

ADVENT

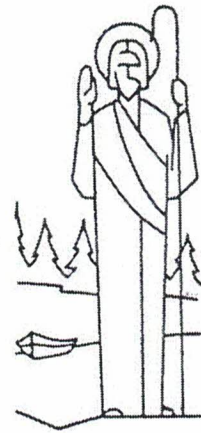
Shepherd of the Lakes Lutheran Church
Season of Advent 2020

Shepherd of the Lakes Lutheran Church

A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)
Sayner, Wisconsin

Season of Advent 2020

Sunday, December 13, 2020



WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHURCH SERVICES:

Regular Sunday morning services at 9:00 am.

Masks will be required in the sanctuary for the services. If you cannot wear a mask for health reasons, areas will be set aside for your use. All are welcome.

The service will be recorded and available for viewing on YouTube later in the day on Sundays.

*Christmas Eve Candlelight Service is scheduled for
December 24, 2020 at 4:00 pm.*

PASTOR'S HOLIDAY DISCRETIONARY FUND:

We are once again collecting funds for the Pastor's Holiday Discretionary Fund. Last year we handed out Walmart and Sentry gift cards to individuals and families who sincerely appreciated the gifts. We also send donations to the service organizations in the area who help those in need. Thank you for your dedication to this mission.

MITTEN TREE:

The Mitten Tree is nearly empty! Thank you, thank you to all! The last day to put your Walmart gift cards into the box is next Sunday, December 20th. (The gift cards will be delivered to the Tri-County Council on Domestic Violence (Rhineland) the next morning so that recipients will have the time to purchase needed gifts.)

OFFERINGS:

Now that we are back to having services at church, your choices for giving are back to three. You can give your offering in church, mail your offering, or use the online giving through PayPal on the church website. As always, your generosity to this church and our missions, is overwhelming. In a time when so many churches are suffering, the health and well-being of your church and our missions is humbling.

LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE

(Candle Litany and Prayer)

Third Sunday of Advent

Voice 1: We draw closer to Christmas. As we light the candle of joy, may our joy be renewed that Christ will be born again in our lives this Christmas time.

Voice 2: Let us pray. Dear God, in the height of our Advent walk, grant us the courage to experience joy.

Joy in the face of apathy,
Joy in the face of sorrow,
Joy in the face of uncertainty. **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS *(PLEASE REMAIN SEATED)*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
the Lord of Israel who comes to set us free,
the mighty Savior who comes to show mercy,
the Dawn from on high who guides us into peace.

Amen.

Let us come before God in confession.

Prayer of Confession

To you, O God,

we lift up our souls. You know us through and through; we confess our sins to you. Remember not our sins; remember us with your steadfast love. Show us your ways; teach us your paths; and lead us in justice and truth, for the sake of your goodness in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness

Children of God, come with joy and draw water from the well of salvation. Remember the gift of baptism: your sin is washed away in the name of ✠ Jesus; you belong to Christ; you are anointed to serve.

Stand up and raise your heads! The reign of God is near. **Amen.**

Verses 1, 4, 5

Christ, Be Our Light



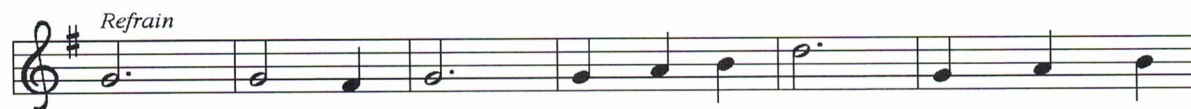
1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for
 2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for
 3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for
 4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for
 5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
 hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone
 wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,
 warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,
 hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.
 has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.
 bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.
 shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.
 to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.



Refrain
 Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957

Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell

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Advent Dialogue

Surely God is my salvation;

I will trust, and will not be afraid,

for the Lord God is my strength, and my might;

and has become my salvation.

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,

and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him;

His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

ADVENT SONG – ELW 264

Verse 3

Prepare the Royal Highway

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!

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
Music: BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN, Swedish folk tune, 17th cent.
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.....**And also with you.**

Let us pray.....**Amen.** (*PLEASE BE SEATED*)

First Reading

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

¹The 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;
²to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor,
and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn;
³to 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.
⁴They shall build up the ancient ruins,
they shall raise up the
former devastations;
they shall repair the ruined cities,
the devastations of many generations.

⁸For 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.
⁹Their 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.
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.

Psalm 126

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

²**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.”

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

⁴**Restore our fortunes, O LORD,
like the watercourses of the Negeb.**

⁵Those who sowed with tears
will reap with songs of joy.

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

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

¹⁶Rejoice always, ¹⁷pray without ceasing, ¹⁸give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. ¹⁹Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰Do not despise the words of prophets, ²¹but test everything; hold fast to what is good; ²²abstain from every form of evil.

²³May 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. ²⁴The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

HOLY GOSPEL *(PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE COMFORTABLE)*

The Holy Gospel according to..... **Glory to you O Lord.**

John 1:6-8, 19-28

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

¹⁹This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who are you?” ²⁰He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, “I am not the Messiah.” ²¹And they asked him, “What then? Are you Elijah?” He said, “I am not.” “Are you the prophet?” He answered, “No.” ²²Then they said to him, “Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?” ²³He said,

“I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness,
‘Make straight the way of the Lord,’ ” as the prophet Isaiah said.

²⁴Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. ²⁵They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" ²⁶John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, ²⁷the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." ²⁸This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

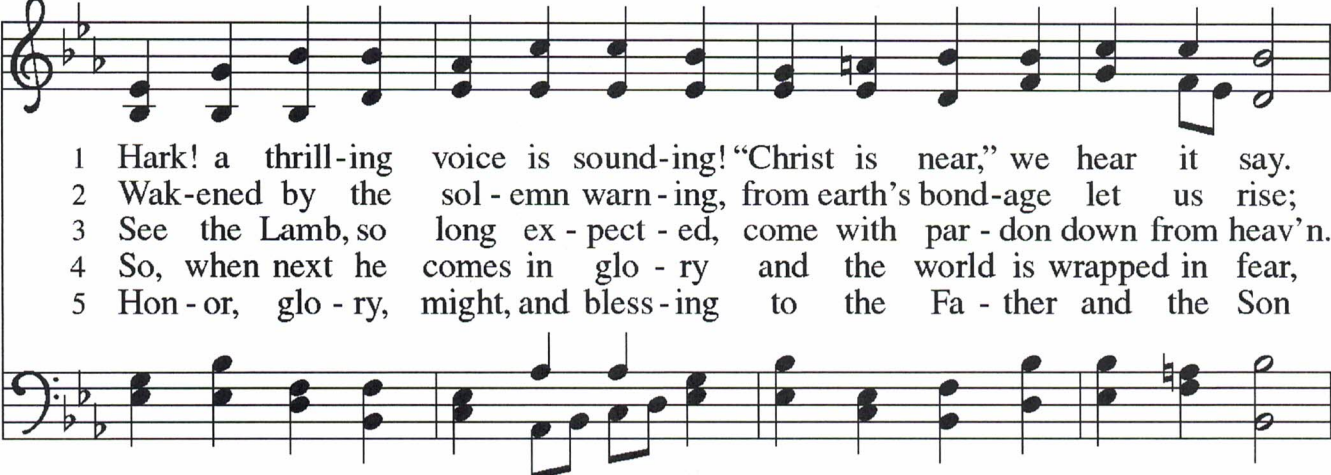
The Gospel of the Lord..... **Praise to you O Christ.** (*PLEASE BE SEATED*)

SERMON

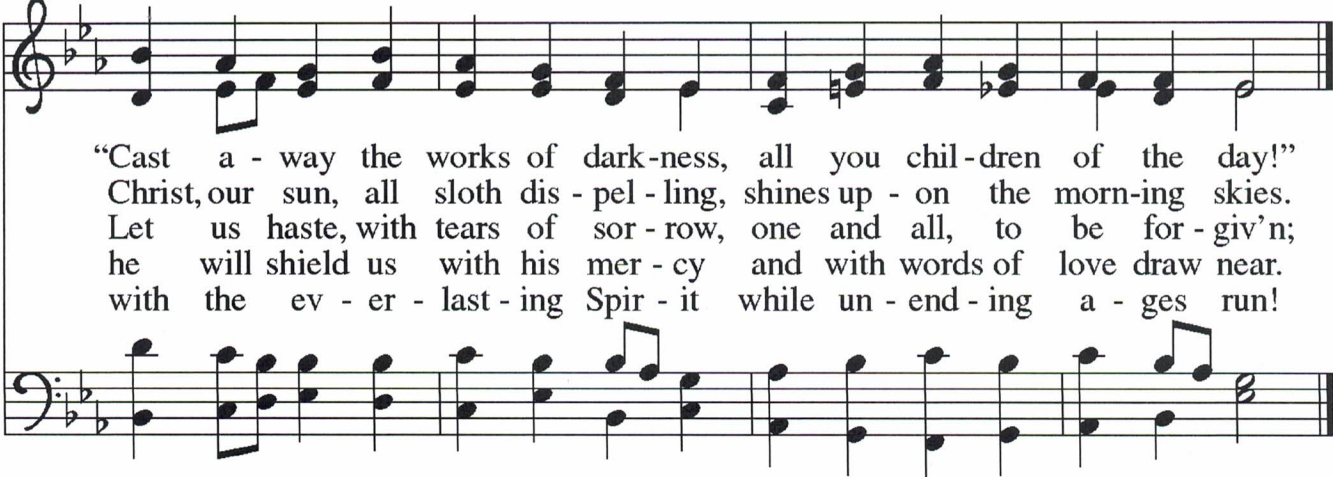
HYMN OF THE DAY – ELW 246 (*PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE COMFORTABLE*)

Verses 1-3

Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding!



1 Hark! a thrill-ing voice is sound-ing! "Christ is near," we hear it say.
 2 Wak-ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth's bond-age let us rise;
 3 See the Lamb, so long ex - spect - ed, come with par - don down from heav'n.
 4 So, when next he comes in glo - ry and the world is wrapped in fear,
 5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther and the Son



"Cast a - way the works of dark-ness, all you chil-dren of the day!"
 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling, shines up - on the morn-ing skies.
 Let us haste, with tears of sor - row, one and all, to be for - giv'n;
 he will shield us with his mer - cy and with words of love draw near.
 with the ev - er - last - ing Spir - it while un - end - ing a - ges run!

Text: Latin hymn, 1632; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814-1878
 Music: MERTON, William H. Monk, 1823-1889

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 THE PEOPLE

SHARING OF THE PEACE

(PLEASE GREET YOUR NEIGHBOR FROM WHERE YOU ARE SEATED)

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

Prepare the Lords Table *(Please join in singing "Let us Break Bread Together")*

Let Us Break Bread Together

1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees;
 2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees;
 3 Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees;

let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.
 let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.
 let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.

Refrain

When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing

sun, O Lord, have mer - cy on me.

Text: African American spiritual
 Music: BREAK BREAD TOGETHER, African American spiritual

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING *(PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE COMFORTABLE)*

In this moment of worship, we embrace your presence, O God.

And we offer you our love.

In this moment of prayer, we proclaim your purpose for the world.

And we offer you our resources.

In this moment of giving, we hear your call, O Lord.

**And offer you ourselves. Use us—all that we have and all that we are—
to touch the world with the Christmas message. Amen!**

HOLY COMMUNION

May the God of Advent be with you.

And also with you.

People of Advent, lift up your hopes.

We lift them to the One who comes to share our lives with us.

People of hope, offer your thanksgiving to God.

Joy, praise, adoration are in our hearts and on our lips!

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

...Do this in remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

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.

Come, Lord Jesus.

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.

Come, Holy Spirit.

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

Amen!

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

(PLEASE BE SEATED AFTER THE PRAYER)

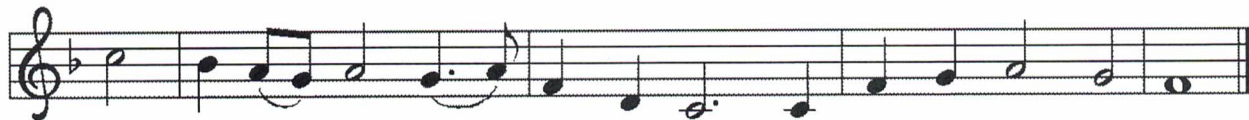
DISTRIBUTION

If it is your wish to commune this morning, know that all are welcome to the Lord's table. Simply come forward using the side isles as you are instructed, receive the bread (wafer), then moving to the tray of wine, receive the wine in individual classes. The red liquid is wine, and the clear liquid is grape juice for those requiring an alternative to the wine. Gluten free wafers are available as well, simply ask your server when you come forward. Children not yet communing, and others not wishing to commune, are welcome to come forward for a blessing. But again, all are welcome to the Lord's table.

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;

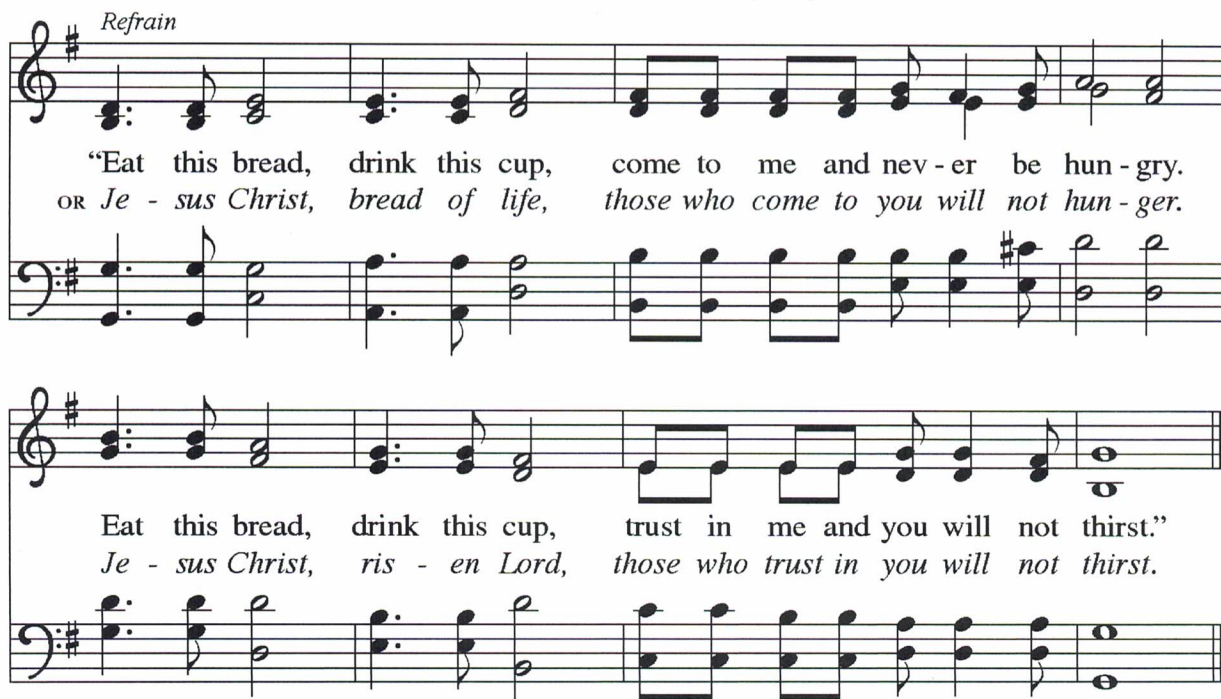


you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

COMMUNION SONGS

Eat This Bread *Jesus Christ, Bread of Life*

Refrain



“Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and nev - er be hun - gry.
OR Je - sus Christ, bread of life, those who come to you will not hun - ger.

Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst.”
Je - sus Christ, ris - en Lord, those who trust in you will not thirst.

Come and Fill Our Hearts *Confitemini Domino*



Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no quo - ni - am bo - nus.
Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a-lone, O Lord, are ho - ly.

Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no. Al - le - lu - ia!
Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Psalm 136:1 (Latin); Taizé Community
Music: CONFITEMINI DOMINO, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994
Text and music © 1982, 1991 Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638.

Jesus, Remember Me

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

Text: Luke 23:42; Taizé Community

Music: REMEMBER ME, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994

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O Lord, Hear My Prayer *The Lord Is My Song*

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: when I call, an - swer me.
OR *The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: all my hope comes from God.*

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: come and lis - ten to me.
The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: God, the well-spring of life.

Text: Psalm 102:1–2; Taizé Community, adapt.

Music: HEAR MY PRAYER, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994

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COMMUNION BLESSING *(PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE COMFORTABLE)*

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and these gifts of his body and blood, strengthen us, keep us, and unite us, now and forever.

Amen!

COMMUNION PRAYER

We thank you, Lord God,

...for breaking into our world, our lives, and our experience.

We thank you, O Christ,

...for this meal of remembering, and the stories of love and grace that it tells.

We thank you, O Spirit,

...for your presence and your challenge for us to become agents of God's compassion. Amen!

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN – ELW 248

Verses 1, 3, 4

People, Look East

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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SENDING

Go in peace. Christ is with you!

Thanks be to God!