

Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 18, 2022
8:30am and 11:00am



Central Lutheran Church
1857 Potter Street
Eugene, Oregon
541-345-0395
www.connecttocentral.org

Welcome to Worship!

A special welcome to all who are worshipping with us today. If you are new to our community or a first-time visitor, we invite you to fill out the pew card and indicate if you'd like to hear from us. You may place in All are welcome to the Lord's Table to receive the body and blood of Christ. Gluten free wafers are available as are red wine or white grape juice.

Today is the Fourth Sunday of Advent Advent which means coming, is a season of hope, a reflective time for preparation as we make our journey to Bethlehem to see and rejoice in the miracles at the stable. In keeping with the season, the music of the liturgy reflects this mood. The Canticle of Praise, Glory to God in the Highest, which the angels sang that first Christmas Eve is silenced until our Christmas Eucharist. The beautiful Advent banners which are taken from the Advent Carol, O Come, O Come, Emmanuel, appear one by one each week. They are rich with symbols of our Christian faith; take time to enjoy their beauty. We wish you a blessed and reflective time of joy as we prepare to meet the Babe in the manger.

Advent Wreath—Fourth Candle Angel Candle Angels were God's messengers who announced to Mary that she would have a son. They were also the ones who said to the shepherds, "To you is born this day in the City of David a Savior who is Christ the Lord." It is also known as the Hope Candle, reminding us that Jesus is the one Hope of all people. With His birth, hope was also born in the human heart.

All are invited to join us for Caroling today! We'll be meeting in the Parish Hall following the 11am service (around 12:15pm) for pizza, before heading off to bring some Christmas cheer to a few of our members who are currently unable to worship with us in person.

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Carillon

PRELUDE *Nun Komm (Come, Savior of the Nations)* Johann Sebastian Bach
Bach takes each line of the Advent Carol and spins it out into a glorious aria-like melody that has become one of the monuments of chorale (hymn) preludes.

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

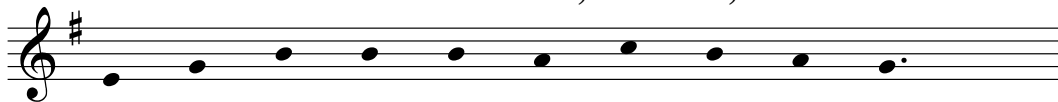
If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination

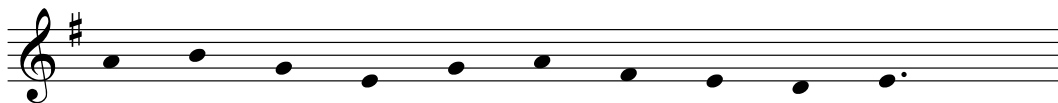
Most Merciful God, **we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake 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.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake God forgives you all your sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ God gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

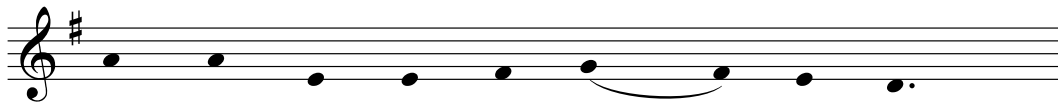
PROCESSIONAL CAROL O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



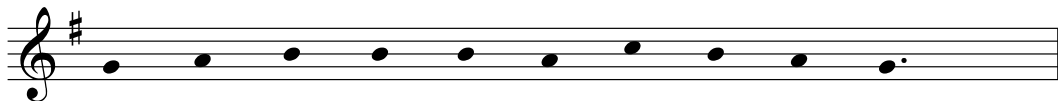
1. O come, O come, Em - man - - - u - el,
 2. O come, O wis - dom from on high,
 3. O come, O come, O Lord of might,
 4. O come, O Branch of Jes - - - se, free
 5. O come, O key of Dav - - - id come,



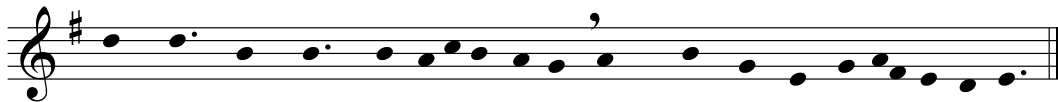
and ran - som cap - tive Is - - - ra - el,
 em - brac - ing all things far and nigh;
 as to your tribes on Si - - - nai's height
 your own from Sa - tan's tyr - - - an - ny;
 and o - pen wide our heav - - - n'ly home;



that mourns in lone - ly ex - - - ile here
 in strength and beau - ty come and stay;
 in an - cient times you gave the law
 from depths of hell your peo - ple save,
 make safe the way that leads on high.



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 teach us your will and guide our way
 in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.
 and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.
 And close the path to mis - - - e - ry.

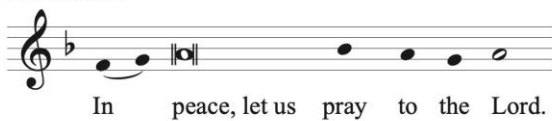


Re-joyce! Re-joyce! Em-man - u-el Shall come to you, O Is - ra-el.

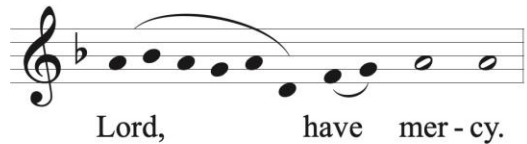
GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

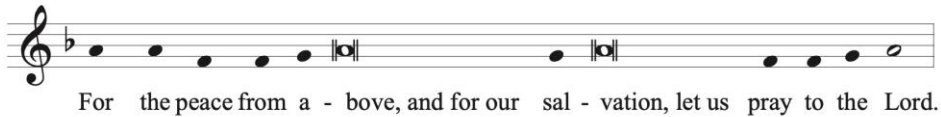
KYRIE



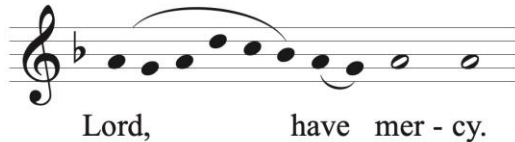
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



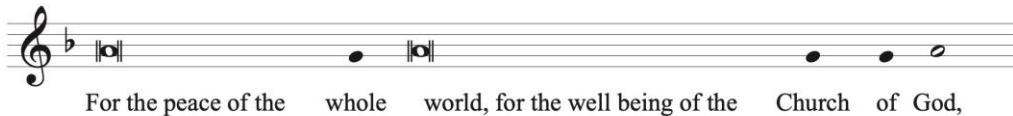
Lord, have mer-cy.



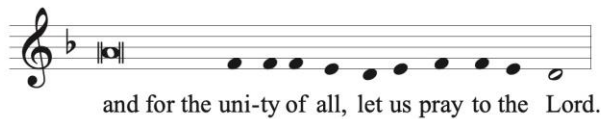
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



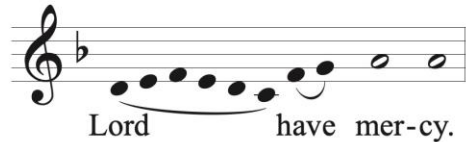
Lord, have mer-cy.



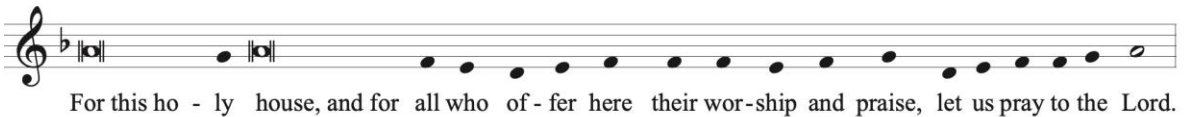
For the peace of the whole world, for the well being of the Church of God,



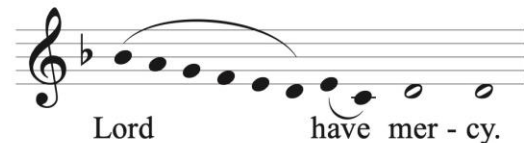
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



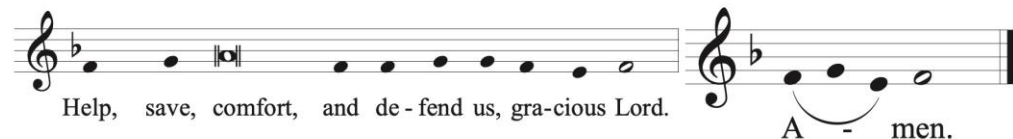
Lord have mer-cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord have mer-cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
A - men.

The Canticle of Praise is omitted during Advent until we join the angels singing "Glory to God in the highest" on Christmas.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. **Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that hinders our faith, that eagerly we may receive your promises, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

HYMN Light One Candle



1. Light one can-dle to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
2. Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
3. Light three can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
4. Light four can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



He ___ shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra - el God ful-fills the prom - ise.
He ___ shall feed the flock like a shep - herd, gent - ly lead them home-ward.
Lift ___ your heads and lift high the gate - way for the King of glo - ry.
He ___ is com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your lights be shin - ing!

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

We praise you, O God, for this wheel of time that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent. As we light the candles on this wreath, open our eyes to see your presence in the lowly ones of this earth. Enlighten us with your grace, that we may sing of your advent among us in the Word made flesh. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near. **Amen.**

(Four candles are lit.)

ANTHEM (8:30) *Even So, Come Quickly Lord* Paul Manz Chorale
(11:00) *Carol of the Bells* Leontovitch/Stewart-Cook Handbell Ensemble

FIRST LESSON Isaiah 7:10-16

¹⁰The Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, ¹¹Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. ¹²But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. ¹³Then Isaiah said: “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. ¹⁵He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. ¹⁶For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.”

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

MAGNIFICAT from **Luke 1** (*Congregation sings entire text; move after ¹*)



**1. My soul magni¹ fies the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in¹ God my Savior,
for you, Lord, have looked with favor on your¹ lowly servant.
From this day all generations will¹ call me blessed:**

**2. You, the Almighty, have done great¹ things for me
and holy¹ is your name.**

**You have mercy on¹ those who fear you,
from generation to¹ generation.**

**3. You have shown strength¹ with your arm
and scattered the proud in¹ their conceit,
casting down the mighty¹ from their thrones
and lifting¹ up the lowly.**

**4. You have filled the hungry¹ with good things
and sent the rich¹ away empty.
You have come to the aid of your¹ servant Israel,
As you promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his chil¹ dren forever.**

**5. Glory be to the Father, and¹ to the Son, And to the¹ Holy Spirit.
As it was in the begin-¹ ning, is now, and will be fore-¹ ver. Amen.**

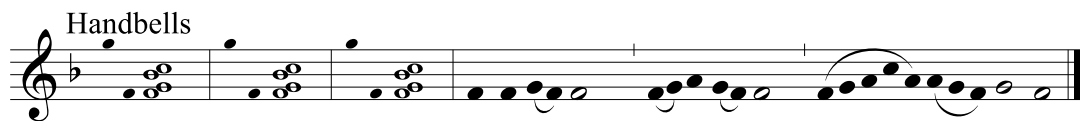
SECOND LESSON **Romans 1:1-7**

¹Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, ²which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, ³the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh ⁴and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, ⁵through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, ⁶including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, ⁷To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

ALLELUIA

Handbells



Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia. Al - le - lu-ia.

Cantor: The virgin shall conceive and | bear a son,* and they shall name | him Emmanuel. **Assembly repeats Antiphon.**

GOSPEL **Matthew 1:18-25**

The Gospel according to Matthew the 1st chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

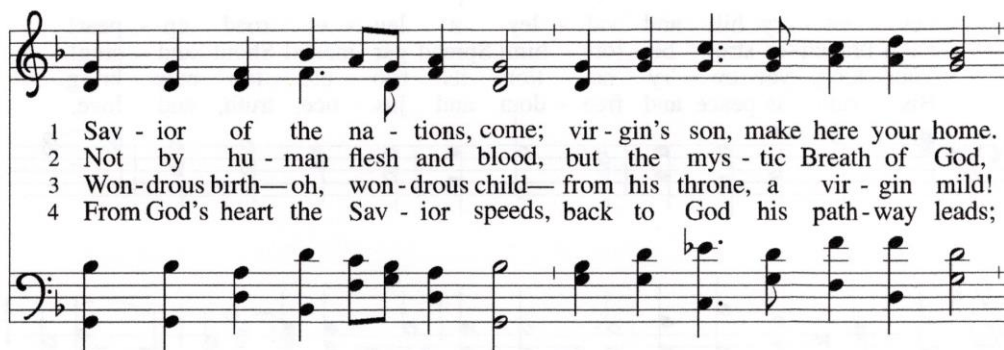
¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. ²⁰But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” ²²All this took place to fulfill what had been

spoken by the Lord through the prophet: ²³“Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,” which means, “God is with us.”²⁴When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, ²⁵but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.
 The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

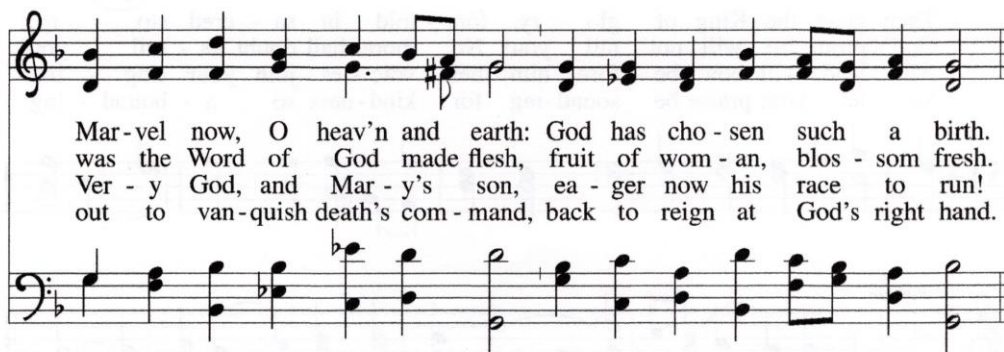
SERMON

Pastor Laurie A Jones

CAROL OF THE DAY #263 Savior of the Nations, Come (*please stand*)



1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come; vir - gin's son, make here your home.
 2 Not by hu - man flesh and blood, but the mys - tic Breath of God,
 3 Won - drous birth—oh, won - drous child— from his throne, a vir - gin mild!
 4 From God's heart the Sav - ior speeds, back to God his path - way leads;



Mar - vel now, O heav'n and earth: God has cho - sen such a birth.
 was the Word of God made flesh, fruit of wom - an, blos - som fresh.
 Ver - y God, and Mar - y's son, ea - ger now his race to run!
 out to van - quish death's com - mand, back to reign at God's right hand.

5 Now your manger, shining bright,
 hallows night with newborn light.
 Night cannot this light subdue;
 let our faith shine ever new.

6 Praise we sing to Christ the Lord,
 virgin's son, incarnate Word!
 To the holy Trinity
 praise we sing eternally!

NICENE CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

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.

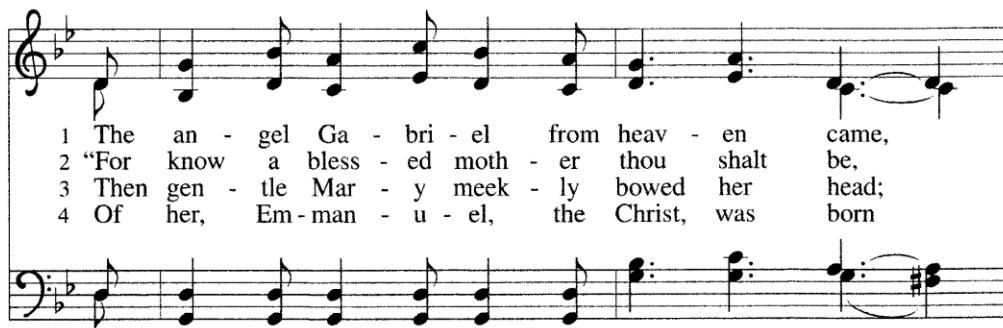
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen. *(please be seated)*

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

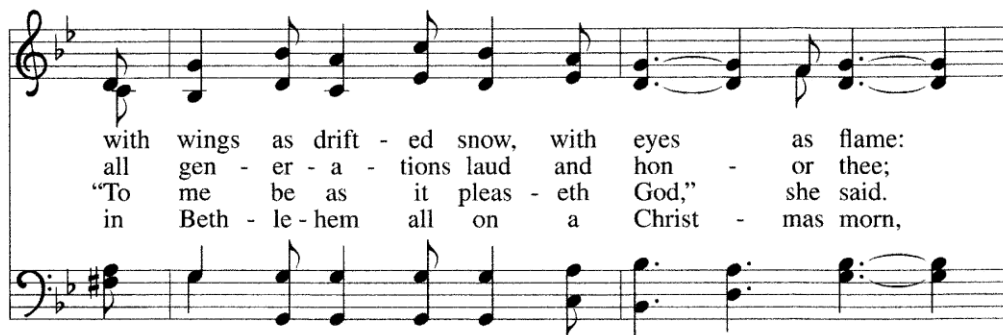
PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

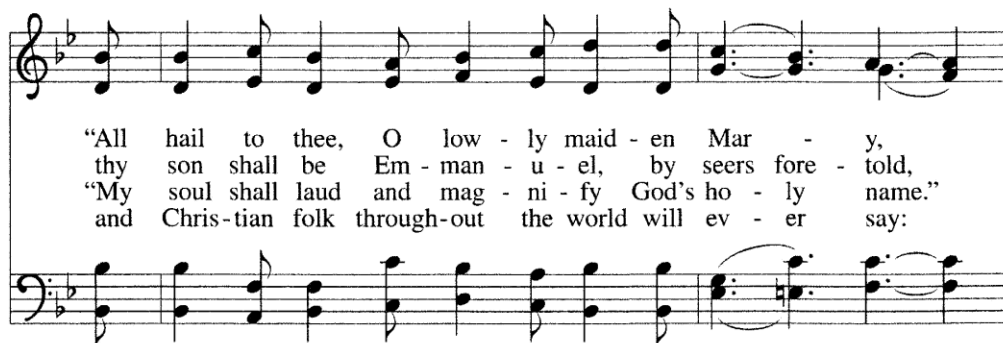
OFFERTORY HYMN #265 The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came



1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from heav - en came,
2 "For know a bless - ed moth - er thou shalt be,
3 Then gen - tle Mar - y meek - ly bowed her head;
4 Of her, Em - man - u - el, the Christ, was born



with wings as drift - ed snow, with eyes as flame:
all gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee;
"To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said.
in Beth - le - hem all on a Christ - mas morn,



"All hail to thee, O low - ly maid - en Mar - y,
thy son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,
"My soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy God's ho - ly name."
and Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say:

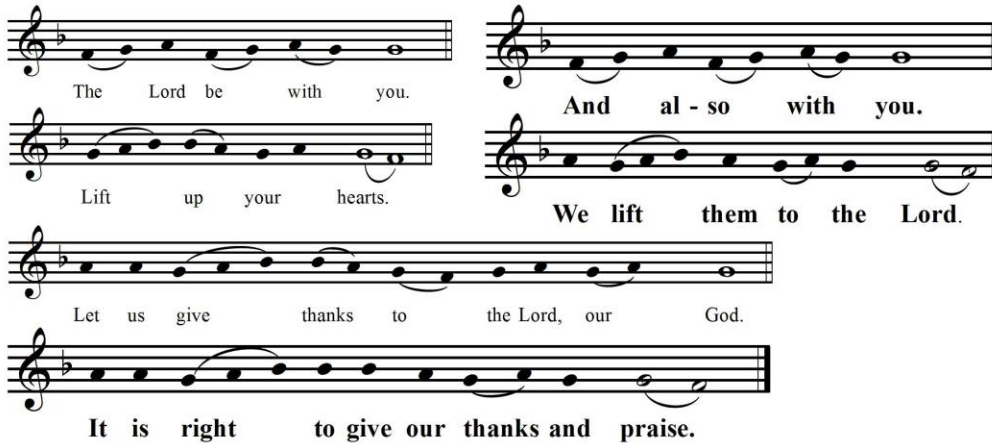


most high - ly fa - vored la - dy."
most high - ly fa - vored la - dy."
Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy,
"Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy."
Glo - ri - a!

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Eternal God, you make the desert bloom and send springs of water to thirsty ground. Receive these simple gifts of bread and wine and make us messengers of your mercy and love for all in need of your healing and justice. We ask this through Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

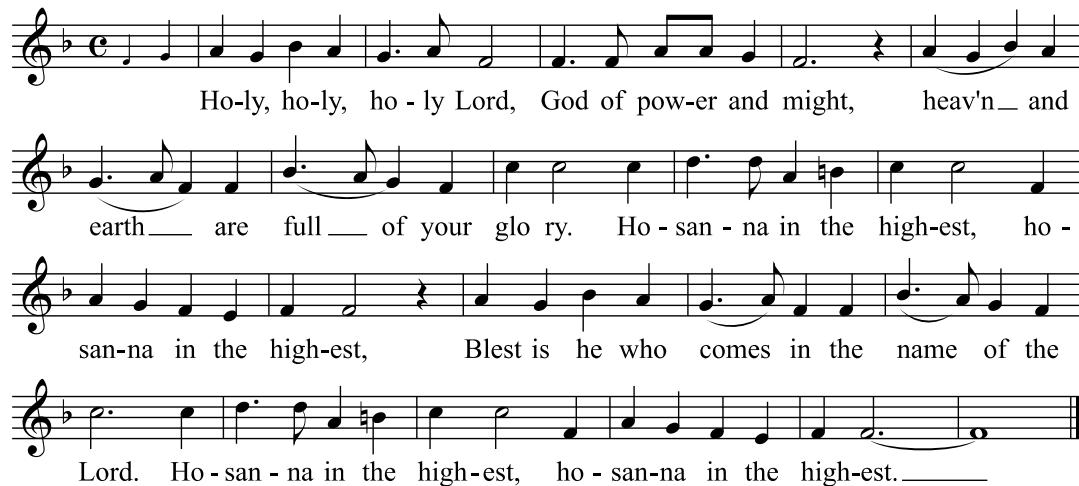


The Lord be with you.
Lift up your hearts.
And al - so with you.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you O Lord, Holy Father, almighty and ever-living God. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will make all things new in the day when he comes again to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, heav'n_ and
earth__ are full__ of your glo ry. Ho - san - na in the high-est, ho -
san-na in the high-est, Blest is he who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na in the high-est, ho - san-na in the high-est._____

Richard Proulx

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth. In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all those who believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life. We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his holy supper.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

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. (please be seated)

DISTRIBUTION

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 of sin the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,
You take a-way the of sin the world; grant us peace. A - men

BLESSING

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

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. Faithful God, in this meal you have remembered your mercy, bringing heaven to earth in the body and blood of Christ. As we wait for the day when all your promises will be fulfilled, sustain us and strengthen us by this holy mystery. Guide us toward your promised future, coming to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

BENEDICTION *(please stand as you're able)*

God the eternal Word, who dwells with us in Jesus, and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit, ✠ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

CAROL #267 Joy to the World

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their
 3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the

ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -

room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
 plains re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
 flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

and heav'n and na - ture sing, and

sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heav'n and na - ture sing,

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is near. **Thanks be to God.**

ORGAN VOLUNTARY *Dieu parmi nous (God is with us)* Messiaen

*A devout Christian, Olivier Messiaen (1908-92), was a French organist who created his own musical language using various tones of the scale. The majority of his works are for the church and have descriptive story lines. This work is the final meditation in the **Nativity Suite** (with 9 Meditations lasting about an hour). So many of the melodies move downward describing God coming back to earth. There are passages of fluttering angels as they excitedly pass the message on. After a long trill, a passage of two gossips are scurrying around telling everyone in sight the news which is followed by a chaotic section of general rejoicing as people celebrate. The movement culminates in a grand toccata with the downward melody in the pedals. Messiaen marks the ending as “FFFF” One “f,” forte is strong (loud); 4 f’s is as loud as possible. Known as “pulling out all the stops,” it is something that we rarely do at Central. It’s a fantastic piece of music—I hope you find it meaningful in your worship of the most High. (AESC)*

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Cantor at 11am: Alyse Jamieson

Remainder of our Advent & Christmas Worship Schedule

Blue Christmas Service - Tuesday, Dec. 20th at 7pm

Christmas Eve Manger Service at 4:30pm

Christmas Eve Festival Worship at 9:30pm

Christmas Day Worship - Sunday, December 25th at 10am

8th Day of Christmas Worship - Sunday, January 1st at 10am

These services will also be live-streamed and available later as a podcast.

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