

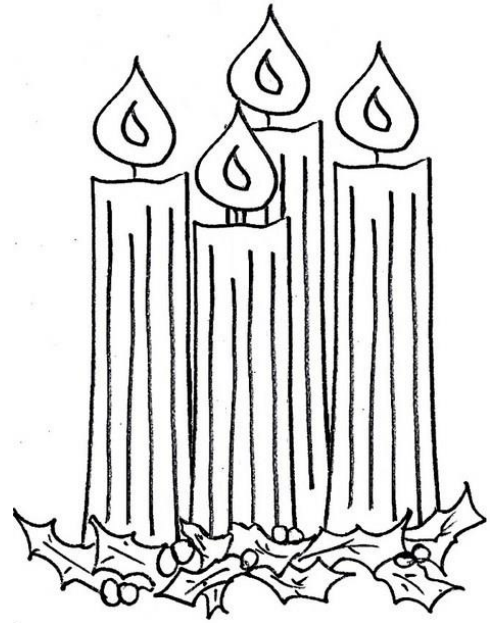
The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Service of Lessons and Carols

December 22, 2019

10:00 AM Service

Holy Communion



639 Edgewater Drive • Dunedin, FL 34698
(727) 733-4125 • Pastor Becky's cell: (727) 458-2625
www.COGSDunedin.com
E-Mail the church office: info@cogsdunedin.com

Sunday Services at 8 and 10 AM • Wed. Service at 10 AM • Sat. Service at 5 PM

WELCOME TO GOOD SHEPHERD

If you are new to our congregation: Please let us know by getting a name tag at the Welcome Center outside and completing a newcomer card, found either at the Welcome Center or in the pew rack in front of you.

Childcare is available: During the service, infants to age 5 are welcome in the Nursery, located on the first floor of the education wing, accessed through the double doors by the elevator.

Restrooms: Handicap-accessible restrooms are located to the right as you go up the ramp through the archway across from the doors of the sanctuary.

If you read music: if there is a number next to the title of the hymn, the music will be in our blue Hymnal, which is in the pew rack. Hymn numbers with an "S" in front are in the front section of the Hymnal, all others are sequential in the main section.

We have gluten-free wafers available: Please tell us when you come to the altar rail.

Getting to know each other: Following the service we welcome **everyone** for coffee and refreshments in Kirk Hall, which is up the ramp archway across from the doors of the sanctuary, and to the right.

A gentle reminder: please silence your mobile phone before the service.

SERVICE OF ADVENT LESSONS AND CAROLS

PRELUDE
Bells of Hope

Light in the Darkness

M. Tucker

[During the Prelude, please prepare for worship by observing attentive silence.]

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH AND PRAYER FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT: PEACE

[Please stand when the chimes sound, and face the Baptistry in the rear of the sanctuary.]

Symbols in the Bulletin **P** Priest, **D** Deacon, **C** Congregation, **L** Leader, **All** Everyone.

ADVENT HYMN

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

H 56, v. 1, 7

All *O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!*

- P** We light the first candle as a symbol of Christ who brings Hope. [*1st blue candle is lit.*]
We light the second candle as a symbol of Christ who brings Love. [*2nd blue candle is lit.*]
We light the third candle as a symbol of Christ who brings Joy. [*The pink candle is lit.*]
We light the fourth candle as a symbol of Christ, the Prince of Peace. [*Last blue candle is lit.*]
- L** For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
- C** **Our God, we come to you today in the spirit of peace. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

All *O come, Desire of nations, bind in one the hearts of all mankind;
bid thou our sad divisions cease, and be thyself our King of Peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!*

GATHERING HYMN

Lift up your Heads

436, vs. 1,3,4

All *Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates; behold, the King of glory waits!
The King of kings is drawing near; the Savior of the world is here.
Fling wide the portals of your heart; make it a temple, set apart
from earthly use for heaven's employ, adorned with prayer and love and joy.
Redeemer, come! I open wide my heart to thee: here, Lord, abide!
Let me thy inner presence feel: thy grace and love in me reveal.*

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MISSION MOMENT

[Please be seated.]

ACCLAMATION

[Please stand.]

P Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

☩ And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

Ⓐ Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Ⓟ The Lord be with you.

☩ And also with you.

Ⓟ Let us pray... Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that hinders our faith, that eagerly we may receive your promises, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

☩ Amen.

THE READINGS AND CAROLS

[Please be seated]

LESSON ONE: Proverbs 8:22–31

Ⓛ The Lord created me at the beginning of his way, before his deeds long in the past. I was formed in ancient times, at the beginning, before the earth was. When there were no watery depths, I was brought forth, when there were no springs flowing with water. Before the mountains were settled, before the hills, I was brought forth; before God made the earth and the fields or the first of the dry land.

I was there when he established the heavens, when he marked out the horizon on the deep sea, when he thickened the clouds above, when he secured the fountains of the deep, when he set a limit for the sea, so the water couldn't go beyond his command, when he marked out the earth's foundations.

I was beside him as a master of crafts. I was having fun, smiling before him all the time, frolicking with his inhabited earth and delighting in the human race.

REFLECTION

CAROL

Praise the Spirit in Creation

Ⓐ ***Praise the Spirit in creation, breath of God, life's origin:
Spirit, moving on the waters quickening worlds to life within,
source of breath to all things breathing, life in whom all lives begin.***

***Pray we then, O Lord the Spirit, on our lives descend in might;
let your flame break out within us, fire our hearts and clear our sight,
till, white-hot in your possession, we, too, set the world alight.***

LESSON TWO: Isaiah 7:10–15, 9:6-7

- Ⓛ Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz: “Ask a sign from the Lord your God. Make it as deep as the grave or as high as heaven.”

But Ahaz said, “I won’t ask; I won’t test the Lord.”

Then Isaiah said, “Listen, house of David! Isn’t it enough for you to be tiresome for people that you are also tiresome before my God? Therefore, the Lord will give you a sign. The young woman is pregnant and is about to give birth to a son, and she will name him Immanuel. He will eat butter and honey, and learn to reject evil and choose good.

A child is born to us, a son is given to us, and authority will be on his shoulders. He will be named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace. There will be vast authority and endless peace for David’s throne and for his kingdom, establishing and sustaining it with justice and righteousness now and forever.

REFLECTION

CAROL

Tune: *Praise we the Lord this Day*

Ⓜ ***The prophet gave the sign For faithful folk to read;
a virgin born of David's line Shall bear the promised seed.***

***Praise we the Lord this day, This day so long foretold,
whose promise shone with cheering ray On waiting saints of old.***

LESSON THREE: Micah 5:2–5a

- Ⓛ As for you, Bethlehem of Ephrathah, though you are the least significant of Judah’s forces, one who is to be a ruler in Israel on my behalf will come out from you. His origin is from remote times, from ancient days.

Therefore, he will give them up until the time when she who is in labor gives birth. The rest of his kin will return to the people of Israel. He will stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. They will dwell secure, because he will surely become great throughout the earth; he will become one of peace.

REFLECTION

CAROL

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Ⓜ ***O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;
yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light;
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight***

LESSON FOUR: Luke 1:5–20, 23– 24a

Ⓛ During the rule of King Herod of Judea there was a priest named Zechariah who belonged to the priestly division of Abijah. His wife Elizabeth was a descendant of Aaron. They were both righteous before God, blameless in their observance of all the Lord's commandments and regulations. They had no children because Elizabeth was unable to become pregnant and they both were very old. One day Zechariah was serving as a priest before God because his priestly division was on duty. Following the customs of priestly service, he was chosen by lottery to go into the Lord's sanctuary and burn incense. All the people who gathered to worship were praying outside during this hour of incense offering. An angel from the Lord appeared to him, standing to the right of the altar of incense. When Zechariah saw the angel, he was startled and overcome with fear.

The angel said, "Don't be afraid, Zechariah. Your prayers have been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will give birth to your son and you must name him John. He will be a joy and delight to you, and many people will rejoice at his birth, for he will be great in the Lord's eyes. He must not drink wine and liquor. He will be filled with the Holy Spirit even before his birth. He will bring many Israelites back to the Lord their God. He will go forth before the Lord, equipped with the spirit and power of Elijah. He will turn the hearts of fathers[a] back to their children, and he will turn the disobedient to righteous patterns of thinking. He will make ready a people prepared for the Lord."

Zechariah said to the angel, "How can I be sure of this? My wife and I are very old."

The angel replied, "I am Gabriel. I stand in God's presence. I was sent to speak to you and to bring this good news to you. Know this: What I have spoken will come true at the proper time. But because you didn't believe, you will remain silent, unable to speak until the day when these things happen." When he completed the days of his priestly service, he returned home. Afterward, his wife Elizabeth became pregnant. She kept to herself for five months.

REFLECTION

CAROL

Blessed Be the God of Israel

Ⓜ ***Blessed be the God of Israel who comes to set us free
and raises up new hope for us: a Branch from David's tree.
So have the prophets long declared that with a mighty arm
God would turn back our enemies and all who wish us harm.***

***With promised mercy will God still the covenant recall,
the oath once sworn to Abraham, from foes to save us all;
that we might worship without fear and offer lives of praise
in holiness and righteousness to serve God all our days.***

LESSON FIVE: Matthew 1:18–24

Ⓛ This is how the birth of Jesus Christ took place. When Mary his mother was engaged to Joseph, before they were married, she became pregnant by the Holy Spirit. Joseph her husband was a righteous man. Because he didn't want to humiliate her, he decided to call off their engagement quietly.

As he was thinking about this, an angel from the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, don't be afraid to take Mary as your wife, because the child she carries was conceived by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you will call him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." Now all of this took place so that what the Lord had spoken through the prophet would be fulfilled: *Look! A virgin will become pregnant and give birth to a son, and they will call him, Emmanuel.* (Emmanuel means "God with us.")

When Joseph woke up, he did just as an angel from God commanded and took Mary as his wife.

REFLECTION

CAROL

Come Now and Praise
[Tune: *The King Shall Come*]

Ⓜ ***Come now and praise the humble saint of David's house and line,
the carpenter whose life fulfilled our gracious God's design.***

***The angel spoke as Joseph slept: "God calls you to become
the Virgin's spouse, the guardian of great David's greater Son."***

***For him there was no glory here, no crown or martyr's fame;
for him there was the patient life of faith and humble name.***

LESSON SIX: Luke 1:39–45

Ⓛ Mary got up and hurried to a city in the Judean highlands. She entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. With a loud voice she blurted out, "God has blessed you above all women, and he has blessed the child you carry. Why do I have this honor, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? As soon as I heard your greeting, the baby in my womb jumped for joy. Happy is she who believed that the Lord would fulfill the promises he made to her."

REFLECTION

My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the God of my heart is great, and my spirit sings of the wondrous things that you bring to the ones who wait. You fixed your sight on your servant's plight, and my weakness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my name be blest. Could the world be about to turn?

Refrain ***My heart shall sing of the day you bring.
Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,
and the world is about to turn.***

Though I am small, my God, my all, you work great things in me, and your mercy will last from the depths of the past to the end of the age to be. Your very name puts the proud to shame, and to those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the strong to flight, for the world is about to turn.

Refrain

***Though the nations rage from age to age, we remember who holds us fast:
God's mercy must deliver us from the conqueror's crushing grasp.
This saving word that our forebears heard is the promise which holds us bound,
till the spear and rod can be crushed by God, who is turning the world around.***

Refrain

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

[Please kneel, stand or sit, as you choose.]

- ☐ Christ is coming to make all things new. We pray for the Universal Church, its members in all times and places, and its mission to reconcile the world to God.
- ☐ The King of kings is coming to reign forever. We pray for this nation and all in authority, and for the welfare of the whole world.

The Prince of Peace is coming to heal all creation. We pray for our local community and all whose lives are closely linked with ours. We give you thanks for the flowers given today to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Ann Marie Kuratnick, by her children, Robert, Bernie & Beth.

The Wonderful Counselor is coming to comfort all who suffer or who are in any trouble. We pray especially for *[read names in notebook]* and those we now name aloud or in our hearts. *[Leave time....]*

The Lord of Life is coming to raise up all who have died and comfort all who mourn. We pray especially for *[read names in notebook]* and those we now name aloud or in our hearts. *[Leave time....]*

Everlasting Father, hasten the coming of your kingdom; and grant that we who now live by faith may with joy behold your Son when he comes in glory.

☐ **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

PRAYERS AND BLESSINGS

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THE PEACE

[Please stand.]

P The peace of the Lord be always with you.

G **And also with you.** *[All may greet one another in the name of the Lord.]*

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

D Let us with gladness bring the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

OFFERTORY

The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came

Basque

[Please be seated.]

PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERINGS

[Please stand when the offerings of bread, wine, and money are presented by the Deacon.]

PRESENTATION HYMN

God of the Fertile Fields

AI **God of the fertile fields, shaper of earth that yields
our daily bread: forth from your bounteous hand
come gifts your love has planned, that all in every land be clothed and fed.**

**We would be stewards true, holding in trust from you
all that you give; help us in love to share,
teach us like you to care for people everywhere, that all may live.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: Eucharistic Prayer A

P The Lord be with you.

G **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

G **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

G **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

P It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS*Emmanuel***All**

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

Hea-ven and earth are full of your glo - ry.

Ho- san-na in the high - est, ho- san-na in the high - est.

Bles-sed is he who comes in the name o - f the Lord.

Ho- san-na in the high - est, ho- san-na in the high - est.

[Please stand or kneel, as you choose.]

- P** Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.
- P** On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

- ☑ Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.
- ☑ We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

- ☐ All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

A musical staff in G-clef and D major (one sharp) with a treble clef. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes with a final quarter rest. The lyrics 'A - men, a - men, a - men, a - men.' are written below the staff, with hyphens indicating syllable placement.

THE LORD’S PRAYER

- ☐ And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:
- ☑ **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, for ever and ever. Amen.**

FRACTION

- ☐ The bread we break makes us one in Christ.
- ☑ **Be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the bread.**
- ☐ The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

[You may be seated. All are welcome at the Lord’s Table. Please follow the directions of the usher, who will let you know when it’s your turn to go to the altar rail. You may stand or kneel. To receive, hold your hands in front of you, one palm over the other. The priest will place a wafer there. You may either consume it immediately, and then sip from the cup of wine when it comes to you, or, you may wait and dip the wafer into the wine. When you are finished, please return to your seat by the side aisle.]

Our Prayer Team will be in the south narthex (at the back of the church) during Holy Communion to pray with you for healing, guidance, thanksgiving, for a loved one, or anything else on your heart.

COMMUNION MUSIC

[Please remain seated.]

COMMUNION CHANT

Wait for the Lord

[Please repeat this chant until the musician stops playing the tune.]



Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.



Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

[Please stand or kneel, as you choose.]

P Let us pray...

AI Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

THE BLESSING

[Please stand.]

P The Lord calls us to prepare our hearts for the coming of the Day of the Lord by filling our lives with the promises of hope, the labors of love, the depths of joy, and the strengths of peace; go from here with the blessing of the Triune God: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, this day and forever.

G Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Hark! the glad sound!

72

AI *Hark, the glad sound! the Savior comes, the Savior promised long:
let every heart prepare a throne, and every voice a song.*

*He comes, the prisoners to release in Satan's bondage held;
the gates of brass before him burst, the iron fetters yield.*

*He comes, the broken heart to bind, the bleeding soul to cure;
and with the treasures of his grace to enrich the humble poor.*

*Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace, thy welcome shall proclaim;
and heaven's eternal arches ring with thy beloved Name.*

THE DISMISSAL

☐ Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

☑ **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

From Heaven High I Come to You

J. Pachelbel

SERVING US TODAY

Celebrant	Becky Robbins-Penniman
Deacon	Cindy Roehl
Priest Associate	Ann Chaplin
Organist	Robert Moncrief
Acolyte	Vic Howarth
Chalicians	Dan Smith & Debra Mackay
Lectors	Alan Mackay & Nels Auger Judy Warner & Mary Ratliff Judith Auger & Shirley Wood
Prayers of the People	Miriam Benitez-Nixon
Prayer Team	Maureen Belote & Cyndy Fahnestock
Greeters	Hilda Myers & Renee Furay
Ushers	Marc Jacobson & Dan Little
Welcome Center	Shirl Ahrens & Judy Ratliff
Building & Grounds	Pat Cates

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

The Holy Eucharist will be celebrated at all the services listed below.

BLUE CHRISTMAS

Saturday, December 21, at 5:00 PM

This service of lessons, songs and meditations is a thoughtful celebration of the birth of Christ. Although offered especially for those who are grieving, or for whom the holidays are difficult, all are welcome to an evening of solemn joy.

CHRISTMAS EVE

5:00 PM – Family service with a Plug-In Pageant.

We tell the wonderful story of the birth of Jesus.

Anyone who wishes to take part in the pageant is “plugged in!”

We’ll also have candlelight and carols.

9:00 PM – Candlelight service

This is a festival of traditional carols, words of comfort and hope.

Special music begins at 8:30 PM

CHRISTMAS DAY

10:00 AM – Feast of the Nativity

Join us for a jubilant morning of worship and Christmas hymns.