

INCARNATION LUTHERAN CHURCH

✠ First Sunday in Advent • December 3rd, 2023 ✠

Worship Notes: • Our Lector is Cheryl Carroll • Our Crucifer is John Sawicki • Our Banner Bearer is Ken Custer • We are in Setting 3 of the ELW •

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

RED DOOR FUND TEMPLE TALK

PRELUDE: Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus Mark Sedio

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS *Please stand as able and face the back of the church.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, who opens the heavens and draws near to us with salvation. **Amen.**

God is patient and merciful, desiring all to come to repentance. Trusting this promise of grace, let us confess our sin. Everlasting God, **you love justice and you hate wrongdoing. We confess the fear, greed, and self-centeredness that make us reluctant to work against oppression. We are complicit in systems of exploitation. We choose comfort over courage. We are careless with creation's bounty. Look upon us with mercy. Turn our hearts again to you. Make us glad to do your will and to walk in your ways for the sake of our waiting world. Amen.**

Hear these words of assurance: God clothes you with garments of salvation and covers you with robes of righteousness. In the tender compassion of ✠ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. God's covenant is eternal, and God's blessing rests upon us all. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN: ELW 246

Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding
MERTON

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Shine on us with hope and jus - tice;
Give your peace in age and youth. Shine on us with
love and com - fort; Light our path to joy and truth.

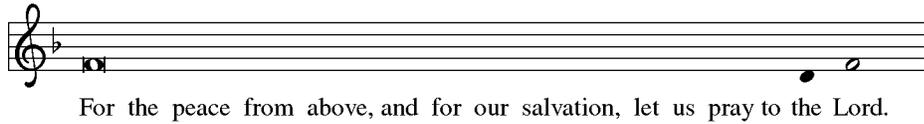
From *After the Prelude, Year B* by William H. Mathis. Copyright © 2008 Choristers Guild. Used by permission.

GREETING

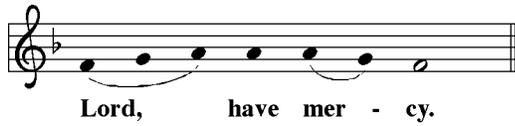
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**



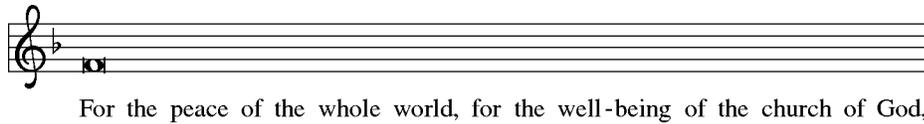
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



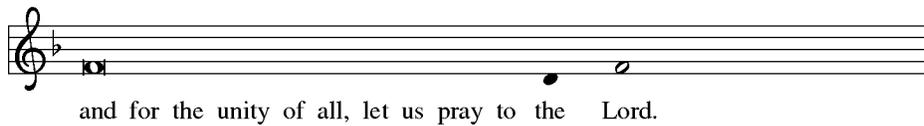
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



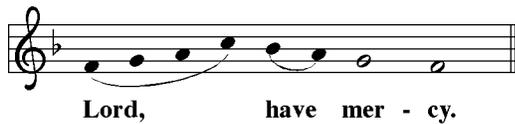
Lord, have mer - cy.



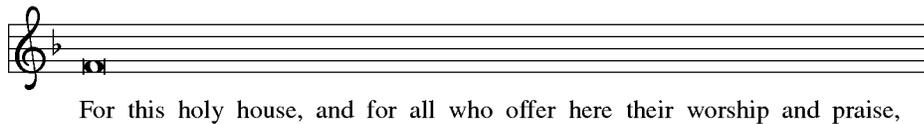
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



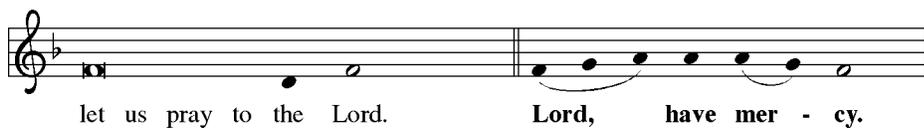
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



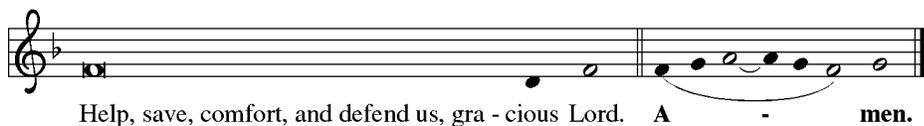
Lord, have mer - cy.



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

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. Amen.**

Please be seated.

WORD

CHILDREN'S SERMON

FIRST READING: Isaiah 64:1-9

¹O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence— ²as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil— to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence!
³When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. ⁴From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. ⁵You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. ⁶We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. ⁷There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. ⁸Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. ⁹Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

Psalm is read responsively.

¹Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
²**In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh,
stir up your strength and come to help us.**
³Restore us, O God;
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.
⁴**O LORD God of hosts,
how long will your anger fume when your people pray?**
⁵You have fed them with the bread of tears;
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
⁶**You have made us the derision of our neighbors,
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.**
⁷Restore us, O God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.
¹⁷**Let your hand be upon the one at your right hand,
the one you have made so strong for yourself.**
¹⁸And so will we never turn away from you;
give us life, that we may call upon your name.
¹⁹**Restore us, O LORD God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.**

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—⁶just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ELW p.142



GOSPEL: Mark 13:24-37

Please stand as able.

Before the Reading: The Holy Gospel according to Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord.**”

[Jesus said:] ²⁴“In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, ²⁵and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. ²⁶Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. ²⁷Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. ²⁸“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. ³¹Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. ³²“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his servants in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. ³⁵Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, ³⁶or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. ³⁷And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

After the Reading: The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Emily Willhide

HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW 436

Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying
WACHET AUF

THE APOSTLES' CREED

Please stand as able.

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

Each petition concludes "*Merciful God,*" We respond: "**Receive our prayer.**"

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

MEAL

The offering plate will be passed throughout the Congregation.

ANTHEM:

"Keep Your Lamps"

arr. Andre Thomas

Please stand as able.

OFFERING PRAYER

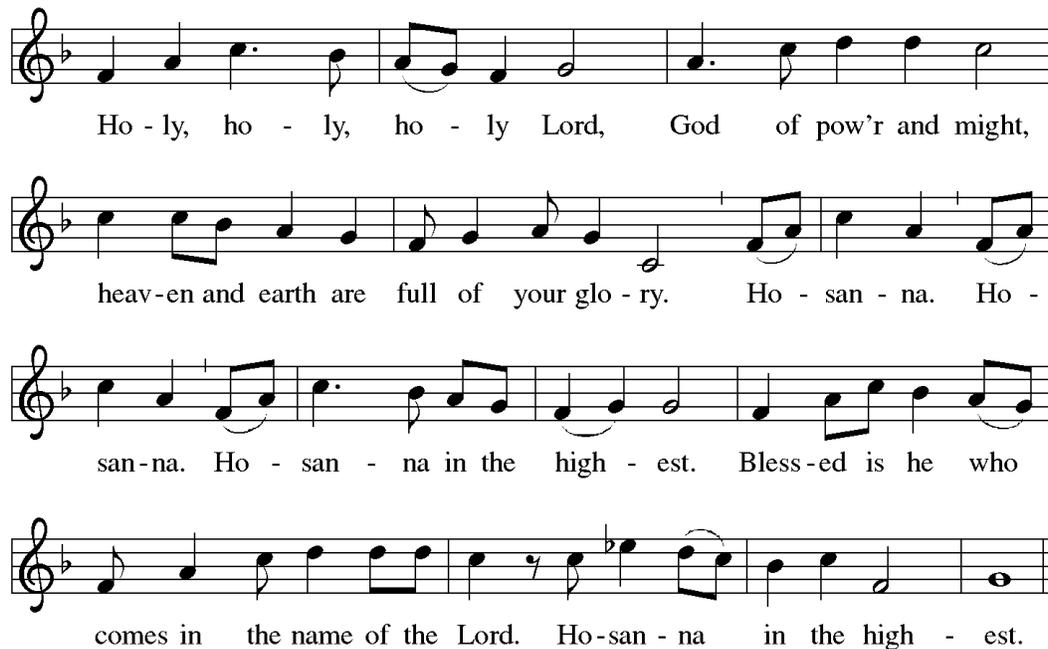
Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING: ELW p.144

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

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



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.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the people of God. Welcome to the table of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please be seated.

COMMUNION - We invite you to join with us in the sacrament of Holy Communion, as Jesus invites us all to the table. Please take an empty communion glass from the trays at the front of the church. The innermost ring of glasses are pre-filled with grape juice for those who prefer juice to wine. There are discard trays by the side aisles. Please follow the directions of the Ushers.

LAMB OF GOD: ELW p.146

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.

COMMUNION HYMNS: ELW 252

Each Winter As the Year Grows Older
CAROL OF HOPE

ELW 262

Wait for the Lord
WAIT FOR THE LORD

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Please stand as able.

Generous God, in bread and cup you have revealed your glory for all people to see together. Nourished by this meal, send us out to proclaim your good news of liberation and release, brought to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

The God of peace bless you, the love of Christ sustain you in hope, and the anointing of the Spirit ✝ remain upon you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN: ELW 260

The King Shall Come
CONSOLATION

DISMISSAL:

Beloved of God, go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE:

Wake, awake, for night is flying

Johann G. Walther

Please join us for Coffee Hour in the Fellowship Hall

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Adult and Children's Sunday School: 9:00 am

Worship: 10:00 am

Office Hours: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm M-F

3005 Devine Street, Columbia, SC 29205 • (803) 256-2381

Prayer List

- Current Concerns: Luzie Arnold, Jeff DeJames, Thom Williamson, Grady Lindler, Bill Lamb, Peace in all places experiencing conflict, and all homebound and caregivers.
- Continuing Concerns: Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, Karen Howell, Bill Behymer, Susan Burris, Debbie Sawicki, Sue Anderson, Daphne Rushe, Joe DeMichael, Harry Evans, Meredith Schulz
- Military: Hilary Compton, Kim Yerrick's niece; Tyler Owens, Kim Yerrick's nephew.

Children's Choir

If you or your child is interested in participating in children's choir, please contact Sarah Sawicki at sarahsawicki@gmail.com.

Parents Night Out - Volunteers Needed!

On Friday, Dec. 8th the youth of Incarnation will be hosting a Parent's Night Out. For this to happen we need volunteers! Anything from playing with the children, helping with a small craft, rocking babies, or helping with dinner. ALL help is greatly appreciated. Proceeds from this event will go to Incarnation Youth to attend the 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering. If you would like to volunteer and are over the age of 18 you will need to complete a background check. Please contact Kimi if you would like to help!

St. Nicks Festival

St Nicks festival is on Wednesday, December 6th. Please bring socks of all sizes to donate!



Do you want to join Incarnation? If so, please contact the office at office@incarnationlutheran.com so that we can gather your contact information and reach out to you.

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, December 6th:

6:00 pm St. Nick's Festival and Dinner

Thursday, December 7th:

6:00 pm USC Doctorate Conducting Recital

Friday, December 8th:

6:00 pm-10:00 pm Parents Night Out followed by 10:00 pm - 8:30 am Youth Lock In

Giving to ILC

Please consider giving to Incarnation Lutheran Church's ministries and projects.



ILC Directory

Picture Dates:

Fri, Dec. 15: 2:00 PM - 8:30 PM

Sat, Dec. 16: 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Mon, Dec. 18 2:00 PM - 8:30 PM

Scheduling

(www.ucdir.com)

Church Code: SC291

Password: photos

Please contact the office if you need assistance scheduling.