



St. Luke Lutheran Church • 8:30AM • November 29, 2020
The 1st Sunday in Advent

Prelude: "Prepare Ye the Way" 2X *written by Debbi St. John*

**Prepare ye the way for the Savior is coming; prepare ye the way for the babe in the stall.
Prepare ye the way, for the Savior is coming. He is coming to bring salvation to us all.**

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

(All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.)

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. C: **Amen.**

L: The Sun of righteousness shall rise with shining beams of healing. Let us gather under the wings of God's mercy. *Silence for reflection and self examination.*

L: Almighty God,

C: We confess that we have sinned against you, and against our sisters and brothers. 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. Amen

L: In the advent of Christ, the dawn from on high breaks upon us with light and healing. Through Jesus Christ, God looks with favor upon you, and forgives you all your sins. C: **Amen.**

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

Verse 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.

Verse 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 Allie Christensen*

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 of 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 all creation.

Advent Prayer: *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 Candles & 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.**

Hymn: "Prepare the Royal Highway" #264

Verse 1: Prepare the royal highway; the King of kings is near! Let ev'ry hill and valley a level road appear! Then greet the King of glory, foretold in sacred story:

Refrain: Hosanna to the Lord, for he fulfills God's word!

Verse 2: God's people, see him coming; your own eternal king! Palm branches strew before him! Spread garments! Shout & sing! God's promise will not fail you! No more shall doubt assail you! [refrain]

Verse 3: Then fling the gates wide open to greet your promised king! Your king, yet ev'ry nation its tribute too may bring. All lands will bow before him: their voices join your singing: [refrain]

Verse 4: His is no earthly kingdom: it comes from heav'n above. His rule is peace and freedom and justice, truth, and love. So let your praise be sounding for kindness so abounding: [refrain]

Prayer of the Day: Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Epistle Reading *read by Izzy O'Reilly: Isaiah 64:1-9* ¹O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence— ²as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil— to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! ³When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. ⁴From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. ⁵You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. ⁶We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. ⁷There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered[c] us into the hand of our iniquity. ⁸Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. ⁹Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

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

L: The holy gospel according to.... **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel Reading: Mark 13:24-37 *(Please stand as you are able)* ²⁴"But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, ²⁵and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. ²⁶Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. ²⁷Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. ²⁸"From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. ³¹Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. ³²"But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. ³⁵Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, ³⁶or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. ³⁷And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

L: The gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Children's Sermon: *(you may be seated)*

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: "Of the Fathers Love Begotten" #295

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

Verse 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!

Verse 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!

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

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

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)

God of power and might, tear open the heavens and come quickly to this weary world. Hear our prayers for everyone in need. *A brief silence.* We pray for the ministry we share in Christ's name. Open our hearts to your call for justice, peace, and healing. Attune us to the needs of the world as you draw near. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for this planet in need of restoration: for devastated habitats, polluted waters, thawing ice, blazing fires, swelling floods, and long-lasting droughts. Renew the face of the earth and our relationship to it. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for all people who care for others in our community and around the world. Fill them with compassion and the power to respond with justice for those who are oppressed, with welcome for those who are excluded, and with relief for those who suffer. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for people who are in crisis as the seasons change: for those without homes facing severe weather, for those who are unemployed or underemployed, and for those in poverty or facing food insecurity. Relieve their burdens, sustain their bodies, and ease their minds. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for the people in our families and congregation who live with depression, anxiety, chronic pain, addiction, and other invisible illnesses. Ease their suffering and support them when they struggle. Send us as encouragement and signs of your healing especially for; the family of Vera Austad, David Roschen, John Diercks, Ava Dicke, Jim Howard, Brad Roschen, Naomi Berland, Nathlye Benrud, Donald Hadler, Nancy & Donald Nord, Dean Kirkland, Marlene & Lloyd Roschen, Finley Budensiek, Lauren Brown, Hunter Burow, JoAnn Buck, Amber Bien, Cassidy Post, Brent Hokanson & Karl Thomforde. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We give thanks for the lives and witness of those who died while waiting for justice, peace, or healing, those whose names we know and those whose names are known only to you. Sustain all who still yearn for the completion of your redeeming work. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Draw near to us, O God, & receive our prayers for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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

Offering & Doxology: "Praise Him, Praise Him All Ye Little Children" vs.1

Verse 1: Praise Him praise Him All ye little children, God is love God is love Praise Him praise Him, All ye little children God is love God is love

Offertory Prayer: Generous God, you have created all that is, and you provide for us in every season. Bless all that we offer, that through these gifts the world will receive your blessing. In the name of Jesus, Emmanuel, we pray. C: **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 and praise.**

Salutation

Hymn: "Away In The Manger" #277

Verse 1: Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay, The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

Verse 2: The cattle are lowing; the baby awakes, But little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus; Look down from the sky and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

Verse 3: Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay. Close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care, and fit us for heaven, to live with you there.

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

Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. 2X

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

Communion Blessing and Communion Prayer: Gracious and abundant God, you have done great things for us, and we rejoice. In this bread and cup you give us life forever. In your boundless mercy, strengthen us and open our hearts to the world's needs, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. C: Amen.

Blessing (please stand as you are able)

L: May the Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor + and give you peace. C: Amen.

Sending Hymn: "Soon Very Soon!" #439

Verse 1: Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King. 3X
Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're goin' to see the King!

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

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

Verse 4: Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're goin' to see the King! Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah.

Dismissal L: You are the body of Christ raised up for the world. Go in peace. Share the good news.
C: Amen. Thanks be to God.

"Go In Peace" 3X written by Debbi St. John

Go In Peace And serve the Lord your God. Sow the seeds about the man of love.

Go into the world and tell them One by one. Go tell them what Jesus has done

St. Luke Lutheran Church

308 First Ave. PO Box 276 Goodhue, MN 55027

Pastor Eric Hanson

Cell: 612-834-2149 · E: ans pachh2002@gmail.com

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

Organist: Debbi St. John · Treasurer: Sara Nolte · Secretary: Tara Marklevits

Faith Formation Facilitator: Michelle Matthees · Custodian: Erin Gravemann

Christian Care Team: careteam@stlukegoodhue.org