



December 20, 2020
Fourth Sunday of Advent
Peace Lutheran Church of Plymouth
Jesus' Birth Announced

PRELUDE

My Favorite Things

Richard Rodgers and

Oscar Hammerstein II

Of the Father's Love Begotten

arr. Christopher Schwinger

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING SONG

My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness

ELW 251

1 My soul pro-claims your great-ness, Lord; I sing my Sav - ior's praise!
2 To all who live in ho - ly fear your mer - cy ev - er flows.
3 To Is - ra - el, your ser - vant blest, your help is ev - er sure;

You looked up - on my low - li - ness, and I am full of grace.
With might - y arm you dash the proud, their schem-ing hearts ex - pose.
the prom - ise to our par - ents made their chil - dren will se - cure.

Now ev - 'ry land and ev - 'ry age this bless-ing shall pro - claim—
 The ruth-less you have cast a - side, the low - ly throned in - stead;
 Sing glo - ry to the Ho - ly One, give hon - or to the Word,
 great won - ders you have done for me, and ho - ly is your name.
 the hun - gry filled with all good things, the rich sent off un - fed.
 and praise the Pow'r of the Most High, one God, by all a - dored.

ADVENT CANDLE WREATH LIGHTING

ONE: There are many kinds of love in this world:

between parents and children, with extended family,
 for friends we have known all our lives, romance pressured by the season,
 and the selfless kindness of strangers.
 We're all looking for love.

The angel called on Mary to bring God-with-us into the world, to love and nurture Jesus.
 The conversation started with, "Do not be afraid!"

O, make us brave to say it!
 Love requires courage.

Light the first, second, third, and fourth candles (three blue and one pink)

ONE: "Happy is she who believed that the Lord would fulfill the promises he made to her."
 Our in-breaking God is love.

MANY: AMEN



PRAYER OF THE DAY

ONE: Father God,

There is no miracle as grand as birth. As we prepare for the coming of your son, Jesus, create in us new life. Transform us so that we may reflect the light of your son, and become beacons of goodness, kindness, compassion, generosity, honesty, patience, and peace, for the sake of the one whose name brings

deliverance and life to all the world, Jesus Christ, infant king.

MANY: AMEN

SCRIPTURE

Luke 1:39-49

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, ⁴⁰ where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹ When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit ⁴² and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. ⁴³ And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? ⁴⁴ For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵ And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

⁴⁶ And Mary said,

"My soul magnifies the Lord,

⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

⁴⁸ for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.

Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;

⁴⁹ for the Mighty One has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.

ONE: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

MANY: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Kjell M. Ferris

CREED

ONE: As we wait for the Christ child we continue to confess our faith in the Triune God.

MANY: **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 Jesus rose again;
 he ascended into heaven,
 is seated at the right hand of the Father,
 and 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**

GREENING OF THE HOME

Dan and Holly Anderson

PRAYERS

ONE: In the silence following each petition, we are invited to lift up to God - through a single word, short phrase or mental image - whatever concerns lie on your heart. Hold that word, phrase, or image in your mind, placing that concern before God in the silence.

Let us pray,

Emmanuel--God with us--you turned from glory to humility, taking on a human body to walk among us.
 Let us pray for the world you love, for the creation you breathed into being and for all your people.

Word of Life, we pray for your creation and all marginalized people...

Ruler of the Nations, we pray for the leaders and politicians of the world...

Emmanuel, Divine-with-us, we pray for your church...

Healer of our Every Ill, for those in need of healing in body, mind or spirit... Bunny Rova, Ron Mielke

Mighty Counselor, we pray for our own soul, body and mind...

Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through our Savior Jesus Christ.

MANY: AMEN

SHARING OF CHRIST'S PEACE

ONE: The peace of Christ be with you all.

MANY: And also with you.

ONE: Let us share a sign of God's peace with one another.

OFFERING

Before the Marvel of this Night

words by Jaroslav Vajda,
music by Carl Schalk

*Before the marvel of this night
Adoring, fold your wings and bow,
Then tear the sky apart with light
And with your news the world endow.*

*Proclaim the birth of Christ and peace,
That fear and death and sorrow cease;
Sing peace, sing peace, sing gift of peace,
Sing peace, sing gift of peace!*

*Awake the sleeping world with song,
This is the day the Lord has made.
Assemble here, celestial throng,
In royal splendor come arrayed.*

*Give earth a glimpse of heav'nly bliss,
A teasing taste of what they miss:
Sing bliss, sing bliss, sing endless bliss,
Sing bliss, sing endless bliss!*

*The love that we have always known,
Our constant joy and endless light,
Now to the loveless world be shown,
Now break upon its deathly night.*

*Into one song compress the love,
That rules our universe above:
Sing love, sing love, sing God is love,
Sing love, sing God is love!*

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER JESUS TAUGHT US

ONE: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us,

MANY: 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

WELCOME TO THE TABLE

COMMUNION MUSIC

Love Came Down at Christmas

Irish Melody

COMMUNION BLESSING

BENEDICTION

Isaiah 35: 3-4

ONE: Go from here with confidence and hope.

Strengthen those who are tired and exhausted;
comfort those who are anxious and fearful.

Say to them all:

“Be strong, and do not fear!

For God is coming—

Indeed, God is already here!

MANY: AMEN

An angel went from God to a town called Nazareth to a woman whose name was Mary.

The angel said to her, "Rejoice, O highly favored, for God is with you.

You shall bear a child, and his name shall be Jesus, the Chosen One of God Most High."

And Mary said, "I am the servant of my God, I live to do your will."



1., 3. My soul pro-claims your great-ness, O God, and my
2. You have cast the might - y down from their thrones, and up -



spir - it re - joic - es in you. You have looked with love on your
lift - ed the hum-ble of heart. You have filled the hun - gry with



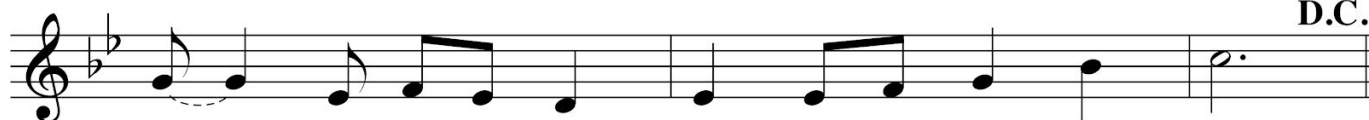
ser - vant here, and blessed me all my life through.
won - drous things, and left the wealth - y no part.



Great and might - y are you, O Ho - ly One,
Great and might - y are you, O Faith - ful One,



strong is your kind-ness ev - er - more. How you fa - vor the
strong is your jus - tice, strong your love, as you prom-ised to



weak and low - ly one, hum - bling the proud of heart!
Sar - ah and A - bra - ham, kind - ness for - ev - er - more.

DISMISSAL

P: Go in Peace, seeing Christ in our midst.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Beautiful Star of Bethlehem

Robert Fisher Boyce

Acknowledgements:

© Augsburg Fortress. All ELW elements used by permission of Augsburg Fortress under license #SBL14294.

The Confession and Prayers contain elements borrowed from the Vocation Reader, with permission from Westwood Lutheran Church, St. Louis Park, Minnesota.

ELW 251 *My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness*

Text from *With One Voice*, based on the Magnificat,
English Folk tune arranged by Ralph Vaughan Williams, KINGSFOLD,
used by permission of Augsburg Fortress under license #SBL14294.

W&P 36 *Emmanuel*

Text and music by Bob McGee.
We have requested permission to reprint this from Music Services, who owns the copyright.

Holden Evening Prayer - *Annunciation and Magnificat*

Text and music by Marty Haugen, © 1990, 2016 GIA Publications, Inc.,
used with permission by OneLicense.net #A-712130.

Serving today:

Preacher

Rev. Kjell M. Ferris

Pianists

Anne Phillips, Iris Ferris, Lisa Lukis

Violinists

Sonya Leppa, Sylvi Leppa

Advent Family

Mark and Pam Stavrum

Lector

Carol Forsberg

Vocalists

Iris Ferris, Nick Bonow, Donna Daubendiek, Annika Isbell,
Bobby Isbell, Stefanie Fiser Kleven, Dick & Martha Knutson,
Brian Lukis, Mirah Lukis

Bluegrass Group

Annika Isbell, Inger Trooien, Phil Trooien, Roberta Trooien

Worship Assistants

Eleanor Ferris, Heidi Ferris

Zoom & Livestream Coordinators

Stefanie Fiser Kleven, Scott Rusten,
Bob Samuelson & Jason Tofteland



PEACE
LUTHERAN CHURCH