

Dec. 20, 2020

*Fourth Sunday
In Advent*



**GRACE
LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

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Worship:

8:00, 9:30 & 11:00am

Communion:

1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays

Adult Bible Study &

Sunday School:

9:30 am

(Grace Hall)

+

Pastor:

Richard Willsea

Deaconess:

Karen Suter

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

December 20, 2020

✠ PREPARATION ✠

PRELUDE (*Fri. Service*) "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence" arr. D. Blair
Susan Messersmith, trumpet solo
(*Sun. Service*) "The Only Son from Heaven" setting: J. Krieger
"A Great and Mighty Wonder" setting: C. Schalk

WELCOME

Stand

HYMN

"Great and Mighty Wonder"

LSB 383

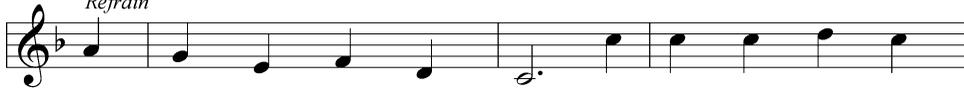


1 A great and might - y won - der, A full and ho - ly cure:
2 The Word be - comes in - car - nate And yet re - mains on high,
3 While thus they sing your Mon - arch, Those bright an - gel - ic bands,
4 Since all He comes to ran - som, By all be He a - dored,
5 All i - dols then shall per - ish And Sa - tan's ly - ing cease,



The vir - gin bears the in - fant With vir - gin hon - or pure!
And cher - u - bim sing an - thems To shep - herds from the sky.
Re - joice, O vales and moun - tains, And o - ceans, clap your hands.
The in - fant born in Beth - l'em, The Sav - ior and the Lord.
And Christ shall raise His scep - ter, De - cree - ing end - less peace.

Refrain



Pro - claim the Sav - ior's birth: "To God on high be



glo - ry And peace to all the earth!"

INVOCATION

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

C Amen

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P That our eyes and our ears may be open to receive the mystery of God's love, let us first empty ourselves of everything that has closed our hearts to God, confessing our sin and need of forgiveness and life.

G **At the Lord's own invitation and command, I confess all my sins to God, the very thoughts, words, and deeds with which I have offended Him and hurt my neighbor. I come now in the sincere hope and faith of the forgiveness of God made known to the whole world in the mystery of His Son, Jesus Christ, who has sacrificed His own flesh and blood for me. Remove my sin and guilt for His sake, and restore a right spirit within me. Amen.**

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

G **Amen.**

Lighting the Advent Candle

P Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,

G **the light no darkness can overcome.**

P Let Your light scatter the darkness

G **and illumine Your Church.**

"We Light the Advent Candle"

st. 1-4

1 We light the Advent candle
And wait for Christ to come.
With hope, we trust the promise
That He will bring us home.
Our hope is in our Savior
Who wins for us God's favor.
We wait with growing light
Till God makes all things right!

2 We light the Advent candle
And thank the Lord for rest.
With peace, we know our Jesus
Has come to be our guest.
beyond all knowing
Within our hearts is glowing.
We wait with growing light
Till God makes all things right!

3 We light the Advent candle
And sing with cheerful heart.
With joy, we spread the message—
A blessing to impart.
Our joy is never ending;
The Son to us is sending.
We wait with growing light
Till God makes all things right!

4 We light the Advent candle
And share the wondrous Word.
With love, we tell of Jesus
Till all around have heard.
God's love is for each nation
Throughout His whole creation.
We wait with growing light
Till God makes all things right!

✠ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

INTROIT, *In Unison*

Psalm 19:1, 4c, 5–6; antiphon: Isaiah 45:8a, b



Shower, O heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain down |
righteousness,*

let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may | bear fruit.
The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his |
handiwork.*

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.

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.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;

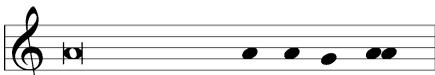
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Shower, O heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain down |
righteousness,*

let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may | bear fruit.

KYRIE

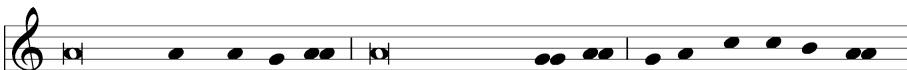
LSB 168



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace from a-bove and for our sal-va-tion let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the uni-ty of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



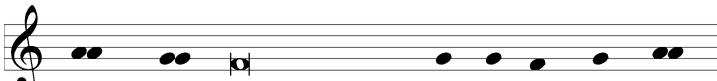
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise



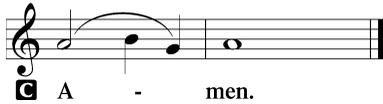
let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord.



SALUTATION

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** Let us pray. Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

Sit

OLD TESTAMENT READING

2 Samuel 7:1–11, 16

The Word is read...

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

PSALM

Psalm 89:1–5



- ¹I will sing of the steadfast love of the LORD, for- | ever;*
with my mouth I will make known your faithfulness to all gener- | ations.
- ²For I said, "Steadfast love will be built up for- | ever;*" in the heavens you will establish your | faithfulness."
- ³You have said, "I have made a covenant with my | chosen one;*" I have sworn to David my | servant:
- ⁴I will establish your offspring for- | ever,* and build your throne for all gener- | ations."
- ⁵Let the heavens praise your wonders, | O LORD,* your faithfulness in the assembly of the | holy ones!

EPISTLE

Romans 16:25–27

The Word is read...

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

Stand

VERSE

Matthew 1:23a

- P** Alleluia. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 1:26–38

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the first chapter.
- C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

The Gospel is read...

- P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Sit

HYMN

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

LSB 357

1 O come, O come, Emmanuel,
 And ransom captive Israel,
 That mourns in lonely exile here
 Until the Son of God appear. Refrain

3 O come, O come, Thou Lord of might,
 Who to Thy tribes on Sinai’s height
 In ancient times didst give the Law
 In cloud and majesty and awe. Refrain

Ref: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
 Shall come to thee, O Israel!

2 O 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.
 Refrain

4 O come, Thou Branch of Jesse’s tree,
 Free them from Satan’s tyranny
 That trust Thy mighty pow’r to save,
 And give them vict’ry o’er the grave.
 Refrain

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

SERMON

Stand

NICENE CREED, *As printed on forwards screens*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. Almighty God, as we draw closer to the grand celebration of the incarnation and birth of Your beloved Son, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, we thank You for making known the mystery of Your love from the very first promise to Adam and Eve, through the continued witness of the holy prophets, apostles, and evangelists, and finally through Your living voice through the ministers of Your Church to this day. Grant that Your living Word ever call us and all sinners to repentance and faith in Your only-begotten Son. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- A** Keep all You have called to preach and teach and care for Your people in true faith, guard them against the attacks of the evil one, and give them health and joy in their ministry. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Send Your Spirit over the whole world that those who lead in the authority of government acknowledge Your laws and will, making for times of peace that we may live faithfully in safety. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- A** By Your Holy Word and Sacrament, strengthen us to obedient living. Send Your grace, mercy, peace, and love to surround our families, inspire those of various

vocations in the world, comfort, defend, and heal all those in times of illness or distress. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

Individual petitions may be added here.

P By the mystery of our Lord's incarnation, His life of obedient faith, and His substitutionary death on the cross, establish us in the one true faith, and strengthen us in lives obedient to Your holy will. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

OFFERTORY

LSB 176

C What shall I ren - der to the Lord for all His ben - e-fits to
me? I will of-fer the sac - ri - fice of thanks - giv - ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
va-tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres - ence of all His peo - ple, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

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

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

LSB 178

C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of
pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is He who comes in the name
of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

- P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✝ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✝ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

- P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

- P** O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER, *As printed on the forward screens*

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

AGNUS DEI

LSB 180



C Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of
God, You take a - way the sin of the world;
grant us peace, grant us peace.

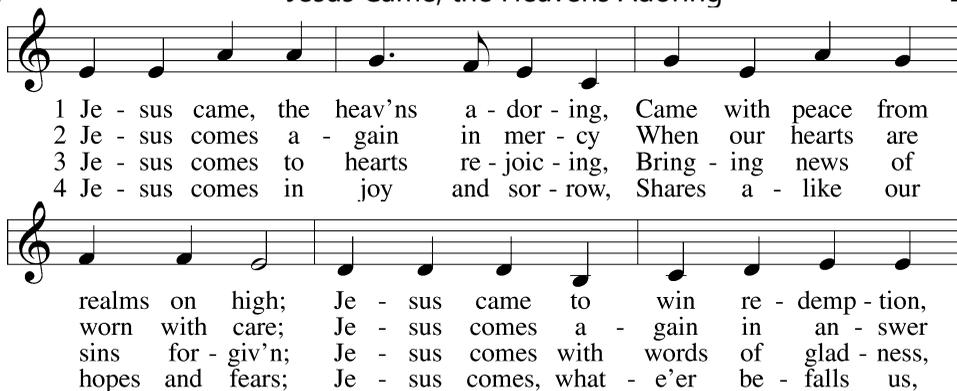
Sit

DISTRIBUTION

HYMN

"Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring"

LSB 353



1 Je - sus came, the heav'ns a - dor - ing, Came with peace from
2 Je - sus comes a - gain in mer - cy When our hearts are
3 Je - sus comes to hearts re - joic - ing, Bring - ing news of
4 Je - sus comes in joy and sor - row, Shares a - like our
realms on high; Je - sus came to win re - demp - tion,
worn with care; Je - sus comes a - gain in an - swer
sins for - giv'n; Je - sus comes with words of glad - ness,
hopes and fears; Je - sus comes, what - e'er be - falls us,



Low - ly came on earth to die; Al - le - lu - ia!
 To an ear - nest, heart - felt prayer; Al - le - lu - ia!
 Lead - ing souls re - deemed to heav'n. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Cheers our hearts and dries our tears; Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia! Came in deep hu - mil - i - ty.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Comes to save us from de - spair.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Hope to all the world is giv'n.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Com - forts us in fail - ing years.

VOLUNTARY

"Oh Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

arr. M. Thomas

Stand

NUNC DIMITTIS

LSB 182



Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been ful-



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va-tion which You have pre-



pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re -



veal You to the na-tions and the glo-ry of Your peo-ple Is - ra - el.



Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it;



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P Let us pray. O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

HYMN

"Joy to the World"

LSB 387



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive her
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let men their songs em -
3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow Nor thorns in - fest the
4 He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the na - tions



King; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare Him
ploy, While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
ground; He comes to make His bless - ings
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.

Sit

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND DISMISSAL

Deaconess Karen Suter

A Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

"People Look East"

Arr. R. Lau

PARTICIPATING IN THIS SERVICE

Pastor: Rev. Richard Willsea

Deaconess: Karen Suter

Organist: Patty Barnes

Trumpet: Susan Messersmith

Acknowledgments

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