



FOURTH SUNDAY OF
ADVENT
PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod
737 Barracksvue Road
St. Louis, Missouri 63125-5409
314-892-5610

DIVINE SERVICES

Saturday: 5:00 p.m.; Sunday: 8:00, 9:20, & 10:30 a.m.

The Rev. Dr. Jon C. Furgeson, Senior Pastor, 314-601-1039
Rev. Robert M. Brown, Associate Pastor, 618-580-8817
The Rev. Dr. Dennis A. Kastens, Pastor Emeritus
Burnell L. Hackman, Director of Music Ministry
Christina Stackle, Director of Christian Education
Sue Velten, Director of Early Childhood

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

DECEMBER 18, 2022

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

Divine Service, Setting Three

CHRIST'S BODY AND BLOOD, for the forgiveness of sins, are truly present in, with, and under the bread and wine in the Sacrament of the Altar. Due to theological differences among Christians regarding beliefs about this Supper, only confirmed members of an LCMS church are invited to the Lord's table. Ask a pastor if you have questions or concerns. Please register your taking of communion on your attendance card.

P = Pastor

***** = Stand

C = Congregation

Opening Voluntary

*Opening Hymn

LSB 343 Prepare the Royal Highway



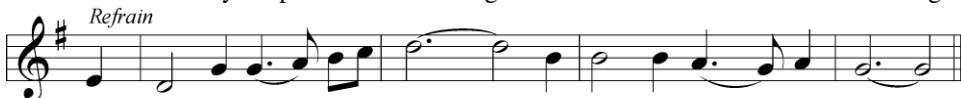
1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; The King of kings is near!
2 God's peo - ple, see Him com - ing: Your own e - ter - nal king!
3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen To greet your prom - ised king!
4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; It comes from heav'n a - bove.



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley A lev - el road ap - pear!
Palm branch-es strew be - fore Him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!
Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion Its trib - ute too should bring.
His rule is peace and free - dom And jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of Glo - ry Fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:
God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!
All lands, bow down be - fore Him! All na - tions, now a - dore Him!
So let your praise be sound - ing For kind - ness so a - bound - ing:

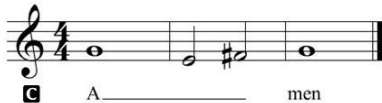


Ho - san - na to the Lord, For He ful - fills God's Word!

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

*Invocation

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



*Opening Sentences

Isaiah 45:8a; Psalm 19:1, 4–6; 112:1b, 7b

P Shower, O heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain down righteousness;

C Let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may bear fruit; let the earth cause them both to sprout.

P The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims His handiwork.

C Their measuring line goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world.

P In them He has set a tent for the sun, which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his chamber, and, like a strong man, runs its course with joy.

C Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them, and there is nothing hidden from its heat.

P Blessed is the man who fears the LORD, who greatly delights in His commandments!

C His heart is firm, trusting in the LORD. Praise the LORD!

*Confession

P Let us now make confession of our sins to God, our gracious heavenly Father.

C Eternal God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and that sin is ever-present in our lives. O God, in Your mercy, forgive our sin. Redirect and renew us, that we may joyfully follow Your will and gladly obey Your commandments. Graciously forgive our sins and, by the leading of the Holy Spirit, guide us in ways of compassion and love.

*Absolution



*Gloria Patri



*Kyrie

C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

*Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spir - it.

P Let us pray. . .

C A - men.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 7:10–17

¹⁰Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, ¹¹“Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” ¹²But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test.” ¹³And he said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. ¹⁵He shall eat curds and honey when he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. ¹⁶For before the boy knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land whose two kings you dread will be deserted. ¹⁷The LORD will bring upon you and upon your people and upon your father’s house such days as have not come since the day that Ephraim departed from Judah—the king of Assyria.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Romans 1:1–7

¹Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, ²which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, ³concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh ⁴and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, ⁵through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring

about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations, ⁶including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

⁷To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

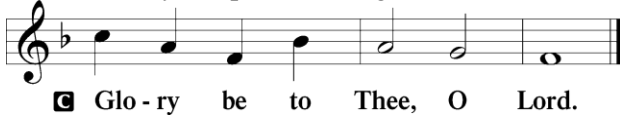
***Alleluia**



***Holy Gospel**

Matthew 1:18–25

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the first chapter.



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

²³“Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel” (which means, God with us). ²⁴When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, ²⁵but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



***Nicene Creed**

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Hymn of the Day

LSB 332 Savior of the Nations, Come

1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come, Vir - gin's Son, make
 2 Not by hu - man flesh and blood, By the Spir - it
 3 Here a maid was found with child, Yet re - mained a
 7 From the man - ger new - born light Shines in glo - ry

here Your home! Mar - vel now, O heav'n and earth,
 of our God, Was the Word of God made flesh—
 vir - gin mild. In her womb this truth was shown:
 through the night. Dark - ness there no more re - sides;

That the Lord chose such a birth.
 Wom - an's off - spring, pure and fresh.
 God was there up - on His throne.
 In this light faith now a - bides.

Sermon

“Why Joseph?”

(Matthew 1:18-25)

Sermon Notes:

Gathering of the Offering *Please fill out an attendance card and place in the offering plate*

Offertory Anthem (8:00) *Come, Emmanuel* Don Besig/Nancy Price

***Offertory**

C Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

***Prayer of the Church**

***Lord's Prayer**

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

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

***Preface**

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spir - it.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them up un - to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.



C It is meet and right so to do.

*Proper Preface

P We should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, Lord, our God, for You have had mercy on us and sent Your only-begotten Son, the long hoped-for Messiah, to bring us salvation. Pour out upon us the gifts of Your Spirit, that we may receive Your blessings joyfully and resolutely serve You in all we do. Grant that we may receive the body and blood of our Lord as the guarantee of our salvation and as a foretaste of the feast to come in Your eternal kingdom. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

C Amen.

*Sanctus



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,



bless-ed is He, bless - ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

*The Words of Our Lord

*Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.



C A - men.

*Agnus Dei



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymn

LSB 392 God Loves Me Dearly



1	God	loves	me	dear	-	ly,	Grants	me	sal -
2	I	was	in	slav	-	'ry,	Sin,	death,	and
3	He	sent	forth	Je	-	sus,	My	dear	Re -
4	Je -	sus,	my	Sav	-	ior,	Him -	self	did
5	Now	I	will	praise		You,	O	Love	E -



va -	tion,	God	loves	me	dear	-	ly,	Loves	e -	ven	me.
dark	-	ness;	God's	love	was	work	-	ing	To	make	me
deem	-	er,	He	sent	forth	Je	-	sus	And	set	me
of	-	fer;	Je	-	sus,	my	Sav	-	ior,	Paid	all
ter	-	nal;	Now	I	will	praise	You	All	my	life	long.



Refrain

There - fore I'll say a - gain: God loves me

dear - ly, God loves me dear - ly, Loves e - ven me.

Distribution Hymn

LSB 357 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som
 2 O come, Thou Wis - dom from on high, Who or - d'rest
 3 O come, O come, Thou Lord of might, Who to Thy
 4 O come, Thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, Free them from

cap - tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly
 all things might - i - ly; To us the path of
 tribes on Si - nai's height In an - cient times didst
 Sa - tan's tyr - an - ny That trust Thy might - y

ex - ile here Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 knowl - edge show, And teach us in her ways to go.
 give the Law In cloud and maj - es - ty and awe.
 pow'r to save, And give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.

Refrain

Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el

Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

- 5 O come, Thou Key of David, come, And open wide our heav'nly home;
 Make safe the way that leads on high, And close the path to misery. *Refrain*

- 6 O come, Thou Dayspring from on high, And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, And death's dark shadows put to flight.

Refrain

- 7 O come, Desire of nations, bind In one the hearts of all mankind;
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease, And be Thyself our King of Peace. *Refrain*

Distribution Hymn

LSB 359 Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming



1 Lo, how a rose e'er bloom - ing From ten - der stem hath
2 I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, The rose I have in
3 This flow'r, whose fra - grance ten - der With sweet - ness fills the
4 O Sav - ior, child of Mar - y, Who felt our hu - man



sprung! Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing As proph - ets long have
mind; With Mar - y we be - hold it, The vir - gin moth - er
air, Dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor The dark - ness ev - 'ry -
woe; O Sav - ior, King of glo - ry, Who dost our weak - ness



sung, It came, a flow - 'ret bright, A - mid the
kind. To show God's love a - right, She bore to
where. True man, yet ver - y God, From sin and
know: Bring us at length we pray To the bright



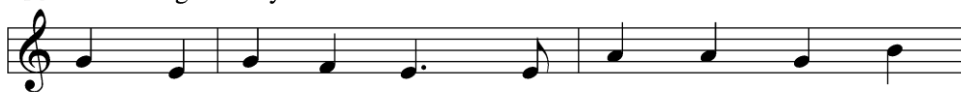
cold of win - ter, When half - spent was the night.
us a Sav - ior, When half - spent was the night.
death He saves us And light - ens ev - 'ry load.
courts of heav - en, And to the end - less day.

Distribution Hymn

LSB 385 From East to West



1 From east to west, from shore to shore Let ev - 'ry
2 Be - hold, the world's cre - a - tor wears The form and
3 For this how won - drous - ly He wrought! A maid - en,
4 And while the an - gels in the sky Sang praise a -
△ 5 All glo - ry for this bless - ed morn To God the

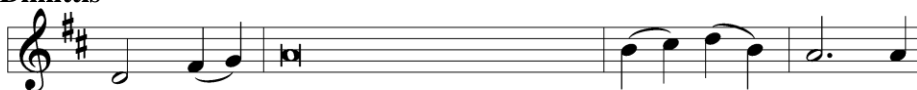


heart a - wake and sing The ho - ly child whom
fash - ion of a slave; Our ver - y flesh our
in her low - ly place, Be - came, in ways be -
bove the si - lent field, To shep - herds poor the
Fa - ther ev - er be; All praise to You, O



Mar - y bore, The Christ, the ev - er - last - ing king.
mak - er shares, His fall - en crea - tures all to save.
yond all thought, The cho - sen ves - sel of His grace.
Lord Most High, The one great Shep - herd, was re - vealed.
Vir - gin - born, And Ho - ly Ghost e - ter - nal - ly.

*Nunc Dimittis



Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -



cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,



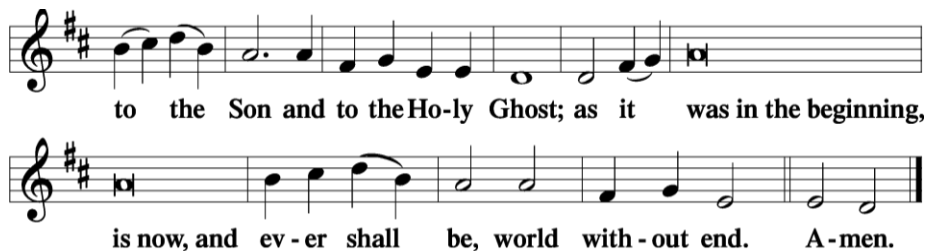
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,



a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy



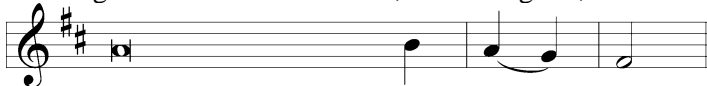
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and



to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A-men.

*Thanksgiving

P O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

P Let us pray. . .



C A - men.

P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

*Benedicamus

P Bless we the Lord.



C Thanks be to God.

*Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.



C A-men, a-men, a - men.

*Hymn to Depart

LSB 905 Come, Thou Almighty King

sts. 1, 4



1 Come, Thou al - might - y King, Help us Thy
in 4 To Thee, great One in Three, E - ter - nal
name to sing; Help us to praise; Fa - ther all -
prais - es be Hence ev - er - more! Thy sov - 'reign
glo - ri - ous, O'er all vic - to - ri - ous,
maj - es - ty May we in glo - ry see,
Come and reign o - ver us, An - cient of Days.
And to e - ter - ni - ty Love and a - dore.

*Silent Prayer

Closing Voluntary

Acknowledgments

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SERVING IN OUR WORSHIP TODAY:

Preacher: Rev. Dr. Peter Jurchen
Liturgists: Pastor Jon Furgeson and Pastor Robert Brown
Organist: 5:00 & 10:30: Alice Kastens; 8:00 & 9:20: Kendra Ruesler
Choir: Chancel Choir
Choir Director: Burnell Hackman, DMM
KFUO AM 850 Announcer/Audio Engineer/Video Engineer: J. McCreary/J. Mattingly/B. Uthoff
Elders: 5:00: Kyle Hopfer, Erik Lunsford; 8:00: John Rastorfer, John Roesch;
9:20: Steve Shawcross, Bob Uthoff; 10:30: Mark Maloy, Rob Uthoff
Ushers: 5:00: Steve Kienstra, Art Conrad, Charles Reifschneider, Charles Rolf, Roger Uhlig;
8:00: Dan Prange, Dan Dukesherer, Doug Engle, Kyle Hopfer, Dan Hummert, Mike Wilke;
9:20: Jim Maschhoff, Glenn Brinkmann, Greg Hard, Don Hopkins, Bryan Richter;
10:30: Bryan Dressel, Bill Bryan, Lorin Dressel, Paul Huddleston, Jeff Nelson, Jeff Teague
Acolytes: 5:00: Samantha Fischer, Tēdra Pavelski; 8:00: Avery Caron, Lydia Jurchen;
10:30: Katie Maloy, Grace Wagner
Greeters: 8:00: Carol Gibbons; 9:20 & 10:30: Jerry & Pam Schulze
Altar Comm: Saturday: Pauline Dowell; Sunday: Angie Fischer and Janice Schweiss

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2022

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS now adorn our Sanctuary. A list of those who purchased poinsettias is displayed in the Commons. Poinsettias will be available for pick up after January 8.

CHRISTMAS AT PEACE is this afternoon, Sunday, December 18, at 3:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. The concert will feature the Orchestra of Peace performing sacred Christmas music, with a special message by Rev. Dr. Jon Furgeson and guest soloists Patrick and Lea Zelaya. You don't want to miss it!

USHERS NEEDED We are looking for men who are willing to serve on an usher team – one of the easiest ways to serve the congregation. You will typically serve only one Saturday/Sunday per month with the exception of months with special services (e.g., Lent, Advent, Christmas, etc.) A signup sheet is on the Commons counter with the usher needs by service time. For more information, please contact Barry Hammon at barry.hammon@wwt.com.

RICH BEHNKE THANKS EVERYONE for the outpouring of love and support shown to him at his reception last Sunday. He was truly touched by all your words of appreciation!

2023 OFFERING ENVELOPES Just a reminder, please use your 2023 envelopes beginning the weekend of January 1, 2023.

NEW MEMBER CLASSES begin Sunday, January 8, from noon to 1:30 p.m. in Sanctuary Hall and continue for six weeks. Sign up is available on our website and on the bulletin board in the commons. A light lunch will be provided each week. For more information, please contact the church office.

THIS IS THE LAST WEEKEND FOR STONIE'S SAUSAGE SALE Stop by the gymnasium between services today! Proceeds will benefit our Alaska mission work.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM will be this Wednesday, December 21, at 6:30 p.m. The children of Peace will be leading the service and will tell the Christmas Story through songs, poems, and scripture verses. No Advent Dinner will be held that evening.

NEW CLASS BEGINS JANUARY 8 DURING EDUCATION HOUR If you've ever felt like you just can't get in control of your money, you're not alone. You'd be surprised how many people you know are struggling just like you. But it's time for your struggle to end and learn how you can pay off debt, save more money, and build wealth. Peace is hosting a 9-week, Financial Peace University Class, beginning Sunday, January 15, from 9:15-10:15 a.m. in the Kitchen Meeting Room. The class will be led by Pastor Brown and Grant Ellis. To register, please type fpu.com/1157305 into your web browser. Please contact the church office for more information.

THANK YOU from Social Ministry for the wonderful response to the Adopt-a-Family program this year. There were 31 families adopted this year totaling 100 people! Jesus said in Matthew 25:40, "Whatever you do for the least of these, you do it for me." Merry Christmas and God's Blessings in 2023.

2ND QUARTER DEVOTIONAL MATERIALS are on the Commons Counter if interested.

NEW BAPTISM CLASS OFFERED IN JANUARY If you are planning to have your baby/child baptized, we are offering a one-time class for parents and/or caregivers. This class will cover the basics of baptism, along with the logistics of baptisms at Peace. The first time the class will be offered is Sunday, January 8, from 9:15-10:15 a.m. in the Commons Conference Room. To register, go online to our Peace website, www.peacelutheranstl.org.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 18, 2022

- Sunday, December 18: 11:30am – Middle School Christmas Party
3:00pm – Christmas at Peace
- Monday, December 19: 6:30pm – Early Childhood Christmas Program & Reception
6:30pm – St. Trinity Cemetery Board
6:30pm – Young Adult Board Meeting
7:00pm – Bells of Peace Rehearsal
- Tuesday, December 20: 9:00am – Quilters
9:00am – Refit Exercise
6:00pm – Property Management
6:30pm – Early Childhood Christmas Program & Reception
7:00pm – Orchestra of Peace Rehearsal
- Wednesday, December 21: 9:00am – TPL Assembly
9:30am – Banner Committee
6:30pm – Sunday School Christmas Program
- Thursday, December 22: 9:00am – Mary/Martha Bible Class
6:00pm – Crossfire Volleyball
7:00pm – Peace Chamber Orchestra Rehearsal
7:00pm – Chancel Choir Rehearsal
7:00pm – Boy Scout Pack 584 Meeting
- Saturday, December 24: 12:00pm – Christmas Eve Worship Service
3:00pm – Christmas Eve Worship Service
5:00pm – Christmas Eve Worship Service
11:15pm – Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Service
- Sunday, December 25: 9:00am – Christmas Day Worship
10:30am – Christmas Day Worship