

HOLLYWOOD LUTHERAN CHURCH

Fourth Sunday of Advent
Sunday, December 19, 2021



INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

Cradle and cross are inextricably connected on the fourth Sunday of Advent. Between a lovely tribute to the little town of Bethlehem and Mary's magnificent song of praise, the letter to the Hebrews reminds us in no uncertain terms that Christ's advent is for "the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all." It is the kind of tension in which the church always lives as when in holy communion—with high delight—"we proclaim the Lord's death."



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, our mission is to offer God's Word of Love, Grace, Mercy and Justice to our homes, congregation, city and all creation.

Welcome

We are delighted you have come to worship. Relax, sing, and center yourself on the presence of God here today. Let the congregation and this bulletin guide you and follow along as you are able. Join us after the service for refreshments. We look forward to meeting you. **Due to the new city ordinance, please wear your mask at all times. Regardless of vaccination status.**

Visitor

Please complete the attendance card located in the pew, you may also include a prayer, concerns, and other information you would like the church to know. If you are interested in meeting with pastor, learning more about our community or becoming a member, please make a note on the card.

Music

If you don't know a song, sing along as you are able and don't worry about getting it right. Just praise.

Children are Welcomed Here

Children enrich our worship experience. The sounds of crying, laughing, and talking are welcome in our church; these sounds are a true gift and remind us of God's presence. Children may find crayons and coloring sheets helpful during worship, you can find some in our narthex.

Holy Communion

The congregation will be celebrating Holy Communion this morning. All are welcome no matter your background. Both wine and grape juice, and gluten-free bread are offered at the table. **Due to covid we ask that when you stand at the rail you keep 3-6 feet from others. Once you have received communion, please go back to your seat using the far left or right walkways.**

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.
The congregation is invited to stand as they are able to or feel comfortable.

GATHERING SONG

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things
3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on
4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's

Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;
Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law
tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,

Refrain
un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!
in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.
and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.

Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

KYRIE

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

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

Lord, have mer - cy.

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.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that binds us, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The congregation is invited to be seated.

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Micah 5:2-5

A reading from Micah.

The prophet Micah, having pronounced judgment upon Judah, speaks of a future shepherd-king who, like David, will come from the small town of Bethlehem. (Ephrathah refers to the area around Bethlehem.) This king will restore Israel and bring peace. New Testament writers understood this passage to be referring to Jesus.

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,
who are one of the little clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to rule in Israel,
whose origin is from of old,
from ancient days.

Therefore he shall give them up until the
time when she who is in labor has
brought forth;
then the rest of his kindred shall return
to the people of Israel.

And he shall stand and feed his flock in
the strength of the LORD,
in the majesty of the name of the LORD
his God.

And they shall live secure, for now he shall
be great to the ends of the earth;
and he shall be the one of peace.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 80:1-3

Refrain: Let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved. **R**

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

**In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh,
stir up your strength and come to help us. R**

Restore us, O God;

let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved. **R**

SECOND READING: Hebrews 10:5-10

A reading from Hebrews.

The author of Hebrews uses the image of religious sacrifice to convey the significance of Christ's coming. Through obedient acceptance of God's will, Christ allows his own body to become the greatest sacrifice of all, one through which we are made a holy people.

Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said,

“Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,

but a body you have prepared for me;

in burnt offerings and sin offerings

you have taken no pleasure.

Then I said, ‘See, God, I have come to do your will, O God’
in the scroll of the book it is written of me.”

When 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, then he added, “See, I have come to do your will.” He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God’s will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.

The congregation is invited to stand as they are able to or feel comfortable.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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

GOSPEL: Luke 1:39-45 [46-55]

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Elizabeth, John’s mother, and Mary, the mother of Jesus, are two women filled with the Holy Spirit and with faith. In Elizabeth’s inspired greeting and Mary’s song of praise we hear of a saving God who remembers, scatters, lifts up, and fulfills all things.

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The congregation is invited to be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Pedro Zaragoza

The congregation is invited to stand as they are able to or feel comfortable to proclaim the word of God.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

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.



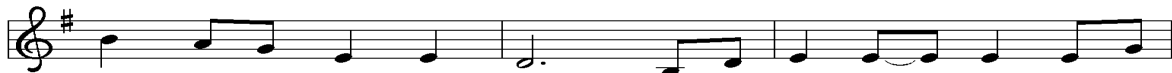
He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra - el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.
He shall feed the flock like a shep-herd, gent - ly lead them home-ward.
Lift your heads and lift high the gate-way for the King of glo - ry.
He is com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your lights be shin - ing!

HYMN OF THE DAY

Canticle of the Turning



- 1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the
- 2 Though I am small, my . . . God, my all, you . . .
- 3 From the halls of pow'r to the for - tress tow'r, not a
- 4 Though the na - tions rage from . . . age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the
work great . . . things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the
stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your
mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant . . . from his throne.
liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to
The hun - gry poor shall . . . weep no more, for the
This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my
those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the
food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry
prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.
mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.
crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.



My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn.



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

APOSTLES CREED

**I believe in God, the Father
almighty, creator of heaven and
earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;**

**he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the
Father, and he will come to judge
the living and the dead.**

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

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

**In this season of watching and waiting, let us pray for all people and places
that yearn for God's presence.**

You send messengers into the world to proclaim the day of your coming. Make our bishops, pastors, deacons, and lay preachers confident in their preaching, that their words and our lives witness to your grace. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Send your Spirit to all living creatures that are endangered. Provide them with shelter and care, and bring us into right relationship with the earth that you create and call good. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Send leaders to our nations, cities, schools, and businesses to work on behalf of those who have lost parents, spouses, and loved ones; immigrants; the imprisoned; those living in poverty; and all who are oppressed. Make them bold in their commitments to justice and reconciliation. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Send your servants to care for those who suffer. Use our ministries and our lives to reach out with compassion to those who are hungry, oppressed, lonely, or ill. Grant them healing and wholeness. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Send prophets to speak difficult truths, even when they are poorly received. Embolden those who ask hard questions and challenge accepted ways. Instill in youth and elders alike a passion for pointing to Jesus in all things. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We remember your saints, both those publicly celebrated and those more humbly remembered. Confident that your work will be completed, we live in faith until the day of your coming. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

For what else shall we pray for today?

We invite prayers from the congregation to be shared.

God of new life, you come among us in the places we least expect. Receive these prayers and those of our hearts, in the name of Jesus.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The congregation is invited to be seated.

The usher will now pass with the offering plate.

MUSIC

Janet Weber & David Conrad

The congregation is invited to stand as they are able to or feel comfortable.

OFFERING

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful *Offering Song*



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of
all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble
with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

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



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

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

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

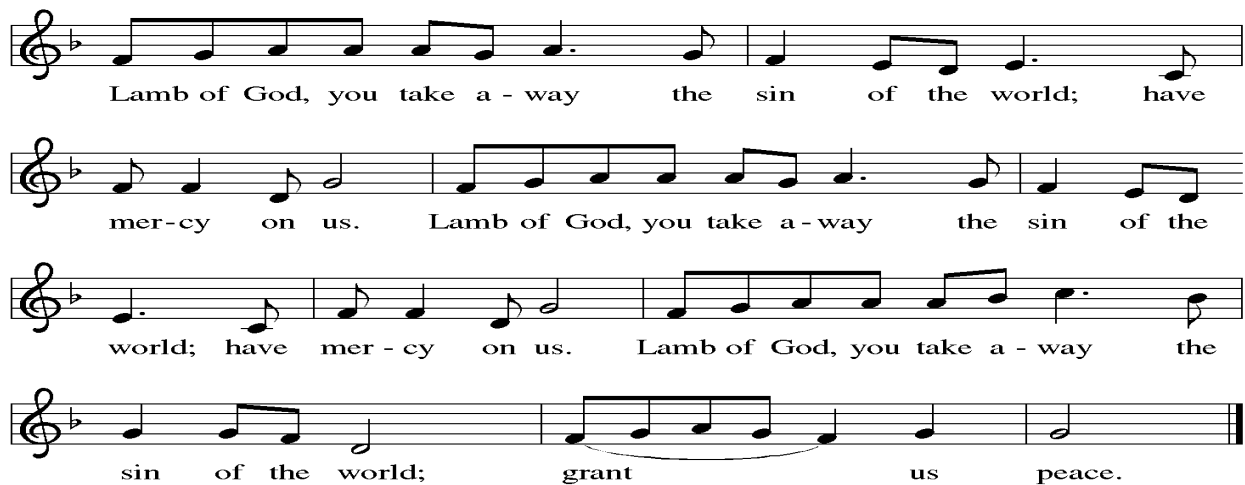
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
Amen.

COMMUNION SONG



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

The congregation is invited to stand as they are able to or feel comfortable.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

God for whom we wait, in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

SENDING OF COMMUNION

Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are *sick, homebound, and imprisoned*. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

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

Amen.

SENDING SONG

Fling Wide the Door



1 Fling wide the door, un - bar the gate; the King of glo - ry
2 He is the rock of our be - lief, the heart of mer - cy's
3 Oh, hap - py towns and bless - ed lands that live by their true
4 Come, Lord, our Sav - ior, Je - sus Christ; our hearts are o - pen



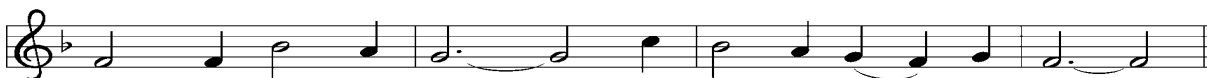
comes in state; the Lord of lords and King of kings, the
gen - tle self. His king - ly crown is ho - li - ness; his
king's com - mands. And bless - ed be the hearts he rules, the
wide in trust. Oh, show us now your love - ly grace, up -



Sav - ior of the world who brings his great sal - va - tion
scep - ter is his love - li - ness; he brings our sor - rows
hum - ble plac - es where he dwells. He is the right - ful
on our sor - rows shine your face, and let your Ho - ly



to the earth. So raise a shout of ho - ly mirth and
to an end. Now glad - ly praise our king and friend, and
Son of bliss who fills our lives and makes us his, cre -
Spir - it guide our jour - ney in your grace so wide. We



praise our God and Lord, Cre - a - tor, Spir - it, Word.
wor - ship him with song for sav - ing us from wrong.
a - tor of the world, our on - ly strength for good.
praise your ho - ly name, from age to age the same!

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Janet Weber



Please offer your prayers throughout the week for the following individuals:

For healing:

Paulette Hunnewell, Hugo Martinez, Thomas Foley, Gerald Rockwell, Zachery Bell, Colette Boudreaux, Javier Cruz, Jim Feederle, Sandra Ferrer, Jeanne Fouke, Georgina Rockwell, Dicksie Thompson, Gail Watson, Kat & Lee Nelson

For trust in your mercy:

Yvonne Pizzo, Arvik Rostamians, George Demas

For wholeness and wellbeing:

Jully Bender, Mo Costa, Mary Hohmann, Martha Murphy, Cecelia Ortega, Trinity Patlow and family

For strength and healing in fighting cancers:

Will Terry, Jaha Blackwell, Autumn Gates, Sam Gros, Debra Lande, Tim Pugh

For hopefulness and strength:

Michelle Cuzzo, Raphael Fetta, Herr Family, Martinez Family, Joshua McGrath & family, Donna Volger, Janet Weber & family, Vicky Anderson's family, the Salguero Family, Harlowe Skinner, Adam Zarookian

For all people in the military who are deployed or serving our country.

Virtual Memorial Candles are lit in memory of:

Frank Fetta, Samuel Eli Martinez, Jennifer Herr, Lenny Sabato, Paul Morris, Billie Hayes

As a reminder, this community is inclusive and welcomes all of Gods people. The rainbow candelabra located on the altar serves as a reminder of this community's inclusive and intentional welcome to the LGBTQ+ community.



HOLLYWOOD LUTHERAN CHURCH 100th Year,

We are a congregation of the Southwest California Synod Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Pastor Edgardo Ramirez

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Website: www.hollywoodlutheranchurch.net Youtube: HLCstudios

In Today's Liturgy

Pastor Pedro Zaragoza
Assisting Minister: Bill Richards
Lector: Tom Scott
Council President: Tom Scott
Sexton: Abilo Salguero

Flowers are given to the glory of God by: Bette Delfs Alburdis

*In memory of my parents Anna Louise & Ed Delfs,
sister Anita Delfs, and husband C.T. Alburdis.*

Special Dispensation

Pastor Edgardo Ramirez, as a candidate for ordained ministry in the ELCA, has been authorized by Bishop Brenda Bos of the Southwest California Synod, to preside at Holy Communion today.

Upcoming Calendar at a glance

Food Pantry Delivery on Mondays 8:00 am

Food Pantry Distribution on Wednesdays 10:00am-1:00pm

Mariposa Ministry January 15, 2022 (3rd Saturday of the month)

The HLC Food Pantry serves over 100 families a week. Please see Tom Scott for the next opportunity to lend your support or volunteer.

Mariposa Ministry is always accepting letter writing volunteers, any help would make a difference. Every 3rd Saturday of the month is when they all get together to write letters.

Please see David Conrad for details.