

THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT



December 15, 2024

SAINT PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Welcome to **ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

SUNDAY SERVICES

8:15am | Service with Holy Communion in Nave
9:00am | Choir Practice
9:30am | Education Hour with Sunday School, Confirmation Class and Adult Forum
10:30am | Service with Holy Communion in Nave and Online
11:30am | Coffee Hour

LIVESTREAMING

Worship is streamed on the St. Paul Lutheran Facebook page. A Facebook account is not necessary to stream, however, without a Facebook account the stream works on a computer browser only and not on a phone.

WEEKLY UPDATE NEWSLETTER

Sign up for Weekly Update newsletter by going to our website at www.stpaularlington.org and clicking on SUBSCRIBE.

SERVING THE COMMUNITY TODAY ARE:

Jennifer Parker and Lydia Zuehsow, *Altar Guild*
Brick C. and Owen C., *Acolytes*
Kathleen Kean, *Lector*
Taryn Walsh, *Deacon*
Peter Schmidt, *Cantor*
Andy Airasian, *Usher*
Matt Carter, *Livestream Broadcast*
Peter and Hollie Schmidt, *Coffee Guild*



Altar flowers are given by Kim Fechtel in memory of Bishop Ehme Rankin Osterbur, born December 15, 1927, beloved father of David Osterbur and grandfather of Isaak Osterbur and Marika

WEDNESDAYS IN ADVENT | December 4, 11, and 18, 7-8PM

During the season of waiting, let us prepare our hearts and minds for Christ in community. We'll gather on Wednesdays in Advent at 7pm for different activities each week:

December 4 - Holden Evening Prayer

December 11 - Christmas Cardmaking Workshop with recorder ensemble

December 18 - Christmas Caroling

May this weekly gathering be a time of connection, care, and seasonal celebration in the darkest month of the year.

Choral Singers are:

Andy Airasian, Robin Bova, Marie Breitenbach, Peter Hedlund, Bev Hjorth, Anne-Louise Klaus, Allen Pierce, Hollie Schmidt, Peter Schmidt, Sarah Simeone, Sandy Walker and Jennifer White.

When the instruction for standing * appears, please stand as you are able and as seems comfortable. At the ☩, you may make the sign of the cross, which reminds us of our baptism. The congregational responses are printed in **bold**.

GATHERING

PRELUDE (for 10:30)

“O Nata Lux from Lux Aeterna”

Thomas Tallis (1505-1585)

O nata lux de lumine,
esu redemptor saeculi
dignare clemens supplicum
laudes preces que sumere.

O born light of light,
Jesus, redeemer of the world,
mercifully deem worthy and accept
the praises and prayers of your supplicants.

Qui carne quondam contegi
dignatus es pro perditis.
Nos membra confer effici,
tui beati corporis.

Thou you were once designed to be clothed
in flesh
for the sake of the lost ones,
grant us to be members of your holy body.

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
alive in the world,
reviving creation,
arriving soon.

Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of mercy,
we confess that we have sinned.
We trust earthly powers and human authority alone.
We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.

God of might,
we confess that we have sinned.
We have turned away from our neighbors.
We have trusted false promises.

God in our midst,
we confess that we have sinned.
We plead: come to us.
Bring your mercy to birth in us.

A righteous branch springs forth:
it is Christ the Lord, our Savior,
in whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy.
By the power of the Holy Spirit,
receive the grace and forgiveness of God
through † Christ Jesus,
whose day draws near.
Amen.

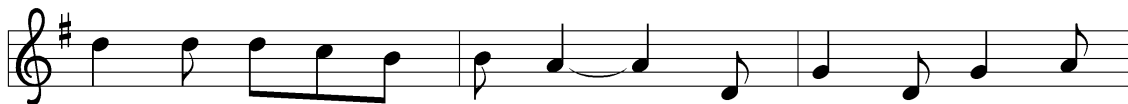
* GATHERING HYMN

“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



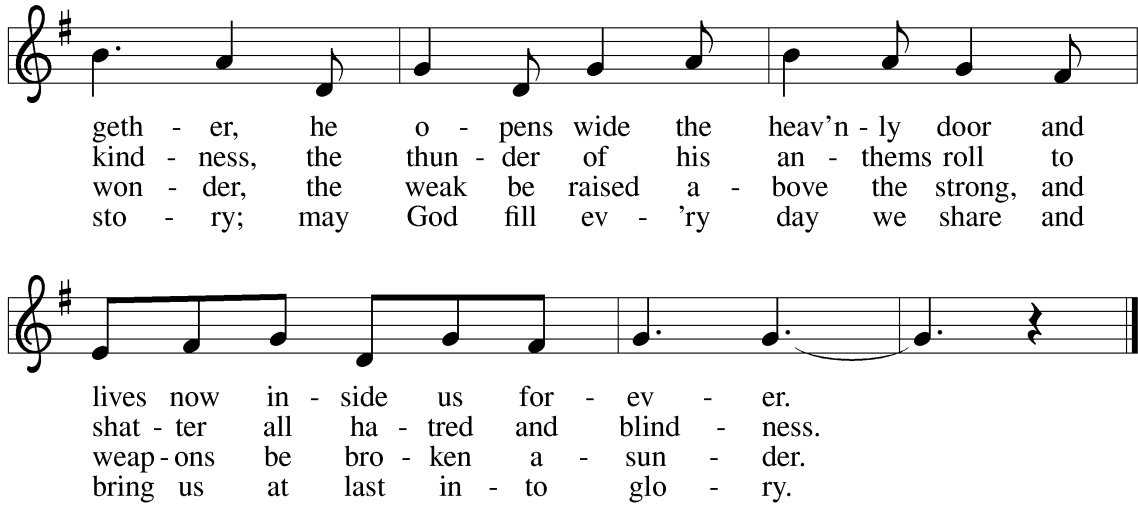
an - gels her - ald its dawn - ing. Sing out your joy, for
man - u - el comes a - sing - ing, his hum - ble song is
all the world is de - spair - ing, as morn - ing light so
dark the win - ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall



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

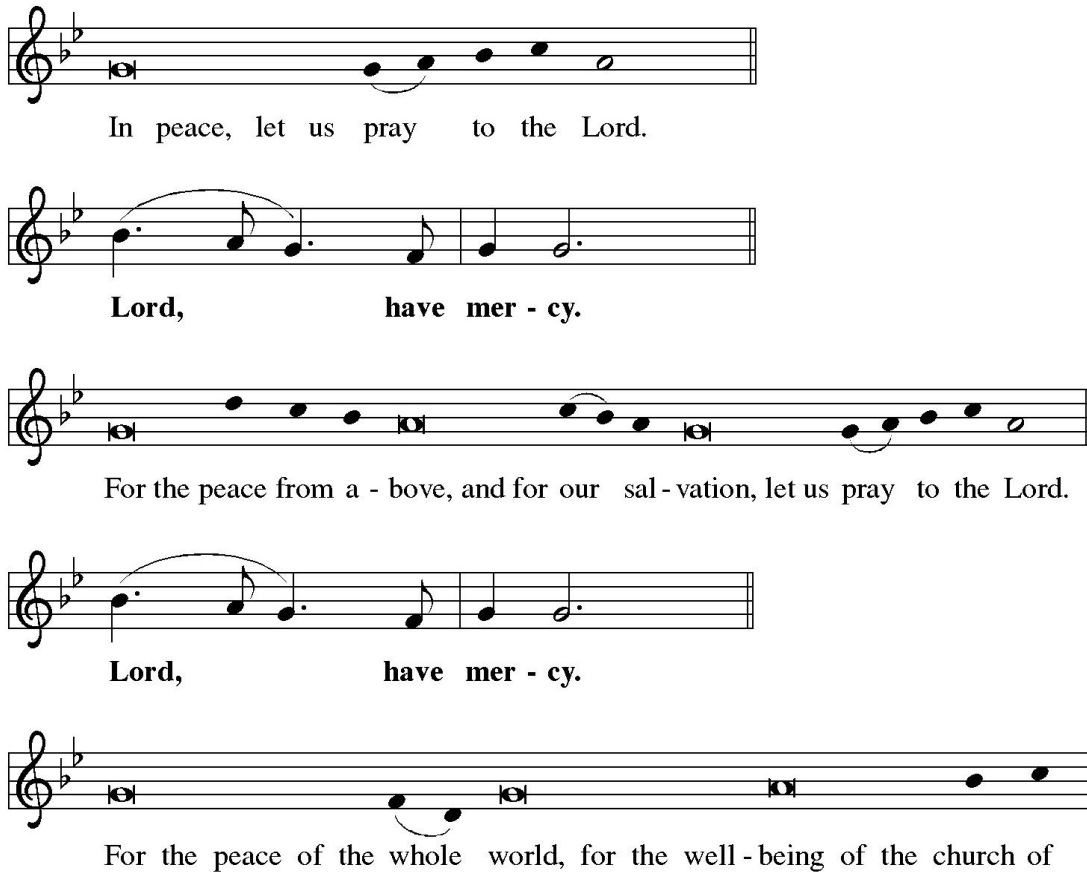
lives now in - side us for - ev - er.
 shat - ter all ha - tred and blind - ness.
 weap - ons be bro - ken a - sun - der.
 bring us at last in - to glo - ry.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
 Music: REJOICE, REJOICE, Marty Haugen

***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.

***KYRIE**



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

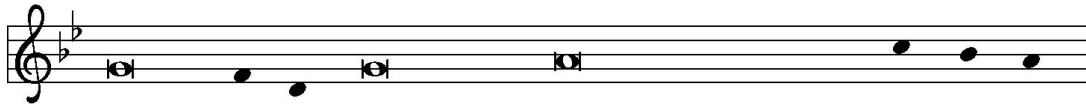
For the peace of the whole world, for the well - being of the church of



God, and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



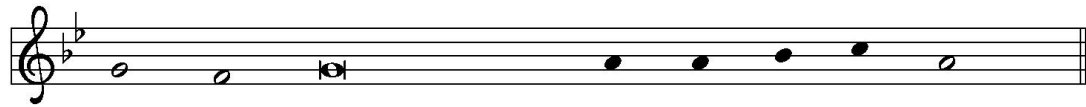
For this ho - ly house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and



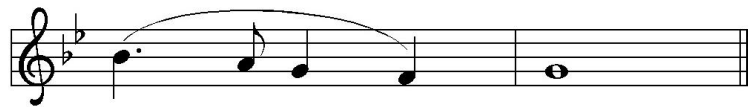
praise, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE



Refrain
This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



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



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be



peo-ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and




hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

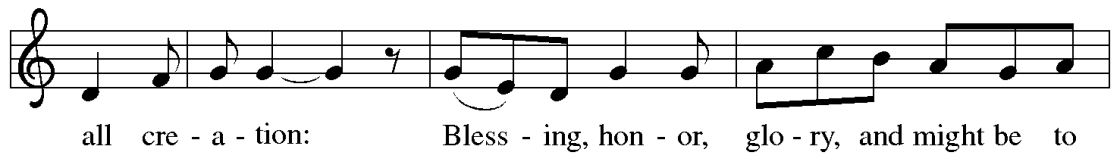


Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

2 Sing



with all the peo-ple of God, and join in the hymn of



all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to



God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God,



for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign.



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

* PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the words of your prophets, that, annointed 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.

CHILDREN'S TIME

Vicar Sam Menapace

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

ELW 257 O Come, O Come Emmanuel verses 1,3,6



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.

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*

Text: *Psalterium Cantionum Catholicarum*, Köln, 1710; tr. composite
Music: VENI, EMMANUEL, French processional, 15th cent.

* ADVENT PRAYER

Praise to you, O God, our salvation who is near. You hold us in our waiting and keep us awake to the world. You show up in our lives at unexpected times. Bless us as we light this candle to keep vigil for your arrival. We trust that even though we do not know the day or the hour, you hurry to gather all people to your peace.

Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING

Zephaniah 3:14–20

The prophet Zephaniah's message is mostly one of judgment for sin. This reading, however, which comes from the conclusion of the book, prophesies joy for Judah and Jerusalem. Judgment has led to repentance, and God's salvation is at hand.

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion;
shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart,
O daughter Jerusalem!

The Lord has taken away the judgments against you;
he has turned away your enemies.

The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst;
you shall fear disaster no more.

On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:

“Do not fear, O Zion;
do not let your hands grow weak.

The Lord, your God, is in your midst,
a warrior who gives victory;

he will rejoice over you with gladness;
he will renew you in his love;

he will exult over you with loud singing
as on a day of festival.”

I will remove disaster from you,
so that you will not bear reproach for it.

I will deal with all your oppressors
at that time.

And I will save the lame
and gather the outcast,
and I will change their shame into praise
and renown in all the earth.

At that time I will bring you home,
at the time when I gather you;
for I will make you renowned and praised
among all the peoples of the earth,

when I restore your fortunes
before your eyes, says the Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC

The Yearning Music by Craig Courtney (b. 1954), words by Susan Bentall Boersma

There is a yearning in hearts weighed down by ancient grief and centuries of sorrow. There is a yearning in hearts that in the darkness hide and in the shades of death abide, a yearning for tomorrow.

There is a yearning, a yearning for the promised One, the Firstborn of creation. There is a yearning for the Lord who visited His own, and by His death for sin atoned, to bring to us salvation.

Emmanuel, Emmanuel within our hearts, the yearning.

There is a yearning that fills the hearts of those who wait the day of His appearing.

There is a yearning when all our sorrows are erased and we shall see the One who placed within our hearts the yearning.

Emmanuel, Emmanuel within our hearts, the yearning.

PSALM (*read responsively 8:15 am service*)

Isaiah 12:2–6



Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not ¹ be afraid,
for the Lord God is my strength and my might, and has become ¹ my salvation.

**With joy you ¹ will draw water
from the wells ¹ of salvation.**

And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the Lord, call ¹ on God's name;
make known the deeds of the Lord among the nations; proclaim that this name ¹ is
exalted.

**Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done ¹ gloriously;
let this be known in ¹ all the earth.**

Shout aloud and sing for joy, O ¹ royal Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy ¹ One of Israel.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme, Cantata BWV 140

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme
Der Wächter sehr hoch auf der Zinne,
Wach auf, du Stadt Jerusalem!
Mitternacht heisst diese Stunde;
Sie rufen uns mit hellem Munde:
Wo seid ihr klugen Jungfrauen?
Wohlauf, der Bräutigam kömmt;
Steht auf, die Lampen nehmt!
Alleluja.
Macht euch bereit
Zu der Hochzeit,
Ihr müsset ihm entgegen gehn.

“Wake up,” the voice of the watchmen calls to us
Very high on the pinnacle [of the city wall];
“Wake up, you city of Jerusalem.”
This hour is named midnight;
They call to us, declaiming brightly:
“Where are you, Wise Virgins?”
Cheer up, the bridegroom is coming;
Stand up, take your lamps.
Hallelujah.
Make yourselves ready
For the wedding;
You must go to meet him.

SECOND READING

Philippians 4:4–7

Despite being in prison, Paul is remarkably upbeat as he writes this letter. Here, he urges his friends in Philippi to trust God with all their worries and concerns with the hope that they will experience God’s joy and peace.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

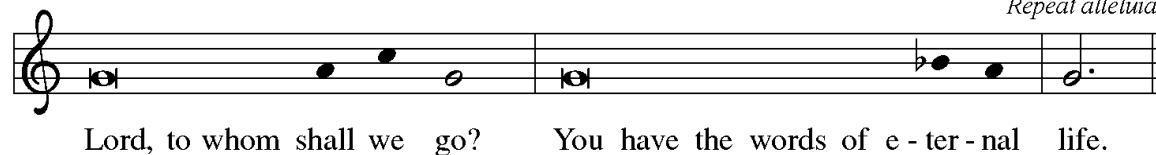
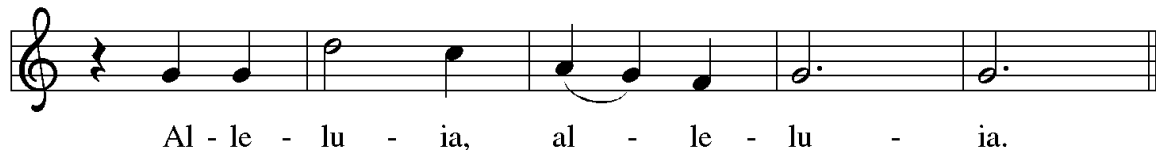
SPECIAL MUSIC

Keep Your Lamps

Andre Thomas (b. 1952)

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
the time is drawing nigh.
Children, don’t get weary ’til your work is done.
Christian, journey soon be over,
the time is drawing nigh.

* GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (10:30 service)



* GOSPEL (8:15 only)

Luke 1:39-45 [46-55]

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

[And Mary said,

"My soul magnifies the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
for he has looked with favor on the lowly state of his servant.
Surely from now on all generations will call me blessed,
for the Mighty One has done great things for me,
and holy is his name;
indeed, his mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.
He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He has brought down the powerful from their thrones
and lifted up the lowly;
he has filled the hungry with good things
and sent the rich away empty.
He has come to the aid of his child Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,

according to the promise he made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and to his descendants forever.”]

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Tomorrow shall be my dancing day

John Gardner (1917-2011)

Tomorrow shall be my dancing day;
I would my true love did so chance
To see the legend of my play,
To call my true love to my dance;

Chorus (sung after each verse)

*Sing, oh! my love, oh! my love, my love, my love,
This have I done for my true love*

Then was I born of a virgin pure,
Of her I took fleshly substance
Thus was I knit to man's nature
To call my true love to my dance.

In a manger laid, and wrapped I was
So very poor, this was my chance
Betwixt an ox and a silly poor ass
To call my true love to my dance.

Then afterwards baptized I was;
The Holy Ghost on me did glance,
My Father's voice heard I from above,
To call my true love to my dance.

SERMON (8:15 only) "Magnifies"

Pastor Ross Goodman

"Hark, the Glad Sound!"

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.

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702-1751
Music: CHESTERFIELD, Thomas Haweis, 1734-1820

APOSTLE'S CREED

In response to the gospel, let us confess the faith of the church:

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 into hell. 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

The leader will read the first and last prayer, those in the congregation are invited to read aloud the other prayers as they feel called.

As we prepare for Emmanuel, God-with-us, let us pray for all people and places that long for God's presence.

A brief silence

God who reforms, fill your church with courage to do your will. Empower your people in taking risks that bear fruit. Raise up leaders who will proclaim the good news. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

God who creates, you hold in balance diverse ecosystems. Encourage efforts to protect wild lands from devastation. Care for animals and people in the path of destructive fires, storms, and all disasters. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

God who leads, this world calls out for you. Listen to the cries for peace and true justice in all places of conflict, especially Syria, Palestine, Ukraine, Sudan, and Haiti. Guide legislatures, judges, and lawyers in actions steeped in love and restoration. Increase the desire to advocate for all who are confronted with discrimination and oppression based on race, gender, sexuality, class, or age. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

God who embraces, help us notice the places where your people are hurting or sick. We pray especially for Dan, Lynn, Marilyn, Meredith, Owen, Paul, and Susan. Show your compassion and remember your people in love. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

God who abides, you dwell among the people of this congregation. Deepen our relationships with one another, and make us aware of the diverse talents and gifts present here. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God who consoles, we thank you for the time we have had with loved ones who have died. Comfort us with the promise of everlasting life in you and inspire us by the lives of your servants, especially Katharina von Bora Luther. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Savior of the nations, come, and receive these prayers and the pleas of our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

* PEACE

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

Keep your hands close together or make the peace sign if you'd rather not pass the peace with touch.

ANTHEM (10:30 service)

Come Now, O Prince of For Behold, Darkness Shall Cover the Earth
and The People That Walked In Darkness from "Messiah"

G.F Handel (1685-1759)
Peter Schmidt, bass

For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the Lord shall arise upon thee, and His glory shall be seen upon thee.

And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising.

The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light. And they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.

MEAL

* OFFERING PRAYER

Creator God,
you made the whole world,
even the farthest stars,
and you draw near to feed us.
We praise you for these gifts of bread and wine.
Strengthen us with this food
that we may live in expectation
for the advent of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

OFFERING



You may give an offering through the Givelify app by scanning this QR code.

* 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.

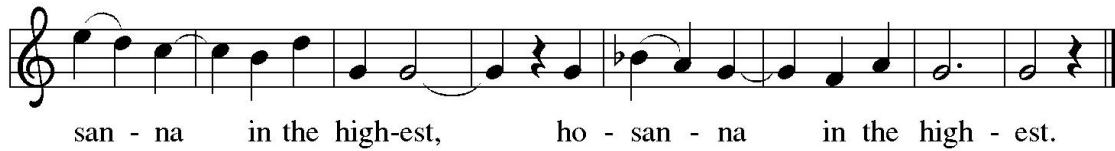
You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer,
through whom you will also make all things new
in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



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:

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.**

COMMUNION

All are welcome to receive the bread and the wine. Gluten free wafers are available on request. Both wine and grape juice are available in each tray; the wine is red and the grape juice is white.

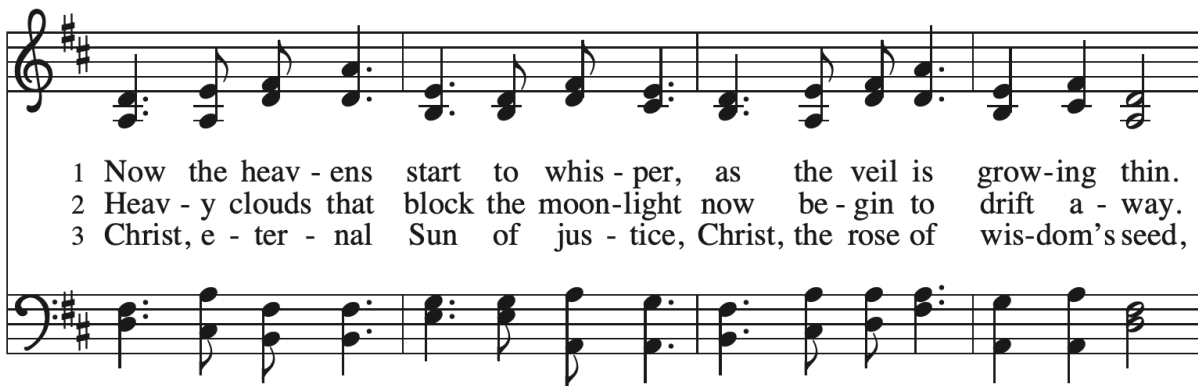
Come forward in the center aisle starting at the front of the church. The pastors will motion the first people forward.

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.

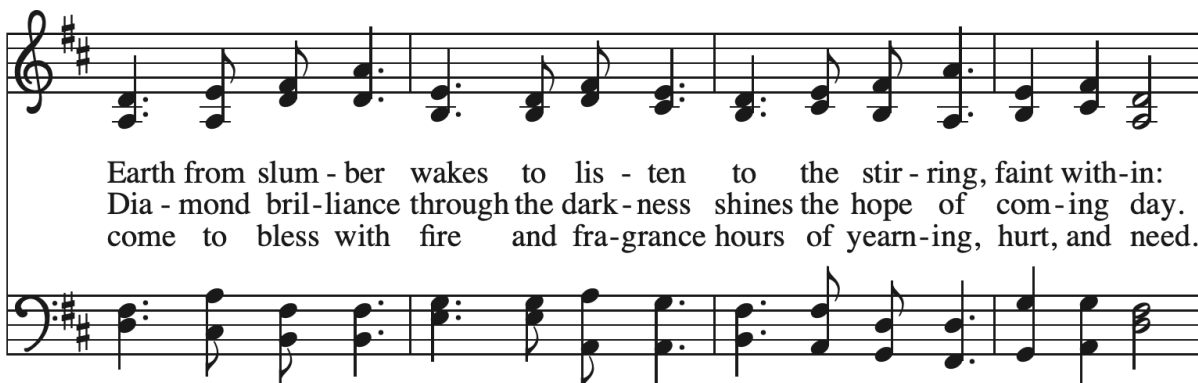
COMMUNION HYMN (10:30 service)

“Now the Heavens Start to Whisper”

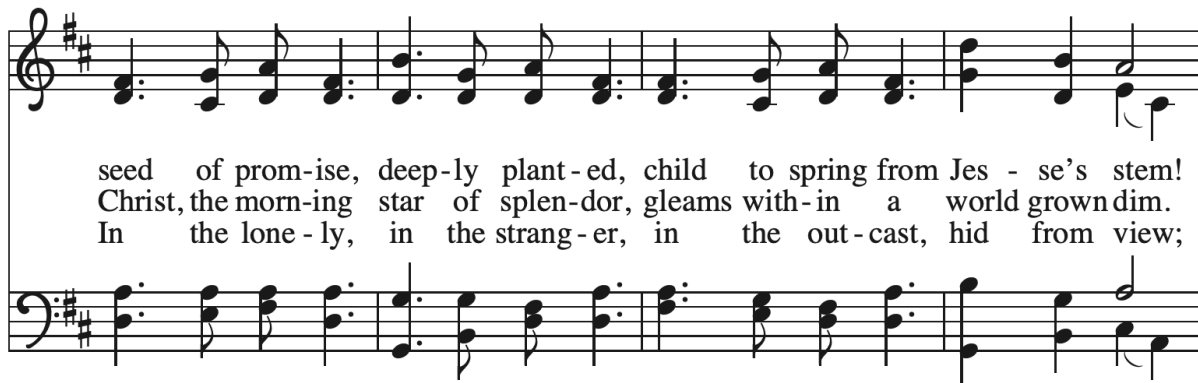
ACS 901



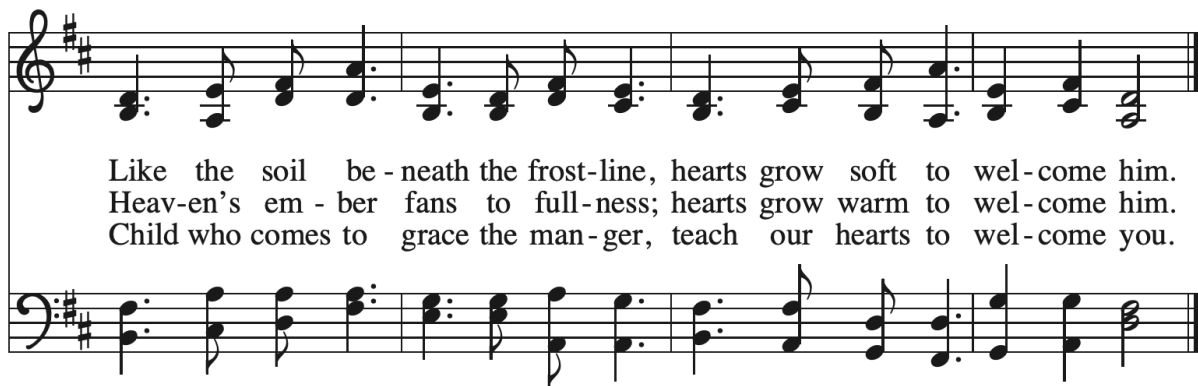
1 Now the heav - ens start to whis - per, as the veil is grow - ing thin.
2 Heav - y clouds that block the moon - light now be - gin to drift a - way.
3 Christ, e - ter - nal Sun of jus - tice, Christ, the rose of wis - dom's seed,



Earth from slum - ber wakes to lis - ten to the stir - ring, faint with - in:
Dia - mond bril - liance through the dark - ness shines the hope of com - ing day.
come to bless with fire and fra - grance hours of yearn - ing, hurt, and need.



seed of prom - ise, deep - ly plant - ed, child to spring from Jes - se's stem!
Christ, the morn - ing star of splen - dor, gleams with - in a world grown dim.
In the lone - ly, in the strang - er, in the out - cast, hid from view;



Like the soil be - neath the frost - line, hearts grow soft to wel - come him.
Heav - en's em - ber fans to full - ness; hearts grow warm to wel - come him.
Child who comes to grace the man - ger, teach our hearts to wel - come you.

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953
Music: SUO GÂN, Welsh melody; arr. hymnal version

* TABLE BLESSING

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

Amen.

* PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Generous God,
we thank you for the gift of life,
for the bread of salvation.
We thank you for coming among us,
for leading us into peace.
We thank you for showering us with mercy,
for sending us into the world.
Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us
as we feed the hungry in your name.

Amen.

SENDING

* BLESSING

God of endings and beginnings,
God in the darkness and the light,
God, our hope for the journey,
✠ bless and keep you now and forever.

Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

* SENDING HYMN

“Soon and Very Soon”

ELW 439



1 Soon and ver - y soon
2 No more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,
3 No more dy - in' there,
4 Soon and ver - y soon



soon and ver - y soon
no more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,
no more dy - in' there,
soon and ver - y soon

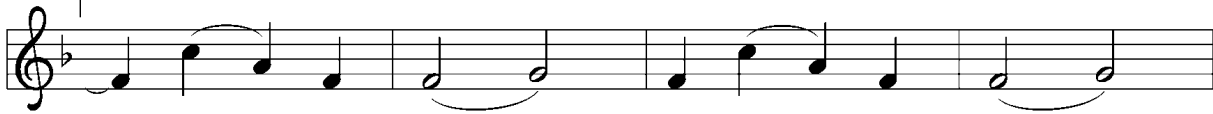


soon and ver - y soon
no more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King.
no more dy - in' there,
soon and ver - y soon



Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, we're goin' to see the King!

Coda after stanza 4



Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu -



jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah.

Text: Andraé Crouch, b. 1945
Music: VERY SOON, Andraé Crouch

* DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

For Unto Us a Child is Born from "Messiah"

G.F Handel (1685-1759)

For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given, and the government shall be upon His shoulder;
and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor,
the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.

ANNOUNCEMENTS *and* UPCOMING HAPPENINGS at **SAINT PAUL**



ADULT FORUM IN DECEMBER

There will be no Adult Forums Dec. 1 and 29. December 8, 15, and 22 "The Bible Project" For December we will feature the creative format and graphic presentations from The Bible Project as a basis for discussion and exploration. Dec. 8 Overview. Dec 15 and 22 The beginnings of Matthew and Luke, including the birth of Jesus.

GATHER GROUPS FORMING | Starting in January 2025



We are once again forming Gather Groups. This is a great way to get to know other people in the church. These groups meet January through June at members' homes, outdoor spaces, or anywhere that you can think of! All of our members are encouraged to participate! Sign up here:

SEEKING NURSERY VOLUNTEERS

We are looking to revive our nursery program at St. Paul. While we look for a regular attendant, please consider helping out by volunteering during one of the Advent Services. Talk to Sarah or Signup here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4EAFAA2DA4FE3-53555701-nursery>. This is open to our adult and teen members of our congregation.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT | December (15) and 22

We will be holding our Christmas Pageant on December 22 during the 10:30 service. All of our youth are welcome to participate. There are a variety of roles that are perfect for all ages! Let me know that you are interested by talking to Sarah or completing this form here: <https://forms.gle/Tc4dTvpHyJfb2jeL7>. Rehearsals will be during the learning hour on December 15th and December 22nd.

LUTHER LEAGUE | December 15, 7:00-8:30

Middle School and High School Students are invited to join us for our Annual Cookie Decorating Evening on December 15 at 7:00-8:30 in the Fellowship Hall. Come enjoy some cookies, snacks, and some time to socialize with our youth!



SAINT PAUL
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
ARLINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS

929 Concord Turnpike
Arlington, Massachusetts 02476
www.stpaularlington.org | 781-646-7773

Staff

The Reverend Ross Goodman, *Pastor*
Samantha Menapace, *Vicar*
Ana Zecic Jeffers, *Director of Music*
Paul Ricci, *Business Administrator*
Sarah Carter, *Children, Youth and
Families Director*
Jennifer White, *Parish Administrator*
Dennis O'Brien, *Church Property Manager*

Church Council and Officers

Elizabeth Heichler, *President*
Monique Airasian, *Vice-President*
Eric Haugen, *Treasurer*
Kerri Frick, *Secretary*
Norma Ofsthun, *Financial Secretary*
Mark Olson, *Financial Secretary*
Kristen Anderson
Eric Carlson
Peter Hedlund
Kevin Kreutter
Bob Sniffen
Sandy Walker
Taryn Walsh



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

