

Ascension Lutheran Church Livestream Worship
December 20– 9:15am

Welcome! A few pointers to make this worship service meaningful:

- *Set the space. Clear a table of everything except the screen, a Bible, and the candle.*
- *Join us as for communion this morning. Have your bread and wine or grape juice ready.*
- *Thank you for supporting the ministry of Ascension. You can give online at www.ascensioncos.org/give or mail a check to:
Ascension Lutheran Church
2505 N Circle Dr.
Colorado Springs, CO 80909*
- *If you have prayer requests or concerns, visit ascensioncos.org or call 719-634-1694*

Prelude **“The Snow Lay On The Ground” arr. Larry Sue**
Handbell Duet: Linda Cherry and Ingrid Daniel

Announcements

Call to Worship **What Child Is This?” arr. by Kathleen M. Basi** **Flute: Gail Tucker**

Confession

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the Lord of Israel who comes to set us free, the mighty Savior who comes to show mercy, the Dawn from on high who guides us into peace.

Amen.

Let us come before God in confession.

(silence for reflection)

Great and Holy One,

in this time of modest daylight, we confess the shadows of sin in our lives. We build ourselves up at the expense of others. We rely on our own efforts to make our lives secure. Yet you, O Lord, are the potter, and we are the clay. Come to restore us in your image, remake us into your people, and rebuild what sin has broken, that we and the whole creation may rejoice. Amen.

Forgiveness

Gathering Hymn

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (257)



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things
3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on
4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;
Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law
tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!
in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.
and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

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.

Advent Wreath Candle Lighting

We praise you, O God, for this circle of light that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent. As we light the candles on this wreath, give us the joy of the angels. Enlighten us with your grace, that we may sing of your advent among us in the Word made flesh. Grant this through Christ our Lord, **whose coming is certain and whose day draws near. Amen.**

Hymn of Praise



1., 3. My — soul pro - claims your
2. You have cast the might - y



great - ness, O God, and my spir - it re - joic - es in
down from their thrones, and up - lift - ed the hum - ble of



you, You have looked with love on your
heart, You have filled the hun - gry with

fine last time



ser - vant here, and blessed me all my life through.
won - drous things, and left the wealth - y no part.

Great and might - y are you, O Ho - ly One,
Great and might - y are you, O Faith - ful One,

strong is your kind - ness ev - er - more.
strong is your jus - tice strong your love,

How you fa - vor the weak — and low - ly one,
As you prom - ised to Sar - ah and A - bra - ham,

hum - bling the proud of heart.
kind - ness for - ev - er - more.

Prayer of the Day

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come.

With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that would obstruct your mercy, that willingly we may bear your redeeming love to all the world, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Special Music

“Wexford Carol” arr. by Richard Walters

Solo: Megan Miller

Reading- Isaiah 40:1, 27-31

Comfort, O comfort my people,
says your God.

Why do you say, O Jacob,
and speak, O Israel,

‘My way is hidden from the LORD,
and my right is disregarded by my God’?

Have you not known? Have you not heard?

The LORD is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint or grow weary;
his understanding is unsearchable.

He gives power to the faint,
and strengthens the powerless.

Even youths will faint and be weary,
and the young will fall exhausted;

but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength,
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,
they shall run and not be weary,
they shall walk and not faint.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

+ Gospel Acclamation



Gospel Reading: Luke 1:26-38

The Holy Gospel according to Luke

Glory to you, O Lord.

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.' But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?' The 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. And 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. For nothing will be impossible with God.' Then 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.

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Pastor Daniel Smith

Hymn of the Day

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming (272)



1 Lo, how a rose e'er bloom - ing from ten - der stem hath
 2 I - sai - ah had fore - told it, the rose I have in
 3 This flow'r, whose fra - grance ten - der with sweet-ness fills the
 4 O Sav - ior, child of Mar - y, who felt our hu - man



sprung! Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing as
 mind; with Mar - y we be - hold it, the
 air, dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor the
 woe; O Sav - ior, king of glo - ry, who



seers of old have sung, it came, a flow'r so bright, a -
 vir - gin moth - er kind. To show God's love a - right, she
 dark-ness ev - 'ry - where. True man, yet ver - y God, from
 dost our weak - ness know: bring us at length, we pray, to



mid the cold of win - ter, when half - spent was the night.
 bore to us a Sav - ior, when half - spent was the night.
 sin and death he saves us and light - ens ev - 'ry load.
 the bright courts of heav - en and in - to end - less day.

+Apostles Creed

**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 into hell.
 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

Filled with expectation and longing, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

(a brief silence)

After each petition:

Lord in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Those remembered in prayer this week ...

Teresa Allen, Beth Ayen, Allen Brooks, Brad Buhler, Sonny Campbell, Andrea Gallant, Elaine Glover, Mike Jensen, Jack Kagarise, Pam Landry, Sara Petz, Carlos Quiles, Rick Rogers, Connie Schneider, Jeff Sebben, Cassie Shaffer, Cathy Stanley, Ilene Steinkruger, Wanda Wade, Lucille Walker, Dee Yocum, all our men and women serving overseas, especially Anthony Calderon, and all others we lift up to you at this time.

The Great Thanksgiving **tune: Good Christian Men, Rejoice**

Oh, may the good Lord be with you.

And may the Lord be with you too.

Lift your hearts to God in praise.

To the Lord our hearts we raise.

Let us offer praises true.

It is fitting so to do. Gratefully we sing to the Lord, our King!

The Sanctus

tune: As with Gladness

1. Holy, holy, holy Lord! God of hosts, by all adored.

Heav'n and earth cannot contain, all the glory of Your name!

With the heav'nly host we sing highest praises to our King!

**2. Hail! Hosanna! Endless fame be to Him who, in God's name,
now draws nigh with us to dwell, Jesus, Our Emmanuel!**

Hail! Hosanna! Praises be to the Lord eternally!

Eucharistic Prayer and Words of Institution

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.

Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

Amen.

In the night in which he was betrayed, ...

Together, let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus.

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Tune: *Away in a Manger*

- 1. Our Father in heaven, all praise to Your name!
Your kingdom among us, Your will done the same.
By mortals and angels, come, Lord, reign alone.
Oh, hear us and bless us from heaven's high throne.**
- 2. The bread that we yearn for provide us each day;
as we forgive others, our sins take away;
in times of temptation, to lead us be near;
from evil deliver Your children most dear.**
- 3. For Yours is the kingdom; o'er all things You reign.
And Yours is the power; all things You maintain.
To You be the glory, resounding again
from all of creation, forever! Amen!**

Invitation to Communion

We encourage you to have your bread and wine/grape juice ready. When the pastor says "The body of Christ given for you" and "The blood of Christ shed for you", eat and drink trusting that this is God's free gift of grace for you. If you are worshiping with others, one may give the bread and wine to the rest offering those same words. All are welcome to the Lord's table.

Prayer after Communion

God for whom we wait,

you come to us in the broken bread and the cup we share. Make us ready always to welcome Christ into our hearts, and send us forth to be your people in the world, announcing your coming among us in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sending Hymn

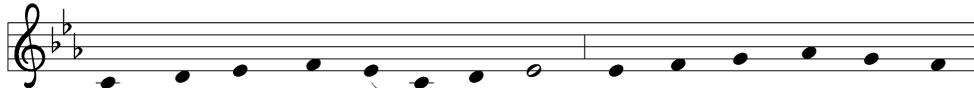
Of the Father's Love Begotten (295)



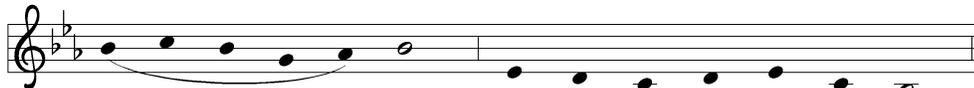
1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten ere the worlds be -
2 Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, when the vir - gin,
3 This is he whom seers in old time chant - ed of with
4 Let the heights of heav'n a - dore him; an - gel hosts, his



gan to be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga,
full of grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,
one ac - cord, whom the voic - es of the proph - ets
prais - es sing; pow'rs, do - min - ions, bow be - fore him



he the source, the end - ing he, of the things that are, that
bore the Sav - ior of our race, and the babe, the world's re -
prom - ised in their faith - ful word; now he shines, the long - ex -
and ex - tol our God and King; let no tongue on earth be



have been, and that fu - ture years shall see,
deem - er, first re - vealed his sa - cred face,
pect - ed; let cre - a - tion praise its Lord
si - lent, ev - 'ry voice in con - cert ring



ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
ev - er - more and ev - er - more. A - men.

Benediction

Amen

Sending

Go in peace, serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

**“Carol of the Drum” arr. Larry Sue
Handbell Duet: Linda Cherry and Ingrid Daniel**

The altar flower this week have been given by John & Kathy Hayes in honor of Kathy's mom

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Calendar- December 20-27

<u>SUNDAY 12/20</u>	9:15 AM	Online Worship
	10:15 AM	Adult Education-Insight from Within
	7:00 PM	Christmas Concert via Zoom
<u>TUESDAY</u>	10:30 AM	Bible Study via Zoom
<u>WEDNESDAY</u>	9:00 AM	Staff Meeting via Zoom
	8:00 PM	Zooming Advent with Pastor Dan
<u>THURSDAY</u>		Christmas Eve-Office Closed
	4:00 PM	Online Christmas Eve Service
	8:00 PM	Ascension Service on Radio at 88.7 FM
<u>FRIDAY</u>		Christmas Day-Office Closed
<u>SUNDAY 12/27</u>	9:15 AM	Online Worship
	10:15 AM	Fellowship Hour