

Zion St. John Lutheran Church  
*Being the Body of Christ*

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December 22, 2024 9:00 a.m. 4th Sunday of Advent

### ORDER OF SERVICE

*Today's service is a lesson and carols service with an Advent theme. The prevailing theme is the prophecies leading to the birth of Jesus, told through readings, lessons and carols, including hymns from the Holden Evening Prayer Service written by Marty Haugen. Moments of silence will be observed throughout the service.*

### PRELUDE

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### *Stand* ADVENT LITANY

Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord.

**Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!**

I will hear what the Lord God has to say—

**A voice that speaks for peace.**

Peace for all faithful people

**and those who turn to him in their hearts.**

God's help is near for those who fear him,

**that his glory may dwell in our land.**

Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord.

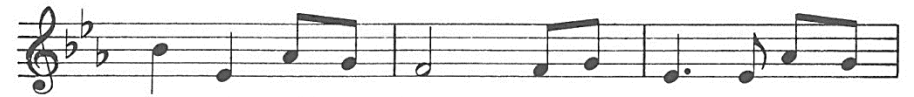
**Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!**

### HYMN OF PRAISE

*Joyous Light*



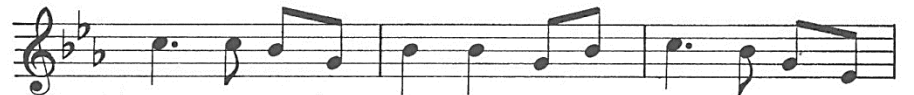
1. Joy-ous light of heav-'nly glo - ry, lov - ing  
2. In the stars that grace the dark - ness, in the  
3. You who made the heav-en's splen - dor, ev - 'ry



glow of God's own face, you who sing cre - a - tion's  
blaz - ing sun of dawn, in the light of peace and  
danc - ing star of night, make us shine with gen - tle



sto - ry, shine on ev 'ry land and race. Now as  
wis - dom, we can hear your qui - et song. Love that  
jus - tice, let us each re - flect your light. Might - y



morn - ing breaks a - round us, we shall raise our songs to  
fills the night with won - der, love that warms the wea - ry  
God of all cre - a - tion, gen - tle Christ who lights our



you, God of day - break, God of shad - ows, come and  
soul, Love that bursts all chains a - sun - der, set us  
way, Lov - ing Spir - it of sal - va - tion, lead us



light our hearts a - new. \_\_\_\_\_  
free and make us whole. \_\_\_\_\_  
on to end - less day. \_\_\_\_\_

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that hinders our faith, that eagerly we may receive your promises, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

*Sit*

**ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING**      *Nickerson Family*  
*(All responses and music are on the off-white insert)*

## LESSONS AND CAROLS

**Reflection:** O Wisdom,  
                  you came forth from the mouth of the Holy One.  
                  Mighty and sweet your ordering of the life:  
Teach us prudence

### READING: Isaiah 40:3-5

- 1 A voice cries out:  
    ‘In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD,  
    make straight in the desert a highway for our God.
- 2 Every valley shall be lifted up,  
    and every mountain and hill be made low;  
    the uneven ground shall become level,  
    and the rough places a plain.
- 3 Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,  
    and all people shall see it together,  
    for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.’

**Reflection:** O Adonai and Israel’s God,  
                  your flame brought Moses to his knees.  
                  Your mountain, brought forth law and life:  
Come and redeem us.

### READING: Exodus 6:2-7a

- 1 God also spoke to Moses and said to him: ‘I am the LORD. I

appeared to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob as God Almighty, but by my name “The LORD” I did not make myself known to them. I also established my covenant with them, to give them the land of Canaan, the land in which they resided as aliens. I have also heard the groaning of the Israelites, whom the Egyptians are holding as slaves, and I have remembered my covenant. Say therefore to the Israelites, “I am the LORD, and I will free you from the burdens of the Egyptians and deliver you from slavery to them. I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with mighty acts of judgement. I will take you as my people, and I will be your God.

**CAROL:**      *Comfort, Comfort Now My People*      LBW #29

**Reflection:** O Root of Jesse, tarry not,  
                  over all your people your banner waves.  
                  All rulers and nations worship you:  
Heal the nations.

### READING: Isaiah 11:1-10

- 1 A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse,  
    and a branch shall grow out of his roots.
- 2 The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,  
    the spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
    the spirit of counsel and might,  
    the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.
- 3 His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.  
    He shall not judge by what his eyes see,  
    or decide by what his ears hear;
- 4 but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,  
    and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;  
    he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,  
    and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
- 5 Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,  
    and faithfulness the belt around his loins.
- 6 The wolf shall live with the lamb,  
    the leopard shall lie down with the kid,

the calf and the lion and the fatling together,  
and a little child shall lead them.

- 7 The cow and the bear shall graze,  
their young shall lie down together;  
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
- 8 The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,  
and the weaned child shall put its hand  
on the adder's den.
- 9 They will not hurt or destroy  
on all my holy mountain;  
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD  
as the waters cover the sea.
- 10 On that day the root of Jesse shall stand  
as a signal to the peoples;  
the nations shall inquire of him,  
and his dwelling shall be glorious.

**Reflection:** O Key of David, sign of might,  
you tear down bars that hold us fast.  
Deliver the captives and free us from death:  
Burst our prison.

**CAROL:** *Annunciation and Magnificat*

**The Annunciation**  
Luke 1: 26-28, 30-32, 38

*Leader:* An angel went from God to a town called Nazareth to a woman whose name was Mary. The angel said to her, "Rejoice, O highly favored, for God is with you. You shall bear a child, and his name shall be Jesus, the Chosen One of God Most High." And Mary said, "I am the servant of my God, I live to do your will."  
*(immediately to "The Magnificat")*

**The Magnificat**  
Luke 1: 46-55


*All:*



1.3. My soul pro - claims your  
2. You have cast the might - y



great-ness, O God, and my spir - it re - joic - es in  
down from their thrones, and up lift - ed the hum - ble of



you, You have looked with love on your  
heart, You have filled the hun - gry with




ser - vant here, and blessed me all my life through. *fine last time*  
won-drous things, and left the wealth - y no part.




Great and might - y are you, O Ho - ly One,  
Great and might - y are you, O Faith - ful One,



strong is your kind - ness ev - er - more.  
strong is your jus - tice strong your love,



How you fa - vor the weak and low - ly one,  
As you prom - ised to Sar - ah and A - bra - ham,



hum - bling the proud of heart.  
kind - ness for - ev - er - more.

**Reflection:** O Morning Star of righteousness,  
your light shines brightly in the night.  
Dispel our shadows and bring us light:  
Illumine our darkness.

**READING:** Luke 1:68-75

- 68 'Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,  
for he has looked favourably on his people  
and redeemed them.
- 69 He has raised up a mighty saviour for us  
in the house of his servant David,
- 70 as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets  
from of old,

- 71 that we would be saved from our enemies  
and from the hand of all who hate us.
- 72 Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors,  
and has remembered his holy covenant,
- 73 the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham, to grant us
- 74 that we, being rescued from the hands of our enemies,  
might serve him without fear,
- 75 in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.

**Reflection:** O Ruler of the nations,  
Desire and longing for wholeness, come.  
We are your creatures, you formed us of earth;  
Save your people

**READING: Isaiah 35:4-7a**

- 4 Say to those who are of a fearful heart,  
'Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God.  
He will come with vengeance,  
with terrible recompense.  
He will come and save you.'
- 5 Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,  
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
- 6 then the lame shall leap like a deer,  
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.  
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,  
and streams in the desert;
- 7 the burning sand shall become a pool,  
and the thirsty ground springs of water;

**Reflection:** O Emmanuel, God in our midst,  
in you our salvation comes to earth.  
Come, rule our lives and make us whole:  
Come and save us, Lord our God.

**READING: Isaiah 7:14**

14 Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel.

**CAROL:** O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (vs 1-3) LBW #34

**HOMILY**

**OFFERING** O Come, O Come Emmanuel (vs 4-5,1) LBW #34

**Stand**

**OFFERTORY** Let My Prayer Rise Up  
(Done in a round, west side first, then east. Follow your song leader)

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two parts: 'All' and 'Leader or Group One'. The 'All' part is a simple melody with lyrics: 'Let my prayer rise up like incense before you, the lifting up of my hands as an offering to you.' The 'Leader or Group One' part has lyrics: 'O God, I call to you, come to me now; oh, hear my voice when I cry to you. Let my prayer rise up like incense before you, the lifting up of my hands as an offering to you. O God, I call to you, come to me now; oh, hear my voice when I cry to you. Let my prayer rise up like incense before you, the lifting up of my hands as an offering to you. Keep watch within me, God; hands as an offering to you. Keep'.

deep in my heart may the light of your love be burn - ing  
 watch with - in me, God; deep in my heart may the light of your  
 bright. Let my prayer rise up like in - cense be -  
 love be burn - ing bright. Let my prayer rise up like  
 fore you, the lift - ing up of my hands as an of - fer - ing to  
 in - cense be - fore you, the lift - ing up of my hands as an  
 you. All praise to the God of all— Cre - a - tor of  
 of - fer - ing to you. All praise to the  
 life; all praise be to Christ and the Spir - it of love.  
 God of all— Cre - a - tor of life; all praise be to Christ and the  
 Let my prayer rise up like in - cense be - fore you, the  
 Spir - it of love. Let my prayer rise up like in - cense be -  
 lift - ing up of my hands as an of - fer - ing to you.  
 fore you, the lift - ing up of my hands as an of - fer - ing to you.

# Litany and Prayers

Marty Haugen

$\text{♩} = 60$

Voice *All*  
*played by flute.....* (Hmmm)

5 Congregation *Leader*  
 1-10 Come - Come E - man - u - el, 1. In peace, in peace, we pray to you.  
 (last time) Keep us hold us grac - ious God.

Great and merciful god, Source and Ground of all goodness and life, give to your people the peace that passes all understanding and the will to live your Gospel of mercy and justice, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

## LORD'S PRAYER

God remember us in your love and teach us to pray:

**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**

## BLESSING

*Leader:* *All:*

Let us bless our God: praise and thanks to you.

May God, Creator bless us and keep us, may Christ be ever light for our lives, may the Spirit of Love be our guide and path, for all of our days.

*All:*

A men.

**SENDING HYMN** *All Earth is Hopeful* WOV #629

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Sit*  
**POSTLUDE**

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**Stewardship**

**...we offer with joy and thanksgiving what God has first given us**

**Our Selves...**

Ministers...The Members of Zion St. John Lutheran Church

Music...Cindy H Greeter/ Fellowship...Dohlmans

Lectors...Leah C & Alice G

Song Leaders...Katy L & Pastor Kim

Audio/Visual...Scott C and Fred R

**Our Time...**

Dec 4...26 LSV...16 Dec 11...26 LSV...12  
Dec 15...93 LSV...25 SS...30 Dec 15 Program...100 LSV...29

**And Our Possessions...**

Dec 15...\$3,196.00 SS...\$14.00 Program...\$245.00

**...signs of your gracious love**