**Celebration Lutheran Church**

Pastor: Sarah Toney Pianist: Kathy Jo Evans

1st Sunday of Advent Worship: 10:00am November 29th, 2026

## We Gather to Encounter God

*Prelude Music*
*Welcome and Announcements*

*Confession and Forgiveness*

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who calls out to the weary, whose word endures forever. **Amen.**

L: A voice cries out in the wilderness, "Make straight the way of the Lord!" We are called to confess our sin and turn back toward God's love.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

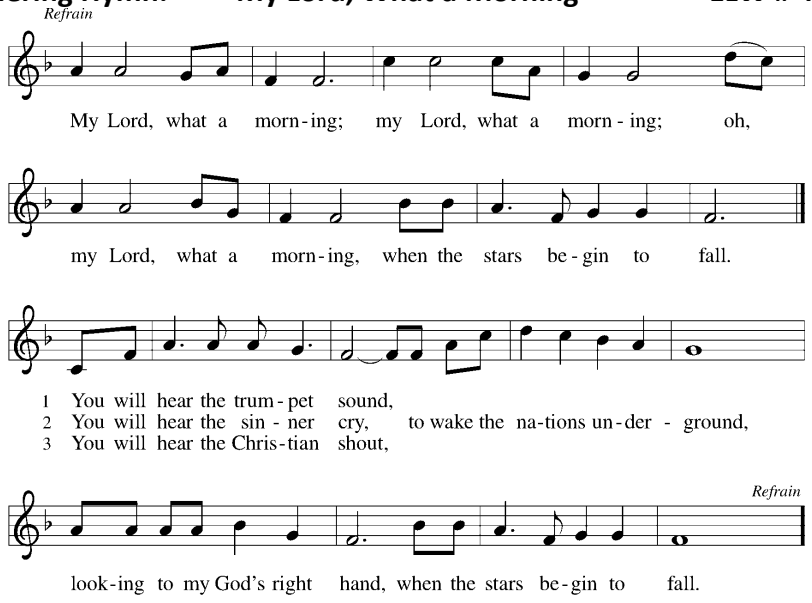
L: Comforting God,

**C: … we are your people, but we have neglected to call on your name. We are your people, but we have not remembered your ways. We are your people, but we have forgotten your hold on us. We are your people, but now we fade like a leaf, and our sins, like the wind, take us away. Restore us as your people. Cleanse us from our sin, and clothe us in your righteousness. Amen.**

L: "Comfort, comfort my people!" says your God, who has clothed you with the garments of salvation and wrapped you in the robe of righteousness. God has given you a mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. In the name of ☩ Christ, your sins are forgiven: Rejoice in the Lord! Rejoice in the Lord!

**C: Amen. Thanks be to God!**

**Gathering Hymn: My Lord, What a Morning ELW # 438**




*Greeting*

L: 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.**

*Prayer of the Day*

L: O God of justice and love,

**C: … you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*Advent Litany*

L: Today is the first Sunday of Advent. We gather, trusting in hope.

**C: Lord, in uncertain times, we look to You.**

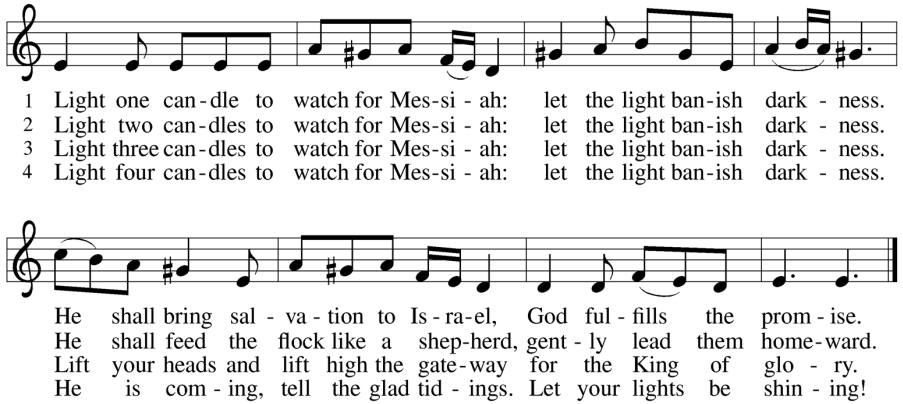
L: When our spirits are weary and the world feels heavy, we believe that hope is still alive.

**C: Restore our hope, O God. Lift our hearts.**

L: You have carried us before. You will carry us again.
**C: Help us wait with courage. Help us hope with joy**.

L: Jesus, our hope is in You.
**C: Make us a people of hope—shining light for one another. Amen**

**Candle Hymn: Light One Candle # 240 v1**




**We Hear God's Word**

*First Reading: Isaiah 64:1-9*

1 O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—
2 as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil—
to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!
3 When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down; the mountains quaked at your presence.
4 From ages past no one has heard,
no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you,
who works for those who wait for him.
5 You meet those who gladly do right,
those who remember you in your ways.
But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed.



6 We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.
We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
7 There is no one who calls on your name
or attempts to take hold of you,
for you have hidden your face from us
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.
8 Yet, O Lord, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.
9 Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord,
and do not remember iniquity forever.
Now consider, we are all your people.

*Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19*

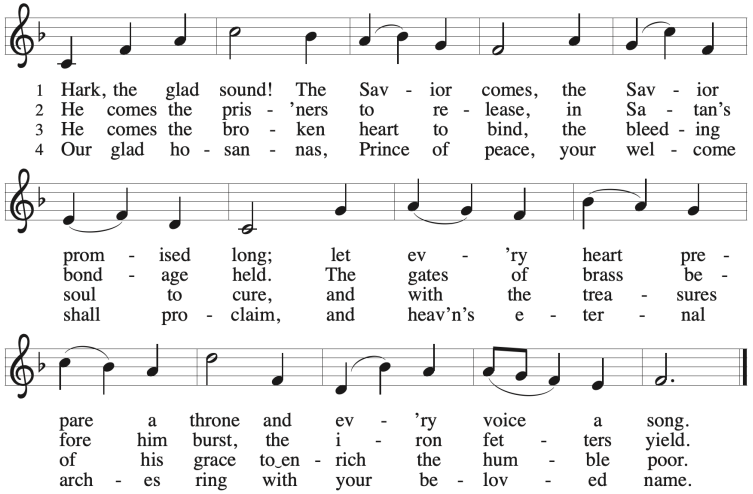
1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
2 **In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh,**
**stir up your strength and come to help us.**
3 Restore us, O God;
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.
4 **O Lord God of hosts,**
**how long will your anger fume when your people pray?** R
5 You have fed them with the bread of tears;
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
6 **You have made us the derision of our neighbors,**
**and our enemies laugh us to scorn.**
7 Restore us, O God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.
17 **Let your hand be upon the one at your right hand,**
**the one you have made so strong for yourself.** R
18 And so will we never turn away from you;
give us life, that we may call upon your name.
19 **Restore us, O Lord God of hosts;**
**let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.** R

*Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9*

3 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

4 I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, 5 for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—6 just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—7 so that you are not lacking in any gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. 8 He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 God is faithful, by whom you were called into the partnership of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Gospel Acclamation: Hark, the Glad Sound! ELW # 239 v1**




*Holy Gospel: Matthew 13:24-37*

L: The holy gospel according to St. Matthew in the 13th chapter.

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

[Jesus said:] 24 "In those days, after that suffering,
the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light,
25 and the stars will be falling from heaven,
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.



26 "Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. 27 Then he will send out the angels and gather the elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

28 "From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. 29 So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. 30 Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. 31 Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

32 "But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven nor the Son, but only the Father. 33 Beware, keep alert, for you do not know when the time will come. 34 It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch.
35 Therefore, keep awake, for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening or at midnight or at cockcrow or at dawn, 36 or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly.
37 And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

L: The gospel of our Lord.

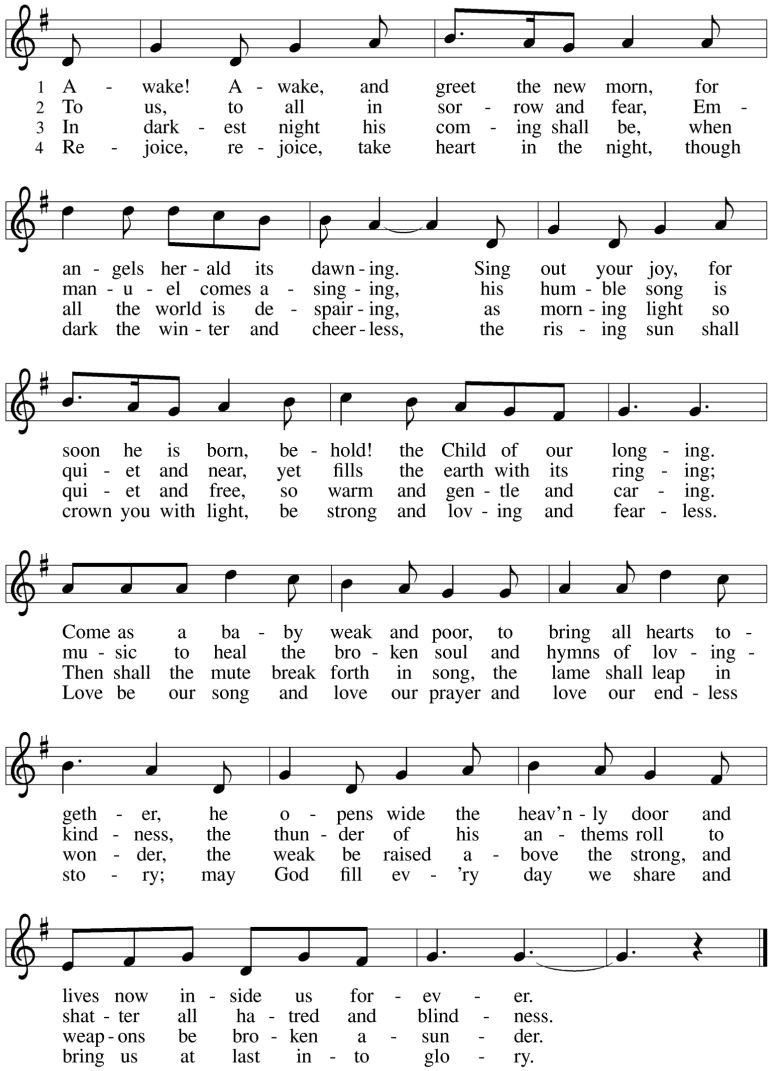
**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Sermon*

**We Respond to God's Word**

**Hymn of the Day: Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn # 242**

*Ushers Gather Prayer Requests*




*Prayers of Intercession*

In hope and expectation, we bring to God our prayers for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*



Strengthen your church in this season of anticipation. Nourish all people who gather around word and water, bread and cup. Reassure any whose faith feels dry that you are always near. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Come and restore the earth. Give rest to weary lands and renewed life to species at risk. Make us wise stewards of the places we call home. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Bring peace among all nations and communities. Embolden leaders to seek creative and sustainable resolutions to war and conflict. Show us new possibilities in places where peace has been elusive (especially). God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Sustain all who are heavy with weariness, grief, illness, or worry (especially). Comfort families who are estranged from one another and any who are separated from loved ones. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Inspire liturgists, preachers, musicians, and all who lead our worship and prayer. May we be prepared as we await Christ's coming this Advent season. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

You embrace all the saints from the far reaches of the earth. We remember with care all who have died and now abide in their eternal home. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

We entrust these and the prayers of our hearts to you, most holy God, in the name of Christ Jesus our Savior.

Amen.

L: God, in your mercy,

**C: … hear our prayer.**

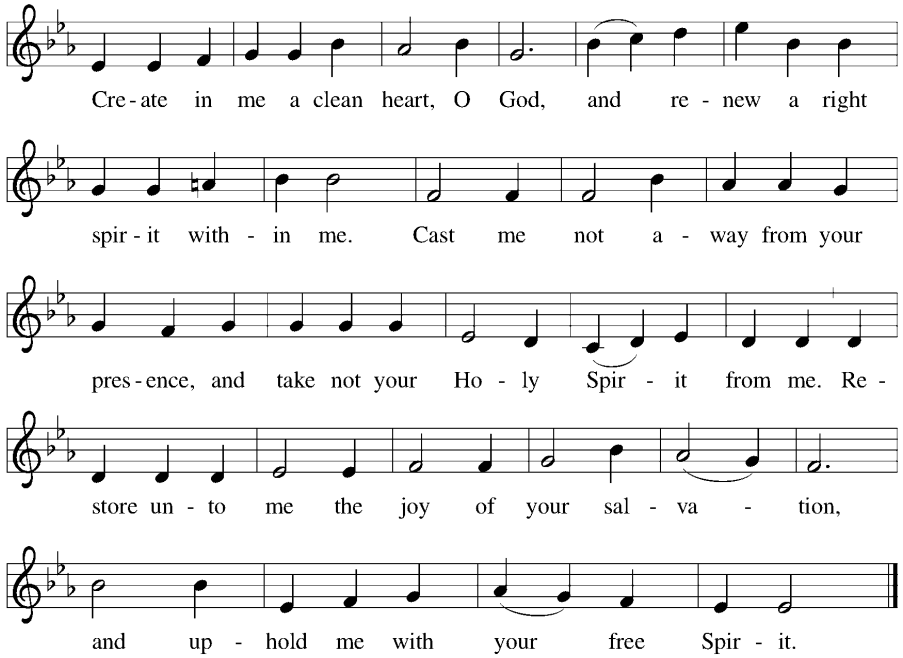
*Greeting of Peace*

L: The peace of the Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you**

*We Offer Our Gifts*

**Offertory Hymn: Create in Me a Clean Heart ELW # 188**




*Prayer of Thanksgiving*

L: Holy Creator,

**C: … we are the clay and you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand. Receive these gifts shape them and our lives for your purpose, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**We Share Christ's Meal**

*The Great Thanksgiving*

L: The Lord be with you **C: And also with you**

L: Lift up your hearts **C: We lift them to the Lord**

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

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

*Communion Prayers and The Story of Our Lord's Supper*



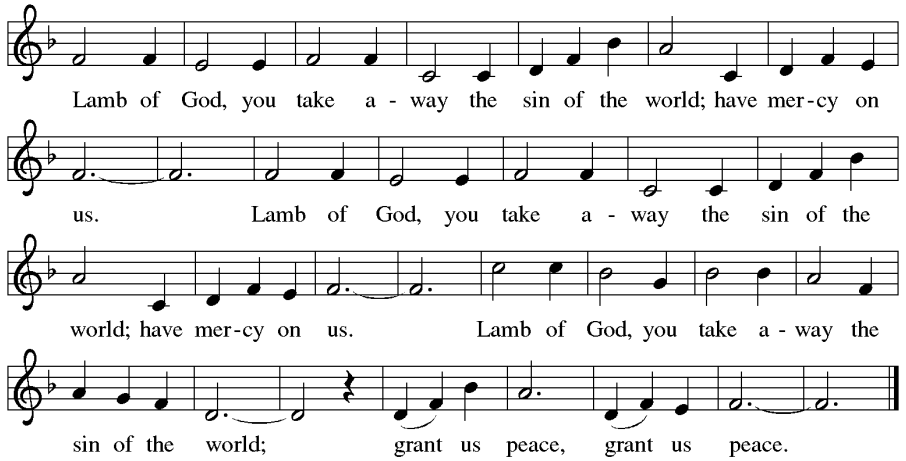
*The Lord's Prayer*

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

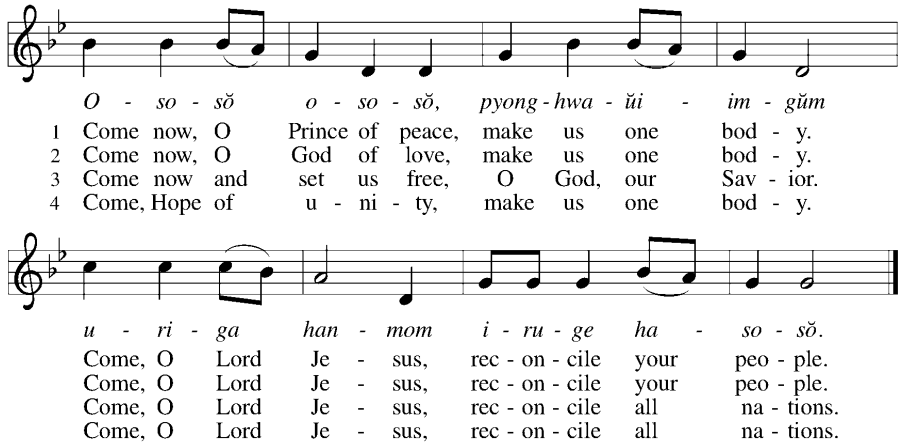
**C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine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

*Distribution of our Lord's Supper*

**Communion Hymns: Lamb of God ELW # 195**

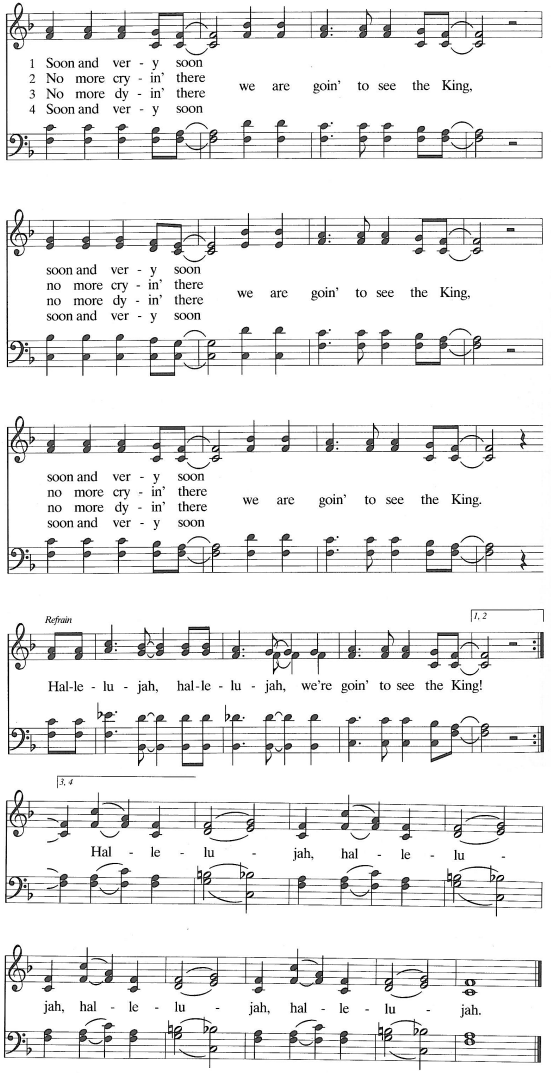



**Come Now, O Prince of Peace ELW # 247**



*Post-Communion Prayer & Blessing*

**Sending Hymn: Soon and Very Soon ELW # 439**




*Dismissal*

L: Go in peace. Bring good news the brokenhearted.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**We go to love as Jesus loves us!**

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