



A WELCOMING FAITH COMMUNITY.
GROWING. CARING. SERVING.



4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
CELEBRATED ON SATURDAY
DECEMBER 23, 2023



Please silence your cell phones. Thank you!

Welcome to Worship

If you are a visitor please stop at the Welcome Desk in the lower level for a visitor bag. For more information contact us at www.zionanoka.org.

PREACHING: Pastor Connie Tiede

READER: Greg Bergeron

ORGANIST: Deb Oas Koepsell

PRELUDE: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"..... arr. Hal Hopson

GATHERING

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENT

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:

We gather in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

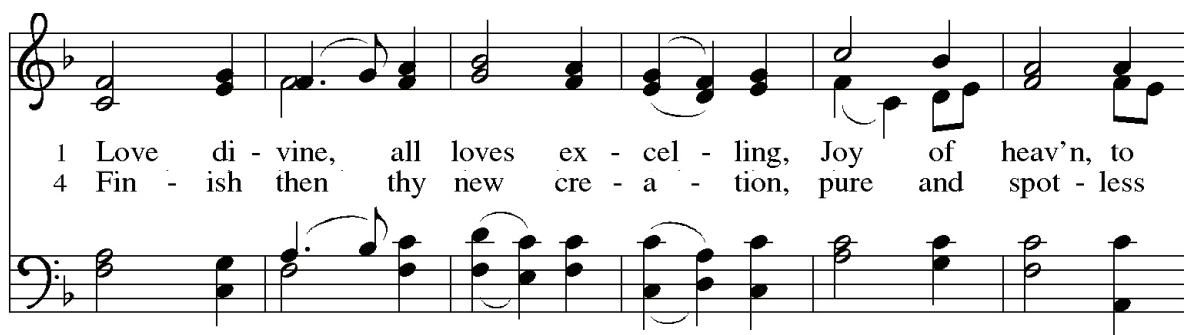
In this time of Advent, let us open our hearts to the coming of Christ, confessing our sins before God and one another.

Silence for reflection

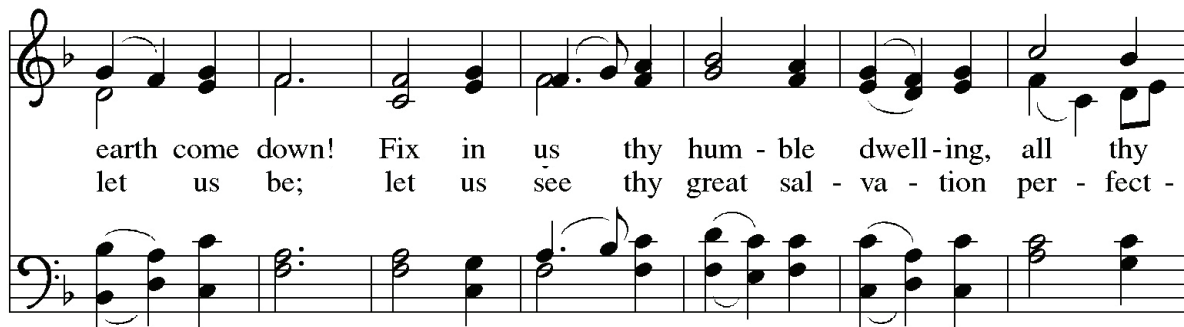
Gracious God,

we confess that we are broken and sinful, and we have turned away from you. We have failed to fully serve you, and to be a light to our neighbors. We do not trust completely in your promises or your grace. Forgive us, turn our wills again to you, and prepare our hearts for Christ's reign, that your light may dwell within us, and shine forth through us, for your glory. Amen.

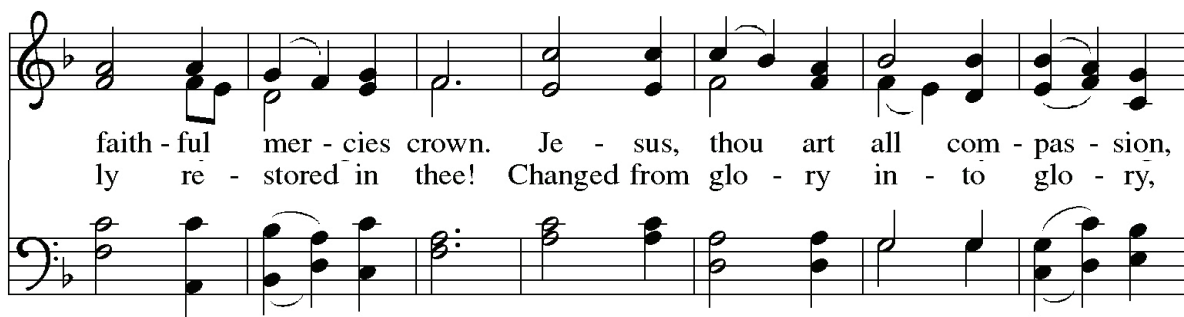
Jesus, the Word made flesh, Immanuel, God with us, was sent that all who believe in him may not perish, but have eternal life. In his name † your sins are forgiven. God has cleansed your hearts, and wiped away your sin. In confident recognition of His boundless grace, let us live in the light of Christ! **Amen.**



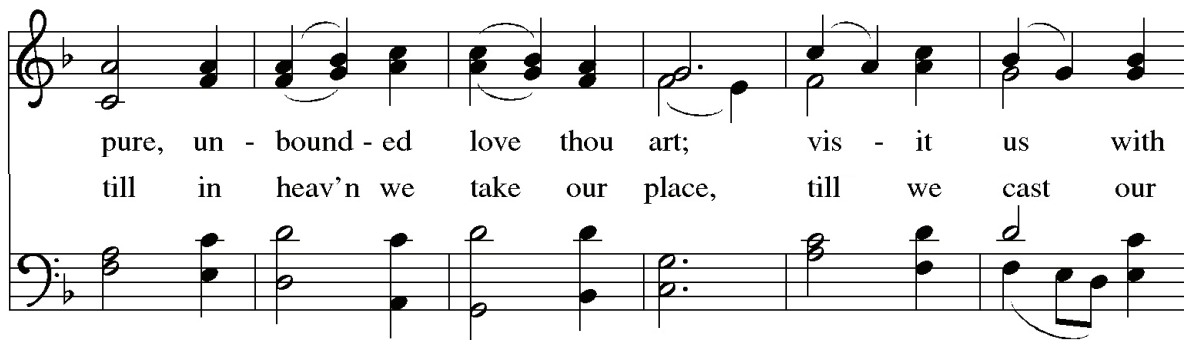
1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heav'n, to
4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and spot - less



earth come down! Fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy
let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -



faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,
ly re - stored in thee! Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,



pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.
crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise!

Today is the fourth week of Advent, the candle of Love.

Those who believe in him, and live in him, live in love. Love transforms and perfects all things. It never ends.

We thank God for the hope he gives us, for the peace he bestows, for the joy he pours into our hearts, and for the love that redeems us and shows us the way.

HYMN: *Light One Candle*, vs. 4

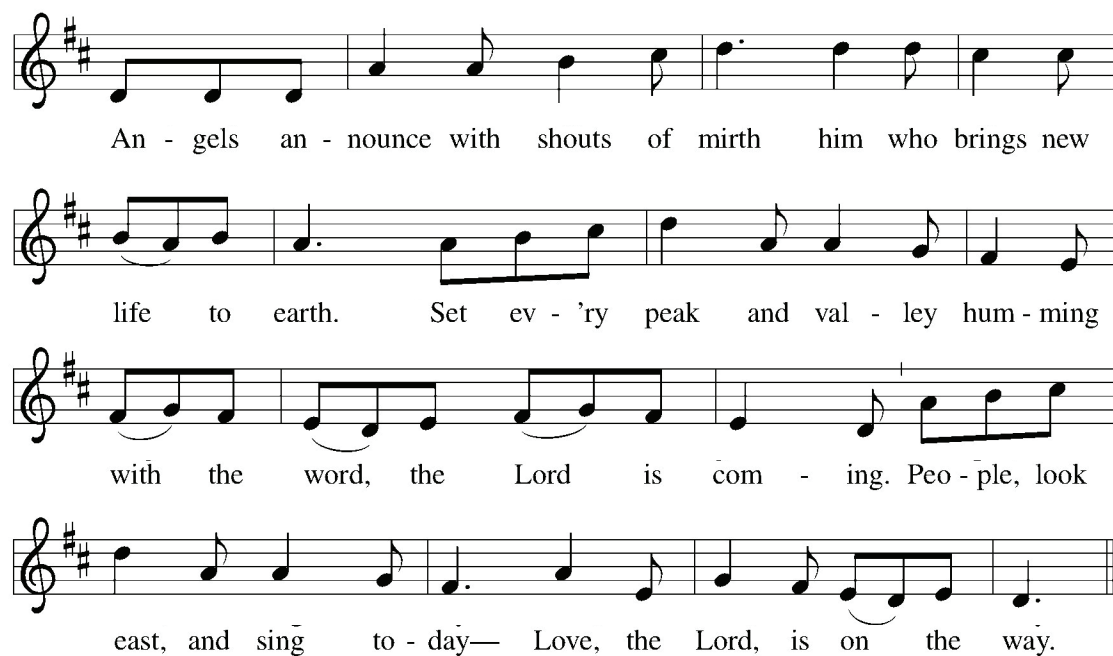
Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954
 Music: TIF IN VELDELE, Yiddish folk tune
 Text © 1984 Fortress Press, admin. Augsburg Fortress.
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 valid license from copyright administrator.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, our Prince of Peace, our Mighty God, our Wonderful Counselor, who is and was and is to come.

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that would obstruct your mercy, that willingly we may bear your redeeming love to all the world, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

BAPTISM: Jax Anthony White-Rodriguez

LESSONS: Luke 1:26-38



An - gels an - nounce with shouts of mirth him who brings new
life to earth. Set ev - 'ry peak and val - ley hum - ming
with the word, the Lord is com - ing. Peo - ple, look
east, and sing to - day— Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881–1965
Music: BESANCON, French carol
Text © Miss E. Farjeon Will Trust, by permission of David Higham Associates.
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GOSPEL:

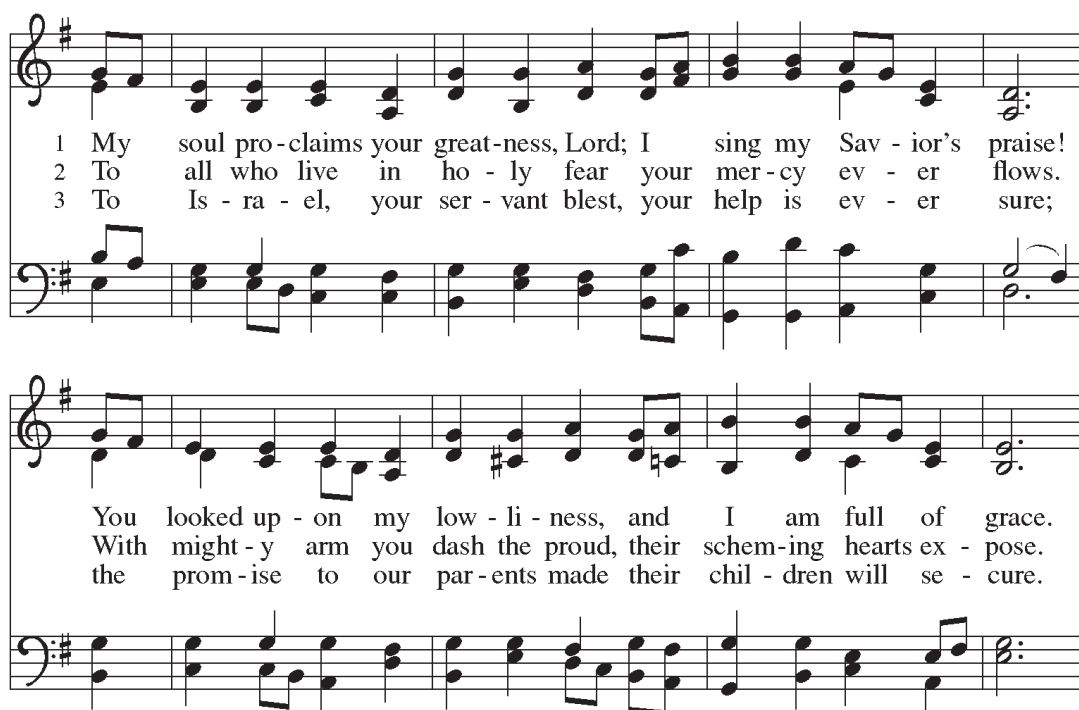
The Holy Gospel according to Luke 1:46b-55

Glory to you, O Lord.

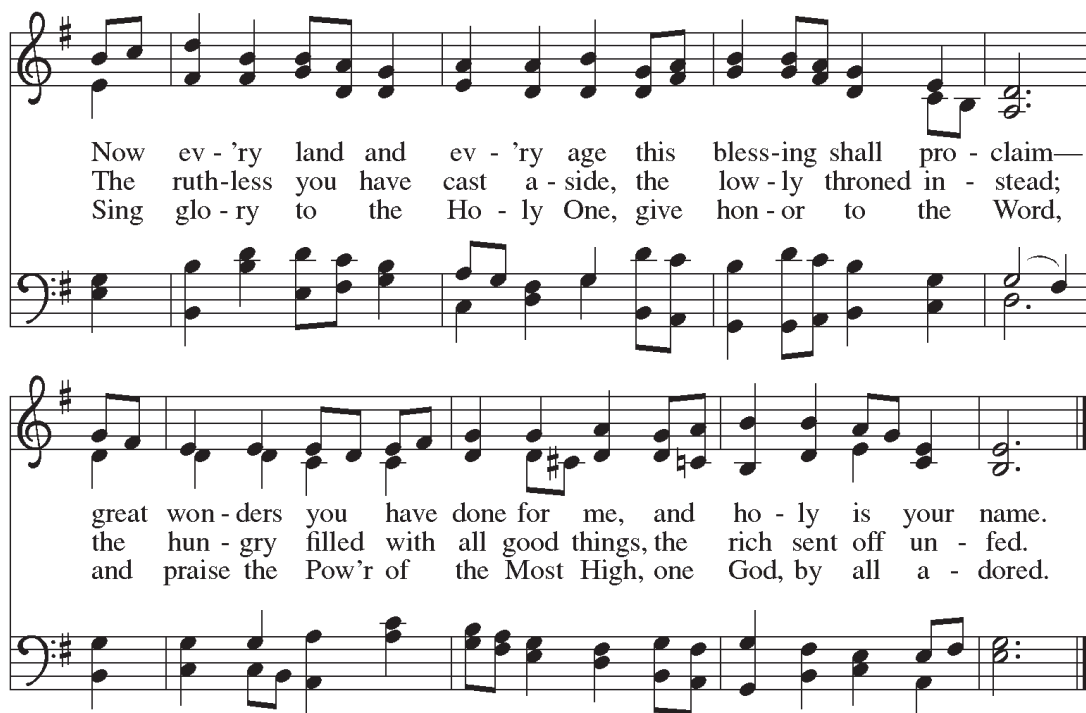
The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

THE SERMON: *"How Can This Be?"* by Pastor Connie Tiede



1 My soul pro-claims your great-ness, Lord; I sing my Sav - ior's praise!
2 To all who live in ho - ly fear your mer - cy ev - er flows.
3 To Is - ra - el, your ser - vant blest, your help is ev - er sure;
You looked up - on my low - li - ness, and I am full of grace.
With might - y arm you dash the proud, their schem-ing hearts ex - pose.
the prom - ise to our par - ents made their chil - dren will se - cure.



Text: *With One Voice*, 1995, based on the Magnificat
 Music: KINGSFOLD, English folk tune; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958
 Text © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.
 Outside USA: Arr. from *The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906. All rights reserved.
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THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH:

After each petition

Stir up your power, O Lord, and come...

Amen. Come Lord Jesus.

SHARING THE PEACE:

The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

(Share the peace with a wave and word of peace.)

MEAL

OFFERING

SPECIAL MUSIC: "Still, Still, Still"..... arr. by Franklin Ritter
 Deb Oas Koepsell, organ

OFFERTORY: *What Child is This* (vs 3) 296

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, peasant, king, to own him.

The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him.

Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby;

joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!

MANY WAYS TO GIVE

TEXT: 763-710-2209

ONLINE www.zionanoka.org
 click on "GIVE TODAY"

ELECTRONIC GIVING

<https://cutt.ly/ziongivetoday>

or



OFFERTORY PRAYER:

God our provider, by your merciful hand abundance springs up from the earth. Receive and bless these gifts of your own bounty. Let them be a sign of your steadfast love and faithfulness for all people, through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING:

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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.

DISTRIBUTION/ DISTRIBUTION HYMNS:

Savior of the Nations, Come

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- 1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come; vir - gin's son, make here your home.
- 2 Not by hu - man flesh and blood, but the mys - tic Breath of God,
- 3 Won - drous birth—oh, won - drous child—from his throne, a vir - gin mild!
- 4 From God's heart the Sav - ior speeds, back to God his path-way leads;



Mar - vel now, O heav'n and earth: God has cho - sen such a birth.
was the Word of God made flesh, fruit of wom - an, blos - som fresh.
Ver - y God, and Mar - y's son, ea - ger now his race to run!
out to van - quish death's com - mand, back to reign at God's right hand.

5 Now your manger, shining bright,
hallows night with newborn light.
Night cannot this light subdue;
let our faith shine ever new.

6 Praise we sing to Christ the Lord,
virgin's son, incarnate Word!
To the holy Trinity
praise we sing eternally!

The King Shall Come

260



- 1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light tri - um-phant breaks,
- 2 Not as of old a lit - tle child, to bear and fight and die,
- 3 Oh, bright - er than the ris - ing morn when Christ, vic - to - rious, rose
- 4 Oh, bright - er than that glo - rious morn shall dawn up - on our race
- 5 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light and beau - ty brings.



when beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills and life to joy a - wakes.
but crowned with glo - ry like the sun that lights the morn-ing sky.
and left the lone-some place of death, de - spite the rage of foes.
the day when Christ in splen-dor comes, and we shall see his face.
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your peo - ple pray: come quick-ly, King of kings.

Text: John Brownlie, 1859–1925

Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davison, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816

POST COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER:

Generous God, in bread and cup you have revealed your glory for all people to see together. Nourished by this meal, send us out to proclaim your good news of liberation and release, brought to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

SENDING

BENEDICTION:

The God of peace bless you, the love of Christ sustain you in hope, and the joy of the Spirit † remain upon you now and forever.

Amen.

WE WELCOME YOU TO WORSHIP

Hearing Assistance Units Available

Hearing assistance units
are available at the
sound booth at the
back of the Sanctuary.

Mobility Concerns

We have areas in the
sanctuary where a wheel-
chair or walker will fit.
Ushers can assist you.

Children Welcome

Activity bags are avail-
able outside the sanctu-
ary. We have two "pray
grounds" in the sanctuary
with plenty of places just
outside the sanctuary as
well where children can
sit and play.

LIVE STREAM

SUNDAY 9 & 11 AM

www.zionanoka.org

(click "Worship Online")

- or -

[www.facebook.com/
ZionLutheranChurch
AnokaMn](http://www.facebook.com/ZionLutheranChurchAnokaMn)

AVAILABLE ANYTIME

CABLE TV

Metro Cable Network
Channel 6

SUNDAY | 10 AM & 5 PM

RADIO BROADCAST

106.1 BOB FM

SUNDAYS | 9:10 AM

OFFICE HOURS

M - TH: 9 AM - 5 PM

FRI: 9 AM - 12 NOON



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www.zionanoka.org

SENDING HYMN: *From Heaven Above*, vs. 1-3 & 12-14..... 268

1 "From heav'n a - bove to earth I come to bear good
2 "To you this night is born a child of Mar - y,
3 "This is the Christ, God's Son most high, who hears your

12 Ah, dear - est Je - sus, ho - ly child, pre - pare a
13 My heart for ve - ry joy now leaps; my voice no
14 "Glo - ry to God in high - est heav'n, who un - to

news to ev - 'ry home! Glad tid - ings of great joy I
cho - sen vir - gin mild; this new - born child of low - ly
sad and bit - ter cry, who will him - self your Sav - ior

bed, soft, un - de - filed, a qui - et cham - ber in my
long - er si - lence keeps; I too must sing with joy - ful
us the Son has giv'n." With an - gels sing in pi - ous

bring to all the world, and glad - ly sing:
birth shall be the joy of all the earth.
be and from all sin will set you free."

heart, that you and I may nev - er part.
tongue the sweet - est an - cient cra - dle - song:
mirth a glad new year to all the earth!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*

Music: VOM HIMMEL HOCH, attr. Martin Luther; V. Schumann, *Geistliche Lieder*, 1539

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DISMISSAL:

Go in peace, Christ is near.

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE: "In Dulci Jubilo" by J.S. Bach, arr. Dickinson