

*December 21st & 22nd, 2024 | 6:00pm & 8:15 am
Advent 4*



Preacher: Rev. Carlton Andersen

St. Luke's Lutheran Church & Preschool/4K
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We at St. Luke's dedicate ourselves to grow in faith and love, to serve together, and to reach out with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC & LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE

WELCOME & GREETING

OPENING HYMN AND LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLES~ 'Savior of the Nations
Come' (vs. 1,6-7) LSB 332

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.

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.

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(Rise)

INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: The Lord says, "Prepare the way of the Lord."

C: We thank You, O Lord!

P: The Lord who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C: We praise You, O Lord!

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: Confident of receiving God's great mercy, let us confess together that we by nature are sinful and that through our thoughts, words, and deeds we have sinned against our God and deserve His punishment now and eternally.

C: Almighty God, we repent of our sins and ask for Your forgiving grace in our lives. Be merciful to us and for the sake of Jesus grant us remission of our sins so that, as Your redeemed people, we may greet you in Advent hope and with trusting hearts serve You in time and in eternity.

P: 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.

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by the promise of Your coming into our world. We pray this the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

FIRST READING~ Psalm 85:1-7

¹You showed favor to your land, O LORD; you restored the fortunes of Jacob. ²You forgave the iniquity of your people and covered all their sins. *Selah* ³You set aside all your wrath and turned from your fierce anger.

⁴Restore us again, O God our Savior, and put away your displeasure toward us. ⁵Will you be angry with us forever? Will you prolong your anger through all generations? ⁶Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you?

⁷Show us your unfailing love, O LORD, and grant us your salvation.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Sing Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING~ Zephaniah 3:14-17

¹⁴Sing, O Daughter of Zion; shout aloud, O Israel! Be glad and rejoice with all your heart, O Daughter of Jerusalem! ¹⁵The LORD has taken away your punishment, he has turned back your enemy. The LORD, the King of Israel, is with you; never again will you fear any harm.

¹⁶On that day they will say to Jerusalem, "Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands hang limp. ¹⁷The LORD your God is with you, he is mighty to save. He will take great delight in you, he will quiet you with his love, he will rejoice over you with singing."

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: *Sing* **Thanks be to God.**

6:00 p.m. Solo

8:15 a.m. Choir~ 'Long Ago'

(Rise)

P: This is the Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 1st chapter.

All: *sing* **Glory to You, O Lord.**

GOSPEL READING~ Matthew 1:18-25

¹⁸This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Because Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

²⁰But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.

²¹She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

²²All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet:

²³"The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel"--which means, "God with us."

²⁴When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. ²⁵But he had no union with her until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C:sing **Praise to You, O Christ.**

CONFESSION OF FAITH ~ The Nicene Creed

All: 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.

(Be seated)

CHILDRENS TIME

SERMON HYMN~ 'Joy to the World'

LSB 387

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.

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SERMON

(Be seated)

THE GATHERING OF OUR GIFTS & WE CARE CARDS

(Rise and sing)

OFFERTORY HYMN~ 'Take My Life'

**All: Take my life and make it Thine.
It shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart it is Thine own.
It shall be Thy royal throne.
It shall be Thy royal throne.**

**Take my love my Lord I pour.
At Thy feet its treasure store.
Take myself and I will be.
Ever only all for Thee.
Ever only all for Thee.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P: Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer. (*after final petition: Amen.*)

THE LORDS PRAYER

All: 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.

(Rise)

CLOSING HYMN~ 'O Come, O Come Emmanuel' (vs. 1-4 & 7)

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

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

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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: *sing* **Amen, Amen, Amen.**

P: Go in peace and serve the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

POST-SERVICE MUSIC