## Fourth Sunday in Advent December 24, 2023 10:30 a.m. Service



Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.

Luke 1:38

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH 'HEARING, SHARING, AND LIVING THE GOSPEL'

#### **ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH**

## 'HEARING, SHARING, AND LIVING THE GOSPEL'



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You are invited to use the yellow Prayer Cards located in the pew for prayer requests. Please hand this card to an usher or place it in the offering plate.

\* Please turn off cellphones \*

#### FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

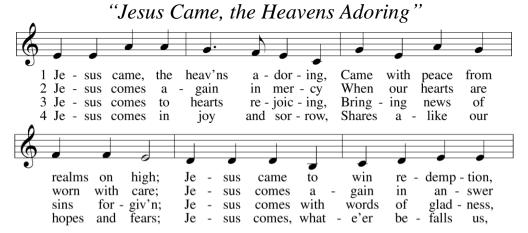
Divine Service – Setting Four LSB 203 December 24, 2023 10:30 a.m.

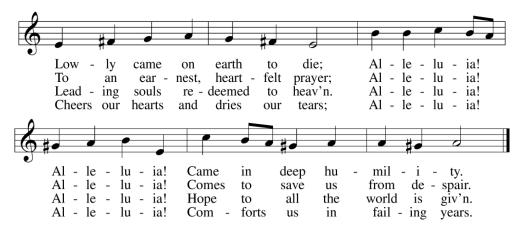
#### Prelude

## Welcome

## Opening Hymn

LSB 353 sts. 1-4





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#### Stand

+ INVOCATION +

LSB 203

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

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the ▶ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- + CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +

LSB 203

- **P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- **C** who made heaven and earth.
- **P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
- **C** But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.
- P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word and call upon Him in prayer and praise, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition.

Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

- C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.
- P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the ♣ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD + LSB 204 **Introit** Ps. 19:1, 4c, 5-6; antiphon: Is. 45:8a, b

P Shower, O heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain down righteousness; let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may bear fruit.

- The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork. In them he has set a tent for the sun,
- **P** which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his chamber, and, like a strong man, runs its course with joy.
- C Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them, and there is nothing hidden from its heat.
- P C 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.
- P Shower, O heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain down righteousness; let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may bear fruit.



(During Advent, the HYMN OF PRAISE is omitted) LSB 204

## **Salutation and Collect of the Day**

LSB 205

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And also with you.
- P 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.
- C Amen.

Sit

## **Old Testament Reading**

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

1 Now when the king lived in his house and the Lord had given him rest from all his surrounding enemies, 2 the king said to Nathan the prophet, "See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells in a tent." 3 And Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that is in your heart, for the Lord is with you." 4 But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan, 5 "Go and tell my servant David, 'Thus says the Lord: Would you build me a house to dwell in? 6 I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent for my dwelling. 7 In all places where I have moved with all the

people of Israel, did I speak a word with any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" 8 Now, therefore, thus you shall say to my servant David, 'Thus says the Lord of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over my people Israel. 9 And I have been with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies from before you. And I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. 10 And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may dwell in their own place and be disturbed no more. And violent men shall afflict them no more, as formerly, 11 from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel. And I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. . . .

16 And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever."

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

## Gradual

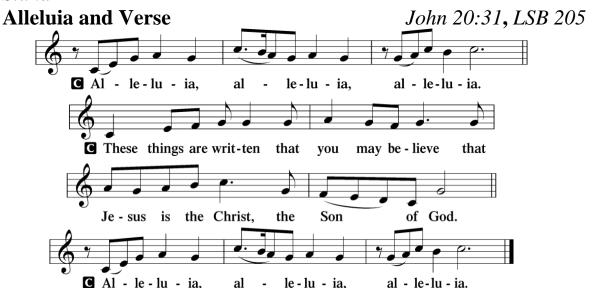
Zech. 9:9, Ps. 118:26, alt.

- **P** Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion.
- **C** Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem.
- **P** Behold, your king is coming to you;
- **C** Righteous and having salvation.
- **P** Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
- **C** From the house of the Lord we bless you.

25 Now to him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages 26 but has now been disclosed and through the prophetic writings has been made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith – 27 to the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ! Amen.

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





## **Holy Gospel**

Luke 1:26-38

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the first chapter.

## **C** Glory to You, O Lord.

26 In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, 27 to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. 28 And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" 29 But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. 30 And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. 31 And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. 32 He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, 33 and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

34 And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

35 And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy – the Son of God. 36 And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. 37 For nothing will be impossible with God." 38 And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

- **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to You, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed LSB 207

P 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 Hymn of the Day

LSB 357 sts. 1-7

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"



- 6 O come, Thou Dayspring from on high, And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh; Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, And death's dark shadows put to flight.
  - In one the hearts of all mankind; Bid Thou our sad divisions cease. And be Thyself our King of Peace. Refrain Refrain

7 O come, Desire of nations, bind

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# Sermon Rev. David Burge "Christ Jesus: Revealed to All Nations for Faith" Sermon Text Romans 16:25-27

Stand

## **Prayer of the Church**

LSB 207

- P Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.
- P O Lord, our God, nothing is impossible with You. Grant us faith to believe Your Word and follow the example of Your servant Mary, to receive the miraculous gift of Your Son, our Immanuel. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- P Eternal God, Your Word has been sent forth into the world to the joy and edification of Your holy people. Encourage, comfort and strengthen all who hear it. Grant faith to those who do not know You, both here and abroad, that all peoples may sing to Your name and extol Your goodness. By the power of the Holy Spirit, fill all who hear Your Word with joy and peace in believing. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- P O Lord, our God, bless Matthew, our Synod president; Lee, our district president; Mickey, our circuit visitor; and David, our pastor, that like the angel Gabriel, they may be faithful messengers of Your Good News. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.

- P O Lord, our God, let Your favor rest upon all pregnant women and mothers of young children, that they may rejoice in the blessing of new life You give. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- P Lord of lords, by the reign of Your Son You govern all things in heaven and earth. Raise up true Davids among us to govern our land in faithfulness and in humble strength to do Your will. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- P O Lord, our God, uphold [\_\_\_\_\_\_ and] all who suffer in mind or body. Give them the knowledge of Christ, their Immanuel, who is with them in their trials. Grant them health and healing in accord with Your perfect will. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- P O Lord, our God, give us joy that as surely as Your Son was conceived in blessed Mary at Your Word, so He comes to abide in us also at Your Word in the blessed Sacrament. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- P O God, You make us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of Your only begotten Son, Jesus Christ. Grant that as we joyfully receive Him as our Redeemer, we may with sure confidence behold Him when He comes to be our Judge; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

## Offering

In quiet devotion and responding in personal stewardship of God's abundant provision to you, please use the offering plates in the back as you enter or exit. (This is just as it says: An offering to God through His church. As a reassurance to those in worship today, especially our guests - this is not an obligation - the good news of Jesus is free to all!)



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## Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13, LSB 209

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.

## **Concluding Collect**

LSB 305

P Almighty God, grant to Your Church Your Holy Spirit and the wisdom that comes down from above, that Your Word may not be bound but have free course and be preached to the joy and edifying of Christ's holy people, that in steadfast faith we may serve You and, in the confession of Your name, abide unto the end; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

#### **Benedicamus and Benediction**

LSB 212

- **P** Let us bless the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

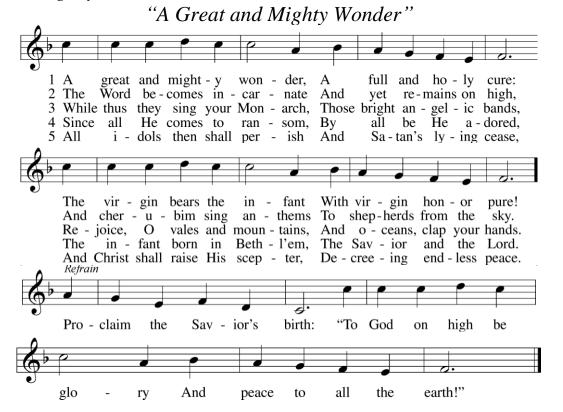
The Lord look upon you with favor and ₱ give you peace.

## C Amen.

Sit

## Closing Hymn

LSB 383 sts. 1-5



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# Announcements

# Postlude