Family of Christ Lutheran Church and Early Education Center

Welcome to the Family!

"Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David! Hosanna in the highest!"

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
NOVEMBER 29, 2020

Pastor's Greeting

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Invocation: (*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*)

P: In the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit. *Matthew 28:19b*

C: Amen.

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Your Holy Spirit, that we may love You and magnify Your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

Exhortation *Psalm 51:1-4; 15-17*

P: Have mercy on me, O God; according to Your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!

C: For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against You, You only, have I sinned and done what is evil in Your sight, so that You may be justified in Your words and blameless in Your judgment.

P: O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.

C: For You will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it; You will not be pleased with a burnt offering. The sacrifices of God are a broken Spirit; a broken and contrite heart, God, you will not despise.

(Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.)

THE CONFESSION OF SINS

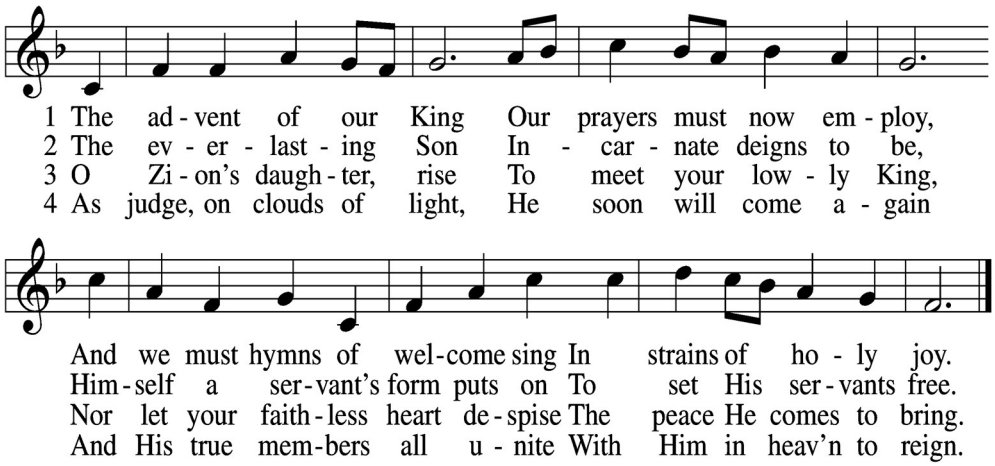
P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

ABSOLUTION *John 20:21*

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

OPENING HYMN THE ADVENT OF OUR KING *LSB 331 STS.1-6*

5 Before the dawning day
Let sin's dark deeds be gone,
The sinful self be put away,
The new self now put on.

(Stand) 6 All glory to the Son,
Who comes to set us free,
With Father, Spirit, ever one
Through all eternity.

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THE KYRIE *LSB 168*

P: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

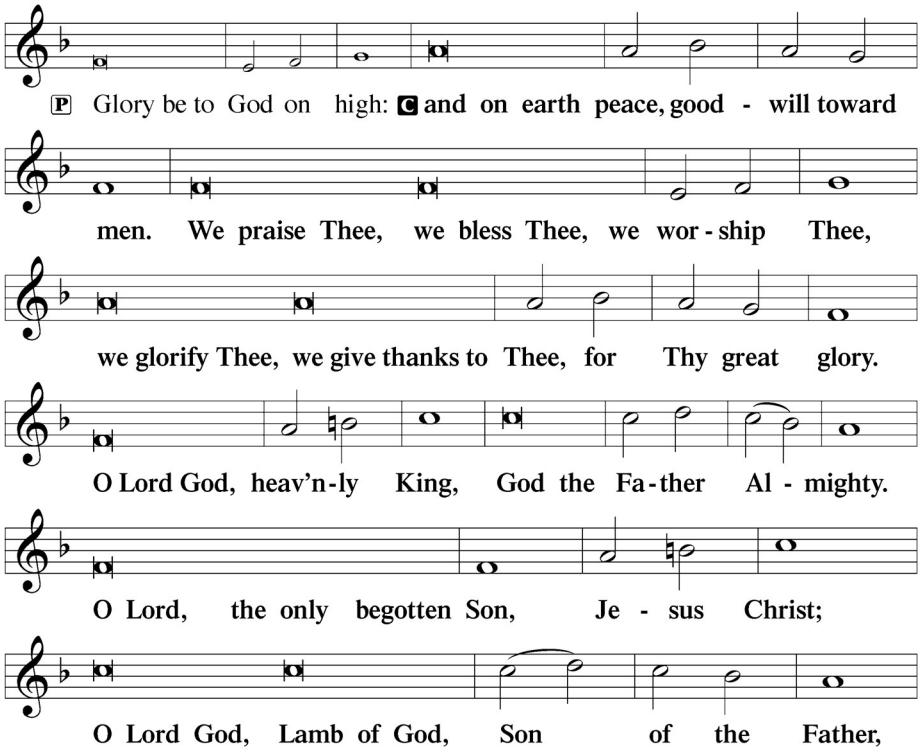
P: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

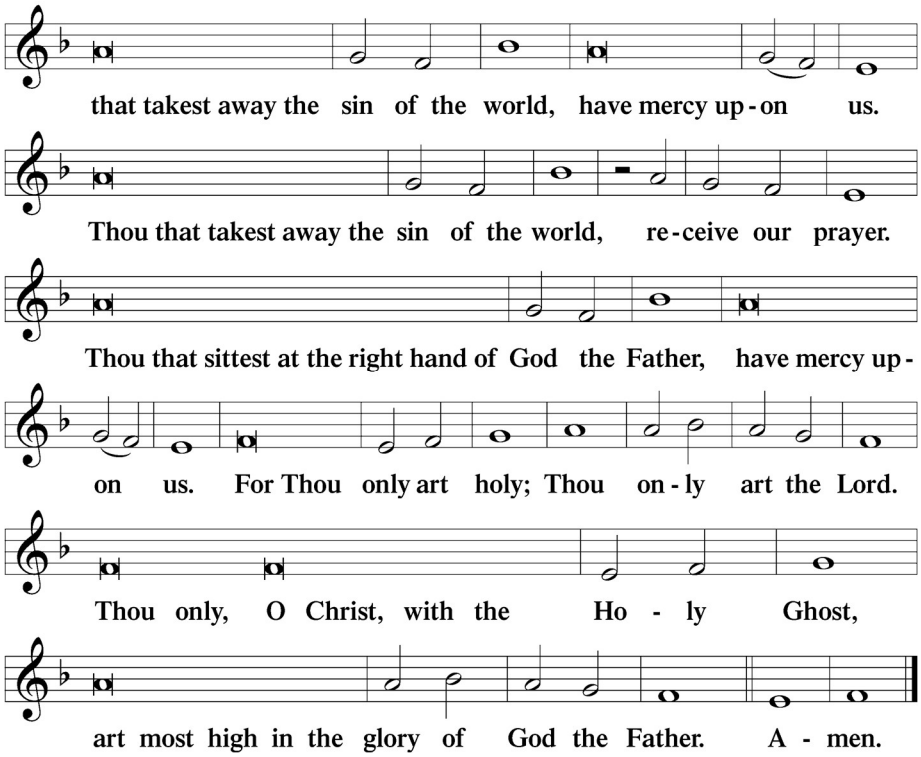
C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS *LSB 187* *Luke 2:14; John 1:29*





Salutation and Collect of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: *Let us pray*: Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah 64:1–9

Reader: Oh that You would rend the heavens and come down, that the mountains might quake at Your presence—as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil—to make Your name known to Your adversaries, and that the nations might tremble at Your presence! When You did awesome things that we did not look for, You came down, the mountains quaked at Your presence. From of old no one has heard or perceived by the ear, no eye has seen a God besides you, who acts for those who wait for him. You meet him who joyfully works righteousness, those who remember you in your ways. Behold, you were angry, and we sinned; in our sins we have been a long time, and shall we be saved? We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls upon your name, who rouses himself to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have made us melt in the hand of our iniquities. But now, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and

you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Be not so terribly angry, O LORD, and remember not iniquity forever. Behold, please look, we are all your people.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

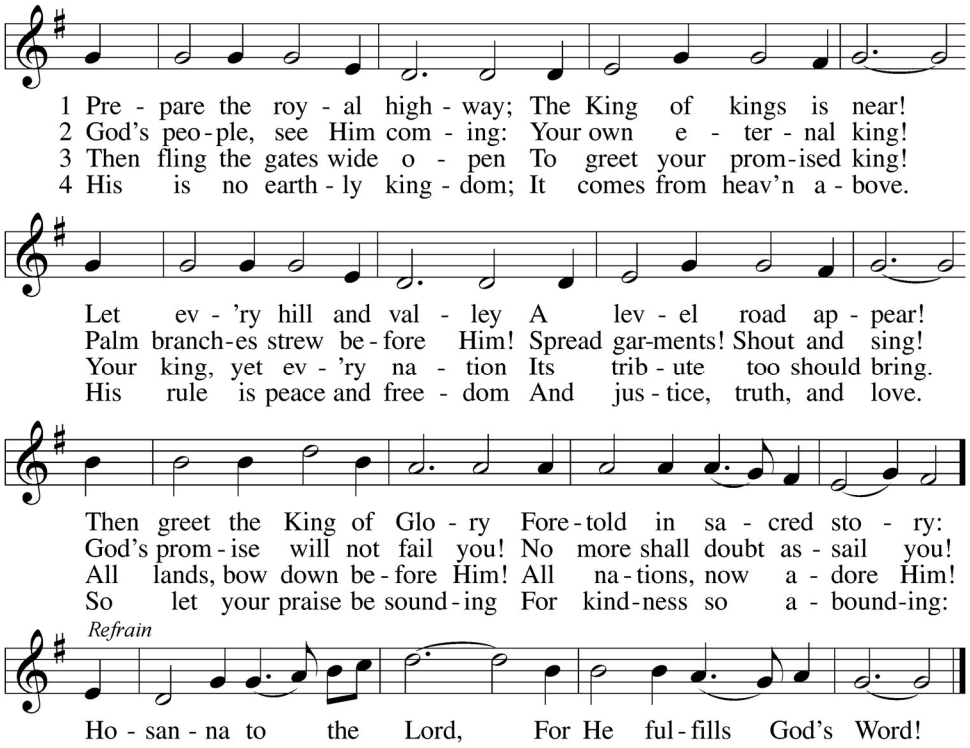
C: Thanks be to God!

THE GRADUAL *Psalm 48:1a, 12–14a*

P: Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion. Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem. Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation.

C: Blessèd is He who comes in the name of the Lord. From the house of the Lord we bless you.

HYMN PREPARE THE ROYAL HIGHWAY *LSB 343 STS.1-4*



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THE EPISTLE READING FROM THE BOOK OF REVELATION THE FOURTH CHAPTER.

Reader: After this I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven! And the first voice, which I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet, said, "Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this." At once I was in the Spirit, and behold, a throne stood in heaven, with one seated on the throne. And he who sat there had the appearance of jasper and carnelian, and around the throne was a rainbow that had the appearance of an emerald. Around the throne were twenty-four thrones, and seated on the thrones were twenty-four elders, clothed in white garments, with golden crowns on their heads. From the throne came flashes

of lightning, and rumblings and peals of thunder, and before the throne were burning seven torches of fire, which are the seven spirits of God, and before the throne there was as it were a sea of glass, like crystal.

And around the throne, on each side of the throne, are four living creatures, full of eyes in front and behind: the first living creature like a lion, the second living creature like an ox, the third living creature with the face of a man, and the fourth living creature like an eagle in flight. And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and within, and day and night they never cease to say,

"Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!"

And whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to him who is seated on the throne, who lives forever and ever, the twenty-four elders fall down before him who is seated on the throne and worship him who lives forever and ever. They cast their crowns before the throne, saying,

"Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created."

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be God

ALLELUIA AND VERSE *LSB 156*

C: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

P: The Reading of the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark 11:1–10

C: Glory to You O Lord!

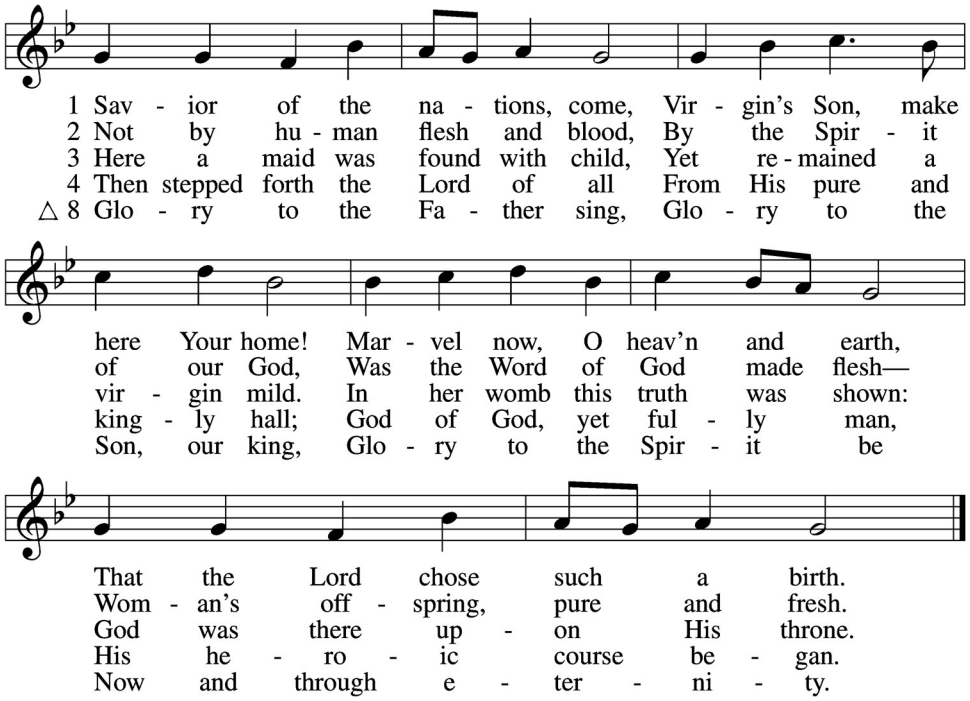
P: When they drew near to Jerusalem, to Bethphage and Bethany, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of His disciples and said to them, "Go into the village in front of you, and immediately as you enter it you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever sat. Untie it and bring it. If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' say, 'The Lord has need of it and will send it back here immediately.'"

And they went away and found a colt tied at a door outside in the street, and they untied it. And some of those standing there said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" And they told them what Jesus had said, and they let them go. And they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and he sat on it. And many spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields. And those who went before and those who followed were shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David! Hosanna in the highest!"

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You O Christ!

SERMON HYMN SAVIOR OF THE NATIONS COME *LSB 332 STS.1-4, (STAND FOR SINGING ST.8)*



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SERMON

THE NICENE CREED

C: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty,

maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,

the only begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made;

who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven

and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man;and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried.

And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures

and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father.

And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,

whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,

who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,

I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,

and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life † of the world to come.

Amen.

OFFERTORY

As we celebrate the holy gifts and blessings God has given to us, please pray concerning your first fruits offering of thanksgiving to our Lord for all His benefits to us.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

(Prayer requests may be submitted online at www.FamilyofChristLutheranAZ.org or emailed to Pastor@familyofchristlutheranaz.org or Prayer@familyofchristlutheranaz.org)

P: To You, O Lord, we lift up our souls and in You we put our trust. Do not let us be ashamed of our hope but come quickly. Sustain us by Your Holy Spirit, that we may have joy at the advent of Christ, our Savior. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Gracious Lord, enrich Your saints in every way as we enter another Church Year. Encourage the preachers of Your Word and all who hear that the testimony about Christ may be confirmed again among us. Give boldness and faithfulness to our Synod president, *Dr. Matthew Harrison*; our district president, *Dr Jamison Hardy;* our circuit visitor, *Rev. Nick Wirtz;* and all pastors in Christ. As You have called us into the fellowship of Your Son, so sustain us as we wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Heavenly Father, preserve and bless all Christian households, that husbands and wives would live in love and service to each other, that fathers and mothers would diligently bring up their children in Your fear, and that children would honor their parents and be well equipped for service to their neighbors in this life. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Almighty God, be with the governing authorities and enable them to preserve peace and order in our nation. Hear our prayers for our president; the president elect, our governor; our military and police; and other civil servants as well as all newly elected officials. Increase a spirit of

unity and cooperation among the people of our land and the nations of the world. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Compassionate Lord, behold in mercy all who are in any danger, trouble, sickness or need. Hear our prayers for the sick and suffering *especially Meredith, Gerri, Inge, Victoria, Lisa; for Ted and his family* _____.

Give health to our world and bring the pandemic to an end. Comfort all who mourn, for David and his sister Nettie, mourning her husband Don; for Jamison Hardy, on the death of his grandmother; for Rev. Paul McCain's family,_____; sustain them with a confident hope in the resurrection. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Eternal Lord, as Your Son once entered humbly into Jerusalem to cries of "Hosanna," so send Him to us according to His promise in the Holy Sacrament, that we may eat His body and drink His blood in repentance and faith for the forgiveness of our sins and in the unity of a true confession. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Into Your hands, Father, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

P: Taught by our Savior we are bold to pray:

All: 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.

CLOSING COLLECT

P: Gracious Father, as we wait for the second Advent of Your beloved Son to judge the living and the dead, keep us vigilant so that our hearts would be ever ready to receive Him in honor and joy with words of acclaim Hosanna, blessed is Him who comes in the Name of our God. Thank you for gathering us in this day to be fed by Your Word and by Your Son's very Body and Blood. Let Your peace be upon our hearts embracing everything You have taught us so that we may bear the fruits of faith in our lives. Grant that the Light of Christ shine before us to the glorify of Your Holy name this we pray through Jesus Christ Your Son, our Lord who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever:

All: Amen.

BENEDICAMUS *LSB 218*

P: Let us bless the Lord.

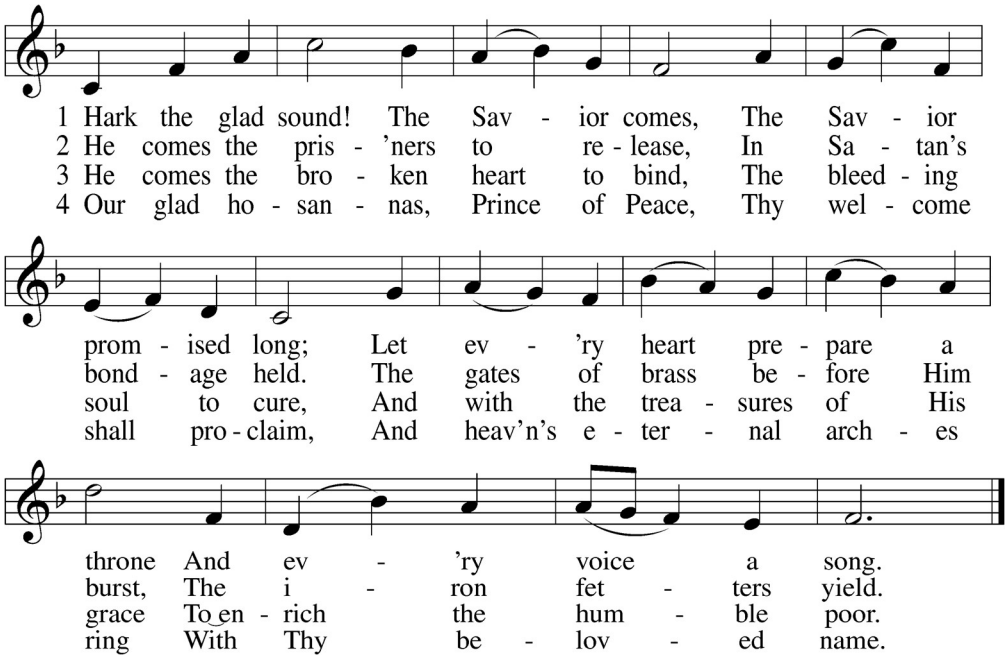
C: Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION *LSB 228*

P: The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✝ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN HARK THE GLAD SOUND *LSB 349 STS1-4*



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Offerings can be mailed to the church or sent via Zelle® directly from your bank to:
familyofchristaz@gmail.com

This Week at Family of Christ

11/29 – 12/6

Today

9:30AM Divine Worship

11:00AM Bible Study on Large Catechism

Wednesday

6:00PM Mid-week Advent Service

Thursday

5:30PM Confirmation Class at the Church

Friday

6:30AM Men's Bible Study in Leviticus

Next Sunday

9:30AM Divine Worship

11:00AM Bible Study on Large Catechism

Upcoming

Wednesday Evening Advent Services will be at 6:00PM on December 9th and 16th.

PLEASE NOTE: *Church Services and Bible Studies are currently offered in person and via Zoom. In-person meetings follow all CDC-recommended protocols.*

Pastor is available upon request for: *(call the Church office or Pastor's cell to schedule)*

- ✝ Individual Confession and Absolution
- ✝ Home, hospital or nursing home visits
- ✝ Communion
- ✝ Prayer

Please remember: The Church is collecting men's and women's socks, puzzle books and pens and pencils for the residents at La Estancia Nursing home. You may leave your donations in the box in the Narthex. We will deliver after December 16th.