



*God's love, Our service.*

# St. Mark's Lutheran Church

## Sunday, December 18, 2022

### Fourth Sunday of Advent

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#### INTRODUCTION

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.

#### WELCOME/ANNOUCEMENTS

The December Noisy Offering collection will go to MLM Sack lunches.



## Fourth Sunday of Advent

*Use this blessing when lighting all four candles.*

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.

**Amen.**

### **ADVENT WREATH HYMN ELW 240, v 1-4**

#### **Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah**

1 Light one candle to watch for Messiah:  
let the light banish darkness.  
He shall bring salvation to Israel,  
God fulfills the promise.

2 Light two candles to watch for Messiah:  
let the light banish darkness.  
He shall feed the flock like a shepherd,  
gently lead them homeward.

3 Light three candles to watch for Messiah:  
let the light banish darkness.  
Lift your heads and lift high the gateway  
for the King of glory.

4 Light four candles to watch for Messiah:  
let the light banish darkness.  
He is coming, tell the glad tidings.  
Let your lights be shining!

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954

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### **PROCESSIONAL HYMN ELW 631, vs 1 & 4**

#### **Love Divine, All Loves Excelling**

1 Love divine, all loves excelling,  
Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!  
Fix in us thy humble dwelling,  
all thy faithful mercies crown.  
Jesus, thou art all compassion,  
pure, unbounded love thou art;  
visit us with thy salvation,  
enter ev'ry trembling heart.

4 Finish then thy new creation,  
pure and spotless let us be;  
let us see thy great salvation  
perfectly restored in thee!  
Changed from glory into glory,  
till in heav'n we take our place,  
till we cast our crowns before thee,  
lost in wonder, love, and praise!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788

**Greeting** page 120

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

**KYRIE** Pg. 120

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

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.**

**CHOIR** "Carol for Advent" by Price/ Besig

**First Reading: Isaiah 7:10-16**

*An Israelite and Aramean military coalition presented a serious threat to King Ahaz of Judah. In response, Ahaz decided to secure his throne and kingdom by seeking Assyrian help. Isaiah reminds Ahaz that human attempts to establish security will fail. The prophet gives the sign that is the only source of true safety: Immanuel, God is with us!*

<sup>10</sup>The LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, <sup>11</sup>Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. <sup>12</sup>But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. <sup>13</sup>Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? <sup>14</sup>Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. <sup>15</sup>He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. <sup>16</sup>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."

The Word of The Lord.

**Thanks Be to God.**

**Psalm: Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19**

*Let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved. (Ps. 80:7)*

<sup>1</sup>Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock;  
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

<sup>2</sup>**In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh,**

**stir up your strength and come to help us.**

<sup>3</sup>Restore us, O God;  
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

<sup>4</sup>**O LORD God of hosts,  
how long will your anger fume when your people pray?**

<sup>5</sup>You have fed them with the bread of tears;  
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

<sup>6</sup>**You have made us the derision of our neighbors,  
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.**

<sup>7</sup>Restore us, O God of hosts;  
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

<sup>17</sup>**Let your hand be upon the one at your right hand,  
the one you have made so strong for yourself.**

<sup>18</sup>And so will we never turn away from you;  
give us life, that we may call upon your name.

<sup>19</sup>**Restore us, O LORD God of hosts;  
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.**

### **Second Reading: Romans 1:1-7**

*Most of the Christians in Rome do not know Paul. In this letter's opening he introduces himself as an apostle divinely appointed to spread God's gospel. The gospel's content is the promised coming of Christ, and Paul's mission is to bring about the obedience of faith among all nations, including his Roman audience.*

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

<sup>7</sup>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 Word of The Lord.

**Thanks Be to God.**

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** page 124

*Holy Gospel, according to Matthew, the 1st Chapter.*

**Glory to You, O Lord.**

**Gospel: Matthew 1:18-25**

*Matthew's story of Jesus' birth focuses on the role of Joseph, who adopts the divinely-begotten child into the family of David and obediently gives him the name Jesus, which means "God saves."*

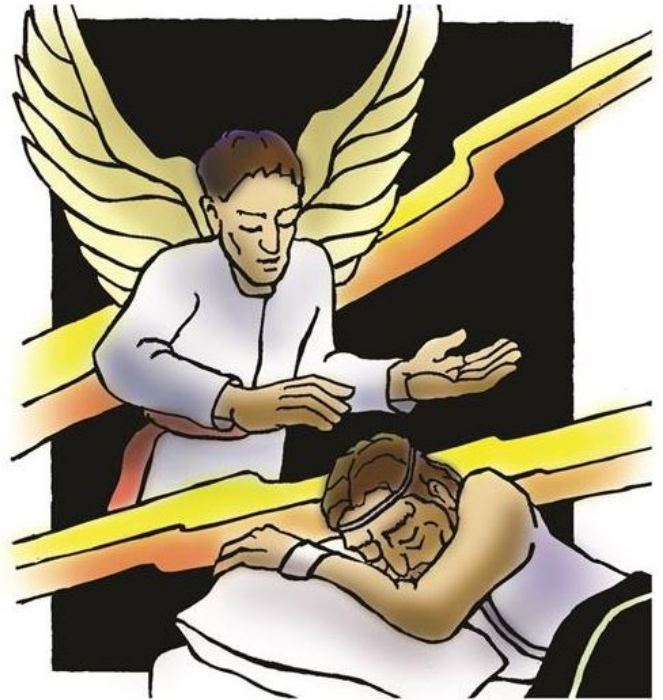
<sup>18</sup>Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup>Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly.

<sup>20</sup>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. <sup>21</sup>She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." <sup>22</sup>All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

<sup>23</sup>"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,

and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us."<sup>24</sup> When

Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, <sup>25</sup>but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.



**CHILDREN'S SERMON** Pastor Kris Dietzen

**SERMON** Pastor Kris Dietzen

## HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 248

### People, Look East

- 1 People, look east. The time is near  
of the crowning of the year.  
Make your house fair as you are able,  
trim the hearth and set the table.  
People, look east, and sing today—  
Love, the Guest, is on the way.
- 2 Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare,  
one more seed is planted there.  
Give up your strength the seed to nourish,  
that in course the flow'r may flourish.  
People, look east, and sing today—  
Love, the Rose, is on the way.
- 3 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim,  
one more light the bowl shall brim,

shining beyond the frosty weather,  
bright as sun and moon together.  
People, look east, and sing today—  
Love, the Star, is on the way.

- 4 Angels announce with shouts of mirth  
him who brings new life to earth.  
Set ev'ry peak and valley humming  
with the word, the Lord is coming.  
People, look east, and sing today—  
Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Text: Eleanor E. Farjeon, 1881-1965

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## APOSTLES CREED

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.\***

**On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come 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.**

### **Prayers of Intercession**

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,

**hear our prayer.**

God our source, awaken us to the beauty of the earth and the marvelous variety of life. Unite humankind in repairing and caring for your creation. Protect creatures and habitats in peril due to rising seas and warming temperatures. God, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God our vision, raise up leaders in every nation who dream of freedom and justice for all people. We pray for the work of international organizations that promote peace and human rights, especially Amnesty International. God, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God our helper, come to the aid of all who cry out to you. Shelter migrants, refugees, and those fleeing war and famine. Bring relief to individuals and families experiencing hunger, homelessness, or impoverishment. Comfort any who are isolated or lonely. God, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God our Emmanuel, you are with us in our life together. We give you thanks for gathering us in worship and fellowship, and we remember those who cannot be present. Watch over those who travel. Heal the sick and speed their recovery (*especially*). God, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God our hope, you bring life out of death, and you promise to be our God forever. Shine upon the faithful who now rest in the fulfillment of your promise and bring us also into your blessed reign of peace. God, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

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.

**Amen.**

## PEACE

### GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, .....

And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

**Holy, Holy** pg. 130

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### LORD'S PRAYER

### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God, who has come to save you.

### COMMUNION

**COMMUNION SONG** pg. 134

**COMMUNION HYMNS** ELW 493



### Taste and See

#### *Refrain*

Taste and see, taste and see  
the goodness of the Lord.  
Oh, taste and see, taste and see  
the goodness of the Lord, of the Lord.

1 I will bless the Lord at all times.  
Praise shall always be on my lips;  
my soul shall glory in the Lord;  
for God has been so good to me. *Refrain*

2 Glorify the Lord with me.

Together let us all praise God's name.  
I called the Lord, who answered me;  
from all my troubles I was set free. *Refrain*

3 Worship the Lord, all you people.  
You'll want for nothing if you ask.  
Taste and see that the Lord is good;  
in God we need put all our trust. *Refrain*

Text: James E. Moore Jr., b. 1951, based on Ps. 34  
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ELW 501

**Come with Us, O Blessed Jesus**

Come with us, O blessed Jesus,  
with us evermore to be.  
And, in leaving now thine altar,  
let us nevermore leave thee!  
Let thy bright celestial chorus  
never cease the heav'nly strain;  
but in us, thy loving children,  
come with peace, good will to reign.

Text: John Henry Hopkins Jr., 1820-1891

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

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

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.  
**Amen.**

**SENDING**

Draw your church together, O God, into one great company of disciples, together following our teacher Jesus Christ into every walk of life, together serving in Christ's mission to the world, and together witnessing to your love wherever you will send us; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**BLESSING**

God the eternal Word,  
who dwells with us in Jesus,  
and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit,  
✠ bless you now and forever.  
**Amen.**

## RECESSIONAL HYMN ELW 267

### Joy to the World

- 1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her king;  
let ev'ry heart prepare him room  
and heav'n and nature sing,  
and heav'n and nature sing,  
and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.
- 2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!  
Let all their songs employ,  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and  
plains  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

- 3 No more let sin and sorrow grow  
nor thorns infest the ground;  
he comes to make his blessings flow  
far as the curse is found,  
far as the curse is found,  
far as, far as the curse is found.
- 4 He rules the world with truth and grace  
and makes the nations prove  
the glories of his righteousness  
and wonders of his love,  
and wonders of his love,  
and wonders, wonders of his love.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748

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### DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is near.

**Thanks be to God.**



## PRAYER REQUESTS & CONDOLENCES

Contact Janet Anderson at 913.780.6408 to add names to the prayer chain or to join the prayer chain.

Please contact the church office to make changes to this list.

### **St. Mark's members:**

Janet Nichols,  
Chuck Vandenberg,  
Susan & Bill Roberts,  
Donna Nichols,  
Donna Frenzl,  
Linda Westbrook,  
George McElroy,  
Nan Wolfe,  
Pete and Linda Cagle,  
Shane Paulson,  
Janet Schmidt,  
Phyllis Dettmer,  
Madison Young

### **Family & friends:**

Mil Goetz, friend of Joyce Johnson,  
Kara Campbell, niece of Pete Cagle,  
Michelle Ray, friend of Barbara Strampe's daughter,  
Jane Fetters, Sister of Joni Benz,  
Bill Benne, friend of Joyce and Louis Johnson,  
Ron & Susan Laliberte, neighbors of Barbara Strampe,  
Ed Colson, friend of Kathy Hinkle,  
Austin, Grandson of Jim & Mary Weeg,  
Jean, Hackler family member,  
Cindy Campbell, sister of Joni Benz,  
Lynn, Dennis & Sharon Thee, relatives of Barbara Strampe,  
John, brother of Ken Griffitt,  
Candy, sister of Tom Bryer,  
Craig Aldag, Uncle of Ali Luin,  
Manuel & family, friend of Jenny Wheeler's grandson,  
Donna McCarthy, friend of Ginny Schwartzbeck,  
Juliana Marie McClelland, friend of Susan Roberts,  
Andrew, friend of the Scherrers,  
Craig Downing, Father of Joni Benz,  
Suzie, Aunt of Nancy Bryer,  
Jenny Mack, Niece of Jenny Wheeler,  
Chris, Brother of Pete Cagle,  
Amber Smith, friend of Pete Cagle,  
Family of Kathy, cousin of Barb Nail,  
Leo Patton, Grandfather of Jason Howe,

Gary Stepenson, Uncle of Jason Howe,  
Rowan Espey, family of Barbara Strampe,  
Lena Shelton, friend of the Schmideskamps,  
Peggy Hinkle, Step-Mother of Kathy Hinkle,  
Stephanie Herndon, friend of Kathy Hinkle,  
Tim Eiter, Father of Todd Eiter,  
Rebeka Gillette, friend of Janet Nichols,  
Jackie Warriner, Sister-in-law of Linda Goodheart,  
Don Thun, Father of Matt Thun,  
Katherine Gile, sister of Anne Gardner,  
Matt Warriner, Great Nephew of Linda Goodheart,  
Joan Nelson, Sister-in-law of Linda Goodheart,  
Joanne, Amy Fisher's sister,  
Neil Warriner, Linda Goodheart's brother,  
Judy Wendt, Jeannine Matthew's  
sister-in-law,  
Donna Poppe, friend of St. Marks,  
Rosemary Williams & her sons Wayne & Wade Beck,  
Brooke Harris, friend of Gretchen Goodheart Stewart,  
Dan Ostergaard - friend of the Goodhearts,  
Bruce Dawson, friend of the Goodhearts,  
Jackson Werth, friend of the Bott/Bollinger Families,  
Kirk Wheeler, cousin of Verna McMullin,  
All People affected by natural disasters

### **Those in the Military:**

A.J. Simons, nephew of Stan and Karen Thompson,  
Logan Peck, nephew of Karen and Stan