

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

December 20, 2020

Worship Focus

Company's Coming: Waiting on the Threshold



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Order of Service for FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Divine Service I with Communion

Christian Worship Supplement, p. 15

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✠ Gathering ✠

OPENING HYMN

2 – Savior of the Nations, Come



1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come; Vir - gin's
2 Not by hu - man flesh and blood, By the
3 Won - drous birth! O won - drous Child Of the
4 From the Fa - ther's throne he came And as -
5 Praise to God the Fa - ther sing, Praise to



Son, make here your home. Mar - vel now, O
Spir - it of our God Was the Word of
vir - gin un - de - filed, Though by all the
cend - ed to the same, Cap - tive lead - ing
God the Son, our King, Praise to God the



heav'n and earth, That the Lord chose such a birth.
God made flesh, Wo - man's off - spring, pure and fresh.
world dis - owned, Yet to be in heav'n en - throned!
death and hell— High the song of tri - umph swell!
Spir - it be Ev - er and e - ter - nal - ly.

Text: Ambrose, 340–97, abr.; German version, Martin Luther, 1483–1546, abr.; tr. William M. Reynolds, 1812–76, alt.
Tune: NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND (77 77) *Geistliche gesangk Buchleyn*, Wittenberg, 1524.

INVOCATION

Minister In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Congregation Amen.

CONFESSION OF SINS

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

C **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve Your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord have mercy on me a sinner.**

LORD HAVE MERCY (*Kyrie*)

The image shows two lines of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first line begins with a common time signature 'C' in a box. The melody is written on a treble clef staff. The lyrics are: 'Lord, have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer - cy on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us. A - men.' The second line continues the melody and lyrics. The music is simple and suitable for a church service.

ABSOLUTION

M God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given His only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

M Let us pray. Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Take away the burden of our sins and make us ready for the celebration of your birth, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

GOSPEL

Luke 1:26-38

Through the angel Gabriel God announces that Mary will give birth to the one who will establish the kingdom of David forever.

LUKE 1:26 In the sixth month, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, ²⁷ to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you."

²⁹ Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. ³⁰ But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. ³¹ You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. ³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, ³³ and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end."

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

³⁵ The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. ³⁶ Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be barren is in her sixth month. ³⁷ For nothing is impossible with God."

³⁸ "I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May it be to me as you have said." Then the angel left her.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

After the reading of the Gospel the congregation responds:



C Praise be to you, O Christ! Praise be to you, O Christ!



**C 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 fully 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 in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy Christian 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.**



HYMN OF THE DAY

23 – Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel



1 Oh, come, oh, come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som cap - tive
 2 Oh, come, O Root of Jes - se, free Your own from Sa - tan's
 3 Oh, come, O Day-spring from on high, And cheer us by your
 4 Oh, come, O Key of Da - vid, come, And o - pen wide our



Is - ra - el That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
 tyr - an - ny; From depths of hell your peo - ple save,
 draw - ing nigh; 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.
 And bring them vic - t'ry o'er the grave. Re-joice! Re-joice!
 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!

Text: Latin hymn, c. 12th century, abr.; tr. John M. Neale, 1818–66, alt.
 Tune: VENI, EMMANUEL (LM with Refrain) Plainsong melody, 15th century, alt.

✠ Sermon ✠

2 Samuel 7:8-16

Company's Coming... Waiting on the Threshold

✠ Praise and Prayers ✠



C Cre - ate in me a pure heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me.
Do not cast me a - way from your pres - ence or
take your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -
store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up -
hold, up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

OFFERING ANNOUNCEMENT and MUSICAL OFFERTORY

Offerings can be placed in the plate near the entrance to the sanctuary or one can give online or with our GivePlus app. Please "check in" online. The "Connection Card" tab is on the bottom of any page of our website: calvarydallas.org.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

In peace, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

Brief silence

In thanksgiving to God for the favor shown us in Christ and His incarnation; for faith to believe that nothing is impossible with Him; and that everything would be to us according to the Word of the Most High, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For faithful preachers of Your Gospel to bring about the obedience of faith by the mystery of Christ now revealed in the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures; for our Synod president, district president, and circuit pastor; and for the Holy Christian Church, that God would strengthen it in every place, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For our nation, its president, all legislators and judges, and those newly elected to serve, that God would preserve their lives and guide their actions for the good of our people; for peace among the nations of the earth, and that God would preserve us from pestilence and famine, war and bloodshed, sedition, rebellion and every evil, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all women with child and all mothers with infant children, that God would grant them increasing happiness in their blessings; for the lonely, the depressed and the despairing; for the sick, the anxious and the dying [*especially...*]; and for those who mourn [*the death of...*], that they would take comfort in the resurrection, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who receive Christ's holy body and precious blood today, that they may eat and drink it in repentance and faith and in the unity of a true confession; and for a love and desire for the blessed Sacrament this Christmas, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

O Most High, we give You thanks for Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the Key of David and the scepter of the house of Israel. By His death, He has opened the kingdom of heaven and closed the gates of hell for all who trust in Him. By His resurrection, He has rescued the prisoners who sat in darkness and in the shadow of death. 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; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

C Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

M The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

24 – The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came



1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from heav - en came, His
 2 “I come from heav’n to tell the Lord’s de - cree: A
 3 Then gen - tle Mar - y meek - ly bowed her head; “To
 4 Of her Im - man - u - el, the Christ, was born In



wings as drift - ed snow, his eyes as flame; “All
 bless - ed vir - gin moth - er you shall be. Your
 me be as it pleas - es God,” she said. “My
 Beth - le - hem, all on a Christ - mas morn, And



hail,” said he to meek and low - ly Mar - y, “Most
 Son shall be Im - man - u - el, by seers fore - told, Most
 soul shall praise and mag - ni - fy his ho - ly name.” Most
 Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say, “Most



high - ly fa - vored maid - en.” Glo - ri - a!
 high - ly fa - vored maid - en.” Glo - ri - a!
 high - ly fa - vored maid - en, Glo - ri - a!
 high - ly fa - vored maid - en.” Glo - ri - a!

Text: Basque carol, paraphrase Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834–1924, alt.

Tune: GABRIEL’S MESSAGE (10 10 12 10) Basque carol.

PRAYER AND BLESSING

M O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

M The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

21 – Hosanna to the Coming Lord



1 Ho - san - na to the com - ing Lord! Ho - san - na
2 O Sav - ior, with pro - tect - ing care A - bide in
3 O Ad - vent King, our sins for - give; Come in our
4 Then in the last and dread - ful day, When earth and



to the in - car - nate Word! To Christ, Cre - a - tor, Sav -
this your house of prayer, Where we your part - ing prom -
lives and hearts to live, And let our hum - ble souls
heav'n shall melt a - way, Your flock, re - deemed from sin -



ior, King Let earth, let heav'n ho - san - na sing.
ise claim, As - sem - bled in your sa - cred name.
be - come A tem - ple wor - thy of your name.
ful stain, Shall swell the sound of praise a - gain.

Text: Reginald Heber, 1783–1826, abr., alt.

Tune: VOM HIMMEL HOCH (LM) Schumann, *Geistliche lieder auff's new gebessert*, Leipzig, 1539.

*After worship, please feel free to greet your neighbors OUTSIDE,
keeping in mind the social distancing recommendations of six feet spacing.*

*He will be great and
will be called the
Son of the Most High.*

Luke 1:32

