

THE ORDER FOR OUR WORSHIP

**PRELUDE** - 8:00 - “*Es Ist Ein Ros’ Entsprungen*” by Brahms; 10:30 - the Bell Choir plays “*God Rest you Merry Christians All*” tune English Carol, arr. by Douglas Wagner.

**HYMN 935** - we sing, standing

**ADVENT WREATH ~ 4<sup>th</sup> 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 80:1-7** - 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 933** - we sing, seated  
**SERMON**

**APOSTLES’ CREED** - hymnal, back cover all standing

**OFFERTORY** During the gathering  
8:00 - the Bell Choir plays “*God Rest you Merry Christians All*” tune English Carol, arr. by Douglas Wagner; 10:30 - “*Es Ist Ein Ros’ Entsprungen*” by Brahms .

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**  
Response: **Hear our prayer!**

**LORD’S PRAYER**

**COLLECT**

**BENEDICTION**

NEWS AND NOTES

**Last Sunday Here**  
Attending: 105      Offering: \$5,188

**This Week Here**  
Tues- 6:15 PM - Parish Choir Rehearsal  
- 7:00 PM - Christmas Eve Com. Serv.  
- 9:15 PM - Bell Choir Rehearsal  
- 10:00 PM - Candlelight Com. Serv.

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

**2025 Volunteers Needed** to deliver items to the **food pantry**. If you are able and would like to deliver items once or twice a year, please sign up on the bulletin board.

**HYMN 352 vs 1, 2, 3, 4, 6** - we sing, standing

**POSTLUDE** - “*Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending*” tune Picardy; setting by Gehrke.

**2025 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.

Please be aware: Contributions intended for the 2024 calendar year need to be received prior to year end. Contributions received after Tuesday, December 31 will be posted to 2025. If contributing via Online Services please do so by 3 pm Friday, December 27, allowing 4 days for the transaction to process. This pertains to both CLC donations and Little Cherubs tuition payments.

Please kindly please return **your pledge** to the church if you have not done so already. Your pledge will assist CLC in planning and meeting our financial obligations.

A WORD ABOUT THE LESSONS

**The Lord Comes to Visit Us in Peace** The Fourth Sunday in Advent turns our attention toward the nativity of our Lord. With Mary, we await the coming of the Christ, her Son, conceived in her womb by the Spirit of God. As the Lord dealt graciously with her and did great things for her (Luke 1:48–49), so also He manifests Himself and His glory to us in mercy and gentleness. He comes to rule His people in peace, to “*shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD.*” He comes forth not from the great capital city of Rome or Jerusalem, but from lowly little Bethlehem (Micah 5:2, 4). He comes to sacrifice Himself, in fulfillment of His Father’s will, for the salvation and sanctification of His people (Heb. 10:10). He who once visited Elizabeth while hidden in the womb of Mary (Luke 1:39–45) now comes to visit us today, hidden in the lowliness of simple water, bread and wine.