

WELCOME!

We are glad to welcome you today as we gather together to worship God!

Please be sure you complete the salmon sheet inside your bulletin and turn it in to the collection plate at the time of communion.

This bulletin will assist you with participating in worship.

All parts spoken by the congregation are listed in
bold print and preceded by "C:"

There are also instructions printed in *italics* that will indicate other helpful descriptions of the service.
Please see a Greeter for Large Print bulletins and hymns.

Thank you for turning off your cell phones or putting them on "silent" during the service.



**ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

3220 Columbus Street
Grove City, OH 43123

614-875-2314

www.stjohnsgc.org

*We are committed to **invite** and **welcome** all to Jesus Christ,
to **equip** all with an active faith that works in real life,
and together go into the world to **serve** in Jesus' name.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: Veni Emmanuel by Noel Rawsthorne

The prelude is based on the opening hymn "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel." Its original Latin text dates from the 11th or 12th century. The familiar tune, used by most English-speaking countries, originated in 15th-century France.

Please stand

INVOCATION, CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

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 perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

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

[Silence for reflection and self-examination]

P: Most merciful God,

C: We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

HYMN 257 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" vs. 1-4



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.

APOSTOLIC GREETING

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



Pastor: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



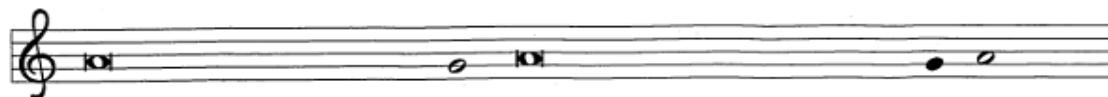
All: Lord, have mer - cy.



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



All: Lord, have mer - cy.



Pastor: 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.



All: Lord, have mer - cy.



Pastor: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 2:1-5

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: Romans 13:11-14

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

P: The Holy Gospel according to the 24th chapter of Matthew.

C: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 24:36-44

“But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have

stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

ANTHEM:

Chancel Choir, 8:15am

Caribbean Cradle Song

by Jay Rouse

with percussionists

Hunter Thompson

Diana Imbrock

Dylan Allman

Men's Chorale, 11:00am

Good Christian Friends

arr. by John F. Wilson

SERMON

Pastor Seth Jersild

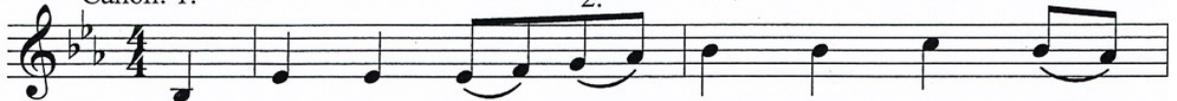
HYMN "The King Shall Come"

lyrics by John Brownlie

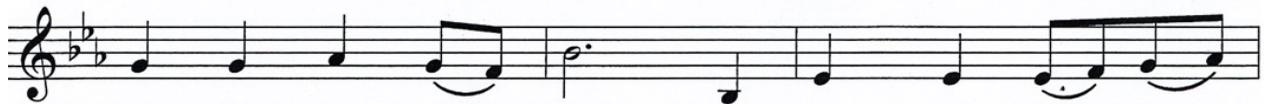
music by Mark Meuser

Canon: 1.

2.



1. The King shall come when morn - ing dawns and__
2. Not as of old__ a__ lit - tle child, to__
3. Oh, bright - er than the__ ris - ing morn when
4. Oh, bright - er than that__ morn, shall dawn up -
5. The King shall come when morn - ing dawns and__



light tri - um - phant breaks, when beau - ty gilds the__
bear and fight and__ die, but crowned with glo - ry__
Christ, vic - to - rious, rose and left the lone - some
on the hu - man race the day when Christ in__
light and beau - ty__ brings. Hail, Christ the Lord! Your



east - ern hills and__ life to joy a - wakes.
like the sun that__ lights the morn - ing__ sky.
place of death, de - spite the rage of__ foes.
splen - dor comes, and__ we shall see his__ face.
peo - ple pray: come quick - ly, King of__ kings.

APOSTLES' CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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 THE CHURCH

Response: P: ...Lord in your mercy, C: Hear our prayer.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



Pastor: The Lord be with you. *All:* And al - so with you.



Pastor: Lift up your hearts. *All:* We lift them to the Lord.



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

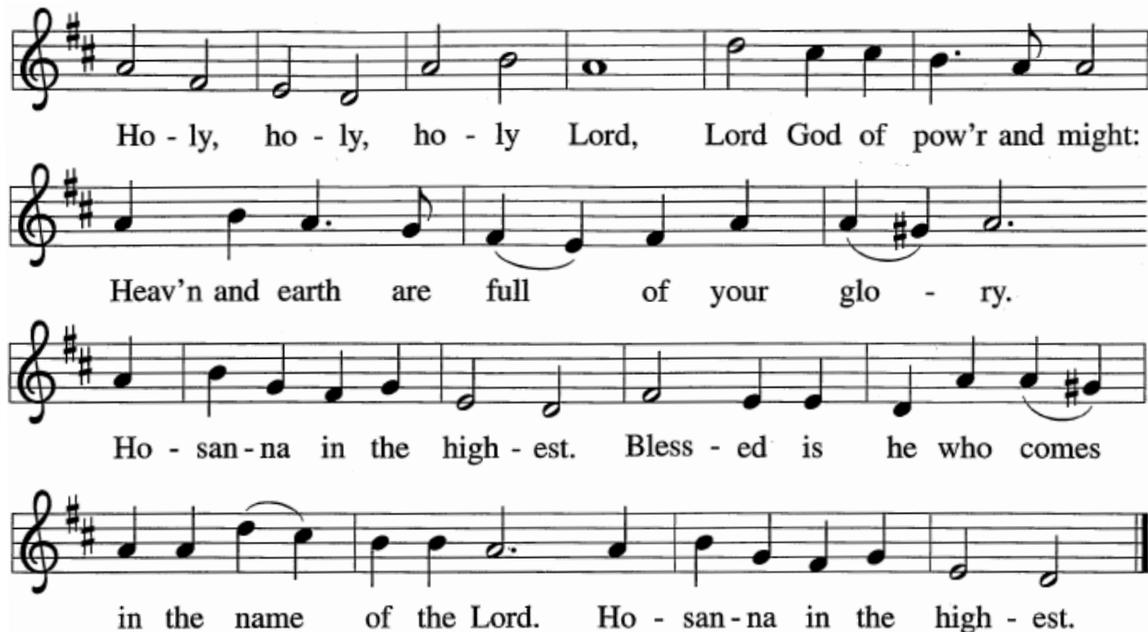


All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy...

... we praise your name and join in 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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

HOLY COMMUNION

- ◆ *Persons who know Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior and believe in his real presence in the sacrament are invited to commune.*
- ◆ *Grape juice is available in the center of the tray.*
- ◆ *Adults who do not commune may come forward for a blessing. Please indicate you desire a blessing by crossing your arms over your chest.*

- ◆ *Children not yet communing may come forward with an adult to receive a blessing.*
- ◆ *If you are not able to come forward to receive communion, please let the pastor know by raising your hand as he/she scans the congregation. The pastor will come to you.*

BLESSING, PRAYER, and BENEDICTION

HYMN 244 “Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers”

next page

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

C: **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE: Christians, Awake!

by Noel Rawsthorne



HYMN 244 "Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers"



- 1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear;
- 2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain pro - claim the bride - groom near;
- 3 The saints, who here in pa - tience their cross and suf - f'ings bore,
- 4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



the eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.
go forth as he ap - proach - es with al - le - lu - ias clear.
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.



The bride - groom is a - ris - ing and soon is draw - ing nigh.
The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; the gates wide o - pen stand.
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



Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; at mid - night comes the cry.
A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; the bride - groom is at hand.
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!





***St. John's Lutheran
Advent and Christmas Events***

*Christmas Program Dinner Theater
Sunday, December 11 at 5pm*

*Christmas Kindness Event
Sunday, December 18 at 4pm*

*Christmas Eve
Candlelight and Communion Services
Saturday, December 24
at 4pm, 6pm, & 8pm*

*Christmas Day Service
Sunday, December 25 at 10am*

Please join us! All are welcome!

Listening for the Promise

WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL

First Sunday of Advent – November 27, 2022

*“Therefore you also must be ready,
for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”*

-Matthew 24:44-

Traditionally Lutherans have observed Advent as a season that focuses on the different ways that God comes to us: he comes to us in the flesh in Jesus Christ; he comes to us through the proclamation and preaching of his Word; and he promises to come to us again. The word *advent* is derived from the Latin word that means “coming, arrival.” Over the years there have been many predictions made about the “end of the world.” Those predicted dates come and go. Jesus says in verse 36, “But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only.” Jesus does not even know when he will be returning to our world. So often we get caught up in the “when” and miss Jesus’ main point. It’s a promise that he will return. And so he urges us to be ready because it will occur when we least expect it.

So that begs the question: what do we do to be ready? In 2020 many of us (if not all of us) were caught by great surprise at the advent (arrival) of Covid-19. I was really caught off-guard by the lack of supplies and food like toilet paper, bottled water, milk, eggs, and bread. We can try to prepare all we want, but it does us no good. As for preparing for Christ’s return, we can give to all the charities, try to do all the good we can, treat others with kindness and respect, but if we lack one thing (the most important thing of all), all the preparations in the world won’t help us one iota.

So again, the question is asked: what do we do to be ready for Christ’s return? Well, it begins simply with faith. We place our faith and trust in Christ Jesus our Lord. And with that comes repentance and forgiveness of sin. We trust in God’s goodness and his promises for us and our lives. That’s all the preparation we need! Furthermore, because of that Spirit-given gift of faith, we have no reason to fear when Christ comes again. We have every reason to rejoice and humbly bow before him as he graces us with his presence once more.

Prayer: Gracious Heavenly Father, thank you for the promise of your Son Jesus Christ. Give us faith to believe in your goodness and mercy. In Jesus’ name. Amen.