



*“The Mystery of the Word
Made Flesh”*

Saturday, December 19, 2020 at 5:00 pm

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

AS WE GATHER

God told King David by the prophet Nathan that He would build him a house. The mystery, however, was that He didn't mean a structure of wood and stone but an inheritance and a kingdom—the house and lineage of David. The mystery of salvation is made known only and alone through “the prophetic writings” and living Word of God in the Holy Scriptures. As we prepare to celebrate the greatest mystery of the Word made flesh, the incarnation and birth of the Son of God, Jesus, the Savior of the world, the best mystery is that God through the very telling of this story in our ears gives, works, and builds the gift of faith in the heart so that we believe it. We believe that Jesus was born for us, for me. He came down from heaven to be the only acceptable sacrifice for my sin, to redeem me, and give me eternal life through the forgiveness of my sins. O come, Emmanuel, God with us. O come, let us adore Him.

Please stand for portions of service marked with asterisk ().*

THE PRELUDE

Alexander Tran, Accompanist

RINGING OF THE BELL

THE WELCOME

Pastor Chris Matthis

*OPENING HYMN

“What Hope! An Eden Prophesied”

LSB 342



1 What hope! An E - den proph - e - sied Where tame live with the wild;
2 A shoot will sprout from Jes - se's stem, A branch from Da - vid's line,
3 As ban - ner of God's love un - furled, Christ came to suf - fer loss,
4 Come, Je - sus, come, Mes - si - ah Lord, Lost Par - a - dise re - store;



The lamb and li - on side by side, Led by a lit - tle child!
A Prince of Peace in Beth - le - hem: The fruit of God's de - sign.
That by His death a dy - ing world Would ral - ly to the cross.
Lead past the an - gel's flam - ing sword—Come, o - pen heav - en's door.

Tune: Public domain

Text: © 1998 Stephen P. Starke, admin. Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110019290

+ PREPARATION +

*INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and ✠ of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

*CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

People: **who made heaven and earth.**

Pastor: If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

People: **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

Pastor: Since we are gathered to hear God's Word and call upon Him in prayer and praise, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

People: **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by

His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

***LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH**

Pastor: Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,

People: the light no darkness can overcome.

Pastor: Let Your light scatter the darkness

People: and illumine Your Church.

The first, second, third and fourth candles are lit, representing hope, peace, joy and love.

***KYRIE ~ Lord, Have Mercy**

LSB pg. 204



G Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

***SALUTATION**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Pastor: Let us pray. Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

OLD TESTAMENT

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

(Yahweh promises to build a "house" for David.)

Now when the king lived in his house and the Lord had given him rest from all his surrounding enemies, the king said to Nathan the prophet, "See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells in a tent." And Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that is in your heart, for the Lord is with you."

But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan, "Go and tell my servant David, 'Thus says the Lord: Would you build me a house to dwell in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent for my dwelling. In all places where I have moved with all the people of Israel, did I speak a word with any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?"' Now, therefore, thus you shall say to my servant David, 'Thus says the Lord of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over my people Israel. And I have been with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies from before you. And I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may dwell in their own place and be disturbed no more. And violent men shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel. And I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. . . .

And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever."

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

Psalm 89:1-5

Pastor: I will sing of the steadfast love of the LORD, forever;

People: **with my mouth I will make known Your faithfulness to all generations.**

Pastor: For I said, "Steadfast love will be built up forever;

People: **in the heavens You will establish Your faithfulness."**

Pastor: You have said, "I have made a covenant with My chosen one;

People: **I have sworn to David My servant:**

Pastor: 'I will establish your offspring forever,

People: **and build your throne for all generations."**

Pastor: Let the heavens praise Your wonders, O LORD,
People: **Your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones!**

△All: **Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

EPISTLE

Romans 16:25-27

(The obedience of faith)

Now to him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but has now been disclosed and through the prophetic writings has been made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith—to the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ! Amen.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

*ALLELUIA and VERSE

LSB pg. 205



*HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 1:26-38

(The Annunciation to Mary)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the first chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

DCE Kristin Schmidt

SERMON HYMN

"My Soul Rejoices"

LSB 933



1 My soul re - joic - es, My spir - it voic - es— Sing the
2 His arm now bar - ing, His strength de - clar - ing— Sing the



great - ness of the Lord! For God my Sav - ior Has shown me
great - ness of the Lord! The proud He scat - ters, Their rule He



fa - vor— Sing the great - ness of the Lord! With praise and
shat - ters— Sing the great - ness of the Lord! Op - pres - sion



bles - sing, Join in con - fess - ing God, who is sole - ly Might - y and
halt - ed; The meek ex - alt - ed. Full are the hun - gry; Emp - ty, the



ho - ly— O sing the great - ness of God the Lord! His mer - cy
wealth - y— O sing the great - ness of God the Lord! Here is the



sure - ly Shall rest se - cure - ly On all who fear Him,
to - ken All that was spo - ken To A - br'ham's off - spring



Love and re - vere Him— O sing the great - ness of God the Lord!
God is ful - fill - ing— O sing the great - ness of God the Lord!

Tune: Public domain
Text: © 1991 Stephen P. Starke, admin. Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110019290

SERMON

Pastor Chris Matthis

*CONFESSION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth. And, in Jesus Christ His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERING

“Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.” (2 Corinthians 9:7). We give our tithes and offerings to God as an act of worship in gratitude for the gifts He has first given us. If you wish to give electronically using a credit card or automated bank withdrawal, please scan the QR code with your smartphone or visit www.epiphanylc.org and click on GIVE. As good stewards, please use credit wisely.



If you wish to mail your gift, send your check to Epiphany Lutheran Church, 550 E. Wolfensberger Rd., Castle Rock, CO 80109.

[CLICK HERE TO GIVE ELECTRONICALLY](#)

***PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

After each petition is read Pastor says, “Let us pray to the Lord,” and Congregation responds with, “Lord, have mercy.”

***LORD'S PRAYER** (Matthew 6:9-13)

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**

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

People: **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CLOSING HYMN**

“Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring”

LSB 353



1 Je - sus came, the heav'ns a - dor - ing, Came with peace from
2 Je - sus comes a - gain in mer - cy When our hearts are
3 Je - sus comes to hearts re - joic - ing, Bring - ing news of
4 Je - sus comes in joy and sor - row, Shares a - like our



realms on high; Je - sus came to win re - demp - tion,
worn with care; Je - sus comes a - gain in an - swer
sins for - giv'n; Je - sus comes with words of glad - ness,
hopes and fears; Je - sus comes, what - e'er be - falls us,



Low - ly came on earth to die; Al - le - lu - ia!
To an ear - nest, heart - felt prayer; Al - le - lu - ia!
Lead - ing souls re - deemed to heav'n. Al - le - lu - ia!
Cheers our hearts and dries our tears; Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia! Came in deep hu - mil - i - ty,
Al - le - lu - ia! Comes to save us from de - spair.
Al - le - lu - ia! Hope to all the world is giv'n.
Al - le - lu - ia! Com - forts us in fail - ing years.

Text and tune: Public domain

Liturgy from Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series B, Quarter 1. Copyright © 2020 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission. LSBHymnLicense.net # is 100012516

The Holy Bible, English Standard Version. ESV® Text Edition: 2016. Copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers.

CCLI Streaming License #20384082 Music UBP CCLI #1620995

Permission to podcast/stream the music in the service obtained from ONE LICENSE, License #A-714463. All rights reserved.

SERVING THE LORD THIS WEEKEND

(December 19-20, 2020)

Readings: *(Old Testament)* 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16 *(Psalm)* Psalm 89:1-5
(Epistle) Romans 16:25-27 *(Holy Gospel)* Luke 1:26-38

	5:00 pm	8:00 am	11:00 am
Preacher	<i>Pastor Chris Matthis</i>	<i>Pastor Chris Matthis</i>	<i>Pastor Chris Matthis</i>
Elders	<i>Rich Rath</i>	<i>Mitch Arndt</i>	<i>Larry Drees</i>
Accompanist	<i>Alexander Tran</i>	<i>Children's Musical</i>	<i>Children's Musical</i>
Sound System		<i>Mike Kozimko</i>	<i>Tim Schneider</i>
Video			
Acolyte	<i>Shawn Clark</i>		
Altar Guild			
Children's Message	<i>DCE Kristin Schmidt</i>	<i>Children's Musical</i>	<i>Children's Musical</i>
Nursery		NURSERY CLOSED	NURSERY CLOSED
Greeters			
Lectors	<i>Kristin Schmidt</i>	<i>Don Gilbreath</i>	<i>Mitch Arndt</i>
Snacks	Suspended	Suspended	Suspended
Ushers			<i>Ria Rogers</i>



Epiphany Lutheran Church of Castle Rock, Colorado

550 E. Wolfensberger Rd. + Castle Rock, CO 80109 + Office: 303-688-4435

Website: www.epiphanylc.org

ME SYSTEM LINK: <https://epiphanylc.ccbchurch.com/login.php>

Pastor Chris Matthis + Cell: 303-921-0717

pastorchrismatthis@epiphanylc.org

(Pastor available by appointment)

DCE Kristin Schmidt + Cell: 951-775-6134 + Tu-F 8 am - 4 pm

dce@epiphanylc.org

Mrs. Donata Rolf + office@epiphanylc.org + Office hours: M-F 8 am – 4 pm

Ms. Mary Wenkheimer, Choir Director + choir@epiphanylc.org

[Ms. Debbie Stewart, Accounting Assistant + accounting@epiphanylc.org](mailto:accounting@epiphanylc.org)



Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

"We help people become fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ"