

Welcome to Glory Lutheran Church



Greetings, favored one!
**The Lord is
with you**

LUKE 1:28

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 24, 2023

Reaching Up... Reaching Out... Reaching In...

Gathering Song - Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel

sing verses 1-4

1 Oh, come, oh, come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
2 Oh, come, oh, come, great Lord of might, who to your tribes on
3 Oh, come, strong Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's
4 Oh, come, blest Day - spring, come and cheer our spir - its by your
5 Oh, come, O Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen wide our

Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
Si - nai's height in an - cient times once gave the law
tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save
ad - vent here; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night,
heav'n - ly home; make safe the way that leads on high,

un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!
and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.
and death's dark shad - ows put to flight.
and close the path to mis - er - y.

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

Confession & Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the pastor begins.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
who opens the heavens
and draws near to us with salvation.

C: **Amen.**

P: God is patient and merciful,
desiring all to come to repentance.
Trusting this promise of grace, let us confess our sin.

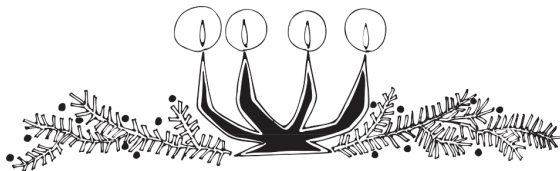
Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Everlasting God,

C: **you love justice and you hate wrongdoing.
We confess the fear, greed, and self-centeredness
that make us reluctant to work against oppression.
We are complicit in systems of exploitation.
We choose comfort over courage.
We are careless with creation's bounty.
Look upon us with mercy.
Turn our hearts again to you.
Make us glad to do your will and to walk in your ways
for the sake of our waiting world.
Amen.**

P: Hear these words of assurance:
God clothes you with garments of salvation
and covers you with robes of righteousness.
In the tender compassion of + Jesus Christ,
your sins are forgiven.
God's covenant is eternal,
and God's blessing rests upon us all.

C: **Amen.**



FOURTH WEEK IN ADVENT

Christ, Be Our Light!

Arranged by Joel Raney

A Candle Lighting Ceremony for Advent

Congregation sings:



4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for



warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,



shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.

Refrain



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957

Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell

Text and music © 1993 Bernadette Farrell. Published by OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213.

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L: Advent is a time to bind up the broken hearted.

C: Come Lord, and make all things new.

L: For past wrongs that prevent us from moving forward:

C: Come, Lord, and make all things new.

L: For any bitterness that scratches our soul:

C: Come, Lord, and make all things new.

L: For relationships left in decay and neglect:

C: Come, Lord, and make all things new.

...continued from previous page

L: For any action that has wounded us or by which we have wounded others:

C: Grant that we might have the peace of Christ as we wait, the love of Christ as we act, and the grace of Christ as we speak.

Candle Lighting

L: This morning we light four candles. The first candle is the light of hope for those in times of waiting. The second candle is the light of hope for those who are wearied by the circumstances of life. The third candle is the light of hope for those eagerly watching for God's promised glory. The fourth candle is the light of hope for those who carry the wounds of life. Today we acknowledge our pain and the pain we have caused others. As the light shines, we turn to the Savior who came to rescue the lost, to help the hurting, and to bind up the broken.

All repeat: Christ Be Our Light! refrain

Closing Prayer

L: Merciful God, Advent reminds us that you left heaven's majesty to walk among wounded people in a broken world. We thank you that your love knows no boundaries or limitations. No wound of this earth is greater than the wounds you came to heal. For all who suffer this day, light the way, O Lord, towards the promise of healing and wholeness made known in you.

C: Amen.

Advent texts by Rev. Rich Davis, Senior Pastor, First Presbyterian Church, River Forest, IL

Greeting

Sharing of the Peace

Please take time to say "Peace be with you" as directed.

Ready My Heart

Ready my heart for the birth of Immanuel;
ready my heart for the Prince of Peace.
Heap the straw of my life for His body to lie on;
light the candle of hope, let the Child come in.

Chorus

Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, Christ the Saviour is born.

Mine is the home that is poor and is barren;
mine is the stable of cold and stone.
Break the light to each corner of doubt and of darkness;
now the Word is made flesh for the birth of me.

Chorus (2x)

Lois Farley Shuford, Arr. Schwartz/Ichyshyn © 1976, Lois Farley Shuford CCLI 2540115

Children's Time

Sunday School Note

*There is generally no Sunday School on holiday breaks.
The Baby Room and the Toddler Nook
are available to use if you wish.
There are also children's activity folders for
different age groups in the Narthex
and children's bulletins at the entrance to the sanctuary.*

First Lesson: 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

L: Word of God, Word of Life. C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm - The Magnificat - Luke 1:46b-55

All:

Music by Marty Haugan

1.3. My — soul pro - claims your
2. You have cast the might - y

great-ness, O God, and my spir - it re-joic - es in
down from their thrones, and up lift - ed the hum - ble of

...continued from previous page.



you, You have looked with love on your
heart, You have filled the hun - gry with



ser - vant here, and blessed me all my life through.
won - drous things, and left the wealth - y no part.



Great and might - y are you, O Ho - ly One,
Great and might - y are you, O Faith - ful One,



strong is your kind - ness ev - er - more.
strong is your jus - tice strong your love,



How you fa - vor the weak and low - ly one,
As you prom - ised to Sar - ah and A - bra - ham,



hum - bling the proud of heart.
kind - ness for - ev - er - more.

Second Lesson: Romans 16:25-27

L: Word of God, Word of Life. C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker

Music © 1985 Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker, admin. OCP Publications

Gospel Lesson: Luke 1:26-38

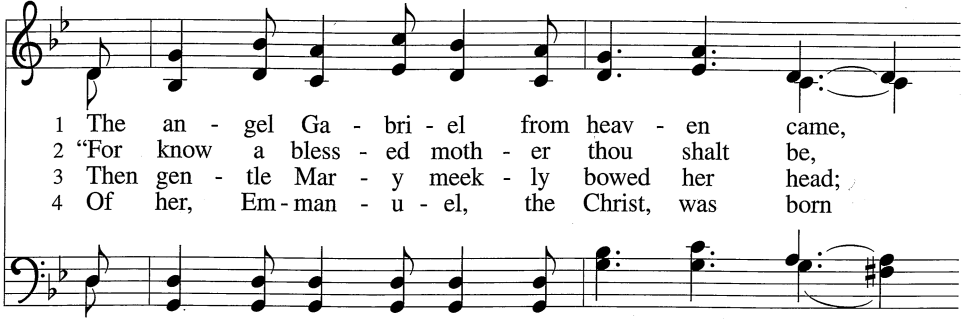
C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: The Gospel of the Lord. C: Praise to you, O Christ.

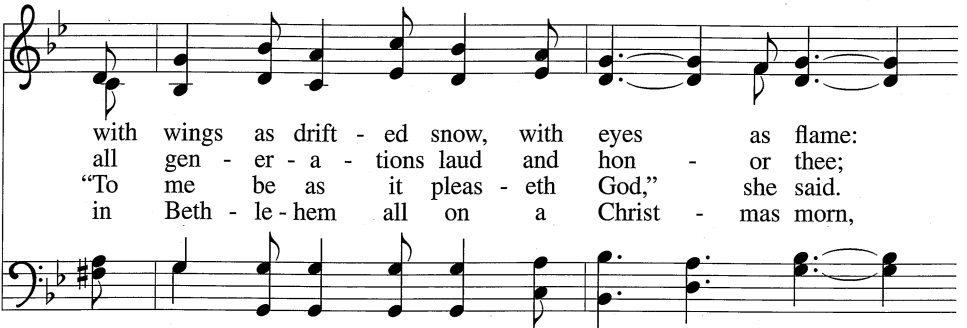
SERMON

Hymn of the Day - The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came

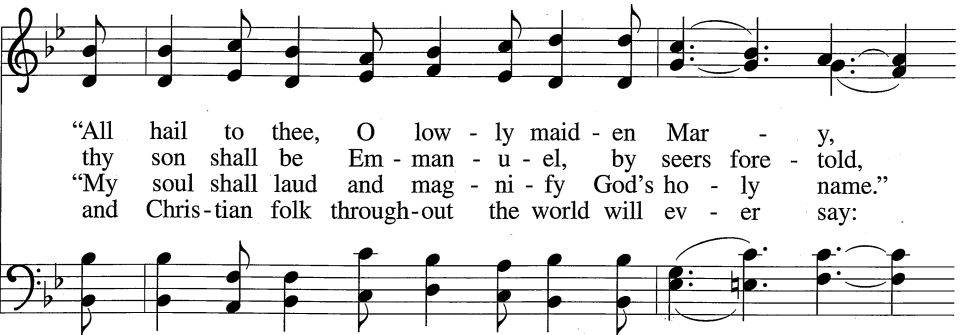
sing verses 1-3



1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from heav - en came,
2 "For know a bless - ed moth - er thou shalt be,
3 Then gen - tle Mar - y meek - ly bowed her head;
4 Of her, Em - man - u - el, the Christ, was born



with wings as drift - ed snow, with eyes as flame:
all gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee;
"To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said.
in Beth - le - hem all on a Christ - mas morn,



"All hail to thee, O low - ly maid - en Mar - y,
thy son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,
"My soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy God's ho - ly name."
and Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say:

...continued from previous page.

The image shows a musical score for a vocal part. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass line is in the bass staff. The lyrics are written below the treble staff. The lyrics are: "most high - ly fa - vored la - dy." "most high - ly fa - vored la - dy." "Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," "Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy." The word "Glo - ri - a!" is written below the treble staff, starting with a long note that spans across the end of the line. The music features various note values, including quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, as well as rests and ties.

Text: Basque carol; para. Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834–1924
Music: Basque carol; arr. C. Edgar Pettman, 1865–1943, and John Wickham
Arr. © 1955, 1983 E.H. Freeman, Ltd, admin. Glenwood Music Corp.

Confession of Faith - Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation

**he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;**

**he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Offering

As you leave, you may place your offering onto the plate located at the back of the church or use the online options available on our website.

Offertory Prayer

God our provider, by your merciful hand abundance springs up from the earth. Receive and bless these gifts of your own bounty. Let them be a sign of your steadfast love and faithfulness for all people, through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

Prayers

Prayer Response: P: Merciful God, C: receive our prayer.

The Lord's Prayer

**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**

BLESSING / Announcements

Sending Song - Joy to the World

sing verses 1-3

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their
 3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the

ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -

room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
 plains re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
 flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

and heav'n and na - ture sing, and

sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing,
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heav'n and na - ture sing,

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748
 Music: ANTIOCH, English melody, 18th cent.; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

DISMISSAL

Thank You

to those who made contributions to this week's bulletin and to members who assisted in today's service.

Worship Planners, Altar Guild, Choir, Musicians, AV Techs, Greeters:

The Spain and Cosgrove Families

Usher:

Rose Schlegl

Acolyte:

Amalia Kalerantes

Advent Candle Lighting:

The Cosgrove Family

Reader:

Stephanie Cosgrove

Coffee Setup/Cleanup:

Rita Spain

Counters:

Sandy Heinsen,

Rose Schlegl

Lock-up:

Lynn Spain

To volunteer, please sign up [online](#) or on the easel in the Narthex.

Events This Week:

No Praise Band, Confirmation, or Choir This Week

Attendance & Offering:

	Online	In-Person	Offering
December 17, 2023	27	145	\$12,559.15

Next Sunday's Readings:

Isaiah 61:10—62:3; Psalm 148; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:22-40

The service this morning will be both recorded and live streamed.

This can be accessed on our website, glorylutheran.ca.

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