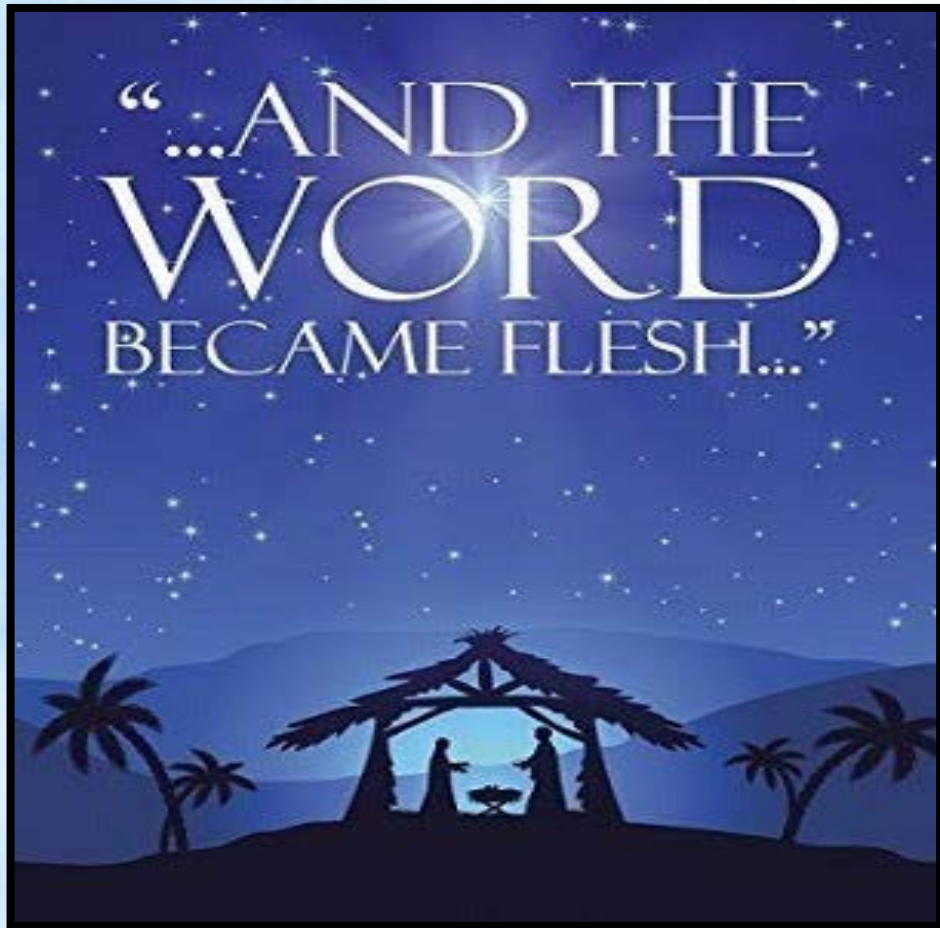


Welcome in the Name of The Triune God

December 19, 2021

Fourth Sunday of Advent



- **Prelude by Roxanne Groff**
- **Office of the Acolyte**
- **Ringling of the Bell**

**Scripture Focus:
John 1:1-18**

• LIGHTING THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE LOVE

R: Just as the first believers longed for love to end the trials of sadness, so we too long for love to stir our hearts. But soon, a savior shall be given...

R: *(light candle 1)*
A savior to bring hope...

R: *(light candle 2)*
A savior to deliver peace...

R: *(light candle 3)*
A savior to bring joy overflowing...

- **LIGHTING THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE
LOVE**

R: *(light candle 4)*

One who is light shining in the darkness, and the darkness did not—and cannot—overcome it. With this flame of love, may we all gaze upon him in wonder. No one has seen God, but may we catch a glimpse of God's love in the babe in the manger.

* CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross,
the sign marked at baptism...*

P: We confess our sins before God and
one another.

Pause for silence and reflection.

P: Healing God,

*** CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

C: We come into this house broken and lost. We bring our worries and our fears. We bring the weight of having acted out in ways that hurt others, you, and ourselves. We wonder if there will ever be a time when light will find us.

*** CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

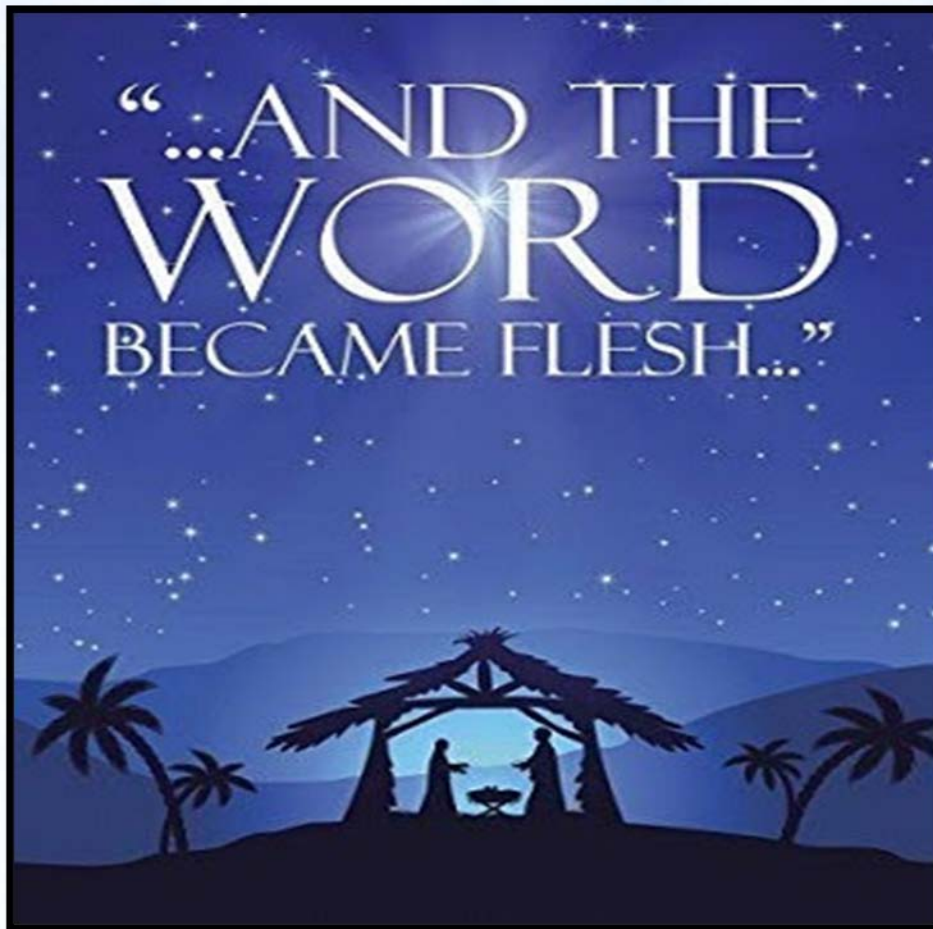
**C: Forgive what we have done and
heal us, for the sake of the one
who gave everything for us,
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*** CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

L: God offers light and healing. God invites us into a new way of being. Despite our sin, God forgives. Receive and welcome God's forgiveness, for you are made clean and whole again. In Jesus' name we pray.

C: Amen.

*** Hymn of Praise**
Hark, the Glad Sound!
LBW 35



- 1 Hark, the glad sound!
The Savior comes,
the Savior promised long;
let ev'ry heart prepare a throne
and ev'ry voice a song.**
- 2 He comes the pris'ners to release,
in Satan's bondage held.
The gates of brass before him burst,
the iron fetters yield.**

- 3 He comes the broken heart to bind,
the bleeding soul to cure,
and with the treasures of his grace
to enrich the humble poor.**
- 4 Our glad hosannas, Prince of peace,
your welcome shall proclaim,
and heav'n's eternal arches ring
with your beloved name.**

*** APOSTOLIC GREETING**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

* KYRIE

The congregation may respond with facemasks on:

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.

* KYRIE

The congregation may sing with facemasks on:

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, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

*** PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Let us pray... God of light, You walked the earth when you created it. You walked it again when Word became flesh. Remind us that you walk with us still.

C: Amen.



KIDZ KORNER



KIDZ KORNER





•Scripture Reading

**R: The Scripture reading is from
the Gospel according to Saint
John, the First Chapter.**

C: Glory to you O' Lord!
(Spoken)

- **John 1:1-18**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

- **John 1:1-18**

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He

- **John 1:1-18**

came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

- **John 1:1-18**

¹⁵(John testified to him and cried out, “This was he of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.’”) ¹⁶From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

- **John 1:1-18**

¹⁸No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ
(Spoken)



Sermon



Sermon





Sermon





Special Music



*** NICENE CREED**

**C: We believe in one God, the Father,
the Almighty, maker of heaven and
earth, of all that is, seen and
unseen.**

*** NICENE CREED**

C: We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.

*** NICENE CREED**

C: Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

*** NICENE CREED**

**C: he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in
accordance with the Scriptures; he
ascended into heaven and is seated
at the right hand of the Father. He
will come again in glory to judge the
living and the dead, and his
kingdom will have no end.**

*** NICENE CREED**

C: We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

* **NICENE CREED**

**C: We acknowledge one
Baptism for the forgiveness
of sins. We look for the
resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to
come. Amen.**

* PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each petition will end with the words,

A: Creator God,

The congregation will respond with:

C: Hear our prayer.

* PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The prayer concludes...

P: We give you thanks that you have heard us. Receive our prayers and all those for whom we pray into your compassionate embrace, for the sake of Jesus.

C: Amen.

Offering Prayer



* THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Communion is by pre-filled kits. All the Baptized are welcome to celebrate this Holy Meal.

Please do not open the Communion Chalice until instructed to do so.

*** DIALOGUE**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

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

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

*** Preface**

P: It is indeed right...

...join their unending hymn

*** Sanctus**

C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might: Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

*** Eucharistic Prayer**

P: Holy, God, the beginning and the end...

**... in your holy Church, both now and
forever.**

C: Amen.

*** THE LORD'S PRAYER**

P: We are united into one Body by this heavenly food, so let us pray as Jesus taught...

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,

*** THE LORD'S PRAYER**

C: 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**

P: God's love fills us every time we gather to share in the meal of grace. God's light shines through us when we participate in this celebration of God's love. Come to the table that has been prepared for you.

Please dispose of the empty cup in the trash receptacle on your way out of the Sanctuary.

*** POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

P: May this Body and Blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, strengthen, keep, and unite us, now and forever...

C: Amen.

*** POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

P: Let us pray... Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray.

C: Amen



Announcements

*** SENDING BLESSING**

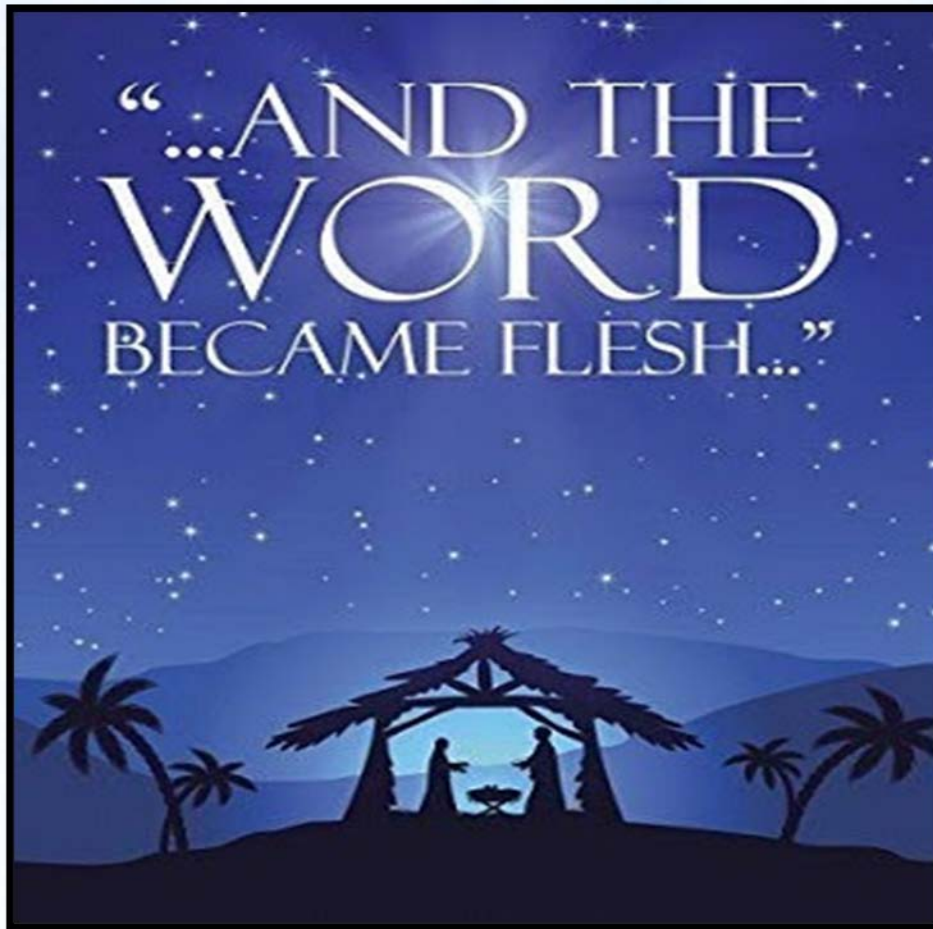
P: May the living God fill us with all hope, peace, joy and love in believing, so that we may live by the power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ Jesus for whom we wait.

C: Amen.

Sending Song

Joy to the World

LBW 39



**1 Joy to the world,
the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her king;
let ev'ry heart
prepare him room
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n, and heav'n
and nature sing.**

**2 Joy to the earth,
the Savior reigns!
Let all their songs employ,
while fields and floods,
rocks, hills, and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

**3 No more let sin
and sorrow grow
nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make
his blessings flow
far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found,
far as, far as the curse is found.**

**4 He rules the world
with truth and grace
and makes the nations prove
the glories of
his righteousness
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders
of his love.**

*** DISMISSAL**

P: Until we gather again as God's people to offer our worship and praise, depart in Christ's Love,

**C: Seeking, welcoming, and serving all.
Amen!**

Postlude by Roxanne Groff

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