

# 4th Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 7th 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**

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 traditional 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**. **Please Note:** If you give cash in an envelope, please write your name on the envelope if you want credit for it on your giving statement.



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.

There are portions of the worship service when the **assembly is invited to stand**. Feel free to sit anytime during worship.

**Licensing:**

Liturgy and readings from sundaysandseasons.com Copyright © 2025 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.  
Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS006038.  
New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition. Copyright © 2021 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.  
Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, admin Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission.  
Music reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-715921 and CCLI #880487. All rights reserved.  
Music reprinted from Evangelical Lutheran Worship & All Creation Sings *Evangelical Lutheran Worship Supplement*.



# ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship

## GATHERING

Advent Wreath Candle Lighting

Gathering Song: "Come Now, O God"

ACS 902

*please stand as you are able*



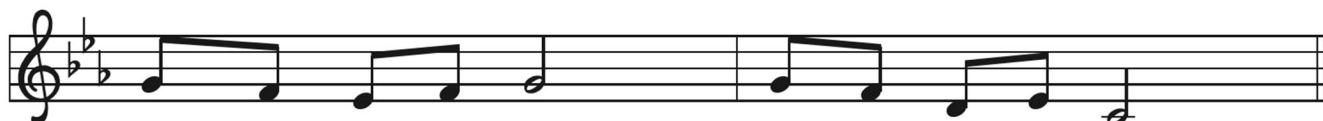
1 Come now, O God, when our love is for - sak - en.  
2 Come, when we squan - der the free - dom you gave us.  
3 Come, put an end to our self - serv - ing mad - ness.



Come, when our bed - rock of faith has been shak - en.  
Come, break the sys - tems of sin that en - slave us.  
Come, while the world is en - shroud - ed in sad - ness.



Come, when our deep - est of hopes are mis - tak - en.  
Come, though we won - der if you can still save us.  
Come, turn the tears of our mourn - ing to glad - ness.



Come, Em - man - u - el.

Come, Em - man - u - el.

## Confession and Forgiveness

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

C Amen.

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

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

L Long-expected God,

C 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.

L 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.

C Amen.

## Greeting

L 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 - lei - son.  
Chris - te e - lei - son.

# Canticle of Praise: "Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn"

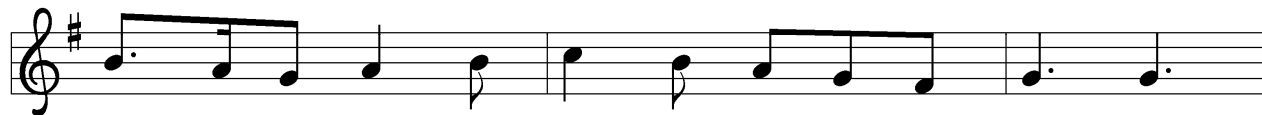
ELW 242



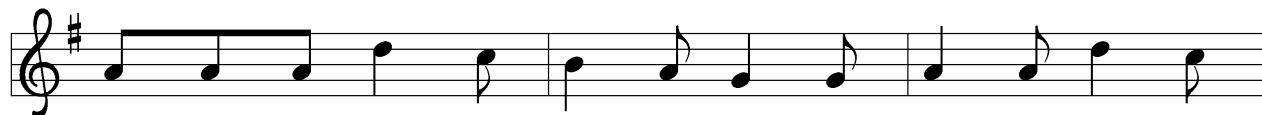
1 A - wake! A - wake, and greet the new morn, for  
2 To us, to all in sor - row and fear, Em -  
3 In dark - est night his com - ing shall be, when  
4 Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night, though



an - gels her - ald its dawn - ing. Sing out your joy, for  
man - u - el comes a - sing - ing, his hum - ble song is  
all the world is de - spair - ing, as morn - ing light so  
dark the win - ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall



soon he is born, be - hold! the Child of our long - ing.  
qui - et and near, yet fills the earth with its ring - ing;  
qui - et and free, so warm and gen - tle and car - ing.  
crown you with light, be strong and lov - ing and fear - less.



Come as a ba - by weak and poor, to bring all hearts to -  
mu - sic to heal the bro - ken soul and hymns of lov - ing -  
Then shall the mute break forth in song, the lame shall leap in  
Love be our song and love our prayer and love our end - less



geth - er, he o - pens wide the heav'n - ly door and  
kind - ness, the thun - der of his an - thems roll to  
won - der, the weak be raised a - bove the strong, and  
sto - ry; may God fill ev - 'ry day we share and



lives now in - side us for - ev - er.  
shat - ter all ha - tred and blind - ness.  
weap - ons be bro - ken a - sun - der.  
bring us at last in - to glo - ry.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950  
Music: REJOICE, REJOICE, Marty Haugen  
Text and music © 1983 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.  
All rights reserved. Used by permission.

## Prayer of the Day

**C** 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.

*you may be seated*

**Special Music:** “Angels in Seven”

Choir (Sunday)

Words by Charles Wesley  
Music by Felix Mendelssohn  
Arranged by Philip Kern

## WORD

### First Reading: Isaiah 7:10-16

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

**R** Word of God, word of life.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

*Congregation reads the bold verses*

- <sup>1</sup> Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock;  
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
- <sup>2</sup> **In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh,  
stir up your strength and come to help us.**
- <sup>3</sup> Restore us, O God;  
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.
- <sup>4</sup> **O LORD God of hosts,  
how long will your anger fume when your people pray?**
- <sup>5</sup> You have fed them with the bread of tears;  
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
- <sup>6</sup> **You have made us the derision of our neighbors,  
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.**
- <sup>7</sup> Restore us, O God of hosts;  
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.
- <sup>17</sup> **Let your hand be upon the one at your right hand,  
the one you have made so strong for yourself.**
- <sup>18</sup> And so will we never turn away from you;  
give us life, that we may call upon your name.
- <sup>19</sup> **Restore us, O LORD God of hosts;  
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.**

## Second Reading: Romans 1:1-7

- <sup>1</sup> Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God,  
<sup>2</sup> which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, <sup>3</sup> the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh <sup>4</sup> 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, <sup>5</sup> 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, <sup>6</sup> including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,
- <sup>7</sup> 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.

R Word of God, word of life.

C Thanks be to God.

## Gospel Acclamation

ELW 174

*please stand as you are able*



Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker  
Music © 1985 Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker, admin. OCP Publications, Inc. 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213.  
All rights reserved. Used by permission.

## Gospel: Matthew 1:18-25

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 1st Chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>18</sup> 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. <sup>19</sup> Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to divorce her quietly. <sup>20</sup> 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. <sup>21</sup> She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” <sup>22</sup> All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

<sup>23</sup> “Look, the virgin shall become pregnant and give birth to a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,” which means, “God is with us.” <sup>24</sup> When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife <sup>25</sup> but had no marital relations with her until she had given birth to a son, and he named him Jesus.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*you may be seated*

## Children's Sermon

### Sermon

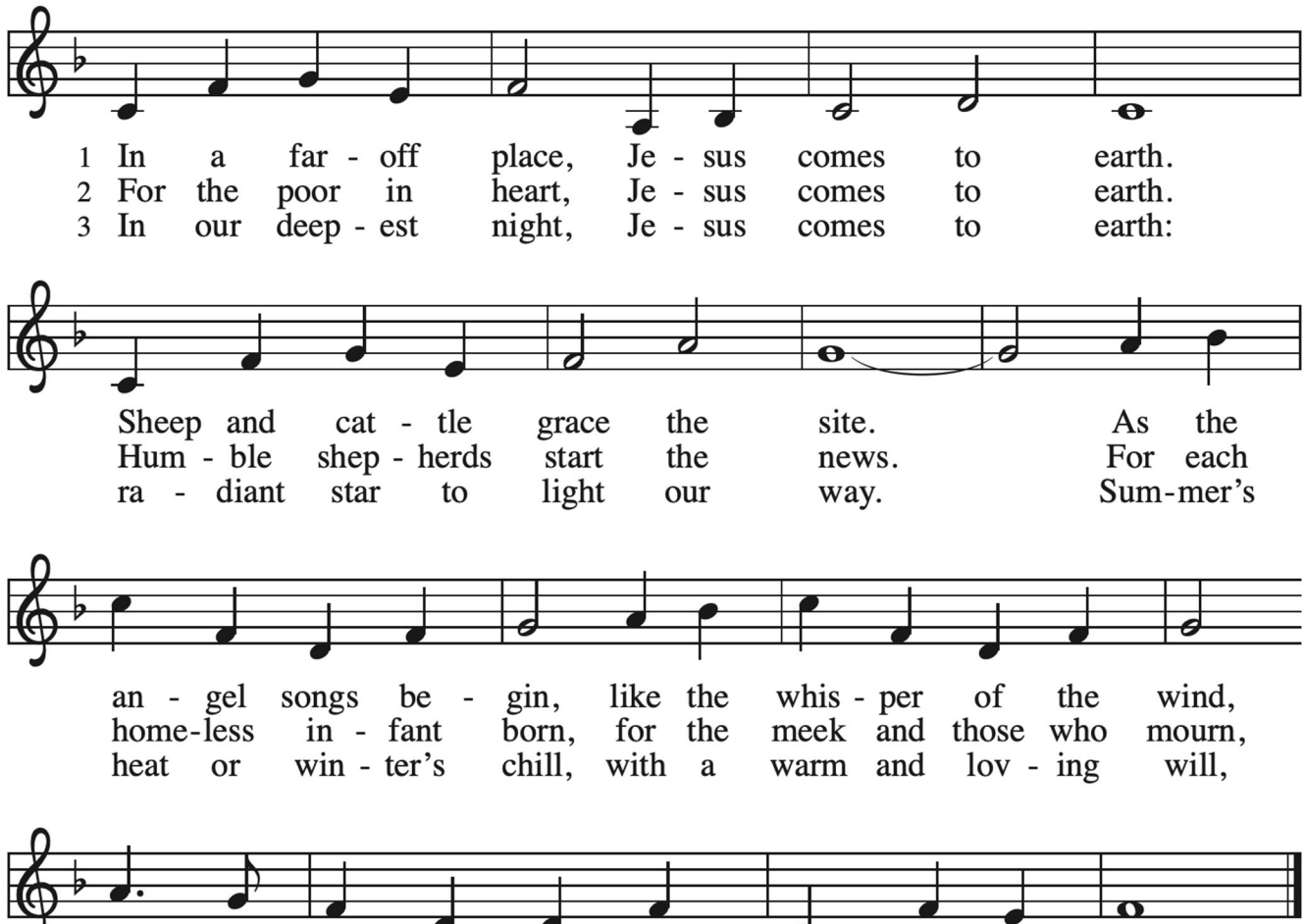
Rev. Jon Strasman



## Hymn of the Day: “In a Far-Off Place, Jesus Comes”

ACS 908

*please stand as you are able*



1 In a far - off place, Je - sus comes to earth.  
2 For the poor in heart, Je - sus comes to earth.  
3 In our deep - est night, Je - sus comes to earth:

Sheep and cat - tle grace the site. As the  
Hum - ble shep - herds start the news. For each  
ra - diant star to light our way. Sum-mer's

an - gel songs be - gin, like the whis - per of the wind,  
home-less in - fant born, for the meek and those who mourn,  
heat or win - ter's chill, with a warm and lov - ing will,

na - ture's hope a - wakes a - gain; Je - sus comes.  
for the wear - y and the worn, Je - sus comes.  
to a world that needs him still, Je - sus comes.

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953

Music: TENTH NIGHT, Sally Ann Morris, b. 1952

Text and music © 2009 GIA Publications, Inc., [giamusic.com](http://giamusic.com). All rights reserved.

## **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**

**L God of grace,**

**C Hear our prayer.**

**L Draw near to us, O God, as we commend all for whom we pray,  
trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ, Emmanuel.**

**C Amen.**

## **Peace**

**L The peace of Christ be with you always.**

**C And also with you.**

*you may be seated*

# MEAL

## The Offering

*This QR code can be used  
to give electronically through **Tithe.ly***



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



1 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.

Text: John Helgen, b. 1957

Music: JESUS BRINGS PEACE, John Helgen

Text and music © 2013 Augsburg Fortress

## **Offering Prayer**

*please stand as you are able*

**C 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.**

## **Words of Institution**

**P 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.

## The Lord's Prayer

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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.

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

## Communion

*you may be seated*

### Communion Song: "Be Known to Us"

ACS Setting 12



# 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*

## Communion Song: "In this Feast of Love"

ACS 962

1 In this feast of love, in this  
2 In this bread and wine, in this  
3 Grant us peace, O Lord, grant us

feast of love, Lord, you share your  
bread and wine, you have prom-ised,  
peace, O Lord; fill us with the

blood and your bod-y, Je-sus, Lamb of God.  
Lord, to be with us, Lamb . . of God div-ine.  
joy of your Spir-it, ev-er-liv-ing Word.

## Table Blessing

*please stand as you are able*

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 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

P 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.

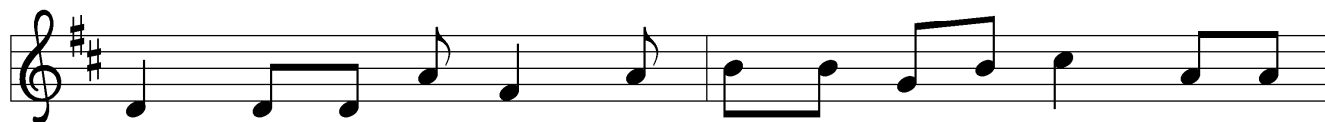
C Amen.

# Sending Song: "All Earth is Hopeful"

ELW 266



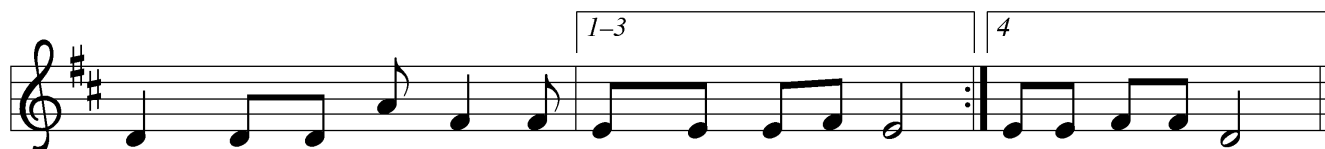
To - da la tie - rra es - pe - ra al Sal - va - dor  
 1 All earth is hope - ful, the Sav - ior comes at last!  
 2 Peo - ple of Is - rael, you heard the proph - et tell:  
 3 Moun - tains and val - leys will have to be pre - pared;  
 4 We first saw Je - sus a ba - by in a crib.



y el sur - co a - bier - to, la ob - ra del Se - ñor; es el  
 Fur - rows lie o - pen for God's cre - a - tive task: this, the  
 "A vir - gin moth - er will bear Em - man - u - el"; she con -  
 new high - ways o - pened, new pro - to - cols de - clared. Al - most  
 This same Lord Je - sus to - day has come to live in our



mun - do que lu - cha por la li - ber - tad, re -  
 la - bor of peo - ple who strug - gle to see how  
 ceived him, "God with us," our broth - er, whose birth re -  
 here! God is near - ing, in beau - ty and grace! All  
 world; he is pres - ent, in neigh - bors we see our



cla - ma jus - ti - cia y bus - ca la ver - dad. dar - nos li - ber - tad.  
 God's truth and jus - tice set ev - 'ry - bod - y free.  
 stores hope and cour - age to chil - dren of this earth.  
 clear ev - 'ry gate - way, in haste, come out in haste!  
 Je - sus is with us, and ev - er sets us free.

Text: Alberto Taulé, b. 1932; tr. Madeleine Forell Marshall, b. 1946  
 Music: TODA LA TIERRA, Alberto Taulé  
 Spanish text and tune © 1993 and English text © 1995 Centro de Pastoral Litúrgica, admin. OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213.

## Dismissal

**P** Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.