



ST JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE WEEKLY UPDATE

2025

Welcome to St. John Lutheran Church! **Today is the Fourth Sunday of Advent.** We are delighted to have you worship with us. If you'd like to connect with us, share a prayer request, or learn more about St. John, please complete a yellow communication card located on the back of the pews and place it in the offering plate.

PRAYER REQUESTS

When we pray for each other, we demonstrate Christ's love for each of us

For **Peggy Smith** and family, as they mourn the loss of Lee Smith

For **Pastor Tim Keeler**, brother-in-law of Neva Hornbeck, who has been battling Multiple Myeloma for 16 years, received the next experimental CAR-T infusion procedure, a few more days in the hospital for observation

For **Karma Wisecarver**, daughter of Lee & Peggy Smith, having a difficult time as she continues through her cancer journey

For **Brian Fowler**, as he slowly recovers from West Nile Virus

Continued prayers for **Jim Fogle, Jon & Linda Leist, Bill Meyer, Freda Rutter, Linda Miller, and Shirley & Larry West**

If you have a prayer request, please reach out to Sue Mason, who will email our church members. She can be reached at: 614-260-1107 or at susiemase3@hotmail.com.



Scripture for today, Dec 21:

Isaiah 7:10-16, Psalm 80:1-7,17-19,
Romans 1:1-7, Matthew 1:18-25

Church Council approved a \$500 disbursement from the MEF fund for "Adopt A Nursing Home" for the holidays. These items will be taken to Embassy of Winchester nursing home on Monday in time for Christmas. Thank you for your generosity to help brighten their holiday.



**CHRISTMAS
EVE**

**Music
Begins
7:00 pm**

**Service
7:30 pm**

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS



Jonette Christy	December 19
Alyssa Dillon	December 21
Larry West	December 22
Guy O'Neil	December 31





THE INSIDE STORY BY SALLY ACTON



Today's Communion Hymn, "As the Grains of Wheat", tells the story of unity and sacrifice, drawing from Jesus' parable in John 12:24 where a single grain of wheat must die to produce much fruit, symbolizing Christ's death bringing salvation and the gathering of all people into one body, the Church, much like scattered grains become one loaf of bread for communion.

Congregational meeting today immediately after church.

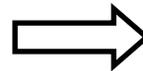
Guys & Gals Lunch Bunch will dine next in January at the Olive Garden in Lancaster.

The **Altar Flower** chart is in the Narthex where you may sign up to place flowers on the altar. Flowers are \$35. You may leave the money in the envelope under the chart for Linda Leist. Please be sure to indicate if the flowers are for a special occasion, and let Don Hornbeck know if you would like it posted in the Bulletin.

We all know times have been tough lately, and our local food pantry is seeing more families in need. If you are able, please place your food donation for the **Food Pantry** in the shopping cart. For the **Embassy of Winchester** nursing home, please place your donated items in the collection box located in the Narthex. Every contribution, no matter how small, makes a difference. Together we can help ensure no one goes hungry.

If you missed last week's Bulletin because the church was closed due to inclement weather, you can find it on the church website "stjilithopolis.com" or by scanning the QR Code to the right.

Have you started your "LIST" yet? Be sure to read "Survive or Thrive!"



This Sunday, December 21, is the last Sunday before Christmas. If you are able, would you please consider donating food items for our shopping cart. All donations will be taken to the food pantry early next week, in time for Christmas dinner for those in need. Your generosity will make a meaningful difference!



SEASONS. A POEM FOR PAPA

BY KAYLEE PHILLIPS

My Mimi once told me
In love there are seasons
And I often struggled to find out her reasons
In spring it is beautiful, fresh and new
Love blossoms here, as most love stories do
And then there is fall, with the changing of leaves
Maybe this is when we find the true colors a person sees
There is winter too, when it's cold and bare
And you're left to wonder; is there anything still there?
Yet spring comes around and another year starts
When that love blossoms again, and it pounds at your heart
I stand here today as a granddaughter who has seen
The greatest love story unfold; I now know what she means

Lee found his true love, first in his wife
And then their three children she blessed to his life
He found it in fishing at his pond on the farm
Or serving his country, earning his airman coat of arms
He found it in people, he was a friend to all
He loved his waitresses, his jokes, and a good facetime call
He found it in traveling, with crocs on his feet
He found it in reading, and a Dairy Queen sweet treat
He found joy in living, that's just what he did
Every day to the fullest, the heart of a kid

My Papaw loved his grandchildren right down to his core
But I think if we're honest, we always loved him more
He raised up the boys to work hard without spite
He raised up this girl, encouraged her to write
Words cannot capture the impact he made
But I know he's found heaven and he's sitting in the shade
I pray he finds this season to be the best one of all
And when the Lord calls us home we would answer that call
And find Papaw there, just as happy as can be
Until then, I'll look to heaven and pray he's proud of me





by Pam Jarvis

I enjoy learning new **words**, the origin of **words**, reading the beautiful flow of **words** authors have written, and even reading the dictionary. I love the holidays because my extended family gets together for the entire day and plays friendly, downright competitive games of Scrabble. What is more fun than having your family together eating sugar cookies playing a board game with the Christmas lights twinkling, the logs crackling, and the smells of dinner drifting through the house?

Everyone is a winner at our family games because, more than likely, if we are not winning, we are whining about our letters we selected or someone taking our spot. So, if we are not winning with **word** points, we may win with whine points. Whoever wins in the end celebrates! An outsider may say that the obnoxious celebration of teasing, dancing, in-your-face antics is an example of a generational stronghold. My dad, mom, brothers, children, and nieces enjoy the game, the teasing, and the celebration of winning. It is all part of our family fun.

One sure way of winning Scrabble is to use all seven tiles in one play. When we first began playing Scrabble, using all seven tiles in one play was very, very rare. Now it is rare that at least one of us doesn't get a Scrabble during our playtime. There is plenty of time to think between turns as each person concentrates on creating a **word** with the most points. Recently when my brother laid two Scrabbles in one game, an analogy formed in my mind. After years of playing, we are more apt to see possible seven-letter **words**. The more time you spend with God reading the **words** of truth in the Bible, the more you are ready to know the direction most pleasing to God. You can have victory in the game of life knowing and applying the rules and principles found in the Bible.

Jesus' words in Luke 6:46-49 (NIV) are: "Why do you call me 'Lord, Lord,' and not do what I say. I will show you what he is like, who comes to me and hears my **words** and puts them into practice. He is like a man building a house, who dug down deep and laid the foundation on a rock. When a flood came, the torrent struck that house but could not shake it, because it was well built. But the one who hears my **words** and does not put them into practice is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. The moment the torrent struck that house, it collapsed and its destruction was complete."

Know the **words** of the Lord and the wisdom He imparts, and it will prepare you to see the course of action to follow.

2025 YTD Offerings Summary	
Offerings through:	12/7/2025
Budget (yearly)	56,750.00
Budget YTD	54,567.31
Offerings - Received	65,299.17

YTD Over(+)/Under(-) 10,731.86
(Includes prepaid offerings from a member's \$3k RMD)

2025 Average Attendance Information
Q1= 33, Q2= 36, Q3= 35, Oct= 33, Nov= 31, Dec= 38

Thank you for your contributions
to pay-off our loan for
the new sanctuary ceiling

Worship Leader

Today Amy Lytle, Synod Authorized Minister (SAM)
12/24/2025 (Wed) Christmas Eve Service, Music @ 7pm, Service @ 7:30
12/28/2025 Amy Lytle, Synod Authorized Minister (SAM)

Happenings

Today 4th Sunday in ADVENT
Today **2025 Congregational Meeting** immediately after church
12/28/2025 Council Meeting right after Church - possibly?
12/29/2025 (Mon) Choir Christmas Party at Rutter's Home @ 2pm

Opportunities to Serve

Contact Don Hornbeck with information for our weekly Sunday bulletins.

Sunday School & Bible Study

Adults - Sunday mornings 9am-10am upstairs in the Parish Hall
Children - During the church service in the Parish Hall youth room (Jonette Christy)

Weekly Average Attendance by month for 2021 through 2025

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg
2021	0	15	22	34	29	26	30	28	29	30	30	20	24
2022	14	21	26	48	40	32	31	30	38	32	29	34	31
2023	24	31	29	35	38	33	33	30	35	26	29	29	31
2024	17	23	30	25	46	46	45	39	34	29	30	36	33
2025	36	28	37	38	35	36	33	37	31	33	31	38	34
Yr-Yr Chg	19	5	7	13	-11	-10	-12	-2	-3	4	1	2	

Amy Lytle's email address: amyblytle@gmail.com
 Amy Lytle's cell phone: 614-208-3719
 Council President contacts: 614-286-6175 / alfisher@aol.com
 St John's website: www.stjlithopolis.com
 St John's email address: office.stjohnlithopolis@gmail.com
 St John's office phone: 614-837-2947 (voice mailbox)
 St John's mailing address: 133 West South Street, PO Box 206 / Lithopolis, Ohio 43136
 St John's facebook page: https://facebook.com/StJohnLithopolis

Sunday, December 21, 2025

Fourth Sunday of Advent

ELW Holy Communion Setting Ten

Introduction to the day

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.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

WE LIGHT THE ADVENT WREATH

Today we light the fourth candle of the Advent wreath.

We praise you, O God, for this wheel of time that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent. As we light the candles on this wreath, open our eyes to see your presence in the lowly ones of this earth. Enlighten us with your grace, that we may sing of your advent among us in the Word made flesh.

Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near.

Amen.

CONGREGATION SINGS AS THE 3rd and 4th CANDLES ARE LIT

Light three candles to watch for Messiah:

Let the light banish darkness.

Lift your heads and lift high the gateway

For the King of Glory

Light four candles to watch for Messiah:
Let the light banish darkness.
He is coming: tell the glad tidings.
Let your light be shining.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (ELW p. 94)

In the name of the Father,
and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our
hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly
love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus
Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
Gracious God,

**have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you
and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry
and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown, things we have done and things we
have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by
your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of
life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in
sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace we have
been saved. In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven.
Almighty God strengthen us with power through the Holy Spirit,
that Christ may live in our hearts through faith.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG *Prepare the Royal Highway* (ELW 264)

1 Prepare the royal highway; the King of kings is near!
Let ev'ry hill and valley a level road appear!
Then greet the King of glory, foretold in sacred story:
Hosanna to the Lord, for he fulfills God's word!

2 God's people, see him coming: your own eternal king!
Palm branches strew before him!
Spread garments! Shout and sing!
God's promise will not fail you! No more shall doubt assail you!
Hosanna to the Lord, for he fulfills God's word!

3 Then fling the gates wide open to greet your promised king!
Your king, yet ev'ry nation its tribute too may bring.
All lands will bow before him; their voices join your singing:
Hosanna to the Lord, for he fulfills God's word!

4 His is no earthly kingdom; it comes from heav'n above.
His rule is peace and freedom and justice, truth, and love.
So let your praise be sounding for kindness so abounding:
Hosanna to the Lord, for he fulfills God's word!

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

KYRIE (ELW p. 203)

**Have mercy on us Lord, and hear our solemn prayer.
We come to hear your living word; it saves us from despair.**

**Have mercy on us Christ, and wash away our sin.
Pour out your grace and make us whole
that new life may begin.**

**Have mercy on us Lord, make sin and shame depart.
Renew us with your saving pow'r; create in us new hearts!**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together the prayer of the day.

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that hinders our faith, that eagerly we may receive your promises, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 7:10-16

An Israelite and Aramean military coalition presented a serious threat to King Ahaz of Judah. In response, Ahaz decided to secure his throne and kingdom by seeking Assyrian help. Isaiah reminds Ahaz that human attempts to establish security will fail. The prophet gives the sign that is the only source of true safety: Immanuel, God is with us!

A reading from 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? ¹

⁴ 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.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

- ¹ Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
- ² **In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh,
stir up your strength and come to help us.**
- ³ Restore us, O God;
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.
- ⁴ **O LORD God of hosts,
how long will your anger fume when your people pray?**
- ⁵ You have fed them with the bread of tears;
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
- ⁶ **You have made us the derision of our neighbors,
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.**
- ⁷ Restore us, O God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.
- ¹⁷ **Let your hand be upon the one at your right hand,
the one you have made so strong for yourself.**
- ¹⁸ And so will we never turn away from you;
give us life, that we may call upon your name.
- ¹⁹ **Restore us, O LORD God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.**

SECOND READING: Romans 1:1-7

Most of the Christians in Rome do not know Paul. In this letter's opening he introduces himself as an apostle divinely appointed to spread God's gospel. The gospel's content is the promised coming of Christ, and Paul's mission is to bring about the obedience of faith among all nations, including his Roman audience.

A reading from Romans.

¹ Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, ² which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, ³ the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh

⁴ and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, ⁵ through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the gentiles for the sake of his name, ⁶ including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

⁷ To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints:
Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 205)

Alleluia! Lord and Savior: open now your saving word.

Let it burn like fire within us;

speak until our hearts are stirred.

Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

GOSPEL: Matthew 1:18-25

Matthew's story of Jesus' birth focuses on the role of Joseph, who adopts the divinely-begotten child into the family of David and obediently gives him the name Jesus, which means "God saves."

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.

CHILDREN’S PRESENTATION

HYMN OF THE DAY *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (ELW 257)*

1 O come, O 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.

2 O come, O Wisdom from on high,
embracing all things far and nigh:
in strength and beauty come and stay;
teach us your will and guide our way.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

6 O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer;
O Sun of justice, now draw near.
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadow put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

7 O come, O King of nations, come,
O Cornerstone that binds in one:
refresh the hearts that long for you;
restore the broken, make us new.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

WE PROFESS OUR CHRISTIAN FAITH

Let us profess our Christian faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed.

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

Minister: In our waiting and watching, we come to you in prayer, O God, trusting your promise to renew the church, the nations, and the whole creation.

Reader 1: The earth breaks forth in singing as it heralds the Messiah's coming. Fill our hearts with wonder as we join heaven and nature in announcing this holy birth. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Reader 2: You send your saving grace and peace to the nations. Lead us in work for justice and care for the common good. May we meet the Christ-child we seek in the faces of our neighbors. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Reader 3: When tears of grief, exhaustion, or loneliness come, or physical or emotional hurt overwhelms us, come to our aid. Uphold all who are anxious, who know the challenges of depression, or who are ill. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Reader 4: Surround expectant parents and those suffering from infant loss with communities of support. Bless young children and new parents. Guide us in ways that provide safety for all children and those who care for them. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Reader 5: We give thanks for all who have treasured the gospel and lived in faithful service. Strengthen our earthly journeys until, at the last, your face shines upon us and we are held in your love. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

MINISTER: As we enter this final week of Advent, may we be filled with the hope, peace, joy, and love of the God who is with us now and will be with us always. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Minister: Draw near to us, O God, as we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ, Emmanuel.
Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

Let us share the peace with one another.

WE PREPARE FOR COMMUNION

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 207)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest,
hosanna in the highest.**

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

COMMUNION

COMMUNION SONG (ELW p. 208)

**O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;
you suffered death our lives to save:
have mercy now, we pray.**

**O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;
you set us free from guilt and grave:
have mercy now, we pray.**

**O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;
eternal peace with God you made:
give us your peace, we pray.**

COMMUNION SONG (ELW P. 208)

O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;
You suffered death our lives to save: have mercy now we pray.

O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;
You set us free from guilt and grave: have mercy now we pray.

O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;
Eternal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

SONG AFTER COMMUNION *As the Grains of Wheat* (465)

As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill
were gathered into one to become our bread;
so may all your people from all the ends of earth
be gathered into one in you.

1 As this cup of blessing is shared within our midst,
may we share the presence of your love.
As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill
were gathered into one to become our bread;
so may all your people from all the ends of earth
be gathered into one in you.

2 Let this be a foretaste of all that is to come
when all creation shares this feast with you.
As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill
were gathered into one to become our bread;
so may all your people from all the ends of earth
be gathered into one in you.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

God for whom we wait, in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

BLESSING

May the Lord bless you and keep you.

May the Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

May the Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ grant you peace.

Amen.

SENDING SONG *Joy to the World* (ELW 267)

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king;
let ev'ry heart prepare him room
and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

3 No more let sin and sorrow grow nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow
far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found,
far as, far as the curse is found.

4 He rules the world with truth and grace
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness
and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. Share the Good News.
Thanks be to God.

CONGREGATION JOINS IN SINGING

God be with you 'til we meet again,
By his counsel's guide, uphold you,
With his sheep securely fold you, God be with you 'til we meet
again. Amen.

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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