

**FIRST SUNDAY  
AFTER CHRISTMAS  
DECEMBER 26, 2021  
IMMANUEL LUTHERAN  
CHURCH  
Missouri Synod**



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**Rev. Ed Weber, Pastor  
956.463.1305  
eweber10@aol.com**

**Website:  
lutheranmercedes.  
com**

***Sunday*  
9:00 A.M.  
Worship Service**

**10:30 a.m.  
Adult Bible Class &  
Sunday School**

**Holy Communion:  
1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday**

**Website:  
Misionemanuel.com**

**Office Hrs, M-F  
8 am to 12 pm  
CCLI # 2585510**

Mine eyes have seen Thy  
salvation. Luke 2:30



**FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS**  
**DECEMBER 26, 2021**

**WELCOME to IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

We wish to extend a warm welcome to all our visitors this morning. It is our hope that you will benefit by your worship here with us, and that you will return again soon. We would greatly appreciate it if everyone would fill out an Attendance/Communion card so that we can keep track of our attendance. They are located in the pew racks in front of you.

Next week we celebrate Holy Communion. We teach that in the receiving of the Lord's Supper each person receives the real presence of the Body and Blood of Christ for the forgiveness of their sins. If you are not a member of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod and desire to partake of Communion, please ask to speak with Pastor Weber or one of the elders prior to the service.

**A Prayer Upon Entering Church** - Lord Jesus, my Savior, I praise and thank You for coming to be born of Mary so that through faith in You I might depart this life in peace. Grant that I may ever share this gift; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**AS WE GATHER** - Are you prepared for heaven? Admittedly, this is an odd question when we are celebrating Jesus' birth. Yet, Jesus was born to die to save His people from their sins. As Simeon held the Christ Child, he couldn't help but say, "Lord, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word," while also telling Mary, "Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of

many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed.” That opposition eventually brought about His death on a cross. Yet, Jesus was born to die and rise to life again so that all who believe in Him might live! That is the best Christmas gift ever.

## **DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING FOUR**

**PAGE 203**

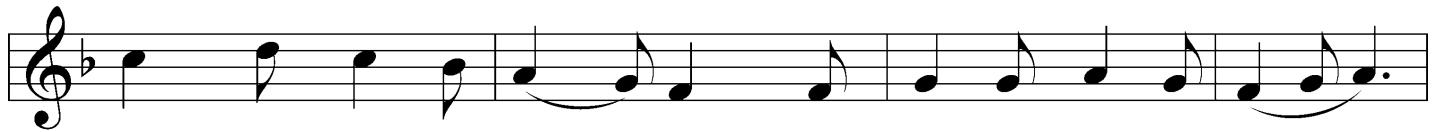
### **WELCOME**

### **PRELUDE**

*(A quiet time for prayer and meditation in preparation for worship)*

**OPENING HYMN***Now Sing We, Now Rejoice***LSB 386**

1 Now sing we, now re - joice,      Now raise to heav'n our voice;  
 2 Come from on high to me;      I can - not rise to Thee.  
 3 Now through His Son doth shine      The Fa-ther's grace di - vine.  
 4 Oh, where shall joy be found?      Where but on heav'n - ly ground?



He from whom joy stream - eth      Poor in a man-ger lies;  
 Cheer my wea - ried spir - it,      O pure and ho - ly Child;  
 Death was reign - ing o'er us      Through sin and van - i - ty  
 Where the an - gels sing - ing      With all His saints u - nite,



Not so bright - ly beam - eth      The sun in yon - der skies.  
 Through Thy grace and mer - it,      Blest Je - sus, Lord most mild,  
 Till He o - pened for us      A bright e - ter - ni - ty.  
 Sweet - est prais - es bring - ing      In heav'n - ly joy and light.



Thou my Sav - ior art!      Thou my Sav - ior art!  
 Draw me un - to Thee!      Draw me un - to Thee!  
 May we praise Him there!      May we praise Him there!  
 Oh, that we were there!      Oh, that we were there!

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*Please stand***INVOCATION**

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

**C** Amen.

**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

**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.**

(We take a moment of silence to reflect on our sin and our need for the Savior.)

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.**


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. (John 20:19-23)

**C Amen.**

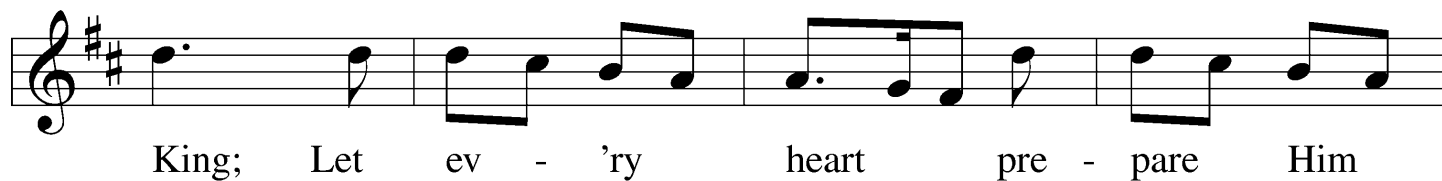
## + SERVICE OF THE WORD +

**INTROIT** *Psalm 98:1-4; Isaiah 52:10*

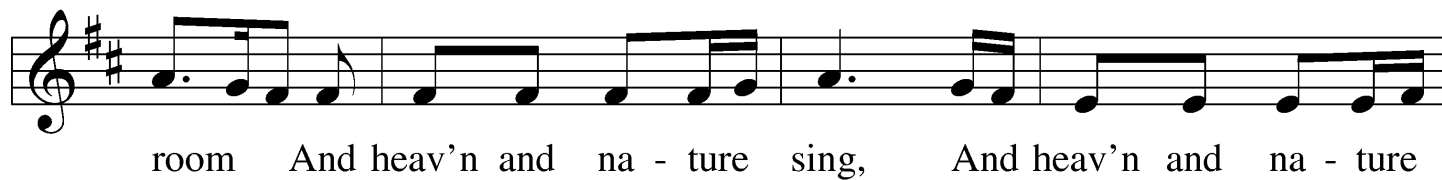
*(Hymn stanzas will be sung: Joy to the World LSB 387)*



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive her



King; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare Him



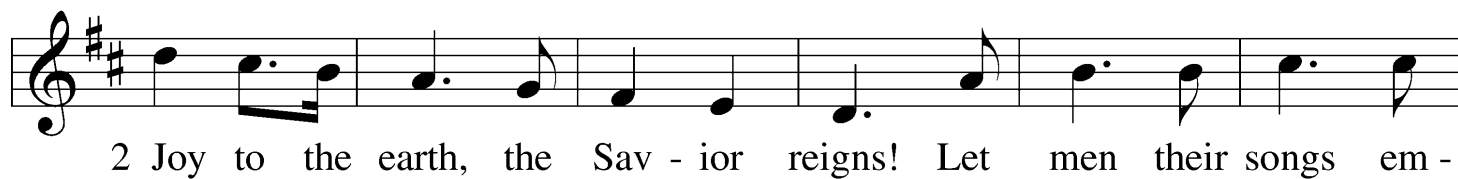
room And heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture



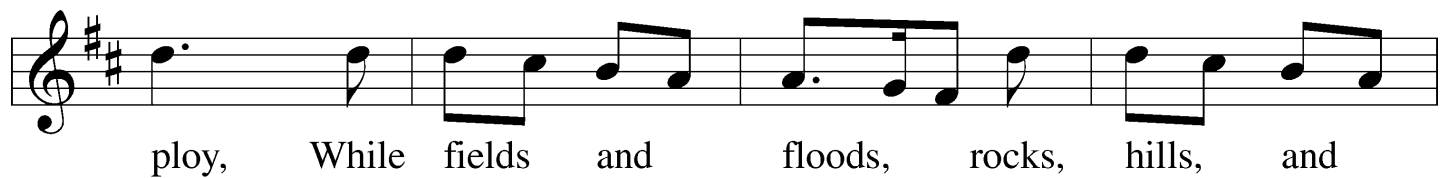
sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.

**P** Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for He has done marvelous things!

**C** His right hand and His holy arm have worked salvation for Him.



2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let men their songs em -



ploy, While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and



plains Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing



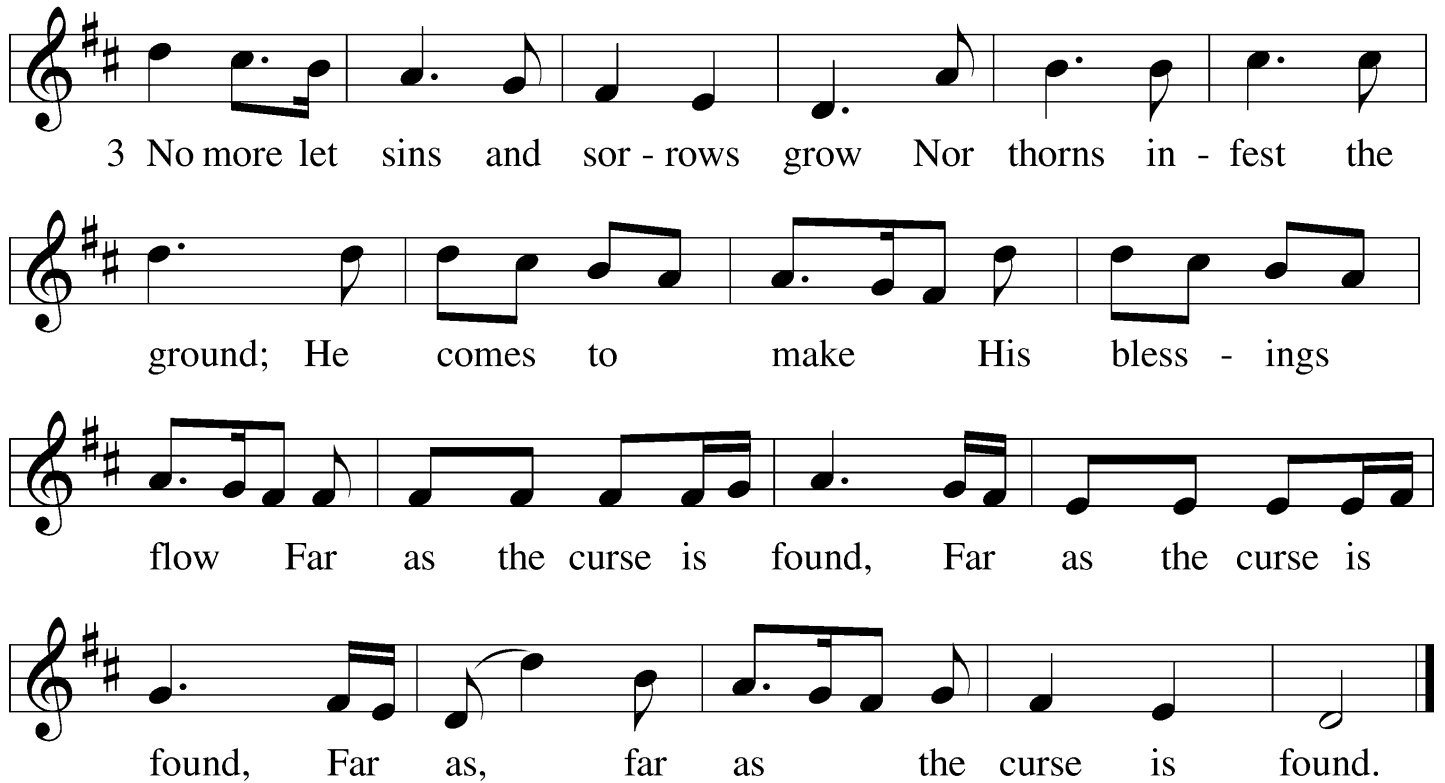
joy, Re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.

**P** The LORD has made known His salvation;

**C** He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the nations.

**P** He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

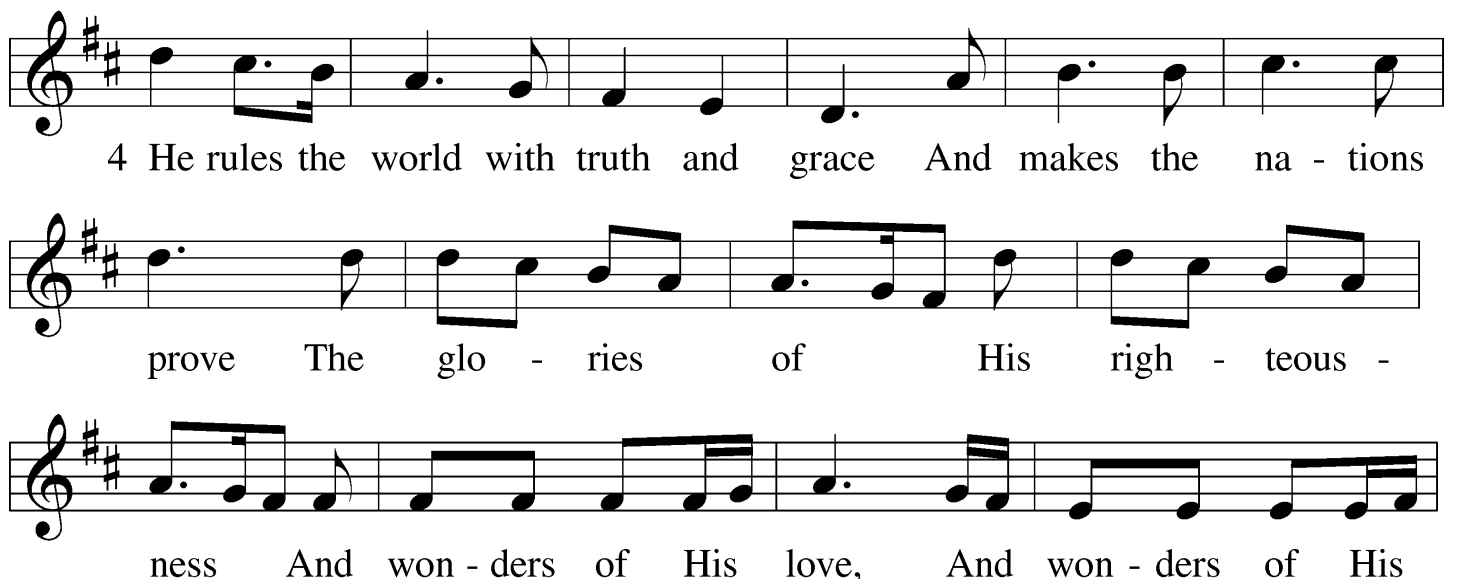
**C** All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.



3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow Nor thorns in - fest the  
ground; He comes to make His bless - ings  
flow Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is  
found, Far as, far as the curse is found.

**P** The LORD has bared His holy arm before the eyes of all the nations,

**C** and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.



4 He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the na - tions  
prove The glo - ries of His righ - teous -  
ness And won - ders of His love, And won - ders of His



P Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for He has done marvelous things!

**C Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!**

## KYRIE

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

P For the peace of our newborn King, which is beyond our understanding, let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

P For our salvation from Christ, the Prince of Peace, for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

P For the Holy Christian Church, for we have seen Your salvation that You have prepared in the presence of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**C Amen.**

## SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

**C And with your spirit.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray. O God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son yet



more wondrously restored our human nature. Grant that we may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be like us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

*Please sit*

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**      *Exodus 13:1-3a, 11-15*

(The Israelites are to consecrate their firstborn to the Lord.)

1 Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, 2 “Consecrate to Me all the firstborn, whatever opens the womb among the children of Israel, both of man and beast; it is Mine.”

3 And Moses said to the people: “Remember this day in which you went out of Egypt, out of the house of bondage;

11 “And it shall be, when the Lord brings you into the land of the Canaanites, as He swore to you and your fathers, and gives it to you, 12 that you shall set apart to the Lord all that open the womb, that is, every firstborn that comes from an animal which you have; the males shall be the Lord’s. 13 But every firstborn of a donkey you shall redeem with a lamb; and if you will not redeem it, then you shall break its neck. And all the firstborn of man among your sons you shall redeem. 14 So it shall be, when your son asks you in time to come, saying, ‘What is this?’ that you shall say to him, ‘By strength of hand the Lord brought us out of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. 15 And it came to pass, when Pharaoh was stubborn about letting us go, that the Lord killed all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both the firstborn of man and the firstborn of beast. Therefore I sacrifice to the Lord all males that open the womb, but all the firstborn of my sons I redeem.’

P This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM**      *Psalm 111; antiphon: v. 9a, b*

P He sent redemption to His people;

**C He has commanded His covenant forever.**

P Praise the LORD!

**C I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.**

P Great are the works of the LORD, studied by all who delight in them.

**C Full of splendor and majesty is His work, and His righteousness endures forever.**

P He has caused His wondrous works to be remembered;

**C the LORD is gracious and merciful.**

P He provides food for those who fear Him;

**C He remembers His covenant forever.**

P He has shown His people the power of His works, in giving them the inheritance of the nations.

**C The works of His hands are faithful and just;**

P all His precepts are trustworthy;

**C they are established forever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.**

P He sent redemption to His people; He has commanded His covenant forever.

**C Holy and awesome is His name!**

P The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding.

**C His praise endures forever!**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P He sent redemption to His people;

**C He has commanded His covenant forever.**

**EPISTLE** *Colossians 3:12-17*

(Wrap yourselves with the characteristics, peace, and word of Christ.)

12 Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; 13 bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do. 14 But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection. 15 And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful. 16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. 17 And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand*

**HOLY GOSPEL** *Luke 2:22-40*

(Jesus is brought to the temple.)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.

**C Glory to You , O Lord.**

22 Now when the days of her purification according to the law of Moses were completed, they brought Him to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord 23 (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every male who opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord"), 24 and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the law of the Lord, "A pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

25 And behold, there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon, and this man was just and devout, waiting for the Consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. 26 And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. 27 So he came by the Spirit into the temple. And when the parents brought in the Child Jesus, to do for Him according to the custom of the law, 28 he took Him up in his arms and blessed God and said:

29 "Lord, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word;

30 for my eyes have seen Your salvation

31 which You have prepared before the face of all peoples,

32 a light to bring revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of Your people Israel."

33 And Joseph and His mother marveled at those things which were spoken of Him. 34 Then Simeon blessed them, and said to Mary His mother, "Behold, this Child is destined for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign which will be spoken against 35 (yes, a sword will pierce through your own soul also), that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed."

36 Now there was one, Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, and had lived with a husband seven years from her virginity; 37 and this woman was a widow of about eighty-four years, who did not depart from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day. 38 And coming in that instant she gave thanks to the Lord, and spoke of Him to all those who looked for redemption in Jerusalem.

39 So when they had performed all things according to the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own city,

Nazareth. 40 And the Child grew and became strong in spirit, filled with wisdom; and the grace of God was upon Him.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

## **APOSTLES CREED**

**All** I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

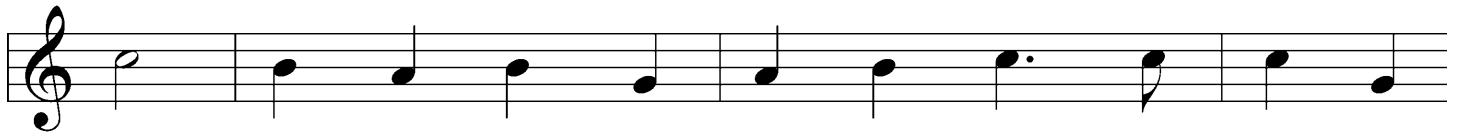
**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*Please sit*

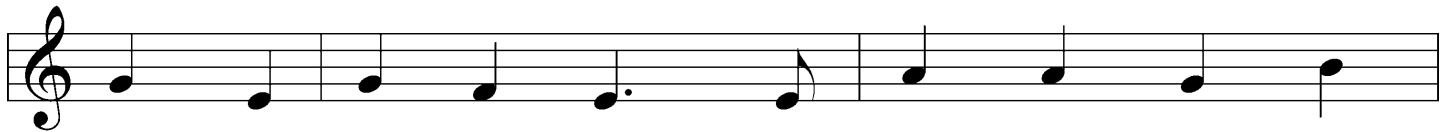
**HYMN OF THE DAY**

*From East to West*

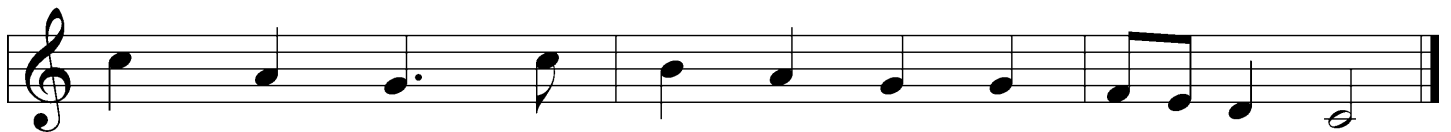
**LSB 385**



1 From east to west, from shore to shore Let ev - 'ry  
2 Be - hold, the world's cre - a - tor wears The form and  
3 For this how won - drous - ly He wrought! A maid - en,  
4 And while the an - gels in the sky Sang praise a -  
△ 5 All glo - ry for this bless - ed morn To God the



heart a - wake and sing The ho - ly child whom  
fash - ion of a slave; Our ver - y flesh our  
in her low - ly place, Be - came, in ways be -  
bove the si - lent field, To shep - herds poor the  
Fa - ther ev - er be; All praise to You, O



Mar - y bore, The Christ, the ev - er - last - ing king.  
mak - er shares, His fall - en crea - tures all to save.  
yond all thought, The cho - sen ves - sel of His grace.  
Lord Most High, The one great Shep - herd, was re - vealed.  
Vir - gin - born, And Ho - ly Ghost e - ter - nal - ly.

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**SERMON** *“Elect of God, put on your new Christmas clothes!”*  
(Colossians 3:12)

**OFFERING**

*Please stand*

**OFFERTORY**

*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

**LSB 700**



1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of  
4 Fin - ish then Thy new cre - a - tion, Pure and



heav'n, to earth come down! Fix in us Thy  
spot - less let us be; Let us see Thy



hum - ble dwell - ing, All Thy faith - ful mer - cies crown.  
great sal - va - tion Per - fect - ly re - stored in Thee,



Je - sus, Thou art all com - pas - sion, Pure, un -  
Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, Till in



bound - ed love Thou art; Vis - it us with  
heav'n we take our place, Till we cast our



Thy sal - va - tion, En - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.  
crowns be - fore Thee, Lost in won - der, love, and praise!

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**SHARING OF THE PEACE**

*"Peace be with you"*

*(John 20:21)*

*[using ASL (American Sign Language)]*

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

**P** Let us pray for the whole people of God and all people according to their needs. Wonderful Counselor, we praise and thank You for guiding us with the Word of Christ, which dwells richly in us. Bless all pastors and teachers of Your Word, that they teach and admonish Your people with all of Your wisdom so that whatever we do, in word or deed, we do it in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him. O God of our salvation,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Mighty God, You created this world and everything in it through Your powerful Word and still take care of it. Continue to watch over and work through all who lead and serve our nation, state, and local communities. Lead and guide all first responders and members of the military as they carry out their duties to protect and serve. O God of our salvation,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Everlasting Father, You are gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. We ask for Your encouragement, healing, and care for all who are struggling with their health, [especially . . .]. Heal the broken hearts of those who grieve the loss of those close to them. O God of our salvation,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Prince of Peace, we praise and thank You for the peace we have in You. Empower us and all of your missionary people to embrace the opportunities You give us to share the gift of Your redemption. O God of our salvation,



**C** hear our prayer.

**P** We trust, O Lord, in Your great mercy to hear and answer us; through Jesus Christ, our newborn King.

**C** Amen.

**LORD'S PRAYER**      *(Matthew 6:9-13)*

**All**      **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.**

**BENEDICAMUS**

**P** Let us bless the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**BENEDICTION**

*Numbers 6:24-26*

**P** The LORD bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace.

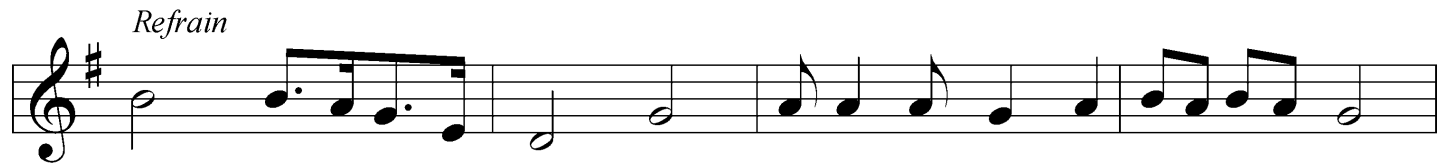
**C** Amen.

*Please sit*

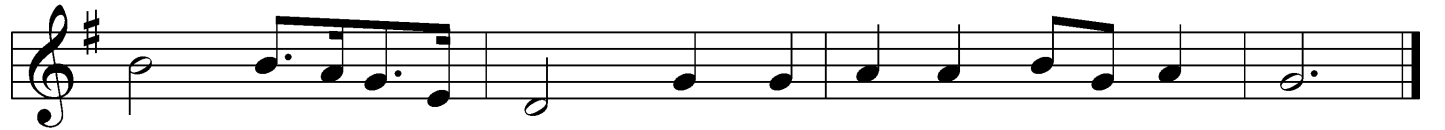
## SENDING HYMN

*Go Tell It on the Mountain*

LSB 388



Go tell it on the moun - tain, O-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;



Go tell it on the moun - tain That Je - sus Christ is born!



- 1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing O'er si - lent flocks by night,
- 2 The shep-herds feared and trem - bled When lo, a - bove the earth
- 3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger The hum-ble Christ was born;



Be - hold, through - out the heav - ens There shone a ho - ly light.  
Rang out the an - gel cho - rus That hailed our Sav - ior's birth.  
And God sent us sal - va - tion That bless - ed Christ - mas morn.

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## DISMISSAL

**P** Go in peace, and serve the Lord!

**C** Thanks be to God!

## POSTLUDE

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**New Year's Eve Service  
December 31st @ 6:00 p.m.**

*Portals of Prayer*  
*October to December 2021 are available in the*  
*Narthrex or office.*

*Adult Bible Class/Sunday School*  
*at 10:30 a.m.*  
*Rev. Goetz is leading the class.*

The LCMS invites everyone to join together in memorizing a verse each week.

**This week's memory verse:    2 Samuel 7:22**

*Therefore you are great, O Lord God. For there is none like you, and there is no God besides you, according to all that we have heard with our ears.*

**Reminder**

Elders' Meeting  
 Tuesday, January 4th, 2022  
 9:00 a.m.

**12/15/2021**

**Mid-Week 3 Advent**

<b>Service</b>	<b>29</b>	
Plate:		\$ .00
Envelopes:		\$ .00
<b>Total:</b>		<b>\$ .00</b>

**Available next week**

**12/19/2021**

<b>Sunday Worship</b>	<b>46</b>	
Plate:		\$ .00
Envelopes:		\$ .00
Memorial:		
<b>Total:</b>		<b>\$ .00</b>

**Available next week**

***Second Sunday***  
***after Christmas Readings:***

*1 Kings 3:4-15*  
*Psalm 119:97-104*  
*Ephesians 1:3-14*  
*Luke 2:40-52*

**Bible Class:    27                                   \$ 19.00**

## The Firstborn Son of God Is Our Redemption from Sin and Death

When the Lord destroyed the firstborn sons of Egypt, He spared the sons of Israel by providing a lamb in their stead. Hence, all the firstborn sons belong to Him. Every firstborn male animal was sacrificed, and every firstborn son of man was redeemed (Ex. 13:12–13). Therefore, the parents of Jesus “brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord” (Luke 2:22). However, He is not redeemed from priestly service but is consecrated for “the redemption of Jerusalem” and “the consolation of Israel” (Luke 2:25, 38). For God the Father did not spare His only begotten Son, but offered Him up as the true Passover Lamb, in order to redeem His people from bondage. His cross has caused many to stumble and fall, but His blood atoned for the sins of the world and delivers us from death. We now depart in the peace of Christ because we are also raised with Him. As we receive His body and blood, we join Simeon and Anna in “giving thanks to God the Father through him,” “singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs,” including the Nunc Dimittis, with thankfulness in our hearts (Luke 2:28–32, 38; Col. 3:15–17).

<b>Bi-Weekly Church Activity Schedule</b>		
	<b>Dec. Sunday Servants:</b>	<b>January Sunday Servants</b>
Elder:	Ken Eilers	Joe Winston
Altar Guild:	D. Jackson & L. Marchant	BJ Neuhaus & M. Perez
Music:	Doris Pickering	
<b>This Week</b>	<i>First Sunday after Christmas</i>	
Usher:	Dan Wehling	
Sunday:	Worship Service	9:00 am
	Sunday School & Adult Bible Study	10:30 am
<b>Next Week</b>	<i>Second Sunday after Christmas</i>	
Usher:	Earl Neuhaus	
Sunday:	Holy Communion Worship Service	9:00 am
	Sunday School & Adult Bible Study	10:30 am