

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT – DECEMBER 19, 2021

PRELUDE

PROCESSIONAL HYMN “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” #257 7-8

*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.*

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.*

*O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.*

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.*

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS *Matthew 28:19, 1 John 1:8-9*

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Let us prepare the way of the Lord by confessing our sin against God and each other.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Together, we pray:

**Come Lord Jesus, for without you we are lost in our sin:
the things we have done, the things we have left undone,
the sins we are aware of, and the sins known only to you.
Come Lord Jesus, to forgive us, renew us, and lead us,
so that our lives would reflect the holiness you came to give us.
Amen.**

FORGIVENESS *John 20:22-23*

HYMN

"Savior of the Nations, Come"

ELW #263



1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come; vir - gin's son, make here your home.
 2 Not by hu - man flesh and blood, but the mys - tic Breath of God,
 3 Won - drous birth—oh, won - drous child—from his throne, a vir - gin mild!
 4 From God's heart the Sav - ior speeds, back to God his path - way leads;



Mar - vel now, O heav'n and earth: God has cho - sen such a birth.
 was the Word of God made flesh, fruit of wom - an, blos - som fresh.
 Ver - y God, and Mar - y's son, ea - ger now his race to run!
 out to van - quish death's com - mand, back to reign at God's right hand.

5 Now your manger, shining bright,
 hallows night with newborn light.
 Night cannot this light subdue;
 let our faith shine ever new.

6 Praise we sing to Christ the Lord,
 virgin's son, incarnate Word!
 To the holy Trinity
 praise we sing eternally!

Text: attr. Ambrose of Milan, 340–397; Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. hymnal version
 Music: NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND, J. Walter, *Geistliche Gesangbüchlein*, 1524
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GREETING 2 Corinthians 13:13

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray:

Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Take away the hindrance of our sins and make us ready for the celebration of your birth, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING: Micah 5:2-5a

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,
who are one of the little clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to rule in Israel,
whose origin is from of old,
from ancient days.

Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labor has brought forth;
then the rest of his kindred shall return
to the people of Israel.

And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD,
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.
And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great
to the ends of the earth;
and he shall be the one of peace.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: Hebrews 10:5-10

Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said,
“Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,
but a body you have prepared for me;
in burnt offerings and sin offerings
you have taken no pleasure.

Then I said, ‘See, God, I have come to do your will, O God’
(in the scroll of the book it is written of me).”

When 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), then he added, “See, I have come to do your will.” He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God’s will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *John 6:68*



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 1:39-45

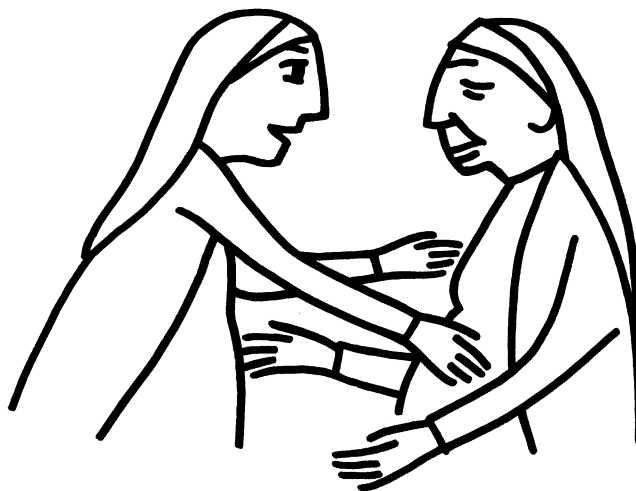
The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 1st chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

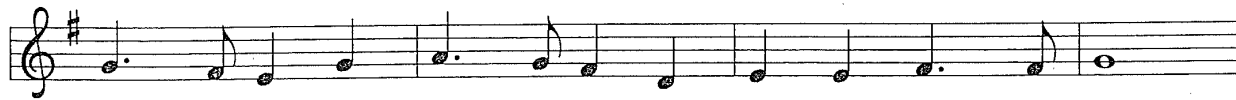


CHILDREN'S TIME

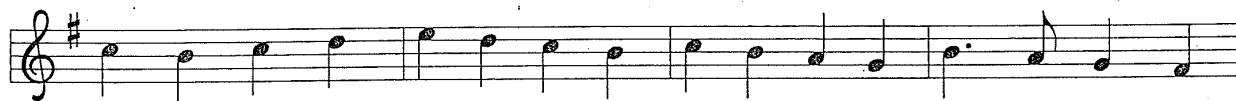
"Welcome, Child of God"



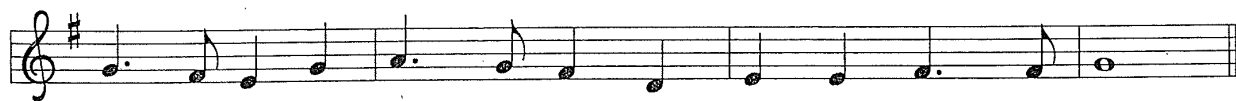
Rain - drops, o - ceans, lakes, and riv - ers; wel - come, child of God.



Moth - ers, fa - thers, broth - ers, sis - ters; wel - come, child of God.



When the world feels wide a - round you, when the dark of night sur-rounds you,



we are here to tend and guide you. Wel - come, child of God.

CHILDREN'S TIME

SERMON



*And blessed is the fruit
of your womb*



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

NICENE CREED

Let us confess our faith with the words of the Nicene Creed.

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again,
in accordance with the scriptures;**

**he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION *1 Timothy 2:1-4*

SHARING THE PEACE *John 20:19*

ANNOUNCEMENTS/CONNECTION CARDS

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord, and prepare us now to receive him as he comes to us in his Holy Supper. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING *2 Timothy 4:22, Colossians 3:1, Psalm 136*

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

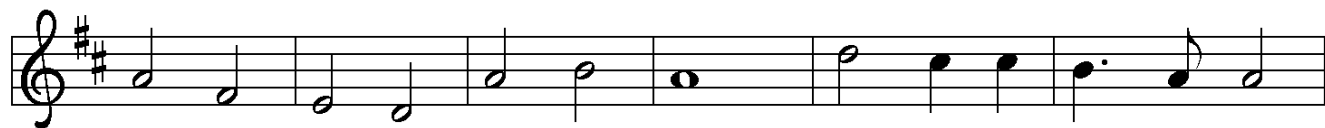
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy.....and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY *Isaiah 6:3, Psalm 118:26, Matthew 21:9*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION *Matthew 26:26-29, Luke 22:15-20, 1 Corinthians 11:4-5*

THE 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.

PRAYER FOR USE BY THOSE NOT JOINING US IN PERSON

The following is adapted from an ancient prayer now in wide use in Lutheran, Episcopal, and Anglican congregations during this time when many are unable to be present to receive the Lord's Supper. Those joining us online are invited to use this prayer at this point in the liturgy. Please know that Eucharistic Ministers are available to bring you the sacrament. If you are interested in this ministry, please call the church office.

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church where your Holy Supper is now being celebrated, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. Since I cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:22-27*

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live in hope.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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