

# **Saint John Lutheran Church**

*We love because He first loved us*

**November 27, 2022**

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent

Setting Four – Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW)

**PRELUDE**

Amanda Boykin

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**WE GATHER**

**FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT**

You know what time it is. The night is far gone, the day is near. It is the in-between time. Right now, the nights are still drawing longer, but soon that will cease, and the daylight will begin to increase. In this in-between time, of fall into winter, we know the promise of spring will come even if we cannot sense it. We know what time it is: time to watch and wait for signs of Christ's presence in our world and in our lives in a new way. What is being revealed to you in the darkness? What is hidden that is waiting for you to know?

*Light the first candle.*

**C** Now is the time for us to wake from sleep. Light of the World, we wait for You. Voice in the Darkness, we wait for You. Prepare us to receive You in our world and in our lives in a new way. Amen.

**EXCHANGE OF PEACE**

**P** The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us share God's peace with one another.

*All are invited to greet one another in the name of the Lord by saying "Peace be with You."*

## **INVOCATION**

*Please stand as you are able. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at Baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.

**C Blessed be God's name forever. Amen.**

P Beloved, now is the time to wake from sleep. Let us confront our sins, and confess them to the one who is merciful and just.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P God of new beginnings,

**C we confess that we have not welcomed your holy reign. We have strayed from your paths. We prepare for war instead of peace. We dishonor one another and your creation. Purify us with your refining fire and set us again on your way of love, that we may bear fruit worthy of repentance, and welcome your coming among us. Amen.**

P People of God, a new thing is growing in our midst, a tender branch, a living sign. By water and the Spirit you are joined to this wonder. You have put on † Christ, and your sins have been washed away. Rejoice in the way of the Lord.

**C Amen.**

## **GATHERING HYMN**

*ELW #438 "My Lord, What a Morning"*

### *Refrain*

My Lord, what a morning;  
my Lord, what a morning;  
oh, my Lord, what a morning,  
when the stars begin to fall.

- 1 You will hear the trumpet sound,  
to wake the nations underground,  
looking to my God's right hand,  
when the stars begin to fall.

### *Refrain*

My Lord, what a morning;  
my Lord, what a morning;  
oh, my Lord, what a morning,  
when the stars begin to fall.

- 2 You will hear the sinner cry,  
to wake the nations underground,  
looking to my God's right hand,  
when the stars begin to fall.

### *Refrain*

My Lord, what a morning;  
my Lord, what a morning;  
oh, my Lord, what a morning,  
when the stars begin to fall.

- 3 You will hear the Christian shout,  
to wake the nations underground,  
looking to my God's right hand,  
when the stars begin to fall.

*Refrain*

My Lord, what a morning;  
my Lord, what a morning;  
oh, my Lord, what a morning,  
when the stars begin to fall.

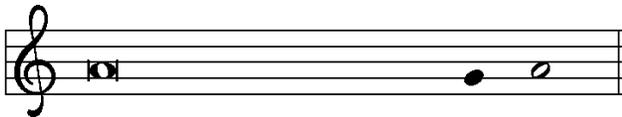
**APOSTOLIC GREETING**

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

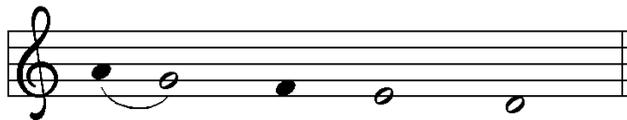
**C And also with you.**

**KYRIE**

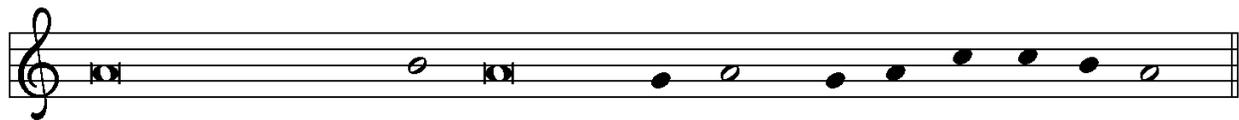
*Pg. 147*



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



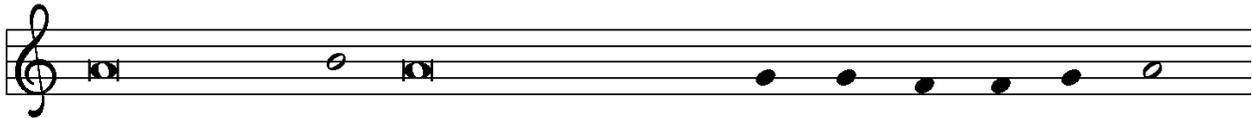
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



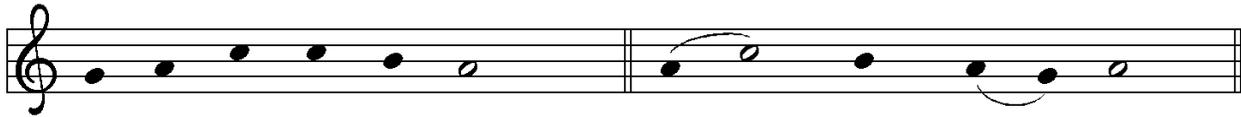
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**C Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

*You may be seated.*

## THE HOLY WORD

## **FIRST READING**

*Isaiah 2:1-5*

<sup>1</sup>The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. <sup>2</sup>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. <sup>3</sup>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. <sup>4</sup>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. <sup>5</sup>O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

A The Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM

*Psalm 122*



<sup>1</sup>I was glad when they | said to me,  
"Let us go to the house | of the Lord."

<sup>2</sup>**Now our | feet are standing  
within your gates, | O Jerusalem.**

<sup>3</sup>Jerusalem is built | as a city  
that is at unity | with itself;

<sup>4</sup>**to which the tribes go up, the tribes | of the Lord,  
the assembly of Israel, to praise the name | of the Lord.**

<sup>5</sup>For there are the | thrones of judgment,  
the thrones of the | house of David.

<sup>6</sup>**Pray for the peace | of Jerusalem:  
"May they pros- | per who love you.**

<sup>7</sup>Peace be with- | in your walls  
and quietness with- | in your towers.

<sup>8</sup>**For the sake of my kindred | and companions,  
I pray for | your prosperity.**

<sup>9</sup>Because of the house of the | Lord our God,  
I will seek to | do you good."

## SECOND READING

*Romans 13:11-14*

<sup>11</sup>Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; <sup>12</sup>the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; <sup>13</sup>let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling

and jealousy. <sup>14</sup>Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

A The Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able to greet the Gospel.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Pg. 151*

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

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

## GOSPEL

*Matthew 24:36-44*

P The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Matthew, the 24<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**C Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said to the disciples, <sup>36</sup>“About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>37</sup>For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>38</sup>For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, <sup>39</sup>and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>40</sup>Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. <sup>41</sup>Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. <sup>42</sup>Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on

what day your Lord is coming. <sup>43</sup>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. <sup>44</sup>Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

P This Is the Gospel of our Lord.

**C Praise to you, O Christ!**

## **CHILDREN'S SERMON**

### **SERMON**

Pastor Pete

### **HYMN OF THE DAY**

*ELW #715 "Christ, Be Our Light"*

- 1 Longing for light, we wait in darkness.  
Longing for truth, we turn to you.  
Make us your own, your holy people,  
light for the world to see.

#### *Refrain*

Christ, be our light!  
Shine in our hearts.  
Shine through the darkness.  
Christ, be our light!  
Shine in your church gathered today.

- 2 Longing for peace, our world is troubled.  
Longing for hope, many despair.  
Your word alone has pow'r to save us.  
Make us your living voice.

*Refrain*

Christ, be our light!  
Shine in our hearts.  
Shine through the darkness.  
Christ, be our light!  
Shine in your church gathered today.

- 3 Longing for food, many are hungry.  
Longing for water, many still thirst.  
Make us your bread, broken for others,  
shared until all are fed.

*Refrain*

Christ, be our light!  
Shine in our hearts.  
Shine through the darkness.  
Christ, be our light!  
Shine in your church gathered today.

- 4 Longing for shelter, many are homeless.  
Longing for warmth, many are cold.  
Make us your building, sheltering others,  
walls made of living stone.

*Refrain*

Christ, be our light!  
Shine in our hearts.  
Shine through the darkness.  
Christ, be our light!  
Shine in your church gathered today.

- 5 Many the gifts, many the people,  
many the hearts that yearn to belong.  
Let us be servants to one another,  
signs of your kingdom come.

*Refrain*

Christ, be our light!  
Shine in our hearts.  
Shine through the darkness.  
Christ, be our light!  
Shine in your church gathered today.

**APOSTLE'S CREED**

*Pg. 127*

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord who was conceived by the Holy Spirit born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.  
Amen.**

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

As we prepare for the fullness of Christ's presence, let us pray for a world that yearns for new hope.

*A brief silence.*

God of all, your children everywhere cry out for mercy. Awaken the global church to the urgent needs of our time. Break down barriers of culture and custom and unite people of all faiths in your redemptive and healing work. God, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

God of wonder, the earth's beauty and abundance is your gift. Teach us your ways of sharing resources and caring for life. Guard fragile habitats, preserve the wild places, and protect endangered plants and animals. God, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

God of peace, you judge the nations. Beat our weapons into tools for serving the neighbor. Strengthen the resolve of all who work for an end to war. We pray for lasting peace in the land of Jesus' birth (*other places of conflict may be named*). God, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

God of lovingkindness, you desire fullness of life for everyone. Fill those who hunger. Comfort the grieving and attend to those near death. Bring help and hope to any who are sick or needing your care (*especially*). God, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

God of community, you are present when we gather in your name. Guide congregations in transition or conflict (*especially*). Give wisdom to congregational councils, call committees, and ministry leaders. Keep us alert to unexpected opportunities for mission. God, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

God of promise, your goodness is everlasting. We give thanks for the lives of the faithful who now rest in you. We trust that you will bring us into the company of all the saints with rejoicing. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of our longing, you know our deepest needs. By your Spirit, gather our prayers and join them with the prayers of all your children. In Jesus' name we pray.

**Amen.**

## **WORSHIP OF GOD WITH TITHES & OFFERINGS**

**OFFERTORY CANTICLE** *ELW #686 "We Give Thee But Thine Own"*  
*vs. 1 & 2*

- 1 We give thee but thine own,  
whate'er the gift may be;  
all that we have is thine alone,  
a trust, O Lord, from thee.
- 2 May we thy bounties thus  
as stewards true receive,  
and gladly, as thou blessest us,  
to thee our firstfruits give.

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

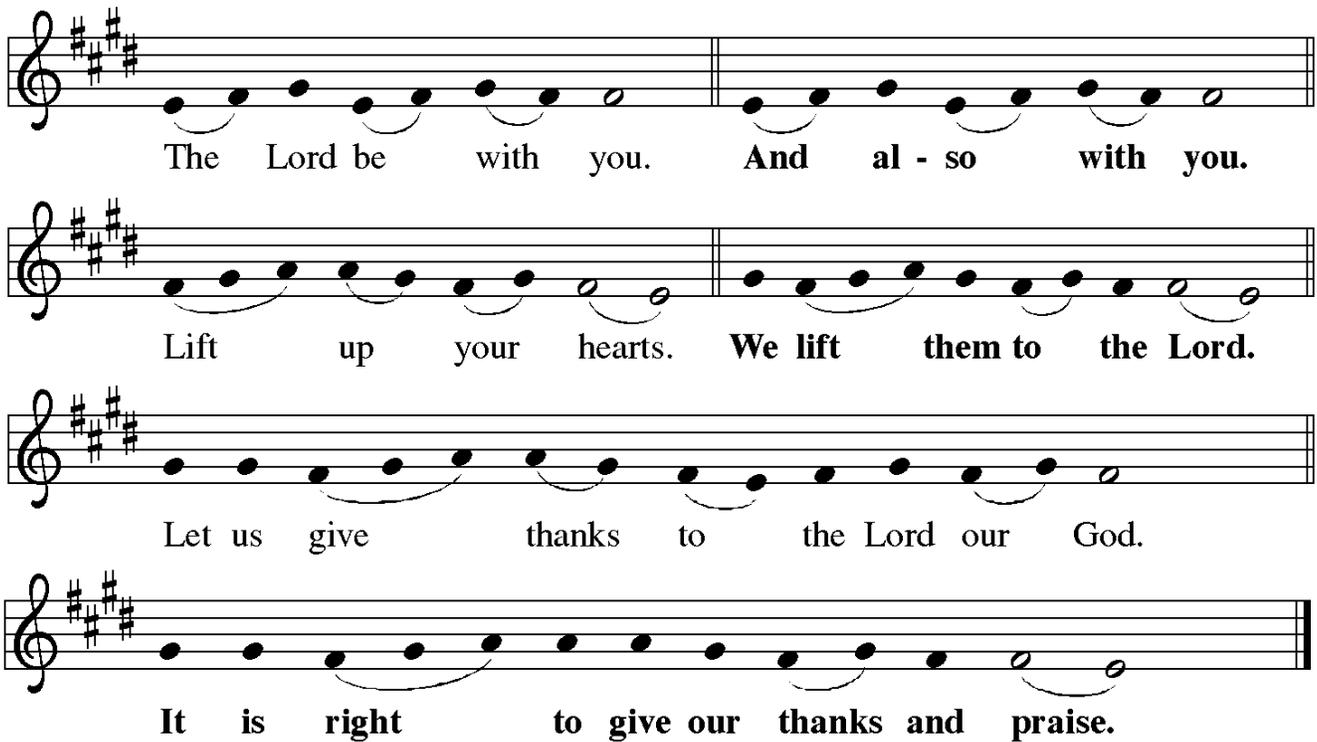
A Eternal God, you make the desert bloom and send springs of water to thirsty ground. Receive these simple gifts of bread, wine, and money, and make us messengers of your mercy and love for all in need of your healing and justice. We ask this through Christ our Savior.

**C Amen.**

## HOLY COMMUNION

### GREAT THANKSGIVING

*Pg. 152*



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.

### THE PROPER PREFACE

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## SANCTUS "HOLY, HOLY, HOLY"

Pg. 153



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n 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.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**C Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever.  
Amen.**

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

P Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God, who has come to save you.

## **HOLY COMMUNION OF GOD'S HOLY PEOPLE**

*We are celebrating Holy Communion during the service this morning. We believe that Christ is truly present in this meal of bread and wine. All are welcome at table. Small children who have not yet received communion instruction are welcome at the table to receive a blessing. Those who prefer not to receive wine may take white grape juice supplied in the inner circle of the communion tray, gluten free wafers are available, just let your server know you wish to receive gluten free.*

## **MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION**

*Instrumental*

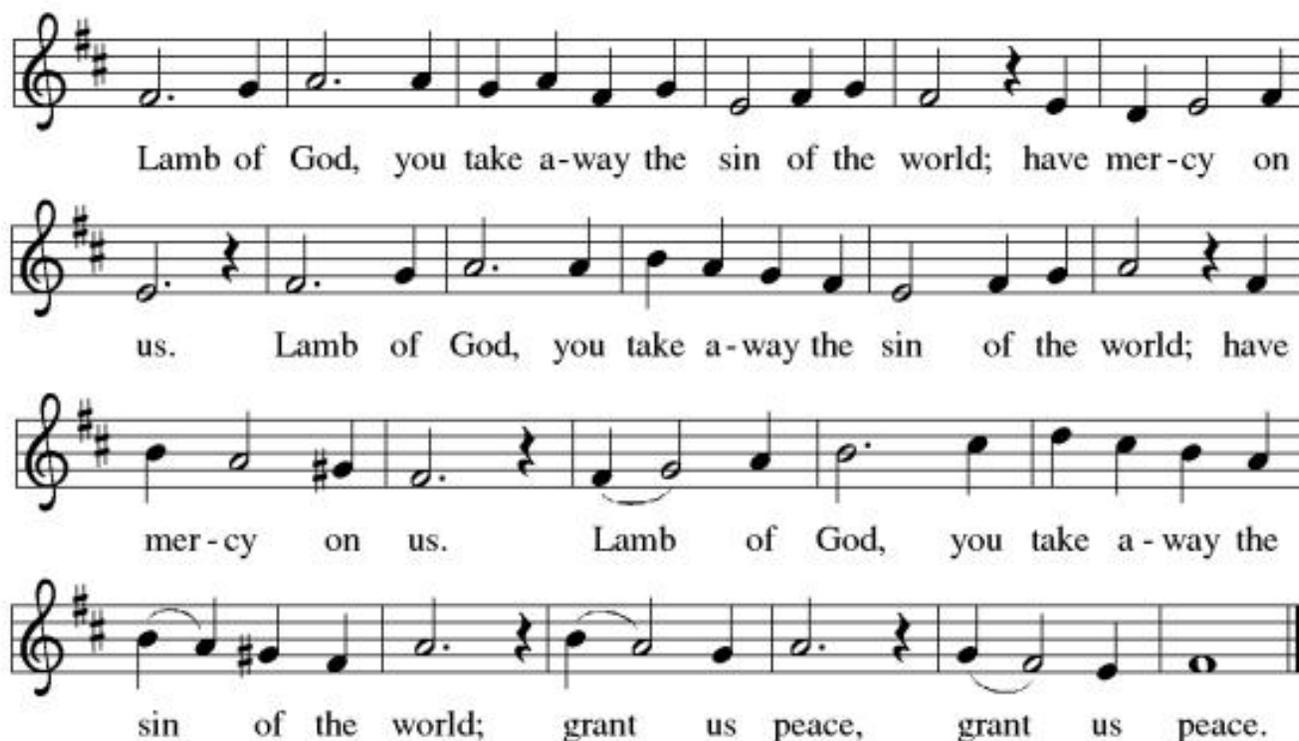
## TABLE DISMISSAL

P Now may the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen.

## LAMB OF GOD

*Pg. 154*



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on  
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

## SENDING

## THE BENEDICTION

P God the eternal Word, who dwells with us in Jesus, and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit, ✠ bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

## **CLOSING HYMN**

*ELW #436 "Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying"*

- 1 Wake, awake, for night is flying,  
the watchmen on the heights are crying;  
awake, Jerusalem, at last.  
Midnight hears the welcome voices,  
and at the thrilling cry rejoices:  
"Come forth, you maidens! Night is past.  
The bridegroom comes! Awake;  
your lamps with gladness take!"  
Alleluia!  
Rise and prepare the feast to share;  
go, meet the bridegroom, who draws near.
  
- 2 Zion hears the watchmen singing,  
and all her heart with joy is springing.  
She wakes, she rises from her gloom.  
Her dear friend comes down, all glorious,  
the strong in grace, in truth victorious:  
her star is ris'n; her light is come.  
Now come, O Blessed One,  
Lord Jesus, God's own Son.  
Sing hosanna!  
Oh, hear the call! Come one, come all,  
and follow to the banquet hall.

3 Gloria! Let heav'n adore you!  
Let saints and angels sing before you,  
with harp and cymbal's clearest tone.  
Gates of pearl, twelve portals gleaming,  
lead us to bliss beyond all dreaming,  
with angel choirs around your throne.  
No eye has caught the light,  
no ear the thund'ring might  
of such glory.  
There we will go: what joy we'll know!  
There sweet delight will ever flow.

## **DISMISSAL**

P Go in peace. Christ is near

**C Thanks be to God.**

## **POSTLUDE**

Amanda Boykin

Thank you to those serving today:

<b>READER</b>	Joy Birk
<b>ASSISTING MINISTER</b>	Patrick Henry
<b>CANTOR</b>	Richard Birk
<b>USHERS</b>	Richard Kolonko & Richard Davis
<b>COUNTERS</b>	JoAnn Fuchs & Pat Hines
<b>SUNDAY SUPERVISOR</b>	Cathy McDaniel
<b>CHILDREN'S CHURCH</b>	Cathy McDaniel

**ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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