

Peace

*She will name him
Immanuel.*

- Isaiah 7:14



New Life Ev. Lutheran Church

Lake Zurich, IL

...rooted in the word, growing in faith, reaching out to our uprooted world.

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Fourth Sunday in Advent--Peace December 19, 2021

A warm welcome to those who are visiting us today. You may hang your coat in the entry way of the church. The bathrooms are located in the basement of this building. Before you go home today, please sign our guest book located on the podium in the entry way. Also, refreshments are served in the basement after our service this morning. We invite you to join us for something to eat and drink.

Our lower level is wired for sound. If you need to take your child out during the service, you won't miss any of the sermon.

In the unlikely event of an emergency during this morning's service, you can exit the building using the main entryway or the exit to the right of the chancel. Our building does have a fire alarm system which is wired directly to the fire department. Remember, we follow the "Run, Hide, Fight" response in an emergency.

Before Service Prayer: O Immanuel, You came as promised and ransomed all those held captive by sin and death. Prepare our hearts for Christmas. Bless our pastor with faithfulness to proclaim Your powerful Word. Lead us to repent through the preaching of the law, and then lift our hope with Your gospel. By that Gospel, fill our hearts with peace. As ancient believers looked forward to Your first coming, teach us to look forward to Your second coming. Amen.

Today's Service: "Lead Us to Your Light" GIA gathering rite and Service of the Word, NPH, reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-800156 and under CCLI license #1132777.

Today's Theme: Our world is filled with turmoil, strife and contention. Every time it seems that our nation or even our own lives are at peace, again something disrupts it. Peace is as elusive as a slippery eel. Today's Readings point us to the truth that the peace we seek cannot come from the powers of the world, nor can it come from anything in our own hearts or our spiritual potential. Real peace comes from what seems like the least promising place: a little town, through the young Virgin. Peace comes from Bethlehem, from where God comes to us. From God's Word. From the Bread of Life in Holy Communion. Real peace comes to us, often beyond our understanding, through the babe of Bethlehem, Jesus Christ, through whom God made peace with us by a cross.

Pastor's Welcome

Opening Hymn: **CW 318** "Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding"

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

P: The mighty Lord has done great things and holy is His name.

C: We thank You, O Lord!

P: The Lord's mercy is for those who fear Him from generation to generation.

C: We adore You, O Lord!

P: The Lord has shown the strength of His arm.

C: We praise You, O Lord!

P: The Lord has helped His servant Israel, in remembrance of His mercy.

C: We worship You, O Lord!

P: Let us pray.

O Lord, let the lighting of these candles signify that You are the light that shines in all the darkness of our lives. As we wait, watch, hope, and pray, guide us all to reflect Your light and let it shine; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

Four Advent candles are lit.

LEAD US TO YOUR LIGHT

The soloist introduces the refrain. Then the congregation repeats the refrain and sings it again as indicated. The soloist sings the verses.



Rouse us from sleep, wake us from our slumber,
Banish the darkness of night. **Refrain.**

Child of the light and love beyond all telling,
Fill our hearts with wonder and praise. **Refrain.**

GREETING

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



C: A - men.

The musical notation is on a single staff in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of two measures. The first measure is in 2/4 time and contains a half note A. The second measure is in 3/4 time and contains a dotted quarter note. A slur connects the two notes.

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



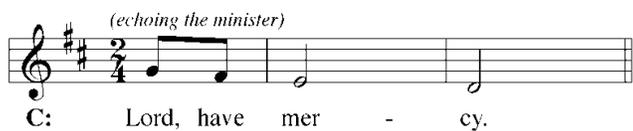
C: And al - so with you.

The musical notation is on a single staff in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of four measures. The first measure is a quarter note G. The second measure is a half note A. The third measure is a quarter note B. The fourth measure is a dotted quarter note. A slur connects the first two notes.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

P: The Lord Jesus comes to us and offers His grace and love. It is good for us to repent of our sins and to plead for His mercy.

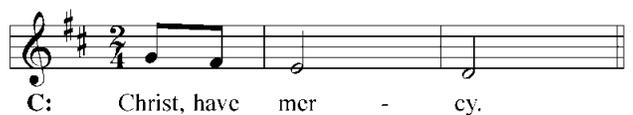
P: Lord Jesus, You came to gather the nations into the peace of God's kingdom. Lord, have mercy.



(echoing the minister)
C: Lord, have mer - cy.

The musical notation is on a single staff in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of three measures. The first measure is in 2/4 time and contains a half note G. The second measure is a whole note A. The third measure is a dotted quarter note. A slur connects the first two notes.

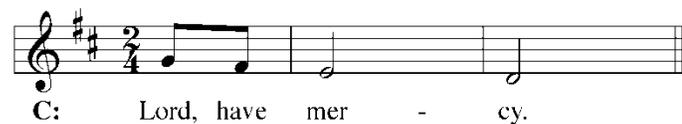
P: You come in Word and Sacrament to strengthen us in holiness. Christ, have mercy.



C: Christ, have mer - cy.

The musical notation is on a single staff in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of three measures. The first measure is in 2/4 time and contains a half note G. The second measure is a whole note A. The third measure is a dotted quarter note. A slur connects the first two notes.

P: You will come in glory with salvation for Your people. Lord, have mercy.



C: Lord, have mer - cy.

The musical notation is on a single staff in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of three measures. The first measure is in 2/4 time and contains a half note G. The second measure is a whole note A. The third measure is a dotted quarter note. A slur connects the first two notes.

P: May almighty God, have mercy on us, forgive our sins, and bring us to everlasting life. Amen.



C: A - men.

The musical notation is on a single staff in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of two measures. The first measure is in 2/4 time and contains a half note A. The second measure is in 3/4 time and contains a dotted quarter note. A slur connects the two notes.

ABSOLUTION

P: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given His only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy Spirit.

C: *Amen. (spoken)*

P: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord. (CWS 701)

1 Zi - on, at your shin - ing gates, See, the
2 Christ, your king - dom comes to - day As we
3 Come and give us peace with - in, Loose us
4 Give us grace your yoke to wear, Give us
5 So when you shall come a - gain, Lord of

King of glo - ry waits; Haste your mon - arch now to
hear your Spir - it say: "God's own Son, a sac - ri -
from the bands of sin, Take a - way the heav - y
strength your cross to bear, Make us yours in deed and
an - gels and of men, We with all your saints shall

greet, Spread your palms be - fore his feet.
fice— Sin - ners' way to par - a - dise."
weight Laid on us by greed and hate.
word, Yours in heart and life, O Lord.
sing Loud ho - san - nas to our King.

Prayer of the Day

P: 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.

C: **Amen.** (*spoken*)

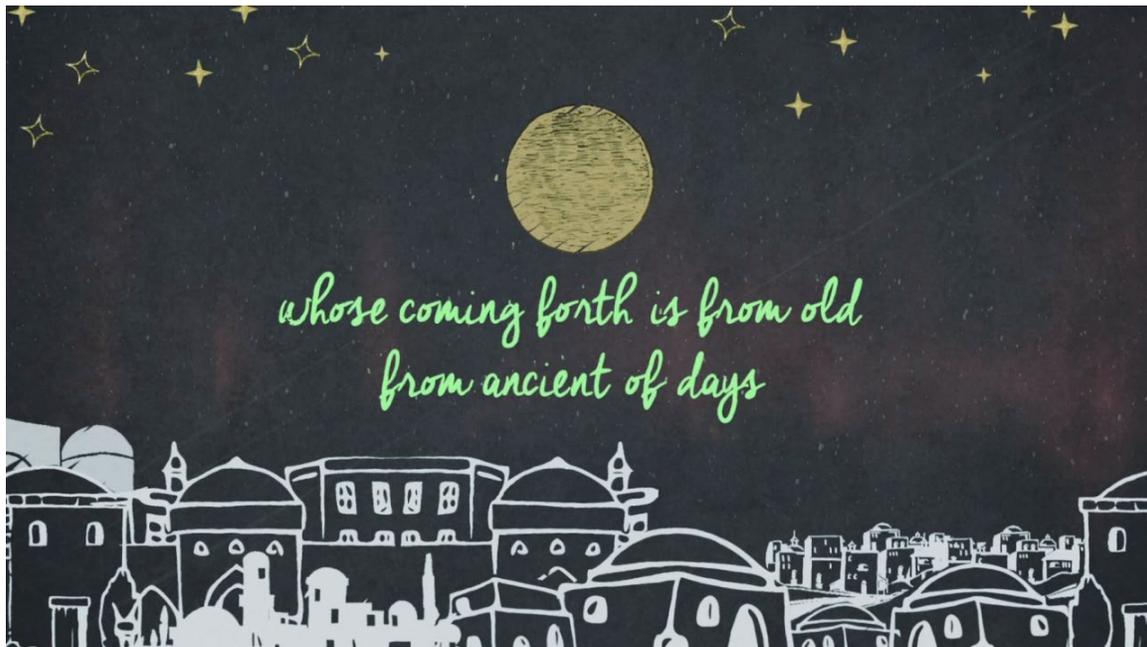
The First Lesson: **Micah 5:2-5a** (The humble, tiny town of Bethlehem would be exalted. For there a special Son would be born who would bring spiritual peace to the ends of the earth.)

²“But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah,
though you are small among the clans of Judah,
out of you will come for Me
One who will be ruler over Israel,
whose origins are from of old,
from ancient times.”

³Therefore Israel will be abandoned
until the time when she who is in labor bears a Son,
and the rest of His brothers return
to join the Israelites.

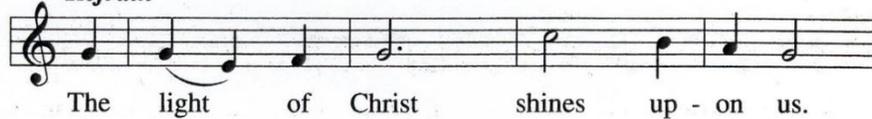
⁴He will stand and shepherd His flock
in the strength of the LORD,
in the majesty of the name of the LORD His God.
And they will live securely, for then His greatness
will reach to the ends of the earth.

⁵And He will be our peace... (NIV 2011)



Psalm of the Day: 72 CWS

Refrain



The light of Christ shines up - on us.



Praise his glo - ri - ous name.

Psalm Tone



Endow the King with your justice, O God,
the royal son with your righteousness.
He will defend the afflicted among the people
and save the children of the needy.

He will endure as long as the sun,
as long as the moon, through all generations.
He will be like rain falling on a mown field,
like showers watering the earth.

Refrain

All kings will bow down to him
and all nations will serve him.
All nations will be blessed through him,
and they will call him blessed.

May his name endure forever;
may it continue as long as the sun.
Praise be to the LORD God, who alone does marvelous deeds.
May the whole earth be filled with his glory.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Refrain

The Second Lesson: Hebrews 10:5-10 (We cannot do enough good works or offer enough sacrifices to raise ourselves up to God. So, the Son of God obeyed the law for us and by His sacrifice has made us holy.)

⁵ Therefore, when Christ came into the world, He said:

"Sacrifice and offering You did not desire,
but a body You prepared for Me;

⁶ with burnt offerings and sin offerings
You were not pleased.

⁷ Then I said, 'Here I am—it is written about Me in the scroll—
I have come to do Your will, My God.'"

⁸ First He said, "Sacrifices and offerings, burnt offerings and sin offerings You did not desire, nor were You pleased with them"—though they were offered in accordance with the law. ⁹ Then He said, "Here I am, I have come to do Your will." He sets aside the first to establish the second. ¹⁰ And by that will, we have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. (NIV 2011)

Verse of the Day: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a Son, and they will call Him Immanuel. (Matthew 1:23)

Alleluia! Come, Lord Jesus!
Hear Thy people as they pray,
For the herald's voice awakes us,
Calls us to prepare the way.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Anxiously we wait the Day! (CW 29)

The Gospel Lesson: Luke 1:39-55 (In Spirit wrought humility, Mary knew she needed a Savior. God lifts her up, making her the mother of that Savior.)

³⁹ At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, ⁴⁰ where she entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹ When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. ⁴² In a loud voice she exclaimed: "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! ⁴³ But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? ⁴⁴ As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵ Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill His promises to her!"

⁴⁶ And Mary said:

"My soul glorifies the Lord

⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

⁴⁸ for He has been mindful
of the humble state of His servant.

From now on all generations will call me blessed,

⁴⁹ for the Mighty One has done great things for me—
holy is His name.

⁵⁰ His mercy extends to those who fear Him,

from generation to generation.

- ⁵¹ He has performed mighty deeds with His arm;
He has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts.
⁵² He has brought down rulers from their thrones
but has lifted up the humble.
⁵³ He has filled the hungry with good things
but has sent the rich away empty.
⁵⁴ He has helped His servant Israel,
remembering to be merciful
⁵⁵ to Abraham and his descendants forever,
just as He promised our ancestors." (NIV 2011)

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise be to You, O Christ.**

Hymn of the Day: **CW Supplement 704** "Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending"

Sermon

A Creedal Hymn

**Creator of all things that are, the tiny atom, mighty star—
"Let there be light!" a voice was heard, the Father's all-creating Word.
That Word made flesh with us to dwell is Jesus, our Immanuel!
Our voices here combine to praise our God, divine!**

**By God the Holy Ghost conceived, from Mary human form received,
With us He lived, for us He died, by Pontius Pilate crucified.
Raised from the dead victorious, this is Christ Jesus, God with us!
Our many voices, one, sing praise to God the Son!**

**The Spirit of the Lord is sent, active in word and sacrament,
To bind the Church below, above, in cords of sin-forgiving love
Till, raised from death, we e'er shall dwell with Jesus, our Immanuel.
With Son and Father praise to Spirit now we raise. (CW 4)**

The Offering

The Offertory "Away in a Manger," played by the Tone Chime Choir.

The Prayer of the Church

The 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.

The Closing Collect

P: Lord God, You have called Your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage and a hope that cannot be extinguished, not knowing where we go but only that Your hand is leading us, Your love supporting us and Your Son abiding with us; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

The Benediction

P: The blessing of God Almighty—the Father who created us, the Son who saved us and shall return to welcome us home, and the Holy Spirit who creates and nourishes the faith that Jesus is the Lord—be with you now and forever.

C: Amen.

The Closing Hymn: CW 321 “God’s Own Son Most Holy”

Announcements

Our Father’s Business in the Coming Week
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Cleaning this Week: Berg / James

Today—Fourth Sunday in the Season of Advent Service at 9:30 AM
Sunday School and Sunday morning Bible Class at 10:45 AM
Preschool Christmas Program at 1:30 PM
Confirmation Class at 6:00 PM

Thursday—Sunday School Christmas Eve Service rehearsal—6:30 PM to 8:00 PM

Friday—Christmas Eve service at 6:30 PM

Saturday—Christmas Day Service at 10:30 AM

Sunday—First Sunday of Christmas Communion Service at 9:30 AM
Sunday School and Sunday morning Bible Class at 10:45 AM
No Confirmation Class

FELLOWSHIP

A new fellowship sheet has been posted. If you'd like to bring something to eat and drink after the service on Sunday, use the sign-up sheet to reserve a Sunday.

POINSETTIAS

If you'd like to purchase a poinsettia plant to adorn the Lord's chancel during the Christmas season, see the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the lower level. Today is the last day to sign-up for a poinsettia plant.

SEVEN HABITS OF JESUS

In his "Seven Marks of the Church" (Luther's Works, vol. 41, pp. 148-168) Luther outlines seven identifying marks of the Church. Those same seven marks can be turned into seven habits which are helpful in living a God-lived life.

The 7 Habits of Jesus

- 1) **REMEMBERING.....our baptismal adoption into God's family**
- 2) **LISTENING.....to God's law and gospel voice in Scripture**
- 3) **PRAYING.....for God's help with all our daily needs**
- 4) **PREPARING.....to hear God's forgiving voice in worship**
- 5) **RETURNING.....a percentage of what God has given us**

The world lets itself be deceived that wealth is an unfailing indication of God's favor. We think it natural that if we have good fortune, wealth and health that we have been blessed by God. This sort of deduction is utter nonsense. God does not bestow riches on us so we may draw conclusions about His graciousness. God has given us a greater blessing from which we may draw a more proper conclusion—He give us faith as a free gift of His grace. Faith is the best indicator that we have been blessed by God! (Martin Luther)

- 6) **INVITING.....others to baptism and Christ's mission**
- 7) **CARING....for others and creation with God's love**

365 DAY BIBLES

A supply of 365 Day Bible is available on the table around the corner from the entryway. This Bible divides the Scriptures into 365 daily readings consisting of an Old Testament lesson, a New Testament lesson and then either a section from the Psalms or Proverbs. January 1st is an ideal time to begin an effort to read through the Bible in one year.

OFFERING ENVELOPES

The offering envelopes for the calendar year 2022 have been assigned. You can pick up your offering envelopes on the table around the corner from the chapel entryway.

Upcoming Special Services

Christmas Eve Day Children's Service

Friday, Dec. 24th at 6:30 PM

Christmas Day Service

Saturday, Dec. 25th at 10:30 AM

