

St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church (LCMS)

Fourth Sunday in Advent



December 20, 2020

Ringing of the Bells

Love's Pure Light

Love's Pure Light – Duet – Clint and Jenifer Fjelstad

Responsive Advent Litany – Hope for God's Love

P: During Advent we see God's love for us embodied in our Savior's birth.

C: Christ is our light and the source of everlasting love.

P: Advent calls us to love others with patience and kindness.

C: Christ is our light and the source of everlasting love.

P: Advent calls us to be slow to anger and quick to forgive.

C: Christ is our light and the source of everlasting love.

P: Advent reminds us that Christ commanded us to love as he loved.

C: Christ is our light and the source of everlasting love.

Candle Lighting and Reading

Love's Pure Light – Congregation sings:

☞ O come, O come, Emmanuel, and end this gloom of night. Bring hope to the world, bring peace to the earth, and fill us with love's pure light.

Love's Pure Light - Duet – Clint and Jenifer Fjelstad

Closing Prayer

P: Gracious God, as we continue our Advent journey, we are reminded that "Love came down at Christmas – love amazing, love divine." You loved the world enough to send your Son, and now it's up to us to love others as you loved us. Remind us that Christ is our light, and the true source of infinite, everlasting, pure love.

C Amen.

Divine Service—Setting 4

Opening Hymn

900 Jesus! Name of Wondrous Love *sts. 1–4*



1 Je - sus! Name of won-drous love, Name all oth - er names a - bove,
 2 Je - sus! Name de - creed of old, To the maid - en moth - er told,
 3 Je - sus! Name of price-less worth To the fall - en of the earth
 4 Je - sus! Name of mer - cy mild, Giv - en to the ho - ly Child



Un - to which must ev - 'ry knee Bow in deep hu - mil - i - ty.
 Kneel - ing in her low - ly cell, By the an - gel Ga - bri - el.
 For the prom - ise that it gave, "Je - sus shall His peo - ple save."
 When the cup of hu - man woe First He tast - ed here be - low.

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Stand

Confession and Absolution

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.

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

C Amen.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As an ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Introit *Ps. 19:1, 4c, 5–6; antiphon: Is. 45:8a, b*

P: Shower, O heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain down righteousness;

C: let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may bear fruit.

P: The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.

C: In them he has set a tent for the sun,

P: which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his chamber,

C: and, like a strong man, runs its course with joy.

P: Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them,

C: and there is nothing hidden from its heat.

**ALL: 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.**

P: Shower, O heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain down
righteousness;

**C: let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may
bear fruit.**

Kyrie



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

934 My Soul Now Magnifies the Lord *sts. 1-2*



1 My soul now mag - ni - fies the Lord; My spir - it
2 For He a - lone who shows such might Has done a -



leaps for joy in Him. He keeps me in His kind re -
maz - ing things to me. His mer - cy flows; His name like



gard, And I am blest for time to come.
light Re - mains in time per - pet - ual - ly.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

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.**

Sit

Old Testament Reading *2 Samuel 7:1–11, 16*

¹Now when the king lived in his house and the LORD had given him rest from all his surrounding enemies, ²the king said to Nathan the prophet, "See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells in a tent." ³And Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that is in your heart, for the LORD is with you."

⁴But 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?' ⁶I 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. ⁷In all places where I have moved with all the people of Israel, did I speak a word with any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?"' ⁸Now, 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 over my people Israel. ⁹And 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. ¹⁰And 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, ¹¹from 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.

¹⁶And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever.'"

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

Gradual *Zech. 9:9; Ps. 118:26, alt.*

P: Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion.

C: Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem.

P: Behold, your king is coming to you;

C: righteous and having salvation.

P: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

C: From the house of the Lord we bless you.

Epistle *Romans 16:25–27*

²⁵Now 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 ²⁶but 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— ²⁷to the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ! Amen.

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

Stand

Alleluia and Verse



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



C These things are writ-ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel *Luke 1:26–38*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the first chapter.

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

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

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

³⁵And 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.

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

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

**I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures and ascended into heaven**

and sits at the right hand of the Father.
 And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
 and the dead,
 whose kingdom will have no end.
 And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the Lord and giver of life,
 who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
 who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped
 and glorified,
 who spoke by the prophets.
 And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
 I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
 and I look for the resurrection of the dead
 and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Hymn of the Day

348 The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns



- 1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns And light tri - um-phant breaks,
- 2 Not as of old a lit - tle child, To bear and fight and die,
- 3 Oh, bright-er than the ris - ing morn When Christ, vic - to-rious, rose
- 4 Oh, bright-er than that glo - rious morn Shall dawn up - on our race
- 5 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns And light and beau-ty brings.



When beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills And life to joy a-wakes.
 But crowned with glo - ry like the sun That lights the morn-ing sky.
 And left the lone-some place of death De - spite the rage of foes.
 The day when Christ in splen-dor comes And we shall see His face.
 Hail, Christ the Lord! Your peo-ple pray: Come quick-ly, King of kings!

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Sermon: Rev. Colin Ford

Prayer of the Church

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

- P** Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your boundless mercy You sent Your servant, John the Baptist, to proclaim that in Christ the kingdom of heaven draws near.

With thankful hearts we pray, "Come, Lord Jesus," confident that in His body and blood, given us to eat and drink, we receive the forgiveness of sins and so proclaim His death until He comes again in glory.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer

- G** **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.**

The Words of Our Lord

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My † body, which is

given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

- P** In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My † blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

C 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

*Sit***Distribution****Distribution Hymn****383 A Great and Mighty Wonder**

1 A great and might - y won - der, A full and ho - ly cure:
 2 The Word be - comes in - car - nate And yet re - mains on high,
 3 While thus they sing your Mon - arch, Those bright an - gel - ic bands,
 4 Since all He comes to ran - som, By all be He a - dored,
 5 All i - dols then shall per - ish And Sa - tan's ly - ing cease,



The vir - gin bears the in - fant With vir - gin hon - or pure!
 And cher - u - bim sing an - thems To shep - herds from the sky.
 Re - joice, O vales and moun - tains, And o - ceans, clap your hands.
 The in - fant born in Beth - l'em, The Sav - ior and the Lord.
 And Christ shall raise His scep - ter, De - cree - ing end - less peace.

Refrain

Pro - claim the Sav - ior's birth: "To God on high be



glo - ry And peace to all the earth!"

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In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

- P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart † in peace. **C** **Amen.**

Stand

Nunc Dimittis

C 1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three - in - One;
A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Post-Communion Collect

A

Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us

through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C Amen.**

Benedicamus and Benediction

A Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

P 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.

C Amen.

Closing Hymn

900 Jesus! Name of Wondrous Love *sts. 5–6*



5 Jesus! Only name that's giv'n
Under all the mighty heav'n
Whereby those to sin enslaved
Burst their fetters and are saved.

6 Jesus! Name of wondrous love,
Human name of God above;
Pleading only this, we flee
Helpless, O our God, to Thee.

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture quotations are from *The Holy Bible, English Standard Version*, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2006 Concordia Publishing House.

**FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT
ST. PAUL'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMS)
Aberdeen, South Dakota
(605) 225-1847
December 20, 2020**

The purpose of St. Paul's Congregation is to assist its members to share and to grow in their faith in Jesus Christ by faithful proclamation of the Gospel and the administration of the Sacraments in accordance with the confessional standards of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod.

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Please pray for Brandi Wagemann, Roger Blum, Pastor Dell, Michael Severson, Joyce Kenitzer, Joyce Dahme, Delores Sandmeier, Ada McCorkle, Miles Eisenbeisz, Leona McCalip, Steven Swanhorst, Barbara Dahme, Howard Dahme, Dan Lingor, Jason Herrick, Pastor Anderson, Gladys Felix, Ralph Stevens, Chad Ashford, John Cassens, Vivian Hoff, Tim Schwabe, and Muriel Schamber.

Welcome Rev. Colin Ford from Cresbard/Wecota who is the guest

preacher for today.

Our condolences to the family of Brenda Blair, whose funeral was held at St. Paul's on Friday, Dec. 18th.

Little Ones' Book Club – Our youngest children (Baptism through age 3) have a Bible-based book waiting for them in the South Narthex. If you haven't picked yours up yet, please take it home, read, and enjoy! It's yours to keep! We plan to have several "Little Ones' Book Club" Sundays throughout the year.

A Higher Things Youth Retreat will be held on January 1-2, 2021 at Faith Lutheran Church in Pierre. The topic of this retreat is "*This is My Body.*" Registration forms and information about this retreat is located on the youth bulletin board.

Sunday School Christmas Program today at 9:30 am in the Sanctuary, masks required. Donuts and coffee to follow.

No Sunday School on December 27 and January 3.

The Lighthouse Preschool would like to thank St. Paul's for participating in the Coin collection. The Preschool collected \$351.26.

MAIN STREET LIVING – Dec. 27, 2020 10:00 AM – Lutheran Hour Ministries Animated Series –The Puzzle Club Christmas Mystery— 10:30 AM - Rev. Dr. Roger Paavola presents the message "On the Other Side of Christmas." The message is based on Luke 2:22-40. For more information go to the web site: www.mainstreetliving.com

THE LUTHERAN HOUR – Dec. 27 – "Welcome to the Family"
Speaker: Rev. Dr. Anthony Cook. The Lutheran Hour can be heard on KAWZ 88.1 at 9:00 am or Bismarck radio station KFYZ at 7:30 am on Sundays.

Poinsettia Plants: If you would like to donate a Poinsettia plant in memory of a loved one. Please call the church office to have your name included in the bulletin.

2021 Offering envelopes are located in the South Narthex.

Coffee/Donut servers are needed for Sunday mornings. Please sign up on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall.

Offering: Dec. 13, 2020 - \$10,818.92 Sunday School - \$25.00
Coffee - \$57.50

Attendance: December 13, 2020

8:00am – 80 Communed – 66 10:45 am – 95 Communed - 65
Monday Night – 21 Communed – 18
Wed. 12:15pm – 39 Communed – 37 Advent 6:15 pm – 72

Organists: Sunday – Cyrece Kono **Monday** – Tierra Cassens
Wednesday – 12:15pm - Cindy Jung

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL’S: (Dec. 20 – Dec. 27)

Sun 8:00 am Worship Service
9:30 am Sunday School Christmas Program (Mask)
9:30 am Donuts and Coffee
10:45 am Worship Service

Mon 6:15 pm Worship Service

6:15 pm Bell Practice
7:00 pm Church Council Meeting

Wed 6:00 am Men’s Bible Study
12:15 pm **Worship Service – (Mask Required)**

Thur 3:00 pm Christmas Eve Worship – mask only
4:30 pm Christmas Eve Worship
6:30 pm Christmas Eve Worship

Fri 9:30 am Christmas Day Worship with Communion
10:45 am Christmas Day Worship with Communion
- **Mask only**

Sun 8:00 am Worship Service

9:30 am Bible Study, Coffee/Donuts

10:45 am Worship Service