The Divine Service The Fourth Sunday in Advent December 19, 2021



AS WE GATHER

In this season of Advent, we wait upon the Lord with gratitude. Zechariah's waiting days for John the Baptist's birth were filled with great gratitude for the Lord's promise about to be fulfilled. In these remaining waiting days before our Savior's birth, we are ever more grateful for the arrival of the Promised One.

WORDS OF WELCOME/THEME OF THE DAY

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the (+) Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto

God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us

forgiveness.

Pastor: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

People: who made heaven and earth.

Pastor: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

People: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: O almighty God, merciful Father,

People: I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with

which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus

Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

Pastor: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained

servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto 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.



SALUTATION

2 Timothy 4:22

Pastor: The Lord be with you.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor:

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.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath & Children's Message

"The Candle Carol"

Light a candle for the bright Son God sent down from above. Advent news with joy we share In the Spirit we love. Chorus. Chorus:
Christ is in our family
Alleluia Sing!
Aren't you glad
He came to be
Our Brother and our King.

THE OLD TESTAMENT

Micah 5:2-5a

Reader:

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.

Reader:

This is the Word of the Lord.

People:

Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

Hebrews 10:5-10

Reader:

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.

Reader:

This is the Word of the Lord.

People:

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Pastor:

Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

People:

When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son.

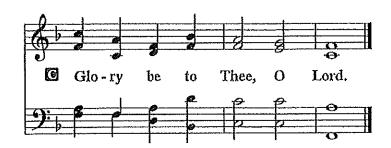
Hallelujah!

HOLY GOSPEL

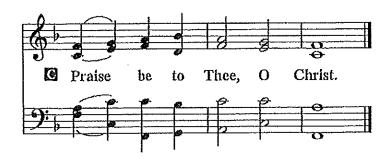
Luke 1:39-45

Pastor:

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



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."



Pastor:

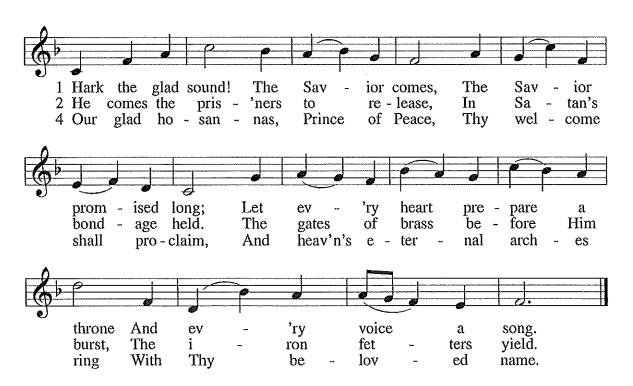
This is the Gospel of the Lord.

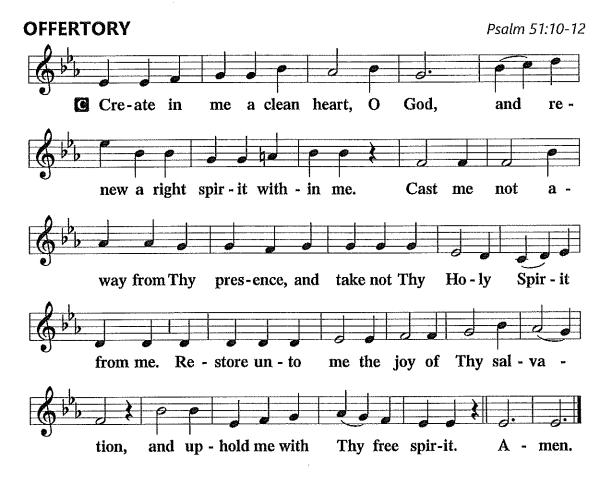
NICENE CREED

People:

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man: and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life # of the world to come. Amen.

HYMN OF THE DAY "Hark the Glad Sound" LSB 349, verses 1,2.4





OFFERING

"Come to Us, O Promised One"

Adult Choir, 11:00 AM

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Pastor:

Let us pray: Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

People: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Petitions end, "Lord in your mercy" Congregation responds, "Hear Our Prayer"

A word about Holy Communion: We welcome to the Lord's Table all baptized Christians who believe in the Real Presence of Christ in this sacrament and believe that in this eating and drinking, we receive the forgiveness of sins and the power to amend our sinful lives. Children who have not yet been instructed may come forward for a blessing, crossing their arms over the chest thus indicating they will not receive the elements.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Stand as you are able.

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE



Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,



bless-ed is He, bless-ed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.



Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor:

Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

People:

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

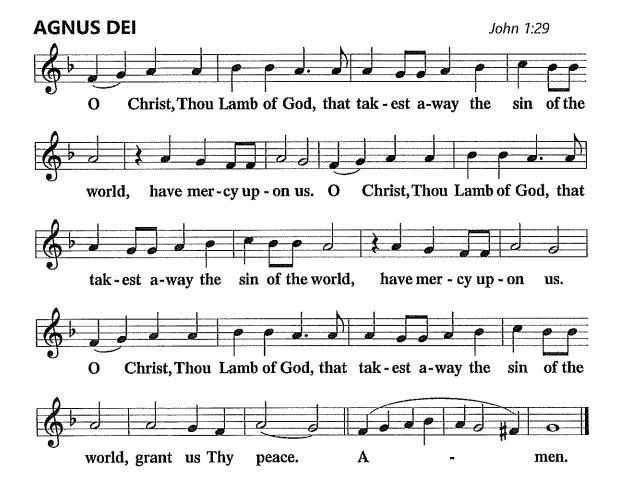
PEACE OF THE LORD

Pastor:

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People:

And also with you.



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"Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending"
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"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

LSB 361



- How still lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, we see thee lie!
- For Christ is born of Mar - y, And, gath - ered all a - bove
- 3 How si lent ly, how si - lent - ly The won-drous gift is giv'n!
- ho ly Child of Beth - le - hem, De - scend to us, we pray;



- bove thy deep and dream-less sleep The si - lent stars go by; While mor-tals sleep, the an - gels keep Their watch of won-d'ring love. God im-parts to hu - man hearts The bless-ings of His heav'n. out our sin, and en - ter born in Cast in, Be us to - day.



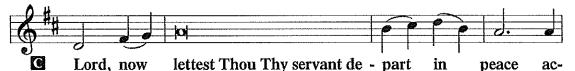
Yet in thy dark streets shin - eth The ev - er - last - ing light. O morn-ing stars, to - geth - er Pro - claim the ho - ly birth, com - ing; But in this world of No ear may hear His sin, We hear the Christ-mas an - gels The great glad tid - ings tell;



The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee to-night. God the king And peace to prais - es sing to all the earth! And Where meek souls will re - ceive Him, still The dear Christ en - ters in. a - bide with us, Our Lord Im-man-u-el! come to us.

NUNC DIMITTIS

Luke 2:29-3:2

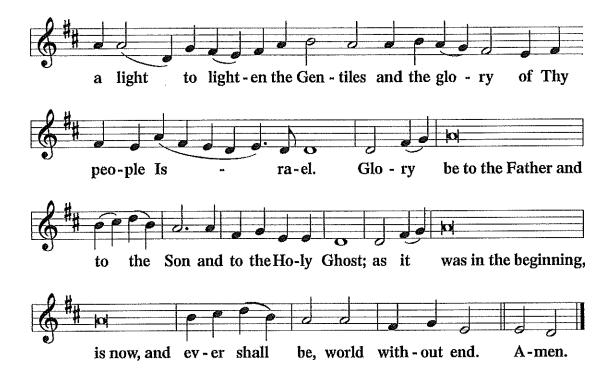




cord-ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,



which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all



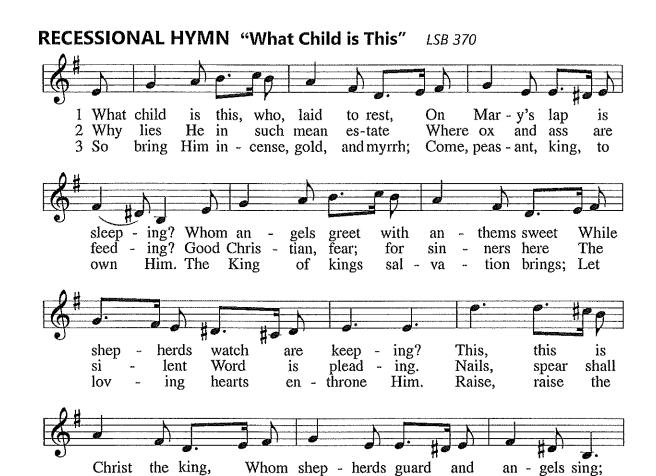
POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

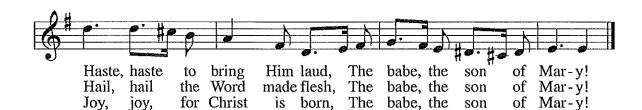
Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION







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DISMISSAL

song

Pastor: Lord Jesus you lead us! Now we go as....

The

The

People: Disciples making disciples.

Pastor: Go in peace and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

pierce Him through,

on high,

If you have a prayer request we invite you to come up to the altar following the worship service to pray with someone from our prayer team.

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

Rev. Scott Henze

Mr. Jeremy Becker, DCE, Director of Youth and Family Ministry Mrs. Kathy Henze, Preschool Director