

# Lord of the Valley Lutheran Church

PO Box 843 Granby, CO 80446

(970)887-9252

Ministers: All God's People

Pastor: Brian Bergum

## LOTV Worship with Holy Communion

Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Second Sunday of Advent

### Announcements

### Call to Worship

Leader: We worship as we live, in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

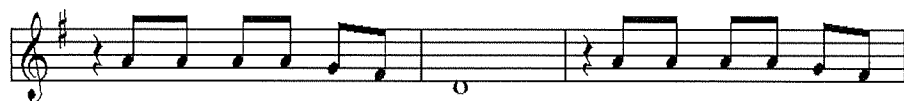
People: Amen

Leader: The days grow short and the darkness of these days reminds us of the darkness of sin and brokenness. So we put up lights, to remember the Light of Christ that shines in our darkness, in all darkness.

People: We hear the cry of the prophets, the greeting of the angel, and wonder. The Spirit of God is upon us and we proclaim the good news: Nothing is impossible with God! Come Lord Jesus.



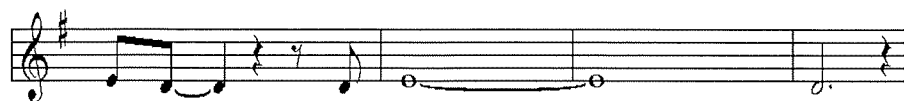
Some - one's shout - ing from the des - ert.  
Some - one's shout - ing from the cit - y,  
Some - one's shout - ing I am brok - en.



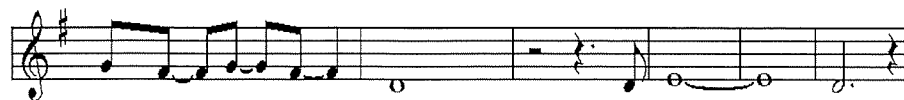
Some - one's shout - ing from the sea. Some - one's shout - ing from the  
I am young I am cold. Some - one's shout - ing from the  
Some - one's shout - ing make me whole. Some - one's shout - ing come and



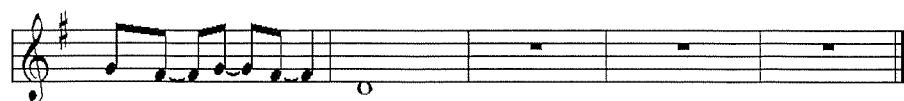
moun - tain. Some - one's shout - ing from the  
coun - try, I am lone - ly I am  
change me. Some - one's shout - ing save my



val - ley. Mes - si - ah,  
old.  
soul.



come and be our King. Mes - si - ah,



come and be our King.

## Confession and Forgiveness

Leader: Advent is a season to open our lives to the presence of God. Advent is an awareness that we are made whole through the hope, peace, joy and love that comes only from God.

*(A Time of Silence for Personal Reflection and Confession.)*

Leader: Most merciful God,

**People: We confess that we have sinned against you by our thoughts, by our words, and by our actions. In this season of Advent, we pray that you would enable us to watch for your light, signs of where you are breaking through the tinsel and glitter we use to mask our pain, our guilt, and our fear. Help us hear the words of your angels, "Do not fear", and trust that you are with us. Forgive us and fill us with your love. Amen.**

Leader: We are people who walk in darkness, but even in our darkness there is a light that the world can not diminish. The Light of God has come to us in Jesus Christ. It is the light of love, of life, of hope. If you hear nothing else during our worship today, hear this: that God loves you and forgives you and calls you to bear the light of Christ in your lives.

**People: Amen. Thanks be to God!!!**

## Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Leader: The Gospel of John speaks of Christ as the true light coming into the world. In celebration of this, we light candles for the four weeks leading to Christmas and reflect on the coming of Christ. Christ is always coming, always entering an anxious time, a troubled world, a wounded heart. And so today we light two candles, a candle of hope and a candle of peace, and we dare to express our longing for hope and peace in our lives, for healing, and the well-being of creation.

**All: Loving God, as we journey this Advent season, we open all the dark places in our lives and memories to the healing light of Christ. Teach us to be people who know, live and share your joy. Prepare our hearts to be transformed by you that we may walk in the light of Christ. Amen.**

## Readings for Advent

### Isaiah 40: 1-11

Comfort, O comfort my people,  
says your God.  
Speak 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.

A voice cries out:

'In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD,  
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.  
Every 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.  
Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,

and all people shall see it together,  
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.'

A voice says, 'Cry out!'  
And I said, 'What shall I cry?'  
All people are grass,  
their constancy is like the flower of the field.  
The grass withers, the flower fades,  
when the breath of the LORD blows upon it;  
surely the people are grass.  
The grass withers, the flower fades;  
but the word of our God will stand for ever.  
Get 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!'  
See, the Lord GOD comes with might,  
and his arm rules for him;  
his reward is with him,  
and his recompense before him.  
He 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.

## **2 Peter 3: 8-15a**

But do 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. The 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. But 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.

Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting 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? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

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

## Gospel Verse

## "Emmanuel"

Em - man - u - el, Em - man - u - el,  
his name is called Em - man - u - el;  
God with us, re - vealed in us;  
his name is called Em - man - u - el.

## Gospel Reading

### Mark 1: 1-8

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,

who will prepare your way;

the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

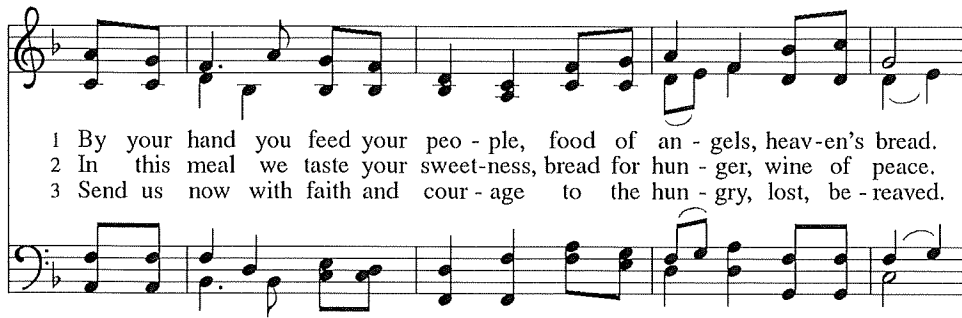
"Prepare the way of the Lord,

make his paths straight" ',

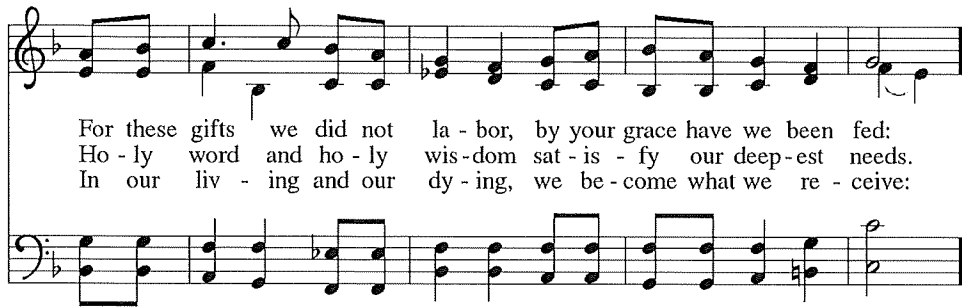
John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He 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. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.'

## Sermon

## Song of the Day "By Your Hand You Feed Your People"

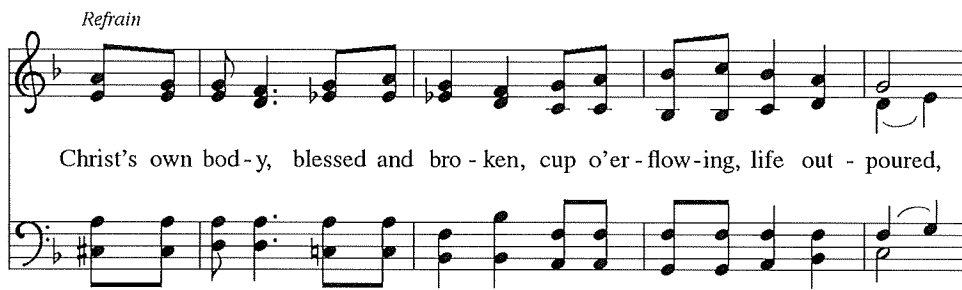


1 By your hand you feed your peo - ple, food of an - gels, heav-en's bread.  
2 In this meal we taste your sweet-ness, bread for hun - ger, wine of peace.  
3 Send us now with faith and cour - age to the hun - gry, lost, be - reaved.

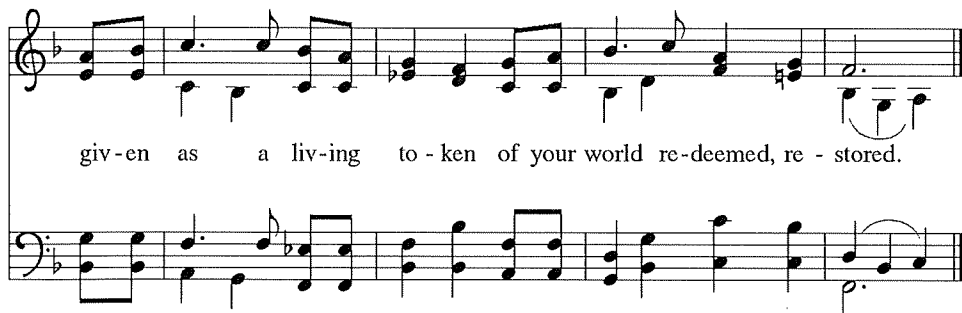


For these gifts we did not la - bor, by your grace have we been fed:  
Ho - ly word and ho - ly wis - dom sat - is - fy our deep - est needs.  
In our liv - ing and our dy - ing, we be - come what we re - ceive:

*Refrain*



Christ's own bod - y, blessed and bro - ken, cup o'er - flow - ing, life out - poured,



giv - en as a liv - ing to - ken of your world re - deemed, re - stored.

## Affirmation of Faith "Apostle's Creed"

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 into hell. 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 again 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 People

Leader: Merciful God,

**People: receive our prayer.**

## Offering

Leader: Let us pray, Merciful God,

**People: Everything in heaven and earth belongs to you. We joyfully release what you have entrusted to us. May these gifts be signs of our whole lives returned to you, dedicated to the healing and unity of all creation, through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## The Great Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them up to God.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Leader: All praise to You, Emmanuel, God-promised, and God with us; Your light shines in our lives; your peace embraces our anger, sorrow, and loss; your life opens us to new discovery of ourselves and our neighbors. And so it is with courage and hope that we join in singing the song of Mary, praising you with our joyful hearts.

## The Annunciation

Leader: An angel went from God to a town called Nazareth to a woman whose name was Mary. The angel said to her, "Rejoice, O highly favored, for God is with you. You shall bear a child, and his name shall be Jesus, the Chosen One of God Most High." And Mary said, "I am the servant of my God, I live to do your will."

## The Magnificat

*All:*

1., 3. My soul pro - claims your  
2. You have cast the might - y

great - ness, O God, and my spir - it re - joic - es in  
down from their thrones, and up - lift - ed the hum - ble of

you, You have looked with love on your  
heart, You have filled the hun - gry with

ser - vant here, and blessed me all my life through.  
won - drous things, and left the wealth - y no part.

Great and might - y are you, O Ho - ly One,  
Great and might - y are you, O Faith - ful One,

strong is your kind - ness ev - er - more.  
strong is your jus - tice strong your love,

How you fa - vor the weak and low - ly one,  
As you prom - ised to Sar - ah and A - bra - ham,

hum - bling the proud of heart.  
kind - ness for - ev - er - more.

## Words of Institution

Leader: Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life: Blessed are you for the birth of creation. Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light. Blessed are you for your promise to your people. Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams. Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will. Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

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. With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming. Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth. All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

Leader: Lord, Remember us in your love, and teach us to pray.

**People:** 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

### Distribution of Communion

We welcome all people who come in the faith to partake of Holy Communion. Smaller children are invited to come forward for a blessing. Grape juice and gluten free wafers are available, ask server as you approach.

Leader: Life-giving God, in this meal you have bound us to yourself, at this table we have received the very presence of Jesus Christ. Send us now to be what we have received, that all creation might know your love and sing your praise now and always.

**People:** Amen

### Benediction

Leader: 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. In the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**People:** Amen

### Closing Song

### "Nativity Carol"

Verses



1. Si - lent, in the chill of mid - night,  
2. "Fear not," said an - gel - ic voic - es;  
3. Je - sus, Lord of all cre - a - tion,



star - light shines up - on a low - ly man - ger.  
"ti - dings of a won - drous love we bring you.  
sleep now close be - side your moth - er, Mar - y.



Won - der, won - der of the a - ges;  
Go now, find him in a man - ger;  
Bring us light a - mid the dark - ness,

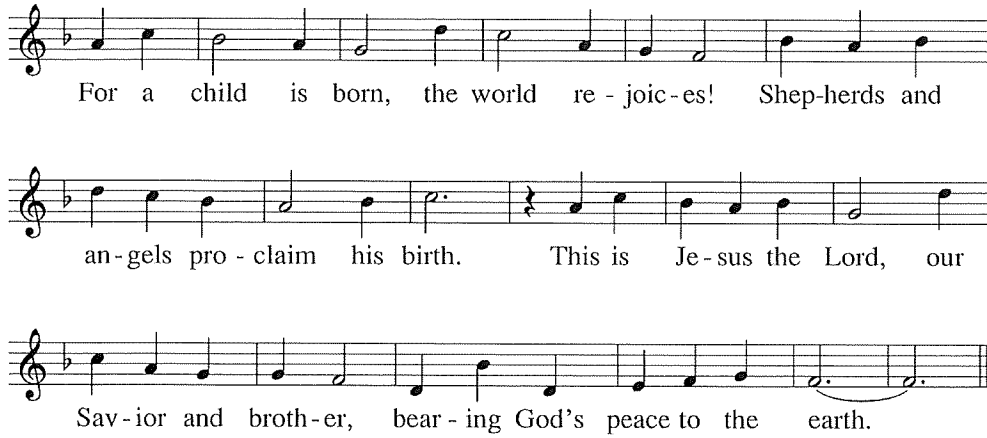


heav - en breaks forth on the earth.  
vis - it God's home on the earth."  
prom - ise of life with - out end.

Song Continues on Next Page...



Refrain



For a child is born, the world re-joic-es! Shep-herds and  
an-gels pro-claim his birth. This is Je-sus the Lord, our  
Sav-ior and broth-er, bear-ing God's peace to the earth.

## Sending

Leader: Go in peace and hope to serve the Lord!

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

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