

Lutheran Church of The Good Shepherd

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**The Fourth Sunday in Advent, December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

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**Included in the Prayer of the Church:** Keith Basanta, Ruby Patrick, Jack Zacharias, Lorraine Osadchuk, Walter Harder, Irma Barten, Gary Edel, Dorothy Quiring, Bruce & Carol Bird, Wally Funk, Rick Fenske, Rev. Alvin and Jean Borchardt, William Fenske, Pastor Schollenberg and family also the family and friends of Abe Hiebert.

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**The Order of Service:** Divine Service Setting One,  
**Opening Hymn:** Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

LSB 151

**LSB 341**

- 1 Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates!  
Behold, the King of glory waits.  
The King of kings is drawing near;  
The Savior of the world is here.  
Life and salvation He doth bring;  
Therefore rejoice and gladly sing.  
To God the Father raise  
Your joyful songs of praise.
- 2 A righteous Helper comes to thee;  
His chariot is humility,  
His kingly crown is holiness,  
His scepter, pity in distress.  
The end of all our woe He brings;  
Therefore the earth is glad and sings.  
To Christ the Savior raise  
Your grateful hymns of praise.
- 3 How blest the land, the city blest,  
Where Christ the ruler is confessed!  
O peaceful hearts and happy homes  
To whom this King in triumph comes!  
The cloudless sun of joy is He  
Who comes to set His people free.  
To God the Spirit raise  
Your happy shouts of praise.
- 4 Fling wide the portals of your heart;  
Make it a temple set apart  
From earthly use for heav'n's employ,  
Adorned with prayer and love and joy.  
So shall your Sov'reign enter in  
And new and nobler life begin.  
To God alone be praise  
For word and deed and grace!
- 5 Redeemer, come and open wide  
My heart to Thee; here, Lord, abide!  
O enter with Thy grace divine;  
Thy face of mercy on me shine.  
Thy Holy Spirit guide us on  
Until our glorious goal is won.  
Eternal praise and fame  
We offer to Thy name.

**P** In the Name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

**P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.**

**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**

*Psalm 130:5–8; antiphon: Isaiah 64:1*

Oh that You would rend the heavens and come down,  
**that the mountains might quake at Your presence.**

I wait for the LORD, my soul waits,  
**and in His Word I hope;**

my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning,  
**more than watchmen for the morning.**

O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love,  
**and with Him is plentiful redemption.**

And He will redeem Israel  
**from all His iniquities.**

**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.**

Oh that You would rend the heavens and come down,  
**that the mountains might quake at Your presence.**

**Kyrie**

LSB 152

**P** In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**C** **Amen.**

Salutation and Collect of the Day

*Sit*

The Old Testament Reading

*Isaiah 7:10–17*

<sup>10</sup>Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, <sup>11</sup>“Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” <sup>12</sup>But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test.” <sup>13</sup>And He said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? <sup>14</sup>Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His Name Immanuel. <sup>15</sup>He shall eat curds and honey when He knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. <sup>16</sup>For before the Boy knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land whose two kings you dread will be deserted. <sup>17</sup>The LORD will bring upon you and upon your people and upon your father’s house such days as have not come since the day that Ephraim departed from Judah—the king of Assyria.”

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

Psalm

*Psalm 24; antiphon: v. 7*

<sup>1</sup>The earth is the LORD’s and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein,

<sup>2</sup>**for He has founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers.**

<sup>3</sup>Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD? And who shall stand in His Holy Place?

<sup>4</sup>**He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to what is false and does not swear deceitfully.**

<sup>5</sup>He will receive blessing from the LORD and righteousness from the God of his salvation.

<sup>6</sup>**Such is the generation of those who seek Him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob.**

<sup>7</sup>Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.

<sup>8</sup>**Who is this King of glory? The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle!**

<sup>9</sup>Lift up your heads, O gates! And lift them up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.

<sup>10</sup>**Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, He is the King of glory!**

The Epistle Lesson

*Romans 1:1–7*

<sup>1</sup>Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the Gospel of God, <sup>2</sup>which He promised beforehand through His prophets in the Holy Scriptures, <sup>3</sup>concerning His Son, Who was descended from David according to the flesh <sup>4</sup>and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of Holiness by His Resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, <sup>5</sup>through Whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of His Name among all the nations, <sup>6</sup>including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, <sup>7</sup>To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

**Choir:** Creator of the Stars of Night

*Stand*

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 156

**C** Alleluia.

**Lord, to whom shall we go?**

**You have the words of eternal life.**

**Alleluia, alleluia.**

The Holy Gospel

*Matthew 1:18–25*

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

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

<sup>18</sup>Now the Birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When His mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with Child from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup>And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. <sup>20</sup>But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "**Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is Conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.**" <sup>21</sup>**She will bear a Son, and you shall call His Name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.**" <sup>22</sup>All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: <sup>23</sup>**"Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and they shall call His Name Immanuel"** (which means, God with us). <sup>24</sup>When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, <sup>25</sup>but knew her not until she had given Birth to a Son. And he called His Name Jesus.

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

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

*Sit*

**Children's Message:** The Most Important Sign!

**Isaiah 7:10–17**

**Hymn of the Day:** O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

**LSB 357**

- 1 O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear. **Refrain**
- ref Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel!**
- 2 O come, Thou Wisdom from on high,  
Who ord'rest all things mightily;  
To us the path of knowledge show,  
And teach us in her ways to go. **Refrain**
- 3 O come, O come, Thou Lord of might,  
Who to Thy tribes on Sinai's height  
In ancient times didst give the Law  
In cloud and majesty and awe. **Refrain**
- 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**
- 6 O come, Thou Dayspring from on high,  
And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
And death's dark shadows put to flight. **Refrain**
- 7 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**

Text: Latin, c. 12th cent.; Psalterium Cantionum Catholicarum, 1710, Köln; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt. Text: Public domain

**Sermon:** A Present Sign!

**Isaiah 7:10–17**

*Stand*

**The 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.**

**Prayer of the Church***Sit***Offering:** Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord**LSB 352**

- 1 Let the earth now praise the Lord,  
Who has truly kept His word  
And at last to us did send  
Christ, the sinner's help and friend.
- 2 What the fathers most desired,  
What the prophets' heart inspired,  
What they longed for many\_a year,  
Stands fulfilled in glory here.
- 3 Abram's promised great reward,  
Zion's helper, Jacob's Lord—  
Him of twofold race behold—  
Truly came, as long foretold.
- 4 As Your coming was in peace,  
Quiet, full of gentleness,  
Let the same mind dwell in me  
Which is Yours eternally.
- 5 Bruise for me the serpent's head  
That, set free from doubt and dread,  
I may cling to You in faith,  
Safely kept through life and death.
- 6 Then when You will come again  
As the glorious king to reign,  
I with joy will see Your face,  
Freely ransomed by Your grace.

Text: Heinrich Held, 1620–59; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Text: Public domain

**Offertory**

- C** What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?  
I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord.  
I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord.  
I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people,  
in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

**The Lord's Prayer**

- C** 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.

**Closing Canticle: Nunc Dimittis**

- C** Lord, now You let Your servant go in peace; Your Word has been fulfilled.  
My own eyes have seen the salvation which You have prepared in the sight of  
every people: A Light to reveal You to the nations and the glory of Your people  
Israel. 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

**Closing Collect**

**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.  
**C** Amen.

- 1 Jesus! Name of wondrous love,  
Name all other names above,  
Unto which must ev'ry knee  
Bow in deep humility.
- 2 Jesus! Name decreed of old,  
To the maiden mother told,  
Kneeling in her lowly cell,  
By the angel Gabriel.
- 3 Jesus! Name of priceless worth  
To the fallen of the earth  
For the promise that it gave,  
"Jesus shall His people save."
- 4 Jesus! Name of mercy mild,  
Given to the holy Child  
When the cup of human woe  
First He tasted here below.
- 5 Jesus! Only name that's giv'n  
Under all the mighty heav'n  
Whereby those to sin enslaved  
Burst their fetters and are saved.
- 6 Jesus! Name of wondrous love,  
Human name of God above;  
Pleading only this, we flee  
Helpless, O our God, to Thee.

Text: William W. How, 1823-97, alt. Text: Public domain

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**Sunday Mornings:** Sunday School @ 8:45 a.m. Divine Worship @ 10:00 a.m. Choir Practice to follow Worship.

**Confirmation Instruction Classes:** Thursday Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00 p.m. at the Church.

**Mid-Week Advent Services:** Wednesday's @ 7:00 p.m. ***Change on your Calendars that there is no Mid-Week Advent Service on December 21<sup>st</sup>! Thank You!***

**CHRISTmas Hamper & Tree of Warmth Items:** The Deadline for bringing them to the Church is Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Thank You for helping those in need!

**CHRISTmas Eve Candlelight and Carol Service:** Saturday, December 24<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 p.m. Come join us in Celebrating the Gift of God's Son, Immanuel sent from Heaven above to Earth below to save us from our sin!

**CHRISTmas Day Worship Service:** Sunday, December 25<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00 a.m. W/The Lord's Supper. Join in the Celebration of Christ's Birth for it is the Greatest Gift ever given to Everyone!

#### **Acknowledgments**

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