

Fourth Sunday in Advent  
December 18, 2022  
Welcome  
Silent Meditation

Call to Worship: Psalm 147:1

Praise the LORD. How good it is to sing praises to our God, how pleasant and fitting to praise him!

Hymn: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel  
Invocation

#194

The Law of Christ:

Eph 4:21-24

Pastor: The Apostle Paul summarized the moral law of God when he said:

**Congregation: Surely you heard of him and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus. You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.**

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

Corporate Confession of sin:

**Gracious God and heavenly Father we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved you with all of our soul nor have we loved you with all of our mind. We know this is the greatest commandment and in not keeping it we recognize and confess that we are great sinners. We have loved ourselves before our neighbor and you. Our agenda, our demands, our comfort and pleasures are so often more important to us than your will and your glory.**

**Though we are redeemed by the precious blood of Christ, we still bear the scars of Adam in our everyday lives. Help us! Grant us your mercy.**

**Help us to see the Gospel more clearly and the Christ of that Gospel most clearly. May the love, mercy and truth of our blessed Savior transform us from the inside out. Make our lives a light before the fallen world, through Jesus our only Savior, Amen**

Personal (silent)

Assurance of Pardon: Ps 103:2-4

Praise the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits--who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion,

**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**

Pastor: Colossians 3:1

If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup> Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.

<sup>3</sup> For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

Congregation: **We praise you for the position we have in Christ. We pray that our lives will reflect him in all we do. Thank you that in Christ we too have died to sin. Help us to set our minds on the heavenly things so that we would love you above all and our neighbors as ourselves.**

Hymn: Once in Royal David's City

#225

Confession of Faith: Westminster Chapter 8, Art 4

p853

Song: Glorious Impossible

[See Insert]

Pastoral Prayer

Gospel: Mark 14:33-72

Psalter: Ps 2 O Wherefore Do the Nations Rage

#314

Epistle: 1 Cor 14: 13-25

Therefore, one who speaks in a tongue should pray for the power to interpret.

**For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays but my mind is unfruitful.**

What am I to do? I will pray with my spirit, but I will pray with my mind also; I will sing praise with my spirit, but I will sing with my mind also.

**Otherwise, if you give thanks with your spirit, how can anyone in the position of an outsider say "Amen" to your thanksgiving when he does not know what you are saying?**

For you may be giving thanks well enough, but the other person is not being built up.

**I thank God that I speak in tongues more than all of you.**

Nevertheless, in church I would rather speak five words with my mind in order to instruct others, than ten thousand words in a tongue.

**Brothers, do not be children in your thinking. Be infants in evil, but in your thinking be mature.**

In the Law it is written, "By people of strange tongues and by the lips of foreigners will I speak to this people, and even then they will not listen to me, says the Lord."

**Thus tongues are a sign not for believers but for unbelievers, while prophecy is a sign not for unbelievers but for believers.**

If, therefore, the whole church comes together and all speak in tongues, and outsiders or unbelievers enter, will they not say that you are out of your minds?

**But if all prophesy, and an unbeliever or outsider enters, he is convicted by all, he is called to account by all, the secrets of his heart are disclosed, and so, falling on his face, he will worship God and declare that God is really among you.**

Sermon: The Promise to David      2 Sam 7

Lord's Supper

Bread: Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

#196

Cup: The Son of God Came Down

The Son of God came down and laid aside His crown  
Born without great renown, this Sovereign One  
All holiness and might, all glory shining bright  
Have come to earth this night in Mary's son  
O come, let us adore

Chorus:

O Christ the Lord, our hope and Savior  
Son of God yet made like us  
O Christ the Lord, our King adored  
Born a child, our Lord Jesus

Messiah born so small, asleep in cattle stall  
Come to redeem our fall, nailed to a tree  
This tiny, helpless child through death would reconcile  
The holy God and vile, His grace so free  
O come, let us adore

Chorus:

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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