

You are to name him
Jesus

MATTHEW 1:21



Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

331 Weldon Street

Latrobe, PA 15650

724-537-4450 www.trinitylatrobe.com

Pastor Jason Felici & Pastor Jess Felici

Pastor Emeritus Jeffrey Schock

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 20 & 21, 2025

Welcome to Worship!

Pastors:

Rev. Jason Felici

Rev. Jess Felici

Phone: 724-537-4450

E-mail: office@trinitylatrobe.com

The *worship bulletin* is intended to help guide us through our worship. Sections in **bold** print are for congregation response.

We believe our risen Lord Jesus is truly present in the bread and wine of ***Holy Communion*** and we extend our Lord's invitation to all who are baptized to share in this meal.

Non-communing children and adults are welcome to come forward for a blessing. Please contact an usher if you need ***communed in the pew***.

A ***large print copy*** of our worship service and ***wireless sound enhancers*** are available in the front narthex.



Fourth Sunday of Advent December 20 & 21, 2025

Saturday 5:30pm, Sunday 8:15am (Broadcast, 98.7FM, 107.5FM, 1480AM, 910AM;
Livestream @www.trinitylatrobe.com), Sunday 10:45am

Service of Holy Communion (ELW Setting 3)

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 the O Antiphons, 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.

Prelude and Silent Prayer

Sunday 10:45am "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" arr. Thompson Choir Chimes

Welcome and Announcements

Throughout the bulletin you will note two symbols that denote when the congregation is invited to stand (▲) or be seated (▼) as your body allows.

GATHERING

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

▲ Confession and Forgiveness

(All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.)

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
whose home is heaven and earth,
whose salvation is sure.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God
and of one another.

(please kneel or remain seated as your body allows)

Silence is kept for reflection.

Long-expected God, we confess that we look to ourselves for the peace and security only you can provide. We reach for swords and spears, reluctant to release our grip on the ways of war. We become impatient while waiting and weary of keeping awake. Free us from self-reliance, and teach us to live in harmony with our neighbors. Increase our trust in God's timing, and awaken us to your advent among us, that we may abound in the hope you have promised.

Amen.

God judges us not as we deserve, but according to God's own righteousness.

✠ You are freed and forgiven, saved by grace,
and ready to welcome the Savior.

Amen.

▲ Gathering Hymn

"Fling Wide the Door"

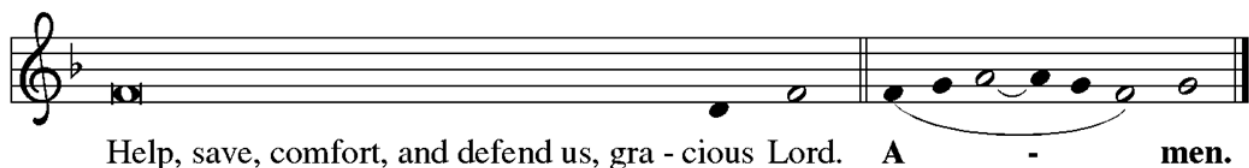
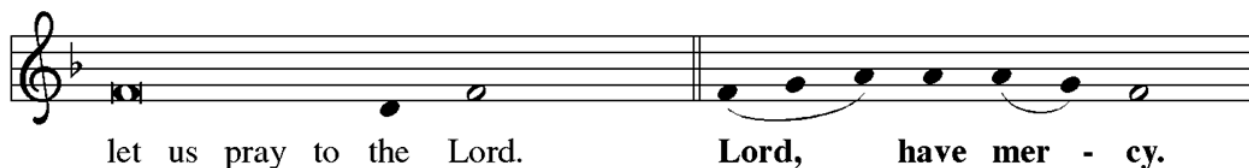
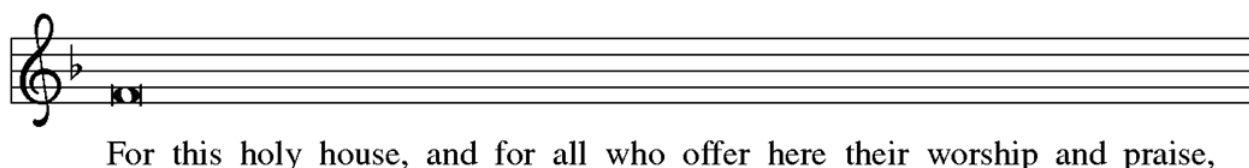
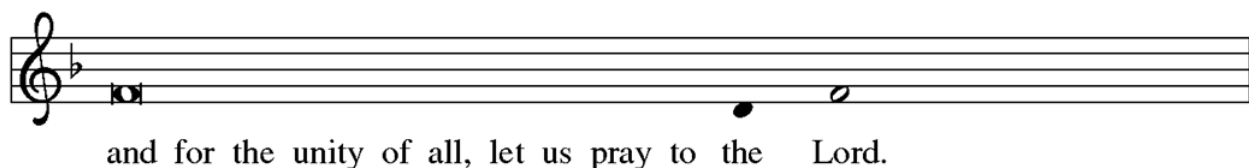
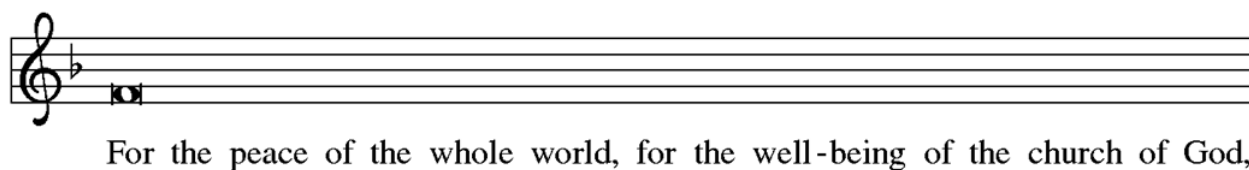
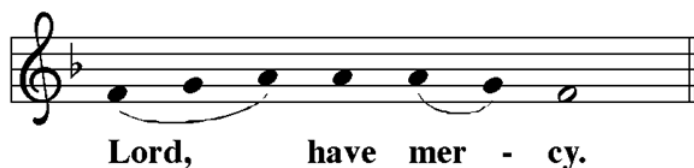
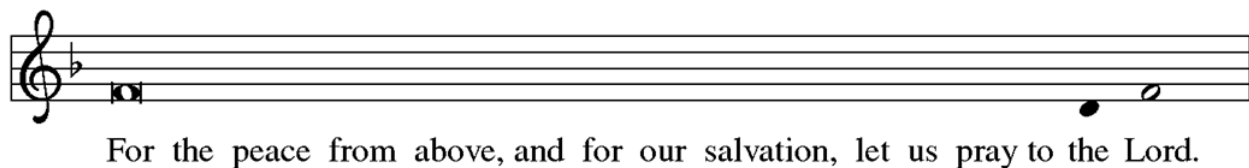
ELW #259

▲ 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



▲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.

WORD

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

▼Children's Message

▼Blessing of the Advent Wreath

Hymn ELW #240 “Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah”

Verse 4 Light four candles to watch for Messiah:
 let the light banish darkness.
 He is coming, tell the glad tidings.
 Let your lights be shining!



▼Lighting of 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.

▼ First Reading: Isaiah 7:10-16

Jerusalem is surrounded by its enemies, and it seems that utter defeat, followed by the horrors of being sacked, is inevitable. Isaiah, however, promises that by the time a royal princess, now pregnant, gives birth and the child is weaned, the armies will have melted away.

¹⁰ The LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, ¹¹ “Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” ¹² But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test.” ¹³ Then Isaiah said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals that you weary my God also? ¹⁴ Therefore 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. ¹⁵ He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. ¹⁶ For 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.**

▼ Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19 (Leader/Assembly: Saturday, spoken; Sunday, sung)

This psalm expresses the fears of Isaiah’s audience and hints at Isaiah’s reassurance.

¹ Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph [|] like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned up- [|] on the cherubim.
² **In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, [|] and Manasseh,**
stir up your strength and [|] come to help us.
³ Restore [|] us, O God;
let your face shine upon us, and we [|] shall be saved.
⁴ **O LORD [|] God of hosts,**
how long will your anger fume when your [|] people pray?
⁵ You have fed them with the [|] bread of tears;
you have given them bowls of [|] tears to drink.
⁶ **You have made us the derision [|] of our neighbors,**
and our enemies laugh [|] us to scorn.
⁷ Restore us, O [|] God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we [|] shall be saved.

(continued)

- ¹⁷ **Let your hand be upon the one at | your right hand,
the one you have made so strong | for yourself.**
- ¹⁸ And so will we never turn a- | way from you;
give us life, that we may call up- | on your name.
- ¹⁹ **Restore us, O LORD | God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved.**

▼Second Reading: Romans 1:1-7

Paul doesn't know the Christians in Rome, but is being taken there under arrest. He begins his letter to them with a summary of the Christmas and Easter Gospel. "Grace" and "peace" were the first century equivalents of "Dear Sir or Madam," but Paul fills this formula with profound meaning.

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

▲Gospel Acclamation

Stephen Pishner



(continued)

▲ Gospel: Matthew 1:18-25

Matthew begins his Gospel with Jesus' family tree, and then moves immediately to this story of his birth. At its center is a key to Matthew's message throughout the Gospel – Jesus is “God with us.” Indeed, Matthew's Gospel will end with Jesus promising, “I will be with you always, to the close of the age.”

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

¹⁸ Now 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 pregnant from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to divorce her quietly.

²⁰ But 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. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.”

²² All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: ²³ “Look, the virgin shall become pregnant and give birth to a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,” which means, “God is with us.” ²⁴ When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife ²⁵ but had no marital relations with her until she had given birth to a son, and he named him Jesus.

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

▼ Sermon

Pastor Jess Felici

▲ Hymn of the Day

“Savior of the Nations, Come”

ELW #263

▲ Nicene Creed

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,

(continued)

**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.**

Prayers of the People *(please kneel or remain seated as your body allows)*

God of grace, hear our prayer.

▲ The Peace

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

(share God's peace with one another and then be seated)

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

▼ Gathering of Gifts

As we move to the time in our worship where we offer our gifts to God's church, a portion of your offering supports Leadership Formation. As lifelong learners the synod provides a number of continuing education opportunities for Pastors and Deacons, including quarterly Ember Days, Monthly Ministeriums, and a Fall Theological Convocation.



*If you prefer, scan the QR code to give online.
You may then place a giving card from the pew
in the offering plate as it passes by.*

▼ Anthem

“Come, Jesus, Holy Son of God”

Handel

Choir

▲ Offertory

“He Came Down”

ELW #253



- 1 He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love;
- 2 He came down that we may have light; he came down that we may have light;
- 3 He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace;
- 4 He came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy;



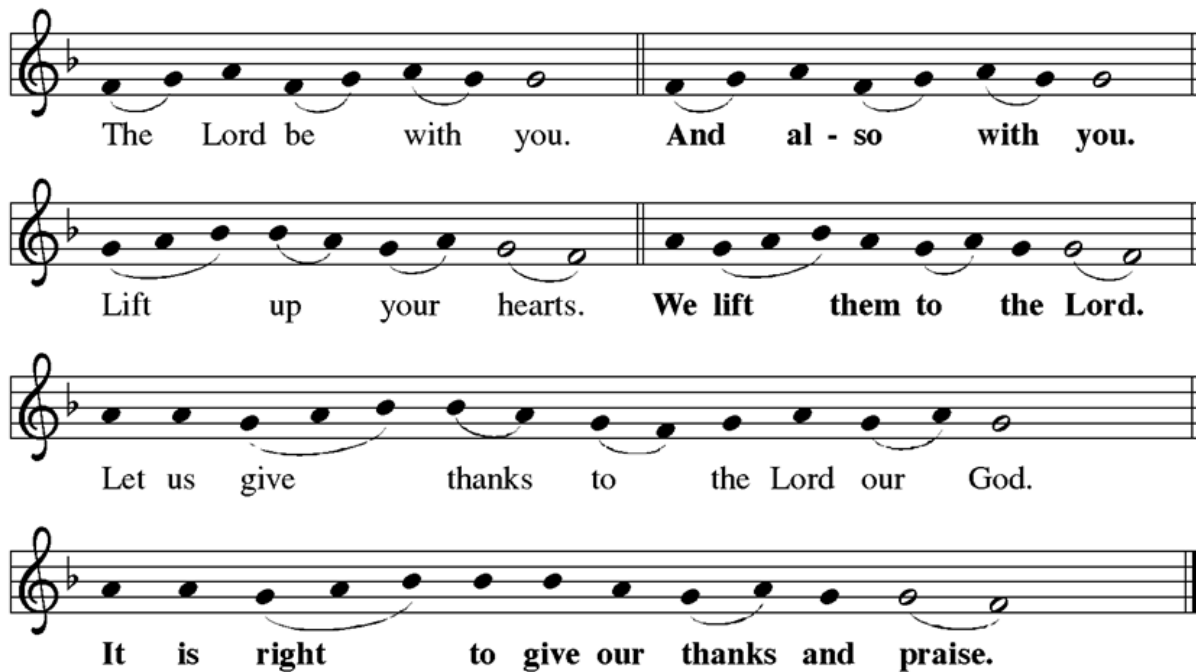
he came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have light; hal - le - lu - jah for - ev - er - more.
he came down that we may have peace;
he came down that we may have joy;

▲ Offering Prayer

Let us pray. Nourishing God, **you are water in the wilderness and streams in the desert. Through this meal, satisfy our parched places, that we may rejoice and be for the world signs of your kingdom come.**

Amen.

▲ Great Thanksgiving



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

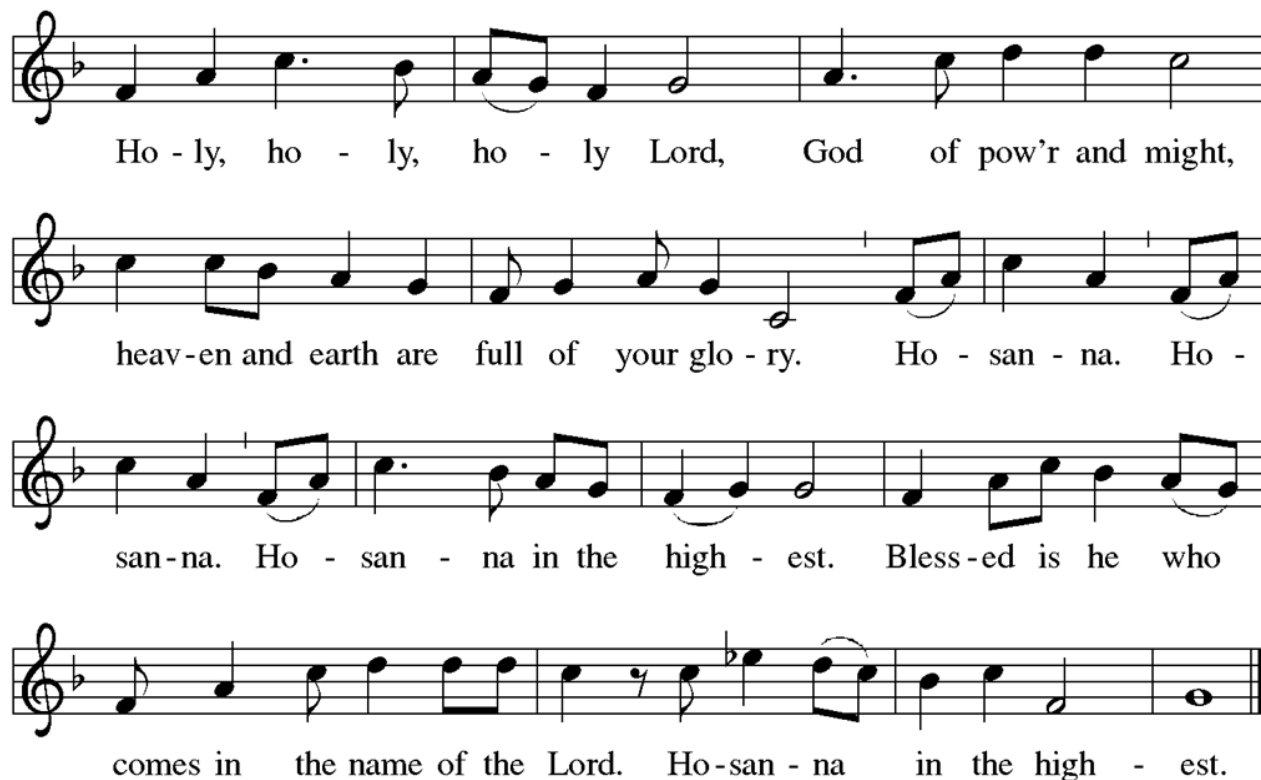
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.
You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer,
through whom you will also make all things new
in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

(continued)

▲ Holy, Holy, Holy



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. 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.

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.

(continued)

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

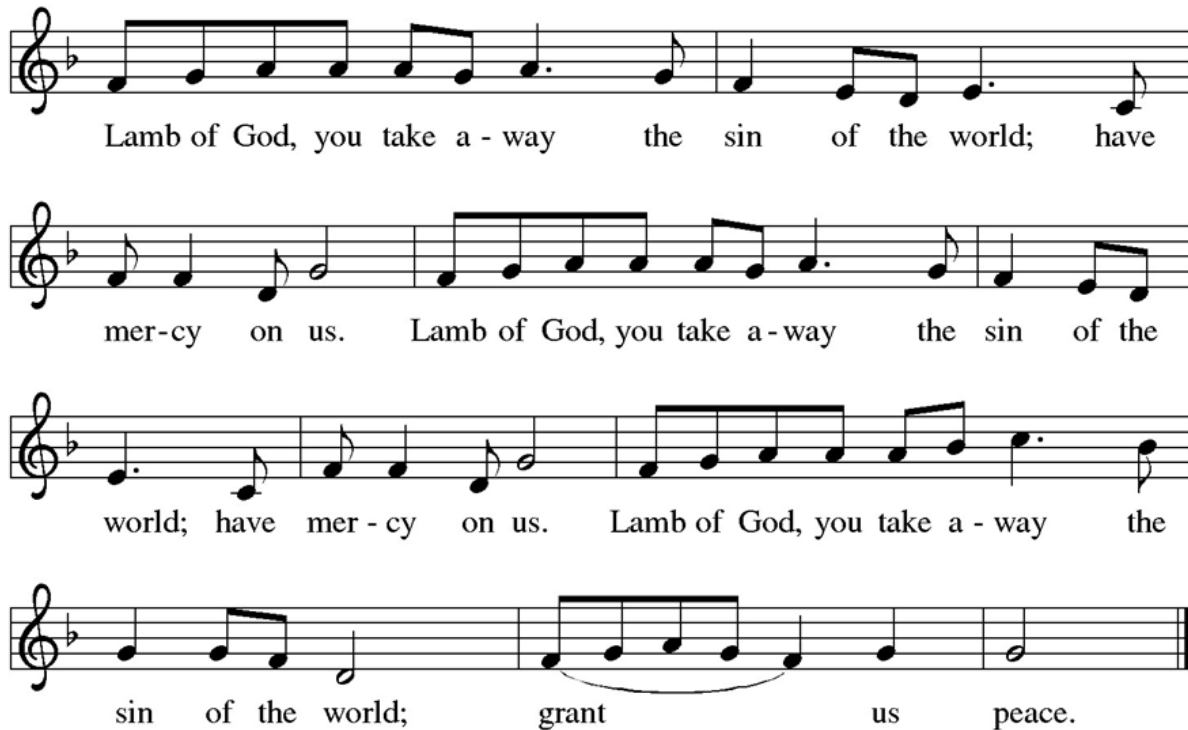
Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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

Here is life. God is with us.
Come, receive what God has promised.

▲ Lamb of God



▼ Distribution of Communion

*To receive communion, please come down the center aisle, take a cup from the tray and gather at the altar rail. Receive the bread into your hand. Wine will be poured into your cup. **The communion wine is gluten free. Gluten free wafers are available upon request.** For those unable to receive wine, communion cups with water are available. Leave the altar rail, place your cup on the tray and return to your pew via the side aisles. **If you would like to receive communion in the pew, please contact an usher.** Non-communing children and adults are welcome to come forward for a blessing.*



▼ Communion Hymn

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

ELW #257

v.7 O come, O King of nations, come, O Cornerstone that binds in one:
refresh the hearts that long for you; restore the broken, make us new.

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

v.8 O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

▲ Table 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 our host, **at this table you have fed us with joy and gladness.**
Send us forth, eager to share the feast, welcome the stranger,
and bear good fruit in the name of Jesus. Amen.

SENDING

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

▲ Blessing

May God who comes among us,
Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit,
grant you patience in waiting, peace in the darkness,
and good news to share today and always.
Amen.

▲ Sending Hymn

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

ELW #254

▲ Dismissal

Go in peace. Keep awake.
Thanks be to God.

THE ALTAR FLOWERS THIS WEEKEND are dedicated to our Lord in honor of our brother, Mark Jones, on his birthday and also for Mark and Kathy Jones' anniversary, given by Jennifer & Tom Kubit, and Phyllis & Jim O'Hara.

THE BROADCAST THIS WEEK is dedicated to the Glory of God in honor of the marriage of Michael and Emily Leonescu on November 22, 2025, given by Jay, Meri Beth, John and Maggie Elder.

Serving this Weekend

Preaching: Pastor Jess Felici **Presiding:** Pastor Jason Felici

Director of Music: Debbie Morley

Lectors: **Saturday 5:30pm:** Linda McDowell

Sunday 8:15am: Nick Gebhart

Sunday 10:45am: Sandy Redinger

Liturgical Deacons: **Saturday 5:30pm:** Curt Colaianne

Sunday 8:15am: Nancy McHenry, Rose McLain

Sunday 10:45am: Jim & Kathy Zamerski

Ushers: **Saturday 5:30pm:** Tom & Beth Dlugos, Donna Showalter,
Isaiah Sherba

Sunday 8:15am: Sandy Kisick, Keith Bronson, Jr.,
Keith Bronson, Sr., Melinda Terney

Sunday 10:45am: Matt & Kelly Clever, Eli Clever, Tim Potter

Acolytes: **Saturday 5:30pm:** Kelly Stanko

Sunday 8:15am:

Sunday 10:45am:

Tellers: **Sunday 8:15am:** Jason Sheppard, John Hugo, Kathy & Mark Jones

Sunday 10:45am: Eleanor Fagan, Will & Linda Brigaman,
Anna Hudec, Susan Vargo

Acolytes Serving Next Weekend December 27 & 28

Saturday 5:30pm:

Sunday 8:15am:

Sunday 10:45am:

Liturgy reprinted from "Evangelical Lutheran Worship", copyright 2006 Augsburg Fortress, used by permission of license #SBT004670 and One License A-709549; Prayers are from "Sundays & Seasons", copyright 2025 Augsburg Fortress. Introductions to the readings are written by The Rev. Mark Oldenburg, Ph.D., Steck-Miller Professor Emeritus of the Art of Worship, United Lutheran Seminary.