

PRELUDE

Robert Aaron

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Last Sunday we lit the candle of joy. We light it and the candles of hope and peace again as we remember that Christ will come again and bring us everlasting peace and joy.

(The candles of hope, peace and joy are lit as congregation sings v. 1-3)



- 1 Light one can-dle to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 2 Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 3 Light three can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra - el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.
He shall feed the flock like a shep - herd, gent - ly lead them home - ward.
Lift your heads and lift high the gate - way for the King of glo - ry.

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954
Music: TIF IN VELDELE, Yiddish folk tune
Text © 1984 Fortress Press, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

The fourth candle of Advent is the Candle of Love. It's light is meant to remind us of the love that God has for us.

Jesus shows us God's perfect love. He is God's love in human form. The bible says that "God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that whoever believes in him should not perish, but have eternal life."

Love is patient, love is kind and envies no one. Love is never boastful or conceited, rude or selfish. Love is not quick to take offense, it keeps no records of wrongs, it does not gloat over other people's troubles, but rejoices in the right, the good, and the true. There is nothing that love cannot face, there is no limit to its faith, to its hope, to its endurance. Love never ends.

We light this candle today to remind us of how God's perfect love is found in Jesus

4 Light four can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
 He is com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your lights be shin - ing!

Let us pray....

Loving God, we thank you for your gift of love - shown to us perfectly in Jesus Christ our Lord. Help us prepare our hearts to receive Him. Bless our worship. Help us to hear and do your word. We ask it in the name of the one born in Bethlehem. Amen

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom 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 Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins, and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Therefore, let us confess our sins in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.



1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!
 2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing; your own e - ter - nal king!
 3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom - ised king!
 4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heav'n a - bove.



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!
 Palm branch - es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!
 Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion its trib - ute too may bring.
 His rule is peace and free - dom and jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:
 God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!
 All lands will bow be - fore him; their voic - es join your sing - ing:
 So let your praise be sound - ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:

Refrain



Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
 Music: BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN, Swedish folk tune, 17th cent.
 Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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

Let us pray...

Almighty God, you once called John the Baptist to give witness to the coming of your Son and to prepare his way. Grant us, your people, the wisdom to see your purpose today and the openness to hear your will, that we may witness to Christ's coming and so prepare his way; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,
because the LORD has anointed me;
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,
to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and release to the prisoners;
²to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor,
and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn;
³to provide for those who mourn in Zion —
to give them a garland instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.
They will be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the LORD, to display his glory.
⁴They shall build up the ancient ruins,
they shall raise up the former devastations;
they shall repair the ruined cities,
the devastations of many generations.
⁸For I the LORD love justice,
I hate robbery and wrongdoing;
I will faithfully give them their recompense,
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.
⁹Their descendants shall be known among the nations,
and their offspring among the peoples;
all who see them shall acknowledge
that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed.
¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,
my whole being shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.
¹¹For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHOIR ANTHEM *Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming*

SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

¹⁶Rejoice always, ¹⁷pray without ceasing, ¹⁸give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. ¹⁹Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰Do not despise the words of prophets, ²¹but test everything; hold fast to what is good; ²²abstain from every form of evil.

²³May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION/CHILDREN'S PROCESSIONAL

The Savior of the World

The Savior of the world
is coming.

The Savior of the world
is coming down.

Come on Gabriel

And go tell Mary.

The Savior Of the world

Is coming down.

(Repeat)

And He will be King,

And His kingdom will not end.

And He will be called

Son of the Most High.

He will come in love,

And the world will

never be the same.

The Savior of the world

Is coming down.

(Repeat song)

Oh! The Savior of the world

is coming down.

The Savior of the world

is coming down.

GOSPEL

The Birth Of Jesus

Luke 2:1-7

CHOIR ANTHEM

Away In A Manger

Shepherds and Angels

Luke 2:8-20

CONG. SONG

The First Noel

ELW 300



1 The first No - el the an - gel did say was to
 2 They look - ed up and saw . . a star shin - ing
 3 And by the light of that . . same star three . .
 4 This star drew near to the . . north - west, o'er . .
 5 Then en - tered in those wise . . men three, full . .



cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay; in fields where
 in . . . the east . . be - yond . . them far; and to the
 wise . . men came . . from coun - try far; to seek for a
 Beth - le - hem . . it took . . its rest; and there it
 rev - 'rent - ly . . . up - on . . . their knee, and of - fered



they lay, keep - ing their sheep, on a cold win - ter's
 earth it gave . . . great light, and . . so it con -
 king was their . . . in - tent, and to fol - low the
 did both stop . . . and stay right . . o - ver the
 there in his . . . pres - ence their . . gold, . . . and

Refrain



night that was so deep.
 tin-ued both day and night.
 star wher - ev - er it went. No - el, No - el, No -
 place where Je - sus lay.
 myrrh, and frank - in - cense.



el, No - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

Text: English traditional

Music: THE FIRST NOWELL, English traditional

CHILDREN’S CHOIR AND CONGREGATION

Christ Was Born In Bethlehem

Christ was born in Bethlehem ...and in a manger lay.

Mary was in Bethlehem... upon that Christmas day.

Joseph was in Bethlehem... upon that Christmas day.

Angels sang in Bethlehem... upon that Christmas day.

Shepherds came to Bethlehem... upon that Christmas day.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Joy To The World

ELW 267



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their
 3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the



ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his rich - teous -



room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
 plains re - peat the sound-ing joy, re - peat the sound-ing
 flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his



sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Music: ANTIOCH, English melody, 18th cent.; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic Church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting. Amen

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

As we await the coming of our Lord Jesus in glory, let us approach His throne in prayer for our needs and the needs of all people.

a brief silence

For all the baptized, that they may greatly rejoice in the gifts that God has given them through the sacred washing of water and the Spirit, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For all servants of the church, for pastors and missionaries, for teachers, congregational leaders and all who volunteer their service, that God would grant His favor in their vocations and grant them energy and zeal to carry out their responsibilities with diligence and faithfulness, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For those who mourn the death of loved ones, that the Lord would comfort them with His victory over death and with the assurance that their loved ones who have departed in the faith join the whole company of heaven in singing praises to the living Lamb, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For those seeking employment, that God would grant them suitable and fulfilling employment and that He would lead them to see their employment as a gift from Him, by which He takes care of their bodies and lives, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For the hungry and homeless, that God would provide food and shelter for them, and that those with plenty would give and use their resources generously to assist them in their time of need, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For those sick and suffering in any way, that in the midst of their afflictions, the good news of God's salvation from sin and death may lead them to rejoice in Him and trust Him for deliverance and healing, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For those who receive the true body and blood of the Lord Jesus in the fellowship of this altar, that they may remember Christ's once-for-all sacrificial death on their behalf and receive its benefits as they eat and drink His Holy Supper, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

Into Your hands, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERING *The offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. If you are visiting with us, please feel free to pass the offering plate, you are our guest.*

OFFERTORY

Doxology

BH 253

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. A-men**

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

DIALOGUE

The 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 Him thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy... (*pastor continues, concluding with*), 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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER (SUNG)

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

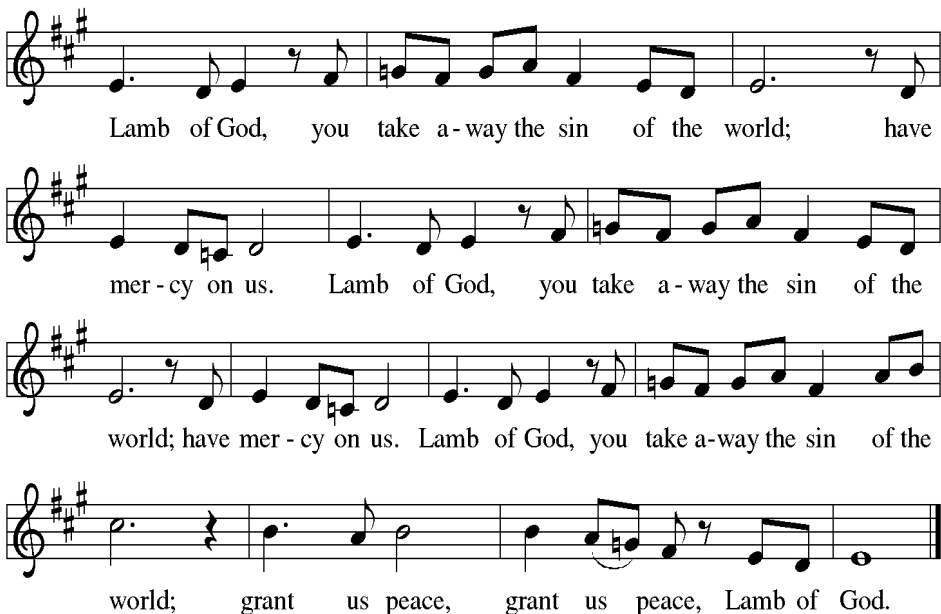
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

**Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we for-
give our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us
from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION: *is open to all. We believe and teach that Christ is truly present in the bread and wine/juice, which are his body and blood. Young children whose parents do not wish for them to receive Communion yet are welcome to come forward and receive a blessing.*

COMMUNION SONG

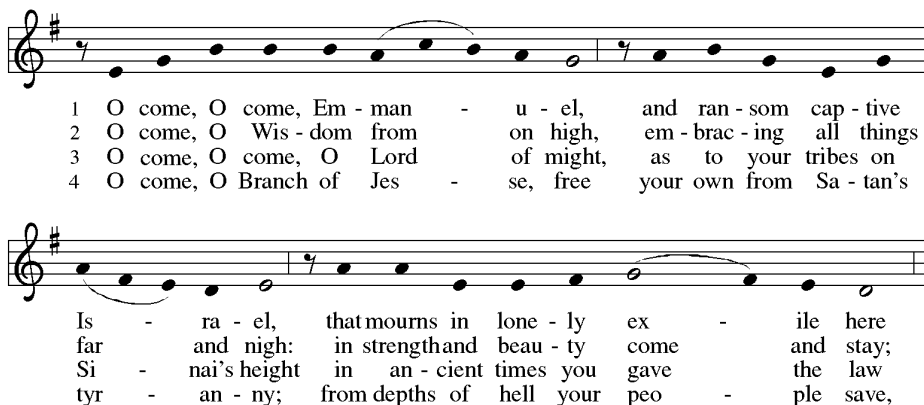


Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

CONG. SONG

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

ELW 257



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things
3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on
4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's

Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
far - and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;
Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law
tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!
 in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.
 and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

- 5 O come, O Key of David, come,
 and open wide our heav'nly home;
 make safe the way that leads on high,
 and close the path to misery. *Refrain*
- 6 O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer;
 O Sun of justice, now draw near.
 Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
 and death's dark shadow put to flight. *Refrain*
- 7 O come, O King of nations, come,
 O Cornerstone that binds in one:
 refresh the hearts that long for you;
 restore the broken, make us new. *Refrain*
- 8 O come, O come, Emmanuel,
 and ransom captive Israel,
 that mourns in lonely exile here
 until the Son of God appear. *Refrain*

Text: *Psalterium Canticum Catholicarum*, Köln, 1710; tr. composite
 Music: VENI, EMMANUEL, French processional, 15th cent.
 Text sis. 2. 6. 7 © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

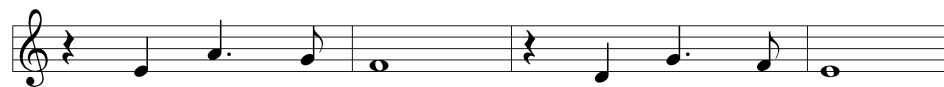
CONG. SONG

Emmanuel

W&P 36



Em - man - u - el, Em - man - u - el,



his name is called Em - man - u - el;



God with us, re - vealed in us;



his name is called Em - man - u - el.

Text: Bob McGee, b. 1944
 Music: MCGEE, Bob McGee, b. 1944

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

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

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.... We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit

Amen.

SENDING SONG

Go Tell It On The Mountain

ELW

Refrain




Go tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;



go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!



- 1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
- 2 The shep-herds feared and trem - bled when, lo, a - bove the earth
- 3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger the hum-ble Christ was born;



be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless-ed Christ-mas morn.

Refrain

Text: African American spiritual, refrain; John W. Work Jr., 1872–1925, stanzas, alt.
Music: GO TELL IT, African American spiritual

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, Serve the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

NORTH BAY LUTHERAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME to all who worship here today. May you experience the gracious presence of God, and the peace which our Risen Lord Jesus gives to his people.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP CARDS: If you haven't already done so, would you please fill out the welcome to worship card that was in your bulletin, and place in the offering plate. If you've completely filled out a card before, simply put your name and date on the card. We especially want to know your prayer requests, questions and comments, so we can serve the needs of our members and guests.

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS: Several people who have been attending NBLCC have asked to join the congregation. We will be receiving these new members during our Sunday, Christmas Day worship. If you are interested in joining our church family, or would like more information about North Bay Lutheran, please call the church office @ 275-3390 or email us at office@northbaylutheran.org

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE 6:00 P.M. Please join us as we celebrate the birth of our Savior with a special service of Holy Communion and Candlelight.

OLAN MILLS PICTORIAL DIRECTORIES ARE HERE: They are in your mailboxes in the narthex. Thank you all for your patience and we hope you find the directories beneficial. If you do not have a mailbox and would like to have a directory, stop by the office and we will try to get you a copy. An online directory will be available in the next several weeks.

NEW ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: NBLCC is proud to introduce our new Administrative Assistant, Eric Foss. Eric and his wife Jessen recently moved to Washington State from California, where Eric was employed for 7 + years as an Office Manager/Accounting Assistant with Action Alliance for Children., an on-profit children's advocacy group. Welcome on board Eric.

NEW OFFICE HOURS:

The church office will be opened and staffed Mon - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. If you wish to specifically meet with Eric or the Pastor, please call ahead to schedule a time with them. Otherwise, the door is always open and you are encouraged to stop by and say hello.

TODAY’S WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

GREETERS: Bruce & Sherry Martin

USHERS: Debbie Christy and

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: Vi Schrader and

READER: Sandi Fleury

COFFEE HOSTS: Patsy Schulz and Denese Bowman

COUNTERS: Norm Clark and Audrey Hendricks

SACRISTANS: Fritz & Kathy Jorg

LAST WEEK’S ATTENDANCE: 79 + 2 Online Logins

UPCOMING WORSHIP SERVICES

Sat Dec 24	CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLE LIGHT SERVICE 6:00 P.M.
Sun Dec 25	CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP
Sun Jan 1	1ST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS NEW YEAR’S DAY
Sun Jan 8	BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

ALL SUNDAY WORSHIP TIMES ARE 10:00 A.M.

