

# The Fourth Sunday in Advent

December 24, 2023



Gloria Dei  
Lutheran Church  
gdluth.org

# Welcome to Gloria Dei!

The name *Gloria Dei* is a Latin phrase meaning *God's glory*. We pray that here you will find his glory and love chiefly revealed in our Savior Jesus. May your time in worship be edifying and enable you to focus on Jesus as the solution to your sin and as the certainty of eternal life in heaven.

Should you need a **restroom** during the service, you will find them in the Fellowship Hall directly beneath the sanctuary. Exit the sanctuary by the main doors, turn right and head down the stairs, turn right at the bottom of the stairs and enter the first door.

If you need anything during the service, please speak to one of the ushers.

## To Those Visiting with Children

The members of Gloria Dei believe that families should be able to worship together. It is clear that some amount of noise will come with children being in worship. Any noise children make in worship is the sound of families doing what God has told them to do: bringing their children to sit at Jesus' feet. Should your family need a few moments away from the sanctuary, the Fellowship Hall located directly beneath the sanctuary is open and equipped with a closed circuit TV of the service.

## The Theme of Today's Worship

In Eden, mankind fell into sin, bringing death and despair to Paradise. God immediately promised to send a Savior who would undo that devastation. This Savior would be a descendant of Adam and Eve—a human being. Century after century, through the prophets, God reiterated and expanded upon that promise of a Savior-King. In a manger in Bethlehem, on that first Christmas, God's promise was fulfilled.

The perfect faithfulness God demonstrated in keeping all his promises about Christ's first coming at Christmas is what gives us the certainty and comfort that God will keep his promises about Christ's second coming on judgment day. The King shall come!

## Serving in Worship

**Presiding Minister & Preacher**.....Pastor Timothy Shrimpton  
**Organ Assistant**.....Oliver Shrimpton  
**Ushers**.....Steve Powers and Rick Huntington

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# Morning Prayer

*Matins*

## Opening Hymn

*301 Savior of the Nations, Come*



1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come; Vir - gin's  
2 Not by hu - man flesh and blood, by the  
3 Won - drous birth! O won - drous Child of the  
4 From the Fa - ther's throne he came and as -  
5 Praise to God the Fa - ther sing, praise to



Son, make here your home. Mar - vel now, O  
Spir - it of our God was the Word of  
vir - gin un - de - filed, though by all the  
cend - ed to the same, cap - tive lead - ing  
God the Son, our King, praise to God the



heav'n and earth, that the Lord chose such a birth.  
God made flesh, wom - an's off - spring, pure and fresh.  
world dis - owned, yet to be in heav'n en - throned!  
death and hell. High the song of tri - umph swell!  
Spir - it be ev - er and e - ter - nal - ly.

Text: tr. William M. Reynolds, 1812–1876, alt.; German version, Martin Luther, 1483–1546, abr.; Ambrose of Milan, 340–397, abr.  
Tune: Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn, Wittenberg, 1524, ed. Johann Walter  
Text and tune: Public domain

Please stand



O Lord, o - pen my lips,



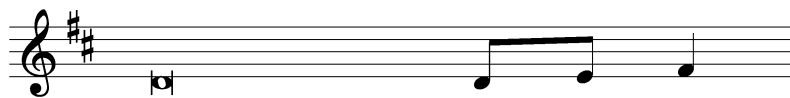
and my mouth shall de - clare your praise.



Has - ten to save me, O God;



O Lord, come quick - ly to help me.



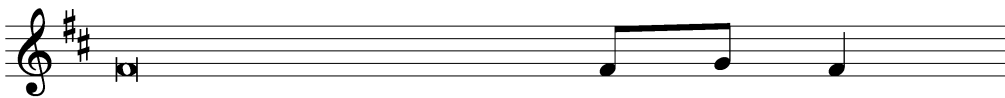
*Advent* Rejoice, your King comes to you:



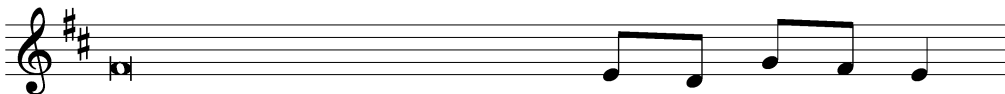
praise and thanks to God!

# O Come, Let Us Sing to the Lord

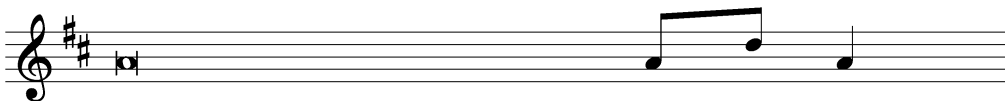
*Venite\**



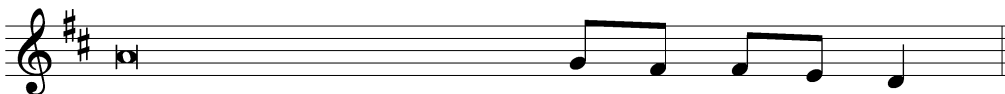
- 1 O come, let us sing to the Lord,
- 2 For the Lord is a great \_\_\_\_\_ God
- 3 The sea is his, for he made \_\_\_\_\_ it,



- 1 let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal - va - tion.
- 2 and a great king a - bove all gods.
- 3 and his hand formed the dry \_\_\_\_\_ land.



- 1 Let us come into his presence with thanks - giv - ing,
- 2 The deep places of the earth are in his hand;
- 3 O come, let us worship and bow \_\_\_\_\_ down,
- 4 For he is our God,



- 1 let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise.
- 2 the heights of the hills are al - so his.
- 3 let us kneel before the Lord our mak - er.
- 4 and we are the people of his  
pasture and the sheep of his \_\_\_\_\_ hand.

*Be seated*

\* This song of praise uses the words of **Psalm 95** to praise our Maker, the one who make the heavens and the earth. The traditional name of this song, *Venite*, is the first word of the song in Latin meaning *Come*.

## First Reading

2 Samuel 7:8-16

*The LORD promised King David that one of his descendants would establish an everlasting kingdom.*

**Y**ou are also to say the following to my servant David.

This is what the LORD of Armies says. I took you from the pasture, from following sheep, to be ruler over my people, over Israel. <sup>9</sup>I have been with you wherever you went. I have cut off all your enemies from before you. I will make your reputation great, like that of the great ones on the earth. <sup>10</sup>I will set up a place for my people Israel, and I will plant them there. They will dwell there, and they will not be disturbed again. Violent men will not afflict them again as they did at the beginning <sup>11</sup>and ever since the day I appointed judges over my people Israel. I will give you rest from all your enemies.

The LORD also declares to you that the LORD himself will make a house for you. <sup>12</sup>When your days are complete and you rest with your fathers, I will raise up after you your seed, who will come from your own body. I will establish his kingdom. <sup>13</sup>He will build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. <sup>14</sup>I will be his father, and he will be my son. When he sins, I will discipline him with a rod used by men and with blows of the sons of men. <sup>15</sup>My faithful mercy will not depart from him as I removed it from Saul, whom I removed to make room for you. <sup>16</sup>Your house will stand firm, and your kingdom will endure forever before you. Your throne will be established forever.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**



# Psalm of the Day

Psalm 139F

## Refrain



To you, O LORD, I lift my soul; in you I trust, my God.

## Tone



You have searched me, LORD, and you / know me;  
you perceive my thoughts / from afar.

You discern my going out and my / lying down;  
you are familiar with / all my ways. *Refrain*

For you created my inmost / being;  
you knit me together in my / mother's womb.

I praise you because I am fearfully and wonder- / fully made;  
your works are wonderful, I know that / full well.

My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the / secret place;  
your eyes saw my unformed / body.

**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son  
and to the Holy / Spirit,**

**as it was in the be- / ginning,  
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain***

Text: Lectionary for Mass

Tune: Marty Haugen

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## Second Reading

Romans 16:25-27

*The prophetic writings about King Jesus prove that God keeps his promises.*

**N**ow to him who is able to strengthen you—

according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was veiled in silence for long ages past, <sup>26</sup>but now has been revealed through the prophetic Scriptures and made known to all the Gentiles, in keeping with the command of the eternal God, resulting in the obedience of faith—

<sup>27</sup>to God, who alone is wise, be glory forever through Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand\**

## Gospel

Luke 1:26-38

*In the womb of the Virgin Mary, God kept his promise to send a Savior who would establish an everlasting kingdom.*

**I**n the sixth month, the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee named Nazareth, <sup>27</sup>to a virgin pledged in marriage to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup>The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women."

<sup>29</sup>But she was greatly troubled by the statement and was wondering what kind of greeting this could be. <sup>30</sup>The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, because you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup>Listen, you will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to name him Jesus. <sup>32</sup>He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David. <sup>33</sup>He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and his kingdom will never end."

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

<sup>35</sup>The angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God.

<sup>36</sup>Listen, Elizabeth, your relative, has also conceived a son in her old age even though

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\* We stand in respect for the words and life of Jesus, our King.

she was called barren, and this is her sixth month. <sup>37</sup>For nothing will be impossible for God.”

<sup>38</sup>Then Mary said, “See, I am the Lord’s servant. May it happen to me as you have said.” Then the angel left her.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Be seated*

## Hymn of the Day

328 *The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came*



1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from heav - en came,  
2 “I come from heav’n to tell the Lord’s de - cree:  
3 Then gen - tle Mar - y meek - ly bowed her head;  
4 Of her Im - man - u - el, the Christ, was born



his wings as drift - ed snow, his eyes as flame:  
a bless - ed vir - gin moth - er you shall be.  
“To me be as it pleas - es God,” she said.  
in Beth - le - hem, all on a Christ - mas morn,



“All hail,” said he to meek and low - ly Mar - y,  
Your son shall be Im - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,  
“My soul shall praise and mag - ni - fy his ho - ly name.”  
and Chris - tian folk through-out the world will ev - er say,



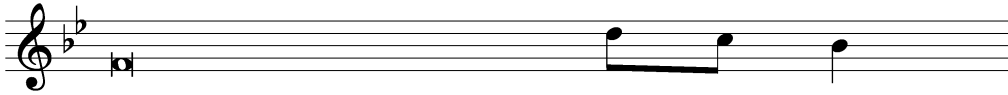
“most high - ly fa - vored maid - en.” Glo - ri - a!  
most high - ly fa - vored maid - en.” Glo - ri - a!  
Most high - ly fa - vored maid - en, Glo - ri - a!  
“Most high - ly fa - vored maid - en.” Glo - ri - a!

Text: para. Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834–1924, alt.; Basque, c. 18th cent. | Tune: Basque, c. 18th cent. | Text and tune: Public domain

Please stand

We Praise You, O God

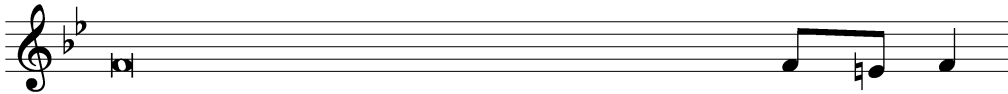
*Te Deum Laudamus\**



- 1 We praise you, O God, we acclaim you as Lord;
- 2 Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of heav'n - ly hosts,
- 3 The white-robed army of martyrs praise — you.



- 1 all creation worships you, Fa - ther ev - er - last - ing.
- 2 heaven and earth are full — of your glo - ry.
- 3 Throughout the world the ho - ly Church ac - claims you:



- 1 To you all angels, all the pow'rs of heav'n,
- 2 The glorious company of apostles praise — you.
- 3 Father of majesty unbounded; your glorious, true, and on - ly Son;

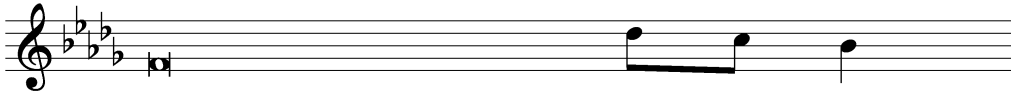


- 1 cherubim and seraphim, sing in end - less praise:
- 2 The noble fellowship of proph - ets praise — you.
- 3 and the Holy Spirit, ad - vo - cate and guide.

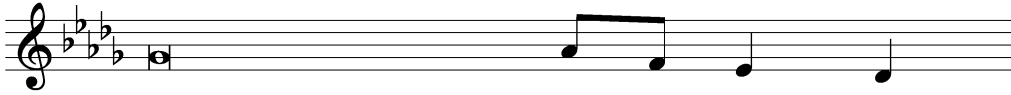


- 4 You, Christ, are the King of glo - ry, the eternal Son of the Fa - ther.

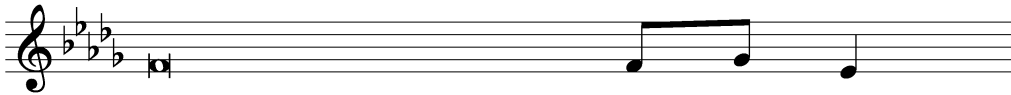
\* This song serves as the congregation's confession of faith in the service of Morning Prayer. This ancient canticle is a joyful response to the message of forgiveness proclaimed in the Lessons and Sermon. The traditional name of the song, *Te Deum Laudamus*, is the first phrase of the song in Latin, *We Praise You, God*.



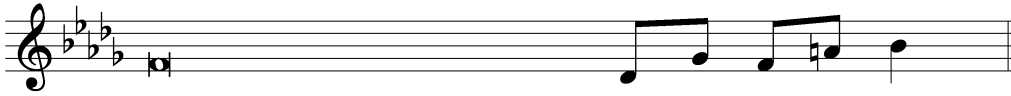
5 When you became man to set us free,  
6 You sit at the right hand of God



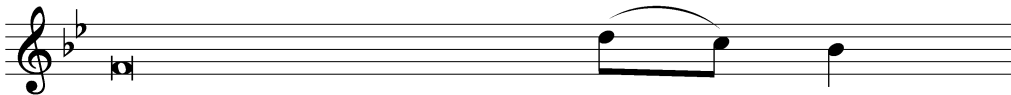
5 you humbled yourself to be born of a vir - gin.  
6 in the glory of the Fa - ther.



5 You overcame the sting of death  
6 We believe that you will come



5 and opened the kingdom of heaven to all be - liev - ers.  
6 to be our judge.



7 Come then, Lord, and help your peo - ple,



7 bought with the price of your own blood,



7 and bring us with your saints to glory ev - er - last - ing.

*Be seated*

## Offering

The members of Gloria Dei give their offerings out of thanks to God for his unending love. These offerings are used to support our work locally and around the world. Our guests may give, but should not feel compelled to do so. If you wish to give a gift electronically, please visit [www.gdluth.org/giving](http://www.gdluth.org/giving) or scan the code to the right.



If you are a guest with us today, please fill out the “Connection Card” in the racks at the end of each pew and leave the card with an usher, in the offering plate, or with the pastor.

As the offering plates are brought forward, please stand for prayer.

## Lord, Have Mercy

Kyrie\*



Hear my voice when I call, O Lord; be merciful and answer me.



Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Take away the burden of our sins, and make us ready for the celebration of your birth, 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.**

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\* This closing prayer section of Morning Prayer begins with a final plea to God to hear and answer our prayers (“Lord, Have Mercy”). The first prayer is the Prayer of the Day, reflecting the focus of this morning’s worship. Other appropriate prayers may be inserted. The section closes with the model prayer that Jesus taught to his disciples, the Lord’s Prayer.

## Prayer

O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us safely to this new day. Defend us with your mighty power, and grant that this day we neither fall into sin nor run into any kind of danger. And in all we do, direct us to what is right in your sight; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

**Amen.**

## Lord's Prayer\*

**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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

## Blessing



Let us praise the Lord.



Thanks be to God.



The grace of our Lord † Je - sus Christ and the love of God



and the fellowship of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.

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\* When [Jesus] finished [praying], one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John also taught his disciples." He said to them, "When you pray, say, 'Our Father in heaven...'" (Luke 11:1-2).



# Calendar & Announcements

## Sunday

Worship .....10:30 am  
Coffee Hour .....11:30 am  
Christmas Eve Worship.....6:00 pm  
Open House Fellowship at the Parsonage.....7:00 pm  
***No Adult Bible Class, Sunday School or Catechism Class (all resume on January 7)***

## Monday

Christmas Day Worship .....10:30 am

## Next Sunday

Worship .....10:30 am  
Coffee Hour .....11:30 am  
***No Adult Bible Class, Sunday School or Catechism Class (all resume on January 7)***



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*Gloria Dei is a member congregation of the  
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS).  
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