and will



Sit

Offering

Note: Please continue to place your offerings into the plates as you enter or leave church as we will not be passing the plates through the congregation. The offering plates will be brought forward at this time to remind us that our offerings are given in thankfulness to Him for His blessings to each of us.

Stand

Prayer of the Church

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the Lord's grace and peace as we enter another Church Year, that God who is faithful would confirm the testimony about Christ among us as we wait for His revealing, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For Matthew, our Synod president; Kevin, our district president; Paul, our circuit visitor; our pastors, Philip and Chris; and all pastors in Christ, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P That the Lord would renew the faith and quicken the love of all Christians, that we may be enriched in all speech and knowledge, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the blessing of marriage and the faithfulness of husbands and wives; for the children entrusted to their care; for the loving care of children who have suffered abuse or neglect; and for those who open their homes to children in foster care, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For our nation, its leaders and our armed forces, that God would take them under His care and let His blessing rest upon them, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the sick, troubled, grieving and dying, that they may receive grace according to God's merciful will, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For all who await the second advent of Christ, that their shouts of "hosanna" might be answered now through Word and Sacrament and soon by Jesus' return, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

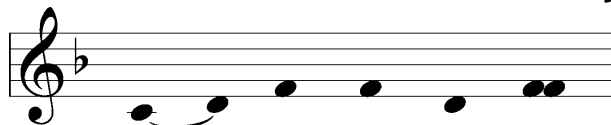
P Gracious Father, You have made us glad to enter into Your presence to hear the good news of our Savior and receive Your gifts. Preserve Your Church against all her enemies, and lead us to walk in Your ways and to follow Your paths, that when Jesus returns in His glory we may welcome Him with glad hosannas; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

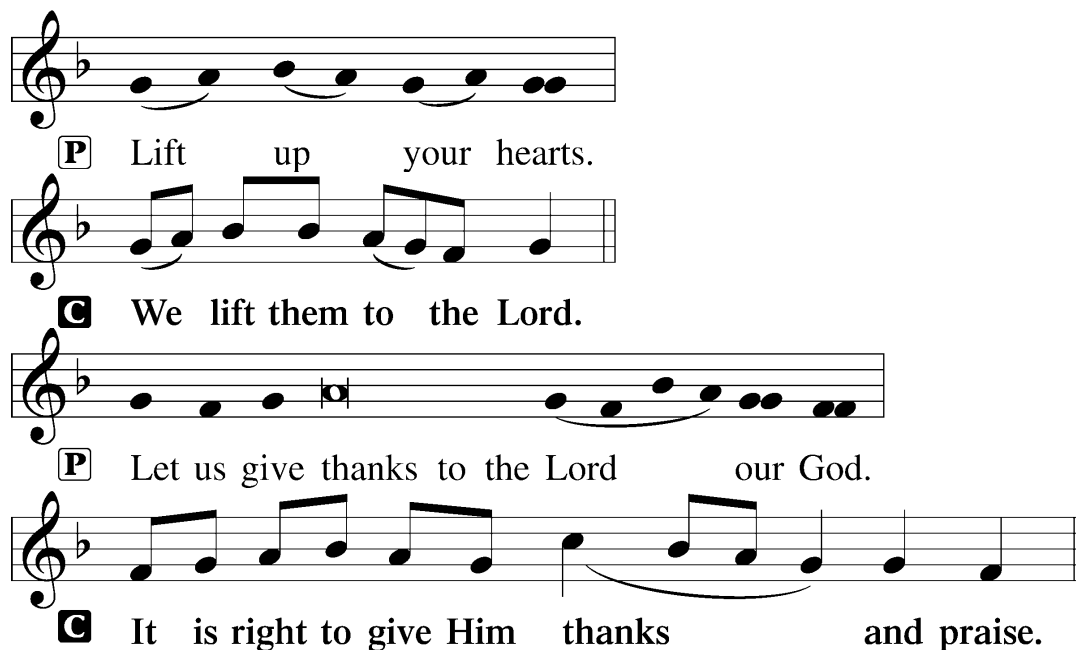
2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136] LSB 160



P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.



P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

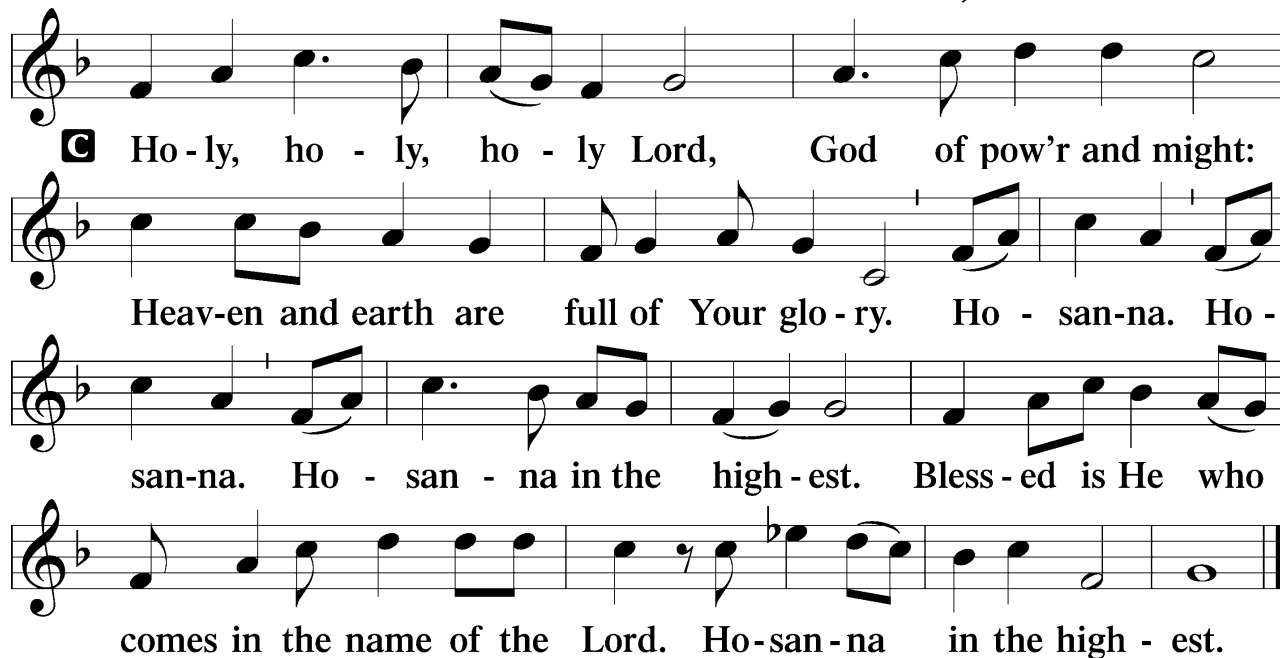
C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9 LSB 161



C 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.

Lord's Prayer

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

C 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.

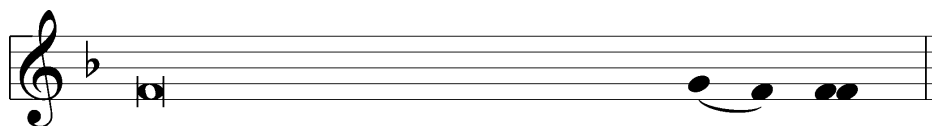
The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

John 20:19 LSB 163



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



C A - men.

Agnus Dei

John 1:29 LSB 163

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.

Sit

Distribution

- If—for any reason—you prefer to receive communion while remaining at your seat, please let an usher know as you arrive so that we can bring communion to you.
- Directions
 - Ushers will dismiss the congregation beginning from the back of the sanctuary.
 - Fill the communion rail beginning from the lectern side (left).
 - Kneel or stand as you are able.
 - Pastor will distribute the body of Christ followed by the assistants with the blood of Christ (individual or common cup).
 - Once you have received the body and blood of Christ, dismiss yourself and return to your seat via the Fellowship Hall through the side door.
 - If you have received an individual cup, place it in the basket provided on your way out the door.
- Gluten-free communion bread is available. Simply ask pastor for this option as you come forward for communion.
- A low/no-alcohol option is also available. On the tray of individual cups are several plastic cups that contain juice with a drop of wine included. This dilute amount of wine uses the element with which the Lord's Supper was instituted (wine) while providing an alternative if needed. Please feel free to see Pastor or an Elder if you have any questions.

Distribution Hymn: The Advent of Our King

LSB 331



1 The ad - vent of our King Our prayers must now em - ploy,
 2 The ev - er - last - ing Son In - car - nate deigns to be,
 3 O Zi - on's daugh - ter, rise To meet your low - ly King,
 4 As judge, on clouds of light, He soon will come a - gain



And we must hymns of wel-come sing In strains of ho - ly joy.
 Him-self a ser-vant's form puts on To set His ser - vants free.
 Nor let your faith-less heart de-spise The peace He comes to bring.
 And His true mem-bers all u - nite With Him in heav'n to reign.

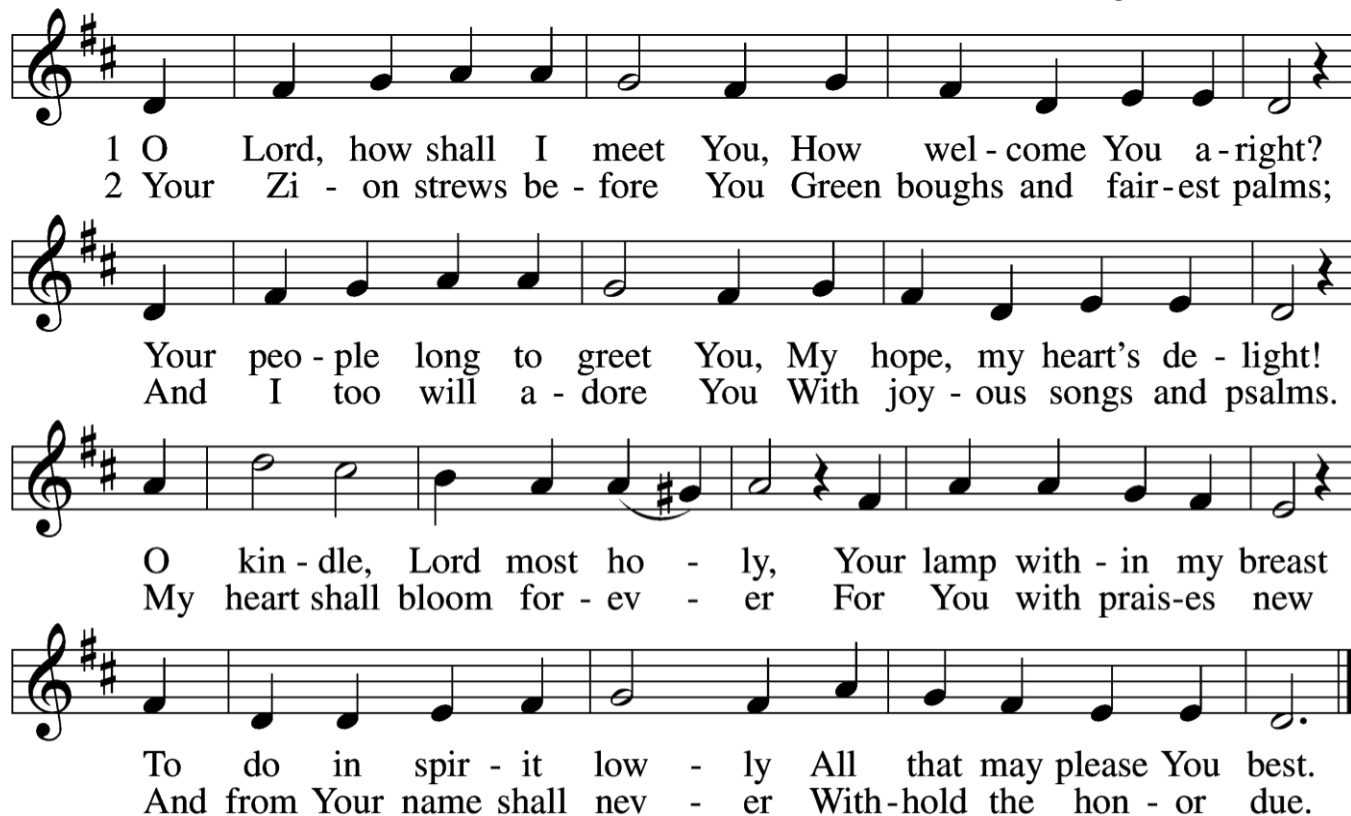
5 Before the dawning day
 Let sin's dark deeds be gone,
 The sinful self be put away,
 The new self now put on.

△ 6 All glory to the Son,
 Who comes to set us free,
 With Father, Spirit, ever one
 Through all eternity.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. John Chandler, 1806–76, alt.
 Tune: Aaron Williams, 1731–76
 Text and tune: Public domain

Distribution Hymn: 334 O Lord, How Shall I Meet You

LSB 334 sts. 1-2



1 O Lord, how shall I meet You, How wel - come You a - right?
 2 Your Zi - on strews be - fore You Green boughs and fair - est palms;

Your peo - ple long to greet You, My hope, my heart's de - light!
 And I too will a - dore You With joy - ous songs and psalms.

O kin - dle, Lord most ho - ly, Your lamp with - in my breast
 My heart shall bloom for - ev - er For You with prais - es new

To do in spir - it low - ly All that may please You best.
 And from Your name shall nev - er With - hold the hon - or due.

3 I lay in fetters, groaning;
 You came to set me free.
 I stood, my shame bemoaning;
 You came to honor me.
 A glorious crown You give me,
 A treasure safe on high
 That will not fail or leave me
 As earthly riches fly.

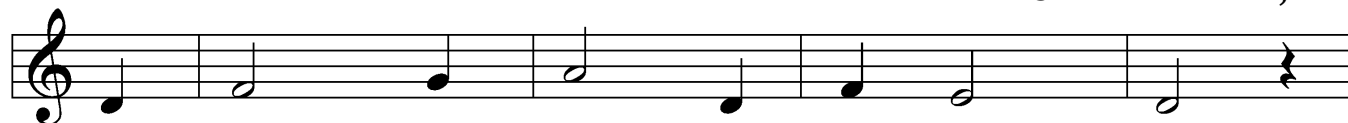
4 Love caused Your incarnation;
 Love brought You down to me.
 Your thirst for my salvation
 Procured my liberty.
 Oh, love beyond all telling,
 That led You to embrace
 In love, all love excelling,
 Our lost and fallen race.

5 Sin's debt, that fearful burden,
 Cannot His love erase;
 Your guilt the Lord will pardon
 And cover by His grace.
 He comes, for you procuring
 The peace of sin forgiv'n,
 His children thus securing
 Eternal life in heav'n.

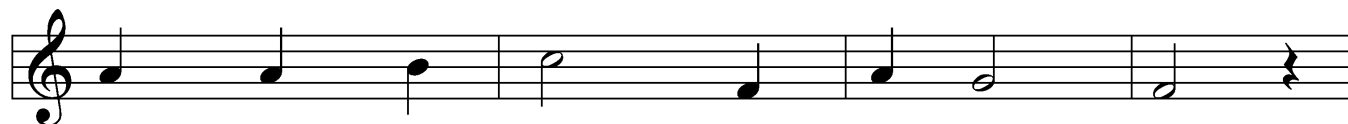
6 He comes to judge the nations,
 A terror to His foes,
 A light of consolations
 And blessèd hope to those
 Who love the Lord's appearing.
 O glorious Sun, now come,
 Send forth Your beams so cheering,
 And guide us safely home.

Distribution Hymn: O Savior, Rend the Heavens Wide

LSB 355 sts. 1-2, 4-7



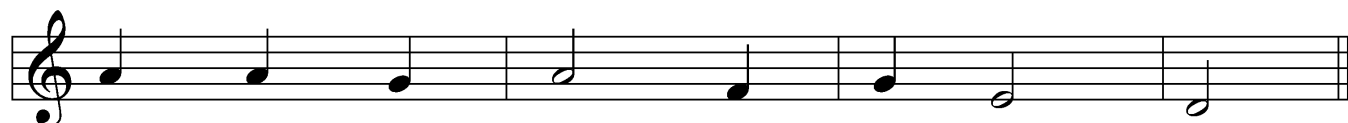
1 O Sav - ior, rend the heav - ens wide;
 2 O Fa - ther, light from heav - en send;
 4 O Fount of hope, how long, how long?
 5 O Morn - ing Star, O ra - diant Sun,



Come down, come down with might - y stride;
 As morn - ing dew, O Son, de - scend.
 When will You come with com - fort strong?
 When will our hearts be - hold Your dawn?



Un - lock the gates, the doors break down;
 Drop down, you clouds, the life of spring:
 O come, O come, Your throne fore - go;
 O Sun, a - rise; with - out Your light



Un - bar the way to heav - en's crown.
 To Ja - cob's line rain down the King.
 Con - sole us in our vale of woe.
 We grope in gloom and dark of night.

6 Sin's dreadful doom upon us lies;
 Grim death looms fierce before our eyes.
 O come, lead us with mighty hand
 From exile to our promised land.

7 There shall we all our praises bring
 And sing to You, our Savior King;
 There shall we laud You and adore
 Forever and forevermore.

Text: Friedrich von Spee, 1591-1635; tr. Martin L. Seltz, 1909-67, alt.
 Tune: Rheinfeilssisch Deutsches Catholisches Gesangbuch, 1666, Augsburg
 Text: © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004522
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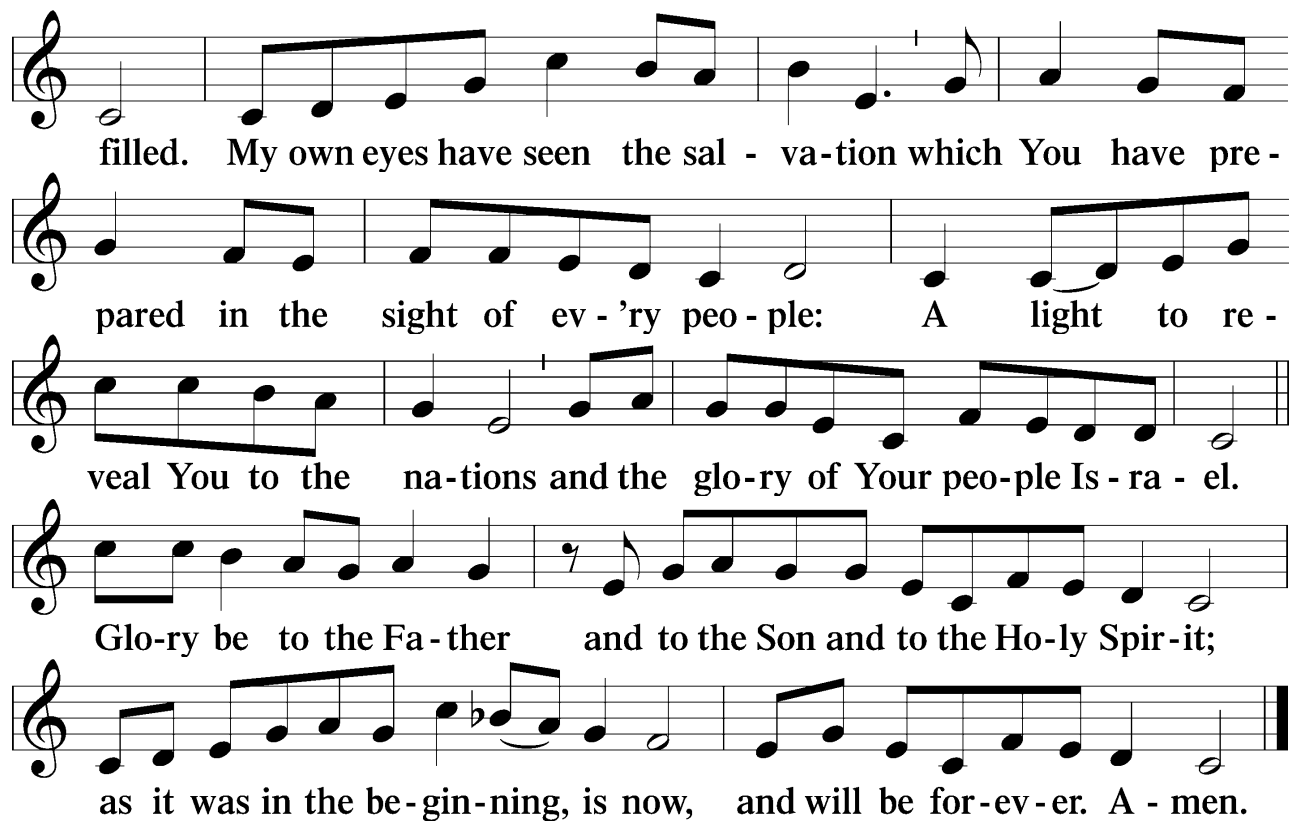
Stand

Nunc Dimittis

Luke 2:29-32 LSB 165



Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been ful -



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which You have pre -
pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re -
veal You to the na - tions and the glo - ry of Your peo - ple Is - ra - el.
Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;
as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

Post-Communion Collect

- P** We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26 LSB 166



- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you
and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.



- C** A - men.

Closing Hymn: Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates *LSB 341*



1 Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates! Be - hold, the
 2 A righ - teous Help - er comes to thee; His char - iot
 3 How blest the land, the cit - y blest, Where Christ the
 4 Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; Make it a
 5 Re - deem - er, come and o - pen wide My heart to



King of glo - ry waits. The King of kings is draw - ing
 is hu - mil - i - ty, His king - ly crown is ho - li -
 rul - er is con-fessed! O peace - ful hearts and hap - py
 tem - ple set a - part From earth - ly use for heav'n's em -
 Thee; here, Lord, a - bide! O en - ter with Thy grace di -



near; The Sav - ior of the world is here. Life and sal -
 ness, His scep - ter, pit - y in dis - tress. The end of
 homes To whom this King in tri - umph comes! The cloud - less
 ploy, A - dorned with prayer and love and joy. So shall your
 vine; Thy face of mer - cy on me shine. Thy Ho - ly



va - tion He doth bring; There-fore re - joice and glad - ly sing.
 all our woe He brings; There-fore the earth is glad and sings.
 sun of joy is He Who comes to set His peo - ple free.
 Sov - 'reign en - ter in And new and no - bler life be - gin.
 Spir - it guide us on Un - til our glo - rious goal is won.



To God the Fa - ther raise Your joy - ful songs of praise.
 To Christ the Sav - ior raise Your grate - ful hymns of praise.
 To God the Spir - it raise Your hap - py shouts of praise.
 To God a - lone be praise For word and deed and grace!
 E - ter - nal praise and fame We of - fer to Thy name.

Text: Georg Weissel, 1590–1635; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
 Tune: August Lemke, 1820–1913
 Text and tune: Public domain

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THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL

Today	9:15 AM	Bible Class
Today	9:15 AM	Sunday School
Today	12:00 - 2:00 PM	Walk-In Communion
Today	11:45 AM - 2:00 PM	Christmas Program Rehearsal
Monday	6:00 PM	Confirmation
Tuesday	10:00 AM	LWML
Tuesday	5:00 - 7:00 PM	Walk-In Communion
Wednesday	10:00 - 11:15 AM	Bible Study
Wednesday	11:30 AM	Advent-1 Morning Worship
Wednesday	6:00 PM	Soup Supper
Wednesday	7:00 PM	Advent-1 Evening Worship
Saturday	6:00 PM	Christmas Sing-A-Long (at St. Martins)
Sunday	11:30 AM – 4:00PM	Christmas in the Valley
Sunday	2:00 PM	LWML Christmas Family Tea

ALTAR FLOWERS were placed this morning in honor of Charlie Djordjevic's birthday.

LWML is collecting mites today. Thank you!

CHRISTMAS CHURCH DECORATING Thank you to the many hands that helped adorned the walls and halls of St. Paul Church for the upcoming Advent Season and the birth of our Dear Savior Jesus Christ.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM REHEARSALS Today is the first rehearsal with a pizza lunch at 11:45 AM - 2:00 PM. Sunday, December 10th will be the second rehearsal at 9:15-10:15 AM. If you have any questions, please contact Audrey Harris. Thank you!

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS today is the last day to order your plants. You may find order forms by the Welcome Center on the sides of the wooden drop box. Please complete a form and place it along with your remittance in the drop box.

PROJECT ADOPT-A-FAMILY Thank you all for your donations to the Adopt-A-Family project with the Oaks Family Care Center. A gentle reminder: Wednesday, December 6th is the deadline date to have the requests brought in. Again, we thank you for your generosity in fulfilling the Christmas wishes for the families.

ADVENT SOUP SUPPER starts this Wednesday at 6:00 PM.

(Please join the fun on Wednesday, December 13th as the SPVC Youth Group will be cooking a special spaghetti dinner with a fun Ugly Christmas Sweater Contest! You are invited to bring desserts on that night. Sign-up at the Welcome Center to bring your favorite holiday goodies. Thank you!)

LWML CHRISTMAS TEA (Part of Christmas in the Valley Community Christmas at St. Paul) is coming up next Sunday, December 10th from 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM. Guest Speaker: Ruth Pangrace will be portraying the character of Mary, Mother of Jesus. Christmas cookies are needed, please sign-up at the Welcome Center. Thank you.

YOUTH GROUP Grades 6-12 meet every other Wednesday here at SPVC at 6:30 PM.
NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, December 13th. Questions? Please contact Pastor Chris Streeper at 330-441-0502.

YOUNG FAMILY FELLOWSHIP Join us on Thursdays starting January 4th, 2024 as we will meet in the church basement from 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM for light lunch and playtime for kids! (Please bring your own lunch.) Kids of all ages are welcome. There is potential for this group to blossom into a homeschooling group, as we have several homeschooling families at St. Paul! If you are interested in this or have any other questions, contact Sarah Moser.

PEACE CAME TO EARTH Advent Devotionals for adults are available in the Narthex hallway, please take one home today.

LITTLE JESUS, BORN FOR ME Advent Booklets for children are available at the Welcome Center.

GENTLE REMINDER You are welcome to take home your Worship folders, otherwise, you may place all worship folders in the blue plastic tub in the Narthex Hallway. **We do recycle the black combs** for the Large Print bulletins. **(PLEASE DO NOT PLACE YOUR USED TISSUES IN THIS TUB.)** Thank you.

GOOD STEWARDSHIP Please take a moment to collect your worship folders, filled out, or blank attendance slips, used tissues, and any other items left in the pews after leaving Worship services. Thank you kindly!

PORTALS OF PRAYER the 2023 Oct.-Dec. devotion booklets are available on the Welcome Table and in the Narthex hallway, please take your copy home today.

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY at 10:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall. Attend in-person or watch the stream live and on-demand.

WIGGLE BAGS Please help yourself to these goody bags that hold activities kids may engage and participate in the worship service. Hopefully this will help alleviate stress for parents who are worried about their child making it through the whole service, but more importantly, they help teach kids that “big church” is for them too. Please take a moment to collect all the contents of the Wiggle Bags and return it to the “Used Wiggle Bag” plastic bin after the Worship Service. We are grateful to Sandy Turner and Jean Wadle who are keeping-up with providing clean Wiggle Bags each week. Your donated supplies may be given directly to Sandy Turner or Jean Wadle. Thank you.

YOUNG FAMILY FELLOWSHIP Families with young children are invited to join in fellowship! Dates and times are to be decided. If you are interested in that or other gatherings, sign-up at the Welcome Center or contact Sarah Moser at 440-453-0180.

SUPPORT FOR UKRAINE We continue to take offerings to provide relief to Lutheran church partners affected by the war in Ukraine. Thank you to everyone who has shown their generosity.

COMMUNION OPPORTUNITIES

Pastor is still providing individual communion opportunities for the foreseeable future. Check the posted times for “walk-in” communion below. Scheduling an appointment with Pastor at church or in your home.

“Walk-In” times at Church:

Sundays, 12 – 2pm

Tuesdays, 5 – 7pm

Scheduling an appointment for communion at church or in your home:

To schedule a time other than the walk-in times

Call Pastor 440-458-0189

Visit www.spvc.org and click “Book with Pastor” to see available times for appointments.

TITHES & OFFERINGS are needed; our Lord still provides for us and we return to Him a portion of His generosity. You have several ways to continue contributing:

1. In-person Worship on Sundays at 8:00 & 10:30 AM
2. Mail your contributions to the church.
3. Talk to your bank about “bill-pay” options. They can likely send a check directly to the church on a scheduled basis.
4. Visit www.spvc.org and click on “Give Online” - you’ll be taken to our secure online giving site where you can make a one-time or on-going contribution.

IN-PERSON SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS watch LIVE or On-Demand just like our worship services (YouTube, Facebook, or www.spvc.org) on Sunday mornings at 9:30 AM.

WATCH LIVE OR ON-DEMAND 8:00 AM on Sundays, or on-demand at YouTube, Facebook, or www.spvc.org – on the homepage is a viewer for the livestream (when active) and for the most recent service. Bulletins are available via the link. Select the bulletin for the date of the service you are watching.

PASTORAL CARE Should you desire pastoral care, please contact the church office 330.483.3883, or 330.483.4119 and leave a message for Pastor.

PRAYER REQUESTS can be sent to prayer@spvc.org (also, email there to join the prayer chain and receive all the updates) ... or ... you may fill out the back side of the attendance slip.

ONLINE DIRECTORY UPDATE If your mobile app needs updated and it’s asking for an “online code” please use “SPVC” and that should reconnect the app.



SPVC
youth

Prizes for best
Adult Sweater
Youth Sweater (6-12)
Child Sweater (pK-5)

1st Annual
Ugly Sweater
Contest &
Youth Supper

Dec 13th
6:00pm



DECEMBER 2023										
	SERVICE	December 3 SUNDAY Communion	December 6 Wednesday Advent Service 11:30am & 7pm	December 10 SUNDAY Communion	December 13 Wednesday Advent Service 11:30am & 7pm	December 17 SUNDAY Communion	December 20 Wednesday Advent Service 11:30am & 7pm	December 24 SUNDAY Christmas Eve Communion at the morning services only	December 25 Monday Christmas Communion 10am Service Only	December 31 SUNDAY Communion
ELDER	8am	Steve Kato	Jim Jackson	Tim Wadle	Chris Duran	Chris Duran	Steve Kato	Steve Kato	S Kato / J Jackson	Tim Wadle
	10:30am	Jim Jackson	N/A	Sam Jakabcic	N/A	Jim Jackson	N/A	Jim Jackson	N/A	Sam Jakabcic
USHERS	8am	Jim Sherry		Dave Hesketh		Mark Gordon		Jim Sherry		
	10:30am	Brian Dearth		Jay Moser		Rich Proeschel		Erich Gottl		
GREETERS	8am	H & I Cordes		D & M Duran		D & B Bremke		H & I Cordes		
	10:30am	Barb Pjior	R & J Proeschel	Joe Bennet	Barb Pjior					
ELDER INFO										
Stephen Kato 330-242-7183 Tim Wadle 216-214-7109 Jim Jackson 330-391-6393 Chris Duran 216-577-5164 Sam Jakabcic 216-789-1076										
4:00 S Kato / T Wadle										
7:00 S Kato / C Duran										

“BREATH OF HEAVEN”

*Live Nativity Presentation
26th Anniversary*

ST. MATTHEW LUTHERAN CHURCH
15617 MASON ROAD, VERMILION

SATURDAY DECEMBER 9th & SUNDAY DECEMBER 10th
4:00 PM THROUGH 8:00 PM

Walk-through presentations approximately every 15 minutes

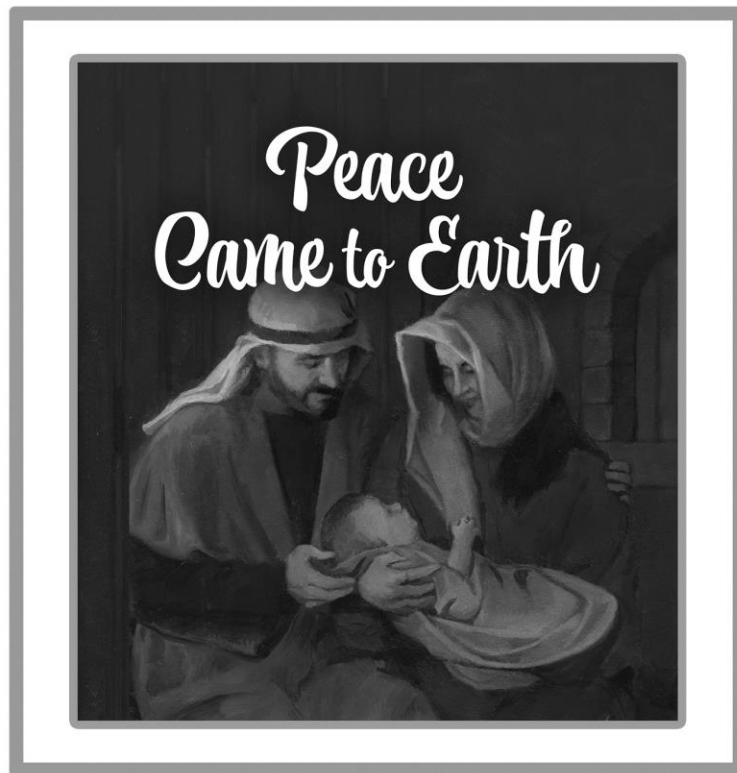


*Please join the members of St. Matthew, Bethany and
Grace Lutheran Churches as we share our 26th
presentation of “Breath of Heaven.”*

*It is our honor to share a portrayal of that Holy Night when
Jesus was born. The presentation is free to the public.*

*Please bring non-perishable food items to be donated to the
local food banks.*

Performances by the Firelands High School Select Choir.



Wednesdays 11:30 am & 7:00pm (supper @ 6pm)
in Advent December 6, 13, & 20

Christmas in the Valley at St. Paul

Sunday, December 10

Sunday School Program 10:30am

Christmas Tea 2:00pm

Christmas Town Train, Hot Cocoa, Until 4:00pm
Ornaments & Cookies to Decorate

Christmas Eve 4:00pm & 7:00pm

Candlelight Lessons and Carols 3:30pm & 6:30pm Carols by Request

Christmas Day 10:00am

www.spvc.org

Prayers for Worship

On entering a church

Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells. In the multitude of Your tender mercies prepare my heart that I may enter Your house to worship and confess Your holy name; through Jesus Christ, my God and Lord. Amen.

Before worship

O Lord, my creator, redeemer, and comforter, as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth, I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear me for His sake. Amen.

After worship

Almighty and merciful God, I have again worshiped in Your presence and received both forgiveness for my many sins and the assurance of Your love in Jesus Christ. I thank You for this undeserved grace and ask You to keep me in faith until I inherit eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

Before confession and absolution

Almighty, everlasting God, for our many sins we justly deserve eternal condemnation. In Your mercy You sent Your dear Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who won for us forgiveness of sins and everlasting salvation. Grant us a true confession that, dead to sin, we may be raised up by Your life-giving absolution. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may be ever watchful and live true and godly lives in Your service; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Before communing

Dear Savior, at Your gracious invitation I come to Your table to eat and drink Your holy body and blood. Let me find favor in Your eyes to receive this holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of my soul and to the glory of Your holy name; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Thanksgiving after receiving the Sacrament

Almighty and everlasting God, I thank and praise You for feeding me the life-giving body and blood of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Send me Your Holy Spirit that, having with my mouth received the holy Sacrament, I may by faith obtain and eternally enjoy Your divine grace, the forgiveness of sins, unity with Christ, and life eternal; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

For blessing on the Word

Lord God, bless Your Word wherever it is proclaimed. Make it a word of power and peace to convert those not yet Your own and to confirm those who have come to saving faith. May Your Word pass from the ear to the heart, from the heart to the lip, and from the lip to the life that, as You have promised, Your Word may achieve the purpose for which You send it; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.