


Fourth Sunday in Advent

December 19, 2021

Invocation

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

C Amen.

Kyrie

P Lord, have mercy upon us.

C Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

Confession & Absolution

P Let us confess our sin to God: O Lord, great God, whom we behold in awe and wonder, who has kept covenant and steadfast love with your people from age to age,

C We have sinned and done wrong and acted wickedly and rebelled, turning aside from your commandments and ordinances. We have known in our hearts what is right, and yet we did wrong anyway. We have been fascinated by evil, delighted with pleasing ourselves, satisfying our desires, serving ourselves with pleasures.

P O Lord, great God, have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

C We know you are a God who delights in goodness. Grant that we too might delight in goodness. We know you are a God who rejoices in peace and justice. Grant that we might be at peace with ourselves and each other.

P O Lord, great God, grant that our hearts might be filled with a love of justice, with peace beyond understanding, with patience, with joy.

C These prayers we present to you, O Father, in the name of Jesus, the Lamb who was slain and yet lives forever more. Amen.

P Because of Jesus, God has forgiven all our sin. Hear the gospel of Christ from Psalm 103:

"Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits - who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagles."

Opening Hymn #379

O Come, All Ye Faithful



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, Joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
 2 High - est, most ho - ly, Light of Light e - ter - nal,
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, Sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, Born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, O come — ye to Beth - le - hem;
 Born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal He comes;
 Sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!
 Je - sus, to Thee — be — glo - ry giv'n!



Come and be - hold Him Born the king of an - gels:
 Son of the Fa - ther Now in flesh ap - pear - ing!
 Glo - ry to God — In — the — high - est:
 Word of the Fa - ther Now in flesh ap - pear - ing!

Refrain



O come, let us a - dore Him, O come, let us a - dore Him,



O come, let us a - dore Him, Christ the Lord!

Text: John F. Wade, Text: tr. Frederick Oakeley, tr Juan Bautista Cabrera; Text and Tune: John F. Wade; Text and tune: Public domain

Psalm

Psalm 80:1–7

- P** Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock!
- C** **You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth.**
- P** Before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh, stir up your might and come to save us!
- C** **Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved!**
- P** O LORD God of hosts, how long will you be angry with your people's prayers?
- C** **You have fed them with the bread of tears and given them tears to drink in full measure.**
- P** You make us an object of contention for our neighbors, and our enemies laugh among themselves.
- C** **Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved!**
- C** **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

Micah 5:2–5a

² But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. ³Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has given birth; then the rest of his brothers shall return to the people of Israel. ⁴And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth. ⁵And he shall be their peace.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Hebrews 10:5–10

⁵When Christ came into the world, he said, “Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body have you prepared for me; ⁶in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. ⁷Then I said, ‘Behold, I have come to do your will, O God, as it is written of me in the scroll of the book.’” ⁸When he said above, “You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings” (these are offered according to the law), ⁹then he added, “Behold, I have come to do your will.” He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. ¹⁰And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.



1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from heav - en came,
2 "For know a bless - ed moth - er thou shalt be,
3 Then gen - tle Mar - y meek - ly bowed her head;
4 Of her, Em - man - u - el, the Christ, was born



With wings as drift - ed snow, with eyes as flame:
All gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee;
"To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said.
In Beth - le - hem all on a Christ - mas morn,



"All hail to thee, O low - ly maid - en Mar - y,
Thy son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,
"My soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy God's ho - ly name."
And Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say:



Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy." Glo - ri - a!
Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy." Glo - ri - a!
Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy, Glo - ri - a!
"Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy." Glo - ri - a!

Text: para. Sabine Baring-Gould; Text and tune: Basque; Tune and text: Public domain

Holy Gospel

Luke 1:39–45

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the first chapter.
- C** Glory to You, O Lord.

³⁹In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, ⁴⁰and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, ⁴²and she exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb!" ⁴³And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? ⁴⁴For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord."

- P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C** Praise to You, O Christ.

Prayer

P Lord, in Your mercy,
C hear our prayer.

Nicene Creed

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 worshiped 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.

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.

Holy Communion

Distribution Hymn #342

What Hope! An Eden Prophesied



- 1 What hope! An E - den proph-e - sied Where tame live with the wild;
- 2 A shoot will sprout from Jes - se's stem, A branch from Da-vid's line,
- 3 As ban-ner of God's love un-furled, Christ came to suf - fer loss,
- 4 Come, Je - sus, come, Mes - si - ah Lord, Lost Par - a - dise re - store;



The lamb and li - on side by side, Led by a lit - tle child!
 A Prince of Peace in Beth-le - hem: The fruit of God's de - sign.
 That by His death a dy - ing world Would ral-ly to the cross.
 Lead past the an-gel's flam-ing sword—Come, o - pen heav-en's door.

Text: Stephen P. Starke; Tune: Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second, 1813, Harrisburg, ed. John Wyeth; Tune: Public domain
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Distribution Hymn

In Christ Alone



1. In Christ a - lone my hope is found; He is my light, my strength, my song;
2. In Christ a - lone, who took on flesh, full-ness of God in help - less babe!
3. There in the ground His bo - dy lay, light of the world by dark - ness slain.
4. No guilt in life, no fear in death this is the pow'r of Christ in me.



This cor - ner - stone, this so - lid ground, firm through the fiere - est drought and storm.
 This gift of love and right-eous - ness, scorned by the ones He came to save.
 Then burst - ing forth in glo - rious day, up from the grave He rose a - gain!
 From life's first cry to fi - nal breath, Je - sus com - mands my des - ti - ny.



What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when striv - ings cease!
 Till on that cross as Je - sus died, the wrath of God was sa - tis - fied;
 And as He stands in vic - to - ry, sin's curse has lost its grip on me;
 No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man, can e - ver pluck me from His hand;



My com - for - ter, my all in all here in the love of Christ I stand.
 for ev - 'ry sin on Him was laid here in the death of Christ I live.
 for I am His and He is mine bought with the pre - cious blood of Christ.
 Till He re - turns or calls me home here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

Tune and text: Keith Getty, Stuart Townend; Text and tune and tune: © 2001 Thankyou Music. Used by permission: CCLI no. 11373734



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mar - y's lap is
 2 Why lies He in such mean es-tate Where ox and ass are
 3 So bring Him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; Come, peas - ant, king, to



sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet While
 feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here The
 own Him. The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; Let



shep - herds watch are keep - ing? This, this is
 si - lent Word is plead - ing. Nails, spear shall
 lov - ing hearts en - throne Him. Raise, raise the



Christ the king, Whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;
 pierce Him through, The cross be borne for me, for you;
 song on high, The vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



Haste, haste to bring Him laud, The babe, the son of Mar - y!
 Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The babe, the son of Mar - y!
 Joy, joy, for Christ is born, The babe, the son of Mar - y!

Text: William C. Dix; Tune: Englis, 16th cent; Text and tune: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

P Lord, now let Your servant depart in peace according to Your Word.

C For my eyes have seen Your salvation, Which You have prepared before the face of all people;

To be a light to lighten the Gentiles and to be the glory of Your people Israel.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Closing Hymn #924

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing



1 Lord, dis - miss us with Your bless - ing, Fill our hearts with
2 Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion For Your Gos - pel's
3 Sav - ior, when Your love shall call us From our strug - gling



joy and peace; Let us each, Your love pos - sess - ing,
joy - ful sound. May the fruits of Your sal - va - tion
pil - grim way, Let not fear of death ap - pall us,



Tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace. O re - fresh us;
In our hearts and lives a - bound. Ev - er faith - ful,
Glad Your sum - mons to o - bey. May we ev - er,



O re - fresh us, Trav - 'ling through this wil - der - ness.
ev - er faith - ful To Your truth may we be found.
may we ev - er Reign with You in end - less day.

Text(sts. 1-2) attr. John Fawcett, alt;(sts3) Godfrey Thring, alt Tune: Henry T. Smart; Text and tune: Public domain

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

Announcements

Today

- **No Bible Study**
- **Family Fellowship Breakfast** 8:45 AM – 10:15 AM
- **Youth Confirmation** 12:00 PM – 12:45 PM
- **Christmas Caroling** 3:00 PM
- **Sunday Evening Prayer** 5:30 PM

Tuesday

- **Men's Bible Study** – 6:30 – 7:30 AM
- **Youth Group** - 6:30 - 8:00 PM

Wednesday

- ❖ **No Zoom Bible Study**

Friday

- **Christmas Eve Worship Service** 11:30 PM

Saturday

- **Christmas Worship Service** 9:00 AM
- ❖ **No Women of Faith Bible Study**

2022 Giving envelopes are ready for pick up in the narthex. If you have any questions, or need assistance, please contact Cheryl in the church office.

St. James Music and Life Ministries are sponsoring **Christmas Caroling today at 3 p.m.** Meet at the church. We will be going to Meridian Village and also a few houses. We have a small gift package for each of the members we will be visiting. If you would like to help assemble the gift packages, please arrive at 2:30. All ages encouraged to attend!.

Children's Christmas Presentation The preschool thru 4th Grade will be dressing in nativity costumes and singing "Away in a Manager" today at the 10:30 AM service. Please meet downstairs at 10:15 AM to put on costumes before the service.

Family Fellowship Breakfast. St. James Fellowship Team will be hosting a family breakfast downstairs in fellowship hall today after the early worship service to 10:15 AM. Everyone is invited to join us for a wonderful breakfast and fellowship opportunity

Trivia Night January 21st: The youth groups of St. James and Good Shepherd will be hosting a trivia night to raise funds for youth attending the LCMS National Youth Gathering in Texas. Registration forms are available in the church office and online at <https://saintjamesglencarbon.org/trivia-night/>.

RightNow MEDIA: St. James Church purchased unlimited access to thousands of Christian videos for everyone in our church! Here are three easy ways to access over 20,000 videos for kids, youth and adults:

Access online... just go to

<https://app.rightnowmedia.org/join/StJamesLutheranChurch>

Hover your phone's camera over the QR Code and it will direct you to the Registration Page



Text STJAMESGC to 49775 to receive a text with the "Invite Link" to sign up for your free RightNow Media Account.



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