

Sunday, December 5, 2021
Second Sunday of Advent
Holy Communion

December 5, 2021 • 9:00, 11:00 a.m. Service

WELCOME TO EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

INTRODUCTION

Forerunners and messengers advance the advent of our God. While John the Baptizer's voice in the wilderness may be the principal focus of the day, Malachi's prophecy could as easily herald the coming Christ as forerunner of the Lord of hosts. Finally all the baptized are called to participate in the sharing of the gospel. In so doing we prepare the way for the coming of Jesus and assist all people in capturing a vision of the "salvation of God."

PRELUDE

Overture from 'The Messiah'

Handel

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

TRINITARIAN CHIMES

CALL TO WORSHIP

GATHERING SONG:

Prepare the Royal Highway (Verses 1, 2, 4)

ELW 264

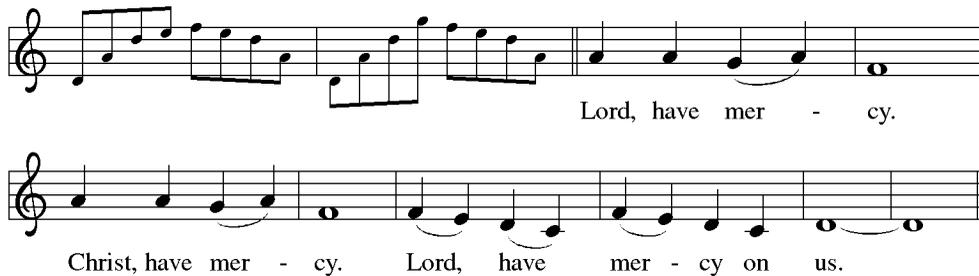
GREETING

Grace and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ,
and the promised gifts of the Holy Spirit,
be with you all.

And also with you.

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

KYRIE



Lord, have mer - cy.

Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy on us.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Let us pray.

We praise you, O God, for this circle of light
that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent.
As we light the candles on this wreath,
kindle within us the fire of your Spirit,
that we may be light shining in the darkness.
Enlighten us with your grace,
that we may welcome others as you have welcomed us.
Grant this through Christ our Lord,
whose coming is certain and whose day draws near.

Amen.

*The **first and second** Advent candles are lit as the Assembly sings **verse two of Light One Candle:***

Light two candles to watch for Messiah;
let the light banish darkness.
He shall feed the flock like a shepherd,
Gently lead them homeward.

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah



- 1 Light one can-dle to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 2 Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 3 Light three can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 4 Light four can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra - el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.
He shall feed the flock like a shep - herd, gent - ly lead them home - ward.
Lift your heads and lift high the gate - way for the King of glo - ry.
He is com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your lights be shin - ing!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming give to all the people of the world knowledge of your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

FIRST READING: Malachi 3: 1-4

God announces a covenant with Israel. A messenger like Malachi (his name means "my messenger") shall prepare the way for the coming of the Lord by purifying and refining God's people, as silver and gold are refined.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: Philippians 1: 3-11

The apostle Paul was the pastor of many new churches. He writes in this letter about his joy to be in partnership with the Christians of Philippi. Listen to how tender-hearted Paul, sometimes a stern preacher, is with his friends as he encourages them to grow in love and knowledge.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (SUNG)

He Came Down

(verse 2)

ELW 253

**He came down that we may have light;
he came down that we may have light;
he came down that we may have light;
hallelujah forevermore.**

He Came Down



- 1 He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love;
- 2 He came down that we may have light; he came down that we may have light;
- 3 He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace;
- 4 He came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy;



he came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have light; hal - le - lu - jah for - ev - er - more.
he came down that we may have peace;
he came down that we may have joy;

GOSPEL: Luke 3: 1-6

John the Baptist is a herald of Jesus, whose way is prepared by "repentance for the forgiveness of sins." As we hear the careful record of human leaders, we sense the spectrum of political and religious authority that will be challenged by this coming Lord.

The holy gospel according to Luke, the third chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

A moment of silent meditation follows the sermon.

HYMN OF THE DAY: *On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry (verses 1-3; 5)*

ELW 249

NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,*
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

*Or, "who proceeds from the Father." The phrase "and the Son" is a later addition to the creed.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

(Please take your preferred posture of prayer).

In this season of watching and waiting, let us pray for all people and places that yearn for God's presence.
*Hear us, O God, **Your mercy is great.***

PEACE

*The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.
The peace of Christ be with you always.*

And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

The assembly is seated.

OFFERING

*An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.
During this time, the table is set.*

(9:00) OFFERTORY

Could This Be the Day
The Emmanuel Choir

arr. Martin

Could this be the day? Could this be the moment? Could this be the night all our darkness turns to light? Could this be the day? Could this be the promise? Could this be our miracle, our music in the night? Long we have waited. Long we have pleaded. Long we have wandered in darkness and sin. Long we have waited for your song to begin. Could this be the day? Could this be the moment? Could this be the night all our darkness turns to light? Could this be the day? Could this be the promise? Could this be our miracle, our song in the night? Long we have waited. Long we have pleaded. Long we have wandered in darkness and sin. Long we have waited for your song to begin. O Come, O come, Emmanuel. Come, O Come, Emmanuel. God who holds the sands of time, give us a sign. Could this be the day? Come.

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

What Can I Give Him?

The assembly is invited to sing along.

What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb.
If I were a wiseman, I would do my part.
Yet what can I give him?
Give him my heart.

Offertory Response

What Can I Give Him?

(Verse 3)



1 In the bleak mid - win - ter, frost - y wind made moan,
2 Heav - en can - not hold him, nor earth sus - tain;
3 What . . . can I give him, poor as I am?



earth stood hard as i - ron, wa - ter like a stone;
heav'n and earth shall flee a - way when he comes to reign;
If I were a shep - herd I would bring a lamb;



snow had fall - en, snow on snow, snow on snow,
in the bleak mid - win - ter a sta - ble place suf - ficed
if I were a wise . . . man I would do my part;



in the bleak mid - win - ter, long a - go.
the Lord . . . God al - might - y, Je - sus Christ.
yet what I can I give him— give my heart.

The assembly stands.

OFFERING PRAYER

God of our waiting and watching,
we offer the gifts of our hearts and our lives
to the service of all your people.
Prepare the way before us
as we meet you in this simple meal,
through Christ Jesus, our pathway and our peace. **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE (SUNG)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Jesus Christ is the host of this Holy Communion, in which we celebrate the Real Presence of Our Lord among us. Jesus' presence is in the sanctuary. Jesus' presence is also real in your home. Please have bread and wine available and ready (or juice). All the baptized are welcome to participate this morning in their homes during the livestream worship. Follow the presiding pastor for instructions.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
That we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you,
Almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ,
You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer,
Through whom you will also make all things new
In the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness.
And so with all the choirs of angels,
With the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
We praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (SUNG) Melody: *Hark, the Herald Angels Sing*

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,
God of Hosts, by heav'n adored!
Heav'n and earth cannot contain
All the glory of your name!
Hail, Hosanna, God most high!
Blest is He who now draws nigh!
In the name of God the King
Halleluias glad we sing:
Hail, Hosanna! Praises due
Be forever, Lord, to you!**

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to Christ's banquet.
Feast on God's gift of grace.

COMMUNION

When giving the bread and cup, the communion assistants in the sanctuary and at home will say:
The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you, *and each person may respond, Amen.*

The assembly stands.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Most High God,

you have come among us at this table.

By the Spirit's power, form us to be bearers of your word,

sharing gifts of mercy and grace with all,

through Christ Jesus, our host and our guest.

Amen.

BLESSING

The God of hope

fill us with all joy and peace in believing,

so that we may abound in hope

by the power of the Holy Spirit,

through Christ Jesus for whom we wait.

Amen.

SENDING SONG:

Fling Wide the Door (verses 1, 2, 4)

ELW 259

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is near.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Savior, of the Nations Come

arr. Sobaje

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