



# Weekly Announcements

Mt. Carmel Lutheran Church

**For the Week of December 19, 2021**

## SUNDAY SCHOOL AND YOUTH GROUP TODAY

No Sunday School and Youth Group for the next 3 weeks. See you January 9! All Youth please help out with the bake sale today.

## FUNDRAISING BAKE SALE TODAY

The youth group is holding a bake sale after worship today. All funds raised will go towards Mt. Carmel's donation to ECLA Good Gifts. Because of COVID, our sale will be outside, and we will be limiting change back (to reduce the handling of money). Join us after the Christmas program (if you're watching from home, consider a drive-by baked good purchase) in front of the building.

## NOISY OFFERING TODAY

All coins dropped in the red bucket will be added to the bake sale proceeds to support Mt. Carmel's donation to Good Gifts.

## GOD'S GLOBAL BARNYARD

Our barnyard is growing! So far, your generous donations will provide families with 14 goats, 10 chicks, 4 pigs, 4 roosters and 4 colonies of honeybees! There is also a growing amount of funds to purchase an unspecified animal . . . Could we raise enough for a fish farm? Or a cow? If you'd like to add more animals to our barnyard, choose an ornament from the tree in the narthex. Pick up an envelope for this special offering and place it in the plate along with cash/check or send it to the office. The ornament is yours to keep! All gifts collected through Dec. 21 will be forwarded to our partner ELCA Good Gifts.

## MT. CARMEL FINANCIALS

**Please HELP to erase our deficit by Dec. 31.**

Income through Dec. 16, 2021: \$239,022.53

Expenses through Dec. 16, 2021: \$256,000.31

**Deficit to erase: (\$16,977.78)**

We request your help to cover invoices and additional expenses that are due in December AND defeat the deficit before the end of the fiscal year on Dec. 31. Please prayerfully consider a special gift to Mt. Carmel, so we can erase the deficit and end the year paying our expenses.

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Dec. 24, 4:00 p.m. – Christmas Eve worship with Holy Communion

Dec. 25, 10:00 a.m. – Online service from the synod

Dec. 26, 9:30 a.m. – Worship with Holy Communion

## SYNOD-WIDE ONLINE SERVICE: DEC. 25

We will premiere a special online Christmas Day service of carols provided to us by the Minneapolis Area Synod on Saturday, Dec. 25. The video premiere at 10 a.m. on our Facebook and YouTube accounts.

## TIME AND TALENT/ CONGREGATIONAL LIFE DIRECTORY

2022 Activities Sign Up sheets went out in the November Tidings. Please fill out the form and place it in the basket in the Narthex or drop it off in the church mailbox. NEW: Pick up a Congregational Life Directory in the Narthex to learn more about the many ways you can get involved at Mt. Carmel.



612-781-2796



office@mountcarmelmpls.org



www.mtcarmel.net



/MountCarmelMpls

## ALTAR FLOWERS

Altar flowers this week are given by Diane Langer in honor of her grandsons Thor and Ivan.

## THOSE WE ARE PRAYING FOR

- Carol Kwiecien, hospitalized after a fall
- Marlene Black, recovering from sacral fractures
- John, Maryjo Wigger's cousin, hospitalized with covid and pneumonia
- Julie Craig, recovering in transitional care for rehab
- Brenda Wetzel and family, mourning the loss of both her Uncle Dell and her father John
- Aidan, Brenda Wetzel's nephew, who will receive a bone marrow transplant soon!
- Marilyn, Janell Wampler's sister, recovering from femur surgery and multiple infections
- Joe Prondzinski, Bob and Sandy Bauer's son-in-law, for pain relief and healing
- Kathy Halverson, recovering from surgery
- Ryan, friend of Greta Kutzer, struggling with MS
- Glenn, Brian Wirth's brother, fighting with cancer
- John Salveson, former Mt. Carmel music director, battling cancer.

To include your prayers on this list, contact the church office. If you would like the pastor to be aware of your prayer concerns but do not want them named publicly, please be sure to note that. Let the office know of any updates or changes.

## HOMEBOUND AND LONG-TERM CARE

Ethel Antonson, Marlene Black, Lorraine Carlson, Annette Dahl, Marion Harris, Gerry Johnson, Carol Kwiecien, Jennie Porter, Virginia Schaal and Dorothy Warhol

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Dec. 22 – Dylan Evans, Greta Kutzer

Dec. 23 – Gloria Anderson, Henrik Nordeen

Dec. 25 – Carroll Rignell

## REMEMBERING TO GIVE

Please continue to support our congregation with your faithful financial contributions to Mt. Carmel as you are able. There are several ways to give:

- Online by credit card or bank account. Visit [mountcarmelmpls.org/give](http://mountcarmelmpls.org/give) for online giving opportunities.
- Mail your check to the church or drop off in the secure mailbox.

Your generous support for Mt. Carmel and our ministry is truly appreciated.

## NEED A RIDE TO CHURCH?

The mini-bus is revved up and ready to take you to church! Call the church office (612-781-2796) by noon Friday to let us know you want a ride.

## COVID INFORMATION

Masks are required in the building for worship and meetings. We continue to ask that everyone distance from each other.



## MT CARMEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

1701 St Anthony Parkway NE  
Minneapolis, MN 55418

Office Phone: 612-781-2796

Office Email: [office@mountcarmelmpls.org](mailto:office@mountcarmelmpls.org)



612-781-2796



[office@mountcarmelmpls.org](mailto:office@mountcarmelmpls.org)



[www.mtcarmel.net](http://www.mtcarmel.net)



[/MountCarmelMpls](https://www.facebook.com/MountCarmelMpls)

# Fourth Sunday in Advent

## Christmas Program

### December 19, 2021

Congregation parts are printed in **bold**.

## GATHERING

---

### PRELUDE

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

**Come Now, O Prince of Peace**

**ELW 247 (vs. 4)**

- 4. Come Hope of unity, make us one body.  
Come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile all nations.**

*Light four candles.*

**L:** Let us pray: We praise you, O God, for this wheel of time that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent. As we light the candles on this wreath, open our eyes to see your presence in the lowly ones of this earth. Enlighten us with your grace, that we may sing of your advent among us in the Word made flesh. Grant this through Christ our Lord, who's coming is certain and whose day draws near.

**C:** **Amen.**

### GATHERING HYMN

**O Come, O Come, Emmanuel**

**ELW 257 (vs. 5-8)**

- 5 O come, O Key of David, come,  
and open wide our heav'nly home;  
make safe the way that leads on high,  
and close the path to misery.**

**Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel, shall come to you, O Israel.**

6 O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer;  
O Sun of justice, now draw near.  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
and death's dark shadow put to flight. [Refrain]

7 O come, O King of nations, come,  
O Cornerstone that binds in one:  
refresh the hearts that long for you;  
restore the broken, make us new. [Refrain]

8 O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear. [Refrain]

## GREETING

L: The light of our Lord Jesus Christ, the warmth of God, and the hope of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Let us pray: 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.

C: **Amen.**

## WORD

---

### FIRST READING

Micah 5:2-5a

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.

And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace.

L: Word of God, Word of Life!

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

### He Came Down

ELW 253 (vs. 4)

**He came down that we may have joy;  
he came down that we may have joy;  
he came down that we may have joy;  
hallelujah forevermore.**

## GOSPEL READING

Luke 1:39-55

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

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

P: In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and





**2** Love is born! Come, share in the wonder.  
Love is God now asleep in the hay.  
See the glow in the eyes of his mother;  
what is the name her heart is saying?  
Love! Love! Love is the name she whispers;  
Love! Love! Jesus, Immanuel.

**3** Love has come and never will leave us!  
Love is life everlasting and free.  
Love is Jesus within and among us.  
Love is the peace our hearts are seeking.  
Love! Love! Love is the gift of Christmas;  
Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

## HYMN

**O Come, All Ye Faithful**

**ELW 283 (vs. 1,3)**

**1** O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
come and behold him, born the king of angels:

**Refrain:**

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

**3** Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God in the highest: [Refrain]

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

**L:** In this season of watching and waiting, let us pray for all people and places that yearn for God's presence.

*A brief silence.*

**L:** Nurturing God, you give us life and care for our every need. Use the church's gifts and ministries for your service, bringing your word to all who seek your healing grace. Guide us to share your bounty with all in need. Hear us, O God.

**C:** Your mercy is great.



L: Creator God, you proclaim your boundless love for all that you have made. Renew barren lands, polluted waters, and melting ice caps. Bring healing to the land and the people who were affected by the tornados in Kentucky and surrounding states. Make us servants of your creation that brings forth abundant life. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

L: Righteous God, you bring down the mighty and lift up the lowly. Strengthen those who seek justice. Bless the work of community organizers, activists, journalists, and all who call our attention to imbalances of power. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

L: Compassionate God, you proclaim your love and mercy. Show your lovingkindness to teen parents and those who are pregnant. Comfort any struggling with infertility and those who await test results, are in treatment and hospice care, and others in need especially,..... Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

L: Faithful God, you stir up the hearts of those who love you. We give you thanks for those who, like Mary, were courageous in their witness. Give us such courage until that day when you fulfill all things. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

L: God of new life, you come among us in the people and places we least expect. Receive these prayers and those of our hearts, in the name of Jesus. **C: Amen.**

PEACE

OFFERING

Sanctuary Choir

“Lo How a Rose Ere Blooming”

OFFERTORY PRAYER

L: Let us pray: God of our waiting and watching, we offer the gifts of our hearts and our lives to the service of all your people. Prepare the way before us as we meet you in this simple meal, through Christ Jesus, our pathway and our peace.

**C: Amen.**

## MEAL

---

- *There is bread on hand on a small plate. You may put a cloth or napkin on top if you like.*
- *There is wine or grape juice ready (or some other beverage if wine or grape juice is not available).*
- *That you have small glasses of some kind to drink from.*

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

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

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

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

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

P: Let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**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.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

## RECEIVING THE MEAL

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

## POST COMMUNION BLESSING

### POST COMMUNION PRAYER

**L:** Let us pray: Most High God, you have come among us at this table. By the Spirit's power, form us to be bearers of your word, sharing gifts of mercy and grace with all, through Christ Jesus, our host and our guest.

**C:** Amen.

## SENDING

---

### FINAL BLESSING

**P:** The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ Jesus for whom we wait.

**C:** Amen.

### SENDING HYMN

**People, Look East**

**ELW 248**

- 1 People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year.  
Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table.  
People, look east, and sing today—Love, the Guest, is on the way.**
- 2 Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there.  
Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow'r may flourish.  
People, look east, and sing today—Love, the Rose, is on the way.**
- 3 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the bowl shall brim,  
shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together.  
People, look east, and sing today—Love, the Star, is on the way.**
- 4 Angels announce with shouts of mirth him who brings new life to earth.  
Set ev'ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming.  
People, look east, and sing today—Love, the Lord, is on the way.**

## DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Christ is near!

C: **Thanks be to God!**

## POSTLUDE

---

**Thank you to Paul Lathrop and Myrna Flatland for providing the audio and video support for our worship services.**

**A special thank you to everyone who shared the Christmas story today in word and song! Also, we are grateful to all who helped put the program together.**

### **Come Now, O Prince of Peace**

Text: Geon-yong Lee, b. 1947; tr. Marion Pope

Text © Geonyong Lee.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

### **O Come, O Come Emmanuel**

Text: *Psalteriolum Cantionum Catholicarum*, Köln, 1710; tr. composite

Text sts. 2, 6, 7 © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

### **He Came Down**

Text: Cameroon traditional

### **O Little Town of Bethlehem**

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835-1893

### **Away in a Manger**

Text: North American, 19th cent.

### **Angels We Have Heard on High**

Text: French carol; tr. H. F. Hemy, *The Crown of Jesus Music*, 1864

### **We Three Kings**

Text: John Henry Hopkins Jr., 1820-1891, alt.

### **The First Noel**

Text: English traditional

### **Love Has Come**

Text: Ken Bible, b. 1950

Text © 1996 Integrity's Hosanna! Music (ASCAP) c/o Integrity Media, Inc., 1000 Cody Road, Mobile, AL 36695

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

### **O Come, All Ye Faithful**

Text: attr. John Francis Wade, 1711-1786; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802-1880, sts. 1, 3-4; tr. unknown, st. 2

### **People, Look East**

Text: Eleanor E. Farjeon, 1881-1965

Text © Miss E. Farjeon Will Trust, by permission of David Higham Associates.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.