**SOLOMON'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**
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*"Solomon's Evangelical Lutheran Church, following the example of Jesus Christ, seeks to live in the confidence and fullness of God's grace; to preach the Good News boldly and truthfully; to support and serve others in faith; to work in harmony with all creation."*

**NOVEMBER 29, 2026**
**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**November 29, 2026**
First Sunday of Advent

*Stir up your power and come! The psalmist's plea in Psalm 80:2 has become familiar to us in the Advent prayers. Isaiah wants God to rip the heavens open. Both cry out for an apparently distant, angry God to show up, to save, to restore. When we hear Jesus describing the coming of the Son of Man with stars falling from heaven, it can sound dire and horrible, not like anything we would ever hope for. But when we really look at the suffering of people God loves, we can share the hope that God would tear open the heavens and come.*

**CAROLS SING**

**GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**ORGAN PRELUDE** *Oh, Come, Emmanuel* - Wilbur Held

**LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES**

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

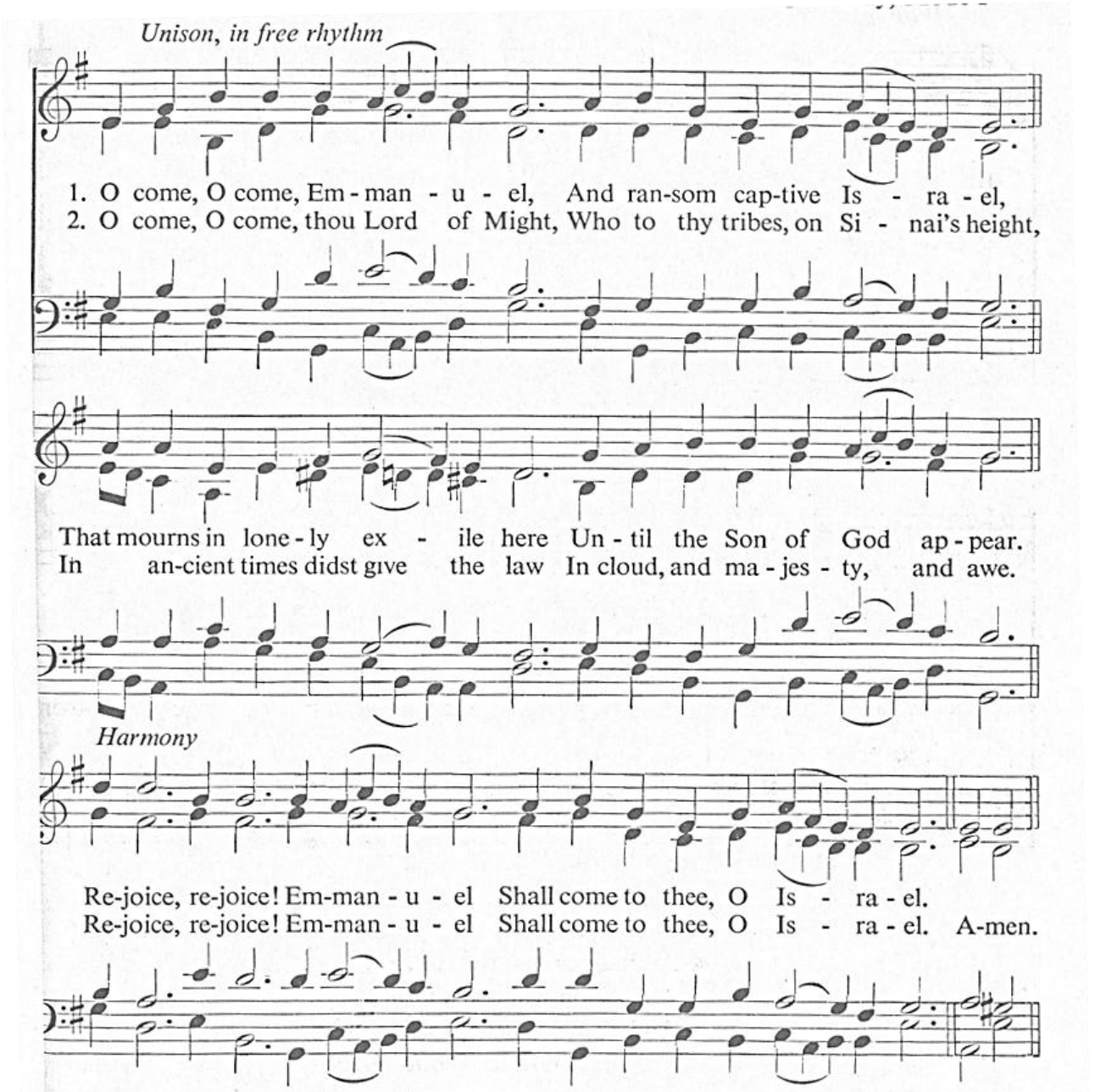
Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✢ one God,
who calls out to the weary, whose word endures forever.
**Amen.**

A voice cries out in the wilderness,
"Make straight the way of the Lord!"
We are called to confess our sin
and turn back toward God's love.

Comforting God,
**we are your people,**
**but we have neglected to call on your name.**
**We are your people, but we have not remembered your ways.**
**We are your people, but we have forgotten your hold on us.**
**We are your people, but now we fade like a leaf,**
**and our sins, like the wind, take us away.**
**Restore us as your people. Cleanse us from our sin,**
**and clothe us in your righteousness.**
**Amen.**

"Comfort, comfort my people!" says your God,
who has clothed you with the garments of salvation
and wrapped you in the robe of righteousness.
God has given you a mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.
In the name of ✢ Christ, your sins are forgiven:
Rejoice in the Lord! Rejoice in the Lord!
**Amen. [Thanks be to God!]**

***GATHERING SONG *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel***




3 O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free
Thine own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell thy people save
And give them victory o'er the grave.
Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

4 O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer
Our spirits by thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

5 O come, thou Key of David, come,
And open wide our heavenly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery.
Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel. Amen.

*Medieval Antiphons*
*Latin Hymn, 1710*
*Tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66*

***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.**

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH "LIGHT OF HOPE"**

**Responsive Litany**

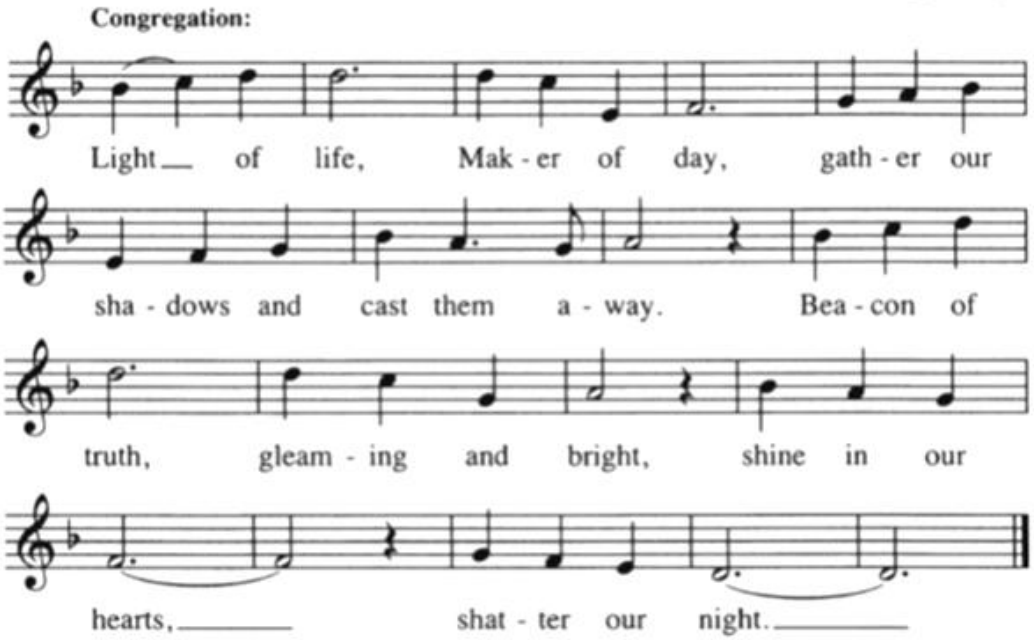
We begin the season of Advent with expectant and believing hearts.
**We wait upon the Lord and place our hope in God's word.**
During Advent we confront the darkness that so often exists around us.
**We wait upon the Lord and place our hope in God's word.**
During Advent we confront the doubt that so often resides within us.
**We wait upon the Lord and place our hope in God's word.**
During Advent we confront the division that so often occurs between us.
**We wait upon the Lord and place our hope in God's word.**
This morning we light the **first candle** which reminds us of the ultimate hope that comes through our Savior's birth. In a world where we often get overwhelmed by our circumstances, Advent comes as a gentle whisper offering us hope to heal the broken, befriend the lonely, and share the good news of the Gospel. This morning let us begin this Advent season with expectant and believing hearts.

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# Light of Hope

*A Candle Lighting Ceremony for Advent*

Words and Music by
JOEL RANEY




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*Let us pray*.

**Gracious God, as we embark upon another Advent journey, we pray that we would be encouraged by hope, strengthened in unity, and inspired through faith. May our ears be open and our hearts ready to receive the gift of hope embodied in the Word made flesh. We pray this in the name of Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

**FIRST READING: Isaiah 64:1-9**

A reading from Isaiah.

*This lament comes from a people who have had their hopes shattered. The visions of a rebuilt Jerusalem and a renewed people of God, spoken of in Isaiah 40–55, have not been realized. Instead, the people experience ruin, conflict, and famine. This lament calls God to account—to be the God who has brought deliverance in the past.*

[1] O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—
[2] as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil—
to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!
[3] When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down; the mountains quaked at your presence.
[4] From ages past no one has heard,

no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him.
5 You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways.
But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed.
6 We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
7 There is no one who calls on your name
or attempts to take hold of you, for you have hidden your face from us
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.
8 Yet, O LORD, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand.
9 Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD,
and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

Word of God, word of life.
**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19**
**(read responsively between lector and congregation, beginning with the lector)**

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

**SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9**

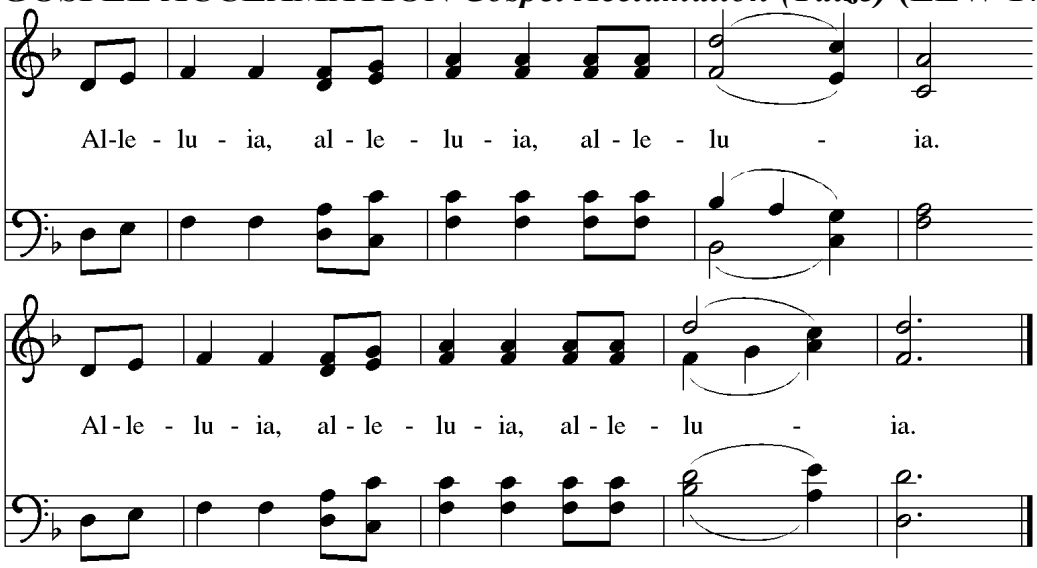
A reading from 1 Corinthians.

*As the Christians in Corinth await the advent of Jesus, Paul reminds them how the Lord has already enriched them through spiritual gifts and will continue to strengthen them until the coming day of the Lord.*

[3] Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. [4] I give thanks to
my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ
Jesus, [5] for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every
kind—[6] just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—[7] so that you are
not lacking in any gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. [8] He will also
strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus
Christ. [9] God is faithful, by whom you were called into the partnership of his Son, Jesus
Christ our Lord.

Word of God, word of life.
**Thanks be to God.**

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Gospel Acclamation (Taizé)* (ELW 175)**




*Verses may be sung by a leader. Then the alleluia is repeated.*

Music: "Alleluia 7," Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994, and the Taizé Community
Music © 1984 Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.
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***GOSPEL: Mark 13:24-37**

The holy gospel according to Mark.
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Jesus encourages his followers to look forward to the day when he returns in power and glory to end all suffering.*

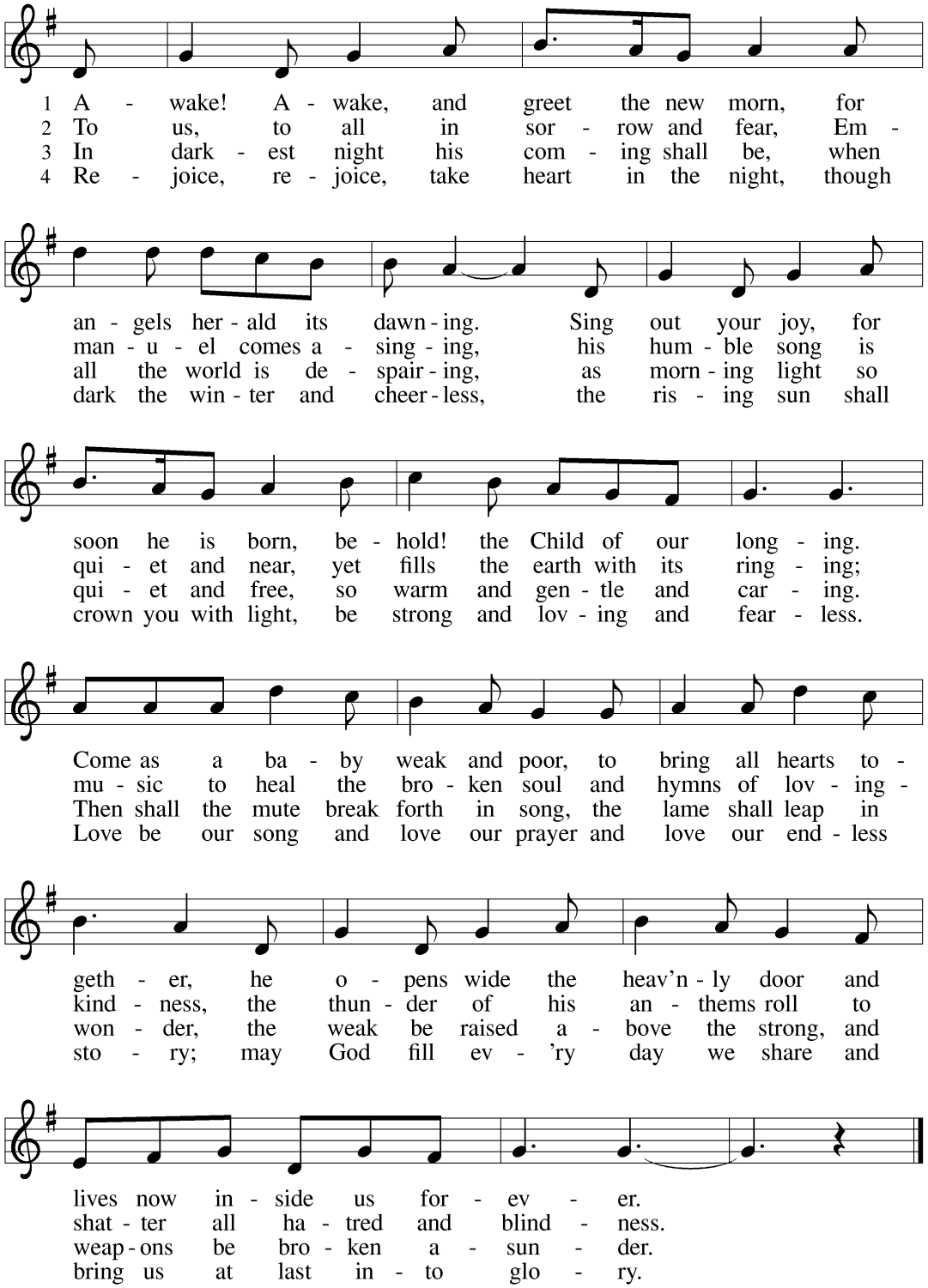
[Jesus said:] 24 "In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon
will not give its light, 25 and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the
heavens will be shaken. 26 "Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with
great power and glory. 27 Then he will send out the angels and gather the elect from the
four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.
28 "From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth
its leaves, you know that summer is near. 29 So also, when you see these things taking
place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. 30 Truly I tell you, this generation will
not pass away until all these things have taken place. 31 Heaven and earth will pass away,
but my words will not pass away. 32 "But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the
angels in heaven nor the Son, but only the Father. 33 Beware, keep alert, for you do not
know when the time will come. 34 It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home
and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on
the watch. 35 Therefore, keep awake, for you do not know when the master of the house
will come, in the evening or at midnight or at cockcrow or at dawn, 36 or else he may find
you asleep when he comes suddenly. 37 And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

The gospel of the Lord.
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON** Moses Severt

*Please stand as you are able for the final verse.

## HYMN OF THE DAY *Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn* (ELW 242)




Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
Music: REJOICE, REJOICE, Marty Haugen
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Please join me as we confirm our faith together in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

***CREED**

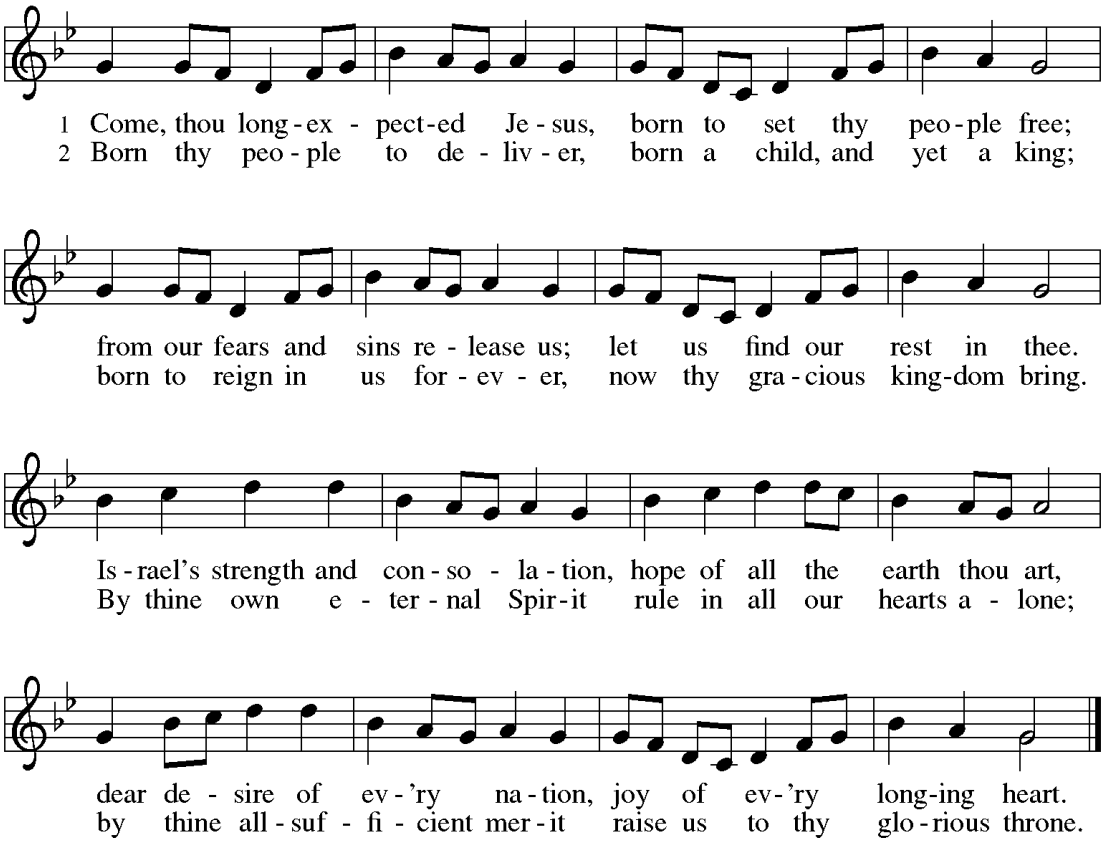
**I believe in God, the Father almighty,**
**creator of heaven and earth.**
**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,**
**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**
**born of the virgin Mary,**
**suffered under Pontius Pilate,**
**was crucified, died, and was buried;**
**he descended to the 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 THE CHURCH** (Please respond.)
P: God, in your mercy.... C: receive our prayer.

***PEACE**

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

## *OFFERTORY *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* (ELW 254)




Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788
Music: JEFFERSON, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

## *OFFERING PRAYER

Holy Creator,
we are the clay and you are the potter;
we are all the work of your hand.
Receive these gifts shape them and our lives for your purpose,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
**Amen.**

## *THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

O God of justice and love,
we give thanks to you that you illumine our way
through life with the words of your Son.
Give us the light we need, awaken in us to the needs of others,
and at the end bring all the world to your feast;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom
with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.
Amen.

## *LORD'S PRAYER

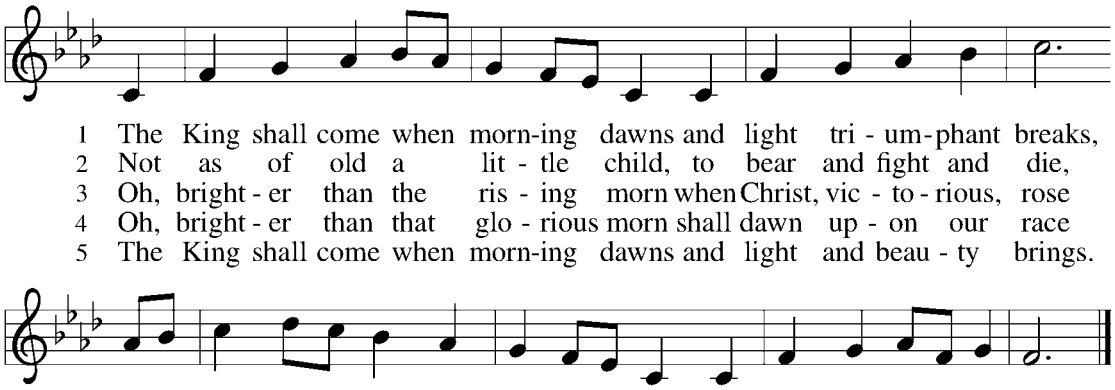
Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

## *BLESSING

God our provider,
God our feast,
God our companion,
✢ bless you now and forever.
**Amen.**

## *SENDING SONG *The King Shall Come* (ELW 260)




Text: John Brownlie, 1859–1925
Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davisson, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816

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***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Bring good news the brokenhearted.
**Thanks be to God.**

**EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES/SILENT PRAYER**

**POSTLUDE** *Awake! Awake and Greet the New Morn* - Aaron David Miller

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## SERVING TODAY

Pulpit Deacon ..... Moses Severt
Church Office Email Address ..... office@solomonslutheran.org
Organist ..... Mary-Jo Bedsworth
Head Usher ..... Ron Coldsmith
Acolyte ..... Wayne Dale
Lector ..... Bonney Coldsmith
Securing Offering ..... Janice McEntire & Kathy Bowen
Attendance last Sunday……27

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**The altar flowers** this morning are placed to the glory of God in memory of Darrell Dean Veilleux given by Martie, children, and grandchildren.

**Welcome Visitors!** We welcome you to our worship service. We hope your visit with us will be a time of blessing. If you have any concerns, please talk to the Head Usher. We invite you to worship with us again!

**Please welcome Moses Severt with a warm "thank you" for leading our worship service this morning.**

**Prayer requests for the following***: Donald Detwiler, Clif Rau, Glenn Wildeson, Ellie Martin, Ina Shreiner, Dick & Vicki Reichard, Dick Amt, Phil Johnson, Betty Amt, Marie Dovey, Amy Eichelberger, Paul Steiding, Sam Brooks, Kaitlyn Dovey, Patsy Wildeson, James Bersch, Kristen Hardman, Debbie Aschmann, Donna, Karen, Becky Ensinger, all the Homebound, and our world & country. If anyone has a prayer request, please call Janice McEntire, 717-264-3702.*

**Please Be Aware:** ***We wish to be a praying congregation, and especially for those who are sick or experiencing difficult times. We will continue to name person's (first name only) aloud each Sunday, and we will hold each name for a month. In order to keep our list updated we ask that by the final Thursday of the month, but please call Janice McEntire 717 264-3702 to keep the name on for an extra month. Any name can remain for as long as desired, but we need to hear from the person adding the name, or we will presume the name can be removed. Thank you for your understanding.***

**Weekly Calendar Reminders:**

December - 3 Choir 7pm
5 Antietam Battlefield 8:30am

**Christmas Caroling Sunday, December 20 following the church service.** Pizza will be provided prior to leaving to visit and share Christmas carols with our homebound residents. If you can join the carolers to bring joy to the residents, please contact Bonney Coldsmith. There is a sign-up sheet in the Sunday School Room.

**Apple crates are available to members or our congregation with a limit of (6) per member.** If interested, call Rich McEntire.

**Beginning today, the first Sunday of Advent, and on each of the 3 Sundays in December, we will provide an opportunity for all of us to sing Christmas carols prior to worship**. The carols are found in our ELW hymnal #267 - #300. Look through these hymns and pick out your favorite carol or carols and come prepared to join in singing some of the beautiful carols found in our hymnal. We will begin at 10:05 AM and conclude by 10:15 AM, when we will then transition into preparing for our Advent worship service.

**The 36th Annual Antietam Battlefield Illumination** will take place on **Saturday, December 5th.** This is a very fulfilling and emotional event which honors the 23,110 casualties which occurred during the battle of Antietam on September 17, 1862. Volunteers are greatly needed to set up and light the luminaries. Solomon's is responsible for setting up and lighting approximately 720 luminaries. Volunteers should be at our field (by the lookout tower), no later than 8:30 AM. A volunteer sign-up sheet will be in the Sunday School room. For further information please contact Bonney Coldsmith.

**Attention all members – Please plan to attend our upcoming Congregation Meeting on Sunday, December 13 immediately following our worship service.** We will be casting our second vote to leave ELCA and join The Association of Free Lutheran Churches.

**Social Ministry is collecting paper products for Maranatha Food Pantry during the month of November.** Items needed are toilet paper, paper towels, diapers, Kleenex, etc. Please place items in the container under coat rack next to mailboxes.

**If you are not taking your altar flowers home,** please let Kathy Bowen know to whom or to where you would like them donated. Thanks.

**Power Pack Meals - Social Ministry is collecting nutritious food for New Franklin Elementary School students in need.** Please place the items in the container in the Sunday School room. If you would like to give a monetary donation, please make your check payable to Solomon's Lutheran Church and put *Power Pack Meals* in the memo line, or place cash in an envelope and mark *power pack*.

**The 2026 sign-up charts for Acolyte, Lector etc. are on the table in the Sunday School room**. Please sign up for as many as you can.

**Music Notes/Hymn Notes:**

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" is an ancient Advent hymn that originated in part from the "Great 'O' Antiphons," which were part of the medieval Roman Catholic Advent liturgy. On each day of the week leading up to Christmas, one responsive verse would be chanted, each including a different Old Testament name for the coming Messiah. When we sing each verse of this hymn, we acknowledge Christ as the fulfillment of these Old Testament prophesies. We sing this hymn in an already-but not yet-kingdom of God. Christ's first coming gives us a reason to rejoice again and again, yet we know that all is not well with the world. So along with our rejoicing, we plead using the words of this hymn that Christ would come again to perfectly fulfill the promise that all darkness will be turned to light. (hymnary.org; Hymn Notes for Church Bulletins, Austin C. Lovelace). This hymn is from the 12th century Latin, later translated by John M. Neale (1818-1866) and Henry S. Coffin (1877-1954). We will be singing this version from the Service Book and Hymnal, first copyrighted in 1958 and through 11 printings, with a final copyright date of 1968. This will be our Gathering Song for the season of Advent.

Our Hymn of the Day this morning, "Awake, Awake, and Greet the New Morn," was written by Marty Haugen (b. 1950), a Lutheran composer and hymn writer, raised in the former America Lutheran Church, but employed in a Catholic parish. This hymn is joyful and jubilant, and the lyrics are powerful, focusing on hope and healing despite the darkness. It reminds us that the hope we have in Christ isn't dependent on how things look around us, and that when everything seems shaky and uncertain, we can be sure that the God of Love is with us. (Wikipedia.com; sovlutheranchurch.org).