



The Fourth Sunday in Advent
December 18, A+D 2022



St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church

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DIVINE SERVICE

Setting 3 – Page 184

Lutheran Service Book

God's Word Is Fulfilled for Us in the Flesh and Blood of Christ Jesus, the Son of Mary

The Fourth Sunday in Advent turns our attention toward the Nativity of Our Lord. With the blessed Virgin Mary, we await the coming of the Christ, her Son, conceived in her womb by the Word and Spirit of God. This fulfillment of the sign once given to the house of David, that “the virgin shall conceive and bear a son” (Is. 7:14), is now given to us in the Gospel. It declares that salvation is by His grace alone, entirely His work and a free gift. It also is the way and means by which the Lord our God is Immanuel, “God with us.” The almighty and eternal Son of God is conceived and born of Mary, and is thus “descended from David according to the flesh” (Rom. 1:3–4). He comes in this way to save us with His own flesh and blood; wherefore, He is called “Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins” (Matt. 1:21). As Joseph received this sign in faith and immediately “did as the angel of the Lord commanded him” (Matt. 1:24), we also live by faith in this Holy Gospel.

Ringing of the Bells

Welcome

Confession and Absolution

361 O Little Town of Bethlehem

Stand

Invocation

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

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

Exhortation

184

- P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C **who made heaven and earth.**
- P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Confession of Sins

LSB 184

- P** O almighty God, merciful Father,
C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

Absolution

LSB 185

- P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and 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.

Stand

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 130:5–8; antiphon: Isaiah 64:1

P Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down,

C **that the mountains might quake at your presence.**

P I wait for the LORD, my soul waits,

C **and in his word I hope;**

P my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning,

C **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.**

P And he will redeem Israel

C **from all his iniquities.**

Gloria Patri

LSB 186



C Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost;



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

P Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down,

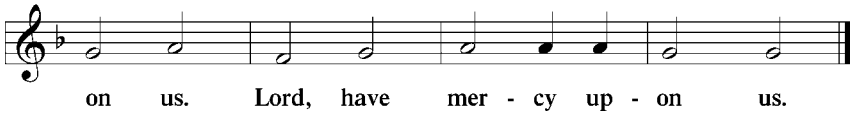
C **that the mountains might quake at your presence.**

Kyrie

LSB 186



C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

P Let us pray.

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 7:10–17

A The Old Testament Reading for The Fourth Sunday in Advent is from the seventh chapter of the prophecy of Isaiah.

¹⁰Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, ¹¹“Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” ¹²But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test.” ¹³And he said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. ¹⁵He shall eat curds and honey when he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. ¹⁶For before the boy knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land whose two kings you dread will be deserted. ¹⁷The 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.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

Romans 1:1–7

A The Second Reading is from the first chapter of the Epistle of St. Paul to the Romans.

¹Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, ²which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, ³concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh ⁴and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, ⁵through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations, ⁶including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

⁷To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints:

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

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Alleluia

190



C Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 1:18–25

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the first chapter.



C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

¹⁸Now 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 from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²²All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

²³"Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel"

(which means, God with us). ²⁴When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, ²⁵but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

C 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 worshipped 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.

Sit

357 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Sermon

Stand

Offertory

LSB 192

C Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
 new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
 way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
 from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
 tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

Sit

Gathering of Tithes & Offerings

If you are submitting a prayer request on a prayer card, kindly hand it directly to the usher. Do not place it into the offering plate

*Stand***Prayer of the Church**

159

P ... let us pray to the Lord:**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

Service of the Sacrament

Preface*LSB 194***P** The Lord be with you.**C** And with thy spir - it.**P** Lift up your hearts.**C** We lift them up un - to the Lord.**P** Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.**C** It is meet and right so to do.**Proper Preface (Full)**

P It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 195



Q Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



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

Lord's Prayer

196

P 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



Q For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the



glo - ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

The Words of Our Lord

LSB 197

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My † body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

LSB 197

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.



C A - men.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a - way the sin of the



world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak - est a - way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a - way the sin of the



world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Sit

Distribution of Christ's Body and Blood

Members of other Christian denominations who are present may come forward to receive a blessing from the Pastor during the distribution. It is

requested that you cross your arms over your chest to indicate that you desire this blessing.

Silent Prayer Just Before Communing: Dear Savior, at your gracious invitation, I come to Your table to eat and drink Your holy body and blood. Let me find favor in Your eyes to receive this holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of my soul and to the glory of Your holy name; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Silent Prayer Just After Communing: Almighty and everlasting God, I thank and praise You for feeding me the life-giving body and blood of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Send your Holy Spirit that, having with my mouth received the holy Sacrament. I may by faith obtain and eternally enjoy Your divine grace the forgiveness of sins unity with Christ, and life eternal; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

332 Savior of the Nations, Come

356 The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came

Stand

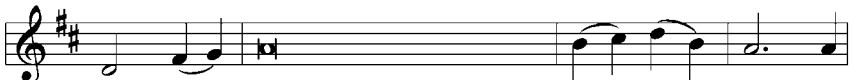
The Dismissal

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ☩ in peace.

C Amen.

Nunc Dimittis

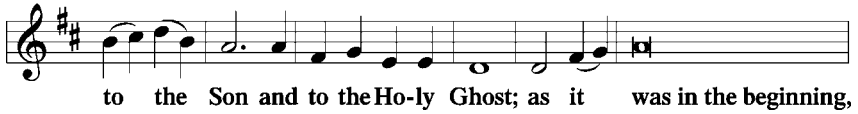
LSB 199



C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-



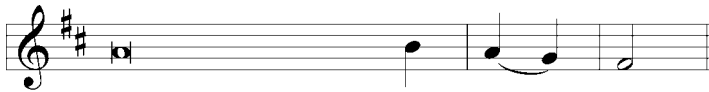
cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,



Thanksgiving

200

A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



B and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Salutation

LSB 201

P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

Benedicamus

LSB 202

A Bless we the Lord.



C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

LSB 202

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.



C A-men, a-men, a - men.

338 Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Acknowledgments

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House.



The Glad Spirit St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church

December 18, 2022

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

ST. PAUL'S FAMILY

Gene & Jean Wiltjer

Jerry & Denise Wiltjer, Family Brett, Jason

Betty Wimmer, Family Christopher, Dirk

Robert & Jennifer Wisely, Family Camden, Uriah, Jayden

Nora Wulf-Burklow, Family Kyle

BIRTHDAYS

Kristen Dunne, 12/18

Margaret Loitz, 12/19

Dorothy Van Mynen, 12/26

Chris Baker, 12/30

Shawn Conway, 12/31

BAPTISM ANNIVERSARIES

Danial Hoover, 12/22

Dominic Ramirez, 12/25

Camden Wisely, 12/27

Isabella Ramirez, 12/28

Jayden Wisely, 12/30

CONFIRMATION ANNIVERSARIES

Shawn Conway, 12/18

Adeline Ovalle, 12/18

Richard Reichert, 12/18

Janice Reichert, 12/18

SPECIAL CONCERNS

Hospitalized this past week – Russ Budde at South Suburban Hospital.

Pray for Diane Akers, Janice Abel, Violet Andersen, Sondra Budde, Jay Carey, Judy Diekleman, Sandy Ovalle, Violet Rich, Lois Struven, Dolly Tagenhorst, Dorothy Van Mynen, Warren Van Mynen, Gene Wiltjer and the Farris Family.

Serving in the Military – Austin Brandy, David Capodagli, James Fluechtling, Nathan Lopez, and Robert Wisely.

Serving as First Responders – David Allen, Dave Bloom, Nathan Conway, Brianne Giba, Melanie Hudson, Brian Orth, Dana Tatgenhorst, Taylor VanDommelen and Dan Zander.

NEWS UPDATE

Flowers in the chancel and the Bulletin today are given to the glory of God and in honor of Helen Hoeksema's 1st Anniversary in heaven on December 23 by her children Tracy Middleton, Eddie Hoeksema, Carla Gerald and Karen McLean.

Christmas Eve Service with President Buss is Saturday, December 24 at 6:00 pm. So make your plans accordingly.

There will **NOT** be a service Christmas day, Sunday, December 25.



A Son Is Given

In *A Son Is Given*, we look at the promise of God to send His Messiah as fulfilled in Jesus. The Heavenly Father made good on His ancient pledge. In Jesus we have the love of God come to earth in the form of a Child, who is for us the Savior of the world.

Daily Devotions from LHM will help strengthen and encourage your faith as you do the same for others. Have them delivered right to your inbox, podcast the audio devotional, access them on your mobile device through the FREE app, or listen with Spotify, iHeart Radio, Alexa, or Google Home. Visit <https://www.lhm.org/advent/>



There is a discussion group on Facebook about LHM's "A Son Is Given" Advent Devotions Beginning November 27. Each day's devotion will be posted to the group. You can make a comment or a thought for discussion on one of the posts. To search on Facebook the group is called Let's Discuss the Devotions or enter the following in your favorite browser www.facebook.com/groups/st.paul.discuss/



St. Paul Book Club will meet Wednesday January 11, to review *Where the Crawdads Sing* by Delia Owens. We usually meet at 10am on the second Wednesday of the month and always welcome new members. We also order lunch for after the meeting. Book Club is now in person and thru FB chat. Please let Deb know in advance so she can link you in.

Christ For You this week on KFUE.org: Enjoy music for the seasons of Advent and Christmas, hear history and theology of Hymns for Advent on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), and study Exodus 28-32 on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT). The Twelve Days of Christmas begins December 24 through January 8! Hear special Christmas programming during this time. Regular programming resumes January 9!

Education & Edification... Issues, Etc. is a radio-talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week's interview topics include: The Movie "Avatar," Marriage Enrichment, Looking Forward to Christmas Sunday, Jesus Heals Jairus's Daughter and more. You can listen on-demand at issuesetc.org, the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.

Word of Hope offers free and confidential counseling to women and men struggling with an abortion experience. If you would like more information on how Word of Hope can help you or someone you love, visit our website at www.word-of-hope.org. You can be healed.

We'd love to see you in worship. Our worship services are every Sunday at 8:45 AM. If you are unable to attend it can be viewed on Facebook live at <https://www.facebook.com/splcms/videos>. A previous recording is also available. Bulletins for the services listed below are available for viewing or download on our website at <https://www.splcms.org/index.php/worship>.

"Unlike Christmas ornaments, each baby is a unique life never to be replicated in all of history. Each life brutally snuffed out by abortion will leave the world a lesser place for it." Bradley Mattes, president of Life Issues Institute – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

If we do not dare to approach men who are in power except with humility and reverence when we wish to ask a favor, how much must we make requests of the Lord God of all things with all humility and purity of devotion? And let us be assured that it is not in many words, but it is by hearts [declared] pure and with repentant tears, that we are heard. For this reason prayer ought to be short and pure, unless, perhaps, it is lengthened by the inspiration of divine grace. When we pray together [in the Divine Service], however, let the prayer always be short.

—Benedict of Nursia



God's People in Action

ATTENDANCE AND OFFERINGS

December 11th Attendance 36, 29 Communed, 2 Online

Basket	\$153.00	Weekly Missions	\$20.00
Envelopes	1,606.00	Luth. Church Charity	10.00
		Church Maint	10.00
		Social Ministry	60.00
Budgeted Total	1,759.00	Non-budgeted Total	\$100.00
Offering Needed	1,640.00		
	\$119.00		



THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Today	8:45 am	Worship Service
	9:45 am	Coffee &...
	10:00 am	Council Meeting
Monday		
Tuesday		
Wednesday		
Thursday		
Friday		
Saturday	6:00 pm	Christmas Eve Worship Service
Sunday		No Sunday Service on Christmas Day

SERVANT SCHEDULE

	Sun, Dec 18, 8:45 AM	Sat, Dec 24, 6:00 PM
Pastor	Pastor Dobberstein	Pastor Buss
Usher	Bill Sommer	
	Norma Allen	
Lay Reader	Tracy Middleton	Nikki Golembeck

DONATIONS



FOOD PANTRY



GENERAL FUND