

First Sunday of Advent

St. Luke Lutheran Church • Pastor Eric Hanson
9:30AM • November 28, 2021

Prelude *Pianist, Debbi St. John*

Welcome and Announcements

Greeting *(please stand as you are able)*

P: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, & 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. Almighty God,

C: 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: *(you may be seated)* "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" vs.1,2 #257

Vs 1: 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.

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.

Advent Reflection: *read by Torrie Luhman* The Gospel of John speaks of Christ as the true light coming into the world. In commemoration of that coming, we light candles for the four weeks leading to Christmas and reflect on the coming Christ. It is significant that the church has always used that language—the coming of Christ—because it speaks to a deep truth. Christ is coming. Christ is always coming, always entering a troubled world, a wounded heart. And so we light the first candle, the candle of hope, and dare to express our longing for peace, for healing, and the well-being of creation.

Advent Prayer: *read by Torrie Luhman* *Hope:* Dear God, as we begin our advent pilgrimage, grant us the courage to hope. Hope for your presence, hope for your peace, hope for your promise. Amen.

Lighting of Advent Candle & Hymn: "Light one candle to watch for Messiah" vs.1 #240

**Verse 1: Light one candle to watch for Messiah: let the light banish darkness.
He shall bring salvation to Israel, God fulfills the promise.**

First Reading - Jeremiah 33:14-16 ¹⁴“The days are coming,” declares the Lord, “when I will fulfill the good promise I made to the people of Israel and Judah. ¹⁵“In those days and at that time I will make a righteous Branch sprout from David’s line; he will do what is just and right in the land. ¹⁶In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. This is the name by which it will be called: The Lord Our Righteous Savior.”

Gospel Acclamation: "Celtic Alleluia" *(Stand as you are able)* **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. 2X**

Gospel Reading - Luke 21:25-36 ²⁵“There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea. ²⁶People will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the heavenly bodies will be shaken. ²⁷At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. ²⁸When these things begin to take place, stand up & lift up your heads, because because your redemption is drawing near.” ²⁹He told them this parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees. ³⁰When they sprout leaves, you can see for yourselves and know that summer is near. ³¹Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³²“Truly I tell you, this generation will certainly not pass

away until all these things have happened. ³³ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away. ³⁴ "Be careful, or your hearts will be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness and the anxieties of life, and that day will close on you suddenly like a trap. ³⁵ For it will come on all those who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶ Be always on the watch, and pray that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen, and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man."

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

Children's Message: *Pastor Eric Hanson*

Sermon: *Pastor Eric Hanson*

Hymn of the Day: *"My Lord What A Morning"* #438

Offering plates are passed during the Hymn of the Day. Thank you to those who give through Online Giving. To sign up for online giving, please visit our website at <http://www.stlukegoodhue.org/index.html> and click the Online Giving button. St. Luke thanks you for your gifts.

**Refrain: My Lord, what a morning; my Lord, what a morning;
oh, my Lord, what a morning, when the stars begin to fall.**

**Vs. 1: You will hear the trumpet sound, to wake the nations underground,
looking to my God's right hand, when the stars begin to fall. [Refrain]**

**Vs. 2: You will hear the sinner cry, to wake the nations underground,
looking to my God's right hand, when the stars begin to fall. [Refrain]**

**Vs. 3: You will hear the Christian shout, to wake the nations underground,
looking to my God's right hand, when the stars begin to fall. [Refrain]**

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, & 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, & he will come to judge the living & 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, & the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers: *(call and response) read by Jerry Tipcke*

In this season of watching and waiting, let us pray for all people and places that yearn for God's presence. *A brief silence.* God of presence and peace, strengthen your church around the globe to proclaim the message of your love coming to the world. Open our hearts to recognize your face in all people and in all of creation. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of mighty redwoods and microscopic plants, fields and city parks, the wind and the waves, be a healing balm to our wounded planet. May we nurture what you have lovingly created. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of equity and compassion, bring righteousness and goodness to all peoples of the earth. Give a heart of discernment and integrity to leaders in our communities. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of comfort and care, be present with those who watch and wait. Come to all who await births, deaths, divorces, new unions, new jobs, retirements, healing, and life transitions of every kind especially: Keith Brown, Dolly Mensink, Dean Kirkland, Finley Budensiek, Sara Nolte, Mark Jacobson, Deb Huneke, Jill Louise Plank, Gabriel Ryan, Roger Kurtti, Ross Schrimpf, Judy Carpenter, Blake Carlson, Joan Quiggle, Donald & Nancy Nord, Josh & Brooke Budensiek family, Rick Buck and Ben Haenel. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of promises kept and new dreams awakened, shelter your people from destructive storms. We pray for those whose lives have been upended by natural disasters, for the work of Lutheran Disaster Response, Lutheran World Relief, and other relief organizations. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of companionship and community, we give you thanks for the saints who journeyed with us and now abide in you. Even in distress and uncertainty, make us confident that your promises endure forever. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of new life, you come among us in the places we least expect. Receive these prayers and those of our hearts, in the name of Jesus. **Amen.**

Sharing the Peace: L: The peace of Christ be with you always. C: **And also with you.**

Ushers bring offering forward.

Offertory Prayer: God of our waiting & watching, we offer the gifts of our hearts & our lives to the service of all your people. Prepare the way before us as we meet you in this simple meal, through Christ Jesus, our pathway and our peace. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving: L: The Lord be with you C: And also with you L: Lift up your hearts.
C: We lift them to the Lord. L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. C: It is right to give Him thanks & praise.

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.

The Meal & Hymns: *"Rejoice, Rejoice Believers"* #244

Vs 1: Rejoice, rejoice, believers, and let your lights appear! The evening is advancing, and darker night is near. The Bridegroom is arising & soon is drawing nigh;
Up, pray and watch and wrestle; At midnight comes the cry.

Vs 2: The watchers on the mountain proclaim the bridegroom near; go forth as he approaches with alleluias clear. The marriage feast is waiting; the gates wide open stand.
Arise, O heirs of glory; the bridegroom is at hand.

Vs 3: The saints, who here in patience their cross and suff'rings bore, shall live and reign forever, when sorrow is no more: Around the throne of glory the Lamb they shall behold,
in triumph cast before him their diadems of gold.

Vs 4: 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!

Communion Prayer: P: Blessed Jesus,

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.

Blessing: *(Please stand as you are able.)*

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: *"Bless the Lord O My Soul"*

Chorus: Bless the Lord, oh, my soul, oh, my soul. Worship his holy name.
Sing like never before, oh, my soul. I worship your holy name.

Vs 1. The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning, it's time to sing your song again.
Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me, let me be singing when the evening comes. [Chorus]

Vs 2. You're rich in love and you're slow to anger. Your name is great, and your heart is kind.
For all your goodness, I will keep on singing, ten thousand reasons for my heart to find. [Chorus]

Vs 3. And on that day when my strength is failing, the end draws near and my time has come;
Still, my soul will sing Your praise unending, ten thousand years and then forevermore.

Final Chorus: Bless the Lord, oh, my soul, oh, my soul. Worship his holy name. Sing like never before,
oh, my soul. I worship your holy name, worship your holy name

Dismissal: L: The world waits for Christ. You are the body of Christ. Go be His hands & feet. C: Thanks be to God!

Prelude

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

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