

DECEMBER 22, 2024 - THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Prelude - “*Es Ist Ein Ros’Entsprungen*” by Brahms (8:00 AM), or the Bell Choir plays “*God Rest You Merry Christians All*” tune *English Carol*, arranged by Douglas Wagner (10:30 AM).

Stand

935 Tell Out, My Soul, the Greatness of the Lord



1 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of the Lord!
2 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of His name!
3 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of His might!
4 Tell out, my soul, the glo-ries of His Word!

Un-num-bered bless-ings, give my spir-it voice;
Make known His might, the deeds His arm has done;
Pow'rs and do-min-ions lay their glo-ry by.
Firm is His prom-ise, and His mer-cy sure.

Ten-der to me the prom-ise of His Word;
His mer-cy sure, from age to age the same;
Proud hearts and stub-born wills are put to flight,
Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of the Lord

In God my Sav-ior shall my heart re-joice.
His ho-ly name, the Lord, the Might-y One.
The hun-gry fed, the hum-ble lift-ed high.
To chil-dren's chil-dren and for-ev-er-more!

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The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Advent Wreath Lighting

- P** 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.
- P** Lord Jesus, You are mighty God and Prince of Peace.
C Lord, have mercy.
- P** Christ Jesus, You are the Son of God and Son of the Virgin Mary.
C Christ, have mercy.
- P** Lord Jesus, You are Word made flesh and splendor of the Father.
C Lord, have mercy.

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

The seventh stanza of “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” is sung while the fourth candle on the Advent Wreath is lit.

357 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

sts. ref, 7

7 O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind In one the
 hearts of all man - kind; Bid Thou our sad di -
 vi - sions cease, And be Thy - self our King of Peace.
Refrain
 Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el
 Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

Text: Latin, c. 12th cent.; Psalterium Cantionum Catholicarum, 1710, Köln; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt.; Public domain
 Tune: French, 15th cent.; Public domain

Salutation and Collect of the Day

- P** The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.
- P** Let us pray.
C 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.

Sit

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.
- ³ Therefore 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.
- ⁴ And 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.
- ⁵ And he shall be their peace.

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

Psalms

We speak the Psalm in unison.

Psalm 80:1–7

¹Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel,
 you who lead Joseph like a flock!
 You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth.
²Before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh,
 stir up your might
 and come to save us!
³Restore us, O God;
 let your face shine, that we may be saved!
⁴O LORD God of hosts,
 how long will you be angry with your people's prayers?
⁵You have fed them with the bread of tears
 and given them tears to drink in full measure.
⁶You make us an object of contention for our neighbors,
 and our enemies laugh among themselves.
⁷Restore us, O God of hosts;
 let your face shine, that we may be saved!
 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.

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.

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

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 173

C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
 You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

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.

Sit

933 My Soul Rejoices



1 My soul re - joice - es, My spir - it voic - es— Sing the
2 His arm now bar - ing, His strength de - clar - ing— Sing the

great - ness of the Lord! For God my Sav - ior Has shown me
great - ness of the Lord! The proud He scat - ters, Their rule He

fa - vor— Sing the great - ness of the Lord! With praise and
shat - ters— Sing the great - ness of the Lord! Op - pres - sion

bless - ing, Join in con - fess - ing God, who is sole - ly Might - y and
halt - ed; The meek ex - alt - ed. Full are the hun - gry; Emp - ty, the

ho - ly— O sing the great - ness of God the Lord! His mer - cy
wealth - y— O sing the great - ness of God the Lord! Here is the

sure - ly Shall rest se - cure - ly On all who fear Him,
to - ken All that was spo - ken To A - br'ham's off - spring

Love and re - vere Him— O sing the great - ness of God the Lord!
God is ful - fill - ing— O sing the great - ness of God the Lord!

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Sermon

Stand

Apostles' Creed

C 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 ✠ everlasting. Amen.**

Sit

Anthem - The Bell Choir plays “*God Rest You Merry Christians All*” tune *English Carol*, arranged by Douglas Wagner (8:00 AM), or “*Es Ist Ein Ros’ Entsprungen*” by Brahms (10:30 AM).

Kneel

Prayer of the Church

P Let us pray for the whole people of God, in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

Each petition ends:

P Lord, in Your mercy:

C **Hear our prayer!**

The Prayers conclude:

P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all those for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

Lord’s Prayer

LSB 179

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C **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.**

Collect

A Let us pray.

Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benediction

LSB 183

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.

Stand

352 Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord

sts. 1–4, 6

1 Let the earth now praise the Lord, Who has tru - ly
2 What the Fa - thers most de - sired, What the proph - ets'
3 A - bram's prom - ised great re - ward, Zi - on's help - er,
4 As Your com - ing was in peace, Qui - et, full of
6 Then when You will come a - gain As the glo - rious

kept His word And at last to us did send
heart in - spired, What they longed for man - y a year,
Ja - cob's Lord— Him of two - fold race be - hold—
gen - tle - ness, Let the same mind dwell in me
king to reign, I with joy will see Your face,

Christ, the sin - ner's help and friend.
Stands ful - filled in glo - ry here.
Tru - ly came, as long fore - told.
Which is Yours e - ter - nal - ly.
Free - ly ran - somed by Your grace.

Text: Heinrich Held, 1620–59; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.; Public domain
Tune: Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn, 1524, Wittenberg, ed. Johann Walter; Public domain

Postlude - “*Lo! He Comes With Clouds Descending*” tune *Picardy*, setting by Gehrke.

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Two from Lutheran Service Book

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