



The Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 24, 2023
Peace Lutheran Church
Hutchinson, MN

Bulletin for 9:00am

WELCOME

HYMN 384 (Maroon): Of the Father's Love Begotten

INVOCATION - In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH 9:00 Kobow family

On this fourth week of Advent, we light the candle of love. How great is the love the Father has lavished upon us! This is how God showed his love: He sent his one and only Son into the world as a baby born in Bethlehem.

See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. (1 John 3:1)

...Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself. (Luke 10:27)

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16)

We light this candle in love, the love of our coming Savior, Jesus.

(Light all four Advent Candles)

Come, Lord Jesus. **Come and bring us love.**

**We Sing: 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 you, O Israel!**



CONFESSION

God of all mercy and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ:

We admit that we have become impatient with ourselves, each other, and sometimes with You. We have turned to our own way and have gone astray from Your will. Lost in sin and needing to become strong and courageous, we ask you, O Lord, to forgive our sin, cleanse our hearts, and keep us patiently waiting for the promised coming of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Believe and receive the good news! God sent his Son, the Babe of Bethlehem, to show His infinite love and forgiveness for all people. Your sins are forgiven in the holy name of Christ, who came indeed, and will come again. **Amen.**

SONG: ADVENT KYRIE

Lord, have mercy upon us. Come, Lord Jesus, come.

Lord, have mercy upon us. Come, Lord Jesus, come.

Gracious God and Savior. Come, Lord Jesus, come.

Come, restore, renew us. Come, Lord Jesus, come.

Lord, have mercy upon us. Come, Lord Jesus, come.

Lord, have mercy upon us. Come, Lord Jesus, come.



OLD TESTAMENT READING: 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

Now when the king lived in his house and the LORD had given him rest from all his surrounding enemies, ² the king said to Nathan the prophet, "See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells in a tent." ³ And Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that is in your heart, for the LORD is with you." ⁴ But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan, ⁵ "Go and tell my servant David, 'Thus says the LORD: Would you build me a house to dwell in?' ⁶ 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. ⁷ In all places where I have moved with all the people of Israel, did I speak a word with any of the judges^[a] of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?"' ⁸ 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^[b] over my people Israel. ⁹ 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. ¹⁰ 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, ¹¹ 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. ¹⁶ And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever.'" (ESV)

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE LESSON: Romans 16:25-27

²⁵ 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 ²⁶ 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— ²⁷ to the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ! Amen. (ESV)

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

6:30pm & 8:30am GOSPEL ACCLAMATION, HYMN G701 (Green): Advent of a New Creation

**Like children gazing 'neath the tree, at presents wrapped so wondrously,
We ask with hope, "What could it be; this gift of God for you and me?"
We welcome with anticipation, the advent of a new creation.**

**▲ Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host: Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.
We welcome with anticipation, The advent of a new creation.**

GOSPEL READING: Luke 1: 26-38

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 1st chapter. **Glory to You, O Lord.**

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

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

³⁵ 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. ³⁶ 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. ³⁷ For nothing will be impossible with God." ³⁸ 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.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ.**

THE 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.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

"Who Is Jesus? Where Is Jesus?"

HYMN 358 (Maroon): From Heaven Above to Earth I Come, Verses 1, 2 and 7

SERMON "Nothing Is Impossible With God" (Luke 1:26-38) Pastor Meyer

SERMON HYMN: O For a Faith that Will Not Shrink -- PRINTED ON PAGE 5

PRESENTATION OF OFFERINGS

Please sign the friendship pad in the pew and pass it along to others. As it is passed back to the center aisle, please take the opportunity to note the names of others seated in your pew.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH & THE LORD'S PRAYER

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

AGNUS DEI (Lamb of God), page 198

HYMN 392 (Maroon): God Loves Me Dearly

HYMN 374 (Maroon): Gentle Mary Laid Her Child

BENEDICTION

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. **Amen.**

HYMN 379 (Maroon): O Come Let Us Adore Him, verse 1

**O come all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem
Come and behold Him, Born the king of angels
O come let us adore Him, O come let us adore Him,
O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.**



Oh, for a Faith that Will Not Shrink

396

Luke 17: 5

William H. Bathurst, 1831, alt.

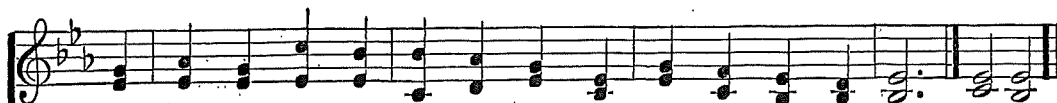
C. M.

St. Peter

Alexander R. Reinagle, 1836



- 1 Oh, for a faith that will not shrink Tho' pressed by man-y a foe;
- 2 That will not mur-mur nor com-plain Be - neath the chas-t'ning rod,
- 3 A faith that shines more bright and clear When tempests rage with-out;
- 4 That bears unmoved the world's dread frown Nor heeds its scorn-ful smile;



That will not trem-ble on the brink Of pov-er - ty or woe;
But in the hour of grief or pain Can lean up-on its God;
That, when in dan-ger, knows no fear, In dark-ness feels no doubt;
That sin's wild o - cean can-not drown Nor Sa-tan's arts be-guile; A-men.



- 5 A faith that keeps the narrow way
Till life's last spark is fled
And with a pure and heavenly ray
Lights up the dying bed.

- 6 Lord, give us such a faith as this;
And then, whate'er may come,
We'll taste e'en now the hallowed bliss
Of an eternal home.



CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

*Sunday, Dec. 24 services: 9:00am worship (Sanctuary), Fourth Sunday of Advent

No Sunday School or Adult Bible Study

*Dec. 24th Christmas Eve Candlelight Services at 3:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm.

*Christmas Day, December 25 at 9:00am

*Communion at all Christmas Eve and Day services

December 27 – No classes or activities.

December 30-31: Normal worship times.

6:30pm, 8:30am, 10:30am (communion at all)

No Sunday School or Adult Bible Study

January 3 – Normal Wednesday Schedule

11:45am Lunch and Bible Study resumes

Release time, Confirmation and Tiger Tweens resume.

January 6-7, Epiphany – Normal worship and Bible Study times

Sunday School Sings at 10:30am