

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 20, 2020

11:15am via zoom or livestream on Facebook

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

P: Blessed be God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, whose forgiveness is sure and whose steadfast love endures forever.

C: **Amen.**

P: Together let us honestly and humbly confess that we have not lived as God desires.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Loving and forgiving God,

Silence is kept for reflection.

C: **we confess that we are held captive by sin. In spite of our best efforts, we have gone astray. We have not welcomed the stranger; we have not loved our neighbor; we have not been Christ to one another. Restore us, O God. Wake us up and turn us from our sin. Renew us each day in the light of Christ. Amen**

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

C: **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.**

THE 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 would obstruct your mercy, that willingly we may bear your redeeming love to all the world, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

L: God of Israel through your prophet you promised King David that his house and kingdom would last from generation to generation,

C: Wake us up to your coming.

L: Yet your people Israel fell far from your vision of justice and compassion, mercy and righteousness for all peoples, as do we,

C: Wake us up to your coming.

L: Rekindle in our hearts the fire of your love O Lord. Prepare us to feel the embrace of your newborn presence,

C: Wake us up to your coming.

L: O Emmanuel, Son of the Most High, child of the Virgin Mary, Lord of love, fulfill your promise to us to reign in our hearts forever.

C: Amen.

Light the fourth candle.

HYMN: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel, verses 1 and 7 only

You will find the hymns at the back of the bulletin.

FIRST READING: First Reading: 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

¹Now when the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, ²the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." ³Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you."

⁴But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: ⁵Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? ⁶I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. ⁷Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" ⁸Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; ⁹and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. ¹⁰And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, ¹¹from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. ¹⁶Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

The reading concludes:

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM: Luke 1:46b-55 (the Magnificat)

The psalm will be spoken responsively. The congregation will read the words in boldface.

^{46b}My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
⁴⁷my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
⁴⁸**for you, Lord, have looked with favor on your lowly servant.**
From this day all generations will call me blessed:
⁴⁹you, the Almighty, have done great things for me
and holy is your name.
⁵⁰**You have mercy on those who fear you,**
from generation to generation.
⁵¹You have shown strength with your arm
and scattered the proud in their conceit,
⁵²**casting down the mighty from their thrones**
and lifting up the lowly.
⁵³You have filled the hungry with good things
and sent the rich away empty.
⁵⁴**You have come to the aid of your servant Israel,**
to remember the promise of mercy,
⁵⁵the promise made to our forbears,
to Abraham and his children forever.

SECOND READING: Romans 16:25-27

²⁵Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages ²⁶but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith—²⁷to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

The reading concludes:

L: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL: Luke 1:26-38

P: The holy gospel according to St. Luke.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." ²⁹But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And now, you will conceive in

your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³²He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.” ³⁴Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I am a virgin?” ³⁵The angel said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. ³⁶And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God.” ³⁸Then Mary said, “Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.” Then the angel departed from her.

The Gospel is proclaimed, concluding:

P: This is the gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

CHILDREN’S SERMON

Pastor Chris

SERMON

Pastor Chris

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Joy to the World*

You will find the hymns at the back of the bulletin

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

L: With confidence in God’s grace and mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence. Each petition will end with “Hear us, O God.” We respond “Your mercy is great.”

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always

C: **And also with you**

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

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. If you are joining us at home we would ask that you prayerfully consider supporting our ministry financially.

P: Let us pray together

All: Generous God, you have created all that is, and you provide for us in every season. Bless all that we offer, that through these gifts the world will receive your blessing. In the name of Jesus, Emmanuel, we pray. Amen.

THE DIALOG

P: The Lord be with you

All: And also with you

P: Lift up your hearts

All: We lift them to the Lord

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

All: 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 your Son 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 pow'r 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.

P: You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God...and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: 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. For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

All: 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; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints. To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

All: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

**All: 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.**

THE COMMUNION

You are invited to have any bread and wine or juice ready with you for communion. The pastor will indicate when it is time to partake in community with the other worshipers. At Peace Lutheran Church all the baptized are invited to the Lord's Table.

P: Jesus Christ is the host of this meal and you are all invited. Taste and see that the Lord is good.

THE BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

All: Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Let us pray together

All: Gracious and abundant God, you have done great things for us, and we rejoice. In this bread and cup you give us life forever. In your boundless mercy, strengthen us and open our hearts to the world's needs, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

THE BENEDICTION

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.

All: Amen.

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace to live God's mission for us in the world to

All: Love God, love one another, grow in Christ and go in Christ. Thanks be to God.

Visit us online at www.plchurch.org

CCLI #2274395 - One License #A-01548

Verses 1 and 7 only

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things
3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on
4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;
Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law
tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joice! Re-joice!
in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.
and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

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. *Refrain*

Joy to the World



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their
 3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the



ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
 na - tions 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.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Music: ANTIOCH, English melody, 18th cent.; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

POINSETTIA DEDICATIONS

POINSETTIAS GIVEN IN MEMORY OF:

Robert McKeen	by	Dorothy McKeen
Mary Ann Ridenhour	by	The Ridenhours
Madeline Smith	by	The Ridenhours
Frances Silfies	by	John & Pam Tomko
Amy H. Thomas	by	Barbara & David Thomas
Warren M. Thomas	by	Barbara & David Thomas
Greg Thomas	by	Barbara & David Thomas
Mary Ellen Anderson	by	Barbara & David Thomas
A.R. Anderson	by	Barbara & David Thomas
Sarah Alice Anderson	by	Barbara & David Thomas
Susan Anderson Kerr	by	Barbara & David Thomas
Robert Chamberlen	by	Janet Chamberlen
my Mother, Betty Louise Malzi	by	Peggy Bizjak

POINSETTIAS GIVEN IN HONOR OF:

Britta Hahn	by	Temple Hahn
Cheryl Bodden	by	Dorothy McKeen
Linda Lambert	by	Dorothy McKeen
Robert and Yan McKeen	by	Dorothy McKeen
All of the Frontline Workers	by	The Ridenhours

POINSETTIAS GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD by:

Claudia Stites

Irene and Michael Cernik, for their parents, Vladimir & Jarmila Cernik and Philipp & Lore Amlinger