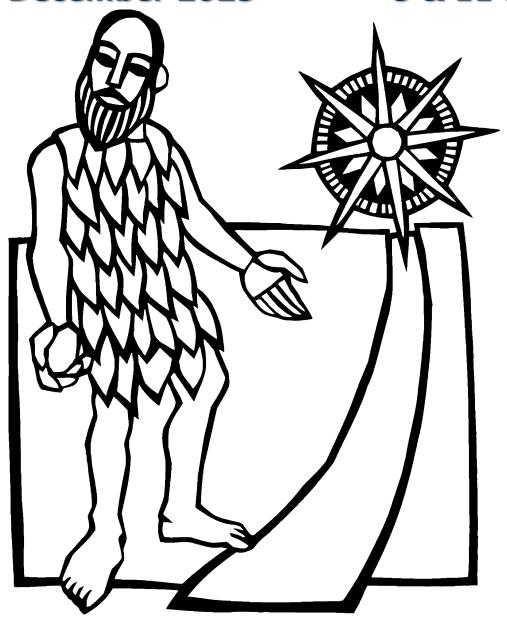
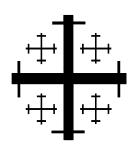
Advent III

14 December 2025

8 & 11 am





The Liturgy at Calvary

A note of joyful expectation marks today's worship. Isaiah announces that the desert shall rejoice and blossom, and Jesus points to the unexpected and transforming signs of God's reign. We wait with patience for the

coming of the Lord, even as we rejoice at his presence among us this day: in word and holy supper, in church and in our homes, in silent reflection and in works of justice and love. We pray that God would open our eyes and ears to the wonders of Christ's advent among us.

Prelude Pastorale

Louis XV (1754-1793)

Please stand & face the Baptismal Font

Confession & Absolution

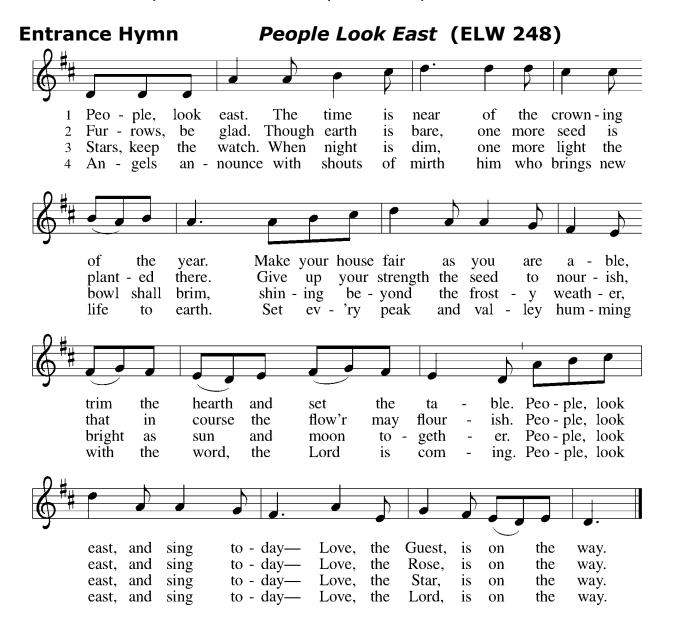
P In the name of the Father, and of the ♣ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

- P It is time to wake from sleep. Salvation is near! Let us make confession to God.
 - Silence for reflection and self-examination.
- P Faithful God,
- C we confess that in thought, word, and deed, we have turned away from you. We have not eagerly expected your coming. We have been slow to serve you and our neighbor. Restore us, O God of might. Let your face shine upon us, filling our hearts with your light and love. Amen.
- P Lay aside the works of the night; put on the Lord Jesus Christ. Strengthen your hearts, for God is with us to save us from our sins. Almighty God grant us forgiveness, keep us in the grace of Christ Jesus and by the power of the Holy Spirit fill us *with joy and hope.

C Amen

Please turn in place as the cross passes in procession.



Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881–1965

Music: BESANÇON, French carol

Text © Miss E. Farjeon Will Trust, by permission of David Higham Associates.

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 Eleison



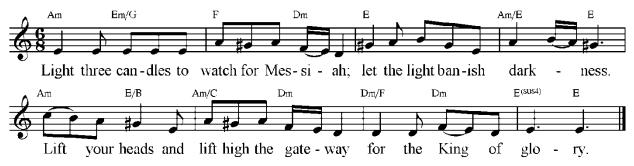
Music: Viktor Andersson © 1999 Calvary Lutheran Church



Music: Linda Cable Shutte. Lyrics: Rusty Edwards © 2002 Augsburg Fortress Used by special permission from the composer for Calvary's liturgy

Blessing & Lighting The Advent Wreath

We sing the verse below before and after the blessing.



Copyright © 1984 Fortess Press: Text: Wayne L. Wold, Music: Yıddish folk tune

P We praise you, O God, for this victory wreath that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent. As we light the candles on this wreath, strengthen our hearts as we await the Lord's coming in glory. Enlighten us with your grace that we may serve our neighbors in need. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near.

Please be seated for today's readings.

First Lesson Isaiah 35:1-10

¹The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom;

like the crocus ²it 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.

³Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees.

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

Here is your God.

He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense.

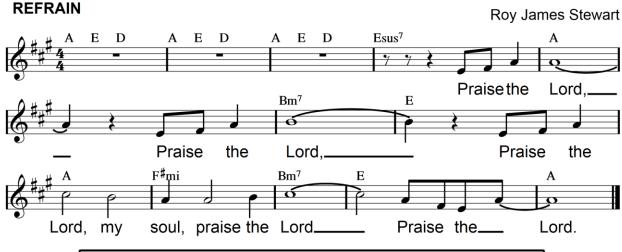
He will come and save you."

⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

⁶then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; ⁷the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. ⁸A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. ⁹No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. ¹⁰And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

- L The Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

Psalm 146 Praise the Lord



Copyright 1993 by G. I. A. Publications, Inc., Chicago. All Rights Reserved. English Refrain from Lectionary for Mass, Copyright 1969, International Committee on Enlgish in the Liturgy, Inc.

- **1.** The God of Jacob keeps faith forever, secures justice for en poor. Gives food to the hungry. The Lord set the captives free. **Refrain**
- **2.** The Lord our God gives sight to the blind. The Lord raises the oppressed. The Lord loves justice. The Lord protects the stranger. **Refrain**
- **3.** The orphan and the widow God sustains. The way of the wicked God will stop. The Lord shall reign forever through all generations. **Refrain**

Second Lesson James 5:7-10

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.

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the Holy Gospel.

Advent Verse & Gospel Acclamations



P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 11th chapter.



²When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples ³and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" ⁴Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵the 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. ⁶And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

⁷As 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? ⁸What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. ⁹What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is the one about whom it is written,

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

¹¹Truly 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."

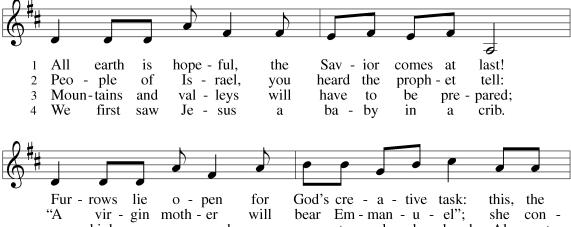
P The Gospel of our Lord.



Jeff Porter Sermon

Silent Reflections





pro - to - cols de - clared. Al - most high - ways o - pened, new This same Lord Je - sus to day has come to in our





ev - 'ry - bod - y free. God's trust and jus - tice set to chil-dren of this earth. stores hope and cour-age clear ev - 'ry gate-way, in haste, come out in haste! Je - sus is with us, and

ev-er sets us free.

- 1 Toda la tierra espera al Salvador y el surco abierto, la obra del Señor; es el mundo que lucha por la libertad, reclama justicia y busca la verdad.
- 2 Dice el profeta al pueblo de Israel: "De madre virgen ya viene Emmanuel," será "Dios con nosotros," hermano será, con él la esperanza al mundo volverá.
- 3 Montes y valles habrá que preparar; nuevos caminos tenemos que trazar. Él está ya muy cerca, venidlo a encontrar, y todas las puertas abrid de par en par.
- 4 En una cueva Jesús apareció, pero en el mundo está presente hoy. Vive en nuestros hermanos, con ellos está; v vuelve de nuevo a darnos libertad.

Text: Alberto Taulé, b. 1932; tr. Madeleine Forell Marshall, b. 1946 Music: TODA LA TIERRA, Alberto Taulé, b. 1932

Spanish text and tune © 1993 Centro de Pastoral Liturgica, admin. OCP Publications Tr. © 1995 Madeleine Forell Marshall, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Creed

- A Let us profess our faith in the Triune God
- All I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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 Intercession

A Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

after each prayer petition

A Lord in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

concluding with

P Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **C Amen**

Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

Please greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Offertory

[8] O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

15th Century French Processional David Johnson

[11] Long the Days of Waiting D. Nadasdy/M. Sheppard (2016) Sanctuary Choir Kelsey Helton, Clarinet

Long the days of waiting, longer still the nights;
Dark, the dead of winter, yearning for the light.
Watching for the sunrise, reaching for the dawn,
Let us pray with eyes wide open this our Advent song
Come, O come, Lord Jesus, like the morning sun!
Cast your light across our darkness,
Make our hearts your home.

Lost the word of wisdom, missing what is true, Seeking after knowledge without knowing you. Listening for a prophet, hearing only noise, Loud the thoughts so deep within us, silencing your voice.

Harsh the guilt we carry, evils we have done, Pleading for your presence, wounded and alone. So we come believing, in the dark of night, That your saving presence with us Will bring life and light.

Come, O come, Lord Jesus.....

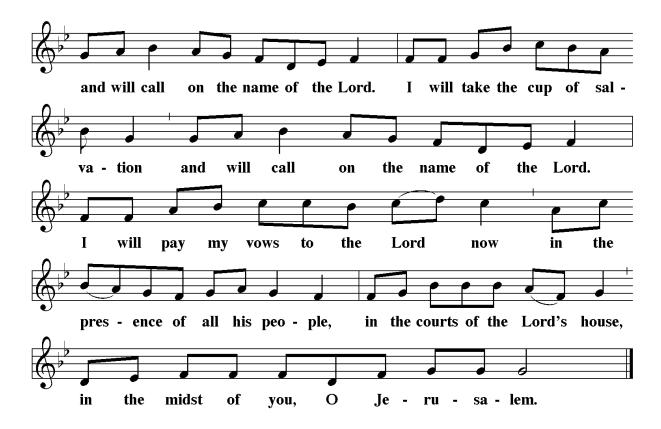
Cast your light across our darkness, make our hearts

Your home. Make our hearts your home.



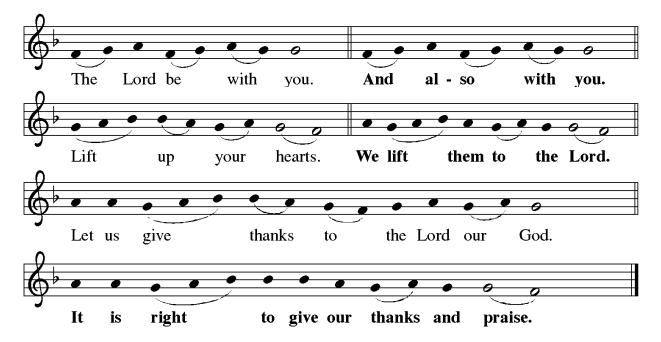
Please stand as our gifts are presented, singing,





- A Let us pray. Merciful Father,
- C we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us - ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Great Thanksgiving

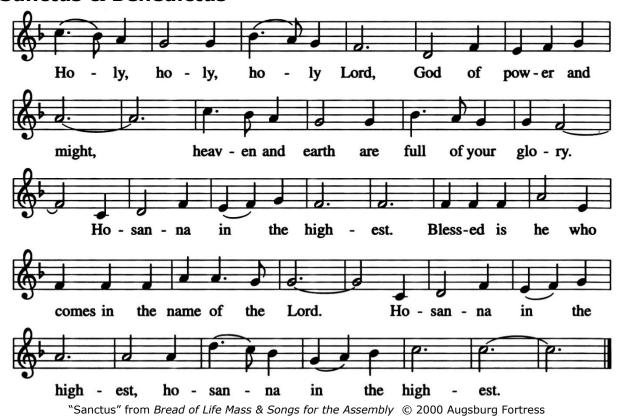


P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ.

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 & Benedictus



Eucharistic Prayer

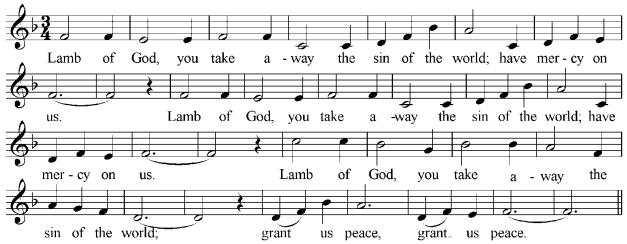
Eucharistic Acclamation



- P Remember us in your kingdom, O Lord, and teach us to pray.
- C 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

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

Agnus Dei



"Agnus Dei" from Bread of Life Mass & Songs for the Assembly © 2000 Augsburg Fortress



HOLY COMMUNION

In-Person: We commune at the Altar. Ushers will guide.

Wine is Red Grape Juice is White Gluten-free wafers available upon request.

Online at Home: If you have elements at home, commune with those in attendance at the same time. We encourage you to communion each other and bless children who have not received First Communion. Consider giving this blessing: "Know that the promises of Jesus's love are for you."

Songs that may be sung during distribution of the Sacrament:

Unexpected and Mysterious (ELW 258)



Text: Jeannette M Lindholm © 2003, admin. Augsburg Fortress Music: Robert Buckley Farlee © 2004 Augsburg Fortress

Christ, Be Our Light (ELW 715)

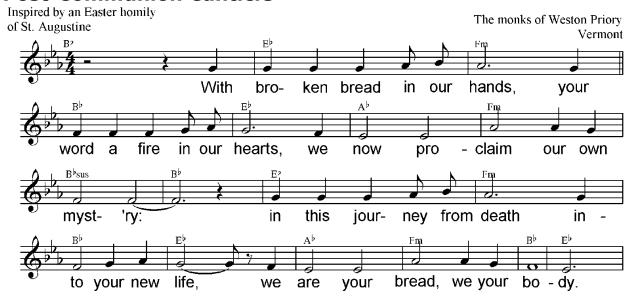


Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957
Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell
Text and music © 1993 Bernadette Farrell.Published by OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213.
All rights reserved. Used by permission.

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

C Amen

Post-Communion Canticle



A Let us pray... God our host, at this table you have fed us with joy and gladness. Send us forth, eager to share the feast, welcome the stranger, and bear good fruit in the name of Jesus.

C Amen

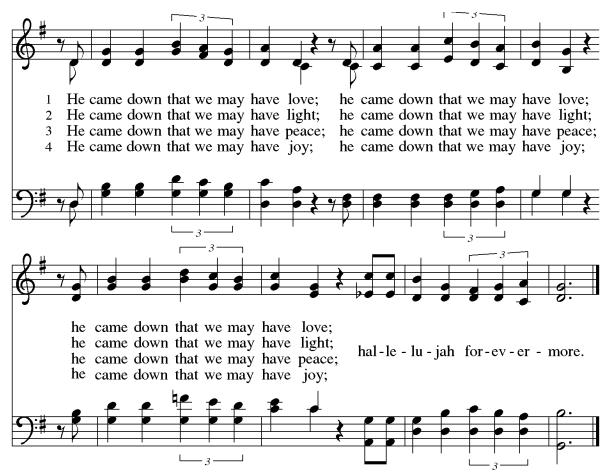
P The Benediction **♣**.

C Amen

Please turn in place, facing the cross carried by the crucifer.

Recessional Hymn He Ca

He Came Down (ELW 253)



Text: Cameroon traditional. Music: HE CAME DOWN, Cameroon traditional; arr. John L. Bell, b. 1949. Arr. © 1986 Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc.

A Go in Peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

Postlude

Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning

African American Spiritual Setting: Edwin T. Childs, c. 2007

Calvary Lutheran Church

7620 Baker Boulevard Richland Hills, Texas 76118 www.godhearthumanhands.org email: calvary@calvaryftw.org (817) 284-8724 (817) 284-0860 (Fax)

The Reverend Kyle Rouze The Reverend Kyle Symanski

	8:00 AM	11:00 AM
Lector		Fred Ginapp
Assist. Minister	Mickey Nowell	Joe Mangone
Ushers & Greeters		Tammy Tyrone, Katherine Tyrone, Bonnie Cabelus & Louis Wehrmeister
Altar Guild	Peggy Grubbs	The DeFrang Family
Audio / Live Stream		Michelle Lanham

Viktor Andersson, Director of Worship & Music Debbie Villavicencio, Organist

Cover Art from Icon 4: Visual Images for Every Sunday © 2000 Augsburg Fortress; "Holy Communion, Setting Three" from Evangelical Lutheran Worship © 2006 Augsburg Publishing

John of the Cross, renewer of the church, died 1591 Sunday, December 14, 2025

John was a member of the Carmelite monastic order and worked to reform it. His writings reflect a deep interest in mystical thought and meditation.

Las Posadas (LLC) Tuesday, December 16, 2025

This celebration, long popular in Mexico, takes its name from the "posadas," or lodgings, sought by Mary and Joseph in Bethlehem. Their search is reenacted in a neighborhood, unsuccessfully, until finally they are welcomed in, and a party commences.

Katharina von Bora Luther, renewer of the church, died 1552

Saturday, December 20, 2025

Born to an impoverished nobleman, Katie eventually took vows as a nun, but around age twenty-four she and several other nuns who were influenced by the writings of Martin Luther left the convent. Six children were born to Katie and Martin.



KYRIE PUB CHURCH CHRISTMAS CAROL SING

Sunday, December 21st at 5pm. Shaw's Patio & Grill (1051 W Magnolia, FTW).

CALVARY BLUE CHRISTMAS WINTER SOLSTICE

Sunday, December 21st at 6pm

Also known as A service for the Longest Night, this service acknowledges that Christmas can be a very lonely, depressing, "blue" time for those grieving the loss of loved ones or other losses. Through liturgy and song and shared meal we bring our pain and sorrow to the Christ child who is the light shining in the darkness and seek the consolation and healing of God's presence.

CALVARY CHRISTMAS EVE SCHEDULE

Wednesday, December 24th at 4, 6, 8, & 11pm All services include candlelight singing of "Silent Night"

4, 6, 8 pm Lessons Carols Eucharist

15 minute carol sing prior to each of these services

4 - Children's Choir and soloists, Children's Blessing of the Creche

6 - Harp ensemble, Hand Bell choir, and soloists

(Nursery available during 4 pm & 6 pm services)

8 – Orchestra, Sanctuary Choir and soloists11 pm Midnight Mass

The full liturgy with Orchestra, Sanctuary Choir, and soloists

6pm & 8pm services will be live-streamed online