

Nights of Awe & Wonder

Receive

ADVENT IV

Cantata & Holy Communion

December 18, 2022 | 9:30am



* Congregational responses in **bold**

Gathering Music

Savior of the Nations, Come

J.S. Bach

Words of Welcome

Advent Wreath Lighting

Be Still and Know

ACS 1083

Prayer

Generous God, you provide all that we need. We thank you that you do not give us what we want, but what you, in your wisdom desire for us. Open us to the miracles surrounding us every moment, and teach us to expect your coming throughout each day. Pour out upon us your overflowing mercy, justice, and peace. Teach us to trust your abundance so thoroughly that we share all that we have received from you, for the hearing of the world, and the proclamation of your name. In the name of the Holy One who was, is, and is to come. Amen.

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.

Blessed be God's name forever. Amen

As we consider our lives before God, we offer our confession...

God of new life, second chances, and growth from a stump, we come before you in humble recognition of our sin. We seek victory ahead of peace, short-term solutions to the long arc of justice, and prosperity over shared daily bread. Forgive us and return us to you, that our lives will reflect your will in the world.

From out of the abundant grace and mercy of God, your sins are forgiven. Be ready to receive Jesus when he comes to you and live in the hope of God's relentless love.

AMEN.

Gathering Hymn

Savior of the Nations, Come (Stanzas 1,2,3,6)

ELW 263

Greeting

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

Prayer of the Day

**Stir up your power, Lord Jesus and come. We long for your presence. Do not tarry.
Come quickly to live in us. Amen**

First Reading

Romans 1:1-7

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

ELW 151

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

Gospel

Matthew 1:18-25

The Holy Gospel reading in Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Now 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. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But 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. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Meditation

Pastor Paul Pettersen

Cantata

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland, No. 61

J. S. Bach

Savior of the Nations, Come – sung in German
Overture (orchestra and choir)

*Now come, savior of the nations, recognized as the Virgin's child,
At whom all the world is amazed: God ordained such a birth for him.*

Recitative (tenor)

*The savior has come, has taken our poor flesh and blood to himself,
And accepts us as blood relations. Oh, highest good, what have you not
Done for us? What do you not do daily for your people?
You come and let your light shine with full blessing.*

Aria (tenor)

*Come, Jesus, to your church, and give us a happy new year.
Promote the honor of your name, maintain healthy doctrine,
And bless pulpit and altar.*

Recitative (baritone)

*"Behold, I stand at the door and knock: if anyone hears my voice,
And opens the door, I will come to them, and will sup with them,
And they with me."*

Aria (soprano)

*Open wide, my heart, Jesus is coming and entering in.
Though I am but dust and earth, still he will not disdain me,
But will see his pleasure in me, so that I become his dwelling.
Oh, how blessed I will be!*

Chorale (choir and orchestra)

Amen! Come, lovely crown of joy, do not tarry long. I await you with longing.

Thank You for Your Generosity

Sharing of the Peace

Music at the Offering

Savior of the Nations, Come

Dieterich Buxtehude

Noisy Offering | Offertory Response

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

(Children are invited to cheerfully bring their "Noisy Offering" to the front)

Holy Communion

Prayer

Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving

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.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus

ELW 153

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come; your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God

ELW 154

Distribution Hymn

Be Still and Know
O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

ACS 1083
ELW 257

Communion Blessing

Sending Hymn

O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright (stanzas 1,2,6)

ELW 308

Sending

Go in peace and serve the Lord!
Thanks be to God. Amen.

Sending Music

O Morning Star

Johann Pachelbel

Worship at Normandale

Worship Leaders

Presider: Pastor Paul Pettersen

Liturgist: Pastor Rebecca Gamble

Organist | Choir Director: Gregory Peterson

Choir: Normandale Choir

Soloists - Amy James - soprano, Cameron James -
baritone, Sean Steiner - tenor

Musicians - Suzanne Klein, Lauren Lier – violin,

Valerie Little, Matthew Mindeman - viola,

Diane, Loudon - cello, Lorna Wolthoff- organ

Acolytes: Duncan Kluis, Bergen Johnson

Communion Setup: Sarah Howard, Martha Taylor

Deacons: Kim Pinkham, Sue Hendrickson,
Lee Newcomer

Lector: Ayla Kluis

Ushers: Kemme Team

Hymnals:

Both the ELW (red) and ACS (purple)
hymnals are located in the pew backs.

Livestream:

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Sunday worship wherever you are.

Ways to Give:

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Hearing Devices are available
to enhance your worship experience.
Please ask an usher if one is needed.

NLC Kids:

The Prayground is filled with quiet
toys and comfy seating, is located inside the
sanctuary to the right of the altar.

Busy Bags are filled with quiet
activities, can be found on pegs hanging just
across the main entrance of the sanctuary.

Bulletins & Coloring Sheets
are located on a table just outside the main
entrance of the sanctuary.

The Nursery is supervised by
professional preschool teachers and is
available for children 6 months to 4 years
from 9:20-11:30 every Sunday on the first
floor.