

STOCKHOLM LUTHERAN CHURCH

December 24, 2017 --
Fourth Sunday of Advent
"Service of the Word"

GATHERING

* Hymn and page numbers refer to the red hymnal ("Worship")*

GATHERING MUSIC Barb Froemming
WELCOME

SONG "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (v. 1) # 257

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH (Four candles):

P: At every beginning there is a yearning for the One who is coming. O Emmanuel,

C: Surprise us by your coming.

P: We gather together to let God's Good News re-focus our lives. O Emmanuel,

C: Surprise us and give us clear vision.

P: We wait for the day when all the world will see the signs that God is with us. O Emmanuel,

C: Surprise us by your coming.

P: We are shocked by how God comes close to us in our daily lives. O Emmanuel,

C: Surprise us by your nearness to us.

P: Lord Jesus, we welcome your presence here and now, with the lighting of these candles, whose flames brings warmth to winter, and fill this place with the glow of the Hope you give us in Jesus.

All: Amen.

PRAYER

WORD OF GOD

FIRST READING 2 Samuel 7:1-11,16
(Reader v. 1-3; **Cong. v. 4-7**; Reader v. 8-16)

SECOND READING Luke 1:47-55

SONG OF THE WORD "Lord, Let My Heart" # 512

GOSPEL VERSE **C: Praise the Lord! Here I am, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your Word. Alleluia!** (Luke 1:38)

GOSPEL READING Luke 1:26-38

CHILDREN'S TIME

SERMON

Rev. Mark Little

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GOODNESS AND LOVE

SONG "Angels We Have Heard On High" # 289

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SHARING GOD'S PEACE WITH ONE ANOTHER

OFFERING—GIVING OUR LIVES TO GOD

OFFERING SONG "O Little Town of Bethlehem" (v. 4) # 279

OFFERING PRAYER P: Let us pray. God of glory,

C: With great joy we worship you and lay before you these gifts, which you have first given us. Let our lives serve you only, and lead us always to our dearest treasure, Jesus Christ, the bright and morning Star. Amen.

PRAYERS (P: Lord...mercy; **C: Hear our prayer.**) Page 220

LORD'S PRAYER Inside back cover / Page 221

BENEDICTION

SONG "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear" (v. 1-3) # 282

DISMISSAL P: Go in Peace, share the Good News!

C: Thanks be to God!

SENDING MUSIC Barb Froemming

Welcome to all who gather here for Worship this morning! We give a special welcome to you if you are a guest with us today! Please worship with us again soon! If you are in search of a new church home, please contact Pastor Mark.

PRAYER CONCERNS – Bruce Carlson, Landon Halonen, Dan Howell, Mike Huro, Roger Jensen, Peggy Mahlstedt, Helen Mattson, Kerry Schmiesing, and those serving in the armed forces as we pray for peace.

THANK YOU TO the Duane / Barb Berglund Family for lighting the Advent Wreath today!

CHRISTMAS EVE Please join us for a festive worship service **TODAY** at 4:00 pm! There will be singing of wonderful Christmas music, Choir anthems, special music and Holy Communion!

PASTOR MARK WILL BE AWAY December 25-31. For any emergency pastoral needs, please contact Pastor Joe Midthun (Darwin) at 320-699-1045.



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Arden Severson

Danny Mages

Daryl Dahlman

Greeters

Ray and Ruth

Youngkrantz

Reader

Daryl Dahlman

Altar Guild

Denise Harkman

Amy Paulson

Acolyte

Nicholas Little

2017 STOCKHOLM SUMMARY OF FINANCES: We give thanks for every gift that is given toward God's mission we all participate in here at Stockholm! We give thanks for the wonderful gifts at our Harvest Festival as well. However, we want everyone to be **aware of the need that remains** for the mission we share for 2017.

The December Church Council Finance report indicated that, as of the end of November, **we had transferred over \$41,000** to the General Fund from other Stockholm funds, to pay for ministry expenses. Our Harvest Festival offering was about \$25,000. As of Dec. 12, we were behind approximately \$12,000- 15,000 in our 2017 giving for the ministry we share at Stockholm.

Some people have indicated that they don't think everyone is aware of our ministry needs, which is the reason this summary is being given. **As you consider your year-end gifts to your Lord** and his work in the world, please keep in mind Stockholm's ministry needs as stated above. Thank you!

