

Order of Worship Bulletin

**Saturday 12/17/2022 5:30pm
Sunday 12/18/2022 8:30am**



Fourth Sunday in Advent

Shepherd of the Woods Lutheran Church and School

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Worship Services
Saturday at 5:30pm
Sunday at 8:30am & 10:30am

Prelude**Musicians****Welcome, Announcements, Greeting****Call to Worship*****O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*****Bells of Joy****Gathering Hymn*****Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*****Green Hymnal # 30****Confession and Forgiveness** (*please be seated or kneel as you are able*)

P. In the name of the Father, and of the Son+, and of the Holy Spirit.

C. Amen.

P. Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your Holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C. Amen

P. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(Silence for reflection and self-examination)

P. Most merciful God,

C. we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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.

P. Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C. Amen**

The Apostolic Greeting (*please rise*)

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.

Prayer of the Day: *Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come. Take away the hinderance of our sins and make us ready for the celebration of Your birth, that we may receive You in joy and serve You always; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.*

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Light four can-dles to watch for Mes - si ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



He is com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your lights be shin - ing!

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954

Music: TIF IN VELDELE. Yiddish folk tune

Text c 1984 Fortress Press, admin. Augsburg Fortress

First Lesson: Isaiah 7:10-17

Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, 11 “Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” 12 But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test.” 13 And he said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? 14 Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, a young woman shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. 15 He shall eat curds and honey when he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. 16 For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted. 17 The LORD will bring upon you and upon your people and upon your father’s house such days as have not come since the day that Ephraim departed from Judah—the king of Assyria.”

Psalm 24 (read responsively, congregation reads the bold verses)

P. The earth is the LORD's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein,
C. for he has founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers.
P. Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD? And who shall stand in his holy place?
C. He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to what is false and does not swear deceitfully.
P. He will receive blessing from the LORD and righteousness from the God of his salvation.
C. Such is the generation of those who seek him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob. Selah
P. Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.
C. Who is this King of glory? The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle!
P. Lift up your heads, O gates! And lift them up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.
C. Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory! Selah

Second Lesson: Romans 1:1-7

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God 2 which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, 3 the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh 4 and designated Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, 5 through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations, 6 including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ; 7 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.

The Gospel Verse (please rise)



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

Lord, to whom shall we go? _____ You have the words of e-ter-nal life.

Al - le - lu - ia! _____

P. The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the first chapter.
C. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 1:18-25

Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child of the Holy Spirit; 19 and her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. 20 But as he considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit; 21 she will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." 22 All this took place to fulfil what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: 23 "Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emmanuel" (which means, God with us). 24 When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took his wife, 25 but knew her not until she had borne a son; and he called his name Jesus.

P. The Gospel of the Lord.
C. **Thanks be to God.**

The Sermon

Hymn of the Day

God Himself Is Present

Green Hymnal # 249

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell. On the third day He rose again.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

The Prayers of the People

A. Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.
Please be seated or kneel as you are able.
(The congregation's response to the petition, "Lord in your mercy," is "***Hear our prayer.***")

Sharing of the Peace (wave to one another!)

The offering will be received as you leave worship today. The offering plates are located in front of the baptismal font at the entrance to the sanctuary where you can place your donations and yellow connect/sign-in insert. Thank you for your stewardship and support of the mission!

Preparation of the Elements for Holy Communion

The Offertory Prayer

- A. Let us pray, Merciful Father,
- C. **We offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us - ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. 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 him thanks and praise.**
- P. It is indeed right and salutary... we praise Your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and

might; heav - en and earth are filled with your

glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is the one who comes in your name. Ho -

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

The Consecration of the Elements for Communion

- P. In the night in which He was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

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, for ever and ever. Amen

Communion Distribution

At the direction of the ushers, we invite all who recognize the body and blood of Christ and seek forgiveness in His name, to receive communion today. You are invited to kneel or stand at the altar or you may receive in your pew by letting an usher know.

As is our custom, both the common cup for intinction and individual glasses are made available. If you wish to intinct from the chalice, please hold on to the host after you receive it and dip it carefully in the chalice. The center glasses in each tray contain grape juice. If you would like a gluten-free host, please indicate this to the Pastor.

Children who do not yet receive communion are invited to come to the altar to receive a blessing indicating that desire by crossing their arms over their chests.

Communion Hymns

Lamb of God

1. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us,
2. Lamb of God, you are the way of just-ice and peace:
3. Lamb of God, you are the way of mer-cy and love;

mer - cy on us, mer-cy on us. us. 1. 2. 3. us. Lamb of God, you

take a-way the sin of the world: grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace.

While We Are Waiting, Come Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

**Red Hymnal # 760
Red Hymnal # 255**

Dismissal from Communion (please rise)

P. May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.
C. Amen.

Post-Communion Canticle

REFRAIN

Praise to you, O God of mer-cy: Thanks be to you for - ev - er.

Rais-ing high the weak and low-ly: Thanks be to you for - ev - er.

Strong is your faith - ful-ness, strong is your love, re -
mem - b'ring your cov - e-nant of life with us. (Refrain)

Prayer after Communion

A. Let us pray. Almighty God, you gave your Son both as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the godly life. Enable us to receive Him always with thanksgiving and to conform our lives to His; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Closing Prayer

P. Lord God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Benediction

P. Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit bless us now and forever.
C. Amen.

Sending Hymn

Love Divine, All Love's Excelling

Green Hymnal # 315

The Dismissal to Serve

A. "Go in peace, Serve the Lord!"
C. "Thanks be to God!"

Postlude

Musicians

Next Sunday's readings: *Isaiah 52:7-10; Psalm 2; Hebrews 1:1-6; John 1:1-14*
Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License number is: **26566**