



# Third Sunday in Advent

Calvary Lutheran Church

December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025

## **We are so thrilled to have you join us!**

Calvary is a place for everyone, regardless of age or background. Whether you are young or simply young at heart; single, married, or widowed; a life-long believer or just getting started, you can find a home here. We are a congregation that worships, studies, and serves together.

### **A Special Welcome to Those With Young Children**

First, please relax and enjoy your time here. Jesus knows that young children tend to wiggle, fuss, cry, or even giggle - so please don't feel embarrassed by it. Children are welcome here at Calvary!

**Each Sunday your child may pick up a pew activity bag at the back of the sanctuary. Please return the pew bags after the service.**

Feel free to sit wherever is most comfortable for your family. To make things a bit easier for your family, dare to sit closer to the front so your child can see all the activity going on at the altar. We encourage you to help them to be a part of the service by leading them to stand/sit, sing along, and chime in on responses, such as "Amen" and "Thanks be to God!"

If needed, we have a parent's room available at the back of the church, with windows into the sanctuary and audio as well, so that you can both see and hear the service.

Please know that while you are caring for your children, the rest of us will be rejoicing in Jesus's words, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these" (Luke 18:16). We know that children are a blessing to the church!

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### **Communion at Calvary**

Every week, Calvary celebrates the Lord's Supper with confidence and gladness in the forgiveness of sins that is offered by Jesus Christ at his table. This gift is more than a symbol; it is the true presence of Christ with us in his body and blood through the bread and wine. Our Lord invites to his table all baptized believers who trust his words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us so they may show forth his death until he comes.

If you have yet to be instructed in the beliefs and practices of the Lutheran Church, are in doubt of salvation in Christ Jesus, or do not believe, we ask that you abstain from receiving this sacrament. If you would still like to participate, we welcome you to come to the table with arms crossed upon your chest to indicate you would like a blessing.

**When receiving, please know that the white cups are wine and the red cups are juice.**

If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Harris.

# + THE GATHERING +

## PRELUDE

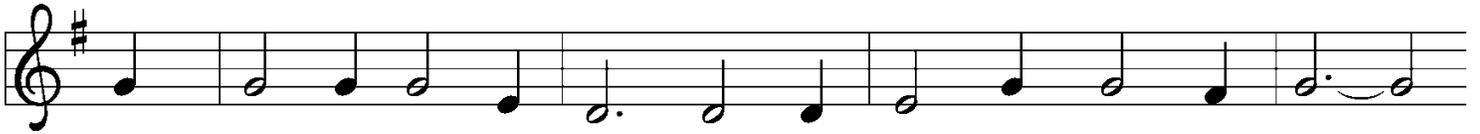
## WELCOME

## HYMN

*Prepare the Royal Highway*



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



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!  
Palm branch - es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!  
Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion its trib - ute too may bring.  
His rule is peace and free - dom and jus - tice, truth, and love.



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

*Refrain*



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

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen.**

P. We are to be watchful for his coming, keeping our lamps lighted, and our hearts clean. Therefore, let us confess to the Lord.

*Silence for confession and reflection.*

P. God of all:

**C. We prepare our hearts for the coming of your Son, confessing our sins, confessing our attraction to a world that does not know Christ. Forgive our sins, cleanse our hearts, and keep us faithful for the promised coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

P. God sent his Son, the Babe of Bethlehem, to show his infinite love and forgiveness for all. Your sins are forgiven in the holy name of the Father, The Holy Spirit, and + Christ who came and will come again.

**C. Amen**

# Kyrie.

## Unfailing Light Liturgy

Cantor



In — peace, let us pray to the Lord:

All



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Chri - ste e - le - i - son.



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son, e - le - i - son, e - le - i - son.

AdventBids/Cantor



1. For peace be - tween nations, com - passion a - mong
2. For the hungry to be filled, the lowly lift - ed
3. For patience in our suffering, hope in our



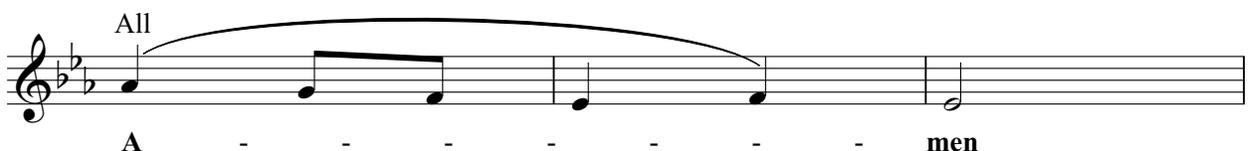
peoples, and harmony in the Church, let us pray.  
up, and the captives to be freed, let us pray.  
waiting, and all joy in be - lieving, let us pray.

Conclusion/Cantor



4. Help, save, com - fort and de - fend us, O God.

All



A - - - - - men

## SALUTATION

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

## COLLECT

P: Let us pray.

Stir up the wills of all who look to you, Lord God, and strengthen our faith in your coming, that, transformed by grace, we may walk in your way; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

**Pastor Alex Harris**

### Lighting of the Candle *Light One Candle to Watch For Messiah v.1-3*



1. Light one can - dle to watch for Mes - si - ah: let the light ban - ish dark - ness.
2. Light two can - dles to watch for Mes - si - ah: let the light ban - ish dark - ness.
3. Light three can - dles to watch for Mes - si - ah: let the light ban - ish dark - ness.



He\_\_\_ shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra - el, God ful - fills\_\_\_ the prom - ise.  
He\_\_\_ shall feed the flock like a shep - herd, gent - ly lead\_\_\_ them home - ward.  
Lift\_\_\_ your heads and lift high the gate - way for the King\_\_\_ of glo - ry.

## + SERVICE OF THE WORD +

### FIRST READING

### Isaiah 35:1-10

<sup>1</sup> The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus; <sup>2</sup> it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.

They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God. <sup>3</sup> Strengthen the weak hands and make firm the feeble knees. <sup>4</sup> Say to those who have an anxious heart,

“Be strong; fear not!  
Behold, your God  
will come with vengeance,  
with the recompense of God.  
He will come and save you.”

<sup>5</sup> Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; <sup>6</sup> then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy. For waters break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; <sup>7</sup> the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down, the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

<sup>8</sup> And a highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Way of Holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it. It shall belong to those who walk on the way; even if they are fools, they shall not go astray. <sup>9</sup> No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. <sup>10</sup> And the ransomed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

P: This is the word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God**

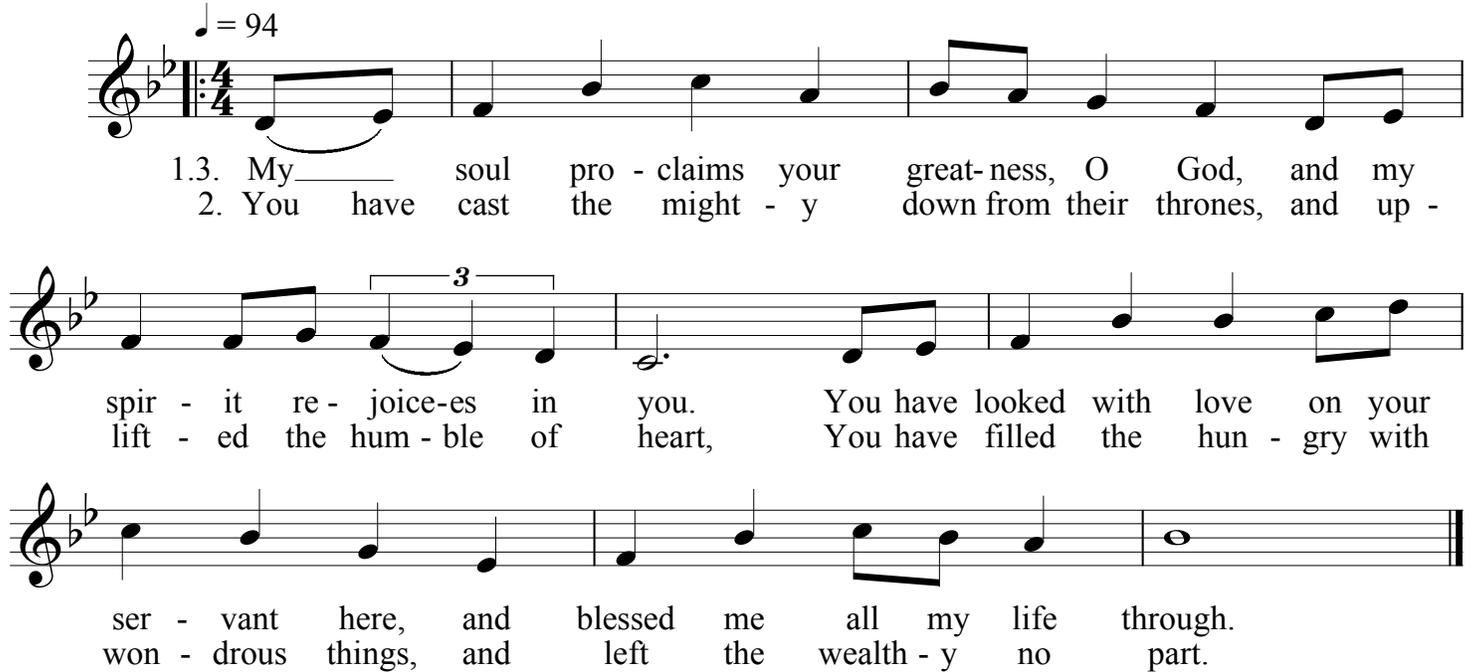
# LUKE 1 Annunciation and Magnificat - Holden Evening Prayer- Marty Haugen

*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."  
And Mary said, "I am the servants of my God, I live to do your will."*

## The Magnificat

Marty Haugen

### REFRAIN/CONGREGATION



♩ = 94

1.3. My soul pro-claims your great-ness, O God, and my  
2. You have cast the might-y down from their thrones, and up -

spir - it re - joice-es in you. You have looked with love on your  
lift - ed the hum - ble of 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.

### VERSES/CANTOR

Great and mighty are you, O Holy One,  
Strong is your kindness evermore.  
How you favor the weak and lowly one,  
Humbling the proud of heart.

(TO REFRAIN V. 2)

Great and mighty are you, O Faithful One,  
Strong is your justice, strong your love,  
As you promised to Sarah and Abraham,  
Kindness for evermore.

(TO REFRAIN V. 3)

## SECOND READING

James 5:7-10

<sup>7</sup> Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. <sup>8</sup> You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. <sup>9</sup> Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. <sup>10</sup> As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

P: This is the word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

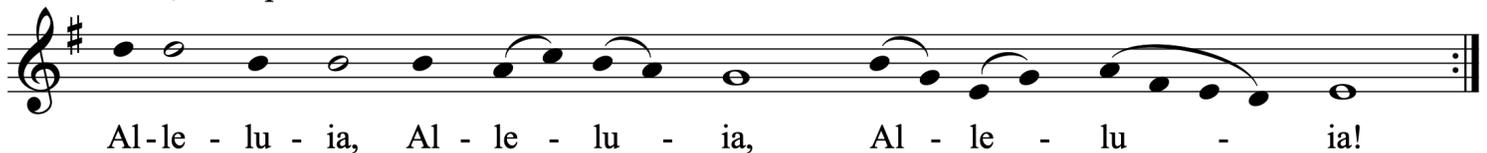
## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Cantor, All repeat:



*Cantor: I am sending my messenger before you, who will prepare the way before you  
(Matthew 11:10)*

Cantor, All repeat:



## HOLY GOSPEL

## Matthew 11:2-11

P: The Holy Gospel is from Saint Matthew, the Eleventh chapter.

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

<sup>2</sup> Now when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples <sup>3</sup> and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?" <sup>4</sup> And Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: <sup>5</sup> the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. <sup>6</sup> And blessed is the one who is not offended by me."

<sup>7</sup> As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind?<sup>8</sup> What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses. <sup>9</sup> What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. <sup>10</sup> This is he of whom it is written,

"Behold, I send my messenger before your face,  
who will prepare your way before you."

<sup>11</sup> Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

## THE SERMON

**Pastor Alex Harris**

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*All Earth is Hopeful (WOV 629)*



1. All earth is hope - ful, the Sav - ior comes at last!  
2. Peo - ple of Is - rael, you heard the proph - et tell:  
3. Moun - tains and val - leys will have to be pre - pared;  
4. We first saw Je - sus a ba - by in a crib.



Fur - rows lie o - pen for God's cre - a - tive task: this, the  
"A vir - gin moth - er will bear Em - man - u - el"; she con -  
new high - ways o - pened, new pro - to - cols de - clared. Al - most  
This same Lord Je - sus to - day has come to live in our



la - bor of peo - ple, who strug - gle to see, how  
ceived him, "God with us," our broth - er, whose birth re -  
here! God is near - ing, in beau - ty and grace! All  
world; he is pres - ent, in neigh - bors we see our

1-3.

4.



God's truth and jus - tice set ev - 'ry - bod - y free.  
stores hope and cour - age to chil - dren of this earth.  
clear ev - 'ry gate - way, in haste, come out in haste!  
Je - sus is with us, and

(4. ev - er sets us free.)

## THE OFFERING

# MUSICAL OFFERING – *Voluntary*

## OFFERTORY HYMN

*So Bring Him Incense, Gold and Myrrh*



So bring Him in - cense, gold and myrrh; Come, peas - ant, king to own him.



The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; Let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.



Raise, raise the song on high, The vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

(congregation may kneel or stand during the prayers)

P: Lord, in your mercy.

**C: Hear our prayer.**

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell, the third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. 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 God thanks and praise.**

**P:** It truly is right and salutary that we should give all thanks and praise to you, Holy Lord, Almighty Father, Everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming him the promised messiah, the very lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. And calling sinners to repentance that they might escape the judgment to be revealed when he comes again in glory. Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify your glorious name, evermore praising you and saying...

# SANCTUS

Cantor(Acapella), All repeat (with organ):

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and God \_\_\_ of might. *Repeat*

Cantor sings verse(Acappella):

Heav - en and earth \_\_\_ are full\_\_ of your glo - ry

Cantor(Acapella), All repeat (with organ):

Ho-san - na in the high \_\_\_ est. Ho - san-na in the high \_\_\_ est! *Repeat*

Cantor sings verse(Acappella):

Bless - ed is He who comes in the\_\_ name \_\_\_ of\_\_ the\_\_ Lord.

Cantor(Acapella), All repeat (with organ):

Ho-san - na in the high \_\_\_ est. Ho - san-na in the high \_\_\_ est! *Repeat*

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

P: Lord, remember us in Your Kingdom and teach us to pray:  
**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.**

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

### **THE WORDS OF OUR LORD**

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said, "Take eat, this is My (+) Body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of me. "In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them saying, "Drink of it, all of you, this is My (+) Blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

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

**C: And also with you.**

### **SHARING OF THE PEACE**

*Greet one another in the name of the Lord: "Peace be with you."*

# AGNUS DEI

*Cantor*

1. Je - sus, wis - dom and might - y Lord:
2. Je - sus, true branch of Jes - se's tree: you
3. Key of Da - vid and Day-spring from on high:
4. De - sire of na - tions, our Em - man - u - el:

5

take a-way the sins\_ of the world, have mer - cy on us, (Have mer - cy on us.)

12

world, grant us\_ peace, (grant us\_ peace.)

## THE DISTRIBUTION

## DISTRIBUTION Hymn *He Comes to Us as One Unknown (WOV 768)*



1 He comes to us as one un-known, a breath un - seen, un -  
2 He comes when souls in si - lence lie and thoughts of day de -  
3 He comes to us in sound of seas, the o - cean's fume and  
4 He comes in love as once he came by flesh and blood and  
5 He comes in truth when faith is grown; be - lieved, o - beyed, a -



heard; as though with - in a heart of stone, or shriv - eled seed in  
part; half - seen up - on the in - ward eye, a fall - ing star a -  
foam; yet small and still up - on the breeze, a wind that stirs the  
birth; to bear with - in our mor - tal frame a life, a death, a  
dored; the Christ in all the scrip - tures shown, as yet un - seen, but



dark - ness sown, a pulse of be - ing stirred, a pulse of be - ing stirred.  
cross the sky of night with - in the heart, of night with - in the heart.  
tops of trees, a voice to call us home, a voice to call us home.  
sav - ing name, for ev - 'ry child of earth, for ev - 'ry child of earth.  
not un - known, our Sav - ior and our Lord, our Sav - ior and our Lord.

### THE POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P: May the truly present Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ  
strengthen and keep you in body and soul unto life everlasting.  
Go in peace.

**C: Amen.**

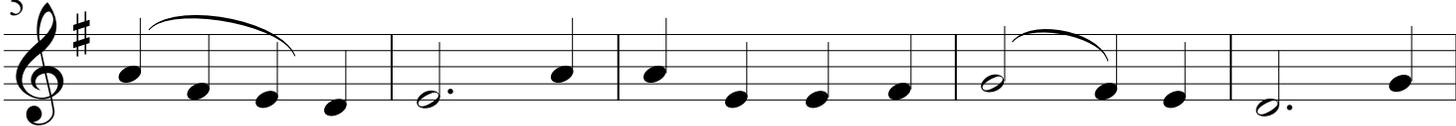
## THE POST COMMUNION COLLECT

Em G C D<sup>7</sup> G D G C G



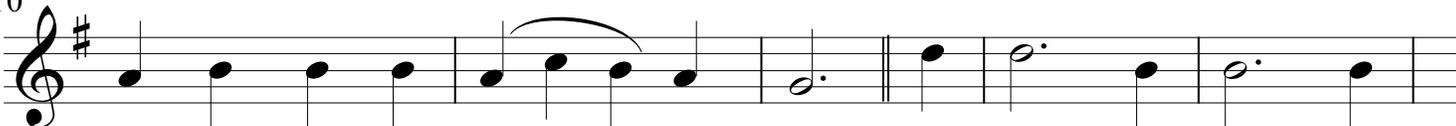
Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow. Praise God, all crea - tures

5 Am Bm<sup>7</sup> Em Am Em B<sup>7</sup> Em A<sup>7</sup> D Em



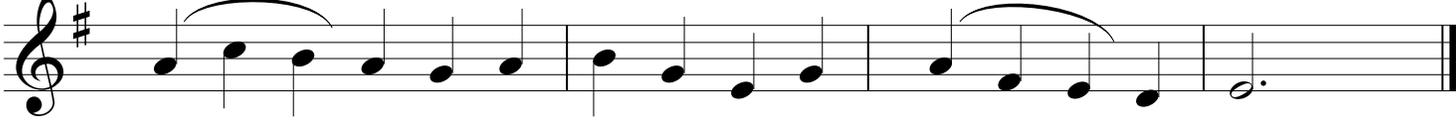
here be - low. Praise God a - bove, ye heaven - ly host. Praise

10 D Bm G C Am D<sup>7</sup> G D Em Bm G



Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Re - joice! Re - joice! Em -

15 C D<sup>7</sup> Em D G C G Am Em Bm Em



man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

**+ SENDING +**

### **BENEDICAMUS and BENEDICTION**

The Lord bless you and keep you;  
 The Lord make his face shine upon you  
 and be gracious to you;  
 † The Lord lift up his countenance upon you  
 and give you peace.

**Amen.**

# Sending Hymn

# *Hark the Glad Sound (LW 29)*

1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior  
2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's  
3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing  
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of peace, your wel - come

prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -  
bond - age held. The gates of brass be -  
soul to cure, and with the trea - sures  
shall pro - claim, and heav'n's e - ter - nal

pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.  
fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.  
of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.  
arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.

## **DISMISSAL**

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

## **POSTLUDE**

**Pastor**

Alex Harris

**Minister of Music**

Brian Priebe

**Organist/Pianist**

Elizabeth Schneider

**Bass**

Phill Daniels

**Drums**

Bryan Isler

**Choir**

**Singers**

Nancy Dydak, Lori Schwartz

**Altar Guild**

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