

First Reading: Isaiah 7:10-16

¹⁰ Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, ¹¹ “Ask the Lord your God for a sign, whether in the deepest depths or in the highest heights.” ¹² But Ahaz said, “I will not ask; I will not put the Lord to the test.” ¹³ Then Isaiah said, “Hear now, you house of David! Is it not enough to try the patience of humans? Will you try the patience of my God also? ¹⁴ Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel. ¹⁵ He will be eating curds and honey when he knows enough to reject the wrong and choose the right, ¹⁶ for before the boy knows enough to reject the wrong and choose the right, the land of the two kings you dread will be laid waste.

Gospel Acclamation: “Blessed Is The One” (stand as you are able)

Blessed is the one who comes in the name, who comes in the name of the Lord.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name, who comes in the name of the Lord.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 1:18-25

¹⁸ This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly. ²⁰ But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.” ²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: ²³ “The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel” (which means “God with us”). ²⁴ When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. ²⁵ But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

P: This is the Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Children’s Message: Pastor Eric Hanson

Sermon: Pastor Eric Hanson

Hymn of the Day & Offering: “Borning Cry”

Offerings will be collected during the hymn of the day. Thank you also to those who give online. If you’d like to sign up for online giving please visit <http://www.stlukegoodhue.org/online-giving.html>. Children’s coin offering will go toward ELCA Good Gifts serving communities in need around the world.

Vs 1: I was there to hear your borning cry, I’ll be there when you are old.

I rejoiced the day you were baptized, to see your life unfold.

I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well;

In a blaze of light you wandered off to find where demons dwell.

Vs 2: When you heard the wonder of the Word I was there to cheer you on;

You were raised to praise the living Lord, to whom you now belong.

If you find someone to share your time and you join your hearts as one,

I’ll be there to make your verses rhyme from dusk ‘till rising sun.”

Vs 3: In the middle ages of your life, not too old, no longer young,

I’ll be there to guide you through the night, complete what I’ve begun.

When the evening gently closes in, and you shut your weary eyes,

I’ll be there as I have always been with just one more surprise.”

Vs 4: I was there to hear your borning cry, I’ll be there when you are old.

I rejoiced the day you were baptized, to see your life unfold.”

Offertory Response: “Give Thanks” Ushers may bring offering forward.

Give thanks with a grateful heart. Give thanks to the Holy One.

Give thanks because He’s given Jesus Christ, His Son.

And now let the weak say, “I am strong”.

Let the poor say, “I am rich Because of what the Lord has done for us”. Give thanks.

Offertory Prayer:

P: Let us pray.

C: Eternal God, you make the desert bloom and send springs of water to thirsty ground. Receive these simple gifts of bread, wine, and money, and make us messengers of your mercy and love for all in need of your healing and justice. We ask this through Christ our Savior. Amen.

Baptism of Bridget Diane Dankers

Choir Hymn: “We Are Waiting For Jesus”

The Prayers: (call and response)

As we prepare for the fullness of Christ’s presence, let us pray for a world that yearns for new hope. A *brief silence*. God our shepherd, let your Spirit move with power throughout the church. Give discernment and wisdom to our bishops, pastors, deacons, and lay leaders. Take away our fear, so that we serve and love, confident that you are guiding us. God, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

God our source, awaken us to the beauty of the earth and the marvelous variety of life. Unite humankind in repairing and caring for your creation. Protect creatures and habitats in peril due to rising seas and warming temperatures. God, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

God our vision, raise up leaders in every nation who dream of freedom and justice for all people. We pray for the work of international organizations that promote peace and human rights, especially Amnesty International. God, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

God our helper, come to the aid of all who cry out to you. Shelter migrants, refugees, and those fleeing war and famine. Bring relief to individuals and families experiencing hunger, homelessness, or impoverishment. Comfort any who are isolated or lonely. God in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

God our Emmanuel, you are with us in our life together. We give you thanks for gathering us in worship and fellowship, and we remember those who cannot be present. Watch over those who travel. Heal the sick and speed their recovery especially; Keith Brown, Dolly Mensink, Sara Nolte, Judy Carpenter, Nancy Nord, Larry Reese, Jan Benidt, Neil Stehr, Dave (Pud) Gnotke, Jen Berg, Marilyn O’Brien, Karen O’Reilly, Kellie Peterson, Peg Campbell, and the family of Joyce Balcome. God, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

God our hope, you bring life out of death, and you promise to be our God forever. Shine upon the faithful who now rest in the fulfillment of your promise and bring us also into your blessed reign of peace. God, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

God of our longing, you know our deepest needs. By your Spirit, gather our prayers and join them with the prayers of all your children. In Jesus’ name we pray. **Amen.**

Sharing the Peace: P: The peace of Christ be with you always,

C: And also with you.

The Great Thanksgiving:

P: The Lord be with you **C: And also with you**

P: Lift up your hearts. **C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **C: It is right to give Him thanks & praise.**

The Words of Institution

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Meal and Hymns:

All are welcome at this meal. We believe in the saving power of Jesus Christ through the gift of his life, death, and resurrection experienced in bread and wine.

Please move forward via the center aisle. Bread is received in the hands. Wine is received by dipping the bread into the wine chalice and consuming both together. All ages are welcome to commune. Those not communing may receive a blessing by simply keeping your hands folded or extending your arms over your chest in the sign of a cross inviting blessing. For those unable to consume either wine or bread, communion is received fully in either element alone, for Christ is fully present in the meal. You may return to your seats via the side aisles after communing. Gluten-free is available, simply make the server aware of your need. Also, if you cannot come forward, but wish for communion or blessing, let the usher know it will come to you at the end.

“Of The Fathers Love Begotten” #295

Vs 1: Of the Father’s love begotten ere the worlds began to be, he is Alpha and Omega, he the Source, the Ending he, of the things that are, that have been, & that future years shall see, evermore & evermore!

Vs 2: O that birth forever blessed, when the Virgin, full of grace, by the Holy Ghost conceiving, bore the Savior of our race; & the babe, the world’s Redeemer, first revealed his sacred face, evermore & evermore!

Vs 3: This is he whom seers in old time changed of with one accord, whom the voices of the prophets promised in their faithful word; now he shines, the long expected; let creation praise its Lord, evermore & evermore!

Vs 4: Let the heights of heav’n, adore him; angel hosts, his praises sing; pow’rs, dominions, bow before him & extol our God & King; let no tongue on earth be silent, ev’ry voice in concert ring, evermore & evermore!

Vs 5: Christ, to thee, with God the Father, &, O Holy Ghost, to thee, hymn & chant & high thanksgiving & unwearied praises be, honor, glory, and dominion and eternal victory, evermore and evermore!

Communion Prayer:

P: Let us pray.

C: Faithful God, in this meal you have remembered your mercy, bringing heaven to earth in the body and blood of Christ. As we wait for the day when all your promises will be fulfilled, sustain us and strengthen us by this holy mystery. Guide us toward your promised future, coming to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The Blessing: *(please stand as you are able)*

P: May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. May the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. Amen.

Sending Hymn: “Soon & Very Soon” #439

Vs 1: Soon & very soon we are goin’ to see the King. 3X Hallelujah, hallelujah, we’re goin’ to see the King!

Vs 2: No more cryin’ there we are goin’ to see the King. 3X Hallelujah, hallelujah, we’re goin’ to see the King!

Vs 3: No more dyin’ there, we are goin’ to see the King. 3X Hallelujah, hallelujah, we’re goin’ to see the King!

Vs 4: Soon & very soon we are goin’ to see the King. 3X Hallelujah, hallelujah, we’re goin’ to see the King!
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah.

Dismissal: P: The world waits for Christ. You are the body of Christ. Go be His hands and feet.

C: Thanks be to God!

Postlude *Pianist, Debbi St. John*



Prelude: *Pianist, Debbi St. John*

Welcome & Announcements

Stewardship Financial Update: *Robert Hinsch*

Greeting: *(please stand as you are able)*

P: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

Confession and Forgiveness:

P: In Advent we prepare for the coming of Christ. Let us open our hearts to God’s mercy. Together we confess our sins,

C: Gracious God, we confess that we have sinned against you, and against our brothers and sisters. Our words and deeds have not proclaimed your reign of justice and truth. We have failed to watch and pray for the signs of your advent among us. Forgive our sin, and come quickly to save us.

P: Children of God, the advent of Christ brings the promise of grace. Through Jesus Christ your sins are forgiven. Live reconciled to each other. Amen.

Gathering Hymn: “O Come, O Come Emmanuel” vs. 6, 7, 8 #257

Vs 6: O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer, O Sun of justice,
now draw near Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death’s dark shadow put to flight.

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

Vs 7: O come, O King of nations, come, O Cornerstone that binds in one:
refresh the hearts that long for you; restore the broken, make us new. [Refrain]

Vs 8: O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. [Refrain]

Advent Reflection: *read by Aleaha Hanson*

We have lit three candles—for hope, for peace, and for joy. Today we light the fourth candle—the candle of love. With this flame we signify the love of God that surrounds and fills us at all times, but that we recognize in a special way in the Christmas story. There is no greater power than love. It is stronger than rulers and empires, stronger than grief or despair, stronger even than death. We love because God loves us.

Advent Prayer: *read by Aleaha Hanson*

Love - Dear God, as our advent pilgrimage draws to completion, grant us the courage to share your love. Love for the unexpected challenge, love for the vulnerable one. Love for the presence of God. Amen.

Lighting of the Advent Candles & Hymn: “Light one candle to watch for Messiah” vs. 4 #240

Vs 4: Light four candles to watch for Messiah: let the light banish darkness.
He is coming, tell the glad tidings. Let your lights be shining!

St. Luke Lutheran Church · 308 First Ave. PO Box 276 Goodhue, MN 55027

Sunday School 8:30AM · Sunday Worship: 9:30AM · Wednesday Worship: 6:45PM

Pastor Eric Hanson · Cell: 612-834-2149 · E: anspachh2002@gmail.com

www.stlukegoodhue.org · P: 651-923-4695 · E: office@stlukegoodhue.org · FB: @stlukegoodhue

Organist: Debbi St. John · Administrative Assistant: Tara Marklevits

Faith Formation Facilitator: Nicole Wananda · Treasurer: Sara Nolte