

STOCKHOLM LUTHERAN CHURCH

December 23, 2018

Fourth Sunday of Advent

“Service of the Word”

GATHERING

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

GATHERING MUSIC Carol Barnaal

WELCOME

SONG *“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”* (v. 1, 3, 5) # 257

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH (Four candles):

(“Emmanuel means “God who is with us.”)

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 show us how to live our lives. O Emmanuel,

C: Surprise us with your love.

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

C: Surprise us by your coming.

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

C: Surprise us by your closeness.

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 our hope in Jesus Christ.

All: Amen.

SONG *“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”* # 270

GREETING P: The Joy of our Lord Jesus Christ, God’s endless love, and the guidance of God’s Holy Spirit, be with you all.

PRAYER OF THE DAY P: Let us pray.

C: 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.

GOD’S WORD -- GOD’S STORY

FIRST BIBLE READING Micah 5:2-5a

PSALM Psalm 80:1-7

SECOND BIBLE READING Hebrews 10:5-10

SONG OF THE WORD *“Infant Holy”* # 276

GOSPEL READING Luke 1:39-45 [46-55]

CHILDREN’S TIME

SERMON Rev. Mark Little

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S STORY

SONG *“My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness”* # 251

FAITH STATEMENT (CREED) Inside back cover / Page 217

SHARING GOD’S PEACE WITH OTHERS (**“God’s Peace”** / **“Peace be with you”** / **“Peace”** / **“Peace of the Lord”**)

OFFERING—GIVING OUR LIVES TO GOD

OFFERING SONG *“O Little Town”* (v. 1,3) # 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 & THREE-FOLD "AMEN"

SENDING SONG *“Angels We Have Heard On High”* # 289

DISMISSAL P: Go in Peace. Serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

SENDING MUSIC Carol Barnaal

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 – Karen Anderson, Duane Berglund, Tina Geistfeld, Nora Klima, Barb Lee, Stephanie Mattila, Kermit Moen, Eleanor Olson, Annie Reinhold, Jonathon Ryan, Kerry Schmiesing, and those serving in the armed forces as we pray for peace.

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Arden Severson

Daryl Dahlman

Danny Mages

Altar Guild

Denise Harkman

Amy Paulson

Greeter

Garland and Ruth

Buttenhoff

Reader

Denise Harkman

Acolyte

Hailey Pearson

GOD’S WORD TO KEEP IN YOUR HEART: “Mary said, “My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.” (Mary, in Luke chapter 1, verse 46-47)

THANK YOU to Lyle and Janice Severson for lighting the candles on the Advent wreath this morning. The lit candles on the wreath assist us as we ponder the work of God in past salvation history. They help us to be alert and watchful for the time when he comes again to take his people to their heavenly home.

CHRISTMAS EVE FESTIVAL WORSHIP will be held Tuesday, December 24 at 4:00 pm. There will be wonderful special music, singing of all the beloved Christmas songs, and hearing the wonderful Christmas message of God’s bringing Love to earth in Jesus! Join us and be blessed!

CAROL SERVICE Worship on December 30 will be a Carol Service, with the whole service being Christmas Bible readings interspersed with many Christmas carols / hymns. It is a wonderful service and one more time to sing all the songs you love!