

Second Sunday of Advent

December 8, 2024

Virtual Bulletin with Holy Communion, Every Day God

Hill Avenue Grace Lutheran Church

Rev. Garry Mohr, Interim Pastor

Douglas Shabe, Director of Music

Hannah Lee, Organist

Jessica Sandidge, Soprano

Steve Rose, Assistant Minister

Dave Cuatt & Kris Pilon, Lector

Natalie Russell and Sandi Rozman, Sunday School

Order of the Liturgy

Prelude

“Still, Still, Still”

arr. Phillip Keveren

LIGHTING OF THE 2ND CANDLE

Praise to you, O God, who gives us courage to start again. You fasten righteousness around your waist and baptize with the Holy Spirit’s fire. Bless us as we mirror your mighty fire in these simple flames, and teach us to mirror your justice in the paths we prepare. We ask that peace abound, until none hurt or destroy over all the earth. **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS FOR ADVENT

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

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin against God and our neighbor.

Most merciful God,

we confess to you with our whole heart our neglect and forgetfulness of your commandments: our wrong thinking, speaking, and acting; the hurts we have done to others; and the good we have left undone. O God, forgive us, for we have sinned against you. Raise us to newness of life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



Hill Ave Grace
Lutheran Church

Hear this promise of Almighty God: He prepares in our hearts a royal highway for his Son's near approach, and cleanses us from all our sins. He drives away the darkness of sin and death, that we may behold the glory of his Son, the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

OPENING HYMN**On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry****ELW 249**

1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an - nounc - es
 2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; make straight the
 3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, our ref - uge
 4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, and make us
 5 All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, whose ad - vent

that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,
 way for God with - in, and let us all our
 and our great re - ward; with - out your grace we
 rise to fall no more; oh, let your face up -
 has our free - dom won, whom with the Fa - ther

for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings!
 hearts pre - pare for Christ to come and en - ter there.
 waste a - way like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
 on us shine and fill the world with love di - vine.
 we a - dore, and Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er - more.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676-1749; tr. composite
 Music: PUER NOBIS, European tune, adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571-1621

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.

ADVENT HYMN OF PRAISE: Every Day God*Congregation - sing at bold print*

<p><i>Earth's creator,</i> Everyday God <i>Loving Maker</i> O Jesus <i>You who shaped us</i> O spirit, <i>Recreate us,</i> Come be with us.</p> <p><i>In your presence,</i> Everyday God <i>We are gathered.</i> O Jesus, <i>You have called us,</i> O Spirit, <i>To restore us,</i> Come be with us.</p> <p><i>In our dreaming,</i> Everyday God <i>In our daring.</i> O Jesus, <i>In our searching.</i> O Spirit, <i>In our sharing,</i> Come be with us.</p>	<p><i>God of laughter,</i> Everyday God <i>God of sorrow,</i> O Jesus, <i>God of shelter,</i> O Spirit, <i>Strong and patient,</i> Come be with us.</p> <p><i>Word of gladness,</i> Everyday God <i>Word of mercy,</i> O Jesus, <i>Word of friendship,</i> O Spirit, <i>Word of challenge,</i> Come be with us.</p> <p><i>Our beginning,</i> Everyday God <i>Our Unfolding,</i> O Jesus, <i>Our enduring,</i> O Spirit <i>Journey's ending,</i> Come be with us.</p>	<p><i>Alleluia,</i> Everyday God <i>Now and always,</i> O Jesus, <i>Alleluia,</i> O spirit, <i>Through the ages.</i> Come be with us.</p> <p><i>Bernadette Farrell</i> <i>Restless is the Heart</i></p>
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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.**

ADVENT HYMN**"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"****ELW 257***Congregation sings verse 3 & 4 only*

3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times you gave the law in cloud, and majesty, and awe.

Refrain

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

4 O come, O Branch of Jesse, free your own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell your people save, and give them vict'ry o'er the grave. *Refrain*

FIRST READING: Malachi 3:1-4

¹ 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. ² 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 washers' soap; ³ 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. ⁴ 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.**

PSALM: Luke 1:68-79 *The congregation responds with the bold verses.*

⁶⁸ Blessed are you, Lord, the ^l God of Israel, you have come to your people and ^l set them free.

⁶⁹ **You have raised up for us a ^l mighty Savior, born of the house of your ^l servant David.**

⁷⁰ Through your holy prophets, you promised of old to save us ^l from our enemies,

⁷¹ from the hands of ^l all who hate us,

⁷² **to show mercy ^l to our forebears, and to remember your ^l holy covenant.**

⁷³ This was the oath you swore to our ^l father Abraham:

⁷⁴ to set us free from the hands of our ^l enemies,

free to worship you ^l without fear,

⁷⁵ **holy and righteous before you, all the days ^l of our life.**

⁷⁶ And you, child, shall be called the prophet of ^l the Most High,

for you will go before the Lord to pre- ^l pare the way,

⁷⁷ **to give God's people knowledge ^l of salvation by the forgiveness ^l of their sins.**

⁷⁸ In the tender compassion ^l of our God the dawn from on high shall ^l break upon us,

⁷⁹ **to shine on those who dwell in darkness and in the shad- ^l ow of death,**

and to guide our feet into the ^l way of peace.

SECOND READING: Philippians 1:3-11

³ I thank my God for every remembrance of you, ⁴ always in every one of my prayers for all of you, praying with joy ⁵ for your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶ I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Jesus Christ. ⁷ It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because I hold you in my heart, for all of you are my partners in God's grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. ⁸ For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the tender affection of Christ Jesus. ⁹ And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight ¹⁰ to help you to determine what really matters, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, ¹¹ 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.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION


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

GOSPEL: Luke 3:1-6

¹ In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, 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, ² during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³ He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, ⁴ 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.

⁵ 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,

⁶ and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’ ”

The Gospel of our Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

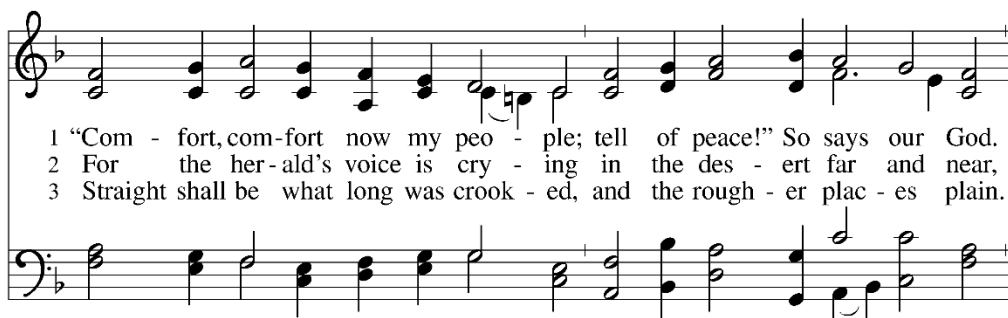
SERMON

Pastor Garry Mohr

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 256

Comfort, Comfort Now My People



1 “Com - fort, com-fort now my peo - ple; tell of peace!” So says our God.
2 For the her - ald's voice is cry - ing in the des - ert far and near,
3 Straight shall be what long was crook - ed, and the rough - er plac - es plain.

Com-fort those who sit in dark - ness mourn-ing un - der sor - row's load.
 call - ing us to true re - pen - tance, since the reign of God is here.
 Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, as be - fits God's ho - ly reign.

To God's peo - ple now pro-claim that God's par - don waits for them!
 Oh, that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way.
 For the glo - ry of the Lord now on earth is shed a - broad,

Tell them that their war is o - ver; God will reign in peace for-ev - er.
 Val - leys, rise to greet the Sav - ior; hills, bow down in hum-ble fa - vor.
 and all flesh shall see the to - ken that God's word is nev - er bro - ken.

Text: Johann G. Olearius, 1635–1711; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
 Music: FREU DICH SEHR, *Trente quatre psaumes de David*, Geneva, 1551

APOSTLES' CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended 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 INTERCESSION

Each petition ends with "Lord, in your mercy," The assembly responds with "hear our prayer."

SHARING OF THE PEACE - *The presiding and the assembly share a virtual sign of peace.*

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

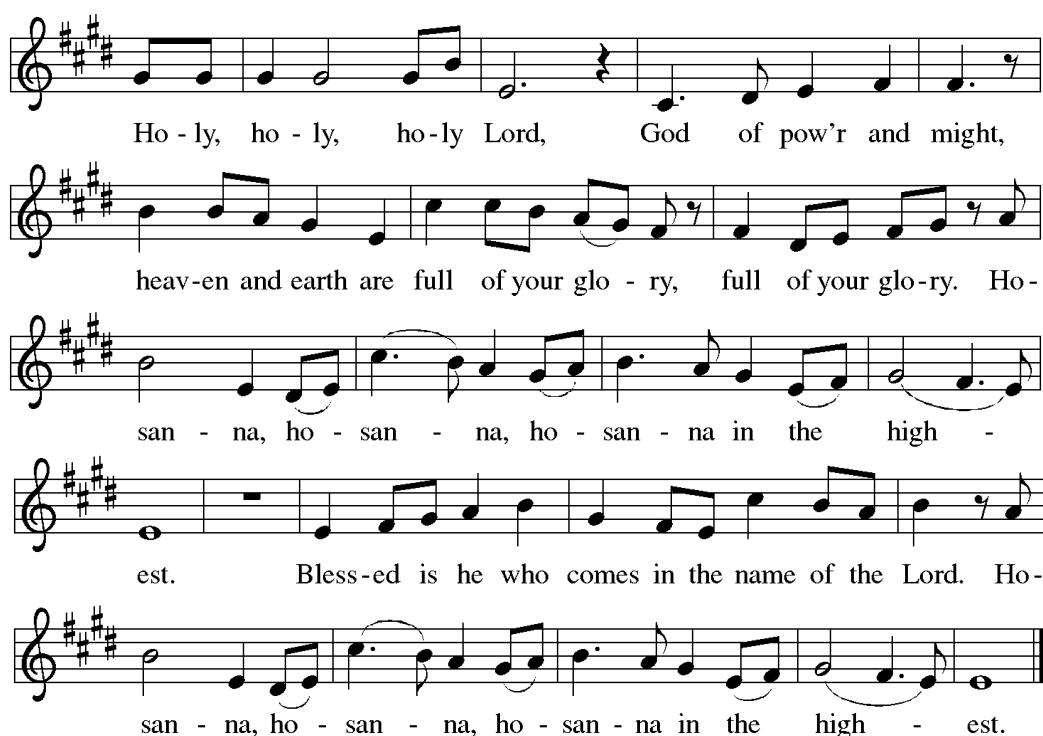
OFFERING

OFFERTORY*"In the Bleak Midwinter"* Rossetti/Holst. arr. Alice Parker**OFFERING PRAYER** - *All speak the prayer together.*

Holy God, receive these tokens of our love for you. Make them holy, and use them as you desire, for the glory of your coming Kingdom, and for the well-being of the people you long to redeem. This we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVINGThe Lord be with you. **And also 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.**

It is indeed right...we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

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, full of your glo-ry. Ho -
 san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
 est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

HOLY COMMUNION**WORDS OF INSTITUTION****LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father, who art in heaven hallowed be thy name,

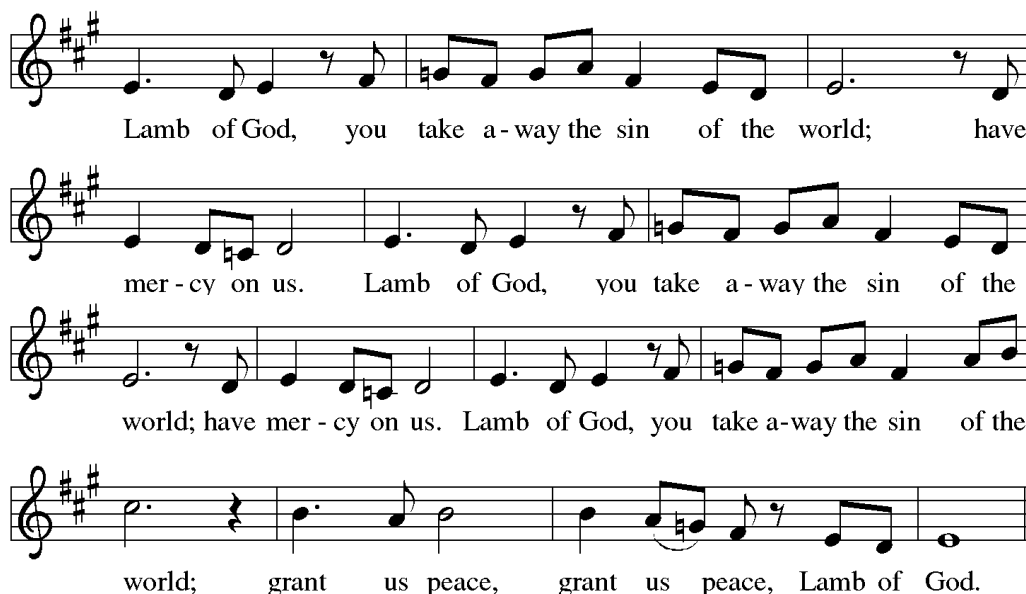
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

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.

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, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

*All are invited into a time of reflection before they receive communion. During this time, you may prepare your hearts to receive the sacrament. Once ready, you may commune yourself and those around you with the bread and wine/grape juice. A representative from each household may say the following—bread: **“The body of Christ given for you.”** Wine/grape juice: **“The blood of Christ shed for you.”***

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

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

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION - *All speak the prayer together.*

Almighty and ever-living God, we give you thanks for these heavenly gifts. Kindle in us the fire of your Spirit. When your Christ comes again, make us shine as lights before his face; who is alive and reigns now and forever. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS**BLESSING**

May the Lord bless you, may the Lord keep you, the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and grant you his peace. In the name of the Father, the † Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

SENDING 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.

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702-1751
 Music: CHESTERFIELD, Thomas Haweis, 1734-1820

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

"In His Time"

Diane Ball

This week's altar flowers are donated by Karen DeGilio to the Glory of God and in honor of my grandson Michael Louis DeGilio's 18th birthday on 12/12, and in honor of Irene Amon's birthday on 12/11.

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Calendar This Week		
Every Sunday	10:00 AM	Virtual & In-Person Worship
Sun 12/8/24	6:00 PM	Advent Dinner in the gym
Tues 12/10/24	6:00 PM	Council Meeting in the Chapel
Wed 12/11/24	10:00 AM	Bible Study in the Chapel

Wed 12/11/24	7:00 PM	Mid-week Advent Service – Virtual and In-Person
Thurs 12/12/24	7:00 PM	Choir Practice
Sat 12/14/24	9:30 AM	Food Shelf Open

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Join us for mid-week Advent worship services at 7 pm, for the first 3 Wednesdays of December, either in person or online!

We will be having **Christmas Eve service in-person and online at 5 pm on the 24th**, so please mark your calendar!

Advent Dinner—Sunday, December 8th at 6 pm

We hope you will plan to join us for this year's Advent Dinner on Sunday, December 8th at 6pm in the gym. We will have a catered dinner, with a ticket price of \$15 for Adults and \$5 for kids. Be sure to let Fred or Anita know how many tickets you need! There will be entertainment by the Chubbies and carols to sing! Please bring your favorite dessert to share!

Please also stay for a little bit and help clean-up after the event if you can; that would be very helpful! Lots of hands make it go quickly.



Thank you to Shirley Gudal and Sue Rose for updating the kid's activity bags!!

Kris Pilon & Dave Cuatt are happy to announce the birth of their newest grandson Malakai, born on December 2nd!

Join us this Sunday at 10 AM for our Virtual Worship via Zoom!

Check in a few minutes early and hear the prelude! We look forward to seeing your faces and worshipping together!

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/95007590439?pwd=M2NmMUZCZzhMOUY0SG8xeHpzcU5RUT09>

Meeting ID: 950 0759 0439

Passcode: worship

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,95007590439#,,,,*4584517# US (San Jose)

+13462487799,,95007590439#,,,,*4584517# US (Houston)

Dial by your location

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+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

Meeting ID: 950 0759 0439

Passcode: 4584517

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ALTAR GUILD ANNOUNCEMENT

It is time to begin thinking about decorating our sanctuary for Christmas!

If you wish to purchase a poinsettia plant, please complete the following form and place it **AND your check** (made payable to Hill Avenue Grace Lutheran) in an envelope.

You can mail it to the church office or place it in the offering plate.

Please earmark all checks for **POINSETTIAS**. The cost per plant this year will be \$16.50.

Please complete the following form and turn it in by **SUNDAY, December 22ND.**
That is the absolute deadline. Thank you!

I am donating \$_____ for the following:

In memory of:

In honor of:

In thanksgiving for:

Other:

Given by: (Please list names as you want them to appear in the bulletin)

Envelope Number _____