

# Sunday December 20th



4th Sunday in Advent



## CONCORDIA

Lutheran Church  
Preschool & University Ministry

1015 NE Orchard Dr. Pullman, WA 99163  
(509) 332-2830, [www.concordiapullman.org](http://www.concordiapullman.org)

Matt Gulseth,  
Pastor  
[matt.gulseth@  
concordiapullman.org](mailto:matt.gulseth@concordiapullman.org)

Ann Summerson,  
Campus Ministry  
[ann.summerson@  
concordiapullman.org](mailto:ann.summerson@concordiapullman.org)

Elizabeth O'Loughlin,  
Church Life  
Coordinator  
[ElizabethOloughlin@  
concordiapullman.org](mailto:ElizabethOloughlin@concordiapullman.org)

Amber King,  
Preschool Director  
[preschool@  
concordiapullman.org](mailto:preschool@concordiapullman.org)

Jodie Stahlecker,  
Administrative  
Assistant  
[jodie.stahlecker@  
concordiapullman.org](mailto:jodie.stahlecker@concordiapullman.org)

Here is the link to the live stream  
<https://youtu.be/W7pzzWbsHDo>

## THE MYSTERY OF THE WORD MADE FLESH

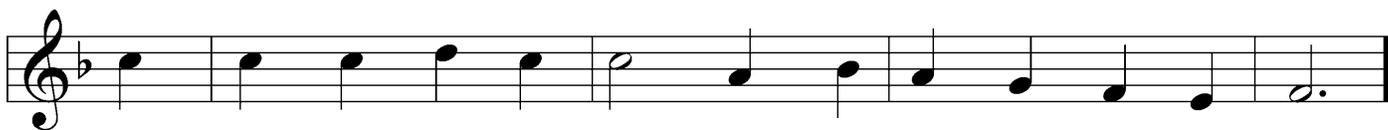
### AS WE GATHER

God told King David by the prophet Nathan that He would build him a house. The mystery, however, was that He didn't mean a structure of wood and stone but an inheritance and a kingdom—the house and lineage of David. The mystery of salvation is made known only and alone through “the prophetic writings” and living Word of God in the Holy Scriptures. As we prepare to celebrate the greatest mystery of the Word made flesh, the incarnation and birth of the Son of God, Jesus, the Savior of the world, the best mystery is that God through the very telling of this story in our ears gives, works, and builds the gift of faith in the heart so that we believe it. We believe that Jesus was born for us, for me. He came down from heaven to be the only acceptable sacrifice for my sin, to redeem me, and give me eternal life through the forgiveness of my sins. O come, Emmanuel, God with us. O come, let us adore Him.

### 383 A GREAT AND MIGHTY WONDER

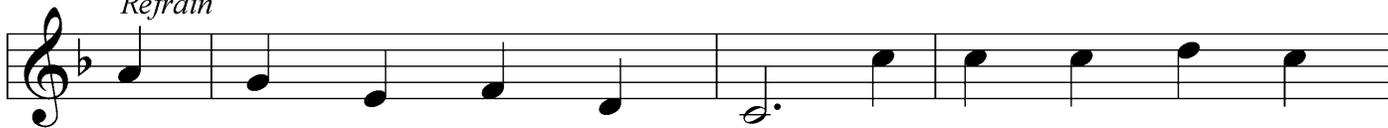


1 A great and might - y won - der, A full and ho - ly cure:  
2 The Word be - comes in - car - nate And yet re - mains on high,  
3 While thus they sing your Mon - arch, Those bright an - gel - ic bands,  
4 Since all He comes to ran - som, By all be He a - dored,  
5 All i - dols then shall per - ish And Sa - tan's ly - ing cease,



The vir - gin bears the in - fant With vir - gin hon - or pure!  
And cher - u - bim sing an - thems To shep - herds from the sky.  
Re - joice, O vales and moun - tains, And o - ceans, clap your hands.  
The in - fant born in Beth - l'em, The Sav - ior and the Lord.  
And Christ shall raise His scep - ter, De - cree - ing end - less peace.

#### *Refrain*



Pro - claim the Sav - ior's birth: "To God on high be



glo - ry And peace to all the earth!"

Text and tune: Public domain

## + PREPARATION +

### INVOCATION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P** That our eyes and our ears may be open to receive the mystery of God's love, let us first empty ourselves of everything that has closed our hearts to God, confessing our sin and need of forgiveness and life.
- C** **At the Lord's own invitation and command, I confess all my sins to God, the very thoughts, words, and deeds with which I have offended Him and hurt my neighbor. I come now in the sincere hope and faith of the forgiveness of God made known to the whole world in the mystery of His Son, Jesus Christ, who has sacrificed His own flesh and blood for me. Remove my sin and guilt for His sake, and restore a right spirit within me. Amen.**
- P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

### LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

- P** Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,  
**C** **the light no darkness can overcome.**  
**P** Let Your light scatter the darkness  
**C** and illumine Your Church.

### WE LIGHT THE ADVENT CANDLE

sts. 1-4



1 We light the Ad - vent can - dle And wait for Christ to  
2 We light the Ad - vent can - dle And thank the Lord for  
3 We light the Ad - vent can - dle And sing with cheer - ful  
4 We light the Ad - vent can - dle And share the won - drous



come. With hope, we trust the prom - ise That  
rest. With peace, we know our Je - sus Has  
heart. With joy, we spread the mes - sage— A  
Word. With love, we tell of Je - sus Till



He will bring us home. Our hope is in our  
 come to be our guest. This peace be - yond all  
 bless - ing to im - part. Our joy is nev - er  
 all a - round have heard. God's love is for each



Sav - ior Who wins for us God's fa - vor. We  
 know - ing With - in our hearts is glow - ing. We  
 end - ing; The Son to us is send - ing. We  
 na - tion Through - out His whole cre - a - tion. We



wait with grow - ing light Till God makes all things right!  
 wait with grow - ing light Till God makes all things right!  
 wait with grow - ing light Till God makes all things right!  
 wait with grow - ing light Till God makes all things right!

Tune: Public domain

Text: © 2013 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: Creative Worship License no. 110005419

## + WORD +

### INTROIT

*Psalm 19:1, 4c, 5-6; antiphon: Isaiah 45:8a, b*

Show, O heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain down righteousness;  
 let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may bear fruit.

The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.

In them he has set a tent for the sun,  
 which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his chamber,  
 and, like a strong man, runs its course with joy.

Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them,  
 and there is nothing hidden from its heat.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
 and to the Holy Spirit;**

**as it was in the beginning,  
 is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Show, O heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain down righteousness;  
 let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may bear fruit.

**KYRIE**

- A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**  
**A** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**  
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**  
**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**  
**A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.  
**C** **Amen.**

**SALUTATION**

- P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** **And also with you.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

- P** Let us pray.  
**C** **Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING***2 Samuel 7:1–11, 16*

<sup>1</sup>Now when the king lived in his house and the LORD had given him rest from all his surrounding enemies, <sup>2</sup>the king said to Nathan the prophet, “See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells in a tent.” <sup>3</sup>And Nathan said to the king, “Go, do all that is in your heart, for the LORD is with you.”

<sup>4</sup>But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan, <sup>5</sup>“Go and tell my servant David, ‘Thus says the LORD: Would you build me a house to dwell in? <sup>6</sup>I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent for my dwelling. <sup>7</sup>In all places where I have moved with all the people of Israel, did I speak a word with any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, “Why have you not built me a house of cedar?”’ <sup>8</sup>Now, therefore, thus you shall say to my servant David, ‘Thus says the LORD of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over my people Israel. <sup>9</sup>And I have been with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies from before you. And I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. <sup>10</sup>And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may dwell in their own place and be disturbed no more. And violent men shall afflict them no more, as formerly, <sup>11</sup>from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel. And I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. . . .

<sup>16</sup>And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever.”

- L** This is the Word of the Lord.  
**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM

*Psalm 89:1–5; antiphon: v. 8*

**P** I will sing of the steadfast love of the LORD, forever; with my mouth I will make known your faithfulness to all generations.

**C** For I said, “Steadfast love will be built up forever; in the heavens you will establish your faithfulness.”

**P** You have said, “I have made a covenant with my chosen one; I have sworn to David my servant:

**C** ‘I will establish your offspring forever, and build your throne for all generations.’”

**P** Let the heavens praise your wonders, O LORD, your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones!

## EPISTLE

*Romans 16:25–27*

<sup>25</sup>Now to him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages <sup>26</sup>but has now been disclosed and through the prophetic writings has been made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith— <sup>27</sup>to the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ! Amen.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## VERSE

*Matthew 1:23a*

Alleluia. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel. Alleluia.

## HOLY GOSPEL

*Luke 1:26–38*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the first chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>26</sup>In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, <sup>27</sup>to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin’s name was Mary. <sup>28</sup>And he came to her and said, “Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!” <sup>29</sup>But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup>And the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup>And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. <sup>32</sup>He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, <sup>33</sup>and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.”

<sup>34</sup>And Mary said to the angel, “How will this be, since I am a virgin?”

<sup>35</sup>And the angel answered her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. <sup>36</sup>And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. <sup>37</sup>For nothing will be impossible with God.” <sup>38</sup>And Mary said, “Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

359 LO, HOW A ROSE E'ER BLOOMING



1 Lo, how a rose e'er bloom - ing From ten - der stem hath  
 2 I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, The rose I have in  
 3 This flow'r, whose fra - grance ten - der With sweet - ness fills the  
 4 O Sav - ior, child of Mar - y, Who felt our hu - man



sprung! Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing As proph - ets long have  
 mind; With Mar - y we be - hold it, The vir - gin moth - er  
 air, Dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor The dark - ness ev - 'ry -  
 woe; O Sav - ior, King of glo - ry, Who dost our weak - ness



sung, It came, a flow - 'ret bright, A - mid the  
 kind. To show God's love a - right, She bore to  
 where. True man, yet ver - y God, From sin and  
 know: Bring us at length we pray To the bright



cold of win - ter, When half - spent was the night.  
 us a Sav - ior, When half - spent was the night.  
 death He saves us And light - ens ev - 'ry load.  
 courts of heav - en, And to the end - less day.

Text and tune: Public domain

**SERMON**

**CREED**

**☩ I believe in one God,  
 the Father Almighty,  
 maker of heaven and earth  
 and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
 the only-begotten Son of God,  
 begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
 God of God, Light of Light,  
 very God of very God,  
 begotten, not made,  
 being of one substance with the Father,  
 by whom all things were made;  
 who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven**

and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried.  
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.  
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life  $\dagger$  of the world to come. Amen.

#### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

**P** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Almighty God, as we draw closer to the grand celebration of the incarnation and birth of Your beloved Son, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, we thank You for making known the mystery of Your love from the very first promise to Adam and Eve, through the continued witness of the holy prophets, apostles, and evangelists, and finally through Your living voice through the ministers of Your Church to this day. Grant that Your living Word ever call us and all sinners to repentance and faith in Your only-begotten Son. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Keep all You have called to preach and teach and care for Your people in true faith, guard them against the attacks of the evil one, and give them health and joy in their ministry. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Send Your Spirit over the whole world that those who lead in the authority of government acknowledge Your laws and will, making for times of peace that we may live faithfully in safety. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** By Your Holy Word and Sacrament, strengthen us to obedient living. Send Your grace, mercy, peace, and love to surround our families, inspire those of various vocations in the world, comfort, defend, and heal all those in times of illness or distress. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

*Individual petitions may be added here.*

**P** By the mystery of our Lord's incarnation, His life of obedient faith, and His substitutionary death on the cross, establish us in the one true faith, and strengthen us in lives obedient to Your holy will. Lord, in Your mercy,  
**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.  
**C** **Amen.**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

*LSB 162*

**P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

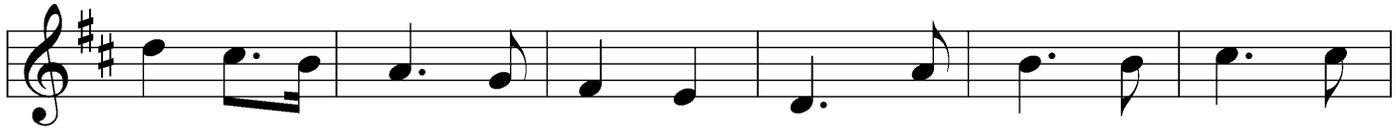
**C** **Our Father who art in heaven,  
hallowed be Thy name,  
Thy kingdom come,  
Thy will be done on earth  
as it is in heaven;  
give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For Thine is the kingdom  
and the power and the glory  
forever and ever. Amen.**

### **OFFERING**

### **BENEDICTION**

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.  
**C** **Amen.**

### 387 JOY TO THE WORLD



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive her  
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let men their songs em -  
 3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow Nor thorns in - fest the  
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the na - tions



King; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare Him  
 ploy, While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and  
 ground; He comes to make His bless - ings  
 prove The glo - ries of His righ - teous -



room And heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture  
 plains Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing  
 flow Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is  
 ness And won - ders of His love, And won - ders of His



sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.  
 joy, Re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
 found, Far as, far as the curse is found.  
 love, And won - ders, won - ders of His love.

Text and tune: Public domain

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series B, Quarter 1. Copyright © 2020 Concordia Publishing House.  
 All rights reserved. Used by permission.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®),  
 copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights  
 reserved.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2020 Concordia Publishing House.

# Prayers

## Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Prayers of thanks for **Julie Denison and Robert Giden** who are celebrating their birthdays this week.

Thanksgiving for **Robert & Shirley Gide** as they celebrate their wedding anniversary this week.

## Prayers of Comfort and Healing

For all who suffer from **anxiety and depression**.

For the Family and Friends of **Rebecca** who passed away recently.

For **Maddie** and her health issues.

For **Charles**, Jeff Tietjen's cousin's husband, and all who suffer from Covid 19

Prayers for comfort and understanding for **all those who are battling cancer**.

Healing for **Nancy Larson-Powers** as she recovers from her blood clot and operation

Comfort for Tim Olson's family as they mourn the death of his mom **Jean**.

Healing for **Arney** with his multiple health issues.

## Other Prayers

Safety for **all who are traveling**.

All who serve in our **armed forces** and their **families**.

*Can we pray for you? Share your prayer requests by email at [office@concordiapullman.org](mailto:office@concordiapullman.org)  
or fill out one of the white cards in the pews and place it in the offering plate.*