

THE ORDER FOR OUR WORSHIP

PRELUDE - “*Mary’s Song*” by C. W. Gluck

HYMN 933 - *we sing, standing*

ADVENT WREATH ~ 4th SUNDAY

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Dear friends in Christ, on this Fourth Sunday in Advent, we recall the fullness of time, when the Son of God became man, conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary. We remember Mary’s joyful acceptance of God’s plan. In her “yes” to God, the Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. As we light the fourth candle on the Advent wreath, let us join Mary as willing servants of the Lord; may our “yes” welcome Christ into our world.

Lord Jesus, You are mighty God and Prince of Peace. **Lord, have mercy.**

Christ Jesus, You are the Son of God and Son of the Virgin Mary. **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, You are Word made flesh and splendor of the Father. **Lord, have mercy.**

May Almighty God have mercy upon you, forgive your sins, and bring you to everlasting life. **Amen.**

**O Come, desire of nations, bind
In one the hearts of all mankind;
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease,
And be Thyself our King of Peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray. **Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and**

reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

(please be seated)

FIRST LESSON *(bulletin back page)*

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

PSALM 89: 1 - 5 - *We speak in unison*

SECOND LESSON *(bulletin back page)*

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

page 173 - **ALLELUIA VERSE** - *all standing*

GOSPEL *(bulletin back page)* - *all standing*

Before, all shout: Glory to you, O Lord!
After, all shout: Praise to you, O Christ!

HYMN 356 vs 1 - *Parish Choir sings*

vs 2 - 4 - *congregation joins - we sing, seated*

SERMON

NICENE CREED - *hymnal, back cover*

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Response: **Hear our prayer!**

OFFERTORY

The Parish Choir sings “Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming” by Praetorius

page 177 - **SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT**

page 178 - **SANCTUS**

LORD’S PRAYER

page 179 - **WORDS OF OUR LORD**

SHARING OF PEACE

page 180 - **AGNUS DEI**

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

During the Distribution we sing HYMN 384 & 390

All are invited to commune who have been baptized and instructed in the Faith; who repent of their sins; are committed to Christ and to the mission of his church; and believe with us that we receive and share our Jesus’ very Body and Blood in, with, and under the bread and the wine of the Sacrament - which bring us his gift of forgiveness and make us one Christian family.

All who commune, kindly sign your names in our Communicant Register, which is located on the narthex shelf along side our Guest Register.

page 182 - **POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE** - *all standing*

page 183 - **POST-COMMUNION COLLECT**

page 183 - **BENEDICTION**

HYMN 352 - **vs 1, 2, 3, 6**

POSTLUDE - “*From Heaven Above*” tune *Von Himmel Hoch* / *setting by David Schack*



NEWS AND NOTES

Last Sunday Here

Attending: 166 Offering: \$4,402

Worship Schedule for December

Dec 24 - 9:00 Communion Service
Dec 24 - 4 & 9:00 Christmas Eve
Dec 25 - Merry Christmas!
Dec 31 - 9:00 Lessons and Carols

Attn Council Members! If you have not already done so, please hand in your year-end reports to the office by January 2 so that it may be included in the Annual Report.

2024 Flower Chart - if you would like to provide altar flowers on a particular Sunday, please sign up on the flower chart located on the bulletin board.

A WORD ABOUT THE LESSONS

The Lord Builds a House for David: Jesus Christ Who Comes in the Flesh When King David “lived in his house and the LORD had given him rest from all his surrounding enemies,” he piously supposed that he would build a house for God (2 Sam. 7:1–2). But the Lord would turn it around: He would establish a house for David and an everlasting throne. This He has done not only for David, but also for all His people, in the Son of David, Jesus Christ, “conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary” (Apostles’ Creed). That holy child, the incarnate “*Son of the Most High,*” receives “*the throne of his father David*” and begins to reign “*over the house of Jacob forever*” (Luke 1:32–33). Having given Himself as a sacrifice for the sins of the world, His body is the true and eternal temple of God in which His people have their own place of peace and rest. That is “*the mystery that was kept secret for long ages*” but is now “*made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God*” in order that we may have faith and life in Christ (Rom. 16:25–26).