

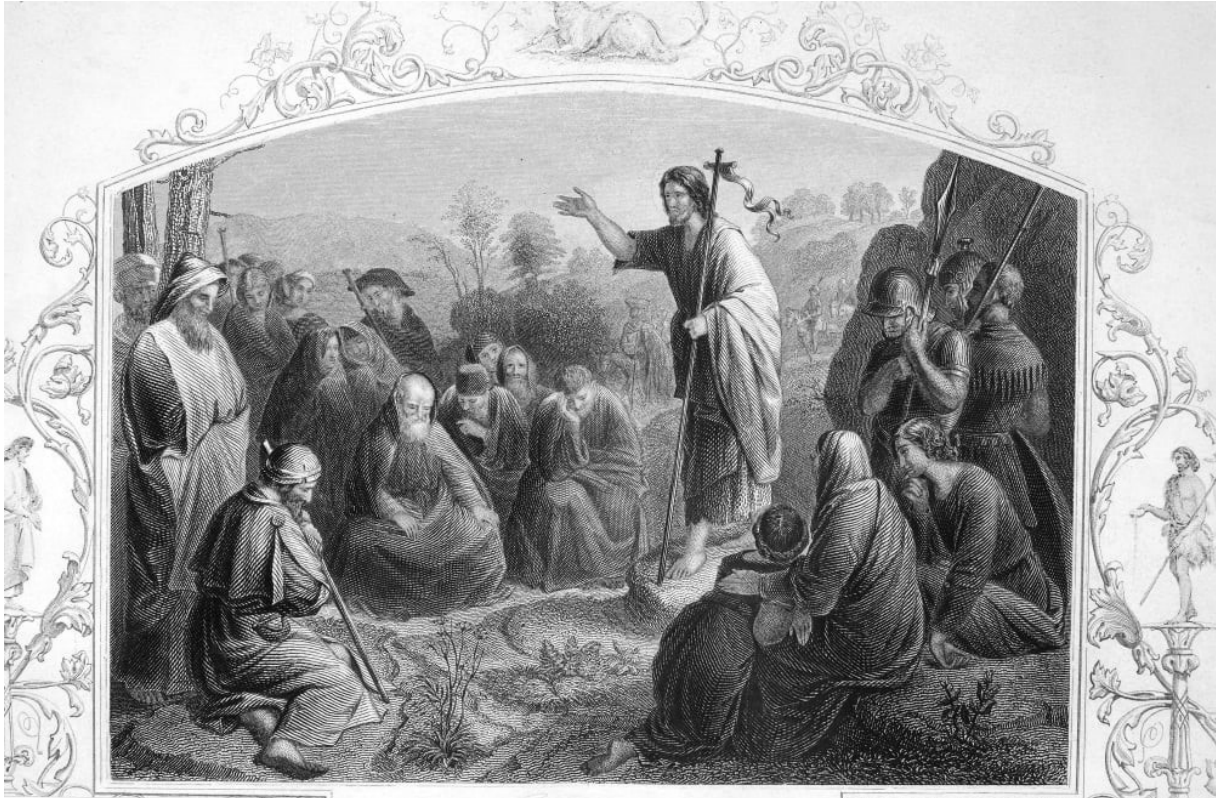
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham

P.O. Box 100, Durham PA, 18039 610-346-8500

durhamlutheran.org

Rev. James Heckman, Bridge Pastor

December 10, 2023
Second Sunday of Advent



Introduction to Worship

John calls people to repent, to clear the decks, to completely reorder their lives so that nothing gets in the way of the Lord's coming. The reading from Isaiah gives the context for this radical call: the assurance of forgiveness that encourages us to repent; the promise that the coming one will be gentle with the little ones. Isaiah calls us all to be heralds with John, to lift up our voices fearlessly and say, "See, your God is coming!" We say it to one another in worship, in order to say it with our lives in a world in need of justice and peace.

You can find the live stream at the following locations:

www.youtube.com/@DurhamLutheran

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Prelude: *In the Town* - Edward Broughton

Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness (Stand if you are able)

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

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.

P: Everlasting God,

C: 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.

P: Beloved, we are God's children, and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us. Through Jesus you are forgiven, by Jesus you are welcome, in Jesus you are called to rejoice! Let us live in the promises prepared for us from the foundation of the world.

C: Amen.

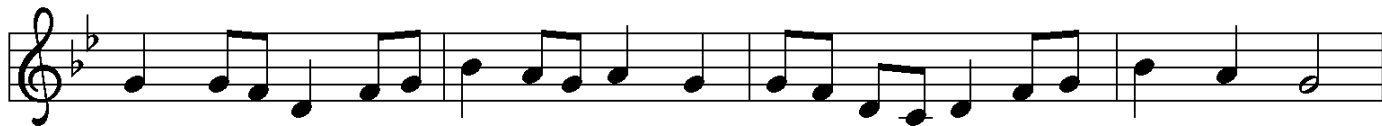


Opening Hymn: ELW 246

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus



1 Come, thou long-ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;
2 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king;



from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art,
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;



dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788

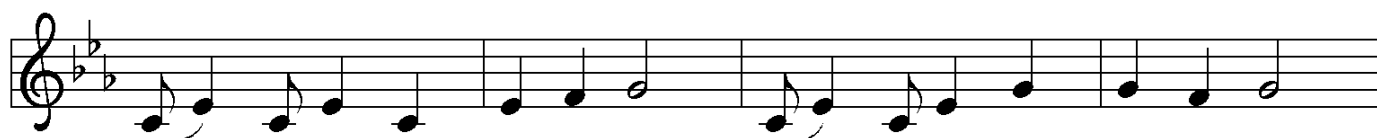
Music: JEFFERSON, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

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, 3	Ky - ri - e	e - le - i - son.	Ky - ri - e	e - le - i - son.
2	Chris - te	e - le - i - son.	Chris - te	e - le - i - son.
1, 3	Lord,	have mer - cy.	Lord,	have mer - cy.
2	Christ,	have mer - cy.	Christ,	have mer - cy.



Ky - ri - e	e - le - i - son.	Ky - ri - e	e - le - i - son.
Chris - te	e - le - i - son.	Chris - te	e - le - i - son.
Lord,	have mer - cy.	Lord,	have mer - cy.
Christ, . . .	have mer - cy.	Christ, . . .	have mer - cy.

Music: Dinah Reindorf, b. c. 1927

Music © 1987 Dinah Reindorf, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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Prayer of the Day

L: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

L: 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.

(Please be Seated)

First Reading – Isaiah 40:1-11

In grand, flowing, poetic lines, the prophet announces that the exile of God's people in Babylon is over. God will deliver Israel and will care for her as a shepherd cares for the sheep. This word can be trusted, because the only enduring reality in life is the word of God.

L: A reading from Isaiah, the fortieth chapter.

¹Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. ²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins.

³A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. ⁵Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

⁶A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. ⁷The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. ⁸The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever. ⁹Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" ¹⁰See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. ¹¹He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: THANKS BE TO GOD.

Peace



Lighting the Second Candle of the Advent Wreath

Choir: *Come, Child of Light* - Lloyd Larsen

Blessing Prayer

The Williams family: 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.

Place figures in Manger

Second Reading: 2 Peter 3:8-15a

This short letter deals with pressing concerns regarding the final advent of Jesus, especially concerns that could arise over its apparent delay. The author of the letter calls on Christians to anticipate the promised coming of the Lord through conduct dedicated to God.

A reading from 1 Corinthians, the first chapter:

⁸Do 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. ⁹The 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. ¹⁰But 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.

¹¹Since 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, ¹²waiting 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? ¹³But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

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

L: The Word of the Lord. **C: THANKS BE TO GOD.**

(Please stand if you are able)

Gospel Acclamation

The musical score is written for two voices (Soprano and Bass) and piano accompaniment. It consists of two systems, each with a vocal line and a piano line. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are 'Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.' The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note pattern in the right hand and a more complex bass line in the left hand. The vocal lines are simple, with the lyrics written below the notes. The first system ends with a double bar line, and the second system also ends with a double bar line.

Verses may be sung by a leader. Then the alleluia is repeated.

Music: "Alleluia 7," Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994, and the Taizé Community
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The Gospel – Mark 1:1-8

The Gospel of Mark does not begin with a story of Jesus' birth but with the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord.

P: The Holy Gospel according to Mark. **C: Glory to you, O Lord**

¹The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

²As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

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

³the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

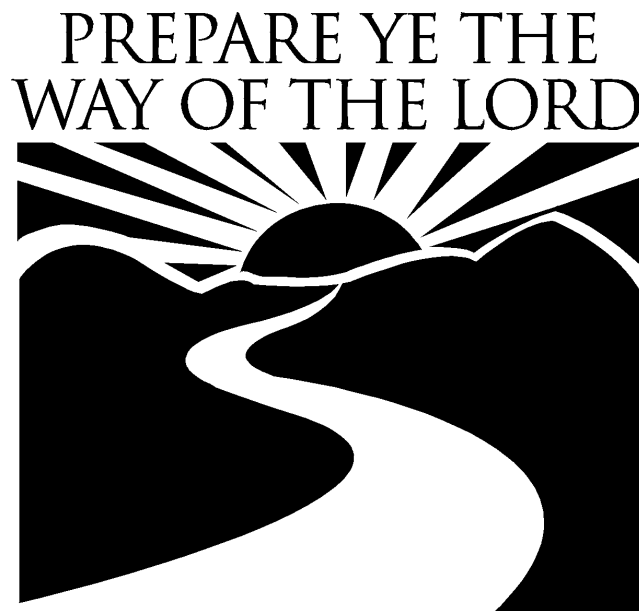
‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight,’”

⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He 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. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you. O Christ.

Children's Sermon / Sermon (please be seated)



Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are in English and are printed below the vocal line of each system. The first system has two verses of lyrics. The second system has one verse. The third system has one verse. The fourth system has one verse. The piano accompaniment is a simple harmonic setting of the vocal line, using a mix of chords and single notes.

3 The saints, who here in pa - tience their cross and suf - f'ring's bore,
4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;

shall live and reign for - ev - er when sor - row is no more.
a - rise, O Sun so longed for, o'er this be - night-ed sphere.

A - round the throne of glo - ry the Lamb they shall be - hold;
With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see

in tri - umph cast be - fore him their di - a - dems of gold.
the day of earth's re - demp - tion that sets your peo - ple free!

Text: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660–1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823–1907
Music: HAF TRONES LAMPA FÄRDIG, Swedish folk tune

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

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

A brief silence.

P: 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,

C: receive our prayer.

P: 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,

C: receive our prayer.

P: 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,

C: receive our prayer.

P: 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,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Grant holy patience to all who are waiting this season (especially those we name aloud or in our hearts). 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,

C: receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: 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,

C: receive our prayer.

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

C: Amen.

Sharing of the Peace

P: Sisters and brothers, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace. The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

OFFERING



Choir Anthem: *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus* - arr. John A Behnke

Presentation of the Gifts

ELW 487

What Feast of Love



- 1 What feast of love is of - fered here, what ban-quet come from heav - en?
- 2 What light of truth is of - fered here, what cov - e - nant from heav - en?
- 3 What wine of love is of - fered here, what crim-son drink from heav - en?



What food of ev - er - last-ing life, what gra - cious gift is giv - en?
What hope of ev - er - last-ing life, what won-drous word is giv - en?
What stream of ev - er - last-ing life, what pre - cious blood is giv - en?



This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heav - en.
This, this is Christ the king, the sun come down from heav - en.
This, this is Christ the king, the sweet - est wine of heav - en.



Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the man - na giv - en!
Oh, see and hear and sing! The Word of God is giv - en!
Oh, taste and see and sing! The Son of God is giv - en!

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.

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Offering 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 HOLY COMMUNION

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.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface

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:

Holy God *Trisagion*

The musical score is written for a two-part setting (Soprano and Bass) in G major, 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly God, ho - ly and might - y, ho - ly and im - mor - tal, have mer - cy on us." The score consists of two systems, each with a treble and bass staff. The first system covers the first line of lyrics, and the second system covers the second line. The music is in a traditional, liturgical style with clear phrasing and a steady rhythm.

Music: Russian Orthodox traditional

Eucharistic Prayer (said by Pastor)

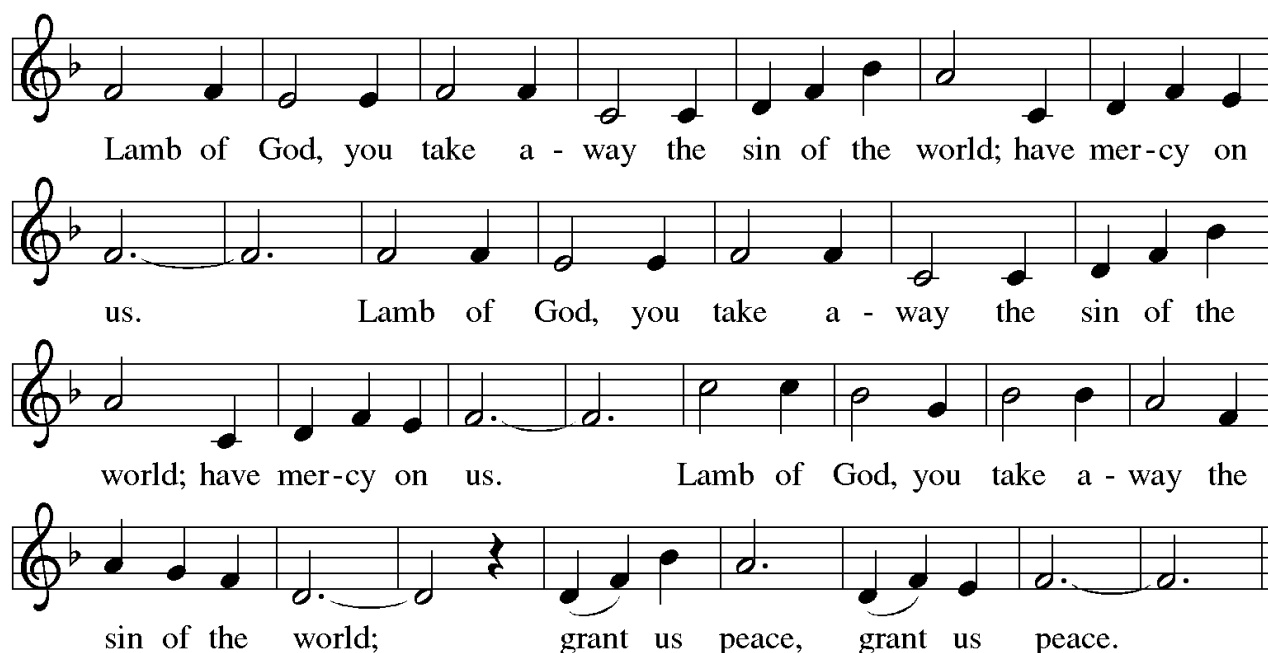
P: Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:

C: 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.

Invitation to Communion

P: In this meal, righteousness and peace meet together. Come, take your place at the table.

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.

Music: *Bread of Life*, Jeremy Young, b. 1948
Music © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

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Distribution of Bread & Fruits of the Vine (please follow ushers)

Hymn during Communion: ELW 247



Come Now, O Prince of Peace

Ososǒ, ososǒ




O - so - sǒ o - so - sǒ, pyong - hwa - ŭi - im - gŭm

1 Come now, O Prince of peace, make us one bod - y.
2 Come now, O God of love, make us one bod - y.
3 Come now and set us free, O God, our Sav - ior.
4 Come, Hope of u - ni - ty, make us one bod - y.



u - ri - ga han - mom i - ru - ge ha - so - sǒ.

Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.



Text: Geonyong Lee, b. 1947; tr. Marion Pope
Music: OSOSŎ, Geonyong Lee, b. 1947
Text and music © Geonyong Lee.

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Prayer after Communion

P: 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.

Announcements

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.

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

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Keep awake.

C: Thanks be to God.

Don't forget to stay for the Congregation meeting and Pot Luck Lunch!

ANNOUNCEMENTS			
	BIRTHDAYS	ANNIVERSARIES	BAPTISMS
10			Jocelyn Frey, Hunter Frey
11			Alex Crouse
14	Victoria Phillipps, Benjamin Williams		Lee Ann Kressman
THIS WEEK’S ACTIVITIES			
Sunday, December 10 Second Sunday in Advent	10:00 AM After Worship 1:00 PM 5:00 – 7:00 PM	Communion Worship <i>Congregational Meeting – 2024</i> <i>Budget Approval</i> Live Nativity rehearsal Confirmation Class @ Durham	
Monday, December 11	7:00 PM	Council Meeting	
Wednesday, December 13	10:00 AM - 1:00 PM 11:00 AM - 11:15 PM 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM 7:00 PM	Office Hours Care -A-Lot Visit Constitution Committee Building Committee	
Thursday, December 14	10:00 AM - 11:00 PM 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Choir rehearsal Office hours Adult Bible Study @ Hlavaty's	
Saturday, December 16	9:00 AM 5:00 PM & 7:00 PM	Decorate church for Christmas. <i>PALM Live Nativity @ Durham</i>	
UPCOMING ACTIVITIES			
Sunday, December 17 Third Sunday in Advent	10:00 AM 2:00 PM	Communion Worship Shut in Holiday Service & fellowship	
Wednesday, December 20	10:00 AM - 11:00 PM 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM 11:00 AM - 11:15 PM 12:00 PM	Choir rehearsal Office Hours Care -A-Lot Visit Chat & Chew with Pr. Jim	
Thursday, December 21	10:00 AM - 1:00 PM 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Office hours Adult Bible Study @ Hlavaty's	
Sunday, December 24 Fourth Sunday in Advent Christmas Eve (Communion)	10:00 AM 7:00 PM	Sunday Worship The Nativity of our Lord <i>Guest Preacher, Joseph of Nazareth</i>	
Wednesday December 27 & Thursday December 28		Office closed for the Holiday No Bible Study	
Sunday, December 31 First Sunday of Christmas	10:00 AM	Service of Lessons & Carols	



December Outreach - The December envelope will go to the **AHUB** homeless shelter in Quakertown.



Keep in your
PRAYERS

For Healing of those in our Congregation:

Joanne & David Antoni; Brian Ashmore; Esther Crouse; Frank Erceg; Kenneth Hager; George Kreitz; Paul McGinn; Cheryl Mesko; Wes Simmons; Ed Xander; Joanne and Bobby Ziegenfuss.

For Healing of Friends and Family:

Lynn Bailey; Ron & Kathy Ballek; Bob Benoure; Jason Bigley; Melissa Carafa; Deb Carmichael; Peggy Coleman; Stephanie Courtney; Nancy Edelen; Diane Ellington; Leon Errico; Fred Foerster; Gerry Foran;

Gabriella Froehlich; Debbie Gardner; Cindy Gilligan; Candie Gimbar; Josephine Gimelson & family; Baree Lee Goodman; Penni Griffith; Bill Hunt; Lois James & family; Martine King; Sue Kiry; Jim McAnally; Letitia McCrea; Sue Odor; Cindy Oswald; Lucia Otero; Jennifer Phelps; Jean Pratt; Connie Rugen; Linda Saunders; Paul Sauter; Debbie Schultz; The Schutt Family; David Sebring; Alex Sempt; Shawn Stadt; Pat Stangil; Kay Stokes; Donna Storm; Russ Trauger; Kelly Walsh; Henry Wong and Scotty Yurconis.

For those who are Homebound:

Cleo & Ken Eck; Norma Fox; Phyllis Lanshe; Jayne Miller; and Silas Rodenbach.

For families and friends grieving the loss of:

Rev. Dennis Durasoff

If you want to add or remove someone from the prayer list, please contact Joan Mammana either by phone (610-258-5717 or 610-417-6553) or by email at:

PrayerChain@durhamlutheran.org

Helping in Worship

Preacher	Rev. James Heckman
Choir Director / Organist	Carolyn Williams
Greeter(s)	Josephine Williams
Altar Guild	Barb Naska, Mark Harwick, Suzanne Mauer
Acolyte	Colton Wagner
Lector	Joe Hlavaty
Head / Communion Usher	Mark Harwick, Ben Williams
Council Counting Team	Bea von Watzdorf & Mark Harwick
Administration & Technology	Ken Anderson
Custodian	Dianna Streletz