

November 29, 2020
Advent 1



WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be God, Father, ✙ Son, and Holy Spirit, whose forgiveness is sure and whose steadfast love endures forever.

C **Amen.**

P Together let us honestly and humbly confess that we have not lived as God desires.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Loving and forgiving God,

C **we confess that we are held captive by sin.**

In spite of our best efforts, we have gone astray. We have not welcomed the stranger; we have not loved our neighbor; we have not been Christ to one another.

Restore us, O God.

Wake us up and turn us from our sin. Renew us each day in the light of Christ. Amen.

P People of God, hear this glad news:
by God's endless grace your sins are forgiven, and you are free—
free from all that holds you back and free to live in the peaceable realm of God.
May you be strengthened in God's love, ✙ comforted by Christ's peace,
and accompanied with the power of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE (At Home)

The first candle represents the gift of Hope which comes from God. As we wait upon the Lord we do so with a sense of heightened awareness. In a world where our hope is easily dashed, Advent is an opportunity to return to the center of our being, and notice God's presence among us.

Candle is lit

God of hope, we thank you for your accompaniment throughout our lives. In this season, we pray that you might open us to your movement in new ways, that we may feel Emmanuel, God with us, moving into places of despair with the presence of God-breathed hope. As we begin our Advent journey, may we be opened to your mystery. We pray this in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

WREATH SONG “Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah” ELW 248

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

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.**

FIRST READING

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 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.

SPECIAL READING

“Making the House Ready for the Lord” by Mary Oliver

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION “He Came Down” verse one ELW 25

1 He came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have love;
hallelujah forevermore.

GOSPEL

Mark 13:24-37

[Jesus said:] ²⁴“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.”

CHILDREN’S TIME

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY “Savior of the Nations Come” ELW 263

- 1 Savior of the nations, come;
 virgin’s son, make here your home.
 Marvel now, O heav’n and earth:
 God has chosen such a birth.
- 2 Not by human flesh and blood,
 but the mystic Breath of God,
 was the Word of God made flesh,
 fruit of woman, blossom fresh.
- 3 Wondrous birth—oh, wondrous child—
 from his throne, a virgin mild!
 Very God, and Mary’s son,
 eager now his race to run!
- 4 From God’s heart the Savior speeds,
 back to God his pathway leads;
 out to vanquish death’s command,
 back to reign at God’s right hand.
- 5 Now your manger, shining bright,
 hallows night with newborn light.
 Night cannot this light subdue;
 let our faith shine ever new.
- 6 Praise we sing to Christ the Lord,
 virgin’s son, incarnate Word!
 To the holy Trinity
 praise we sing eternally!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PEACE, SPECIAL MUSIC

OFFERING PRAYER

- A God of bounty, there is no end to your generosity and grace. We praise you for all the gifts you so lavishly share with your children. Open our hearts and hands that we, too, might recognize the gifts we have and share them with our siblings throughout the earth; in Jesus Christ we pray. **Amen.**

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.

ADVENT PRAYER

(from Christine Sine, godspacelight.com)

A Make room. Let Christ be born in the quiet and innermost spaces of your heart.
Make room. Let Christ be born, in the streets and in the ghettos, in the famines and the
plagues and in the wars.
Make room. Let Christ be born not far away in distant ages, but in every heart and every place,
where love and faith are found.
Make room. Let Christ be born and find us in his Bethlehem. **Amen**

SENDING HYMN "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" verses 1, 2, 4, 6 ELW 257

1 O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.

Refrain

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

2 O come, O Wisdom from on high,
embracing all things far and nigh:
in strength and beauty come and stay;
teach us your will and guide our way. *Refrain*

4 O come, O Branch of Jesse, free
your own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell your people save,
and give them vict'ry o'er the grave. *Refrain*

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*

BLESSING

SENDING

P Go in peace, make room for Christ
C Thanks be to God!

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Contributors to this morning's Worship...Thank YOU!

Presiding Minister: Rev. Delaney Schlake - Kruse

Assisting Minister: Jeri Jende

Minister of Music: Nick Scaffidi

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS ** denotes newly added items

Homebound

Members: *Raymond (Allen) Kaisler*

Associate Members: *Richard Schutten*

Members with Special Concerns

Allen Kaisler

Eleanor Block

Verna Heiges

Larry Schulz

Dick Klug

Others with Special Concerns

Cindy Boness, Jane Prahlow's sister

Ingrid Nebel, sister of Matt & Jane Prahlow

Pam Bromberek, Bob Bromberek's sister-in-law

Katie Ruen, Pastor Ed's wife/friend of St. Paul's

Donna Kitzman, mother of Tim Kitzman

Lester Krull, brother-in-law of MaryEllen Voelz

Kathy Hilmo, friend of MaryEllen and Howie Voelz

Avis, Cindy & Joshua Jeffers, cousins of Mary Ellen Voelz

Balwinder Singh, brother of "Bobby", owner of Kilbourn Foods

Jayne Klug, mother of Laurie Klug, an associate member

Zariah Freeman, grand-daughter of Bob & Karen Bromberek

Darrell Smith, Friend and Associate Member

Charles Schulz, father of Larry Schulz

Ruth Krikau, Eleanor Block's sister

Maurice Shirley, friend of Mark Voelz

Jerry Zimmerman, former member

Jeanine Krull, sister of MaryEllen Voelz

Lorraine Brahm, good friend of Nancy & Steve Day

***Scott Voelz, son of Howie & MaryEllen Voelz*

Other Prayers:

- ~ We pray for the family and friends of Eddie Mae Haydon, Sherveta Haydon's mother, who recently passed away.
- ~ We pray for our community, our country and our world as we grapple with grief, anger, and struggle for justice.
- ~ We pray for all ministries and nonprofits in the near west side.
- ~ For members of Christian Churches in Laos and elsewhere who are facing persecution.
- ~ For our partnership congregations: Shepherd of the Bay (Ellison Bay) and Galilee (Pewaukee)
- ~ For our Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton and Greater Milwaukee Synod Bishop Paul Erickson.
- ~ For all military and other government personnel serving throughout the world.