



**Messiah**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL  
*Church of the Lutheran Confession*  
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**December 19, 2021** **Advent 4**

*Good morning and welcome to our visitors! We appreciate your joining our worship family this morning, and we invite you to sign our guest book. If you would like more information about our church, please contact the pastor at 414-427-9337.*

**Sunday family worship...8:00 and 10:30 a.m.**  
**Sunday school...9:15 a.m. Bible class...9:30 a.m.**

**Today's Worship**

*"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace" (Jn. 16:33).*

**Greeting and prayer:**

**Opening hymn:** *Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord*

**P:** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C:** Amen.



**Announcements**

**Today**

The children will rehearse for Christmas Eve this morning at 9:15.

**School schedule change**

Over the past two weeks there have been three cases of COVID in our school family. As a precaution, the Bd. of Education has canceled classes for Mon.-Wed. this week. Thankfully, the cases have been mild, and we pray that there will be no further illnesses among our students and staff.

**Professor gifts**

Please remember our professors at ILC in your Christmas prayers. They faithfully serve the Lord and our church body in teaching the next generation of Christian teachers, pastors, and lay people. We would like to show our appreciation to them with a monetary gift from the congregation. To date, there have been only a few donations. **Today is the final opportunity.** Put gifts in the collection plate and label them: "ILC Prof. gift."

**Council notes...**

**Finances:** November offerings were \$9,344 under budgeted needs, and the balance of available funds decreased by \$9,930.

**Delegates needed:** Two delegates and two alternates for the Great Lakes Delegate Conference (June 6-7, Saginaw, MI) and for the CLC Convention (June 23-26, Eau Claire, WI) will be elected at the January 23 voters meeting. If you would be willing to serve, please contact Norm Mackensen.

**Congratulations!**

Sam Lisak and Emily Zimmerman have announced their engagement. A fall wedding is planned. May the Lord guide and bless them as they prepare for their new life together.

**CLC news**

*Teacher Rebecca Lillo* of St. Stephen Lutheran School, Mountain View, CA, has asked for a peaceful release from her call effective at the end of the current school year.

**Offering option**

Online giving for the Lord's work is now available at this link: <https://messiah.churchtrac.com/give>. Or use the QR code below. Whether online or in person, may our giving be a willing and generous fruit of faith. "Each one should give as he has determined in his heart, not reluctantly or under pressure, for God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Cor. 9:7).



**Looking Ahead...**

- ♣**Tuesday:**  
11:00 A.M: New Perspective service.  
6:30 P.M: Women's group.
- ♣**Friday:**  
6:00 P.M: Christmas Eve service.
- ♣**Saturday:**  
10:30 A.M: Christmas Day Song Service.
- ♣**Next Sunday:**  
Lord's Supper.



**Christmas Eve service:**  
6:00 p.m.

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**Christmas Day Song Service: 10:30 a.m.**

## Bible Readings:

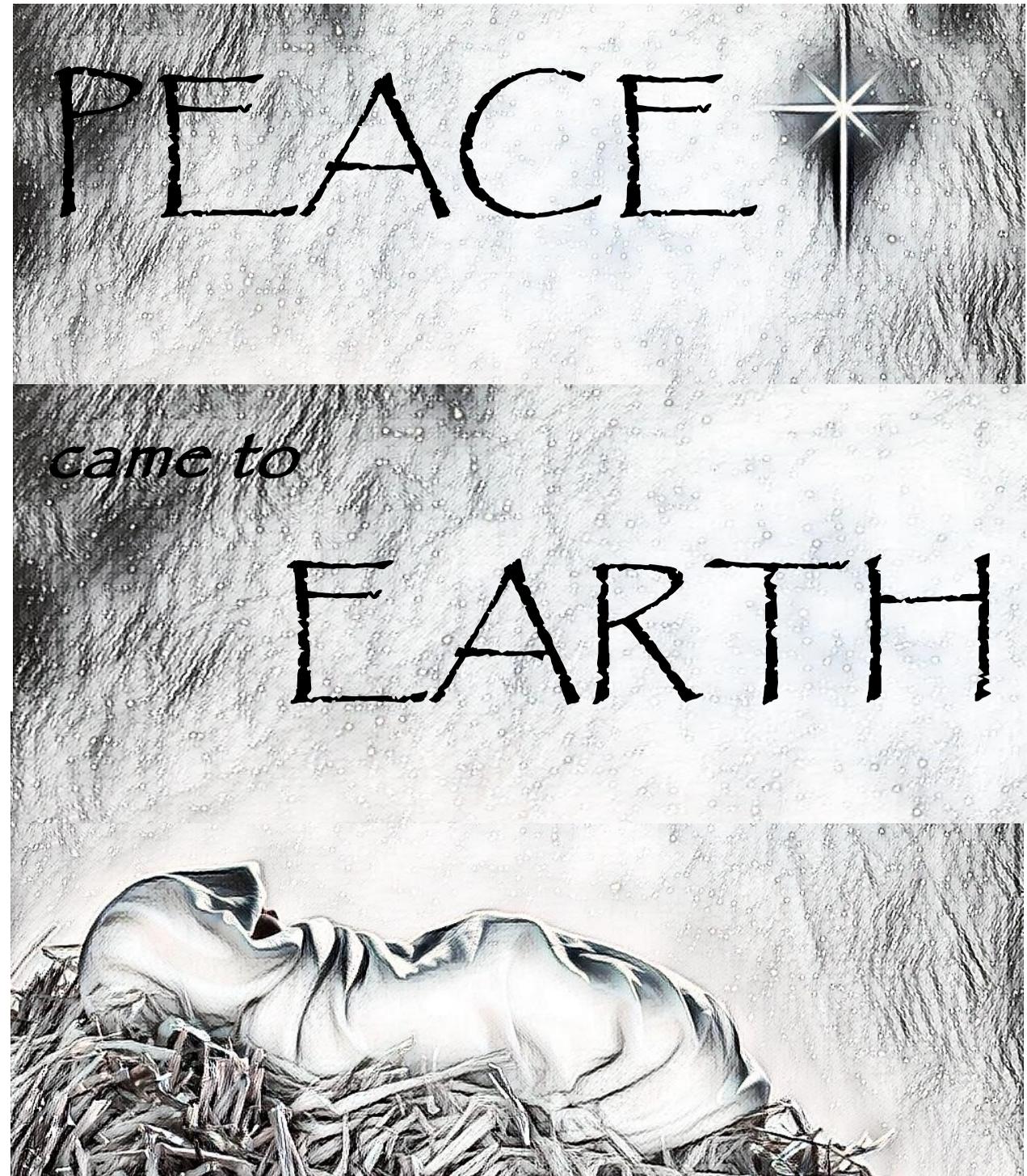
12/19	Zeph 1:1-3:20 Rev 10:1-11 Ps. 138:1-8 Prov. 30:11-14
12/20	Hag 1:1-2:23 Rev 11:1-19 Ps. 139:1-24 Prov. 30:15-16
12/21	Zech 1:1-21 Rev 12:1-17 Ps. 140:1-13 Prov. 30:17
12/22	Zech 2:1-3:10 Rev 13:1-13:18 Ps. 141:1-10 Prov. 30:18-20
12/23	Zech 4:1-5:11 Rev 14:1-20 Ps. 142:1-7 Prov. 30:21-23
12/24	Zech 6:1-7:14 Rev 15:1-8 Ps. 143:1-12 Prov. 30:24-28
12/25	Zech 8:1-23 Ev 16:1-21 Ps. 144:1-15 Prov. 30:29-31

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December Ushers		Cleaning Teams 12/25-12/31	
1st:	T. Koch B. Lillo	Church:	Tiefel, Gurgel
2nd:	A. Mueller M. Gescheidle	School:	J. Mueller, Griffen, Schaser
Christmas Day: M. Plockelman, A. Plockelman			
New Year's Eve: J. Serba, K. Winters			

Fruits of Faith	Last Week:	To Date:
Budgetary Offerings:	\$6,901.00	\$196,445.00
Budgetary Needs:	\$7,973.00	\$191,352.00
Over (Under) Budget:	(\$1,072.00)	\$5,093.00
Missions:	\$75.00	\$3,715.00
MDF:	\$30.00	\$685.00
Kinship:	\$250.00	\$4,197.00
ILC Building Fund:	\$35.00	\$440.00
ILCSAF:	\$100.00	\$535.00
Benevolence Fund:	\$80.00	

Attendance Last Sunday: 93,38  
Advent (15th): 52



P: O Word-made-flesh, work in us heartfelt joy for all Your blessings for this life and the next. We thank You for the blessing of marriage and family. We rejoice in the news of the engagement of Sam Lisak and Emily Zimmerman. Guide this couple as they prepare for their new life together. Help them build their future on Your love and promises. Grant them faithfulness to You and to one another throughout their earthly journey. May they be an example to all of how richly You bless those who follow You. We pray,  
**C: hear us, coming Lord.**

P: You, O Lord, know the thoughts of our hearts and hear those prayers that come to You in sighs too deep for words. All our prayers we entrust to You in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**C: Amen.**

## Lord's Prayer

## Hymn: *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

## Benediction:

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

**C: Amen.**

## Closing hymn: *Peace Came to Earth*



P: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve Him as His dear children. But we have disobeyed Him and deserve only His wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him and plead for His mercy.

**C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful by nature. In countless ways I have sinned against You and do not deserve to be called Your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to Your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

P: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, He has removed your guilt forever. You are His own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to His will.

**C: Amen.**

### LORD, HAVE MERCY *Kyrie*

C: Lord, have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer - cy  
on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us.

### GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST *Gloria in Excelsis*

C: 1 Glo - ry to God, we give You thanks and praise;  
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, the Fa - ther's on - ly Son,  
3 A - lone, O Christ, You on - ly are the Lord,  
Of heav'n - ly joy and peace on earth we sing,  
You bore for us the load of this world's sin.  
At God's right hand in maj - es - ty most high:  
We wor - ship You, to You our hearts we raise,  
O Lamb of God, Your glo - rious vic - t'ry won,  
Who, with the Spir - it wor - shiped and a - dored,  
Lord God, al - might - y Fa - ther, heav'n - ly King,  
Re - ceive our prayer, grant us Your peace with - in.  
With all the heav'n - ly host we glo - ri - fy.

## Prayer of the Day

P: Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Take away the burden of our sins, and make us ready for the celebration of Your birth, 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.

C: Amen.

## Lighting of Advent candle:

*Forgive us, Lord, for times when love was lost,  
And moments when we never thought to care,  
For times when we destroy and subdue  
The Word that brings Your people close to You.  
Forgive, forgive, forgive us all our sins  
And help us love so newness can begin.*

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## Epistle lesson: Hebrews 10:5-10

Therefore, when He came into the world, He said: *“Sacrifices and offering You did not desire, but a body You have prepared for Me. In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin You had no pleasure. Then I said, ‘Behold I have come—in the volume of the book it is written of Me—to do Your will, O God.’”* Previously saying, *“Sacrifice and offering, burnt offerings, and offerings for sin You did not desire, nor had pleasure in them”* (which are offered according to the law), then He said, *“Behold, I have come to do Your will, O God.”* He takes away the first that He may establish the second. By that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.”



## Prayer of the Church

As we prepare our hearts and minds for Christ’s coming, we turn to the Lord in prayer.

*(minute of silence for personal prayers)*

P: O Wisdom from on high, grant us Your peace which comes from trusting in You as our Savior from sin and death and the One who rules in our hearts by grace. We pray,

C: hear us, coming Lord.

P: O Desire of nations, bless the leaders of nations, our president and Congress, our governors and local leaders. Move them to be honorable people who do not neglect their duties or use their power for selfish purposes. Bless those who serve in our armed forces. Bring about peace between us and our enemies in this broken world. We pray,

C: hear us, coming Lord.

P: O Dayspring from on high, come to the aid of all who are in need: the sick, the discouraged, those who lack basic necessities, and those in Kentucky and elsewhere who lost homes and loved ones. We pray in behalf of Liz Hartmann, mother of Kris Gerbitz, who is hospitalized for treatment of Guillain-Barré syndrome. Grant healing for the body according to Your will and time. Comfort her heart with the assurance that You are her Good Shepherd who cares for her in love. We also ask your special care for Madie Gerbitz who was treated in the ER yesterday. As You humbly entered the world, help us as Your people to enter the lives of those who need companionship, help, and hope. Bring relief according to Your will and peace to those whose suffering endures. We pray,

C: hear us, coming Lord.

P: O Key of David, let Your peace flow freely in and among the families of this congregation. Empower parents and grandparents to love their children, and children to love their parents. Watch over all who travel at this busy time of year and comfort family members who are separated by many miles. Preserve us all in good health that we may gather here later this week to celebrate Your birth in Bethlehem as our Savior. We pray,

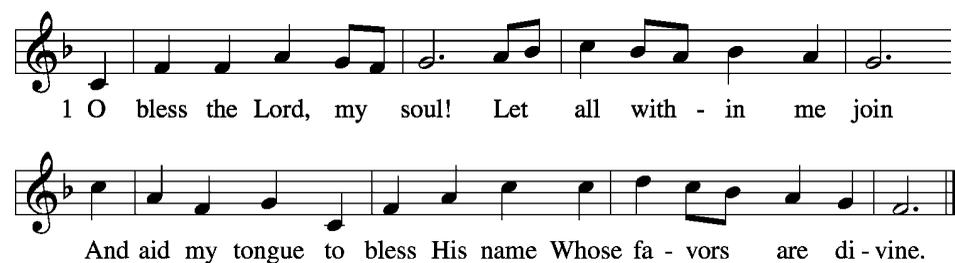
C: hear us, coming Lord.



C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
 new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me  
 not a - way from Your pres - ence. Take not Your Ho - ly  
 Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of  
 Your sal - va - tion. Up - hold with Your Spir - it free.

## Offering

### O Bless the Lord, My Soul



1 O bless the Lord, my soul! Let all with - in me join  
 And aid my tongue to bless His name Whose fa - vors are di - vine.

6 **His wondrous works and ways  
 He made by Moses known,  
 But sent the world His truth and grace  
 By His beloved Son.**

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## O LORD, OUR LORD

*Antiphon*



I will praise Your name for - ev - er, my King and my God.

*Psalm Tone*



O LORD, our Lord,  
 How excellent is Your name in all the earth,\*  
 You who set your glory above the heavens!  
 Out of the mouth of babes and infants\*  
 You have ordained strength,  
 Because of Your enemies,\*  
 That You may silence the enemy and the avenger.

*Antiphon*

When I consider Your heavens,\*  
 the work of Your fingers,  
 The moon and the stars,\*  
 which You have ordained,  
 What is man that you are mindful of him,\*  
 And the son of man that You visit him?  
 For You have made him a little lower than the angels,\*  
 And You have crowned him with glory and honor.  
**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.**

*Antiphon*

## Gospel lesson: Luke 1:39-55

Now Mary arose in those days and went into the hill country with haste, to a city of Judah, and entered the house of Zacharias and greeted Elizabeth. And it happened, when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, that the babe leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. Then she spoke out with a loud voice and said, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! But why is this granted to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For indeed, as soon as the voice of your greeting sounded in my ears, the babe leaped in my womb for joy. Blessed is she who believed, for there will be a fulfillment of those things which were told her from the Lord."

And Mary said: "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior. For He has regarded the lowly state of His maidservant; for behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed. For He who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is His name. And His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He has put down the mighty from their thrones, and exalted the lowly. He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent away empty. He has helped His servant Israel, in remembrance of His mercy, as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed forever."

P: Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it. Alleluia!



C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

## Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting. Amen.

## Hymn: *Of the Father's Love Begotten*

### Sermon: Micah 5:2-5a

"But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of you shall come forth to Me the One to be Ruler in Israel, whose goings forth are from of old, from everlasting."

Therefore He shall give them up, until the time that she who is in labor has given birth; then the remnant of His brethren shall return to the children of Israel.

And He shall stand and feed His flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD His God; and they shall abide, for now He shall be great to the ends of the earth; and this One shall be peace.

**Big Help in a Small Package**  
**I. A humble Baby born in Bethlehem**  
**II. The mighty Prince of Peace**

