

The First Sunday in Advent

Light one candle to watch for Messiah:

let the light banish darkness.

He shall bring salvation to Israel,

God fulfills the promise.



Sunday, November 29, 2020
First Sunday of Advent
Holy Communion

November 29, 2020 • 9:00 & 11:00 AM Service

WELCOME TO EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

INTRODUCTION

Stir up your power, and come! The psalmist's plea in Psalm 80:2 has become familiar to us in the Advent prayers. Isaiah wants God to rip the heavens open. Both cry out for an apparently distant, angry God to show up, to save, to restore. When we hear Jesus describing the coming of the Son of Man with stars falling from heaven, it can sound dire and horrible, not like anything we would ever hope for. But when we really look at the suffering of people God loves, we can share the hope that God would tear open the heavens and come.

PRELUDE

Pastoral Symphony & Overture to "The Messiah"

G. F. Handel

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

TRINITARIAN CHIMES

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

CALL TO WORSHIP

The assembly is seated.

*Currently there is **NO CONGREGATIONAL SINGING**. Please silently meditate upon the words to this song.*

GATHERING SONG

Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn

ELW 242

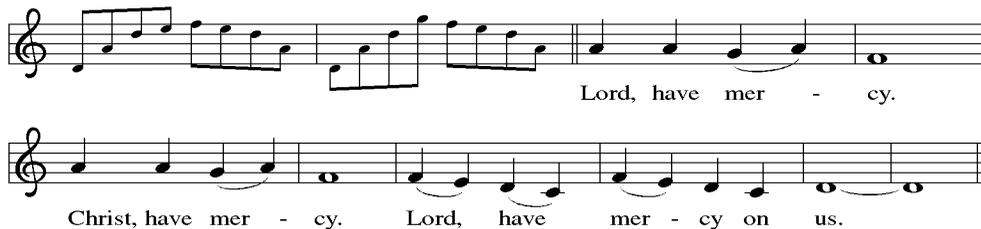
(Recorded from Emmanuel's December 2, 2018, worship service)

GREETING

Beloved of God,
who are called to be saints:
grace and peace be with you all.
And also with you.



KYRIE (SUNG BY CANTOR)



Lord, have mer - cy.

Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy on us.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Let us pray.

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.

*The first Advent candle is lit as the Cantor sings verse one of **Light One Candle**:*

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah



- 1 Light one can-dle to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 2 Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 3 Light three can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 4 Light four can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra - el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.
He shall feed the flock like a shep - herd, gent - ly lead them home - ward.
Lift your heads and lift high the gate - way for the King of glo - ry.
He is com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your lights be shin - ing!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

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

This lament comes from a people who have had their hopes shattered. The visions of a rebuilt Jerusalem and a renewed people of God, spoken of in Isaiah 40–55, have not been realized. Instead, the people experience ruin, conflict, and famine. This lament calls God to account—to be the God who has brought deliverance in the past.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1: 3-9

As the Christians in Corinth await the advent of Jesus, Paul reminds them how the Lord has already enriched them through spiritual gifts and will continue to strengthen them until the coming day of the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The assembly stands to welcome the Gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia. Show us your steadfast | love, O LORD,* and grant us | your salvation. *Alleluia.* (Ps. 85:7)

GOSPEL: Mark 13: 24-37

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the thirteenth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus encourages his followers to look forward to the day when he returns in power and glory to end all suffering.

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

A time of reflection follows the sermon.

HYMN OF THE DAY: *My Lord, What a Morning*
 (Recorded from Emmanuel's December 2, 2018, worship service)

ELW 438

THE NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God,
 the Father, the Almighty,
 maker of heaven and earth,
 of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
 the only Son of God,
 eternally begotten of the Father,
 God from God, Light from Light,
 true God from true God,
 begotten, not made,
 of one Being with the Father;
 through him all things were made.
 For us and for our salvation
 he came down from heaven,
 was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
 and became truly human.
 For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
 he suffered death and was buried.
 On the third day he rose again
 in accordance with the scriptures;
 he ascended into heaven
 and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
 He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
 and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
 who proceeds from the Father and the Son,*
 who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
 who has spoken through the prophets.
 We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
 We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
 We look for the resurrection of the dead,
 and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

*Or, "who proceeds from the Father." The phrase "and the Son" is a later addition to the creed.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

God of power and might, tear open the heavens and come quickly to this weary world. Hear our prayers for everyone in need. Hear us , O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We bring to you, Christ, members and friends of Emmanuel who need your healing touch.

(Names from our congregation...)

*Into your loving hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abundant mercy, through Jesus Christ our risen Savior. **Amen.***

PEACE

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

OFFERING

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. During this time, the table is set.

OFFERTORY

He Shall Feed His Flock

**G. F. Handel
Jan Parmelee, soloist**

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

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.

Amen.

DIALOGUE: THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of pow'r and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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.

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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Even as we watch and wait, Christ is here.
Come, eat and drink.



COMMUNION

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers and those at home say
The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
and each person may respond Amen.

(Parents are encouraged to bless their children at this time. Follow the instructions from the Presiding Minister).

POST-COMMUNION 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.
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.

Amen.

BLESSING

The Creator of the stars bless your Advent waiting,
the long-expected Savior fill you with love,
the unexpected Spirit guide your journey,
✠ now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

ELW 244

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Mark Mummert, Music Director and Cantor*

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The ushers will dismiss the congregation by rows. Please wait until the usher directs you to exit.

POSTLUDE

Wake, Awake, for Night Is Falling

arr. Hobby

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