

A REAL CHRISTMAS WILL LIFT UP THE LOWLY



DECEMBER 22, 2024

BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR

LUTHERAN CHURCH

www.beautiful-savior.org

2038 NE Aloclek Drive, Suite 202, Hillsboro, OR 97124

9:00 AM	Adult Bible Class Sunday School	Pastor Scott Mews (503) 793-4328 scott.mews@gmail.com
10:00 AM	Worship Service	

Series Explanation: A Real Christmas

A parent says, “I want to give my kids a real Christmas.” What do you think that parent means? Perhaps they are thinking of a trimming a freshly cut tree or finding the perfect presents or spending the holidays with extended family. Perhaps they are thinking about all those things. “Then it will be a real Christmas!”

Certainly, all those are wonderful things. However, none of them are what makes Christmas real. The sad truth is Christmas is the most beloved holiday of so many, yet so few know what Christmas is really about. If you want a real Christmas, then you need to observe Advent. Advent is Latin for “coming.” In the season of Advent, Christians observe the connection between the first time the Son of God came into our world as the Savior and the second time he will come as the Judge. Advent prepares our minds and hearts, so that we might soon celebrate a real Christmas.

WELCOME!

Thank you for joining us for worship this morning. Our service is centered on our **Beautiful Savior**, Jesus Christ, who lived, died, and rose from the dead so that we have eternal life in him. God reveals this soul-saving message in the Holy Scriptures. This morning we gather to find strength through God's powerful and holy Word. Please let us know how we can best serve you and your family!

RESTROOMS Located through the double doors at the end of the sanctuary.

CHILDREN We value having children in worship. Coloring supplies are on the round table behind the last row of chairs. If you or your children need a moment, please feel free to make use of our Fellowship Hall at the north end of the sanctuary. Sounds of the service can be heard through speakers in that room.

MATERIALS The entire service is printed in this worship folder.

OUR THEME FOR TODAY

A Real Christmas Will Lift Up the Lowly

WORSHIP NOTES: 4th Sunday in Advent

By this time of the holiday season, people are often weighted down. They feel guilty about presents that are not perfect, or parties that did not go as planned, or year-end projects that did not get completed. To top it all off, now is when it dawns on people how little attention they have given to the spiritual preparation Advent invites.

If that is how we feel, perhaps the frenzy of December has done us a favor. We have been stretched to our limits. We have been made painfully aware of our shortcomings. We have been humbled. Perfect! For being made aware of our weakness does not disqualify us from God's care. It does the opposite. IT is what prepares us for the work he does best. He is a God who lifts up the lowly.

976 My Soul Now Magnifies the Lord

CW 976



1 My soul now mag - ni - fies the Lord; my spir - it
 2 Hence - forth shall peo - ple call me blest, for great things
 3 His mer - cy is on all who fear, who trust in
 4 He brings down rul - ers from their seat and rais - es



shall in God re - joice. My hum - ble state he did re - gard,
 he has done for me. The might - y God is now my guest;
 him from age to age. His arm of strength to all is near;
 those of low de - gree. He fills the hun - gry souls with meat;



ex - alt - ing me by gra - cious choice.
 the Ho - ly One has set me free.
 the proud he scat - ters, though they rage.
 the rich de - part in pov - er - ty.

5 He helped his servant Israel,
 rememb'ring his eternal grace,
 as from of old he did foretell
 to Abraham and all his race.

6 So praise with me the Holy One,
 who comes in all humility.
 To our Redeemer, God's own Son,
 be glory in eternity! Amen.

Text: tr. John T. Mueller, 1885–1967, alt.; Hermann Bonnus, c. 1504–1548

Tune: plainsong, c. 9th cent.

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Tune: Public domain

Stand

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

Confession

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.
**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just
and will forgive us our sins
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father,

I am sinful by nature

and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins

with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy



In peace let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



For the peace from a - bove and for our sal - va - tion,



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



For the peace of the whole world, for the well - be - ing



of the Church of God, and for the un - i - ty of all,



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



For this ho - ly house and for all who of - fer here their



wor - ship and praise, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



Help, save, com-fort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. **A - men.**

Tune: Kermit G. Moldenhauer

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Glory to God in the Highest



Glo-ry to God in the high - est and peace to his peo - ple on earth.



Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa-ther. We



wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your



glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high - est and peace to his



peo - ple on earth.

Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly



Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you

take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on

us; you are seat - ed at the right hand of the

Fa-ther: re - ceive our prayer, re - ceive our prayer.

Glo - ry to God in the high - est and peace to his peo - ple on

earth. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the

Lord, you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ,

with the Ho - ly Spir-it in the glo - ry of God the Fa-ther.

Glo - ry to God in the high - est and peace to his peo-ple on earth.

Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God.

The Word

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Take away the burden of our sins, and make us ready for the celebration of your birth, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

First Reading

Micah 5:2–5a

²“But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah,
though you are small among the clans of Judah,
out of you will come for me
one who will be ruler over Israel,
whose origins are from of old,
from ancient times.”

³Therefore Israel will be abandoned
until the time when she who is in labor bears a son,
and the rest of his brothers return
to join the Israelites.

⁴He will stand and shepherd his flock
in the strength of the LORD,
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.
And they will live securely, for then his greatness
will reach to the ends of the earth.

⁵And he will be our peace

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

85A LORD, in Your Mercy, Hear My Prayer

Psalms 85A

Refrain



Tone



You, LORD, forgave the iniquity of your / people
and covered / all their sins.

You set aside / all your wrath
and turned from your fierce / anger.

Show us your unfailing / love, LORD,
and grant us your sal- / vation. *Refrain*

I will listen to what God the / LORD says;
he promises peace to his / people.

Surely his salvation is near those who / fear him,
that his glory may dwell / in our land.

Love and faithfulness meet to- / gether;
righteousness and peace kiss each / other.
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. Refrain

Text: Hal H. Hopson

Tune: Hal H. Hopson

Setting: Kermit G. Moldenhauer

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Second Reading

Hebrews 10:5–10

⁵Therefore, when Christ came into the world, he said:

“Sacrifice and offering you did not desire,
but a body you prepared for me;

⁶with burnt offerings and sin offerings
you were not pleased.

⁷Then I said, ‘Here I am—it is written about me in the scroll—
I have come to do your will, my God.’ ”

⁸First he said, “Sacrifices and offerings, burnt offerings and sin offerings you did not desire, nor were you pleased with them”—though they were offered in accordance with the law. ⁹Then he said, “Here I am, I have come to do your will.” He sets aside the first to establish the second. ¹⁰And by that will, we have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

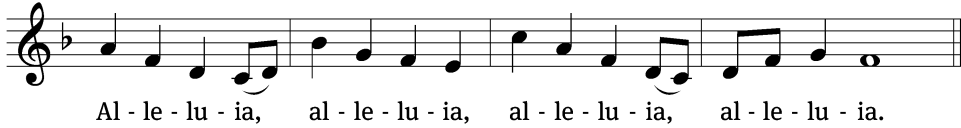
Stand

Gospel Acclamation

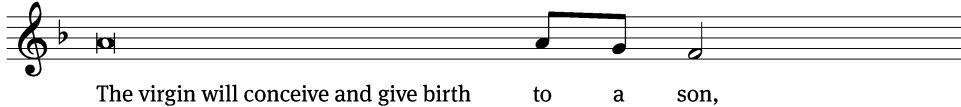
Matthew 1:23



Refrain



Tone



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Gospel

Luke 1:39–55

³⁹At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, ⁴⁰where she entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. ⁴²In a loud voice she exclaimed: "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! ⁴³But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? ⁴⁴As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her!"

⁴⁶And Mary said:

"My soul glorifies the Lord

⁴⁷and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

⁴⁸for he has been mindful

of the humble state of his servant.

From now on all generations will call me blessed,

⁴⁹for the Mighty One has done great things for me—
holy is his name.
⁵⁰His mercy extends to those who fear him,
from generation to generation.
⁵¹He has performed mighty deeds with his arm;
he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts.
⁵²He has brought down rulers from their thrones
but has lifted up the humble.
⁵³He has filled the hungry with good things
but has sent the rich away empty.
⁵⁴He has helped his servant Israel,
remembering to be merciful
⁵⁵to Abraham and his descendants forever,
just as he promised our ancestors.”

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

Be seated

My Soul
Glorifies
The Lord

327 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

CW 327 sts. 1, Ref, 2-4



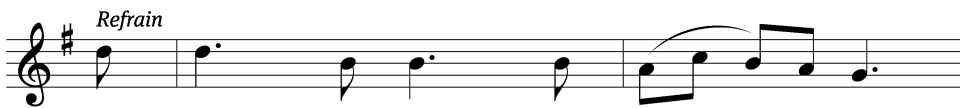
1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som
 2 O come, O Root of Jes - se, free your own from
 3 O come, O Day-spring from on high, and cheer us
 4 O come, O Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen



cap - tive Is - ra - el that mourns in lone - ly
 Sa - tan's tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your
 by your draw - ing nigh; dis - perse the gloom - y
 wide our heav'n - ly home; make safe the way that



ex - ile here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 peo - ple save, and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.
 clouds of night, and death's dark shad - ows put to flight.
 leads on high, and close the path to mis - er - y.



Refrain
 Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el



shall come to you, O Is - ra - el!

Text: Latin, c. 12th cent., Psalterium Canticum Catholicarum, Köln, 1710; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, alt.

Tune: French, 15th cent., alt

Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Stand

Apostles' Creed

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

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there 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.**

Be seated

Prayer of the Church

Brief intercessory prayers may be added in a fitting place.

Almighty God and Father, we thank you for all your mercies, especially for the gift of your Son, through whom you have revealed your gracious will. We praise you for the Holy Spirit and his working through the means of grace. Plant your Word in our hearts, and cause it to produce fruit in our lives.

Strengthen and defend your Church, that by your Word and sacraments faith may grow and love toward all may increase.

Support all who spread the light of your truth throughout the world.

Keep our children in the grace of their baptisms. Enable their parents to train them in lives of faith.

Raise up Christians to serve you in the ministry of the Word and in all godly walks of life.

Preserve our nation in justice and honor. Guide and bless all who make, administer, and judge our laws.

Give them wisdom that they may promote justice and hinder evil.

Let your blessing rest on planting and harvest, commerce and industry, medicine and science, the arts and culture. Protect all who travel, and care for those whose work is difficult or dangerous.

Be with all who devote themselves to any useful task.

Comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity, [especially . . . here name the person and the cause of the petition]. Remember those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on those for whom death draws near.

Grant them your love, and take them into your tender care.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served you, who now rest from their labors, [especially . . . here name the person]. Console those who are mourning or living with sadness.

Keep us in the true faith, and bring us at last to the joys of heaven.

Grant us these things, Father, for the sake of Jesus, who died and rose again.

Amen.

316 On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

CW 316



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



that the Lord is nigh; come, then, and lis - ten,
 for a Guest with - in, and let us all our
 and our great re - ward; with - out your grace we
 up to fall no more; O make your face on
 has our free - dom won, whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings good news a - bout 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.
 us to shine, and fill the world with love di - vine.
 we a - dore and Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

Text: tr. composite; Charles Coffin, 1676–1749

Tune: Latin, 15th cent., adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621

Text and tune: Public domain

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.**

Blessing

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

Announcements

12/24 – Christmas Eve Service – 7:00 pm
12/25 – Christmas Day Service – 10:00 am
1/5 – Chili Cook Off / Undecorate / Gift Exchange Party
1/19 – MLT/WOF Meetings
1/26 – Worship Planning Meeting

343 Once in Royal David's City

CW 343



1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y stood a low - ly
 2 He came down to earth from heav - en who is God and
 3 And our eyes at last shall see him through his own re -
 4 Not in that poor, low - ly sta - ble with the ox - en



cat - tle shed, where a moth - er laid her ba - by in a
 Lord of all, and his shel - ter was a sta - ble, and his
 deem - ing love, for that child, so dear and gen - tle, is our
 stand - ing by shall we see him, but in heav - en, set at



man - ger for his bed: Mar - y was that moth - er
 cra - dle was a stall; with the poor and mean and
 Lord in heav'n a - bove, and he leads his chil - dren
 God's right hand on high. Then like stars his chil - dren



mild, Je - sus Christ her lit - tle child.
 low - ly lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
 on to the place where he is gone.
 crowned, all in white, his praise will sound.

Text: Cecil F. Alexander, 1818–1895, abr., alt.
 Tune: Henry J. Gauntlett, 1805–1876
 Text and tune: Public domain



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Setting Four from Christian Worship

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