

SUNDAY WORSHIP
WITH COMMUNION



PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

ADVENT 4

DECEMBER 18TH, 2022

GATHERING

Upon entering the sanctuary, we help to create a worship environment by keeping movement and noise to a minimum. The time may be used for prayer, pre-reading the Scriptures or hymns for the day, or simply preparing for an encounter with God.

We stand

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P 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.

C Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Most merciful God,

C we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

The presiding minister announces God's forgiveness

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All Amen.

GREETING

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

C And also with you

We remain standing

4th Sunday of Advent (Love – based on Isaiah 7:10-16)

A We seek a sign of the Lord our God.

C From the depths of the earth to the heights of the heavens, let God's sign be known to all.

A A young woman shall give birth to peace, hope, and joy.

C A young woman will give Love a name: Emmanuel – God is with us.

A Let us – in love – kindle the light of the Lord.

We sing Verses 7 & 8 of "O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

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.

8. 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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P 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.

C Amen

We sit

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

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!

¹⁰The LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, ¹¹Ask 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. ¹³Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴Therefore 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. ¹⁵He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. ¹⁶For 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."

(after the lesson is read)

R Word of God, Word of Life.
C Thanks be to God.

PSALM

80:1-7, 17-19

We will say the psalm together, responsively by whole verse.

¹Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock!
You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth

²**before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh.
Stir up your might, and come to save us!**

³Restore us, O God;
let your face shine, that we may be saved.

⁴**O Lord GOD of hosts,
how long will you be angry with your people's prayers?**

⁵You have fed them with the bread of tears,
and given them tears to drink in full measure.

⁶**You make us the scorn of our neighbors;
our enemies laugh among themselves.**

⁷Restore us, O God of hosts;
let your face shine, that we may be saved.

¹⁷**But let your hand be upon the one at your right hand,
the one whom you made strong for yourself.**

¹⁸Then we will never turn back from you;
give us life, and we will call on your name.

¹⁹**Restore us, O LORD God of hosts;
let your face shine, that we may be saved.**

SECOND LESSON

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.

¹Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, ²which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, ³the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh ⁴and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, ⁵through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, ⁶including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

⁷To 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.

(after the lesson is read)

R Word of God, Word of Life.
C **Thanks be to God.**

We stand

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 1:18-25

P The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew

C Glory to you, O Lord.

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."

¹⁸Now 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 with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. ²⁰But 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. ²¹She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” ²²All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

²³“Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel,”

which means, “God is with us.”²⁴When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, ²⁵but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

After the gospel is read

P This is the gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

We sit

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY AWAKE! AWAKE AND GREET THE NEW MORN ELW 242

WE WILL SING VERSES 1 AND 4.

Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn



1 A - wake! A - wake, and greet the new morn, for
 2 To us, to all in sor - row and fear, Em -
 3 In dark - est night his com - ing shall be, when
 4 Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night, though



an - gels her - ald its dawn - ing. Sing out your joy, for
 man - u - el comes a - sing - ing, his hum - ble song is
 all the world is de - spair - ing, as morn - ing light so
 dark the win - ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall



soon he is born, be - hold! the Child of our long - ing.
 qui - et and near, yet fills the earth with its ring - ing;
 qui - et and free, so warm and gen - tle and car - ing.
 crown you with light, be strong and lov - ing and fear - less.



Come as a ba - by weak and poor, to bring all hearts to -
 mu - sic to heal the bro - ken soul and hymns of lov - ing -
 Then shall the mute break forth in song, the lame shall leap in
 Love be our song and love our prayer and love our end - less



geth - er, he o - pens wide the heav'n - ly door and
 kind - ness, the thun - der of his an - thems roll to
 won - der, the weak be raised a - bove the strong, and
 sto - ry; may God fill ev - 'ry day we share and



lives now in - side us for - ev - er.
 shat - ter all ha - tred and blind - ness.
 weap - ons be bro - ken a - sun - der.
 bring us at last in - to glo - ry.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: REJOICE, REJOICE, Marty Haugen

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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

*We gather our individual and communal intercessions and thanksgivings,
remembering our connection to the universal Church on earth and heaven.*

L As we prepare for the fullness of Christ's presence, let us pray
for a world that yearns for new hope.

each petition ends with

L God in your mercy

C hear our prayer

SHARING THE PEACE

Before we approach the Table of the Lord, we take the time to embody our

*calling to be agents of reconciliation and peace with one another. Let us ensure that each person in this room knows that God's peace is intended for them as we greet each other with the words, "**Peace be with you.**"*

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us share with one another a sign of Christ's peace.

After you have greeted your neighbors, you are invited to sit.

THE OFFERING

We join Christians all over the world in worshiping God through the giving of our financial resources. If you are a first-time worshiper, you are our guest and we do not expect you to give an offering. For members and friends, the mission and ministry of this congregation is completely dependent upon the faithful stewardship of what God has given us. Our offering is a significant act of worship.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P Let us pray.

C **Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

THE MEAL

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 our thanks and praise.

P 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:

All Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven 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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory ... For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able... to you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

C Amen

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.**

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

P Taste and see that the Lord is good.

We sit

DISTRIBUTION

The Table of the Lord is open to all baptized Christians who believe that Christ is truly present in the sacrament. "In, with, and under" the signs of bread and wine are indeed the very Body and Blood of Christ, given for us. If you wish to receive communion please wait until the usher has invited you to come forward. A post-communion blessing will be offered to the entire congregation once everyone who wishes to receive communion has done so.

The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came



1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from heav - en came,
 2 "For know a bless - ed moth - er thou shalt be,
 3 Then gen - tle Mar - y meek - ly bowed her head;
 4 Of her, Em-man - u - el, the Christ, was born



with wings as drift - ed snow, with eyes as flame:
 all gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee;
 "To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said.
 in Beth - le - hem all on a Christ - mas morn,



"All hail to thee, O low - ly maid - en Mar - y,
 thy son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,
 "My soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy God's ho - ly name."
 and Chris - tian folk through-out the world will ev - er say:



most high - ly fa - vored la - dy,"
 most high - ly fa - vored la - dy,"
 Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy, Glo - ri - a!
 "Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy,"

Text: Basque carol; para. Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834–1924
 Music: GABRIEL'S MESSAGE, Basque carol

We stand

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

Having shared in this holy meal, we now prepare to leave the table, giving thanks for spiritual nourishment and praying for strength to be sent in witness to the world.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Let us pray together.

C **God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

THE SENDING

BLESSING

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

C **Amen**

SENDING HYMN LOVE DIVINE, ALL LOVES EXCELLING ELW 631



1 Love di-vine, all loves ex-cel-ling, Joy of heav'n, to
 2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov-ing Spir-it in-to ev-'ry
 3 Come, Al-might-y, to de-liv-er; let us all thy
 4 Fin-ish then thy new cre-a-tion, pure and spot-less



earth come down! Fix in us thy hum-ble dwell-ing, all thy
 trou-bled breast; let us all in thee in-her-it; let us
 life re-ceive; sud-den-ly re-turn, and nev-er, nev-er-
 let us be; let us see thy great sal-va-tion per-fect-



faith-ful mer-cies crown. Je-sus, thou art all com-pas-sion,
 find thy prom-ised rest. Take a-way the love of sin-ning;
 more thy tem-ples leave. Thee we would be al-ways bless-ing,
 ly re-stored in thee! Changed from glo-ry in-to glo-ry,



pure, un-bound-ed love thou art; vis-it us with
 Al-pha and O-me-ga be; end of faith, as
 serve thee as thy hosts a-bove, pray, and praise thee
 till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal-va-tion, en-ter ev-'ry trem-bling heart.
 its be-gin-ning, set our hearts at lib-er-ty.
 with-out ceas-ing, glo-ry in thy per-fect love.
 crowns be-fore thee, lost in won-der, love, and praise!

We are dismissed in joy and peace, entering the mission field to do God's work with our hands.

P Go in peace. Proclaim God's mission for us in the world! For God loves us and calls us to

C **Love God! Love one another! Grow in Christ and go in Christ! Thanks be to God!**

SERVING IN WORSHIP THIS MORNING

ALTAR GUILD	Claudia Stites
AV TECH	Aaron Bock & Betyh Williams
ADVENT WREATH	The Ortuño Family
CHILDREN'S SERMON	PrC
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	Claudia Stites
PRAYER ASSISTANT	Tom Ridenhour
READER	Peggy Bizjak
USHERS	Sue & Bill Mueller
WEBMASTER	Bob McAdams

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

FIRST READING
PSALM
SECOND READING
GOSPEL

CHRISTMAS DAY

Isaiah 52:7-10
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Hebrews 1:1-4
John 1:1-14

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