

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham

P.O. Box 100, Durham PA, 18039 610- 346-8500



December 19, 2021 – FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

10:30 AM - Worship

also on - www.facebook.com/durhamlutheran

Organ Prelude - "O Come All Ye Faithful" - arr. David Lanz
Welcome - Announcements - Welcome our Guest Preacher,
Rev. James Heckman

Introduction to Worship

Lighting the Fourth Candle on the Advent Wreath

We praise you, O God, for this wheel of time that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent. As we light the candles on this wreath, open our eyes to see your presence in the lowly ones of this earth. Enlighten us with your grace, that we may sing of your advent among us in the World made flesh. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near. **Amen.**

"Come Now, O Prince of Peace" ... **ELW 247** vs. 4

Confession and Forgiveness (Stand if you are able)

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, + one God, who alone does wonders,
who lifts up the lowly, who fills the hungry with good things.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin, trusting in the tender mercy of our God.
God for whom we wait,

in the presence of one another, we confess our sin before you. We fail in believing that your good news is for us. We falter in our call to tend your creation. We find our sense of self in material wealth. We fear those different from ourselves. We forget that we are your children and turn away from your love. Forgive us, Blessed One, and assure us again of your saving grace.

Amen.

God, in Christ Jesus, has looked with your favor upon you! Through the power of the Holy Spirit, + your sins are forgiven. You are children of the Most High, inheritors of the eternal promise, and recipients of divine mercy. God strengthens you anew to follow the way of peace.

Amen.

Opening Hymn - ELW #283 - "O Come All Ye Faithful"

(Stand if you are able)

Greeting

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you.

PEOPLE: **AND ALSO WITH YOU**

Prayer of the Day

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that binds us, 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.* (Please be Seated)

First Reading- Micah 5: 2-5a

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace.

Lector: **The Word of the Lord.** PEOPLE: **THANKS BE TO GOD.**

Psalm Isaiah 1:46b-55 (read responsively)

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,

⁴⁷my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

⁴⁸for you, Lord, have looked with favor on your lowly servant. From this day all generations will call me blessed:

⁴⁹you, the Almighty, have done great things for me and holy is your name.

⁵⁰You have mercy on those who fear you, from generation to generation.

⁵¹You have shown strength with your arm and scattered the proud in their conceit,

⁵²casting down the mighty from their thrones and lifting up the lowly.

⁵³You have filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away empty.

⁵⁴You have come to the aid of your servant Israel, to remember the promise of mercy,

⁵⁵the promise made to our forebears, to Abraham and his children forever.

Second Reading- Hebrews 10: 5-10

Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said,
“Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,
but a body you have prepared for me;
in burnt-offerings and sin-offerings
you have taken no pleasure.

Then I said, ‘See, God, I have come to do your will, O God’
(in the scroll of the book it is written of me).”

When he said above, “You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt-offerings and sin-offerings” (these are offered according to the law), then he added, “See, I have come to do your will.” He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God’s will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Lector: **The Word of the Lord**

PEOPLE: **THANKS BE TO GOD**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (Please stand)

(sung) *"O come let us adore Him, O come let us adore Him,
O come let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord."*

Pastor: **The holy gospel according to Luke:**

PEOPLE: **GLORY TO YOU, O LORD.**

The Holy Gospel - Luke 1: 39-45 [46-55]

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

[And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.

Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
for the Mighty One has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.

His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.
He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."]

Pastor: **The gospel of the Lord.**

PEOPLE: **PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST.**

(Be seated after the gospel)

Message/ Sermon - Rev. James Heckman

Hymn of the Day: Choir Anthem- "A Tiny Child Will Come" - Don & Nancy Besig

NICENE' CREED (Please stand , if able)

**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.

Prayers and Intercessions:

Pastor: Hear us, O God.

People: YOUR MERCY IS GREAT.

The Lord's Prayer

Sharing of the Peace

Blessing (Pastor) : The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing,
so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit, through
Christ Jesus for whom we wait. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn- ELW #289 - "Angels We Have Heard on High"

(Stand if you are able)

Dismissal:

Pastor: Go in peace. Christ is near PEOPLE: **THANKS BE TO GOD.**

Piano Postlude - “Angels We Have Heard on High” - Arr. Wilbur Berg

Helping in Worship

Preacher	- James Heckman
Organist/Choir Director	- Carolyn Williams
Acolyte	- Clayton Helfrich
Altar Guild	- Mark Harwick and Val McGinn
Lector	- Maggie Fischer
Usher	- Joe Hlavaty
Council Counting Team	- Scott Gaun and Mark Harwick
Technology	- Ken Anderson
Office Secretary	- Jessica Mette
Custodian	- Dianna Streletz

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- TODAY, Sunday, December 19 - Fourth Sunday of Advent
- This THURSDAY, December 24 - CHRISTMAS EVE Service: 7 p.m., Rev. Marcia Bell
- guest pastor
- Next Sunday, December 26 - First Sunday of Christmas
- with Rev. James Heckman
- The Adult Sunday School class is meeting in the church library at 9:15 every Sunday.
 - The Adult Bible study meets from 2:30-4:30 at the home of Don Seipt and Kathy Hlavaty on Thursdays. Carpooling from the church is available.
- DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS - DECEMBER 19th- Bob Starling; DECEMBER 20th- Val McGinn; DECEMBER 23RD- Scott Gaun, Clayton Helfrich

- DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES- DECEMBER 21ST- Kathy & Joe Hlavaty (47); DECEMBER 26TH- Cheryl & Wayne Mesko (45)
- DECEMBER BAPTISMS - DECEMBER 23rd - Coraline Trauger
- DECEMBER “OUTREACH OFFERINGS” go to AHUB - support code blue effort for our community

Please lift up in prayer the following ...

For Healing of those in our Congregation: Michael Altemus; Joanne & David Antoni; Norma Fox; Virginia Hager; Betty and George Kreitz; Paul McGinn; Cheryl Mesko; Dot Peterman; Silas Rodenbach; Hal Taylor; Carolyn Williams and Joanne & Bobby Ziegenfuss.

For Healing of Friends and Family: Lynn Bailey; Ron & Kathy Ballek; Jason Bigley; Kelly Bordelon; Deb Carmichael; Alice Cicatiello; Bill Corrigan; Lisa & Dave DeLorenzo; Chris Fear; Fred Foerster; Gerry Foran; Gabriella Froehlich; Ken Garey; Candie Gimbar; Clarence Hoover Jr.; Kathy J.; George & Lois James; Virginia Johnson; Mary Ellen Jonczyk; Lauren Keebler; Kyle Kels; Martine King; Priscilla Kinter; Chelsea Marley; Clint O’Connor; Sue Odor; Lisa Pezzino; Donnie Pyne; Connie Rugen; Linda Saunders; David Sebring; Alex Sempt; Ron Steele; Steven Streletz; Donna Storm; Russ Trauger; Rocco Vonelli; Linda Wilson; and Jesse.

For those who are Homebound: Cleo and Ken Eck; Phyllis Lanshe; and Jayne Miller.

For the Grieving: The families of Brian Ashmore, Jr; Dean Litzenberger; and Bobby Starling

For those in Health Care: Including Sara Aquino, Debbie Angstadt; Kendell Beerer, Mary Crouse, Sara Deal Den Herder, Mary Erceg; Faye Gadwell; Tanya Naska; Kristi Lee Reiman; and Sharron Streletz.

Essential postal workers: Andrea Fox and Dawn Margeson.