

FAITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Order of Service

Fourth Sunday in Advent

December 22, 2024

Divine Service 3

(LSB – Page 184)

361 O Little Town of Bethlehem

1 O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting light;
the hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.

361 O Little Town of Bethlehem

2 For Christ is born of Mary;
and, gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wond'ring love.
O morning stars, together
proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the King,
and peace to men on earth.

361 O Little Town of Bethlehem

3 How silently, how silently,
 the wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts
 the blessings of His heav'n.
No ear may hear His coming,
 but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive Him still,
 the dear Christ enters in.

361 O Little Town of Bethlehem

4 O holy Child of Bethlehem,
descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin and enter in;
be born in us today.

We hear the Christmas angels,
the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
our Lord Emmanuel!

Confession and Absolution

P In the name of the Father and of the T Son
and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near
with a true heart and confess our sins unto
God our Father, beseeching him in the
name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us
forgiveness.

Confession and Absolution

P Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto
the Lord,

C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Confession and Absolution

P Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed.

Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C **O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of**

Confession and Absolution

all our sins; and by your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

P Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only

Confession and Absolution

Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved, Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

C Amen.

Psalm 80: 1-7 (read responsively)

¹Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel,
you who lead Joseph like a flock!
You who are enthroned upon the
cherubim, shine forth.

²**Before Ephraim and Benjamin and
Manasseh,
stir up your might
and come to save us!**

³Restore us, O God;
let your face shine, that we may be saved!

Psalm 80: 1-7 (read responsively)

⁴O LORD God of hosts,

**how long will you be angry with your
people's prayers?**

**⁵You have fed them with the bread of tears
and given them tears to drink in full
measure.**

**⁶You make us an object of contention for our
neighbors,**

**and our enemies laugh among
themselves.**

Psalm 80: 1-7 (read responsively)

⁷Restore us, O God of hosts;

let your face shine, that we may be saved!

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end.**

Amen

Kyrie

**C Lord, have mercy upon us.
 Christ, have mercy upon us.
 Lord, have mercy upon us.**

Gloria in Excelsis (Hymn 357 v1 and 5)

1 O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.

Refrain:

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.

Gloria in Excelsis (Hymn 357 v1 and 5)

5 O come, Thou Key of David, come,
 And open wide our heav'nly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
 And close the path to misery.

Refrain:

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
 Shall come to thee, O Israel!

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And with thy spirit.**

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.**

Old Testament Micah 5: 2-5

² 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 origin 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

Old Testament Micah 5: 2-5

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.

Old Testament Micah 5: 2-5

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

P Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion. Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem. Behold, your King is coming to you, righteous and having salvation.

C **Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

Epistle Reading – Hebrews 5: 5-10

⁵When 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.’”

Epistle Reading – Hebrews 5: 5-10

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 abolishes 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.

Epistle Reading – Hebrews 10: 5-10

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia & Verse

C Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Holy Gospel

**P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke,
the 1st chapter**

C Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

Holy Gospel – Luke 1: 39-45

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

Holy Gospel – Luke 1: 39-45

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.”

Holy Gospel – Luke 1: 39-45

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise be to You, O Christ.**

Apostles' Creed

**C 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.**

Apostles' Creed

**C 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.**

Apostles' Creed

**C 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.

547 The Lamb

1 The Lamb, the Lamb,
O Father, where's the sacrifice?
Faith sees, believes
God will provide the Lamb of price!

Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes
me His own!

The Lamb is reigning on His throne!

547 The Lamb

2 The Lamb, the Lamb,
 One perfect final offering.
The Lamb, the Lamb,
 Let earth join heav'n His praise to
 sing.

Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes
me His own!

The Lamb is reigning on His throne!

547 The Lamb

3 The Lamb, the Lamb,
As wayward sheep their shepherd kill
So still, His will
On our behalf the Law to fill.

Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes
me His own!

The Lamb is reigning on His throne!

547 The Lamb

4 He sighs, He dies,
He takes my sin and wretchedness.
He lives, forgives,
He gives me His own righteousness.

Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes
me His own!

The Lamb is reigning on His throne!

547 The Lamb

5 He rose, He rose,
My heart with thanks now overflows.
His song prolong
Till ev'ry heart to Him belong.

Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes
me His own!

The Lamb is reigning on His throne!

Sermon

Offertory and Offering

**C Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from thy presence,
and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation,
and uphold me with thy free spirit.
Amen.**

Prayer of the Church

Lord's Prayer

**C 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**

Lord's Prayer

C **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.**

Salutation and Benedicamus

A The Lord be with you.

C **And with thy spirit.**

A Bless we the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make His face shine upon
 you and be gracious unto you.
 The Lord lift up His countenance upon
 you and T give you peace.

C **Amen, amen, amen.**

356 The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came

- 1 The angel Gabriel from heaven came,
With wings as drifted snow, with eyes
as flame:
"All hail to thee, O lowly maiden Mary,
Most highly favored lady." Gloria!

356 The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came

- 2 "For know a blessed mother thou shalt
be,
 All generations laud and honor thee;
Thy son shall be Emmanuel, by seers
foretold,
 Most highly favored lady." Gloria!

356 The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came

3 Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head;

"To me be as it pleaseth God," she said.
"My soul shall laud and magnify God's
holy name."

Most highly favored lady, Gloria!

356 The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came

- 4 Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born
 In Bethlehem all on a Christmas morn,
 And Christian folk throughout the world
 will ever say:
 "Most highly favored lady." Gloria!