

# *Second Sunday of Advent*



## **C o n c o r d i a   L u t h e r a n   C h u r c h**



40 Pitkin Street, Manchester, Connecticut, 06040

### *Concordia's **WHY/Purpose Statement***

To be a welcoming and inviting community empowered by the Word of God;  
So that we may work for social justice and exhibit compassion for all

**December 8, 2024**

**\*\*Hearing devices for the service are available upon request - kindly contact an Usher\*\***

**Introduction:** *Forerunners and messengers advance the advent of our God. While John the baptizer's voice in the wilderness may be the principal focus of the day, Malachi's prophecy could as easily herald the coming Christ as forerunner of the Lord of hosts. Finally all the baptized are called to participate in the sharing of the gospel. In so doing we prepare the way for the coming of Jesus and assist all people in capturing a vision of the "salvation of God."*

*We prepare for worship in quiet prayer and meditation*

**Prelude:** *Oh Yes, Come, Lord Jesus Christ - Jean Langlais* *John Anderson, Organist*

**Welcome**

## **Confessions and Forgiveness**

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

As we await the day of the Lord, let us confess our sin.

*The assembly may kneel or be seated.*

People of God: prepare!  
God, above all, maker of all,  
is one with us in Christ.  
Maranatha!\*\*

**Come, Lord Jesus!**

God, the mighty God,  
bends down in love to earth.  
Maranatha!

**Come, Lord Jesus!**

God with us, God beside us,  
comes soon to the world he has  
made.

Maranatha!

**Come, Lord Jesus!**

We are God's children,  
we seek the coming Christ.  
Maranatha!  
**Come, Lord Jesus!**

Almighty God,  
who in Jesus Christ has given us  
A kingdom that cannot be destroyed,  
forgive you your sins,  
open your eyes to God's truth,  
strengthen you to do God's will  
and give you the joy of the kingdom,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*All stand as able.*

*\*\*Maranatha is an Aramaic (the language Jesus spoke) phrase that can be translated as "Come, Lord!" It is used especially in the season of Advent when we call on the Lord to come again to set things right once more.*

## **G A T H E R I N G**

*The Holy Spirit call us together as the people of God.*

**Gathering Hymn**

*All Earth Is Hopeful*

ELW 266

As we encircle this wreath with blessing, as it is gradually illumined, let our hearts and minds be stirred up to greet your reign.

Rouse your household from its sleep, O God. Make us to beat our swords of war into plows that work in peace. Then nation will not lift up sword against nation and all your children will be ready to welcome your promised day of peace.

We welcome your presence now  
With the lighting of this candle,  
Whose flame brings warmth to winter  
And fills this place with the glow of hope.

**Amen.**

**Lighting of Advent Candle**    *Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah (verse 2)*    ELW 240

## Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## Prayer of the Day

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.

**Amen.**

*All are seated.*

## T H E   W O R D

*God speaks to us in Scripture reading, preaching and song*



### The First Reading:

**Malachi 3:1-4**

*God announces a covenant with Israel. A messenger like Malachi (his name means “my messenger”) will prepare the way for the coming of the Lord by purifying and refining God’s people, as silver and gold are refined.*

<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?

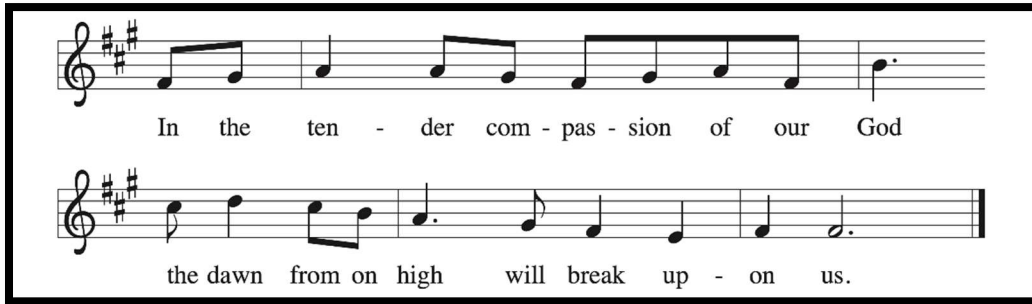
For he is like a refiner’s fire and like fullers’ soap; <sup>3</sup> he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. <sup>4</sup> Then the offering of Judah and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

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

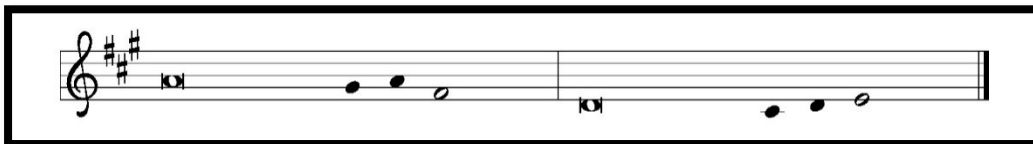
## The Psalm:

Luke 1:68-79



In the ten - der com - pas - sion of our God  
the dawn from on high will break up - on us.

## Tone



*In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us. (Lk. 1:78)*

<sup>68</sup> Blessed are you, Lord, the | God of  
Israel,  
you have come to your people  
and | set them free.

<sup>69</sup> **You have raised up for us a | mighty  
Savior,  
born of the house of your | servant  
David. R**

<sup>70</sup> Through your holy prophets, you  
promised of old to save us | from our enemies,

<sup>71</sup> from the hands of | all who hate us,

<sup>72</sup> **to show mercy | to our forebears,  
and to remember your | holy covenant.**

<sup>73</sup> This was the oath you swore to our | father  
Abraham:

<sup>74</sup> to set us free from the hands of  
our | enemies,



**free to worship you | without fear,  
<sup>75</sup> holy and righteous before you, all  
the days | of our life. R**

<sup>76</sup> And you, child, shall be called the  
prophet of | the Most High,  
for you will go before the Lord to  
pre- | pare the way,

<sup>77</sup> **to give God's people knowledge | of  
salvation**

**by the forgiveness | of their sins.**

<sup>78</sup> In the tender compassion | of our God  
the dawn from on high shall | break upon  
us,

<sup>79</sup> **to shine on those who dwell in  
darkness and in the shad- | ow of death,  
and to guide our feet into the | way of  
peace. R**

## Second Reading:

Philippians 1:3-11

*The apostle Paul was the pastor of many new churches. He writes in this letter about his joy to be in partnership with the Christians of Philippi. Listen to how tender-hearted Paul, sometimes a stern preacher, is with his friends as he encourages them to grow in love and knowledge.*

<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.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*All Stand as able.*

## The Gospel Acclamation



Prepare the way | of the Lord.\* All flesh shall see the salva- | tion of God. *Alleluia. (Luke 3:4, 6)*

## The Holy Gospel:

**Luke 3:1-6**

*John the Baptist is a herald of Jesus, whose way is prepared by "repentance for the forgiveness of sins." As we hear the careful record of human leaders, we sense the spectrum of political and religious authority that will be challenged by this coming Lord.*

The Holy Gospel according to Luke...

**Glory to you, Oh 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 Ituraea 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.'"

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

*All are seated.*

## **The Sermon**

*Pastor Rolf Hedberg*

*All stand as able.*

**Hymn of the Day**

*Prepare The Royal Highway*

ELW 264



### **✚ Nicene Creed**

Together with all the people of God, let us confess our faith:

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.**

**Amen.**

## Prayers of Intercession

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

*A brief silence.*

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.**

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.**

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 especially Ukraine, Gaza and Israel. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

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

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.**

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.**

Savior of the nations, come, and receive these prayers and the pleas of our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

## Exchange of Peace

In the tender mercy of our God,  
the dayspring from on high shall break upon us,  
to give light to those who dwell in darkness  
and in the shadow of death,  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*All are seated.*

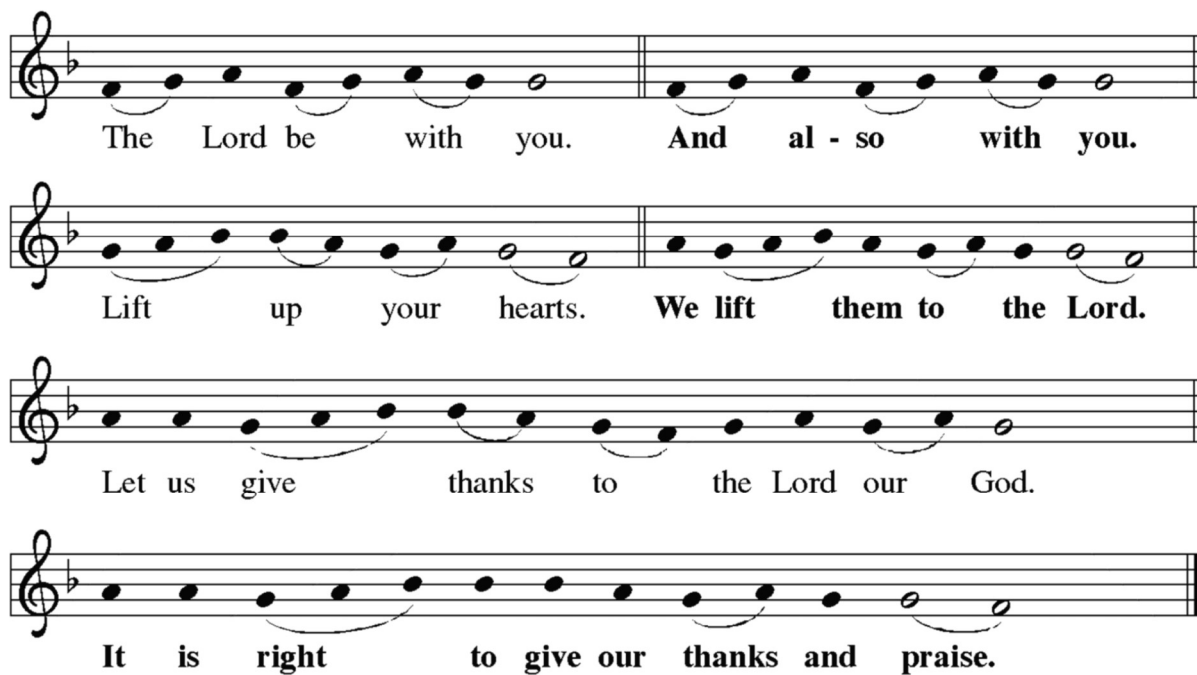
**M E A L**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

*The Table is prepared.*

**The Offering Prayer**

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.  
**Amen.**

**Dialogue**

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

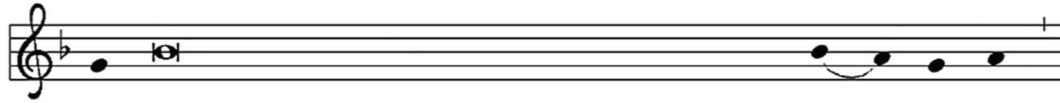
It is right to give our thanks and praise.



## Proper Preface



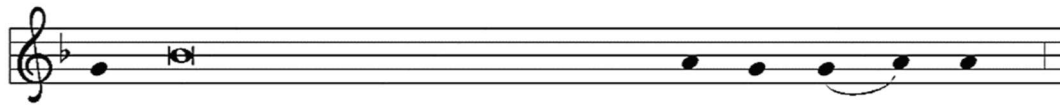
It is indeed right, our du - ty and our joy,



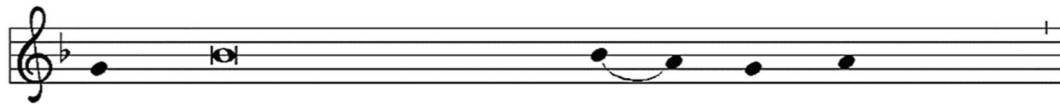
that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you,



al - mighty and merciful God, through our Sav - ior Je - sus Christ.



You comforted your people with the promise of the Re - deem - er,



through whom you will also make all things new



in the day when he comes to judge the world in righ - teous-ness.



And so, with all the choirs of an - gels,



with the church on earth and the hosts of heav - en,



we praise your name and join their un - end - ing hymn:



## Sanctus (*Holy, Holy, Holy*)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r 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.



**Eucharistic Prayer** *(Adapted from A New Zealand Prayer Book)*

Creator God,  
We praise you for your love in coming to us,  
Unworthy though we are.  
Give us grace to accept the Christ who  
comes in your name,  
and the courage to be Christ for others.

We praise and thank you Creator God,  
For you have not left us alone.  
Each year you come to us, Emmanuel,  
God with us in a manger.  
Each time you come to us  
in the broken bread and the cup we share.  
In time or out of time you will be revealed  
And we shall see you face to face.

Give us courage, God our strength,  
To see your Christ in all who suffer,  
To be hands to the helpless,  
Food for the hungry,  
And justice for the oppressed.

And so we remember, that 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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:



Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

Therefore loving God,  
recalling your great goodness to us in Christ,  
his suffering and death,  
his resurrection and ascension,  
and looking for his coming in glory,  
we celebrate our redemption with this bread  
of life and this cup of salvation.  
Accept our sacrifice of praise and  
thanksgiving which we offer  
through Christ our great high priest.

Send your Holy Spirit that these gifts of  
bread and wine which we receive may be to  
us the body and blood of Christ, and that we,

filled with the Spirit's grace and power, may  
be renewed for the service for your  
kingdom.


United with Christ with all the saints who  
stand before you in earth and heaven,  
with John the Baptist,  
the Blessed Virgin Mary, Elizabeth,  
Zechariah, Simeon and Anna, we worship  
you, O God, in songs of everlasting praise.

Blessing, honor and glory be yours,  
here and everywhere,  
now and forever.



A - men, a - men. A - men, a - men.

## The Lord's Prayer



Lord, remember us in your king - dom, and teach us to pray.

Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,

your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.

Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we

for - give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al

and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow'r,

and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

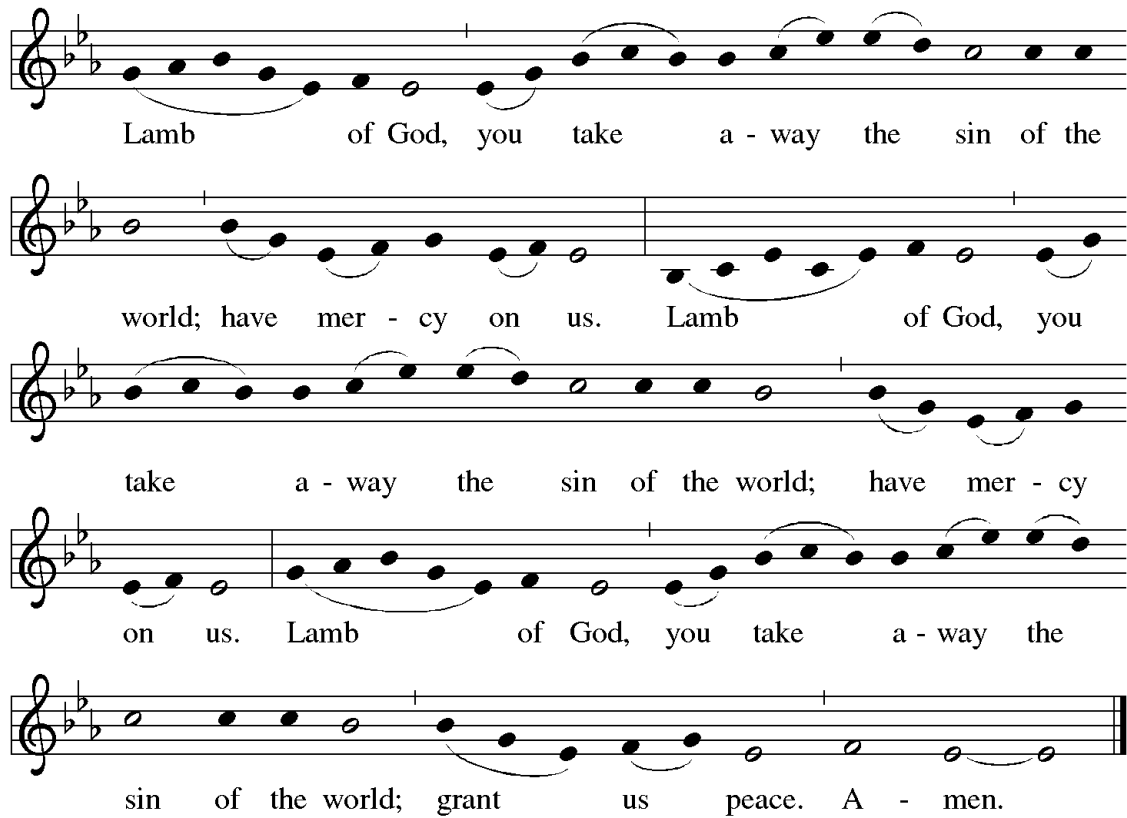
### Invitation to Communion

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



## Communion Song

## 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. A - men.

† † † **The Distribution of Holy Communion** † † †

**Anthem:** *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

ELW 631

### Blessing after Communion

The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace. **Amen.**

### Post-Communion Prayer

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.  
**Amen.**

**S E N D I N G**

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

## Blessing

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.

Amen.

## Sending Hymn

*On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry*

ELW 249

## Dismissal

Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude:** *Savior of the Nations, Come* - Johann Sebastian Bach *John Anderson, Organist*

**+++ To God Be the Glory +++**

## Serving in Worship Today

*Presiding:* **Reverend Rolf Hedberg**

*Assisting* Mark Winzler

*Ushers:* Phil Stoneman

*Minister(s):* David Smith

*Organist:* John Anderson

## Daily Readings

**December 9 - 15**



<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>
Psalm 126 Isaiah 40:1-11 Romans 8:22-25	Psalm 126 Isaiah 19:18-25 2 Peter 1:2-15	Psalm 126 Isaiah 35:3-7 Luke 7:18-30	Isaiah 12:2-6 Amos 6:1-8 2 Corinthians 8:1-15
<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>	<u>Sunday, December 15, Third Sunday of Advent</u>	
Isaiah 12:2-6 Amos 8:4-12 2 Corinthians 9:1-15	Isaiah 12:2-6 Amos 9:8-15 Luke 1:57-66	Zephaniah 3:14-20 Isaiah 12:2-6 Philippians 4:4-7 Luke 3:7-18	

**NOTES:** The Bible texts of the Old Testament, Epistle and Gospel lessons are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Church of Christ in the USA, and used by permission. Selected liturgical texts from Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2015 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License.

## Prayers of the Community



Contact parish office for Prayer requests. Names will be held in prayer for one month, *unless otherwise requested.*

Date Requested	Praying For (person/family)	Prayers For	Requested By
12/2/2024	The family of Andy Vincens	As they grieve the passing of Andy Vincens	Jan Salvatore
12/1/2024	Ed Brainerd	Healing from virus	Jane Casserly
11/24/2024	The family and friends of Eleanor Symecko	As they grieve the passing of Eleanor Symecko	Lanie Turner
11/17/2024	The Family of Megan Fleckenstein	As they grieve the passing of Megan Fleckenstein	Joel & Sandra Baranowski
11/12/2024	The family of Sindi Pietrorazio	As they grieve the passing of Sindi Pietrorazio	Lanie Turner
10/27/2024	Robert Feder	<i>Resilience, comfort, and healing amidst profound health challenge since March</i>	Gail Feder
10/27/2024	Dan Burnett	<i>Strength, comfort, and healing during this significant health challenge.</i>	Carol Burnett

### For Concordia's ongoing transition process,

#### The Intentions of this Community:

- † Concordia Nursery School Students and their families.
- † The work of MACC
- † For our Cub Scout Pack and Scout Troop
- † For Licensed Lay Minister Beatrice Luciano and Ministerio Nueva Creación
- † For Pastor Simpson and the people of New Horizons
- † For our Friends at Emanuel Lutheran and former members of St. Mary's now merged with St. John's Episcopal Church in Vernon.

#### Concordia Lutheran Church

Reverend **Rolf Hedberg**, *Transitional Pastor*  
Mrs. **Margie Gallagher**, *Parish Administrator*

✉ 40 Pitkin Street, Manchester, CT 06040 ☎ (860)649-5311

✉ [office@concordiamanchester.org](mailto:office@concordiamanchester.org) 🌐 [www.concordiamanchester.org](http://www.concordiamanchester.org)

Church Office Hours: Monday – Thursday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.




# Concordia Lutheran Church


## Calendar of Events



<u>Date of Event</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Time</u>
Sunday, December 8, 2024	Council Meeting	Concordia Lutheran Church	After Worship
Wednesdays, Dec. 11, & 18	Holden Evening Prayer	Via Zoom - see flyer!	7:00-7:30 pm
Sunday, December 15, 2024	Congregation Meeting with Pastor Maria Hammons	Concordia Lutheran Church	After Worship
Tuesday, December 24, 2024	Christmas Eve	Concordia Lutheran Church	8 p.m.
Tuesday, December 24, 2024	Christmas Eve Social Gathering	Mark's House	Approx. 9:30 p.m.
<b>All throughout School Year</b>	Healthy Snacks for Highland Park Elementary School	Concordia Lutheran Church	All Day

Concordia, Emanuel, and Ministerio Nueva Creación





**Midweek Advent Worship**  
**Holden Evening Prayer**

**Wednesdays**  
**December 4, 11, and 18**  
**7:00-7:30 p.m.**  
**Via Zoom**



*The Zoom Link and Dial-In Information will be disseminated each week beforehand.*

Holden Evening Prayer was originally written during the winter of 1986 while the composer, Marty Haugen, was at Holden Village in the North Cascade Mountains of Washington State. With the exception of the lessons and a couple of prayers, the majority of the liturgy is sung. The liturgy lasts about one-half hour.

While it may be used at any time during the church year, it is especially appropriate during Advent because of the Magnificat included in the liturgy.

**Midweek Advent Worship: Holden Evening Prayer**  
**December 4, 11, 18, 2024 7:00 PM**

**Zoom Link:**  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87676995628?pwd=a8va2e7hfmd0bvSab8hZdtlP832ZC.1>

**Dial-In:** 1- 646-876-9923  
**Meeting ID:** 876 7699 5628  
**Passcode:** 403150



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## Christmas Eve Social Gathering

All are invited to a **Social Gathering** on **Christmas Eve** following the 8:00 p.m. Eucharist (*beginning approximately 9:30 p.m.*) at the home of Mark Winzler.

Come and celebrate Christmas together! There will be goodies to eat as well as “cups of Christmas Cheer” to raise!



If you plan to attend, kindly e-mail ([markwinz52@aol.com](mailto:markwinz52@aol.com)) or call Mark (860-643-1913) OR call Margie at Church Office (860-649-5311) **no later than Wednesday, December 20.**

We have lots to celebrate and be thankful for as we come to the close of 2024.

**Please come and enjoy the company! All are welcome!**

\*\*\*\*\*

## Healthy Snacks for



## Highland Park Elementary School

School is now *in session* and we are graciously requesting from our congregation: **healthy, non-perishable snacks (no nuts please).**

**Examples:**



We will be collecting **all school year**, kindly shop for healthy snacks and bring them with you to our next service!

Thank you and God Bless!

**COMMUNITY  
UPCOMING EVENTS**



WEST HARTFORD  
WOMEN'S CHORALE  
Presents

**WINTER  
STARLIGHT**

FRIDAY  
DECEMBER 13, 2024  
7:30 P.M.

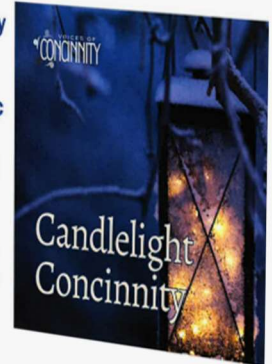
**St. James Episcopal Church**  
1018 Farmington Ave.  
West Hartford, CT 06107  
Tickets: \$15  
At the Door, or Online at: [www.whwchorale.org](http://www.whwchorale.org)

At the Door, or Online at: [www.whwchorale.org](http://www.whwchorale.org)  
Tickets: \$15  
West Hartford, CT 06107  
1018 Farmington Ave.  
St. James Episcopal Church

**FME** FRIENDS OF MUSIC AT EMANUEL  
CHAMBER MUSIC SERIES 2024 - 2025

**Saturday, December 14  
at 7 pm**

Voices of Concinnity  
presents  
an evening of  
luminescent music  
to celebrate the  
Christmas season



FREE ADMISSION

DONATIONS WELCOME!

**Emanuel Lutheran Church**  
60 Church Street, Manchester, CT 06040  
860 - 643-1193

[FriendsOfMusic@Emanuel.org](mailto:FriendsOfMusic@Emanuel.org)

[www.FriendsOfMusicAtEmanuel.org](http://www.FriendsOfMusicAtEmanuel.org)

**Messiah  
Sing** \*Part 1 & Hallelujah Chorus

**Sunday, December 15  
3:00 PM**

**FEATURING:**  
Elizabeth Miller  
Susan McAdoo  
Paul Patinka  
Jermaine Woodard  
Directed by Allan Conway

This event is free and open to the public, though donations are happily accepted to help defray costs. You are urged to bring your own score, if you have one, though some copies will be available to borrow.

**United Congregational Church of Tolland**  
45 Tolland Green  
Contact: (860) 875-4160  
Web: [www.ucctolland.org](http://www.ucctolland.org)



## MACC & HIGHLAND PARK SCHOOL CHRISTMAS SUPPORT

### Highland Park School

We provided 39 gift cards to HPS families for Thanksgiving. For Christmas they have requested the same number of **\$25 gift cards to Target or Walmart**. Questions, regarding HPS should be directed to Ruth Sprong Heyden.

### MACC

We adopted 8 MACC families ranging from 2 to 7 family members. Five (5) families were adopted for Thanksgiving. If you adopted a family for Thanksgiving and would like to assist the same family for Christmas or you would like to adopt one of the remaining 3 families, please contact Carol Stoneman (860-559-2208).

For Christmas, we will provide both food (monetary amount determined by number of family members) & gift cards (minimum of \$25 per family member). Gift cards should be delivered no later than **Friday, December 13, 2024**, to allow families adequate time to shop for gifts and food.

Also, if you would like to volunteer your time at the MACC emergency pantry during their extended shopping hours or assist in packing food baskets during their pantry sessions, PLEASE CONTACT: Patti Thurlow, Operations Manager, at 860-647-8003 ex. 112 or at [PThurlow@macc-ct.org](mailto:PThurlow@macc-ct.org)

### Seasonal Sharing Giving

To make a monetary donation, please use the Seasonal Sharing envelope in you giving envelope box or you can donate via check and write Seasonal Sharing in the For/Note section in the lower left-hand side of your check.

Again, thank you for your continued support of this ministry. God Bless!!!  
Concordia's Outreach Team

## Poinsettias for Christmas



Each Christmas we invite members and friends of Concordia to purchase poinsettias for our worship space. Please consider making a gift of flowers to Concordia this Christmas. We are also delighted to report that a brass quartet will provide special music Christmas Eve; gifts may be made to offset that expense as well. Financial gifts to support our ministries are also welcome.

Each poinsettia plant costs \$15. Gifts for musicians and ministries are given at the giver's discretion. Please attach payment with this form, and return to the church office by Tuesday, December 17th. Thank you.

I/We give \_\_\_\_\_ *poinsettia(s)* to Concordia this Christmas Eve:

In memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

I/We give \$\_\_\_\_\_ to Concordia for *musicians*:

In memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

I/We give \$\_\_\_\_\_ to *support Concordia's ministries* in honor/in memory:

In memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number or E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

*Poinsettias may be taken home after the December 24th service.  
Poinsettias that remain will adorn our worship space through the  
Christmas season.*

