

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
(218) 263-7422 – www.oslchibbing.org

+Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 18, 2022

Prayer request and visitor cards can be found in the pew rack.

(*) Denotes when to stand, if you are able. **Boldface** readings are spoken together.

Prelude *Noel* Beauvarlet-Charpentier Nadine Berg, on Harpsichord

Welcome and Announcements

In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Most merciful God, **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

1. Savior of the nations, come; virgin's son, make here your home.
Marvel now, O heav'n and earth: God has chosen such a birth.
2. Not by human flesh and blood, but the mystic Breath of God,
Was the Word of God made flesh, fruit of woman, blossom fresh.
3. Wondrous birth-oh, wondrous child-from his throne, a virgin mild!
Very God, and Mary's son, eager now his race to run!
4. From God's heart the Savior speeds, back to God his pathway leads;
Out to vanquish death's command, back to reign at God's right hand.
5. Now your manger, shining bright, hallows night with newborn light.
Night cannot this light subdue; let our faith shine ever new.
6. Praise we sing to Christ the Lord, virgins's son, incarnate Word!
To the holy Trinity praise we sing eternally!

***Greeting**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

***Kyrie**

p.147 (ELW)

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

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.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Amen.

***Hymn of Praise**

This is the Feast

p. 149 (ELW)

Refrain

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

1. Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power and riches and wisdom and strength, and honor and blessing and glory are his.

Refrain

2. Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

Final refrain

This is the feast of victory for our God,
for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. Alleluia.

***Prayer of the Day**

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.**

Reading

Isaiah 7:10-16

A reading from Isaiah.

¹⁰The LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, ¹¹Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. ¹²But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. ¹³Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴Therefore 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. ¹⁵He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. ¹⁶For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted."

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem *Bells and Noels* Jack North Temple Choir/Handbell Choir

*Ring the bells now, sing noels now, spread the good news near and far.
Filled with glory, tell the story of the shepherds and the star.
Tell of angels singing noels, all together in accord for the birthday of our Lord.*

*Ring the bells now, sing noels now, for a stable so forlorn,
For a stranger in a manger on that first bright **Christmas** morn.
Ring the bells now, sing noels now, let the good news fill the air. **Christmas** joy is
everywhere.*

*Alleluia and noel sing. Alleluia and a bell ring.
Alleluia for the new King. Alleluia and noel, sing.
Ring the bells now, sing noels now, for the wisemen three who came to praise His
holy name.*

*Ring the bells now, sing noels now, spread the good news near and far.
Filled with glory, tell the story of the shepherds and the star.
Tell of angels singing noels, all together in accord for the birthday of our Lord.*

*Ring the bells now, sing noel now as for peace on earth we pray.
Let our hearts fill with the goodwill and the joy of **Christmas** Day!
And forever we'll remember Heaven's gift that holy night when the darkness turned
to light.*

Children's Message

Pastor Kevin Olson

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Schwarze Family

O people of hope, come, **let us rejoice in the faithfulness of the Lord. Amen.**

***Gospel Acclamation**

p. 151a (ELW)

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

***Gospel**

Matthew 1:18-25

The holy gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. ²⁰But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²²All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

²³"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel,"
which means, "God is with us."²⁴When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, ²⁵but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Unexpected Gift

Pastor Kevin Olson

***Hymn of the Day**

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

#254 (ELW)

1. Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art,
Dear desire of ev'ry nation, joy of ev'ry longing heart.
2. Born thy people to deliver, born a child, and yet a king;
Born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
By thine all sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.

***Apostles' Creed**

Along with the church, we confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

As we prepare for the fullness of Christ's presence, let us pray for a world that yearns for new hope.

A brief silence.

God our shepherd, let your Spirit move with power throughout the church. Give discernment and wisdom to our bishops, pastors, deacons, and lay leaders. Take away our fear, so that we serve and love, confident that you are guiding us.

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of our longing, you know our deepest needs. By your Spirit, gather our prayers and join them with the prayers of all your children. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

Reception of Offering

Christmas Improvisation

G. Winston Cassler

***Offertory**

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

#257 (vs. 5, ELW)

O come, O Key of David, come, and open wide our heav'nly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.

***Offering Prayer**

God of abundance, **we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Communion

All who believe that God is present in this meal are invited to share in the celebration of the Lord's Supper. Grape juice is available upon request. With their parents permission, all children are also invited to commune. Come forward with your hands cupped to receive. Children not communing are encouraged to come forward to receive a blessing. Communion will be brought to those unable to come to the chancel in the front pew and handicap row.

Great Thanksgiving

p. 152 (ELW)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

***Holy, Holy, Holy**

p. 153 (ELW)

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.

Heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who come in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

Words of Institution

*** Lord's Prayer**

p. 154b

Lamb of God

p. 154

Communion Hymns

The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came

#265 (ELW)

1. The angel Gabriel from heaven came, with wings as drifted snow,
With eyes as flame, "All hail to thee O lowly maiden Mary,
Most highly favored lady." Gloria!
2. "For how a blessed mother thou shalt be, all generations laud and honor thee;
Thy son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold,
most highly favored lady. Gloria!
3. Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head; "To me be as it pleaseth God,"
She said. "My soul shall laud and magnify God's holy name."
Most highly favored lady, Gloria!
4. Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born in Bethlehem all on Christmas morn,
And Christian folk throughout the world will ever say:
"Most highly favored lady." Gloria!

He Came Down

#253 (ELW)

1. He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love
He came down that we may have love; hallelujah forever more.
2. He came down that we may have light; he came down that we may have light
He came down that we may have light; hallelujah forever more.
3. He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have
peace; he came down that we may have peace; hallelujah forever more.
4. He came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy
He came down that we may have joy; hallelujah forever more.

Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding!

#246 (ELW)

1. Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding! "Christ is near," we hear it say.
"Cast away the works of darkness, all you children of the day!"
2. Wakened by the solemn warning, from earth's bondage let us rise;
Christ, our sun, all sloth dispelling, shies upon the morning skies.
3. See the Lamb, so long expected, come with pardon down from heav'n.
Let us haste, with tears of sorrow, one and all, to be forgiv'n;
4. So, when next he comes in glory and the world is wrapped in fear,
He will shield us with his mercy and with words of love draw near.
5. Honor, glory, might, and blessing to the Father and the Son
With the everlasting Spirit while unending ages run!

***Prayer after Communion**

God for whom we wait, **in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

***Blessing**

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace. **Amen.**

***Sending Hymn**

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

#631 (ELW)

1. Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!
Fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art
Visit us with thy salvation, enter ev'ry trembling heart.
2. Breathe, oh, breathe thy loving Spirit into ev'ry troubled breast;
Let us all in thee inherit; let us find thy promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts a liberty.
3. Come, Almighty, to deliver; let us all thy life receive;
Suddenly return, and never, never more thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,
Pray, and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.
4. Finish then thy new creation, pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee!
Changed from glory into glory, till in heav'n we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise!

***Dismissal**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

A Christmas Trilogy

James Mansfield

Nadine Berg

Sundays and Seasons v.20180327.1136
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Assisting with Worship Today:

Pastor: Kevin Olson

Acolyte: Sam Pinkoski/Naomi Ronning

Cantor: Kara Ronning

Choir Director: Roy Berg

Organist: Nadine Berg

Ushers: Todd Rice Family

Tellers: Jan Gregorich/Dianne Mousseau

Video Recorder: Dustin Davidson/John Law

Altar Guild: Peggy Graham



NEWS AND NOTES

Today's radio broadcast is sponsored by Beth Kimmes in loving memory of her sister, Judy Fuller. *Thank you and God bless.*

Best wishes to Jack Lund who will be celebrating his birthday on Wednesday.
Happy Birthday!!

We extend our sympathy to the family of Milo Sulentic who died on December 1st.
Milo's funeral will be celebrated on Monday, December 19th. *God bless.*

Poinsettias and Mission Project

If you wish to donate for poinsettia plants to decorate the sanctuary and cheer our members and/or to the Simple Water Well Project make checks payable to OSLC. Each plant costs the church \$20, any dollar amount contribution is appreciated for either or both projects. Envelopes are available in the narthex and the office. Please make a note on the memo line of your check.

Blessings to you and on your generosity.

Note from our Financial Secretary:

If you wish to have a donation recorded for the fiscal year 2022 please have your contribution into the office on or before December 30, 2022.

Thank you for your generosity.

***Save the date:* Annual Meeting – Sunday, January 29, 2023**

Worship Service at 9 a.m. with the Annual Virtual Meeting following at 10:30 am.

Committee Reports need to be completed by Tuesday, Jan. 3rd!!

Thank you to every one of you who bought calendars and greeting cards.

Proceeds from these sales help pay the fees for our youth to go to Camp.

PLEASE PICK UP YOUR FUDGE

Today in the Fellowship Hall from 10am-11am.

There are some extra so if you didn't order or want more please come downstairs!!!



The radio broadcast for Christmas Eve will be live at 3:30pm and replayed on Christmas Day at 10:30am.

VOICES OF REASON

Presents

"The Gift of Christmas" at 3pm today.

The Concert will showcase a HARPSICHORD built by Roy Berg and will include strings to accompany the choir.

Please join us and encourage others in our special Christmas celebration!

The Personnel Committee is in the process of considering resumes' for the position of Administrative Assistant for the congregation. This is one of several crucial roles in our congregation. It requires strong organizational skills, accounting and word processing expertise and utmost attention to care and confidentiality. If you or someone you know would be interested in being considered for the role, please submit a resume' to the personnel committee via email (oslchibb@mchsi.com), by mailing it to the church or placing it in the Ministry and Personnel mailbox outside the office. See www.oslchibbing.org for the complete job description.

All are welcome:

Blue Christmas Service
Wesley United Methodist Church
303 East 23rd St, Hibbing
Wednesday, December 21st at 7pm

A Community Candlelight Service of Solace for all who are in need of healing and comfort in this season, and their friends who support them.

Opportunities for the Week

Today 18 th	9:00	Worship/Communion/Fourth Sunday in Advent
	10:00	Coffee/Fellowship
	10:30	Radio Broadcast-WMFG 1240 AM
	3:00	Voices of Reason Concert
Tuesday 20 th	1:00	Staff
	6:00	TV Broadcast—channel 5
Wednesday 21 st	8:00	TV Broadcast—channel 5
	8:30	Bible Study
		NO Handbells
	7:00	Confirmation
	7:00	Choir
Thursday 22 nd		<i>VOICE</i> deadline
Saturday 24 th	3:30	Candle Light Christmas Service with Communion (live Radio Broadcast-WMFG 1240 AM)
	5:30	Candle Light Christmas Service with Communion <i>Merry Christmas</i>
Sunday 25 th	9:00	Worship/Carol Service.
	10:30	Radio Broadcast-WMFG 1240 AM

