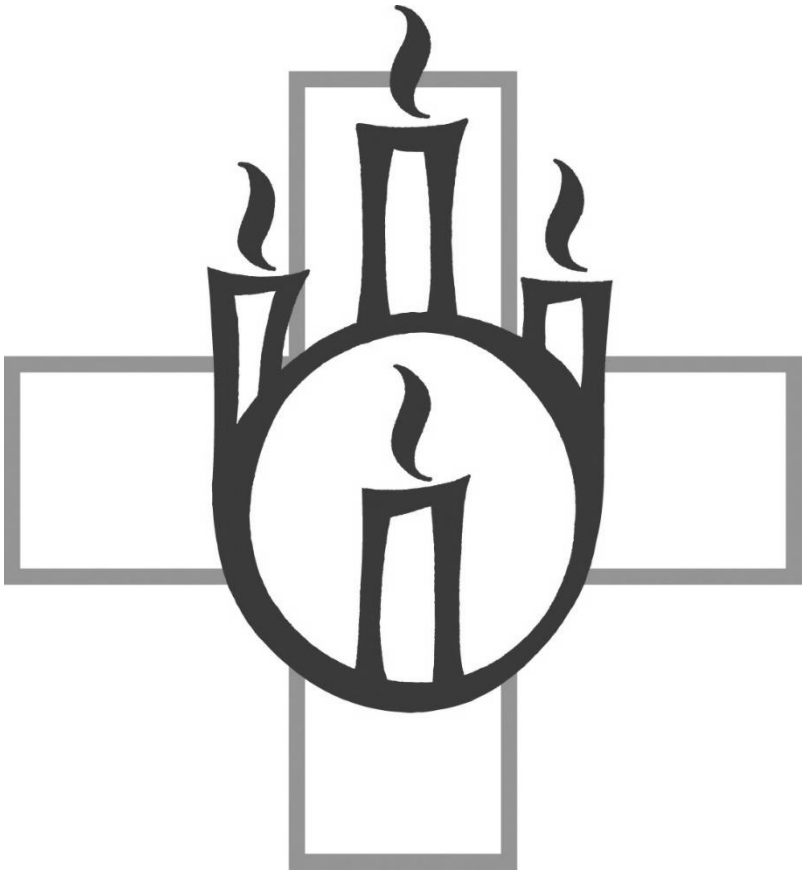


The Lutheran Church of the Savior

A Community of Faith: *Centered in Christ – Called to Serve*



Order of Worship

December 18, 2022 10:45 AM

The Lutheran Church of the Savior

426 Davis Road - Bedford, MA 01730

church@lcsavior.org

781-275-6013

<https://www.lcsavior.org>

Introit

Isaiah 64:1; Psalm 130:5-8

Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down,
that the mountains might quake at your presence.

I wait for the LORD, my soul waits,
and in his word I hope;

my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning,
more than watchmen for the morning.

O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love,
and with him is plentiful redemption.

And he will redeem Israel
from all his iniquities.

Communion Theology and Practice

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper is intended for those:

- who have been baptized in the name of the Triune God,
- who have faith in Jesus Christ as God the Son in the flesh and their personal Savior from sin, death, and the devil;
- who believe that they have sin that needs forgiving, hurt that needs healing, and faith that needs strengthening;
- who are committed to amending their sinful ways; and
- who believe that in, with, and under the bread and wine they receive the true body and blood of the risen Christ, together with the forgiveness of all their sins.

Fourth Sunday in Advent

Welcome

Divine Service

Invocation

L This is the day the Lord has made;

C **Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

Psalm 118:24

L Confident of the Lord's presence with us here in His house, we make our beginning in His powerful name; in the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 28:19

C **Amen.**

Opening Song *Make Way For The King*

LeBlanc

Verse 1, Verse 2, Chorus, Verse 3, Chorus, Bridge, Verse 4

Verse 1

His robe was dipped in blood,
Spilled for the souls of men;
For the one who says there is no God,
Let him come, let him come and behold the Lord.

Verse 2

He gives the weak and poor
The key the Heaven's door;
Some day when He returns
He will dry every tear for every eye.

Chorus

So make way for the King
In all of His Glory;
Make way for the King,
High and lifted up;
O, make way, make way for the King;
Make way, make way for the King.

continued on next page

Verse 3

His hands and feet were scarred,
All from a wounded heart;
And the light of His great love will shine,
And the dark of the night will become the day.

Chorus

So make way for the King
In all of His Glory;
Make way for the King,
High and lifted up;
O, make way, make way for the King;
Make way, make way for the King.
Make way, make way for the King.
Make way, make way for the King.

Bridge

Come and save us, Hosannah Lord.
Come and save us, Hosannah Lord.
Come and save us, Hosannah Lord.
Hosannah in the highest.
Hosannah in the highest.
Hosannah in the highest
Blessed Jesus is He.

Verse 4

His robe was dipped in blood,
Spilled for the souls of men;
For the one who says there is no God,
Let him come, let him come and behold the Lord.

Prayer of Confession

- L** Holy Lord, as we stand in your presence, we are aware of our sins of thought, word, and action.
- C** **We have not always lived our lives according to your will.**
- L** We have often failed to live up to your expectations.
- C** **We all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.**
- L** But we know your promise, that if we confess our sins,
- C** **you will hear our cry, and grant us your forgiveness.**

Silence for confession and reflection

L Hear us now, O Lord, as we confess our failings to you...

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

L Jesus has carried our sins to His own death. His sacrifice is complete and full – it is finished!

Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

Psalm

Psalm 24

Spoken responsively, whole verse by whole verse

¹The earth is the LORD's and the fullness thereof,
the world and those who dwell therein,

**²for he has founded it upon the seas
and established it upon the rivers.**

³Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD?
And who shall stand in his holy place?

**⁴He who has clean hands and a pure heart,
who does not lift up his soul to what is false
and does not swear deceitfully.**

⁵He will receive blessing from the LORD
and righteousness from the God of his salvation.

**⁶Such is the generation of those who seek him,
who seek the face of the God of Jacob.**

⁷Lift up your heads, O gates!
And be lifted up, O ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.

**⁸Who is this King of glory?
The LORD, strong and mighty,
the LORD, mighty in battle!**

⁹Lift up your heads, O gates!
And lift them up, O ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.

**¹⁰Who is this King of glory?
The LORD of hosts,
he is the King of glory!**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Prayer

L 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 Reading

Isaiah 7:10–17

¹⁰Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, ¹¹“Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” ¹²But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test.” ¹³And he said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. ¹⁵He shall eat curds and honey when he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. ¹⁶For before the boy knows how to refuse the evil

and choose the good, the land whose two kings you dread will be deserted. ¹⁷The LORD will bring upon you and upon your people and upon your father's house such days as have not come since the day that Ephraim departed from Judah—the king of Assyria.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

Romans 1:1–7

¹Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, ²which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, ³concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh ⁴and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, ⁵through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations, ⁶including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

⁷To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel

Matthew 1:18–25

L The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the first chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus,

for he will save his people from their sins.” ²²All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

²³“Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall call his name Immanuel”

(which means, God with us). ²⁴When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, ²⁵but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

L This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise 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.
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.**



Sermon Song

All Heaven Declares

Richards, Richards

Verse 1, Verse 2, Verse 1, Tag



All heav'n de - clares the com-ing of the
I will pro - claim the com-ing of the



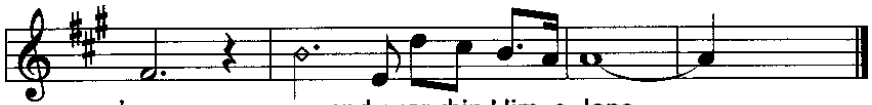
new born King; Who can com - pare with the beau - ty
new born King; Who once was slain to rec - con - cile _



of the Lord? For - ev - er He will be
man to God. For - ev - er You will be



the Lamb up - on the throne; I glad - ly bow the
the Lamb up - on the throne; I glad - ly bow the



knee and wor - ship Him a - lone,
knee and wor - ship You a - lone,

Sermon

"God's Presence"

Matthew 1:18-25



Prayers of the Church Family and the Lord's Prayer

- L** Lord God, You promised the virgin-born Son to reluctant King Ahaz, and in the fullness of time the Word became flesh. Open our hearts and strengthen our faith gladly to receive Your Son in the signs where He is present: not in signs of our own choosing, but in the Holy Word and Sacraments.

Response after each petition

L Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

- L** Lord God, heavenly Father, we give You thanks for Your Son, Jesus Christ, who is truly Lord and ruler of the house of Israel. With the Holy Spirit, You spoke to Moses out of the burning bush and gave the law in terror to test Your ancient people, that the fear of You would be before them. As Moses stretched out his arm at Your Word to bring Israel out of bondage, and as he stood in the breach against Your wrath, so You have given Christ to redeem us with His arms outstretched on the wood of the cross. Grant that, as we recall with thanksgiving His advent in the flesh, we may always confess Him and remain watchful for His advent in glory at the Last Day; for You live and reign, ever one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

- L** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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 who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

L **For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.**

Benediction

L Let us bless the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

L The Lord bless us and keep us.

The Lord make His face shine on us and be gracious to us.

The Lord look upon us with favor and give us peace.

C **Amen.**



Closing Song

Jesus Messiah

Tomlin, Carson, Cash, Reeves, Cole

Christmas lyrics by Mark Cole

Verse 1, Chorus, Verse 2, Chorus, Bridge, Chorus

1 He came as a Child, Who knew no sin; God's
 2 This Child was a gift, the price for sin; A

Son was sent down, all for love. He
 gift sent from God, all for love. The

hum-bled Him - self, the Light of the world.
 an - gels sang, 'God's peace on earth.'

— Loveso a - maz - ing, — loveso a - maz - ing.

continued on next page

§ CHORUS

Je-sus, Mes-si - ah; Name a-bove all names;

Bless-ed Re-deem - er; Em-man - u - el.

The res-cue for sin - ners, the ran-som from heav - en;

Je-sus, Mes-si ah, Lord of all. 1.

BRIDGE

All our hope is in You, All our hope is in You;

All the glo - ry to You, God,

D.S. al Coda §

The Light of the world. Je-sus, Mes-si

⊕ CODA

Je-sus, Mes-si - ah, Lord of all.

The Lord of all! The Lord of all.

Acknowledgments

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Resources for Meditation this Week

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

18 December 2022

Readings

Isaiah 7:10–17

Romans 1:1–7

Matthew 1:18–25

God's Word Is Fulfilled for Us in the Flesh and Blood of Christ Jesus, the Son of Mary

The Fourth Sunday in Advent turns our attention toward the Nativity of Our Lord. With the blessed Virgin Mary, we await the coming of the Christ, her Son, conceived in her womb by the Word and Spirit of God. This fulfillment of the sign once given to the house of David, that *"the virgin shall conceive and bear a son"* (Is. 7:14), is now given to us in the Gospel. It declares that salvation is by His grace alone, entirely His work and a free gift. It also is the way and means by which the Lord our God is Immanuel, "God with us." The almighty and eternal Son of God is conceived and born of Mary, and is thus *"descended from David according to the flesh"* (Rom. 1:3–4). He comes in this way to save us with His own flesh and blood; wherefore, He is called *"Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins"* (Matt. 1:21). As Joseph received this sign in faith and immediately *"did as the angel of the Lord commanded him"* (Matt. 1:24), we also live by faith in this Holy Gospel.



Readings

Isaiah 52:7–10

Hebrews 1:1–6 (7–12)

John 1:1–14 (15–18)

The Living and Life-Giving Word of God Dwells Among Us in the Flesh

The Lord sends out His ministers of the Gospel to make disciples *“of all the nations,”* so that *“all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.”* The Lord has *“bared his holy arm”* in the incarnate Christ (Is. 52:7, 10). The child in the manger, born of the Virgin Mary, is the very Word of God, the only begotten Son of the Father, *“whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world”* (Heb. 1:2). As *“all things were made through him”* (John 1:3), so are all things redeemed and made new in Him. In His body of flesh and blood, we behold *“the radiance of the glory of God”* (Heb. 1:3), *“glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth”* (John 1:14). He dwells among us in peace, that we might have life and light and salvation in Him. For by His Word of the Gospel, we are born again as the children of God, bearing His name and sharing His eternal life.



Advent, Christmas & New Year's Worship

Please join us in worship in this new Church Year



Christmas Eve Worship

Saturday, December 24th at
4:00 pm (*blended*) & 7:00 pm (*traditional*)

prelude music begins before services

Christmas Day Worship

Sunday, December 25th at 9:00 am



New Year's Eve Worship

Saturday, December 31st at 7:00 pm

with Holy Communion

New Year's Day Worship

Sunday, January 1st at 9:00 am

with Holy Communion