

# ST. LUCAS EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

1417 Parkview Drive PO Box 44 Kewaskum, Wisconsin

## **The Fourth Sunday of Advent**

December 17 & 18, 2022

### **The Season**

Advent is necessary to prepare us for Christmas. It enables us to understand the true significance of Christmas. Advent allows us to see that because of what Christ did when he came the first time so that believers need not fear when he comes again. Instead, we yearn for it. *Come, Lord Jesus!*

### **The Series**

November 26 & 27 Come, Lord Jesus - As King

December 3 & 4 KML Sunday

December 10 & 11 Come, Lord Jesus – As Messiah

**December 17 & 18 Come, Lord Jesus – As Immanuel**

### **The Sunday**

Humans can do nothing to shake off the burden of sin. Since the Garden of Eden, there has been only one plan to do that: God would take on flesh and blood to remove all the burdens of sin. When you look into the manger, what do you see? A baby? Yes. But, more. That is Immanuel, “God-with-us.” The Son of God became Mary’s son, so that he could do for us what we could not do for ourselves.

### **Prayer before Worship**

“I rejoiced with those said to me, ‘Let us go to the house of the Lord.’” Give me joy, dear Jesus, as I prepare to worship you today. Make me understand what my life would be like without you so that I long to hear about your grace and compassion. Help me participate in a way that honors you and builds up all who worship with me, and let their worship strengthen and encourage my faith. Amen.

### **Serving in Worship**

Presiding Minister: Pastor Dennis Lemke

Organist: Coralee Henning

Ushers: David Butzke (6:00 pm)

Kevin Kempf (8:00 am)

Jonathan Koch (10:30 am)

# The Service

## The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came

CW 328

Stand for stanza 4



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



his wings as drift - ed snow, his eyes as flame:  
a bless - ed vir - gin moth - er you shall be.  
"To me be as it pleas - es God," she said.  
in Beth - le - hem, all on a Christ - mas morn,



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



"most high - ly fa - vored maid - en." Glo - ri - a!  
most high - ly fa - vored maid - en." Glo - ri - a!  
Most high - ly fa - vored maid - en, Glo - ri - a!  
"Most high - ly fa - vored maid - en." Glo - ri - a!

Text: para. Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834–1924, alt.; Basque, c. 18th cent.

Tune: Basque, c. 18th cent.

Text and tune: Public domain

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## **Confession**

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

**Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Almighty and merciful Father,**

**we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.**

**We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.**

**We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.**

**We have done those things that we should not have done,**

**and we have not done those things that we should have done.**

**Have mercy on us, Lord!**

**Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,**

**according to your promises in Christ Jesus.**

*Silence for meditation and reflection*

God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **Lord, Have Mercy**

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**Amen.**

## As Angels Joyed with One Accord

CW 320 sts. 1-2, 4, 7



1 As an - gels joyed with one ac - cord up - on the  
2 He came, not clothed in maj - es - ty nor pow'r that  
4 In ev - 'ry age— let praise a - bound— he comes; we  
7 Lift up your heads! All grief and pain shall van - ish



ad - vent of our Lord, so let us glad - ly  
suits his de - i - ty. In low - ly state he  
hear his voice re - sound. His glo - rious gos - pel  
when he comes a - gain. Where we shall see him



praise the name of him who from the Fa - ther came.  
walked till he in dy - ing set us cap - tives free.  
does not cease to bring us com - fort, joy, and peace.  
face to face, there joy a - lone shall have a place.

Text: Werner H. Franzmann, 1905–1996, abr., alt.

Tune: Latin, 15th cent., adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621

Text: © 1993 Werner H. Franzmann, admin. Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 703484

Tune: Public domain

# The Word

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

## Prayer of the Day

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.

**Amen.**

*Be seated*

## First Reading

*Isaiah 7:10–14*

*The Lord promised that deliverance would come through the gift of Immanuel.*

<sup>10</sup>Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, <sup>11</sup>“Ask the LORD your God for a sign, whether in the deepest depths or in the highest heights.”

<sup>12</sup>But Ahaz said, “I will not ask; I will not put the LORD to the test.”

<sup>13</sup>Then Isaiah said, “Hear now, you house of David! Is it not enough to try the patience of humans? Will you try the patience of my God also? <sup>14</sup>Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

# Psalm of the Day

Psalm 89A

Sung responsively with the minister

## Refrain

For - ev - er I will sing the good - ness of the  
LORD, the good - ness of the LORD.

## Tone

I will sing of the LORD's great love for- / ever;  
**with my mouth I will make your faithfulness known through all gener- / ations.**  
I will declare that your love stands firm for- / ever,  
**that you have established your faithfulness in / heav'n itself.**  
The heavens praise your / wonders, LORD,  
**your faithfulness too, in the assembly of the / holy ones. Refrain**

Who is like you, LORD God Al- / mighty?  
**You, LORD, are mighty, and your faithfulness sur- / rounds you.**  
Blessed are those who have learned to ac- / claim you,  
**who walk in the light of your / presence, LORD.**  
They rejoice in your name / all day long;  
**they celebrate your / righteousness.**  
**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son**  
**and to the Holy / Spirit,**  
**as it was in the be- / ginning,**  
**is now, and will be forever. / Amen. Refrain**

Tune: Marty Haugen

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## Second Reading

Romans 1:1–7

*Jesus is Immanuel, true God and true man.*

<sup>1</sup>Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God—  
<sup>2</sup>the gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures <sup>3</sup>regarding his  
Son, who as to his earthly life was a descendant of David, <sup>4</sup>and who through the Spirit of  
holiness was appointed the Son of God in power by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus  
Christ our Lord. <sup>5</sup>Through him we received grace and apostleship to call all the Gentiles to the  
obedience that comes from faith for his name's sake. <sup>6</sup>And you also are among those Gentiles  
who are called to belong to Jesus Christ.

<sup>7</sup>To all in Rome who are loved by God and called to be his holy people:

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

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Lighting of the Advent Candles

We light four Advent candles remembering Jesus, the Son of God and Son of Mary. He came to share our humanity.

**We remember Jesus, whose name means Savior. He came to save his people from their sins.**

We hear his call to give him a place in our hearts.

**We light four Advent candles as a sign of our joy and hope.**

Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest.

**Through your Word and Spirit may our souls be blessed.**

*Four Advent candles are lit*

Stand

## Gospel

*Matthew 1:18–25*

*In faith, Joseph accepted that within the womb of his bride-to-be was Immanuel  
—the very Son of God, the promised Savior from sin.*

<sup>18</sup>This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup>Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

<sup>20</sup>But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup>She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.”

<sup>22</sup>All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: <sup>23</sup>“The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel” (which means “God with us”).

<sup>24</sup>When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. <sup>25</sup>But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

*Be seated*



# O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

CW 327



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som  
2 O come, O Root of Jes - se, free your own from  
3 O come, O Day - spring from on high, and cheer us  
4 O come, O Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen



cap - tive Is - ra - el that mourns in lone - ly  
Sa - tan's tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your  
by your draw - ing nigh; dis - perse the gloom - y  
wide our heav'n - ly home; make safe the way that



ex - ile here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
peo - ple save, and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.  
clouds of night, and death's dark shad - ows put to flight.  
leads on high, and close the path to mis - er - y.

## *Refrain*



Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el



shall come to you, O Is - ra - el!

Text: Latin, c. 12th cent., Psalterium Cantionum Catholicarum, Köln, 1710; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.

Tune: French, 15th cent., alt

Text and tune: Public domain

## Sermon

Romans 1:1-7  
An Apostolic Christmas Card

*Stand*

### **Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.**

**From there 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.**

*Be seated*

## Prayer of the Church

Gracious Lord, you sent your Son into our world to destroy the power of Satan and restore the human race as your children and heirs. Work in us during this Advent season so that we may rejoice in the coming of our Savior and long for his coming again.

**Make us eager to receive the King who comes to save us.**

Use the preaching of your holy law to rid us of all delusions that we can gain your love with our own efforts. Move us to realize how hopeless we are because of sin and to feel sorrow for what we have done wrong.

**Lead us to be honest about our sinful status in your sight.**

Lift up our hearts to see the King who comes to save. Reveal to us his willingness to take on our human form and stand in our place. Show us the power he extends in his Word and sacraments to make us your children and keep us in faith. Thrill us with his promise to come and take us to our eternal home to live with you forever.

**Open our eyes to see and believe the wonders of the Savior's love.**

As we live with Christ and trust in him, move us to turn away from sin day after day with the strength your Holy Spirit provides. When we fall, forgive us and renew us to love and serve you and all people.

**Empower us and guide us to walk with Christ by faith.**

Protect us from the distractions that come at this time of the year. Even in gift-giving and celebrating, keep our hearts focused on Christ and his forgiving love.

**Give us joy at his coming at Christmas, his coming in the gospel, and his coming again.**

Move us to share with others the most important gift of this season, the truth about Jesus. Even in busy times lead us to pray for those whose joy is diminished because of sickness, pain, or loss. Give us opportunities to provide help to those in need.

**May others see the love of Christ in our words and actions.**

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

*Silent prayer*

Loving Lord, work in us during this Advent season so that our joy may be genuine and may rest in the promises of the King who comes to save.

**Come, Lord Jesus. Amen.**

# My Soul in Stillness Waits

CW 325



For you, O Lord, my soul in still-ness waits; tru-ly my hope is in you.



- 1 O Lord of Light, our on - ly hope of glo - ry,
- 2 O Spring of Joy, rain down up - on our spir - its;
- 3 O Root of Life, im - plant your seed with - in us,
- 4 O Key of Knowl - edge, guide us in our pil-grim-age;



your ra-diance shines in all who look to you; come, light the  
our thirst-y hearts are yearn-ing for your Word; come, make us  
and in your ad - vent draw us all to you, our hope re -  
we ev - er seek, yet un - ful-filled re - main; o - pen to



hearts of all in dark and shad-ow.  
whole, be com-fort to our hearts.  
born in dy - ing and in ris - ing.  
us the path-way of your peace.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Tune: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

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Stand

## **Prayer**

Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **Lord's Prayer**

**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.**

## **Blessing**

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.

**Amen.**

# Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

CW 318



1 Hark! A thrill - ing voice is sound - ing! “Christ is  
2 See, the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, comes with  
3 So, when next he comes in glo - ry and the  
4 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, do - min - ion to the



near,” we hear it say. “Cast a - way the  
par - don down from heav’n. Let us haste, with  
world is wrapped in fear, he will shield us  
Fa - ther and the Son with the ev - er -



works of dark - ness, all you chil - dren of the day.”  
tears of sor - row, one and all, to be for - giv’n;  
with his mer - cy and with words of love draw near.  
last - ing Spir - it while e - ter - nal a - ges run!

Text: tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–1878, alt.; Latin, c. 5th–10th cent.  
Tune: William H. Monk, 1823–1889  
Text and tune: Public domain

Order of service from Christian Worship

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## Announcements

**Call Received** On December 4th, I received a divine call from St. Matthew's Lutheran School in Winona, Minnesota to teach grades 5-8 and serve as principal.

I appreciate all of your encouragement and prayers as I deliberate between my call here to St. Lucas and this new call to St. Matthew's. I'm humbled by the opportunities I've been given to serve the Lord. May he bless me with his guidance and wisdom and lead me to a decision that glorifies him and benefits his kingdom.

I am confident that no matter where I continue my ministry, God will bless both the ministry of St. Lucas and St. Matthew's. As God says in Isaiah 55:11, "so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it."

Yours in Christ, Mr. Mark A. Hesse

**Giving Tree** Please bring gifts to the school office with the tag from the tree attached by Monday, December 19. Those who receive the gifts truly appreciate your expressions of Christian love.

**Christmas Worship Services** Christmas Eve, Saturday, December 24

2:00 pm St. Lucas Lutheran Elementary School Service — *Do Not Be Afraid*

4:00 pm St. Lucas Lutheran Sunday School Service — *Do Not Be Afraid*

10:00 pm Candlelight Vespers — *Be Born in Us Today, Bringing Blessing*

**Christmas Day Worship** Sunday, December 25, 9 am — *A Savior is Born to Dwell Among Us*

**New Year's Worship** Saturday, December 31, 6:00 pm; Sunday, January 1, 8:00 and 10:30 am

**Thank you to everyone who helped with the Christmas Cookie Walk** last Sunday. We welcomed 200 community members to our school building in three hours. Thanks to the cookie decorators (students from our Lutheran Elementary School), and our cookie distributors (parents of school children).

**Thanks to all the St. Lucas members who donated food items for the Kewaskum Food Pantry.** The pantry received 321 food items from the Thanksgiving drive. Your thoughtfulness was appreciated. (from the Kewaskum Community Pantry Volunteers).

## Celebrating God's Blessings

### Birthdays:

Adeline Shier 19

Brad Homuth 19

Nora Maxwell 19

Ranen Enright 22

## Calendar

### December 17-23

*Suggested Readings for the week*

Saturday: *Isaiah 33:1-24 Revelation 5:1-14*

Usher: Butzke

] Sunday School Christmas Rehearsal 9:15 am  
Worship 6:00 pm

Sunday: *Isaiah 34:1,2,8-35:10 Micah 1:1-7:20*

Ushers: Kempf 8 am

*Revelation 6:1-17*

Koch 10:30 am

Worship 8 & 10:30 am

Sunday School & Family Bible Hour 9:15 am

Monday: *Isaiah 40:1-17 Revelation 7:1-17*

Tuesday: *Isaiah 40:18-41:10 Revelation 8:1-13*

No Bible Study

Wednesday: *Isaiah 42:1-25 Revelation 9:1-12*

Public School Catechism 3:30-5:00 pm

Thursday: *Isaiah 43:1-24 Revelation 9:13-10:11*

Bible Study 10:00 am

Friday: *Isaiah 43:25-44:20 Revelation 11:1-19*

School Chapel Service 7:45 am

School Early Release

Saturday: *Isaiah 44:21-45:13,20-25 Daniel 10:1-12:13*

*Isaiah 48:1-22 Revelation 12:1-17*

Elementary School Service 2:00 pm

Sunday School Service 4:00 pm

Candlelight Vespers 10:00 pm

Sunday: *Isaiah 49:1-18 Matthew 1:1-17*

Worship 9:00 am

*St. Lucas Lutheran Church strives to be a congregation that is  
always inviting, always edifying, and always equipping.*

[www.stlucaswels.org](http://www.stlucaswels.org)

### Contact Information

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Principal Mark Hesse - 920-915-1130 [mhesse@stlucaswels.org](mailto:mhesse@stlucaswels.org)

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