



## The Third Sunday of Advent

December 17, 8:45 & 11:15 AM

### Saint Luke Lutheran Church and School

9100 Colesville Road, Silver Spring, MD

www.saintluke.us | 301-588-4363

*“Rejoice always,” begins the reading from 1 Thessalonians. Isaiah and the psalmist make clear that God is turning our mourning into laughter and shouts of joy. “All God’s children got a robe,” go the words of a spiritual. It is not so much a stately, formal, pressed outfit as it is a set of party clothes, clothes we are happy to wear. We receive that robe in baptism, and in worship we gather for a foretaste of God’s party.*

## GATHERING

### PRELUDE—Reformation Bells

Hyfrydol

arr. Timothy C. Shepard

## WELCOME

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

**Amen.**

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.*

Everlasting God,  
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.**

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.

**Amen.**

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; arr. Barry Rose, b. 1934  
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**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.**

## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Let us pray.

Praise to you, O God, who holds our joy and sorrow. You bring water to parched ground and life out of death. Bless us as this light grows, and send sorrow and sighing to flee away. Give us strength and patience, trusting that you are true to your promises. Transform the lives of all who suffer with your wonders near at hand.

Amen.

## ADVENT CANDLELIGHTING CAROL

*Please sing verse 1, 2 & 3 as we light the third candle.*

(Advent 1) Light the can-dle of love to-day, the giv-er of love is  
(Advent 2) Light the can-dle of peace to-day, the giv-er of peace is  
(Advent 3) Light the can-dle of joy to-day, the giv-er of joy is  
(Advent 4) Light the can-dle of hope to-day, the giv-er of hope is

here!\_\_\_\_\_ Wel-come the love we live and die for, but  
here!\_\_\_\_\_ Wel-come the peace we fight and cry for, but  
here!\_\_\_\_\_ Wel-come the joy we crave and pray for, but  
here!\_\_\_\_\_ Wel-come the hope we long and wait for, but

on - ly Christ can give.\_\_\_\_\_ Flick-er and flame and  
on - ly Christ can give.\_\_\_\_\_ Flick-er and flame and  
on - ly Christ can give.\_\_\_\_\_ Flick-er and flame and  
on - ly Christ can give.\_\_\_\_\_ Flick-er and flame and

glow with love, light up the world a - round you.  
glow with peace, light up the world a - round you.  
glow with joy, light up the world a - round you.  
glow with hope, light up the world a - round you.

Flick-er and flame and glow with love, light up the world a -  
Flick-er and flame and glow with peace, light up the world a -  
Flick-er and flame and glow with joy, light up the world a -  
Flick-er and flame and glow with hope, light up the world a -

round\_\_\_\_\_ you.  
round\_\_\_\_\_ you.  
round\_\_\_\_\_ you.  
round\_\_\_\_\_ you.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

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.**

*Please be seated.*

## WORD

### FIRST READING

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

*Though the people had returned to Jerusalem from exile in Babylon, they continued to face hardship and oppression. In the language of the jubilee year described in Leviticus 25, the prophet, moved by the spirit of God, announces deliverance for those who are oppressed and comfort for those who mourn.*

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory. They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.

For I the Lord love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed. I 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. For 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.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 126 (11:15)

*Please sing the refrain after the organ introduction. Recite the verses in alternation. Pulpit side reads regular typeface. Lectern side reads the bold typeface. Please sing the refrain where indicated.*



<sup>1</sup>When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,  
then were we like those who dream.

<sup>2</sup>**Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy.**  
**Then they said among the nations, “The LORD has done great things for them.”**

<sup>3</sup>The LORD has done great things for us,  
and we are glad indeed.

<sup>4</sup>**Restore our fortunes, O LORD,**  
**like the watercourses of the Negeb. R**

<sup>5</sup>Those who sowed with tears  
will reap with songs of joy.

<sup>6</sup>**Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed,**  
**will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves. R**

## SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

*Paul concludes his letter to the Thessalonians by encouraging them to live lives of continual joy, prayer, and thanksgiving. The closing blessing is grounded in the hope of Christ's coming.*

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil.

May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,  
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
*Repeat alleluia*

*Alleluia.* I am sending my messen- | ger before you,\* who will prepare your | way before you.  
*Alleluia.* (Matt. 11:10)

## GOSPEL

John 1:6-8, 19-28

The holy gospel according to Saint John, the first chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*John's gospel describes Jesus as the "light of the world." John the Baptist is presented as a witness to Jesus, one who directs attention away from himself to Christ, the true light.*

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" He said,

"I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness,  
'Make straight the way of the Lord,'"  
as the prophet Isaiah said.

Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

Pastor Zawistoski

*Please stand as you are able.*

HYMN OF THE DAY—ELW 242

*Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn*



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.

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## APOSTLES' CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**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 INTERCESSION

With hope and expectation, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who await God's day of restoration.

*After each portion of the prayers:*

Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

*The prayers conclude:*

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

## PEACE

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

*Please be seated.*

## MEAL

### OFFERING

We invite you to give your offering online at [saintlukegive.us](http://saintlukegive.us)

You may also mail your checks to:

Saint Luke Lutheran Church  
9100 Colesville Road  
Silver Spring, MD 20910



## MUSIC DURING THE OFFERING—Reformation Bells

Comfort, Comfort You My People

*Genevan Psalter 1551* arr. Paul A. McKlveen

*Please stand as you are able.*

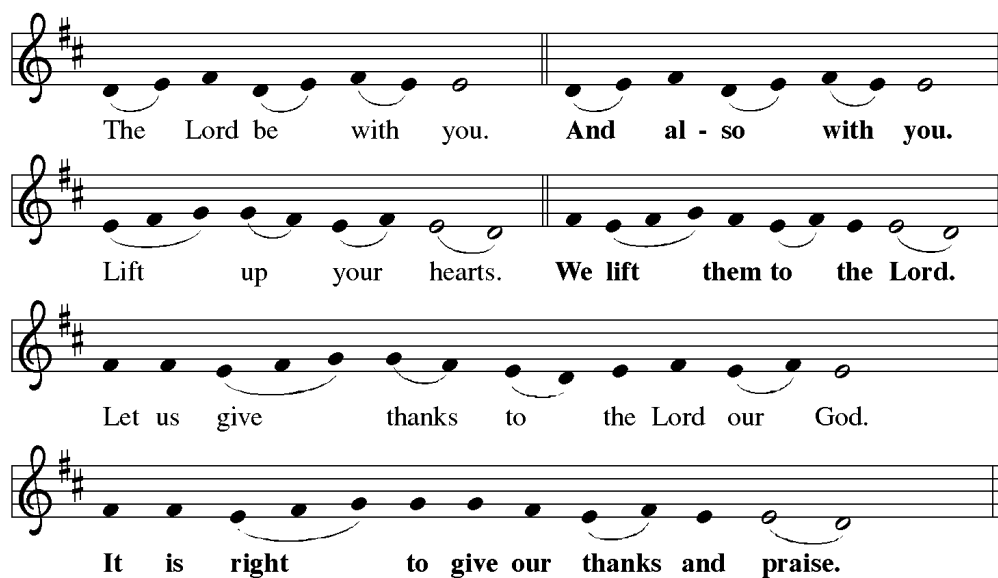
### OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

**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.**

### GREAT THANKSGIVING



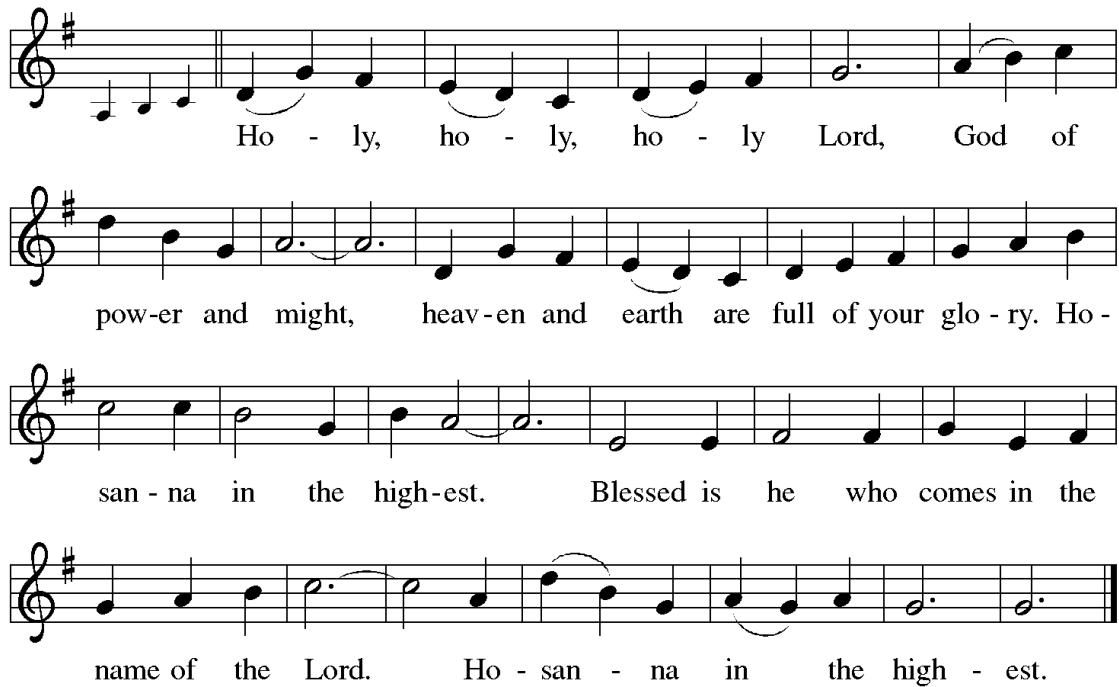
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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:



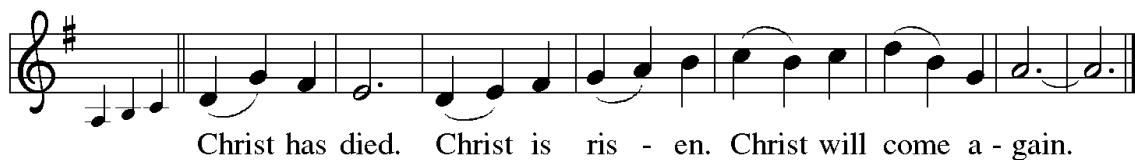
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of  
 pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
 san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the  
 name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Holy God, our Bread of life, our Table, and our Food, you created a world in which all might be satisfied by your abundance. You dined with Abraham and Sarah, promising them life, and fed your people Israel with manna from heaven. You sent your Son to eat with sinners and to become food for the world.

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.

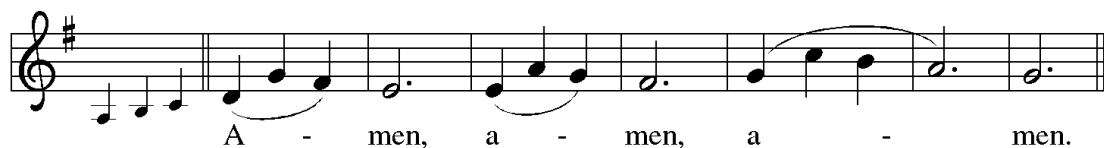
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his life given for us and his rising from the grave, we await his coming again to share with us the everlasting feast.



Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

By your Spirit nurture and sustain us with this meal: strengthen us to serve all in hunger and want, and by this bread and cup make of us the body 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.



A - men, a - men, a - men.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

*Please pray in your own preferred language.*

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.**

**Padre Nuestro, que estas en los cielos,  
santificado sea tu nombre,  
venga a nosotros tu reino,  
hagase tu voluntad,  
asi en la tierra como en el cielo.**

**Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada dia;  
perdona nuestras ofensas,  
como nosotros perdonamos  
a los que nos ofenden;  
y no nos dejes caer en la tentacion,  
mas libranos del mal.**

**Porque tuyo es el reino,  
el poder, y la gloria,  
por los siglos de los siglos. Amen**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

In this meal, righteousness and peace meet together.

Come, take your place at the table.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please be seated.*

## COMMUNION

*All are invited to the Lord's table, a table of grace and mercy. There are two stations at the foot of the chancel steps. Please stretch out your hand, palm up, to receive the host, the body of Christ. (Gluten-free wafers are available; please ask your server) Then receive in the individual cup the blood of Christ. You may deposit your cup in the basket near the side wall. Those who wish to receive a blessing instead of the Lord's supper are also encouraged to come forward. Those who wish to receive the sacrament in the pew please inform an usher. All are welcome to the Lord's table.*

*When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say:*

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

*The communicant may say:*

**Amen.**

LAMB OF GOD

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.



1 As the dark a - waits the dawn,  
 2 As the blue ex - pec - tant hour  
 3 As the moon re - flects the sun  
 4 Shine your fu - ture on this place,



so we a - wait your light. O Star of  
 be - fore the sil - v'ring skies, we long to  
 un - til the night's de - crease, may we your  
 en - light - en ev - 'ry guest, that through us



prom - ise, scat - ter night, lov - ing bright, lov - ing  
 see your day a - rise, whole and wise, whole and  
 heal - ing light re - lease, liv - ing peace, liv - ing  
 stream your ho - li - ness, bright and blest, bright and



bright, till shades of fear are gone.  
 wise, O lu - cent Morn - ing Star.  
 peace, un - to your ho - ly dawn.  
 blest; come dawn, O Sun of grace.

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, b. 1953  
 Music: LUCENT, Carl F. Schalk, b. 1929  
 Text © 1996 Susan Palo Cherwien, admin. Augsburg Fortress.  
 Music © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

*Please stand as you are able.*

**POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.  
**Amen.**



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

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

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

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.

**Amen.**

1 O Lord, how shall I meet you, how wel - come you a - right?  
 2 I lay in fet - ters, groan - ing; you came to set me free.  
 3 Love caused your in - car - na - tion; love brought you down to me.  
 4 Re - joice, then, you sad - heart - ed, who sit in deep - est gloom,

Your peo - ple long to greet you, my hope, my heart's de - light!  
 I stood, my shame be - moan - ing; you came to hon - or me.  
 Your thirst for my sal - va - tion pro - cured my lib - er - ty.  
 who mourn your joys de - part - ed and trem - ble at your doom.

Oh, kin - dle, Lord most ho - ly, your lamp with - in my breast  
 A glo - rious crown you give me, a trea - sure safe on high  
 Oh, love be - yond all tell - ing, that led you to em - brace  
 All hail the Lord's ap - pear - ing! O glo - rious Sun, now come,

to do in spir - it low - ly all that may please you best.  
 that will not fail or leave me as earth - ly rich - es fly.  
 in love, all love ex - cel - ling, our lost and fall - en race.  
 send forth your beams so cheer - ing and guide us safe - ly home.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607-1676; tr. composite  
 Music: WIE SOLL ICH DICH EMPFANGEN, Johann Crüger, 1598-1662

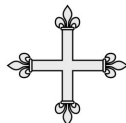
## DISMISSAL

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

## POSTLUDE

Carillon on “Besancon”

Rebecca Groom Te Velde (b. 1956)



## WORSHIP LEADERS

### PRESIDING MINISTERS

The Rev. Connie A. Miller, *Senior Pastor*

### PREACHING MINISTER

The Rev. Richard Zawistoski, *Confirmation Pastor*

### ASSISTING MINISTER

Deacon Kyle Warfield, *Director of Discipleship and Senior High Ministries*

### READERS

8:45 Aled Greville

11:15 Scott Leonard

### ADVENT WREATH LIGHTERS

8:45 Kilima/Thornton Family

11:15 Grussing Family

### MUSICIANS

Dr. Alain Truche, *Director of Music and Organist*

Reformation Bells—Eddie Venit, *Director*

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## A FEW REMINDERS

### TODAY, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17

**10:15 a.m.** Advent in Art  
Special Presentation by Ruth Manchester (Nave)

**10:15 a.m.** Ushers Meeting (Chapel)

**5:00 p.m.** Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols  
Featuring the Choristers and Schola Cantorum

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### CHRISTMAS EVE

**10:00 a.m.** Fourth Sunday of Advent  
**One morning service**

**4:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.** **Children's** Creche (Christmas Story) **Service**  
**7:00 p.m.** Misa Navidad (Worship is in Spanish)  
**9:00 p.m.** Candlelight Service of  
Lessons, Carols, and Holy Communion

### CHRISTMAS DAY

**10:00 a.m.** Festival Worship

### FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS, DECEMBER 31

**10:00 a.m.** **One** morning service

### CELEBRATING EPIPHANY, JANUARY 7

**8:45 and 11:15 a.m.**

## This week at Saint Luke Lutheran Church

### SUNDAY, Dec. 17—3rd Sunday of Advent

8:45 AM **Worship**  
10:00 AM Affirmation of Baptism Class  
10:00 AM Sunday School  
10:00 AM SLSHY  
10:00 AM Up For Discussion (Hybrid)  
10:15 AM Advent in Art  
**11:15 AM Worship**  
12:30 PM Genesis Bells Rehearsal  
**5:00 PM Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols**  
6:00 PM Reception

### MONDAY, December 18

8:00 AM CDS Classes  
4:00 PM After School Art Program - Langley Park  
6:00 PM Yoga  
7:00 PM ESL Class

### TUESDAY, December 19

8:00 AM CDS Classes  
1:30 PM Program Staff Meeting  
4:30 PM Piano Lessons  
7:00 PM Reformation Bells  
7:00 PM Girl Scouts  
7:00 PM ESL Class

### WEDNESDAY, December 20

7:00 AM Faith Connections (Zoom)  
8:00 AM CDS Classes  
10:00 AM Women in Community  
12:00 PM CDS Christmas Worship Service & Reception  
3:00 PM En Camino: Children's Tutor Program  
5:00 PM AA  
5:30 PM Zoom Sara/Lydia Circle  
5:30 PM Choristers RSCM program

7:00 PM ESL Class  
7:30 PM Schola Cantorum Rehearsal

### THURSDAY, December 21

6:30 AM Parking Lot Ministry - Langley Park  
7:30 PM Centering Prayer (Zoom)  
8:30 PM AA

### FRIDAY, December 22

8:00 AM CDS Classes

### SATURDAY, December 23

8:00 AM Food Distribution: Langley Park  
9:30 AM AA  
11:00 AM Al-Anon

### SUNDAY, Dec. 24—4th Sunday of Advent/ Christmas Eve

10:00 AM **Worship**  
2:00 PM SLSHY: Luminaries  
**4:00 PM Creche Service**  
5:00 PM AA  
**5:30 PM Creche Service**  
**7:00 PM Misa Navidad**  
**9:00 PM Festival Candlelight Worship**

*NB: Worship Services are in person and livestreamed*

## Upcoming Commemorations

**Katharina von Bora Luther, renewer of the church, died 1552**

*Wednesday, December 20, 2023*

Born to an impoverished nobleman, Katie eventually took vows as a nun, but around age twenty-four she and several other nuns who were influenced by the writings of Martin Luther left the convent. Six children were born to Katie and Martin.

## Today's Music

### Organ Music

Postlude: Carillon on “Besancon” - Rebecca Groom Te Velde (b. 1956)

Today's postlude *Carillon on “Besancon”* was written by **Rebecca Groom te Velde (b. 1956)** is a third-generation professional organist, following both parents and her grandfather. She graduated summa cum laude from Seattle Pacific University where she studied organ and composition with her father, Lester H. Groom. In 1982, she received the M.Mus in organ literature and performance from the University of Western Ontario in London, Ontario, having studied organ with Hugh McLean and composition with Jack Behrens.—sbmp.com Her setting of the tune “Besancon” is a creative, fun carillon on the tune. At the end of the piece, she sneaks in the tune “Wie Schon Der Morgenstern,” which is sung during Epiphany.

### Hymns

The hymn “**People, Look East**” written by **Eleanor Farjeon (1881-1965)** was requested by the editors of *The Oxford Book of Carols* (1928), where it first appeared. Love as Guest, Rose, Star, and Lord is “on the way” and sets “every peak and valley humming” with rich imagery. —ELW Hymnal Companion

According to **Marty Haugen (b. 1950)**, “In 1982 my family decided to exchange ‘non-material’ gifts for Christmas. I drew the name of my aunt, Marie Smedsrud. ‘**Awake, Awake**’ was written as my gift to her that Christmas.” Haugen originally wrote it “as a Christmas hymn...but, as there is more room in our repertoire for Advent carols than Christmas carols, it soon was changed.” - ELW Hymnal Companion

**Susan Palo Cherwien (1953-2021)** wrote “**As the Dark Awaits the Dawn**” at the request of John Helgen. He asked for a hymn for Advent “that reflected the broad meanings of the season.” Images are drawn from Numbers 24:17,2 Peter 1:19, Revelation 22:16, Hebrews 1:3 and Malachi 4:2. **Carl Schalk (1929-2021)** composed the tune LUCENT for this text in 1996. – ELW Hymnal Companion

The hymn “**O Lord, How Shall I Meet You**” written by **Paul Gerhardt (1607-1676)** was first published in ten German stanzas in 1653. The text is about welcoming the incarnated God who sets us free from our gloom, rejoicing. —ELW Hymnal Companion

