



ST. MARK'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

OUR MISSION:

TO PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL

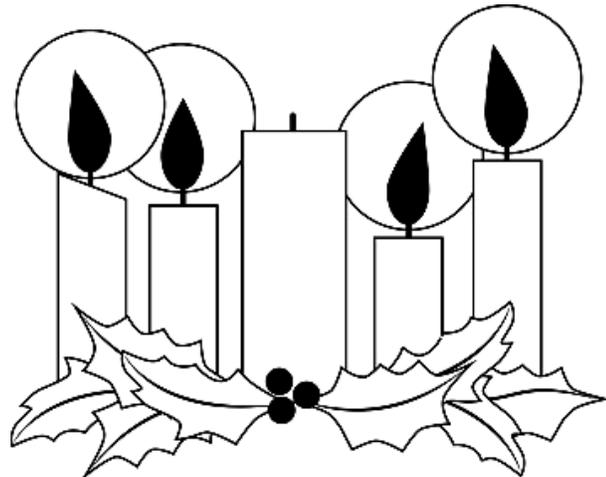
TO MAKE DISCIPLES

TO EMBODY GOD'S LOVE

INTRODUCTION

*Cradle and cross
are inextricably
connected on the
fourth Sunday of
Advent. Between a
lovely tribute to the
little town of
Bethlehem and the
blessed virgin 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 the
holy communion—
with high delight—
"we proclaim the
Lord's death."*

**DECEMBER 23, 2018 AT 10:00 A.M.
FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT
SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION**



FOURTH SUNDAY
OF
Advent



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

ST. MARK'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

10:00 A.M.

DECEMBER 23, 2018

**Please stand if able*

P: Pastor; A: Assisting Minister; C: Congregation

(ELW—red book)

GATHERING

PRELUDE

“Lo How a Rose E'er Blooming”

Emily Schuttenberg

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Gary Haddock

*LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

(v. 4) *ELW #257*

*CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: 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.**

P: Let us come before God in confession.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: O God,

C: You know us through and through; we confess our sins to you. Remember not our sins. Remember us with your steadfast love. Show us your ways. Teach us your paths. Lead us in justice and truth, for the sake of your son, Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

P: Children of God come with joy and draw water from the well of salvation. Remember the gift of baptism: your sin is washed away in the name of † Jesus; you belong to Christ; you are anointed to serve. Raise up your heads! The reign of God is near. **Amen.**

*SHARING THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

*GATHERING HYMN

“Hark the Glad Sound!”

ELW #239

*APOSTOLIC GREETING

ELW p. 120

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

*KYRIE

“In peace, let us pray to the Lord ...”

ELW p. 120-121

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: 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. **C: Amen.**

WORD

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Vicar Frank Waugh

LESSONS

Micah 5:2-5a; Psalm 80:1-7; Hebrews 10:5-10

David Tucker

*HOLY GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

"Alleluia, Alleluia, ..."

ELW p. 124

*GOSPEL READING

P: The holy gospel according to St. Luke. **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

Luke 1:39-55

P: The gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Vicar Frank Waugh

*HYMN OF THE DAY

“Savior of the Nations, Come”

ELW #263

*APOSTLES' CREED

ELW P. 127

C: 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 to the dead. 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.

*INTERCESSORY PRAYER

A: Hear us, oh God. **C: Your mercy is great.**

David Tucker

MEAL

THE OFFERING / OFFERTORY "Litany for Advent" Chancel Choir

*OFFERING PRESENTATION / RESPONSE "Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful" ELW #182

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and the dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer now. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

*OFFERTORY PRAYER David Tucker

A: God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. C: Amen.

*EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER V "Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord ..." ELW p. 65-66

*LORD'S PRAYER (Traditional) "Lord, teach us to pray..."

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.

DISTRIBUTION

Holy Communion Invitation: We welcome all who are baptized to the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Communion is served by Intinction. You will be given a wafer, which you then dip into the chalice of wine. If unable to come forward, stand where you are, and you will be served there. Children who are baptized are welcome to commune.

*AGNUS DEI (LAMB OF GOD) ELW p. 135

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

*DISTRIBUTION HYMN "On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry" ELW #249

*POST COMMUNION BLESSING

After all have returned to their places, the congregation stands and the presiding minister says these words:

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace. C: Amen.

*POST COMMUNION PRAYER David Tucker

A: Holy One, we give you thanks that in this bread and cup we have feasted again on your endless love. Let that love overflow more and more in our lives, that we may be messengers to prepare your way, harvesters of justice and righteousness, and bearers of your eternal Word, our Savior Jesus Christ. C: Amen.

SENDING

*BLESSING Rev. Gary Haddock

*SENDING HYMN "The King Shall Come" ELW #260

INSTALLATION OF CONGREGATION COUNCIL FOR 2019

*DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE "Comfort, Comfort Ye My People" Emily Schuttenberg

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FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD and in honor of my wonderful wife Judy on our 56th wedding anniversary today, given by Jerry Craig.

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FLOWERS ON THE TABLE ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD and in memory of Josephine & George Setzer, Sr. , by Joyce & George Setzer, Jr.



MICAH 5:2-5A

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore, he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people 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 live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace.

PSALM 80:1-7

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock! You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh. Stir up your might and come to save us! Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved. O Lord GOD of hosts, how long will you be angry with your people's prayers? You have fed them with the bread of tears and given them tears to drink in full measure. You make us the scorn of our neighbors; our enemies laugh among themselves. Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

HEBREWS 10:5-10

Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, 'See, God, I have come to do your will, O God' (in the scroll of the book it is written of me)." When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

LUKE 1:39-55

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

LITURGY -THE WORK OF THE PEOPLE

Presiding Pastor: Rev. Gary Haddock

Organist: Emily Schuttenberg

Communion Assistants: Camille Patrick, Rebecca Haddock

Deacons: Tiffany Caudill, Tanya Stephenson

Tech: Carol Schaefer, Tamarah Hefner, Camille Patrick, Randy Sherrill, Terry Hefner, Barry Bumgarner, Gina Schaefer

Preacher: Vicar Frank Waugh

Assisting Minister: David Tucker

Altar Guild: Dotty & Ken Isenhour

Tabulators: Dotty Isenhour, Chris Cloninger, Nick Setzer

St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 3216 W. Main Street, P.O. Box 550, Claremont, NC 28610 (www.smarklc.org)

Office Hours: Mon-Thu, 8:30-4pm; Fri, 8:30-12:30pm (828-459-2161 or lisa@smarklc.org or deanna@smarklc.org)