Welcome to

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

1st Sunday of Advent

November 28 & 29, 2026



PRELUDE

Please stand as you are able.

THE GREETING

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!

BLESSING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

P: Today, we begin our journey thought this Season of Advent.

C: We do so with our hearts and minds full of worries.

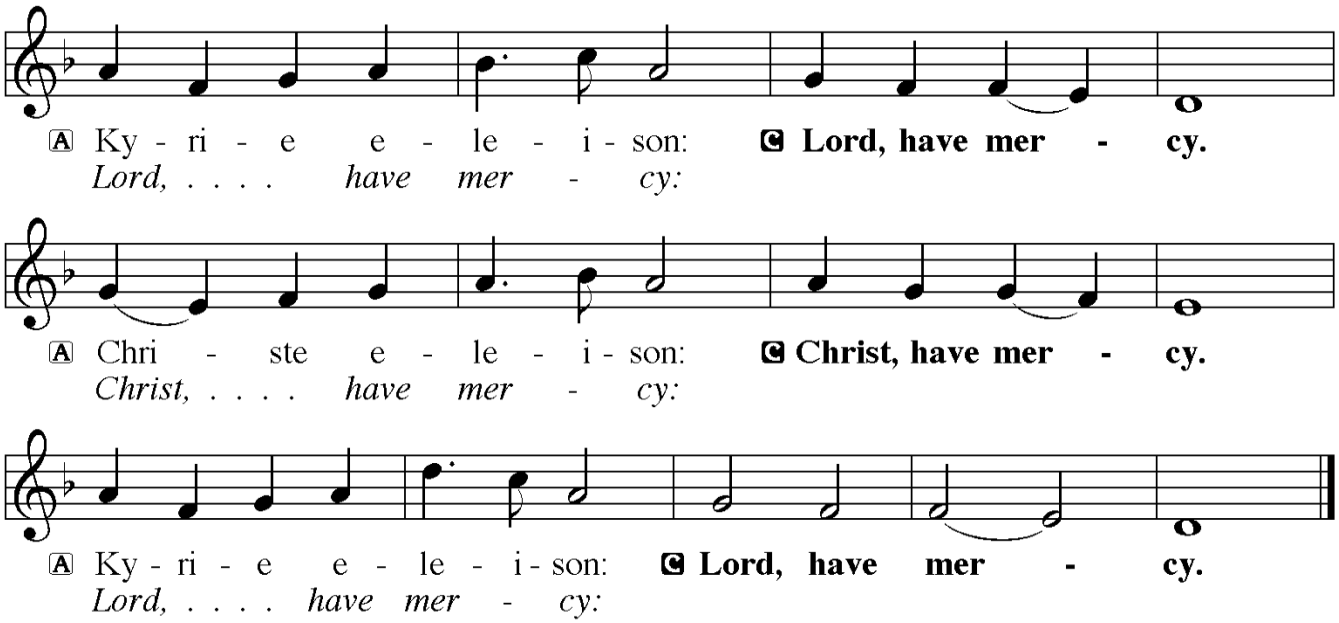
A: As we light the first candle, may the light of its flame turn our worries to wonder.

C: May we stand in awe as we live in the light of the promises you have made.

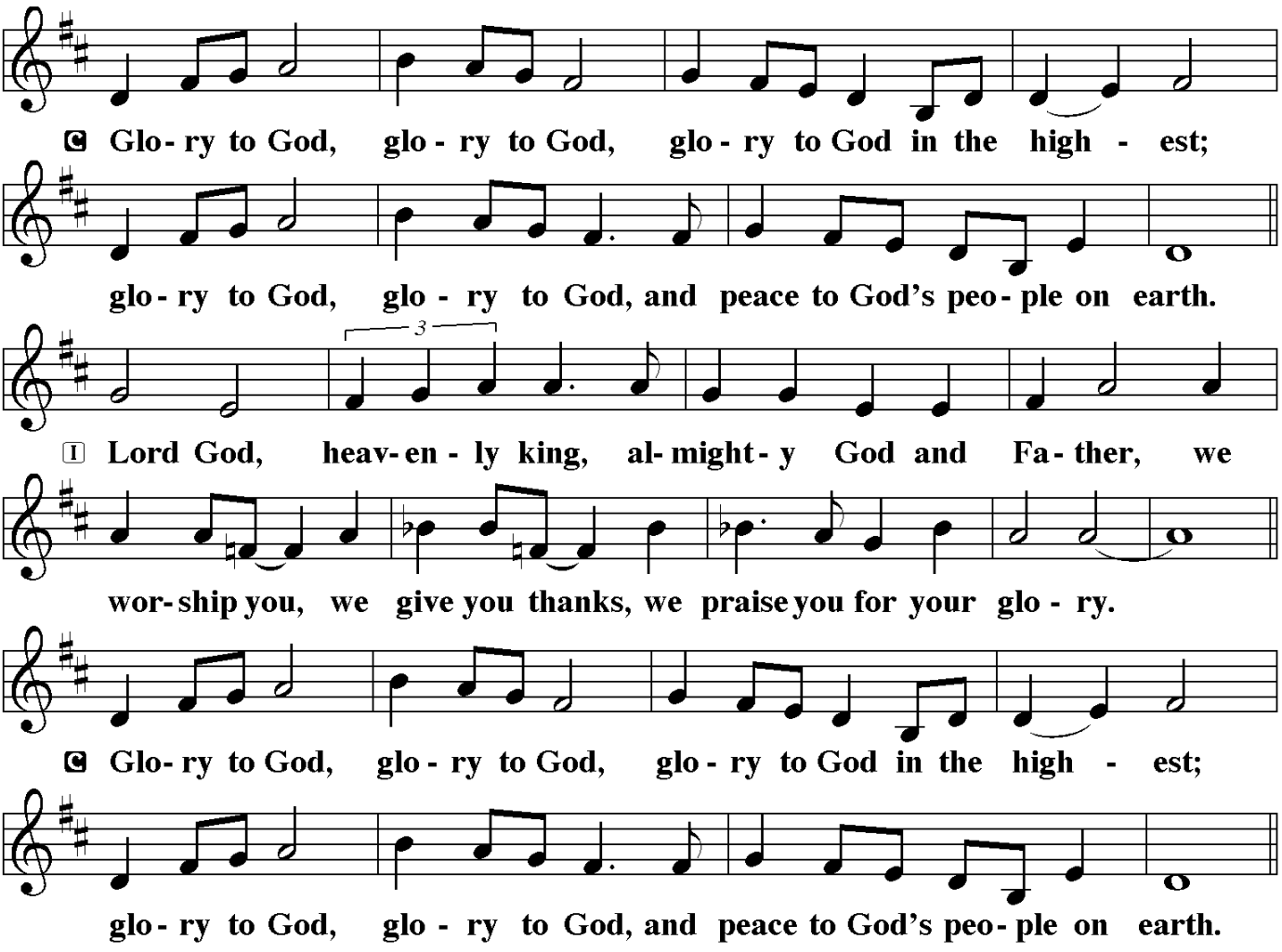
P: Let us pray. Almighty God, in choosing the virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son, you made known your gracious regard for the poor, the lowly, and the despised. Grant us grace to receive your word in humility, and so to be made one with your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

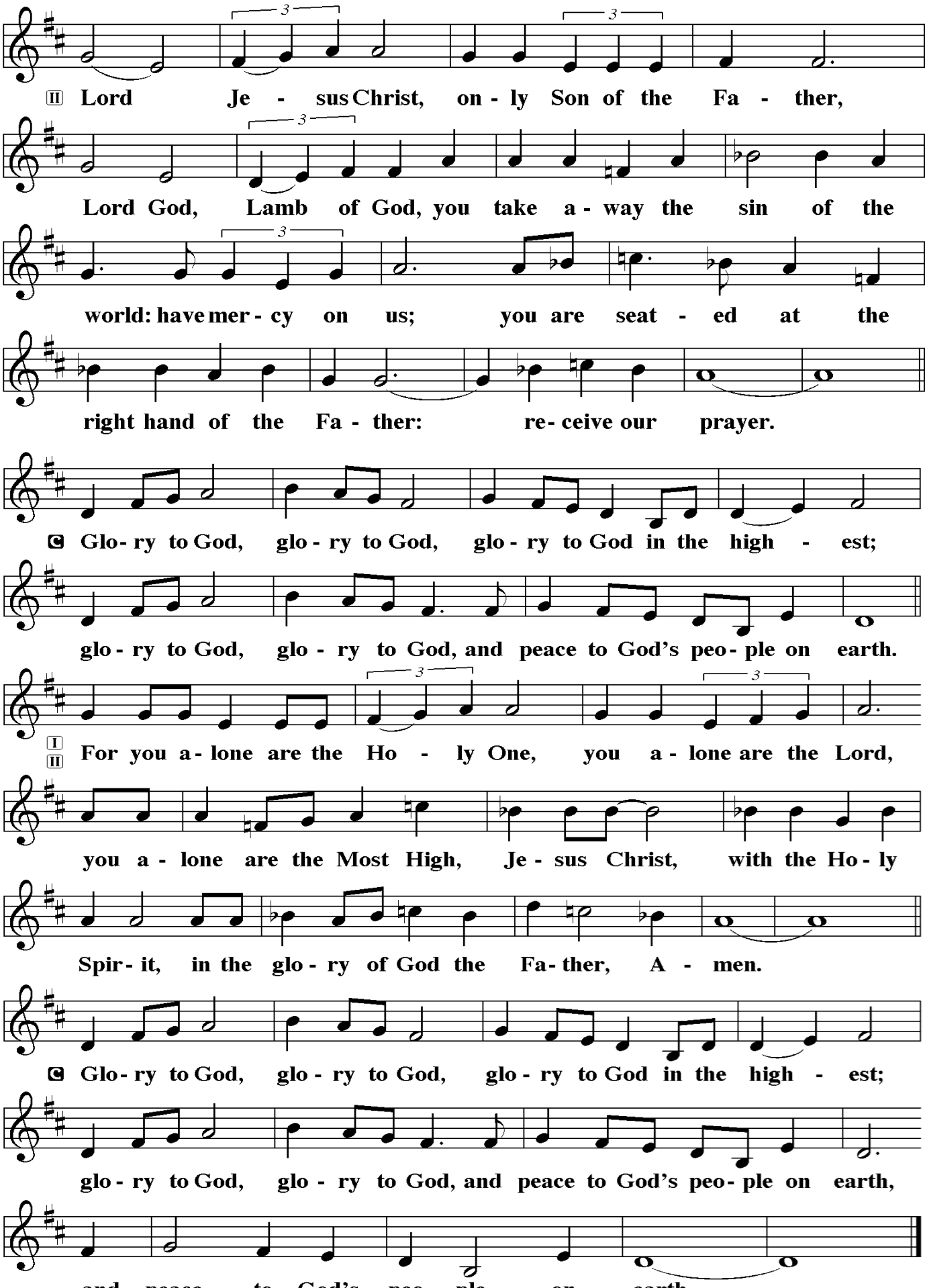
C: Amen.

KYRIE



HYMN OF PRAISE




II Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the
right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.
C Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;
glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.
I II For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly
Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther, A - men.
C Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;
glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth,
and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Please be seated.

THE FIRST READING **JEREMIAH 32:17-22**

17 "Ah Lord God! It is you who made the heavens and the earth by your
great power and by your outstretched arm! Nothing is too hard for
you. 18 You show steadfast love to the thousandth generation but repay
the guilt of parents into the laps of their children after them, O great and
mighty God whose name is the Lord of hosts, 19 great in counsel and
mighty in deed, whose eyes are open to all the ways of mortals,
rewarding all according to their ways and according to the fruit of their
doings. 20 You showed signs and wonders in the land of Egypt and to
this day in Israel and among all humankind and have made yourself a
name that continues to this very day. 21 You brought your people Israel
out of the land of Egypt with signs and wonders, with a strong hand and
outstretched arm, and with great terror, 22 and you gave them this land,
which you swore to their ancestors to give them, a land flowing with milk
and honey,

R: Words of wonder, for a people who worry.

C: Thanks be to God.

THE SECOND READING **LUKE 1:46-56**

46 And Mary said, “My soul magnifies the Lord, 47 and my spirit rejoices
in God my Savior, 48 for he has looked with favor on the lowly state of
his servant. Surely from now on all generations will call me blessed,
49 for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his
name; 50 indeed, his mercy is for those who fear him from generation to
generation. 51 He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the
proud in the imagination of their hearts. 52 He has brought down the
powerful from their thrones and lifted up the lowly; 53 he has filled the
hungry with good things and sent the rich away empty. 54 He has come
to the aid of his child Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, 55 according
to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his
descendants forever.” 56 And Mary remained with her about three
months and then returned to her home.

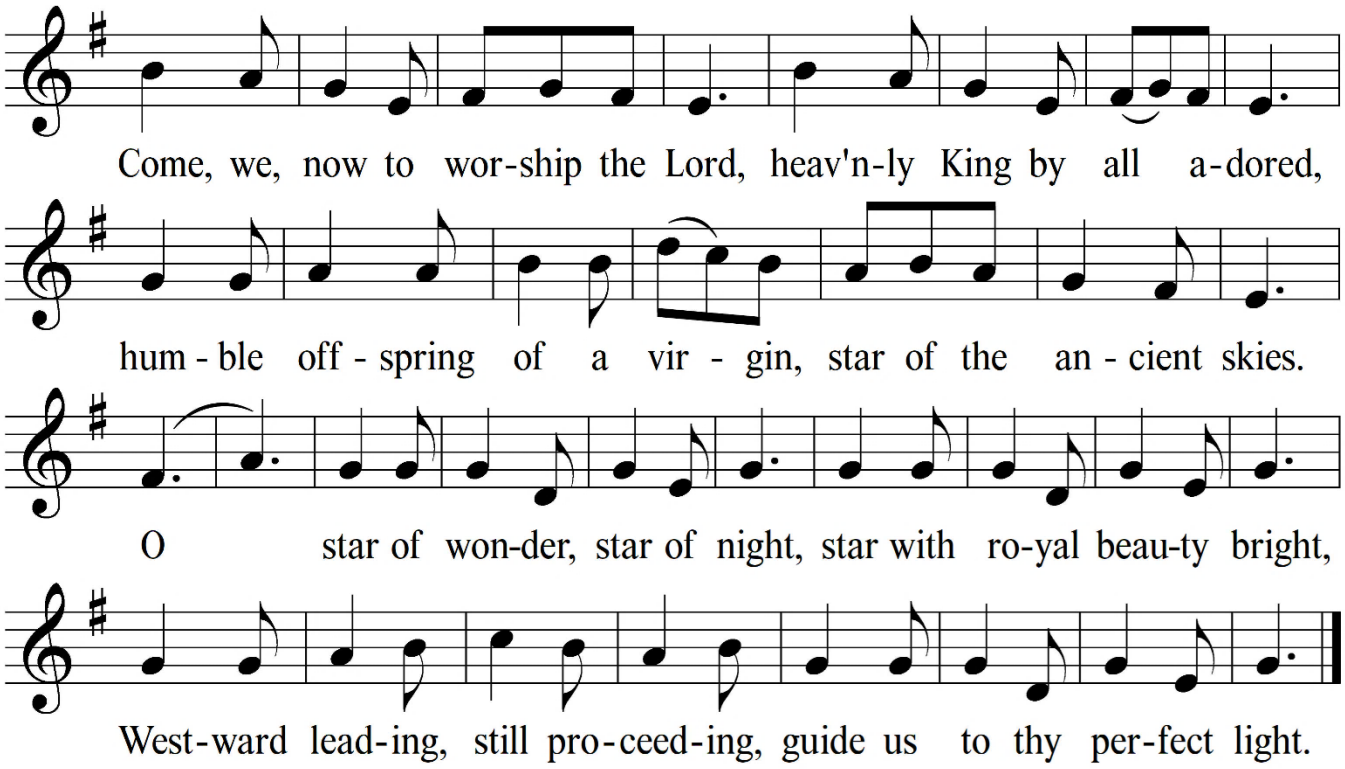
R: Words of wonder, for a people who worry.
C: Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Following the Children’s moment, children in pre-k through 5th grade are invited to gather for an activity by the chapel.

Please stand as you are able for the reading of the Gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



THE GOSPEL **LUKE 1:26-38**

P: This is the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 1st chapter.

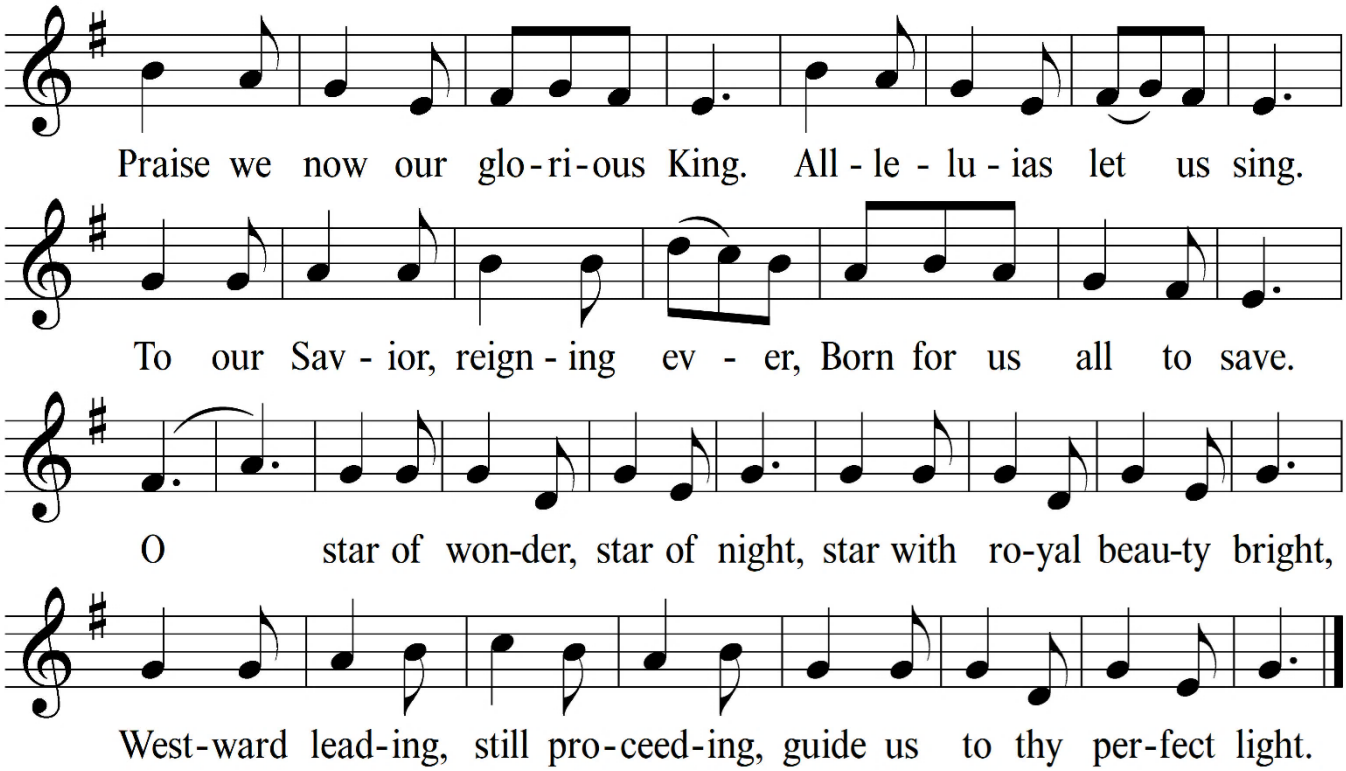
C: Glory to you, O Lord.

26 In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in
Galilee called Nazareth, 27 to a virgin engaged to a man whose name
was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. 28 And
he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with
you." 29 But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what
sort of greeting this might be. 30 The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid,
Mary, for you have found favor with God. 31 And now, you will conceive
in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. 32 He 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. 33 He will reign over the
house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no

end.” [34] Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I am a virgin?” [35] The 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. [36] And 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. [37] For nothing will be impossible with God.” [38] Then 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.

P: This is the Gospel of our Lord.
C: Praise to you, O Christ!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Please be seated.

THE REFLECTION PR. CLAYTON J. BAILEY

THE WORRIES AND WONDER OF MARY

Please stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY **ELW # 251**

MY SOUL PROCLAIMS YOUR GREATNESS

THE PRAYERS

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: May the peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

At this time you are welcome to share the Peace of Christ with those around you. Following the Sharing of the Peace you may be seated.

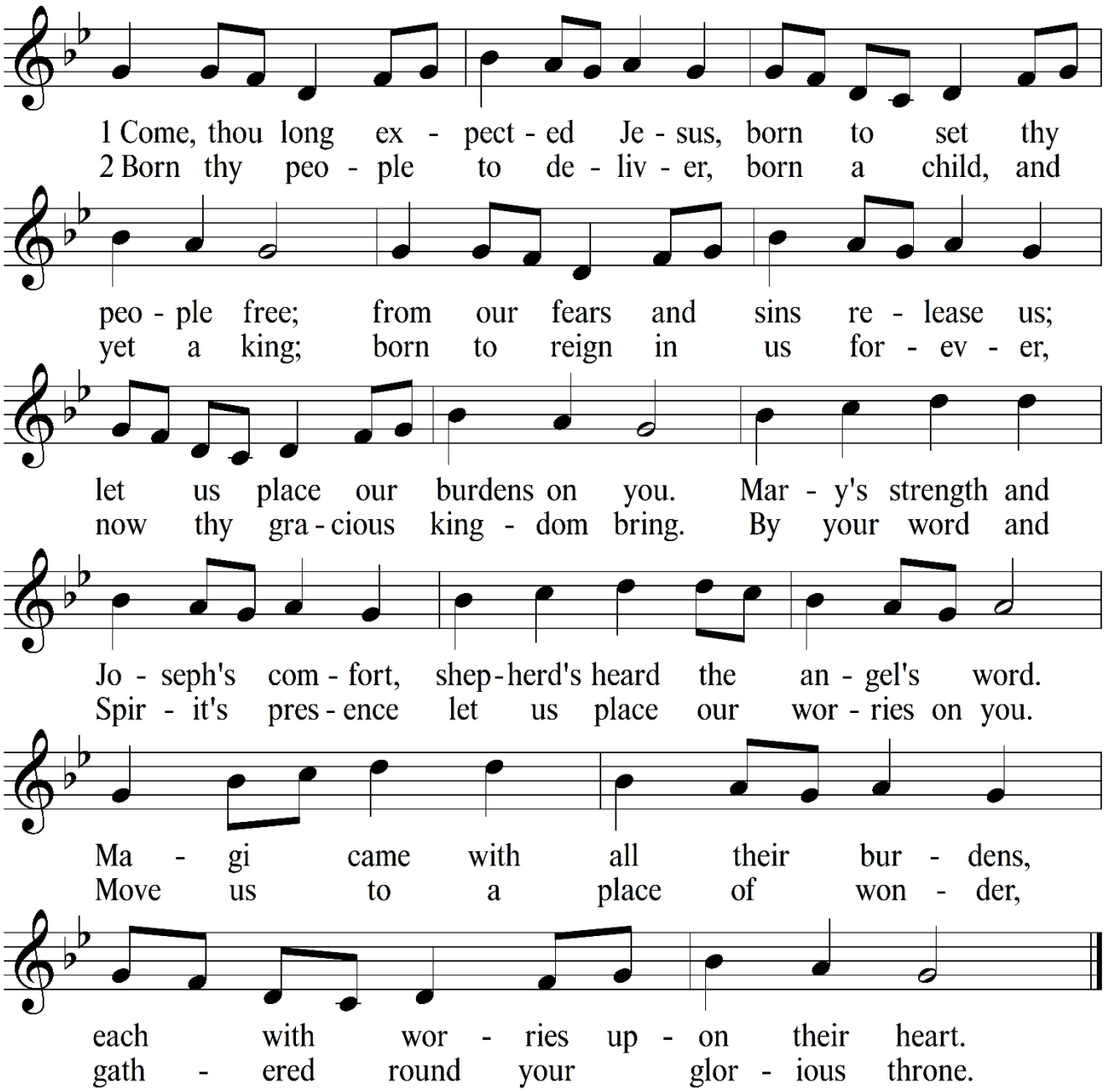
OFFERING AND OFFERING MUSIC

CHOIR

New Ev'ry Morning
Douglas E Wagner

Please stand.

OFFERING SONG



OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray. Holy Creator, 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. Move us from our worries to wonder at the abundance of the gifts you provide for us. This we pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

THE DIALOGUE

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

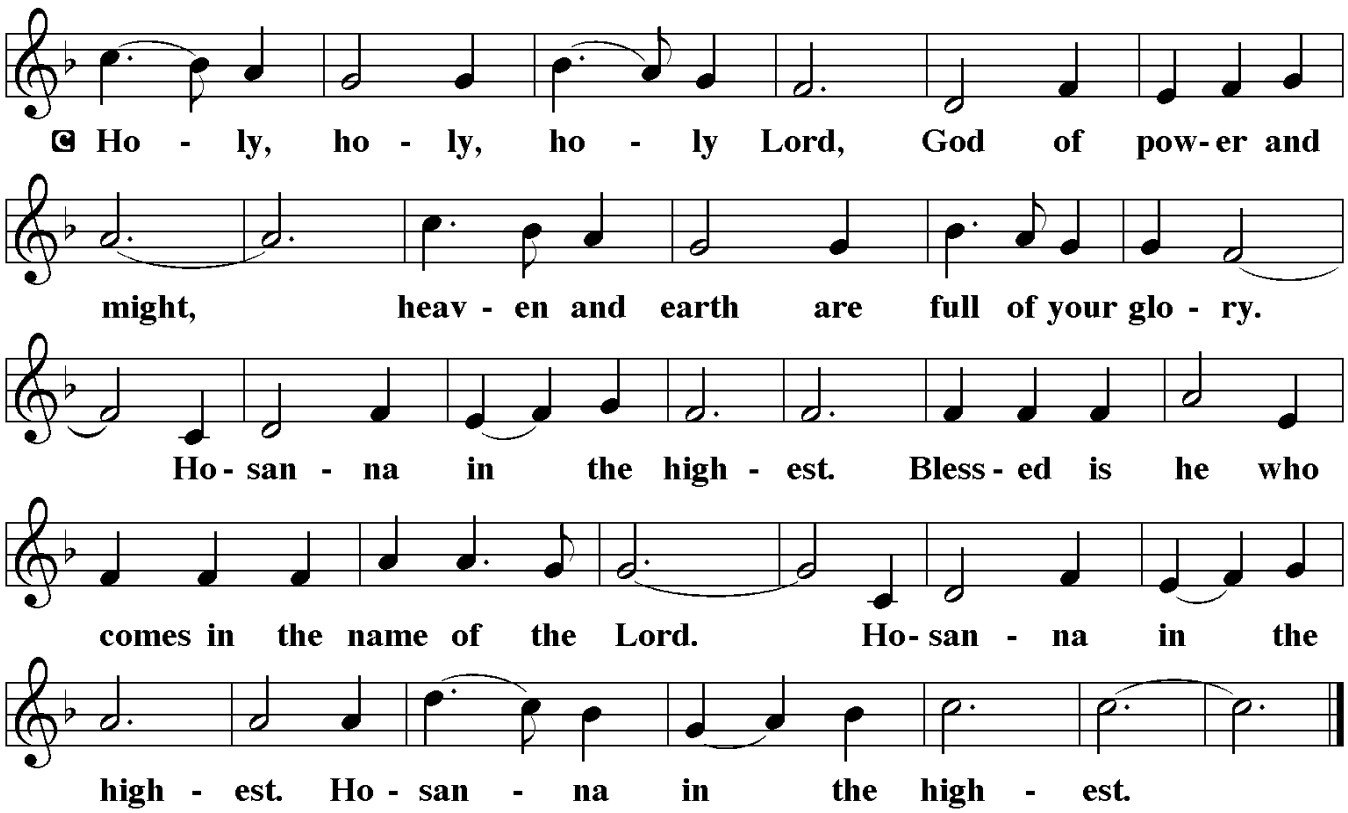
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

THE PREFACE

P: It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and ever living God. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes again to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

THE SANCTUS



THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, that by this Holy Communion we may know the unity we share with all your people in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

A: As our Savior Christ has taught us, together we are bold to pray.

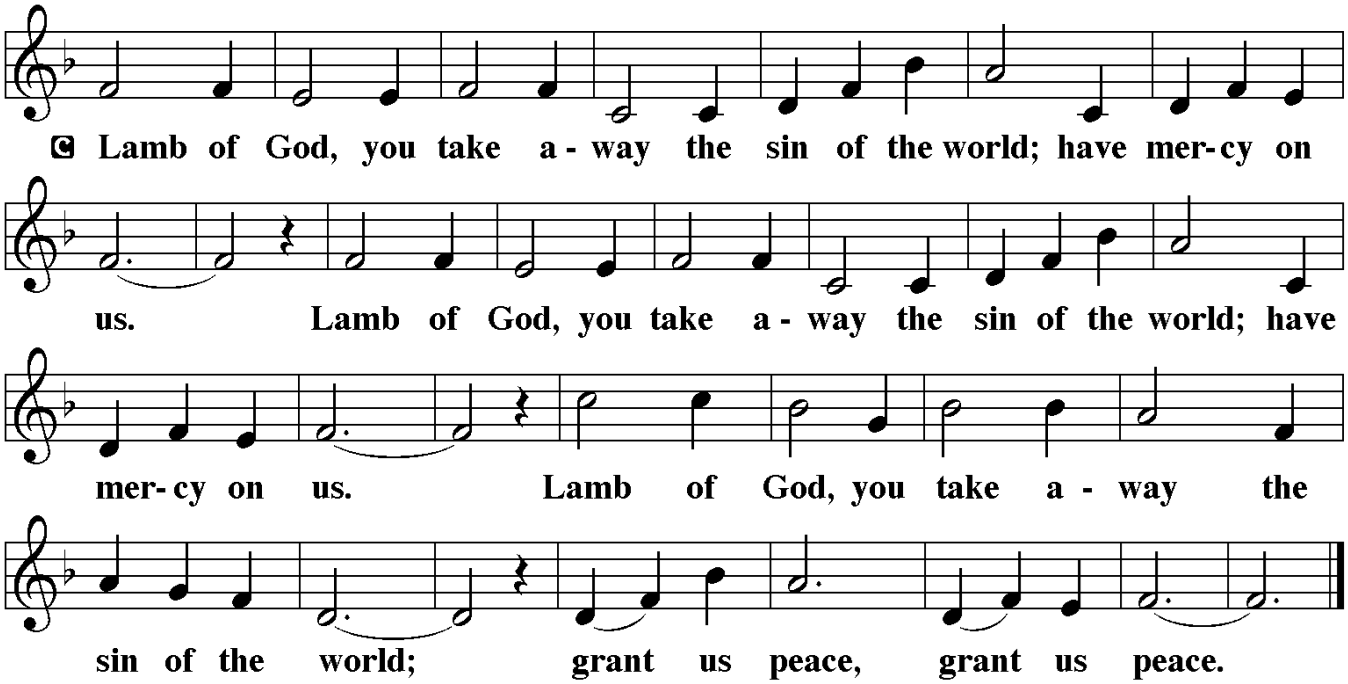
C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is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

Please be seated.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Here at the this table the glory of the Lord is revealed! Come and taste God's presence.

AGNUS DEI

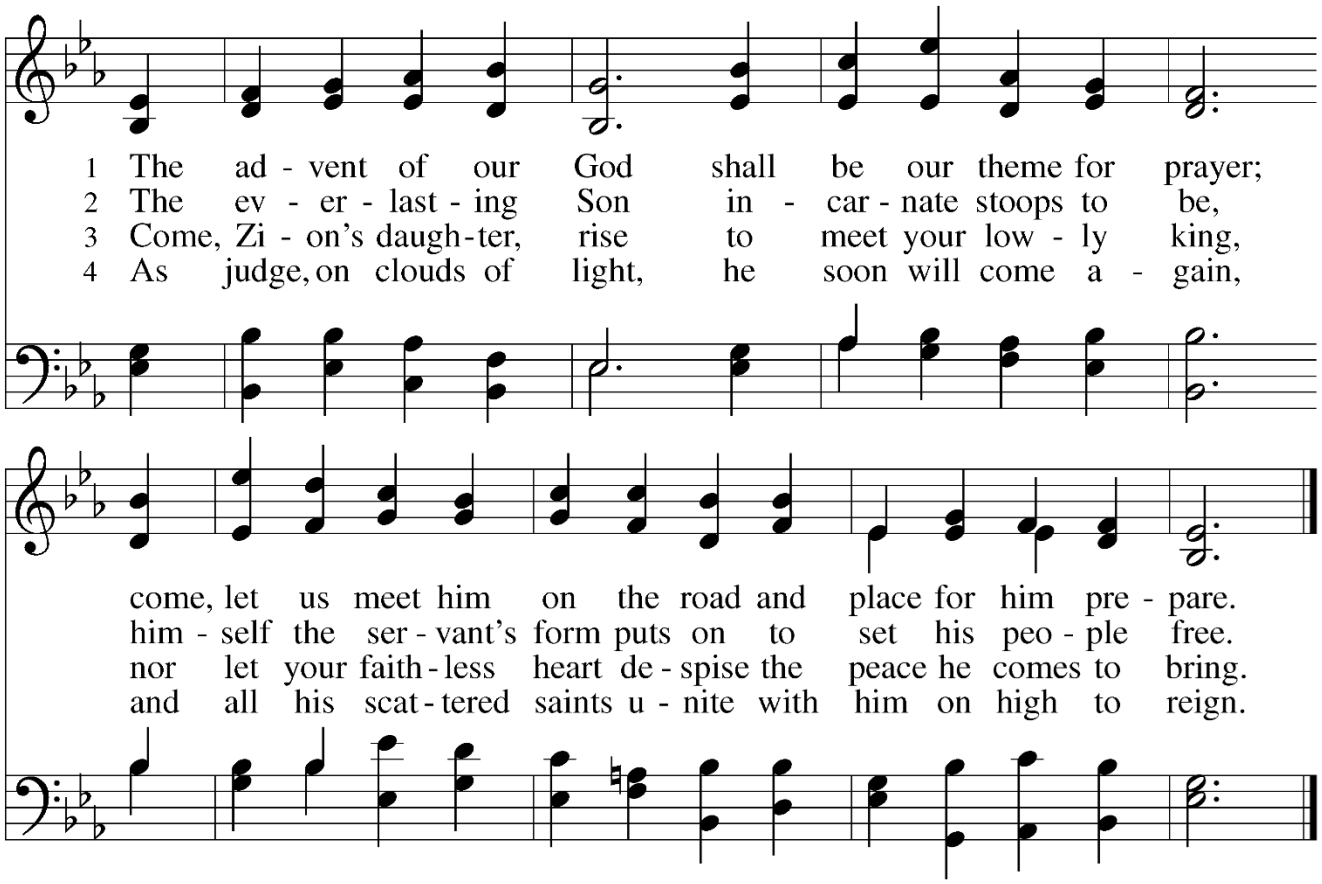


DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

At Grace, all are welcome to the Table of the Lord. At the ushers invitation, you are invited to come forward to receive the bread and wine. Grape juice and gluten free wafers are available as an additional substitute. As you return to your seat using the side aisle, there is a basket to dispose of your individual communion cup. Those who would like a blessing are also welcome to come forward. Simply ask Pastor for a blessing instead of taking communion.

COMMUNION HYMN

THE ADVENT OF OUR GOD



5 Before the dawning day
let sin be put to flight;
no longer let the law hold sway,
but walk in freedom's light.

6 All glory to the Son,
who comes to set us free,
with Father, Spirit, ever one
through all eternity.

After all have communed, you are invited to stand.

TABLE BLESSING

P: May the Body and Blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray. Providing God, you feed your flock like a shepherd and gather your people in your arms. We praise you for the care and sustenance you give at this meal and always. As we leave your table, carry us near your heart, change our worries into wonder as you send us with confidence knowing in the ways of Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

P: Go now with God in your heart and with curiosity on your mind and may God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be with you now and forever.

C: Amen.

SENDING SONG — ELW #265

THE ANGEL GABRIEL FROM HEAVEN CAME

THE SENDING

P: Go in peace.

A: Bring good news the brokenhearted.

C: Thanks be to God!

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

A SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS! You are God's gift to us today. Please introduce yourself to the pastor and come worship with us again.

PLEASE NOTE: Our Sunday worship is live streamed on Facebook.

DRIVE-IN CHURCH - If you are joining us on Sunday in the parking lot, please tune your radio to 90.3 FM.

ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the glory of God and in loving memory Ronald and Helen Jess' wedding anniversary.

THE RADIO BROADCAST is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Lois Jean (Klohn) Polter and Renda (Polter) Lemmers, by Dan & Carol Polter and Larry Polter. **(Radio Broadcasts can be heard each Sunday morning at 9:30 am on Eagle 99.1. Anyone wishing to sponsor a radio broadcast [cost is $72.50 and please make checks payable to BAS Broadcasting.], should contact the church office.)**

THIS WEEK, AS YOU PRAY please remember: Diane Berryman, Janet Bowles, Krista Culbert, Angie Martin, Jamie Montooth, Jackie Mowry, Tim Rutherford, Tanya Schardt, Ron Talbert, Connie Wasserman, Bob Wickert, and the family & friends of Laurie Halm.

HOSPITAL VISITS! If you, or a member of your family, are in the hospital, please call the church office and let us know.

HEARING DEVICES are available at the Usher station at the back of the Sanctuary. Please return after worship so that they can be charged and ready for the next service.

PRAYER LIST REQUESTS - If you, or someone you know, is in need of prayer and would like to be added to our prayer list, please write their name on the back of our *Welcome Cards*. You are welcome to indicate what prayers are needed, i.e. "has an upcoming surgery" etc. Names submitted for our prayer list will remain on the list for four (4) weeks. Our goal is to keep the prayer list ever flowing and as up to date as possible.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: Monday - Thursday from 9 am to 4 pm.

SUBMISSIONS FOR OUR ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NEWSLETTER should be sent to Tricia at dabrunztricia@yahoo.com

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

MID-WEEK ADVENT WORSHIP will take place December 2, 9 and 16. In this holy and busy time of year you are invited to find some stillness as we move our worries to wonder. All are invited for a meal and a time of fellowship at 5:30 pm in the dining room. Then we will move to the worship space for the Holden Evening Prayers service at 6:30 pm.

ALL ARE INVITED TO THE LIFT BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE ON DECEMBER 6 AT 4 PM at St. John's Lutheran Church, 212 N. Clover St., Fremont. The holidays can be a challenging time if you are carrying grief, loneliness or a heavy soul. You are warmly invited to attend a quite contemplative worship to remember and honor loved ones who have died.

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS – Grace will be sponsoring four families for the Sandusky County Community Christmas. Each family has been given their own tree with tags and a box to collect unwrapped gifts (located at the back of the sanctuary). Please sign out the tag you take. Gifts with tags are due back to the church by December 7. Gift wrapping will take place on Wednesday, December 9 at 5 pm.

NOAH'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM will take place on December 10 at 6:30 pm. Everyone in the congregation is invited to attend!

LISTENING WITH A SECOND EAR – It's been a while since we sat down to "listen" to each other. Let's make some time on December 13 following worship to share our joys, concerns and dreams as we listen, reflect and share ideas.

NOISY OFFERING will be collected at both services next weekend. The offering this quarter is being given to the Bridge of Hope Food Pantry.

BRIDGE OF HOPE FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION will take place at both services next weekend. Your gifts may be placed in the shopping carts at the Baker Street entrance and in the Narthex. Please considering donating any of the following high demand items: rice, dried pinto beans, cans of tomato sauce or pasta sauce, diapers, paper towels and cleaning supplies. Thank you for your help!

SERVING IN WORSHIP		
	Saturday – 4 pm	**Sunday – 9 am**
GREETERS: NARTHEX	Thomas O'Brien	Larry & Becky McElfresh
GREETERS: BAKER STREET		Marcella Widmer
WORSHIP ASSISTANT		Henry Seibert
MARY	Kristin Lindsay	
READER	Wendy Bailey	Peggy Rutherford
COMMUNION ASSISTANT	Beth Muffler	Judy Overmyer
DEACONS/ CLOSERS		Tracy Michles Tanya Schardt

Christmas Eve Worship Volunteers Needed

5 pm Youth & Family	9 pm The Christ Mass
☐ Acolyte	☐ Acolyte
☐ Greeters (4 Adults)	☐ Greeters (4 Adults)
☐ Communion Assistant	☐ Communion Assistant
☐ Reader	☐ Reader
☐ Worship Assistant	☐ Worship Assistant

Please return your completed form to the church office.

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Christmas Poinsettia Sale

Plants are $15 each

Deadline to order is December 10 at noon

Payment and Wording is due when you place your order.

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Number of Plants: _____

Amount Paid: _____

Dedication wording:

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____



Grace Lutheran Church

705 W. State Street
Fremont, OH 43420

419-332-1558
gracefremont@yahoo.com
www.gracefremont.org

Senior Pastor:
Rev. Clayton J. Bailey
pastorcbailey@gmail.com
561-670-3684

Lay Associate Minister:
Maureen Pump
maureenpump2022@gmail.com

Minister of Youth & Family:
Heather Hawn
HeatherRHawn@gmail.com

Director of Music:
Charlie Ligus
pianomancharlie03@gmail.com

Office Administrator:
Tricia Dabrunz
dabrunztricia@yahoo.com

Finance/HR Administrator:
Denise Biddle
gracefremont@yahoo.com

Noah's Ark PreSchool:
Andrea Hirt – Director
Susan Sawdo – Teacher
noahsark.fremont@gmail.com

Our Custodial Team:
Jim Post
Michaelle Goodman
Andrew Bailey

THIS WEEK AT GRACE NOVEMBER 29 – DECEMBER 6, 2026

Today 1st SUNDAY OF ADVENT
- 8:00 – Choir Rehearsal
- 9:00 – Worship

Monday
- 7:00 – Dartball at Clyde

Tuesday

Wednesday – Mid-Week Advent
- 2:30 – Worship Planning Meeting
- 5:00 – Youth Committee Meeting
- 5:15 – Ringers
- 5:30 – Dinner
- 5:45 – Youth Games
- 6:30 – Worship
- 6:30 - Youth Bible Story & Craft
- 7:30 - Choir

Thursday
- 11:00 – Stewardship Meeting
- 11:30 – Soup Kitchen
- 7:00 – Toledo Symphony Community Christmas Concert

Friday

Saturday
- 9 – 11:00 – Breakfast in Bethlehem at St. John's
- 4:00 – Worship/Noisy Offering/Bridge of Hope Food Pantry Collection

Sunday 2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT/NOISY OFFERING & BRIDGE OF HOPE FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION
- 8:15 – Choir Rehearsal
- 9:00 – Worship
- 10:15 - Confirmation
- 4:00 – LIFT Blue Christmas Worship at St. John's

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE: 113

Called to Present the Light of Christ!