

Fourth Sunday in Advent
December 20, 2020
Welcome
Silent Meditation

Call to Worship: Call to Worship: Luke 2:14

"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"

Hymn: Joy to the World
Invocation

#195

The Law of Christ

Col 3:5ff

Leader: The Apostle Paul summarized the moral law of God by saying,

Congregation: Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. Because of these, the wrath of God is coming. But now you must rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices

Leader: Beloved we have not done this as we ought; therefore let us corporately confess our sin:

Corporate Confession of sin:

O Lord our God you are genuine and true – always. We are not. We tend to say one thing and do another. We hide behind sham and faking. We are guilty of forms of hypocrisy that we are still unaware of. You know us inside and out and you are fully aware of all those times we judge others and do the same things.

Lord we are sinners and have been from the beginning of our lives. Our only hope is in the sacrifice and genuine righteousness of your only begotten Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. In Him we find salvation; so in Him forgive us and renew us. So as we celebrate the incarnation of your blessed Son, turn us from hypocrisy to integrity. May we embrace and live the truth of Christ in all we do.

Personal (silent)

Assurance of Pardon: Acts 10:43

All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Congregation: We give praise to God for although he was angry with us his anger has been turned away and by faith in Christ our sins are forgiven.

Pastor: How far has he separated your sins from you?

Congregation: As far as the East is from the West, and he has replaced them with the righteousness of Christ

All: **Praise and glory be to God our Father and to his Son Jesus our only Savior!**

Response:

Minister: It is good to praise the LORD and make music to your name, O Most High, to proclaim your love in the morning and your faithfulness at night. (Ps 92:1)

Congregation: **For you make me glad by your deeds, O LORD; I sing for joy at the works of your hands. How great are your works, O LORD, how profound your thoughts!** (Ps 92:4-5)

Hymn: O Little Town of Bethlehem

#201

Confession of Faith: Formula of Chalcedon AD 451

We all with one accord acknowledge one and the same Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, at once complete in Godhead and complete in manhood, truly God and truly man, consisting also of a reasonable soul and body; of one substance with the Father as regards his Godhead, and at the same time of one substance with us as regards his manhood; like us in all respects, apart from sin; as regards his Godhead, begotten of the Father before the ages, but yet as regards his manhood begotten, for us men and for our salvation, of Mary the Virgin, one and the same Christ, Son, Lord, Only-begotten, recognized in two natures, without confusion, without change, without division, without separation; the distinction of natures being in no way annulled by the union, but rather the characteristics of each nature being preserved and coming together to form one person and subsistence, not as parted or separated into two persons, but one and the same Son and Only-begotten God the Word, Lord Jesus Christ...

Hymn: God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen

#211

Children's song:

In the Fullness of Time
God sent forth his Son
He was made under the law
To redeem us

Pastoral Prayer

OT Reading: Isa 62

Psalter: Ps 98 Come, Let Us Sing unto the Lord

#16

NT Responsive Reading: Luke 2:1-11

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered.

This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria.

And all went to be registered, each to his own town.

And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house

and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child.

And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth.

And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear.

And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

Sermon: The Lord Has Made His Salvation Known

Ps 98

Dr Matt Seufert

Lord's Supper

Bread: What Child Is This

#213

Cup: Jesus, Name Above All Names,

Jesus, name above all names;
Beautiful Savior, glorious Lord.
Emmanuel, God is with us;
Blessed Redeemer, Living Word.

I Am, Lord of the Gentiles,
Lord God Almighty, Prince of Peace.
El-Shaddai, God is sufficient,
Shepherd of souls, King of Kings.

Lily of the valley
Son of David, Rose of Sharon.
The Alpha and Omega,
Seed of Jesse, Morning Star.

Jesus, our Intercessor,
Promised Messiah, Bread of Life.
The giver of living water,
Pro-pit-i-a-tion, Son of God.

Offering:

Doxology:

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise him all creatures here below.
Praise him above ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Prayer

Closing Song: **May the Grace of Christ Our Savior**

May the grace of Christ our Savior
And the Father's boundless love,
With the Holy Spirit's favor,
Rest upon us from above.

Thus may we abide in union
With each other and the Lord,
And possess, in sweet communion,
Joys, which earth cannot afford.

Benediction

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