

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 21, 2008

PRELUDE A Carol Fantasy (8:00 & 9:00 a.m.)
Variations on Noel (Grand Jeu et Duo) (10:30 a.m.) D'Aquin

ANNOUNCEMENTS/TEMPLE TALK

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
who is the light and life of all the ages.

Amen.

Trusting in Jesus Christ,
who came to share our humanity
and bring light to this broken world,
let us come before God without fear to make our confession.
Silence is kept for reflection.

Comforting God,
**we confess before you and in the presence of one another
that we are sinners who fail to live as you desire.
So often we place our trust in ourselves and not in you.
We do not love each other as you have commanded.
Because of us, your whole creation suffers.
For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, forgive us.
In your boundless patience and mercy,
lead us to live by faith in your promise.
Amen.**

God's love for us is greater than all our sins.
God promises full pardon and complete forgiveness
to all who turn from sin
and place their trust in Christ, the light of the world.
Hear and believe the good news that all your sins are forgiven.
With God nothing is impossible.
Amen.

Silence is kept for reflection.

GATHERING SONG	<i>Savior of the Nations Come</i>	#263
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GREETING p. 147

KYRIE

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.**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

O Come, O Come Emmanuel (vs. 1) #257

**O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

FIRST LESSON 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION p. 151

GOSPEL Luke 1:26-38

SERMON "Excuse Me God, What Did You Say?"

HYMN	<i>Blessed Be the God of Israel</i>	#250
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THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM (10:30 a.m.) p. 227

Lucas James Lingle, son of Brad & Flavia (Martins) Lingle, born November 30, 2008

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION p. 152
Lord in your mercy...
Hear our prayer.

THE PEACE p. 152
OFFERING *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming (8:00 & 9:00 a.m.)*
Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming (10:30 a.m.) Distler

***OFFERTORY** *Hark, the Glad Sound!* #239
*Hark, the glad sound! The Savior comes, the Savior promised long;
let ev'ry heart prepare a throne and ev'ry voice a song.
Our glad hosannas, Prince of peace, your welcome shall proclaim,
and heav'n's eternal arches ring with your beloved name.*

***GREAT THANKSGIVING** p. 152
THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE p. 153
LORD'S PRAYER p. 154
LAMB OF GOD p. 154

COMMUNION SONGS *I Wonder As I Wander (8:00 & 9:00 a.m.)*
Peace Came to Earth #285
Comfort, Comfort Now My People #256
Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus #254

BLESSING p. 146
***SONG AFTER COMMUNION** *Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers* #244
*Our hope and expectation, O Jesus, now appear; arise, O Sun so longed for, o'er this
benighted sphere. With hearts and hands uplifted, we plead,
O Lord, to see the day of earth's redemption that sets your people free!*

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**
BENEDICTION

SENDING SONG	<i>Joy to the World</i>	#267
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DISMISSAL p. 146
POSTLUDE *Swiss Noel* D'Aquin

WELCOME TO THE LORD'S TABLE

Bethany welcomes all baptized Christians who have celebrated their first communion to join in receiving the body and blood of Christ in Holy Communion.
An usher will direct you when to come forward for the distribution.
You will receive the wafer in your hand which you may then dip in the wine.

We are glad that you joined us for worship today!
Please let us know how we may serve you by filling out a Welcome Card found in the pew rack. If you would like information about the ministries of Bethany, visit the Hospitality Center located in the narthex or our website at www.bethany-denver.org.
We invite you to stay after worship for refreshments served in the Fellowship Hall.

WORSHIP LEADERS

PREACHER	Pastor Ruth Ann Loughry
PRESIDER	Pastor Ron Glusenkamp
ORGANIST	Kathy Eggleston
LECTORS	Laura Weber-Meyers (8:00 a.m.) Sarah Hulslander (9:00 a.m.) Judith Voigt (10:30 a.m.)
CANTORS	Kirsten Nelson Roenfeldt (8:00 & 9:00 a.m.) Lindsey Whitaker (10:30 a.m.)
MUSICIANS	Carillons, Director: Lisa Lewis (8:00 & 9:00 a.m.) Kirsten Nelson Roenfeldt, soloist (8:00 & 9:00 a.m.) Chancel Choir, Director: Dan Grace (10:30 a.m.) Sylvia Boedeker, Sarah Hulslander Mary Ann Sine & Barb Janzen (8:00 a.m.) John, Penny, Sarah & Tess Selden (9:00 a.m.) The Mitch Chambers, JC Chambers & Ross Cone families (10:30 a.m.)
ADVENT CANDLELIGHTERS	Jean Scott (8:00 a.m.)
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	Peggy Furgason & Diane Herrmann (9:00 a.m.) Matthew Strang & Matt Mortinsen (8:00 a.m.) Calli Floyd & Sara Hanson (9:00 a.m.) Haley Pluchek & Michael Plath (10:30 a.m.)
ACOLYTES	Gary Miller, Steve Esterline, Scott Scholbe David Scott, Bud Setzer, Richard Will (8:00 a.m.) Neal Schuessler, Gary Steckler, Lee Engelbart Bill Hermann, Kevin McAuliffe, Jeanette Thorsen, Bruce Thorsen Dave Admire, Nancy Admire (9:00 a.m.) Bill King, Al Baumbach Darrell Rasmussen, Lowell Palmquist, Fred Kluppel (10:30 a.m.)
USHERS	David Sather
SOUND TECHNICIAN	Andrea Spronk, Kendra Brayton
DECEMBER ALTAR GUILD	Loretta Fischer, Susan Spancers Mona Palmquist, Jean Hossfeld John Brayton, Katie Dragseth Dave Malucky, Beth Nixon
DECEMBER SACRISTANS	

- ❖ The page number **p.** refers to the Order of Service in the front of the ELW.
- ❖ The # symbol refers to hymns and service music found after the Psalms.
- ❖ The * indicates liturgy that is omitted at the 8:00 a.m. service.
- ❖ Large print version available at the Hospitality Center.

Bethany's Mission, Vision & Goals Worship Meaningfully; Grow Spiritually; Serve Purposefully; Share Fellowship; Witness Intentionally