**St. Mark’s Worship Sunday December 20, 2020**

**Welcome to our Online Worship**

**Prelude**

**Welcome and Call to Worship**

***My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness Verse 1,2 ELW 251***

My soul proclaims your greatness, Lord;

I sing my Savior's praise!

You looked upon my lowliness,

And I am full of grace.

Now ev'ry land and ev'ry age

This blessing shall proclaim—

Great wonders you have done for me,

And holy is your name.

To all who live in holy fear

Your mercy ever flows.

With mighty arm you dash the proud,

Their scheming hearts expose.

The ruthless you have cast aside,

The lowly throned instead;

The hungry filled with all good things,

The rich sent off unfed.

**Mission Statement**

**“**Celebrating God’s Love and Forgiveness, We serve others”

**Advent Litany**

Lord Jesus, you are the light of the world.

**Come, Lord Jesus.**

You are light in our darkness.

**Come, Lord Jesus.**

Son of God, save us from our sins.

**Come, Lord Jesus.**

Son of Mary, deepen our love.

**Come, Lord Jesus.**

Bring hope into the lives of all people.

**Come, Lord Jesus**.

Give your peace to all nations.

**Come, Lord Jesus.**

Be the joy of all who love you.

**Come, Lord Jesus**

Bring unity among all who believe in you.

**Come, Lord Jesus**.

Bless us as we gather here in your name.

**Come, Lord Jesus.**

Lord Jesus, stay with us always.

**Come, Lord Jesus.**

Let us pray:

Let us prepare our hearts as we await the coming of our Lord. Let us watch for the one who heard our cries and shouldered the suffering of our world. Let us anticipate the coming of Christ’s eternal world with wholeness, reconciliation and plenty for all. Let us wait in expectation for the day when God’s glory is revealed in all its fullness.

May Christ give us his peace and joy, and let us share them with others.

All peace and glory are his forever.

**Amen.**

**Greeting**

From the one who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty; grace, light, and peace be with you all.

**And also with you.**

**Lighting of The Advent Wreath**

***Hymn of Praise – Light the Advent Candle***

Light the Advent candle, four:
Think of joy forevermore;
Christ Child in a stable born,
Gift of love that Christmas morn.

Candle, candle, burning bright,

Shining in the cold winter night;

Candle, candle, burning bright,

Fill our hearts with Christmas light.

**Prayer of the Day**

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.

**Amen.**

***The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came Verse 1,2 ELW 265***

### The angel Gabriel from heaven came,

### With wings as drifted snow, with eyes as flame:

### "All hail to thee, O lowly maiden Mary,

### Most highly favored lady." Gloria!

### "For know a blessed mother thou shalt be,

### All generations laud and honor thee;

### Thy son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold,

### Most highly favored lady." Gloria!

### Psalm: Luke 1:46b-55

### *Note that today’s Psalm comes from the lips of Mary, in the Gospel of Luke*

**46**And Mary said, “My soul magnifies the Lord, **47**and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, **48**for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; **49**for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. **50**His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. **51**He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. **52**He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; **53**he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. **54**He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, **55**according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever.

### Second Reading: Romans 16:25-27

25Now 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 26but 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—27to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

**“Alleluia”**

**Alleluia. Lord to whom shall we go?**

**You have the words of eternal life.**

**Alleluia.**

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**Gospel - Luke 1:26-38**

26In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, 27to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin’s name was Mary. 28And he came to her and said, “Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you.” 29But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. 30The angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. 31And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. 32He 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. 33He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.” 34Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I am a virgin?” 35The 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. 36And 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. 37For nothing will be impossible with God.” 38Then 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.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ**

**Sermon** Pastor Karla Halvorson

***The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came Verse 3,4 ELW 265***

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head;

"To me be as it pleaseth God," she said.

"My soul shall laud and magnify God's holy name."

Most highly favored lady, Gloria!

Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born

In Bethlehem all on a Christmas morn,

And Christian folk throughout the world will ever say:

"Most highly favored lady." Gloria!

**Prayers of Intercession**

Leader: Hear us, O God.

**Congregation: Your mercy is great.**

**Blessing of prayer quilts**

**Offering**

St. Mark’s Church, 580 Hilltop Dr. Chula Vista CA 91910

Venmo: @stmarks-churchchulavista

***We Give Thee But Thine Own***

We give thee but thine own,

Whate’er the gift may be;

All that we have is thine alone,

A trust, O Lord, from thee.

**Offering Prayer**

Savior of the nations, come. **Make your home here in us. Feed us with your love, that our faith shines ever new and our lives reveal your light. Amen.**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be**

**done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as**

**we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us**

**from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

**Community Time**

**Blessing**

The Creator of the stars bless your Advent waiting, the long-expected Savior fill you with love, the unexpected Spirit guide your journey, ☩ now and forever. **Amen.**

***Sending Song – Joy to the World Verse 1-4 ELW 267***

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!

Let earth receive her king;

Let ev'ry heart prepare him room

And heav'n and nature sing,

And heav'n and nature sing,

And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!

Let all their songs employ,

While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains

Repeat the sounding joy,

Repeat the sounding joy,

Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sin and sorrow grow

Nor thorns infest the ground;

He comes to make his blessings flow

Far as the curse is found,

Far as the curse is found,

Far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace

And makes the nations prove

The glories of his righteousness

And wonders of his love,

And wonders of his love,

And wonders, wonders of his love.

Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Share the Peace of the Lord in the comments below!**