

Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 18, 2022
Worship @ 10:30 am
Liturgist: Greg Hardy
Advent Candle Lighters: The Kahn Family
Special Music: Chancel Choir

**Please stand in body or spirit.*

**Music as we prepare our hearts and minds
for worship.**



Chimes: Advent Hymns

Prelude:

"Noel"

Daquin

Welcome and Announcements

Nursery care is available for infants through age 5 in Room 116.

Kids are an important part of our church family! Each Sunday, the children are welcome to use our Prayground space during worship; parents and grandparents may sit close by. Kids and families who would prefer to sit together in the pews may pick-up worship materials to use during this time from the worship bag cart or the Prayground space.

***Lighting of the Advent Candle and Call to Worship**

One: Today we relight the first three candles of the Advent Wreath -- the candles of HOPE, PEACE and JOY. And today we light the fourth candle of Advent.

One: This is the candle of LOVE. Jesus demonstrated self-giving love in his ministry as the Good Shepherd. Advent is a time for kindness, thinking of others, and sharing with others. It is a time to love as God loved us by giving us his most precious gift. As God is love, let us be love also.

All: From the Gospel of John we hear: "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

One: Let us pray: Teach us to love, O Lord. May we always remember to put you first as we follow Christ's footsteps, that we may know your love and show it in our lives. As we prepare for our celebration of Jesus' birth, also fill our hearts with love for the world, that all may know your love and the one whom you have sent, your son, our Savior. Amen.

***Opening Hymn**

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus
Glory to God Hymnal #82

HYFRYDOL

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

God, you share with us words of good news, but sometimes we are unable to hear them because the source is too familiar. You call us to share that good news with those around us, but sometimes we are unable to share, because the people know us too well. You encourage us to send messengers to other places where they will be heard better, but we can be jealous, wanting the good news to be for us, not them. Forgive us God and may your grace lead us back on track. Amen.

***Kyrie Hymn #92**

*1 While we are waiting, come;
while we are waiting, come.*

Refrain:

*Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel,
while we are waiting, come.*

*2 With power and glory, come;
with power and glory, come. (Refrain)*

*3 Come, Savior, quickly come;
come, Savior, quickly come. (Refrain)
Declaration of Forgiveness*

***Passing the Peace**

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

First Scripture Lesson Isaiah 9:6

For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders,
and he is named
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace

Special Music

“O Come Redeemer of the Earth”

Brian L Hanson

Children’s Moment

***Hymn**

In the Bleak Midwinter
Glory to God Hymnal #144

CRANHAM

Second Scripture Lesson Luke 1:46-55

46 And Mary said, “My soul magnifies the Lord,
47 and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
48 for he has looked with favor on the lowly state of his servant.
Surely from now on all generations will call me blessed,
49 for the Mighty One has done great things for me,
and holy is his name;
50 indeed, his mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.
51 He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
52 He has brought down the powerful from their thrones
and lifted up the lowly;

53 he has filled the hungry with good things
and sent the rich away empty.
54 He has come to the aid of his child Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,
55 according to the promise he made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and to his descendants forever.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Prayers of the People

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

“Pray for One Another”

Please pray this week for the following members and families:

Christina Zierau; Mark & Nicole Adams, Will, Christopher, Elizabeth; Vicki & Joel Alvis; Melanie Babel; Casey & Christopher Bagby; June Baker; Marc Ball; Kat Ballou, Moira Daignault; Christopher & Gail Ottinger Barker; Sarah & Will Bayer, Liam, Jacob

***Affirmation of Faith**

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 Ghost, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;

He descended into hell. The third day He arose again from the dead;

He ascended into heaven,

and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen

Offering

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***Response & Prayer of Dedication**

GLORY BE TO THE FATHER

GLORIA PATRI
Glory to God Hymnal #581

Glory be to the Father,
and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end.
Amen, amen.

***Closing Hymn**

Now the Heavens Start to Whisper
Glory to God Hymnal #94

IRBY

**1 Now the heavens start to whisper,
as the veil is growing thin.
Earth from slumber wakes to listen
to the stirring, faint within:
seed of promise, deeply planted,
child to spring from Jesse's stem!
Like the soil beneath the frostline,
hearts grow soft to welcome him.**

**2 Heavy clouds that block the moonlight
now begin to drift away.
Diamond brilliance through the darkness
shines the hope of coming day.
Christ, the morning star of splendor,
gleams within a world grown dim.
Heaven's ember fans to fullness;
hearts grow warm to welcome him.**

**3 Christ, eternal Sun of justice,
Christ, the rose of wisdom's seed,
come to bless with fire and fragrance
hours of yearning, hurt, and need.
In the lonely, in the stranger,
in the outcast, hid from view:
child who comes to grace the manger,
teach our hearts to welcome you.**

***Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Christ, all people here below.
Praise Holy Spirit evermore.
Praise Triune God, whom we adore.

Postlude

"Noel IV"

Daquin