

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod St. Louis, Missouri 63125-5409 314-892-5610 peacelutheranstl.org

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

DECEMBER 22, 2024

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

<u>WELCOME TO PEACE!</u> If you are a guest, please fill out the Visitor side of one of the attendance cards found in the pew rack. Let us know if you would like us to contact you. We are happy to have you worshipping with us today!

 $|\mathbf{P}|$ = Pastor

* = Stand

 \triangle = Stand for Trinitarian stanza

C = Congregation

Opening Voluntary



*Invocation

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

P In the name of the Father and of the

→ Son and of the Holy Spirit.



*Lighting of the Advent Wreath

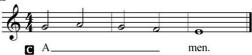
John 1:5, 9; 3:16; Psalm 36:5–9

- We light the fourth Advent candle as we prepare for the arrival of the Savior, who would come to His people in human flesh and who promises to come again. In a world of darkness, a light shines. Jesus Christ is the light of the world.
- **The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.**
- The fourth Advent candle has been known as the angel candle and the candle of love. As our Advent season soon ends, we await the angelic message of the good news of a Savior. We have come to know the love of the one true God this season and always as we have prepared to celebrate His birth. We know God's promises come to fruition in Jesus, who later made known His Father's love in His being born into this world; in His life, ministry, teaching, preaching, healing; and ultimately in His dying and rising. "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life."
- The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.
- P Guided by the light of love, we respond with the psalmist: "Your steadfast love, O LORD, extends to the heavens, Your faithfulness to the clouds.
- Your righteousness is like the mountains of God; Your judgments are like the great deep; man and beast You save, O LORD.
- P How precious is Your steadfast love, O God! The children of mankind take refuge in the shadow of Your wings.
- They feast on the abundance of Your house, and You give them drink from the river of Your delights.
- **P** For with You is the fountain of life;
- In Your light do we see light."

*Confession

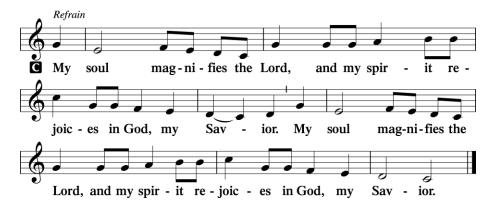
- P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our 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.

*Absolution



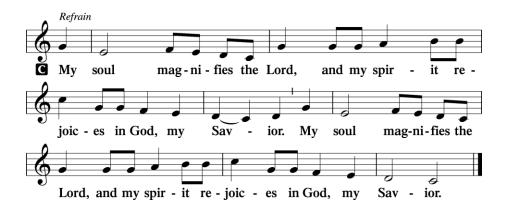
*Introit (10:30) Magnificat

Choir: My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior. My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior.



Choir: For He has regarded the lowliness of His handmaiden. For behold, from this day all generations will call me blessèd.

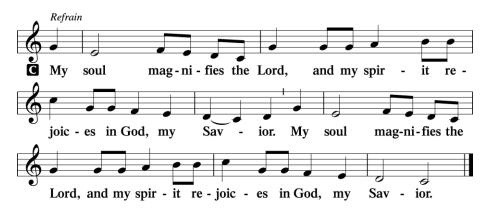
For the Mighty One has done great things to me, and holy is His name; and His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation.

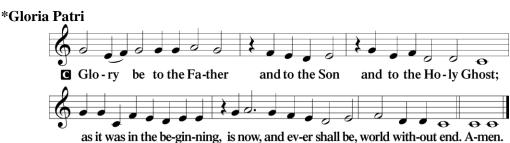


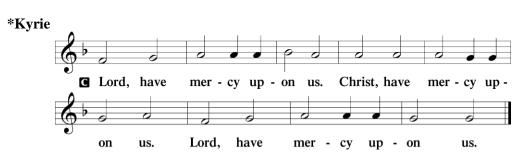
Choir: He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He has cast down the mighty from their thrones and has exalted the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent empty away. He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed forever.

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.







*Salutation and Collect of the Day





Old Testament Reading

Micah 5:2-5a

²But 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.

- **P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Epistle Hebrews 10:5–10

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.

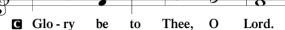
- **P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

*Alleluia

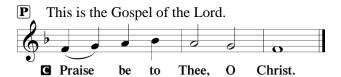


*Holy Gospel Luke 1:39–45

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."



*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.

Children's Message (8:00 & 10:30)

Christina Stackle Director of Christian Education



Sermon

President Thomas Egger

Sermon Notes:

Gathering of the Offering Please fill out an attendance card and place in the offering plate



*Prayer of the Church

*Lord's Prayer

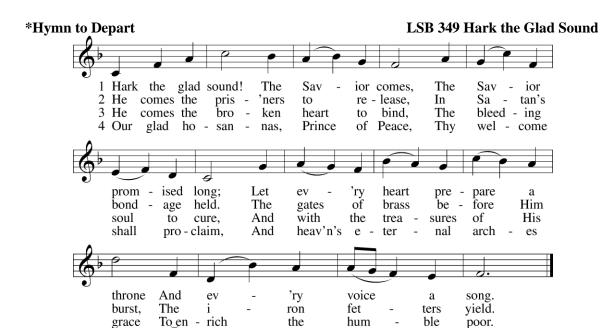
Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

*Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

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





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*Silent Prayer

Closing Voluntary

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With

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Acknowledgments

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SERVING IN OUR WORSHIP:

Preacher: President Thomas Egger

Liturgists: Pastor Jon Furgeson, Pastor Robert Brown

Organist: 5:00 & 8:00: Michelle Sliger; 8:00 & 10:30: Kendra Ruesler

Choir: Chancel Choir

Choir Director: Burnell Hackman, DMM

KFUO AM 850 Announcer/Audio Engineer/Video Engineer: B. Uthoff/A. Hopfer/W. Schuessler

Elders: <u>5:00</u>: Art Hoeferlin, Alan Hopfer; <u>8:00</u>: Kyle Hopfer, John Roesch;

9:20: Steve Kienstra, Steve Shawcross; 10:30: Rich Behnke, Ken Werkmeister

Ushers: 5:00: Team #13 – Dean Seyfert, Captain; 8:00: Team #2 – Mike Renner, Captain;

9:20: Team #12 - Chris Hosty, Captain; 10:30: Team #5 - Kyle Sandersfeld, Captain

Acolytes: <u>8:00</u>: Genevieve Castro, Rain Dillender; <u>10:30</u>: Lyla McCarty, Grace Robinson Greeters: <u>8:00</u>: Carol Gibbons; <u>9:20</u>: Eric & Stephanie Holler; <u>10:30</u>: Jerry & Pam Schulze

The Rev. Dr. Jon C. Furgeson, Senior Pastor, 314-601-1039 Rev. Robert M. Brown, Associate Pastor, 618-580-8817 The Rev. Dr. Dennis A. Kastens, Pastor Emeritus Burnell L. Hackman, Director of Music Ministry Christina Stackle, Director of Christian Education Sue Velten, Director of Early Childhood



Christmas at Peace Concert

Sunday, December 22, 2024 - 3:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve Worship with Holy Communion

Tuesday, December 24, 2024 Noon, 3:00 p.m., 5:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service with Holy Communion

Tuesday, December 24, 2024 - 11:15 p.m. Prelude begins at 10:45 p.m.

Christmas Day Worship with Holy Communion

Wednesday, December 25, 2024 - 9:30 a.m.

Epiphany Worship with Holy Communion

Monday, January 6, 2025 - 7:00 p.m.