



4th Sunday of Advent

Kent Memorial Lutheran Church

184 Sunset Hill Drive
Sunrise Beach, Missouri 65079

The Rev. Edward L. Foster, Pastor

December 19, 2021

Hearing God's Call & Responding in Love,
We Share Jesus With All!

FROM PASTOR ED

Mary sings! Mary sees her relative Elizabeth is miraculously pregnant, hears her words of prophesy and praise, and Mary sings! The Magnificat is indeed magnificent, and Mary's song is surely the song of all those who her son will save. It is the song of the lowly and the hungry, the ordinary and special. It is our song as we approach the celebration of the birth of Mary's Son, and it is our song as we figure out what the birth of the Christ Child means for us and the world.

Don't miss our Wednesday Advent Service: *Wait Upon the Lord with Gratitude*, as Elizabeth and Zechariah tell us about the outcome of their waiting.

Donations to help the victims of the tornadoes over the weekend can be made to ELCA Disaster Response through this link: <https://bit.ly/3pLkazD>, or directly by mail,

*Make checks payable to
Lutheran Disaster Response,
Write "U.S. Tornadoes" on your check's memo line and send to:*

**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
ELCA Gift Processing Center
P.O. Box 1809
Merrifield, VA 22116-8009**

Or to Kent Memorial with a note indicating your wishes.

Grace and Peace to you all, Pastor Ed

OUR 10:00 a.m. WORSHIP IS AVAILABLE VIA ZOOM:

To join a worship service, contact the church office, 573-374-5267.

Welcome to Worship

Cradle and cross are inextricably connected on the fourth Sunday of Advent. Between a lovely tribute to the little town of Bethlehem and Mary's magnificent song of praise, the letter to the Hebrews reminds us in no uncertain terms that Christ's advent is for "the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all." It is the kind of tension in which the church always lives as when in holy communion—with high delight—"we proclaim the Lord's death."

+ + + + +

Prelude

What Sweeter Music

Margo Strothmann

You are invited to use this time of musical offering to prepare for worship, to open yourself to God, our Father, his Son, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit, present in this place.

Welcome

Invocation

P: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: As we gather around the Advent wreath today, we rejoice that Christmas is a time of prayer and open our hearts when we sing songs of Joy. Christmas is a time of worship, the moment when the busiest of us pause in wonder. Christmas happens when God comes to us in love through Jesus Christ and fills us with love for all humankind. Let us confess our sins.

Confession and Forgiveness

C: Holy God, as we gather with you this Advent in your sanctuary, we pray about the sin that threatens to scatter us from you, from each other and from our neighbors in this world. If not for your promise to hear us in our need, we could not bear to bring you the failure in our lives to do your will. Thank you for accepting us as we come to you now. Let your mercy pass over our lives. Humble us with the grace that defeats our pride and restores our self-esteem. Let our song be joined with Mary's song, magnifying you and rejoicing in you, our Savior. Look in favor upon us and choose us again to be your servants, through Jesus Christ we pray.

P: In the name of Jesus the Christ-Child I declare unto you the entire forgiveness of all your sins. Keep us open to what is going on around us, O Lord, and guide our searching for how your grace calls us to become partners with you in doing your will.

Sharing of the Peace (We share the words, "Peace be with you" with one another)

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Gathering Hymn

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

Tune: Hyfrydol

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.

Liturgy *Setting 4*

ELW p. 147

Kyrie

L: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

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

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: 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.

L: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious lord.

C: Amen.

Canticle of Praise: Glory to God in the highest

ELW p. 148

L: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

**C: Lord, God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

All: Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that binds us, 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.

CANDLE LIGHTING LITURGY (written by Pastor Kim Knowle-Zeller)

Pastor Ed &
Jessie Harger-Rieser

L: God of Joy, we come before you with eager hearts. We still wait in hope, and yet we are filled with your song of love. We light candles trusting that the smallest flame can drive out our greatest fears. We anticipate your coming among us with peace and thankfulness. As we await your coming, light a flame within us:

C: MAY WE SHINE WITH THE BRIGHTNESS OF YOUR HOPE.

L: God of Joy, as we light this fourth candle, we remember with gratitude the song you placed in Mary's heart. May we know the joy of your presence. Open our hearts to meet friends and neighbors with the same welcome Elizabeth gave Mary. May our joy be multiplied. Light a flame within us:

C: MAY WE SHINE WITH THE BRIGHTNESS OF YOUR JOY.

L: God of Joy, we remember today our brothers and sisters in Africa and beyond who work and steward the land to provide for their families. Incline our hearts to listen to their prayers. Teach us to sing a song of hope, and to join our voices as one. Let us share our abundance so that others may not only survive, but thrive. Light a flame within us:

C: MAY WE SHINE WITH THE BRIGHTNESS OF YOUR HOPE.

L: God of Joy, keep our spirits rejoicing and proclaiming the holiness of God's name.

C: GUIDE US IN THESE ADVENT DAYS UNTIL OUR SAVIOR IS BORN AMONG US.

L: Turn our attention to you, the One who is our song, our hope and our joy. We pray all this in the name of Jesus, the light that has no end.

C: AMEN.

Children's Sermon

Pastor Ed

Special Music

Mary, Did You Know?

Joyce Burke & Katie Heaford

First Reading

Micah 5:2-5a

Bible-Old Testament p. 890

L: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 80:1-7 (congregation reads responsively)

¹Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

²**In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh,
stir up your strength and come to help us.**

³Restore us, O God;
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

⁴**O LORD God of hosts,
how long will your anger fume when your people pray?**

⁵You have fed them with the bread of tears;
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

⁶**You have made us the derision of our neighbors,
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.**

⁷Restore us, O God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

Second Reading

Hebrews 10:5-10

Bible-New Testament p. 214

L: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Announcement

Pastor Ed Foster

P: The gospel according to Luke, the first chapter

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel Reading

Luke 1:39-55

Bible-New Testament p. 53

P: The Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you, O Christ

Sermon

Pastor Ed Foster

Hymn of the Day

Once in Royal David's City

ELW # 269, v. 1-3

Profession of Faith—Apostle's 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 again 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 body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Prayers

P: Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

Reception of Offerings *Please fill out the red friendship pad and pass it to your neighbor*

Offertory

Before the Marvel of this Night

Margo Strothmann

Offering Prayer

P: God of our waiting and watching,

C: we offer the gifts of our hearts and our lives to the service of all your people. Prepare the way before us as we meet you in this simple meal, through Christ Jesus, our pathway and our peace. Amen.

Holy Communion

ELW p. 152

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 our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right...

Holy, Holy, Holy

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

Words of Institution

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.

Congregation may be seated

Distribution

Holy Communion is the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ given with bread and wine, instituted by Christ himself for us to eat and drink. Communion is open to all who believe that Jesus Christ is our savior. Children who do not commune may come forward for a blessing. You may commune in place using a communion kit, if preferred.

Communion Hymns

The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came

ELW # 265

My Soul proclaims Your Greatness

ELW # 251

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

ELW # 257, v. 1, 5, 7 & 8

Post-Communion Prayer

Benediction

Announcements

Sending Hymn *All Earth is Hopeful* ELW # 266, v. 1, 3 & 4

The Dismissal

P: Hearing God’s call and responding in love,
C: **we share Jesus with all!**

Postlude *Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring* Joyce Wanamaker & Margo Strothmann

Fellowship Time EVERYONE IS WELCOME

WORSHIP LEADERS

PastorEd Foster
Organist/PianistMargo Strothmann
Choir Director.....Tracy Garrett
Handbells Director..... Katie Heaford

10:00 AM

Altar Guild..... Ruth Osterbur
Greeter & Usher..... Mary Evans & Karen Stanze
Liturgist Katie Heaford
Lector..... Teri Stout
Sound & Zoom Technician.....Gail Kruse
Coffee Fellowship.....

COMING THIS WEEK

December 19-26

Today	8:45 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 a.m.	Worship with Holy Communion
	11:00 a.m.	Fellowship (coffee & donuts) Handbells Rehearsal
Tuesday	6:00 p.m.	Church Council Meeting
Friday	6:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship
Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Worship with Holy Communion
	11:00 a.m.	Fellowship (Cookies & Cocoa)

† Prayer Concerns †

OUR MEMBERS

Marilyn Peterson—health concerns
LeeAnne Brumm—broken left foot, still on oxygen from COVID-19
Ken Gerardy—in therapy in Kansas City

OUR FAMILY & FRIENDS

Steve O'Connor—hospitalized with COVID (friend of Wendy Blomberg)
Amy Ward—recovering from car accident (Nancy Williams)
Ron Roberts—serious health concerns (friend of Judy & Mike Ward)
Kelsey Erickson—prayers that surgery happens
Joel Luna—serious health concerns (Pauline Evans' brother-in-law)
Mary Beth Fair—stage 4 metastatic melanoma (Larry Fair's niece)

CONTINUED PRAYERS

Georgi Anne
Joe Bauer
Jania Bauer
Evelyn Beaver
Marcille Bohling
Shirley Clark
Kelly Covey
Linda Durbin
Carrie Eggers
Ron Ferguson
Jerry Green
Shirley Hamm
Linda Harris
Marianne Howley
Linda Kimberling
Dave Newton
Mike Page
Julie Patterson
Rev. Bill Peterson
Sandy Robinson
Loren Saathoff
Pat Shank
Dean Smith
Pam Smith
Ellie Torres
Ted Turner
Brian Urbano
Hannah Whan
Cindy Wilde
Joan Wilken
Clarion Winzenburg
Bob Worthley
Kyle Zygmund

REMEMBERING THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY

Christopher Babcock
Eric Blomberg
Ben Brammeier
Shade Bullock
Aaron Davis
Tanner Glodt
Kristine Hubbard

Paper towels

Tissues (Kleenex, Puffs, etc.)

Personal Hygiene items too. Shampoo, body wash, toothpaste, deodorant...

Detergent for washing clothes

A TABLE between the main sets of doors into the church has individual communion servings, the latest newsletter, the phone directory, new daily devotional materials, and a lot more. Also, there is a basket for giving envelopes. If you need the door code, call Tracy in the church office, 573-374-5267, or on her cell at 214-206-5807. Or you may mail your offering to the church: Kent Memorial P.O. Box 155 Sunrise Beach, MO 65079

REMINDER--

- We are worshipping at 10am inside and live-streaming via Zoom.com
- We continue to provide an opportunity for social distancing in the sanctuary
- Communion will be celebrated every Sunday. If you prefer, you may continue to commune using the pre-filled communion wafer/cup combination available in the Gathering Place.
- Please continue to be COVID safe
 - Stay home if you are sick or not feeling well
 - Masks and social distancing are encouraged for those who have not been vaccinated