

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent**  
**December 18, 2022—8:30am**



**Grace Lutheran Church**

521 Providence Road  
Chesapeake, VA 23325  
757-420-4704

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



<https://linktr.ee/gracelutheran>

Pastor—The Rev. Leslie D. Weber (she/her/hers)  
Minister of Music—Morgan Hatfield (they/she)

**Our Mission Statement:**

We are a community of believers in Christ called to be servants to all people.

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Page numbers (p.) are in front half of the hymnal.  
Hymn numbers (#) are in back half of the hymnal.  
Everyone is invited to join in **bolded responses**.  
+ Please stand as you are able.

+ **Gathering** +

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

**Prelude**

“The Holly and the Ivy”  
*arr. by Phillip Keveren*

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

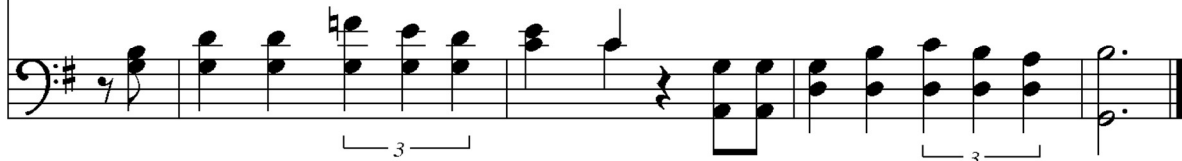
“He Came Down” ELW #253 v.1-4



- 1 He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love;
- 2 He came down that we may have light; he came down that we may have light;
- 3 He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace;
- 4 He came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy;



- he came down that we may have love;  
he came down that we may have light; hal - le - lu - jah for - ev - er - more.  
he came down that we may have peace;  
he came down that we may have joy;



Text: Cameroon traditional

Music: HE CAME DOWN, Cameroon traditional; arr. John L. Bell, b. 1949

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## 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent—December 18, 2022—8:30am

### + Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things. **Blessed be God's name forever. Amen.**

Beloved, now is the time to wake from sleep. Let us confront our sins, and confess them to the one who is merciful and just.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God of new beginnings, **we confess that we have not welcomed your holy reign. We have strayed from your paths. We prepare for war instead of peace. We dishonor one another and your creation. Purify us with your refining fire and set us again on your way of love, that we may bear fruit worthy of repentance, and welcome your coming among us. Amen.**

People of God, a new thing is growing in our midst, a tender branch, a living sign. By water and the Spirit you are joined to this wonder. You have put on ✝ Christ, and your sins have been washed away. Rejoice in the way of the Lord. **Amen.**

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent—December 18, 2022—8:30am**

**+ Gathering Song**

“Shine On Us”

Lord, let your light, light of your face shine on us.  
Lord, let your light, light of your face shine on us  
That we may be saved, that we may have life  
To find our way in the darkest night  
Let your light shine on us.

Lord, let your grace, grace from your hand fall on us.  
Lord, let your grace, grace from your hand fall on us  
That we may be saved, that we may have life.  
To find our way in the darkest night  
Let your grace fall on us.

Lord, let your love, love with no end come over us.  
Lord, let your love, love with no end come over us  
That we may be saved, that we may have life  
To find our way in the darkest night.  
Let your love come over us.  
Let your light shine on us.

Deborah D. Smith | Michael W. Smith

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**+ Prayer of the Day**

ELW p.19

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that hinders our faith, that eagerly we may receive your promises, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent—December 18, 2022—8:30am**

**+Word+**

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

**First Reading**

Isaiah 7:10-16

A reading from Isaiah.

<sup>10</sup>The LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, <sup>11</sup>Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. <sup>12</sup>But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. <sup>13</sup>Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? <sup>14</sup>Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. <sup>15</sup>He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. <sup>16</sup>For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted."

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Second Reading**

Romans 1:1-7

A reading from Romans.

<sup>1</sup>Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, <sup>2</sup>which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, <sup>3</sup>the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh <sup>4</sup>and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, <sup>5</sup>through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, <sup>6</sup>including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, <sup>7</sup>To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

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**+ Gospel Acclamation**

“Alleluia”

Alleluia, Alleluia, I am the light of the world.  
Alleluia, Alleluia, I am the light of the world.  
Those who follow me will not walk in darkness.  
Those who follow me will have the light of life.

Larry Olson © 1990 Dakota Road Music

**+ Gospel Reading**

Matthew 1:18-25

The holy gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>18</sup>Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit.

<sup>19</sup>Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly.

<sup>20</sup>But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup>She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” <sup>22</sup>All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

<sup>23</sup>“Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,” which means, “God is with us.” <sup>24</sup>When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, <sup>25</sup>but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

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

**Young at Heart Message & Sermon**

The Rev. John Wertz, Jr.

**+ Song of the Day**

“Emmanuel”

Emmanuel Emmanuel His name is called Emmanuel  
God with us revealed in us His name is called Emmanuel

Bob McGee © 1976 C.A. Music (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.)

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent—December 18, 2022—8:30am**

**+ Nicene Creed**

ELW p.104

With the whole church, let us confess our faith with the words of 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,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
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,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and  
glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic\* 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.**

\* universal

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**+ Prayers of Intercession**                      sung refrain: “Come by Here” TFF #43  
As we prepare for the fullness of Christ’s presence, let us pray for  
a world that yearns for new hope.

**Refrain:**    **Come by here, my Lord, come by here; come by  
here, my Lord, come by here; come by here, my Lord,  
come by here; O Lord, come by here.**

Traditional
-------------

God our shepherd, let your Spirit move with power throughout  
the church. Give discernment and wisdom to our bishops,  
pastors, deacons, and lay leaders. Take away our fear, so that  
we serve and love, confident that you are guiding us.

God our source, awaken us to the beauty of the earth and the  
marvelous variety of life. Unite humankind in repairing and caring  
for your creation. Protect creatures and habitats in peril due to  
rising seas and warming temperatures.

God our vision, raise up leaders in every nation who dream of  
freedom and justice for all people. We pray for the work of  
international organizations that promote peace and human  
rights, especially Amnesty International.

**Refrain**

God our helper, come to the aid of all who cry out to you. Shelter  
migrants, refugees, and those fleeing war and famine. Bring relief  
to individuals and families experiencing hunger, homelessness,  
or impoverishment. Comfort any who are isolated or lonely. We  
pray especially for those listed on our prayer list and those we  
name now aloud or silently (*pause for names*).

God our hope, you bring life out of death, and you promise to  
be our God forever. Shine upon the faithful who now rest in the  
fulfillment of your promise and bring us also into your blessed  
reign of peace.

God of our longing, you know our deepest needs. By your Spirit,  
gather our prayers and join them with the prayers of all your  
children. In Jesus’ name we pray. **Amen.**

**Refrain**



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+ Peace

+Meal+

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

**Offering**

*Thank you for supporting the mission of the church as you are able! Electronic donations can be made at*

[https://tithely.com/give\\_new/www/#/tithely/give-one-time/475611](https://tithely.com/give_new/www/#/tithely/give-one-time/475611).

*Checks can be also be sent to church:  
521 Providence Rd, Chesapeake, VA 23325*



+ **Offering Prayer**

Please stand as you are able.  
Let us pray.

*A brief silence is kept.*

Eternal God, you make the desert bloom and send springs of water to thirsty ground. Receive these simple gifts of bread, wine, and money, and make us messengers of your mercy and love for all in need of your healing and justice. We ask this through Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

+ **Great Thanksgiving**

p.152

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**  
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

+ **Thanksgiving at the Table**

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**+ Lord's Prayer**

ELW p.154

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

**+ Invitation to Communion**

Be strong, do not fear!  
Here is your God, who has come to save you.

***Notes about Communion Distribution at Grace***

*When we're gathered around the table, there is enough food, drink, blessing, space and time for all to share in Holy Communion! GLC practices Eucharistic hospitality since we trust that God welcomes all who come to the table where Christ is both host and meal.*

*Wine (red) and grape juice (white) are distributed in individual cups.  
Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.*

*If you prefer to stay in the pew, there are prepackaged kits (wine, juice, and gluten free options) available at the sanctuary doors. If you prefer not to receive the wafer and wine/grape juice, you may kneel or stand at the rail with arms folded across your chest to receive a blessing.*

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### Communion Song

“All Is Ready Now”

Quietly into the stable where the Savior sleeping lies,  
We can go for all are welcome: shepherd, angel, poor and wise.  
What we have we bring and offer, earthly gifts for Child divine,  
Giving that which we were given, fruits of harvest, bread and wine.

‘Cross the threshold of creation, Jesus comes to dwell with us,  
As he was in the beginning, evermore God’s gift of love.  
Now he calls us to the table, gift of love to bleed and die;  
Manger here becomes an altar, stable Lamb is sacrificed.

Now enthroned as king of heaven, blazing glory like the sun:  
In his hands are pow’r and justice, on his lips are peace and love.  
As our gifts are turned to ashes, falling down in awe we bow,  
Empty handed we adore him “Come, for all is ready now.”

Jay Beech © 2001 Jay Beech - Baytone Music

### + Sending +

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

### Blessing

God the eternal Word, who dwells with us in Jesus, and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit, ✠ bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

### Announcements

**+ Sending Song** “Canticle of the Turning” ELW #723 (*see next page*)

**+ Dismissal** Go in peace. Remember the poor. **Thanks be to God.**

### Postlude

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4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent—December 18, 2022—8:30am



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the  
 2 Though I am small, my . . . God, my all, you . . .  
 3 From the halls of pow'r to the for - tress tow'r, not a  
 4 Though the na - tions rage from . . age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the  
 work great . . things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the  
 stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your  
 mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.  
 depths of the past to the end of the age to be.  
 jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant . . . from his throne.  
 liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my  
 Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to  
 The hun - gry poor shall . . weep no more, for the  
 This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my  
 those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the  
 food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry  
 prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?  
 strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
 mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
 crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.



*Refrain*  
 My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn.



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

Text: Rory Cooney, b. 1952, based on the Magnificat  
 Music: STAR OF COUNTY DOWN, Irish traditional  
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