

Emmanuel Lutheran
Church



First Sunday after Christmas
December 31, 2023

Emmanuel Lutheran Church
360 Princeton Avenue
Elyria, Ohio 44035
(440) 323-4552
www.elc-elyria.org
A Traditional Church for a Contemporary World

People of Emmanuel, Ministers
Pastor Lee Penvose
Harold Slocum, Organist
Stephen Bond, Cantor

** Indicates to please kneel or stand, as you are able*

First Sunday after Christmas
31 December 2023
10:30 AM

Prelude

✝ 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,
the Word made flesh,
our life and our salvation.

Amen.

Trusting the goodness and lovingkindness of God our
Savior,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of life,
**you promise good news of great joy for all people,
and call us to be messengers of your peace.**
**We confess that too often we hoard our joy,
our resources, and our security.**
We nurture conflict and build barriers.
**We neglect the needs of our neighbors
and ignore the groaning of creation.**
Have mercy on us.
Where we are self-centered, open our hearts.
Where we are reluctant, give us courage.
Where we are cynical, restore our trust.
**Renew us with your grace
and give us again the hope of eternal life in you.**
Amen.

Hear the good news:
We are children of God and heirs of God's promises
through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.
In † Jesus we are forgiven and redeemed.
Sing with joy, for all the ends of the earth
shall know the salvation of God.
Amen.

***Gathering Hymn** — *"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"*
..... ELW #270

***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.

*Canticle of Praise

1. O God, our Father, who have made
 2. us in your image and likeness, and have
 3. created the world, the firmament, the sea, and
 4. the earth, and all that is therein, and have
 5. made us to be in your image and likeness,
 6. and have made us to be in your image and
 7. likeness, and have made us to be in your
 8. image and likeness, and have made us to be
 9. in your image and likeness, and have made
 10. us to be in your image and likeness, and
 11. have made us to be in your image and
 12. likeness, and have made us to be in your
 13. image and likeness, and have made us to be
 14. in your image and likeness, and have made
 15. us to be in your image and likeness, and

***Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you wonderfully created the dignity of human nature and yet more wonderfully restored it. In your mercy, let us share the divine life of the one who came to share our humanity, Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

+ Word +

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

First Reading Isaiah 61:10-62:1-3

A reading from Isaiah.

¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the Lord,
my whole being shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

¹¹For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.

¹For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,
and her salvation like a burning torch.

²The nations shall see your vindication,
and all the kings your glory;
and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the Lord will give.

³You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

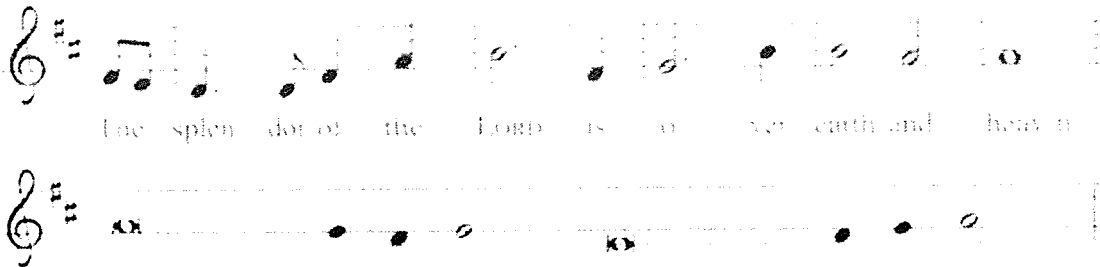
The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm (*sung responsively*)Psalm 148

The refrain is played once on the organ, then sung by the cantor.

The cantor and assembly sing the psalm responsively. All sing the repeated refrain.



- ¹Hallelujah! Praise the Lord¹ from the heavens;
praise God¹ in the heights.
- ²**Praise the Lord,¹ all you angels;
sing praise, all you¹ hosts of heaven.**
- ³Praise the Lord,¹ sun and moon;
sing praise, all you¹ shining stars.
- ⁴**Praise the Lord, heav-¹ en of heavens,
and you waters a-¹ bove the heavens.**
- ⁵Let them praise the name¹ of the Lord,
who commanded, and they¹ were created,
- ⁶**who made them stand fast forev-¹ er and ever,
giving them a law that shall not¹ pass away. R**
- ⁷Praise the Lord¹ from the earth,
you sea monsters¹ and all deeps;
- ⁸**fire and hail,¹ snow and fog,
tempestuous wind, do-¹ ing God's will;**
- ⁹mountains¹ and all hills,
fruit trees¹ and all cedars;
- ¹⁰**wild beasts¹ and all cattle,
creeping things and¹ flying birds;**
- ¹¹sovereigns of the earth¹ and all peoples,
princes and all rulers¹ of the world;
- ¹²**young¹ men and maidens,
old and¹ young together. R**
- ¹³Let them praise the name¹ of the Lord,
whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is
over¹ earth and heaven.

¹⁴The Lord has raised up strength for the people and praise for all ¹ faithful servants, the children of Israel, a people who are near the Lord. ¹ Hallelujah! R

Second Reading Galatians 4:4-7

A reading from Romans.

⁴When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. ⁶And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” ⁷So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

***Gospel Acclamation**

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

***Holy Gospel** Luke 2:22-40

The holy gospel according to Luke.
Glory to you, O Lord.

²When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, [Joseph and Mary] brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male shall be

designated as holy to the Lord”),²⁴ and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.”

²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. ²⁷Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, ²⁸Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

²⁹“Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word;

³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation,

³¹which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.”

³³And the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, “This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed ³⁵so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.”

³⁶There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SermonRev. Lee Penrose

*Hymn of the Day— “*What Child Is This*”ELW #296

*Apostles Creed

**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 Faithful

After “Hear us, O God,” congregation responds “Your mercy is great.”

*Peace

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

✙ Meal ✙

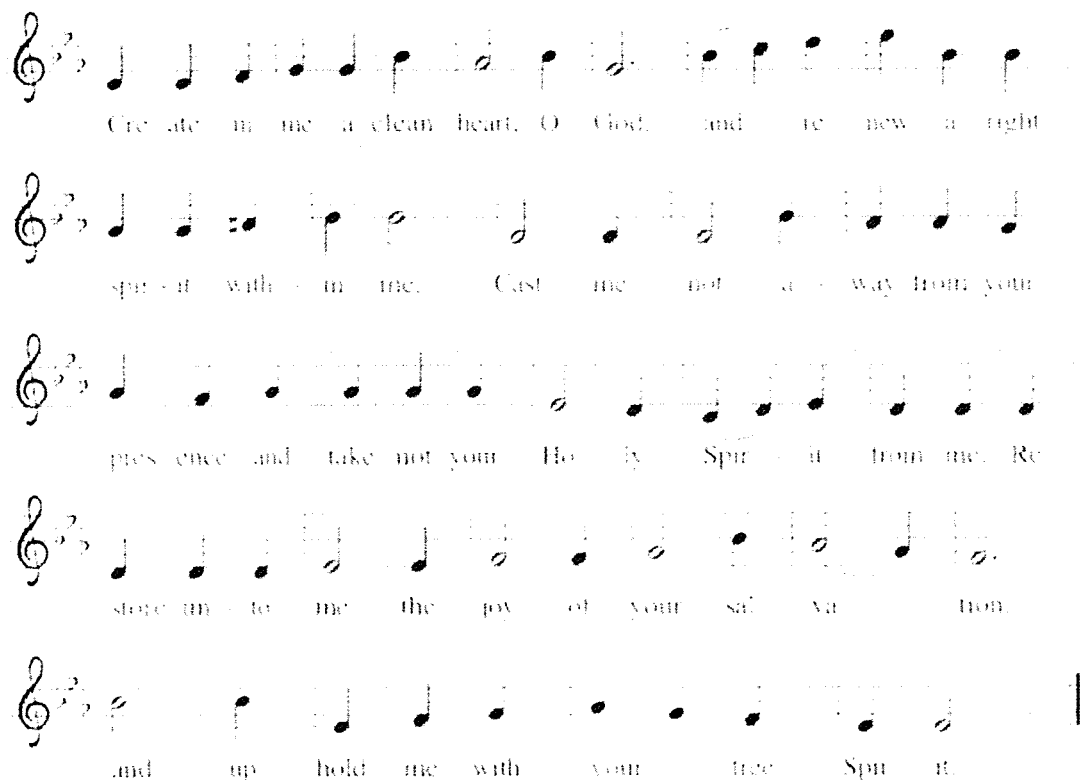
God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offering

*An offering is gathered for the mission of the church,
including the care of those in need. During this time, the
table is set.*

*After the offering is gathered, the assembly stands. Bread,
wine, money, and other gifts may be brought forward.*

*Offertory Song— “Create in Me a Clean Heart”



Create in me a clean heart, O God, and do not let a right
spirit wither in me. Cast me not away from your
presence and do not take your Holy Spirit from me. Re-
store in me the joy of your salvation,
and uphold me with your free Spirit.

*Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

Good and loving God, we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be blessing for others. With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

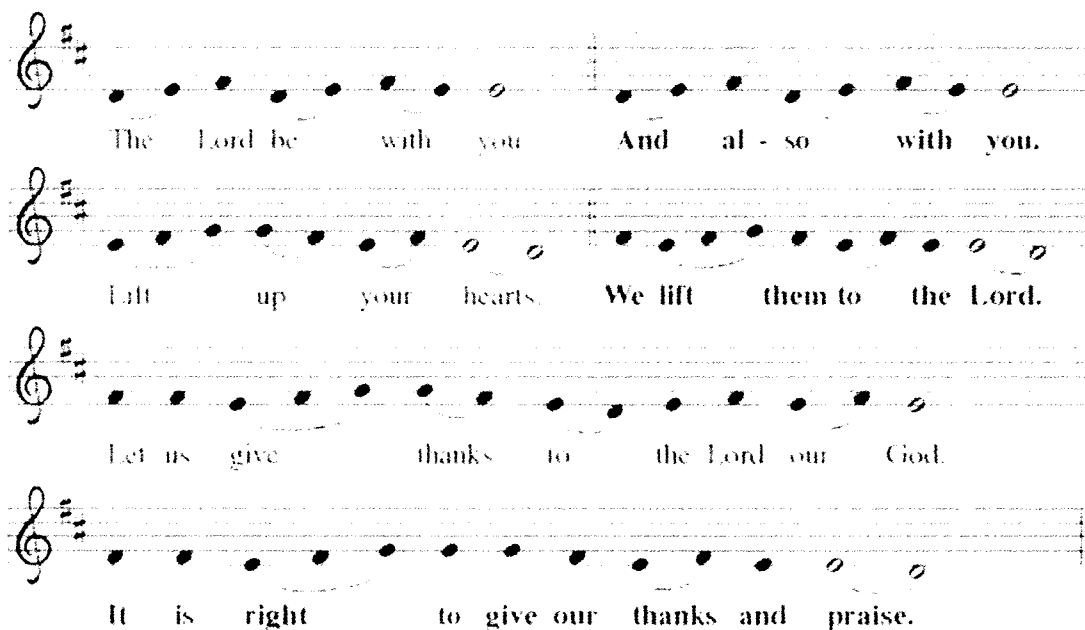
Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

All who believe with us that Christ is truly present in the bread and wine are invited to communion.

Ushers will assist with the communion. You should pick up an empty cup from the small table at the altar rail to receive the bread and wine. Baskets will be placed on either side to dispose of your cup. Individual communion kits will be available from the ushers for those who prefer them.

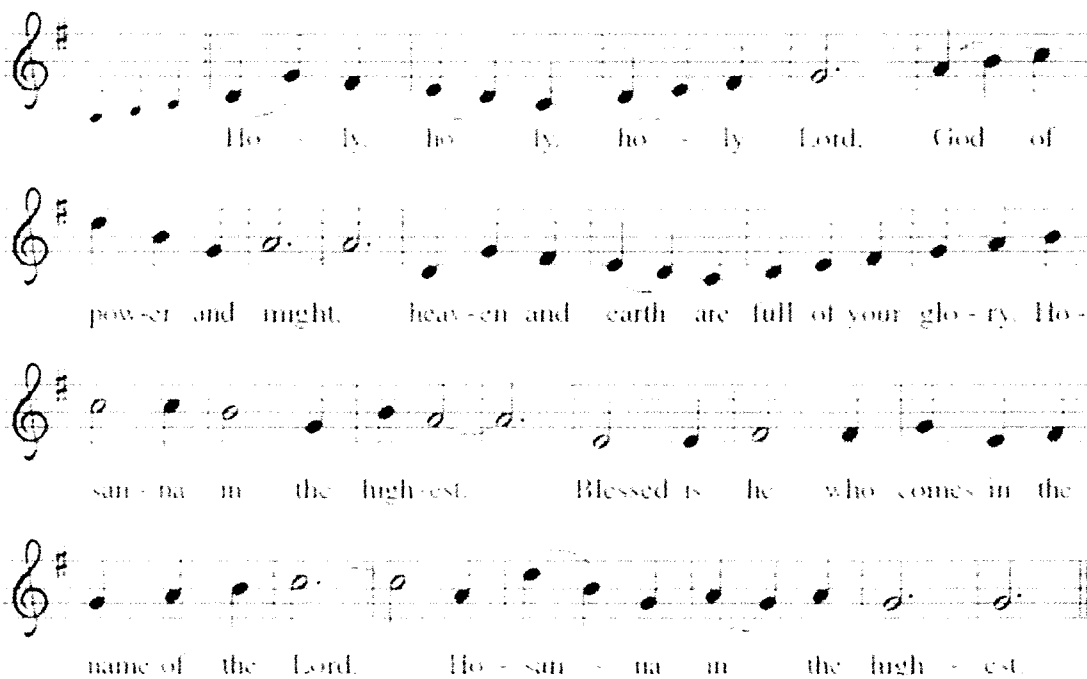
*Dialogue



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

*Sanctus



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
power and might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est

***Thanksgiving at the Table**

Holy God,

Creator of all and Source of life,
at the birth of time
your word brought light into the world.

In the fullness of time,

you sent your Word, born of Mary,
to shine in our darkness
and to make us your daughters and sons.

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.

Remembering, therefore,

his birth and life among us,
his death and resurrection,
we await his coming again
when all things will be restored in him.

By your Spirit bless us and this bread and cup,

that, held and nourished by you,
we may live as your children,
shining with the light of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,

Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church,
both now and forever.

Amen

*The Lord's Prayer

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

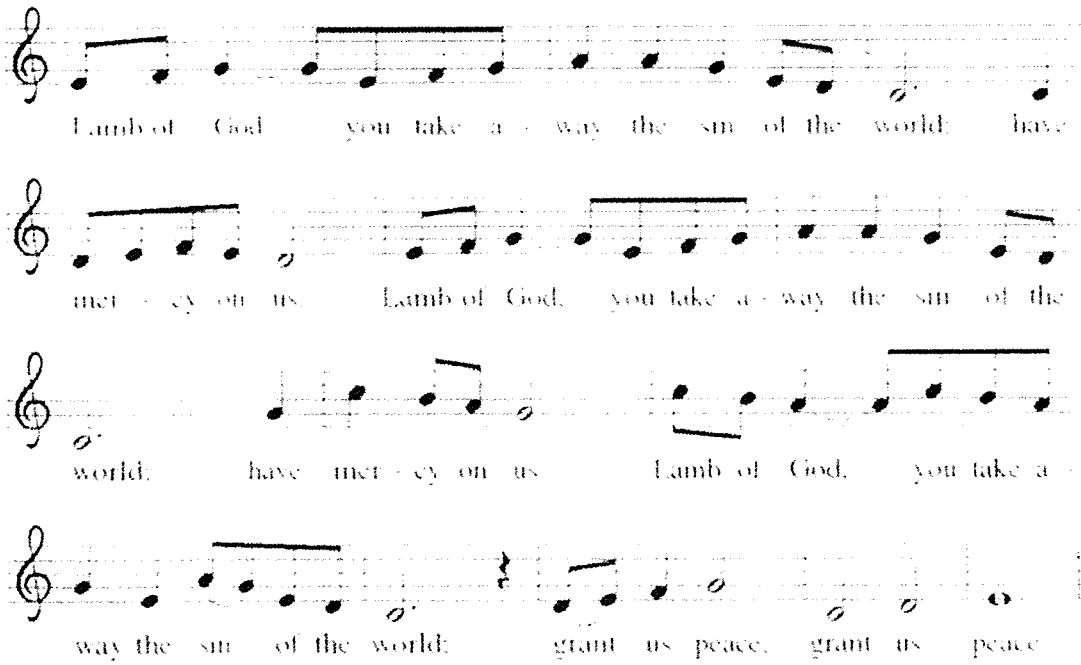


Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,
your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.
Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we
for - give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al
and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow'r,
and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

*Invitation to Communion

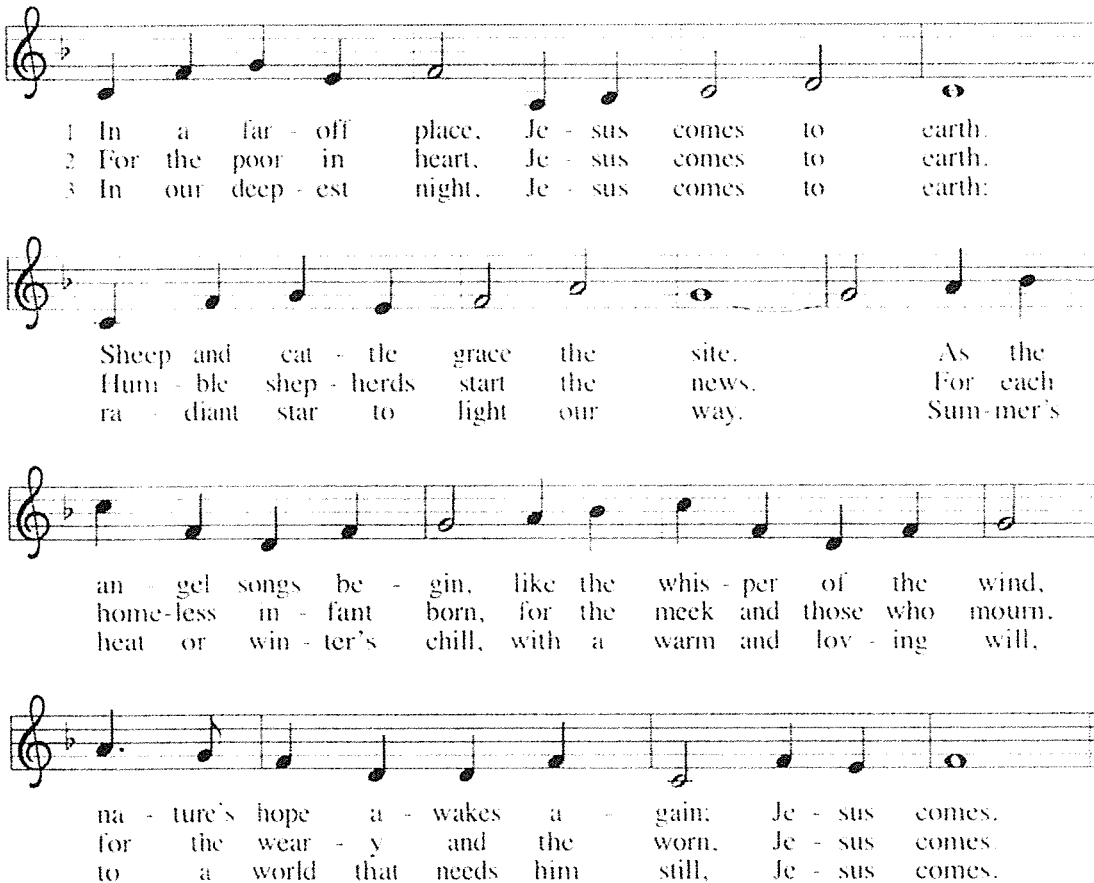
Glory to God in the highest!
Come to the table of peace.

Agnus Dei



Lamb of God you take a - way the sin of the world: have
 mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
 world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -
 way the sin of the world: grant us peace, grant us peace

Communion Hymn — “In a Far-Off Place, Jesus Comes”



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.

After all have returned to their places, the assembly stands.

***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.

Radiant God, with our eyes we have seen your salvation, and in this meal we have feasted on your grace. May your Word take flesh in us, that we may be your holy people, revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

✝ Sending ✝

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

***Blessing**

God bless you and keep you,
✝ Jesus grant you grace and truth,
and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts,
now and forever.

Amen.

***Sending Hymn** — *“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”*
..... ELW #288

***Dismissal**

Christ the Savior is born!
Go in peace. Proclaim this good news.
Thanks be to God.

***Postlude**

Upcoming Commemorations

Name of Jesus
Monday, January 1, 2024

By Jewish law, every baby boy was circumcised and named on the eighth day of life, so on the eighth day of Christmas the church celebrates this event in Jesus' life. The keeping of the covenant as well as Jesus' name are signs of God's salvation given to us through him.

Johann Konrad Wilhelm Loehe,
renewer of the church,
died 1872 Tuesday, January 2, 2024

Loehe was a pastor in nineteenth-century Germany. Loehe's chief concern was that a congregation find its life in the holy communion, and from that source evangelism and social ministries would flow. He sent pastors to North America, Australia, New Guinea, Brazil, and Ukraine.

Serving You Today

The assisting minister will be **Ian Hamilton**. All are sharing on the Altar Guild for the month of December.