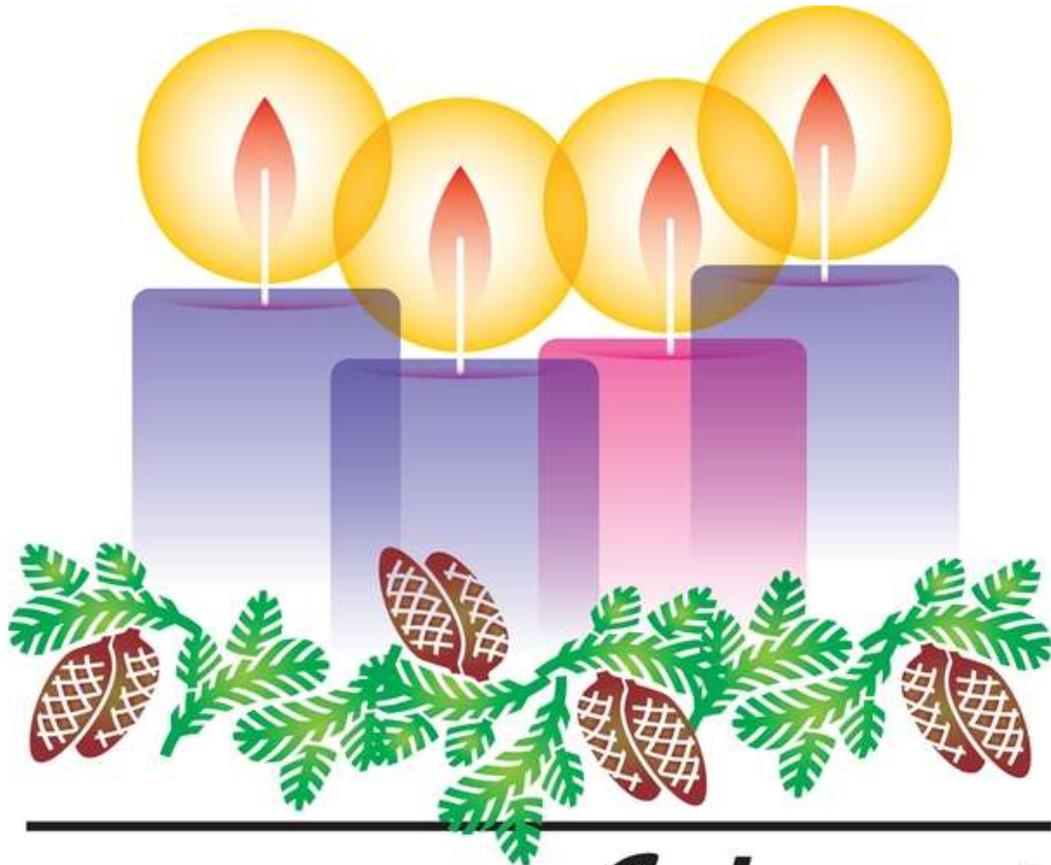


# Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 19, 2021



FOURTH SUNDAY OF *Advent*



**St. John's Lutheran Church of Parkville**

[www.stjohnsparkville.org](http://www.stjohnsparkville.org)

(410) 665-1234

After hour emergency: (443) 844-9314

[Office@stjohnsparkville.org](mailto:Office@stjohnsparkville.org)

Text SJPARKVILLE to 22828 to join our email list.

December 19, 2021

Fourth Sunday of Advent

WELCOME

PRELUDE

*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

*HandChimes*

*(Music: Felix Mendelssohn; arr. Martha Lynn Thompson; Arr. © 2009 Agape, division of Hope Publishing C)*

*Please stand as you are able.*

GATHERING HYMN

*The Magnificat (from Holden Evening Prayer)*

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>1 My soul proclaims your greatness, O God,<br/>And my spirit rejoices in you,<br/>You have looked with love on your servant here,<br/>and blessed me all my life through.<br/>Great and mighty are you, O Holy One,<br/>strong is your kindness evermore.<br/>How you favor the weak and lowly one,<br/>humbling the proud of heart.</p> <p>3 My soul proclaims your greatness, O God,<br/>and my spirit rejoices in you,<br/>You have looked with love on your servant here,<br/>and blessed me all my life through.</p> | <p>2 You have cast the mighty down from their thrones,<br/>and uplifted the humble of heart,<br/>you have filled the hungry with wondrous things,<br/>and left the wealthy no part.<br/>Great and mighty are you, O Faithful One,<br/>strong is your justice, strong your love,<br/>As you promised to Sarah and Abraham, kindness<br/>forevermore.</p> |
|--|---|

*(Text and music: Marty Haugen © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc.)*

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who alone does wonders, who lifts up the lowly, who fills the hungry with good things. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin, trusting in the tender mercy of our God.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God for whom we wait,

**in the presence of one another, we confess our sin before you. We fail in believing that your good news is for us. We falter in our call to tend your creation. We find our sense of self in material wealth. We fear those different from ourselves. We forget that we are your children and turn away from your love. Forgive us, Blessed One, and assure us again of your saving grace. Amen.**

God, in Christ Jesus, has looked with favor upon you! Through the power of the Holy Spirit, ✝ your sins are forgiven. You are children of the Most High, inheritors of the eternal promise, and recipients of divine mercy. God strengthens you anew to follow the way of peace. **Amen.**

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.**

## 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.**

*The assembly is seated.*

## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

*Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah*

*ELW 240*

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1 Light one candle to watch for Messiah:<br>let the light banish darkness.<br>He shall bring salvation to Israel,<br>God fulfills the promise.       | 2 Light two candles to watch for Messiah:<br>let the light banish darkness.<br>He shall feed the flock like a shepherd,<br>gently lead them homeward. |
| 3 Light three candles to watch for Messiah:<br>let the light banish darkness.<br>Lift your heads and lift high the gateway<br>for the King of glory. | 4 Light four candles to watch for Messiah:<br>let the light banish darkness.<br>He is coming, tell the glad tidings.<br>Let your lights be shining!   |

*(Text: Wayne L. Wold; Music: Yiddish folk tune; Text © 1984 Fortress Press)*

## ***Invitation to a Miracle***

*(© 2016 Hal Leonard Corporation)*

***Joseph M. Martin***

### **A Processional of Hope**

Narration and Reading: Isaiah 52: 7-9

### **Joy Arising**

Narration and Reading: Isaiah 60: 1-3

### **Your Light Has Come**

Narration and Reading: Luke 1:26-33

### **My Soul Rejoices in the Lord**

(soloist: Corinne Brock)

## MEAL

### EUCARISTIC PRAYER

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign. You have filled all creation with light and life; heaven and earth are full of your glory.

We praise you for the grace shown to your people in every age: the promise to Israel, the rescue from Egypt, the gift of the promised land, the words of the prophets; and, at this end of all the ages, the gift of your Son, who proclaimed the good news in word and deed and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us pray together.

**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.**

**FRACTURE**

*The breaking of the bread.*

**INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Come to Christ's banquet. Feast on God's gift of grace.

**COMMUNION**

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

**Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

**COMMUNION HYMNS**

*O Little Town of Bethlehem*

*ELW 279*

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1 O little town of Bethlehem,<br>how still we see thee lie!<br>Above thy deep and dreamless sleep<br>the silent stars go by;<br>yet in thy dark streets shineth<br>the everlasting light.<br>The hopes and fears of all the years<br>are met in thee tonight.        | 2 For Christ is born of Mary,<br>and, gathered all above<br>while mortals sleep, the angels keep<br>their watch of wond'ring love.<br>O morning stars, together<br>proclaim the holy birth,<br>and praises sing to God the king,<br>and peace to all the earth! |
| 3 How silently, how silently<br>the wondrous gift is giv'n!<br>So God imparts to human hearts<br>the blessings of his heav'n.<br>No ear may hear his coming;<br>but, in this world of sin,<br>where meek souls will receive him, still<br>the dear Christ enters in. | 4 O holy child of Bethlehem,<br>descend to us, we pray;<br>cast out our sin, and enter in,<br>be born in us today.<br>We hear the Christmas angels<br>the great glad tidings tell;<br>oh, come to us, abide with us,<br>our Lord Immanuel!                      |

*(Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835-1893; music: Lewis H. Redner, 1831-1908)*

*All Earth is Hopeful*

*ELW 266*

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1 All earth is hopeful, the Savior comes at last!<br>Furrows lie open for God's creative task:<br>this, the labor of people who struggle to see<br>how God's truth and justice set ev'rybody free. | 2 People of Israel, you heard the prophet tell:<br>"A virgin mother will bear Emmanuel";<br>she conceived him, "God with us,"<br>our brother, whose birth<br>restores hope and courage to children of this earth. |
|--|---|

- 3 Mountains and valleys will have to be prepared;  
new highways opened, new protocols declared.  
Almost here! God is nearing, in beauty and grace!  
All clear ev'ry gateway, in haste, come out in  
haste!
- 4 We first saw Jesus a baby in a crib.  
This same Lord Jesus today has come to live  
in our world; he is present, in neighbors we see  
our Jesus is with us, and ever sets us free.

*(Text and Music: Alberto Taule; tr. Madeleine Forell Marshall; Music © 1993; tr. © 1995 Centro de Pastoral Liturgica, admin. OCP Publications)*

*Please stand as you are able.*

### **POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**Amen.**

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Most High God, you have come among us at this table. By the Spirit's power, form us to be bearers of your word, sharing gifts of mercy and grace with all, through Christ Jesus, our host and our guest.

**Amen.**

Cantata continues

Narration and Reading: Luke 2: 2-4

**A Celtic Cradle Carol**

(soloist: Emily Brock)

Narration and Reading: Luke 2: 8-14

**Alleluia! Christ is Born!**

Narration and Reading: John 1:1-5, 9-12

**Would I Miss a Miracle?**

Narration

**A Gloria Gathering**

**(Choir & Congregation)**

*(Please sing as directed)*

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
and the mountains in reply, echoing back their joyous strain.  
Glo-ria in excelsis Deo! Glo-ria in excelsis Deo!

Hail the heav'n born Prince of Peace! Hail the Son of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all He brings; ris'n with healing in His wings.  
Mild He lays His glory by; born that we no more may die,  
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.  
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

### **BLESSING**

The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ Jesus from whom we wait. **Amen.**

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is near.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

(© 2009 Lorenz Publishing Co.)

*Lift Up Your Heads*

*Franklin Ritter*

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## Announcements

### Advent and Christmas 2021 Worship Schedule

#### Advent Services

**December 21st – The Longest Night Service - 6:30 pm** (A service of remembering our losses, acknowledging the darkness and celebrating the hope and light of Jesus)

#### Christmas Eve Services

**December 24th - Christmas Eve Worship w/Holy Communion—11 am\***

**Family Service— 4 pm (outside)**

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Service – 7:30 pm\***

**Christmas Eve Online Service (Livestreamed on YouTube) – 7:30 pm**

**December 26th—Lessons and Carols—10 am**

*\*Services with Holy Communion*

**\*\*Help needed! We are in need of helpers to assist with the 4 pm Christmas Eve Family Service and readers for the Lesson & Carols Service on December 26<sup>th</sup> at 10 am. Please see Martha or email her at [mrequard1@gmail.com](mailto:mrequard1@gmail.com) if you can help.\*\***



The beautiful flowers gracing our worship service today are given in loving memory of Frances Grams who left us 19 years ago on this date from her daughter, Patricia Hurley.

**Additional flowers** are given in honor of Joshua Hills' 19<sup>th</sup> birthday with love from his family.

We are taking flower dedications for 2022. The dates available are: February 6<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>, March 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>, April 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>, May 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>, June 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, and 26<sup>th</sup>, July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>. Contact Rachel Hills at [rm\\_hills@yahoo.com](mailto:rm_hills@yahoo.com) if you would like to sponsor the flowers.



Please have all final donations for 2021 to church no later than Sunday, December 26<sup>th</sup>. All final counting will be done on Monday morning, December 27<sup>th</sup>. Your year-end statement will be mailed in mid-January. Our Simply Giving program is available for online giving. If you are interested, contact Debbie Haacke at [haackefamily@comcast.net](mailto:haackefamily@comcast.net).

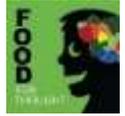
The 2022 Offering Envelopes are here! Please pick up your envelopes from the counter outside of the Sanctuary on Sunday mornings or come to the office weekdays to pick them up.





The Busy Bees invite you to participate in their Jelly and Jam Sale. Order forms are on the third floor counter, in the weekly emails, and on the website. You may also contact the church office to place your order.

Social Ministry is participating in the “Food For Thought Program”. With your help, we are providing weekend take home food bags for children in need. **Our greatest need at this time is chicken & tuna salad kits, Chef-Boyardee single serving meals and pudding cups.**



Are you doing any online Christmas shopping? Is so, support St. John’s when you shop. Go to: [smile.amazon.com/ch/52-6012034](https://smile.amazon.com/ch/52-6012034) and Amazon donates to Saint John’s Evangelical Lutheran Church of Parkville Inc

Don’t forget to support Victor’s Vittles, the food pantry at Christus Victor Lutheran Church. You can drop off your donations to St. John’s. Items needed are cereal, spaghetti, spaghetti sauce, instant mashed potatoes, can potatoes, hamburger and tuna helper and taco kits.



Those Serving Today	10 am
Assisting Minister	Lee Smith
Crucifer	Lily Lindsay
Acolyte (s)	Simon Blazakis, Gabby Gray
Lector	
Communion Assistant	Joan Kraft

This week's schedule		
Today	9 am	Handbell Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)
	10 am	Live & Online Worship
	11 am	Altar Guild Meeting (Parlor)
Mon.	7 pm	Council Meeting (Smith Building)
Tues.	6:30 pm	Longest Night Service
Wed.	6:45 pm	Handchimes Rehearsal (Music Room)
	7:30 pm	Adult Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)
Thurs.		
Fri.		Christmas Eve (office closed)
Sat.		Christmas Day



## Prayer List

Please remember the following individuals in your prayers.

**For health & healing:** Georgeanne Schleigh, Kathy Barnes, Richard Hoerner, Julie Hastings, Kelly Sanford, Bett Murphy, Laurie Krieger, Mike McDonough, Dave Kocan, Debbie Miller, Pat Denk, Sandy Scott, John McLaughlin, Tony Jasinski, Patty Schwab and Vickie Jasinski

**For family & friends:** Joan Dunaway, Debbie Hudson, Larry Bortz, Richard Koch, John Bielat, Linda Fliegel, Mary January, Roy Kline, Michael Albrecht, Rose Alexander, Cynthia Schepler, Rita Brady, Anna Meyers, Norma Weber, Lou Ermer, Helen Marcomin, Rosemay Balmos, Roberta Wiessner, Helen & Don Bender and Doug Adams

**For the military and their families:** Leroy Keller, Seaman E-3 Carson Anthony Bowser, Lance Corporal Justin Ferro, Sgt. Stephen Peck, Staff Sgt. Brandan Hartmann, Michael Anthony Tucker, Chaplain A. J. Striffler and all those in harm's way

**For those grieving family & friends of:** Pat Turkin, Larry Mueller, Urban Francis and Jay Snyder

**For St. John's Caring Friends:** Trudy Anderson, Helen Baker, Agatha Biensach-Daniels, Gladys Downs, Margaret Eubert, June Franz, Betty Glassband, Audrey Lentz, John Lotterer, Patrick O'Connell, Arthur Pulket, Mary Ann Reek, Janet Roth, Patricia Sollanek, Cass Tracey, Emma Volz and Doris Warfield.

### STAFF

Joseph Lettrich, Interim Pastor	M. Claire Miller, OSSD Deacon
Carol Erpenstein, Church Secretary	Martha Requard, Director of Music

Scott Becker, Sexton



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