

Lessons and Carols — December 31, 2023



**LIVING HOPE**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

welcome to  
**WORSHIP**

We're so glad you decided to worship with us today. You could have chosen to be anywhere this morning, and you chose to spend your time at Living Hope. Thank you! It's an honor to have you here and to have the chance to fill you with hope. Welcome to Living Hope.

## **Christmas Lessons and Carols—O Antiphons**

### **O ANTIPHONS**

Our lesson and carols service will follow the outline of the liturgical tradition of “O Antiphons.”

The hymn “O, Come, O, Come, Emmanuel” is a rendition of the medieval “O Antiphons” also called the “Greater Antiphons.” An Antiphon is a selection of Scripture and prayer chanted responsively by the officiant and assembly. The purpose of the Antiphon is to set the focus for the reading selected for that particular day of the Church year.

The O Antiphons were to be sung during Vespers, one on each day, seven days before the feast of the Nativity of Christ. That is, from December 17th through the 23rd. **Each antiphon focuses on one of Christ's titles that were given to him in Biblical prophecy. The antiphon then calls the Messiah to come and fulfill the promise that was made through that prophecy.**

The traditional order of the seven antiphons is

- (1) *Sapientia*: “O Wisdom” Isaiah 11:2-3,
- (2) *Adonai*: “O Lord of Might” Isaiah 11:4-5,
- (3) *Radix Jesse*: “O Root/Branch/Rod of Jesse” Isaiah 11:1 and 10,
- (4) *Clavis David*: “O Key of David” Isaiah 22:22,
- (5) *Oriens*: “O Dayspring” Isaiah 9:2,
- (6) *Rex Gentium*: “O Desire of Nations/King of Gentiles” Isaiah 2:4; 9:6; 11:10-12,
- (7) *Emmanuel*: “O Emmanuel” Isaiah 7:14.

When one takes first letters of the titles for Christ in the antiphons and reads them from right to left they form a Latin acrostic “*Ero Cras*” which means “I will be (with you) tomorrow” or “I will come tomorrow”—a thematically appropriate mnemonic.

The basic progression of themes can be understood this way: The framer of the Universe (Wisdom) Who gave the Law (Adonai) promised through David's throne (Radix Jesse) to set free the captives of sin (Clavis David) and bring the Light of salvation to dawn (Oriens) not only on His chosen people but all nations (Rex Gentium) and dwell with us as one of us eternally (Emmanuel).

## ABOUT LIVING HOPE

Living Hope Lutheran Church is a brand new mission church on Chattanooga's east side. We are funded by and a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, a collection of over 1,300 churches across the United States and Canada.

**Living Hope succeeds in its mission when hope forever in Jesus brings hope for every day in life.**

For more on our mission, background, and beliefs just visit our website: [livinghopechatt.com](http://livinghopechatt.com)

## ABOUT WORSHIP

Worship at Living Hope is designed to fill you with hope! The message you hear at Living Hope will center you on your Savior, Jesus, and what he's done for you. Worship isn't just about filling up God with praise. Worship is all about *God filling you* with good news!

We follow a basic order of service, called the liturgy. In the message, in specially selected Scripture readings, and in carefully crafted songs, prayers, and creeds, the liturgy proclaims the good news (gospel) about Jesus from start to finish. Gospel-centered worship is also designed to include participation of those in attendance.

- Feel free to get up to use restrooms **at any time** during the service.
- **Restrooms** are located around the corner to your right.
- A **nursery** is available for small children out the left-hand side of the worship space. Just look for the **Kid's Zone sign** just past the info corner by the main entrance. Feel free to use that space during worship. The service will be livestreamed into the room
- **Kid activity bags** are available on a table by the entrance to the sanctuary.
- Please fill out a **connection card**. It's our best way to stay in touch with you and thank you for joining us today! You'll find connection cards on the table at the entrance.
- Everything you need to enjoy today's worship will be found in this Worship Folder. **Songs** will also be found on the screen.

*Show friends where you are—check in!*



/livinghopechatt

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# Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel CW23



1 Oh, come, oh, come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som cap - tive  
 2 Oh, come, O Root of Jes - se, free Your own from Sa - tan's  
 3 Oh, come, O Day-spring from on high, And cheer us by your  
 4 Oh, come, O Key of Da - vid, come, And o - pen wide our



Is - ra - el That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here  
 tyr - an - ny; From depths of hell your peo - ple save,  
 draw - ing nigh; Dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night,  
 heav'n - ly home. Make safe the way that leads on high,



Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
 And bring them vic - t'ry o'er the grave. Re-joice! Re-joice!  
 And death's dark shad - ows put to flight.  
 And close the path to mis - er - y.



Em - man - u - el Shall come to you, O Is - ra - el!

Text: Latin hymn, c. 12th century, abr.; tr. John M. Neale, 1818–66, alt.

Tune: VENI, EMMANUEL (LM with Refrain) Plainsong melody, 15th century, alt.

The Latin text that forms the basis for this hymn dates back at least to manuscripts from the 11th century. Based on their use in an Old English poem called “The Christ” by Cynewulf the antiphons probably date from the 8th century or earlier.

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Minister: Brothers and sisters, in this Christmas season it is our duty and delight to hear again the message of the angels and, in heart and mind, to go to Bethlehem and see this thing which has come to pass, which the Lord has made known to us, the Christ-child, lying in a manger.

**Congregation: Bless us, Lord, in our worship. Amen.**

M: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. *Isaiah 9:2*

**C: The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it.** *John 1:5*

M: On those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned. *Isaiah 9:2b*

**C: We have seen his glory, the glory of the only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.** *John 1:14*

M: For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given. *Isaiah 9:6*

**C: In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind.** *John 1:4*

M: Dear friends, let us join with the angels in praising the Lord: "Today in the town of David, a Savior has been born to you!"

**C: "He is Christ the Lord!"** *Luke 2:11*

M: "Glory to God in the highest!"

**C: "And on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests!" Amen!** *Luke 2:14*

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

*Children are invited to come forward to the front for the children's message. They will be given a special message designed just for them that ties in with the sermon.*

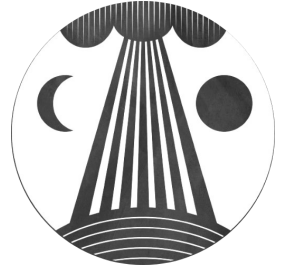
## FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 11:2-3

<sup>2</sup> The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him—  
 the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding,  
 the Spirit of counsel and of might,  
 the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the LORD—  
<sup>3</sup> and he will delight in the fear of the LORD.

NIV

O Wisdom, coming forth from the mouth of the Most High,  
**reaching from one end to the other,**  
 mightily and sweetly ordering all things:  
**Come and teach us the way of prudence.**



## Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising CW42



1	Come,	your	hearts	and	voic - es	rais - ing,	Christ	the
2	See	how	God,	for	us	pro - vid - ing,	Gave	his
5	Gra -	cious	Child,	we	pray	you, hear us;	From	your



Lord	with	glad - ness	prais - ing;	Loud - ly	sing	his	love	a -
Son	and	life	a - bid - ing;	He	our	wea - ry	steps	is
low - ly	man -	ger	cheer us.	Gent - ly	lead	us	and	be



maz - ing,	Wor -	thy	folk	of	Chris -	ten -	dom.
guid - ing	From	earth's	woe	to	heav'n -	ly	joy.
near us	Till	we	join	th' an -	gel -	ic	choir.

# LORD OF MIGHT

## SECOND LESSON

Isaiah 11:4-5

<sup>4</sup> but with righteousness he will judge the needy,  
with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth.  
He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth;  
with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked.  
<sup>5</sup> Righteousness will be his belt  
and faithfulness the sash around his waist.

NIV

O Adonai, and leader of the House of Israel,  
**who appeared to Moses in the fire of the burning bush**  
and gave him the law on Sinai:  
**Come and redeem us with an outstretched arm.**



## From Heaven Above to Earth I Come CW38

1 "From heav'n a - bove to earth I come To bear good  
2 "To you this night is born a child Of Mar - y,  
3 "This is the Christ, our God most high, Who hears your

news to ev - 'ry home; Glad ti - dings of great joy  
cho - sen vir - gin mild; This lit - tle child of low -  
sad and bit - ter cry; He will him - self your Sav -

HYMN CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



- 12 And so it pleases you to see  
This simple truth revealed to me:  
That all the world's wealth, honor, might  
Are weak and worthless in your sight.
- 13 Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child,  
Prepare a bed, soft, undefiled  
Within my heart, made clean and new,  
A quiet chamber kept for you.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.

Tune: VOM HIMMEL HOCH (LM) Schumann, *Geistliche lieder auff's new gebessert*, Leipzig, 1539.

## ROOT OF JESSE

### THIRD LESSON

Isaiah 11:1,10

<sup>1</sup> A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse;  
from his roots a Branch will bear fruit.

<sup>10</sup> In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples;  
the nations will rally to him, and his resting place will be glorious.

NIV

O Root of Jesse, standing as a sign among the peoples;  
**before you kings will shut their mouths,**  
to you the nations will make their prayer:  
**Come and deliver us, and delay no longer.**





# Once In Royal David's City CW50

1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y  
 4 Not in that poor, low - ly sta - ble

Stood a low - ly cat - tle shed, Where a  
 With the ox - en stand - ing by Shall we

moth - er laid her ba - by In a man - ger  
 see him, but in heav - en, Set at God's right

for his bed; Mar - y was that moth - er mild,  
 hand on high. Then like stars his chil - dren crowned,

Je - sus Christ her lit - tle will child.  
 All in white, his praise will sound.

Text: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818–95, abr., alt.  
 Tune: IRBY (87 87 77) Henry J. Gauntlett, 1805–76.

## KEY OF DAVID

### FOURTH LESSON

Isaiah 22:22

<sup>22</sup> I will place on his shoulder the key to the house of David; what he opens no one can shut, and what he shuts no one can open. NIV

O Key of David and scepter of the House of Israel;  
**you open and no one can shut;**  
**you shut and no one can open”**  
**Come and lead the prisoners from the prison house,**  
**those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death.**



### Come, O Long Expected Jesus CW6



1 Come, O long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus, Born to set your peo - ple free;  
2 Born your peo - ple to de - liv - er, Born a child and yet a king,



From our sins and fears re - lease us By your death on Cal - va - ry.  
Born to reign in us for - ev - er, Now your gra - cious king - dom bring.



Is - rael's Strength and Con - so - la - tion, Hope to all the earth im - part,  
By your own e - ter - nal Spir - it Rule in all our hearts a - lone;



Dear De - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, Joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.  
By your all - suf - fi - cient mer - it Raise us to your glo - rious throne.

The people walking in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
on those living in the land of deep darkness  
a light has dawned.

NIV

O Morning Star, splendor of light eternal  
and sun of righteousness:  
**Come and enlighten those who dwell in darkness  
and the shadow of death.**



### Hark! The Herald Angels Sing CW61

1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the  
3 Hail, the heav'n - ly Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of

new - born King; Peace on earth and mer - cy mild,  
Right - eous - ness! Light and life to all he brings,

God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!" Joy - ful, all you  
Ris'n with heal - ing in his wings. Mild he lays his

HYMN CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

na - tions rise, Join the tri - umph of the skies;  
glo - ry by, Born that we no more may die,

With th' an - gel - ic host pro - claim, "Christ is  
Born to raise us from the earth, Born to

*Refrain*  
born in Beth - le - hem!" Hark! The her - ald  
give us sec - ond birth.

an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born King!"

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-88, abr., alt.

Tune: MENDELSSOHN (77 77 D with Refrain) Felix Mendelssohn, 1809-47, alt.

## KING OF THE NATIONS

### SIXTH LESSON

Isaiah 9:6 + Isaiah 2:4

<sup>6</sup> For to us a child is born,  
to us a son is given,  
and the government will be on his shoulders.  
And he will be called  
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

<sup>4</sup> He will judge between the nations  
and will settle disputes for many peoples.

NIV

O King of the nations, and their desire,  
the cornerstone making both one:  
**Come and save the human race,**  
**which you fashioned from clay.**



# Of the Father's Love Begotten CW35

1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten  
4 Let the heights of heav'n a - dore him,

Ere the worlds be - gan  
An - gel hosts his prais - es sing, He is Pow'rs, do -

Al - pha and O - me - ga, He the source, the  
min - ions bow be - fore him And ex - tol our

end - ing he, Of the things that are, that  
God and King. Let no tongue on earth be

have been, And that fu - ture years shall  
si - lent, Ev - 'ry voice in con - cert

see Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.  
ring Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.

# EMMANUEL

## SEVENTH LESSON

Isaiah 7:14

<sup>14</sup> Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.

NIV

O Emmanuel, our king and our lawgiver,  
the hope of the nations and their Savior:  
**Come and save us, O Lord our God.**



### Go, Tell It on the Mountain CW57

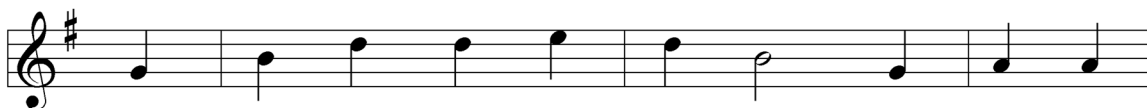
*Refrain*



Go, tell it on the moun-tain, O-ver the hills, and ev - 'ry - where;



Go, tell it on the moun - tain That Je - sus Christ is born.



1 While shep - herds kept their watch - ing O'er si - lent  
3 Down in a low - ly man - ger The hum - ble

flocks by night, Be - hold, through - out the  
Christ was born; And God sent us sal -

heav - ens There shone a ho - ly light.  
va - tion That bless - ed Christ - mas morn.

*Refrain*

Text: African-American spiritual, c. 19th century, refrain; John W. Work, 1872–1925, stanzas, alt.

Tune: GO, TELL IT (78 76 76 76) African-American spiritual, c. 19th century, alt.

## OFFERING

*We collect offerings out of thanks for what God has done for us so that we can support gospel work here and around the world. You can give using the envelope provided in your worship folder. You'll also find instructions there for how to give online if you'd prefer. Thank you for supporting our gospel ministry! If you are a guest with us don't feel obligated to contribute. This service is our free gift to you!*

When Jesus' disciples asked him how to pray he gave them the words of this prayer. (Matt. 6:9-13 and Luke 11:2-4) Since Jesus advises we pray this way, we say "The Lord's Prayer" every Sunday.

## LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,**

**your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

*Please see the announcement about our communion practice at the back of this worship folder.*

## **HOLY COMMUNION**

M: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

M: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them up to the Lord.**

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

**C: It is good and right so to do.**

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, for in the wonder and mystery of his birth you have opened our eyes to the glory of your grace and renewed in our hearts the fervor of your love. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

**Song:** Holy, Holy, Holy      (*Sanctus*)

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts.

The whole earth is full of your glory.

You are my God, and I will exalt you.

I will give you thanks, for you have become my salvation.

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts.

The whole earth is full of your glory.



*As you wait to go up to the table take some moments to examine your heart. Acknowledge sin. Trust God's forgiveness through Christ. Recognize the real presence of Jesus' body and blood together with the bread and wine. (1 Corinthians 11:27-29)*

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**M:** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: Amen.**

## **DISTRIBUTION**

*Personal Prayer: Lord Jesus, with joy and gratitude I now come to your table to receive the precious food of your life-giving body and blood. May it strengthen me to remain in you as you remain in me, so that I bear much fruit in devoted service to you and in acts of kindness to others. Amen.*

Simeon sang this song as baby Jesus was presented to him in the temple. Simeon could now depart this world with joy, having seen his Savior face to face. We also depart worship today in peace having seen our Savior here in Word and Sacrament.

## **Song:** Song of Simeon

Lord let your servant depart in peace,  
according to your Word.

For my eyes have seen your salvation,  
which you have prepared before the face  
of all people.

A light to lighten the Gentiles  
and the glory of your people, Israel.

## BLESSING

M: We welcome our greatest gift.

We welcome our newborn king.

We welcome our Savior, Jesus.

He now sends you out into your lives with his blessing—the blessing of God Almighty the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit—be upon you and remain with you always.

C: Amen.

## Now Sing We, Now Rejoice CW34



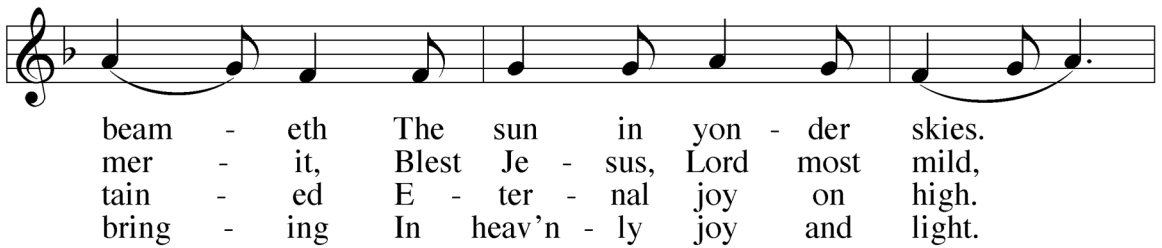
1	Now	sing	we,	now	re -	joice,	Now	raise	to	heav'n	our
2	Come	from	on	high	to	me;	I	can -	not	rise	to
3	Now	through	his	Son	doth	shine	The	Fa -	ther's	grace	di -
4	Oh,	where	shall	joy	be	found?	Where	but	on	heav'n -	ly



voice;	He	from	whom	joy	stream -	eth	Poor
thee.	Cheer	my	wea -	ried	spir -	it,	O
vine.	Death	o'er	us	had	reign -	ed	Through
ground?	Where	the	an -	gels	sing -	ing	With



in	a	man -	ger	lies;	Not	so	bright -	ly
pure	and	ho -	ly	Child;	Through	thy	grace	and
sin	and	van -	i -	ty;	He	for	us	ob -
all	his	saints	u -	nite,	Sweet -	est	prais -	es



Text: Latin hymn, 14th century; tr. Arthur T. Russell, 1806–74, alt.  
Tune: IN DULCI JUBILO (66 66 66 55) German melody, 14th century, alt.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Upcoming services

Join Living Hope in January for a new series called “Epiphany Echoes.” This series will focus on echoes of Christ’s true identity heard in the Old Testament and what that means for our own identity too.

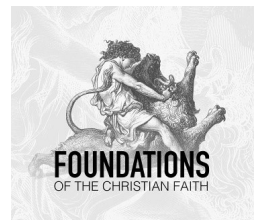


### Thank you to today’s musicians and vocalists!

Gretchen Bassett; piano

### Foundations Bible Study

If you’re interested in membership here at Living Hope, Foundations is our “next step” class, but even if you’re not interested in membership you’ll find it to be a good overview of what God has to say to you in his Word. If you’re interested in attending the course just check the box on your connection envelope that says “I’d like to attend a membership class” in order to jump into a new group class or individual class.



## Connection Envelopes

We'd love to get your valuable feedback on our worship service today. If this is your first time at Living Hope we also want the opportunity to give you a gift to say "thanks for being our guest!" You can place your connection envelopes in the offering plate as it passes or in the basket located at the entrance of the sanctuary. Also feel free to just hand it to pastor.

## Communion at Living Hope

Communion is important to us at Living Hope and we seek to honor the biblical view of *close communion*. Before coming up for communion, all adults should ask themselves these questions:

1. Do you confess your sins and seek to turn away from the sins you confessed?
2. Do you recognize that Jesus' sacrifice on the cross is the only way sin is forgiven?
3. Do you recognize that in the Sacrament you receive Jesus' true body and true blood along with the bread and the wine? (*1 Corinthians 11:27-29 + 1 Corinthians 10:15-17*)
4. Do you believe that the Bible *IS* God's inspired Word and does not just contain some truths of God?
5. Do you believe that Living Hope Lutheran Church teaches only the truth of God based on His inspired Word? (A summary of these teachings is taught in the *Foundations* course.)

## Members' Minute

### Birthday Blessings:

Ted Bunting—Dec. 30th

## Service Teams — Today

Setup Team—Snyder  
Snack Provider—"potluck" style  
Ushers—Hynson, Thom  
Acolyte—Lydia Dyer

## Service Teams — Next week January 7

Sunday Setup Team—Thom  
Snack Provider— Bassett, Dyer  
Ushers—TBD  
Acolyte—Will Hynson

Pastor Eric Melso

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**LIVING HOPE**  
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**HOPE FOR EVERYDAY**