



**St. Luke's  
Lutheran Church**



4801 Anderson Ave  
Manhattan, KS 66503  
785-539-2604  
[www.stlukesmanhattan.org](http://www.stlukesmanhattan.org)

*Sharing Jesus Christ's love with those around us.*

**Wednesday, December 17, 2025 – 6:30 PM**

*Rev. Michael J. Schmidt, Sr. Pastor  
William Prann, Director of Christian Education  
Gretchen Hartsook, Director of Music*

**Advent Midweek 3**

**All About Mary: She Was Betrothed to a Man**

## **WELCOME**

We are glad you are here to worship our Savior with us. Please remember to turn your cell phone to silence. Restrooms are on the west side of the sanctuary. Prayer requests can be submitted to the church office through email, [office@stlukesmanhattan.org](mailto:office@stlukesmanhattan.org), or by calling 785-539-2604. On Communion Sundays, if you need non-gluten wafers at communion, or need to have communion brought to you, please notify the elder who is serving. We hope you will join us again so that you may experience Jesus.

## **AS WE GATHER**

During Advent, we wait *for* Jesus, *with* Jesus. The darkest part of the year is brightened by the hope that the Savior who came for the world once is coming again. And we do not wait alone. Together, the whole Christian Church is accompanied in this waiting by the Christ who promises to be with His people always. Jesus' mother, the virgin Mary, knows a lot about waiting. With pregnant anticipation, Mary waited *for* Jesus, the promised Messiah who would reign from David's throne forever. But Mary was always waiting *with* Jesus, the Son of the Most High nestled within her womb. Throughout this Advent, we will listen with Mary, sing with Mary, and wait with Mary. Because, on darkest days, the Christ comes as near to you as He did to Mary to wait *with* you for the glorious sunrise that's coming.

Today we shall learn more about our Savior, Jesus, by learning about Mary's husband, Joseph. Jesus, true man, was raised and taught by a human father, Joseph, a faithful husband for Mary.

## **IMAGE ON THE COVER**

As he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit." *Matthew 1:20*

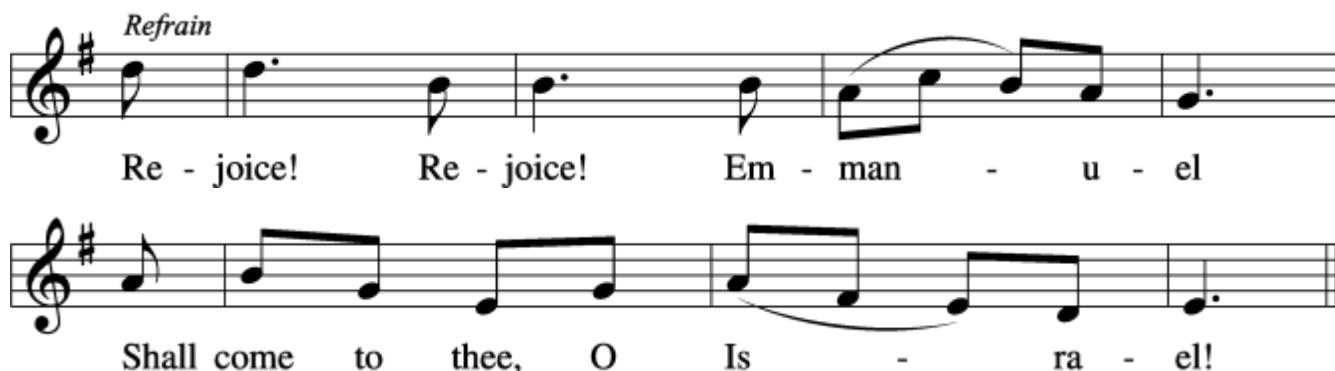
## **✠ PREPARATION ✠**

## **LIGHTING OF CANDLES (INCLUDING THE ADVENT WREATH)**

## 357 O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL

sts. 1–4

*Max Peterson will sing the stanzas, the congregation will join on the chorus.*



Text: Latin, c. 12th cent.; Psalterium Cantionum Catholicarum, 1710, Köln; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt.

Tune: French, 15th cent.

Text and tune: Public domain

*Stand*

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

### INVOCATION

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

### OPENING SENTENCES

*Isaiah 7:14; Jeremiah 33:16*

**P** The Lord Himself will give you a sign.

**C** Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call His name Immanuel.

**P** In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will dwell securely.

**C** And this is the name by which it will be called: “The LORD is our righteousness.”

## PSALM

*Psalm 61; antiphon: v. 2*

**P** From the end of the earth I call to You when my heart is faint.

**C** **Lead me to the rock that is higher than I.**

**P** Hear my cry, O God,

**C** **listen to my prayer.**

**P** For You have been my refuge,

**C** **a strong tower against the enemy.**

**P** Let me dwell in Your tent forever!

**C** **Let me take refuge under the shelter of Your wings!**

**P** For You, O God, have heard my vows;

**C** **You have given me the heritage of those who fear Your name.**

**P** Prolong the life of the king;

**C** **may his years endure to all generations!**

**P** May he be enthroned forever before God;

**C** **appoint steadfast love and faithfulness to watch over him!**

**P** So will I ever sing praises to Your name,

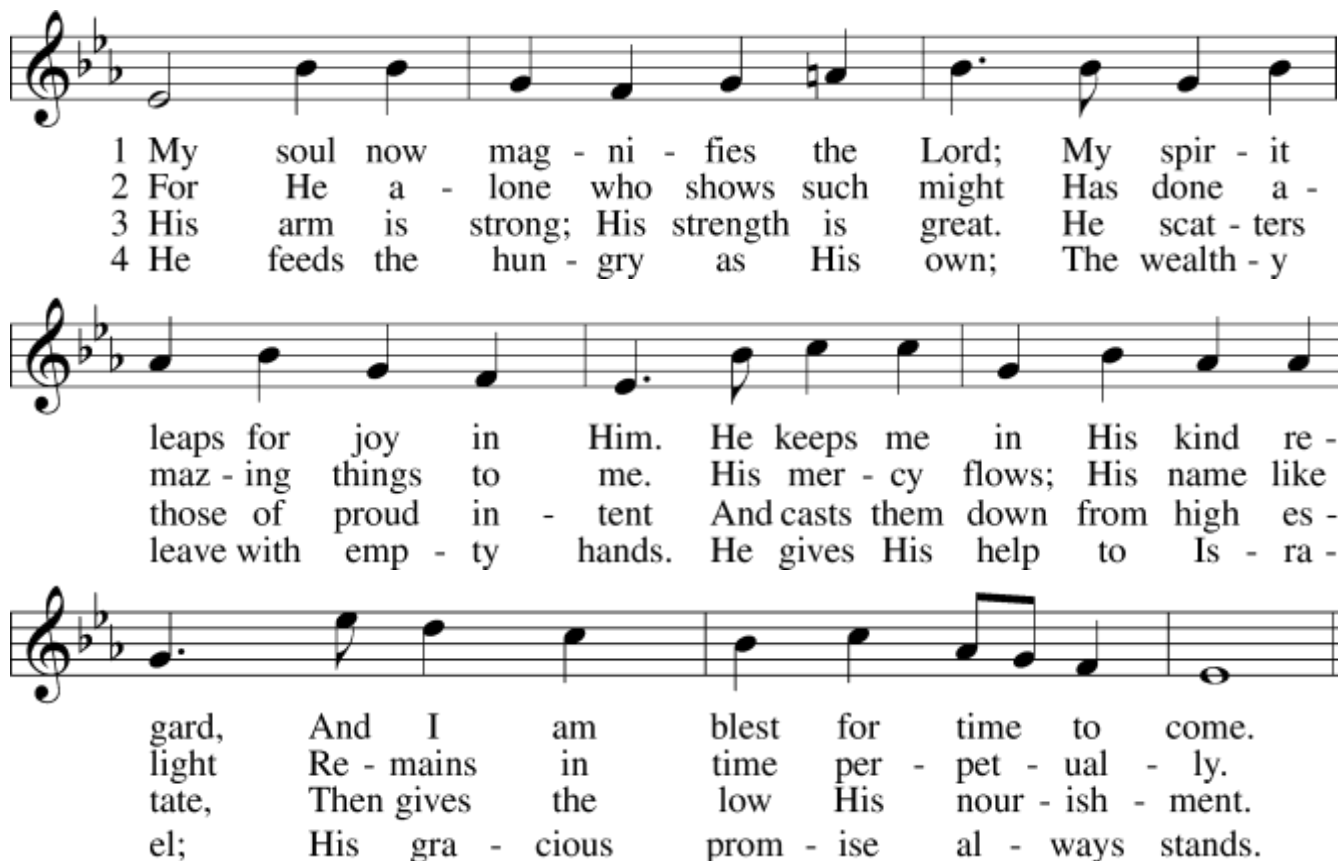
**C** **as I perform my vows day after day.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**P** From the end of the earth I call to You when my heart is faint.

**C** **Lead me to the rock that is higher than I.**

## 934 MY SOUL NOW MAGNIFIES THE LORD



1 My soul now mag - ni - fies the Lord; My spir - it  
 2 For He a - lone who shows such might Has done a -  
 3 His arm is strong; His strength is great. He scat - ters  
 4 He feeds the hun - gry as His own; The wealth - y

leaps for joy in Him. He keeps me in His kind re -  
 maz - ing things to me. His mer - cy flows; His name like  
 those of proud in - tent And casts them down from high es -  
 leave with emp - ty hands. He gives His help to Is - ra -

gard, And I am blest for time to come.  
 light Re - mains in time per - pet - ual - ly.  
 tate, Then gives the low His nour - ish - ment.  
 el; His gra - cious prom - ise al - ways stands.

Text: Luke 1:46–55; adapt. Stephanie K. Frey, 1952

Tune: Geistliche Lieder aufs new gebessert, 1535, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug

Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002155

Tune: Public domain

## SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty God, from the house of Your servant David You raised up Joseph to be the guardian of Your incarnate Son and the husband of His mother, Mary. Grant us grace to follow the example of this faithful workman in heeding Your counsel and obeying Your commands; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## FIRST READING

Hosea 2:18-23

*(The faithful Lord shows mercy on Israel in an unbreakable vow.)*

<sup>18</sup>And I will make for them a covenant on that day with the beasts of the field, the birds of the heavens, and the creeping things of the ground. And I will abolish the bow, the sword, and war from the land, and I will make you lie down in safety. <sup>19</sup>And I will betroth you to me forever. I will betroth you to me in righteousness and in justice, in steadfast love and in mercy. <sup>20</sup>I will betroth you to me in faithfulness. And you shall know the LORD.

<sup>21</sup>“And in that day I will answer, declares the LORD,

I will answer the heavens,  
and they shall answer the earth,

<sup>22</sup>and the earth shall answer the grain, the wine, and the oil,  
and they shall answer Jezreel,

<sup>23</sup>and I will sow her for myself in the land.

And I will have mercy on No Mercy,  
and I will say to Not My People, ‘You are my people’;  
and he shall say, ‘You are my God.’”

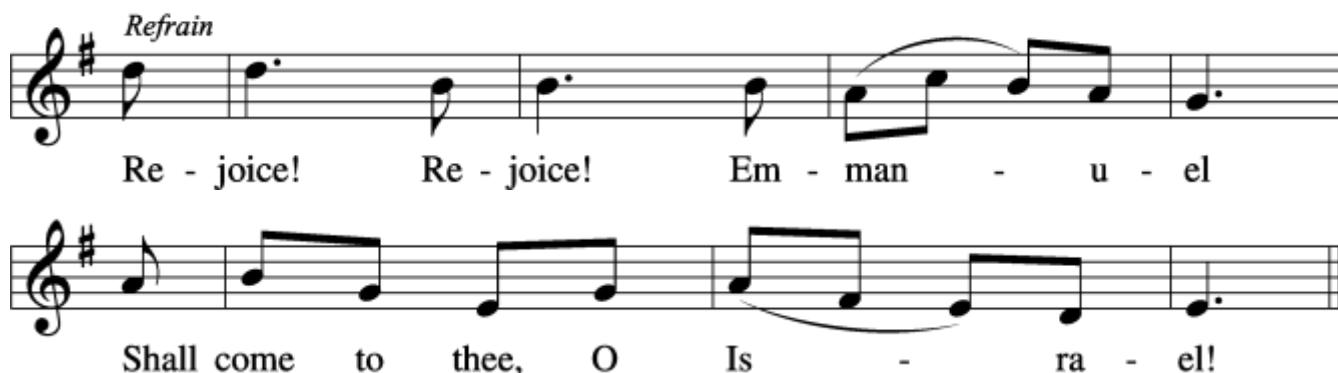
**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## 357 O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL

sts. 5–7

*Max Peterson will sing the stanzas, the congregation will join on the chorus.*



Text: Latin, c. 12th cent.; Psalterium Cantionum Catholicarum, 1710, Köln; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt.

Tune: French, 15th cent.

Text and tune: Public domain

*Stand*

### SECOND READING

*Matthew 1:18-25*

*(After a visit from the Lord's messenger, Joseph displays his faithfulness to his betrothed and to his God.)*

<sup>18</sup>Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup>And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. <sup>20</sup>But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup>She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." <sup>22</sup>All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

<sup>23</sup>"Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,  
and they shall call his name Immanuel"

(which means, God with us). <sup>24</sup>When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, <sup>25</sup>but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**G** Thanks be to God.

*Sit*

## LAMB'S MESSAGE

### 350 COME, THOU PRECIOUS RANSOM, COME



1 Come, Thou pre - cious Ran - som, come, On - ly hope for  
2 En - ter now my wait - ing heart, Glo - rious King and  
3 My ho - san - nas and my palms Gra - cious - ly re -  
4 Hail! Ho - san - na, Da - vid's Son! Je - sus, hear our

sin - ful mor - tals! Come, O Sav - ior of the world!  
Lord most ho - ly. Dwell in me and ne'er de - part,  
ceive, I pray Thee; Ev - er - more, as best I can,  
sup - pli - ca - tion! Let Thy king - dom, scep - ter, crown,

O - pen are to Thee all por - tals. Come, Thy beau - ty  
Though I am but poor and low - ly. Ah, what rich - es  
Sav - ior, I will hom - age pay Thee, And in faith I  
Bring us bless - ing and sal - va - tion, That for - ev - er

let us see; Anx - ious - ly we wait for Thee.  
will be mine When Thou art my guest di - vine!  
will em - brace, Lord, Thy mer - it through Thy grace.  
we may sing: Hail! Ho - san - na to our King.

Text: Johann Gottfried Olearius, 1635–1711; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.

Tune: Neu-verfertigtes Darmstädtisches Gesang-Buch, 1699, Darmstadt

Text and tune: Public domain



## SERMON

## VOTUM

**P** The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

**C** Amen.

## OFFERING

There are several ways to give.

1. Please **send** your offerings to  
St. Luke's Lutheran Church  
4801 Anderson Avenue  
Manhattan, KS 66503
2. **Electronic Funds Transfer** - Sign up through the church office.

*Stand*

## 341 LIFT UP YOUR HEADS, YE MIGHTY GATES

*st. 5*



5 Re - deem - er, come and o - pen wide My heart to  
Thee; here, Lord, a - bide! O en - ter with Thy grace di -  
vine; Thy face of mer - cy on me shine. Thy Ho - ly  
Spir - it guide us on Un - til our glo - rious goal is won.  
E - ter - nal praise and fame We of - fer to Thy name.

Text: Georg Weissel, 1590–1635; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.

Tune: August Lemke, 1820–1913

Text and tune: Public domain

## PRAYERS

**P** Son of David and Son of Joseph, Your arrival fulfills every promise ever made by the Lord, our God. Teach us to know You as the joy of every longing heart, that we might kneel before You, just as Your earthly guardian Joseph knelt beside Your manger, in trust that You hear our prayers and will bring us deliverance.

O holy Child of Nazareth, You learned and grew in the house of a carpenter. Build every father within Your great family into an honorable man, sacrificing for the sake of their household and leading them in holiness for the sake of Your name. Particularly bless fathers who have a troubled relationship with their children; heal their hurts and bind them in kindness and love. Son of Joseph,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Incarnate Son of God, You dwelt among sawdust and splinters. Bless all those whose work is difficult and dangerous and take under Your protection all who put their hands to any useful task. Sustain the commerce and industry of this nation. Give all who work the just rewards for their labor and the knowledge that their work is a blessing in Your sight. Son of sweat and toil,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Son of heaven's splendor, You came into our world yet had no place to lay Your head. Mercifully care for the homeless, the hungry, the poor, the unemployed, the lonely, the sick, and the troubled of mind and heart. Relieve their want, provide for their livelihood, and make their needs known that Your servants might bring to them the blessings of Your hand. Son of suffering,

**C** **hear our prayer. Amen.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

**P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom 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.

## **LUTHER'S EVENING PRAYER**

**C** I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

## **BENEDICAMUS**

**P** Let us bless the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## CLOSING SENTENCES

*Luke 1:49, alt.*

**P** He who is mighty has done great things for me.

**C** Holy is His name.

**P** To God—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit—be all honor and glory in His holy church, forever and ever.

**C** Amen. Christ died! Christ is risen! Christ shall come again!

## BENEDICTION

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**C** Amen.

## GREET ONE ANOTHER

*We greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, “The Lord be with you,” “Peace be with you,” or “The peace of the Lord be with you”.*

# GENTLE MARY LAID HER CHILD

sts. 1–3, Tune LSB 374



1 Gen - tle Mar - y laid her child Low - ly in a  
 2 “Fa - vored One,” spake Ga - bri - el To the maid - en  
 3 Gen - tle Mar - y laid her child Low - ly in a



man - ger; There He lay, the Un - de - filed, To the world a  
 Mar - y, “The true King of Is - ra - el Shall be of your  
 man - ger; He is still the Un - de - filed But no more a



strang - er. Such a babe in such a place,  
 bear - ing. Noth - ing is im - pos - si - ble;  
 strang - er. Son of God of hum - ble birth,



Can He be the Sav - ior? Ask the saved of  
 The Most High de - clares it!” “As His Word says,  
 Beau - ti - ful the sto - ry; Praise His name in



all the race Who have found His fa - vor.  
 let it be; I am but His ser - vant.”  
 all the earth; Hail the King of glo - ry!

Text (sts. 1, 3): Joseph Simpson Cook, 1859–1933; (st. 2): Joshua Brakhage

Tune: *Piae Cantiones Ecclesiasticae*, Griefswald, 1582

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Tune: Public domain

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