

Sunday, December 20, 2020 — Fourth Sunday of Advent

University Lutheran Church Lutheran Campus Ministry

10:30 AM Worship Service



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SUNDAY WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Aiko Yamada Mancini

WELCOME

Gary N. McCluskey, Pastor

LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLES

**LIGHT ONE CANDLE TO
WATCH FOR MESSIAH**



4 Light four can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



He is com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your lights be shin - ing!

ADVENT PRAYER

P On this fourth Sunday in Advent, along with the candles of hope, peace, and joy, we now light the candle of love. We are the children of God because of God's love for us. Let us pray: Almighty God, we are in awe of the magnitude of your love for us. Soon we will celebrate the extent of that love--the sending of your only Son to us. For this, we give you praise.

C Amen

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross in remembrance of baptism as the presiding minister begins.

P Blessed be God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, whose forgiveness is sure and whose steadfast love endures forever.

C Amen.

P Together let us honestly and humbly confess that we have not lived as God desires.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Loving and forgiving God,

C we confess that we are held captive by sin. In spite of our best efforts, we have gone astray. We have not welcomed the stranger; we have not loved our neighbor; we have not been Christ to one another. Restore us, O God. Wake us up and turn us from our sin. Renew us each day in the light of Christ. Amen.

P People of God, hear this glad news: by God's endless grace your sins are forgiven, and you are free—free from all that holds you back and free to live in the peaceable realm of God. May you be strengthened in God's love, + comforted by Christ's peace, and accompanied with the power of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

A 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.

C Amen.

FIRST READING

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

¹Now when David 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.

PSALM

Psalm Luke 1:46b-55

The Psalm will be spoken in unison.

^{46b}My soul proclaims the greatness | of the Lord, ⁴⁷my spirit rejoices in | God
my Savior,

⁴⁸**for 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.

⁵⁰**You 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,

⁵²**casting 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.

⁵⁴**You have come to the aid of your | servant Israel, to remember the
prom- | ise of mercy,**

⁵⁵the promise made | to our forebears, to Abraham and his chil- | dren
forever.

SECOND READING

Romans 16:25-27

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

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

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

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.

HOMILY

Gary N. McCluskey, Pastor

HYMN OF THE DAY

ALL EARTH IS HOPEFUL



To - da la tie - rra es - pe - ra al Sal - va - dor
1 All earth is hope - ful, the Sav - ior comes at last!
2 Peo - ple of Is - rael, you heard the proph - et tell:
3 Moun - tains and val - leys will have to be pre - pared;
4 We first saw Je - sus a ba - by in a crib.



y el sur - co a - bier - to, la ob - ra del Se - ñor; es el
Fur - rows lie o - pen for God's cre - a - tive task: this, the
"A vir - gin moth - er will bear Em - man - u - el"; she con -
new high - ways o - pened, new pro - to - cols de - clared. Al - most
This same Lord Je - sus to - day has come to live in our



mun - do que lu - cha por la li - ber - tad, re -
la - bor of peo - ple who strug - gle to see how
ceived him, "God with us," our broth - er, whose birth re -
here! God is near - ing, in beau - ty and grace! All
world; he is pres - ent, in neigh - bors we see our



cla - ma jus - ti - cia y bus - ca la ver - dad. dar - nos li - ber - tad.
God's truth and jus - tice set ev - 'ry - bod - y free.
stores hope and cour - age to chil - dren of this earth.
clear ev - 'ry gate - way, in haste, come out in haste!
Je - sus is with us, and ev - er sets us free.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

APOSTLES' CREED

C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A 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. After each portion of the prayers the Assistant will say:

A Hear us, O God.

The congregation will respond with:

C Your mercy is great.

The prayers conclude:

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

C Amen.

THE PEACE IS SHARED

P The peace of Christ be with you all.

C And also with you.

Thank you to all who continue to support our ministry through your prayers, your calls, emails, and texts. Thank you to all who continue to support our ministry with your financial gifts. We know some in our community have lost their jobs and others have had theirs significantly scaled back. We continue to have the same needs of financial support along with a few additional costs as we operate much differently during this time. You may contribute financially on line through our web site by clicking on the Give+ icon and following instructions.

You can also mail in your gifts to:

*University Lutheran Church,
340 E. 15th Street, Tempe, AZ 85281*

Thank you!

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. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, Now and forever. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

P 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.

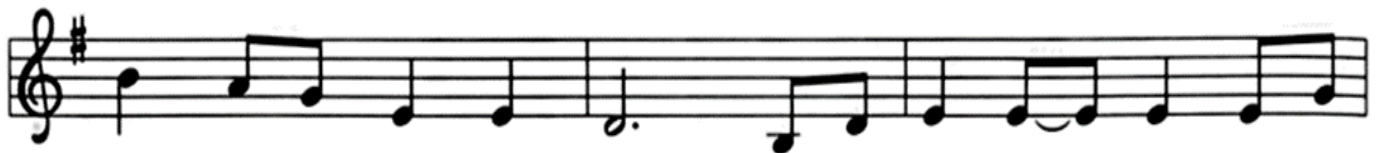
C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

CANTICLE OF THE TURNING



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the
2 Though I am small, my . . . God, my all, you . . .
3 From the halls of pow'r to the for - tress tow'r, not a
4 Though the na - tions rage from . . age to age, we re -



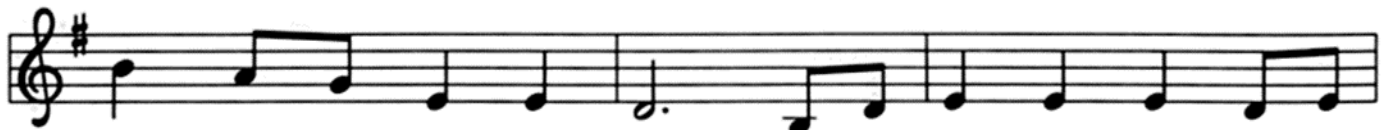
God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the
work great . . things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the
stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your
mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant . . . from his throne.
liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to
The hun - gry poor shall . . . weep no more, for the
This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my
those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the
food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry
prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.
mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.
crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.

SENDING

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

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Aiko Yamada Mancini

Participants in Worship

Pastor

Gary N. McCluskey

Worship Assistant

Nils Peterson

Lector

Randy McCluskey

Director of Music

Aiko Yamada Mancini

Video and Audio Production

Terry Pochert

Brian Mancini

Musicians

John Fillo, bass guitar

Nils Peterson, voice

Aiko Yamada Mancini, voice, piano