

# *Welcome to Edison Lutheran Church*

Edison  
Lutheran Church

14201 Church Rd  
Bow, WA 98232

Phone:  
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Website:  
elcbow.org

Pastor John Guthridge



## Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 21, 2025

10:30 am

Welcome to worship!

Masks are welcome. If you are joining us from your car,  
**please tune your radio to 98.7 FM** or join us for the  
livestream via Facebook or our website,  
elcbow.org.

*Welcome to Edison Lutheran Church*

# Holy Communion

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 21, 2025

10:30 am

## **Welcome to worship.**

If you are a visitor with us, thank you for being here. We invite you to sign our attendance book and the guest book in the Narthex. **Children are welcome** in worship. *Children's bulletins* are available from the ushers. Also, Children's Activity Bags, located in the back of the sanctuary on the right side to use during the service.

**We celebrate Holy Communion every Sunday and extend the invitation to all who are baptized to receive Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sin.**

◆ *indicates the congregation stands as able*

Prayer cards are available in the pews. If you have a prayer concern or a thanks that you would like included in the Prayers of the People, fill out the card and ushers will collect them from end of pews after Prayer of the Day.

## Gathering

10:25 am Pre-Service Music for meditation and quiet gathering

BELL TOLL

WELCOME AND GREETING

PRELUDE "Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers" - setting, Anne Krentz Organ  
For the TEXT, see ELW 244.

## ◆ CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

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

AM God of all mercy and consolation,  
come to the aid of your people,  
turning us from our sin to live for you alone.  
Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that,  
attentive to your Word, we may confess our sins,  
receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.  
C **Amen.**

AM Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

AM Gracious God,  
C **have mercy on us.**  
**We confess that we have turned from you  
and given ourselves into the power of sin.**  
**We are truly sorry and humbly repent.**  
**In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown,  
things we have done and things we have failed to do.**  
**Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit,  
so that we may live and serve you in newness of life  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**  
**Amen.**

P 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 unto you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in  
the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
C **Amen.**

# THE ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

"Hope Is a Star"

- Brian Wren/Joel Raney

## FOURTH SUNDAY - LOVE

*Responsive Litany*

In this season of Advent, we remember that Christ's coming will bring us love.  
For those who are forsaken and alone

**Christ will bring us love.**

For those who are angry and hostile

**Christ will bring us love.**

For those who have turned away from personal interaction

**Christ will bring us love.**

For those who are pariahs, touched by scandal

**Christ will bring us love.**



When God is a child there's joy in our song. The last shall be



first and the weak shall be strong, and none shall



be a - fraid, none shall be a - fraid.

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### ◆ GREETING

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

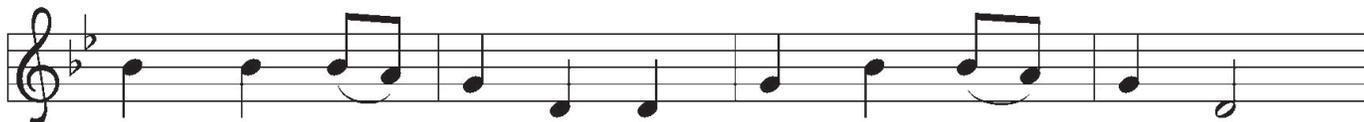
**C** **And also with you.**

◆ ADVENT HYMN

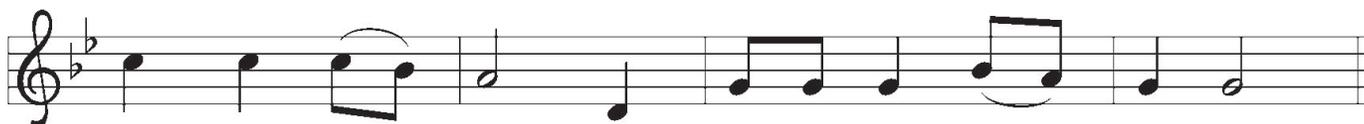
"Come Now, O Prince of Peace"

ELW 247

All Verses



*O - so - sŏ o - so - sŏ, pyong - hwa - ũi - im - gŭm*  
 1 Come now, O Prince of peace, make us one bod - y.  
 2 Come now, O God of love, make us one bod - y.  
 3 Come now and set us free, O God, our Sav - ior.  
 4 Come, Hope of u - ni - ty, make us one bod - y.



*u - ri - ga han - mom i - ru - ge ha - so - sŏ.*  
 Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.  
 Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.  
 Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.  
 Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.

Text: Geonyong Lee, b. 1947; tr. Marion Pope  
 Music: OSOSŎ, Geonyong Lee, b. 1947  
 Text and music © Geonyong Lee



◆ PRAYER OF THE DAY

AM Let us pray.

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that hinders our faith, that eagerly we may receive your promises, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

(Please pass prayer cards to the aisle.)

# Word

## FIRST READING

Isaiah 7:10-16

*An Israelite and Aramean military coalition presented a serious threat to King Ahaz of Judah. In response, Ahaz decided to secure his throne and kingdom by seeking Assyrian help. Isaiah reminds Ahaz that human attempts to establish security will fail. The prophet gives the sign that is the only source of true safety: Immanuel, God is with us!*

<sup>10</sup> The Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, <sup>11</sup> “Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” <sup>12</sup> But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test.” <sup>13</sup> Then Isaiah said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals that you weary my God also? <sup>14</sup> Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son and shall name him Immanuel. <sup>15</sup> He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. <sup>16</sup> For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.”

L Word of God. Word of Life.

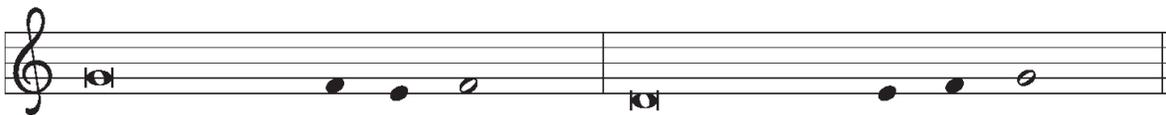
C Thanks be to God.



# PSALM

## Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

*Let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved. (Ps. 80:7)*



- <sup>1</sup> Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph <sup>|</sup> like a flock;  
shine forth, you that are enthroned up- <sup>|</sup> on the cherubim.
- <sup>2</sup> **In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, <sup>|</sup> and Manasseh,**  
**stir up your strength and <sup>|</sup> come to help us.**
- <sup>3</sup> Restore <sup>|</sup> us, O God;  
let your face shine upon us, and we <sup>|</sup> shall be saved.
- <sup>4</sup> **O LORD <sup>|</sup> God of hosts,**  
**how long will your anger fume when your <sup>|</sup> people pray?**
- <sup>5</sup> You have fed them with the <sup>|</sup> bread of tears;  
you have given them bowls of <sup>|</sup> tears to drink.
- <sup>6</sup> **You have made us the derision <sup>|</sup> of our neighbors,**  
**and our enemies laugh <sup>|</sup> us to scorn.**
- <sup>7</sup> Restore us, O <sup>|</sup> God of hosts;  
let your face shine upon us, and we <sup>|</sup> shall be saved.
- <sup>17</sup> **Let your hand be upon the one at <sup>|</sup> your right hand,**  
**the one you have made so strong <sup>|</sup> for yourself.**
- <sup>18</sup> And so will we never turn a- <sup>|</sup> way from you;  
give us life, that we may call up- <sup>|</sup> on your name.
- <sup>19</sup> **Restore us, O LORD <sup>|</sup> God of hosts;**  
**let your face shine upon us, and we <sup>|</sup> shall be saved.**



## SECOND READING

Romans 1:1-7

*Most of the Christians in Rome do not know Paul. In this letter's opening he introduces himself as an apostle divinely appointed to spread God's gospel. The gospel's content is the promised coming of Christ, and Paul's mission is to bring about the obedience of faith among all nations, including his Roman audience.*

<sup>1</sup> Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, <sup>2</sup> which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, <sup>3</sup> the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh <sup>4</sup> and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, <sup>5</sup> through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the gentiles for the sake of his name, <sup>6</sup> including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

<sup>7</sup> To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

L Word of God. Word of Life.

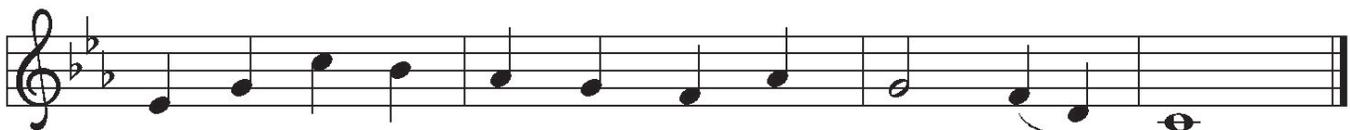
**C Thanks be to God.**

### ◆ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW Setting 1



Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.



Save us as you prom-ised; we will trust your word.

## ◆ HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 1:18–25

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the first chapter.

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

*Matthew's story of Jesus' birth focuses on the role of Joseph, who adopts the divinely-begotten child into the family of David and obediently gives him the name Jesus, which means "God saves."*

<sup>18</sup> Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be pregnant from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup> Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to divorce her quietly. <sup>20</sup> But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup> She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." <sup>22</sup> All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

<sup>23</sup> "Look, the virgin shall become pregnant and give birth to a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." <sup>24</sup> When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife <sup>25</sup> but had no marital relations with her until she had given birth to a son, and he named him Jesus.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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



CHILDREN'S SERMON  
SERMON

Pastor John Guthridge  
Pastor John Guthridge

◆ HYMN OF THE DAY "Now the Heavens Start to Whisper" ACS 901

All Verses



1 Now the heav - ens start to whis - per, as the veil is grow - ing thin.  
2 Heav - y clouds that block the moon - light now be - gin to drift a - way.  
3 Christ, e - ter - nal Sun of jus - tice, Christ, the rose of wis - dom's seed,



Earth from slum - ber wakes to lis - ten to the stir - ring, faint with - in:  
Dia - mond bril - liance through the dark - ness shines the hope of com - ing day.  
come to bless with fire and fra - grance hours of yearn - ing, hurt, and need.



seed of prom - ise, deep - ly plant - ed, child to spring from Jes - se's stem!  
Christ, the morn - ing star of splen - dor, gleams with - in a world grown dim.  
In the lone - ly, in the strang - er, in the out - cast, hid from view;



Like the soil be - neath the frost - line, hearts grow soft to wel - come him.  
Heav - en's em - ber fans to full - ness; hearts grow warm to wel - come him.  
Child who comes to grace the man - ger, teach our hearts to wel - come you.

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953  
Music: SŪO GÂN, Welsh melody  
Text © 2006 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.



◆ NICENE CREED



**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.**

*\*Or, "who proceeds from the Father." The phrase "and the Son" is a later addition to the creed.*

◆ PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

**AM** God of grace, **C** **hear our prayer.**

# Meal

## ◆ THE PEACE IS SHARED

AM The peace of the Lord be with you all.    **C And also with you.**

*The peace is shared with one another with the words,  
“The peace of the Lord,” or similar words.*

OFFERTORY: Choral Anthem “Advent Prayer (“O Come, Emmanuel”)

- arr. Hal H. Hopson

*Congregation remains seated while offering is collected.*

TEXT:

1. Oh, come, oh, come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lowly exile here until the Son of God appear.

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

2. Oh, come, oh, come, blest Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by your advent here;  
disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight.

REFRAIN

3. Oh, come, oh, come, Desire of nations, bind all people in one heart and mind;  
bid envy, strife, and discord cease; fill the whole world with heaven's peace.

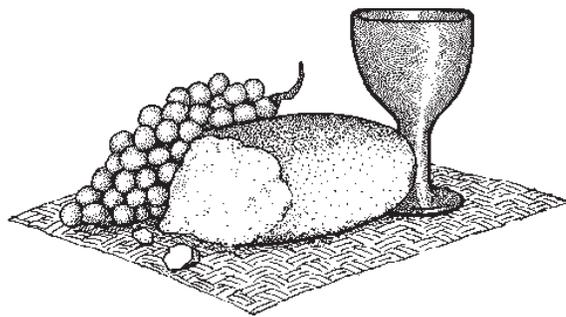
REFRAIN

## ◆ THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

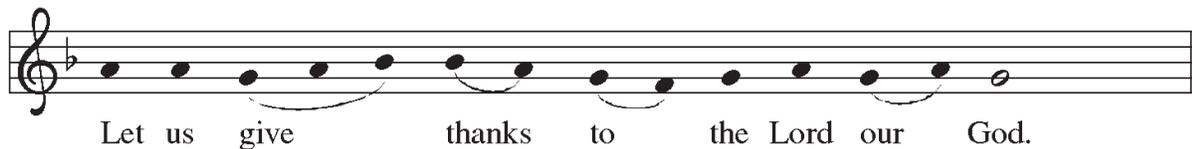
P Let us pray.

**C Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**THE OFFERING**    *The ministry of Edison Lutheran Church is financially supported entirely by the donations of members and visitors. Your gift furthers this congregation's ministry to those in need, helps foster fellowship, and promotes the spread of the life-giving gospel of Jesus Christ. Donations may be put in the offering plate, sent by mail, or given online by visiting our website or scanning the QR code to the right. We appreciate your generosity!*



## ◆ THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



P "It is indeed right, our duty and our joy ....  
.... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:...."

## Holy, Holy, Holy

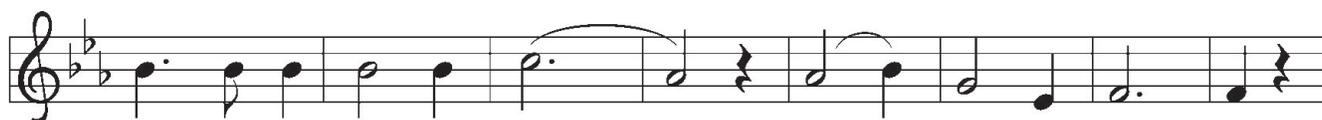
ELW 190



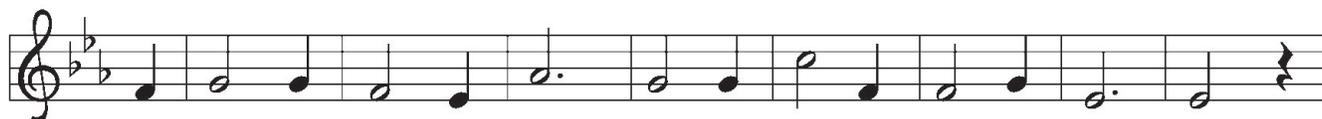
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



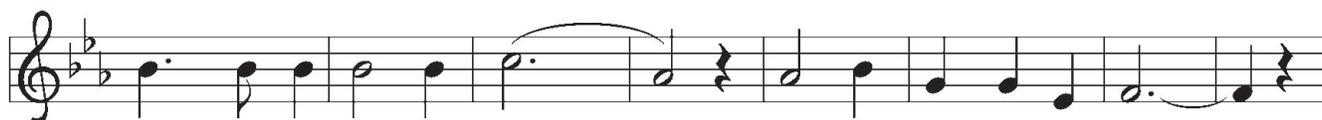
ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



heav-en and earth are full, full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est, 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Schubert, 1797–1828; adapt. Richard Proulx, b. 1937  
Adapt. © 1985, 1989 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638 [www.giamusic.com](http://www.giamusic.com)  
800.442.3358 All rights reserved. Used by permission.

P In the night in which he was betrayed .....  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

## ◆ LORD'S PRAYER

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught:

- ~ **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.**



**COMMUNION** *All who are baptized in the common faith of Jesus Christ crucified are welcome to receive communion. We believe that the body and blood of our Lord is truly present in the sharing of bread and wine. Children are welcome to commune at the discretion of their parents. Those who do not receive the bread and wine are welcome to receive a blessing. White grape juice is also available.*

**If you desire to commune at the altar rail:** Holy Communion at the altar is served in groups. To prevent crowding, please wait in your place until directed by the Ushers. Be sure to bring your cup with you. At the altar rail, you'll be served a small piece of bread and have wine or grape juice poured into your cup. After you have communed, wait for the pastor to dismiss you back to your place.

**If coming forward is difficult:** Please let an usher know that you would like to receive communion at your seat. After those coming to the altar have been served, Pastor will bring communion to you at your seat.

# HYMNS DURING COMMUNION

"We Are Waiting for Jesus"

ACS 905



1 We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.  
2 We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.



We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.  
We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.



Sun of jus - tice, shine up - on us; we are trust - ing in your prom - ise.  
Lov - ing Shep - herd, walk be - side us; stir our hearts, and gent - ly guide us.



We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.  
We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.

Text: John Helgen, b. 1957

Music: JESUS BRINGS PEACE, John Helgen

Text and music © 2013 Augsburg Fortress

"The King Shall Come" - **ELW 260**

"The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came" - **ELW 265**

*CHOIR ONLY until last line of each verse; then ALL sing*

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" - **ELW 254**

"All Earth Is Hopeful" - **ELW 266**

"He Came Down" - **ELW 253**

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" - **ELW 257**

## POST COMMUNION BLESSING

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

**C Amen.**



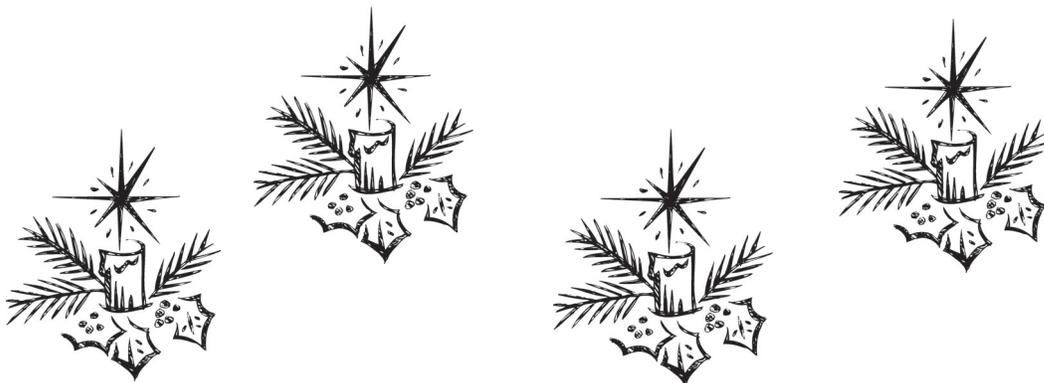
# Sending

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ◆ BENEDICTION

**P** The peace of God,  
Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,  
keep your hearts and your minds  
in Christ Jesus.

**C Amen.**



◆SENDING HYMN

“Joy to the World”

ELW 267

All Verses



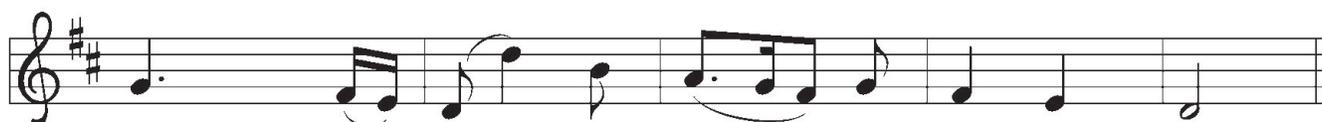
1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -  
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their  
 3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -  
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the



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 righ - 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

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◆ SENDING

AM Go in peace. Keep awake.

**C Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

“Joy to the World”  
(tune: Antioch) - arr. Hal H. Hopson



Thank you to all who serve in worship!

	<b>Serving Sunday December 21</b>	<b>Serving Next Sunday December 28</b>
<b>Presiding Minister</b>	Pastor John Guthridge	Pastor John Guthridge
<b>Music Ministers</b>	Barbara Fredrickson Peter Blau Ormsby	Barbara Fredrickson Peter Blau Ormsby
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Chris Omdal	Darla Jensen
<b>Acolyte</b>	Drake Conner	Brayden Kress
<b>Lector</b>	Susie Forsythe	Bryan Galbraith
<b>Greeters</b>	Cheryl Conner Linda Johnson	Janet Wyman Shirley Brick
<b>Ushers</b>	Larry & Susie Forsythe	Mike & Jean Miller
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Debbie Conijn Judy Sheahan	Julie Rousseau Amber Lagerlund
<b>Fellowship Hosts</b>	Stephanie & Jeff Knutzen Judy & Tom Sheahan Judi & Jerry Butterfield	Inger & Scott Conner Brenda Geary Linda & David Vague
<b>Flowers</b>	Altar Guild	Altar Guild
<b>Council Member of the Day</b>	Jim Zielinski	John Johnson

*Edison Lutheran Church - Welcoming.....Nurturing.....Serving*



*Scripture Readings for next Sunday, December 28th, Lessons & Carols are:*

**Psalm 148    Isaiah 61:10-62:1    Luke 2:25-33    Galatians 4:4-7**

**Matthew 1:18-21    Isaiah 9:6-7    John 1:1-5,14**

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