



How does a
weary world
rejoice?



Holy Spirit Lutheran Church

Compassionate. Challenging. Inclusive.

Holy Spirit Lutheran Church is on the ancestral homelands of the Coast Salish peoples, and we give thanks for their presence here since time immemorial. We recognize and honor all our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this land their home.

Welcome to Holy Spirit Lutheran Church! Our mission is to **proclaim and embody the compassionate, challenging, and inclusive love of God revealed in Jesus Christ.** Your age, race, sexual orientation, gender identity, abilities, doubts and questions are all part of your story as a beloved child of God, and your whole self is welcome and affirmed here.

If you are a first-time visitor, welcome! We hope you will fill out a Welcome Card from your seat and drop it in the offering plate when it comes around - we'd love to get to know you! You are also welcome to communion today.

Live streaming and recording occur at our 9:30 am service. Those who worship online enjoy seeing people in the sanctuary, so if you are comfortable being on camera, please sit in the chairs to the right of the altar or close to the piano.

The assisted listening system in our sanctuary is compatible with personal hearing aids with the setting "T". Portable receivers and headsets are available from an usher.

Children are always welcome in worship. Activities for kids are located on the bookshelf located at the back of the sanctuary. Childcare is also available at the 9:30 am and 11:00 am services in our nursery. The nursery is designed for children ages 4 and younger – follow the overhead sign in the narthex that directs you to the hallway towards the nursery (on the right).

Sunday School for kids aged 3 through 6th grade occurs during our 9:30 am service, and all are welcome. As Sunday School takes place throughout the building, ask an usher or staff person where to find your child's class.

This worship bulletin is intended to be used at all three services today. Please leave it on your seat after the 8:00 and 9:30 worship. Large print bulletins are available from the ushers. Feel free to take home the announcement inserts for your personal use.

As we begin worship, we invite you to silence your cell phone.



We gather in the Advent season around a persistent question: how does a weary world rejoice? Advent gives us space to wonder together as we look for God's presence among us – anticipating not just the celebration of Jesus' birth long ago, but the continuing work of God's holy spirit in the world. Where do you see joy? What weariness do you carry? How can good news arrive even in the midst of sorrow and loss?

Throughout today's worship, you are invited to participate by joining in speaking the words in bold type.

Prelude

8:00

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring
by J.S. Bach, arranged by John W. Schaum

Meg Morgan, piano

9:30, 11:00

Deck the Halls
arranged by Alice Parker and Robert Shaw

Very Large Quartet

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Please stand as you are able.

In God's house, we can be joyful.

We can be grateful. We can be hopeful.

In God's house, we can be weary.

We can be anxious. We can be grieving.

In God's house, we can be honest—

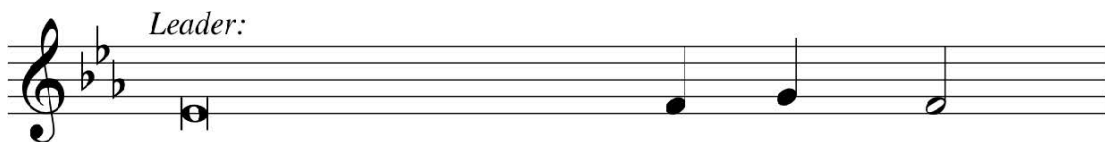
inspired or tired, delighted or doubtful, connected or curious, and everything in between.

This is God's house. You are welcome exactly as you are.

Let us worship our loving God.

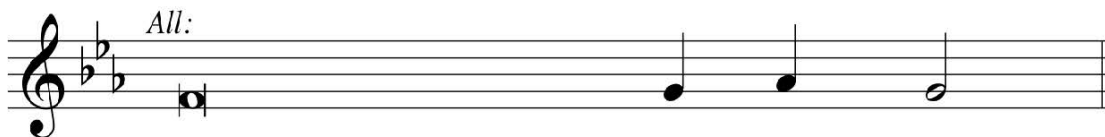
Lighting of the Advent Candles

Leader:



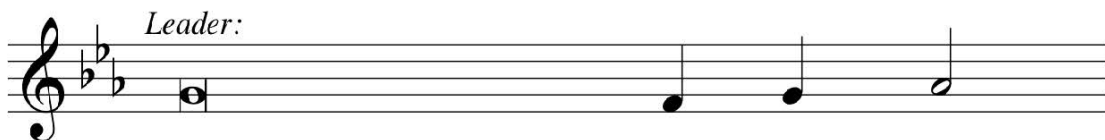
Jesus Christ, you are the light of the world;

All:



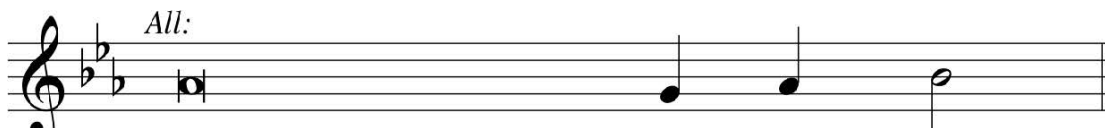
the light no darkness can o - ver - come;

Leader:



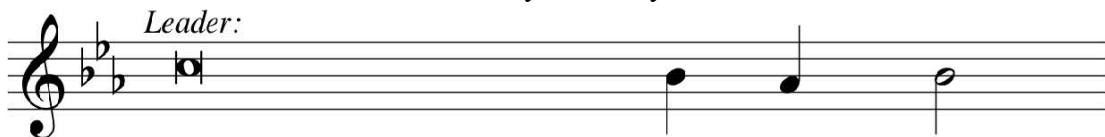
Strengthen us in this new day,

All:



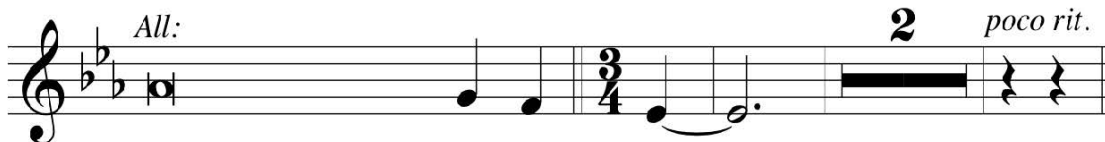
For each day is your cre - a-tion.

Leader:



Let your light scat - ter the darkness,

All:

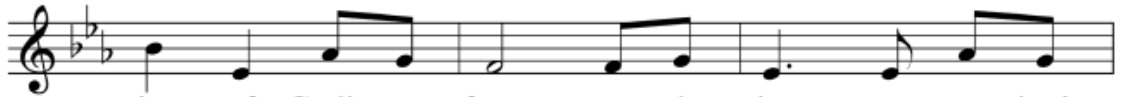


and shine within your peo - ple here. —

All



1. Joy - ous light of heav'n - ly glo - ry, lov - ing
2. In the stars that grace the dark - ness, in the
3. You who made the heav - en's splen - dor, ev - 'ry



glow of God's own face, you who sing cre - a - tion's
blaz - ing sun of dawn, in the light of peace and
danc - ing star of night, make us shine with gen - tle



sto - ry, shine on ev - 'ry land and race. Now as
wis - dom, we can hear your qui - et song. Love that
jus - tice, let us each re - flect your light. Might - y



we to - get - her wor - ship, we shall raise our songs to
fills the night with won - der, love that warms the wea - ry
God of all cre - a - tion, gen - tle Christ who lights our



you. God of day - break, God of shad - ows, come and
soul, love that bursts all chains a - sun - der, set us
way, lov - ing Spir - it of sal - va - tion, lead us



light our hearts a - new.
free and make us whole.
on to end - less

day.

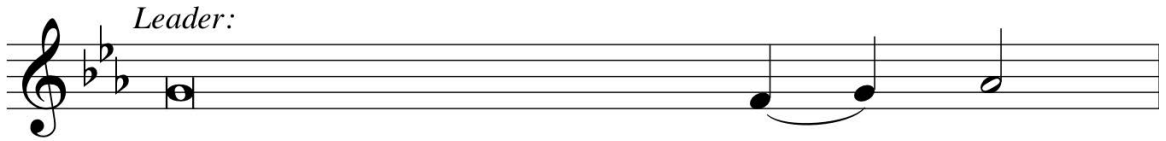
Prayer of the Day

Leader: *All:*



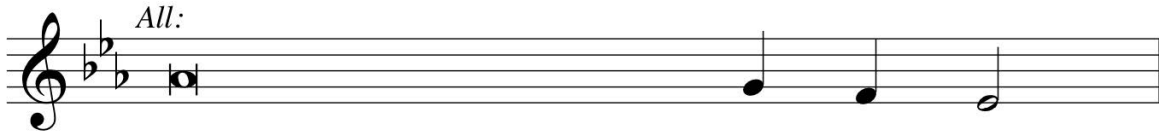
May God be with you all, and al - so with you;

Leader:



Let us sing our thanks to ——— God,

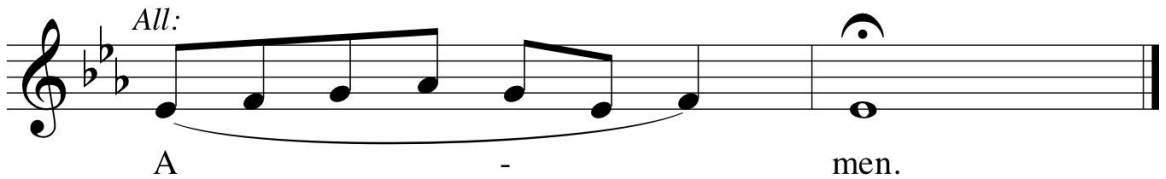
All:



It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Leader: Blessed are you, Creator of the universe—from old you have led your people by night and day. May the light of your Christ make our darkness bright, for your Word and your presence are the light of our pathways, and you are the light and life of all creation.

All:



A - - - - - men.

Let's all be seated.

Musical Offering

9:30, 11:00

Advent Anticipation
arranged by Karissa Dennis

Spirit Ringers



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. 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.

¹Comfort, O comfort my people,
says your God.

²Speak 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.

³A voice cries out:

"In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

⁴Every 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.

⁵Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

(continued on next page)

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

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Musical Offering

9:30, 11:00

There's Still Joy

Very Large Quartet

composed by Melissa Manchester, Matt Rollings and Beth Chapman
arranged by Audrey Snyder

¹I will sing of your steadfast love, O LORD, forever;
with my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.

²**I declare that your steadfast love is established forever;
your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.**

³You said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one,
I have sworn to my servant David:

⁴**"I will establish your descendants forever,
and build your throne for all generations."**

⁵Let the heavens praise your wonders, O LORD,
your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones.

⁶**For who in the skies can be compared to the LORD?
Who among the heavenly beings is like the LORD,**

⁷a God feared in the council of the holy ones,
great and awesome above all that are around him?

⁸**O Lord GOD of hosts,
who is as mighty as you, O LORD?
Your faithfulness surrounds you.**

¹⁴Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne;
steadfast love and faithfulness go before you.

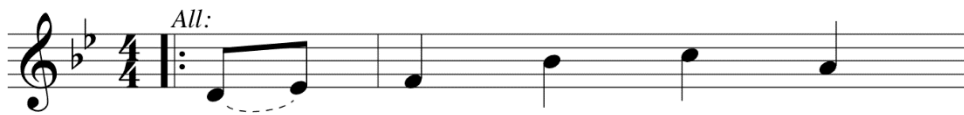
¹⁵**Happy are the people who know the festal shout,
who walk, O LORD, in the light of your countenance.**

Annunciation and Magnificat

Please stand as you are able to greet the Gospel.

Leaders: An angel went from God, to a town called Nazareth, to a woman whose name was Mary. The angel said to her, "Rejoice, O highly favored, for God is with you! You shall bear a child, and his name shall be Jesus, the chosen one of God most high." Then Mary said, "I am the servant of my God! I live to do your will."

All:



1., 3. My — soul pro - claims your
2. You have cast the might - y



great - ness, O God, and my spir - it re - joic - es in
down from their thrones, and up - lift - ed the hum - ble of



you, You have looked with love on your
heart, You have filled the hun - gry with



ser - vant here, and blessed me all my life through.
won - drous things, and left the wealth - y no part.



Great and might - y are you, O Ho - ly One,
Great and might - y are you, O Faith - ful One,



strong is your kind - ness ev - er - more.
strong is your jus - tice strong your love,



How you fa - vor the weak — and low - ly one,
As you prom - ised to Sar - ah and A - bra - ham,



hum - bling the proud of heart.
kind - ness for - ev - er - more.

Elizabeth, John's mother, and Mary, the mother of Jesus, are two women filled with the Holy Spirit and with faith. In Elizabeth's inspired greeting and Mary's song of praise we hear of a saving God who remembers, scatters, lifts up, and fulfills all things.

²⁴After those days his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she remained in seclusion. She said, ²⁵This is what the Lord has done for me when he looked favorably on me and took away the disgrace I have endured among my people.

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." ²⁹But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³²He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." ³⁴Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" ³⁵The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. ³⁶And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God." ³⁸Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

³⁹In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, ⁴⁰where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit ⁴²and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. ⁴³And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? ⁴⁴For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Let's all be seated.

Sermon

Pastor Gina Herman

Please stand as you are able.

Hymn of the Day

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.



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.



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;



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.

Creed

Together, let's affirm our trust in God:

**We believe in a God who hears our prayers,
who knows the shape and form of our weariness.**

**We believe in a God who wants joy and delight for us,
not just survival and existence.**

**We believe in a God who looks ahead,
who is not done dreaming for the world—
a God who sends hope in the form of people and change,
movements and Spirit.**

And so we return to this space.

**We bring our joy and our weariness
like two sides of the same coin,
and we trust that God is already at work.**

Yes, we believe in a God who hears our prayers.

Thanks be to God for a love like that. Amen.

Prayers of the People

With hope and expectation, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who await God's day of restoration, saying:

Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Our communal prayers begin with a short time of silence and then petitions for the world, the church, and people and places in particular need. You will also be invited to name, in speech or silence, the prayers you carry with you.



Sharing the Peace

The peace of God be always with you.

And also with you.

Bearing in mind the personal comfort of those around you, please share a friendly sign of God's peace and reconciliation with others and then be seated.

Offering

We invite you to contribute to our shared mission and ministry. Scan the following QR code to reach the Giving page on our website.



Offertory

Ave Maria (Prelude in C Major)

by Charles Gounod and J.S. Bach

Meg Morgan, piano

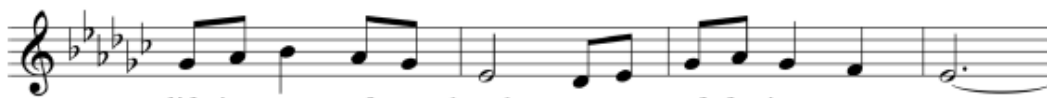
Lisa Hedley, flute

Offertory Song

Please stand as you are able.



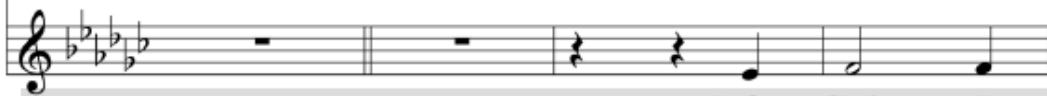
All: Let my prayer rise up like in-cense be - fore you, the



lift-ing up of my hands as an of-fer-ing to you.



Group 1: I. O God, I call to you, come to me



Group 2:

I. O God, I



Group 1: now; O hear my voice when I cry to



Group 2: call to you, come to me now; O hear my

Refrain

Group 1: you. Let my prayer rise up like

Group 2: voice when I cry to you. Let my prayer rise

Group 1: in-cense be - fore you, the lift-ing up of my hands as an

Group 2: up like in-cense be - fore you, the lift-ing up of my

Verse 2

Group 1: of-fer-ing to you. 2. Keep watch with -

Group 2: hands as an of-fer-ing to you.

Group 1: in me, God; deep in my heart may the light of your

Group 2: 2. Keep watch with - in me, God; deep in my

(continued on next page)

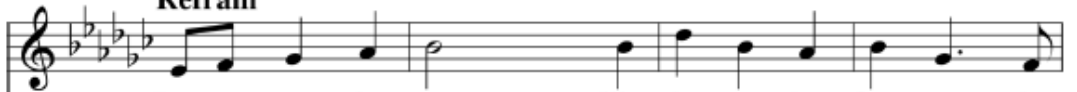


Group 1: love be burn - ing bright.




Group 2: heart may the light of your love be burn - ing


Refrain




Group 1: Let my prayer rise up like in-cense be - fore you, the



Group 2: bright. Let my prayer rise up like in-cense be -



Group 1: lift-ing up of my hands as an of-fer-ing to you.



Group 2: fore you, the lift-ing up of my hands as an of-fer-ing to

Verse 3



Group 1: 3. All praise to the God of all, Cre - a - tor of



Group 2: you. 3. All praise to the

Group 1: life; all praise be to Christ and the Spir - it of

Group 2: God of all, Cre - a - tor of life; all praise be to

Refrain

Group 1: love. Let my prayer rise up like

Group 2: Christ and the Spir-it of love. Let my prayer rise

Group 1: in-cense be - fore you, the lift-ing up of my hands as an

Group 2: up like in-cense be - fore you, the lift-ing up of my

Group 1: of-fer-ing to you.

Group 2: hands as an of-fer-ing to you.

The Great Thanksgiving

Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest,

And let these gifts to us be blessed.

Blessed be God, who is our bread;

May all the world be clothed and fed.

This table does not belong to any denomination,
church or community.

It belongs to Jesus.

It was at tables that he met people,
heard their stories and shared his.

It was at tables that he deepened his friendship
with those who were poor and oppressed,
those who were rich and unsatisfied.

It was at tables that he shared
who God is and what God wants.

And it was at a table, with bread and wine,
that he began the meal we now celebrate.

So come to this table.

Leave behind any baggage of arrogance or unworthiness.

Do not think, 'This is not for me.'

Think rather of Jesus saying, 'I am for you,'
and how, long before this building came to be,
in open spaces and hard places,
people heard of how, on the night of his arrest,
Jesus sat at supper with his friends.

During the meal, he took a piece of bread,
Blessed and broke it, and said to his disciples,
'This is my body, given for you.'
Later in the meal he took a cup of wine, saying,
'In this cup is a new relationship with God
made possible because of my life and death.
Drink it, all of you, and remember me.'

So we take this bread and wine,
offering them to God for blessing,
that through them the goodness of God
may bless, enrich, and enlighten us.

And as Jesus taught his friends, so may we pray together, saying:

**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.

Let's all be seated.

Communion Distribution

All are welcome to God's meal, where ordinary bread and wine become extraordinary, filled with Christ's presence. Ushers will direct you to one of the stations in front. Communion will be by intinction. You will receive a wafer, which you may dip into the chalice with wine, or with juice, then eat. Wafers in the small bowl on the side of the plate are gluten free. If you avoid gluten, please take one for yourself. If you would prefer not to receive communion, please feel free to remain seated or come forward for a blessing. Please indicate your desire for a blessing by crossing your arms. Children are welcome to receive communion or a blessing.

Refrain

God of our jour - neys, day - break to night;
Lead us to jus - tice and light.
Grant us com - pas - sion, strength for the day,
Wis - dom to walk in your way.

Verse 3

3. God who makes the blind to see, God who makes the
lame to walk, bring us danc - ing in - to day,
lead your peo - ple in your way. D.C.

Verse 6

6. Come, O Spir - it! re - new our hearts!
We shall a - rise to be chil - dren of light. D.C.

Musical Offering

8:00, 11:00

Sheep May Safely Graze

by J.S. Bach, arranged by Thomas Jancso

Meg Morgan, piano

9:30

Carol of the Bells

words and music composed by M. Leontovich
arranged by Wilhousky and Greg Lyne

Very Large Quartet

Festival of Lights

arranged by Greg Lyne



Prayer after Communion

Please stand as you are able.

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you strengthen our hearts at this table of life. In your mercy, give us courage to live in faith toward you and in fervent love toward all the world; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

Benediction

People of God,

as you leave this place,

you go into a weary world—

so speak tenderly.

Do the good that is yours to do.

Choose connection.

Hold onto hope.

And remember that Christ took on flesh for you.

You are God's beloved.

So go rejoicing.

The world needs it.

Amen.

1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,
 2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,
 4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,

Son of God and Son of Man!
 robbed in flow'rs of bloom - ing
 bright the spar - kling stars spring;
 Son of God and Son of Man!

Tru - ly I'd love thee, tru - ly I'd serve thee,
 Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er,
 Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er
 Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion,

light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
 he makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing.
 than all the an - gels in the sky.
 now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the lowly.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Prelude No.5 from *6 Short Preludes*
by J.S. Bach

Meg Morgan, piano

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Beautiful Savior. Text: Gesangbuch, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823-1904. Music: SCHÖNSTER HERR JESU, Silesian folk tune, 19th cent. Public Domain.



Thank you to our worship assistants!

SERVING TODAY – December 3			
	8:00	9:30	11:00
ACOLYTES	n/a	Alex Doll	
ASSISTING MINISTER	Dennis Pierce	Carol Stolz	Phil Etheredge
GREETERS	Sandra Deegan	Kurt and Julie Billett	Rosemary Dunkle
USHERS	Rich Riggert	Becky Fowler Bird Ron Nitz	Maryrose Henebry Judy Meyer
A/V TECHNICIAN	Becky Cole	Danielle Dadashi	Aiden Stewart
COMMUNION SET UP/ CLEAN UP	Carol Stolz	n/a	Teresa Henrikson

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY – December 10			
	8:00	9:30	11:00
ACOLYTES	n/a	Molly Fiegenschuh	Collins Christmas
ASSISTING MINISTER	Christina Brugman	Veronica Knudson	Noel Christmas
GREETERS	Nancy Swanson	Susan Paulson	Stuart and Diane Campbell
USHERS	Bryan and Marsha Maxfield	Michael and Suzanne Fiegenschuh	Rosemary Dunkle Cathy Dunlop
A/V TECHNICIAN		Kiyo Tachibana	
COMMUNION SET UP/ CLEAN UP	Nancy Swanson	n/a	Barb Smith