



Cross Lutheran Church

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 20, 2015

Evangelical Lutheran Worship Book – Holy Communion Setting One

We encourage worshippers to use the time in the sanctuary before the liturgy begins for silent meditation and prayer. The entire assembly will read the Gospel together; pew Bibles can be found in front of you, children's Bibles and large print lessons are available from the ushers. Prayer for healing and anointing with oil is offered in the narthex during Holy Communion. Any worshipper wishing to receive these gifts may proceed there after receiving the host and the cup, and before returning to the pew.

Bold Print – indicates congregation responds as a whole

* – indicates congregation should stand as able

PRELUDE

Of the Father's Love Begotten
God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen

arr. Larry Shackley
arr. Ed Kerr

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* ELW # 257
Vs. 1 and 2, 6 & 7 - solo; congregation join on refrain: **Rejoice! Rejoice!**

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS** p. 94 (red tab)

***OPENING HYMN** *People, Look East* ELW # 248

***GREETING** p. 98

***KYRIE** p. 98

***HYMN OF PRAISE** *Glory to God* p. 99

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

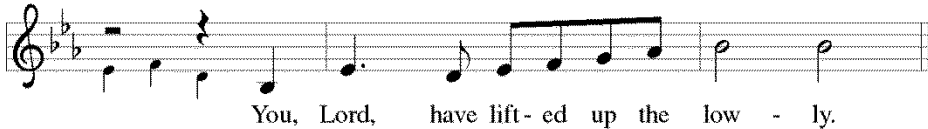
Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that binds us, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST LESSON Micah 5:2-5a

O.T. p. 865

PSALM – Luke 1:46b-55

*Cantor sings refrain (R). The congregation then repeats the refrain.
Congregation responds with the bold verses.*



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. R
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. **R**

SECOND LESSON Hebrews 10:5-10

N.T. p. 224

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia

p. 102

***GOSPEL**

* (P) The Holy Gospel according to Luke 1:39-45

N.T. p. 57

*** (C) Glory to you, O Lord.**

* (P) The Gospel of our Lord.

*** (C) Praise to you, O Christ.**

THE SERMON

***HYMN OF THE DAY**

My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness

ELW # 251

***APOSTLES' CREED**

p. 127 (blue tab)

***PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

***SHARING THE PEACE OF THE LORD**

OFFERING *A Little Child Shall Lead Them* Marilyn Biery

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessing Flow* ELW # 885

***OFFERING PRAYER**

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

***WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

***THE LORD'S PRAYER** p. 112

DISTRIBUTION

To make the distribution of the Lord's Supper as easy as possible, we ask that people who wish to commune and who use a wheelchair or walker come to the front first to receive the Sacrament.

LAMB OF GOD

Fling Wide the Door p. 112
ELW # 259
O Little Town of Bethlehem ELW # 279
Of the Father's Love Begotten ELW # 295
Your Little Ones, Dear Lord ELW # 286
The First Noel ELW # 300

***POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

***BENEDICTION** p. 114

***CLOSING HYMN** *Joy to the World* ELW # 267

***DISMISSAL** p. 115

POSTLUDE *Joy to the World* arr. Jan Sanborn

To Our Guests and Visitors Today: Every baptized believer who is of age is invited to receive the Lord's Supper as we worship. The invitation is extended to each of us by the Lord himself, because he is the host of the meal. We also believe that he is the meal; that is that "in, with, and under" the bread and wine we do receive the body and blood of Christ, given and shed for us for the forgiveness of sins. Please follow the directions of the ushers if you wish to commune. Children under the age of ten are invited to receive a Word of blessing. ***Worshippers unable to commune at the front of the church...Please register with an usher and a lay minister will bring the Supper to you in your pew.***

THIS WEEK AT CROSS

- Today**, December 20.....9:30am Worship Service – Fourth Sunday of Advent
10:30am Christmas Brunch provided by the United Sisters
11:30am Sunday School Christmas Pageant – *Mary Ponders*
3:30pm – 7:00pm Roca de Horeb
- Tuesday, December 227:30pm Roca de Horeb
- Wednesday, December 2311:00am Christmas Worship Service at Bel Rae of Mounds View
7:30pm Hands, Hearts and Voices Choir Rehearsal
- Thursday, Christmas Eve.....5:00pm Family Candlelight Worship Service
10:00pm Carol Singing
10:30pm Candlelight Worship Service
- Friday, Christmas Day10:00am Festival Worship Service with Holy Communion
11:45am Christmas Worship Service at The Shores of Lake Phalen
12:00pm Coffee Room Reserved
6:00pm – 9:30pm Roca de Horeb
- Saturday, December 26.....6:00am – 8:00am Roca de Horeb
9:30am – 12:30pm 7th Day Adventists
5:30pm – 7:00pm Roca de Horeb
- Sunday, December 27.....9:30am Worship Service
12:00pm Coffee Room Reserved
3:30pm – 7:00pm Roca de Horeb
5:00pm 7th Day Adventists

Today you will find in the bulletin a table prayer. We know that our Lord is the source of all blessings, and that it is most fitting for us to give thanks before we eat. Some people always pray the same prayer. Others prefer to pray different prayers – some don't pray at all. A different prayer will be included each month to help us all in this daily devotion.



Table Prayer:

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask you to stay close by me forever and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear children in your tender care and fit us for heaven, to live with you there. Amen.

Stewardship Verse
II Corinthians 8:9



For you know the generous act of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich.



Be a good steward of the earth; if you aren't taking your bulletin home, please drop it in the recycling bin in the narthex. Thank you!

