

**SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION**  
**DECEMBER 10, 2023**  
**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
**10:00AM**



**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

P God loves you all the time.  
C All the time God loves you.

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

*Light the second candle.*

P Praise to you, O God, who gives us courage to start again.  
You fasten righteousness around your waist and baptize with the Holy Spirit's fire. Bless us  
as we mirror your mighty fire in these simple flames, and teach us to mirror your justice in  
the paths we prepare. We ask that peace abound, until none hurt or destroy over all the  
earth.  
C Amen.

*O Come, O Come Emmanuel ELW 257 v 3, 4*

3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on  
4 O come, O Branch of Jesse, free your own from Sa-tan's

Si-nai's height in an-cient times you gave the law  
tyr-an-ny; from depths of hell your peo-ple save,

*Refrain*

in cloud, and maj-es-ty, and awe. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!  
and give them vic-t'ry o'er the grave.

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

*Please stand as you are able.*

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

C **Amen.**


P 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.*

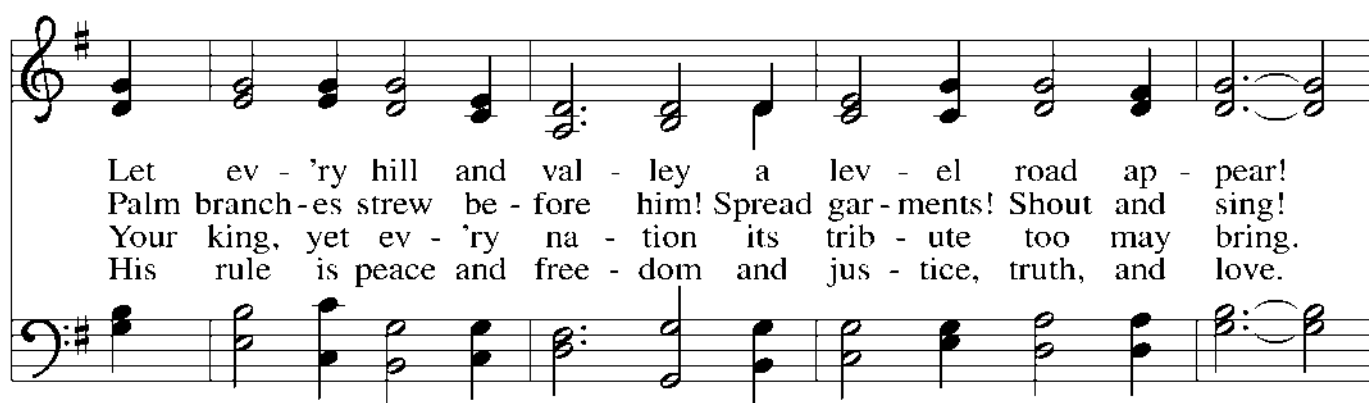
C Everlasting God,  
**you love justice and you hate wrongdoing.**  
**We confess the fear, greed, and self-centeredness**  
**that make us reluctant to work against oppression.**  
**We are complicit in systems of exploitation.**  
**We choose comfort over courage.**  
**We are careless with creation's 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.**

P 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.**



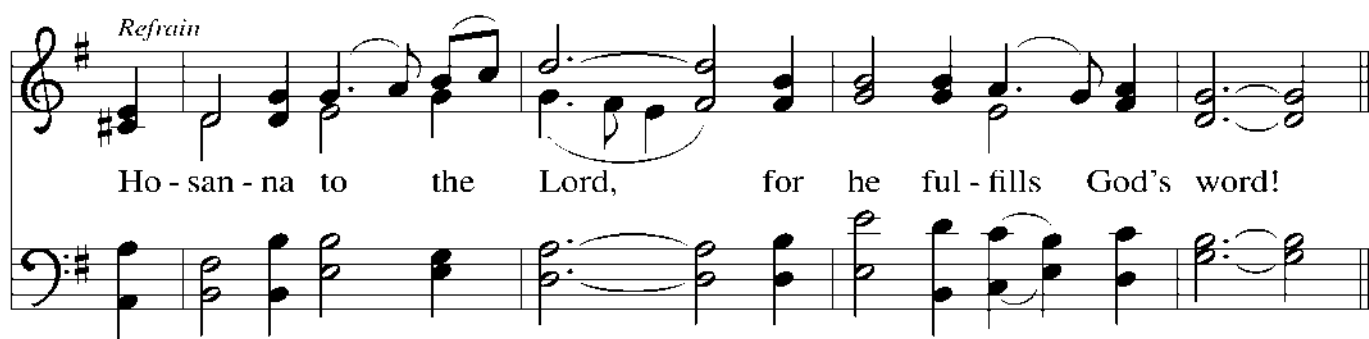
1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!  
 2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing: your own e - ter - nal king!  
 3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom - ised king!  
 4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heav'n a - bove.



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!  
 Palm branch - es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!  
 Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion its trib - ute too may bring.  
 His rule is peace and free - dom and jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:  
 God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!  
 All lands will bow be - fore him; their voic - es join your sing - ing:  
 So let your praise be sound - ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:



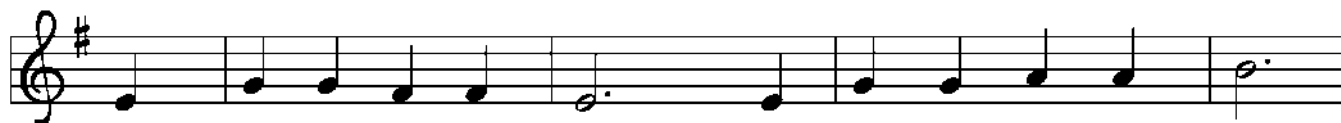
*Refrain*  
 Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!

## GREETING

P 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



1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.

2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.

3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.

Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.

Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming strengthen us to serve you with purified lives; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen**

## FIRST READING: Exodus 19:1-7

<sup>1</sup>On the third new moon after the Israelites had gone out of the land of Egypt, on that very day, they came into the wilderness of Sinai. <sup>2</sup>They had journeyed from Rephidim, entered the wilderness of Sinai, and camped in the wilderness; Israel camped there in front of the mountain. <sup>3</sup>Then Moses went up to God; the LORD called to him from the mountain, saying, "Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the Israelites: <sup>4</sup>You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. <sup>5</sup>Now therefore, if you obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession out of all the peoples. Indeed, the whole earth is mine, <sup>6</sup>but you shall be for me a priestly kingdom and a holy nation. These are the words that you shall speak to the Israelites."

<sup>7</sup>So Moses came, summoned the elders of the people, and set before them all these words that the LORD had commanded him.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM: 85:1-2, 8-13

<sup>1</sup>You have been gracious to your land, O LORD;  
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.

<sup>2</sup>**You have forgiven the iniquity of your people  
and blotted out all their sins.**

<sup>8</sup>I will listen to what the LORD God is saying;  
for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to you.

<sup>9</sup>**Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you,  
that your glory may dwell in our land.**

<sup>10</sup>Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together;  
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

<sup>11</sup>**Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth,  
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.**

<sup>12</sup>The LORD will indeed grant prosperity,  
and our land will yield its increase.

<sup>13</sup>**Righteousness shall go before the LORD  
and shall prepare for God a pathway.**

## SECOND READING: 2 Peter 3:8-15a

<sup>8</sup>Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. <sup>9</sup>The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. <sup>10</sup>But

the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

<sup>11</sup>Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, <sup>12</sup>waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? <sup>13</sup>But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

<sup>14</sup>Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; <sup>15a</sup>and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.

Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.

Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

## GOSPEL: Mark 1:1-8

The holy gospel of Mark the first chapter.

<sup>1</sup>The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

<sup>2</sup>As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

"See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,  
who will prepare your way;

<sup>3</sup>the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight,' "

<sup>4</sup>John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup>And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusa-

lem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>6</sup>Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup>He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. <sup>8</sup>I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

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

*Please be seated.*

## **CHILDRENS MESSAGE**

## **MESSAGE**

**"adapted from Louise Waller"  
John Auger**

*Please stand as you are able at the last verse.*

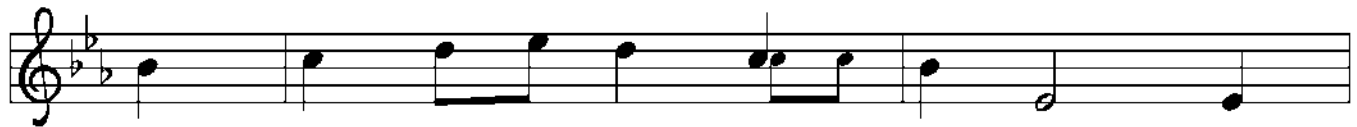
1 There's a voice in the wil - der - ness cry - ing, a  
 2 O Je - ru - sa - lem, her - ald good tid - ings, as -  
 3 But the word of our Sav - ior is faith - ful, the



call from the ways un - trod: Pre - pare in the des - ert a  
 cend to the heights and sing! Pro - claim to a des - o - late  
 arm of our God is strong, who stands in the midst of the



high - way, a high - way for our God!  
 peo - ple the com - ing of their king.  
 na - tions and soon will right the wrong.



The val - leys shall be ex - alt - ed, the  
 Like flow'rs of the field we per - ish, like  
 Lord, feed your flock like a shep - herd, the



loft - y hills brought low; make straight all the crook - ed  
 grass our works de - cay; the pow'r and the pomp of  
 lambs so gent - ly hold; in pas - tures of peace now



plac - es where God, our God, may go!  
 na - tions shall pass like a dream a - way.  
 lead them, and bring them to your fold.



## 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,  
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 INTERCESSION

Send forth your faithful people with words of promise and forgiveness. Teach your church to be bold in revealing your good news in word and in deed. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Reveal your majesty in mountain peaks, flowing rivers, and blossoming wilderness roads. Heal the earth where it longs for renewal. Bring wholeness to the earth and all its creatures. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Turn the hearts of the nations toward righteousness and peace. Increase cooperation for justice between countries, commonwealths, political parties, and diplomatic leaders. In times of prosperity, direct leaders to be generous for the sake of all. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Comfort your people with tender words of love and healing. Surround all who are grieving, all who know depression or anxiety, or all who feel lonely or forgotten. Be a steadfast presence when all else feels uncertain. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Grant holy patience to all who are waiting this season. Give hope to those seeking employment. Bring reassurance to people awaiting new diagnoses or treatments. Protect expectant parents. Watch with those who keep bedside vigil. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

With you a thousand years is like a day. Bless the memory of the saints from ages past and the anticipation of saints yet to be born. Inspire us to live with faith as we await your new heaven and new earth. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

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

**Amen.**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
C **And also with you.**

*Thank you so much for your support of Grace ministry through your worship.  
If you wish to make a donation to Grace, you can follow this link [www.glcde.org](http://www.glcde.org) or scan the QR code to  
make a donation on our website through the “GIVE” button in the upper right corner. You can also make  
a donation by placing your gift in our offering plates located inside both sanctuary doors.*



## Joncas

## Thompson/Scruggs

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

P 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.

C **Amen.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

PP Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

P 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'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

P 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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

C **Christ has died.**  
**Christ is risen.**  
**Christ will come again.**

P 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.

C **Come Lord Jesus.**

P 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.

C **Come, Holy Spirit.**

P All praise and glory are yours.  
Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High,  
on God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

THE LORD’S PRAYER

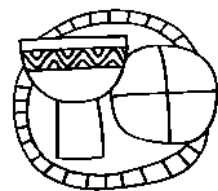
P     Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit let us pray as Jesus taught us.  
Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on  
earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P     In this meal, righteousness and peace meet together.  
Come, take your place at the table.  
All are welcome at the table of the Lord.

*Please be seated.*

COMMUNION



*Communion will be received at the head of the Sanctuary. Starting with the section closest to the sound room and worshippers may make their way to Pastor at the head of the Sanctuary and receive the communion elements. Elements at in-person worship are red wine and white grape juice. Please let Pastor know if you require gluten-free bread.*

LAMB OF GOD



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

## HYMN DURING COMMUNION

### *Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah* ELW 240



- 1 Light one can-dle to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 2 Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 3 Light three can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 4 Light four can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



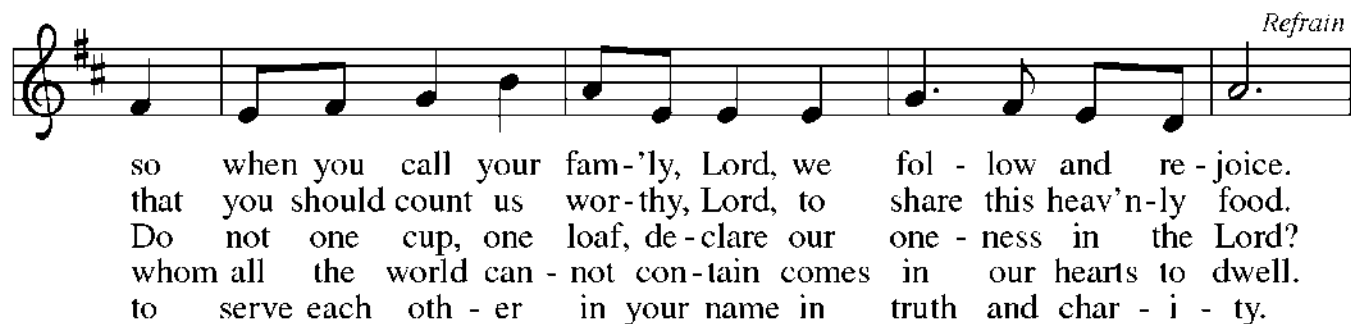
He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra-el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.  
He shall feed the flock like a shep-herd, gent - ly lead them home-ward.  
Lift your heads and lift high the gate-way for the King of glo - ry.  
He is com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your lights be shin - ing!

## HYMN DURING COMMUNION

### *You Satisfy the Hungry Heart* ELW 484



- 1 As when the shep-herd calls his sheep, they know and heed his voice;
- 2 With joy - ful lips we sing to you our praise and grat - i - tude
- 3 Is not the cup we bless and share the blood of Christ out-poured?
- 4 The mys - t'ry of your pres-ence, Lord, no mor - tal tongue can tell:
- 5 You give your-self to us, O Lord; then self - less let us be,





## COMMUNION BLESSING

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

C **Amen.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

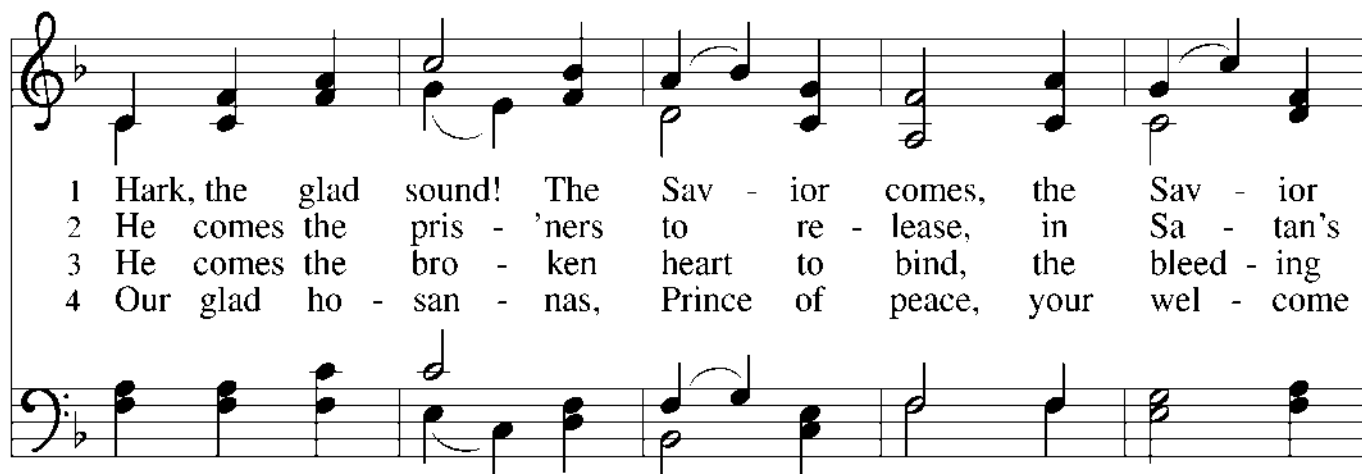
A Generous God,  
in bread and cup you have revealed your glory  
for all people to see together.  
Nourished by this meal, send us out to proclaim  
your good news of liberation and release,  
brought to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior.

C **Amen.**

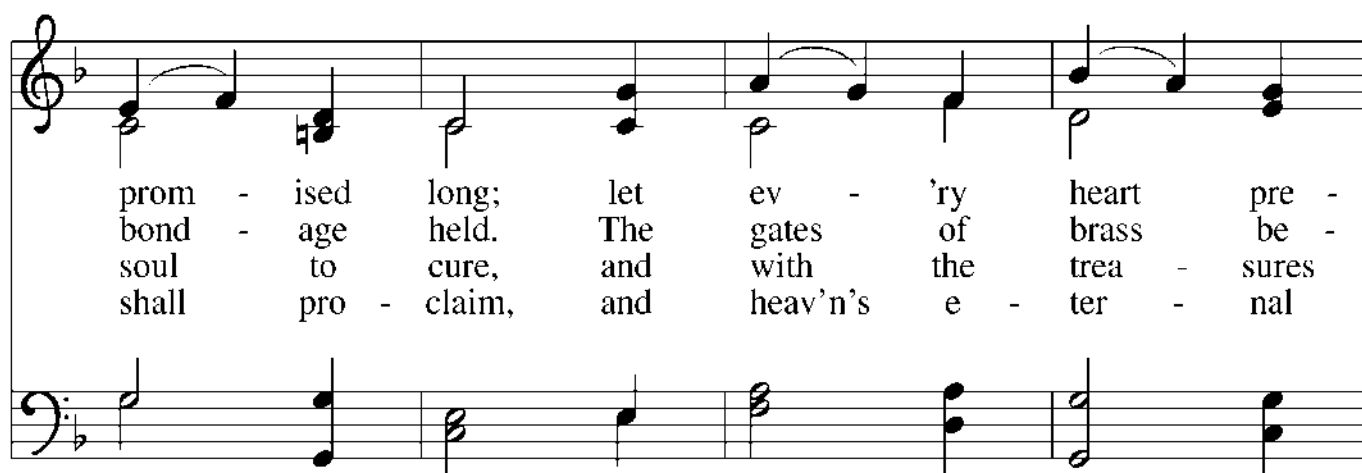
## BLESSING

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.**



1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior  
 2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's  
 3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing  
 4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of peace, your wel - come



prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -  
 bond - age held. The gates of brass be -  
 soul to cure, and with the trea - sures  
 shall pro - claim, and heav'n's e - ter - nal



pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.  
 fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.  
 of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.  
 arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.

## DISMISSAL

P     Go in peace. Keep watch for the Lord.

C     **Thanks be to God.**



*"The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. <sup>8</sup>I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."*

## WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

**Assisting Minister:** Nancy Goyda

**Greeter:** Bob Howle

**Ushers:** Mary Howle, Walt Lumley

**Reader:** Kathy Lumley

**Sound:** Kris McMahan

**Streamer:** Tim Dambaugh

**Nursery:** Amber Tos, Jon Tos

**Counters:** Jim Foskett, Amy Zunino

**Refreshment Set-up:** Toni Durandetta/Lynda Martinez

**Refreshment Clean-up:** Rolf Eriksen

The chancel flowers are presented today to the glory of God  
by the Eriksens



## GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Rev. Tara Magoon, Pastor

Jordan Irazabal, Director of Music

Susan Wells Allen, Office Manager

Louis Jones, Custodian

2033 Graves Road, Hockessin, DE 19707 Office: 302-239-6481

Email: [office@glcde.org](mailto:office@glcde.org) Website: [glcde.org](http://glcde.org)