



**+ First Sunday of Christmas**  
**December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023**  
**10:00 a.m.**



**St. Andrew Lutheran Church**  
**304 Morewood Ave.**  
**Pittsburgh, PA 15213**  
**412.682.3342**

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## + First Sunday of Christmas Order for Worship

*The psalmist calls on the natural world, celestial bodies, fire and earth, creatures, and all humanity to praise God. The voices of the devout Simeon and the 84-year-old prophet Anna join the chorus, recognizing what God is doing in Jesus. Simeon's song is often sung after Holy Communion, for the assembled community encounters God's salvation in the bread and wine. Then we are invited, like Anna, to tell of Jesus to all who look for the healing of the world.*

### Welcome to St. Andrew!

- St. Andrew Lutheran congregation welcomes all who are seeking a place of healing and wholeness – a nurturing, faith-forming spiritual home. Our community embraces people of all ages, ethnicities, cultures, abilities, sexual orientations, gender identities and expressions, and family constellations. Come and See!
- Worship Services are live streamed to multiple online platforms. By attending worship, you agree that your image and voice may be broadcast.
- Worship “toolkits” to help children engage with the service, along with “busy bags” for younger children, are available in the bookcase at the back of the sanctuary. Please feel free to take one to use with/for your children.
- Holy Communion is served with bread (gluten-free available) and wine or grape juice. The presiding minister will distribute the bread (host). Please consume this and then pick up an empty glass from the tray. The Communion Assistant will pour wine or grape juice into your glass. Please step to the side to consume the wine or grape juice. Feel free to kneel at the altar for prayer and reflection. As you return to your pew, glasses may be returned to the empty trays on either side of the center section.
- A restroom is available on the main level of the church, through the doors to the Social Hall and to the right in the main office.

### *Abbreviations*

P: Pastor/Presiding Minister  
A: Assisting Minister  
L: Lector  
**C: Congregation**

***ELW: Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnal***  
***ACS: All Creation Sings hymnal***

## Welcome

## Prelude

### Gathering

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God*

## Confession and Forgiveness

*Please rise as you are able. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at Baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,  
the Word made flesh, our life and our salvation.

**C: Amen.**

P: Trusting the goodness and lovingkindness of God our Savior,  
let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: God of life,

**C: you promise good news of great joy for all people,  
and call us to be messengers of your peace.**

**We confess that too often we hoard our joy,  
our resources, and our security.**

**We nurture conflict and build barriers.**

**We neglect the needs of our neighbors  
and ignore the groaning of creation.**

**Have mercy on us.**

**Where we are self-centered, open our hearts.**

**Where we are reluctant, give us courage.**

**Where we are cynical, restore our trust.**

**Renew us with your grace  
and give us again the hope of eternal life in you.**

**Amen.**

P: Hear the good news:

We are children of God and heirs of God's promises  
through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

In ✝ Jesus we are forgiven and redeemed.

Sing with joy, for all the ends of the earth  
shall know the salvation of God.

**C: Amen.**

1 Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, Je-sus, the Light of the world;  
 2 Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; Je-sus, the Light of the world;  
 3 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Je-sus, the Light of the world;  
 4 Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace! Je-sus, the Light of the world;

“Glo - ry to the new-born king,” Je-sus, the Light of the world.  
 join the tri - umph of the skies; Je-sus, the Light of the world.  
 Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord! Je-sus, the Light of the world.  
 Hail the Sun of righ-teous-ness! Je-sus, the Light of the world.

*Refrain*

We'll walk in the light, beau-ti-ful light, come where the dew-drops of mer-cy are bright.

Shine all a-round us by day and by night, Je-sus, the Light of the world.

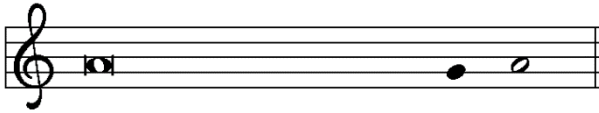
## Greeting

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

*ELW p. 147*



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



**Lord, have mer - cy.**



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



**Lord, have mer - cy.**



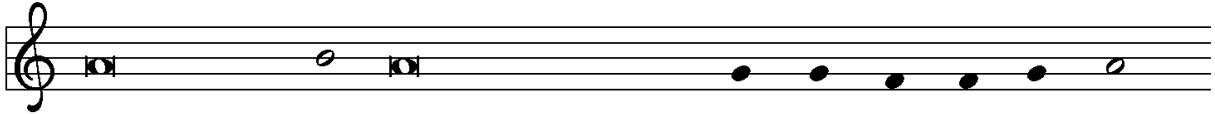
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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 wor-ship and praise,



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



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



1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,  
2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?  
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;

and the moun - tains in re - ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.  
What the glad - some tid - ings be which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?  
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.

*Refrain*

Glo - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo -

ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

## Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us pray.

Almighty God,

you wonderfully created the dignity of human nature and yet more wonderfully restored it.

In your mercy, let us share the divine life of the one who came to share our humanity,

Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## Word

*God speaks to us in Scripture reading, preaching, and song*

### First Reading – Isaiah 61: 10 – 62: 3

<sup>10</sup>I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,  
my whole being shall exult in my God;  
for the Lord has clothed me with the garments of salvation,  
the Lord has covered me with the robe of righteousness,  
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,  
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

<sup>11</sup>For as the earth brings forth its shoots,  
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,  
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise  
to spring up before all the nations.

<sup>62:1</sup>For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,  
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,  
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,  
and her salvation like a burning torch.

<sup>2</sup>The nations shall see your vindication,  
and all the kings your glory;  
and you shall be called by a new name  
that the mouth of the LORD will give.

<sup>3</sup>You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD,  
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

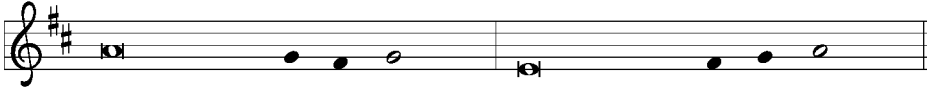
L: Word of God, word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**



## Psalm 148

### *Psalm tone*



Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.  
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### *Psalm refrain*



Psalm 148:13  
Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year B* © 2008 Augsburg Fortress.  
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- <sup>1</sup>Hallelujah! Praise the LORD | from the heavens;  
praise God | in the heights.
- <sup>2</sup>**Praise the LORD, | all you angels;**  
**sing praise, all you | hosts of heaven.**
- <sup>3</sup>Praise the LORD, | sun and moon;  
sing praise, all you | shining stars.
- <sup>4</sup>**Praise the LORD, heav- | en of heavens,**  
**and you waters a- | bove the heavens.**
- <sup>5</sup>Let them praise the name | of the LORD,  
who commanded, and they | were created,
- <sup>6</sup>**who made them stand fast forev- | er and ever,**  
**giving them a law that shall not | pass away. R**
- <sup>7</sup>Praise the LORD | from the earth,  
you sea monsters | and all deeps;
- <sup>8</sup>**fire and hail, | snow and fog,**  
**tempestuous wind, do- | ing God's will;**
- <sup>9</sup>mountains | and all hills,  
fruit trees | and all cedars;
- <sup>10</sup>**wild beasts | and all cattle,**  
**creeping things and | flying birds;**
- <sup>11</sup>sovereigns of the earth | and all peoples,  
princes and all rulers | of the world;
- <sup>12</sup>**young | men and maidens,**  
**old and | young together. R**

<sup>13</sup>Let them praise the name <sup>|</sup> of the LORD,  
 whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over <sup>|</sup> earth and heaven.  
<sup>14</sup>**The LORD has raised up strength for the people and praise for all <sup>|</sup> faithful servants,  
 the children of Israel, a people who are near the LORD. <sup>|</sup> Hallelujah! R**

## Second Reading – Galatians 4: 4-7

<sup>4</sup>When the fullness of time had come, God sent God’s Son, born of a woman, born under the law, <sup>5</sup>in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. <sup>6</sup>And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of God’s Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” <sup>7</sup>So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

L: Word of God, word of life.  
**C: Thanks be to God.**

*Please rise as you are able.*

## Gospel Acclamation

*Alleluia*

*ELW p. 151*

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

## Gospel – Luke 2: 1-20

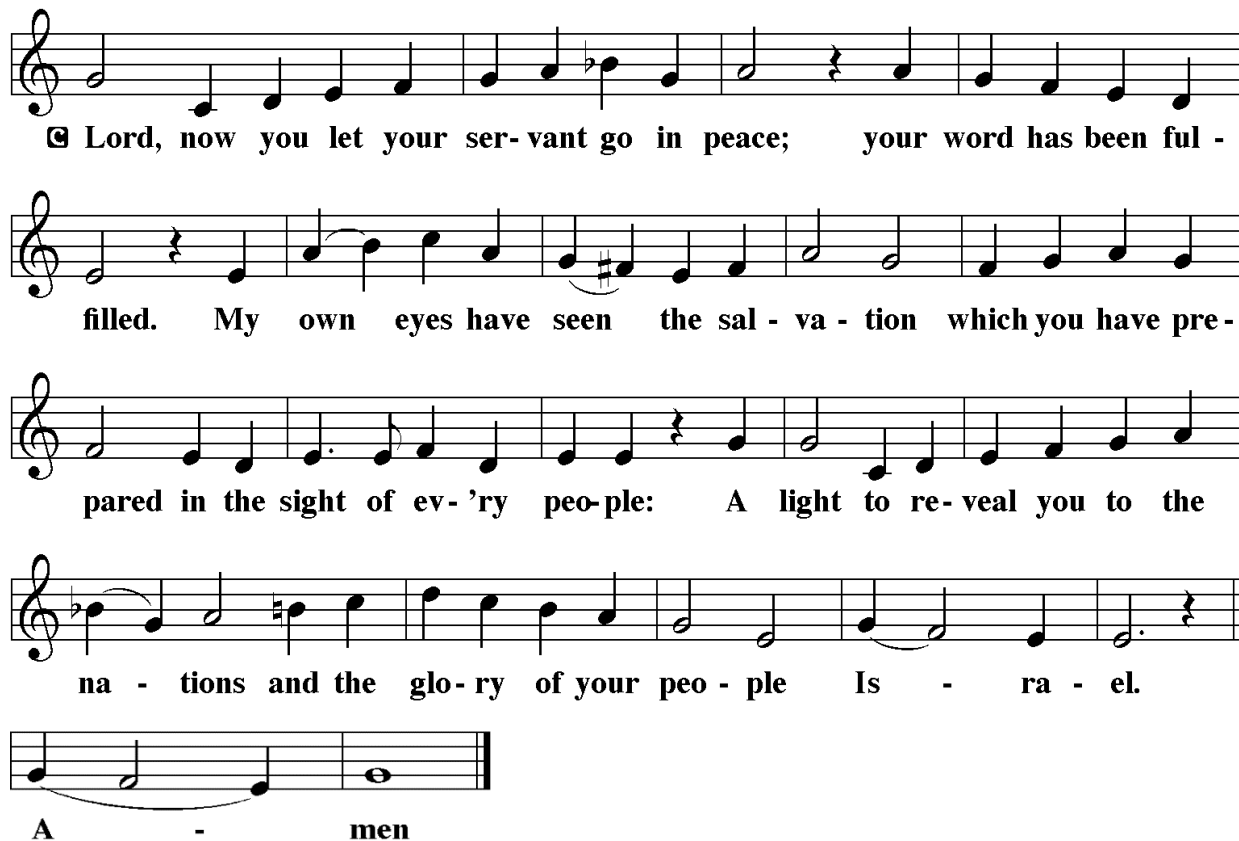
P: The holy Gospel according to St. Luke.  
**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>22</sup>When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, [Joseph and Mary] brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord <sup>23</sup>(as it is written in the law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord”), <sup>24</sup>and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.”

<sup>25</sup>Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. <sup>26</sup>It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. <sup>27</sup>Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents

brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, <sup>28</sup>Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

*The song of Simeon is proclaimed by the congregation*



Lord, now you let your ser- vant go in peace; your word has been ful -  
filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre -  
pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo- ple: A light to re- veal you to the  
na - tions and the glo- ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.  
A - men

<sup>33</sup>And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. <sup>34</sup>Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed <sup>35</sup>so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

<sup>36</sup>There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, <sup>37</sup>then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. <sup>38</sup>At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

<sup>39</sup>When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. <sup>40</sup>The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

*Please be seated.*

## Sermon

*A time of silence for prayer and reflection follows the sermon.  
As the hymn of the day begins, please rise as you are able.*

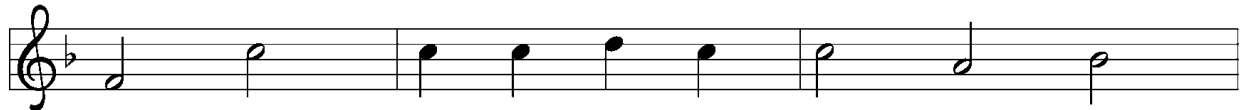
### Hymn of the Day

### Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

ELW 272



1 Lo, how a rose e'er bloom - ing from ten - der stem hath  
2 I - sai - ah had fore - told it, the rose I have in  
3 This flow'r, whose fra - grance ten - der with sweet-ness fills the  
4 O Sav - ior, child of Mar - y, who felt our hu - man



sprung! Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing as  
mind; with Mar - y we be - hold it, the  
air, dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor the  
woe; O Sav - ior, king of glo - ry, who



seers of old have sung, it came, a flow'r so bright, a -  
vir - gin moth - er kind. To show God's love a - right, she  
dark-ness ev - 'ry - where. True man, yet ver - y God, from  
dost our weak - ness know: bring us at length, we pray, to



mid the cold of win - ter, when half - spent was the night.  
bore to us a Sav - ior, when half - spent was the night.  
sin and death he saves us and light - ens ev - 'ry load.  
the bright courts of heav - en and in - to end - less day.

Text: German carol, 15th cent.; tr. Theodore Baker, 1851–1934, sts. 1–2; Harriet R. Krauth, 1845–1925, st. 3; John C. Mattes, 1876–1948, st. 4  
Music: ES IST EIN ROS, *Alte catholische geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1599

## **Nicene Creed**

P: Rejoicing in the good news of Christ's birth, we confess our faith:

**C: We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**C: We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,\*  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

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\*Or, "who proceeds from the Father." The phrase "and the Son" is a later addition to the creed.

## **Prayers of the People**

A: Trusting in God's good news of great joy for all people, we offer our prayers for the church, those in need, and the world God so loves.

*After each petition*

A: God of grace,

**C: receive our prayer.**

*The presiding minister concludes the prayers*

P: Rejoicing in your Word made flesh among us, we commend these prayers to you, O God, trusting in your love and grace made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**C: Amen.**

## **Peace**

*The presiding minister and the assembly greet one another in the peace of the risen Christ.*

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

*The people may greet those around them with a sign of Christ's peace and may say Peace be with you or similar words. Please be mindful that not everyone will be comfortable with sharing the peace, so please seek consent before shaking hands or hugging. Other possible ways to share the peace include a simple bow with the verbal greeting of peace, or simply a verbal expression of peace.*

*When the greetings of peace have concluded, please be seated.*



## **Meal**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ*

## **Offering**

*We offer ourselves, our gifts, and our faithful service to God.*

*As the offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need, the table is set for Holy Communion.*

## **Music during the Offering**

*As the gifts are brought forward for presentation, please rise as you are able.*

## Offertory Song

## What Child Is This v. 1, 3

ELW 296



- 1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep-ing?
- 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?
- 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas - ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep - ing?  
Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.  
The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en-throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep-herds guard and an - gels sing;  
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;  
Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!  
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!  
joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–1898

Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.

## Offertory Prayer

A: Let us pray.

Good and loving God,

**C: we rejoice in the birth of Jesus,**

**who came among the poor to bring the riches of his grace.**

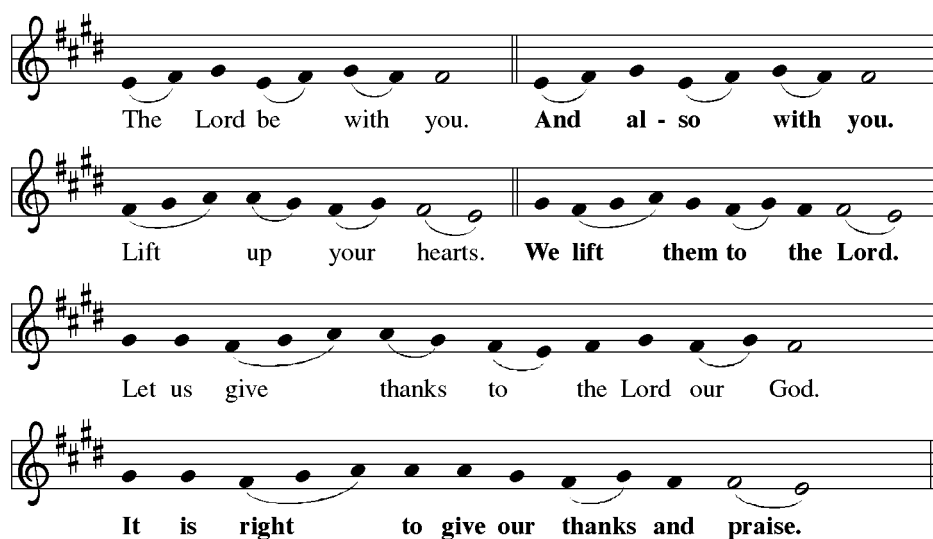
**As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be a blessing for others.**

**With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven,**

**we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## Dialogue

ELW p. 152



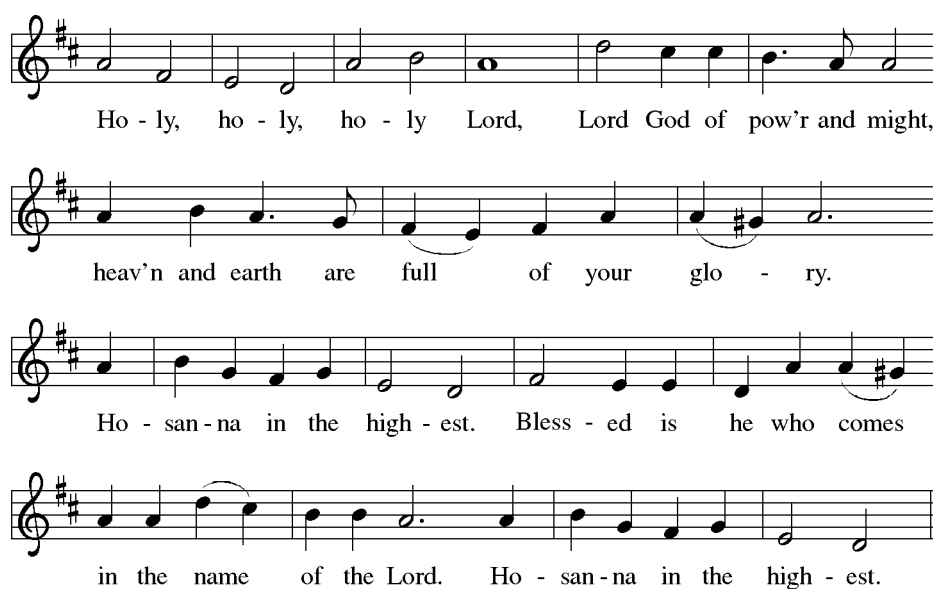
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

## Preface (*Sung*)

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy ...  
... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## Sanctus

ELW p. 153



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
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.



## **Eucharistic Prayer**

P: Holy one, the beginning and the end, the giver of life, ...  
... Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

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

P: With this bread and cup ...  
... We look with hope for his coming.

**C: Come, Lord Jesus.**

P: Holy God, we long for your Spirit ...  
... Bring the gift of peace on earth.

**C: Come, Holy Spirit.**

P: All praise and glory are yours ...  
... one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## **Lord's Prayer**

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

**C: 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.**

## **Fraction and Invitation**

P: Glory to God in the highest!  
Come to the table of peace.

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, grant us peace.

*Please be seated.*

### **Holy Communion**

- *All who seek God and desire a deeper and stronger life in Christ are welcome to receive Holy Communion.*
- *Worshippers from the pulpit side will proceed forward first, followed by the center section, and then the lectern side.*
- *Please inform an usher if you would like the ministers to bring Communion to you.*
- *Holy Communion will be served with bread and wine/grape juice.*
- *The presiding minister will first distribute the bread (host) to each communicant. Please indicate if you require a gluten-free host.*
- *Once you have consumed the bread, please pick up an empty glass from the tray next to the presiding minister. The Communion Assistant will pour wine from the chalice or grape juice from the cruet into your glass.*
- *Please step to the side to consume the wine or grape juice.*
- *Feel free to kneel at the altar rail for prayer after receiving the sacrament.*
- *As you return to your pew, glasses may be returned to the empty trays on either side of the center section.*
- *A blessing will be provided for anyone who does not yet receive the sacrament.*
- *All are invited to join in singing the hymns during Holy Communion.*

# Hymns during Holy Communion

## Angels from the Realms of Glory

ELW 275

1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
2 Shep - herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your flocks by night,  
3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, bright - er vi - sions beam a - far;  
4 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son,

once you sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:  
God with us is now re - sid - ing, yon - der shines the in - fant light.  
seek the great de - sire of na - tions, you have seen his na - tal star.  
ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing to the e - ter - nal Three in One.

*Refrain*

Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born king.

The musical score consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor). The first system contains the first four lines of the hymn. The second system contains the remaining lines of the hymn, including the refrain. The piano accompaniment is primarily chordal, with some melodic lines in the bass.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt., sts. 1–3; *Salisbury Hymn Book*, 1857, st. 4  
Music: REGENT SQUARE, Henry T. Smart, 1813–1879

# Hymns during Holy Communion

## Once in Royal David's City

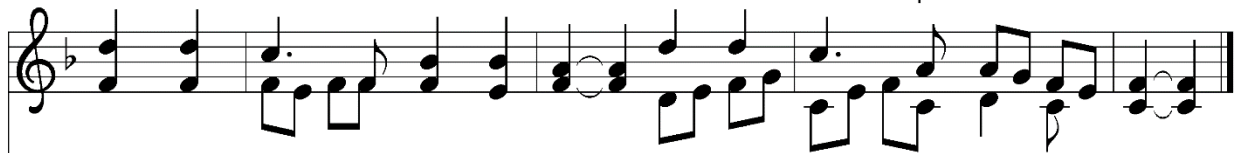
ELW 269



1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y stood a low - ly cat - tle shed,  
2 He came down to earth from heav - en who is God and Lord of all,  
3 And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own re - deem - ing love;  
4 Not in that poor low - ly sta - ble, with the ox - en stand - ing by,



where a moth - er laid her ba - by in a man - ger for his bed:  
and his shel - ter was a sta - ble, and his cra - dle was a stall;  
for that child so dear and gen - tle is our Lord in heav'n a - bove;  
we shall see him; but in heav - en, set at God's right hand on high;



Mar - y was that moth - er mild, Je - sus Christ, her lit - tle child.  
with the poor and meek and low - ly, lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.  
and he leads his chil - dren on to the place where he is gone.  
there his chil - dren gath - er round, bright like stars, with glo - ry crowned.



## Hymns during Holy Communion

### Let All Together Praise Our God

ELW 287



1 Let all to - geth - er praise our God be - fore the  
2 From God's right hand the Son de - scends, is born an  
3 O ten - der Child, you veil in flesh the splen - dor  
4 Your moth - er feeds you ten - der - ly, sings you a



high - est throne; to - day God o - pens heav'n a - gain and  
in - fant small, and lies in pov - er - ty, his bed a  
of your might; a ser - vant's garb now wraps the one who  
lul - la - by, while an - gels, hail - ing Da - vid's heir, your



sends the on - ly Son, and sends the on - ly Son.  
man - ger in a stall, a man - ger in a stall.  
clothed the sky with light, who clothed the sky with light.  
glo - ry mag - ni - fy, your glo - ry mag - ni - fy.

5 A wonderful exchange you make:  
you take our flesh and blood,  
and in return give us to share  
the shining realm of God,  
the shining realm of God.

6 Unlock the door again today  
that leads to paradise;  
the angel bars the way no more.  
To God let praises rise,  
to God let praises rise!

Text: Nikolaus Herman, 1480–1561; tr. hymnal version

Music: LOBT GOTT, IHR CHRISTEN, Nikolaus Herman

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*When all have returned to their places, please rise as you are able.*

## Blessing

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

C: Amen.

## **Prayer**

A: Let us pray.

Radiant God, you have brought us your salvation,  
and in this meal we have feasted on your grace.

May your Word take flesh in us, that we may be your holy people,  
Revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## **Sending**

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world*

## **Benediction**

P: God bless you and keep you,

✠ Jesus grant you grace and truth,  
and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts,  
now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**Sending Hymn**

**Jesus, What a Wonderful Child**

*Following page*

## **Dismissal**

A: Go in peace. Share the good news!

**C: Thanks be to God!**

## **Postlude**

Je - sus, Je - sus, oh, what a won - der - ful child.

Je - sus, Je - sus, so ho - ly, meek, and

mild; new life, new hope the child will bring.

Lis - ten to the an - gels sing: "Glo - ry, glo - ry,

glo - ry," let the heav - ens ring!

Text: African American traditional, alt.  
 Music: WONDERFUL CHILD, African American traditional

*Those serving in worship*

Altar Care  
 Assisting Minister  
 Audio-Visual Minister  
 Lector  
 Minister of Music  
 Presiding and Preaching Minister

Jodie Minor  
 Jeff Denlinger  
 Kristen Asplin  
 Lindsay Baxter  
 Laura Reynolds  
 The Rev. Ross I. Carmichael

*Liturgy and Hymnody Acknowledgements*

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**Jesus, the Light of the World** – Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, stanzas; George D. Elderkin, 1845-1928, refrain. Music WE’LL WALK IN THE LIGHT, Traditional; arr. George D. Elderkin.

**Angels We Have Heard on High** – Text: French carol; tr. H. F. Hemy, *The Crown of Jesus Music*, 1864. Music: GLORIA, French carol; arr. Edward F. Barnes, 1881-1958.

*Please use the QR code below to link to St. Andrew’s Announcements online!*



**St. Andrew Lutheran Church Announcements  
December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023**

- **Welcome to worship at St. Andrew on the First Sunday of Christmas, December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023** – We are so glad you are here, and we offer a special welcome to all guests who are gathered here or online! There are worship “toolkits” to help children engage with worship and “busy bags” for younger children available in the bookcase at the back of the sanctuary. Please feel free to take one to use with/for your children.
- **Christ in Our Home Devotional Booklets for January - March Available at Church Entrances** – This resource offers a daily Bible reading with a short reflection and prayer, along with additional readings and prayer topics for those who would like to expand their devotional practices. We encourage people of the congregation to take one for yourself, your family unit, or others!
- **Fresh Produce Distribution – Tuesday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 5:30-7:00 p.m.** – On the first Tuesday of every month, St. Andrew hosts a fresh produce distribution in partnership with Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank. We ask people of the congregation to assist with setup and unloading, usually sometime between 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m., and with the distribution itself from 5:30-7:00 p.m. There is no signup link for this month, but we plan to provide them again in time for February’s distribution.
- **Hearts and Hands Meeting on First Sundays of the Month after Worship – Next Gathering January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024** – Hearts and Hands, St. Andrew’s crocheting and knitting ministry group, plans to gather each month on the first Sunday after worship, beginning on January 7<sup>th</sup>. The leaders will teach anyone who would like to learn to crochet and have yarn and hooks to help get you started! We are currently in need of knitted or crocheted shawls, afghans, and stoles to replenish the congregation’s supply. Anyone is welcome to make something and drop it off even if they are not available or choose not to come to a meeting.
- **Save the Date – Service of Prayer and Lament for the Holy Land – Saturday, January 27<sup>th</sup> at St. Andrew. Meal and Presentation – 5:00 p.m., Service – 6:00 p.m.**