



**Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church** Smithtown, New York 11787

[Info@standrewsofsmithtown.org](mailto:Info@standrewsofsmithtown.org)

Nicholas Suminski, Organist and Music Director • Jean Dougherty, Seminarian

**Third Sunday of Advent  
Worship with Holy Communion  
December 11, 2022 † 10:00 a.m.**

**GATHERING**

**PRELUDE**

**\*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*The assembly stands as they are able. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism.*

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,  
who alone does wondrous things.  
Blessed be God's name forever. **Amen.**

Beloved, now is the time to wake from sleep.  
Let us confront our sins,  
and confess them to the one who is merciful and just.  
*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God of new beginnings,  
**we confess that we have not welcomed your holy reign.  
We have strayed from your paths.  
We prepare for war instead of peace.  
We dishonor one another and your creation.  
Purify us with your refining fire  
and set us again on your way of love,  
that we may bear fruit worthy of repentance,  
and welcome your coming among us.  
Amen.**

People of God,  
a new thing is growing in our midst,  
a tender branch,  
a living sign.  
By water and the Spirit you are joined to this wonder.  
You have put on † Christ,  
and your sins have been washed away.  
Rejoice in the way of the Lord. **Amen.**

\*Asterisk indicates where the assembly is invited to stand as they are able.

**\*GATHERING SONG #242 Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn**



1 A - wake! A - wake, and greet the new morn, for  
2 To us, to all in sor - row and fear, Em -  
3 In dark - est night his com - ing shall be, when  
4 Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night, though



an - gels her - ald its dawn - ing, Sing out your joy, for  
man - u - el comes a - sing - ing, his hum - ble song is  
all the world is de - spair - ing, as morn - ing light so  
dark the win - ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall



soon he is born, be - hold! the Child of our long - ing.  
qui - et and near, yet fills the earth with its ring - ing;  
qui - et and free, so warm and gen - tle and car - ing.  
crown you with light, be strong and lov - ing and fear - less.



Come as a ba - by weak and poor, to bring all hearts to -  
mu - sic to heal the bro - ken soul and hymns of lov - ing -  
Then shall the mute break forth in song, the lame shall leap in  
Love be our song and love our prayer and love our end - less



geth - er, he o - pens wide the heav'n - ly door and  
kind - ness, the thun - der of his an - thems roll to  
won - der, the weak be raised a - bove the strong, and  
sto - ry; may God fill ev - 'ry day we share and



lives now in - side us for - ev - er.  
shat - ter all ha - tred and blind - ness.  
weap - ons be bro - ken a - sun - der.  
bring us at last in - to glo - ry.

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## GREETING

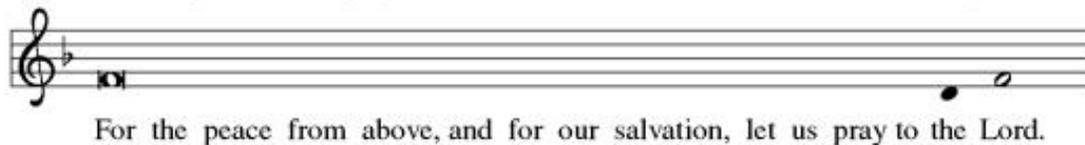
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## KYRIE (p. 138)



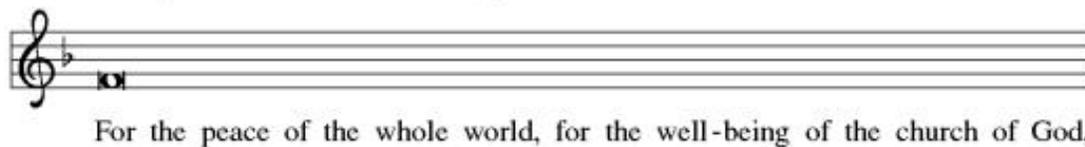
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



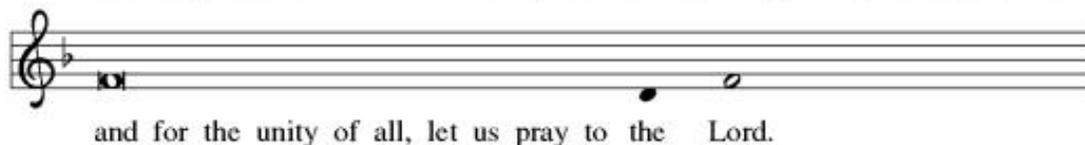
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



**Lord, have mer - cy.**



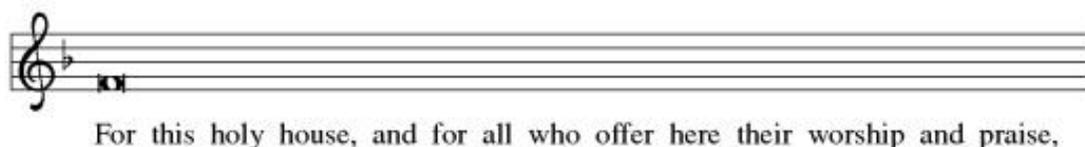
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



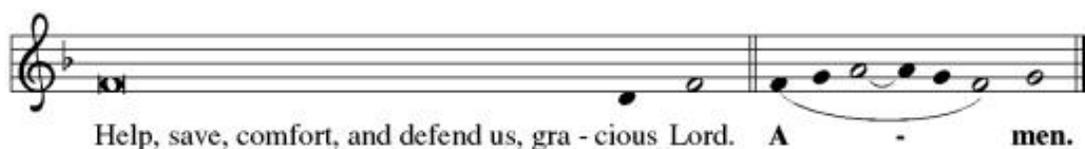
**Lord, have mer - cy.**



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



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



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **A - men.**

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## HYMN# 240 Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah (verse 3 only)



- 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.
- 4 Light four 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.  
He is com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your lights be shin - ing!

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up the wills of all who look to you, Lord God, and strengthen our faith in your coming, that, transformed by grace, we may walk in your way; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### ANTHEM

### WORD

#### FIRST READING: Isaiah 35:1-10

A reading from Isaiah.

*The prophet describes the return from the Babylonian captivity as a joyous procession to Zion. God's coming reign will bring a renewal of creation in which health and wholeness will be restored. There is no need for fear, for God is coming to save.*

<sup>1</sup>The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,  
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;  
like the crocus <sup>2</sup>it shall blossom abundantly,  
and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,  
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.  
They shall see the glory of the LORD,  
the majesty of our God.

<sup>3</sup>Strengthen the weak hands,  
and make firm the feeble knees.

<sup>4</sup>Say to those who are of a fearful heart,  
"Be strong, do not fear!

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## SECOND READING: James 5:7-10

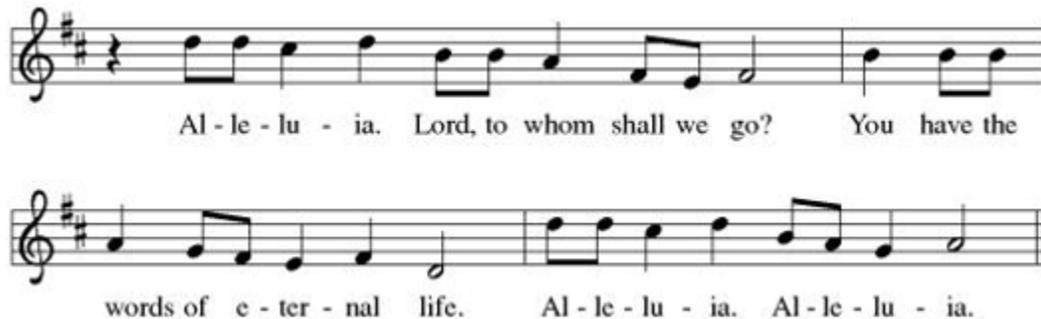
A reading from James.

*In anticipation of the Lord's coming, Christians are called upon to cultivate patience rather than discontent.*

7Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. 8You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. 9Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! 10As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (p. 142)



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

### GOSPEL: Matthew 11:2-11

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

*John the Baptist expects the Messiah to bring God's judgment upon the earth (Matt. 3:11-12). From a prison cell, he wonders whether Jesus is the one who will do this. Jesus' response indicates that God's reign is indeed being fulfilled already through healing and restoration.*

<sup>2</sup>When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples <sup>3</sup>and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" <sup>4</sup>Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: <sup>5</sup>the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. <sup>6</sup>And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

<sup>7</sup>As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? <sup>8</sup>What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. <sup>9</sup>What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. <sup>10</sup>This is the one about whom it is written,

'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,  
who will prepare your way before you.'

<sup>11</sup>Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

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

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## SERMON

### \*HYMN OF THE DAY #239 Hark, the Glad Sound!



1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior  
2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's  
3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing  
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of peace, your wel - come



prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -  
bond - age held. The gates of brass be -  
soul to cure, and with the trea - sures  
shall pro - claim, and heav'n's e - ter - nal



pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.  
fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.  
of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.  
arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.

## 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.**

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**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 INTERCESSION**

As we prepare for the fullness of Christ's presence, let us pray for a world that yearns for new hope.

### *A brief silence.*

Gracious God, we rejoice in the gifts of your Spirit. Equip the global church to magnify your love and peace in every land. We pray for the work of the Lutheran World Federation and ELCA Global Mission. God, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Abundant God, we rejoice in your creation. Revive lands we have squandered and depleted. Make gardens flourish in cities and neighborhoods. Cleanse polluted air and water so living things may breathe, drink, and praise you. Make every day Earth day. God, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Righteous God, we rejoice in your justice. End racism and oppression. Deliver all who are unjustly imprisoned or persecuted. Reconcile nations and peoples in conflict. Help us pray for our enemies. Bring peace to Ukraine. God, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Healing God, we rejoice in your compassion. Comfort any in distress because of worry, illness, or loss, especially Leslie H., Andrew, Bill F., Bill D., Luke and Emilie; all on the prayer list; all people affected by COVID-19; and those we name before you now (pause). Strengthen and protect health care workers, rescue teams, crisis counselors, and all who risk themselves to keep others safe. God, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Abiding God, we rejoice in your company. Give us calm and patient hearts as we gather with family and friends. Keep us mindful of those for whom this season is not happy. Console the grieving and surround them with loving support. God, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

### *Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Faithful God, we rejoice with Mary, Mother of our Lord, and with all the saints, that your mercy endures for all generations. Look with favor on those who have died and lead us to joyfully sing of your everlasting promises. God, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

*(Pastor)* God of our longing, you know our deepest needs. By your Spirit, gather our prayers and join them with the prayers of all your children. In Jesus' name we pray.  
**Amen.**

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## PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you!**

## MEAL

### OFFERING

*Thank you for your support of the ministries of Saint Andrew's, by mail or by visiting our website for online giving. Donations: [standrewsofsmithtown.org/donate](http://standrewsofsmithtown.org/donate)*

### OFFERTORY HYMN#252 Each Winter As the Year Grows Older (verses 1-3)



1 Each win - ter as the year grows old - er, we each grow old - er,  
2 When race and class cry out for trea - son, when si - rens call for  
3 Yet I be - lieve be - yond be - liev - ing that life can spring from  
4 So e - ven as the sun is turn - ing to jour - ney to the  
5 O Child of ec - sta - sy and sor - rows, O Prince of peace and



too. The chill sets in a lit - tle cold - er; the  
war, they o - ver - shout the voice of rea - son and  
death, that growth can flow - er from our griev - ing, that  
north, the liv - ing flame, in se - cret burn - ing, can  
pain, bright - en to - day's world by to - mor - row's, re -



ver - i - ties we knew seem shak - en and un - true.  
scream till we ig - nore all we held dear be - fore.  
we can catch our breath and turn trans - fixed by faith.  
kin - dle on the earth and bring God's love to birth.  
new our lives a - gain; Lord Je - sus, come and reign!

### \*OFFERING PRAYER

God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

### GREAT THANKSGIVING DIALOGUE AND PREFACE

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 our thanks and praise.**

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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 (p.144)**

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
 heav-en and earth are 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 in the high - est.

### **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:  
 Blessed are you for the birth of creation.  
 Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.  
 Blessed are you for your promise to your people.  
 Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.  
 Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.  
 Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,  
 the Word made flesh.  
 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.

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.

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Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

With this bread and cup  
we remember your Word dwelling among us,  
full of grace and truth.

We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.

We look with hope for his coming.

**Come, Lord Jesus.**

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.

Come among us.

Bless this meal.

May your Word take flesh in us.

Awaken your people.

Fill us with your light.

Bring the gift of peace on earth.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

All praise and glory are yours,

Holy One of Israel,

Word of God incarnate,

Power of the Most High,

one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

#### **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.**

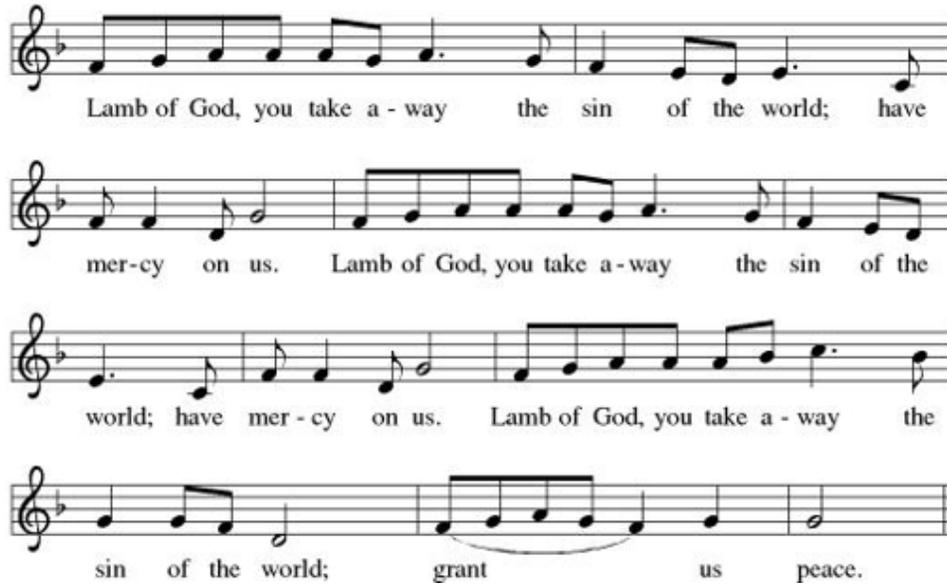
#### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God, who has come to save you.

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## LAMB OF GOD (p.146)



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.

Body of Christ, given for you.  
Blood of Christ, shed for you.

## COMMUNION HYMN #264 Prepare the Royal Highway



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!

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## \*POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Faithful God,  
in this meal you have remembered your mercy,  
bringing heaven to earth in the body and blood of Christ.  
As we wait for the day when all your promises will be fulfilled,  
sustain us and strengthen us by this holy mystery.  
Guide us toward your promised future,  
coming to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## SENDING

### BLESSING

God the eternal Word,  
who dwells with us in Jesus,  
and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit,  
‡ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

### SENDING HYMN #263 Savior of the Nations, Come



- 1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come; vir - gin's son, make here your home.
- 2 Not by hu - man flesh and blood, but the mys - tic Breath of God,
- 3 Won - drous birth—oh, won - drous child—from his throne, a vir - gin mild!
- 4 From God's heart the Sav - ior speeds, back to God his path-way leads;



Mar - vel now, O heav'n and earth: God has cho - sen such a birth.  
was the Word of God made flesh, fruit of wom - an, blos - som fresh.  
Ver - y God, and Mar - y's son, ea - ger now his race to run!  
out to van - quish death's com - mand, back to reign at God's right hand.

5 Now your manger, shining bright,  
hallows night with newborn light.  
Night cannot this light subdue;  
let our faith shine ever new.

6 Praise we sing to Christ the Lord,  
virgin's son, incarnate Word!  
To the holy Trinity  
praise we sing eternally!

### DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is near.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### POSTLUDE

**This morning we welcome** Pastor John Jurik.

**Please join us for coffee hour** immediately following worship. Thank you to this week's host's, Donna & Frank Meystrik.

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**Voters Assembly** -Today 12 noon in the church following Worship and coffee hour.

**Wednesday evening there will be a midweek Advent service of readings, prayer, hymns and reflection at 7:30**

As Pastor Susan Shelhart has retired and is no longer available for pastoral care or church work at St. Andrew's, Pastor Paul Downing of St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Port Jefferson Station will serve as our coverage pastor. He can be reached Monday through Saturday for pastoral care and emergencies at Cell #347-423-3623. Questions about meetings and day to day activities at St. Andrew's should still be directed to the office at 631-265-2288 or [info@standrewsofsmithtown.org](mailto:info@standrewsofsmithtown.org)

Pastor Paul Downing invites you to join him and the St. Paul's community for weekly Bible Study and/or Prayer Group.

Bible Study : 9:30am Wednesday mornings on Zoom (meeting ID 977-887-967)

Bible Study : 10:30am Wednesday mornings In Person at St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Port Jefferson Station

Prayer Group: 10:30am Friday mornings In Person and via Zoom (meeting ID 800-555-016) at St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER (11 December 2022)**

**THOSE IN NEED OF HEALING:**

Luke Meyveci [requested by Dana Sanzone]

Emilie Diehl [requested by daughters Cindie & Kathy]

Sara Larson [requested by Julie & Michael Francis]

Leslie Hansen Andrew Madarasz, the family of Harald Peeders, Gerard Tuohy [requested by Leslee & Steve Mathieson]

John Stabile [requested by Lydia Moser]

Amy Gabelman, Chris Peck, Bob Widmer, Lex Stolle, Carmine Colasanto, Richard & George Mengert [requested by Carolyn Gabelman]

Tracey Parisi, Margo Naranjo, John Hochuli [requested by Barbara English]

Norma Martin [requested by Sue Rorke]

Brenda Dugan & granddaughter Chanelle, Robert & Pat Richards, Don & Marianne Spagna [requested by Mary Fjellstad]

Marilyn Havighorst [requested by Martha Hahn]

Nicholas Mauceri and Rocky Cinque [requested by Marianne Spagna]

Richard Wiles [husband of Joan Wiles]

Stefanie Spath [requested by Marianna Ulc and family]

Chris Kelly, John Sullivan [requested by Dottie & Jim Clavell]

Kerri Swanson [requested by Linda & Jud Taylor]

Ruth Aiello [requested by Cindy Davis]

Andy Hazin & the Hazin family, Ilse Gunther, Ralph Gunther [requested by the Hoffman family]

Zach Hills [requested by Brian & Diane Marley]

Bernadette Uneberg [requested by John Hinsch]

Pete Gambitsky, the Rilke family, Sharon Wolf, Dana Stankevitz, Pastor Roger Schlee, Carol Pascale, Walter Henning Sr., Pastor Frank Modr, Gary Weymer [requested by Pastor Shelhart]

David Travis [requested by Richard Travis]

Carolyn Martin [requested by Linda Overton]

The family of Elaine Robinson [requested by Deborah Cella]

Bill Feigin [requested by Jessica Michalski]

Bill Davey [requested by Tom & Pat Pernice]

Suzie DiSanza [requested by Donna Ihlen]

Viola Giovinco [requested by Liz DeLuca]

Amy Kitay [requested by Diana Smiloff]

**THOSE IN MILITARY SERVICE:**

Captain Zachary Hinsch [nephew of Judy & John Hinsch]

Major Lenore Livingston [daughter of Helen & Art Fortin]

Corporal August Detting

Major William Fortin

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