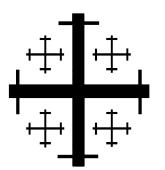


10 December 2023 9:30 am





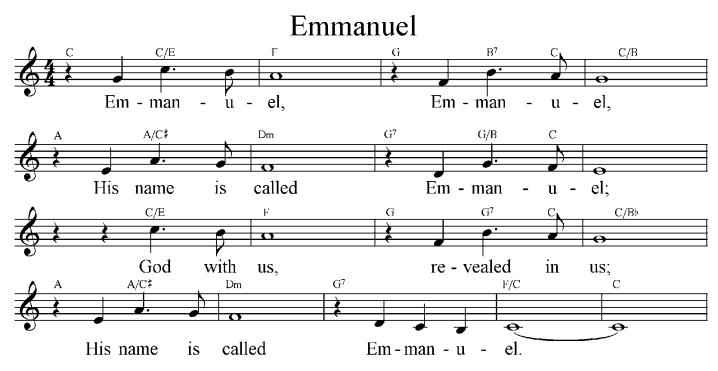
The Liturgy at Calvary

ADVENT II John calls people to repent, to clear the decks, to completely reorder their lives so that nothing gets in the way of the Lord's coming. The reading from Isaiah gives the context for this radical call: the assurance of forgiveness that encourages us

to repent; the promise that the coming one will be gentle with the little ones. Isaiah calls us all to be heralds with John, to lift up our voices fearlessly and say, "See, your God is coming!" We say it to one another in worship, in order to say it with our lives in a world in need of justice and peace.

Penitential Rite

Please stand and face the Baptismal Font



Text & Music: Bob McGee Copyright © 1976 C.A. Music

L "...do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance. So then, dear friends, make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with him" (2 Peter 3:8,9.14). Let us confess the ways in which we try God's patience and resolve to live God-pleasing lives.

Silence is kept for confession and reflection

- L We pray...
- C Restore us, O God our Savior, and put away your displeasure toward us. Show us your unfailing love and grant us your salvation. I will listen to you, Lord God, because you promise peace to those who are faithful. Let me not return to foolish ways (Psalm 85:4,8).
- L "Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. your hard service has been completed, your sin has been paid for...." Faithfulness springs forth from the earth, and righteousness looks down from heaven. The LORD will indeed give what is good... (Isaiah 40:1; Psalm 85:11-12a).

Reprise Emmanuel

Apostolic Greeting

- C And also with you.



Music: Viktor Andersson © 1999 Calvary Lutheran Church

Canticle of Praise

Stir Up Your Power and Come



Used by special permission from the composer for Calvary's liturgy

Blessing & Lighting the Advent Wreath

We sing the verse below before and after the blessing.



P We praise you, O God, for this circle of light that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent. As we light the candles on this wreath, kindle within us the fire of your Spirit that we may be light shining in the darkness. Enlighten us with your grace, that we may welcome others as you have welcomed us. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near.

C Amen

Please sit for today's readings from scripture. **First Reading: Isaiah 40:1-11**

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; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. ¹¹He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: 2 Peter 3:8-15a

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.

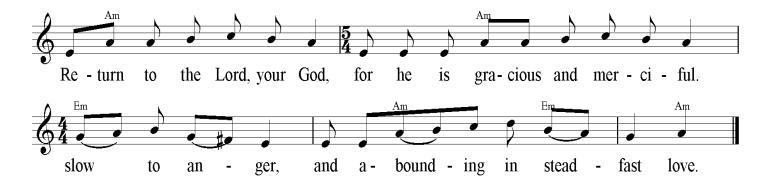
¹⁴Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; ^{15a}and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the Holy Gospel.

Advent Verse & Gospel Acclamations



P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the 1st chapter.

C Glory to you, O 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 Our Lord

C Praise to you, O Christ!

Sermon Tricia Huston, Parish Lay Academy Student

Hymn of the Day – ELW 256 Comfort, Comfort Now My People 1 "Com - fort, com-fort now my peo - ple; tell 2 For the her-ald's voice is cry - ing in ple; tell of peace!" So says our God. ing in the des - ert far and near, Straight shall be what long was crook - ed, and the rough - er plac - es 3 plain. Com-fort those who sit in dark - ness mourn-ing un - der sor - row's load. to true re - pen - tance, since the reign of God is call - ing us here. Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, as be-fits God's ho - ly reign. God's peo - ple now pro-claim that God's par - don waits for them! То 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, o - ver; God will reign in peace for - ev - er. Tell them that their war is 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 pseaumes de David*, Geneva, 1551

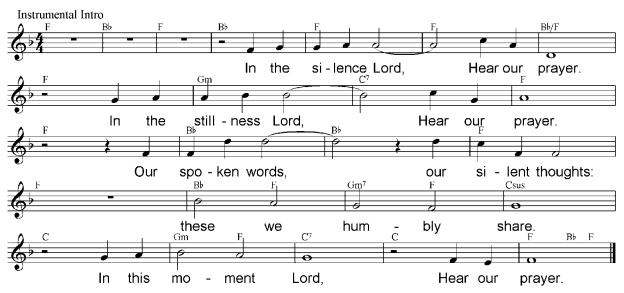
SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

Presentation Promise

- P People of God, do you promise to support Vivian Grace and pray for their new life in Christ?
- C We do.

Prayers of the Faithful

A Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.



After each petition

A Lord in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

Concluding with

- P Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord
- C Amen.

Thanksgiving over Water

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Renunciation of Evil

Profession of Faith

- P Do you believe in God the Father?
- C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
- P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?
- C I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
- P Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?
- C 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

Baptism, Anointing with Oil & Signing with the Cross of Christ Blessing

Presentation of Baptismal Candle

Prayer

Proclamation

- P Through Baptism God has made this new sister members of the priesthood we all share in Christ Jesus, that we may proclaim the praise of God and bear his creative and redeeming Word to all the world.
- C We welcome you into the Lord's family. We receive you as a fellow member of the body of Christ, child of the same heavenly Father, and worker with us in the kingdom of God.

Peace

- P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C And also with you

Offertory



Two Ways to Give Download the new "Vanco Mobile" giving app

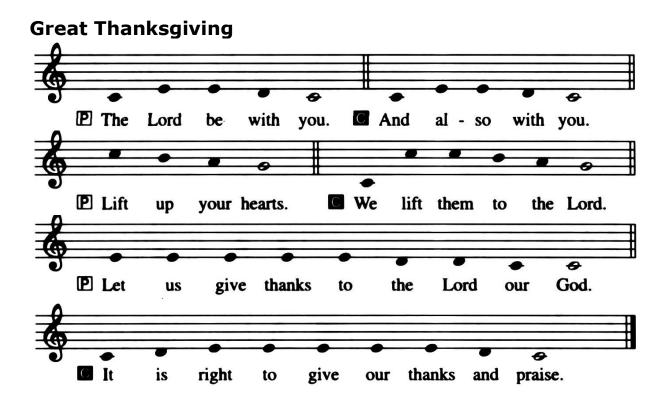
Give online through this **QR code** from your smart phone's app store Use smart phone camera; click link





Let us pray. Merciful Father, Α

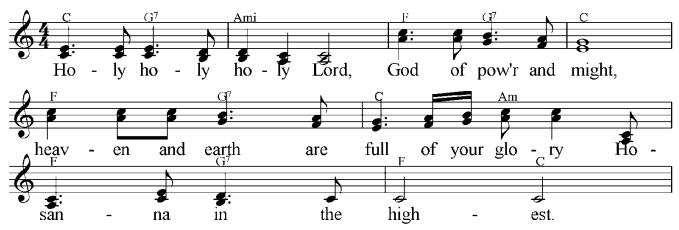
we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first С given us - our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen



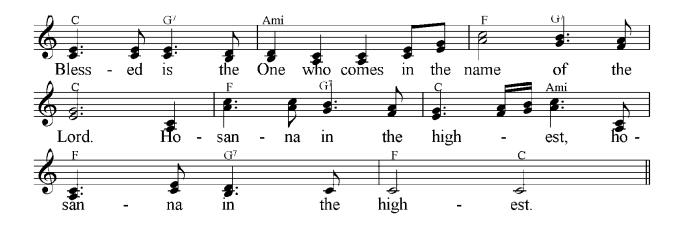
P It is indeed right and good that we should everywhere and always offer thanks and praise to you, Holy God mighty and immortal through Jesus Christ our Lord.

You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new, when He comes again to judge the world in righteousness.

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

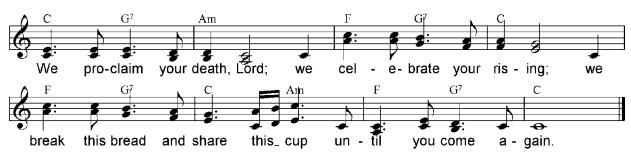


Sanctus & Benedictus [Latin, Holy & Blessed]



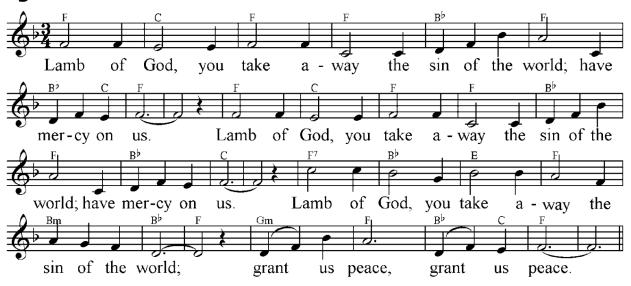
Eucharistic Prayer

Eucharistic Acclamation



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

Agnus Dei





Holy Communion

In-Person: We commune at the Altar. Ushers will guide.

Wine is Red Grape Juice is White Gluten-free wafers available upon request.

Online at Home: If you have elements at home, commune with those in attendance at the same time. We encourage you to communion each other and bless children who have not received First Communion. Consider giving this blessing: "Know that the promises of Jesus's love are for you."

Songs that may be sung during distribution of the Sacrament:

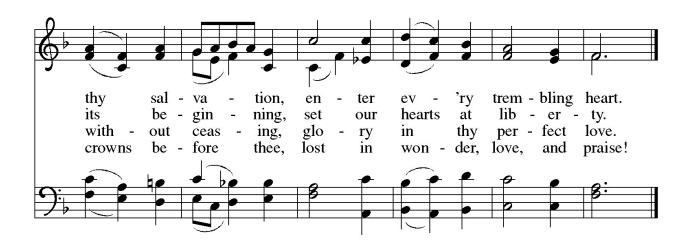
Lost in the Night ELW 243



Love Divine ELW 631

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling



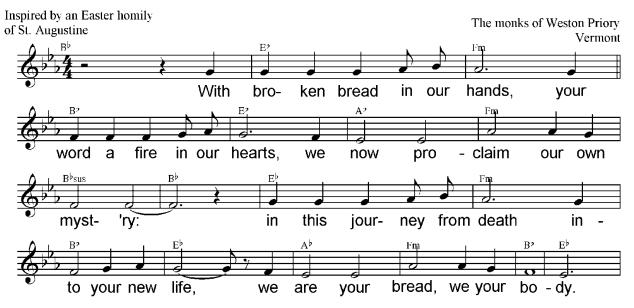


Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788 Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887

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

C Amen

Post Communion Canticle



© 1990 The Benedictine Foundation of the State of Vermont, Inc.

A Let us pray... 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.

C Amen

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ♣ give you peace.

C Amen

Please turn in place, facing the cross carried by the crucifer. **Recessional – ELW 239**



Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702-1751 Music: CHESTERFIELD, Thomas Haweis, 1734-1820

A Go in Peace. Serve the LordC Thanks be to God!

Upcoming Commemorations

Lucy, martyr, died 304 Wednesday, December 13, 2023

Lucy was a young Christian of Sicily who was martyred during the persecutions under Emperor Diocletian. Her celebration became particularly important in Sweden and Norway, perhaps because the feast of Lucia (whose name means "light") originally fell on the shortest day of the year.

John of the Cross, renewer of the church, died 1591 Thursday, December 14, 2023

John was a member of the Carmelite monastic order, and worked to reform it. His writings reflect a deep interest in mystical thought and meditation.

Las Posadas (LLC) Saturday, December 16, 2023

This celebration, long popular in Mexico, takes its name from the "posadas," or lodgings, sought by Mary and Joseph in Bethlehem. Their search is reenacted in a neighborhood, unsuccessfully, until finally they are welcomed in, and a party commences.

Calvary Lutheran Church

7620 Baker Boulevard Richland Hills, Texas 76118 www.godshearthumanhands.org email:calvary@calvaryftw.org (817) 284-8724 (817) 284-0860 (Fax)

The Reverend Phillip Heinze The Reverend Kyle Rouze Intern Pastor Thomas Johnston

| Lector / Acolyte | Gail Kviz |
|--|------------------------------|
| | |
| Assisting Minister / Crucifer | Christy Gibson |
| Ushers / Greeters | Diane & Greg Musfeldt and |
| | Sharon & Paul Dobbs |
| Communion Assistants | Sheila & Jim Cronkhite |
| Communion Assistants | |
| | |
| Viktor Andersson, <i>piano</i> | Debbie Villavicencio, organ |
| Toni Tharp, <i>flute, vocals</i> | Karen Moxley, violin, vocals |
| Janet Thorp, <i>guitar, vocals</i> | Dale Taylor, <i>guitar</i> |
| | 1 . 5 |
| Jacob Groening, trumpet, vocals | Brian Haywood, sax, vocals |
| David Lakota, <i>bass guitar</i> | Blake Kitch, percussion |
| Christy Gibson, Pete Moxley, <i>vocals</i> | |
| | |
| Robert Morris, Paul Slezak <i>trombone</i> | |
| | |

Cover Art by Tanja Butler

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CHRISTMAS CAROLING ALL gre welcome. COME and make a JOYFUL NOISE

*



Sunday, Dec. 17 • 5pm SHAW'S GRILL 1051 W Magnolia, Fort Worth

Kyrie Pub Church hosts its 11th Annual Christmas Carol Sing-a-Long at Shaw's. Food, drinks, candles, a family friendly atmosphere.



Wednesday, Dec. 20 • 6:30pm FLYING SAUCER 111 E. 3rd St. Fort Worth

Join Calvary Musicians for Christmas Carols on the Flying Saucer patio in the heart of Sundance Square. Food, drink and fellowship!