

Our Saviour Lutheran Church

56 Cleveland Drive Croton on Hudson New York 10520

E-mail: mail@oursaviourcroton.org Telephone: (914) 271 4632

November 30, 2025

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Order of Worship

The order of worship is set out in this bulletin. The congregation responds in parts marked in bold. Hymns are taken from our hymnal, the *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (ELW).

WE GATHER

Centering Music

The ringing of the *Morningstar*

Prelude

Confession and Forgiveness

God is here, and God sees through every defense that fools the world.

Since we cannot hide from God,
there is nothing left to do but to be honest with each other
and humble before God.

So, in humility, we confess our sins.

God, we have acted helpless, even when you called us to action.

We have resisted your truth, even when our lies were exhausting.

**We have behaved as though we were alone,
even when you were beside us.**

God, we have believed we were dying, even when you helped us grow.

God knows we can never undo the sins of this world.

The stories of a painful past still echo here today.

Yet before our first mistakes, God perfected the plan for salvation.

God forgives your sins, all of them.

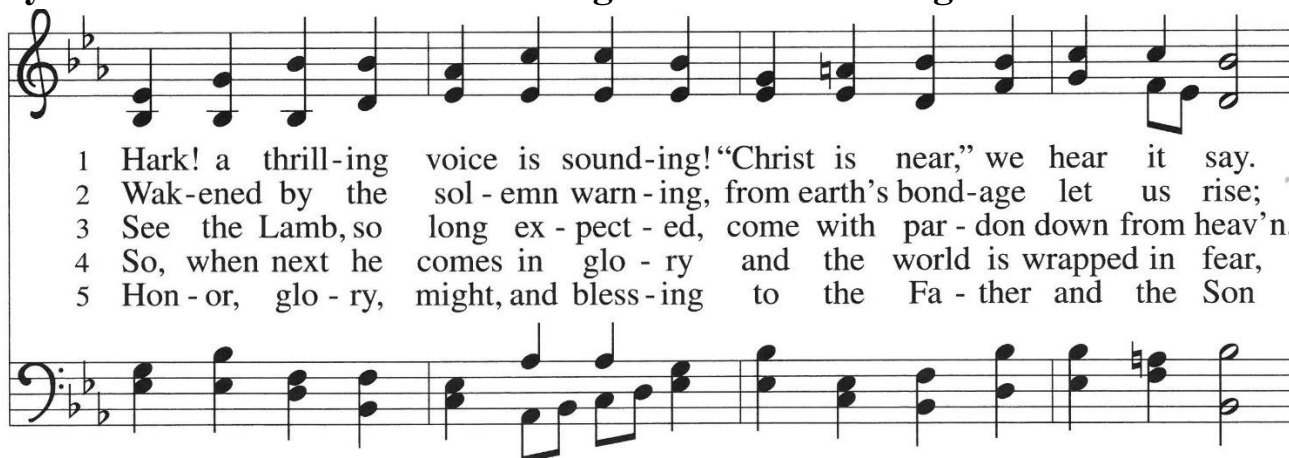
Even when signs of our old lives remain, God's forgiveness is still at work.

God sets us free to chart a new path.

Hymn

Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

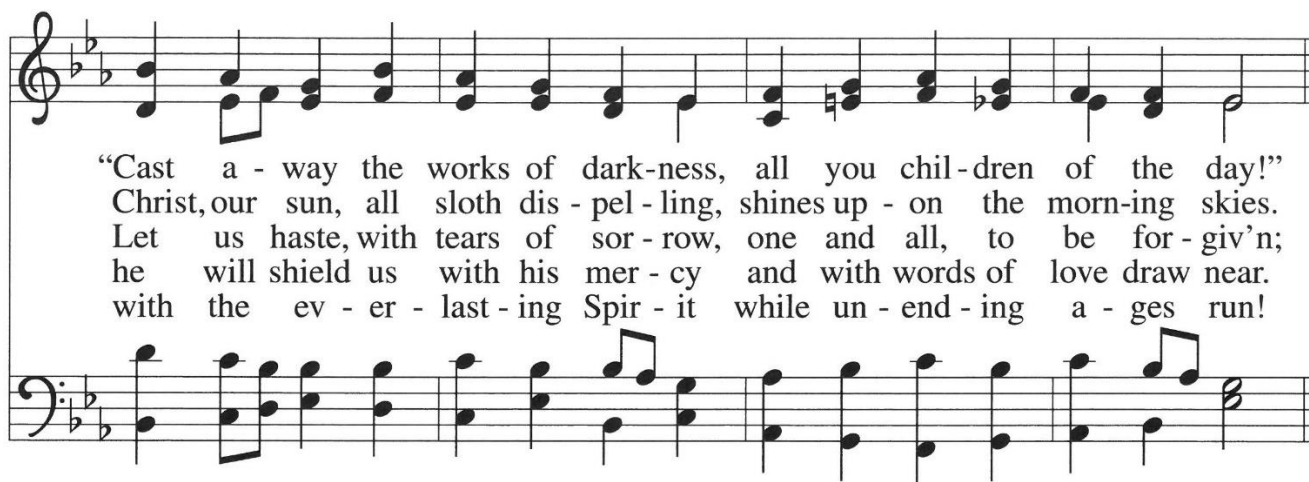
ELW#246



1 Hark! a thrill-ing voice is sound-ing! "Christ is near," we hear it say.
2 Wak-ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth's bond-age let us rise;
3 See the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, come with par - don down from heav'n.
4 So, when next he comes in glo - ry and the world is wrapped in fear,
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther and the Son

Text: Latin hymn, 1632; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–1878
Music: William H. Monk, 1823–1889

MERTON
8787



"Cast a - way the works of dark-ness, all you chil-dren of the day!"
Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling, shines up - on the morn-ing skies.
Let us haste, with tears of sor - row, one and all, to be for - giv'n;
he will shield us with his mer - cy and with words of love draw near.
with the ev - er - last - ing Spir - it while un - end - ing a - ges run!

Greeting:

Peace to you and welcome,
from the God of surprising grace,
the Savior who forgave from the cross, the Spirit of unlikely alliances. **Amen**

Gloria:



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, 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.



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. 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.

Advent Hymn & Lighting of Advent Wreath

A reflection is read.

The first candle is lit

Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel

Oh, come, oh, come, Emmanuel,

And ransom captive Israel,

That mourns in lonely exile here

Until the son of God appear.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to you, O Israel.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

O God, our true life, to serve you is freedom, and to know you is unending joy. We worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for your great glory. Abide with us, reign in us, and make this world into a fit habitation for your divine majesty, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Lesson

Isaiah 2:1-5

1 The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

2 In days to come
the mountain of the Lord's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains
and shall be raised above the hills;
all the nations shall stream to it.

3 Many peoples shall come and say,
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,
to the house of the God of Jacob,
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths."

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction
and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

4 He shall judge between the nations
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into plowshares
and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation;
neither shall they learn war any more.

5 O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk
in the light of the Lord!

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm

Psalm 122

- ¹ I was glad when they said to me,
“Let us go to the house of the Lord.”
- ² **Now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem.**
- ³ Jerusalem is built as a city
that is at unity with itself;
- ⁴ **to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord,
the assembly of Israel, to praise the name of the Lord.**
- ⁵ For there are the thrones of judgment,
the thrones of the house of David.
- ⁶ **Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:
“May they prosper who love you.**
- ⁷ Peace be within your walls
and quietness within your towers.
- ⁸ **For the sake of my kindred and companions,
I pray for your prosperity.**
- ⁹ Because of the house of the Lord our God,
I will seek to do you good.”

Second Reading

Romans 13:11-14

¹¹ Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹² the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³ let us walk decently as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴ Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Alleluia Verse

Congregation:

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, Lord to whom shall we
go? — You have the words of e - ter - nal
life: Al - le - lu - ia! —

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 24:36-44

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 24th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

“But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. 37 For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. 38 For as in the days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, 39 and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so, too, will be the coming of the Son of Man. 40 Then two will be in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. 41 Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken, and one will be left. 42 Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. 43 But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. 44 Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

1 O Lord, how shall I meet you, how wel - come you a - right?
2 I lay in fet - ters, groan - ing; you came to set me free.
3 Love caused your in - car - na - tion; love brought you down to me.
4 Re - joice, then, you sad - heart - ed, who sit in deep - est gloom,

Your peo - ple long to greet you, my hope, my heart's de - light!
I stood, my shame be - moan - ing; you came to hon - or me.
Your thirst for my sal - va - tion pro - cured my lib - er - ty.
who mourn your joys de - part - ed and trem - ble at your doom.

Oh, kin - dle, Lord most ho - ly, your lamp with - in my breast
A glo - rious crown you give me, a trea - sure safe on high
Oh, love be - yond all tell - ing, that led you to em - brace
All hail the Lord's ap - pear - ing! O glo - rious Sun, now come,

to do in spir - it low - ly all that may please you best.
that will not fail or leave me as earth - ly rich - es fly.
in love, all love ex - cel - ling, our lost and fall - en race.
send forth your beams so cheer - ing and guide us safe - ly home.

Apostle's Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
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 the dead.
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.
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

In our waiting and watching, we come to you in prayer, O God, trusting your promise to renew the church, the nations, and the whole creation.

A brief silence.

We pray for the church in the world, its leaders, and its mission to share the good news of healing and restoration. Inspire us to embody the beloved community in ways that faithfully witness to the Holy Spirit. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

We pray for the trembling mountains and glad streams of creation. Preserve and renew your coastlines, deep seas, forests, and grasslands. Guide all who tend flocks or care for creatures of all kinds. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

We pray for leaders and advocates in government, civic life, and public safety. Support equity across the globe, and heal division with accountability and truth. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

We pray for any who are hungry, living in poverty or desperation, weary in body or spirit, or sick. Comfort all in need of your tender care. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

We pray for this part of the body of Christ gathered around word and sacrament. Bring us into authentic community where all ages are valued and experience God's faithfulness together. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We give thanks for all who have died in faith. May we remember them faithfully until we are gathered with you in the paradise you promise. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We offer these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your grace and unyielding love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you

And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Please be seated.

Offering

Financial offerings are received in the plates. Please stand as the gifts come forward.

*This QR code links
to our PayPal account and
may be used to make a
one-time gift.*




Musical Offering


Refrain



As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were



gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from



all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.



1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst,
2 Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when



may we share the pres - ence of your love.
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

Refrain

Please Stand

Prayer of Dedication

God, we cherished what we thought belonged only to us: our money, and our time, and our families, and our freedom.

Yet in a moment we recognize that every good thing was a treasure we had taken from your open hand. We thought such treasures were ours to earn and to own.

You grow what we give away. We give you these gifts as a sign of your love and faithfulness. **Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving

Holy Jesus, be our guest.

For you are already here.

God is with you.

And also with you.

People of God,

lift up your hearts in praise.

We lift them to our God.

Let us give thanks

to the God of our salvation.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface

Holy God,

once you made humankind

you could not help but love them.

From the first human mistake, you planned the path to salvation.

Yet even when you set clear signs of promise

in sky or stars, in the mouths of prophets

or the faces of newborns, people still felt astonished

to receive your goodness.

Jesus, at your birth your parents greeted you with wonder.

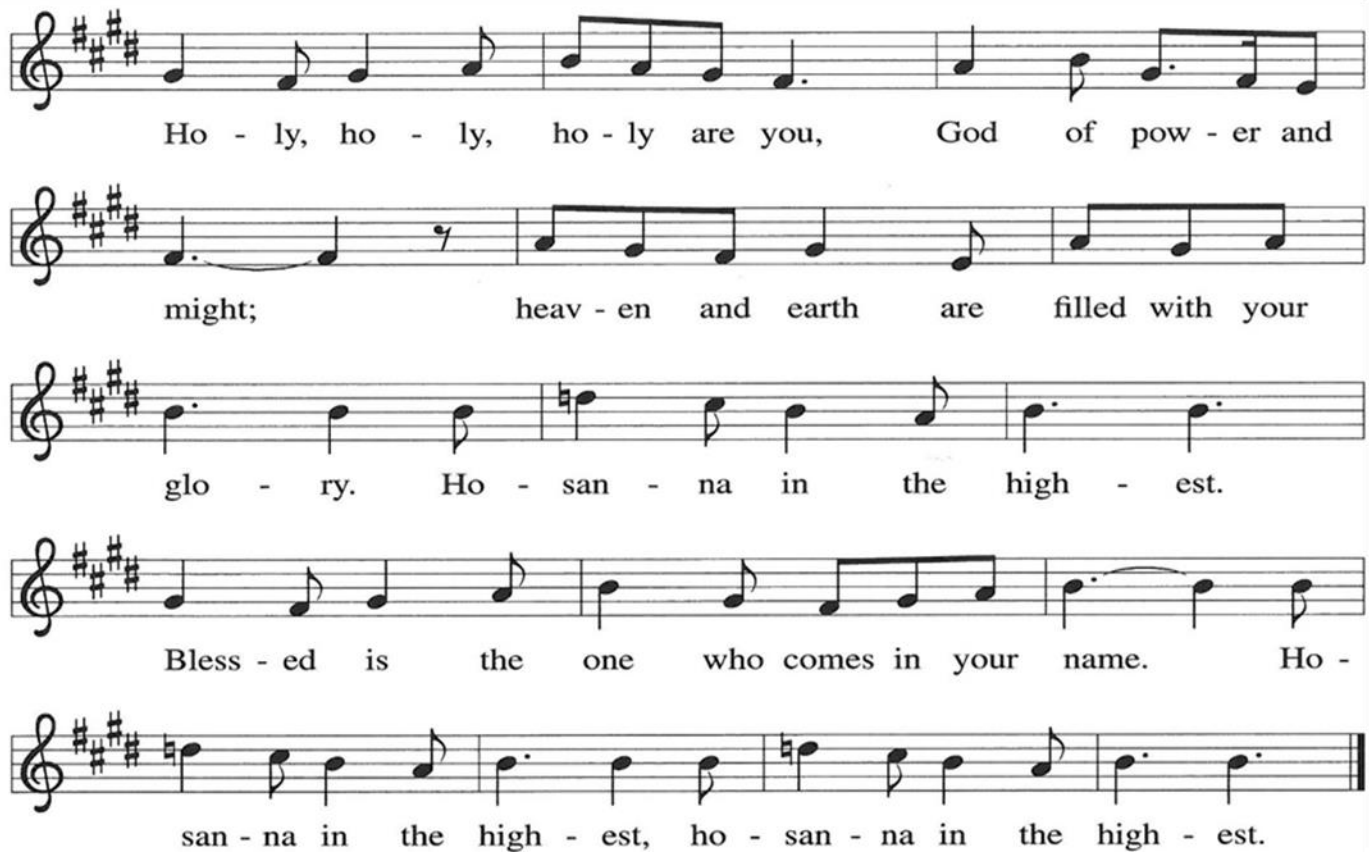
On the cross, your enemies crushed you,

then marveled as you exuded grace.

Again and again we tell the age-old story of your grace.

Yet still we sing with wonder when you appear out of the blue.

Sanctus



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and
might; heav - en and earth are filled with your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is the one who comes in your name. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Words of Institution

One night, long ago, the enemies of Jesus put an evil plan in motion.
In hours, they would imprison Jesus,
try him,
and unjustly put him to death.
Jesus' friends hardly expected
the sudden betrayal,
the quickness of injustice.
But God knew.
So Jesus set the table
for the long-awaited banquet of God's grace.
That night,
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.

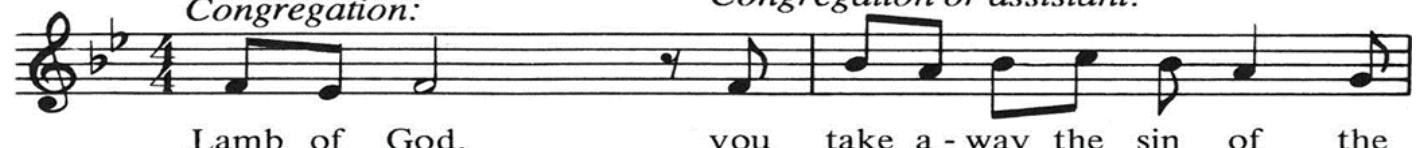
That night long ago
has come to us today.
At this table
we find the same bread,
Christ's body;
the same cup of Christ's blood.
So we say the same prayer

Jesus taught his friends...

**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**

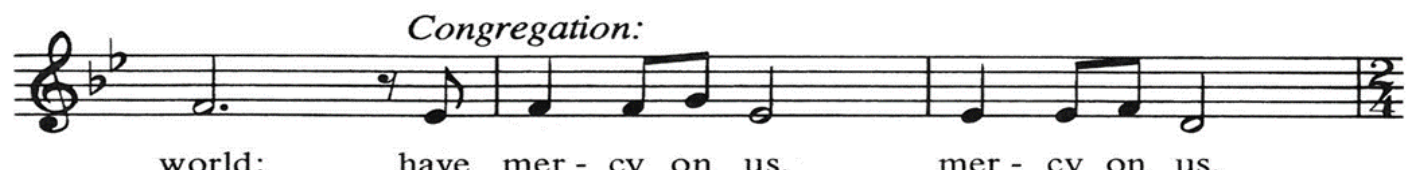
Agnus Dei

Congregation: *Congregation or assistant:*




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

Congregation:



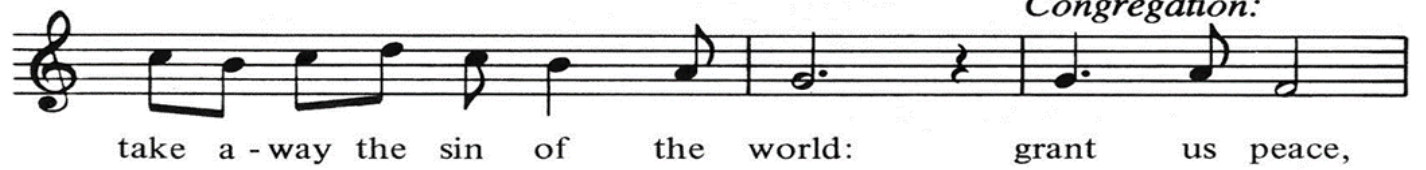
world: have mer-cy on us, mer-cy on us,

Final time: *Cong. or assistant:*




mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you

Congregation:



take a-way the sin of the world: grant us peace,



grant us peace, grant us peace.

Please Sit

The Distribution

There is a place for you at the table of God.
Come, receive the food that does not perish,
a taste of life eternal.

All are invited to come forward to receive the holy gifts. Those not receiving may come forward for a blessing or remain in the pews in prayer.

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Amen

Post-Communion Sentence

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and
keep you in his grace.

Amen.

Prayer After Communion

Jesus, the world looks different from your table.
Here, there are no strangers,
and grace is never a surprise.
Life always thrives in the desert,
and a promise never shades with doubt.
Soon as we rise from this table,
our memories of this goodness fade.
Bring us back every day to your promises:
astonish us again.

Amen.

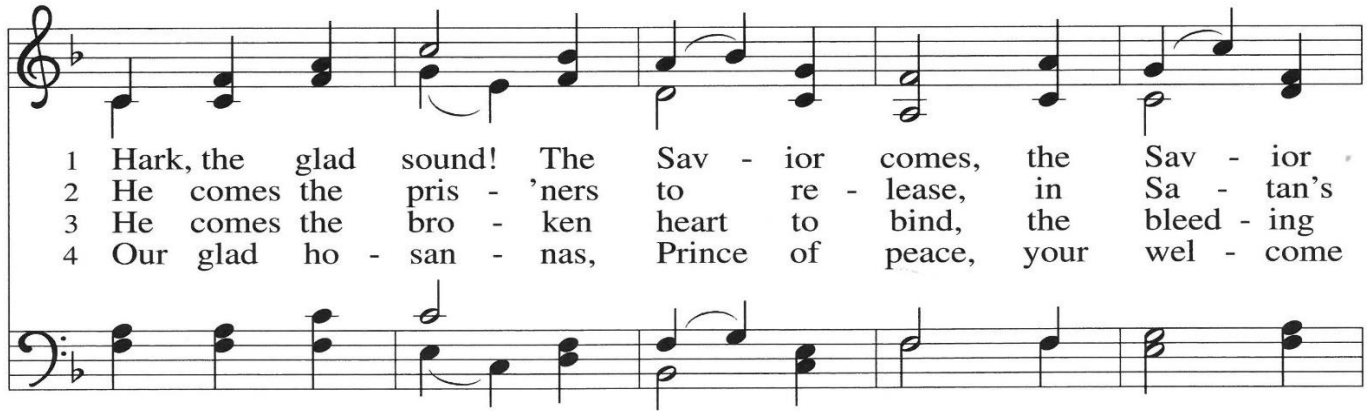
Sending

As you leave from this place,
adjust your expectations to God's promises.
There is friendship after loneliness,
there is hope after every last breath.
There is already life in the desert.
There is even delight in decline.
For we tell the story
of new life from the grave.
In the world drained of color
God arrives out of the blue. Amen

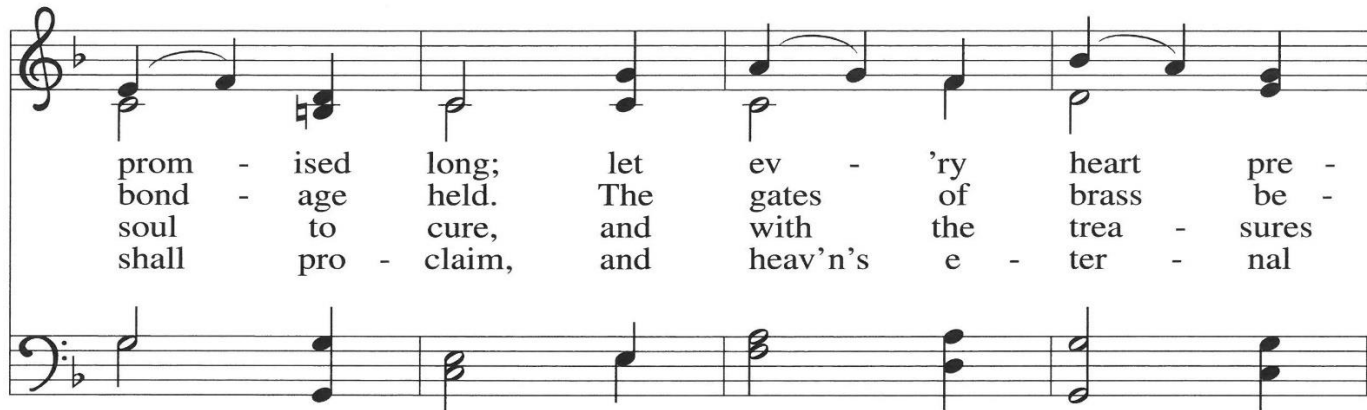
Hymn

Hark, the Glad Sound!

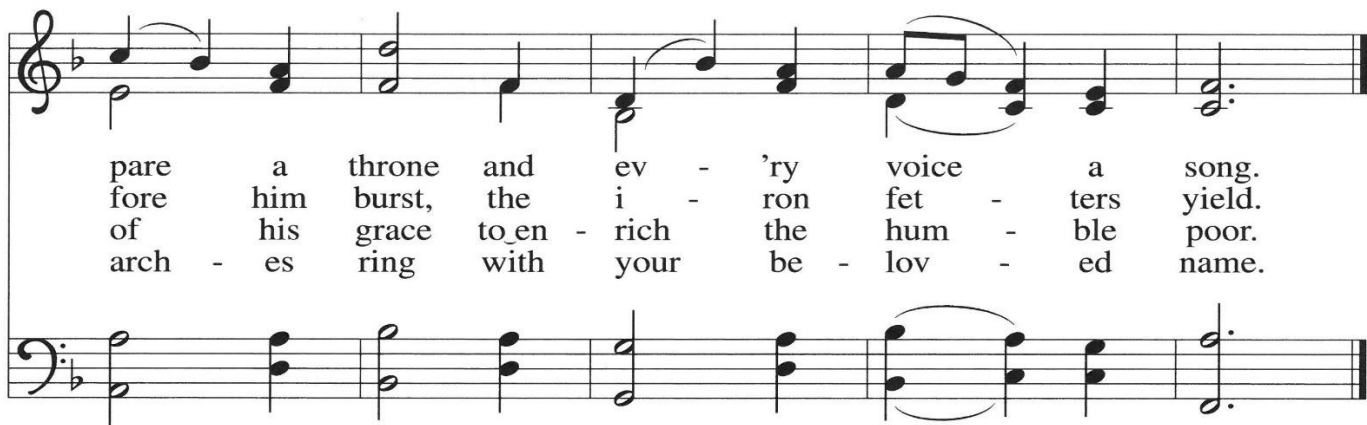
ELW#239



1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior
2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's
3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of peace, your wel - come



prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -
bond - age held. The gates of brass be -
soul to cure, and with the trea - sures
shall pro - claim, and heav'n's e - ter - nal



pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.
fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.
of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.
arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.

Charge

Dismissal

Go in peace. Be light in the world!

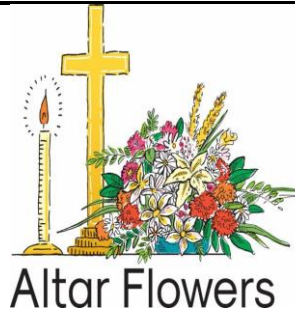
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Congregation adjourns to engage in loving service in the World

Worship Service Today

Greeters/UshersTBD
Lector.....Marilyn Dreyer
Worship Assistant.....Deacon LeeAnn McCarthy
HospitalityKeil Family
Altar GuildKaren Magerlein
Offering TellerKaren Magerlein



**No
Altar Flowers
Donation
This Morning**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mark Your Calendars: Our Saviour's Annual Christmas Fair is next Saturday December 6 from 10am-3pm.

If you have any questions on how you can help there are information sheets on the link table on the various opportunities or speak with Lois Leonard.

Please join us for a "Snowflake Workshop" this morning during our Coffee Hour.

Quilters meet every Tuesday from 9am-12noon & First Saturday of the month from 1-4pm.

Weekly Devotional Readings & Next Sunday's Readings

Monday: Psalm 19:1-6; Ezekiel 3:16-21; Romans 10:10-18; John 1:35-42.

Tuesday: Psalm 124; Genesis 9:1-17; Hebrews 11:32-40.

Wednesday: Matthew 24:23-35; Psalm 12; Isaiah 54:1-10.

Thursday: Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19; Isaiah 4:2-6; Acts 1:12-17, 21-26.

Friday: Isaiah 30:19-26; Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19; Acts 13:16-25.

Saturday: Isaiah 40:1-11; Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19; John 1:19-28.

Second Sunday of Advent – December 7:

Isaiah 11:1-10; Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19; Romans 15:4-13; Matthew 3:1-12.

Those with Special Needs & Concerns

PRAYER LIST

John Nurmi
Arlita Hoyt
Christine Olszanski
Kolbe Olszanski
Deanna Platt
Bob Riekert
Jim Murtha
Jim Befanis
John Picucci

SERVING IN ARMED FORCES

Michael Gabrielsen
Jack O'Brien



Other Concerns of Our Community

Bishop Katrina Foster and her staff.
For those who would dare to bring peace.
For the President and his administration.
Communities of Faith in & around Croton.
For refugees suffering in camps around the world.
For food to feed all those who hunger.

Welcome to Our Saviour

Do you want to live life to its fullest? Do you want to have resources to cope with the challenges of life? Since his disciples first followed him, Jesus' teachings and example have been providing enduring answers for life's most troubling questions. Jesus' life was given for us. His life remains a gift to be received and God's Word through him waits to be heard. Come and see! The Lord is good!

Our Saviour is a safe, friendly, welcoming place for you and your family to hear Good News and find warm, caring community. We welcome people of all races, ethnicities, political affiliations, sexual orientations and gender identities or expressions. We invite you to join us in any or all of the activities. Please ask any member for further details.

You will find the Order of Worship set out in this bulletin. You will also find a schedule of devotional readings and next Sunday's scripture set out inside the back cover.

HOLY COMMUNION: All are invited to the Lord's Table, as Jesus welcomed all without condition, to commune with Him. You need not be Lutheran or a church member. Young children may receive at their parents' discretion.



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Welcome to Our Saviour Evangelical Lutheran Church

Rev. Dr. Justin Johnson, Pastor
Phill Greenland, Music Minister

Sunday School

9:00 am

Sunday Worship Service

10:00 am

Pastor's Office Hours: Mon & Tues: 9:00 am – 12:00 noon;
Wed, Sat & Sun: by appointment; Thurs & Friday: Pastor's Days Off.

Church Secretary's Office Hours: Mon, Tues & Fri: 9:00 am – 12:00 pm
Church Office Phone: 914-271-4632 **Pastor's Phone:** 914 863-1601

<http://www.oursaviourcroton.org>

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Our Saviour Your Saviour Our Saviour

