

First Sunday of Advent

December 1, 2024

10:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

We ask that all present sign our Friendship Sheet. After you add your name to the sheet, please pass it toward the center aisle. Then return it to the outside aisle so that you become familiar with our family in Christ.

These sheets help our pastor and congregation with our ministry. If you are looking for a church home, we invite you to join us here at St. Matthew to worship and serve Christ together!



ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, alive in the world, reviving creation, arriving soon.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

P: God of mercy,

C: we confess that we have sinned. We trust earthly powers and human authority alone. We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.

P: God of might,

C: we confess that we have sinned. We have turned away from our neighbors. We have trusted false promises.

P: God in our midst,

C: we confess that we have sinned. We plead: come to us. Bring your mercy to birth in us. Amen.

P: A righteous branch springs forth: it is Christ the Lord, our Savior, in whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy. By the power of the Holy Spirit, receive the grace and forgiveness of God through † Christ Jesus, whose day draws near.

C: Amen.

*OPENING HYMN

Savior of the Nations, Come

ELW #263

***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**



A Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **C** Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:



A Chri - ste e - le - i - son: **C** Christ, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy:



A Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **C** Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:

***HYMN OF PRAISE**

Glory to God



☐ Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



☐ Lord God, heav-en - ly king, al-might- y God and Fa- ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



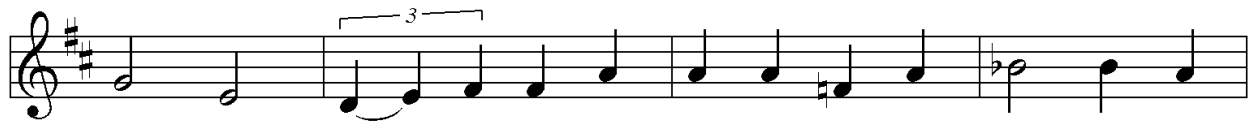
☐ Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



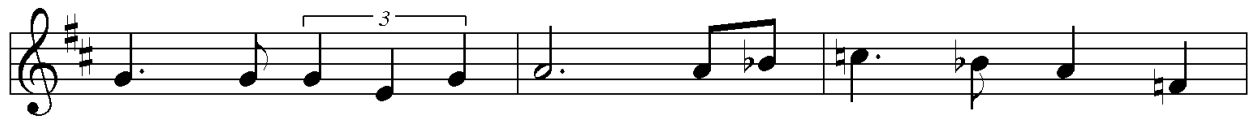
glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



☐ Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the



right hand of the Fa - ther: re- ceive our prayer.

C Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;

glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

I
II For you a-lone are the Ho - ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,

you a-lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly

Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther, A - men.

C Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;

glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth,

and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Let us pray ... Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C: Amen.**

*** LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES**

ADVENT LIGHTING HYMN

O Come O Come Emanuel

(vs 1 only)



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
 2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things
 3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on
 4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
 far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;
 Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law
 tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!
 in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.
 and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

Text: *Psalterium Canticum Catholicarum*, Köln, 1710; tr. composite
 Music: VENI, EMMANUEL, French processional, 15th cent.
 Text sts. 2, 6, 7 © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 33:14-16

¹⁴ The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵ In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶ In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

L: The word of the Lord. *C:* Thanks be to God.

PSALM 25:1-10 (read responsively)

¹ To you, O Lord,

I lift up my soul.

² **My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame,
 nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

³ Let none who look to you be put to shame;
 rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

**⁴Show me your ways, O Lord,
and teach me your paths.**

**⁵Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.**

**⁶Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love,
for they are from everlasting.**

**⁷Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your
goodness, O Lord.**

**⁸You are gracious and upright, O Lord;
therefore you teach sinners in your way.**

**⁹You lead the lowly in justice
and teach the lowly your way.**

**¹⁰All your paths, O Lord, are steadfast love and faithfulness
to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.**

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

**⁹How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before
our God because of you? ¹⁰Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see
you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.**

**¹¹Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to
you. ¹²And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another
and for all, just as we abound in love for you. ¹³And may he so strengthen your
hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the
coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.**

L: The word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



***Gospel: Luke 21:25-36**

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ²⁵ “There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. ²⁶ People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷ Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. ²⁸ Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

²⁹ Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰ as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹ So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³² Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³⁴ “Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, ³⁵ like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶ Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord. C: Praise to you, O Christ.

HOMILY

Pastor Traci

***HYMN OF THE DAY**

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

ELW # 244

***APOSTLES' CREED**

A: Let us confess our faith through the words of the Apostles' Creed.

C: 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 THE CHURCH**

A: As we prepare for Emmanuel, God-with-us, let us pray for all people and places that long for God's presence.

A: God of righteousness, your people live in hopeful expectation of your coming. Fill your church with renewed passion for our shared mission, and deepen our relationships with other Christians and other faith traditions in our local community and across the world. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

A: God of the cosmos, all creation shows that your presence is near. Help us sense your goodness and love in the sun and moon, in sprouting leaves and bare branches, in the roaring sea and quiet breeze. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

A: God of the nations, your reign extends over all principalities and powers. Give leaders and all in authority hearts for justice and peace. Encourage efforts to enact policies that benefit the common good. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

A: God of change, you accompany us through life's transitions. Be near to all who are changing jobs, moving, welcoming children, or facing the loss of loved ones. Sustain those who are ill or suffering. In times of change, remind us of your steadfast love. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

A: God of community, your Spirit holds us together. Sustain our care for one another. Inspire us to seek new ways to live together and to embrace the diversity of thought and identity in our communities. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

A: God of memory, we give you thanks for faithful ones who have died. Tend to our grief and sorrow with renewed trust in your promise of abundant and eternal life. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

P: Savior of the nations, come, and receive these prayers and the pleas of our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ. **C: Amen.**

***THE PEACE**

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

C: And also with you.

Please share the peace with those around you using a greeting that is comfortable for both you and them.

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

*An offering plate is located near the entrance to the nave;
we offer thanks for the abundance God has first shown us:*

A: Let us pray ... Creator God, you made the whole world, even the farthest stars, and you draw near to feed us. We praise you for these gifts of bread and wine. Strengthen us with this food that we may live in expectation for the advent of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **C: Amen.**

***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.

***PROPER 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. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. 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:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and



might, heav - en 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

***EUCHARISTIC PRAYER & WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

P: Holy God, the Beginning and the End, our Salvation and our Hope, we praise you for creating a world of order and beauty.

When we brought on chaos, cruelty and despair, you sent the prophets to proclaim your justice and mercy.

At this end of the ages your Son Jesus came to bring us your love and to heal all the suffering world.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his life, death, and resurrection, we await his coming again in righteousness and peace.

Send your Spirit on us and on this bread and wine we share: strengthen our faith, increase our hope, and bring to birth the justice and joy of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is your, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

C: Amen.

***LORD'S PRAYER**

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, 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

***THE AGNUS DEI**

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, grant us peace.

***INVITATION**

P: God feeds us with tender mercy. Come to the table.

COMMUNION HYMN

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah

ELW # 240

***BLESSING**

P: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **C Amen.**

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

A: Let us pray... Generous God, we thank you for the gift of life, for the bread of salvation. We thank you for coming among us, for leading us into peace. We thank you for showering us with mercy, for sending us into the world. Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us as we feed the hungry in your name.

C: Amen.

***BENEDICTION**

P: God of endings and beginnings, God in the darkness and the light, God, our hope for the journey, ✠ bless and keep you now and forever. **C Amen.**

***SENDING SONG**

Fling Wide the Door

ELW # 259

***DISMISSAL**

P: Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel. **C Thanks be to God.**

*POSTLUDE

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Also, please be advised that our parking lot has surveillance cameras and
that our worship service is video recorded and/or live-streamed on social media.

Today's Altar Flowers are placed to the Glory of God by Mike and Connie Lamborn.

Serving God and Us

Our Ministers - the People of St. Matthew

Our Pastor – Rev. Traci Marriott

Our Organists – Mary Nelson, DeAnna Cree

Our Missionary Family – Robin Abrol, On Eagle's Wings

Our Administrative Assistant – Jen Ripka

Our Assistant Administrative Assistant – Laura Orczeck

Our Sexton – Phil Claar

Our Acolyte – Jay Hoenstine

Our Assisting Minister – Greg Haffling

Our Lector – Carla Brumbaugh

Our Usher – Martie Gilbert

Our Altar Guild – Tina Harclerode, Jackie Lightner, and Jane Fagans

Our Audio/Video Tech – Camden Kuster

Our Offering Counters – Jim Barley, Beth Garner

Fourth Quarter Ventures in Faith to “*United Lutheran Seminaries*”

This Week at St. Matthew:

814-793-2413: Office Hours

Pastor Traci – Wed. 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Jen – Mon. Fri.: 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

This Week Events

Today –

1st Sunday of Advent

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

Lutheran Home Gingerbread Village 3:00 p.m., Hollidaysburg

Cove Christmas Love Presents Due

Monday –

Care Package Assembly with Lunch 12:00 pm, Fellowship Hall

Thursday –

Food Pantry 9:00-11:00 a.m., Allegheny St.

Friday –

The Weekend Synod Event grades 6-12

Saturday –

The Weekend Synod Event grades 6-12

Sunday –

2nd Sunday of Advent

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

The Weekend Synod Event grades 6-12

Fellowship Hall in Use 1:00-8:00 p.m.

Prayers are needed for our homebound: Mary Jane Allision, Vivian Beach, Fred Brandenburg, Linda Claar, Mary Creps, Gerry Girolami, Betty Helsel, Ruth Johnson, Audrey & Dan Kensinger.

Prayer Concerns: Amy & Family, Avery, Randy Barrett, Greta Buchart, Caleb, Warren Campbell, Phillip Claar, Dave Clayton, Greg Comer, Terry Creek, Brian Fleck, Ron Focht, Jim Fritz, Rodger Hoover, Marilyn Horton, Baby James, Ruth Johnson, Darren Kreutzer, Connie Lamborn, Linda Lehman, Bill Lively, Kristen Malloy, Karrie McCall & Family, Betty McDowell, Rick McIntyre, Aunt Mica, Carl Miner, Pat Mountain, Nathan, Olga Perlov, Deb Peters, John Russell, Paul Ruth, Karyl Sawinski, Denny Smith (Shelly Hill), Dorothy Stahl, Jean Stonerook, Cindy Thomas, Steve Torres, Tiffany Townsend, Drew Wenzel, Susan Werner, Jean White, Joel Widmann, Pete Williams, Jody Zelanko, and for our **Missionaries: Robin Abrol, On Eagle's Wings.**

Away at School: Max Baker, Christopher Bush, Olivia Day, Jeff Hoenstine, Lacey Ripka.

Those Serving in our Armed Forces: Bradley Buchart, Melody Estep, Colin Guyer, Nathan Smith (Germany).

Martinsburg Food Pantry

We will be open for food distribution on Thursdays, December 5 and December 19 from 9:00am until 11:00am. Volunteers from Refined Community Church will be assisting along with the regular helpers. There are 12 churches, one for each month that help at the food pantry.

Holiday foods will be the focus in December: Sunny D Drinks (40 oz bottle), Cereal, Fruit (pineapple), Mashed Potatoes (packets), and Paper Towels.

Many thanks to all who generously have given all year to the Food Pantry! It is greatly appreciated!

Linda Smith

Mitten Tree



Our Mitten Tree is available to be decorated during Advent with mittens, hats, gloves, scarves, socks, and earmuffs until Sunday, December 15. These items will be distributed to children in need at the local elementary schools before Christmas.

Any donations of money can be placed in a pew envelope marked with "Mitten Tree". These donations will be used to purchase needed items for the children. Help these children have a warmer Winter!!

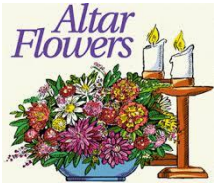
Cove Christmas Love

The Martinsburg Ministerium is, again, helping to provide presents for Spring Cove School Children in need. Our congregation's goal for this year is to provide gifts for about 50 children through Cove Christmas Love, like we did last year. Please return the unwrapped gift(s), WITH THE TAG, no later than TODAY, Sunday, DECEMBER 1st.



Advent Devotionals provided by On Eagle's Wings missionaries are available at the Usher Station.

Altar Flowers



The 2025 Altar Flower chart is posted on the Narthex bulletin board. Altar Flowers are a perfect way to remember loved ones or to honor loved ones. There are plenty of dates available. Please sign up now for the Sunday you wish to place flowers on the Altar. Price: TBD



Hurricanes Helene and Milton Response

Hurricanes Helene and Milton hit the coast of Florida within weeks of each other as powerful and devastating storms impacting states across the Southeast. With your help, Lutheran Disaster Response will continue to be there to support people affected by Milton, Helene and any other storms that may strike this season.

Gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response equip us to respond to these disasters and others, whenever and wherever they strike.



Scan the QR code to give today.

By giving to Lutheran Disaster Response, you make it possible for the ELCA to act quickly after disasters such as Hurricane Helene and remain for as long as the recovery takes.




If you prefer to make your gift to Lutheran Disaster Response through a donation to St. Matthew, please designate which disaster and the amount on the memo line of your check or envelope.

Annual Congregational Meeting




This year's Annual Congregational Meeting will be held at the end of the 10:30 a.m. worship service on Sunday, December 15th. Copies of the 2025 Proposed Congregational Budget, 2025 recommendations for Ventures In Faith and Special Envelopes, and Giving Report are enclosed with this week's bulletin. Additional copies are available at the usher station. The congregation will be asked to approve these proposals for 2025 at the 2024 Annual Congregational Meeting. If you have questions about the budget in advance of the meeting, please see Treasurer Beth Garner or Finance Committee Chair Jim Barley.

1967 ACADEMY AWARD NOMINEE



A
TIME
FOR
BURNING REVISITED



Join us for an online discussion and preview of a new documentary that revisits a classic film about a congregation wrestling with racial justice. Hear interviews with filmmaker Bill Jersey—60 years after he made his film; Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton; and others.



Tuesday, Dec. 3, 2024
7p.m. Central
bit.ly/BurningRevisitedRegister

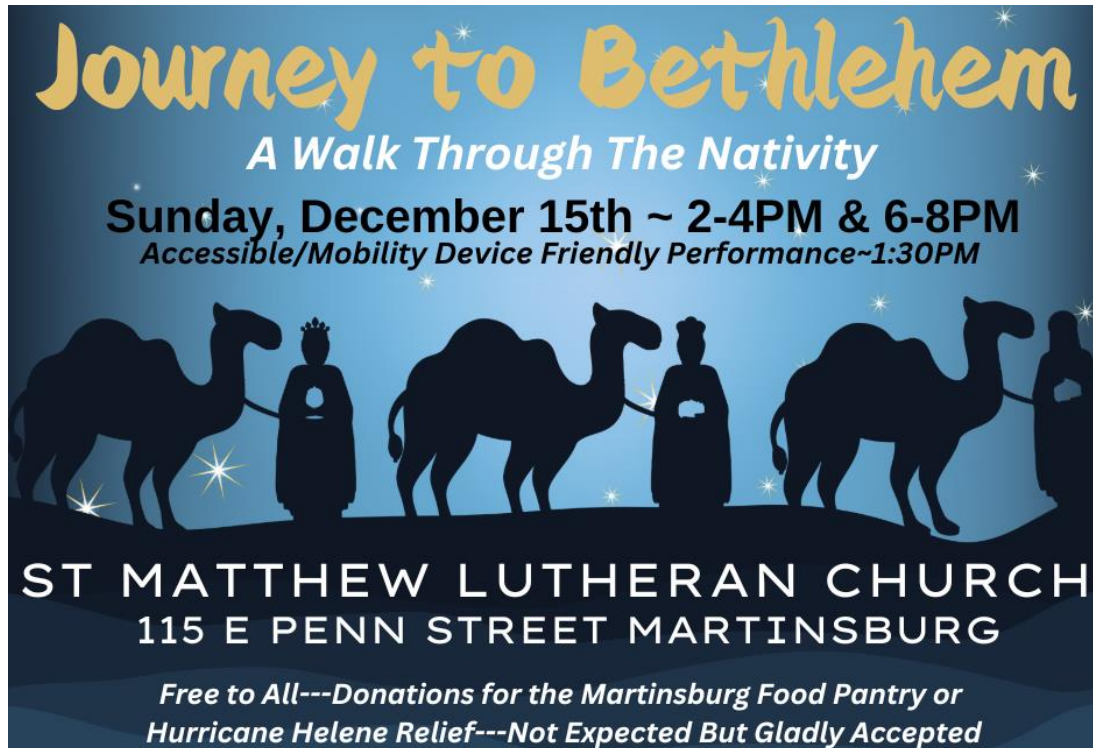


Please note that this presentation is at 7PM CENTRAL time, 8PM our time, and since it starts so late, we will not stream it at the church building. If you need help signing up for the link to watch it from home, please ask Pastor Traci for help.

Care Packages



The last project for the 2024 Social Ministry Committee will be making care packages for St. Matthew college students and military. We have received a grant from Thrivent Action Team to cover costs for the items and postage. The packages will be assembled tomorrow, Monday December 2, at noon. All members of St. Matthew, especially the youth, are welcome to help. Lunch will be provided consisting of lasagna. There will be cards for members to sign in the narthex to express our support.



Volunteers Needed and Donations Requested for Journey to Bethlehem

Sign-up sheets are posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex for the following:

--Help to set up scenes for Journey to Bethlehem.

Please indicate your preferences and availability to help with setting up the sets.

Hopefully, we can accomplish the set-up during a few of the time frames allotted.

--Donations for food for lunch for the cast members and helpers.

We plan to serve soup, ox roast sandwiches, fruit salad, and dessert at lunch time for the cast and helpers. If you would like to donate soup, meat, rolls, or a dessert, please indicate on the form that is posted. We are serving salad and pizza for supper. We will order in pizza.

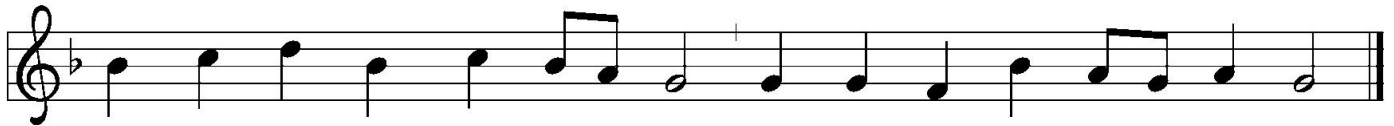
--Donations for cookies for refreshments for Journey to Bethlehem.

Please indicate how many cookies you wish to donate for refreshments.

Thank you for your willingness to volunteer and for your donations to enable our presentation of Journey to Bethlehem to be successful.



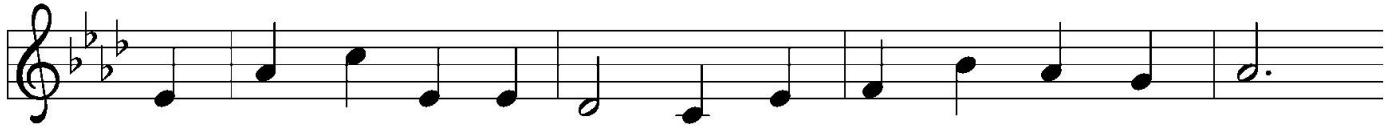
1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come; vir - gin's son, make here your home.
2 Not by hu - man flesh and blood, but the mys - tic Breath of God,
3 Won - drous birth—oh, won - drous child—from his throne, a vir - gin mild!
4 From God's heart the Sav - ior speeds, back to God his path-way leads;



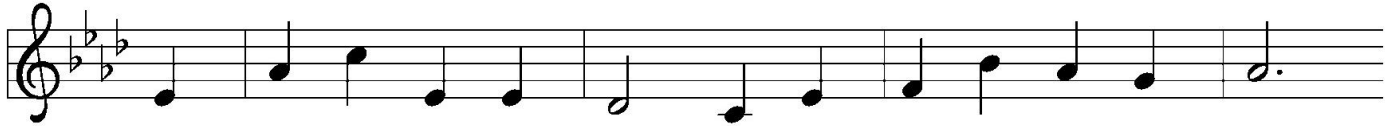
Mar - vel now, O heav'n and earth: God has cho - sen such a birth.
was the Word of God made flesh, fruit of wom - an, blos - som fresh.
Ver - y God, and Mar - y's son, ea - ger now his race to run!
out to van - quish death's com - mand, back to reign at God's right hand.

5 Now your manger, shining bright,
hallows night with newborn light.
Night cannot this light subdue;
let our faith shine ever new.

6 Praise we sing to Christ the Lord,
virgin's son, incarnate Word!
To the holy Trinity
praise we sing eternally!



- 1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear;
- 2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain pro - claim the bride - groom near;
- 3 The saints, who here in pa - tience their cross and suf - f'rings bore,
- 4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



the eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.
 go forth as he ap - proach - es with al - le - lu - ias clear.
 shall live and reign for - ev - er when sor - row is no more.
 a - rise, O Sun so longed for, o'er this be - night - ed sphere.



The bride - groom is a - ris - ing and soon is draw - ing nigh.
 The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; the gates wide o - pen stand.
 A - round the throne of glo - ry the Lamb they shall be - hold;
 With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see



Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; at mid - night comes the cry.
 A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; the bride - groom is at hand.
 in tri - umph cast be - fore him their di - a - dems of gold.
 the day of earth's re - demp - tion that sets your peo - ple free!

Text: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660–1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823–1907

Music: HAF TRONES LAMPA FÄRDIG, Swedish folk tune

COMMUNION HYMN*Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah*

ELW # 240



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



He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra - el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.
He shall feed the flock like a shep-herd, gent - ly lead them home-ward.
Lift your heads and lift high the gate-way for the King of glo - ry.
He is com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your lights be shin - ing!

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954

Music: TIF IN VELDELE, Yiddish folk tune

Text © 1984 Fortress Press, admin. Augsburg Fortress.



1 Fling wide the door, un - bar the gate; the King of glo - ry
2 He is the rock of our be - lief, the heart of mer - cy's
3 Oh, hap - py towns and bless - ed lands that live by their true
4 Come, Lord, our Sav - ior, Je - sus Christ; our hearts are o - pen



comes in state; the Lord of lords and King of kings, the
gen - tle self. His king - ly crown is ho - li - ness; his
king's com - mands. And bless - ed be the hearts he rules, the
wide in trust. Oh, show us now your love - ly grace, up -



Sav - ior of the world who brings his great sal - va - tion
scep - ter is his love - li - ness; he brings our sor - rows
hum - ble plac - es where he dwells. He is the right - ful
on our sor - rows shine your face, and let your Ho - ly



to the earth. So raise a shout of ho - ly mirth and
to an end. Now glad - ly praise our king and friend, and
Son of bliss who fills our lives and makes us his, cre -
Spir - it guide our jour - ney in your grace so wide. We



praise our God and Lord, Cre - a - tor, Spir - it, Word.
wor - ship him with song for sav - ing us from wrong.
a - tor of the world, our on - ly strength for good.
praise your ho - ly name, from age to age the same!