FIRST SUNDAY
IN ADVENT
NOVEMBER 30, 2025
IMMANUEL LUTHERAN
CHURCH
Missouri Synod



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Website: lutheranmercedes.com

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

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

> > 10:30 A.M.

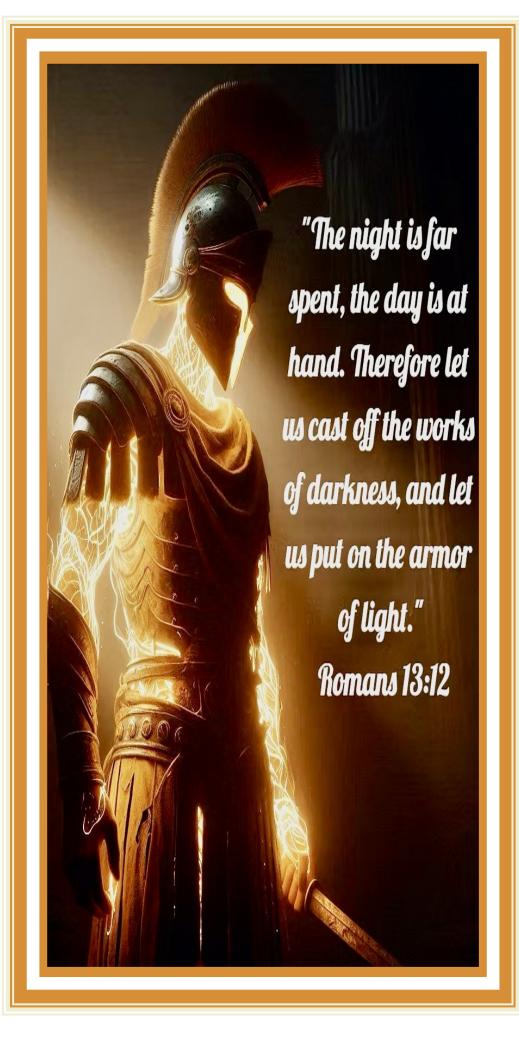
Adult Bible Class/ Sunday School

Holy Communion: Every Sunday

www.facebook.com/lutheranmercedes/

Website: Misionemanuel.com

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



#### FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

November 30, 2025

# **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.

The Lord's Supper is celebrated every Sunday at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as Christ our Lord says, He gives into our mouths not only bread and wine, but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins (Matthew 26:26-29). And through this sacrament, He strengthens us for new life in Him (Romans 8:10;1 Peter 2:4). Jesus personally invites weak sinners (Mark 9:24) who trust His words, "This is My body which is given for you... this cup is the new covenant in My blood which is shed for you" (Luke 22:19-20), to receive His blessings of forgiveness, life and salvation. (Romans 8:31-32). Because "he who eats and drinks our Lord's body and blood in an unworthy manner drinks judgement to oneself" (1 Corinthians 11:29), and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith by those gathered at this altar (1 Cor.10:17;11:26), any who have not been instructed, or who hold a confession and church fellowship differing from that of this congregation, and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and desire to receive the Sacrament, should first arrange to speak with the pastor. For further study, see Matthew 10:32f.; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; Mark 14:22-26; Luke 22:14-20; Acts 2:42; 20:7; 1 Cor. 10:14-21;11:17-34.

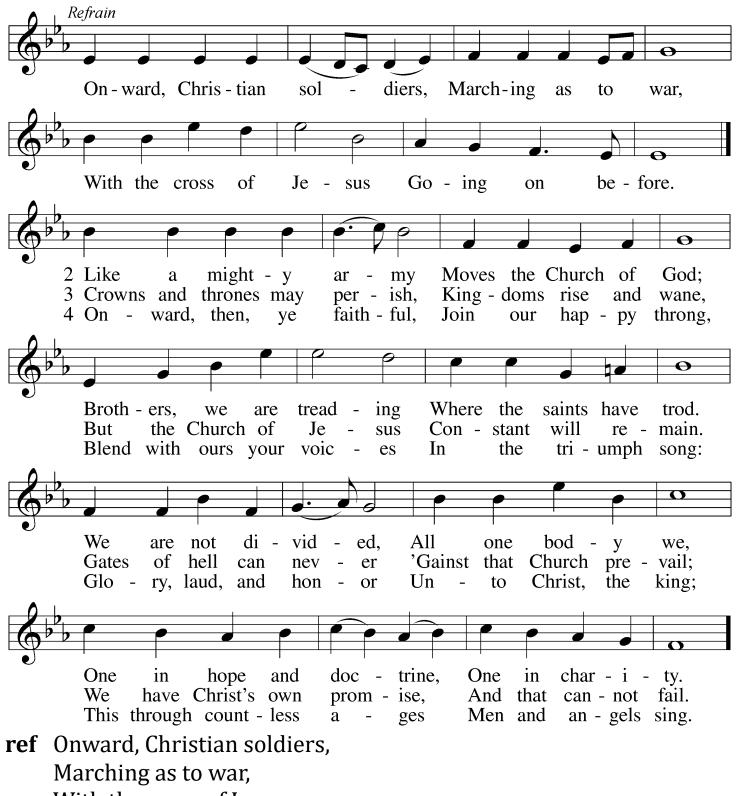
A Prayer Upon Entering Church - Grant me, O Lord, Your Spirit, that I recognize and believe in the witness of His coming in flesh, prepare and proclaim Him who comes here in His Word and Supper, and welcome Him with joy when He comes in His glory at the end of all days; through Jesus Christ, my Lord, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and to the end of all the ages. AS WE GATHER - Today is not only the First Sunday in Advent but also the commemoration of St. Andrew, whose day governs the start of Advent. In this way, Andrew continues to point to Christ as we begin a new Church Year. How odd it is, then, that the Gospel for the First Sunday in Advent is the same as the Gospel for Palm Sunday! This reminds us that Jesus came for the cross and empty tomb, and this is the only Gospel that can save us from sin and death. The cry of Advent is "prepare the way of the Lord." We will echo the words of John the Baptist, heralding Christ's coming. We will join in the chant of the crowd: "Hosanna to the Son of David!" (Matthew 21:9). We will hear Him speak to us through the voice of His Word. We will feast upon His flesh for the life of the world and His blood that cleanses us from all sin. In all our preparations, we acclaim Him as Lord and receive Him and all His benefits.

## **DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING THREE**

**PAGE 184** 

**PRELUDE** (a quiet time for prayer and meditation in preparation for worship) **WELCOME** 





Marching as to war, With the cross of Jesus Going on before.

Text and tune: Public domain

#### 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 Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- C who made heaven and earth.
- P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.
  (Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination)
- P O almighty God, merciful Father,
- I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.
- P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

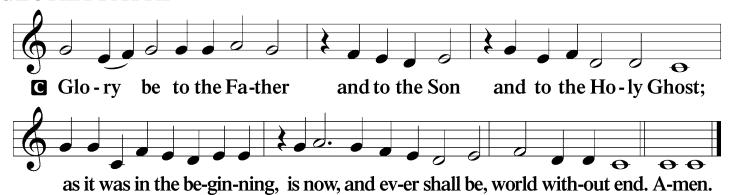
## + SERVICE OF THE WORD +

# **INTROIT** Psalm 118:25–28; antiphon: Zechariah 9:9b

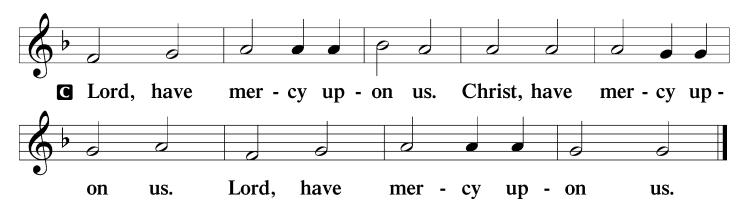
- P Behold, your King is coming to you; He is just and having salvation, lowly and riding on a donkey, a colt, the foal of a donkey.
- C Save now, I pray, O Lord; O Lord, I pray, send now prosperity.
- P Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! We have blessed you from the house of the Lord.
- C God is the Lord, and He has given us light; bind the sacrifice with cords to the horns of the altar.
- P You are my God, and I will praise You; You are my God, I will exalt You.
- C Behold, your King is coming to you; He is just and having (Continue on next page) 5

# salvation, lowly and riding on a donkey, a colt, the foal of a donkey.

## **GLORIA PATRI**



#### **KYRIE**

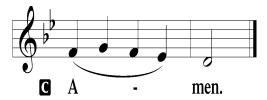


## **SALUTATION and PRAYER OF THE DAY**



P 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.



## Please sit

## **OLD TESTAMENT READING** *Isaiah 2:1–5*

("Come, let us walk in the light of the LORD.")

- 1 The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.
- 2 Now it shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established on the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow to it.
- 3 Many people shall come and say, "Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; He will teach us His ways, and we shall walk in His paths." For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.
- 4 He shall judge between the nations, and rebuke many people; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.
- 5 O house of Jacob, come and let us walk in the light of the Lord.
- P This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

# **PSALM** Psalm 122; antiphon: v. 6

- P Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you.
- C I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go into the house of the Lord."
- P Our feet have been standing Within your gates, O Jerusalem!
- C Jerusalem is built as a city that is compact together,
- P Where the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, to the Testimony of Israel, to give thanks to the name of the Lord (Continue on next page) 7

- C For thrones are set there for judgment, the thrones of the house of David.
- P Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you.
- C Peace be within your walls, prosperity within your palaces."
- P For the sake of my brethren and companions, I will now say, "Peace be within you."
- C Because of the house of the Lord our God I will seek your good.
- P Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you.

## **EPISTLE** Romans 13:1–14

("Put on the armor of light.")

1 Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God. 2 Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves. 3 For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil. Do you want to be unafraid of the authority? Do what is good, and you will have praise from the same. 4 For he is God's minister to you for good. But if you do evil, be afraid; for he does not bear the sword in vain; for he is God's minister, an avenger to execute wrath on him who practices evil. 5 Therefore you must be subject, not only because of wrath but also for conscience' sake. 6 For because of this you also pay taxes, for they are God's ministers attending continually to this very thing. 7 Render therefore to all their due: taxes to whom taxes are due, customs to whom customs, fear to whom fear, honor to whom honor.

8 Owe no one anything except to love one another, for he who loves another has fulfilled the law. 9 For the commandments, "You shall not commit adultery," "You shall not murder," "You shall not steal," "You shall not bear false witness," "You shall not covet," and if there is any other commandment, are all summed up in this saying, namely, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." 10 Love does no harm to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.

11 And do this, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed. 12 The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of

darkness, and let us put on the armor of light. 13 Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy. 14 But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts.

- P This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

Please stand

#### **ALLELUIA**

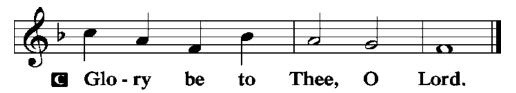


#### **HOLY GOSPEL**

Matthew 21:1-11

(Rejoice, Jerusalem, for Your Lord comes to You.)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-first chapter.



- 1 Now when they drew near Jerusalem, and came to Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, 2 saying to them, "Go into the village opposite you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Loose them and bring them to Me. 3 And if anyone says anything to you, you shall say, 'The Lord has need of them,' and immediately he will send them."
- 4 All this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying:
- "Tell the daughter of Zion, 'Behold, your King is coming to you, lowly, and sitting on a donkey, a colt, the foal of a donkey."
  6 So the disciples went and did as Jesus commanded them. 7 They brought the donkey and the colt, laid their clothes on them, and set Him on them. 8 And a very great multitude spread their clothes on the road; others cut down branches from the trees and spread them on the road.
- 9 Then the multitudes who went before and those who followed cried out, (Continue on next page)

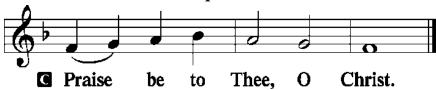
saying:

"Hosanna to the Son of David! 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!' Hosanna in the highest!"

10 And when He had come into Jerusalem, all the city was moved, saying, "Who is this?"

11 So the multitudes said, "This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth of Galilee."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



#### **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.

Please sit

HYMN OF THE DAY Rise! To Arms! With Prayer Employ You LSB 668



- 1 Rise! To arms! With prayer em-ploy you,
- 2 Cast a far this world's vain plea sure 3 Wise ly fight, for time is fleet ing;
- O Chris-tians, lest the And bold ly strive for The hours of grace are



Text and tune: Public domain

**SERMON** 

"The day is at hand!"

**Romans** 13:12

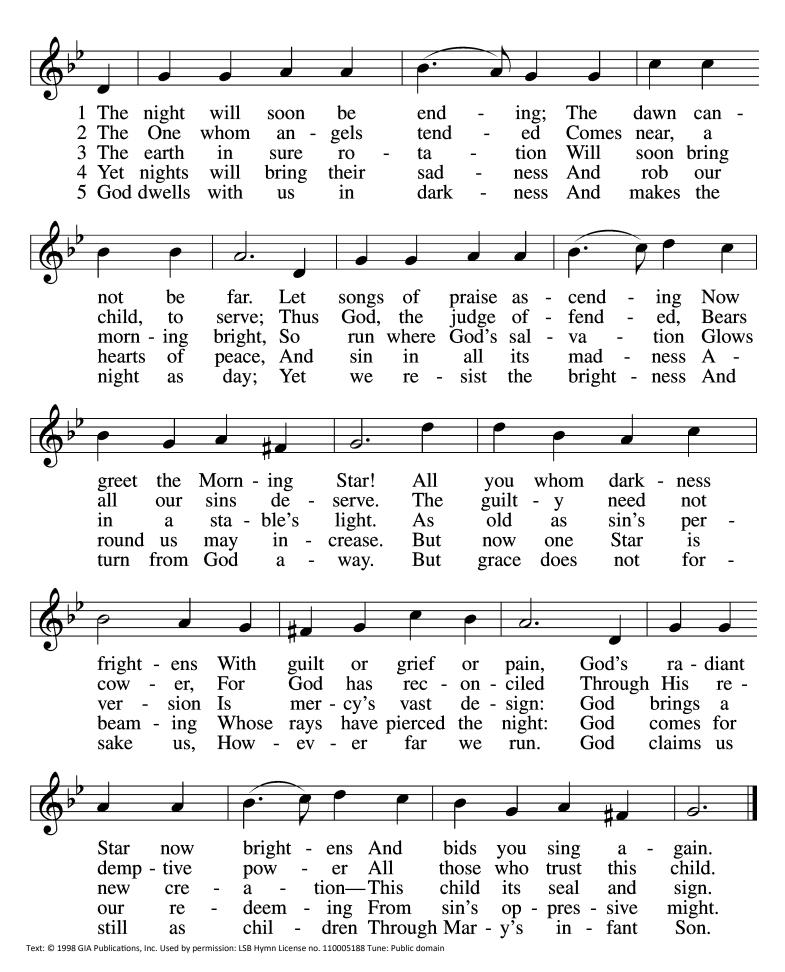
**OFFERING** 

Please stand

**OFFERTORY** 

The Night Will Soon Be Ending

**LSB 337** 



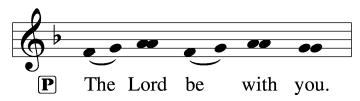
**SHARING OF THE PEACE** "Peace be with you" [American Sign Language]

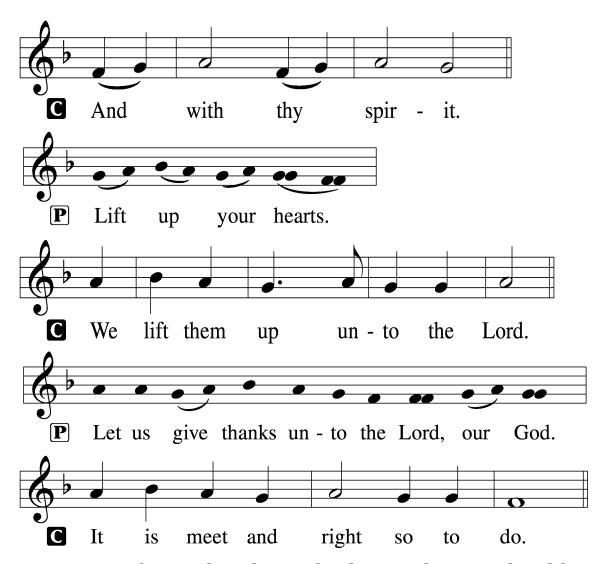
#### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P Let us pray on behalf of the world, those with special need, and for all the faithful.
  - Silence for prayer and meditation.
- P That we may depart from the ways of the wicked and manifest in word and deed our faith in His Word and our delight in His will, let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P That we may resist the temptation to despair in time of trouble and manifest a joyful heart and hope in all circumstances of this mortal life, let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P That we may enjoy the gift of good government, wise and faithful leaders, and peace among the nations, let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P That those who suffer in any want or need—the sick, grieving, and those troubled in mind or soul—may be granted healing and comfort, [especially . . .], and that all may be preserved in faith and holiness to the day of Christ, let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P That we may be united in doctrine and life and that in the unity of this Table all who here receive the Sacrament may be granted discernment of Christ's body and blood and faith to receive this communion to their benefit, let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy.
  - Additional petitions may be inserted here.
- P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C Amen.

#### + SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

## **PREFACE**

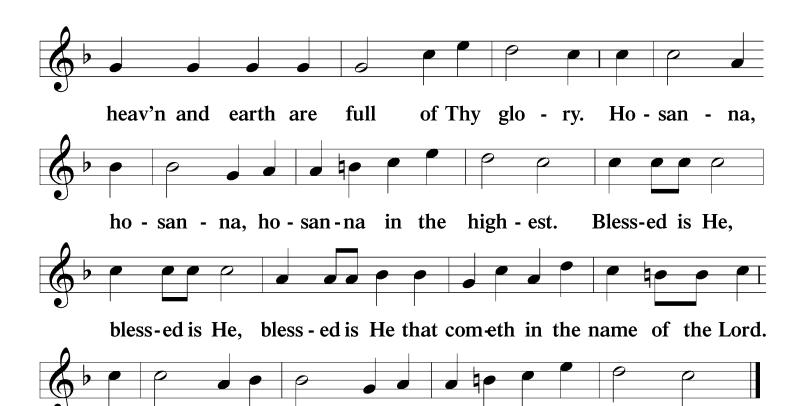




It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of 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**

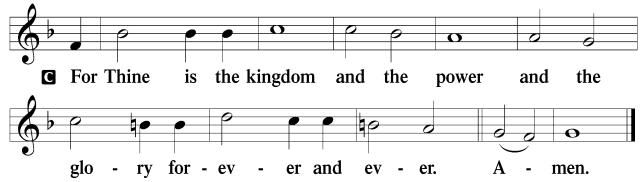




Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.

# **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.



## 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**



## Please sit

#### DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

#### SILENT PRAYER before COMMUNING

Heavenly Father, in my Holy Baptism you have called me to be Your own possession. Prepare my heart to receive the most holy body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of all my sins. Strengthen my faith, increase my love and hope, and assure me a place at Your heavenly table, where I will eat eternal manna and drink of the river of the water of life freely, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, my Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen.



## Your Table I Approach

LSB 628



- 1 Your ta ble I ap proach; Dear Sav ior, hear
- 2 Lord, I con-fess my sins
- 3 Your bod y and Your blood,
- 4 Search not how this takes place,
- Dear Sav ior, hear my prayer. And mourn their wretch - ed bands; Once slain and shed for me,
- This won-drous mys-ter-y;



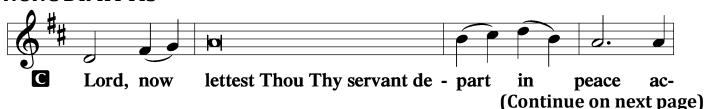
Let not an un - re - pen - tant heart Prove hurt - ful to me there. A con - trite heart is sure to find For - give - ness at Your hands. Are tak - en at Your ta - ble, Lord, In blest re - al - i - ty. God can ac - com - plish vast - ly more Than what we think could be.

- 5 O grant, most blessèd Lord, That earth and hell combined May not about this sacrament Raise doubt within my mind.
- 6 Oh, may I never fail
  To thank You day and night
  For Your true body and true blood,
  O God, my peace and light.

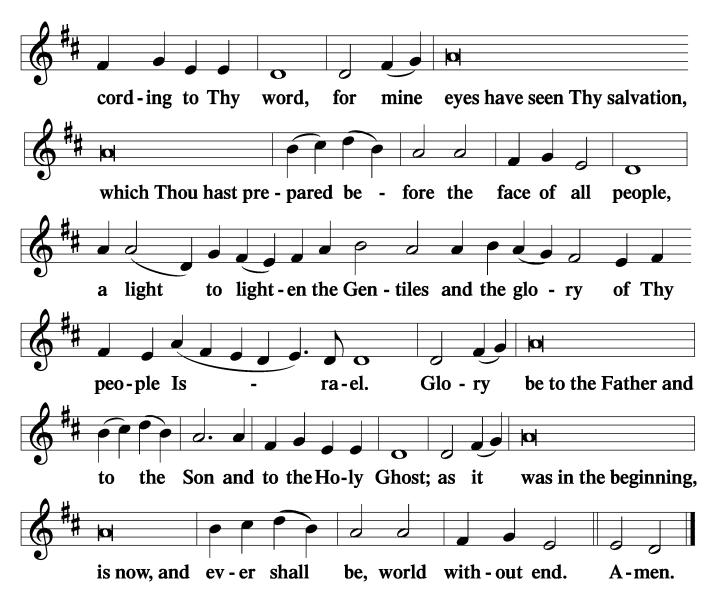
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Please stand

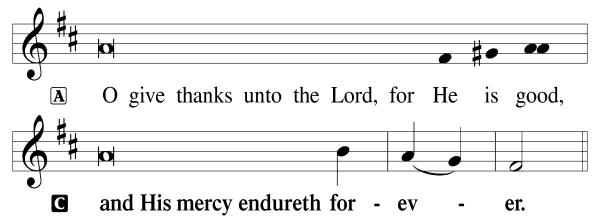
#### **NUNC DIMITTIS**



17



#### **THANKSGIVING**



- P Let us pray. Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good,
- **C** for His steadfast love endures forever.
- P Lord Jesus, prepare us for that eternal Sabbath when You will rest in us, just as now You work in us. The rest that we shall enjoy will be

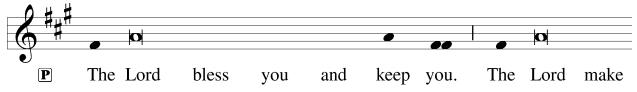
Yours, just as the work that we now do is Your work done through us. But You, O Lord, are eternally at work and eternally at rest. It is is in time that You see or in time that You move or in time that You rest, yet You make what we see in time. You make time itself and the repose which comes when time ceases; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

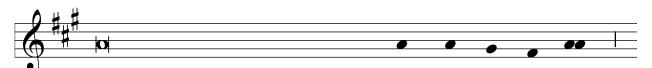


## **BENEDICAMUS**



## **BENEDICTION**





His face shine upon you and be gra-cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and + give you peace.



Please sit



## **DISMISSAL**

- P Go in peace! Serve the Lord!
- C Thanks be to God.

## **POSTLUDE**

OCTOBER	ANNOUNCE	<b>EMENTS</b>
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- >Portals of Prayer for October to December 2025 are available in the Narthex or office.
- >Join us for Sunday School and Bible Study at 10:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Rev. Weber is leading the class.
- > Plastic caps are no longer being collected.
- > Family Confirmation Class Thursdays at 6:00 p.m.
- > Adult Confirmation Class Fridays at 12 noon.
- > Elders' Meeting- Tuesday, December 2nd @ 9:00 a.m.
- > Voters' Meeting- Tuesday, December 2nd @ 7:30 p.m.
- > Mercedes Christmas Patriotic Parade- Saturday, December 6th.; 6 to 8 p.m., downtown (Texas Ave.)
- > Immanuel Lutheran School project: "Around the World " Sat., December 13th @ 5:30 p.m.

Sermon Notes		
First Sunday Advent		



# **MID-WEEK ADVENT SERVICES**

Services will begin at 6:00 p.m. Soup Suppers will begin at 5:00 p.m.

1st Mid-Week Service: Wed. Dec. 3rd 2nd Mid-Week Service: Wed. Dec. 10th 3rd Mid-Week Service: Wed. Dec. 17th

## **CHRISTMAS SERVICES**

## **Christmas Eve Service**

Wednesday, December 24th 6:00 p.m.

# **Christmas Day Service**

Thursday, December 25th 9:00 a.m. (Holy Communion)

#### **NEW YEAR'S EVE SERVICE**

Wednesday, December 31st at 6:00 p.m.

## 11/23/2025

Sunday Worship 51

Plate: \$ 909.00

Envelopes: \$ 1,698.00

Other Env: Thanksgiving \$ 100.00

Donations: Other/Turkey F \$ 1,200/\$ 20

Tithely/On-Line

**Total:** \$ 3,927.00

Bible Class: **27** \$ 25.00

#### SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Isaiah 11:1-10

Psalm 72:1-7

Romans 15:4-13

Matthew 3:1-12

## The Lord Comes in Meekness and Humility to Save Us Now

The Lord Jesus enters Jerusalem "humble, and mounted on a donkey," riding on "a beast of burden" (Matt. 21:5), as He Himself bears the sins of the world in His body. Now He comes by the ministry of the Gospel to save us from sin, death, the devil and hell. Therefore, we sing, "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" (Matt. 21:9). For we are called "to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob," His Holy Church, "that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths" (Is. 2:3). By His Word, we "walk in the light of the Lord" (Is. 2:5). That is to live in love, which "does no wrong to a neighbor" (Rom. 13:10). We "cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light," for "salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed" (Rom. 13:11, 12). Hence, the entire Christian life is a time to wake and watch, "for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming" (Matt. 24:42).

## **Memory Verse Challenge:** Micah 7:7

But as for me, I will look to the Lord; I will wait for the God of my salvation; my God will hear me.

	Bi-Weekly Church Activity Schedule		
	November Sunday Servants:	<b>December Sunday Servants:</b>	
Elder:	Earl Neuhaus	Ken Eilers	
Altar Guild:	L Estevanes/M Weber L I	Machant/D Jackson/ I Aguilera	
Music:	Doris Pickering		
This Week	First Sunday in Advent		
Usher:	Byron Terral		
Sunday:	Holy Communion Worship Ser	vice 9:00 am	
	Sunday School & Adult Bible S	tudy 10:30 am	
Next Week	Second Sunday in Advent		
Usher:	Earl Neuhaus		
Sunday:	Holy Communion Worship Ser	vice 9:00 am	
24	Sunday School & Adult Bible S	tudy 10:30 am	