

November 28, 2021
FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

*Called to proclaim and celebrate the Gospel of Jesus Christ, we are nurtured,
prepared, and sent to be the light of Christ in our world.*

First Lutheran

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Worship: Sunday at 10:00 am
Broadcast Sunday mornings, 8:00-8:30, on KAPS Radio (660 am)

L = Leader; C = Congregation

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE:

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” 13th century plainsong, arranged by Cindy Berry

“Breath of Heaven (Mary’s Song)” by Amy Grant and Carol Tornquist

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who comes to wake us from
sleep, who leads us into the light of grace.

C: Amen.

L: Let us prepare the way of the Lord by confessing our sin against God and neighbor.
Silence for reflection and self-examination. God of all time,

**C: we confess that we have not prepared for your merciful reign among us.
We ignore our neighbors in need and fail in the labor of justice and
peace. In your mercy forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your light
and to seek the things that will endure until Christ comes again in glory.
Amen.**

L: Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. In † Jesus Christ your sins
are forgiven and all things are made new. Rejoice in this good news!

C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

“Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers” RED HYMNAL HYMN #244 Vs. 1, 2, 4

ADVENT LITANY

L: Today we light the Hope Candle, which represents the Hope we search for and a hope found in times of new beginnings in which there is a yearning for the one who is coming. Prepare our Hearts O Emmanuel, and

C: Wake us up to your coming.

L: We gather together to expect the unexpected and imagine the unimaginable.

O Emmanuel, **C: Wake us up to your coming.**

L: We wait for the day when God will recycle tanks into tractors, guns into garden tools, and transform minefields into fields of grain. O Emmanuel,

C: Wake us up to your coming.

L: We stay awake by telling stories that offer us a glimmer of a future, that activate a dormant hope within us. O Emmanuel, **C: Wake us up to your coming.**

L: Jesus, we welcome your presence now with the lighting of this candle, whose flame brings warmth to winter and whose illumination fills this place with the glow of a hope that can only come from you. Rouse us from sleep, that we may be ready to greet you Lord when you return to us and prepare us to welcome you into our hearts and homes for you are our light and salvation forevermore.

C: Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

HYMN *“Prepare the Royal Highway”* RED HYMNAL HYMN #264 Vs. 1

THE PRAYER FOR THE DAY

L Let us pray, Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come...

C 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.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

First Reading: Jeremiah 33:14-16

In the Old Testament, "righteousness" often has to do with being faithful in relationship. God acts righteously both in punishing Israel for its sin and in having mercy. In today's reading, Jerusalem's future name—"The LORD is our righteousness"—proclaims that God is even now working salvation for Israel.

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."

THE PSALM Psalm 25:1-10

¹To ¹ you, O LORD,
I lift ¹ up my soul.

²**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be ¹ put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph ¹ over me.**

³Let none who look to you be ¹ put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame ¹ who are treacherous.

⁴**Show me your ¹ ways, O LORD,
and teach ¹ me your paths.**

⁵Lead me in your ¹ truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all ¹ the day long.

⁶**Remember, O LORD, your compas- ¹ sion and love,
for they are from ¹ everlasting.**

⁷Remember not the sins of my youth and ¹ my transgressions;
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your good- ¹
ness, O LORD.

⁸**You are gracious and up- ¹ right, O LORD;
therefore you teach sinners ¹ in your way.**

⁹You lead the low- ¹ ly in justice
and teach the low- ¹ ly your way.

¹⁰**All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast ¹ love and faithfulness
to those who keep your covenant and your ¹ testimonies.**

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Upon Timothy's report from the congregation at Thessalonica, Paul is exuberant with gratitude for them. In this passage from his letter, Paul voices overflowing thanks, joy, and blessings for the people of this growing church.

⁹How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? ¹⁰Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

¹¹Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you.

¹²And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. ¹³And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

THE ALLELUIA



GOSPEL READING Luke 21:25-36

God will fulfill God's purposes and, already, hidden signs of that fulfillment abound. On that great day there will be dismay, perplexity, confusion, and terror, but God's people shall be given strength to stand boldly and receive God's promised redemption.

[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.” (Continues...)

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.”

CHILDREN’S TIME

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Abide with me”

RED HYMNAL HYMN #629

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

L Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

WE SHARE THE MEAL

OFFERING/MUSICAL OFFERING

OFFERTORY PRAYER

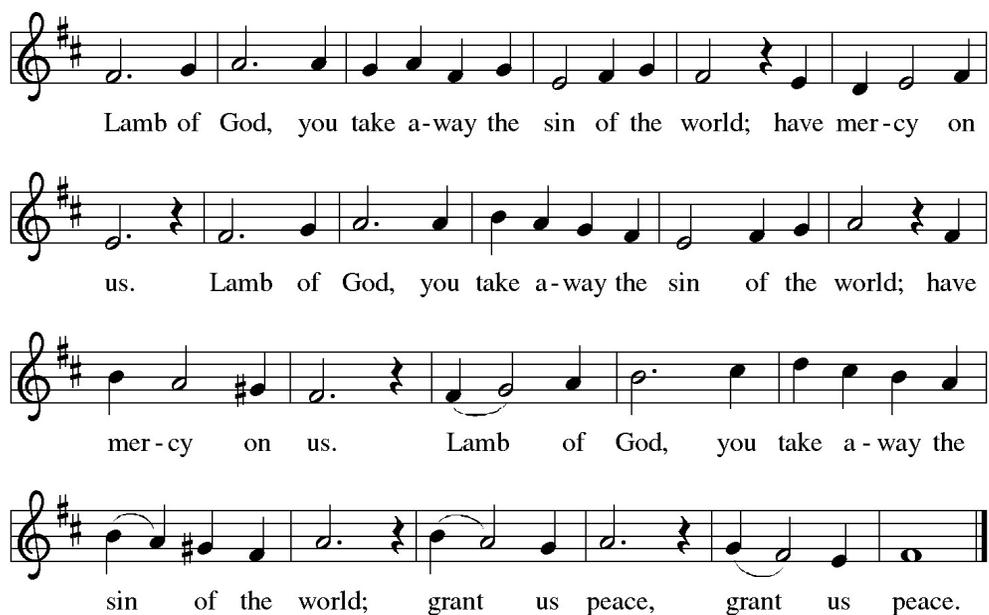
**Gracious God, you have done great things for us and holy is your name.
Bless all we offer you – ourselves, our time, and our possessions – that
through us your grace and favor may be made known to all the world.
Amen.**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

LORDS 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.**

LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION: RECEIVE CHRIST IN BREAD AND WINE

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

WE SEND TO SERVE

SENDING

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN “*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*” RED HYMNAL HYMN #257

DISMISSAL

L Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

What's Happening at F.E.L.C.

Friendship House

This Tuesday, November 30th First Lutheran will be providing dinner at the Friendship House. Please consider taking a look at the sign up sheet in the enews to see if there are still items needed.

Advent Devotionals

If you would like to receive a daily email Advent devotional please follow the link included in your e-news to sign up. You may also call (424-6832) or email the office (office@firstlutheranmv.org) and ask for the link to sign up to receive an online devotional.

Christmas Fireside sing along December 13th @7pm

Please join us in the front breezeway for our Christmas Sing along. This will be a night of singing Christmas songs of all types for all ages – religious and secular – similar to the informal style of the hymn sings we have had prior to worship.

Council Meeting Dec 16. @6:00pm

Our last Council Meeting of 2021 will be Dec 16th at 6:00 in the Fellowship Hall. We ask that council members from 2021 and the newly elected 2022 Council Members attend. Retiring Council Members, please remember to bring your Council notebook to pass along to the board member who will proceed you.

Annual Reports

Boards & Committees, it is time to write your annual reports and e mail them into the church office. Please submit your reports before Jan.16th for publication. Thank you!

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