

Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer

Welcome. A blessed Advent to you! Today as we worship, we begin the season of anticipation, hope and preparation for the coming Messiah. Welcome pads are at the end of each pew; please sign your name and pass it along.

Sunday, December 2, 2018, 8:30am

First Sunday of Advent

Welcome

Mission Opportunities and Sharing of the Peace

Invocation, Confession and Forgiveness

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Lighting of the Advent Candle

“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.

(Refrain) Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel

Shall come to you, O Israel.

O come, O Wisdom from on high, embracing all things far and nigh:
in strength and beauty come and stay; teach us your will and guide our way. *(Refrain)*

O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times you gave the law in cloud, and majesty, and awe. *(Refrain)*

Prayer of the Day

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Special Music

“An Advent Prayer” by Allen Pote Praise & Rejoice Choir
Directed by Arlene Brandt-Jenson
Accompanied by Mary Wika

Psalm

Psalm 25:1-10

¹To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

²**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

³Let none who look to you be put to shame; rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

⁴**Show me your ways, O LORD, and teach me your paths.**

⁵Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

⁶**Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.**

⁷Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.

⁸**You are gracious and upright, O LORD; therefore you teach sinners in your way.**

⁹You lead the lowly in justice and teach the lowly your way.

¹⁰**All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast love and faithfulness
to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.**

Lesson

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Upon Timothy's report from the congregation at Thessalonica, Paul is exuberant with gratitude for them. In this passage from his letter, Paul voices overflowing thanks, joy, and blessings for the people of this growing church.

⁹How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? ¹⁰Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

¹¹Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. ¹²And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. ¹³And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Gospel

Luke 3:1-6

¹In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, ²during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, ⁴as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord,

make his paths straight.

⁵Every valley shall be filled,

and every mountain and hill shall be made low,

and the crooked shall be made straight,

and the rough ways made smooth;

⁶and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Good News in the Details

Pastor Kent Stillson

Song

"Bring Your Mercy"

(Chorus) Bring your mercy, bring your mercy, bring your mercy Lord. *(repeat)*

To those who are distant. To those who are here.

To those with resistance. Those who live in fear. *(Chorus)*

To our hidden places only you can see.

To the many faces yearning to be free. *(Chorus)*

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Stewardship Temple Talk

Offering

Prayer Song

“What Shall I Give”

What shall I give to you? What shall I give to you?

Oh, that we could give like the rain, pouring out on rich and poor the same.

Oh, that we could give like the sun, shining light on ev'ry one.

What shall I give to you? What shall I give to you?

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Prayers of the Church

Hospitalized/ill: Beth Garnos, Holly Schimmel, Roberta Hagen, Dianna Lambert, Greg Dubois, Shelley Hardie, Christine Walraven, Gary Thoreson, Elden Hemme, Pastor Dan Ofstehage, Sonya Benson, Chad Lambert, Stan Peterson, John Olson, *brother of Lesa (Tom) Franken* Josh Anderson, *grandson of Merle & Terri Bruner* Pete Carlson, *son of Jerry & Marvel Carlson* Darcy Chapman, *daughter of Marilyn Chapman* Ruben Speidel, *grandfather of the Pletan family* Donnie Ammon, *cousin of Nancy Slostad* John Lahey-Wiggs, *brother of Chala (Tom) Lechner* Jim Wiggs, *brother of Chala (Tom) Lechner*

Death: Merle Bruner

Prayer Song

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Holy Communion

Words of Institution – The Lord’s Prayer – Distribution

Extended Altar – Holy Communion delivered to shut-ins by lay people.

“The Weaver’s Hands”

(Chorus) All around me are the wonders of the weavers hands.

In God’s tapestry each one a woven strand.

All around me are the wonders of the weavers hands.

You are there when I open my eyes to welcome the new day;
Unrav’ling the tangled threads and giving strength where they fray. *(Chorus)*

You are there when I close my eyes to dream through the night;
Ev’ry color, ev’ry shape and size in one pattern unite. *(Chorus)*

Oh God my heart is full, it’s spilling over;
All the words that I possess cannot express who you are. *(Chorus)*

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“Child of the Water”

(Chorus) You’re a child of the water, child of the word,
Guided by promise and stories you’ve heard.
God of the wounded knows you by name
And carries you home ev’ry day.

From the first breath to the last step, all of the dance;
Down deep in your laughter, whatever your fears try to remember *(Chorus)*

Life is a gift Time carries on And you will grow
Amidst your believing And throughout your doubt Something is sure *(Chorus)*

We journey together As children of God Sealed by the cross *(Chorus 2x)*

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Post Communion Blessing

Benediction

Sending Song

“Torn Be the Heavens”

tune: *Joy to the World*

Torn be the heav’ns; the mountains break Before your mighty throne.

Within your holy presence, all mortal ones do quake

All space and time you own. All space and time you own.

All space, all space, and time you own!

A God like you, no ear has heard, Nor eye has ever seen.

Our sins we cannot hide before your holy Word.

Oh, come, and wash us clean. Oh, come, and wash us clean.

Oh, come, oh, come, and wash us clean!

You are the potter, we the clay. Your hands have formed our frame.

Look on us once again, your anger take away.

We call upon your name. We call upon your name.

We call, we call upon your name!

Call to Service

Pastor: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

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are available. Just ask an Usher.*

Serving This Morning

Worship Team directed by Jim Miller

Head Ushers: Darwin Brinkman, Steve Kjellsen

Acolytes: Keslar Swenson, Logan Koll

Greeters:

Sound & Projection: Pam Berg, Pete Juba

Lector: Pam Raeder

Ushers: Dave Wicks

Communion Assistants: Dave Wicks

Sunday Morning Helpers: Terry & Brenda Rydell

Coffee Servers:

Welcome Center: Lynn Langner, Darlene Bailey

Altar Committee: Deb Titze, Michele Hopper