

**8:45 A.M. ORDER OF WORSHIP**  
**December 20, 2020**  
**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

*(Please follow the ushers' direction on seating. We will maintain at least 6 feet between individuals unless you come as a family who live together.)*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE:** "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" – Paul Manz

P. We prepare our hearts and minds for worship, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C. Amen.**

**CONFESSION:**

**C. Almighty God, I have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. I have sinned by what I have done and what I have left undone. I have not loved you with my whole heart. I have not loved my neighbor as myself. Forgive me. Renew me. Lead me. I pray in the name of Jesus Christ, who suffered for us all and was raised from the dead, that first Easter. Amen.**

P. It is always my honor and privilege to announce that God has freely forgiven you and me. We stand here, trusting, by God's grace alone. We stand here as free men and women, boys and girls. May the wind of Pentecost move our hearts and our hands.

**C. Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN:** "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

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

*Refrain*

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
 shall come to you, O Israel.

2 O come, O Wisdom from on high,  
 embracing all things far and nigh:  
 in strength and beauty come and stay;  
 teach us your will and guide our way. *Refrain*

3 O come, O come, O Lord of might,  
 as to your tribes on Sinai's height  
 in ancient times you gave the law  
 in cloud, and majesty, and awe. *Refrain*

4 O come, O Branch of Jesse, free  
 your own from Satan's tyranny;  
 from depths of hell your people save,  
 and give them vict'ry o'er the grave. *Refrain*

Text: *Psalterium Cantionum Catholicarum*, Köln, 1710; tr. composite  
 Text sts. 2, 6, 7 © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

**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.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

**Holy Spirit, make us ready – as Mary was – to bear the body of God into every day of our lives. Help us to say “Yes.” when you bless. Amen**

**BIBLE READINGS**

**SERMON: “Breaking News!”**

**Pastor Larry Isbell**

**HYMN OF THE DAY: “Hark, the Glad Sound!”**

- 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.

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702-1751

**APOSTLES' CREED:**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH:**

*(At the end of each petition, the leader will say "Lord, in your mercy." Feel free to respond with "Hear our prayer.")*

**THE LORD'S PRAYER:**

**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.**

**BENEDICTION:**

**P.** Now may God, who has loved us with a love beyond all telling, send us forth to care for the world around us and to share the good news of that love, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C. Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN: “The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came”**

- 1 The angel Gabriel from heaven came,  
with wings as drifted snow, with eyes as flame:  
"All hail to thee, O lowly maiden Mary,  
most highly favored lady." Gloria!
  
- 2 "For know a blessed mother thou shalt be,  
all generations laud and honor thee;  
thy son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold,  
most highly favored lady." Gloria!
  
- 3 Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head;  
"To me be as it pleaseth God," she said.  
"My soul shall laud and magnify God's holy name."  
Most highly favored lady, Gloria!

Text: Basque carol; para. Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834-1924

**DISMISSAL:**

- P. Go in peace! Serve the Lord!
- C. **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE: “Savior of the nations, Come” – Paul Manz**

*(Please exit row by row, beginning with the back.  
Talk to others from a distance in the parking lot.)*

**Today’s altar flowers are given by the Haas’ in honor of all the Christian servants at FLC.**