

Immanuel Lutheran Church

9 a.m. Worship

Live Stream / Conference Call

ADVENT



Sundays, November 29, December 6, 13, and 20, 2020

Welcome to worship at Immanuel Lutheran Church! We are glad you are here. Immanuel Lutheran Church is an inclusive congregation extending God's love and grace to all people. There is a welcome place for you here!

*God's Grace and Peace to YOU through our Lord and Savior
Jesus the Christ!*

Immanuel Lutheran Church, ELCA
1226 E. Washington St.
Washington, IA 52353

(319) 653-3950

Email: luthwash@hotmail.com

Website: luthwash.org

Facebook: Immanuel Lutheran Washington Iowa

YouTube: luthwash

*All those who are able please stand

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.



***CALL TO WORSHIP**

P: Hear God's love!

C: We hear God's love, for the world and for us, through forgiveness, scripture, preaching, liturgy, and song.

P: Hear God's love!

C: Holy God, open our ears to hear and our hearts to be transformed by Christ's words of love to and for the world. Amen.

***INVOCATION**

P: Blessed be God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, whose forgiveness is sure and whose steadfast love endures forever.

C: Amen.

***BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P: Together let us honestly and humbly confess that we have not lived as God desires.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Loving and forgiving God,

C: we confess that we are held captive by sin. In spite of our best efforts, we have gone astray. We have not welcomed the stranger; we have not loved our neighbor; we have not been Christ to one another. Restore us, O God. Wake us up and turn us from our sin. Renew us each day in the light of Christ. Amen.

P: People of God, hear this glad news: by God's endless grace your sins are forgiven, and you are free— free from all that holds you back and free to live in the peaceable realm of God.

May you be strengthened in God's love, ☩ comforted by Christ's peace, and accompanied with the power of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.



Prepare the Royal Highway



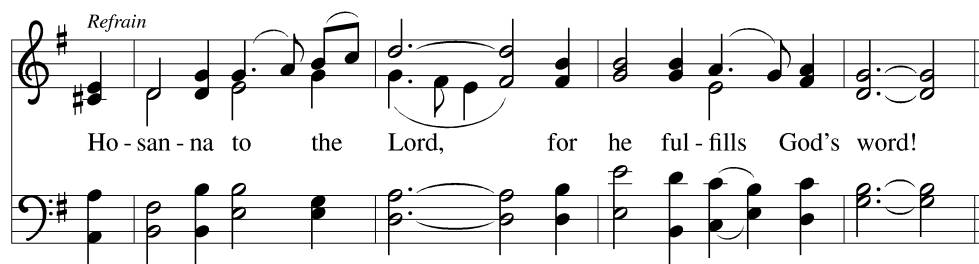
1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!
 2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing: your own e - ter - nal king!
 3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom - ised king!
 4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heav'n a - bove.



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: BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN, Swedish folk tune, 17th cent.
 Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

***LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH**

Lighting the Advent Wreath: Advent 1 November 29

P: We praise you, O God, for this evergreen crown that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent.

C: As we light the first candle on this wreath, rouse us from sleep, that we may be ready to greet our Lord when he comes with all the saints and angels. Enlighten us with your grace, and prepare our hearts to welcome him with joy. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near. Amen.

Light one candle.



Lighting the Advent Wreath: Advent 2 December 6

P: We praise you, O God, for this circle of light that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent.

C: As we light the candles on this wreath, kindle within us the fire of your Spirit, that we may be light shining in the darkness. Enlighten us with your grace, that we may welcome others as you have welcomed us. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near. Amen.

Light two candles.

Lighting the Advent Wreath: Advent 3 December 13

P: We praise you, O God, for this victory wreath that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent.

C: As we light the candles on this wreath, strengthen our hearts as we await the Lord's coming in glory. Enlighten us with your grace, that we may serve our neighbors in need. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near. Amen.

Light three candles.

P: We praise you, O God, for this wheel of time that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent.

C: As we light the candles on this wreath, open our eyes to see your presence in the lowly ones of this earth. Enlighten us with your grace, that we may sing of your advent among us in the Word made flesh. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near. Amen.

Light all four candles.

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**

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.

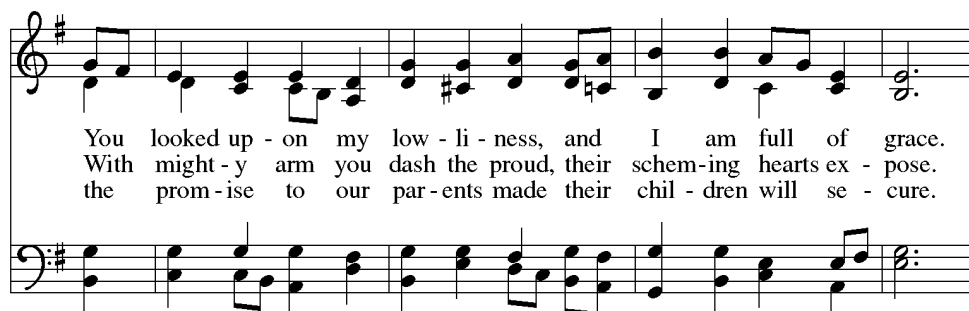
***HYMN OF PRAISE**

Evangelical Lutheran Worship #251
My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness

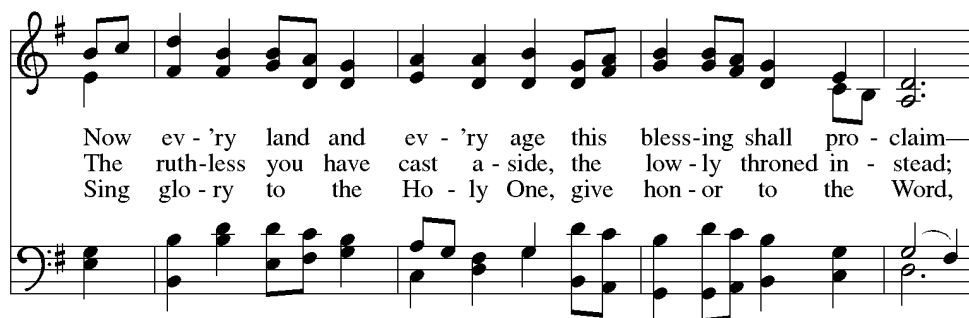
My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness



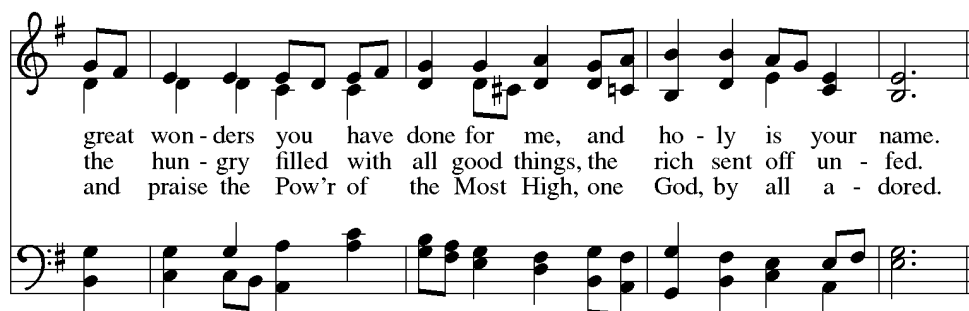
1 My soul pro-claims your great-ness, Lord; I sing my Sav-ior's praise!
 2 To all who live in ho-ly fear your mer-cy ev-er flows.
 3 To Is-ra-el, your ser-vant blest, your help is ev-er sure;



You looked up-on my low-li-ness, and I am full of grace.
 With might-y arm you dash the proud, their schem-ing hearts ex-pose.
 the prom-ise to our par-ents made their chil-dren will se-cure.



Now ev-'ry land and ev-'ry age this bless-ing shall pro-claim—
 The ruth-less you have cast a-side, the low-ly throned in- stead;
 Sing glo-ry to the Ho-ly One, give hon-or to the Word,



great won-ders you have done for me, and ho-ly is your name.
 the hun-gry filled with all good things, the rich sent off un-fed.
 and praise the Pow'r of the Most High, one God, by all a-dored.

Text: *With One Voice*, 1995, based on the Magnificat
 Music: KINGSFOLD, English folk tune; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958
 Text © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.
 Outside USA: Arr. from *The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906. All rights reserved.
 Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Let us pray. ... Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture readings, preaching, and song.



FIRST READING

First Sunday of Advent: November 29, 2020

Isaiah 64:1-9

This lament comes from a people who have had their hopes shattered. The visions of a rebuilt Jerusalem and a renewed people of God, spoken of in Isaiah 40–55, have not been realized. Instead, the people experience ruin, conflict, and famine. This lament calls God to account—to be the God who has brought deliverance in the past.

R: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Second Sunday of Advent: December 6, 2020

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.

R: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Third Sunday of Advent: December 13, 2020

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

Though the people had returned to Jerusalem from exile in Babylon, they continued to face hardship and oppression. In the language of the jubilee year described in Leviticus 25, the prophet, moved by the spirit of God, announces deliverance for those who are oppressed and comfort for those who mourn.

R: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Fourth Sunday of Advent: December 20, 2020

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

Instead of David building a house (temple) for God, God promises to establish David's house (dynasty) forever. Centuries later, after the Babylonian exile, no king sat on the throne. Even then, however, the people of Israel remembered this promise and continued to hope for a king, the messiah, God's anointed.

R: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM

First Sunday of Advent: November 29, 2020

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

Second Sunday of Advent: December 6, 2020

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

Third Sunday of Advent: December 13, 2020

Psalm 126

Fourth Sunday of Advent: December 20, 2020

Luke 1:46b-55

SECOND READING

First Sunday of Advent: November 29, 2020

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

As the Christians in Corinth await the advent of Jesus, Paul reminds them how the Lord has already enriched them through spiritual gifts and will continue to strengthen them until the coming day of the Lord.

R: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Second Sunday of Advent: December 6, 2020

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.

R: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Third Sunday of Advent: December 13, 2020

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Paul concludes his letter to the Thessalonians by encouraging them to live lives of continual joy, prayer, and thanksgiving. The closing blessing is grounded in the hope of Christ's coming.

R: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Fourth Sunday of Advent: December 20, 2020

Romans 16:25-27

Paul closes his letter to the Romans by praising God because, in the proclamation of the gospel of Jesus Christ, God has revealed the promised, divine plan of salvation for all humanity. Paul proclaims this gospel of Christ in order to bring about the obedience of faith among all nations.

R: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

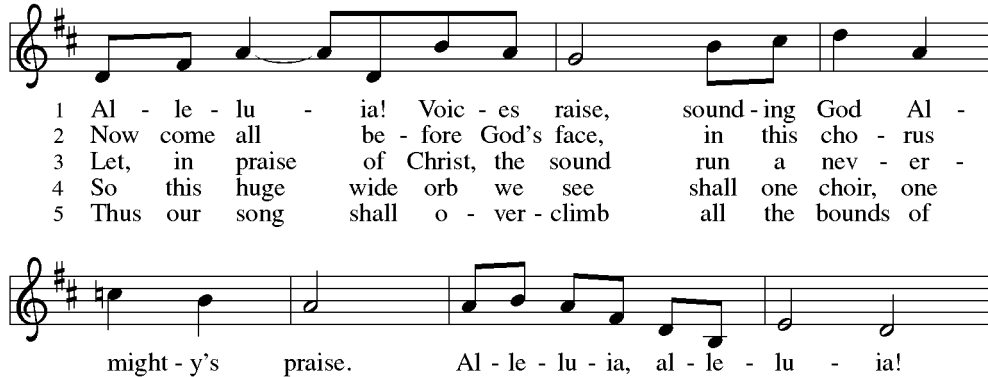
BUILDING THE NATIVITY SCENE



***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Evangelical Lutheran Worship,
ELW #828; v1

Alleluia! Voices Raise



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Voic - es raise, sound - ing God Al -
2 Now come all be - fore God's face, in this cho - rus
3 Let, in praise of Christ, the sound run a nev - er -
4 So this huge wide orb we see shall one choir, one
5 Thus our song shall o - ver - climb all the bounds of

might - y's praise. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

GOSPEL

First Sunday of Advent: November 29, 2020

Mark 13:24-37

Jesus encourages his followers to look forward to the day when he returns in power and glory to end all suffering.

Second Sunday of Advent: December 6, 2020

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.

Third Sunday of Advent: December 13, 2020

John 1:6-8, 19-28

John's gospel describes Jesus as the "light of the world." John the Baptist is presented as a witness to Jesus, one who directs attention away from himself to Christ, the true light.

Fourth Sunday of Advent: December 20, 2020

Luke 1:26-38

In this annunciation, Luke makes clear that God comes with good news for ordinary people from little known places. This king will not be born to royalty in a palace, but to common folk in a stall. Here Luke highlights the role of the Spirit, a special emphasis in this gospel.

P: The holy gospel according to St. _____ the _____ chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

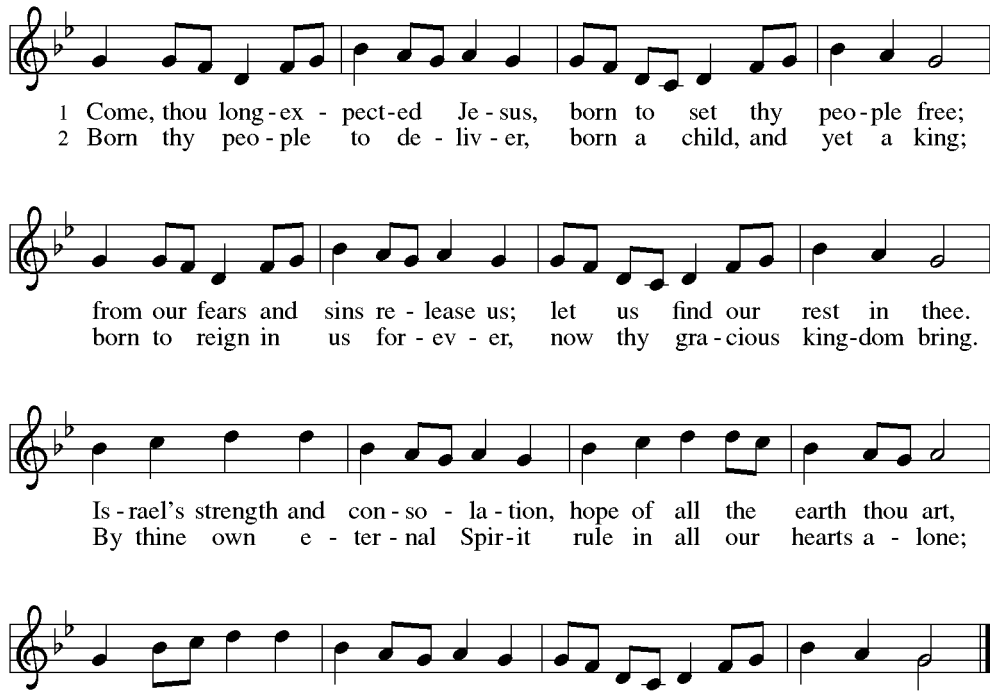
The gospel is proclaimed, concluding:

P: The Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

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

*NICENE CREED

P: God has made us his people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope in our Lord, Jesus Christ, we confess our faith:

**C: 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.

*Or, "who proceeds from the Father." The phrase "and the Son" is a later addition to the creed.

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

P: God of power and might, fulfill your promise and come quickly to this weary world. Hear our prayers for everyone in need.



P: Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Draw near to us, O God, and receive our prayers for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

***PEACE**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

God's people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

OFFERING

During this time of social distancing, we continue to give God our thanks and praise through our tithes and offerings of thanksgiving for the mission of the church including the care of those in need. Please mail your checks to Immanuel, sign up for automatic withdrawal, or give online through our website: luthwash.org.

***OFFERING PRAYER**

P: Let us pray. Generous God, ... In the name of Jesus, Immanuel, we pray.

C: **Amen.**

***THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD**

P: Let us pray. Holy God, ... For the Word of your covenant, we thank you, O God.

C: **We thank you, O God.**

P: We praise you for the coming of Jesus our Lord, ... For your Word who is Christ, we magnify you, O God.

C: **We magnify you, O God.**

P: Send your Spirit on all who receive your Word. ... For your Word through the church, we praise you, O God.

C: **We praise you, O God.**

P: All praise to you, holy God, today, tomorrow, and forever. Amen.

C: **Amen.**



***LORD'S PRAYER**

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

C: Our Father in heaven,
 hallowed be your name,
 your kingdom come,
 your will be done,
 on earth as it is 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.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.



***BENEDICTION**

P: Christ has no body
 But yours,...

Teresa of Avila (1515-1582)

The Creator of the stars bless your Advent waiting, the long-expected Savior fill you with love,
the unexpected Spirit guide your journey, ✠ now and forever.

C: Amen.

People, Look East

1 Peo - ple, look east. The time is near of the crown - ing
 2 Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is
 3 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the
 4 An - gels an - nounce with shouts of mirth him who brings new

of the year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble,
 plant - ed there. Give up your strength the seed to nour - ish,
 bowl shall brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er,
 life to earth. Set ev - 'ry peak and val - ley hum - ming

trim the hearth and set the ta - ble. Peo - ple, look
 that in course the flow'r may flour - ish. Peo - ple, look
 bright as sun and moon to - geth - er. Peo - ple, look
 with the word, the Lord is com - ing. Peo - ple, look

east, and sing to - day— Love, the Guest, is on the way.
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Rose, is on the way.
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Star, is on the way.
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881–1965

Music: BESANCON, French carol; arr. Barry Rose, b. 1934

Text © Miss E. Farjeon Will Trust, by permission of David Higham Associates.

Arr. © 1999 Novello & Company Ltd., London, United Kingdom. All rights reserved. International copyright secured.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

***DISMISSAL**

P: You have heard love.

C: We have heard Christ's love!

P: You are filled with Christ's love!

C: We will share Christ's love with our neighbors! Thanks be to God.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2020
"CAR HOP COMMUNION"
IMMANUEL'S PARKING LOT 10:30 A.M. – 11 A.M.

***OFFERING PRAYER**

P: Generous God, ... In the name of Jesus, Immanuel, we pray.

C: Amen.

***GREAT THANKSGIVING**

***DIALOGUE**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

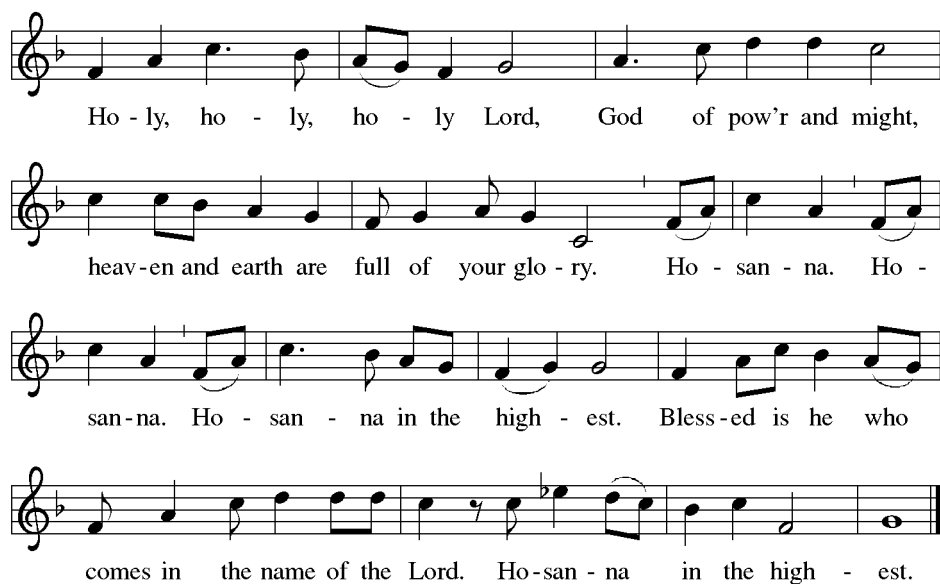
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

***PREFACE**

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Setting 3, page 144



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. 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.

***THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

P: Holy God, the Beginning and the End, our Salvation and our Hope, we praise you for creating a world of order and beauty. ...

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.

... Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**C: Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is 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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Even as we watch and wait, Christ is here. Come, eat and drink Christ's love.

PRE-POST COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Gracious and abundant God, ... for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

***BENEDICTION**

Liturgy on page 13