

he will slay the wicked. ⁵Righteousness will be his belt and faithfulness the sash around his waist. ⁶The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and a little child will lead them. ⁷The cow will feed with the bear, their young will lie down together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox. ⁸The infant will play near the cobra's den, and the young child will put its hand into the viper's nest. ⁹They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. ¹⁰In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples; the nations will rally to him, and his resting place will be glorious.

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 3:1-12

¹In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the wilderness of Judea ²and saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” ³This is he who was spoken of through the prophet Isaiah: “A voice of one calling in the wilderness, ‘Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.’” ⁴John’s clothes were made of camel’s hair, and he had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵People went out to him from Jerusalem and all Judea and the whole region of the Jordan. ⁶Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. ⁷But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to where he was baptizing, he said to them: “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? ⁸Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. ⁹And do not think you can say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. ¹⁰The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire. ¹¹“I baptize you with water for repentance. But after me comes one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹²His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor, gathering his wheat into the barn and burning up the chaff with unquenchable fire.”

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.

Baptism of Bryson Lee Anderson

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, you renew the church in every age. We give thanks for hymn writers and theologians. Inspire teachers, writers, and musicians to delight and instruct your people. God, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

You give us a vision of creation in harmony, when hurting and destruction will be no more. Teach us to be stewards of the earth and companions to its creatures. Restore to balance and wholeness what human greed has harmed. God, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

You defend the cause of all who are poor and oppressed. Raise up leaders who will govern with equity and serve the common good. Guide judges, lawmakers, and public officials to protect the rights of those who cannot advocate for themselves. God, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

You deliver those in need from suffering and fear. Come to the aid of any who are exploited or abused, especially children, elders, and victims of human trafficking. Provide safety and help to our neighbors without shelter, refugees, and those fleeing violence. God in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

You urge your people to welcome one another as you have welcomed us. Nurture ministries of hospitality and care in this and every congregation. We pray for people who are homebound, hospitalized, or separated from loved ones 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, and Kellie Peterson. God, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

You embrace all who have died trusting in your promises, and we give thanks for their faithful witness. Sustain us in hope until we are united with them in the joy of your eternal presence. 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.

“O Christ The Same”

Vs 1: O Christ the same, through all our story’s pages--our loves and hopes, our failures and our fears;
eternal Lord, the king of all the ages, unchanging still amid the passing years:
O living Word, the source of all creation, who spread the skies and set the stars ablaze;
O Christ the same, who wrought our whole salvation, we bring our thanks for all our yesterdays.

Vs 2: O Christ the same, the friend of sinners, sharing our inmost thoughts, the secrets none can hide;
still as of old upon your body bearing the marks of love in triumph glorified.
O Son of Man, who stooped for us from heaven--O Prince of life, in all your saving power;
O Christ the same, to whom our hearts are given: we bring our thanks for this the present hour.

Vs 3: O Christ the same, secure within whose keeping our lives and loves, our days and years remain;
our work and rest, our waking and our sleeping, our calm and storm, our pleasure and our pain:
O Lord of love, for all our joys and sorrows, for all our hopes when earth shall fade and flee;
O Christ the same, beyond our brief tomorrows, we bring our thanks for all that is to be.

Communion Prayer:

P: Let us pray.

C: God for whom we wait, in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of your name, through 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: *“There Is A Longing In Our Hearts, O God”*

Refrain: There is a longing in our hearts, O Lord, for you to reveal yourself to us.
There is a longing in our hearts for love we only find in you, our God.

Vs 1: For justice, for freedom, for mercy: hear our prayer.
In sorrow, in grief: be near; hear our prayer, O God. [Refrain]

Vs 2: For wisdom, for courage, for comfort: hear our prayer.
In weakness, in fear: be near; hear our prayer, O God. [Refrain]

Vs 3: For healing, for wholeness, for new life: hear our prayer.
In sickness, in death: be near; hear our prayer, O God. [Refrain]

Vs 4: Lord, save us, take pity, light in our deepest night.
We call you; we wait: be near; hear our prayer, O God. [Refrain]

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*



St. Luke Lutheran Church • Pastor Eric Hanson

9:30AM • December 4, 2022

Prelude: *Pianist, Debbi St. John*

Welcome & Announcements

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. 2, 3 #257

Vs 2: O come, O Wisdom from on high, embracing all things far and nigh; in strength & beauty come & stay; teach us your will & guide our way. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

Vs 3: 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. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

Advent Reflection: *read by Issie Mitchell*

Last Sunday we lit the first candle – the hope candle. Today we light the second candle, the candle of peace. We light it knowing full well that peace is elusive, and in some parts of the world, it is almost completely absent. Yet in this season of Advent, we trust that God is never absent from us. God is always preparing something new. And even where there is war and discord, whether between countries, within families, or within our own hearts, God is present, gently leading us to new possibilities.

Advent Prayer: *read by Issie Mitchell*

Peace - Dear God, as we journey down this advent road, grant us the courage to make peace.
Peace in our hearts, Peace in our homes, Peace in our communities. Amen.

Lighting of the Advent Candles & Hymn: *“Light one candle to watch for Messiah”* vs 2 #240

Vs 2: Light two candles to watch for Messiah: let the light banish darkness.
He shall feed the flock like a shepherd, gently lead them homeward.

First Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10

¹A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. ²The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him – the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of might, the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the Lord – ³and he will delight in the fear of the Lord. He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears with his ears; ⁴but with righteousness he will judge the needy, with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth. He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth; with the breath of his lips

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

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