



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH • SCHOOL



Fourth
Sunday *of* Advent

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

DECEMBER 19, 2020 - 5:00 PM

DECEMBER 20, 2020 - 10:45 AM

*(The * indicates when the congregation is to stand.)*

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” *arr. J. Purifoy*
(Trumpet Solo)

WELCOME

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN** “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” *Hymn 357*
(Stand and face the cross as it enters the Sanctuary.)

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

Refrain

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

**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**

**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**

**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**

***THE INVOCATION**

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

***THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

Pastor: 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. Let us confess our sins and admit our need of forgiveness.

People: **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 God's forgiveness 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.**

Pastor: Upon this, your confession, I, as a 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.

People: **Amen.**

THE HYMN OF PRAISE

"My Soul Rejoices"

Hymn 933

**My soul rejoices, My spirit voices— Sing the greatness of the Lord!
For God my Savior Has shown me favor— Sing the greatness of the Lord!
With praise and blessing, Join in confessing
God, who is solely Mighty and holy—
O sing the greatness of God the Lord! His mercy surely Shall rest securely
On all who fear Him, Love and revere Him—
O sing the greatness of God the Lord!**

**His arm now baring, His strength declaring— Sing the greatness of the Lord!
The proud He scatters, Their rule He shatters— Sing the greatness of the Lord!
Oppression halted; The meek exalted.
Full are the hungry; Empty, the wealthy—
O sing the greatness of God the Lord! Here is the token All that was spoken
To Abr'ham's offspring God is fulfilling— O sing the greatness of God the Lord!**

*THE SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

Vicar: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Vicar: 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.

People: Amen.

THE FIRST READING

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

¹After the king was settled in his palace and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, ²he said to Nathan the prophet, "Here I am, living in a palace of cedar, while the ark of God remains in a tent." ³Nathan replied to the king, "Whatever you have in mind, go ahead and do it, for the LORD is with you." ⁴That night the word of the LORD came to Nathan, saying: ⁵"Go and tell my servant David, 'This is what the LORD says: Are you the one to build me a house to dwell in? ⁶I have not dwelt in a house from the day I brought the Israelites up out of Egypt to this day. I have been moving from place to place with a tent as my dwelling. ⁷Wherever I have moved with all the Israelites, did I ever say to any of their rulers whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?"' ⁸"Now then, tell my servant David, 'This is what the LORD Almighty says: I took you from the pasture and from following the flock to be ruler over my people Israel. ⁹I have been with you wherever you have gone, and I have cut off all your enemies from before you. Now I will make your name great, like the names of the greatest men of the earth. ¹⁰And I will provide a place for my people Israel and will plant them so that they can have a home of their own and no longer be disturbed. Wicked people will not oppress them anymore, as they did at the beginning ¹¹and have done ever since the time I appointed leaders over my people Israel. I will also give you rest from all your enemies. "The LORD declares to you that the LORD himself will establish a house for you: ¹⁶Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me; your throne will be established forever.'"

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE SECOND READING

Romans 16:25-27

²⁵ Now to him who is able to establish you by my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery hidden for long ages past,
²⁶ but now revealed and made known through the prophetic writings by the command of the eternal God, so that all nations might believe and obey him -
²⁷ to the only wise God be glory forever through Jesus Christ! Amen.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God**

THE ANTHEM

“O Come to Us, Emmanuel”
(Grace Chorale)

L. Larson

*THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 1:26-38

Vicar: The Gospel according to St. Luke, the first chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

²⁶ In the sixth month, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee,
²⁷ to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you." ²⁹ Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. ³⁰ But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. ³¹ You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. ³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, ³³ and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end." ³⁴ "How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?" ³⁵ The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. ³⁶ Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be barren is in her sixth month. ³⁷ For nothing is impossible with God." ³⁸ "I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May it be to me as you have said." Then the angel left her.

Vicar: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

[10:45] CHILDREN'S MESSAGE AND LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLES

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.
The stars in the [bright] sky looked down where He lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes.
I love Thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,
And take us to heaven to live with Thee there.

THE SERMON

***PROFESSION OF FAITH - APOSTLES' CREED**

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.

***PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

Vicar: Lord, in Your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

HOLY COMMUNION

***WORDS OF PREPARATION**

***WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

***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.

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.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

(Worshippers are self-dismissed to exit after communing.)

MUSIC DURING THE DISTRIBUTION

“Gentle Mary Laid Her Child”

Hymn 374

**Gentle Mary laid her child Lowly in a manger;
There He lay, the Undefined, To the world a stranger.
Such a babe in such a place, Can He be the Savior?
Ask the saved of all the race Who have found His favor.**

**Angels sang about His birth, Wise Men sought and found Him;
Heaven’s star shone brightly forth Glory all around Him.
Shepherds saw the wondrous sight, Heard the angels singing;
All the plains were lit that night, All the hills were ringing.**

**Gentle Mary laid her child Lowly in a manger;
He is still the Undeiled But no more a stranger.
Son of God of humble birth, Beautiful the story;
Praise His name in all the earth; Hail the King of glory!**

**“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”
(sung to alternate tune: Hyfrydol)**

Hymn 338

**Come, Thou long-expected Jesus, Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us; Let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel’s strength and consolation, Hope of all the earth Thou art,
Dear desire of ev’ry nation, Joy of ev’ry longing heart.**

**Born Thy people to deliver; Born a child and yet a king!
Born to reign in us forever, Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal Spirit Rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all-sufficient merit Raise us to Thy glorious throne.**

“What Child Is This”

Hymn 370

**What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mary’s lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the king, Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring Him laud, The babe, the son of Mary!**

**Why lies He in such mean estate Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here The silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce Him through, The cross be borne for me, for you;
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The babe, the son of Mary!**

**So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh; Come, peasant, king, to own Him.
The King of kings salvation brings; Let loving hearts enthrone Him.
Raise, raise the song on high, The virgin sings her lullaby;
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, The babe, the son of Mary!**

WORSHIP SERVICE LEADERS

SATURDAY, 5:00 PM

The Preacher	The Rev. Tom Block
The Organist	Wynn Bonner
The Communion Deacon	Jan Struck
The Lector/Post-Communion Blessing	Roger Walker
The Usher/Greeter Team	Don & Connie March, Jennifer March

SUNDAY, 10:45 AM

The Preacher	The Rev. Tom Block
The Organist	Wynn Bonner
The Instrumentalist	Fred Knippenberg
The Sound Technician	Rodney Steffen
The Elder on Duty	Janet Pabor
The Communion Deacons	Carl Locke, Lou Marinelli, Jennifer Smith
The Lectors/The Post-Communion Blessing	Jeff Wittcop, Sharon Marinelli
The Robing Leader	Julia King
The Crucifer	Hannah Rickenberg
The Candle Bearers	Emma Rickenberg, Micaiah Rickenberg
The Acolytes	Lauren King, Dakota Von Volkenberg
The Welcome Team Greeter	Janice Graydon
At the Welcome Center	Sally Anderson
The Welcome Team Ushers	Steve Hnatiuk, Dr. Ken Rogers, Barry Walker, Chris Zinsmeister

Acknowledgments

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