



# MERRY CHRISTMAS

For there is  
born to you this day  
in the city of David a  
Savior, who is Christ the Lord.  
And this will be the sign to you:  
You will find a Babe wrapped in  
swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

Isaiah 9:6-7

**REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**The Nativity of Our Lord**  
**Christmas Eve**  
**Wednesday, December 24, 2025, 10:30 p.m.**  
**Rev. Stephanie White**

# REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

Order of Worship

The Nativity of Our Lord

Christmas Eve

December 24, 2025, 10:30 p.m.

*In winter's deepest night, we welcome the light of the Christ child. Isaiah declares that the light of the long-promised king will illumine the world and bring endless peace and justice. Paul reminds us that the grace of God through Jesus Christ brings salvation to all people. The angels declare that Jesus' birth is good and joyful news for everyone, including lowly shepherds. Filled with the light that shines in our lives, we go forth to share the light of Christ with the whole world.*

Key to hymnals in the pews:

ELW = Evangelical Lutheran Worship (red); page numbers are in front, hymns in back

WOW = With One Voice (blue); page numbers are in front, hymns in back

STS = Spirit Touching Spirit (grey)

\* = Please rise

## **GATHERING**

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

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

*We welcome all who are gathered with us for worship, whether in person or via the livestream! If you are worshipping with us via the livestream, please send an e-mail to [redeemer@gvtel.com](mailto:redeemer@gvtel.com) to let us know from where you are worshipping.*

### **\*Call to Worship**

Jesus, the bright Morning Star, shine light in the world.

**Day and night he shines for all to see.**

Jesus was born in the midst of injustice and poverty.

**That the world may see the justice and richness of God.**

God so loved the world that God sent Jesus.

**That all who believe in him may not perish but have eternal life.**

Jesus is the light of the world.

**Jesus is the light of our lives!**

Sing to God a new song!

**A song of hope, joy, and peace around the world!**

**\*Processional Carol**

*Angels We Have Heard on High*

*All turn and face the processional cross as it is carried into the sanctuary.*

ELW #289

### Angels We Have Heard on High



1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,  
2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi-lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?  
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;



and the moun-tains in re - ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.  
What the glad - some tid - ings be which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?  
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.

*Refrain*



Glo ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo -



ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Text: French carol; tr. H. F. Hemy, *The Crown of Jesus Music*, 1864

Music: GLORIA, French carol

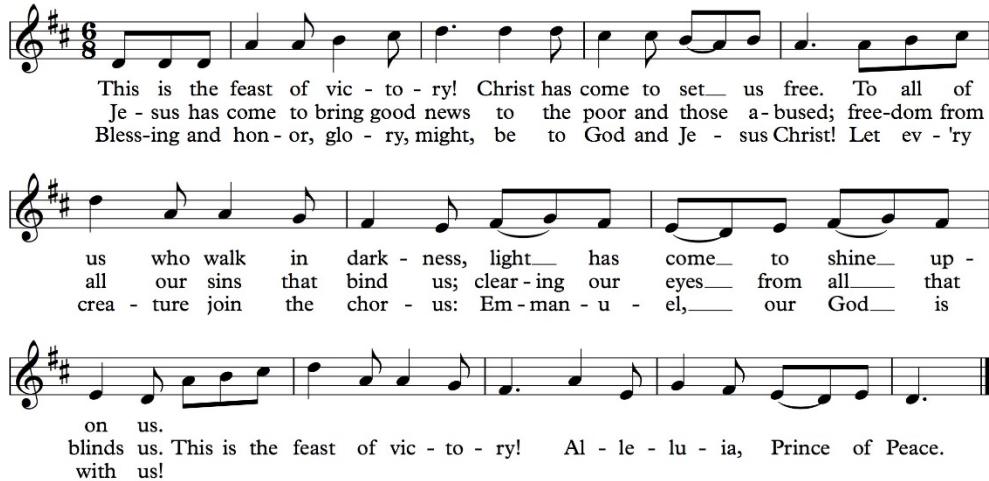
## \*Invocation and Greeting

We gather in the name of God, the Creator of Light;  
Jesus, the Light of the World;  
And the Holy Spirit, the Light who illuminates our path.  
**Amen.**

With great joy the angels proclaimed, "Do not be afraid!  
For I bring you good news of great joy!  
Today is born a Savior who is Christ the Lord!"  
We are saved—not by anything we have done,  
But by God's mercy poured out on us richly in Christ.  
In Jesus  our sins are forgiven.  
May you know the peace which the angels sang from the heavens.  
God's forgiveness is good news of great joy!  
**Amen!**

## \*Hymn of Praise

*to the tune of People, Look East*



This is the feast of vic - to - ry! Christ has come to set us free. To all of  
Je - sus has come to bring good news to the poor and those a - bused; free-dom from  
Bless-ing and hon - or, glo - ry, might, be to God and Je - sus Christ! Let ev - 'ry

us who walk in dark - ness, light has come to shine up -  
all our sins that bind us; clear - ing our eyes from all that  
crea - ture join the chor - us: Em - man - u - el, our God is

on us.  
blinds us. This is the feast of vic - to - ry! Al - le - lu - ia, Prince of Peace.  
with us!

## \*Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray...Almighty God,

**you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light.  
Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence  
and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory;**

**through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever.  
Amen.**

## **WORD**

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

**First Reading:** *This poem promises deliverance from Assyrian oppression, a hope based on the birth of a royal child with a name full of promise. While Judah's king will practice justice and righteousness, the real basis for faith lies in God's passion for the people: The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this!*

**Isaiah 9:2-7**

- <sup>2</sup> The people who walked in darkness  
    have seen a great light;  
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—  
    on them light has shined.
- <sup>3</sup> You have multiplied the nation,  
    you have increased its joy;  
they rejoice before you  
    as with joy at the harvest,  
    as people exult when dividing plunder.
- <sup>4</sup> For the yoke of their burden,  
    and the bar across their shoulders,  
    the rod of their oppressor,  
    you have broken as on the day of Midian.
- <sup>5</sup> For all the boots of the tramping warriors  
    and all the garments rolled in blood  
    shall be burned as fuel for the fire.
- <sup>6</sup> For a child has been born for us,  
    a son given to us;  
authority rests upon his shoulders;  
    and he is named  
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
    Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
- <sup>7</sup> His authority shall grow continually,  
    and there shall be endless peace  
for the throne of David and his kingdom.  
    He will establish and uphold it

with justice and with righteousness  
from this time onward and forevermore.  
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God!**

**Second Reading:** *The appearance of God's grace in Jesus Christ brings salvation for all humanity. Consequently, in the present we live wisely and justly while also anticipating the hope of our Savior's final appearance.*

Titus 2:11-14

<sup>11</sup> The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, <sup>12</sup> training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, <sup>13</sup> while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. <sup>14</sup> He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God!**

**\*Gospel Acclamation**

*Your Little Ones, Dear Lord*  
stanzas 1 and 2

ELW #286

## Your Little Ones, Dear Lord



1 Your lit - tle ones, dear Lord, are we, and  
2 With songs we has - ten you to greet, and  
3 Oh, draw us whol - ly to you, Lord, and  
4 Un - til at last we too pro - claim, with



come your low - ly bed to see; en - light - en ev - 'ry  
kiss the ground be - fore your feet. Oh, bless - ed hour, oh,  
to us all your grace ac - cord; true faith and love to  
all your saints, your glo - rious name; in par - a - dise our



soul and mind, that we the way to you may find.  
sweet-est night that gave you birth, our soul's de - light.  
us im - part, that we may hold you in our heart.  
songs re - new, and praise you as the an - gels do.

Text: Hans A. Brorson, 1694–1764; tr. Harriet Krauth Spaeth, 1845–1925, alt.

Music: HER KOMMER DINE ARME SMÅ, Johann A. P. Schulz, 1747–1800

**Gospel:** God's greatest gift comes as a baby in a manger. Angels announce the "good news of great joy" and proclaim God's blessing of peace.

**\*Gospel: Luke 2:1-20**

The holy gospel according to St. Luke...

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup> This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup> All went to their own towns to be registered. <sup>4</sup> Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. <sup>5</sup> He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup> While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup> And she

gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

<sup>8</sup> In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup> Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup> But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: <sup>11</sup> to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup> This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” <sup>13</sup> And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

<sup>14</sup> “Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

<sup>15</sup> When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” <sup>16</sup> So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup> When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; <sup>18</sup> and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup> But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup> The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**\*Gospel Acclamation**

*Your Little Ones, Dear Lord*  
stanzas 3 and 4

ELW #286

Message

Rev. Stephanie White

**\*Carol of the Day**

*Before the Marvel of This Night*

WOV #636

## Before the Marvel of This Night

1 Be - fore the mar - vel of this night, a - dor - ing.  
2 A - wake the sleep - ing world with song, this is the.  
3 The love that we have al - ways known, our con - stant

fold your wings and bow, then tear the sky a - part with light  
day the Lord has made. As-sem - ble here, ce - les - tial throng,  
joy and end - less light, now to the love-less world be shown,

and with your news the world en - dow. Pro - claim the  
in roy - al splen - dor come ar - rayed. Give earth a  
now break up - on its death - ly night. In - to one

birth of Christ and peace, that fear and death and sor - row cease:  
glimpse of heav'n - ly bliss, a teas - ing taste of what they miss:  
song com - press the love, that rules our u - ni - verse a - bove:

sing peace, sing peace, sing gift of  
sing bliss, sing bliss, sing end - less  
sing love, sing love, sing God is

peace, sing peace, sing gift of peace!  
bliss, sing bliss, sing end - less bliss!  
love, sing love, sing God is love!

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919  
Music: MARVELL, Carl Schalk, b. 1929

Text © 1981 Jaroslav J. Vajda, admin. Augsburg Fortress.  
Music © 1979 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved.

## \*Nicene Creed

**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 People**

**...In the light of the manger we pray;**

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

**\*Sharing of the Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

# MEAL

*God feeds us with the presence of Christ.*

## Offering

*We welcome you to Redeemer Lutheran Church this day! Tithes and offerings may be placed in the offering box before the service or at this time. As our tithes and offerings are being collected, please take a moment to sign the red Friendship Pad at the end of the pew and pass it along.*

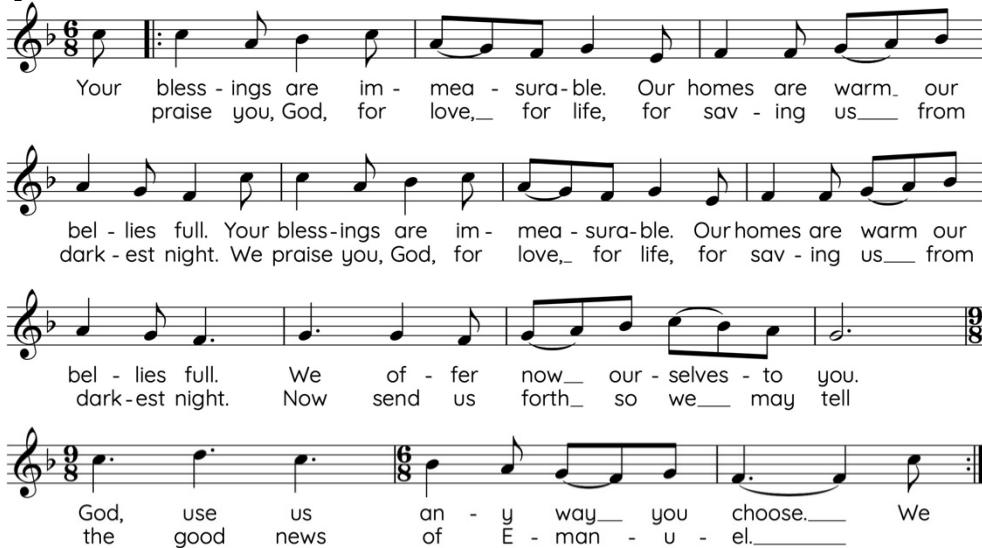
Ministry of Music

O Holy Night

Dane Froiland

## \*Offertory

*to the tune of On Christmas Night*



Music notation for the Offertory hymn, "On Christmas Night", in G major. The lyrics are as follows:

Your blessings are im - mea - sura-ble, Our homes are warm our  
praise you, God, for love, for life, for sav - ing us from  
bel - lies full. Your bless-ings are im - mea - sura-ble. Our homes are warm our  
dark - est night. We praise you, God, for love, for life, for sav - ing us from  
bel - lies full. We of - fer now our - selves - to you.  
dark-est night. Now send us forth so we may tell  
God, use an - y way - you choose. We  
the good of E - man - u - el.

## \*Offering Prayer

God of light,  
**Our world is a very dark place.**  
**Therefore, we offer these gifts**  
**of ourselves, our time and our resources,**  
**trusting you will use them**  
**to set the world aglow with your loving presence.**  
**May our offerings continue to shine brightly before others**  
**so they may see our good works and give glory to you.**  
**We ask this in the name of Christ.**  
**Amen.**

## \*Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

**And also 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.**

At the beginning of creation God said, “**Let there be light**”; and there was light. God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. In ancient times God also led the Israelites through the desert with a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. The priests of old also kept a perpetual fire burning in the Temple to remind us that God is a light who cannot be extinguished.

Finally Jesus, the Word, who was with God since the beginning of creation, became flesh and lived among us. We have seen his glory shining in our world, full grace and truth, Christ’s light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. This same light has commanded us not to hide our light under a bushel basket, but to put it on a lamp stand so that everyone can see it. With our lights burning brightly, we now join the saints and angels in a hymn of praise to God, the Everlasting Light.

## \*Sanctus

*to the tune of Love Has Come*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly One. God of pow - er, God of might. Heav'n and  
earth are full of your glor - y. Ho - sa - na in the high - est. Blessed! Blessed  
is the one who comes. Blessed! Blessed! in the name of God.

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets’ hopes and dreams.

Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.

Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup,  
We remember your Word dwelling among us,  
full of grace and truth.  
We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.  
We look with hope for his coming,  
**Come, Lord Jesus.**

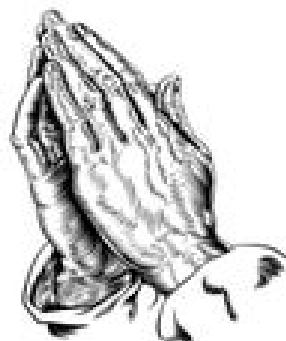
Holy God, we long for your Spirit.  
Come among us. Bless this meal.  
May your Word take flesh in us.  
Awaken your people.  
Fill us with your light.,.  
Bring the gift of peace on earth.

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel,  
Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High,  
one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**\*Lord's Prayer**

**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

\*Agnus Dei

*to the tune of Still, Still, Still*

Lamb of God, you take a - way our sin. Lord,  
have mercy on us, and may your peace be with us

## Distribution

Know that all who come seeking Jesus are invited to receive these gifts of God. Please approach the serving station using the center aisle at the direction of the ushers. After receiving the Bread of Life, please take an empty cup before approaching the wine station; if you prefer grape juice instead of wine, please take one of the pre-filled cups of white grape juice from the center of the tray. Return to your pew using the side aisles.

Our bread is gluten- and other allergen-free.

## Carols during Distribution

*Away in a Manger  
Angels, from the Realms of Glory*

ELW #277

ELW #275

## \*Post-Communion Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**Amen.**

## \*Post Communion Prayer

Jesus, our bright Morning Star,  
**we give you thanks that you have fed us well  
through the bread and wine of your Supper.**

**May it enable us to shine brightly in all the dark places of our world  
with your love, justice and peace.**

**We ask this in your holy name.**

**Amen.**

## \*Candlelighting

*The acolytes will take the light from the Christ candle and give the light to one person in each family group, who then passes it on. The lighted candle should be held upright when giving the light to the next person.*

Jesus said, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but have the light of life.

Jesus also said, “You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under a bushel basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.”

## \*Carol

*Silent Night, Holy Night!  
Candles may remain lighted through the Threefold Amen.*

ELW #281

# Silent Night, Holy Night! *Stille Nacht, Heilige Nacht!*



Stil - le Nacht, hei - li - ge Nacht! Al - les schläft,  
1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm,  
2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake  
3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God,



ein - sam wacht nur das trau - te, hoch - hei - li - ge Paar.  
all is bright round yon vir - gin moth - er and child.  
at the sight; glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far,  
love's pure light ra - diant beams from your ho - ly face,



Hold - er Kna - be im lok - ki - gen Haar, schlaf in himm - li - scher  
Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in heav - en - ly  
heav'n - ly hosts . . . sing, al - le - lu - ia! Christ, the Sav - ior, is  
with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at your



Ruh,  
peace,  
born!  
birth,

schlaf in  
sleep in  
Christ, the  
Je - sus,

himm - li - scher  
heav - en - ly  
Sav - ior, is  
Lord, at your

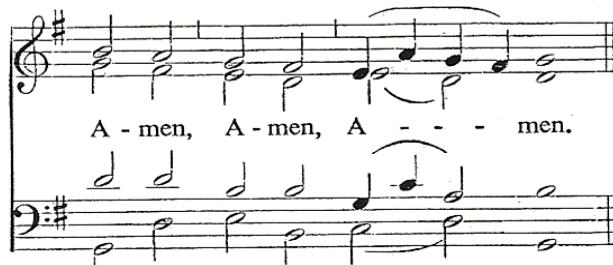
Ruh.  
peace.  
born!  
birth.

## **SENDING**

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

### **\*Benediction and Threefold Amen**

The triune God,  
glorious Mystery,  
holy Incarnate One,  
abiding Comforter,  
☩ bless you with endless grace, peace, and joy.



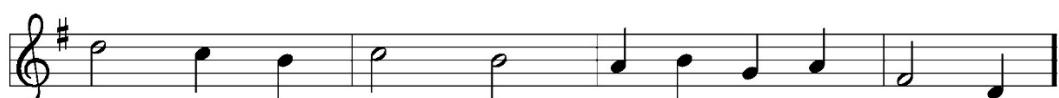
### **\*Sending Carol**

### ***O Come, All Ye Faithful***

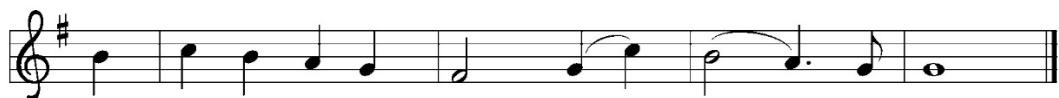
*All face the processional cross as it is carried from the sanctuary.*

ELW #283

## O, Come, All Ye Faithful



*Refrain*



Text: attr. John Francis Wade, 1711–1786; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802–1880, sts. 1, 3–4; tr. unknown, st. 2  
Music: ADESTE FIDELES, attr. John Francis Wade

## **\*Dismissal**

Glory to God in the highest!  
**And peace to God's people on earth!**  
Go in joy. Embody God's redeeming grace.  
**Thanks be to God!**

Postlude