

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

RORATE COELI – “LET THE HEAVENS”

Sunday, December 19, 2021, 9:30 a.m.

Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church, Altamont, IL

1861-2021 – zum Kripplein Christi – 160 years

Rev. Marcus Manley

Elder: Dennis Guffey

Organist & Choir Dir.: Dean Manuel

Crucifer: Tyler Ruffner; Acolyte: John Manley; Book Bearer: Kysson Koester

Ushers: Ronnie Putnam, Jerod Ruffner, Jeremy Ruffner

Preservice Music

Ringling of Bells

Prelude

Please stand and face the processional cross at the entrance of the nave.

Processional Hymn LSB #346 *When All the World Was Cursed*

✠ DIVINE SERVICE, **Setting Three** ✠
LSB p. 184-202

✠ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION ✠
LSB p.184-185

✠ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠
LSB p.186-193



Introit for the Third Sunday in Advent

Psalm 19:1, 4–6; antiphon: Isaiah 45:8a (respond with the words in **bold**)

Show, O heavens, | from above,*

and let the clouds rain down | righteousness;

let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may | bear fruit;*

let the earth cause them | both to sprout.

The heavens declare the glo- | ry of God,*

and the sky above proclaims his | handiwork.

Their measuring line goes out through all the earth, and their words
to the end | of the world.*

In them he has set a tent | for the sun,

which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his | chamber,*

and, like a strong man, runs its | course with joy.

Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the | end of
them,*

and there is nothing hidden | from its heat.

Show, O heavens, | from above,*

and let the clouds rain down | righteousness;

continue →

let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may | bear fruit;*
let the earth cause them | both to sprout.

♪ **The Gloria Patri**

p. 186

♪ **Kyrie**

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(Gloria In Excelsis is omitted during Advent)

♪ **Salutation**

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Collect for the Fourth Sunday in Advent

P: 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. **C: ♪ Amen**

Please be seated

Old Testament Reading: Deuteronomy 18:15–19

¹⁵“The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers—it is to him you shall listen—¹⁶just as you desired of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly, when you said, ‘Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God or see this great fire any more, lest I die.’¹⁷And the LORD said to me, ‘They are right in what they have spoken. ¹⁸I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers. And I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him. ¹⁹And whoever will not listen to my words that he shall speak in my name, I myself will require it of him.’”

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Ministry of Music – “Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending”

– Duet - Amy Manley and Karen Manuel

Epistle Reading: Philippians 4:4–7

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; ⁶do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please stand

C: ♪ Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel: John 1:19-28

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.

C: ♪ *Glory be to Thee, O Lord.*

¹⁹This is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who are you?” ²⁰He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, “I am not the Christ.” ²¹And they asked him, “What then? Are you Elijah?” He said, “I am not.” “Are you the Prophet?” And he answered, “No.” ²²So they said to him, “Who are you? We need to give an answer to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?” ²³He said, “I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, ‘Make straight the way of the Lord,’ as the prophet Isaiah said.”

²⁴(Now they had been sent from the Pharisees.) ²⁵They asked him, “Then why are you baptizing, if you are neither the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?” ²⁶John answered them, “I baptize with water, but among you stands one you do not know, ²⁷even he who comes after me, the strap of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie.” ²⁸These things took place in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

⁵⁶And Mary remained with her about three months and returned to her home.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: ♪ **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

Nicene Creed

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Please be seated

Hymn of the Day LSB #357 *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

stz. 1-2 – Congregation

stz. 3 – Duet – Amy Manley & Karen Manuel

stz. 4-5 – Congregation

stz. 6 – Duet – Amy Manley & Karen Manuel

stz. 7 – Congregation

Sermon

Text: John 1:19-28

Title: “*Determined Identity*”

Theme: **GOD HAS IDENTIFIED YOU ALONG WITH JESUS TO CONFESS JESUS AND TO DENY ALL OTHER IDENTITIES.**

Please stand

♪ Offertory

p. 192-193

Please be seated

Offering

Please stand as the offering plates are brought forward during the offering hymn

Offering Hymn #781 *We Give Thee But Thine Own* v. 1 & 2

Please stand

Prayer of the Church

Response after each petition of the prayer:

P: Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us, Father, for the sake of Him who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever. **C: Amen**

✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

LSB p.194-202

♪ **Preface - ♪ Sanctus - ♪ Lord's Prayer - ♪ The Words of Our Lord –**

♪ **Pax Domini - ♪ Agnus Dei**

p. 194-198

Please be seated

Distribution

LSB #334 *O Lord, How Shall I Meet You*

LSB #333 *Once He Came in Blessing*

LSB #335 *O Bride of Christ, Rejoice*

Please stand

♪ **Nunc Dimittis - ♪ Thanksgiving - ♪ Benedicamus - ♪ Benediction** *p. 199 - 202*

Announcements

Recessional Hymn LSB #354 *Arise, O Christian People*

Face the cross as it leads us to live in Christian faith (Mt. 16:24; 1 Cor. 2:2).

Postlude