



*Welcome to all! Our mission at ILC: To thank, praise, honor and serve our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ as we gather and worship, grow in the Word, and serve God by serving people.*

A special welcome to guests and visitors! May our time together be a blessing to you.

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### **Information for Visitors ...**

**Coffee & Fellowship** is available in the Lower Narthex each Sunday between services.

**A Nursery** is available from 8:30am-12:00pm for children through age 4. It is located in the hallway just outside the Narthex.

**Children's bulletins** are available from the ushers.

**Elevator** is located through the basement and the ushers' room in the sanctuary.

**Sunday School** is at 9:45am and all ages are welcome. Adult classes meet in the Conference Room, Parlor and Cry Room.

**Red Worship Attendance pads** are passed during the offering. Please take a moment to register your attendance. Visitors, please let us know if we can be of service to you.

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**Regular Worship Times:** 7:45 & 11:00am – Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)  
8:45am – Contemporary Worship (Parish Hall)

### **HOLY COMMUNION**

The sacrament is celebrated at all worship services every Sunday. All are welcome, believing that our Lord is present offering grace and forgiveness.

**At 7:45 service** you will be ushered forward to kneel at the railing. Please leave your empty chalice on the railing.

**At 8:45 & 11:00 service** you will commune by intinction, meaning you may dip the wafer in either the wine or grape juice or drink from the common cup.

*Gluten-free wafers and/or white grape juice are available at all services.*

**Please Turn Off All Cell Phones & Pagers**  
**Thank You!!**

## PRELUDE

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

**C: Amen**

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen**

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

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: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

**C: Amen**

### OPENING HYMN *"People, Look East"*

**ELW 248**

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.**



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



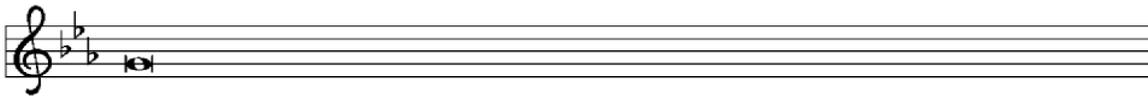
Lord, have mer - cy.



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



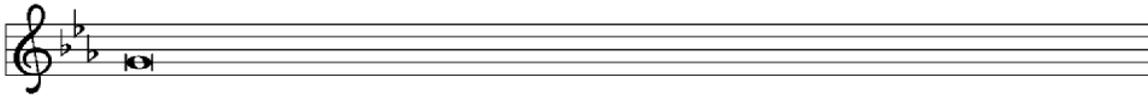
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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 worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

## Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray,

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.

**Amen.**

## 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. The Lord will deliver Israel and will care for her as a shepherd cares for his sheep. This word can be trusted, because the only enduring reality in life is the word of the Lord.*

<sup>1</sup>Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. <sup>2</sup>Speak 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. <sup>3</sup>A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. <sup>4</sup>Every 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. <sup>5</sup>Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

<sup>6</sup>A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. <sup>7</sup>The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. <sup>8</sup>The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever. <sup>9</sup>Get 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!" <sup>10</sup>See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. <sup>11</sup>He 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.

R: The Word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God**

## Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13 (read responsively)

<sup>1</sup>LORD, you were favorable to your land; you restored the fortunes of Jacob.

**<sup>2</sup>You forgave the iniquity of your people; you pardoned all their sin.**

<sup>8</sup>Let me hear what God the LORD will speak, for he will speak peace to his people, to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts.

**<sup>9</sup>Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land.**

<sup>10</sup>Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each

other.

<sup>11</sup>**Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky.**

<sup>12</sup>The LORD will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase.

<sup>13</sup>**Righteousness will go before him, and will make a path for his steps.**

## 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.*

<sup>8</sup>Do 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. <sup>9</sup>The 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. <sup>10</sup>But 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. <sup>11</sup>Since 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, <sup>12</sup>waiting 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? <sup>13</sup>But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. <sup>14</sup>Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; <sup>15a</sup>and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

R: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

## LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE

### VERSE

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,  
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
*Repeat alleluia*  
Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

P: The holy gospel according to John the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter.

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

### **Gospel John 1:35-42**

<sup>35</sup>The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, <sup>36</sup>and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" <sup>37</sup>The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. <sup>38</sup>When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" <sup>39</sup>He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. <sup>40</sup>One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. <sup>41</sup>He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed). <sup>42</sup>He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

P: The gospel of the Lord

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY** *"There's a Voice in the Wilderness"*

**ELW 255**

## **APOSTLE'S CREED**

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

**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.**

**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.**

## **The Prayers of the Church**

P: Lord in your mercy,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

# PEACE

## CHOIR "Song of the Advents" (11:00)

### OFFERING

#### OFFERTORY 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

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Let us pray,

C: Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

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.

## PREFACE

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of  
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high-est. Blessed 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

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.

**Hymns during Communion**

*“All Earth Is Hopeful”*

**ELW 266**

*“Prepare the Royal Highway”*

**ELW 264**

*“Love Has Come”*

**ELW 292**

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God’s grace.

**C: Amen**

Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been ful -  
filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre-pared in the  
sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: a light to re-veal you to the na - tions  
and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.  
Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace.

## **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

P: Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love O Lord, and unite the wills of those you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

**C: Amen**

**CLOSING HYMN** *“On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”* **ELW 249**

## **DISMISSAL**

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God!**



**Mission Statement**

*To thank, praise, honor and serve our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ as we gather and worship, grow in the Word, and serve God by serving people.*

**GATHER and Worship**

***Please pray for these ILC members:***

Norman Weiss	Elois Sakewitz	Marie Davis	Andy Shuvalov
Glenn Herzog	Jennave Fuchs	EINora Estes	Willie Mae Burns
Max Kuempel	Dorothy Plattow	Mildred Huebel	Ellie Diemicke

***Please also pray for these friends & extended family members:***

Thomas O'scier	Seth Munk	Rodney Reed	Mike Emken
Thaine Manske	Camryn Adkison	Calen Stewart	Diane Miller
Mickey Elsner	Katie Swarts	Randall Foley	Diana Mitschke
Evangeline Neese	Louis Wiederhold, Jr.	Sandy Bailey	Ben Grumbine
Brianna Bonnet	Mathilda Machicek	Wayne Lovett	Hazel Byrd
Robert McKee	Faye Nawar	Martha Milling	Mary Hufstedler
Rev. Mark & Sharon Gruebmyer		Sebastian Escobar	

***In our time of loss we pray for:*** The Family of Ima Kankel, Diane Markert's mother who passed away. Also, the Family of William Drum who passed away.

***This Week's Gatherings:***

Today	Luminary	6:30-8:30pm
Mon.	Men's Basketball	8:00pm
Tues.	UP – Parish Hall	9:00am-3:00pm
	All Committee Christmas Dinner – Parish Hall	6:00pm
Wed.	UP – Parlor	9:00am-3:00pm
	Tired & Retired	11:30am
	Adult Choir	6:30pm
Thurs.	UP – Narthex	9:00am-3:00pm
Fri.	Day School Christmas Program – Parish Hall	10:00am
	Parish Hall Reserved	6:00-8:30pm
Sat.	Scout's Christmas Potluck	5:00-7:00pm
Sun.	Christmas Cantata Services – Chapel & Sanctuary	8:45 & 11:00am
	No 7:45 or Contemporary Service	
	Sunday School for all ages	9:45am
	Handbells Rehearsal	9:45am
	Christmas Caroling to Home-bound – meet at the church	1:00pm

**Sunday School** dates for December are 10<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>. We'll resume classes on January 7<sup>th</sup>.

## GROW in the Word

### ***Bible Studies this week:***

Mon.	Crafters Circle – Candy Hansen’s Studio Workroom	9:00am
Wed.	7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation	6:30pm

**Adult Class** – Conference Room – 10:00-10:45am - A Study of this Sunday’s Gospel.

**Adult Sunday School** – Parlor – 9:45am Lessons that confront the news with Scripture and hope. Spark and inspire meaningful discussions.

**Adult Sunday School** – Cry Room – 9:45am - Join us as we view a study on "The Purpose of Christmas" by Rick Warren on why we celebrate Christmas and how it can change our lives forever.

**Pre-K through 5<sup>th</sup> grade Sunday School** continuing with the Orange Curriculum every Sunday meets in the basement. **Students 6-12<sup>th</sup> grade Sunday School** will meet downstairs in the Youth Room.

**Sunday School for college students and young adults:** "Hot Topic" led by James Kuempel electronically. Please call or text James (512/413-9121) to be included in the Facebook group.

## SERVE God by Serving People

**Council Member & Elder Duty for December** – Bob Tanner is responsible this month for locking up the facility. Please contact him at 512/990-9645 if you have any special facility needs. Elders this month are Marie Davis – early service (512-251-2508); Mark Sassman – middle service (512-680-8095); Beverly Wolff – late service (512-251-4494). **Please contact them if you would like to assist with worship in December go to <http://bit.ly/ILCsignup> to sign up yourself.** If you are a visitor and need any assistance, an elder can help you! You can identify an elder by a person wearing a large red nametag.

**“Yellow Brick House” Food Pantry continues to be open weekly and needs:** We ask that you prayerfully consider helping with this ministry through the offering plate or by supplying any of the following items: 12 15 oz cans carrots; 12 boxes instant potatoes (scalloped and/or mashed); 12 medium bottles dill pickles; 10 boxes cereals (frosted flakes and cheerios); 10 15 oz. cans fruit cocktail and/or peaches; 8 4- pack snack pack puddings; 8 6- pack applesauce in cups.

**Backpack Ministry** provides a small bag of food for at-need elementary school kids at Ruth Barron Elementary School each Friday. Please prayerfully consider donating any of the following items: 15 or 30 oz. ravioli with meat cans; single serve mac and cheese; canned chicken noodle soup; instant oatmeal packets or cups; fruit cups, individual servings; ramen cups; peanut butter crackers; popcorn, individual bags; granola bars; fruit snacks; goldfish crackers; shelf-stable milk (8 oz. boxes, any flavor).

**Tired and Retired:** Come join us this Wednesday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m. for our Christmas potluck. Remember to wear your holiday attire and bring a nativity to help decorate the tables. “Merry Christmas” and see you there.

**Christmas Carolers:** On Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>, we will sing for several homebound ILC members and will meet at the church at 1:00pm to travel in the church vans. Singers and joyful noise makers of all ages are invited!

**WELCA** has note cards to sell!! The picture on the cards is of the church in snow; the insides are blank. These cards may be used as Christmas cards, as sympathy notes, or as stationary. The price is 6 for \$5.00. The cards will be in a basket in the narthex for selection. Please put the money in the envelopes provided and place the envelopes in the offering trays. Checks should be made out to ILC WELCA.

**LWR:** Imagine being in a hurricane, earthquake, or fire/smoky area. Now imagine being able to wash your face and hands. For December, WELCA is emphasizing collecting bath-size (4oz) soap, which is a part of each personal care kit and each baby care kit. Soap donations must be in their original wrappings. Please place donations in the WELCA room or in the basket in the lower narthex. Financial donations are appreciated. (Smaller-sized soap may be used in care kits for the food pantry.)

**Christmas Choral Concert** – Senior Access (formerly Drive a Senior) is presenting its annual Christmas Concert at 6:30pm on Sunday December 17, 2017 at First United Methodist Church, 1004 N. Mays St., Round Rock. Please join us for an evening of Christmas Music performed by area choirs.

**2018 Offering Envelopes** are available in the Narthex. Pick up a booklet for you and your family and **be sure** you write your name on the outside if you are giving cash

**Parsonage Sale:** The parsonage has successfully been sold. The church council is now gathering proposals on how the net proceeds of \$197,597.47 can be used to further our shared mission to gather together, grow in the word, and serve God by serving people. Contact your church council representatives with your recommendation by Sunday, Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>. Contact information can be found in your congregational directory, church website or by contacting the church office.

**Attention Domino Group:** The Domino Group will not meet December 17<sup>th</sup> due to other conflicts that afternoon. We will get together on the third Sunday in January 2018 at 2 p.m. in the lower narthex. Anyone interested in playing or learning how to play "42" or other domino games, please join us on this date. Happy Holidays!

**Lower Narthex Rejuvenation Project:** Let's turn our attention and focus to a current project and take some steps toward completing it. Through Nov. \$3615.00 has been donated toward this project. Occasionally it is okay to give to ourselves and now is the time. What item or items are you interested in donating to help complete this project? Here is a list of the items needed to complete the project.

COREtec Plus 5" Plank (flooring)	\$5,700.00
Removal of carpet & tile	\$1,000.00
Bali Solar Roller Shades (6)	\$1,393.00
Hampton Bay Ceiling Fans (3)	\$ 120.00
Electric Wiring for the Fans	\$ 840.00
Grand Design Chairs (40)	\$3,695.00
Bar Height Hospitality Tables (2)	\$ 236.00

**Last Sunday's Attendance:** Early: 57 – Middle: 122 - Late: 109

***Upcoming Holiday Events!!***

**Sunday, Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>** – Luminary – 6:30-8:30pm

**Tuesday, Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>** – All Committee Night Christmas Dinner – 6:00pm

**Friday, Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>** – Day School Christmas Program—Parish Hall – 10:00am

**Sunday, Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>** – Christmas Cantata – 8:45 & 11:00am – Sanctuary/Chapel  
No 7:45 or Contemporary Service

**Sunday, Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>** – Christmas Caroling to our homebound – meet at the church  
at 1:00pm. All ages are welcome!

**Sunday, Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>**—4th Sunday in Advent Service—10:00am—Chapel/Sanctuary

**Sunday, Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>** – Christmas Eve Candlelight Services – 4:30 & 7:00pm

**Monday, Dec. 25<sup>th</sup>** – Christmas Day Worship Service – 10:00am

**Sunday, Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>** — Only 1 Worship Service—10:00am

## **Serving Today Dec 10<sup>th</sup>**

Organists: Joy Arnhamn and Vernagene Mott  
Choir Director: Renee Kesselring  
Acolytes: Ethan Visness & Shelby Weaver (7:45)  
Taryn Bittick & Connor Herring (11:00)  
Dec. Elders: Marie Davis (early) Mark Sassman (middle) Beverly Wolff (late)  
Readers: Candy Hansen (7:45) Katie Hudson (11:00)  
Communion Assts: Candy Hansen (7:45) **4 needed** (8:45) **2 needed** (11:00)  
Chapel Assts. Carlton & Marilyn Lorfing, Ralph Kirkley (8:45)  
Bruce Freudenberg (11:00)  
Ushers: **4 needed** (7:45) **4 needed** (8:45) **4 needed** (11:00)  
Children's Message: Advent Candle Lighting (8:45 & 11:00)  
Console/Projectionist: Brent Reeder (7:45) Rick Cox (8:45) Charles Kleen (11:00)  
Coffee Maker: Mark Mueller  
Altar Guild: Diane Moellenberg & Marta Gregory

## **Serving Next Week (Dec 17<sup>th</sup>)**

Organists: Joy Arnhamn and Vernagene Mott  
Choir Director: Renee Kesselring  
Acolytes: Dominic Weber & Allison Morris (8:45)  
Bryce & Kadie Van Houten (11:00)  
Dec. Elders: Marie Davis (early) Mark Sassman (middle) Beverly Wolff (late)  
Readers: Annyce Bohls & Bob Lovett (8:45) Marie Davis & Kenneth Adix (11:00)  
Communion Assts: **2 needed** (8:45) Grace Lin, **1 needed** (11:00)  
Chapel Assts: Carlton & Marilyn Lorfing, Ralph Kirkley (8:45) **1 needed** (11:00)  
Ushers: **4 needed** (8:45) **4 needed** (11:00)  
Children's Message: Advent Candle Lighting (8:45 & 11:00)  
Console/Projectionist: Matthew Krieg (8:45) David Gifford (11:00)  
Coffee Maker: Kristin Adix  
Altar Guild: Janelle Hebbe & Martha Sansom

# 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

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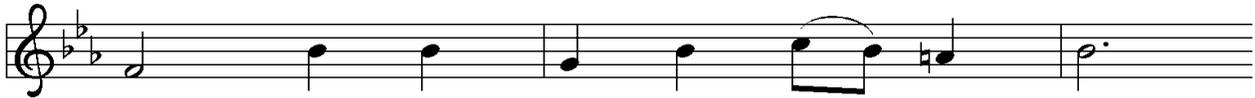
## There's a Voice in the Wilderness



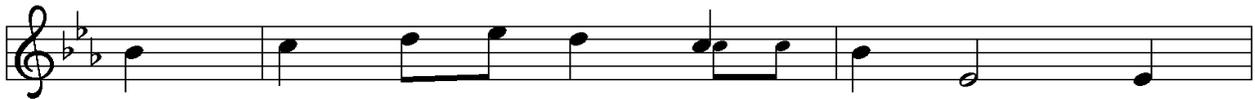
1 There's a voice in the wil - der - ness cry - ing, a  
 2 O Je - ru - sa - lem, her - ald good tid - ings, as -  
 3 But the word of our Sav - ior is faith - ful, the



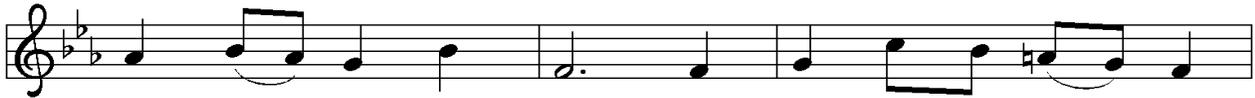
call from the ways un - trod: Pre - pare in the des - ert a  
 cend to the heights and sing! Pro - claim to a des - o - late  
 arm of our God is strong, who stands in the midst of the



high - way, a high - way for our God!  
 peo - ple, the com - ing of their king.  
 na - tions and soon will right the wrong.



The val - leys shall be ex - alt - ed, the  
 Like flow'rs of the field we per - ish, like  
 Lord, feed your flock like a shep - herd, the



loft - y hills brought low; make straight all the crook - ed  
 grass our works de - cay; the pow'r and the pomp of  
 lambs so gent - ly hold; in pas - tures of peace now



plac - es where God, our God, may go!  
 na - tions shall pass like a dream a - way.  
 lead them, and bring them to your fold.

Text: James Lewis Milligan, 1876-1961, alt.  
 Music: ASCENSION, Henry Hugh Bancroft, 1904-1988  
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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.*

Text: Alberto Taulé, b. 1932; tr. Madeleine Forell Marshall, b. 1946  
 Music: TODA LA TIERRA, Alberto Taulé  
 Spanish text and tune © 1993 and English text © 1995 Centro de Pastoral Litúrgica, admin. OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213.

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## 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.

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# Love Has Come



1 Love has come— a light in the dark - ness! Love shines forth in the  
2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der. Love is God now a -  
3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us! Love is life ev - er -



Beth - le - hem skies. See, all heav - en has come to pro - claim it;  
sleep in the hay. See the glow in the eyes of his moth - er;  
last - ing and free. Love is Je - sus with - in and a - mong us.



hear how their song of joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to  
what is the name her heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the  
Love is the peace our hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the



you, a Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.  
name she whis - pers; Love! Love! Je - sus, Im - man - u - el.  
gift of Christ - mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

Text: Ken Bible, b. 1950

Music: UN FLAMBEAU, F. Seguin, *Recueil de noëls composés en langue provençale*, 1856

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## On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

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 up -  
 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.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676-1749; tr. composite  
 Music: PUER NOBIS, European tune, adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571-1621