

*Fourth Sunday in Advent*  
*December 20, 2020*  
*7:30 Service*



**+ PREPARATION +**

**PRESERVICE MUSIC** “It Came Upon a Midnight Clear” (arr. Blersch)

**MEMORY VERSE OF THE MONTH**

For God so loved the world that He gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. *John 3:16*

**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.

**C** **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.

**C** Amen.

**LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE**

**P** Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,

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

**P** Let Your light scatter the darkness

**C** **and illumine Your Church.**

**WE LIGHT THE ADVENT CANDLE**

*sts. 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.  
 This peace 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!

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## + WORD +

### SALUTATION

- P** The Lord be with you.  
**G** 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.
- G** Amen.

### OLD TESTAMENT READING

*2 Samuel 7:1–11, 16*

<sup>1</sup>Now when the king lived in his house and the LORD had given him rest from all his surrounding enemies,  
<sup>2</sup>the king said to Nathan the prophet, “See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells in a  
 tent.” <sup>3</sup>And Nathan said to the king, “Go, do all that is in your heart, for the LORD is with you.” <sup>4</sup>But that same  
 night the word of the LORD came to Nathan, <sup>5</sup>“Go and tell my servant David, ‘Thus says the LORD: Would you  
 build me a house to dwell in? <sup>6</sup>I 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 for my dwelling. <sup>7</sup>In all places where I have moved  
 with all the people of Israel, did I speak a word with any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to  
 shepherd my people Israel, saying, “Why have you not built me a house of cedar?”’ <sup>8</sup>Now, 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, that you should be prince over my people Israel. <sup>9</sup>And 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. <sup>10</sup>And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may dwell in their own place and be disturbed no more. And violent men shall afflict them no more, as formerly, <sup>11</sup>from 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. . . . <sup>16</sup>And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever.’”

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## PSALM

*Psalms 89:1–5*

<sup>1</sup>I will sing of the steadfast love of the LORD, forever; with my mouth I will make known your faithfulness to all generations. <sup>2</sup>For I said, “Steadfast love will be built up forever; in the heavens you will establish your faithfulness.” <sup>3</sup>You have said, “I have made a covenant with my chosen one; I have sworn to David my servant: <sup>4</sup>‘I will establish your offspring forever, and build your throne for all generations.’” <sup>5</sup>Let the heavens praise your wonders, O LORD, your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones!

## EPISTLE

*Romans 16:25–27*

<sup>25</sup>Now to him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages <sup>26</sup>but has now been disclosed and through the prophetic writings has been made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith— <sup>27</sup>to the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ! Amen.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## HOLY GOSPEL

*Luke 1:26–38*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the first chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>26</sup>In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, <sup>27</sup>to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin’s name was Mary. <sup>28</sup>And he came to her and said, “Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!” <sup>29</sup>But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup>And the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup>And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. <sup>32</sup>He 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 father David, <sup>33</sup>and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.” <sup>34</sup>And Mary said to the angel, “How will this be, since I am a virgin?” <sup>35</sup>And the angel answered 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 called holy—the Son of God. <sup>36</sup>And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. <sup>37</sup>For nothing will be impossible with God.” <sup>38</sup>And Mary said, “Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

# CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

## 336 LO! HE COMES WITH CLOUDS DESCENDING



1 Lo! He comes with clouds de - scend - ing,  
2 Ev - 'ry eye shall now be - hold Him  
3 Those dear to - kens of His pas - sion  
4 Yea, a - men, let all a - dore Thee,



Once for ev - 'ry sin - ner slain;  
Robed in glo - rious maj - es - ty;  
Still His daz - zling bod - y bears,  
High on Thine e - ter - nal throne;



Thou - sand thou - sand saints at - tend - ing  
Those who set at naught and sold Him,  
Cause of end - less ex - ul - ta - tion  
Sav - ior, take the pow'r and glo - ry,



Swell the tri - umph of His train:  
Pierced and nailed Him to the tree,  
To His ran - somed wor - ship - ers.  
Claim the king - dom as Thine own.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -  
Deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly  
With what rap - ture, with what rap - ture, with what  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -



lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.  
wail - ing, Shall their true Mes - si - ah see.  
rap - ture Gaze we on those glo - rious scars!  
lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and Thou a - lone!

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Tune: Public domain

**SERMON** "A song worth singing" Psalm 89

**CREED** Nicene Creed *(Creed can be found on the screens.)*

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

*After each petition, please respond with the following:*

**P** Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

*At the end of the prayer:*

**C** **Amen.**

## + 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.**

### PROPER PREFACE

**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 161*

**C** **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:  
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.  
Hosanna. Hosanna.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

### WORDS OF OUR LORD

### LORD'S PRAYER

### PAX DOMINI

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

**C** **Amen.**

### AGNUS DEI

*LSB 163*

**C** **Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

## + DISTRIBUTION HYMNS +

### 357 O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL

sts. 1, ref, 4–5

- 1 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!

- 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**

- 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**

### 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.

**G** Amen.

### BENEDICTION

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

**G** Amen.

### 387 JOY TO THE WORLD

- 1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her King;  
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room  
And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.
- 2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!  
Let men their songs employ,  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

- 3 No more let sins and sorrows grow  
Nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make His blessings flow  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as, far as the curse is found.
- 4 He rules the world with truth and grace  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of His righteousness  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders, wonders of His love.

**POSTLUDE** “O Come All Ye Faithful” (arr. Blersch)

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# Congregation at Prayer and Devotions for the Week

**Invocation** In the name of the Father, and of the Son  $\text{†}$ , and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**Introit** (found on front page)

**Catechism Review** (found on front page)

**Meditation:** Portals of Prayer, [www.lhm.org/dailydevotions](http://www.lhm.org/dailydevotions), Other

## ***Daily Scripture Readings***

Sunday: Isaiah 40:18-41:10; Revelation 8:1-13  
Monday: Isaiah 42:1-24; Revelation 9:1-12  
Tuesday: Isaiah 43:1-24; Revelation 9:13-10:11  
Wednesday: Isaiah 43:25-44:20; Revelation 11:1-9  
Thursday: Isaiah 44:21-45:13, 20-25; Revelation 12:1-17  
Friday: Isaiah 49:1-18; Matthew 1:1-17  
Saturday: Isaiah 49:22-26; 50:4-51:8; Matthew 1:18-25

## ***In Our Prayers This Week (as of Thursday morning)***

Roger, health issues	Carrie, healing from a stroke
Bill, recovery	Linda, brain cancer
Larry, heart issues	Dennis, hospitalized
Becky, back pain	Julie, pancreatic cancer
Camilla, 7-year-old with brain cancer	Jackie's grandmother
Jack, ongoing health issues	Vonna's mother
Dave, recovery	Lauren's mother
Eunice, Health Issues	Chris, recovering after a fall
Jim, Alzheimer's	Brent, hospital
Al, health issues	Ross, Covid
Anna, recovering	Carole, Covid
Larry, health issues	David, Covid
	Ken, Covid

Sidney, granddaughter of Steinke's with medical issues

For those in nursing homes, medical professionals, those whose employment is in question, and that the Lord would miraculously make all signs of this virus disappear so all may know it is by His merciful hand. For peace and humility to dwell in the hearts of the people of our land.

**Our Savior Families:** Brad & Tara, Dorothy, Sherri & family, Woody & Ann,  
Timothy & family, Pat

**Hymn of the Week** "Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending" LSB 336

**Collect** (found on front page)

**Apostles' Creed, Lord's Prayer, Benediction**