

***Dismissal**

Go now, with light to guide your steps and angels to sing their news as you travel to the manger. And may faith tell you, Emmanuel will be with us soon! **Thanks be to God.**

Lutheran Church of the Covenant

19000 Libby Road

Maple Hts. OH 44137

Martin@covenantmaplehts.org

216-662-0370

Rev, Andrea Mcdonough

revandreamcdonough@gmail.com

216-352-9655

Welcome to the Lutheran Church of the Covenant! Today, as we begin our Advent waiting for the Christ child, we joyfully worship together with our ministry partners, the Lutheran Church of the Master.

We encourage you to participate throughout worship by speaking the **bold** print and singing along with the hymns. Headings preceded by an asterisk * indicate when you are invited to stand, as you are comfortable.

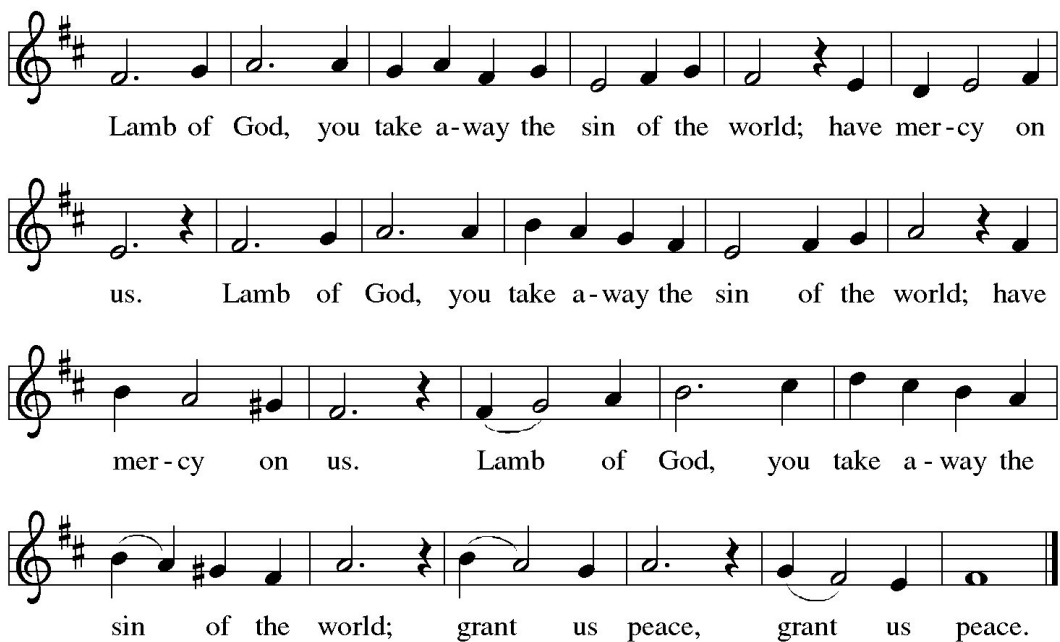
All are welcome to come forward for communion. The ushers will guide you. Juice and gluten-free wafers are available; please let your server know if you need either of these.

A basket for offerings is at the rear of the sanctuary.

Today after worship we will gather for brunch, fellowship, and a craft in the hall downstairs. All are welcome! Those needing an accessible entrance to the hall can use the ramp door at the rear of the church.



Distribution Song: Lamb of God



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.

*Post Communion Prayer

Loving God,
In a world racked with fear, you gather us together.
You set the table.
You meet us here.
You nourish our bodies as you nourish our spirits.
You remind us that this is a joyful feast, and that fear cannot win.
So with renewed courage,
with renewed hope,
with renewed conviction,
send us out into the world.
Help us to feed others as you have fed us.
With gratitude we pray, **Amen.**



Serving in Worship Today

Presiding Minister

Rev. Andrea McDonough

Organist

Gerry Mass

Assisting Minister

Rev. Harry Werner

Lector

Carla Cashman

Crucifer

Adrian Bernardo

Advent Wreath

Jen Lasher-Dobush

Parish Administrator

Jennifer Lasher-Dobush

Custodian

Vince Besednjak

*Offertory Payer

We give you thanks and praise, O God, that you have built us up in faith and bound us together in love. By your grace, may all that we do show the glory of your name and serve the good of your people. Through our offerings and your meal, satisfy our parched places, that we may rejoice and be for the world signs of your kingdom come, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **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.**

It is right and a good and joyful thing...and with your people on earth who live in this hope, we praise you and join in the never-ending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
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.

*Processional Hymn: Hark, the Glad Sound

ELW#239



1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior
 2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's
 3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing
 4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of peace, your wel - come



prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -
 bond - age held. The gates of brass be -
 soul to cure, and with the trea - sures
 shall pro - claim, and heav'n's e - ter - nal



pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.
 fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.
 of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.
 arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702–1751

Music: CHESTERFIELD, Thomas Haweis, 1734–1820

*Prayer of the Day

Abiding God, in the time of Moses you spoke through water in the desert and a pillar of smoke. In the time of the judges, you spoke through the prophets. In the time of Herod, you spoke through angel choruses and unlikely miracles. In every time you have been speaking. So today, in our time, we ask that you would speak again. Break through the chatter and the distraction of our weary minds and speak to us once more. With hope we pray, **Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Sisters and brothers, siblings in Christ,
for the sake of the world that God so loves, let us pray.

We pray for the peace of the world.

We pray for peace in every nation—
that people will turn their swords into shovels
and their spears into pruning shears
and study war no more.

We pray for the peace of the earth.

We pray for peace in every field and forest—
that people everywhere will care for the good creation;
Seeking its renewal and protecting all that is vulnerable.

We pray for the peace of the church.

We pray for peace in Christ's body—
put an end to fear and fighting,
and help us to proclaim in word and action
the good news of salvation to all.

We pray for the peace of this community.

We pray for peace in this place—
for safety in our homes and streets,
for the prosperity of our neighbors,
and for the health of family and friends.

God of the future,

make us ready for the coming of your reign,
when you will bring everlasting peace
and renew the face of the earth;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

***Sharing of the Peace**

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

First Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5

The Message Isaiah got regarding Judah and Jerusalem:

There's a day coming

when the mountain of God's House

Will be The Mountain—

solid, towering over all mountains.

All nations will river toward it,

people from all over will set out for it.

They'll say, "Come,

let's climb God's Mountain,

go to the House of the God of Jacob.

He'll show us the way he works

so we can live the way we're made."

Zion's the source of the revelation.

God's Message comes from Jerusalem.

He'll settle things fairly between nations.

He'll make things right between many peoples.

They'll turn their swords into shovels,

their spears into pruning shears.

No more will nation fight nation;

they won't play war anymore.

Come, family of Jacob,

let's live in the light of God.

The light shines in the darkness.

And the darkness did not overcome it.

*Hymn of the Day: As the Dark Awaits the Dawn

ELW 261



1 As the dark a - waits the dawn,
 2 As the blue ex - pec - tant hour
 3 As the moon re - flects the sun
 4 Shine your fu - ture on this place,



so we a - wait your light. O Star of
 be - fore the sil - v'ring skies, we long to
 un - til the night's de - crease, may we your
 en - light - en ev - 'ry guest, that through us



prom - ise, scat - ter night, lov - ing bright, lov - ing
 see your day a - rise, whole and wise, whole and
 heal - ing light re - lease, liv - ing peace, liv - ing
 stream your ho - li - ness, bright and blest, bright and



bright, till shades of fear are gone.
 wise, O lu - cent Morn - ing Star.
 peace, un - to your ho - ly dawn.
 blest; come dawn, O Sun of grace.

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, b. 1953

Music: LUCENT, Carl F. Schalk, b. 1929

Text © 1996 Susan Palo Cherwien, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Music © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

Second Reading: Romans 13:11-14

Make sure that you don't get so absorbed and exhausted in taking care of all your day-by-day obligations that you lose track of the time and doze off, oblivious to God. The night is about over, dawn is about to break. Be up and awake to what God is doing! God is putting the finishing touches on the salvation work he began when we first believed. We can't afford to waste a minute, must not squander these precious daylight hours in frivolity and indulgence, in sleeping around and dissipation, in bickering and grabbing everything in sight. Get out of bed and get dressed! Don't loiter and linger, waiting until the very last minute. Dress yourselves in Christ, and be up and about!

The light shines in the darkness.

And the darkness did not overcome it.

*Gospel Acclamation:



1 Come, thou long-ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;
from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art,
dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long-ing heart.