

-a congregation of The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

# CELEBRATING 60 YRS OF SERVING GOD'S PEOPLE

"Peace Conway is a <u>loving</u> Christian family, faithfully <u>serving</u> all people by <u>sharing</u> the good news of Jesus and <u>caring</u> for people in need."

2<sup>nd</sup> Midweek in Advent December 03, 2025

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#### PEACE CONWAY December 03, 2025

#### AS WE GATHER - WORSHIP THROUGH MUSIC

The Advent season is a time to prepare our hearts and minds for the celebration of Jesus' birth at Christmas and to anticipate His promised second coming. While there are many ways to prepare, God has given us one that touches us almost immediately, the gift of music. The Bible contains numerous examples of music being used to praise God, express thanksgiving, and even convey spiritual truths. Let us use this gift tonight to worship and to anticipate the joy of His coming.

PRELUDE (Worship candles are lit.)

"AIR" from Orchestral Suite No. 3 in D major by J.S.Bach

Central Arkansas Chamber Winds

#### **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### + PREPARATION+

#### **INVOCATION & PSALM**

Psalm 150:1,4,6

- We gather to worship the one true God through music this evening. In the name of the Father + and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- Praise the Lord. Praise Him with timbrel and dancing, praise Him with the strings and pipe.
- **G** Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. Praise the Lord.

#### **MUSICAL INTERLUDE 1**

■ "Pat-A-Pan" is a French Christmas carol that was later adapted into English. The carol revolves around the birth of Jesus and is told from the perspective of shepherds playing simple instruments and drums. It later inspired the carol "The Little Drummer Boy".

"PAT-A-PAN"

Central Arkansas Chamber Winds

#### **ADVENT LITANY**

① Come, O come Emmanuel. O Wisdom from on high, in and through all creation, Orderer of all things, come and grant us a discerning heart. O Lord and Ruler of Israel, of burning bush and Sinai's Law, come and redeem us with Your might arm.

#### **357 O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL** Sing with Central Arkansas Chamber Winds

1. Oh, come, oh, come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel, That mourns in lonely exile here Until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to you, O Israel!

Text: Latin, c. 12th cent.; Psalteriolum Cantionum Catholicarum, 1710, Köln; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt. Tune: French, 15th cent.Text and tune: Public domain

#### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- L The day of the Lord is coming soon, God's messenger proclaims.
- But who can abide the day of His coming, and who can stand when He appears?
- Lest the Day surprise us unawares, let us confess our sins to God our Father, imploring His forgiveness for the sake of Jesus Christ, whose word sounds forth with urgency.
- Most Merciful God, we are unprepared for your coming, for we have sinned. In our thinking and speaking and doing, we have ignored and disobeyed Your will. We have turned deaf ears to Your Word. We ask for Your forgiveness for the sake of Jesus Christ and seek the power of Your Holy Spirit to restore our joy.
- L He who is coming has come, born among us to live our life and die our death, guaranteeing our resurrection. For His sake, your sins are forgiven. The joy of your salvation is restored!
- Even so, come, Lord Jesus! Amen.

#### LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

In the Bleak Midwinter" is a Christmas carol based on a poem written by Christina Rossetti that contrasts the cold of the world with the warmth of Christ's coming. As we light the Advent candles, may this music remind us that Christ has entered our cold and indifferent hearts to bring His light and warmth to all.

"IN THE BLEAK MIDWINTER"

Central Arkansas Chamber Winds

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

- Let us pray. Dear Father, You have brought forth Your salvation to all the ends of the earth. Prepare our hearts to receive it as we look forward in joy to the glorious Nativity of Jesus, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

#### THEME INTRODUCTION

Music has always been one of God's greatest gifts to His people. From the Psalms of David to the angelic chorus that announced Jesus' birth, song has carried the message of salvation and praise. Tonight, we reflect on God's gift of music, how it shapes our faith, lifts our hearts, and declares His salvation to all the earth.

OLD TESTAMENT Isaiah 12:2–6

<sup>2</sup>"Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid; for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation." <sup>3</sup>With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. <sup>4</sup>And you will say in that day: "Give thanks to the LORD, call upon his name, make known his deeds among the peoples, proclaim that his name is exalted. <sup>5</sup>"Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously; let this be made known in all the earth. <sup>6</sup>Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel."

- **I** This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE Colossians 3:16–17

<sup>16</sup>Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. <sup>17</sup>And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

- **I** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

#### **357 O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL** Sing with Central Arkansas Chamber Winds

2. Oh, come, Thou Wisdom from on high, Who ord'rest all things mightily; To us the path of knowledge show, And teach us in her ways to go. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to you, O Israel!

Text: Latin, c. 12th cent.; Psalteriolum Cantionum Catholicarum, 1710, Köln; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt. Tune: French, 15th cent. Text and tune: Public domain

HOLY GOSPEL
Luke 1:46–55

- **I** A reading from Luke, chapter 1.
  - <sup>46</sup>And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, <sup>47</sup>and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, <sup>48</sup>for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant. For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed; <sup>49</sup>for he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name. <sup>50</sup>And his mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. <sup>51</sup>He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts; <sup>52</sup>he has brought down the mighty from their thrones and exalted those of humble estate; <sup>53</sup>he has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent empty away. <sup>54</sup>He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, <sup>55</sup>as he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his offspring forever."
- L O Lord, have mercy on us.
- Thanks be to God.

#### **MUSICAL INTERLUDE 2**

Written by Martin Luther for his family's Christmas Eve devotions, this hymn reminds us that Christ came from heaven to bring joy and salvation to earth.

"FROM HEAVEN ABOVE TO EARTH I COME"

Central Arkansas Chamber Winds

#### **MUSICAL INTERLUDE 3**

"Sheep May Safely Graze," is a well-known aria by Johann Sebastian Bach. While its history is secular, the aria's text portrays a pastoral scene where sheep graze safely under the watchful eye of a shepherd, echoing King David's words from Psalm 23: "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want".

"SHEEP MAY SAFELY GRAZE"

Central Arkansas Chamber Winds

MESSAGE Vicar Jason Hancock

#### **PROFESSION OF FAITH**

Christmas Creed

- L Jesus is indeed our Good Shepherd.

  Tonight we make our profession of faith with His Nativity in mind, remembering how He humbled Himself to become our Savior.
- I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth who sent His Son as my Savior on Christmas Day.

And I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, announce by the angels, worshipped by the shepherds, adored by the wise men; who lived to suffer, die, and rise again to free us from sin, death and the power of the devil.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, who has brought me to faith in the Christ of Christmas, and by whose continuing work in my heart I am ever led to lay before the feet of Jesus the treasure of love, and live under Him as my King, both now and forevermore. Amen.

#### **OFFERING**

"THE STAR CAROL" by Alfred Burt

Central Arkansas Chamber Winds

(At this time, please fill out the attendance sheet in the colored bulletin and place in the offering plate.)



Alfred Burt had a tradition of sending the Christmas carols he wrote as cards to his family members each Christmas. Pictured here is the front of the card and the 2<sup>nd</sup> verse of "The Star Carol" written in 1954.

"Jesus the Lord was that baby so small, Laid down to sleep in a humble stall; Then came the star and it stood overhead, shedding its light 'round His little bed."

#### **CLOSING PRAYER**

Prepare my heart, Lord Jesus; Turn not from me aside, And help me to receive You this blessed Adventide. Remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

#### **BENEDICTION (AARONIC)**

- 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.

POSTLUDE "ODE TO JOY" by Beethoven

Central Arkansas Chamber Winds

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS—DO NOT REMOVE

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#### **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

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**Central Arkansas Chamber Winds** is a professional woodwind quintet serving the Central Arkansas area. The members are award-winning musicians who studied music at the University of Central Arkansas. Available for weddings and special events, they perform a variety of classical and contemporary works for woodwind quintet.

Kathy Brown Linder – Flute Kortnee Kalberer – Oboe Jan Langston Cunningham – Clarinet Belinda Hasty Nooner – Horn Jackie Brown Lamar – Bassoon

# THANK YOU for worshiping with us this evening! We hope our service was a blessing as you prepare for the celebration of our Savior's birth.

PeaceConway invites you to join us for our upcoming Advent and Christmas Worship opportunities. Our regular Worship services are on Sundays at 9:00 am. We also have 2 more midweek Advent Worship services:

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 10, 6:30 pm Praise Music Worship WEDNESDAY, Dec, 17, 6:30 pm Children's Program

### CHRISTMAS EVE and CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP

CHRISTMAS EVE WEDNESDAY, Dec. 24, 4:00 pm with Adult Choir

CHRISTMAS DAY THURSDAY, Dec. 25, 9:00 am with Brass

# **PEACE CONWAY**

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# **OFFICE HOURS:**

Mon. – Thurs., 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

# **CHURCH STAFF**

Pastor	Rev. Thomas Boeck
Vicar	Jason Hancock
Office Manager	Jennifer Zanca