



**Sts. Peter and Paul Evangelical
Lutheran Church**

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Dennis J. Lauritsen, Pastor
David B. Richards, Parish Musician
Karen Rouleau, Administrative Assistant

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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.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
December 18th, 2022 ✚ 10:15 a.m.

Today Isaiah prophesies that a young woman will bear a son and name him Emmanuel. The gospel is Matthew's account of the annunciation and birth of the one named Emmanuel, God-with-us. During these final days of Advent we pray, "O come, O come, Emmanuel," a beloved hymn based on ancient prayers appointed for the seven days preceding Christmas. On this final Sunday of Advent we prepare to celebrate the birth of the One born to save us from the power of sin and death.

HOLY COMMUNION

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP, SETTING TEN, PAGES 203-209

GATHERING

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

PRELUDE

***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**

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

ELW 257
Verses 1-4

*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 FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE

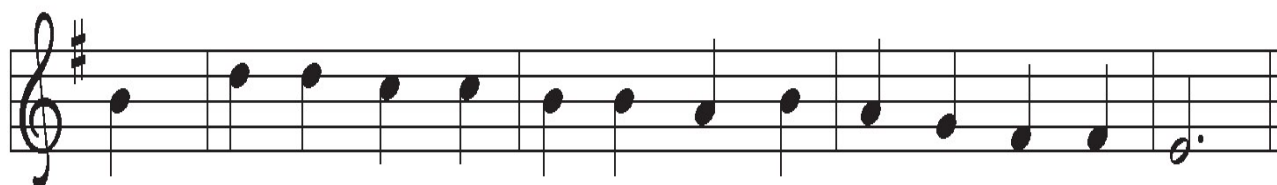
Holy are you, God of steadfast love and faithfulness; you promised to make a covenant with your chosen ones, to establish the throne of your servant David forever. As we light these candles, open our hearts to the mystery of the incarnation revealed to your servant Mary and plant your Word in us that it may grow and prosper. Show us your favor, O Rock of our salvation.

Reveal your love to us, and strength us for service in your name. Amen

*KYRIE



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Stir up your power, Lord Jesus Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that binds us, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

WORD

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

FIRST READING

Isaiah 7:10-16

An Israelite and Aramean military coalition presented a serious threat to King Ahaz of Judah. In response, Ahaz decided to secure his throne and kingdom by seeking refuge in Assyrian help. Isaiah reminds Ahaz that human attempts to establish security will fail. The prophet gives the sign of Immanuel that is the only source of true safety: God is with us!

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

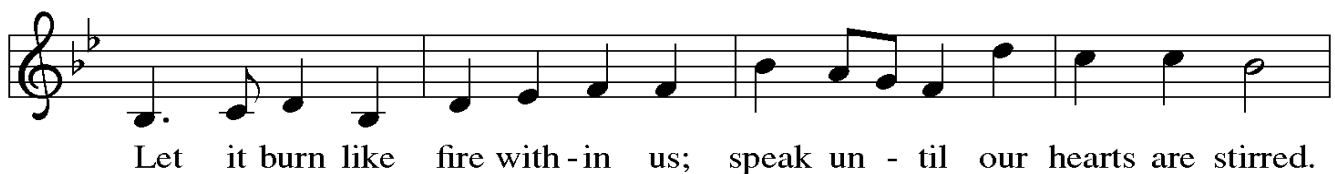
SECOND READING

Romans 1:1-7

Most of the Christians in Rome do not know Paul. In this letter's opening he introduces himself as an apostle divinely appointed to spread God's gospel. The gospel's content is the promised coming of Christ, and Paul's mission is to bring about the obedience of faith among all nations, including his Roman audience.

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

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



***GOSPEL READING**

Matthew 1:18-25

Matthew's story of Jesus' birth focuses on the role of Joseph, who adopts the divinely-begotten child into the family of David and obediently gives him the name Jesus, which means "God saves."

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew... **Glory to you, O Lord.**
The Gospel of our Lord... **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

ANTHEM

Light in the Heart of Winter

***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

In hope and anticipation, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

Continually restore and give life to the people of your covenant established in Christ. Use our presence in the world to reveal your salvation for all people. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Reveal your light to those who dwell in darkness during this season. Awaken all creation to the hope of new life through your promised coming. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Secure your grace and your peace among the nations. Lead us in ways of unity and justice to work with one another for the sake of all people. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Deliver the hope of Emmanuel, God with us, to all who suffer loneliness and despair. Send your Spirit to accompany those who long for your healing, especially... Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Prepare a way of safety and security for children to grow up free from fear or threat. Establish prosperity in every land, that no child may go hungry. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Other prayers may be offered in speech and in silence.

We give thanks that you welcome the saints into your eternal dwelling place. Train us to look forward to the day when you come to dwell among all your people for all time. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Almighty God, we entrust to you all for whom we pray, confident that you fulfill your promises through Christ our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

*PEACE

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

MEAL

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 also 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:



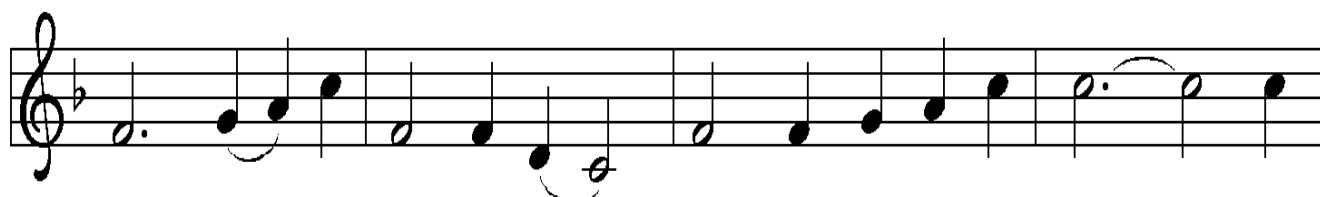
*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er 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, 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

Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you. Now share in the feast of salvation.

DISTRIBUTION

The Angel Gabriel

*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

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

*BLESSING

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. **Amen**

*SENDING HYMN

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

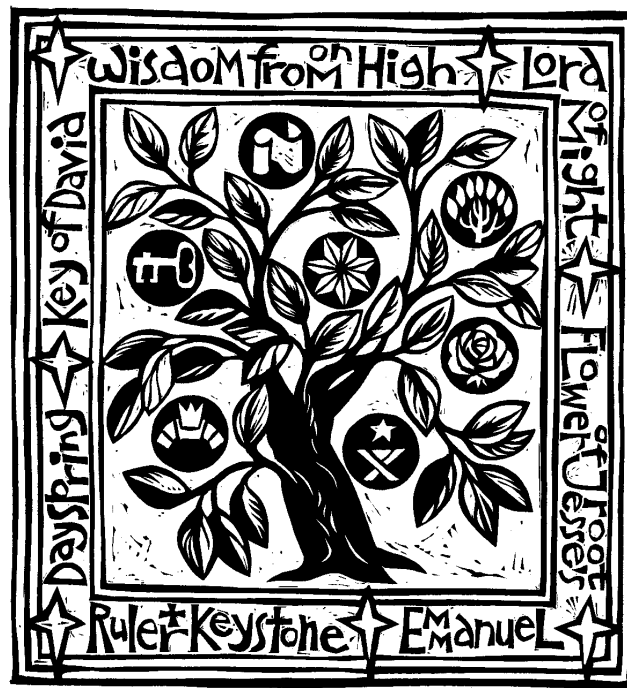
ELW 257
Verses 5-8

*DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE



SERVING IN THE LITURGY

PREACHING AND PRESIDING MINISTER

Dennis Lauritsen, pastor

ASSISTING MINISTER

Charles Matthies

MUSIC MINISTER

David Richards

HARPIST

Beverly Tarbox

SERVICE LEADER

Beverly Tarbox

LECTOR

Beverly Tarbox

GREETERS

Walter and Judith Cudecki

USHER

Walter Cudecki

ALTAR CARE AND SACRISTANS

Jane Lauritsen and Fred Kuzel



PRAYER LIST

Members of the Congregation: Anne Gavac, Helen Gaydusek, Karole Gaydusek, Elaine Haase, Anita Horak, Luddy Kovalsky, Mildred Mendel, Beverly Podzamsky, George Pagurko, Mary Sasuta and Mary Sordel

Friends and Relatives of the Congregation: Kelly Alvey, Wally Bisping, Ellen Bailey, Dan and Mary Costello, Eric Dennison, Denise Fricano, Bill Holmes, 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, Gail Purcell, Sue Renville, Sandy Rossella, Peter Spilotro, Harvey Swenson, Gertrude Tarbox, Janie Tarbox, Tom Thoreson, Mark Van Scharrel and Mike Yavorski.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers at the Lord's Table today are given in memory of **+Anna Slahor+** on the anniversary of her birth and the 31st anniversary of her death by remembering children John and Joanne Slahor and Shirley Babyar.

Offering envelopes for 2023 are now available for pick up in the lower hallway adjacent to the dining hall. Please pick up envelopes for friends or relatives who are unable to do so. **Financial donations** made to the congregation need to be received in the church office no later than Thursday, December 29th in order to be included in your end of the year financial statement. Also, **2023 calendars, compliments of Hitzeman Funeral Home**, are available at both entrances to the sanctuary and on tables in the dining hall. Please take copies for yourself and neighbors.

Christmas Worship Schedule



Christmas Eve

7:15 p.m., Festival Liturgy of
Holy Communion with Candlelight

Christmas Day

10:15 a.m., Liturgy of Holy Communion

Current, Benevolence and Freewill Offering December 11th 2022

<i>Weekly Budgeted Offering for 2022:</i>	\$2,527.00
<i>Offering Received for the Above Categories:</i>	\$.00
<i>Shortage:</i>	\$.00

Please note: Today is the last day to make a donation to Lutheran Child and Family Services through the congregation. A check will be sent to LCFS tomorrow for donations received.

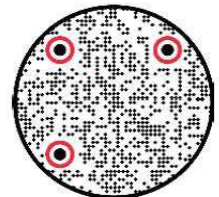


YOU CAN MAKE CHRISTMAS BRIGHT FOR FOSTER CHILDREN

Your donation will put gifts under the tree for the children in our care. Foster parents will receive money specifically to buy Christmas gifts for each child—assuring they receive what they want and need.

This is a real blessing to the families we serve!

**Donate at LCFS.org/ChristmasDrive
or scan the QR code.**



Questions? Contact Mandy_Widtfeldt@lcfs.org or 630-470-3853

Mail donations to:

Attn: LCFS Christmas Drive | 1 Oakbrook Terrace, #501 | Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181

BEDS HOLIDAY ADOPT A FAMILY 2022

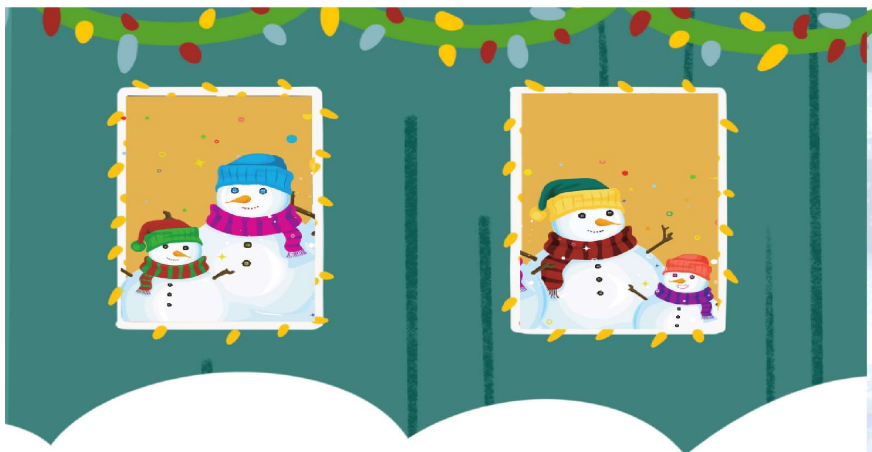
HOW CAN YOU HELP?

PURCHASE HOLIDAY GIFTS
FOR BEDS FAMILIES

ADOPT A FAMILY FOR
3 MONTHS TO A YEAR

PURCHASE GIFT SETS
FOR BEDS CLIENTS

ASSIST A FAMILY IN NEED
THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

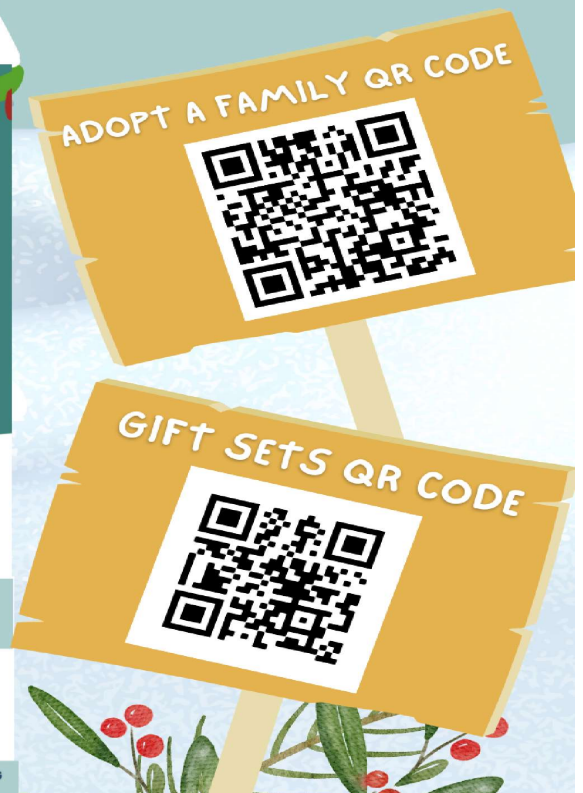


EVERYONE DESERVES A HOME.

USE QR CODES OR WEBSITE TO SIGN UP



TO LEARN MORE ABOUT BEDS RESOURCES OR TO DONATE GO TO WWW.BEDS-PLUS.ORG



For more news, additional announcements,
worship video recordings, and other information, please
visit us on the web at:
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