



Sts. Peter and Paul Evangelical  
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**Dennis J. Lauritsen, Pastor**  
**David B. Richards, Parish Musician**  
**Karen Rouleau, Administrative Assistant**



## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*During the Prayers of Intercession, you are invited to add your own prayer(s) either in speech or in silence as indicated by the line: "Other intercessions may be added here." You may wish to use this insert to write down your prayer(s) which you may then offer aloud during that time. If you wish to have your prayers added to the Prayer of the Church during the coming weeks, please remove and place this card in the offering plate.*

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SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021 ✚ 10:15 a.m.

*Forerunners and messengers advance the advent of our God. While John the baptizer's voice in the wilderness may be the principal focus of the day, Malachi's prophecy could as easily herald the coming Christ as forerunner of the Lord of hosts. Finally all the baptized are called to participate in the sharing of the gospel. In so doing we prepare the way for the coming of Jesus and assist all people in capturing a vision of the "salvation of God."*

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**HOLY COMMUNION**  
*EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP*

**GATHERING**

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*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

PRELUDE

"Overture" to *The Messiah*

Händel

\*WELCOME AND ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Let us approach the throne of grace with repentant hearts. Faithful God, **we confess that we have been unfaithful to you. Like dry leaves and withered grass, our lives are blown about by our sins and the powers of evil around us. Restore us, O God; let the light of your face shine on us, and we shall be saved. Amen.**

God is patient, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. In the name of Jesus Christ, I bring you this good news: You are free from all that imprisons you; your sins are forgiven; God heals your broken hearts. Live in peace and harmony as you wait for the day of God. **Amen.**

\*GATHERING HYMN

*On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry*  
(Sung by the congregation)

ELW 249

## \*GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the refining fire of the Holy Spirit, and the peace of God, which surpasses understanding, be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## \*LIGHTING OF THE SECOND CANDLE

Holy are you, God of righteousness and peace; you promised to wait with patience for all to come to repentance, and to send your prophet to cry in the wilderness to prepare the way of the Lord. As we light these candles, open our ears to hear you speak tenderly to your people; open our hearts to welcome you as a shepherd who gently leads the flock. Comfort us, O God, and forgive the sin of your people.

**Reveal your glory to us, and speak to us your word of peace. Amen.**



## \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming give to all the people of the world knowledge of your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## WORD

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*God speaks to us in Scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

## FIRST READING

Malachi 3:1-4

*The Lord announces a covenant with Israel. A messenger like Malachi (his name means "my messenger") shall prepare the way for the coming of the Lord by purifying and refining God's people, as silver and gold are refined.*

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

*Prayed responsively.*

Blessed are you, Lord, the God of Israel,  
you have come to your people and set them free.

**You have raised up for us a mighty Savior,  
born of the house of your servant David.**

Through your holy prophets,  
you promised of old to save us from our enemies,  
from the hands of all who hate us,

**to show mercy to our forebears,  
and to remember your holy covenant.**

This was the oath you swore to our father Abraham:  
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

**free to worship you without fear,  
holy and righteous before you, all the days of our life.**

And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,  
for you will go before the Lord to prepare the way,

**to give his people knowledge of salvation  
by the forgiveness of their sins.**

In the tender compassion of our God

the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

**to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death,  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

## SECOND READING

Philippians 1:3-11

*The apostle Paul was the pastor of many new churches. He writes in this letter about his joy to be in partnership with the Christians of Philippi. Listen to how tender-hearted Paul, sometimes a stern preacher, is with his friends as he encourages them to grow in love and knowledge.*

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

## CHOIR ANTHEM

*Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

## \*GOSPEL

Luke 3:1-6

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke... **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*John the Baptist is a herald of the saving Lord, whose way is prepared by "repentance for the forgiveness of sins." As we hear the careful record of human leaders, we sense the spectrum of political and religious authority that will be challenged by this coming Lord.*

The Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

\*CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

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

\*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Immanuel has come, is here, and is coming soon. Let us join in prayer for the church, the earth, and those who are in need, that all receive what God promises to give.

O God, our hope of unity, come to your church around the world. Purify your people and give to all the wisdom and courage to proclaim your word of forgiveness and renewal. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O God our Savior, come to the earth that you made. Nurture the health of lands and seas. Give to plants and animals favorable weather. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O God of peace, come to all the nations. Inspire heads of state and regional leaders with a passion for justice. Bring peace throughout the world. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O God of love, come to everyone in need. Heal the sick. Answer the cries of those who are poor, those without housing, and those who have fled from violence or famine. We pray especially for... . Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O God of compassion, come to our congregation and our community. This Advent, help us to prepare for your coming. Make us gifts to one another, that no one remains destitute or despairing. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

*Other prayers may be offered in speech and silence.*

O Lord of hosts, we praise you for the lives of all the faithful, especially... Bring us with them to your feast of eternal compassion. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Receive our prayers, merciful God, and make us ready to receive you when you come through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

#### \*PEACE

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

#### MEAL

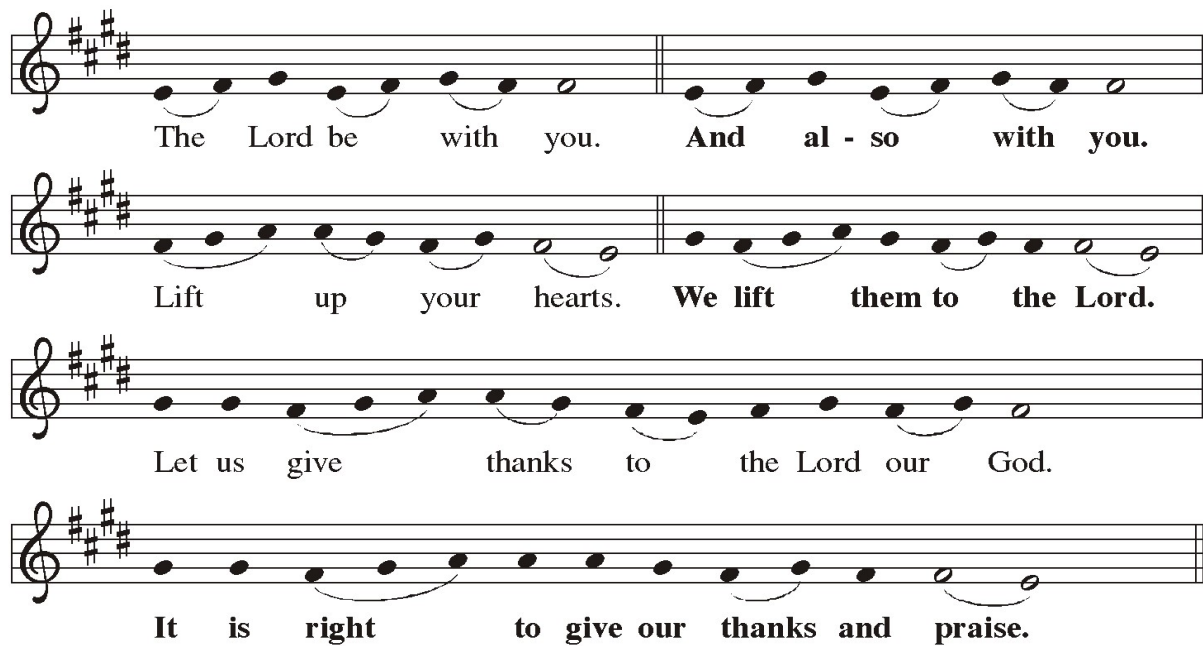
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*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

#### \*OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

\*DIALOGUE

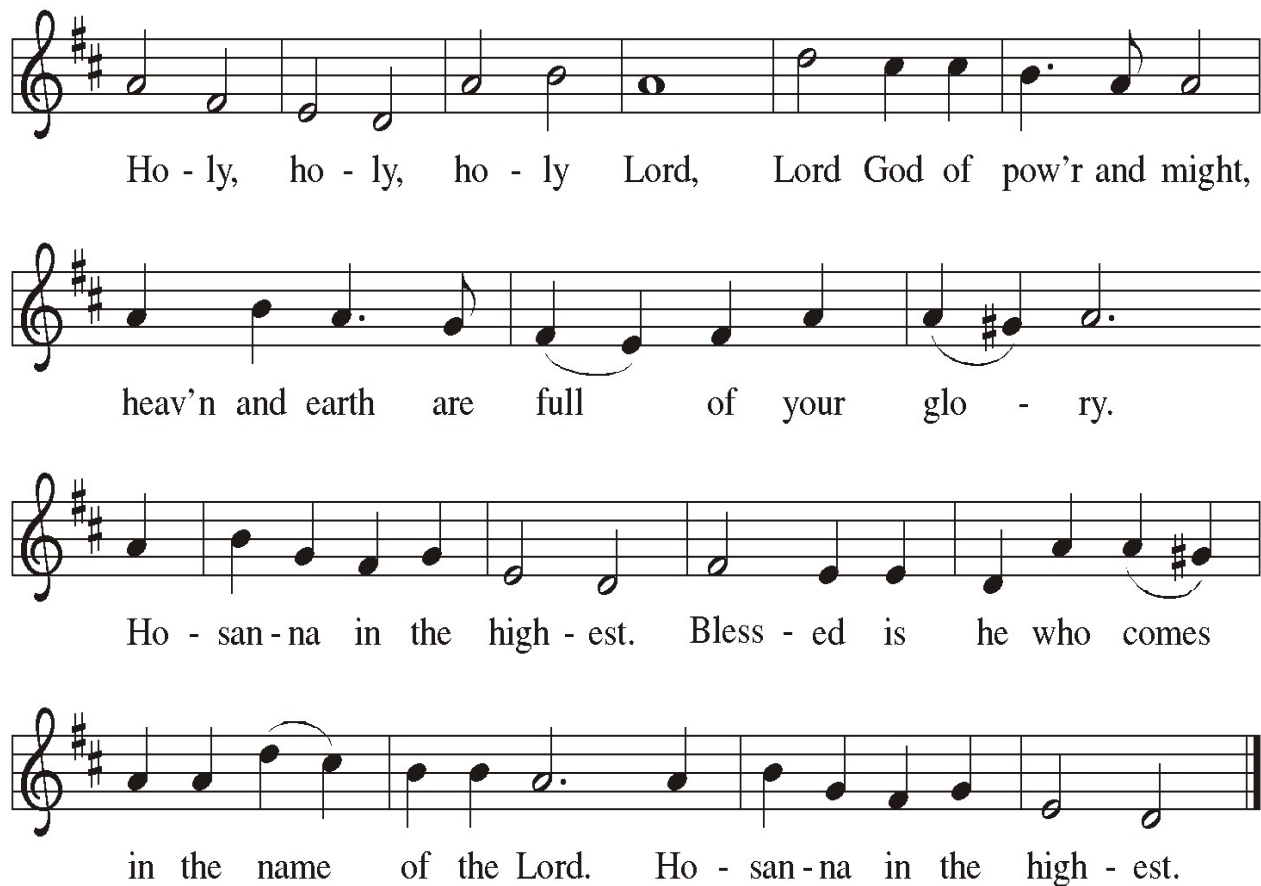


The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

\*PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

\*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
Ho - san-na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san-na in the high - est.

\*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:  
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.  
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.  
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.  
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.  
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.  
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,  
the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:  
**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

With this bread and cup  
we remember your Word dwelling among us,  
full of grace and truth.  
We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.  
We look with hope for his coming. **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.  
Come among us.  
Bless this meal.  
May your Word take flesh in us.  
Awaken your people.  
Fill us with your light.  
Bring the gift of peace on earth. **Come, Holy Spirit.**



All praise and glory are yours,  
Holy One of Israel,  
Word of God incarnate,  
Power of the Most High,  
one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**\*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**

**\*INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

God fills the hungry with good things. Taste and see that the Lord is good.

**DISTRIBUTION**

**\*BLESSING**

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

**\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray. God for whom we wait, in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## SENDING

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*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

### \*BLESSING

The Lord direct your ways in peace,  
make you abound in love for one another and for all,  
and strengthen your hearts  
until the coming of our Lord Jesus.  
Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you now and forever. **Amen**

### \*SENDING HYMN

*Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding*  
(Sung by the congregation)

ELW 246

### \*DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Remember the poor. **Thanks be to God.**

### POSTLUDE

*Finlandia*

Sibelius

## SERVING IN THE LITURGY

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PREACHING AND PRESIDING MINISTER

Dennis Lauritsen, pastor

ASSISTING MINISTER

John Broussard

MUSIC MINISTER

David Richards

LECTOR

David Richards

GREETER

Carole Pollitz

USHER

Janet Broussard

ALTAR CARE AND SACRISTAN

Jane Lauritsen and Fred Kuzel

## PRAYER LIST

*Members of the Congregation:* Anne Gavac, Helen Gaydusek, Elaine Haase, Anita Horak, Luddy Kovalsky, Dot Myers, George Pagurko, Mary Sasuta and Mary Sordel

*Friends and Relatives of the Congregation:* Kelly Alvey, Wally Bisping, Mary Costello, Ramona Daus, Eric Dennison, Denise Fricano, Bob Hicks, Bill Holmes, Marjorie Hudnall, Herman Jimenez, Ron Kelly, Nicole Kisiel, Rev. James Kuemmerle, Daryle Lauritsen, Lenyce Lawrenson, Delores Linden, Darlene Loughlin, Celia Martinez, Michele Mason, Donald Neal, Patricia Pfeiffer, Pat Pileggi, Dolores Pollitz, Alice Puglise, John Racek, Bill Redis, Sue Renville, Sandy Rossella, Elaine Sorich, Peter Spilotro, Rev. Dave Stefanson, Harvey Swenson, Gertrude Tarbox, Janie Tarbox, Tom Thoreson, Mark Van Scharrel, Doug Yavorsky, Mike and Lorraine Yavorsky and Taz Zajac.

If you would like to **order a poinsettia** to help decorate the chancel of the sanctuary for the Christmas liturgies, a sign-up sheet is available beginning today in the dining hall. You may also contact the church office to place your order. The cost per plant is \$17. The deadline for payment and sign-up is Wednesday, December 15<sup>th</sup>.

*Lux Cantorum Chicago* will present its **Christmas concert entitled “Holiday Blessings,”** featuring favorite choral music of the season, at Sts. Peter and Paul next on Sunday afternoon, December 5<sup>th</sup> at 4 p.m. More information about the concert is available at *luxcantorum.org*. Sts. Peter and Paul members Brandon Michaels, Jane Lauritsen and Pastor Dennis sing with *Lux Cantorum*.

**UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS**

*Nicholas, Bishop of Myra, died around 342*  
*Monday, December 6<sup>th</sup>*

Little is known about Nicholas, except that he was a bishop in present-day Turkey. According to legend, he was famous for his giving to the poor, and so has become a symbol of anonymous gift-giving.

*Ambrose, Bishop of Milan, died 397*  
*Tuesday, December 7<sup>th</sup>*

While a governor of northern Italy, Ambrose was elected bishop of Milan on the same day he was baptized. He was a famous preacher, a writer of hymns we still sing today, and helped lead St. Augustine to faith.

<b>Current, Benevolence and Freewill Offering</b>	
<b>November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021</b>	
<i>Weekly Budgeted Offering for 2021:</i>	\$2,500.00
<i>Offering Received for the Above Categories:</i>	\$ .00
<i>Shortage:</i>	\$ .00