

Mt. Horeb Lutheran Church



Second Sunday of Advent December 8, 2024, 10am

Welcome to Mt. Horeb Lutheran Church! We greet one another as sisters and brothers in Christ and welcome all who may be visiting. We are delighted that you are here to worship, first time visitors, and encourage you to sign our guest book in the entry hall. Please fill out a visitor's card in the pew holders and place it in the offertory plate. HOLY COMMUNION is open to all who confess their faith in Jesus and acknowledge Him to be Lord. Those unable to partake of wine are assured the Church affirms our Lord's presence in, with and under the bread alone.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: *Comfort, Comfort Now, My People*

Georg Böhm

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

We stand

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, alive in the world,
reviving creation, arriving soon.

C **Amen**

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

Silence is kept for reflection

P God of mercy,

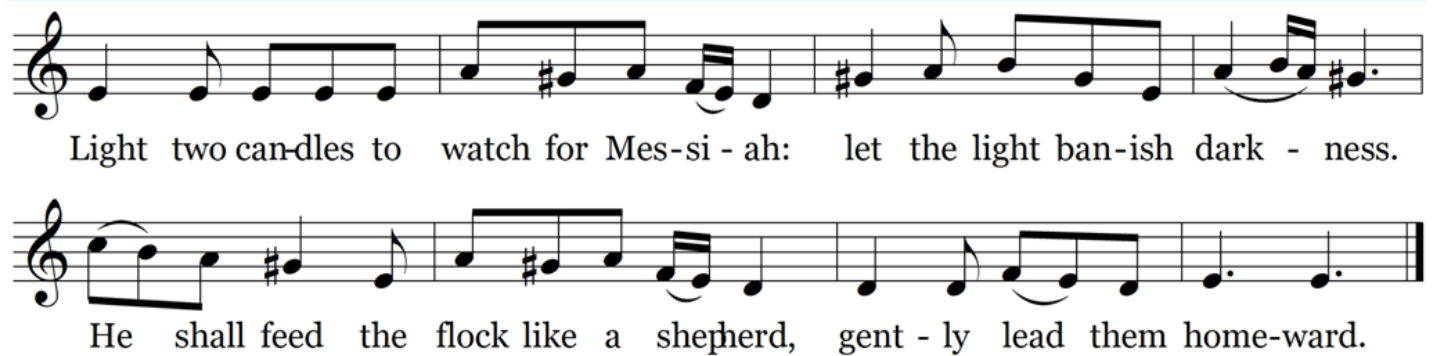
C **we confess that we have sinned. We trust earthly
powers and human authority alone. We grow
fearful. We cling to false comforts.**

P God of might,
C **we confess that we have sinned. We have turned away from our neighbors. We have trusted false promises.**

P God in our midst,
C **we confess that we have sinned. We plead: come to us. Bring your mercy to birth in us.**

P A righteous branch springs forth: it is Christ the Lord, our Savior, in whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy. By the power of the Holy Spirit, receive the grace and forgiveness of God through ✠ Christ Jesus, whose day draws near.
C **Amen.**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH



Light two candles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.

He shall feed the flock like a shepherd, gent - ly lead them home-ward.

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954, copyright © 1984 Fortress Press. Used by permission.
Music: TIF IN VELDELE, Yiddish folk tune.

P Let us pray.
C **We praise you, O God, for this circle of light that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent. As we light the candles on this wreath, kindle within us the fire of your Spirit, that we may be light shining in the darkness. Enlighten us with your grace, that we may welcome others as you have welcomed us. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near. Amen.**

ENTRANCE HYMN: #254 *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*

APOSTOLIC 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.**

KYRIE

Cantor: In peace, let us pray to the Lord:



All: Lord, have mer-cy. Lord, have mer-cy. Lord, have mer-cy on us!

Cantor: *Lord Jesus, you came to gather all people into the peace of your kingdom, let us pray to the Lord:*



All: Lord, have mer-cy. Lord, have mer-cy. Lord, have mer-cy on us!

Cantor: *Christ Jesus, you come in Word and Sacrament to strengthen us in holiness, let us pray to the Lord:*



All: Christ, have mer-cy. Christ, have mer-cy. Christ, have mer-cy on us!

Cantor: *Lord Jesus, you will come in glory with salvation for your people, let us pray to the Lord:*



All: Lord, have mer-cy. Lord, have mer-cy. Lord, have mer-cy on us!

Ukrainian Orthodox Church liturgical setting made popular
by its use at the World Council of Churches' Sixth Assembly, Vancouver, British Columbia, 1983.
Advent Invocations: Church of England.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray:

C **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**

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.

We sit

FIRST READING: MALACHI 3:1-4

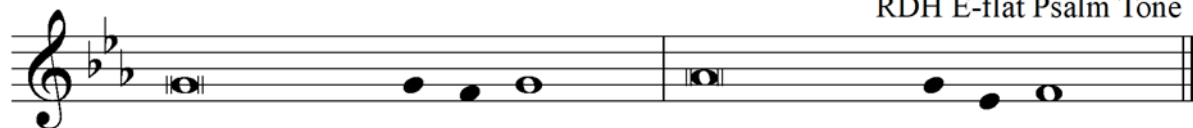
¹ See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. ² But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' 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.

L The Word of the Lord. C **Thanks Be to God!**

GOSPEL CANTICLE: LUKE 1:68-79 [*The Benedictus*]

RDH E-flat Psalm Tone



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

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

⁷⁰ Through your holy prophets, you promised of old to save us | from our
enemies, ⁷¹ from the hands of | all who hate us,

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

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

⁷⁴ to set us free from the hands of our | enemies,
free to worship you | without fear,

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

⁷⁶ And you, child, shall be called the prophet of | the Most High,
for you will go before the Lord to pre- | pare the way,

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

⁷⁸ In the tender compassion | of our God
the dawn from on high shall | break upon us,
⁷⁹ **to shine on those who dwell in darkness and in the**
shad- | ow of death,
and to guide our feet into the | way of peace.

SECOND READING: PHILIPPIANS 1:3-11

³ I thank my God every time I remember you, ⁴ constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, ⁵ because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶ I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. ⁷ It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, 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 compassion 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 is best, 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.

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks Be to God!**

We stand

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.

HOLY GOSPEL: LUKE 3:1-6

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 3rd Chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord! (*spoken boldly*)**

¹ In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, 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.’”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ! (*spoken boldly*)**

We sit

CHILDREN’S MOMENT

SERMON: “*What Messenger are YOU Waiting For?*”

The Reverend Ron Philabaum

We stand

HYMN OF THE DAY: #246 *Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding!*

NICENE CREED

P With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

C **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 man. 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.



PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

After each portion of the prayers:

P Lord in your mercy, **C** **receive our prayer.**

SHARING OF CHRIST'S PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

We sit

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: *Blessed Be the God of Israel*

*Blessed be the God of Israel who comes to set us free
and raises up new hope for us: a Branch from David's tree.
So have the prophets long declared that with a mighty arm
God would turn back our enemies and all who wish us harm.*

*With promised mercy will God still the covenant recall,
the oath once sworn to Abraham, from foes to save us all;
that we might worship without fear and offer lives of praise,
in holiness and righteousness to serve God all our days.*

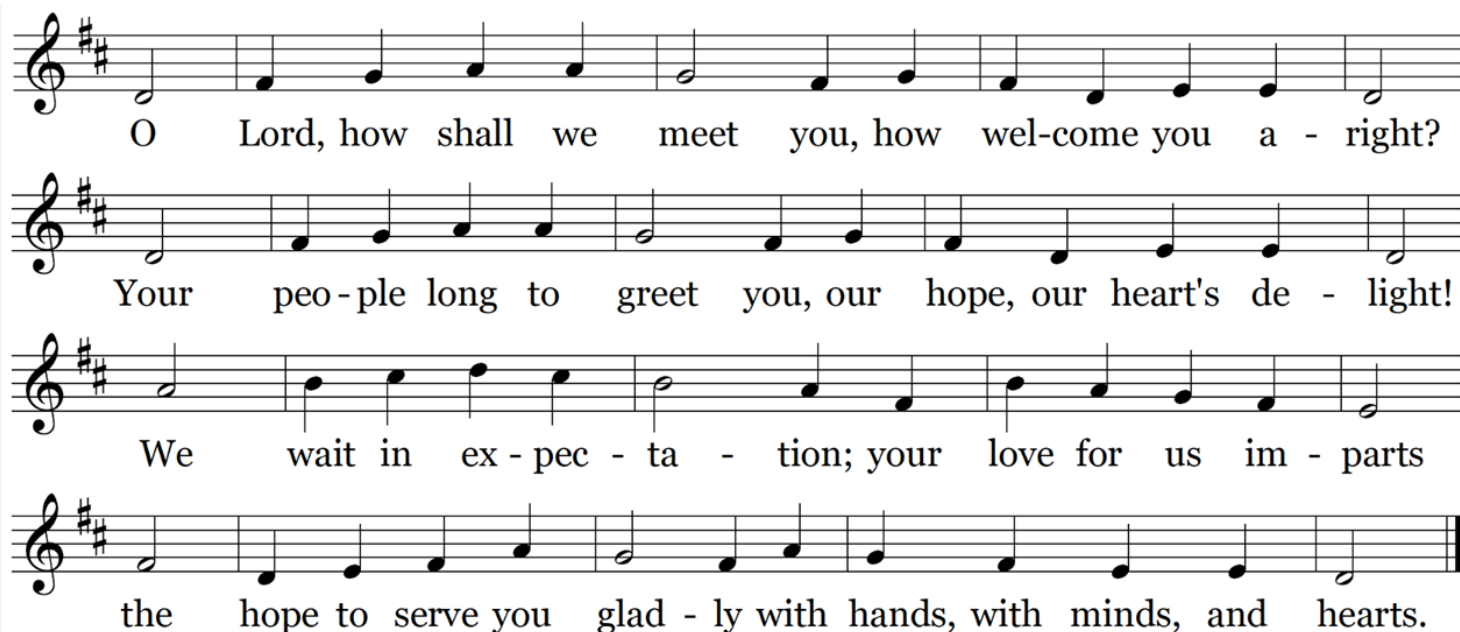
*My child, as prophet of the Lord you will prepare the way,
to tell God's people they are saved from sin's eternal sway.
Then shall God's mercy from on high shine forth and never cease
to drive away the gloom of death and lead us into peace.*

*Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944, based on Luke 1:68-79
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served. Used by permission.*



We stand

OFFERTORY SONG: *O Lord, How Shall We Meet You*



The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The lyrics are: 'O Lord, how shall we meet you, how wel-come you a - right? Your peo-ple long to greet you, our hope, our heart's de - light! We wait in ex - pec - ta - tion; your love for us im - parts the hope to serve you glad - ly with hands, with minds, and hearts.'

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607-1676, st. 1 alt., RDH 2023.

Tune: WIE SOLL ICH DICH EMPFANGEN, Johann Crüger, 1598-1662.

PRAYER

P Let us pray:

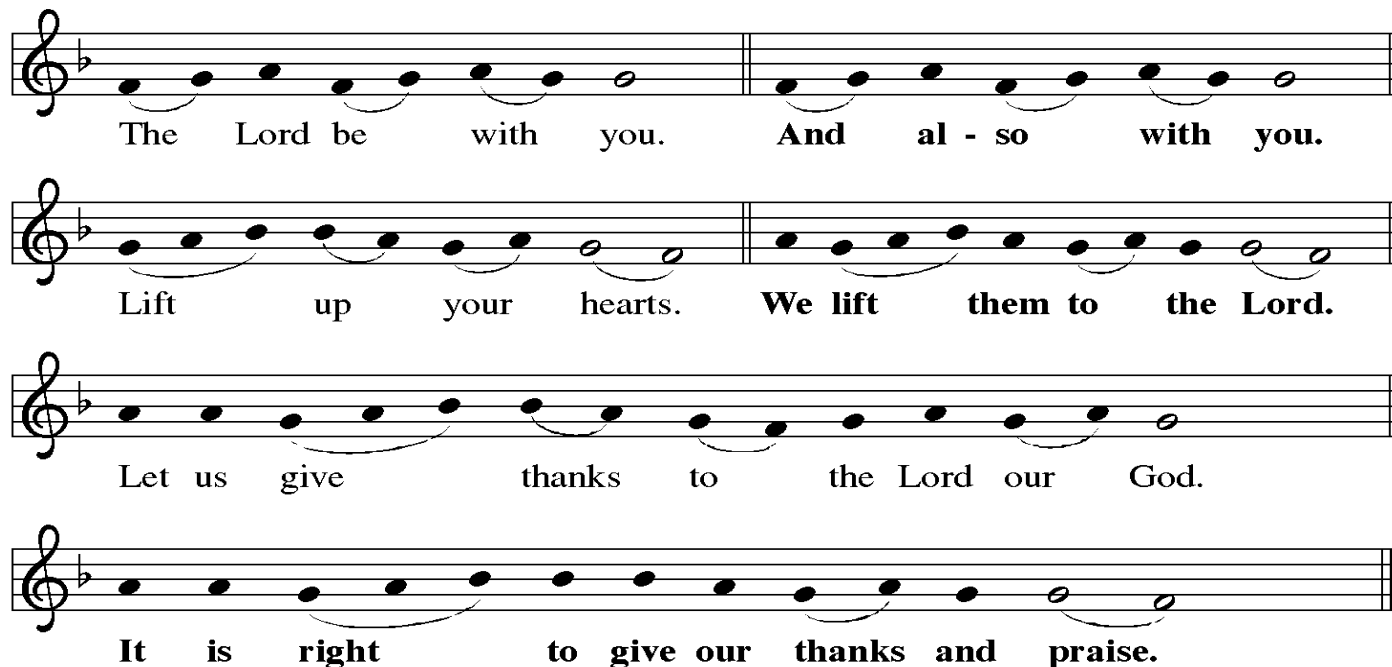
C **Creator God, you made the whole world, even the farthest stars, and you draw near to feed us. We praise you for these gifts of bread and wine. Strengthen us with this food that we may live in expectation for the advent of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

GOD IS OUR
provider

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

HOLY COMMUNION



P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness.

And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

P Holy God, the Beginning and the End, our Salvation and our Hope,
we praise you for creating a world of order and beauty.
When we brought on chaos, cruelty and despair,
you sent the prophets to proclaim your justice and mercy.
At this end of the ages your Son Jesus came to bring us your love
and to heal all the suffering world.
In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

- P Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.
- P Remembering, therefore, his life, death, and resurrection, we await his coming again in righteousness and peace. Send your Spirit on us and on this bread and wine we share: strengthen our faith, increase our hope, and bring to birth the justice and joy of your Son. Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever. **Amen**

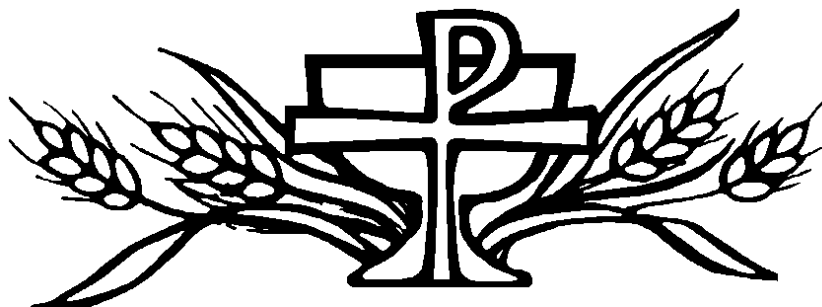
THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

We sit

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

- P God feeds us with tender mercy. Come, take your place at the table.



I am the bread of life

COMMUNION MUSIC: *O Christ, Thou Lamb of God*

O Christ, thou Lamb of God that tak - est a-way the sin of the world,
have mer - cy up - on us! O Christ, thou Lamb of God that tak -
est a - way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us!
O Christ, thou Lamb of God that tak - est a-way the sin of the world,
grant us thy peace! A - men

Text: German, 1528, based on the Agnus Dei; tr. unknown

Music: CHRISTE, DU LAMM GOTTES, *Kirchenordnung*, Braunschweig, 1528

COMMUNION MUSIC: #256: *Comfort, Comfort Now My People*
#451: *We Are Baptized in Christ Jesus*

We stand

BLESSING

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

C **Amen**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Generous God, we thank you for the gift of life, for the bread of salvation. We thank you for coming among us, for leading us into peace. We thank you for showering us with mercy, for sending us into the world. Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us as we feed the hungry in your name.

C **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. In the name of the Father
✙ and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN: #437 *On Jordan's Stormy Banks I Stand*

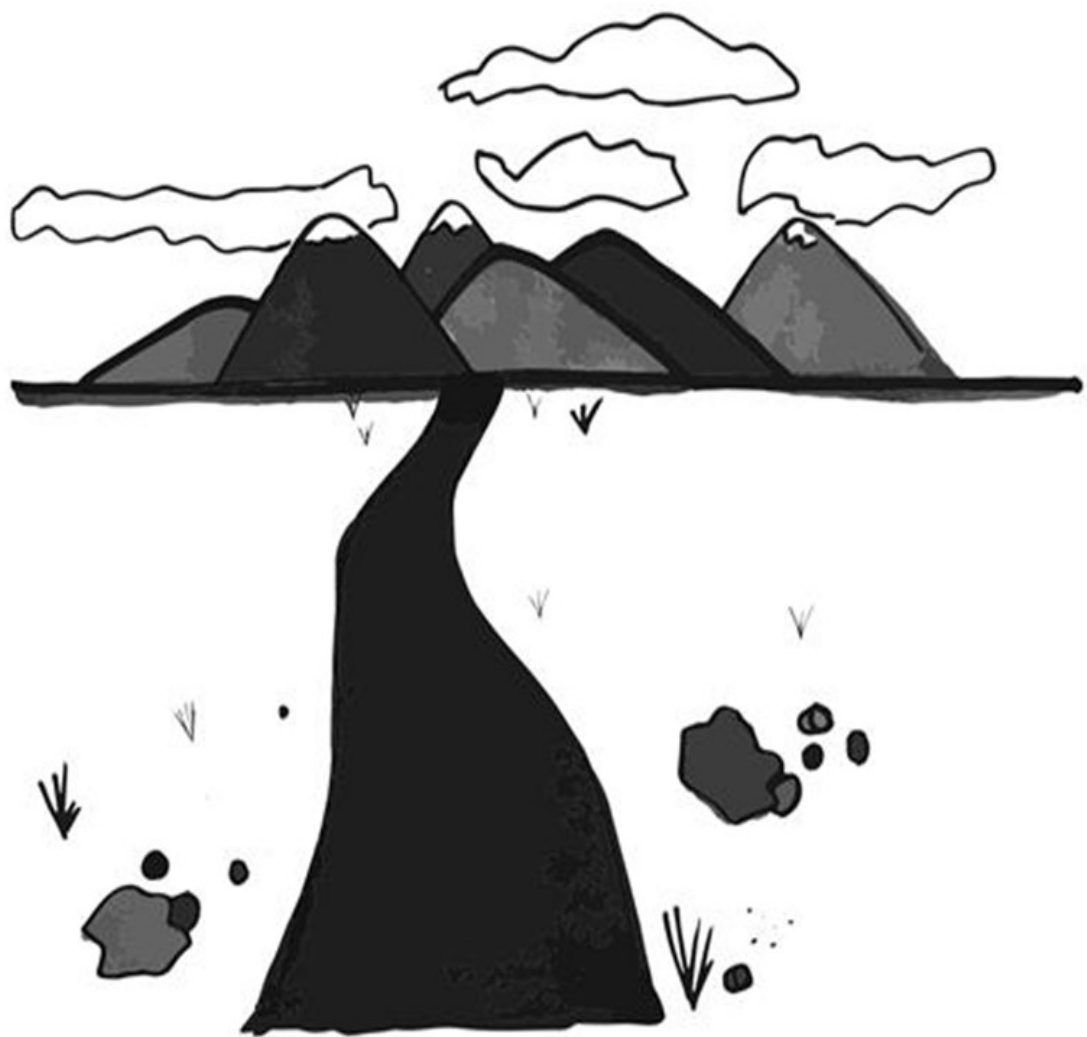
DISMISSAL

L Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE: *Comfort, Comfort Now, My People* Georg Böhm





Mt. Horeb Lutheran Church
101 East Boundary Street, Chapin, SC 29036
803-345-2000 - www.mthoreb.net

To participate in God's mission, this congregation as a part of the Church shall

WORSHIP: *Joyfully proclaim the Word of God*
LEARN: *Dutifully study, teach and live the Word of God*
WITNESS: *Boldly share the Word of God*
SERVE: *Humbly and enthusiastically respond to the Word of God*
SUPPORT: *Gladly give our time, talent and treasures motivated by the Word of God*

DISCIPLES:
All Members of Mt. Horeb

SR. PASTOR:
Ron Philabaum
PastorRon@mthoreb.net

**INTERIM PARISH
MUSICIAN:**
Dr. Bob Hawkins

ADMINISTRATOR:
Camille Joseph
frontdesk@mthoreb.net

TREASURER:
Lisa Smith
Treasurer@mthoreb.net

PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR:
Peggy Miller
preschool@mthoreb.net

OVERSEAS MISSIONARIES:
Rev. Hitoshi & Satoko Adachi
Email: hitoshi.adachi@elca.org
satoko.adachi@elca.org

**CONGREGATION
COUNCIL**

OFFICERS

Vice Chair: Katie Morgan
Secretary: Trina Free
Treasurer: Lisa Smith

MEMBERS

Lisa McDonald
Laurie Schmidt
Travis Goodman
Cameron Prince
Katie Morgan
Rae Davis
Heather Adams
Diane Senn
Tom Griffin
Greg Shealy
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