



CROWN OF LIFE | LUTHERAN
CHURCH

December 22nd, 2024

Fourth Sunday in Advent

11721 Morrison Rd. | New Orleans, LA | 70128
Pastor Daniel Kramer | crownoflifepastor@gmail.com
(504)595-0373 | (504)354-1999



A Service of Worship and Praise

We Gather in God's Name

GREETING

OPENING HYMN

African-American Heritage Hymnal 329

Holy, Holy, Holy

Minister says: We begin our worship in praise the same way we were baptized: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation says: AMEN

We Prepare our Hearts

M: As believers in Christ, we are called to repent of our sins and forgive one another. In the book of James, we are told, "Therefore, confess your sins to each other and pray for one another, so that you may be healed." As one body in Christ, we unite our hearts in prayer:

C: Lord, I pray to You because I am suffering. I have cut myself off from You and others by the sin in my life. I need Your forgiveness so that I may find healing for my wounded life and for the wounds I have caused others. Today, in the name of Jesus I pray, forgive me, and by the power of Your Holy Spirit, renew my heart. AMEN.

We sing: *Change My Heart*

Change my heart, O God, make it ever true.
Change my heart, O God, may I be like you.

: You are the potter; I am the clay.
Mold me and make me, this is what I pray.

Change my heart, O God, make it ever true.
Change my heart, O God, may I be like you. :]

M: We take comfort and find confidence in the words of Jesus, "He has sent me to announce forgiveness to the prisoners of sin and restore sight to the blind, to give mercy to those whose lives are shattered by sin, to announce the favor of the Lord." God gave His only son, Jesus, to die for

our sins and rise from death to give us eternal life. We are forgiven. We live in the favor of the Lord.

C: AMEN.

We sing:

Lord I Lift Your Name on High

|: Lord, I lift your name on high. Lord, I love to sing your praises.
I'm so glad you're in my life. I'm so glad you came to save us.

You came from Heaven to Earth to show the way;
from the Earth to the Cross, my debt to pay;
from the Cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky;
Lord, I lift Your name on high. :|

WE PRAY TOGETHER

M: Almighty God, you are eager to grant your goodness...

C: ...and joyful in sharing your grace.

M: You invite us into your presence...

C: ..to worship you with all our hearts.

M: Breathe your holy Spirit on us...

C: ...so that our tongues are eager to shout your praise!

M: Breathe your Holy Spirit on us...

C: ...so that our mouths are ready to proclaim the good news of Your Son.

M: Through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. He lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: AMEN.

We Listen to God's Word

FIRST LESSON

Micah 5:2-5a

² "But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah,
though you are small among the clans of Judah,
out of you will come for me
one who will be ruler over Israel,

whose origins are from of old,
from ancient times.”

³ Therefore Israel will be abandoned
until the time when she who is in labor bears a son,
and the rest of his brothers return
to join the Israelites.

⁴ He will stand and shepherd his flock
in the strength of the LORD,
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.
And they will live securely, for then his greatness
will reach to the ends of the earth.

⁵ And he will be our peace
when the Assyrians invade our land
and march through our fortresses.

We sing:

Shine Jesus Shine

Shine, Jesus, shine! Fill this land with the Father's glory!
Blaze, Spirit, blaze! Set our hearts on fire.
Flow river flow! Flood the nations with grace and mercy.
Send forth Your Word, Lord, and let there be light!

Lord, the light of Your love is shining,
In the midst of the darkness shining.
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us;
Set us free by the truth You now bring us.
Shine on me. Shine on me.

Shine, Jesus, shine! Fill this land with the Father's glory!
Blaze, Spirit, blaze! Set our hearts on fire.
Flow river flow! Flood the nations with grace and mercy.
Send forth Your Word, Lord, and let there be light!

SECOND LESSON

Hebrews 10:5-10

⁵ Therefore, when Christ came into the world, he said:

“Sacrifice and offering you did not desire,
but a body you prepared for me;

⁶ with burnt offerings and sin offerings

you were not pleased.

⁷ Then I said, 'Here I am—it is written about me in the scroll—
I have come to do your will, my God.'"

⁸ First he said, "Sacrifices and offerings, burnt offerings and sin offerings you did not desire, nor were you pleased with them"—though they were offered in accordance with the law. ⁹ Then he said, "Here I am, I have come to do your will." He sets aside the first to establish the second. ¹⁰ And by that will, we have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

PLEASE STAND

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 1:39-55

³⁹ At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, ⁴⁰ where she entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth.

⁴¹ When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. ⁴² In a loud voice she exclaimed: "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! ⁴³ But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? ⁴⁴ As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵ Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her!"

⁴⁶ And Mary said:

"My soul glorifies the Lord

⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

⁴⁸ for he has been mindful

of the humble state of his servant.

From now on all generations will call me blessed,

⁴⁹ for the Mighty One has done great things for me—

holy is his name.

⁵⁰ His mercy extends to those who fear him,

from generation to generation.

⁵¹ He has performed mighty deeds with his arm;

he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts.

⁵² He has brought down rulers from their thrones

but has lifted up the humble.

⁵³ He has filled the hungry with good things

but has sent the rich away empty.
⁵⁴ He has helped his servant Israel,
remembering to be merciful
⁵⁵ to Abraham and his descendants forever,
just as he promised our ancestors."

BE SEATED

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY

Christian Worship 25

The King Shall Come

SERMON

Jesus is the Son of David

Luke 1:26-38

²⁶ In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, ²⁷ to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary.

²⁸ The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you."

²⁹ Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. ³⁰ But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. ³¹ You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. ³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, ³³ and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end."

³⁴ "How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?"

³⁵ The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. ³⁶ Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. ³⁷ For no word from God will ever fail."

³⁸ "I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May your word to me be fulfilled." Then the angel left her.

PLEASE STAND

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of Heaven and Earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten not made, of one being with the Father. Through Him, all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, He came down from Heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake, He was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day, He rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into Heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and His kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who, in unity with the Father and the Son, is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. AMEN.

OFFERING

African-American Heritage Hymnal 307

His Name is Wonderful

PRAYERS AND LORD'S PRAYER

BLESSING

M: Brothers and Sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

C: AMEN

CLOSING HYMN

Christian Worship 25 *Hosanna to the Coming Lord*

| Serving at Col: | Today | Next Sunday |
|------------------------|---------------|--------------------|
| Pianist | Karis, Elijah | Katherine, Elijah |
| Ushers | Mike | |
| Reader | Mike | |
| Altar | | |
| Streaming | Noah | Noah |
| Refreshments | | Linda |
| Cleaning | Quiana | |
| Mowing | | |

CALENDAR

| | |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Tuesday | 6:00 PM Christmas Eve Service |
| Wednesday | 11:00 AM Christmas Service |
| Sunday | 10:00 AM Bible Class, Sunday School |
| Sunday | 11:00 AM Worship |
| Jan 12 th | Council, Ladies Guild meetings |
| Jan 19 th | 2024 Q4 Congregational Meeting |

| OFFERING | Total | Budget | %Budget Met |
|-----------------|--------------|---------------|--------------------|
| Last Week | \$3,879.00 | \$2,548.40 | 152.2% |
| December | \$12,616.00 | \$11,043.08 | 114.2% |
| Qtr-to-Date | \$41,442.05 | \$33,129.25 | 125.1% |
| Year-to-Date | \$134,514.93 | \$132,517.00 | 101.5% |



*"...give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."
II Corinthians 9:7*

