

# Resurrection Lutheran Church

New Life in the Living Word + For Now + Forever

1735 E Main Street - Mankato, MN | 507-345-4455 | [www.resurrectionmankato.org](http://www.resurrectionmankato.org)



## The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 19, 2021

*Rev. Aaron L. Deutsch, Pastor*

## WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ✠ CONFESSIO AND FORGIVENESS OF SIN

P: We gather in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: Beloved in the Lord, you know what was written about Jesus in Scripture: how he would suffer and die and then rise from the dead on the third day; how, through his death and resurrection, the forgiveness of sins is real for all those who repent. So let us boldly approach God, trusting in his mercy.

*Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination*

P: Gracious God,

**C: We daily fall short of your glory. We turn inward, ignoring the world around us. We forget that you have saved your people before and promise to do so again. Do not remember the deeds of our past, but turn our faces toward the cross of Christ, where your forgiveness is sure, your welcome is clear, and your love overflows. Amen.**

P: Like a hen who gathers her chicks, God embraces you in his tender care. Like manna in the desert, God feeds you with his mercy. Like a loving Father, God runs to meet you again this day. Hear the good news of the Gospel: our Lord Jesus Christ, by his death and resurrection, has forgiven our sins and raised us to new life in the Holy Spirit!

**C: Amen!**

✠ GATHERING HYMN: What Child Is This.....RECLAIM No.

113

### ✠ ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING LITURGY

L: Having already lit the candles of hope, peace, and joy, today we gather around the Advent wreath to light our fourth and final candle: the candle of love.

**C: The Ruler of the Universe was wrapped in swaddling clothes and laid in a manger.**

L: Remembering that we love only because He first loved us, we pray that God would prepare for Himself a place in our hearts. A word from the Book of Deuteronomy: "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might."

**C: From the Gospel of John we hear: "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another."**

L: As we light this candle, we thank you, Lord, for the love you give. As we prepare for Christmas, shine on us. To all who don't know you, light of the world, shine through us.

**C: In this world of darkness, help us share your love. In our service today, light of the world, light the way. Four candles shine as God's purpose is revealed in flesh, a gift of love for the world. In love, we turn our eyes to the fourth flame, the flame of Bethlehem.**

L: Let us pray...

**All: Teach us to love, O Lord. May we always remember to put you first as we follow Christ's footsteps, that we may know your love and show it in our lives. As we prepare for our celebration of Jesus' birth, also fill our hearts with love for the world, that all may know your love and the one whom you have sent, your son, our Savior. Amen.**

L: As all four candles are lit, please join in singing our Advent Verse:

*(Tune: Angels, from the Realms of Glory)*

**Now it's time to light the candle, Shining love in Jesus' name.**

**When all people join together, Earth will never be the same.**

**Light will overcome the darkness: Be the love the Christ Child brings.**

**FIRST READING: Micah 5:2-5a (ESV)**

<sup>2</sup>But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days. <sup>3</sup>Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has given birth; then the rest of his brothers shall return to the people of Israel. <sup>4</sup>And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth. <sup>5</sup>And he shall be their peace. When the Assyrian comes into our land and treads in our palaces, then we will raise against him seven shepherds and eight princes of men;

R: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

**RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 80:1-7 (ESV)**

R: Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock. You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth.

**C: Before Ephraim, Benjamin and Manasseh, stir up your might and come to save us!**

R: Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved!

**C: O Lord God of hosts, how long will you be angry with your people's prayers?**

R: You have fed them with the bread of tears and given them tears to drink in full measure.

**C: You make us an object of contention for our neighbors, and our enemies laugh among themselves.**

R: Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved!

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

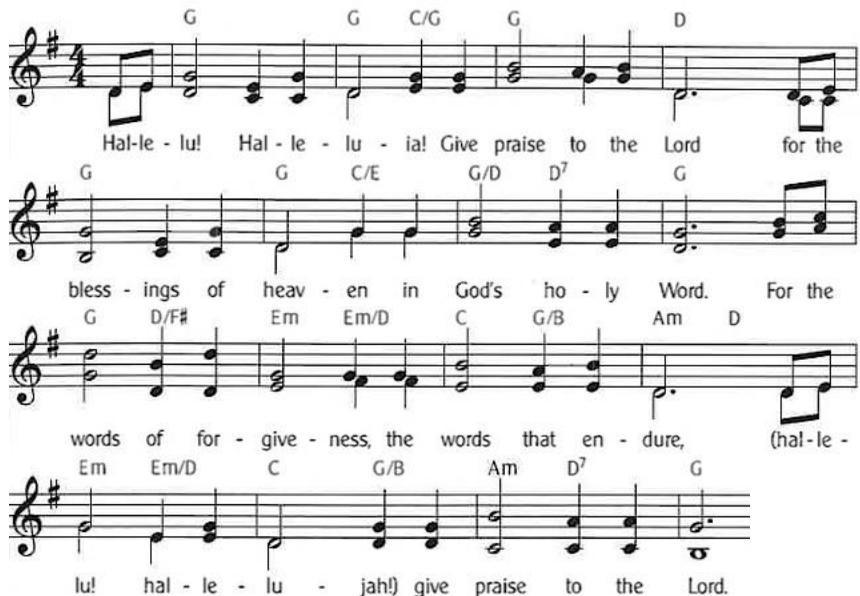
**SECOND READING: Hebrews 10:5-10 (ESV)**

<sup>5</sup>Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body have you prepared for me; <sup>6</sup>in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. <sup>7</sup>Then I said, 'Behold, I have come to do your will, O God, as it is written of me in the scroll of the book.'" <sup>8</sup>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), <sup>9</sup>then he added, "Behold, I have come to do your will." He does away with the first in order to establish the second. <sup>10</sup>And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

**✂ THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



Hal-le-lu! Hal-le-lu-ia! Give praise to the Lord for the  
bless-ings of heav-en in God's ho-ly Word. For the  
words of for-give-ness, the words that en-dure, (hal-le-lu-  
lu! hal-le-lu-jah!) give praise to the Lord.

**GOSPEL READING: Luke 1:39-56 (ESV)**

P: The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke, the 1<sup>st</sup> Chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

<sup>39</sup>In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, <sup>40</sup>and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. <sup>41</sup>And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, <sup>42</sup>and she exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb!" <sup>43</sup>And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? <sup>44</sup>For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. <sup>45</sup>And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord." <sup>46</sup>And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, <sup>47</sup>and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, <sup>48</sup>for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant. For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed; <sup>49</sup>for he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name. <sup>50</sup>And his mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. <sup>51</sup>He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts; <sup>52</sup>he has brought down the mighty from their thrones and exalted those of humble estate; <sup>53</sup>he has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty. <sup>54</sup>He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, <sup>55</sup>as he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his offspring forever." <sup>56</sup>And Mary remained with her about three months and returned to her home.

P: This is the Gospel of our Lord!

C: Praise to you, O Christ!

## SERMON

🕊️ **HYMN OF THE DAY: Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming.....RECLAIM No. 116**

## OFFERING and OFFERING RESPONSE

*As ushers bring forward the offering, please stand to sing the Doxology:*

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below.*

*Praise Him above ye heav'nly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen*

## 🕊️ THE NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from**

the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Each petition ends with the words *Lord, in your mercy*. Please respond by saying *Hear our prayer*.

### THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

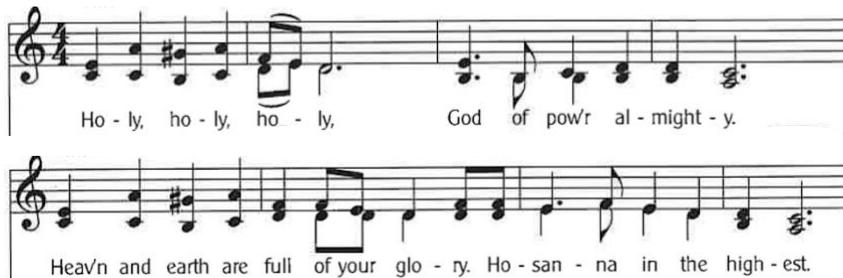
P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

P: It is indeed right and salutary, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks to you, O Lord, Holy Father, almighty everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who John the baptizer heralded as the anointed One, the very Lamb of God, calling sinners to repent, to escape the judgement of his coming. Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify your glorious name; evermore praising you, and singing...



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, God of pow'r al - might - y.

Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est! Ho - san - na in the high - est!

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### LORD'S PRAYER

**C:** 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.

### COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

*All who are baptized, have been instructed properly, and trust God's Word are welcome to communion, where our Lord is truly present, offering his gifts of forgiveness and eternal life. If partaking, please sign a blue card and place in the offering plate or give to an usher so our records are complete.*

## BENEDICTION

🔗 **SENDING HYMN: Infant Holy, Infant Lowly** (*see bulletin insert*)

### DISMISSAL

**P:** Go in peace, loving and serving in the name of our crucified and risen Lord.

**C:** Thanks be to God!

## POSTLUDE

## THOSE SERVING TODAY

**Pastor:** Rev. Aaron L. Deutsch

**Reader:** Jim Lambert

**Keyboardist:** Nikki Basel

**Ushers:** Brad Matthes and Don Peterson

**Greeters:** Daryl and Rita Schoemaker

**Tech Team:** Mike and Vicki Youngerberg

**Communion Set-Up:** Tony and Becky Miller

**Communion Assistants:** Michal Clobes and Karen Spiegler

**Ministers:** Every member of Resurrection Lutheran

## **CONTACT OUR PASTOR**

**Cell Phone:** 605-742-4469

**Email Address:** aaron.lee.deutsch@gmail.com

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Welcome to Worship! We are happy to see you!** Resurrection Lutheran Church is a Christ-centered and cross-focused member of Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ.

**Please remember the following in your prayers:** Delores Fast, Paul & Donna Bjur, Warren Beaty, Ted Glaser, Carol Volness, and Ashley Thooft. Please also remember our **homebound members** and those living in **assisted living facilities:** Ione Benschhoff, Deb Bjur, Dorothy Enfield, Arlene Harlow, Polly Marshall, and Betty Purrington.

As we enter **cold and flu season**, please kindly remember to monitor yourself for symptoms and consider staying home from worship if you are feeling ill. Our worship services are livestreamed every Sunday on Facebook and later uploaded to YouTube. Pastor Aaron will not be shaking hands in a receiving line after worship during these winter months as well.

**Volunteers Needed:** A variety of people are needed to work behind the scenes to make Sunday mornings happen. Are you interested in greeting, reading, or assisting with the Lord's Supper? A sign-up sheet for next month's worship assistants is out in the narthex.

Join us for **Christmas Eve Candlelight** worship at 5:30pm this Friday, December 24<sup>th</sup>. The Sacrament of the Altar will be celebrated.

Do you or someone you know need a **ride on Sunday mornings**? Contact Pastor Aaron or Vicki in the Church office and they will help connect you with someone who can pick you up for worship each week.

We all know someone who is experiencing the depths of grief. Maybe it's even you. **"Journey Through Grief"** is a collection of four short reflections that can help individuals through the first year after a loss. Do you know of someone – a family member, neighbor, coworker, or friend - who could use some encouraging words as they wrestle with their heartache? Contact Pastor Aaron or Vicki in the Church office for more information on this phenomenal resource.

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**THIS WEEK AT RESURRECTION LUTHERAN**

Sunday	Dec. 19	9:30am	Worship
		10:30am	Fellowship
Monday	Dec. 20	10:00am	Morning Prayer
Wednesday	Dec. 22	Noon	Lectionary Lunch
Friday	Dec. 24	5:30pm	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
Sunday	Dec. 26	9:30am	Worship
		10:30am	Fellowship