

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Saturday, December 21, 2024 - 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 22, 2024 - 8:00 a.m.

Divine Service 4 LSB pg. 203

As We Gather

Jesus has a gift that doesn't often get talked about. He is a natural gatherer. He has the ability to bring people together. This can be witnessed throughout all of history. Even before He was born, people gathered in hope around the promise of His coming. In His time on earth, people gathered to hear Him speak. Still today, we gather in celebration of His victory over death.

Red Connection Pads

Welcome! Please add your name to the connection pad at your seating location or record your attendance online at clcs.org/attendance or the QR code on the right.



A Note on Holy Communion *Guests are encouraged to see details about Communion on p. 8.*



A Note on Offerings *As an act of worship and thanksgiving, we offer to God what He has first given to us: the first and best of our time, talents, and financial gifts. Donation boxes are located by each entry door or if you would like to contribute online, with either a onetime or ongoing gift, please use clcs.org/give or the QR code to the left.*

Welcome

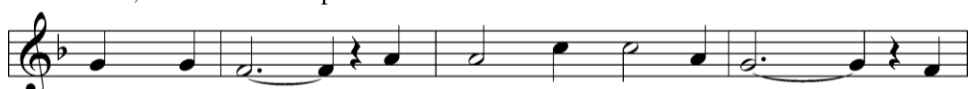




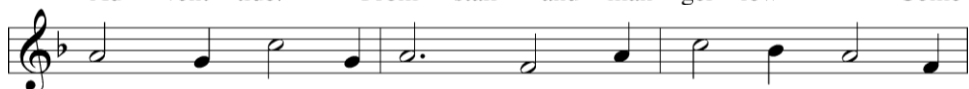
1 A - rise, O Chris - tian peo - ple! Pre - pare your - selves to -
 2 Pre - pare the way be - fore Him; Pre - pare for Him the
 3 The hum - ble heart and low - ly God rais - es up on
 4 Pre - pare my heart, Lord Je - sus; Turn not from me a -



day; Pre - pare to greet the Sav - ior, Who takes your
 best. Cast out what would of - fend Him, This great, this
 high; Be - neath His feet in ter - ror The haugh - ty
 side, And help me to re - ceive You This bless - ed



sins a - way. To us by grace a - lone The
 heav'n - ly guest. Make straight, make plain the way: The
 soul shall lie. The heart sin - cere and right, That
 Ad - vent - tide. From stall and man - ger low Come



truth and light were giv - en; The prom - ised Lord from
 low - ly val - leys rais - ing, The heights of pride a -
 heeds God's in - vi - ta - tion And makes true prep - a -
 now to dwell with - in me; I'll sing Your prais - es



heav - en To all the world is shown.
 bas - ing, His path all e - ven lay.
 ra - tion— It is the Lord's de - light.
 glad - ly And forth Your glo - ry show.

Public domain

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

Colossians 3:16

P = Pastor; L = Worship Leader; C = Congregation

Call to Worship

The Invocation - Matthew 28:19

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

C: Amen.



Baptism (5:30 p.m. - Please be seated) James David Vandivier

Baptismal Hymn

“See This Wonder in the Making”

LSB 593

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 See this wonder in the making:
God Himself this child is taking
As a lamb safe in His keeping,
His to be, awake or sleeping. | 3 Far more tender than a mother,
Far more caring than a father,
God, into Your arms we place him,
With Your love and peace embrace him. |
|---|--|

Confession of Sin & Announcement of Forgiveness

The Absolution - John 20:21-23

P: Oh Lord, that You would rend the heavens and come down, that the mountains might quake at Your presence.

C: **I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in His word I hope; my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning, more than watchmen for the morning.**

P: O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love,

C: **And with Him is plentiful redemption. He will redeem Israel from all his iniquities.**

P: From of old no one has heard or perceived by the ear, no eye has seen a God besides you, who acts for those who wait for him.

C: **Behold, you were angry, and we sinned; in our sins we have been a long time, and shall we be saved?**

P: Yes! For God promises that if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Let us therefore confess our sins to God our Father.

C: **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation.

The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

2 Corinthians 5:17

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

P: Each week in Advent, we light a candle as we prepare for the arrival of our Savior, who once came as a helpless child and will one day come in the fullness of His glory, for in a world of darkness, a light shines. Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

C: **The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.** (*John 1:5*)

P: 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. God's love has been revealed in the life, ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus. "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life." (*John 3:16*) "This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us..." (*1 John 3:16a*)

C: **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,

C: **Your faithfulness to the clouds.**

P: Your righteousness is like the mountains of God;

C: **Your judgments are like the great deep...**

P: How precious is Your steadfast love, O God!

C: **The children of mankind take refuge in the shadow of Your wings.**

P: For with You is the fountain of life;

C: **in Your light we see light.**" (*Psalms 36:5-9*)

The four candles are lit, as we sing...

Hymn

"We Light the Advent Candle"

tune LSB 343

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 We light the Advent candle
And wait for Christ to come.
With hope, we trust the promise
That He will bring us home.
Our hope is in our Savior
Who wins for us God's favor.
We wait with growing light
Till God makes all things right! | 3 We light the Advent candle
And sing with cheerful heart.
With joy, we spread the message
That God would us impart.
Our joy is never ending;
The Son to us is sending.
We wait with growing light
Till God makes all things right! |
| 2 We light the Advent candle
And thank the Lord for rest.
With peace, we know our Jesus
Has come to be our guest.
This peace beyond all knowing
Within our hearts is glowing.
We wait with growing light
Till God makes all things right! | 4 We light the Advent candle
And share the wondrous Word.
With love, we tell of Jesus
Till all around have heard.
God's love is for each nation
Throughout His whole creation.
We wait with growing light
Till God makes all things right! |

Prayer of the Day

L: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

L: Let us pray. Father in Heaven, in Jesus You have made good on your promise to send a Savior to Your people. As Advent turns to Christmas, keep our hearts focused on the promises You have kept and the promises that You will keep. We pray this through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Children's Message *(Please be seated)*

✠ The Word of the Lord ✠

First Reading

“One Who is to be Ruler”

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.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading

“They Devoted Themselves”

Acts 2:42-47

⁴² And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ⁴³ And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴ And all who believed were together and had all things in common. ⁴⁵ And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶ And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem (5:30 p.m.)

Advent Meditation - Liebergen

Calvary Chorale

Holy Gospel

“Characters of Jesus Birth”

Luke 2:1-20

¹ In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ² This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³ And all went to be registered, each to his own town. ⁴ And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, ⁵ to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. ⁶ And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. ⁷ And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

⁸ And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. ¹⁰ And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹ For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹² And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.” ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, ¹⁴ “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!” ¹⁵ When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.” ¹⁶ And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. ¹⁷ And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. ¹⁸ And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. ²⁰ And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

Shared Confession of Faith

The 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.

Hymn of the Day *(Please be seated)*

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

LSB 338



1 Come, Thou long - ex - pect-ed Je - sus, Born to set Thy peo - ple free;
2 Born Thy peo - ple to de - liv - er; Born a child and yet a king!



From our fears and sins re - lease us; Let us find our rest in Thee.
Born to reign in us for - ev - er, Now Thy gra - cious king - dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, Hope of all the earth Thou art,
By Thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it Rule in all our hearts a - lone;



Dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, Joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.
By Thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it Raise us to Thy glo - rious throne.

Public domain

Sermon

“I’ll Be Home for Christmas”

Luke 2:1-20

Listen to past sermons or share them with a friend at clcs.org/sermons.

Offering Prayer

Prayers *(Please stand)*

*Each prayer of the pastor ends “...Lord, in Your mercy,”
congregation responds, “Hear our prayer.”*

A copy of today’s prayers is available online for use during your daily prayers (clcs.org/this-week).

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.

† Holy Communion †

Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life, welcomes us today to the table to receive of the blessings won for us upon the cross. As we draw near confessing our wayward ways and desiring to live a new life in Christ, we examine ourselves as the Bible encourages us to do in 1 Corinthians 11:28. We therefore pause to consider why Jesus gave us this sacred meal and what He now gives us in it, for this is a meal of...

1. **Forgiveness** - Am I sorry for my sin and desire God's forgiveness? (Matthew 26:28)
2. **Faith** - Do I believe that Jesus is my Savior and that he is truly present in this meal for my benefit? (1 Corinthians 11:26-28)
3. **Fellowship** - Do I come to this table desiring reconciliation with others (Matthew 5:23-24), and am I in agreement with the beliefs of this faith community in which I now seek to receive communion? (1 Corinthians 10:16-21)

New to Calvary or have questions? Feel free to speak to a pastor before or after service.

Those not receiving communion may remain seated or come forward for a blessing from the pastor. Please cross your arms over your chest to indicate you are not receiving communion.

When invited forward, please line up in front of the communion rail.

Gluten-free wafers are available on stands at the end of the first row for those with a gluten allergy to pick up on their way to the communion rail.

Non-alcoholic (white) wine is available at the center of the communion tray.

After being dismissed with a blessing, please return to your seat using the center aisle.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

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

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

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary ... evermore praising You and singing:

Song of the Angels

The Sanctus - Isaiah 6:3

LSB 208

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;
Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Words of Our Lord *The Words of Institution - Mt. 26:26-28; Mk 14:22-24; Lk 22:19-20, 1 Cor 11:23-25*

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

Lamb of God

The Agnus Dei - John 1:29

LSB 210

1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.



(Please be seated)

Distribution Hymn

“O Lord, How Shall I Meet You”

LSB 334



1 O Lord, how shall I meet You, How wel - come You a - right?
2 Your Zi - on strevs be - fore You Green boughs and fair - est palms;
3 I lay in fet - ters, groan - ing; You came to set me free.
4 Love caused Your in - car - na - tion; Love brought You down to me.



Your peo - ple long to greet You, My hope, my heart's de - light!
And I too will a - dore You With joy - ous songs and psalms.
I stood, my shame be - moan - ing; You came to hon - or me.
Your thirst for my sal - va - tion Pro - cured my lib - er - ty.



O kin - dle, Lord most ho - ly, Your lamp with - in my breast
My heart shall bloom for - ev - er For You with prais - es new
A glo - rious crown You give me, A trea - sure safe on high
Oh, love be - yond all tell - ing, That led You to em - brace



To do in spir - it low - ly All that may please You best.
And from Your name shall nev - er With - hold the hon - or due.
That will not fail or leave me As earth - ly rich - es fly.
In love, all love ex - cel - ling, Our lost and fall - en race.

Public domain

For Prayer & Personal Reflection during Communion Distribution

“And all who believed were together and had all things in common.” (Acts 2:44)

Question: This season is filled with extra events and activities. What faith-filled gatherings is the Holy Spirit leading you to during this Advent and Christmas season?

Challenge: Throughout the coming week, during your gatherings, take a moment to consider the gift it is to be joined together with believers to give praise over the birth of our Savior.

Prayer: Jesus, it is a blessing to gather together with believers to rejoice over the great works You have done. Don't let me take this gift for granted. Keep my mind focused on the promises You have kept and the promises You will keep. Amen.

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
 2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
 part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
 glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
 glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
 Spir - it, For - ev - er Three - in - One;
 A light to lead the the Gen - tiles Un -
 For as in the be - gin - ning, Is
 to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
 now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
 peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
 sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Post-Communion Blessing

Post-Communion Prayer

L: Let us pray.
 ...who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
 C: Amen.

Blessing

The Benediction of Aaron - Numbers 6:24-26

P: Let us bless the Lord.
 C: Thanks be to God.
 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: Amen.

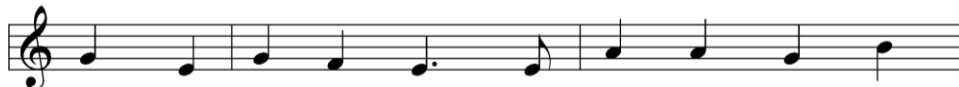
Sending Hymn

“From Heaven Above to Earth I Come”

LSB 358



1 “From heav’n a - bove to earth I come To bear good
3 “This is the Christ, our God Most High, Who hears your
4 “He will on you the gifts be - stow Pre - pared by



news to ev - 'ry home; Glad tid - ings of great
sad and bit - ter cry; He will Him - self your
God for all be - low, That in His king - dom,



joy I bring, Where - of I now will say and sing:
Sav - ior be From all your sins to set you free.
bright and fair, You may with us His glo - ry share.

Public domain

Announcements

✝ LEADING OUR WORSHIP ✝

Preacher: Pastor Sam Troemel

Worship Leader: (5:30p) Bob Romack (8:00a) Pastor Kurt Ebert

Organist: (5:30p & 8:00a) Rhonda Hansen

Musicians: (5:30p) Calvary Chorale

Acolyte: (5:30p) Ava Mascari (8:00a) n/a