

# St. Matthew Lutheran Church of Westfield

The Rev. Dr. Ronald A. Bogs, Pastor

The Rev. Arturo G. Mendez, Associate Pastor

21434 E. Hardy Rd., Houston, TX 77073  
www.stmatthewlcms.com

281-443-2304 or 281-443-8463  
office@stmatthewlcms.com

## Pastor Bogs' Contact Info:

Cell Phone: 832-515-4830

pastorbogs@stmatthewlcms.com

## Pastor Mendez's Contact Info:

Cell Phone: 832-883-1705

pastormendez@stmatthewlcms.com

## The Fourth Sunday in Advent December 19, 2021

**Color of the Day:** BLUE-the color of the sky-helps convey that powerful message. Our Christian faith rests on the hope that Christ, who came in history assuming our flesh, will also return on the last day of time from that same blue sky he ascended long ago. Advent, a preparatory time of waiting and watching, communicates the message of hope.



**Opening Hymn** . . . . . #820 - My Soul, Now Praise Your Maker

**Confession and Absolution** . . . . . Page 184

### ☩ ☩ ☩ Service of the Word ☩ ☩ ☩

**Introit** . . . . . Page 186

1 Sam. 2:1b,2,5b-7; antiphon: Luke 1:46b-47

My soul magni- | fies the Lord,\*  
and my spirit rejoices in God my | Savior.

My mouth derides my | enemies,\*  
because I rejoice in your sal- | vation.

There is none holy | like the LORD;\*  
there is none besides you; there is no rock | like our God.

The barren has borne | seven,\*  
but she who has many children | is forlorn.

The LORD kills and | brings to life;\*  
he brings down to Sheol and | raises up.

The LORD makes poor and | makes rich;\*  
he brings low and | he exalts.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\*  
and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

My soul magni- | fies the Lord,\*  
and my spirit rejoices in God my | Savior.

**Kyrie** . . . . . Page 186

**Gloria in Excelsis (OMITTED DURING ADVENT)** . . . . . Page 187

**Salutation & Collect of the Day** . . . . . Page 189

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Old Testament Reading** . . . . . Page 190

Micah 5:2-5a

<sup>2</sup> But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel,

whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. <sup>3</sup>Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has given birth; then the rest of his brothers shall return to the people of Israel.

<sup>4</sup>And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth. <sup>5</sup>And he shall be their peace. When the Assyrian comes into our land and treads in our palaces, then we will raise against him seven shepherds and eight princes of men;

**Gradual** . . . . . Page 190

Zech. 9:9; Ps. 118:26, alt.

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of | Zion.\*

Shout aloud, O daughter of Je- | rusalem.

Behold, your king is com- | ing to you;\*  
righteous and having sal- | vation.

Blessed is he who comes in the name | of the Lord.\*  
From the house of the Lord we | bless you.

**Epistle Reading** . . . . . Page 190

Hebrews 10:5-10

<sup>5</sup>Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body have you prepared for me; <sup>6</sup>in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. <sup>7</sup>Then I said, "Behold, I have come to do your will, O God, as it is written of me in the scroll of the book."<sup>8</sup>When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), <sup>9</sup>then he added, "Behold, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. <sup>10</sup>And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

**Alleluia & Verse** . . . . . Page 190

**Holy Gospel** . . . . . Page 190

Luke 1:39-56

<sup>39</sup>In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, <sup>40</sup>and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. <sup>41</sup>And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, <sup>42</sup>and she exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! <sup>43</sup>And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? <sup>44</sup>For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. <sup>45</sup>And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord."

<sup>46</sup>And Mary said,  
"My soul magnifies the Lord,

<sup>47</sup>and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,  
<sup>48</sup>for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant.  
 For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed;  
<sup>49</sup>for he who is mighty has done great things for me,  
 and holy is his name.  
<sup>50</sup>And his mercy is for those who fear him  
 from generation to generation.  
<sup>51</sup>He has shown strength with his arm;  
 he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts;  
<sup>52</sup>he has brought down the mighty from their thrones  
 and exalted those of humble estate;  
<sup>53</sup>he has filled the hungry with good things,  
 and the rich he has sent empty away.  
<sup>54</sup>He has helped his servant Israel,  
 in remembrance of his mercy,  
<sup>55</sup>as he spoke to our fathers,  
 to Abraham and to his offspring forever.”  
<sup>56</sup>And Mary remained with her about three months and returned to her  
 home.

**Creed**..... Page 191/192

**Children’s Message**

**Hymn of the Day** ..... #357 – Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel

**The Sermon** ..... *The Baby Leaped* - Luke 1:39-45 [46-55]

*Want to read along, miss a sermon, need some inspiration, need a review of church doctrine? Check out Pastor Bogs’ blog at: rabswritings.blogspot.com or Pastor Mendez’s blog at: pastormendez.blogspot.com.*

**Introduction**

Today is \_\_\_\_\_ .

**Review**

First we have been getting \_\_\_\_\_ .

Second, we get ourselves ready for \_\_\_\_\_ .

The promises have been fulfilled, \_\_\_\_\_ .

The angel appeared to \_\_\_\_\_ .

**Mary Makes Hast to Elisabeth’s**

At Mary’s word \_\_\_\_\_ .

Luke uses the same word \_\_\_\_\_ .

Elisabeth acknowledges \_\_\_\_\_ .

**Mary’s Song**

Mary’s response was a response of \_\_\_\_\_ .

Mary praise God because of \_\_\_\_\_ .

Mary acknowledges God’s \_\_\_\_\_ .

Mary praises God for \_\_\_\_\_ .

**As We Approach the End of This Advent Season**

We acknowledge \_\_\_\_\_ .

Through the year \_\_\_\_\_ .

Advent is the time \_\_\_\_\_ .

During Advent we acknowledge \_\_\_\_\_ .

We have watched \_\_\_\_\_ .

**Other Notes or Questions for Pastor:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Offertory**..... Page 192

**Offering & Prayer of the Church** ..... Page 193

*Our First Fruits and Tithes are our regular, top priority, proportionate, grateful gifts to the Lord for the work of the Gospel. Our Offerings are special gifts for special causes over and above our tithes. This is an act of worship for members and friends of St. Matthew who are moved by God’s love to respond to the Gospel. Guests should not feel obligated to participate.*

✠ ✠ ✠ **Service of the Sacrament** ✠ ✠ ✠

**Preface** ..... Page 194

It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

**Sanctus** ..... Page 195

**Lord’s Prayer** ..... Page 196

**The Words of Our Lord & Pax Domini**..... Page 197

**Agnus Dei** ..... Page 198

**Distribution** ..... Page 199

*Before partaking of the Lord’s Supper, we ask that you read our communion statement on the pew insert behind the Bible. Thank you.*

**Distribution Hymns**..... #934 – My Soul Now Magnifies the Lord  
 #933 – My Soul Rejoices  
 #935 - Tell Out, My Soul, the Greatness of the Lord

**Nunc Dimittis** ..... Page 199

**Thanksgiving** ..... Page 200

**Salutation & Benedicamus** ..... Page 201

**Benediction** ..... Page 202

**Closing Hymn**..... #346 - When All the World Was Cursed