



Advent

Lutheran Church



Sunday, December 19, 2021
Fourth Sunday of Advent

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN

Come Now, O Prince of Peace

[ELW 247, vs.1-4]



O - so - sŏ o - so - sŏ, pyong - hwa - ũi - im - gŭm
1 Come now, O Prince of peace, make us one bod - y.
2 Come now, O God of love, make us one bod - y.
3 Come now and set us free, O God, our Sav - ior.
4 Come, Hope of u - ni - ty, make us one bod - y.



u - ri - ga han - mom i - ru - ge ha - so - sŏ.
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.

THANKSGIVING FOR LIGHT

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.

And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light.:

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all humankind.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. Jesus spoke again to the people, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light - for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true.

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

Jesus said, "Here's another way to put it: You're here to be light, bringing out the God-colors in the world. God is not a secret to be kept. We're going public with this, as public as a city on a hill. If I make you light-bearers, you don't think I'm going to hide you under a bucket, do you? I'm putting you on a light stand. Now that I've put you there on a hilltop, on a light stand - shine! Keep open house: be generous with your lives. By opening up to other, you'll prompt people to open up with God."

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who live in a land of deep darkness - on them light has shined.

Let us pray: Lord Jesus, may the light of Christ break into the darkness of our lives and bring us your hope, peace, joy, and love. Send us out with your light of hope, peace, joy, and love for the world. Amen.

HYMN

Come Now, O Prince of Peace

[ELW 247, vs. 4]



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HYMN

Light One Candle

[by Mark Patterson]



1 Light one can - dle for hope,
2 Light one can - dle for peace,
3 Light one can - dle for joy,
4 Light one can - dle for love,

hope that the whole world needs. Light one can-dle for hope,
 peace that the whole world needs. Light one can-dle for peace,
 joy that the whole world needs. Light one can-dle for joy,
 love that the whole world needs. Light one can-dle for love,

hope that the Sav-ior will bring; hope that the
 peace that the Sav-ior will bring; peace that the
 joy that the Sav-ior will bring; joy that the
 love that the Sav-ior will bring; love that the

Sav - ior will bring.
 Sav - ior will bring.
 Sav - ior will bring.
 Sav - ior will bring.

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

WORD

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

READING – Romans 15:11 - 13

'Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him'; and again Isaiah says,

'The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope.'

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

REFLECTION ON HOPE

WHAT HOPE MEANS TO ME

LIGHTING OF THE HOPE CANDLE

HYMN

Give Me Oil in My Lamp

Give me oil in my lamp, keep me burning,
Give me oil in my lamp, I pray
Give me oil in my lamp, keep me burning,
Keep me burning 'til the break of day

Sing hosanna, sing hosanna.
Sing hosanna to the King of kings.
Sing hosanna, sing hosanna.
Sing hosanna, to the King.

Give me hope in my heart, keep me yearning,
Give me hope in my heart, I pray
Give me hope in my heart, keep me yearning,
Keep me yearning 'til the end of day.

Sing hosanna, sing hosanna.
Sing hosanna to the King of kings.
Sing hosanna, sing hosanna.
Sing hosanna, to the King.

READING – Isaiah 9:6 - 7

*For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named
Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
His authority shall grow continually,
and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.
He will establish and uphold it*

*with justice and with righteousness
from this time onwards and for evermore.
The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.*

REFLECTION ON PEACE

WHAT PEACE MEANS TO ME

LIGHTING OF THE PEACE CANDLE

HYMN

Peace Like a River

I've got peace like a river,
I've got peace like a river,
I've got peace like a river in my soul.
I've got peace like a river,
I've got peace like a river,
I've got peace like a river in my soul.

I've got hope like the springtime,
I've got hope like the springtime,
I've got hope like the springtime in my soul.
I've got hope like the springtime,
I've got hope like the springtime,
I've got hope like the springtime in my soul.

READING – Luke 1:39 – 55

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 leapt 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 leapt for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.'

And Mary said,
'My soul magnifies the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,

for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant.

Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
for the Mighty One has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.

His mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.

He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.

He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,
and lifted up the lowly;

he has filled the hungry with good things,
and sent the rich away empty.

He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,
according to the promise he made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.'

REFLECTION ON JOY

WHAT JOY MEANS TO ME

LIGHTING OF THE JOY CANDLE

HYMN

I've Got the Joy

I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy
Down in my heart (where?)
Down in my heart (where?)
Down in my heart
I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy
Down in my heart (where?)
Down in my heart to stay

And I'm so happy, so very happy
I've got the love of Jesus in my heart
And I'm so happy, so very happy
I've got the love of Jesus in my heart!

I've got the peace that passes understanding,

Down in my heart,
Down in my heart,
Down in my heart;
I've got the peace that passes understanding,
Down in my heart,
Down in my heart to stay

And I'm so happy, so very happy
I've got the love of Jesus in my heart
And I'm so happy, so very happy
I've got the love of Jesus in my heart!

READING – Mathew 22:37 - 40

[Jesus] said to him, ' "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind." This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: "You shall love your neighbour as yourself." On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.'

REFLECTION ON LOVE

WHAT LOVE MEANS TO ME

LIGHTING OF THE LOVE CANDLE

HYMN

Love, Love, Love

Love, love, love!
That's what it's all about
Cuz God loves us we love each other
Mother, father, sister, brother
Everybody sing and shout!
Cuz that's what it's all about.
It's about love, love, love!
It's about love, love, love!

Joy, joy, joy!
That's what it's all about
Cuz God loves us we love each other

Mother, father, sister, brother
Everybody sing and shout!
Cuz that's what it's all about.
It's about joy, joy, joy!
It's about joy, joy, joy!

Peace, peace, peace!
That's what it's all about
Cuz God loves us we love each other
Mother, father, sister, brother
Everybody sing and shout!
Cuz that's what it's all about.
It's about peace, peace, peace!
It's about peace, peace, peace!

Hope, hope, hope!
That's what it's all about
Cuz God loves us we love each other

READING – Luke 2:7 - 19

And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

*In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,
'Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favours!'*

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph,

and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart.

REFLECTION ON CHRISTMAS

HYMN

I Am So Glad Each Christmas Eve

[ELW 271, vs. 1,2,3,5]



Jeg er så glad hver ju - le - kveld, ti da blev Je - sus født;
1 I am so glad each Christ-mas Eve, the night of Je - sus' birth!
2 The lit - tle child in Beth - le - hem, he was a king in - deed!
3 He dwells a - gain in heav - en's realm, the Son of God to - day;
4 I am so glad each Christ-mas Eve! His prais - es then I sing;
5 And so I love each Christ-mas Eve, and I love Je - sus too;



da lys - te stjer - nen som en sol, og eng - ler sang så sødt.
Then like the sun the star shone forth, and an - gels sang on earth.
For he came down from heav'n a - bove to help a world in need.
and still he loves his lit - tle ones and hears them when they pray.
he o - pens now for ev - 'ry child the pal - ace of the king.
and that he loves me ev - 'ry day I know so well is true.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Hear us, O God,

Your mercy is great.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

ANTHEM

All Is Well

arr. Earl Otte

Tom Mayfield and Colette Svanoe

OFFERTORY

We Are Awaiting the Coming



1 We are a - wait - ing the com - ing of Je - sus,
2 We are the vine you have plant - ed and tend - ed;
3 We bring these signs of our lives whol - ly giv - en;



yearn - ing in dark - ness for light and for peace,
we are the wheat you have wa - tered and sown.
let them for us be Christ's wine and Christ's bread



long - ing at last to re - jice on that
Take our first - fruits, take our bowed heads of
poured out in love for the heal - ing of



day when all peo - ple join in this feast.
grain, in - crease them and make them your own.
all and bro - ken that all may be fed.

COMMUNION GREETING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...

... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

COMMUNION PRAYER

Holy God, the Beginning and the End ...

... with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

Amen.

THE 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.

LAMB OF GOD



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, grant us peace.

NUNC DIMITTIS Lord God, Now Let Your Servant Depart in Peace @2011 Greg Scheer

Lord— God, now let your ser - vants de - part in peace; for our
 eyes have seen your sav - ing grace. A— light to the
 world and the light of life. seen in our Sav - ior's
 face. Al - le - lu - - - ia! Al - le - lu - - -
 ia! Al - le - lu - - - - - ia!

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BENEDICTION

HYMN Sing We Now of Jesus [Sing Christmas verse 2x]

Christmas: Sing we now of Je - sus, born on Christ-mas day.
Easter: Sing we now of Je - sus, ris'n on Eas - ter day.

Sing we now of Je - sus, born on bed of hay.
 Sing we now of Je - sus, ris'n from death's dark grave.

Lift up your voice, with all the world re - joice;
Lift up your voice, with all the world re - joice;

Em A Em
sing we now of Je - sus, born to light our way.
sing we now of Je - sus, ris'n the world to save.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. You are the light of Christ in the world.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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