

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2024
ST. PEDER'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
LARGE PRINT HYMNS & PRAYERS

Introduction to the Forth Sunday of Advent

Cradle and cross are inextricably connected on the fourth Sunday of Advent. Between a lovely tribute to the little town of Bethlehem and Mary's magnificent song of praise, the letter to the Hebrews reminds us in no uncertain terms that Christ's advent is for "the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all." It is the kind of tension in which the church always lives as when in holy communion—with high delight—"we proclaim the Lord's death."

Gathering Hymn

Of the Father's Love Begotten

- 1 Of the Father's love begotten
ere the worlds began to be,
he is Alpha and Omega,
he the source, the ending he,
of the things that are, that have been,
and that future years shall see,
evermore and evermore.

- 2 Oh, that birth forever blessed,
when the virgin, full of grace,
by the Holy Ghost conceiving,
bore the Savior of our race,
and the babe, the world's redeemer,
first revealed his sacred face,
evermore and evermore.

- 3 This is he whom seers in old time
chanted of with one accord,
whom the voices of the prophets
promised in their faithful word;
now he shines, the long-expected;
let creation praise its Lord
evermore and evermore.

4 Let the heights of heav'n adore him;
angel hosts, his praises sing;
pow'rs, dominions, bow before him
and extol our God and King;
let no tongue on earth be silent,
ev'ry voice in concert ring
evermore and evermore.

5 Christ, to thee, with God the Father,
and, O Holy Ghost, to thee,
hymn and chant and high thanksgiving
and unwearied praises be:
honor, glory, and dominion,
and eternal victory
evermore and evermore! Amen.

Text: Marcus Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, 348-413; tr. composite

Confession and Forgiveness

God of mercy, **we have confessed that we have sinned. We trust earthly powers and human authority alone. We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts. We confess that we have sinned. We have turned away from our neighbors. We have trusted false promises. We confess that we have sinned. We plead: come to us. Bring your mercy to birth in us.**

A righteous branch springs forth: it is in Christ the Lord, our Savior, in whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy. By the power of the Holy Spirit, receive the grace and forgiveness of God through Jesus Christ, whose day draws near. **Amen.**

Choir Anthem (in place of Canticle & Kyrie)

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

The Word of the Lord. **C. Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

No Wind at the Window

- 1 No wind at the window, no knock on the door;
no light from the lampstand, no foot on the floor;
no dream born of tiredness, no ghost raised by fear:
just an angel and a woman and a voice in her ear.

- 2 "O Mary, O Mary, don't hide from my face.
Be glad that you're favored and filled with God's grace.
The time for redeeming the world has begun,
and you are requested to mother God's Son."

- 3 This child must be born that the kingdom might come:
salvation for many, destruction for some;
both end and beginning, both message and sign;
both victor and victim, both yours and divine.

- 4 No payment was promised, no promises made;
no wedding was dated, no blueprint displayed.
Yet Mary, consenting to what none could guess,
replied with conviction, "Tell God I say yes."

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949

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Second Lesson

Hebrews 10:5-10

The Word of the Lord. **C. Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

We Are Waiting for Jesus

- 1 We are waiting for Jesus; Jesus brings peace.
We are waiting for Jesus; Jesus brings peace.
Sun of justice, shine upon us;
we are trusting in your promise.
We are waiting for Jesus; Jesus brings peace.

- 2 We are waiting for Jesus; Jesus brings peace.

We are waiting for Jesus; Jesus brings peace.
Loving Shepherd, walk beside us;
stir our hearts, and gently guide us.
We are waiting for Jesus; Jesus brings peace.

Text: John Helgen, b. 1957
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Holy Gospel

Luke 1:39-45[46-55]

The Word of the Lord. **C. Thanks be to God.**

Hymn of the Day

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

- 1 Infant holy, infant lowly,
for his bed a cattle stall;
oxen lowing, little knowing
Christ the child is Lord of all.
Swiftly winging, angels singing,
bells are ringing, tidings bringing:
Christ the child is Lord of all!
Christ the child is Lord of all!

- 2 Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping
vigil till the morning new
saw the glory, heard the story,
tidings of a gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow,
praises voicing, greet the morrow:
Christ the child was born for you!
Christ the child was born for you!

Text: Polish carol; tr. Edith M. G. Reed, 1885-1933, alt.

Apostle's Creed

Prayers of the People

Response: Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Offering Prayer

Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. **By these**

gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Sending Hymn

Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming

- 1 Lo, how a rose e'er blooming
from tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming
as seers of old have sung,
it came, a flow'r so bright,
amid the cold of winter,
when half-spent was the night.

- 2 Isaiah had foretold it,
the rose I have in mind;
with Mary we behold it,
the virgin mother kind.
To show God's love aright,
she bore to us a Savior,
when half-spent was the night.

- 3 This flow'r, whose fragrance tender
with sweetness fills the air,
dispels with glorious splendor
the darkness everywhere.
True man, yet very God,
from sin and death he saves us
and lightens ev'ry load.

- 4 O Savior, child of Mary,
who felt our human woe;
O Savior, king of glory,
who dost our weakness know:
bring us at length, we pray,
to the bright courts of heaven
and into endless day.

Sending

Knowing God is behind us

We are rooted in our heritage.

Knowing God goes before us

We embrace our future.

Knowing Christ forgives us

We joyfully live the Gospel.

We engage the world around us

With open hearts, open hands, and open doors.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

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Serving in Worship this Morning

Greeters: Jackie & Dale West

Ushers: Peter Juhl & Peter Paulson

Acolyte: Walter Anderson **Reader:** Kristi Lahti-Johnson

Counters: Eva Tangen & Cameron Jamison

Livestream Technician: Cameron Jamison

LSS Safe House Dinner for December 23: Liz & Forrest Bentley

Social Hour hosted by Shepherding Group: 6

Announcements

Thank You

We wanted to say a special thank you to all the talented people that helped out for today's Song Service: musicians Lisa Jensen, Lisa Rovick, Wendy Legge, Mia Kruse, Casey Clementson, and Uli Koester; and choir members Lorie Gleason, Lisa Rovick, Melanie Carlson, Martha Olsen, Elizabeth Anderson, Lisa Jensen, Dale West, Darrick Jensen, Bruce Simpson, Timothy Anderson, Nathan Haar, and Dwight Lundebly.

St. Peder's Library

Make sure you check out St. Peder's library for Christmas and Advent books and DVD's while they are on display for the season! This material is

suitable for all ages, and can be found on the table in front of the library and on the Red Cart!

New Church Organ

On November 24th, the congregation voted to purchase a new digital organ. This will be installed in early January. We know how important the old organ has been to so many people and we are happy it will be a part of this Advent season. We still need to raise \$25,000 for the purchase of a new organ. If you are interested in donating, please make sure to mark your contributions specifically to the Organ Fund. Thanks to everyone for supporting this endeavor!

Blood Drive

Minnehaha Communion Lutheran Church will be hosting a blood drive on Thursday, January 23rd from noon to 6 pm. They are looking for donors and volunteers. Look for more information in the January bulletin, or sign up online to donate at www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsors=MinnehahaLuth. Contact Sue Nielsen with questions at 612-360-3936.

Save the Date

We would like to invite the members of St. Peder's, along with their friends and family, to a gourmet dinner prepared by Chef Chris Johnson for a fundraiser called, "The Chef's table". This event will take place **here at St. Peder's on February 1st, 2025**. More details will be in the January Messenger!

St. Peder's choir

Please join us for choir practice every Thursday at 7 pm. Everyone is welcome!

St. Peder's would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a safe and fun holiday filled with family, friend, and faith!

This Week at St. Peder's

<p>Today: Sunday, December 22 Song Service</p> <p>9 am Worship 9 am Faith Formation 10 am Coffee & Fellowship</p>	<p>Tuesday, Dec. 24</p> <p>2 pm Festival Worship Service 3:15 pm Danish Service 5 pm Festival Worship service</p>	<p>Thursday, Dec. 26</p> <p>10 am Exercise Class*</p>
<p>Saturday, Dec. 28</p> <p>10:30 am Brownies Group*</p> <p>*denotes community group</p>	<p>Sunday, Dec. 29</p> <p>9 am Worship 9 am Faith Formation 10 am Coffee & Fellowship</p>	<p>Tuesday, Dec. 31</p> <p>10 am Exercise Class* 6 pm Bible Study</p>



St Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA)
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Rooted in our heritage and embracing the future, we joyfully live the gospel with open hearts, open hands and open doors

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