



December 21, 2025 – Advent 4 Service of Songs & Stories with Holy Communion

Pastor: Rev. Liz Bell

Assisting Minister: Belynda Kelleher

Ministers: Every member

Ushers: Paul Thomsen & Harry Wagner

Council President: Karen Oko Musician: Isaac Courneyea

Video/Live Streaming: Anton Chell Worship Host: Margie Nunweiler

WELCOME

GATHERING SONG: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (ELW 257) vs 1 with Sunday School

HSLC CHOIR GREETING

SONG: 'Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus' (ELW 254)

CHILDREN'S TIME A SEASON OF HOPE: Reading: Isaiah 2:2-5

²In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. ³ Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. ⁴ He shall judge between the nations and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation; neither shall they learn war any more. ⁵ O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

Reading: 1 Peter 1:3-4

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead ⁴ and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you.

SONG: 'All Earth Is Hopeful' (ELW 266) vs 1,2,4

A SEASON OF PEACE:

Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10

¹ A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. ² The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. ³ His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see or decide by what his ears hear, ⁴ but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. ⁵ Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist and faithfulness the belt around his loins. ⁶ The wolf shall live with the lamb; the leopard shall lie down with the kid; the calf and the lion will feed together, and a little child shall lead them. ⁷ The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. ⁸ The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. ⁹ They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. ¹⁰ On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Reading: John 16:33

³³ I have said this to you so that in me you may have peace. In the world you face persecution, but take courage: I have conquered the world!"

SONG: 'Comfort, Comfort Now My People' (ELW 256) VS 1,3

A SEASON OF JOY:

Reading: Isaiah 35:1-10

¹ The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus ² it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and shouting. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God.]] ³ Strengthen the weak hands and make firm the feeble knees. ⁴ Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you." ⁵ Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be opened; ⁶ then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert; ⁷ the burning sand shall become a pool and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp; the grass shall become reeds and rushes. ⁸ A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. 9 No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. ¹⁰ And the ransomed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Reading: Philippians 4:4-9

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. ⁸ Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹ As for the things that you have learned and received and heard and noticed in me, do them, and the God of peace will be with you.

SONG: 'Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers' (ELW 244)

A SEASON OF LOVE:

Reading: Isaiah 7:10-15

¹⁰Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, ¹¹ "Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven." ¹² But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test." ¹³ Then Isaiah said, "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals that you weary my God also? ¹⁴ Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son and shall name him Immanuel. ¹⁵ He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good.

Reading: 1 Corinthians 13:13

¹³ And now faith, hope, and love remain, these three, and the greatest of these is love.

SONG: 'Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming' (ELW 272)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING 'Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love' vs 1,2,3,4

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

In our prayers: Gertie B, Carl C, Tom d, Susan K, Cody M, Pr. Richard R, Brendan S, Brenda T, Pr. Erin T, the family of Carl Sorensen, and those we hold dear in our hearts.

HSLC CHOIR: 'Creator of the Stars of Night'

PEACE

OFFERTORY "We Are Waiting for Jesus' (ACS 905) vs 1

OFFERING PRAYER

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

HOLY, HOLY - ELW Setting 10 p.207

LORD'S PRAYER – traditional spoken

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

COMUNION SONGS

'Lamb of God – ELW Setting 10 p.208 'Light One Candle' (ELW 240, WOV 630 'All Earth is Hopeful' (ELW 266, WOV 629) 'I Wonder as I Wander' (WOV 642)

BLESSING

COMMUNITY LIFE

SENDING SONG 'Prepare the Royal Highway' (ELW 264) vs 1,4

DISMISSAL

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