

WELCOME!

**Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
December 4, 2022**



Saint Nicholas Speaks

Scripture Reading: Esther 4:1-17



- * = Please stand if able
- = Please be seated

- **Prelude – Roxanne Groff**
- **Office of the Acolyte**
- **Ringling of the Bell**
- **Welcome**

• **Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

R: With Esther we see plainly the injustice at work in our world, O God.

C: And with Esther we know it is our call to stand up to injustice whatever the cost.

R: *(light candle 1)* We light this first candle as a beacon of hope for those who wait.

C: *(light candle 2)* We light this second candle as the fire of courage that we might bear witness to your justice.

* **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

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

**L: We confess our sins before God and
one another.**

Pause for silence and reflection.

L: Radiant God...

*** CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

C: You have come to live among us, yet we fail time and again to see you in the faces of our neighbors. We look to ourselves instead of those in need. We seek the shallow comforts of things we can buy instead of the deep and lasting comfort of your presence.

* **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

C: Forgive our stubborn refusal to see, and open our eyes to the joy and wonder of your incarnation.

* **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

L: Do not be afraid, for I bring you good news of great joy. The God of boundless grace forgives you all your sins, renewing your spirit for the sake of Immanuel, God with us.

C: Amen.

* Hymn of Praise



“Good Saint Nicholas of Myra”
(Verses 1, 2, and 3 Only)

* “Good Saint Nicholas Of Myra”

1 Good Saint Nicholas of Myra,
deeds and legends tell his fame.
Saintly Bishop, friend of children
Many pilgrims chant the name:

Refrain

Bless'd Nicholas, Bless'd Nicholas
He loved all in Jesus' name

* “Good Saint Nicholas Of Myra”

2 Miracles and signs and wonders,
he performed to praise the Lord.

For a poor and weary people source of
care and joy outpoured:

Refrain

Bless'd Nicholas, Bless'd Nicholas
He loved all in Jesus' name

* “Good Saint Nicholas Of Myra”

3 Sailors, nations, people thank him
for the message that he brought.
Young and old now hail the memory
Of the lessons that he taught:

Refrain

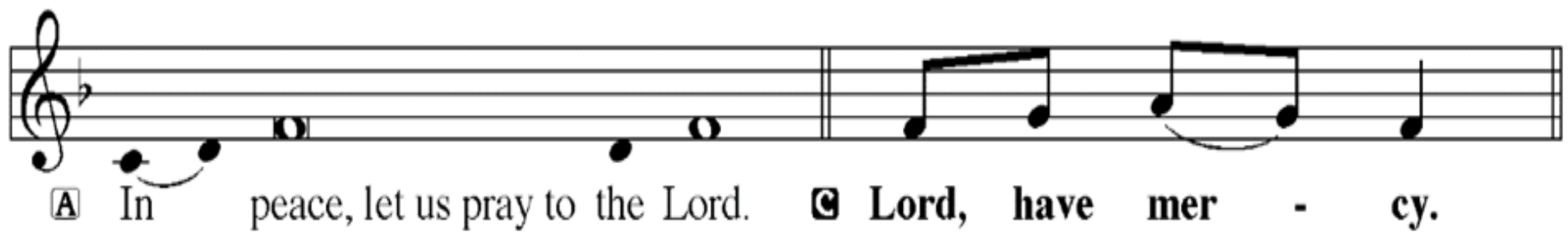
Bless'd Nicholas, Bless'd Nicholas
He loved all in Jesus' name

* **APOSTOLIC GREETING**

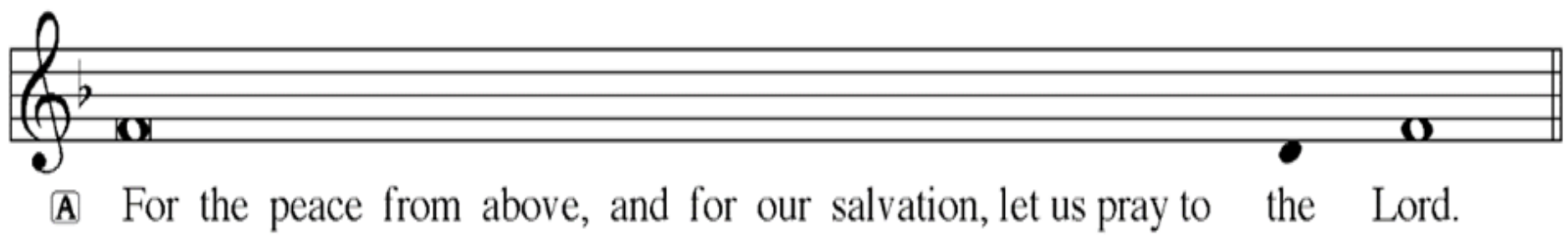
**P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God, and the communion
of the Holy Spirit be with you all.**

C: And also with you.

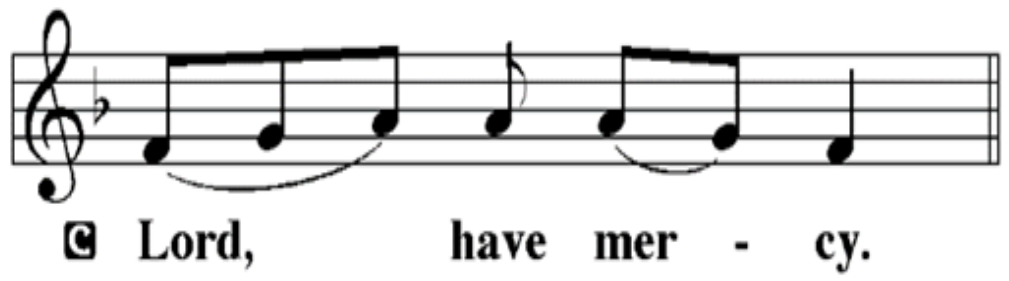
* KYRIE



A In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

* KYRIE



A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,

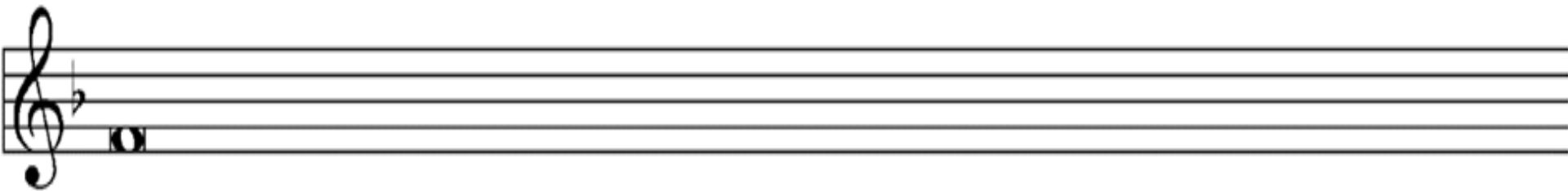


and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



B Lord, have mer - cy.

* KYRIE



A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **C** A - men

* PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray... God of grace and mercy, with Esther we fear for the future of our people and all the earth. As we wait for your promised savior, give us hope that all will be made right in you.

C: Amen.

• Scripture Reading

R: The Scripture reading is from the Book of Esther the 4th Chapter.

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

* Esther 4:1-17

Narrator 1: When Mordecai learned all that had been done, Mordecai tore his clothes and put on sackcloth and ashes, and went through the city, wailing with a loud and bitter cry; he went up to the entrance of the king's gate, for no one might enter the king's

* Esther 4:1-17

Narrator 1: gate clothed with sackcloth. In every province, wherever the king's command and his decree came, there was great mourning among the Jews, with fasting and weeping and lamenting, and most of them lay in sackcloth and ashes.

* Esther 4:1-17

Narrator 2: When Esther's maids and her eunuchs came and told her, the queen was deeply distressed; she sent garments to clothe Mordecai, so that he might take off his sackcloth; but he would not accept them.

*** Esther 4:1-17**

Narrator 1: Then Esther called for Hathach, one of the king's eunuchs, who had been appointed to attend her, and ordered him to go to Mordecai to learn what was happening and why. Hathach went out to Mordecai in the open square of the city in front

* Esther 4:1-17

Narrator 1: of the king's gate, and Mordecai told him all that had happened to him, and the exact sum of money that Haman had promised to pay into the king's treasuries for the destruction of the Jews. Mordecai also gave him a copy of the written

*** Esther 4:1-17**

Narrator 1: decree issued in Susa for their destruction, that he might show it to Esther, explain it to her, and charge her to go to the king to make supplication to him and entreat him for her people.

* Esther 4:1-17

Narrator 2: Hathach went and told Esther what Mordecai had said. Then Esther spoke to Hathach and gave him a message for Mordecai, saying,

* Esther 4:1-17

Esther: “All the king’s servants and the people of the king’s provinces know that if any man or woman goes to the king inside the inner court without being called, there is but one law—all alike are to be put to death. Only if the king holds out the golden

* Esther 4:1-17

Esther: scepter to someone, may that person live. I myself have not been called to come in to the king for thirty days.”

Narrator 1: When they told Mordecai what Esther had said, Mordecai told them to reply to Esther,

* Esther 4:1-17

Mordecai: “Do not think that in the king’s palace you will escape any more than all the other Jews. For if you keep silence at such a time as this, relief and deliverance will rise for the Jews from another quarter, but you and your father’s family will perish.

* Esther 4:1-17

Mordecai: Who knows? Perhaps you have come to royal dignity for just such a time as this.”

Narrator 2: Then Esther said in reply to Mordecai,

Esther: “Go, gather all the Jews to be found in Susa, and hold a fast on my behalf, and neither eat nor drink

* Esther 4:1-17

Esther: for three days, night or day. I and my maids will also fast as you do. After that I will go to the king, though it is against the law; and if I perish, I perish.”

Narrator 1: Mordecai then went away and did everything as Esther had ordered him.

* Esther 4:1-17

Esther: for three days, night or day. I and my maids will also fast as you do. After that I will go to the king, though it is against the law; and if I perish, I perish.”

Narrator 1: Mordecai then went away and did everything as Esther had ordered him.

- **Esther 4:1-17**

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ
(Spoken)

Saint Nicholas Speaks

*You'd better watch out!
You'd better not cry.*





Saint Nicholas Speaks



Saint Nicholas
240 AD – 342 AD



Saint Nicholas Speaks

* **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: We call on our God,

The congregation will respond with:

C: O come, o come Immanuel.

* PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The prayer concludes...

P: In faith, hope, and love, we lift our prayers to you, in the name of your promised savior, Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

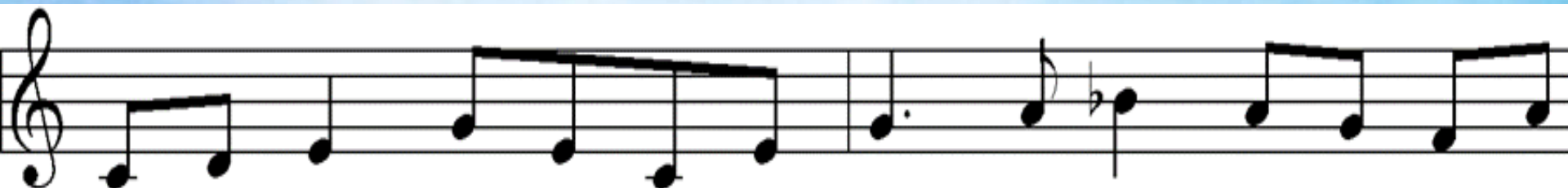


OFFERING



* **CONGREGATIONAL OFFERTORY**
“Let the Vineyards”

* CONGREGATIONAL OFFERTORY



☞ Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our



cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the



seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.

* CONGREGATIONAL OFFERTORY



Gath-er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the



prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your



pres - ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

* OFFERING PRAYER

P: God, you call us to bold action on behalf of the world. Accept now these gifts for the good of all your beloved creation.

C: Amen.

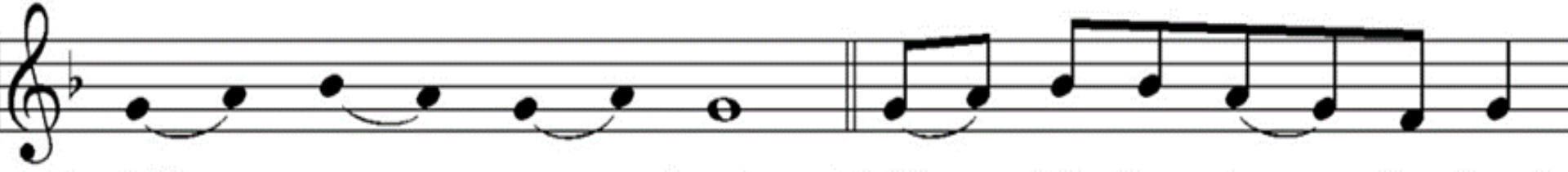
* THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Communion “At The Rail”. All the Baptized are welcome to celebrate this Holy Meal.

* DIALOGUE



P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so 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.

*** THE PREFACE**

P: It is indeed right and salutary...

**... we praise your name and join their
unending hymn.**

* THE SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.



Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*** EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

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

...both now and forever.

C: Amen.

*** THE LORD'S PRAYER**

P: United into one through this heavenly food, we pray as Jesus taught...

* **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**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.**

* THE LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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.

* THE LORD'S PRAYER

**C: For thine is the
kingdom, and the
power, and the glory,
forever and ever.
Amen.**

*** INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

P: God sets a feast before us in the presence of our enemies, and strengthens us for the work ahead. Let us prepare our hearts and minds that we might answer God's call. Come and be satisfied.

- **COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION**

The Communion follows. The bread may be broken for distribution. As the ministers give the bread and wine, they say these words to each communicant:


The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

The communicant may say: **Amen.**

* **POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

P: May Christ, the Sun of righteousness, shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path.

Almighty God, Father,  Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

* **POST COMMUNION PRAYER**


P: Let us pray... God for whom we wait, you come to us in the broken bread and the cup we share. Make us ready always to welcome Christ into our hearts, and send us forth to be your people in the world, announcing your coming among us in Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen



ANNOUNCEMENTS

* **SENDING BLESSING**

P: God the eternal Word, who dwells with us in Jesus, and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit,  bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

SENDING SONG



Good Saint Nicholas of Myra
(Verses 4 & 5 Only)

* **“Good Saint Nicholas Of Myra”**

**4 May his ways of true devotion
guide us on our earthly way.
Challenge us to be more like him
as Christ's gospel we obey:**

Refrain

**Bless'd Nicholas, Bless'd Nicholas
He loved all in Jesus' name**

* “Good Saint Nicholas Of Myra”

5 Father, Son and Holy Spirit
bind us in community,
so that we with holy Nicholas
might eternal glory see:

Refrain

Bless'd Nicholas, Bless'd Nicholas
He loved all in Jesus' name

* **DISMISSAL**

P: ... depart in Christ's Love.

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

POSTLUDE

By

Roxanne Groff

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