

# Third Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 16th 5:00 PM

Sunday, December 17th 9:00 AM



## OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

809 S Commercial St. Neenah, WI 54956

[our-saviors.org](http://our-saviors.org)

(920) 725-3956



Evangelical  
Lutheran Church  
in America

We are glad you are joining us for worship at  
**OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**You are Welcome here!**

Please fill out the **Pew Pads** for registering your attendance and communion participation. If you would like a pastoral call or want to join OSLC, please check those boxes and include contact information.

During the **Offering**, the ushers will pass the offering plates. In addition to placing gifts in the plates, this QR code can be used if you would like to give electronically through **Tithe.ly**



We have an open table for **Holy Communion** with two options to receive communion:

- 1) Come forward, at the direction of the ushers, to receive communion by **Intinction**. You will receive a wafer (gluten free available) and then dip it either in the wine (red) or grape juice (white).

Children and others not wishing to receive communion may come forward with their hands folded to receive a blessing. Otherwise, come forward with you palms open to receive a wafer.

- 2) Stay in your pew and use the **self-contained communion cups** (wafer on the top and grape juice on the bottom). These are located in the rear of the sanctuary as you walk in.

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## **ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**Prelude**

Jim Miller, Music Director

**Welcome & Announcements**

Sarah Swender, Worship Assistant

**Call To Worship**

Bell Toll

## **GATHERING**

### **Advent Wreath Lighting & Blessing**

A Praise to you, O God,  
who holds our joy and sorrow.

**C You bring water to parched ground  
and life out of death.**

A Bless us as this light grows,  
and send sorrow and sighing to flee away .

**C Give us strength and patience,  
trusting that you are true to your promises.**

A Transform the lives of all who suffer  
with your wonders near at hand.

**C Amen.**

## Gathering Song: “We Are Waiting for Jesus”

ACS #905

1, 3 We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.  
2 We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.

We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.  
We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.

Sun of jus - tice, shine up - on us; we are trust - ing in your prom - ise.  
Lov - ing Shep - herd, walk be - side us; stir our hearts, and gent - ly guide us.

We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.  
We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp). The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics written below the notes. The first staff has two parts: part 1 (1, 3) and part 2 (2). The second staff has two lines of lyrics. The third staff has two lines of lyrics. The fourth staff has two lines of lyrics. The music ends with a double bar line.

Text: John Helgen, b. 1957

Music: JESUS BRINGS PEACE, John Helgen

Text and music © 2013 Augsburg Fortress

## Confession and Forgiveness

A Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God,  
who opens the heavens and draws near to us with salvation.

C Amen.

A God is patient and merciful, desiring all to come to repentance.  
Trusting this promise of grace, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection*

A Everlasting God,

**C You love justice and you hate wrongdoing.  
We confess the fear, greed, and self-centeredness  
that make us reluctant to work against oppression.  
We are complicit in systems of exploitation.  
We choose comfort over courage.  
We are careless with creation's bounty.  
Look upon us with mercy.  
Turn our hearts again to you.  
Make us glad to do your will and to walk in your ways  
for the sake of our waiting world.  
Amen.**

A Hear these words of assurance:  
God clothes you with garments of salvation  
and covers you with robes of righteousness.  
In the tender compassion of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.  
God's covenant is eternal, and God's blessing rests upon us all.

**C Amen.**

## **Greeting**

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

**C And also with you.**

# Kyrie

ELW #155

1, 3 Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.  
 2 Chris - te e - lei - son. Chris - te e - lei - son.

Ky - ri - e e - le i - son.  
 Chris - te e - le i - son.

Music: Russian Orthodox traditional

# Hymn of Praise: "Glory to God"

ACS #911

*sing twice*

Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God,  
 glo - ry to God in the high - est.  
 Peace be to you, peace be to me,  
 peace be to all, peace to all the earth.

Text: Marcus Veenstra; tr. composite

Music: GLORIA A DIOS, Marcus Veenstra; arr. Greg Scheer, b. 1966

Text and music © Marcus Veenstra, admin. Augsburg Fortress

## **Prayer of the Day**

**C Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God,  
and open our ears to the words of your prophets,  
that, anointed by your Spirit, we may testify to your light;  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## **WORD**

### **Reading: Luke 1:26-38**

<sup>26</sup>In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, <sup>27</sup>to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup>And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." <sup>29</sup>But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup>The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup>And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. <sup>32</sup>He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. <sup>33</sup>He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." <sup>34</sup>Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" <sup>35</sup>The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. <sup>36</sup>And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. <sup>37</sup>For nothing will be impossible with God." <sup>38</sup>Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

## Special Music: “Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”

Choir

By Mark Miller

*Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;  
from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.  
Israel’s strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art,  
dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.*

*Born to save, born to heal, come, O Savior, come.  
While we wait, while we pray, come, Savior, come.  
Hope of all heaven and earth, come, Jesus come, O Jesus, come.*

*Born thy people to deliver, born a child, and yet a king;  
born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.  
By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;  
by thine all-sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.*

*Born to save, born to heal, come, O Savior, come.  
While we wait, while we pray, come, Savior, come.  
Hope of all heaven and earth, come, Jesus come, O Jesus, come.*

<p>Sunday School Children come forward at this time for songs and readings</p>
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## Reading: Luke 2:1-7

<sup>1</sup>In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>All went to their own towns to be registered. <sup>4</sup>Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. <sup>5</sup>He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup>While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup>And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

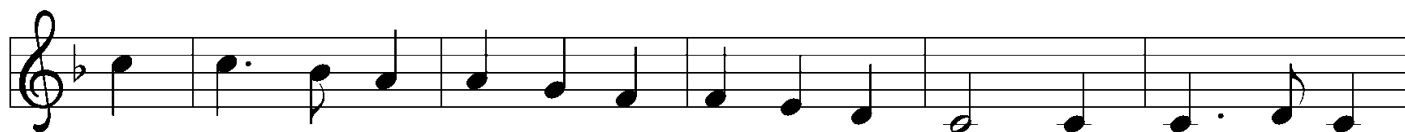


## Carol: "Away in the Manger"

ELW # 277

Saturday: Congregation

Sunday: Sunday School



1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his bed, the lit - tle Lord  
2 The cat - tle are low - ing; the ba - by a - wakes, but lit - tle Lord  
3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask you to stay close by me for -



Je - sus laid down his sweet head; the stars in the bright sky looked  
Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes. I love you, Lord Je - sus; look  
ev - er and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear chil - dren in



down where he lay, the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.  
down from the sky and stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.  
your ten - der care and fit us for heav - en, to live with you there.

Text: North American, 19th cent.

Music: AWAY IN A MANGER, James R. Murray, 1841–1905

## Reading: Luke 2:8-14

<sup>8</sup>In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup>But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: <sup>11</sup>to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup>This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger."

<sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup>"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

# Carol: "Angels We Have Heard on High" *verse 1*

ELW #289

Saturday: Congregation

Sunday: Sunday School

*Refrain*

Glo - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo -

- ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,

and the moun - tains in re - ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.

Text: French carol; tr. H. F. Hemy, *The Crown of Jesus Music*, 1864  
Music: GLORIA, French carol

*to Refrain*

## Reading: Luke 2:15-20

<sup>15</sup>When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." <sup>16</sup>So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

<sup>17</sup>When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; <sup>18</sup>and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup>But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup>The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

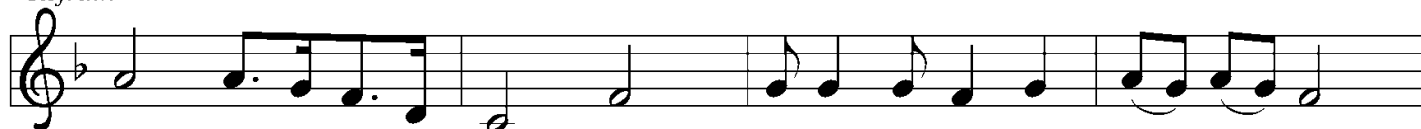
**Carol: “Go Tell It on the Mountain”**

ELW #290

Saturday: Congregation

Sunday: Sunday School

*Refrain*



Go tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;



go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!



- 1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
- 2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when, lo, a - bove the earth
- 3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger the hum-ble Christ was born;

*Refrain*



be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.  
rang out the an - gel cho-rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.  
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless-ed Christ-mas morn.

Text: African American spiritual, refrain; John W. Work Jr., 1872–1925, stanzas, alt.  
Music: GO TELL IT, African American spiritual

## Children's Sermon—Sermon

Rev. Jon Strasman, Pastor

## Hymn of the Day: "People, Look East"

ELW #248



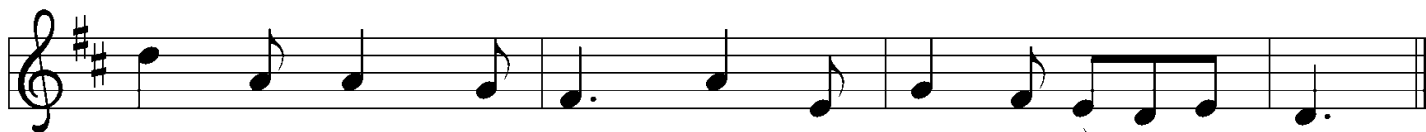
1 Peo - ple, look east. The time is near of the crown - ing  
2 Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is  
3 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the  
4 An - gels an - nounce with shouts of mirth him who brings new



of the year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble,  
plant - ed there. Give up your strength the seed to nour - ish,  
bowl shall brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er,  
life to earth. Set ev - 'ry peak and val - ley hum - ming



trim the hearth and set the ta - ble. Peo - ple, look  
that in course the flow'r may flour - ish. Peo - ple, look  
bright as sun and moon to - geth - er. Peo - ple, look  
with the word, the Lord is com - ing. Peo - ple, look



east, and sing to - day— Love, the Guest, is on the way.  
east, and sing to - day— Love, the Rose, is on the way.  
east, and sing to - day— Love, the Star, is on the way.  
east, and sing to - day— Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881–1965

Music: BESANÇON, French carol

Text © Miss E. Farjeon Will Trust, by permission of David Higham Associates.

## **Apostles' Creed**

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
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,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come 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 the People**

**A Merciful God,**

**C Receive our prayer.**

**A Listen to these and all our prayers, O God of hosts,  
and restore us with your great and everlasting mercy.**

**C Amen.**

## MEAL



### The Offering

**Special Music:** “Will We Know Him?”

Choir

By Don Besig & Nancy Price

*Are we ready for the Babe of Bethlehem to be born in a lowly stall?  
Are we ready to greet the tiny little King who will come to save us all?  
Are we ready for the star of Bethlehem to appear in the winter sky?  
Are we ready to follow anywhere it leads, and let its light fill all our lives?*

*Prepare ye the way for the King of Glory,  
once again proclaim the wondrous story.  
God will send His own true Son,  
but will we know Him when He comes?*

*Are we ready for the song of Bethlehem to declare our Savior’s birth?  
Are we ready to join the angels as they sing, and spread the news to all on earth?*

*Prepare ye the way for the King of Glory,  
once again proclaim the wondrous story.  
God will send His own true Son,  
but will we know Him when He comes?*

*Are we ready for the Babe of Bethlehem, God’s true and promised Son?  
Are we ready to greet the tiny little King and will we know Him when He comes?  
Will we know Him when He comes?*

## **Offering Prayer**

**C God our provider,  
by your merciful hand  
abundance springs up from the earth.  
Receive and bless these gifts of your own bounty.  
Let them be a sign of your steadfast love  
and faithfulness for all people,  
through Jesus Christ our Savior.  
Amen.**

## **Words of Institution**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

**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.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power,  
and the glory,  
forever and ever.  
Amen.**

## Communion

P Come taste and see that God is good!

### Communion Song: “Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”

ELW #276



1 In - fant ho - ly, in - fant low - ly, for his bed a cat - tle stall;  
2 Flocks were sleep - ing, shep - herds keep - ing vig - il till the morn - ing new



ox - en low - ing, lit - tle know - ing Christ the child is Lord of all.  
saw the glo - ry, heard the sto - ry, tid - ings of a gos - pel true.



Swift - ly wing - ing, an - gels sing - ing, bells are ring - ing, tid - ings bring - ing:  
Thus re - joic - ing, free from sor - row, prais - es voic - ing, greet the mor - row:



Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!  
Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!

Text: Polish carol; tr. Edith M. G. Reed, 1885–1933, alt.  
Music: W ŻŁOBIE LEŻY, Polish carol

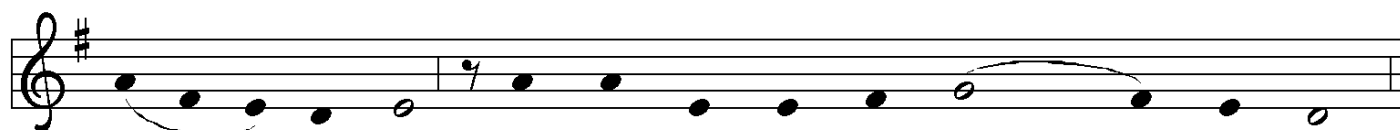


# Communion Song: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

ELW #257



- 1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
- 2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things
- 3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on
- 4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here  
 far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;  
 Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law  
 tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
 teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joice! Re-joice!  
 in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.  
 and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

- 5 O come, O Key of David, come,  
 and open wide our heav'nly home;  
 make safe the way that leads on high,  
 and close the path to misery. *Refrain*
- 6 O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer;  
 O Sun of justice, now draw near.  
 Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
 and death's dark shadow put to flight. *Refrain*
- 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*
- 8 O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
 and ransom captive Israel,  
 that mourns in lonely exile here  
 until the Son of God appear. *Refrain*

## **Table Blessing**

**P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ  
strengthen you and keep you always in God's grace.

**C** Amen

## **Prayer after Communion**

**C** Generous God,  
in bread and cup you have revealed your glory  
for all people to see together.  
Nourished by this meal, send us out to proclaim  
your good news of liberation and release,  
brought to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior.  
Amen.

## **SENDING**

### **Blessing**

**P** The God of peace bless you,  
the love of Christ sustain you in hope,  
and the anointing of the Spirit remain upon you  
now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## Sending Song: "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

ELW #270



- 1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born king;
- 2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
- 3 Hail the heav'n - born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righ - teous - ness!



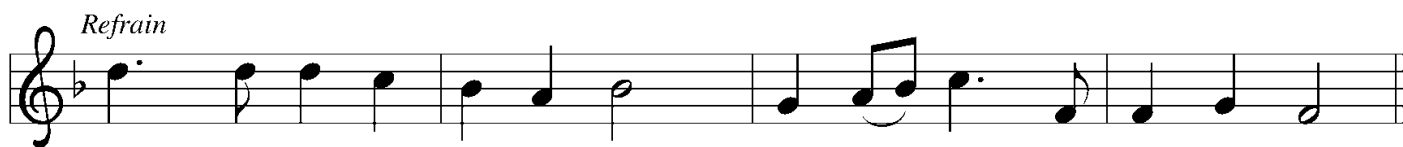
peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled."  
late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.  
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.



Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph of the skies;  
Veiled in flesh the God - head see! Hail, in - car - nate de - i - ty!  
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



with an - gel - ic hosts pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"  
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!  
born to raise each child of earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.



Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born king!"

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.

Music: MENDELSSOHN, Felix Mendelssohn, 1809–1847; arr. William H. Cummings, 1831–1915

## Dismissal

P Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

## **Upcoming Worship Schedule**

Wednesday, December 20th

**Soup Supper 5:30 PM—6:30 PM**

**Holden Evening Prayer 6:30 PM—7:00 PM**

Thursday, December 21st

**Longest Night Service 6:30 PM**

We will come together seeking healing and room to share grief, sadness, loneliness, or confusion when these emotions often feel out of place during the holidays. We will be including the Order for Healing with the Laying On of Hands for those who would like to participate. Please invite anyone you know that will benefit from taking time for this special service.

Saturday, December 23rd 5 PM & Sunday, December 24th 9 AM

*No worship services*

Sunday, December 24th

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Services**

**1 PM, 3 PM, 5 PM & 9 PM**

Monday, December 25th

*No worship services*

Saturday, December 30th 5 PM & Sunday December 31st 9 AM

**Lessons & Carols Services**

These will be Services of the Word (without Communion) and the congregation will get to sing many Christmas carols as we celebrate the season of Christmas.