

December 22, 2024

Fourth Sunday in Advent



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.

Micah 5:2

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Our mission is sharing the saving love of Jesus



Confession and Absolution

Hymn of Invocation

332 Savior of the Nations, Come



1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come, Vir - gin's Son, make
2 Not by hu - man flesh and blood, By the Spir - it
3 Here a maid was found with child, Yet re - mained a
4 Then stepped forth the Lord of all From His pure and



here Your home! Mar - vel now, O heav'n and earth,
of our God, Was the Word of God made flesh—
vir - gin mild. In her womb this truth was shown:
king - ly hall; God of God, yet ful - ly man,



That the Lord chose such a birth.
Wom - an's off - spring, pure and fresh.
God was there up - on His throne.
His he - ro - ic course be - gan.

5 God the Father was His source,
Back to God He ran His course.
Into hell His road went down,
Back then to His throne and crown.

6 For You are the Father's Son
Who in flesh the vict'ry won.
By Your mighty pow'r make whole
All our ills of flesh and soul.

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

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

Text: attr. Ambrose of Milan, 340–397; German version, Martin Luther, 1483–1546; (sts. 1–2): tr. William M. Reynolds, 1812–76; (sts. 3, 6): tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006; (sts. 4–5, 8): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001; (st. 7): tr. Gifford A. Grobrien, 1973; Tune: Geistliche gesangk Buchleyn, 1524, Wittenberg, ed. Johann Walter; Text (sts. 3, 6–7): © 2006 Concordia Publishing House; (sts. 4–5, 8): © 1978 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003637; Text (sts. 1–2) and tune: Public domain

Stand

Invocation

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

C **Amen.**

Exhortation

LSB 184

P 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.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Confession of Sins

LSB 184

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C **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.**

Absolution

LSB 185

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 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 T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Stand

Service of the Word

Kyrie

LSB 186

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

And with thy spir - it.

P Let us pray together.

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.

A - men.

Sit

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.

³ Therefore 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.

⁴ And 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.

⁵ And he shall be their peace.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

Hebrews 10:5–10

⁵ When Christ came into the world, he said,
“Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,
but a body have you prepared for me;

⁶ in burnt offerings and sin offerings
you have taken no pleasure.

⁷ Then I said, ‘Behold, I have come to do your will, O God,
as it is written of me in the scroll of the book.’”

⁸ 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),

⁹ then he added, “Behold, I have come to do your will.” He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. ¹⁰ And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

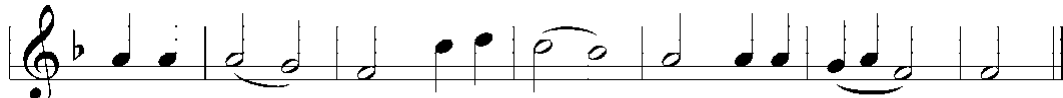
A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Alleluia

LSB 190



Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Luke 1:39–45

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



☐ Glo - ry be to Thee, 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.



☐ Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed

**C 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.**

Sit

Hymn of the Day

343 Prepare the Royal Highway



1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; The King of kings is near!
 2 God's peo - ple, see Him com - ing: Your own e - ter - nal king!
 3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen To greet your prom - ised king!
 4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; It comes from heav'n a - bove.



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley A lev - el road ap - pear!
 Palm branch - es strew be - fore Him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!
 Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion Its trib - ute too should bring.
 His rule is peace and free - dom And jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of Glo - ry Fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:
 God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!
 All lands, bow down be - fore Him! All na - tions, now a - dore Him!
 So let your praise be sound - ing For kind - ness so a - bound - ing:

Refrain



Ho - san - na to the Lord, For He ful - fills God's Word!

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Sermon

Micah 5:2-5a

Votum

P The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

C **Amen.**

Stand

Offertory

LSB 192



□ Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -



new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -



way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it



Prayer of the Church

P O Lord, there is none like You in holiness, constancy and might; yet, You exercise Your power for the salvation of sinners. As we draw near to the celebration of Jesus' birth, fill our hearts with gratitude that Your Son humbled Himself and became flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Mighty God, You have done great things for us, looking upon our humble estate and exalting us to be Your children for Jesus' sake. Preserve us by Your Holy Word, that we would properly fear Your name and rejoice in it all our days. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Heavenly Father, Your Son from of old was born of Mary in time to be our peace. Grant us repentant hearts, that for His sake we would be at peace with You. Grant also that, forgiven of our sins, we may forgive and be at peace with those around us. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P O Lord, our God, Bethlehem was too small to be among the clans of Judah, yet from it came forth the King of kings. Remember the congregations of Your people where numbers are small and resources are scarce. Provide for their needs, and remind them that the Lord of lords dwells among them in His Means of Grace. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Almighty God, You are the Creator of all life. Have mercy on those women who are unable to conceive or who suffer the heartbreak of miscarriage. Be their rock against despair, provide them consolation and purpose in Your Son, and restore them to exult in Your salvation. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Holy God, You sent Your Son to shepherd His flock in strength and to be great to the ends of the earth. Grant wisdom to our leaders and peace among the nations, that we may dwell secure. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P O Lord, our God, uphold *Carol, Teresa, Ron, Vivian, Nita* and all who suffer in mind or body. Give them the knowledge of Christ, their Immanuel, who is with them in their trials. Grant them health and healing in accord with Your perfect will. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Lord God, heavenly Father, we give You thanks for Your Son, Jesus Christ, who is truly the King of the nations and their desire. He who formed us of clay took on our human nature that He might save us. He came to His own and was rejected by them, yet You established Him as the true cornerstone, tested and precious, that whoever believes in Him will not be put to shame. Grant that, as we recall with thanksgiving His advent in the flesh, we may always confess Him and remain watchful for His advent in glory at the Last Day; for You live and reign, ever one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

LSB 196

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.**

Salutation

LSB 201

P The Lord be with you.



☐ And with thy spir - it.

Benedicamus

LSB 202

A Bless we the Lord.



☐ Thanks be to God.

Benediction

LSB 202

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and T give you peace.



☐ A-men, a-men, a - men.

Hymn to Depart

341 Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates



1 Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates! Behold, the
2 A righteous Helper comes to thee; His chariot
3 How blest the land, the city blest, Where Christ the
4 Fling wide the portals of your heart; Make it a
5 Redeemer, come and open wide My heart to



King of glory waits. The King of kings is drawing
is humility, His kingly crown is holy
ruler is confessed! O peaceful hearts and happy
temple set apart From earthly use for heaven's em-
Thee; here, Lord, abide! O enter with Thy grace di-



near; The Savior of the world is here. Life and sal-
vance, His scepter, pity in distress. The end of
homes To whom this King in triumph comes! The cloudless
glory, Adorned with prayer and love and joy. So shall your
vine; Thy face of mercy on me shine. Thy Holy



vation He doth bring; Therefore rejoice and gladly sing.
all our woe He brings; Therefore the earth is glad and sings.
sun of joy is He Who comes to set His people free.
Sovereign enter in And new and nobler life begin.
Spirit guide us on Until our glorious goal is won.



To God the Father raise Your joyful songs of praise.
To Christ the Savior raise Your grateful hymns of praise.
To God the Spirit raise Your happy shouts of praise.
To God alone be praise For word and deed and grace!
Eternal praise and fame We offer to Thy name.

Text: Georg Weissel, 1590–1635; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Tune: August Lemke, 1820–1913
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IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK,

We pray to our merciful Heavenly Father for:

- ✧ **Healing for all those who are experiencing health issues** Carol Bogle (Randy Bogle's mother), Teresa Groth, Ron Moyer, Vivian Oestmann, Nita Whitney and all those in need.
- ✧ **Encouragement, strengthened faith and healing for those with long-term illnesses:** Amber Albrecht (Romelle Humphrey's great niece), Delta Boden, Carmen (Loli Bohling's sister), Susan Bohling, Glen Hogue, Lynn LaBalle, Melissa Pierpoint, Joni Scotter (Rich Scotter's mother), and Kamani Williams (infant, friend of Nita Whitney)

THOSE CELEBRATING SPECIAL DAYS THIS WEEK:

Birthdays: 12/22: Elijah Kennedy; 12/23: Melissa Pierpoint; 12/28: Ray Price

Baptisms: 12/25: Ron Moyer, Elliot Kennedy, Judah Kennedy, Nora Kennedy

Anniversaries: none this week

12/22	12/23	12/24	12/25	12/26	12/27	12/28	12/29
9:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Adult & Children's Sunday School		7:00 PM Christmas Eve Worship 	9:00 AM Christmas Day Worship 				9:00 AM Worship with Holy Communion 10:00 AM Adult & Children's Sunday School

Scripture reading for next week:

Ex. 13:1-3a, 11-15; Col. 3:12-17; Luke 2:22-40

Weekday Bible Study:

No class session 12/23-24 or 12/30-31

Lessons for discussion 1/6 or 1/7: Sg. 4:1-Is. 6:13

OrganistSandy Wilson

Pianist.....Vicki Ackerman

If you have a hearing aid and are having difficulty during the musical segments of the worship service, could you please try setting your hearing aids to either "noisy" or "music" if your devices have such a setting. If this doesn't resolve this issue, please contact Vicki Ackerman at (402) 314-4407 or worshipattrinityaub@gmail.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Merry Christmas and blessings of our Lord to you and your entire family during this coming Christmas Week! May you have safe travels, peaceful joy, and feel the presence of Jesus beside you as your holiday unfolds.