

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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MISSION STATEMENT:

*In response to God's love for us, we SERVE God,
SUPPORT Christian fellowship,
And SPREAD the Good News of Jesus Christ to all people.*

Volume 77

December 19, 2021

No. 50

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Order of Worship –9:00 AM

+ Service of Holy Communion +

Divine Service, Setting Four (LSB)

AS WE GATHER – *Our world is filled with turmoil, strife, contention. Every time it seems that our nation or even our own lives are at peace, again something disrupts it. Peace is as elusive as a slippery eel. Today's Readings point us to the truth that the peace we seek cannot come from the powers of the world, nor can it come from anything in our own hearts or our spiritual potential. Real peace comes from what seems like the least promising place: a little town, through the young Virgin. Peace comes from Bethlehem, from where God comes to us. From God's Word. From the Bread of Life in Holy Communion. Real peace comes to us, often beyond our understanding, through the babe of Bethlehem, Jesus Christ, through whom God made peace with us by a cross.*

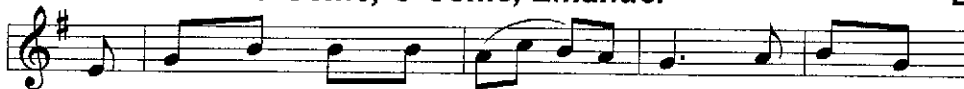
PRESERVICE MUSIC *"The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came"* by Wilbur Held

WELCOME

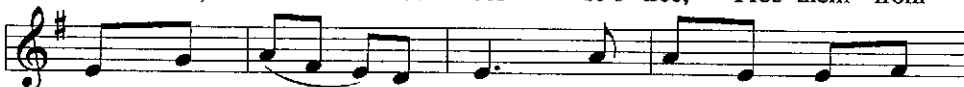
[♯]Means please stand; [♮]Means please be seated]

♯**OPENING HYMN** *O Come, O Come, Emanuel*

LSB 357



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som
2 O come, Thou Wis - dom from on high, Who or - d'rest
3 O come, O come, Thou Lord of might, Who to Thy
4 O come, Thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, Free them from



cap - tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly
all things might - i - ly; To us the path of
tribes on Si - nai's height In an - cient times didst
Sa - tan's tyr - an - ny That trust Thy might - y

(continued)

ex - ile here Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 knowl - edge show, And teach us in her ways to go.
 give the Law In cloud and maj - es - ty and awe.
 pow'r to save, And give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.

Refrain

Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el

Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

5. O come, Thou Key of David, come,
 And open wide our heav'nly home;
 Make safe the way that leads on high,
 And close the path to misery. Refrain
6. O come, Thou Dayspring from on high,
 And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;
 Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
 And death's dark shadows put to flight. Refrain
7. O come, Desire of nations, bind
 In one the hearts of all mankind;
 Bid Thou our sad divisions cease,
 And be Thyself our King of Peace. Refrain

Tune and text: Public domain

INVOCATION & OPENING SENTENCES

Luke 1:49-51, 54

- P** *In the name of the Father and of the \ddagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.*
- C** **Amen.**
- P** *The mighty Lord has done great things and holy is His name.*
- C** **We thank You, O Lord!**
- P** *The Lord's mercy is for those who fear Him from generation to generation.*
- C** **We adore You, O Lord!**
- P** *The Lord has shown the strength of His arm.*
- C** **We praise You, O Lord!**
- P** *The Lord has helped His servant Israel, in remembrance of His mercy.*
- C** **We worship You, O Lord!**

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

- P** *Our help is in the name of the Lord,*
- C** **who made heaven and earth.**
- P** *If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?*
- C** **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the \div Son and of the Holy Spirit. **C** Amen.

INTROIT

1 Samuel 2:1b, 2, 5b-7; antiphon: Luke 1:46b-47

P My soul magnifies the Lord,

C and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

P My mouth derides my enemies,

C because I rejoice in your salvation.

P There is none holy like the LORD;

C there is none besides you; there is no rock like our God.

P The barren has borne seven,

C but she who has many children is forlorn.

P The LORD kills and brings to life;

C he brings down to Sheol and raises up.

P The LORD makes poor and makes rich;

C He brings low and He exalts.

All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

P My soul magnifies the Lord,

C and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

KYRIE



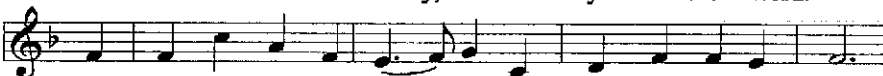
C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

HYMN OF PRAISE

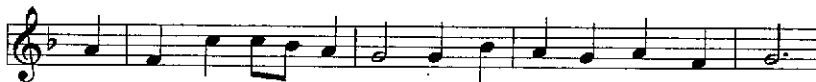
Glory to God in the Highest



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro-claimed at Je-sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor-shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
 Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
 You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.
 Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—
 In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

SALUTATION & COLLECT OF THE DAY

P *The Lord be with you.*

C *And also with you.*

P *Let us pray.*

All: Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Micah 5:2-5a

(lesson is on the last page of the bulletin)

A *This is the Word of the Lord.*

C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

Hebrews 10:5-10

(lesson is on the last page of the bulletin)

A *This is the Word of the Lord.*

C **Thanks be to God.**

ALLELUIA



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



C These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 1:39-45

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the first chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

(lesson is on the last page of the bulletin)

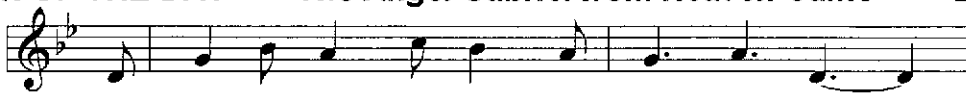
P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY

The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came

LSB 356



1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from heav - en came,
2 "For know a bless - ed moth - er thou shalt be,
3 Then gen - tle Mar - y meek - ly bowed her head;
4 Of her, Em - man - u - el, the Christ, was born



With wings as drift - ed snow, with eyes as flame:
All gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee;
"To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said,
In Beth - le - hem all on a Christ - mas morn,



"All hail to thee, O low - ly maid - en Mar - y,
Thy son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,
"My soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy God's ho - ly name."
And Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say:



Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy." Glo - ri - a!
Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy." Glo - ri - a!
Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy, Glo - ri - a!
"Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy." Glo - ri - a!

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SERMON

"THE BEAUTY OF CHRISTMAS"

Luke 1:39-45

- I. Too often, we judge a person's beauty based only on outward appearance.
- II. But Mary and Elizabeth's faith show us that all people are beautiful.

NICENE CREED

C I believe in One God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in One Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the

virgin Mary and was made Man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

OFFERING

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

by Jan Bender

OFFERTORY

Arise, O Christian People

LSB 354



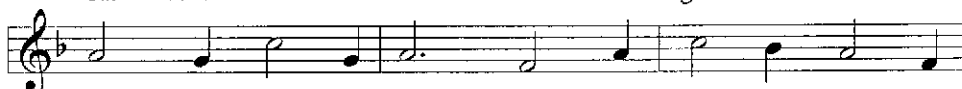
1 A - rise, O Chris - tian peo - ple! Pre - pare your - selves to -
 2 Pre - pare the way be - fore Him; Pre - pare for Him the
 3 The hum - ble heart and low - ly God rais - es up on
 4 Pre - pare my heart, Lord Je - sus; Turn not from me a -



day; Pre - pare to greet the Sav - ior, Who takes your
 best. Cast out what would of - fend Him, This great, this
 high; Be - neath His feet in ter - ror The haugh - ty
 side, And help me to re - ceive You This bless - ed



sins a - way. To us by grace a - lone The
 heav'n - ly guest. Make straight, make plain the way: The
 soul shall lie. The heart sin - cere and right, That
 Ad - vent - tide. From stall and man - ger low Come



truth and light were giv - en; The prom - ised Lord from
 low - ly val - leys rais - ing, The heights of pride a -
 heeds God's in - vi - ta - tion And makes true prep - a -
 now to dwell with - in me; I'll sing Your prais - es



heav - en To all the world is shown.
 bas - ing, His path all e - ven lay.
 ra - tion— It is the Lord's de - light.
 glad - ly And forth Your glo - ry show.

Text and tune: Public domain

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P *Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. O Lord, mighty God, there is none like You in holiness, constancy and might; yet, You exercise Your power for the salvation of sinners. As we draw near to the celebration of Jesus' birth, fill our hearts with gratitude that Your Son humbled Himself and became flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. Lord, in Your mercy,*

C **hear our prayer.**

P *O Lord, mighty God, Bethlehem was too small to be among the clans of Judah, yet from it came forth the King of kings. Remember the congregations of Your people where numbers are small and resources are scarce. Provide for their needs, and remind them that the Lord of lords dwells among them in His Means of Grace. Lord, in Your mercy,*

C **hear our prayer.**

P *O Lord, mighty God, You make poor and You make rich. Receive our thanks for Your gifts of daily bread. Give us contentment with what You provide, preserve us from coveting what You do not give and grant that we would be wise stewards of Your blessings. Lord, in Your mercy,*

C **hear our prayer.**

P *O Lord, mighty God, You sent Your Son to shepherd His flock in strength and to be great to the ends of the earth. Grant wisdom to our leaders and peace among the nations, that we may dwell secure. Lord, in Your mercy,*

C **hear our prayer.**

P *O Lord, mighty God, You helped Your servant Israel, and Your mercy endures forever. Look upon those brought low by illness, injury, grief or other affliction [especially...]. Have mercy upon them, grant them healing and strength, and maintain in them the certain hope of Your faithfulness to them for Jesus' sake. Lord, in Your mercy,*

C **hear our prayer.**

P *O Lord, mighty God, You have sanctified us through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, once for all, on the cross. Prepare the hearts of all who commune this day with penitence and trust in Your promises, and so make us holy with Your Son's body and blood. Lord, in Your mercy,*

C **hear our prayer.**

P *O Lord, mighty God, You have done great things for us, most of all delivering us from death to life through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Mercifully hear our prayers and answer them according to Your will for the sake of Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*

C **Amen.**

PREFACE

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 Him thanks and praise.**

P *It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty and Everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the*

dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
 Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
 Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;
 Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him. We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood. Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

C Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God

C 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
 2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,



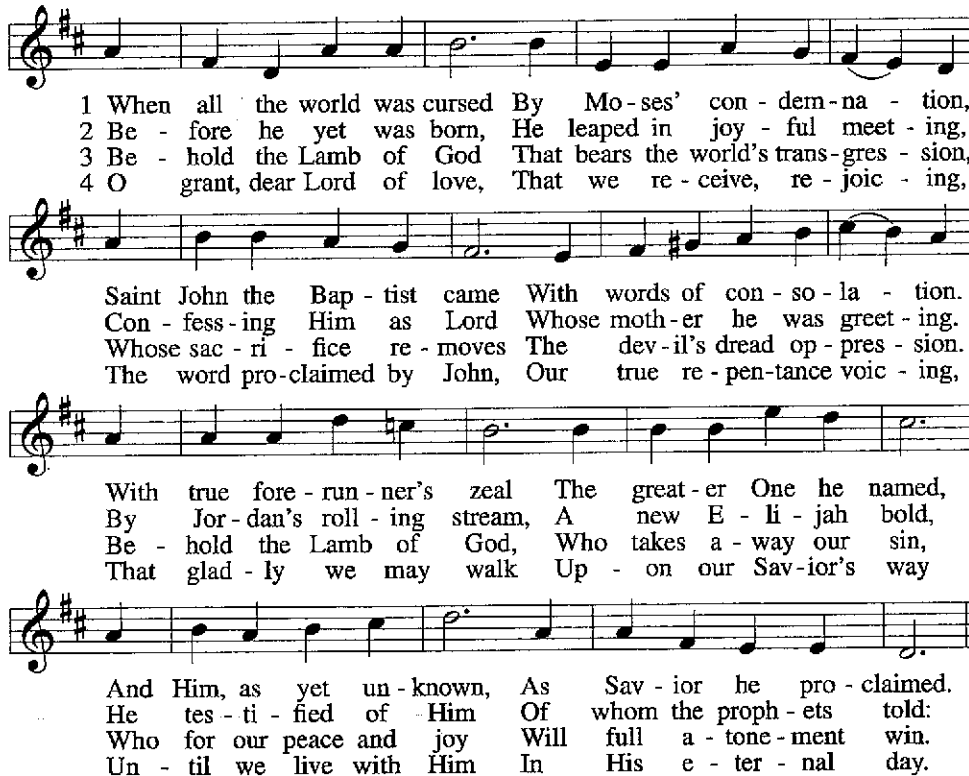
You take the sin of the world a - way;
 You take the sin of the world a - way;
 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
 Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
 And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Reminder: gluten free wafer (by holding up an index finger to the elder), and non-alcoholic wine (the white grape juice in the center) are also available.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

When All the World Was Cursed

LSB 346



1 When all the world was cursed By Mo - ses' con - dem - na - tion,
 2 Be - fore he yet was born, He leaped in joy - ful meet - ing,
 3 Be - hold the Lamb of God That bears the world's trans - gres - sion,
 4 O grant, dear Lord of love, That we re - ceive, re - joic - ing,
 Saint John the Bap - tist came With words of con - so - la - tion.
 Con - fess - ing Him as Lord Whose moth - er he was greet - ing.
 Whose sac - ri - fice re - moves The dev - il's dread op - pres - sion.
 The word pro - claimed by John, Our true re - pen - tance voic - ing,
 With true fore - run - ner's zeal The great - er One he named,
 By Jor - dan's roll - ing stream, A new E - li - jah bold,
 Be - hold the Lamb of God, Who takes a - way our sin,
 That glad - ly we may walk Up - on our Sav - ior's way
 And Him, as yet un - known, As Sav - ior he pro - claimed.
 He tes - ti - fied of Him Of whom the proph - ets told:
 Who for our peace and joy Will full a - tone - ment win.
 Un - til we live with Him In His e - ter - nal day.

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What Hope! An Eden Prophesied

LSB 342



1 What hope! An E - den proph - e - sied Where tame live with the wild;
2 A shoot will sprout from Jes - se's stem, A branch from Da - vid's line,
3 As ban - ner of God's love un - furled, Christ came to suf - fer loss,
4 Come, Je - sus, come, Mes - si - ah Lord, Lost Par - a - dise re - store;



The lamb and li - on side by side, Led by a lit - tle child!
A Prince of Peace in Beth - le - hem: The fruit of God's de - sign.
That by His death a dy - ing world Would ral - ly to the cross.
Lead past the an - gel's flam - ing sword—Come, o - pen heav - en's door.

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Once He Came in Blessing

LSB 333



1 Once He came in bless - ing, All our sins re -
2 Now He gent - ly leads us; With Him - self He
3 Soon will come that hour When with might - y
4 Come, then, O Lord Je - sus, From our sins re -



dress - ing; Came in like - ness low - ly,
feeds us Pre - cious food from heav - en,
pow - er Christ will come in splen - dor
lease us. Keep our hearts be - liev - ing,



Son of God most ho - ly; Bore the cross to
Pledge of peace here giv - en, Man - na that will
And will judg - ment ren - der, With the faith - ful
That we, grace re - ceiv - ing, Ev - er may con -



save us; Hope and free - dom gave us.
nour - ish Souls that they may flour - ish.
shar - ing Joy be - yond com - par - ing.
fess You Till in heav'n we bless You.

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¶ NUNC DIMITTIS

Song of Simeon

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
 2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
 part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
 glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
 glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
 Spir - it, For - ev - er Three - in - One;
 A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
 For as in the be - gin - ning, Is
 to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
 now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
 peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
 sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

¶ *Let us pray.* O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever.

☩ Amen.

BENEDICAMUS & BENEDICTION

¶ *Let us bless the Lord.*

☩ **Thanks be to God.**

¶ *The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you His peace.*

☩ Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

My Soul Rejoices

LSB 933

1 My soul re - joic - es, My spir - it voic - es— Sing the
 2 His arm now bar - ing, His strength de - clar - ing— Sing the

great - ness of the Lord! For God my Sav - ior Has shown me
 great - ness of the Lord! The proud He scat - ters, Their rule He
 fa - vor— Sing the great - ness of the Lord! With praise and
 shat - ters— Sing the great - ness of the Lord! Op - pres - sion
 bless - ing, Join in con - fess - ing God, who is sole - ly Might - y and
 halt - ed; The meek ex - alt - ed. Full are the hun - gry; Emp - ty, the
 ho - ly— O sing the great - ness of God the Lord! His mer - cy
 wealth - y— O sing the great - ness of God the Lord! Here is the
 sure - ly Shall rest se - cure - ly On all who fear Him,
 to - ken All that was spo - ken To A - br'ham's off - spring
 Love and re - vere Him— O sing the great - ness of God the Lord!
 God is ful - fill - ing— O sing the great - ness of God the Lord!

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

[Birthday: Kay Sees]

POSTLUDE

"Noel in G"

by Louis-Claude Daquin

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-
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 - Beth Buss, Music Director.....970-778-5696 / email: bethbuss4@gmail.com
 - Rob Hatton, Congregation Chairman..... 303-906-9395 / email: roberthatton1@googlemail.com
-

WE WISH TO THANK the following for their participation in our worship service this morning:

Acolyte..... Steve Rolan
Altar Guild..... Elsie Leiker & Sharon Milliken
Communion Assistant..... Bob Sees
Counters..... Valerie Klein & Mackenzie Egan
Greeter..... Linda Monasmith
Organist / Music Director..... Beth Buss
Service Web Recorder..... Robert Showalter
Service Live Streaming..... Stuart Ruwet
Ushers **Phil Vandre, *Naomi Kettner, Tim Cueva, Cameron Hatton, Devin Monasmith



- **CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT: Dec. 24th, 7 PM**
- **CHRISTMAS DAY: Dec. 25th, 10 AM**
With Communion
- **NEW YEAR'S EVE: Dec. 31st, 6 PM**
With Communion