

FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Third & Terry, Longmont, Colorado
(303) 776-2800 | www.firstluth.org
Pastor Garrett Struessel and Deacon Korra Looschen

1st Sunday of Advent
Sunday, November 30, 2025
9:30 a.m.

GATHERING



PRELUDE

INTRODUCTION

The new church year begins with a wake-up call: Christ is coming soon! In today's readings both Paul and Jesus challenge us to wake from sleep, for we know neither the day nor hour of the Lord's coming. Isaiah proclaims the day when God will gather all people on the holy mountain and there will be no more war or suffering. Though we vigilantly watch for the promised day of salvation, we wait for what we already have: Christ comes among us this day as the word and meal that strengthens our faith in the promises of God.

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

ELW 257 vs. 1

1. O come, O come Emmanuel and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appears. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, whose home is heaven and earth, whose salvation is sure.

Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Long-expected God,

we confess that we look to ourselves for the peace and security only you can provide. We reach for swords and spears, reluctant to release our grip on the ways of war. We become impatient while waiting and weary of keeping awake. Free us from self-reliance, and teach us to live in harmony with our neighbors. Increase our trust in God's timing, and awaken us to your advent among us, that we may abound in the hope you have promised.

Amen.

God judges us not as we deserve, but according to God's own righteousness. ☩ You are freed and forgiven, saved by grace, and ready to welcome the Savior.

Amen.

Prepare the Royal Highway

ELW 264

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

ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear! Then
 bran - ches strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing! God's
 king, yet ev - ry na - tion its trib - ute too man sing! All
 rule is peace and free - dom and jus - tice, truth, and love. So

greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:
 pro - mise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!
 lands will bow be - fore him; their voic - es join your sing - ing:
 let your praise be sound - ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:

Ho san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!

GREETING

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

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

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.

Amen.

ANTHEM

“ ”

Eli Brast, Trumpet
Accompanied by Jeffrey Hartmann

WORD

READINGS

Isaiah 2:1-5

The visionary message presented in this reading focuses on a future day when God establishes a universal reign of peace. Divine decisions will make war obsolete, and the worshiping community responds: “Let us walk in the light of that Lord now!”

¹ The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. ² 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. ³ 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. ⁴ 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. ⁵ O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Romans 13:11-14

Paul compares the advent of Christ to the coming of dawn. We live our lives today in light of Christ’s coming in the future.

¹¹ Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹² the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³ let us walk decently as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴ Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN’S TIME

Deacon Korra Looschen

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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.

GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 24th chapter beginning at the 36th verse.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Matthew 24:36-44

Jesus describes his second coming as a sudden, turbulent event that will bring about deep change to our normal, day-to-day lives. Therefore, he urges people to stay awake, be aware, and wait expectantly, because the Son of Man will come unannounced.

[Jesus said to the disciples,] ³⁶ "About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷ For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸ For as in the days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹ and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so, too, will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰ Then two will be in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. ⁴¹ Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken, and one will be left. ⁴² Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³ 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. ⁴⁴ Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Ann Hultquist

NICENE CREED

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

God of grace,

hear our prayer.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

OFFERTORY

“

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray.

Nourishing God,

you are water in the wilderness and streams in the desert. Through this meal, satisfy our parched places, that we may rejoice and be for the world signs of your kingdom come.

Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Page 107

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.

Detailed description: This block contains four staves of music in G major (one sharp). The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics are 'The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.' The second staff continues the melody with the lyrics 'Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord. —'. The third staff has the lyrics 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.' and the fourth staff has the lyrics 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.' The music is written in a simple, accessible style with many ties and slurs.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Page 108

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.

Detailed description: This block contains four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. The melody is written in a treble clef. The lyrics are '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.' The music features a mix of eighth, quarter, and half notes, with some slurs and ties.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

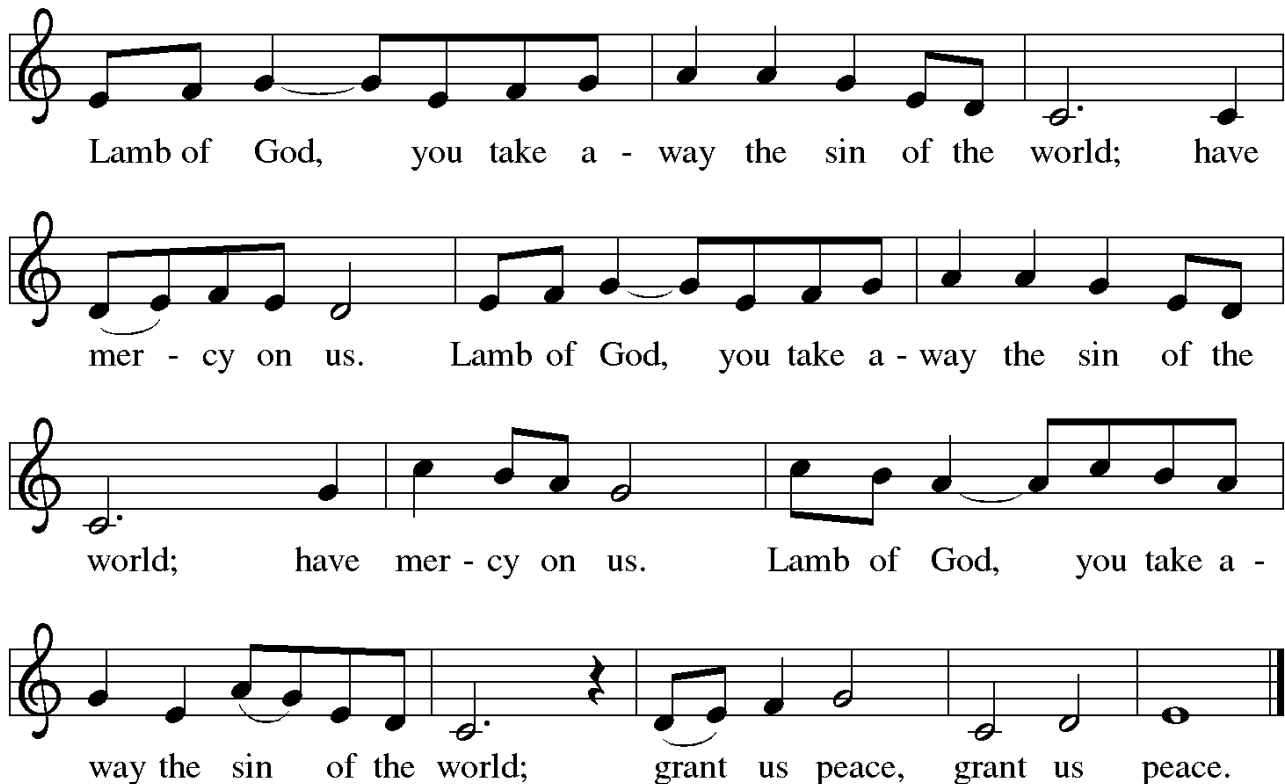
Amen.

COMMUNION

All are welcome who come trusting in the gift of God's presence in the Bread of Life and the Cup of Salvation, shared in this meal. "The body of Christ, broken for you", and "the blood of Christ shed for you", include the promise of the forgiveness of sin, life and salvation in Christ Jesus our Lord. The ushers will invite you to come forward for communion. We invite everyone to receive communion if you so desire. The invitation to receive Holy Communion is from Christ Jesus; therefore "all are welcome". In our serving communion trays, wine is darker red on the outside, and grape juice is the lighter color in the center. We serve only gluten-free bread prepared in a kitchen excluding wheat flour, to include everyone regardless of wheat-gluten sensitivities. Come, taste and see, that the Lord is good.

LAMB OF GOD

Page 112



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.

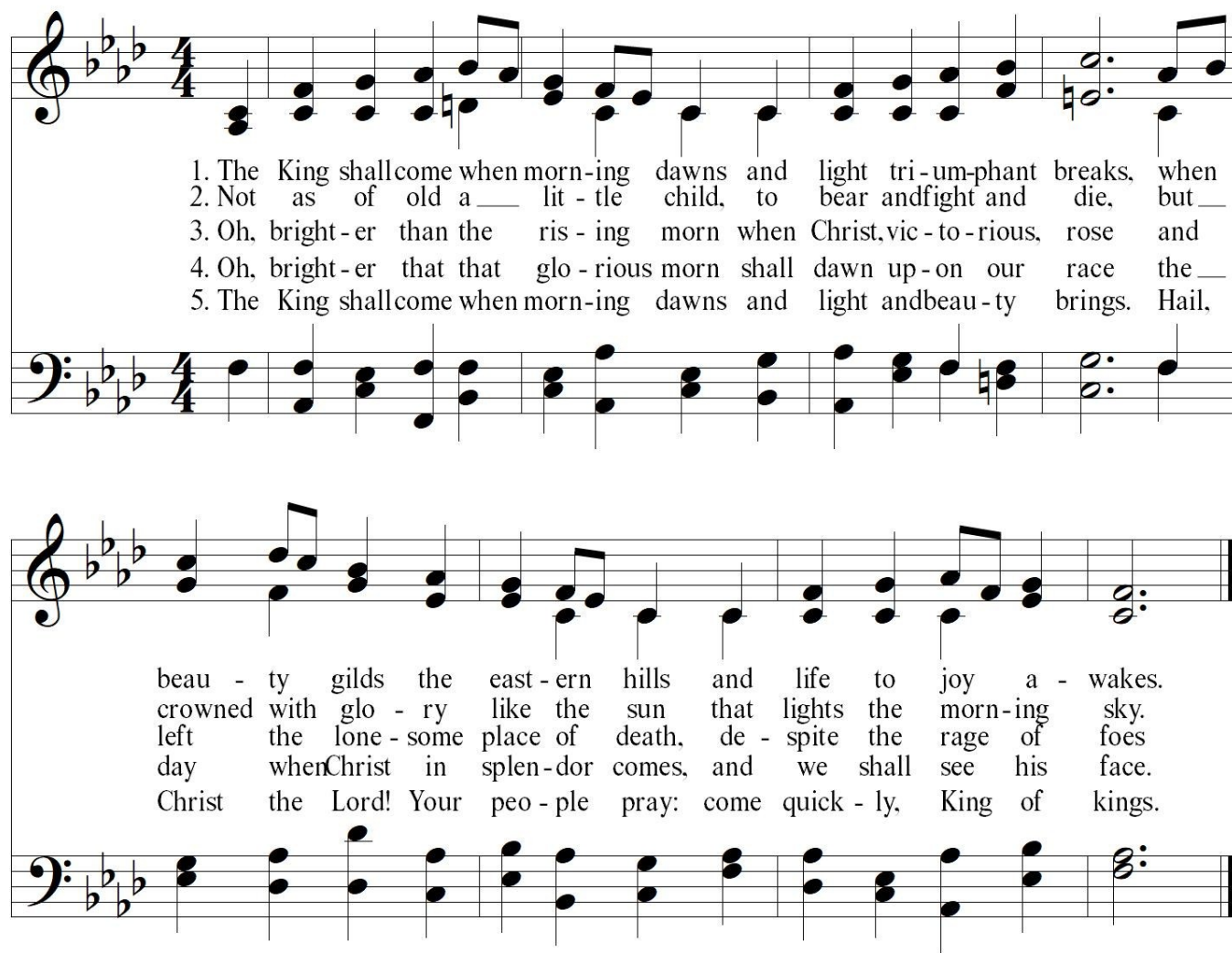
COMMUNION HYMNS

"The King Shall Come"
"My Lord, What a Morning"
"We Come to the Hungry Feast"

ELW 260
ELW 438
ELW 479

The King Shall Come

ELW 260



1. The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light tri-um-phant breaks, when
 2. Not as of old a lit - tle child, to bear and fight and die, but
 3. Oh, bright-er than the ris - ing morn when Christ, vic - to - rious, rose and
 4. Oh, bright-er that that glo - rious morn shall dawn up-on our race the
 5. The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light and beau - ty brings. Hail,

beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills and life to joy a - wakes.
 crowned with glo - ry like the sun that lights the morn-ing sky.
 left the lone - some place of death, de - spite the rage of foes
 day when Christ in splen - dor comes, and we shall see his face.
 Christ the Lord! Your peo - ple pray: come quick - ly, King of kings.

Text: John Brownlie, 1859-1925

CONSOLATION

Music: A. Davisson, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816; arr. Theodore A. Beck, 1929-2003

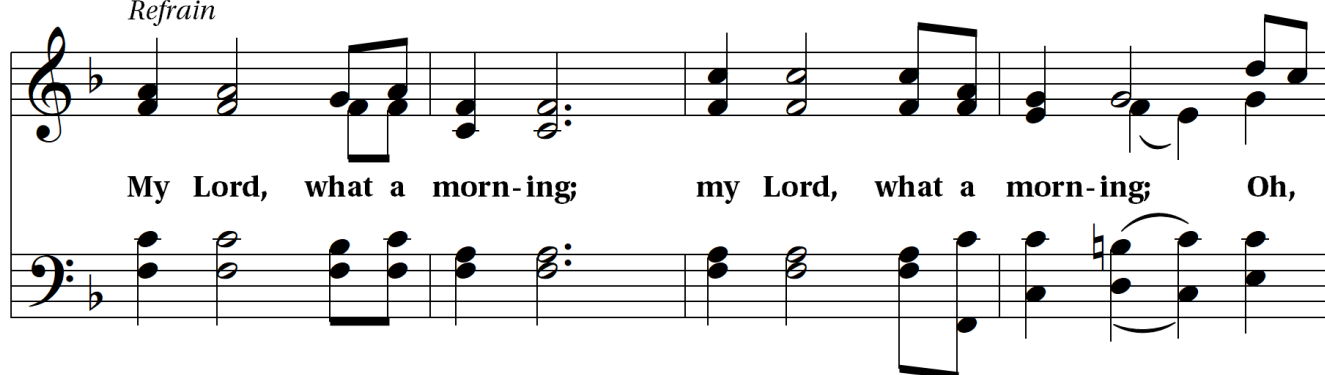
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Arr. © 1969 Concordia Publishing House

My Lord, What a Morning

ELW 438

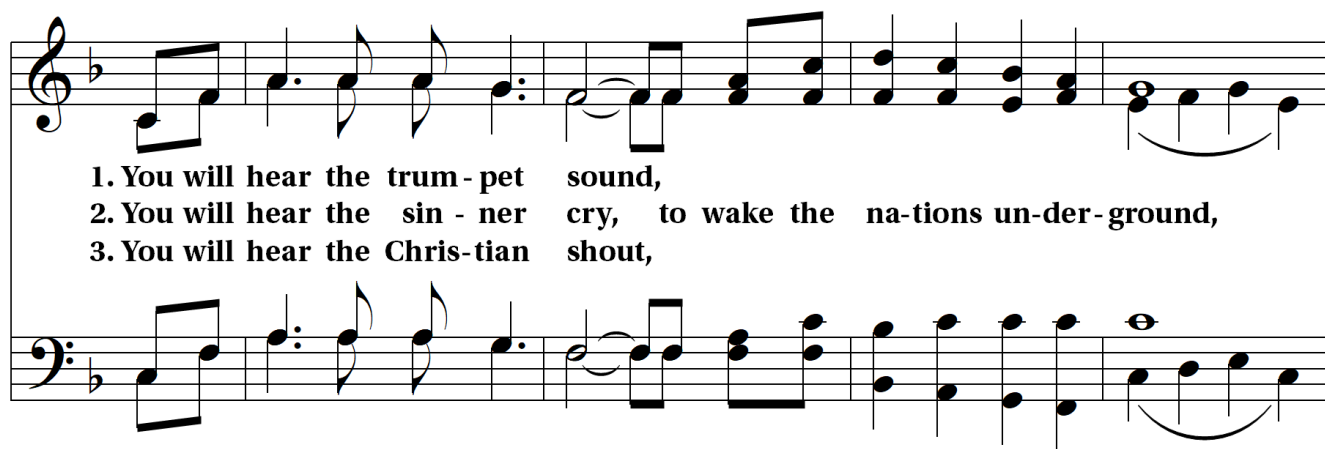
Refrain



My Lord, what a morn-ing; my Lord, what a morn-ing; Oh,



my Lord, what a morn - ing, when the stars be-gin to fall.



1. You will hear the trum - pet sound,
2. You will hear the sin - ner cry, to wake the na-tions un-der-ground,
3. You will hear the Chris-tian shout,



look-ing to my God's right hand, when the stars be-gin to fall.

Text: African American Spiritual
Music: African American Spiritual

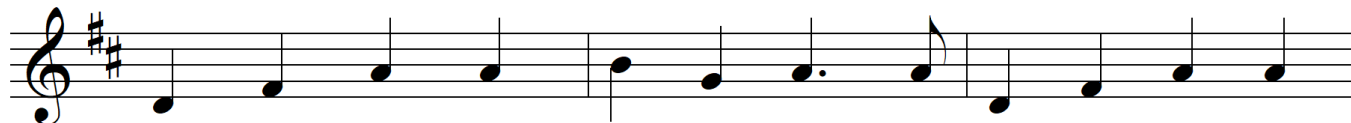
BURLEIGH
6 8 7 7 and refrain

We Come to the Hungry Feast

ELW 479



1. We come to the hun-gry feast hun-gry for a word of peace. To
2. We come to the hun-gry feast hun-gry for a world re - leased from
3. We come to the hun-gry feast hun-gry that the hun - ger cease, and



hun - gry hearts un - sat - is - fied the love of God is
hun - gry folk of ev - 'ry kind, the poor in bod - y,
know - ing, though we eat our fill, the hun - ger will stay



not de - nied. We come, we__ come to the hun - gry feast.
poor in mind. We come, we__ come to the hun - gry feast.
with us; still we__ come, we__ come to the hun - gry feast.

Text: Ray Makeever, b. 1943

Music: Ray Makeever

Text and music © 1982 Ray Makeever, admin. Augsburg Fortress

HUNGRY FEAST

7 7 8 8 9

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

God our host,

at this table you have fed us with joy and gladness. Send us forth, eager to share the feast, welcome the stranger, and bear good fruit in the name of Jesus.

Amen.

SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN

“Rejoice, Rejoice Believers”

ELW 244 vs. 1,2,4

SENDING

Go in peace.

Thanks be to God. Keep awake.

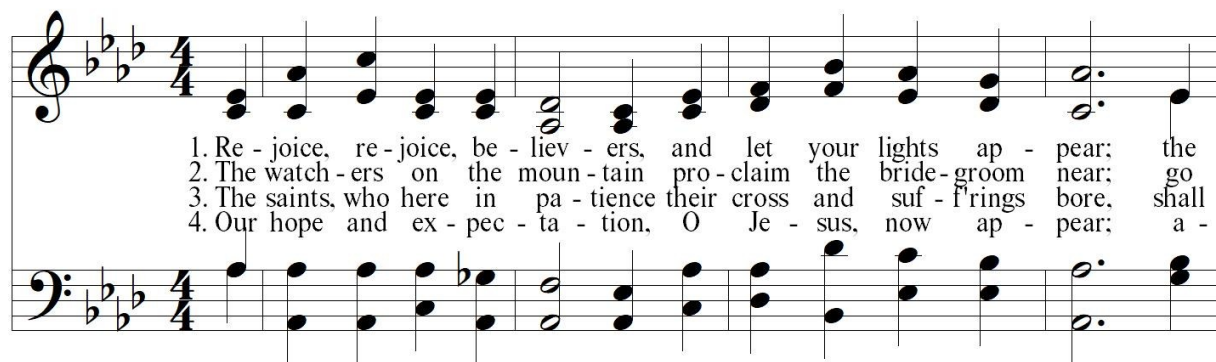
POSTLUDE

Preacher/Presider	The Rev. Ann Hultquist
Worship Assistant	Deacon Korra Hultquist
Council Hosts	Rick Samson Dorothea Ekx
Ushers	Todd Gould Holly Keenan
Reader	Sally Campbell
Communion Assistants	Jeff Satur Shannon Satur
Organist	Jeffrey Hartmann

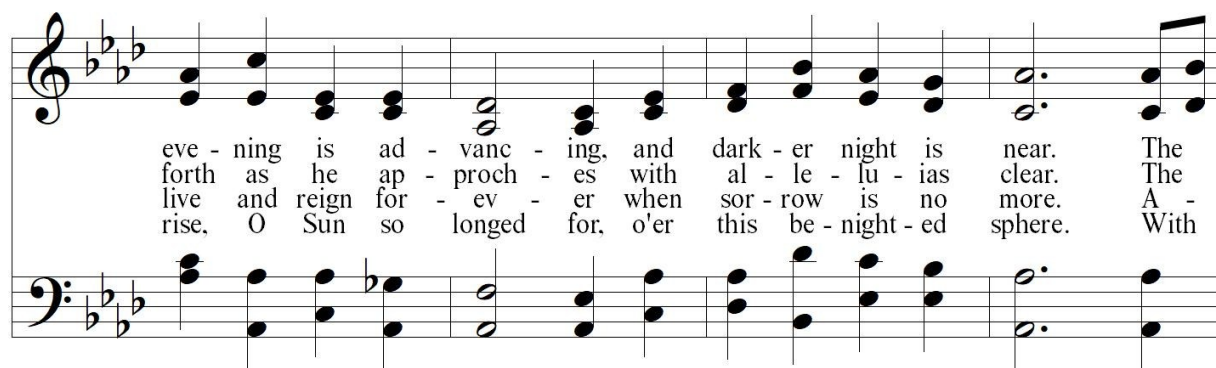
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Rejoice, Rejoice Believers

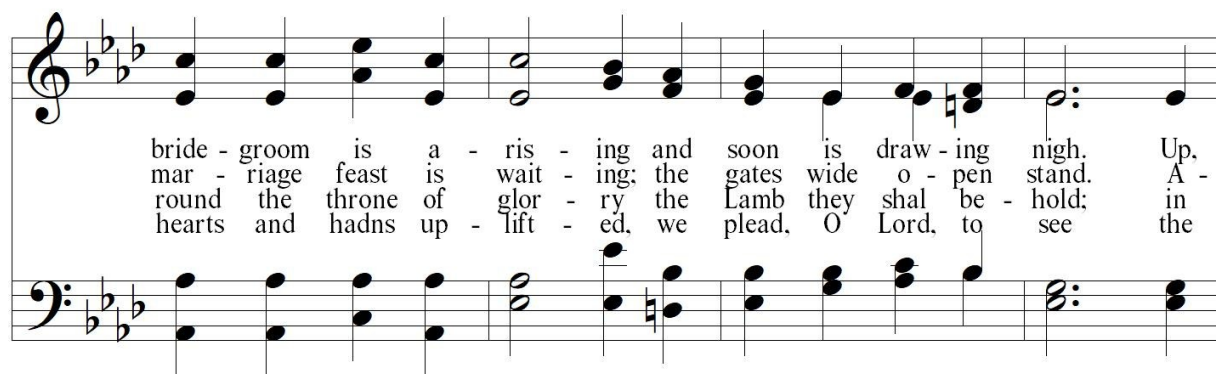
ELW 244



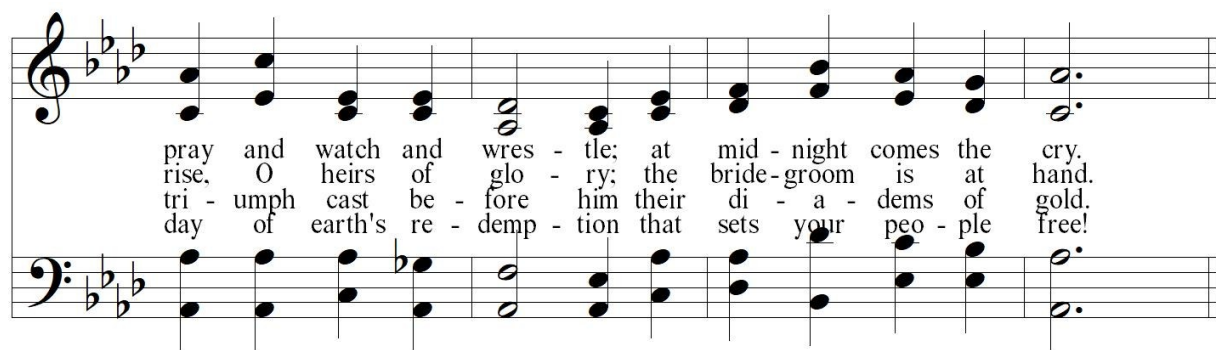
1. Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear: the
 2. The watch - ers on the moun - tain pro - claim the bride - groom near: the go
 3. The saints, who here in pa - tience their cross and suf - f'ring bore, shall
 4. Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap -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



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



bride - groom is a - ris - ing and soon is draw - ing nigh. Up,
 mar - riage feast is wait - ing: the gates wide o - pen stand. A -
 round the throne of glor - ry the Lamb they shal be - hold: in the
 hearts and hadns up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see the



pray and watch and wres - tle; at mid - night comes the cry,
 rise, O heirs of glo - ry: the bride - groom is at hand.
 tri - umph cast be - fore him their di - a - dems of gold.
 day of earth's re - demp - tion that sets your peo - ple free!

Text: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660-1722; tr. Sara B. Findlater, 1823-1907 HAFTRONES LAMPA FARDIG
 Music: Swedish folk tune 7 6 7 6 D

WELCOME to Worship!

WELCOME to worship! We are so glad you are here!

CHILDREN ARE WELCOME IN WORSHIP, and families can sit anywhere in the sanctuary, including the chapel near the front.

A NURSERY is available downstairs across from the Choir Room for children under 5. Follow the signs.

LARGE-PRINT BULLETINS & HYMNS are available from the ushers.

ADDITIONAL PARKING is available in the Ahlberg Chapel parking lot, one-half block north of the church on Terry Street.

RESTROOMS are located on the upper level of the church, along the hallway leading to the Big Room. There are handicap accessible restrooms on the lower level near the elevator, and in the Big Room.

We love seeing you in worship!