

Mt. Horeb Lutheran Church



Fourth Sunday of Advent December 22, 2024, 10am

Welcome to Mt. Horeb Lutheran Church! We greet one another as sisters and brothers in Christ and welcome all who may be visiting. We are delighted that you are here to worship, first time visitors, and encourage you to sign our guest book in the entry hall. Please fill out a visitor's card in the pew holders and place it in the offertory plate. HOLY COMMUNION is open to all who confess their faith in Jesus and acknowledge Him to be Lord. Those unable to partake of wine are assured the Church affirms our Lord's presence in, with and under the bread alone.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: *My Soul Magnifies the Lord*
J.S. Bach/Peter Baekgaard

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

We stand

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, alive in the world,
reviving creation, arriving soon.

C **Amen**

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one
another.

Silence is kept for reflection

P God of mercy,

C **we confess that we have sinned. We trust earthly
powers and human authority alone. We grow
fearful. We cling to false comforts.**

P God of might,
C **we confess that we have sinned. We have turned away from our neighbors. We have trusted false promises.**

P God in our midst,
C **we confess that we have sinned. We plead: come to us. Bring your mercy to birth in us.**

P A righteous branch springs forth: it is Christ the Lord, our Savior, in whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy. By the power of the Holy Spirit, receive the grace and forgiveness of God through ✚ Christ Jesus, whose day draws near.

C **Amen.**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH



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!

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954, copyright © 1984 Fortress Press. Used by permission.
Music: TIF IN VELDELE, Yiddish folk tune.

P Let us pray:
Blessed are you, God of hosts, for you promised to send a son, Emmanuel, who brought your presence among us; and you promise through your Son Jesus to save us from our sin. As we light these candles, turn again to us in mercy; strengthen our faith in the word spoken by your prophets; restore us and give us life that we may be saved.

C **O house of David, come, let us rejoice, for the Son of God, Emmanuel, comes to be with us. Amen.**

ENTRANCE HYMN: #266 *All Earth Is Hopeful*

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.

KYRIE

Cantor: In peace, let us pray to the Lord:



All: Lord, have mer-cy. Lord, have mer-cy. Lord, have mer-cy on us!

Cantor: *Lord Jesus, you came to gather all people into the peace of your kingdom, let us pray to the Lord:*



All: Lord, have mer-cy. Lord, have mer-cy. Lord, have mer-cy on us!

Cantor: *Christ Jesus, you come in Word and Sacrament to strengthen us in holiness, let us pray to the Lord:*



All: Christ, have mer-cy. Christ, have mer-cy. Christ, have mer-cy on us!

Cantor: *Lord Jesus, you will come in glory with salvation for your people, let us pray to the Lord:*



All: Lord, have mer-cy. Lord, have mer-cy. Lord, have mer-cy on us!

Ukrainian Orthodox Church liturgical setting made popular
by its use at the World Council of Churches' Sixth Assembly, Vancouver, British Columbia, 1983.
Advent Invocations: Church of England.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray:

C **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.**

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.

We sit

FIRST READING: MALACHI 5:2-5A

- ² 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.
- ³ 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.
- ⁴ 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;
- ^{5a} and he shall be the one of peace.

L The Word of the Lord. C **Thanks Be to God!**

GOSPEL CANTICLE: LUKE 1:46B-55 [*the Magnificat*]



- ^{46b} My soul proclaims the greatness | of the Lord,
⁴⁷ my 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:
- ⁴⁹ you, 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.
- ⁵¹ You 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.

⁵³ You 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,**

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

SECOND READING: HEBREWS 10:5-10

⁵ Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said,

“Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,
but a body you have prepared for me;

⁶ in burnt offerings and sin offerings
you have taken no pleasure.

⁷ 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).”

⁸ When he said above, “You have neither desired nor taken pleasure
in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offer-
ings” (these are offered according to the law), ⁹ then he added, “See,
I have come to do your will.” He abolishes the first in order to es-
tablish the second. ¹⁰ And it is by God’s will that we have been sanc-
tified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks Be to God!**

We stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



HOLY GOSPEL: LUKE 1:39-55

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 3rd Chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord! (*spoken boldly*)

³⁹ 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.

⁵⁰ His mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.

⁵¹ He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.

⁵² He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,
and lifted up the lowly;

⁵³ he has filled the hungry with good things,
and sent the rich away empty.

⁵⁴ He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,

⁵⁵ according to the promise he made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ! (*spoken boldly*)

We sit

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

SERMON: "Who Listens, Loves & Laughs with you?"

The Reverend Ron Philabaum

We stand

HYMN OF THE DAY: #263 *Savior of the Nations, Come!*

Stanzas 1-4, 6

NICENE CREED

P With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

C **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 man.

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 OF THE FAITHFUL

After each portion of the prayers:

P Lord in your mercy, C **receive our prayer.**

SHARING OF CHRIST'S PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

We sit

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: *My Soul Is Filled with Joy*

*My soul is filled with joy as I sing to God my savior:
You have looked upon your servant, You have visited your people.*

Chorus:

*And holy is your name through all generations!
Everlasting is your mercy to the people you have chosen,
And holy is your name.*

*I am lowly as a child, but I know from this day forward
That my name will be remembered, for all will call me blessed. Chorus*

*I proclaim the pow'r of God, You do marvels for your servants;
Though you scatter the proud-hearted And destroy the might of princes.*

*To the hungry you give food, send the rich away empty.
In your mercy you are mindful of the people you have chosen.*

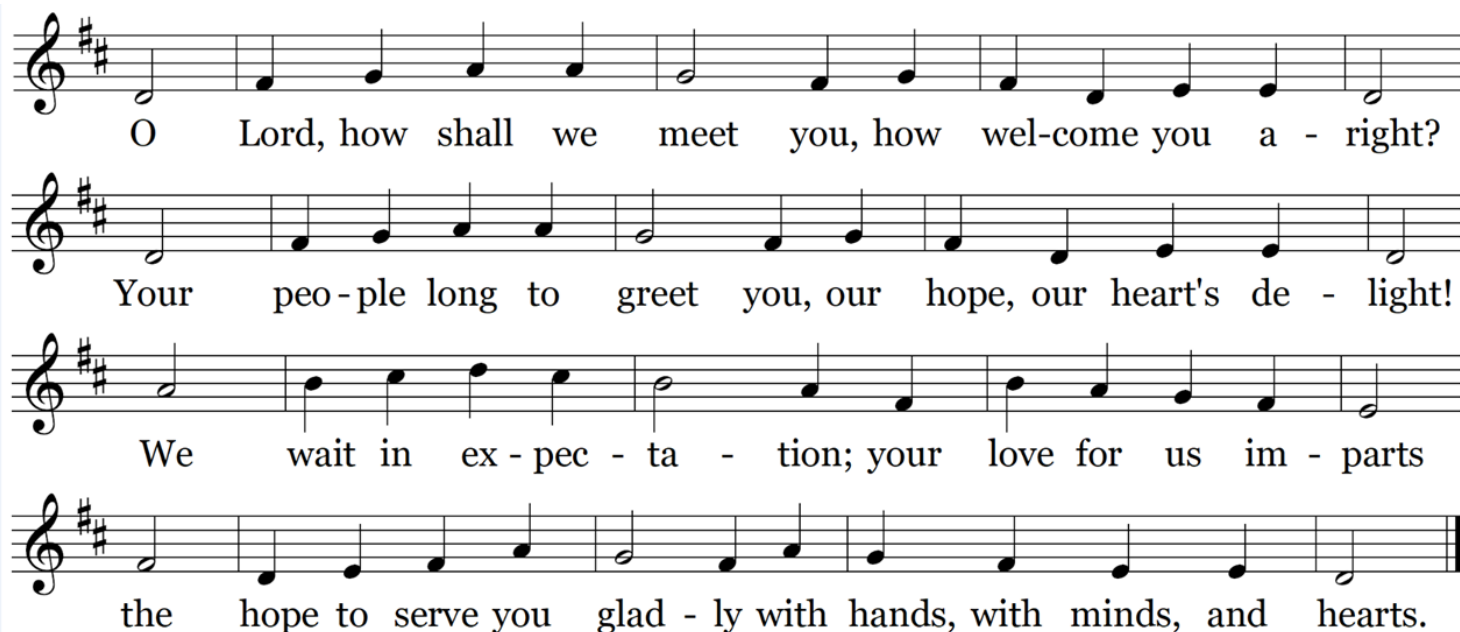
*In your love you now fulfill what you promised to your people.
I will praise you, Lord, my savior, everlasting is your mercy.*

Text: Paraphrase of the Magnificat, *Songs of the Spirit*, 1978.

Music: WILD MOUNTAIN THYME, Scottish traditional

We stand

OFFERTORY SONG: *O Lord, How Shall We Meet You*



O Lord, how shall we meet you, how wel-come you a - right?
Your peo-ple long to greet you, our hope, our heart's de - light!
We wait in ex - pec - ta - tion; your love for us im - parts
the hope to serve you glad - ly with hands, with minds, and hearts.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607-1676, st. 1 alt., RDH 2023.

Tune: WIE SOLL ICH DICH EMPFANGEN, Johann Crüger, 1598-1662.

PRAYER

P Let us pray:

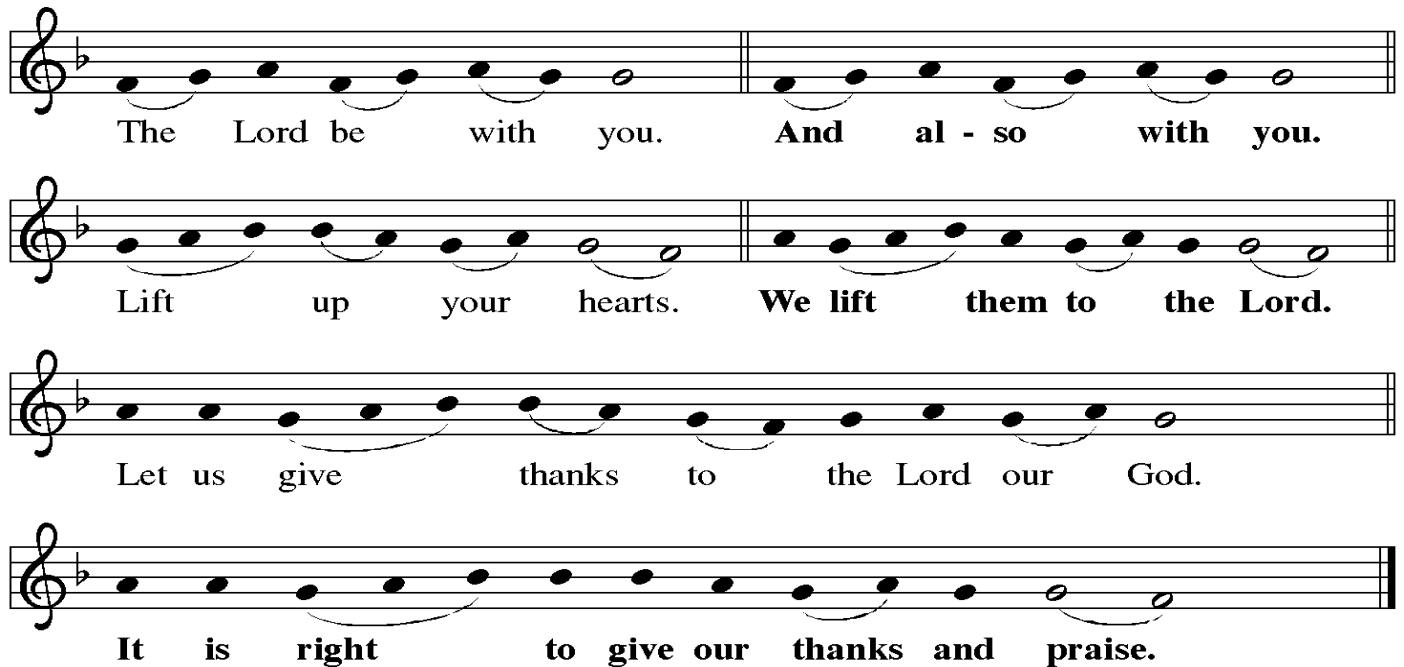
C **Creator God, you made the whole world, even the farthest stars, and you draw near to feed us. We praise you for these gifts of bread and wine. Strengthen us with this food that we may live in expectation for the advent of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

GOD IS OUR
provider

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

HOLY COMMUNION



P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness.

And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

P Holy God, the Beginning and the End, our Salvation and our Hope,
we praise you for creating a world of order and beauty.
When we brought on chaos, cruelty and despair,
you sent the prophets to proclaim your justice and mercy.
At this end of the ages your Son Jesus came to bring us your love
and to heal all the suffering world.
In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

- P Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.
- P Remembering, therefore, his life, death, and resurrection, we await his coming again in righteousness and peace. Send your Spirit on us and on this bread and wine we share: strengthen our faith, increase our hope, and bring to birth the justice and joy of your Son. Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever. **Amen**

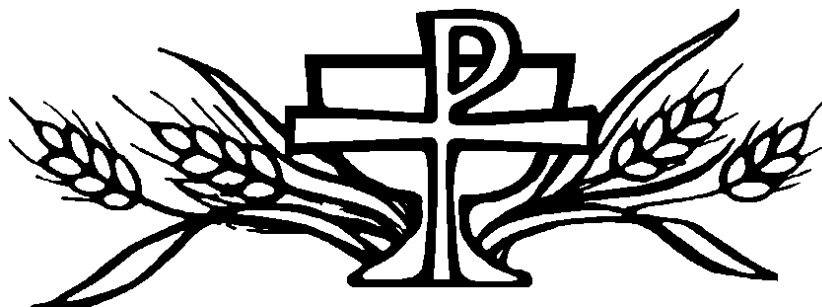
THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

We sit

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

- P God feeds us with tender mercy. Come, take your place at the table.



I am the bread of life

COMMUNION MUSIC: *O Christ, Thou Lamb of God*

O Christ, thou Lamb of God that tak - est a-way the sin of the world,
have mer - cy up - on us! O Christ, thou Lamb of God that tak -
est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us!
O Christ, thou Lamb of God that tak - est a-way the sin of the world,
grant us thy peace! A - men

Text: German, 1528, based on the Agnus Dei; tr. unknown

Music: CHRISTE, DU LAMM GOTTES, *Kirchenordnung*, Braunschweig, 1528

COMMUNION MUSIC: #487: *What Feast of Love Is Offered Here?*
#482: *I Come with Joy, A Child of God*

We stand

BLESSING

L The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and
keep you in his grace.

C **Amen**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Generous God, we thank you for the gift of life, for the bread of salvation. We thank you for coming among us, for leading us into peace. We thank you for showering us with mercy, for sending us into the world. Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us as we feed the hungry in your name.

C **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. In the name of the Father
✙ and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN: #439 *Soon and Very Soon*

DISMISSAL

L Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE: *Savior of the Nations, Come!*

Peter Gerritz





Mt. Horeb Lutheran Church
101 East Boundary Street, Chapin, SC 29036
803-345-2000 - www.mthoreb.net

To participate in God's mission, this congregation as a part of the Church shall

WORSHIP: *Joyfully proclaim the Word of God*
LEARN: *Dutifully study, teach and live the Word of God*
WITNESS: *Boldly share the Word of God*
SERVE: *Humbly and enthusiastically respond to the Word of God*
SUPPORT: *Gladly give our time, talent and treasures motivated by the Word of God*

DISCIPLES:
All Members of Mt. Horeb

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**CONGREGATION
COUNCIL**

OFFICERS

Vice Chair: Katie Morgan
Secretary: Trina Free
Treasurer: Lisa Smith

MEMBERS

Lisa McDonald
Laurie Schmidt
Travis Goodman
Cameron Prince
Katie Morgan
Rae Davis
Heather Adams
Diane Senn
Tom Griffin
Greg Shealy
Sandra McKie

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