

**Fourth Sunday in Advent**  
**LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD**  
Olney, Maryland

DECEMBER 20, 2020 | 11:00 AM

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**WELCOME**

**PRELUDE**

**+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +**

*(Stand)*

*(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.**

**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

*(Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.)*

**P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

**P** In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**C** **Amen.**

**HYMN****O Come, O Come, Emmanuel***LSB 357 sts. 1, ref, 2, 6-7*

1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som  
 2 O come, Thou Wis - dom from on high, Who or - d'rest  
 6 O come, Thou Day - spring from on high, And cheer us  
 7 O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind In one the



cap - tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly  
 all things might - i - ly; To us the path of  
 by Thy draw - ing nigh; Dis - perse the gloom - y  
 hearts of all man - kind; Bid Thou our sad di -



ex - ile here Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
 knowl - edge show, And teach us in her ways to go.  
 clouds of night, And death's dark shad - ows put to flight.  
 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!

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**+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +****INTROIT***Psalm 19:1, 4c, 5-6; antiphon: Isaiah 45:8a, b*

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,**

which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his chamber,  
and, like a strong man, runs its course with joy.

**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.**

**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.**

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

## **KYRIE**

*LSB 152*

**A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**A** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,  
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let  
us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**C Amen.**

## **SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY**

**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*

<sup>1</sup>Now when the king lived in his house and the LORD had given him rest from  
all his surrounding enemies, <sup>2</sup>the king said to Nathan the prophet, “See now, I

dwelling in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells in a tent.” <sup>3</sup>And Nathan said to the king, “Go, do all that is in your heart, for the LORD is with you.”

<sup>4</sup>But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan, <sup>5</sup>“Go and tell my servant David, ‘Thus says the LORD: Would you build me a house to dwell in? <sup>6</sup>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. <sup>7</sup>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?’” <sup>8</sup>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. <sup>9</sup>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. <sup>10</sup>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, <sup>11</sup>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. . . .

<sup>16</sup>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.**

## PSALM

*Psalm 89:1–5; antiphon: v. 8*

<sup>1</sup>I will sing of the steadfast love of the LORD, forever;  
with my mouth I will make known your faithfulness to all generations.

<sup>2</sup>**For I said, “Steadfast love will be built up forever;  
in the heavens you will establish your faithfulness.”**

<sup>3</sup>You have said, “I have made a covenant with my chosen one;  
I have sworn to David my servant:

<sup>4</sup>**I will establish your offspring forever,  
and build your throne for all generations.”**

<sup>5</sup>Let the heavens praise your wonders, O LORD,  
your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones!

## EPISTLE

*Romans 16:25–27*

<sup>25</sup>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 <sup>26</sup>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—<sup>27</sup>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.**

(Stand)

**ALLELUIA**

Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending

LSB 336 sts. 1,4

1 Lo! He comes with clouds de - scend - ing,  
4 Yea, a - men, let all a - dore Thee,  
Once for ev - 'ry sin - ner slain;  
High on Thine e - ter - nal throne;  
Thou - sand thou - sand saints at - tend - ing  
Sav - ior, take the pow'r and glo - ry,  
Swell the tri - umph of His train:  
Claim the king - dom as Thine own.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -  
lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.  
lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and Thou a - lone!

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## HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 1:26–38

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

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

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

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

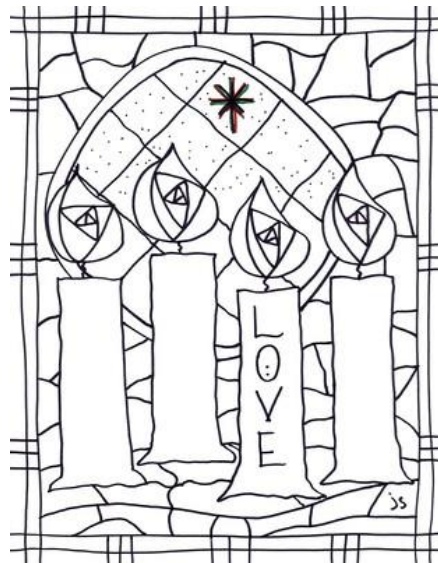
<sup>35</sup>And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. <sup>36</sup>And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. <sup>37</sup>For nothing will be impossible with God." <sup>38</sup>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.**

*(Sit)*

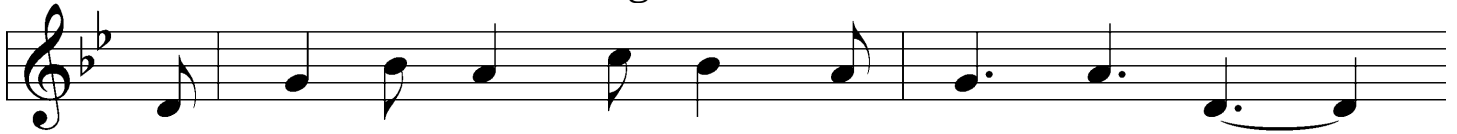
## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE



**HYMN OF THE DAY**

## The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came

LSB 356



1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from heav - en came,  
 2 "For know a bless - ed moth - er thou shalt be,  
 3 Then gen - tle Mar - y meek - ly bowed her head;  
 4 Of her, Em - man - u - el, the Christ, was born



With wings as drift - ed snow, with eyes as flame:  
 All gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee;  
 "To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said.  
 In Beth - le - hem all on a Christ - mas morn,



"All hail to thee, O low - ly maid - en Mar - y,  
 Thy son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,  
 "My soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy God's ho - ly name."  
 And Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say:



Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy." Glo - ri - a!  
 Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy." Glo - ri - a!  
 Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy, Glo - ri - a!  
 "Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy." Glo - ri - a!

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**SERMON***(Stand)***APOSTLES' CREED**

**☩ 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**

**Christ, Be Our Light**

Bernadette Farrell  
*st. 1*

Verses

1. Long-ing for light, — we wait in dark-ness. Long-ing for  
 1. truth, — we turn to you. Make us your own, —  
 1. your ho - ly peo-ple, light for the world to see.

Refrain

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the dark-ness.  
 Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gath-ered to-day.

*Sts.2- 5 on next page →*



Verses

2. Long-ing for peace, — our world is trou - bled. Long-ing for  
 3. Long-ing for food, — man - y are hun - gry. Long-ing for  
 4. Long-ing for shel-ter, man - y are home-less. Long-ing for  
 5. Man - y the gifts, — man - y the peo - ple, man - y the

2. hope, — man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone —  
 3. wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread, —  
 4. warmth, — man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,  
 5. hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants

2. has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.  
 3. bro - ken for oth-ers, shared un - til all are fed.  
 4. shel - ter - ing oth-ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.  
 5. to one an - oth - er, mak - ing your king - dom come.

Refrain

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the dark - ness.

Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gath-ered to-day.

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(Stand)

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

### LORD'S PRAYER

**☩ 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.**

## MAGNIFICAT

My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness



1 My soul pro-claims your great-ness, Lord; I sing my Sav - ior's praise!  
2 To all who live in ho - ly fear your mer - cy ev - er flows.  
3 To Is - ra - el, your ser - vant blest, your help is ev - er sure;



You looked up - on my low - li - ness, and I am full of grace.  
With might - y arm you dash the proud, their schem - ing hearts ex - pose.  
the prom - ise to our par - ents made their chil - dren will se - cure.



Now ev - 'ry land and ev - 'ry age this bless - ing shall pro - claim—  
The ruth - less you have cast a - side, the low - ly throned in - stead;  
Sing glo - ry to the Ho - ly One, give hon - or to the Word,



great won - ders you have done for me, and ho - ly is your name.  
the hun - gry filled with all good things, the rich sent off un - fed.  
and praise the Pow'r of the Most High, one God, by all a - dored.

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## PRAYER FOR GOOD COURAGE

**P** Lord God, You have called Your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go but only

that Your hand is leading us and Your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C Amen.**

**BENEDICAMUS**

LSB 212

**P** Let us bless the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**BENEDICTION**

LSB 166

**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)*

**HYMN TO DEPART**

The Night Will Soon Be Ending

LSB 337 sts. 1, 3-4  
st. 1

1 The night will soon be end - ing; The dawn can -  
not be far. Let songs of praise as - cend - ing Now  
greet the Morn - ing Star! All you whom dark - ness  
fright - ens With guilt or grief or pain, God's ra - diant  
Star now bright - ens And bids you sing a - gain.



3 The earth in sure ro - ta - tion Will soon bring  
 4 Yet nights will bring their sad - ness And rob our



morn - ing bright, So run where God's sal - va - tion Glows  
 hearts of peace, And sin in all its mad - ness A -



in a sta - ble's light. As old as sin's per -  
 round us may in - crease. But now one Star is



ver - sion Is mer - cy's vast de - sign: God brings a  
 beam - ing Whose rays have pierced the night: God comes for



new cre - a - tion—This child its seal and sign.  
 our re - deem - ing From sin's op - pres - sive might.

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**DISMISSAL**

- P** Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

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## + SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

*(Stand)*

### **PREFACE**

LSB 208

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** **We lift them to the Lord.**

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

### **THE WORDS OF OUR LORD**

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

### **PAX DOMINI**

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** **Amen.**

### **DISTRIBUTION**

Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.

**Amen.**

Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins.

**Amen.**

*(In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:)*

**P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

**C** **Amen.**