



## Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 18, 2022

Reprinted from Evangelical Lutheran Worship ©2006 Augsburg Fortress.  
All rights reserved. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress License #14040-ELW  
Portions from *Sundays & Seasons 2023*  
Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress License #1271-L

*Setting 10*

Today Isaiah prophesies that a young woman will bear a son and name him Emmanuel. The gospel is Matthew's account of the annunciation and birth of the one named Emmanuel, God-with-us. During these final days of Advent we pray, "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel," a beloved hymn based on the O Antiphons, ancient prayers appointed for the seven days preceding Christmas. On this final Sunday of Advent we prepare to celebrate the birth of the one born to save us from the power of sin and death.

# Joys & Concerns

## Confession and Forgiveness

P. Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.

C. **Blessed be God's name forever. Amen**

P. Beloved, now is the time to wake from sleep. Let us confront our sins, and confess them to the one who is merciful and just.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P. God of new beginnings,

C. **we confess that we have not welcomed your holy reign. We have strayed from your paths. We prepare for war instead of peace. We dishonor one another and your creation. Purify us with your refining fire and set us again on your way of love, that we may bear fruit worthy of repentance, and welcome your coming among us. Amen.**

P. People of God, a new thing is growing in our midst, a tender branch, a living sign. By water and the Spirit you are joined to this wonder. You have put on † Christ, and your sins have been washed away. Rejoice in the way of the Lord.

C. **Amen**

## Gathering Hymn

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*  
vs. 1-4

ELW 257

## Lighting of Advent Wreath

P. Praise to you, O God, who lives with us, sharing our flesh and bones.  
As Mary waited and Joseph dreamed,  
so we wait and dream for you.  
Bless us and let your face shine upon us,  
more radiant than these candles,  
and more dear than all else we seek.  
Restore us when we fail to refuse the evil and choose the good, and banish all our fears.  
We pray in the name of Emmanuel,  
your promised child and our Savior.

C. **Amen**



## Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah



- 1 Light one can-dle to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 2 Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 3 Light three can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 4 Light four can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



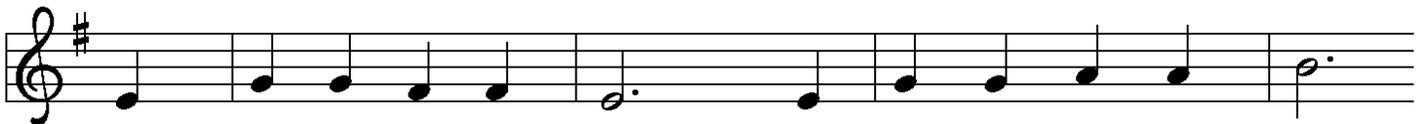
He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra-el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.  
He shall feed the flock like a shep-herd, gent - ly lead them home-ward.  
Lift your heads and lift high the gate-way for the King of glo - ry.  
He is com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your lights be shin - ing!

## Greeting

P. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C. And also with you.

## Kyrie



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.  
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.  
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

## Prayer of the Day

A. Let us pray.

C. Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that hinders our faith, that eagerly we may receive your promises, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen



we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

L. Word of God. Word of life.

C. **Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation** (sung 3 times)

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two systems. The first system has a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The vocal line lyrics are: "Wait for the Lord, whose day is near." The piano accompaniment consists of chords and single notes. The second system also has a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The vocal line lyrics are: "Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!" The piano accompaniment continues with chords and single notes. Both systems end with a double bar line and a fermata.

P. The holy gospel according to Matthew, chapter one.

Matthew 1:18-25

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do 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 as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,"

which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

C. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

P. The gospel of the Lord.

C. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through Him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

He came down from heaven,  
By the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary and was made man.  
For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day He rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and His kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.



## Prayers of Intercession

- A. As we prepare for the fullness of Christ's presence, let us pray for a world that yearns for new hope.

*A brief silence*

God our shepherd, let your Spirit move with power throughout the church. Give discernment and wisdom to our bishops, pastors, deacons, and lay leaders. Take away our fear, so that we serve and love, confident that you are guiding us. God, in your mercy,

**C. hear our prayer.**

- P. God of our longing, you know our deepest needs. By your Spirit, gather our prayers and join them with the prayers of all your children. In Jesus' name we pray.

**C. Amen.**

## The Peace

- P. The Peace of Christ be with you always.  
C. **And also with you.**



## The Offering

### Anthem

*The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came*

Choir

## Offertory Prayer

- A. Eternal God,  
C. **you make the desert bloom and send springs of water to thirsty ground. Receive these simple gifts of bread, wine, and money, and make us messengers of your mercy and love for all in need of your healing and justice. We ask this through Christ our Savior. Amen**

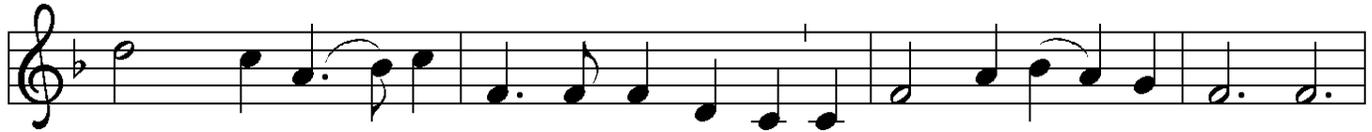
## The Great Thanksgiving

- 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 our thanks and praise.**  
P. It is right that.....we praise your holy name saying:

## The Sanctus



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



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

# The 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

## Invitation to Communion

**P.** Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God, who has come to save you.

**C.** Amen

## Lamb of God



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

## Communion Hymns

<i>What Wondrous Love Is This</i>	ELW 666
<i>Precious Lord, Take My Hand</i>	ELW 773
<i>For the Bread Which You Have Broken</i>	ELW 494

## Post Communion Blessing

P. The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.  
C. Amen

## Post Communion Canticle

*Hark, the Glad Sound! Vs. 1-3*

ELW 239

## Post Communion Prayer

A. Faithful God, in this meal you have remembered your mercy, bringing heaven to earth in the body and blood of Christ. As we wait for the day when all your promises will be fulfilled, sustain us and strengthen us by this holy mystery. Guide us toward your promised future, coming to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.  
C. Amen.

## The Blessing

P. God the eternal Word, who dwells with us in Jesus, and who hold us in the grace of the Holy Spirit,  
† bless you now and forever.  
C. Amen

## Sending Hymn

*Canticle of the Turning*

ELW 723

## Dismissal

A. Go in peace. Christ is near.  
C. Thanks be to God.

## Postlude

Brad Hunnicutt

After Worship Fellowship today is sponsored by your Church Council



**Servers for Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup>:**

Assisting Minister ..... Julie Bogle  
Reader ..... Gale Isaacs  
Altar Guild ..... Ginny King  
Greeters ..... Terry Barnes / Alecia Harrison  
Acolyte ..... Antonio Smith

Sign-up sheets for the various worship assistant slots are on the board in the hallway. Please consider spending time giving glory to God by filling one of these positions on a Sunday.

**Candles in the sanctuary this month are provided by Connie Fortmeyer in celebration of Christmas!**



**& Mid-Week Worship**

**REMINDER:** Each Wednesday during Advent there will be a Simple Supper in the Fellowship Hall at 6 pm, followed by an Advent Worship Service at 7:00 pm. All are invited and encouraged to attend!!

A sign-up sheet for Christmas Poinsettia's is located on the bulletin board in the hallway. The price per pant is \$5.



**Mary Jo Albert  
7<sup>th</sup> Annual Memorial  
Christmas Concert**

**Monday, December 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm**

