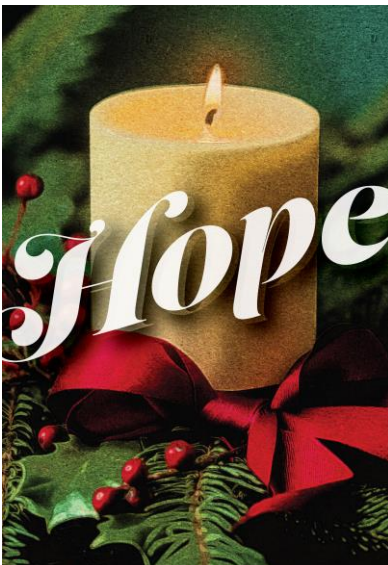


The Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit

An ELCA Reconciling in Christ, Rejoicing Spirits, and handicap friendly Congregation

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First Sunday of Advent
Sunday, December 1, 2024
8:30 am

The Holy Spirit Empowers Us for Ministry in Daily Life

Gathered by God's grace and empowered by the Holy Spirit,
we invite and welcome all people to join us on our journey
to become more faithful ministers of Jesus Christ
in our homes, our communities, and the world.

We welcome all who worship with us today.

Visitors are invited to sign the guest register located in the lobby.

If you are interested in joining our family of faith,
please talk with one of our Pastors or call the church office.

Children are welcome and celebrated!

The “Children’s Ministry” table and basket in the lobby
contains a variety of items for children’s use during worship.
Stop by to borrow a book or pick up some coloring sheets and crayons.

Please silence all communication devices.

Our services are live streamed and recorded. In-person attendance implies consent
to be included in the live streamed and recorded worship service.

HOLY COMMUNION

All who believe in the presence of Jesus Christ in Holy Communion are welcome to receive the Sacrament. To facilitate flow, the ushers invite people to come forward starting with the back rows and working forward. You should come forward using the center aisle to receive the elements in a continuous style from pastor and worship assistant. Afterward you may choose to kneel or stand at the altar rail for a brief moment of prayer or return to your seat up the side aisle, depositing your empty cup in the receptacle on your way. Gluten free wafers are available. Our wine is grape juice so that all may freely receive.

Children may receive the sacrament if they have completed instruction with a pastor.

Children who do not commune may come forward for a blessing. Communion kits are available at the usher stands for those who prefer to remain in their seats, and they will be communed along with our Zoom worshippers at the beginning of distribution.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Gathering Music

Lord, Reign in Me
Jeff Gross, soloist

Brown

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Advent Wreath Candles

The first candle calls us to hope.
When the world seems scary,
when we try to escape and hide,
God invites us to confront fear and we find HOPE.

(Hope candle is lit)

Where in the world do we find HOPE these days?

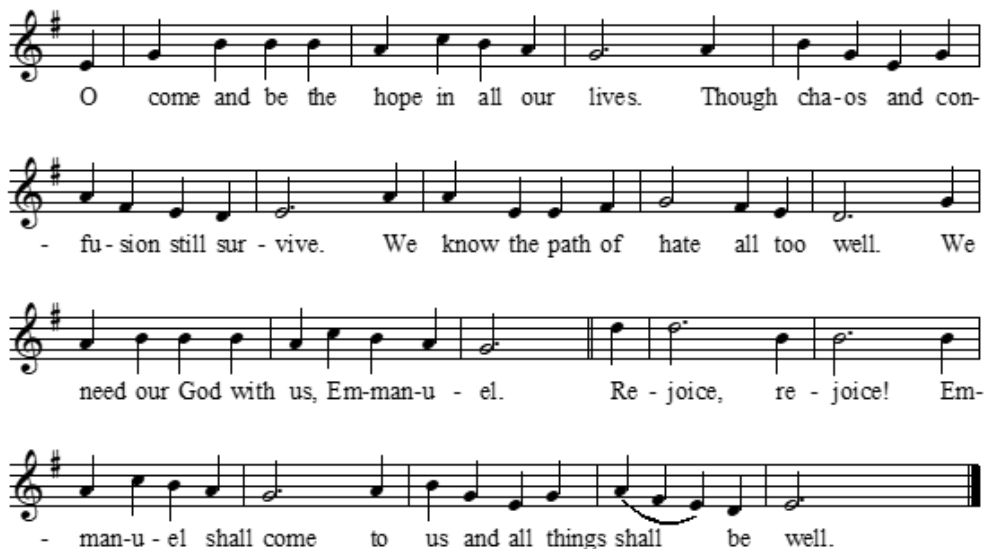
Let us pray.

As you brought the word of hope to Mary and through her to our world,
rekindle in us this season a sense of hope
as we prepare to celebrate your nativity.

Amen

We rise in body or spirit.

Song of HOPE



O come and be the hope in all our lives. Though chaos and con-
fu- sion still sur- vive. We know the path of hate all too well. We
need our God with us, Em-man-u - el. Re - joice, re - joice! Em-
man-u - el shall come to us and all things shall be well.

Greeting and Prayer of the Day

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.

Let us pray.

Holy Source of life and hope, as we come together this day, open our ears to hear, open our eyes to see, and open our hearts to love, that we may come to know your ways and follow your paths. Help us grow in love for one another, and for all creation, as we prepare for the coming of the one who calls us to turn from our false gods to you, Holy One, the true source of our salvation.

Amen

The assembly is seated.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture readings, preaching and song.

Reading – 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Translation: NRSV-UE

A reading from First Thessalonians.

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!

We rise in body or spirit to welcome the gospel.

Gospel – Luke 21:25-36

Translation: NRSV-UE

The Good News from Luke, the 21st chapter.

Open our hearts, Lord.

“There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees;
as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves
and know that summer is already near.

So also, when you see these things taking place,
you know that the kingdom of God is near.

Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away
until all things have taken place.

Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

“Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation
and drunkenness and the worries of this life and that day does not catch
you unexpectedly, like a trap.

For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth.

Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape
all these things that will take place and to stand before the Son of Man.”

This is the Good News!

Thanks be to God!

The assembly is seated.

Sermon

Pastor Cindy Camp

We rise in body or spirit.

Word in Song

All Earth is Hopeful
Verses 1, 2, 3

ELW 266



To - da la tie - rra es - pe - ra, al Sal - va - dor
1 All earth is hope - ful, the Sav - ior comes at last!
2 Peo - ple of Is - rael, you heard the proph - et tell:
3 Moun - tains and val - leys will have to be pre - pared;
4 We first saw Je - sus a ba - by in a crib.



yel sur - co - a - bier - to, la ob - ra del Se - ñor; es el
Fur - rows lie o - pen for God's cre - a - tive task: this, the
"A vir - gin moth - er will bear Em - man - u - el"; she con -
new high - ways o - pened, new pro - to - cols de - clared. Al - most
This same Lord Je - sus to - day has come to live in our



mun - do que lu - cha por la li - ber - tad, re -
la - bor of peo - ple who strug - gle to see how
ceived him, "God with us," our broth - er, whose birth re -
here! God is near - ing, in beau - ty and grace! All
world; he is pres - ent, in neigh - bors we see our



cla - ma jus - ti - cia y bus - ca la ver - dad. dar - nos li - ber - tad.
God's truth and jus - tice set ev - 'ry - bod - y free.
stores hope and cour - age to chil - dren of this earth.
clear ev - 'ry gate - way, in haste, come out in haste!
Je - sus is with us, and ev - er sets us free.

Advent Affirmation

We believe in God the Father, creator of heaven and earth.
**The one who is full of patience, who is not afraid of silence,
who does not need to fill each moment with activity and noise.
The one who is beyond bluster and flurry,
and who does not push for attention.**

We believe in God the Son, Savior of creation,
**who slipped into Bethlehem one night, mostly unnoticed,
who lived thirty years without headlines or haste,
who frequently took time alone with his patient Father,
who waited for the right time to become the suffering servant,
who stood quietly before the noise of his accusers,
whose silence overpowered their words,
who died, then rose again on a quiet Sunday morning.**

We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
**who strengthens, empowers, renews and refreshes,
sometimes arriving with obvious power,
sometimes with the quiet breath of a whisper.**

We believe in one God
**who patiently waits for us,
and who longs for us to do the same.**
Amen

Prayers of the People

Invitation to prayer:

As we prepare for Emmanuel, God-with-us,
let us pray for all people and places that long for God's presence.

After each petition:

We are waiting, Jesus;
come and be with us soon.

Pastor's closing prayer:
Savior of the nations, come, and receive these prayers
and the pleas of our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ.
Amen

Peace

May God increase our love for one another
and strengthen our hearts in holiness,
as we greet one another in peace.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace by saying,
"Peace be with you."*

The assembly is seated.

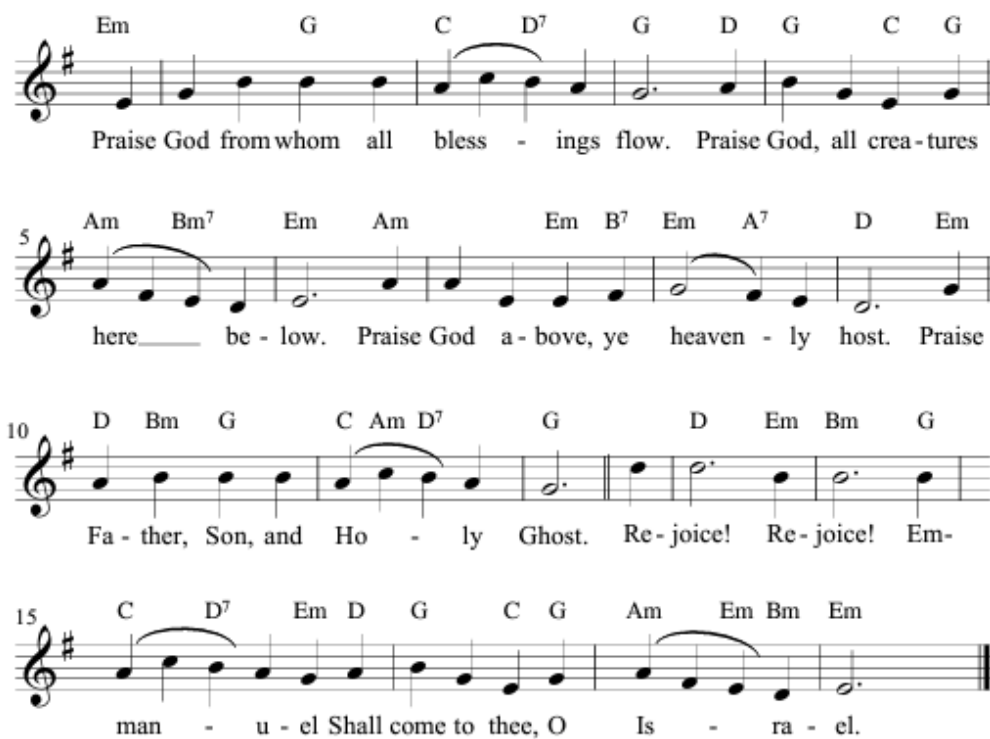
MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

During the Offering Song, the gifts will be brought forward. You may remain seated.

Offering Song

Advent Doxology



The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music. The lyrics are: "Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures here below. Praise God above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Re-joice! Re-joice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel." The chords are: Em, G, C, D7, G, D, G, C, G; Am, Bm7, Em, Am, Em, B7, Em, A7, D, Em; D, Bm, G, C, Am, D7, G, D, Em, Bm, G; C, D7, Em, D, G, C, G, Am, Em, Bm, Em.

We rise in body or spirit.

Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

We thank you, God, for the joy we feel this day.

We are blessed by this community of love, this space of acceptance.

We place our trust in you, knowing that you care for us.

With deep gratitude for all you provide to us, we offer our gifts to you.

Center our hearts during this season of giving.

Amen

Great Thanksgiving

May the God of hope be with you.

And also with you.

Watchers and waiters, look! Your redemption is near.

We raise up our heads and open our hearts to the One who approaches.

Advent people, live attentively in these days of hope.

We sing songs of glad expectation to God who is in our midst.

Words of Institution

Word in Meal

As we prepare to celebrate Jesus' birth, as we anticipate his return, we tell the world of that Advent mystery.

Jesus was born that we might have peace.

Jesus died and was raised that we might have life.

Jesus will come again to welcome us home.

Pour out your blessing upon this bread, O God.

Wheat, grown in fields, and touched by yeast, becomes life-giving food.

This bread is transformed by your love into the living presence of Jesus.

Pour out your blessing upon this cup, juice from grapes grown in the sun.

May we drink deeply of the forgiveness Jesus offers.

Send your Spirit on this community, gathered here around your table.

Feed us, that we may truly become the body of Christ, offering life to the world.

Through your beloved child, Jesus Christ, and with the life-giving power of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory are yours, now and forevermore.

Amen

Lord's Prayer

God in Community, Holy in One, be with us in this waiting time
as we pray together as Jesus, your Word, taught us to pray, saying:

**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**

Invitation to the table

God feeds us with tender mercy.
Come to the table.

The assembly is seated.

Distribution of communion



1 Thine the a - men thine the praise al - le - lu - ias an - gels raise
 2 Thine the life e - ter - nal - ly thine the prom - ise let there be
 3 Thine the tru - ly thine the yes thine the ta - ble we the guest
 4 Thine the king - dom thine the prize thine the won - der full sur - prise
 5 Thine the glo - ry in the night no more dy - ing on - ly light



thine the ev - er - last - ing head thine the break - ing of the bread
 thine the vi - sion thine the tree all the earth on bend - ed knee
 thine the mer - cy all from thee thine the glo - ry yet to be
 thine the ban - quet then the praise then the jus - tice of thy ways
 thine the riv - er thine the tree then the Lamb e - ter - nal - ly



thine the glo - ry thine the sto - ry thine the har - vest then the cup
 gone the nail - ing gone the rail - ing gone the plead - ing gone the cry
 then the ring - ing and the sing - ing then the end of all the war
 thine the glo - ry thine the sto - ry then the wel - come to the least
 then the ho - ly ho - ly ho - ly cel - e - bra - tion ju - bi - lee



thine the vine - yard then the cup is lift - ed up lift - ed up.
 gone the sigh - ing gone the dy - ing what was loss lift - ed high.
 thine the liv - ing thine the lov - ing ev - er - more ev - er - more.
 then the won - der all in - creas - ing at thy feast at thy feast.
 thine the splen - dor thine the bright - ness on - ly thee on - ly thee.

Communion Song

Come, Be Among Us, Lord Jesus
Repeat as needed

ACS 995



Te in - vi - ta - mos, oh Cris - to, te in - vi -
Come, be a - mong us, O Je - sus. Come now and



ta - mos hoy mis - mo: qué - da - te con no - so - tros,
vis - it your peo - ple. Come, and be near your chil - dren.



qué - da - te de_u - na vez. La no - che ya se_a - pro -
Stay with us, Lord, a - bide. Shad - ows are deep - 'ning a -



xi - ma, vie - ne la lo - bre - guez.
round us; fast falls the e - ven - tide.



Qué - da - te con no - so - tros, qué - da - te de_u - na vez.
Come and be near your chil - dren. Stay with us, Lord, a - bide.



Qué - da - te con no - so - tros, qué - da - te de_u - na vez.
Come and be near your chil - dren. Stay with us, Lord, a - bide.

We rise in body or spirit.

Prayer after communion

Let us pray.

Generous God, we thank you for the gift of life,
for the bread of salvation.

We thank you for coming among us,
for leading us into peace.

We thank you for showering us with mercy,
for sending us into the world.

Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us as we feed the hungry in your name.

Amen

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Blessing

We have peeked at the light under the stable door.

Do you have the courage to unwrap the gift the Christmas Christ brings?

Go forth now and open the door to let hope break forth.

Open the gift and give hope to one another.

Open your heart and let hope, peace, joy and love enter in.

Amen



¡Dios de la es - pe - ran - za, da - nos go - zo y paz!
 May the God of hope go with us ev - 'ry day,



Al mun - do en cri - sis, ha - bla tu ver - dad.
 to a world in need with news of joy and peace.



Dios de la jus - ti - cia, mán - da - nos tu luz,
 May the God of jus - tice speed us on our way,



tra - yéndonos la luz de la es - peranza a ev - er - y land and race.
 bring - ing light and hope to ev - 'ry land and race.



O - re - mos por la paz, can - te - mos
 Pray - ing, let us work for peace; sing - ing, share our



de tu a - mor. Lu - che - mos por la paz,
 joy with all; work - ing for a world that's new,



fie - les a ti, Se - ñor.
 faith - ful when we hear Christ's call.

Dismissal

Be alert. Be faithful.
The day of the Lord is coming.
The kingdom of God is near.
Thanks be to God.

Please join in supporting our church's ministries using your preferred method of giving:



venmo

- Enroll in our on-line giving program, Simply Giving (recommended);
- Mail your offering check to the church;
- Text your offering to 610-981-1312;
- Download our mobile app for recurring or one-time gifts;
- Establish automatic contributions to the church using your bank's bill pay service.

Additional information is located in the Stewardship section of the church's website at: lchsemmaus.org.

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Glenn Hinderliter, percussion



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Pastor Shari Duminy, Senior Pastor
Pastor Tami K. Reichley, Associate Pastor
Pastor Cindy Camp, Associate Pastor
Deacon Melanie Werley, Director of Liturgy
Karin Kahler, Director, Faith Formation for Children
Nancy Pfeffer, Interim Choir Director

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Advent Wreath Lighters

The Hetrick Family

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Carole Wetherhold

Reader

Michael Epperly

Song Leader

Jeff Gross

Communion Assistants

Carol Walrod, Don Walrod

Greeter

Adam Fermier

Usher

Chuck Whirl

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Diana Sorrentino, Bob Stevens, and Jimmy Lee Werley

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Lynda Swartz, Julie Timmcke, Jennifer Wetzel

