

First Presbyterian Church of Rolla
Worship Service on the Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 20, 2020

Welcome

Minute for Mission: Christmas Joy Offering

Prelude: Look Towards the Manger – James Mansfield

Call to Worship

My soul magnifies the Lord.
My spirit rejoices in God my savior.
For the Mighty One has done great things,
and holy is God's name.

Advent Candle: Love

Reflection by Javier Valentin-Sivico and Millie Rodriguez

Prayer of the Day

**Mighty God, your faithfulness is magnified in the coming of your Son,
in the long-awaited birth of the promised Messiah.
May we, like Mary, proclaim your greatness
as we rejoice in our Savior, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Hymn: O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Prayers of Intercession and 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us
not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Psalm Lesson: Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26

I will sing of your steadfast love, O Lord, forever; with my mouth I will proclaim your
faithfulness to all generations.

I declare that your steadfast love is established forever; your faithfulness is as firm as
the heavens.

**You said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one, I have sworn to
my servant David:**

**'I will establish your descendants forever, and build your throne for all
generations.'**"

Then you spoke in a vision to your faithful one, and said: "I have set the crown on one
who is mighty, I have exalted one chosen from the people.

I have found my servant David; with my holy oil I have anointed him;
my hand shall always remain with him; my arm also shall strengthen him.

**The enemy shall not outwit him, the wicked shall not humble him.
I will crush his foes before him and strike down those who hate him.**
My faithfulness and steadfast love shall be with him; and in my name his horn shall
be exalted.
I will set his hand on the sea and his right hand on the rivers.
**He shall cry to me, ‘You are my Father, my God, and the Rock of my
salvation!’**

New Testament: Romans 16:25-27

Gospel Lesson: Luke 1:26-38

Sermon: Love

Rev. Lou Ellen Hartley

Hymn: *Love Divine, All Love’s Excelling*

Charge

Blessing

Postlude: *Prelude in g minor* – Craig A. Penfield

Questions for Reflection

Mary’s song proclaims that God is lifting up the lowly while scattering the proud, and feeding the hungry while sending the rich away with empty hands. How does this change the way you think about God’s coming reign of justice and favor? How does this change the way you live?

Household Prayer: Morning

Expectant God,
Mary sings because she has new life in her,
the promise of your salvation.
Fill me with hope this day
as I lift my life to you and seek to do your will.
Look with favor on our world and all who are in need,
that your love may be magnified as I follow humbly in your way. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Lord, as I come to you seeking rest this night,
I pray that all may find a home in you,
be disturbed by no one,
and be free of the afflictions of the evil one,
for you, O God, are mighty to save. Amen.

*A portion of this service is drawn from Feasting on the Word, used by permission.
Scriptures are read from the NRSV translation. Music performed by Lorie Francis and
Jeff Sandquist.*