

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

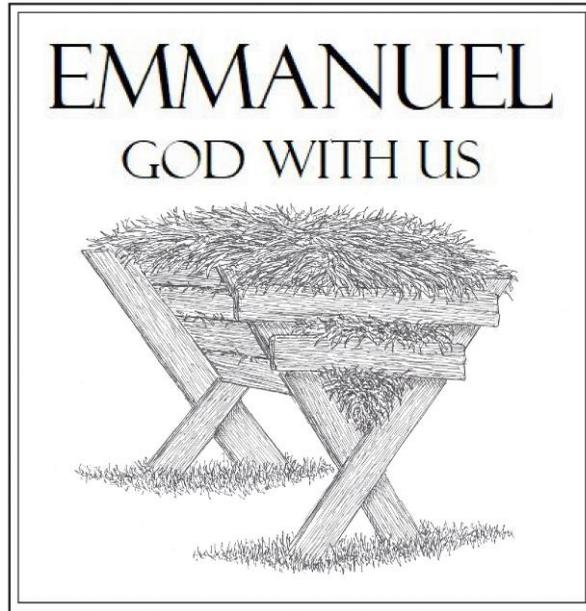
Missouri Synod

Fourth Sunday in Advent

December 20, 2020

Divine Service, Setting One – LSB 151

10:30 am – 91.7 FM



We are thankful that you are with us today!
Please take a moment to **let us know that you were here.**

AS WE GATHER

Saint Luke, in the first chapter of his account of the gospel, recalls the annunciation of Jesus' birth to Mary, His mother. As if the shocking news of an impending pregnancy wasn't overwhelming enough for the young maiden, the angelic visitor also informs her that her son would be the long-promised Messiah who would save His people from their sins. Yet, even with this sudden, life changing news, Mary responds in faith: "Behold I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." May we respond in like faith, confident that, even as our plans crumble and our lives change, Emmanuel is with us. His plan and purpose for us will be accomplished.

[Rev. Eric J. Edwards](#) † **[Rev. Christopher Beck](#)** † **[Rev. Liwei Sui](#)**

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✠ ✠ ✠ GATHERING ✠ ✠ ✠

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

HYMN – LSB 357 – O Come, O Come Emmanuel (vs. 1, 7)

1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som
7 O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind In one the
cap - tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly
hearts of all man - kind; Bid Thou our sad di -
ex - ile here Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
vi - sions cease, And be Thy - self our King of Peace.
Refrain
Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el
Shall come to thee, O Is - rael!

Tune and text: Public domain

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. **C** Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P In the season of Advent, we prepare for Jesus to come. We await the celebration of His birth at Christmas. We remember His arrival in Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. We long for His glorious return. As we wait, we consider how unworthy we are to have Jesus in our presence.

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination)

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**
- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

✝ ✝ ✝ **WORD** ✝ ✝ ✝

INTROIT – Psalm 19:1, 4c, 5-6; antiphon: Isaiah 45:8

- P** Shower, O heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain down righteousness; let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may bear fruit.
- C** **The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork. In them he has set a tent for the sun, which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his chamber, and, like a strong man, runs its course with joy.**
- P** Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them, and there is nothing hidden from its heat.
- C** **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. Shower, O heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain down righteousness; let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may bear fruit.**

KYRIE – Lord, Have Mercy – Mark 10:47

- P** In peace let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C Amen.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

FIRST LESSON – 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16 – The Lord’s covenant with David

¹Now when the king lived in his house and the Lord had given him rest from all his surrounding enemies, ²the king said to Nathan the prophet, “See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells in a tent.” ³And Nathan said to the king, “Go, do all that is in your heart, for the Lord is with you.”

⁴But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan, ⁵“Go and tell my servant David, ‘Thus says the Lord: Would you build me a house to dwell in?’ ⁶I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent for my dwelling. ⁷In all places where I have moved with all the people of Israel, did I speak a word with any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, “Why have you not built me a house of cedar?”’” ⁸Now, therefore, thus you shall say to my servant David, ‘Thus says the Lord of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over my people Israel. ⁹And I have been with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies from before you. And I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. ¹⁰And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may dwell in their own place and be disturbed no more. And violent men shall afflict them no more, as formerly, ¹¹from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel. And I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. . . .

¹⁶And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever.’”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.



GRADUAL – Zechariah 9:9; Psalm 118:26, alt.

The congregation sings all.



Re - joice great-ly, O daught-er of Zi - on!



Shout, shout, daugh-ter of Je - ru - sa-lem. See, your



King comes to you, right-eous and hav-ing sal - va - tion.



Blessed is he — who comes in the name of the Lord.



From the house of the Lord — we bless you.

SECOND LESSON – Romans 16:25-27 – Doxology

²⁵Now to him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages ²⁶but has now been disclosed and through the prophetic writings has been made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith— ²⁷to the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ! Amen.

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.



ALLELUIA and VERSE – Matthew 1:23a

The choir sings the Alleluias and the congregation repeats them.

The congregation then repeats the Alleluias after the verse.



*Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall call his name Immanuel.*

HOLY GOSPEL – Luke 1:26-38 – The birth of Jesus foretold

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the first chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

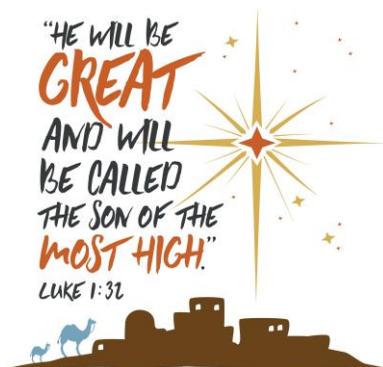
²⁶*In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" ²⁹But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. ³²He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, ³³and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."*

³⁴*And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"*

³⁵*And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. ³⁶And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God." ³⁸And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.*

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**



HYMN OF THE DAY – LSB 332 – Savior of the Nations, Come



1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come, Vir - gin's Son, make
2 Not by hu - man flesh and blood, By the Spir - it
3 Here a maid was found with child, Yet re - mained a
4 Then stepped forth the Lord of all From His pure and



here Your home! Mar - vel now, O heav'n and earth,
of our God, Was the Word of God made flesh—
vir - gin mild. In her womb this truth was shown:
king - ly hall; God of God, yet ful - ly man,



That the Lord chose such a birth.
Wom - an's off - spring, pure and fresh.
God was there up - on His throne.
His he - ro - ic course be - gan.

5 God the Father was His source,
Back to God He ran His course.
Into hell His road went down,
Back then to His throne and crown.

7 From the manger newborn light
Shines in glory through the night.
Darkness there no more resides;
In this light faith now abides.

6 For You are the Father's Son
Who in flesh the vict'ry won.
By Your mighty pow'r make whole
All our ills of flesh and soul.

△ 8 Glory to the Father sing,
Glory to the Son, our king,
Glory to the Spirit be
Now and through eternity.

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SERMON – *Emmanuel in Utero* – Luke 1:26-38

NICENE CREED

**☩ I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- A** Lord, in Your mercy,
C hear our prayer.
- A** ...one God, now and forever.
C Amen.

✠ ✠ ✠ SACRAMENT ✠ ✠ ✠

PREFACE

- P** The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed with He comes again in Glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

C **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of power and might:
heav'n and earth are full of Your glory.**

Hosanna. Hosanna.

Hosanna in the highest.

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

Hosanna in the highest.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

WORDS OF OUR LORD

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

- P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- C** **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**
- P** O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER

- C** **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.**

PAX DOMINI – The Peace of the Lord – John 20:19

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C** **Amen.**

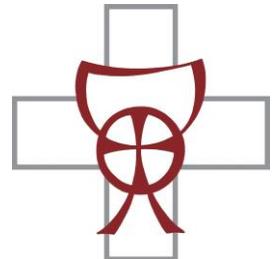
BENEDICTION – Numbers 6:24-26

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
- C** **Amen.**

DISTRIBUTION (10:30 am)

For reception of the Supper, please pull under the vestibule and lower the driver's side window. If you have hand sanitizer, we invite you to use it prior to and after reception of the Body and Blood.

Pastors will alternate cars for distribution. This will provide time to sanitize hands prior to and after serving each car. Pastors will be wearing masks starting with the consecration of the elements and all throughout distribution.



*If you choose simply to depart in peace as you serve the Lord,
please exit as you have done so on previous Sundays.*

Distribution music:
Fantasy on *Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland*
(Savior of the Nations, Come)
arr. Heinrich Herzogenberg

Cover art by Mark Riggins

Cantors – Zach May & Kate Reinhard; Virtual Choir

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We are thankful that you are with us today!
Please take a moment to let us know that you were here.

Pastors [Edwards](#) and [Beck](#) are available throughout the week for personal prayer, counsel,
private individual confession and absolution.

✝ ANNOUNCEMENTS ✝

On your way out today, we invite you to stop by the lower entry to pick up:

- **2021 Offering envelopes** (for all communicant members; please contact the church office if yours is missing or has incorrect information on the label)
- **Masks** (3 sizes) which were handmade for our Faith Family Fun Fall Festival.
- **Portals of Prayer** for January-March



 [TODAY's Sunday School lesson](#)
[Advent Activity Pages](#)



Virtual Christmas Program

Children's Christmas Program
[Coming soon!](#)
Contact [Megan Abbott DeMoss](#) with questions.

Christmas Pie for Christmas Child

It's not too late to participate in this tasty fund-raiser for **Operation Christmas Child** underwritten by a Thrivent Action Team Grant. Faith's wonderful custodian, Carolyn Livesay, is baking fresh and delicious home-made pies for Faith members and friends. She is being compensated for the ingredients and supplies for up to 25 pies by the grant from Thrivent. Volunteers will help with the shopping and delivery. You choose the flavor (10 choices) and date of delivery or pick-up (many options through New Year's Eve).



Order a Pie here

In thanksgiving for receiving a free pie, those who order are encouraged to make a contribution to Operation Christmas Child, a ministry arm of Samaritan's Purse to help offset shipping costs of the gift-filled shoeboxes. Contributions may be Cash or Check (*payable to Samaritan's Purse*). Please **clearly mark all donations** and either

1. hand it to the volunteer when you receive your pie,
2. leave it with the offering after any drive-in service, or
3. mail it to church (2200 S. High Street, 47401).

Additional questions about any of the above? Email Dave or Carol Ebeling (or call/text 812-322-6503/D or 812-345-2433/C) or the church office.



Christmas 2020

Sundays

Drive-in Worship: **10:30 am**

Christmas Eve – *Lessons and Carols*

Drive-in Worship: **5 pm**

Christmas Day

Drive-in Worship: **10 am**

New Year's Eve

Drive-in Worship: **5 pm**

Epiphany – Wednesday, January 6

Drive-in Worship: **12 Noon**

Each service will also be available **ONLINE** via our [YouTube channel](#) and [website](#).

Any changes or updates to this schedule will be available at www.faithbtown.org as they occur.



Stay informed throughout the week via:



www.FaithBtown.org



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