

Welcome to worship at
The New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran Church

Fourth Sunday in Advent
December 21, 2025

The Will to Dream



✦ Merciful Love ✦

Today Isaiah prophesies that a young woman will bear a son and name him Emmanuel. The gospel is Matthew's account of the annunciation and birth of the one named Emmanuel, God-with-us. During these final days of Advent we pray, "O come, O come, Emmanuel," a beloved hymn based on the O Antiphons, ancient prayers appointed for the seven days preceding Christmas. On this final Sunday of Advent we prepare to celebrate the birth of the one born to save us from the power of sin and death.

**The Rev. Scott Staub, pastor
Nicole Young, seminarian minister
Patricia Nyce, director of music ministry
Lindsey Waltermyer, Grace band leader**

We love our neighbors with healing and feeding them!

**All worship can be viewed online at
newhanoverlutheran.org
[facebook.com/NewHanoverLutheranChurch](https://www.facebook.com/NewHanoverLutheranChurch)
and on YouTube.**

**May your worship experience strengthen you
with God's love and grace.**

Welcome Statement

You are always welcome at New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran Church. We are a growing community of believers in Jesus Christ, rooted in God's love and guided by Christ's example. We strive to reach out with compassion, offering a place where you can grow in faith, experience God's grace and feel safe and celebrated. At New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran Church, we want you to gather with us at our table. Rooted in our Lutheran faith and belief that we are all children of God and made in God's image, we welcome all people with dignity and love.

In Romans 15:7, Paul writes, "Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God."

By this belief, we are committed to intentionally following Jesus' example of unconditional hospitality, love and justice. Here, you are not only included, you are respected. We affirm and value people of all races, ethnicities, sexual orientations, gender identities, gender expressions, cultures, ages, abilities, body sizes, relationship statuses and economic or immigration statuses. We are committed to the ongoing work toward racial equity and inclusion in all we do. You are invited to fully participate in our worship, sacraments, leadership positions, gatherings, and ministries. In our identities, we are united by the common faith we hold, and recognize we each offer unique gifts and perspectives. We believe that this transforms lives and deepens the faith of our community.

Christ's door is open to all, so is ours.

Prelude

Call to Worship

Pastor Scott

We gather together in this place:

prophets and dreamers, singers and poets,

we who dare to imagine a world renewed;

we who dare to dream God’s dream.

We speak out with Zechariah.

God’s name be blessed forever!

For God has remembered us in mercy,

and remained faithful to us in love.

Because of God’s tender compassion,

the dawn from on high will rise over us.

Come and worship, all you who dream and wait.

We have come to wonder and praise.

Opening Prayer

Pastor Scott

God of liberation, your love reaches beyond all boundaries of prejudice and fear. Your tenderness is offered not only to the powerful or deserving, but to all people, according to your infinite compassion. Teach us to love widely and boldly, honoring the dignity of all and trusting your promise that the way of love is the way of life. **Amen.**

Please rise as you are able.

Gathering Hymn

The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came

1. The an - gel Ga - bri - el from heav - en came, With
 2. "How blest a - mong all wom - en you shall be, Whom
 3. Then gen - tle Mar - y meek - ly bowed her head. "To
 4. Of her, Em - man - u - el, the Christ, was born In

wings as drift - ed snow, with eyes as flame. "All
 ev - 'ry age will praise con - tin - ual - ly. Your
 me be as it pleas - es God," she said. "My
 Beth - le - hem, all on a Christ - mas morn. And

hail," said he, "O low - ly maid - en Mar - y, Most
 Son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told, Most
 soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy God's ho - ly name." Most
 Chris - tian folk through-out the world will ev - er say: "Most

high - ly fa - vored la - dy." Gló - - ri - a!
 high - ly fa - vored la - dy." Gló - ri - a!
 high - ly fa - vored la - dy, Gló - ri - a!
 high - ly fa - vored la - dy." Gló - ri - a!

"The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came" Traditional Basque Carol, paraphrased by Sabine Baring Gould (1834-1924). Music setting by Edgar Pettman (1922). Copyright in public domain.

Please be seated.

Advent Candle Lighting

The Singley Family

The birth of Jesus has been told and retold a thousand times and in a thousand ways.

Its impact cannot be contained in any one perspective. But who is telling the story changes how we hear it, how we imagine it, how we experience it.

We Light the candle of hope because hope creates a path for a new, unknown story to unfold.

We light the candle of peace because peace requires us to pay attention to the needs of those around us.

And we light the candle of joy because joy sustains us in the midst of uncertainty.

Close your eyes for a moment and imagine what you once thought was impossible coming to fruition: the husband of Elizabeth never believing they would be parents, holding his infant son, John. Open your eyes. Zechariah, holding John, experiences an unexpected joy that leads to love.

A love that reclaims and reorients all who are present toward the possibilities of God.

A love that makes the most difficult of situations bearable and all things seem possible, even situations that dehumanize, harm and belittle.

A love that invites a lifelong, generation-transcending commitment to mercy, justice, and peace.

Today, we also light the candle of love because love makes the impossible possible.

He Came Down John and Diana Hazel

He came down that we may have love
He came down that we may have love
He came down that we may have love. Hallelujah forevermore

Interlude:

He came down, He came down, He came down, He came down
He came down, He came down, Hallelujah forevermore

He came down that we may have light
He came down that we may have light
He came down that we may have light
Hallelujah forevermore

Interlude

He came down that we may have peace
He came down that we may have peace
He came down that we may have peace. Hallelujah forevermore

Interlude

He came down that we may have joy
He came down that we may have joy
He came down that we may have joy. Hallelujah forevermore

“He Came Down” Text: Cameroon traditional. Music: HE CAME DOWN Cameroon traditional; arr. John L. Bell, b. 1949 GIA Publications. All rights reserved. Reprinted and streamed with permission under One License #A-701229.

Children’s Message

Pastor Scott

First Reading Isaiah 7:10-16 Kayleigh Urbassik
A reading from the book of Isaiah

¹⁰ The Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, ¹¹ “Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” ¹² But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test.” ¹³ Then

Isaiah said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals that you weary my God also? ¹⁴ Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son and shall name him Immanuel. ¹⁵ He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. ¹⁶ For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.”

Here ends the reading.

Please rise as you are able.

Gospel Acclamation *Creator of the Stars of Night* ELW #245
vs. 4

Gospel Matthew 1:18-25 Pastor Scott
The holy gospel according to Matthew
Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be pregnant from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to divorce her quietly. ²⁰ But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” ²² All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

²³ “Look, the virgin shall become pregnant
and give birth to a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel,”

which means, “God is with us.” ²⁴ When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife ²⁵ but had no marital relations with her until she had given birth to a son, and he named him Jesus.

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

Please be seated.

Message

Pastor Scott

A moment of silence for reflection

Please rise as you are able.

Song of the Day *God with Us* John and Diana Hazel

Oh You've come to bring peace, to be Love,

To be nearer to us

Oh You've come to bring life, to be Light,

To shine brighter in us

Oh Emmanuel, God with us

Chorus:

Our Deliverer, You are Savior

In Your presence we find our strength

Over ev'rything our Redemption

God with us

You are God with us

Oh You've come to be Hope, to this world,

For Your honor and name

Oh You've come to take sin, to bear shame,

And to conquer the grave

Oh Emmanuel, God with us

Chorus

Bridge (sing 2x):

You are here

You are holy

We are standing in Your glory (Lord)

Chorus 2x

Ending:

Oh God with us

You are God with us

"God with Us" Words and music by Jason Ingram and Leslie Jordan. © 2013 Open Hands Music; So Essential Tunes; Integrity's Praise! Music; Little Way Creative. Admin. by Essential Music Publishing LLC, Integrity Music. All rights reserved. Streamed with permission under CCLI License #2329082.

Please be seated.

Holy Baptism

Pastor Scott

God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.

I present Vanessa Lynn Harrity for baptism.

Parents called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have Vanessa baptized into Christ?

I do.

As you bring Vanessa to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

to live with her among God's faithful people,
bring her to the word of God and the holy supper,
teach her the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the
Ten Commandments,
place in her hands the holy scriptures,
and nurture her in faith and prayer,
so that Vanessa may learn to trust God,
proclaim Christ through word and deed,
care for others and the world God made,
and work for justice and peace.

Parents do you promise to help Vanessa grow in the Christian faith and life?

I do.

People of God, do you promise to support Vanessa Harrity and pray for her in her new life in Christ? **We do.**

Profession of Faith

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God, the powers of this world that rebel against God, and the ways of sin that draw you from God?

I renounce them.

Please rise as you are able.

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

Thanksgiving at the Font

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: We give you thanks, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and you created heaven and earth. By the gift of water you nourish and sustain us and all living things.

Blessed be God now and forever.

By the waters of the flood you condemned the wicked and saved those whom you had chosen, Noah and his family. You led Israel by the pillar of cloud and fire through the sea, out of slavery into the freedom of the promised land.

Blessed be God now and forever.

In the waters of the Jordan your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Spirit. By the baptism of his own death and resurrection your beloved Son has set us free from the bondage to sin and death, and has opened the way to the joy and freedom of everlasting life. He made water a sign of the kingdom and of cleansing and rebirth. In obedience to his command, we make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God now and forever.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, so that those who are here baptized may be given new life. Wash away the sin of all those who are cleansed by this water and bring them forth as inheritors of your glorious kingdom.

To you be given praise and honor and worship through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

Baptism

Vanessa Lynn Harrity, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

Sustain Vanessa with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

Vanessa, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

Amen.

Welcome

Jesus said, I am the light of the world.

Whoever follows me will have the light of life.

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

Baptism Song

Jesus Loves Me!

ELW #595

Peace

Pastor Scott

Where two or three of us are gathered, the prophetic Spirit is among us, inspiring our imagination and creating peace in our midst. Greet your fellow travelers now with the peace of Christ, and let these small doses of repair and reconciliation ripple out into a world in need of transformation.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

The people give a sign of peace to each other.

Prayers of Intercession

Nikki Young

God of grace,

hear our prayer.

The Lord's Prayer

Nikki Young

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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.

Please be seated.

Offertory

Choir Anthem

Shepherd's Gloria

Chancel Choir

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The offering will be taken at this time.

You can donate to NHELC's ministry electronically.

Tithe.ly QR Code



Simply Giving QR Code



Please rise as you are able.

Offertory Response *Doxology for Advent*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise
God all creatures here below. Praise
God above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

"Doxology for Advent" Words: Thomas Ken, 1674. Music: CAROL, Richard Storrs Willis, 1850. Text and music are in public domain.

The offering is brought forward for a blessing.

Please be seated.

Announcements

Pastor Scott

Please rise as you are able.

Sending Hymn *Joy to the World*

ELW #267

Charge: A Call to Advocacy

Pastor Scott

To embody love is more than sentiment. It is choosing, every day, to see the worth and good in ourselves, others, and this world. So go forth from this place modeling merciful love, and remember God is love. Though it may be difficult to understand, we see what it means modeled in Jesus. May blessings flow from your mouth as you seek to be love in this world.

Benediction

Pastor Scott

Go out into the world, embracing the will to dream, and may the love God has for you warm your soul for the days ahead!
Go get 'em!

Postlude

Postlude on "Gloria"

Jason D. Payne

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Announcements

Today

We welcome Vanessa Lynn Harrity, who will be baptized this morning. Vanessa is the daughter of Curtis and Jessica Harrity.

The bulletin is presented to the glory of God and in memory of her husband, Roy, by Carolyn Fleming.

The flowers are presented to the glory of God and in honor of Pastor Scott and Marsha for their upcoming retirement. May you be blessed for many, happy years by Doug and Bette Senne.

The poinsettia tree is dedicated to Pastor Scott in gratitude for his faithful ministry to the congregation at New Hanover Lutheran Church and the light he has shared with our community.

The Word in Season devotion booklet is presented to the glory of God; may we harvest acceptance, and give thanks to God for the love of our Lord Jesus that was given to us, by Janet Psota.

The sponsor signups for 2026 have been added to the signupgenius on the church's website. Click on the link <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4EAFAC2CAAF4C16-61280725-2026> or QR Code to sign up today. Or, contact Church Office Manager Susan Gutshall at 610-326-1335.



Serving Today: Andy Van Dyke, head usher; Doug and Bette Senne, ushers; Kayleigh Urbassik, lector; Pastor Scott, children's sermon;

Charlotte Moser, acolyte

Christmas Eve 4:00: Marty Hauser, head usher; Steve Weidner, George Trowbridge and Zach Quigley, ushers; Sam Young, lector; Nikki Young, children's sermon; Hannah Walermeyer, Acolyte; Nikki Young and Leslie Gates, communion assistants

Christmas Eve 8:00: Barbara Repa, head usher; Bill Allen, Monique Becker and Patrick Lucas, ushers; Scott Geiser, lector; Ainsley Lucas, acolyte; Erica Lucas and Carolyn Fleming, communion assistants

Next Sunday: Ed Becker, head usher; Monique Becker and Stacey Rothermel, ushers; Stacey Rothermel, lector; Dee Singley, children's sermon; Miller Quigley, acolyte

Altar Guild members serving this month: Deb Solazzo, Barb Eisenhart, Corrine Bartholomew and Judy Sloan

The Nursery room is located between the Welcome Center and the Fellowship Hall. Parents are welcome to use the room during worship as needed. The room provides for a comfortable play area in a joyful environment; toys and books are included. The room has access to a changing room and a private nursing room next door.

Doors leading to fellowship hall and the education wing remain locked during the worship service for the safety of all.

The annual Rejoicing Spirits bingo will be held this afternoon beginning at 2:00 PM followed by the worship service at 3:00. For more information, contact Donna Kehs or Stacey Rothermel.

This Week

Worship Service – Today, 9:00 AM, sanctuary and online

Food Drop Off – Today, 9:00 – 10:00 AM, kitchen

Food Delivery Pickup – Today, 10:00 AM, kitchen door

Christmas Pageant – Today, 10:15 AM, room 1

Praise Band Rehearsal – Today, 11:20 AM, sanctuary

Confirmation – Today, 1:30 – 3:30 PM, St. James, Limerick

Rejoicing Spirits – Today, 2:00 – 4:00 PM, room 1 and sanctuary

Prayer Ministry – Monday, 1:15 PM, sanctuary

Scouts BSA Troop 367 – Tuesday, 6:30 – 8:15 PM, room 1

Food Drop Off – Wednesday, 1:00 – 2:00 PM, kitchen

Food Delivery Pickup – Wednesday, 1:00 PM, kitchen door

Addiction 12 Step – Wednesday, 6:00 – 7:00 PM, rooms 33-34

Christmas Eve Services – Wednesday, 4:00 and 8:00 PM

Addiction 12 Step – Thursday, 6:30 – 7:30 PM, rooms 33-34

Anniversary Party – Saturday, 1:00 PM, room 1

Worship Service – Next Sunday, 9:00 AM, sanctuary and online

Food Drop Off – Next Sunday, 9:00 – 10:00 AM, kitchen

Food Delivery Pickup – Next Sunday, 10:00 AM, kitchen door

Reception – Next Sunday, 10:00 AM, room 1

The church office will be closed Thursday and Friday, December 25th -26th for the Christmas holiday.

Upcoming Events

Pastor Scott's Last Service Join us for a very special final service for Pastor Scott on Sunday, December 28th. (This will not be a lessons and carols service – that will be on January 4th.) Worship will begin at 9:00, followed by a reception. You will not want to miss this!

Do you like to read? Readers are needed for the Lessons and Carols service on January 4th. Sign up today to reserve your reading in this festive service. A sign-up sheet is on the desk in the Welcome Center.

New Hanover Memorabilia items collected over the years are available in the Welcome Center. You are invited to take home a piece of New Hanover's history; your donations will help our ministries to continue. Souvenirs from the 325th anniversary are also on the table.

History Booklets printed for the 325th Anniversary are available in the Welcome Center. If you didn't get one, pick up a copy today. Please, one booklet per family.

Join NHELIC at 7:30 PM on Christmas Eve for a special Prelude of Instrumental Music.

Arrive early and experience a selection of refined, thoughtfully curated instrumental works designed to prepare the heart and mind for the solemn beauty of the evening. From elegant arrangements of traditional carols to serene seasonal pieces, the Prelude will offer a moment of quiet reflection and graceful anticipation.

We invite you to enjoy this musical offering as we prepare to welcome Christmas with reverence and joy.

Committee and board 2025 annual reports are due in the church office by Monday, January 5, 2026.

The NHEL C Book Club is reading *Summer Sisters* by Judy Blume. Join the club for dinner and book discussion at the WQ Diner in Pottstown on Tuesday, February 3rd, at 6:30 PM. Any questions about this event, contact Sharon Tracey at LBD36@aol.com.

Keystone Fire Company will host a New Year's Eve Matinee Dance, featuring The Directors Big Band on Wednesday, December 31st, 1:00 – 4:00 PM. Tickets are available at \$10 a ticket and can be purchased in advance by sending an email to DirectorsBandBoyertown@gmail.com or pick up tickets at Aunt Nannie's Bake Shop in Bechtelsville. The fire company is located at 240 Walnut Street in Boyertown.

Help Needed

Be Part of Our Live Nativity - We need your help! When: Christmas Eve, 4:00 PM service. We're looking for: Baby Jesus (six months or younger), Mary & Joseph, shepherds, three wise people, a guiding star and angels. Families, kids, and all ages are encouraged to join in this meaningful tradition. Sign up on the signup sheet on the desk in the welcome center OR text/call Dee Singley at 610-763-0406. Let's bring the story to life together!

Pottstown Cluster Now through February, NHEL C is collecting non-perishable food items and full-sized personal hygiene items to be distributed to local families through the Pottstown Cluster. Collection boxes are located in the welcome center, fellowship hall, and multi-purpose room for the donations. For a list of items most needed, see the December issue of New Hanover Highlights. Thank you for your contributions that will help those in need.

Mission Service folks need your help! Friends, our church has been helping to feed the hungry at Emmanuel Lutheran Church every month. We discovered their clothes closet needs help. We ask for used, clean, in good condition, warm clothes. Also, hats, gloves, mittens and hoodies are needed too! The ladies at the closet are in need of NEW socks and undergarments. Our junior/senior high Sunday School class decorated a box that is sitting in the welcome center for your donations.

Want to be a member?

Please fill out “Your Voice from the Pew” card, located in the pew rack and place the card in the offering plate. Check off “Interest in Church Membership.”

Resources

Are you missing a Moments in Time insert? Extra copies are available. Contact Barb Eisenhart, Lee Wesner or Susan Gutshall. Wrappers for the collection are available in the Welcome Center.

Want to keep up with all the latest news from NHELCC? Subscribe to the bi-weekly Constant Contact communication emails. You will receive a weekly announcement on Monday and a worship reminder on Saturday. If you are not already receiving these emails, you can use this QR code and sign up today using a very simple, secure site.



Do you enjoy the praise band songs? Would you like to get to know them better? This [playlist](#) includes over fifty songs that our praise band has done, and more will be added in the future. You will need to download Spotify (it’s free!) to listen to the songs.



Peer Support Information The Ferns Peer Run Respite is a local mental health non-profit resource in Montgomery County. The Ferns provides a supportive and calm environment for individuals in need and not able to interact in other available mental health resources. The Ferns is totally peer-supported and allows individuals at the respite the time they may need to recover or seek additional treatment. If you know an individual who may need this service, contact the church and leave a message for the peer support program.

The Peer Support Ministry webpage on the church’s website (newhanoverlutheran.org) offers resources for mental health and wellness. Visit the webpage for information.

Mental Health and Wellness Millions of people across the nation are affected by mental health conditions. National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) has local centers in both Reading and Lansdale. They offer in-person and online support groups. NHELCC has links with helpful information available on our website

(newhanoverlutheran.org) or contact NAMI Helpline or PA Addiction Helpline directly.

NAMI Help Line 1-800-950-6242 is available Monday - Friday 10:00 AM to 10:00 PM ET.

Text “Helpline” to 62640 or if in crisis call or text 988.

PA Addiction Helpline 1-800-662-HELP (4357).

Online live chat offered at 1-717-216-0905 or text

You Can Help

Volunteers are needed to help during the church service: Ushers, Lectors, Children’s Sermons, Acolytes and Communion Assistants. Contact Faye Weidner at omiweidner@gmail.com or 484-929-5958 if you can help.

Food Ministry

Nearly a quarter million meals have been delivered! NHELCC’s Loaves & Fishes Food Ministry is changing lives. And, you can be a part of the team. 1.) You can donate food. Drop off your donation on Wednesdays between 1 – 2 PM and Sundays between 9 – 10 AM. **Items most needed include: hamburger, chicken (thighs and breast meat), pasta (ziti, elbows, bowties), cheese (mozzarella, cheddar, parmesan), potatoes, fresh fruit (apples, oranges, bananas) and eggs.** 2.) Donate money through Thrivent Gift Cards. Place monetary donations on the offering plate or mail to the church. 3.) Deliver meals. Sign up at <https://www.newhanoverlutheran.org/loaves-fishes-food-ministry/>.

Reconciling in Christ Serving All and Loving Unconditionally

In case you want any information, enter this link in your web browser:

<https://newhanoverlutheran.org/reconciling-in-christ/> or connect using this QR Code.



Additional Information

Facility Use for Meetings or Events Requests All meeting and event requests by committees, members or non-members are to be communicated to the church office manager. The request will include the date and time, purpose, amount of people attending, necessary

space and equipment of the meeting or event. Given the information the meeting or event will be posted on the church calendar by the church office manager (only). Providing an announcement for the bulletin, newsletter or social media posting does not constitute a request or guarantee a space.

There is a Facility Use policy, and fees do apply in some cases. In no case will fees be waived. Deposits are required to hold the space, date and time. If the meeting or event is not posted on the church calendar or you do not place a deposit if necessary, you do not have permission to use the space. Contact Susan Gutshall, church office manager at (610) 326-1335, or email her at

susan.gutshall@newhanoverlutheran.org for requests or information.

Prayer Requests

Military: Shawn Dietz, Kevin Dugan, Jason Bernhard, Craig Geiser, Patrick Mathias, Steven Kane, William Zearfoss, Will Wilson V, Milton Jack Repa, Kyle Woods, Danny Foust

Peace for violence in our area and nationally

Keeley Staples	Logan Conley	Katy Mahon-Miller
Luann Hanley	Carol Estes	William Trotter
Kathy Kane	Maxwell Girard	Pat Fryer
Jean Renninger	Pr. Kork Moyer	Julia Hauck
Tony Mancini	Raul Castro	Amy LeVan
Jeffrey Kunsch	Wilma Lahr	Melissa
Mary Lou	Doug Weaver	Joan Wagner
Robert Ganovsky	Dorothy Bingaman	Emily Ocelus
Eric & Wendy Hess	Sue Care	Deb Matthews
Marceline	Anne Eshleman	Daniel Johnson
Chris Fatzinger	Hank Droneberg	Pena family
Kim Frain	Jen Perez	Frank D.
Pam Helfrich	Barb & Tom Faust	Andy Van Dyke
Janet	Pam Abbott	Holli Muffler
Louise Karns	Pr. Jennifer Phelps	Verdie Smith
Helen Foulke	Carla Hausmann	Joan Price
Ralph Borneman	Lucille Powell	Joan Scheffey
Arnold Amundsen	Chuck Beck	Rich Freed
Joe	Joe	Casey Flack
Penny Frymoyer	Denton Quick	David Helfrich, Sr.
Tara Hauck	Patricia Kemp	Ron Seasholtz
Penny Garber	Hazel LeVan	Lynn Amundsen
David Gottshall	Paul Knauer	Suzanne Dodge

Dave Pollock	Julia Ghazi	Ray Feick
Jennifer, Brendt, Declan & Conor Budnick		Patty Houseal
Steve Morriss	Vicki Mutter	Carol Feick
Josephine Heck	Alice Nester	Debbie Tischendorf
John Sander, Candis Peto, Yvonne Peto		Linda Adams
Dennis and Sandy Rothermel		Phil Boyer
Lee Fatzinger	Roxanna Miller	

The New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran Church

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 Gilbertsville, PA 19525
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Call 610-326-1335 for an appointment



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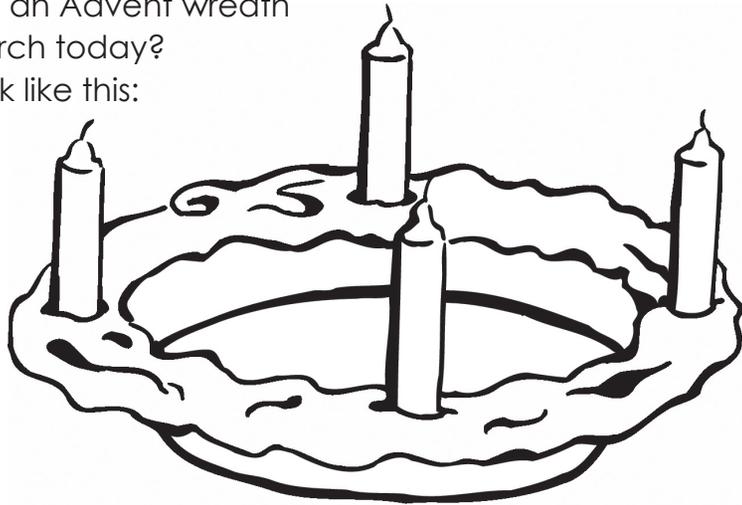
Bookkeeper, Dorothy Brower,

bookkeeper@newhanoverlutheran.org

Cemetery, Norm Hunsberger

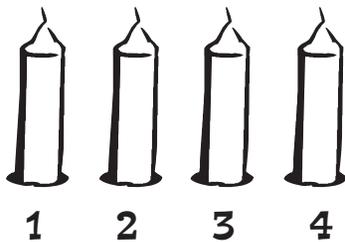
nhunsberger29@gmail.com

Do you see an Advent wreath in your church today?
It might look like this:

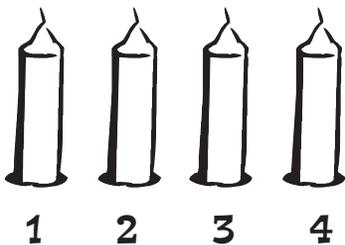


Color this Advent wreath.

There are **4 weeks** in Advent. **Circle the number of candles you see on the wreath.**



We light **one candle each week** while we wait for Jesus to come. **Draw a flame on each candle.**

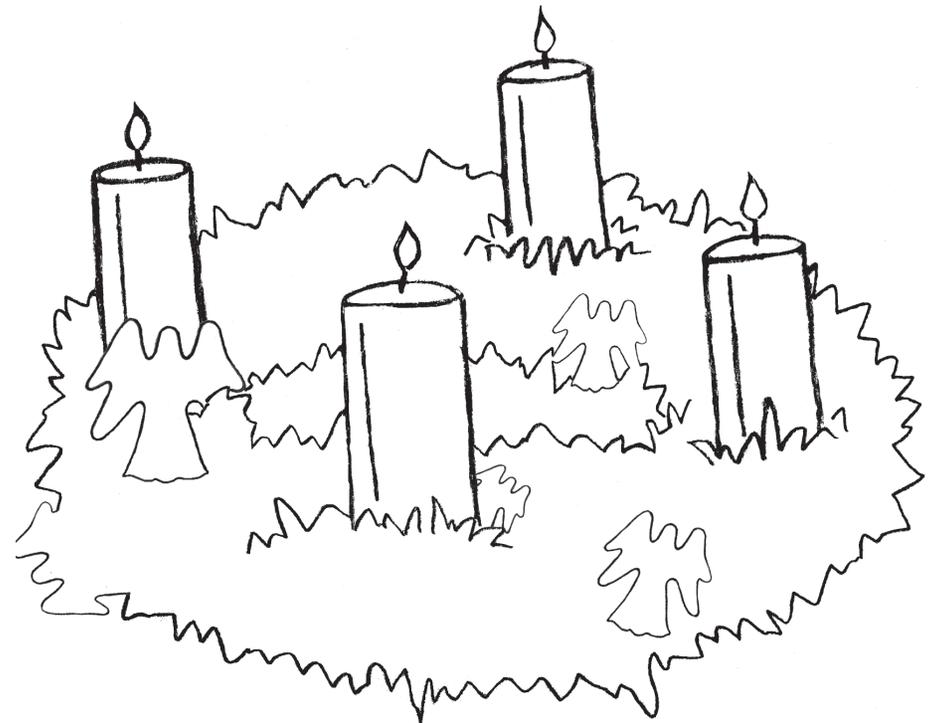


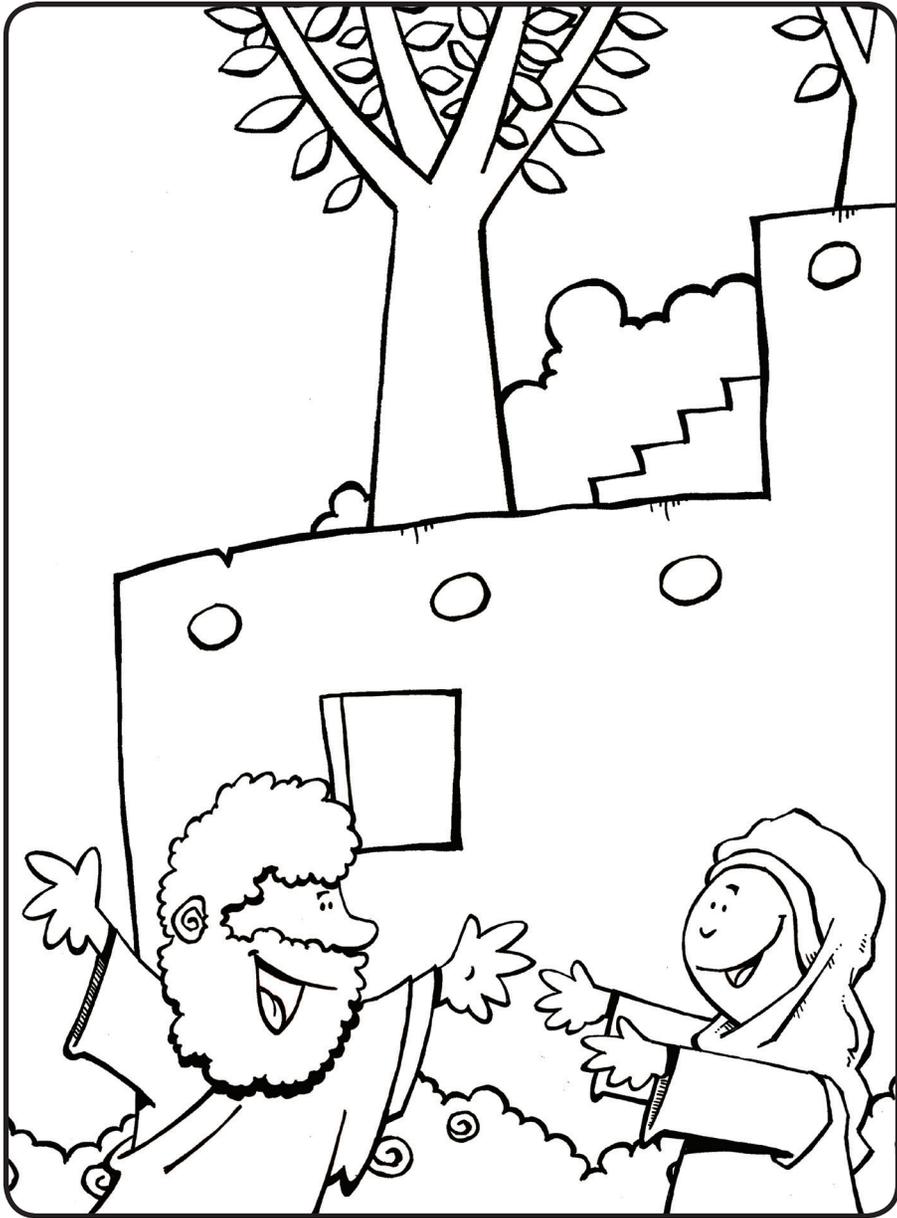
PRE-READER

Advent 4

- Today is the **4th Sunday** in **Advent**.
- During Advent we hear **good news**. Jesus is coming!
- **Angels** brought this news to **Mary** and **Joseph**.

**Angels are hiding in the Advent wreath.
How many can you find? Color them!**

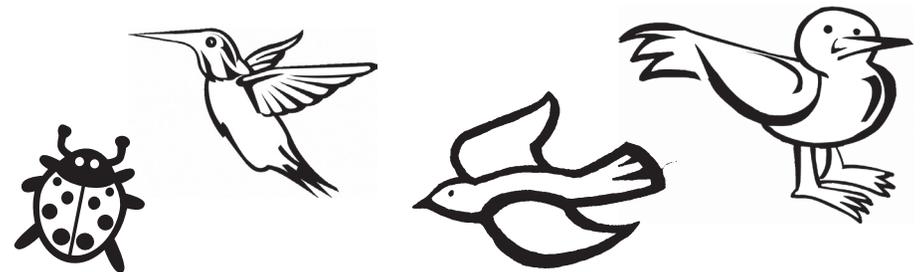
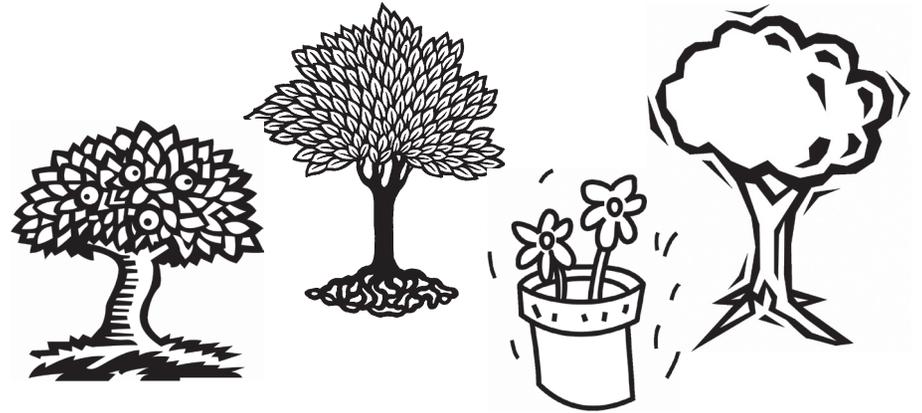




“I will be with you and we will name the boy Jesus.”

Angels visited Mary and Joseph with some **surprising news**. They found out that they would be Jesus' **parents!**

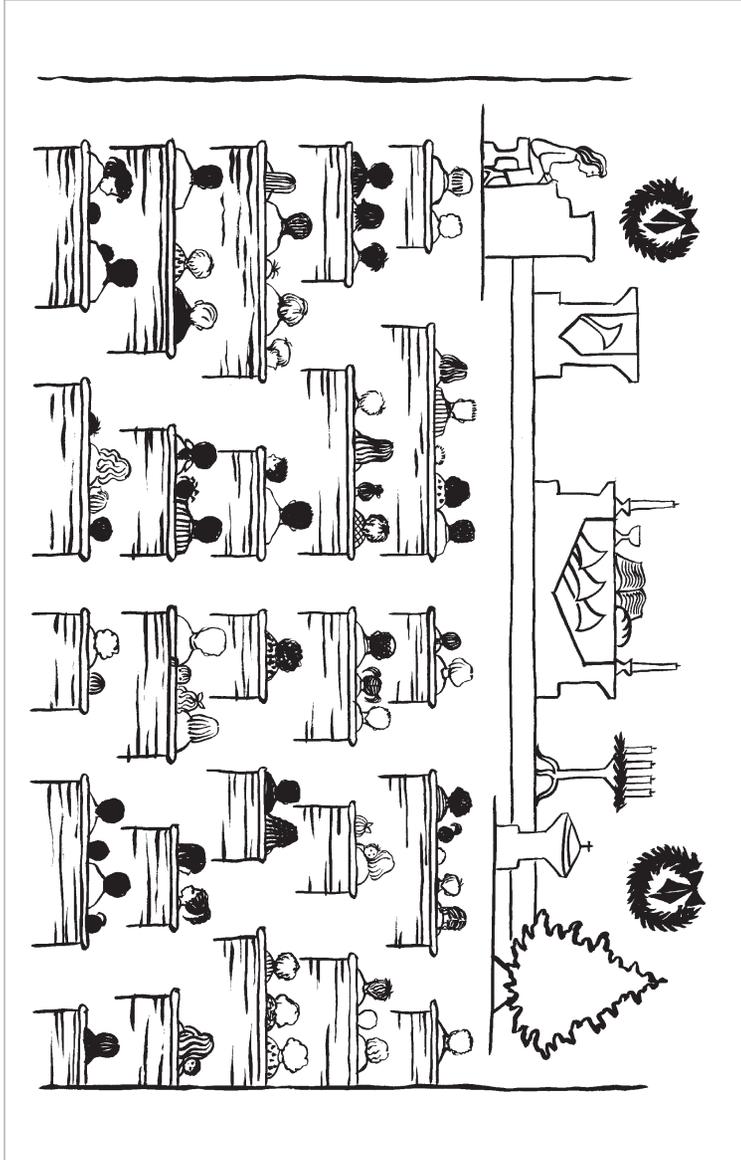
There is a surprise in each group of pictures. **Pick out the surprising thing in each group.**



Advent Spaces

During Advent, your church probably uses some decorations that you don't see the rest of the year.

Here is a picture of how one church decorates during Advent. Color it in! How is this different from your church? Ask your pastor why you have the decorations you do, and what they mean.



READER

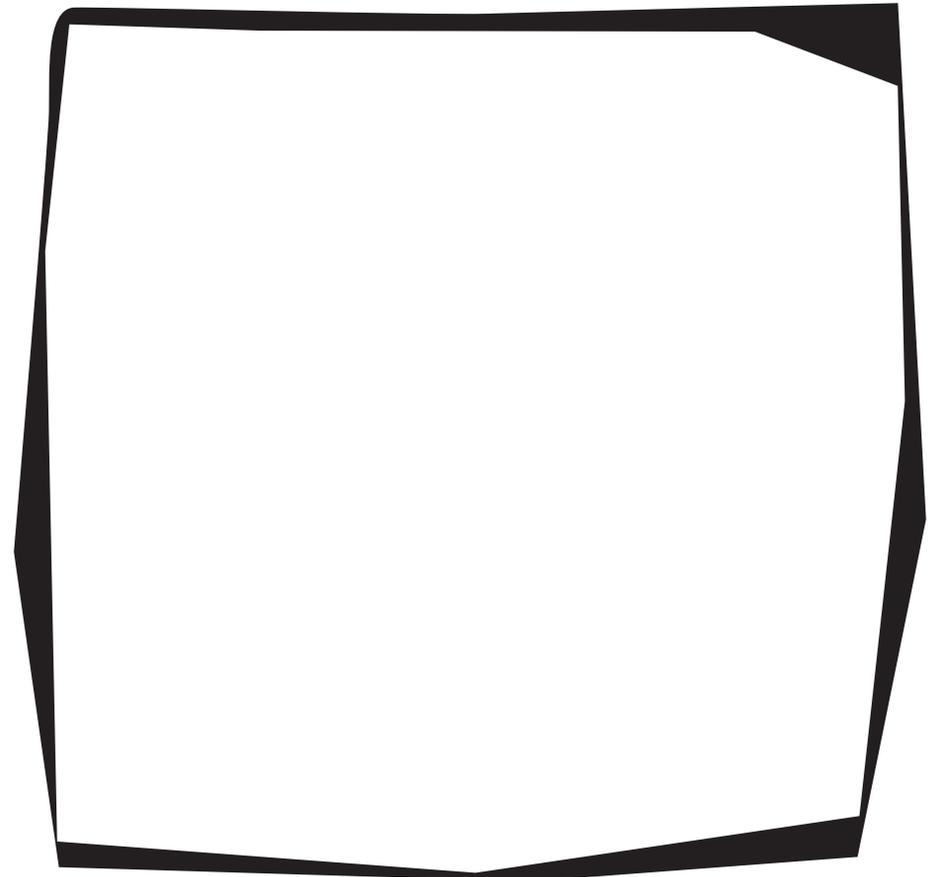
Advent 4

- Today is the **fourth Sunday** in Advent.
- During Advent we hear the **good news** that **Jesus is coming**.
- **Angels** brought this news to **Mary and Joseph**.



Angels Everywhere

Do you see any pictures of angels around your church today? Where do you see them? **Draw and write about them here.** If your worship space does not have angels, draw what you think angels look like in the space.



Unscramble the underlined words to finish this week's memory verse.



She will reba a son, and you are to aemn him ssuej, for he will vsea his leppoe from their sins.

She will _____ a son, and you are to _____ him _____, for he will _____ his _____ from their sins. Matthew 1:21

Joseph + Angel = Good News

An angel came to Joseph and told him that Mary was going to have a baby. The angel told Joseph that this was **good news!** The angel also told Joseph to name the baby Jesus. What is special about the name Jesus? Solve these math problems to find out!

2=U	4=I	5=J	6=S	8=V	9=R	
10=O	12=A	15=N	25=M	30=E		

$\begin{array}{r} 25 \\ \div 5 \\ \hline 5 \\ \hline J \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 6 \\ \times 5 \\ \hline 30 \\ \hline E \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 18 \\ \div 3 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 22 \\ \div 11 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} -1 \\ + 7 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 125 \\ \div 5 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 12 \\ + 18 \\ \hline \end{array}$
$\begin{array}{r} 48 \\ \div 4 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 20 \\ + -5 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 36 \\ \div 6 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 3 \\ \times 2 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 31 \\ - 19 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 2 \\ \times 2 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 48 \\ \div 12 \\ \hline \end{array}$
$\begin{array}{r} 99 \\ - 89 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 3 \\ \times 3 \\ \hline \end{array}$					



In ancient times, there were no post offices, so letters had to be delivered in person. Phoebe was a wealthy woman who supported Paul. She was probably the person who carried Paul's letter to the Romans. She went all the way from Corinth, Greece to Rome, Italy. That's over 600 miles (almost 1000 kilometers)!

Posting Paul's Message

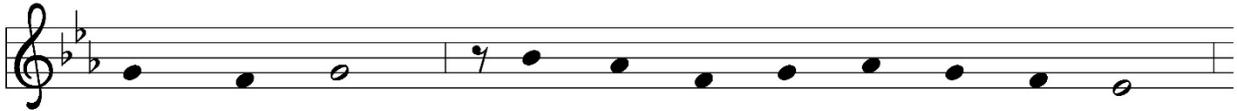
Paul was an **apostle**. This means he was **sent out** on a mission: to spread God's message to the world! Paul used **letters** to spread his message.

Use this postcard to write a letter to a family member or friend. You can cut it out when you get home and send it to them. Tell them that Jesus is coming and that Jesus loves them!

Creator of the Stars of Night



1 Cre - a - tor of the stars of night, your peo - ple's ev - er -
2 When this old world drew on toward night, you came; but not in
3 At your great name, O Je - sus, now all knees must bend, all
4 Come in your ho - ly might, we pray, re - deem us for e -
5 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son, and God the Spir - it,



last - ing light, O Christ, re - deem - er of us all,
splen - dor bright, not as a mon - arch, but the child
hearts must bow: all things on earth with one ac - cord,
ter - nal day; de - fend us while we dwell be - low
Three in One, praise, hon - or, might, and glo - ry be



we pray you hear us when we call.
of Mar - y, bless - ed moth - er mild.
like those in heav'n, shall call you Lord.
from all as - saults of our dread foe.
from age to age e - ter - nal - ly. A - men.

“Creator of the Stars of Night” Text: Latin hymn, 9th cent.; tr. Hymnal 1940, alt. Music: CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM, plainsong mode IV. Text © 1940 Church Pension Fund. Admin. by Church Publishing Incorporated and Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted and streamed with permission under One License #A-701229.

God With Us

Words and Music by
Jason Ingram and Leslie Jordan

INTRO

♩ = 136

D G A Bm A



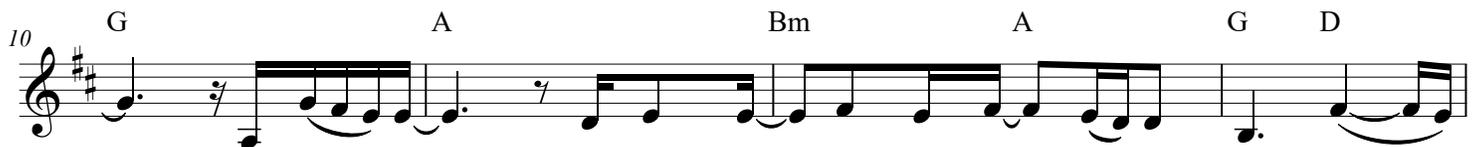
VERSE

D

1. Oh, You've come to bring peace,
(2. Oh, You've come) to be Hope



to be Love, to be near - er to us. You've come to bring life,
to this world, for Your hon - or and name. And You've come to take sin,



to be Light, to shine bright - er in us. Oh, Em - man - u -
to bear shame, and to con - quer the grave. Oh, Em - man - u -

CHORUS

A G D A G D A



el, God with us. Our De - liv - er - er, You are Sav - ior.
el, God with us.



In Your pres - ence, we find our strength o - ver ev - 'ry - thing, our Re - demp - tion, God with

1 2

A G Bm A A Bm



us. You are God with us. 2. Oh, You've come us.

BRIDGE

Bm

G

D

1

A

2

A

repeat as desired



You are here. You are ho - ly. We are stand - ing in Your glo - ry. in Your glo - ry,

CHORUS

G

G

D

A

G

35



Lord. Our De - liv - er - er, You are Sav - ior. In Your pres - ence, we

40

Bm7

A

G

D

A

G

Bm

A

D.S. al Coda

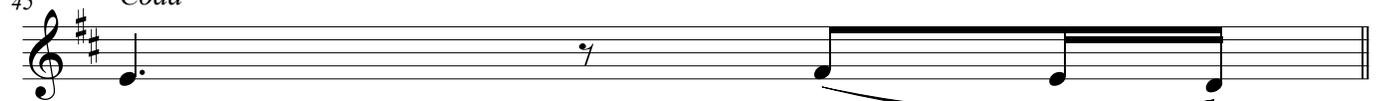


find our strength o - ver ev - 'ry - thing, our Re - demp - tion, God with us.

45

A

Coda



us.

Oh,

ENDING

G

Bm

A

G

Bm

A

G



God with us. You are God with us.

Jesus Loves Me!



1 Je - sus loves me! this I know, for the Bi - ble tells me so;
2 Je - sus loves me! he who died heav - en's gates to o - pen wide;
3 Je - sus loves me! he will stay close be - side me all the way;



lit - tle ones to him be - long, they are weak, but he is strong.
he will wash a - way my sin, let his lit - tle child come in.
when at last I come to die, he will take me home on high.

Refrain



Yes, Je - sus loves me, yes, Je - sus loves me,



yes, Je - sus loves me, the Bi - ble tells me so.

"Jesus Loves Me!" Text: Anna B. Warner, 1820-1915, alt. Music: JESUS LOVES ME, William B. Bradbury, 1816-1868. Text and music are in public domain.

Joy to the World



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their
 3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the



ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -



room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
 plains re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
 flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his



sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

“Joy to the World” Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748. Music: ANTIOCH, English melody, 18th cent.; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792-1872. Text and music are in public domain.