

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 22, 2024

Virtual Bulletin with Holy Communion, Every Day God

Hill Avenue Grace Lutheran Church

Rev. Garry Mohr, Interim Pastor

Douglas Shabe, Director of Music

Hannah Lee, Organist

Jessica Sandidge, Soprano

Angela Jorgensen, Assistant Minister

Sue Rose, Lector

Bonnie Mohr and Sue Rose, Sunday School

Order of the Liturgy

Prelude

"The First Noël"

arr. Kevin Olson

LIGHTING OF THE 4TH CANDLE

Praise to you, O God, who lives with us, sharing our flesh and bones. As Mary waited and Joseph dreamed, so we dream and wait for you. Bless us and let your face shine upon us, more radiant than these candles, and more dear than all else we seek. Restore us when we fail to refuse the evil and choose the good, and banish all our fears. We pray in the name of Emmanuel, your promised child and our Savior.

Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS FOR ADVENT

In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you 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 Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin against God and our neighbor.

Most merciful God,



Hill Ave Grace
Lutheran Church

we confess to you with our whole heart our neglect and forgetfulness of your commandments: our wrong thinking, speaking, and acting; the hurts we have done to others; and the good we have left undone. O God, forgive us, for we have sinned against you. Raise us to newness of life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hear this promise of Almighty God: He prepares in our hearts a royal highway for his Son's near approach, and cleanses us from all our sins. He drives away the darkness of sin and death, that we may behold the glory of his Son, the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

OPENING HYMN**Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus****ELW 254**

1 Come, thou long-ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;
2 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king;



from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king-dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art,
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir-it rule in all our hearts a - lone;



dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long-ing heart.
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788
Music: JEFFERSON, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

GREETING

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

And also with you.

ADVENT HYMN OF PRAISE: Every Day God*Congregation - sing at bold print*

<p><i>Earth's creator,</i> Everyday God <i>Loving Maker</i> O Jesus <i>You who shaped us</i> O spirit, <i>Recreate us,</i> Come be with us.</p> <p><i>In your presence,</i> Everyday God <i>We are gathered.</i> O Jesus, <i>You have called us,</i> O Spirit, <i>To restore us,</i> Come be with us.</p> <p><i>In our dreaming,</i> Everyday God <i>In our daring.</i> O Jesus, <i>In our searching.</i> O Spirit, <i>In our sharing,</i> Come be with us.</p>	<p><i>God of laughter,</i> Everyday God <i>God of sorrow,</i> O Jesus, <i>God of shelter,</i> O Spirit, <i>Strong and patient,</i> Come be with us.</p> <p><i>Word of gladness,</i> Everyday God <i>Word of mercy,</i> O Jesus, <i>Word of friendship,</i> O Spirit, <i>Word of challenge,</i> Come be with us.</p> <p><i>Our beginning,</i> Everyday God <i>Our Unfolding,</i> O Jesus, <i>Our enduring,</i> O Spirit <i>Journey's ending,</i> Come be with us.</p>	<p><i>Alleluia,</i> Everyday God <i>Now and always,</i> O Jesus, <i>Alleluia,</i> O spirit, <i>Through the ages.</i> Come be with us.</p> <p><i>Bernadette Farrell</i> <i>Restless is the Heart</i></p>
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PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.**

ADVENT HYMN**"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"****ELW 257***Congregation sings verse 7 & 8 only*

7 O come, O King of nations, come, O Cornerstone that binds in one:
refresh the hearts that long for you; restore the broken, make us new.

Refrain

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

8 O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. *Refrain*

FIRST READING: Micah 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.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Luke 1:46b-55 *The congregation responds with the bold verses.*

^{46b} My soul proclaims the greatness ¹ of the Lord, ⁴⁷ my spirit rejoices in ¹ God my Savior,

⁴⁸ **for you, Lord, have looked with favor on your ¹ lowly servant.**

From this day all generations will ¹ call me blessed:

⁴⁹ you, the Almighty, have done great ¹ things for me and holy ¹ is your name.

⁵⁰ **You have mercy on ¹ those who fear you, from generation to ¹ generation.**

⁵¹ You have shown strength ¹ with your arm and scattered the proud in ¹ their conceit,

⁵² **casting down the mighty ¹ from their thrones and lifting ¹ up the lowly.**

⁵³ You have filled the hungry ¹ with good things and sent the rich ¹ away empty.

⁵⁴ **You have come to the aid of your ¹ servant Israel, to remember the prom- ¹ ise of mercy,**

⁵⁵ the promise made ¹ to our forebears, to Abraham and his chil- ¹ 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, 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 offerings” (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 establish the second. ¹⁰ And it is by God’s will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the

words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

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

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

GOSPEL: Luke 1:39-45 [46-55]

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 lowly state 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 indeed, 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 imagination 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 come to the aid of his child Israel, in remembrance of his mercy,

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

The Gospel of our Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pastor Garry Mohr

SERMON

Pastor Garry Mohr

HYMN OF THE DAY

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

ELW 272

1 Lo, how a rose e'er bloom - ing from ten - der stem hath
 2 I - sai - ah had fore - told it, the rose I have in
 3 This flow'r, whose fra - grance ten - der with sweet-ness fills the
 4 O Sav - ior, child of Mar - y, who felt our hu - man

sprung! Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing as
mind; with Mar - y we be - hold it, the
air, dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor the
woe; O Sav - ior, king of glo - ry, who

seers of old have sung, it came, a flow'r so bright, a -
vir - gin moth - er kind. To show God's love a - right, she
dark - ness ev - 'ry - where. True man, yet ver - y God, from
dost our weak - ness know: bring us at length, we pray, to

mid the cold of win - ter, when half - spent was the night.
bore to us a Sav - ior, when half - spent was the night.
sin and death he saves us and light - ens ev - 'ry load.
the bright courts of heav - en and in - to end - less day.

Text: German carol, 15th cent.; tr. Theodore Baker, 1851–1934, sts. 1-2; Harriet R. Krauth,
1845–1925, st. 3; John C. Mattes, 1876–1948, st. 4
Music: ES IST EIN ROS, *Alte catholische geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1599; arr. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621

APOSTLES' CREED

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

Each petition ends with "Lord, in your mercy," The assembly responds with "hear our prayer."

SHARING OF THE PEACE - *The presiding and the assembly share a virtual sign of peace.*
The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

"Sing, Angels, Kings, and Folk"

- Ben Allaway

What did the angels see when they looked down upon this ordinary town?

What could a humble village have in store, with heavenly legions o'er?

What did the star reveal in the night?

A woman in her plight, a husband reaching for an open door.

What did the oxen hear that bade them low? It wasn't time to plough or tow.

Who were these strangers huddling from the cold, a mother young, the father old?

What simple comfort could they hope to find to ease her in her time?

A manger's warmth, a sleeping lamb to hold.

What glorious voices woke the shepherds then in joys cascading 'cross the heav'n?

What messages brought them running to the town to join the welcome gath'ring 'round?

"Sing alleluia to this King newborn to save the meek and worn, lamb to the lost, the found."

How all the angels still take up the song 'cross the world both wide and long,
the star-anointed path is bright ahead for those who seek the manger bed.

Sing, angels, kings, and folk from town and hill your alleluias still,

believe, believe, believe and let the Spirit song be fed. Alleluia!

OFFERING PRAYER - *All speak the prayer together.*

Holy God, receive these tokens of our love for you. Make them holy, and use them as you desire, for the glory of your coming Kingdom, and for the well-being of the people you long to redeem. This we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

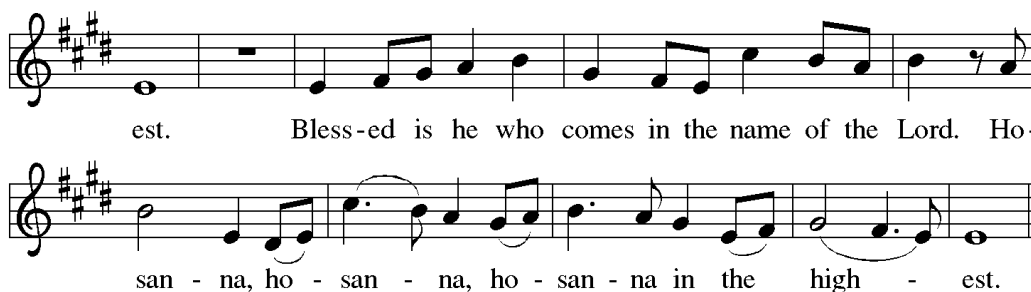
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right...we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -



est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

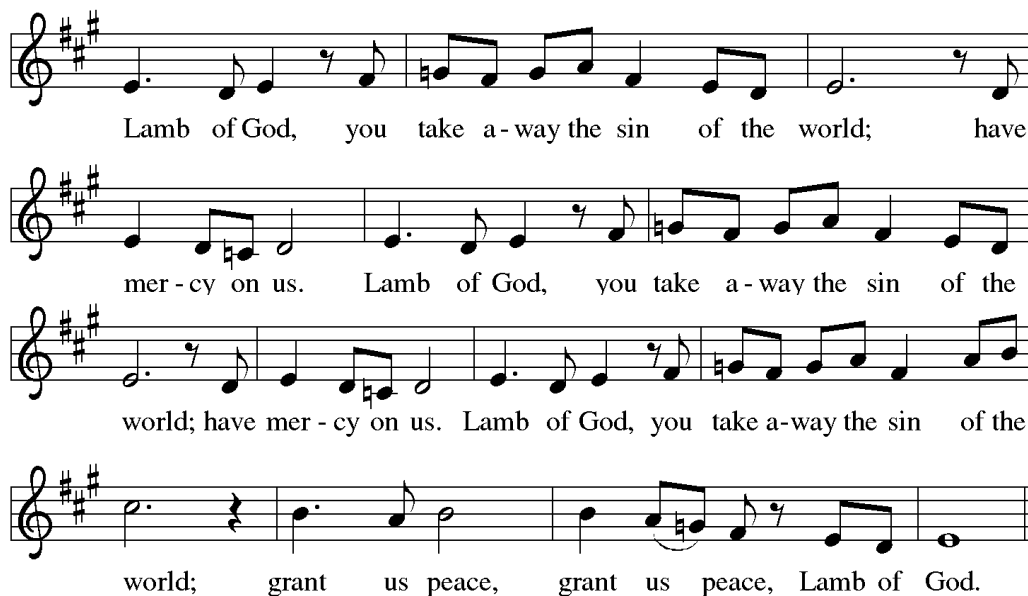
HOLY COMMUNION

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

*All are invited into a time of reflection before they receive communion. During this time, you may prepare your hearts to receive the sacrament. Once ready, you may commune yourself and those around you with the bread and wine/grape juice. A representative from each household may say the following—bread: “**The body of Christ given for you.**” Wine/grape juice: “**The blood of Christ shed for you.**”*

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep in his grace, now and forever. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION - All speak the prayer together.

Almighty and ever-living God, we give you thanks for these heavenly gifts. Kindle in us the fire of your Spirit. When your Christ comes again, make us shine as lights before his face; who is alive and reigns now and forever. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS**BLESSING**

May the Lord bless you, may the Lord keep you, the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and grant you his peace. In the name of the Father, the † Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN**Love Has Come****ELW 292**

1 Love has come— a light in the dark - ness! Love shines forth in the
 2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der. Love is God now a -
 3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us! Love is life ev - er -



Beth - le - hem skies. See, all heav - en has come to pro - claim it;
 sleep in the hay. See the glow in the eyes of his moth - er;
 last - ing and free. Love is Je - sus with - in and a - mong us.



hear how their song of joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to
 what is the name her heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the
 Love is the peace our hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the



you, a Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.
 name she whis - pers; Love! Love! Je - sus, Im - man - u - el.
 gift of Christ - mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

Text: Ken Bible, b. 1950

Music: UN FLAMBEAU, F. Seguin, *Recueil de noëls composés en langue provençale*, 1856

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DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude*"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"*

arr. Timothy Brown

*This week's altar flowers are donated by Kris Pilon with thanks to
 God for my daughter Nathalie on her 30th birthday.*

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Calendar This Week		
Every Sunday	10:00 AM	Virtual & In-Person Worship
Tues 12/24/24	5:00 PM	Christmas Eve Service – Virtual and In-Person
Wed 12/25/24		Merry Christmas!!
Sat 12/28/24	9:30 AM	Food Shelf Open

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Join us for mid-week Advent worship services at 7 pm, for the first 3 Wednesdays of December, either in person or online!

We will be having **Christmas Eve service in-person and online at 5 pm on the 24th**, so please mark your calendar!

Bible Study is now on break. We hope you will join us when Bible Study returns on Wednesday January 8th at 10 am in the Chapel.

If you are **interested in participating in the bell choir for Christmas Eve** service, please contact Bonnie Henry or the office for details.

The 2025 Offering books are now available. If you received one last year, please look for your book in the narthex, or contact the office to arrange a pick-up. If you'd like an Offering book for 2025, contact the office and a book will find it's way to you!!

Join us this Sunday at 10 AM for our Virtual Worship via Zoom!

Check in a few minutes early and hear the prelude! We look forward to seeing your faces and worshipping together!

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/95007590439?pwd=M2NmMUZCZzhMOUY0SG8xeHpzcU5RUT09>

Meeting ID: 950 0759 0439

Passcode: worship

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,95007590439#,,,,*4584517# US (San Jose)

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+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

Meeting ID: 950 0759 0439

Passcode: 4584517

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ALTAR GUILD ANNOUNCEMENT

It is time to begin thinking about decorating our sanctuary for Christmas!

If you wish to purchase a poinsettia plant, please complete the following form and place it **AND your check** (made payable to Hill Avenue Grace Lutheran) in an envelope.

You can mail it to the church office or place it in the offering plate.

Please earmark all checks for **POINSETTIAS**. The cost per plant this year will be \$16.50.

Please complete the following form and turn it in by **SUNDAY, December 22ND.**
That is the absolute deadline. Thank you!

I am donating \$_____ for the following:

In memory of:

In honor of:

In thanksgiving for:

Other:

Given by: (Please list names as you want them to appear in the bulletin)

Envelope Number _____