# The Fourth Sunday in Advent December 18, 2022

Hymn of Invocation #348 The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns



- 1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns And light tri um-phant breaks,
- 2 Not as of old a lit-tle child, To bear and fight and die,
- 3 Oh, bright-er than the ris ing morn When Christ, vic to-rious, rose 4 Oh, bright-er than that glo rious morn Shall dawn up on our race
- 5 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns And light and beau-ty brings.



When beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills And life to joy a-wakes But crowned with glo - ry like the sun That lights the morn-ing sky. And left the lone-some place of death De - spite the rage of foes. The day when Christ in splen-dor comes And we shall see His face. Hail, Christ the Lord! Your peo-ple pray: Come quick-ly, King of kings!

Text: John Brownlie, 1859–1925, alt.; Tune: Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second, 1813, Harrisburg, ed. John Wyeth; Text and tune: Public domain

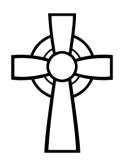
# **Confession and Absolution**

## **Invocation**

- ${f P}$  In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

#### Kyrie

- P Lord, have mercy upon us.
- Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.



#### **Exhortation**

- P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- who made heaven and earth.
- P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
- **B**ut with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.
- P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition.

  Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

#### **Confession & Absolution**

- Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.
- P Upon this your confession, I announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Savior Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the 
  → Son, and the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen

# **Reflection on God's Forgiveness**

Romans 8:35-39

- Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword?
- No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.
- P For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth,
- Nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

# Service of the Word

**Psalm** Psalm 24

- P The earth is the LORD's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein,
- for he has founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers.
- 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.
- Such is the generation of those who seek him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob.
- P Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.
- 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.
- Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory!
- 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.



God the Fa-ther's glo-ry. "A-men!" our glad

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Where You

<sup>10</sup>Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, <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>And he said, "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? <sup>14</sup>Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. <sup>15</sup>He shall eat curds and honey when he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. <sup>16</sup>For before the boy knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land whose two kings you dread will be deserted. <sup>17</sup>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."

- **P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

**Epistle** Romans 1:1–7

<sup>1</sup>Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, 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>concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh <sup>4</sup>and 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, <sup>5</sup>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, <sup>6</sup>including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

<sup>7</sup>To 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.

- P This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.



Holy Gospel Matthew 1:18–25

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

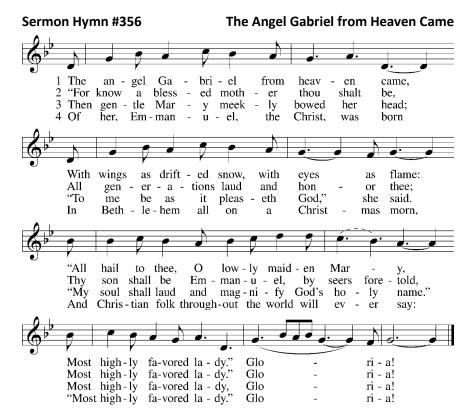
<sup>18</sup>Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup>And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. <sup>20</sup>But 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. <sup>21</sup>She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." <sup>22</sup>All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

<sup>23</sup>"Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel" (which means, God with us). <sup>24</sup>When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, <sup>25</sup>but 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.
- Praise to You, O Christ.

# **Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life \(\frac{1}{2}\) everlasting. Amen.



Text: para. Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834-1924; Text and tune: Basque, c. 18th cent.; Text and tune: Public domain

# Sermon

# Offering

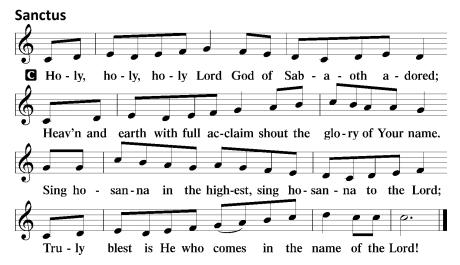
# **Prayer Response**

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

# Service of the Sacrament

#### **Preface**

- P The Lord be with you.
- 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.
- It is right to give Him thanks and praise.
- It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:



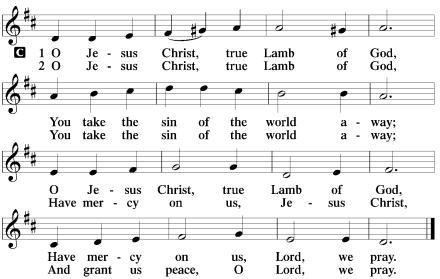
Text: Stephen P. Starke

# **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.

## The Words of Our Lord





Text: Stephen P. Starke





er Text: Aurelius Prudentius Clemens, 348-c. 413; (sts. 1-4): tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-66, alt.; (st. 5): tr. Henry W. Baker, 1821-77; Tune: Plainsong, 13th cent., mode V; Text and tune: Public domain

er

er

er

more.

more.

more.

more.

men.

Ev - er - more

and

and

and

and

ev

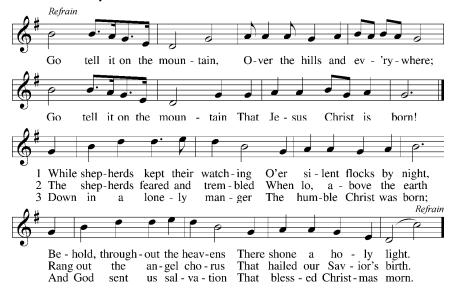
ev

ev

ev

# **Distribution Hymn #388**

## Go Tell It on the Mountain

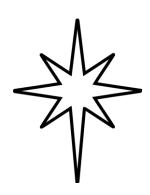


Text (sts. 1–3): John W. Work II, 1873–1925, alt.; Text (ref) and tune: African American spiritual; Text and tune: Public domain



Text: Edward Caswall, 1814-78, alt.; Tune: John Goss, 1800-80; Text and tune: Public domain

#### The Dismissal



#### **Nunc Dimittis**



#### **Benediction**

- **P** Let us bless the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.
- 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**

<u>Family Christmas Breakfast</u> – Downstairs following worship service

#### Tuesday

Youth Group 6:30 - 8:00 PM

## Wednesday

- Men's Bible Study 6:30 7:30 AM
- Midweek Advent Worship Service 7:00 PM

#### Saturday

- Women's Bible Study 9:00 AM
- Christmas Eve Worship Service 11:30 PM



Loneliness and depression are increasingly pervasive challenges in our culture. So many people are unhappy. So, the question is, does God want you to be happy? Does he care if you're struggling with sadness? That's the subject of Episode 54 of "Craving Answers,"

<u>Craving God.</u>" It's now available at saintjamesglencarbon.org. Give it a listen and let us know what you think.

2023 Member Giving Envelopes are available on the credenza in the narthex. If you have any questions, please contact Cheryl in the church office 618-288-6120 or <a href="mailto:cheryl@stjamesglencarbon.org">cheryl@stjamesglencarbon.org</a>

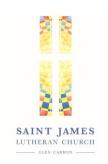
If you are interested in learning more about Christianity or are interested in joining St. James Lutheran Church, or maybe you just want to hang out and talk about the Story of the Bible, please see Pastor Aaron or contact the church office about joining the <a href="mailto:new member class">new member class</a> beginning January 15th. Babysitting is available upon request.

**Youth Confirmation** - Youth confirmation classes begin January 15th. They will be held on Sundays following Sunday school/Bible study. Please contact Pastor Mueller if your child will be attending.

Save the date for the "Art of Marriage" retreat March 10-11 to be held at the Four Points by Sheridan in Fairview Heights. Whether you've been married 3 weeks or 30 years, this is a great opportunity to relax, reconnect and discover or rediscover God's plan for your marriage. If you'd like to be a part of the planning team for this exciting ministry, please contact Cheryl in the church office.



# St. James Attendance



St. James Lutheran Church 146 North Main P.O. Box 644

Glen Carbon, Illinois 62034 Office: 618.288.6120 Email: contact@stjamesglencarbon.org www.stjamesglencarbon.org