December 22, 2024

Fourth Sunday in Advent



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

1600 Old Trolley Rd Summerville, SC 29485-8275

Office: (843) 871-5444

E-mail: office@ gracesummerville.org

 $\frac{Website}{www.gracesummerville}.org$

<u>Divine Service</u>:

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

Adult Bible Study & Sunday School: 9:30 am

<u>Pastor:</u> Richard Willsea

<u>Deaconess:</u> Karen Suter

Organist: Patty Barnes

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

December 22, 2024

♣ PREPARATION **♣**

Today we will observe The Lord's Supper... The Lord's Supper is celebrated at Grace Lutheran Church in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us, that they may show forth his death until he comes. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked you first to speak with the pastor, an elder or an usher. (For further study, see Matthew 5:23f; 10:32f; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; I Cor. 11:17-34). Wine is used in the individual and common cup. The purple cup is grape juice. It may also be received by intinction. A gluten free wafer is available upon request.

PRELUDE"The King Shall Come" setting: T. Beck
"Fantasia on O Come, O Come Emmanuel" setting: G. Clarke

WELCOME

Stand

INVOCATION

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

John 1:5, 9; 3:16; Psalm 36:5-9

- We light the fourth Advent candle as we prepare for the arrival of the Savior, who would come to His people in human flesh and who promises to come again. In a world of darkness, a light shines. Jesus Christ is the light of the world.
- The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.
- The fourth Advent candle has been known as the angel candle and the candle of love. As our Advent season soon ends, we await the angelic message of the good news of a Savior. We have come to know the love of the one true God this season

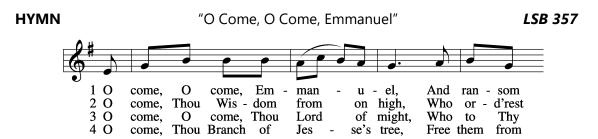
and always as we have prepared to celebrate His birth. We know God's promises come to fruition in Jesus, who later made known His Father's love in His being born into this world; in His life, ministry, teaching, preaching, healing; and ultimately in His dying and rising. "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life."

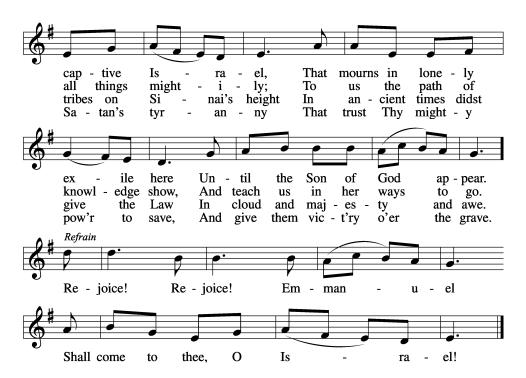
- The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.
- A Guided by the light of love, we respond with the psalmist: "Your steadfast love, O LORD, extends to the heavens, Your faithfulness to the clouds.
- Your righteousness is like the mountains of God; Your judgments are like the great deep; man and beast You save, O LORD.
- A How precious is Your steadfast love, O God! The children of mankind take refuge in the shadow of Your wings.
- They feast on the abundance of Your house, and You give them drink from the river of Your delights.
- A For with You is the fountain of life;
- in Your light do we see light."

Four Advent Candles are Lit

THE GREAT O ANTIPHONS

- P O King of the nations, the ruler they long for, the cornerstone uniting all people:
- Come and save us all, whom You formed out of clay.





- 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

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

PSALM RESPONSEPsalm 80:1–7

- P Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, You who lead Joseph like a flock!
- You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth.
- A Before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh,
- stir up Your might and come to save us!

- **P** Restore us, O God;
- let Your face shine, that we may be saved!
- P O LORD God of hosts, how long will You be angry with Your people's prayers?
- You have fed them with the bread of tears and given them tears to drink in full measure.
- A You make us an object of contention for our neighbors, and our enemies laugh among themselves.
- Restore us, O God of hosts; let Your face shine, that we may be saved!

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Hebrews 10:22; Psalm 32:5; 80:7; 124:8

- P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
 - Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- who made heaven and earth.
- A I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**
- Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean.
- Restore us, O God of hosts; let Your face shine, that we may be saved!
- **A** We have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed.
- Restore us, O God of hosts; let Your face shine, that we may be saved!
- Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- Restore us, O God of hosts; let Your face shine, that we may be saved!
 O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

- Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to be born in our flesh, to die for us, and for His sake forgives us all our sins.
- Restore us, O God of hosts; let Your face shine, that we may be saved!
- As a called and ordained servant of the Word and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the 🕂 Son and the Holy Spirit. To those who believe on His name He gives the power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. Those that believe and are baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, to us all.
- C Amen.

→ SERVICE OF THE WORD →

SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

Micah 5:2-5a

The Word is read...

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

SR. CHOIR , (8 & 11) "Selections from the Messiah" George Frederick Handel Robert Wayne Smith, tenor soloist

"Comfort Ye My People"- Recitative (Isaiah 40: 1-3)
Comfort ye my people, saith Your God;
Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem,
And cry unto her that her

Warfare is accomplished,
That her iniquity is par-don'd.
The voice of Him that crieth in The wilderness,
Prepare the way of the Lord,
Make straight in the desert a
Highway for our God.

"Every Valley Shall Be Exalted"-Air for tenor (Isaiah 40:4) Every valley shall be exalted, And every mountain and hill made low, The crooked straight, and the rough places plain.

THE EPISTLE READING

Hebrews 10:5-10

The Word is read...

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

Stand

VERSEMatthew 1:23a

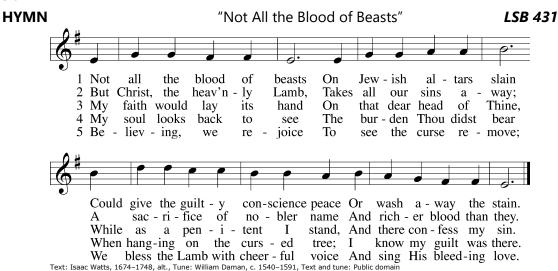
- P Alleluia. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
- and they shall call His name Immanuel. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPELLuke 1:39-45

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

The Gospel is read...

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



SERMON

Stand

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Phyllis Haberman, Robin & Jeanette Kohlhaas, Joe, Francis, Alayna & Katalyn Meadows

- P Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles: "Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven." Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.
- P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?
- R Yes, I do.
- A Do you renounce the devil and all his works and all his ways?
- **R** *Yes, I renounce them.*

- P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, in Jesus Christ, His only Son our Lord, and in the Holy Spirit?
- R Yes, I believe in God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- A Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God and the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from them and confessed in the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?
- \mathbb{R} I do.
- P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?
- **R** *I do, by the grace of God.*
- A Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?
- **R** *I do, by the grace of God.*
- **A** Do you desire to become a member of this congregation?
- R I do.
- Will you support the work our gracious Lord has given this congregation with your prayers and the gifts God has given you?
- R I will, with the help of God.
- Upon this your confession of faith, I acknowledge publicly that you are members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church and of this congregation. Receive the Lord's Supper and participate with us in all the blessings of salvation that our Lord has given to His Church, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- Amen.

Stand

Let us pray. Lord God, heavenly Father, we thank and praise You for Your great goodness in bringing these Your sons and daughters to the knowledge of Your

Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, and enabling them with the hearts to believe and with the mouths to confess His saving name. Grant that by Your Word and Spirit they may continue steadfast in the one true faith in the fellowship of this congregation as together we await the day when all who have fought the good fight of faith shall receive the crown of righteousness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- C Amen.
- **P** The grace of our

 → Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
- Amen.

New Members return to their seats

Stand

APOSTLES' CREED (*If no reception of new members*)

- P God has made us His people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.
- I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy Christian Church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and the life + everlasting. Amen.

Let us pray for the church, for the people of God, and for all people according to their needs. We await to celebrate our King, who has come, promised to be born among the small clan of Judah in Bethlehem, fulfiller of the old covenant promise, and bringer of life and grace in the new covenant in which we now live. We await our King, who promises to return, to restore and renew what was broken, and to bring life and light everlasting. Be with us as we soon close this Advent season of anticipation and preparation, rejoicing in the everlasting King who has come and will come again.



Almighty King, Your ways are not our ways nor are Your thoughts our thoughts. In days of doubts and despair that arise, in cases of confusion, and in times of trial and tribulation, remind us of Your kingdom in which we have been called and Your eternal kingdom to come. Be with those who struggle, [including . . .]. Help us to see Your mighty work even among our wayward world of sin and sorrow and the perfect plan of salvation imparted through the Savior we await.



Ever-present King, we lift up those who have been placed in authority over us in our community, state, nation, and world. Guide and direct their decisions that they be pleasing to You and for the benefit of all, including the marginalized, the voiceless, and the outcast. Where there is violence and warfare, grant peace. Where there is distress, bring stability. Where there is terror, bring comfort. Where there are opportunities for us to bring compassion and concern through our voices and actions, compel us to do so faithfully.



A King of grace, the one sacrifice needed on our behalf has been given in Jesus, who was born into this world to take upon Himself our sin, burdens, and shame. In the new covenant of grace You have established through Him, help us through Your Spirit to remain faithful to You in Your eternal kingdom.



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

Sit

OFFERING

Stand

OFFERTORY LSB 159



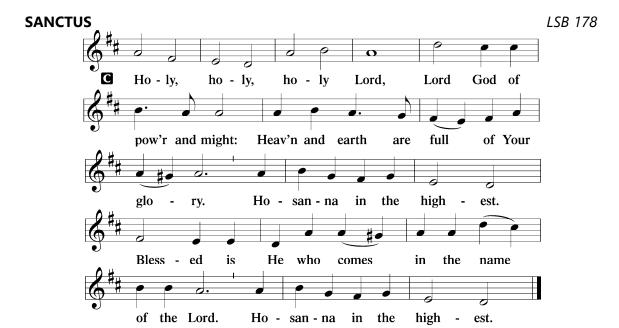
★ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- And also with you.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- **@** We lift them to the Lord.
- **P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

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, as we are called as Your own in love. Through the old covenant that You established, which points to and was fulfilled in the Savior, whose birth we await and through the grace of the new covenant that You established, strengthen us in faith that we be made holy by the bodily sacrifice of Jesus, which we share together at this altar in the Sacrament of His true body and blood, given and shed for us. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



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

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

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

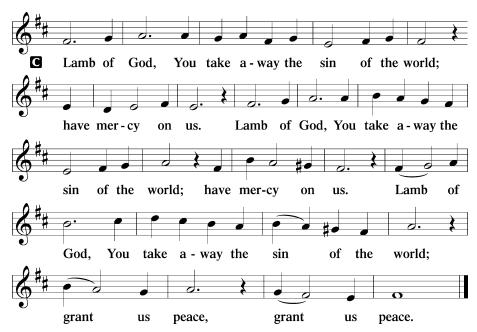
Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses

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.

PAX DOMINI

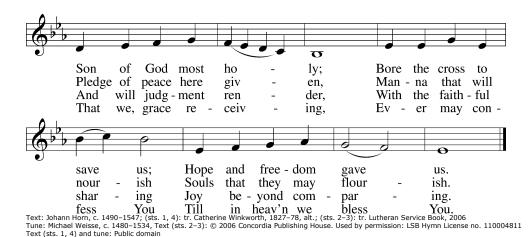
- **P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.

AGNUS DEI LSB 180



Sit



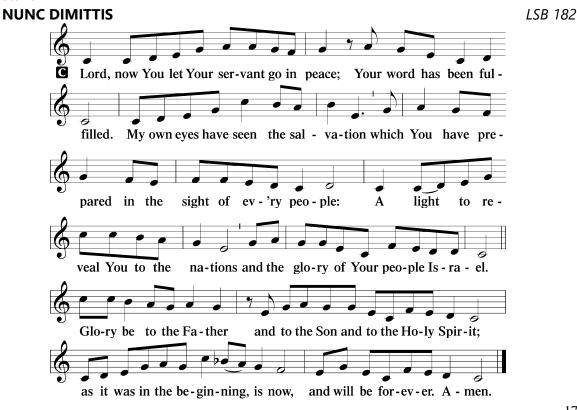


VOLUNTARY

"Once He Came in Blessing"
"Love Came Down at Christmas"

setting: J. Petzold arr. R. Thygerson

Stand



POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

- Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

CLOSING SENTENCES

John 1:5, 9

- P The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.
- The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

BENEDICTION

- C Amen.





- 5 Bruise for me the serpent's head That, set free from doubt and dread, I may cling to You in faith, Safely kept through life and death.
- 6 Then when You will come again As the glorious king to reign, I with joy will see Your face, Freely ransomed by Your grace.

Text: Heinrich Held, 1620–59; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt., Tune: Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn, 1524, Wittenberg, ed. Johann Walter Text and tune: Public domain

Sit

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND DISMISSAL

- **P** Go in peace as you serve the Lord.
- Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

"Hosanna to the Living Lord"

setting: F. Zachow

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Quarter 1.

Copyright © 2024 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission. "The King Shall Come"- setting: T. Beck, Tune: Consolation, from Repository of Sacred Music © 1982 Concordia Publishing House; "Fantasia on O Come, O Come Emmanuel"-setting: G. Clarke; tune: Veni Emmanuel, 15th century French melody © 2006 W. Leupold Editions, Inc.; "How Beautiful Are the Feet of them(from the Messiah)- arr. J. Scriveyner; G.F. Handel © 1990 Lorenz Publishing Co.; "Once He Came in Blessing"- setting: J. Petzold; Tune: Gottes Sohn ist Kommen, M. Weisse © 1982 Concordia Publishing House; "Love Came Down at Christmas"- arr. R. Thygerson; Tune: Garton, traditional Irish Melody© 2004 Lorenz Publishing Co.; "Hosanna to the Living Lord"- setting: F. Zachow; tune: Vom Himmel hoch, Edited: E. Goldschmidt © 1955 Concordia Publishing House. "Selections from the Messiah", George Frederick Handel © 1912 G.Schirmer, Inc.