



4th Sunday in Advent

Sunday, December 20, 2020

WELCOME / PRELUDE

Grant Underwood


CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: Let us pray. Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**



P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
Most merciful God,

C: We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

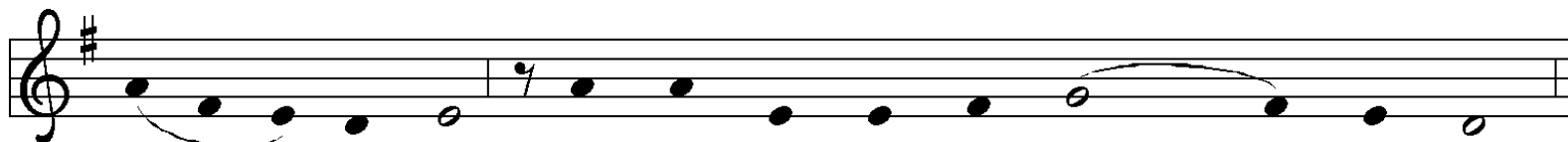
GATHERING HYMN

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

ELW # 257



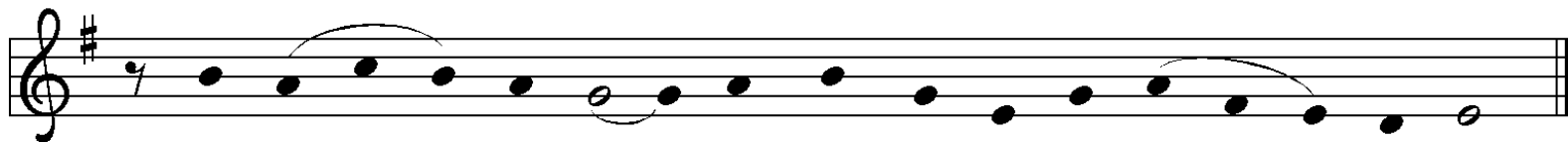
1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things
3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on
4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;
Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law
tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joice! Re-joice!
in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.
and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.



APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

C: And also with you.

A Kyrie may be spoken.

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

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

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: 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.

C: Lord, have mercy.

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

C: Lord, have mercy.

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

C: Amen.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that would obstruct your mercy, that willingly we may bear your redeeming love to all the world, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

L. A reading from Samuel

¹Now when the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, ²the king said to the prophet Nathan, “See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent.” ³Nathan said to the king, “Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you.”

⁴But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: ⁵Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live 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 and a tabernacle. ⁷Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders 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 to 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 live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers 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. ¹⁶Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

L. The word of the Lord

C. Thanks be to God



Psalm: Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26

Nan & Ken Carlson

¹Your love, O LORD, forever will I sing;

from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.

²**For I am persuaded that your steadfast love is established forever;
you have set your faithfulness firmly | in the heavens.**

³“I have made a covenant with my chosen one;

I have sworn an oath to David my servant:

⁴**‘I will establish your line forever, and preserve your throne for all generations.’ ”**

¹⁹You spoke once in a vision and said to your faithful people:

“I have set the crown upon a warrior and have exalted one chosen out of the people.

²⁰**I have found David my servant; with my holy oil have I anointed him.**

²¹My hand will hold him fast and my arm will make him strong.

²²**No enemy shall deceive him, nor shall the wicked bring him down.**

²³I will crush his foes before him and strike down those who hate him.

²⁴**My faithfulness and steadfast love are with him,
and he shall be victorious through my name.**

²⁵I will set his hand on the sea, and his right hand on the rivers.

²⁶**He will say to me, ‘You are my father, my God, and the rock of my salvation.’**



Second Reading: Romans 16:25-27

Nan & Ken Carlson

L. A reading from Romans

²⁵Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages ²⁶but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith—²⁷to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever!

Amen.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia. Here I am, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word. Alleluia. (Luke 1:38)



THE HOLY GOSPEL Luke 1:26-38

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

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

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." ²⁹But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him 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 ancestor David. ³³He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." ³⁴Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" ³⁵The angel said to 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 holy; he will be called Son of God. ³⁶And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God." ³⁸Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

P. The Gospel of the Lord

C. **Praise to you, O Christ**



Lighting the Advent Wreath: Advent 4

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 Word made flesh.
Grant this through Christ our Lord,
whose coming is certain and whose day draws near.

Amen.

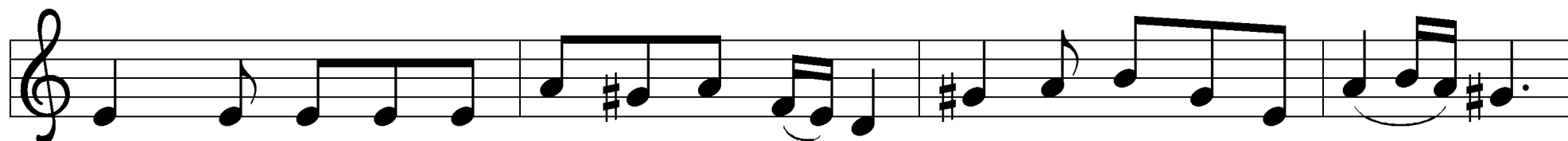
Light all four candles.

The Doré family

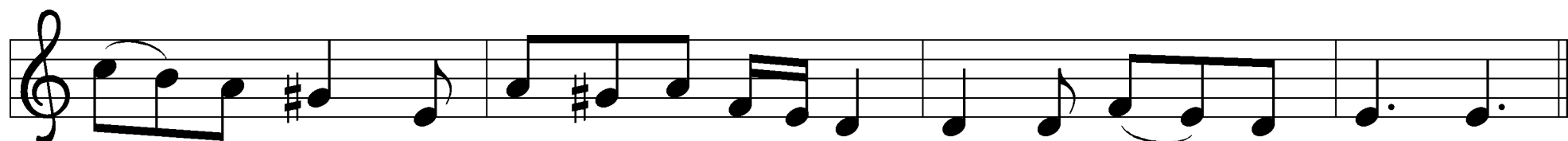
Light 4 candles.

Sing the fourth verse of Light One Candle.

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah



- 1 Light one can-dle to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 2 Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 3 Light three can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 4 Light four can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra-el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.
He shall feed the flock like a shep-herd, gent - ly lead them home-ward.
Lift your heads and lift high the gate-way for the King of glo - ry.
He is com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your lights be shin - ing!



Christmas Pageant



PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: God of power and might, fulfill your promise and come quickly to this weary world. Hear our prayers for everyone in need.

A brief silence.

P: Gracious God, all generations call you blessed. In this holy season we pray for our neighbors of other denominations and faiths. Inspire the faith of their people. Cultivate understanding among us and strengthen us in love and service to our community. Hear us, O God.


C: Your mercy is great.

P: Creator God, you scatter the proud. Everything we have belongs first to you. Bless and protect the seas, mountains, plains, forests, skies, and soils that surround us. Give us humility as we tend them. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Righteous God, you humble the powerful and lift up the lowly. We pray for the leaders of all nations, that they amplify the voices of people in need. Guide all people entrusted with leadership, to create societies in which everyone can flourish. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.



P: Surprising God, with a mother's love and a father's care you have blessed us with the joy and responsibility of children. We have been inspired this day to hear them tell the story of your son's birth, with voices, bodies, and smiles that are so very familiar to us. May we always be grateful for how close you are to us.
Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Healing God, you pour out mercy to all who cry out to you. Surround everyone in need of healing in body, mind, or spirit with your tender presence (*especially*).
Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Eternal God, you are faithful to the promises you made to our forebears. We give thanks for the ministry of Katharina von Bora Luther and other ancestors who organized, planned, dreamed, encouraged, and reached out as they served you. We give thanks for the bold leadership of female leaders in our own time. Inspire others with their steadfast witness. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Draw near to us, O God, and receive our prayers for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

ANTHEM





THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

P: O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

C. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

The Lord's Prayer is prayed by all.

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.



OFFERING MOMENT AND PRAYER

Dear Father, we admit that Advent can be a challenging time. We are not accustomed to waiting. We live in a world of instant gratification. Yet, you call us to wait, to anticipate, and to prepare for the birth of your son on Christmas Day. Now, we are counting the days – seven more days until Christmas Day. This countdown generates a variety of emotional responses – excitement, joy, relief, and maybe even panic. Provide us with a sense of calm. May the rhythm of worship and this offering moment calm us so that we are prepared to receive anew the birth of Jesus, the Christ Child. Amen.
C. Amen.

BLESSING

The Creator of the stars bless your Advent waiting,
the long-expected Savior fill you with love,
the unexpected Spirit guide your journey,
✠ now and forever.
C. Amen.



SCATTERING HYMN

Joy to the World

ELW # 267

Joy to the world, the Lord has come
Let earth receive her King
Let every heart prepare Him room
And heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing
And heaven, and heaven and nature sing

Joy to the world, the Savior reigns
Let all their songs employ
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy

No more let sins and sorrows grow
Nor thorns infest the ground
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found
Far as, far as the curse is found

He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love, and wonders of His love
And wonders, wonders of His love

DISMISSAL

P. Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.

C. Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Grant Underwood



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We are excited to offer FIVE Christmas worship services in 2020.

Christmas Eve at 7:00* p.m. for the entire family (with a special Christmas music prelude starting at 6:45 p.m.) Cut & Paste the link, read the Christmas Weekly, or go to our website : (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81899960034?pwd=dkppOHRnYnFiS1cvTmczWfVseGYvZz09>)

Christmas Day at 9:30* a.m. for the entire family. Cut & Paste the link, read the Christmas Weekly, or go to our website: (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83804223852?pwd=U0RzaitRG9WdWtjZm53cVJxMlZWUT09>)

Christmas Day “Parking Lot” Communion (in your car over the radio) at 11:00* a.m . Bring bread and wine or receive a prefilled cup with wine and bread when you arrive. Stay warm in your car as we will follow a short service (to be provided) broadcasted over the FM radio.

The First Sunday of Christmas, 12.27.2020, Lessons and Carols #1 at 9:30* a.m. Cut & Paste the link, read the Christmas Weekly, or go to our website: (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86131719903?pwd=eHFCNHRWMWhqeTRtUIRmYWVvK2NKdz09>)

The Second Sunday of Christmas, 1.3.2021, Lessons and Carols #2 at 9:30* a.m. Cut & Paste the link, read the Christmas Weekly, or go to our website: (<https://princeofpeacebrookfield.org/>)

The times refer to the Zoom, FaceBook live, or prerecorded presentations. All the services (except the parking lot communion service) are recorded, however, and available to watch at any time convenient for you. Simply go to our website (<https://princeofpeacebrookfield.org/>) to participate in Christmas worship at a time that works for you.



CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Our Pageant Cast (in order of appearance)

Andrew (Narrator)

Karlheinz (Joseph)

Bea (Mary)

Everett (Innkeeper)

Alex (Star)

Cece (Shepherd)

Leo (Sheep)

Sandy (Sheep)

Lukas (Shepherd)

Max (Sheep)

Eva (Angel)

Bianca (Angel)

Caroline (Angel)

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Lectors: Nan and Ken Carlson

Wreath Lighters: The Doré family

Congregational Voice: The Davies family

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