



*First Sunday
of Advent
Hanging of the Greens
December 2, 2018*

WORSHIP ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

How shall we prepare this house for the birth of Jesus?

With branches of cedar, the tree of excellence and strength.

How shall we prepare this house for the eternal Christ?

With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

How shall we prepare this house for the prophet of Galilee?

With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death and resurrection.

How shall we prepare our hearts for this revelation of God?

By hearing again the words of the prophets and the promises of God.

For in the story of Jesus we see revealed the transforming power of God

We are reminded anew of God's vision of wholeness, justice and peace for all of creation. **Thanks be to God!**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, the Lord of Israel who comes to set us free, the mighty Savior who comes to show mercy, the Dawn from on high who guides us into peace. **Amen.**

Let us come before God in confession.

To you, O God, we **lift up our souls. You know us through and through; we confess our sins to you. Remember not our sins; remember us with your steadfast love. Show us your ways; teach us your paths; and lead us in justice and truth, for the sake of your goodness in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

Sisters and brothers, come with joy and draw water from the well of salvation.

Remember the gift of baptism: your sin is washed away in the name of ✝ Jesus;

you belong to Christ; you are anointed to serve. Stand up and raise your heads!

The reign of God is near. **Amen.**

GREETING

I greet you in the name of the holy Trinity ☩ one God, who gives light to those who sit in darkness, who guides our feet into the way of peace. May God, our Wonderful Counselor, our Everlasting Father, and our Prince of Peace be with you all. **And also with you.**

CANTOR: An angel went from God to a town called Nazareth to a woman whose name was Mary. The angel said to her, “Rejoice, O highly favored, for God is with you. You shall bear a child, and his name shall be Jesus, the Chosen One of God Most High.” And Mary said, “I am the servant of my God, I live to do your will”.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE: *Magnificat* (all sing)

B^b F E^b B^b B^b/D E^b

1. My___ soul pro-claims your great-ness, O God, and my spir - it re-joic - es in
2. You have cast the might - y down from their thrones, and up - lift - ed the hum - ble of

4 Cm⁷ F B^b B^b7 E^b Cm⁷ B^b/F F⁷

you,___ You have looked with love on your ser - vant here, and blessed me all my life
heart,___ You have filled the hun - gry with wondrous things, and left the wealth - y no

8 E^b/B^b B^b F/A Gm Dm E^b B^b Cm F⁷

through.___ Great and might - y are you, O Ho - ly One, strong is your kind - ness
part. ___ Great and might - y are you, O Faith - ful One, strong is your jus - tice,

12 B^b F/A Gm Dm E^b B^b Cm⁷ F⁷

ev - er - more. How you fa - vor the weak ___ and low - ly one, hum - bling the proud of heart
stong your love, As you prom - ised to Sar - ah ___ and A - bra - ham, kind - ness for - ev - er more.

17 ^{2.} F⁷ B^b F E^b B^b B^b/D E^b 3
 My_ soul pro-claims your great-ness, O God, and my spir - it re-joic-es in

21 Cm⁷ F B^b B^{b7} E^b Cm⁷
 you,_____ You have looked with love on your ser - vant here, and

24 B^b/F F⁷ E^b/B^b B^b rit. B^b/F F⁷ E^b/B^b B^b
 blessed me all my life through,___ and blessed me all my life through.____

GOD WILL SEND A LIGHT TO THE NATIONS

The lighting of candles has been part of religious worship for centuries. The Hebrews burned candles for eight days as part of their Feast of Lights. Light has been used by many religious groups to symbolize truth, while the darkness of night has been the universal symbol for evil.

Since Jesus was called "the light of the world" in the New Testament, this lighting of candles has become an important part of our Christian worship because it signifies Christ presence with us.

When Joseph and Mary presented Jesus in the temple, Simeon referred to the Christ child as "a light to lighten the Gentiles." From this statement, church leaders have used candles to symbolize the light of Christ shining throughout a broken world.

As we light these candles around the Advent wreath,. we symbolize God, Emmanuel, God with us, whose transforming power heals the world of sin and evil, war and strife, stress and turmoil, suffering and despair. Jesus embodies hope and help for those held captive by oppression. His ministry guides us to personal peace and joy through the illumination of his message of the love of God.

GATHERING SONG: *Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn* (ELW 242)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

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.**

READING: Jeremiah 33:14-16

A reading from Jeremiah.

¹⁴The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

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 compas- | sion 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 good- | ness, O LORD.

⁸**You are gracious and up- | right, O LORD;
therefore you teach sinners | in your way.**

⁹You lead the low- | ly in justice
and teach the low- | ly your way.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *Come Now, O Prince of Peace: Ososo, ososo—v. 1*



O - so - sŏ o - so - sŏ, pyong - hwa - ũi - im - gŭm
 1 Come now, O Prince of peace, make us one bod - y.
 2 Come now, O God of love, make us one bod - y.
 3 Come now and set us free, O God, our Sav - ior.
 4 Come, Hope of u - ni - ty, make us one bod - y.



u - ri - ga han - mom i - ru - ge ha - so - sŏ.
 Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.
 Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.
 Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.
 Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.

GOSPEL: Luke 21:25-36

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ²⁵“There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves.

²⁶People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. ²⁸Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

²⁹Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³²Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³⁴“Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, ³⁵like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

ADVENT WREATH

Advent is a time of expectation, and this is symbolized not only by the four-week period of preparation, but also by the lighting of an Advent candle on each Sunday of the season. The four candles provide us with a visual way to count off four Sundays of this season.

The flame of each new candle reminds us that something is happening, but something more is still to come. The Advent season is not complete until all four candles are lit, with the central Christ candle also burning brightly on Christmas Eve.

The tradition of the Advent wreath is traced back to an old Scandinavian custom that celebrated the coming of light after a season of darkness. The three purple candles symbolize the coming of Christ from the royal line of David. The pink candle is lighted on the third Sunday of the Advent season. This candle symbolizes joy.

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. 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.

HOMILY

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

We praise you, O God, for this evergreen crown that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent. As we light the first candle on this wreath, rouse us from sleep, that we may be ready to greet our Lord when he comes with all the saints and angels. Enlighten us with your grace, and prepare our hearts to welcome him with joy. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near. **Amen.**

HYMN: Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah—v. 1 (ELW 240)

Lord Jesus, we do not lack any spiritual gifts as we wait for your coming. Keep us awake and help us use our gifts to serve those who look for the dawn of your justice and mercy. **Amen**

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Prepare the Royal Highway* (ELW 264)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

As we await the coming of Christ, we pray in hope for the church, the world, and all of creation.

Equip your church, merciful God. Secure our roots in the soil of your eternal word. Ease our worries and remove our shame. Grow our faithfulness and let your steadfast love blossom among us. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Sustain your creation, holy God. Water the parched soil. Restore depleted fields. Send farmers, forest rangers, and gardeners to care for fig trees and wheat fields, gardens and arboretums. Increase our love for the land. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Grow peace within us, abundant God. Raise up leaders in every community grounded in your justice and mercy. Increase their love for all people. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Feed the hungry, living God. Gather our harvest into a feast for our neighbors.

Move us to nurture those who are bereaved and lonely. Empower those living with HIV/AIDS and all who are sick. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Increase our joy, wondrous God. Plant thanksgiving in our hearts and multiply the good fruit of our outreach ministries and creation care programs. Guide us in our service to local and global neighbors. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

In thanksgiving, we remember all who have died and now rest in your glory. Hold all who mourn in the comfort of your eternal light, and bring us to delight in the new life you promise. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Confident that the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we bring to you these prayers and those unspoken, in the name of Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

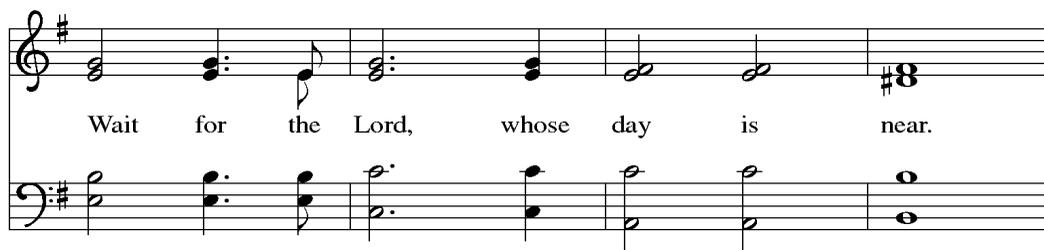
And also with you.

Share God's peace with those around you in these or similar words: "Peace be with you."

CONGREGATIONAL / COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

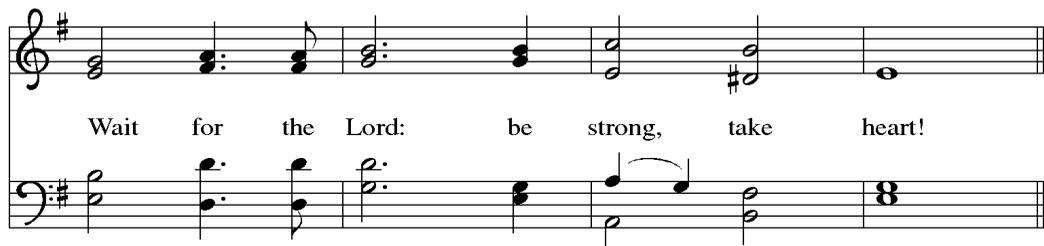
OFFERING / ANTHEM

OFFERTORY: *Wait for the Lord (sung 3 times)*



Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

The first line of musical notation is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The treble staff has a melody starting on G4, moving to A4, B4, and then a dotted quarter note G4. The bass staff provides harmonic support with chords and single notes. The piece ends with a double bar line and a sharp sign.



Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

The second line of musical notation continues the piece in the same key and time signature. It also consists of two staves. The treble staff melody continues from the previous line, ending on a whole note G4. The bass staff continues with harmonic support. The piece concludes with a double bar line and a sharp sign.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest. Let these gifts to us be blessed. Blessed be God who is our bread. May all the world be clothed and fed. **Amen.**

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:
***O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*—v. 1 (ELW 257)**

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.

Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.

Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.

We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever.
Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

God fills the hungry with good things. Taste and see that the Lord is good.

COMMUNION

*All are welcome to join in our communion meal. We will commune by intinction.
After receiving the bread, you may dip it into the cup of wine/grape juice. Those
not communing are welcome to come forward for a blessing.*

During the distribution:

The body of Christ, given for you. **Response: Amen**

The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Response: Amen**

COMMUNION SONG



Cor - de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;
O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .



ten pie-dad de no - so - tros, ten pie-dad de no - so - tros.
have . . mer-cy up - on us, have . . mer-cy up - on us.



Cor-de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;
O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .

ten pie-dad de no - so - tros, ten pie-dad de no - so - tros.
have . . mer-cy up - on us, have . . mer-cy up - on us.

Cor-de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;
O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .

da - nos tu paz, da - nos tu paz.
grant us your peace, grant us your peace.

TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray

Holy One, we give you thanks that in this bread and cup we have feasted again on your endless love. Let that love overflow more and more in our lives, that we may be messengers to prepare your way, harvesters of justice and righteousness, and bearers of your eternal Word, our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

BLESSING

May God direct your ways in peace,
make you abound in love for one another and for all,
and strengthen your hearts
until the coming of our Lord Jesus.

Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG: *He Came Down* (ELW 253)

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Assisting Minister: Marcia Walther
Reader: Gayle Hedlund
Bread/Wine Presenter: Irene Ballek
Acolyte: Thomas Tompkins
Ushers: Marion Engler and Diane Huske
Counters: Patti Mann and James Mann
Altar: Irene Ballek and Linda Engler
Greeter(s): Irene Ballek

SERVING IN WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2018

Assisting Minister: Lisa Mari
Reader: Marcia Walther
Bread/Wine Presenter: Mike Miskawitz
Acolyte: *Volunteer Needed*
Ushers: Karen Lanners and Kären Tompkins
Counters: Ruth Igoe and Kären Tompkins
Altar: Mike and Sue Miskawitz
Greeter(s): Kären Tompkins
Children's Faith Formation: Patti Mann

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*Pastor: Rev. Meagan Sherman-Sporrong
Organist/Choir Director: Katherine Kishka
Administrative Assistant: Dawn Olson Parent*

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