



Worship Service
Sunday, December 20, 2020
8:45 A.M.

THOSE
WHO *are*
DREAM *not alone*
4TH sunday in Advent

The Advent wreath is a well-known custom for the season. The wreath and winter candle-lighting amid growing darkness strengthen some of the Advent images found in the Bible. The unbroken circle of greens is a clear image of everlasting life, a victory wreath, the crown of Christ, or the wheel of time itself. Christians use the wreath as a sign that Christ reaches into our time to lead us to the light of everlasting life. The four candles mark the progress of the four weeks of Advent and the growth of light. Sometimes the wreath is embellished with natural dried flowers or fruit, or bows. Its evergreen branches lead the household and the congregation to the evergreen Christmas tree. In many homes, the family gathers for prayers around the wreath.

You may wish to create your own advent wreath at home, creating a circle with candles in your worship space, and welcome God's presence among you in a new way.

GATHERING

PRELUDE *O King of All the Nations ('O' Antiphons) John Newell*

WELCOME

On the Fourth Sunday of Advent, we light four candles for love.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

O King of the Nations – Healy Willan

*O King of the nations, the ruler they long for,
The cornerstone uniting all people:*

Come and save us all, whom you formed out of clay.

GREETING & PRAYER OF THE DAY

The God of peace be with you.

And also with you.

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. As the darkness of Mary's womb made welcome room for our Savior Jesus Christ, we thank you for all the dark, safe, cozy places in our lives where we are cradled in our moments of vulnerability.

As we light today's candle, the candle of love, guide our hearts to welcome you when you come to us in friends, neighbors, and strangers, to bear your redeeming love to all the world.

May the light of these four candles show us how God is calling us to be faithful servants like Mary, carrying Christ within us as she first did.

Amen.

WORD

CHILDREN'S SERMON

PSALM 89:1-4, 19-26

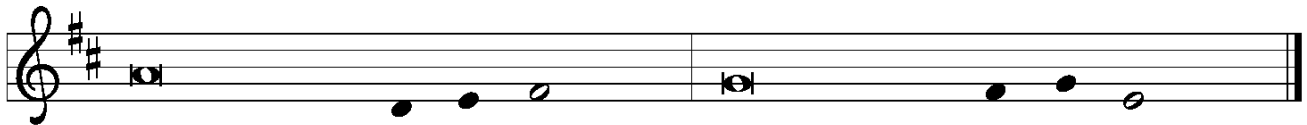
Refrain:



Psalm 89:1

Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year B* © 2008 Augsburg Fortress.

Psalm Tone



Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

¹Your love, O LORD, forever | will I sing;

from age to age my mouth will pro- | claim your faithfulness.

²**For I am persuaded that your steadfast love is estab- | lished forever;**
you have set your faithfulness firmly | in the heavens.

³“I have made a covenant with my | chosen one;
I have sworn an oath to Da- | vid my servant:

⁴**I will establish your | line forever,**
and preserve your throne for all | generations.’” *Refrain*

¹⁹You spoke once in a vision and said to your | faithful people:
“I have set the crown upon a warrior and have exalted one chosen out | of the people.

²⁰**I have found Da- | vid my servant;**
with my holy oil have I a- | nointed him.

²¹My hand will | hold him fast
and my arm will | make him strong.

²²**No enemy | shall deceive him,**
nor shall the wicked | bring him down.

²³I will crush his | foes before him
and strike down | those who hate him.

³⁵The angel said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. ³⁶And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God.” ³⁸Then Mary said, “Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.” Then the angel departed from her.

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON **The ABCs of Christmas** *ELC's Sunday School*

HYMN OF THE DAY *The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came* **ELW 265**



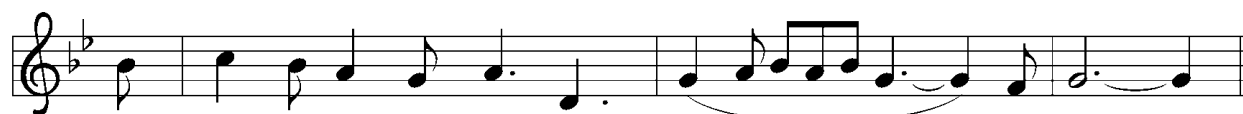
1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from heav - en came,
 2 “For know a bless - ed moth - er thou shalt be,
 3 Then gen - tle Mar - y meek - ly bowed her head;
 4 Of her, Em - man - u - el, the Christ, was born



with wings as drift - ed snow, with eyes as flame:
 all gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee;
 “To me be as it pleas - eth God,” she said.
 in Beth - le - hem all on a Christ - mas morn,



“All hail to thee, O low - ly maid - en Mar - y,
 thy son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,
 “My soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy God’s ho - ly name.”
 and Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say:



most high - ly fa - vored la - dy.”
 most high - ly fa - vored la - dy.” Glo - ri - a!
 Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy,
 “Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy.”

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray... God of love, you show us the joy of family and children this day, in which you take delight. Bless the families among us – our church families, our chosen families, our friendships – and help us to lean on each other so we feel connected and never alone.

Jesus, our Savior, before you could speak, you were speaking through your actions – leaping, kicking, stretching, jumping for joy in your mothers' womb. You have always found a way to show up in our midst, especially on days that are fearful or lonely.

We pray for those experiencing sickness, despair, loss, or are in need of any kind, especially those we name before you now, whether in the silence of our hearts or with our lips...

Holy Spirit, we ask that you move in us now – stir in us. Speak to us. Fill us. When we are afraid, give us siblings like Elizabeth who will point out your presence in delight and joy, and help us to listen to your love.

AMEN.

MEAL

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, forever and ever.
Amen.**

+ + + *Receive the Meal* + + +

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

*We pause for prayer and reflection, and to give time to commune those gathered
with others in the household.*

SENDING

OFFERING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

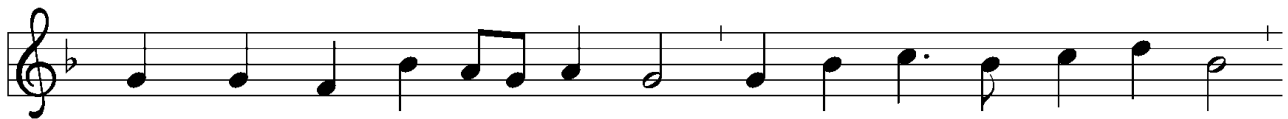
BENEDICTION

The Creator of the stars bless your Advent waiting,
the long-expected Savior fill you with love,
the unexpected Spirit guide your journey, † now and forever. **Amen.**

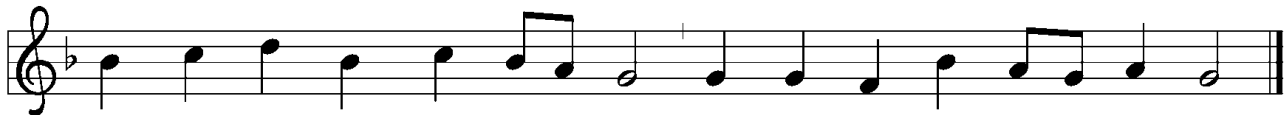
SENDING HYMN

Savior of the Nations, Come

ELW 263



- 1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come; vir - gin's son, make here your home.
- 2 Not by hu - man flesh and blood, but the mys - tic Breath of God,
- 3 Won - drous birth—oh, won - drous child—from his throne, a vir - gin mild!
- 4 From God's heart the Sav - ior speeds, back to God his path-way leads;



Mar - vel now, O heav'n and earth: God has cho - sen such a birth.
was the Word of God made flesh, fruit of wom - an, blos - som fresh.
Ver - y God, and Mar - y's son, ea - ger now his race to run!
out to van - quish death's com - mand, 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,
virgin's son, incarnate Word!
To the holy Trinity
praise we sing eternally!

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Savior of the Nations, Come

by Paul Manz

MERRY CHRISTMAS!!

*See you next week for worship at 5pm on Saturday
and 10:00am on Sunday!*



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Our Mission:

Transforming lives by sharing a saving faith in Jesus Christ
and living the Gospel through service

If you would like to add a name to our prayer list, connect with our ministries,
meet with one of our pastors, or learn more about ELC and how to join, feel free to
call or email us. You are always welcome here.

+ Pastor Christina Klein

Reverend Christina Klein	pastorchristina@edgebrooklutheran.org	Pastor
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Thank you for worshipping with us today as we seek to be in community with one another while minimizing physical contact. As a gentle reminder, please continue to wash your hands for the recommended 20 seconds, wear a mask and create safe boundaries through physical distancing.

We know that God is with us and God is at work, wherever we worship. With coronavirus cases on the rise, we will continue worshipping online at this time. Please be vigilant and check your email, Facebook, etc., for additional notifications and updates in the coming weeks, and contact the church council (council@edgebrooklutheran.org) with any concerns. Stay safe and be well! God's peace to you!!