

Fourth Sunday in Advent
December 19, 2021 7:30 am



<https://i.insider.com/57d85554077dcc1e008b598c?width=1136&format=jpeg>

PRESERVICE MUSIC “He Whom Shepherd Men Came Praising” (arr. Manz) & “It Came Upon the Midnight Clear” (arr. Blersch)

A Reminder: Please be respectful to our brothers and sisters who use the time prior to worship for quiet meditation on God's Word. - Thank you!

361 O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

- 1 O little town of Bethlehem,
How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by;
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
The everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee tonight.
- 2 For Christ is born of Mary,
And, gathered all above
While mortals sleep, the angels keep
Their watch of wond'ring love.
O morning stars, together
Proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the king
And peace to all the earth!
- 3 How silently, how silently
The wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of His heav'n.
No ear may hear His coming;
But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive Him, still
The dear Christ enters in.
- 4 O holy Child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in,
Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Immanuel!

MEMORY VERSE OF THE MONTH

God sent His only Son into the world, so that we might live through Him. *1 John 4:9*

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

Luke 1:49–51, 54, adapt.

- P** The mighty Lord has done great things and holy is His name.
C **We thank You, O Lord!**
P The Lord's mercy is for those who fear Him from generation to generation.
C **We adore You, O Lord!**
P The Lord has shown the strength of His arm.
C **We praise You, O Lord!**
P The Lord has helped His servant Israel, in remembrance of His mercy.
C **We worship You, O Lord!**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

All four Advent candles are lit.

- P** Let us pray. O Lord, let the lighting of these candles signify that You are the light that shines in all the darkness of our lives. As we wait, watch, hope, and pray, guide us all to reflect Your light and let it shine; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
C **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Psalms 25:6–7

- P** Having emerged from the waters of Baptism as God's new creation in Christ, we confess our sins to God and one another.

A time of silence is observed.

- P** We confess to You, O Lord, that we are captive to sin in thought, word, and deed. We have not always been instruments of Your peace. Our homes have at times been places of strife and turmoil by our own fault. Even in the church sometimes we have chosen to fight rather than to make peace.
C **Remember Your mercy, O LORD, and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.**
P Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions;
C **according to Your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of Your goodness, O LORD!**
P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

INTROIT

1 Samuel 2:1b, 2, 5b–7; antiphon: Luke 1:46b–47

- P** My soul magnifies the Lord,
C **and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.**
P My mouth derides my enemies,
C **because I rejoice in Your salvation.**
P There is none holy like the LORD;
C **there is none besides You; there is no rock like our God.**
P The barren has borne seven,
C **but she who has many children is forlorn.**
P The LORD kills and brings to life;
C **He brings down to Sheol and raises up.**
P The LORD makes poor and makes rich;
C **He brings low and He exalts.**
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

P My soul magnifies the Lord,
C and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

HYMN OF THE MONTH - 345 HARK! A THRILLING VOICE IS SOUNDING

Stanza four reminds us that we not only celebrate the first advent of the incarnate Son of God in a manger in Bethlehem, but we also look forward to the Lord's second coming in glory at the end of the world. The end of all things and of judgment fills the world with fear but believers can lift up their heads in anticipation for our redemption is near.

- 1 Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding! "Christ is near," we hear it say.
"Cast away the works of darkness, All you children of the day!"
- 2 Startled at the solemn warning, Let the earthbound soul arise;
Christ, its sun, all sloth dispelling, Shines upon the morning skies.
- 3 See, the Lamb, so long expected, Comes with pardon down from heav'n.
Let us haste, with tears of sorrow, One and all, to be forgiv'n;
- 4 So, when next He comes in glory And the world is wrapped in fear,
He will shield us with His mercy And with words of love draw near.
- △ 5 Honor, glory, might, dominion To the Father and the Son
With the ever-living Spirit While eternal ages run!

SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.
C 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,
C that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy;
P for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Micah 5:2–5a

² But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. ³Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has given birth; then the rest of his brothers shall return to the people of Israel. ⁴And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth. ⁵And he shall be their peace.

L This is the Word of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

Hebrews 10:5–10

⁵When Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body have you prepared for me; ⁶in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. ⁷Then I said, 'Behold, I have come to do your will, O God, as it is written of me in the scroll of the book.'" ⁸When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), ⁹then he added, "Behold, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. ¹⁰And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 1:39–45

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

G Glory to You, O Lord.

³⁹In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, ⁴⁰and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, ⁴²and she exclaimed with a loud cry, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! ⁴³And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? ⁴⁴For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

G Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

384 OF THE FATHER’S LOVE BEGOTTEN

- 1 Of the Father’s love begotten
Ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega,
He the source, the ending He,
Of the things that are, that have been,
And that future years shall see
Evermore and evermore.
- 2 Oh, that birth forever blessèd,
When the virgin, full of grace,
By the Holy Ghost conceiving,
Bore the Savior of our race,
And the babe, the world’s Redeemer,
First revealed His sacred face
Evermore and evermore.
- 3 This is He whom seers in old time
Chanted of with one accord,
Whom the voices of the prophets
Promised in their faithful word.
Now He shines, the long-expected;
Let creation praise its Lord
Evermore and evermore.
- 4 O ye heights of heav’n, adore Him;
Angel hosts, His praises sing.
Pow’rs, dominions, bow before Him
And extol our God and King.
Let no tongue on earth be silent,
Ev’ry voice in concert ring
Evermore and evermore.

△ 5 Christ, to Thee, with God the Father,
And, O Holy Ghost, to Thee
Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving
And unending praises be,
Honor, glory, and dominion,
And eternal victory
Evermore and evermore. Amen.

SERMON “A Body Prepared” Hebrews 10:5-10

CREED Nicene Creed (*Creed can be found in the back of the hymnal and on the screens*)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

After each petition, please respond with the following:

P We pray,

C **hear us, coming Lord.**

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, who made peace between God and humanity by dying on the cross and being raised by the Father. 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 195

C **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;**

heav’n and earth are full of Thy glory.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

LORD’S PRAYER

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

AGNUS DEI

LSB 198

C O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.

*For guests and visitors, we invite you to please read our statement
regarding the Lord's Supper on the inside cover of your bulletin.*

+ DISTRIBUTION HYMNS +

332 SAVIOR OF THE NATIONS, COME

sts. 1–3, 7–8

1 Savior of the nations, come,
Virgin's Son, make here Your home!
Marvel now, O heav'n and earth,
That the Lord chose such a birth.

2 Not by human flesh and blood,
By the Spirit of our God,
Was the Word of God made flesh—
Woman's offspring, pure and fresh.

3 Here a maid was found with child,
Yet remained a virgin mild.
In her womb this truth was shown:
God was there upon His throne.

7 From the manger newborn light
Shines in glory through the night.
Darkness there no more resides;
In this light faith now abides.

△ 8 Glory to the Father sing,
Glory to the Son, our king,
Glory to the Spirit be
Now and through eternity.

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933 MY SOUL REJOICES

1 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!

2 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!

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POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P Let us pray. Thank You, Lord, for the peace that comes to us through Christ's body and blood. Help us leave this Table so filled with Your peace that it overflows to our homes, our church, and our community; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

Luke 1:54–55; Numbers 6:24–26

P The Lord has helped His servant Israel, in remembrance of His mercy, as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his offspring forever.
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.

C 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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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Congregation at Prayer and Devotions for the Week

Invocation In the name of the Father, and of the Son ✠, 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, Other

Daily Scripture Readings

Sunday: Isaiah 40:1-17; Revelation 7:1-17
Monday: Isaiah 40:18-41:10; Revelation 8:1-13
Tuesday: Isaiah 42:1-25; Revelation 9:1-12
Wednesday: Isaiah 43:1-24; Revelation 9:13-10:11
Thursday: Isaiah 43:25-44:20; Revelation 11:1-19
Friday: Isaiah 44:21-45:13, 20-25; Revelation 12:1-17
Saturday: Isaiah 49:1-18; Matthew 1:1-17

In Our Prayers This Week (as of Thursday morning)

Nichole, recovering from Covid	Carrie, healing from a stroke
Eunice, health issues	Linda, brain cancer
Wes, health issues	Mary, Jan's sister-in-law, cancer
Del, health issues	Voss, infant recovering from an accident
Jack, ongoing health issues	Elgart, cancer
June, health issues	Lauren's mother
Mehria in the Middle East, safety	Shirley, health issues
Blake	Nancy, health issues
Al, health issues	Dave, health issues
Jim, cancer	Jim, Parkinson's
Tom, cancer	Steve, Guillain-Barre Syndrome
Jean, health issues	Duane, cancer
Jerry, health issues	
Sidney, granddaughter of Steinke's with medical issues	

For those in nursing homes, medical professionals, and those whose employment is in question.
For peace and humility to dwell in the hearts of the people of our world.
Christians and all people living in terror in the Middle East and throughout the world.

Our Savior Families: George & Beverly, Bill & Karen, Rick & Ann, Kim & Martin, Gary & Shele

Hymn of the Week "Of the Father's Love Begotten" LSB 384

Collect (found on front page)

Apostles' Creed, Lord's Prayer, Benediction