

*Welcome, visitors! Welcome members and friends of St. Matthew Ev. Lutheran Church.
Thank you for joining us in church and on our online service today.*

HOLY COMMUNION is celebrated in our service this morning. +Guests who are baptized Christians, who acknowledge and confess their sinfulness, who confess Jesus Christ as their Savior from sin, and who believe that He is really present in Holy Communion to bring us His forgiveness and life, are welcome to the Lord's Table.

2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 4, 2022

HOLY COMMUNION SETTING 4 pg. 147

Prelude – “On Jordan’s Bank The Baptist’s Cry” – setting, Franklin Ashdown

WELCOME

(Please rise)

GATHERING HYMN – ELW 249 ON JORDAN’S BANK THE BAPTIST’S CRY

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Cong – And also with you.

At every beginning there is a yearning.

O Emmanuel, prepare us for your coming.

Transform our hearts and comfort us with your peace.

O Emmanuel, prepare us for your coming.

We welcome your presence now with the lighting of these candles whose flame brings warmth to winter and fills this place with the glow of hope.

Amen.

HYMN – CHRIST THE LORD IS COMING – Advent 2



Advent 1: Christ the Lord is com - ing, bring - ing hope and light,
Advent 2: Christ the Lord is com - ing to this wea - ry land!
Advent 3: Christ the Lord is com - ing, sent from God a - bove
Advent 4: Christ the Lord is com - ing! Sing this hap - py morn



Re - a - wake - ning hearts now bur - dened by the night.
Rise, re - pent, pro - claim the King - dom is at hand!
to re - veal God's mer - cy, jus - tice, truth, and love.
of the Word In - car - nate in whom we are re - born!

All:

"No - ël" sing with glad - ness, "No - ël" sing with cheer, put a -
 way all fear and sad - ness, Christ the Son of God is near!
 "No - ël" sing with glad - ness, "No - ël" sing with cheer, put a -
 way all fear and sad - ness, Christ the Son of God is near!

Text: Michael Burkhardt, and copyright © 2020 Birmamwood.
 Tune: Traditional French carol (PD).

HOLY BAPTISM – ELW pg. 227

Today we are baptizing Joseph Anthony Wiehe III, born on June 25, 2022. He is the son of Joe & SaraLynn and joins a sister, Abigail. His sponsors are Kate Schaich & Tony Roe.

Family & sponsors please come forward.

Sponsors – We present Joseph Anthony Wiehe III for baptism.

Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have Joseph baptized into Christ?

Response: I do.

As you bring Joseph to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

to live with him among God's faithful people,
 bring him to the word of God and the holy supper,
 teach him the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments,
 place in his hands the holy scriptures,
 and nurture him in faith and prayer,
 so that he may learn to trust God,
 proclaim Christ through word and deed,
 care for others and the world God made,
 and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help Joseph grow in the Christian faith and life?

Response: I do.

Sponsors, do you promise to nurture Joseph in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help him live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

Response - I do.

People of God, do you promise to support Joseph and pray for him in his new life in Christ?

***Response* - We do.**

PROFESSION OF FAITH

(Parents, Sponsors & Congregation)

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

Response - I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

Response - I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

Response - I renounce them.

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

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 to the dead. 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.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

BAPTISM

Joseph Anthony Wiehe III, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen. You belong to Christ, in whom you have been baptized. Alleluia.

Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your son new birth, cleanse him from sin, and raise him to eternal life. Sustain Joseph with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

Amen.

Joseph Anthony Wiehe III, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

Amen.

WELCOME

Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. Let us welcome the newly baptized.

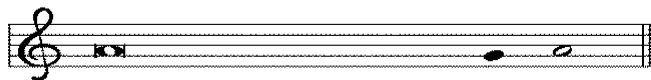
We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

(Please rise)

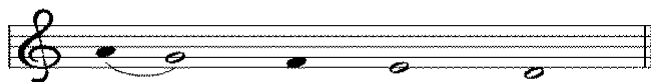
HYMN – ELW 444 CRADLING CHILDREN IN HIS ARM

**Cradling children in his arm, Jesus gave his blessing.
To our babes a welcome warm he is yet addressing.
Take them, Lord, give life anew in the living waters!
Keep them always near to you as your sons and daughters!**

Kyrie



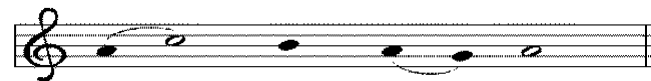
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



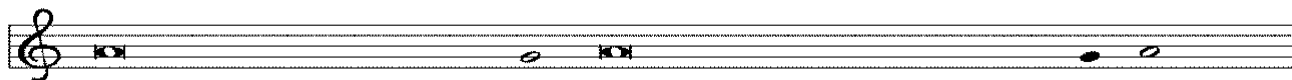
Lord, have mer - cy.



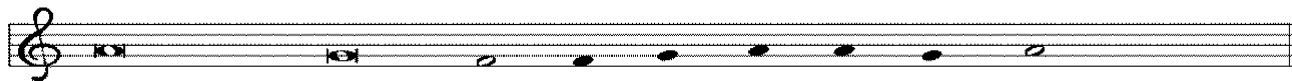
For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



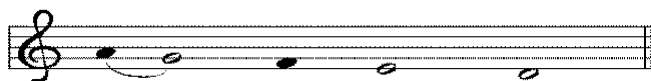
Lord, have mer - cy.



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



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy 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.**

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HYMN OF PRAISE – ELW pg. 148

Glory to God

Assisting minister
 Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

All
 Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al - might-y God and Fa - ther, we
 wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.
 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,
 you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;
 you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.
 For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
 you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,
 in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. **A - men.**

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming nurture our growth as people of repentance and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Cong – Amen.

(Please be seated)

FIRST READING: Isaiah 11:1-10

Laurie Miller, Elder

Isaiah describes the coming of a future, ideal ruler who will renew David's royal line (the stump of Jesse). Gifted by the spirit of God, this ruler will reign with perfect justice. Enmity and danger will be restored to harmony and peaceful coexistence.

¹A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. ²The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. ³His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; ⁴but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. ⁵Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. ⁶The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. ⁷The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. ⁸The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. ⁹They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. ¹⁰On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Leader – The Word of the Lord.

Cong – Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19

May the righteous flourish; let there be an abundance of peace. (Ps. 72:7)

(Verses will be sung alternatively, beginning with Choir, then Congregation)

(Choir will also sing the Refrain Before and at the R)

¹Give the king your jus- | tice, O God,
and your righteousness to | the king's son;
²**that he may rule your | people righteously**
and the | poor with justice;
³that the mountains may bring prosperity | to the people,
and the | hills, in righteousness.
⁴**Let him defend the needy a- | mong the people,**
rescue the poor, and crush | the oppressor. R
⁵May he live as long as the sun and | moon endure,
from one generation | to another.
⁶**Let him come down like rain upon | the mown field,**
like showers that wa- | ter the earth.
⁷In his time may the | righteous flourish;

and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.

**¹⁸Blessed are you, LORD God, the God of Israel;
you alone do wondrous deeds!**

¹⁹And blessed be your glorious name forever,
and may all the earth be filled with your glory. Amen. R

SECOND READING: Romans 15:4-13

Laurie Miller, Elder

God's promise to include Gentiles within the circle of God's blessed people has been fulfilled in Jesus Christ. Christians live out their unity by welcoming and encouraging each other just as Christ has welcomed them into God's family.

⁴Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. ⁵May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, ⁶so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁷Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. ⁸For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, ⁹and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name"; ¹⁰and again he says, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people"; ¹¹and again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him"; ¹²and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope." ¹³May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Leader – The Word of the Lord.

Cong – Thanks be to God.

(Please rise)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION - CHOIR

Alleluia. Prepare the way of the Lord.

All flesh shall see the salvation of God. *Alleluia.* (Luke 3:4, 6)

Pastor – The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 3rd chapter.

Cong – Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Matthew 3:1-12

Pastor Kelly Reagan

Just before Jesus begins his public ministry, John the Baptist appears, calling people to mend their ways and speaking of a powerful one who is to come.

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, ²"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." ³This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'" ⁴Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, ⁶and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁷But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruit worthy of repentance. ⁹Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able

from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ¹⁰Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ¹¹I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹²His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

Pastor – The Gospel of the Lord.

Cong – Praise to you, O Christ.

(Please be seated)

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SERMON

(Please rise)

HYMN OF THE DAY – ELW 264 PREPARE THE ROYAL HIGHWAY

PRAYERS

Pastor – God, in your mercy,

Cong – hear our prayer.

God of our longing, you know our deepest needs. By your Spirit, gather our prayers and join them with the prayers of all your children. In Jesus’ name we pray.

Cong - Amen.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Cong – And also with you.

PEACE

OFFERING – “Once We Came In Blessing” – setting, Michael Burkhardt

(Please rise)



OFFERTORY – (ELW 247) COME NOW, O PRINCE OF PEACE

O - so - sŏ o - so - sŏ, pyong - hwa - ũi - 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 - sŏ.
 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: Geonyong Lee, b. 1947
 Text and music © Geonyong Lee

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OFFERING PRAYER

Eternal God, you make the desert bloom and send springs of water to thirsty ground. Receive these simple gifts of bread, wine, and money, and make us messengers of your mercy and love for all in need of your healing and justice. We ask this through Christ our Savior.

Cong – Amen.

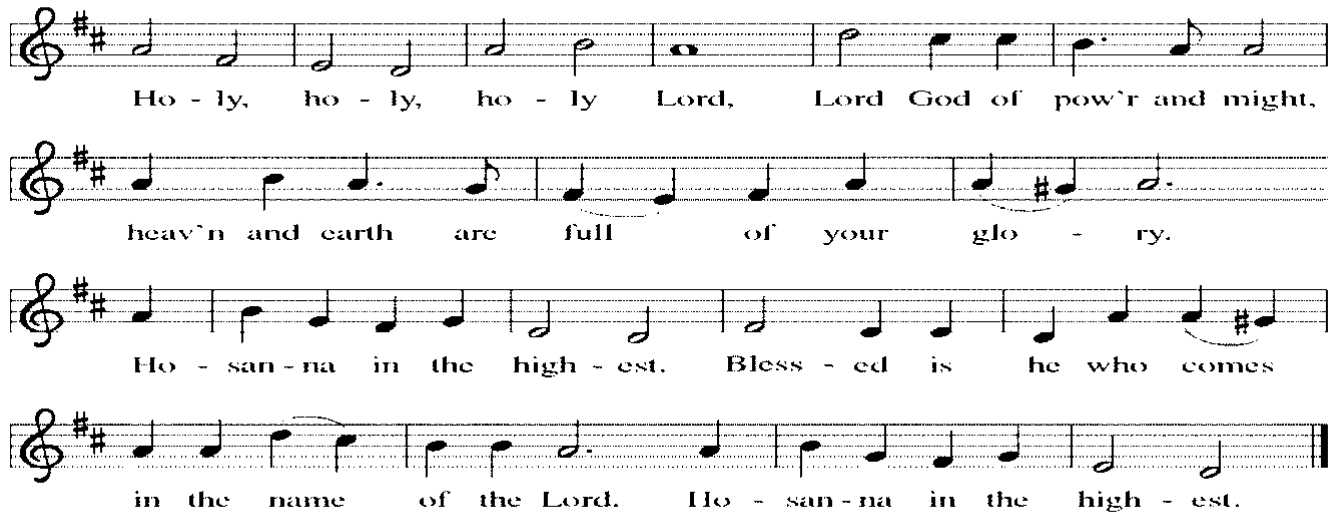
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING - pg. 152

Preface Dialogue

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 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, Holy, Holy



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING III (ELW pg. 110)

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:

Cong – 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.

Cong – 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.

Cong – 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.

Cong – Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

(Please be seated)

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.

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COMMUNION HYMN – ELW 246 HARK! A THRILLING VOICE IS SOUNDING 262 WAIT FOR THE LORD

(Please rise)

POST-COMMUNION HYMN - (ELW 207) THANKFUL HEARTS AND VOICES RAISE

Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let
ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - joice and bear the name of Christ.
Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with
shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980
Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927
Text and music © 1978, 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

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POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Faithful God, in this meal you have remembered your mercy, bringing heaven to earth in the body and blood of Christ. As we wait for the day when all your promises will be fulfilled, sustain us and strengthen us by this holy mystery. Guide us toward your promised future, coming to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

Cong – Amen.

BLESSING

God the eternal Word, who dwells with us in Jesus, and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit, + bless you now and forever.

Cong – Amen.

SENDING HYMN – ELW 266 ALL EARTH IS HOPEFUL

(Please be seated)

Postlude

Pastor - Go in peace. Christ is near.

Cong - Thanks be to God.

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ANNUAL VOTER'S MEETING – December 11

December 11th is the Voter's meeting. The 2023 budget and slate of officers will be presented and some other minor items discussed. Please plan to attend so you can cast your vote and be well informed.



December 7 – (Wednesday) – Supper – 6:00 p.m., then Worship - 6:30 p.m.

December 14 – (Wednesday) – Supper – 6:00 p.m., then Worship – 6:30 p.m.

December 21 – (Wednesday) – Carols, Candles & Cookies – 7:00 p.m. in the Narthex
(Bring cookies to share)

December 24 – (Saturday) - Christmas Eve Candlelight Service – 7:30 p.m.

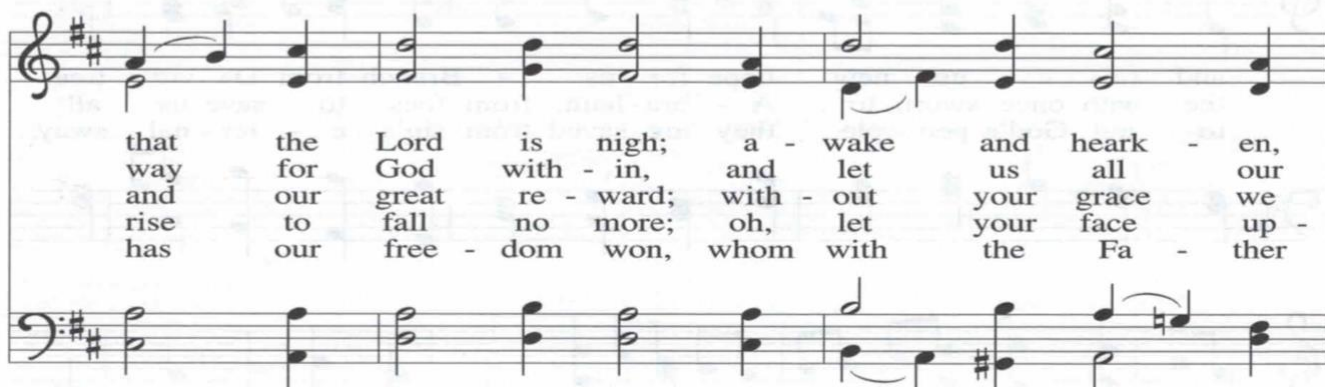
December 25 – (Sunday) – Worship Service – 9:30 a.m. - Merry Christmas!
Jesus Birthday Party! (after the Worship Service)

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

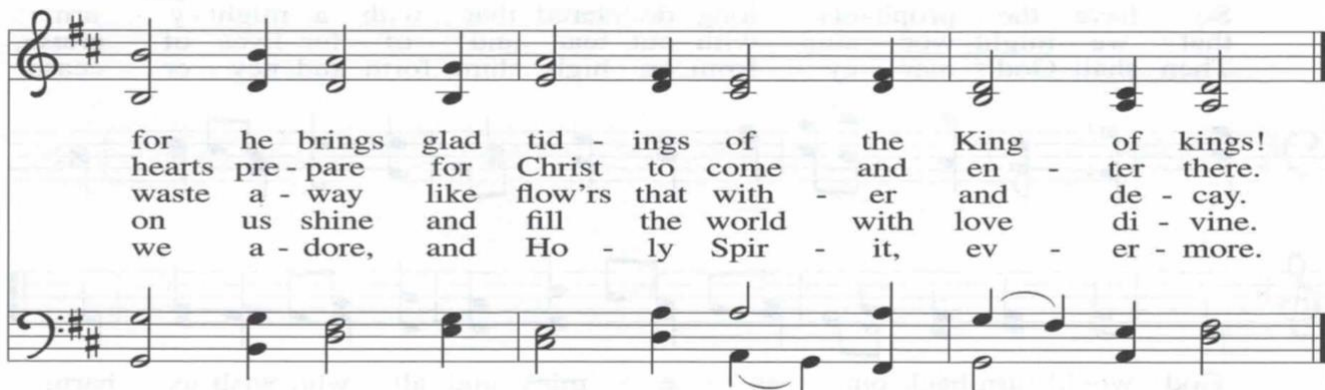
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1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an - nounc - es
 2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; make straight the
 3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, our ref - uge
 4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, and make us
 5 All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,
 way for God with - in, and let us all our
 and our great re - ward; with - out your grace we
 rise to fall no more; oh, let your face be
 has our free - dom won, whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings glad tid - ings of the King - of kings!
 hearts pre - pare for Christ to come and en - ter there.
 waste a - way like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
 on us shine and fill the world with love di - vine.
 we a - dore, and Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er - more.

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: Swedish folk tune, 17th cent.

Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN
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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: William H. Monk, 1823–1889

MERTON
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Wait for the Lord

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

Text: Taizé Community
 Music: Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994
 Text and music © 1984 Les Presses de Taizé, admin. GIA Publications, Inc.

WAIT FOR THE LORD
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All Earth Is Hopeful

Toda la tierra



To - da la tie - rra es - pe - ra al Sal - va - dor
 1 All earth is hope - ful, the Sav - ior comes at last!
 2 Peo - ple of Is - rael, you heard the proph - et tell:
 3 Moun - tains and val - leys will have to be pre - pared;
 4 We first saw Je - sus a ba - by in a crib.



y el sur - co_a - bier - to, la ob - ra del Se - ñor; es el
 Fur - rows lie o - pen for God's cre - a - tive task; this, the
 "A vir - gin moth - er will bear Em - man - u - el"; she con -
 new high - ways o - pened, new pro - to - cols de - clared. Al - most
 This same Lord Je - sus to - day has come to live in our



mun - do que lu - cha por la li - ber - tad, re -
 la - bor of peo - ple who strug - gle to see how
 ceived him, "God with us," our broth - er, whose birth re -
 here! God is near - ing, in beau - ty and grace! All
 world; he is pres - ent, in neigh - bors we see our



cla - ma jus - ti - cia y bus - ca la ver - dad. dar - nos li - ber - tad.
 God's truth and jus - tice set ev - 'ry - bod - y free.
 stores hope and cour - age to chil - dren of this earth.
 clear ev - 'ry gate - way, in haste, come out in haste!
 Je - sus is with us, and ev - er sets us free.

2 *Dice el profeta al pueblo de Israel:*
"De madre virgen ya viene Emmanuel,"
será "Dios con nosotros," hermano será,
con él la esperanza al mundo volverá.

3 *Montes y valles habrá que preparar;*
nuevos caminos tenemos que trazar.
Él está ya muy cerca, venidlo a encontrar,
y todas las puertas abrid de par en par.

4 *En una cueva Jesús apareció,*
pero en el mundo está presente hoy.
Vive en nuestros hermanos, con ellos está;
y vuelve de nuevo a darnos libertad.