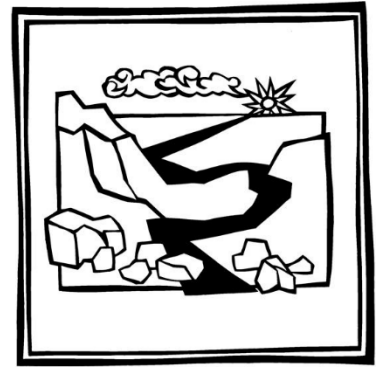


## *Second Sunday of Advent*

**December 8, 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**

*Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

*ELW #254*

#### **\*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**



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



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



Ⓐ Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son:    Ⓞ 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.



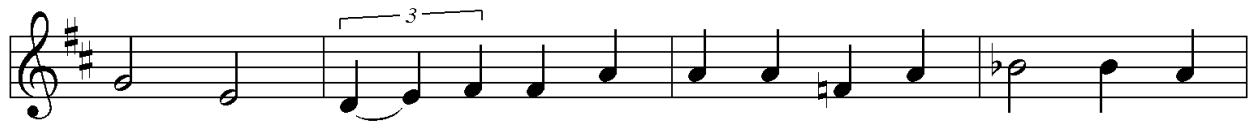
**☐** Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



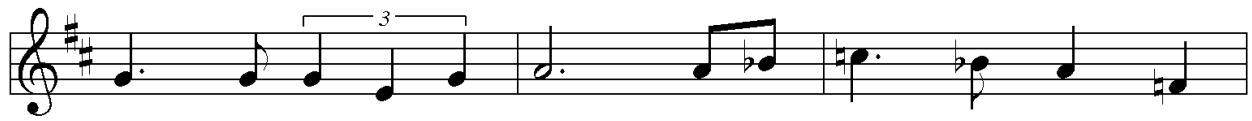
glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



**☐** 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.

**☒** 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.

**☒** 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 our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming give to all the people of the world knowledge of your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you 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 1-2 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-joice! Re-joice!  
 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 Cantionum Catholicarum*, Köln, 1710; tr. composite  
 Music: VENI, EMMANUEL, French processional, 15th cent.  
 Text sts. 2, 6, 7 © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

**FIRST READING: Malachi 3:1-4**

<sup>1</sup> See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. <sup>2</sup> But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; <sup>3</sup> he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. <sup>4</sup> Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

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



1 Blessed be the God of Is - ra - el who comes to set us free  
 2 With prom - ised mer - cy will God still the cov - e - nant re - call,  
 3 My child, as proph - et of the Lord you will pre - pare the way,



and rais - es up new hope for us: a Branch from Da - vid's tree.  
 the oath once sworn to A - bra - ham, from foes to save us all;  
 to tell God's peo - ple they are saved from sin's e - ter - nal sway.



So have the proph - ets long de - clared that with a might - y arm  
 that we might wor - ship with - out fear and of - fer lives of praise,  
 Then shall God's mer - cy from on high shine forth and nev - er cease



God would turn back our en - e - mies and all who wish us harm.  
 in ho - li - ness and righ - teous - ness to serve God all our days.  
 to drive a - way the gloom of death and lead us in - to peace.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944, based on Luke 1:68-79

Music: FOREST GREEN, English folk tune

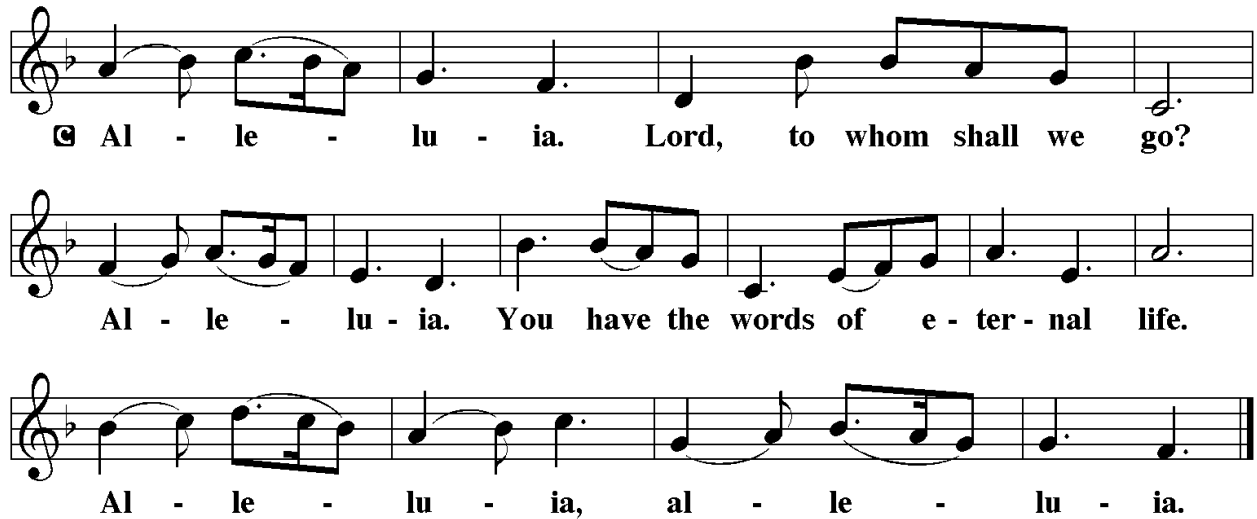
Text © 1989 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

## SECOND READING: Philippians 1:3-11

<sup>3</sup> I thank my God every time I remember you, <sup>4</sup> constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, <sup>5</sup> because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. <sup>6</sup> I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup> It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. <sup>8</sup> For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. <sup>9</sup> And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight <sup>10</sup> to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, <sup>11</sup> having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

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

## \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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

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

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## \*Gospel: Luke 3:1-6

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Iturea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, <sup>2</sup> during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. <sup>3</sup> He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, <sup>4</sup> as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

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

<sup>5</sup> Every valley shall be filled,  
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,  
and the crooked shall be made straight,  
and the rough ways made smooth;

<sup>6</sup> and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’”

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

**HOMILY**

*Pastor Ralph Hamer*

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY**

*There's a Voice in the Wilderness*

*ELW # 255*

## **\*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: Refining God, move through your church. Root out practices that harm your people, and kindle a fire for sharing the gospel among bishops, pastors, deacons, and all the baptized. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

A: Renewing God, transform your creation. Steer us from habits that harm what you have made, and guide us in practices that preserve and restore creatures and habitats. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

A: Ruling God, teach the nations your ways. Strengthen organizations and communities that broker peace and care for refugees, immigrants, and all caught in the center of conflict. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

A: Rescuing God, restore your people who are in any need. Heal all who are suffering. Provide comfort and strength, and nurture sustained wholeness for the future. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

A: Reforming God, fill this congregation with your presence. Enrich our seasonal preparations, and bless the efforts by worship committees, music ensembles, staff, clergy, and lay leaders as they work in the weeks ahead. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

A: Reassuring God, we remember those who have died and rest in you. Guide us in deep gratitude for their life, and allow us to learn from their faithful witness. 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**

*The King Shall Come*

*ELW # 260*

**\*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**

*Comfort, Comfort Now My People*

*ELW # 256*

**\*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 in honor of our grandparents from the Decker family.

**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 – Lucy Lightner

Our Assisting Minister – Lottie Ebersole

Our Lector – Kaye Burket

Our Usher – Stanley Smith

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 –**                    *2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

Monday-Saturday – Journey to Bethlehem preparations. Fellowship Hall in Use.

Tuesday –                Council Meeting 6:30 p.m. Window Room/Zoom

Sunday –                 *3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent*  
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.  
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.  
Congregational Meeting Following Worship  
*Journey to Bethlehem*  
1:30 p.m. Mobility Device Friendly, Fellowship Hall  
2:00-4:00 p.m. & 6:00-8:00 p.m.

**Prayers are needed for our homebound:** Mary Jane Allision, 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).



Prayers and Christian Sympathy are requested for the family and friends of Vivian Beach upon her death on Thursday December 5<sup>th</sup>.

### **Martinsburg Food Pantry**

We will be open for food distribution on Thursday, 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**



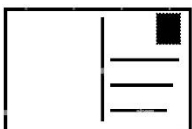
Our Mitten Tree is available to be decorated during Advent with mittens, hats, gloves, scarves, socks, and earmuffs until Sunday, December 15. These items will be distributed to children in need at the local elementary schools before Christmas.

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!!

### *Thank You*

Thank you for all your cards, food and sympathy expressed to our family during the recent passing of our husband, father and grandfather, Goerge Gilbert. Your kindness was greatly appreciated. We are so grateful to God for our St. Matthew family.

*The Gilbert Family*

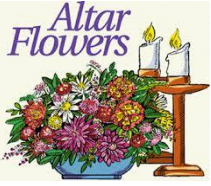


Postcards are available at the usher station to invite friends, family, and neighbors to attend Journey to Bethlehem and Christmas Services at St. Matthew. Please help spread the word about our upcoming events.



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.

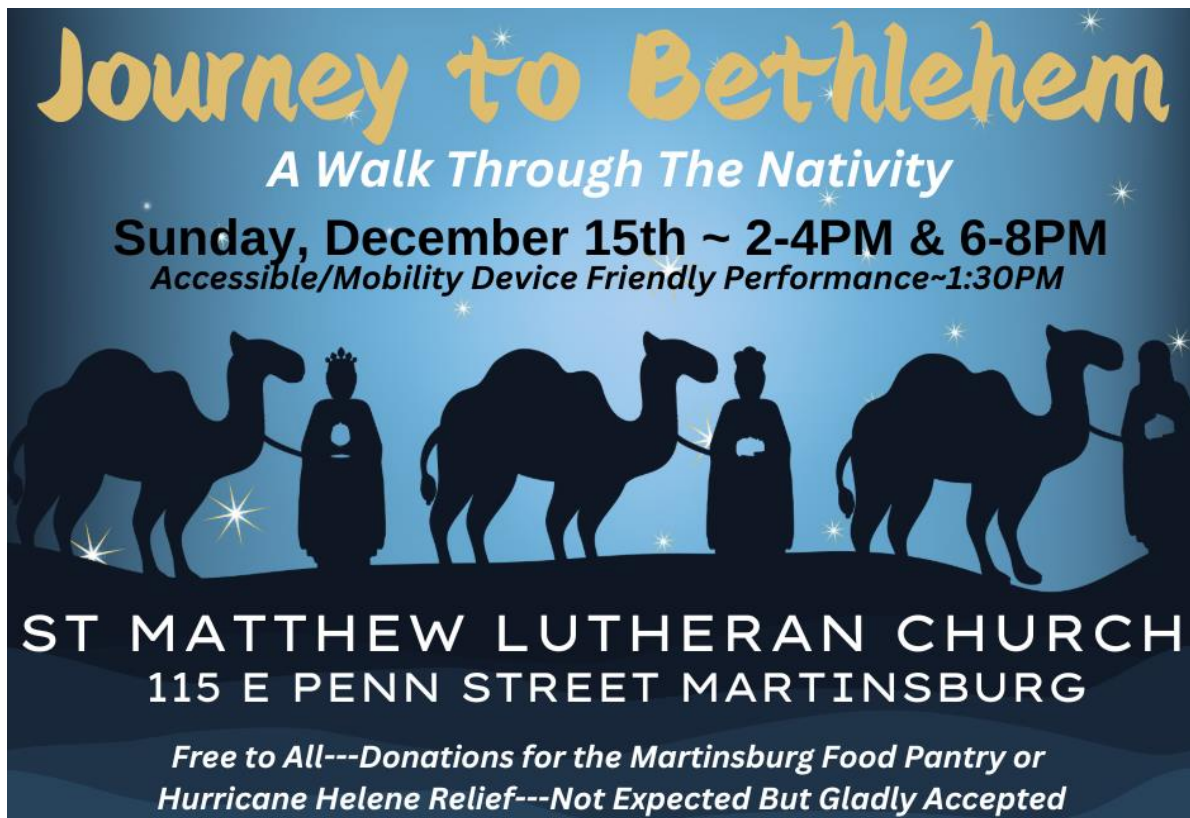


If you prefer to make your gift to Lutheran Disaster Response through a donation to St. Matthew, please designate which disaster and the amount on the memo line of your check or envelope.

## 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 15<sup>th</sup>. Copies of the 2025 Proposed Congregational Budget, 2025 recommendations for Ventures In Faith and Special Envelopes, and Giving Report are available at the usher station or the church office. 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.



**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.



\*OPENING HYMN

*Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

ELW #254



1 Come, thou long-ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;  
2 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king;



from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.  
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king-dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art,  
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir-it rule in all our hearts a - lone;



dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long-ing heart.  
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788

Music: JEFFERSON, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835



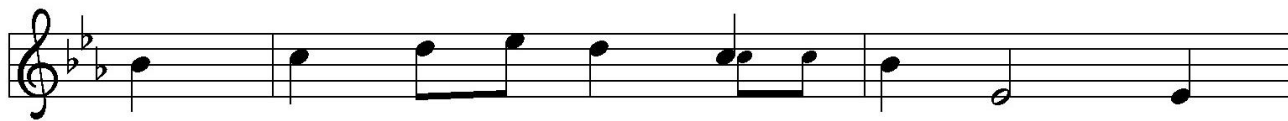
1 There's a voice in the wil - der - ness cry - ing, a  
2 O Je - ru - sa - lem, her - ald good tid - ings, as -  
3 But the word of our Sav - ior is faith - ful, the



call from the ways un - trod: Pre - pare in the des - ert a  
cend to the heights and sing! Pro - claim to a des - o - late  
arm of our God is strong, who stands in the midst of the



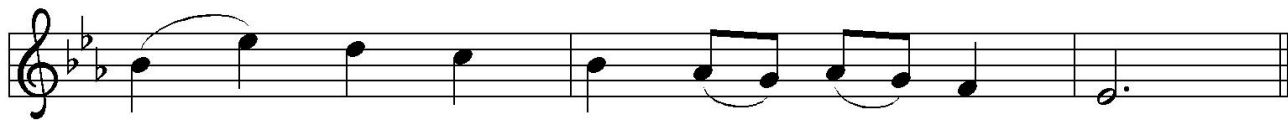
high - way, a high - way for our God!  
peo - ple the com - ing of their king.  
na - tions and soon will right the wrong.



The val - leys shall be ex - alt - ed, the  
Like flow'rs of the field we per - ish, like  
Lord, feed your flock like a shep - herd, the



loft - y hills brought low; make straight all the crook - ed  
grass our works de - cay; the pow'r and the pomp of  
lambs so gent - ly hold; in pas - tures of peace now

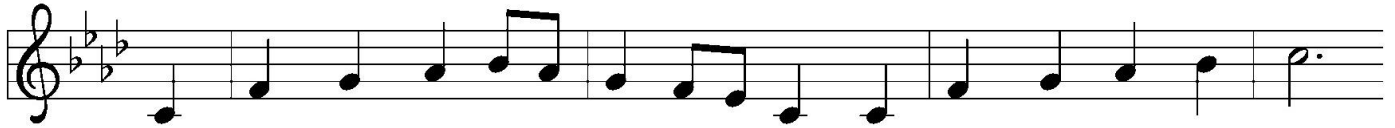


plac - es where God, our God, may go!  
na - tions shall pass like a dream a - way.  
lead them, and bring them to your fold.

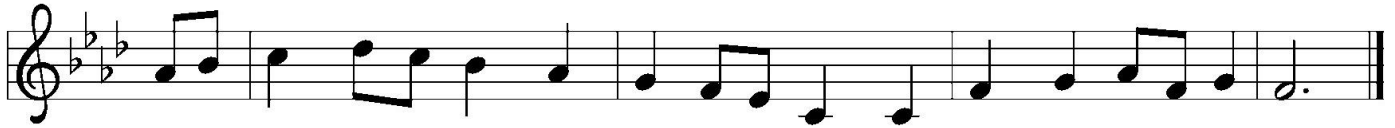
Text: James Lewis Milligan, 1876-1961, alt.  
Music: ASCENSION, Henry Hugh Bancroft, 1904-1988  
Music © Estate of Eldred Bancroft. B. Burrows, Executor.

**COMMUNION HYMN***The King Shall Come*

ELW # 260



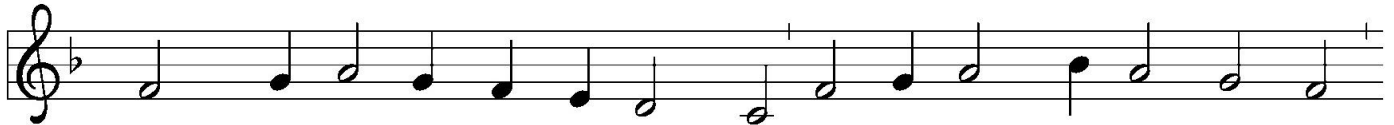
- 1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light tri - um-phant breaks,
- 2 Not as of old a lit - tle child, to bear and fight and die,
- 3 Oh, bright - er than the ris - ing morn when Christ, vic - to - rious, rose
- 4 Oh, bright - er than that glo - rious morn shall dawn up - on our race
- 5 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light and beau - ty brings.



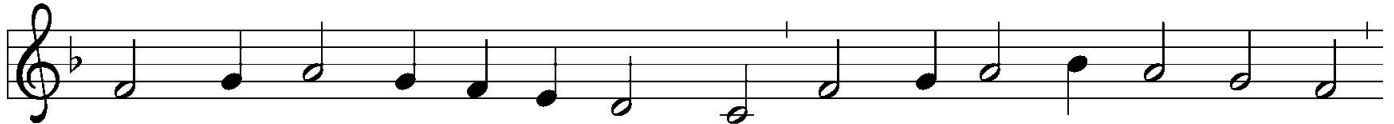
when beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills and life to joy a - wakes.  
but crowned with glo - ry like the sun that lights the morn-ing sky.  
and left the lone - some place of death, de - spite the rage of foes.  
the day when Christ in splen - dor comes, and we shall see his face.  
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your peo - ple pray: come quick - ly, King of kings.

Text: John Brownlie, 1859–1925

Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davisson, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816



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



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



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



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