SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

December 4, 2022 – 9:30 a.m.

Prelude "Comfort, Comfort, Ye My People" by Harold Rohlig

Confession and Absolution

Hymn of Invocation: "Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come" LSB 350 1 Come, Thou On - ly for pre - cious Ran - som, hope come, 2 En wait - ing heart. Glo - rious King and ter now my 3 My and palms Gra - cious - ly ho san nas my re -4 Hail! Ho -Da - vid's Son! Je - sus, hear san - na. our sin - ful tals! Come. Sav - ior of the world! mor 0 _ Lord most Dwell ho _ lv. in me and ne'er de - part, Thee; Ev best ceive. I pray er - more. as Ι can. _ sup - pli - ca tion! Let Thy king - dom, scep-ter, crown, pen Thee all tals. Come, Thy 0 are to beau - tv por -Though I am but poor and low ly. Ah, what rich - es Sav - ior. Ι will hom - age Thee. And in faith Ι pay sal - va for - ev - er Bring us bless - ing and tion. That let Anx - ious lv Thee. us wait for see; we will guest be mine When Thou art di - vine! my Thy will em - brace, Lord. mer - it through Thy grace. Hail! Ho - san sing: na our King. we may to Text: Johann Gottfried Olearius, 1635–1711; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt. Tune: Neu-verfertigtes Darmstädtisches Gesang-Buch, 1699, Darmstadt

Text and tune: Public domain

 \blacksquare In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

Service of the Word

Introit

(The congregation will chant the verses in **bold**.)



In the wilderness prepare the way | of the LORD;* make straight in the desert a highway | for our God. Seek the LORD | and his strength;* seek his presence con- | tinually! Remember the wondrous works that | he has done,* his miracles, and the judgments he uttered, O offspring of Abraham, his | servant,* children of Jacob, his | chosen ones! He is the | LORD our God;* his judgments are in all the earth. He remembers his covenant for- | ever,* the word that he commanded, for a thousand gener- | ations. Glory be to the Father and | to the Son* and to the Holy | Spirit; as it was in the be- | ginning,* is now, and will be forever. Amen. In the wilderness prepare the way | of the LORD;* make straight in the desert a highway | for our God.

Psalm 105:4–8; antiphon: Isaiah 40:3b

Pew Edition



Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

■ Let us pray. Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Advent 2

C Amen.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath Week 2: Repentance

One of the themes for the season of Advent is repentance. In the Gospel reading, we see John preparing the people for the coming of Christ through his preaching, teaching, and baptizing. Matthew says, "Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins."

Two of the ways we prepare for Christ's coming is through repentance and living in our baptism. The Augsburg Confession defines repentance this way: "Now, repentance consists properly of these two parts: One is contrition, that is, terrors smiting the conscience through the knowledge of sin; the other is faith, which is born of the Gospel, or of absolution, and believes that for Christ's sake, sins are forgiven, comforts the conscience, and delivers it from terrors. Then good works are bound to follow, which are the fruits of repentance." Repentance is *more than just being sorry for our sin, or being remorseful*. It is involves receiving forgiveness for that sin as well!

We are also prepared for His coming in and through our baptism. In our baptism, we are given the Holy Spirit Who creates and sustains faith in us. In our baptism, we are given forgiveness for each and every sin and we are given the precious identity of being God's beloved and redeemed child. Through it, we are renewed each day. Our Lord has truly prepared and readied us for His coming! Through faith in Christ, we will be able to stand before Him when He returns. We celebrate the redemption that He gives us as we sing selected verses of *O Lord, How Shall I Meet You*?

- O Lord, how shall I meet You, How welcome You aright? Your people long to greet You, My hope, my heart's delight! O kindle, Lord most holy, Your lamp within my breast To do in spirit lowly All that may please You best.
- 3 I lay in fetters, groaning; You came to set me free.
 I stood, my shame bemoaning; You came to honor me.
 A glorious crown You give me, A treasure safe on high

That will not fail or leave me As earthly riches fly.

4 Love caused Your incarnation; Love brought You down to me. Your thirst for my salvation Procured my liberty.
Oh, love beyond all telling, That led You to embrace In love, all love excelling, Our lost and fallen race.

6 He comes to judge the nations, A terror to His foes,
A light of consolations And blessèd hope to those
Who love the Lord's appearing. O glorious Sun, now come,
Send forth Your beams so cheering, And guide us safely home. Text: Public domain

First Reading

Isaiah 11:1–10

There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins. The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den. They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm

(The congregation will chant the verses in **bold**.)



Blessed be his glorious name for- | ever;* may the whole earth be filled with his glory! Amen and | Amen! Give the king your justice, | O God,* and your righteousness to the | royal son! May he judge your people with | righteousness,* and your poor with | justice! Psalm 72:1–7; antiphon: v. 18

Let the mountains bear prosperity for the people,*
and the hills, in righteousness!
May he defend the cause of the poor of the people,
give deliverance to the children of the needy,*
and crush the op- pressor!
May they fear you while the sun endures,*
and as long as the moon, throughout all gener- ations!
May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass,*
like showers that wa- ter the earth!
In his days may the righteous flourish,*
and peace abound, till the moon be no more!
Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the be- ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen.
Blessed be his glorious name for- ever;*
may the whole earth be filled with his glory! Amen and Amen!

Epistle

Romans 15:4–13

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles, and sing to your name." And again it is said, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people." And again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples extol him." And again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse will come, even he who arises to rule the Gentiles; in him will the Gentiles hope." May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Proper Verse



Choir: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight; All flesh shall see the salvation of God.



Holy Gospel

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the third chapter.

G Glory to You, O Lord.

In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said, "The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight." Now John wore a garment of camel's hair and a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father,' for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."



This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life + everlasting. Amen. Hymn of the Day: "On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry" LSB 344 1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's crv An - nounc es 2 Then cleansed 'ry life from sin: Make straight be ev the 3 We our Sav - ior, Lord, hail Thee Our ref as uge 4 Lav Thy heal - ing hand And make on the sick the \triangle 5 All praise, e ter nal Son, to Thee Whose ad vent that the Lord is nigh: A wake and hear ken. God way for with - in, And let us all our and re - ward; With -Thy our great out grace we fall strong Show glo to stand; the en us ry sets Thy peo ple free, Whom with the Fa ther for brings Glad tid - ings the King of kings! he of hearts pre - pare For Christ come there. to and en ter Like flow'rs that with de - cay. waste a - way er and -Thy face Till beau - ty springs place. of in ev 'ry we a - dore And Ho _ ly Spir it ev er - more. _ Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. composite Tune: adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571-1621 Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon "It Was a Dark and Stormy Night" Romans 15:4-13

- I. A World-Famous Author
- II. Dark and Stormy Nights: the Roman Christians and Us (Context)
 - What challenges did the Roman Christians face?
 - What challenges do we face?
- III. The Christian Hope (v.4-13)
 - What is a term of hope?
 - This hope is...
 - S____
 - A g_____
 - C_____
 - In <u>J</u>
 - Life changing

Prayer of the Church

Offering "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" (Choir)

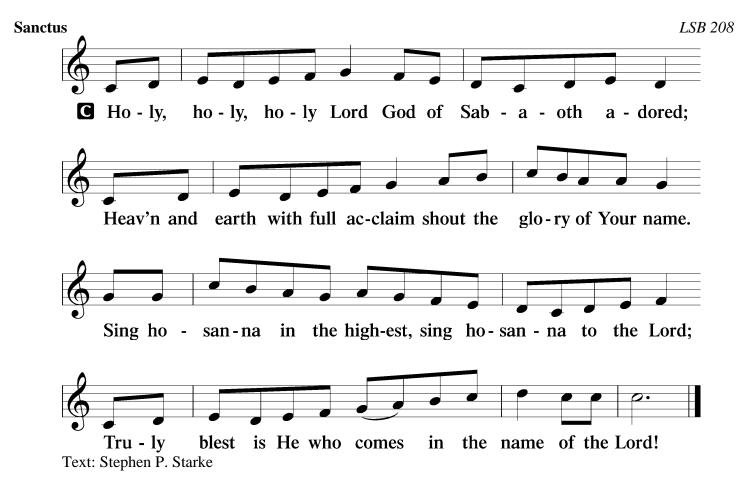
We offer our gifts to the Lord as we use this time in our service for contemplation and preparation for the sacrament of communion. Offerings can be placed in the plates at the back entrance doors as you leave the sanctuary.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

- 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 Him thanks and praise.

■ It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



LSB 208

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your boundless mercy You sent Your servant, John the Baptist, to proclaim that in Christ the kingdom of heaven draws near.

With thankful hearts we pray, "Come, Lord Jesus," confident that in His body and blood, given us to eat and drink, we receive the forgiveness of sins and so proclaim His death until He comes again in glory.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer

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 Words of Our Lord

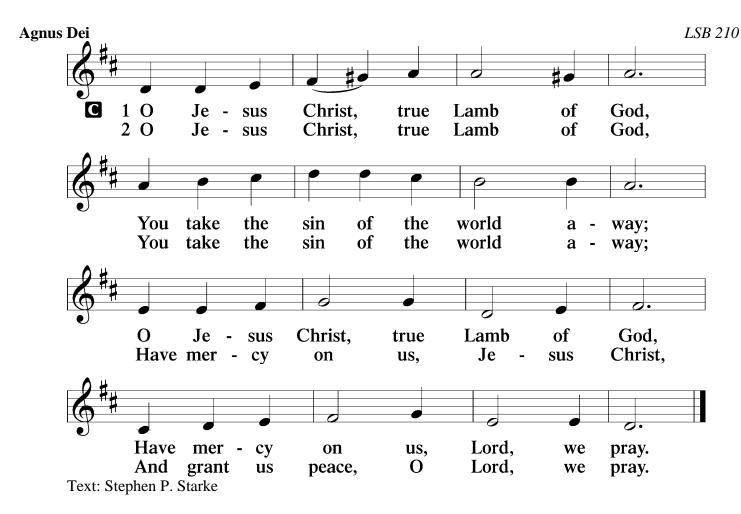
P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

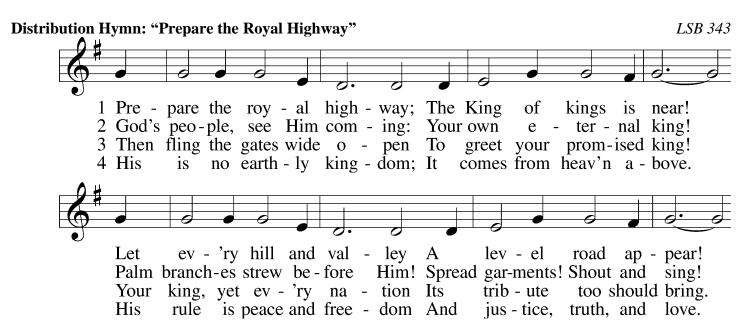
- **P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- **C** Amen.

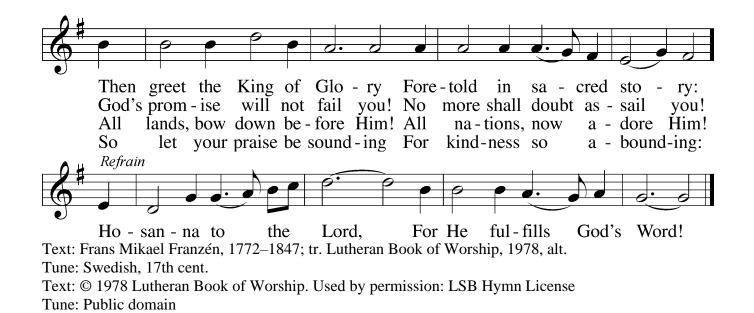
LSB 209



Distribution

You are invited to receive the Lord's Supper if you believe and confess that Jesus Christ is your Savior from sin, you are a baptized child of the Triune God, and you believe that He gives you His body and blood in the bread and wine you receive. White grape juice can be found in the center of each tray for those who cannot receive alcohol. Children are welcome to come forward for a blessing. You may kneel, but it is not required.





LSB 347

Hymn: "Comfort, Comfort Ye My People"

"Com - fort, 1 com - fort ye My peo - ple, Speak ye peace," thus 2 Yea, her sins our God will par - don, Blot ting out each cry - ing 3 Hark, the her - ald's voice is the des - ert In long was crook - ed; ye straight what Make 4 Make the rough - er "Com-fort those who sit saith our God; in dark-ness, Mourn-ing All dark mis-deed: that well de-served His an - ger He no far and near, Call - ing sin - ners to re - pen-tance. Since the plain. Let your hearts be and hum - ble. be plac - es true As their Speak ye 'neath sor - rows' load. to Je - ru - sa - lem will heed. She hath suf - fered man - y a day, more see or King - dom now is here. O that warn - ing cry o - bey! His of the Lord fits ho ly reign. For the glo - ry Of the peace that waits for them; Tell her that her Now griefs God her have passed will change her a - way; Now pre - pare for God way; Let the val leys a Now shed all shall o'er earth is a - broad, And flesh



bro - ken.

LSB 211

see the to - ken That His Word is nev - er Text: Johann Olearius, 1611–84; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois Text and tune: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis



Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

LSB 212

LSB 212

LSB 346

С

Benedicamus

Let us bless the Lord. A

С Thanks be to God.

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace. С Amen.

Hymn: "When All the World Was Cursed"



Tune: Ahasverus Fritsch, 1629–1701

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Postlude "Awake! Awake and Greet the New Morn" by Aaron D. Miller

Acknowledgments

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

GENEROSITY THOUGHTS: Matthew 3:1-2 – "In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.'" John prepared the way for Jesus by preaching repentance. Then, when Jesus' ministry was complete and He was raised from the dead, He sent out His disciples to preach "repentance for the forgiveness of sins" (Luke 24:47). We never outgrow the need for repentance — for examining our lives, turning away from our sins, and turning toward Jesus in faith to receive his forgiveness and strength for a renewed life of godliness.

HELP WANTED! Emmaus turns 75 years old in 2023. Plans for events to celebrate are being made now. As part of the planning, the history of Emmaus will be updated and made ready for display. We hope to bring the history documents up to date and prepare a photo display. If you have interest in helping with this project, please contact Marilyn Pierce.

HELP DECORATE THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS! If you enjoy decorating for Christmas, then this event is for you! We are planning to decorate the sanctuary for Christmas at Emmaus on Saturday, December 10th, beginning at 9:30 a.m. Please sign up at the table in the church narthex. Thank you!

CHRISTMAS DECORATION DONATIONS: Sanctuary Christmas decoration donation slips are available in the narthex. Please indicate your willingness to help defray decoration costs by using the donation slip. Place in the offering plate, hand to an usher or leave it on Maria's desk. Donation slips will be available in the narthex through December 25.

2023 OFFERING ENVELOPES are now available. Hard to believe that 2023 is right around the corner but here it comes. Please stop in the narthex and pick up your offering envelopes. If you did not receive envelopes and would like them, please let Nancy W, Alan M, Pam U, Pastor or Maria know. We can certainly get you a box. If you have envelopes and currently give electronically and no longer want envelopes, please let us know and we will note that for 2024. Thank you!

SALVATION ARMY CHRISTMAS TOY DRIVE: We will be collecting new, unwrapped toys and gifts for kids from November 23rd through Sunday, December 11th. These toys will go to local families in need through the Salvation Army. Toys can be put in the barrel in the narthex. A Thrivent Action Grant has been received. Any Questions? Please e-mail Marie G.

HATS & MITTENS COLLECTION IN DECEMBER: Please bring new pairs of mittens or gloves, hats and scarves for our collection for the non-profit Hats & Mittens. They are a local group that collects these items to go to schools and other local organizations where there is need. The hats and mittens go to Minnesota children to help keep them warm and healthy during our cold winters. A Thrivent Grant has been received to help with this project. Any questions? Please e-mail Marie G.

HEAR "THE LUTHERAN HOUR" on Sunday mornings at 6:05 a.m. on WCCO 830 AM radio. Next week's broadcast: "Beauty We Can't See" Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. We often feel our need for God's presence only when we see what it looks like when He's absent. (Isaiah 28:5)

SNOW BLOWER NEEDED: Ron M is looking for a small snow blower now that he is not able to shovel anymore. If you have one you would be interested in selling, please call Ron M. Please leave a voicemail if he doesn't answer. [See directory or ask office for contact info.]

CONCORDIA ACADEMY CHRISTMAS CONCERT: Join the Concordia Academy band, string, choirs, and art students at CA's 2022 Christmas Concert, "The Dawn of Christmas." Performances are Saturday, December 10, at 7:00 pm, and Sunday, December 11, at 3:00 pm. Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$5 for students and senior citizens. Order tickets at www.concordiaacademy.com/christmas.

BEACON BUDDIES 1ST-4TH GRADE BASKETBALL: Concordia Academy's Beacon Buddies program offers basketball for all 1st-4th grade boys and girls on Saturday mornings starting in January. Boys and girls can expect a fun, supportive environment as they learn the game and skills of basketball and develop their abilities. To get more information or register for this six-week program, go to www.concordiaacademy.com/beaconbuddies.

Responses to the King Advent 2022

This year, we are excited to be celebrating Advent with our brothers and sisters from Jehovah and Bethel Lutheran Churches. We will have two opportunities for midweek services:

11:30 a.m. at Emmaus Lutheran (followed by lunch) 6:30 p.m. at Jehovah Lutheran

Join us as we consider the responses of four different people to the coming of Jesus the King.

•Wednesday, November 30: "Faithful Israel Hails its King" (Joseph)

•Wednesday, December 7: "Rejoicing in the King" (Mary)

•Wednesday, December 14: "Rejecting the King vs. Departing in the King" (Herod vs. Simeon)

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

What happens if there is inclement weather or some other reason that brings into question whether a planned service or event at Emmaus will take place? Even though it may not happen often, we have had times in the past when we've had to cancel worship and scrambled to let our members know in a timely manner.

There will be a three-prong approach to notify our members should we have to cancel services suddenly. If possible, a notice will also be posted on the entrance doors to the church.

- A message regarding the change will be put on the church's answering machine.
- A message will be put on our website at www.emmaus-lutheran-church.org and on Facebook at facebook.com/emmauslutheranchurchlcms.
- An automated phone call will go out to Emmaus members.

Calls from this system will show up on Caller I.D. as coming from a 1-800 or 1-888 number, but the message you hear will be from Emmaus. If there is a certain phone number that you would prefer we use for important notifications from Emmaus (your cell phone, home phone, etc.) please talk to Maria in the office.