

NEW BEGINNINGS LUTHERAN CHURCH

Fourth Sunday in Advent – December 22nd, 2024 (11:11 am)

PEACE IN THE MESS

Psalm 80:1-7
Micah 5:2-5a
Hebrews 10:5-10
Luke 1:39-45

The Lord Comes to Visit Us in Peace

The Fourth Sunday in Advent turns our attention toward the nativity of our Lord. With Mary, we await the coming of the Christ, her Son, conceived in her womb by the Spirit of God. As the Lord dealt graciously with her and did great things for her (Luke 1:48-49), so also He manifests Himself and His glory to us in mercy and gentleness. He comes to rule His people in peace, to “*shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD.*” He comes forth not from the great capital city of Rome or Jerusalem, but from lowly little Bethlehem (Micah 5:2, 4). He comes to sacrifice Himself, in fulfillment of His Father’s will, for the salvation and sanctification of His people (Heb. 10:10). He who once visited Elizabeth while hidden in the womb of Mary (Luke 1:39-45) now comes to visit us today, hidden in the lowliness of simple water, bread and wine.

WELCOME – (Ana)

GATHERING SONGS – JESUS MESSIAH

He became sin who knew no sin
That we might become His righteousness
He humbled Himself and carried the cross
Love so amazing love so amazing

Jesus Messiah Name above all names

Blessed Redeemer Emmanuel

The Rescue for sinners

The Ransom from heaven

Jesus Messiah Lord of all

His body the bread His blood the wine
Broken and poured out all for love
The whole earth trembled and the veil was torn
Love so amazing love so amazing

All our hope is in You

All our hope is in You

All the glory to You God

The Light of the world

Jesus Messiah

Lord of all

The Lord of all

The Lord of all

CCLI Song # 5183443

Chris Tomlin | Daniel Carson | Ed Cash | Jesse Reeves

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HARK THE HERALD ANGELS SING

1 Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic host proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

***Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"***

2 Christ, by highest heav'n adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold Him come,
Offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,
Hail the incarnate Deity!
Pleased as Man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Immanuel!

***Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"***

3 Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
Ris'n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by,
Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.

***Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"***

Source: [Musixmatch](#)
Songwriters: David Willcocks / Mendelssohn

AS WE BEGIN and CALLING ON GOD'S NAME (Pastor)

P – In the name of the FATHER, the SON, and the HOLY SPIRIT. Amen.

WE'LL LIGHT UP THE THIRD CANDLE OF ADVENT (Pastor and Larry)

*THE FOURTH CANDLE – **PEACE**: The fourth candle, lit on the fourth Sunday of Advent, reminds us that Jesus came as prince of peace. Yes, Jesus is the Prince of Peace. He reconciled us to God. In him, we have forgiveness of sins, and by forgiveness peace with God. Jesus said: **"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid."** (John 14:27).*

CANDLE'S SONG

Advent is a time to wait
Not quiet time to celebrate
Count the candles one by one
Until Advent time is done.
Day by day we work and play
To prepare for Christmas Day.

Alexandra Montano

PSALM 80:1-7 – Testimony. Of Asaph, a Psalm. (Pastor)

P – Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock.

C – **You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth.**

P – Before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh, stir up your might and come to save us!

C – **Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved!**

P – O LORD God of hosts, how long will you be angry with your people's prayers?

C – **You have fed them with the bread of tears and given them tears to drink in full measure.**

P – You make us an object of contention for our neighbors, and our enemies laugh among themselves.

TOGETHER – **Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved!**

CONFESSION OF SINS - *(said in unison)*

P - We have come together as God's family to worship Him and to hear His Word. We must acknowledge and confess, however, that we are in no way worthy in and of ourselves to stand before God, to speak to Him in prayer, to hear His Word. Let us confess, then, our own sinfulness before God, receive the assurance of His forgiveness, and then direct our hearts, minds and spirits to God and His Word.

(silence for personal reflection and confession)

P - O God of strength and joy and fullness, we come before You confess our sins:

C - **As Your sheep, O Lord, we acknowledge that we have often strayed from Your paths of righteousness. We have forsaken the true, the noble, the right, the pure, the excellent and praiseworthy things and have exchanged them for the false, deceitful, underhanded, and shameful things of this world. Amid abundance, we have been discontented. During temptation, we have neglected Your strength and been weak. Despite Your loving care, we have often been anxious and have doubted that You would supply all our needs. For these, our many transgressions and failures, forgive us, O Lord.**

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS (Pastor)

P - God has heard your prayer of confession. Before the words were even off your lips, God had acted. He sent His Son Jesus Christ, to suffer and to die for our failures and sins. Jesus has taken your falsehood, your deceit, your underhanded and shameful things with Him to the cross, has forgiven you, and has replaced those things with His goodness, His righteousness, His love and His grace. He gives you His joy in Jesus. He gives you His strength in Jesus. He gives you His peace in Jesus. Go in peace! Your sins are forgiven! In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.. Amen.

KID'S SONG -DO YOU HEAR WHAT I HEAR

Said the night wind to the little lamb
Do you see what I see (*Do you see what I see*)
Way up in the sky little lamb
Do you see what I see (*Do you see what I see*)

A star a star dancing in the night

With a tail as big as a kite

With a tail as big as a kite

Said the little lamb to the shepherd boy
Do you hear what I hear (*Do you hear what I hear*)
Ringing through the sky shepherd boy

Do you hear what I hear (*Do you hear what I hear*)

A song a song high above the trees

With a voice as big as the sea

With a voice as big as the sea

Said the shepherd boy to the mighty king

Do you know what I know (*Do you know what I know*)

In your palace warm mighty king

Do you know what I know (*Do you know what I know*)

A Child a Child shivers in the cold

Let us bring him silver and gold

Oh let us bring him silver and gold

Said the king to the people ev'rywhere

Listen to what I say (*Listen to what I say*)

Pray for peace people ev'rywhere

Listen to what I say (*Listen to what I say*)

The Child the Child sleeping in the night

He will bring us goodness and light

He will bring us goodness and light

CCLI Song # 75687

Gloria Adele Shain | Noel Regney

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KID'S MESSAGE – "GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD" (Puppets)

WORSHIP SONGS – O COME O COME EMMANUEL (VENI EMMANUEL)

O come O come Emmanuel

And ransom captive Israel

That mourns in lonely exile here

Until the Son of God appear

Rejoice rejoice Emmanuel

Shall come to thee O Israel

O come Thou Dayspring come and cheer

Our spirits by Thine advent here

Disperse the gloomy clouds of night

And death's dark shadows put to flight

O come Thou Wisdom from on high

And order all things far and nigh

To us the path of knowledge show

And cause us in her ways to go

O come Desire of nations bind
All peoples in one heart and mind
Bid envy strife and quarrels cease
Fill the whole world with heaven's peace

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John Mason Neale | Thomas Helmore
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READING OF THE MICAH 5:2-5a - (Laverne)

**But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah,
who are too little to be among the clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to be ruler in Israel,
whose coming forth is from of old,
from ancient days.**

**³Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labor has given birth;
then the rest of his brothers shall return
to the people of Israel.**

**⁴And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD,
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.
And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great
to the ends of the earth.**

⁵And he shall be their peace.

READING OF THE EPISTLE OF HEBREWS 10:5-10 - (Laverne)

⁵Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body have you prepared for me; ⁶in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure.

⁷Then I said, 'Behold, I have come to do your will, O God, as it is written of me in the scroll of the book.'"

⁸When 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), ⁹then he added, "Behold, I have come to do your will." He does away with the first in order to establish the second. ¹⁰And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

READING OF THE GOSPEL LUKE 1:39-45 - (Laverne)

³⁹In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, ⁴⁰and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, ⁴²and she exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! ⁴³And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? ⁴⁴For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord."

WORSHIP SONGS – I WAIT

O restless heart do not grow weary
Hold on to faith and wait
The God of love He will not tarry
No He is never late

So I wait in the promise I wait in the hope

Yes I wait in the power of God's unending love

Be still and rest secure my soul
He knows what's best for me
Here in my patience lies the goal
To wait and trust in Thee

Oh oh oh oh

Even through my imperfections
His light is shining through
Though dim I am still a reflection
Of His mercy and His truth

CCLI Song # 7062639

David Leonard | Leslie Jordan | Thomas Jordan

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MESSAGE – "PEACE IN THE MESS" – Luke 1:39-45

CAROL – O HOLY NIGHT (Rhondda)

Holy night! The stars are brightly shining
It is the night of our dear Savior's birth
Long lay the world in sin and error pinning
'Til He appeared and the soul felt its worth

**A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn
Fall on your knees; O hear the Angel voices!
The night divine, The night when Christ was born
O night, O Holy night, O night divine!**

**Truly He taught us to love one another;
His law is love and His Gospel is Peace
Chains shall He break, for the slave is our brother
And in His name, all oppression shall cease
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we
Let all within us Praise His Holy name
Christ is the Lord; O praise His name forever!
His power and glory evermore proclaim
His power and glory evermore proclaim**

This favorite carol was first composed in 1847 by Adolphe Adam in French.
These English lyrics were translated and rewritten in 1855 by John Sullivan Dwight.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH (Prayer)

LORD'S PRAYER *(tune: It Came Upon The Midnight Clear)*

**Our Father, who in heav'n above, We praise your hallowed name.
Your kingdom come, Your will be done, In heav'n, on earth the same.
Give us this day our daily bread, Our food, our health, our friends.
Provide, protect, and nourish us, Each day till this life ends.
Forgive us all our sins, O Lord, This is our heartfelt prayer,
For those who sin against us, may we Your grace now freely share.
And lead us no longer into sin, From evil keep us free.
Yours is the kingdom, glory, pow'r Now till eternity.**

BENEDICTION *(tune: Joy to the World)*

P – The good Lord bless and keep you
Lift up His shining face
With joy look upon you,
And peace overshadow you
And fill you with His grace,
And fill you with His grace,
And fill you, fill you with His grace!

C – The good Lord bless and keep US
Lift up His shining face
With joy look upon US,

**And peace overshadow US
And fill US with His grace,
And fill US with His grace,
And fill US, fill US with His grace!**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CLOSING SONGS – CHRISTMAS DAY

Joy to the world
On a night like no other
Emmanuel
God is with us
 Beggars and kings
 Let us come and adore Him
 Rest in His peace
 And bow before Him

**Sing all you people
The Lord almighty reigns
Sing ev'ry creature of God
Come bless His name
For He is good for He is good
He was born to conquer the grave
Light of the world**

The reason for Christmas Day
 Stars we have seen
 Over deserts and oceans
 The darkness was deep
 But never hopeless
 Redemption came
 And His name is Jesus

*From the mountains
We will shout it out
For the Lord our God almighty reigns
He is with us
He is with us now
For the Lord our God almighty reigns
 Light of the world
 The reason for Christmas Day*

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Andrew Bergthold | Ed Cash | Franni Cash | Martin Cash | Scott Cash

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