

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
22 DECEMBER 2024



OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA
2589 – 190TH AVENUE CALAMUS, IA 52729

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP, SETTING 10 (PAGES 203-209)

The liturgy is in the front of the ELW with numbers at the bottom of the pages.

The hymns begin in the middle of the ELW with numbers at the top of the pages.

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fourth Sunday of Advent ~ Hope for Those Who Are Wounded ~

P: Advent is a time to bind up the broken hearted.

C: Come, Lord, and make all things new.

P: For past wrongs that prevent us from moving forward:

C: Come, Lord, and make all things new.

P: For any bitterness that scratches our soul:

C: Come, Lord, and make all things new.

P: For relationships left in decay and neglect:

C: Come, Lord, and make all things new.

P: For any action that has wounded us or by which we have wounded others:

C: Grant that we might have the peace of Christ as we wait, the love of Christ as we act, and the grace of Christ as we speak.

Candle Lighting

This morning we light four candles. The **first candle** is the light of hope for those in times of waiting. The **second candle** is the light of hope for those who are wearied by the circumstances of life. The **third candle** is the light of hope for those eagerly watching for God's promised glory. The **fourth candle** is the light of hope for those who carry the wounds of life. Today we acknowledge our pain and the pain we have caused others. As the light shines, we turn to the Savior who came to rescue the lost, to help the hurting, and to bind up the broken.

ACCLAMATION: HYMN #715 (REFRAIN)

♪ **Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.**

Shine through the darkness.

Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, † one God, alive in the world,
reviving creation, arriving soon.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

P: God of mercy,

C: we confess that we have sinned.

We trust earthly powers and human authority alone.

We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.

P: God of might,

C: we confess that we have sinned.

We have turned away from our neighbors.

We have trusted false promises.

P: God in our midst,

C: we confess that we have sinned.

We plead: come to us.

Bring your mercy to birth in us.

P: A righteous branch springs forth: it is Christ the Lord, our Savior,
in whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy. By the power of the
Holy Spirit, receive the grace and forgiveness of God through †
Christ Jesus, whose day draws near.

C: Amen.

HYMN #265 “THE ANGEL GABRIEL FROM HEAVEN CAME”

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 [PAGE 203]

♪ **Have mercy on us, Lord, and hear our solemn prayer.
We come to hear your living word; it saves us from despair.**

**Have mercy on us, Christ, and wash away our sin.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may begin.**

**Have mercy on us, Lord, make sin and shame depart.
Renew us with your saving pow’r; create in us new hearts!**

CANTICLE OF PRAISE [PAGE 204]

♪ **Glory be to God in heaven; peace, goodwill to all the earth.
Mighty God of all creation, Father of surpassing worth:
we exalt you, we adore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
Saints and angels bow before you; here on earth our songs we raise.**

**Glory be to Christ forever, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
Son of God and gracious Savior, you have come from heav'n above;
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Hear our prayer; restore, forgive us; in your promise firm we stand.**

**Holy One we now acclaim you; Lord alone, to you we call;
Holy One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:
Jesus Christ, with God the Spirit, in the Father's splendor bright.
For the peace that we inherit, glory be to God on high!**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. (*concluding...now and forever.*)

C: Amen

READINGS

MICAH 5:2-5A | LUKE 1:46B-55 | HEBREWS 10:5-10

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION [PAGE 205]

♪ **Alleluia! Lord and Savior: open now your saving word.
Let it burn like fire within us; speak until our hearts are stirred.
Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.**

GOSPEL: LUKE 1:39-45 [46-55]

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 1st chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

YOUTH SERMON – REV. LEAH HOLLOWAY-NILSEN

SERMON – REV. LEAH HOLLOWAY-NILSEN

HYMN #251 “MY SOUL PROCLAIMS YOUR GREATNESS”

CONFESSION OF FAITH: NICENE CREED

P: Living in the Hope of the Gift of Christ’s coming again, we confess our faith.

**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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
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 worshiped 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

P: As we prepare for Emmanuel, God-with-us, let us pray for all people and places that long for God's presence.

(Each petition ends: P: Lord, in your mercy, C: receive our prayer)

P: Savior of the nations, come, and receive these prayers and the pleas of our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Let us pray. *(concluding...our Savior and Lord.)*

C: Amen.

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.

PREFACE [PAGE 207]

P: It is indeed right...and join their unending hymn:

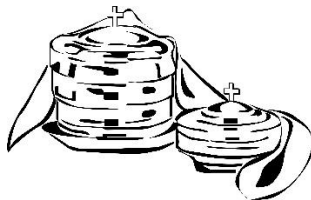
**C: ♫ Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
 heav'n and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION



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.**

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

All are welcome at the Lord's Table

Gluten-free wafers and white grape juice are available

♪ **O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;
you suffered death our lives to save: have mercy now, we pray.**

**O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mercy now, we pray.**

**O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;
eternal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.**

HYMN #263 "SAVIOR OF THE NATIONS, COME"

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 HYMN

♪ **"Comfort, comfort now my people;
tell of peace!" So says our God.
Comfort those who sit in darkness
mourning under sorrow's load.
To God's people now proclaim
that God's pardon waits for them!
Tell them that their war is over;
God will reign in peace forever.**

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Let us pray. (*concluding...*Jesus Christ our Lord.)

C: Amen.

BLESSING

P: Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

HYMN #257 “O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL”

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.

C: Thanks be to God!

RINGING OF THE BELL

POSTLUDE

Pastor: Rev. Leah Holloway-Nilsen

Organist: Jason Bousselot or Linda Whitman

Acolyte: Caden Will

Lector: Joyce McCutcheon

Communion Assistant: Neil Holmquist

Usher: Eva and Rachel Burke

Cleaner: Brian Bousselot and Mary Timmerman

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Rev. Leah Holloway-Nilsen

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This Week At A Glance

Tuesday	9:00 pm	Christmas Eve worship at Our Savior's
Wednesday	9:00 am	Christmas Day worship at Faith
Sunday	9:00 am	Worship service at Our Savior's

Those to keep in prayer: Mallory Boussetot, Roger and Betty Boussetot, Cathy Goddard, Jade Jensen, Larry Schau, Diane Sievers, Margarett Travaille ; the homebound: Carol Christensen, Ron Gasper, Delores Lahann, Myrna Kay Peterson, Vera St. John, Betty Schau and Bus Seastrand; and those serving in the military.

During the month of December, **winter coats, hats and gloves** will be collected for the Carroll Assistance Center.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at Our Savior's at 9:00 pm.

Christmas Day Worship at Faith at 9:00 am

Sunday, December 29th there will be **one** service at Our Savior's at 9:00 am. There will be no Sunday School that morning.

Pastor Leah will be on vacation from December 26, 2024 thru January 3, 2025. In the event of an emergency, please call her cell phone: (262) 914-9392.

A WONDROUS HYMN

Luke 1:46-56 And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit has exulted in God, my Saviour, because he looked graciously on the humble estate of his servant. For--look you--from now on all generations shall call me blessed, for the Mighty One has done great things for me and his name is holy. His mercy is from generation to generation to those who fear him. He demonstrates his power with his arm. He scatters the proud in the plans of their hearts. He casts down the mighty from their seats of power. He exalts the humble. He fills those who are hungry with good things and he sends away empty those who are rich. He has helped Israel, his son, in that he has remembered his mercy--as he said to our fathers that he would--to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

Here we have a passage which has become one of the great hymns of the church--the Magnificat. It is saturated in the Old Testament; and is specially kin to Hannah's song of praise in 1 Samuel 2:1-10. It has been said that religion is the opiate of the people; but, as Stanley Jones said, "the Magnificat is the most revolutionary document in the world."

It speaks of three of the revolutions of God.

(i) He scatters the proud in the plans of their hearts. That is a moral revolution. Christianity is the death of pride. Why? Because if a man sets his life beside that of Christ it tears the last vestiges of pride from him.

Sometimes something happens to a man which with a vivid, revealing light shames him. O. Henry has a short story about a lad who was brought up in a village. In school he used to sit beside a girl and they were fond of each other. He went to the city and fell into evil ways. He became a pickpocket and a petty thief. One day he snatched an old lady's purse. It was clever work and he was pleased. And then he saw coming down the street the girl whom he used to know, still sweet with the radiance of innocence. Suddenly he saw himself for the cheap, vile thing he really was. Burning with shame, he leaned his head against the cool iron of a lamp standard. "God," he said, "I wish I could die." He saw himself.

Christ enables a man to see himself. It is the deathblow to pride. The moral revolution has begun.

(ii) He casts down the mighty--he exalts the humble. That is a social revolution. Christianity puts an end to the world's labels and prestige.

Muretus was a wandering scholar of the middle ages. He was poor. In an Italian town he took ill and was taken to a hospital for waifs and strays. The doctors were discussing his case in Latin, never dreaming he could understand. They suggested that since he was such a worthless wanderer they might use him for medical experiments. He looked up and answered them in their own learned tongue, "Call no man worthless for whom Christ died!"

When we have realized what Christ did for all men, it is no longer possible to speak about a common man. The social grades are gone.

(iii) He has filled those who are hungry ... those who are rich he has sent empty away. That is an economic revolution. A non-Christian society is an acquisitive society where each man is out to amass as much as he can get. A Christian society is a society where no man dares to have too much while others have too little, where every man must get only to give away.

There is loveliness in the Magnificat but in that loveliness there is dynamite. Christianity begets a revolution in each man and revolution in the world.

Barclay's Daily Study Bible (NT) – Public Domain