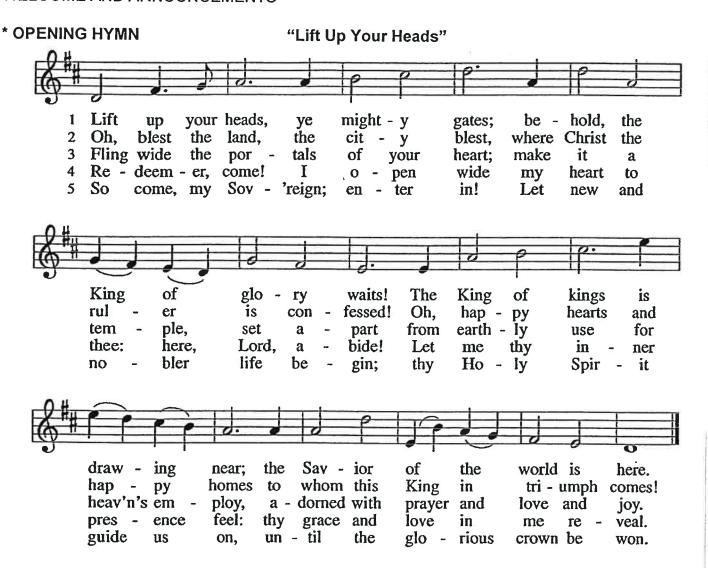
## INTRODUCTION

God keeps the promise made to David to give him an everlasting throne. The angel tells Mary that God will give David's throne to her son Jesus. She is perplexed by Gabriel's greeting and by the news of her coming pregnancy, but she is able still to say, "Count me in." We who know that Jesus is called king only as he is executed still find it a mystery hard to fathom, but with Mary today we hear the news of what God is up to and say, "Count us in."

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



Text: Georg Weissel, 1590-1635; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1829-1878 Music: TRURO, T. Williams, Psalmodia Evangelica, 1789

## \* GREETING

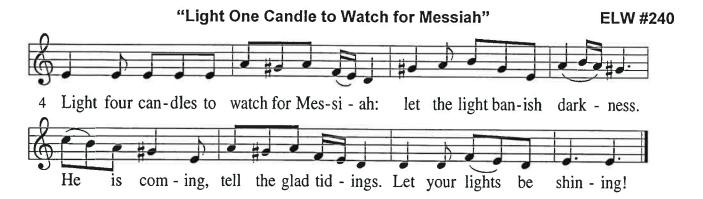
- P Christ has called us to this place, gathered one and all by his Holy Spirit
- C We are followers of Christ who seek to hear the Word, live the Word, and share the Word.
- P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C And also with you.

# CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Doug Thompson

# BLESSING OF THE ADVENT WREATH: Angel

- O faithful and loving God,
  we praise you for your tender compassion
  and give thanks for your steadfast love for us and all creation.
  Bless us who see the light of this wreath,
  that we may welcome your messengers who
  announce your advent among us.
  We ask this through Christ our Lord.
- C Amen.



Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954 Music: TIF IN VELDELE, Yiddish folk tune Text O 1984 Fortress Press, admin. Augsburg Fortress

## \* PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P 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.
- C Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC 5:30 9:30 Edie and Joan

# FIRST READING: 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

Instead of David building a house (temple) for God, God promises to establish David's house (dynasty) forever. Centuries later, after the Babylonian exile, no king sat on the throne. Even then, however, the people of Israel remembered this promise and continued to hope for a king, the messiah, God's anointed.

<sup>1</sup>Now when David the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, 2the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you." <sup>4</sup>But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: <sup>5</sup>Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? <sup>6</sup>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 and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" 8Now 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 to be prince over my people Israel; <sup>9</sup>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. 10 And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, 11 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. <sup>16</sup>Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

**PSALM: Luke 1:46b-55** 

46b My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
47 my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
48 for you, Lord, have looked with favor on your lowly servant.
From this day all generations will call me blessed;
49 you, the Almighty, have done great things for me, and holy is your name.
50 You have mercy on those who fear you, from generation to generation.
51 You have shown strength with your arm;
and scettered the proud in their sense;

and scattered the proud in their conceit, <sup>52</sup>casting down the mighty from their thrones

and lifting up the lowly.

53 You have filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty.

<sup>54</sup>You have come to the aid of your servant Israel, to remember the promise of mercy,

<sup>55</sup>the promise made to our forebears, to Abraham and his children forever.

# SECOND READING: Romans 16:25-27

Paul closes his letter to the Romans by praising God because, in the proclamation of the gospel of Jesus Christ, God has revealed the promised, divine plan of salvation for all humanity. Paul proclaims this gospel of Christ in order to bring about the obedience of faith among all nations.

<sup>25</sup>Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages <sup>26</sup>but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith— <sup>27</sup>to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

#### \* GOSPEL VERSE



Text: Psalteriolum Cantionum Catholicarum, Köln, 1710; tr. John M. Neale, 1818–1866, alt. Music: VENI, EMMANUEL, French processional, 15th cent.

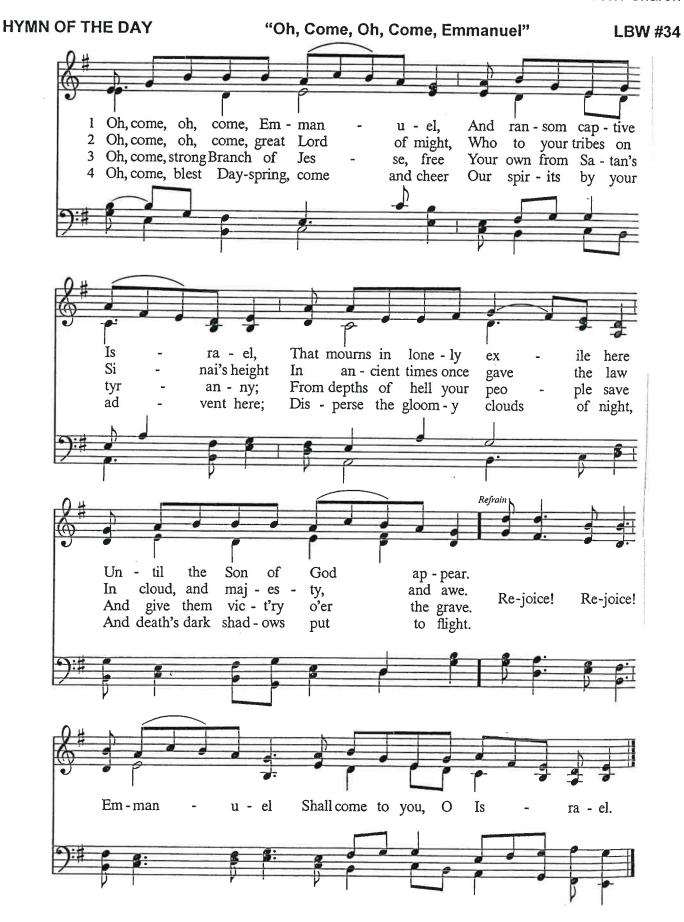
- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 1st chapter.
- C Speak, Lord, your servants are listening!

# \* GOSPEL: Luke 1:26-38

In this annunciation, Luke makes clear that God comes with good news for ordinary people from little known places. This king will not be born to royalty in a palace, but to common folk in a stall. Here Luke highlights the role of the Spirit, a special emphasis in this gospel.

<sup>26</sup>In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, <sup>27</sup>to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup>And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." <sup>29</sup>But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup>The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup>And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. <sup>32</sup>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 ancestor David. <sup>33</sup>He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." <sup>34</sup>Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" <sup>35</sup>The angel said to 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 holy; he will be called Son of God. <sup>36</sup>And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. <sup>37</sup>For nothing will be impossible with God." <sup>38</sup>Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

- P The Gospel of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God!



5 Oh, come, O Key of David, come, And open wide our heav'nly home; Make safe the way that leads on high, And close the path to misery. Refrain

Text: Psalteriolum Cantionum Catholicarum, Köln, 1710; tr. John M. Neale, 1818-1866, alt. Time: French processional, 15th cent.

VENI, EMMANUEL 88 88 88

# \* THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

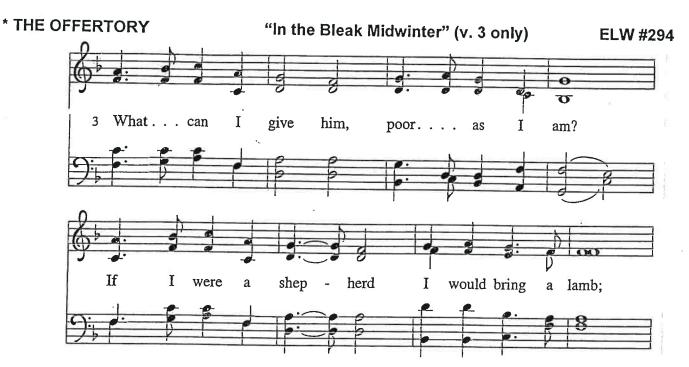
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

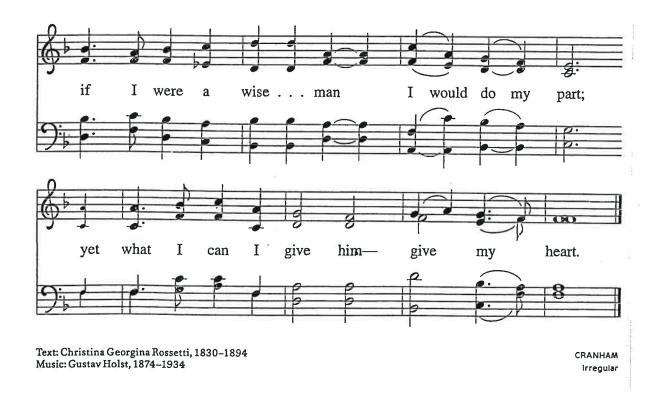
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Amen

# THE OFFERING







### \* PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P With hope and expectation, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who await God's day of restoration.

A brief silence.

- P Merciful God,
- C receive our prayer.
- P Listen to these and all our prayers, O God of hosts, and restore us with your great and everlasting mercy.
- C Amen.

# \* 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.

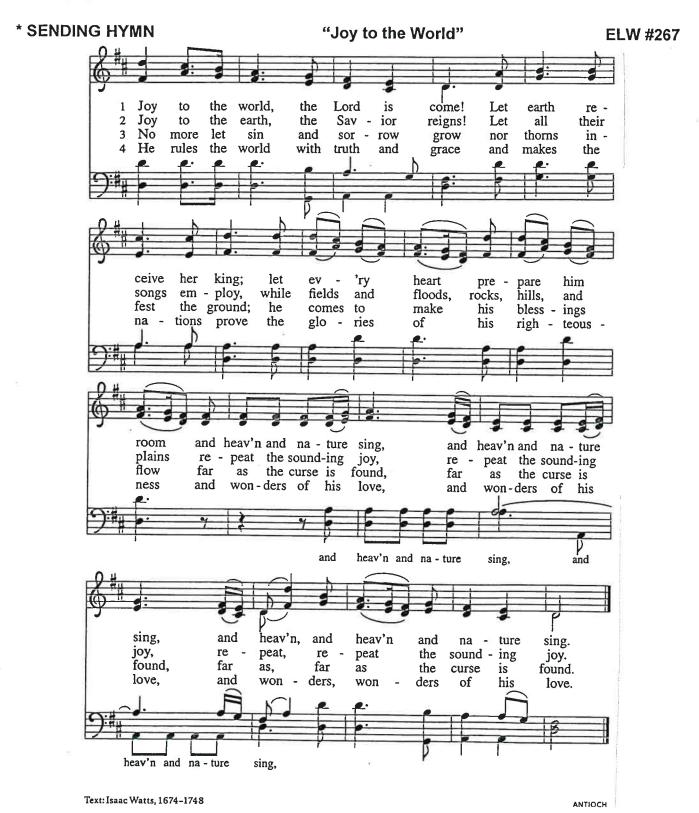
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, forever
and ever. Amen

### \* BLESSING

P The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

#### C Amen



- \* DISMISSAL
- P Go in Peace. Serve the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

**POSTLUDE** 

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