

FIRST SUNDAY
IN ADVENT

DECEMBER 2, 2018
IMMANUEL
LUTHERAN
CHURCH
Missouri Synod



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Rev. Ed Weber,
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Website:
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Sunday
9:00 AM
Worship Service

10:30 am
Adult Bible Class
Sunday School

Holy Communion:
1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday

[www.facebook.com/
Lutheranmercedes/](http://www.facebook.com/Lutheranmercedes/)

Website:
Misionemanuel.com

Office Hrs, M-F
8:00 am to 12:00 pm
CCLI # 2585510



**"I tell you that if these
should keep silent, the
stones would immediately
cry out."**

(Luke 19:40)

**FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT
DECEMBER 2, 2018**

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 the 3x5 white cards located in the pew racks in front of you.

This 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 - Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your kingly majesty I may be protected from my enemies and be joined to Your humble and holy reign; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

AS WE GATHER - While the secular calendar won't switch to 2019 for another month, the Church Year begins anew today. Advent is a season of waiting and preparation. One Advent tradition is to mark the four Sundays in Advent with four words that encompass what Jesus brings as He comes into the world to be our Immanuel—God with us. These four words are hope, peace, joy, and love. Today we focus on hope. There is a lot of suffering in the world, but hope exists in Christ's incarnation, death, resurrection, and return.

WELCOME

PRELUDE

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

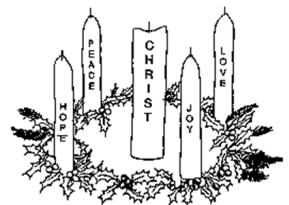
DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING FOUR

PAGE 203

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH HYMN *We Light the Advent Candles* by Gracia Grindal
(German folk tune)

1 We light the Advent candles
against the winter night,
to welcome our Lord Jesus
who is the world's True Light,
to welcome our Lord Jesus
who is the world's True Light.

2 The first one will remind us
that Christ will soon return.
We light it in the darkness
and watch it gleam and burn,
we light it in the darkness
and watch it gleam and burn.



LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

P On the four Sundays in Advent, we light a new candle each week. We mark the four candles with these four words: hope, peace, joy, and love.
Jesus Christ is the hope of the nations.

C **We wait for the Lord, and in His Word do we hope.**

OPENING HYMN

Savior of the Nations, Come

LSB 332

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.**

INTROIT

Psalm 89:6, 14–16, 18; antiphon: Zechariah 9:9b, alt

P He is just and having salvation, Lowly and riding on a donkey, a colt, the foal of a donkey.

C **For who in the heavens can be compared to the Lord? Who among the sons of the mighty can be likened to the Lord?**

P Righteousness and justice are the foundation of Your throne; Mercy and truth go before Your face.

C **Blessed are the people who know the joyful sound! They walk, O Lord, in the light of Your countenance.**

P In Your name they rejoice all day long, and in Your righteousness they are exalted.

C **For our shield belongs to the Lord, and our king to the Holy One of Israel.**

P He is just and having salvation, Lowly and riding on a donkey, a colt, the foal of a donkey.

KYRIE



☐ Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Jeremiah 33:14–16

(A righteous Branch will spring up for David.)

14 'Behold, the days are coming,' says the Lord, 'that I will perform that good thing which I have promised to the house of Israel and to the house of Judah:

15 'In those days and at that time

I will cause to grow up to David

A Branch of righteousness;

He shall execute judgment and righteousness in the earth.

16 In those days Judah will be saved,

And Jerusalem will dwell safely.

And this is the name by which she will be called:

THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.'

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God**

PSALM

Psalm 25:1–10; antiphon: v. 6

P Remember, O Lord, Your tender mercies and Your loving kindnesses, for they are from of old.

C **To You, O Lord, I lift up my soul.**

P O my God, I trust in You; Let me not be ashamed; Let not my enemies triumph over me.

C **Indeed, let no one who waits on You be ashamed; Let those be ashamed who deal treacherously without cause.**

P Show me Your ways, O Lord; Teach me Your paths.

C **Lead me in Your truth and teach me, for You are the God of my salvation; On You I wait all the day.**

P Remember, O Lord, Your tender mercies and Your loving kindnesses, for they are from of old.

C ⁴ **Do not remember the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions; According to Your**

mercy remember me, for Your goodness' sake, O Lord.

P Good and upright is the Lord; Therefore He teaches sinners in the way.

C The humble He guides in justice, and the humble He teaches His way.

P All the paths of the Lord are mercy and truth, to such as keep His covenant and His testimonies.

P Remember, O Lord, Your tender mercies and Your loving kindnesses, for they are from of old.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

EPISTLE

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

("May the Lord make you increase and abound in love.")

9 For what thanks can we render to God for you, for all the joy with which we rejoice for your sake before our God, 10 night and day praying exceedingly that we may see your face and perfect what is lacking in your faith? 11 Now may our God and Father Himself, and our Lord Jesus Christ, direct our way to you. 12 And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love to one another and to all, just as we do to you, 13 so that He may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His saints.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 19:28-40

(Jesus' triumphal entry)

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

28 When He had said this, He went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. 29 And it came to pass, when He drew near to Bethphage and Bethany, at the mountain called Olivet, that He sent two of His disciples, 30 saying, "Go into the village opposite you, where as you enter you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever sat. Loose it and bring it here. 31 And if anyone asks you, 'Why are you loosing it?' thus you shall say to him, 'Because the Lord has need of it.'" 32 So those who were sent went their way and found it just as He had said to them. 33 But as they were loosing the colt, the owners of it said to them, "Why are you loosing the colt?" 34 And they said, "The Lord has need of him." 35 Then they brought him to Jesus. And they threw their own clothes on the colt, and they set Jesus on him. 36 And as He went, many spread their clothes on the road. 37 Then, as He was now drawing near the descent of the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works they had seen, 38 saying:

" 'Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord!

Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!"

39 And some of the Pharisees called to Him from the crowd, "Teacher, rebuke Your disciples."

40 But He answered and said to them, "I tell you that if these should keep silent, the stones would immediately cry out."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

NICENE CREED

All: *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.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Hark the Glad Sound

LSB 349

SERMON

“Can’t Stop the Rejoicing that Jesus Has Come”

(Luke 19:37)

OFFERTORY

Once He Came in Blessing

LSB 333 v. 1

1 Once He came in bless - ing, All our sins re -
dress - ing; Came in like - ness low - ly,
Son of God most ho - ly; Bore the cross to
6 save us; Hope and free - dom gave us.

OFFERING

SHARING OF THE PEACE

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH *Luke 19:38*

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Lord Jesus Christ, come to those who do not know You, those who have rejected You, and those who are straying from You. Unite them to Your glorious throne and dwell in their hearts. "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord!"

C Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!"

P Lord Jesus Christ, come to those who are lonely and in need of Your presence. Come to the homeless, the unemployed, the underemployed, the homebound, the mentally ill, those who are in transition, and anyone else who experiences the pain of loneliness. Remind them of Your incarnation and lead them to Your Church, where we bear one another's burdens. "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord!"

C Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!"

P Lord Jesus Christ, come to those who are oppressed and at the mercy of others. Rescue those who are suffering, abused, neglected, and hated. Comfort them with Your tender presence and love. "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord!"

C Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!"

P Lord Jesus Christ, come to those who are sick, injured, and recovering, [especially . . .]. Strengthen them with Your healing hand and with Your unwavering presence. "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord!"

C Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!"

P Lord Jesus Christ, come to those who grieve and mourn the death of loved ones. [Today we remember the families and friends of . . .] Comfort them with the hope of resurrection life that is ours in Christ Jesus. "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord!"

C Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!"

P Lord Jesus Christ, come to those who rejoice and direct their praise and thanksgiving to You. [Today we rejoice with . . .] Grant that their rejoicing lead us all to praise Your name. "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord!"

C Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!"

P Lord Jesus Christ, come to Your broken Church with the gifts of reconciliation and restoration. Unite Your people once again so that we enjoy fellowship rather than fractured division. "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord!"

C Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!"

P Into Your hands, Lord Jesus, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your ever present mercy.

C Amen.

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.

C And also 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.

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



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body

and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

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

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."

P 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

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.



AGNUS DEI



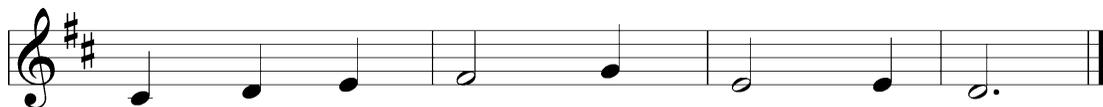
1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,



You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;



O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,



Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come
Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

LSB 350

LSB 338



NUNC DIMITTIS



C 1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All



part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the



glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three - in - One;



A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is



to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -



peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICAMUS

P Let us bless the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God**

BENEDICTION

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 Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Lift Up Your Heads, You Everlasting Doors

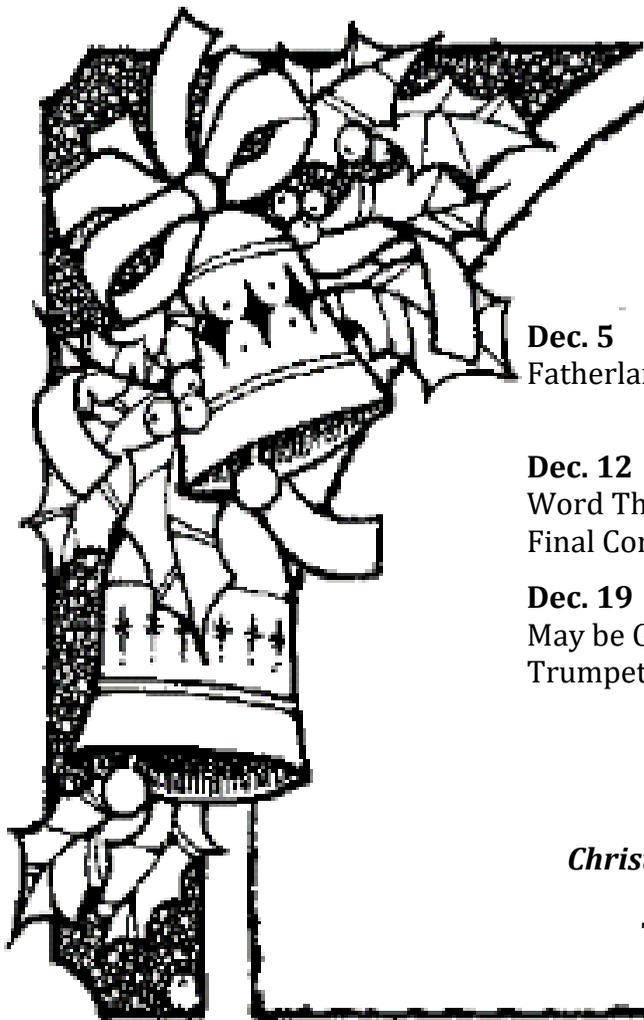
LSB 339

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Winter Texans

Praise be to God! - for your safe journey to the RGV



Midweek Advent Services

5:00 p.m. Soup Supper

6:00 p.m. Service

Dec. 5 "Pausing to Reflect on Our True Fatherland with Our Coming Savior"
(Philippians 3:18-20)

Dec. 12 "Look to the Testimony of God's Word That You May Look Forward to Jesus' Final Coming"
(Matthew 26:64)

Dec. 19 "Listen to His Word That You May be Gathered with the Elect at the Great Trumpet Sound"
(Matthew 24:30-31)

Christmas Eve Service

6:00 p.m.

Monday, December 24th, 2018

Christmas Day Holy Communion Service

9:00 a.m.

Tuesday, December 25th, 2018

Thanksgiving Service 11/21/2018

Attendance: 30

Plate: \$117.00

Envelopes: \$ 90.00

Total: \$207.00

From Pastor's Desk

Portals of Prayer for October to December are available in the Narthrex.

Sunday School is for Everyone!!!!

SUNDAY SCHOOL:

After service in the Fellowship Hall @ 10:30 a.m.

Enrich your spiritual life with the Word.

Pastor Weber will be leading the Adult Bible Study.

Children's Sunday School is available

with lots of fun activities.



Confirmation Class

Tuesdays, 6:00 p.m.

Pastor's Office



Elders' Meeting

Tuesday, December 4, 2018

at 7:30 p.m.

SPECIAL VOTERS' MEETING

Tuesday, December 11, 2018 at 7:30 p.m.

Election of Officers and Budget



The LWML from St John's, San Benito would like to invite all ladies to their Christmas Brunch and Program at 11:00 on Saturday, December 8. Let's carpool from church.



TO ASSIST YOU IN WORSHIP

- Large print Worship Bulletins for those who are sight impaired.
- Personal Wireless Listening devices for those with hearing difficulties.
- Prayer requests forms are located in a black binder in the Pew Hymnal Rack as well as with an usher.

Please print the request and place the form in the collection plate or give to a usher!

PLEASE ASK AN USHER FOR ANY ASSISTANCE

A REMINDER - THE PASTOR IS ALWAYS AVAILABLE FOLLOWING WORSHIP TO SPEAK AND PRAY WITH WORSHIPERS WHO HAVE CONCERNS FOR THEMSELVES OR OTHERS. - PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO SEEK HIM OUT.

FOR THOSE IN OUR WORSHIPING CONGREGATION WHO MAY BE PHYSICALLY UNABLE TO STAND FOR EXTENDED PERIODS OF TIME, OR WHO FIND IT DIFFICULT TO RISE AND SIT ON EVERY OCCASION DURING THE WORSHIP. PLEASE FEEL FREE TO SIT OR REMAIN SEATED EVEN THOUGH THE CONGREGATION HAS BEEN DIRECTED TO STAND.

Bi-Weekly Church Activity Schedule	
	December Sunday Servants:
Elder:	Ken Eilers
Altar Guild:	Donna Jackson & Lorri Marchant
Music:	Bonny Winston
This Week	First Sunday in Advent
Usher:	Earl Neuhaus
Sunday:	Holy Communion Worship Service 9:00 am
	Sunday School & Adult Bible Study 10:30 am
Next Week	Second Sunday in Advent
Usher:	Ken & Bob Eilers
Sunday:	Worship Service 9:00 am
	Sunday School & Adult Bible Study 10:30 am

The Lord Jesus Comes in Humility to Redeem Us

The season of Advent focuses on the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and this first Sunday establishes this theme for the rest of the season. The Son of God came long ago to be our Savior, “a righteous Branch” descended from David (Jer. 33:15). As He then came into Jerusalem, riding on a lowly donkey to sacrifice Himself for the sins of the world (Luke 19:28-40), so does He come to His Church today in the humility of Word and Sacrament to deliver the fruits of His Passion: the forgiveness of sins and eternal life. He absolves us and establishes our hearts “blameless in holiness before our God and Father” (1 Thess. 3:13). The same Lord Jesus, who came to Jerusalem then and who comes to us now in peace, will come again with power and great glory on the Last Day. Then there will be “distress of nations in perplexity,” with “people fainting with fear.” Yet, as we anticipate that great and terrible day, He bids us to rest securely in Him: “Raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near” (Luke 21:25, 26, 28).

11/25/2018

Sunday Worship	56	
Plate:		\$ 212.00
Envelopes:		\$ 1,312.00
Donations:		
Memorials:		
Total:		\$ 1,524.00
Bible Class:	28	\$ 30.00

Second Sunday In Advent Readings:

Malachi 3:1-7b
Psalm 66:1-12
Philippians 1:2-11
Luke 3:1-14 (15-20)



WITNESS, MERCY, LIFE TOGETHER.

In Christ, for the Church and the World