

The 4th Sunday of Advent

ELW Holy Communion Setting One

December 22, 2024

10:30 AM



Our Saviour Lutheran Church

www.oslc-warrenton.org

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The presiding minister may comment briefly upon the service of the day, and then leads the assembly in confession.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of mercy,

we confess that we have sinned. We trust earthly powers and human authority alone. We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.

God of might,

we confess that we have sinned. We have turned away from our neighbors. We have trusted false promises.

God in our midst,

we confess that we have sinned. We plead: come to us. Bring your mercy to birth in us.

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.

Amen.

The service continues with gathering song.

INTROIT OF THE DAY

Isaiah 45:8

The Introit is sung by a solo voice.

Skies, let the Just One come forth like the dew* let him descend from the clouds like the rain. The earth will open up, and give birth to our Savior.

- 1 On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
announces that the Lord is nigh;
awake and hearken, for he brings
glad tidings of the King of kings!
- 2 Then cleansed be ev'ry life from sin;
make straight the way for God within,
and let us all our hearts prepare
for Christ to come and enter there.
- 3 We hail you as our Savior, Lord,
our refuge and our great reward;
without your grace we waste away
like flow'rs that wither and decay.
- 4 Stretch forth your hand, our health restore,
and make us rise to fall no more;
oh, let your face upon us shine
and fill the world with love divine.
- 5 All praise to you, eternal Son,
whose advent has our freedom won,
whom with the Father we adore,
and Holy Spirit, evermore.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676-1749; tr. composite

GREETING

During this time, the presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.

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.

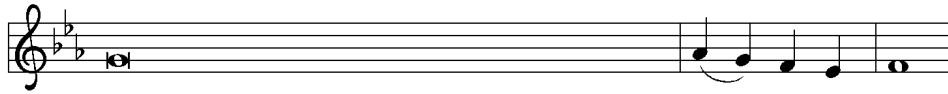
KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



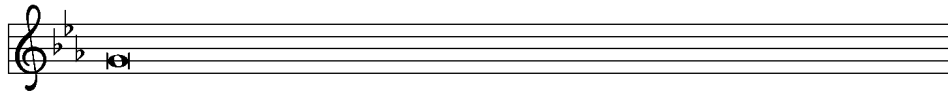
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



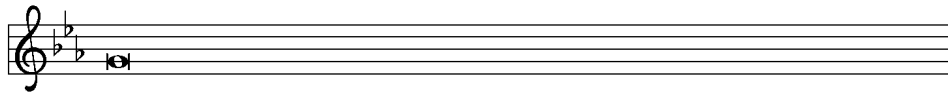
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The presiding minister leads the prayer of the day.

Let us pray.

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that binds us, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

WREATH LIGHTING & CHILDREN'S SERMON

As we sing, children and the households who will light the Advent Wreath come forward:

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine (3x)

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

FIRST READING: Micah 5:2-5a

A reading from Micah.

² But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,
who are one of the little clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to rule in Israel,
whose origin is from of old,
from ancient days.

³ Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labor has brought forth;
then the rest of his kindred shall return
to the people of Israel.

⁴ And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord,
in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.
And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great
to the ends of the earth,

^{5a} and he shall be the one of peace.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Luke 1:46b-55

^{46b} My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
⁴⁷ my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
⁴⁸ **for you, Lord, have looked with favor on your lowly servant.**
From this day all generations will call me blessed:
⁴⁹ you, the Almighty, have done great things for me
and holy is your name.
⁵⁰ **You have mercy on those who fear you,**
from generation to generation.
⁵¹ You have shown strength with your arm
and scattered the proud in their conceit,
⁵² **casting down the mighty from their thrones**
and lifting up the lowly.
⁵³ You have filled the hungry with good things
and sent the rich away empty.
⁵⁴ **You have come to the aid of your servant Israel,**
to remember the promise of mercy,
⁵⁵ the promise made to our forebears,
to Abraham and his children forever.

SECOND READING: Hebrews 10:5-10

A reading from Hebrews.

⁵ Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said,
“Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,
but a body you have prepared for me;
⁶ in burnt offerings and sin offerings
you have taken no pleasure.
⁷ Then I said, ‘See, I have come to do your will, O God’
(in the scroll of the book it is written of me).”
⁸ When 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), ⁹ then he added, “See, I have come to do your will.” He abolishes the first in order
to establish the second. ¹⁰ And it is by God’s will that we have been sanctified through the
offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

based on John 6:6

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.

Here I am, the servant^l of the Lord; let it be with me according^l to your word.*

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

The holy Gospel according to Saint Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁹ In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, ⁴⁰ where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.

⁴¹ When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the child leaped in her womb.

And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit ⁴² and exclaimed with a loud cry, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. ⁴³ And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? ⁴⁴ For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵ And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

COME, THOU LONG-EXPECTED JESUS

ELW 254

- 1 Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us;
let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art,
dear desire of ev'ry nation,
joy of ev'ry longing heart.

2 Born thy people to deliver,
born a child, and yet a king;
born to reign in us forever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal Spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all-sufficient merit
raise us to thy glorious throne.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788

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

An assisting minister leads the assembly in prayer.

In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ, let us pray to the Father. Almighty God, our heavenly Father, you promised through your Son Jesus Christ to hear us when we pray in faith.

Strengthen Elizabeth and Phyllis our bishops and all your Church in the service of Christ, that those who confess your name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. Father of mercies,

Hear our prayer.

Bless and guide Joseph our president; give wisdom to all in authority; and direct this and every nation in the ways of justice and of peace; that we may honor one another, and seek the common good. Father of mercies,

Hear our prayer.

Give grace to us, our families and friends, and to all our neighbors, that we may serve Christ in one another, and love as he loves us. Father of mercies,

Hear our prayer.

Other intercessions may be added.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit [*including names*]; give them courage and hope in their troubles; and bring them the joy of your salvation. Father of mercies,

Hear our prayer.

Hear us as we remember those who have died in the faith of Christ [*including names*]; according to your promises, grant us with them a share in your eternal kingdom. Father of mercies,

Hear our prayer.

Help your servants, O blessed Trinity, and turn our hearts always back to you.

Amen.

PEACE

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

Let us offer to God what he has first given us: our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of his gracious love.

Amen

An offering is received for the work of the Church, including the care of those in need.

OFFERTORY SONG

ELW 689

We rise to sing as the offering is brought forward.

**Praise and thanksgiving, God, we would offer
for all things living, you have made good:
harvest of sown fields, fruits of the orchard,
hay from the mown fields, blossom and wood.**

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901-1984, alt.
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OFFERING PRAYER

After the table is set, the assisting minister may lead the following prayer.

Let us pray together.

Creator God, you made the whole world, even the farthest stars, and you draw near to feed us. We praise you for these gifts of bread and wine. Strengthen us with this food that we may live in expectation for the advent of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

DIALOGUE

The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to give thanks.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

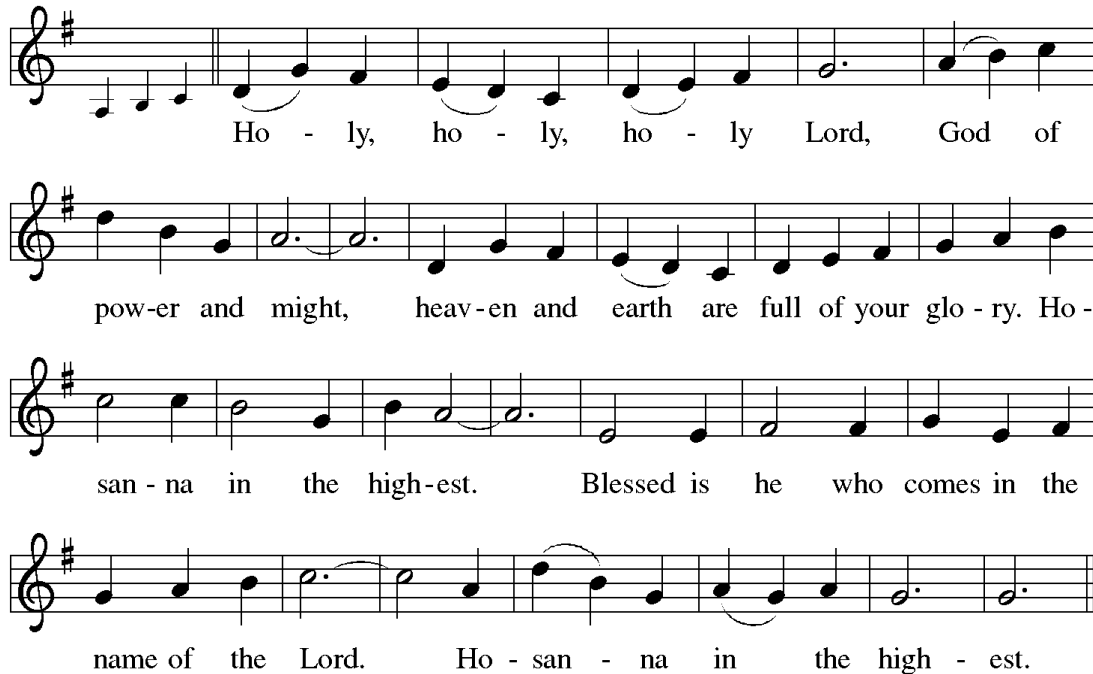
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. 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, HOLY

Isaiah 6:6 & Psalm 118:26



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

On behalf of the assembly, the presiding minister offers a sacrifice of praise and thanks.

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life: Blessed are you for the birth of creation. Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light. Blessed are you for your promise to your people. Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams. Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will. Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

The presiding minister may introduce the Lord's Prayer.

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The presiding minister addresses the assembly in the words of Zechariah 9:9:

Rejoice, O daughter Zion.

Your King is coming to you.

The assembly may be seated.

CANTICLE: LAMB OF GOD

based on John 1:29

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION

We believe that Christ is truly present in the bread and wine. All baptized Christians are invited to his table. To learn about being baptized, speak to a pastor.

You may eat the Body and drink the Blood from the cup, or you may dip the Body into the Blood before consuming them together. Alternatively, you may cross your arms in front of your chest to ask for a blessing instead of either or both elements. Those who refrain may do so trusting that Christ is fully present according to his promise.

COMMUNION SONG

A hymn may be sung or the organ may play quietly as the assembly comes forward to share in the Meal.

BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

The presiding minister blesses those who have shared in the meal.

The true Body of our Lord Jesus Christ and his most precious Blood strengthen you and preserve you unto everlasting life.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The assisting minister leads prayer after communion.

Let us pray.

Generous God, we thank you for the gift of life, for the bread of salvation. We thank you for coming among us, for leading us into peace. We thank you for showering us with mercy, for sending us into the world. Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us as we feed the hungry in your name.

Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

The presiding minister proclaims God's blessing.

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

Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING SONG *SAVIOR OF THE NATIONS, COME*

ELW 263

- 1 Savior of the nations, come;
 virgin's son, make here your home.
 Marvel now, O heav'n and earth:
 God has chosen such a birth.
- 2 Not by human flesh and blood,
 but the mystic Breath of God,
 was the Word of God made flesh,
 fruit of woman, blossom fresh.
- 3 Wondrous birth—oh, wondrous child—
 from his throne, a virgin mild!
 Very God, and Mary's son,
 eager now his race to run!
- 4 From God's heart the Savior speeds,
 back to God his pathway leads;
 out to vanquish death's command,
 back to reign at God's right hand.
- 5 Now your manger, shining bright,
 hallows night with newborn light.
 Night cannot this light subdue;
 let our faith shine ever new.
- 6 Praise we sing to Christ the Lord,
 virgin's son, incarnate Word!
 To the holy Trinity
 praise we sing eternally!

Text: attr. Ambrose of Milan, 340-397; Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. hymnal version. Text © 2006 Augsburg Fortress. Prepare the Royal Highway

DISMISSAL

The assisting minister sends the assembly into mission.

Go in peace. Wait for the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Liturgical Elements

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