



Second Sunday of Advent

December 10, 2017

Emanuel Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

324 College Avenue, Modesto, California 95350

(209) 523-4531 • www.emanuellutheran.org

Welcome to Emanuel

Communion Service 9:30 a.m..... Page 3
Announcements and Prayer Concerns Page 15

Staff

Presiding Minister

Rev. Dr. Lyn Crase

Organist & Choir Director

Barbara Vukich

Secretary

Paula Braxton

Day Care Director

Laura Marquez

Bookkeeper

Maria Ojeda

Council Officers

President

Suzanne Wilke

Vice President

Dan Johnson

Treasurer

Bob Reuter

Secretary

Mike Epting

WELCOME GUESTS AND VISITORS!

Welcome in the name of Jesus Christ. We are glad that you have come to worship with us. Please help us to know you by filling out a worship attendance form (located in your bulletin) and placing it in the offering plate.

- **LARGE PRINT BULLETINS** are available. •

(Please ask an usher)

Children/Youth & Family:

Council member – Pat Smith and Sam Gierhan

Spiritual Life:

Council member – Lois Owen and Dan Johnson

Worship:

Council member – Suzanne Wilke

Outreach:

Council members — Bob Dailey

Resource:

Bob Reuter, Treasurer

Stewardship — Jim Barton, Janice Watkins, Bob Dailey and
Lois Silva

Property — Dick Norquist

Fellowship:

Council member—Janice Watkins

Social Media:

Council member – Mike Epting and Rick Unruh

Endowment Team

Bob Reuter, Chairman

Team members: Dick Norquist, Rob Shank, Bill Reinheimer

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 10, 2017

9:30 AM

PRELUDE

*An Advent Triptych Based on
Veni Emmanuel; Wake, Awake for Night is Flying;
Comfort, Comfort Now My People*

John Ferguson

CALL TO WORSHIP

Alleluia for Advent

Barry L. Bobb

WELCOME

Pastor Lyn Crase

OPENING HYMN

On Jordan's Bank, the Baptist's Cry

ELW #249

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING (Congregation sings after the reading)

He Came Down

He came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have love;
hallelujah forevermore.

He came down that we may have light;
he came down that we may have light;
he came down that we may have light;
hallelujah forevermore.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
who comes to wake us from sleep,
who leads us into the light of grace.

C Amen

P Let us prepare the way of the Lord
by confessing our sin against God and neighbor.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P God of all time,

**C we confess that we have not prepared
for your merciful reign among us.
We ignore our neighbors in need
and fail in the labor of justice and peace.
In your mercy forgive us.
Grant us wisdom to welcome your light
and to seek the things that will endure
until Christ comes again in glory. Amen**

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

In ✝ Jesus Christ your sins are forgiven
and all things are made new.
Rejoice in this good news!

C Amen

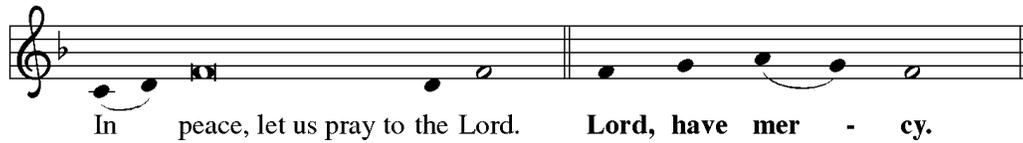
GREETING

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

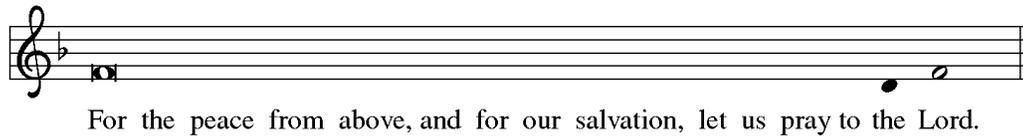
C And also with you.



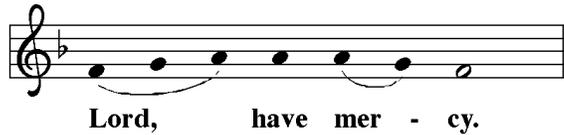
KYRIE



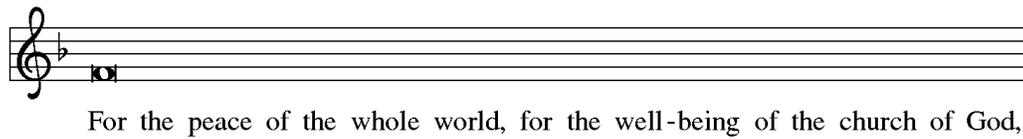
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



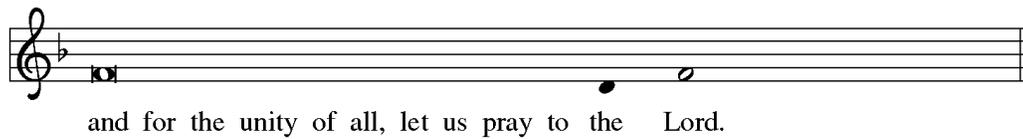
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



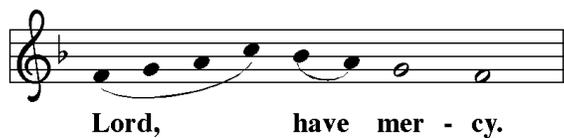
Lord, have mer - cy.



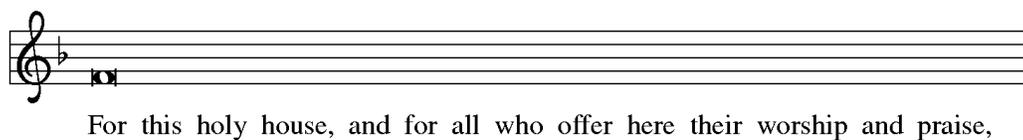
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



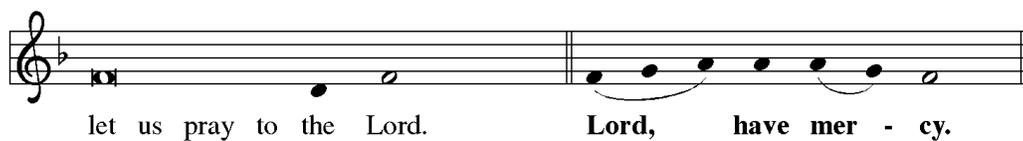
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



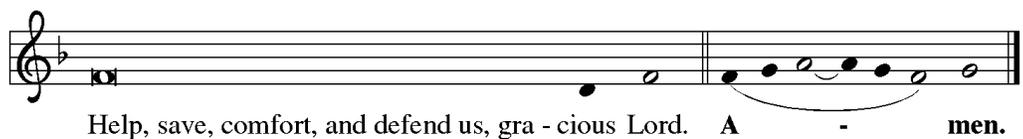
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray together....

C Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming strengthen us to serve you with purified lives; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

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. The Lord will deliver Israel and will care for her as a shepherd cares for his sheep. This word can be trusted, because the only enduring reality in life is the word of the Lord.

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."

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;

⁸Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. ⁹The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. ¹⁰But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

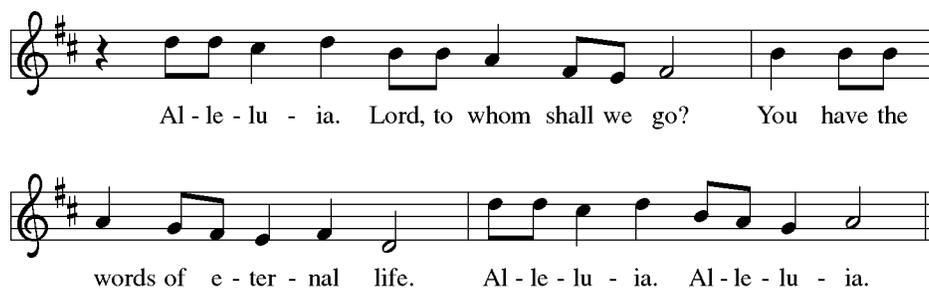
¹¹Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, ¹²waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? ¹³But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

¹⁴Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; ^{15a}and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

L The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

P The Gospel according to Mark, Chapter 1

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

GOSPEL: MARK 1:1-8

The Gospel of Mark does not begin with a story of Jesus' birth but with the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord.

¹The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

²As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way;

³the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.’”

⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

P The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (REPEATED)

SERMON

Pastor Lyn Crase

SERMON HYMN

Comfort, Comfort Now My People

ELW #256

APOSTLE'S CREED

A With the whole church, let us confess our faith using the words of the Apostle's Creed:

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,

he is seated at the right hand of the Father,

and 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

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A Guided by the light of Christ, let us pray for the coming dawn of joy, healing, and comfort for all God's people.

Response: ... Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

TITHES & OFFERINGS

Creator of the Stars of Night

Nancy M. Raabe

The offering is an act of worship; a response of gratitude and thankfulness.

OFFERING PRAYER

A Savior of the nations, come.
Make your home here in us.
Feed us with your love,
that our faith shine ever new
and our lives reveal your light.

C Amen

SHARING THE PEACE

The sharing of peace is an individual and communal act of forgiveness.

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

Please return to your seat at the signal from the organ.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P In recognition of God's forgiveness, mercy and grace let us continue with the Great Thanksgiving.

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 our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P 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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

C Amen

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you.

Share in the feast of salvation.

We practice continuous communion at the altar rail. All are welcome.

HEALING PRAYER

Healing prayer and anointing are available during communion at the side kneeler.

LAMB OF GOD

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.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS *Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah
Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

ELW #240

ELW #254

COMMUNION BLESSING

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A God for whom we wait,
you come to us
in the broken bread and the cup we share.
Make us ready always
to welcome Christ into our hearts,
and send us forth to be your people in the world,
announcing your coming among us
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

SENDING

P God's mission includes the gifts of grace that we share in worship and take also to the absent; now, we are sent to continue our participation in God's mission. With the blessing of God, we go out to live as Christ's body in the world.

C *The Lord now sends us forth with hands to serve and give, to make of all the earth a better place to live. The angels are not sent into our world of pain to do what we were meant to do in Jesus' name; that falls to you and me and all who are made free. Help us, O Lord, we pray, to do your will today.* ELW 538

BLESSING

P May Christ, the Sun of righteousness, shine upon you
and scatter the darkness from before your path.
Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

C Amen

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING HYMN

Hark! The Glad Sound

ELW #239

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Hark! The Glad Sound

Paul Manz

THOSE WHO SERVED US TODAY

Presiding Minister Pastor Lyn Crase
Assisting Minister Fanney Bjargardottir
Acolyte..... Gregory Taylor
Ministers of the Word Alexandria Taylor, Suzanne Wilke
Cantor David Holtz
Communion Assistant..... Wilke/McCready
Usher/Greeter Smith/Knoll
Altar Care..... Van Diepen, Kroeze

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Announcements

Please use your “soft” voice during and following the Prelude, as others may be in prayer and meditation. Thank you.



The flowers on the altar were given to the glory of God by Mike & Jeanine Clarke.



If you are looking for an Advent devotional, some suggestions are listed below and are available on Amazon:

Rise Up Shepherd! by Luke Powery

Advent for Everyone: A Journey with the Apostles by N. T. Wright

Celebrating Abundance by Walter Brueggemann

Advent in Narnia: Reflections for the Season by Heidi Haverkamp

Watch for the Light: Readings for the Advent and Christmas

Advent Services—Wednesdays, through December 20. **Bible Study Theme: Together in Advent.** Soup Supper at 6:00 pm, a family activity, and Holden Evening Prayer at 7:00 pm. *See you there!*

First Saturday Worship. Every 1st Saturday of the month at 5:30 pm. An informal & interactive and contemplative worship experience.

Coat Drive Bring a new or gently used coat and place it in the box labeled “Coat Drive” in the Narthex.

Choir rehearsals after the service.

1st Sunday Care Cupboard

Bring your donations for the Care Cupboard –see list in the announcement box on page 16 of the bulletin. Donations will be accepted anytime.

Next Care Cupboard date is December 18

Tuesday Breakfast December 12—on break until January 9 (3 weeks off)

Young Adult Bible Study is on break for the month of December—resumes on January 8 at 1:15 pm

Text Study continues to meet Tuesdays at noon in Katie’s Room through December 14. All are welcome. Bring along your lunch.

Thursday Morning Bible Study, 9:30 am in Katie’s Room. “Because of Bethlehem” by Max Lucado is the title of the current study. All are welcome!

From the Sanctuary Arts Team:

Christmas Tree Decorating for Christmas Eve—December 24 at 12:30 pm

There's a convenient way to make donations to Emanuel. Simply install **Give+Church** on your Apple or Android phone or tablet, or with your computer, visit www.emanuellutheran.org. On the website, choose the “Contact Us/Donations” menu item. Both options are extremely easy and walk you through the process.

Sierra Pacific Synod is suggesting donations to two agencies: Lutheran Social Services of Northern California and Lutheran Disaster Response. **Donations to Lutheran Social Services** can be designated through their “October Wildfire Relief Fund” for needs in northern California in general. To donate to specific congregations, indicate the name of the congregation in the designated box. 100% of these monies will be given directly to churches and ministries that have been affected by the fires. **Donations to Lutheran Disaster Relief** can be designated to “U.S. Fire Relief” and will be used more generally to support churches and ministries and communities that have been affected by fires through the fall and throughout the west. 100% of donations so designated will be used by LDR to offer support to affected communities.

“New” to Emanuel Lutheran Church or have new information? Please see Pastor Lyn for a biographical data sheet.

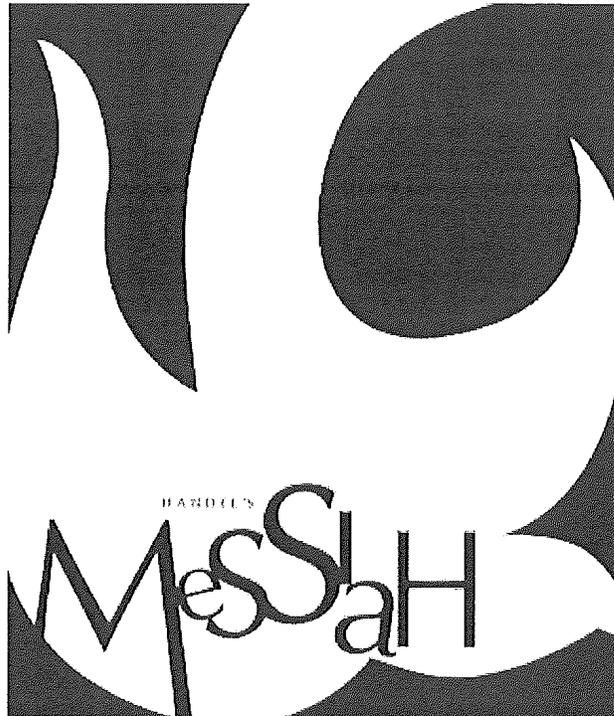
Emanuel Lutheran Care Cupboard

HELP! HELP! HELP! Our cupboard is almost bare! Can you help us?

We are in desperate need of the following items before December 18th—our distribution date for sharing food with MJC students in need:

Individual servings of tuna/crackers boxes, small jars of jam, small jars of peanut butter, cans of soup, chili or vegetables, single-serve cracker packets, individual servings of mac 'n cheese, small boxes of cold cereal or individual servings of oatmeal, fruit or jello cups, pudding cups, packets of hot chocolate or apple cider, and Capri Sun juices. We are also in need of pet food.

Thanks so much for your generosity! =)



A Christmas Gift to the Community!

Handel's *Messiah*

Community Choir and Orchestra

Dr. Deborah Kavasch, Director

In celebration of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation



**December 10, 2017
7:00 p.m.**

**Turlock Community Theatre
1574 East Canal Drive**

Don't Forget The Carol!

Saturday ,
December 16
4:00 pm

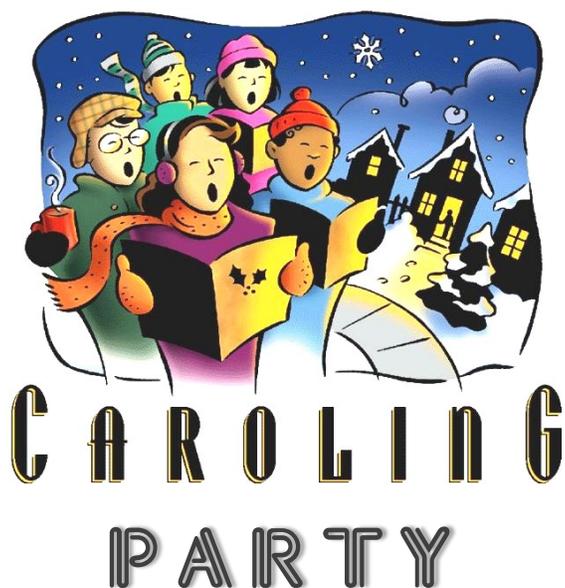
Come out for a great evening
of Christmas music and fun
to support our Youth Ministry.

- Family ornament activity
- Special guests -
 The Enslin chorus
- Pasta dinner
- Sing Christmas songs
- Plus teams compete in
 "Don't Forget the Carol."

Sign up soon – space for
teams is limited!

Freewill offering * Freewill offering * Freewill offering





When: Sunday, December 17 at 6:00 pm

Where: The home of David Holtz
926 Mt. Vernon Avenue

Details: The evening begins with a bowl of gourmet chili and some French bread. Then, we will serenade the neighborhood with songs of the season. Finally, we'll head back to David's house for some yummy cookies, hot cocoa, and more singing.

What to bring: some cookies to share, a flashlight, and warm clothes



WEEKLY CALENDAR

MON 11	TUE 12	WED 13	THUR 14	FRI 15	SAT 16	SUN 17
	7:00 am Tuesday Breakfast in Katie's Kitchen 10:30 am Day Care Yoga	7:00 am Men's Bible Study @ Mimi's 11:00 am Weekly Staff Mtg.	9:30 am Adult Bible Study 1:00 pm Rebecca Circle @ Surla's	OFFICE CLOSED		9:30 am Worship Service Birthday Blessings
4:00 pm MSYC Rehearsal— Luther Hall	12:00 pm Lectionary Study	11:30 am Multi Faith Leadership Mtg.			4:30 pm Don't Forget the Carol! w/ Ensen students	
7:00 pm Lydia Circle @ M. Waggoner's		6:00 pm Advent Soup Supper/ Prayers 7:00 pm Worship	7:00 pm Leah Circle— location TBD	6:00 pm ELDC Christmas Program		6:00 pm Caroling Party @ D. Holtz home

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Date	Assistant Minister	Ministers of the Word	Cantor	Communion Assist	Acolyte	Usher Greeter	Altar Care
Dec 17 Advent 3	Emma Hoover	D Johnson Fanney B.	Kathleen Reuter	Dan Johnson	Addison Hoover	Holtz/ Salonen	Van Diepen/ Kroeze
Dec 24 Nativity: Christmas Eve	Paula Barton	E Hoover A Hoover	Paula Barton	Marilyn Rowland	Chris Schmidt	Clarke Family	Van Diepen/ Kroeze
Dec 31 Christmas 1	Sheri Delvin	B Reinheimer P Kroeze	David Holtz	Paula Kroeze	Emma Hoover	Delvin/ Reuter	Lois Silva

WEEKLY BIBLE READINGS

December 17 Advent 3	December 24 Nativity: Christmas Eve	December 31 Christmas 1
Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11 Psalm 126 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 John 1:6-8, 19-28	Isaiah 9:2-7 Psalm 96 Titus 2:11-14 Luke 2:1-14-20	Isaiah 61:10--62:3 Psalm 148 Galatians 4:4-7 Luke 2:22-40



New Prayer Requests: *Prayers of comfort, peace and strength for Mary Murray and family for the loss of her son, Donald Murray. Please keep them in your prayers.*

Continued prayers of comfort for Rue Knoll & family for the loss of husband and father Gary Knoll.

We received word on yesterday that former ELC member & friend, Irvin Lovaas passed away on November 30, 2017. A Celebration of Life will be held at Bethel Retirement Community on Sunday, December 10 at 2:00 pm.

Our Members: Linda Nelson; Laurie Spinuzzi; Pat Smith; Sherm Petersen; Vera Eden; Dr. Van Allen; Joanne Trana; the Tisdel family; Jennaca Hollinger; Rev. Ralph Herman; Roland Loeffler; Joyce Bachmann; Bill Beasley; Teri Scott; Millie Golding

Our Homebound Members: Florence Broden, Shelda Fritts; Alice Hine; Marj Sample

Our Family: Suzanne Stiver Lie (Reinheimer); Ian McKenzie (Schmidt); Jane Tisdel (Tisdel); Donald Murray (Murray); Patsy Natvig (Hoover); David Massingill (Reuter); Pastor Roger Lee and family; Janet Barkley (Deutsch); Nancy Jones' brother-in-law; the Hunwardsen family, Hazel Holyfield; Joyce & Manuel Dillard (Scott); Michael Bach (Scott); Moira & Ron Wilhelm (Clarke); Billie Cannon (Cannon); Carolyn & Jake Strand Maret (Strand); the family of Arthur Stiles (Dieterich); Nick Berlin (L. Skustad); Mabel Kraft (Kraft); Lisa Schenewark (Martin); George and Glenn Massingill (Reuter); Virginia Comella (Silva); Art Ludke (Norquist); Joyce Inell, Alley Taylor (Scott)

Our Friends: Roger Warner (Schmidt); Jennifer Turner (Dieterich); Priscilla Pino (Ixcot); Tyler (Norquist); Dawn & Alexander Piscitello (Watkins); Charlie Wilson, churches and families in Napa Valley & Santa Rosa affected by the fires; Kathy & Lee van Boven (Reinheimer); Shey's family (Billie Cannon); the Vogelzang family; Doris Nance (Dieterich); Judy Darby (Schmidt); Julie Moore, Jeff Hendrick (Barton); Ken Jensen (Norquist)

We Pray for Peace in the Middle East, and for all those serving in our armed forces:

T/Sgt. Ryan Dangerfield, USAF at Ramstein AB, Germany and **SSgt. Joey Sabel, USMC** at Camp Lejeune, NC (Marilyn & Chuck Rowland's grandson & grandson-in-law)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Guided by the light of Christ, let us pray for the coming dawn of joy, healing, and comfort for all God's people.

We long to see your glory. Prepare our hearts for your arrival by healing divisions in your church and blessing those who work for reconciliation within it. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for your creation. Bring renewal to open spaces, parks, forests, mountains, and grasslands. Restore the creatures and lands that are damaged or destroyed. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We long for your peace. Make places of welcome for people fleeing violence. For nations facing conflict or crisis, deliver relief. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We seek healing for all people who long for justice, freedom, and comfort. Sustain them in their time of need. Be with all who wait for you, who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for your healing touch on those we name before you now, aloud or in silence (*pause for silence*). Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We give thanks for those who are ready to help in times of crisis. Give courage to disaster and emergency response teams, police officers, nurses, doctors, surgeons, chaplains, and all who work for the sake of others. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We are your beloved flock and you are our shepherd, O God. Along with the saints already at rest in you, bring us together as your people under your holy rule. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We raise our prayers to you, O God, in the name of the one who is, who was, and who is to come, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

ENTRANCE HYMN #249

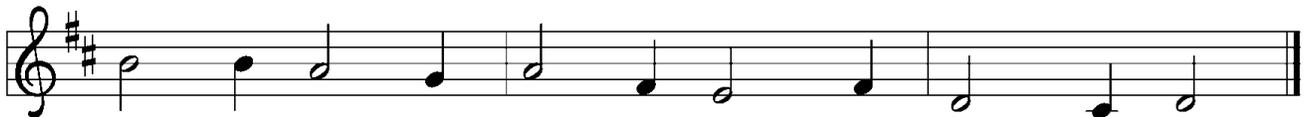
On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an - nounc - es
2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; make straight the
3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, our ref - uge
4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, and make us
5 All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,
way for God with - in, and let us all our
and our great re - ward; with - out your grace we
rise to fall no more; oh, let your face up -
has our free - dom won, whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings!
hearts pre - pare for Christ to come and en - ter there.
waste a - way like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
on us shine and fill the world with love di - vine.
we a - dore, and Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er - more.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. composite

Music: PUER NOBIS, European tune, adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621

SERMON HYMN #256

Comfort, Comfort Now My People



- 1 "Com - fort, com-fort now my peo - ple; tell of peace!" So says our God.
- 2 For the her - ald's voice is cry - ing in the des - ert far and near,
- 3 Straight shall be what long was crook - ed, and the rough - er plac - es plain.



Com-fort those who sit in dark - ness mourn-ing un - der sor - row's load.
call - ing us to true re - pen - tance, since the reign of God is here.
Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, as be-fits God's ho - ly reign.



To God's peo - ple now pro-claim that God's par - don waits for them!
Oh, that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way.
For the glo - ry of the Lord now on earth is shed a - broad,



Tell them that their war is o - ver; God will reign in peace for-ev - er.
Val - leys, rise to greet the Sav - ior; hills, bow down in hum-ble fa - vor.
and all flesh shall see the to - ken that God's word is nev - er bro - ken.

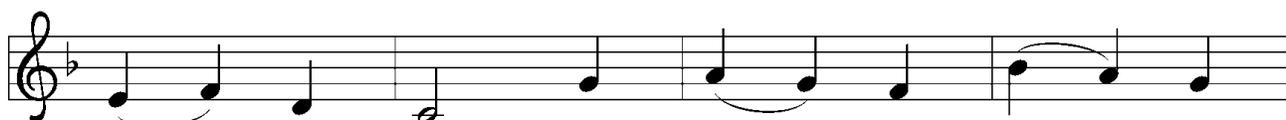
Text: Johann G. Olearius, 1635–1711; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
Music: FREU DICH SEHR, *Trente quatre pseumes de David*, Geneva, 1551

SENDING HYMN #239

Hark, the Glad Sound!



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.

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702-1751

Music: CHESTERFIELD, Thomas Haweis, 1734-1820